6. Course Records

PERMANENT COURSE RECORDS

MEN, 1897–2018

Time	Course Distance (Years)	Name (Home)	Date
2:18:10	24-1/2 Miles (1897–1923)	Clarence H. DeMar (Melrose, MA)	19 APR 1922

Course found to be 176 yards short.

| 2:25:40 | 26 Miles, 209 Yards (1924–1926) | John C. Miles (Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia) | 19 APR 1926 |

| 2:25:39 | 26 Miles, 385 Yards (1927–1950) | Yun Bok Suh (Korea) | 19 APR 1947 |

| 2:14:14 | 25 Miles, 1,232 Yards (1951–1956) | Antti Viskari (Finland) | 19 APR 1956 |

Course remeasured and found to be 1,183 yards short due to road construction since 1951.

| 2:18:58 | 26 Miles, 385 Yards (1957–1964) | Aurele Vandendriessche (Belgium) | 19 APR 1963 |

Last race to finish on Exeter Street.

| 2:08:52 | 26 Miles, 385 Yards (1965–1985) | Alberto Salazar (Wayland, MA) | 19 APR 1982 |

Race finished in front of the Prudential Building. The starting line was moved back 389 yards to accommodate this finish.

| 2:03:02 | 26 Miles, 385 Yards (1986–Present) | Geoffrey Mutai (Eldoret, Kenya) | 18 APR 2011 |

Race finishes adjacent to the Boston Public Library in Copley Square.

WOMEN, 1972–2018

Time	Course Distance (Years)	Name (Home)	Date
2:22:43	26 Miles, 385 Yards (1972–1985)	Joan Benoit (Watertown, MA)	18 APR 1983

Race finished in front of the Prudential Building. The starting line was moved back 389 yards to accommodate this finish.

| 2:19:59 | 26 Miles, 385 Yards (1986–Present) | Buzunesh Deba (Arsi, Ethiopia) | 21 APR 2014 |

Race finishes adjacent to the Boston Public Library in Copley Square.

PROGRESSION OF COURSE RECORDS

MEN'S OPEN DIVISION, 1927–2018

Time		Name	Home	Date
2:40:22		Clarence H. DeMar	Melrose, MA	19 APR 1927
2:37:07		Clarence H. DeMar	Melrose, MA	19 APR 1928
2:33:08		John C. Miles	Hamilton, Ontario, Canada	19 APR 1929
2:31:01		Leslie S. Pawson	Pawtucket, RI	19 APR 1933
2:28:51		Ellison M. Brown	Alton, RI	19 APR 1939
2:28:28		Gerard A. Cote	St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada	19 APR 1940
2:26:51		Bernard Joseph Smith	Medford, MA	19 APR 1942
2:25:39	#	Yun Bok Suh	Korea	19 APR 1947
2:20:05		John J. Kelley	Groton, CT	19 APR 1957
2:18:58		Aurele Vandendriessche	Belgium	19 APR 1963
2:16:33		Morio Shigematsu	Japan	19 APR 1965
2:15:45		David C. McKenzie	New Zealand	19 APR 1967
2:13:49		Yoshiaki Unetani	Japan	21 APR 1969
2:10:30		Ron Hill	England	20 APR 1970
2:09:55	*	Bill Rodgers	Jamaica Plain, MA	21 APR 1975
2:09:27	*	Bill Rodgers	Melrose, MA	16 APR 1979
2:09:26		Toshihiko Seko	Japan	20 APR 1981
2:08:52	*	Alberto Salazar	Wayland, MA	19 APR 1982
2:07:51		Robert de Castella	Canberra, Australia	21 APR 1986
2:07:15		Cosmas Ndeti	Machakos, Kenya	18 APR 1994
2:07:14		Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot	Nandi District, Kenya	17 APR 2006
2:05:52		Robert Kiprono Cheruiyot	Bomet District, Kenya	19 APR 2010
2:03:02		Geoffrey Mutai	Eldoret, Kenya	18 APR 2011

(NOTE: The course was found to be only 25 miles, 1,232 yards during the years 1951–1956. Please refer to Chapter 4, "Champions," to see the winning times during this period.)

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION 1975–2018

Time		Name (Home)	Age	Date
2:30:00		Robert Frankum (NY)	41	21 APR 1975
2:22:30		Jack Foster (New Zealand)	43	19 APR 1976
2:20:47		Fritz Mueller (NY)	41	17 APR 1978
2:20:15		Roger Robinson (New Zealand)	45	16 APR 1984
2:19:04		Michael Hurd (Great Britain)	40	21 APR 1986
2:17:53		Ryszard Marczak (Poland)	43	18 APR 1988
2:14:19		John Campbell (New Zealand)	40	17 APR 1989
2:11:04	#	John Campbell (New Zealand)	41	16 APR 1990

* American Record
# World Record

WOMEN'S OPEN DIVISION, 1966–2018

Time		Name	Home	Date
3:21:40	√	Roberta (Bobbi) Gibb	Winchester, MA	19 APR 1966
3:05:07	√	Sara Mae Berman	Cambridge, MA	20 APR 1970
3:10:26		Nina Kuscsik	South Huntington, NY	17 APR 1972
3:05:59		Jacqueline A. Hansen	Granada Hills, CA	16 APR 1973
2:47:11		Michiko (Miki) Gorman	Los Angeles, CA	15 APR 1974
2:42:24	#	Liane Winter	Wolfsburg, West Germany	21 APR 1975
2:35:15	*	Joan Benoit	Cape Elizabeth, ME	16 APR 1979
2:34:28		Jacqueline Gareau	Quebec, Canada	21 APR 1980
2:26:46		Allison Roe	New Zealand	20 APR 1981
2:22:43	#	Joan Benoit	Watertown, MA	18 APR 1983
2:21:45		Uta Pippig	Berlin, Germany	18 APR 1994
2:20:43		Margaret Okayo	Kisii, Kenya	15 APR 2002
2:19:59		Buzunesh Deba	Arsi, Ethiopia	21 APR 2014

(NOTE: The women's division was not officially established until 1972.
Records set before 1972 are therefore part of the Pioneer Era.)

WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION 1975–2018

Time	Name (Home)	Age	Date
3:21:38	Sylvia Weiner (Canada)	44	21 APR 1975
2:52:27	Michiko (Miki) Gorman (CA)	40	19 APR 1976
2:48:33	Michiko (Miki) Gorman (CA)	41	18 APR 1977
2:32:47	Evy Palm (Sweden)	44	21 APR 1986
2:30:48	Priscilla Welch (Great Britain)	43	18 APR 1988
2:27:58	Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova (Russia)	40	15 APR 2002

*	American Record
#	World Record
√	Pioneer Era

CHECKPOINT COURSE RECORDS

MEN'S CHECKPOINT RECORDS

Checkpoint	Time	Name	Year
5 Kilometers	14:04	Simon Robert Naali	1990
5 Miles	23:05	Juma Ikangaa	1990
10 Kilometers	28:43	Simon Karori	1992
15 Kilometers	43:29	Simon Robert Naali	1990
10 Miles	46:53	Juma Ikangaa	1990
20 Kilometers	58:41	Juma Ikangaa	1990
1/2 Marathon	1:01:56	Ryan Hall	2011
15 Miles	1:10:55	Bekana Daba	2011
25 Kilometers	1:13:15	Robert Kipchumba	2011
30 Kilometers	1:28:22	Ryan Hall	2011
20 Miles	1:34:36	Geoffrey Mutai	2011
35 Kilometers	1:42:35	Geoffrey Mutai	2011
40 Kilometers	1:56:48	Geoffrey Mutai	2011
25 Miles	1:57:30	Geoffrey Mutai	2011
Finish	2:03:02	Geoffrey Mutai	2011

Half-Marathon Records

1st Half	1:01:56	Ryan Hall	2011
2nd Half	1:01:04	Geoffrey Mutai	2011

WOMEN'S CHECKPOINT RECORDS

Checkpoint	Time	Name	Year
5 Kilometers	15:59	Sun Yingjie	1999
	15:49*	Joan Benoit	1983
5 Miles	25:35	Joan Benoit	1983
10 Kilometers	32:31	Sun Yingjie	1999
	32:00*	Joan Benoit	1983
15 Kilometers	49:05	Shalane Flanagan	2014
	48:08*	Joan Benoit	1983
10 Miles	51:38	Joan Benoit	1983
20 Kilometers	1:05:48	Shalane Flanagan	2014
	1:04:49*	Joan Benoit	1983
1/2 Marathon	1:08:22	Joan Benoit	1983
15 Miles	1:18:56	Joan Benoit	1983
25 Kilometers	1:22:25	Shalane Flanagan	2014
	1:21:34*	Joan Benoit	1983
30 Kilometers	1:39:18	Shalane Flanagan	2014
	1:38:05*	Joan Benoit	1983
20 Miles	1:46:44	Joan Benoit	1983
35 Kilometers	1:56:20	Mare Dibaba	2014
	1:56:08*	Joan Benoit	1983
40 Kilometers	2:12:39	Buzunesh Deba	2014
25 Miles	2:13:25	Buzenesh Deba	2014
Finish	2:19:59	Buzenesh Deba	2014

*Estimate: When Joan Benoit set the former world record of 2:22:43 in 1983, the course did not feature official checkpoints at every five-kilometer location. The times listed above represent Benoit's estimated time based on her actual time at the existing course checkpoints.

Half-Marathon Records

	Time	Name	Year
1st Half	1:08:22	Joan Benoit	1983
2nd Half	1:10:00	Margaret Okayo	2002

COMPLETE SPLITS OF GEOFFREY MUTAI'S 2011 RECORD RUN

In 2011, Geoffrey Mutai from Kenya rewrote the Boston Marathon course record by 2 minutes and 50 seconds. The two tables below offer a closer look at Geoffrey Mutai's record run. The first table compares Geoffrey Mutai's time at each of the 14 checkpoints along the course to the checkpoint record. The previous record of 2:05:52 was set by Robert Kiprono Cheruiyot in 2010. The second table compares Geoffrey Mutai's times at each checkpoint to the times of Robert Kiprono Cheruiyot.

COMPARING GEOFFREY MUTAI'S TIMES TO THE CHECKPOINT RECORDS

Location	Mutai's Time	Place	Record	Holder	Mutai's +/-
5 Kilometers	14:32	In Lead Pack	14:04	Simon Robert Naali ('90)	+0:28
5 Miles	23:18	In Lead Pack	23:05	Juma Ikangaa ('90)	+0:13
10 Kilometers	29:08	In Lead Pack	28:43	Simon Karori ('92)	+0:00
15 Kilometers	43:48	In Lead Pack	43:29	Naali ('90)	+0:19
10 Miles	47:03	3rd	46:53	Ikangaa ('90)	+0:10
20 Kilometers	58:45	4th	58:41	Ikangaa ('90)	+0:04
1/2 Marathon	1:01:58	3rd	1:02:01	Ikangaa ('90)	-0:03
15 Miles	1:10:54	2nd	1:11:15	Ikangaa ('90)	-0:21
25 Kilometers	1:13:16	1st	1:13:51	Ikangaa ('90)	-0:35
30 Kilometers	1:28:24	1st	1:29:11	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot ('08)	-0:47
20 Miles	1:34:05	1st	1:36:10	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot ('08)	-2:05
35 Kilometers	1:42:35	1st	1:44:47	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot ('08)	-2:12
40 Kilometers	1:56:48	1st	2:00:01	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot ('08)	-2:33
25 Miles	1:57:30	1st	2:00:49	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot ('08)	-2:36
Finish	2:03:02	1st	2:07:14	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot ('08)	-2:50

COMPARING GEOFFREY MUTAI'S TIMES TO THE FORMER RECORD

Location	Mutai (2011)	Cheruiyot (2010)	Mutai's +/-
5 Kilometers	14:32	14:53	-0:21
5 Miles	23:18	24:16	-1:02
10 Kilometers	29:08	30:08	-1:00
15 Kilometers	43:48	44:58	-1:10
10 Miles	47:03	48:08	-1:05
20 Kilometers	58:45	1:00:12	-1:27
1/2 Marathon	1:01:58	1:03:27	-1:29
15 Miles	1:10:54	1:12:32	-1:38
25 Kilometers	1:13:16	1:14:58	-1:42
30 Kilometers	1:28:24	1:29:58	-1:34
20 Miles	1:34:05	1:36:27	-2:22
35 Kilometers	1:42:35	1:44:47	-2:12
40 Kilometers	1:56:48	1:59:21	-2:33
25 Miles	1:57:30	2:00:06	-2:36
Finish	2:03:02	2:05:52	-2:50

COMPLETE SPLITS OF BUZUNESH DEBA'S 2014 RECORD RUN

In 2014, Buzunesh Deba established the current Boston Marathon course record of 2:19:59. The former mark of 2:20:43 was set by Margaret Okayo in 2002. In the first table below, Deba's time at each of the 14 checkpoints along the course is compared to the checkpoint record. The second table compares Deba's times at each of the 14 checkpoints to those of Okayo.

At the 2014 Boston Marathon, Kenya's Rita Jeptoo appeared to have broken the course record after running 2:18:57 to finish first. However, in October of 2016 her results were nullified by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Deba was upgraded from runner-up to champion and was proclaimed the course record holder. Jeptoo's splits have been removed from the charts below.

COMPARING BUZUNESH DEBA'S TIMES TO THE CHECKPOINT RECORDS

Location	Deba's Time	Place	Record	Holder	Deba's +/-
5 Kilometers	16:12	In Lead Pack	15:49*	Joan Benoit ('83)	+0:23
5 Miles	26:11	In Lead Pack	25:35	Benoit ('83)	+0:36
10 Kilometers	32:34	In Lead Pack	32:00*	Benoit ('83)	+0:36
15 Kilometers	49:08	In Lead Pack	48:08*	Benoit ('83)	+1:00
10 Miles	52:48	In Lead Pack	51:38	Benoit ('83)	+1:10
20 Kilometers	1:05:50	In Lead Pack	1:04:49*	Benoit ('83)	+1:01
1/2 Marathon	1:09:28	In Lead Pack	1:08:22	Benoit ('83)	+1:06
15 Miles	1:19:35	In Lead Pack	1:18:56	Benoit ('83)	+0:39
25 Kilometers	1:22:26	In Lead Pack	1:21:34*	Benoit ('83)	+0:52
30 Kilometers	1:39:21	In Lead Pack	1:38:05*	Benoit ('83)	+1:16
20 Miles	1:46:45	In Lead Pack	1:46:44	Benoit ('83)	+0:01
35 Kilometers	1:56:23	In Lead Pack	1:56:08*	Benoit ('83	+0:15
40 Kilometers	2:12:39	1st	2:13:39	Margaret Okayo ('02)	-1:00
25 Miles	2:13:25	1st	2:14:22	Okayo ('02)	-0:57
Finish	2:19:59	1st	2:20:43	Okayo ('02)	-0:44

*Estimate: When Joan Benoit set the former world record of 2:22:43 in 1983, the course did not feature official checkpoints at every five-kilometer location. The times listed above represent Benoit's estimated time based on her actual time at the existing course checkpoints.

COMPARING BUZUNESH DEBA'S TIMES TO THE FORMER RECORD

Location	Deba (2014)	Okayo (2002)	Deba's +/-
5 Kilometers	16:12	17:03	-0:51
5 Miles	26:11	27:13	-1:02
10 Kilometers	32:34	33:43	-1:09
15 Kilometers	49:08	50:24	-1:16
10 Miles	52:49	53:59	-1:10
20 Kilometers	1:05:50	1:07:06	-1:16
1/2 Marathon	1:09:28	1:10:43	-1:15
15 Miles	1:19:36	1:20:45	-1:09
25 Kilometers	1:22:26	1:23:32	-1:06
30 Kilometers	1:39:21	1:40:16	-0:55
20 Miles	1:46:45	1:47:30	-0:45
35 Kilometers	1:56:23	1:57:10	-0:47
40 Kilometers	2:12:39	2:13:39	-1:00
25 Miles	2:13:25	2:14:22	-0:57
Finish	2:19:59	2:20:43	-0:44