



# 2017 State Games of America FACT SHEET

StateGamesofAmerica.com

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## WHAT

The State Games of America is a biennial, multi-sport, Olympic-style event featuring competition between State Games medal winners (gold, silver, bronze) from across the country. Thirty states conduct or organize statewide sports festivals known as State Games. The [2017 State Games of America](#) is the tenth since the event began in 1999, and it is the first time the event will be held in Michigan.

## WHEN

The 2017 State Games of America is Aug. 3-6. The event is hosted every two years on the odd year.

## WHERE

While the primary hub of sporting events is Grand Rapids, 35 venues across West Michigan are hosting sporting events, including:

- DeVos Place hosting 13 sports
- Van Andel Arena hosting the [Opening Ceremony](#) Aug. 4
- Other venues from Muskegon and Holland on the west side, to Caledonia on the southeast side, to Cedar Springs and Sparta to the north

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

All Michigan athletes are eligible to compete, and Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Ontario residents are eligible to compete without prior qualification. Athletes who received gold, silver or bronze medals at the 2015, 2016 or prior to July 1, 2017 at their State Games are eligible to compete. See [eligibility information here](#).

## IMPACT IN NUMBERS

- **Athletes:** 12,000+ athletes (8,000 from Michigan), with 60% between 10 and 19 years old
- **States represented:** 47 states plus the District of Columbia and Canada
- **Sports:** [48 sports](#) in 60 events, including popular events in figure skating (the State Games of America events also serve as the U.S. Figure Skating National Competition), pickleball and swimming
- **Attendees:** 25,000+ total (includes athlete families)
- **Volunteers:** 1,000+ volunteers
- **Hotels:** 5,500 hotel rooms booked at 30 partner hotels from Kalamazoo to Big Rapids
- **Economic Impact:** \$10 million estimated economic impact from direct visitor spending

## FUN FACTS – ATHLETES, STATES & SPORTS

- **Youngest athlete:** 4 (Track & field)
- **Oldest athlete:** 85 (Track & field, Bowling)
- **Furthest state represented:** Hawaii
- **Sport with the most states represented:** Yoga
- **Five states with the most athletes (outside of Michigan):**
  - Wisconsin: 365
  - Texas: 351
  - Pennsylvania: 192
  - Illinois: 165
  - Nebraska: 148

- **Five sports with the most athletes:**

- Ice hockey (Youth): 630
- Pickleball: 614
- Lacrosse: 625
- Figure skating: 823
- Swimming: 508

- **New Sports Added in 2017:**

BMX	Pinball	Wakeboarding
Bocce ball	Rowing	Yoga
Cricket	Synchro swimming	

## OTHER FACTS

- **Opening Ceremony:** Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m. at Van Andel Arena
- **Host Organizations:** West Michigan Sports Commission, Experience Grand Rapids, Meijer State Games of Michigan
- **Gold level sponsors:** Meijer, Lake Michigan Credit Union, Metro Health Sports Medicine, Fox Motors, Subway and SMG

## OTHER HOST CITIES

St. Louis (1999, 2001)	San Diego (2011)	Grand Rapids, MI (2017)
Hartford, Conn. (2003)	Hershey-Harrisburg, Pa. (2013)	Lynchburg, Va. (2019)
Colo. Springs (2005, 2007, 2009)	Lincoln, Neb. (2015)	Ames, Iowa (2021)

## SPORTS

### *Medal Sports*

Archery (Including 3D)	Gymnastics	Softball
Badminton	Ice hockey	Swimming
Baseball	Judo	Table tennis
Basketball	Karate	Tae Kwon Do
BMX (Olympic)	Lacrosse	Tennis
Bowling	Pickleball	Track & field
Disc Golf	Racquetball	Volleyball
Fencing	Rugby	Weightlifting
Figure skating	Shooting sports - trap	Wrestling
Golf	Soccer	

### *Participation Sports*

5k Run/Walk	Horseshoes	Shooting sports - <i>pistol/BB gun, skeet, small bore rifle, sporting clays</i>
Billiards	Kickball	Synchronized swim
BMX (freestyle)	Mountain biking	Triathlon
Bocce ball	Pinball	Wakeboard
Boxing	Rowing	Waterskiing
Cricket	Skateboarding	Yoga
Cycling (time trial)		
Darts		