

United Nations definition of youth

Without prejudice to other definitions provided by Member States, the United Nations defines young people as those between the ages of 15 and 24. This definition, which originated in the preparations for the International Year of Youth in 1985 (see A/36/215), was adopted in 1981 by General Assembly resolution 36/28.

All youth-related statistics in the United Nations system are based on this definition, as reflected in the statistical yearbooks on demography, education, employment and health published by the United Nations.

Reference is also made to United Nations Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) and the Progress Study on Youth and Peace and Security, which define "youth" as persons between the ages of 18 and 29.

