

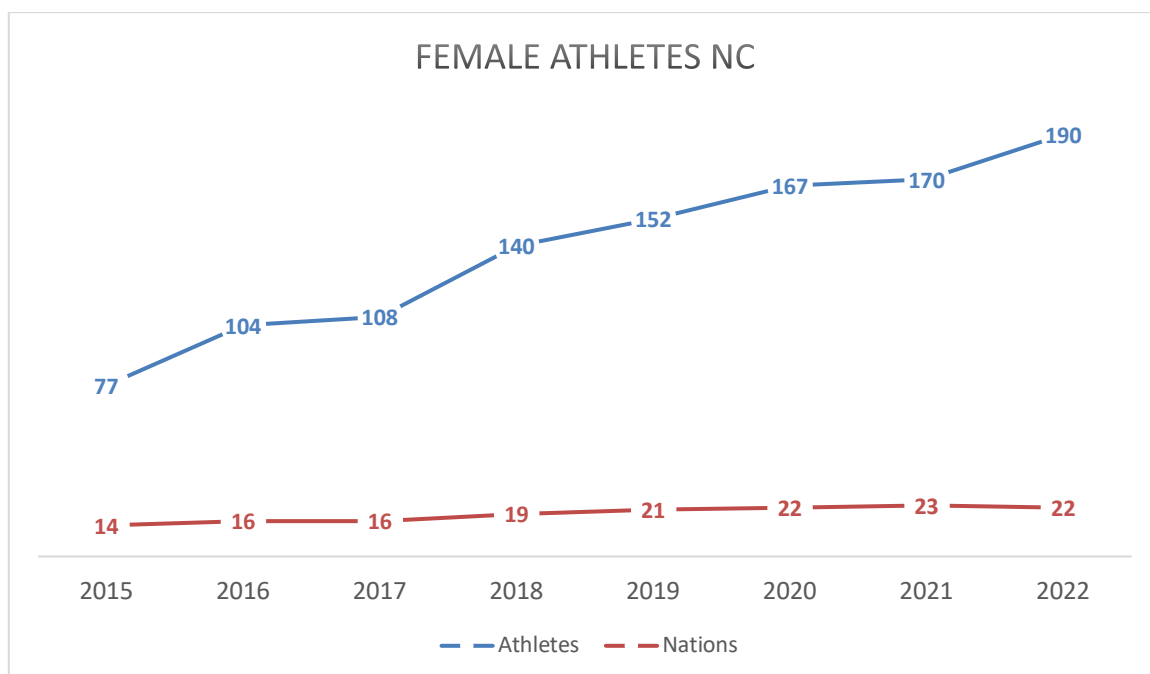
NORDIC COMBINED WOMEN – Progress Report

May 2022

1. Statistics and numbers

In total, 190 female athletes (+12%) from 22 nations are registered with a FIS Code for Nordic Combined. Across all cups and systems (FIS events, FIS Youth Cup, Alpeencup, Continental Cup, JWSC), 109 (+23%) of these athletes from 14 nations took part in international events at 19 different venues in 2021/22.

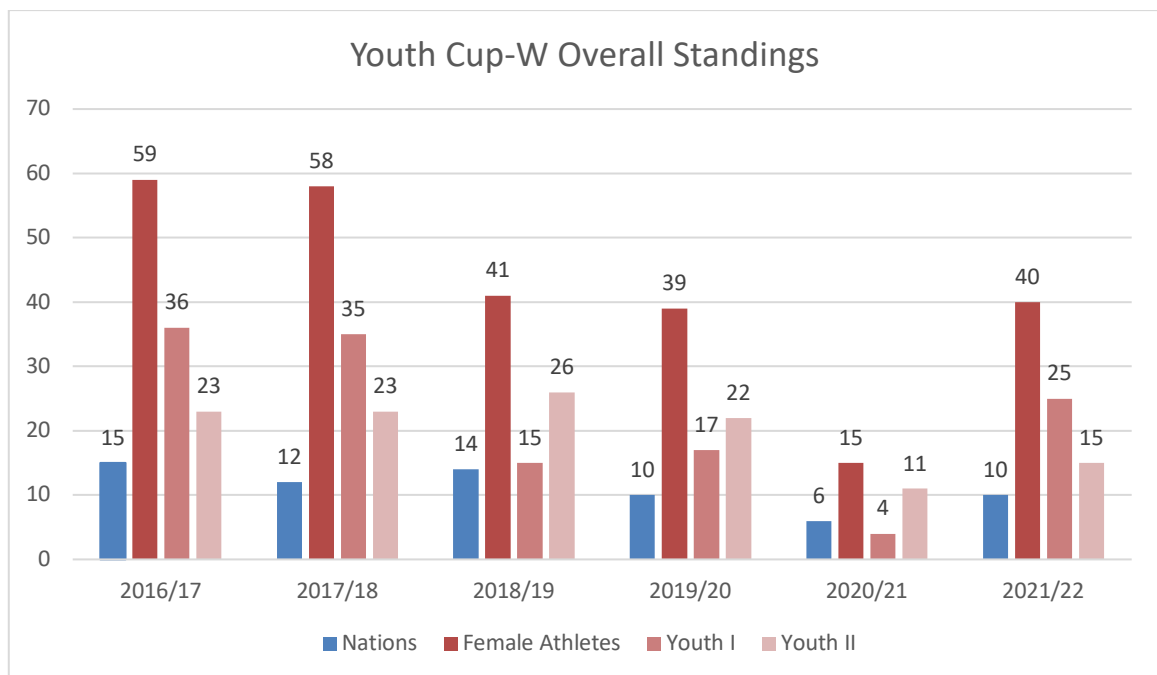
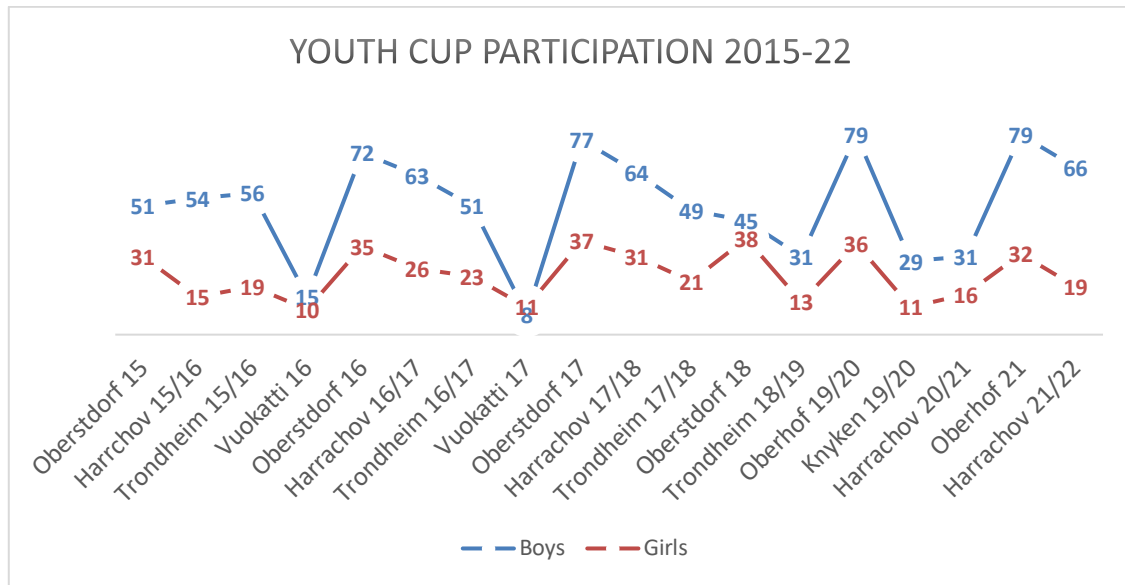
14 female athletes debuted in the FIS World Cup this season and 9 in the Continental Cup. The average age of female Nordic Combined participants is 18.08 years, compared to the men's average age of 22.30.



2. FIS Youth Cup

The 2021/22 FIS Youth Cup included eight summer competitions in Oberhof (GER) and eight winter competitions in Harrachov (CZE). The events were held for girls and boys of the age groups Youth 1 (born 2007 – 2009) and Youth 2 (2004 – 2006). Traditionally, the FIS Youth Cup in Oberhof (GER) was held together with the FIS Nordic Combined Summer Grand Prix of men and women.

Statistics



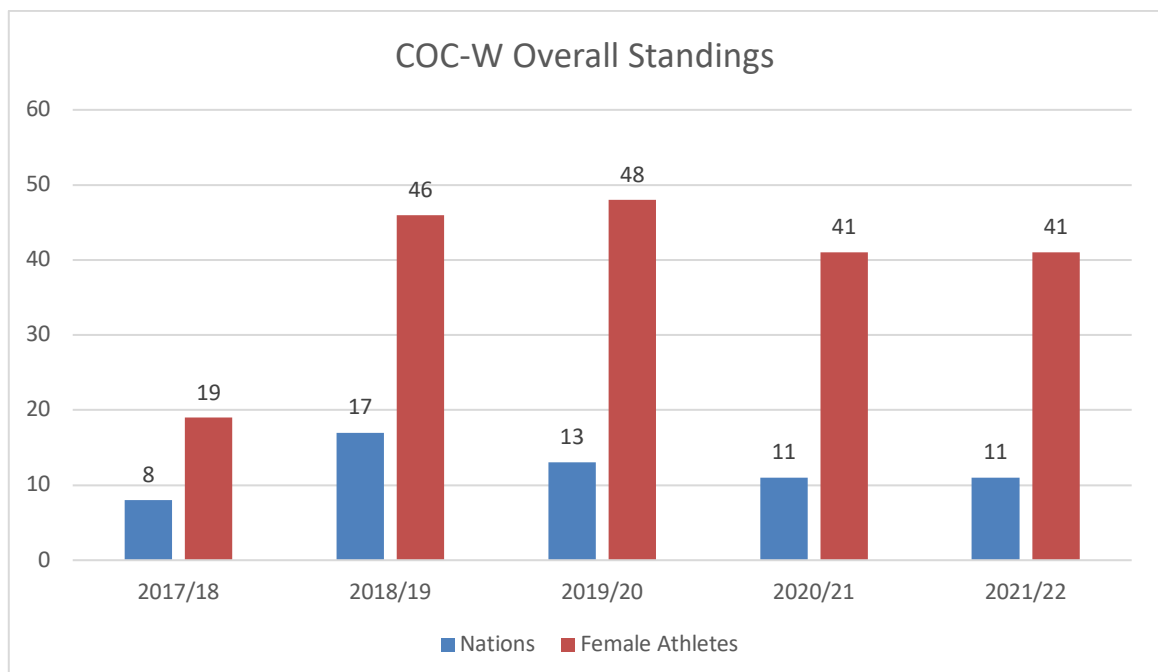
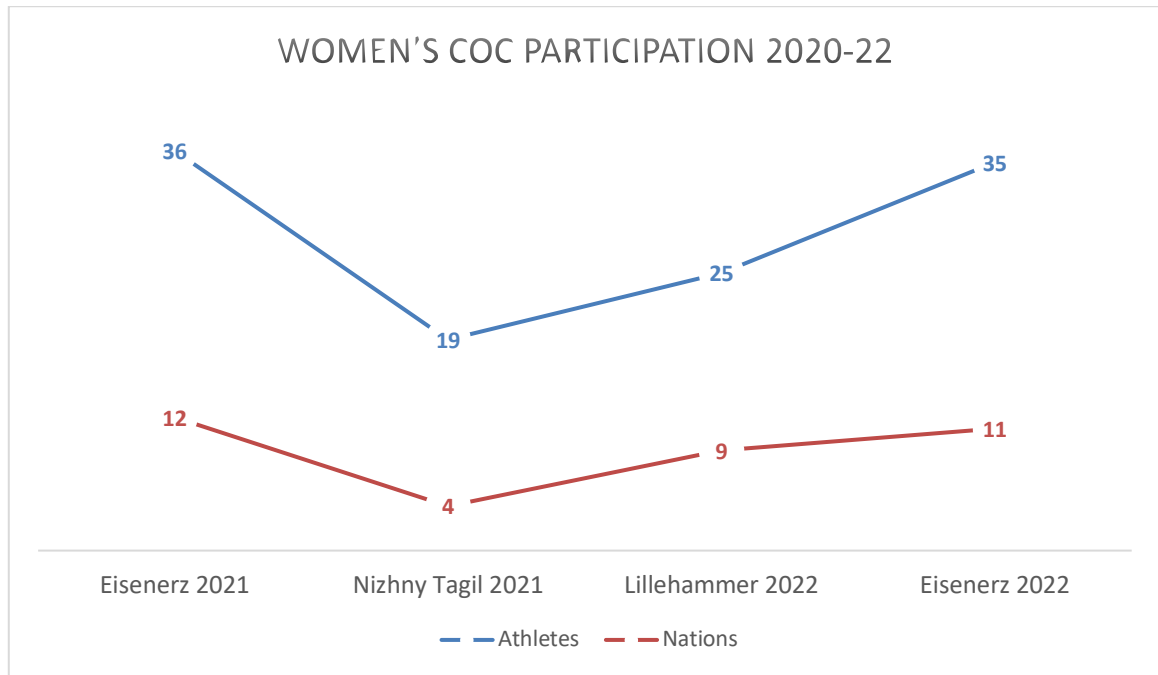
3. Women's Continental Cup

The fifth winter of the Women's Nordic Combined Continental Cup featured a calendar with 6 events at two venues. The first competition weekend in Lillehammer (NOR) started with a highlight right away, in form of two Individual events as well as the world premiere of the women's Team Sprint.

The final took place in Eisenerz (AUT) with a Mixed Team event as well as two Individual competitions.

The overall number of participating women in the Continental Cup was with 41 athletes the same as in the previous season. Same applies for the number of participating nations which stayed at 11 (AUT, CZE, FIN, FRA, GER, ITA, JPN, NOR, RUS, SLO, USA).

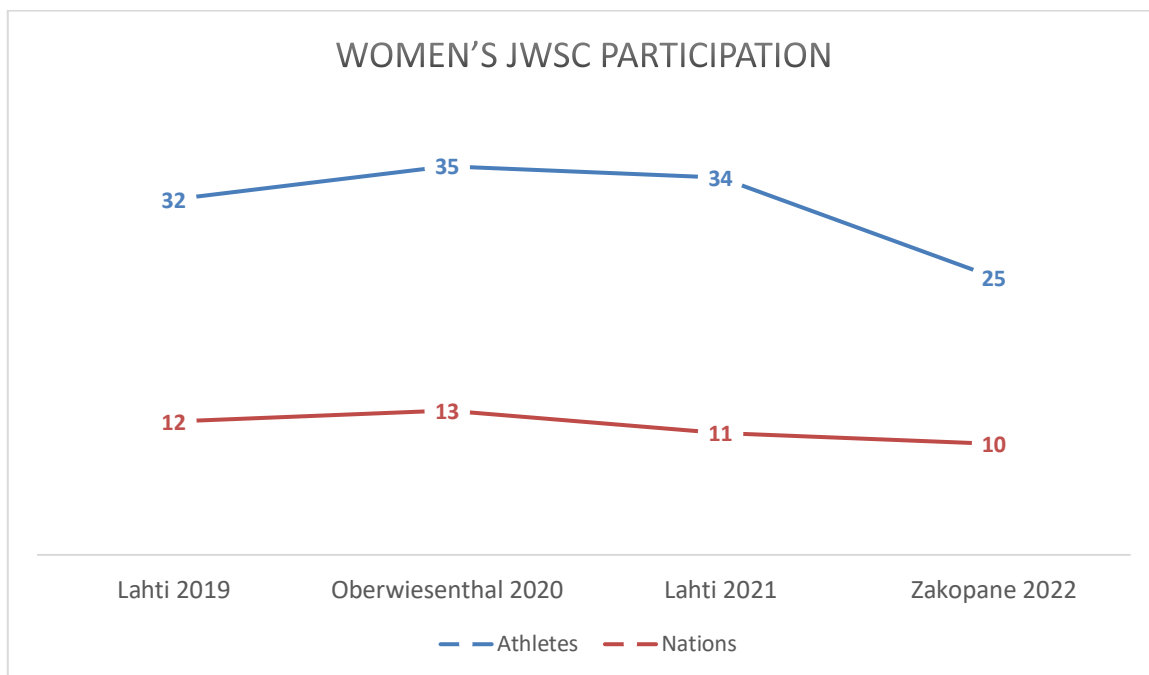
Statistics



4. FIS Junior World Ski Championships

The Nordic Combined women had their fourth FIS Nordic Junior World Ski Championships in Zakopane (POL). 25 athletes went into one Individual event and a Mixed Team competition. Annika Sieff (ITA) won the gold medal, ahead of Haruka Kasai (JPN) and Nathalie Armbruster (GER).

The Mixed Team Event saw its third edition at JWSC level with 9 teams on start. The gold medal went to Germany, ahead of Italy and Austria.



4. Viessmann FIS Nordic Combined World Cup

The Women's second World Cup season featured nine competitions in five venues in five different countries.

39 athletes from eleven nations were on start and collected World Cup points this winter.

Big highlights were the world premiere of the women's Mass Start in Otepää (EST) as well as the first ever World Cup Mixed Team event in Val di Fiemme (ITA).

10 different athletes from five nations entered the podium, with 2 different winners in form of Gyda Westvold Hansen (NOR) and Anju Nakamura (JPN).

The Norwegian, who won 7 out of the 8 Individual events, also won the overall World Cup ranking and received her crystal globe after the big season final in Schonach (GER). Ida Marie Hagen (NOR) and Ema Volavsek (SLO) ranked second and third.

5. FIS Nordic World Ski Championships

Women's Nordic Combined was included in the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships for the first time with one Individual event in Oberstdorf (GER) 2021.

31 competitors from 10 nations were on start. The inaugural Women's Nordic Combined gold medal went to Gyda Westvold Hansen (NOR) and her teammates Mari and Marte Leinan Lund swept the podium for team Norway.

6. Nordic Combined Awards

For the fourth time, the Nordic Combined women were a part of the Nordic Combined Award line-up: Gyda Westvold Hansen (NOR) became Women's Athlete of the Year, while Thomas Kjelbotn (NOR) and his team were awarded as coaches of the year.

7. TV Audience Analysis

The analysis of the TV audience in the second Women's World Cup season shows a positive trend. Although no Austrian or German athletes ranked in the top 5, the presence in the respective national TV networks was still noticeable with good market shares.

Positive results were also obtained in the Norwegian market, helped by the fact that their athletes dominated the season.

During the first ever Mixed Team event in Val di Fiemme (ITA) it became clear that the presence of the men positively influences the gaining of viewership of the women and increases their perception.

Together with the exciting finals in Schonach (GER), the Mixed Team event was one of the most successful events last winter.

8. Short-term strategy

Women's Nordic Combined has continued to develop considerably.

The following points are on the agenda for the next one to two years:

- Improve set-up for the FIS Youth Cup
- Grow and develop the Women's COC, SGP and WC competition calendars.
- Determine and develop competition formats for the future
- Develop season highlights for the future
- Develop a long-term strategy for the financial sustainability and development of Women's Nordic Combined and its associated costs and work towards equality with Men's Nordic Combined.
- Close cooperation with SJL and the SJ/NC Youth Committee

9. Long-term strategy

With the development we have seen in the last seasons, the following timeline goals for the future have been set up (TBC by the NC Committee at its meeting in late May 2020).

2023: Confirmed - WSC program to include the Nordic Combined Mixed Team Event.

2026: Nordic Combined Women part of the Olympic program.