2023 SIX NATIONS STATISTICAL REPORT

COMMENTARY

France won the Six Nations in 2022 and, together with Ireland, dominated the tournament, losing only one game between them. The other four teams each lost at least three matches.

	2022 SIX NATIONS											
	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	TF	TA	TB	LB	PTS
FRANCE	5	5	0	0	141	73	68	17	7	2	0	25
IRELAND	5	4	0	1	168	63	105	24	4	4	1	21
ENGLAND	5	2	0	3	101	96	5	8	12	1	1	10
SCOTLAND	5	2	0	3	92	121	-29	11	15	1	1	10
WALES	5	1	0	4	76	104	-28	8	8	0	3	7
ITALY	5	1	0	4	60	181	-121	5	27	0	0	4

For the remainder of the year, the success of both France and Ireland continued. France beat both high performance opponents, Australia and South Africa, while Ireland went to New Zealand and won a three-match series by two wins to one. They also won their other high performance matches against South Africa and Australia.

These results were reflected in the World Rugby Men's Rankings powered by Capgemini of Six Nations teams at the start of 2023 Championship.

WORLD RUGBY RANKINGS	
IRELAND	1
FRANCE	2
SCOTLAND	5
ENGLAND	6
WALES	9
ITALY	12

When this year's Six Nations was contested, the finishing order in the competition was identical to the World Rugby Ranking positions.

TOURNAMENT

IRELAND

Ireland were the 2023 Grand Slam winners, winning all five of their matches and beating France, their closest rival, 32-19.-

- They scored 20 tries, one fewer than France.
- They won four try-bonus points in their five matches.
- They averaged 30 points per game.
- They had by far the best defence, conceding only six tries while every other team conceded at least twice as many.
- They had more total possession than any of the other teams.
- They pressurised teams from the start, scoring 60 per cent of their points in the first half.
- They had the second-highest rate of passing and made the second-highest number of passes.
- They were the fastest rucking team and had the best ruck retention rate.
- Fifty per cent of their tries came from 7+ passing movements, a far higher proportion than any other team.
- They mauled the most.
- Their forwards scored almost half their tries – nine of 20.
- They scored from all sources of possession.
- They were awarded 20 per cent more penalties than their opponents.
- They were the only team not to receive a single yellow or red card.

FRANCE

France won four of their five matches, losing only to Ireland.

They had a young and relatively inexperienced squad with their 42-man squad containing 19 with fewer than 10 caps and only one with more than 50. The squad average was 15. This was in sharp contrast to Ireland, their major challenger, whose squad averaged 40 caps per player, with 13 players with 50 or more.

- They scored the most points, averaging 35 points per game.
- They scored the most tries.
- They won four try-bonus points from their five matches.
- They had the lowest overall possession than any other team and their opponents had more than any other team's opponents.
- Of the six matches with lowest ball in play times, France were involved in four.
- Territory was favoured over possession.
- They kicked the most with their scrum-half making more kicks than any other teams' scrum-half.
- They rucked the least.
- They had the lowest rate of passing.

- They scored tries from all sources of possession with almost 60 per cent coming from open play. Of the 11 tries scored from turnovers, for example, they scored five.
- They also scored more tries than any other team from possession gained inside their own half which accounted for 25 per cent of all their tries.
- They had the highest goal-kicking success rate and they kicked the only drop goal.

MARGINS

Two years ago in the Six Nations, one of the striking factors was the closeness of many of the matches and the tightness of winning margins. This excluded Italy, who suffered five heavy defeats, conceding around 50 points per game.

When Italy's results were isolated, <u>eight of the remaining 10 matches had margins of just five points or fewer.</u> This was not repeated in 2022, however, where the corresponding number was down to three and margins noticeably increased.

In 2023, the margins increased again and not one of the eight games had a margin of five or less. This is shown in the following table:

MATCH	MARGIN IN 2021	MARGIN IN 2022	MARGIN IN 2023
England v Scotland	5	3	6
Wales v Ireland	5	22	24
Scotland v Wales	1	3	28
Ireland v France	2	6	13
France v Wales	2	4	13
France v Scotland	2	19	11
Scotland v Ireland	3	21	15
England v France	3	12	43

The table is a confirmation of the increasing strength of Ireland and France relative to England, Scotland and Wales as also seen in the World Rugby Rankings.

ITALY

Despite winning only one of their last 45 Six Nations matches. Italy have seen a major improvement in their performance over the years. In this year's tournament, Italy's average losing margin was 12 points. Only once in the last 15 years has Italy's average losing margin been fewer than 12 – and that was in 2013.

This improvement is also illustrated in the following table, which shows that their average losing margin of 37 points in 2021 has been reduced to 12 points in 2023.

MATCH	MARGIN IN 2021	MARGIN IN 2022	MARGIN IN 2023
Italy v France	-40	-27	-5
Italy v England	-23	-30	-17
Italy v Wales	-41	+1 (win)	-12
Italy v Ireland	-38	-51	-14
Italy v Scotland	-42	-11	-12

Furthermore, in this year's tournament, despite losing all five matches, Italy gave Ireland and France their closest matches:

- Against France, in the 67th minute, Italy were leading 24-22.
- Against Ireland in the 70th minute, Italy were within one score at 20-27.

The improvement in Italy's performance followed the adoption of a clear playing strategy. This was delivered by the youngest squad in the tournament with an average age of 25. Almost 50 per cent of the squad had fewer than 10 caps and only one player had more than 50.

Their strategy involved:

- Retaining possession
- Distributing the ball in all parts of the pitch
- Keeping the ball alive
- Playing at pace

Match data shows that:

- Italy had the most possession in four of their five matches.
- They kicked the least.
- They made the most passes.
- Their backs passed proportionally more than any other teams' backs.
- Italy's scrum-half was the most likely scrum-half to pass the ball. He also kicked the least.
- Their fly-half was the most likely fly-half to pass the ball.
- They had the highest number of 3+ passing movements.

- They had the highest rate of passing.
- They had the fasted ruck speed over all parts of the pitch.

ITALY UNDER-20S

At the same time as the Six Nations was played, the U20 Six Nations took place where Italy finished third, their highest-ever position.

They achieved this by playing a game that was quite different from that adopted by their senior team. It was a heavily forward-driven approach and while a playing strategy can be dictated by the physicality and skillset of a squad of players, the extent of the difference between the approaches of a country's two national teams was unusual.

A measure of some differences can be seen in the following examples.

2023 ITALY SIX NATIONS	2023 ITALY U20 SIX NATIONS
Made the most passes	Made the fewest passes
177 passes per game	87 passes per game
Most likely scrum-half to pass the ball	Least likely scrum-half to pass the ball
Least likely scrum-half to kick	Second most likely scrum-half to kick
Highest rate of passing	Lowest rate of passing
highest number of 3+ passing movements	Lowest number of 3+ passing movements
Of nine tries, one driven over by forwards	Of 24 tries, 19 driven over by forwards

TRY SCORING

England's performance saw them finish in fourth position. Over the last three years, they have finished in fourth, third and fifth. In each of those years, they have lost more matches than they have won. This is in sharp contrast to the earlier years of the previous decade where they came first three times and second three times.

One statistic from this year's tournament showed that overall 66 per cent of tries were scored by backs and the table below shows that of the six teams, five saw their backs score more tries than their forwards. England were the only exception as their forwards scored the same number of tries as their backs, just as they did in the 2022 Six Nations.

The table, which covers the last two years, shows that England's backs have scored a total of 10 tries in as many matches – an average of one per game. At the same time, and over this period, England's scrum-half, fly-half and centres proved to be the most likely backs to kick the ball.

2022-23 SIX NATIONS			
TOTAL TRIES	BACKS	FORWARDS	PENALTY TRY
IRE 44	26	18	
FRA 38	27	11	
SCO 28	23	4	1
WAL 19	12	6	
ITA 14	11	2	1
ENG 21	10	10	1

Overall, England conceded twice as many tries in the second half as in the first half.

Tries can be categorised in a number of ways and in the modern game there is often a noticeable distinction between two distinct groups – those that come from open play and forward-orientated driven tries.

This could be seen in this year's Six Nations where three of France's tries were forward-driven while 18 came from open play. This was in sharp contrast to England, who scored eight of their 13 tries through their forwards.

The breakdown between all six teams is shown in the table below:

	TRIES FORWARD DRIVEN	TRIES FROM OPEN PLAY	TOTAL
ENG	8	5	13
IRE	6	14	20
WAL	5	6	11
SCO	5	12	17
FRA	3	18	21
ITA	2	7	9
TOT	29	62	91

PENALTY GOALS

The number of penalty goals kicked in this year's championship was 40 – the lowest total for at least 10 years. In that period, the average was 63 per tournament, or almost 60 per cent more.

There were also far fewer penalty attempts at goal. The 48 penalty goal attempts this year compared with the 121 attempts at goal in 2013 shows the extent of this change.

This is the result of the penalty now being regarded more as a vehicle for strategic possession than a direct method of accumulating points. Possible points are being turned down by kicking for touch with the intention of scoring tries from close lineout possession.

A consequence is that this year, for the first time in at least 10 years, more than 50 per cent of tries were scored from possession obtained from inside the opposition 22m line. This compares with 44 per cent over the previous decade.

SCRUMS

There was a time when the percentage of tries scored from lineout possession and the percentage of tries scored from scrum possession were very similar with each accounting for some 20 per cent of all tries.

This has moved over the years with, currently, three times as many tries being scored from lineout possession as from scrums. In this year's Six Nations, for example, 44 per cent of tries originated from lineout possession while 15 per cent came from scrums.

This is because scrums have changed.

- There are now far fewer with an average of 11 per game in this year's competition. In one match there were only five, in another match there were seven and in two there were eight.
- Frequently there are long periods of the game with no scrums. In this year's tournament, one match saw just one scrum in the second half. In another there were just two and in a third there were two periods in excess of 20 minutes where there were no scrums.
- Scrums are now often seen not so much as a source of valuable possession but as a source of winning penalties, with almost 50 per cent of scrums currently ending in a sanction.
- This struggle for penalties can take time, with scrums averaging around 70 seconds to complete. Two scrums this year took more than two minutes and 10 took over 100 seconds.
- One result is that front-row players now have quite different workloads. Instead of participating in upwards of 25 scrums per game and playing for 80 minutes, they are now more likely to be on the field for around 65 minutes and participate in an average of six scrums per game which is what happened in this year's Six Nations.

Scrums have also changed in other ways. While scrums took around 25 seconds to complete in the amateur era, they now take around 70 seconds.

They also contain many more stoppages in play. In this year's tournament, for example, on 35 per cent of occasions after the referee had blown for a scrum, he called for time off in order to deal with some form of intervention, the majority of which were for injuries.

The 35 per cent mentioned above was a reflection of the whole tournament. The percentage of intervention stoppages varied, however, between the six teams. This is shown in the following table, where the intervention rate in France scrums was 58 per cent while in Scotland scrums, it was 11 per cent.

% OF SCRUMS CONTAINING A STOPPAGE	
FRA	58%
ENG	52%
IRE	45%
WAL	30%
ITA	29%
SCO	11%
TOT	35%

PLAYERS

There are a range of requirements that determine the country a player is able to represent. These are based on birth, family, and playing location. The two tables below show the number and percentage of players who were born in the country they represented in this Six Nations tournament, and the country in which they played their rugby.

	% BORN IN COUNTRY REPRESENTED		% PLAYING IN COUNTRY REPRESENTED	
ENG	32 of 36	89%	35 of 36	97%
FRA	37 of 42	88%	42 of 42	100%
IRE	30 of 37	81%	37 of 37	100%
WAL	30 of 37	81%	31 of 37	84%
ITA	28 of 34	82%	25 of 34	74%
SCO	19 of 40	48%	25 of 40	63%
TOTAL	176 of 226	78%	195 of 226	86%

OVERALL SUMMARY

The following tables show the overall shape of the game data.

	2023 SIX NATIONS		
	AVERAGE	LEAST	MOST
POINTS	48	29	69
TRIES	6.1	4	9
CONVERSIONS	4.4	2	9
PENALTY GOALS	3	0	5
DROP GOALS	1 in 15 matches	0	1
BALL IN PLAY	37m38s (47%)	33m 47s (42%)	45m 30s (57%)
PASSES	314	230	398
RUCKS	185	134	228
MAULS	11	3	20
KICKS	55	37	77
LINEOUTS	26	14	34
SCRUMS	11	5	16
PKS/FKS	23	15	31
CARDS	1	0	3
TMO REFERRALS	32	1	4
TMO TIME TAKEN	99s	41s	194s

	2023 SIX NATIONS
MATCHES WON BY SCORING MOST TRIES	15 of 15
MATCHES WITHIN SEVEN POINTS	2 of 15
MATCHES WON BY THE TEAM WITH MORE POSSESSION	4 of 15: 2 equal
MATCHES WON BY THE AWAY TEAM	8 of 15
MATCHES WON BY TEAM WINNING AT HALF-TIME	14 of 15 = 93%
TRIES SCORED IN THE FIRST HALF	49%
PENALTY GOALS SCORED IN THE FIRST HALF	75%
TRIES SCORED BY BACKS	66%
TRIES SCORED BY BACKS/FORWARDS/PEN TRY	66%/31%/3%
POINTS PER YELLOW CARD	7,7,7,7,7,5,5,4,3,0,0,0

FINAL STANDINGS AND RESULTS

2023 SIX NATIONS											
P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	TF	TA	TB	LB	PTS
IRELAND 5	5	0	0	151	72	79	20	6	4	0	27
FRANCE 5	4	0	1	174	115	59	21	14	4	0	20
SCOTLAND 5	3	0	2	118	98	20	17	12	3	0	15
ENGLAND 5	2	0	3	100	135	-35	13	18	1	1	10
WALES 5	1	0	4	84	147	-63	11	19	2	0	6
ITALY 5	0	0	5	89	149	-60	9	22	0	1	1

WALES	10-34	IRELAND
ENGLAND	23-29	SCOTLAND
ITALY	24-29	FRANCE
IRELAND	32-19	FRANCE
SCOTLAND	35-7	WALES
ENGLAND	31-14	ITALY
ITALY	20-34	IRELAND
WALES	10-20	ENGLAND
FRANCE	32-21	SCOTLAND
ITALY	17-29	WALES
ENGLAND	10-53	FRANCE
SCOTLAND	7-22	IRELAND
SCOTLAND	26-14	ITALY
FRANCE	41-28	WALES
IRELAND	29-16	ENGLAND

SCORING

The following table show the scoring profile.

	TOTAL	AVERAGE
POINTS	716	48
TRIES	91	6.1
CONVERSIONS	66	4.4
PENALTY GOALS	40	2.7
DROP GOALS	1	0.1

The following tables show the points scored and conceded by each team.

	POINTS SCORED	
	TOT	AVG
ENG	100	20
FRA	174	35
IRE	151	30
ITA	89	18
SCO	118	24
WAL	84	17
TOT	716	23.9

	POINTS CONCEDED	
	TOT	AVG
ENG	135	27
FRA	115	23
IRE	72	14
ITA	149	30
SCO	98	20
WAL	147	29
TOT	716	24

The following tables show the rate of try scoring and conceding for each team.

	TRIES SCORED		TRY SCORING RATE
	TOT	AVG	
ENG	13	2.6	1 every 448s
FRA	21	4.2	1 every 237s
IRE	20	4.0	1 every 299s
ITA	9	1.8	1 every 631s
SCO	17	3.4	1 every 334s
WAL	11	2.2	1 every 509s
TOT	91	3.0	1 every 371s

	TRIES CONCEDED		TRY CONCEDING RATE
	TOT	AVG	
ENG	18	3.6	1 every 307s
FRA	14	2.8	1 every 439s
IRE	6	1.2	1 every 936s
ITA	22	4.4	1 every 234s
SCO	12	2.4	1 every 475s
WAL	19	3.8	1 every 295s
TOT	91	3.0	1 every 371s

The following table shows the number of tries and penalty goals scored and conceded per team per half.

	TRIES SCORED		PGS SCORED		TRIES CONCEDED		PGS CONCEDED	
	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2
ENG	6	7	5	2	6	12	4	1
FRA	12	9	8	2	6	8	5	2
IRE	12	8	5	2	4	2	7	2
ITA	3	6	7	3	15	7	1	2
SCO	7	10	2	1	7	5	5	3
WAL	5	6	3	-	7	12	8	-
TOT	45	46	30	10	45	46	30	10

The following table shows the winning and losing margins for each team.

	WINNING MARGINS					LOSING MARGINS				
IRE	13	13	14	15	24					
FRA	5	11	13	43		13				
SCO	6	12	28			11	15			
ENG	10	17				6	13	43		
WAL	12					10	13	28	24	
ITA						5	12	12	14	17

The following tables show the breakdown of scoring for each team.

	% POINTS TRIES	% POINTS KICKS
ENG	65%	35%
FRA	60%	40%
IRE	66%	34%
ITA	51%	49%
SCO	72%	28%
WAL	65%	35%
TOT	64%	36%

	RATIO TRY : PG SCORED
ENG	1.9 : 1
FRA	2.1 : 1
IRE	2.9 : 1
ITA	0.9 : 1
SCO	5.7 : 1
WAL	3.7 : 1
TOT	2.3 : 1

TRY SCORING

The following table shows the impact of tries on winning and losing.

	WON MORE TRIES	WON EQUAL TRIES	WON FEWER TRIES	DRAW	LOST MORE TRIES	LOST EQUAL TRIES	LOST FEWER TRIES
ENG	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
FRA	4	-	-	-	-	-	1
IRE	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITA	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
SCO	3	-	-	-	-	-	2
WAL	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
TOT	15	0	0	0	0	0	15

The following table shows the total number of tries scored per team per match.

	0 TRIES	1 TRY	2 TRIES	3 TRIES	TRY BONUS POINT	TRIES PER MATCH
ENG	-	2	-	2	1	1, 1, 3, 3, 5
FRA	-	1	-	-	4	1, 4, 4, 5, 7
IRE	-	-	-	1	4	3, 4, 4, 4, 5
ITA	-	1	4	-	-	1, 2, 2, 2, 2
SCO	-	1	-	1	3	1, 3, 4, 4, 5
WAL	-	3	-	-	2	1, 1, 1, 4, 4
TOT	-	8	4	4	10	

The following table shows the position of the try scorers per team.

	FORWARDS		BACKS		PENALTY TRIES		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	6	46%	6	46%	1	8	13
FRA	6	29%	15	71%	-	-	21
IRE	9	45%	11	55%	-	-	20
ITA	2	22%	6	67%	1	11%	9
SCO	2	12%	15	88%	-	-	17
WAL	3	27%	7	64%	1	9%	11
TOT	28	31	60	66%	3	3	91

The following table shows the source of tries scored per team.

	L/OUT		SCRUM		T/OVER & KICK		RESTART		TAP		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	7	54%	1	8%	2	15%	1	8%	2	15%	13
FRA	7	33%	2	10%	9	43%	1	5%	2	10%	21
IRE	7	35%	4	20%	5	25%	2	10%	2	10%	20
ITA	4	44%	2	22%	3	33%	-	-	-	-	9
SCO	9	53%	4	24%	3	18%	-	-	1	6%	17
WAL	6	55%	1	9%	3	27%	1	9%	0	0%	11
TOT	40	44%	14	15%	25	27%	5	5%	7	8%	91

The following table shows the origin of tries scored per team.

	OWN HALF		HW – 22m		22m - TRY		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	2	15%	2	15%	9	69%	13
FRA	5	24%	7	33%	9	43%	21
IRE	4	20%	7	35%	9	45%	20
ITA	1	11%	5	56%	3	33%	9
SCO	3	18%	3	18%	11	65%	17
WAL	1	9%	4	36%	6	55%	11
TOT	16	18%	28	31%	47	52%	91

The following table shows the number of passes made in the build up to tries scored.

	0 PASSES		1-3 PASSES		4-6 PASSES		7+ PASSES		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	4	31%	-	-	5	38%	4	31%	13
FRA	3	14%	7	33%	6	29%	5	24%	21
IRE	2	10%	4	20%	4	20%	10	50%	20
ITA	2	22%	2	22%	2	22%	3	33%	9
SCO	1	6%	8	47%	4	24%	4	24%	17
WAL	3	27%	2	18%	4	36%	2	18%	11
TOT	15	16%	23	25%	25	27%	28	31%	91

The following table shows the number of phases created in the build up to tries scored.

	0 PHASES		1 PHASE		2 PHASES		3+ PHASES		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	3	23%	2	15%	-	-	8	62%	13
FRA	8	38%	2	10%	3	14%	8	38%	21
IRE	3	15%	3	15%	3	15%	11	55%	20
ITA	3	33%	1	11%	1	11%	4	44%	9
SCO	3	18%	4	24%	2	12%	8	47%	17
WAL	4	36%	-	-	2	18%	5	45%	11
TOT	24	26%	12	13%	11	12%	44	48%	91

GOAL-KICKING

The following tables show the kicking success for penalty goals, conversions and drop goals per team.

	PENALTY SUCCESS		CONVERSION SUCCESS		OVERALL SUCCESS	
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%
ENG	7	78%	6	50%	13	62%
FRA	10	83%	18	86%	28	85%
IRE	7	100%	15	75%	22	82%
ITA	10	83%	6	75%	16	80%
SCO	3	100%	12	71%	15	75%
WAL	3	60%	9	90%	12	80%
TOT	40	83%	66	75%	106	78%

	DROP GOAL SUCCESS	
	TOT	%
ENG	-	-
FRA	1	50%
IRE	-	-
ITA	-	-
SCO	-	-
WAL	-	-
TOT	1	50%

ACTIVITY

The following table shows the average, highest and lowest ball in play times.

	BALL IN PLAY
AVERAGE	37m 38s (47%)
HIGHEST	45m 30s (57%)
LOWEST	33m 47s (42%)

The following tables show the ball in play and possession times for each match. The highlighted matches are those where the winning team had less possession than the losing team.

	POSSESSION TIME	%	PTS
IRE	24:41	54%	32
ENG	23:10	58%	23
WAL	20:32	52%	10
SCO	20:52	53%	26
SCO	19:36	50%	35
WAL	18:45	49%	10
IRE	19:45	52%	29
SCO	18:45	50%	7
ENG	17:22	48%	31
ITA	20:33	57%	24
ENG	19:15	55%	10
FRA	15:40	45%	41
ITA	19:11	56%	17
FRA	14:58	44%	32
ITA	17:07	51%	20

	POSSESSION TIME	%	PTS	BIP TIME	BIP %
FRA	20:49	46%	19	45:30	57%
SCO	16:37	42%	29	39:47	50%
ENG	19:10	48%	20	39:43	50%
ITA	18:31	47%	14	39:24	49%
WAL	19:35	50%	7	39:12	49%
IRE	19:42	51%	34	38:28	48%
ENG	18:07	48%	16	37:53	47%
IRE	18:44	50%	22	37:29	47%
ITA	19:11	52%	14	36:34	46%
FRA	15:32	43%	29	36:05	45%
FRA	15:54	45%	53	35:10	44%
WAL	19:06	55%	28	34:46	43%
WAL	15:17	44%	29	34:29	43%
SCO	18:48	56%	21	33:47	42%
IRE	16:44	49%	34	33:51	42%

The following tables show possession by each team and their opponents.

	OWN POSSESSION TIME		OPP POSSESSION TIME	
	AVG	%	AVG	%
ENG	19:25	52%	18:25	48%
FRA	16:35	49%	20:29	51%
IRE	19:56	54%	18:43	46%
ITA	18:55	47%	17:10	53%
SCO	18:56	50%	19:00	50%
WAL	18:40	47%	18:40	53%
TOT	18:44	50%	18:44	50%

	AVG POSSESSION TIME
ENG	31s
FRA	30s
IRE	35s
ITA	28s
SCO	29s
WAL	34s
TOT	31s

The following table shows the general play activity per game.

	AVERAGE	LEAST	MOST
PASSES	314	230	398
RUCK	185	134	228
MAUL	11	3	20
KICKS	55	37	77

PASSES

The average passes per game was 314. The following table shows the average passes and offloads per team per game.

	PASSES	OFFLOADS	TOTAL	RATE OF PASSING
	AVG	AVG	AVG	
ENG	138	6	143	1 every 8.1s
FRA	110	12	123	1 every 8.1s
IRE	166	8	174	1 every 6.9s
ITA	177	11	188	1 every 6.0s
SCO	153	12	165	1 every 6.9s
WAL	139	11	150	1 every 7.5s
TOT	147	10	157	1 every 7.2s

The following table shows how often teams passed the ball more than three times in one phase.

	3+ PASSING MOVEMENTS	
	AVG	%
ENG	12	14%
FRA	14	21%
IRE	17	16%
ITA	24	24%
SCO	19	21%
WAL	16	18%
TOT	17	19%

The following tables show the proportion of a team's passes made by the forwards, the scrum-half and backs of each team.

	FORWARDS	
	AVG	%
ENG	26	18%
FRA	18	15%
IRE	29	17%
ITA	30	16%
SCO	30	18%
WAL	29	20%
TOT	27	17%

	SCRUM-HALF	
	AVG	%
ENG	76	53%
FRA	57	46%
IRE	87	50%
ITA	82	44%
SCO	76	46%
WAL	73	49%
TOT	75	48%

	BACKS	
	AVG	%
ENG	42	29%
FRA	48	39%
IRE	58	33%
ITA	76	40%
SCO	58	35%
WAL	48	32%
TOT	55	35%

The following tables show the rate of passing by the forwards, the scrum-half, the fly-half and backs of each team.

	FORWARDS
	PASS : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 3.5
FRA	1 every 3.9
IRE	1 every 3.5
ITA	1 every 3.0
SCO	1 every 2.8
WAL	1 every 2.9
TOT	**1 every 3.2**

	SCRUM-HALF
	PASS : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 1.2
FRA	1 every 1.2
IRE	1 every 1.2
ITA	1 every 1.1
SCO	1 every 1.2
WAL	1 every 1.2
TOT	**1 every 1.2**

	FLY-HALF
	PASS : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 1.8
FRA	1 every 1.6
IRE	1 every 1.4
ITA	1 every 1.3
SCO	1 every 1.5
WAL	1 every 1.5
TOT	**1 every 1.5**

	OUTSIDE BACKS
	PASS : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 5.4
FRA	1 every 2.3
IRE	1 every 2.7
ITA	1 every 2.4
SCO	1 every 3.6
WAL	1 every 3.5
TOT	**1 every 3.0**

RUCKS

The average rucks per game was 186. The following table shows average rucks per team per game.

	RUCKS	SUCCESS	RATE OF RUCKING	TURNOVER SUCCESS	
	AVG	%		AVG	%
ENG	96	94%	1 every 11.5s	4.4	5%
FRA	72	95%	1 every 13.1s	5.0	5%
IRE	110	97%	1 every 10.1s	4.8	5%
ITA	95	95%	1 every 11.2s	3.6	5%
SCO	90	95%	1 every 11.8s	3.4	3%
WAL	91	95%	1 every 11.7s	3.6	4%
TOT	**93**	**96%**	**1 every 11.5s**	**4.1**	**4%**

The following table shows the average ruck speed per team in each location of the pitch.

		DEFENDING		ATTCKING		OVERALL
		OWN 22m	22m – HW	HW - 22m	OPP 22m	
		AVG	AVG	AVG	AVG	AVG
	ENG	9.7s	5.9s	2.7s	3.1s	3.8s
	FRA	7.4s	4.9s	2.6s	3.0s	3.8s
	IRE	5.6s	4.4s	2.7s	3.0s	3.3s
	ITA	5.0s	3.0s	2.6s	2.7s	3.0s
	SCO	7.5s	4.3s	2.6s	3.3s	3.6s
	WAL	7.7s	5.2s	2.9s	2.8s	3.7s
	TOT	6.9s	4.5s	2.7s	3.0s	3.5s

The following table shows phase play per team.

		1 PHASE		2 PHASES		3 PHASES		4+ PHASES		AVG PHASES
		TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
	ENG	89	47%	49	26%	13	7%	40	21%	2.6
	FRA	74	48%	38	25%	10	6%	32	21%	2.5
	IRE	71	39%	42	23%	16	9%	51	28%	3.3
	ITA	48	29%	51	31%	23	14%	41	25%	3.1
	SCO	63	39%	38	23%	14	9%	47	29%	3
	WAL	66	41%	35	22%	16	10%	43	27%	3
	TOT	411	41%	253	25%	92	9%	254	25%	2.9

MAULS

The average mauls per game was 11. The following table shows average mauls per team per game.

	MAULS	
	AVG	SUCCESS
ENG	5	76%
FRA	4	94%
IRE	8	98%
ITA	6	86%
SCO	6	97%
WAL	5	79%
TOT	6	89%

KICKING

The average kicks per game was 56. The following table shows average kicks per team per game.

	KICKS	RATE OF KICKING
	AVG	
ENG	33	1 every 35s
FRA	29	1 every 34s
IRE	29	1 every 41s
ITA	21	1 every 54s
SCO	24	1 every 47s
WAL	28	1 every 40s
TOT	28	1 every 41s

The following tables show the type of kicks by each team.

	CONTESTED KICKS		UNCONTESTED KICKS		CHIP / GRUBBER / OTHER	
	AVG	%	AVG	%	AVG	%
ENG	8	25%	18	55%	7	20%
FRA	3	10%	20	69%	6	21%
IRE	7	25%	17	58%	5	17%
ITA	2	10%	13	60%	6	30%
SCO	2	10%	18	75%	4	16%
WAL	11	39%	12	41%	6	20%
TOT	6	21%	16	59%	6	20%

	KICK REGAINED
	RATE
ENG	1 in 5.4
FRA	1 in 3.6
IRE	1 in 5.5
ITA	1 in 4.6
SCO	1 in 2.5
WAL	1 in 4.4
TOT	1 in 4.4

The following tables show how often the scrum-half, fly-half, centres and back three kicked the ball

SCRUM-HALF	
	KICK : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 7.2
FRA	1 every 6.6
IRE	1 every 10.9
ITA	1 every 16.9
SCO	1 every 11.8
WAL	1 every 7.7
TOT	**1 every 9.3**

FLY-HALF	
	KICK : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 3.4
FRA	1 every 3.6
IRE	1 every 6.1
ITA	1 every 7.5
SCO	1 every 4.2
WAL	1 every 4.4
TOT	**1 every 4.6**

CENTRE	
	KICK : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 14.4
FRA	1 every 24.2
IRE	1 every 21.9
ITA	1 every 25.6
SCO	1 every 13.7
WAL	1 every 14.5
TOT	**1 every 18.0**

BACK THREE	
	KICK : POSSESSION
ENG	1 every 4.9
FRA	1 every 4.3
IRE	1 every 4.6
ITA	1 every 5.9
SCO	1 every 12.7
WAL	1 every 6.4
TOT	**1 every 5.6**

SET PIECE

50m RESTARTS

The following tables show the restart data for each team on their own kick and opponents' kick.

	OWN 50m RESTARTS								CONTESTABLE OPP 50m RESTARTS		
	TOT	NON CONTESTABLE		CONTESTABLE		REGAINED			RECIEVED		
		TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	RATE			TOT	RATE
ENG	27	14	52%	13	48%	3	1 in 4.3		ENG	7	1 in 1.3
FRA	23	16	70%	7	30%	1	1 in 7.0		FRA	11	1 in 1.2
IRE	19	11	58%	8	42%	1	1 in 8.0		IRE	12	1 in 1.3
ITA	29	24	83%	5	17%	1	1 in 5.0		ITA	5	1 in 1.4
SCO	23	12	52%	11	48%	2	1 in 5.5		SCO	9	1 in 1.1
WAL	32	18	56%	14	44%	3	1 in 4.7		WAL	4	1 in 1.0
TOT	153	95	62%	58	38%	11	1 in 5.3		TOT	48	1 in 1.2

LINEOUTS

The average lineouts per match was 26. The following tables show the lineout data for each team on their own throw and opponents' throw.

	OWN LINEOUTS							OPP LINEOUTS			
	TOTAL	CONTESTED		WON		LINEOUT> MAUL			TOTAL	CONTESTED	WON
		TOT	%	TOT	%						
ENG	66	25	38%	61	92%	37%		ENG	61	38%	11%
FRA	56	30	56%	47	84%	38%		FRA	79	28%	11%
IRE	70	34	49%	60	86%	58%		IRE	60	55%	18%
ITA	80	30	38%	70	88%	34%		ITA	67	24%	12%
SCO	69	24	35%	57	83%	42%		SCO	76	61%	18%
WAL	67	25	37%	57	85%	30%		WAL	65	43%	11%
TOT	408	168	41%	352	86%	39%		TOT	408	41%	14%

SCRUMS

The average scrums per match was 11. The following tables show the scrum data for each team on their own put in and opponents' put in.

	OWN SCRUMS						
	TOTAL	RESETS		WON		PK RATE	
		TOT	RATE	TOT	%	TOT	%
ENG	27	9	33%	26	96%	12	44%
FRA	20	4	20%	18	90%	7	35%
IRE	23	8	35%	21	91%	12	52%
ITA	34	9	26%	28	82%	14	41%
SCO	28	9	32%	25	89%	16	57%
WAL	26	7	27%	20	77%	12	46%
TOT	158	46	29%	138	87%	73	46%

	OPP SCRUMS		
	TOTAL	WON	
		TOT	%
ENG	32	8	25%
FRA	25	2	8%
IRE	25	2	8%
ITA	25	1	4%
SCO	19	3	16%
WAL	32	4	13%
TOT	158	20	13%

PENALTIES AND FREE-KICKS

The average penalties/free-kicks per match was 23. The following table shows the penalties/free-kicks for and against for each team.

	PK/FKs FOR			PK/FKs AGAINST		
	TOT	AVG	%	TOT	AVG	%
ENG	54	11	51%	52	10	49%
FRA	46	9	44%	58	12	56%
IRE	62	12	55%	51	10	45%
ITA	72	14	55%	58	12	45%
SCO	57	11	50%	57	11	50%
WAL	53	11	44%	68	14	56%
TOT	344	11	50%	344	11	50%

The following table shows penalties/free-kicks against each team in each area.

	RUCK		SCRUM		OFFSIDE		FOUL PLAY		GENERAL PLAY		LINEOUT/ MAUL		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	27	52%	8	15%	4	8%	8	15%	3	6%	2	4%	52
FRA	23	40%	9	16%	13	22%	4	7%	2	3%	7	12%	58
IRE	18	35%	11	22%	4	8%	8	16%	8	16%	2	4%	51
ITA	16	28%	17	29%	11	19%	4	7%	3	5%	7	12%	58
SCO	27	47%	10	18%	6	11%	8	14%	3	5%	3	5%	57
WAL	34	50%	12	18%	11	16%	2	3%	2	3%	7	10%	68
TOT	145	42%	67	19%	49	14%	34	10%	21	6%	28	8%	344

The following table shows where penalties/free-kicks were conceded for each team.

	OWN 22m		OWN 22m – HW		OPP HW – 22m		OPP 22m		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	5	10%	10	19%	26	50%	11	21%	52
FRA	22	38%	17	29%	13	22%	6	10%	58
IRE	5	10%	18	35%	18	35%	10	20%	51
ITA	14	24%	23	40%	13	22%	8	14%	58
SCO	20	35%	13	23%	18	32%	6	11%	57
WAL	15	22%	16	24%	21	31%	16	24%	68
TOT	81	24%	97	28%	109	32%	57	17%	344

The following table shows the reasons for tackle/ruck penalties against each team.

	BALL CARRIER		TACKLER		JACKLER		ENTRY		OFF FEET		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	12	44%	3	11%	6	22%	2	7%	4	15%	27
FRA	6	26%	6	26%	6	26%	2	9%	3	13%	23
IRE	5	28%	7	39%	4	22%	1	6%	1	6%	18
ITA	6	38%	4	25%	5	31%			1	6%	16
SCO	10	37%	5	19%	9	33%			3	11%	27
WAL	14	41%	7	21%	9	26%	3	9%	1	3%	34
TOT	53	37%	32	22%	39	27%	8	6%	13	9%	145

The following table shows the reasons for scrum penalties/free-kicks against each team.

	SETUP		BINDING / COLLAPSE		ANGLE / WHEEL / STANDUP		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	5	63%	3	38%			8
FRA	4	44%	2	22%	3	33%	9
IRE	5	45%	4	36%	2	18%	11
ITA	4	24%	8	47%	5	29%	17
SCO	4	40%	2	20%	4	40%	10
WAL	3	25%	8	67%	1	8%	12
TOT	25	37%	27	40%	15	22%	67

The following table shows the penalty/free-kick options taken by each team.

	KICK TO TOUCH		KICK AT GOAL		TAP KICKS		SCRUM		REVERSAL / PEN TRY / OTHER		TOT
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%	
ENG	35	63%	9	16%	8	14%	3	5%	1	2%	56
FRA	27	61%	12	27%	3	7%	2	5%		0%	44
IRE	42	74%	7	12%	6	11%	1	2%	1	2%	57
ITA	49	69%	12	17%	4	6%	4	6%	2	3%	71
SCO	40	69%	3	5%	9	16%	6	10%		0%	58
WAL	41	77%	5	9%	5	9%	1	2%	1	2%	53
TOT	234	69%	48	14%	35	10%	17	5%	5	1%	339

CARDS

The following table shows the reasons for the yellow and red cards.

	YELLOW CARDS	RED CARDS	TOTAL
DANGEROUS TACKLE	3	1	4
DANGEROUS PLAY	1	2	3
COLLAPSE MAUL	3		3
REPEATED INFRINGEMENTS	2		2
RUCK	1		1
STRIKING	1		1
NOT 10m	1		1
	12	**3**	**15**

The following table shows the number of cards awarded against each team and the reasons for the cards.

	YELLOW CARDS	RED CARDS	TOTAL	REASONS
ENG	1	1	2	DANGEROUS PLAY x 2
FRA	2	1	3	DANGEROUS PLAY / COLLAPSE MAUL / HIGH TACKLE
IRE				
ITA	5		5	REPEATED INFRINGEMENTS x 2 / COLLAPSE MAUL x 2 / STRIKING /
SCO	1	1	2	HIGH TACKLE x 2
WAL	3		3	HIGH TACKLE / RUCK / NOT 10m
TOT	**12**	**3**	**15**	

There were 12 yellow cards issued in the tournament

- In in seven of the 15 matches (47 per cent) there were no yellow cards issued.
- In five matches, one card was issued.
- In two matches, two cards were issued.
- In one match, three cards were issued.

Scoring in the sin-bin period

- There was no points benefit to either team on three occasions.
- On no occasion did the team with 14 players score more points than the team with 15 players.
- The team with 15 players scored the most points on nine occasions (7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 5, 5, 4, 3).

TELEVISION MATCH OFFICIAL

The following table shows the total number of TMO referrals, the most in a match, the least in a match and the average time taken per referral.

	TOTAL	AVERAGE	LEAST	MOST	AVG. TIME TAKEN
TRIES	18	1.2	0	4	94s
FOUL PLAY	14	0.9	0	3	111s
TOTAL	32	2.1	1	4	102s

The following table shows the reasons for the try referrals.

	TOTAL
GROUNDING	9
TOUCH	3
KNOCK-ON	2
MAUL	2
OBSTRUCTION	1
RUCK	1
TOTAL	18

The following table shows the reasons for the foul play/other referrals.

	TOTAL
HIGH TACKLE	4
DELIBERATE KNOCKON	3
CHARGING	3
DANGEROUS CLEAROUT	2
LIFTING TACKLE	1
LEADNG WITH ELBOW	1
TOTAL	14