

Lots of Ways to Own the Podium

There is the **traditional** way, adding up all the medals won: Canada was **3rd** in 2010 with 26 medals. Canada was also **3rd** in 2006 with 24 medals.

And there are other ways. **What happens if we counted the actual number of medals that went home with athletes?** In 2010, the USA took home the most medals (96) while Canada came **2nd** (with 91), a huge margin ahead of Germany at **3rd** with 54. In 2006, Canada took home the most medals (with 69 medals) ahead of Sweden (with 65) and Germany and the USA (tied at 54).

And what happens if we counted **the number of athletes who went home with a medal?** Canada leads the way in 2010 with the greatest number of unique medallists at 88, followed by the USA at 84 and then Finland at 49. In 2006, Canada also led the way on this measure, with 61 unique medallists, followed by the USA with 60 and Finland with 42.

And what happens if **we look at medal results based on population of a country?** On this measure, it is Norway with an insurmountable advantage. Fighting way above their weight, Norway won almost five medals per million people in 2010 (4.938 medals to be exact), followed by a host of small European countries (Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland and Latvia). Canada comes in **7th**, with .8 medals per million population in 2010. But of the larger countries having over 10 million population, Canada leads the way. Of countries winning medals in 2010, the USA comes in **20th** and China comes in **last**.

And of course, we all know that in 2010 Canada won **14** gold medals, **more than any nation has ever won at an Olympic Winter Games**.