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## Comparison of socio-economic status of football player belong to different selected club of Imphal and Pune

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### Abstract

This study focuses on the socio-economic status of male football players belonging to selected clubs in Imphal and Pune. The objective was to assess and compare the socio-economic backgrounds—specifically education, income, and family type—of players from both regions. A total of 100 male players aged between 18 and 25 years participated in the study, with 50 players each from Imphal (TRAU FC and NEROCA FC) and Pune (Bharati FC and Eagle FC). Data was collected using a structured questionnaire, and percentage analysis was employed for statistical interpretation. The findings reveal that players from Pune have a slightly higher socio-economic status compared to those from Imphal. However, in both regions, most footballers belong to middle-class families. The study concludes that while there are minor regional differences, most players share similar socio-economic characteristics. These insights can help stakeholders understand the background of aspiring athletes and develop region-specific support strategies.

**Keywords:** Socio-economic status, football player

### Introduction

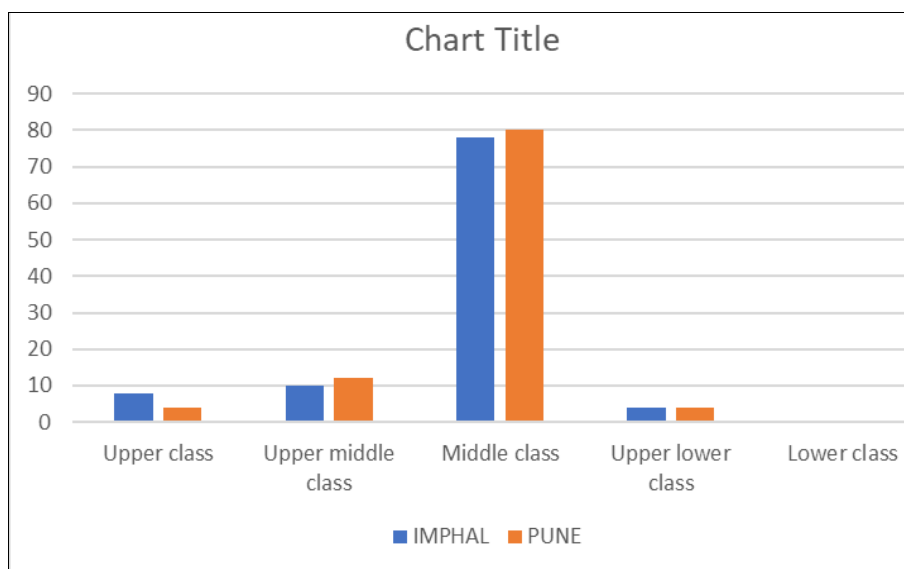
Football is one of the most popular sports in India, attracting youth from diverse socio-economic backgrounds. While talent and physical ability are essential for success in sports, an athlete's socio-economic status often plays a significant role in determining access to training, nutrition, equipment, and exposure to competitive platforms. In India, regional disparities in economic and educational development may influence the opportunities available to aspiring football players. This study focuses on football players from two distinct regions—Imphal in Manipur and Pune in Maharashtra—both of which have active football cultures and recognized local clubs. The selected clubs for the study are TRAU FC and NEROCA FC from Imphal, and Bharati FC and Eagle FC from Pune. By comparing players' socio-economic backgrounds—such as education, income levels, and family types—the study aims to provide insight into the factors that may affect a player's development at the club level.

### Methodology

This study followed a descriptive research design to compare the socio-economic status of male football players from selected clubs in Imphal and Pune. The sample consisted of 100 male players, aged 18 to 25 years, with 50 players selected from two clubs in Imphal (TRAU FC and NEROCA FC) and 50 players from two clubs in Pune (Bharati FC and Eagle FC). The sampling method was purposive, focusing only on male players actively participating in club-level football. Data was collected through a structured questionnaire covering key socio-economic indicators such as education level, income group, and type of family. The data was analyzed using percentage analysis to identify trends and make comparisons between the two regions.

**All responses on Socio-Economic status of football player Of Imphal and Pune**

Socio-economic status				
Category	No. of responses from Pune	Percentage	No. of responses from Imphal	Percentage
Upper class	4	8%	2	4%
Upper middle class	5	10%	6	12%
Middle class	39	78%	40	80%
Upper lower class	2	4%	2	4%
Lower class	0	0%	0	0%
Total	50	100%	50	100%

**Results**

Pune players showed slightly higher socio-economic status than Imphal players. Most belonged to middle-class families and had higher secondary education. Family types varied slightly by region.

**Conclusion**

The study revealed that there is a slight difference in the socio-economic status of football players from selected clubs in Imphal and Pune. Players from Pune generally have a marginally higher socio-economic background compared to those from Imphal. However, in both regions, the majority of players come from middle-class families. These findings suggest that while regional differences exist, football continues to attract youth from similar socio-economic conditions. The study highlights the need for equal support and development opportunities for aspiring footballers across different regions of India.

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