**French success in Paris**

Prior to the start of the Olympics, President Emmanuel Macron set out the goal for France to finish in the top 5 of the medal ranking. The French Olympic team successfully achieved this goal by winning 64 medals, which is almost double the count compared to Tokyo 2020 and their highest since the second Olympic Games in 1900, which was also held in Paris. Some notable medal gains came in cycling (9 medals in 2024 compared to 2 in 2020) and swimming (7 medals in 2024 compared to 1 in 2020).

**Figure X: France’s daily cumulative medal count in the Summer Olympic Games**

A graph of different colored lines

Description automatically generated

Source: IOC, Olympedia

**Home advantage or overrepresentation?**

France’s success was not a surprise given that [host nations tend to perform better at the Olympics](https://www.economicsobservatory.com/the-2024-olympics-will-home-advantage-boost-frances-medal-count). With 572 athletes, the country also entered the competition with their largest delegation since 1900 and had one of the highest athlete-to-population ratios.

**Impact of Russian athletes ban**

Another notable change in this year’s competition has been the lack of Russian athletes following the suspension of the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC) in 2023 ([IOC 2023](https://olympics.com/ioc/news/strict-eligibility-conditions-in-place-as-ioc-eb-approves-individual-neutral-athletes-ains-for-the-olympic-games-paris-2024)). Instead, only 15 athletes were allowed to compete as Individual Neutral Athletes.

In the 2020 Olympics, the ROC won 71 medals across 18 disciplines. Out of those medals, China won 10 medals and the US 9 medals in Paris, with the rest of the medals distributed among 30 other countries.

**Figure X: Distribution of total medals won by Russian Olympic committee in 2020 Olympics in 2024 Olympics**

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Description automatically generated with medium confidence