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Swimming - Sports Preview

RIO DE JANEIRO – Michael PHELPS (USA) looks to continue his Olympic gold rush which stands at 18 gold medals in swimming, when competition starts on Saturday, 6 August at Olympic Aquatics Stadium.

> PHELPS has won a record 18 Olympic gold medals, twice as many as any other Olympic competitor in the history of the Games. Four other individuals have won nine Olympic gold medals: swimmer Mark SPITZ (USA), athlete Paavo NURMI (FIN), gymnast Larissa LATYNINA (URS) and athlete Carl LEWIS (USA).

> PHELPS has claimed two silver medals and two bronze medals in addition to his 18 gold medals. His total medal haul of 22 is four better than the next most prolific Olympian, LATYNINA on 18 (G9-S5-B4) and seven better than the next most decorated male Olympian, gymnast Nikolai ANDRIANOV (URS) on 15 (G7-S5-B3).

> PHELPS won all eight events he competed in at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, breaking the record for a single Games, the seven by Mark SPITZ at the Munich 1972 Olympic Games.

> The oldest swimmer to win an Olympic medal is Dara TORRES (USA) at 33 years and 161 days. She won gold in women's 4 x 100m relay medley in 2000.

> Jason LEZAK (USA), is the oldest man to win a medal, at the age of 32-279, when he was part of USA's winning team in the men's 4 x 100m medley relay in Beijing.

> LEZAK also swam the fastest ever 100m freestyle split time of 46.06 in men's 4 x 100m freestyle relay in Beijing.

> Katie LEDECKY (USA) will attempt to win gold medals in the women's 200m, 400m and 800m freestyle in Rio. This trilogy has only been achieved by Debbie MEYER (USA) in 1968.

> If LEDECKY wins these three events plus a relay event, she will equal the record of four gold medals by a female American swimmer by Amy VAN DYKEN (USA) in 1996 and Missy FRANKLIN (USA) in 2012. Only one female swimmer won more gold medals at a single Olympic Games: Kristin OTTO (GDR) claimed six in 1988.

> Sisters Cate CAMPBELL (AUS) and Bronte CAMPBELL (AUS) could become the first gold-silver medal winning siblings in an individual event in swimming.

> Bronte CAMPBELL won gold in women's 100m freestyle at the world championships in 2015, with Cate finishing third in this event.

> South American NOCs have won two Olympic medals in women's swimming events. Both medals were won by Argentina. Jeanette CAMPBELL (ARG) claimed silver in 100m freestyle in 1936 and Georgina BARDACH (ARG) collected bronze in 400m individual medley in 2004.

Most Olympic medals

Name	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total	Sport
Michael PHELPS	USA	18	2	2	22	swimming
Larissa LATYNINA	URS	9	5	4	18	artistic gymnastics
Nikolai ANDRIANOV	URS	7	5	3	15	artistic gymnastics
Borys SHAKHLIN	URS	7	4	2	13	artistic gymnastics
Edoardo MANGIAROTTI	ITA	6	5	2	13	fencing
Takashi ONO	JPN	5	4	4	13	artistic gymnastics