

Indian Journal of Modern Research and Reviews

This Journal is a member of the '**Committee on Publication Ethics**'

Online ISSN:2584-184X

Research Article



A Comparative Assessment of Socio-Economic Status Among Football Players from Kalyana Karnataka and Non-Kalyana Karnataka

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18218965>

Abstract

These days, sports psychology stands on its own within the vast field of sports science. The purpose of this investigation was to compare the socio-economic status of male college Football players from Kalyana Karnataka and non-Kalyana Karnataka regions. For this study, two hundred fifty-six (256) male collegiate subjects, who represent the tournament among those included in the study, one hundred twenty-eight (128) subjects from Kalyana Karnataka, and one hundred twenty-eight (128) from non-Kalyana Karnataka regions. The age of the subject ranged from 18 to 25 years. For psychological assessment, the Socio-Economic Status Questionnaire was constructed and standardised by Rajbir Singh, Radhe Shyam, and Satish Kumar (2006) from the Department of Psychology, M.D. University, Rohtak, Haryana. The scale consists of 25 items assessing various aspects of socio-economic status. The data were analysed using the mean, standard deviation, and independent-samples t-test to examine differences in levels of socio-economic status across two regions. Researchers found that the level of socio-economic status displayed by Football players from the Kalyana Karnataka and non-Kalyana Karnataka regions was significantly different.

Manuscript Information

- **ISSN No:** 2584-184X
- **Received:** 02-11-2025
- **Accepted:** 25-12-2025
- **Published:** 12-01-2026
- **IJCRM:**4(1); 2026: 58-60
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- **Plagiarism Checked:** Yes
- **Peer Review Process:** Yes

How to Cite this Article

C BN, D VN. A Comparative Assessment of Socio-Economic Status Among Football Players from Kalyana Karnataka and Non-Kalyana Karnataka. Indian J Mod Res Rev. 2026;4(1):58-60.

Access this Article Online



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KEYWORDS: Kalyana Karnataka, Non-Kalyana Karnataka, Socio-Economic Status, Football.

1. INTRODUCTION

India's Kalyana-Karnataka region, formerly called Hyderabad-Karnataka, lies in the Indian state of Karnataka. Historically part of the British Madras Presidency and the Nizam-ruled Kingdom of Hyderabad, the region includes seven underdeveloped northern districts: Kalburgi, Bidar, Raichur, Koppal, Yadgir, Bellary, and Vijayanagara. The area received special safeguards under Article 371-J through the 98th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2012. "Non-Kalyana Karnataka districts" are those outside this region.

Athletic performance is shaped by many factors, among which socio-economic status (SES) is especially important. Socio-economic status, encompassing income, education, occupation, and social class, influences an athlete's access to resources, training environments, and support systems. In India, football intersects with socio-economic status (SES) by providing pathways for upward mobility for underprivileged youth while simultaneously reflecting existing inequalities through unequal access to training, infrastructure, and resources, with players from lower SES often facing greater obstacles despite their talent; at the same time, the sport unites people across diverse backgrounds and empowers women and marginalised communities. High costs associated with training facilities and modern equipment in football continue to pose significant barriers for individuals from low socio-economic backgrounds.

Purpose of the Study

The study was purposed to compare the level of socio-economic status in male football players from both the Kalyana Karnataka and non-Kalyana Karnataka regions.

2. METHODOLOGY

To achieve the purpose of the study, data were collected from a total of two hundred fifty-six (256) male football players, of which one hundred twenty-eight (128) subjects were selected from each region. The subjects are drawn from universities in both the Kalyana Karnataka and non-Kalyana Karnataka regions and include intercollegiate-level football winners and runners-up. The players' ages ranged from 18 to 25 years.

Statistical Technique

The data was analysed using SPSS and the t-test method for statistical analysis.

3. RESULTS

After the data were examined within the study's limitations, the findings are presented in the following tables.

Table 1: The number of respondents collected from winners and runners-up of the Kalyana Karnataka and Non-Kalyana Karnataka universities inter-collegiate football tournament.

| Kalyana Karnataka Region Football Players (128) | | Non-Kalyana Karnataka Region Football Players (128) | |
|---|------------|---|------------|
| Winners | Runners up | Winners | Runners up |
| 64 | 64 | 64 | 64 |

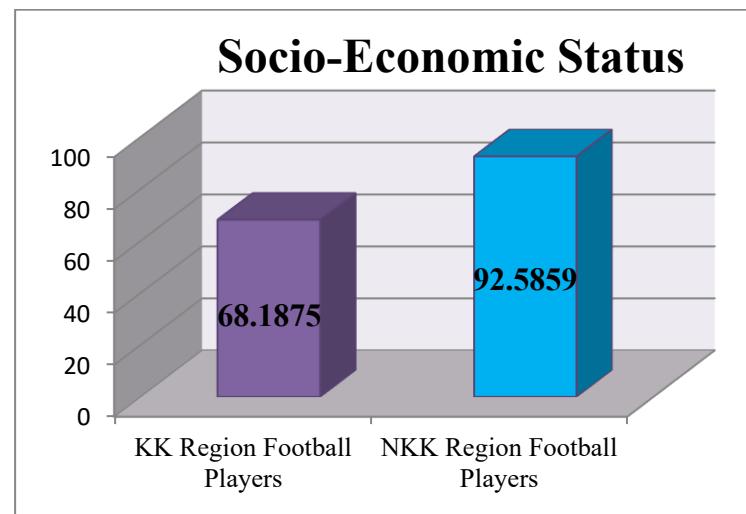
Table 2: Table 2 shows the mean. Standard deviation and t-value of descriptive statistics for male football players in Kalyana Karnataka and non-Kalyana Karnataka regions.

| Variable | Region | N | Mean Value | Standard deviation | 'T' Value | Sig. |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----|------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| Socio-Economic Status | KK Region Football Players | 128 | 68.1875 | 14.66784 | 12.756 * | .005* |
| | NKK Region Football Players | 128 | 92.5859 | 13.07972 | | |

Table Value 1.984*

Table 2 above presents a comparison of the Socio-Economic Status of the two groups, each consisting of one hundred twenty-eight (128) football players. Players from the Kalyana Karnataka Region (KK Region) recorded a mean Socio-Economic Status score of 68.1875 (SD = 14.66784), whereas players from the Non-Kalyana Karnataka Region (NKK Region) obtained a higher mean score of 92.5859 (SD = 13.07972). The calculated t value of 12.756 exceeds the table value of 1.984, indicating a statistically significant difference between the two groups. The results demonstrate that football players from the Non-Kalyana Karnataka Region have a higher Socio-Economic Status than those from the Kalyana Karnataka Region.

Figure 1. The graph shows the mean value of the Socio-Economic Status of Football players belonging to the Kalyana Karnataka Region and the Non-Kalyana Karnataka Region.



4. DISCUSSION ON FINDINGS

When football players from the Kalyana Karnataka region were compared with those from non-Kalyana Karnataka areas, the findings revealed a clear and notable difference in socio-economic status. Players from the non-Kalyana Karnataka region had a higher socio-economic status than their counterparts in the Kalyana Karnataka region. This variation highlights the influence of regional socio-economic conditions on the background of football players.

5. CONCLUSION

The current study, which focused on analyzing the socio-economic status from two regions—one is the Kalyana Karnataka region and the other from a non-Kalyana Karnataka region—revealed significant differences in socio-economic status. Kalyana Karnataka (formerly Hyderabad-Karnataka) continues to experience pronounced socio-economic backwardness—characterized by lower literacy, higher poverty (notably in Yadgir, Raichur, Kalaburagi, Koppal, Ballari, and Vijayanagara), inadequate healthcare, and weak human capital. Despite constitutional safeguards under Article 371-J and increased infrastructure spending, reports from NITI Aayog and the CAG show persistent disparities in education, health, and income relative to the state average, underscoring the need for targeted, high-quality human resource development.

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