

# Factsheet: Malaysia

Last update: 21 April 2014

## DEFINITION OF YOUTH

As defined in the 1997 [National Youth Development Policy](#), youth range between the ages of 15 – 40. However, the policy also specifies that youth development programs and activities shall be focused on youth aged 18 – 25.

### CANDIDACY AGE

**Lower House** **21**  
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

**Upper House** **30**  
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)  
Partially indirectly elected and appointed.

### MARRIAGEABLE AGE

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

Without parental consent, marriageable age for male and female non-Muslims is higher at 21 years of age. Homosexual acts are illegal. Source: [UNSD, ILGA](#)

### VOTING AGE

**21**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

### MAJORITY AGE

**18**

Source: [Wikipedia](#)

### CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

**10**

Minimum Age  
Source: [Penal Code of Malaysia \(2006\)](#)

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

**0.7**

52 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

### LITERACY RATES

**98.42%**

Both sexes (15-24) %

**98.34%** **98.50%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

### NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

**66.32%**

Both sexes %

**67.09%** **65.60%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2011

Source: [UNESCO](#)

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### PREVALENCE OF HIV

**0.2%**

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.

**22.60%**

Both sexes (13-15) %

**35.10%**

Male (13-15) %

**9.40%**

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

## POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [national youth policy's](#) objective is "to establish a holistic and harmonious Malaysian youth force imbued with strong spiritual and moral values". Its strategies include developing a knowledge base on youth as well as a focus on skill development. The [Youth Societies and Youth Development Act 2007 \(Act 668\)](#) defines the National Youth Consultative Council, chaired by the Minister of Youth and Sport and made up of state representatives, ministries and major national youth societies. It is a forum for both government and NGOs to meet and discuss issues relating to youth development. The Act also lists provisions applicable to registered youth societies as well as the framework for the [Malaysian Institute for Research in Youth Development](#), including its functions, powers, and funding.

Is there a national youth policy?

**YES**

The 1997 [national youth policy](#) is under review. The 10<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan has a [youth chapter](#).

## PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

### GDP PER CAPITA

**USD 10538.06**

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

### HDI

**0.769**

Year: 2013

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

### GINI

**46.21**

Year: 2009

Source: [World Bank](#)

### CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

**52**

50 out of 177 countries.  
Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

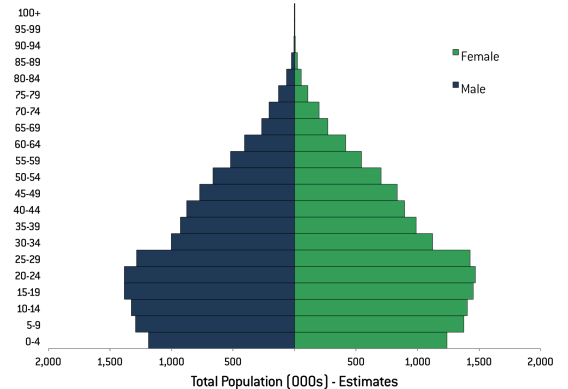
### PRESS FREEDOM

**42.73**

147 out of 180 countries.  
Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

## POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010

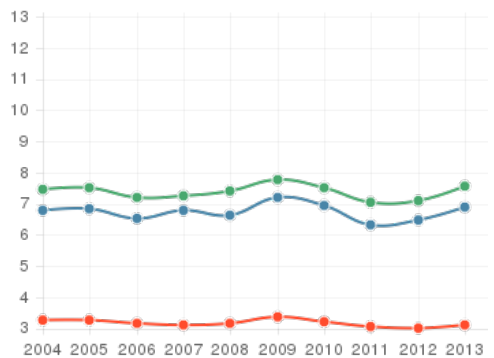


Source: [United Nations Population Division - Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Population Prospects The 2012 Revision \(Estimates\)](#); <http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Excel-Data/population.htm> [accessed July 2013]

Source: [United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division](#)

## YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



male - (15-24)

female - (15-24)

total labour force

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?

The **Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS)** was established in 1964. The vision of the ministry is "to champion the empowerment of a superior youth and sports development and inculcate sports culture within the society by the year 2015." It is responsible for the development and implementation of Malaysia's **national youth policy**.

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

**YES**

#### YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The **Malaysian Youth Council (MYC)** was formed in 1948 and is a non-governmental voluntary organisation that is the sole coordinating body for youth and student organisations in Malaysia. It participates in the National Youth Consultative Council (a forum for governmental and non-governmental actors to meet and discuss issues relating to youth development), and plays an active role in the implementation and monitoring of the **national youth policy**.

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

**YES**

#### BUDGET & SPENDING

In the **2013 budget speech**, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Najib Razak committed MYR 738 million (\$USD 227 million) to youth and sports. According to the **World Bank**, Malaysia spent 21.30% of its government expenditure and 5.13% 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?

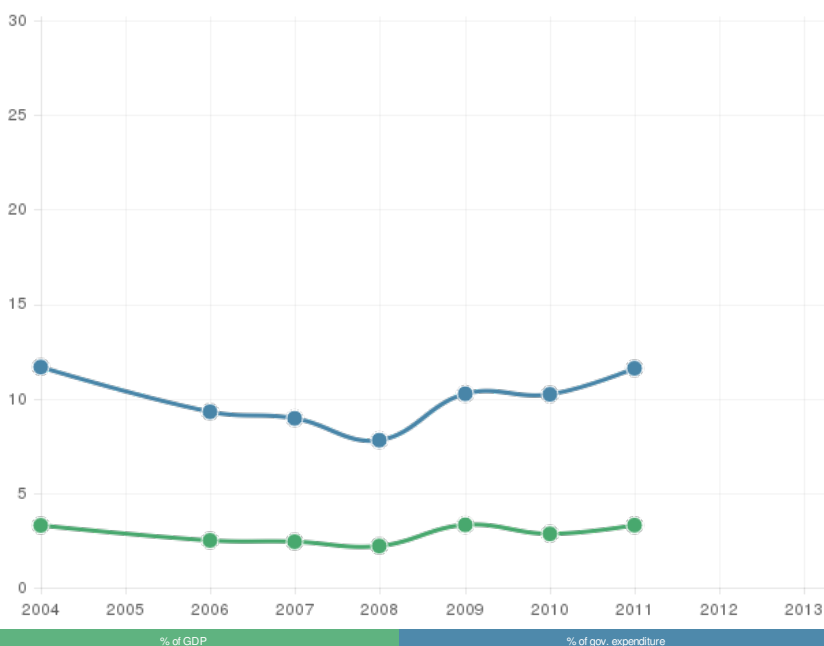
**MYR 738 MILLION  
(USD 227 MILLION)**

**MYR 738 MILLION  
(USD 227 MILLION)**

In the **2013 budget speech**, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Najib Razak committed MYR 738 million (\$USD 227 million) to youth and sports. According to the **World Bank**, Malaysia spent 21.30% of its government expenditure and 5.13% of its GDP on education provision in 2010.

#### 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**

% of GDP % of gov. expenditure

Source: **World Bank**

#### PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

Visit our library for further reading:  
[Documents about Malaysia](#)