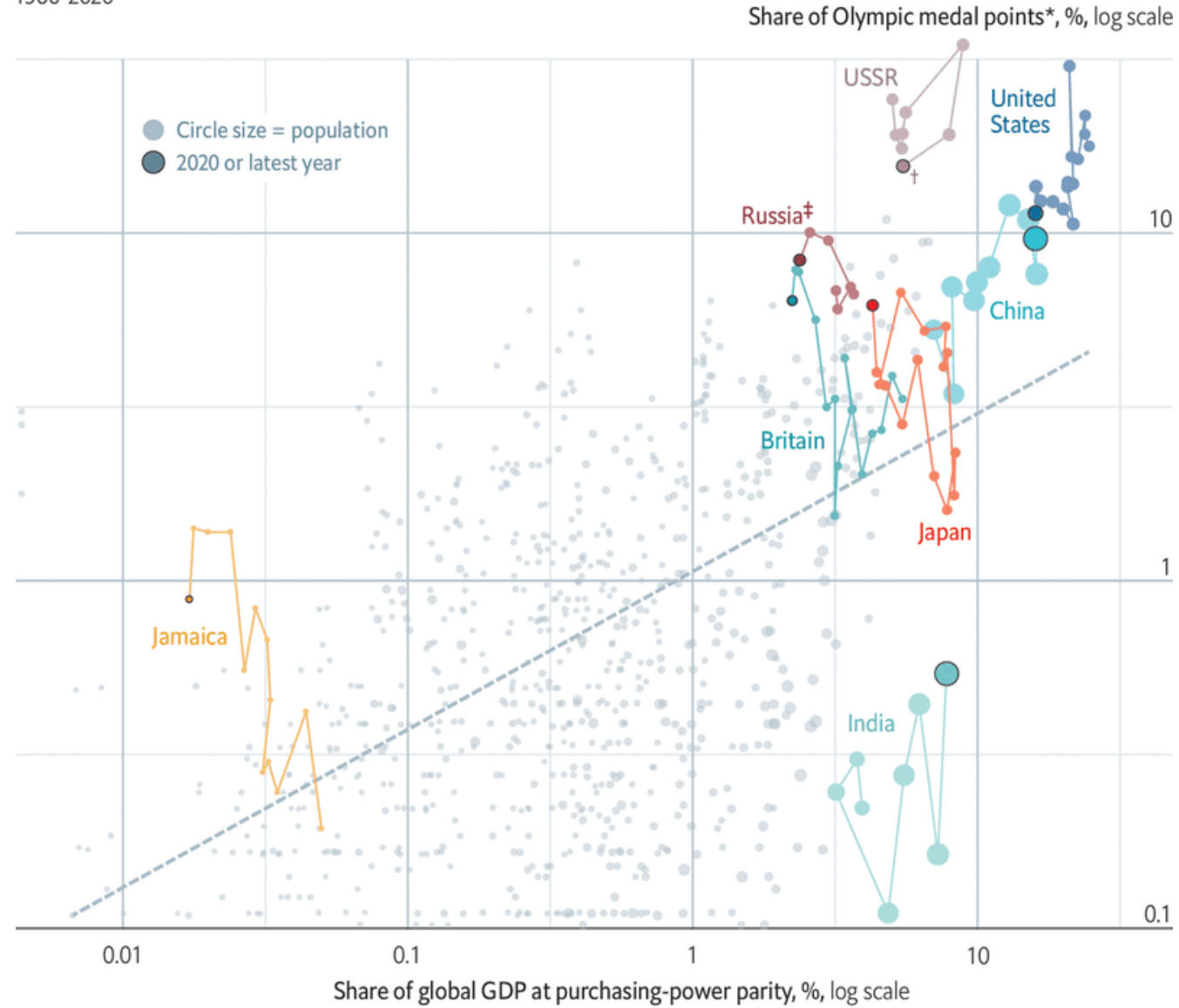


Born to run

Economic output v Olympic medals
1960-2020



*Weighted medals tally, where: gold=3 points; silver=2 points; bronze=1 point

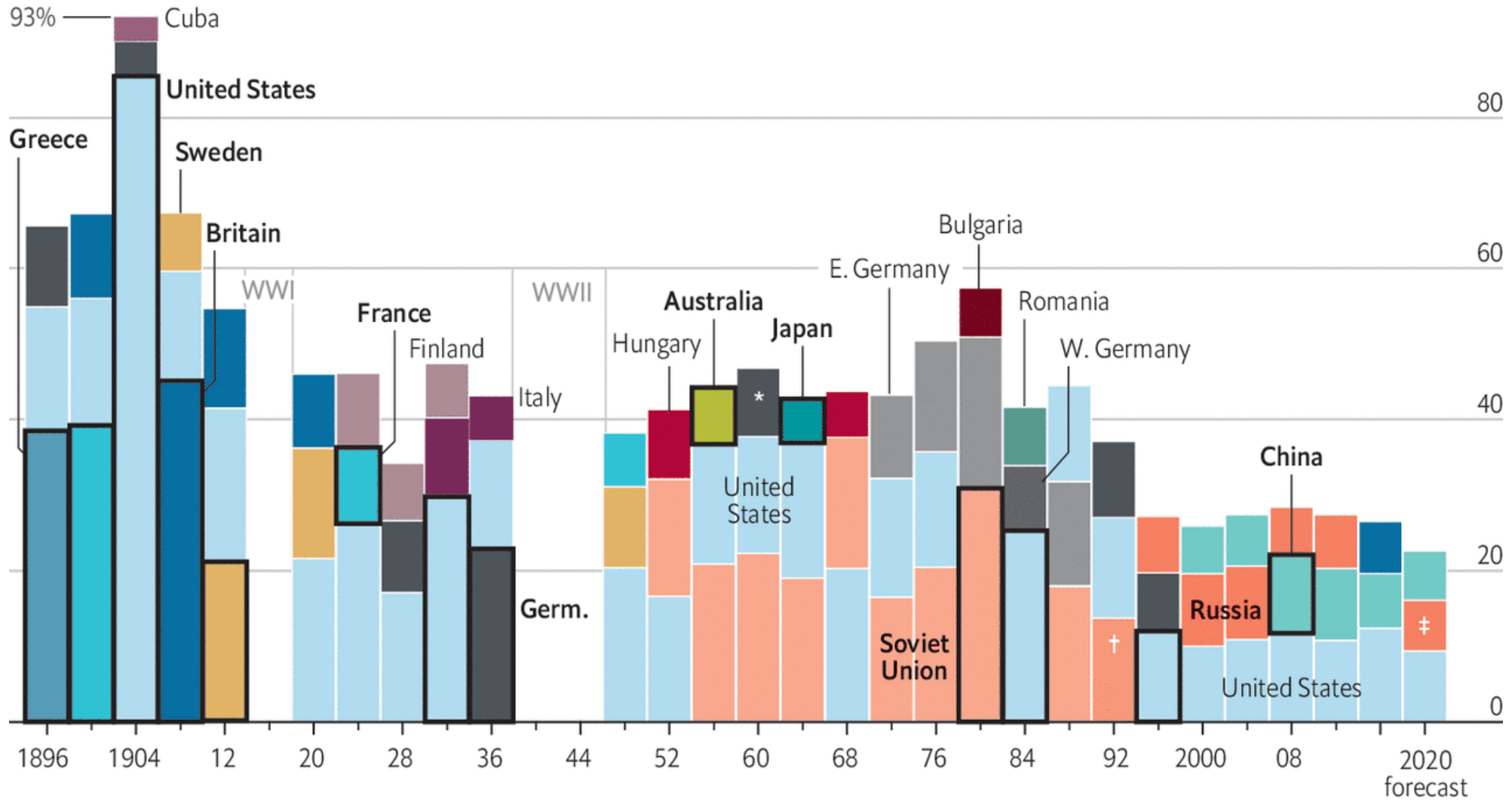
†1992, newly-independent USSR states competed as a single team ‡Russian Olympic Committee in 2020

Sources: International Olympic Committee; Olympedia.org; Maddison Project, University of Groningen; *The Economist*

Home advantage

Share of Olympic medals won, top three teams at each games, %

□ Host nation

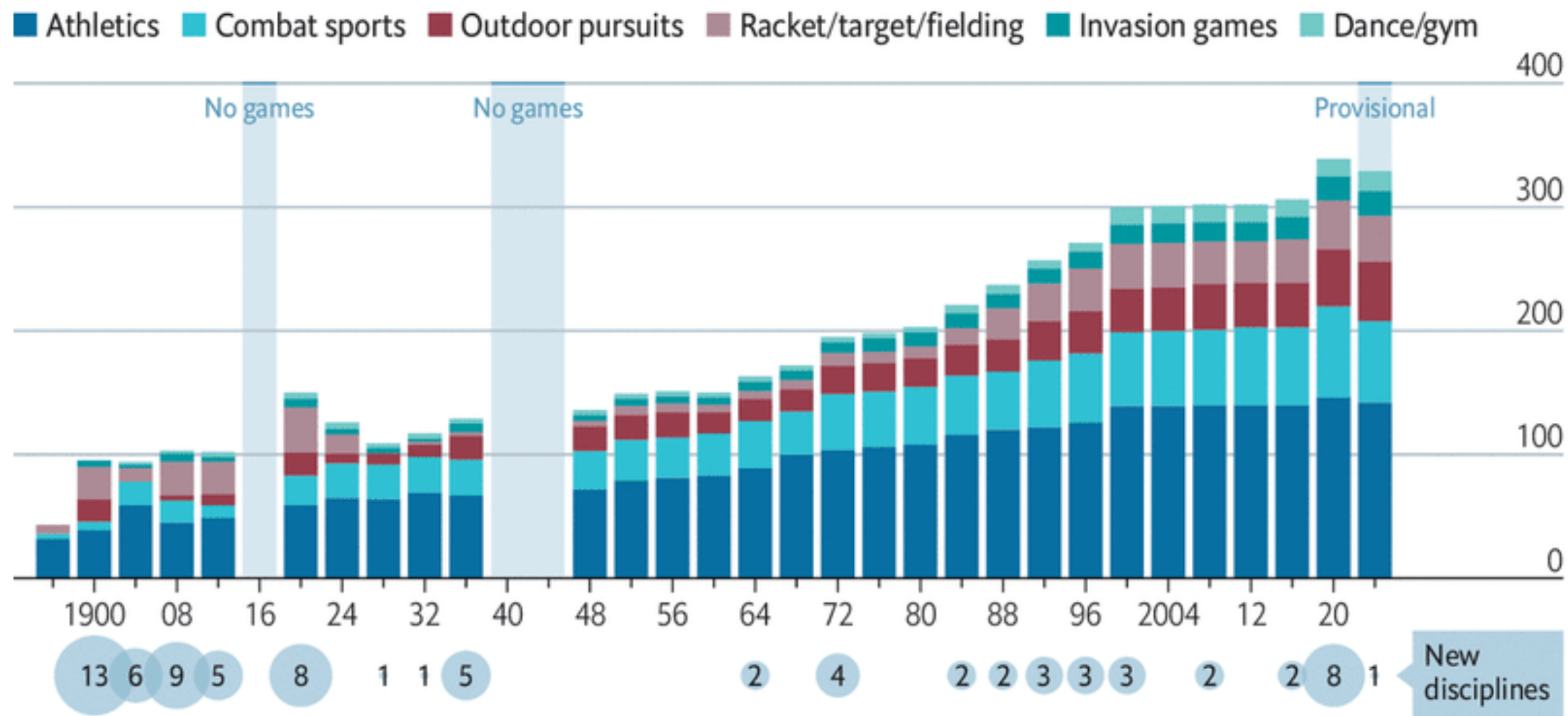


Sources: Gracenote; International Olympic Committee; Sports reference; "The Complete Book of the Olympics", Wallechinsky & Loucky

*United Team of Germany †Unified Team (Soviet Union) ‡Russian Olympic Committee

Citius, altius, fortius

Number of events at summer Olympic games



Source: International Olympic Committee

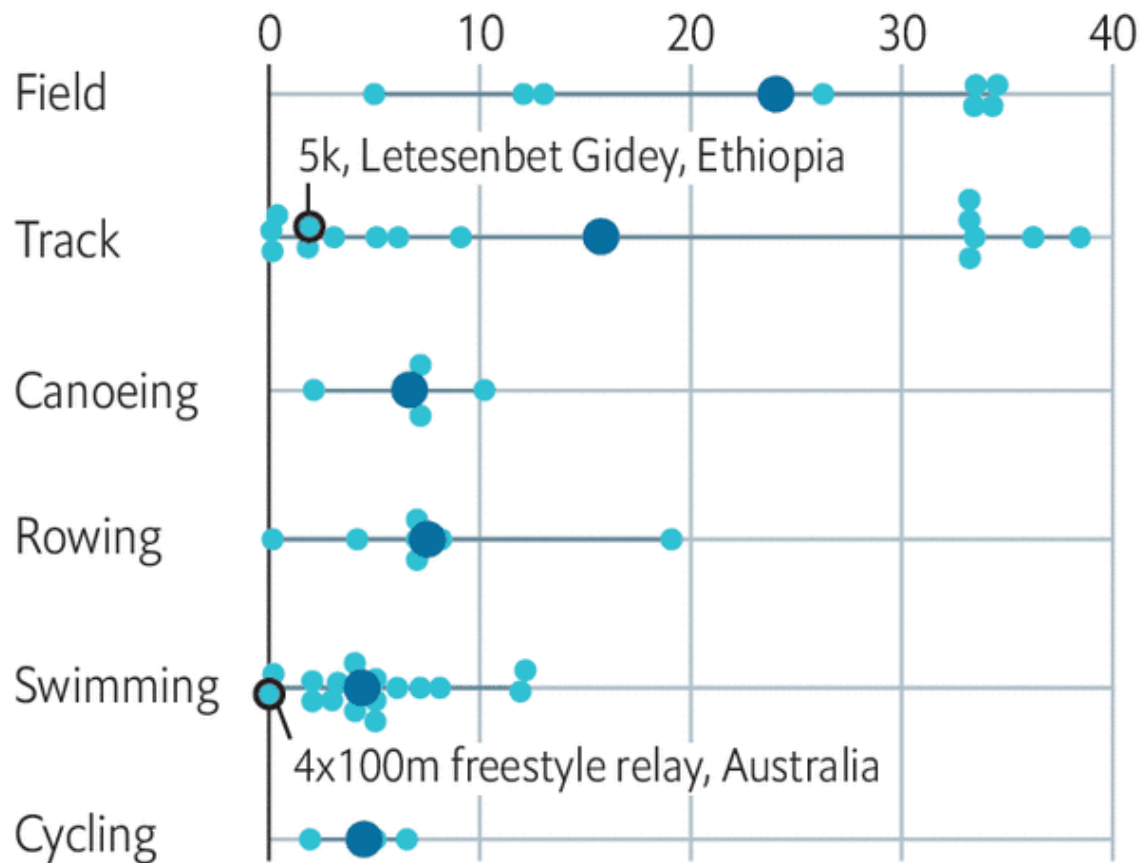
- GDP alone explains 55% of the variation in Olympic medals won since 1960.
- On average, holding other things constant, a two percentage-point share of global GDP (measured at purchasing-power parity) translates to a three percentage-point share of Olympics medals.
- Among the 71 countries that have won more than 10 Olympic medals since 1992, each gold medal cost the equivalent of \$120m of GDP.

Some records are made to be broken

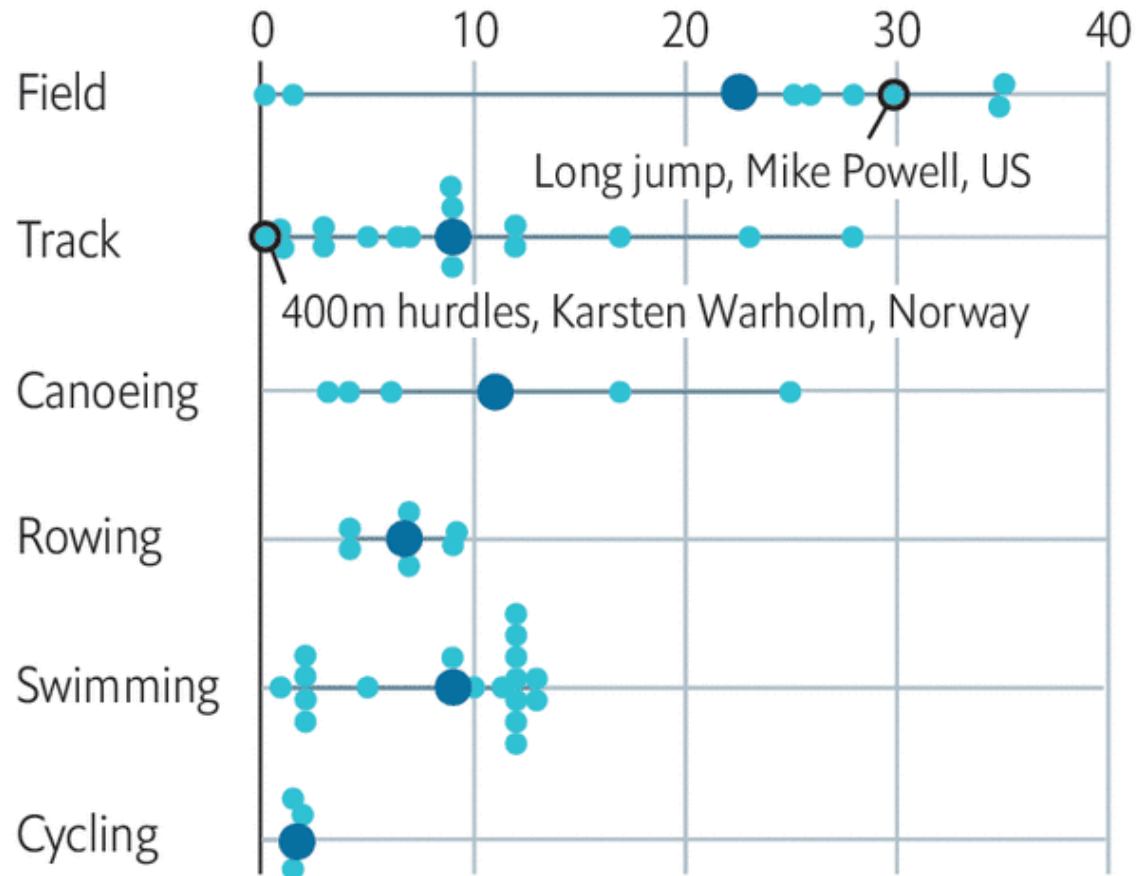
Olympic events, age of world records, years

● Average

Female



Male



Sources: International Olympic Committee; *The Economist*