

Olympic Athlete Demographics, 1896-2016

About the Data

This data set, obtained from kaggle.com, is called 120 Year of Olympic History: Athletes and Results and was created by Randi Griffin. Each of the 271,116 observations in the file has 15 attributes and represents an individual athlete that has competed in an Olympic event between 1896 and 2016.

• Story

The modern Olympics have been a unique part of society around the world for over 100 years. From 1896-2016, 135,404 athletes have competed in the games, representing 229 countries and participating in 66 different sports.

—• Motivation

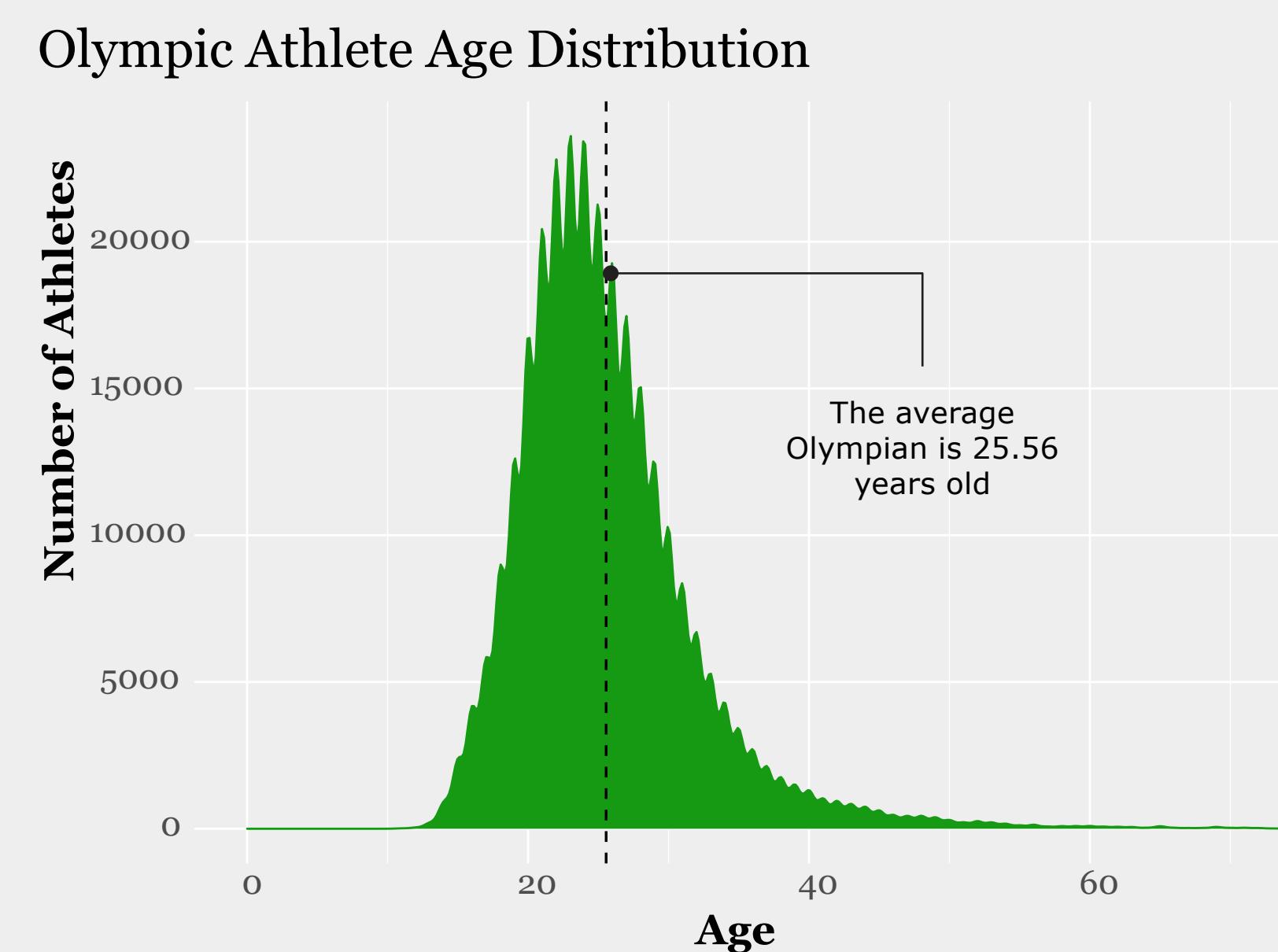
As fans across the globe tune in to the 2021 Olympic games, they may watch a sport they have never encountered before. They may want more insight into common characteristics among Olympians as a whole and across different sports. This poster is designed to take a closer look at what makes an Olympic athlete.

• Questions

- 1.) What are common characteristics of Olympic athletes?
 - 2.) How do those commonalities vary over different sports and other demographics?
 - 3.) How have Olympic athletes changed throughout the years?

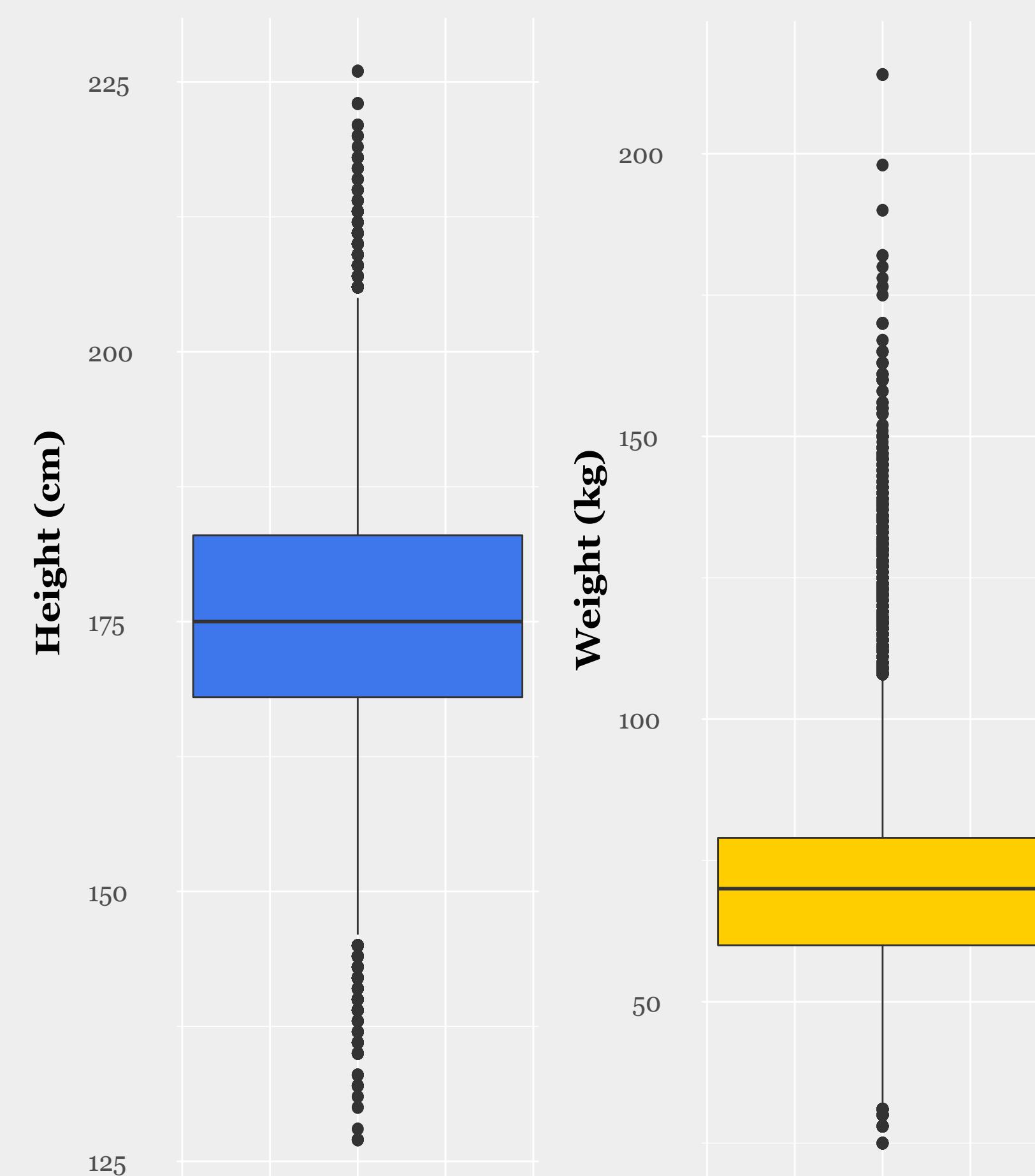
The Olympic Look

Out of the 135,404 athletes that competed in the Olympic games from 1896-2016, the average age was 25.56. The youngest ever Olympian was a 10-year-old coxswain named Dimitrios Loundras.

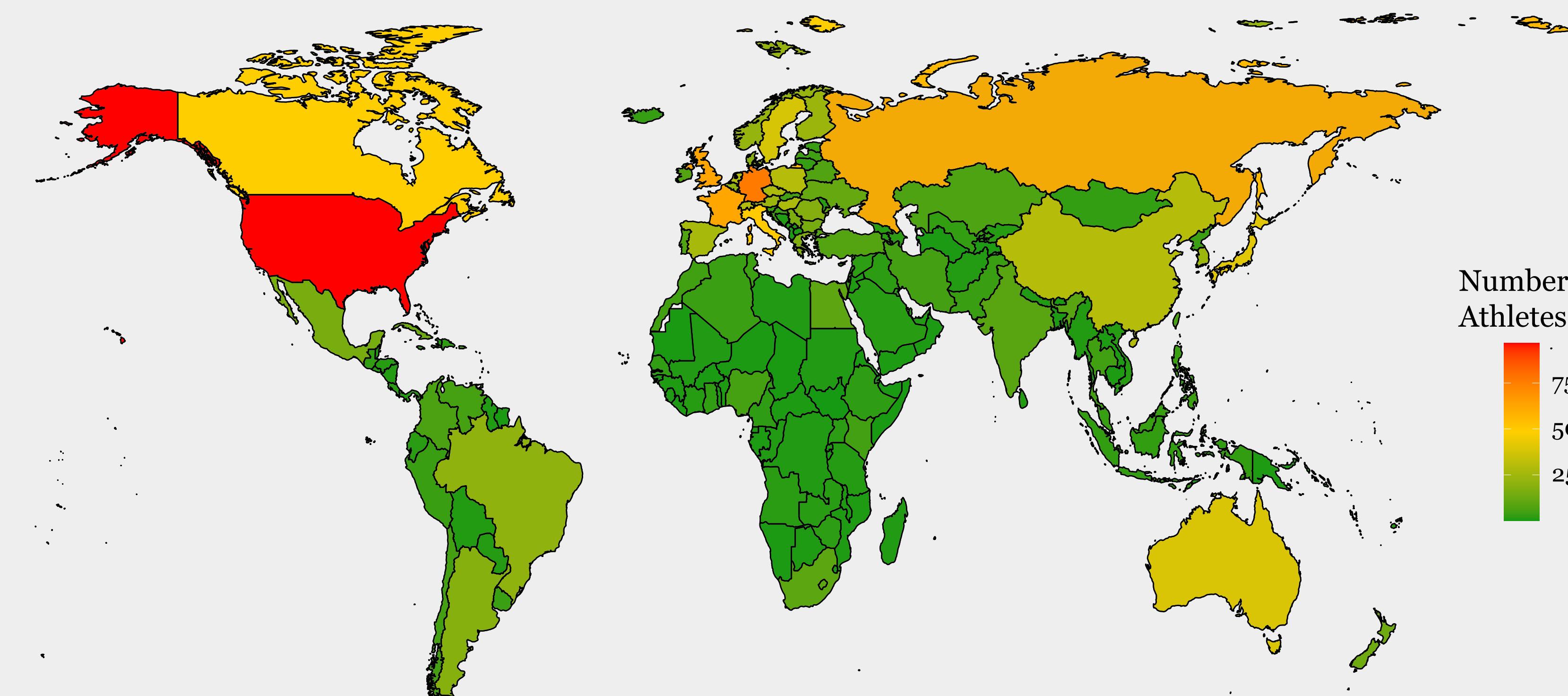


The average weight of all Olympic athletes is 70.71 kg. The mean height of Olympians is 175.34 cm. At 226 cm, basketball player Yao Ming is the tallest Olympian in this data set. 14-year-old gymnast Choi Myong-Hui is the shortest and lightest athlete. During her competition, she stood 135 cm tall and weighed 25 kg. The heaviest Olympian on record was judoka Ricardo Blas Jr. who weighed 214 kg.

Olympic Athlete Height & Weight Distribution

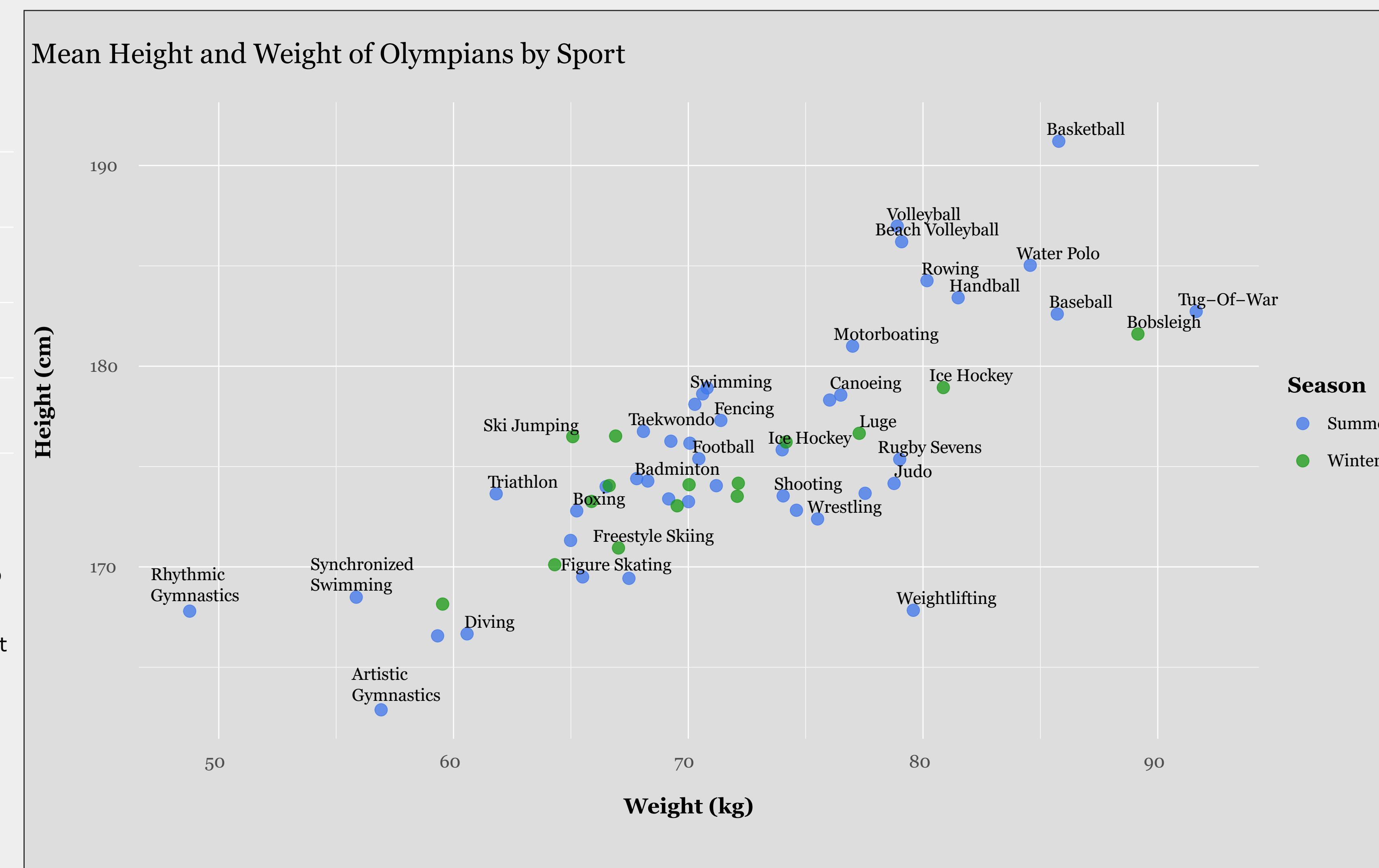


Location, Location, Location



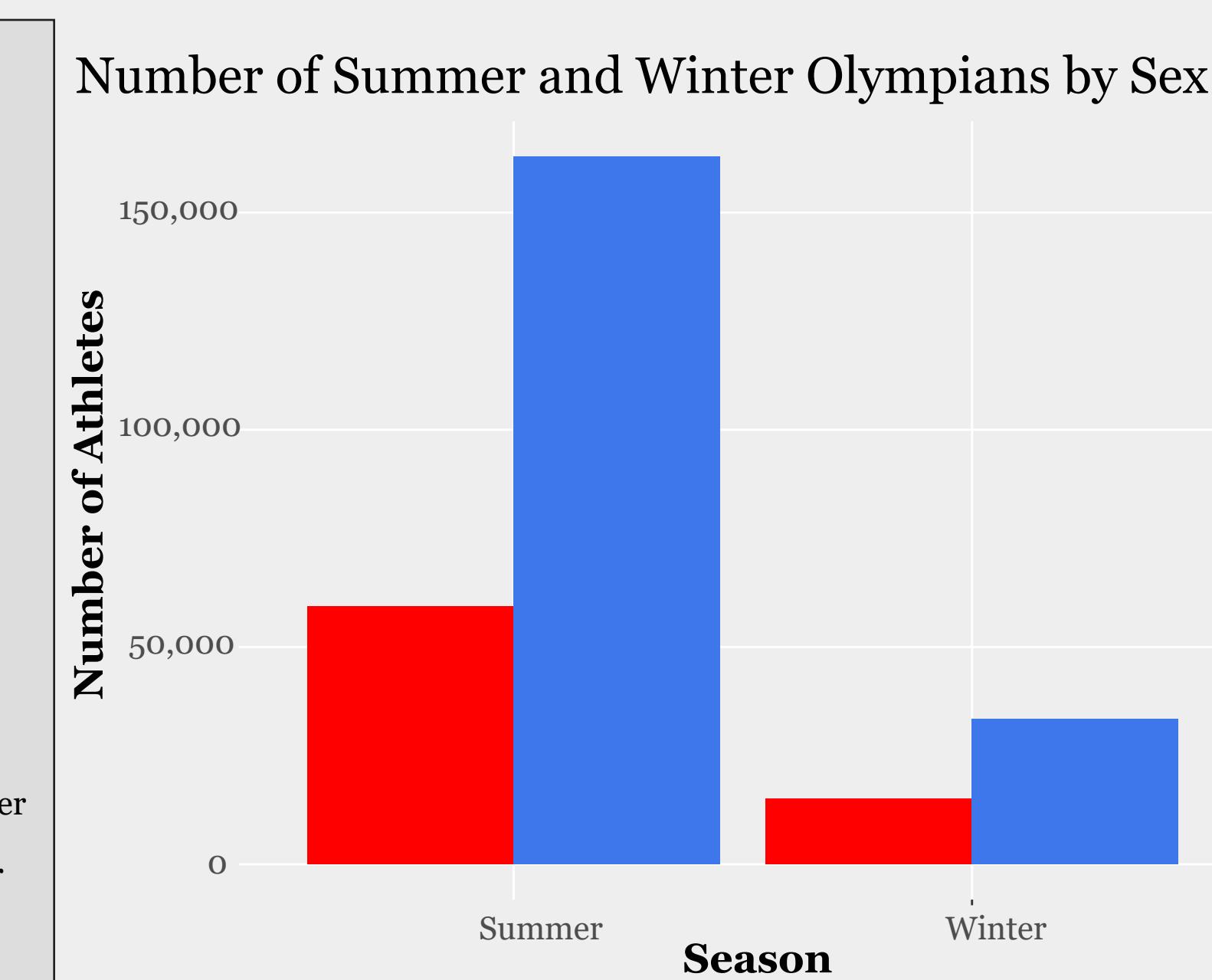
The Olympics by Sport

The sport with the tallest athletes is Basketball. The average Olympic Basketball player is 191.21 cm. The shortest athletes are Artistic Gymnasts who average 162.88 cm. Olympic Tug-Of-War participants are the heaviest athletes by sport at an average of 91.64 kg. Rhythmic Gymnasts are the lightest with a mean weight of 48.76 kg.

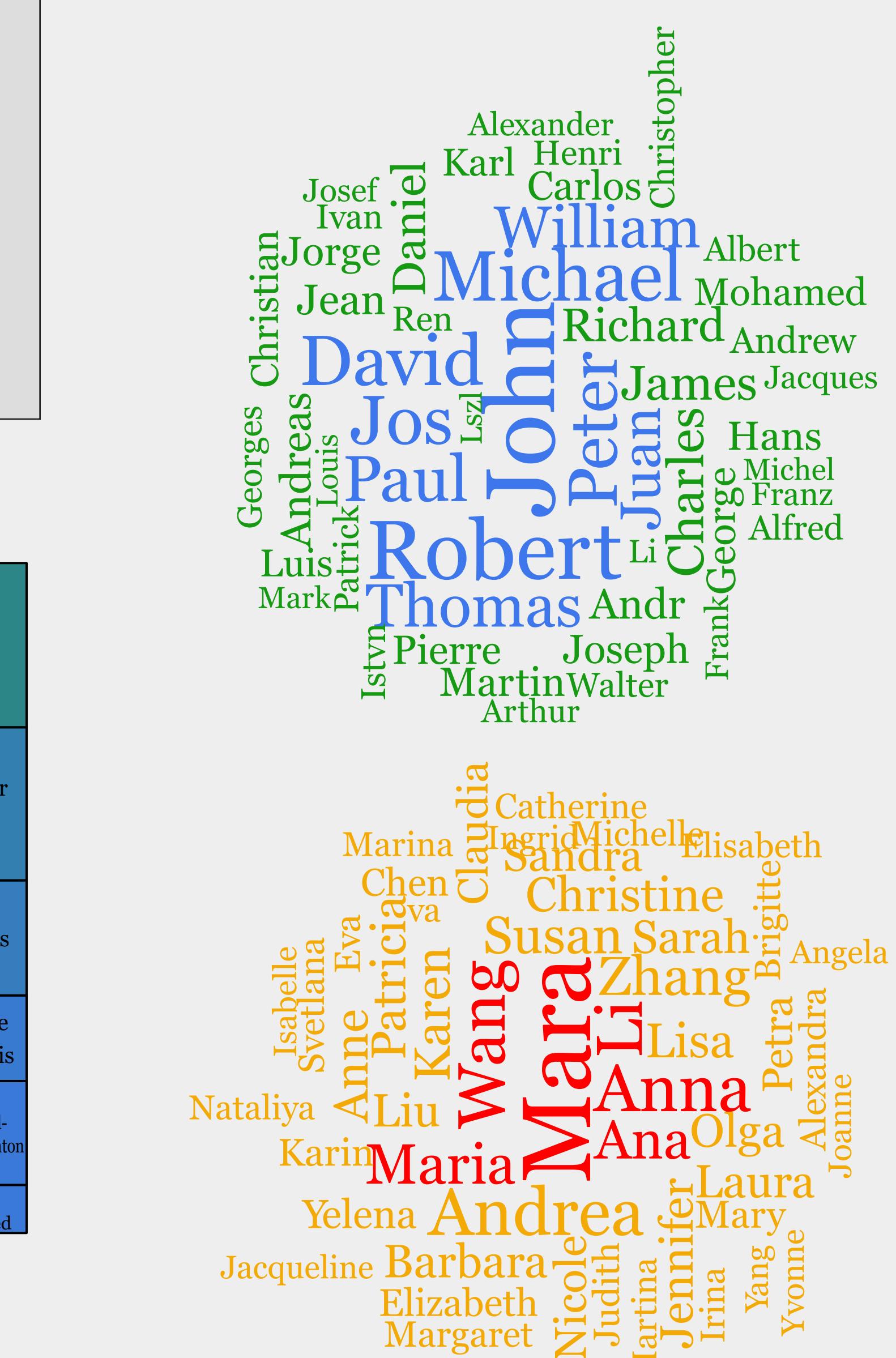


• Sex and the Olympics

With 162,889 unique competitors, nearly triple the number of men have participated in the Summer games than the women (59,314). The Winter games has seen 33,485 male and 15,079 female athletes.



Top 50 Most Common Olympic Names by Sex



In 1900 women were first allowed to compete in the modern Olympic games. Over 100 years later, women still make up less than 50% of Olympians.

Olympic Participation by Sex, 1896-2016

