**Factsheet: Papua New Guinea**

**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

According to the report *Urban Youth in the Pacific* (2011), the National Youth Policy of Papua New Guinea 2007-2017 (print only) defines youth as between 12 and 25 years old, however also welcomes individuals over 25 to participate in youth programming. Culturally, age of youth is defined by roles, health and involvement in the community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANDIDACY AGE</th>
<th>MARRIAGEABLE AGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower House</td>
<td>Male 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female 16, Same Sex 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
<td>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOTING AGE</th>
<th>MAJORITY AGE</th>
<th>CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
<td>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
<td>Source: Juvenile Courts Act of Papua New Guinea (1991)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX**

| Year: 2013 | 0.49 |
| Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme |

**LITERACY RATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year: 2015</th>
<th>Male (15-24) %</th>
<th>Female (15-24) %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66.30 %</td>
<td>78.79 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: UNESCO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET ENROLMENT RATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year: No data.</th>
<th>Secondary School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No data.</td>
<td>No data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: UNESCO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**PREVALENCE OF HIV**

- Male (15-24) %: 0.1%
- Female (15-24) %: 0.2%
- 2013 Year: Source: World Bank

**TOBACCO USE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year: 2010</th>
<th>Male (13-15) %</th>
<th>Female (13-15) %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55.40 %</td>
<td>40.30 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: WHO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GDP PER CAPITA**

- USD 2088.35 Year: 2013
- Source: World Bank

**HDI**

- 0.466 Year: 2013
- Source: UNDP

**GINI**

- 157 out of 187 countries.

**CORRUPTION PERCEPTION**

- 145 out of 177 countries.
- 2014 Year: Transparency International

**PRESS FREEDOM**

- 44 out of 180 countries.
- 2013 Year: Reporters Without Borders

**POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010**

- Source: United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division

**YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

- Share of labour force aged 15-24 available and seeking employment
- Source: World Bank

**BUDGET & SPENDING**

- What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or...
“youth-friendly” service centres. In his endorsement of the policy in February 2008, former Prime Minister Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare announced that the policy would require PGK 21 million (USD 7.6 million in February 2008) over ten years for its implementation. As reported by FijiOne in February 2014, parliament also approved a new National Youth Development Authority Act, replacing the National Youth Commission Act (1999). The act is intended to reform youth work delivery mechanisms and to complement the 2007–2017 youth policy.

**Public Institutions**

The National Youth Commission (NYC) is the central government agency responsible for youth development in Papua New Guinea and is part of the Ministry for Religion, Youth and Community Development. It was established in 1980 and its focus is on three core ideas: “mobilization”, “participation” and “productiveness” of young people. Its Policy Development, Coordination & Research Division is responsible for the coordination and development of the national youth policy (in print only). The Division also assists provinces in the development of five-year youth plans.

**Youth and Representation**

According to the Pacific Youth Council, a regional organisation of youth councils in the Pacific, Papua New Guinea had a national youth council in 1985, which participated in a series of meetings leading to the formation of the regional council in 1996. The website also lists Papua New Guinea as having a position on the Secretariat Committee from 2000-2006. However, the current list of national youth council members does not include Papua New Guinea, nor is there any current online presence for a Papua New Guinea youth council.

**Budget & Spending**

The 2013 National Budget listed the expenditures of the National Youth Commission as PGK 4.4 million (USD 1.7 million). The programme description includes marketing of the national youth policy, establishing financial autonomy implementation strategies, and providing technical advisory services. The World Bank lists no data on public spending on education in Papua New Guinea since 2000.

**Publications and Reviews**

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**Total Expenditure on Education as a Percentage of Government Spending and GDP**

No Data

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Source: World Bank
Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

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Source: World Bank
Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).