**Factsheet: Japan**

**Is there a national youth policy?**

**YES**

Japan has a 2010 youth policy vision and published an extensive White Paper on Young People in 2013.

**GDP PER CAPITA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>USD 38633.71</th>
<th>0.912</th>
<th>32.11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**HDI**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>0.912</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: UNDP</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GINI**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>17 out of 187 countries.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: World Bank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORRUPTION PERCEPTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>26.02</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: Transparency International</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRESS FREEDOM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>59 out of 180 countries.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: Reporters Without Borders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010**

- **MALE**
  - 20
  - 15-24: 25
  - 65+: 25
  - 65+: 25
  - 65+: 25

- **FEMALE**
  - 20
  - 15-24: 25
  - 65+: 25
  - 65+: 25
  - 65+: 25

**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**PREVALENCE OF HIV**

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

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

**TOBACCO USE**

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

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

**POLICY & LEGISLATION**

The Vision for Children and Young People (2010) outlines the 2009 Act on the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People, and replaces the National Youth Development Policy (2008). Principles include treating youth as partners with adults and providing support to youth to become proactive members of society. Priority is given to promoting happy & active living, supporting youth facing difficulties and developing systems to implement measures at the local level. Some basic measures include: supporting self-development of youth (ex. basic life skills); supporting the social development and participation through programmes such as citizenship education; improving counselling systems to ensure the health and safety of youth; and, encouraging vocational independence and employment.

**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?**

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**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

According to the National Youth Development Policy (2008) and the White Paper on Children and Young People 2013, the term “youth” is generally defined as those between the ages of 0 and 30.

**CANDIDACY AGE**

- Lower House: 25
  - Male: 20
  - Female: 20

- Upper House: 30
  - Male: 18
  - Female: 16

**MARRIAGEABLE AGE**

- Opposite Sex
  - Male: 20
  - Female: 20
- Same Sex
  - Male: 18
  - Female: 16

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>0.79</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LITERACY RATES**

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

**NET ENROLMENT RATE**

- Secondary School: 99.14%
- Both sexes %
  - Male: 98.76%
  - Female: 99.53%

**VOTING AGE**

- Male: 20
- Female: 20

**MAJORITY AGE**

- Male: 20
- Female: 20

**CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- Minimum Age: 14

**TOBACCO USE**

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

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**Last update: 30 June 2014**
Within the Cabinet Office (which is the author of the White Paper on Children and Young People 2013), the Director-General for Policies on Cohesive Society lists the “Healthy upbringing of the youth, including promotion of international youth exchange” as one of its responsibilities. The 2008 youth policy has the “Headquarters for Youth Development” as its author, and the Vision for Children and Young People (2010) is written by the “Headquarters for Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People”.

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

*YES*

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

*NO*

Japan does not have a national youth council. Youth involvement in civil society is segmented by sector. For example, the Japan Youth Ecology League is one of the largest nation-wide networks of youth groups engaging in environmental activities. ASEAN Youth Network in Japan is also comprised of youth and student organisations in Japan, representing youth from the various ASEAN countries.

**BUDGET & SPENDING**

There is no data available on the budget of the youth activities taken on by the cohesion section of the Cabinet Office. According to the World Bank, Japan spent 9.41% of its government expenditure and 3.44% of its GDP on education provision in 2008. The World Bank reports that Japan spent 3.78% of its GDP on education in 2010, but does not calculate what this translate to in terms of percentage of government expenditure.

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

Source: World Bank

Visit our library for further reading: Documents about Japan