

Abstract

Football is a global phenomenon, primarily driven by clubs acquiring players who perform on their behalf on the pitch. The valuation of footballers during transfer negotiations is influenced by numerous factors. This thesis expands upon existing research by examining the discrepancies in the mechanisms of player market value formation between the top 5 European leagues and other competitions, using values from Transfermarkt.com together with the data from the 2022/23 season. Employing the Ordinary Least Squares method, we discover that the substantial enhancement in the total price tags of players in the elite leagues is accompanied by variations in the factors affecting these values. Notably, the analysis reveals significant disparities in the influence of ball possession-related statistics such as successful passes, dribbles, and the xG indicator, which tend to positively affect player values only in less prestigious leagues. Common significant factors with strong effects in both groups include pre-season player's worth, number of minutes played, goals scored, and statistics reflecting team success. Contrary to previous studies, this research identified that age consistently impacts all players negatively. Further analysis also explores differences between individual positions on the pitch and within the top 5 leagues themselves.

Keywords	Football, Transfer market, Market value, Determinants, Differences
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Author's e-mail	79321775@fsv.cuni.cz
Supervisor's e-mail	josef.kurka@fsv.cuni.cz