

2022 AFC South Futures Betting Guide

This document breaks down the AFC South for 2022. I have spent countless hours studying the tape, predicting the impact of changes, and running simulations to accurately predict each team's range of outcomes in 2022. I do not use the market to value the teams; this is a completely independent exercise. To maximize its value, let me briefly explain some of the key numbers I use:

Adjusted 2021 Wins

11.15

Adjusted Wins represent how many regular season games, on average, the team should have won in 2021 based purely on Effectiveness, if facing an average schedule. It factors in strength of schedule, playoff performance, and hidden schedule factors, but does not account for the team's own injuries. In other words, I don't guess how good a team *would have been* if healthy. I just tell you how good the team really was on the year.

Projected Wins represents how many regular season games the team should win, on average, in 2022 against its actual schedule. To get this number, I used last year's Effectiveness Ratings as a baseline, then adjusted for changes in health, roster, and situation. From there, I ran simulations of the schedule using my numbers (which obviously factors in actual strength of schedule) to determine the average number of wins.

Projected 2022 Wins

10.64

Betting Cheatsheet

	Win Total (Over)
Best Odds	10 (+100) (DK)
True Odds	-139
Value	Yes (Medium)

The **Betting Cheatsheet** provides true value, based on my simulations, of every Season Win Total, Division, and Super Bowl bet. I used the best available odds (**Best odds**) from a set of five books: Draftkings (DK), FanDuel (FD), Circa, Caesar's (CZ), and BetMGM (MGM). If you find better odds, great!

True odds represents the true probability of the bet translated to odds. So, my price in the example for Over 10 Wins would be -139. That means the +100 price has value, because -159 represents 58.2% implied odds and +100 represents 50% implied odds.

But you don't need to do the math yourself, because I tell you in the **Value** row whether the bet has value. My confidence level - on the range from Very Low to Very High - factors in variance and uncertainty, as well as the anticipated true odds. Best bets for each team are highlighted in green.

Other Contents:

This PDF also contains links to my in-depth 2021 Team Studies for each team, breaking down performance after watching every snap of every game. At the end, I project out how I think the division could finish, along with any relevant playoff results. Finally, I include **every Futures bet I've placed** relevant to AFC East teams so you can see how my process has led to +EV bets already.

Indianapolis Colts

2022 Season Preview

2021 Performance

The Numbers

Record: 9-8
(Missed Playoffs)
Rank: 16th
Offense: 11th
Defense: 20th

Context

- Faced 17th-most difficult schedule of defenses.
- Faced 27th-most difficult schedule of offenses.
- Opponents ranked 6th in relative strength due to Covid/injury absences.

Adjusted 2021 Wins

9.13

[View Full 2021 IND Team Study](#)

2022 Projection

Key Offseason Changes

- Replaced QB Carson Wentz with Matt Ryan.
- Replaced DC Matt Eberflus with Gus Bradley.
- Replaced CB Rock Ya-Sin with Stephon Gilmore and added DE Yannick Ngakoue.

Projected 2022 Wins

9.95

Defining Narrative

The Colts have been playing whack-a-mole at quarterback ever since Andrew Luck's unexpected retirement. They boast a top offensive line and run game, and despite not having elite wide receiver talent, Frank Reich uses the running backs and tight ends effectively as pass-catchers. Carson Wentz failed because he routinely missed reads and ignored easy throws trying to make a big play. To succeed in this scheme a QB must be consistent and demonstrate sound decision-making. Matt Ryan is a great fit. I expect the Colts to once again ride the running backs, but with more balance thanks to a competent quarterback. Their defensive additions should also help them secure victory in arguably the NFL's worst division.

Betting Cheatsheet

	Win Total (Over)	Win Total (Under)	Division	Super Bowl
Best Odds	10 (-105) (DK/Circa)	10 (-115) (DK/Circa)	-115 (FD/CZ)	+2500 (CZ/MGM)
True Odds	+108	-108	-135	+6897
Value	None	None	Yes (Medium)	None

Tennessee Titans

2022 Season Preview

2021 Performance

The Numbers

Record: 12-6 (12-5)
 (Lost in Div. Round)
 Rank: 9th
 Offense: 13th
 Defense: 4th

Context

- Faced 16th-most difficult schedule of defenses.
- Faced 28th-most difficult schedule of offenses.
- Opponents ranked 5th in relative strength due to Covid/injury absences.

Adjusted 2021 Wins

10.39

[View Full 2021 TEN Team Study](#)

2022 Projection

Key Offseason Changes

- Replaced WRs A.J. Brown and Julio Jones with rookie Treylon Burks and Robert Woods.
- Drafted backup QB Malik Willis.
- Minor changes elsewhere, including losing CB Janoris Jenkins.

Projected 2022 Wins

8.60

Defining Narrative

When things are clicking for the Titans, they are solid. When Derrick Henry can get momentum, he is arguably the hardest running back in the NFL to take down. Defenses adjusted by flooding the box with defenders even before Henry got hurt, which meant Tannehill enjoyed single coverage on his talented receivers. But the triangle offense needs two wide receivers. If Robert Woods and Treylon Burks can be those two receivers, the Titans can return to the playoffs with strong coaching and defense. But they are vulnerable to a major injury drop-off. And even healthy, their eventual upside is limited without a playmaker like A.J. Brown outside. Their path to success is murky, but they shouldn't be taken too lightly.

Betting Cheatsheet

	Win Total (Over)	Win Total (Under)	Division	Super Bowl
Best Odds	9 (-105) (DK)	9 (-105) (Circa)	+170 (DK/Circa)	+3500 (DK/CZ)
True Odds	+144	-144	+249	+10000
Value	None	Yes (Medium)	None	None

Jacksonville Jaguars

2022 Season Preview

2021 Performance

The Numbers

Record: 3-14
(Missed Playoffs)
Rank: 31st
Offense: 30th
Defense: 29th

Context

- Faced 18th-most difficult schedule of defenses.
- Faced 22nd-most difficult schedule of offenses.
- Opponents ranked 18th in relative strength due to Covid/injury absences.

Adjusted 2021 Wins

4.49

[View Full 2021 JAC Team Study](#)

2022 Projection

Key Offseason Changes

- Replaced HC Urban Meyer with Doug Pederson.
- Added G Brandon Scherff, WR Christian Kirk, and TE Evan Engram.
- Added CB Darious Williams, LB Foye Oluokun, and rookies EDGE Travon Walker and LB Devin Lloyd.

Projected 2022 Wins

6.83

Defining Narrative

The Urban Meyer experiment failed miserably. But to their credit, the Jags wasted no time getting rid of him and hiring a real NFL coach in Doug Pederson. The same Doug Pederson who coaxed an MVP-caliber campaign out of Carson Wentz. With an improved offensive line and receiving corps, the stage is set for a big step forward from Trevor Lawrence. He flashed accuracy and vision as a rookie but couldn't quite put it all together with the dysfunction around him. But his traits showed through the bad stats and he is primed for a breakout season. The defense also played better than the box scores suggest, and got reinforcements. Expect a strong recovery from the Jaguars.

Betting Cheatsheet

	Win Total (Over)	Win Total (Under)	Division	Super Bowl
Best Odds	6.5 (+115) (FD/CZ)	6.5 (-120) (Circa)	+850 (Circa)	+13000 (DK)
True Odds	-112	+112	+723	+16667
Value	Yes (Medium)	None	Yes (Low)	None

Houston Texans

2022 Season Preview

2021 Performance

The Numbers

Record: 4-13
(Missed Playoffs)
Rank: 29th
Offense: 32nd
Defense: 26th

Context

- Faced 9th-most difficult schedule of defenses.
- Faced 9th-most difficult schedule of offenses.
- Opponents ranked 20th in relative strength due to Covid/injury absences.

Adjusted 2021 Wins

4.61

[View Full 2021 HOU Team Study](#)

2022 Projection

Key Offseason Changes

- Replaced HC David Culley with Lovie Smith.
- Continued to rebuild, primarily through drafting CB Derek Stingley, Jr. and G Kenyon Green.
- Added backup QB Kyle Allen.

Projected 2022 Wins

4.65

Defining Narrative

The Texans continue to rebuild in 2022, but are progressing more slowly than some other teams that have been at the bottom of the NFL. This slow progress results from years of poor management under Jack Easterby, which left the Texans bereft of draft capital. But they finally traded Deshaun Watson in a positive step towards a true rebuild, leading to two top-15 picks that they spent on a cornerback and offensive lineman. This season's goal: figure out what they have in Davis Mills. Based on his late-season rookie tape, I believe they have a worthy but unexciting player, who can get the job done when the situation is favorable, but ultimately cannot elevate his team the way a top quarterback can.

Betting Cheatsheet

	Win Total (Over)	Win Total (Under)	Division	Super Bowl
Best Odds	4.5 (+100) (DK/CZ)	4.5 (-110) (FD)	+6050 (Circa)	+100000 (Circa)
True Odds	-104	+104	+5642	+200000
Value	Yes (Very Low)	None	Yes (Very Low)	None

2022 AFC South Preview and Placed Bets



Final Standings Prediction

Team	Record	Playoff Result
IND	11-6	Loss in Wildcard
JAC	9-8	Loss in Wildcard
TEN	8-9	Miss
HOU	4-13	Miss

Official SharpClarke Futures

Bet	Odds	Units	Date Placed	CLV*
IND to win AFC South	+145	1	3.9.22 (FD)	+12.7%
JAC O 6 Wins	-120	2	4.24.22 (DK)	+2.0%
JAC O 6.5 Wins	+115	0.6	7.5.22 (FD)	+0.0%
JAC to make Playoffs	+490	0.3	7.3.22 (Circa)	+0.4%

*CLV is measured here in terms of the change in implied win probability using the current line at the book where I placed the bet.

For access to all my NFL betting content through the 2022 season, including alerts for every bet (and much more), get the Betting package on 4for4.com, using the promo code SharpClarke for 10% off:

[Join 4for4.com](https://4for4.com)