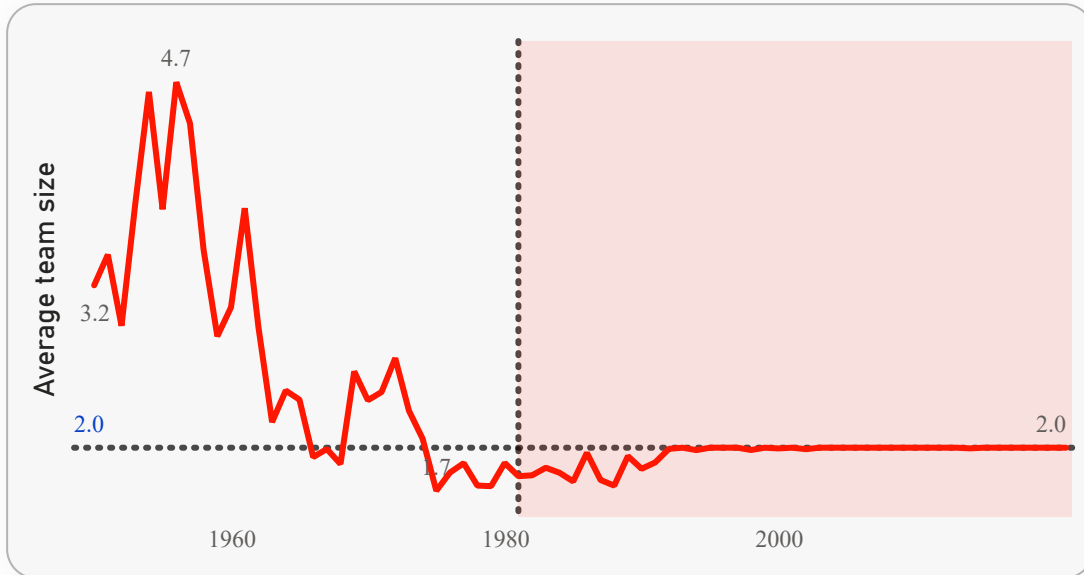




1. progressively tightening regulations and commercial mandates have led to high barriers to entry, thinning the field
2. frequent changes in the allocation of points have confused long-term indicators of dominance

### Changing regulations have thinned the field



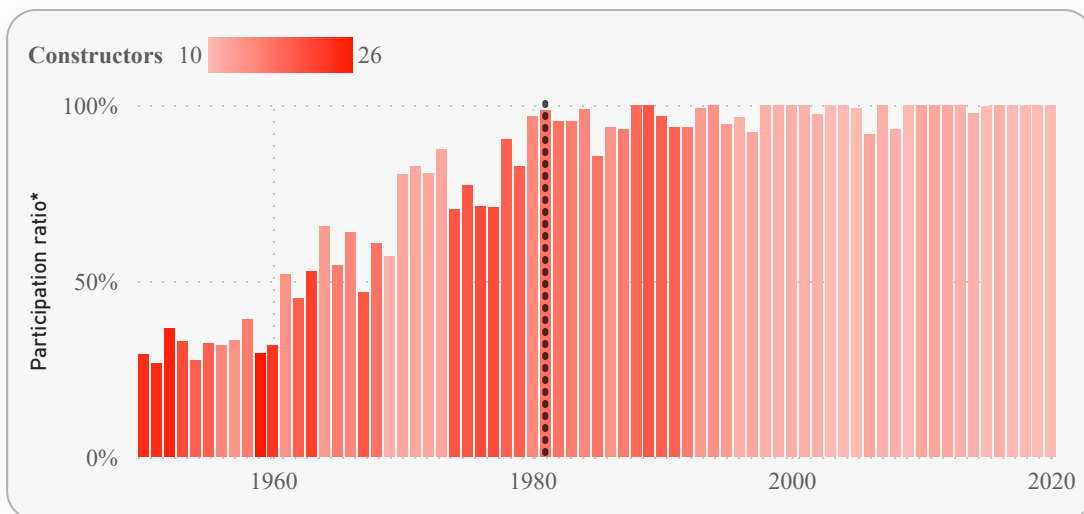
Early decades of Formula 1 saw wildly different team sizes.

Some constructors would enter a single car with just one driver and in just a few races per season.

In 1956, Kurtis-Kraft were constructor of 24 out of 33 cars.

In 1959, 26 constructors entered 9 events. Each constructor participated in just 2.7 events on average.

In 1981, teams were mandated to register for every race in the season to assure sponsors that their advertisements would be seen consistently by television cameras.



\*Participation ratio = number of events entered / number of events in season

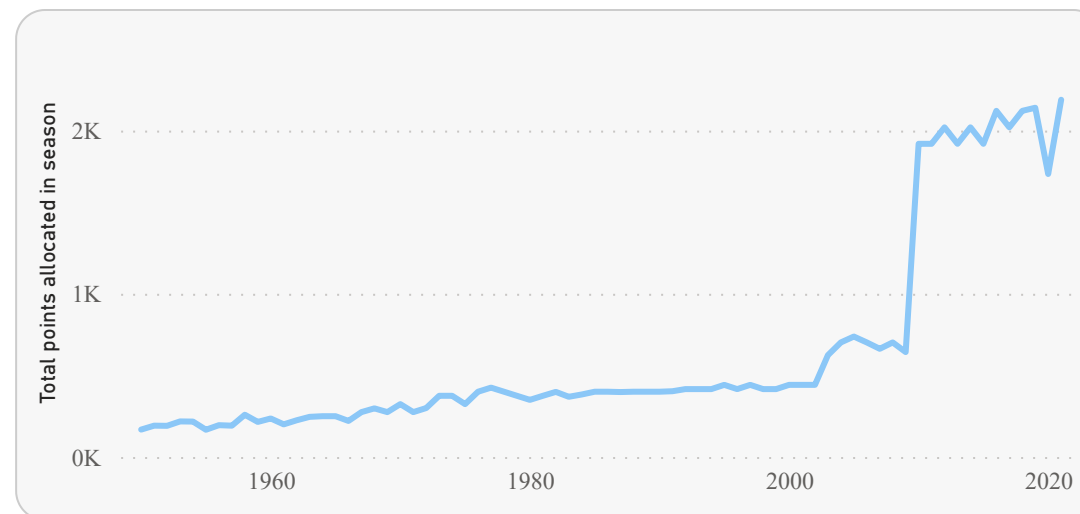
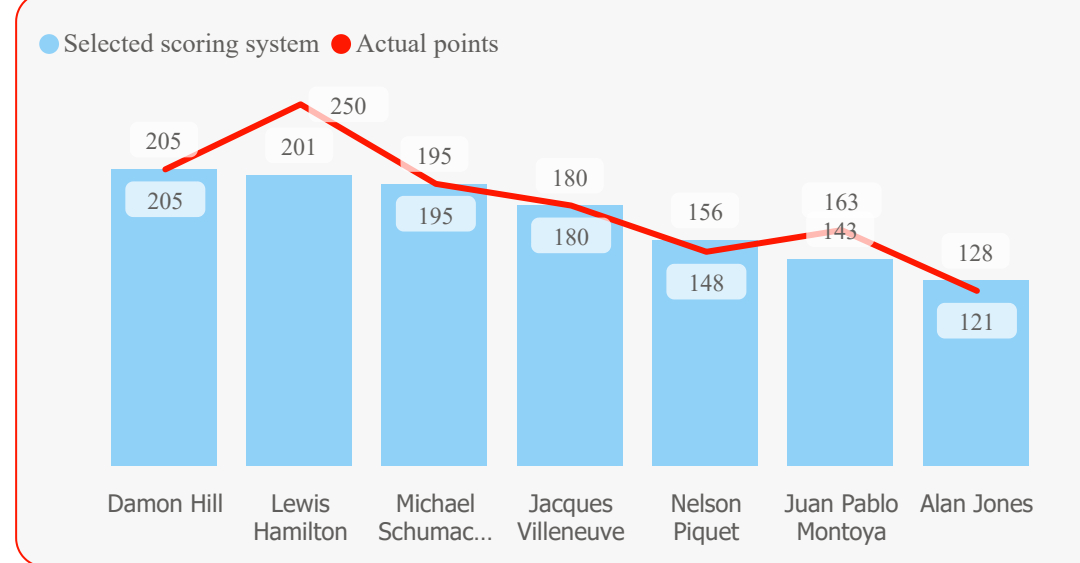
### Driver dominance is influenced by season

Scoring systems have changed frequently over the years, as shown by the massive spike in total points allocated in 2010.

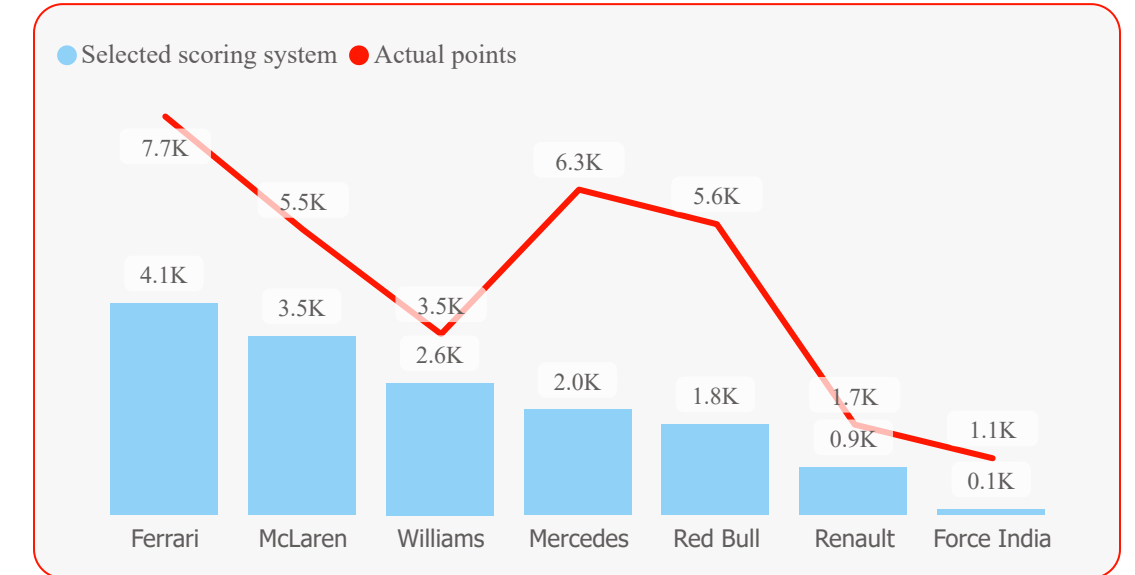
To explore the effects of this, select a point system and see how the rankings change for each driver's first 50 races after 1980.

Under most systems, Lewis Hamilton clearly dominates.

But if the scoring system had remained unchanged after the 90s, Damon Hill's first 50 races after 1980 would have scored more points than both Hamilton and Michael Schumacher.



### Consistent constructors earn more points



#### scoring system

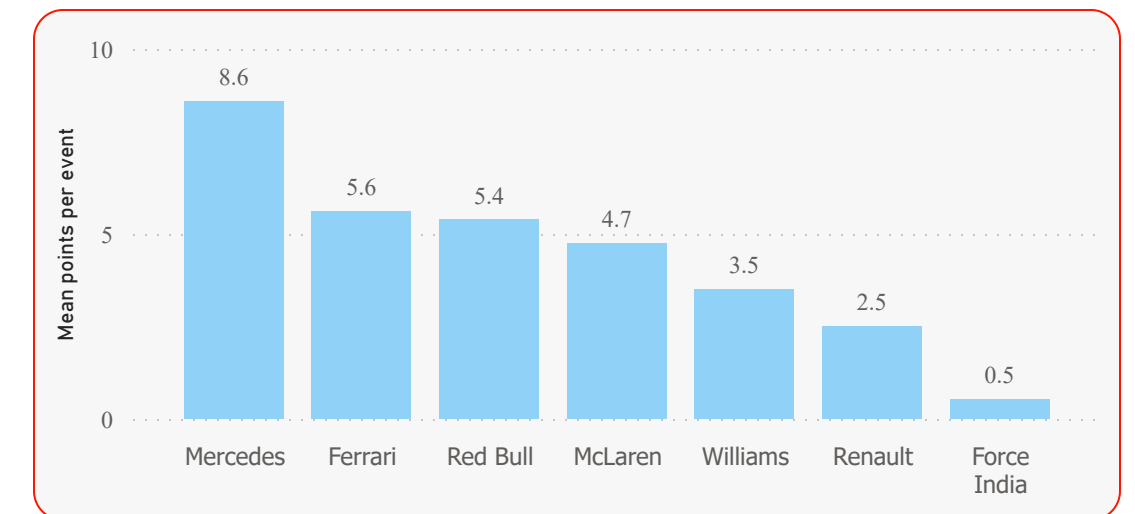
- ☐ From 1950 to 1959
- ☐ From 1960 to 1960
- ☐ From 1961 to 1990
- ☒ From 1991 to 2002
- ☐ From 2003 to 2009
- ☐ From 2010 to 2013
- ☐ From 2014 to 2014

Looking at all events since 1980, Ferrari dominates under any system.

When considering mean points per event entered in the same time period, Mercedes come out on top.

Would Mercedes dominate the field if they'd entered more races?

### ...but some are more successful than others



Red border = points under selected scoring system