Alpine Skiing

Participation

- Alpine skiing had the highest level of participation in one individual discipline (only ice hockey, which is a team sport, had a larger number of athletes). Alpine skiing also had the highest number of participating NOCs (51). It was the star discipline of the Winter Olympics.
- The European NOCs were very well represented.
- The male-female athlete ratio was relatively balanced in most of the larger delegations. Sweden and particularly Germany were characterised by the low number of male athletes in their delegations.
- The smaller NOCs were composed mainly of male athletes.
- 49 NOCs participated in the men's events, and 39 in the women's.
- Compared to 1998, the number of athletes increased by 10% (no major difference between men and women's participation), with a stable number of NOCs (50 in 1998). A few NOCs showed a large increase in their number of participants: Australia (from 1 to 10 athletes), and the Czech Republic (2 to 9).

Results

- The number of medal-winning NOCs or NOCs with finalists was quite limited (respectively 10 and 11).
- The Alpine countries were predominant, and the Scandinavian countries also, to a lesser extent.
- Austria confirmed its dominance of this discipline (8 medals and 15 finalists), particularly in the men's events.
Salt Lake City Winter Olympics results: alpine disciplines

Participating NOC’s in alpine skiing

- Participating NOC’s at Salt Lake City
- No participation at Salt Lake City

Finalists: The Nordic/Alpine Europe - North America couple

Medals: Austria still dominates this specialty
- Switzerland, winning a disappointingly low number of medals (only one!), was nonetheless well represented in the finals with 8 finalist places. However, the overall Swiss performance was much less remarkable than during the 1980s, when Switzerland dominated world skiing (as an example, they won 11 medals in Calgary in 1988).
- Norway confirmed its rise among the great nations of Alpine skiing from the 1990s onward, but only in the men's events.
- The United States, with 2 medals and 2 finalists, were relatively disappointing, and had been expected to do much better.
- The Italian men's team had only one finalist.
- Croatia put in an amazing performance in women's skiing, thanks to one exceptional athlete.
- Disappointment for Slovenia; they came away empty-handed.
- Compared to 1998, the number of NOCs with both medal-winners and finalists remained more or less the same. Austria maintained its place at the top of the list, while Germany dropped (only 1 medal at Salt Lake City compared to 6 at Nagano).

Freestyle skiing

Participation

- Six major delegations took part (Australia, Canada, China, USA, Japan and Russia) but no Alpine country. Germany was completely absent, and the level of participation from Austria and Italy was very low (at only one athlete each).
- There was an equal level of participation between men and women, and as regards NOCs (18 vs 17 respectively).
- The majority of the larger delegations were mixed.
Salt Lake City Winter Olympics results: alpine disciplines

**Finalists:** Europe practically absent

**Medals:** widely distributed medals
Compared to 1998, there was a slight decrease in the level of participation (–5%) both among the male and the female participants. There was also a slight drop in the number of NOCs (down to 21 compared to 25 in Nagano).

**Results**

- The medals were well distributed, with 9 NOCs sharing the total of 12 medals. No NOC is particularly dominant in this discipline, although the United States (with 3 medals and 4 finalists) and Canada (2 medals and 5 finalists) performed best.
- In 1998, 9 NOCs also won medals (In Salt Lake City, Australia, Czech Republic and Canada replaced Germany, China and Switzerland, who had won medals in Nagano).
- Ten NOCs had competitors in the finals compared to 12 NOCs in 1998, more or less the same countries each time.
- Freestyle skiing as a discipline is relatively recent and very open, and is therefore accessible to NOCs who don’t have a deep-rooted tradition of alpine skiing, such as Australia, Belarus, China, Finland, Japan, Russia, Ukraine or the Czech Republic.
- All the major Alpine nations were absent from this competition, with the exception of France.

**Snowboard**

**Participation**

- Here again, the majority of participants came from Europe, with only four non-European NOCs taking part.

*Salt Lake City Winter Olympics results: alpine disciplines*

*Participating NOC’s at Salt Lake City*

- Participating NOC’s in snowboard
- Participating NOC’s at Salt Lake City
- No participation at Salt Lake City

Source: IOC

*Snowboard: a very European discipline*
Salt Lake City Winter Olympics results: alpine disciplines

Participating NOC's in snowboard

- Finalists: European NOCs in the majority
- Medals: A France - USA match
- The largest delegations came from the Alpine countries, Scandinavia, North America and Japan.
- The number of male athletes is slightly higher than the number of women (65 vs 53). However, this is the only discipline where there are more NOCs among the women than for the men (16 vs 15 respectively). All the NOCs with more than one athlete presented mixed delegations, with the exception of Slovenia.
- Canada was the only country where male athletes largely dominated their team; the situation was more equal in the other participant nations.
- In comparison to 1998, participation was down slightly (–5.6%, no difference between men and women), and similarly for the number of NOCs (22 in 1998 compared to 19 in 2002).
- The largest delegations in Salt Lake City were the same as in Nagano in 1998.

Results

- Five NOCs won medals (this discipline being less open than freestyle skiing, for the same number of medals, i.e. 12).
- The United States (particularly in the men's events) and France (women's events) emerged as the two star nations in this discipline (winning respectively 5 and 3 medals, and 4 and 3 finalists respectively).
- The Alpine countries are quite well represented, both in terms of medals and of finalists, with the notable exception of Germany.
- In 1998, more NOCs won medals (8), but the same number of NOCs were finalists.
- Germany (2 medals in 1998) and Canada (one medal and 2 finalists) disappeared from the winner’s list in 2002, while the USA and France reinforced their position as leaders in this discipline.

Snowboarding as a sport seems to have rapidly achieved a certainly level of maturity, mainly thanks to its professionalism and its success with the public. It is quite possible that it will be further developed in the future, particularly within the Olympic Games, where we could soon see more snowboard events being added to the programme.