

Factsheet: Uruguay

Last update: 9 June 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

While the [National Youth Policy](#) (2011) does not explicitly define an age range for youth, it recognises that the [National Institute for Youth](#) (INJU) uses the range 14-29 years, while the [Ibero-American Convention on the Rights of Youth](#) (2005) uses 15-24 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **25**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

Upper House **30**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)
Partially elected by other means.

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Opposite Sex	18	16	16
Male	18	16	16
Female	18	16	16

Male **18** **16** **16**

Female **18** **16** **16**

A bill legalising same-sex marriage was passed in April 2013. The same bill also increased the minimum age for marriage to 16 for both sexes. Source: [UNSD](#), [Human Rights Watch](#) (2013)

VOTING AGE

18

Compulsory voting.
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [FOSIGRID](#)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

18

Minimum Age

A referendum to lower the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 18 to 16 will take place in October 2014. Source: [Committee on the Rights of the Child, Uruguay et al.](#) (2013)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.69

59 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

99.01%

Both sexes (15-24) %

98.67% **99.36%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

72.01%

Both sexes %

68.05% **76.13%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2010

Source: [UNESCO](#)

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 16350.73

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.792

Year: 2013

Source: [UNDP](#)
50 out of 187 countries.

GINI

41.32

Year: 2012

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

73

21 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

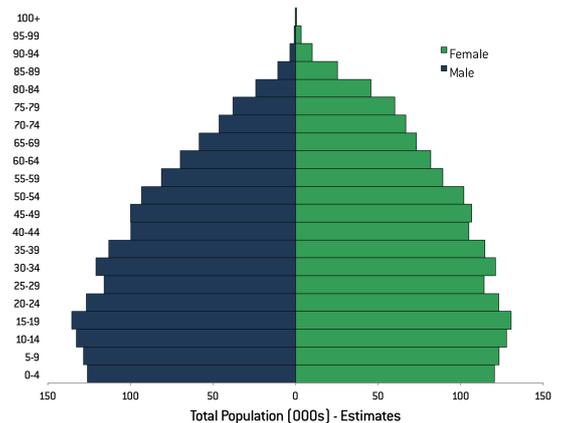
16.08

26 out of 180 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



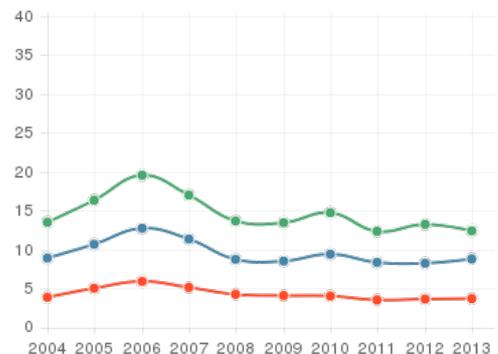
URY

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

2012 Revision - Estimates. (Accessed August 2013).

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.5%

Male (15-24) %

0.2%

Female (15-24) %

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

TOBACCO USE

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

23.20%

Both sexes (13-15) %

21.40%

Male (13-15) %

24.50%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

Uruguay's [national youth policy](#) (PNJ) covers the years 2011-2015 and sets objectives, actions and goals in four areas:

- Education;
- Emancipation (relating to access to decent work and housing);
- Comprehensive health and quality of life;
- Participation, citizenship and culture.

The policy sets specific goals with measurable targets for 2015, such as: 23,000 scholarships awarded; a new Youth Employment Act passed by parliament; 40,000 new jobs created for youth; a study on the youth mental health designed and developed.

The policy is developed in five-year cycles, while local authorities develop yearly operational plans. Youth indicators are to be developed by the [Social Monitoring and Indicators Programme](#) within the [Ministry of Social Development](#) (MIDES) to aid

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

The [youth policy](#) of Uruguay is from 2011. A [2012 briefing](#) focuses on youth unemployment.

male - (15-24)

female - (15-24)

total labour force

Source: [World Bank](#)

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed May 2014).

BUDGET & SPENDING

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

with monitoring and evaluation.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The [National Youth Institute](#) (INJU) within the [Ministry of Social Development](#) (MIDES) is responsible for planning, designing, advising, coordinating, supervising and implementing youth policies, as well as ensuring compliance. It coordinates its activities with other governmental ministries, guided by youth participation in policy-making as an underlying principle. Its programmes fall under three themes: Participation, citizenship and culture; Education and educational integration; Training and work. INJU represents Uruguay at the [Ibero-Americana Youth Organisation](#).

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The [national youth policy](#) (2011) lists the creation of a federal youth council (CFJ) as a goal under the theme "Platform for the Promotion of Youth Participation", with the general objective of encouraging participation of young people in public policy-making. According to [UNFPA](#), in 2010 the [National Youth Institute](#) (INJU) began the process that will lead to the eventual formation of the CFJ. However, at the time of publication of this fact sheet, there is no online presence for a federal youth council, and it is unclear if it has yet been created.

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

UNCLEAR

BUDGET & SPENDING

Figures relating to the budget of the [National Youth Institute](#) (INJU), or youth programming in general, could not be found online. According to the [World Bank](#), Uruguay spent 4.50% of its GDP on education in 2011, but does not calculate what this translates to in terms of percentage of government expenditure.

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

UNCLEAR

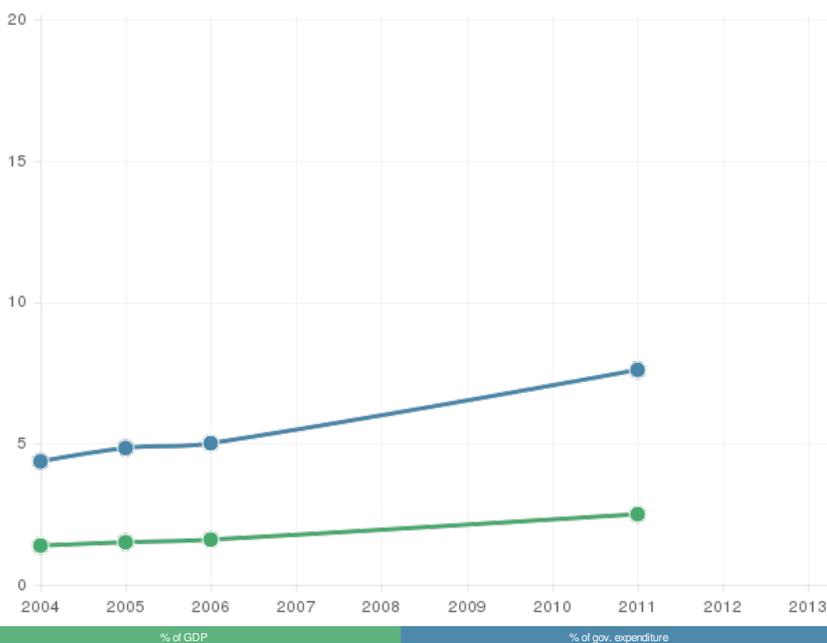
youth programming?

UNCLEAR

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

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 May 2014).

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)
Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed May 2014).

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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