Hello everyone, I am Herver Yang. My research topic is the factors to effect MLB position player’s salary. In recently years, MLB player’s salary is getting higher and higher.

2. Here is a chart show up the salary changing through the year, we can see there is a big gap between recent year and ten years ago.

3. Let’s look at this chart. This chart is talking about the highest pay player of these years. This year, Max Scherzer makes the highest salary, also he has a highest salary in one single season in MLB history. But when we look at 20 years ago there is a huge gap with this year. Because of the huge changing of players’ salary through the year, I want to know more about player’s salary. In other words, I wonder what factor does have mainly effect on salary, so I decided to do this for my topic.

4. First thing to start this project is to collect the players’ data such as HR, RBI BA, and so on

Conclusion:

The research result is not totally same as I expected. For example, the coefficient of HR should be positive, which represents as a hitter has more homeruns should be able to earn more money. But the result is negative. Also, there is another result that is different with I expected which is BA. The player has a higher BA should have higher salary, but the coefficient is negative which means when the player increases their BA, it will decrease their salary. I found the reason that led to this result from my data set. In recent year, more and more players are chasing to hit more home run in the game, instead it will let the player produces more strike out in the game. The home run amounts increase in recent year, but it relates to more strike out and higher swing miss rate. In MLB, there are a lot of players can hit a lot of home run, but they also have many strikes out and low batting average. For this type of player, they still can have good salary, but not much as the all-round players. This might be the main reason that the coefficient of HR is negative.

The other really important factor to effect player’s salary is total seasons that players have played in MLB. To become a free agent can let players to have a chance to earn more money and chase a big contract. To become a free agent, players must play in MLB at least 6 years. While I did the research, there are couple of players have really good performance, they probably can make 20, 30 million a year related to their performance, but because they haven’t become the free agent, their salary is not high enough relate to their performance.

Overall, the players’ performance is one of a really important factors to effect players’ salary and is usually the first thing that most people will think about that first, besides of that players’ age and total seasons they have played in the league are also important.

The players chase for higher salary and big contract when they have good performance, the teams want to sign the good player and use a reasonable price. That is why team need to do data analysis of players, to find out the players they want and provide a reasonable price related to the market price.

Purpose of research:

My main purpose of doing this research is I want to see what kind of data has most impact on the players’ salary. In my research, player’s age, total year the player has played in MLB, WAR, and RBI are the mainly factors to impact on salary. Before I did this research, my expectation is the player who has most homerun, extra base hits, and high BA can earn more salary. But the result shows up beside of age and player year, the player who has higher WAR and RBI will generate higher salary. It also makes sense to me, because before the teams provide the contract to the player, they are care more about if that player is an all-round player, so the teams will look for the players who has higher WAR, to consider if that player can contribute to the team on offensive, defensive, and base running. RBI is also a crucial data for a player. If a player has higher RBI, which means he can help the team score more. Because the most important thing for the baseball is the winner of the baseball game is whoever score more.