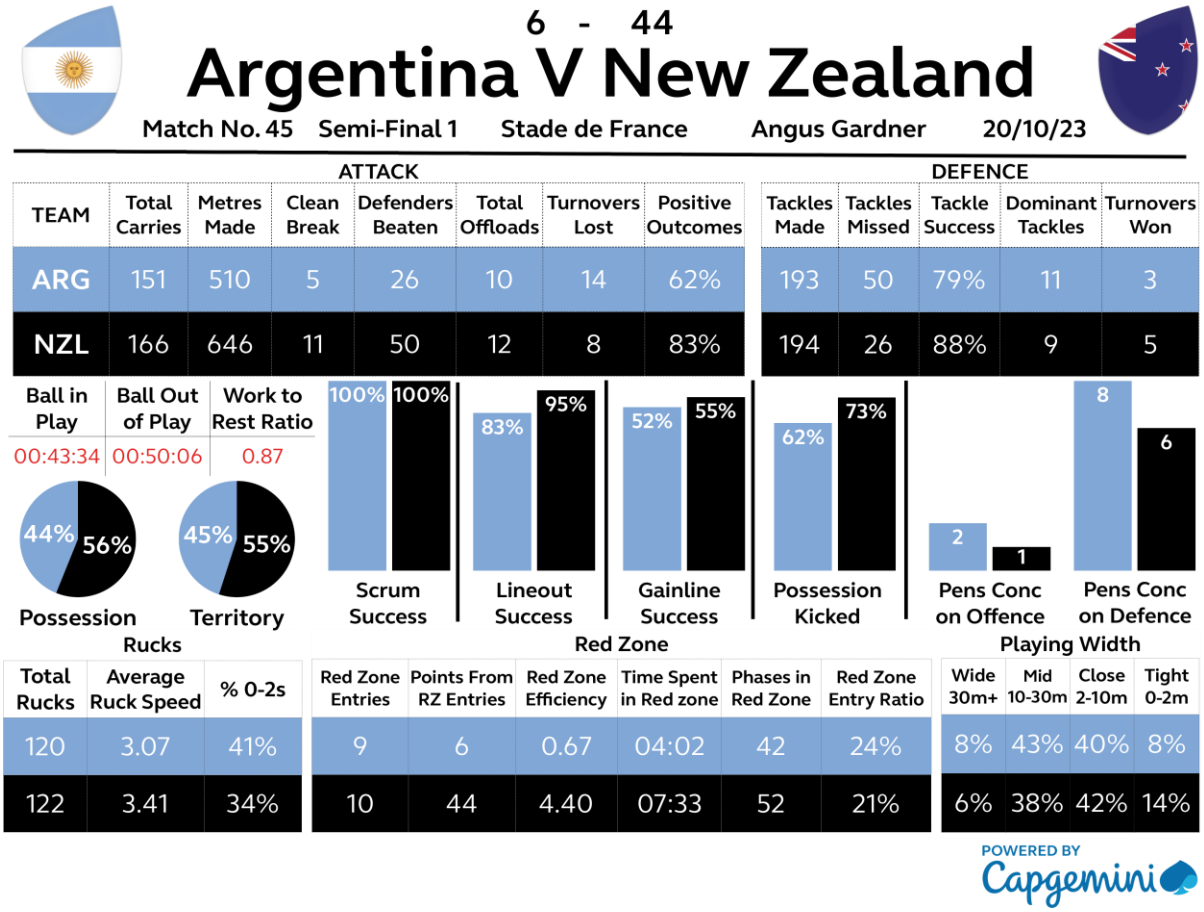
Match analysis



Argentina

Ball in play – New highest ball-in-play time of the tournament beating Ireland v New Zealand in the quarter final.

Carries– Made the most carries of their entire tournament with some decent attacking output, just nowhere near as good as New Zealand.

Risk and reward– The most offloads of their tournament but a lot of turnovers conceded, matching their tournament average. Only had a lower positive outcome percentage in their week five game against Japan.

Defence – Nearly the exact same number of tackles as New Zealand but almost twice as many missed. The most tackles they've had to make in a game by 73 competed to the next most (also against Japan).

Turnovers won – Just 3 turnovers won.

Match-winning stats – In the quarter-finals, all four teams who won made fewer turnovers than their opposition, had higher positive outcomes, kicked more possession, conceded fewer penalties and had a better red-zone efficiency. Argentina won none of these key stats.

Ruck speed – Maintained their rapid ruck speed, their second fastest of the tournament and faster than their average of 3.35s which was the second fastest of any team going into this game. Couldn't make it count this time.

Red-zone efficiency – Nowhere near New Zealand and a huge drop-off from their own tournament average, 3.38 points per entry (the fourth best of anyone in the tournament, despite enjoying plenty of possession and phases of play.
Marcos Kremer – 15 carries, the most of any Argentinian player and second only to Ardie Savea. Also made the joint-most tackles (19) with Jordie Barrett and compatriot Thomas Gallo, including two dominant.
Mateo Carreras – Made the most metres for Argentina (72), 70 of which were after the point of the initial contact. Also beat 8 defenders, double any of his teammates but still 6 behind Mark Tele'a; 2 line-breaks for good measure.

New Zealand

Dominance – The only stats they didn't outperform Argentina in were dominant tackles and ruck speed.
Carries – Second-most carries in a game for them behind only their week five match against Uruguay.
Defenders beaten – the second most defenders in the entire tournament with only Scotland beating more defenders versus Romania (72).
Positive outcomes – Managed a 93% completion rate of their possessions in their QF vs Ireland, the best of the whole tournament, only a little worse here.
Tackles made – Two hugely physical games for them in a row, had to make the second-most tackles of the whole tournament last week, made almost 200 again this week in a game with the highest ball-in-play time.
Possession kicked – Increasing their possession kicked dramatically during the knockout stages, averaged 55% in the pool stages, reached 80% in their QF and 73% here, a huge tactical shift.
Ruck speed – Quicker than their own tournament average.
Red zone – Only had a better red-zone efficiency in their pool match against Namibia. Significantly higher than their tournament average of 3.87 which was already the best of any team to this point.
Playing width – Far tighter playing width tonight compared to their tournament average.
Mark Tele'a – Beat the joint-most defenders in a single game in this World Cup, matching Darcy Graham and Duhan van der Merwe (14). Made 2 line-breaks and the second-most metres of anyone on the pitch (98).
Ardie Savea – Made the most carries for New Zealand, beat 8 defenders and made 18 tackles without missing any. Only Jordie Barrett made more but missed 5.

For more match preview and analysis, go to
https://www.world.rugby/media-zone/rwc-2023/notes

Key

POSITIVE OUTCOMES: Percentage of possessions that didn't end in an error or turnover.

WORK TO REST RATIO: Measure of match intensity, the ratio between ball in play to ball out of play expressed as e.g., 0.65:1.

RED ZONE EFFICIENCY: Average points scored per entry to opposition 22, maximum 7.

RED ZONE ENTRY RATIO: The percentage of a team's possession where they reached the opposition 22 with ball in hand.

PLAYING WIDTH: Requires a set piece or ruck, expresses width by distance between each ruck/set piece or end of possession.