

MAPPING THE GLOBAL POPULARITY OF RUGBY

Rugby is now played in more countries around the world than ever before, boosted by record funding through the World Rugby Development Programme (£8.6m), Regional Tournament Funding (£4.2m) and High Performance Programme (£7.3m).



Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
Andorra (1991)	327	3,310
Austria (1992)	1,102	1,437
Azerbaijan (2004)	Associate member	
Belgium (1988)	10,859	22,244
Bosnia & Herzegovina (1996)	814	1,880
Bulgaria (1992)	1,870	2,100
Croatia (1992)	1,396	2,646
Cyprus (2014)	Associate member	
Czech Republic (1988)	3,989	12,223
Denmark (1988)	2,592	6,503
England (1890)	363,667	2,081,117
Finland (2001)	590	3,647
France (1978)	283,483	365,426
Georgia (1992)	7,019	11,136
Germany (1988)	10,510	27,366
Greece (2009)	1,409	1,569
Hungary (1991)	1,116	5,670
Ireland (1886)	165,414	242,914
Israel (1988)	1,220	6,000
Italy (1987)	77,284	78,234

Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
Latvia (1991)	1,039	1,844
Lithuania (1992)	1,850	5,588
Luxembourg (1991)	934	2,285
Malta (2000)	2,445	23,845
Moldova (1994)	3,653	3,926
Monaco (1998)	210	644
Netherlands (1988)	12,359	57,259
Norway (1993)	775	7,375
Poland (1988)	7,453	24,963
Portugal (1988)	6,685	42,535
Romania (1987)	8,500	17,525
Russia (1990)	24,854	56,986
Scotland (1886)	49,305	164,231
Serbia (1988)	2,055	10,289
Slovenia (1996)	325	454
Spain (1988)	27,510	74,170
Sweden (1988)	3,645	4,792
Switzerland (1988)	4,647	6,257
Ukraine (1992)	4,317	4,317
Wales (1886)	75,421	75,421
Total	1,172,619	3,459,926

120 COUNTRIES

7.73m PLAYERS

103 member unions

17 associate unions

2.82m registered players

4.91m non-registered players

2m female players

RUGBY AMERICAS NORTH

Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
Bahamas (1994)	380	580
Barbados (1995)	545	1,887
Bermuda (1992)	780	1,105
British Virgin Islands (2001)	Associate member	
Canada (1987)	27,421	135,078
Cayman (1997)	365	2,488
Guyana (1995)	475	740
Jamaica (1996)	1,104	1,329
Mexico (2006)	4,150	16,300
St Lucia (1996)	Associate member	
St Vincent & The Grenadines (2001)	1,625	1,791
Trinidad & Tobago (1992)	1,319	1,412
USA (1987)	116,532	1,495,732
Total	154,696	1,658,242



SUDAMÉRICA RUGBY

Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
Argentina (1987)	97,940	134,563
Brazil (1995)	9,000	109,000
Chile (1991)	11,532	25,762
Colombia (1999)	4,000	19,067
Costa Rica (2014)	Associate member	
Paraguay (1989)	1,613	2,786
Peru (1999)	12,800	15,420
Uruguay (1989)	7,741	25,821
Venezuela (1998)	1,256	3,802
Total	145,882	336,221



Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
Botswana (1994)	12,043	12,268
Burundi (2004)	Associate member	
Cameroon (1999)	4,900	6,150
Ghana (2004)	Associate member	
Ivory Coast (1998)	1,813	2,858
Kenya (1990)	19,653	23,251
Madagascar (1998)	27,485	42,535
Mali (2004)	Associate member	
Mauritania (2003)	Associate member	
Mauritius (2004)	1,127	1,127
Morocco (1988)	4,899	4,899
Namibia (1990)	11,620	12,650
Nigeria (2001)	1,550	2,075
Rwanda (2004)	7,074	7,074
Senegal (1999)	12,850	13,126
South Africa (1949)	358,378	420,796
Swaziland (1998)	10,986	19,519
Tanzania (2004)	Associate member	
Togo (2004)	Associate member	
Tunisia (1988)	16,293	25,263
Uganda (1997)	21,590	22,844
Zambia (1995)	8,520	10,025
Zimbabwe (1987)	24,110	35,290
Total	544,891	661,750



Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
Brunei (2013)	Associate member	
Cambodia (2004)	Associate member	
China (1997)	23,500	76,450
Chinese Taipei (1988)	5,802	7,028
Guam (1998)	1,435	1,459
Hong Kong (1988)	13,989	22,189
India (1999)	14,436	43,208
Indonesia (2008)	892	892
Iran (2010)	Associate member	
Japan (1987)	106,120	115,205
Kazakhstan (1997)	2,150	3,170
Korea (1998)	2,220	3,465
Kyrgyzstan (2004)	Associate member	
Laos (2004)	Associate member	
Malaysia (1988)	9,350	51,000
Mongolia (2004)	Associate member	
Pakistan (2004)	5,155	14,255
Philippines (2004)	15,230	19,020
Singapore (1989)	9,390	27,930
Sri Lanka (1989)	54,892	88,348
Thailand (1989)	22,700	22,880
United Arab Emirates (2012)	3,492	10,017
Uzbekistan (2004)	1,008	1,541
Total	291,761	508,057



Country (entry year)	Registered Players	Total Players
American Samoa (2005)	362	704
Australia (1949)	241,577	687,488
Cook Islands (1995)	1,769	2,049
Fiji (1987)	66,124	166,201
New Zealand (1949)	150,564	150,564
Niue Islands (1999)	170	430
Papua New Guinea (1993)	17,516	20,473
Samoa (1988)	9,960	24,080
Solomon Islands (1999)	8,703	10,988
Tahiti (1994)	1,496	1,535
Tonga (1987)	17,265	50,093
Vanuatu (1999)	922	922
Total	516,408	1,115,527