NBA Research Questions

What regions are NBA players coming from? (slides 3+4)

What US regions? (slide 5)

What US states are players from? (slide 6)

What international regions? (slide 7)

What teams do international players play for? (slide 8)

What is the average salary of an NBA player? (slide 9)

Analysis:

Over the past two decades, the international player count in the NBA has grown significantly, with the east coast, specifically the Northeast and Southeast regions, dominating the contribution of American players. Moving westward, player contributions per region tend to decrease, with the east consistently providing more players to the league than the west.

A periodic examination of player origins every five years reveals substantial increases in both international players and those from the Southeast region. Notably, the Mountain West region has consistently produced the fewest NBA players since 2005. Comparatively, the Midwest and Western regions exhibit some variability but generally contribute similar player counts.

The Northeast region makes a moderate contribution to the league, experiencing slight upticks in recent years. The Southwest has a reduced contribution, and the Mountain West's contribution is almost negligible.

When reviewing NBA player origins by state, the map’s dot sizes reflect relative increases or decreases in player counts. Notably, Alaska has exactly one player, and Hawaii has produced none at all.

In terms of international players, European countries, particularly those in Southern Europe, lead in production, accounting for 26.7% of international players since 2000. Surprisingly, Asian countries, despite having larger populations, have produced the least number of NBA players in recent years.

Examining team statistics, all 30 NBA teams have international players, with an average of 25 per team. The Toronto Raptors have signed the most international players in the last two decades, totaling 44, while the Miami Heat have signed the fewest at 14.

Analyzing average annual salaries over the last 20 years, most regions, excluding the Mountain West, exhibit relatively similar trends. However, the Northeast region has not experienced the same level of salary growth as other regions.