

# Factsheet: Zambia

Last update: 3 June 2014

## DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The [National Youth Policy](#) (2006) defines youth in Zambia as 18-25 years.

### CANDIDACY AGE

**Lower House** **21**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#) Partially appointed.

**Upper House** **--**

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

### MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex	With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	21	--	XX	
Female	21	--	XX	

No data for marriage with parental consent. Homosexual acts illegal. Source: [UNSD, ILGA](#)

### VOTING AGE

**18**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

### MAJORITY AGE

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Definitions of majority age vary by law. Customary law states that majority is achieved at puberty. Source: [UN Child Rights Periodic Report](#) (2001)

### CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

**8**

Minimum Age  
Source: [Penal Code of Zambia](#) (1930)

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

**0.5**

120 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

### LITERACY RATES

**65.76%**

Both sexes (15-24) %

**69.43%** **62.13%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

### NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

**--**

Both sexes %

Year: No data.

Source: [UNESCO](#)

## SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

### PREVALENCE OF HIV

**3.4%**

Male (15-24) %

**4.5%**

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.

**25.60%**

Both sexes (13-15) %

**25.70%**

Male (13-15) %

**25.60%**

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

## POLICY & LEGISLATION

The core principle of the [National Youth Policy](#) (2006) has a core principle of

"...a holistic integrated approach that ensures coverage of the most critical elements in youth development [...] through comprehensive and multi-sectoral plans for integrating youth and working with them as partners in national development."

Is there a national youth policy?

**YES**

The national youth policy of Zambia from 2006, is under review. A previous one is from 1994.

Objectives of the policy include mitigating the impacts of HIV/AIDS, participation in policy development & implementation, access to ICTs, respect of cultural & customary values, education, offender rehabilitation and achieving the MDGs.

As a member of the [Commonwealth of Nations](#), Zambia is a signatory of [The Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment \(PAYE\) 2006-2015](#).

### GDP PER CAPITA

**USD 1844.8**

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

### HDI

**0.448**

Year: 2013

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

### GINI

**57.49**

Year: 2010

Source: [World Bank](#)

### CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

**38**

85 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

### PRESS FREEDOM

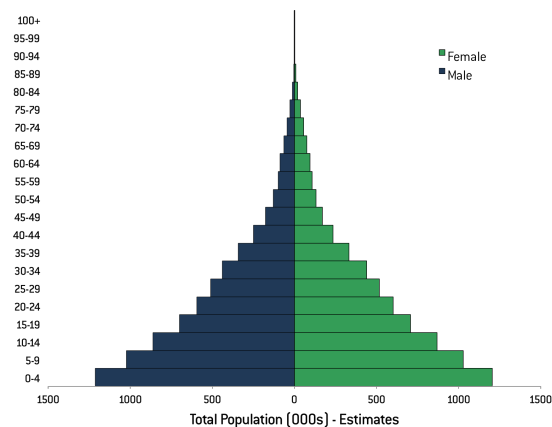
**30.89**

93 out of 180 countries.

Year: 2013

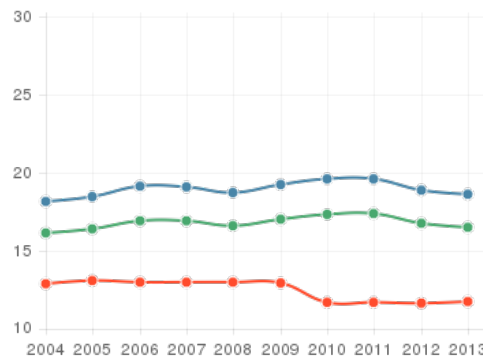
Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

## 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

Zambia has signed and ratified the [African Youth Charter](#) (2006).

## PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Ministry of Youth and Sports (previously called the [Ministry of Sports, Youth and Child Development](#)) is referenced by a [recent news article](#), but little information about the ministry can be found online. A [State of the Nation Report on Young People in Zambia](#) (2012) references the Ministry of Youth and Labour as a source of primary data collection, but no other references to this Ministry could be found.

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

**YES**

## YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The [National Youth Development Council Act](#) (1994) created the NYDC to:

- Advise the Minister on youth development programmes;
- Coordinate youth activities;
- Assist and encourage youth development organisations and programmes;
- Evaluate and implement youth programmes;
- Initiate, operate and manage youth development projects;
- Registering and monitoring youth organisations in Zambia.

A 2012 [report](#) cites that despite the [National Youth Policy](#) aiming to strengthen the council, "NYDC still lacks the recognition it deserves in the Zambia Youth Sector".

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

**YES**

## BUDGET & SPENDING

No documentation on the budget for youth in Zambia could be found online. According to the [World Bank](#), Zambia spent 1.35% of its GDP on education in 2008, 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**

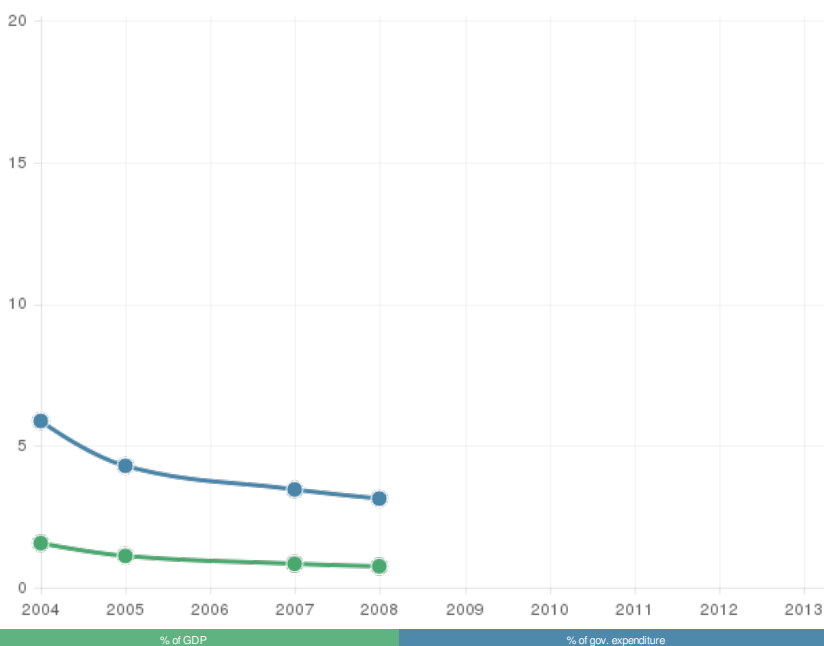
youth programming?

**UNCLEAR**

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

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

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

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

## PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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