Who is Kimi Antonelli?

May 3, Miami Grand Prix

F1 returns after a five-week hiatus caused by conflict in the Middle East, amid a raft of changes to engine regulations, Mercedes driver Kimi Antonelli aims to sustain his historic start to the season

■ **Aug 25, 2006:** Born in Bologna, Italy, son of former racing driver ***Marco Antonelli.*** Begins karting aged 7, rising through ranks and claiming titles in several categories

■ **2019:** Scouted by ***Mercedes,*** joining teams' Junior Programme

■ **2019-2021:** Dominates karting titles at ***Rosberg Racing Academy***. Steps up in class to win ***FIA European Championship*** in 2020. Makes F4 debut



■ **2022-23:** Adds German and Italian F4 titles, before wider success in regional series

■ **2024:** Accelerates to F2 – bypassing entire F3 class – winning races at Silverstone and Budapest. Makes F1 practice debut in Monza

■ **2025:** F1 debut in Melbourne. Becomes third-youngest driver to start Grand Prix – finishes season in 7th with 150pts, achieving three podiums

■ **Mar 15, 2026:** Composed breakthrough drive to clinch maiden victory in China – second-youngest race winner in F1 history

■ **Mar 29:** Benefits from safety car to take victory in Suzuka from pole position. **Youngest World Drivers' Championship leader, aged 19**

Race statistics

2025 result: *Top 6 places*

1	Oscar Piastri	*McLaren*
2	Lando Norris	*McLaren*
3	George Russell	*Mercedes*
4	Max Verstappen	*Red Bull*
5	Alexander Albon	*Williams*
6	Kimi Antonelli	*Mercedes*

Driver victories:	**Verstappen** *(2022, 2023),* **Norris** *(2024),* **Piastri** *(2025)*
Constructor victories:	**Red Bull, 2** **McLaren, 2**
Lap record:	**Verstappen, 2023** *1:29.708*

Sources: FIA, Pirelli

Picture: Getty Images

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