

GALLUP WORLD POLL (2020) 60 COUNTRIES: AGE MINIMUMS

Information obtained from what was valid in 2020.

Country	Legal driving ⁱ age ⁱⁱ	Legal age of marriage ⁱⁱⁱ		Compulsory education ^{iv}		Legal smoking ^v age ^{vi}	Legal voting ^{vii} age ^{viii}	Age of ^{ix} consent [*]	Legal drinking ^x age ^{xii}
		Without parental/ judicial consent	With parental/ judicial consent ^{xiii}	Lower age ^{xiv} range	Upper age ^{xv} range ^{xvi}				
Algeria	18	19	19	6	15	19	18	16	18
Argentina	18*	18	16	4	18	18	16	18	18
Australia	17**	18	16*	5	15-17*	18	18	16	18
Bangladesh	18	21m, 18f	None	5	13		18	14	18
Bolivia	18	18	16	6	13	18	18	14	18
Brazil	18	18	16	4	17	18	16	14	18
Cambodia	18	18	18	6	15	18	18	15	No min*
Cameroon	16	21	18m, 15f	7	14	No minimum	20	16	18/21**
Canada	18	18	16	5-7	16/18	18-19*	18	16	19***
Chile	18*	18	18	6	18**	18	18	14	18
China	18	22m, 20f	22m, 20f	6	15	18	18	14	18
Colombia	16	18	14	5	16	18	18	14	18
Croatia	18	18	16	6	15	18	18	15	18
Czech Republic	18	18	16	5	15	18	18	15	18
Ecuador	18	18	18	6	15	18	16	14	18
Egypt	18	18	18	6	14	18	18	18	21
Ethiopia	18	18	16	7	12	18	18	18	18
France	18	18	16*	3	16	18	18	15	18
Germany	18	18	18	6	16	18	18*	14	16****
Ghana	18	18	18	6	15*	18	18	16	18
Greece	18	18	16*	5	15	18	17	15	18
Hungary	18	18	16	3	16	18	18	14	18
India	18	21m, 18f	21m, 18f	3	18***	18	18	18	18-25*****
Indonesia	17	21	19	7	16	18	17	15	21
Iran	18	18m, 15f	15m, 13f	6	12	18	18	Requires marriage*	Prohibited
Iraq	18	18	15	6	12	18	18	18	18
Israel	17	18	16*	3	16	18	18**	16	18
Italy	18	18	16	6	16	18	18	14	18
Japan	18	18	18	6	15	20	18	13**	20
Jordan	18	18	15	6	16	18	18	16	18
Kazakhstan	18	18m, 17f	16	6	15	21	18	16	21
Kenya	18	18	18	6	14	18	18	18	18
Mexico	18***	18	18	6	18	18	18	15***	18
Morocco	18	18	18	6	15	No minimum	18	Requires marriage****	16/Prohibited to Muslims
Netherlands	18	18	18	5	18	18	18	16	18
Nigeria	18	18	18	6	15	18	18	18	18
Norway	18	18	18	6	15	18	18	16	18
Pakistan	18	18m, 16f**	18m, 16f	5	16	18	18	Requires marriage****	21/Prohibited to Muslims
Peru	18	18	16	6	16/17	18	18	14	18
Philippines	17****	21	18	4-6	18	18	18	12*****	18
Poland	18	18	16*	6	18	18	18	15	18
Portugal	18	18	16	6	18	18	18	14	18
Russia	18	18	16*	6	17 ****	18	18	16	18
Senegal	18	18	18m, 16f	6	16	18	18	16	18
South Africa	17	18	15*	7	15	18	18	16	18
South Korea	18	19	18	6	15	19	18***	16	19*****
Spain	18	18	16	6	16	18	18	16	18
Sri Lanka	17	18	18	5	16	21	18	16	21
Switzerland	18	18	18	4-6	15 *	16/18**	18	16	16
Tanzania	18	18	18	7	14	18	18	18	18
Thailand	18	20	17	4	15	20	18	15	20
Turkey	18	18	17	6	18	18	18	18	18
Uganda	18	18	18	6	13	21	18	18	18
UK – England, Northern Ireland	17	18	16*	4-5	16	18	18****	16	18
Ukraine	18	18	16	6	15	18	18	16	18
US	16-18*****	18	15-21***	5-8	16-19 *	21***	18	16*****	21
Venezuela	18	18	16	6	15	18	18	16	18
Vietnam	18	20m, 18f	20m, 18f	6	15	18	18	16	18
Zambia	16	21	16	7	14	16	18	16	18
Zimbabwe	16	18	18	6	16	18	18	16*****	18

Country	Ban on corporal punishment ^{xvii}	Age of criminal responsibility ^{xviii}		Legal working ^{xix} age		Legal gambling ^{xx} age ^{xxi}	Change of religion
		Reduced responsibility ^{xxii}	Full responsibility ^{xxiii}	Restricted working hours	Unrestricted ^{xxiv}		
Algeria		13	18		16	Illegal	
Argentina	Yes	16	18	14	18*	18	
Australia		14	18	13	16	18	
Bangladesh		9	12		14	18	
Bolivia	Yes	14	18	10	14	18	
Brazil	Yes	12	18	14	16**	18	
Cambodia	committed to law reform	14	18		15	18	
Cameroon		10	18		14	18	
Canada		12	14	13/ none***	14/16/18***	19	
Chile	committed to law reform	14	16		18	18	
China	committed to law reform	14	16		16	18	
Colombia	Yes	14	18		15	18	
Croatia	Yes	14	18		15	18	
Czech Republic		15	18	14	15**	18	Not regulated
Ecuador	committed to law reform	12	18		15**	18	
Egypt		12	12	14	16	18-21*	
Ethiopia		9	16		15	21	
France	Yes	13	16	14	16*	18	Not regulated
Germany	Yes	14	18	13	15**	18-21	14
Ghana	committed to law reform	12	12	13	15**	18	
Greece	Yes	15	18	15	16**	18	
Hungary	Yes	12	18		16**	18	Not regulated
India	Yes	7	12		14**	18	
Indonesia	committed to law reform	12	18		15**	Illegal	
Iran		15m, 9f		14	15**	Illegal	
Iraq		9			15	18	
Israel	Yes	12		14	15	18	
Italy		14	18	15	18	18	Not regulated
Japan	Yes	14	18		15**	20	
Jordan		12		16* six hours a day	18	Illegal	
Kazakhstan		14	16		16	21	
Kenya	Yes	8	18	16	19	16	
Mexico	committed to law reform	14	18	15	18	18	
Morocco		12		16	19	18	
Netherlands	Yes	12	16-21*	13	16**	18	Not regulated
Nigeria		7		15	16	18	
Norway	Yes	15	18	13	15**	18	15
Pakistan		7	12		14**	Illegal	
Peru	Yes	14	18		18	18	
Philippines	Yes	15	18		15**	18	
Poland	Yes	13	17	15	18	18	Not regulated
Portugal	Yes	16	18-21**		16**	18	16
Russia		14	16	14	16**	18	
Senegal		13			15**	18	
South Africa	Yes	12	14	15	18	18	
South Korea	Yes	12	14		15**	19	
Spain	Yes	14	21		16****	18	Not regulated
Sri Lanka	committed to law reform	12	14		16**	21	
Switzerland		10	18	13*	15****	18	Not regulated
Tanzania		7	18		14**	18	
Thailand		7	14		15	20	
Turkey		12	18	13	15	18	
Uganda		12	18		16	18	
UK – England, Northern Ireland		10	18	13	16	18**	Not regulated
Ukraine	Yes	14	16		16	18	
US		No minimum***	18	None/ 14	16**	18-21	
Venezuela	Yes	12	14		14**	18	

Vietnam		14	16		15**	21	
Zambia	Yes	8	12		16	18	
Zimbabwe		7	14		15	18	

- ⁱ **Note:** this is the age for when a person can drive a car in [Country]. The source for the information is [Wikipedia](#) and [Rhinocarhire](#).
- ⁱⁱ *17 with parental approval, **16 one state, 18 in Victoria, *** 16 with parental consent, **** 16 with student permit, ***** varies between states.
- ⁱⁱⁱ **Note:** this is the age for when a person can be married in [Country]. The source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [UNdata](#) and [Pew Research Center](#).
- ^{iv} **Note:** this is the age for when a person has finished compulsory education in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [The World bank](#) and [Trading Economics](#).
- ^v **Note:** This is the age for when a person is allowed to smoke in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [The Straits Times](#) and [Global Tobacco Control](#).
- ^{vi} *One state changed it to 21 from 2020, ** varies across states, ***since Dec. 2019.
- ^{vii} **Note:** This is the age for when a person is allowed to vote (national elections) in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [World Atlas](#) and [The ACE Electoral Knowledge Network](#).
- ^{viii} *Voting age 16 for state elections and municipal elections in some states. 16 in European elections, **17 for municipal elections, ***lowered from 19 in Dec 2019, ****16 for Scottish and Welsh Parliament.
- ^{ix} **Note:** This is the age for when a person is considered to be legally competent to consent to sexual acts in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [Age of Consent](#), [Unicef](#) and [Wisevoter](#).
- ^x *Minimum age of marriage is 15 for men and 13 for women, **until June 2023, where the age of consent was raised to 16, ***varying between states, ****Minimum age of marriage is 18, *****Until 2022, where the age of consent where raised to 16, *****in majority of states (34), 17 years old (6 states) and 18 year old (11 states), *****raised to 18 in 2022.
- ^{xi} **Note:** This is the age for when a person can legally buy and consume alcoholic beverages in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [World Health Organization](#) and [Wisevoter](#).
- ^{xii} *Plan to establish minimum of 18 years, but as of now not implemented, **18 if accompanied by a person 21 years of age or older, ***18 in three states, ****14 with legal guardians/parents, *****21 in majority of states. Only two states has 25 as minimum. Prohibited in 5 states, *****18 year olds legally allowed to purchase alcohol if she turns 19 that year.
- ^{xiii} If no age, same as “without”. * Exceptional cases, **in some states, ***varies across states.
- ^{xiv} Age for when parents are obliged to send their children to school.
- ^{xv} Age for when children are no longer obliged to school attendance (with the proviso that the child completes compulsory school in normal time).
- ^{xvi} *Varies across states, ** Not certain, as there where a lot of different answers, ***Since 2020, ****Students may leave after age 15 with approval of parents and the local authority
- ^{xvii} **Note:** This is an overview of countries with bans on corporal punishment. The [UN](#) defines corporal punishment as “any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light”. The source of the information is [End Violence Against Children](#) and [Wikipedia](#).
- ^{xviii} **Note:** This is the age under which a person cannot be held criminally responsible for his/hers actions in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [Child Rights International Network](#) and [UNICEF](#).
- ^{xix} **Note:** This is the age for when a person is allowed to work in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#) and [International Labour Organizations](#).
- ^{xx} **Note:** This is the minimum age at which a person can legally gamble in [Country] and the source for the information is [Wikipedia](#), [Online Betting](#) and [Ask Gamblers](#). Gambling is usually “forbidden” in Muslim countries, with the exception of state lead lotteries in some countries
- ^{xxi} *Varies across states, **16 for football betting.
- ^{xxii} Implies reduced sentencing/punishment for all crimes. May also imply in some countries sentencing for only certain severe crimes and/or rebuttable doli incapax.
- ^{xxiii} *Can be sentenced as an adult/child from 16-21, ** Can be sentenced as an adult/child from 18-21, ***33 states, other states between 7-10
- ^{xxiv} * Workers aged between 16 and 18, “have the right to work during normal business hours, **restricted occupations and working hours, *** Depending on state. Often with restrictions on which jobs/dangerous conditions, ****parental permission required/ if not, 18.