

Sharpshooters: An examination of whether 3-point percentage and other key statistics impact NCAA Tournament seeding

Broc Fantazzi

Arcadia University
School of Global Business
Sport Management

Abstract

The NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament is a widely popular tournament not just nationally but worldwide, where 68 teams compete for a national title. With this tournament being so popular among fans and so many teams are involved, seeding has become a critical factor into how far a team could potentially progress throughout the tournament. To explore how seeding is affected, all NCAA tournament teams from 2013-2023 were examined. The study revealed that field goal percentage and other contributing factors have a significant impact on the seed a team receives for the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament ($p < .001$). 3 point percentage was found to not have a significant impact on seeding.

Keywords: Basketball, NCAA, seeding, field goal percentage, turnover rate