# Analysing the Player Performances in the IPL Season 2025

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## Abstract

The Indian Premier League (IPL) is one of the most popular leagues in the world. It is watched by a wide range of audiences throughout the world. The current study is based on the stats which are extracted from IPL 2025 datasets. This study aims to identify the best players throughout the season and comment on which player performed the best in their respective domain. In the present study, data are analysed at the player level for the season, which is summarised from the IPL 2025 season, and maintained in separate batting and bowling tables. To reduce the sample size, certain conditions are applied to batters and bowlers. The batters who at least faced 100 balls (BF≥ 00) and bowlers who have at least bowled 15 overs. The present study analyses player performances for the IPL 2025 season. The findings of the study can be used for several businesses and stakeholders in sports and IPL. Sports analysts can refer to the findings to find patterns in bowling and batting and predict how these players would perform in future series. IPL team owners can decide which players to buy during the auction for next season, and fantasy sports betting companies can look at the findings to make informed decisions.

**Keywords**
Indian Premier League (IPL), Player Performance, Batting, Bowling, Statistical Evaluation, and Performance Metrics

## 1. Introduction

Twenty20 (T20) cricket is a fast-paced, limited-overs format first introduced by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) in 2003 (*ICC Men's Twenty20 International Playing Conditions*). Each team bats for a single innings, limited to 20 overs, making matches last about 3 hours, and it is a shorter form of cricket than traditional cricket. The format was created to be exciting and viewer-friendly, combining quick scoring with intense competition (*ICC Men's Twenty20 International Playing Conditions*).

Twenty20 Internationals are the newest, shortest and fastest form of the game. This format of 20 overs per side has brought in new audiences since its advent in 2005 and also led to new skill sets and innovations. A Twenty20 International match is usually completed in three hours, and with huge hitting, skilful bowling and amazing fielding, it has been hugely popular with fans right around the world. Some of the leading and widely followed leagues include: Indian Premier League (IPL) India, Big Bash League (BBL) Australia, Pakistan Super League (PSL) Pakistan, Caribbean Premier League (CPL) West Indies, SA20 South Africa, T20 Blast England, Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) Bangladesh, Lanka Premier League (LPL) Sri Lanka and Global T20 Canada.(ICC, 2009b; Trade Brains, 2025)

The Indian Premier League, popularly known as IPL, is a professional Twenty20 cricket league in India that was founded in 2008 by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The IPL

has become one of the most popular and lucrative cricket leagues in the world, attracting top players from all over the globe. The inaugural season of the IPL was held in 2008, with eight teams representing different cities in India. The teams were owned by various investors, including Bollywood stars, businessmen, and industrialists. The first IPL match was played on April 18, 2008, between Kolkata Knight Riders and Royal Challengers Bangalore at the Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bangalore. The tournament was a huge success, drawing large crowds and generating significant revenue (Winners, 2023).

The Indian Premier League featured 10 teams competing in 74 matches. Initially, each team played against all the other teams in the league twice during a season, but with the expansion to 10 clubs in 2011, a double round-robin format was introduced. The tournament returned to the original league format after the Kochi franchise was terminated ahead of IPL 2012. Since 2022, with 10 participating teams once again, the IPL has reintroduced the double round-robin format. In this format, the teams are ranked according to the number of IPL title victories and playoff qualifications. They are divided into two virtual groups: Group A, comprising the teams ranked first, third, fifth, seventh, and ninth; and Group B, consisting of the teams ranked second, fourth, sixth, eighth, and tenth (Longmore, 2024).

During the season, each team plays against the other four teams in its group twice, the team with the corresponding rank in the other group twice, and each of the remaining four teams once. Each team faces a different combination of nine competitors in a season, playing a total of 14 matches (teams get two points for a win, one point for a no-result or tie, and no points for a loss). The teams are ranked on a points table, with their net run rate (NRR) used as a tiebreaker if required. The top four teams at the end of the group stage qualify for the playoffs. The playoffs consist of a three-match knockout format leading up to the final. The top two teams in the table face off in the Qualifier 1 match, with the winner advancing directly to the final. The third- and fourth-placed teams play in the Eliminator match, with the winner then facing off against the loser of Qualifier 1 in the Qualifier 2 match to earn second place in the final (Longmore, 2024).

The 2025 Indian Premier League (IPL) 18, branded as TATA IPL 2025, was the 18th edition of the Indian Premier League, a professional Twenty20 cricket league.. It began on 22 March and was held across 13 venues before being suspended on 9 May due to the 2025 India–Pakistan crisis. The matches resumed from 17 May across six venues, with the final rescheduled from 25 May to 3 June. In the final, Royal Challengers Bengaluru defeated Punjab Kings by 6 runs to win their maiden title after 18 years (Gollapudi, 2024).

Given below is the batsmen and bowlers' performance analysis. It is important because it helps to understand which player performed best in the season. The Batsmen's Performance Analysis module enables analysts to conduct a comprehensive analysis of a batsman's profile. Initially, it extracts details of all the IPL teams a particular batsman has played for, as it is highly probable that the player has represented more than one team. After establishing the complete batsman profile, it can generate a wide range of analytical visualisations. A subset of these functionalities includes plotting the runs scored by the batsman against the deliveries faced, analysing the different ways they were dismissed, and examining their HiC (Kaviya & Mishra, 2020).

The Bowler Performance Analysis module provides the analyst with the ability to conduct a comprehensive analysis of a bowler's profile. Initially, it extracts details of all the IPL teams a particular bowler has played for, as it is highly probable that the player has represented more than one team. After establishing the complete bowler profile, it can generate a wide range of analytical visualisations. A subset of these functionalities includes calculating the bowler's mean economy rate, mean runs conceded, wicket type distribution, performance against specific oppositions, performance at particular venues, and batting average statistics. These statistics are further defined below:

- **Batting Average:** Total number of runs a batsman has scored divided by the total number of times he has been called out in his/her career.
- **Batting Strike Rate:** The number of runs scored per 100 balls faced by a batsman.
- **Strike Rate (SR = Balls/Wickets):** The average number of balls bowled per wicket taken.
- **Bowling Average (Ave = Runs/Wickets):** The average number of runs conceded per wicket.
- **Economy Rate (Econ = Runs/ (overs bowled):** The average number of runs conceded per over. Lower values are preferred, as this represents the run rate against a specific bowler for a batting team (Kaviya & Mishra, 2020)(Sloane, 2020).

The present study aims to identify which players performed the best in their respective fields of batting and bowling during IPL 2025. Looking into the stats of IPL matches is important as it helps to determine which player performed the best in their respective field. IPL player performances are then further chosen for the international cricket format.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Aim of the study

The study aims to identify which players performed the best in their respective fields of batting and bowling during IPL 2025. The study compares the batters using key factors such as batting average, highest score, number of runs in the tournament, batting strike rate, and the number of runs made by each batter and compares the bowlers using key factors like bowling average, economy rate, best bowling figures, and bowling strike rate. The study primarily uses the datasets sourced from Kaggle, which was published by vinayak.s (Vinayak S, 2025).
The data provides detailed player performance data for the 2025 IPL season, focused on enabling analysis for fantasy cricket and metric comparison research. It includes two main CSV files, one for batters, one for bowlers, with 27 columns. The data columns cover the following information for batters: player name, team, total runs scored, number of matches and innings, batting position, highest score, average, balls faced, and strike rate and for bowlers: similar statistical metrics relevant to bowling performance (Vinayak S, 2025).

### 2.2 Data Characteristics and Data Analysis Strategy

In the present study, data are analysed at the player level for the season, which is summarised from the IPL 2025 season, and maintained in separate batting and bowling tables. To reduce the sample size, certain conditions are applied to batters and bowlers. The batters who at least faced 100 balls (BF≥ 00) and bowlers who have at least bowled 15 overs (OVR≥15) were taken

for the data analysis. Numeric fields were cleaned by coercing text placeholders to numbers and ignoring non-informative symbols (e.g., asterisks in high scores); where overs were recorded as x.y, they were interpreted as x + y/6. For batters, it was examined whether fast scoring is accompanied by higher consistency. It was determined by plotting strike rate (SR) and batting average (AVG) with a line of best fit and estimating Pearson's correlation (two-tailed $\alpha = 0.05$). To understand balanced high performers, a "sweet spot" was defined as players at or above the sample medians on both SR and AVG and listed those names. For bowlers, the wickets–economy trade-off using a Wickets (WKT) vs Economy (ECO) scatter with Pearson's r, and we profiled efficiency via an ECO (x) vs Bowling Strike Rate, BSR (y; balls per wicket) plot, using sample medians to demarcate quadrants; bowlers in the low-ECO/low-BSR quadrant were labelled "efficient" was assessed. Finally, a transparent composite ranking was created: a batter's impact score (mean of ranks on SR [descending] and AVG [descending]) and a bowler's impact score (mean of ranks on ECO [ascending], BSR [ascending], and optionally WKT [descending]). Descriptive statistics (N, mean, SD, median, range) are reported for key variables, and sensitivity checks varied inclusion thresholds (e.g., BF ≥ 120; OVR ≥ 20) to confirm stability. All computations and figures were produced in Google Sheets.

## 3. Results and Discussion

The following section displays the results of the study. The section provides a comprehensive, detailed analysis of the data collected. Through a thorough examination and interpretation, valuable understandings are offered into the research questions posed in this investigation so far.

### *3.1 Batters*

***Table 1:*** *Descriptive Statistics for Qualified Batters (Ball faced ≥ 100) (n=65)*

| Metric | Mean | SD | Median |
|---|---|---|---|
| Batting Average | 33.64 | 11 | 31.90 |
| Strike Rate | 154.01 | 18.79 | 156.02 |

Table 1 depicts the performance for the qualified batters, i.e. batters who faced ≥100 balls in IPL 2025. A total of 65 batters faced 100 or more balls. They have a mean batting average of 33.64 and a Median of 31.90 with an SD of 11. These players had an average strike rate of 154.01 and a Median of 156.02 with an SD of 18.79. The medians of batting average and strike rate were further used to define the 'sweet spot' group shown in Table 2.

***Figure 1***: *Scatter Plot for Batting Average VS Strike Rate of Qualified Batter IPL 2025 Batters (n=65)*

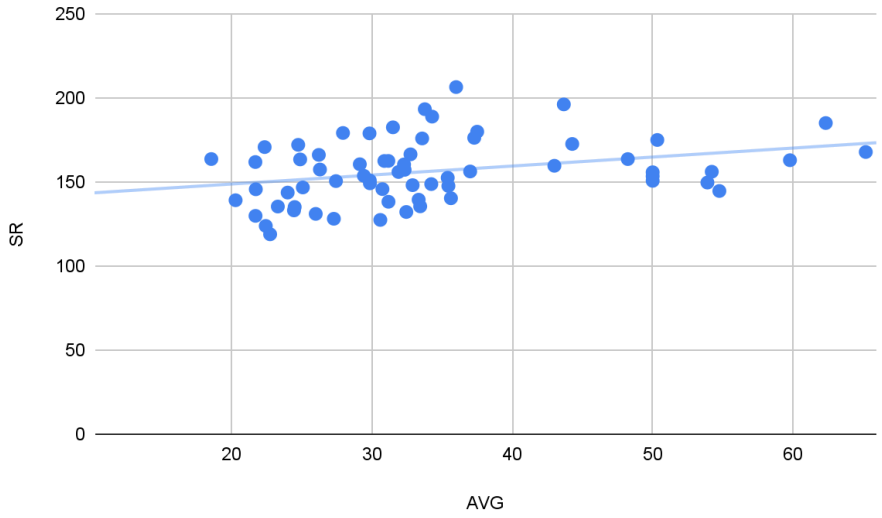


Figure 1 shows that among qualified batters (*n = 65)*, the sample medians, i.e., strike rate=156.02 and batting average=31.89, are represented by dashed lines. Strike Rate and Batting Average show a positive linear relation where *r*= 0.31 and *p*= .01. The results are significant, depicting 9.8% of variance in the average. This depicts that there is a positive correlation between Strike Rate and Batting Average.

***Table 2:*** *'Sweet Spot' Batters with Strike Rate ≥ 156.02 and Batting Average ≥ 31.90 (n=19)*

| Player Name | Team | Batting Average | Strike Rate |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sai Sudharsan | Gujarat Titans | 54.21 | 156.17 |
| Surya Kumar Yadav | Mumbai Indians | 65.18 | 167.91 |
| Mitchell Marsh | Lucknow Super Giants | 48.23 | 163.7 |
| Shreyas Iyer | Punjab kings | 50.33 | 175.07 |
| Yashasvi Jaiswal | Rajasthan Royals | 43 | 159.71 |
| Prabhsimran Singh | Punjab Kings | 32.99 | 160.52 |
| Jos Buttler | Gujarat Titans | 59.78 | 163.03 |
| Nicholas Pooran | Lucknow Super Giants | 43.67 | 196.25 |
| Heinrich Klaasen | Sunrisers Hyderabad | 44.27 | 172.69 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Abhishek Sharma | Sunrisers Hyderabad | 33.77 | 193.39 |
| Phil Salt | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 33.58 | 175.98 |
| Riyan Parag | Rajasthan Royals | 32.75 | 166.52 |
| Dhruv Jurel | Rajasthan Royals | 37 | 156.33 |
| Sherfane Rutherford | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 32.33 | 157.29 |
| Jitesh Sharma | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 37.29 | 176.35 |
| Vaibhav Suryavanshi | Rajasthan Royals | 36 | 206.55 |
| Ayush Mhatre | Chennai Super Kings | 34.29 | 188.97 |
| Dewald Brevis | Chennai Super Kings | 37.5 | 180 |
| Tim David | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 62.33 | 185.14 |

Table 2 shows the list of batters who had exceeded the season's strike rate and batting average medians. A total of nineteen batters demonstrated simultaneous consistency and pace while playing.

***Table 3:*** *Top 10 Batters in IPL 2025 Tournament by Impact, i.e. Mean Rank of Strike Rate and Batting Average who faced ≥ 100 balls (n= 10)*

| Player Name | Team | Strike Rate | Batting Average | Runs | Balls Faced | Rank (Strike Rate) | Rank (Batting Average) | Impact |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tim David | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 185.14 | 62.33 | 187 | 101 | 5 | 2 | 3.5 |
| Nicholas Pooran | Lucknow Super Giants | 196.25 | 43.67 | 524 | 267 | 2 | 13 | 7.5 |
| Surya Kumar Yadav | Mumbai Indians | 167.91 | 65.18 | 717 | 427 | 16 | 1 | 8.5 |
| Shreyas Iyer | Punjab Kings | 175.07 | 50.33 | 604 | 345 | 12 | 7 | 9.5 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vaibhav Suryavanshi | Rajasthan Royals | 206.55 | 36 | 252 | 122 | 1 | 18 | 9.5 |
| Dewald Brevis | Chennai Super Kings | 180 | 37.5 | 225 | 125 | 7 | 15 | 11 |
| Jos Buttler | Gujarat Titans | 163.03 | 59.78 | 538 | 330 | 22 | 3 | 12.5 |
| Heinrich Klaasen | Sunrisers Hyderabad | 172.69 | 44.27 | 487 | 282 | 13 | 12 | 12.5 |
| Jitesh Sharma | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 176.35 | 37.29 | 261 | 148 | 10 | 16 | 13 |
| Ayush Mhatre | Chennai Super Kings | 188.97 | 34.29 | 240 | 127 | 4 | 22 | 13 |

Table 3 ranks the batters based on a transparent composite: Impact=mean of rank(SR)(*descending*) and rank(Bating AVG)(*descending*). The top three players based on this transparent composite were Tim David, Nicholas Pooran, and Surya Kumar Yadav. These three batters reflected the strongest balance of pace and consistency among the qualified players.

The analysis of batting performance depicts trends in consistency and impact among the qualified batters (those who faced 100 balls or more). The average runs scored by the qualified batters is 33.64 runs with a 31.90 median and a standard deviation of 11. These batters maintained a higher strike rate of 154.01 with a median of 156.02 and a standard deviation of 18.79. Therefore, the analysis shows that the season was productive for the batters. In addition, a *'sweet spot'* group of 19 batters was identified, comprising those who demonstrated above-average consistency with quick scoring. These players represent the most effective performers of the series. Furthermore, a composite 'Impact', i.e., the mean of SR rank (descending) and the mean of Batting AVG rank (descending), was calculated, which showed that Tim David, Nicholas Pooran, and Surya Kumar Yadav were the top batters who demonstrated pace and reliability in the IPL 2025 tournament. The findings reflect a group of batters who played consistently and with stability, contributing to the Indian Premier League 2025.

### *3.2 Bowlers*

***Table 4***: *Descriptive Statistics for Qualified Batters (Overs bowled ≥15) (n=64)*

| Metric | Mean | SD | Median |
|---|---|---|---|
| Economy (Eco) | 10.41 | 1.18 | 9.34 |
| Bowling Strike Rate (SR) | 29.52 | 11.55 | 20.25 |

Table 4 depicts the performance for the qualified bowlers, i.e. bowlers who bowled ≥15 overs in IPL 2025. A total of 64 batters bowled 15 or more Overs. They have a mean bowling economy of 10.41 and a Median of 9.34 with an SD of 1.18. These players had a mean bowling strike rate of 29.52 and a Median of 20.25 with an SD of 11.55. The medians of bowling economy and bowling strike rate were further used to define the 'sweet spot' group shown in Table 5.

***Table 5:****'Sweet Spot' Bowling Economy ≤ 9.34 and Bowling strike rate ≤ 20.25 (n=16)*

| Player Name | Team | Economy | Bowling Strike Rate | Wicket (Wkt) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prasidh Krishna | Gujarat Titans | 8.27 | 14.16 | 25 |
| Noor Ahmad | Chennai Super Kings | 8.16 | 12.5 | 24 |
| Josh Hazlewood | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 8.77 | 12 | 22 |
| Trent Boult | Mumbai Indians | 8.96 | 15.72 | 22 |
| Arshdeep Singh | Punjab Kings | 8.88 | 16.66 | 21 |
| Sai Kishore | Gujarat Titans | 9.24 | 13.42 | 19 |
| Jasprit Bumrah | Mumbai Indians | 6.67 | 15.77 | 18 |
| Varun Chakaravarthy | Kolkata Knight Riders | 7.66 | 17.64 | 17 |
| Krunal Pandya | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 8.23 | 16.23 | 17 |
| Bhuvneshwar Kumar | Royal Challengers Bangalore | 9.28 | 18.35 | 17 |
| Pat Cummins | Sunrisers Hyderabad | 9.06 | 18.62 | 16 |
| Marco Jansen | Punjab Kings | 9.2 | 17.68 | 16 |
| Eshan Malinga | Sunrisers Hyderabad | 8.92 | 12.3 | 13 |
| Jaydev Unadkat | Sunrisers Hyderabad | 7.34 | 13 | 11 |
| Harpreet Brar | Punjab Kings | 8.63 | 13.2 | 10 |
| Anshul Kamboj | Chennai Super Kings | 8 | 16.12 | 8 |

Table 5 shows the list of bowlers who had conceded less than the season's bowling strike rate and bowling economy medians. A total of sixteen bowlers qualified, who demonstrated less bowling economy while taking wickets consistently.

***Figure 2***:*Scatter Plot for Batting Economy VS Bowling Strike Rate of Qualified Bowlers, IPL 2025 Bowlers (n=64)*

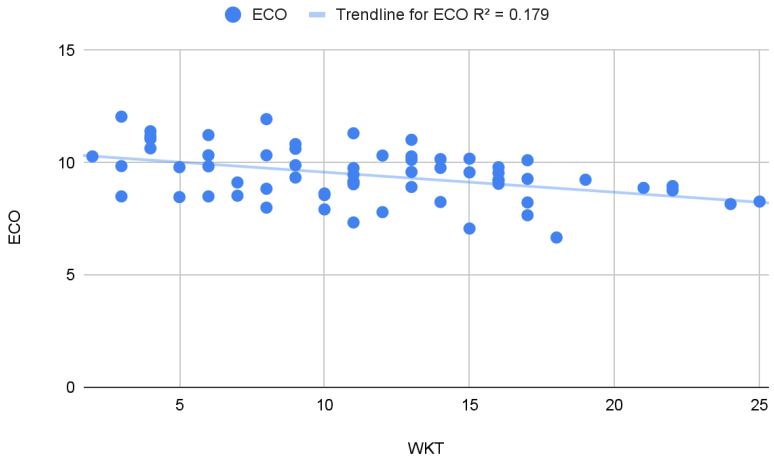


Figure 2 shows that among qualified bowlers (*n = 64)*, the sample medians, i.e., bowling strike rate =20.25 and bowling economy=9.34, are represented by dashed lines. Bowling Strike Rate and Bowling Economy show a positive linear relation where *r*= -0.423 and *p*= 0.000553. The results are significant, depicting 17% of variance in the economy. This depicts that there is a negative correlation between bowling strike rate and bowling economy

***Figure 3:*** *scatter plot showing the relationship between Economy Rate (ECO) on the x-axis and Strike Rate (SR) on the y-axis*

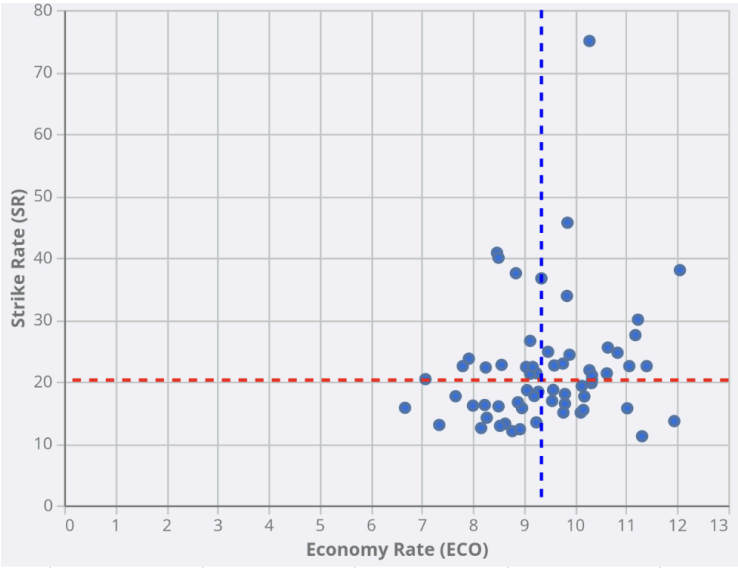

Figure 3 depicts a scatter plot showing the relationship between bowlers' strike rate and economy rate, where the lower values indicate strong performances. The bottom left quadrant, below the median bowling strike rate (red line) and left of the median economy rate (blue line), is the best bowling performance across the tournament. Bowlers in this region maintain both a low economy rate and a low strike rate, indicating that they take wickets frequently while conceding very few runs per over.

The present study analyses player performances for the IPL 2025 season. The findings of the study can be used for several businesses and stakeholders in sports and IPL. Sports analysts can refer to the findings to find patterns in bowling and batting and predict how these players would perform in future series. IPL team owners can decide which players to buy during the auction for next season, and fantasy sports betting companies can look at the findings to make informed decisions. However, the study also consists of a few limitations, i.e. only one season of IPL is analysed and not other seasons. Furthermore, other cricket formats have not been analysed, hence these results cannot be applied to other formats. The study follows a quantitative approach of analysing data and taking into account external factors like weather or toss. Moreover, performance for batters and bowlers has only been analysed, not fielding.

## Conclusion

This study aims to identify the best players throughout the season and comment on which player performed the best in their respective domain. The results revealed that batters with higher strike rates and higher averages, and bowlers with lower economy and strike rate consistently showed superior performances. However, this study has a few limitations as it focuses only on one IPL season and does not include other cricket formats, so the results cannot be applied universally. It uses a quantitative approach and does not consider external factors such as weather or toss conditions. Additionally, the analysis is limited to batting and bowling performances, excluding fielding. Future studies can be based on the limitations that were reflected in this study.

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