

Factsheet: Palestine

Last update: 28 April 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

Although the [Arab League of Nations](#) adopts an age category for youth of 15-35, the [Palestinian Youth Cross-Cutting Strategy](#) (2011) defines youth as between 13-29 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **28**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

Upper House **--**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)
Unicameral.

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex With Parental Consent	Same Sex With Parental Consent
Male	--	15.5	--
Female	--	--	14.5

Parental consent is required for women to marry, but not for men. Age of consent for homo- and heterosexual relationships is equal in West Bank. In Gaza same sex relations can result in imprisonment from 14-years to a life-long. Source: [UNSD, ILGA](#)

VOTING AGE

18

Source: [Euro-Med Youth Programme](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [IDF Order 1676](#) (2011)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

12

Minimum Age
Israel exercises penal jurisdiction over both Palestinians and Israeli settlers living in the West Bank. However, Israeli military law, applied to Palestinian children in the West Bank gives rise to stark inequalities in treatment. Source: [Israel Defense Forces military order](#) (2009)
[Children in Military Custody](#) (2012)

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 2782.91
Year: 2012
Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.67
Year: 2013
Source: [UNDP](#)
107 out of 187 countries.

GINI

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Year: No data.
Source: [World Bank](#)

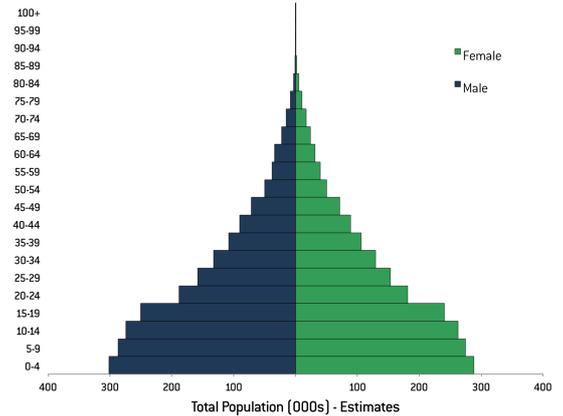
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

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Year: No data.
Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

40.11
138 out of 180 countries.
Year: 2013
Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



PSE

Source: [United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division](#)

2012 Revision - Estimates. Including East Jerusalem. (Accessed August 2013).

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

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Year: No data.
Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

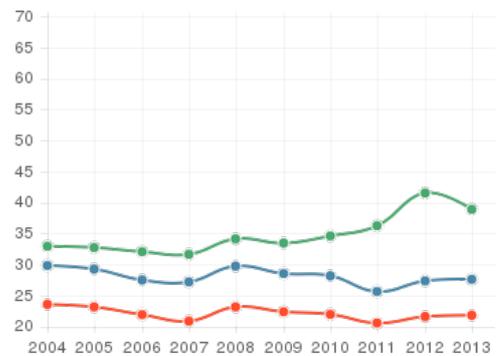
99.36%
Both sexes (15-24) %
99.45% **99.27%**
Male (15-24) % Female (15-24) %
Year: 2015
Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School
80.66%
Both sexes %
77.16% **84.31%**
Male % Female %
Year: 2012
Source: [UNESCO](#)

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Share of labour force aged 15-24 available and seeking employment



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

--
Male (15-24) %
--
Female (15-24) %
Year: No data.
Source: [World Bank](#)

TOBACCO USE

Consumed any smokeless or smoking tobacco product at least once 30 days prior to the survey.
--
Both sexes (13-15) %
-- **--**
Male (13-15) % Female (13-15) %
Year: No data.
Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [national youth policy - planning document](#) (2005) outlines the guiding principles and terms of reference used by governmental and non-governmental organisations during an effort to establish a national youth policy. This process was put on hold following the creation of the [Higher Council of Youth and Sport](#). The more recent, but expired [Youth Cross-cutting Strategy](#) (2011-2013) includes a situation analysis of a range of policy areas. It notes the vision for Palestine's youth as being "empowered and participative youth, who have diversified and equitable opportunities for a balanced growth within the framework of a democratic, pluralistic society." The

Is there a national youth policy?

NO

The [youth policy and strategy of Palestine](#) will be revised. A [youth study](#) and a [policy study](#) exist.

Source: [World Bank](#)

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

BUDGET & SPENDING

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or

strategy presents four strategic objectives (related to participation; citizenship and rights; empowerment, and access).

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The [Higher Council for Youth and Sports](#) (HCYS) operates in the West Bank and Gaza. The headquarters of the HCYS are located in Ramallah and regional offices are located in north, south and central areas. The HCYS aims to establish a democratic Palestinian society and free nation, which provides citizens with equal opportunities. It aims to do this by providing a legal environment for organising youth work and sports; promoting the values of citizenship, belonging and civil rights; providing an environment for physical activity, and providing infrastructure.

Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

No broad-based national youth organisation could be found in Palestine. There however exists the [Palestinian Youth Legislative Council](#) (launched in 2013), a voluntary youth body that aims to provide an opportunity for youth participation and leadership for 132 young people aged 18-30. The initiative includes young people from the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza and replicates the structure of the [Palestinian Legislative Council](#) (PLC). [Sharek Youth Forum](#) implements the programme in partnership with the Palestinian Legislative Council and the United Nations Development Programme. The Government of Belgium funds the programme.

Does the country have a national youth organisation / association (council, platform, body)?

NO

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to [Ma'an News Agency](#) NIS 67 million (USD 19 million) was the budget allotted to the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports in 2013 (the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports is the name sometimes used for the [Higher Council for Youth and Sports](#) in 2013). However, it is unclear what proportion of this amount is specifically for youth. The [World Bank](#) data centre does not currently collate data related to government expenditure on education provision in Palestine.

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?

UNCLEAR

youth programming?

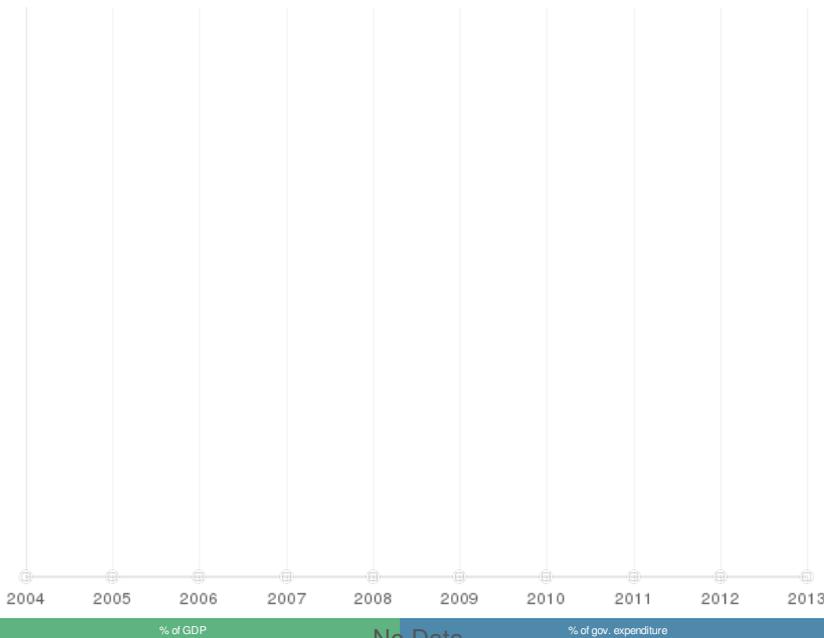
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND GDP

No Data

TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND GDP



Source: [World Bank](#)

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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