



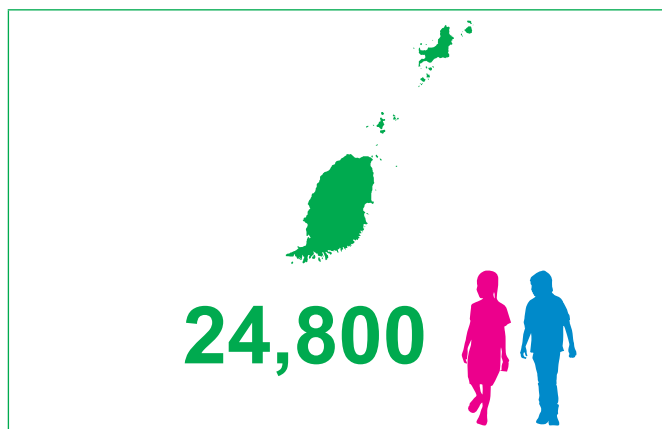
Generation Unlimited: the Well-being of Young People in Grenada

FACT SHEET

July 2021

The age from 10-24 is an important transitional period in the life cycle of young people: from dependence to independence; from childhood to adulthood; from primary to secondary school and onto tertiary education and/or the labour market; and from pre-pubescence to sexual maturity. Few young people are likely to pass through this period without some reversals or feelings of uncertainty, such as: not doing well at school; examination failures; parental discord; problems with friends and partners; and/or difficulties in finding their first job. In most cases, these experiences will be transitory and have little influence on their future lives. But for others, these experiences can be more severe and have long-lasting impacts on one's well-being, on that of their families and, if widespread, on national, social and economic development. In 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 global pandemic and its economic and social impacts have disrupted nearly all aspects of life for all groups in society, but young people, and especially for vulnerable youth, the COVID-19 crisis poses considerable risks to their education, employment, mental health and disposable income. While young people will shoulder much of the long-term economic and social consequences of the crisis, their well-being may be superseded by short-term economic and equity considerations.

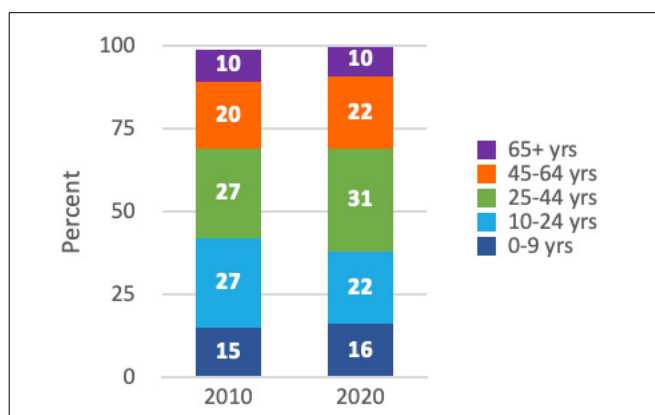
Young People in Grenada



In 2020, according to UN population projections, there were around 24,800 young people (10-24 years) in Grenada; about 4,100 (14%) fewer than in 2010. Young people accounted for about 22% of the population in

2020. This proportion is likely to decrease in the future as the population continues to age and fertility remains constant or declines.

Population distribution by age groups



Source: Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

EVERY YOUNG PERSON HAS A FAIR CHANCE IN LIFE

Ending poverty – or its dramatic reduction – is an overarching objective of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Adolescence and young adulthood are times when growing up in poverty can hamper educational performance, increase the risk of unemployment and lead to risky behaviours, such as substance abuse, involvement in gangs and other criminal activities. These can have a detrimental impact on the physical, emotional and social development of young people, threatening their life chances and risking the creation of inter-generational poverty.

Poverty and Young People

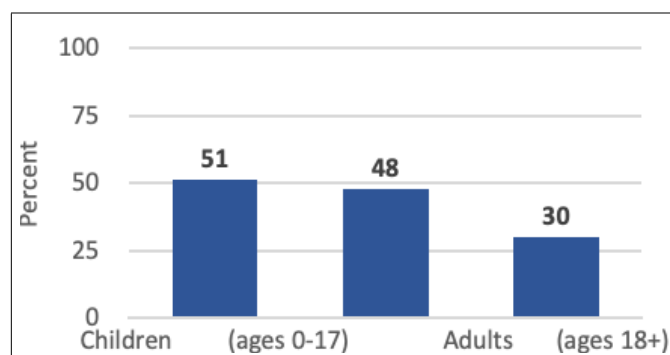
Poverty is at the heart of a considerable amount of vulnerability, social discrimination and exclusion: Households with inadequate income are more vulnerable to changing economic, social and environmental circumstances and to reduced income-earning potential. People in poverty also tend to live in inadequate and unsanitary housing in less desirable neighbourhoods, which are especially vulnerable to weather-related damage. They are also more prone to live in communities with high rates of crime and violence, which can be unsafe environments for adolescents and young people.

Poverty is a problem in the ECA even though countries and territories have reached a level of development that should allow a significant proportion of people living in poverty to escape poverty.

In 2016, 38% of people in Grenada were living in poverty and 2% were indigent (indigence entails living in a level of poverty in which real hardship and deprivation are suffered and comforts of life are wholly lacking). Grenada has the highest poverty rate among countries in the Eastern Caribbean; significantly higher than the average of 23% for the region.

More specifically, 1 in 2 or 51% of children ages 0-17 and 18% of adolescents ages 10-19 were living in poverty, which is higher than the poverty rate for adults age 18+ years (30%). The poverty rate for young people ages 10-24 is not available because it has yet to be calculated. Grenada child and adolescent poverty rates are higher than the averages for the Eastern Caribbean (33% and 34% respectively).

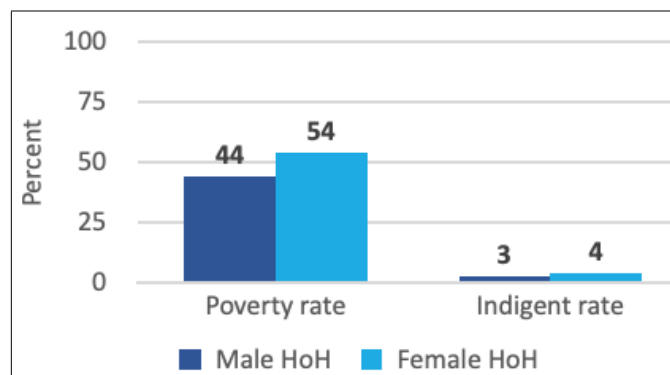
Poverty and indigence rates by age group



Source: UNICEF (2020). *Generation Unlimited: The Well-being of Young People in Barbados*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados

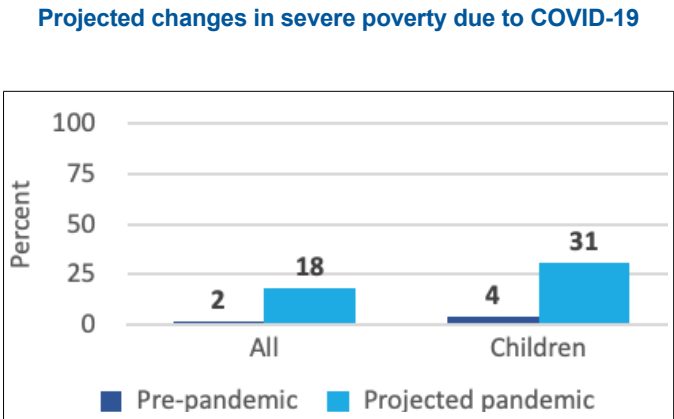
Adolescents ages 10-19 living in female-headed households were more likely to live in poverty (54%) and indigence (4%), than adolescents living in male-headed households (44% and 3% respectively).

Adolescent poverty and indigence rate by sex of HoH



Sources: OECS Commission/UNICEF (2017). *Child Poverty in the Eastern Caribbean Area, Final Report*. OECS Commission/ UNICEF: Castries, Saint Lucia

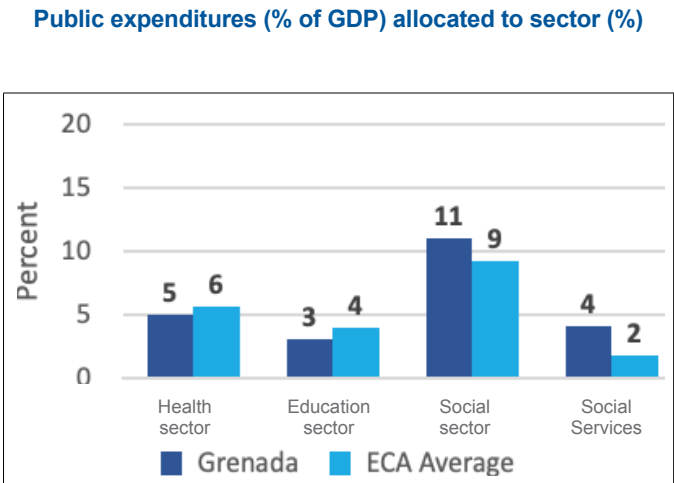
With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been projected that severe poverty rates will increase in the ECA, impacting the societies at-large, but children in particular. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, severe poverty rates are projected to increase ninefold to 18% for all persons and increase eightfold to 31% for children.



Source: USAID/UNICEF (2020). *The socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on children and young people in the ECA*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados, p. 13.

Public Finance for Children and Young People

Public financing varies across sectors – health, education, social protection and social services – that are particularly important to children and young people. Mobilising national resources for children and young people in Grenada is critical to ensuring a sustainable and equitable impact on their lives.



Source: Nabinger, S. (2017). *Review of Social Sector Expenditures in the Eastern Caribbean Area*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados

EVERY YOUNG PERSON LEARNS

Access to quality education is crucial if young people are to acquire the knowledge and skills to function in and contribute to society. Experiences at school have far-reaching effects on their development and well-being, encompassing physical and mental health, safety, civic engagement and social development. Education in various forms is a vital prerequisite for combating poverty, empowering young people, protecting them from hazardous and exploitative practices, promoting human rights and democracy and protecting the environment.

Primary and Secondary School Enrolment

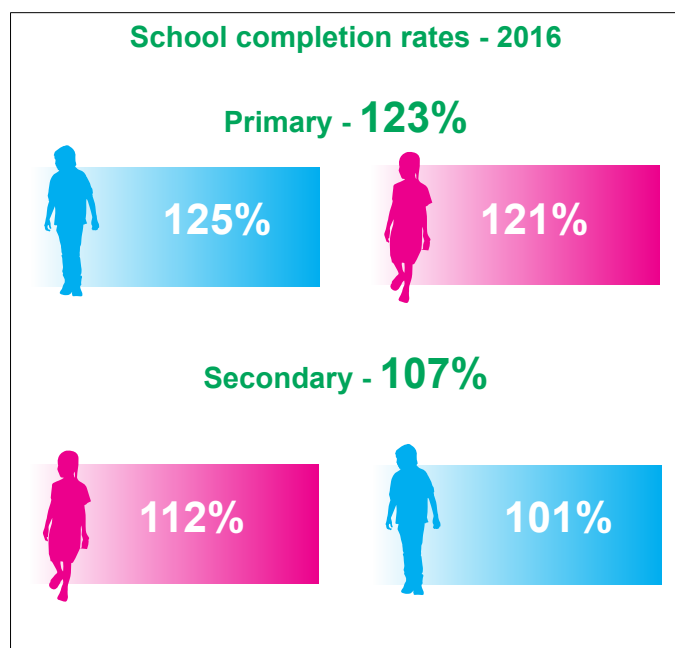
In Grenada, education is compulsory between the ages of 5-14, in keeping with the Education Act. Although early childhood education and tertiary education are not compulsory, they do form part of the formal education system and are highly encouraged.

In 2018, the primary school enrolment rate was 99%. In 2018, the proportion of over-age students in primary schools was 4%; the same as the average of 4% for the Eastern Caribbean. Boys (5%) were nearly twice as likely as girls (3%) to be over-age students in primary schools.

In 2017, the secondary school enrolment rate was 88%; secondary school enrolment rate was higher for boys (93%) than girls (83%). In 2018-2019, only 3% of lower secondary school age adolescents were out-of-school; lower than the average of 7% for the Eastern Caribbean. In comparison, 8% of boys and 7% of girls were out-of-school at the upper secondary level; this is still lower than the average of 21% for boys and 20% for girls in the Eastern Caribbean.

Primary and Secondary Completion Rates

In 2016, the primary education completion rate was 123% (125% for boys and 121% for girls). The lower secondary education completion rate was 107% (112% for girls and 101% for boys).



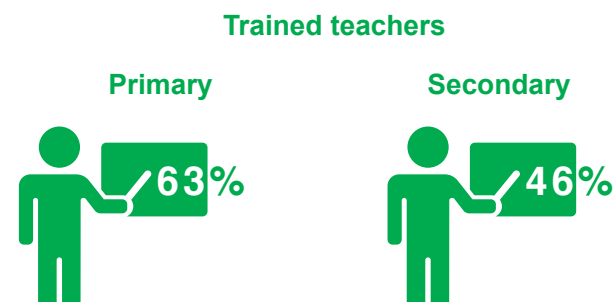
Skills and Learning Outcomes

At primary and secondary levels of education, children and adolescents develop foundational and transferable skills, including digital skills needed to enable them to become lifelong learners, and to access future educational and work opportunities. Data related to skills and learning outcomes are not available for Grenada.

Trained Teachers

A trained teacher is one who has received at least the minimum organised pedagogical teacher training pre-service and in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in Suriname. Training of teachers can have a great impact on student learning outcome; yet this only happens when the teachers apply new knowledge and skills in their classroom.

In Grenada, in 2018-2019, the proportion of trained teachers was 63% at the primary education level and 46% at the secondary education level. This is far less than the average for OECS Member States (72% and 60% respectively) and the Eastern Caribbean Area (70% and 61% respectively).



Tertiary Education

Access to tertiary education for youth is crucial to learning outcomes and skills development, human development of a population and poverty reduction in a country. Summary data on transition rates and net enrolment rates, as well as numbers of youth in tertiary education are limited. In 2018, the gross enrolment rate for tertiary education in Grenada was 105%; the highest in the Eastern Caribbean. The average gross enrolment rate for tertiary education is 44% in the Eastern Caribbean.

EVERY YOUNG PERSON PARTICIPATES

For young people, the path to a successful future goes through quality education that equips them – and empowers them – with the skills they need to thrive into today's work force. This transition is not always so straight forward, especially when young people are unable to find suitable jobs. This can have a negative impact on their self-esteem, mental health and well-being, contribute to engagement in anti-social or risk behaviours, and can be a financial strain on the household and affect their relationship with family members.

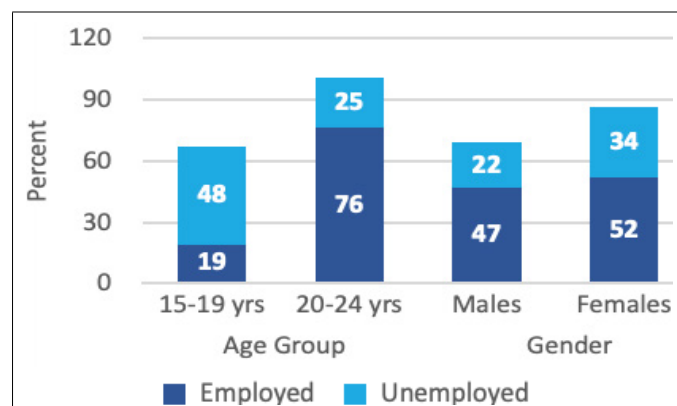
Youth Employment and Unemployment

In the OECS subregion, the total youth population (ages 15-24) is estimated at 103,000, of which 34% were employed in the labour force and 26% were unemployed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; in comparison, 85% of adults ages 25-64 were employed and 9% were unemployed prior to the pandemic.

In Grenada, 36% of youth ages 15-24 were employed in the labour force and 29% were unemployed. This compared to 77% of adults ages 25-64 years who were employed and 15% who were unemployed.

Youth ages 20-24 (76%) were four times more likely to be employed than youth aged 15-19 (19%); whereas, youth ages 15-19 (48%) were nearly twice as likely to be unemployed than youth aged 20-24 (25%). In terms of gender, female youth (52%) were more likely to participate in the labour force than male youth (47%). Female youth (34%) were also more likely to be unemployed as male youth (22%).

Youth labour for participation by age and gender



Source: OECS/UNICEF/ILO (2020). *Youth Unemployment in Barbados and the OECS Area: A Statistical Compendium*. OECS Commission: Castries, Saint Lucia

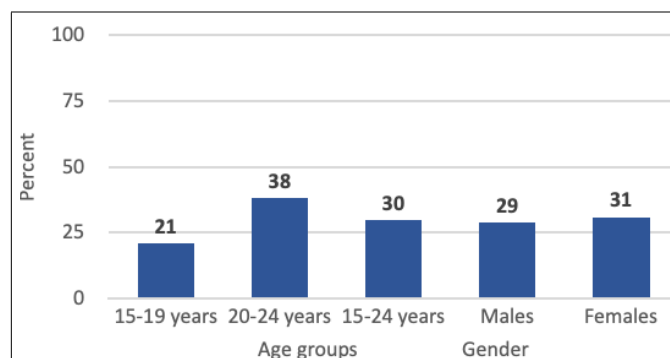
Youth Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)

The NEET indicator is the percentage of youth population that are neither working, nor in education or training. It includes those youth who are unemployed and those who are inactive for other reasons. This indicator is

the result of a recognition that unemployment is strictly defined as those who are not in employment and are actively seeking work and are available for work. As a consequence, this definition excludes a potentially significant proportion of the youth population who are not working, but are not actively seeking employment for a variety of reasons.

Youth NEETs are likely at-risk from the adverse impacts of unemployment, including marginalisation, exclusion and engagement in anti-social behaviours. The need to incorporate this group of youth into the analysis of youth issues led to the NEET indicator becoming the sole youth-specific target for post-2015 SDGs.

Youth NEET rate by age groups and gender



Source: OECS/UNICEF/ILO (2020). *Youth Unemployment in Barbados and the OECS Area: A Statistical Compendium*. OECS Commission: Castries, Saint Lucia.

In Grenada, 35% of youth ages 15-24 are in education, 35% are employed and 30% are NEETs. Youth NEETs are more likely to be aged 20-24 (38%) than 15-19 years (21%); they are also more likely to be female (31%) than male (29%).

It has been projected that the youth unemployment rate can be expected to double due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the majority of unemployed youth live with their families, this can only further exacerbate the financial situations of families/households and increase the risks of volatile family situations. Further analysis is needed to understand the short- and long-term impacts of COVID-19 on youth unemployment and labour force participation.

EVERY YOUNG PERSON THRIVES

The rights of adolescents and youth to survive, grow and develop are enshrined in international conventions, including the CRC. In keeping states are obliged to recognise the special health and development needs and rights of young people, including adolescents and youth. Young people will thrive when they continue to eat well, are stimulated and cared for at home and in their communities, and enjoy access to quality education that gives them opportunities to learn and grow into adulthood.



Sexual Behaviours

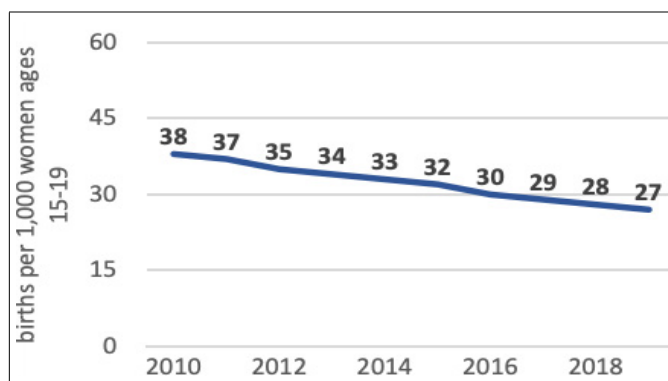
Data on the sexual behaviours of adolescents in Grenada are limited to adolescent ages 13-15 and three indicators – ever had sexual intercourse, had sexual intercourse before the age of 14, and condom use during the last act of sexual intercourse.

Among adolescents ages 13-15, 37% ever had sexual intercourse; boys (43%) were nearly three times more likely than girls (15%) to have had sexual intercourse. Among sexually active adolescent, 57% used a condom at the last sexual intercourse.

Teenage Pregnancy and Childbirth

There has been a steady decrease in the adolescent fertility rate in Grenada from 38 per 1,000 births in 2010 to 27 per 1,000 births among women ages 15-19 in 2019.

Adolescent fertility rate



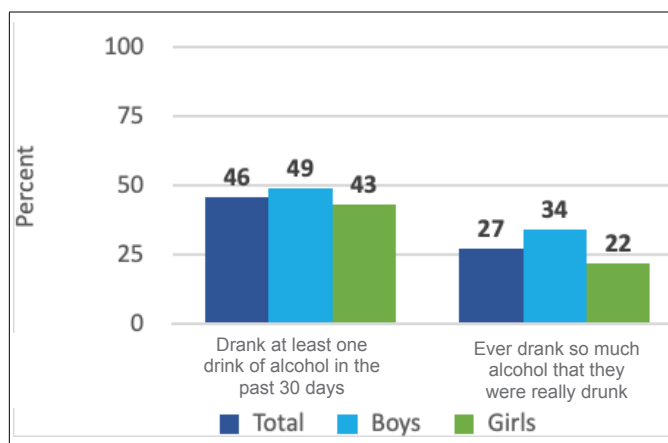
Source: United Nations Population Division, World Population Prospects.

Alcohol and Tobacco Use

Alcohol and tobacco use typically have their onset in adolescence and young adulthood, and are major risk factors for adverse health and social outcomes, as well as for non-communicable diseases later in life. During adolescence and young adulthood, young people are less able to anticipate the negative effects of alcohol and tobacco use on their health and well-being, including risks of abusing such substance and developing addictions.

In Grenada, 46% of adolescents ages 13-15 drank at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days, and 27% ever drank so much alcohol that they were really drunk. Boys (34%) were more likely than girls (22%) to ever drink so much alcohol that they were really drunk.

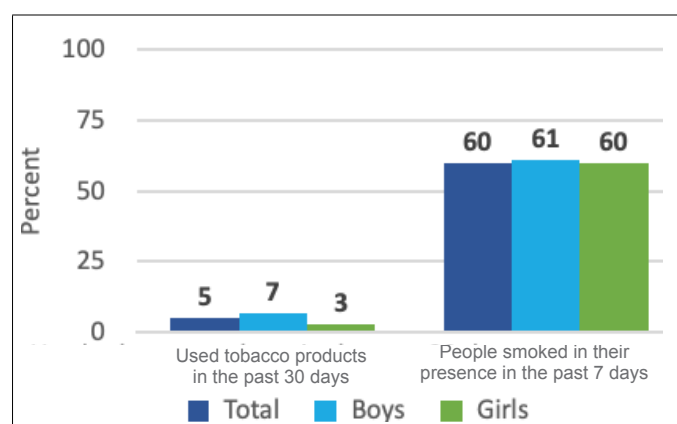
Adolescents ages 13-15 who drank alcohol



Source: Grenada GSHS, 2009

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease and death, and nearly all tobacco use begins during adolescents and young adulthood. Adolescents and youth who use tobacco products are at higher risk for developing nicotine dependence and might be more likely to continue using tobacco into adulthood. Although 60% of adolescents had people smoke in their presence during the past 7 days, only 5% used any tobacco product in the past 30 days. Boys (7%) were twice as likely as girls (3%) to use tobacco products in the past 30 days.

Adolescents ages 13-15 who used tobacco products



Source: Grenada GSHS, 2009

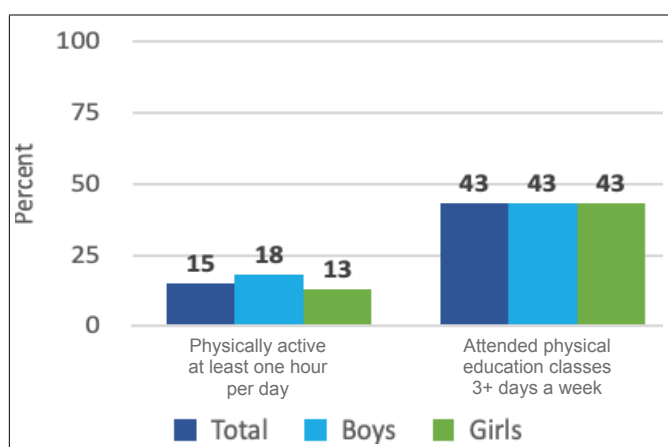
Nutrition

Adolescence is the period of development that begins at puberty and ends in early adulthood, and is characterised by a rapid pace of growth that is second only to that of infancy. Rapid physical growth during adolescence creates a high demand for energy and certain nutrients. Nutrition is a critical factor for appropriate adolescent development and an important element for prevention of disease development, especially for chronic disease. Over the past decade, nutrition has been identified as a major global priority, and the increase in worldwide overweight and obesity has been highlighted. In Grenada, data on the proportion of underweight and overweight adolescents are not available.

Physical Activity

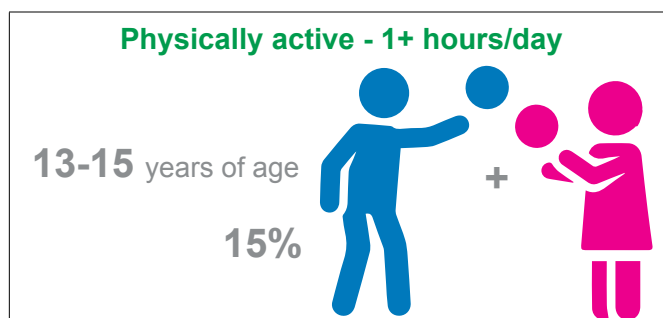
Regular physical activity in adolescence promotes health and fitness; thus, it is important to provide young people with opportunities and encouragement to participate in physical activities that are appropriate for their age and are enjoyable. Adolescents should engage in at least one hour or more of moderate to vigorous aerobic physical activity each day, and muscle and bone-strengthening physical activity at least three days a week.

Physical activity among adolescents ages 13-15



Source: Grenada GSHS, 2009

In Grenada, only 15% of adolescents ages 13-15 were physically active for a total of one hour per day on five or more days during the past seven days; this is less than the average of 23% for the Eastern Caribbean. In comparison, as many as 2 in 5 or 43% of adolescents spend 3 or more hours per day sitting and watching television, playing computer games or talking with friends, when not in school or doing homework during a typical or usual day.



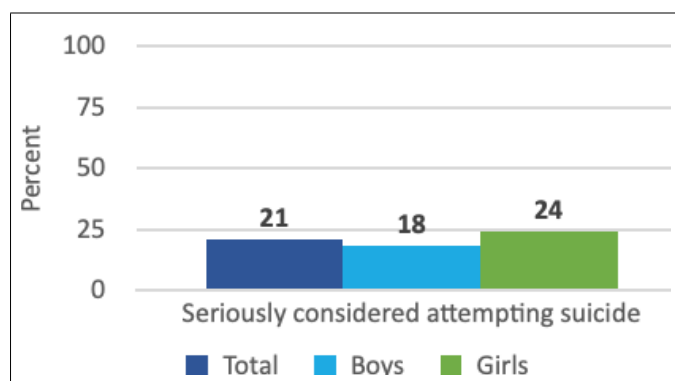
Mental Health

Most adolescents have good mental health, however, physical, emotional and social changes that occur during adolescence, coupled with exposure to poverty, physical and/or sexual violence, harsh parenting, and peer bullying can make adolescents vulnerable to mental health problems. Other risk factors that contribute to stress during adolescence include the quality of one's home life, relationships with peers, pressure to conform to peers, exploration of sexual and/or gender identity, and negative impacts of social media. Some adolescents are at greater risk of experiencing mental health problems because they experience stigmatization, discrimination and exclusion, and lack access to quality support and mental health services.

Suicide

Among adolescents ages 13-15, 1 in 5 or 21% seriously considered attempting suicide. Girls (24%) were more likely than boys (18%) to consider attempting suicide. Data on the proportion of adolescents who attempted suicide one or more time in the past 12 months were not available for Grenada.

Adolescents ages 13-15 suicidal tendencies by gender



Source: Grenada GSHS, 2009

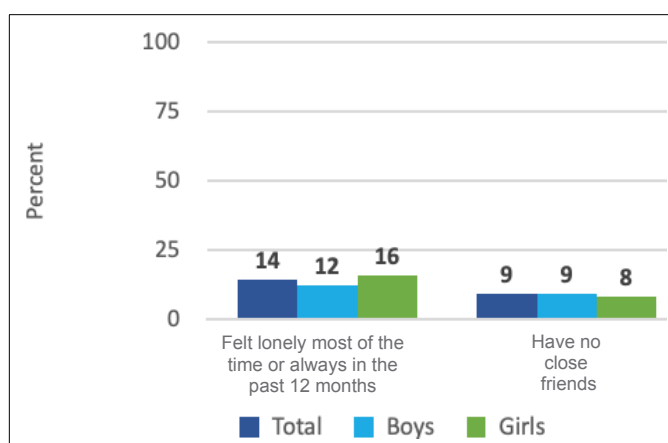
Well-Being Protective Factors

Parental and peer relationships are very important to adolescent mental health. Teenagers with friendship and close ties to their parents/guardians tend to be more adaptive to stress, report being happier due to

an increased feeling of uniqueness, and are likely to do better academically. In addition, they tend to have higher self-esteem and self-confidence and may be more assertive.

In Grenada, only 9% of adolescents ages 13-15 reported they had no close friends, and 14% reported they felt lonely most of the time or always in the past 12 months. Girls (12%) were slightly more likely than boys (12%) to report they felt lonely most of the time or always in the past 12 months.

Adolescents ages 13-15 protective factors by gender

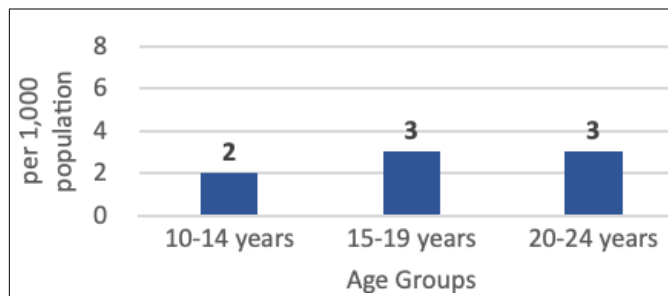


Source: Grenada GSHS, 2009

Mortality of Young People

In Grenada, the probability of young people dying varies by age. The probability of mortality is highest among youth ages 15-19 and 20-24 years (3 per 1,000 youth) and lowest among adolescent ages 10-14 (2 per 1,000 adolescents).

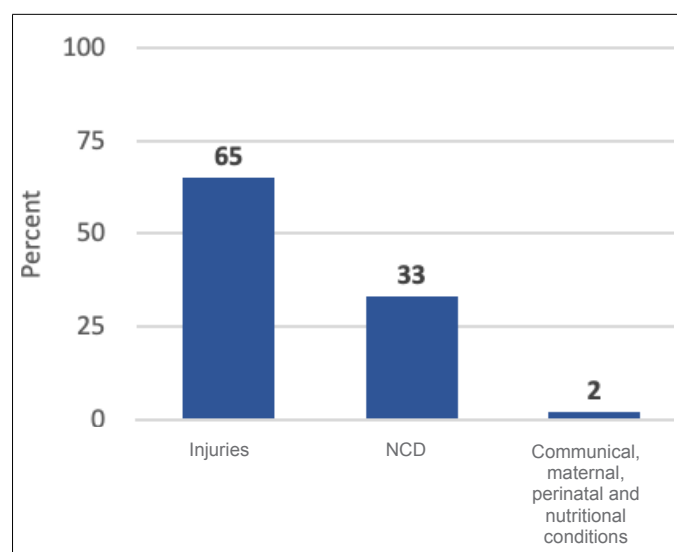
Probability of dying among young people by age group



Source: Estimates developed by the UN Inter-agency Group for child Mortality Estimation (UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, UN DESA Population Division).

The leading causes of death among adolescents ages 10-19 is injuries (65%) and noncommunicable diseases (NCDs, 33%); whereas only 2% of deaths were related to communicable, maternal, perinatal and nutritional conditions. The leading causes of mortality varied by gender.

Leading causes of mortality adolescents ages 10-19



Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

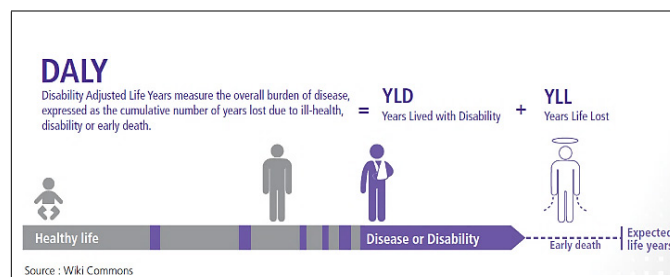
Adolescents ages 10-19 leading causes of mortality	
Boys	Girls
- Rheumatic heart disease - Road injury - Exposure to mechanical forces - Leukaemia - Intimate partner violence - Acute Hepatitis E - Brain and nervous system cancers - Larynx cancer - Kidney disease	- Fire, heat and hot substances - Exposure to mechanical forces - Self-harm - Sickle cell disorder and traits - Intimate partner violence - Trachea, bronchus, lung cancers - Maternal conditions - Drowning - Cataracts - Kidney cancer

Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs)

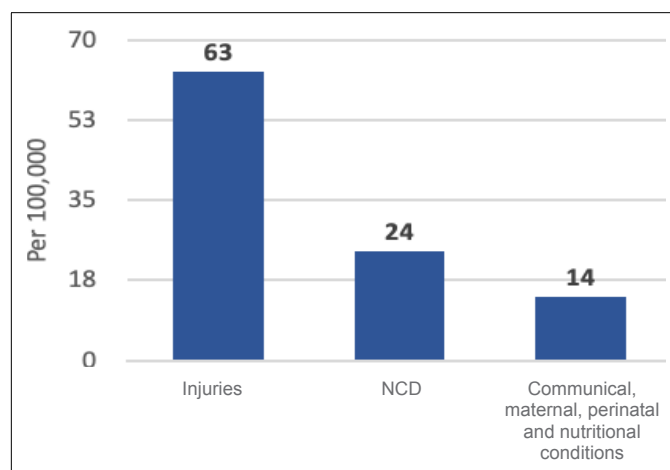
The disability-adjusted life year (DALY) is a summary measure of overall disease burden, expressed as the number of years lost due to ill-health, disability or early death. DALYs were developed in the 1990s by the World Bank and World Health Organization (WHO) as a measure of the global impact of disease on individual illness status, i.e., a way of quantifying the global

burden of disease and a way of comparing the overall health and life expectancy across countries. DALY combines information about morbidity and mortality and is expressed in terms of numbers of healthy years lost.



In Grenada, NCD was the main cause of DALY at 63 per 100,000, followed by injuries (24 per 100,000) and communicable, maternal, perinatal and nutritional conditions (14 per 100,000). The leading causes of DALYs varied by gender.

DALY by cause among adolescents ages 10-19



Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

Leading causes of DALYs, adolescents ages 10-19	
Boys	Girls
- Road injury - Rheumatic heart disease - Exposure to mechanical forces - Childhood behavioural disorders - Asthma - Intimate partner violence - Neonatal conditions - Depressive disorders	- Fire, heat and hot substances - Exposure to mechanical forces - Self-harm - Depressive disorders - Anxiety disorders - Sickle cell disorder and traits - Trachea, bronchus, lung cancers - Migraine

Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

National Policies/Plans on Child/Adolescent Health

Grenada has adopted some national policies and plans that prohibit the sale of alcohol and tobacco products to minors. The Government of Grenada, however, has yet to adopt national policies related to NCDs, physical activity and healthy foods, or alcohol.

National policies and plans on child/adolescent health		
Operational, multi-sectoral national NCD policy, strategy or action plan that integrates NCDs and their risk factors		
National adolescent health programme		
Operational policy/strategy/action plan to reduce physical inactivity		
National policy to prohibit the selling of unhealthy foods and sweetened beverages in or close to schools		
National policy/laws designating an appropriate minimum age for purchase or consumption of alcoholic beverages		
National policy/law to prohibit sale of tobacco products to minors		
Plan or strategy for child and/or adolescent mental health		
Colour Code	Yes	
	No	
	Unknown	

Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

Grenada has user fee exemptions for adolescents as it relates to accessing contraceptives, testing and treatment for STIs, HIV testing and counselling, mental health care and rehabilitation for substance abuse.

User fee exemptions for adolescents using health and well-being services		
Contraceptives		
Vaccination for HPV		
Testing and treatment of STIs		
HIV testing and counselling		
Mental health care		
Rehab for substance abuse		
Colour Code	Yes	
	Unknown	

Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

Grenada does not have legal age limits for unmarried adolescents to access services without parental/legal consent, including sexual and reproductive health and HIV testing and counselling. A good practice is for countries to have no legal age limits for unmarried adolescents to use these services.

No legal age limits for unmarried adolescents to access services		
Contraceptive services (except sterilization)		
HIV testing and counselling		
Mental health services		
Colour Code	Yes	
	No	

Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020

Grenada does have taxation of alcohol; however, does not have taxation for sugar-sweetened beverages

Taxation of sugar-sweetened beverages and alcohol		
Sugar-sweetened beverages		
Beer		
Spirits		
Wine		
Colour Code	Yes	
	No	

Source: UNICEF Adolescent Health Dashboards, 2020



EVERY YOUNG PERSON IS PROTECTED FROM VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION

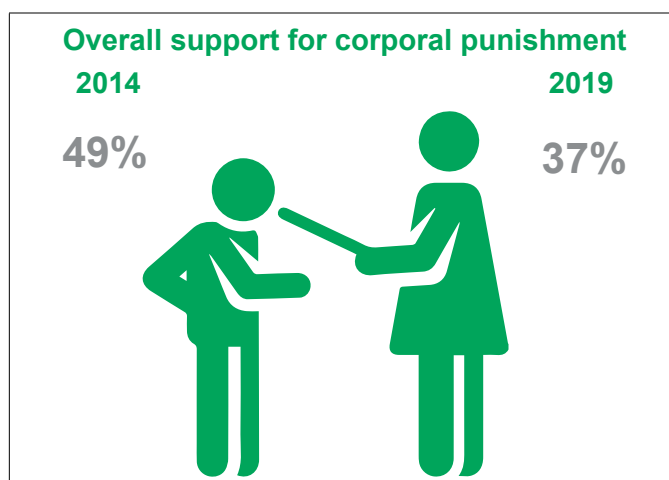
Violence is a pervasive violation of children's rights. Many children and young people are exposed to violence because they grow up in violent households and communities. Violence occurs in many settings, including the home, school, community and over the Internet. As young people pass through adolescence and become young adults, they begin to spend more time outside their homes and interact more intimately with a wider range of people. These interactions are crucial to their development, but can also expose them to new form of violence and exploitation. These threats can have implications for their physical and mental health lasting into adolescence, young adulthood and older age with indirect, but equally potential severe impact on their families, communities and wider society.

Protection of children and young people from all forms of violence and exploitation are fundamental rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its Optional Protocols, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). SDGs include specific targets to: end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children (SDG 16.2); end all forms of violence against women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation (SDG 5.2); and eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage (SDG 5.3).

Violence against children (VAC), including gender-based violence (GBV), knows no boundaries of culture, socio-economic status, education, income or ethnic origin; however, gender, disability, poverty and national/ethnic origin are some of the risk factors that can place children and young people at increased risk of experiencing violence and exploitation.

Corporal Punishment

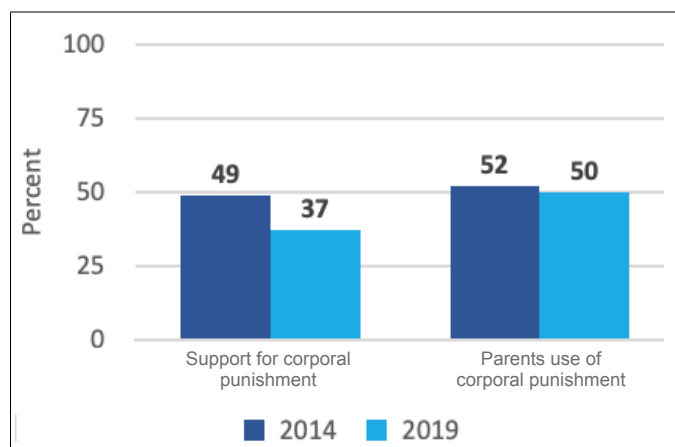
Understanding children's risks of experiencing corporal punishment requires understanding the extent to which such violence is a social norm tolerated in families and communities. In Grenada, support for corporal punishment has declined from 49% in 2014 to 37% in 2019. Still, however, a large proportion of adults believe that corporal punishment instils discipline (60%), curbs misbehaviour (51%) and encourages obedience (50%). Some adults also believe that corporal punishment establishes authority (39%), encourages children to perform well in school (29%) or allows adults to vent frustration (3%).



At the same time, however, parents use of corporal punishment has remained consistent over time. In 2014 and 2019, as many as 1 in 2 parents used corporal punishment (52% and 50% respectively). Adults considered it slightly more suitable to use corporal punishment on children 6-11 years (60%) than 12-16 years (55%).

In 2019, only 31% of adults supported banning corporal punishment in schools and 16% supported banning corporal punishment in the home.

Support for corporal punishment

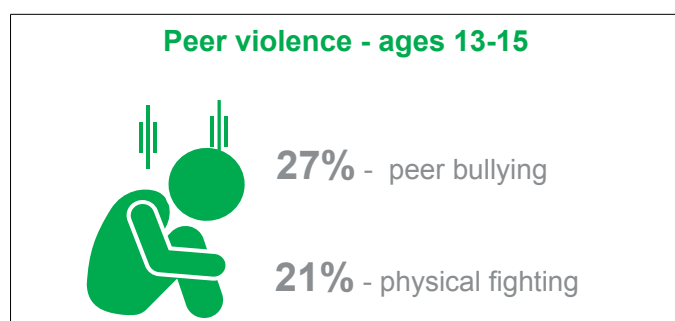


Source: Caribbean Development Research Services, (2019). *Social Survey Report*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church

Peer Violence

Once children enter school, friendships and interactions with peers take on an important role in the lives of children and adolescents. These relationships have the potential to contribute to a child's sense of well-being and social competence, but are also associated with exposure to new forms of violence and victimization. Peer violence can take many forms, but available data suggests that bullying by peers and/or schoolmates is the most common form of peer violence.

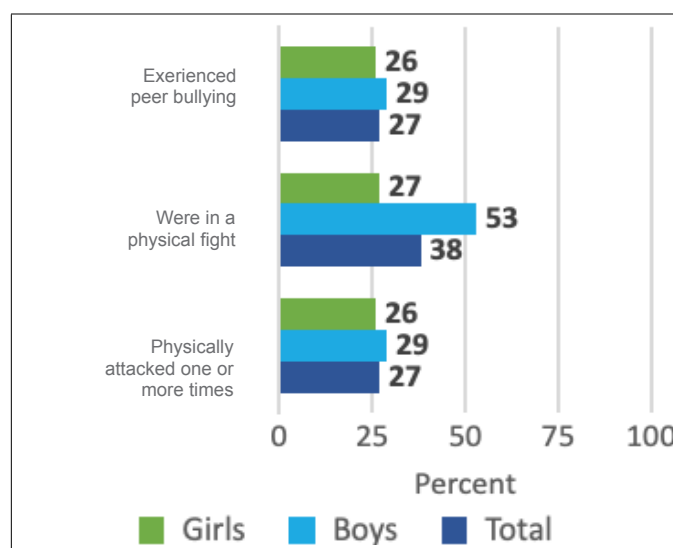
In Grenada, 1 in 4 or 27% of adolescents ages 13-15 experienced peer bullying, and more than 1 in 3 or 38% were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months. Boys (53%) were nearly twice as likely as girls (27%) to be in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months.



In addition, as many as 41% of adolescents ages 13-15 were physically attacked one or more times in the

past 12 months. Boys (55%) were more likely to be physically attacked than females (30%).

Adolescents ages 13-15 who experienced peer violence



Source: Grenada GSHS, 2008

Gender-Based Violence

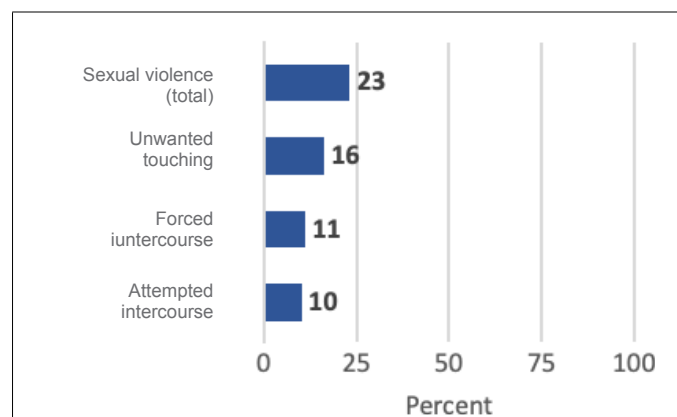
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development identifies the elimination of violence against women and girls (VAWG) as a crucial priority for achieving gender equality and sustainable development. After all, VAWG is a cause and consequence of gender inequality and a major obstacle to women and girls' enjoyment of all human rights and their full participation in society and the economy. Eliminating VAWG is a cross-cutting priority across the SDGs and vital to achieving SDGs in areas including poverty eradication, health, education, sustainable cities, and just and peaceful societies. The 2030 Agenda builds on existing international frameworks that address VAWG, particularly the CEDAW and the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session.

Over the past decade, governments in the Eastern Caribbean have adopted laws that provide specific protections against VAWG, including domestic violence laws and revisions to penal codes. Implementation of these laws, however, has been hindered by lack of training and tools at the operational level to ensure

proper recording and tracking of cases, lack of social services to support VAWG survivors, and inefficient and ineffective criminal justice systems to hold perpetrators accountable.

In 2018, the first National Women's Health Surveys were launched in Grenada. In general, 23% of women ages 15-64 ever experienced sexual violence. More specifically, 16% experienced unwanted touching, 11% experienced forced intercourse and 10% experienced attempted intercourse. In regard to current experiences of non-partner sexual violence, only 3% of women in Grenada experienced non-partner sexual violence in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Non-partner sexual violence among women ages 15-64



Source: Nicholson, C. & H. Deshong (2018). *Grenada Women's Health and Life Experiences Study*. Caribbean Development Bank and UN Women: Christ Church, Barbados., pp. 80-81.

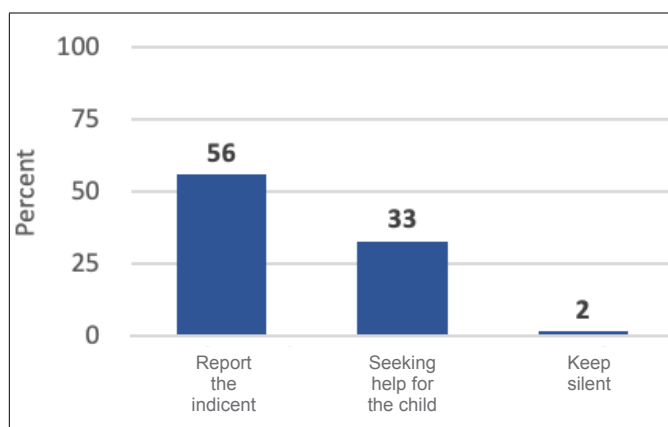
Although the age of sexual consent in Grenada is 15 years, for 11% of girls, their first sexual experience occurred when they were under 15 years; 24% of girls' first sexual experience was 15-16 years, 26% was 17-18 years and 22% was 19 years of age or older. When asked about the nature of their first sexual encounter, 75% indicated wanted to have sex, whereas 18% did not want to have sex, but had done so anyways, and 7% were forced to have sex.

Child Sexual Abuse

Understanding children's risks of experiencing child sexual abuse requires understanding the extent to which such violence is a social norm tolerated in families and communities. In Grenada, 54% of adults viewed child sexual abuse as a major problem in the country, whereas 25% viewed it as a minor problem and 7% thought it was not a problem at all. It is notable that as many as 3 in 4 or 74% of adults engaged in victim-blaming and believed the myth that girls invite sexual abuse by the way they dress.

When asked what they would do if they had knowledge of child sexual abuse, only 56% of adults would report the incident of child sexual abuse, where 33% would seek help for the child and 2% would remain silent.

Reaction of adults to child sexual abuse

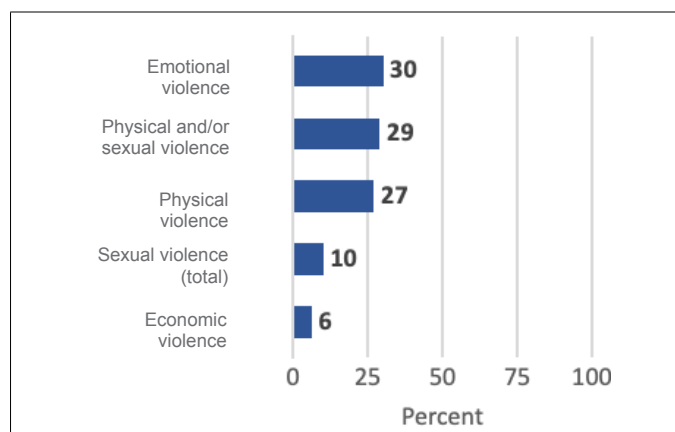


Source: Caribbean Development Research Services, (2019). *Social Survey Report*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados

Intimate Partner Violence

In 2018, the proportion of ever-partnered women ages 15-64 who ever experienced physical and/or sexual violence was 29%. More specifically, 27% of women ever experienced physical violence and 10% ever experienced sexual violence. In addition, 30% experienced emotional violence and 6% experienced economic violence.

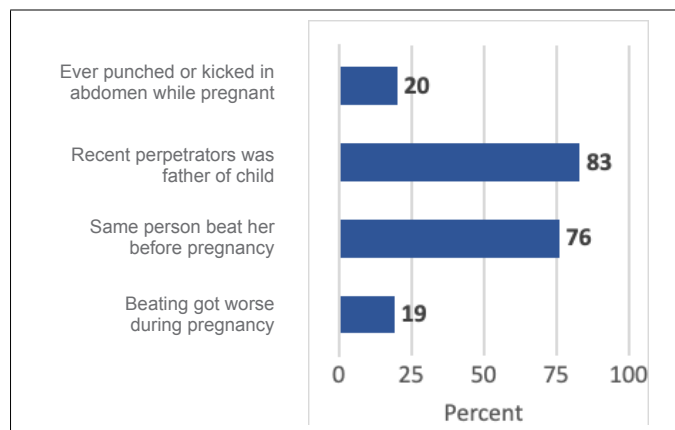
IPV experiences among ever-partner women ages 15-64



Source: Nicholson, C. & H. Deshong (2018). *Grenada Women's Health and Life Experiences Study*. Caribbean Development Bank and UN Women: Christ Church, Barbados, p. 46.

Among women ages 15-64 who had been pregnant at least once, 20% reported ever being punched or kicked in the abdomen while pregnant, and 83% identified the perpetrator as the father of the unborn child. In addition, 76% of women reported their partner had been violent before the pregnancy and 19% reported the violence worsened during their pregnancy.

Violence during pregnancy among women ages 15-64



Source: Nicholson, C. & H. Deshong (2018). *Grenada Women's Health and Life Experiences Study*. Caribbean Development Bank and UN Women: Christ Church, Barbados.

In Grenada, women in relationships with men who had attitudes and behaviours that reinforce men's dominant position over women and perpetuate gender inequality, including exhibiting controlling behaviours were four times more likely to experience IPV. Ever-partnered women whose husbands/partners engaged

in extramarital/outside relationships with other women and/or got in a fight with another man were two to three times more likely to experience lifetime and current IPV.¹

Negative relationship dynamics also emerged as risk factors for IPV; frequent arguments among couples was an indicator of IPV. Also, being in a current relationship (whether married, living with a man or in a regular partnership, but living apart) was a risk factor for experiencing IPV; women who had a husband/partner, but were living apart from him, were eight times more likely to have current experiences of IPV.

FIGURE 7.1. GRENADA | RISK FACTORS FOR IPV



Source: UN Women (2021). *Research Brief. Intimate Partner Violence in Five CARICOM Countries: Findings from National Prevalence Surveys on Violence*. UN Women Multi-Country Office – Barbados: Christ Church, Barbados.

Women with higher educational attainment, such as university education, were less likely to experience IPV, whereas women with a primary education or less were twice as likely to experience IPV. Women's higher education may reduce their risk of experiencing IPV by delaying their involvement in a formal intimate relationship, such as marriage, and increase their opportunities for economic and professional autonomy

¹ UN Women (2021). *Research Brief. Intimate Partner Violence in Five CARICOM Countries: Findings from National Prevalence Surveys on Violence*. UN Women Multi-Country Office (Caribbean): Christ Church, Barbados.

that allows them to enter into a marriage/partnership more intentionally and leave those that have warning signs, such as controlling behaviours, before IPV occurs.

A husband/partner's work status was also a risk for women experiencing IPV. Ever-partnered women whose husbands/partners were unemployed, not working or out of the workforce were twice as likely to experienced IPV, compared to women whose husbands/partners were working.

Finally, women's exposure to domestic violence in childhood was a predictor of experiencing IPV in adulthood. Ever-partnered women who were insulted or humiliated by a parent/caregiver during childhood were two to three times more likely to experience IPV in adulthood, and women who witnessed acts of domestic violence against their mother during childhood were nearly twice as likely to experience IPV. Also, women whose husbands/partners were beaten as a child were nearly three times more likely experience current IPV.

Impact of IPV on Women and Children

In Grenada, women with children ages 5-12 reported the impact their experiences of IPV had on their children's well-being. In Grenada, IPV survivors' children acted aggressively (17%), were quiet or withdrawn (16%), wet their beds (15%) and had to repeat school (13%).

Help-Seeking Behaviours for IPV

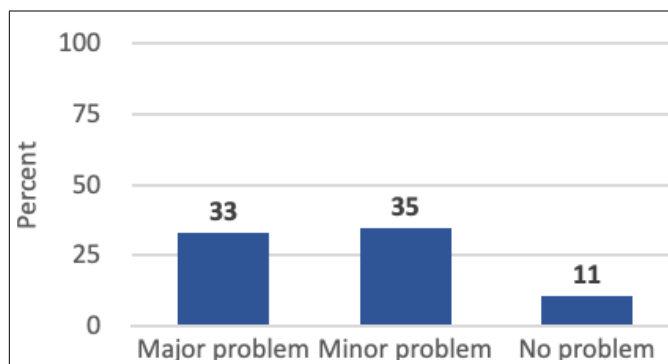
in Grenada, many IPV survivors did not ask anyone for help (37%). When they did seek help, most reached out to family, including parents (26%) and siblings (17%). Only 16% of IPV survivors went to the police for help. Far fewer survivors sought help from religious leaders (5%), doctors/health workers (3%) and counsellors (4%).

Social Norms Related to Violence Against Women

In Grenada as many as 1 in 5 or 21% of women ages 15-64 believe that violence between a husband and wife is a private matter, and 4% believe that a woman should tolerate violence to keep her family together. In addition, 8% of women believe that if a woman does not physically fight back, it is not rap and 4% believe that if a woman is raped, she has done something careless to put herself in the situation.

Understanding children's risks of experiencing domestic violence requires understanding the extent to which such violence is a social norm tolerated in families and communities. In Grenada, only 1 in 3 or 33% of adults considered domestic violence a major problem in the country; whereas 1 in 3 or 35% considered it a minor problem and 11% thought domestic violence was not a problem at all.

Attitudes toward domestic violence in one's country



Source: Caribbean Development Research Services, (2019). *Social Survey Report*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados

Child Labour

As a signatory to the CRC and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention on Worst Forms of Child Labour and the Convention on Minimum Age; however, the Government of Grenada has made efforts to eradicate child labour. Data related to child labour are not available in Grenada.

Child Protection and Justice for Children

Governments across the Caribbean, including the OECS region, have stepped up efforts to improve responses to child protection, particularly for children who are vulnerable to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, and children in conflict with the law. All ECA countries have ratified the CRC, but in several cases, this was not followed by passing the Optional Protocols needed for an efficient child protection environment.



The Government of Grenada has taken steps to translate international normative frameworks into national law by passing and implementing a Domestic Violence Bill, Child Care and Adoption Bill and Child Justice Bill. In addition, a Status of Children Bill is in progress of being development.

National child protection legislation		
Domestic Violence Bill		
Child Care and Adoption Bill		
Child Justice Bill		
Status of Children Bill		
Child Maintenance Bill		
Guardianship, Custody & Access Bill		
Colour Code	Passed, taken effect	
	In progress	
	Not passed	

Source: UNICEF (2020). *Situation Analysis of Children in the Eastern Caribbean*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados.

Grenada has yet to abolish corporal punishment across settings, except a law does exist that abolishes the use of corporal punishment in sentencing and that provides partial abolition in alternative care settings.

Status of legal abolition of corporal punishment		
Home		
Alternative Care		
Day Care		
Schools		
Penal Institutions		
Sentencing		
Colour Code	Abolished in laws	
	Existing law providing partial abolition	
	Not abolished	

Source: UNICEF (2020). *Situation Analysis of Children in the Eastern Caribbean*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados

Child protection and juvenile justice policy development has been generally weak and inconsistent among Eastern Caribbean countries, however, some OECS countries have made progress at establishing policies for child protection and juvenile justice. In Grenada, national plans of action on child protection and juvenile justice issues have been passed and taken effect. Efforts are underway to establish a child protection system with both preventive and response services; however, it has not yet taken effect.

National child protection policies and practices		
National plan of action on child protection		
National plan of action on juvenile justice issues		
Child protection system has both preventive and responsive services		
Youth/Family Court established		
Legal aid for juveniles provided		
Colour Code	Passed, taken effect	
	Passed, not taken effect	
	Not passed	

Sources: Sealy-Burke, J. (2018). *OECS Assessment of Child Protection Services*. OECS Commission: Castries, Saint Lucia; UNICEF (2020). *Situation Analysis of Children in the Eastern Caribbean*. UNICEF Office for the ECA: Christ Church, Barbados.

EVERY YOUNG PERSON LIVES IN A SAFE AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Children need a safe and clean environment to survive, grow and thrive (Article 24, CRC). The availability of safe and clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, and the quality of the physical environment in which children, adolescents and youth live, are important determinants of their health and well-being, and learning, safety and ability to take advantage of opportunities to reach their full potential. Inadequate WASH is primarily responsible for the transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, hepatitis A, typhoid and polio. Diarrheal diseases exacerbate malnutrition and remain a leading global cause of child deaths.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services, and good hygiene practices are considered core socio-economic and health determinants and are key for survival and well-being. Everyone has the human right to safe drinking water. When children and young people do not have access to clean water, it negatively impacts all aspects of their lives, including their health, nutrition and education. In Grenada, 97% of the population has access to safely managed household drinking water from an improved water source located on the premises and 9% have basic drinking water from an improved source.

Sanitation is about more than toilets, it is about the coupling of behaviours, facilities and services that provide the hygienic environment that children need to fight diseases and grow up healthy. Adequate sanitation is essential to childhood survival and development. Poor sanitation puts children at risk of childhood diseases and malnutrition that can impact their overall development and learning. In Grenada, 91% of the population have safely managed sanitation services

Good hygiene is critical for preventing the spread of infectious diseases and helping children to lead long and healthy lives. Good hygiene can help to prevent children from missing school, which results in better learning outcomes. For families, good hygiene means avoiding illness and spending less on health care. In some contexts, good hygiene can also secure a family's social status and help individuals to maintain their self-confidence. Good hygiene, however, is difficult to practice without the right knowledge and skills, adequate community support and the belief that one's own behaviour can make a difference. In Grenada, data on the proportion of the population that use a hand-washing facility with soap and water are not available.

Mortality Attributed to Unsafe WASH Services

Inadequate WASH are important risks to health, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. The impact of unsafe WASH on death rates of children under five and mothers in the year after childbirth is important to understand; unfortunately, these data are not available.

On average, Caribbean Small States have a very low mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH at 0.9 per 100,000 population. Grenada reported a mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH at 0.3 per 100,000 population; this rate is very low.

Mortality Attributed to Air Pollution

The drivers of air pollution are closely related to those of climate change. On average, mortality rates attributed to air pollution was 42.3 per 100,000 population in Caribbean Small States. Grenada had a mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution higher than the regional average at 45 per 100,000 population.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

There are a number of areas in which concerted and sustained action are needed to ensure the rights of all young people – both girls and boys – are realised in the Grenada. These general observations are being made with the acknowledgement that a complete equity-based analysis of the situation of young people in Grenada depends on the availability of data, particularly disaggregated data on different aspects that might influence their lives, including gender, age, nationality and socio-economic status; such data are not always readily available for Grenada. Data that are available are not real-time; in many cases, the data are several years or a decade old. Outdated data makes it difficult to analyse the current situation of young people and changes over time. Another data challenge was the lack of comparable data with other ECA countries and territories.

Although the Government of Grenada and development partners produce some very meaningful and relevant data related to young people, existing data does not capture the full range of issues that allow for an in-depth assessment of the situation of young people related to health, education, employment, poverty, social welfare, child protection and justice, among others. There appears to be little coordination of effort across ministries/ agencies and sectors to maximise data collection, and to collect and use data in a harmonised manner on an agreed upon set of indicators relevant to young people.

Limited data hinders opportunities for evidence-based programme and policy planning, and proper monitoring and analysis of the situation of young people, but also impacts the ability to plan and allocate resources to advance the needs and rights of young people. In addition, lack of data limits the ability to analyse whether the situation of young people has improved over time in the areas of poverty reduction, education and employment, protection from violence and exploitation, improved access to health and proper nutrition, and more.

Similarly, sparse historical data limits the ability to do trend comparisons and to analyse whether the situation of young people has improved over time in the areas of poverty reduction, education and employment, protection from violence and exploitation, health and nutrition, and more. Due to the lack of longitudinal data on poverty, education and employment data, it is not possible to analyse whether the socio-economic situation of young people is better, worse or the same as it was five to ten years ago in Grenada.

As it relates to child protection and justice for children, government agencies responsible for child protection and justice for children do not collect and disseminate real-time data. Data that are collected are not disaggregated by age or focused on adolescents or youth, which does not allow for an in-depth assessment of the situation of violence, abuse and exploitation of young people, including gender-based violence.

Gender is a cross-cutting topic in this situation analysis. In some areas, differences between girls and boys are reported on by the government, especially in education; however, in other areas, gender differences are not reported. For instance, more girls than boys are finishing secondary education, while boys are more likely to repeat grades and to drop out of school which relegates them to accepting low-paying and low-skills jobs, impacting their future earning potential.

There is a need to better assess gender inequalities in Grenada, including as it relates to tertiary education, TVET, and employment, as well as exposure to different types of violence, abuse and exploitation, engagement in offending behaviours, and access to protection and social services, and health care. Data are needed to create evidence-based policies and programmes aimed at promoting the rights of young people as called for by the CRC, CEDAW and SDGs.

STRATEGIC THINKING

The idea behind the SDGs is to create a global movement to advance work on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; therefore, governments

should frame their development plans and policies for the next years based on this globally agreed upon development agenda. To maintain an enabling environment conducive to delivering equitable social and economic growth and effective poverty reduction, certain capacities must be put in place or strengthened.

These include:

- **Mobilising and channelling resources** to the appropriate sectors at the appropriate time for optimal production
- **Enforcing standards and regulations**, specifically operationalising legislation and policies identified and/or in draft form
- **Establishing a mix of social partnerships with key actors**, including local councils, civil society, research institutions, the private sector
- **Improving systems for generating, collating and managing data and information** so that it is easily accessible and shared across different agencies and with partners.

This situation analysis of young people in Grenada revealed there is a real need to strengthen cooperation around the needs and rights of young people. This requires a deep dive² into how to **build better partnerships for smart planning, problem-solving and innovation** to accelerate results for young people in the areas of:

- **Education**, with a focus on strengthening the quality of primary and secondary education, which requires improvements to teaching and learning materials, expanded coverage of information and communication technology, and human capital of school personnel.
- **TVET**, with a focus on partnering with the private sector to identify and develop market-driven TVET opportunities for young people.
- **Health and well-being**, with a focus on improving adolescent health, reducing teenage pregnancy and adolescent fertility rates, preventing drug and alcohol abuse, and addressing adolescent mental health to reduce suicide among young people.

- **Social protection**, with a focus on multidimensional child poverty and poverty among adolescents, and the impact of COVID-19 on multidimensional poverty, so that the Eastern Caribbean governments and development partners can more effectively focus on policy efforts to alleviate children's deprivations and achieve sustainable poverty eradication.
- **Child protection**, with a focus on strengthening child protection systems and community-based services for child victims of violence, abuse and exploitation, and their families, particularly in countries/territories where child protection systems and services are lacking or few and far between.
- **Climate change**, with a focus on strengthening the capacities of the government to respond to climate change and climate crisis, to bring together specialised expertise to strengthen disaster risk reduction (DRR) to ensure that hazards do not become disasters, and to devote greater attention and resources to shielding children and young people from these risks, and to enhance their resilience. As a cross-cutting priority, particular attention must be paid to addressing the magnified risks faced by the most vulnerable children and young people, and to meeting their specific needs.

As Grenada begins planning for a post-pandemic recovery, it is important that the government seises on the opportunity to **“build back better” by creating a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive society**. This requires a more risk informed programming and smart planning, problem-solving and innovation to address challenges facing young people.

Strengthening public-private partnerships should be a key intervention. Developing a strategic business for results (B4R) agenda and framework that engages the private sector is crucial; however, it must be coordinated and done in cooperation with both the private and public sectors, including government partners. B4R and engagement with the private sector must be aligned with public policies and national agendas, including national action plans for the rights of young people.

² A deep dive is a more thorough or comprehensive assessment and analysis of a subject or issue.

Assessments and results-based monitoring are needed to better understand how B4R can be implemented in Grenada, and how B4R initiatives that engage the private sector contribute and lead to advancing the rights of young people and accelerating results for young people. This requires understanding how B4R initiatives impact the most vulnerable, including poor and marginalised populations, and contributes to improvements in systems of social protection.

Strengthen Administrative Data on Young People

There are administrative data gaps related to young people; thus, there is a real need for government ministries/agencies and service providers in Grenada to strengthen administrative data collection on young people's issues. Strengthening administrative data is an important and useful investment in resources.

In recent years, globally, there has been increased interest among governments and development partners to explore ways to strengthen and use existing administrative data to monitor and report on young people's health, education, employment, poverty, social welfare, protection and access to justice, as well as exposure to violence, exploitation and crime. Administrative data are an important source of information that can often be readily accessed and used to complement prevalence studies on a wide range of subject matter; in particular, young people's access to education, health care, essential services, protection and justice. Administrative data can also be used to measure progress towards SDG targets and indicators that do not require survey data.

UNICEF Office for the Eastern Caribbean Area
First Floor, UN House
Marine Gardens, Hastings
Christ Church
Barbados
Tel: (246) 467 6000
Email: bridgetown@unicef.org
Website: www.unicef.org/easterncaribbean