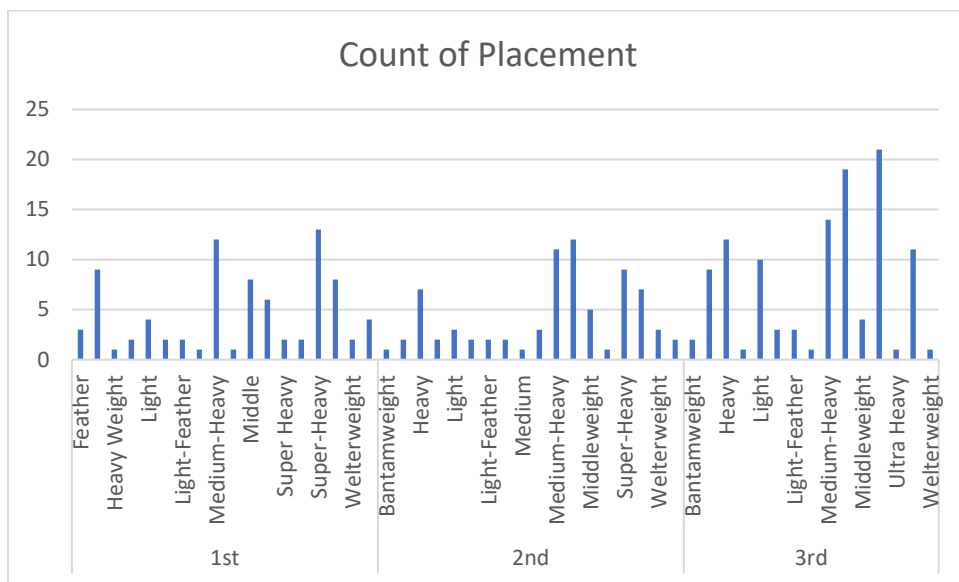


Brazilian Jiu Jitsu has always claimed to allow the smaller fighter to overcome a bigger one. This has never been quantitatively tested until now. I have decided to put this statement in terms of how well different weight divisions do in tournaments. I looked at three tournaments: the IBJJF 2018 World Championships, the SJJIF 2018 World Championships, and FIVE Grappling tournament. I have gathered data from these events and combined it together to test this claim the results are below:



The above graph was created by taking the placement data and making a bar graph of it before further dividing it by weight division. A full list of weight classes and their performance placement counts was also provided, but it is too large for this report. It is easy enough to see that Super Heavy¹ had the most 1st place placements (17), Medium Heavy had the most 2nd place placements (14), and Middle weight had the most 3rd place placements (23). Thus, at least in tournaments, it is better to compete in the open-weight division when you are in the middle of or on the heavier end of the weight spectrum according to the data. This data project was worth pursuing because it proved the contrary to one of BJJ's central claims. It can lead to further analysis to see what variables may lead to success in the other weight classes (age division, belt level, gender, school, Gi/No Gi).

¹ This is case "Super Heavy" means Super Heavy and Super-Heavy. There were typos I added the counts of both for the stated values. Same goes for "Medium Heavy" and "Middle weight"