

# Factsheet: Solomon Islands

Last update: 21 April 2014

## DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The *Urban Youth in the Pacific* (2011) describes the Solomon Islands' national youth policy as defining youth as individuals between 14-29 years. The national youth policy does not exist online.

### CANDIDACY AGE

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

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

### MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	18	15	XX
Female	18	15	XX

Homosexual acts illegal. Source: [UNSD, ILGA](#)

### VOTING AGE

**18**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

### MAJORITY AGE

**18**

Source: [Solomon Islands Constitution](#) (1978)

### 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](#) (1996)

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

**0.44**

129 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

**30.99%**

Both sexes %

Male % Female %

Year: 2007

Source: [UNESCO](#)

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### 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.

**--**

Both sexes (13-15) %

Male (13-15) %

Female (13-15) %

Year: No data.

Source: [WHO](#)

## POLICY & LEGISLATION

According to the *Urban Youth in the Pacific* (2011), the national youth policy (2010-2015), and the accompanying strategic action plan, replaces the national youth policy (2000) after a lengthy review and consultation process. The national youth policy does not exist anywhere online. The national youth policy (2010-2015) focuses on six key issues:

1. Youth and Career pathways
2. Youth and Governance
3. Youth and Wellbeing
4. Youth and Peace-building
5. Youth and Sustainable development
6. Youth Mainstreaming

Additionally, youth policies exist at the provincial level. As a member of the [Commonwealth of Nations](#), the Solomon Islands

Is there a national youth policy?

**YES**

The national youth policy covers 2011-2015. A 2003 study, 2005 analysis and 2011 chapter exist.

### GDP PER CAPITA

**USD 1953.56**

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

### HDI

**0.53**

Year: 2013

Source: [UNDP](#)

157 out of 187 countries.

### GINI

**--**

Year: No data.

Source: [World Bank](#)

### CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

**--**

Year: No data.

Source: [Transparency International](#)

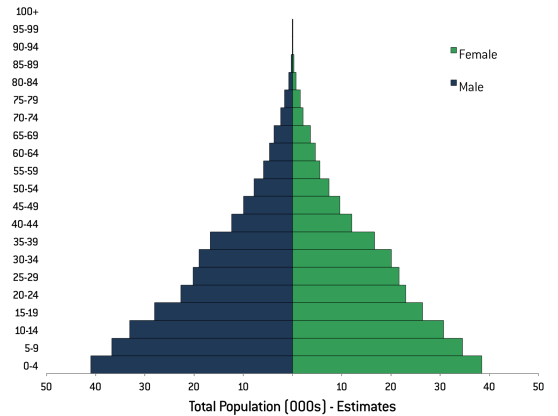
### PRESS FREEDOM

**--**

Year: No data.

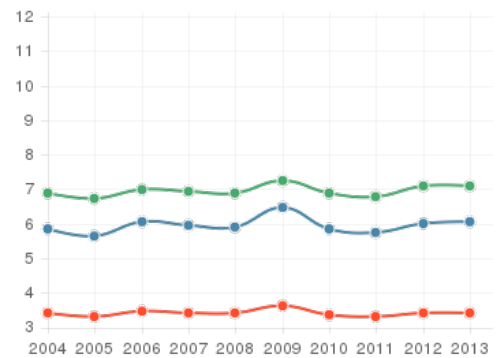
Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

## 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

is a signatory of The Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE) 2006-2015.

## PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

According to the [Solomon Islands Budget 2013 Budget Strategy And Outlook](#), the mission of the Youth Development Division of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Children, Family Affairs is to "uphold and promote the rights of women, young people and children and families to advance the well being of the nation." It is responsible for the implementation of the national youth policy. Coordination of youth policy is supported by the National Steering Committee, National Youth Stakeholders Committee and the National Youth Congress.

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

**YES**

## YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

According to the [Pacific Youth Council – Solomon Islands page](#), the Solomon Islands National Youth Congress (SINYC) aims to "encourage young people to participate more fully in the country's development." SINYC was established in 1980 and its functions include advocacy, training, developing provincial youth policies and coordinating the National Youth Stakeholders Committee. An annual National Youth Parliament takes places at the National Parliament for a mock session. The SINYC is a member of the [Pacific Youth Council](#) and [The Commonwealth Youth Council](#).

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

**YES**

## BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the [2013 Budget Strategy and Outlook](#), the Youth Development budget is SBD 3.6 million (USD 495,180) for 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively. According to the [World Bank](#), Solomon Islands spent 34% of its government expenditure and 7.27 % 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?

**SBD 3.6 MILLION  
USD 495,180**

youth programming?

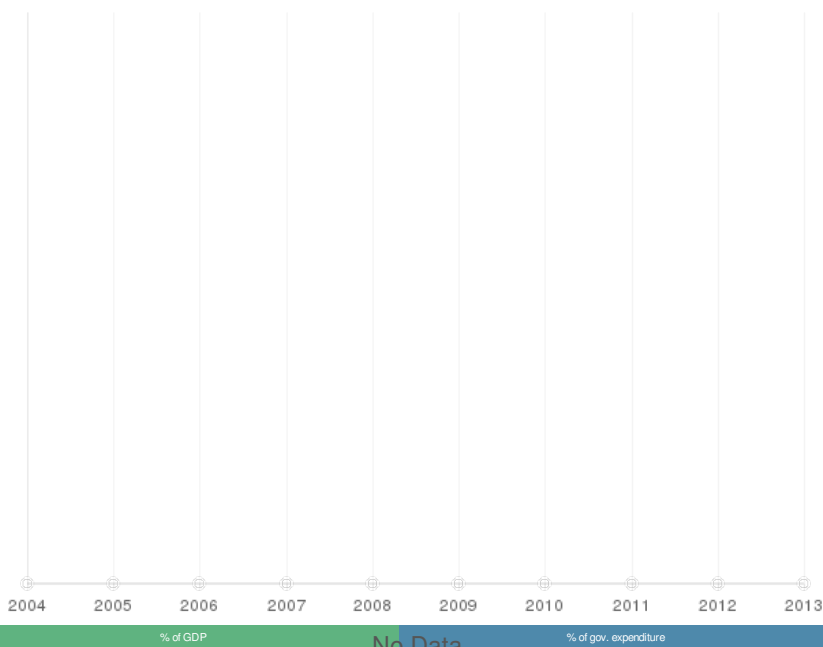
**SBD 3.6 MILLION  
USD 495,180**

According to the [2013 Budget Strategy and Outlook](#), the Youth Development budget is SBD 3.6 million (USD 495,180) for 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively. According to the [World Bank](#), Solomon Islands spent 34% of its government expenditure and 7.27 % of its GDP on education provision in 2010.

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

No Data

## 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:  
[Documents about Solomon Islands](#)