

Factsheet: El Salvador

Last update: 21 April 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The [national youth policy](#) defines youth as between 15-24 years, but is targeted at "the entire population that currently is under 30 years of age."

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **25**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

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

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	18	15	--
Female	18	14	--

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

VOTING AGE

18

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [Juvenile Legal Code \(1994\)](#)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

12

Minimum Age
Source: [Juvenile Penal Law of El Salvador \(1994\)](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.68

69 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

97.53%

Both sexes (15-24) %

97.18% **97.89%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

61.60%

Both sexes %

60.77% **62.45%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2012

Source: [UNESCO](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.2%

Male (15-24) %

0.3%

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.

14.60%

Both sexes (13-15) %

18.20%

Male (13-15) %

11.00%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [national youth policy](#) (2011-2024) offers long, medium and short terms goals. It details six priority areas of intervention:

1. Education: Access, quality & building future human capital;
2. Employment, productive development & entrepreneurship;
3. Healthcare, risky practices & promotion of healthy lifestyles;
4. Culture, entertainment & sport;
5. Prevention of violence, public safety & peaceful culture;
6. Youth participation & citizenship.

The [Action Plan](#) outlines short-term strategic programmes. A [General Law of Youth](#) (2013) guarantees the "fundamental rights of young people", and focuses on "political, social, cultural and economic participation of young people in terms of equity and solidarity."

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

El Salvador has a [national youth policy](#), an [action plan](#) and a [youth law](#) from 2013.

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 3826.08

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.68

Year: 2013

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

GINI

41.8

Year: 2012

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

39

80 out of 177 countries.
Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

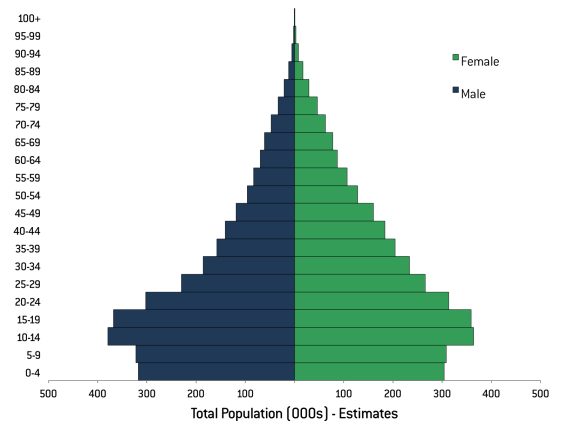
PRESS FREEDOM

21.57

38 out of 180 countries.
Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010

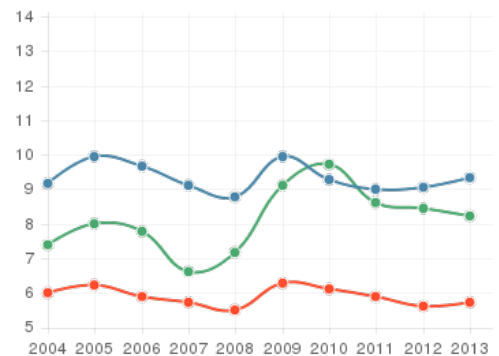


Source: [United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division](#)

2012 Revision - Estimates. (Accessed August 2013).

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



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

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The [National Institute of Youth](#), formed through the [national youth policy](#) (2011), is responsible for youth affairs. The [General Law of Youth](#) (2013), notes that [National Institute of Youth](#) is responsible for design, delivery and evaluation of "youth policies in the context of the public agenda." Across government, youth policy is supported by an Inter-ministerial Commission on Youth and a national network of youth organizations, NGOs and experts. Previously, youth affairs was the responsibility for the Directorate of Youth under the [Ministry of Social Inclusion](#).

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The National Council of Youth (CONAPEJ) is a regionally elected advisory body within the [National Institute of Youth](#). The purpose of the council is to "propose, evaluate, [and] promote" public policy. According to the [National Institute of Youth](#), eight youth from across El Salvador are elected. The [national youth policy](#) establishes a National Network of Youth Organizations to "represent the opinion of organized youth" connecting regional, national and thematic youth organisations.

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

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

The [Action Plan](#) (2011-2014) details the projected budget for the enacted key priority areas of the [national youth policy](#). Education (USD 294.68 million) and healthcare (USD 315 million) accounts for a vast majority of the budget. Is it unclear how these funds are distributed amongst differing government entities, such as between Ministries and the [National Institute of Youth](#). According to the [World Bank](#), El Salvador spent 13.13% of its government expenditure on education provision in 2010, and 3.41% of its GDP in 2011.

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

USD 707.6 MILLION

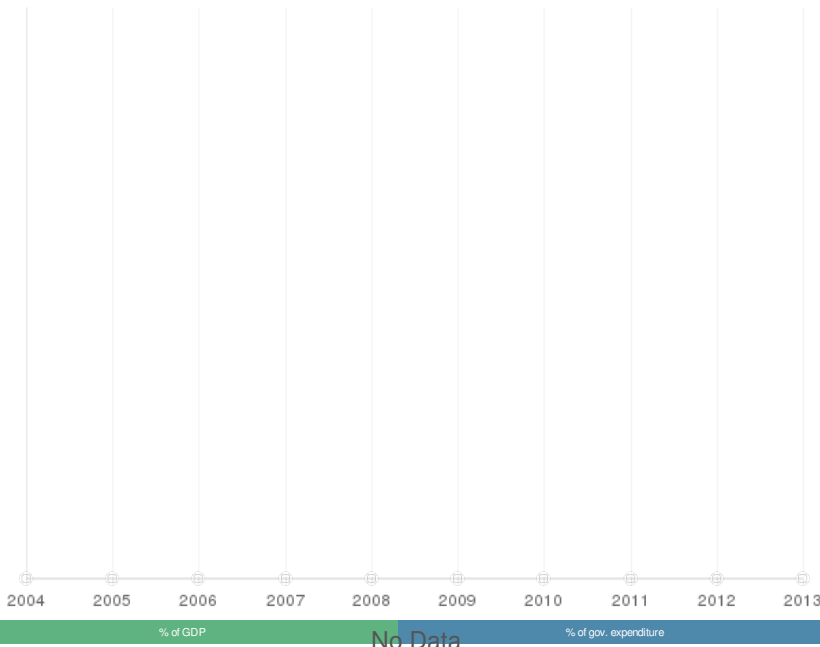
youth programming?

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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).

No Data

% 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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