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After examining and playing around with my dataset, there seem to be some patterns and interesting trends within the data. At first glance, it seems that winning does not have a significant impact on home game attendance. Just at first glance, the same teams seem to attract the highest crowds regardless of their rank within the league. Of course, over the 15-year period, there are some changes within the team attendance but as of the most recent 7-8 years, the teams at the top of average attendance seem to be very consistent despite their records. During the 2015-16 season, the Lakers attracted the 11th most attendance on average despite having one of the worst records in the league. They attracted more people than the Spurs, Celtics, and the Thunder who won 68,48, and 55 games respectively. Another surprising team would be the Bulls who for most of the 15-year period are always among the top team in terms of average home attendance. Despite being fairly average in terms of wins except for a brief period in the early 2010’s, the Bulls continue to bring in a large crowd season after season. Another seemingly anomaly would be the the 2015 Warriors only ranking number 7 in terms of home attendance. After a historic season in which they won more games than any other team in history, they would be expected to draw in the largest crowds. Possible explanations for this will be discussed later on. There are also other surprises where relatively competitive teams bring in crowds lower than half the league, lower than teams that are worse than they are. Some examples would include the 2013 Grizzlies, who won a very respectable 50 games that year but were still unable to beat out teams like the Celtics and the Jazz who won 25 games each. That year the Grizzlies recorded the 20th highest home average attendance. In 2014, the Hawks won 60 games but only managed to come in at the 17th slot in average home attendance. Many teams that did not win as many games as the Hawks attracted a higher average of attendance. Also in 2014, the Knicks and Lakers were able to bring in large crowds despite having two of the worst records in the league. The 17-win Knicks ranked 4th in average home attendance and the 21-win Lakers ranked 11th in average home attendance.

Bar plots and histograms will provide an easier visual representation of how the NBA teams compare to each other. The teams can be compared throughout the whole 15-year period or a specific year can be targeted and examined. Histograms and bar plots would be able to show comparisons and differences between the teams and would show any discrepancies between teams. These plots can compare the amount of wins a teams had in a particular season and compare the wins to the attendance for that year. In order to account for the period of time, these plots can also take the averages of a team’s wins and show the relationship between average home attendance during the same time period. One specific team’s progression can also be shown using plots. Bar plots and histograms can be used to compare the statistics of a singular team throughout the time period to see any improvements or areas of growth.

Scatterplots are also plots that can be used to show a correlation between two variables. These plots would be used to see if there was a correlation between wins and attendance. By visually seeing the scatterplot, a trend may be more evident. Scatter plots could easily show if there was a relationship between a specific team’s’ wins and home attendance. Time-series plots are graphs that are specifically designed to displays values over time. Since our data set has compiled data over a 15-year span, using a time-series plot can prove to be very beneficial as well.

After looking at some preliminary plots, there does not seem to be a strong correlation between how many games a team wins and game attendance. Although there is not an apparent strong correlation, there might be some other relationships that can be found. Maybe other possible hypothesis could be exploring whether or not eastern conference teams or western conference suffer from low attendance and see if there is any correlation there. It is possible that some relationship may be found if we look into the teams individually to get a closer look at the data.