

USA BOBSLEDDING OLYMPIC HISTORY

US Olympic History: Bobsledding debuted on the Olympic Program at the first Winter Olympics in 1924 at Chamonix, but the US did not enter any bobsledders that year. Since that time, the US has always had bobsledders compete in the Olympics, with lone exception of 1960, when the sport was not contested at Squaw Valley. Women's bobsledding made its Olympic debut in 2002 and the US has had a women's team at each Olympics since.

There have been two distinct periods of US bobsledding performance. From 1928-56 the US was among the top bobsledding nations, winning 14 medals in that era, and four gold medals. But from 1964-1998, the US bobsledding program drifted backwards and the team won no Olympic medals over those 34 years.

In 1980 former US Olympic 110 metre hurdling gold medalist Willie Davenport was on one of the US sleds and he helped pioneer the use in bobsledding of active or former track & field athletes to allow for better push times. Davenport was followed by NFL running back Herschel Walker and 400 metre hurdler champion Edwin Moses trained with the US bobsled team but never competed in the Olympics.

In the 1990s the US also championed the idea of better design of bobsleds and with the use of better athletes and better sleds, Brian Shimer finally broke thru in 2002 with a bronze medal in the four-man in his fifth Winter Olympic appearance. He was bested by teammate Todd Hays who led the four-man after two runs and ended up with the silver medal. In 2010 at Vancouver, Steve Holcomb drove the US four-man sled to the first US bobsledding gold medal since St. Moritz in 1948.

The US women were leaders right from the start of women's Olympic bobsledding. In 2002 at Salt Lake City, Jill Bakken and brakeperson Vonetta Flowers won the first women's bobsledding gold medal. In 2006 the US won a silver medal, and added a bronze medal in 2006.

Bobsledding Olympic Program

Event	Class	1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1994	1998	2002	2006	2010	2014	Games
2-man	M			x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	19
4-man	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
2-person	F																			x	x	x	x	4
Totals	M	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	40
Totals	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Totals	All	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	44

Note: In 1924-28, 4-man bobsledding was actually either 4- or 5-man per sled.

US Bobsledding Competitors by Year

Year	Site	Men	Women	Both
1924	Chamonix	0	---	0
1928	St. Moritz	10	---	10
1932	Lake Placid	12	---	12
1936	Garmisch-Partenkirchen	11	---	11
1948	St. Moritz	12	---	12
1952	Oslo	10	---	10
1956	Cortina d'Ampezzo	11	---	11
1960	Squaw Valley	---	---	---
1964	Innsbruck	9	---	9
1968	Grenoble	10	---	10
1972	Sapporo	9	---	9
1976	Innsbruck	9	---	9
1980	Lake Placid	9	---	9
1984	Sarajevo	10	---	10
1988	Calgary	9	---	9
1992	Albertville	12	---	12

1994	Lillehammer	10	---	10
1998	Nagano	8	---	8
2002	Salt Lake City	9	4	13
2006	Torino	8	4	12
2010	Vancouver	12	6	18
Gross Totals		190	14	204
1 Olympic Winter Games		101	8	109
2 Olympic Winter Games		32	3	35
3 Olympic Winter Games		4	0	4
4 Olympic Winter Games		2	0	2
5 Olympic Winter Games		1	0	1
Actual Totals		140	11	151

Most Medals, USA, Men

3	Pat Martin
2	Billy Fiske
2	Cliff Gray
2	J. J. O'Brien
2	Stan Benham

Most Gold Medals, USA, Men

2	Billy Fiske
2	Cliff Gray
1	Pat Martin
1	J. J. O'Brien
1	Eddie Eagan
1	Ivan Brown
1	Bill D'Amico
1	Geoffrey Mason
1	Dick Parke
1	Ed Rimkus
1	Curtis Stevens
1	Hubert Stevens
1	Nion Tucker
1	Frank Tyler
1	Al Washbond
1	Steve Holcomb
1	Steve Mesler
1	Curt Tomasevicz
1	Justin Olsen

Most Medals, USA, Women

1	Jill Bakken
1	Vonetta Flowers
1	Shauna Rohbock
1	Valerie Fleming
1	Elana Meyers
1	Erin Pac

Most Gold Medals, USA, Women

1	Jill Bakken
1	Vonetta Flowers

Most Appearances, USA, Men

5	Brian Shimer (1988/1992/1994/1998/2002)
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- 4 Jim Bickford, Jr. (1936/1948/1952/1956)
- 4 Brent Rushlaw (1976/1980/1984/1988)
- 3 Jim Herberich (1988/1994/1998)
- 3 Phil Duprey (1968/1972/1976)
- 3 Randy Jones (1994/1998/2002)
- 3 Bill Schuffenhauer (2002/2006/2010)
- 2 32 athletes tied with two.

Most Appearances, USA, Women

- 2 Vonetta Flowers (2002/2006)
- 2 Jean Racine-Prahm (2002/2006)
- 2 Shauna Rohbock (2006/2010)

Youngest Competitor, USA, Men

- 15-127 Tom Doe (1928-Four-Four, *13 October 1912)
- 16-259 Billy Fiske (1928-Four-Four, *4 June 1911)
- 20-116 John Copley (1972-Four, *18 October 1951)
- 20-255 Fiske (1932-Four, *4 June 1911)
- 21-018 Jim Bridges (1972-Four, *24 January 1951)
- 21-126 Frederick Fritsch (1976-Four, *10 October 1954)
- 21-269 Donald Jacques, Jr. (1956-Four, *10 May 1934)
- 22-317 Justin Olsen (2010-Four, *16 April 1987)
- 22-362 Reg Benham (1964-Four, *8 February 1941)
- 23-041 Jim Atkinson (1952-Four, *10 January 1929)
- 23-070 John Napier (2010-Two-Four, *12 December 1986)
- 23-076 Napier (2010-Four, *12 December 1986)

Youngest Medalist, USA, Men

- 15-126 Tom Doe (1928-Four, *13 October 1912)
- 16-258 Billy Fiske (1928-Four, *4 June 1911)
- 20-256 Fiske (1932-Four, *4 June 1911)
- 22-318 Justin Olsen (2010-Four, *16 April 1987)
- 23-042 Jim Atkinson (1952-Four, *10 January 1929)
- 23-152 Jack Heaton (1932-Two-Four, *9 September 1908)

Youngest Gold Medalist, USA, Men

- 16-258 Billy Fiske (1928-Four, *4 June 1911)
- 20-256 Fiske (1932-Four, *4 June 1911)
- 22-318 Justin Olsen (2010-Four, *16 April 1987)
- 24-172 Pat Martin (1948-Four, *19 August 1923)

Oldest Competitor, USA, Men

- 48-357 J. J. O'Brien (1932-Four, *22 February 1883)
- 45-341 Hubert Stevens (1936-Four, *7 March 1890)
- 44-361 O'Brien (1928-Four, *22 February 1883)
- 43-215 Edgar Seymour (1956-Two-Four, *25 June 1912)
- 43-092 Jim Bickford, Jr. (1956-Four, *2 November 1912)
- 43-056 Frank Tyler (1948-Four, *11 December 1904)
- 42-181 Nion Tucker (1928-Four, *21 August 1885)
- 42-121 Paul Stevens (1932-Four, *16 October 1889)
- 41-338 Hubert Stevens (1932-Two-Four, *7 March 1890)
- 41-291 Mike Baumgartner (1964-Four, *20 April 1922)
- 41-021 Bob Rogers (1964-Four, *15 January 1923)

Oldest Medalist, USA, Men

- 48-358 J. J. O'Brien (1932-Four, *22 February 1883)

44-360 O'Brien (1928-Four, *22 February 1883)
 43-057 Frank Tyler (1948-Four, *11 December 1904)
 42-180 Nion Tucker (1928-Four, *21 August 1885)
 42-122 Paul Stevens (1932-Four, *16 October 1889)
 41-339 Hubert Stevens (1932-Two-Four, *7 March 1890)

Oldest Gold Medalist, USA, Men

48-358 J. J. O'Brien (1932-Four, *22 February 1883)
 43-057 Frank Tyler (1948-Four, *11 December 1904)
 42-180 Nion Tucker (1928-Four, *21 August 1885)

Youngest Competitor, USA, Women

23-152 Jean Racine-Prahm (2002-Two, *20 September 1978)
 25-025 Jill Bakken (2002-Two, *25 January 1977)
 25-136 Elana Meyers (2010-Two, *10 October 1984)
 26-204 Michelle Rzepka (2010-Two, *4 August 1983)
 26-302 Emily Azevedo (2010-Two, *28 April 1983)

Youngest Medalist, USA, Women

25-025 Jill Bakken (2002-Two, *25 January 1977)
 25-137 Elana Meyers (2010-Two, *10 October 1984)
 28-113 Vonetta Flowers (2002-Two, *29 October 1973)

Youngest Gold Medalist, USA, Women

25-025 Jill Bakken (2002-Two, *25 January 1977)

Oldest Competitor, USA, Women

34-155 Gea Johnson (2002-Two, *18 September 1967)
 32-325 Shauna Rohbock (2010-Two, *4 April 1977)
 32-113 Vonetta Flowers (2006-Two, *29 October 1973)
 29-271 Bree Schaaf (2010-Two, *28 May 1980)
 29-269 Erin Pac (2010-Two, *30 May 1980)

Oldest Medalist, USA, Women

29-270 Erin Pac (2010-Two, *30 May 1980)
 29-065 Valerie Fleming (2006-Two, *18 December 1976)
 28-323 Shauna Rohbock (2006-Two, *4 April 1977)

Oldest Gold Medalist, USA, Women

28-113 Vonetta Flowers (2002-Two, *29 October 1973)

Medals Won by Countries, Overall

RankUS	RankEuro	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Totals
1	2	Switzerland	9	10	11	30
2	1	Germany	10	5	6	21
3	3	United States	7	6	7	20

Medals Won by Countries, Men

RankUS	RankEuro	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Totals
1	1	Switzerland	9	10	11	30
2	2	Germany	9	4	5	18
3	3	United States	6	5	6	17

Medals Won by Countries, Women

RankUS	RankEuro	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Totals
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=1	=1	Germany	1	1	1	3
=1	=1	United States	1	1	1	3

US Olympic Medals by Year

Year	Site	Men			Women			Total	
		Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze		
1928	St. Moritz	1	1	-	-	-	2		
1932	Lake Placid	2	1	1	-	-	4		
1936	Garmisch-Partenkirchen	1	-	1	-	-	2		
1948	St. Moritz	1	-	2	-	-	3		
1952	Oslo	-	2	-	-	-	2		
1956	Cortina d'Ampezzo	-	-	1	-	-	1		
1960	Squaw Valley	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1964	Innsbruck	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1968	Grenoble	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1972	Sapporo	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1976	Innsbruck	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1980	Lake Placid	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1984	Sarajevo	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1988	Calgary	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1992	Albertville	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1994	Lillehammer	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1998	Nagano	-	-	-	-	-	-		
2002	Salt Lake City	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	1
2006	Torino	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
2010	Vancouver	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Totals		6	5	6	17	1	1	1	3

BOBSLEDDING – THE EVENTS / USA

Men

2-man Event

Medals Won by Countries

RankUS	RankEuro	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Totals
1	1	Switzerland	4	5	6	15
2	2	Germany	4	2	2	8
3	3	Italy	3	2	2	7
4	4	German Demo. Rep.	2	3	2	7
5	5	United States	2	1	3	6

USA Victories

1	Curtis Stevens (1932)
1	Hubert Stevens (1932)
1	Ivan Brown (1936)
1	Al Washbond (1936)

USA Medals

1	Jack Heaton (1932-001)
1	Bob Minton (1932-001)
1	Curtis Stevens (1932-100)
1	Hubert Stevens (1932-100)
1	Gil Colgate, Jr. (1936-001)
1	Dick Lawrence (1936-001)
1	Ivan Brown (1936-100)
1	Al Washbond (1936-100)
1	Sky Carron (1948-001)
1	Fred Fortune, Jr. (1948-001)

1 Stan Benham (1952-010)
1 Pat Martin (1952-010)

Youngest Competitor, USA

23-070 John Napier (2010, *12 December 1986)

Youngest Medalist, USA

23-152 Jack Heaton (1932, *9 September 1908)

Youngest Gold Medalist, USA

27-303 Ivan Brown (1936, *17 April 1908)

Oldest Competitor, USA

43-215 Edgar Seymour (1956, *25 June 1912)

Oldest Medalist, USA

41-339 Hubert Stevens (1932, *7 March 1890)

Oldest Gold Medalist, USA

41-339 Hubert Stevens (1932, *7 March 1890)

4-man Event

Medals Won by Countries

RankUS	RankEuro	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Totals
1	1	Switzerland	5	5	5	15
2	3	United States	4	4	3	11
3	2	Germany	5	2	3	10

USA Victories

2 Billy Fiske (1928/1932)
2 Cliff Gray (1928/1932)
1 Dick Parke (1928)
1 Geoffrey Mason (1928)
1 Nion Tucker (1928)
1 Eddie Eagan (1932)
1 J. J. O'Brien (1932)
1 Bill D'Amico (1948)
1 Ed Rimkus (1948)
1 Frank Tyler (1948)
1 Pat Martin (1948)
1 Curt Tomasevicz (2010)
1 Justin Olsen (2010)
1 Steve Holcomb (2010)
1 Steve Mesler (2010)

USA Medals

2 Billy Fiske (1928/1932-200)
2 Cliff Gray (1928/1932-200)
2 Pat Martin (1928/1932-110)
2 J. J. O'Brien (1948/1952-110)
1 38 athletes tied with one.

Youngest Competitor, USA

15-127 Tom Doe (1928, *13 October 1912)

Youngest Medalist, USA

15-126 Tom Doe (1928, *13 October 1912)

Youngest Gold Medalist, USA

16-258 Billy Fiske (1928, *4 June 1911)

Oldest Competitor, USA

48-357 J. J. O'Brien (1932, *22 February 1883)

Oldest Medalist, USA

48-358 J. J. O'Brien (1932, *22 February 1883)

Oldest Gold Medalist, USA

48-358 J. J. O'Brien (1932, *22 February 1883)

Women**2-woman Event****Medals Won by Countries**

RankUS	RankEuro	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Totals
=1	=1	Germany	1	1	1	3
=1	=1	United States	1	1	1	3

USA Victories

1 Vonetta Flowers (2002)
 1 Jill Bakken (2002)

USA Medals

1 Vonetta Flowers (2002-100)
 1 Jill Bakken (2002-100)
 1 Valerie Fleming (2006-010)
 1 Shauna Rohbock (2006-010)
 1 Erin Pac (2010-001)
 1 Elana Meyers (2010-001)

Youngest Competitor, USA

23-152 Jean Racine-Prahn (2002, *20 September 1978)

Youngest Medalist, USA

25-025 Jill Bakken (2002, *25 January 1977)

Youngest Gold Medalist, USA

25-025 Jill Bakken (2002, *25 January 1977)

Oldest Competitor, USA

34-155 Gea Johnson (2002, *18 September 1967)

Oldest Medalist, USA

29-270 Erin Pac (2010, *30 May 1980)

Oldest Gold Medalist, USA

28-113 Vonetta Flowers (2002, *29 October 1973)

USA Olympic Bobsledding MedalistsBobsledding – Men

Atkinson, Jim. *10 January 1929. 1952: Four (2).
Benham, Stan. *21 December 1913. 1952: Four (2); Two (2).
Bickford, Jim, Jr. *2 November 1912. 1948: Four (3).
Brown, Ivan. *17 April 1908. 1936: Two (1).
Bryant, Percy. *12 June 1899. 1932: Four (2).
Butler, Tom. *11 June 1932. 1956: Four (3).
Carron, Sky. *24 August 1921. 1948: Two (3).
Colgate, Gil, Jr. *21 December 1899. 1936: Two (3).
Crossett, Howard, Jr. *22 July 1918. 1952: Four (2).
D'Amico, Bill. *3 October 1910. 1948: Four (1).
Dodge, Bill. *7 January 1925. 1956: Four (3).
Doe, Tom. *13 October 1912. 1928: Four (2).
Dupree, Bill. *7 June 1909. 1948: Four (3).
Dupree, Don, Sr. *10 February 1919. 1948: Four (3).
Eagan, Eddie. *26 April 1898. 1932: Four (1).
Fiske, Billy. *4 June 1911. 1928: Four (1). 1932: Four (1).
Fortune, Fred, Jr. *1 April 1921. 1948: Two (3).
Granger, David. *26 June 1903. 1928: Four (2).
Gray, Cliff. *29 January 1892. 1928: Four (1). 1932: Four (1).
Hays, Todd. *21 May 1969. 2002: Four (2).
Heaton, Jack. *9 September 1908. 1932: Two (3).
Heaton, Jennison. *16 April 1904. 1928: Four (2).
Hicks, Tom. *1 June 1918. 1948: Four (3).
Hine, Lyman. *22 June 1888. 1928: Four (2).
Hines, Garrett. *3 July 1969. 2002: Four (2).
Holcomb, Steve. *14 April 1980. 2010: Four (1).
Homburger, Henry. *9 December 1902. 1932: Four (2).
Horton, Ed. *25 March 1895. 1932: Four (2).
Jones, Randy. *24 June 1969. 2002: Four (2).
Kohn, Mike. *26 May 1972. 2002: Four (3).
Lamy, Jim. *30 May 1928. 1956: Four (3).
Lawrence, Dick. *22 July 1906. 1936: Two (3).
Martin, Pat. *19 August 1923. 1948: Four (1). 1952: Four (2); Two (2).
Mason, Geoffrey. *13 May 1902. 1928: Four (1).
Mesler, Steve. *27 August 1978. 2010: Four (1).
Minton, Bob. *13 July 1904. 1932: Two (3).
O'Brien, J. J. *22 February 1883. 1928: Four (2). 1932: Four (1).
Olsen, Justin. *16 April 1987. 2010: Four (1).
Parke, Dick. *13 December 1893. 1928: Four (1).
Rimkus, Ed. *10 August 1913. 1948: Four (1).
Schuffenhauer, Bill. *24 June 1973. 2002: Four (2).
Sharp, Doug. *27 November 1969. 2002: Four (3).
Shimer, Brian. *20 April 1962. 2002: Four (3).
Steele, Dan. *20 March 1969. 2002: Four (3).
Stevens, Curtis. *1 June 1898. 1932: Two (1).
Stevens, Hubert. *7 March 1890. 1932: Two (1).
Stevens, Paul. *16 October 1889. 1932: Four (2).
Tomasevicz, Curt. *17 September 1980. 2010: Four (1).
Tucker, Nion. *21 August 1885. 1928: Four (1).
Tyler, Art. *26 July 1915. 1956: Four (3).
Tyler, Frank. *11 December 1904. 1948: Four (1).
Washbond, Al. *14 October 1899. 1936: Two (1).

Bobsledding – Women

Bakken, Jill. *25 January 1977. 2002: Two (1).
Fleming, Valerie. *18 December 1976. 2006: Two (2).

Flowers, Vonetta. *29 October 1973. 2002: Two (1).
Meyers, Elana. *10 October 1984. 2010: Two (3).
Pac, Erin. *30 May 1980. 2010: Two (3).
Rohbock, Shauna. *4 April 1977. 2006: Two (2).