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Redtorch partnered with the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) to help improve the social media performance of its 206 National Olympic Committee (NOC) members.

Using social media monitoring tools, a custom-built survey and proprietary technology, Redtorch analysed all 206 NOCs to fulfil the project's objectives.

Overall, the aim of this Report is to generate meaningful insights which will enable ANOC to improve the social media performance of its NOC members by:

- examining the visibility of current NOC social media performance
- understanding NOC resources and current social media challenges
- creating a benchmark to measure the impact that future initiatives have on NOC social media performance



The following questions were presented in order to conduct the research:

- how do NOCs currently use social media?
- what size is the combined NOC social media audience?
- what channels are NOCs on and where are there gaps?
- what is the benchmark for NOC social media performance?
- who is performing best in the context of their specific situation?
- which NOCs could share best practice?

These questions are answered throughout the Report.



### What did we do?

We grouped NOCs by factors that might impact their social media performance in order to benchmark and analyse which perform best. Within each factor, various indicators were monitored.



#### Social media size

Combining the social media size across platforms helped identify which NOCs are likely to have the greatest resources and the ability to generate the highest engagements. We combined the size on the following platforms:

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter
- YouTube



#### Connectivity

Several factors can impact growth opportunities and the ability of NOCs to maintain social media channels. We analysed the following datapoints:

- population size
- internet penetration
  - internet speed



#### **Olympians**

The popularity of athletes from Olympic-recognised sports impacts the potential for growth and engagement levels in each country. We analysed the following datapoints from the last two Olympic Games:

(Rio 2016 and PyeongChang 2018)

- number of Olympians
- number of Olympic medals

## Why did we choose these factors?

The assumption was that the bigger NOCs by social media size are likely to generate more engagements and amass more followers. However, we wanted to understand which are the highest performing NOCs in country-specific context, e.g. What size is the population? How big is their social media?



#### Social media size

The number of fans on each of the following platforms, as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020:

Facebook

Instagram

Twitter

YouTube



#### Connectivity

Country population could reflect the current social media size (30% of total score)

Internet penetration could indicate the potential for growth (50% of total score)

Internet speed could indicate the ease of producing high-quality and engaging content (20% of total score)



#### **Olympians**

The **number of Olympians** represents **50%** and could indicate the popularity of the sport in each market (**50%** of total score)

The **number of Olympic medals** could indicate the success of each sport in each market (**50%** of total score)

### How did we do it?

Each NOC was ranked and distributed into 5 similar-sized groups, based on their score in the classification groups below. (The number of NOCs in each continent by classification group is illustrated in the Appendix.)



Social media size



Connectivity



**Olympians** 

The largest NOCs by social media size are in Group A; the smallest, or those without any channels, are in Group E

The largest, most advanced countries are in Group A; the smallest, least developed countries are in Group E

NOCs with the highest number of
Olympians and medals are in Group A;
NOCs with the lowest number of Olympians
and medals are in Group E

Group A
Significantly
above average

Group B
Slightly above
average

Group C
Average

Group D
Slightly below
average

Group E
Significantly
below average

## Social media performance

In addition to external factors and social media size, we used our own algorithm to rank each NOC, based on its social media performance across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube between January and August 2020.

NOCs are ranked on several metrics across each platform that, where possible, consider growth, engagements, views and content frequency

(Note: only channels posted on NOC websites, or easily accessible through search engines, were analysed)

NOCs were given a score and then split into 5 similar-sized groups:

Group A
Significantly
above average

Group B
Slightly above
average

Group C
Average

Group D
Slightly below
average

Group E
Significantly
below average

# NOCs by continent

41

Americas

Pan American Sports
Organisation
(PASO)

50

Europe

European Olympic
Committees
(EOC)

54

Africa

Association of National
Olympic Committees
of Africa
(ANOCA)



Asia

Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)

17

Oceania

Oceania National
Olympic Committees
(ONOC)



## Overall: key findings



The total social media size of NOCs is 28.4m

- 91% have at least 1 social media profile 63% is Facebook
- 53% of the total audience is from the Americas NOCs (representing 15.0m)
- Better-performing NOCs on social media have a higher number of Olympians and Olympic medals
- Connectivity factors, including internet penetration and speed, have an impact on social media performance

## Overall: key findings

60% of NOCs have 2-4 people working on their social media channels, but:

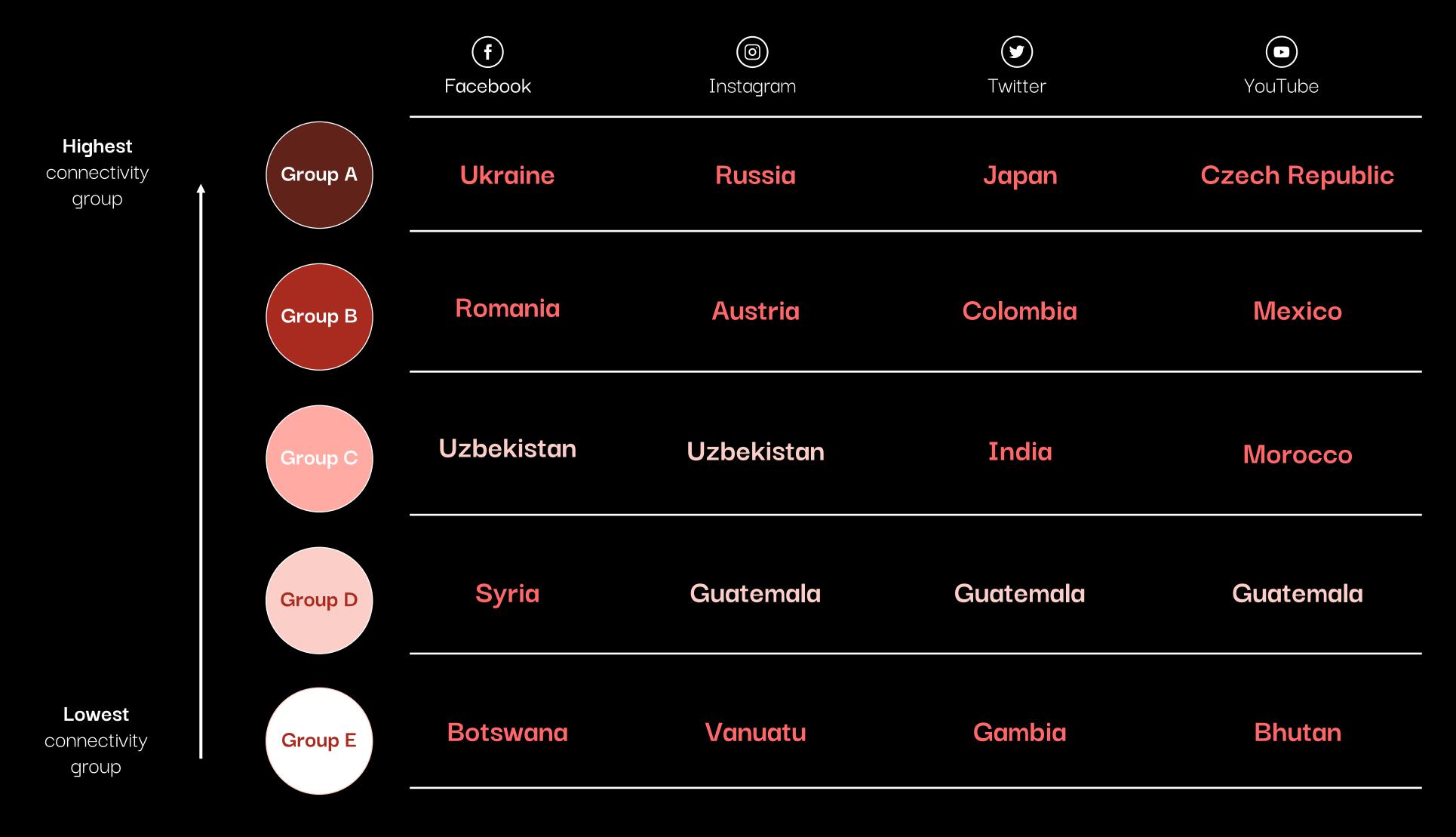
- only 21% have staff working full-time on maintaining them
- while **80%** have social media integrated into their strategic plan, just **37%** have a documented social media strategy

The biggest challenges facing NOCs on social media typically relate to content creation and lack of resources.

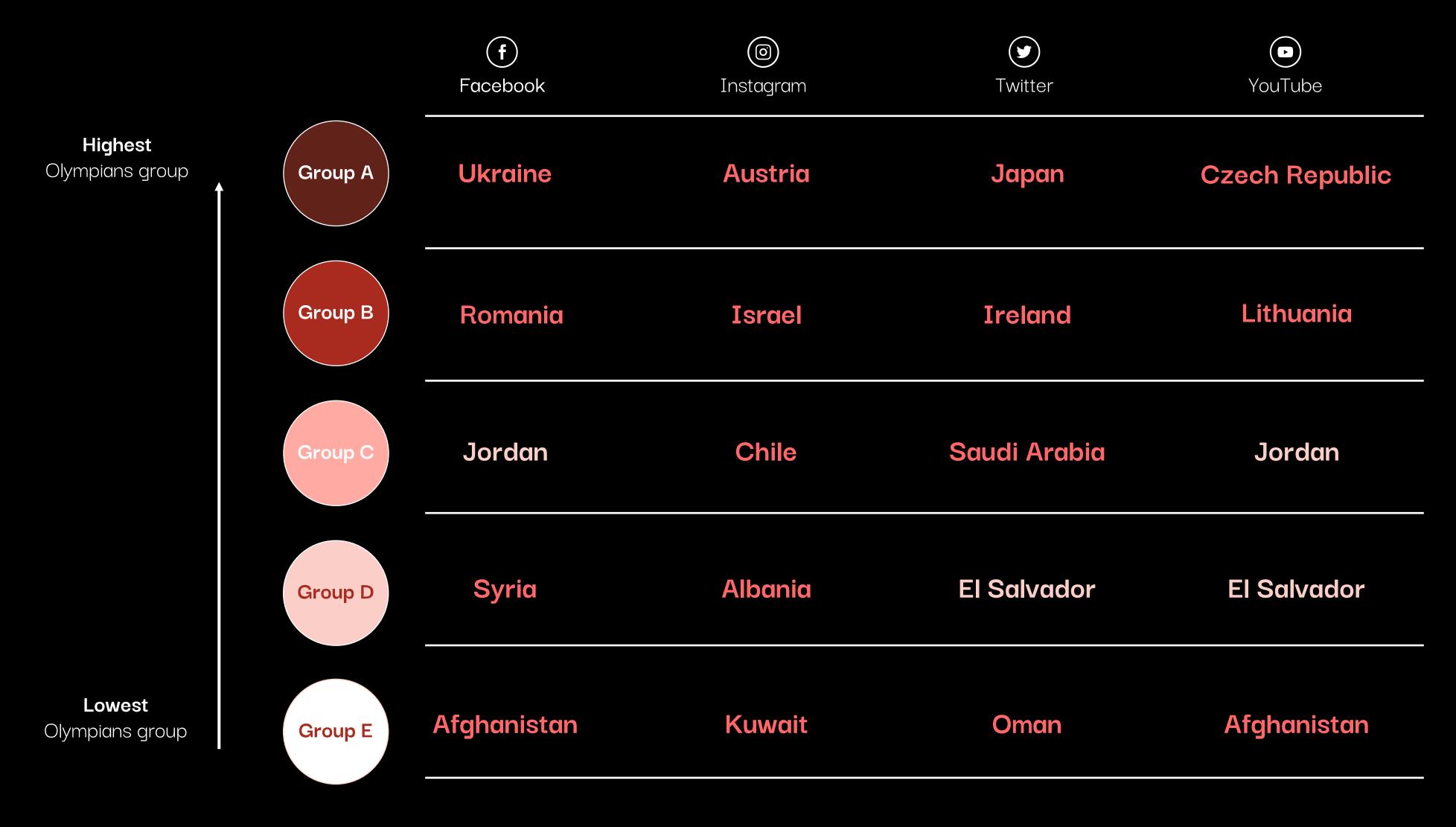
The **2 areas** on which they would most like to focus to improve their social media are:

- branding
- content creation

### Best-performing NOCs by connectivity



### Best-performing NOCs by Olympians





### Continent overview

	Africa	Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania
Social media size	0.5m	15.0m	4.0m	8.0m	0.9m
Resources	68% have 2–4 people running their social media accounts	<b>46%</b> have <b>2–4</b> people running their social media accounts	<b>62%</b> have <b>2–4</b> people running their social media accounts	60% have 2–4 people running their social media accounts	<b>70%</b> have <b>2–4</b> people running their social media accounts
Strategy	<ul><li>64% have social media integrated into their plans</li><li>24% have a documented social media strategy</li></ul>	<ul><li>92% have social media integrated into their plans</li><li>33% have a documented social media strategy</li></ul>	<ul><li>86% have social media integrated into their plans</li><li>44% have a documented social media strategy</li></ul>	<ul><li>84% have social media integrated into their plans</li><li>44% have a documented social media strategy</li></ul>	<ul><li>50% have social media integrated into their plans</li><li>20% have a documented soci media strategy</li></ul>
Biggest challenge	Resources	Audience engagement	Audience growth	Content creation	Content creation

### Africa: key findings

#### Size & channels

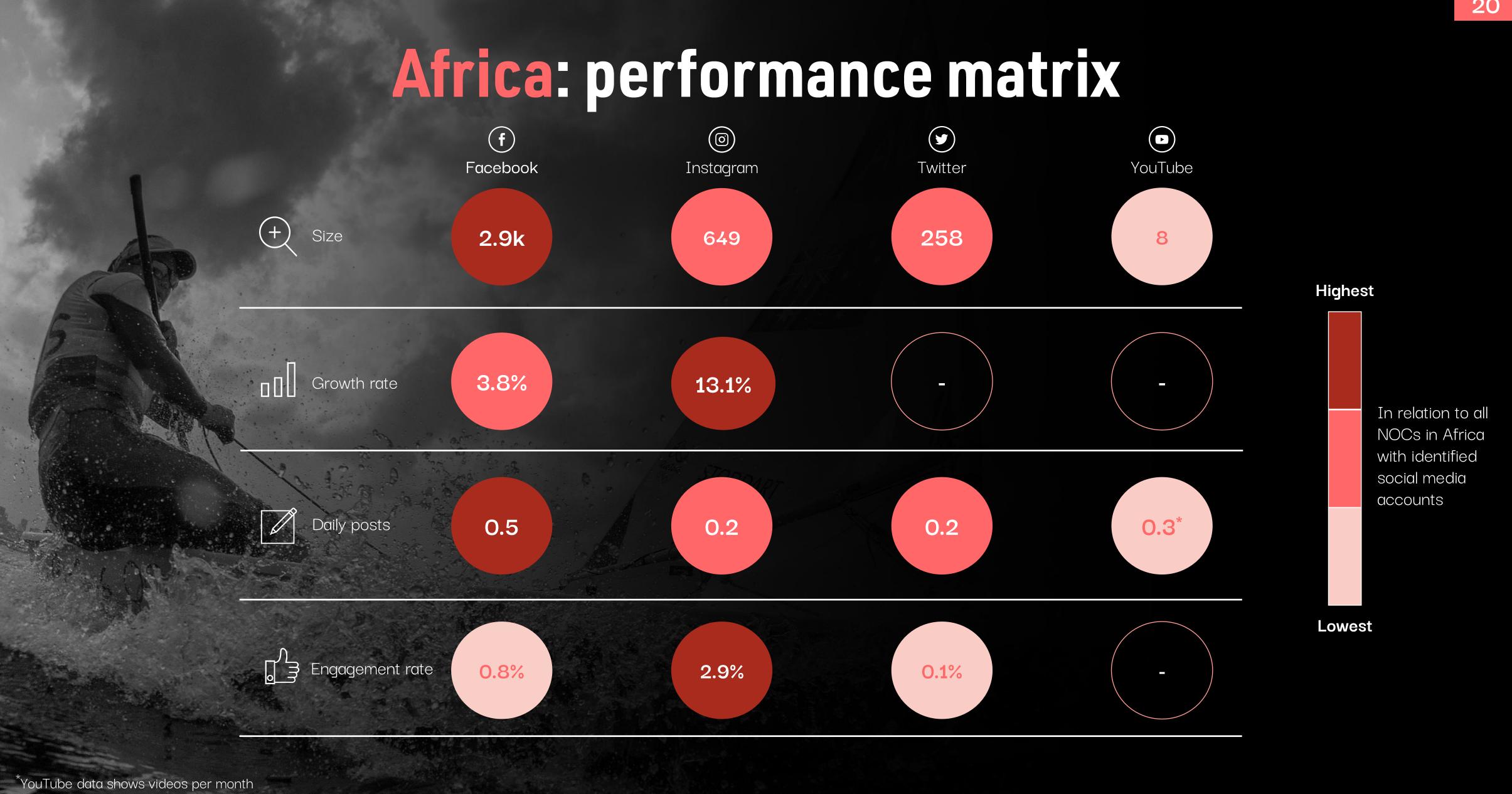
- Africa has a combined size media size of **0.5m**, the smallest of the five continents
- 82% of social media fans are from Facebook, a larger proportion than any other continent
- South Africa has the largest accounts on Instagram (9.9k) and Twitter (42.3k); Libya has the largest account on Facebook (65.0k)

#### **Resources & strategy**

- 64% of NOCs have social media integrated into their wider strategic plans, but only ¼ have a documented social media strategy the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest of all continents
- The majority of NOCs have **2–4** people running their social media accounts; however, they aren't dedicated social media specialists and typically carry out other duties within the organisation

#### **Challenges & improvements**

- Lack of resources is the biggest challenge NOCs face
- Branding and content creation are the 2 areas in which NOCs most want to improve (both 73%)



### Africa: best-performing NOCs

		<b>f</b> Facebook	(instagram	Twitter	YouTube
	Overall	Kenya	Nigeria	Kenya	Morocco
+	Size	Libya	South Africa	South Africa	Morocco
	Posts	Kenya	Morocco	Kenya	Morocco
	Views	Botswana	Morocco	_	Morocco
	Engagement rate*	Mozambique	Morocco	Gambia	_

\*Number of fans and posts were considered when providing an example of an NOC with a high engagement rate

### Africa: challenges

66

We don't have enough content, and slow internet speed results in too much time spent uploading the content we do have

Seychelles

66

Our social media is handled by a volunteer who is working tirelessly, but we cannot provide him with any equipment or honorarium to support his work

Gambia

66

Internet connectivity is poor due electricity road shedding. We also lack financial resources to boost content on social media

Malawi

56

Not having a full-time dedicated social media person and not being able to boost posts due to financial constraints

Botswana

66

We need to improve editorial and visual content, but it is difficult to find real specialists

Tunisia

56

How do we reach the young population in our country?

Guinea-Bissau

66

Creating content to post regularly on our two channels; Facebook and Instagram

Togo

66

The only person who works in this area also has the marketing department to manage

Cape Verde

### Americas: key findings

#### Size & channels

- The Americas have the largest combined size media size of **15.0m**
- USA pages account for 48% of the total size (7.2m)
- Canada is 2<sup>nd</sup> to the USA on each channel by size, other than Facebook where Brazil has the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest following

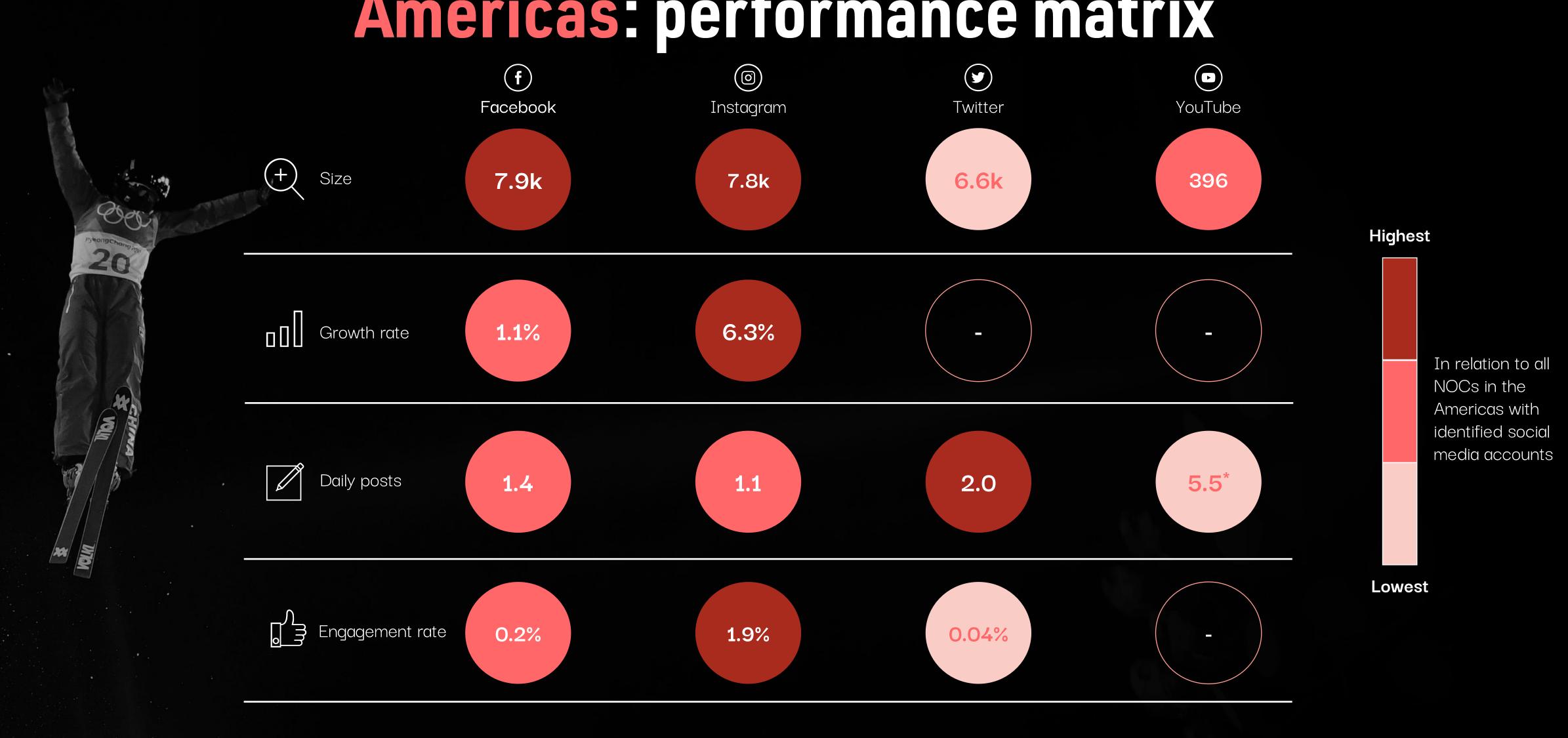
#### Resources & strategy

- A higher proportion of NOCs in the Americas than any other continent has just 1 person running their social media accounts (45%)
- Mexico and Canada both have **5+** people running their social media accounts; **11** NOCs have **2-4** people
- The larger NOCs by social media size typically have staff dedicated to running their social media accounts full time
- 92% of NOCs have social media integrated into their strategic plan, the highest proportion of all continents, but only 33% have a documented social media strategy

#### Challenges & improvements

- Engaging audiences through authentic content and keeping fans entertained are the biggest challenges NOCs face
- Content creation (71%) and branding (67%) are the 2 areas in which NOCs most want to improve





\*YouTube data shows videos per month

### Americas: best-performing NOCs

		<b>f</b> Facebook	(a) Instagram	Twitter	YouTube
	Overall	USA	Canada	USA	USA
+	Size	USA	USA	USA	USA
	Posts	Mexico	Venezuela	Dominican Republic	Mexico
	Views	USA	Canada	_	USA
	Engagement rate*	Guyana	El Salvador	Paraguay	_

<sup>\*</sup>The number of fans and posts were considered when providing an example of an NOC with a high engagement rate

### Americas: challenges

66

Keeping our community informed, increasing the impact and global reach on all our channels

Panama

66

Continue to strengthen our existing channels and entering new ones to reach more target groups

Guatemala

66

Unite the sports family of Colombia and promote the Olympic values to as many people as possible

Colombia

36

Generating engaging content in an extended non-Games window plus determining how to be relevant but authentic in conversation

Canada

66

Due to the pandemic, there is less sports news to share on social media

Mexico

66

The absence of a team with the capacity and access to tools to generate the content needed.

Resources are needed to acquire videographers, editors and designers to get the content

Belize

66

Bringing Team Chile athletes closer to the public, so they are not only known when they have great sporting results

Chile

66

We have a huge fan base on Facebook but since the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, we have been losing fans every month.

Brazil

### Asia: key findings

#### Size & channels

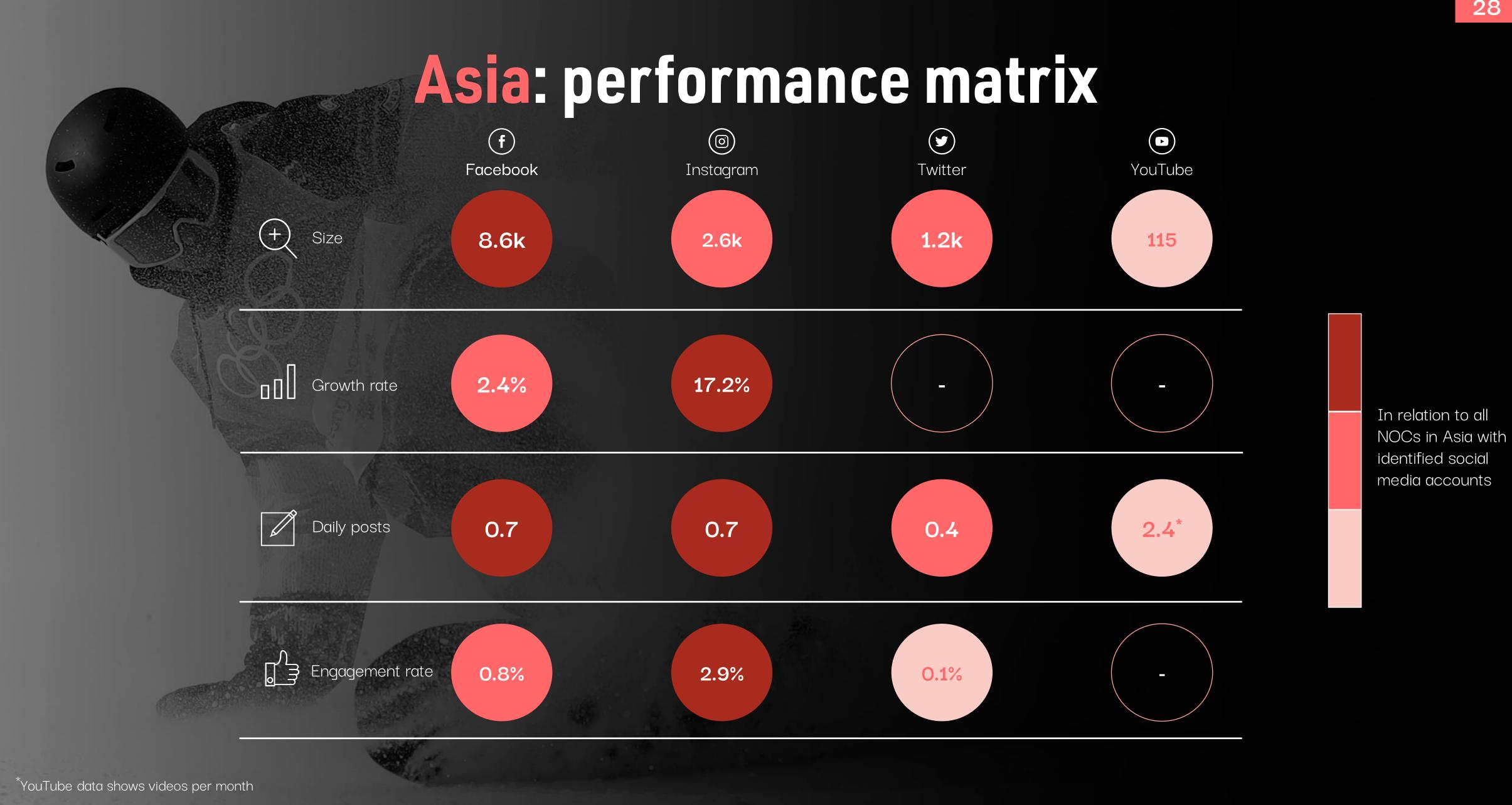
- Asia has a combined size media size of 4.0m, 74% coming from Facebook
- Jordan has the largest Facebook size (**1.1m**), the 4<sup>th</sup> highest worldwide
- Japan has the most fans on other **3** platforms, followed by Qatar

#### **Resources & strategy**

- NOCs in Asia typically have the biggest social media teams who spend most of their time running social media accounts
- 86% of NOCs have social media integrated into their strategic plan; 45% have a documented social media strategy, the highest of all continents

#### Challenges & improvements

- Growing their audiences and a lack of resources in relation to staff and tools are the biggest challenges NOCs face
- Branding (69%) and content creation (59%) are the 2 areas in which NOCs most want to improve



### Asia: performance matrix

		<b>f</b> Facebook	(©) Instagram	Twitter	YouTube
	Overall	Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan	Japan	Japan
+	Size	Jordan	Japan	Japan	Japan
	Posts	India	Uzbekistan	Japan	UAE
	Views	Jordan	Qatar	-	Japan
	Engagement rate*	Philippines	India	Singapore	_

<sup>\*</sup>Number of fans and posts were considered when providing an example of an NOC with a high engagement rate

### Asia: challenges

66

Creating meaningful content that reflects the Olympic values and Bahrain's sporting journey, which will help increase the number of interactions with our followers

Bahrain

66

The lack of sports content has made it hard to post on our social channels.

We also face difficulties in growing our social media pages

Bhutan

66

We are facing issues with the public where we want them to be more engaged and interact with our sports content on all our channels

Jordan

56

Managing to stay connected with the wider Olympic family in multiple languages, whilst remaining in constant communication with the local audience

Saudi Arabia

66

We don't have social media specialists and during the pandemic, we have had difficulties creating content. Our athletes are not very active on social media which makes it more challenging to engage our fans

Kazakhstan

66

The content generation is the most important issue, especially livestreaming and other videos. However, we need the right equipment and people which we can't afford due to tight budgets

**Chinese Taipei** 

66

Producing content that our fans engage with. We want to be able to use videos from the Olympic Games and Asian Games more freely

Japan

66

How do we maximize our fanbase?
With a limited team, we are unable to
cover all
the National Federations and their
activities

Sri Lanka

### Europe: key findings

#### Size & channels

- Europe has a combined size media size of **8.0m**, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest of the continents
- The Czech Republic has the largest YouTube following in Europe (78.2k subscribers), 2<sup>nd</sup> worldwide after the USA
- Great Britain has the largest number of followers on the other 3 platforms

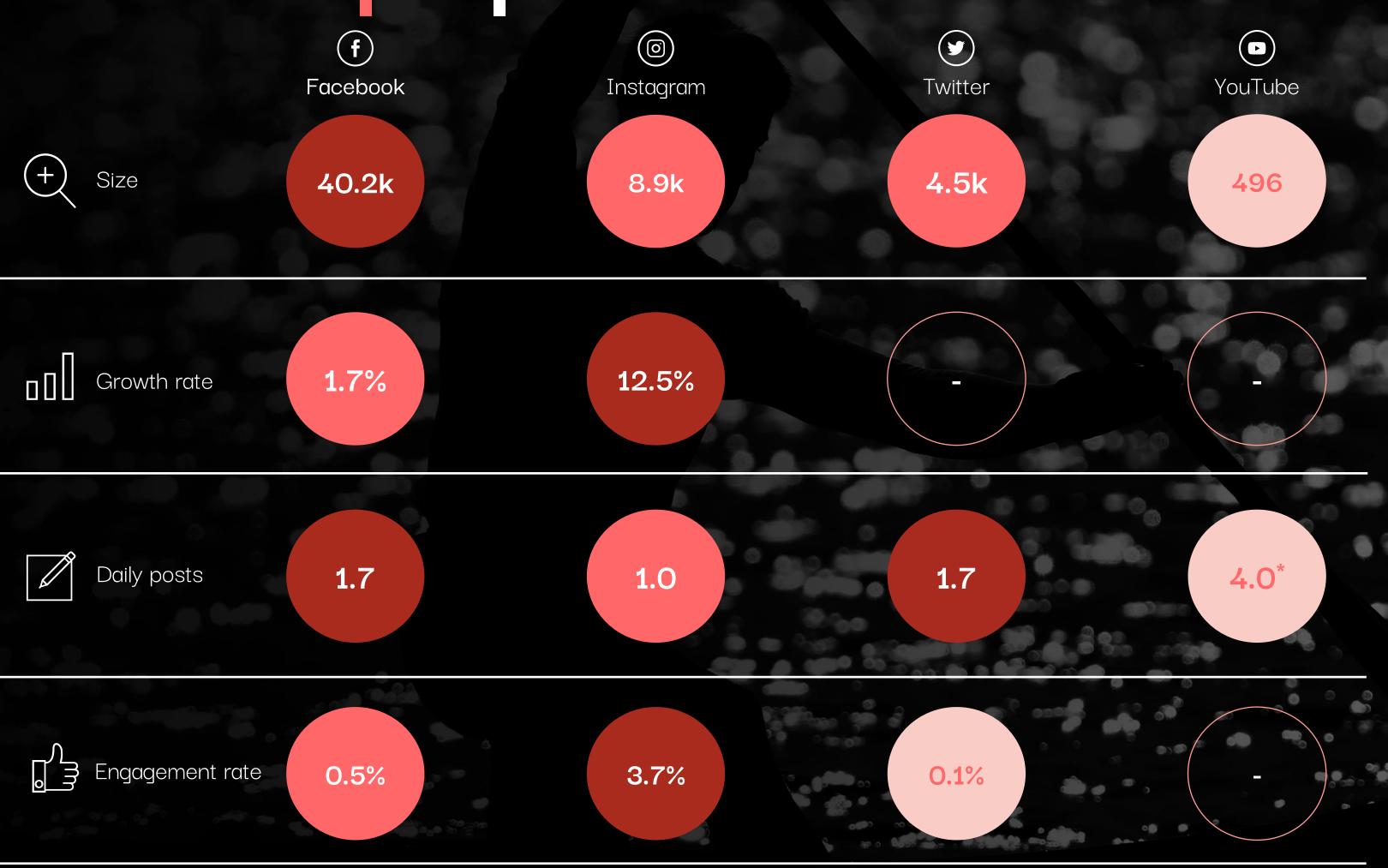
#### **Resources & strategy**

- 60% of NOCs have 2-4 people running their social media; Azerbaijan, the Czech Republic and Denmark have 5+ people
- 1/3 of NOCs employ full-time staff to run their social media accounts, more than any other continent
- 84% of NOCs have social media integrated into their strategic plan; only 44% have a documented social media strategy

#### Challenges & improvements

- Resources, in particular finding time to focus on producing high-quality output is the biggest challenge NOCs face
- Many NOCs want to produce more video content but lack the budget and tools to do so
- Content creation (71%) and branding (51%) are the 2 areas in which NOCs most want to improve

### Europe: performance matrix



In relation to all NOCs in Europe with identified social media accounts

\*YouTube data shows videos per month

### Europe: best-performing NOCs

		<b>f</b> Facebook	(©) Instagram	Twitter	YouTube
(	Overall	Romania	Austria	Great Britain	Czech Republic
+	Size	Great Britain	Great Britain	Great Britain	Czech Republic
	Posts	Spain	Ukraine	Spain	Netherlands
	Views	Ukraine	Great Britain	-	Czech Republic
	Engagement rate	* Romania	Albania	Ukraine	_

\*Number of fans and posts were considered when providing an example of an NOC with a high engagement rate

### Europe: Challenges

66

To measure and create a clear connection between social media performance and achieving our strategic targets

Finland

Keeping up to date with new trends and informing others that we need different formats of content on each platform, even if the topic is the same

Czech Republic

66

The biggest challenge is how we can generate additional income with selling ads and commercial products on our social media channels

Austria

56

During the pandemic, the biggest challenge has been to find and create content. We also need help to reach new audiences on Instagram and Twitter

Kosovo

66

Creating engaging content for our followers has been our biggest challenge since sport stopped

Slovenia

66

Investing in qualitative content and developing production budgets

**Great Britain** 

66

Bigger budgets to acquire photos and videos because, as a small NOC, we have a lot of difficulties covering multi-sport events because we have very little accreditation

Luxembourg

66

How to attract new followers and produce innovative content all the time

Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Oceania: key findings

#### Size & channels

- Oceania has the 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest social media size (**0.9m**), **70%** coming from Facebook
- It is the only continent with a higher proportion of fans on Instagram (16%) than Twitter (13%)
- New Zealand has the largest Facebook and YouTube accounts; Australia has the largest followings on Instagram and Twitter

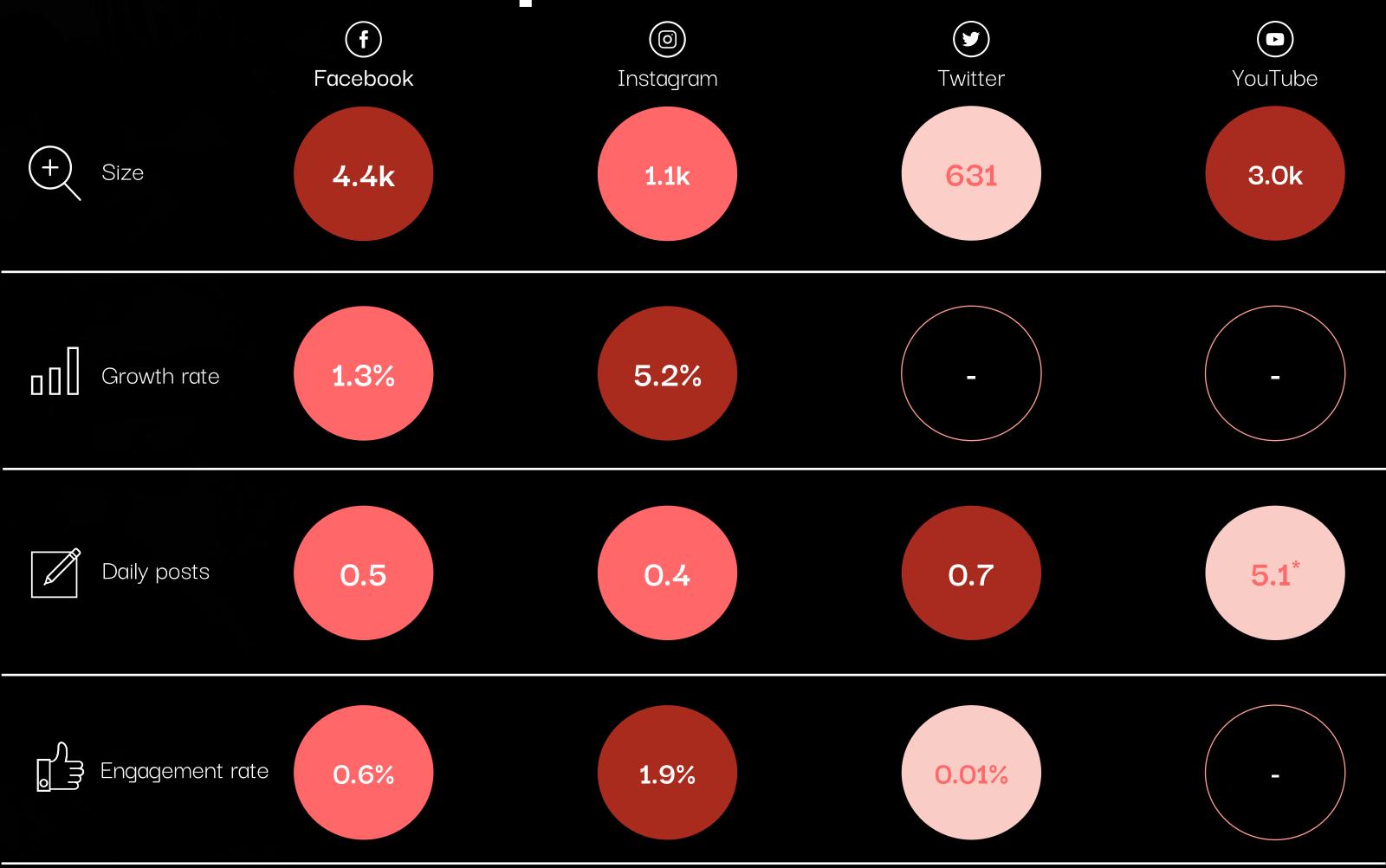
#### **Resources & strategy**

- Highest proportion of NOCs with **2-4** people running their social media accounts (**70%**), but typically they spend half their time working in other areas as a result of having smaller social media pages to maintain with less content to produce
- 50% of NOCs have social media integrated into their strategic plan; only 20% have a documented social media strategy, the lowest proportion of all continents

#### Challenges & improvements

- Content-related issues, including 'beating social media algorithms' to reach more fans, and the creation of high-quality, engaging videos are the biggest challenges NOCs face
- Identifying new platforms (82%) and content creation (71%) are the 2 areas in which NOCs most want to improve
- NOCs in Oceania experience more issues with connectivity than any other continent

### Oceania: performance matrix



In relation to all NOCs in Oceania with identified social media accounts

\*YouTube data shows videos per month

## Oceania: best-performing NOCs

		<b>f</b> Facebook	(instagram	Twitter	YouTube
	Overall	Australia	Australia	Australia	New Zealand
+	Size	New Zealand	Australia	Australia	New Zealand
	Posts	Australia	Australia	Australia	New Zealand
	Views	Australia	New Zealand	-	New Zealand
	Engagement rate*	Papua New Guinea	New Zealand	New Zealand	-

<sup>\*</sup>Number of fans and posts were considered when providing an example of an NOC with a high engagement rate

## Oceania: challenges

66

Creating compelling video content is our biggest challenge, plus we also struggle to access athletes and archive content to repurpose

Australia

66

How can we cut through all the noise and increase engagements? The algorithms mean our content is being shown to fewer and fewer fans, especially on Facebook

New Zealand

66

We have a couple of staff helping, but still lack in updating and posting social media content. This is mainly due to other activities taking priority and unreliable internet services

Tonga

56

The size and remoteness of our islands is a big challenge.

Local telecommunications, Wi-Fi and internet connections are very poor.

Also, we lack the technical expertise to build our social media locally

Micronesia

66

We are truly unaware how to capitalise on social media and need help with our content and strategy

Fiji

56

We are not generating enough quality content for the different demographics within our country

Papua New Guinea

66

Poor internet connection is a big issue, plus we don't have the knowledge on how to use channels such as Twitter and Instagram

Tuvalu

66

We need our staff to have more training on developing a social media strategy, plus learn more about branding and marketing

Palau



# Audience size by platform

28.4m

Total



17.8m

Facebook





6.5m

**Twitter** 





3.7m

Instagram





0.4m

YouTube



# Audience size by continent



0.5m Africa 4.Um Asia

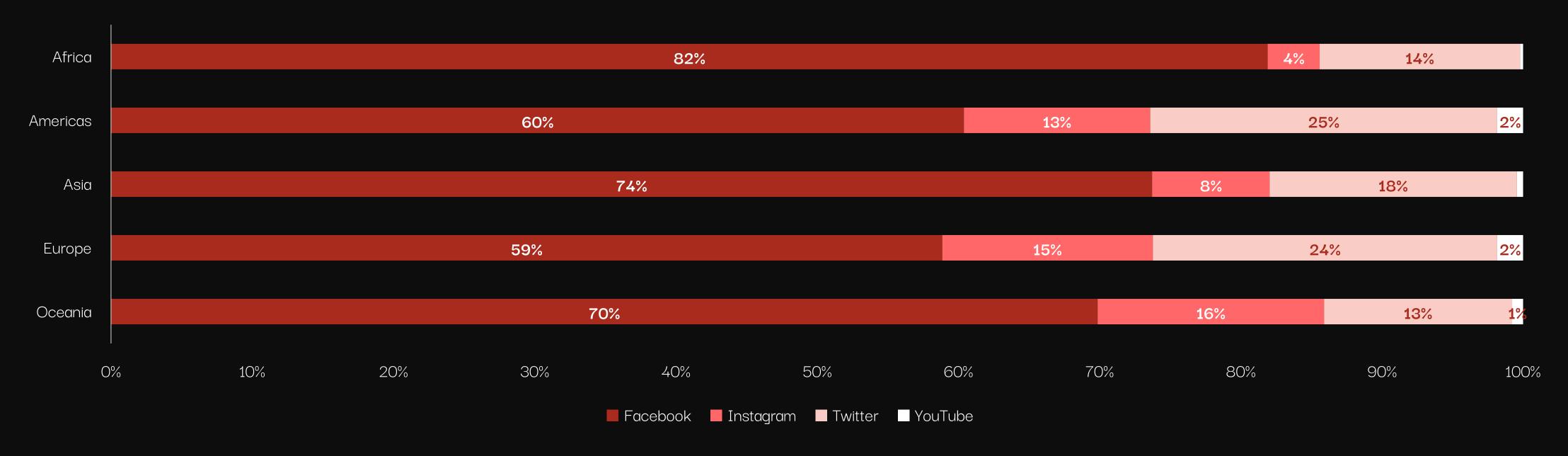
> 0.9m Oceania

Americas

### Facebook represents 63% of total NOC social media size

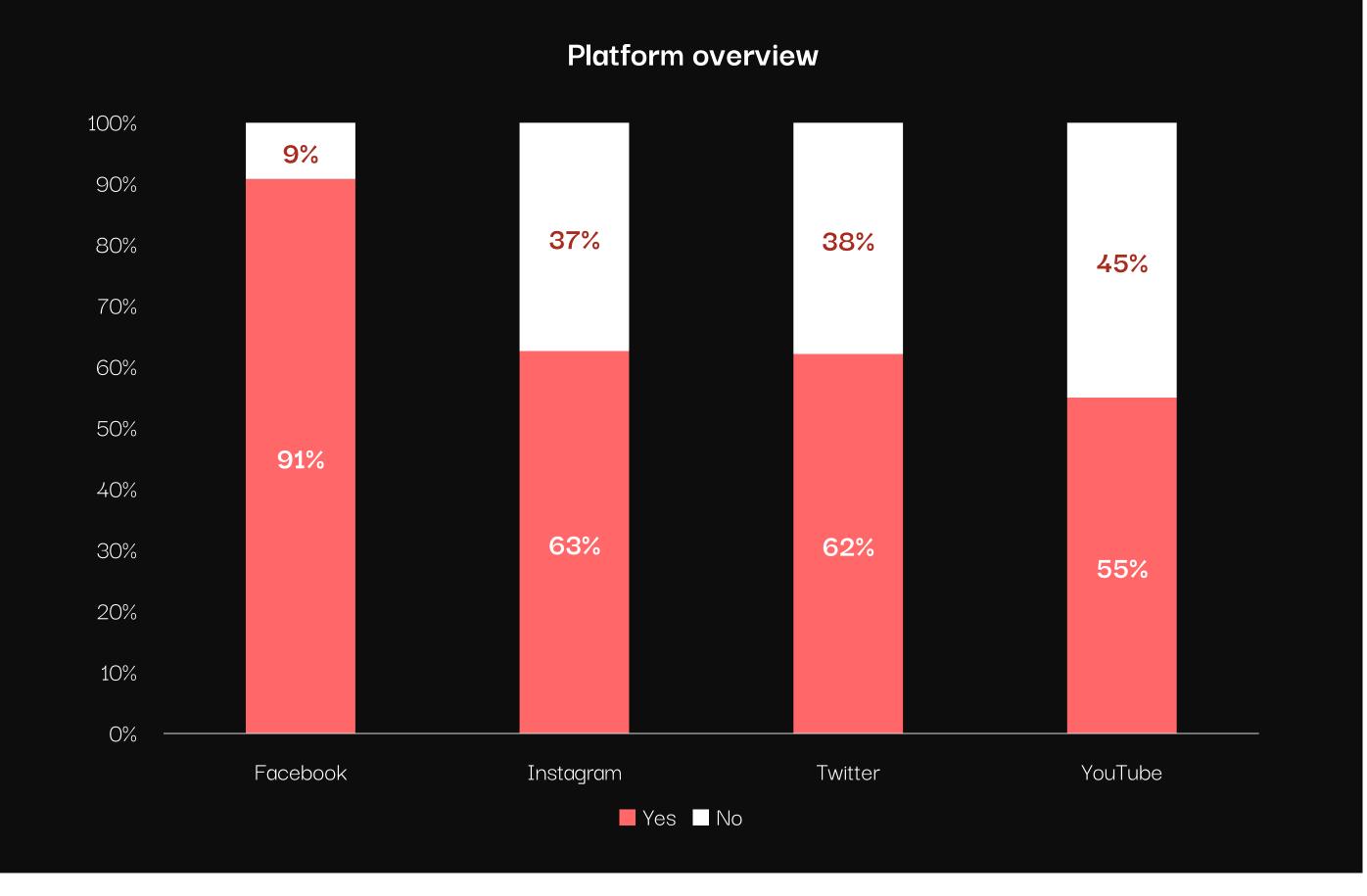
- 82% of Africa's total social media size is on Facebook (0.4m), the highest of all continents
- Oceania is the only continent with a higher proportion of fans on Instagram (16%) than Twitter (13%)
- Europe (59%) and the Americas (60%) have the lowest proportion of total fans on Facebook and the highest proportion on Twitter (24% and 25% respectively)
- Asia has the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest proportion of its fans on Facebook (**74%**) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest proportion of fans on Instagram (**8%**)

### Continent social media size by platform



# of NOCs have at least 1 social media account of NOCs are active on at least 1 social media account

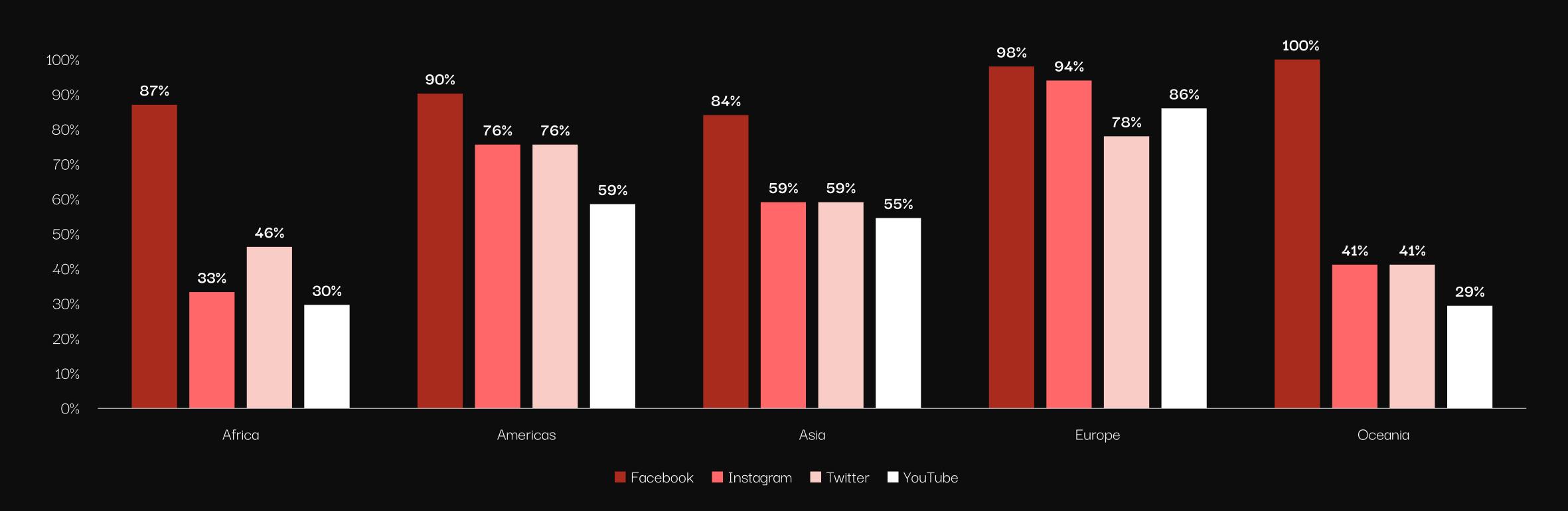
## The majority of NOCs have at least 1 social media account



### Facebook is the most used platform in each continent

- Europe has the highest proportion of NOCs on Instagram, Twitter and YouTube, followed by the Americas
- Oceania has the lowest proportion of NOCs using Twitter (41%) and YouTube (29%)
- Africa has the lowest proportion of NOCs on Instagram (33%), and is the only continent where Twitter is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular platform





# Olympians have a greater impact on social media performance than connectivity factors

• NOCs will benefit by supporting their athletes to build their own brands and social media presence

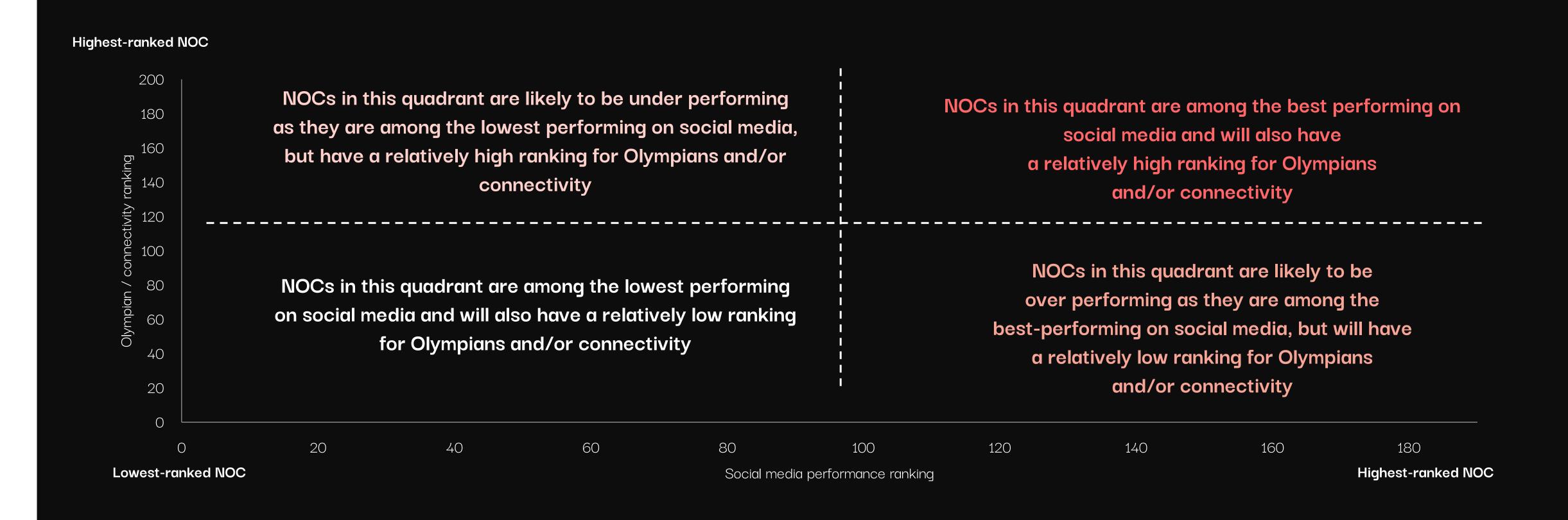
### Social media performance vs Olympians

	Olympians A	Olympians B	Olympians C	Olympians D	Olympians E
Social media performance A	66%	18%	9%	0%	0%
Social media performance B	27%	34%	26%	8%	3%
Social media performance C	2%	21%	31%	32%	14%
Social media performance D	2%	13%	20%	35%	31%
Social media performance E	2%	13%	14%	24%	<b>51</b> %

### Social media performance vs connectivity

	Connectivity A	Connectivity B	Connectivity C	Connectivity D	Connectivity E
Social media performance A	53%	31%	8%	3%	0%
Social media performance B	28%	28%	28%	11%	0%
Social media performance C	10%	23%	23%	28%	16%
Social media performance D	8%	10%	23%	25%	39%
Social media performance E	3%	8%	20%	33%	45%

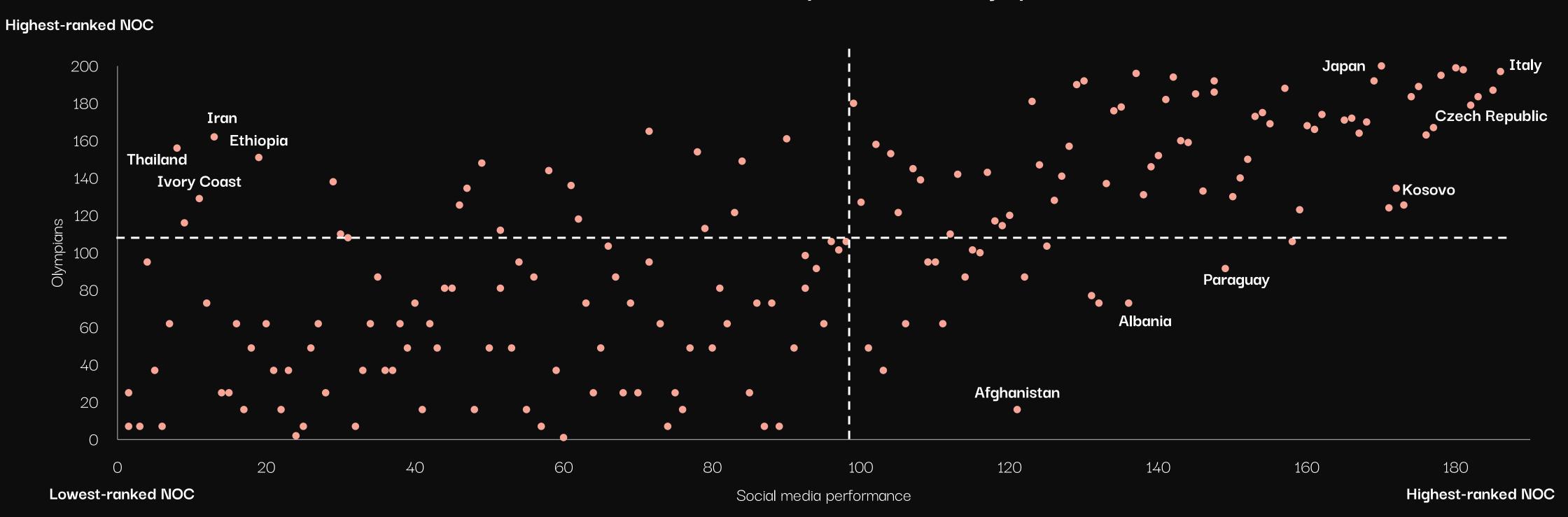
# Redtorch Performance Matrix (RPM) plots NOCs based on their social media performance and their ranking for Olympians and connectivity



# Given their relatively low Olympian ranking, Afghanistan, Albania and Paraguay are high performers on social media

- Paraguay is a consistent performer across all platforms; Afghanistan ranks highly on both Facebook and Twitter
- Albania outperforms similar-sized NOCs on Facebook and Instagram as a result of high engagement rates

#### Social media performance vs Olympians

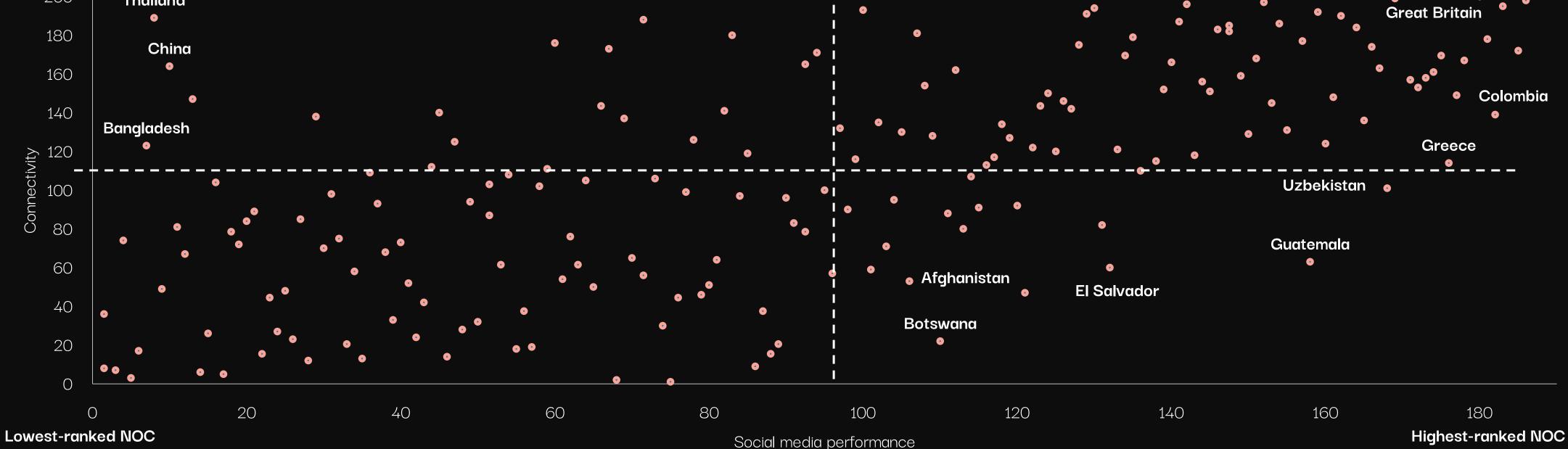


## Despite connectivity issues, Uzbekistan, Guatemala and El Salvador are high performers on social media

- Uzbekistan produces engaging video content on Facebook and Instagram; Guatemala performs consistently high on all platforms
- El Salvador performs best on Twitter and YouTube as the result of a high volume of content

### Social media performance vs connectivity



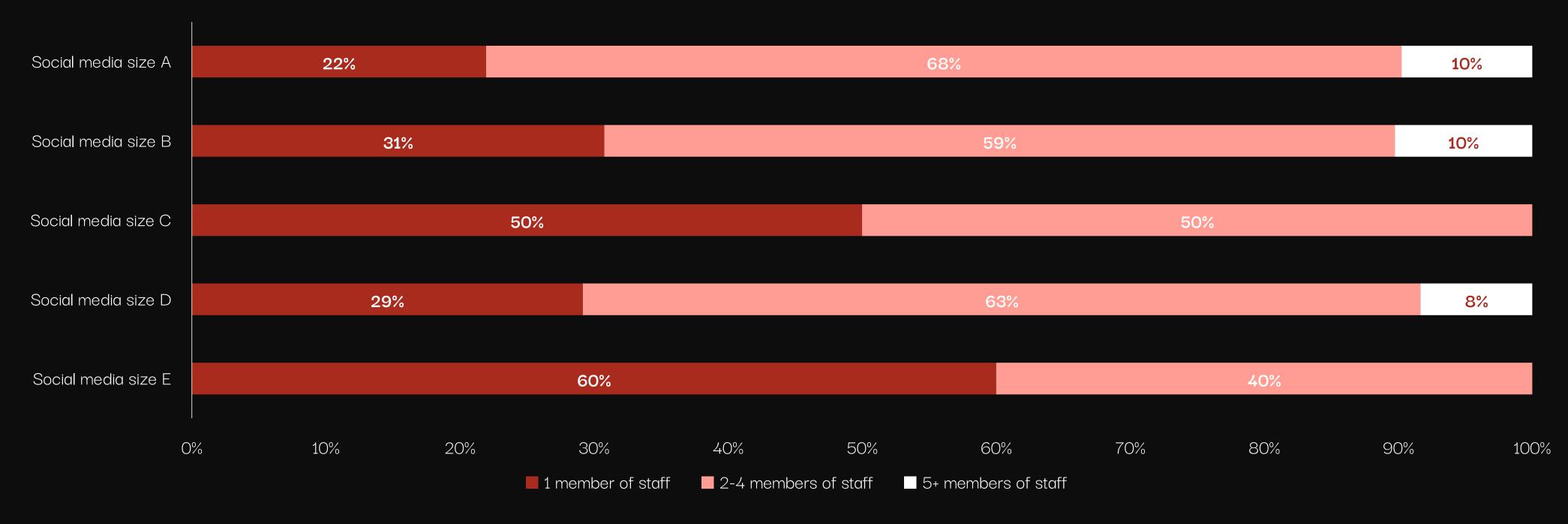


Highest-ranked NOC

# The larger a country's social media size, the more people involved in running the accounts

• 60% of NOCs have 2-4 people running their social media accounts

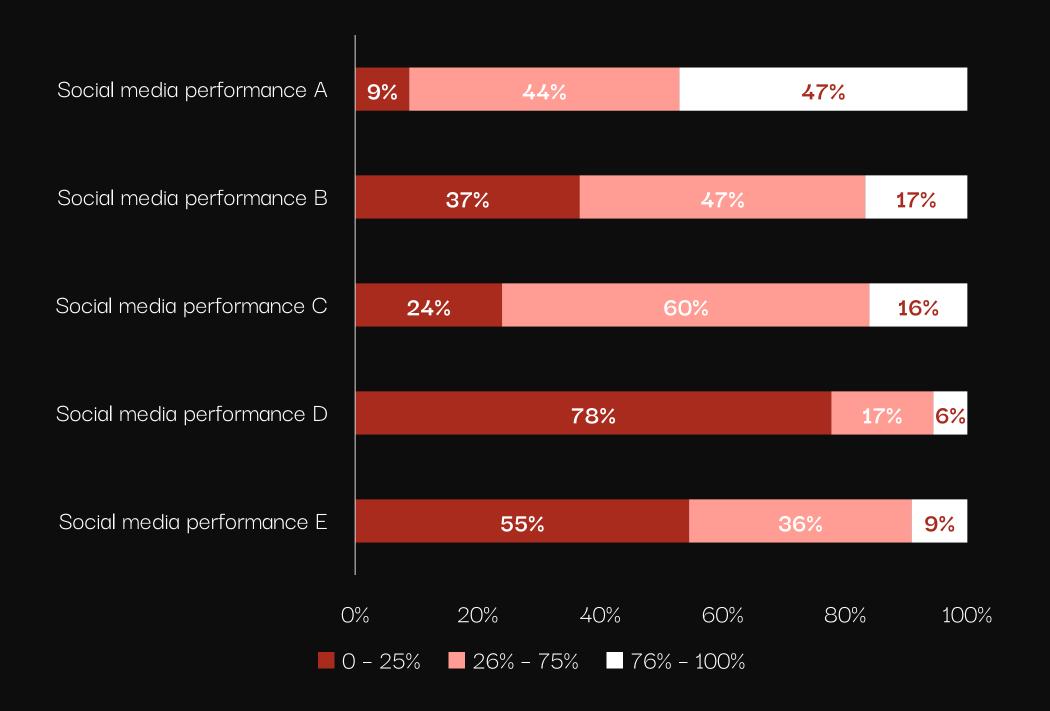




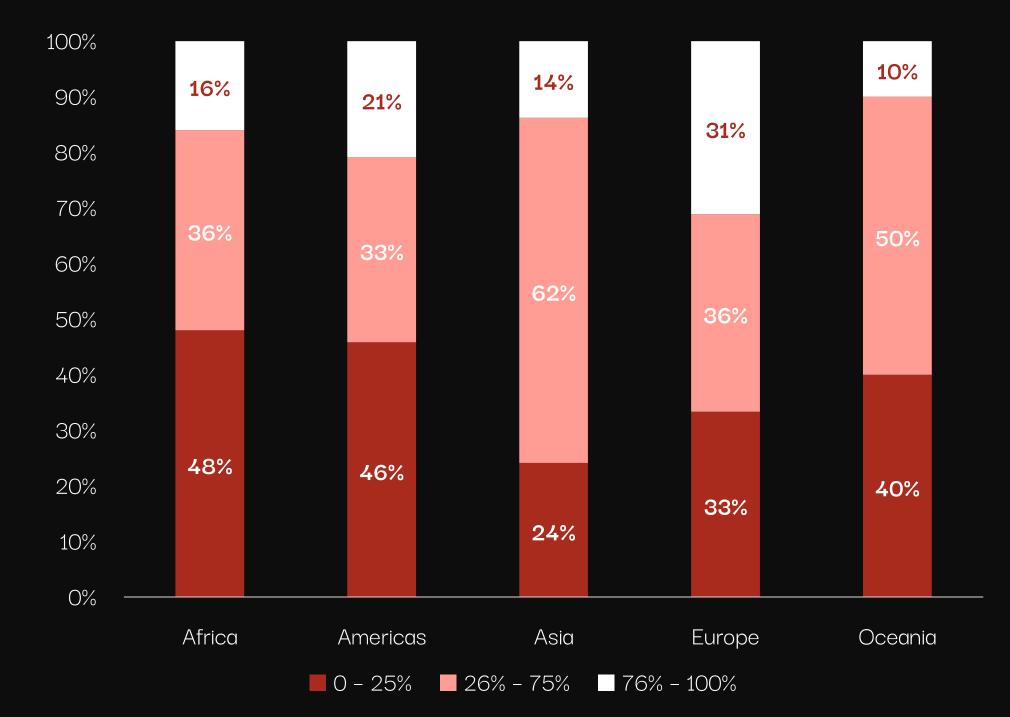
## Over 1/3 of NOCs spend less than 25% of their time running social media accounts

- The best-performing NOCs typically have staff spending more time running their social media accounts
- NOCs in Europe are more likely to have staff dedicated to running their social media accounts full time
- NOCs in Africa are more likely to have staff working in other areas of the organisation as well





#### Continent vs social media time





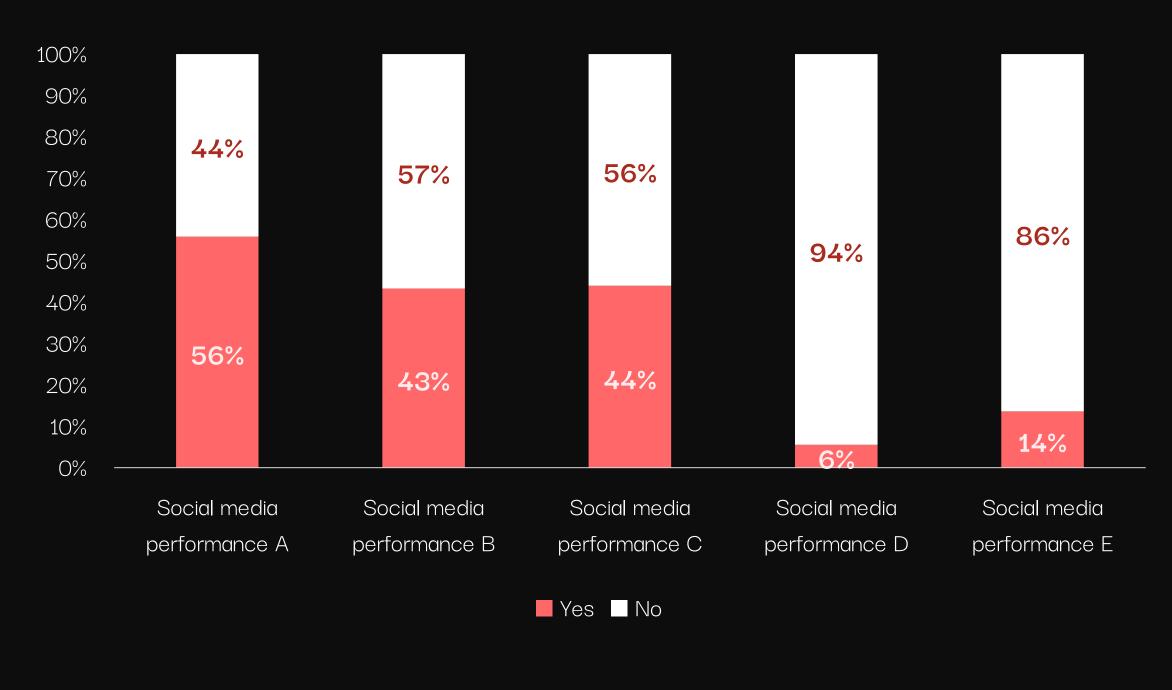
of NOCs have social media integrated into their strategic plan

37%

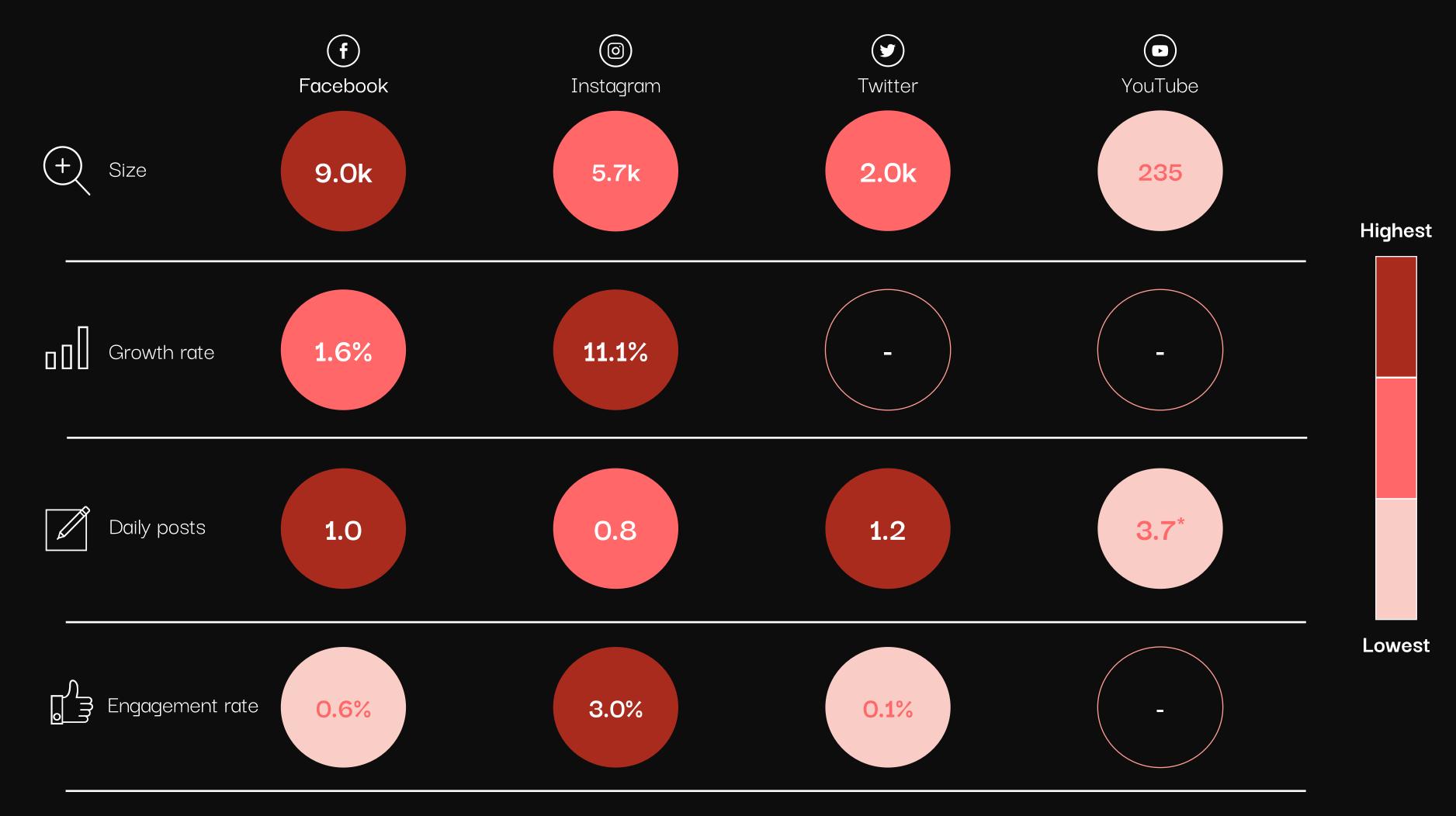
of NOCs have a documented social media strategy

# The best-performing NOCs are more likely to have social media integrated into their strategic plan and have a documented social media strategy





## Average performance matrix by platform



\*YouTube data shows videos per month



# The biggest social media challenges faced by NOCs are related to resources and content creation

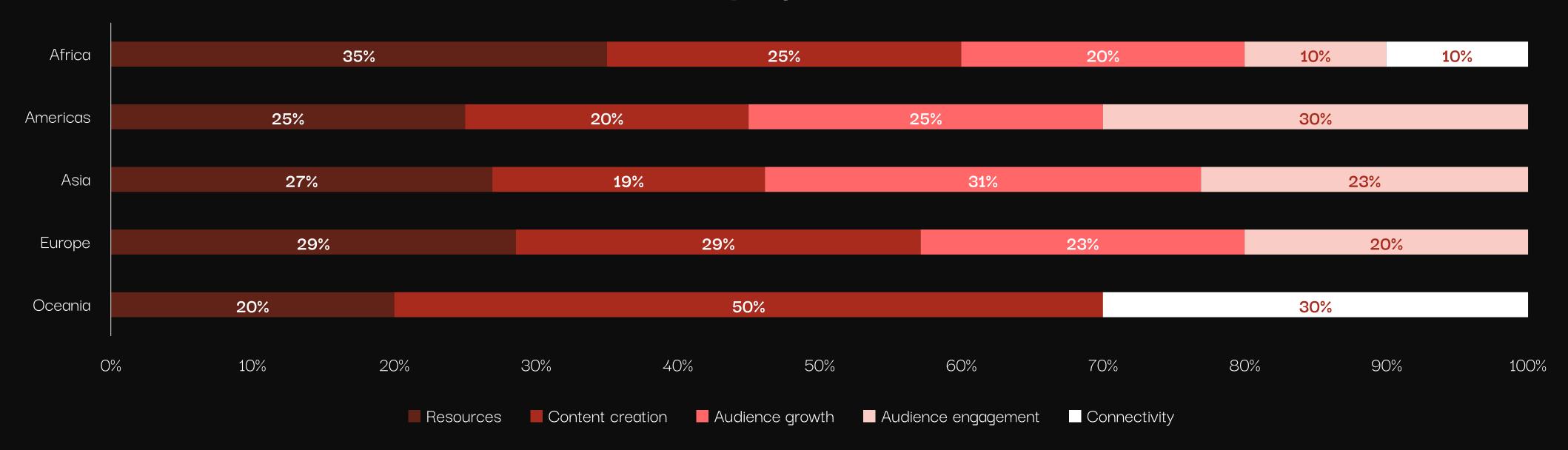
- NOCs struggle to budget for dedicated and specialised staff members to run their social media accounts
- NOCs also face the challenge of creating content for their fans, especially during a pandemic which has halted live sport
- 20% of challenges mentioned relate to audience growth, with many NOCs wanting support on how to grow their social media accounts and reach more fans



# **Connectivity** is an issue for NOCs in Africa and Oceania as a result of slow internet speeds and unreliable internet services

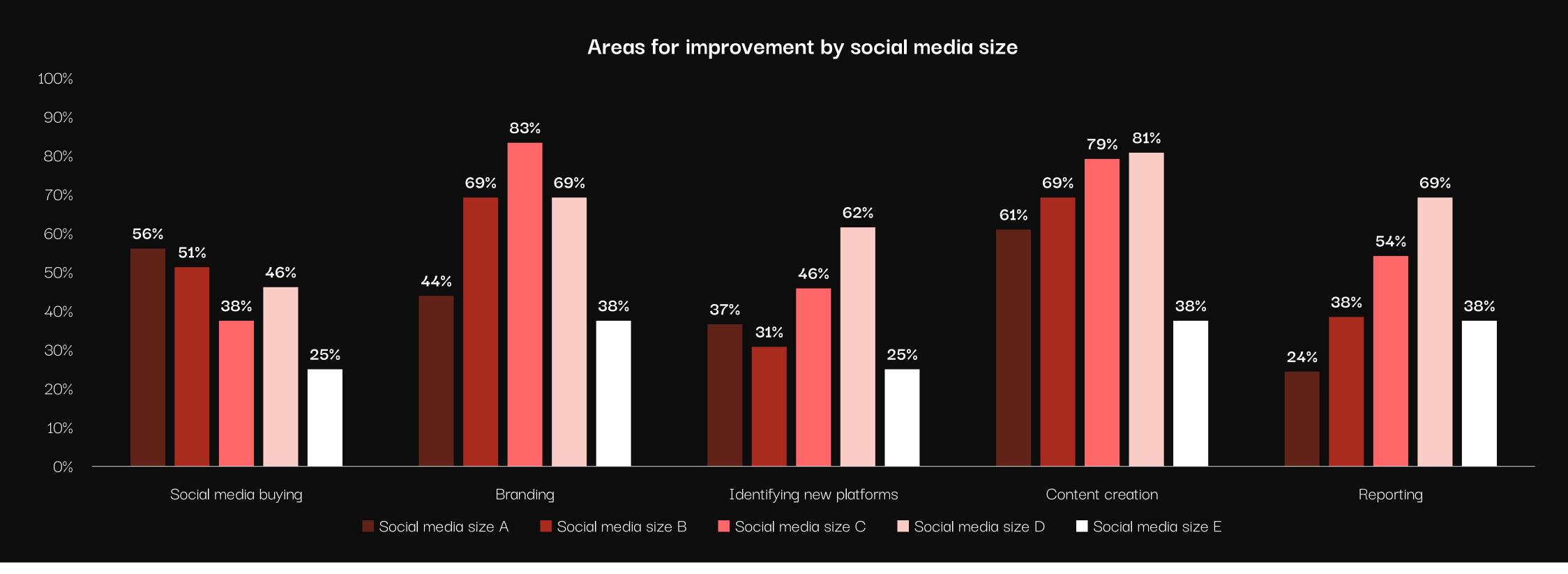
- The biggest issue in Asia relates to audience growth (31%); audience engagement is the biggest issue in the Americas (30%)
- 35% of issues from NOCs in Africa relate to **finance** and **human resources**
- NOCs in Europe face challenges relating to resources and content creation, with the pandemic affecting the quality of content output





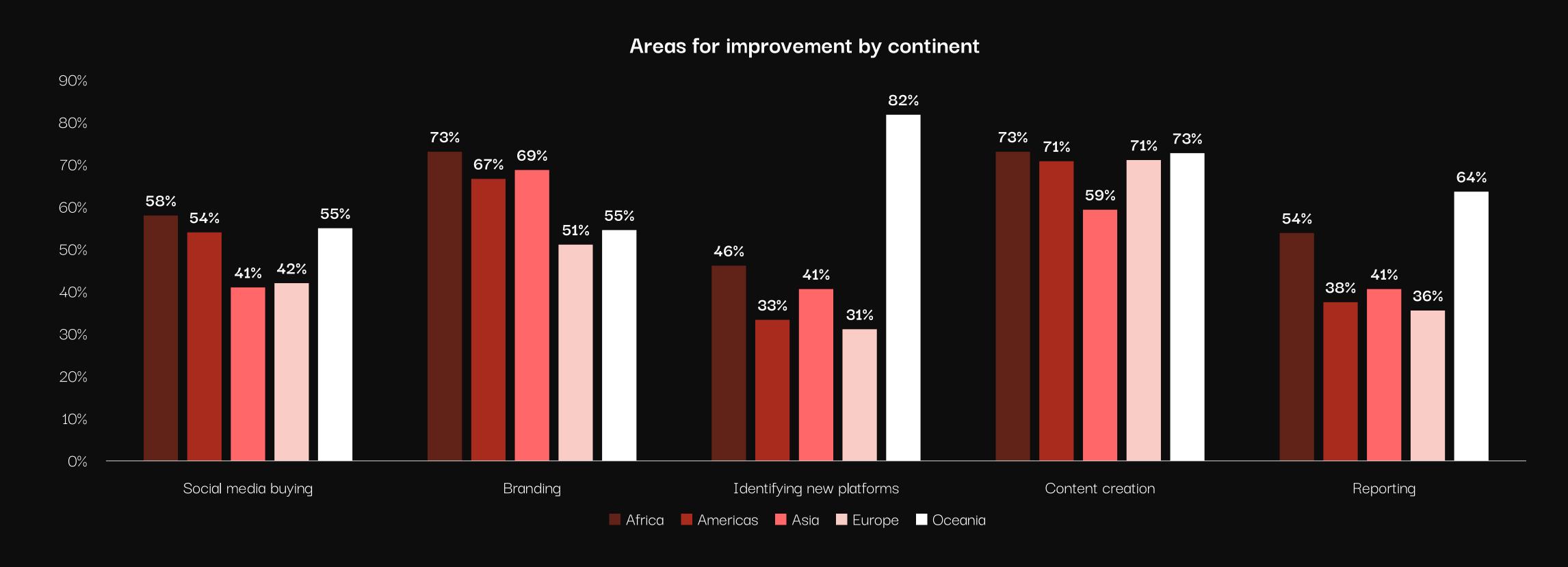
# Content creation and branding are the areas that NOCs most want to improve

- Social media buying is of greater importance to larger NOCs, which are likely to have budgets to help grow their audiences
- Reporting is a more important area of improvement for smaller-sized NOCs
- 62% of NOCs in social media size D want to identify new platforms on which to launch in order to reach new audiences



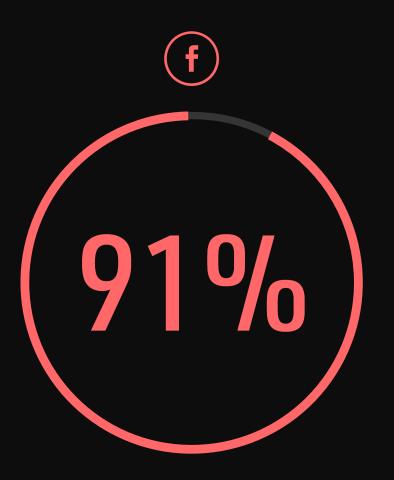
# NOCs in Oceania consider identifying new platforms and reporting as the biggest areas for improvements

- Content creation is important in all continents, but less so in Asia (59%) where the biggest challenges identified are branding (69%) and identifying new platforms (41%)
- Branding is considered a bigger area for improvement in Africa (73%) than in any other continent

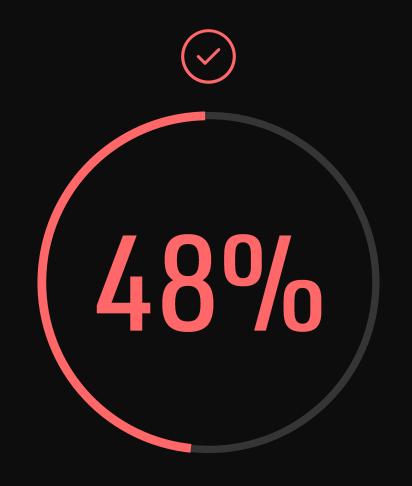




# Overview: best practice



of NOCs have a Facebook account



of NOCs are verified on Facebook



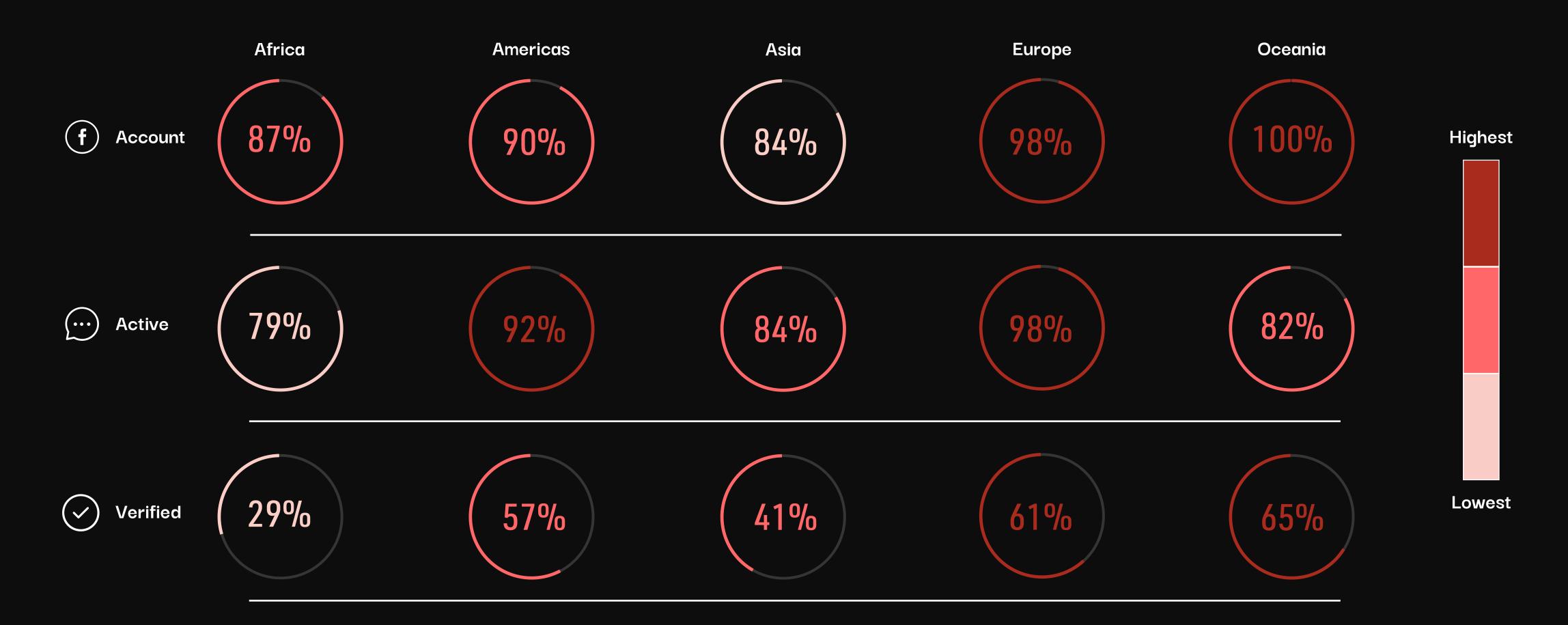
of NOCs
with a Facebook account are
active\*



\*have posted this year

### Facebook is the most popular platform for NOCs

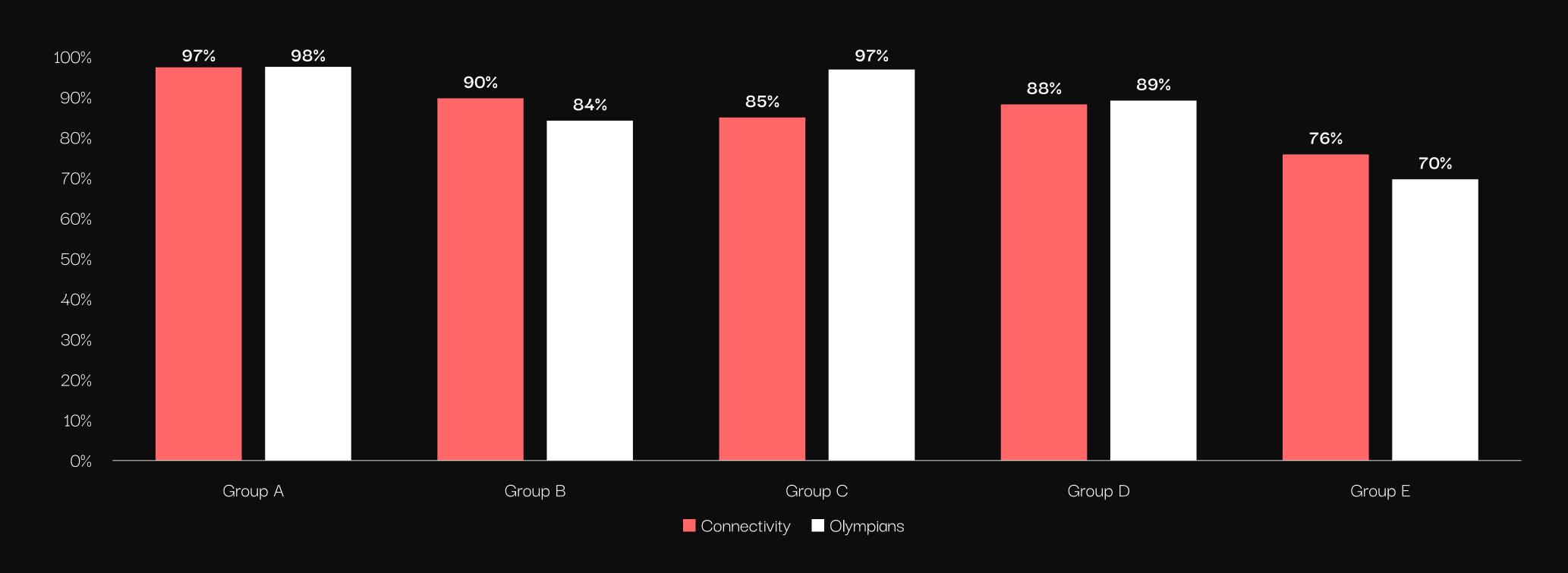
- NOCs from Europe and the Americas are more likely to have posted on Facebook this year
- NOCs in Africa are least likely to be verified on Facebook (29%)



# NOCs with connectivity problems and fewer Olympians are more likely to be inactive

- Poorer internet connectivity makes it more challenging to produce and upload content efficiently
- NOCs need to build relationships with National Federations and athletes at all levels to help create informative and inspirational content

### % of NOCs with active accounts by classification



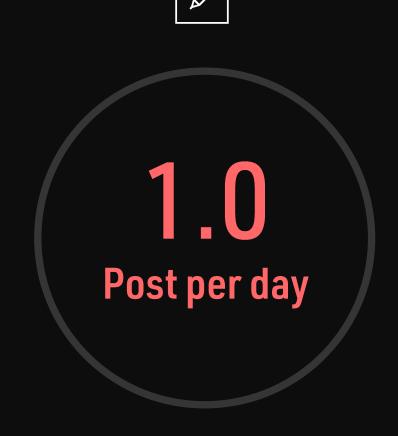
# Overview: by performance







Average growth rate



Average daily posting frequency



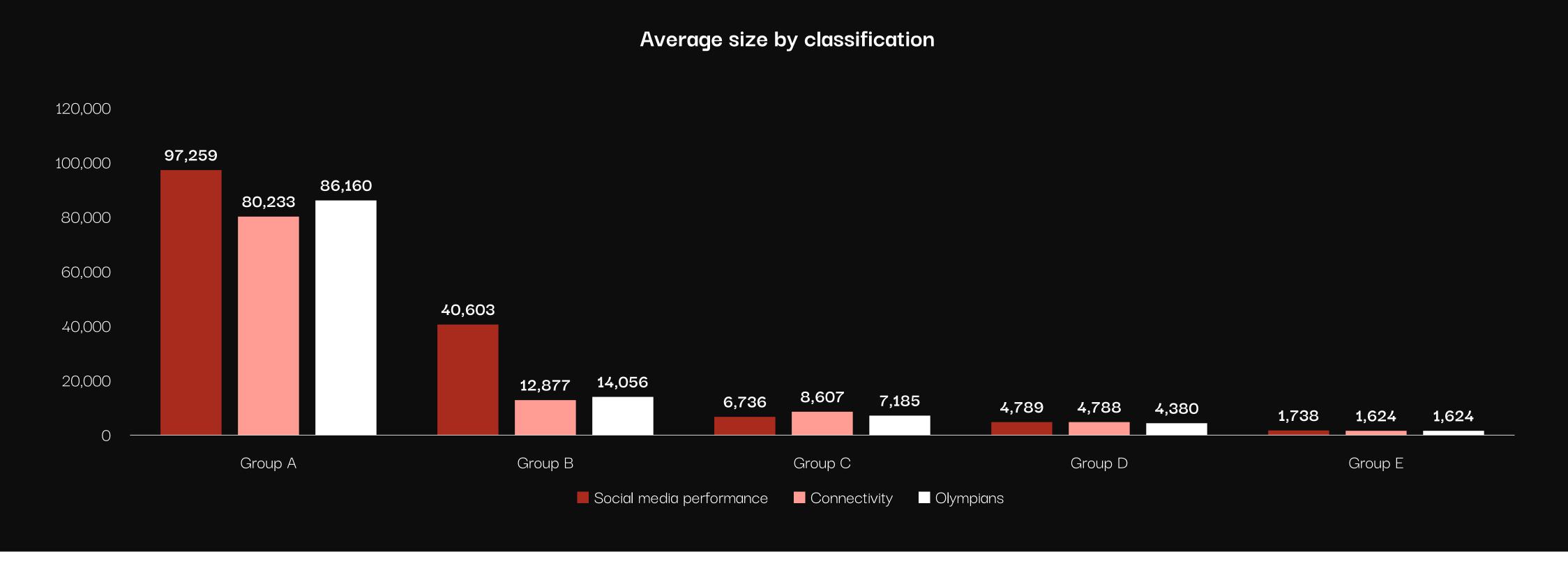
Average engagement rate

## Average performance matrix by continent



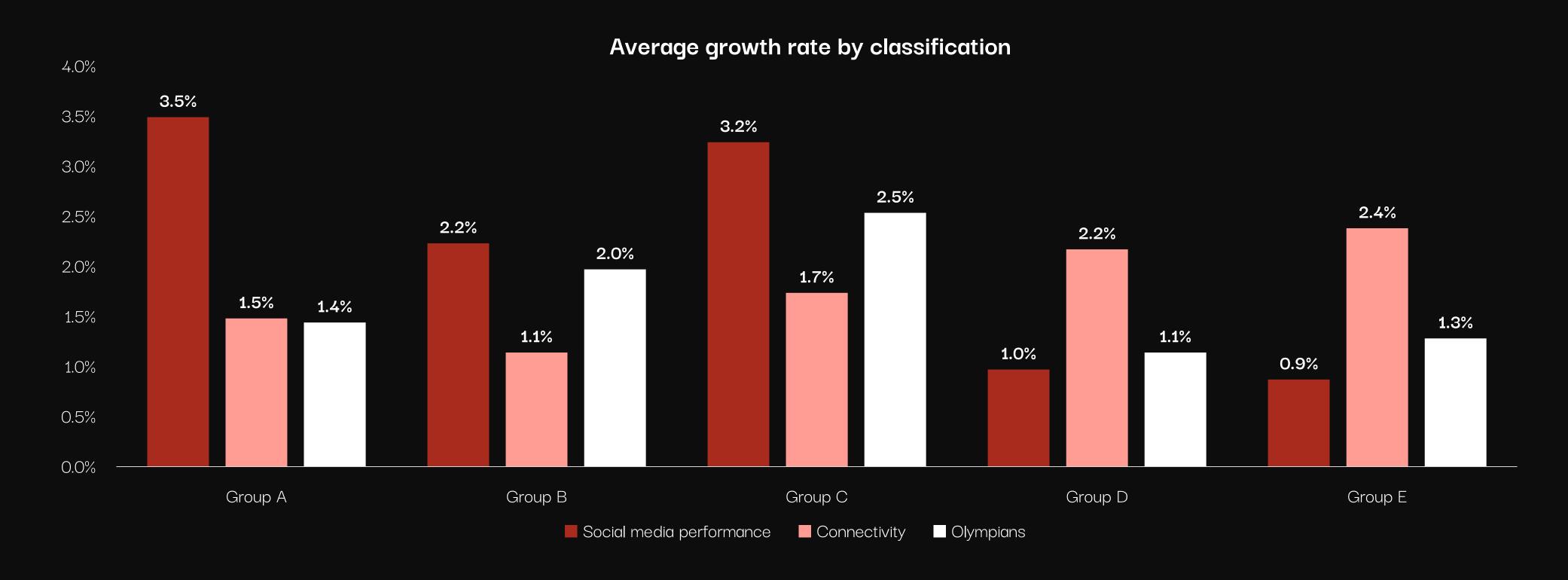
## NOCs with a higher number of Olympians typically have larger Facebook accounts

- USA (4.1m), Brazil (2.3m) and Great Britain (1.6m) have the largest Facebook accounts
- High-profile Olympians are likely to have a bigger presence on Facebook and NOCs are encouraged to leverage these
- Low internet penetration rates impact the size of Facebook accounts as less people will be on the platform, thus limiting opportunities for growth



# **Growth rates** are highest amongst smaller-sized NOCs, but posting frequency and Olympian size impact absolute growth

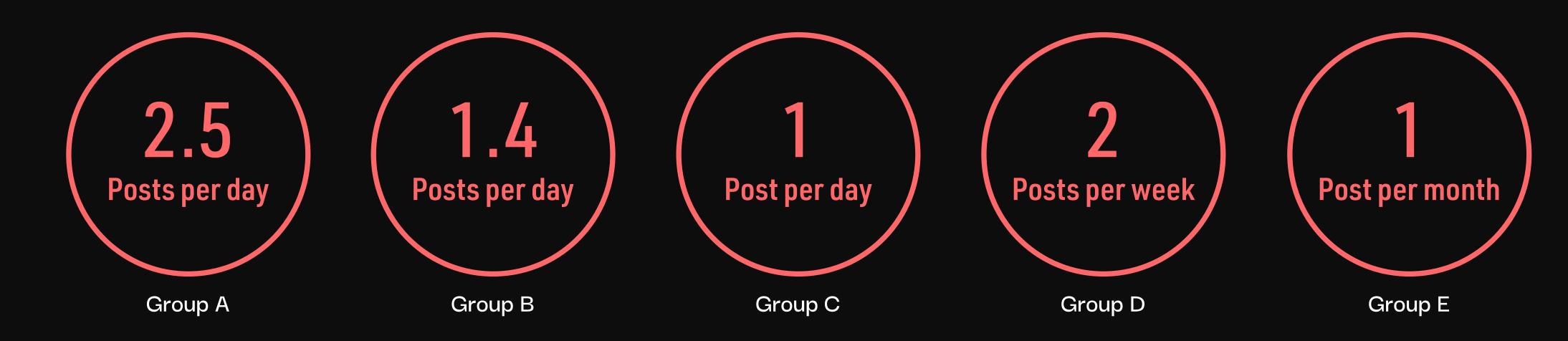
- USA (+88.6k), Brazil (+41.4k) and Jordan (+27.8k) have experienced the largest absolute growth this year
- Egypt (+3.4k) and Libya (+2.8k) have experienced high growth as a result of consistent NOC updates and announcements
- Uzbekistan has grown by 1.2k fans (366% above average for Asia), helped by engaging video content, e.g. Uzbek athletes showing their appreciation to medical staff during lockdown



### NOCs post 1.2 times a day on average

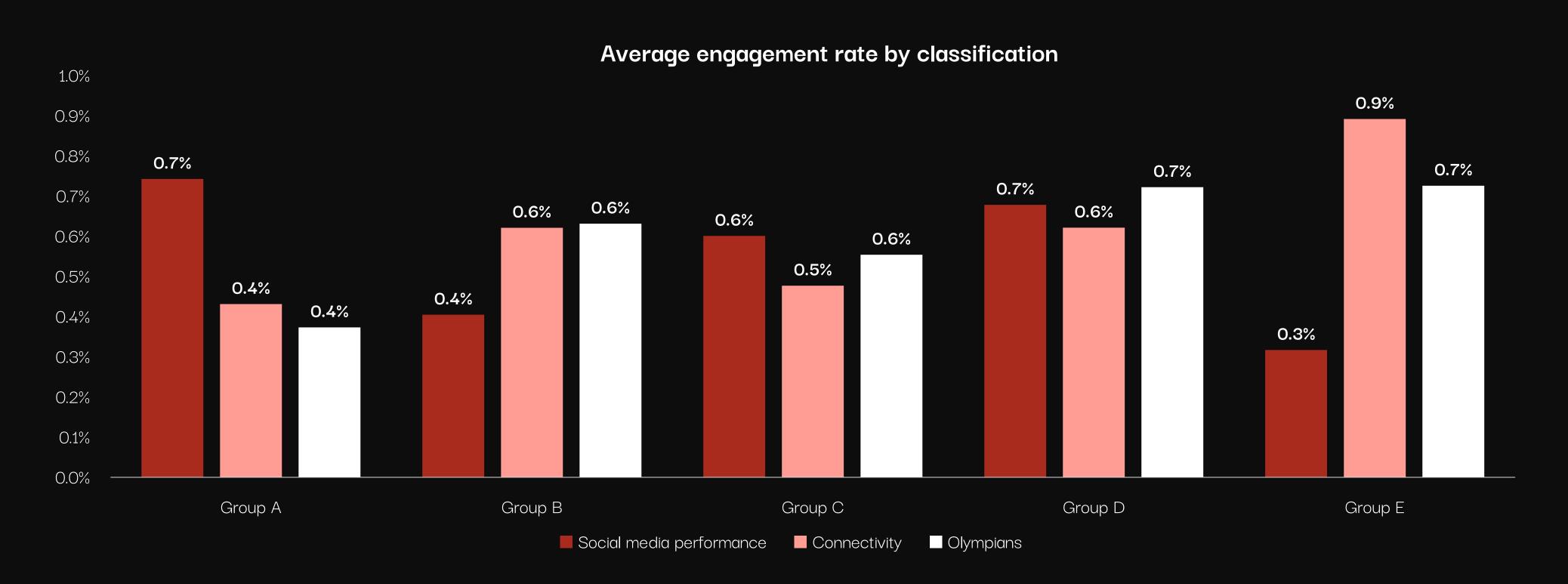
- Better-performing NOCs post more frequently
- More content results in more engagements which helps attract new followers for NOCs
- NOCs from Europe and the Americas post more frequently than others
- Spain posts the most frequently with athlete-related content that informs and inspires fans
- Russia also produces a high volume of content, covering elite and grassroots competitions (53% photos and 28% links)

#### Posting frequency by social media performance



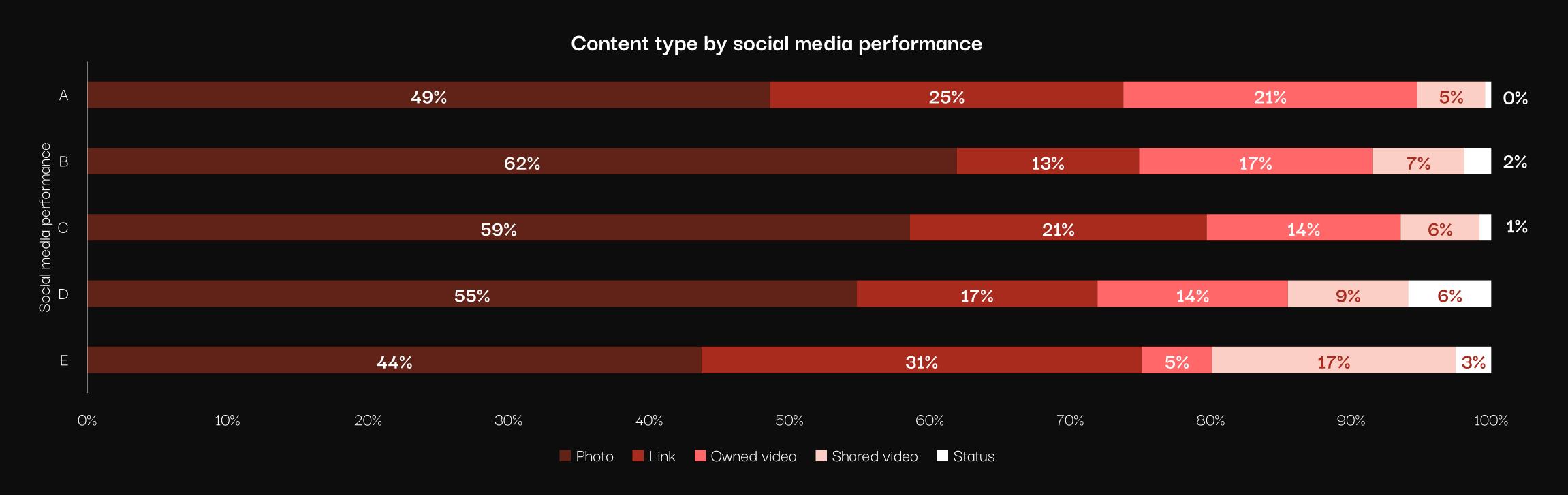
### Owned video generates higher engagement rates than other types of content

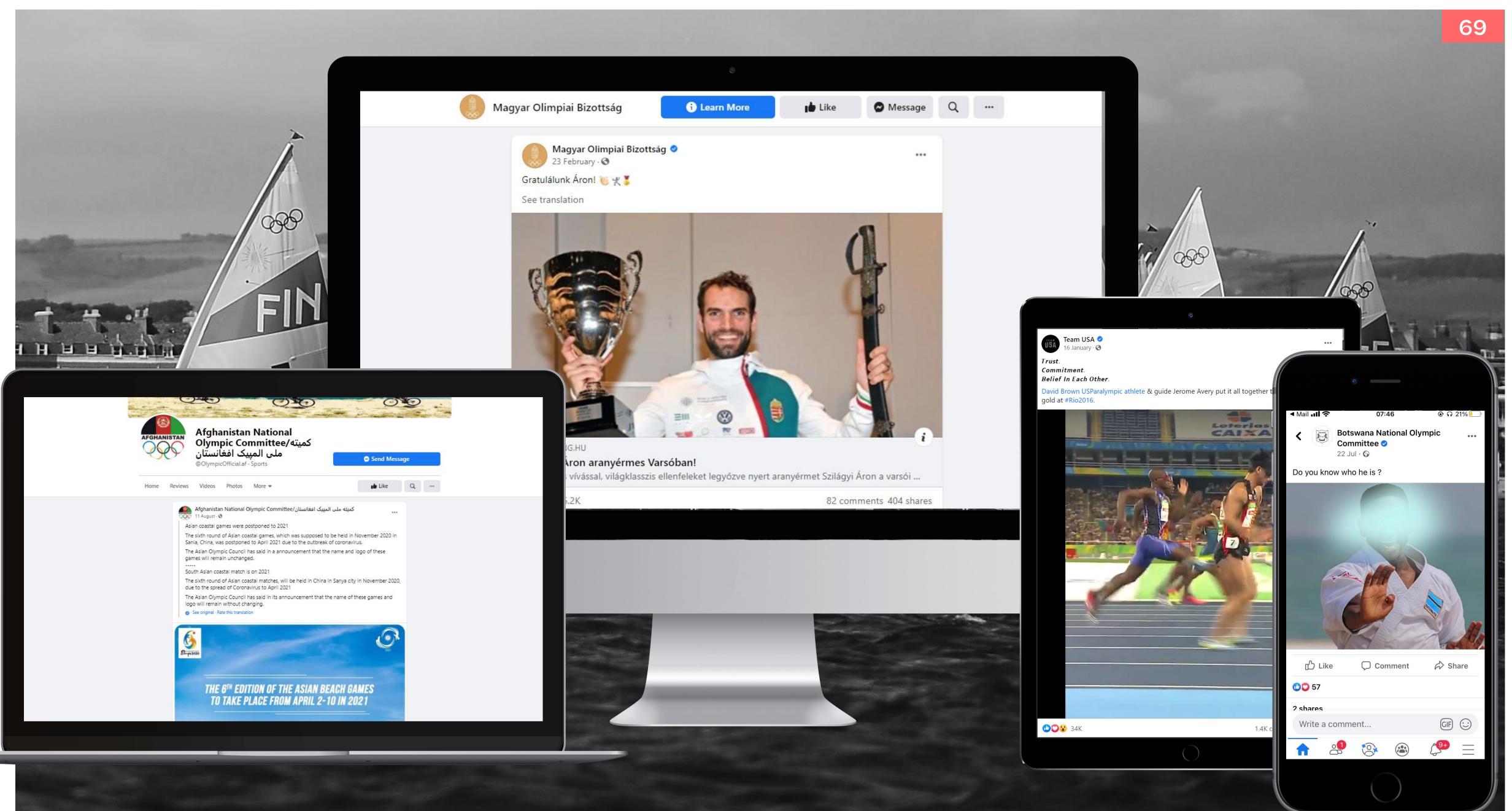
- On average, smaller-sized accounts (e.g. Mozambique and Palau) generate higher engagement rates than bigger accounts
- Romania has one of the highest engagement rates as a result of producing high levels of 'owned video' content, e.g. throwback videos and an athlete interview series (#StartYourImpossible)
- The Philippines also generates a high average engagement rate through a wide-range of video content to cater for different types of stakeholders, including full-length webinars and home workouts

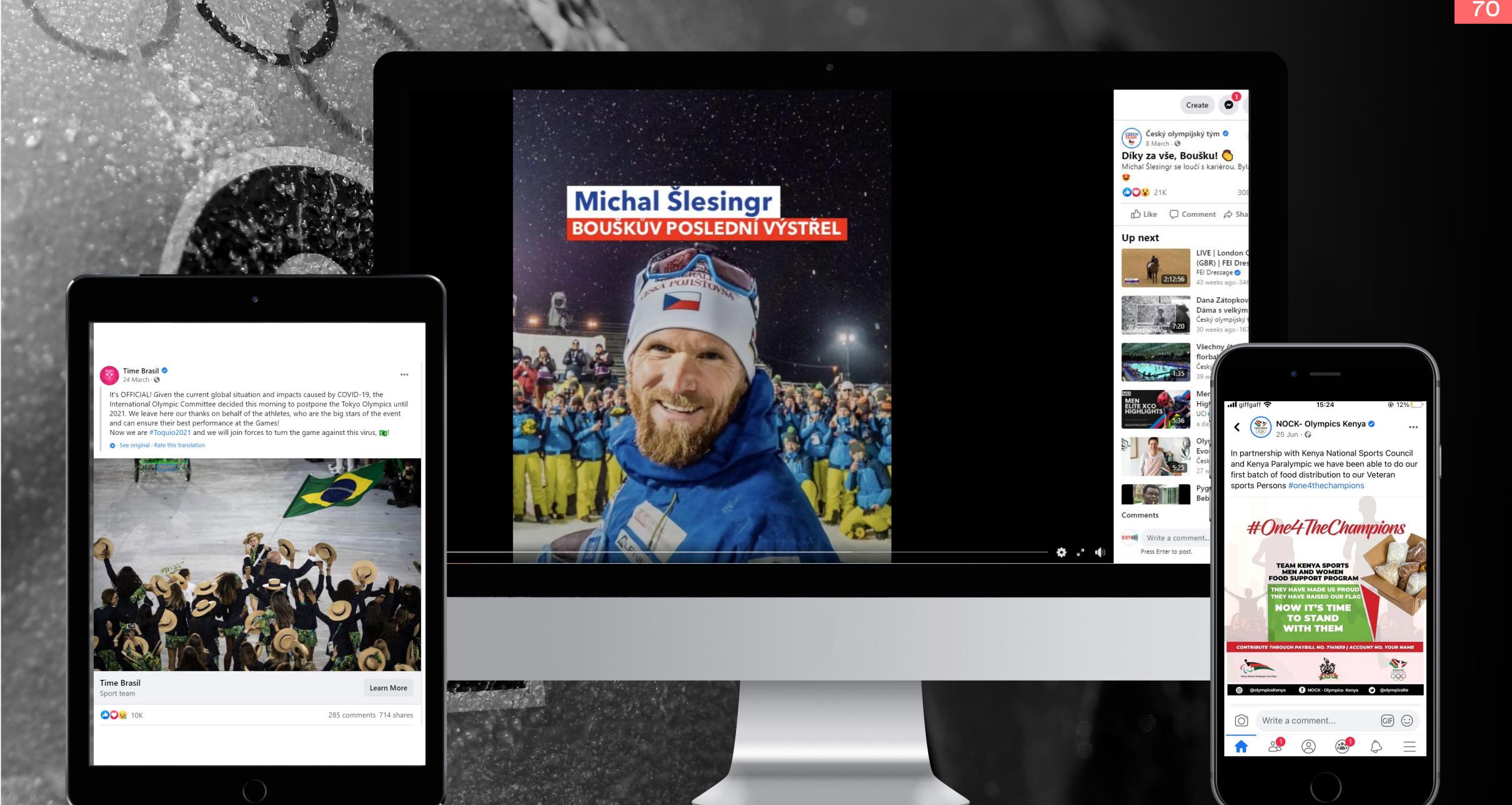


### The best-performing NOCs are more likely to post photos and videos

- Best-performing NOCs typically have more resources to produce high-effort content, e.g. France and Great Britain, which produce most video content on Facebook
- Lower-performing NOCs typically post more shared video content as they don't have the resources to produce content themselves; creating an internal library of resources to share content would increase volume of output which could in turn help grow accounts
- Statuses are often used to update fans yet typically generate lower levels of engagement; links can be a middle ground which informs fans
  but also generates engagements, depending on the accompanied copy

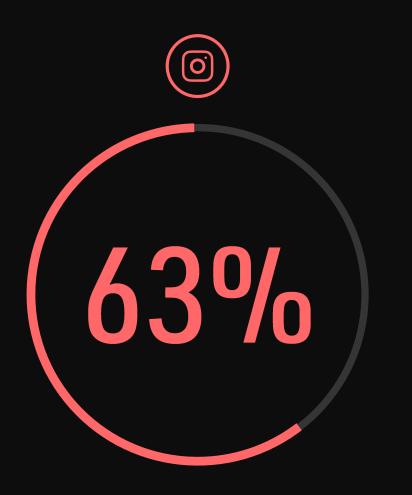








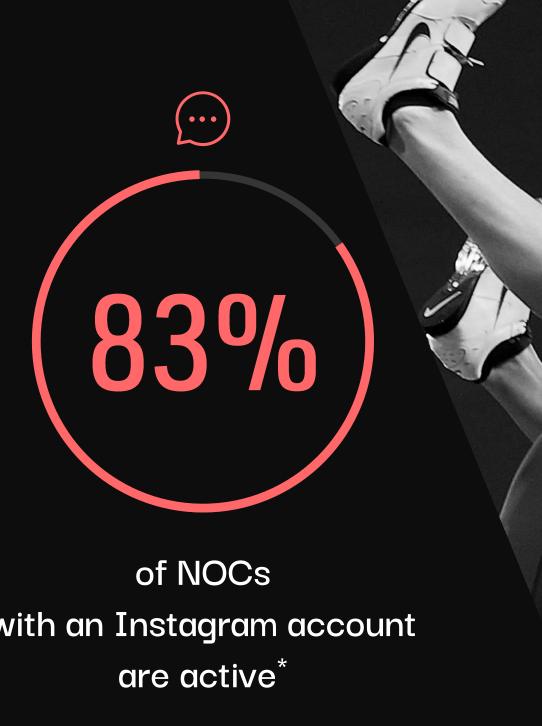
Overview: best practice



of NOCs have an Instagram account



of NOCs are verified on Instagram

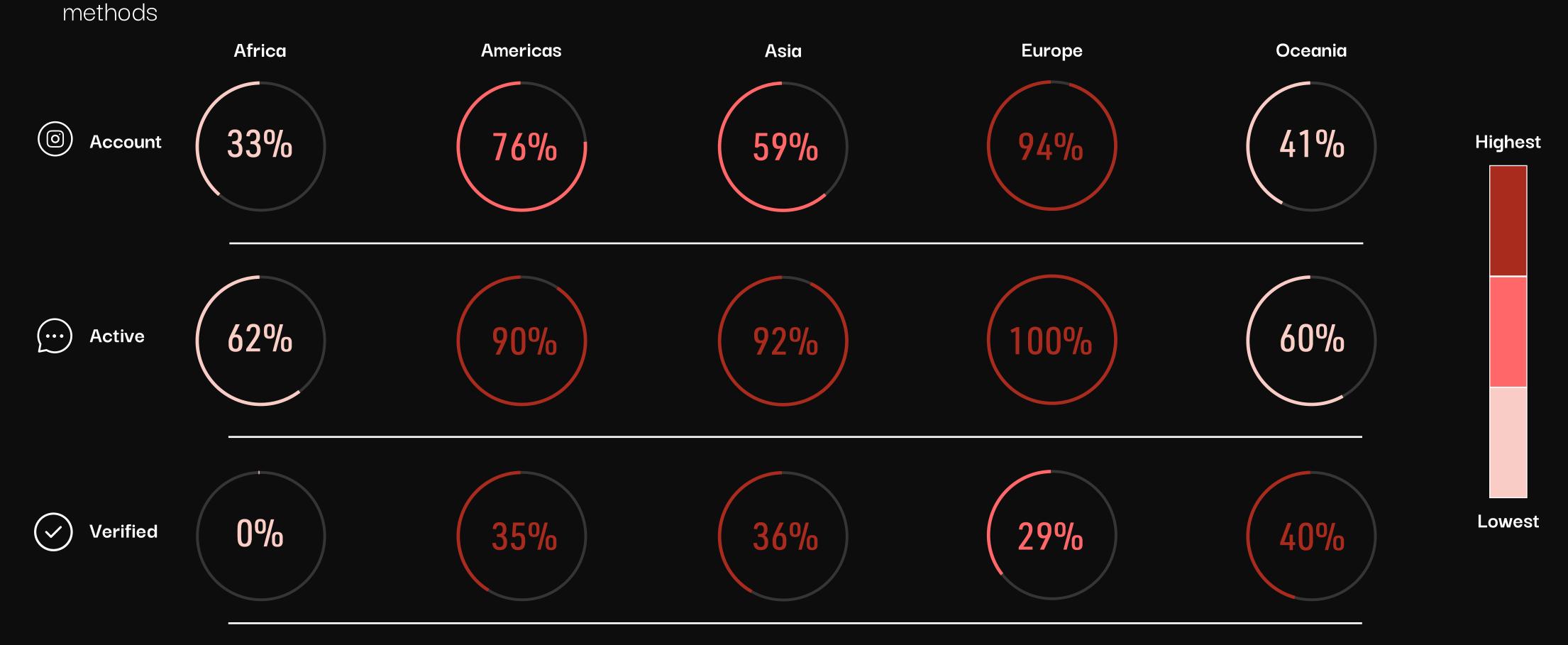


with an Instagram account

\*have posted this year

#### All NOCs in Europe with an account have posted this year

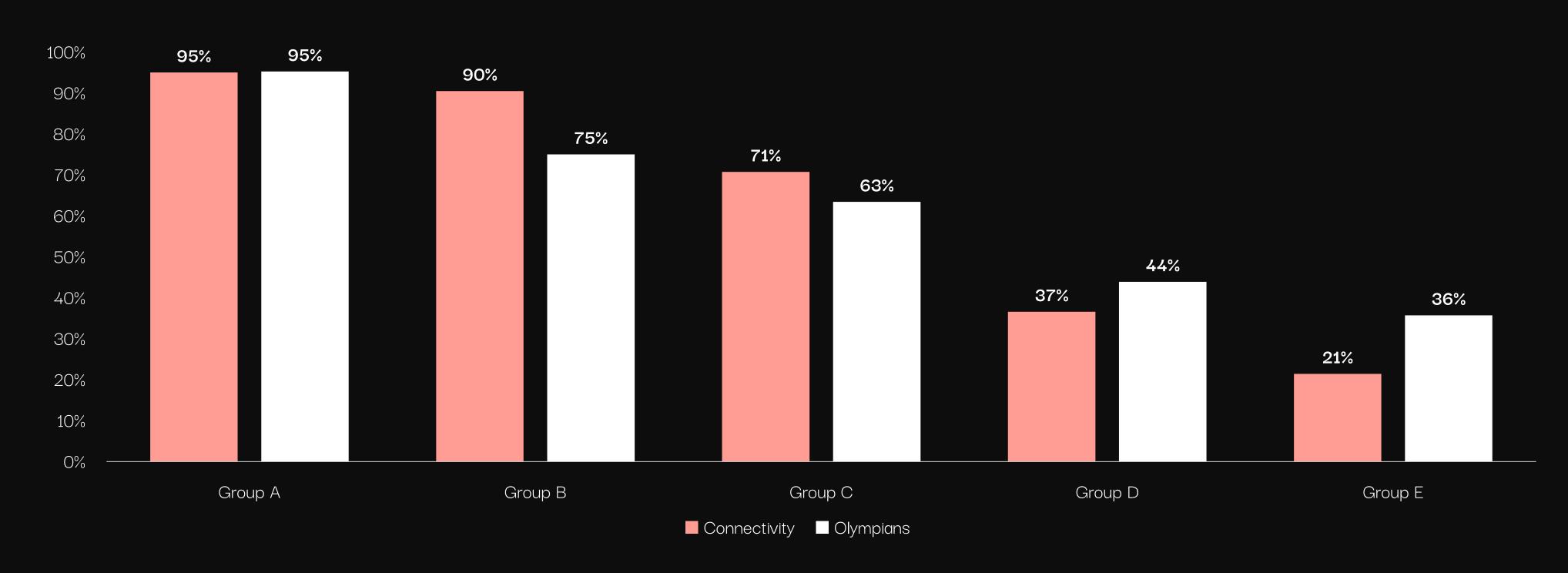
- Just over half of NOCs in Asia have an Instagram account (59%); 92% of them have posted this year
- NOCs in Oceania and Africa are least likely to be active, partly due to not having the resources and being less aware of best practice



#### NOCs with connectivity issues are least likely to have an account

- Only **36%** of NOCs in Group E for Olympians are on Instagram
- Lack of resources could be a big deterrent for NOCs to join the platform, with its focus on imagery and video content

#### % of NOCs with an account by classification



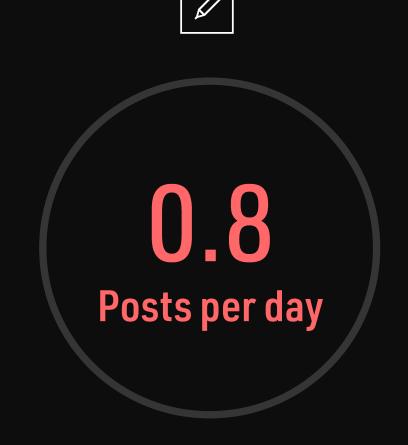
# Overview: by performance



Average size



Average growth rate

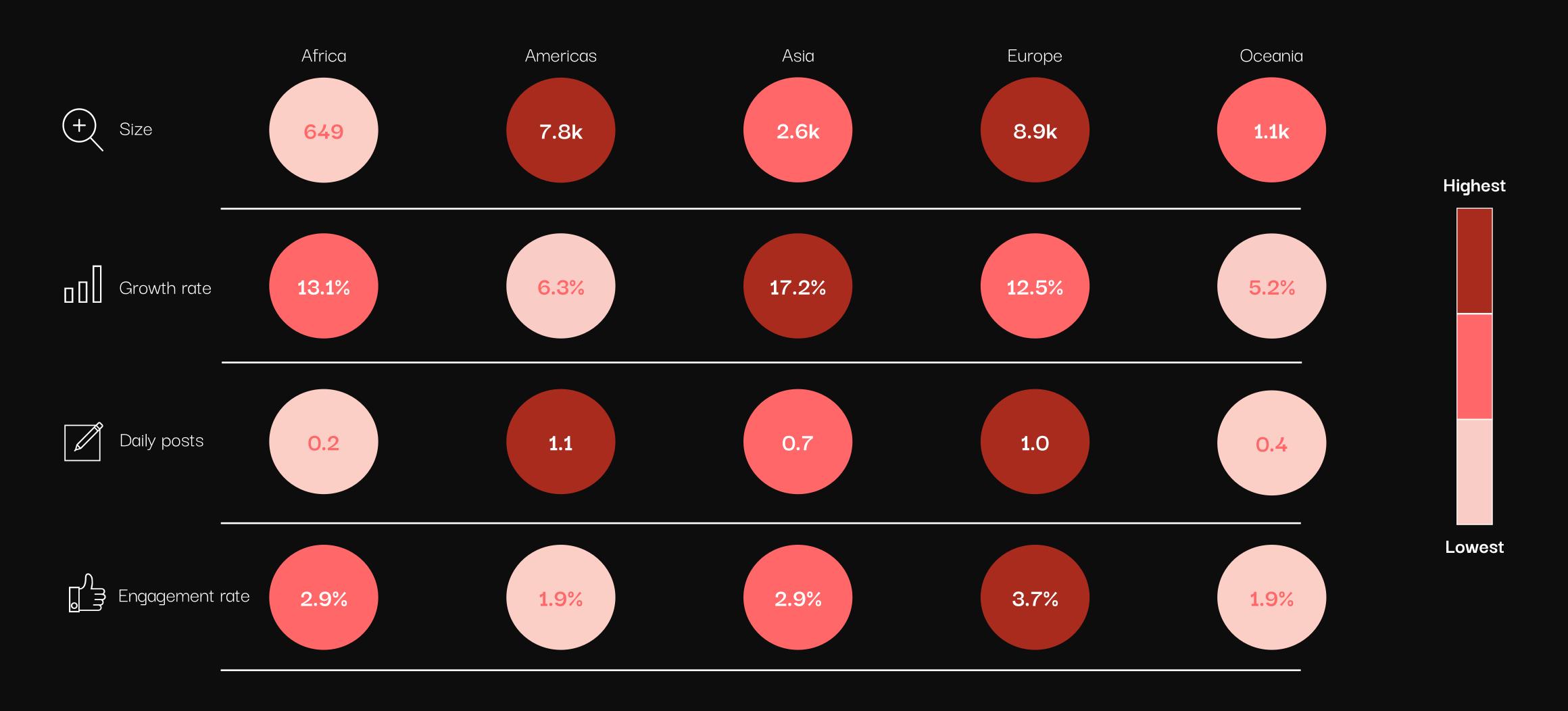


Average daily posting frequency



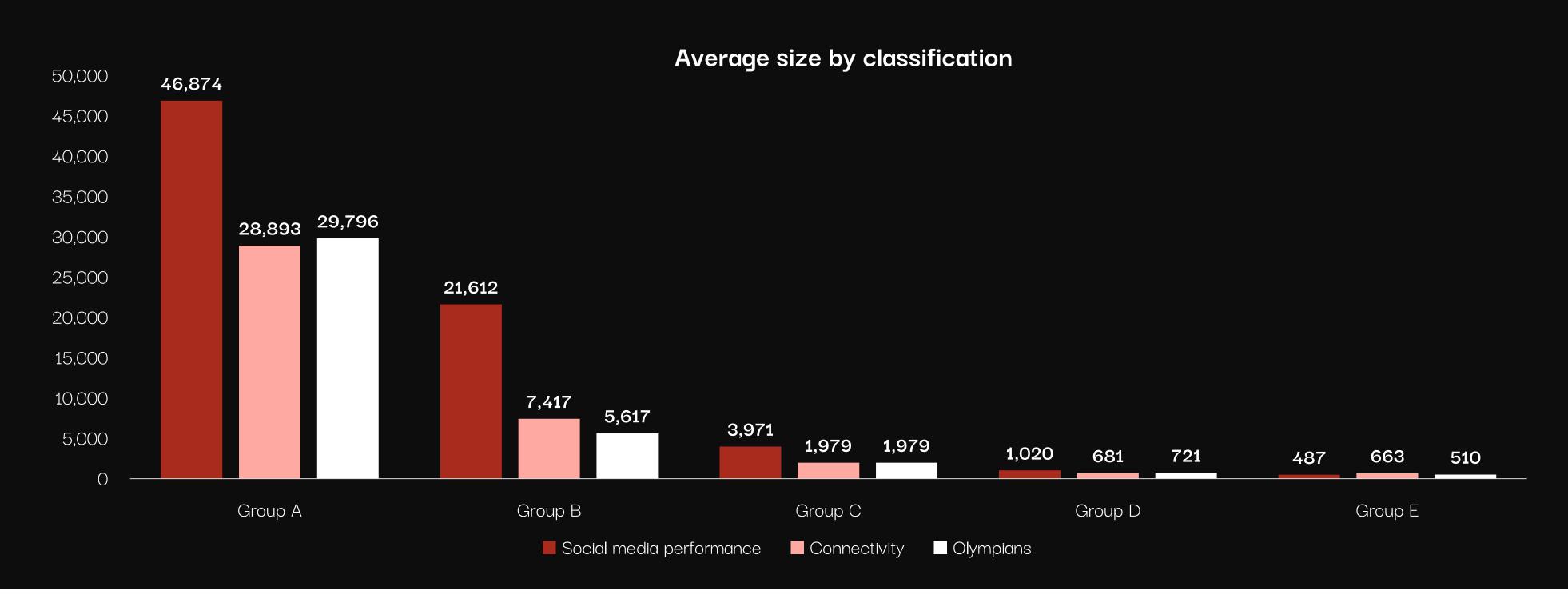
Average engagement rate

## Average performance matrix by continent



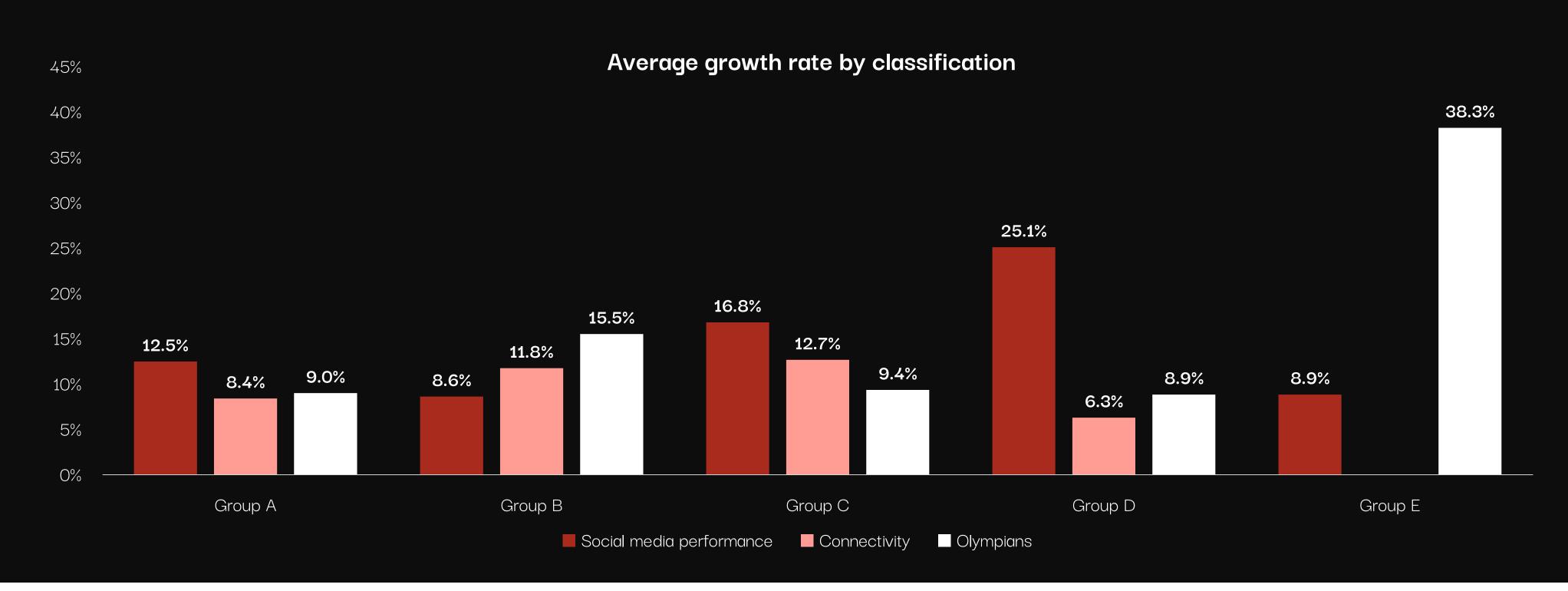
# The largest NOCs by followers typically have high-profile Olympians with a big presence on Instagram

- USA (860.5k), Great Britain (318.2k), Canada (315.9k) and Brazil (260.5k) have the largest followings on Instagram
- These NOCs are more likely to have a larger proportion of the national population on Instagram
- NOCs with fewer Olympians can attract followers through building relationships with larger accounts. For example, Chile (141.3k fans) identified sports and athletes to tag in original content and repost, e.g. Football Federation of Chile (1.5m followers)



#### Smaller NOCs which produce more content generate higher growth rates

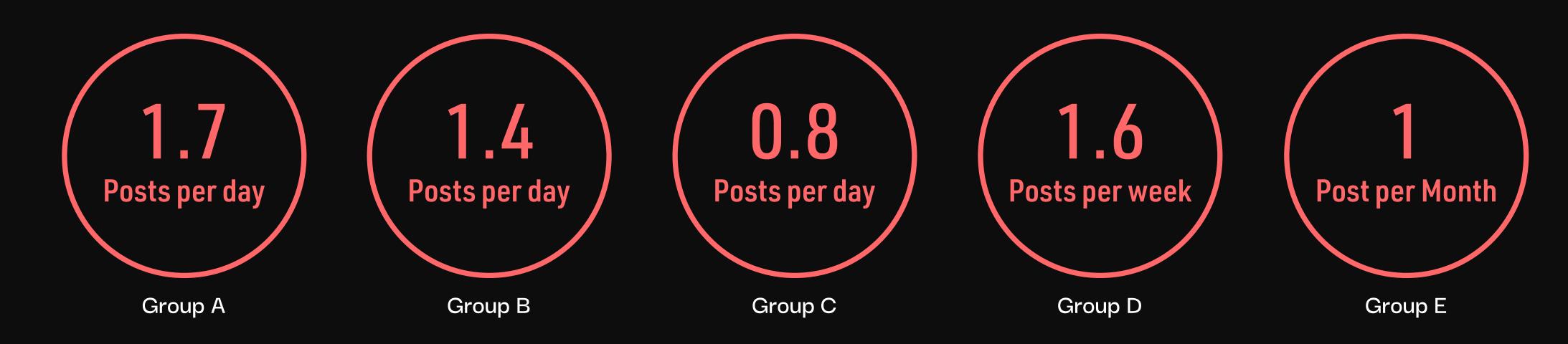
- Larger NOCs typically generate the highest absolute growth in followers, e.g. Russia (+17.8k), Canada (+15.8k) and Italy (+13.1k)
- With less live sport, NOCs engage with their fans through athlete interviews, home training videos and throwback content
- Kuwait outperforms other NOCs in Group E by Olympians in relation to absolute growth (+2.4k fans) through sharing long-form videos in an athlete interviews series on IGTV



#### NOCs post less than once a day on average

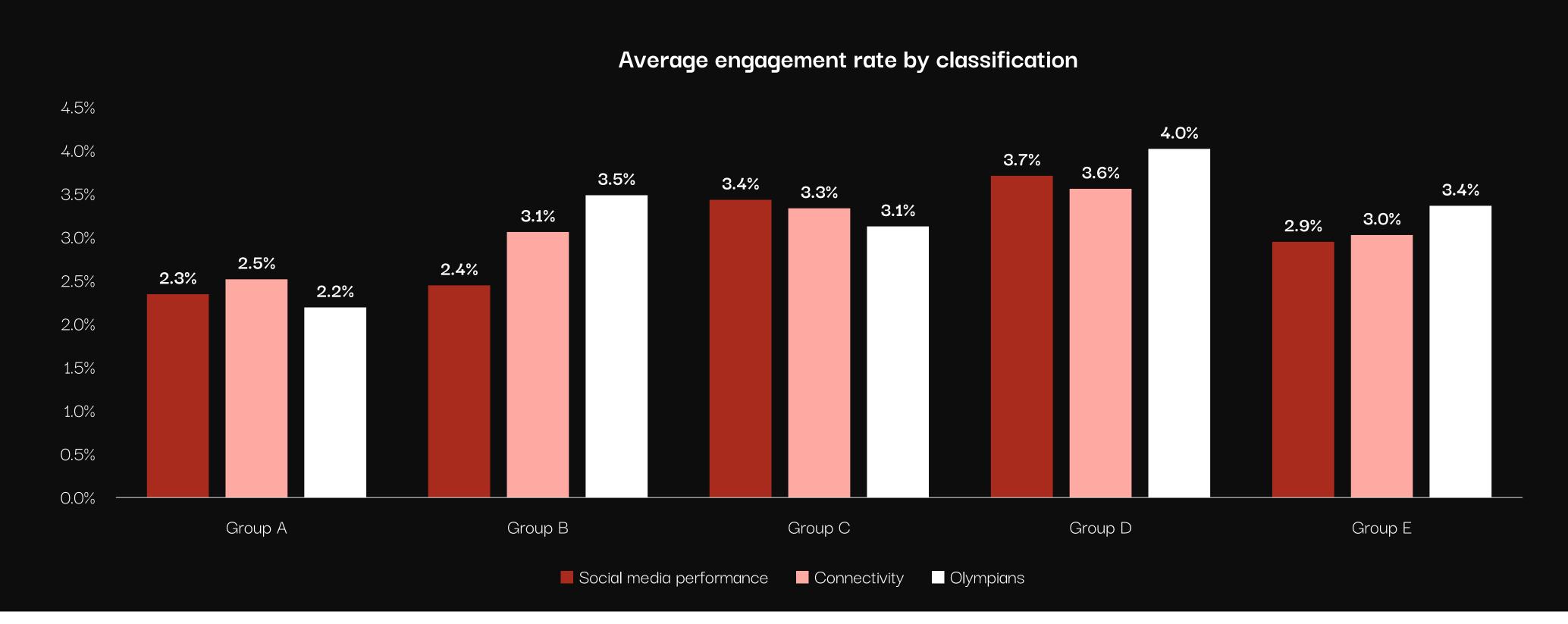
- NOCs from Europe and the Americas post more frequently than other continents
- Strong correlations exist between high posting frequency, an increased volume of content and higher growth rates
- Challenges for lower-performing NOCs on Instagram include lack of resources and less understanding of how to optimise the channel

#### Posting frequency by social media performance



#### Smaller accounts typically generate higher engagement rates

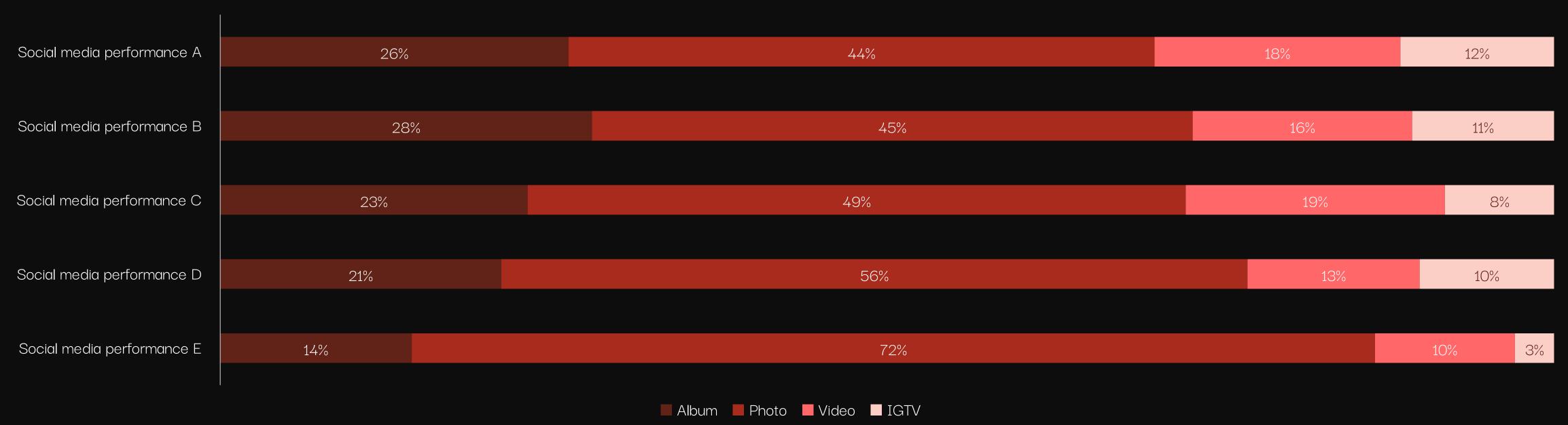
- Luxembourg and India both post images from events and provide NOC updates, resulting in high engagement rates
- Albania uses video and IGTV content to engage fans (event highlights and behind-the-scenes content)
- Great Britain engages their large following with archive content, showing memorable moments with a mixture of video and picture content

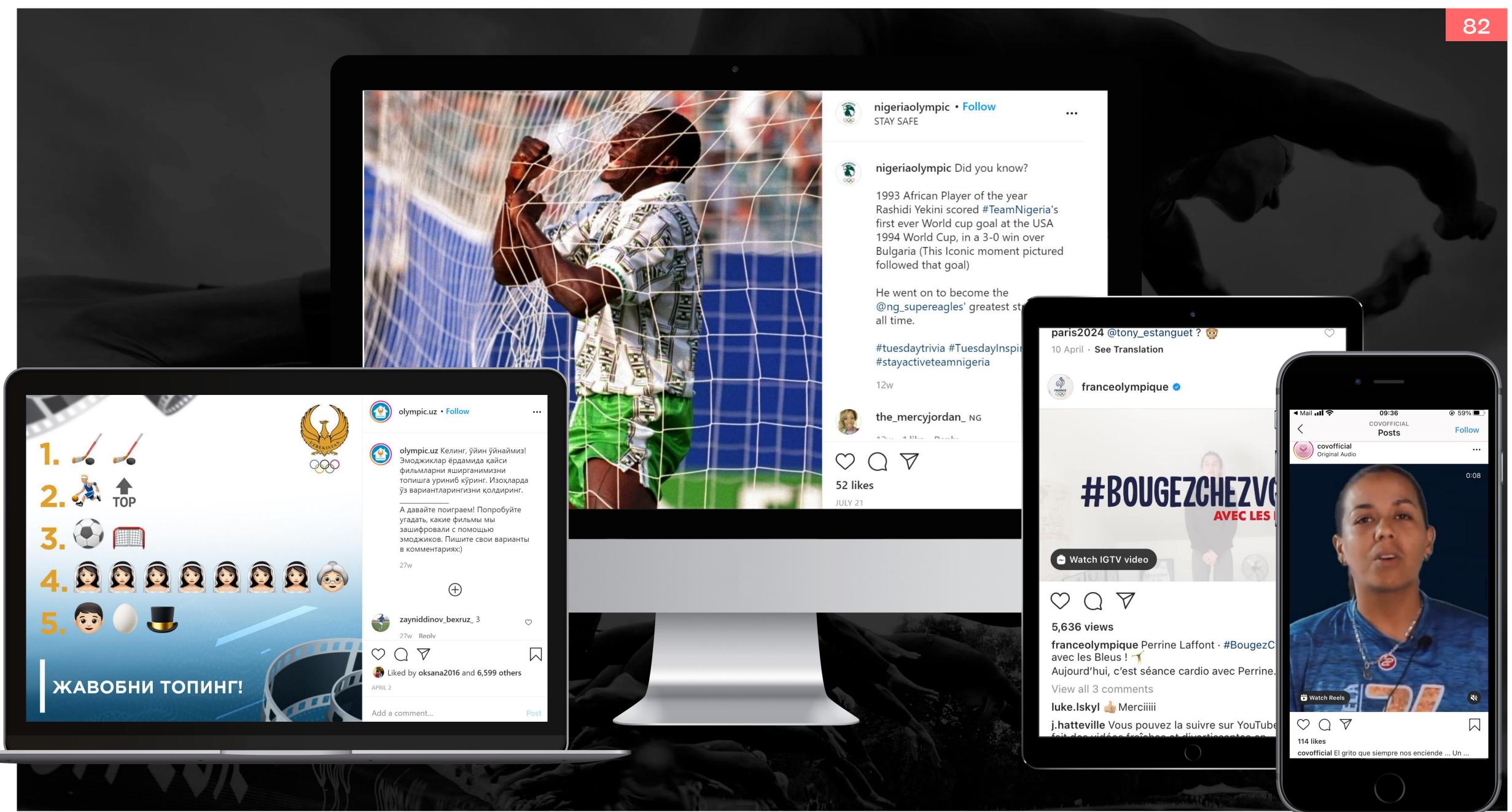


#### Albums produce the highest average engagement rate

- The combination of photos and videos is often seen as the most effective way to tell the story of an athlete or event
- Better-performing NOCs are more likely to also use IGTV for longer-form content
- Kazakhstan and Canada have generated substantial video views through reposting content from Olympians
- Lower-performing NOCs are more likely to post photos, due to internet problems and fewer resources
- Tagging high-profile Olympians and using popular hashtags generates more impressions, which can in turn increase engagement and fans

#### Content type by social media performance

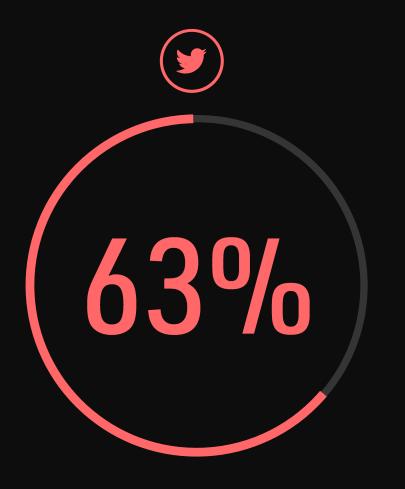








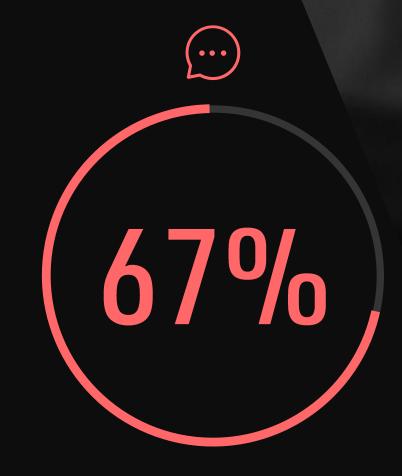
# Overview: best practice



of NOCs have a Twitter account



of NOCs are verified on Twitter



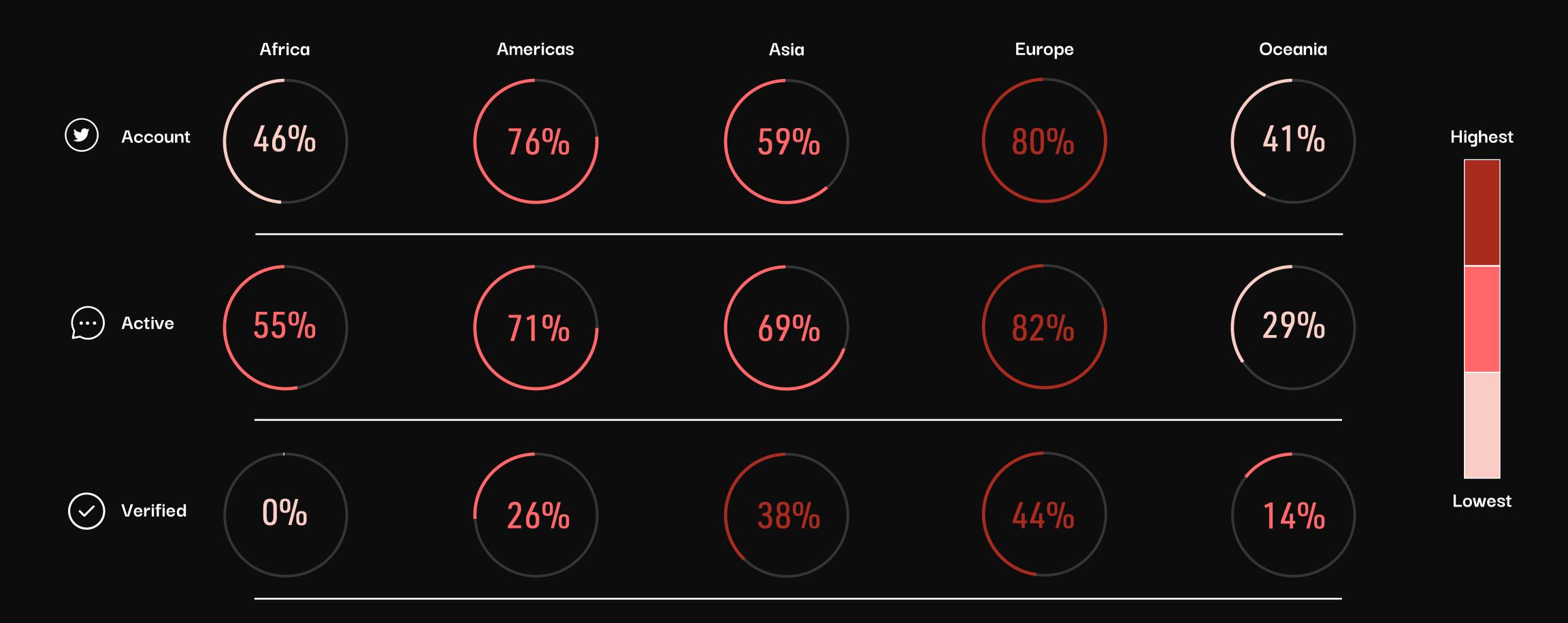
of NOCs
with a Twitter account
are active\*



\*have posted this year

#### NOCs in Europe are the most active on Twitter and most likely to be verified

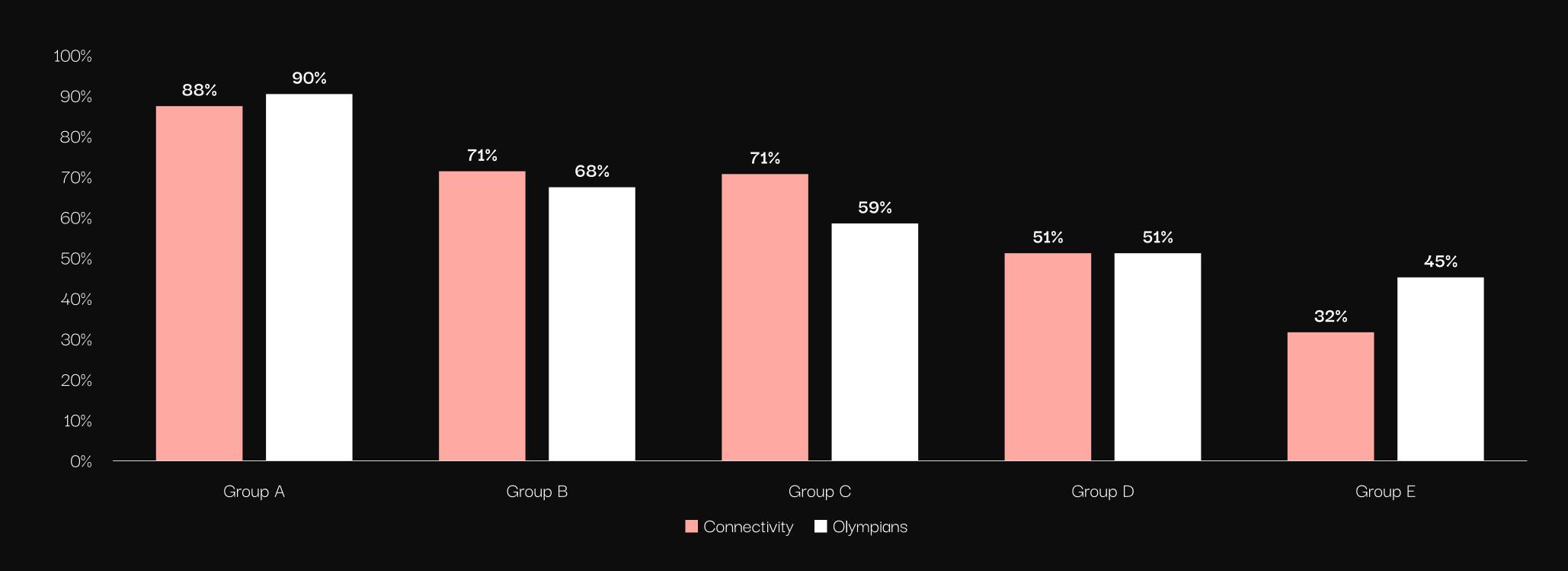
- NOCs in the Americas are the 2<sup>nd</sup> most active, with **81** NOCs posting this year
- NOCs in Oceania (41%) and Africa (46%) are the least likely to have a Twitter account, and none in Africa are verified



#### NOCs with connectivity issues are least likely to have an account

- Only 45% of NOCs in Olympians Group E are on Twitter
- Providing NOCs with best practice and templates will help NOCs recognise the benefits of being on the platform

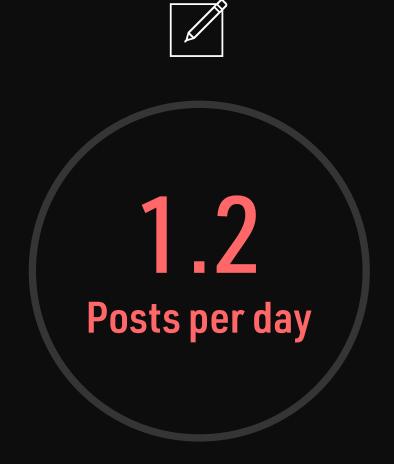
#### % of NOCs with an account by classification



# Overview: by performance



Average size

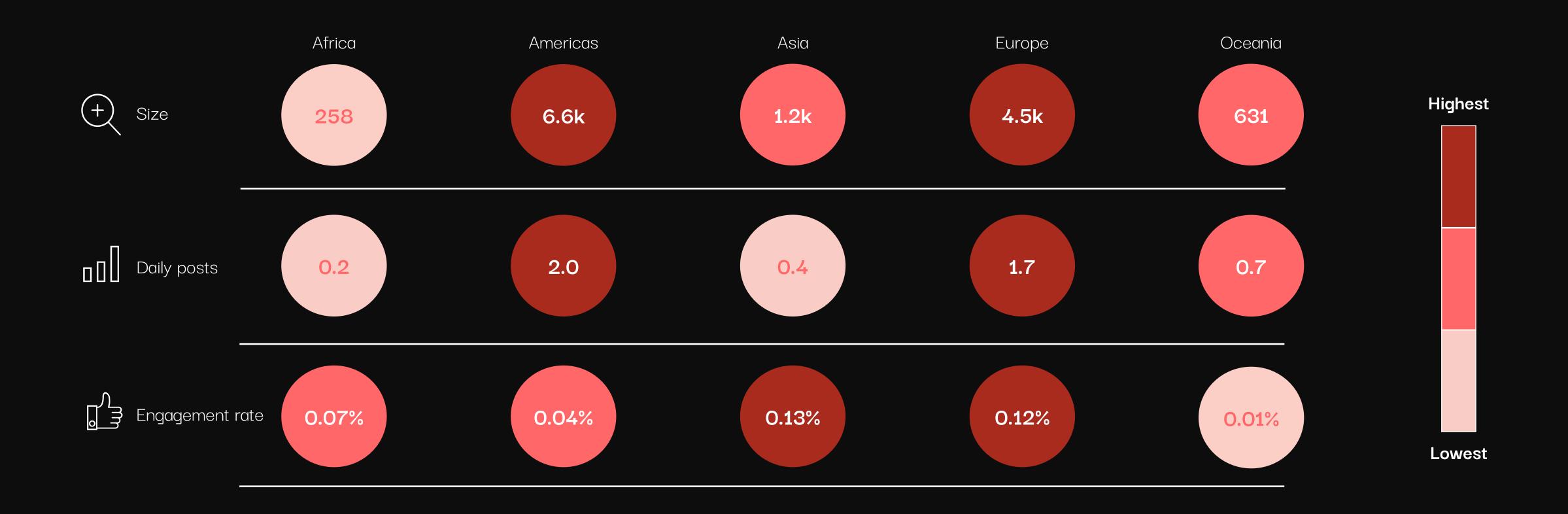


Average daily posting frequency



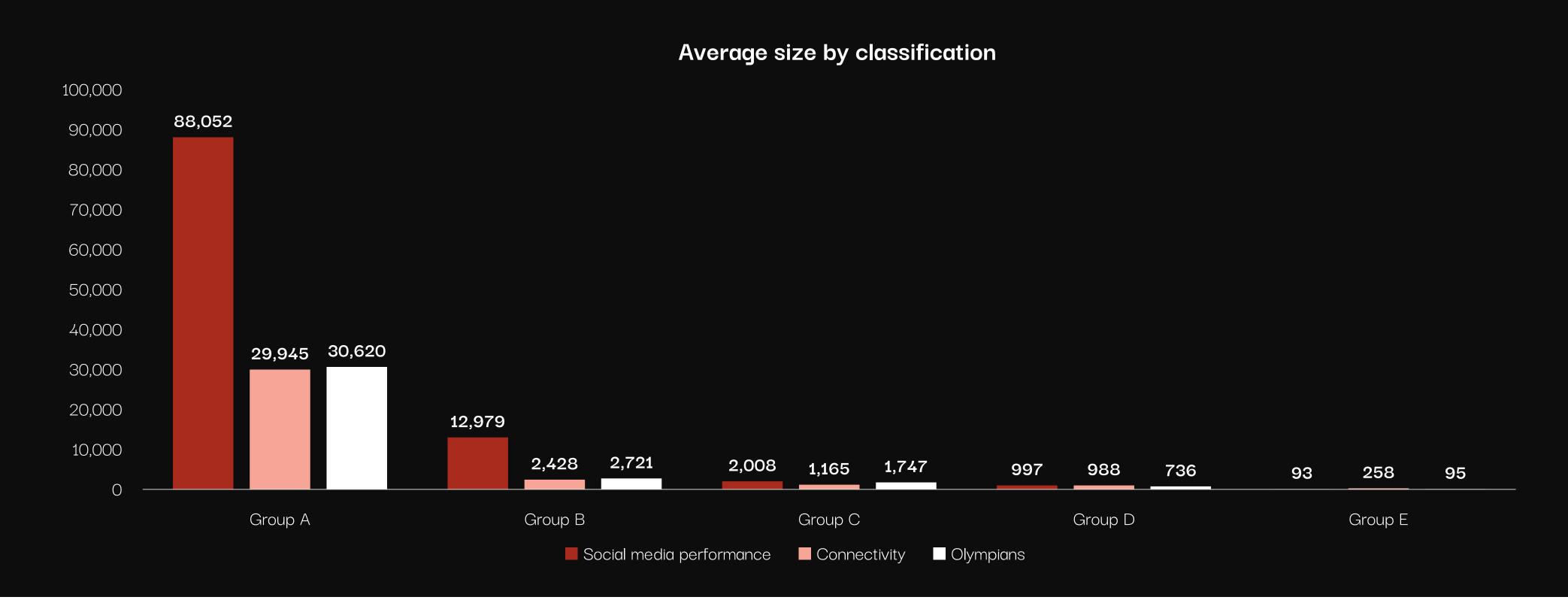
Average engagement rate

## Average performance matrix by continent



#### Average size of NOCs: 2.0k followers

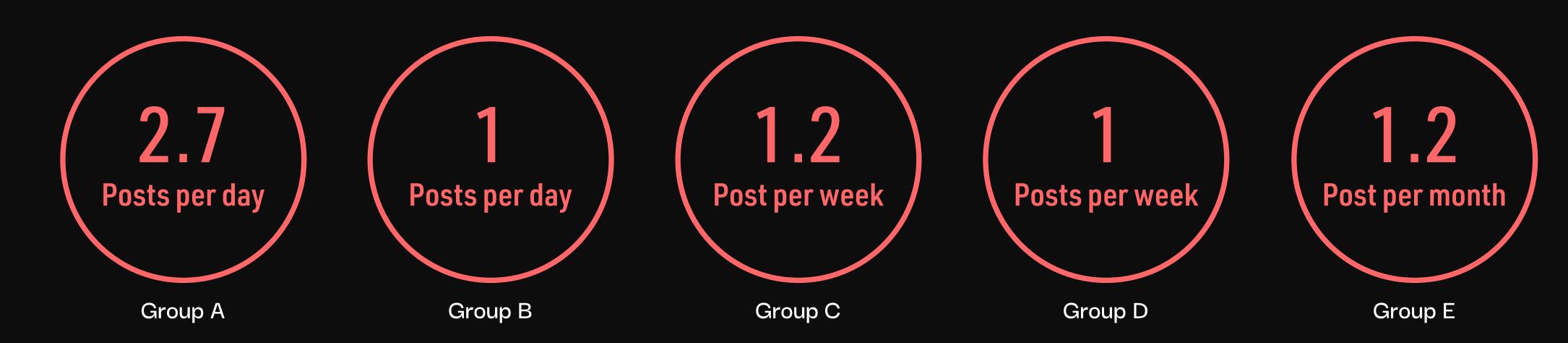
- USA (2.0m), Great Britain (874.4k), Canada (724.7k), Japan (412.0k) and Brazil (363.8k) have the biggest Twitter accounts
- Despite being in lower-ranked connectivity and Olympian groups, El Salvador (18.4k) Rwanda (7.2k) have been able to amass relatively high followings as the result of frequent posting
- Saudi Arabia (Olympians Group C) has over 88.5k followers through engaging with high-profile accounts, including those of their NOC president, Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Faisal (368.3k followers)



#### NOCs tweet 1.2 times a day on average

- NOCs from Europe and the Americas post more frequently than other continents
- Correlation exists between higher volume of content and higher growth rates
- NOCs in Group A below post more frequently, partly due to having more Olympians about whom to create content

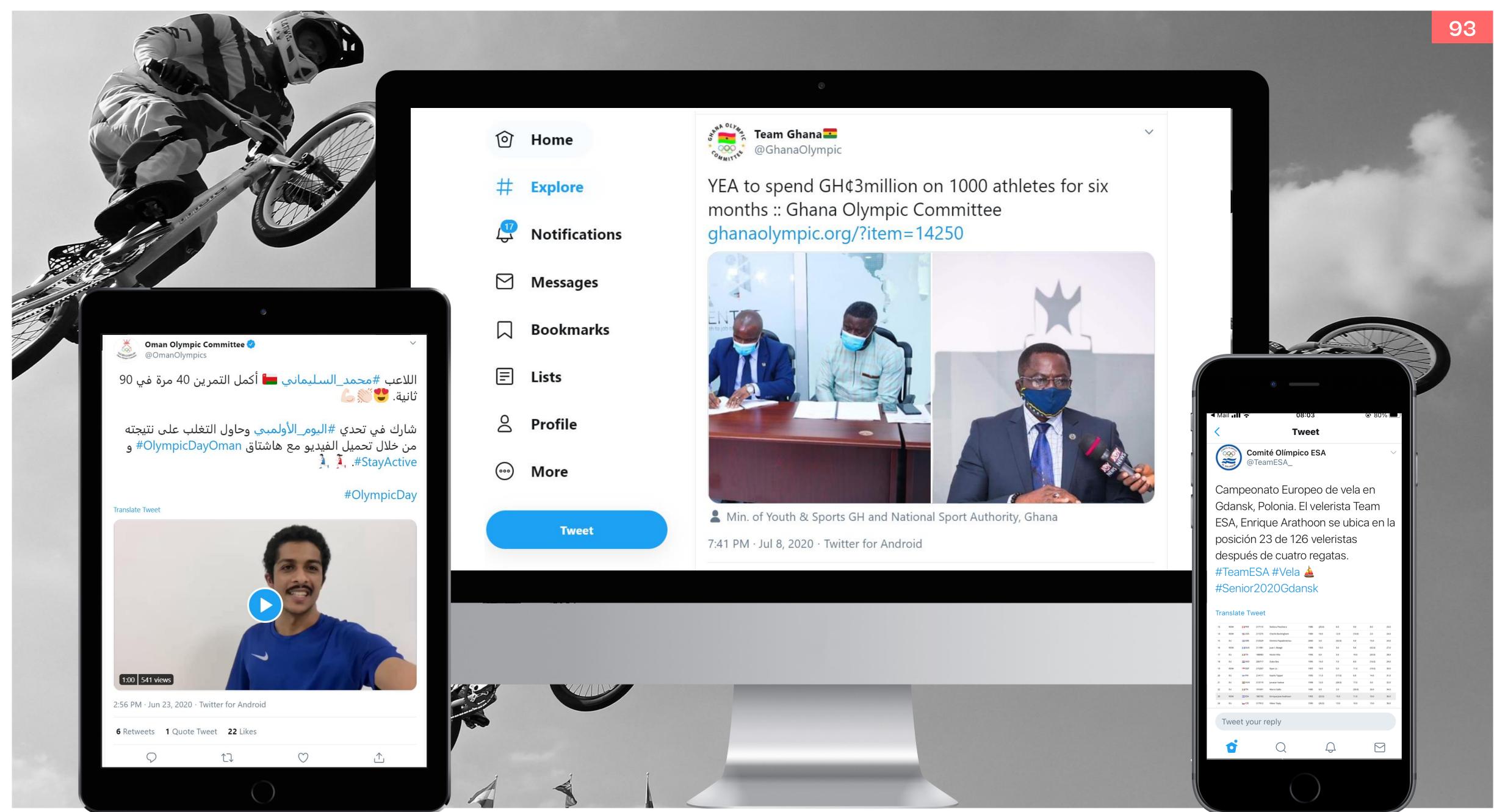
#### Posting frequency by Olympians classification

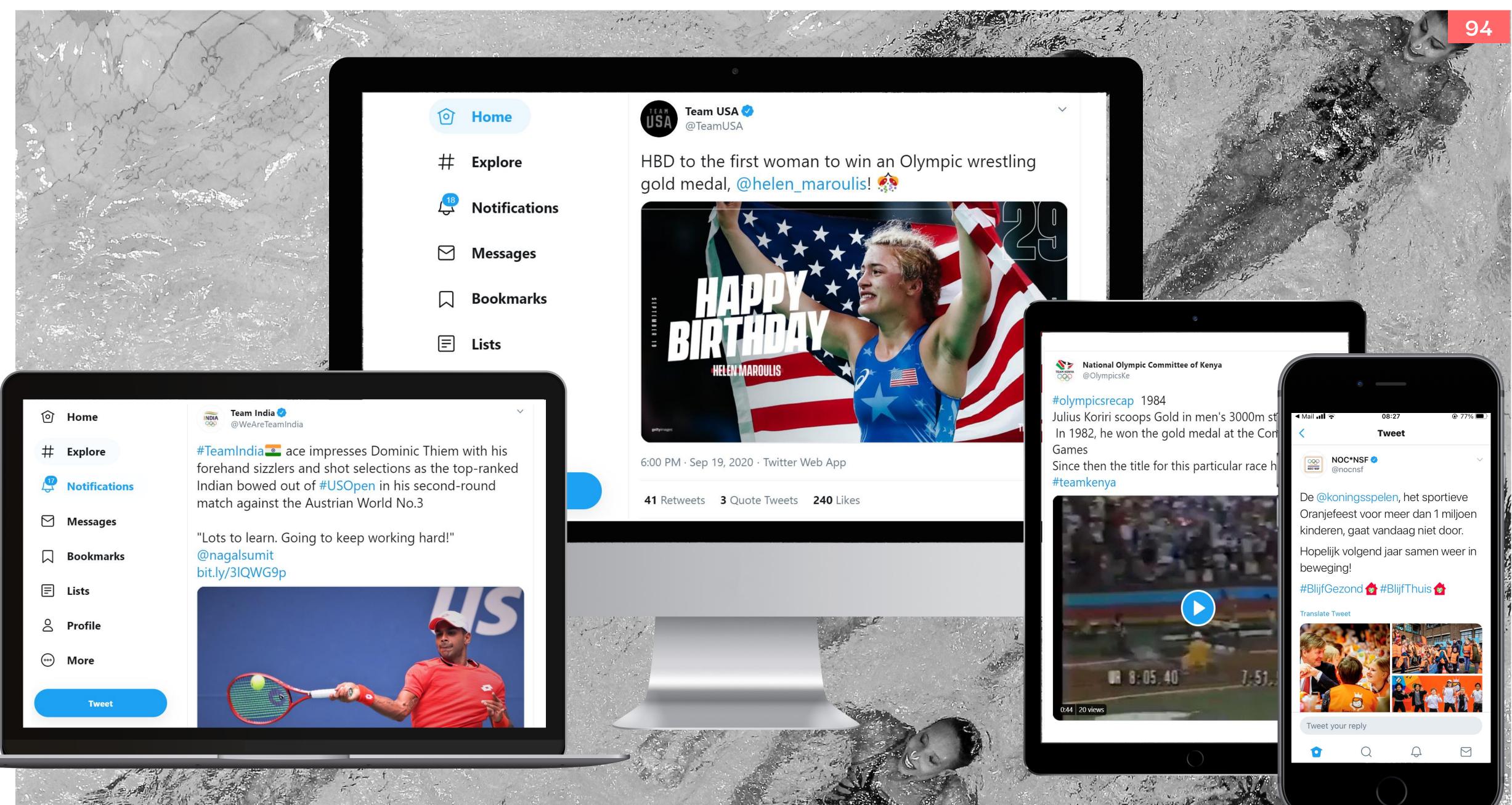


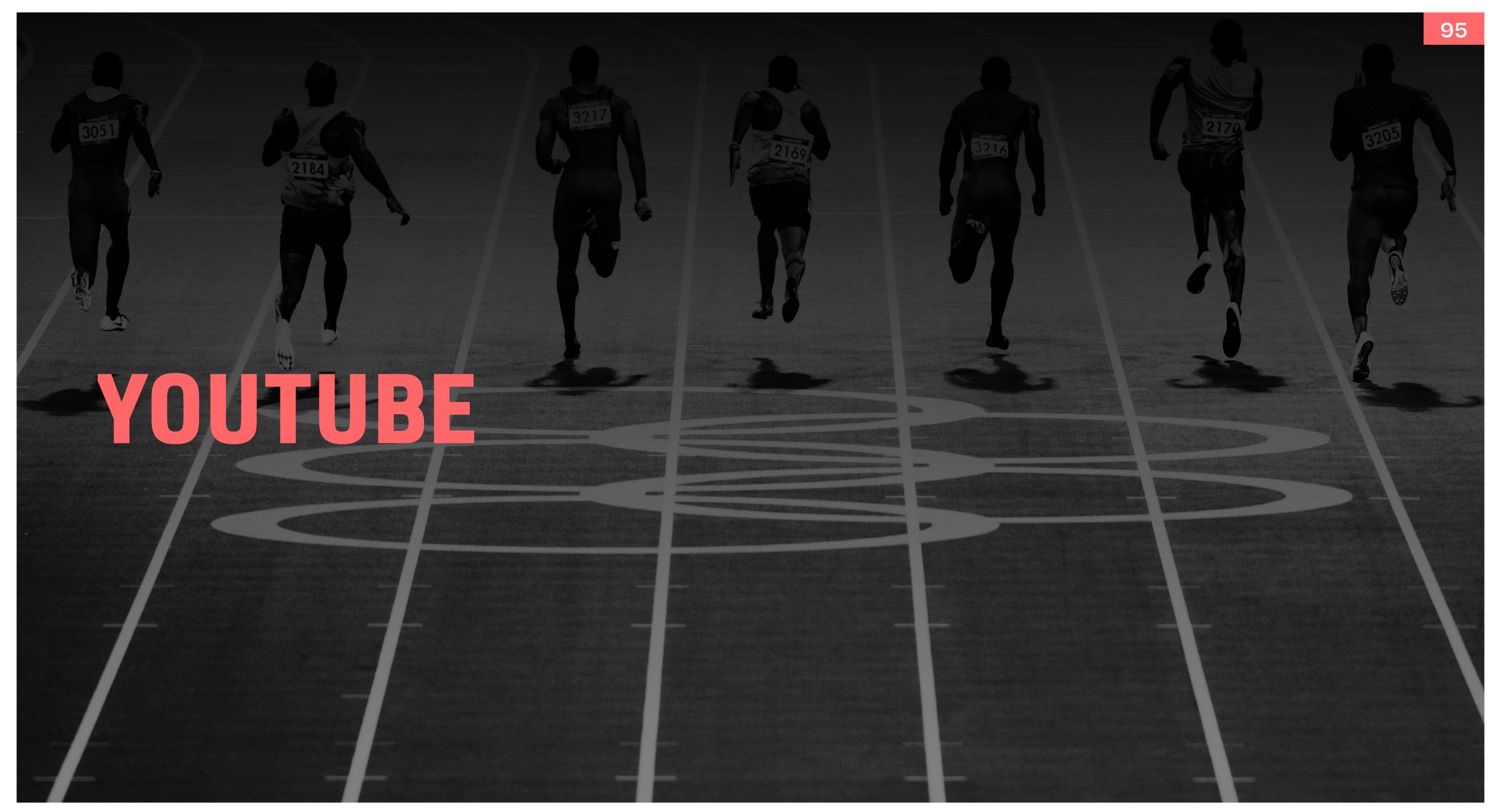
#### Smaller accounts have higher engagement rates

- Posting the latest news and official statements generates high levels of engagements, especially from smaller accounts
- European NOCs, such as the Ukraine, Kosovo and Finland, have some of the highest engagement rates
- 33% of the Ukraine's tweets contain either pictures or videos, with popular content showcasing medal winners

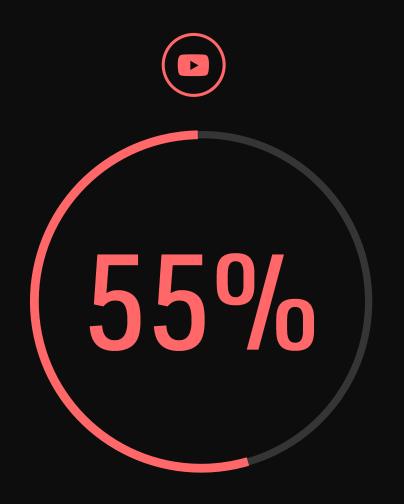
#### Average engagement rate by classification 0.20% 0.19% 0.18% 0.16% 0.14% 0.13% 0.12% 0.11% 0.10% 0.10% 0.10% 0.09% 0.10% 0.09% 0.09% 0.08% 0.07% 0.08% 0.05% 0.06% 0.04% 0.02% 0.02% 0.01% 0.00% 0.00% Group A Group B Group C Group D Group E Social media performance Connectivity Olympians



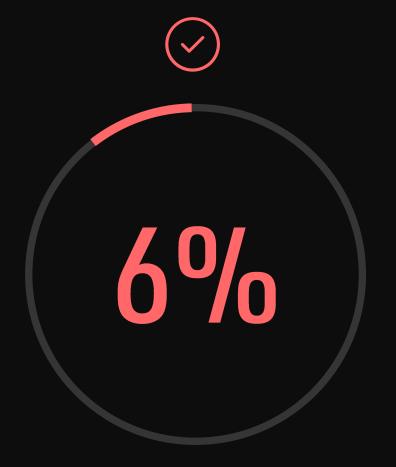




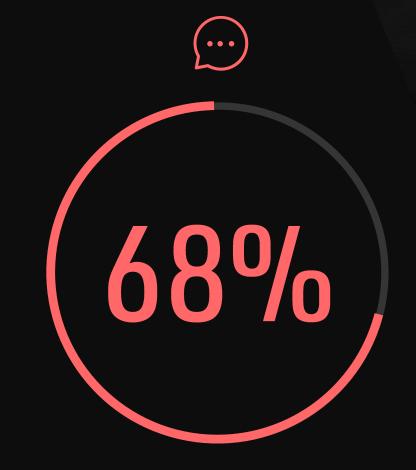
## Overview: all countries



of NOCs have a YouTube account



of NOCs are verified on YouTube

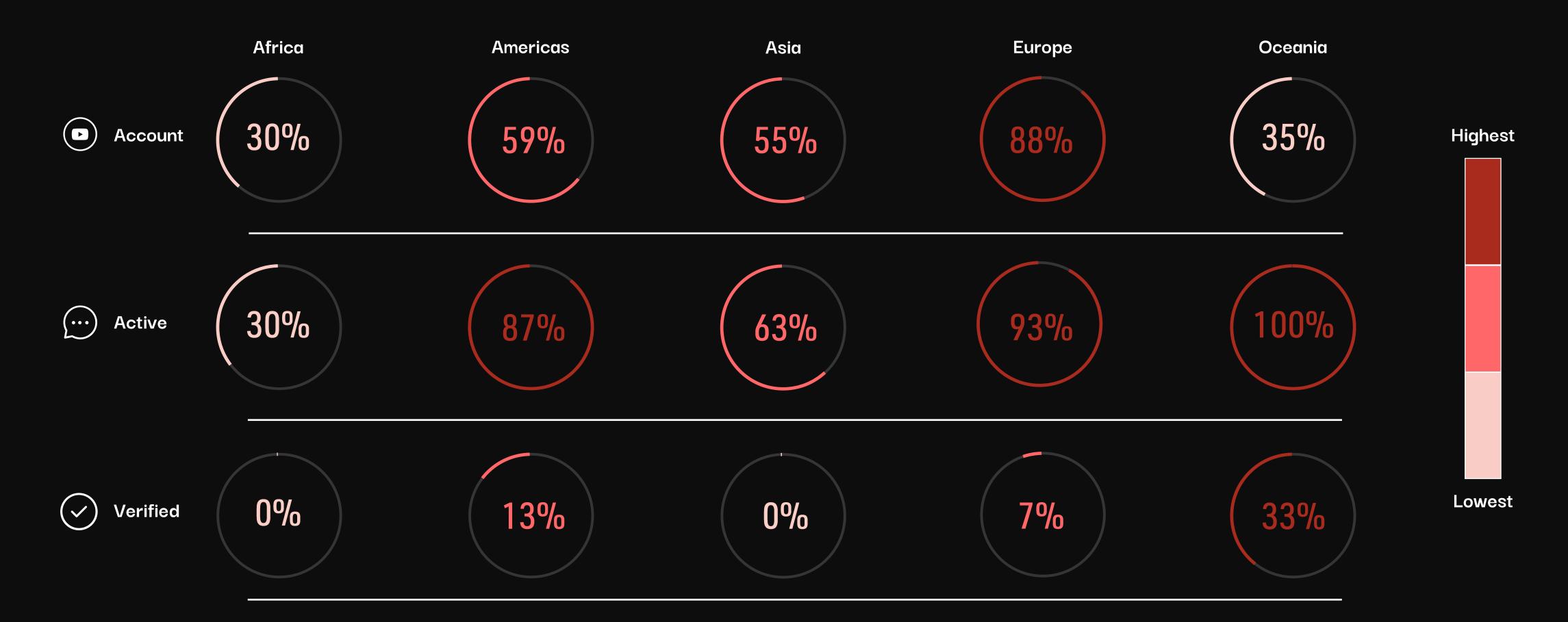


of NOCs
with a YouTube account are
active\*

\*have posted this year

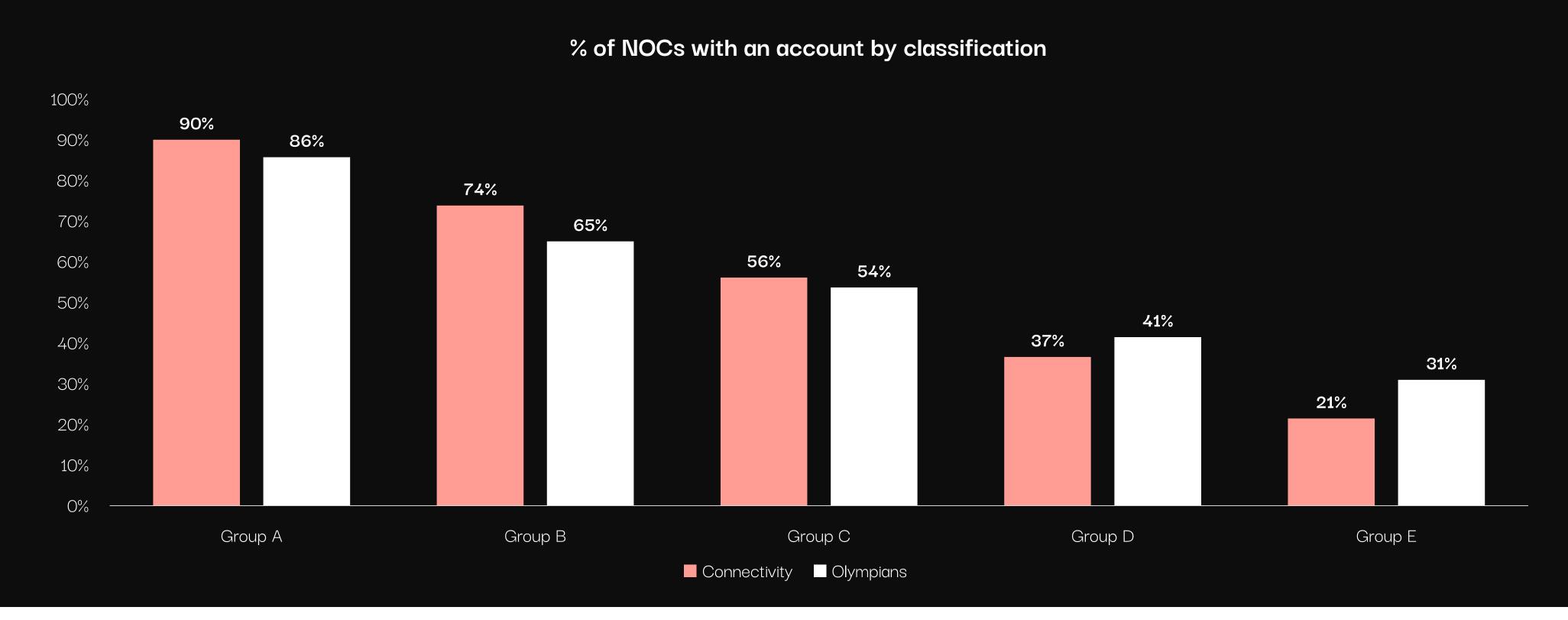
#### NOCs in Europe are the most likely to have an account and be active

- Only **30%** of NOCs in Africa are on YouTube, of which only **1** in **3** have posted this year
- Only **7** NOCs are verified on YouTube, all of which are in the top 20 by size



#### 55% of NOCs have an account: just under 3/4 are active

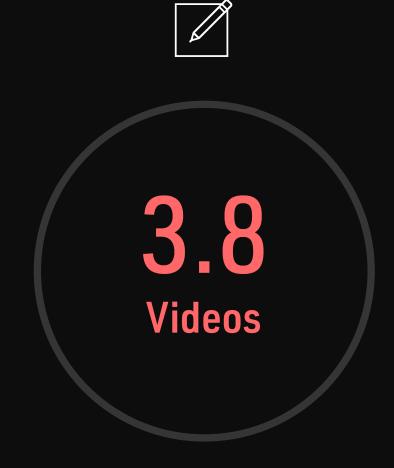
- Olympians and connectivity groups are both important factors in whether NOCs have a YouTube account
- Poor internet speeds are likely to deter NOCs from creating a YouTube account; NOCs with fewer Olympians are more likely to struggle to create or source video content



# Overview: by performance



Average size

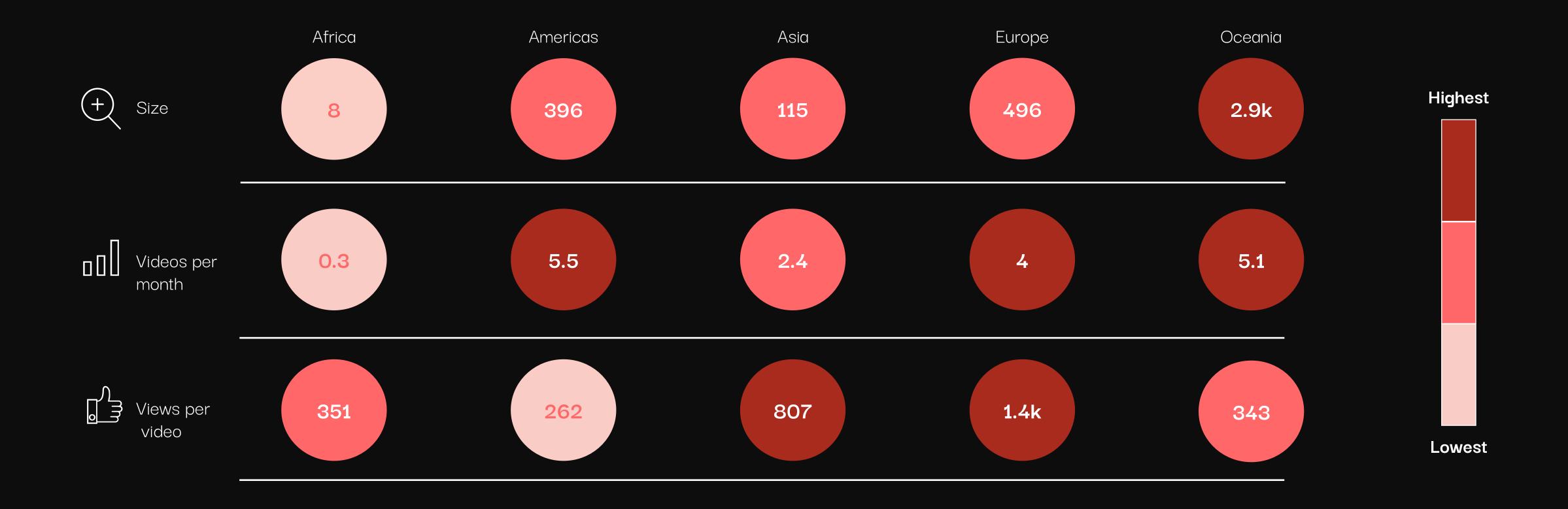


Average videos per month



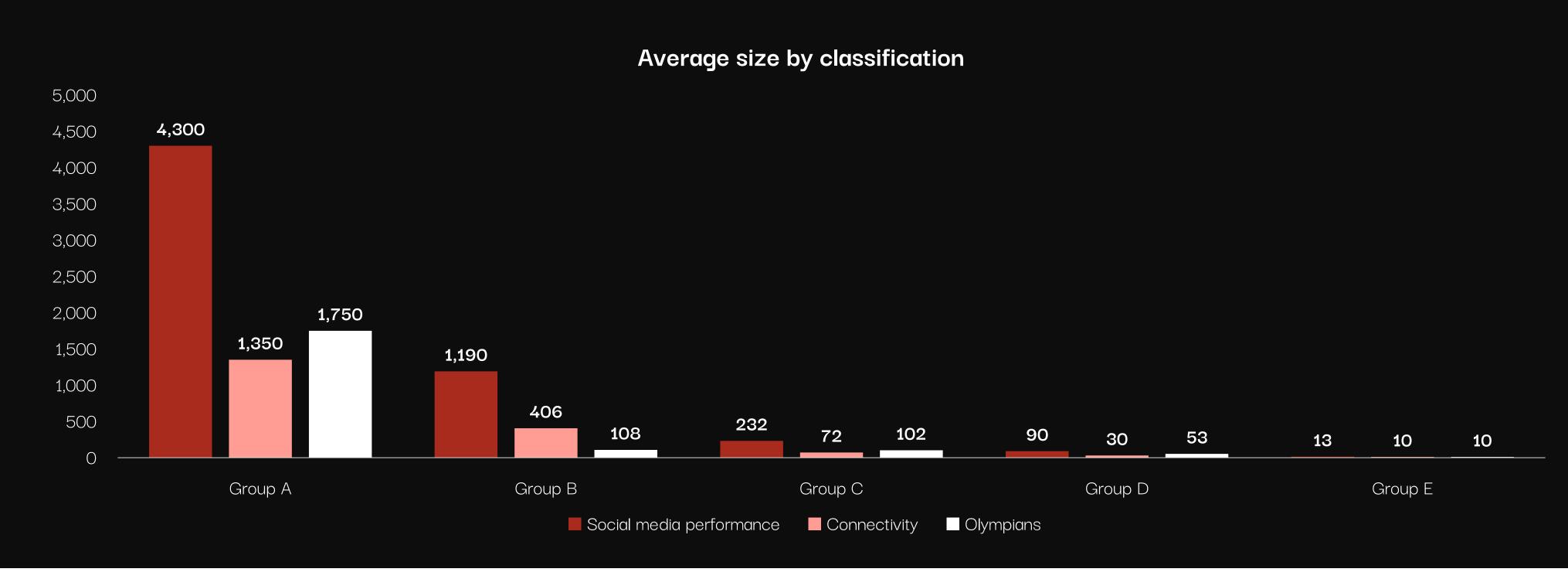
Average views per video

### Average performance matrix by continent



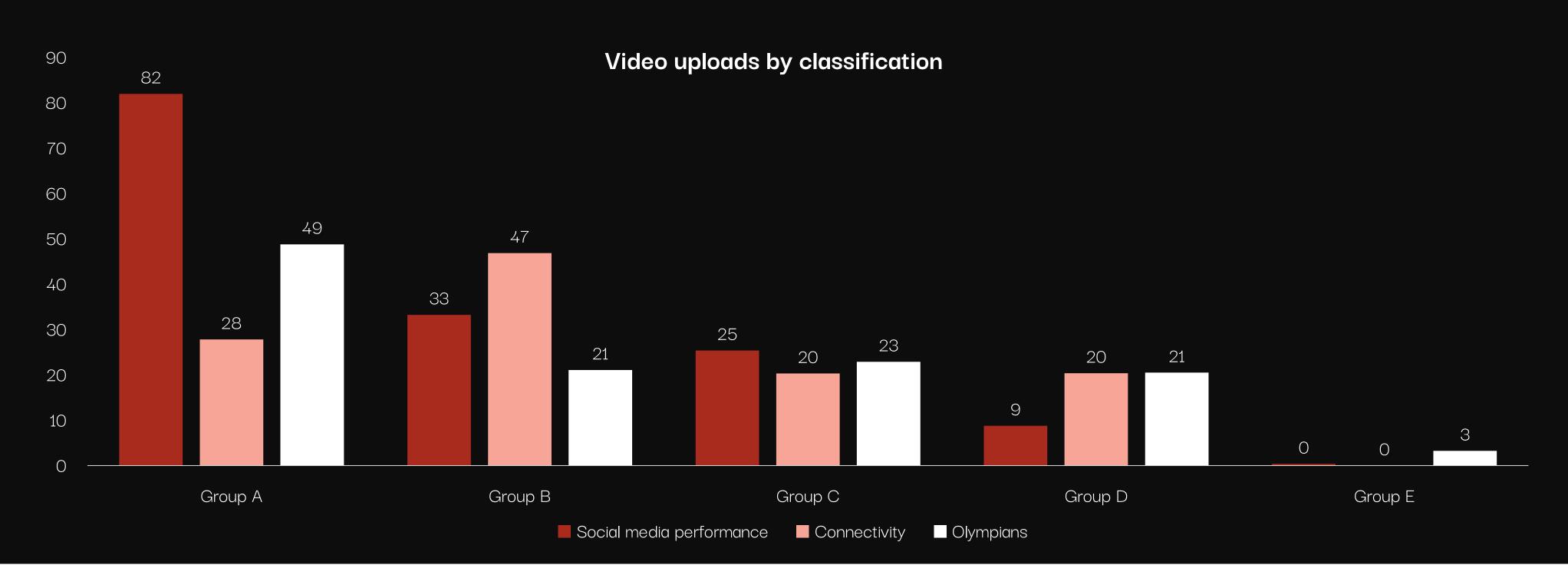
## NOCs which promote their channel on their website and other platforms have more subscribers on YouTube

- USA (216.0k), Czech Republic (78.2k) and Canada (17.5k) have the highest number of subscribers
- Some NOCs have usernames that are harder to find, or have a channel so they can 'reserve' the channel ID
- Other NOCs use YouTube to 'host' the content and embed videos on other platforms, without encouraging viewers to subscribe
- NOCs with fewer subscribers tend to have lower levels of internet penetration and slower internet speeds



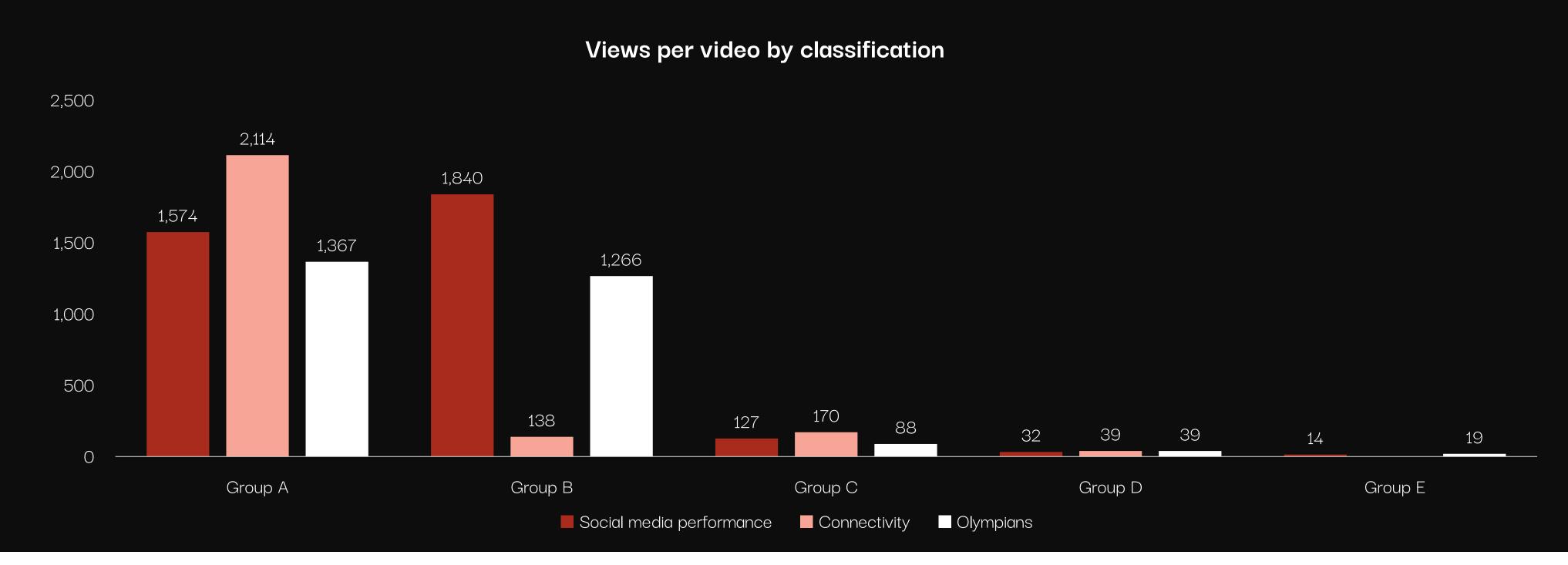
#### NOCs with more social media staff and larger budgets produce more content

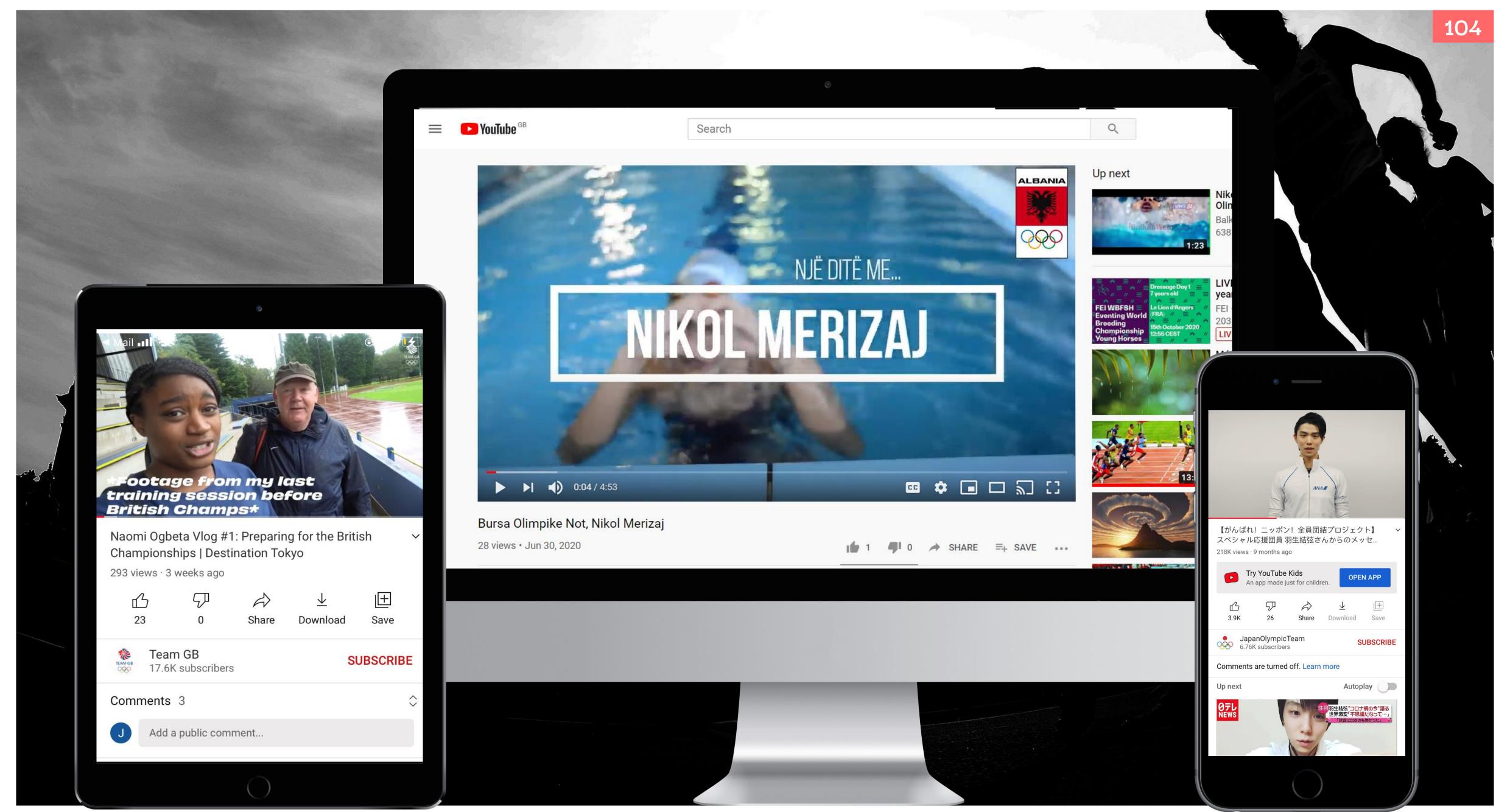
- NOCs in larger Olympian groups upload more YouTube videos as a result of having more archive content, access to interviews and the ability
  to produce current event highlights
- Mexico (229) Colombia (222) and Spain (211) have uploaded the most videos this year with a range of content including health and fitness videos, athlete interviews and webinars

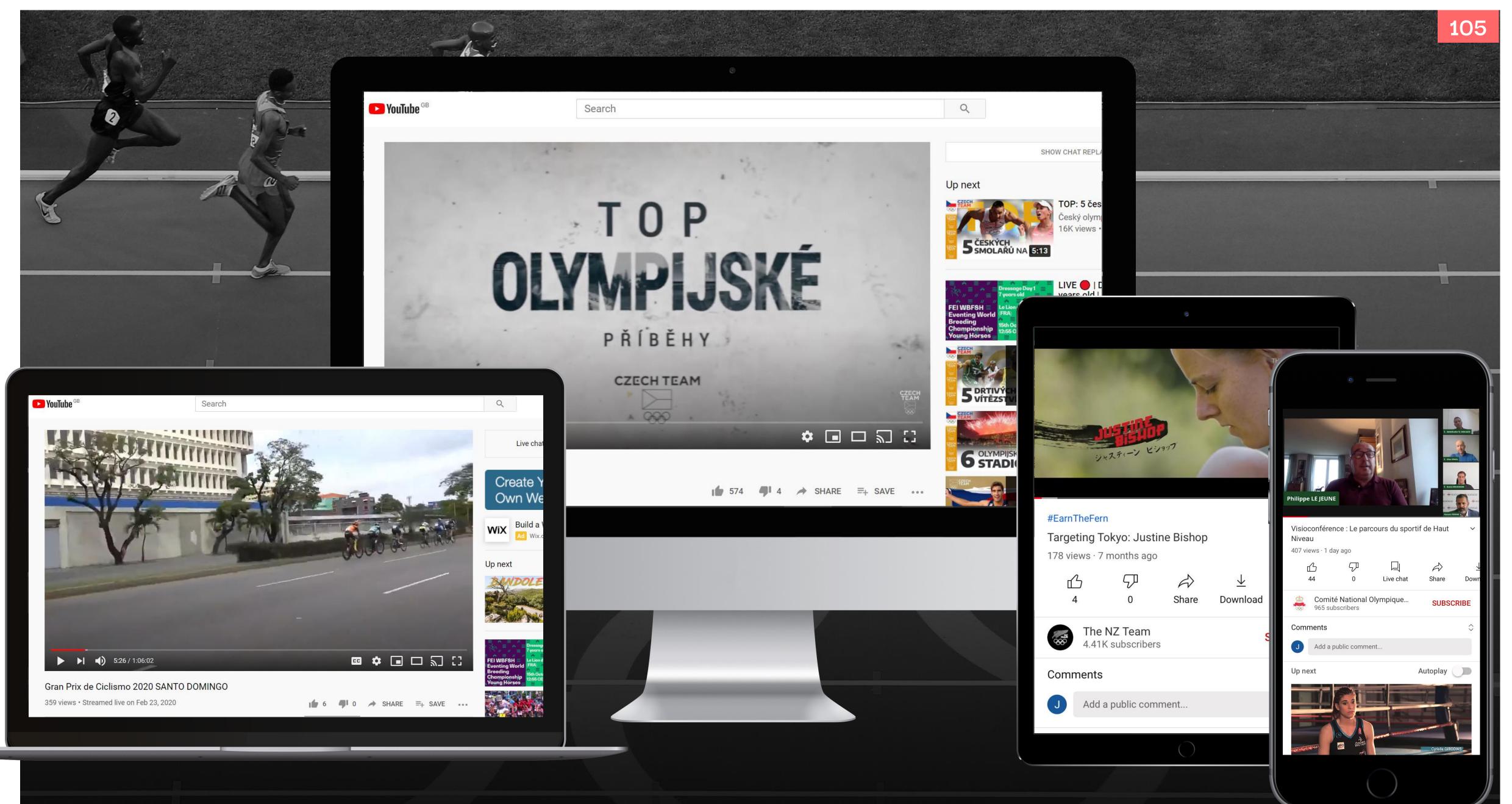


#### Optimising video titles and descriptions for search will generate more views

- Enticing and consistent thumbnails lead to an increase in views, with the user understanding the video subject before viewing
- Turkey (11.2k), Czech Republic (9.8k) and Japan (8.4k) generated the most views per video
- Turkey produced engaging interviews with athletes, behind-the-scenes content, and highlights from events
- Japan leveraged the patriotic culture of fans and produced videos with their stars, including figure-skater Yuzuru Hanyu
- Czech Republic created a series of sport-specific videos that showed some of their best-ever Olympic moments









## How we did it

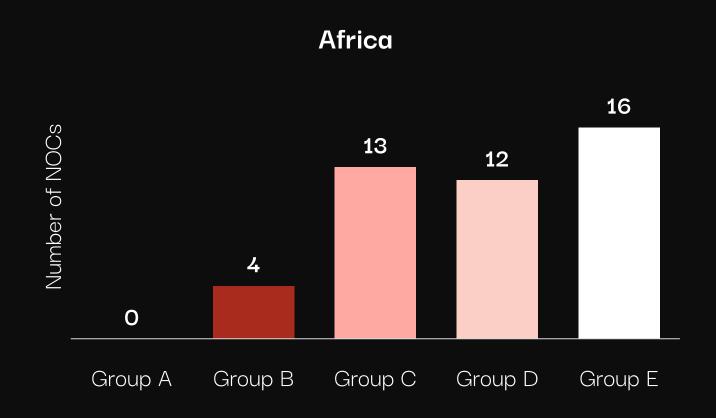
- 559 social media handles were collected from 187 NOCs and a best practice audit was conducted
- Our #SportOnSocial methodology was used to **analyse** and **rank** social media performance
- Olympian data was provided by ANOC and connectivity datapoints were collated using desk research\*
- NOCs were **classified** in groups based on their ranking in the above factors
- A survey was **produced** that investigated the resources, strategies and challenges faced by NOCs on social media
- The survey findings of 137 NOCs were translated and evaluated

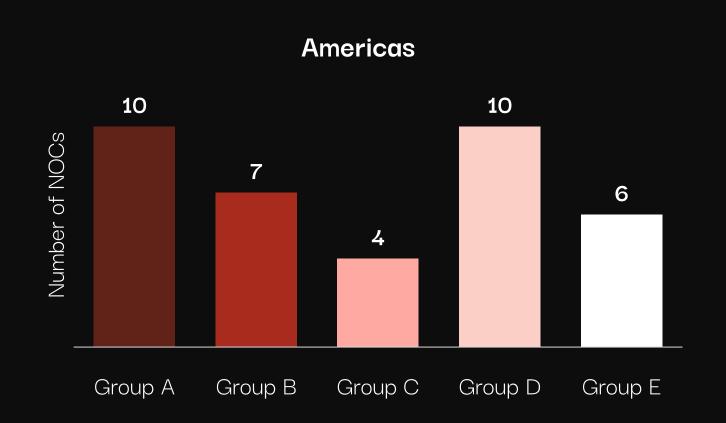
\*Population = United Nations

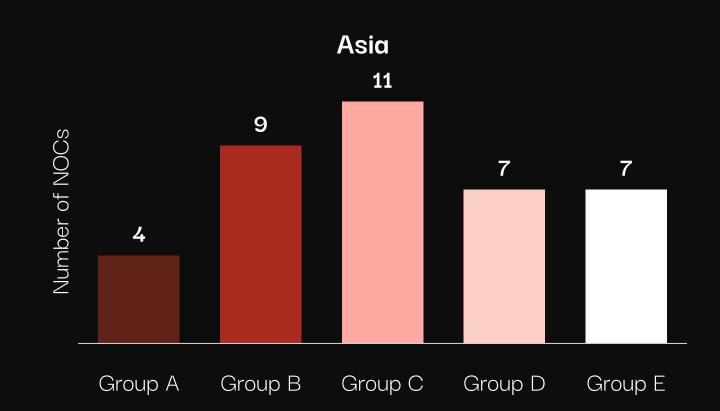
Internet penetration = Internet World Stats

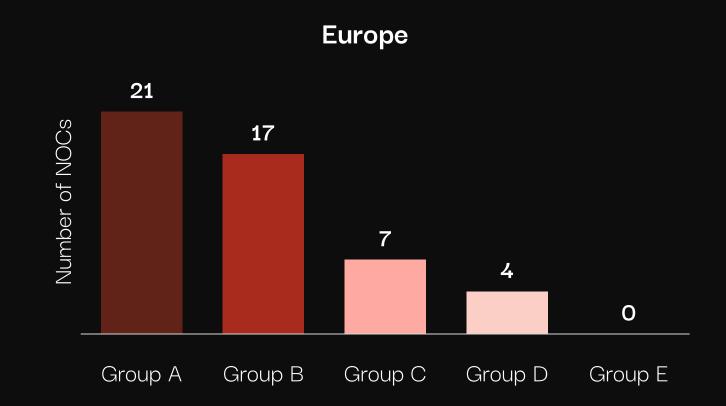
Internet speed = Speedtest Global Index

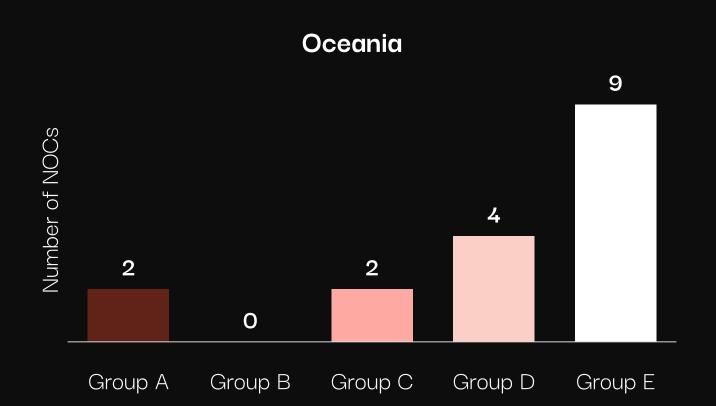
## NOCs by continent and social media performance groups



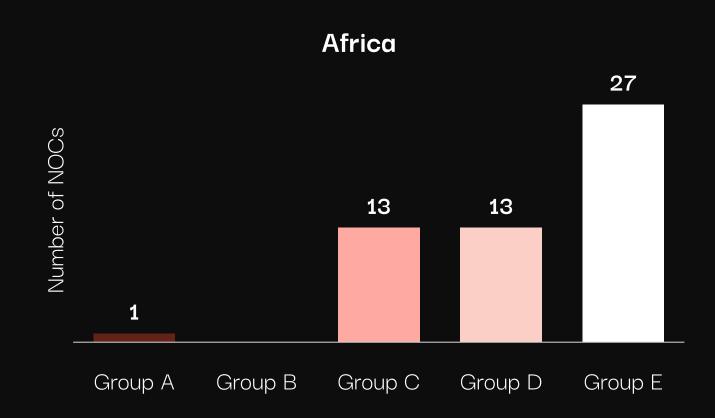


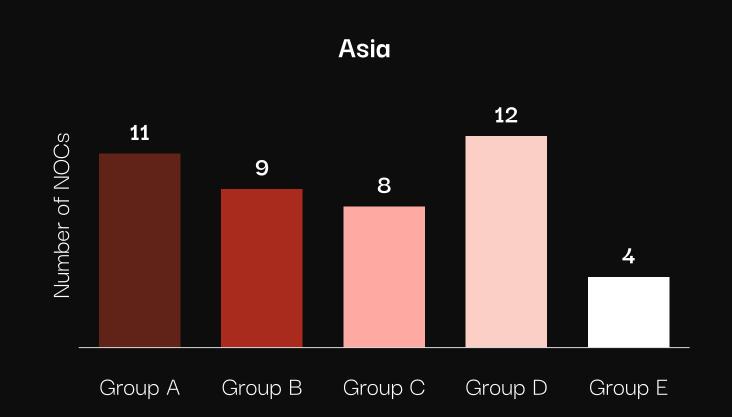


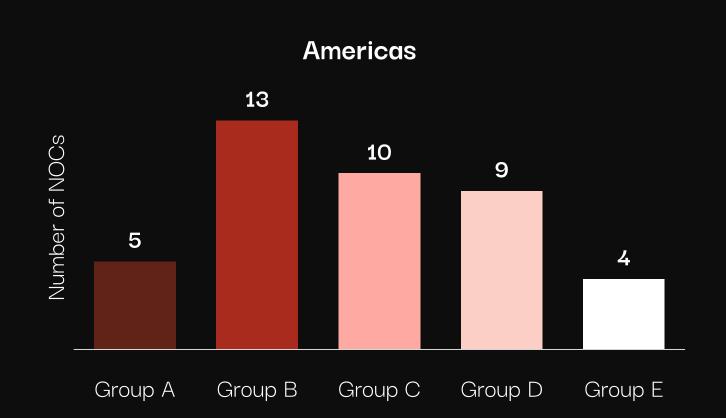


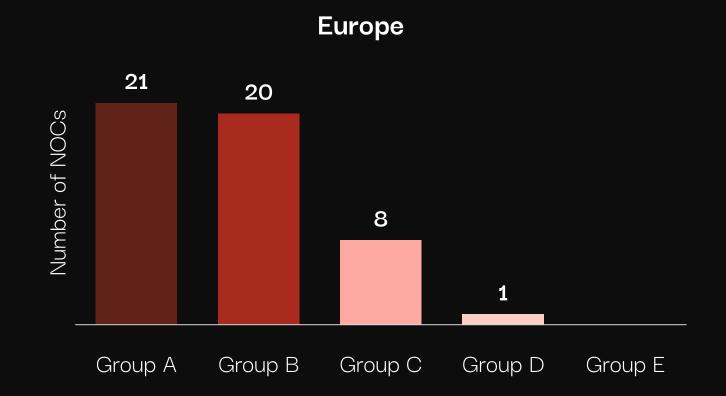


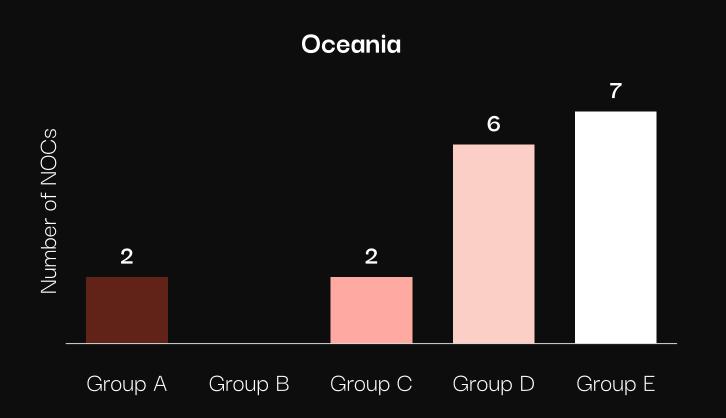
## NOCs by continent and connectivity groups



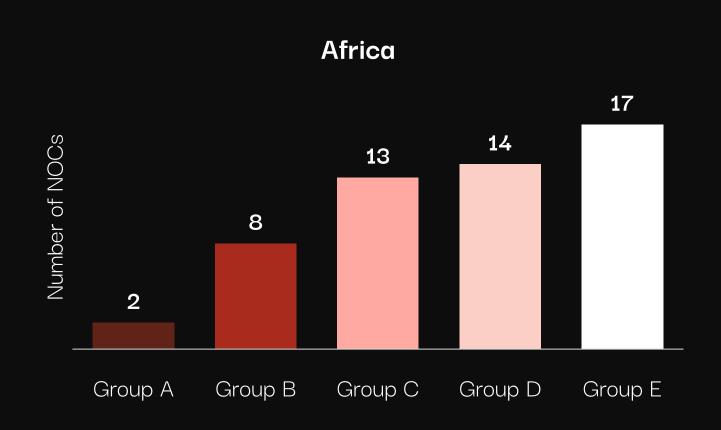


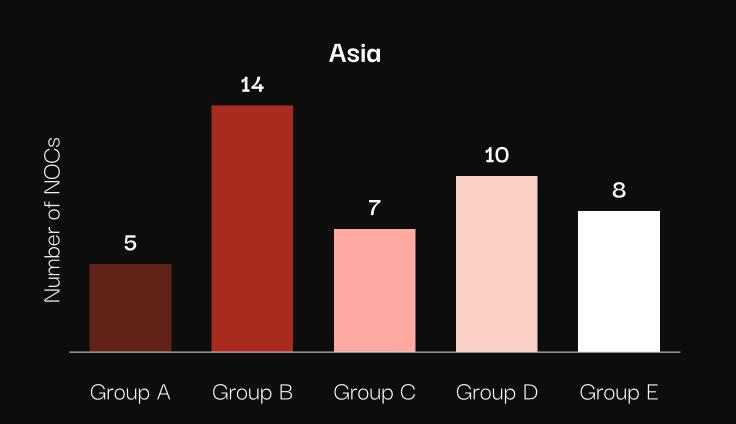


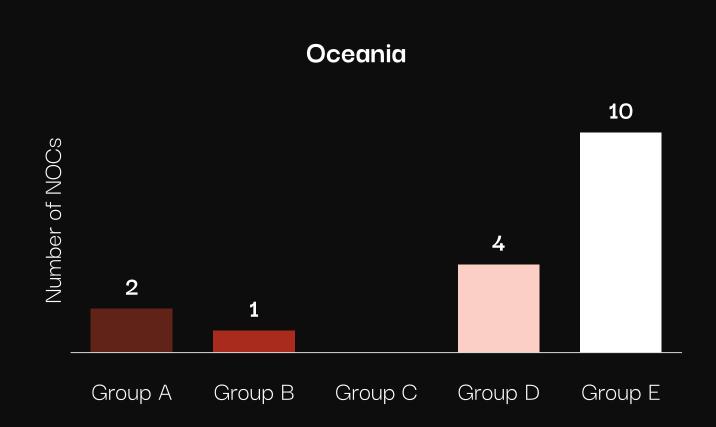


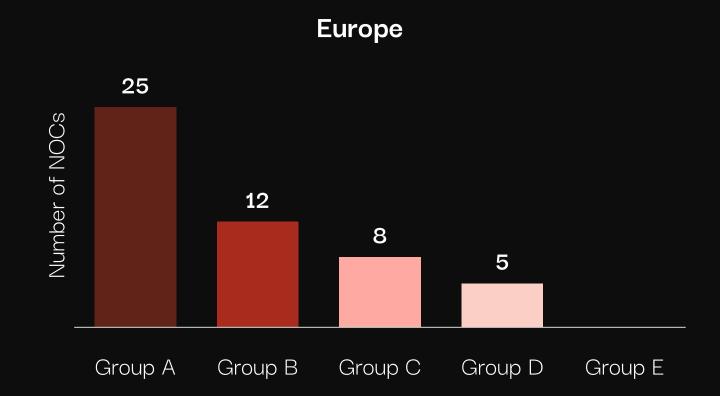


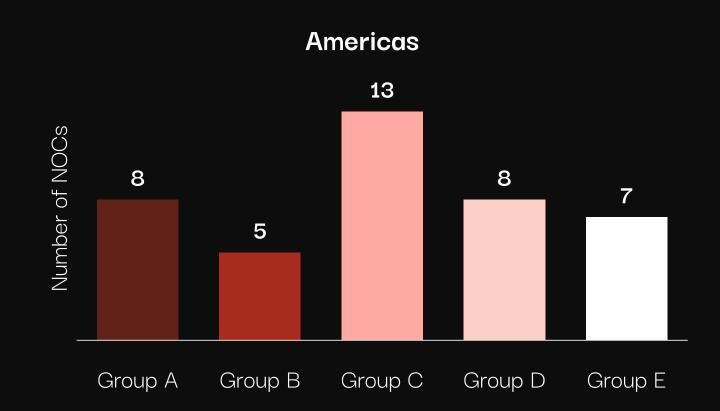
## NOCs by continent and Olympians groups













# THANKYOU ANOC

Redtorch is a London-based, independent sports marketing agency made up of sport-obsessed data fanatics, strategic thinkers and creative communicators.

Known for our enthusiasm, initiative, agility and creativity, we work with organisations to deliver bespoke and data driven solutions that understand, grow and engage audiences worldwide



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