

Research Proposal: Top 15 Playoff Scorers per 48 Minutes in the 2024 NBA Playoffs

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A. Problem Statement

The problem this research aims to solve is:

“Which players were the most efficient scorers in the 2024 NBA Playoffs when adjusting for playing time?”

This includes deeper sub-questions:

- Which players delivered elite scoring production **per 48 minutes**, regardless of minutes played?
- Which players may have been **under-utilized**, showing high scoring rates in limited time?
- Which players depended heavily on large minutes loads to maintain high scoring totals?

B. Data Collection Plan

Data will be collected from:

https://www.basketballreference.com/playoffs/NBA_{season}_per_game.html

For this project: https://www.basketball-reference.com/playoffs/NBA_2024_per_game.html

For every player who appeared in the 2024 NBA Playoffs: TM – Team, G -- Games played, MP -- Minutes per game, PTS -- Points per game

C. Analysis Plan

1. Calculate **points per 48 minutes** for all qualifying players.
2. Sort players and identify the **top 15** in the 2024 NBA Playoffs.
3. Compare:
 - Per-48 points vs. total points
 - Per-48 points vs. minutes played
 - Per-48 points vs. points per game
4. **Statistical Measures:** Descriptive statistics for per-48 values, Correlation analysis:
(Minutes played vs. points per 48, Usage vs. efficiency)

D. Visualizations to Create

- Bar Chart: Top 15 Playoff Scorers Per 48 Minutes (2024)
- Scatter Plot: Minutes Played vs. Points per 48
- Dual Bar Comparison: For the top 15 players: