## **Publications**

## THE WORLD FACTBOOK



FIELD LISTING :: SUFFRAGE

This entry gives the age at enfranchisement and whether the right to vote is universal or restricted.

COUNTRY SUFFRAGE

Afghanistan 18 years of age; universal

Albania 18 years of age; universal

Algeria 18 years of age; universal

American Samoa 18 years of age; universal

<u>Andorra</u> 18 years of age; universal

Angola 18 years of age; universal

Anguilla 18 years of age; universal

Antigua and Barbuda 18 years of age; universal

Argentina 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

<u>Armenia</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Aruba</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Australia</u> 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Austria 16 years of age; universal; note - reduced from 18 years

of age in 2007

<u>Azerbaijan</u> 18 years of age; universal

Bahamas, The 18 years of age; universal

<u>Bahrain</u> 20 years of age; universal

<u>Bangladesh</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Barbados</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Belarus** 18 years of age; universal

Belgium 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Belize 18 years of age; universal

**Benin** 18 years of age; universal

Bermuda 18 years of age; universal

**Bhutan** 18 years of age; universal

Bolivia 18 years of age, universal and compulsory (married); 21

years of age, universal and compulsory (single)

**Bosnia and Herzegovina** 18 years of age, 16 if employed; universal

**Botswana** 18 years of age; universal

**Brazil** voluntary between 16 and 18 years of age and over 70;

compulsory over 18 and under 70 years of age; note -

military conscripts do not vote

<u>British Virgin Islands</u> 18 years of age; universal

Brunei 18 years of age for village elections; universal

<u>Bulgaria</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Burkina Faso** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Burma</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Burundi** 18 years of age; universal (adult)

<u>Cambodia</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Cameroon</u> 20 years of age; universal

<u>Canada</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Cape Verde</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Cayman Islands</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Central African Republic</u> 21 years of age; universal

<u>Chad</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Chile</u> 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

<u>China</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Christmas Island</u> 18 years of age

Cocos (Keeling) Islands 18 years of age

<u>Colombia</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Comoros</u> 18 years of age; universal

Congo, Democratic Republic of the 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Congo, Republic of the 18 years of age; universal

<u>Cook Islands</u> 18 years of age; universal (adult)

<u>Costa Rica</u> 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

<u>Cote d'Ivoire</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Croatia</u> 18 years of age, 16 if employed; universal

<u>Cuba</u> 16 years of age; universal

<u>Cyprus</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Czech Republic</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Denmark** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Djibouti</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Dominica** 18 years of age; universal

**Dominican Republic** 18 years of age, universal and compulsory; married

persons regardless of age; note - members of the armed

forces and national police cannot vote

**Ecuador** 16 years of age; universal, compulsory for persons ages

18-65, optional for other eligible voters

**Egypt** 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

**El Salvador** 18 years of age; universal

**Equatorial Guinea** 18 years of age; universal

**Eritrea** 18 years of age; universal

**Estonia** 18 years of age; universal for all Estonian citizens

**Ethiopia** 18 years of age; universal

**European Union** 18 years of age; universal

Falkland Islands (Islas

<u>Malvinas)</u>

18 years of age; universal

<u>Faroe Islands</u> 18 years of age; universal

Fiji 21 years of age; universal

**Finland** 18 years of age; universal

<u>France</u> 18 years of age; universal

French Polynesia 18 years of age; universal

<u>Gabon</u> 21 years of age; universal

Gambia, The 18 years of age; universal

Georgia 18 years of age; universal

**Germany** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Ghana</u> 18 years of age; universal

Gibraltar 18 years of age; universal; and British citizens who have

been residents six months or more

**Greece** 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

**Greenland** 18 years of age; universal

**Grenada** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Guam</u> 18 years of age; universal; US citizens but do not vote in

US presidential elections

Guatemala 18 years of age; universal; note - active duty members of

the armed forces may not vote and are restricted to their

barracks on election day

**Guernsey** 16 years of age; universal

<u>Guinea</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Guinea-Bissau</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Guyana** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Haiti</u> 18 years of age; universal

Holy See (Vatican City) limited to cardinals less than 80 years old

**Honduras** 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

<u>Hong Kong</u> direct election - 18 years of age for half the legislature

and a majority of seats in 18 district councils; universal for permanent residents living in the territory of Hong

Kong for the past seven years

indirect election - limited to about 220,000 members of

functional constituencies for the other half of the

legislature and an 800-member election committee for the chief executive drawn from broad sectoral groupings, central government bodies, and municipal organizations

**Hungary** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Iceland</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>India</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Indonesia</u> 17 years of age; universal and married persons regardless

of age

<u>Iran</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Iraq</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Ireland</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Isle of Man</u> 16 years of age; universal

<u>Israel</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Italy</u> 18 years of age; universal (except in senatorial elections,

where minimum age is 25)

<u>Jamaica</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Japan</u> 20 years of age; universal

<u>Jersey</u> 16 years of age; universal

**Jordan** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Kazakhstan</u> 18 years of age; universal

Kenya 18 years of age; universal

<u>Kiribati</u> 18 years of age; universal

Korea, North 17 years of age; universal

Korea, South 19 years of age; universal

Kosovo 18 years of age; universal

Kuwait 21 years of age; universal (adult); note - males in the

military or police are not allowed to vote; adult females were allowed to vote as of 16 May 2005; all voters must

have been citizens for 20 years

<u>Kyrgyzstan</u> 18 years of age; universal

Laos 18 years of age; universal

<u>Latvia</u> 18 years of age; universal for Latvian citizens

<u>Lebanon</u> 21 years of age; compulsory for all males; authorized for

women at age 21 with elementary education; excludes

military personnel

<u>Lesotho</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Liberia</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Libya</u> 18 years of age; universal and technically compulsory

<u>Liechtenstein</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Lithuania</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Luxembourg</u> 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Macau direct election 18 years of age for some non-executive

positions, universal for permanent residents living in Macau for the past seven years; indirect election limited to organizations registered as "corporate voters" (257 are currently registered) and a 300-member Election Committee drawn from broad regional groupings, municipal

organizations, and central government bodies

Macedonia 18 years of age; universal

<u>Madagascar</u> 18 years of age; universal

Malawi 18 years of age; universal

<u>Malaysia</u> 21 years of age; universal

<u>Maldives</u> 18 years of age; universal

Mali 18 years of age; universal

Malta 18 years of age; universal

<u>Marshall Islands</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Mauritania</u> 18 years of age; universal

Mauritius 18 years of age; universal

Mayotte 18 years of age; universal

Mexico 18 years of age; universal and compulsory (but not

enforced)

Micronesia, Federated

States of

18 years of age; universal

Moldova 18 years of age; universal

Monaco 18 years of age; universal

Mongolia 18 years of age; universal

Montenegro 18 years of age; universal

Montserrat 18 years of age; universal

Morocco 18 years of age; universal

Mozambique 18 years of age; universal

Namibia 18 years of age; universal

Nauru 20 years of age; universal and compulsory

Nepal 18 years of age; universal

Netherlands 18 years of age; universal

Netherlands Antilles 18 years of age; universal

New Caledonia 18 years of age; universal

New Zealand 18 years of age; universal

Nicaragua 16 years of age; universal

Niger 18 years of age; universal

Nigeria 18 years of age; universal

Niue 18 years of age; universal

Norfolk Island 18 years of age; universal

Northern Mariana Islands 18 years of age; universal; indigenous inhabitants are US

citizens but do not vote in US presidential elections

Norway 18 years of age; universal

21 years of age; universal; note - members of the military <u>Oman</u>

and security forces are not allowed to vote

**Pakistan** 18 years of age; universal; joint electorates and reserved

parliamentary seats for women and non-Muslims

Palau 18 years of age; universal

**Panama** 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Papua New Guinea 18 years of age; universal

**Paraguay** 18 years of age; universal and compulsory up to age 75

18 years of age; universal and compulsory until the age of Peru

70

**Philippines** 18 years of age; universal

Pitcairn Islands 18 years of age; universal with three years residency

**Poland** 18 years of age; universal

**Portugal** 18 years of age; universal

Puerto Rico 18 years of age; universal; island residents are US citizens

but do not vote in US presidential elections

**Qatar** 18 years of age; universal

Romania 18 years of age; universal

Russia 18 years of age; universal

**Rwanda** 18 years of age; universal

Saint Barthelemy 18 years of age, universal

Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha

Saint Kitts and Nevis 18 years of age; universal

NA

Saint Lucia 18 years of age; universal

Saint Martin 18 years of age, universal

Saint Pierre and Miquelon 18 years of age; universal

Saint Vincent and the

**Grenadines** 

18 years of age; universal

<u>Samoa</u> 21 years of age; universal

San Marino 18 years of age; universal

Sao Tome and Principe 18 years of age; universal

Saudi Arabia 21 years of age; male

Senegal 18 years of age; universal Serbia 18 years of age; universal

Seychelles 17 years of age; universal

<u>Sierra Leone</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Singapore</u> 21 years of age; universal and compulsory

Slovakia 18 years of age; universal

Slovenia 18 years of age, 16 if employed; universal

<u>Solomon Islands</u> 21 years of age; universal

Somalia 18 years of age; universal

South Africa 18 years of age; universal

**Spain** 18 years of age; universal

<u>Sri Lanka</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Sudan</u> 17 years of age; universal

<u>Suriname</u> 18 years of age; universal

Swaziland 18 years of age

<u>Sweden</u> 18 years of age; universal

**Switzerland** 18 years of age; universal

Syria 18 years of age; universal

<u>Taiwan</u> 20 years of age; universal

<u>Tajikistan</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Tanzania</u> 18 years of age; universal

Thailand 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

<u>Timor-Leste</u> 17 years of age; universal

Togo 18 years of age; universal (adult)

<u>Tokelau</u> 21 years of age; universal

<u>Tonga</u> 21 years of age; universal

Trinidad and Tobago 18 years of age; universal

Tunisia 18 years of age; universal except for active government

security forces (including the police and the military), people with mental disabilities, people who have served more than three months in prison (criminal cases only), and people given a suspended sentence of more than six

months

<u>Turkey</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Turkmenistan</u> 18 years of age; universal

Turks and Caicos Islands 18 years of age; universal

<u>Tuvalu</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Uganda</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Ukraine</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>United Arab Emirates</u> none

<u>United Kingdom</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>United States</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Uruguay</u> 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

<u>Uzbekistan</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Vanuatu</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Venezuela</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Vietnam</u> 18 years of age; universal

<u>Virgin Islands</u> 18 years of age; universal; island residents are US citizens

but do not vote in US presidential elections

Wallis and Futuna 18 years of age; universal

Western Sahara none; (residents of Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara

participate in Moroccan elections)

Yemen 18 years of age; universal

Zambia 18 years of age; universal

**Zimbabwe** 18 years of age; universal