### Factsheet: Antigua & Barbuda

**Last update:** 28 April 2014

#### DEFINITION OF YOUTH

While the national youth policy (2007) recognizes youth as a “segment of the life span” covering 0-35 years, the policy particularly focuses on youth between 12-30 years.

#### CANDIDACY AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower House</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper House</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Inter-Parliamentary Union

**Note:** Partially elected by other means.

#### MARRIAGEABLE AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Minimum Age</th>
<th>Maximum Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Inter-Parliamentary Union

**Note:** Entirely appointed.

#### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

- **Index:** 0.64
- **Rank:** 87 out of 170 countries
- **Source:** Commonwealth Youth Programme, Year: 2013

#### LITERACY RATES

- **Both sexes (15-24) %:** 78.46
- **Year:** No data.

**Source:** UNESCO

#### NET ENROLMENT RATE

- **Secondary School:** 78.46%
- **Both sexes %:**
  - Male (15-24): 71.96%
  - Female (15-24): 84.98%
- **Year:** 2012

**Source:** UNESCO

#### PREVALENCE OF HIV

- **Male (15-24) %:** 20.10
- **Female (15-24) %:** 15.90
- **Year:** 2010

**Source:** WHO

#### TOBACCO USE

- **Consumed any smokeless or smoking tobacco product at least once 30 days prior to the survey:** 20.10%
- **Both sexes (13-15) %:**
  - Male (13-15): 24.30%
  - Female (13-15): 15.90%
- **Year:** No data.

**Source:** WHO

#### YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

- **Share of labour force aged 15-24 available and seeking employment:** No Data

**Source:** World Bank

#### GDP PER CAPITA

- **USD 13,342.08**
- **HDI:** 0.76
- **GINI:** 61 out of 187 countries

**Source:** World Bank, UNDP, World Bank

#### CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

- **Minimum Age:** 8

**Source:** Juvenile Act of Antigua and Barbuda (1951)

#### PolICY & LEGISLATION

The national youth policy envisions young people having, “all the opportunities to develop all of his or her innate talents and whose self actualization is supported by caring adults and a close-knit community.” It proposes the adoption of a “Positive Youth Development Model” that, “recognizes young people as critical and positive elements in their own [development] and in national development.” The policy has eight strategic objectives:

1. Strengthening Social Environments
2. Education and Training
3. Employment & Sustainable Livelihoods
4. Health
5. Participation & Empowerment
6. Care and Protection

#### Is there a national youth policy?

**YES**

The national youth policy is a part of Antigua & Barbuda’s adopted in 2007.

**Source:** World Bank

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013)
Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

YES

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

UNCLEAR

As a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, Antigua and Barbuda is a signatory of The Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE) 2006-2015.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth and Gender Affairs (MoESY&GA) has a Youth Department. The ‘A & B Department of Youth Affairs’ has more recent news entries and information than the (currently unavailable) official MoESY&GA website. The national youth policy notes that the Department of Youth Affairs is the governmental agency charged with the responsibility of national youth development.

The policy also calls for a National Youth Development Steering Committee, “comprising youth, critical government ministries and agencies and representative youth development organizations.”

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The national youth policy calls for the creation of a national youth council but it has yet to be established. In 2012, a consultation event organised by the National Youth Ambassador and Volunteer Corps was advertised on the official government website. The Department for Youth Affairs has also advertised for applications to the National Youth Ambassadors Corps. The relationship between these differing youth entities is unclear. Young people are represented regionally through the CARICOM Youth Ambassadors and globally through the Commonwealth Youth Council.

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the 2013 Budget Statement for Antigua and Barbuda, the allocated budget for the Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth and Gender Affairs was XCD 84.4 million (USD 31.2 million). It is unclear what proportion of this amount is specifically for youth. According to the World Bank, Antigua and Barbuda spent 9.80% of its government expenditure and 2.50% of its GDP on education provision in 2009.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of GDP</th>
<th>% of govt expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: World Bank

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

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