

Athletic season 2023

In any given season, the United States usually boasts the best sprint depth of any country in the world, but over the past 15 years they have won just one global title in the men's 4x100m. Despite that statistic, it would be foolish to overlook a squad that includes the reigning world champions at 100m (Fred Kerley) and 200m (Noah Lyles), along with the 2022 silver and bronze medalists at 200m (Kenny Bednarek and Erriyon Knighton), 2019 world 100m champion (Christian Coleman), the US 100m champion (Cravont Charleston) and NCAA 100m champion (Courtney Lindsey). Speed will only take a team so far, though. Quite often, the quartets with the best changeovers are the most successful. That has certainly been the case at the past two global championships, with Canada taking gold in Oregon last year and Italy triumphing at the Tokyo Olympics one year prior. The Canadian quartet that won in Oregon reunited at the Florida Relays earlier this year and clocked a world-leading 37.80. That mark was equalled last month by a strong Japanese quartet at the Wanda Diamond League meeting in London, and it wouldn't be a surprise if either of those teams made it on to the podium in Budapest. Great Britain & Northern Ireland – winners of this title in 2017 – are the fourth fastest nation in the world this year. They and the USA are the only countries to reach the podium at the past three World Championships, and they will most likely be in the medal hunt again. Italy clocked 38.04 last month; if Olympic 100m champion Marcell Jacobs is in form and available to run the relay, they would be capable of improving on that time and contending for medals. After the big five, there's a bit of a jump on the entry lists to the likes of Germany, France, Nigeria and Trinidad & Tobago – all of whom could find themselves in the medal hunt if everything goes right for them in Budapest. Jamaica – which hasn't earned a global medal in the men's 4x100m since Usain Bolt's retirement – is just the 11th fastest nation of the entered teams, but they have enough foot speed to make their way back on to the podium. Brazil, winners at the World Relays in 2022, has a best this year of just 38.70, but if they field their four fastest men in Budapest – including national record-holder Erik Cardoso – they could once again cause a surprise.

| Medal winners | | | | Relevant records | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----|-------|--------------------------|-------|---------------------|---|
| 2010 Europe | | | | WR | 36.84 | Jamaica | OG London 11 Aug 2012 |
| 1 | France | FRA | 38.11 | | | | |
| | Jimmy Vicaut, Christophe Lemaître, Pierre-Alexis Pessonneaux, Martial Mbandjock | | | Eur | 37.36 | Great Britain & NI | 2 Doha (QAT) 05 OCT 2019 |
| 2 | Italy | ITA | 38.17 | | | | |
| | Roberto Donati, Simone Collio, Emanuele Di Gregorio, Maurizio Checcucci | | | CZE | 38.82 | Czechoslovakia | Munchen 10 09 1972 |
| 3 | Germany | GER | 38.44 | Ame | 37.10 | United States | 1 Doha (QAT) 05 OCT 2019 |
| | Tobias Unger, Marius Broening, Alexander Kosenkow, Martin Keller | | | | | | Christian Coleman, Justin Gatlin, Michael Rodgers, Noah Lyles |
| 2011 World | | | | All-time list | | | |
| 1 | Jamaica | JAM | 37.04 | 1 | 36.84 | Jamaica | 1 London (GBR) 11 AUG 2012 |
| | Nesta Carter, Michael Frater, Yohan Blake, Usain Bolt | | | | | | Nesta Carter, Michael Frater, Yohan Blake, Usain Bolt |
| 2 | France | FRA | 38.20 | *** | 37.04 | United States | OG London 11 Aug 2012 |
| | Teddy Tinmar, Christophe Lemaître, Yannick Lesourd, Jimmy Vicaut | | | | | | Trell Kimmons, Justin Gatlin, Tyson Gay, Ryan Bailey |
| 3 | Saint Kitts & Nevis | SKN | 38.49 | 2 | 37.10 | United States | 1 Doha (QAT) 05 OCT 2019 |
| | Jason Rogers, Kim Collins, Antoine Adams, BJ Lawrence | | | | | | Christian Coleman, Justin Gatlin, Michael Rodgers, Noah Lyles |
| 2012 Europe | | | | 3 | 37.36 | Great Britain & NI | 2 Doha (QAT) 05 OCT 2019 |
| 1 | Nederland | NED | 38.34 | | | | Adam Gemili, Zharnel Hughes, Richard Kilty, Nethaneel Mitchell-Blake |
| | Brian Mariano, Churandy Martina, Giovanni Codrington, Patrick van Luijk | | | 4 | 37.43 | Japan | 3 Doha (QAT) 05 OCT 2019 |
| 2 | Germany | GER | 38.44 | | | | Shuhei Tada, Kirara Shiraishi, Yoshihide Kiryu, Abdul Hakim Sani Brown |
| | Julian Reus, Tobias Unger, Alexander Kosenkow, Lucas Jakubczyk | | | 5 | 37.48 | Canada | 1 Eugene, OR (USA) 23 JUL 2022 |
| 3 | France | FRA | 38.46 | | | | Aaron Brown, Jerome Blake, Brendon Rodney, Andre de Grasse |
| | Ronald Pognon, Christophe Lemaître, Pierre-Alexis Pessonneaux, Emmanuel Biron | | | 6 | 37.50 | Italy | 1 Tokyo (JPN) 06 AUG 2021 |
| 2012 Olympic | | | | | | | Lorenzo Patta, Lamont Marcell Jacobs, Eseosa Desalu, Filippo Tortu |
| 1 | Jamaica | JAM | 36.84 | 7 | 37.58 | United States Red | 1 Monaco (MON) 19 JUL 2013 |
| | Nesta Carter, Michael Frater, Yohan Blake, Usain Bolt | | | | | | Charles Silmon, Michael Rodgers, Rakieem Salaam, Justin Gatlin |
| 2 | United States | USA | 37.04 | 8 | 37.62 | Trinidad and Tobago | 2 Berlin (GER) 22 AUG 2009 |
| | Trell Kimmons, Justin Gatlin, Tyson Gay, Ryan Bailey | | | | | | Darrel Brown, Marc Burns, Emmanuel Callender, Richard Thompson |
| 3 | Trinidad and Tobago | TRI | 38.12 | 9 | 37.65 | HSI | 1 Berlin (GER) 01 SEP 2000 |
| | Keston Bledman, Marc Burns, Emmanuel Callender, Richard Thompson | | | | | | Jon Drummond, Bernard Williams, Curtis Johnson, Maurice Green |
| 2013 World | | | | 9 | 37.65 | South Africa | 1h2 Doha (QAT) 04 OCT 2019 |
| 1 | Jamaica | JAM | 37.36 | | | | Thando Dlodlo, Simon Magakwe, Clarence Muryai, Akani Simbine |
| | Nesta Carter, Kemar Bailey-Cole, Nickel Ashmeade, Usain Bolt | | | World season list | | | |
| 2 | United States | USA | 37.66 | 1 | 37.80 | Canada | CAN Gainesville FL 1 Apr |
| | Charles Silmon, Mike Rodgers, Mookie Salaam, Justin Gatlin | | | | | | Aaron Brown, Jerome Blake, Brendon Rodney, Andre De Grasse |
| 3 | Canada | CAN | 37.92 | 1 | 37.80 | Japan | JPN London 23 Jul |
| | Gavin Smellie, Aaron Brown, Dontae Richards-Kwok, Justyn Warner | | | | | | Yuki Koike, Ryuichiro Sakai, Hiroki Yanagita, Koki Ueyama |
| 2014 Europe | | | | 3 | 37.90 | LSU, | MIX Baton Rouge LA 13 May |
| 1 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.93 | | | | Brandon Hicklin USA, Dorian Camel USA, DaMarcus Fleming USA, Godson Oghenebrume NGR |
| | James Ellington, Harry Aikines-Aryeete, Richard Kilty, Adam Gemili | | | 4 | 37.93 | Florida, | USA Baton Rouge LA 13 May |
| 2 | Germany | GER | 38.09 | | | | Ryan Willie, Jacory Patterson, Pjai Austin, Robert Gregory |
| | Julian Reus, Sven Knipphals, Alexander Kosenkow, Lucas Jakubczyk | | | 5 | 38.00 | Great Britain | GBR London 23 Jul |
| 3 | France | FRA | 38.47 | | | | Jona Efoloko, Tommy Ramdhan, Jeremiah Azu, Zharnel Hughes |
| | Pierre Vincent, Christophe Lemaître, Teddy Tinmar, Ben Bassaw | | | 6 | 38.04 | Italy | ITA Grosseto 21 Jul |
| 2015 World | | | | | | | Roberto Rigali, Filippo Tortu, Lorenzo Patta, Samuele Ceccarelli |
| 1 | Jamaica | JAM | 37.36 | 7 | 38.08 | United States | USA Austin TX 1 Apr |
| | Nesta Carter, Asafa Powell, Nickel Ashmeade, Usain Bolt | | | | | | Christian Coleman, Kenny Bednarek, Kyree King, Marvin Bracy-Williams |
| 2 | China | CHN | 38.01 | 8 | 38.20 | Texas Tech, | MIX Austin TX 7 Jun |
| | Mo Youxue, Xie Zhenye, Su Bingtian, Zhang Peimeng | | | | | | Adam Clayton GBR, Courtney Lindsey USA, Don'drea Swint USA, Terrence Jones Jr. BAH |
| 3 | Canada | CAN | 38.13 | Results: | | | |
| | Aaron Brown, Andre De Grasse, Brendon Rodney, Justyn Warner | | | 100 | 1 | | |
| 2016 Europe | | | | | 2 | | |
| 1 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.93 | | 3 | | |
| | James Ellington, Harry Aikines-Aryeete, Richard Kilty, Adam Gemili | | | | 4 | | |
| 2 | Germany | GER | 38.09 | | 5 | | |
| | Julian Reus, Sven Knipphals, Alexander Kosenkow, Lucas Jakubczyk | | | | 6 | | |
| 3 | France | FRA | 38.47 | | 7 | | |
| | Pierre Vincent, Christophe Lemaître, Teddy Tinmar, Ben Bassaw | | | | 8 | | |
| 2016 Olympic | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Jamaica | JAM | 37.27 | SF | 1 | | |
| | Asafa Powell, Yohan Blake, Nickel Ashmeade, Usain Bolt | | | | 2 | | |
| 2 | Japan | JPN | 37.60 | | 3 | | |
| | Ryota Yamagata, Shota Izuka, Yoshihide Kiryu, Aska Cambridge | | | | 4 | | |
| 3 | Canada | CAN | 37.64 | | 5 | | |
| | Akeem Haynes, Aaron Brown, Brendon Rodney, Andre De Grasse | | | | 6 | | |
| 2017 World | | | | | 7 | | |
| 1 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.47 | | 8 | | |
| | Chijindu Ujah, Adam Gemili, Danny Talbot, Nethaneel Mitchell-Blake | | | | | | |
| 2 | United States | USA | 37.52 | | | | |
| | Mike Rodgers, Justin Gatlin, Jaylen Bacon, Christian Coleman | | | | | | |
| 3 | Japan | JPN | 38.04 | | | | |
| | Shuhei Tada, Shota Izuka, Yoshihide Kiryu, Kenji Fujimitsu | | | | | | |
| 2018 Europe | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.80 | | | | |
| | Chijindu Ujah, Zharnel Hughes, Adam Gemili, Harry Aikines-Aryeete | | | | | | |
| 2 | Turkey | TUR | 37.98 | | | | |
| | Emre Zafer Barnes, Jak Ali Harvey, Yiğitcan Hekimoglu, Ramil Guliyev | | | | | | |
| 3 | Netherlands | NED | 38.03 | | | | |
| | Christopher Garia, Churandy Martina, Hensley Paulina, Taymir Burnet | | | | | | |
| 2019 World | | | | | | | |
| 1 | United States | USA | 37.10 | | | | |
| | Christian Coleman, Justin Gatlin, Mike Rodgers, Noah Lyles | | | | | | |
| 2 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.36 | | | | |
| | Adam Gemili, Zharnel Hughes, Richard Kilty, Nethaneel Mitchell-Blake | | | | | | |
| 3 | Japan | JPN | 37.43 | | | | |
| | Shuhei Tada, Kirara Shiraishi, Yoshihide Kiryu, Abdul Hakim Sani Brown | | | | | | |
| 2021 Olympic | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Italy | ITA | 37.50 | | | | |
| | Lorenzo Patta, Lamont Marcell Jacobs, Eseosa Desalu, Filippo Tortu | | | | | | |
| 2 | Canada | CAN | 37.70 | | | | |
| | Aaron Brown, Jerome Blake, Brendon Rodney, Andre De Grasse | | | | | | |
| 3 | China | CHN | 37.79 | | | | |
| | Tang Xingqiang, Xie Zhenye, Su Bingtian, Wu Zhiqiang | | | | | | |
| 2022 World | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Canada | CAN | 37.48 | | | | |
| | Aaron Brown, Jerome Blake, Brendon Rodney, Andre De Grasse | | | | | | |
| 2 | United States | USA | 37.55 | | | | |
| | Christian Coleman, Noah Lyles, Elijah Hall-Thompson, Marvin Bracy | | | | | | |
| 3 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.83 | | | | |
| | Jona Efoloko, Zharnel Hughes, Nethaneel Mitchell-Blake, Reece Prescod | | | | | | |
| 2022 Europe | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Great Britain | GBR | 37.67 | | | | |
| | Jeremiah Azu, Zharnel Hughes, Jona Efoloko, Nethaneel Mitchell-Blake | | | | | | |
| 2 | France | FRA | 37.94 | | | | |
| | Mickaël-Méba Zeze, Pablo Mateo, Ryan Zeze, Jimmy Vicaut | | | | | | |
| 3 | Poland | POL | 38.15 | | | | |
| | Adrian Brzeziński, Przemysław Słowikowski, Patryk Wykrota, Dominik Kopec | | | | | | |

