

T&FN's WORLD MEN'S ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Track & Field News has been formally choosing an Athlete Of The Year since '59. Our Men's World Rankings began with the 1947 season, but for that year through the '58 campaign, the concept of an AOY didn't exist.

The all-time men's No. 1s, with the event(s) in which they made the World Rankings that year (if the events are out of normal event order, it reflects the existence of a "primary" discipline):

1950s

1959..... Martin Lauer (West Germany)..... 110 Hurdles, Decathlon

1960s

1960..... Rafer Johnson (USA)..... Decathlon

1961..... Ralph Boston (USA) Long Jump, 110 Hurdles

1962..... Peter Snell (New Zealand)..... 800, 1500/Mile

1963..... C.K. Yang (Taiwan)..... Decathlon, Pole Vault

1964..... Peter Snell (New Zealand)..... 800, 1500/Mile

1965..... Ron Clarke (Australia)..... 5000, 10,000

1966..... Jim Ryun (USA)..... 1500/Mile, 800

1967..... Jim Ryun (USA)..... 1500/Mile

1968..... Bob Beamon (USA)..... Long Jump

1969..... Bill Toomey (USA)..... Decathlon

1970s

1970..... Randy Matson (USA) Shot

1971..... Rod Milburn (USA)..... 110 Hurdles

1972..... Lasse Viren (Finland) 5000, 10,000

1973..... Ben Jipcho (Kenya) 1500/Mile, Steeple, 5000

1974..... Rick Wohlhuter (USA) 800, 1500/Mile

1975..... John Walker (New Zealand) 800, 1500/Mile

1976..... Alberto Juantorena (Cuba) 400, 800

1977..... Alberto Juantorena (Cuba) 400, 800

1978..... Henry Rono (Kenya) Steeple, 5000, 10,000

1979..... Seb Coe (Great Britain) 800, 1500/Mile

1980s

1980..... Edwin Moses (USA) 400 Hurdles

1981.....	Seb Coe (Great Britain)	800, 1500/Mile
1982.....	Carl Lewis (USA)	100, 200, Long Jump
1983.....	Carl Lewis (USA)	100, 200, Long Jump
1984.....	Carl Lewis (USA)	100, 200, Long Jump
1985.....	Saïd Aouita (Morocco)	1500/Mile, 5000
1986.....	Yuriy Syedikh (Soviet Union)	Hammer
1987*	Saïd Aouita (Morocco)	1500/Mile, 5000
1988.....	Sergey Bubka (Soviet Union)	Pole Vault
1989.....	Roger Kingdom (USA)	110 Hurdles

1990s

1990.....	Michael Johnson (USA)	200, 400
1991.....	Sergey Bubka (Soviet Union)	Pole Vault
1992.....	Kevin Young (USA)	400 Hurdles
1993.....	Noureddine Morceli (Algeria)	1500/Mile
1994.....	Noureddine Morceli (Algeria)	1500/Mile, 5000
1995.....	Haile Gebrselassie (Ethiopia)	5000, 10,000
1996.....	Michael Johnson (USA)	200, 400
1997.....	Wilson Kipketer (Denmark)	800
1998.....	Haile Gebrselassie (Ethiopia)	5000, 10,000
1999.....	Hicham El Guerrouj (Morocco)	1500/Mile

2000s

2000.....	Virgilijus Alekna (Lithuania)	Discus
2001.....	Hicham El Guerrouj (Morocco)	1500/Mile
2002.....	Hicham El Guerrouj (Morocco)	1500/Mile
2003.....	Félix Sánchez (Dominican Republic)	400 Hurdles
2004.....	Kenenisa Bekele (Ethiopia)	5000, 10,000
2005.....	Kenenisa Bekele (Ethiopia)	5000, 10,000
2006.....	Asafa Powell (Jamaica)	100
2007.....	Tyson Gay (USA)	100, 200
2008.....	Usain Bolt (Jamaica)	100, 200
2009.....	Usain Bolt (Jamaica)	100, 200

2010s

2010.....	David Rudisha (Kenya)	800
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(* = Ben Johnson (Canada) led the '87 voting, but was retroactively stripped of the AOY honor after his drug-admission testimony)