Biometric Analysis of Postgraduate Theses on Sport Management

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to carry out a bibliometric analysis of postgraduate theses in sports management. Bibliometric analysis methods are used to identify trends, patterns and conclusions that emerge from the collection of theses that have been researched. Bibliometric data such as keyword frequency, thesis length and topic distribution will be explored to understand the development and focus of research in sports management. The findings from this research will provide in-depth insight into recent developments in postgraduate research in sports management and provide directions for future research in this discipline.

Keywords: Sports Management; Theses; Bibliometric analysis; Graduate Education

INTRODUCTION

It can be defined as a social and cultural phenomenon that provides socialization, integrates the society, develops both spirit and physique, develops both spirit and physique, competitiveness, solidarity and solidarity while transforming the environment in which human beings live into a human environment, within the framework of a certain rule, with or without tools, individually or collectively within the definition of leisure time and by turning it into a full-time profession (Bicer, 2017). In our globalizing world, there is a constant change and in parallel with this, extraordinary developments in all parts of the industry with the developments in technology, the same development has occurred in the sports industry (Atay, 2023). The need to manage sports in certain order and systems has emerged in order to be used in line with certain objectives over time, as well as to ensure its development in a controlled manner (Gazelle 2022).

It is a known fact that sport forms the basis of many social situations in human life such as healthy life, socialization, society with high work efficiency, and productive youth who does not experience future anxiety (Orphan, 2014). In this framework, sports should be managed professionally with rules accepted worldwide (Multipartal, 2022). Gammelsaeter (2020) sport management; in addition to the subjective

characteristics of sport, sport organization management is defined as looking at the effects on sport and athletes from a scientific perspective. With sport being one of the most recognized sciences in the 21st century, sport management aims to efficiently define the management and management methods in the sport industry (Modoglu, 2023). In this respect, studies in the field of sport management are of great importance.

Postgraduate education is a master's and doctoral education program within the framework of high-level education that offers individuals who have completed their undergraduate education the opportunity to specialize in the field of science they are interested in. In the fulfillment of these programs, it is of great importance to determine and implement programs in line with the needs of the nation and to train appropriate teaching staff for these programs. For this reason, it can be said that universities have important duties in terms of producing scientific knowledge in postgraduate education (Murathan, et al., 2020). Graduate education has education and training, psycho-social, research and development, socio-economic dimensions. (Aydemir and Çam, 2015). Thanks to the postgraduate studies carried out depending on these dimensions, it contributes to the increase of diversity as well as richness in the field, to the presentation of different academic publications to the society, and the increase in the number of studies in each discipline is of great importance in increasing the scientific recognition of the country (Ülker et al., 2018).

Bibliometric analysis method can be defined as the ability to compare the results of the studies published in any literature in the light of various parameters (data collection method, place of publication, sample group, year of publication, research model and approach, etc.) in order to obtain some results in line with the determined parameters (Çiçek and Kozak, 2012; Tonta and Al 2004; Yalçin and Yayla 2016). It can be said that studies conducted in the context of bibliometric analysis are of great importance in the qualitative and quantitative evaluation of scientific studies, in determining the contributions of scientists in the relevant field, and in determining the relationship with the fields in different branches of science (Yilmaz, 2017).

The aim of this study; It is aimed to contribute to the researchers in terms of the studies to be carried out in the field of scientific studies by adopting the bibliometric analysis method of postgraduate thesis studies that have determined the field of sport management as a subject in the National Thesis Center database.

METHOD

Research Model
Case study method, one of the qualitative study models, was adopted in the research. Case studies are defined as a method in which one or more events, environments, programs, social groups or other interconnected systems are examined in depth (Büyüköztürk et al., 2018).

Population and Sample of the Study
The population of the study includes postgraduate theses in the field of sport management written between 1994 and 2023. Higher Education Institute thesis screening center was accepted as the population. The titles and abstracts of the postgraduate theses offered by the database were examined. Thus, theses that were

not related to the field of sport management and unauthorized theses (f=10) were excluded from the study. For this reason, the entire population could not be reached and the study group consisted of f=88 postgraduate theses.

Data Collection Tool

Higher Education Institute thesis database was used as a data collection tool. The keywords "sport" and "manager" were scanned in the Higher Education Institute thesis database depending on the option "Let it appear in the title of the thesis". The postgraduate theses identified as a result of the search were accepted in the study.

Data Analysis

In the study, content analysis, one of the qualitative analysis methods, was used to examine the postgraduate theses in the field of sport management. Content analysis can be defined as determining the presence of certain words or concepts in a text or a data set consisting of texts (January, 2019). Postgraduate theses were analyzed in a total of nine categories: types of theses, universities examined, institutes where the theses were prepared, year of publication, main science branches of the theses, approach variable of the theses, sample number of the theses, sample status of the theses, preferred research design in the theses, data measurement tool used in the theses. The data obtained from the categories were tabulated according to frequency and percentage calculations. EXEL 2019 program was used in data analysis.

RESULTS

Table 1. Distribution of Theses Analyzed in the Study According to Types

Thesis type	f	%
Master's Degree	68	75,56
PhD	20	24,44
Total	88	100

When Table 1 was examined, it was determined that there were 66 master's theses (75%) and 22 doctoral theses (25%) according to the thesis type variable.

Table 2. Distribution of the Universities Examined in the Study According to Types

Universities	Master's Degree		PhD	
	f	%	f	%
Abant Izzet Baysal University	2	2,94	5	25
Akdeniz University	7	10,29		0
Aksaray University	1	1,47		0
Ankara University	1	1,47	1	5
Ataturk University	4	5,88	1	5
Aydin Adnan Menderes University	1	1,47		0
Bahcesehir University	1	1,47		0
Bursa Uludag University	1	1,47		0
Celal Bayar University	3	4,41	1	5
Dumlupinar University	1	1,47	1	5

University				
Erciyes University	1	1,47		0
Euphrates University	2	2,94	1	5
Gazi University	5	7,35	4	20
Hasan Kalyoncu University	1	1,47		0
Hitit University		0,00	1	5
Inonu University	1	1,47		0
Istanbul Gedik University	1	1,47		0
Istanbul Gelisim University	9	13,24		0
Istanbul Nisantasi University	1	1,47		0
Istanbul University-Cerrahpasa		0,00	2	10
Karamanoglu Mehmetbey University	1	1,47		0
Kocaeli University	1	1,47		0
Marmara University	6	8,82	1	5
Mehmet Akif Ersoy University	2	2,94		0
Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University	2	2,94	1	5
Ondokuz May University		0,00	1	5
Ordu University	1	1,47		0
Pamukkale University	1	1,47		0
Sakarya University of Applied Sciences	4	5,88		0
Selcuk University	3	4,41		0
Trabzon University	2	2,94		0
Yozgat Bozok University	2	2,94		0
Total	68	100	20	100

When Table 2 was analyzed, it was determined that 32 different universities have conducted studies in the field of sport management according to university types. Istanbul Gelisim University 9 (13,24%), Akdeniz University 7 (10,29%), Marmara University 6 (8,82%), Gazi University 5 (7,35%), Atatürk University and Sakarya University of Applied Sciences 4 (5,88%), Selçuk University and Celal Bayar University 3 (4,41%), Abant İzzet Baysal University, Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, Fırat University, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Trabzon University, Yozgat Bozok University 2 (2.94%), Aksaray University, Ankara University, Aydın Adnan Menderes University, Bahçeşehir University, Bursa Uludağ University, Dumlupınar University, Erciyes University, Hasan Kalyoncu University, İnönü University, İstanbul Gedik University, İstanbul Nişantaşı University, Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University, Kocaeli University, Ordu University and Pamukkale University (1.47%). It was determined that no master's thesis was conducted at Hitit University, Istanbul University-Cerrahpaşa and Ondokuz Mayıs Universities. Abant Izzet Baysal University 5 (25%), Gazi University 4 (20%), Istanbul University-Cerrahpaşa 2 (10%), Ankara University, Atatürk University, Celal Bayar University, Dumlupınar University, Fırat University, Hitit University, Marmara University, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University and Ondokuz Mayıs University 1 (5%) doctoral dissertation.

Table 3. Distribution of Theses Examined in the Study According to the Institutes

Institute	F	%
Institute of Educational Sciences	3	3,41
Institute of Winter Sports and Sports Sciences	3	3,41
Institute of Postgraduate Education	24	27,27
Institute of Health Sciences	36	40,91
Institute of Social Sciences	22	25,00
Total	88	100

When Table 3. is examined, according to the type of Institute where the theses were prepared, it was determined that 36 (40,91%) studies were conducted in the Institute of Health Sciences, 24 (27,27%) in the Institute of Postgraduate Education, 22 (25,00%) in the Institute of Social Sciences, 3 (3,41%) in the Institute of Educational Sciences and the Institute of Winter Sports and Sports Sciences.

Table 4. Distribution of Theses Examined in the Study According to the Year of Publication

Year of Thesis Publication	F	%
Between 1994-1998	2	2,27
Between 1999-2003	0	0,00
Between 2004-2008	5	5,68
Between 2009-2013	12	13,64
Between 2014-2018	17	19,32
Between 2019-2023	52	59,09
Total	88	100

When Table 4. is examined, it is determined that 52 (59.09%) studies were conducted between 2019-2023, 17 (19.32%) between 2014-2018, 12 (13.64%) between 2009-2013, 5 (5.68%) between 2004-2008 and 2 (2.27%) between 1994-1998 according to the year of publication of the theses.

Table 5. Distribution of the Theses Analyzed in the Study According to Main Departments

Main Department	F	%
Department of Coaching Education	5	5,68
Department of Physical Education and Sports	37	42,05
Movement and Training Sciences Department Division	1	1,14
Department of Business Administration	2	2,27
Department of Sports Health Sciences	3	3,41
Department of Sport Management	40	45,45
Total	88	100

When Table 5. was examined, it was determined that 40 (45,45%) of the theses were conducted in the Department of Sports Management, 37 (42,05%) in the Department of Physical Education and Sports, 5 (5,68%) in the Department of Coaching Education, 3 (3,41%) in the Department of Sports Health Sciences, 2 (2,27%) in the Department of Business Administration and 1 (1,14%) in the Department of Movement and Training Sciences.

Table 6. Distribution of the Theses Analyzed in the Study According to Approach Variable

Thesis type	Research approach	F	%
PhD	Quantitative	13	14,77
	Qualitative	3	3,41
	Mixed	4	4,55
Master's Degree	Quantitative	58	65,91
	Qualitative	10	11,36
	Mixed	0	0,00
Total		88	100

Table 6. When analyzed, according to the approach variable of the theses, Quantitative approach 58 (65,91%), Qualitative approach 10 (11,36%) master's theses. Quantitative approach 13 (14,77%), Qualitative approach 3 (3,41%) and Mixed approach 4 (4,55%) doctoral thesis.

Table 7. Frequency Distribution of the Theses Analyzed in the Study According to the Sample Number Variable

Sample size	F	%
1-250 people	41	46,59
251-500 people	31	35,23
501-750 people	9	10,23
751 people and above	7	7,95
Total	88	100

When Table 7. is analyzed, it is determined that the number of samples of 1-250 people is 41 (46,59%), 251-500 people is 31 (35,23%), 501-750 people is 9 (10,23%) and 751 people and above is 7 (7,95%).

Table 8. Frequency Distribution of the Theses Analyzed in the Study According to the Sample Status Variable

Sample Group	F	%
Coaches and Team Captains of 16 Teams in the Basketball League	2	2,11
Federation Presidents	2	2,11
Youth and sports directorate staff	22	23,16
Public Administration Students	1	1,05
Sport Managers	28	29,47
Sports Management Department Students	40	42,11
Total	95	100

Table 8. When analyzed, according to the sampling status variable of the theses, it is seen that students of the Department of Sport Management 40 (42,11%), Sports Managers 28 (29,47%), Youth and Sports Directorate personnel 22 (23,16%), Coaches and Team Captains of 16 Teams in Basketball League and Federation Presidents 2 (2,11%), Public Administration Students 1 (1,05%).

Table 9. Frequency Distribution According to the Preferred Research Design Variable in the Theses Analyzed in the Study

Research design	F	%
Descriptive survey model	20	22,73
Relational survey model	53	60,23
Pre-test - post-test control group experimental	1	1,14
Phenomenology	1	1,14
Interview	8	9,09
Scanning	2	2,27
Case study	1	1,14
Content Analysis	2	2,27
Total	88	100

When Table 9. is examined, according to the variable of the research design preferred in theses, it is determined that the research design used in thesis studies are Relational survey model 53 (60,23%), Descriptive survey model 20 (22,73%), Interview 8 (9,09%), Content Analysis 2 (2,27%), Experimental with pre-test - post-test control group, Case study and Case study 1 (1,14%).

Table 10. Frequency Distribution According to the Variable of Data Measurement Instrument Used in the Theses Analyzed in the Study

Measurement tool	F	%
Questionnaire Data Measurement Tool	6	4,84
Balci (1997) Leadership Opinion Survey	2	1,61
Mr. Baycan, (1985) .Minnesota Job Satisfaction Scale	3	2,42
Bolman and Deal (1991) Leadership Styles Description Questionnaire	2	1,61
Sea (2004) Decision Making Scale	2	1,61
The sea, (2004). Melbourne Decision Making Inventory	4	3,23
Dereli (2003) Leadership Orientation Questionnaire	4	3,23
Korkut, (1996). Communication Skills Assessment Scale	3	2,42
Korkut-Owen and Bugay (2014)Communication Skills Scale	2	1,61
Scale Study	2	1,61
Öner and Le Compte (1983) State Trait Anxiety Inventory Handbook	2	1,61
Sahin and Heppner (1993) Problem Solving Inventory	2	1,61
Tabak et al. (2013) Self Leadership Scale	4	3,23
Tatar et al. (2017). Main Form Schutte Emotional Intelligence Test	2	1,61
Semi-structured interview form	14	11,29
Yilmaz and Sünbül (2009) "Development of Entrepreneurship Scale for University Students"	4	3,23
Other Data Measurement Tool	66	53,23
Total	124	100

Table 10. When examined, according to the variable of data measurement tool used in theses, other data measurement tool is 66 (53.23%), Semi-structured interview

form 14 (11.29%), Survey data measurement tool 6 (4.84%), Deniz (2004). Melbourne Decision Making Inventory, Dereli (2003) Leadership Orientation Questionnaire, Tabak et al. (2013). (2013)Self-Leadership Scale and Yılmaz and Sünbül "s (2009) "Development of Entrepreneurship Scale for University Students", 4 (3,23%), Balcı (1997) Leadership Opinion Questionnaire, Bolman and Deal (1991) Leadership Styles Description Questionnaire, Deniz (2004) Decision Making Scale, Korkut-Owen and Bugay (2014) Communication Skills Scale, Scale Study, Önerand Le Compte (1983) State Trait Anxiety Inventory Manual, Şahin and Heppner (1993) Problem Solving Inventory and Tatar et al. (2017). Original Form Schutte Emotional Intelligence Test 2 (1.61%) data collection tools were used.

DISCUSSION

In the study, 68 master's theses and 20 doctoral dissertations obtained in the literature search conducted with the keyword "Sport Administrator" in the YÖK thesis center database were examined according to the parameters determined by adopting the bibliometric analysis method (types of theses, type of university, institutes where the theses were prepared, year of publication of the theses, main science branches of the theses, approach variable of the theses, sample number variable of the theses, sampling status variable of the theses, preferred research design variable of the theses and data measurement tool variable used in the theses).

In line with the research conducted, according to the thesis type variable, there are 66 master's theses (75%) and 22 doctoral theses (25%), according to the university types, studies in the field of sport management were conducted in 32 different universities and these studies were conducted in Istanbul Gelisim University 9 (13.24%), Akdeniz University 7 (10,29%),

Marmara University 6 (8,82%), Gazi University 5 (7,35%), Atatürk University and Sakarya University of Applied Sciences 4 (5,88%), Selçuk University and Celal Bayar University 3 (4,41%), Abant İzzet Baysal University, Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, Fırat University,Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Trabzon University, Yozgat Bozok University 2 (2,94%), Aksaray University, Ankara University, Aydın Adnan Menderes University, Bahçeşehir University, Bursa Uludağ University, Dumlupınar University, Erciyes University, Hasan Kalyoncu University, İnönü University, İstanbul Gedik University, İstanbul Nişantaşı University, Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University, Kocaeli University, Ordu University and Pamukkale University 1 (1,47%) master's thesis. While Hitit University, Istanbul University- Cerrahpaşa and Ondokuz Mayıs Universities have master's thesis studies, Abant İzzet Baysal University 5 (25%), Gazi University 4 (20%), Istanbul University-Cerrahpaşa 2 (10%), Ankara University, Atatürk University, Celal Bayar University, Dumlupınar University, Fırat University, Hitit University, Marmara University, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University and Ondokuz Mayıs University 1 (5%) doctoral thesis study, according to the type of Institute where the theses were prepared, Institute of Health Sciences 36 (40.91%), Institute of Graduate Education 24 (27.27%), Institute of Social Sciences 22 (25.00%), according to the year of publication of the theses between 2019-2023 52 (59.09%), 17 (19,32%) studies were conducted between 2014-2018, 12 (13,64%) between 2009-2013, 5 (5,68%) between 2004-2008 and 2 (2,27%) between 1994-1998, 3 (3,41%) studies were conducted at the Institute of Educational Sciences and the Institute of Winter Sports and Sports

Sciences, and 40 (45,45%) studies were conducted at the Department of Sports Management according to the main disciplines of theses, It was determined that 37 (42,05%) studies were conducted in the Department of Physical Education and Sports, 5 (5,68%) in the Department of Coaching Education, 3 (3,41%) in the Department of Sports Health Sciences, 2 (2,27%) in the Department of Business Administration and 1 (1,14%) in the Department of Movement and Training Sciences, and according to the approach variable of the theses, there were 58 (65,91%) quantitative approach and 10 (11,36%) qualitative approach master's theses. Quantitative approach 13 (14,77%), Qualitative approach 3 (3,41%) and Mixed approach 4 (4,55%) doctoral bachelor's thesis, according to the sample number variable of the theses, 1-250 people sample number 41 (46,59%), 251-500 people sample number 31 (35,23%), 501-750 people sample number 9 (10,23%) and 751 people and over sample number 7 (7%),95%), according to the sampling status variable of the theses, 40 (42,11%) were Sports Management Department Students, 28 (29,47%) were Sports Managers, 22 (23,16%) were Youth and Sports Directorate personnel, 2 (2%) were Coaches and Team Captains of 16 Teams in Basketball League and 2 (2%,11), Public Administration Students 1 (1,05%) thesis, according to the research design variable preferred in theses, Relational survey model 53 (60,23%), Descriptive survey model 20 (22,73%), Interview 8 (9,09%), Content Analysis 2 (2,27%), Pre-test - post-test experimental with control group, Case study and case study 1 (1,14%) research design is used in thesis studies, other data measurement tool 66 (53,23%), semi-structured interview form 14 (11,29%), questionnaire data measurement tool 6 (4,84%), Deniz, (2004). Melbourne Decision Making Inventory, Dereli (2003) Leadership Orientation Questionnaire, Tabak et al. (2013). (2013) Self-Leadership Scale and Yılmaz and Sünbül "s (2009) "Development of Entrepreneurship Scale for University Students", 4 (3,23%), Balcı (1997) Leadership Opinion Questionnaire, Bolman and Deal (1991) Leadership Styles Description Questionnaire, Deniz (2004) Decision Making Scale, Korkut-Owen and Bugay (2014) Communication Skills Scale, Scale Study, Öner and Le Compte (1983) State Trait Anxiety Inventory Manual, Şahin and Heppner (1993) Problem Solving Inventory and Tatar et al. (2017). Original Form Schutte Emotional Intelligence Test 2 (1.61%) data collection tools were used.

In the light of the findings, it can be said that the fact that the theses were conducted in 32 different universities, the number of studies gradually increased from 2009 to the present day according to the year of publication of the theses, and the diversity of the data measurement tools used will contribute positively to the quality, originality and field of thesis studies.

When the studies supporting the findings of the study were examined in the literature, it was stated that the studies were similar in terms of model, sample size, study group and data collection methods and would cause question marks about the quality and originality of the studies due to the repetition of the researchers. (Aydin, Slevitopu, and Kaya 2018; Öner and Murathan 2023; Yavuz, Mirzeoğlu, and Kaymakçi 2018).

CONCLUSION

As a result, it can be said that the master's theses in the thesis studies, the adoption of the quantitative model in both doctoral and master's studies in the approaches adopted in the theses, the fact that the study group consists of students of the

department of sport management, and although quantitative studies are predominant in the theses, the selection of less than 250 people in determining the number of sample groups causes it to be insufficient in terms of scientific contribution and diversity in the field of sport management. In line with the findings, it can be said that including qualitative and mixed models in the studies to be conducted in the field of sport management, increasing the representativeness of the model in determining the number of population sample groups, and including more managers in public and private organizations in determining the study group will add more contribution and originality to the field.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflicts of interest associated with the material presented in this paper.

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