

Burundi

The **National Youth Policy** of Burundi, which was formulated in 2008 in partnership with UNDP, while not specifying a specific age range, describes youth as between 15-26 years.

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

Marriageable Age

	Opposite Sex		Same Sex
	Without Parental Consent	With Parental Consent	
Male	21	--	XX
Female	18	--	XX

No specific legislation for marriageable age with parental consent. Marriages below specified age are possible in case of force majeure, where the provincial governor may grant an exemption. Homosexual acts illegal. Source: UNSD, ILGA, Penal Code of Burundi (2009)

Candidacy Age

Lower House	25
Upper House	35

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

Criminal Responsibility

Minimum Age

15

According to the Code minors should only be imprisoned as a measure of last resort for a maximum of 10 years. Source: Penal Code of Burundi (2009)

Majority Age

18

Source: Penal Code of Burundi (2009)

Voting Age

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Net Enrolment Rates

Secondary School

18.07%

Both sexes (15-24) %

19.61%

Male (15-24) %

16.55%

Female (15-24) %

Year: 2011

Source: UNESCO

Literacy Rates

77.57%

Both sexes (15-24) %

77.56%

Male (15-24) %

77.59%

Female (15-24) %

Year: 2010

Source: UNESCO

Youth Development

0.28

160th out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

Tobacco Use

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

19.3%

Both sexes (13-15) %

20.7%

Male (13-15) %

16.8%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: WHO

Prevalence of HIV

0.4%

Male (15-24) %

0.6%

Female (15-24) %

Year: 2012

Source: World Bank

YOUTH POLICY & LEGISLATION

After a civil war that lasted more than 10 years and ended in 2005, it is a major aim of the **national youth policy** to contribute to peace and security, reconciliation and national reconstruction of Burundi. The **youth policy** seeks to extend services and vocational education to young people to improve their physical and mental status. It notes the importance of completing education and entering productive employment. Some initiatives in the field of vocational training and employability are organized in cooperation with other Francophone states in the **Conference of Francophone Ministers of Youth and Sports (CONFJES)**.

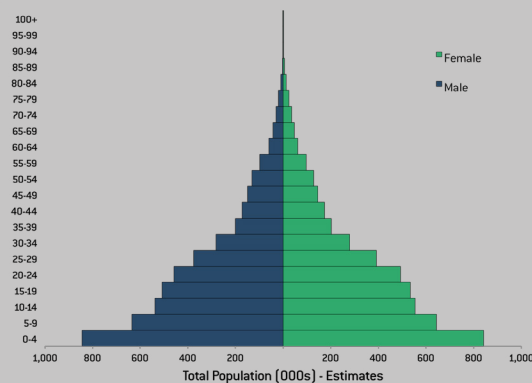
YOUTH POLICY FACT SHEET

HTTP://WWW.YOUTHPOLICY.ORG/FACTSHEETS/COUNTRY/BURUNDI

GDP PER CAPITA	HDI	GINI
USD 250.97	0.355 ¹	33.27 ²
	178th out of 187 countries.	
<small>Year: 2012, Source: World Bank</small>	<small>Year: 2012, Source: UNDP</small>	<small>Year: 2006, Source: World Bank</small>

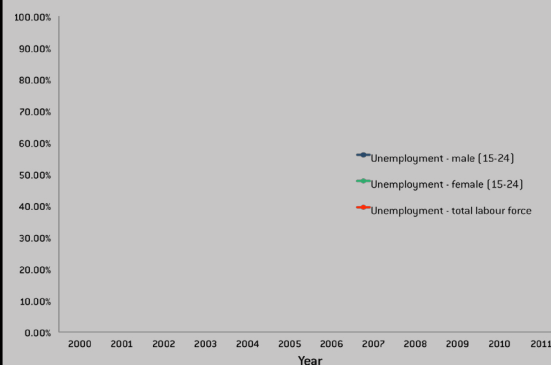
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION	PRESS FREEDOM
19 ³	38.02 ⁴
165th out of 176 countries.	132nd out of 179 countries.
<small>Year: 2012, Source: Transparency International</small>	<small>Year: 2013, Source: Reporters Without Borders</small>

Population by Age and Sex 2010



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)



Source: World Bank

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

Is there a national youth policy?

Yes

Burundi has a rudimentary **national youth policy** from 2008. A revision was initiated in 2011.

YOUTH & PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The [Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture](#) prioritises full education of youth and its integration into society. The ministry calls upon young people to be mobilized in education programs for peace, human rights, reconciliation and reconstruction of destroyed infrastructure. The ministry encourages and promotes the creation and development of associations and youth movements. It works in cooperation with the [Conference of Francophone Ministers of Youth and Sports \(CONFEJES\)](#) especially in vocational training, and training for trainers.

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

Yes

YOUTH & REPRESENTATION

The national youth council of Burundi (CNJB) was established in 2008 to represent the opinions of young people. The members of the CNJB are to be democratically elected. According to the [UN Report on the Rights of the Child in Burundi \(2010\)](#) the CNJB should allow more effective participation of young people in politics and serve as an intermediary between the government and young people.

Does the country have national and/or regional youth council(s)?

Yes

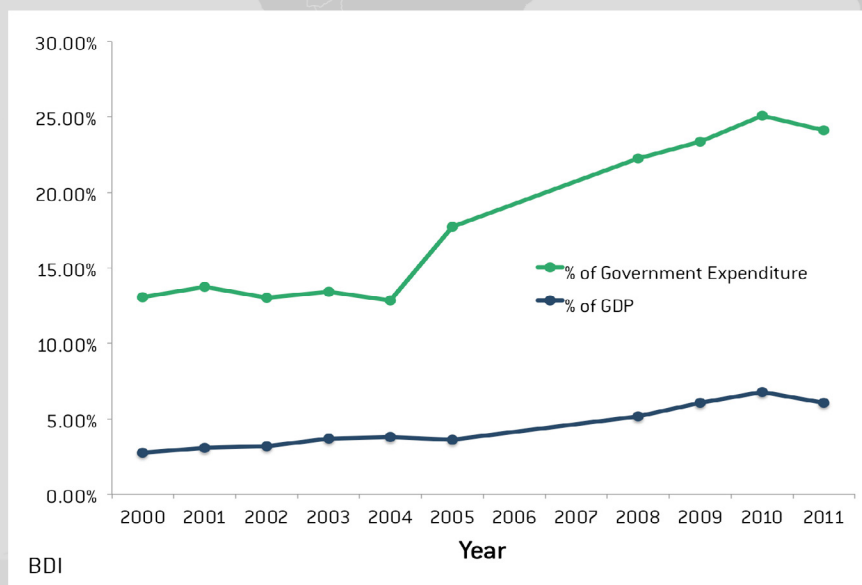
YOUTH BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the [World Bank](#), Burundi spent 24.1% of its government expenditure and 6.1% of its GDP on education provision in 2011.

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

Unknown

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



Source: [World Bank](#)

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

Publications & Reviews

Visit our library for further reading:

<http://www.youthpolicy.org/library/burundi>

Footnotes

- 1) A Human Development Index (HDI) value of zero means low human development, and a value of 1 means very high human development. HDI is a composite index measuring three dimensions: a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living. (UNDP)
- 2) An Income Gini coefficient of zero means absolute equality, and a coefficient of 100 means absolute inequality. Note: figures multiplied by 100 for OECD data. (World Bank/OECD)
- 3) A Corruption Perception Index (CPI) value of zero means that a country is perceived as highly corrupt, and a value of 100 means it is perceived as very clean. (Transparency International)
- 4) A Press Freedom Index (PFI) value of zero means the highest degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations and netizens enjoy, and a value of 100 means the lowest. (Reporters Without Borders)
- 5) A Youth Development Index (YDI) value of zero means little or absolutely no youth development, and a value of 1 means the highest possible level of youth development attainable. YDI is a composite index measuring five domains: education, health, employment, political, and civic participation. (Commonwealth Youth Programme)



For full citation list & more information, visit:

<http://www.youthpolicy.org/factsheets/country/burundi>

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