

Factsheet: Kenya

Last update: 28 April 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The [national youth policy](#) (2006) of Kenya defines youth as between 15-30 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **18**

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

Upper House **18**

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

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	18	16	XX
Female	18	--	XX

No data for female marriageable age with parental consent. Homosexual acts illegal. Source: [UNSD](#), [ILGA](#)

VOTING AGE

18

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [Age of Majority Act \(1974\)](#)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

8

Minimum Age
From 8-12 years old, the state must prove criminal capacity. A child below 8 cannot be held legally responsible for their actions. Source: [Penal Code of Kenya \(2009\)](#)

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 1245.51

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.519

Year: 2013

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

GINI

47.68

Year: 2005

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

25

145 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

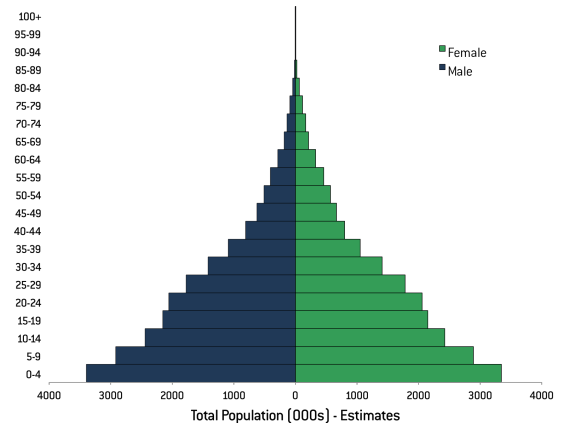
30.7

90 out of 180 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.42

137 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

85.90%

Both sexes (15-24) %

85.21% **86.59%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

49.98%

Both sexes %

51.55% **48.40%**

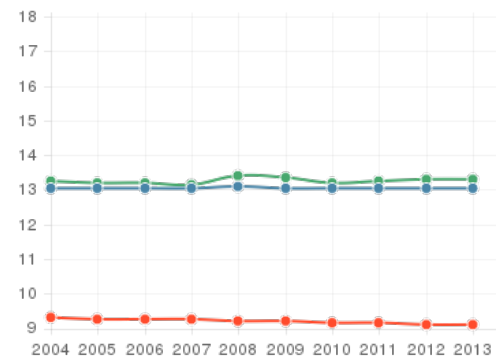
Male % Female %

Year: 2009

Source: [UNESCO](#)

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

1.7%

Male (15-24) %

2.8%

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.

15.10%

Both sexes (13-15) %

14.90% **14.50%**

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

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [national youth policy](#) (2006), "visualizes a society where youth have an equal opportunity as other citizens to realize their fullest potential, productively participating in economic, social, political, cultural and religious life without fear or favour." The [strategic plan](#) (2007-2012) provides a detailed action plan for the implementation of the eight strategic areas:

1. Employment;
2. Empowerment and Participation;
3. Education and Training;
4. Information Communication Technology;
5. Health;
6. Crime and Drugs;
7. Environment;
8. Leisure, Recreation and Community Service;

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

The [national youth policy](#) of Kenya was adopted in 2006, followed by a [strategic plan](#). Both will be renewed.

male - (15-24)

female - (15-24)

total labour force

Source: [World Bank](#)

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

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 [strategic plan \(2007-2012\)](#) had mandated the Department of Youth Development to develop youth policies and programmes. Then, the Ministry of Youth Affairs assumed responsibility but, as reported in [Africa Review](#) in April 2013, was disbanded after the 2013 elections. In the [2014 budget policy statement](#), "Youth Development and Empowerment Services" were listed under the Ministry of Devolution and Planning, which sits under the Office of the President, however it is unclear if this ministry has taken over the duties of the now-defunct Ministry of Youth Affairs.

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

UNCLEAR

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The National Youth Council of Kenya (NYC-Kenya) was established in the [National Youth Council Act \(2009\)](#) in response to the [election violence](#) of 2008. The Act mandates the NYC-Kenya to coordinate youth activities and organisations along with supporting the national youth policy. According to the [official Facebook Page](#), legal challenges initially prevented the establishment of the council, but the first elections took place in 2012. However, it notes that there is no operational budget. The National Youth Council is a member of the Commonwealth Youth Council.

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

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the [2014 budget policy statement](#), the draft budget 2013/14 for "Youth Development and Empowerment Services" under the [Ministry of Devolution and Planning](#), was KES 26.4 billion (USD 307.4 million). According to the [World Bank](#), Kenya spent 17.21% of its government expenditure and 6.67% of its GDP on education provision in 2010.

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

**KES 26.4 BILLION
USD 307.4 MILLION**

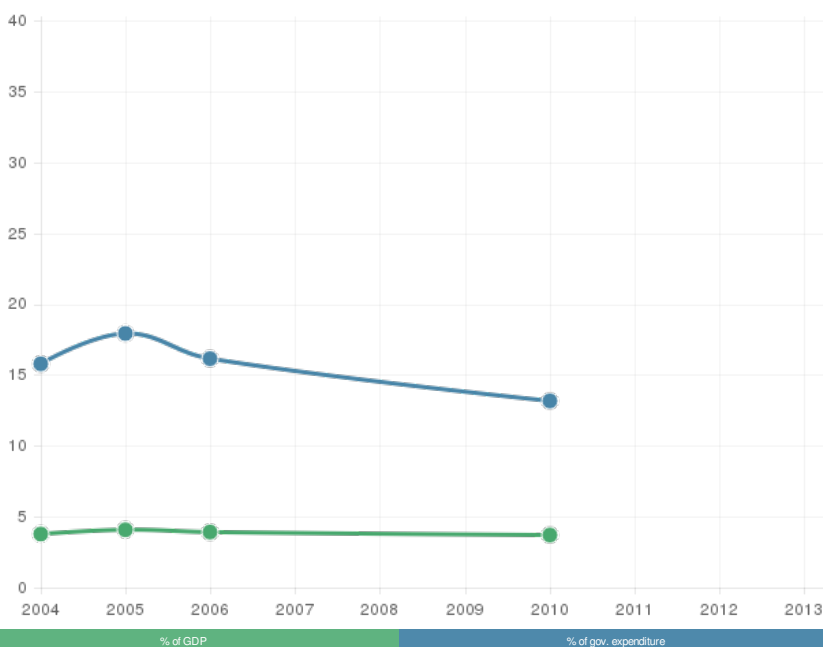
youth programming?

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

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Source: [World Bank](#)

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)
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PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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