

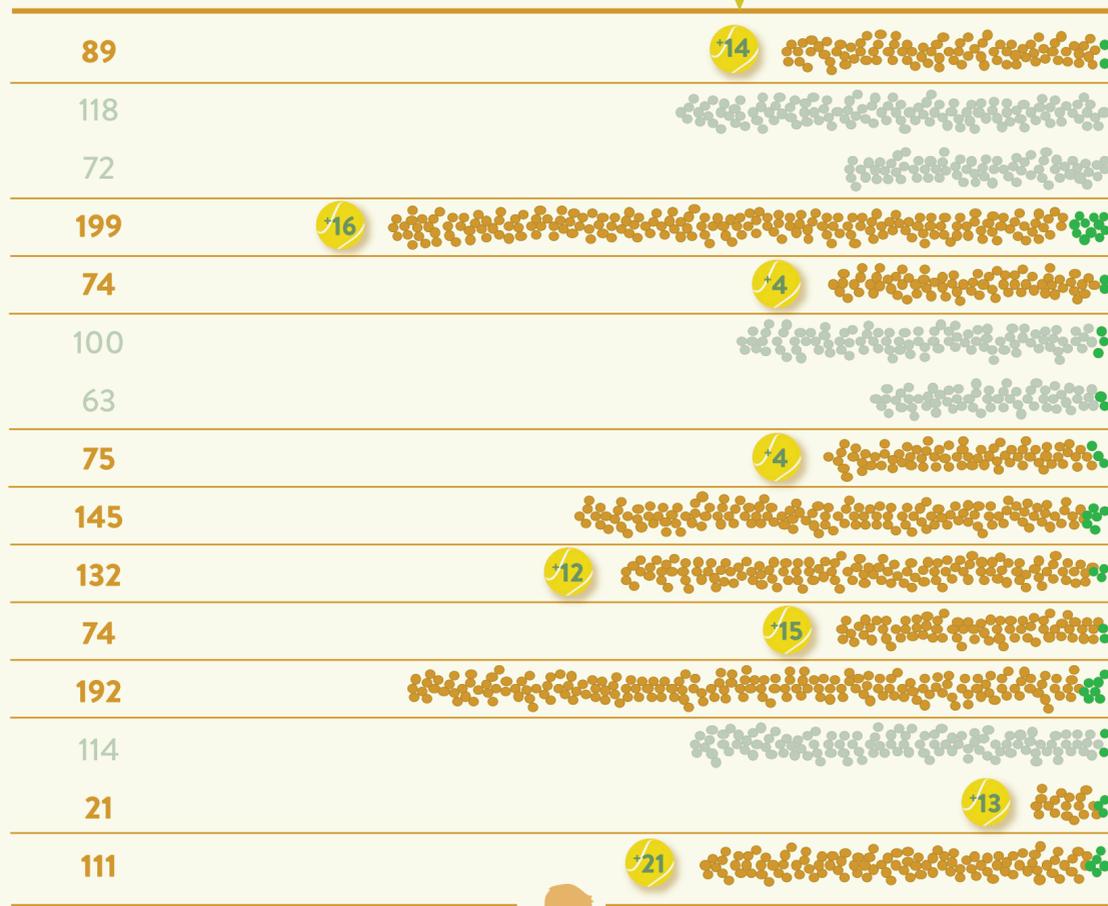
Illusion of Dominance

A Study of The Latest Rivalry in Tennis

Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner have won the last eight Grand Slams in tennis, the first time in a decade that just two players have dominated tennis' marquee events. Beyond the majors, the Spaniard and Italian have met in 15 Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) matches, playing 3,152 points across 43 hours. On the surface, Alcaraz appears dominant, having won 10 of 15. But the outcomes hide the reality—just six points separate the two maestros. Below, we tabulate every single point that defines the latest rivalry in a global sport.

10 WINS Carlos Alcaraz

Points



1,579 points

Point Difference In Each Match

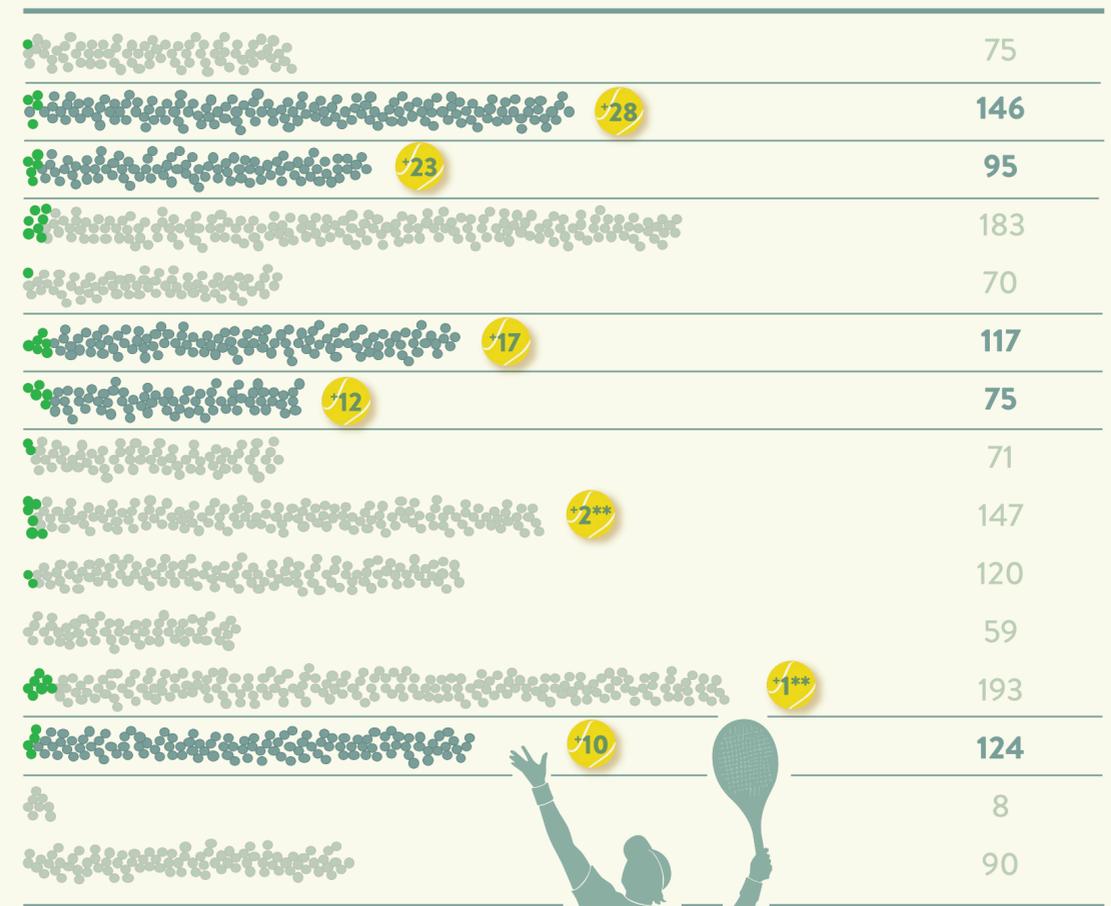
● Each dot is a point won by ● Alcaraz (left) or ● Sinner (right); break points won are in green ●

- Paris Masters '21
- Wimbledon '22
- Croatia Open '22
- US Open '22
- Indian Wells Masters '23
- Miami Masters '23
- Beijing Open '23
- Indian Wells Masters '24
- French Open '24
- Beijing Open '24
- Rome Masters '25
- French Open '25
- Wimbledon '25
- Cincinnati Open '25*
- US Open '25

Jannik Sinner

5 WINS

Points



1,573 points

When you add up every single point, Alcaraz has just **+6** more points than Sinner

*Sinner retired early from this match due to illness.

**Despite winning more points, Sinner would lose the match. Not all points are created equal (see notes on tennis scoring below).

Tennis Scoring Explained

For The Pickleball/Paddle/Squash Players

Tennis is scored in points → games → sets → match, so points matter only when they win a game. A game is won by winning at least 4 points with a 2-point lead. For a set, a player must win at least 6 games with a 2-game lead. If a set is tied at 6-6, a seven-point tiebreaker decides the winner of the set. Matches are best-of-3 or best-of-5 sets. A player can win more points overall and yet lose if their opponent wins the crucial points that decide the outcomes of games and sets.



Matches where each player led in break points

Players alternate serving each game, and because serves routinely hit 120–130 mph, the server usually wins. To win a set, the returner has to win at least one game when the opponent is serving, a “break point”. Break points are often among the most decisive moments of any match.

The Importance of Break Points

Sources: ATP, Tennis Direct, Sportsball, Payden Calculations

Payden & Rygel

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