NBASalaryAnalysisReport

August 26, 2023

1 Exploratory Analysis Report of Salary for the NBA 2022-23 Season

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1.1 Executive Summary:

Salary values within the NBA have a shocking range, from nearly 50 million USD per year down to just under 60 thousand USD per year. The statistic most closely associated with a player's salary is their PPG (points per game), however the weighting is not equal across all positions. The Center position has the highest correlation with salary weighing in at .81. Although the outrageous contracts such as Stephen Curry's 4 years 215 million dollar contract make news headlines, over half the league makes less than 4.5 million per year. As players have begun to emphasize their health and longevity, some players are able to continue their high level of play well in to their thirties, allowing them to sign multiple large contracts over their career. LeBron James is a blueprint example of this, but players like Stephen Curry and Kevin Durant are less athletically blessed players can keep up their high level of play as time goes on as well. Any player looking to increase their salary should look to improve their scoring from any range, 2PT, 3PT, or FT. Efficiency has been the hallmark of the modern NBA, but salaries do not seem to reflect that as much as pure scoring is. General Managers wanting to get the best value for their money will want to think about engaging in early negotations of extensions if a player is showing promising scoring talent. As well, GMs can rest easier signing an "older" player to a big or longer contract, as it looks that on average players are able to continue to produce at a high level than in years prior, so long as the player remains relatively injury free.

1.2 Table of Contents

- Executive Summary #### - Introduction #### - Analysis #### - Key Findings #### - Conclusion #### - Appendix

1.3 Introduction

The NBA has been making headlines for years with the enormous contracts that superstars such as LeBron James, Stephen Curry, and Kevin Durant have received. Many of these contracts are in excess of 40 million USD per *year*, and thanks to the prosperity of the league the contracts only show signs of growing. Just this summer, Jaylen Brown signed a 5 year 304 million dollar contract, making him the highest paid player in the league annually. But while the star players watch their salaries skyrocket, what about the rest of the league? This report aims to have a look at salaries across the league for the 2022-23 season and reveal insights such as who is getting paid

the most/least, which positions are getting paid the most/least, which stats correlate the most with salary, and other things either interesting or important. These findings will help determine which statistics and qualities could be important for a player looking to increase their own paycheque, and which things general managers will want to monitor to try and either re-sign players for a team friendly deal, or trade for players who might overproduce based on the salary they currently have.

1.4 Data Description

The data chosen for this analysis is the basic totals, per game, and salary statistics from the 2022-23 season. Two tables were taken from www.basketball-reference.com, and combined to create a table with a players total stats for the year, some created statistics for their 'per game' numbers, and finally their salary.

Some players had recorded statistics but no recorded salary, these data entries were verified and removed where applicable. Not every player in the NBA is paid by the NBA, as there are players on what is known as a 2-Way contract with the NBA affiliated G-League. As well, there are players that were on 10 day contracts or bought out (also known as waived). Not all salary data is published and known like that stats are recorded, so for the analysis those players aren't included in the analysis.

Despite this, the dataset is still roughly 450 entries long, and it is commonly said that the league consists of roughly 450 players, so we feel confident in saying that our analysis is a large and accurate sample of the true population of players who saw the NBA floor in 2022-23.

1.5 Data Exploration

```
[39]: %run -i ../scripts/SalaryAnalysis.py
import plotly.express as px
import seaborn as sns
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib.ticker as ticker

pd.set_option('display.max_columns', None)
```

1.5.1 Univariate Analysis:

Present key summary statistics, including measures of central tendency and dispersion, for each variable. Accompany the statistics with well-designed histograms or box plots.

The first thing we'll do for this analysis is get some basic measure with which we can use to better understand the data as we explore it.

```
[31]: central = pd.DataFrame(df['salary'].astype('Int64').describe().round()).T

# Define custom formatting function
def format_with_commas(value):
    return f'{value:,.2f}'

# Apply formatting to DataFrame
```

```
formatted_df = df.describe().applymap(format_with_commas)
formatted_df[['salary']].T
```

[31]: count mean std min 25% \ 464.00 9,485,579.85 10,808,855.23 58,493.00 salary 1,958,801.50 50% 75% max4,580,760.00 12,622,500.00 salarv 48,070,014.00

We have 464 players in our dataset, with a mean salary of \$9.48 million. Our lowest salary is a paltry \$58 thousand, our maximum is a colossal \$48 million, and our median salary rests at \$4.58 million. For now we will withold any judgments on the data and proceed to keep these values in mind.

Something we are immediately interested in is who made the most this year, and who made the least?

[6]:	df.query	('sala	ry ==	sala	ry.mir	n() o	r salar	y == sa	alary	7.max()	')				
[6]:			2P	2P ⁹	% 2PA	31	? 3P%	√ 3PA		APG	AST	Age	BLK	. \	
	Player														
	Stephen	Curry	286	0.579	9 494	273	0.427	7 639	6.2	285714	352	34	20)	
	Stanley	Umude	0	Nal	N C) (0.000) 1	0.0	00000	0	23	1	-	
				BPG	DRB	FG	FG%	FGA	FT	FT%	FTA	G	GS	MP	\
	Player			DI G	מונע	I G	1.0%	I'GA	1.1	1 1/0	LIA	u	GD	111	`
	Stephen	Curry	0.35	7143	302	559	0.493	1133	257	0.915	281	56	56	1941	
	Stanley	•	1.00		0	0	0.000	1	2	1.000	2	1	0	2	
	J				-	-		_	_		_	_	-	_	
			ORB	PF		PPG	PTS	Playe	erID	Pos	SI	PG S	STL	TOV	\
	Player							v							
	Stephen	Curry	39	117	29.42	28571	1648	currys	st01	PG 0	.9285	71	52	179.0	
	Stanley	Umude	0	0	2.00	00000	2	umudes	st01	SG 1	.00000	00	1	NaN	
			TRB	•	ΓRPG	Tm	astToT() eF(3%	salar	y do:	llarF	PerMi	nute	\
	Player														
	Stephen	•	341	6.089		GSW	1.96648	3 0.63	L4 4	1807001			2476	5.59	
	Stanley	Umude	0	0.000	0000	DET	Nal	0.00	00	5849	3		2924	6.50	
	D.3	dollarPerFG dollarF						5							
	Player	a	05000 07			00440	-								
	Stephen	-	8	5992.8			29168.7								
	Stanley	Umude		Na	aN		29246.5)							

Unsurprisingly the top salary is the household name Stephen Curry, coming in at 48 million a year. This is an insane amount of money for one year, but considering the player's popularity and ability it would make sense that he's the top earner in the league. What is surprising here is the lowest salary held by Stanley Umude at only 58 thousand dollars. It's commonly believed that all

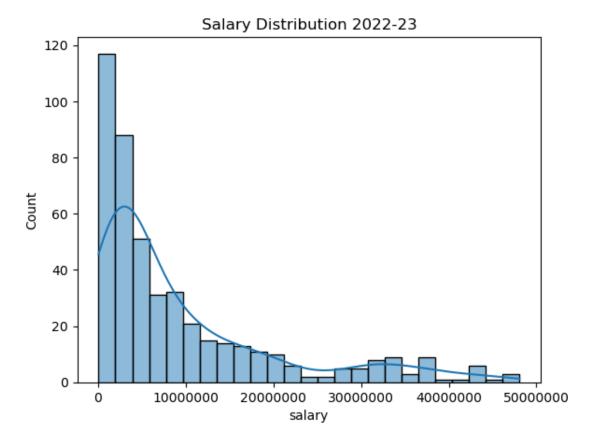
professional athletes must be millionaires, and although we cannot speculate on Mr.Umude's total net worth, 58 thousand annually is a shockingly low number to be paid to play any sport at the highest level.

```
[14]: ax = sns.histplot(data = df, x='salary', kde=True, bins = 25).set(title='Salary_\)

Distribution 2022-23')

plt.ticklabel_format(style='plain')

plt.show()
```



The enchantment begins to fade. The histogram of players' salaries shows a *considerably* right-skewed graph. Just by looking we can see roughly 200 players are earning less than about 5 million. After that it drops off fairly normally, but then has a little bump at just over 30 million and then back down.

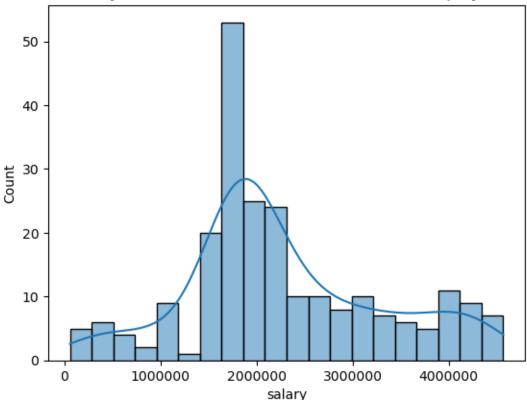
Since the distribution is so heavily skewed right, a look at the median will perhaps be more insightful than the mean. For now we will drill down into the lower 50% of players who earn less than the median and see what things look like.

```
[35]: medianLess = df.query('salary <= salary.median()')
ax = sns.histplot(data = medianLess, x='salary', kde=True, bins = 20).

set(title='Salary Distribution 2022-23 for bottom 50% of players')
```

```
plt.ticklabel_format(style='plain')
plt.show()
```



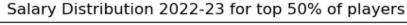


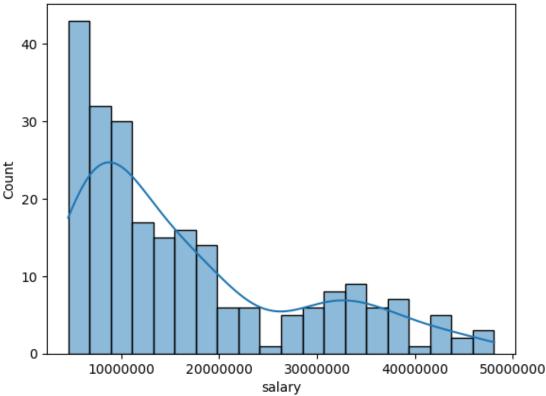
This graph gives us a better look at things. It appears that a large portion of the players earned between 1.5-2.5 million in 2022-23. A quick look at the NBA Veteran Minimum contract shows that the floor is set at 953,000 thousand for rookies, players with 10 years experience or more receive a minimum of 2.72 million, and everything inbetween for players with years of experience between that. This suggests that a lot of players are making close to their minimum based on what they can be paid by the league.

We are also interested in how the other half lives. Is there a specific range that stands out once you break in to the top 50% of earners within the league?

```
[34]: medianMore = df.query('salary > salary.median()')
ax = sns.histplot(data = medianMore, x='salary', kde=True, bins = 20).

⇒set(title='Salary Distribution 2022-23 for top 50% of players')
plt.ticklabel_format(style='plain')
plt.show()
```





Indeed there is. Another large portion of the players seem to have made just short of \$10 million this year. From there we see as we saw before with a normal drop off and a dip back up at \$30-35 million. The wealth certainly seems to be distributed towards the top players in the league.

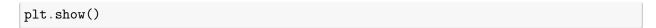
Finally we'll create a boxplot for the salaries to get a different look at the range of salaries, along with a quick observation of any possible outliers.

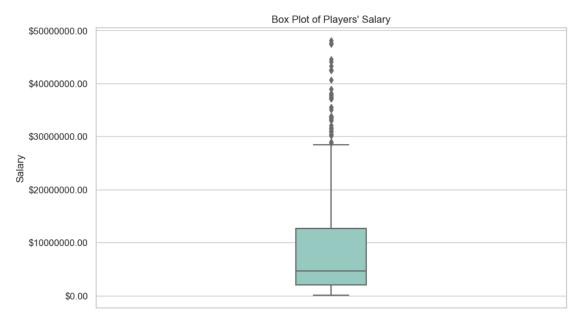
```
[46]: # Create a box plot using Seaborn
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6)) # Set the figure size
sns.set(style="whitegrid") # Set the style of the plot

# Create the box plot
ax = sns.boxplot(y="salary", data=df, palette="Set3", width=0.15)

# Add labels and title
plt.ylabel("Salary")
plt.title("Box Plot of Players' Salary")
ax.yaxis.set_major_formatter(ticker.FuncFormatter(lambda x, pos: f"${x:.2f}"))

# Show the plot
```





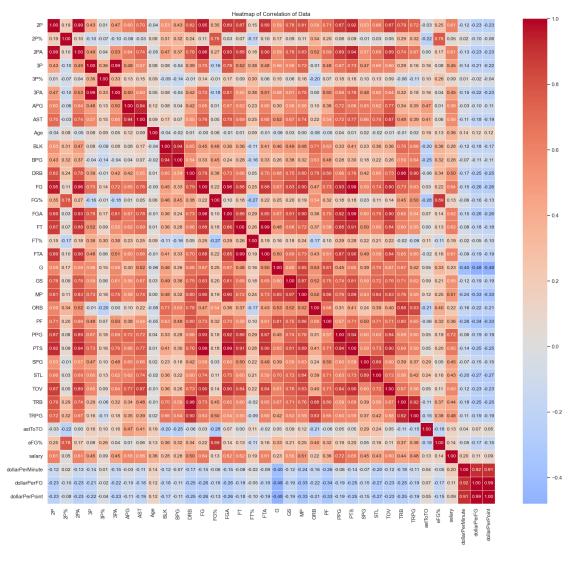
So the boxplot identifies quite a few outliers actually. Later on we'll calculate what the exact value for an outlier has to exceed to qualify, but for now the boxplot shows that salaries larger than roughly \$28 million are outliers. This makes sense, we can guess that most of those outlier salaries belong to star players, who are the exception not the norm. We can begin to question the value of these salaries further down to see if these players are indeed earning their keep.

1.5.2 Bivariate and Multivariate Analysis:

Showcase relationships between variables using high-quality scatter plots, correlation matrices, and heatmaps. Highlight any significant correlations or patterns you observed.

Something we're immediately interested in if you're a player looking to increase your salary is correlation; what statistics are most closely associated with salary? We can create a heatmap for an "at a glance" view to see if anything sticks out right away.

```
plt.title("Heatmap of Correlation of Data")
plt.tight_layout() # Improve layout
# Rotate x-axis labels by 45 degrees
plt.show()
```



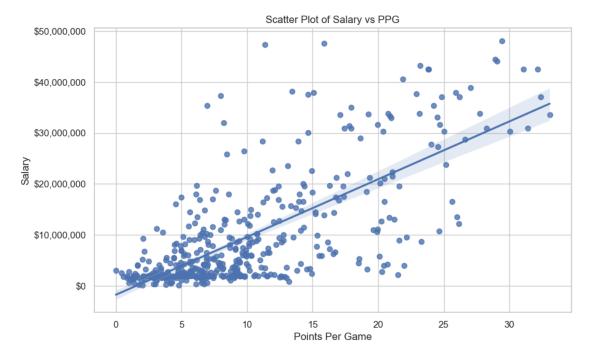
A quick run along the salary row shows us that the big winner is PPG, or points per game. This chart is a little much to analyze, so let's take a quick look at a scatterplot of Salary vs PPG and then we can get into some raw numbers.

```
[111]: # Create a scatter plot using Seaborn
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6)) # Set the figure size
sns.set(style="whitegrid") # Set the style of the plot
# Create the scatter plot
```

```
scatter_plot = sns.regplot(x="PPG", y="salary", data=df)

# Add labels and title
plt.xlabel("Points Per Game")
plt.ylabel("Salary")
plt.title("Scatter Plot of Salary vs PPG")

# Customize legend
ax = scatter_plot.axes
ax.yaxis.set_major_formatter(ticker.FuncFormatter(lambda x, pos: '${:,.0f}'.
-format(x)))
# Show the plot
plt.show()
```



As the heatmap showed, there's a strongish, positive correlation between salary and PPG. While this graph helps visualize the relationship, it would be more insightful to have a look at some raw numbers.

```
[114]: side_by_side(salaryCorr[['All']].head(),salaryCorr[['All']].tail().

sort_values(by='All', ascending=True))
```

<IPython.core.display.HTML object>

The 5 stats that correlate the most with salary are points per game, total points, field goals made, field goals attempted, and free throws made. The 5 stats that matter the least to salary are assist to turnover ratio, dollar per field goal, dollar per point (both of these are columns created for this analysis), 3 point percentage, and finally 2 point percentage.

It seems that the late, great Bill Russell was correct, this game is about buckets. It seems that it doesn't matter how you get your points, but so long as you get them, you will get paid. This unfortunately validates the issues that many coaches and organizations have with getting young players to "play the right way" instead of trying to get their own shots up. The data show it, you score, you get paid.

Conversely, it's shocking that 3P% and 2P% are at the bottom of the list, given that the modern NBA is very analytics driven and places a heavy emphasis on the efficiency of the 3pt shot. Perhaps shooting percentages have more to do with whether a team wins or not (which is a different analysis entirely), but win or lose the players get paid the same.

It's clear that points are king, but each position plays a very different role on the court. Could the salary for a Point Guard be determined differently from the salary for a Center? Let's have a look.

<IPython.core.display.HTML object>

```
[93]: side_by_side(salaryCorr[['PG']].sort_values(by='PG', ascending= False).

head(),salaryCorr[['SG']].sort_values(by='SG', ascending= False).

head(),salaryCorr[['SF']].sort_values(by='SF', ascending= False).

head(),salaryCorr[['PF']].sort_values(by='PF', ascending= False).head(),

salaryCorr[['C']].sort_values(by='C', ascending= False).head())
```

<IPython.core.display.HTML object>

Indeed, your criteria for financial success in the NBA does differ per position. PPG is weighed highest for every

- Point Guards need to be sure to pass the rock... But also turn the ball over? Turnovers being a top 5 correlation with PG salary is curious. We could assume that because the PG has the ball in their hands more than any other position, turnovers just come with the territory, but being that this is an analysis report we should explore it further later.
- Shooting Guards as expected are paid for their shooting. Klay Thompson once said "They pay me to shoot", and he indeed wasn't lying. Field Goal attempts are ranked 3rd above, even Field Goals made. Finally, the number of 3 point shot made rounds out the top 5, starting to show some of the importance of the 3 point shot in regards to salary. Intuitely this makes sense for the position, a shooting guard should be expected to score from all distances.
- Small Forwards seem to be asked to pass the ball and shoot inside the 3 point line to earn their pay. Scottie Pippen of the Chicago Bulls in the 90s revolutionized the 'Point Forward' position, and it seems in 2022-23 the NBA has rewarded the players who are able to continue to further the role. Players such as LeBron James and Giannis Antetokounmpo are known for their interior scoring and passing, but it seems many more small forwards are following their lead.

- Power Forwards' salaries are weighted even heavier on assists per game than small forwards, albeit only slightly. Over the years the power forward position has undergone a transformation to move away from post play and become more of a wing like the small forward, this seems to reflect that. Oddly enough, power forward is the only position that has free throws made as a top 5 category. In years gone by bigger players usually struggled from the free throw line, and this was used as a tactic to slow down these bigger players from scoring. All 'big men' players that want to earn more should be looking at this and immediately getting in the gym and working on their free throws. Free throws, as the name implies, are free money if you make them.
- Center is all about scoring, with a weighty .81 salary to PPG correlation. Total points, field goals attempted, and 2 points attempted all being in the top 5 tells us that it was important to just shoot as much as you could. A weighting this heavy on scoring signifies to us that any Center that is being paid well without scoring is worth further investigation.

1.5.3 Outlier Detection:

Discuss any outliers you discovered and their potential impact on the analysis. Provide visual evidence, such as scatter plots with marked outliers.

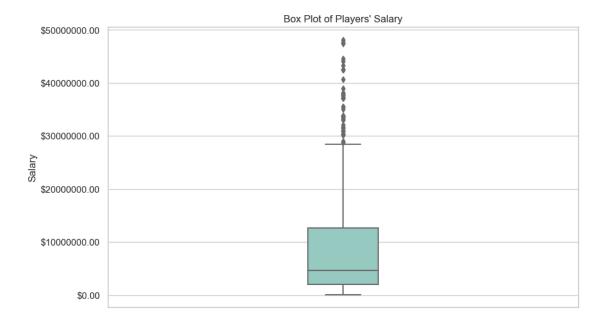
Recall our boxplot from the univariate analysis section.

```
[]: # Create a box plot using Seaborn
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6)) # Set the figure size
sns.set(style="whitegrid") # Set the style of the plot

# Create the box plot
ax = sns.boxplot(y="salary", data=df, palette="Set3", width=0.15)

# Add labels and title
plt.ylabel("Salary")
plt.title("Box Plot of Players' Salary")
ax.yaxis.set_major_formatter(ticker.FuncFormatter(lambda x, pos: f"${x:.2f}"))

# Show the plot
plt.show()
```



This graph indicated that any salary larger than roughly \$28 million was an outlier. Here we will computer the outlier value for ourselves and compare it, along with have a look at any and all players that are considered outliers.

```
[124]: outlier = df['salary'].mean() + 3 * df['salary'].std()
print(f'${outlier:,.2f}')
```

\$41,912,145.54

Our calculation of an outlier has a much higher value, putting the threshold at a salary greater than \$41.9 million. Intuitively that probably makes more sense, since the distribution showed us there was actually a jump in the number of salaries in the \$30 million range.

Lets look at the players that have salaries considered to be outliers and see if there's anything we can identify about them.

```
[134]:
                                 salary
                                                PPG
                                                     Age Pos
       Player
       Stephen Curry
                               48070014
                                          29.428571
                                                       34
                                                           PG
       Russell Westbrook
                               47559433
                                          15.876712
                                                       34
                                                           PG
       John Wall
                                          11.352941
                                                       32
                               47345760
                                                           PG
       LeBron James
                               44474988
                                          28.909091
                                                       38
                                                           PF
       Kevin Durant
                               44119845
                                          29.063830
                                                       34
                                                          PF
                               43279250
                                          23.200000
       Bradley Beal
                                                       29
                                                           SG
       Damian Lillard
                               42492492
                                          32.172414
                                                       32
                                                           PG
                               42492492
                                                           PF
       Giannis Antetokounmpo
                                          31.095238
                                                       28
```

Kawhi Leonard	42492492	23.826923	31	SF
Paul George	42492492	23.785714	32	SG

Some notable observations of the outliers: - Of the 10 outliers, 4 of them are point guards. This helps explain why the point guard mean salary is so high compared to the other positions. - 8 players are over the age of 30, with LeBron James being the oldest at 38. This is encouraging for younger players hoping to be able to earn as they age over time. - 2 of these players, Russell Westbrook and John Wall, have a much lower PPG than the others. They are both over 30, so it's possible that these players are near the end of a max contract they signed back in their "prime", or perhaps they got injured and haven't been able to play relative to their earnings. - There are no Centers in the list of outliers. The Center position had the 3rd highest mean salary and the 4th highest median salary.

1.5.4 Categorical Variables:

Use visually appealing bar charts or pie charts to demonstrate the distribution of categorical variables and any relationships between them.

```
[]: max_salary_indices = df.groupby('Age')['salary'].idxmax()
     result = df.loc[max_salary_indices, ['Age', 'salary', 'Tm']]
     result['salary'] = result['salary'].apply(lambda x:'{:,}'.format(x))
     result.T
    Player Jabari Smith Jr. Paolo Banchero Anthony Edwards Zion Williamson
                           19
                                           20
                                                            21
    Age
                   8,882,640
                                  11,055,120
                                                    10,733,400
                                                                     13,534,817
    salary
                          HOU
                                          ORL
                                                           MIN
                                                                            NOP
    Tm
    Player Luka Dončić
                          Trae Young Brandon Ingram Ben Simmons Zach LaVine
                                                                            27
    Age
                     23
                                  24
                                                  25
                                                               26
             37,096,500
                                                      35,448,672
                                                                    37,096,500
    salary
                          37,096,500
                                          31,650,600
                    DAL
                                                 NOP
                                                              BRK
    Tm
                                 ATL
                                                                           CHI
    Player Giannis Antetokounmpo Bradley Beal Kyrie Irving Kawhi Leonard
    Age
                                28
                                              29
                                                            30
                                                                           31
                       42,492,492
                                                    38,917,057
                                                                  42,492,492
    salary
                                     43,279,250
    Tm
                               MIL
                                             WAS
                                                           TOT
                                                                          LAC
              John Wall Jimmy Butler Stephen Curry Mike Conley
    Player
                                                                   Kyle Lowry
                     32
                                   33
                                                  34
                                                               35
                                                                            36
    Age
             47,345,760
                           37,653,300
                                          48,070,014
                                                       22,680,000
                                                                    28,333,334
    salary
    Tm
                    LAC
                                  MIA
                                                 GSW
                                                              TOT
                                                                           MIA
             Chris Paul LeBron James Andre Iguodala Udonis Haslem
    Player
                     37
                                   38
                                                    39
    salary
             28,400,000
                           44,474,988
                                            1,836,090
                                                           1,836,090
    Tm
                    PH<sub>0</sub>
                                  LAL
                                                  GSW
                                                                 MIA
```

```
[]: min_salary_indices = df.groupby('Age')['salary'].idxmin()
     result = df.loc[min_salary_indices, ['Age', 'salary','Tm']]
     result['salary'] = result['salary'].apply(lambda x:'{:,}'.format(x))
     result.T
    Player Max Christie Jaden Hardy Brandon Boston Jr. Christian Koloko
    Age
                      19
                                   20
                                                        21
               1,017,781
                            1,017,781
                                                1,563,518
                                                                  1,500,000
    salary
    Tm
                     LAL
                                  DAL
                                                      LAC
                                                                         TOR
    Player Stanley Umude Jordan Goodwin Anthony Lamb Alize Johnson Xavier Cooks
                       23
                                        24
                                                     25
                                                                     26
                                                                                  27
    Age
                   58,493
                                  900,000
                                                253,254
                                                               192,293
                                                                             140,384
    salary
                                                    GSW
    Tm
                      DET
                                      WAS
                                                                   SAS
                                                                                 WAS
    Player Ish Wainright Javonte Green Meyers Leonard Michael Carter-Williams
    Age
                       28
                                      29
                                                      30
                                                                                31
                  474,851
                                                                           652,829
    salary
                               1,815,677
                                                 105,522
                      PHO
                                     CHI
                                                     MIL
                                                                               ORL
    Player Matthew Dellavedova Blake Griffin Robin Lopez James Johnson
    Age
                              32
                                             33
                                                          34
                      1,836,090
                                     1,836,090
                                                  1,836,090
                                                                 2,427,016
    salary
    Tm
                             SAC
                                            BOS
                                                         CLE
                                                                       IND
    Player Wesley Matthews Taj Gibson LeBron James Andre Iguodala Udonis Haslem
    Age
                          36
                                     37
                                                   38
                  1,836,090
                              1,836,090
                                           44,474,988
                                                            1,836,090
                                                                           1,836,090
    salary
    {\tt Tm}
                        MIL
                                    WAS
                                                  LAL
                                                                  GSW
                                                                                 MIA
```

1.6 Key Findings

Summarize the most critical insights from your analysis. Emphasize how these findings relate to the initial research questions and their implications for decision-making.

1.7 Recommendations and Next Steps:

Provide actionable recommendations based on your findings. If your EDA has strategic implications, outline potential courses of action and their expected outcomes. Discuss possible follow-up analyses or data collection efforts.

Further research could delve into predictive modeling to forecast player salaries, incorporating additional variables for a more comprehensive understanding of this captivating aspect of professional sports

1.8 Limitations:

The dataset used for this analysis was gathered from https://www.basketball-reference.com/, and some salary numbers were cross referenced with https://hoopshype.com/.

Due to the NBA having G-League 2 way contracts, 10 day contracts, contract waiving, and other such things it is very difficult to get a salary dataset for *every* player to see the floor for a season. As such, this is just a (large) sample of the true population. In order to conduct any useful analysis, players that had stats recorded for the season on basketball-reference, but did not have a salary recorded on the website for the season were removed from the dataset. Although it is sad to say, but if your salary wasn't recorded on basketball reference, your statistical impact probably wasn't significant either.

These salary numbers were pulled for the start of the season, therefore any buyouts, contract negotations, or anything of the sort are not reflected. In the example of buy outs, players and their team can choose to pay out the contract to release the player, but perhaps at a price less than what they are fully owed. These numbers are not made public so it would be impossible to tally their true earnings for the season, which is I've chosen to just work with the salary numbers dictated in their contract for simplicity.

1.9 Conclusion:

Wrap up the report by reiterating the importance of the analysis and summarizing its main contributions to the business objectives.

This exploratory analysis of the stats and salaries for the NBA 2022-23 roster provides valuable insights. Through the use of tables, graph visualization, and statistical calculations we have identified trends and patterns around the factors that influenced player salary for the season.

The analysis displayed a staggering variety of salaries, going as low as roughly \$60,000 a year all the way up to \$48 million per year. Such a large disparity eventually showed us that the distribution was heavily skewed to the right, with the superstar salaries dragging the mean salary up to \$9.5 million while the median salary ended up being less than half at about \$4.5 million.

Salary averages varied by position as well, with the Point guard being the leader with a median salary of \$5.8 million, and the Small Forward bringing up the rear at \$3.5 million. Because of the heavily skewed distribution, the mean salary for each position was roughly double that of the median.

Points per game was the king statistic, leading the way with a .72 positive correlation with salary, showing that if you want to get paid you need to score the ball. While PPG remained constant at #1, each position had different top 5 metrics that were associated with salary. Point Guards, Small Forwards, and surprisingly Power forwards all had Assists per Game as a top 5 stat. Meanwhile Shooting Guards and Centers valued Field Goal Attempts, showing that efficiency wasn't enough, you have to be shooting in volume to get paid.

Stats that seemed to matter less with regards to salary were some things like a player's age, their efficiency, and number of games played. It seems that NBA players are able to take care of their bodies better and play at a higher level later into their careers, which might suggest why age doesn't matter so much. While the NBA talks at length about efficiency, it seems efficiency matters less than may have been thought with regards to salary. If a young player wants to get paid for their

next contract, it seems going to a team where they can take more shots would be beneficial to playing on a team where less shots are available.

It's important to remember that this is an exploratory analysis, no predictive models were built or used for predicting future values. One must always remember that correlation does not imply causation, and that there are numerous factors that can influence salary that are not present in this dataset or cannot be quantified. Despite these caveats, this report serves as an excellent foundation for exploring and making informed decisions with regards to NBA salary.

1.10 Visual Appendices:

Include well-labeled, high-quality visualizations in the appendices. Reference these visuals in the main body of the report.

```
[95]: side_by_side(salaryCorr[['PG']].sort_values(by='PG', ascending= False).

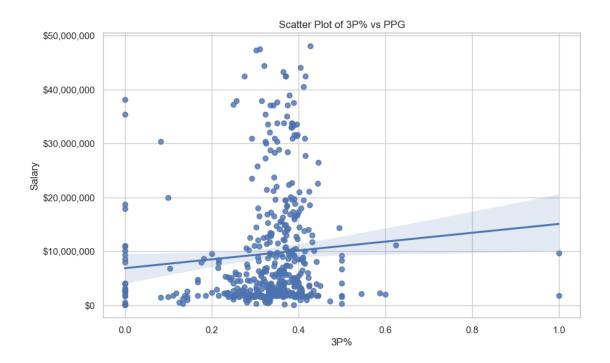
tail(),salaryCorr[['SG']].sort_values(by='SG', ascending= False).

tail(),salaryCorr[['SF']].sort_values(by='SF', ascending= False).

tail(),salaryCorr[['PF']].sort_values(by='PF', ascending= False).tail(),

salaryCorr[['C']].sort_values(by='C', ascending= False).tail())
```

<IPython.core.display.HTML object>



1.11 References:

Provide references to any external sources you used for analysis techniques, domain knowledge, or concepts.

basketball reference, hoops hype

```
[138]: df.loc[['LeBron James']]['Age']
```

[138]: Player

LeBron James 38

Name: Age, dtype: int64

[]: #age = sa.df['Age'].rank(method='first', ascending= False) creates a rank forusthe age column and sorts oldest to youngest
#age.loc[['LeBron James']] returns 3, so lebron is the 3rd oldest player in theusedataset.