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## How much do UFAs and RFAs cost per win?

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I was puzzling over this a bit at <u>Tyler Dellow's blog</u>, and I don't think I've seen the answer anywhere. Feel free to chime in if you have a different calculation. Here's the process I followed: for every RFA and UFA who signed in the 2009 off-season, I added up their 2009-10 salaries and their projected win values from Tom Awad's VUKOTA projections. I then subtracted the league minimum salary from each player's total salary (VUKOTA is already with respect to replacement value) to determine the marginal cost per marginal win.

The results:

|       | #   | Salary Marg. Sal. |       | Wins  | \$M/Win |
|-------|-----|-------------------|-------|-------|---------|
| RFA   | 70  | 89.9              | 54.9  | 41.3  | 1.33    |
| UFA   | 106 | 216.9             | 163.9 | 73.4  | 2.23    |
| Total | 176 | 306.8             | 218.8 | 114.7 | 1.91    |

So an RFA takes a 40% discount relative to a UFA. I think that's actually very close to the discount that baseball players take in their arbitration years.

At any rate, I'm interested in hearing differing takes on this question.

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