



How the game is changing

★ AN INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE ★

1998-99



2022-23

22

international players

18

countries

122

international players

40

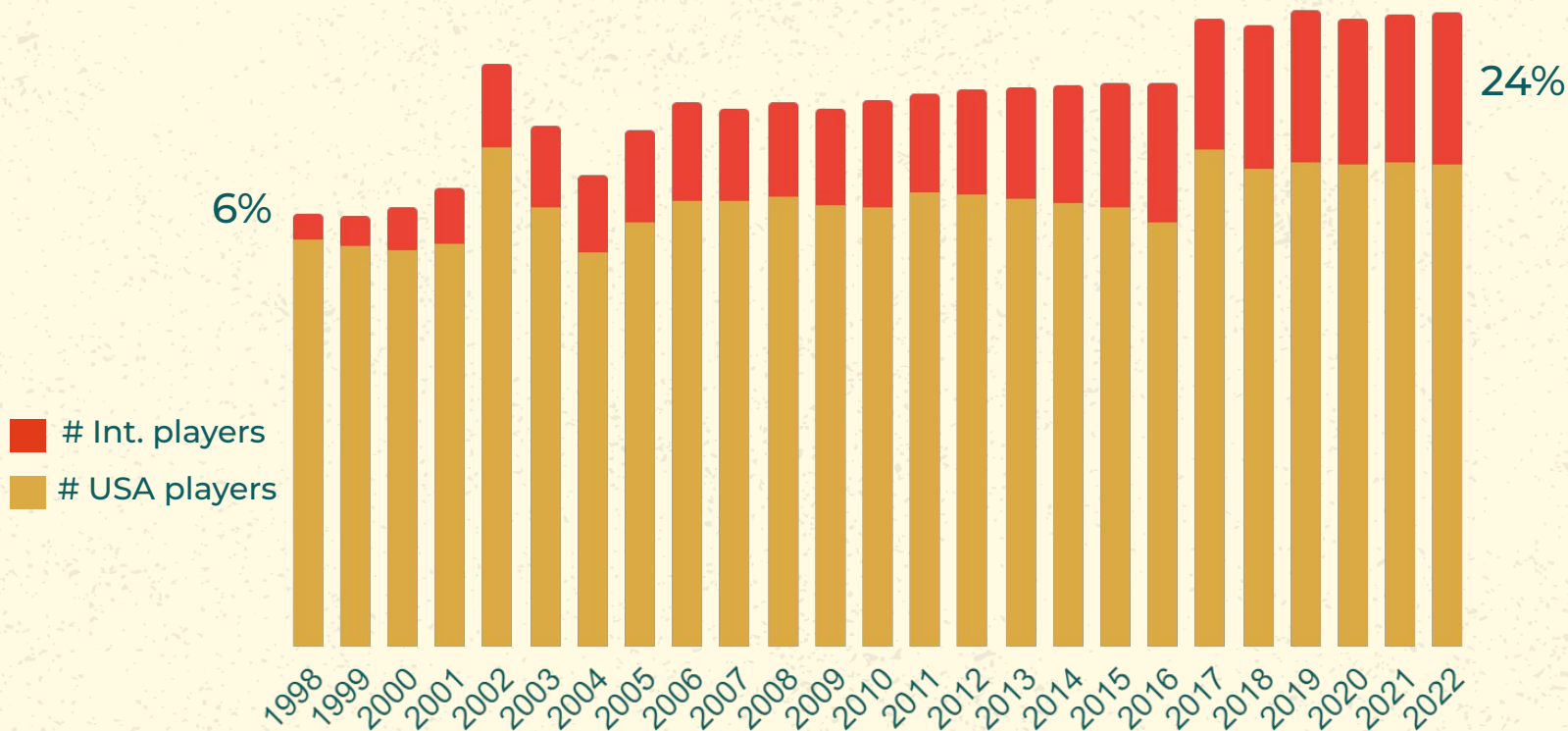
countries

(at least **2** in
each team)



★ AN INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE ★

International players now account for **24%** of all the players in the league



★ AN INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE ★

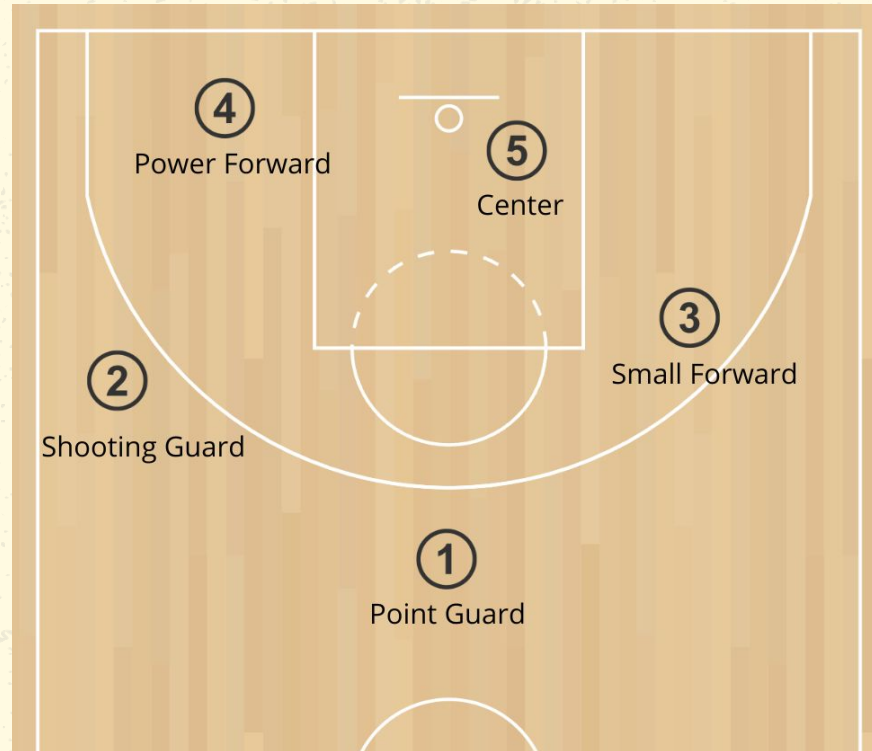
7 teams with an international player as their most important player (2022-23)

5 consecutive seasons with an international player winning the MVP award

SEASON	MVP	COUNTRY
2022-23	J. Embiid	Cameroon / USA
2021-22	N. Jokic	Serbia
2020-21	N. Jokic	Serbia
2019-20	G. Antetokounmpo	Greece
2018-19	G. Antetokounmpo	Greece

★ **MORE VERSATILE PLAYERS** ★

We are evolving beyond conventional player roles



★ MORE VERSATILE PLAYERS ★

CENTER

(1998 vs 2022)



Avg. height: 214 cm
Avg. weight: 117 kg



Avg. height: 211 cm
Avg. weight: 114 kg

GUARD

(1998 vs 2022)



Avg. height: 190 cm
Avg. weight: 87 kg



Avg. height: 192 cm
Avg. weight: 89 kg

★ **MORE VERSATILE PLAYERS** ★

2022-23 all NBA first team



198 cm

G



201 cm

G



213 cm

C



211 cm

C-F



203 cm

F



A QUICKER GAME

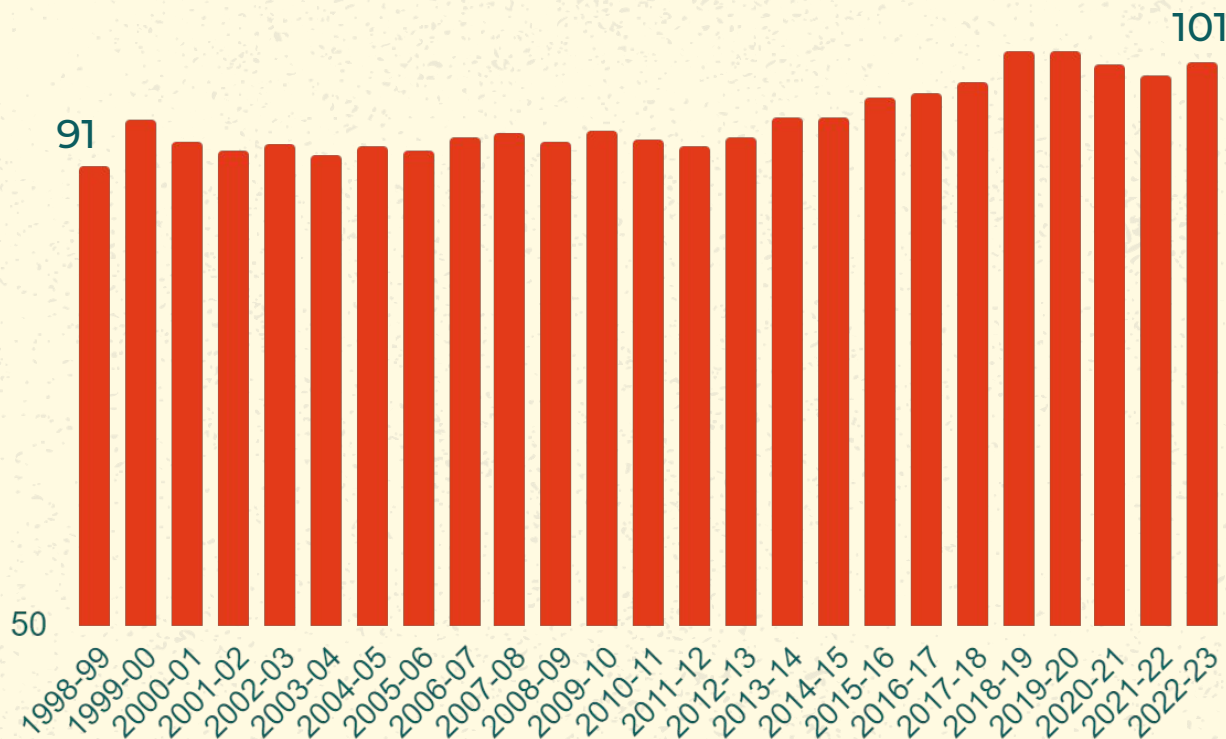




A QUICKER GAME

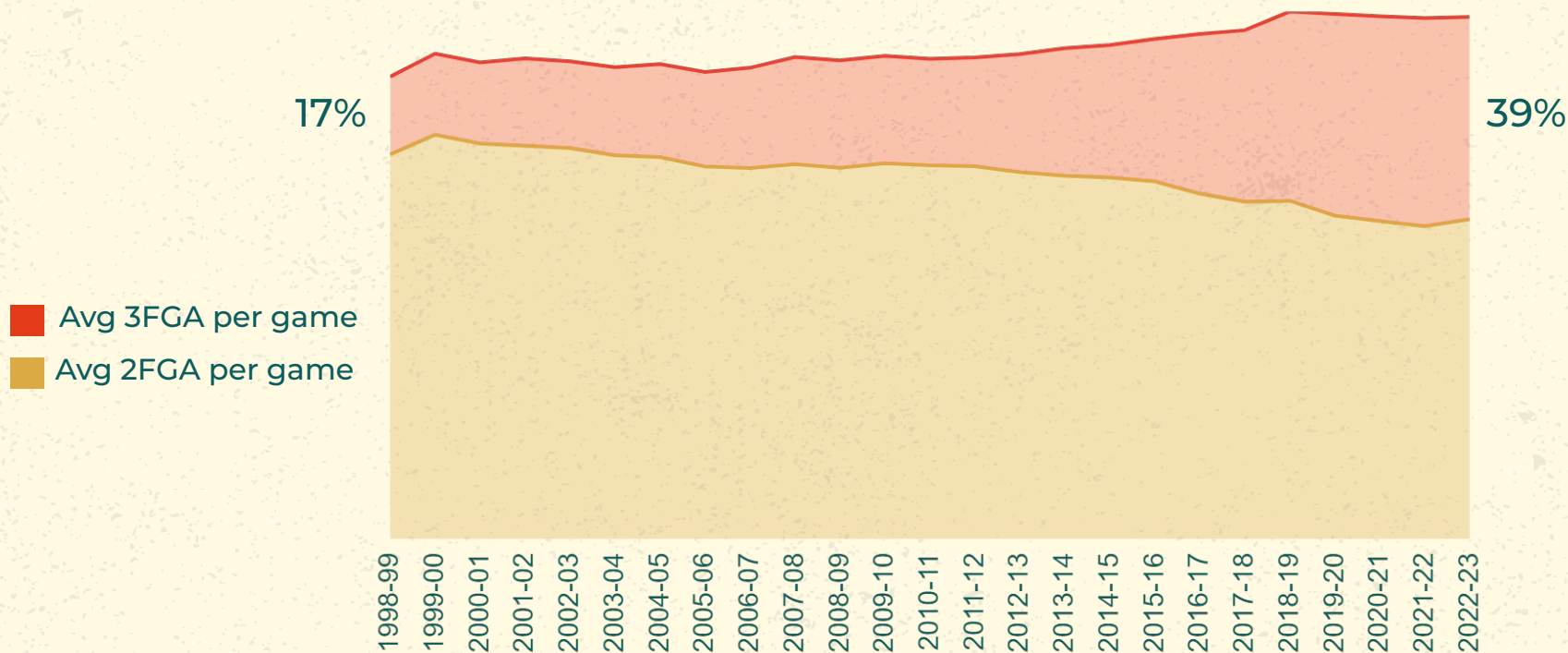


Teams now average **101** possessions per game (a 10% increase in pace)



★ THE ERA OF THE 3-POINTER ★

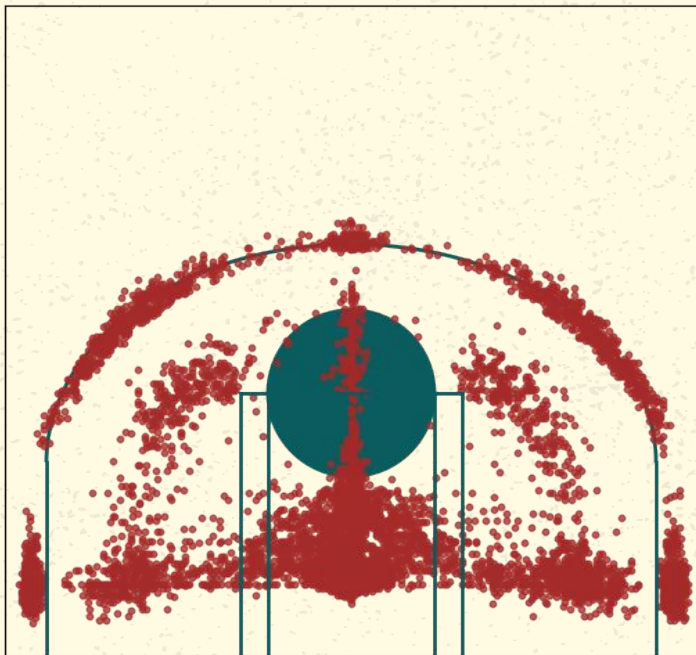
3-pointers now represent **39%** of field goals attempted per game



★ THE ERA OF THE 3-POINTER ★

Most common shot locations

2003-04



2022-23





PREDICTING THE MVP



We've built a model for trying to predict the regular season MVP award

INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

Players' **stats** (base and advanced)
per game

Each player's team **ranking** in the
league

TARGET

Share of MVP votes





PREDICTING THE MVP



For the season **2021-2022**, the model correctly predicts the MVP, although it misplaces the second and third positions

Predicted

MVP RANK	PLAYER
1	Nikola Jokic
2	Giannis Antetokounmpo
3	Joel Embiid

Actual

MVP RANK	PLAYER
1	Nikola Jokic
2	Joel Embiid
3	Giannis Antetokounmpo



PREDICTING THE MVP



For the season **2022-2023**, the model correctly identifies the 3 most voted players, but places them incorrectly

Predicted

MVP RANK	PLAYER
1	Giannis Antetokounmpo
2	Joel Embiid
3	Nikola Jokic

Actual

MVP RANK	PLAYER
1	Joel Embiid
2	Nikola Jokic
3	Giannis Antetokounmpo

★ THANKS! ★

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