Demographics Research Overview



More than 5.6 million

athletes and Unified Partners participated in Special Olympics in 2016.

The majority of athletes in several countries surveyed **never participated in organized sports** before joining Special Olympics.

More than 1.1 million volunteers supported Special Olympics in 2016.





61% of adult Special Olympics athletes in the United States are employed.



People with intellectual disabilitiesmake up about **1-3%** of the global population.

In the United States,

38% of people with intellectual disabilities currently participate or have participated in Special Olympics.