



The 2026 World Cup will test Pele's youngest-scorer record

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Brazilian footballer Pele in the net after scoring for

For nearly seven decades, Pele has topped one of the most distinguished rosters in World Cup history. When the Brazilian legend scored against Wales at the 1958 World Cup, he was just 17 years and 239 days old – a record that has yet to be beaten.

With the final squad lists confirmed for the 2026 tournament, attention has turned to this historic number, especially with several teenagers set to make their World Cup debuts.

Pele reigns supreme 68 years on

Brazilian Pele still sits at the top of the youngest [scorers list](#) ahead of all stars who have passed through the tournament since. [The ten youngest scorers in World Cup history are](#)

1. Pele (Brazil) – 17 years, 239 days
2. Manuel Rosas (Mexico) – 18 years, 93 days
3. Gavi (Spain) – 18 years, 110 days
4. Michael Owen (England) – 18 years, 190 days
5. Nicolae Kovacs (Romania) – 18 years, 197 days
6. Dmitry Sychev (Russia) – 18 years, 231 days
7. Lionel Messi (Argentina) – 18 years, 357 days
8. Julian Green (USA) – 19 years, 25 days
9. Divock Origi (Belgium) – 19 years, 65 days
10. Martin Hoffmann (East Germany) – 19 years, 88 days

Youngest players in the 2026 World Cup

FIFA's final squad lists show Mexican Gilberto Mora as the [youngest player at the 2026 World Cup](#). The top ten also include three [Arab players](#).

1. Gilberto Mora (Mexico) 17 years, 240 days
2. Hugo Suchorek (Czech Republic) 18 years, 4 days
3. Lennart Karl (Germany) 18 years, 109 days
4. Ibrahim Mbaye (Senegal) 18 years, 138 days
5. Hamza Abdel Karim (Egypt) 18 years, 161 days
6. Barra Saboko Ndiaye (Senegal) 18 years, 162 days
7. Mladen Yurkas (Bosnia and Herzegovina) 18 years, 247 days
8. Ayoub Bouadi (Morocco) 18 years, 252 days
9. Karim Aljabgovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) 18 years, 263 days
10. Rayan Al-Loumi (Tunisia) 18 years, 267 days

Who could enter the historical list?

While Pele's record seems unshakable, several young players could still make the top ten if they score in the [tournament](#). Gilberto Mora could become the youngest scorer in the 2026 World Cup at 17 years, 240 days, but would still fall one day short of Pele's record.

Hugo Suchorek, Lennart Karl, Ibrahim Mbaye, Hamza Abdel Karim and Ayoub Bouadi also have realistic chances of joining the ten youngest scorers if they find the net in their World Cup debuts.

Though the top spot may remain out of reach, the next generation promises fresh names on this historic list and someone may eventually challenge Pele's record that has stood since the summer of 1958.

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5. record
6. test
7. the

- 8. will
- 9. world
- 10. youngestscorer

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