NFL Home Field Advantage?

Have you heard of a “home field” advantage? Supposedly teams have an advantage when they play home and their odds of winning a game or match are increased. Do teams really have a home field advantage and if so, how great is that advantage? The graphic below gives the total home and road wins over the last ten years for every NFL team. Do NFL teams seem to benefit from a home field advantage?
1. Which team had the most victories over this ten-year time period? How can you tell?

2. How did your favorite (or local) team do over the last ten years compared to other teams?

3. Which team had the least total wins over this ten year period of time?

4. According to the data which team would say is the best road team over this time period? Which team seems to be least effected by having to play on the road?

5. According to the data which team would you say is the worst road team over this time period? Which team seems to be the most effected by having to play on the road?

6. In general how do the number of home wins for NFL teams compare to the number of “away” wins? How can you see this in the graphic?

7. After viewing this graphic would you say NFL teams have a home field advantage? As a class determine the total number of games won at home and the total number of games won on the road by all 32 teams. How do these totals compare? What percent of all wins are home wins? What percent are road wins? What do these numbers tell you about a supposed “home field” advantage?

8. The NFL has been around since about 1922. This graph only shows data for the last ten years. How might a graph comparing home and away wins for the entire league history look similar or different?

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Graphic from: http://visual.ly/home-cookin and created by Sports Data LLC.