

NBA Games Analysis for Bettors

When you think about gambling within the United States, it is easy to first picture Las Vegas, as that has long been the nation's hub for legalized betting, with sports betting being a major contributor to that industry. Depending on where you live now that perception could be changing, with eight states currently having live legal sports betting, and many others with bills being reviewed and passed. States are starting to realize the potential in the tax revenue they could create, and the huge demand people have to go out to a local establishment and make bets and watch sports. Even though there always has been, and may always will be an underground market for sports betting, the legalization of it across various states such as New Jersey has led to the creation of new business opportunities and millions of dollars in state tax revenue. With the stigma on gambling continuing to change as its legality across the country expands, there are an influx of companies and individuals looking to profit off of a huge group of people trying to find an advantage in sports betting. There is an ever expanding amount of data on how people make bets, and on the sports themselves people are risking their money on. It would be valuable for people to know what are the most important things to know. One of the most popular sports to bet on in America is basketball and the NBA. Many people think they can watch a couple games and be able to judge who is going to win based off of that, but there is much more going on during the season that can predict team performance than meets the eye. Anyone looking to make informed decisions when wagering their money needs to know what information is valuable and what is not.

Many people throughout the country are looking to get rich, or maybe just make a few bucks off of betting on sports. However, it is difficult for people to know the actual trends and information that are important in making these decisions. That is why I will be investigating what data is significant in evaluating trends for NBA teams winning games or not. The data I will be using is a four season sample of every game in the NBA from the 2014-2015 to the 2017-2018 seasons. This will include the scores of each game, information on the games such as who is playing and where it is played, game and season statistics, and the betting lines. By looking through this information I will evaluate what is important in terms of making wagers on individual games or for season long trends, and see what are the most important factors in determining when and why an NBA team wins a game, along the way discovering what information is not significant, and just a possible distraction in determining what knowledge is needed. People looking to make informed decisions with their gambling, or gain a better understanding in what is important in determining a winner just based on the data can use this information to their advantage.