Factsheet: Thailand

Last update: 11 June 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

According to the Youth Development Act (2007) and the Youth Development Plan (2012) youth is defined as 18-25 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower House</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper House</td>
<td>--</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opposite Sex WITH PARENTAL CONSENT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same Sex WITH PARENTAL CONSENT</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VOTING AGE

18 (Compulsory voting).

MAJORITY AGE

20

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

7 (Minimum Age)!

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.66 (77 out of 175 countries).

LITERACY RATES

98.24% (Both sexes 15-24), 98.30% Male (15-24), 98.17% Female (15-24).

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School: 79.47% (Both sexes), 77.29% Male, 81.72% Female.

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.3% Male (15-24), 0.3% Female (15-24).

TOBACCO USE

15.60% (Both sexes 13-15), 24.00% Male (13-15), 7.50% Female (13-15).

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The Youth Development Act (2007) enshrines the right of young people to basic education, health care, play and participation in cultural and social life. The act mandates the work of a national commission on youth, as well as measures to promote implementation, including child and youth councils as well as the promotion of youth NGOs.

The Youth Development Plan for 2012-2016 was developed in accordance with the Act. Its vision is that young people “lead secured, healthy, happy and creative lives.” The plan includes 17 indicators, such as a requirement that 80% of youth councils function in a standardised way. It also lists four strategies (ex. increase life immunity of children and youth), associated objectives, measures, and the ministries responsible for attaining them.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

Thailand has a youth development act and a youth development plan covering 2012-2016.

Source: World Bank

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed May 2014).

BUDGET & SPENDING

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or
The Office of Promotion and Protection of Children, Youth, the Elderly and Vulnerable Groups (OPP) is the governmental body responsible for youth. It is the author of the 2007 Youth Development Act and the 2012 Youth Development Plan. Within the office is the Bureau of Youth Promotion and Protection, which is responsible for promoting measures that protect and maintain the rights of youth.

The 2007 Act also mandates the creation of a national commission. Members include the Prime Minister and young representatives elected by the Child and Youth Council of Thailand.

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

There are two prominent representation structures in Thailand. The first is a National Children and Youth Council. It was set up by the OPP in 2009, according to a 2011 UNICEF report. A 2010 summary notes the existence of 954 councils mostly at district and provincial levels.

The second is the National Council for Child and Youth Development (NCYD), which coordinates youth groups, schools and ministries, according to its 2008 profile. It is unclear what role young people play in the organisation, and its relation to the National Children and Youth Council.

BUDGET & SPENDING

The Ministry of Finance has an English website that includes budgetary information, however no specific figures on youth spending in Thailand could be ascertained. According to the World Bank, Thailand spent 23.98% of its government expenditure and 5.79% of its GDP on education provision in 2011.

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 May 2014).

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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