The draft national youth policy (2000) of Saint Lucia defines youth as between 10-35 years.

Saint Lucia drafted a youth policy in 2000. For 2012-2017, there is a youth & sports plan.

**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

The draft national youth policy (2000) of Saint Lucia defines youth as between 10-35 years.

**CANDIDACY AGE**

| Lower House | 21 |
| Upper House | 21 |

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**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: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**VOTING AGE**

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**MAJORITY AGE**

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

12

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX**

0.53

109 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

**LITERACY RATES**

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

Year: No data.

Source: UNESCO

**NET ENROLMENT RATE**

Secondary School

82.41%

Source: UNESCO

**PREVALENCE OF HIV**

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

17.90%

Both sexes (15-19) %

Year: 2010

Source: WHO

**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

The draft national youth policy (2000) aims to “provide the youth with a voice, equal opportunities and autonomy, with a view to developing their full potential.” However, it is unclear what progress has been made in 2000, or whether the draft has been enacted.

A Strategic Plan for Youth Development was developed in 2008, but is also yet to be executed. This has formed the basis of the 2012-2017 Development Plan, which focuses generally on the activities of the Ministry of Youth Development and Sports.

Saint Lucia is a signatory to the CARICOM Youth Development Action Plan 2012-2017 (CYDAP) and as a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, Saint Lucia is a signatory of The Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE) 2006-2015.
The Ministry of Youth Development and Sports (MoYDS) is responsible for youth affairs. Created in 2011, it is mandated to facilitate the development, coordination, implementation and evaluation of policies, programmes and other initiatives that would empower citizens, particularly the youth. According to the ministry’s 2012-2017 Development Plan, the ministry has four strategic goals including participation, employment and sustainable livelihoods. However, the plan does not focus on as many youth specific areas as the draft national youth policy (2000).

### YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The Saint Lucia National Youth Council (SLNYC) was established in 1985 and was initially government funded to deliver national participation programmes. However, the 2012-2017 Development Plan of the MoYDS notes that the SLNYC “does not have the capacity – human, material or financial to operate on a sustainable value-adding basis.” Despite this, the official Facebook page remains active and the SLNYC has a representative function as a member of the Commonwealth Youth Council, the CARICOM Youth Ambassadors and the Caribbean Regional Youth Council.

### BUDGET & SPENDING

The Estimates of Expenditure 2011-2012 list the budget allocation for the Ministry of Social Transformation, Youth & Sports – the ministry previously responsible for youth affairs – as XCD 12.9 million (USD 4.8 million). “Youth Services” was allocated XCD 1.1 million (USD 412,632). More recent budget information was not available for the current Ministry of Youth Development and Sports. According to the World Bank, Saint Lucia spent 10.42% of its government expenditure and 4.26% of its GDP on education provision in 2012.

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

Source: [World Bank](https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE[XCD.1.1 MILLION]1.1 MILLION)

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

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

% of GDP | % of gov. expenditure
---|---
20.0 | 10.0
15.0 | 5.0
10.0 | 0.0
5.0 | 0.0
0.0 | 0.0

Source: [World Bank](https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE[XCD.1.1 MILLION]1.1 MILLION)

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

### PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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