Factsheet: Fiji

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

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

CANDIDACY AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower House</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Source     | Inter-Parliamentary Union | Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

Lower House: The Parliament of Fiji was dissolved following a coup d'état in December 26.

Opposite Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Male</td>
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Same Sex

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<td>Female</td>
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MARRIAGEABLE AGE

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<tbody>
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<td>Male</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

VOTING AGE

18

Compulsory voting.

18


MAJORITY AGE

18

Minimum Age


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).

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.52

113 out of 170 countries.

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

LITERACY RATES

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Both sexes (15-24) %

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Male (15-24) %

Female (15-24) %

82.99%

100% - 10%

87.51%

Source: UNESCO

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

82.99%

Both sexes %

87.51%

Source: UNESCO

YEAR: 2012

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.1%

Male (15-24) %

0.1%

Female (15-24) %

Source: World Bank

TOBACCO USE

13.00%

Both sexes (13-15) %

17.50%

Male (13-15) %

10.10%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2004

Source: WHO

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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

Source: World Bank

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?
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

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

YES

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

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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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.

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.

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.”

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

Visit our library for further reading:
Documents about Fiji