

Factsheet: Timor-Leste

Last update: 6 June 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The Timor-Leste national youth policy (2007) defines youth as those aged from 16 to 30 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **17**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

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

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	17	16	XX
Female	17	16	XX

No specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Source: [Civil Code of Timor-Leste](#) (2011), [ILGA](#)

VOTING AGE

17
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

17
Source: [Civil Code of Timor-Leste](#) (2011)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

16
Minimum Age
Source: [Penal Code of Timor-Leste](#) (2009)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

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Year: No data.
Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

82.37%
Both sexes (15-24) %
81.89% **82.86%**
Male (15-24) % Female (15-24) %
Year: 2015
Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School
37.71%
Both sexes %
35.75% **39.75%**
Male % Female %
Year: 2011
Source: [UNESCO](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

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Male (15-24) %
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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.
56.50%
Both sexes (13-15) %
60.20% **53.40%**
Male (13-15) % Female (13-15) %
Year: 2010
Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The national youth policy (2007) was based on the findings of the 2005 national survey of young people in the country. The key strategies of the national youth policy are:

- Mobilise young people to serve their communities;
- Facilitate the step from education to the labour market;
- Provide more and better job opportunities for young people;
- Teach illiterate young people how to read and write;
- Help the most disadvantaged youth;
- Promote the civic participation of young people.

The policy places particular focus on inter-ministerial policy efforts, and on issues like employment and literacy and rural development. It identifies marginalised groups that require different approaches, such as youths with disabilities, women, and rural youth.

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

The national youth policy national youth policy of Timor-Leste is from 2007. A youth survey and a youth analysis exist.

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 1105.35
Year: 2012
Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.576
Year: 2013
Source: [UNDP](#)
128 out of 187 countries.

GINI

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Year: No data.
Source: [World Bank](#)

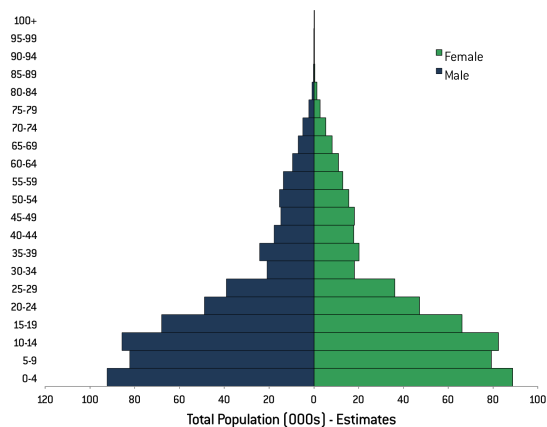
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

28
133 out of 177 countries.
Year: 2014
Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

29.04
77 out of 180 countries.
Year: 2013
Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



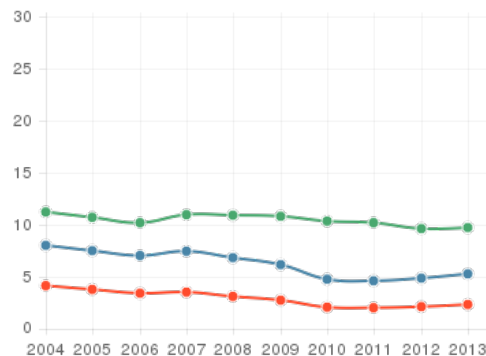
TLS

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

2012 Revision - Estimates. (Accessed August 2013).

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](#)

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

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Secretary of State for Youth and Sports (SEDJ), founded in 2008, is the governmental office responsible for youth affairs. According to the [decree-law No.13/2008](#) it is in charge of designing and implementing youth policies, establishing collaborations across government bodies within the scope of the youth policies, and setting up mechanisms for young peoples projects. Within the Secretary of State is the National Youth Directorate is in charge of developing youth programmes in the areas of volunteerism, vocational training, mobility and exchange and citizenship building.

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

Timor-Leste has a [National Youth Council \(CNJTL\)](#), but there is little additional information available online. The president of the National Youth Council sits on the Advisory Board on Youth and Sports – the advisory body in charge of reviewing the progress and implementation of Secretary of State for Youth and Sports (SEDJ) activities. According to the [Secretariat report](#), the CNJTL and SEDJ – with support from UNICEF – drafted the statute of the [Youth Parliament](#).

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

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

The [2010 budget](#) allocated 5.2 million USD to the Secretariat of State for Youth and Sports. However, the proportion of this amount spend specifically on youth is unclear. According to the [World Bank](#), Timor-Leste spent 9.42% of its GDP on education in 2011, but does not calculate what this translates to in terms of percentage of government expenditure.

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

UNCLEAR

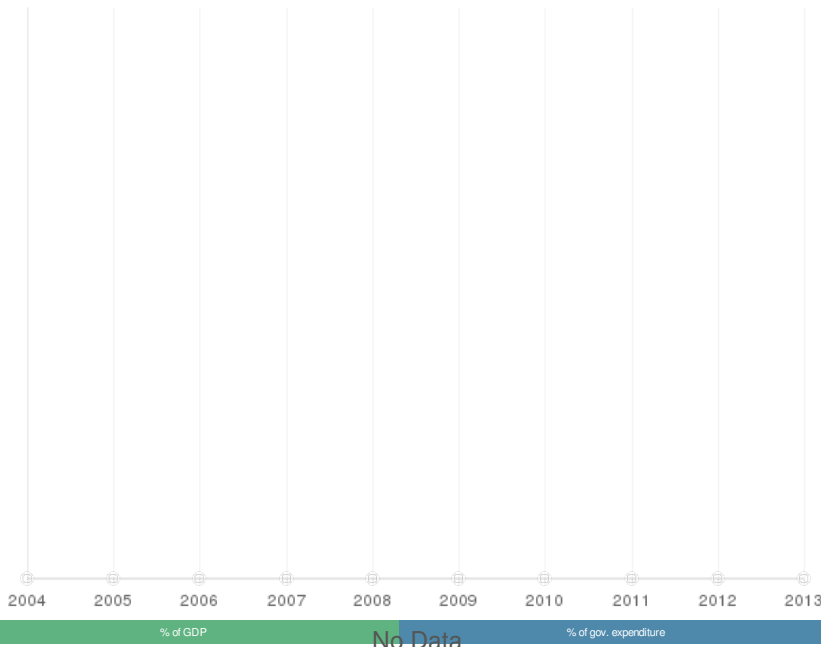
youth programming?

UNCLEAR

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

No Data

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)
Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed May 2014).

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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