



Nationally Track & Field is the number one participatory sport for high school girls and number two for high school boys. Nationally Track & Field is the second most offered sport for both boys and girls at the high school level.

According to the National Federation of State High School Associations Ohio has 787 boys track and field teams (as if a school has one athlete they count the school as having the sport). All surrounding States (Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia) follow the one athlete rule, However, the Ohio High School Athletic Association requires 9 athletes for them to count a school as having track & field, thus they only recognize 690 schools as having boys track & field. Note: a few years ago a school with fewer than 9 athletes which the OHSAA didn't recognize as having a boy's track & field team took home the team State Championships trophy.

National Federation of State High School Associations

2016-2017 Athletics Participation Summary

TEN MOST POPULAR BOYS PROGRAMS

Schools **Participants**

1. Basketball 18,214	1. Football – 11-Player 1,057,382
2. Track and Field – Outdoor 16,699	2. Track and Field – Outdoor 600,136
3. Baseball 15,979	3. Basketball 550,305
4. Cross Country 15,087	4. Baseball 491,790
5. Football – 11-Player 14,299	5. Soccer 450,234
6. Golf 13,223	6. Cross Country 266,271
7. Soccer 12,188	7. Wrestling 244,804
8. Wrestling 10,629	8. Tennis 158,171
9. Tennis 9,225	9. Golf 141,466
10. Swimming & Diving 7,312	10. Swimming & Diving 138,364

TEN MOST POPULAR GIRLS PROGRAMS

Schools **Participants**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Basketball 17,934 | 1. Track and Field – Outdoor 494,477 |
| 2. Track and Field – Outdoor 16,658 | 2. Volleyball 444,729 |
| 3. Volleyball 15,992 | 3. Basketball 430,368 |
| 4. Softball – Fast Pitch 15,440 | 4. Soccer 388,339 |
| 5. Cross Country 14,880 | 5. Softball – Fast Pitch 367,405 |
| 6. Soccer 11,823 | 6. Cross Country 226,039 |
| 7. Tennis 10,121 | 7. Tennis 183,519 |
| 8. Golf 10,076 | 8. Swimming & Diving 170,797 |
| 9. Swimming & Diving 7,721 | 9. Competitive Spirit Squads 144,243 |
| 10. Competitive Spirit Squads 6,541 | 10. Lacrosse 93,473 |

Total Athlete Participation

Boys Girls Total

2016-17 4,563,238 3,400,297 7,963,535

Top 5 States Participation

State Boys Girls Total

1. Texas 496,042 342,516 834,558

2. California 462,513 337,851 800,364

3. New York 200,520 167,329 367,849

4. Illinois 196,942 144,445 341,387

5. Ohio 197,741 142,405 340,146

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

2016-17 ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION SUMMARY FOR OHIO

OHIO BOYS ██████████ **Schools** ██████████ **Participants**

Basketball	801	22,412
Track & Field (outdoor)	787	25,336
Baseball	755	23,187
Cross Country	735	11,420
Football	699	42,490
Golf	699	7,356
Wrestling	608	11,550

Soccer	581	17,342
Swim/Dive	416	5,688
Tennis	415	5,918
Bowling	398	4,460
Track & Field (indoor)	346	5,453
Lacrosse	144	5,943
Volleyball	111	2,658
Ice Hockey	81	2,159

OHIO GIRLS Schools **Participants**

Basketball	804	15,466
Volleyball	801	19,272

Track & Field (outdoor)	789	22,967
Softball	765	16,906
Cross Country	735	10,144
Golf	551	3,471
Soccer	543	15,185
Tennis	413	6,381
Bowling	390	3,686
Track & Field (indoor)	344	4,290
Swim/Dive	339	6,962
Competitive Cheer	240	4,209
Gymnastic	165	1,093

Lacrosse 130 4,200

Field Hockey 39 1,219

According to the OHSAA 2016-17 web site

BOYS

□□□□□□□□□□ **Number of Schools**

Basketball 779

Baseball 772

Football 717

Track & Field 690

Golf 646

Cross Country 600

Soccer 575

Wrestling 483

Tennis 393

Bowling 308

Swim/Dive 262

Lacrosse 141

Ice Hockey 79

GIRLS

□□□□□□□□□□ **Number of Schools**

Basketball 786

Volleyball 764

Softball 749

Track & Field 633

Soccer 575

Cross Country 534

Tennis 400

Golf 321

Swim/Dive 310

Bowling 308

Gymnastic 97

Field Hockey 36