# FIFA World Cup 2022 Summary

The 2022 FIFA World Cup, the 22nd edition of the tournament, was held in Qatar from November 20 to December 18, 2022. This was the first World Cup hosted in the Middle East and the most geographically compact tournament since 1930.

## Participating Teams:

A total of 32 teams from five confederations competed in the tournament.

## Tournament Highlights:

### Group Stage:

- The group stage featured eight groups (A to H), each consisting of four teams.  
- Notable performances included Morocco topping their group and Japan securing victories against former champions Germany and Spain.

### Knockout Stage:

\*\*Round of 16:\*\* Traditional powerhouses like Brazil and France advanced, while Morocco continued their impressive run by defeating Spain on penalties.  
\*\*Quarter-Finals:\*\* Argentina overcame the Netherlands in a dramatic penalty shootout, and Morocco made history by becoming the first African nation to reach the semi-finals after defeating Portugal.  
\*\*Semi-Finals:\*\* Argentina secured a 3–0 victory over Croatia, with goals from Lionel Messi and Julián Álvarez. France ended Morocco's historic run with a 2–0 win, courtesy of goals from Théo Hernandez and Randal Kolo Muani.

### Final Match:

- \*\*Date:\*\* December 18, 2022  
- \*\*Venue:\*\* Lusail Stadium, Lusail, Qatar  
- \*\*Teams:\*\* Argentina vs. France  
- \*\*Match Summary:\*\* Argentina took a 2–0 lead with goals from Lionel Messi and Ángel Di María. France's Kylian Mbappé scored twice in quick succession to level the match, forcing extra time. In extra time, Messi scored again, but Mbappé completed his hat-trick, making it 3–3. The match was decided by a penalty shootout, where Argentina triumphed 4–2, securing their third World Cup title and first since 1986.

## Individual Achievements:

- \*\*Golden Ball (Best Player):\*\* Lionel Messi (Argentina)  
- \*\*Golden Boot (Top Scorer):\*\* Kylian Mbappé (France) – 8 goals  
- \*\*Golden Glove (Best Goalkeeper):\*\* Emiliano Martínez (Argentina)  
- \*\*Young Player Award:\*\* Enzo Fernández (Argentina)

## Notable Records:

- The tournament featured a record 172 goals, surpassing the previous high of 171 goals set in 1998 and 2014.  
- Lionel Messi set a new record for the most World Cup appearances, with 26 matches, surpassing Lothar Matthäus's previous record.

## Key Takeaways:

- Argentina's victory marked their third World Cup title and solidified Lionel Messi's legacy as one of the greatest footballers in history.  
- Kylian Mbappé's hat-trick in the final highlighted his emergence as a global superstar.  
- Morocco's historic run to the semi-finals was a significant achievement for African and Arab football.

## For Detailed Analysis:

Visit the official FIFA World Cup 2022 summary: [publications.fifa.com](https://publications.fifa.com/en/annual-report-2022/2022-at-a-glance/fifa-world-cup-qatar-2022-summary/)  
Additional reports:  
- [FIFA Annual Report](https://inside.fifa.com/fifa-world-cup-qatar-2022-at-a-glance)  
- [FIFA Technical Analysis](https://www.fifatrainingcentre.com/en/fwc2022/fwc2022.php)