

# Factsheet: Cuba

Last update: 23 October 2014

## DEFINITION OF YOUTH

While Cuba has no youth policy, the [Law 16/1978 on Childhood and Youth \(1978\)](#) applies to individuals 30 years old or younger.

### CANDIDACY AGE

**Lower House** **18**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#) The Communist Party is the official state party and was the only party contesting the election in 2008 and 2013.

**Upper House** **--**

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

### MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT	Opposite Sex WITH PARENTAL CONSENT	Same Sex
Male	18	16	--
Female	16	14	--

No specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Source: [UNSD, ILGA](#)

### VOTING AGE

**16**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

### MAJORITY AGE

**16**

Source: [CRIN](#)

### CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

**16**

Minimum Age  
Source: [Penal Code of Cuba \(1987\)](#)

### GDP PER CAPITA

**USD 6051.22**

Year: 2011

Source: [World Bank](#)

### HDI

**0.78**

Year: 2013

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

### GINI

**--**

Year: No data.

Source: [World Bank](#)

### CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

**46**

63 out of 177 countries.  
Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

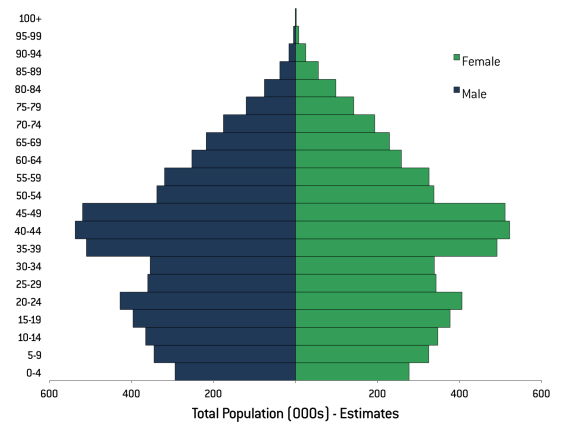
### PRESS FREEDOM

**70.92**

170 out of 180 countries.  
Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

## POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



CUB

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

2012 Revision - Estimates. (Accessed August 2013).

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

**0.79**

10 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

### LITERACY RATES

**99.99%**

Both sexes (15-24) %

**99.99%** **99.99%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

### NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

**86.66%**

Both sexes %

**86.03%** **87.32%**

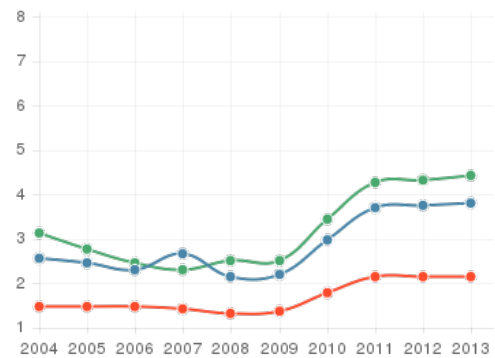
Male % Female %

Year: 2012

Source: [UNESCO](#)

## YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### PREVALENCE OF HIV

**0.2%**

Male (15-24) %

**0.1%**

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.

**17.10%**

Both sexes (13-15) %

**19.80%**

Male (13-15) %

**15.00%**

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

## POLICY & LEGISLATION

While Cuba has no single, unifying youth policy, it does have a number of policies that affect youth. According to the report [Youth and Social Inclusion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cuba: Contribution from Public Policies to the Building of Knowledge \(2013\)](#), such policies are governed by the following principles: comprehensive approach; social equity; high participation; differential treatment for disadvantaged social groups, and; priority for education, employment and health sectors. The strategy is "youth promotion and social inclusion aimed at strengthening cultural, technical and vocational training". Policies geared towards youth are characterised by considerable government centralisation, state funding and a promotion of universality and equity.

### Is there a national youth policy?

**NO**

Cuba has no dedicated national youth policy. Recently, the youth policy approach was summarised.

## PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

male - (15-24)

female - (15-24)

total labour force

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

There is no one governmental authority that is primarily responsible for youth. Policies regarding youth are cross-sectoral and spread over various policy areas. The lack of a group or entity responsible for the coordination of youth policies was identified as a weakness at the [International Congress of Researchers on Youth in March 2013](#). At inter-governmental forums, such as the [Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud](#), the [Young Communist League](#) participates as the body responsible for youth alongside other youth ministries in the region. However, it identifies itself as a voluntary organisation.

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

**UNCLEAR**

## YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

Founded in 1962, the [Young Communist League](#) (UJC) is one of the main youth organisations in Cuba. As the youth wing of the [Communist Party of Cuba](#), it is unclear what role it plays in representing youth outside of its membership, or in decision-making. As described by [Radio Rebelde](#), it identifies itself as a voluntary organisation with the objective to educate young people about the [Cuban Revolution](#). UJC produces the newspaper [Juventud Rebelde](#) and represents Cuba in the [Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud](#), the inter-governmental summit of youth ministries.

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

**UNCLEAR**

## BUDGET & SPENDING

No documentation could be found on youth spending in Cuba. According to the [World Bank](#), Cuba spent 18.35% of its government expenditure and 12.86% of its GDP on education provision in 2010.

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

**UNCLEAR**

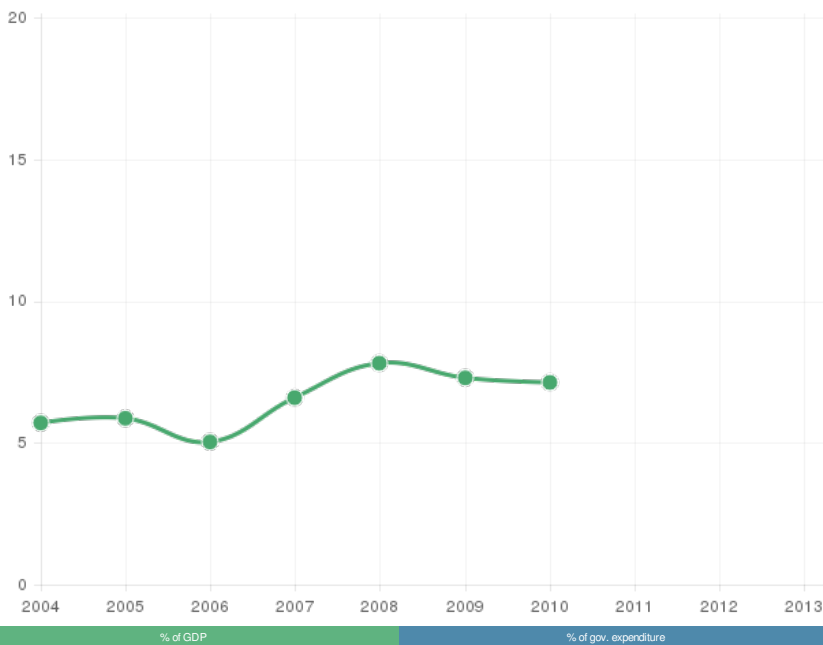
youth programming?

**UNCLEAR**

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

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

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

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

## PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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[Documents about Cuba](#)