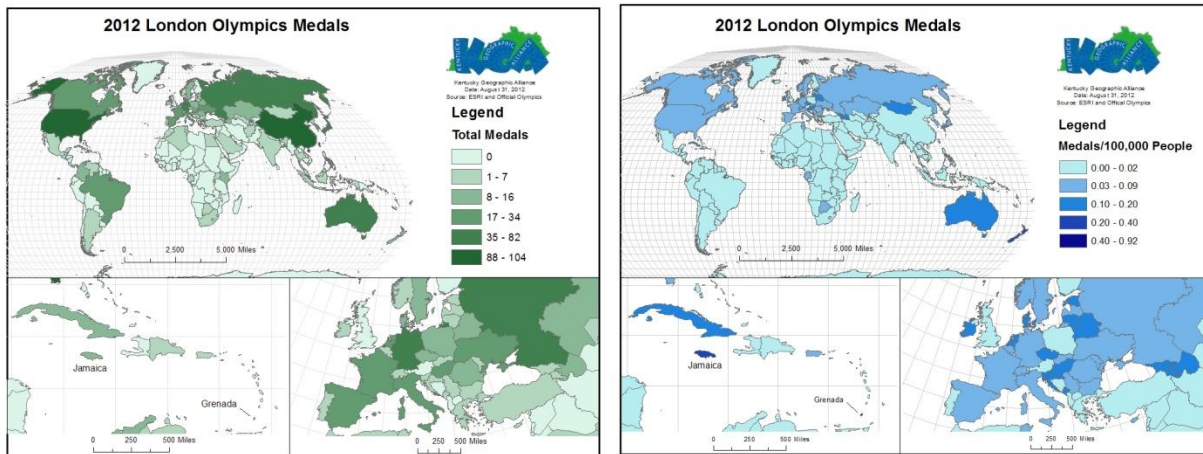

KENTUCKY IN THE NEWS

The Kentucky Geographic Alliance – August 2012



If you have any questions or would like to receive a .pdf of this map, contact us: kga@wku.edu or visit www.kga.org.

Earlier this month the 2012 Summer Olympic Games captured the world's attention as athletes competed for their nation. Some of those Olympians competing called Kentucky home. Others, though not originally from Kentucky, have ties to Kentucky through their collegiate institution. Olympians like UK's 2011-2012 basketball standout Anthony Davis, who [won gold](#) as a part of Team USA, and [silver medalist](#) in the Men's 4x100 Relay, Tyson Gay from Lexington, and [gold medal swimmer](#) and WKU grad, Claire Donahue, are a few among many of those that [competed with Kentucky connections](#).

The Olympic Games create great opportunity to talk about world geography. Why do some nations excel in certain events; for example, the British in rowing or the Chinese in table tennis? Does their location provide for a better training environment or is the sport simply a part of their tradition or culture? Ask your students why some countries have these specific links to sports (ex. the United States and basketball).

Also allow students to analyze the maps and make connections between a nation's overall population and the number of Olympic medals a country won. For example, while the USA and China won the first and second most medals respectively, countries such as Grenada (with only 1 medal) and Jamaica have higher medal to total population ratios. To put it into perspective, the United States would have needed to win 2880 Olympic medals to obtain the same population to medal percentage as Grenada. Integrate this map into mathematics to see if your students can make those same connections.

- Lexington Herald Leader: "Kentucky Connections in the London Olympics": <http://www.kentucky.com/2012/07/21/2266234/kentucky-connections-in-london.html#storylink=misearch>
- Courier Journal: "Lexington's Lee Kiefer gets Foiled in Olympic Fencing Quarterfinals": <http://www.courier-journal.com/viewart/20120728/SPORTS18/307280045/Lexington-s-Lee-Kiefer-gets-foiled-Olympic-fencing-quarterfinals>
- Courier Journal: "Louisville's Dotsie Bausch Takes Home Olympic Cycling Silver": <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20120804/SPORTS18/308040081/Louisville-s-Dotsie-Bausch-takes-home-Olympic-cycling-silver>
- Courier Journal: "2012 Summer Olympics": <http://www.courier-journal.com/section/SPORTS18/Olympics>