



COUNTRY	AGE OF MAJORITY
Algeria	<p>19 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Civil Code, 1975</p> <p>Article 40: Any adult having his mental faculties is fully capable for the exercise of his civil rights. The age of majority is 19 years.</p>
Angola	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Constitution of the Republic of Angola, 2010</p> <p>Article 24: the age of majority shall be 18.</p>
Benin	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Child Code, 2007</p> <p>Article 459: the person of either sex who has not yet reached the age of eighteen (18) years is a minor.</p>
Botswana	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Interpretation Act (Amendment), 2010</p> <p>A person who attains the age of 18 assumes full legal capacity</p>
Burkina Faso	<p>20 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Code on the Individual and the Family, 1989</p> <p>Article 554: The minor is a person of either sex who has not yet reached the age of twenty years.</p>

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Burundi	<p>21 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Code on Persons and the Family, (Amendment1993)</p> <p>Article 335: a person who has attained the age of twenty-one years is a major.</p>
Cameroon	<p>21 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Initial State Party Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child : Cameroon, 2000</p> <p>In civil law, the age of majority is 21 years, according to Article 488 of the Civil Code (legal capacity, consent, medical counseling without parental consent, sexual consent). A minor may however, be emancipated by court order or automatically by marriage.</p>
Cape Verde	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Civil Code, 1997</p> <p>Article133 Minors: minors are persons who have not yet reached the age of eighteen.</p>
Central African Republic	<p>18years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Initial State Party Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Central African Republic, 1998</p> <p>According to the draft Family Code, a minor is not empowered to perform a juridical act, and under article 214 “no person may contract marriage before the age of 18”. Consequently, he may not seek legal advice; in other words, consult a judge, lawyer, etc. before the age of 18. As regards civil liability, the minor cannot be held personally responsible for any damage he or she causes.</p>

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<p>Chad</p>	<p>18years</p> <p>Initial state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Chad, 1997</p> <p>From a legal point of view, a minor or child is a human being under the age of 18.</p>
<p>Comoros</p>	<p>18 years</p> <p>Family Code, 2005</p> <p>Article 123: anyone who has not attained the age of majority is considered to be a minor. The age of legal majority is fixed at eighteen Gregorian years.</p> <p>Initial state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Comoros, 1998</p> <p>Three sets of laws are applied.</p> <p>...1) The age of legal majority is therefore considered to be 14-15 years. (Under Muslim Law)</p> <p>2) Article 6 of the Nationality Code stipulates that the age of legal majority is 21</p> <p>3) According to the preliminary Family Code Bill, the age of legal majority is 18.</p>
<p>Congo Brazzaville</p>	<p>18 years</p> <p>Initial state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Congo Brazzaville, 2006</p> <p>Under Article 318 of the Family Code, “anyone of either sex who has not reached the age of 18 is a minor”.</p>
<p>Cote d’Ivoire</p>	<p>21years</p> <p>Minority Act, 1970</p> <p>Article 1:A minor is an individual of either sex who has not yet reached twenty-one years.</p>

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Democratic Republic of Congo	18 years Constitution, 2005 Article 41: Every person who has not yet completed 18 years of age is a minor, without distinction on grounds of sex.
Djibouti	18years Family Code, 2002 Article 169: one who has not reached 18 years of age is considered a minor
Egypt	21 years Civil Code, 1948 Article 44: All persons attaining majority in possession of their mental faculties and not under legal disability, have full legal capacity to exercise their civil rights. The majority of a person is fixed at twenty one year's completed in accordance with the Gregorian calendar.
Equatorial Guinea	18years The Civil Code, 1889 Article 315: Older age begins at 18 years of age. The calculation of the years of the age of majority includes the day of birth.
Eritrea	18years Transitional Civil Code of Eritrea, 1962 Article. 198: Definition. A minor is a person of either sex who has not attained the full age of eighteen years.

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Ethiopia	<p>18years</p> <p>The Revised Family Code, 2002</p> <p>Article 215: A minor is a person of either sex who has not attained the full age of eighteen years.</p>
Gabon	<p>21years</p> <p>Civil Code, 1989</p> <p>Article 492: A minor is an individual of the opposite sex who has not yet reached the age of 21</p>
Gambia	<p>18years</p> <p>Initial State Party Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Gambia, 1999</p> <p>(Electoral majority)</p> <p>The Constitution, which is the supreme law, states under section 39 (1) that: “Every citizen of the Gambia being of eighteen years or older and of sound mind shall have the right to vote for purposes of elections”.</p>
Ghana	<p>No age of majority</p> <p>Second Periodic report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Ghana, 2005</p> <p>There is no clearly stipulated age of a majority in Ghana. The age for voting under the Constitution is eighteen. The age for making a will is eighteen years under the Wills Act 1971 (Act 360). The age at which a person can legally consume alcohol is eighteen, under the Liquor Licensing Act, 1970 (Act 331). The age for contractual liability under the Companies Code, 1963 (Act 179) is however twenty-one.</p>



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Guinea	<p>21 years</p> <p>Civil Code, 1889</p> <p>Article 443: The majority is twenty-one years, at this age a person is capable of all acts of civil life.</p>
Guinea-Bissau	<p>18years</p> <p>Initial state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Guinea Bissau, 2000</p> <p>Law No. 5/76 determines that “Any individual, either female or male, when he/she reaches 18 years, has full capacity to use his/her rights and to govern himself/herself and to dispose of his/her properties”</p>
Kenya	<p>18 years</p> <p>Constitution of Kenya, 2010</p> <p>Article 260:Adult is a person that is above the age of 18</p> <p>Age of Majority Act, 1977</p> <p>Section 2 Age of majority: A person shall be of full age and cease to be under any disability by reason of age on attaining the age of eighteen years.</p>
Lesotho	<p>21years</p> <p>Initial state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Lesotho, 1998</p> <p>The Age of Majority Ordinance (Ordinance No. 62 of 1829) stipulates the age of majority as 21 years.</p>



COUNTRY	AGE OF MAJORITY
Liberia	<p>18 years</p> <p>Combined 2nd, 3rd and 4th report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Liberia, 2009</p> <p>Eighteen years, like in the Convention, is the age that Liberia’s statutory law generally uses to define a child. Exceptions to this position are in the Domestic Relations Act, which refers to a child as a person under the age of 21 and in the amended Inheritance Law. The new Children’s Law amends the Domestic Relations Act by replacing the words “twenty-one” with “eighteen” and substituting the word “minor” with “child”.</p>
Libya	<p>18 years</p> <p>Second state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Libya, 2000</p> <p>Article 9 Act No. 17 of 1992 regulating the situation of minors: “The age of majority is 18 years.”</p>
Madagascar	<p>21 years</p> <p>Ordinance No. 62-011 on the General Provisions of Private Law,1962</p> <p>Article15: The age of civil majority is 21</p>
Malawi	<p>21 years</p> <p>Citizenship Act, 1972</p> <p>Article 1:Minor means a person who has not attained the age of twenty-one years;</p>
Mali	<p>18 years</p> <p>Code of Persons and the Family, 2011</p> <p>Article 705:The majority is eighteen years of age. At this age, the person is capable of all acts of civil life.</p>

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Mauritania	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Code of Obligations and Contracts, 1989</p> <p>Article 15: Any adult who enjoyed sane mental faculties and is not prohibited, is fully capable for the exercise of his civil rights. The majority is eighteen years of age.</p>
Mauritius	<p>18years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Civil Code, 1945</p> <p>Article488:The majority is fixed at eighteen years, at this age a person is capable of all acts of civil life</p>
Morocco	<p>20 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Family Code, 2004</p> <p>Article 209:The age of legal majority is eighteen complete Gregorian years.</p>
Mozambique	<p>18years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Civil Code, 1966</p> <p>Article122: Minor is a person who has not yet reached the age of eighteen years</p>
Namibia	<p>18years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Age of Majority Act, 1972</p> <p>Section 1: Every person attains the age of majority and ceases to be a minor on attaining the age of eighteen years.</p>

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Niger	<p>21years</p> <p>Civil Code, 2005</p> <p>Article 388:A minor is a person of either sex who has not reached the age of 21 years</p>
Nigeria	<p>18 years</p> <p>Child's Right Act,2003</p> <p>Section 277: Age of majority means the age at which a person attains the age of 18 years</p>
Rwanda	<p>21years</p> <p>Nationality Law, 2008</p> <p>Article 360: A minor is an individual of either sex who has not reached the age of 21 years.</p>
Sao Tome & Principe	<p>18 years</p> <p>Political Constitution of Sao Tome and Principe 1975</p> <p>Article 57Right to suffrage: All citizens of more than eighteen years have the right of suffrage, excepting incompetence as provided in the general law.</p> <p>Initial State party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Sao Tome and Principe, 2003</p> <p>In Sao Tome and Principe, every person of either sex who is under 18 years of age is a minor. The Constitution, the Act on elections, the Act on the family, the Act on labour and the Act on compulsory military service make express reference to the age of majority as 18.</p>
Senegal	<p>18years</p>

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COUNTRY	AGE OF MAJORITY
	<p style="text-align: center;">Family Code, 1989</p> <p>Article 276: Minor is a person of either sex that has not yet attained the age of 18, and hence has not yet attained voting age or legal or civil maturity.</p>
Seychelles	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Civil Code, 1976</p> <p>Article 488: Majority shall be attained at the full age of eighteen years. At that age persons shall have full legal capacity.</p>
Sierra Leone	<p>21 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Second state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Sierra Leone, 2006</p> <p>21 years of age for the Interpretation Act (1971, Act No. 8, which uses the word “infant” in reference to a child); 21 years for the Constitution of Sierra Leone (section 23 (3) of which provides security for “young persons” against publicity or labeling); 21 years for purposes of the Sierra Leone Citizenship Act (1973) (which refers to the “attainment of full age” by a citizen); 21 years for purposes of the old Education Act (1964, Act No. 63);</p>
Somalia	<p>15 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Juvenile Justice Law, 2007 (Republic of Somaliland)</p> <p>Article 1 definitions: Maturity means any human being who reached 15 years with the signs of maturity. Likewise, a mature person shall be whoever reaches the age of 18 years without the signs of maturity.</p>
South Africa	<p>18 years</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Child Act 2005</p> <p>Article 17 Age of majority: A child, whether male or female, becomes a major upon reaching the age of 18 years.</p>
South Sudan	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nationality Law, 2011</p> <p>Article 5 interpretation “Age of Maturity”:means eighteen years;</p>
Sudan	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nationality Act 2003</p> <p>Section 3: “Minor” Means a person who has not attained the age of 18 years.</p>
Swaziland	<p>21 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Initial state party report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child:Swaziland, 2005</p> <p>The Age of Majority Act (1853) stipulates the age of majority to be 21 years.</p>
Tanzania	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Age of Majority Act, 1960</p> <p>Section 2: Every person domiciled in Tanzania shall attain full age and cease to be under any disability of minority at the beginning of the eighteenth anniversary of the day on which he was born.</p>
Togo	<p>18 years</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Family Law, 1980</p> <p>Article 265: A minor is an individual of either sex who has not yet reached the age of 21 years.</p>
Tunisia	<p>18years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Law to unify the age of majority, 2010</p> <p>Article 1: the words "twenty years" referred to in Articles 6 and 7 of the Code of Obligations and Contracts are replaced by "eighteen years".</p> <p>Article 2: the phrase "twenty years" referred to in Articles 153 and 157 of the Personal Status Code are replaced by "eighteen years"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Personal Status Code, 1956</p> <p>A person who has not reached the majority age of twenty years is considered a minor</p>
Uganda	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Second State Party Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Uganda, 2003</p> <p>The age of majority in Uganda is 18 years</p>
Zambia	<p>18 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Intestate Succession Act, 1989</p> <p>Section 3: "minor" means a person who has not attained the age of eighteen years;</p>
Zimbabwe	<p>18 years</p>

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	<p data-bbox="947 321 1440 350" style="text-align: center;">The Legal Age of Majority Act 1982</p> <p data-bbox="407 375 1100 407">Any Zimbabwean under the age of 18 years is a minor</p> <p data-bbox="1056 435 1329 464" style="text-align: center;">Children’s Act 1972</p> <p data-bbox="407 492 1260 524">Article 2:“minor” means a person under the age of eighteen years;</p>



References

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