

StatsBomb

Major League Soccer 2022.



Report

360 Data

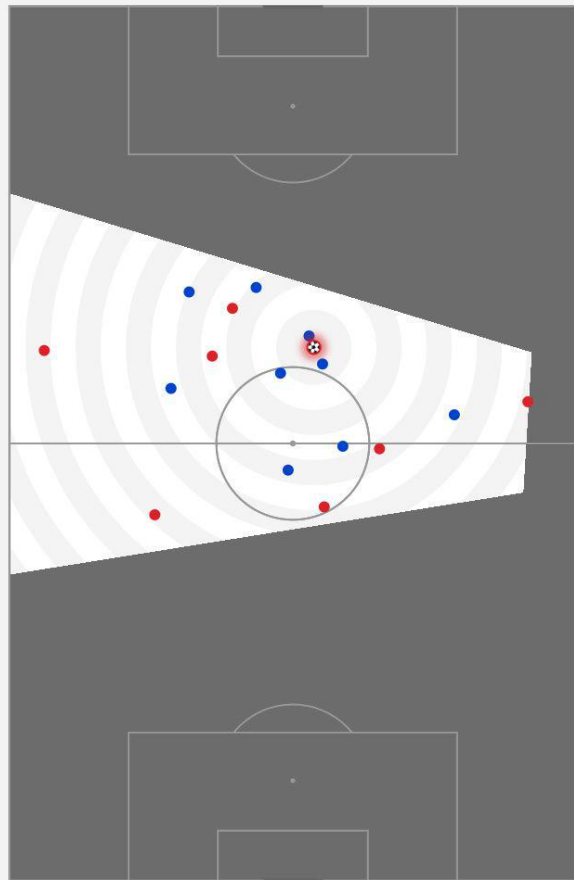
StatsBomb 360 delivers Tactical Event Data at a transformational level of detail, giving the locations of all visible players on the pitch for ~3,400 events per game.

360 Data makes it possible to perform even more advanced analysis than is possible with our standard data, adding context to each event and allowing the possibility of utilising metrics such as:

- Line-breaking passes
- Ball receipts in space
- Distance to closest defender
- Number of defenders on goalside of player

And many more.

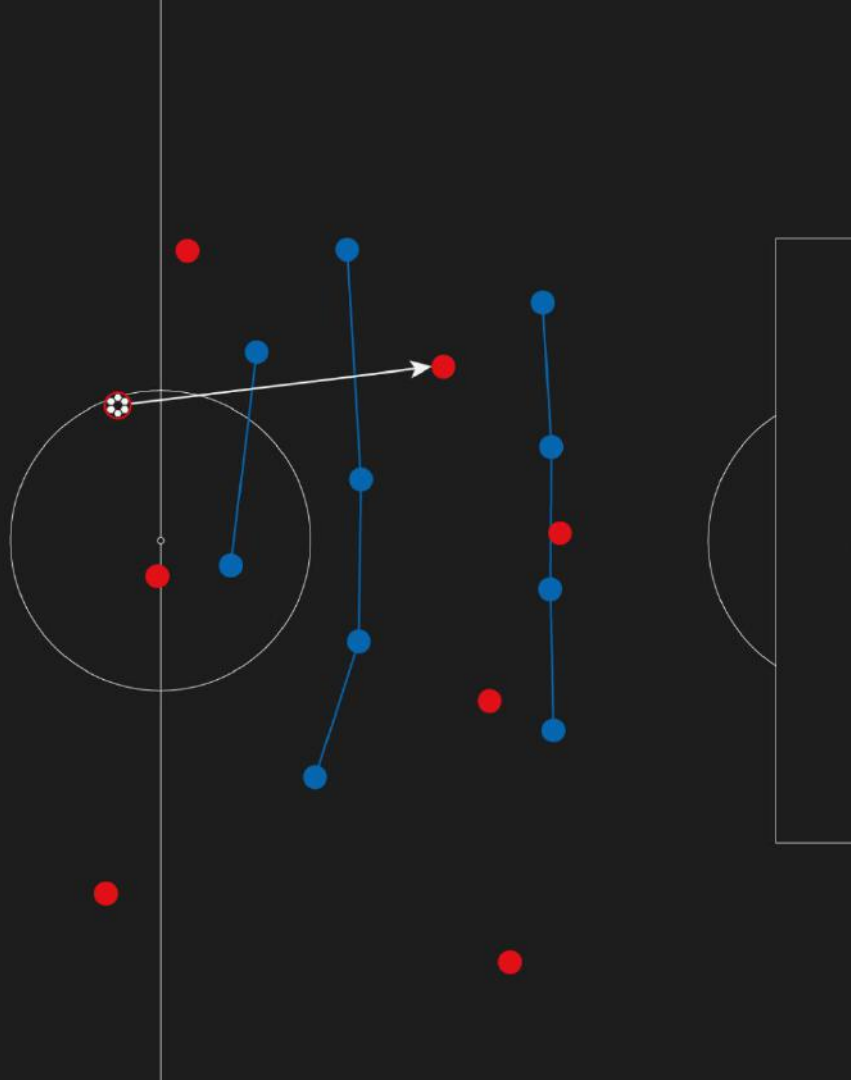
This allows us to measure which players are regularly able to break lines with their passing, which players often find pockets of space between the lines to receive, and how players perform actions under different degrees of opposition pressure.





Line-breaking Passes.

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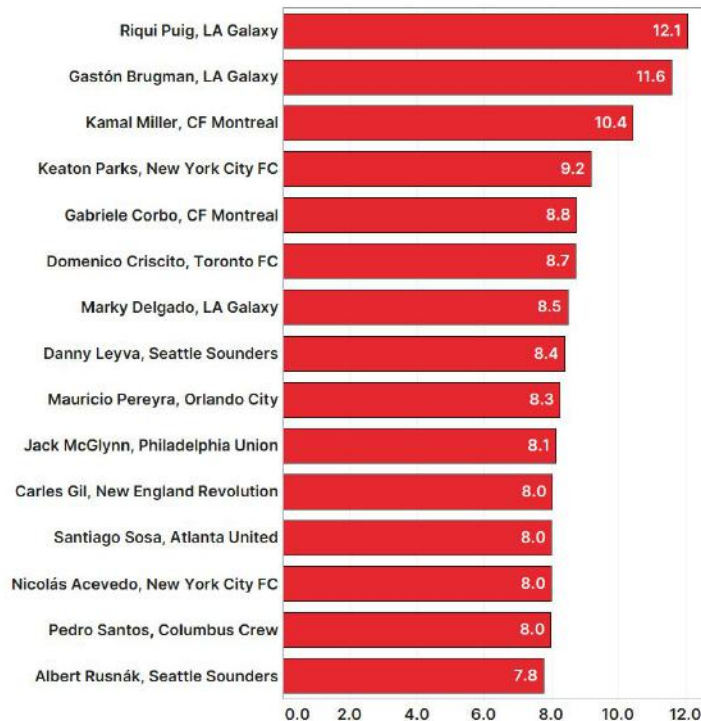
Line-breaking Passes

In attacking play, analysts tend to be interested in three types of player: those who can score goals, those who create goals, or those who progress the ball towards goal.

Line-breaking passes is a metric that serves the latter, and has long been a measure that video analysts would refer to when evaluating ball-progressing players, but without being able to quantify it reliably – until now.

A line-breaking pass advances the ball at least 10% closer to goal, and either intersects a pair of defenders in close proximity or ends behind a line of defenders

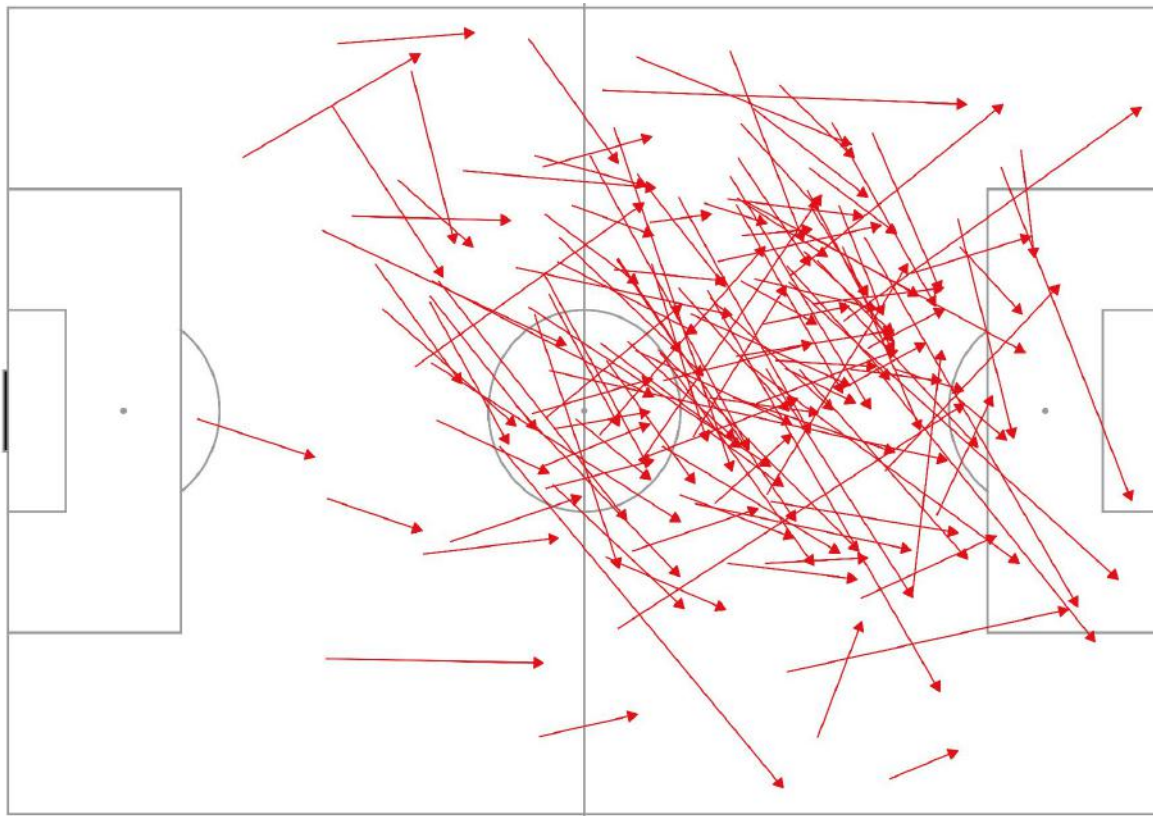
Here we can see the players who played line-breaking passes most frequently in the 2022 MLS season.



Riqui Puig

Line-breaking Passes

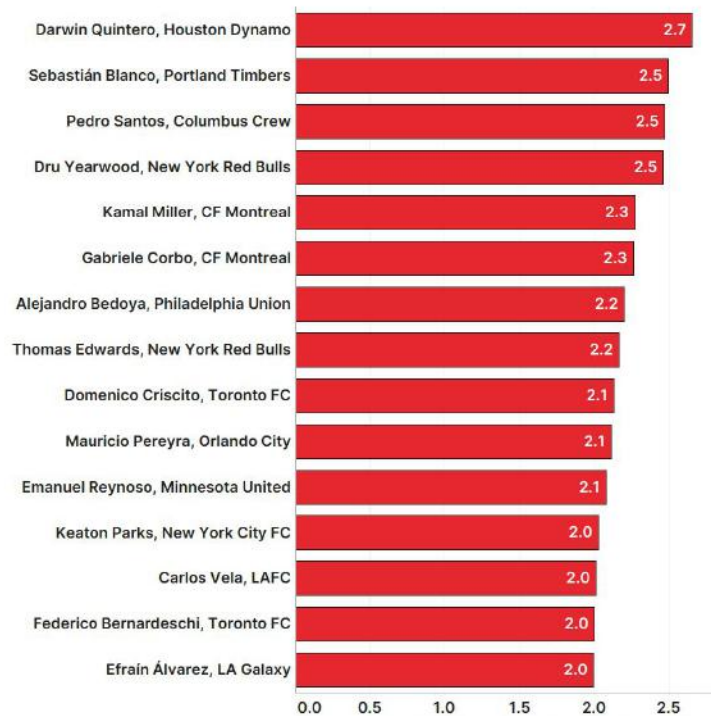
LA Galaxy, MLS 2022



Line-breaking Passes per ten passes

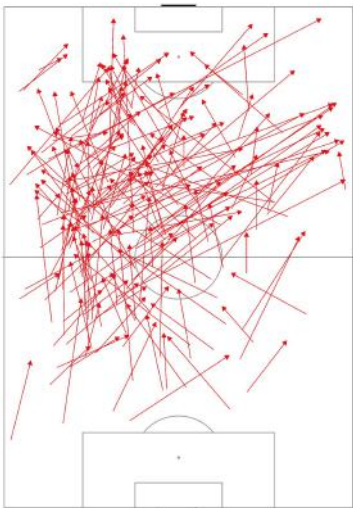
It's important to also account for opportunity when measuring passes - players who receive the ball more often and play more passes will have more opportunity to play line-breaking passes than players who play in lower possession sides.

Measuring Line-breaking passes per ten passes should identify players who break the lines more often relative to how often they're in possession of the ball, whilst also being a proxy for how aggressive a passer a player is too.

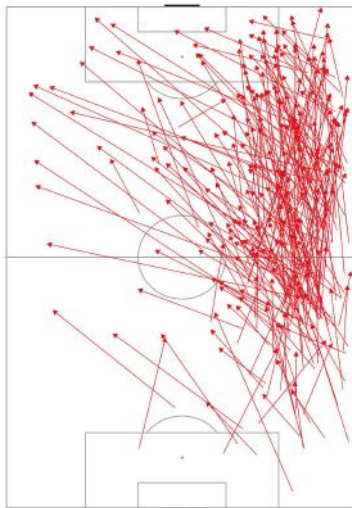


Line-breaking Passes in Latin America

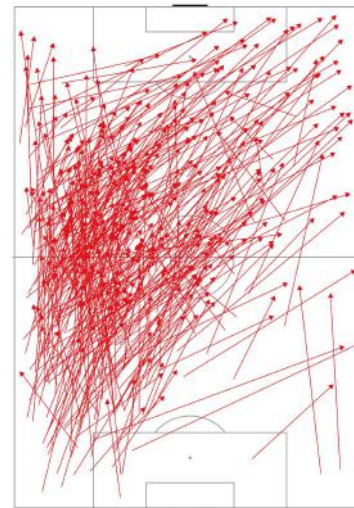
360 Data is available for 38 competitions worldwide.



Álvaro Fidalgo Club América



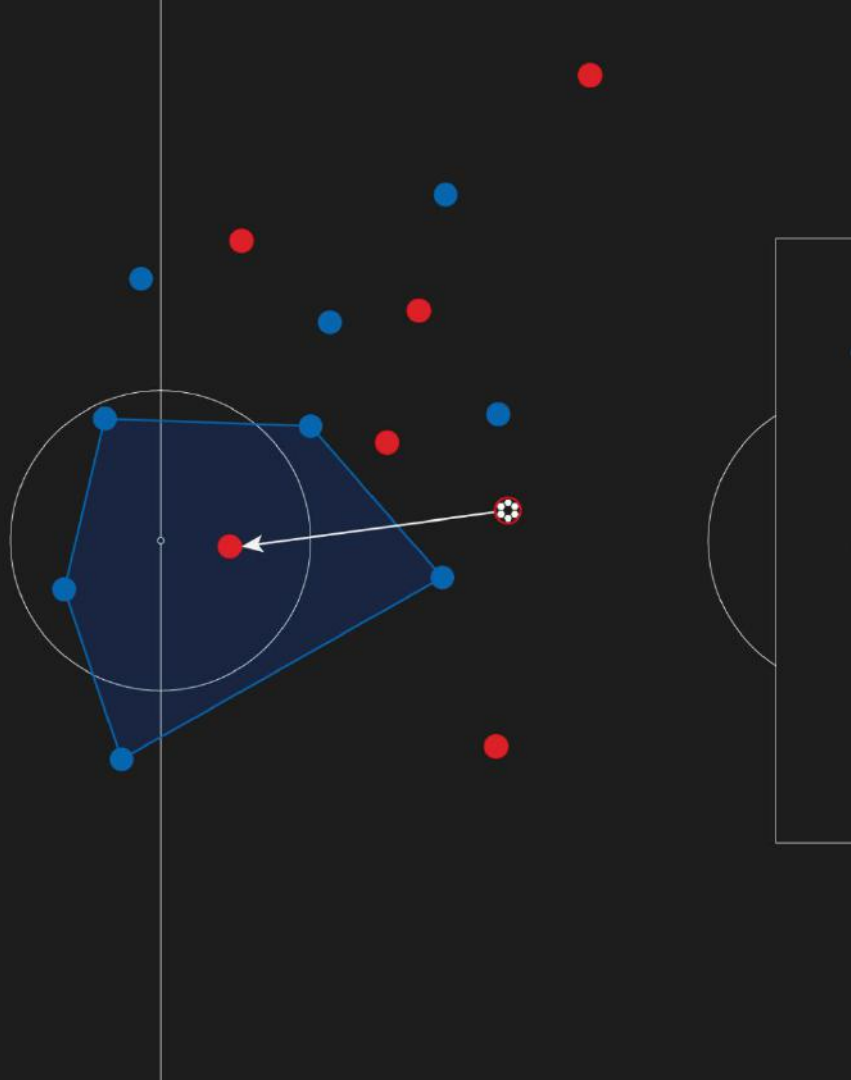
Marcos Rocha Palmeiras



Lucas Villalba Argentinos Juniors

@ 360 Ball receipts in space.

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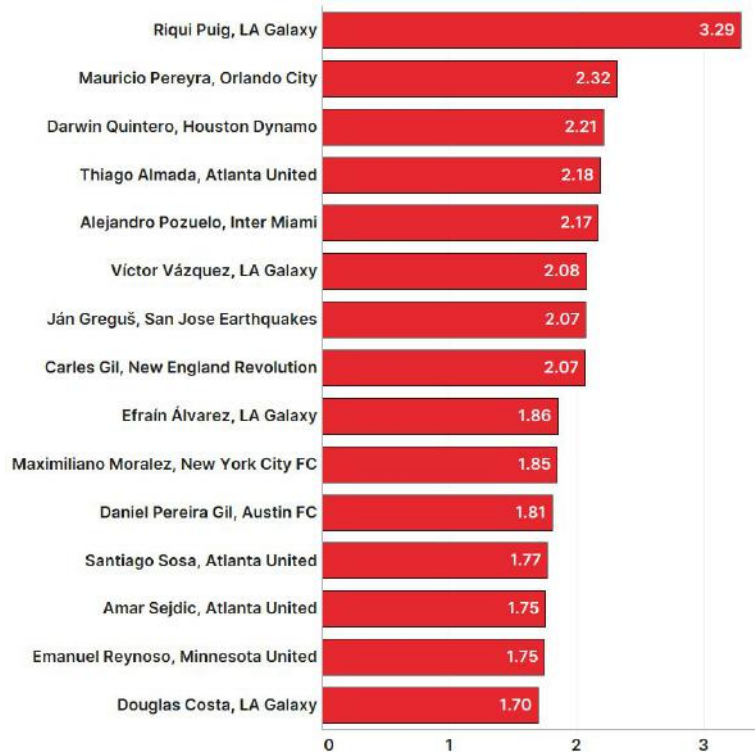
Ball Receipts in Space

Ball Receipts in Space is another quality that analysts and scouts attribute to players without being able to quantify or measure it.

Using 360 data, we're able to measure the distance to the nearest defender for Ball Receipt events, and use that to find which players are receiving in space most often.

The list on the right shows the top 15 players in the regular 2022 MLS season that **received the ball in at least 5 yards of space in Zone 14**, which, for clarity, is the central space in front of the opponent's penalty box.

The players in this list are usually attacking midfield players or deeper-lying forward players that drop in to continue attacking moves, or deeper-lying midfielders that position themselves to switch the play when their team is creating sustained pressure on the opponent.

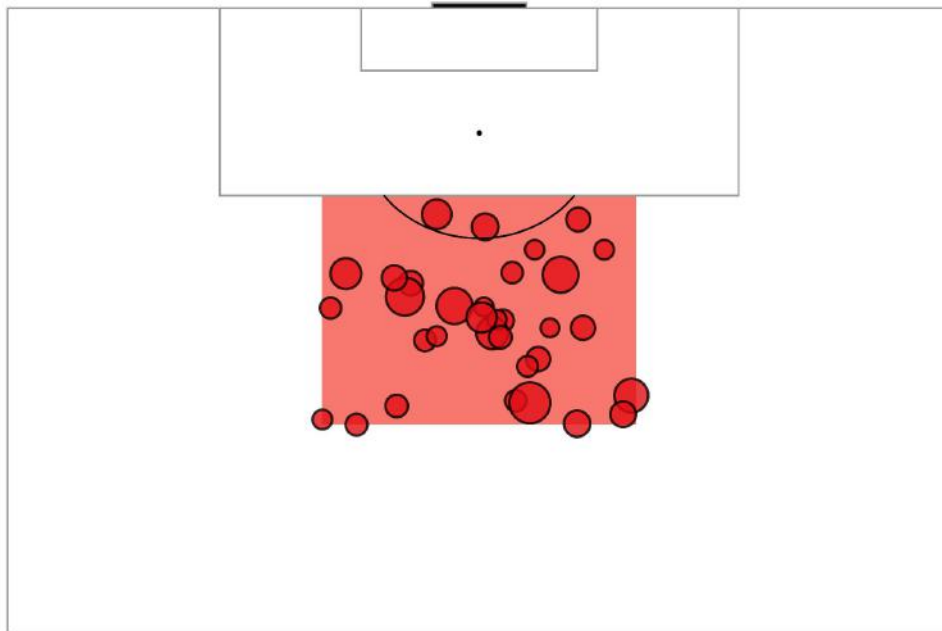


Riqui Puig

Zone 14, Ball Receipts in Space

LA Galaxy, MLS 2022

Puig again stands out in this metric, as a player that looks to drift into space in dangerous attacking areas and keep his team's possession moving forwards.

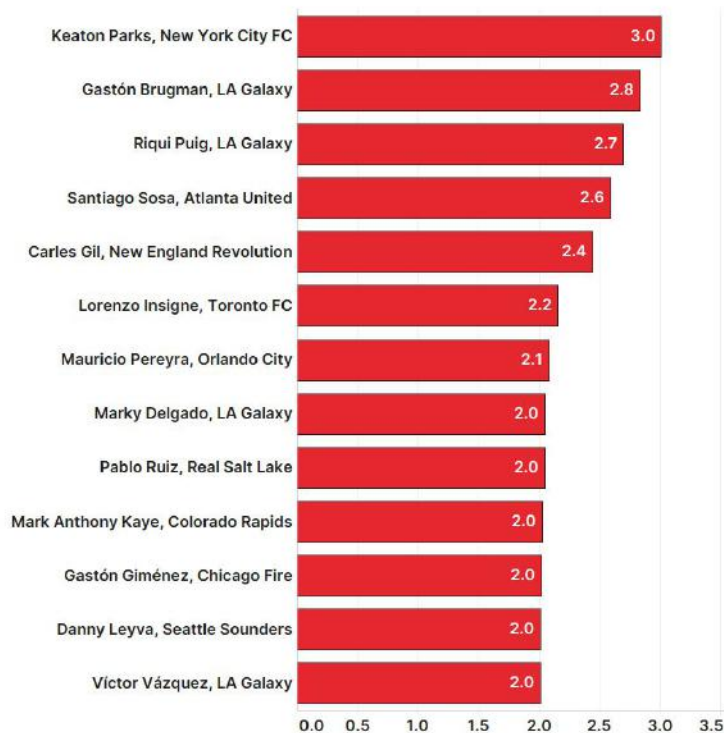


Less Space  More Space

Line-breaking Passes to Ball Receipts in Space

Being able to break lines with passes is a desirable quality for a player to have, as is an ability to pick players out when they've found space on the pitch. So we can combine the two metrics to drill down further into players who might be standout passing talents within the league.

The list on the right shows players who, on a per 90 minutes basis, most often played line-breaking passes that found a teammate in at least 5 yards of space in the opponent's half.

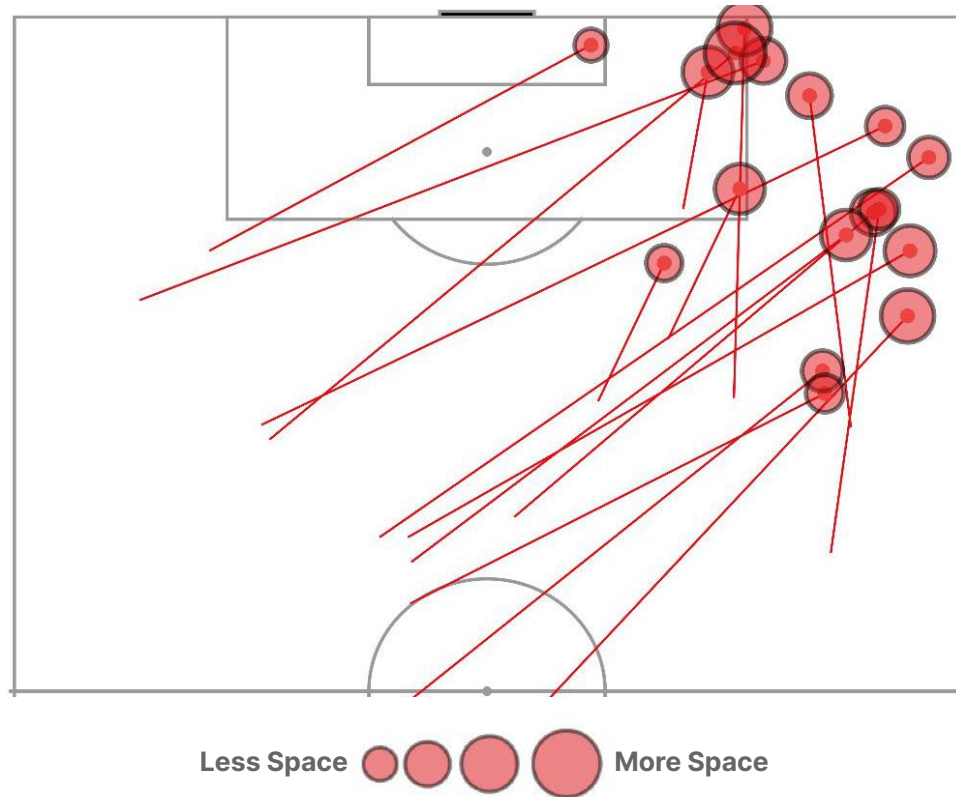


Line-breaking Passes to Ball Receipts in Space

Carles Gil → Brandon Bye

Overall, Gil made the most line-breaking passes to ball receipts in >5 yards of space in the 2022 MLS season, doing so 85 times.

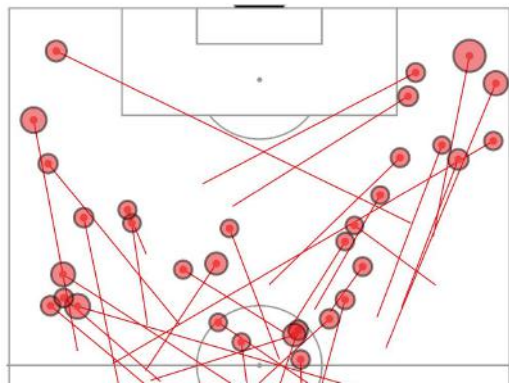
The most common recipient of these passes by Gil was teammate Brandon Bye, with the plot clearly showing how Gil was able to progress New England Revolution up the pitch by finding Bye making a forward run up the right flank.



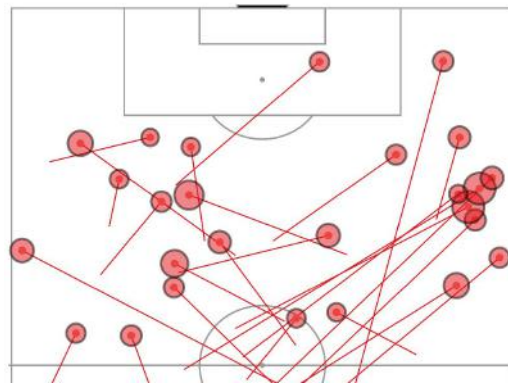
Line-breaking Passes to Ball Receipts in Space in Latin America

360 Data is available for 38 competitions worldwide.

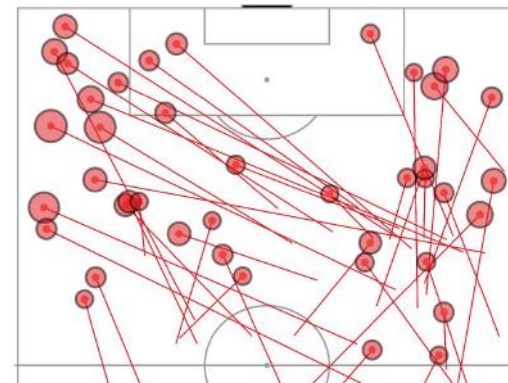
Less Space  More Space



Rafael Carioca Tigres UNAL



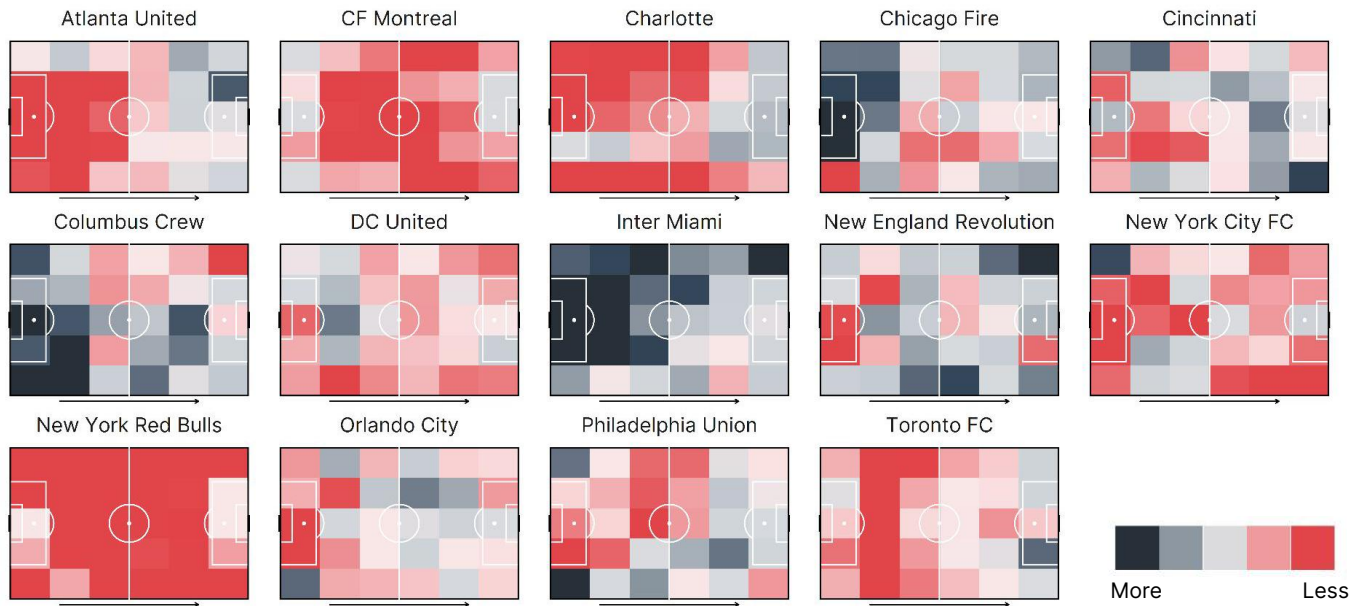
Arturo Vidal Flamengo



Juan Fernando Quintero River Plate

How much space does the opponent have when receiving the ball?

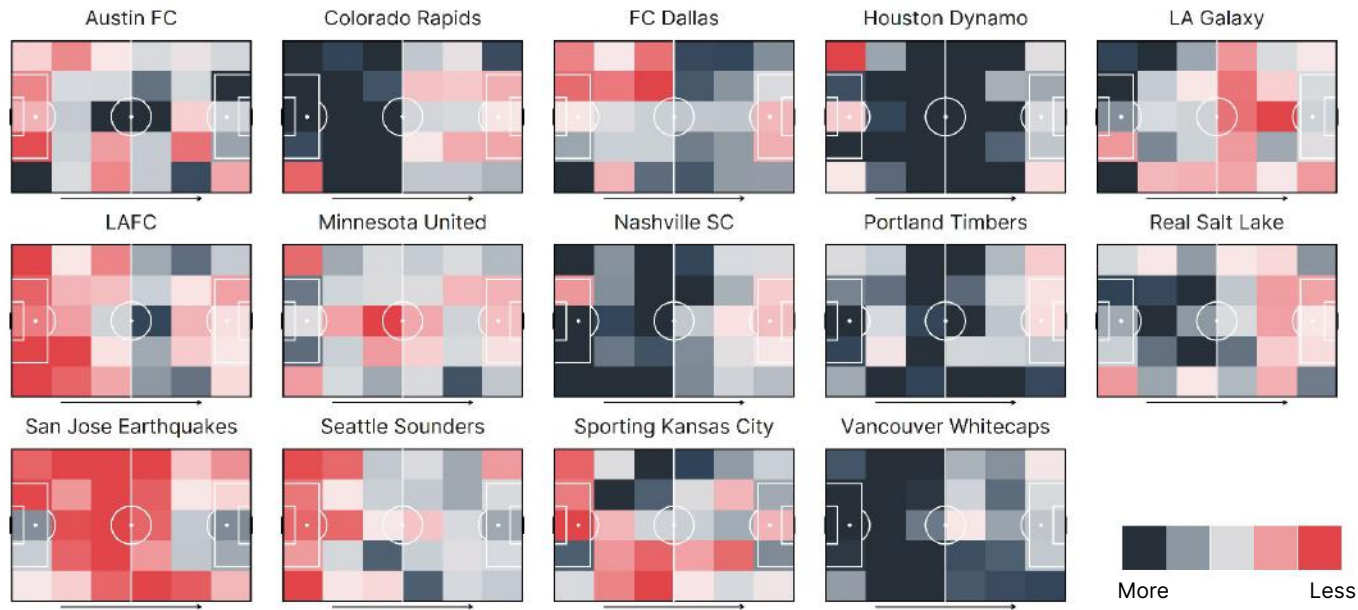
Average distance to the nearest defender when the opponent receives a pass in each zone



Eastern Conference

How much space does the opponent have when receiving the ball?

Average distance to the nearest defender when the opponent receives a pass in each zone

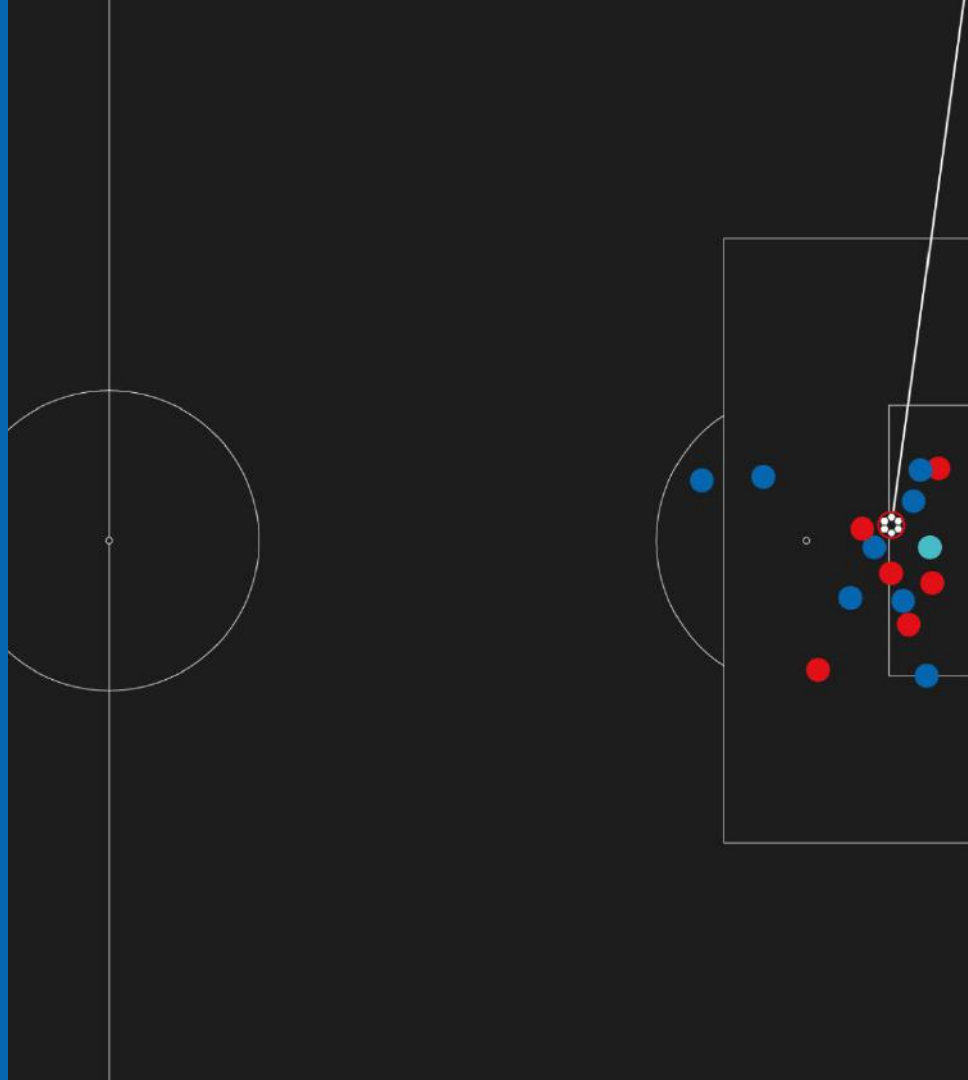


Western Conference



Team shape At set-pieces.

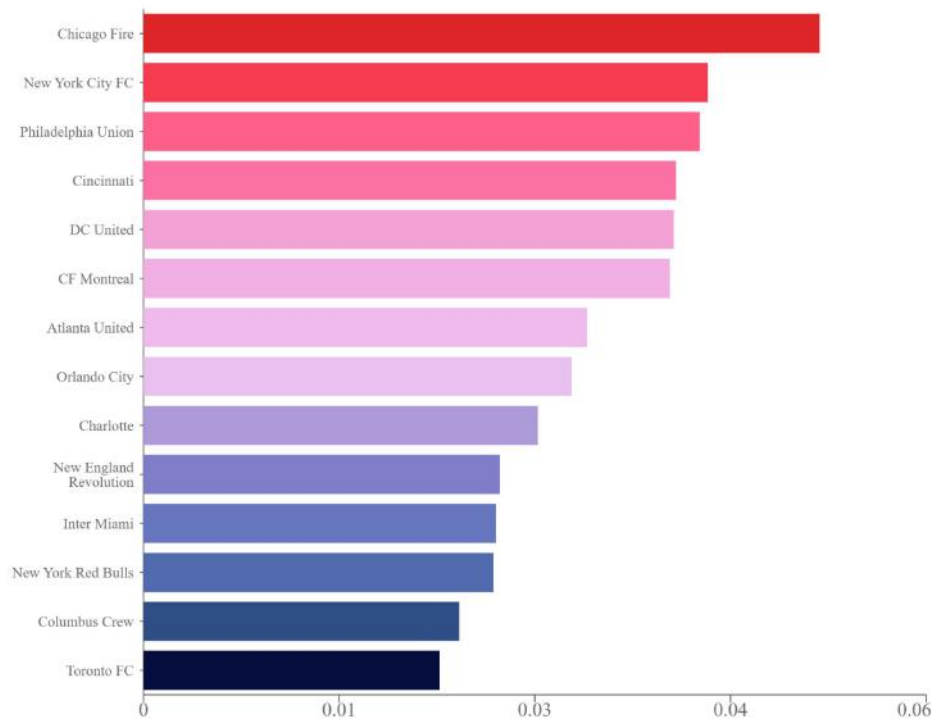
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xG per Corner

Eastern Conference

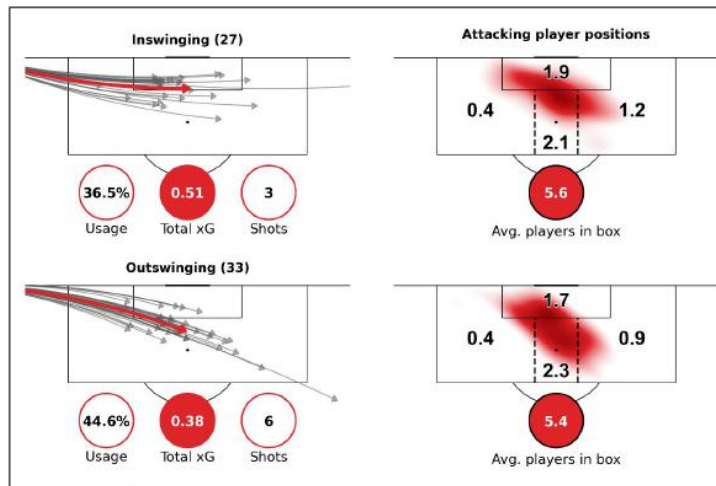
360 Data can also be used to give us much more information around set pieces than is available via standard data.



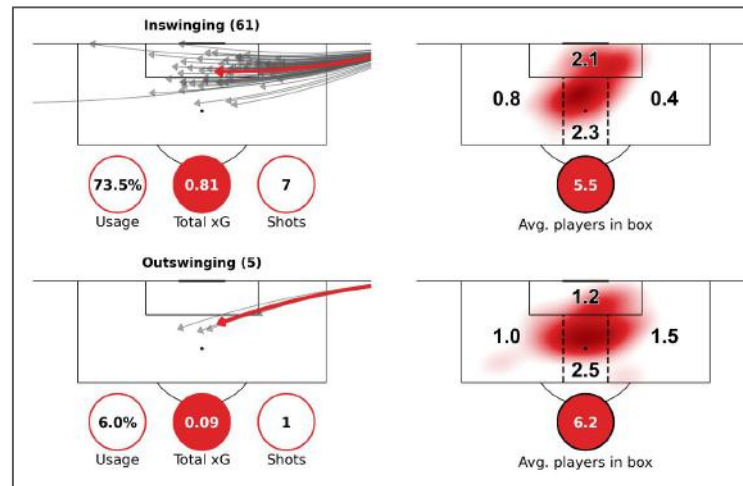
League Average xG/Corner:

Chicago Fire Corner Set Up

Eastern Conference



From Left
Short = 14.9%



From Right
Short = 19.3%

Teammates in the six-yard box on corners

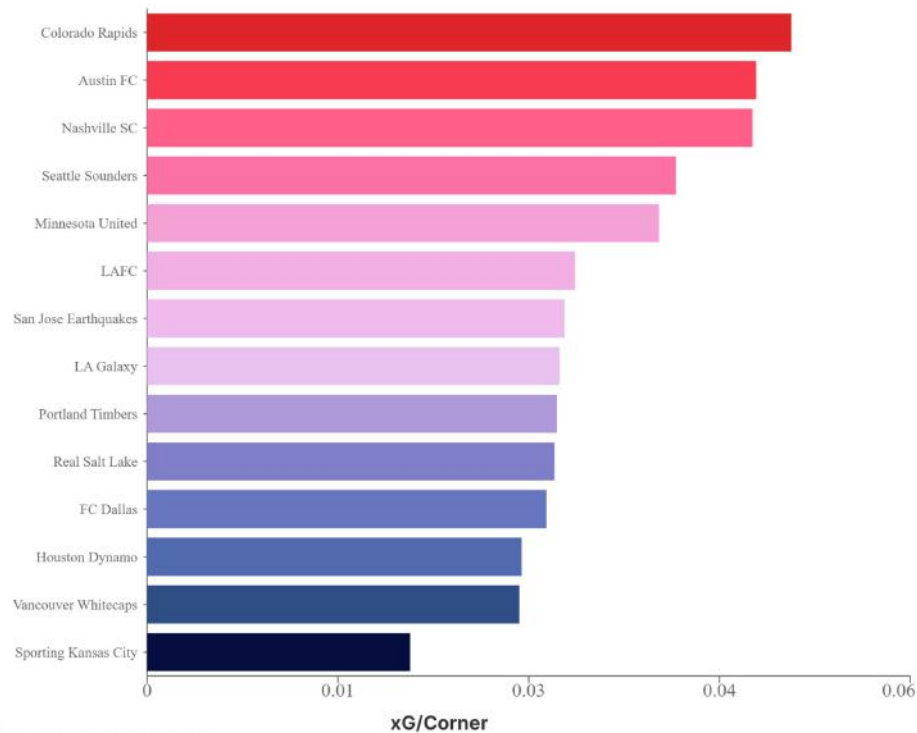
Eastern Conference



xG per Corner

Western Conference

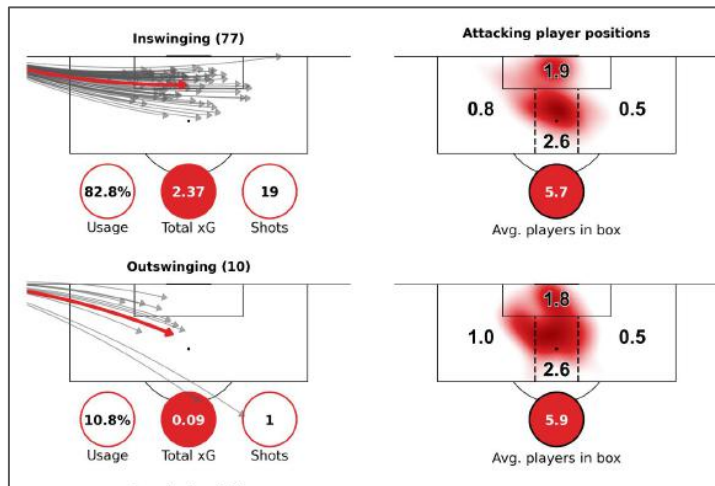
360 Data can also be used to give us much more information around set pieces than is available via standard data.



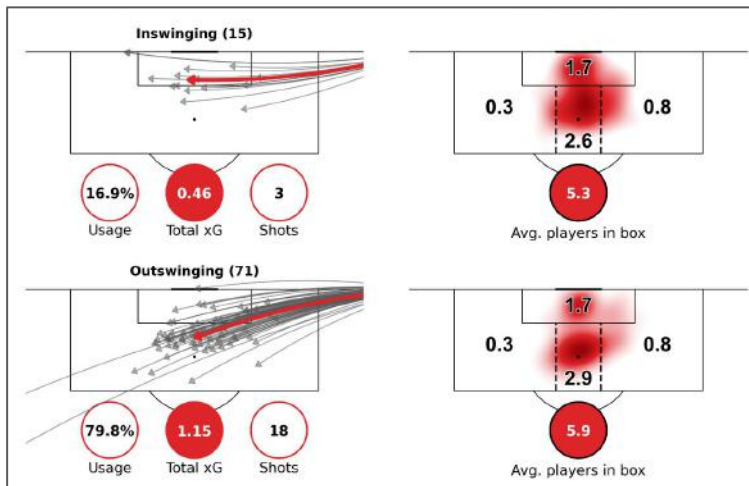
League Average xG/Corner: 0.025

Colorado Rapids Corner Set Up

Western Conference



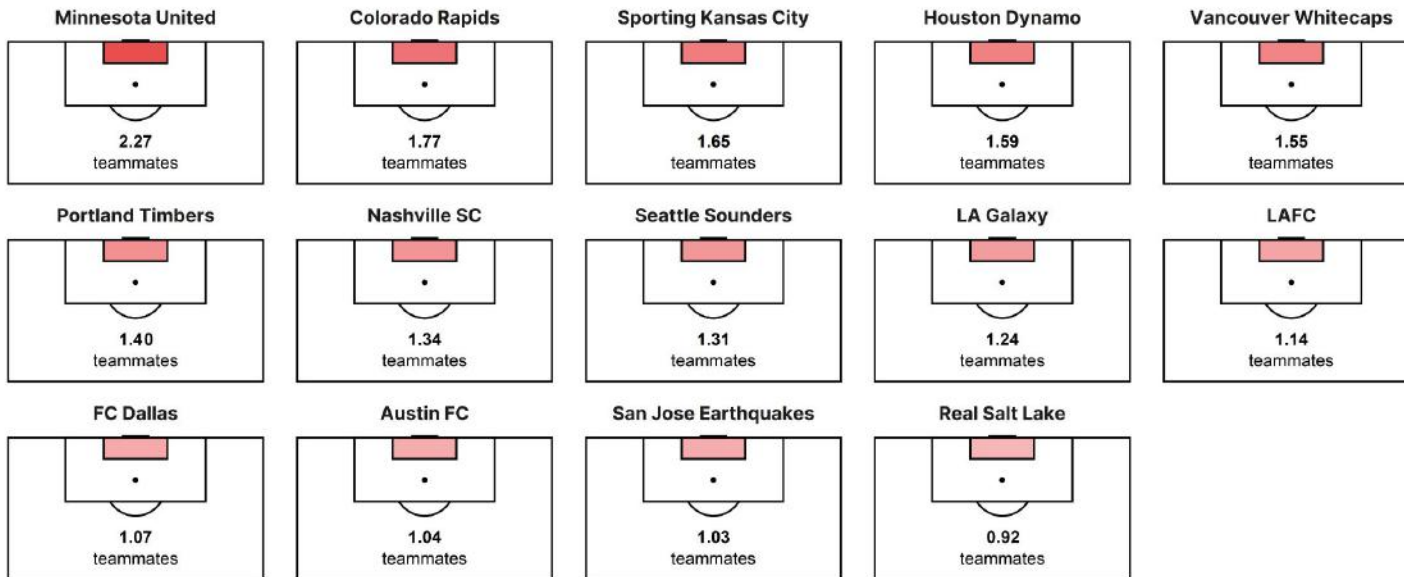
From Left
Short = 3.2%



From Right
Short = 2.2%

Teammates in the six-yard box on corners

Western Conference





Interested to learn more about StatsBomb data?

We're always happy to discuss how StatsBomb
can help you or your organisation.

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