Different Nations, Different Popular Sports

The most popular spectator sport in the United States is American football, and ice hockey dominates the sporting scene in Canada. Mexican fans are addicted to soccer. You probably already knew this. But what about other countries?

In the Caribbean islands, the most popular sports are baseball, soccer and cricket, with none of them dominating the others. Most Central and South American spectators prefer soccer, although in Venezuela, baseball is the most popular sport.

Soccer (technically association football) is the most-watched professional athletic activity in most European nations, although basketball is king in Latvia and Lithuania, while ice hockey is the most popular spectator sport in Finland and Russia. Chinese spectators rate table tennis as their number one sport to watch, while basketball dominates the ratings in the Philippines. Mongolian spectators prefer wrestling, and kickboxing is the top spectator sport in Laos and Cambodia.

In India and Pakistan, the most popular sport is cricket, and the rivalry games between the two countries are the most-watched TV broadcasts in India. The most popular sport in Japan is baseball.

The most interesting outlier in all of this is Australia, whose fans watch a variety of versions of what Americans call Rugby, which Australians call Australian Rules Football. The Australian Football League is the sport’s only fully professional competition, and is Australia’s dominant sporting body. Indonesians and Fijians also favor Australian football.

Source:

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/most-popular-sport-by-country>