FACT SHEET:

WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION

THE WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION IS OUR FLAGSHIP EVENT, HELD BIENNIALLY IN A MEMBER COUNTRY OR REGION.

It is the biggest vocational education and skills excellence event in the world. The Competitors represent the best of their peers in more than 50 different skills and are selected from skills competitions in 76 WorldSkills' Member countries and regions. They will demonstrate technical abilities both individually and collectively to execute specific tasks for which they study and will perform in the future. The Competitors are all under the age of 23 years (except for four skills that have the age limit of 25).

One of the main legacies of the WorldSkills Competitions is to give visibility and importance to professional education, as one of the true tools of socioeconomic transformation.

The Competition also provides the opportunity to exchange information and best practices on professional education among leaders in industry, government and education. New ideas and processes inspire school-aged youth to dedicate themselves to technical and technological careers and ascend to a better future.

This is a multifaceted event that is considered to be the global meeting place for government, education, industry and association leaders to discuss relevant and important issues related to skills worldwide.

WorldSkills offers the infrastructure and competition experience to engage with a number of target groups, from students in grade school and secondary school to youth, governments and educators.

SINCE THE 2003 WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION WE HAVE HAD:

- A combined 1,251,000 people visit the Competitions.

- A combined 6,117 Competitors at the global level.

WHY ARE SKILLS COMPETITIONS SO IMPORTANT?

- Training, qualifying and competing in the WorldSkills Competition equals 4–5 years of professional training.

- Builds character, confidence, commitment, and self-esteem.

- Helps align and increase the quality of the required standards in vocational and education training systems.

- Helps benchmark the educational training system against industry, public demand and across borders.

- The challenge of a competition brings fun and exciting elements into teaching and training.

- Provides the validation that mastery of a skill requires practical learning and training over time.

- Raise quality, promote professional development and drive improvements in vocational training.

A total of 15,454 Competitors have competed at the WorldSkills Competition since 1950

www.worldskills.org

worldskills

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Past competition years and locations	Number of competitors:	Number of countries/regions:
1st 1950: Madrid, Spain	24	2
2nd 1951: Madrid, Spain	16	2
3rd 1953: Madrid, Spain	65	7
4th 1955: Madrid, Spain	83	7
5th 1956: Madrid, Spain	88	8
6th 1957: Madrid, Spain	128	8
7th 1958: Brussels, Belgium	144	10
8th 1959: Modena, Italy	150	9
9th 1960: Barcelona, Spain	173	7
10th 1961: Duisburg, Germany	192	11
11th 1962: Gijón, Spain	156	10
12th 1963: Dublin, Ireland	224	13
13th 1964: Lisbon, Portugal	197	12
14th 1966: Glasgow, United Kingdom	204	11
15th 1966: Utrecht, Netherlands	220	11
16th 1967: Madrid, Spain	233	11
17th 1968: Bern, Switzerland	249	14
18th 1969: Brussels, Belgium	260	15
19th 1970: Tokyo, Japan	274	15
20th 1971: Gijón, Spain	283	15
21st 1973: Munich, Germany	281	15
22nd 1975: Madrid, Spain	293	17
23rd 1977: Utrecht, Netherlands	291	17
24th 1978: Busan, Korea	245	14
25th 1979: Cork, Ireland	278	14
26th 1981: Atlanta, USA	274	14
27th 1983: Linz, Austria	314	18
28th 1985: Osaka, Japan	307	18
29th 1988: Sydney, Australia	351	20
30th 1989: Birmingham, United Kingdom	349	21
31st 1991: Amsterdam, Netherlands	432	25
32nd 1993: Taipei, Chinese Taipei	435	25
33rd 1995: Lyon, France	506	28
34th 1997: St Gallen, Switzerland	533	30
35th 1999: Montreal, Canada	567	33
36th 2001: Seoul, Korea	576	35
37th 2003: St Gallen, Switzerland	618	36
38th 2005: Helsinki, Finland	666	38
39th 2007: Shizuoka, Japan	812	46
40th 2009: Calgary, Canada	847	45
41st 2011: London, United Kingdom	931	51
42nd 2013: Leipzig, Germany	999	53
43rd 2015: São Paulo, Brazil	1,186	62
44th 2017: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates		

TOTAL: 14,454