

# Orlando City SC: Roster Efficiency & Player Value Report

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Orlando City SC demonstrates one of the strongest roster efficiency profiles among all teams analyzed, with the highest percentage of valuable players and a strongly negative average impact. The single greatest strength is the 2025 Goalkeeper TAM slot, which delivers elite negative percent change (-31.8%), along with consistently valuable Designated Midfielders across multiple seasons. The most urgent roster need is the 2024-2025 Designated Forward group, where multiple players show positive (harmful) percent change (+5% to +9.8%), representing a significant inefficiency in forward DP investment.

## 2. PLAYER ABSENCE IMPACT METRIC

The *Player Absence Impact* metric, derived from the Lasso regression model, quantifies an individual player's marginal contribution to team performance. The process simulates the team's Pythagorean Expectation (PE) score with the player on the roster and then recalculates it after removing that single player.

The resulting **percent change** (% change) is the key indicator:

- **Negative percent change** (e.g., -31.8%) means the team's PE score *decreases* without the player, identifying a **valuable** asset.
- **Positive percent change** means the team's PE score *increases* without the player, identifying a **replaceable** or potentially harmful contract.

This metric allows the front office to evaluate roster construction efficiency by isolating each player's true on-field impact.

## 3. ROSTER HEALTH OVERVIEW

- **Genuinely Impactful (Percent change < -5.0%): 16.8%** (24 of 143 player-seasons). These players significantly hurt the team if removed.
- **Not Impactful / Replaceable (Percent change > 5.0%): 12.6%** (18 of 143 player-seasons). The team performs better without these players.

**Team Summary (from team\_summary.csv):**

- Total player-seasons analyzed: 143
- Percentage of roster that is valuable (percent change < 0): **63.6%** (highest among teams analyzed)
- Average percent change across all players: **-1.19%** (strongly net-negative, meaning on average the team is significantly better with these players – best among teams analyzed)
- Average impact magnitude: 2.6%

## 4. DESIGNATED PLAYER ROI AUDIT

Player	Year	Salary	PE % change	Value Verdict
2021 F	2021	\$2,486,250	+6.31%	<b>Harmful</b>
2021 M	2021	\$1,800,000	-1.31%	<b>Core</b>
2022 F	2022	\$1,860,000	+8.13%	<b>Harmful</b>
2022 M	2022	\$1,348,000	-1.00%	<b>Core</b>
2022 F (Young DP)	2022	\$953,200	+4.74%	<b>Marginal</b>
2023 F	2023	\$993,200	-1.41%	<b>Core</b>
2023 F	2023	\$912,600	-1.64%	<b>Core</b>
2023 M	2023	\$675,000	+2.21%	<b>Marginal</b>
2024 F (Intl.)	2024	\$4,336,150	+7.04%	<b>Harmful</b>
2024 F	2024	\$1,812,400	+1.73%	<b>Marginal</b>
2024 F	2024	\$972,600	-2.38%	<b>Core</b>
2025 F (Intl.)	2025	\$4,003,333	+9.79%	<b>Harmful</b>
2025 F (Intl.)	2025	\$1,650,667	+5.03%	<b>Harmful</b>
2025 F	2025	\$1,032,600	-1.07%	<b>Core</b>

- **Flagged (Percent change < 0 - Valuable):** 7 of 14 Designated Player seasons show negative percent change. Midfielder DPs are consistently valuable; forward DPs are inconsistent.
- **Flagged (Percent change > 0 - Harmful): 7 players** – forward DPs are the primary concern. The 2024-2025 forward DPs (Intl.) are harmful (+5% to +9.8%), while lower-salaried forward DPs are valuable.

## 5. ALLOCATION MONEY EFFICIENCY (TAM / U22-INITIATIVE)

- **TAM Contributors (Negative Percent change):** TAM players are a clear strength, particularly in goal and defense. Valuable TAM contributors include a 2023 GK TAM (Intl.) (-20.55%), 2024 GK TAM (Intl.) (-26.88%), 2025 GK TAM (-31.84%), 2025 D TAM (-2.60%), 2025 F TAM (-0.40%, -0.48%), 2025 M TAM (-0.18%, -0.25%). However, several TAM players show positive percent change: 2024 D TAM (+3.07%), 2024 M TAM (+2.20%), 2024 F TAM (+0.88%), 2024 M TAM (+1.43%), 2025 D TAM (+1.09%).
- **U22-Initiative Impact:** U22 slots are generally effective:
  - 2023 F U22 (Intl.): -3.39% (valuable)
  - 2023 F U22: -3.31% (valuable)
  - 2024 F U22 (Intl.): +1.86% (marginal)

- 2024 M U22 (Intl.): +0.40% (marginal)
- 2025 F U22 (Intl.): -7.16% (elite valuable)

**Top 3 TAM "Steals" (Most Negative Percent change):**

1. **2025 GK TAM** (\$1,249,333, -31.84%)
2. **2024 GK TAM (Intl.)** (\$1,089,333, -26.88%)
3. **2023 GK TAM (Intl.)** (\$937,333, -20.55%)

## 6. HOMEGROWN PLAYER EVALUATION

Player	Year	Salary	PE % change
2025 D Homegrown	2025	\$163,875	+0.95%
2025 GK Homegrown	2025	\$123,750	+1.51%
2025 D Homegrown	2025	\$92,520	-3.15%
2025 M Homegrown	2025	\$91,427	-0.30%
2025 M Homegrown	2025	\$86,997	-0.33%
2024 GK Homegrown	2024	\$157,650	+1.34%
2024 D Homegrown	2024	\$126,530	+2.20%
2024 D Homegrown	2024	\$93,716	-1.82%
2024 GK Homegrown	2024	\$71,401	-1.30%
2023 GK Homegrown	2023	\$145,650	+0.85%
2023 D Homegrown	2023	\$91,974	-1.15%
2022 D Homegrown	2022	\$73,254	-5.01%

- **Ready for Roster Promotion (Negative Percent change + Low Salary):**
  - **2025 D Homegrown (\$92,520, -3.15%):** Strong negative impact approaching the elite threshold.
  - **2024 D Homegrown (\$93,716, -1.82%):** Solid value from a homegrown defender.
  - **2024 GK Homegrown (\$71,401, -1.30%):** Marginal but negative impact.
  - **2022 D Homegrown (\$73,254, -5.01%):** Elite-level negative impact from a homegrown defender (historical).

## 7. INTERNATIONAL SLOT OPTIMIZATION

Player	Year	Pos	Salary	PE % change	Justifies Slot?
2023 GK TAM	2023	GK	\$937,333	-20.55%	Yes

Player	Year	Pos	Salary	PE % change	Justifies Slot?
2023 F U22	2023	F	\$375,909	-3.39%	Yes
2023 F Gen. adidas	2023	F	\$102,444	-1.52%	Yes
2024 F	2024	F	\$4,336,150	+7.04%	No
2024 GK TAM	2024	GK	\$1,089,333	-26.88%	Yes
2024 D TAM	2024	D	\$683,000	+0.13%	No
2024 F TAM	2024	F	\$532,664	+0.88%	No
2024 M TAM	2024	M	\$520,250	+1.43%	No
2024 F U22	2024	F	\$398,636	+1.86%	No
2024 M U22	2024	M	\$217,471	+0.40%	No
2024 M	2024	M	\$71,401	-2.55%	Yes
2025 F	2025	F	\$4,003,333	+9.79%	No
2025 F	2025	F	\$1,650,667	+5.03%	No
2025 M TAM	2025	M	\$725,000	+0.21%	No
2025 M TAM	2025	M	\$520,250	-0.25%	Yes
2025 D	2025	D	\$377,972	-3.75%	Yes
2025 F U22	2025	F	\$262,000	-7.16%	Yes

- **Flagged Slot Misuse (Percent change > 5%):**
  - **2024 F DP (\$4.34M, +7.04%)** – severe DP slot misuse
  - **2025 F DP (\$4.00M, +9.79%)** – severe DP slot misuse
  - **2025 F DP (\$1.65M, +5.03%)** – DP slot misuse

## 8. POSITIONAL DEPTH AUDIT

Position	Senior Count	Supplemental Count	Critical Upgrade Need?	Strength Area?
<b>F (Forward)</b>	18	7	Yes	No (DP forwards are inconsistent; TAM forwards are marginal; U22 forwards are excellent)
<b>M (Midfielder)</b>	16	7	No	Yes (DP midfielders are consistently valuable; TAM

Position	Senior Count	Supplemental Count	Critical Upgrade Need?	Strength Area?
				midfielders are mixed)
<b>D (Defender)</b>	17	7	No	<b>Yes</b> (Homegrown defenders provide consistent negative impact; TAM defenders are mixed)
<b>GK (Goalkeeper)</b>	6	4	No	<b>Yes</b> (TAM goalkeepers are elite; homegrown GKs are marginal)

- **Critical Need:** Forward position at the DP level. Orlando City cannot afford to continue investing large DP salaries in forwards who deliver positive percent change.
- **Strength:** Goalkeeper position is an elite organizational strength, with TAM GKs delivering -20% to -32% impact. Midfielder DP investment is also consistently valuable.

## 9. SALARY vs. VALUE MATRIX

Quadrant	Definition	Players (Top 5 or All)
<b>CORE ASSET</b>	% change < 0 & Salary > \$500K	2025 GK TAM (\$1.25M, -31.84%), 2024 GK TAM (\$1.09M, -26.88%), 2023 GK TAM (\$937K, -20.55%), 2021 M DP (\$1.80M, -1.31%), 2022 M DP (\$1.35M, -1.00%)
<b>HIDDEN GEM</b>	% change < 0 & Salary ≤ \$500K	2025 F U22 (\$262K, -7.16%), 2022 D Homegrown (\$73K, -5.01%), 2025 D (\$378K, -3.75%), 2025 D Homegrown (\$93K, -3.15%), 2024 D (\$351K, -1.32%)
<b>OVERPAID</b>	% change ≥ 0 & Salary > \$500K	<b>All in this quadrant:</b> 2025 F DP (\$4.00M, +9.79%), 2024 F DP (\$4.34M, +7.04%), 2021 F DP (\$2.49M, +6.31%), 2025 F DP (\$1.65M, +5.03%), 2022 F DP (\$1.86M, +8.13%), 2022 F Young DP (\$953K, +4.74%), 2024 F DP (\$1.81M, +1.73%), 2024 D TAM (\$947K, +3.07%),

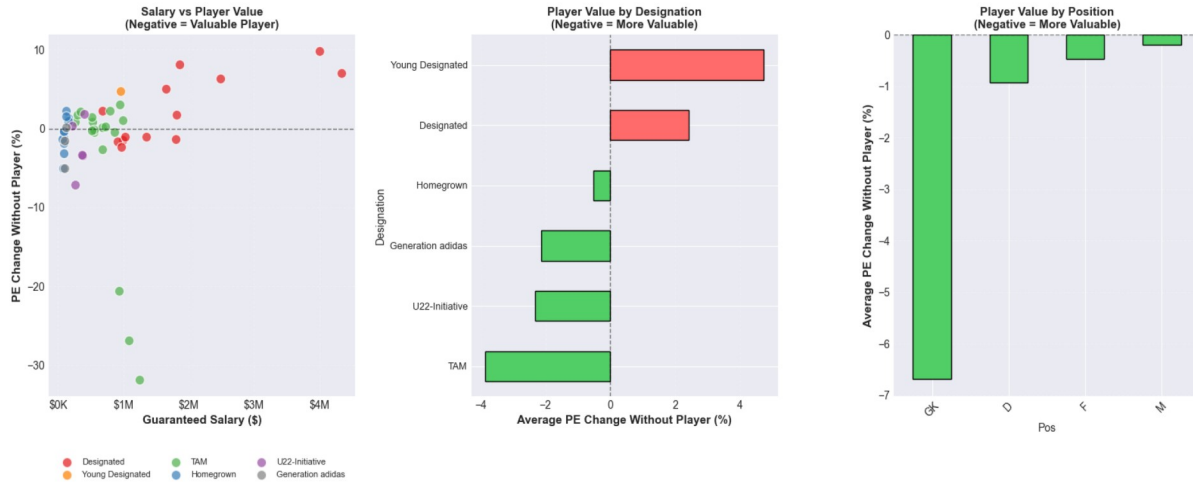
Quadrant	Definition	Players (Top 5 or All)
		2024 M TAM (\$800K, +2.20%)
<b>REPLACEABLE</b>	% change $\geq 0$ & Salary $\leq$ \$500K	Several senior defenders and midfielders with marginal positive percent change, some TAM players, and a portion of the supplemental roster.

## 10. YEAR-OVER-YEAR TRENDS

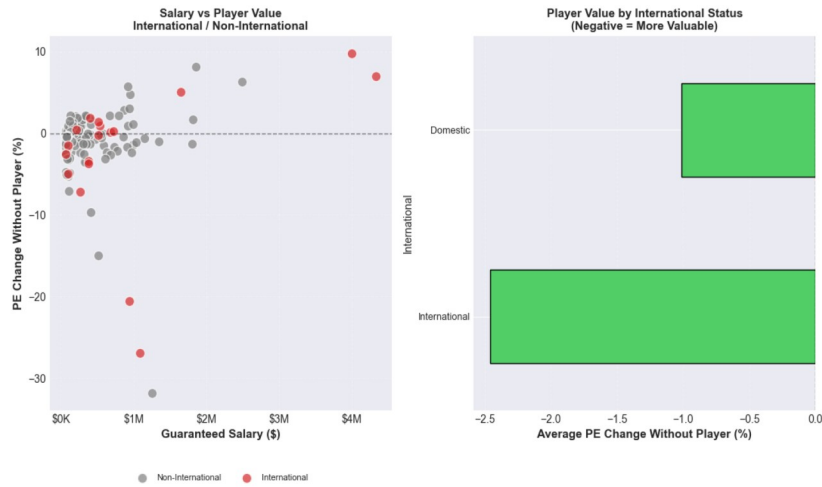
- **Designated Player ROI: Bimodal.** Midfielder DPs are consistently valuable (-1.0% to -1.3%). Forward DPs are problematic: 2021-2022 forwards were harmful (+6% to +8%), 2023 forwards were valuable (-1.4% to -1.6%), and 2024-2025 forwards have reverted to harmful (+5% to +9.8%). This inconsistency suggests scouting or targeting issues at the forward DP position.
- **TAM Efficiency: Elite at goalkeeper, mixed elsewhere.** TAM goalkeepers deliver -20% to -32% impact – best-in-class. TAM field players are marginal to positive. Orlando City should consider expanding the TAM goalkeeper model.
- **U22 Efficiency: Excellent.** Most U22 players show negative percent change, with one elite (-7.16%). This is a clear organizational strength.
- **Homegrown Impact: Strong on defense.** Homegrown defenders consistently show negative impact (-1.8% to -5.0%). Homegrown players in other positions are marginal. This suggests positional strength in defensive development.
- **Goalkeeper Trend: Elite when using TAM.** Orlando City's investment in TAM goalkeepers has paid exceptional dividends (-20% to -32%). This is a best-practice model for other MLS teams.

# 11. SUMMARY FIGURES

**Figure 1 - Designation Analysis**  
(Negative % = Team Gets Worse Without Player = Valuable Player)



**Figure 2 - International Analysis**  
(Negative % = Team Gets Worse Without Player = Valuable Player)



**Figure 3 - Senior/Supplemental Analysis**  
(Negative % = Team Gets Worse Without Player = Valuable Player)

