

YouGov Survey: Youth Sports



Sample 2000 U.S. Adult Citizens
Conducted August 1 - 11, 2022
Margin of Error ±2.4%

1. Before you turned 18, did you ever participate in a sport, either recreationally or competitively?

| | |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | 65% |
| No | 35% |

2. Have you ever tried out for a youth sports team or league, but not made the cut?

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Yes | 23% |
| No | 74% |
| Prefer not to say | 3% |

3. Before you turned 18, which of the following sports did you participate in as part of a team, competition, or recreational league?

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Archery | 3% |
| Baseball | 23% |
| Basketball | 24% |
| Biking (cycling) | 4% |
| Bowling | 9% |
| Boxing | 3% |
| Cheerleading | 5% |
| Cross country | 4% |
| Dance | 6% |
| Disc golf | 1% |
| Equestrian (horseback riding) | 2% |
| Field hockey | 2% |
| Fishing | 4% |
| Football | 17% |
| Golf | 3% |
| Gymnastics | 5% |
| Hunting or shooting | 3% |
| Ice hockey | 2% |
| Ice skating | 3% |
| Karate | 3% |
| Lacrosse | 1% |
| Rowing | 1% |
| Rugby | 1% |
| Sailing | 1% |
| Skiing | 2% |
| Snowboarding | 1% |
| Soccer | 11% |
| Softball | 14% |
| Surfing | 1% |

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|--------------------------|-----|
| Swimming or diving | 8% |
| Taekwondo | 1% |
| Tennis | 8% |
| Track and field | 11% |
| Ultimate frisbee | 1% |
| Volleyball | 12% |
| Water polo | 1% |
| Wrestling | 5% |
| Other | 4% |
| No sports | 35% |

4. Overall, would you say your memories of youth sports are... ?

Asked of those who participated in youth sports

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Nearly all good | 32% |
| More good than bad | 33% |
| Equally good and bad | 21% |
| More bad than good | 8% |
| Nearly all bad | 2% |
| Not sure | 3% |

5. At what age did you first start participating in a sport?

Asked of those who participated in youth sports

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 5 or younger | 13% |
| 6 - 9 | 30% |
| 10 - 13 | 38% |
| 14 - 17 | 17% |
| Not sure | 2% |

6. How would you describe your experiences participating in the following youth sports?

Asked of people who participated in this sport

| | Very positive | Somewhat positive | Neither positive nor negative | Somewhat negative | Very negative | Don't remember |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Baseball | 45% | 29% | 12% | 11% | 2% | 1% |
| Basketball | 40% | 34% | 14% | 8% | 3% | 0% |
| Bowling | 52% | 28% | 10% | 4% | 4% | 2% |
| Cheerleading | 42% | 26% | 16% | 12% | 2% | 2% |
| Cross country | 39% | 34% | 13% | 11% | 2% | 0% |
| Dance | 53% | 31% | 9% | 5% | 0% | 2% |
| Football | 45% | 30% | 13% | 8% | 4% | 1% |
| Gymnastics | 43% | 28% | 17% | 7% | 1% | 5% |
| Soccer | 44% | 29% | 11% | 9% | 4% | 2% |
| Softball | 40% | 31% | 14% | 10% | 2% | 3% |
| Swimming or diving | 46% | 28% | 12% | 11% | 3% | 0% |
| Tennis | 43% | 32% | 17% | 4% | 2% | 2% |
| Track and field | 40% | 32% | 15% | 9% | 3% | 1% |
| Volleyball | 48% | 30% | 14% | 4% | 3% | 0% |
| Wrestling | 39% | 25% | 15% | 15% | 4% | 1% |

7. Before you turned 18, did you ever receive any minor or major injuries participating in the following sports?

Asked of people who participated in this sport

| | No injuries | Yes, only minor injuries | Yes, including major injuries | Don't remember |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Baseball | 62% | 30% | 6% | 2% |
| Basketball | 54% | 36% | 7% | 3% |
| Bowling | 82% | 8% | 9% | 1% |
| Cheerleading | 67% | 23% | 8% | 2% |
| Cross country | 66% | 29% | 2% | 3% |
| Dance | 70% | 16% | 12% | 2% |
| Football | 39% | 47% | 13% | 1% |
| Gymnastics | 52% | 32% | 8% | 8% |
| Soccer | 44% | 40% | 12% | 4% |
| Softball | 64% | 26% | 8% | 2% |
| Swimming or diving | 82% | 15% | 4% | 0% |
| Tennis | 78% | 13% | 6% | 3% |
| Track and field | 70% | 22% | 4% | 4% |
| Volleyball | 69% | 21% | 5% | 5% |
| Wrestling | 55% | 33% | 10% | 1% |

8. What role did your parents take in your participation in sports?

Asked of those who participated in youth sports

| | |
|--|-----|
| My parents made me play a sport | 5% |
| My parents encouraged me to play but didn't make me | 42% |
| My parents discouraged me from playing but allowed me to | 5% |
| My parents did not allow me to play a sport | 4% |
| No influence | 40% |
| Not sure | 5% |

9. Which of the following would you say describe your personal experience participating in youth sports? Select all that apply.

Asked of those who participated in a youth sport

| | |
|---|-----|
| Sports helped me stay physically active and healthy | 58% |
| Sports were fun | 64% |
| Sports taught me important life lessons | 41% |
| Sports helped me make friends | 47% |
| Sports were too competitive | 11% |
| Sports were too much of a time commitment | 12% |
| Sports were too expensive and a waste of money | 6% |
| Sports led to injuries | 8% |
| None of the above | 7% |

10. Do you feel that playing sports is generally something that comes naturally to you or not?

Asked of those who participated in a youth sport

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Comes naturally | 54% |
| Does not come naturally | 34% |
| Not sure | 12% |

11. What words describe how it feels for you to participate in a sport? Select as many as apply.

Asked of those who participated in a youth sport

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Frustrating | 18% |
| Releasing | 23% |
| Intense | 32% |
| Empowering | 33% |
| Boring | 6% |
| Exhilarating | 36% |
| Exhausting | 26% |
| Satisfying | 58% |
| Inspiring | 31% |
| Communal | 18% |
| Other | 4% |
| None of these | 4% |
| Not sure | 5% |

12. Do you wish you had played a youth sport?

Asked of those who did not play a youth sport

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Yes | 20% |
| No | 67% |
| Not sure | 13% |

13. Do you think youth sports today are...

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Very safe | 18% |
| Somewhat safe | 43% |
| Somewhat dangerous | 20% |
| Very dangerous | 4% |
| Not sure | 15% |

14. When you were growing up, do you think youth sports were...

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Very safe | 25% |
| Somewhat safe | 41% |
| Somewhat dangerous | 17% |
| Very dangerous | 4% |
| Not sure | 14% |

15. Do you agree or disagree with the following? Youth sports...

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Not sure |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| Help kids stay physically active and healthy | 48% | 42% | 3% | 1% | 5% |
| Help kids develop important social skills | 40% | 45% | 6% | 2% | 8% |
| Teach important life lessons | 34% | 46% | 7% | 3% | 10% |
| Are a good way for kids to make friends | 37% | 49% | 4% | 2% | 8% |
| Are too competitive | 16% | 32% | 29% | 11% | 11% |
| Are too big of a time commitment | 11% | 29% | 33% | 11% | 15% |
| Are too expensive and a waste of money | 9% | 19% | 42% | 16% | 15% |
| Often result in unnecessary injuries | 8% | 38% | 33% | 6% | 15% |

YouGov Survey: Youth Sports



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Interviewing Dates | August 1 - 11, 2022 |
| Target population | U.S. Citizens, aged 18 and over. |
| Sampling method | Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, geographic region, and voter registration) was selected from the 2019 American Community Survey. |
| Weighting | The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, 2020 election turnout and Presidential vote, baseline party identification, and current voter registration status. Demographic weighting targets come from the 2019 American Community Survey. Baseline party identification is the respondent's most recent answer given prior to March 15, 2022, and is weighted to the estimated distribution at that time (33% Democratic, 28% Republican). The weights range from 0.179 to 5.703, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.447. |
| Number of respondents | 2000 |
| Margin of error | ± 2.4% (adjusted for weighting) |
| Survey mode | Web-based interviews |
| Questions not reported | 43 questions not reported. |