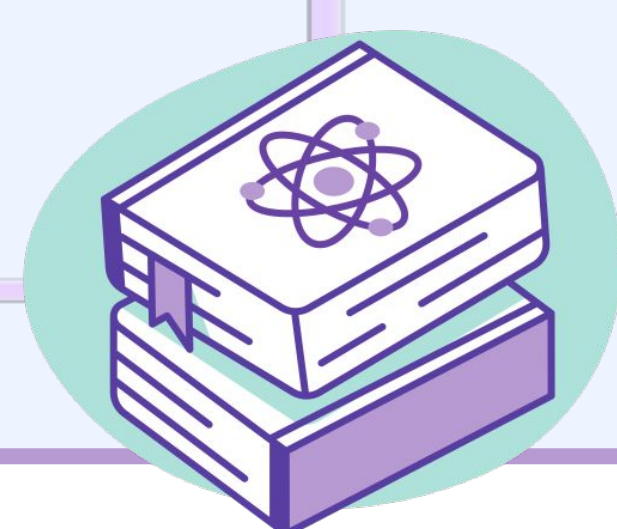


# The Impact of Financial Barriers on Sports Participation

By Max Newman & Erin Angell

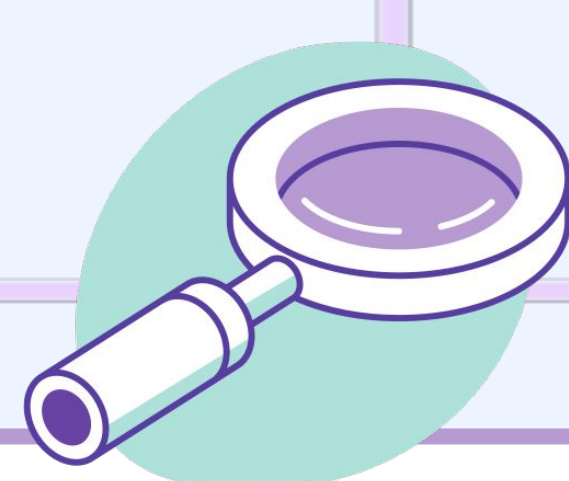
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## Introduction

Access to sports opportunities is significantly impacted by financial status, with lower-income athletes facing systemic barriers that hinder their participation and success.

This research explores how financial burdens, lack of community resources, and limited parental involvement affect youth sports participation and offers potential solutions to bridge these gaps.



## Research Methodologies

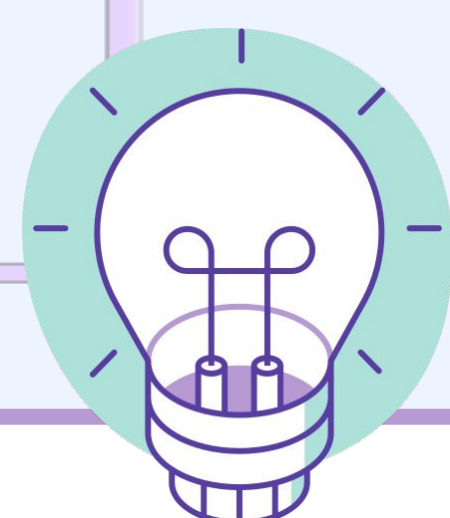
This study uses a qualitative research approach, primarily relying on online data collection from credible sources such as reports, studies, and articles. By doing this research im focused on understanding:

- Financial burdens on athletes across different income levels.
- The role of community support and mentorship in helping athletes succeed.
- How these barriers emerge at the high school level and persist through college and professional sports.
- Trends and commonalities in financial constraints and accessibility gaps.



## Key Takeaways

- Lower income athletes struggle with affordability, which limits there access to coaching, training, and competitive opportunities.
- Financial stress increases over time, making it harder for these athletes to continue past highschool.
- Mentorship and community support play a crucial role in bridging gaps.
- Potential solutions include scholarships, financial aid programs, and community driven initiatives to makes sports more accessible.



## Acknowledgements

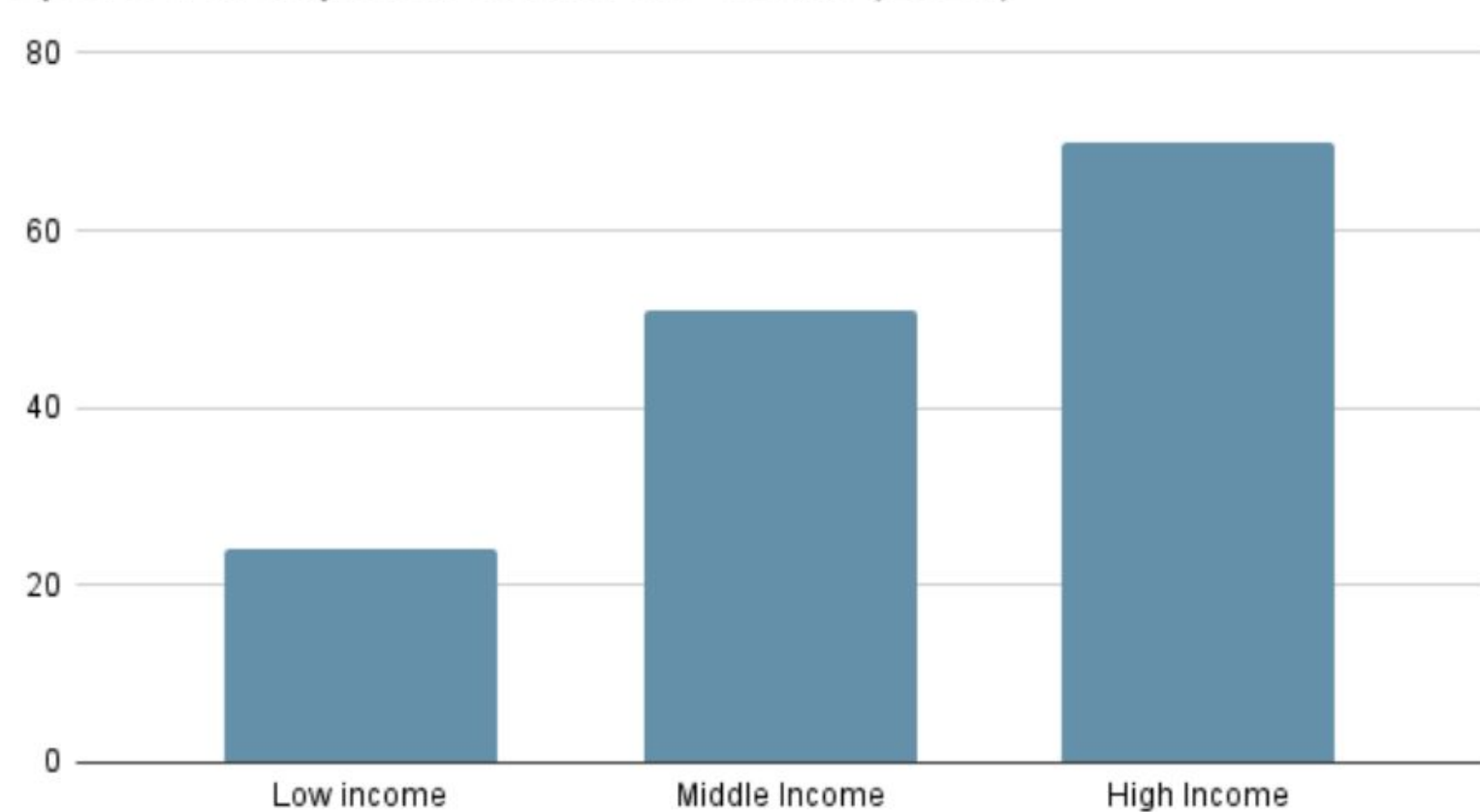
### References

Special thanks to my AAR teacher Erin Angell., my friend Michael Aviv, and my Mother Sarah Newman



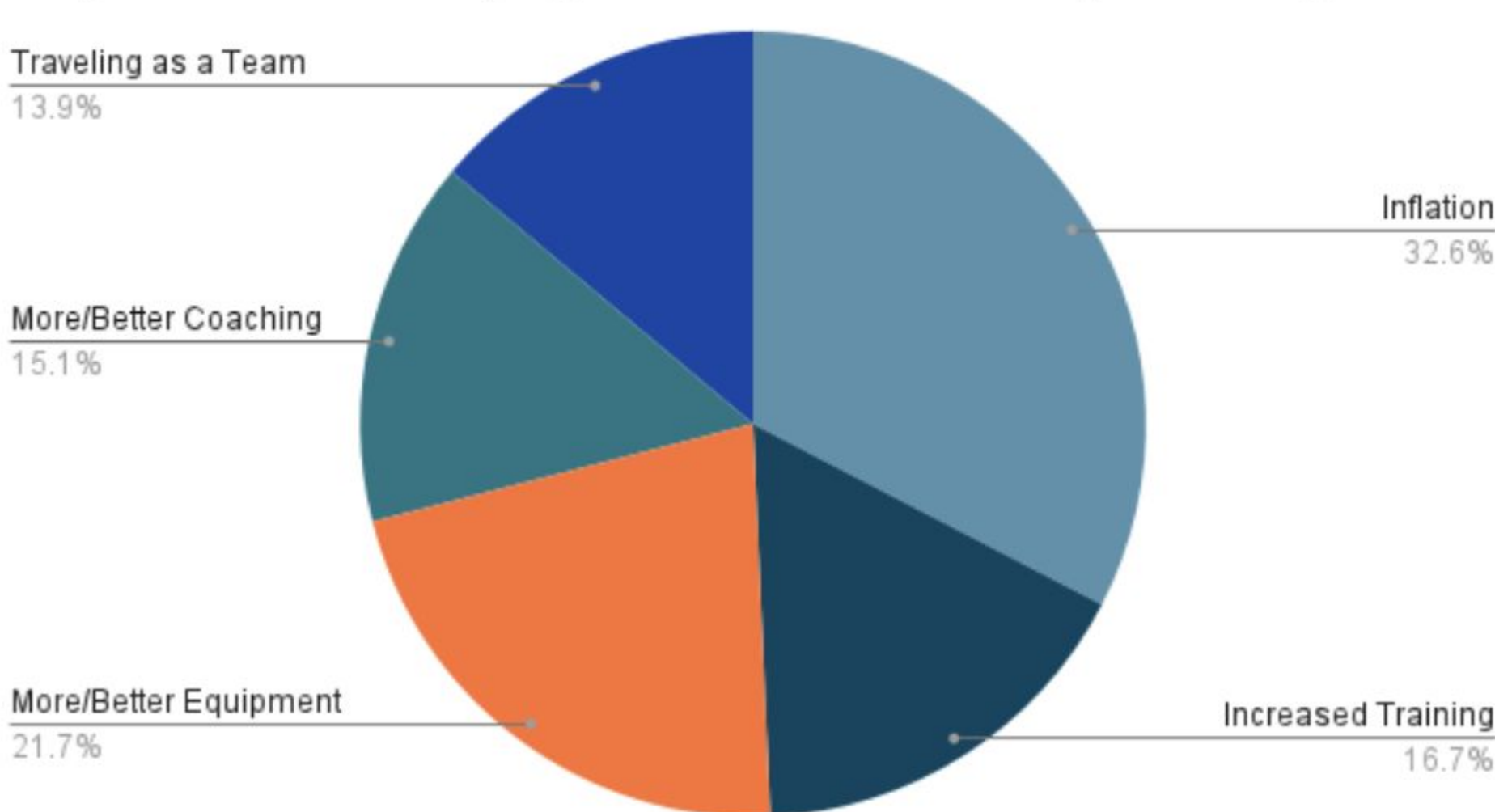
## Implications & Next Steps

Sports Participation Within the Youth (2021)



This bar graph shows that sports participation rates are highest amongst high income families, moderate among middle income families, and lowest against low income families.

Why Are Parents Paying so Much For Youth Sports Programs



This pie chart illustrates the main expenses in youth sports.

Financial barriers start early and worsen over time, limiting access to competitive opportunities.The lack of affordable training programs and community resources deepens this divide.



To increase sports accessibility for lower income athletes, future steps should include:

- Expanding scholarship programs and funding for youth sports.
- Encouraging community based initiatives that provide free or subsidized training.
- Addressing hidden costs like travel, coaching, & equipment fees.
- Raising awareness about financial aid opportunities for young athletes.