

An aerial, top-down view of a large, circular stadium. The stadium's seating tiers are visible, radiating from the center. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. In the center of the stadium, the text "GAME INTELLIGENCE: RESISTING PRESSURE" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. At the bottom center, the "SKILLCORNER" logo is displayed in white, with "SKILL" in a bold sans-serif font and "CORNER" in a lighter, lowercase sans-serif font.

**GAME INTELLIGENCE:  
RESISTING PRESSURE**

**SKILLCORNER**

## GAME INTELLIGENCE

**Traditional football data provides information about on-the-ball events and outcomes.  
But on average a player is only on the ball for 3 minutes per game.**

**How can we evaluate the other 97% of a player's contribution, at scale?**

Our new Game Intelligence product takes football insight to the next level, by merging event and tracking data to evaluate the intelligence and effectiveness of key football concepts such as:

- A player's off-the-ball movement
- Their on-ball decision making and passing risk/reward profile
- Their ability to execute when under pressure from opponents

## RESISTING PRESSURE

**Game Intelligence can help you to analyse how good players are at retaining the ball and completing passes when under differing levels of pressure:**

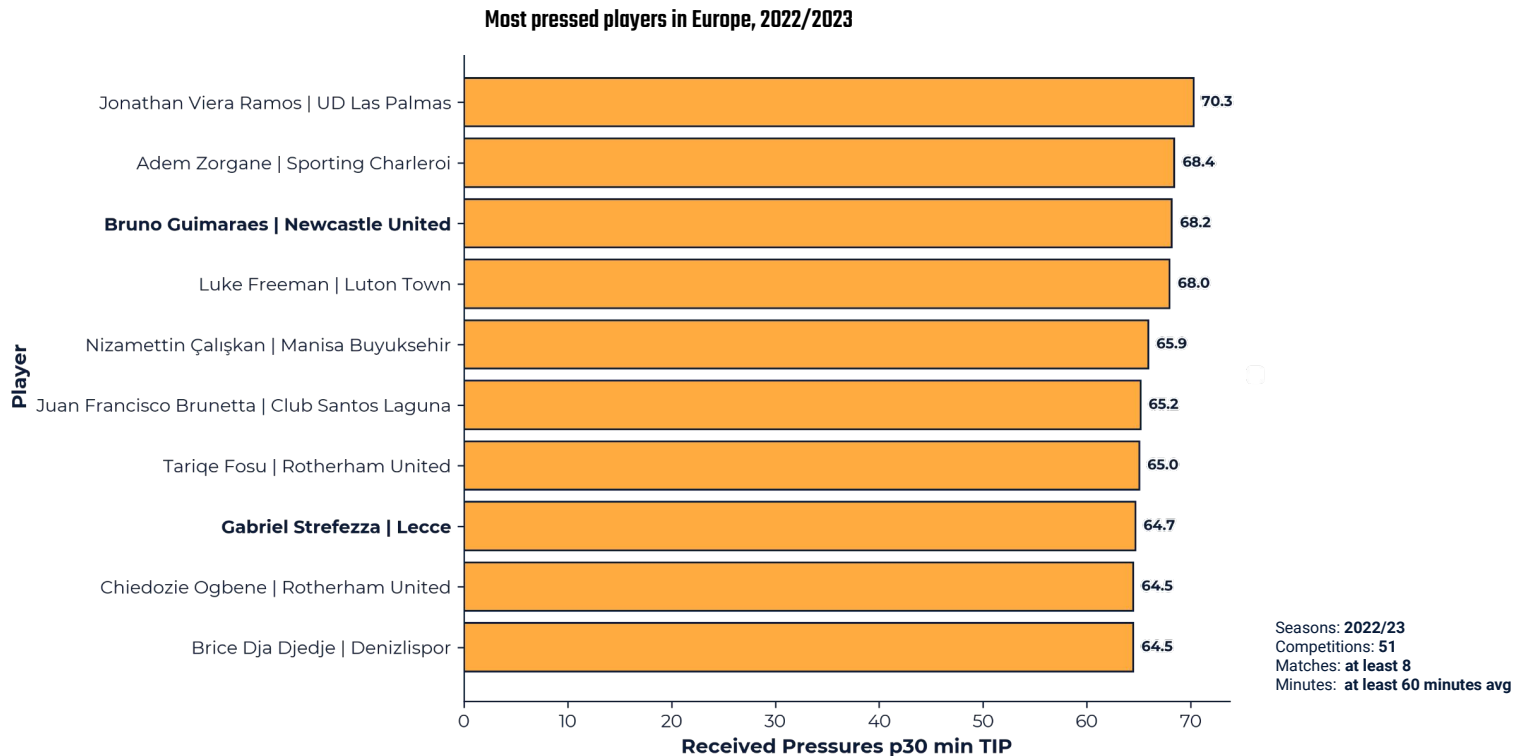
- Which players, teams and leagues receive the highest volume of pressure
- How good a player is at retaining the ball under pressure
- Benchmarking by position and position group
- Longitudinal trends in pressure applied to different positions
- Levels of pressure applied in each pitch zone
- The intensity of pressure (High, Medium and Low)

**All of this insight is available from more than 75 global leagues and competitions over multiple seasons, helping you to make faster, better, scouting and recruitment decisions.**

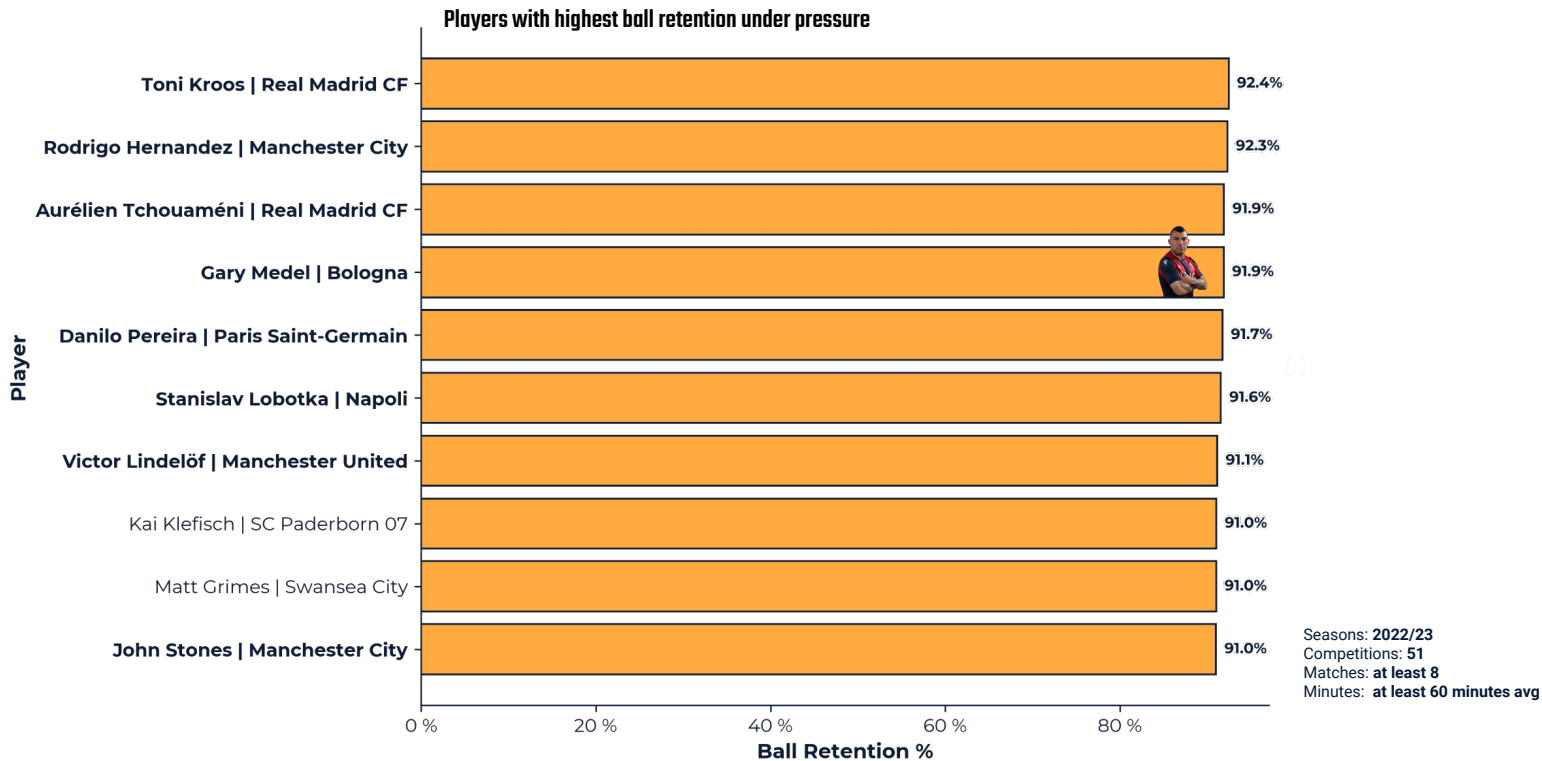
**01.**

**HOW OFTEN DOES A PLAYER  
EXPERIENCE PRESSURE?**

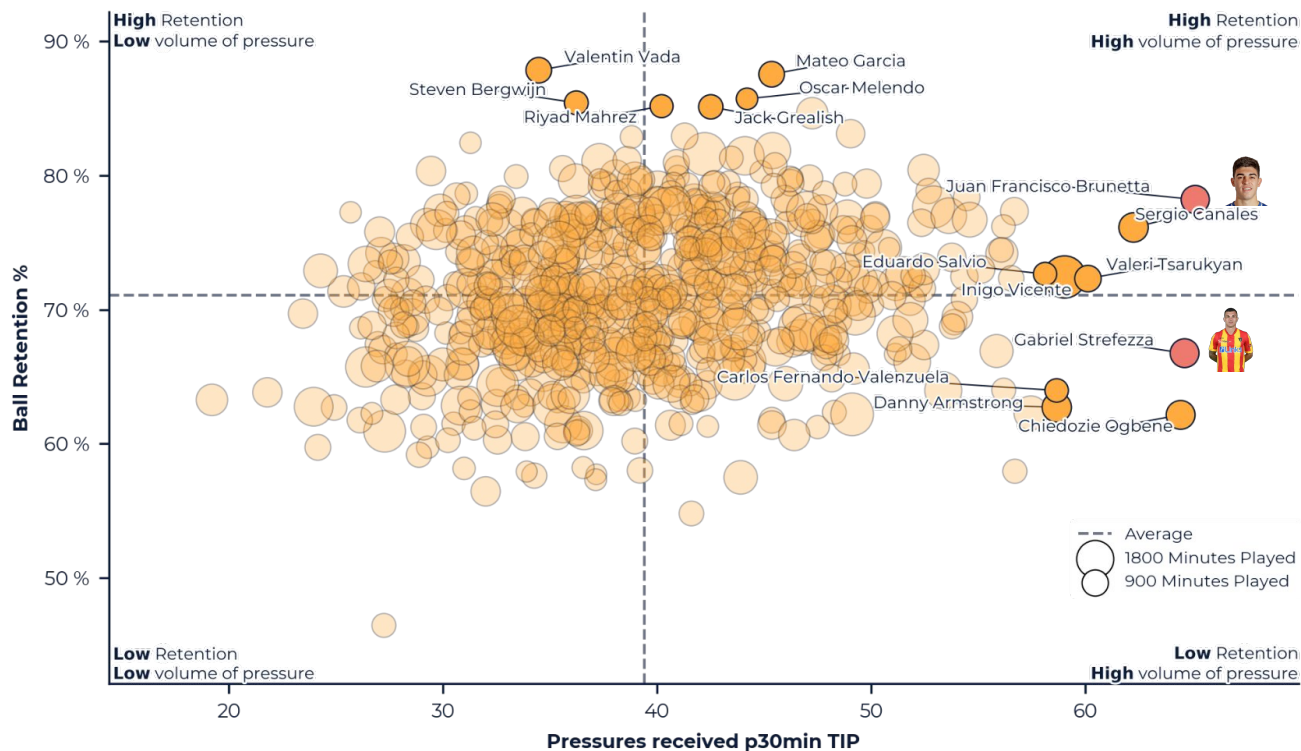
# Players in the EPL face the highest overall pressure volume, but Jonathan Viera is the most pressed individual player in Europe.



# Holding Midfielders dominate the rankings for ball retention under pressure, while Gary Medel tops the Centre Back list.



# Among Wingers, Juan Brunetta from Santos Laguna in Liga MX shows above average ball retention under a high volume of pressure.



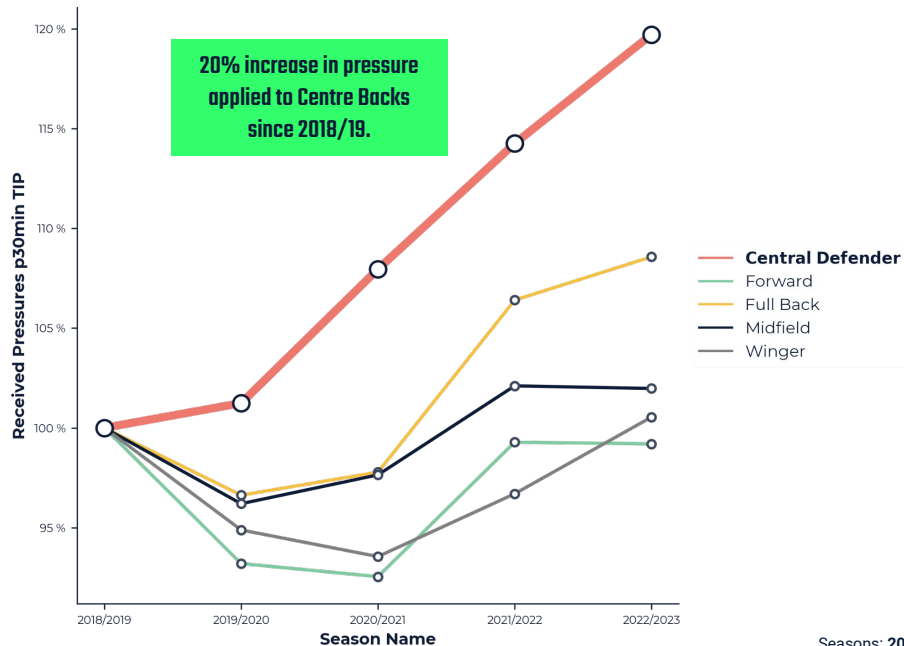
## INSIGHT

Across leagues, ball-possession will vary and offer high-possession teams and players more passing opportunities.

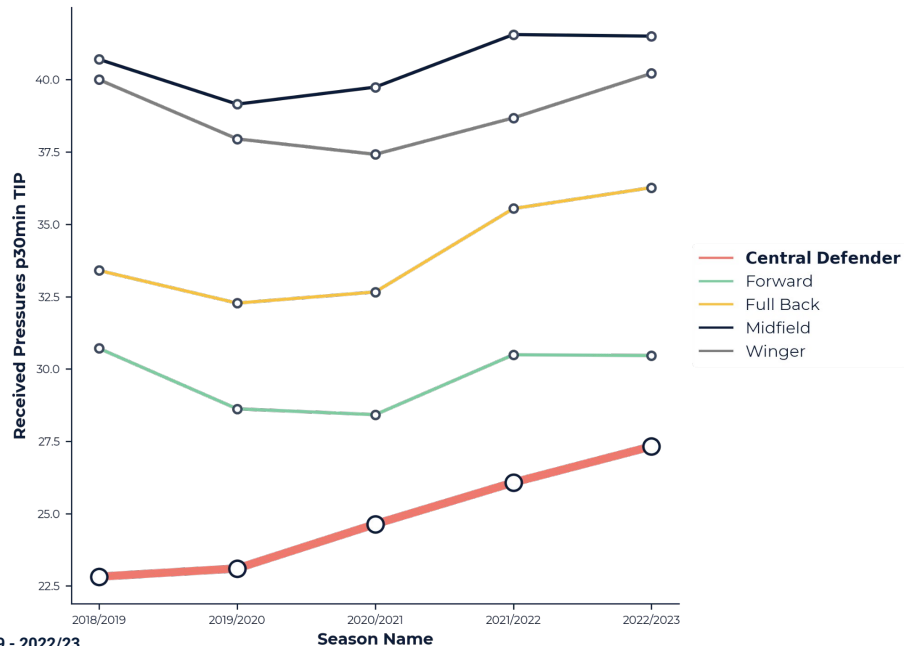
Seasons: 2022/23  
 Leagues: 51  
 Matches: at least 8  
 Minutes: at least 60 minutes avg  
 Positions: Wingers

# While Midfielders receive the highest volume of pressure, the game's evolution sees Centre and Full-Backs increasingly under pressure.

Pressure Received - Trend over time vs 18/19 Season



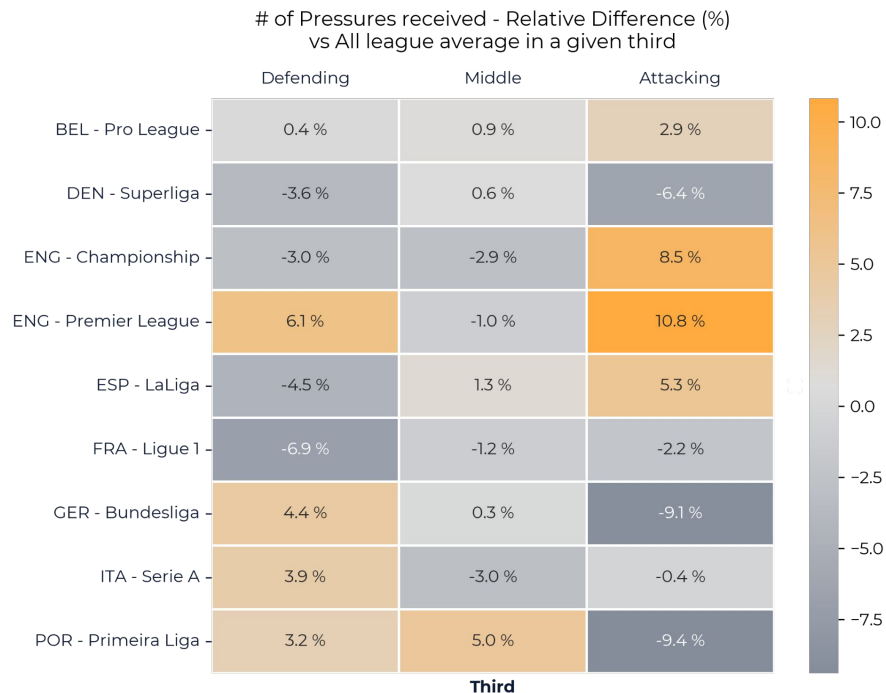
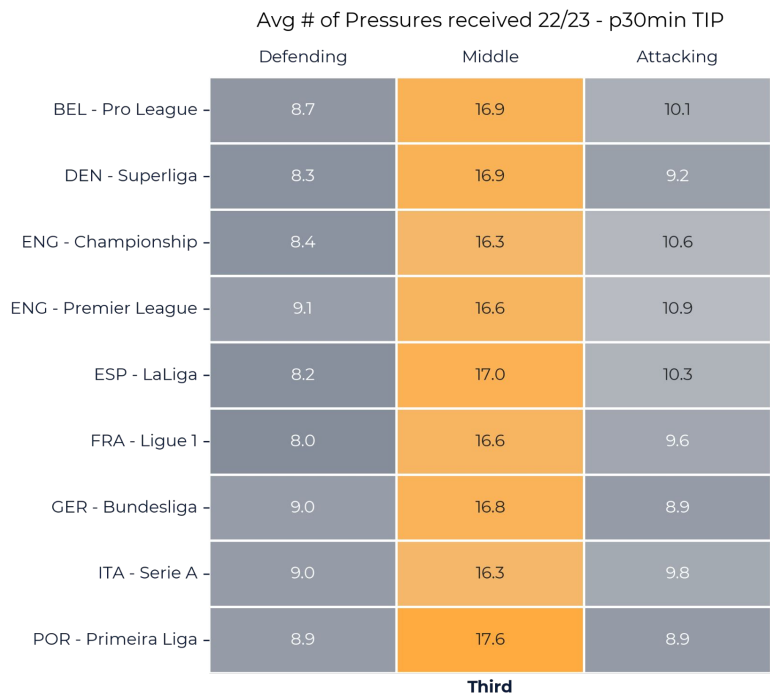
Pressure Received - Trend over time



Seasons: 2018/19 - 2022/23  
 Competitions: 'Big 5' + ENG2  
 Matches: at least 8  
 Minutes: at least 60 minutes avg

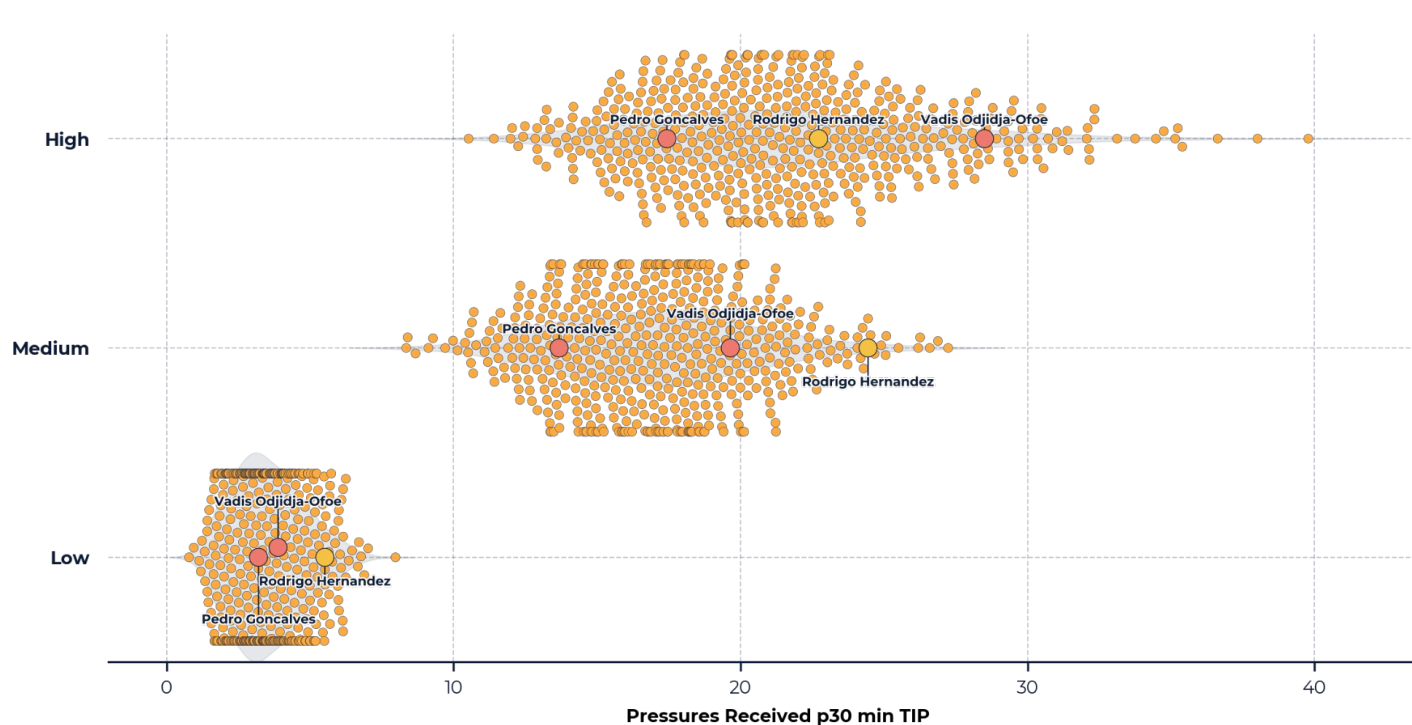


# The EPL intensity shows with above average pressure volumes in both the defending and attacking third.



Seasons: 2022/23  
 Competitions: 'Big 5' + ENG2,BEL1,POR1,DEN1  
 Matches: at least 8  
 Minutes: at least 60 minutes avg

## Separating out pressure intensities shows Rodri experiencing less High Intensity pressure than many other Midfielders.



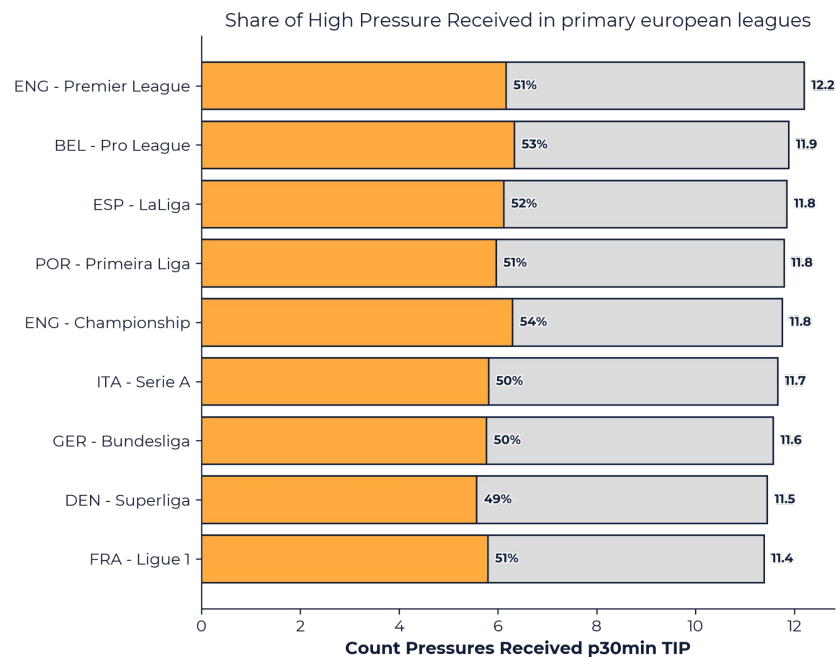
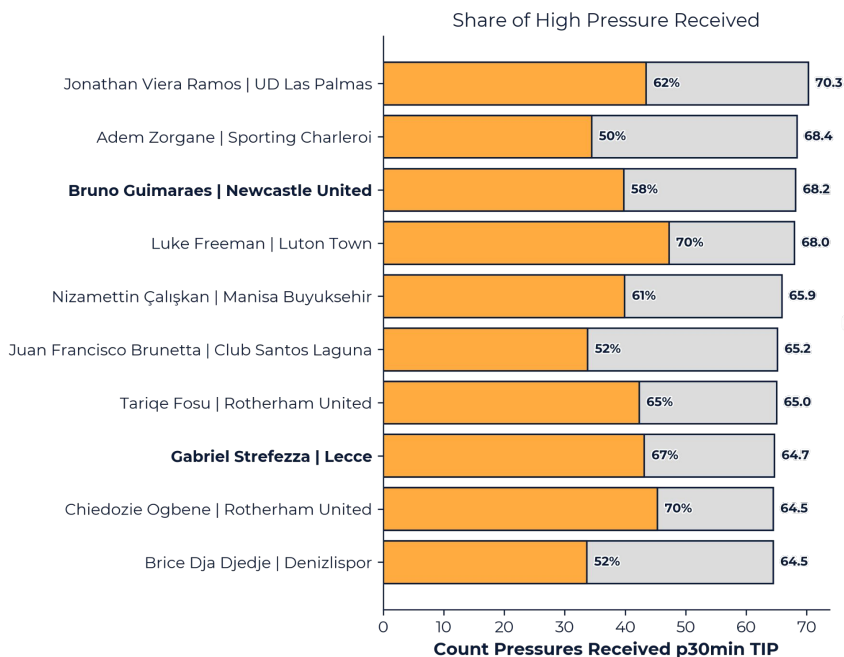
### INSIGHT

Gent's Vadis Odjidja-Ofoe experiences one of the highest levels of high-intensity pressure.

Manchester City's Rodri is often under medium-intensity pressure.

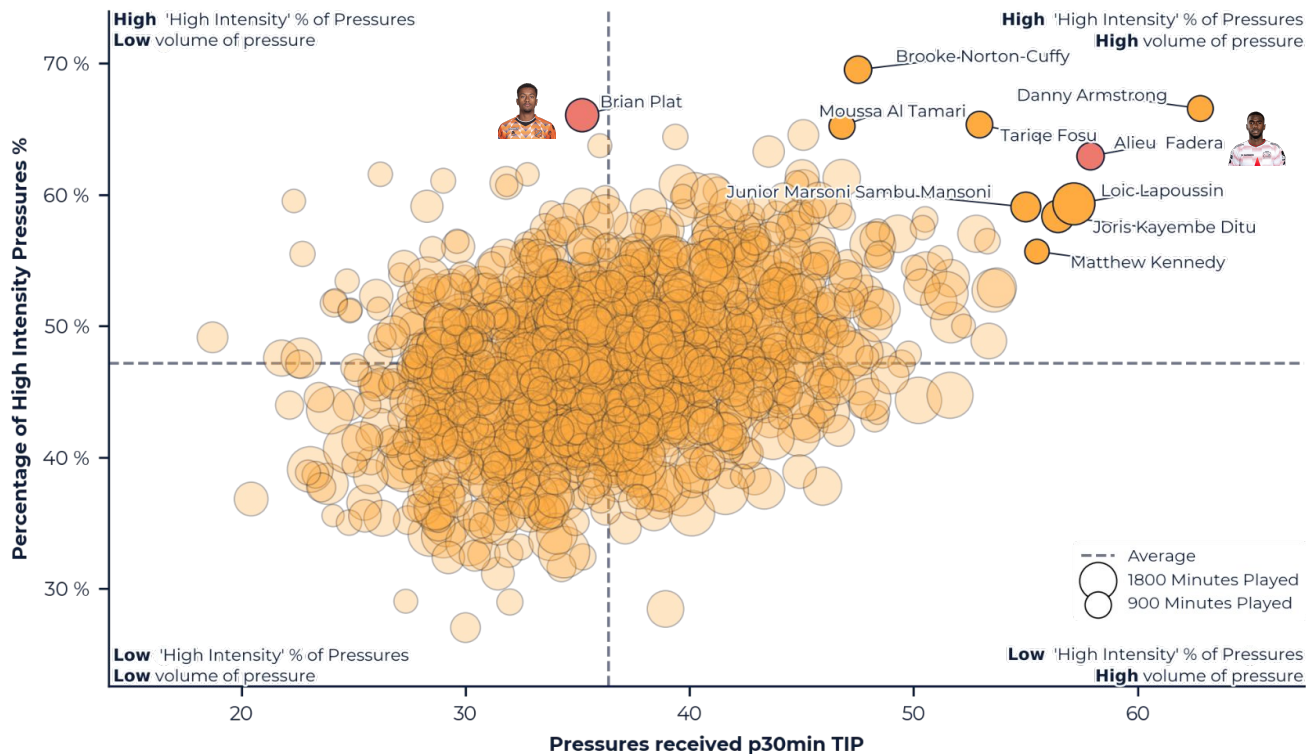
Seasons: 2022/23  
Matches: at least 8  
Minutes: at least 60 minutes avg  
Positions: Midfielders

# Game Intelligence can reveal what proportion of pressure received is High-Intensity.



Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: 'Big 5' + ENG2,BEL1,POR1,DEN1  
Matches: at least 8  
Minutes: at least 60 minutes avg

## Among Full-Backs, we can identify players used to playing under frequent high intensity pressure, like Alieu Fadera.



### INSIGHT

FC Volendam's Brian Plat receives an average volume of pressure, but a high % of those are high-intensity.

Seasons: 2022/23  
Leagues: 51  
Matches: at least 8  
Minutes: at least 60 minutes avg  
Positions: Full-Backs

**02.**

**BALL RETENTION  
UNDER PRESSURE**

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## DEFINITIONS:

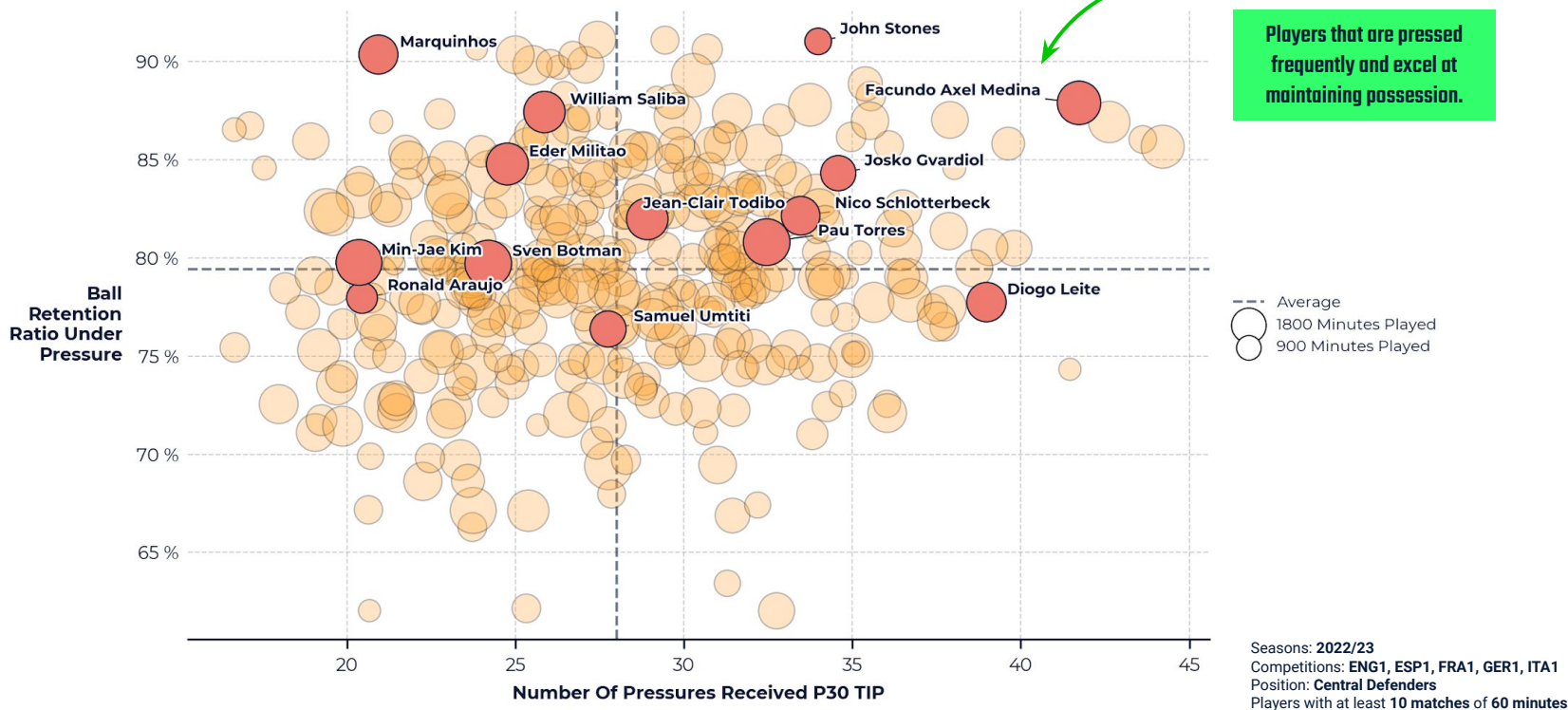
### **BALL RETENTION**

The team of the player in possession keeps possession of the ball after a pressure situation, e.g. the player successfully passes the ball to a teammate or keeps possession of the ball through a carry.

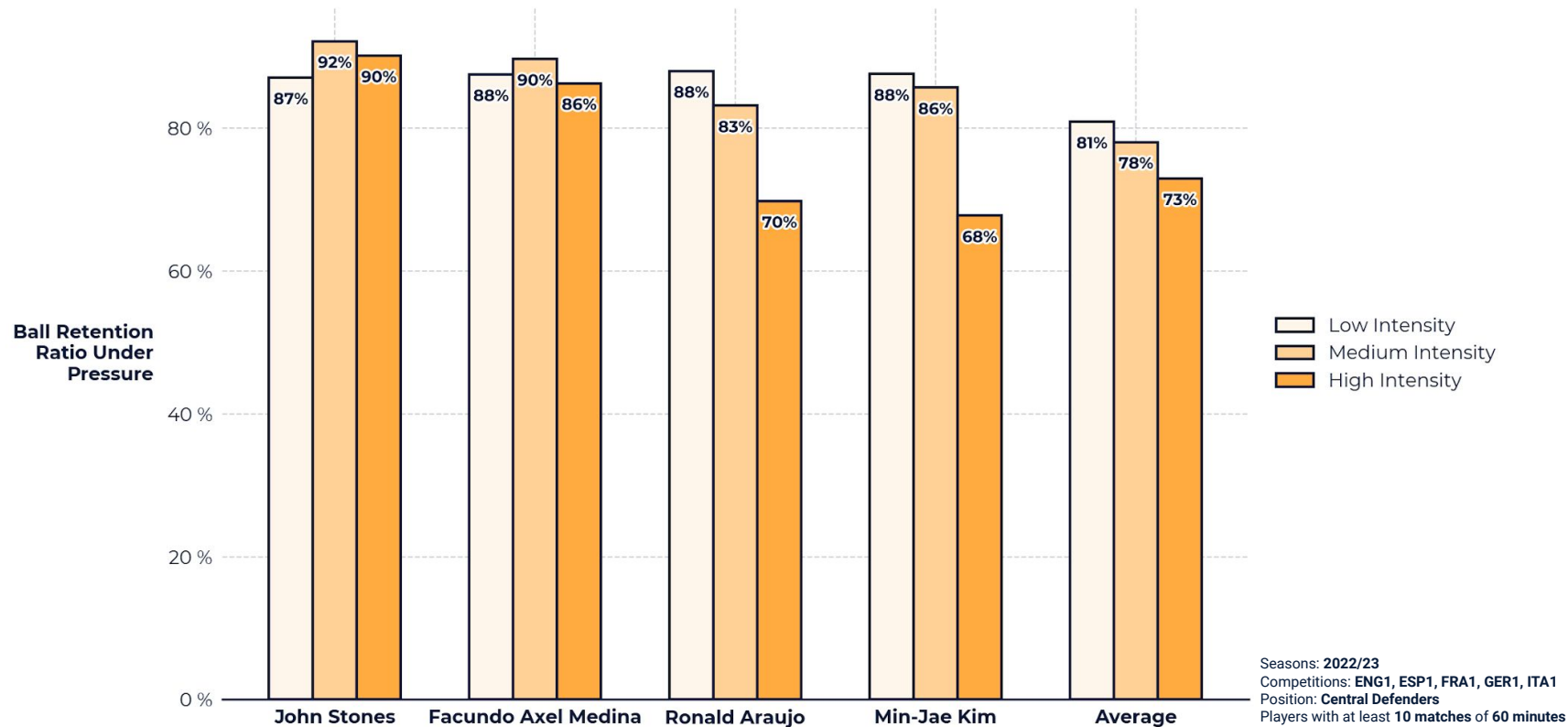
### **BALL RETENTION UNDER PRESSURE**

The percentage of pressure situations where possession was retained.

**A player's ball retention ratio is the percentage of pressures overcome while in possession of the ball.**

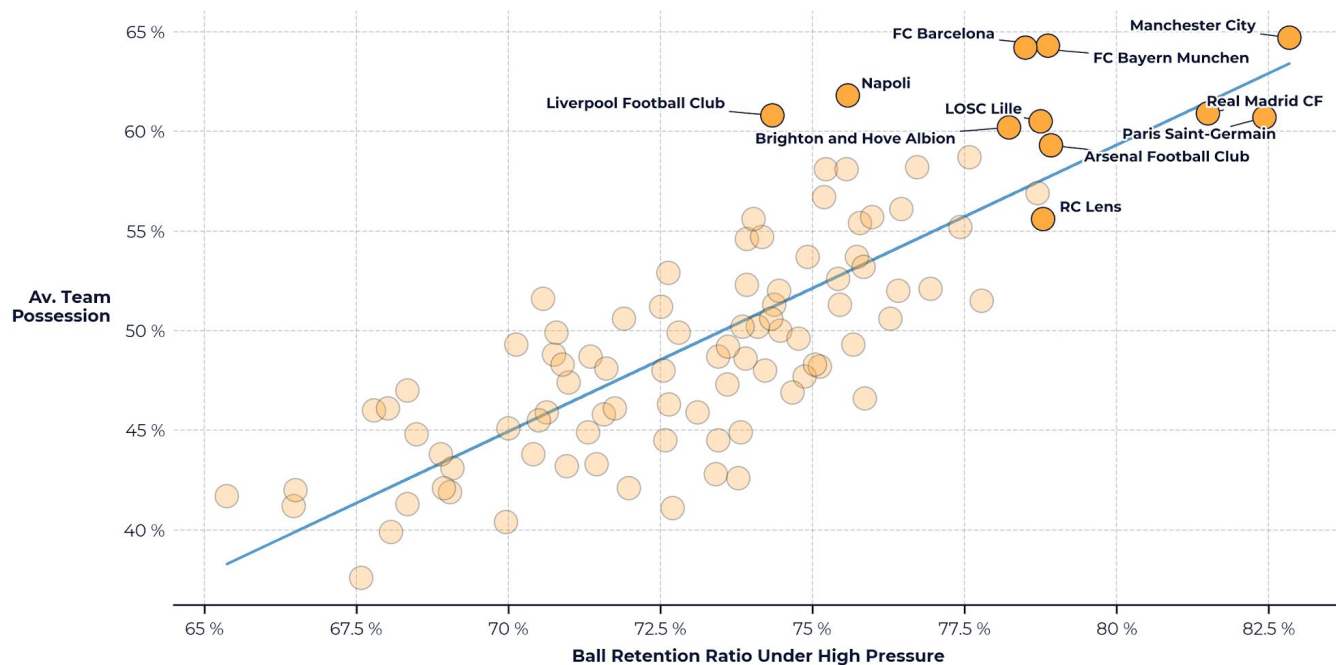


## Separating by low, medium & high intensity pressures highlights who is elite at retaining possession.





# Players that can retain possession under high pressure are key to dominating & controlling matches.

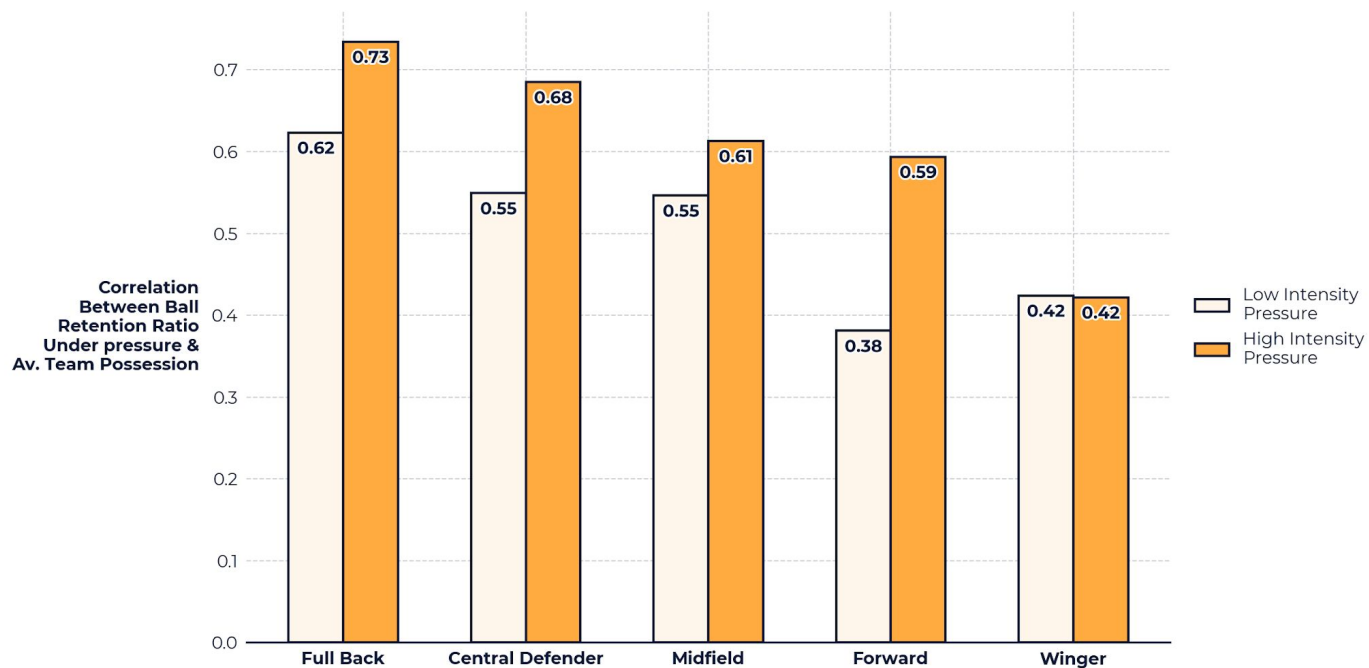


## INSIGHT

Ability to retain the ball under high pressure has been key to many teams' success this season, with a correlation of 0.7 between average ball retention and xG difference per match.

Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: ENG1, ESP1, FRA1, GER1, ITA1  
Performances of 60 minutes

## Separating by low, medium & high intensity pressures highlights who is elite at retaining possession.

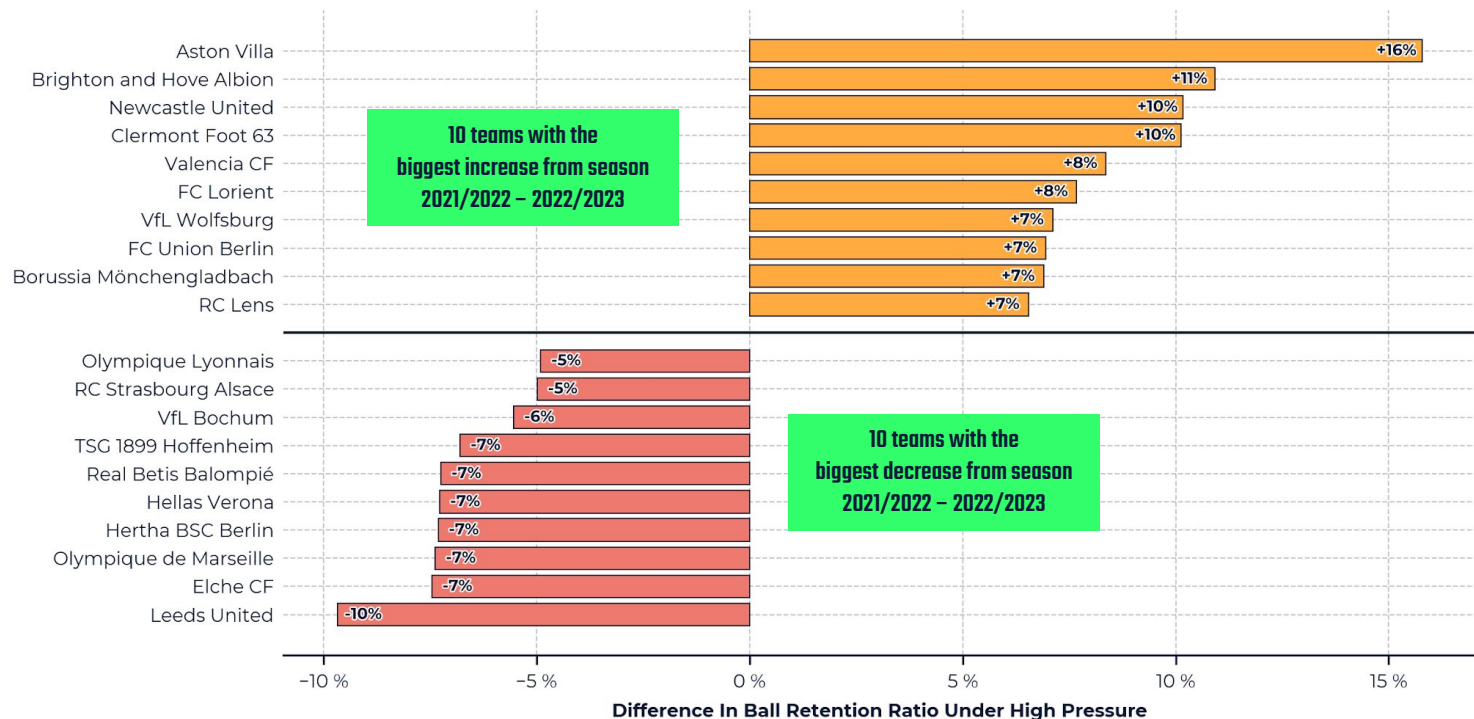


### INSIGHT

Teams with more possession have Central Defenders and Full Backs that can cope with high intensity pressure from opponents.

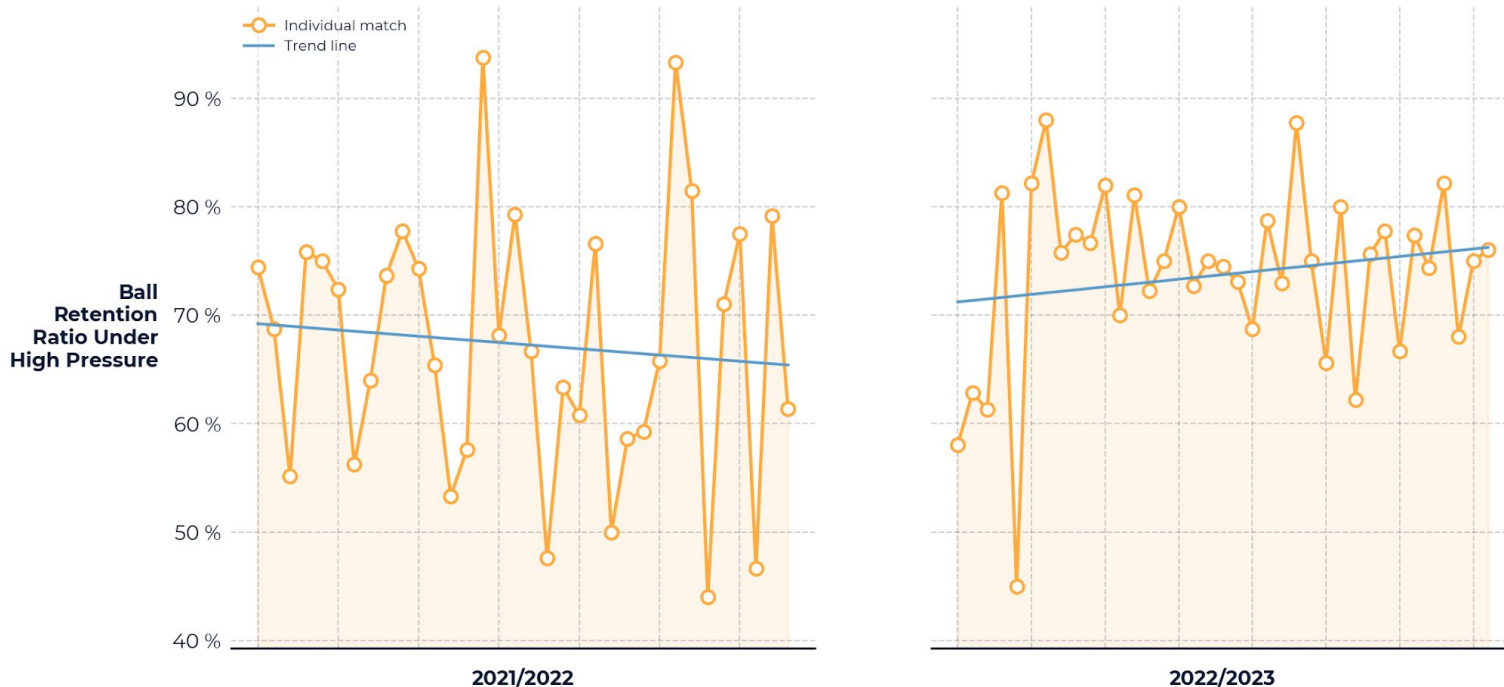
Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: ENG1, ESP1, FRA1, GER1, ITA1  
Performances of 60 minutes

# Central Defensive units with the biggest change in ball retention under high pressure, between 2021/2022 & 2022/2023.



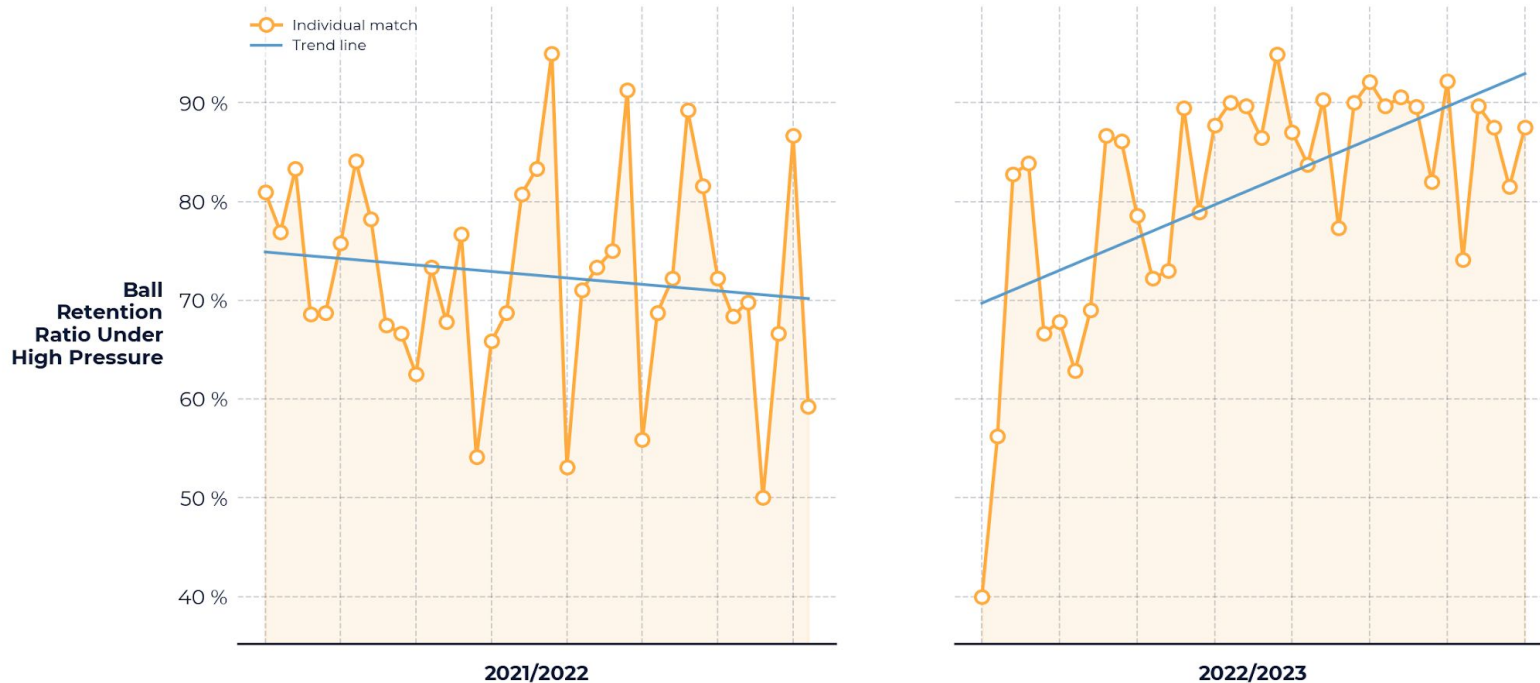
Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: ENG1, ESP1, FRA1, GER1, ITA1  
Performances of 60 minutes

# Central Defensive units with the biggest change in ball retention under high pressure, between 2021/2022 & 2022/2023.



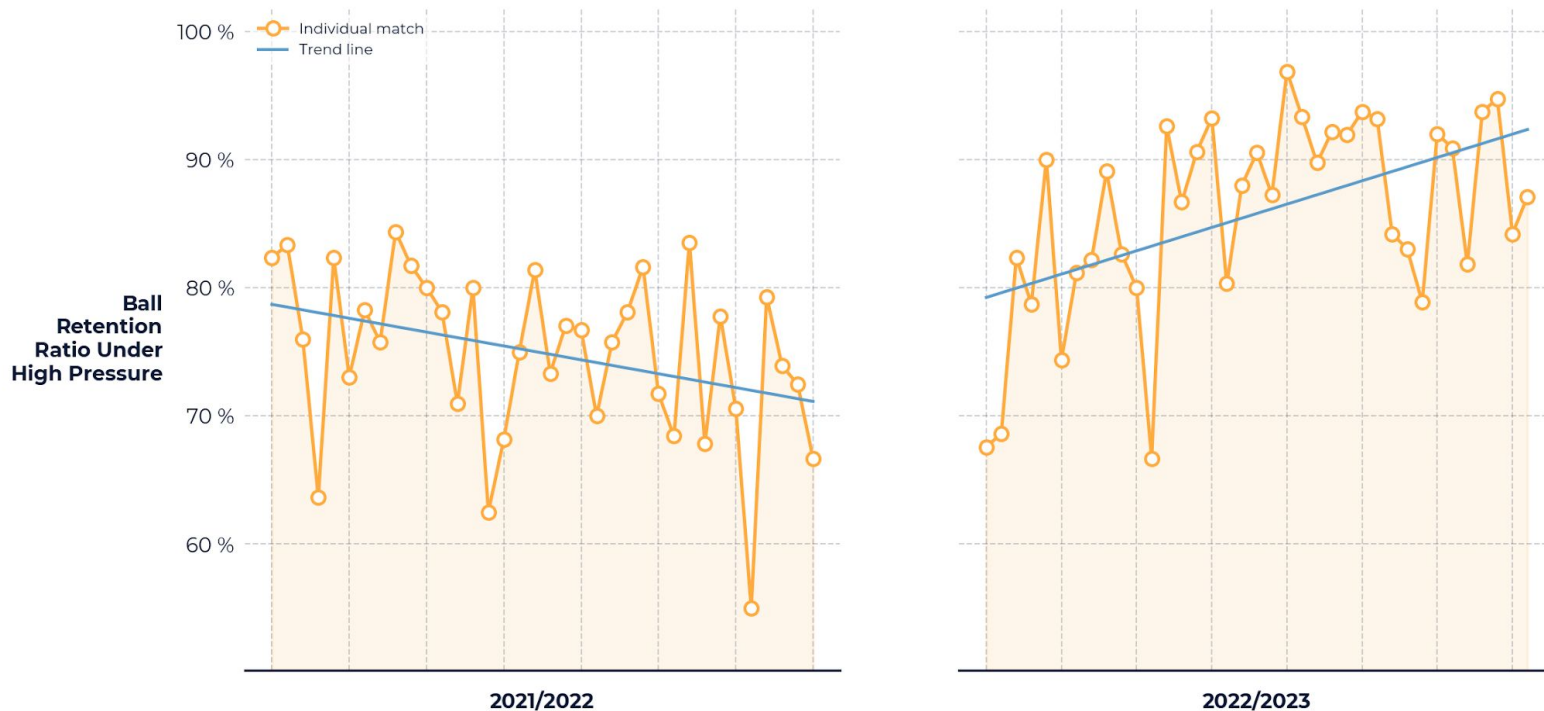
Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: ENG1  
Performances of 60 minutes

# Aston Villa's Central Defenders have achieved a sharp increase in ball retention under high pressure.



Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: ENG1  
Performances of 60 minutes

# Brighton have reversed a downward trend, increasing their Central Defenders' ability to retain the ball under high pressure.



Seasons: 2022/23  
Competitions: ENG1  
Performances of 60 minutes

**03.**

**DELIVERING DIFFICULT & DANGEROUS  
PASSES UNDER PRESSURE**

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## DEFINITIONS:

### **DIFFICULT PASS UNDER PRESSURE**

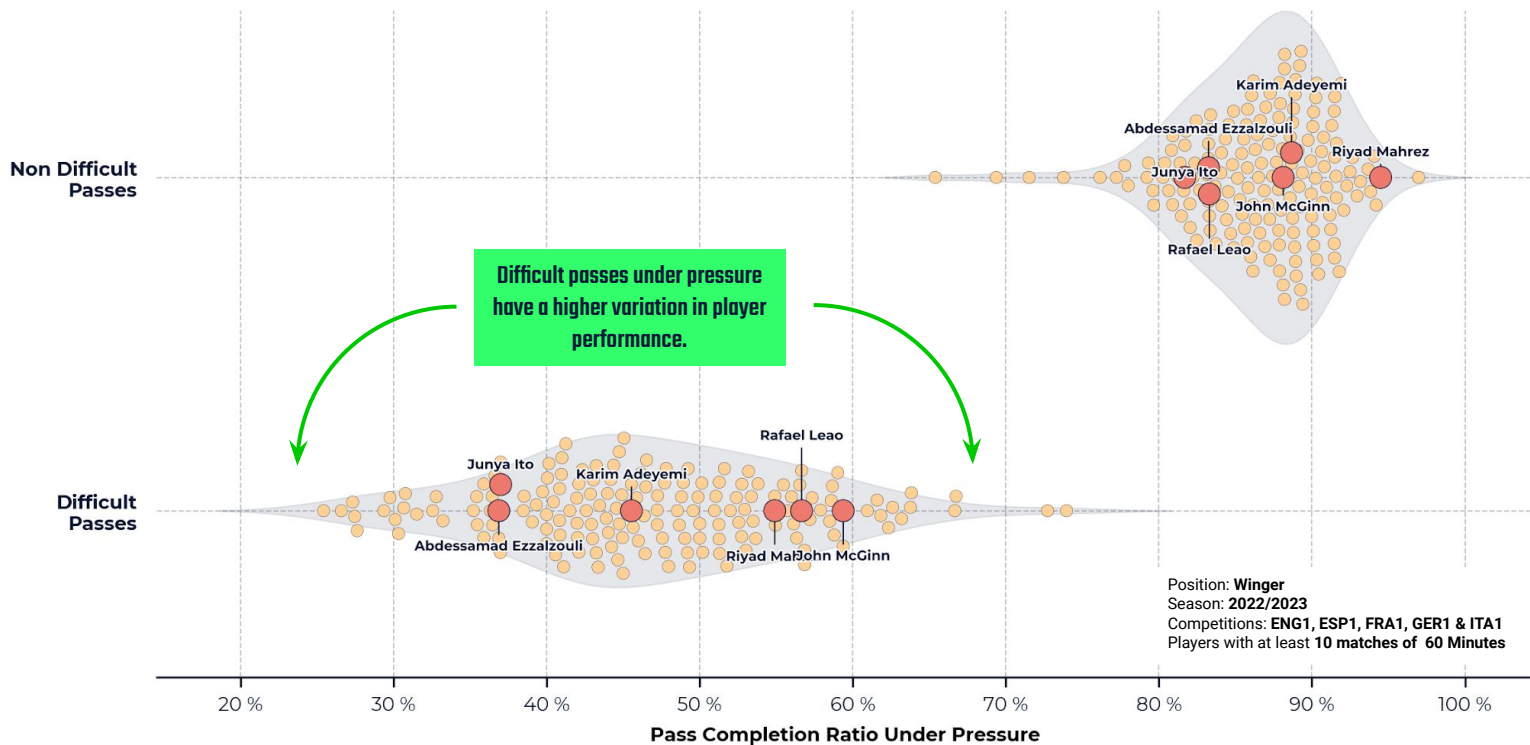
**A pass with a probability of completion of less than 65%.**

### **DANGEROUS PASS UNDER PRESSURE**

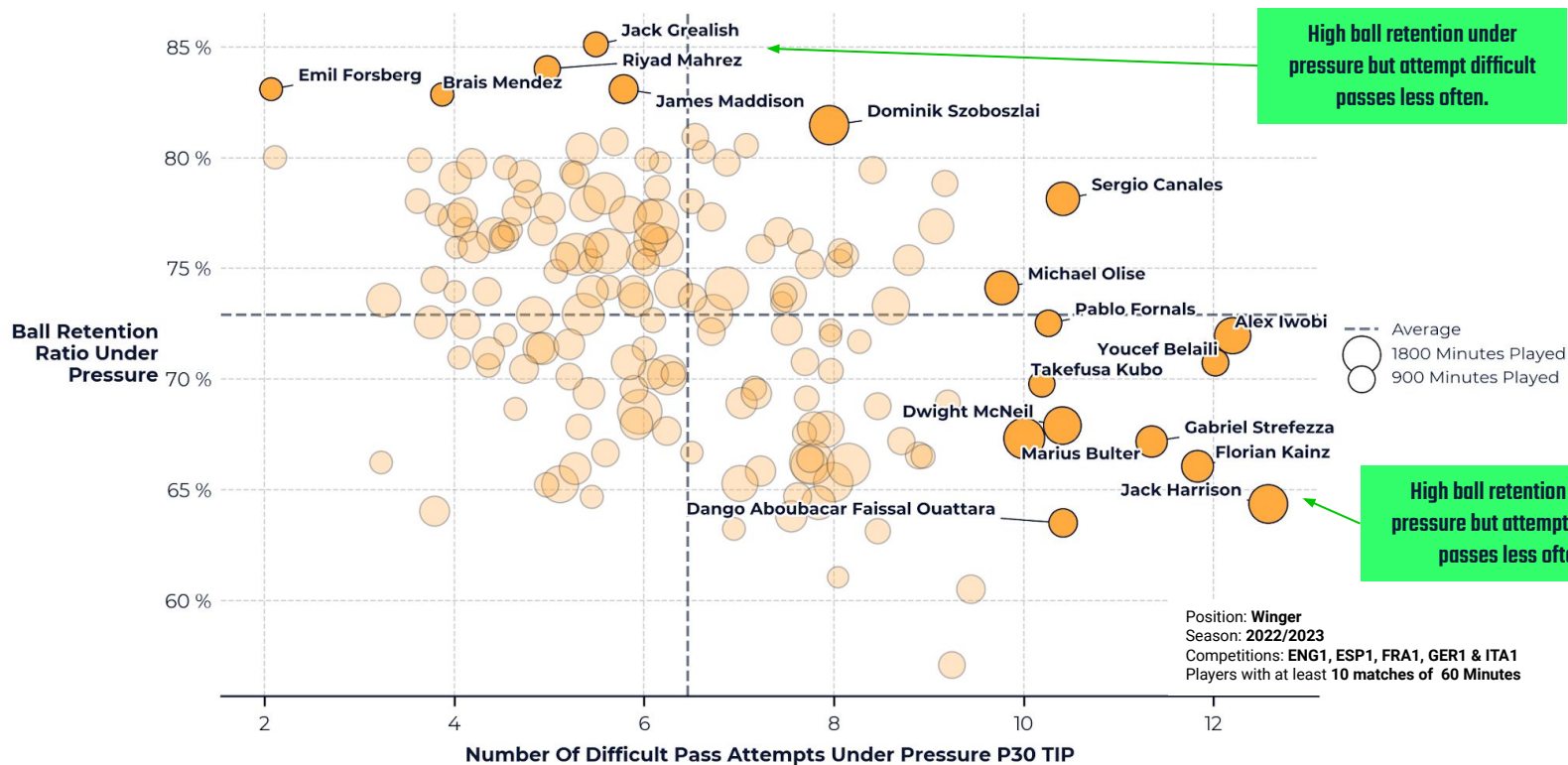
**Any pass with more than 2% chance of leading to a goal in the next 10 seconds.**



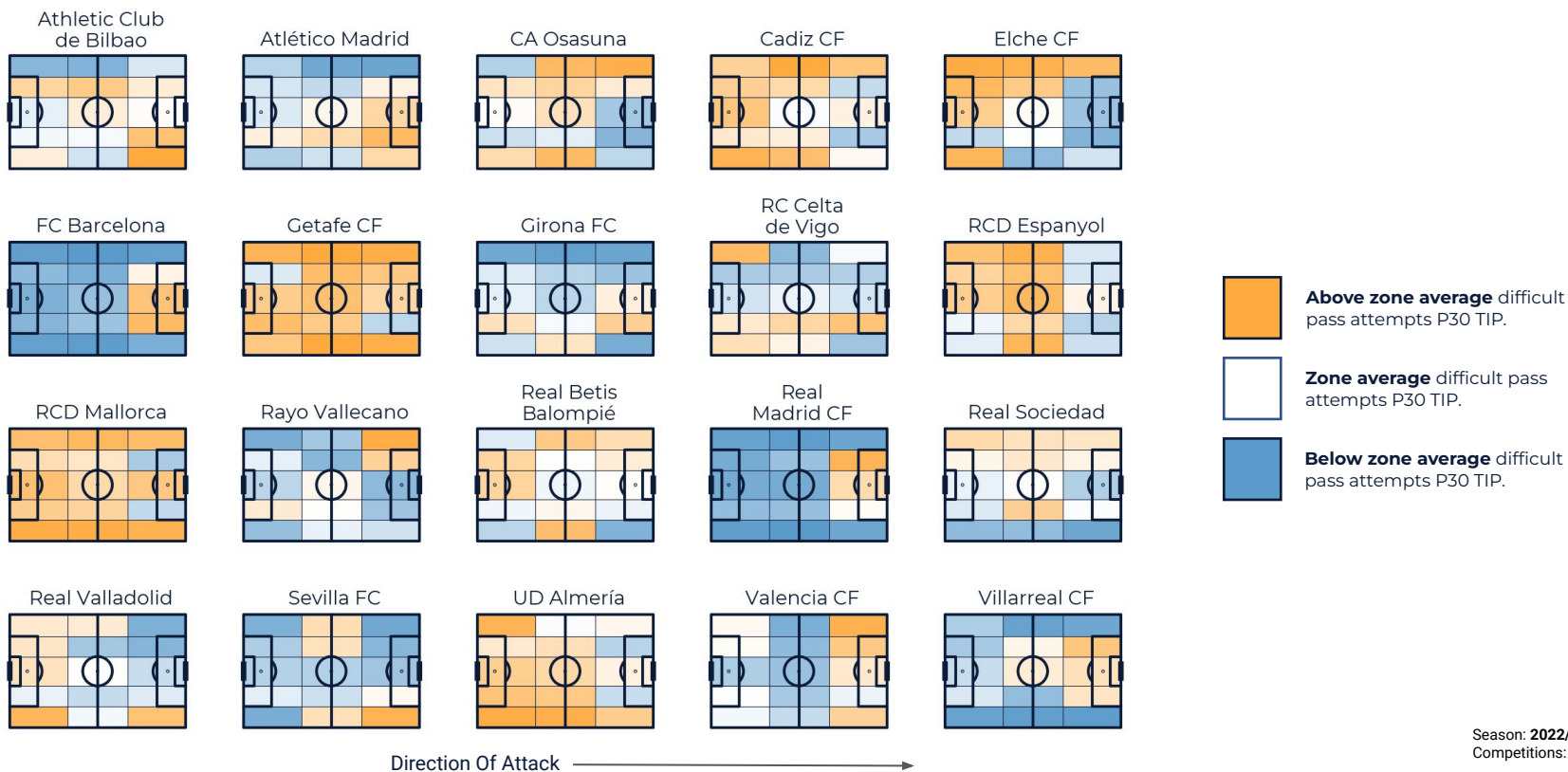
# A Difficult Pass Under Pressure is a pass which has a probability of completion below 65%.



## Some players sacrifice ball retention for risk taking under pressure.

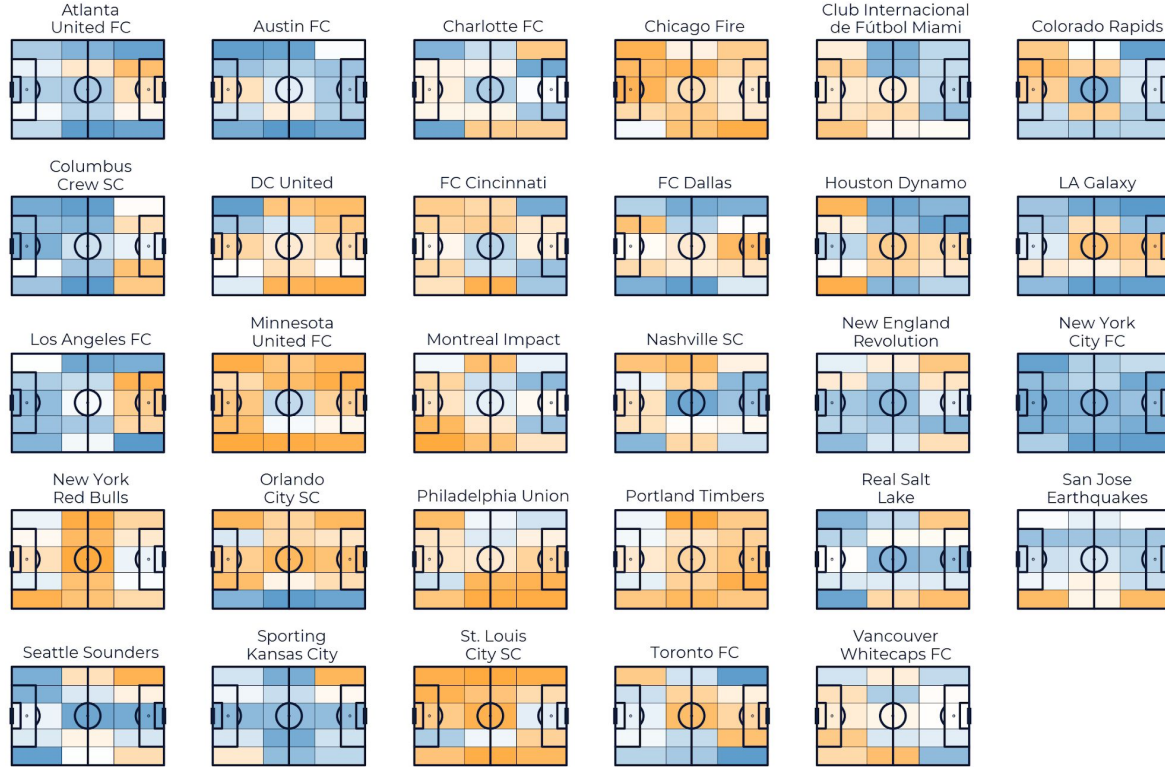


# Where do LaLiga teams take risks under pressure?

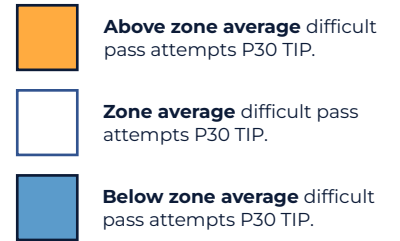


Season: 2022/2023  
Competitions: ESP1

# Where do MLS teams take risks under pressure?

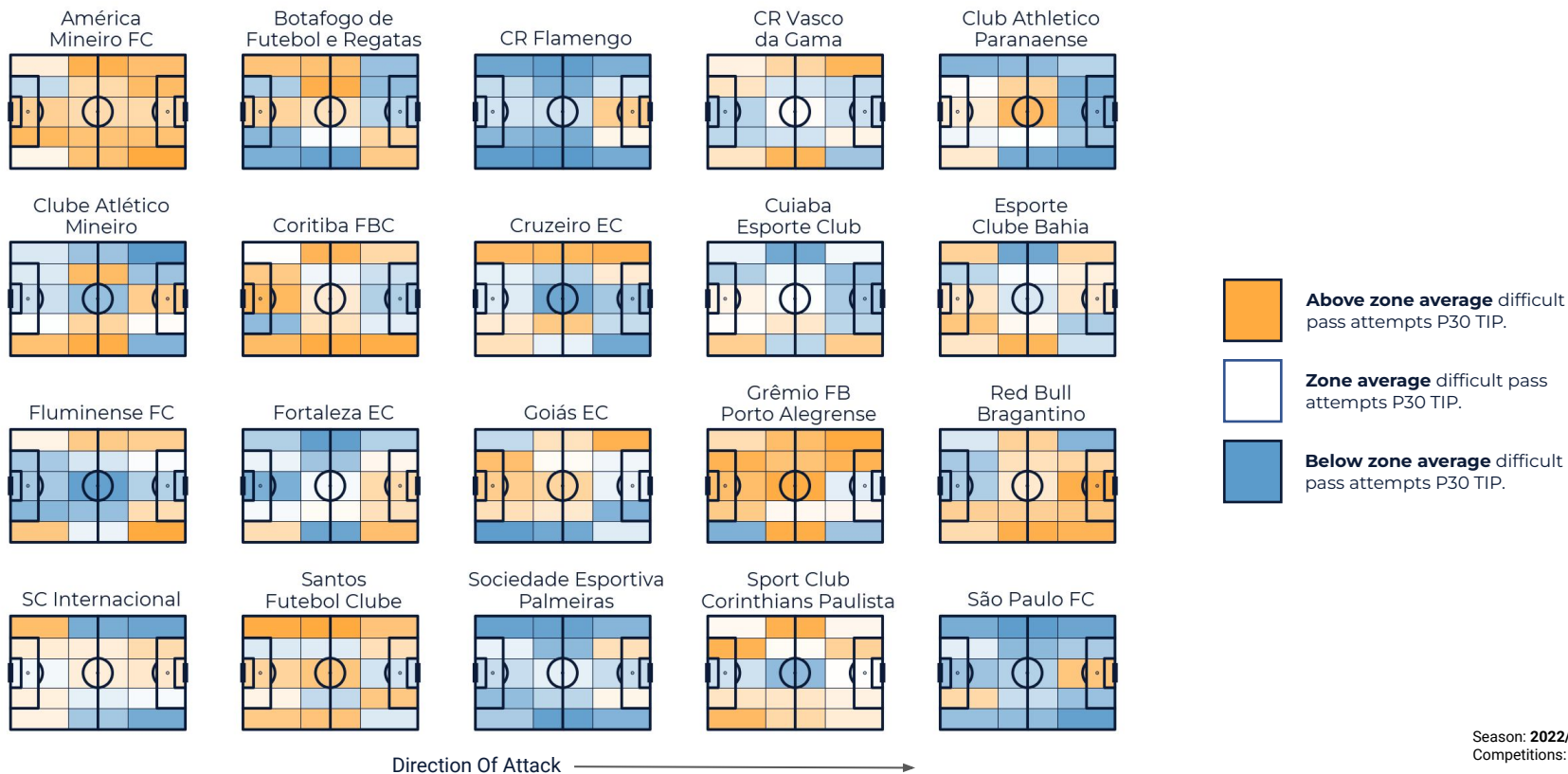


Direction Of Attack →



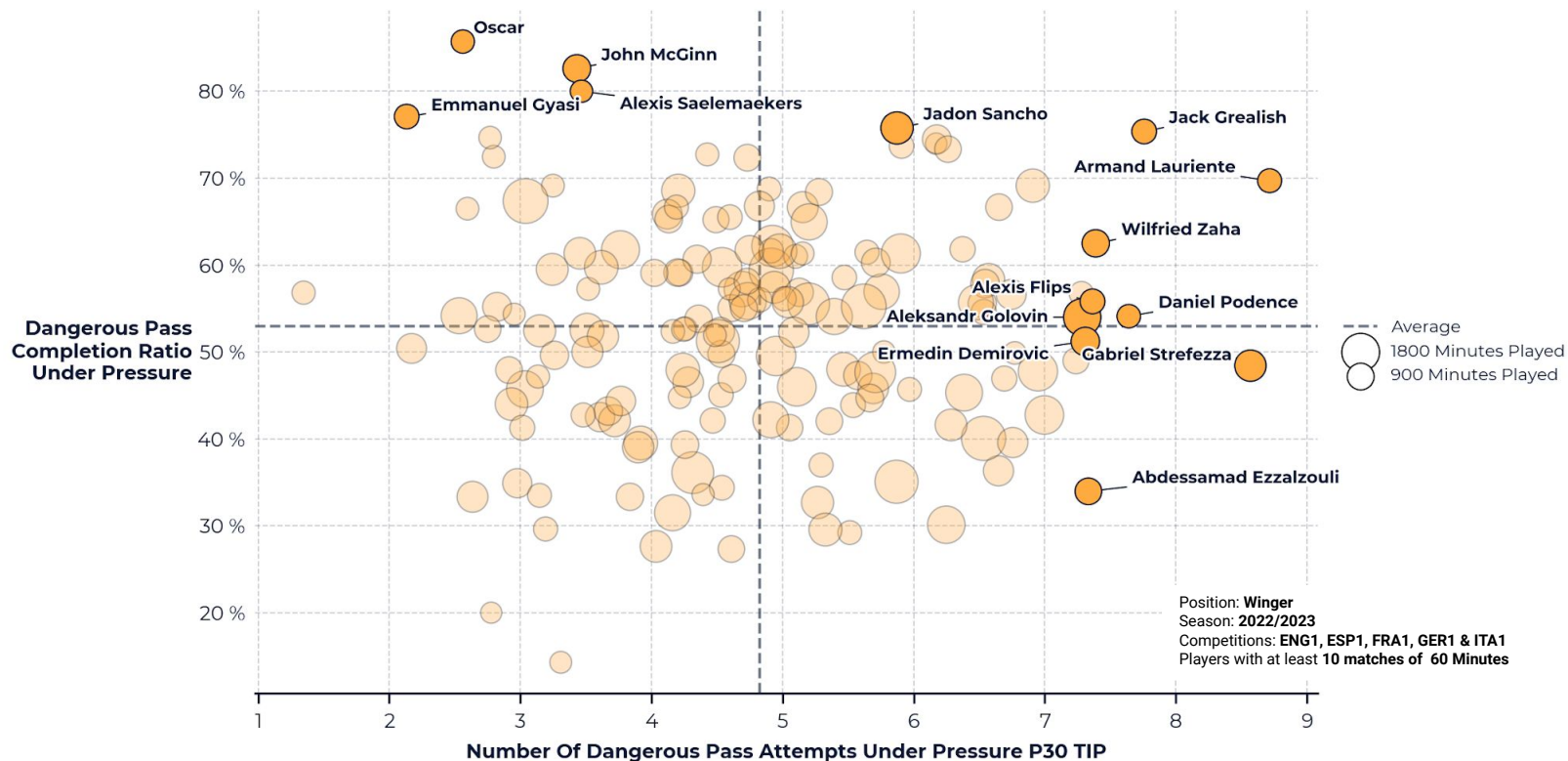
Season: 2022/2023  
Competitions: USA1

# Where do Brasileiro Série A teams take risks under pressure?

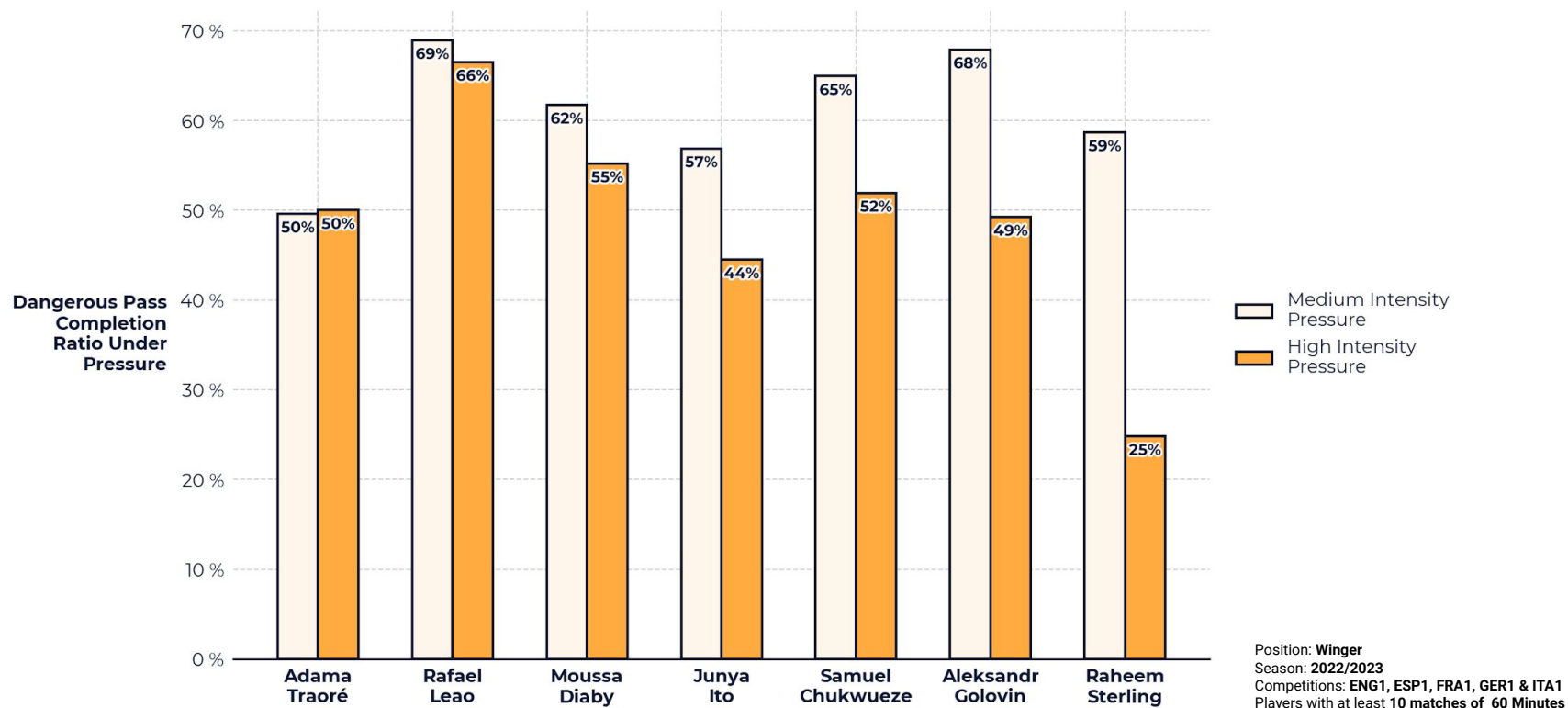


Season: 2022/2023  
Competitions: BRA1

**A Dangerous Pass Under Pressure is a pass which has greater than 2% probability of leading to a goal within 10 seconds.**



## Completing Dangerous Passes under Medium and High Intensity Pressure.



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**This is just a snapshot of the insight Game Intelligence can provide across  
75+ global leagues and competitions.**

In addition to resisting pressure, Game Intelligence can also help you to evaluate and benchmark a player's **off-ball runs** and **passing execution**.

We'd be delighted to talk to you about how Game Intelligence could add value to your scouting and recruitment decision-making.

[contact@skillcorner.com](mailto:contact@skillcorner.com)  
[www.skillcorner.com](http://www.skillcorner.com)