

All-Time Women's World Rankings Leaders

EVER WONDER WHO the overall best performers have been in our authoritative [World Rankings](#) for women, which began with the 1956 season? Stats Editor Jim Rorick has pulled together all kinds of numbers for you, scoring the annual Top 10s on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis.

First, in a by-event compilation, you'll find the leaders in the categories of Most Points, Most Rankings, Most No. 1s and The Top U.S. Scorers (in the World Rankings, not the U.S. Rankings). Following that are the stats on an all-events basis.

All the data is as of the end of the '19 season, including a significant number of recastings based on the many retests that were carried out on old samples and resulted in doping positives.

Event-By-Event Tabulations

100 METERS

Most Points

1. Merlene Ottey 140; 2. Marlies Göhr 99; 3. Evelyn Ashford 98; **4. Veronica Campbell-Brown 95;** 5. Irena Szewińska 82; **6. Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce 72;** 7. Renate Stecher 67; 8. Gwen Torrence 60; 9. tie, Annegret Richter & Chandra Sturup 56.

Most Rankings

1. Ottey 19; 2. tie, Ashford, **Campbell-Brown** & Göhr 13; 5. Szewińska 12.

Consecutive—**Ottey 18.**

Most No. 1s

1. Göhr 6; **2. Fraser-Pryce 5;** **3. tie,** Ashford, **Ottey & Stecher 4.**

Consecutive—Carmelita Jeter, Marion Jones, **Ottey & Stecher 3.**

200 METERS

Most Points

1. Merlene Ottey 147; 2. Irena Szewińska 131; 3. Allyson Felix 122; **4. Veronica Campbell-Brown 78;** 5. Marita Koch 75; 6. Debbie Ferguson McKenzie 73; 7. Renate Stecher 72; 8. Gwen Torrence 58; 9. Bärbel Wöckel 56; 10. Evelyn Ashford 54.

Most Rankings

1. Ottey 18; 2. Szewińska 15; 3. Felix 14; 4. Ferguson McKenzie 11; **5. Campbell-Brown 10.**

Consecutive—**Ottey 18.**

Most No. 1s

tie 1. Felix & Szewińska 7; 3. Koch 5; 4. Stecher 4; 5. tie, 5 with 3.

400 METERS

Most Points

1. Marita Koch 96; 2. Sanya Richards-Ross 87; 3. Maria Itkina 79; **4. Novlene Williams-Mills 71**; 5. tie, Allyson Felix & Jearl Miles Clark 66; 7. Shin Geum Dan 64; 8. Cathy Freeman 61; 9. Olga Bryzgina 59; 10. Ana Guevara 56.

Most Rankings

1. Miles Clark 12; **2. Richards-Ross & Williams-Mills 11**; 4. tie, Itkina & Koch 10.

Consecutive—Itkina, Miles Clark & **Williams-Mills 10**.

Most No. 1s

1. Koch 7; 2. Richards-Ross 6; 3. tie, Dan & Marie-José Pérec 5; 5. Irena Szewińska 4.

Consecutive—Dan & Richards-Ross 5.

800 METERS

Most Points

1. Maria Mutola 145; 2. Ana Quirot 82; 3. Janeth Jepkosgei 63; 4. Lyubov Gurina 62; 5. Kelly Holmes 61; 6. tie, Nadezhda Olizarenko & Caster Semenya 58; 8. Hasna Benhassi 56; 9. Vera Nikolić 54; 10. Gunhild Hoffmeister 51.

Most Rankings

1. Mutola 18; 2. tie, Gurina, Holmes, Jepkosgei & Quirot 9.

Consecutive—Mutola 18.

Most No. 1s

1. Mutola 9; 2. Semenya 5; 4. Quirot 4; 4. tie, Shin Geum Dan, Lyudmila Gurevich, Jarmila Kratochvilová, Madeline Manning & Eunice Sum 3.

Consecutive—Mutola 6.

1500 METERS

Most Points

1. Maryam Jamal 69; 2. Doina Melinte 63; 3. Gunhild Hoffmeister 55; 4. Tatyana Kazankina 54; 5. tie, Sifan Hassan & Shannon Rowbury 50; 7. tie, Faith Kipyegon, Carla Sacramento & Jenny Simpson 49; 10. tie, Lyudmila Bragina, Yekaterina Podkopayeva & Tatyana Tomashova 44.

Most Rankings

1. Melinte 10; 2. tie, Ulrike Bruns & Podkopayeva 9; 4. tie, Jamal, Maricica Puică, Rowbury, Sacramento & Simpson 8.

Consecutive—Melinte 10.

Most No. 1s

1. Jamal 5; 2. tie, Kazankina & Svetlana Masterkova 3; 4. tie, 8 with 2.

Consecutive—Jamal 5.

STEEPLECHASE

Most Points

1. Sofia Assefa 57; 2. Hyvin Jepkemoi 55; 3. tie, Milcah Chemos & Emma Coburn 47; 5. Habiba Ghribi 41; 6. tie, Beatrice Chepkoech & Gulnara Galkina 37; 8. Hiwot Ayalew 35; 9. Tatyana Petrova 23; 10. Etenesh Diro 22.

Most Rankings

1. Assefa 9; 2. Jepkemoi 8; 3. tie, Cristina Casandra & Coburn 7; 5. Chemos 6.

Consecutive—Assefa 9.

Most No. 1s

1. Galkina 4; 2. tie, Chepkoech & Ghribi 3; 4. tie, Chemos & Alesya Turova 2.

Consecutive—Chepkoech 3.

5000 METERS

Most Points

1. Meseret Defar 96; 2. Tirunesh Dibaba 90; 3. Maricica Puică 72; 4. Gabi Szabo 68; 5. Vivian Cheruiyot 65; 6. Sonia O'Sullivan 59; 7. Grete Waitz 58; 8. Svetlana Ulmasova 55; 9. Yvonne Murray 54; 10. Paula Radcliffe 48.

Most Rankings

1. Defar 11; 2. Dibaba 10; 3. tie, Murray, Puică, Radcliffe & Szabo 9.

Consecutive—Defar 11.

Most No. 1s

1. tie, Defar & Dibaba 5; 3. tie, Tatyana Dorovskikh, Hellen Obiri, Szabo & Ulmasova 3.

Consecutive—Obiri 3.

100 HURDLES

Most Points

1. tie, Gail Devers & Pam Ryan 95; 3. Karin Balzer 87; 4. Dawn Harper Nelson 74; 5. Grazyna Rabsztyn 69; 6. Yordanka Donkova 68; 7. Sally Pearson 67; 8. Ludmila Engquist 66; **9. Tie, Brigitte Foster-Hylton & Cornelia Oschkenat 56.**

Most Rankings

1. tie, Balzer, Devers & Ryan 11; 4. Rabsztyn 10; 5. tie, Donkova, Harper Nelson & Pearson 9.

Consecutive—Rabsztyn & Ryan 10.

Most No. 1s

1. Devers 8; 2. tie, Balzer & Keni Harrison 4; 4. tie, 6 with 3.

Consecutive—Devers 5.

400 HURDLES

Most Points

1. **Deon Hemmings 74**; 2. Lashinda Demus 68; 3. tie, Kim Batten & Sandra Farmer-Patrick 66; 5. Zuzana Hejnová 62. 6. Kaliese Carter 59; 7. tie, Yuliya Pechonkina & Tatyana Tereshchuk 56; 9. Sally Gunnell 53; 10. Sandra Glover 50.

Most Rankings

1. Tereshchuk 11; **2. tie, Demus & Hemmings 10**; 4. tie, Batten & Hejnová 9.

Consecutive—**Hemmings 10**.

Most No. 1s

1. tie, Demus, Farmer-Patrick, **Hemmings** & Marina Stepanova 3; 4. tie, 9 with 2.

Consecutive—Demus, Farmer-Patrick, Gunnell, **Hemmings** & **Melaine Walker 2**.

HIGH JUMP

Most Points

1. Stefka Kostadinova 114; 2. Iolanda Balaş 107; 3. Blanka Vlašić 97; 4. Inga Babakova 92; 5. Taisia Chenchik 85; 6. Sara Simeoni 81; 7. Rosi Ackermann 79; 8. Tamara Bykova 78; 9. Ruth Beitia 69; 10. tie, Kajsa Bergqvist & Debbie Brill 66.

Most Rankings

1. Vlašić 14; 2. tie, Babakova, Beitia & Kostadinova 13; 5. tie, Brill & Bykova 12.

Consecutive—Beitia 13.

Most No. 1s

1. Balas 9; 2. Kostadinova 6; 3. Mariya Lasitskene 5; 4. tie, Ackermann, Bergqvist & Vlašić 4.

Consecutive—Balas 9.

LONG JUMP

Most Points

1. Heike Drechsler 168; 2. Brittney Reese 98; 3. Jackie Joyner-Kersey 88; 4. Fiona May 74; 5. Mary Rand 67; 6. Viorica Viscoşleanu 62; 7. Irena Szewińska 61; 8. Inessa Kravets 59; 9. tie, Galina Chistyakova & Ivana Španović 58.

Most Rankings

1. Drechsler 21; 2. Joyner-Kersey & Reese 12; 4. May 11; 5. Viscoşleanu 10.

Consecutive—Drechsler 13.

Most No. 1s

1. Drechsler 10; 2. Reese 7; 3. Rand 4; 4. tie, Joyner-Kersee, Tatyana Shchelkanova & Szewińska 3.

Consecutive—Reese 5.

TRIPLE JUMP

Most Points

1. Caterine Ibargüen 83; 2. Tatyana Lebedeva 79; 3. Yamilé Aldama 66; 4. Olha Saladukha 65; 5. Yargelis Savigne 64; 6. Olga Rypakova 62; 7. **Kimberly Williams 50**; 8. tie, Ashia Hansen & Anna Pyatykh 49; 10. Françoise Mbango 45.

Most Rankings

1. tie, Aldama & Saladukha 11; 3. tie, Ibargüen, Lebedeva & Rypakova 9.

Consecutive—Ibargüen 9.

Most No. 1s

1. Ibargüen 5; 2. Lebedeva 4; 3. tie, 7 with 2.

Consecutive—Ibargüen 4.

SHOT PUT

Most Points

1. Helena Fibingerová 123; 2. Valerie Adams 121; 3. Astrid Kumbernuss 110; 4. Lijiao Gong 106; 5. Nadezhda Chizova 103; 6. Nadine Kleinert 95; 7. Tamara Press 92; 7. Ilona Briesenick 91; 9. Natalya Lisovskaya 84; 10. Margitta Gummel 83.

Most Rankings

1. Fibingerová 16; 2. tie, Adams & Kleinert 15; 4. Kumbernuss 14; 5. Gong 13.

Consecutive—Fibingerová 16.

Most No. 1s

1. Adams 10; 2. tie, Chizova & Press 7; 4. Briesenick 6. Kumbernuss 5.

Consecutive—Adams 10.

DISCUS

Most Points

1. Faina Melnik 103; 2. Nicoleta Grasu 101; 3. Franka Dietzsch 100; 4. Ellina Zvereva 98; 5. Ilke Wyludda 95; 6. tie, Tamara Press & Natalya Sadova 90; 8. Sandra Perković 88; 9. Liesel Westermann 74; 10. Maria Petkova 72.

Most Rankings

1. tie, Grasu & Zvereva 17; 3. Dietzsch 15; 4. tie, Melnik, Sadova & Wyludda 12.

Consecutive—Melnik 12.

Most No. 1s

1. tie, Melnik & Perković 7; 2. tie, Dietzsch & Wyludda 6; 5. Nina Ponomaryeva 5.

Consecutive—Melnik & Perković 7.

HEPTATHLON

Most Points

1. Sabine Braun 102; 2. Jackie Joyner-Kersey 96; 3. Irina Press 71; 4. Burglinde Pollak 70; 5. Nadezhda Tkachenko 69; 6. Jane Frederick 68; 7. Jessica Ennis-Hill 67; 8. Galina Bystrova 65; 9. tie, Anke Behmer & Carolina Klüft 60.

Most Rankings

1. Braun 15; 2. tie, Frederick & Joyner-Kersey 11; 4. tie, Pollak & Urszula Włodarczyk 9.

Consecutive—Braun 12.

Most No. 1s

1. Press 7; 2. tie, Joyner-Kersey & Klüft 6; 4. Ennis-Hill 5; 5. Tkachenko 4.

Consecutive—Klüft 6.