

ABSTRACT

What I try to address here is, whether a nation's level of economic development may have an impact on its sports performance. Does US win its fair share of medals? Why is the medal share of China so low despite a huge population? Why does India win very few medals even though its population is the second largest in the world? This is based on econometric estimation of how significant are the economic determinants of the medals won by each participating nation. Since, the medal counts have many countries with zero as their total number of medals, we model Olympic medal counts using count data analysis. This model recognises the discrete non-negative form of the dependent variable, *i.e.* the total number of medals won by a nation in an Olympics Game. Using data from the previous three Olympic Games in London, Beijing and Athens, Poisson, negative binomial, and zero-inflated poisson models, under count data regression models are constructed. Socio-economic variables apart from GDP, and Population, such as Internet Users also show relevant significance.