Demography

There are a total of 4,159,000 people between the ages of 14 and 35 in Rwanda. This is an increase from 3,715,000 young people aged 14 to 35 in 2005/06 (EICV2).

Overall, 14–35 year olds make up 39% of the total population of Rwanda of all ages. The largest age group within the youth are the 14–19 year olds.

This group comprises 14% of the total population (all ages). The 30–35 age group comprises 7% of the total population. The sex ratio of youths in Rwanda is close to 50:50 between the ages of 14–19 but diverges through the older age groups. In the 30–35 age group males make up just 46% of the group and females 54%.

Education

The majority of youths aged 14–35 in Rwanda have either never been to school or not yet completed primary (62.2%). 31.5% have completed primary school, and just 4.9% have completed post-primary, vocational, secondary, or higher education.

Overall, 80% of the population aged 14–35 years old know how to read and write. This varies from 68.7% for those in the lowest quintile to 89.8% for those in the highest quintile.

Of all Rwandans aged 14–35 years old who have completed primary school, just 2.7% are attending or have attended technical or vocational school.

The overwhelming majority (97.2%) of primary school graduates go on to attend secondary school, and very few attend both secondary and vocational school.

The oldest age group from 30 to 35 years old are the most likely to have attended technical or vocational school, at 27.4%. Overall, just 7% of Rwandans aged 14–35 years old are confident about using a computer.

The number is highest in Kigali (22%) and amongst the wealthiest quintile (19%). Employment and economic activity Overall, the employment and economic activity rates for people aged 14–35 are lower than for all working age people (16 years+) because many, especially in the 14–19 age category, are still students.

The overall employment rate for youth is 70.2%; of the others not working 26.3% are students. For 14–19 year olds, the proportion of students rises to 59% and the employment rate is just 37%.

Employment rates for 25–35 year olds are more than 94%

Reference documents (PDF)

- EICV3_ThematicReport_Youth.pdf (pdf, 3.36 MB)
  LAST UPDATED: 8 Feb 2025

Data source

Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey 3 (EICV 3)

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