



## 2026 World Cup breaks attendance record as fans defy heat and travel disruptions

### Description

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2026 World Cup stadium

The 2026 World Cup has [made history](#) in a big way, with FIFA announcing the highest spectator turnout in the tournamentâ??s history, surpassing the record that stood since the 1994 World Cup [in the United States](#)

## 2026 World Cup breaks old record

Total attendance at this yearâ??s tournament reached [3,605,357 spectators on 25 June, after 56 matches](#). This surpassed the previous record of 3,587,538 spectators, which was set over 52 matches [at the 1994 edition](#). Without a doubt, the world came together for this cup in record numbers.

[FIFA](#) officially announced the milestone during the match between Germany and Ecuador. This announcement during the worldâ??s biggest cup drew cheers from the crowd. The figures appeared on the stadium screens amid applause, as attendees celebrated this historic achievement.

This achievement takes on added significance as the current tournament is still in the group stage. There are 48 matches remaining before the World Cup draws to a close, and therefore, attendance is expected to continue rising ahead of the tournamentâ??s knockout stages.

## Stadiums reach near-full capacity

The [data](#) also shows that stadiums were, on average, more than 99% full. Interestingly, the cupâ??s global audience created a buzz that could be felt at every match. Despite high ticket prices and the travel challenges faced by many international fans, supporters continued to turn out in large numbers. Strong local interest across the United States and the other host nations helped keep stadiums close to

full capacity.

A few days earlier, FIFA announced that the tournament was steadily on course to break the all-time record. For fans around the world, such excitement is rare except for a major cup event like this. It had recorded the highest single-day attendance in World Cup history on 16 June, with [281,223 spectators in one day](#)

With 48 teams competing across 104 matches for the first time, the tournament is on course to finish well ahead of every previous edition, cementing its status as the largest tournament in the competition's history by teams, matches and spectator attendance.

Featured image [via Igor Batista / Unsplash](#)

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