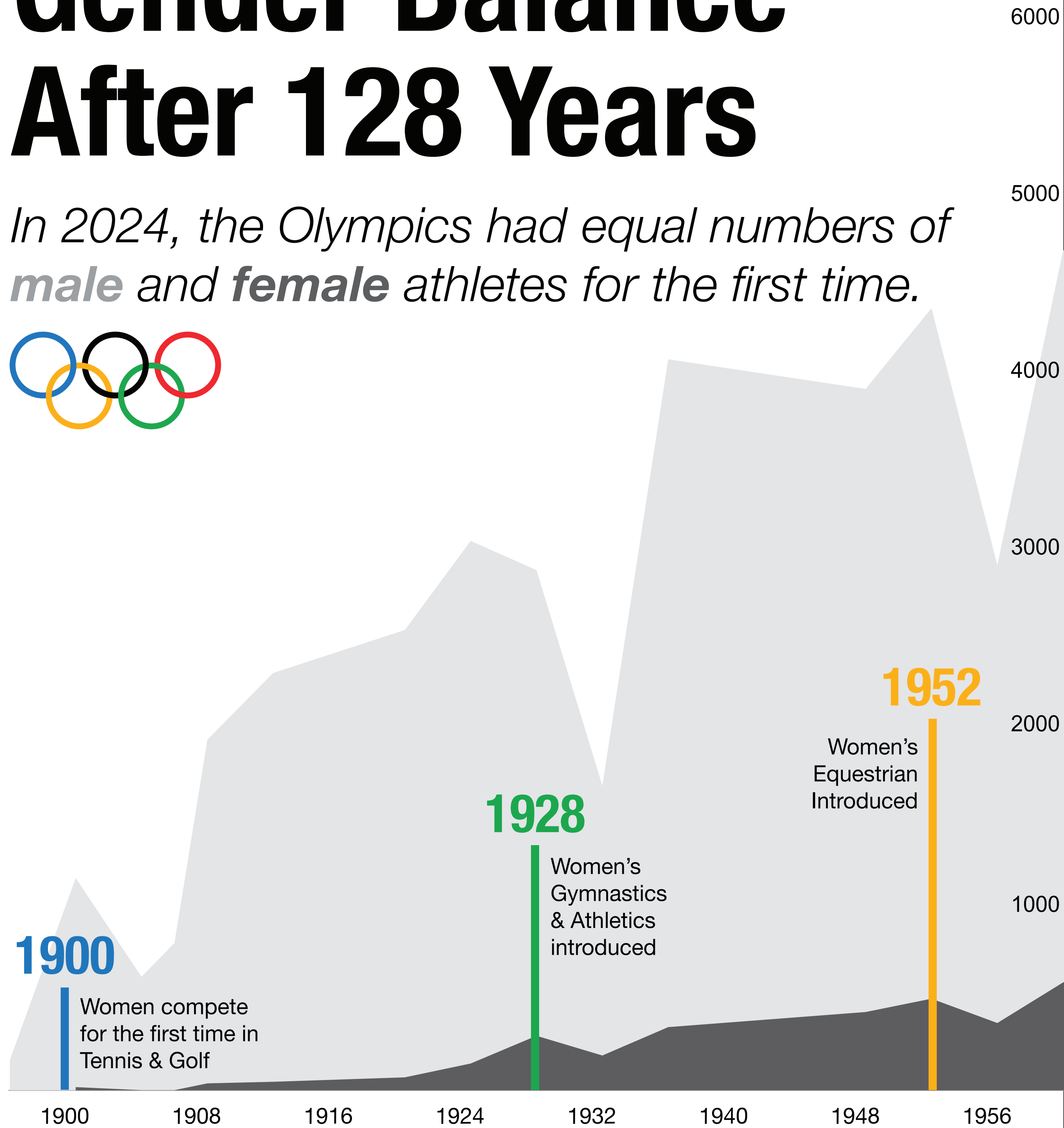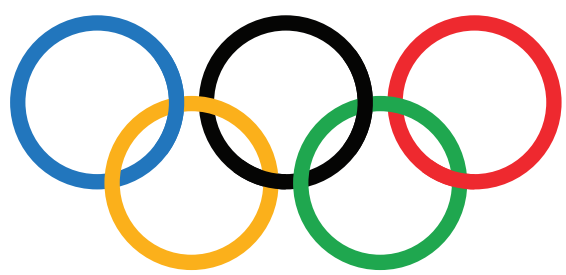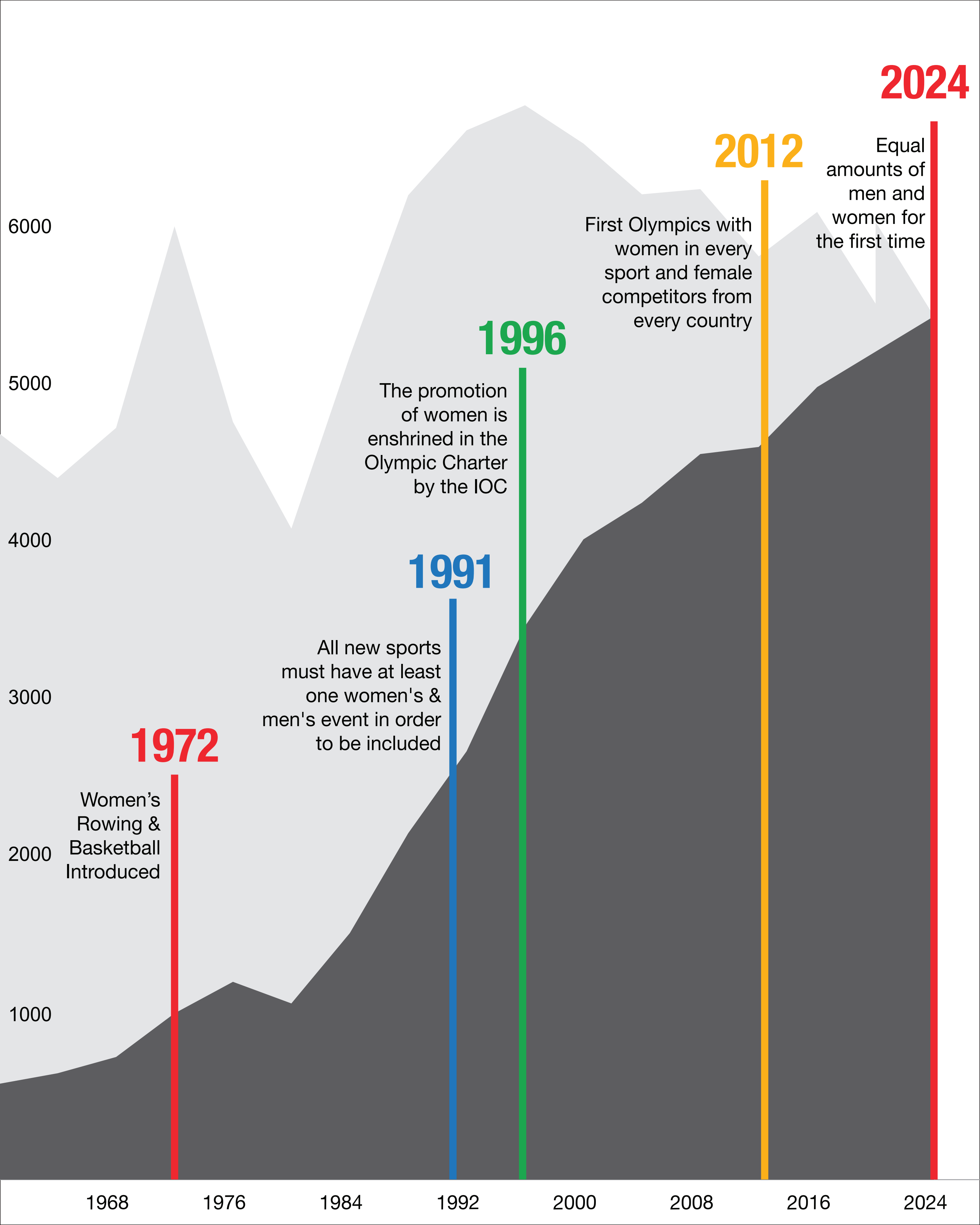# The Olympics Reach Gender Balance After 128 Years

In 2024, the Olympics had equal numbers of **male** *and* **female** *athletes for the first time.*

6000

5000

4000

1952

Women's
Equestrian
Introduced

3000

1928

Women's
Gymnastics
& Athletics
introduced

2000

1900

Women compete
for the first time in
Tennis & Golf

1000

1900　　1908　　1916　　1924　　1932　　1940　　1948　　1956

6000

5000

4000

3000

2000

1000

1972

Women's
Rowing &
Basketball
Introduced

1991

All new sports
must have at least
one women's &
men's event in order
to be included

1996

The promotion
of women is
enshrined in the
Olympic Charter
by the IOC

First Olympics with
women in every
sport and female
competitors from
every country

2012

2024

Equal
amounts of
men and
women for
the first time

1968   1976   1984   1992   2000   2008   2016   2024

THE [INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE]'S ROLE IS:

"to encourage and support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and in all structures with a view to implementing the principle of equality of men and women"

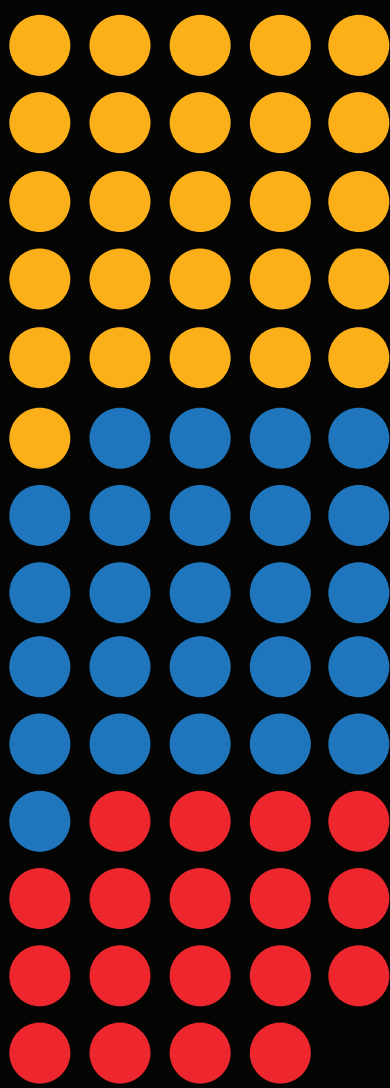Olympic Charter, Rule 2.8

Women won

65% OF USA GOLD MEDALS
and
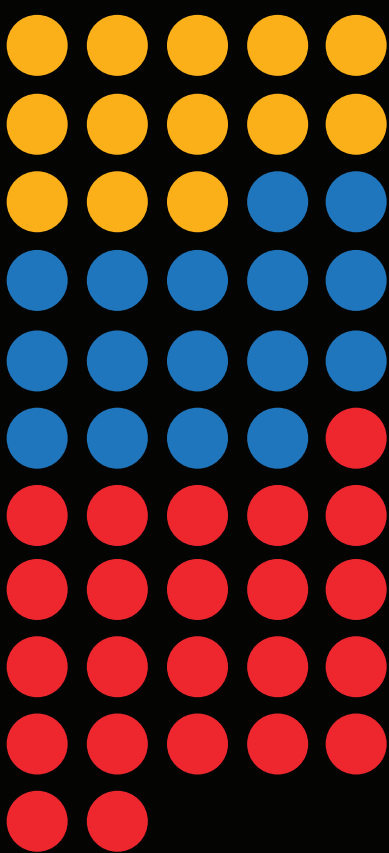# 55% OF USA MEDALS
in the 2024 Olympics

WOMEN

26 GOLD
25 SILVER
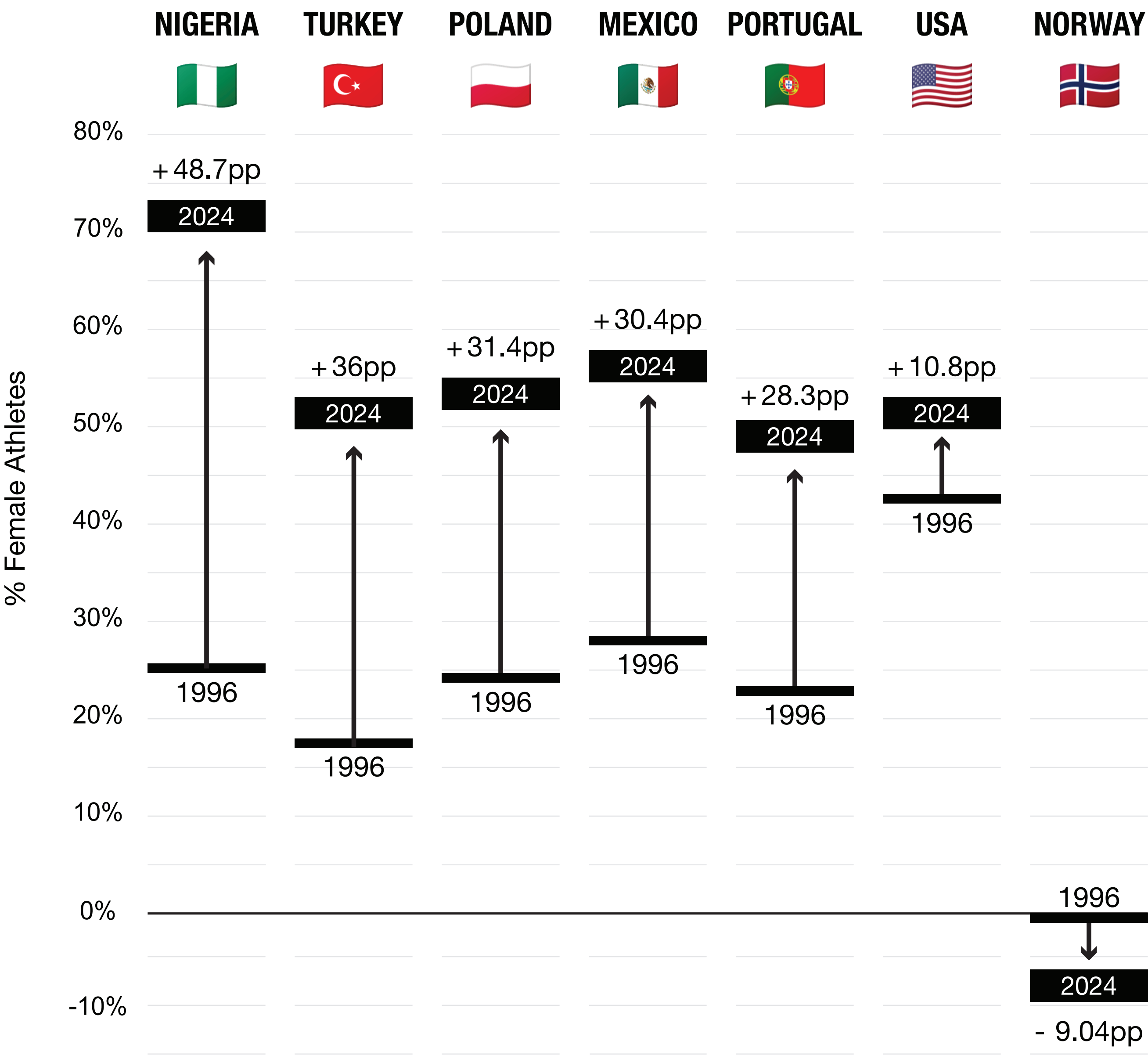18 BRONZE

MEN

13 GOLD
16 SILVER
23 BRONZE

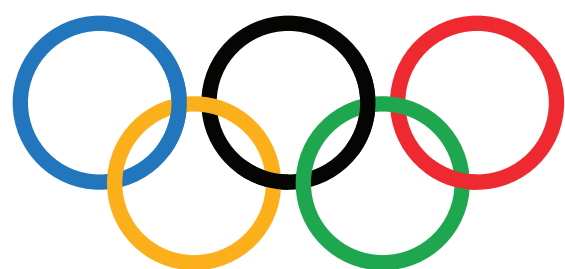## MIXED GENDER TEAMS

1 GOLD
3 SILVER
1 BRONZE

Some countries have seen a significant rise in female athletes following IOC rule changes.

Change in percentage of team made up by female athletes per country from 1996 to 2024

NIGERIA	TURKEY	POLAND	MEXICO	PORTUGAL	USA	NORWAY

% Female Athletes

80%

+48.7pp
2024

70%

60%

+36pp
2024

+31.4pp
2024

+30.4pp
2024

50%

+28.3pp
2024

+10.8pp
2024

40%

1996

30%

1996

20%

1996

1996

1996

1996

10%

0%

1996

-10%

2024

-9.04pp

Showing the countries with the largest percent point change between 1996 and 2024 with more than 50 athletes participating in both games

Despite the successes of women in the 2024 Olympics, female participation remains unequal across countries.

Notably,

44 COUNTRIES,

representing 21% of all teams, had
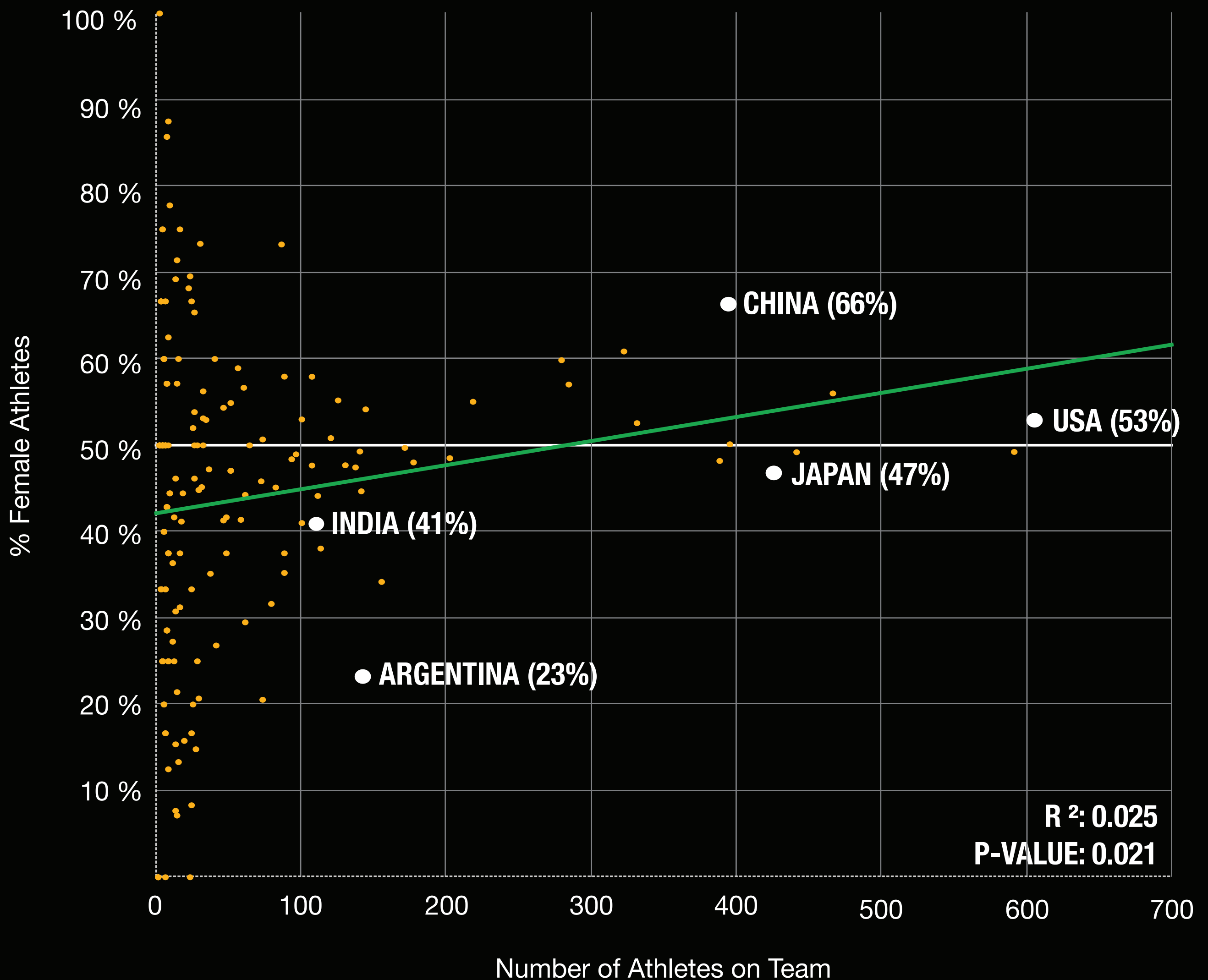
FEWER THAN 30% FEMALE ATHLETES

< 30% Women	>30% Women
44 Countries	162 Countries

Generally, nations that send more athletes tend to have a more balanced ratio of women to men, but this isn't universally true.

WOMEN'S FIRSTS IN 2024

Despite some deficits, women still made history

ADRIANA RUANO OLIVA

First Olympic Gold for Guatemala: Shooting – Women's Trap

THEA LAFOND
First Olympic Medal for Dominica: Athletics – Women's Triple Jump (Gold)

CINDY NGAMBA
First Medal for Refugee Olympic Team:
Boxing – Women's 75kg (Bronze)

JULIEN ALFRED
First Medals for St Lucia:
Athletics – Women's 100m (Gold),
Women's 200m (Silver)

KAYLIA NEYMOUR
First Athlete from African
Country to win Olympic
Medal in Gymnastics:
Artistic Gymnastics –
Women's Uneven Bars (Gold)

SOURCES:

DATA:
- https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/heesoo37/120-years-of-olympic-history-athletes-and-results
- https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/aliaamiri/2020-summer-olympics-dataset
- https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/piterfm/paris-2024-olympic-summer-games/data?select=athletes.csv

GRAPHICS:
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HISTORY:
- https://olympics.com/ioc/gender-equality/gender-equality-through-time
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- https://www.nbcolympics.com/news/paris-2024-sets-milestone-first-olympics-achieve-full-gender-parity