

Factsheet: Zimbabwe

Last update: 11 June 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The 2013 national youth policy defines youth as persons between 15 and 35 years of age. This age range is stipulated in the new Constitution and is also in line with the continental definition of youth as defined in the African Youth Charter.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **21**

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Partially elected by other means.

Upper House **40**

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Partially elected by other means.

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	18	16	XX
Female	18	16	--

Male homosexual acts illegal. Female homosexual acts legal, however no specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Source: UNSD, ILGA

VOTING AGE

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: Children's Act (2002)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

7

Minimum Age
From 7-14 years old, the state must prove criminal capacity. A child below 7 cannot be held legally responsible for their actions. Source: Criminal Law of Zimbabwe (2005)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.46

127 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

LITERACY RATES

91.73%

Both sexes (15-24) %

89.96% **93.49%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: UNESCO

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

35.40%

Both sexes %

36.74% **34.06%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2003

Source: UNESCO

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

4.1%

Male (15-24) %

6.6%

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.

12.00%

Both sexes (13-15) %

14.90%

Male (13-15) %

8.20%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: WHO

POLICY & LEGISLATION

Comparing the two versions of the youth policy, there appears to be no major difference in the texts. In 2013 the definition of youth shifted from ages 10-30 to 15-35, in line with the 2013 Constitution. The revised version places more emphasis on mainstreaming youth throughout all ministries. Its principle guidelines are derived from existing national and international frameworks, such as the African Youth Charter (AYC), the United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth (WPA). Other youth legislation includes the Decent Work Country Programme for Zimbabwe (DWCP), launched in 2013 by the Ministry of Labour and Social Services and the Social Partners. It aims to combat the high levels of youth unemployment through initiatives such as the Skills for Youth Employment and Rural Development programme.

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

A nation youth policy was launched in 2000. Following criticism, a revised national youth policy was published in 2013.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 953.38

Year: 2013

Source: World Bank

HDI

0.397

Year: 2013

Source: UNDP
156 out of 187 countries.

GINI

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Year: No data.

Source: World Bank

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

21

156 out of 177 countries.
Year: 2014

Source: Transparency International

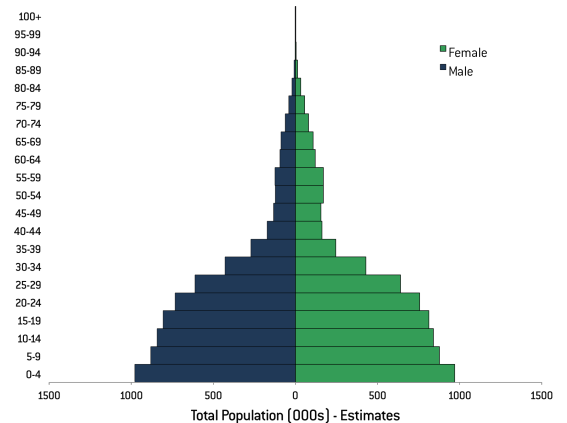
PRESS FREEDOM

39.19

135 out of 180 countries.
Year: 2013

Source: Reporters Without Borders

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



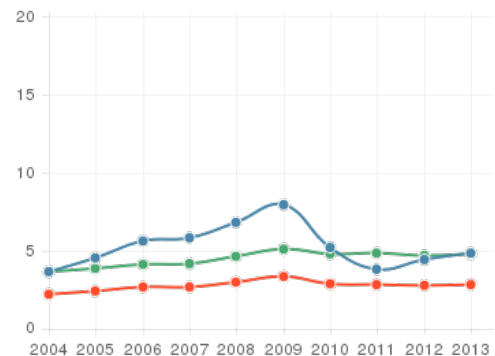
ZWE

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 August 2013).

BUDGET & SPENDING

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

The Department of Youth of the [Ministry of Youth, Indigenisation & Economic Empowerment](#) is in charge of "mainstreaming youth in all national development policies and programmes" and to oversee the implementation of the national youth policy. The Department's website lists three main areas of responsibility:

- Vocational Skills training;
- Programming;
- National Youth Service.

The [Zimbabwe Youth Council](#) (ZYC) assists government in the formulation of youth policies and monitors its implementation. It also supports youth organisations and clubs across the country.

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The [Zimbabwe Youth Council](#) (ZYC) is a quasi-governmental organization administered by the [Ministry of Youth, Indigenisation & Economic Empowerment](#). It consists of 15 board members, of which seven are elected by registered Youth Associations, the remaining appointed by the Minister. It is responsible for registering youth organisations, clubs and trusts. The [National Association of Youth Organisations](#) is an umbrella body currently including 83 youth organizations. It promotes the role of youth in community and the development process.

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

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

The [2014 Estimates of Expenditure](#) lists the budget for the [Ministry of Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment](#) as USD 44.5 million (figures given in USD only). However, there is no specific breakdown for youth expenditure. According to the [World Bank](#), Zimbabwe spent 8.26 % of its government expenditure and 2.50% 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?

USD 44.5 MILLION

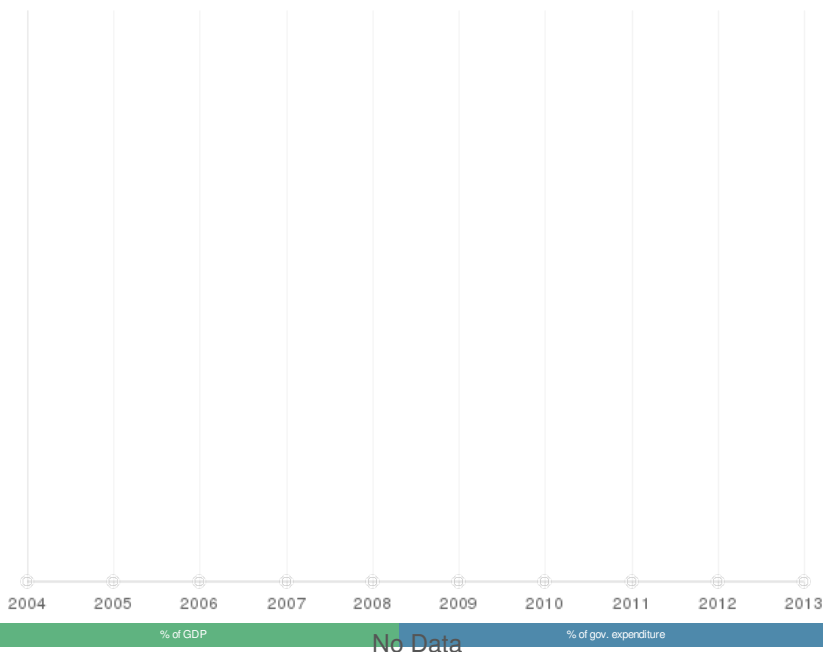
youth programming?

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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 August 2013).

No Data

% of GDP % of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)
Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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