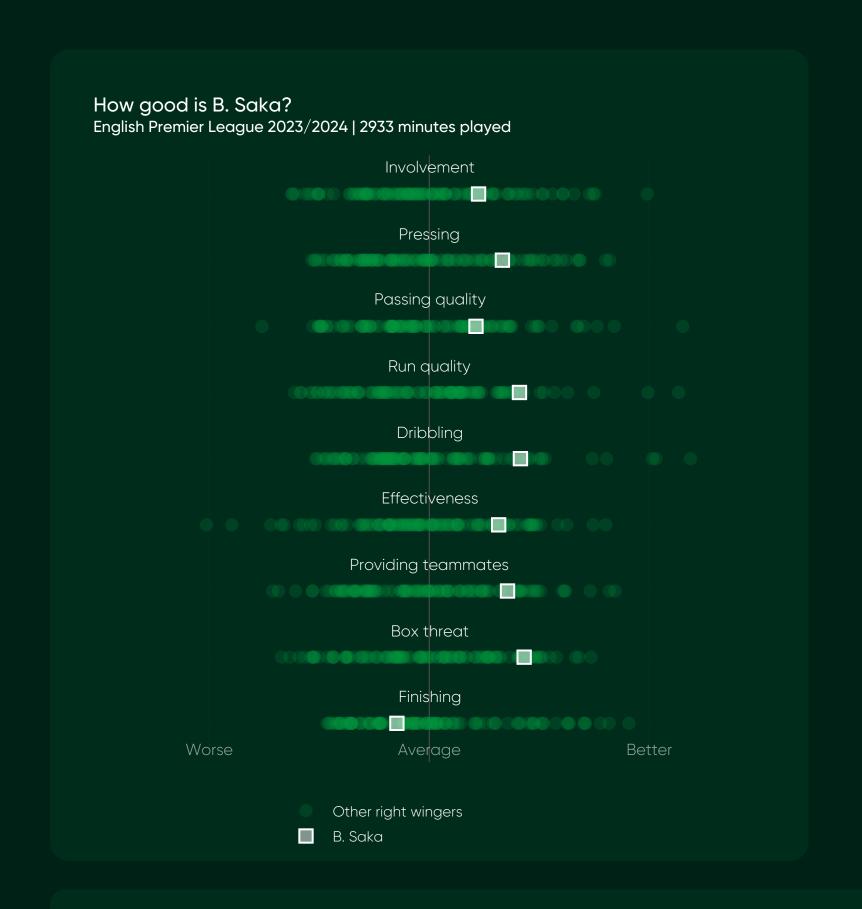


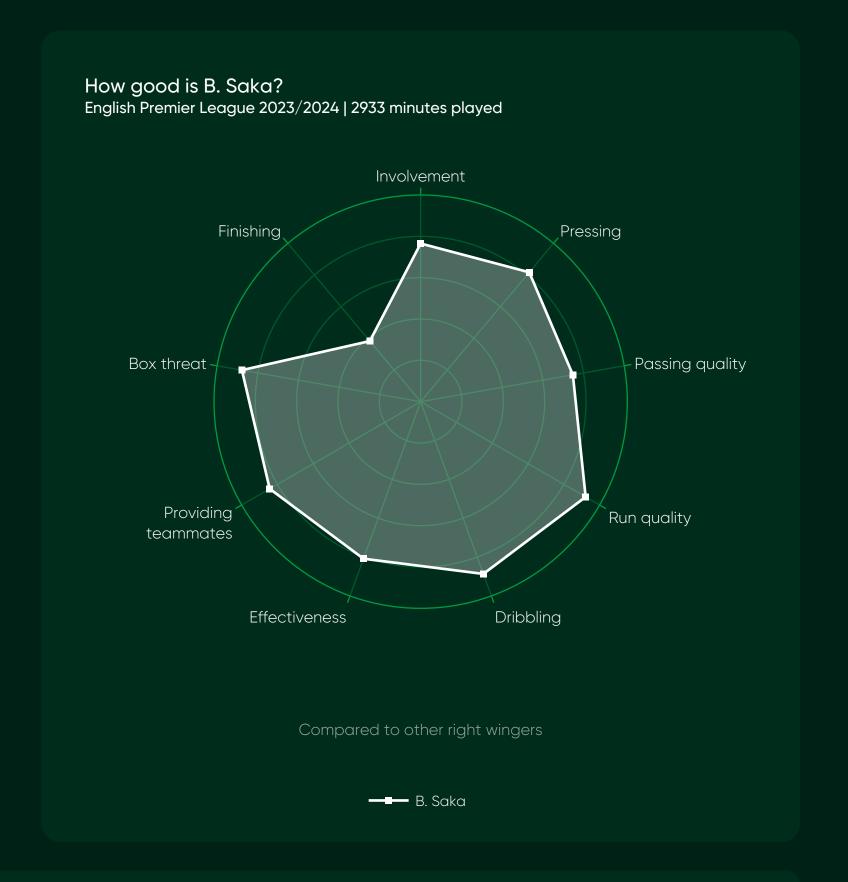
Bukayo Saka

English Premier League 2023/2024
Scouting Report



Versatile and explosive, but needs to improve goal-scoring efficiency.

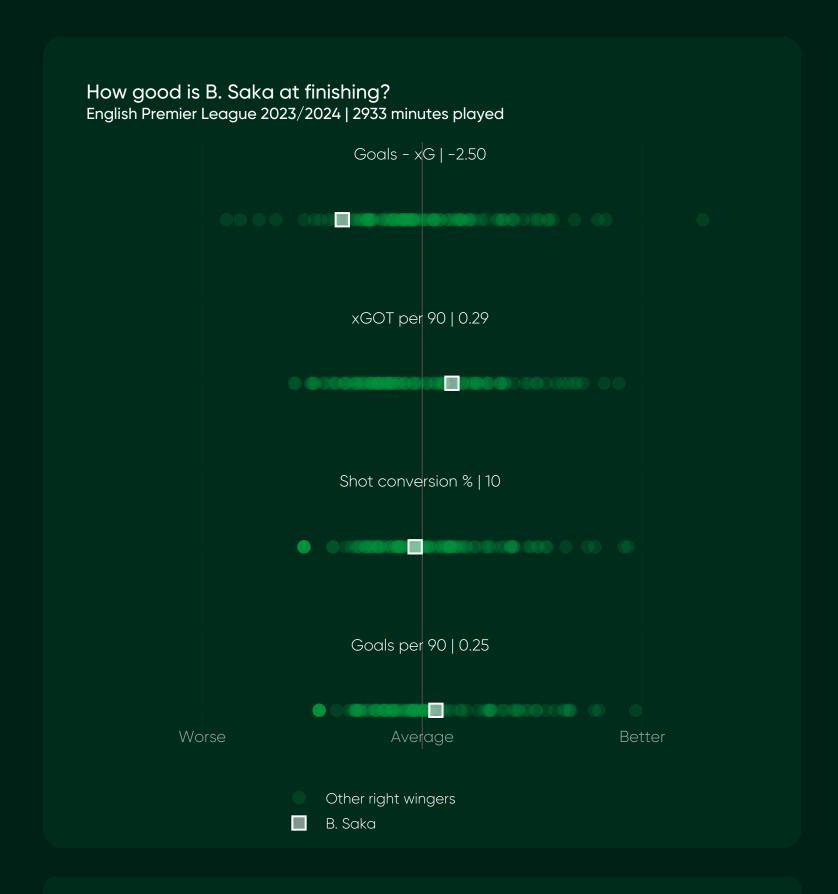




Bukayo Saka, a 23-year-old right winger for Arsenal, stands out as an explosive and versatile player. This season, he has been exceptional in box threat and run quality, consistently getting into the penalty area and making a multitude of penalty area receptions. He excels at dribbling, with a high dribble success rate, and is equally adept at providing for his teammates, evidenced by his deep completions per ninety.

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Needs improvement in close-range finishing.



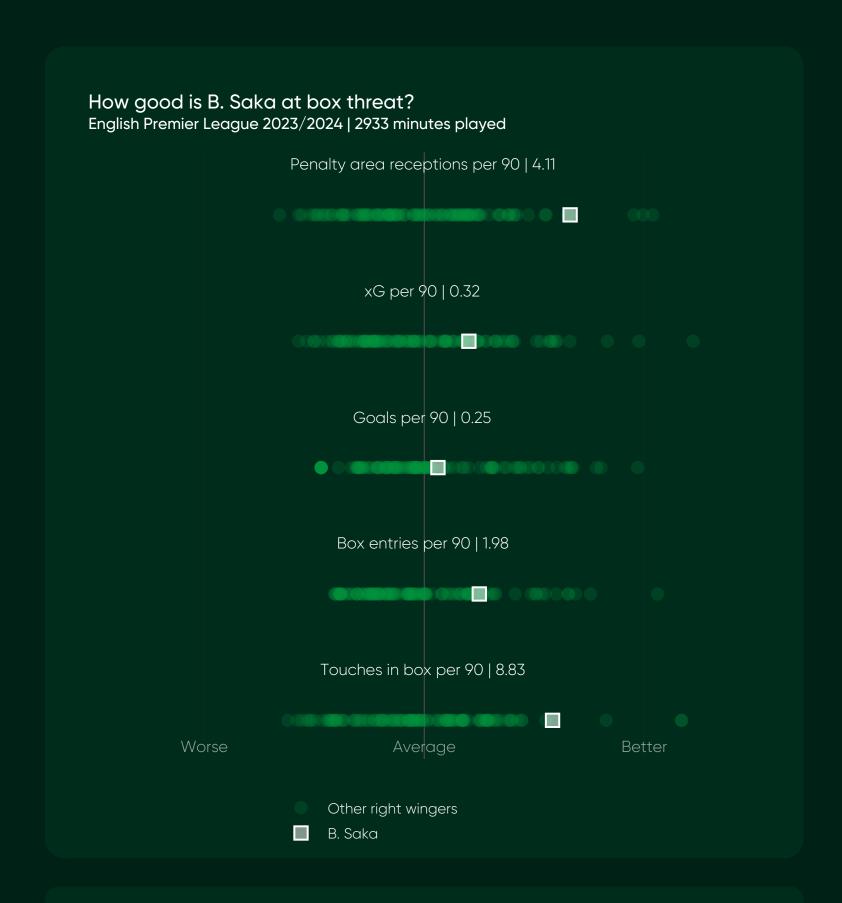
Saka is not pulling past his weight; he converts at a decent rate, but underperforms given the chances he gets. Overall, Saka's finishing is not particularly strong.



This season, B. Saka was fairly consistent, though not extraordinary, in converting chances from the golden zone, outside the box, and the right side of the box. His conversion rate dropped notably from close range in the six-yard box, indicating a need to sharpen his finishing touch in those decisive areas.



Exceptional at getting into the box, average finisher.



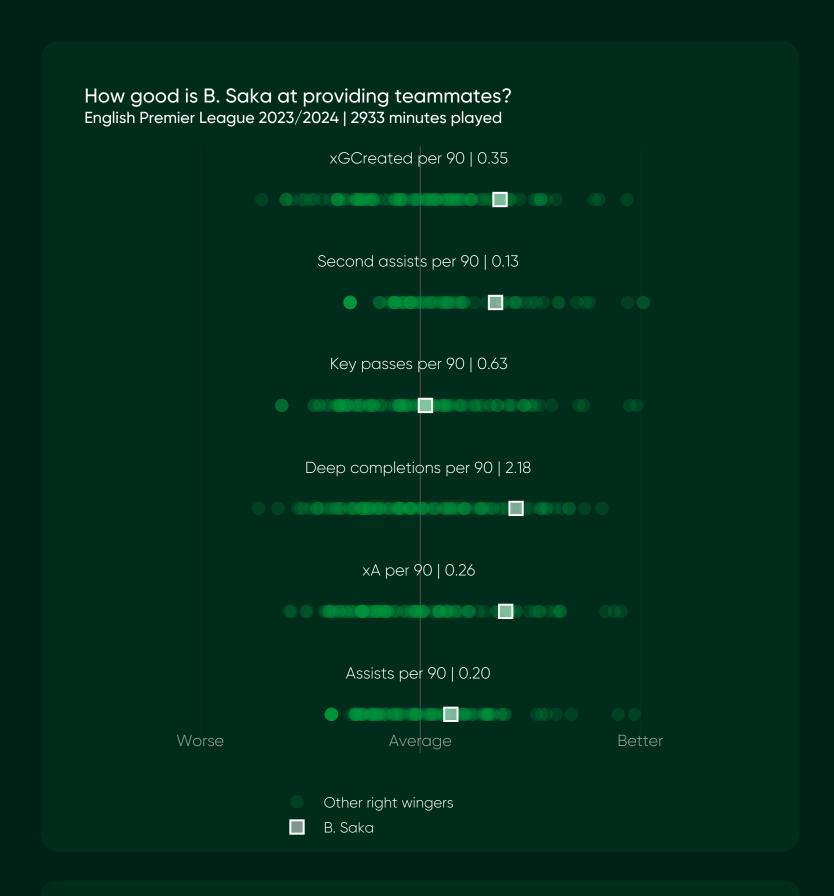
B. Saka stands out as an exceptional box threat among right wingers, excelling in getting into the penalty area and maintaining high touches in the box per ninety. Although his goal scoring and expected goal metrics are typical for the league, his ability to position himself in dangerous areas sets him apart.



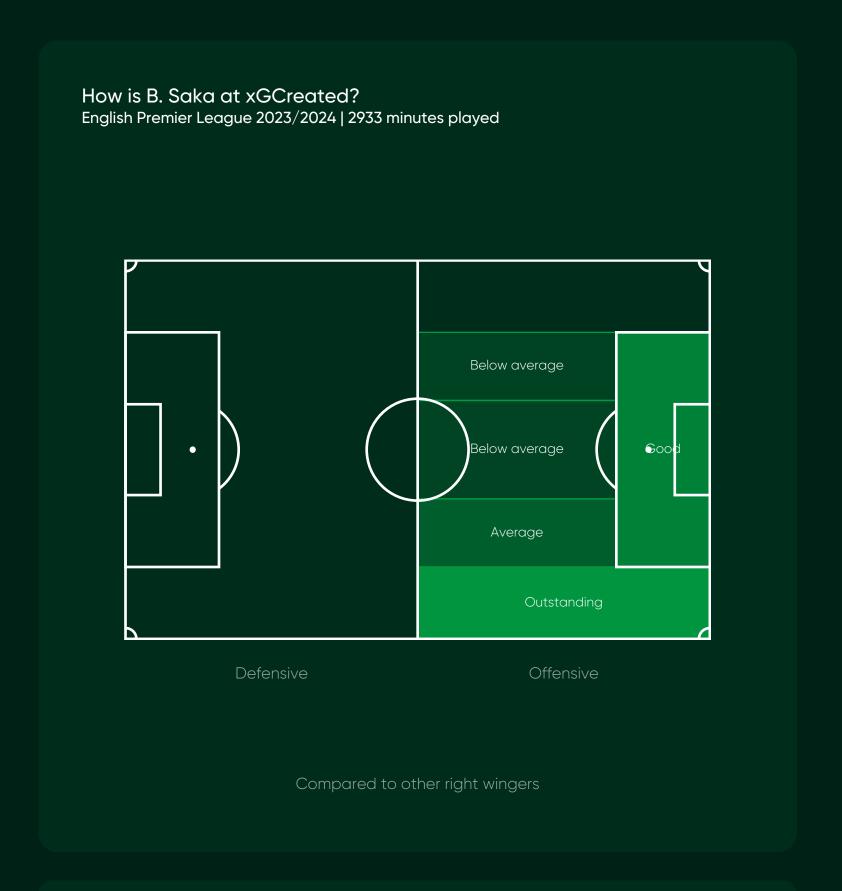
Saka consistently found high-quality shooting opportunities from the right side of the box, making him a significant threat in those areas. However, his finishing from the golden zone, six-yard box, and outside the box was not as impressive.



Outstanding Chance Creator from the Right Wing



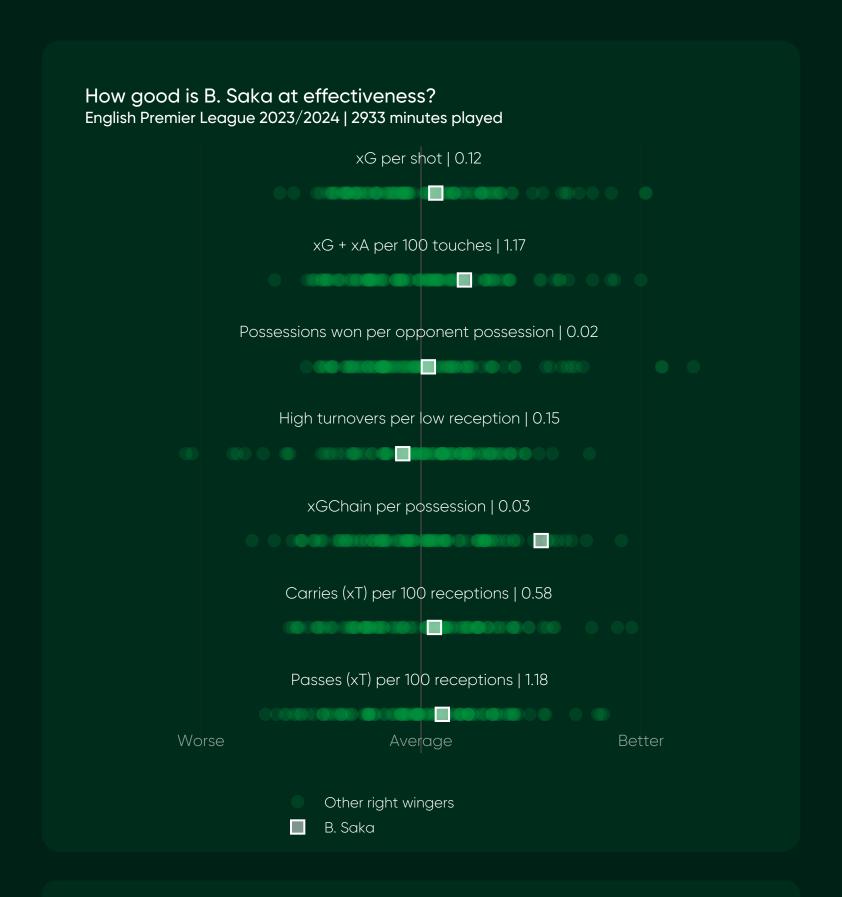
B. Saka is an outstanding right winger, particularly adept at setting up dangerous situations and creating chances out of nothing. He excels in deep completions, expected assists, expected goals created with passes, and second assists, making him a key creative force for his team.



Saka excelled in creating chances from the right wing and was also effective in the opposition penalty area, highlighting his attacking threat from wide positions. His contributions were less impactful in other areas of the field, particularly the left half-space and central zone.



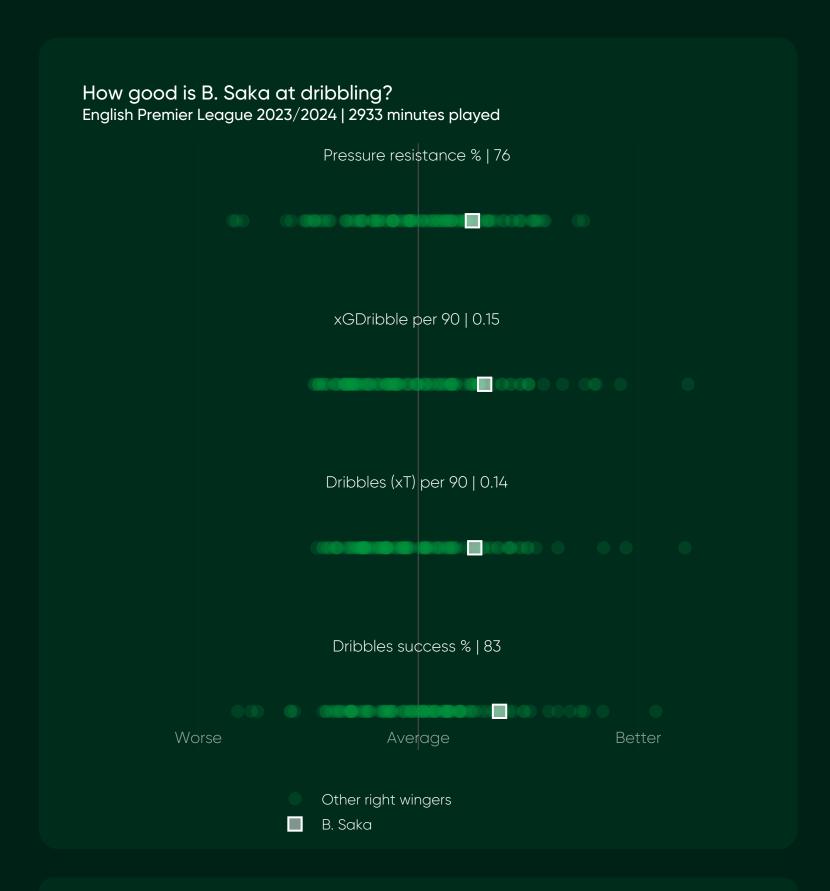
Consistently involved in creating goal opportunities.



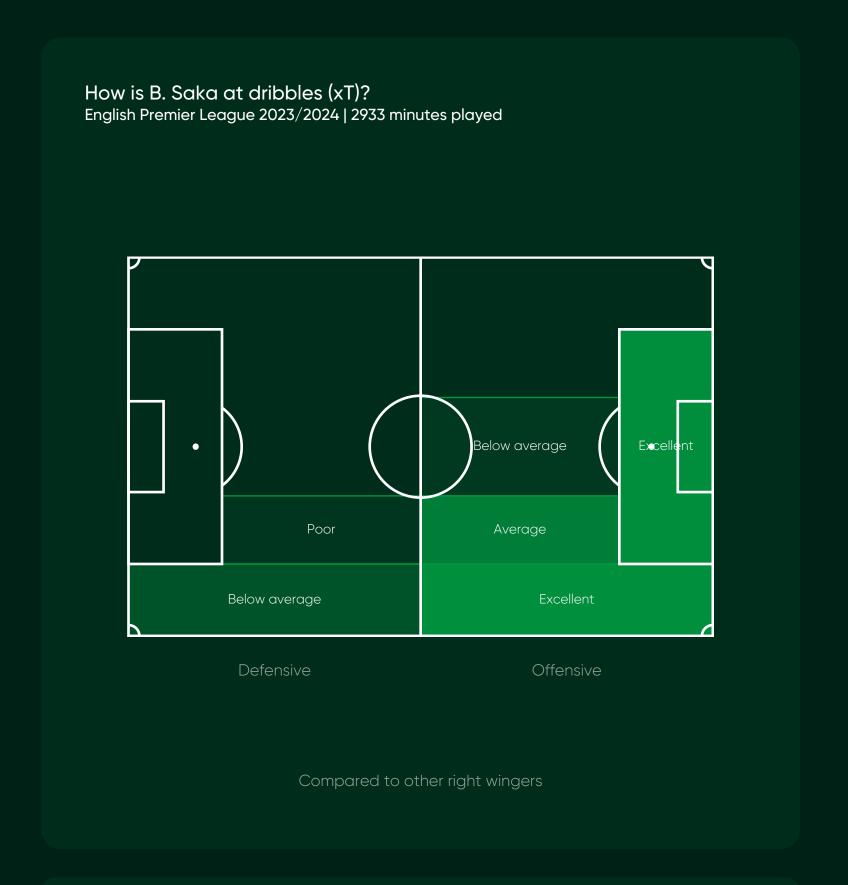
B. Saka stands out for his ability to be involved in plays that lead to significant goal-scoring opportunities. While there is no specific weakness he ranks average in providing/threatening passes and carries, efficiency in assists/goal creation per touch and winning back possession from opponents.



Elite dribbler, but average under pressure and defensively.



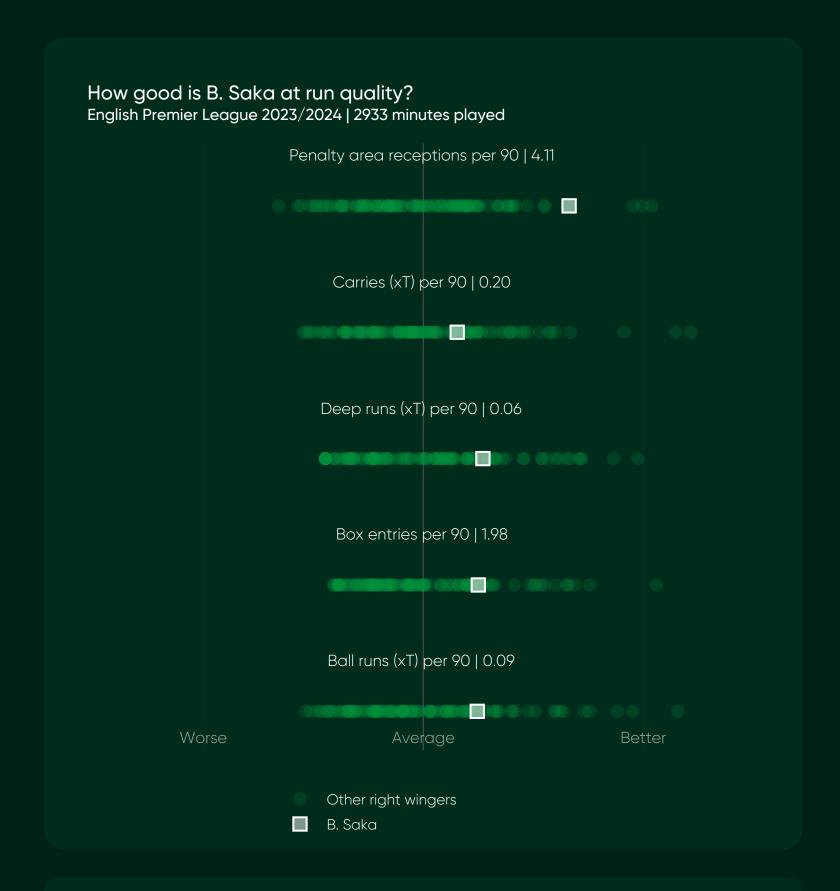
B. Saka is an elite dribbler, excelling in successfully taking on defenders and creating scoring opportunities through his dribbling. While his ability to resist pressure average, this does not severely impact his overall dribbling effectiveness.



In the 2023/2024 season, B. Saka demonstrated excellent dribbling skills both in the opposition penalty area and on the attacking right wing. He was average when making narrower movements into the right half-space or advancing into the central zone but showed struggles defensively in the right wing and defensive half-space.



Outstanding at attacking runs and penalties.



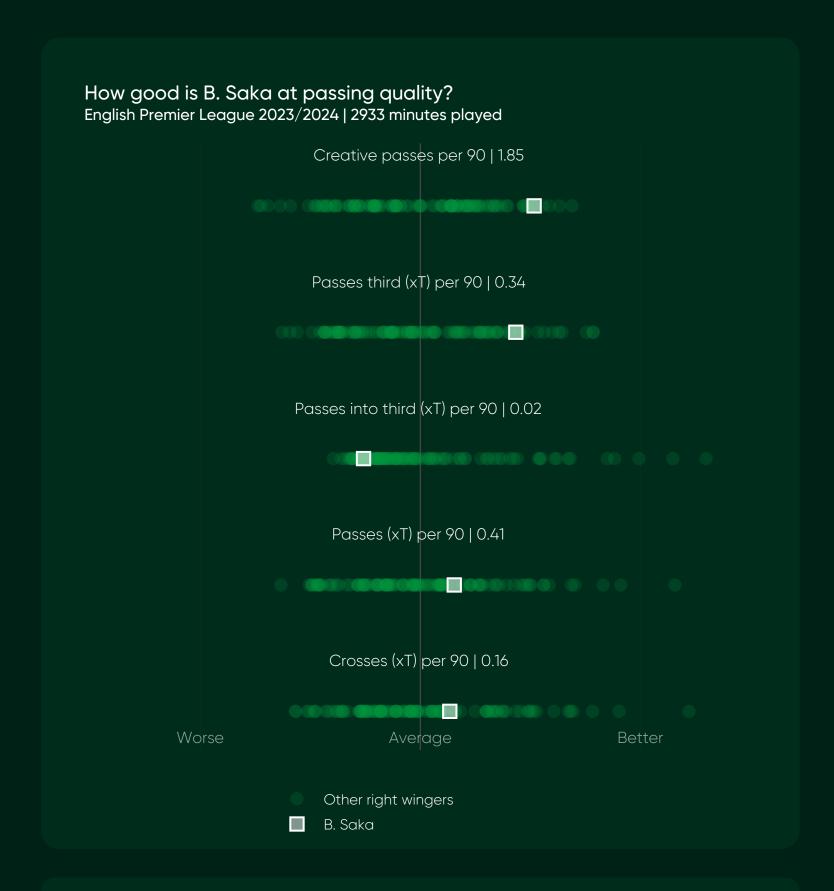
B. Saka stands out among right wingers with his outstanding ability to receive the ball in the penalty area and to make deep, threatening runs. While he performs at an average level for box entries, ball runs, and carries, his overall run quality is exceptional.



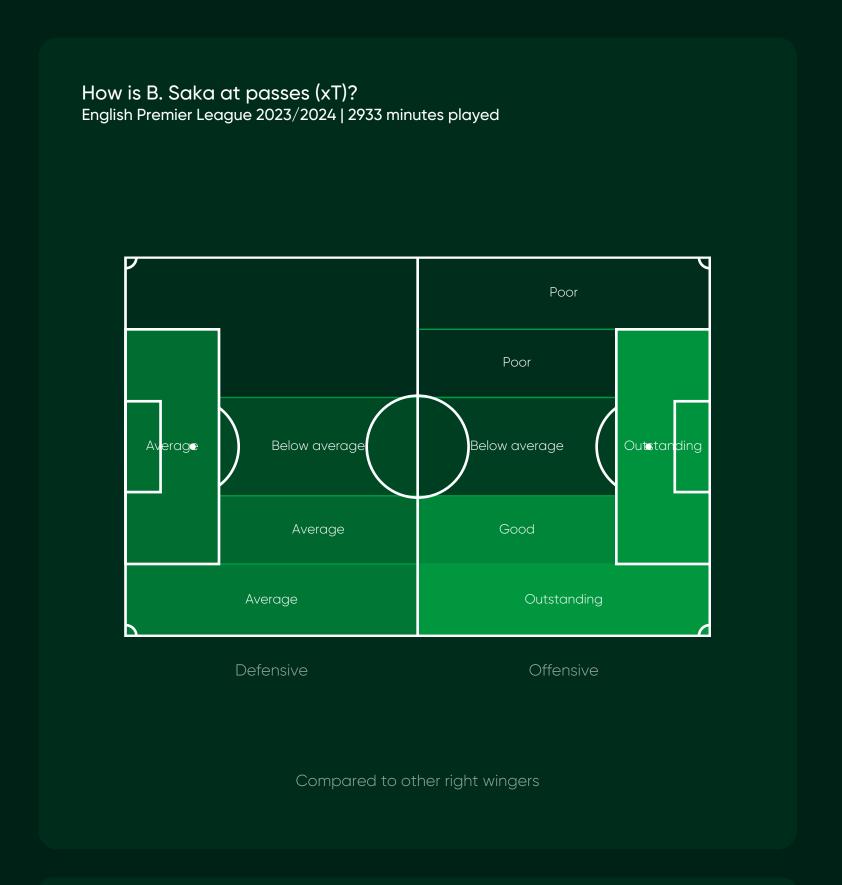
B. Saka was exceptional on the attacking right wing and in the opposition penalty area, creating significant threat with his carries. He remained solid in the attacking right half-space, but was less effective in deeper defensive areas.



Exceptional playmaker from the right, not as strong centrally.



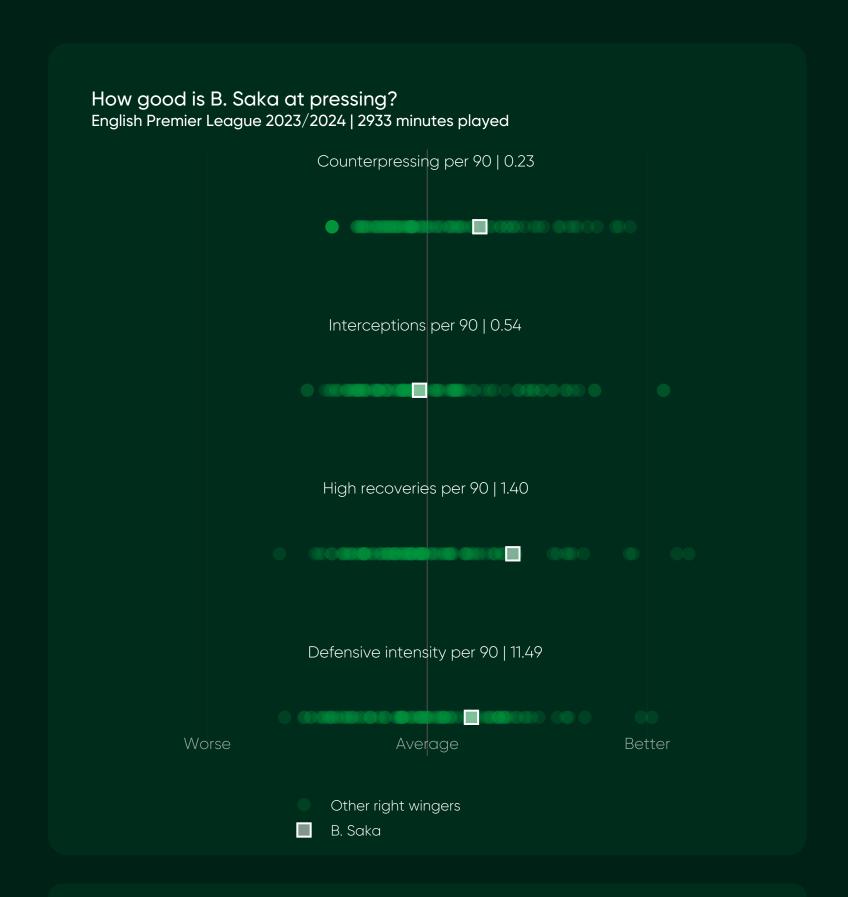
Saka stands out for his creativity and dangerous passes within the final third, marking him as a highly effective playmaker. However, his ability to advance the ball into the final third is not as strong.



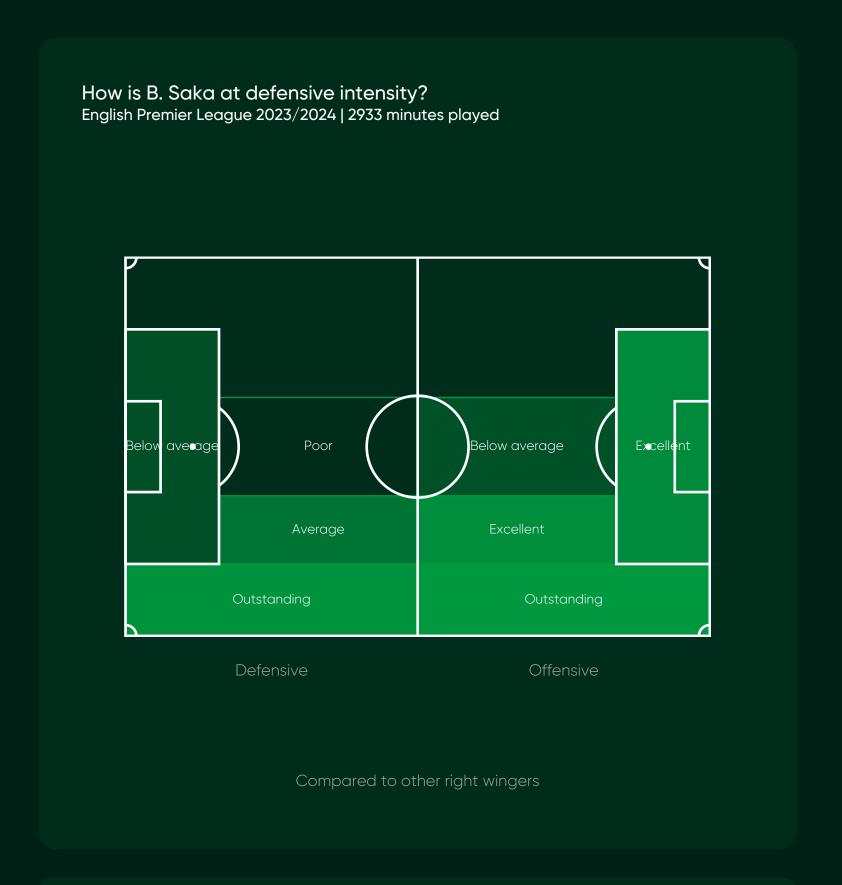
Bukayo Saka has been exceptional in generating dangerous passes from the attacking right wing and opposition penalty area. However, when positioned in the central and left attacking zones, his passing influence diminishes significantly.



Exceptional at high recoveries on the right.



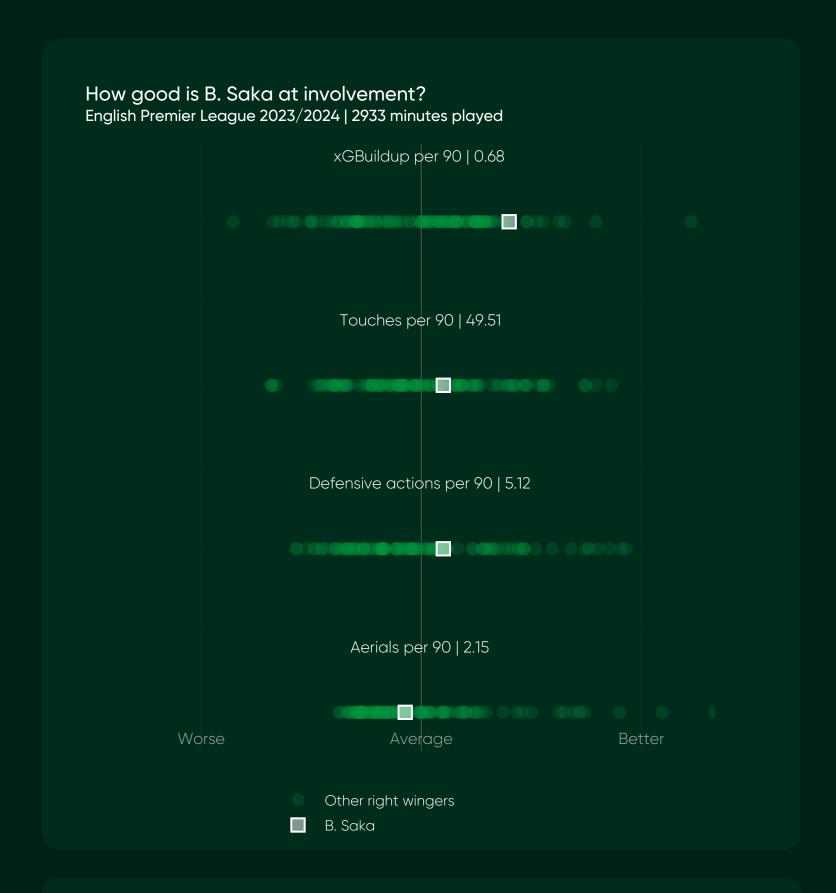
B. Saka stands out in his ability to recover the ball high up the pitch compared to other right wingers, making him a significant asset in pressing. While his overall defensive intensity and other pressing metrics are average, his proficiency in high recoveries specifically strengthens his contribution to the team's pressing system.



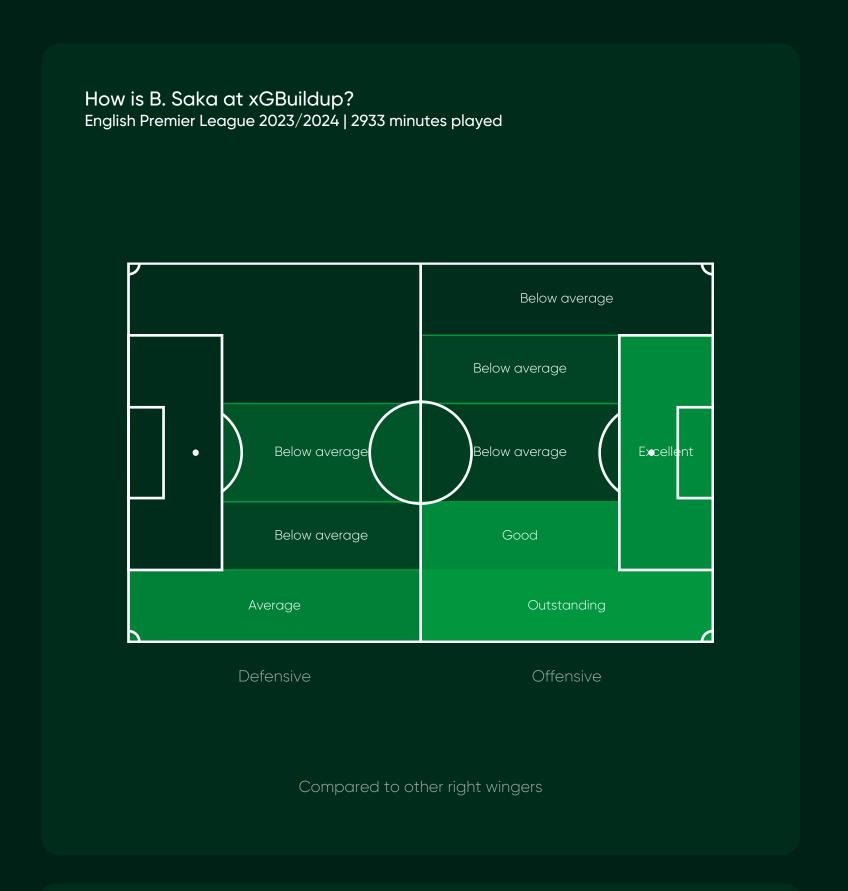
Saka has been outstanding defensively on the right side, in both attacking and defensive zones, outperforming other right wingers in these areas. His intensity drops in central zones on the pitch.



Excellent build-up contributor on the attacking right wing.



B. Saka stands out in his ability to contribute in the build-up of his team's attacking plays. While he is typical in terms of touches on the ball, defensive actions, and aerial duels, his overall involvement is good.



Saka was exceptional on the attacking right wing and very effective in the opposition penalty area, indicating his strong ability to maintain the phases of attack. His performance dropped in central and left-sided areas, suggesting his primary impact is concentrated on the right side.



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Aerials	Number of aerial duels.
Aerials won	Number of aerial duels won (by first contact).
Aerials won %	Percentage of aerial duels won.
Assists	Number of assists adjusted by possession.
Attacking aerials won	Number of attacking aerial duels won (by first contact) in attacking 60% of the pitch adjusted by possession.
Attacking aerials won %	Percentage of attacking aerials wons.
Ball progression (xT)	Action-based xT from successful progressive passes and progressive carries that end in the opponent's half adjusted by possession.
Ball recoveries	Number of ball recoveries that do not happen with an active defensive action (tackles, duels, interceptions) adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Ball runs (xT)	Accumulated location-based xT from progressive runs and high speed runs with the ball adjusted by possession.
Box entries	Number of ball carries into the penalty area adjusted by possession.
Carries (xT)	Accumulated action-based xT from ball carries adjusted by possession.
Carries (xT) per 100 receptions	Accumulated expected threat from carries compared to the number of shots and multiplied by 100.
Counterpressing	Number of recoveries in duels that end a possession of the opposition team with length less than 5 seconds adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Creative passes	Number of assists, key passes, shot assists, and second assists adjusted by possession.
Crosses (xT)	Accumulated action-based xT of successful crosses adjusted by possession.
Deep completions	Number of successful non-cross passes into the area within 20 meters of the opponent's goal adjusted by possession.
Deep runs (xT)	Accumulated action-based xT from through ball receptions adjusted by possession.
Defending 1v1 %	Percentage of successful attempts to prevent an opposing player in possession of the ball to dribble past the player.
Defensive actions	Number of successful defensive actions (defensive duels, tackles, interceptions, recoveries, clearances) adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Defensive aerials won	Number of defensive aerial duels won (by first contact) in own 60% of the pitch adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Defensive aerials won %	Percentage of defensive aerial duels won in own 60% of the pitch.

Descriptions of metrics



Defensive area (m^2)	The size of the area, measured in square meters, that a player covers defensively in open play. It is measured as the area that covers 68% of the player's open play defensive actions adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Defensive duels won	Number of defensive ground duels that stopped progression of a player or recovered the possession adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Defensive intensity	Number of defensive duels, loose ball duels, interceptions, tackles and fouls when out of possession adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Defensive line height (m)	Average height on the pitch, measured in meters, of the player's defensive actions.
Dribbles (xT)	Accumulated location-based xT from successful dribbles adjusted by possession.
Dribbles success %	The ratio between successful dribbles and total dribbles.
Goals - xG	The difference between non-penalty goals scored and non-penalty expected goals.
Goals	Number of non-penalty goals adjusted by possession.
Goals per box touch	Number of non-penalty goals compared to the number of penalty area touches.
Headed plays	Number of successful head passes or head shots in the attacking half adjusted by possession.
High recoveries	Number of recovered possessions in the attacking half adjusted by the opponent's possession.
High turnovers	Number of possessions lost (failed passes, bad ball touches or lost attacking duels) in own 40% of the pitch adjusted by possession.
High turnovers per low reception	Number of possessions lost (failed passes, bad ball touches or lost attacking duels) compared to total number of ball receptions in own 40% of the pitch.
Interceptions	Number of interceptions adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Key passes	Number of passes that immediately create a clear goal-scoring opportunity for a teammate adjusted by possession.
Linkups	Number of successful linkup-plays (An action of an attacking player receiving a ball from a defender or a midfielder with his back to the opposite goal) adjusted by possession.
Long ball receptions	Number of successful long ball receptions divided by the team's possession percentage and multiplied by 0.5.
Losses	Number of actions that end the possession of a team (passes, offensive duels, touches) adjusted by possession.
Opposition pass success % into defensive area	Percentage of the opponent's passes into the player's defensive area that are successful.
Opposition progressive passes from defensive area %	Percentage of the opponent's passes originating from within the the player's defensive area that are successful, progressive and have an end location in the attacking half.

Descriptions of metrics

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Opposition xG after defensive action	Accumulated non-penalty xG from the opponent's shots where the player had the last defensive action before the shot, and the shot occurred within 8 seconds of the action, measured per 100 possessions.
Opposition xG from defensive area	Accumulated non-penalty xG from the opponent's shots that were a part of possessions that had a successful pass originating from within the player's defensive area, measured per 100 opponent possessions.
Opposition xT from defensive area	Accumulated action-based xT per 100 successful opponent passes originating from within the player's defensive area.
Opposition xT into defensive area	Accumulated action-based xT per 100 successful opponent passes into the player's defensive area.
Passes (xT)	Accumulated action-based xT from open play passes adjusted by possession.
Passes (xT) per 100 receptions	Accumulated expected threat from passes compared to the number of shots and multiplied by 100.
Passes into third (xT)	Accumulated action-based xT from successful open play passes into the final third.
Passes third (xT)	Accumulated action-based xT from successful open play passes inside of the final third.
Penalty area receptions	Number of successful pass receptions inside the penalty area divided by the team's possession percentage and multiplied by 0.5.
Playmaking passes	Number of successful open play progressive passes, smart passes, through passes, and passes into the final third adjusted by possession.
Possessions won	Number of recovered possessions adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Possessions won per opponent possession	Number of recovered possessions adjusted by the opponent's possession divided by total number of opponent possessions.
Pressure resistance %	Percentage of successful actions under pressure in the first or second thirds of the pitch.
Second assists	Number of last actions of a player from a goalscoring team prior to an assist by a teammate adjusted by possession.
Shot conversion %	Percentage of non-penalty shots that are goals.
Successful 1v1	Number of successful attempts to prevent an opposing player in possession of the ball to dribble past the player adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Tackle success %	Percentage of defending 1v1s and sliding tackles won.
Touches	Number of open play touches when in possession (passes, shots, carries, dribbles, touches) adjusted by possession.
Touches in box	Number of open play touches in opponent penalty area when in possession (passes, shots, carries, dribbles, touches) adjusted by possession.





True tackles won	Number of defending 1v1s and sliding tackles that stopped progression of a player or recovered the possession
	adjusted by the opponent's possession.
Under pressure retention	Number of successful actions under pressure in the first or second thirds of the pitch adjusted by possession.
xA	Accumulated expected assists adjusted by possession.
xG	Accumulated non-penalty expected goals adjusted by possession.
xG + xA per 100 touches	The sum of accumulated non-penalty xG and xA divided by the number of touches and multiplied by 100.
xG per box touch	Accumulated non-penalty xG compared to the number of penalty area touches.
xG per shot	Accumulated non-penalty xG compared to the number of shots.
xGBuildup	Accumulated non-penalty xG for possessions in which a player is involved in at least one event, excluding shots and
	shot assists adjusted by possession.
xGChain per possession	Accumulated non-penalty xG for possessions in which a player is involved in at least one event divided by total
	number of possession involvements.
xGCreated	Accumulated xG of shots within 5s of passes in the same possession assigned to the passer adjusted by possession.
xGDribble	Accumulated xG of shots within 5s of dribbles in the same possession assigned to the dribbler adjusted by
	possession.
xGOT	Accumulated non-penalty expected goals on target adjusted by possession.