Factsheet: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Last update: 5 June 2014

**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

The national youth policy (1996) of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines defines youth as between 15-30 years.

**CANDIDACY AGE**

| Lower House | 21 |
| Upper House | -- |

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**MARRIAGEABLE AGE**

| Male (15-24) | 16 -- XX |
| Female (15-24) | 15 -- XX |

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**VOTING AGE**

| Male (15-24) | 18 |
| Female (15-24) | 18 |

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**MAJORITY AGE**

| Male (15-24) | 18 |
| Female (15-24) | 18 |


**CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

| Male (15-24) | 8 |
| Female (15-24) | 8 |


**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX**

| Male (15-24) | 0.43 |
| Female (15-24) | -- |

13 times out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

**LITERACY RATES**

| Male (15-24) | Both sexes | 83.80% |
| Female (15-24) | Both sexes | 86.53% |

Year: 2010

Source: UNESCO

**NET ENROLMENT RATE**

| Male (15-24) | Secondary School | 85.20% |
| Female (15-24) | Both sexes | 85.20% |

Year: 2010

Source: UNESCO

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**PREVALENCE OF HIV**

| Male (15-24) | 19.10% |
| Female (15-24) | -- |

Year: 2010

Source: WHO

**TOBACCO USE**

Consumed any smokeless or smoking tobacco product at least once 30 days prior to the survey.

| Male (15-24) | 22.00% |
| Female (15-24) | 16.60% |

Year: 2010

Source: WHO

**POLICY & LEGISLATION**

The outdated national youth policy (1996) focused on employment, education, health, culture, sports, participation and representation. Despite noting a "mandatory review" of the policy every three years, the operational status is unclear. A 2011 UNFPA report describes the draft of a national youth policy. Its current status is unclear.

**Is there a national youth policy?**

**UNCLEAR**

A 2011 UNFPA report describes the draft of a national youth policy. Its current status is unclear.

Source: World Bank

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

**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

**GDP PER CAPITA**

| USD 6485.68 |
| 0.733 |

Year: 2013

Source: World Bank

**UNDP**

Year: No data.

Source: World Bank

**GINI**

Year: No data.

Source: World Bank

**CORRUPTION PERCEPTION**

| 67 |

26 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2014

Source: Transparency International

**PRESS FREEDOM**

| -- |

Year: No data.

Source: Reporters Without Borders

**POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010**

| Male (15-24) | 22.00% |
| Female (15-24) | 16.60% |

Year: No data.

Source: World Bank

**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

**YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

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

| Male (15-24) | No Data |
| Female (15-24) | No Data |

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...
The Ministry of National Mobilization, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Persons with Disabilities and Youth is responsible for youth affairs by virtue of its name. However, the ministry’s website provides no information on policies or programmes for young people, nor is youth featured in any other descriptions of the ministry’s thematic responsibilities, such as gender, family and social development.

**YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION**

The National Youth Council of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (NYC-SVG) was established in 1966 and “has long sphere-headed the cause of young people in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.” However, it “has struggled for its existence and the fulfillment of its role.” The official Facebook Page is active and notes the principles of the Council as including autonomy, political independence and human rights. The NYC-SVG is a member of the Commonwealth Youth Council. The CARICOM Youth Ambassadors programme is active with Youth Ambassadors representing the country.

**BUDGET & SPENDING**

Although detailed budget estimates of expenditure are not available, the Budget Address (2012) describes the allocation of XCD 2.8 million (USD 1.0 million) for “Youth Empowerment Services” under the Ministry of National Mobilization, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Persons with Disabilities and Youth. According to the World Bank, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines spent 13.81% of its government expenditure on education provision in 2009, and 5.09% of its GDP in 2010.

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

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