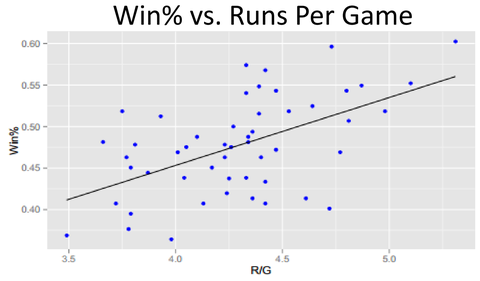
What makes a good baseball team?

Cubs

48%

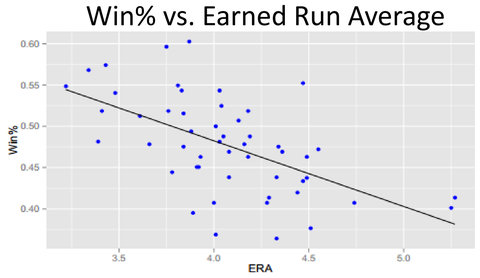
Games Won

Win% vs. Runs Per Game



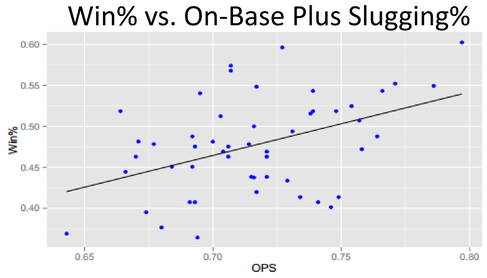
Adj. R^2 = 0.2866

Win% vs. Earned Run Average



Adj. R^2 = -0.3168

Win% vs. On-Base Plus Slugging%



Adj. R^2 = 0.1771

Multivariable Model

Win% = 0.3374 – 0.1041 ERA + 0.2651 OPS + 0.0869 R/G

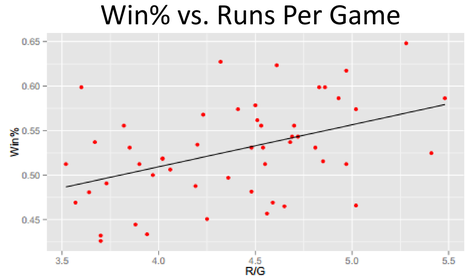
Adj. R^2 = 0.8075

Cardinals

53%

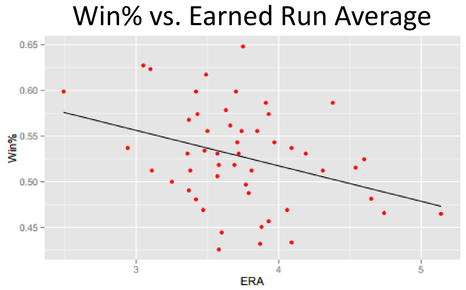
Games Won

Win% vs. Runs Per Game



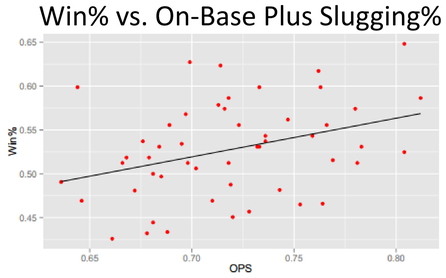
Adj. R^2 = 0.1763

Win% vs. Earned Run Average



Adj. R^2 = -0.1005

Win% vs. On-Base Plus Slugging%



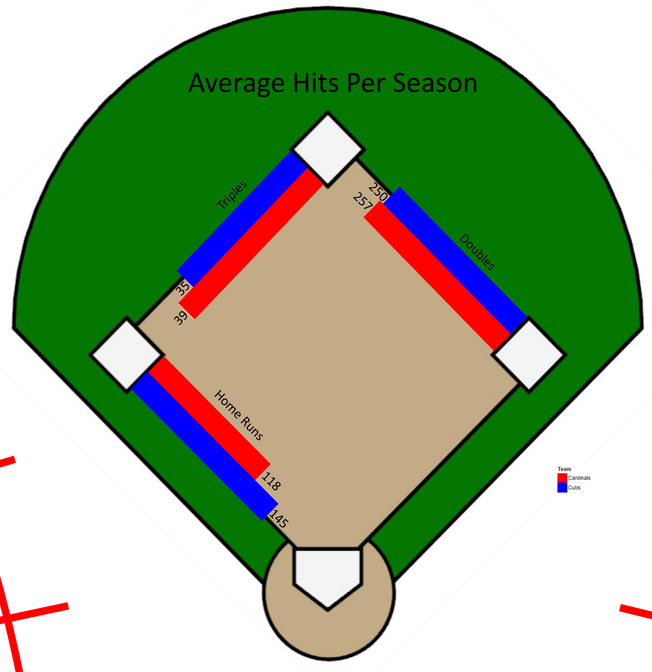
Adj. R^2 = 0.1052

Multivariable Model

Win% = 0.3840 – 0.0182 ERA + 0.1914 OPS + 0.0936 R/G

Adj. R^2 = 0.7507

Average Hits Per Season

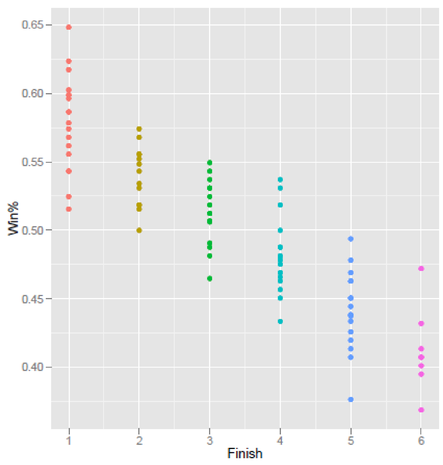


The Cardinals hit more doubles and triples on average compared to the Cubs. However, the Cubs on average hit far more home runs per season, even though their average winning percentage is much lower than the Cardinals. Surprisingly, home runs are not necessarily correlated with the percent of games won.

Not one individual baseball statistic is highly predictive of a team's winning percentage. However, when combined they create a sufficient model for forecasting percentage of games won.

The place a team finishes directly reflects the percent of games won.

Win% vs. Finish



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Yearly team baseball statistics provided by: http://www.baseball-reference.com/