



# UNITED STATES OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

## COVID-19 Team USA Athlete Survey Results

March 23, 2020

### Overview

Thirty-eight hours after issuing a survey to approximately **4,000 U.S. Olympic and Paralympic athlete hopefuls for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020**, the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee received responses from **more than 1,780** individual athletes (45% of the total distribution) offering their perspectives on the impact of COVID-19 and the Tokyo Games.

Athletes from 59 of 63 summer Olympic and Paralympic sports who received the survey responded, with 33 sports having 10 or more athletes respond. Track and field accounted for 609 athlete responses and rowing saw the second highest rate of response with 140.

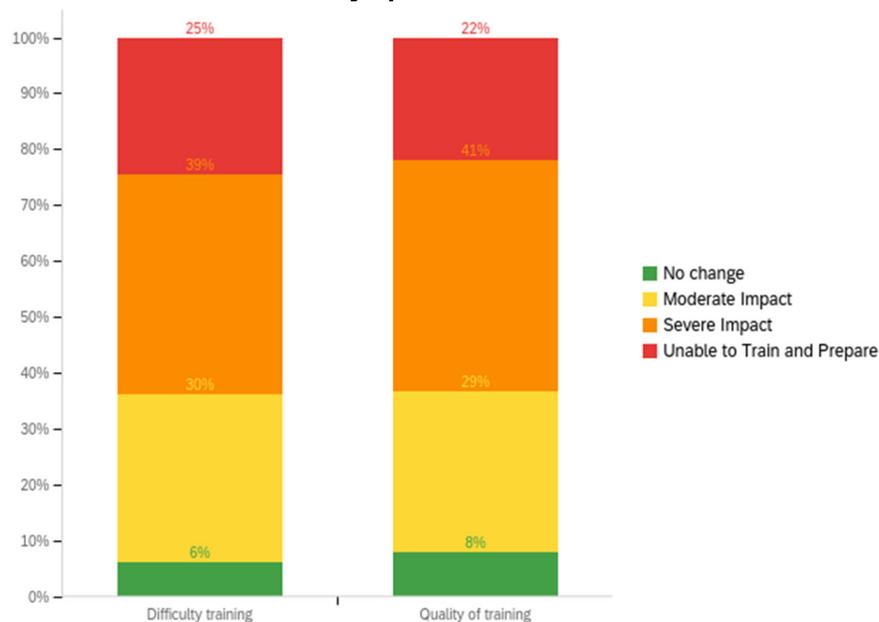
### General Sentiment

Over 900 athletes shared additional thoughts regarding decision-making for the Tokyo Games. There were several comments in favor of making a decision soon regarding the fate of the Games, as well as comments indicating that it was too soon to make a decision. Some major themes included athlete perspectives regarding mental health; their ability to continue to compete if the Games are delayed; preferences for staying the course versus postponement; opinions on how long of a postponement is feasible; the idea that the United States has a commitment to be socially responsible world leaders, and some heartfelt appreciation for the USOPC seeking to understand their perspectives through the survey.

### Training Availability

- Nearly 65% of athletes said their training has been severely impacted or they can't train at all.
- 25% of athletes reported they cannot train at all.
- Less than 10% reported they could continue to train without any adverse impact.

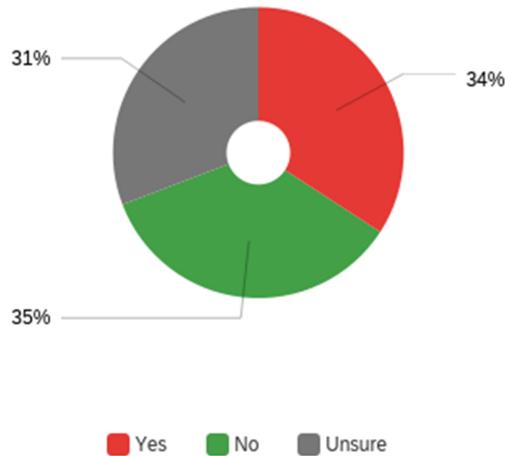
### *How has COVID-19 impacted your ability to train and prepare for the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games?*



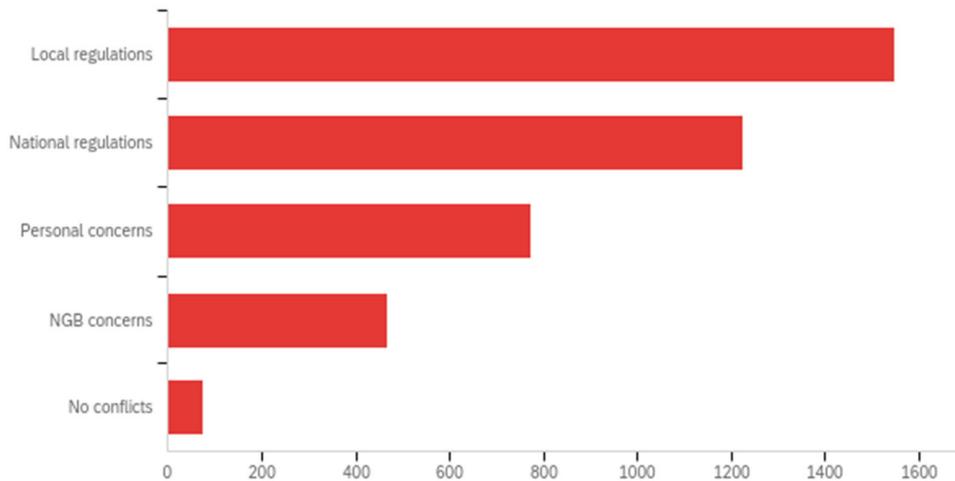
### Training Safety

- Nearly two-thirds of athletes feel that continuing to train would either put their health at risk or aren't sure if it would put their health at risk.
- 87% of athletes cited local regulations as affecting their training, and 43% cited personal concerns affecting their training.
- Most athletes reported modifying their training routines, but elaborated that the ability to do so with the appropriate facilities, equipment or training partners has been significantly impacted.

***Do you feel that continuing to train and prepare will put your health at risk?***



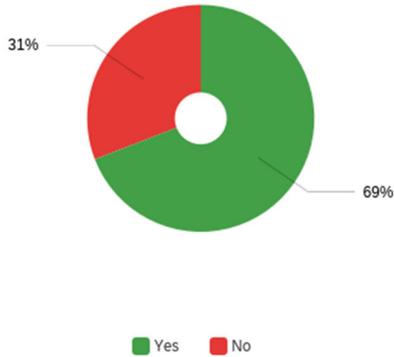
***Is your training being affected by (check all that apply):***



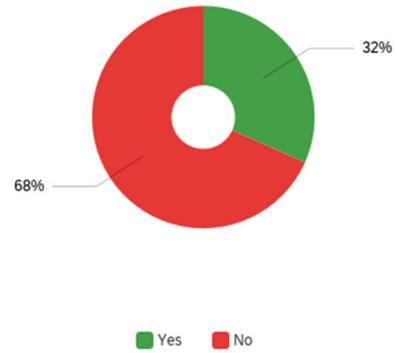
### Games Safety and Fairness

- Nearly 70% of athletes said they would feel comfortable competing if the World Health Organization deemed it safe.
- However, 68% also said they did not think the Games could be fairly competed if continued as scheduled.
- Athletes also reported toll on their mental health and safety; the ability for the best to compete; ethical issues; and Paralympic classification challenges as part of their considerations.

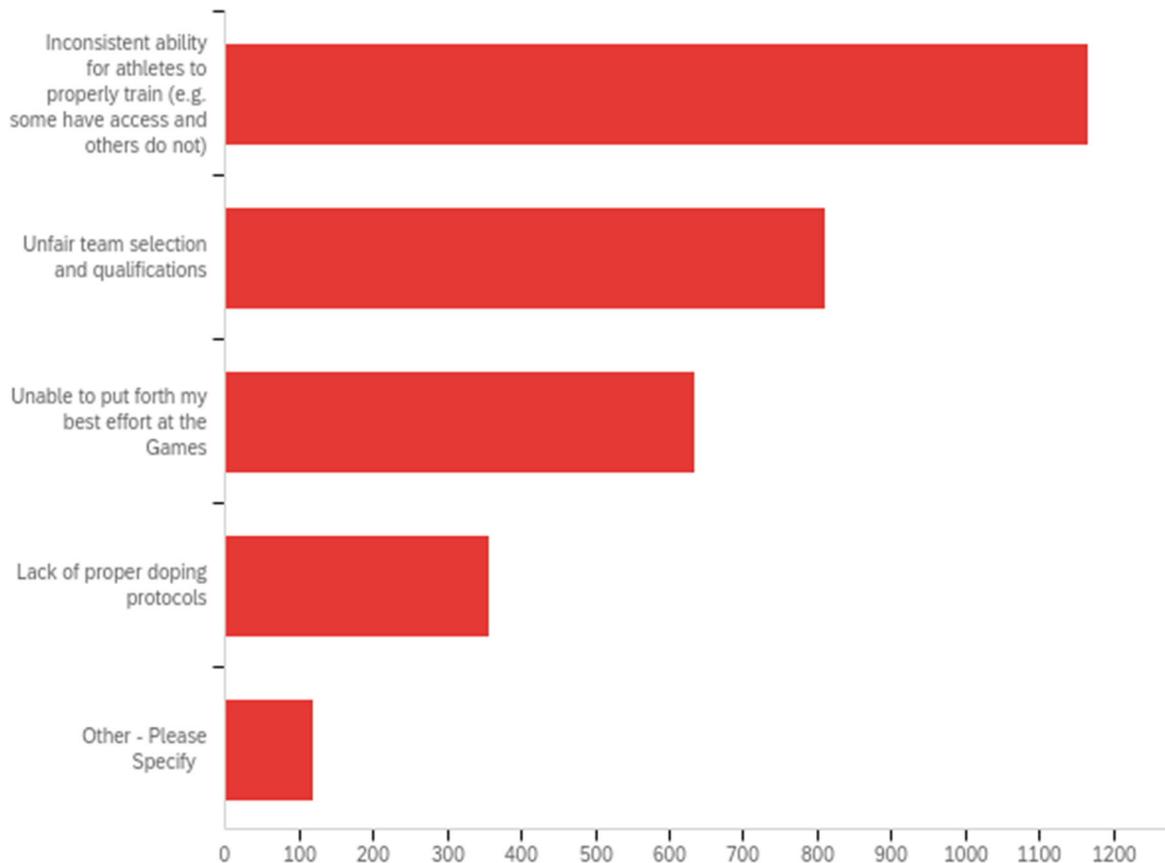
***If the WHO declares it safe to compete in Tokyo as scheduled, would you feel comfortable competing?***



***Do you think it is possible for the Games to be conducted on a fair playing field if they continue as scheduled?***



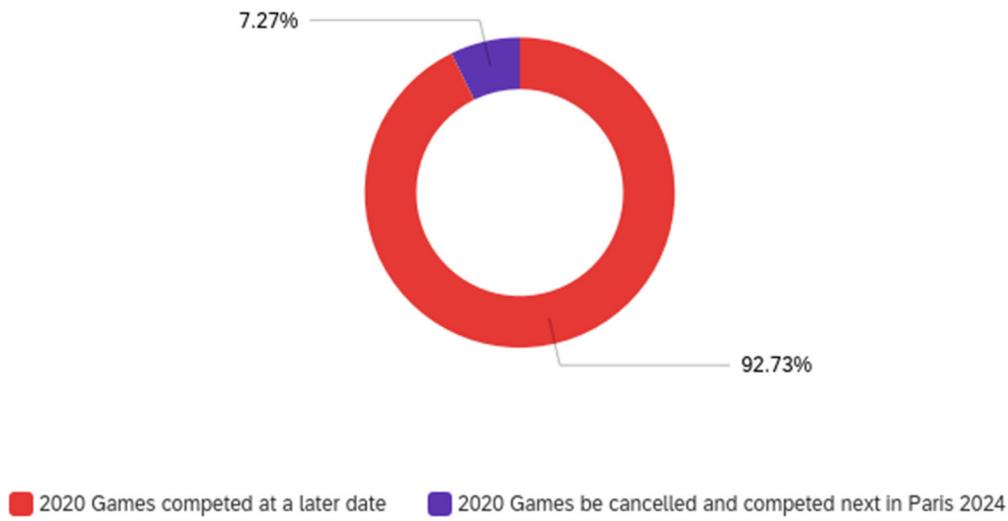
***If no, (you don't believe the Games could be competed fairly if they continue as scheduled), please indicate why (select all that apply):***



## Decision Preferences

- Nearly 93% of athletes reported a preference for postponing the Games versus canceling them outright.
- In addition to options available for response, free form responses also cited concerns about not being able to compete at a postponed or future Games because of age, preparation requirements, or other life commitments (i.e. school, work, family, etc.)

***If the Games cannot be held as scheduled, which would you prefer?***



***What key factors are you considering in your response (select all that apply)?***

