

2026 FIFA World Cup

The **2026 FIFA World Cup**^[A] is the 23rd [FIFA World Cup](#) and the current edition of the quadrennial international men's soccer championship contested by the [national teams](#) of the member associations of [FIFA](#). The tournament began on June 11, 2026, and will conclude on July 19.^[3] It is jointly hosted by 16 cities—11 in the United States, 3 in Mexico, and 2 in Canada. The tournament is the first FIFA World Cup to be hosted by three countries and the first to include 48 teams, an expansion from the previous 32-team format.^[4]

The 2026 tournament is the first World Cup since 2002 to be hosted by multiple nations. Mexico became the first country to host the World Cup three times, having hosted the 1970 and 1986 tournaments.^[5] The United States previously hosted the World Cup in 1994, while it is Canada's first time hosting the tournament.^[5] The event returned to its traditional June–July schedule after the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, which was uniquely held in November and December to avoid Qatar's extreme summer heat.^[6]

Canada, Mexico, and the United States qualified automatically as hosts. Cape Verde, Curaçao, Jordan, and Uzbekistan made their World Cup debuts.^[5] Argentina is the defending champion, having won its third World Cup in 2022. On June 25, 2026, total attendance reached 3,605,357 spectators, setting the record for the highest attendance in World Cup history and surpassing the previous record set at the 1994 edition, hosted by the United States.^[7]

Format

Expansion

The idea of expanding the tournament had been suggested as early as 2013 by then-UEFA president Michel Platini,^{[8][9]} as well as in 2016 by current FIFA president Gianni Infantino.^[10] Opponents of the proposal argued that the number of matches played was already at an unacceptable level, that the expansion would dilute the quality of the matches,^{[11][12]} and that the decision was driven by political rather than sporting concerns, specifically that Infantino was trying to [win his election](#) by promising to bring more countries to the World Cup.^[13]

Starting with the 2026 edition, the World Cup expanded to 48 teams, an increase of 16 teams compared to the previous seven tournaments.^[14] As approved by the [FIFA Council](#) on March 14, 2023, the teams were split into 12 groups of 4 teams, with the top 2 teams in each group and the 8 best third-place teams progressing to a new round of 32.^[15] It is the first expansion and format change since 1998.^[16]

The total number of matches played increased from 64 to 104, and the number of matches played by teams reaching the semifinals increased from 7 to 8. The tournament lasts 39 days, an increase from the 32 days of the 2014 and 2018 tournaments, and from the 29 days of the 2022 tournament.^{[17][18]} Each team still plays three group matches.^{[19][20]} The final matchday at club level for players named in the final squads was May 24, 2026; clubs had to release their players by May 25, with exceptions granted to players participating in continental club competition finals up until May 30. The 56 days of the combined rest, release, and tournament periods remain identical to the 2010, 2014, and 2018 tournaments.^[15]

2026 FIFA World Cup

Coupe du Monde de la FIFA 2026 (French)
Copa Mundial de la FIFA 2026 (Spanish)



Tournament details

Host countries	Canada Mexico United States
Dates	June 11 – July 19
Teams	48 (from 6 confederations)
Venues	16 (in 16 host cities)

Tournament statistics

Matches played	102
Goals scored	297 (2.91 per match)
Attendance	6,665,825 (65,351 per match)
Top scorers	 Lionel Messi Kylian Mbappé (8 goals each)

← 20222030 →
All statistics correct as of July 15, 2026.

Other expansion formats explored

After the expansion to 48 teams was approved on January 10, 2017, it was initially decided that the tournament would include 16 groups of 3 teams, with the top two teams of each group progressing to a round of 32.^{[14][21]} This format would have included 80 matches in total, with the maximum number of matches per team remaining at seven, although each team would have played one fewer group match than in other recent tournaments. The tournament would still have been completed within 32 days.^[22] This format was chosen over three alternatives involving 40 to 48 teams, 76 to 88 matches, and a minimum of 1 to 4 matches per team.^[B]

Critics of this format argued that the use of three-team groups with two teams progressing significantly increased the risk of collusion between teams.^[26] This prompted FIFA to suggest that penalty shootouts could be used to prevent draws in the group stage,^[27] although even then some risk of collusion would remain, as a team could deliberately lose a shootout to eliminate a rival.^[26] The tournament format was finalized in 2023, with an announcement that there would be 12 groups of 4 teams.^{[28][29]}

New rules

The 2026 FIFA World Cup introduced several rule changes, primarily designed to reduce time-wasting.^[30] The new rules include:

- 10-second substitutions: Players being substituted have ten seconds to exit the field; otherwise, the substitute must wait for one minute before entering the match.
- 5-second restarts: A visual 5-second countdown can be shown by the referee for throw-ins and goal kicks in situations of time-wasting. If the ball is not put into play in time, a restart is awarded to the opposing team; a corner kick is awarded if the infraction occurs with a goal kick.
- Medical treatment: Any outfield player who receives medical attention on the field must leave the field and wait for 1 minute before returning to play.
- Expanded video assistant referee (VAR): The VAR can now review and overturn wrongly awarded corner kicks, certain attacking fouls, and clear mistakes on red cards given from a second yellow card.
- Mouth-covering red cards: To stop confrontational or insulting behavior that is concealed to avoid lip-reading, any player who covers his mouth with his hand, arm, or shirt while confronting an opponent will be sent off.
- Player leaving the field in protest: Players or officials who leave the field in protest will be sent off.^[30]

Another change was the tiebreaker formula used when two or more teams finish the group stage with an equal number of points. The first tiebreaker criteria is now the number of points earned in head-to-head matches between the tied teams, not the goal difference among all matches.^[C]

Mandatory breaks

Cooling or hydration breaks were introduced at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. For the 2026 World Cup, FIFA introduced mandatory three-minute hydration breaks in every half for all matches. Broadcasters are permitted to run commercials during these pauses.^[34] Since the clock is not stopped during the breaks, the three minutes are automatically included in the stoppage time for each half.^[35]

Match schedule

The match schedule, without group assignments, was announced on February 4, 2024.^[D] On June 13, FIFA released an updated schedule, with specific pairings assigned to venues for the knockout stage.^[38] The full schedule was unveiled in a live broadcast on December 6, 2025, the day after the draw.^[39] The opening match of the tournament included Mexico, and took place on June 11, 2026, at the Estadio Azteca in Mexico City.^[40] Canada's first match occurred on June 12 at BMO Field in Toronto, while the United States' opening match took place on the same day at SoFi Stadium in Inglewood. The national team of each host nation played its three group stage matches in its own country.^[36]

AT&T Stadium in Arlington hosts the most matches of any venue, with nine. The U.S. hosts 78 matches, including all quarterfinals, semifinals, and the final to be played at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford on July 19. Canada and Mexico each host 13 matches. Each tournament venue, except for the Estadio Akron, host at least one knockout stage match.^[41] The match schedule overlaps with the 2026 Canadian Football League season, resulting in scheduling conflicts and loss of home games for the Toronto Argonauts and BC Lions.^{[42][43]} The match schedule also affects the 2026 Major League Baseball season schedules of the Kansas City Royals, Philadelphia Phillies, Seattle Mariners, and Texas Rangers, whose home stadiums are located near World Cup venues.^[44]

Host cities were geographically grouped into three regions:^[3]

- Western Region (Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles)
- Central Region (Guadalajara, Mexico City, Monterrey, Houston, Dallas, Kansas City)
- Eastern Region (Atlanta, Miami, Toronto, Boston, Philadelphia, New York/New Jersey)

Schedule by round			Schedule by group			
Stage	Matchday	Date	Matchday	Pairings	Groups	Date
Group	1	June 11–17	1	1 vs 2 3 vs 4	A	June 11
	2	June 18–23			B & D	June 12
	3	June 24–27			B, C & D	June 13
Knockout	Round of 32	June 28 – July 3			E & F	June 14
	Round of 16	July 4–7			G & H	June 15
	Quarterfinals	July 9–11			I & J	June 16
	Semifinals	July 14–15			K & L	June 17
	Match for third place	July 18	2	1 vs 3 4 vs 2	A & B	June 18
	Final	July 19			C & D	June 19
					E & F	June 20
					G & H	June 21
					I & J	June 22
					K & L	June 23
			3	4 vs 1 2 vs 3	A, B & C	June 24
					D, E & F	June 25
					G, H & I	June 26
					J, K & L	June 27

Host selection

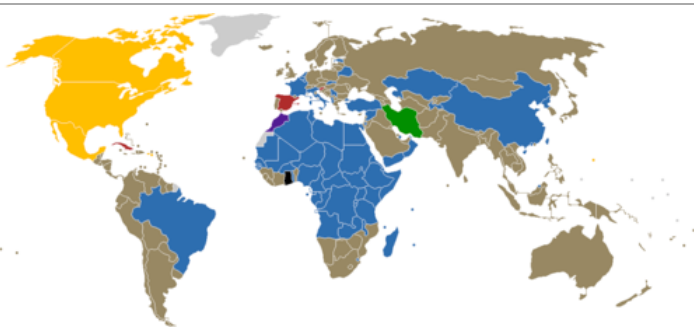
The United 2026 bid beat a rival bid by Morocco during a final vote at the 68th FIFA Congress in Moscow in 2018. The previous year, FIFA president Gianni Infantino had stated that Europe (UEFA confederation) and Asia (AFC) would be excluded from the bidding following the selection of Russia for the 2018 World Cup and Qatar for the 2022 tournament.^[45] Therefore, the 2026 World Cup could be hosted by one of the remaining four confederations: CONCACAF (North America; last hosted in 1994), CAF (Africa; last hosted in 2010), CONMEBOL (South America; last hosted in 2014), or OFC (Oceania, never hosted), or potentially by AFC or UEFA in case no bid from the others met FIFA's requirements.^[46]

Co-hosting of the World Cup—which had been suspended by FIFA after the 2002 edition—was approved for the enlarged 2026 tournament.^[47] Canada, Mexico, and the United States had each publicly considered bidding for the tournament separately; the United joint bid was announced on April 10, 2017.^{[48][49]} The Moroccan bid was announced that August.^[50]

Voting

Voting for the host was open to 203 FIFA member associations.^[51] The United bid won with 134 votes, while the Morocco bid received 65 votes.^{[49][52]} Iran voted for neither of the two bids, while Cuba, Slovenia, and Spain abstained from voting. Ghana had been suspended by FIFA for corruption and was therefore ineligible to vote.^[E] Morocco was later selected as a co-host of the 2030 FIFA World Cup, alongside Portugal, Spain, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

Voting results

Nation	Vote	Map
	Round 1	
Canada, Mexico, United States	134	
Morocco	65	
None of the bids	1	
Abstentions	3	
Total valid votes	200	Allowed to vote Voted for United bid Voted for Moroccan bid Voted for neither Abstained from voting Ineligible to vote Canada–Mexico–United States Morocco Sanctioned by FIFA Not a FIFA member
Required for majority	101	

Venues

During the bidding process, 41 cities with 42 existing, fully functional venues with regular tenants (except Olympic Stadium in Montreal) and two venues then under construction (Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas and SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles) submitted to be part of the bid: three venues in three cities in Mexico, six venues in six cities in Canada, and 35 venues in 32 cities in the United States.^[58] A first-round elimination removed nine venues and nine cities. A second-round elimination cut an additional nine venues in six cities, while three venues in three cities (Soldier Field in Chicago, U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, and BC Place in Vancouver) dropped out because FIFA was unwilling to negotiate financial details.^[59] After Montreal dropped out in July 2021 because it lacked provincial funding and support to renovate Olympic Stadium,^[60] Vancouver rejoined the bid as a candidate city in April 2022,^[61] bringing the total number to 24 venues, each in its own city or metropolitan area.^[62]



On June 16, 2022, the sixteen host cities—two in Canada, three in Mexico, and eleven in the United States—were announced by FIFA: Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Guadalajara, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Miami, Monterrey, New York/New Jersey, Philadelphia, San Francisco Bay Area, Seattle, Toronto, and Vancouver.^[63] Eight of the sixteen chosen stadiums have permanent artificial turf surfaces that were replaced with grass under the direction of FIFA and a University of Tennessee–Michigan State University research team. Depending on the venue's climate, the turf used is either a hybrid of 84% Kentucky bluegrass and 16% perennial ryegrass (for cooler temperatures), or Bermuda grass (for warmer temperatures).^{[64][65][66]}

Four venues (Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, and Vancouver) are indoor stadiums that use retractable roof systems, all equipped with climate control, while a fifth, SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles, is open-air but has a translucent roof and no climate control.^[67] The host of the final match—MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey—was announced by FIFA on February 4, 2024.^[68]

Although there are soccer-specific stadiums in Canada and the United States, the largest dedicated soccer-specific stadium in the United States, Geodis Park in Nashville, Tennessee, seats 30,000, which falls short of FIFA's minimum of 40,000 (Toronto's BMO Field was expanded from 30,000 to 45,500 for this tournament).^[69] Stadiums including Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta; Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts; and Lumen Field in Seattle are used by both National Football League (NFL) and Major League Soccer

(MLS) teams.^[70] Although all of the Canadian and American stadiums are primarily used for gridiron football, with the American stadiums hosting NFL teams and Canada's hosting the Canadian Football League (CFL), they have been used on numerous occasions for soccer and are also designed to host that sport.^[71]

Mexico City is the only capital of the three host nations chosen as a venue site; Ottawa and Washington, D.C., joined Bonn (West Germany, 1974) and Tokyo (Japan, 2002) as the only capital cities not selected to host World Cup matches. Washington was a host city candidate, but the poor state of Northwest Stadium caused the city to combine its bid with nearby Baltimore's M&T Bank Stadium, which was unsuccessful. Other cities eliminated from the final hosting list were Cincinnati, Denver, Nashville, Orlando, and Edmonton. Ottawa's candidate venue, TD Place Stadium, was eliminated early on for insufficient capacity.^[72] Eight of the metropolitan areas involved had previously hosted World Cup matches (Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, New York/New Jersey, and Boston in 1994; Guadalajara and Mexico City in both 1970 and 1986; Monterrey in 1986), but none of the stadiums used in the 1994 FIFA World Cup were used in this tournament (though MetLife Stadium is located at the same site as one of the 1994 venues, Giants Stadium).^[73] Soldier Field in Chicago, the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, and the Rose Bowl in Pasadena (Los Angeles area) were the only stadiums in the bidding process to have hosted matches in 1994, but none of them were selected.^[58] Therefore, Estadio Azteca in Mexico City is the only stadium in this tournament that had previously been used for a World Cup, in both 1970 and 1986; it thus became the only stadium in the world so far to have been used for three editions of the World Cup (even though, unlike in 1970 and 1986, it did not host the final match).

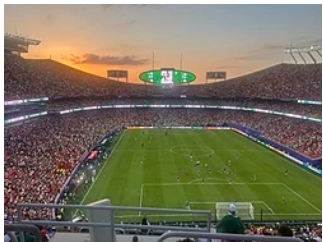
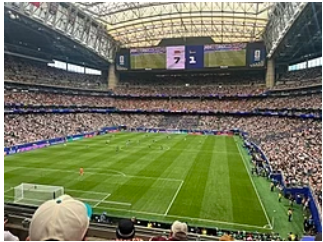
FIFA's rules on stadium sponsorships required venues to use alternative names for the duration of the tournament, shown in parentheses below.^{[F][74][75]} The capacity is based on information published by FIFA.^[75]

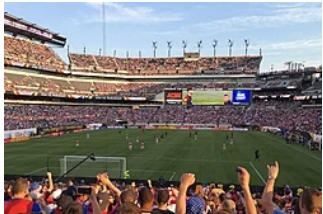
Key

† denotes a stadium used for previous men's World Cup tournaments.

‡ denotes an indoor stadium with a fixed or retractable roof with interior climate control.

List of tournament venues

City ^[G]	Stadium	Number of matches	Capacity	Image
 Mexico City	<u>Estadio Azteca†</u> (Mexico City Stadium) ^[F]	5 (3 group, 2 knockout)	80,824	
 New York/New Jersey (East Rutherford, New Jersey)	MetLife Stadium (New York New Jersey Stadium)	8 (5 group, 2 knockout, and the final)	80,663	
 Dallas (Arlington, Texas)	<u>AT&T Stadium‡</u> (Dallas Stadium)	9 (5 group, 4 knockout)	70,649	
 Los Angeles (Inglewood, California)	<u>SoFi Stadium‡</u> (Los Angeles Stadium)	8 (5 group, 3 knockout)	70,492	
 Kansas City	<u>Arrowhead Stadium</u> (Kansas City Stadium) ^[F]	6 (4 group, 2 knockout)	69,045	
 San Francisco Bay Area (Santa Clara, California)	<u>Levi's Stadium</u> (San Francisco Bay Area Stadium)	6 (5 group, 1 knockout)	68,827	
 Houston	<u>NRG Stadium‡</u> (Houston Stadium)	7 (5 group, 2 knockout)	68,777	

City ^[G]	Stadium	Number of matches	Capacity	Image
 Philadelphia	<u>Lincoln Financial Field</u> (Philadelphia Stadium)	6 (5 group, 1 knockout)	68,324	
 Atlanta	<u>Mercedes-Benz Stadium</u> ‡ (Atlanta Stadium)	8 (5 group, 3 knockout)	68,239	
 Seattle	<u>Lumen Field</u> (Seattle Stadium)	6 (4 group, 2 knockout)	66,925	
 Miami (Miami Gardens, Florida)	<u>Hard Rock Stadium</u> (Miami Stadium)	7 (4 group, 2 knockout, and third-place)	64,478	
 Boston (Foxborough, Massachusetts)	<u>Gillette Stadium</u> (Boston Stadium)	7 (5 group, 2 knockout)	64,146	
 Vancouver	<u>BC Place</u> ‡ (BC Place Vancouver)	7 (5 group, 2 knockout)	52,497	
 Monterrey (Guadalupe, Nuevo León)	<u>Estadio BBVA</u> (Estadio Monterrey)	4 (3 group, 1 knockout)	51,243	

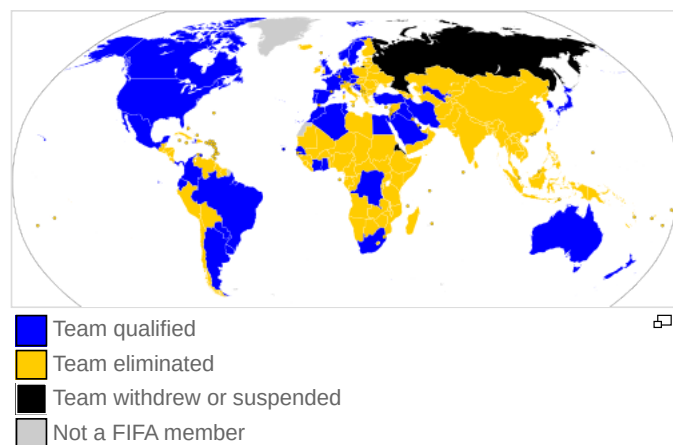
City ^[G]	Stadium	Number of matches	Capacity	Image
 Guadalajara (Zapopan, Jalisco)	Estadio Akron (Estadio Guadalajara)	4 (4 group)	45,664	
 Toronto	BMO Field (Toronto Stadium)	6 (5 group, 1 knockout)	43,036	

Teams

Qualification

On August 31, 2022, FIFA president Gianni Infantino confirmed that six CONCACAF teams would qualify for the World Cup, with Canada, Mexico, and the United States automatically qualifying as hosts.^{[76][77]} This was confirmed by the FIFA Council on February 14, 2023.^{[78][79]}

Immediately prior to the 67th FIFA Congress, the FIFA Council approved the slot allocation in a meeting in Manama, Bahrain.^{[80][81]} This included an inter-confederation playoff tournament involving six teams to decide the last two FIFA World Cup spots.^[82] The six teams in the playoffs comprised one team from each confederation excluding UEFA, and one additional team from the confederation of the host countries (CONCACAF). Two of the teams were seeded based on the World Rankings, and they played the winners of two knockout matches between the four unseeded teams for the two FIFA World Cup berths. The four-match tournament was played in Mexico, one of the host countries, and was also used as a test event for the FIFA World Cup.^[80]



The ratification of slot allocation also gave the OFC a guaranteed berth in the final tournament for the first time: the 2026 FIFA World Cup was the first tournament in which all six confederations have at least one guaranteed berth and also the first time since the 2010 edition in which all confederations had a team qualify for the World Cup finals.^[80]

Of the 48 qualified teams, 26 also appeared in the 2022 edition. Highlights include:

- Cape Verde,^[83] Curaçao,^{[H][84]} Jordan, and Uzbekistan^{[I][85]} made their World Cup debuts.
- Qatar qualified for the tournament through qualification for the first time, as its only previous appearance was as host in 2022.^[86]
- DR Congo^[J] and Haiti returned to the tournament after appearing in their only previous tournament in 1974.^{[84][87]}
- Iraq returned to the tournament after appearing in its only previous tournament in 1986.^[88]
- Austria, Norway,^[89] and Scotland returned to the tournament after last appearing in 1998.^[90]

Four-time champion Italy missed out after being defeated in the European playoff final by Bosnia and Herzegovina on penalties, becoming the first former champion to miss out on three consecutive World Cups;^[91] as in 2018 and 2022, Italy was the only former champion that did not qualify. With a FIFA Men's World Ranking of 12, Italy was also the highest-ranking team that did not qualify.^[92]

The qualified teams, listed by region, with numbers in parentheses indicating final positions in the FIFA Men's World Ranking before the tournament were:^[93]

AFC (9)

-  [Australia](#) (27)
-  [Iran](#)^[K] (20)
-  [Iraq](#) (57)
-  [Japan](#) (18)
-  [Jordan](#) (63) (debut)
-  [Qatar](#) (56)
-  [Saudi Arabia](#) (61)
-  [South Korea](#)^[L] (25)
-  [Uzbekistan](#) (50) (debut)

CAF (10)

-  [Algeria](#) (28)
-  [Cape Verde](#)^[M] (67) (debut)
-  [DR Congo](#)^[N] (46)
-  [Egypt](#) (29)
-  [Ghana](#) (73)
-  [Ivory Coast](#)^[O] (33)
-  [Morocco](#) (7)
-  [Senegal](#) (15)
-  [South Africa](#) (60)
-  [Tunisia](#) (45)

CONCACAF (6)

-  [Canada](#) (30) (co-host)
-  [Curaçao](#) (82) (debut)
-  [Haiti](#) (83)
-  [Mexico](#) (14) (co-host)
-  [Panama](#) (34)
-  [United States](#)^[P] (17) (co-host)

CONMEBOL (6)

-  [Argentina](#) (1)
-  [Brazil](#) (6)
-  [Colombia](#) (13)
-  [Ecuador](#) (23)
-  [Paraguay](#) (41)
-  [Uruguay](#) (16)

OFC (1)

-  [New Zealand](#) (85)

UEFA (16)

-  [Austria](#) (24)
-  [Belgium](#) (9)
-  [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) (64)
-  [Croatia](#) (11)
-  [Czech Republic](#)^[Q] (40)
-  [England](#) (4)
-  [France](#) (3)
-  [Germany](#) (10)
-  [Netherlands](#) (8)
-  [Norway](#) (31)
-  [Portugal](#) (5)
-  [Scotland](#) (42)
-  [Spain](#) (2)
-  [Sweden](#) (38)
-  [Switzerland](#) (19)
-  [Turkey](#)^[R] (22)

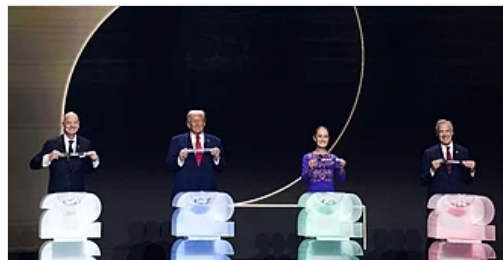
Draw

The draw took place on December 5, 2025, at the [Kennedy Center](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#)^[94] The draw ceremony began with FIFA presenting the first [FIFA Peace Prize](#) to [Donald Trump](#),^[95] an award which fueled scrutiny and controversy among human rights groups, analysts, and others.^{[96][97][98][99]}

The 48 teams were divided into four pots of 12. Pot 1 consisted of the three hosts and the top nine teams from the November 2025 [FIFA Men's World Ranking](#). Pots 2, 3, and 4 consisted of the remaining teams according to the ranking. The four winners of the [UEFA playoffs](#) and the two winners of the inter-confederation playoffs were not known at the time of the draw and thus were automatically allocated to Pot 4. The 12 groups were randomly formed by selecting one team from each of the four pots. With the exception of UEFA, no group could have more than one team from the same confederation drawn into it.^{[100][101]}

The three host nations were pre-allocated to three groups for scheduling purposes. Mexico was placed in Group A, Canada in Group B, and the United States in Group D.^{[3][102]}

The confederation restriction applied to all three potential winners of the inter-confederation playoffs. FIFA also announced that, "in the interest of ensuring competitive balance", the teams ranked first (Spain), second (Argentina), third (France), and fourth (England) would be drawn into opposite pathways. Therefore, should these teams win their groups, they would be unable to meet until the semifinals.^[103] The draw started with Pot 1 and ended with Pot 4, with each team selected and then allocated into the first available group alphabetically. For the purpose of the match schedule, the Pot 1 teams were automatically drawn into position 1 of each group. For the remaining pots, FIFA established a predetermined pattern to define the position of teams based on their pot and the group they were drawn into.



From left to right, FIFA president [Gianni Infantino](#), U.S. president [Donald Trump](#), Mexican president [Claudia Sheinbaum](#), and Canadian prime minister [Mark Carney](#) at the start of the draw.

Pot 1	Pot 2	Pot 3	Pot 4
United States (<i>co-host</i>) (14) Mexico (<i>co-host</i>) (15) Canada (<i>co-host</i>) (27) Spain (1) Argentina (2) France (3) England (4) Brazil (5) Portugal (6) Netherlands (7) Belgium (8) Germany (9)	Croatia (10) Morocco (11) Colombia (13) Uruguay (16) Switzerland (17) Japan (18) Senegal (19) Iran (20) South Korea (22) Ecuador (23) Austria (24) Australia (26)	Norway (29) Panama (30) Egypt (34) Algeria (35) Scotland (36) Paraguay (39) Tunisia (40) Ivory Coast (42) Uzbekistan (50) Qatar (51) Saudi Arabia (60) South Africa (61)	Jordan (66) Cape Verde (68) Ghana (72) Curaçao (82) Haiti (84) New Zealand (86) UEFA Path A winner^[T] UEFA Path B winner^[T] UEFA Path C winner^[T] UEFA Path D winner^[T] IC Path 1 winner^{[T][U]} IC Path 2 winner^{[T][V]}

Team base camps

Each of the 48 teams established a "base camp", where they stayed and trained before and during the World Cup.^[W]

Squads

Before submitting their final squad for the World Cup, teams named a provisional squad of between 35 and 55 players one month prior to the tournament. Teams were required to name their final squads by June 2. If a player became too injured or ill to participate in the tournament, he could be replaced by another player from the provisional squad until 24 hours before the team's first match. However, an injured or ill goalkeeper could be replaced by another goalkeeper from the provisional squad at any time during the tournament.^[109]

Travel distances

Teams participating in the 2026 World Cup had to travel an average of 5,146 total miles (8,281.7 km) between venues during the tournament. For the [2014 World Cup](#) in Brazil, the average distance was 7,054 miles (11,352.2 km), while teams playing in the [2018 tournament](#) in Russia traveled an average of 5,441 miles (8,756.4 km).^[110]

Officiating

On April 9, 2026, FIFA announced the list of 52 referees, 88 assistant referees, and 30 [video assistant referees](#) for the tournament.^{[111][112]} The 2026 World Cup featured six female match officials, equalling the record for the highest number of female officials appointed to a men's World Cup.^{[113][114]} [Tori Penso](#), [Brooke Mayo](#), and [Kathryn Nesbitt](#) became the second all-female on-field refereeing trio at a men's World Cup, officiating the Group A [match between Czech Republic and South Africa](#) at Atlanta Stadium.^[115]

On June 9, Somali referee [Omar Artan](#) was refused entry into the United States despite holding valid travel documents, and FIFA later removed him from the list of referees.^[116] FIFA stated that Artan would receive his full World Cup salary despite not being able to officiate in the tournament.^[117]

Ceremonies

Opening ceremonies

The tournament featured three opening ceremonies, one for each of the hosts.^[118] The opening ceremony in Mexico took place on June 11, 2026, at Estadio Azteca.^[119] Mexican singer [Alejandro Fernández](#) performed "[Himno Nacional Mexicano](#)" and South African singer [Tyla](#) performed the "[National Anthem of South Africa](#)".^[120] The next day, on June 12, the Canadian opening ceremony occurred

at BMO Field in Toronto. Canadian-American musician [Alanis Morissette](#) performed "[O Canada](#)" while Serbian-Canadian violinist Aleksandar Gajić performed "[Državna himna Bosne i Hercegovine](#)".^[121] On the same day, the opening ceremony in the United States took place at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles. American country duo [Dan + Shay](#) performed "[The Star-Spangled Banner](#)" while Paraguayan soul duo Purahei Soul performed "[Himno Nacional Paraguayo](#)".^[122]

1,000th FIFA World Cup match

On June 20, a special pre-game celebration ceremony commemorating the 1,000th match of the FIFA World Cup was held in [Monterrey](#), Mexico, ahead of the group stage match between [Tunisia](#) and [Japan](#). [Princess Takamado](#) (Honorary Patron of the [Japan Football Association](#)) was in attendance.^{[123][124][125]}

Independence Day ceremonies

In addition, two special ceremonies took place on July 4, 2026, to honor the [United States Semiquincentennial](#) at [Lincoln Financial Field](#) in Philadelphia and [NRG Stadium](#) in Houston.^[126] The Houston ceremony featured the display of a large pitch banner, pyrotechnics, and themed video-board signage, and a performance of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by [United States Navy Band Chief Musician Maia Rodriguez](#). The Philadelphia ceremony also featured pyrotechnics, themed video-board signage, a performance of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by [Idina Menzel](#) as well as musical performance by [the Roots](#), ceremonial elements featuring the [Philadelphia Boys Choir & Chorale](#) and [Miss Pennsylvania](#), [Stephanie Skinner](#), a [card stunt](#), a flyby of VFA-11 and VFA-81 squadrons from [Naval Air Station Oceana](#), and a halftime show from [DJ Jazzy Jeff](#).^[127]

Closing ceremony

The closing ceremony will take place before the [2026 FIFA World Cup final](#) at MetLife Stadium in New York/New Jersey and will feature performances by [Laura Pausini](#), [Nicole Scherzinger](#), [Robbie Williams](#), [IShowSpeed](#), and [Post Malone](#) as well as an appearance from [Tom Cruise](#). [Jennifer Hudson](#) will perform "The Star-Spangled Banner".^{[128][129]}

Final halftime show

The final match will feature the first-ever [Super Bowl](#)–style [halftime show](#) in FIFA World Cup history. [Madonna](#), [Shakira](#), and [BTS](#) will headline the 11-minute halftime show, which was curated by [Chris Martin](#) of [Coldplay](#) and produced by [Global Citizen](#).^{[130][131]} [Justin Bieber](#), [Burna Boy](#), [Gustavo Dudamel](#) and the [PS22 Chorus](#) (the latter featuring Coldplay) will also perform in the show.^[132]

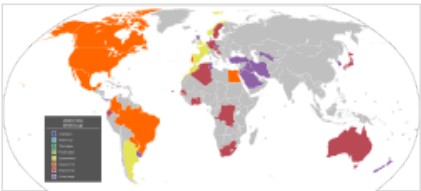
Group stage

The [round-robin](#) group stage was played in twelve groups (A to L) of four teams each, from June 11 to 27, 2026.^[133] Teams were awarded three points for a win, one for a draw, and none for a loss. Following the conclusion of group play, the top two teams of each group, along with the [eight best third-place teams](#), advanced to the [knockout stage](#).

All times are local.



Inside [Estadio Azteca](#) during the Mexican opening ceremony prior to the first match of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.



Result of countries participating in the 2026 FIFA World Cup

■ Champion	■ Quarterfinals
■ Runner-up	■ Round of 16
■ Third place	■ Round of 32
■ Fourth place	■ Group stage

Tie-breaking criteria for group stage ranking

The ranking of teams in each group was determined by the points obtained in all group matches. If two or more teams were equal on points, the following criteria were used to determine the ranking:^[134]

- a. Most points obtained in the group matches played between the teams concerned;
- b. Superior goal difference in the group matches played between the teams concerned;
- c. Most goals scored in the group matches played between the teams concerned;

If, after having applied criteria a to c, teams still had an equal ranking, criteria a to c were reapplied exclusively to the matches between the teams who were still level to determine their final rankings.^[X] If this procedure did not lead to a decision, criteria d to h applied.

- d. Superior goal difference in all group matches;
- e. Most goals scored in all group matches;
- f. Highest team conduct ("fair play") score in all group matches (only one deduction could be applied to a player or team coach/official in a single match):
 - Yellow card: -1 point;
 - Indirect red card (second yellow card): -3 points;
 - Direct red card: -4 points;
 - Yellow card and direct red card: -5 points;
- g. Better position in the most recent FIFA Men's World Ranking;
- h. Better position in progressively older FIFA Men's World Rankings until teams could be separated.

Group A

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	Mexico (H)	3	3	0	0	6	0	+6	9	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	South Africa	3	1	1	1	2	3	-1	4	
3	South Korea	3	1	0	2	2	3	-1	3	
4	Czech Republic	3	0	1	2	2	6	-4	1	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

(H) Hosts

June 11, 2026

Mexico	2–0	South Africa	Estadio Azteca, Mexico City
South Korea	2–1	Czech Republic	Estadio Akron, Zapopan

June 18, 2026

Czech Republic	1–1	South Africa	Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta
Mexico	1–0	South Korea	Estadio Akron, Zapopan

June 24, 2026

Czech Republic	0–3	Mexico	Estadio Azteca, Mexico City
South Africa	1–0	South Korea	Estadio BBVA, Guadalupe

Group B

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	Switzerland	3	2	1	0	7	3	+4	7	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	Canada (H)	3	1	1	1	8	3	+5	4 ^[a]	
3	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	1	1	1	5	6	-1	4 ^[a]	
4	Qatar	3	0	1	2	2	10	-8	1	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

(H) Hosts

Notes:

- a. Tied on head-to-head result (Canada 1–1 Bosnia and Herzegovina). Overall goal difference was used as the tiebreaker.

June 12, 2026

Canada  1–1  Bosnia and Herzegovina BMO Field, Toronto

June 13, 2026

Qatar  1–1  Switzerland Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara

June 18, 2026

Switzerland  4–1  Bosnia and Herzegovina SoFi Stadium, Inglewood
Canada  6–0  Qatar BC Place, Vancouver

June 24, 2026

Switzerland  2–1  Canada BC Place, Vancouver
Bosnia and Herzegovina  3–1  Qatar Lumen Field, Seattle

Group C

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 <u>Brazil</u>	3	2	1	0	7	1	+6	7 ^[a]	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	 <u>Morocco</u>	3	2	1	0	6	3	+3	7 ^[a]	
3	 <u>Scotland</u>	3	1	0	2	1	4	−3	3	
4	 <u>Haiti</u>	3	0	0	3	2	8	−6	0	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

Notes:

- a. Tied on head-to-head result (Brazil 1–1 Morocco). Overall goal difference was used as the tiebreaker.

June 13, 2026

Brazil  1–1  Morocco MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford
Haiti  0–1  Scotland Gillette Stadium, Foxborough

June 19, 2026

Scotland  0–1  Morocco Gillette Stadium, Foxborough
Brazil  3–0  Haiti Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia

June 24, 2026

Scotland  0–3  Brazil Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens
Morocco  4–2  Haiti Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta

Group D

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 <u>United States (H)</u>	3	2	0	1	8	4	+4	6	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	 <u>Australia</u>	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4 ^[a]	
3	 <u>Paraguay</u>	3	1	1	1	2	4	−2	4 ^[a]	
4	 <u>Turkey</u>	3	1	0	2	3	5	−2	3	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

(H) Hosts

Notes:

- a. Tied on head-to-head result (Paraguay 0–0 Australia). Overall goal difference was used as the tiebreaker.

June 12, 2026

United States  4–1  Paraguay SoFi Stadium, Inglewood

June 13, 2026

Australia  2–0  Turkey BC Place, Vancouver

June 19, 2026

United States  2–0  Australia Lumen Field, Seattle
Turkey  0–1  Paraguay Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara

June 25, 2026

Turkey 
Paraguay 

3–2
0–0

 United States
 Australia

SoFi Stadium, Inglewood
Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara

Group E

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 Germany	3	2	0	1	10	4	+6	6 ^[a]	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	 Ivory Coast	3	2	0	1	4	2	+2	6 ^[a]	
3	 Ecuador	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4	
4	 Curaçao	3	0	1	2	1	9	−8	1	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

Notes:

a. Head-to-head result: Germany 2–1 Ivory Coast.

June 14, 2026

Germany  7–1
Ivory Coast  1–0

 Curaçao
 Ecuador

NRG Stadium, Houston
Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia

June 20, 2026

Germany  2–1
Ecuador  0–0

 Ivory Coast
 Curaçao

BMO Field, Toronto
Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City

June 25, 2026

Curaçao  0–2
Ecuador  2–1

 Ivory Coast
 Germany

Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia
MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford

Group F

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 Netherlands	3	2	1	0	10	4	+6	7	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	 Japan	3	1	2	0	7	3	+4	5	
3	 Sweden	3	1	1	1	7	7	0	4	
4	 Tunisia	3	0	0	3	2	12	−10	0	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

June 14, 2026

Netherlands  2–2
Sweden  5–1

 Japan
 Tunisia

AT&T Stadium, Arlington
Estadio BBVA, Guadalupe

June 20, 2026

Netherlands  5–1
Tunisia  0–4

 Sweden
 Japan

NRG Stadium, Houston
Estadio BBVA, Guadalupe

June 25, 2026

Japan  1–1
Tunisia  1–3

 Sweden
 Netherlands

AT&T Stadium, Arlington
Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City

Group G

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 Belgium	3	1	2	0	6	2	+4	5 ^[a]	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	 Egypt	3	1	2	0	5	3	+2	5 ^[a]	
3	 Iran	3	0	3	0	3	3	0	3	
4	 New Zealand	3	0	1	2	4	10	−6	1	

Source: [FIFA \(https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings\)](https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings)

Notes:

- a. Tied on head-to-head result (Belgium 1–1 Egypt). Overall goal difference was used as the tiebreaker.

June 15, 2026

Belgium 	1–1	 Egypt	Lumen Field, Seattle
Iran 	2–2	 New Zealand	SoFi Stadium, Inglewood

June 21, 2026

Belgium 	0–0	 Iran	SoFi Stadium, Inglewood
New Zealand 	1–3	 Egypt	BC Place, Vancouver

June 26, 2026

Egypt 	1–1	 Iran	Lumen Field, Seattle
New Zealand 	1–5	 Belgium	BC Place, Vancouver

Group H

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 Spain	3	2	1	0	5	0	+5	7	Advance to knockout stage
2	 Cape Verde	3	0	3	0	2	2	0	3	
3	 Uruguay	3	0	2	1	3	4	–1	2^[a]	
4	 Saudi Arabia	3	0	2	1	1	5	–4	2^[a]	

Source: [FIFA \(https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings\)](https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings)

Notes:

- a. Tied on head-to-head result (Saudi Arabia 1–1 Uruguay). Overall goal difference was used as the tiebreaker.

June 15, 2026

Spain 	0–0	 Cape Verde	Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta
Saudi Arabia 	1–1	 Uruguay	Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens

June 21, 2026

Spain 	4–0	 Saudi Arabia	Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta
Uruguay 	2–2	 Cape Verde	Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens

June 26, 2026

Cape Verde 	0–0	 Saudi Arabia	NRG Stadium, Houston
Uruguay 	0–1	 Spain	Estadio Akron, Zapopan

Group I

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	 France	3	3	0	0	10	2	+8	9	Advance to knockout stage
2	 Norway	3	2	0	1	8	7	+1	6	
3	 Senegal	3	1	0	2	8	6	+2	3	
4	 Iraq	3	0	0	3	1	12	–11	0	

Source: [FIFA \(https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings\)](https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings)

June 16, 2026

France 	3–1	 Senegal	MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford
Iraq 	1–4	 Norway	Gillette Stadium, Foxborough

June 22, 2026

France 	3–0	 Iraq	Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia
Norway 	3–2	 Senegal	MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford

June 26, 2026

Norway 	1–4	 France	Gillette Stadium, Foxborough
Senegal 	5–0	 Iraq	BMO Field, Toronto

Group J

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	Argentina	3	3	0	0	8	1	+7	9	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	Austria	3	1	1	1	6	6	0	4 ^[a]	
3	Algeria	3	1	1	1	5	7	-2	4 ^[a]	
4	Jordan	3	0	0	3	3	8	-5	0	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

Notes:

- a. Tied on head-to-head result (Algeria 3–3 Austria). Overall goal difference was used as the tiebreaker.

June 16, 2026

Argentina	3–0	Algeria	Arrowhead Stadium, <u>Kansas City</u>
Austria	3–1	Jordan	Levi's Stadium, <u>Santa Clara</u>

June 22, 2026

Argentina	2–0	Austria	AT&T Stadium, <u>Arlington</u>
Jordan	1–2	Algeria	Levi's Stadium, <u>Santa Clara</u>

June 27, 2026

Algeria	3–3	Austria	Arrowhead Stadium, <u>Kansas City</u>
Jordan	1–3	Argentina	AT&T Stadium, <u>Arlington</u>

Group K

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	Colombia	3	2	1	0	4	1	+3	7	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	Portugal	3	1	2	0	6	1	+5	5	
3	DR Congo	3	1	1	1	4	3	+1	4	
4	Uzbekistan	3	0	0	3	2	11	-9	0	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

June 17, 2026

Portugal	1–1	DR Congo	NRG Stadium, <u>Houston</u>
Uzbekistan	1–3	Colombia	Estadio Azteca, <u>Mexico City</u>

June 23, 2026

Portugal	5–0	Uzbekistan	NRG Stadium, <u>Houston</u>
Colombia	1–0	DR Congo	Estadio Akron, <u>Zapopan</u>

June 27, 2026

Colombia	0–0	Portugal	Hard Rock Stadium, <u>Miami Gardens</u>
DR Congo	3–1	Uzbekistan	Mercedes-Benz Stadium, <u>Atlanta</u>

Group L

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	England	3	2	1	0	6	2	+4	7	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	Croatia	3	2	0	1	5	5	0	6	
3	Ghana	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4	
4	Panama	3	0	0	3	0	4	-4	0	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)

June 17, 2026

England	4–2	Croatia	AT&T Stadium, <u>Arlington</u>
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June 23, 2026	Ghana 	1–0	 Panama	BMO Field, Toronto
	England 	0–0	 Ghana	Gillette Stadium, Foxborough
June 27, 2026	Panama 	0–1	 Croatia	BMO Field, Toronto
	Panama 	0–2	 England	MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford
	Croatia 	2–1	 Ghana	Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia

Ranking of third-place teams

The specific matchups involving the third-place teams depended on which eight third-place teams qualified for the round of 32, but not on their relative rankings. The 495 possible combinations were published in Annex C of the tournament regulations.^[134]

Pos	Grp	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	K	 DR Congo	3	1	1	1	4	3	+1	4	Advance to <u>knockout stage</u>
2	F	 Sweden	3	1	1	1	7	7	0	4	
3	L	 Ghana	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4 ^[a]	
4	E	 Ecuador	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4 ^[a]	
5	B	 Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	1	1	1	5	6	−1	4	
6	J	 Algeria	3	1	1	1	5	7	−2	4	
7	D	 Paraguay	3	1	1	1	2	4	−2	4	
8	I	 Senegal	3	1	0	2	8	6	+2	3	
9	G	 Iran	3	0	3	0	3	3	0	3	
10	A	 South Korea	3	1	0	2	2	3	−1	3	
11	C	 Scotland	3	1	0	2	1	4	−3	3	
12	H	 Uruguay	3	0	2	1	3	4	−1	2	

Source: FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/standings>)
Rules for classification: 1) Points; 2) Goal difference; 3) Goals scored; 4) Team conduct ("fair play") score; 5) Latest FIFA ranking (June 11, 2026); 6) Previous FIFA ranking(s) report.
Notes:

- a. Team conduct score: Ghana −3, Ecuador −5.

Knockout stage

The knockout stage uses a single-elimination format, starting with the newly introduced round of 32 on June 28 and culminating with the final on July 19 and a match for third place the day before. If the score is level after normal playing time in a match, 30 minutes of extra time are added. If still tied after this, a penalty shootout determines the team that prevails.^[134]

Bracket

Round of 32	Round of 16	Quarterfinals	Semifinals	Final
June 29 – Foxborough  Germany 1 (3)  Paraguay (p) 1 (4) June 30 – East Rutherford  France 3  Sweden 0 June 28 – Inglewood  South Africa 0  Canada 1 June 29 – Guadalupe  Netherlands 1 (2)	July 4 – Philadelphia  Paraguay 0  France 1 July 4 – Houston  Canada 0  Morocco 3	July 9 – Foxborough  France 2  Morocco 0		July 14 – Arlington

Morocco (p)	1 (3)					France	0
July 2 – Toronto						Spain	2
Portugal	2	July 6 – Arlington					
Croatia	1	Portugal	0				
July 2 – Inglewood		Spain	1	July 10 – Inglewood			
Spain	3			Spain	2		
Austria	0			Belgium	1		
July 1 – Santa Clara							
United States	2	July 6 – Seattle					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	United States	1				
July 1 – Seattle		Belgium	4				
Belgium (a.e.t.)	3						
Senegal	2						
June 29 – Houston							
Brazil	2	July 5 – East Rutherford					
Japan	1	Brazil	1				
June 30 – Arlington		Norway	2				
Ivory Coast	1			July 11 – Miami Gardens			
Norway	2			Norway	1		
June 30 – Mexico City				England (a.e.t.)	2		
Mexico	2	July 5 – Mexico City					
Ecuador	0	Mexico	2				
July 1 – Atlanta		England	3				
England	2						
DR Congo	1						
July 3 – Miami Gardens							
Argentina (a.e.t.)	3	July 7 – Atlanta					
Cape Verde	2	Argentina	3				
July 3 – Arlington		Egypt	2				
Australia	1 (2)			July 11 – Kansas City			
Egypt (p)	1 (4)			Argentina (a.e.t.)	3		
July 2 – Vancouver				Switzerland	1		
Switzerland	2	July 7 – Vancouver					
Algeria	0	Switzerland (p)	0 (4)				
July 3 – Kansas City		Colombia	0 (3)				
Colombia	1						
Ghana	0						

July 19 – East Rutherford		
Spain		
Argentina		

Match for third place		
July 18 – Miami Gardens		
France		
England		

Round of 32

June 28, 2026
12:00 p.m. UTC-7

South Africa

0-1
[Report 1]

Canada
Eustáquio ⚽ 90+2'

SoFi Stadium, Inglewood
Attendance: 69,237
Referee: João Pinheiro (Portugal)

June 29, 2026
12:00 p.m. UTC-5

Brazil
Casemiro ⚽ 56'
Martinelli ⚽ 90+5'

2-1
[Report 2]

Japan
Sano ⚽ 29'

NRG Stadium, Houston
Attendance: 68,777
Referee: Maurizio Mariani (Italy)

June 29, 2026
4:30 p.m. UTC-4

Germany
Havertz ⚽ 54'

1-1 (a.e.t.)
[Report 3]

Paraguay
Enciso ⚽ 42'

Gillette Stadium, Foxborough
Attendance: 63,945
Referee: Jalal Jayed (Morocco)

Penalties
3-4

Havertz ❌
Kimmich ✅
Musiala ✅
Woltemade ❌
Amiri ✅
Tah ❌

Maurício ✅
G. Gómez ✅
Galarza ✅
Sanabria ❌
Balbuena ❌
Canale ✅

June 29, 2026
7:00 p.m. UTC-6

Netherlands
Gakpo ⚽ 72'

1-1 (a.e.t.)
[Report 4]

Morocco
Diop ⚽ 90+1'

Estadio BBVA, Guadalupe
Attendance: 51,243
Referee: Wilton Sampaio (Brazil)

Penalties
2-3

Koopmeiners ✅

❌ El Aynaoui

Kluivert ❌
Weghorst ✅
Timber ❌
Summerville ❌

Rahimi ✅
Talbi ✅
Hakimi ❌
Saibari ✅

June 30, 2026 12:00 p.m. <u>UTC-5</u>	Ivory Coast 🇳🇬 Diallo ⚽ 74'	1-2 [Report 5]	Norway 🇳🇴 Nusa ⚽ 39' Haaland ⚽ 86'	AT&T Stadium, Arlington Attendance: 69,665 Referee: <u>Jesús Valenzuela</u> (Venezuela)
June 30, 2026 5:00 p.m. <u>UTC-4</u>	France 🇫🇷 Mbappé ⚽ 45', 74' Barcola ⚽ 53'	3-0 [Report 6]	Sweden 🇸🇪	MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford Attendance: 80,663 Referee: <u>Danny Makkellie</u> (Netherlands)
June 30, 2026 8:00 p.m. <u>UTC-6</u> ^[Y]	Mexico 🇲🇽 Quiñones ⚽ 22' Jiménez ⚽ 31'	2-0 [Report 7]	Ecuador 🇪🇨	Estadio Azteca, Mexico City Attendance: 80,824 Referee: <u>Slavko Vinčić</u> (Slovenia)
July 1, 2026 12:00 p.m. <u>UTC-4</u>	England 🇬🇧 Kane ⚽ 75', 86'	2-1 [Report 8]	DR Congo 🇨🇩 Cipenga ⚽ 7'	Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta Attendance: 68,239 Referee: <u>Adham Makhadmeh</u> (Jordan)
July 1, 2026 1:00 p.m. <u>UTC-7</u>	Belgium 🇧🇪 Lukaku ⚽ 86' Tielemans ⚽ 89', 120+5' (pen.)	3-2 (a.e.t.) [Report 9]	Senegal 🇸🇳 Diarra ⚽ 25' I. Sarr ⚽ 51'	Lumen Field, Seattle Attendance: 66,925 Referee: <u>Saíd Martínez</u> (Honduras)
July 1, 2026 5:00 p.m. <u>UTC-7</u>	United States 🇺🇸 Balogun ⚽ 45' Tillman ⚽ 82'	2-0 [Report 10]	Bosnia and Herzegovina 🇸🇦	Levi's Stadium, Santa Clara Attendance: 68,827 Referee: <u>Raphael Claus</u> (Brazil)
July 2, 2026 12:00 p.m. <u>UTC-7</u>	Spain 🇪🇸 Oyarzabal ⚽ 36', 89' Porro ⚽ 66'	3-0 [Report 11]	Austria 🇦🇹	SoFi Stadium, Inglewood Attendance: 70,492 Referee: <u>Glenn Nyberg</u> (Sweden)
July 2, 2026 7:00 p.m. <u>UTC-4</u>	Portugal 🇵🇹 Ronaldo ⚽ 68' (pen.) Ramos ⚽ 90+4'	2-1 [Report 12]	Croatia 🇦🇷 Perišić ⚽ 53'	BMO Field, Toronto Attendance: 43,036 Referee: <u>Espen Eskås</u> (Norway)
July 2, 2026 8:00 p.m. <u>UTC-7</u>	Switzerland 🇨🇭 Embolo ⚽ 10' Ndoye ⚽ 46'	2-0 [Report 13]	Algeria 🇩🇿	BC Place, Vancouver Attendance: 52,497 Referee: <u>Yael Falcón</u> (Argentina)
July 3, 2026 1:00 p.m. <u>UTC-5</u>	Australia 🇦🇺 Hany ⚽ 55' (o.g.) Souttar ❌ Irvine ✅ Mabil ✅ Herrington ❌	1-1 (a.e.t.) [Report 14] Penalties 2-4	Egypt 🇪🇬 Ashour ⚽ 13' Saber ✅ Rabia ✅ Salah ✅ Abdelmaguid ✅	AT&T Stadium, Arlington Attendance: 70,244 Referee: <u>Gustavo Tejera</u> (Uruguay)
July 3, 2026 6:00 p.m. <u>UTC-4</u>	Argentina 🇦🇷 Messi ⚽ 29' Li. Martínez ⚽ 92' Diney ⚽ 111' (o.g.)	3-2 (a.e.t.) [Report 15]	Cape Verde 🇨🇻 D. Duarte ⚽ 59' Lopes Cabral ⚽ 103'	Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens Attendance: 64,478 Referee: <u>Drew Fischer</u> (Canada)
July 3, 2026 8:30 p.m. <u>UTC-5</u>	Colombia 🇨🇴 J. Arias ⚽ 14'	1-0 [Report 16]	Ghana 🇬🇭	Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City Attendance: 69,045

Referee: [Clément Turpin \(France\)](#)

Round of 16

July 4, 2026 12:00 p.m. UTC-5	Canada 	0-3 [Report 17]	Morocco  Ounahi ⚽ 50', 82' Rahimi ⚽ 90+8'	NRG Stadium, Houston Attendance: 68,777 Referee: Michael Oliver (England)
July 4, 2026 5:00 p.m. UTC-4	Paraguay 	0-1 [Report 18]	France  Mbappé ⚽ 70' (pen.)	Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia Attendance: 68,324 Referee: Ilgiz Tantashev (Uzbekistan)
July 5, 2026 4:00 p.m. UTC-4	Brazil  Neymar ⚽ 90+10' (pen.)	1-2 [Report 19]	Norway  Haaland ⚽ 79', 90'	MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford Attendance: 80,663 Referee: Ismail Elfath (United States)
July 5, 2026 7:00 p.m. UTC-6 ^[Z]	Mexico  Quiñones ⚽ 42' Jiménez ⚽ 69' (pen.)	2-3 [Report 20]	England  Bellingham ⚽ 36', 38' Kane ⚽ 60' (pen.)	Estadio Azteca, Mexico City Attendance: 80,824 Referee: Alireza Faghani (Australia)
July 6, 2026 2:00 p.m. UTC-5	Portugal 	0-1 [Report 21]	Spain  Merino ⚽ 90+1'	AT&T Stadium, Arlington Attendance: 70,649 Referee: Anthony Taylor (England)
July 6, 2026 5:00 p.m. UTC-7	United States  Tillman ⚽ 31'	1-4 [Report 22]	Belgium  De Ketelaere ⚽ 9', 33' Vanaken ⚽ 57' Lukaku ⚽ 90+3'	Lumen Field, Seattle Attendance: 66,925 Referee: Adham Makhadmeh (Jordan)
July 7, 2026 12:00 p.m. UTC-4	Argentina  Romero ⚽ 79' Messi ⚽ 83' Fernández ⚽ 90+2'	3-2 [Report 23]	Egypt  Ibrahim ⚽ 15' Ziko ⚽ 67'	Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta Attendance: 68,239 Referee: François Letexier (France)
July 7, 2026 1:00 p.m. UTC-7	Switzerland  Khaka  Amdouni  Akanji  Itten  Vargas 	0-0 (a.e.t.) [Report 24] Penalties 4-3	Colombia  Quintero  Sánchez  Campaz  Hernández  Díaz 	BC Place, Vancouver Attendance: 52,497 Referee: Iván Barton (El Salvador)

Quarterfinals

July 9, 2026 4:00 p.m. UTC-4	France  Mbappé ⚽ 60' Dembélé ⚽ 66'	2-0 [Report 25]	Morocco 	Gillette Stadium, Foxborough Attendance: 63,811 Referee: Facundo Tello (Argentina)
July 10, 2026 12:00 p.m. UTC-7	Spain  Fabián ⚽ 30' Merino ⚽ 88'	2-1 [Report 26]	Belgium  De Ketelaere ⚽ 41'	SoFi Stadium, Inglewood Attendance: 70,492 Referee: Michael Oliver (England)
July 11, 2026 5:00 p.m. UTC-4	Norway  Schjelderup ⚽ 36'	1-2 (a.e.t.) [Report 27]	England  Bellingham ⚽ 45+2', 93'	Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens Attendance: 64,478 Referee: Clément Turpin (France)
July 11, 2026 8:00 p.m. UTC-5	Argentina  Mac Allister ⚽ 10'	3-1 (a.e.t.) [Report 28]	Switzerland  Ndoye ⚽ 67'	Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City Attendance: 69,045 Referee: João Pinheiro (Portugal)

Alvarez 🏆 112'
La. Martínez 🏆 120+1'

Semifinals

July 14, 2026
2:00 p.m. UTC−5

France 🇫🇷

0–2

[\[Report 29\]](#)

Spain 🇪🇸

Oyarzabal 🏆 22' (pen.)

Porro 🏆 58'

AT&T Stadium, Arlington

Attendance: 70,176

Referee: Iván Barton (El Salvador)

July 15, 2026
3:00 p.m. UTC−4

England 🇬🇧

1–2

[\[Report 30\]](#)

Argentina 🇦🇷

Fernández 🏆 85'

La. Martínez 🏆 90+2'

Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta

Attendance: 68,239

Referee: Ismail Elfath (United States)

Match for third place

July 18, 2026
5:00 p.m. UTC−4

France 🇫🇷

Match 103

[\[Report 31\]](#)

🇬🇧 England

Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens

Referee: Jesús Valenzuela

(Venezuela)

Final

July 19, 2026
3:00 p.m. UTC−4

Spain 🇪🇸

Match 104

[\[Report 32\]](#)

Argentina 🇦🇷

MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford

Referee: Slavko Vinčić (Slovenia)

Statistics

Goalscorers

There have been 297 goals scored in 102 matches, for an average of 2.91 goals per match (as of July 15, 2026).^[137] Players highlighted in **bold** are still active in the competition.

8 goals

▪ **Argentina** **Lionel Messi**

▪ **France** **Kylian Mbappé**

7 goals

▪ **Denmark** **Erling Haaland**

6 goals

▪ **England** **Jude Bellingham**

▪ **England** **Harry Kane**

5 goals

▪ **France** **Ousmane Dembélé**

▪ **Spain** **Mikel Oyarzabal**

4 goals

▪ **Brazil** **Vinícius Júnior**

▪ **Senegal** **Ismaila Sarr**

▪ **Mexico** **Julián Quiñones**

3 goals

▪ **Argentina** **Lautaro Martínez**

▪ **Germany** **Deniz Undav**

▪ **Netherlands** **Charles De Ketelaere**

▪ **Mexico** **Raúl Jiménez**

▪ **Netherlands** **Romelu Lukaku**

▪ **Senegal** **Ismael Saibari**

▪ **Brazil** **Matheus Cunha**

▪ **France** **Brian Brobbey**

▪ **Canada** **Jonathan David**

▪ **France** **Cody Gakpo**

▪ **Congo** **Yoane Wissa**

▪ **Australia** **Elijah Just**

▪ **Germany** **Kai Havertz**

▪ **Portugal** **Cristiano Ronaldo**

-  [Johan Manzambi](#)

2 goals

-  [Riyad Mahrez](#)
-  [Enzo Fernández](#)
-  [Marko Arnautović](#)
-  [Youri Tielemans](#)
-  [Leandro Trossard](#)
-  [Ermin Mahmić](#)
-  [Cyle Larin](#)
-  [Daniel Muñoz](#)
-  [Emam Ashour](#)
-  [Mostafa Ziko](#)
-  [Bradley Barcola](#)
-  [Ramin Rezaeian](#)
-  [Amad Diallo](#)
-  [Nicolas Pépé](#)
-  [Daichi Kamada](#)

1 goal

-  [Rafik Belghali](#)
-  [Nadhir Benbouali](#)
-  [Amine Gouiri](#)
-  [Julián Alvarez](#)
-  [Giovani Lo Celso](#)
-  [Alexis Mac Allister](#)
-  [Lisandro Martínez](#)
-  [Cristian Romero](#)
-  [Nestory Irankunda](#)
-  [Connor Metcalfe](#)
-  [Saša Kalajdžić](#)
-  [Marcel Sabitzer](#)
-  [Romano Schmid](#)
-  [Kevin De Bruyne](#)
-  [Alexis Saelemaekers](#)
-  [Hans Vanaken](#)
-  [Kerim Alajbegović](#)
-  [Jovo Lukić](#)
-  [Casemiro](#)
-  [Gabriel Martinelli](#)
-  [Neymar](#)
-  [Promise David](#)
-  [Stephen Eustáquio](#)
-  [Nathan Saliba](#)
-  [Deroy Duarte](#)
-  [Sidny Lopes Cabral](#)
-  [Kevin Pina](#)
-  [Hélio Varela](#)
-  [Jhon Arias](#)
-  [Jaminton Campaz](#)
-  [Luis Díaz](#)
-  [Martin Baturina](#)
-  [Ante Budimir](#)

-  [Folarin Balogun](#)

-  [Ayase Ueda](#)
-  [Azzedine Ounahi](#)
-  [Soufiane Rahimi](#)
-  [Crysencio Summerville](#)
-  [Habib Diarra](#)
-  [Pape Gueye](#)
-  [Mikel Merino](#)
-  [Pedro Porro](#)
-  [Yasin Ayari](#)
-  [Anthony Elanga](#)
-  [Breel Embolo](#)
-  [Dan Ndoye](#)
-  [Rubén Vargas](#)
-  [Malik Tillman](#)
-  [Maximiliano Araújo](#)

-  [Petar Musa](#)
-  [Ivan Perišić](#)
-  [Petar Sučić](#)
-  [Nikola Vlašić](#)
-  [Livano Comenencia](#)
-  [Ladislav Krejčí](#)
-  [Michal Sadílek](#)
-  [Brian Cipenga](#)
-  [Fiston Mayele](#)
-  [Nilson Angulo](#)
-  [Gonzalo Plata](#)
-  [Yasser Ibrahim](#)
-  [Mahmoud Saber](#)
-  [Mohamed Salah](#)
-  [Trézéguet](#)
-  [Anthony Gordon](#)
-  [Marcus Rashford](#)
-  [Désiré Doué](#)
-  [Nathaniel Brown](#)
-  [Jamal Musiala](#)
-  [Felix Nmecha](#)
-  [Leroy Sané](#)
-  [Nico Schlotterbeck](#)
-  [Derrick Luckassen](#)
-  [Caleb Yirenkyi](#)
-  [Wilson Isidor](#)
-  [Mohammad Mohebi](#)
-  [Aymen Hussein](#)
-  [Franck Kessié](#)
-  [Junya Itō](#)
-  [Daizen Maeda](#)
-  [Keito Nakamura](#)
-  [Kaishū Sano](#)

-  [Ali Olwan](#)
-  [Nizar Al-Rashdan](#)
-  [Musa Al-Taamari](#)
-  [Mateo Chávez](#)
-  [Álvaro Fidalgo](#)
-  [Luis Romo](#)
-  [Issa Diop](#)
-  [Achraf Hakimi](#)
-  [Gessime Yassine](#)
-  [Virgil van Dijk](#)
-  [Jan Paul van Hecke](#)
-  [Finn Surman](#)
-  [Thelo Aasgaard](#)
-  [Antonio Nusa](#)
-  [Leo Østigård](#)
-  [Marcus Holmgren Pedersen](#)
-  [Andreas Schjelderup](#)
-  [Julio Enciso](#)
-  [Matías Galarza](#)
-  [Maurício](#)
-  [Rafael Leão](#)
-  [Nuno Mendes](#)
-  [João Neves](#)
-  [Gonçalo Ramos](#)
-  [Hassan Al-Haydos](#)
-  [Abdulah Al-Amri](#)

-  [John McGinn](#)
-  [Ibrahim Mbaye](#)
-  [Iliman Ndiaye](#)
-  [Thapelo Maseko](#)
-  [Teboho Mokoena](#)
-  [Hwang In-beom](#)
-  [Oh Hyeon-gyu](#)
-  [Álex Baena](#)
-  [Fabián Ruiz](#)
-  [Lamine Yamal](#)
-  [Viktor Gyökeres](#)
-  [Alexander Isak](#)
-  [Mattias Svanberg](#)
-  [Granit Xhaka](#)
-  [Hazem Mastouri](#)
-  [Omar Rekik](#)
-  [Kaan Ayhan](#)
-  [Arda Güler](#)
-  [Barış Alper Yılmaz](#)
-  [Sebastian Berhalter](#)
-  [Alex Freeman](#)
-  [Giovanni Reyna](#)
-  [Auston Trusty](#)
-  [Agustín Canobbio](#)
-  [Abbosbek Fayzullaev](#)
-  [Eldor Shomurodov](#)

1 own goal

-  [Cameron Burgess](#) (against United States)
-  [Diney](#) (against Argentina)
-  [Aymen Hussein](#) (against Norway)
-  [Yazan Al-Arab](#) (against Austria)
-  [Yassine Bounou](#) (against Haiti)
-  [Damián Bobadilla](#) (against United States)
-  [Mahmud Abunada](#) (against Bosnia and Herzegovina)
-  [Mohamed Manai](#) (against Canada)
-  [Hassan Al-Tambakti](#) (against Spain)
-  [Miro Muheim](#) (against Qatar)
-  [Ellyes Skhiri](#) (against Netherlands)
-  [Abduvohid Nematov](#) (against Portugal)

2 own goals

-  [Mohamed Hany](#) (against Belgium and Australia)

Discipline

A player or team official is automatically suspended for the next match of the tournament for the following offenses:^[134]

- Receiving a red card (red card suspensions may be extended for serious offenses).
- Receiving two yellow cards in the tournament.^[AA] This yellow card count is reset after the completion of the group stage and again after the quarterfinals.^[138] Resets do not apply to suspensions; a player whose yellow card count reaches two in the match immediately before a reset is still suspended for the next match.^[139]

During qualification, [Cristiano Ronaldo](#) was sent off for violent conduct in Portugal's penultimate match against the [Republic of Ireland](#), with such an offense typically resulting in a ban of at least two matches. Ronaldo was handed a three-match ban, though the final two matches of the ban were suspended for a one-year probationary period, making him eligible to appear in Portugal's opening World Cup match.^[140] On May 8, 2026, the Bureau of the [FIFA Council](#) amended the tournament regulations so that pending one- or two-match suspensions resulting from red cards for two yellow cards, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, or serious foul play

during qualification would no longer be carried forward to the final competition.^[141] This exempted Argentina's Nicolás Otamendi, Ecuador's Moisés Caicedo, and Qatar's Tarek Salman from serving their qualifying-round suspensions during the tournament, with the bans to instead be served in a subsequent competition.^[142]

During the round of 32, United States player Folarin Balogun was sent off, and was expected to be banned for the forthcoming round of 16 game against Belgium. Following lobbying from U.S. president Donald Trump,^[143] FIFA suspended the ban.^[144] The Royal Belgian Football Association, Belgium manager Rudi Garcia, and UEFA were critical of the decision.^{[145][146]}

The following suspensions were accumulated during the tournament:^{[147][148]}

Tournament suspensions for players and team officials

Player	Offense(s)	Suspension(s)
 <u>Sphephelo Sithole</u>	 in <u>Group A</u> vs <u>Mexico</u> (matchday 1; June 11)	<u>Group A</u> vs <u>Czech Republic</u> (matchday 2; June 18)
 <u>Themba Zwane</u>	 in <u>Group A</u> vs <u>Mexico</u> (matchday 1; June 11)	<u>Group A</u> vs <u>Czech Republic</u> (matchday 2; June 18) <u>Group A</u> vs <u>South Korea</u> (matchday 3; June 24) <u>Round of 32</u> vs <u>Canada</u> (June 28) ^[149]
 <u>César Montes</u>	 in <u>Group A</u> vs <u>South Africa</u> (matchday 1; June 11)	<u>Group A</u> vs <u>South Korea</u> (matchday 2; June 18)
 <u>Teboho Mokoena</u>	 in <u>Group A</u> vs <u>Mexico</u> (matchday 1; June 11)  in <u>Group A</u> vs <u>Czech Republic</u> (matchday 2; June 18)	<u>Group A</u> vs <u>South Korea</u> (matchday 3; June 24)
 <u>Tarik Muharemović</u>	 in <u>Group B</u> vs <u>Switzerland</u> (matchday 2; June 18)	<u>Group B</u> vs <u>Qatar</u> (matchday 3; June 24)
 <u>Homam Ahmed</u>	 in <u>Group B</u> vs <u>Canada</u> (matchday 2; June 18)	<u>Group B</u> vs <u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u> (matchday 3; June 24)
 <u>Assim Madibo</u>	 in <u>Group B</u> vs <u>Canada</u> (matchday 2; June 18)	<u>Group B</u> vs <u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u> (matchday 3; June 24) <i>Last 4 matches of suspension to be served outside this tournament</i> ^[150]
 <u>Miguel Almiron</u>	 in <u>Group D</u> vs <u>Turkey</u> (matchday 2; June 19)	<u>Group D</u> vs <u>Australia</u> (matchday 3; June 25)
 <u>Nathan Ngoy</u>	 in <u>Group G</u> vs <u>Iran</u> (matchday 2; June 21)	<u>Group G</u> vs <u>New Zealand</u> (matchday 3; June 26)
 <u>Sidny Lopes Cabral</u>	 in <u>Group H</u> vs <u>Spain</u> (matchday 1; June 15)  in <u>Group H</u> vs <u>Uruguay</u> (matchday 2; June 21)	<u>Group H</u> vs <u>Saudi Arabia</u> (matchday 3; June 26)
 <u>Diego Gómez</u>	 in <u>Group D</u> vs <u>United States</u> (matchday 1; June 12)  in <u>Group D</u> vs <u>Australia</u> (matchday 3; June 25)	<u>Round of 32</u> vs <u>Germany</u> (June 29)
 <u>Rebin Sulaka</u>	 in <u>Group I</u> vs <u>Senegal</u> (matchday 3; June 26)	<i>Suspension to be served outside this tournament</i>
 <u>Agustín Canobbio</u>	 in <u>Group H</u> vs <u>Spain</u> (matchday 3; June 26)	<i>Suspension to be served outside this tournament</i>
 <u>Mohanad Lasheen</u>	 in <u>Group G</u> vs <u>New Zealand</u> (matchday 2; June 21)  in <u>Group G</u> vs <u>Iran</u> (matchday 3; June 26)	<u>Round of 32</u> vs <u>Australia</u> (July 3)
 <u>Piero Hincapié</u>	 in <u>Round of 32</u> vs <u>Mexico</u> (June 30)	<i>Suspension to be served outside this tournament</i>
 <u>Folarin Balogun</u>	 in <u>Round of 32</u> vs <u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u> (July 1)	<i>Ban suspended</i> ^[144]
 <u>Jarell Quansah</u>	 in <u>Round of 16</u> vs <u>Mexico</u> (July 5)	<u>Quarterfinals</u> vs <u>Norway</u> (July 11) <u>Semifinals</u> vs <u>Argentina</u> (July 15) ^[151]
 <u>Saafan El-Sagheer</u> (goalkeeping coach)	 in <u>Round of 16</u> vs <u>Argentina</u> (July 7)	<i>Suspension to be served outside this tournament</i> ^[152]
 <u>Breel Embolo</u>	  in <u>Quarterfinals</u> vs <u>Argentina</u> (July 11)	<i>Suspension to be served outside this tournament</i>

Tournament ranking

Per statistical convention in soccer, matches decided in extra time are counted as wins and losses, while matches decided by penalty shootouts are counted as draws.

Pos	Grp	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Final result
1			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Champion
2			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Runner-up
3			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Third place
4			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fourth place
5	I	 Norway	6	4	0	2	13	11	+2	12	Eliminated in quarterfinals
6	G	 Belgium	6	3	2	1	14	7	+7	11	
7	C	 Morocco	6	3	2	1	10	6	+4	11	
7	B	 Switzerland	6	3	2	1	10	6	+4	11	
9	A	 Mexico (H)	5	4	0	1	10	3	+7	12	Eliminated in round of 16
10	K	 Colombia	5	3	2	0	5	1	+4	11	
11	C	 Brazil	5	3	1	1	10	4	+6	10	
12	D	 United States (H)	5	3	0	2	11	8	+3	9	
13	K	 Portugal	5	2	2	1	8	3	+5	8	
14	B	 Canada (H)	5	2	1	2	9	6	+3	7	
15	G	 Egypt	5	1	3	1	8	7	+1	6	
16	D	 Paraguay	5	1	2	2	3	6	-3	5	
17	F	 Netherlands	4	2	2	0	11	5	+6	8	Eliminated in round of 32
18	E	 Germany	4	2	1	1	11	5	+6	7	
19	E	 Ivory Coast	4	2	0	2	5	4	+1	6	
20	L	 Croatia	4	2	0	2	6	7	-1	6	
21	F	 Japan	4	1	2	1	8	5	+3	5	
22	D	 Australia	4	1	2	1	3	3	0	5	
23	K	 DR Congo	4	1	1	2	5	5	0	4	
24	L	 Ghana	4	1	1	2	2	3	-1	4	
25	E	 Ecuador	4	1	1	2	2	4	-2	4	
25	A	 South Africa	4	1	1	2	2	4	-2	4	
27	F	 Sweden	4	1	1	2	7	10	-3	4	
28	J	 Austria	4	1	1	2	6	9	-3	4	
29	B	 Bosnia and Herzegovina	4	1	1	2	5	8	-3	4	
30	J	 Algeria	4	1	1	2	5	9	-4	4	
31	I	 Senegal	4	1	0	3	10	9	+1	3	
32	H	 Cape Verde	4	0	3	1	4	5	-1	3	
33	G	 Iran	3	0	3	0	3	3	0	3	Eliminated in group stage
34	A	 South Korea	3	1	0	2	2	3	-1	3	
35	D	 Turkey	3	1	0	2	3	5	-2	3	
36	C	 Scotland	3	1	0	2	1	4	-3	3	
37	H	 Uruguay	3	0	2	1	3	4	-1	2	
38	H	 Saudi Arabia	3	0	2	1	1	5	-4	2	
39	A	 Czech Republic	3	0	1	2	2	6	-4	1	
40	G	 New Zealand	3	0	1	2	4	10	-6	1	

41	<u>B</u>	 <u>Qatar</u>	3	0	1	2	2	10	−8	1
42	<u>E</u>	 <u>Curaçao</u>	3	0	1	2	1	9	−8	1
43	<u>L</u>	 <u>Panama</u>	3	0	0	3	0	4	−4	0
44	<u>J</u>	 <u>Jordan</u>	3	0	0	3	3	8	−5	0
45	<u>C</u>	 <u>Haiti</u>	3	0	0	3	2	8	−6	0
46	<u>K</u>	 <u>Uzbekistan</u>	3	0	0	3	2	11	−9	0
47	<u>F</u>	 <u>Tunisia</u>	3	0	0	3	2	12	−10	0
48	<u>I</u>	 <u>Iraq</u>	3	0	0	3	1	12	−11	0

Updated to match(es) played on July 11, 2026. Source: FIFA^[153]
(H) Hosts

Awards

Prize money

In April 2026, FIFA confirmed the prizes for all participating nations, with a total distribution for the expanded tournament of \$871 million, nearly double the previous tournament. Of this total, \$671 million was allocated for performance-based prizes, with the remaining \$200 million paid out among teams regardless of performance. Each qualified team received preparation money in the amount of \$2.5 million; combining this with an elimination in the group stage, the minimum total amount received per team was \$12.5 million, with the winner receiving \$52.5 million.^{[154][155][156]}

Performance-based prize money

Place	Teams	Amount (in millions)	
		Per team	Total
Champion	1	\$50	\$50
Runner-up	1	\$33	\$33
Third place	1	\$29	\$29
Fourth place	1	\$27	\$27
5th–8th place (quarterfinals)	4	\$19	\$76
9th–16th place (round of 16)	8	\$15	\$120
17th–32nd place (round of 32)	16	\$11	\$176
33rd–48th place (group stage)	16	\$10	\$160
Total	48	\$671	

Individual and team awards

The following awards are to be presented at the end of the tournament.^[157]

- Golden Boot: Awarded to the tournament's top goal scorer.
- Golden Glove: Awarded to the tournament's best goalkeeper.
- Golden Ball: Awarded to the best overall player of the tournament.
- FIFA Young Player Award: Awarded to the best overall player of the tournament under the age of 21.
- FIFA Fair Play Trophy: Awarded to the team with the best disciplinary record that reached the knockout stage.

Additionally, a "Superior Player of the Match" award is presented after each fixture to the player deemed to have delivered the most outstanding performance and greatest impact in that match. The recipient is selected through a public online vote conducted by FIFA. The award is sponsored by Michelob Ultra.^[158] Muslim players, such as Mohamed Salah and Lamine Yamal, received a brandless trophy, out of respect to views on alcohol in Islam.^{[159][160]}

Marketing

Branding

The official emblem and brand identity was unveiled on May 17, 2023, at the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles, California; its basic form consists of a stacked "26" with an image of the FIFA World Cup Trophy in front of it. This is the first time that the trophy has been depicted in a World Cup emblem as a photo, as opposed to a stylized representation.^{[161][162]} The next day, FIFA unveiled brand identities for each host city, which incorporate color variants and designs that reflect local landscapes or culture. For example, the Los Angeles branding features a stylized sun and wave, Monterrey features the Cerro de la Silla mountain, and Toronto features the city skyline and the CN Tower.^{[163][164]}

Reaction to the logo from the initial unveiling was largely negative, with many feeling that the design was either unfinished or uncreative compared to the emblems of past FIFA World Cup tournaments. Others, such as United States player Jesús Ferreira, described the emblem as "beautiful".^{[162][165][166]}

In March and April 2025, FIFA unveiled a set of 16 posters representing each of the 2026 World Cup host cities. The posters, designed by local artists, were intended to reflect the "distinct identity and heritage" of each host city.^{[167][168]} On March 3, 2026, the official poster was unveiled. For the first time, three artists combined their artistic styles to create the official poster: Carson Ting (Canada), Minerva GM (Mexico), and Hank Willis Thomas (United States).^[169]

Broadcasting rights

On February 12, 2015, FIFA renewed the United States and Canadian broadcasting rights contracts for Fox Sports (U.S. English), Telemundo Deportes (U.S. Spanish), and Bell Media (Canada) to cover the 2026 World Cup, without accepting any other bids. A report in The New York Times asserted that this extension was intended as compensation for the rescheduling of the 2022 World Cup to November–December rather than its traditional June–July scheduling, as it created considerable conflicts with major professional sports leagues that are normally in their offseasons during the World Cup.^{[170][171][172]}

The International Broadcast Center (IBC) is located at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas.^{[173][174][175]} Bell Media constructed a broadcast studio at Jack Poole Plaza in Vancouver for the tournament (mirroring an arrangement used by Fox during the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup), which originated TSN/CTV's coverage from June 11 through July 7 (the final match played in the city).^[176]

On January 8, 2026, FIFA signed a deal to make TikTok a "preferred platform" for World Cup video content. As part of the agreement, broadcasters may stream parts of matches at a dedicated hub on the TikTok app.^[177] FIFA then made a similar "preferred platform" deal with YouTube on March 17, allowing broadcasters to stream select matches in full on their respective YouTube channels, as well as stream the first 10 minutes of every match on the platform as "an appetizer encouraging young fans then to watch on traditional channels".^[178]

A number of internet content creators have also been involved in coverage of the tournament; in Brazil, Casimiro Miguel's CazéTV renewed its digital rights to the World Cup in Brazil, streaming all matches on its YouTube channel.^{[179][180]} American influencer IShowSpeed has conducted streams from matches during the tournament, and later reached an agreement with Fox Sports to offer altcasts of selected matches on Fox One and its YouTube channel featuring his streams combined with the Fox telecasts.^{[181][182][183]}



Countdown clock on Paseo de la Reforma, Mexico City in September 2025



Official poster



Bell Media broadcast studio located at Jack Poole Plaza in Vancouver. TSN is the primary broadcaster, while select matches are on CTV and Crave in Canada.

Sponsorships

FIFA-level sponsorship tiers include partners, sponsors, and supporters. There are also regional supporters by geography.

Advertising

On May 7, 2026, Adidas released *Backyard Legends: the Greatest Football Story Ever Told*, a 5-minute short film.^{[184][185]} On June 4, 2026, Nike released *Rip The Script*, a 6-minute short film.^{[186][187]}

FIFA fan festivals

FIFA is staging fan festivals in cities across the host nations, featuring matches on giant screens and live entertainment.^[188] Among the confirmed fan fest locations are Liberty State Park in Jersey City,^[188] the National World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri,^[189] Fairmount Park in Philadelphia,^[190] Fort York and The Bentway in Toronto,^[191] Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta,^[192] East Downtown Houston,^[193] and the Pacific National Exhibition in Vancouver, Canada.^[194]



Fan Festival at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum during the U.S. team's first match of the tournament. 📷

Tickets

Ticket prices for the 2026 FIFA World Cup initially ranged from \$60 for group stage matches to \$6,730 for the final—largely increased from the USD equivalent of \$69 to \$1,607 in the 2022 FIFA World Cup. However, in September 2025, FIFA confirmed it would use dynamic pricing for tickets for the first time, following the practice used in the 2025 FIFA Club World Cup.^[195] Hospitality seats were made available in April 2025 via FIFA's ticket partner for the event.^[196]

An initial draw period for non-hospitality seats occurred between September 10–19, 2025, limited to Visa cardholders. A second phase ran from October 27–31, 2025, and a third phase started after the final draw of teams on December 5. Sales are capped at four tickets per person per match, and no person is able to purchase more than 40 tickets for the overall tournament. FIFA's official resale platform went live on October 2, 2025.^{[195][197]}

A final "last-minute" sales phase reopened on April 22, 2026, approximately 50 days before the start of the tournament, with tickets for all 104 matches made available on a first-come, first-served basis. By that stage, more than five million tickets had been sold out of an expected total exceeding six million, with additional tickets scheduled to be released in phases up to the final, subject to availability.^[198]

Every city hosting the World Cup in the United States has passed a law stating that ticket sales to World Cup events are exempt from state and local sales taxes.^{[199][200][201]}

Attendance

The tournament set the record for the highest cumulative attendance in World Cup history. On June 25, 2026, during the Group E match between Ecuador and Germany at MetLife Stadium, total attendance reached 3,605,357 spectators. This surpassed the previous record of 3,587,538,^[7] which had been held for 32 years by the 1994 FIFA World Cup, also hosted in the United States. The record was broken with 44 matches remaining in the tournament.^[202] Across the first 60 matches, venues operated at an average occupancy rate of 99.7%.^{[203][204]} Additionally, a single-day World Cup attendance record was established on June 16, 2026, when 281,223 fans attended four group stage matches.^[205]

Merchandise

Video games

On October 2, 2025, FIFA announced the video game *FIFA Heroes*, scheduled for release in 2026 on Android, iOS, Nintendo Switch, PlayStation, and Xbox platforms.^[206]

In May 2026, the *Football Manager 26* video game also announced the addition of licensed 2026 FIFA World Cup content.^[207]

In December 2025, [Netflix](#) announced a new simulation-type game featuring the World Cup, produced by Delphi Interactive and Refactor Games.^{[208][209]} In May 2026, it was announced the Netflix-published game would be titled "[FIFA World Cup: Launch Edition](#)" and would be released in June 2026.^[210]

In the same May 2026 announcement, FIFA also confirmed that they would adopt a non-exclusive "Digital Football" ecosystem, with games of various genres adopting the FIFA license. Alongside the new World Cup game, were mentioned *FIFA Heroes*, *FIFA Rivals*, *FIFA Super Soccer*, *Football Manager*, *eFootball* and *Rocket League*, with more games joining the ecosystem in the following months.^{[210][211]}

Other products

[Panini sticker albums](#) were again announced for the 2026 World Cup. Due to the expansion of the tournament, each pack now contains seven stickers as opposed to the usual 5. In the United States and Canada, a set of 12 stickers was reserved for stickers that could only be obtained from Coca-Cola bottles, with each bottle containing a sticker printed inside the label.^[212] In May 2026, it was announced that the 2026 World Cup would be Panini's second-to-last tournament with a sticker album, after FIFA announced that [Fanatics](#) (via their [Topps](#) brand) would distribute collectables for FIFA tournaments from 2031.^[213]

In conjunction with the tournament, the [Lego Group](#) released a series of officially licensed FIFA World Cup 2026-themed construction sets. The collection included models of the FIFA World Cup Trophy, the official tournament emblem, a brick-built [Adidas Trionda](#) soccer ball containing a miniature stadium, and player-focused sets based on soccer players [Cristiano Ronaldo](#), [Lionel Messi](#), [Kylian Mbappé](#), and [Vinícius Júnior](#). Several sets featured hidden references to the players' careers, alternative display poses, and commemorative World Cup-themed designs.^{[214][215]} To promote the product line, Lego organized FIFA World Cup 2026-themed activations in several markets, including a soccer festival and pop-up experience in [Singapore](#). The events featured interactive soccer challenges, soccer-themed Lego builds, displays of player-inspired models, and promotional giveaways tied to the World Cup collection.^{[216][217]}



A pop-up truck selling FIFA 2026 merchandise at [Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco](#)

Symbols

Mascots

The official mascots of the tournament were revealed on September 25, 2025, and are [Maple](#), [Zayu](#) and [Clutch](#). Maple is a [moose](#), Zayu is a [jaguar](#), and Clutch is a [bald eagle](#), representing Canada, Mexico, and the United States, respectively.^[218] They were designed to reflect the cultural heritage of their respective countries.^[219]



The tournament mascots: Maple the Moose, Zayu the Jaguar, and Clutch the Bald Eagle

Match ball

On May 2, 2025, reports surfaced that the match ball would be called the "[Adidas Trionda](#)". The design features red, green, and blue (the three colors representing Canada, Mexico, and the United States, respectively, and also featured on the host countries' flags), as well as a white wave connecting each of the colors, hence the name using the [Spanish](#) words for three (*tri*) and wave (*onda*).^[220] The design also features the national symbols of the three host countries (a [maple leaf](#) for Canada, a [golden eagle](#) for Mexico, and a [five-pointed star](#) for the United States) as well as gold embellishments to represent the [World Cup Trophy](#).^[221] Later it was officially announced by Adidas on October 2, 2025.

On June 11, 2026, and in preparation for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, [NASA](#) conducted experiments aboard the International Space Station using soccer balls to study how mass distribution and embedded sensor technology affect ball motion and stability in microgravity. According to NASA, the research contributed to the development and evaluation of technologies used in the 2026 FIFA World Cup official match ball.^[222] The Trionda Final was announced by Adidas on July 6, 2026 as the official match ball to be used for the semifinals and [final](#). It features a gold, black, and red color scheme, with the host cities' names printed on it.^[223]

Music

The tournament's official instrumental theme music was composed by Zachary Aaron Golden. Throughout March 2025, FIFA released remixes of the theme for each host city by local producers.^[224]

The official song "Dai Dai" by Colombian singer Shakira and Nigerian singer Burna Boy was released on May 15, 2026,^[225] followed by the official anthem "DNA (More Than a Game)" by French producer David Guetta, featuring Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli, South Korean-American singer Ejae, and American rapper Megan Thee Stallion, on June 10, 2026.^[226]

The official soundtrack album was released on June 5, 2026, with its first single "Lighter" by American country rap performer Jelly Roll and Mexican singer Carín León having been released on March 20, 2026; the song had garnered a mixed reception from listeners and critics, with some having falsely assumed that it was meant to be the tournament's official song before "Dai Dai" was released.^{[227][228][229]}

Instrumental song "Sirius" by British rock band the Alan Parsons Project, known for having been played at Chicago Bulls home games since 1984, was used as the theme song for the entrances of the national teams before each match during the first matchday of the group stage.^{[230][231]} For all subsequent matches, a special walkout remix of "Dai Dai" is used.^[232]



Adidas Trionda, the match ball 📷



Adidas Trionda Final, used from the semifinals onwards. 📷

Controversies

The tournament has been accompanied by a number of controversies relating to political, logistical, environmental, and human rights issues, particularly over the United States' immigration and visa policies affecting teams and fans, Iran's participation amid the ongoing conflict, security concerns surrounding drug cartel violence in Mexico, FIFA's use of dynamic ticket pricing, the suspension of Folarin Balogun's red card,^[233] the application of the new rules and technology, and various other controversies.

See also

- 2026 FIFA U-17 World Cup
- 2026 FIFA Intercontinental Cup
- 2026 FIFA Series

 Association football portal

Notes

- A. Also marketed as **FIFA World Cup 26**^[1] and **FIFA World Cup 2026**^[2]
- B. Attributed to multiple references:^{[23][24][25]}
- C. Attributed to multiple references:^{[31][32][33]}
- D. Attributed to multiple references:^{[3][36][37]}
- E. Attributed to multiple references:^{[53][54][55][56][57]}
- F. The current sponsorship names for Arrowhead Stadium and Estadio Azteca (GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium and Estadio Banorte, respectively) were replaced not with their historical non-sponsor names but with the names of their cities.
- G. Where two names are given, the first is the metropolitan area and the second is the specific municipality.
- H. Curaçao is the smallest country by area and the least populous to qualify for the World Cup. Excluding teams from the United Kingdom, Curaçao is also the first team representing a non-sovereign nation to qualify for the World Cup since the Dutch East Indies (currently Indonesia) in 1938.

- I. Until 1991, Uzbekistan was part of the Soviet Union, which competed at seven World Cup tournaments. Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Uzbekistan became the third former Soviet republic to compete as an independent nation after Russia (1994, 2002, 2014 and 2018) and Ukraine (2006). FIFA considers Russia to be the successor team of the Soviet Union.
- J. From 1971 to 1997, DR Congo competed as Zaire. This was the first time the country competed as DR Congo.
- K. Recognized as IR Iran by FIFA
- L. Recognized as Korea Republic by FIFA
- M. Recognized as Cabo Verde by FIFA
- N. Recognized as Congo DR by FIFA
- O. Recognized as Côte d'Ivoire by FIFA
- P. Recognized as USA by FIFA
- Q. Recognized as Czechia by FIFA
- R. Recognized as Türkiye by FIFA
- S. The number in parentheses indicates the FIFA ranking of teams as of November 19, 2025.^[104]
- T. The winners of the UEFA playoffs and inter-confederation playoffs were not known at the time of the draw, as those matches were held on 26 and 31 March 2026.
- U. The placeholder for the inter-confederation playoff Pathway 1 winner adhered to the confederation restrictions of a CAF, CONCACAF, or OFC team.
- V. The placeholder for the inter-confederation playoff Pathway 2 winner adhered to the confederation restrictions of an AFC, CONCACAF, or CONMEBOL team.
- W. Attributed to multiple references:^{[105][106][107][108]}
- X. When there were two or more teams tied on points, criteria a to c were applied. After these criteria were applied, they may have defined the position of some of the teams involved, but not all of them. For example, if there was a three-way tie on points, the application of the first three criteria may only have broken the tie for one of the teams, leaving the other two teams still tied. In this case, the tiebreaking procedure was resumed, from the beginning, for those teams that were still tied.
- Y. The Mexico v Ecuador match, originally scheduled for 7:00 p.m. UTC–6, was delayed by an hour due to adverse weather conditions.^[135]
- Z. The Mexico v England match, originally scheduled for 6:00 p.m. UTC–6, was delayed by an hour due to adverse weather conditions.^[136]
- AA. As yellow cards are not carried forward to penalty shootouts, players may be shown two yellow cards in the same match without being sent off. However, this would result in a suspension for accumulating two yellow cards during the tournament.

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 - [Official Canada website](https://canadasoccer.com/fifa-world-cup-2026/) (<https://canadasoccer.com/fifa-world-cup-2026/>)
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