Factsheet: France

Last update: 7 July 2014

**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

The national policy for youth of 2013 addresses young people aged 3 to 30 with a focus on those aged 6 to 25; other policies are addressed to those aged 16 to 25.

**CANDIDACY AGE**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upper House</th>
<th>24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MARRIAGEABLE AGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opposite Sex</th>
<th>Same Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Source: UNSD, ILGA, Civil Code of France |

**VOTING AGE**

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**MAJORITY AGE**

18

Source: Civil Code of France

**CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

13


**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX**

0.73

31 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

**LITERACY RATES**

- Both sexes (15-24) % 96.66%

Source: UNESCO

**NET ENROLMENT RATE**

Secondary School 95.83%

Female (15-24) % 97.53%

Source: UNESCO

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**PREVALENCE OF HIV**

- Male (15-24) %

Year: No data.

Source: World Bank

**TOBACCO USE**

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

- Both sexes (13-15) %

Year: No data.

Source: WHO

**POLICY & LEGISLATION**

Prior to the youth policy of 2013, which is the first since a change of government, the improvement of interdepartmental cooperation on youth issues, ensuring all young people the access to education, professional orientation and training, participation in the personal development of the young and supporting them in their way to personal autonomy. The Observatory on Youth and Youth Politics for 2012 by the National Institute of Youth and Popular Education (INJEP) contains abstracts of and links to additional government decisions and policies on youth of the respective year. It also displays prominent civil society positions. A review for 2011-2012 is also available.

**Is there a national youth policy?**

**YES**

France reviews its youth policy biennially. Here are the 2011 and 2013 editions and a 2012 briefing.

**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

**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?
The Ministry for Sports, Youth, Popular Education and Community Life is charged with preparing and putting in place governmental policy in favour of youth. To improve interdepartmental cooperation on youth issues the Inter-ministerial Committee on Youth (CIJ) was revived in 2013. It adopted 47 concrete measures designed to meet the needs of young people through public action. Among these are measures to prevent school drop-out, to improve access to housing, and to facilitate youth employment.

**YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION**

The Committee for National and International Relations between Youth and Non-formal Education Associations (CNAJEP) represents more than 70 national youth and non-formal education organisations of France, which themselves represent more than 90,000 local organisations. CNAJEP is present domestically through 23 regional coordination bodies across the country and internationally as a member of the European Youth Forum.

**BUDGET & SPENDING**

As described in Law No. 2012-1509 of 29 December 2012 on the Finances for 2013, spending for sports, youth and community life was EUR 470 million (USD 637 million). However, it is unclear what proportion is spent specifically on youth. According to the World Bank, France spent 10.38% of its government expenditure and 5.90% of its GDP on education provision in 2009.

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

![Graph showing percentage of GDP and government expenditure from 2004 to 2013.](source: World Bank)

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