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Apr 3, 2025 - News

# Charlotte will host the 2027 Military World Summer Games



Ashley Mahoney



Photo: Andy Weber/Axios

**Why it matters:** This will be the first time the CISM Military World Summer Games will be held in the United States. Plus, hosting the Games could bring the state \$3 billion, the Observer [reported](#).

**Context:** The Military World Games take place every four years and are held the year before the [Olympics](#).

- The goal of the Games is to use sport to foster friendship and peace among nations.
- Roughly 10,000 military athletes from more than 100 countries will compete in 25 sports, ranging from traditional Olympic sports like swimming and [basketball](#) to military-specific events, like parachuting.

**What they're saying:** "A lot of people don't even know these games exist," U.S. Performance Center co-founder/co-owner David Koerner tells Axios.

**Between the lines:** The [U.S. Department of Defense](#) signed the games over to Charlotte's local organizing committee to run the games, which includes USPC, plus state and local government agencies.

- Koerner and his USPC co-founder, Ike Belk, are members of the local organizing committee, which is now in the process of contracting venues.

"The citizens of North Carolina are all going to benefit from the massive sport tourism money coming into our state," Belk tells Axios. "This for me was a dream (which sometimes seemed like a battle!), but we are heartened by the way all parties came together to make this a reality."

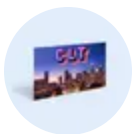
**Zoom in:** CISM says Charlotte was selected due to its "outstanding sports infrastructure, its experience in hosting international sporting events, and its strategic position as a leading hub for sports tourism," per a press release.

- Other potential venues for the Games in the area include [American Legion Memorial Stadium](#), [Bojangles Coliseum](#), [Charlotte Motor Speedway](#), Truist Field and the [U.S National Whitewater Center](#).

**What they're saying:** "Charlotte's outstanding sporting facilities, organizational expertise, and commitment to the values of CISM make it the ideal host for this historic event," CISM president Colonel Nilton Rolim said in a statement.

- "We are excited that Charlotte will be the first U.S. city to host the 2027 Military World Games," Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles said in a statement provided to Axios. "The designation speaks to our city's outstanding sports infrastructure and diverse attractions for all to enjoy ... We look forward to welcoming the participants and fans from across the globe."

*Editor's note: This story was published on April 3, 2025 and updated on April 4 to include a quote from Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles.*



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LETTER [Ir J Med Sci](#). 2021 Jan 19;190(4):1653–1654. doi: [10.1007/s11845-020-02484-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11845-020-02484-0) [↗](#)

## The impact of the World Military Games on the COVID-19 pandemic

[Amy Elise Winter](#)<sup>1,✉</sup>

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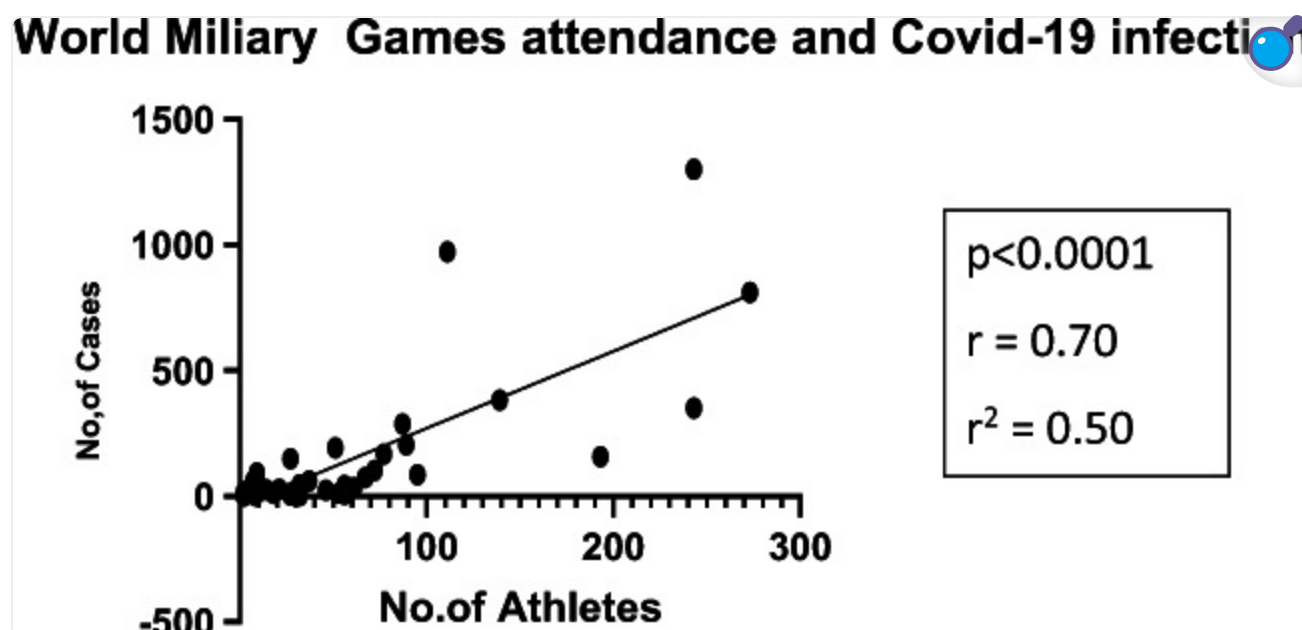
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It is clear that travel was a major factor in the rapid dissemination of COVID-19 disease. It has been proposed that Wuhan, China, was the epicentre of the pandemic. The World Military Games took place from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2019 in Wuhan, China. Over 140 nations with 9308 athletes participated with over 300,000 attendees, volunteers and staff [[1–4](#)]. This study examined the hypothesis that the large gathering in a pandemic epicentre was a factor in the spread of COVID-19 disease.

The data on the number of athletes and the number of COVID-19 cases per country were extracted from internet sources [[1–4](#)] and were examined from a European perspective. Figure [1](#) displays the graphical plot of the number of athletes per country against the number of cases of COVID-19 in that country. Note the strong correlation between these variables indicated by the curve fit and regression analysis.

Fig. 1.



[Open in a new tab](#)

Graphical plot of the number of athletes on the x-axis with the number of infected cases per country (in thousands) for the period October 18, 2019, to October 18, 2020.

From these data, the following equation can be derived:

$$N_{\text{predicted}} = X(4y)^2$$

where  $N_{\text{predicted}}$  = the total number of predicted COVID-19 cases,  $X$  = the country-specific coefficient,  $y$  = the number of athletes per country, and  $4y$  = the number of infected people. The  $y$  is multiplied by 4 based on a viral transmission rate (R-rate) of 3 (i.e. each infected traveller infects 3 others). This was squared because each group of infected individuals infects others with at least one cycle. The median country-specific coefficient ( $X$ ) in Europe is 1.7 with a range of 0.1–71 (Portugal is an outlier with the latter number—most values are under 5). Some geographically linked countries have broadly equivalent coefficients. For example, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway (0.3–1.3) are similarly valued. France, Germany, Poland and Switzerland (0.3–1) are another example. Finally, Bosnia/Herzegovina and Croatia are 12.4–16.5 but curiously although they are neighbouring these countries, Austria, Slovenia, and Hungary have much lower, if

homogenous, values (0.7–1.7). The total  $N_{\text{predicted}}$  for 31 European countries with athletes that attended the games is 4,579,102 (as it stands, this figure is 4,370,000—one year on from the date of the World Military Games).

There is a correlation between the number of individuals who travelled to the event and the number of COVID-19 cases in the country to which they returned. Whether this explains the rapid spread of the pandemic or not is not known definitively. However, this study shows a mathematical model to predict the number of COVID-19 cases in a country as a result of each infected individual travelling to that country.

## Footnotes

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### Publisher's note

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Articles from Irish Journal of Medical Science are provided here courtesy of **Nature Publishing Group**

# Josh Stein

**Joshua Harold Stein** (born September 13, 1966)<sup>[1]</sup> is an American lawyer and politician who has served as the 76th governor of North Carolina since 2025. A member of the Democratic Party, Stein served from 2017 to 2025 as the 51st attorney general of North Carolina and from 2009 to 2016 in the North Carolina Senate.

Born in Washington, D.C., Stein moved to North Carolina with his family at an early age. He studied at Dartmouth College and earned his Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School before being elected to represent North Carolina's 16th Senate district in 2008. Stein left the State Senate upon winning the Democratic nomination in the 2016 North Carolina Attorney General election, in which he defeated Republican nominee Buck Newton by 0.54%.<sup>[2][3]</sup> He was reelected in 2020, narrowly defeating Republican nominee Jim O'Neill by 0.26%.<sup>[4]</sup>

Stein chose not to seek a third term as state attorney general and instead ran for governor in the 2024 election.<sup>[5]</sup> After winning the Democratic nomination, he defeated Republican nominee Mark Robinson in the general election by 14.82%.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Early life and education

Stein was born on September 13, 1966, in Washington, D.C., the son of Jane (Stoneman) and Adam Stein.<sup>[7]</sup> His family moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, before settling in Chapel Hill, where his father co-founded North Carolina's first integrated law firm.<sup>[8][9]</sup>

Stein attended Chapel Hill High School and played on its state championship soccer team.<sup>[10][11]</sup> After graduating, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Dartmouth College in 1988.<sup>[12]</sup> After

Josh Stein



76th Governor of North Carolina

Incumbent

Assumed office

January 1, 2025

Lieutenant Rachel Hunt

Preceded by Roy Cooper

51st Attorney General of North Carolina

In office

January 1, 2017 – January 1, 2025

Governor Roy Cooper

Preceded by Roy Cooper

Succeeded by Jeff Jackson

Member of the North Carolina Senate  
from the 16th district

In office

January 1, 2009 – March 21, 2016

Preceded by Janet Cowell

Succeeded by Jay Chaudhuri

Personal details

Born Joshua Harold Stein  
September 13, 1966

college, he taught English and economics in Zimbabwe.<sup>[13]</sup> Stein went on to earn degrees from Harvard Law School and the Kennedy School of Government.

## Early career



Stein during his tenure as a state senator, 2013

In the 1990s, Stein worked as an intern for State Representative Dan Blue. Out of law school, Stein worked for the Self-Help Credit Union and the North Carolina Minority Support Center.<sup>[14]</sup> After managing John Edwards's 1998 U.S. Senate campaign,<sup>[15]</sup> he served as Edwards's deputy chief of staff from January 1999 to December 2000.<sup>[16]</sup> According to Edwards official Andrew Young, Elizabeth Edwards prevented her husband from naming Stein his chief of staff in the Senate because he withheld information from her at John's direction.<sup>[17]</sup>

	<u>Washington, D.C., U.S.</u>
<b>Political party</b>	<u>Democratic</u>
<b>Spouse</b>	<u>Anna Harris</u>
<b>Children</b>	3
<b>Residence(s)</b>	<u>Executive Mansion</u> (primary) <u>Western Residence</u> (secondary)
<b>Education</b>	<u>Dartmouth College</u> (BA) <u>Harvard University</u> (MPP, JD)
<b>Website</b>	<u>Campaign website</u> ( <u>http://joshstein.org</u> )

In 2001, North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper appointed Stein as Senior Deputy Attorney General for Consumer Protection.<sup>[10]</sup> He held that position until his election to the State Senate in 2008.<sup>[18][14]</sup> From 2012 until 2016, he served as of counsel at Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP, a regional law firm.

Stein defeated Republican John Alexander to represent the 16th district in the North Carolina Senate in 2008.<sup>[19]</sup> After being reelected in 2010, he was elected minority whip by his colleagues.<sup>[20]</sup>

In the Senate, Stein worked to expand the state's DNA database, ban cyberstalking, extend and expand the state's renewable energy tax credit, and improve school safety.<sup>[21][22][23]</sup>

## North Carolina Attorney General

In 2016, Stein became the first Jewish person to win a statewide election in North Carolina. As attorney general, he worked to eliminate North Carolina's backlog of untested sexual assault kits, the nation's largest.<sup>[24][25][26]</sup> This led to arrests in cases involving a 2015 assault and attempted murder in Durham, North Carolina;<sup>[27]</sup> assaults in 2009 and 2010 in Fayetteville;<sup>[28]</sup> and a 1993 assault in Winston-Salem.<sup>[29]</sup>

Stein led the bipartisan effort of state attorneys general to negotiate a national settlement framework with drug companies—manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacy chains—over the nation's opioid epidemic, totaling more than \$50 billion.<sup>[30]</sup> North Carolina's share of the settlement was \$1.5



billion.<sup>[31]</sup> Stein negotiated a memorandum of agreement with the state's counties that ensured the vast majority of the funds would go to prevention, harm reduction, treatment or recovery.<sup>[32]</sup> Johns Hopkins School of Public Health recognized this partnership as one of the best in the nation.<sup>[33]</sup>

In 2018, Stein filed a brief with the United States Supreme Court arguing in favor of the Affordable Care Act.<sup>[34]</sup> In 2019, he became the country's first attorney general to sue e-cigarette manufacturer Juul for unlawful marketing to minors.<sup>[35]</sup> Stein won multiple settlements with Juul totaling nearly \$48 million, setting a standard the rest of the nation followed.<sup>[36][37]</sup>

Stein filed briefs supporting medication abortions and opposing restrictions on women from traveling to receive healthcare.<sup>[38][39]</sup> He opposed the state's 12-week abortion ban enacted in 2023.<sup>[40]</sup>



Stein speaks at a Fayetteville campaign rally, 2016



Stein speaks at a department of motor vehicle license and theft event, 2021

Stein negotiated eight Anti-Robocall Principles with a bipartisan coalition of 51 attorneys general and 12 companies to protect phone users from illegal robocalls.<sup>[41]</sup> He also launched Operation Silver Shield, an effort to protect older North Carolinians from fraud and scams.

After the COVID-19 pandemic began, Stein won a preliminary injunction against a Charlotte tow company sued for price-gouging<sup>[42]</sup> and announced the investigation of nine North Carolina-based sellers on Amazon accused of raising prices on coronavirus-related products, including hand sanitizer and N95 masks.<sup>[43]</sup> Stein won more than \$1 million in price-gouging

cases.<sup>[44]</sup>

On August 21, 2021, the legislature voted to remove Stein as its legal representation before the courts after he refused to appeal the findings of a lower court that a North Carolina state law that disenfranchised anyone convicted of a felony was unconstitutional. Stein said he had been waiting for the ruling to be formally filed. Legislative leaders alleged Stein was "slow-walking" the case to allow felons to vote in the next election.<sup>[45][46]</sup>

## Governor of North Carolina

### Election

On January 18, 2023, Stein announced his candidacy for governor of North Carolina in the 2024 election.<sup>[15]</sup> He was endorsed by Governor Roy Cooper and hundreds of other elected officials and organizations.<sup>[47][48]</sup>

On Super Tuesday, Stein advanced to the general election and faced Republican lieutenant governor Mark Robinson.<sup>[49]</sup> After a CNN report on inflammatory and antisemitic comments Robinson had made on a pornography forum, Stein became the heavy favorite.<sup>[50][51]</sup>

Stein won the election by a margin of 14.8%, even as Republican Donald Trump defeated Democrat Kamala Harris by 3.2% in the concurrent 2024 presidential election in North Carolina. Stein had previously won statewide by only 0.54% in 2016 and 0.26% in 2020.

Tenure

On January 1, 2025, Stein was sworn in as the 76th governor of North Carolina, becoming the state's first Jewish governor.<sup>[52]</sup>

Personal life

Stein is married to Anna Harris Stein. They have three children. He and his family are members of Temple Beth Or, a Reform synagogue in Raleigh.<sup>[13]</sup> He is a former YMCA basketball and J.C.C. soccer coach.<sup>[12]</sup>

Electoral history

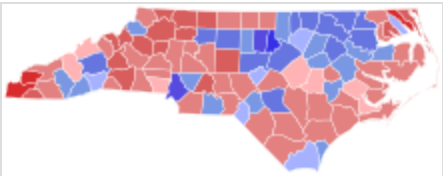
North Carolina Senate

2008 North Carolina Senate, 16th district election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein</b>	<b>58,357</b>	<b>60.83</b>
	<u>Republican</u>	John Alexander	37,586	39.17
Total votes			<b>95,943</b>	<b>100.00</b>

2010 North Carolina Senate, 16th district election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein (incumbent)</b>	<b>32,248</b>	<b>54.89</b>
	<u>Republican</u>	Michael Beezley	24,466	41.64
	<u>Libertarian</u>	Stephanie Watson	2,040	3.47
Total votes			<b>58,754</b>	<b>100.00</b>



Map of the 2024 North Carolina gubernatorial election results.



Governor Stein (center) with his newly sworn in cabinet members, 2025

2012 North Carolina Senate, 16th district election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein (incumbent)</b>	<b>69,405</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Total votes			<b>69,405</b>	<b>100.00</b>

2014 North Carolina Senate, 16th district election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein (incumbent)</b>	<b>42,422</b>	<b>67.11</b>
	<u>Republican</u>	Jason Mitchell	20,791	32.89
Total votes			<b>63,213</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Attorney general**2016 North Carolina Attorney General primary

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein</b>	<b>510,003</b>	<b>53.37</b>
	<u>Democratic</u>	Marcus Williams	445,524	46.63
Total votes			<b>955,527</b>	<b>100.00</b>

2016 North Carolina Attorney General election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein</b>	<b>2,276,410</b>	<b>50.27</b>
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Buck Newton</u>	2,256,178	49.73
Total votes			<b>4,532,588</b>	<b>100.00</b>

2020 North Carolina Attorney General election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%	±%
	<u>Democratic</u>	<b>Josh Stein (incumbent)</b>	<b>2,713,400</b>	<b>50.13</b>	<b>−0.14</b>
	<u>Republican</u>	Jim O'Neill	2,699,778	49.87	+0.14
Total votes			<b>5,413,178</b>	<b>100.00</b>	N/A

**Governor**

2024 North Carolina gubernatorial primary

Party		Candidate	Votes	%
	<b>Democratic</b>	<b>Josh Stein</b>	<b>476,448</b>	<b>69.64</b>
	<u>Democratic</u>	<u>Michael R. Morgan</u>	97,908	14.31
	<u>Democratic</u>	Chrelle Booker	45,695	6.68
	<u>Democratic</u>	Marcus Williams	38,996	5.70
	<u>Democratic</u>	Gary Foxx	25,100	3.67
Total votes			<b>684,147</b>	<b>100.00</b>

2024 North Carolina gubernatorial election

Party		Candidate	Votes	%	±%
	<b>Democratic</b>	<b>Josh Stein</b>	<b>3,069,496</b>	<b>54.90%</b>	<b>+3.38%</b>
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Mark Robinson</u>	2,241,309	40.08%	−6.93%
	<u>Libertarian</u>	Mike Ross	176,392	3.14%	+2.04%
	<u>Constitution</u>	Vinny Smith	54,607	0.98%	N/A
	<u>Green</u>	Wayne Turner	49,384	0.88%	N/A
Total votes			<b>5,591,547</b>	<b>100%</b>	
	<u>Democratic</u> <b>hold</b>				

See also

- List of Jewish American jurists

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## Further reading

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- NC General Assembly page (<https://web.archive.org/web/20160304000857/http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/members/viewMember.pl?sChamber=Senate&nUserID=267>) (archived)

## External links

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- Governor Josh Stein (<https://governor.nc.gov>) government website
- Josh Stein for North Carolina (<http://www.joshstein.org/>) campaign website
- Josh Stein ([https://ballotpedia.org/Josh\\_Stein](https://ballotpedia.org/Josh_Stein)) at Ballotpedia
- Appearances (<https://www.c-span.org/person/?111772>) on C-SPAN
- Profile (<https://justfacts.votesmart.org/candidate/102971>) at Vote Smart

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