

# Almost 35 million aquatic athletes!

FINA conducted and concluded a gigantic survey to assess the state of aquatics around the world. Based on the data supplied by the national federations, some significant findings have been presented. Perhaps the most wonderful statistic is the number of registered aquatic athletes in the world - almost 35 million. They can swim in more than 90,000 pools – besides the natural waters of course.

The 2019 FINA General Survey aimed to gather data in order to monitor, explain and examine the structure and functioning of each NF. Thanks to the previous General Survey in 2017, it was possible to have an overview of the 207 federations affiliated at that time, when 167 national federations participated. In this version FINA asked its 209 national member federations with a higher rate of response (198 NFs) and more accurate detail in their answers.

To guarantee a continuous progress and development of the six aquatic disciplines, it was essential to review and create a new version in order to be updated about the evolution of the sport and our member federations.

The FINA General Survey of NFs was undertaken by the FINA Development Department. It reviewed the 2017 questionnaire to identify which topics were the most important to revisit and compare with the picture in 2019 and which areas required further refinement and potentially new areas of questioning.

The new survey was launched on April 1, 2019, and closed on July 29. It was conducted on Google Forms and was provided on a Word Document if necessary. The expectation was 100% participation, and the continental associations participated in approaching the federations which did not answer by the survey submission deadline. This report contains the answers of 198 national member federations.

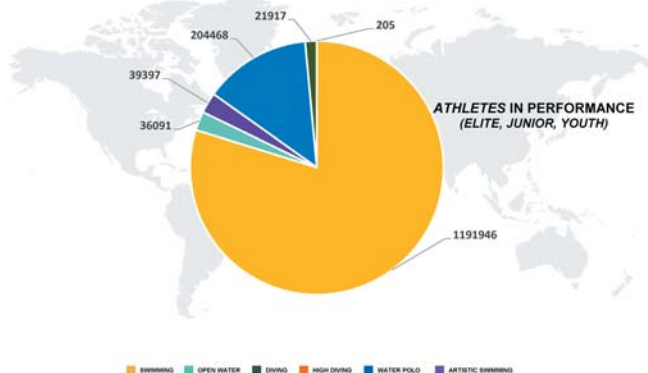
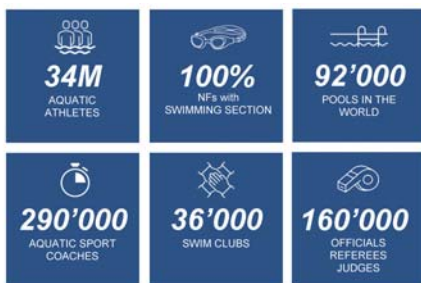
- The survey covered a range of topics:
  - General information of NFs: including general information, number of clubs active in the country, number of permanent administration staff and volunteers, if they have a bank account and if they use an external control audit
  - Members and participants: including World Championship and Olympic Games athletes' participation, number of athletes per category, number of coaches in the country and if they have an education programme, officials and judges for all aquatic disciplines
  - Facilities: Including pools of 25 metres, 50 metres, other-size pools and specific structures for diving.
  - The NF's performance programme: including if athletes have a performance programme and support, if they have additional technical staff; if the

NF provides anti-doping education and organises national competitions. As for the findings, it is great news that the total number of aquatic athletes is nearing 35 million, among them 106,000 identified as elite swimmers and almost 35,000 elite water polo players.

There are more than 91,000 facilities worldwide, including 12,271 50m pools, 25,164 25m pools and 52,862 pools of other sizes.

According to the national federations, 288,496 coaches work in the six disciplines, while at the various competitions almost 160,000 officials oversee the action.

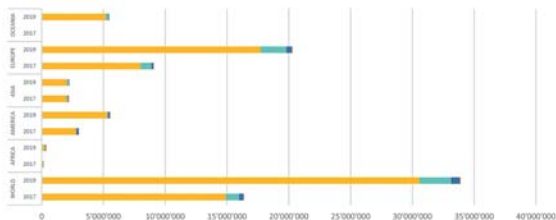
In almost all categories we can see a fine rise in numbers compared with 2017, which brilliantly mirrors the growing popularity of aquatics and the outstanding efforts of the national federations. ■



■ SWIMMING  
 ■ OPEN WATER  
 ■ DIVING  
 ■ HIGH DIVING  
 ■ WATER POLO  
 ■ ARTISTIC SWIMMING



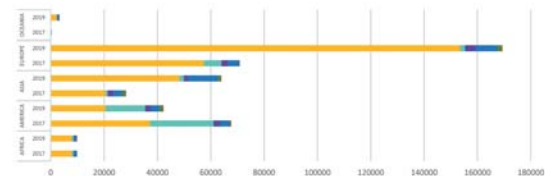
## NUMBER OF ATHLETES / 2017 vs 2019



**198 NATIONAL FEDERATIONS PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY**

<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
CLUBS	39'474
NFs HEADQUARTER	76(%)
NFs PERMANENTS STAFF	77(%)
VOLUNTEERS	54'363
NFs BANK ACCOUNT	96%
NFs AUDIT CONTROL	78%

## NUMBER OF COACHES / 2017 vs 2019



<b>FACILITIES</b>	<b>Total 91'245</b>
25M POOLS	25'164
50M POOLS	12'271
OTHER POOL SIZES	52'862
DIVING STRUCTURE	948
HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE 211	

<b>ATHLETES</b>	<b>Total 34'186'755</b>
SWIMMING	30'882'984
OPEN WATER	2'582'675
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	134'789
WATER POLO	478'791
DIVING	77'101
HIGH DIVING	30'415

<b>COACHES</b>	<b>Total 288'496</b>	<b>% NFS WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMME</b>
SWIMMING	232'690	73%
OPEN WATER	5'158	29%
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	7'664	25%
WATER POLO	24'482	38%
DIVING	4'476	24%
HIGH DIVING	26	3%



### TOTAL (%) OF NFS ORGANISING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

96% 65% 33% 4% 50% 38%



### NFS WITH HIGH PERFORMANCE

	Total %
> PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME	53%
> COUNTRY SUPPORT FOR ATHLETES	57%
> ANTIDOPING EDUCATION	62%

<b>OFFICIALS</b>	<b>Total 159'936</b>	<b>% NFS WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMME</b>
SW OFFICIALS	102'918	73%
OW OFFICIALS	10'503	38%
AS JUDGES	5'580	29%
WP REFEREES	22'960	38%
DV JUDGES	3'071	28%
HD JUDGES	39	4%





## AFRICA

ADMINISTRATION	TOTAL
CLUBS	1'631
NFs HEADQUARTER	72(%)
NFs PERMANENTS	118
VOLUNTEERS	5'410
NFs BANK ACCOUNT	96%
NFs AUDIT CONTROL	70%

FACILITIES	Total 1'729
25M POOLS	978
50MPOOLS	172
OTHER POOL SIZES	526
DIVING SRUCTURE	53
HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE	9

ATHLETES	Total 352'277
SWIMMING	270'069
OPEN WATER	46'309
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	2'392
WATER POLO	30'764
DIVING	2'672
HIGH DIVING	71

COACHES	Total 9'806	% NFS
		WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMME
SWIMMING	7'959	68%
OPEN WATER	650	22%
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	255	2%
WATER POLO	762	26%
DIVING	176	2%
HIGH DIVING	4	0%

OFFICIALS	Total 42'202	% NFS
		WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMME
SW OFFICIALS	7'605	61%
OW OFFICIALS	1'004	28%
AS JUDGES	97	4%
WP REFEREES	874	15%
DV JUDGES	536	2%
HD JUDGES	0	0%



NUMBER OF ATHLETES	
ELITE	1773
JUNIOR	39890
YOUTH&YUNGER	35329
MASTERS	2799
AMATEUR	123425



NUMBER OF ATHLETES	
ELITE	43
JUNIOR	1030
YOUTH&YUNGER	544
MASTERS	7
AMATEUR	664



NUMBER OF ATHLETES	
ELITE	0
JUNIOR	0
YOUTH&YUNGER	8
MASTERS	8
AMATEUR	32



NUMBER OF ATHLETES	
ELITE	46
JUNIOR	1037
YOUTH&YUNGER	552
MASTERS	2
AMATEUR	575



NUMBER OF ATHLETES	
ELITE	480
JUNIOR	3063
YOUTH&YUNGER	2520
MASTERS	1029
AMATEUR	5625



NUMBER OF ATHLETES	
ELITE	513
JUNIOR	10712
YOUTH&YUNGER	8267
MASTERS	259
AMATEUR	4323

Africa's development is mirrored by the numbers and the continent's growing participation at the major FINA events (pictured: Nonhlanhla Thole of Zambia at the 2019 World Championships)



### TOTAL (%) OF NFS ORGANISING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS



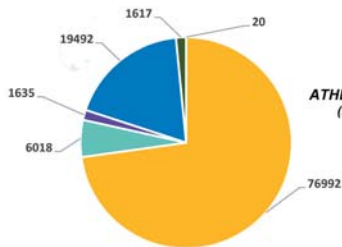




**NFs WITH HIGH PERFORMANCE**

*Total %*

> PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME	35%
> COUNTRY SUPPORT FOR ATHLETES	31%
> ANTIDOPING EDUCATION	54%



SWIMMING OPEN WATER DIVING HIGH DIVING WATER POLO ARTISTIC SWIMMING



## AMERICAS

ADMINISTRATION	TOTAL
CLUBS	16'614
NFs HEADQUARTER	60 (%)
NFs PERMANENTS	221
VOLUNTEERS	38'387
NFs BANK ACCOUNT	93%
NFs AUDIT CONTROL	74%

FACILITIES	Total 34'713
25M POOLS	3'030
50MPOOLS	1'232
OTHER POOL SIZES	30'284
DIVING SRTUCTURE	167
HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE	31

ATHLETES	Total 5'531'415
SWIMMING	5'321'639
OPEN WATER	57'455
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	21'115
WATER POLO	114'438
DIVING	16'689
HIGH DIVING	79

COACHES	Total 42'202	% NFS WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMME
SWIMMING	20'559	57%
OPEN WATER	14'881	29%
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	1'915	19%
WATER POLO	3'421	22%
DIVING	1'417	15%
HIGH DIVING	9	2%

OFFICIALS	Total 19'705	% NFS WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMME
SW OFFICIALS	16'523	60%
OW OFFICIALS	660	33%
AS JUDGES	819	31%
WP REFEREES	1'353	26%
DV JUDGES	346	17%
HD JUDGES	4	17%



### NUMBER OF ATHLETES

ELITE	20107
JUNIOR	44355
YOUTH&YUNGER	363206
MASTERS	86764
AMATEUR	85777



### NUMBER OF ATHLETES

ELITE	437
JUNIOR	8822
YOUTH&YUNGER	1059
MASTERS	209
AMATEUR	3932



### NUMBER OF ATHLETES

ELITE	20
JUNIOR	2
YOUTH&YUNGER	4
MASTERS	3
AMATEUR	50



### NUMBER OF ATHLETES

ELITE	496
JUNIOR	1206
YOUTH&YUNGER	9932
MASTERS	1623
AMATEUR	6371



### NUMBER OF ATHLETES

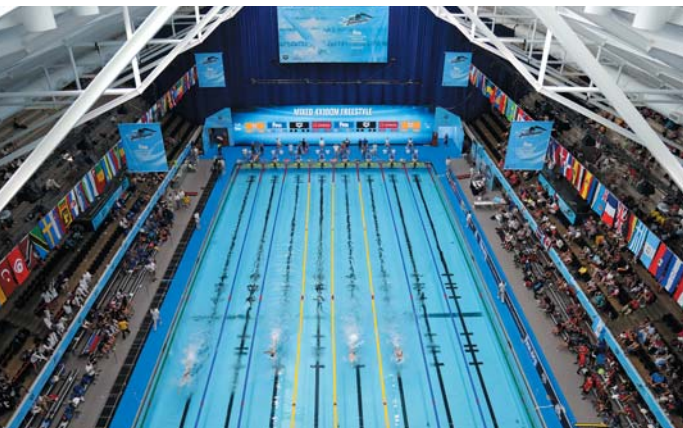
ELITE	923
JUNIOR	2593
YOUTH&YUNGER	4459
MASTERS	18758
AMATEUR	2394



### NUMBER OF ATHLETES

ELITE	3029
JUNIOR	9784
YOUTH&YUNGER	7736
MASTERS	5945
AMATEUR	34819

The top swimmer of the American continent, 14-times world champion Caeleb Dressel - and an iconic venue, the world-famous Indianapolis Natatorium



### TOTAL (%) OF NFs ORGANISING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS





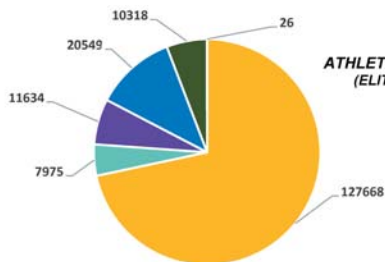
Photo: REUTERS



**NFs WITH HIGH PERFORMANCE**

*Total %*

> PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME	43%
> COUNTRY SUPPORT FOR ATHLETES	57%
> ANTIDOPING EDUCATION	38%



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