

Factsheet: Fiji

Last update: 7 July 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The national youth policy of Fiji defines youth as between 15-35 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **18**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#) The Parliament of Fiji was dissolved following a coup d'état in December 26.

Upper House **21**

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

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

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

Marriageable age amended in 2009. No specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Source: ILGA, Marriage Act (Amendment) Decree 2009

VOTING AGE

18

Compulsory voting.
Source: [Fiji Elections Office](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [Fiji Constitution \(2013\)](#)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

10

Minimum Age
From 10-14 years old, the state must prove criminal capacity. A child below 10 cannot be held legally responsible for their actions.
Source: [Crimes Decree of Fiji \(2009\)](#)

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 4375.41

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.702

Year: 2013

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

GINI

42.83

Year: 2009

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

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Year: No data.

Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

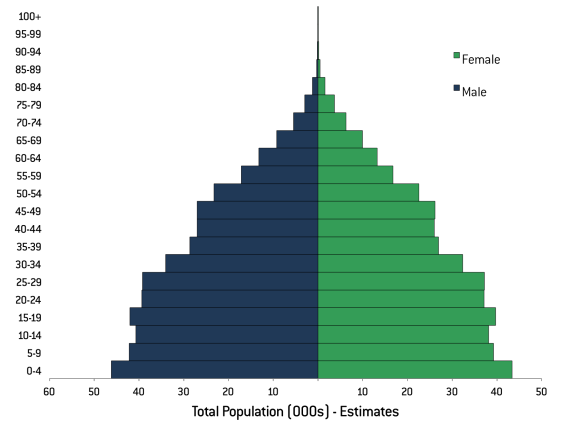
32.57

107 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](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.52

113 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

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Both sexes (15-24) %

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

Year: No data.

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

82.99%

Both sexes %

78.74% 87.51%

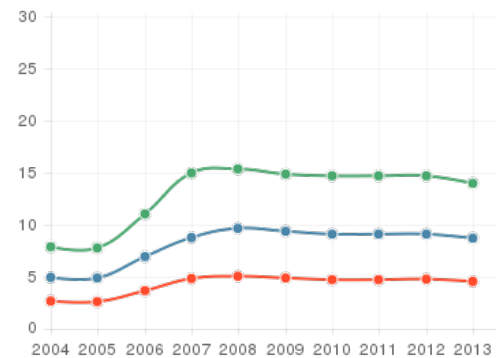
Male % Female %

Year: 2012

Source: [UNESCO](#)

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](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.1%

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.

13.00%

Both sexes (13-15) %

17.50% 10.10%

Male (13-15) % Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The national youth policy:

...recognizes the current status of young people and the potentials they possess for the future. This Policy strives to enhance their holistic development to become resourceful and effective members of society.

It focuses on eight key areas:

1. Youth empowerment and livelihood opportunities;
2. Leadership, good governance & human rights;
3. Sports & recreation;
4. Youth health;
5. Life skills training;
6. Vulnerable youths;
7. Cultural and religious values & virtues;

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

The national youth policy of Fiji was adopted in 2011. A 2012 youth participation mapping is available.

BUDGET & SPENDING

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

8. Environmental sustainability.

The national youth policy works "in tandem" with the [Roadmap for Democracy and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development 2009 – 14](#), which has a specific children and youth section. A range of partners will be mobilised for funding, implementation and coordination, with youth data and statistics "strengthened."

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

In 2012, the [Ministry of Youth & Sports \(MYS\)](#) was created and given cabinet level ministerial responsibility. "Youth & Sport" had previously been a department under the Ministry of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sports. According to the Australian National University's [youth participation mapping](#), the MYS is "mandated to enhance and promote the development of young people in Fiji through policies and programmes." This includes the [national youth policy](#), the Duke of Edinburgh Award, youth club support, national youth band, training centres and the Seeds of Success programme.

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

According to the [Ministry of Youth & Sports](#), the original [national youth council](#), established in 1975 was replaced in 2004 by a National Youth Advisory Board (NYAB). The national youth policy (2011) details its reformation to, "advise the Minister directly on issues of concern to young people." In 2013, the [Fiji Times](#) reported that a new [National Youth Council of Fiji](#) had been constituted with [UNDP providing \\$150,000](#) to the council to support their five priorities as part of a three-year strategic plan.

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

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the [Fiji Budget Estimates \(2013\)](#), the [Ministry of Youth & Sports](#) estimated expenditure was FJD 5.7 million (USD 3.0 million). However, the specific amount spent on youth is unclear. According to the [World Bank](#), Fiji spent 14.40% of its government expenditure and 4.13% of its GDP on education provision in 2011.

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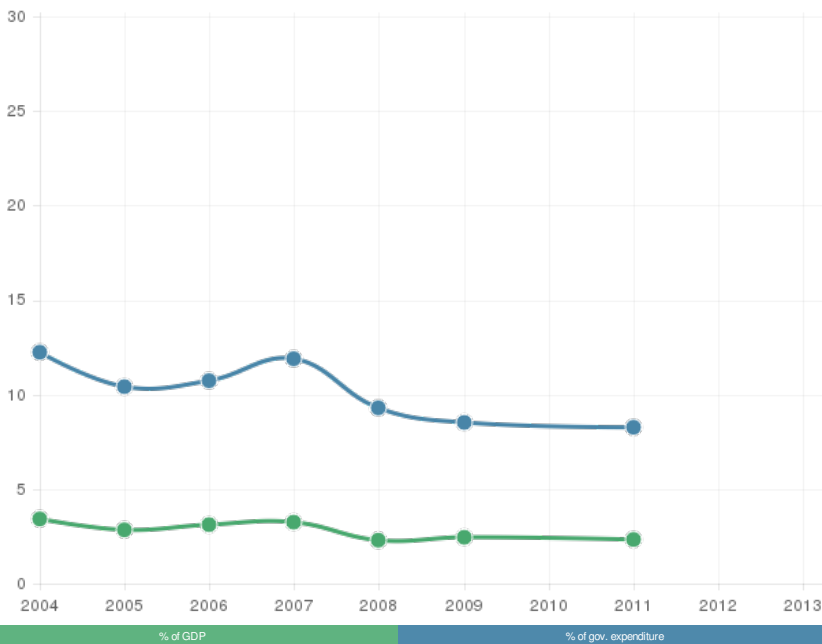
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND GDP

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



Source: [World Bank](#)

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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