

Factsheet: Iran

Last update: 24 October 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

While Iran has no national youth policy, the article [Youth policy discourses in post-Revolutionary Iran \(2010\)](#) emphasises the group aged 15-29 years, as used in the 2006 national census.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **26**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#) Partially elected by other means.

Upper House **--**

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

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

Opposite Sex **Same Sex**

WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT WITH PARENTAL CONSENT

Male **--** **18** **XX**

Female **--** **15** **XX**

Marriageable age can vary as Islamic law ties marriageable age to other considerations, such as age of puberty. Homosexual acts illegal and punishable by death. Source: [UNSD, ILGA, Nayyeri \(2013\)](#)

VOTING AGE

18

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

9

Age of majority is fifteen lunar years for boys, and nine lunar years for girls. Source: [The Civil Code of the Islamic Republic of Iran \(1928\)](#)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

9

Minimum Age
Iran's 2012 Penal Code stipulates the age of maturity as 9 lunar years for girls and 15 lunar years for boys, at which time individuals are held criminally responsible. Source: [Nayyeri \(2013\)](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.66

79 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

98.36%

Both sexes (15-24) %

98.53% **98.17%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

81.67%

Both sexes %

83.90% **79.37%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2012

Source: [UNESCO](#)

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.

26.60%

Both sexes (13-15) %

32.90% **19.50%**

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

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

As described in the article [Youth policy discourses in post-Revolutionary Iran \(2010\)](#), rather than one overarching policy, Iran youth policy is articulated through a series of cross-sectoral initiatives and measures. An example is the Mehr-e Reza Fund, which provides low-interest loans to young couples for marriage and housing, as described in the June 2009 newsletter of [The Alliance Center for Iranian Studies](#). A draft citizen rights charter released in November 2013 by President Hassan Rohani includes a section on youth rights, which include:

- "Complete participation in determining their political, economic, social and cultural destiny..."
- "Active participation in the national development process"
- "Participation in promoting, supporting, and advancement of peace in Iran and in the world..."

Is there a national youth policy?

NO

A 2010 article explains youth policy discourses in Iran, including the recent regime.

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 4763.3

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.742

Year: 2013

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

GINI

38.28

Year: 2005

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

27

136 out of 177 countries.
Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

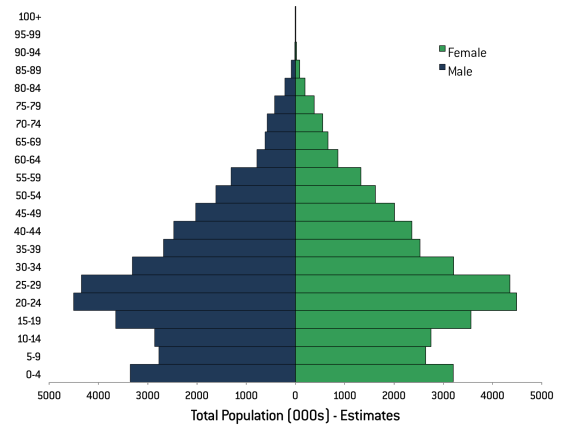
PRESS FREEDOM

72.29

173 out of 180 countries.
Year: 2013

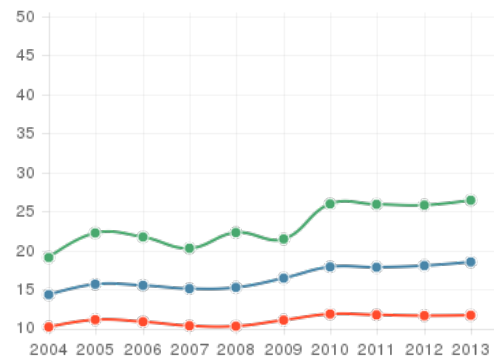
Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



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 [Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports](#) was formed in 2011 with the aim to renew sports infrastructure and improve the cultural and social life for Iran's youth, as described on the [Olympic Council of Asia website](#). The ministry is the result of a merge between the National Youth Organization and the Physical Education Organization, as reported by Press TV in [January 2011](#). It is preceded by the National Youth Centre, which, according to [2010 report](#), was under the direction of the Supreme Council of Youth in response to an encroaching "western cultural invasion".

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

Iran has no national youth council, however The Office for Strengthening Unity (DTV) is Iran's largest student movement. According to a [2009 Princeton University profile](#), its central committee is comprised of elected representatives from all universities. Its initial aim was to organise "against the influence of Marxist or Islamist-Marxist groups", however from 1997 advocated for reformist ideas such as political freedoms and pluralism. DTV has no formalised decision-making influence, however its factions have led youth protests, such as the [Green Movement](#).

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

NO

BUDGET & SPENDING

No documentation could be found online regarding youth spending in Iran. According to the [World Bank](#), Iran spent 14.70% of its government expenditure and 3.71% of its GDP on education provision in 2012.

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

UNCLEAR

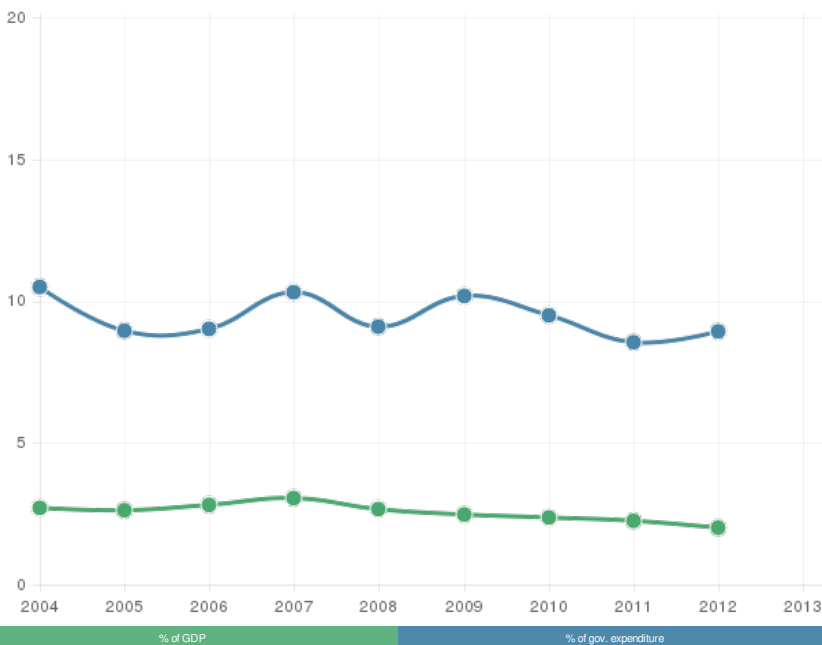
youth programming?

UNCLEAR

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

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



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

Visit our library for further reading:
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