

USA vs. Panama

Estadio León, León

For the first time, they will face off in the semifinals of the Concacaf Men's Under-20 Championship, marking the sixth match in the history between the two teams. The United States leads the series with three wins and two losses, with a goal difference of 9 goals for and 2 against. The United States won the first three matches (2-0 in Honduras/United States 2005, 5-0 in Panama/Mexico 2007, and 2-0 in Guatemala 2011) but Panama won the last two encounters by the same scoreline, 1-0 in Jamaica 2015 and Costa Rica 2017.

Series Results:

USA 2-0 PAN (Fredua Adu and Jacob Paterson), Group A - Honduras/United States 2005, Home Depot Center, Carson, California (January 14, 2005).

USA 5-0 PAN (Fredua Adu x2, Robert Rogers, Johann Smith, and Jonathan Villanueva), Group A - Panama/Mexico 2007, (January 21, 2007).

USA 2-0 PAN (Kelyn Rowe x2), Group B - Guatemala 2011, Doroteo Guamuch Flores National Stadium, Guatemala City (April 2, 2011).

USA 0-1 PAN (Carlos Small), Group A - Jamaica 2015, Independence Park, Kingston (January 11, 2015).

USA 0-1 PAN (Leandro Ávila), Group B - Costa Rica 2017, Ricardo Saprissa Aymá Stadium, Tibás (February 18, 2017).

The United States will play in the semifinals of the CMU20 for the eighth time, having advanced to the final in the last three tournaments in 2009 against Trinidad & Tobago, in 2013 versus Cuba, and in 2022 against Honduras.



United States (USA)

Appearances in the CMU20: 26

Best Result in CMU20: Champion (Costa Rica 2017, USA 2018, Honduras 2022), runner-up (1980, 1982, 1986, 1992, 2009, 2013), 3rd place (1976, 1988, 1990, 1996, 2015).

CMU20 Record: GP-134 W-85 D-21 L-28 (GF-323 GA-103).

Top Scorers in CMU20 since 2009: Álex Méndez (8), Ayo Akinola (7), Ulysses Llenez (7), Paxten Aaronson (7), Quinn Sullivan (6), Roman Gall (5), Nikolas Tsakiris (5), Brooks Lennon (4), Justin Rennicks (4), Anthony Fontana (4), Juan Pablo Torres (4).

Penalty Shootouts: (4). Wins (3), Losses (1).

Record in Mexico 2024: GP-4 W-4 D-0 L-0 (GF-15 GA-0).

Top Scorers in Mexico 2024: Pedro Soma (2), Ruben Ramos (2), Nikolas Tsakiris (2), Marcos Zambrano (2), David Vazquez (2), Cruz Medina (1), Nimfasha Berchimas, Zavier Gozo, Ethan Kohler, Taha Habroune.

Assists in 2024: Taha Habroune (2), David Vazquez (2), Zavier Gozo (2), Marcos Zambrano (2), Nimfasha Berchimas (1), Nikolas Tsakiris, Sergio Oregel Jr..

Saves: 7. Clean Sheets: 4. Goalkeepers: Adam Beaudry (5), Julian Eyestone (2).

Appearances in the FIFA U-20 World Cup: 18 (Australia 1981, Mexico 1983, Chile 1987, Saudi Arabia 1989, Australia 1993, Malaysia 1997, Nigeria 1999, Argentina 2001, UAE 2003, Netherlands 2005, Canada 2007, Egypt 2009, Turkey 2013, New Zealand 2015, South Korea 2017, Poland 2019, Argentina 2023, Chile 2025).

Best result in the FIFA U-20 World Cup: 4th place (Saudi Arabia 1989).

The United States has won its last 9 matches in the CMU20 without conceding a goal. Its last game without a win and conceding goals was against Canada in Group E of Honduras 2022 (2-2).

The United States was the only team with more points (9), goals (14), and assists (10) in the group stage of Mexico 2024.

The United States has an unbeaten streak of 24 matches in the CMU20 with 22 wins and 2 draws during regular time. Its last defeat was against Panama by 1-0 in the first match of Group B of Costa Rica 2017.

The United States is the current three-time CMU20 champion, winning the title in Costa Rica 2017 (5-3 on penalties against Honduras after a 0-0 draw in regular time), the USA 2018 (2-0 vs. Mexico), and Honduras 2022 (6-0 vs. Dominican Republic).

The United States in CMU20 semifinals: GP-7 W-2 L-2. The United States won the last two semifinals it played in the last three editions of the tournament: in Trinidad 2009 vs. the host in penalty shots (4-3) after a 0-0 draw in regular time; in Mexico 2013 vs. Cuba 2-0 (Mario Rodríguez and Daniel Cuevas); and in Honduras 2022 vs. the host 3-0 with goals from (Paxten Aaronson, Alejandro Alvarado Jr., and Quinn Sullivan).

Its last defeat in Semifinals was 1-0 vs. Mexico in the edition of Trinidad and Tobago 1984. It was also defeated by Honduras in Puerto Rico 1976 by 1-0.

Taking into account the editions that had a final match, the United States participated in 7 finals (USA 1980, Guatemala 1982, Trinidad 2009, Mexico 2013, Costa Rica 2017, USA 2018, and Honduras 2022).

Players to watch:

Ruben Ramos. Scored the winning goal 1-0 against Guatemala in the quarterfinals. To date, he has made three shots.

Marcos Zambrano. Scored 2 goals, provided 2 assists, and made three shots in 4 appearances.

Nikolas Tsakiris. Scored 2 goals, 1 assist, and made 8 shots. He has played in 9 matches scoring 5 goals and providing two assists in his CMU20 history.

Noah Cobb. Leads in passes (185) in the 2024 U-20 Championship with an accuracy of 95%.

Adam Beaudry. Has 3 clean sheets, 5 saves, and 3 clearances. Made 2 saves and 2 clearances in the quarterfinals against Guatemala.



Appearances in the CMU20: 13

Best Result in CMU20: runner-up (2015), 3rd place (2018).

CMU20 Record: GP-53 W-31 D-10 L-12 (GF-94 GA-56).

Top Scorers in CMU20 since 2009: Cecilio Waterman (4), Ameth Ramírez (4), Ismael Díaz (4), Saed Díaz (4), Diego Valanta (4), Ricardo Guardia (4), Edson Samms (3), Leandro Ávila (3), Ángel Orelie (3), Axel McKenzie (3), Gustavo Herrera (3).

Penalty Shootouts: (2). Wins (0), Losses (2).

Record in Mexico 2024: GP-4 W-3 D-1 L-0 (GF-9 GA-3).

Top Scorers in Mexico 2024: Gustavo Herrera (3), Rafael Mosquera (2), Giovany Herbert (1), Kairo Walters, Allan Saldaña, Aimar Modelo.

Assists in 2024: Rafael Mosquera (1), Joseph Jones, Kairo Walters, Cecilio Burgess, Giovany Herbert, Ariel Arroyo.

Saves: 5. Clean Sheets: 1. Goalkeepers: Sean Deane (4), Cecilio Burgess (1).

Appearances in the FIFA U-20 World Cup: 7 (UAE 2003, Netherlands 2005, Canada 2007, Colombia 2011, New Zealand 2015, Poland 2019, Chile 2025).

Best result in the FIFA U-20 World Cup: Round of 16 (Poland 2019).

Panama is undefeated in CMU20 with 3 wins and 1 draw. Its last defeat in the tournament was 2-1 in the quarterfinals in 2022 against Honduras in San Pedro Sula.

Panama had its best performance in the first tournament of the current series, where it scored 7 out of 9 goals. Panama won 5 of the last 9 matches in CMU20 achieving 4 clean sheets and only lost 2 of the last 17 matches (against Guatemala 1-3 and Honduras 1-2)

Panama in CMU20 semifinals: Only faced Mexico in Guatemala 2011 falling 1-4, goals for Mexico were scored by (Ulises Dávila, Oscar Linton own goal, David Izazola, and Edson Rivera; Javier Caicedo) and in 2015 against Mexico in Jamaica, drew 1-1 in regular time and lost 2-4 in the penalty shootout.

Players to watch:

Gustavo Herrera. He is the team's top scorer with (3) in 3 appearances and 10 shots. His 3 goals were scored in the first half.

Rafael Mosquera. Scored 2 goals, 1 assist, and had 8 shots in his 4 appearances. He has played in 9 CMU20 matches.

Kairo Walters. Scored 1 goal, provided 1 assist and made 6 shots in his 4 matches. In the match against Canada, he made 4 ball recoveries.

Cecilio Burgess. Was the starting goalkeeper in 3 of the 4 matches. Achieved 1 clean sheet, 1 clearance and conceded 2 goals.

Erick Díaz. He is the team leader in passes with (122). In total, he has made 130 passes (93.8% accuracy).