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ITF Global Tennis Report 2019  •  3
It is my very great pleasure to introduce the *ITF Global Tennis Report 2019*, the largest survey of worldwide tennis participation and performance ever undertaken by the ITF.

This report is unique in its scale and findings, and the start of a new journey that we are embarking on with our member nations to learn more about the tennis landscape than we ever have before.

I am delighted to say that we now estimate that 87 million people – 1.17% of the world’s population – play tennis and therefore share our enthusiasm for a sport that really is for everyone, for life. There are so many other fascinating insights within these pages which give us a new view of the state of the game at a national, regional and global level.

When the ITF launched the ITF2024 strategy three years ago, we placed development at the centre of our vision for tennis. Without new players from all parts of the world, either enjoying our sport recreationally or competing at the highest level, tennis will not thrive today or in the future.

One of the central aims of the ITF’s 2017-2020 Development Strategy is to increase global participation in tennis for all ages, genders, playing standards and physical abilities. The other core objective for us is to develop talented players, particularly those from nations that are both under-resourced and under-represented.

To achieve both those things, we need data so that we can set clear goals. With support from our National Associations in compiling this report, we now have that data. Better still, we have harnessed new technologies which mean that we will be able to update the survey on a regular basis, thus building a valuable picture of changes in the tennis landscape over time.

So, although publishing the *ITF Global Tennis Report 2019* marks the end of the process of collating the data and making it available publicly, in many ways it is just the beginning. And for the present, we have a renewed focus as we continue to develop the sport we all love.

My sincere thanks go to everyone involved in creating this report. I hope you find it interesting reading.

“This report is unique in its scale and findings, and the start of a new journey that we are embarking on with our member nations to learn more about the tennis landscape than we ever have before.”
Welcome to the *ITF Global Tennis Report 2019*. We are delighted to share its findings with you and hope that you find them as fascinating as we do.

This report is a game-changer for the ITF and its member nations. We have never collected tennis data on this scale before. This is the first time that we have been able to present such a complete picture of the worldwide tennis landscape.

A core objective of the ITF’s 2017-2020 Development Strategy is to increase participation in tennis worldwide for all ages, genders, playing standards and physical abilities. We want our strategy to be data-driven and metrics-based and this report makes that possible. It is the result of greater engagement with our National Associations and our creation of digital tools that make it easier for nations to tell us about tennis participation in their countries.

Historically, the ITF collected tennis participation data from its member nations through the National Association Development Plan but this was limited to nations who were receiving financial support from the ITF Development Programme. This much more ambitious report was born when we took the National Association Development Plan online in 2017 and asked all nations to complete it. By the end of 2017, from the Plan and the separate Global Participation Survey, we had data from 150 nations. In 2018 we collected data via the online National Association Development Plan again, and an unprecedented 195 nations took part.

Alongside this, the ITF has produced performance reports for each National Association using 2017 tournament and ranking data held in our comprehensive results database. This means that we have been able to provide performance data to each nation alongside their participation data, reporting across a set of key measures.
“The combined participation and performance reports give our nations new insight into the tennis landscape within their countries.”

The combined participation and performance reports give our nations new insight into the tennis landscape within their countries and provide comparisons with other nations both globally and within the same Development Eligibility Tier (which guides funding applications within the ITF Development Programme). The ITF has analysed them to find key global and regional trends, producing some striking headline figures. Both the global and national findings are presented in the ITF Global Tennis Report 2019.

The data contained in these pages enables the ITF to measure the impact of our investment in growing and retaining participation in the sport, and helps us to target that investment better. For National Associations, there is now greater understanding of the importance of this insight and its value when planning development and performance programmes.

But the benefits of the report go beyond that. We have worked with our member nations to discover how to improve the way tennis participation data is measured and collected in each country, which leads to more reliable data being captured.

With the process digitalised, we can now survey nations on a regular basis using the initial findings as a benchmark, to monitor the effectiveness of our strategies and gain a better understanding of how the tennis landscape is evolving.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our participation team for their work in creating this report: Miguel Crespo, Head of Participation and Coaching; Tim Jones, Project Lead Participation; and our group of dedicated data scientists. It is a huge step forward for the sport of tennis and gives the ITF a clear idea of where we are now and the work still to be done.
Key findings

**TENNIS PLAYERS**

- **87m** tennis players globally
- **47%** of tennis players are female
- **1.17%** of the world’s population plays tennis

**ACCESS TO TENNIS**

- **71,000** tennis clubs globally
- **489,000** tennis courts globally

**TENNIS DELIVERY**

- **164,000** tennis coaches globally
- **21%** of tennis coaches are female
Key findings

**Junior Grand Slam Tournament Main Draw Representation**

49 nations were represented by a total of 210 players in junior Grand Slam tournament main draws in 2017.

**Total Players Ranked**

A total of 6,382 junior players were ranked in 2017 (3,187 male and 3,195 female).

A total of 3,873 professional players were ranked in 2017 (2,348 male and 1,525 female).

**Players Ranked in Junior Top 100**

59 nations had at least one boy or one girl ranked in the Top 100.

**Players Ranked in Professional Top 100**

55 nations had at least one male or one female ranked in the Top 100.

**Junior to Professional Conversion Speed (Weeks)**

On average, female players transitioned from the junior Top 100 to the professional Top 100 77 weeks faster than male players.

Female players: 222.6 weeks

Male players: 300.2 weeks
HOW PARTICIPATION DATA WAS COLLECTED

The data presented in the participation section of each National Association report contained in this publication was collated via the online ITF National Association Development Plan and the ITF Global Participation Study in 2017. National Associations provided us with information related to the size of their tennis-playing population, the accessibility of tennis play (through tennis clubs and tennis courts) and the number of ‘deliverers’ of tennis (tennis coaches).

Out of 210 ITF member nations, 195 responded to provide their specific participation data. Where a nation’s data varied between the National Association Development Plan and the Global Participation Study, the highest value was used.

The results are the ITF’s first-ever national participation reports, which enable National Associations to gain a high-level view of the state of participation in their nation. We intend to regularly update these reports to help both the sport and our member nations track the development trends in tennis over time.

The participation section of each National Association report presents that country’s tennis landscape in three key areas, covering 11 variables:

**The tennis players**
- Total number of tennis players
- Percentage of population that plays tennis
- Tennis player gender balance

**The access to tennis**
- Total number of tennis clubs
- Number of tennis clubs per 1,000 people
- Total number of tennis courts
- Number of tennis courts per 1,000 people

**The tennis delivery**
- Total number of tennis coaches
- Number of tennis coaches per 1,000 tennis players
- Tennis coach gender balance

- The level of ITF recognition of national coach education systems (the ITF has criteria to ensure minimum standards for coach education delivery in a nation)

A nation’s outcome in each variable was reported relative to other nations in the same ITF Development Eligibility Tier, as well as in comparison with the top ranked nation globally.

A NOTE ON ITF DEVELOPMENT ELIGIBILITY TIERS

Each ITF member National Association is assessed for its eligibility to benefit from components of the ITF Development programme. The Development Eligibility criteria is based on two elements, resources and representation, and full details can be found in Appendix H page 561.

Using these criteria, each nation is categorised in one of four tiers, from Tier 1 which indicates nations that require most support through to Tier 4, which describes nations that meet the full resource and representation criteria and have a greater degree of tennis maturity and a lower requirement for development support. Tier 4 nations are therefore not eligible to access specific ITF development projects. A full explanation of Eligibility Tiers is provided in Appendix H page 561.

A tier midpoint, a maximum value and a series of percentiles were defined for all variables except for the recognition of coach education systems variable. These are shown within the participation section, in each nation’s respective report.

The tier maximum describes the best outcome of nations in that Eligibility Tier. The tier mid-point represents the median outcome of nations in that Eligibility Tier. If nations in a tier were sorted from smallest to largest based on their outcome in a given variable, the median would represent the middle nation/value. Percentiles corresponding to the lower, middle and upper 33% of scores for the 10 variables enable a nation’s outcome to be classified as under-performing (red), typical (orange) and out-performing (green) for their tier.
What we've learnt: participation
The global tennis-playing landscape

TOTAL TENNIS PLAYER POPULATION

National Associations provided us with a figure for the number of known unique tennis players that they considered to have played tennis on at least one occasion. These individuals were a combination of licensed players, club members and tournament players. Data on each of these players was required to come from either a primary source (participation data from the National Association), secondary source (other official sources for participation data in the country, ie, from government data, independent reports), or an estimate.

- There are over 87 million tennis players globally, with 99% of the world’s playing population coming from 31 nations.

See Appendix A page 441 for the cumulative total distributions for total tennis players.

See Fig 1

- By continent, Asia has the most tennis players (>33 million), contributing 37.9% of the world’s tennis population.
- Over 92% of the playing population globally is from 3 regions: North America, Europe and Asia.

See Fig 2

PERCENTAGE OF THE WORLD’S POPULATION THAT PLAYS TENNIS

Using each nation’s tennis player numbers, we calculated tennis players as a percentage of their nation’s population (using United Nations population data from 2017).

- 1.17% of the world’s population plays tennis.
- The Oceania region has the highest percentage of its population playing tennis (6.2%).

See Appendix B page 467 for the global population by nation and for global population by region.

See Fig 3

TENNIS PLAYER GENDER BALANCE

The percentage of a nation’s tennis-playing population which is female. This was only calculated if a nation was able to provide a breakdown of male and female players.

- 46.9% of the sport’s playing population is female, with North America being the only region that has more females than males playing (54.5%).
- Africa, Central America & Caribbean and Oceania have a similar percentage of female players – between 33.7% and 38.3%.
- Tier 4 nations have the highest and most gender-balanced playing populations. See page 10 and Appendix H page 561 for more detail about ITF Development Eligibility Tiers.

See Fig 4
What we’ve learnt: participation

**Fig 1. Tennis players globally by nation (%)**

- China 22.5
- USA 20.7
- India 9.2
- Germany 7.0
- Great Britain 6.1
- Japan 5.0
- France 4.6
- Spain 3.4
- Russia 2.7
- Brazil 2.6
- Canada 2.5
- Australia 2.5
- Italy 2.3
- Argentina 1.1
- Netherlands 1.1
- Mexico 0.7
- Switzerland 0.6
- 14 Nations 4.1

**Fig 2. Tennis players globally by region (%)**

- Africa 0.1
- Asia 37.9
- Central America & Caribbean 0.7
- Europe 31.2
- North America 23.2
- Oceania 2.8
- South America 4.1

**Fig 3. Percentage of regional population that plays tennis (%)**

- Africa 0.01
- Asia 0.76
- Central America & Caribbean 0.29
- Europe 3.21
- North America 5.65
- Oceania 6.20
- South America 0.84

**Fig 4. Percentage of tennis players who are female by region (%)**

- Africa
- Asia
- Central America & Caribbean
- Europe
- North America
- Oceania
- South America

14 Nations 4.1%

Korea, Republic of Czech Republic
Austria
Sweden
New Zealand
Poland
Belgium
Colombia
Hong Kong, China
Indonesia
Hungary
Israel
Portugal
Finland

ITF Global Tennis Report 2019 • 13
The global landscape for access to tennis

TOTAL NUMBER OF TENNIS CLUBS

The number of tennis clubs, comprising both ‘affiliated’ and ‘non-affiliated’ clubs. Affiliated clubs are tennis facilities and/or clubs that have a formal registration with their National Association. Non-Affiliated clubs are tennis facilities and/or clubs which do not.

- There are 71,263 tennis clubs in 137 nations globally, with 32 nations contributing over 95% of these tennis clubs.
- More than 85% of tennis clubs are located in 3 regions: Europe, Asia and North America.

See Fig 5

See Appendix A page 448 for the cumulative total distributions for total tennis clubs.

See Fig 6

RATIO OF TOTAL TENNIS CLUBS TO WORLD POPULATION

Using each nation’s tennis club numbers, we calculated the total number of tennis clubs relative to a nation’s population (using United Nations population data from 2017). Results are shown per 1,000 population.

- For every tennis club globally, there are 41,006 people or 771 tennis players.
- The Oceania region has the highest proportion of tennis clubs relative to its population (0.1 clubs per 1,000 population, or 11,016 people per tennis club).

See Fig 7 and 8
What we’ve learnt: participation

**Fig 5.** Tennis clubs globally by nation (%)

- USA 17.1
- Germany 12.9
- France 10.9
- Vietnam 10.3
- Brazil 6.3
- Korea, Rep 6.2
- Italy 4.6
- Great Britain 4.5
- Australia 3.3
- Netherlands 2.5
- Austria 2.3
- Czech Republic 1.7
- Spain 1.7
- Poland 1.4
- Switzerland 1.4
- Belgium 1.1
- Sweden 0.6
- New Zealand 0.6
- Denmark 0.6
- 13 Nations 5.0

13 Nations 5.0%
- Mexico
- Romania
- Greece
- Colombia
- Russia
- Portugal
- Croatia
- Turkey
- Hungary
- Argentina
- Ireland
- Slovakia
- Serbia

**Fig 6.** Tennis clubs globally by region (%)

- Africa 0.5%
- Asia 17.8%
- Central America & Caribbean 1.2%
- Europe 51.9%
- North America 17.3%
- Oceania 4.0%
- South America 7.3%

**Fig 7.** Ratio of total tennis clubs to population by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Clubs per 1,000 population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>0.0002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>0.014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>0.004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>0.064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>0.034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>0.091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>0.130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig 8.** Ratio of population to total tennis clubs by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population per club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>556,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>70,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>246,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>22,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>29,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>11,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>74,149</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13 Nations 5.0%
- Mexico
- Romania
- Greece
- Colombia
- Russia
- Portugal
- Croatia
- Turkey
- Hungary
- Argentina
- Ireland
- Slovakia
- Serbia
The global landscape for access to tennis

continued

TOTAL NUMBER OF TENNIS COURTS

The number of tennis courts in existence around the world, both indoor and outdoor.

- There are 489,135 tennis courts globally, with more than 95% of tennis courts found in 37 nations.

See Fig 9

See Appendix A page 453 for the cumulative total distributions for total tennis courts.

- Over 90% of tennis courts globally are in 3 regions: Europe, Asia and North America.

See Fig 10

RATIO OF WORLD’S POPULATION TO TOTAL TENNIS COURTS

Using each nation’s tennis court numbers, we calculated the total number of tennis courts relative to a nation’s population (using United Nations population data from 2017). Results are shown per 1,000 population.

- There are 14,807 people or 178 players for every tennis court in the world.
- The Oceania region has the highest proportion of tennis courts relative to its population (0.6 courts per 1,000 people or 1,692 people per court).
- Asia and South America have very similar population to tennis court ratios - approximately 33,000 people per court.

See Fig 11 and 12
Fig 9. Tennis courts globally by nation (%)

Fig 10. Tennis courts globally by region (%)

Fig 11. Ratio of total tennis courts to population by region

Fig 12. Ratio of population to total tennis courts by region
TOTAL NUMBER OF TENNIS COACHES

The number of tennis coaches who are National Association-qualified or equivalent in their country.

- There are 163,548 tennis coaches working globally, with more than 90% of these coaches located in 30 nations.

See Fig 13

- 65% of tennis coaches are from Europe.

See Fig 14

See Appendix A page 460 for the cumulative total distributions for total tennis coaches.

RATIO OF TOTAL TENNIS PLAYING POPULATION TO TOTAL TENNIS COACHES

Using each nation's tennis coach numbers, we calculated the number of tennis coaches relative to a nation's tennis-playing population. Results are shown per 1,000 tennis players.

- For every tennis coach globally, there are 534 tennis players.
- Africa ranked as the region with the highest proportion of coaches relative to tennis players (29 coaches for every 1,000 players or 35 players to every tennis coach).
- South America and Europe have similar ratios of tennis coaches to tennis players (approximately 4 per 1,000).

See Fig 15 and 16

TEENNIS COACH GENDER BALANCE

To assess gender balance, we calculated the percentage of a nation's tennis coaches that are female. This was only calculated if a nation was able to provide a breakdown of male and female coaches.

- 21.4% of the world's tennis coaches are female.
- North America has the highest percentage of female coaches with 28.7%.

See Fig 17

**Fig 14. Tennis coaches globally by region (%)**

- Africa
- Asia
- Central America & Caribbean
- Europe
- North America
- Oceania
- South America
What we’ve learnt: participation

**Fig 13. Tennis coaches globally by nation (%)**

- Germany 9.2%
- Italy 7.8%
- France 7.2%
- Spain 7.2%
- Great Britain 6.4%
- Czech Republic 5.0%
- USA 4.4%
- Brazil 4.4%
- Switzerland 4.3%
- Belgium 3.6%
- Japan 2.9%
- Chinese Taipei 2.7%
- China 2.5%
- Argentina 2.2%
- Turkey 2.1%
- Netherlands 2.1%
- Canada 2.0%
- India 2.0%
- Vietnam 1.9%
- Denmark 1.8%
- Australia 1.6%
- Colombia 1.1%
- 8 Nations 5.6%

- Romania
- Portugal
- Russia
- Slovenia
- Indonesia
- Greece
- Iran
- Mexico

**Fig 15. Ratio of tennis coaches to players by region**

- Africa
- Asia
- Central America & Caribbean
- Europe
- North America
- Oceania
- South America

**Fig 16. Ratio of tennis players to coaches by region**

- Africa
- Asia
- Central America & Caribbean
- Europe
- North America
- Oceania
- South America

**Fig 17. Percentage of tennis coaches by region who are female (%)**

- Africa
- Asia
- Central America & Caribbean
- Europe
- North America
- Oceania
- South America
The global landscape for tennis delivery  
continued

**ITF RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL COACH EDUCATION SYSTEMS**

The ITF has established criteria regarding the minimum standards for coach education. Each nation can apply for a level of ITF recognition based on these criteria, and will be awarded either Bronze, Silver or Gold.

As of April 2018, the 28 National Associations shown below had achieved ITF recognition for their national coach education systems.

- Using the data in this report we now know that these 28 nations account for 43.4% of tennis players worldwide (37.9 million players) and 62.6% of tennis coaches (102,453 coaches).

In 2019, a new White level of recognition was introduced. The ITF expects many more National Associations to apply for this level of recognition in the near future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATION</th>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>RECOGNITION LEVEL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>Gold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Europe</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
<td>South America</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
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<td>Gold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>South America</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
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<table>
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<th>NATION</th>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>RECOGNITION LEVEL</th>
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<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Bronze</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What we've learnt: participation
What we’ve learnt: performance

HOW PERFORMANCE DATA WAS COLLECTED

The data presented in the performance section of each of the National Association reports was developed using rankings and tournament data from the comprehensive ITF results database.

The aim was to describe the relative performance of nations in the area of player development. 12 variables describing a nation’s professional playing base and depth, representation in Grand Slam tournaments, and track record in converting junior players into professional players were established.

By using tournament data from the ITF results database, we were able to produce for each National Association an accurate account of junior and professional player performance during 2017.

Junior players are defined as those boys and girls who held an ITF Junior Ranking between 1 January and 31 December 2017. Professional players are defined as men and women who held an ATP or WTA ranking between 1 January and 31 December 2017.

Where a player held both a junior ranking and a professional ranking within this period, they are included in the respective variables. If a player competed in both a junior Grand Slam tournament and a professional Grand Slam tournament during 2017, they are included in the respective variables.

The performance section of each National Association report presents that country’s tennis landscape in six key areas, across the established 12 variables:

**Ranked players**
- Total number of players ranked
- Players ranked in Top 250
- Players ranked in Top 100

**Grand Slam tournament representation**
- Main draw representation
- Qualifying draw representation

**Professional ranking by age**
- Professional players in Top 500 by age

**Junior to professional ranking conversion**
- Conversion rate (%)
- Conversion speed (weeks)

**Junior player ranking conversion to junior Top 100**
- Conversion rate (%)
- Conversion speed (weeks)

**Professional player ranking conversion to Top 100**
- Conversion rate (%)
- Conversion speed (weeks)

The performance reports give each nation a global ranking for each variable. A nation’s outcome in each variable is reported relative to the top ranked nation globally.

The reports also provide National Associations in Tier 4 only with comparisons with other Tier 4 nations for each performance variable. These comparisons are calculated by using the same points of reference as in the participation reports: a tier mid-point, a maximum value and a series of percentiles (see page 10 for more details).

These comparisons were not provided for Tiers 1 to 3 due to limited data for the nations in these tiers.

A full explanation of ITF Eligibility Tiers is provided in Appendix H page 561.
TOTAL NUMBER OF PLAYERS RANKED

The number of players with a junior or professional ranking in 2017.

Juniors
- A total of 6,382 players held an ITF Junior Ranking (3,187 male and 3,195 female).
- In 2017, 75% of junior players were from 36 nations.
- Europe had more junior players than any other region - 44.4%.

See Fig 18 and 19

Professionals
- A total of 3,873 players held an ATP or WTA ranking (2,348 male and 1,525 female).
- In 2017, 75% of professional players were from 24 nations.
- 59.2% of professional players were from Europe.

See Fig 20 and 21

See Appendix C page 475 for the cumulative total distributions for total ranked players.
What we’ve learnt: performance

**Fig 19. Junior ranked players globally by nation (%)**

- USA 8.6
- Russia 5.8
- Japan 3.4
- France 3.2
- India 3.2
- Canada 3.1
- Great Britain 3.0
- China 2.9
- Australia 2.7
- Italy 2.6
- Brazil 2.1
- Korea, Rep 2.1
- Argentina 2.0
- Germany 1.9
- Spain 1.8
- South Africa 1.8
- Chinese Taipei 1.7
- Sweden 1.6
- Ukraine 1.5
- Mexico 1.5
- Switzerland 1.5
- Netherlands 1.4
- Turkey 1.3

13 Nations 15.3%

**Fig 21. Professional ranked players globally by nation (%)**

- USA 8.8
- France 5.8
- Italy 5.7
- Russia 5.2
- Germany 4.6
- Spain 4.3
- Japan 4.2
- Australia 3.2
- Argentina 3.0
- China 3.0
- Great Britain 2.7
- Czech Republic 2.7
- Romania 2.4
- Ukraine 2.1
- Brazil 2.1
- India 2.1
- Switzerland 1.8
- Belgium 1.8
- Netherlands 1.7
- Poland 1.6
- Korea, Rep 1.6
- Serbia 1.4
- Canada 1.3
- Croatia 1.3

13 Nations 15.3%

Romania
Czech Republic
Israel
Poland
Colombia
Serbia

New Zealand
Indonesia
Egypt
Thailand
Kazakhstan
Chile
PLAYERS RANKED IN TOP 250

The number of players ranked in the junior Top 250 or professional Top 250 in 2017.

Juniors
- 761 junior players from 81 nations achieved a Top 250 ranking.
- 23 nations made up 74% of the Top 250 ranked junior players.
- More than 50% of players in the boys’ Top 250 were from 11 nations.
- More than 50% of players in the girls’ Top 250 were from 9 nations.

See Fig 22
- Almost 50% of players in the junior Top 250 were from Europe.

See Fig 23

Professionals
- 671 professional players from 69 nations achieved a Top 250 ranking.
- 20 nations made up 74% of the Top 250 ranked players.
- Within the Top 250, there were 341 male players from 59 nations, and 330 female players from 55 nations.
- Players from 8 nations accounted for more than 50% of the men’s Top 250.
- Players from 9 nations accounted for more than 50% of the women’s Top 250.

See Fig 24
- Over 60% of professional players (male and female combined) with a Top 250 ranking were from Europe.

See Fig 25

See Appendix D page 503 for the cumulative total distributions for players ranked in the Top 250.

---

Fig 22. Junior ranked players in the Top 250 globally by nation (%)
Fig 23. Junior ranked players in the Top 250 globally by region (%)

Fig 24. Professional ranked players in the Top 250 globally by nation (%)

Fig 25. Professional ranked players in the Top 250 globally by region (%)
PLAYERS RANKED IN TOP 100

The number of players ranked in the junior Top 100 or professional Top 100 in 2017.

Juniors
- 326 junior players from 59 nations achieved a Top 100 ranking.
- Boys from 9 nations and girls from 8 nations accounted for over 50% of their respective Top 100 rankings.
- Almost 50% of all junior players with a Top 100 ranking were from Europe.

See Fig 26 and 27

Professionals
- 276 professional players from 55 nations achieved a Top 100 ranking.
- Players from 8 nations accounted for more than 50% of both the male and female Top 100.

See Fig 28

- 44 nations had at least one player ranked in the men’s Top 100 while 40 nations were represented in the women’s Top 100.
- Irrespective of gender, over 65% of players with a Top 100 ranking were from Europe.

See Fig 29

See Appendix E page 521 for the cumulative total distributions for players ranked in the Top 100.
Fig 27. Junior ranked players in the Top 100 globally by region (%)

Fig 28. Professional ranked players in the Top 100 globally by nation (%)

Fig 29. Professional ranked players in the Top 100 globally by region (%)
MAIN DRAW REPRESENTATION

The number of players to have competed in at least one Grand Slam tournament main draw, as a direct acceptance, qualifier or lucky loser, during the period 1 January to 31 December 2017. Wild cards and special exempts (for juniors) are not included in the count.

Juniors
- A total of 210 players from 49 nations competed in junior Grand Slam tournament main draws.
- 75% of players who played in a junior Grand Slam tournament main draw were from 18 nations.
- USA had the highest proportion of players (15.2%) in junior Grand Slam tournament main draws.
- Almost 50% of players in junior Grand Slam tournament main draws were from Europe.

Professionals
- 339 players from 57 nations took part in Grand Slam tournament main draws.
- 75% of players competing in Grand Slam tournament main draws were from 18 nations.
- USA was the most represented nation in Grand Slam tournament main draws with 12.7% of players.
- Over 60% of players in Grand Slam tournament main draws were from Europe.

QUALIFYING DRAW REPRESENTATION

The number of players to have competed in at least one Grand Slam tournament qualifying draw, through direct acceptance, during the period 1 January to 31 December 2017. Wild cards and lucky losers are not included in the count.

Juniors
- Players from 34 nations contested the qualifying draws at junior Grand Slam tournaments with more than half of the players coming from 5 nations.
- Australia had the highest proportion of players in both male (18.4%) and female (17.1%) junior Grand Slam tournament qualifying draws.
- Almost two-thirds (63.3%) of players in junior Grand Slam tournament qualifying draws were from 2 regions: Europe and Asia.

Professionals
- 52 nations were represented in Grand Slam tournament qualifying draws with players from 10 nations accounting for over 50% of the entrants.
- USA had the highest proportion of players in both male (10.5%) and female (12.8%) Grand Slam tournament qualifying draws.
- Over 60% of players in Grand Slam tournament qualifying draws were from Europe.

See Appendix F page 535 for the cumulative total distributions for Grand Slam tournament main draw representation.

See Fig 30

See Fig 31

See Fig 32

See Fig 33
Fig 30. Juniors in Grand Slam main draws by region (%)

- Africa: 2.9%
- Asia: 15.2%
- Central America & Caribbean: 1.9%
- Europe: 49.1%
- North America: 16.7%
- Oceania: 7.1%
- South America: 7.1%

Fig 31. Professionals in Grand Slam main draws by region (%)

- Africa: 0.9%
- Asia: 8.9%
- Central America & Caribbean: 0.9%
- Europe: 64.0%
- North America: 14.8%
- Oceania: 4.4%
- South America: 6.2%

Fig 32. Juniors in Grand Slam qualifying draws by region (%)

- Africa: 1.3%
- Asia: 27.9%
- Central America & Caribbean: 0.0%
- Europe: 35.4%
- North America: 8.9%
- Oceania: 17.7%
- South America: 8.9%

Fig 33. Professionals in Grand Slam qualifying draws by region (%)

- Africa: 0.4%
- Asia: 14.9%
- Central America & Caribbean: 0.8%
- Europe: 60.6%
- North America: 13.3%
- Oceania: 3.3%
- South America: 6.6%
The number of professional players ranked in the Top 500 from 1 January to 31 December 2017, broken down by age.

- Players who were 25 years or older made up over 60.4% of the ATP Top 500.
- 57.9% of players in the WTA Top 500 were age 24 or younger.
- Over 90% of players in the men’s and women’s Top 500 were 19 to 32 years old.

See Fig 34
What we’ve learnt: performance
CONVERSION RATE (%)

The percentage of players who achieved a Top 100 junior ranking (between 1 January 2003 and 31 December 2012) who went on to earn a Top 100 professional ranking (by 31 December 2017).

- The percentage of girls who achieved a Top 100 junior ranking and went on to be ranked in the professional Top 100 was higher than the percentage of boys doing the same - 21.1% for girls and 12% for boys.

See Fig 35

- Top 100 juniors from Tier 4 nations were more likely to transition to the professional Top 100 than Top 100 juniors from other nations. (See Appendix H page 561 for more detail about ITF Development Eligibility Tiers.)

See Fig 36

- Europe and then North America had the highest proportion of Top 100 juniors converting to the professional Top 100.

See Fig 37

CONVERSION SPEED (WEEKS)

The average amount of time that it took players who achieved a Top 100 junior ranking (between 1 January 2003 and 31 December 2012) to earn a Top 100 professional ranking (by 31 December 2017). This is measured in weeks, from first Top 100 junior ranking date until entering the professional Top 100 for the first time.

- On average, girls were able to transition from the junior Top 100 to the professional Top 100 quicker than boys – it took 222.6 weeks for girls compared to 300.2 weeks for boys.

See Fig 38

- Top 100 girls from Africa were the slowest to transition to the professional Top 100.
- Top 100 girls from Europe were more likely to transition to the professional Top 100, and did so more quickly, than Top 100 girls from other regions.
- For boys converting from the Top 100 to the professional Top 100, Africa had the lowest conversion rate but the quickest conversion speed.

See Fig 37 and 39

Fig 35. Junior to professional conversion rate (%)

![Graph showing conversion rate by gender](image)

- Female: 21.1%
- Male: 12.0%

Fig 36. Junior to professional median tier conversion rate by ITF Development Eligibility Tier (%)

![Graph showing conversion rate by ITF Development Tiers](image)

- TIER 4: Female 21.8%, Male 20.8%
- TIER 3: Female 20.8%, Male 20.8%
- TIER 2: Female 6.3%, Male 7.7%
- TIER 1: Female 0.0%, Male 0.0%
Fig 37. Junior to professional conversion rate by region (%)

Female
- Africa: 3.7%
- Asia: 12.8%
- Central America & Caribbean: 8.3%
- Europe: 25.8%
- North America: 23.8%
- Oceania: 12.8%
- South America: 11.1%

Male
- Africa: 2.4%
- Asia: 7.8%
- Central America & Caribbean: 0.0%
- Europe: 14.4%
- North America: 13.6%
- Oceania: 10.6%
- South America: 11.2%

Fig 38. Junior to professional conversion speed by gender (weeks)

Female: 222.6 weeks
Male: 300.2 weeks

Fig 39. Junior to professional conversion speed by region (weeks)

Female
- Africa: 418 weeks
- Asia: 249.6 weeks
- Central America & Caribbean: 223 weeks
- Europe: 206.4 weeks
- North America: 239.8 weeks
- Oceania: 269.4 weeks
- South America: 338 weeks

Male
- Africa: 212 weeks
- Asia: 331.9 weeks
- Central America & Caribbean: 0.0 weeks
- Europe: 297.6 weeks
- North America: 296.1 weeks
- Oceania: 314.1 weeks
- South America: 295.3 weeks
Junior player ranking conversion to junior Top 100

CONVERSION RATE (%)

The percentage of players achieving their first junior ranking (between 1 January 2003 and 31 December 2012) who later earned a Top 100 junior ranking (by 31 December 2017).

- A similar percentage of boys (7.8%) and girls (7.4%) achieved a Top 100 junior ranking.
- Boys and girls from Tier 4 nations were more likely to transition to the junior Top 100 than players from other nations. (See Appendix H page 561 for more detail about ITF Development Eligibility Tiers.)
- Europe, North America and Oceania had the highest percentage of boys and girls achieving a Top 100 junior ranking.

See Fig 40, 41 and 42

CONVERSION SPEED (WEEKS)

The average time that it took for Top 100 ranked juniors in 2017 to break through to the junior Top 100 for the first time. This is measured in weeks, from first junior ranking until first entering the junior Top 100.

- On average, boys took 3 weeks less than girls to transition from first junior ranking to the junior Top 100 – it took 106 weeks for boys compared to 109 weeks for girls.

See Fig 43

- Girls in North America and boys in South America converted to the junior Top 100 faster than juniors from other regions.

See Fig 44

Fig 41. Junior to junior Top 100 median tier conversion rate by ITF Development Eligibility Tier (%)
What we’ve learnt: performance

**Fig 42. Junior to junior Top 100 conversion rate by region (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig 43. Junior to junior Top 100 conversion speed by gender (weeks)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>105</td>
<td>110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig 44. Junior to junior Top 100 conversion speed by region (weeks)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Junior Female</th>
<th>Junior Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>130.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>118.6</td>
<td>124.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>137.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>111.2</td>
<td>100.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>124.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>107.8</td>
<td>84.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONVERSION RATE (%)

The percentage of players achieving a professional ranking (between 1 January 2003 and 31 December 2012) who later earned a Top 100 ranking (by 31 December 2017).

- A higher percentage of females achieved a professional Top 100 ranking (6.3%) compared to males (3.5%).
- Professionally ranked players from Tier 3 and Tier 4 nations were more likely to achieve a Top 100 ranking than players from other nations. (See Appendix H page 561 for more detail about ITF Development Eligibility Tiers.)

See Fig 45 and 46

- A higher percentage of players from North America converted to the Top 100 than players from other regions.

See Fig 47

CONVERSION SPEED (WEEKS)

The average time that it took for Top 100 ranked professionals in 2017 to break through to the Top 100 for the first time. This is measured in weeks, from first junior or professional ranking until first entering the professional Top 100.

- Males and females took a similar amount of time to reach the Top 100 after earning their first ranking point - it took 259 weeks for females compared to 262 weeks for males.

See Fig 48

- Professional male players from Central America & Caribbean were the least likely and slowest to transition to the Top 100.

See Fig 47 and 49

Fig 45. Professional conversion rate to professional Top 100 by gender (%)

Female: 6.3%
Male: 3.5%

Fig 46. Professional to professional Top 100 median tier conversion rate by ITF Development Eligibility Tier (%)

Female:
- Tier 4: 7.2%
- Tier 3: 8.7%
- Tier 2: 0.0%
- Tier 1: 0.0%

Male:
- Tier 4: 4.5%
- Tier 3: 1.5%
- Tier 2: 0.0%
- Tier 1: 0.0%
Fig 47. Professional to professional Top 100 median tier conversion rate by region (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig 48. Professional to professional Top 100 conversion speed by gender (weeks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Speed (weeks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig 49. Professional to professional Top 100 conversion speed by region (weeks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>403.0</td>
<td>364.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>299.7</td>
<td>248.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>593.0</td>
<td>246.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>374.7</td>
<td>261.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>305.0</td>
<td>260.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>305.0</td>
<td>256.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>291.0</td>
<td>291.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>