

Spain Wins FIFA World Cup 2026

The **23rd FIFA World Cup** was held from **11 June to 19 July 2026** and was the largest edition in the tournament's history, featuring **48 teams and 104 matches**. It was jointly hosted by the **United States, Mexico, and Canada**, making it the first FIFA World Cup to be hosted by three countries. **Spain won the tournament on 19th July, 2026, defeating Argentina 1–0 after extra time in the final at New Jersey Stadium.**

About FIFA -

- **FIFA** stands for **Federation of International Football Association** (*Fédération Internationale de Football Association*).
- Founded on **21 May 1904** in **Paris, France**.
- Headquarters: **Zurich, Switzerland**.
- Governing body of football, futsal, and beach soccer.
- Organizes the FIFA World Cup, the world's premier football tournament.
- The first FIFA World Cup was held in **1930** in **Uruguay**.

Host Nations - The 2026 World Cup is hosted by the **USA (11 cities)**, **Mexico (3 cities)**, and **Canada (2 cities)**. Mexico became the first country to host or co-host the World Cup three times.

Key Features -

- Expansion from **32 to 48 teams**.
- Teams are divided into **12 groups of 4 teams**.
- Top two teams from each group and the **8 best third-placed teams** qualify for the Round of 32.
- Total matches increased from **64 to 104**.

Most Successful Teams -

- Brazil – **5 titles**
- Germany – **4 titles**
- Italy – **4 titles**
- Argentina – **3 titles**

FIFA World Cup 2026 Final -

The FIFA World Cup 2026 Final was played on **19 July 2026** at **MetLife Stadium**, officially referred to during the tournament as the **New York New Jersey Stadium**, located in **East Rutherford, New Jersey, USA**. **Spain** defeated defending champions Argentina 1–0 after extra time to lift their **second FIFA World Cup title**, following their maiden triumph in **2010**.

Spain also became the first nation to **simultaneously hold both the men's and women's FIFA World Cup titles**, marking a unique achievement in international football.

Major Awards - The **Golden Ball**, awarded to the tournament's best player, was won by **Rodri (Spain)** for his outstanding performances throughout the competition. **Ferran Torres** received the **Man of the Match award** in the final for scoring the winning goal that secured Spain's World Cup victory.

Qualification - The host nations (**USA, Canada, and Mexico**) qualified automatically. The remaining teams qualified through tournaments organized by FIFA's six continental confederations: AFC, CAF, CONCACAF, CONMEBOL, OFC, and UEFA.

India's Position in World Football - India is **not participating** in the FIFA World Cup 2026, as it failed to qualify through the Asian qualifiers.

Important Facts about India's Football Status:

- **FIFA Men's World Ranking:** 138th
- **Women's FIFA Ranking:** 69th in the world.
- **Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Ranking:** 26th among Asian nations
- **World Cup Participation:** India has **never played** in a FIFA World Cup tournament.
- **1950 FIFA World Cup Brazil:** India qualified by default after the withdrawal of several teams from the qualifying group. However, India ultimately did not participate in the tournament.
- Despite improvements in domestic football, India remains outside the world's top footballing nations and continues to strive for its first-ever World Cup appearance.

FIFA World Cup 2030 -

The **2030 FIFA World Cup** will be the **24th edition** of the tournament and will mark the **100th anniversary** of the FIFA World Cup. It will be jointly hosted by **Spain, Portugal, and Morocco**, while **Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay** will each host one opening-round match to commemorate the inaugural 1930 World Cup. It will be the **first FIFA World Cup to be hosted by six countries across three continents (Europe, Africa, and South America)** and will continue with the **48-team format** introduced in 2026.

Q1. The 2026 FIFA World Cup was the _____ edition of the tournament.

- (a) 21st (b) 22nd (c) 23rd (d) 24th

Q2. The headquarters of FIFA is located in:

- (a) Paris (b) Geneva (c) Zurich (d) Lausanne

Q3. The 2026 FIFA World Cup was jointly hosted by:

- (a) USA, Mexico and Brazil (b) USA, Canada and Costa Rica
(c) USA, Mexico and Canada (d) Canada, Mexico and Argentina

Q4. Consider the following statements about FIFA:

- A. FIFA was founded in Paris in 1904.**
B. FIFA headquarters is located in Geneva.
C. FIFA governs football, futsal and beach soccer.
D. The first FIFA World Cup was held in Uruguay.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1, 3 and 4 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) All of the above

Q5. FIFA stands for:

- (a) Federation International Football Association
(b) Fédération Internationale de Football Association
(c) Football International Federation Association
(d) Federation of International Football Associations

Q6. The first FIFA World Cup was organized in:

- (a) 1928 (b) 1930 (c) 1934 (d) 1938

Q7. Spain defeated which country in the final?

- (a) France (b) England (c) Brazil (d) Argentina

Q8. Which sport is NOT governed by FIFA?

- (a) Football (b) Beach Soccer (c) Futsal (d) Rugby

Q9. The final of the FIFA World Cup 2026 was played at:

- (a) Wembley Stadium (b) Lusail Stadium
(c) MetLife Stadium (New York New Jersey Stadium) (d) Azteca Stadium

Q10. Which country has won the most FIFA World Cup titles?

- (a) Germany (b) Italy (c) Argentina **(d) Brazil**

Q11. Which country won the inaugural FIFA World Cup in 1930?

- (a) Brazil (b) Argentina **(c) Uruguay** (d) Italy

Q12. The 2026 FIFA World Cup featured how many teams?

- (a) 32 (b) 40 **(c) 48** (d) 64

Q13. Who won the Golden Ball in the 2026 FIFA World Cup?

- (a) Lionel Messi (b) Ferran Torres **(c) Rodri** (d) Kylian Mbappé

Q14. Which country becomes the first to host the FIFA World Cup three times?

- (a) Brazil (b) Germany **(c) Mexico** (d) Italy

Q15. Which award is given to the top scorer?

- (a) Golden Ball **(b) Golden Boot** (c) Golden Glove (d) Fair Play Award

Q16. Spain achieved a historic feat after winning the 2026 World Cup?

- (a) Won five World Cups
(b) Became the first European team to host three World Cups
(c) Became the first nation to simultaneously hold the men's and women's FIFA World Cup titles
(d) Won three consecutive World Cups

Q17. Which countries will be the main hosts of the FIFA World Cup 2030?

- (a) Spain, Portugal and Morocco**
(b) Spain, France and Italy
(c) Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia
(d) Portugal, Brazil and Uruguay

Q18. Match List-I with List-II

List-I	List-II
A. FIFA Headquarters	1. Uruguay
B. First FIFA World Cup	2. Zurich
C. FIFA Founded	3. 21 May 1904
D. 2026 Champion	4. Spain

Codes:

(a) A-2 B-1 C-3 D-4

(b) A-1 B-2 C-4 D-3

(c) A-2 B-3 C-1 D-4

(d) A-3 B-2 C-4 D-1

Q19. Who was named Man of the Match in the 2026 FIFA World Cup Final?

(a) Rodri

(b) Ferran Torres

(c) Emiliano Martínez

(d) Pedri

Q20. According to the latest FIFA rankings (2026), what is the current FIFA Men's World Ranking of the Indian national football team?

(a) 126th

(b) 132nd

(c) 138th

(d) 145th

ANSWER KEY									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C	C	C	A	B	B	D	D	C	D
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
C	C	C	C	B	C	A	A	B	C