

StatsBomb FIFA Qatar World Cup 2022

Free Event Data



Report

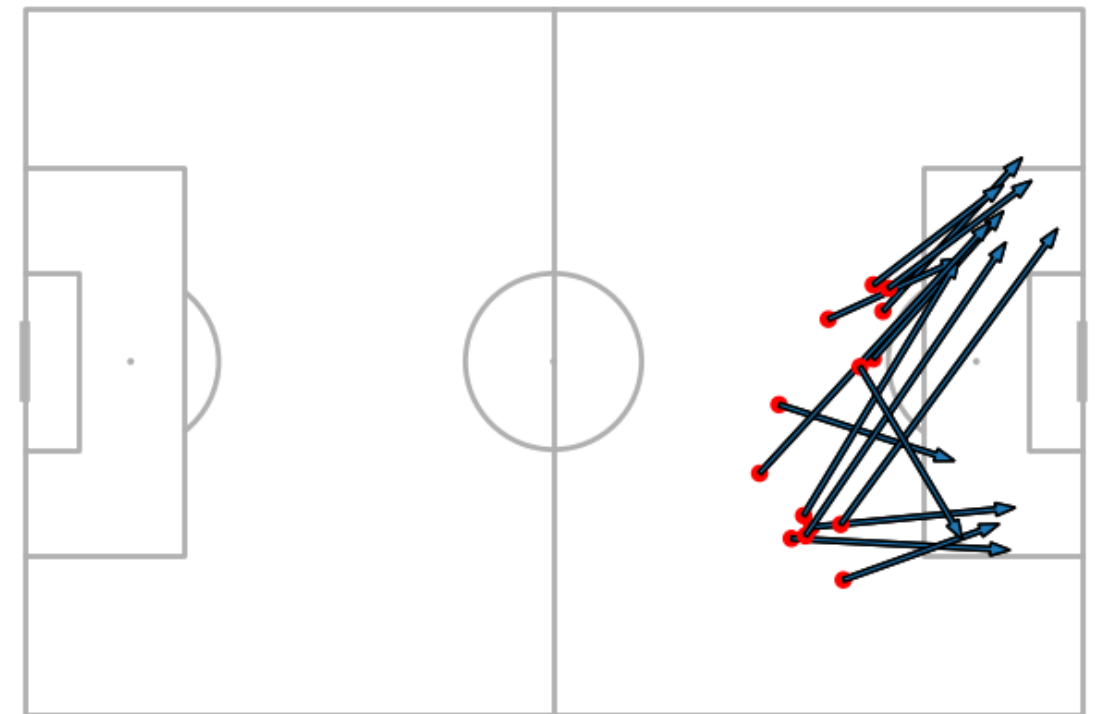


Free Event Data

StatsBomb allows the new generation of data analysts to use real-life tools and data to kickstart their journey in football data analysis by occasionally releasing free event data from some of the most remarkable football tournaments that they cover, Luckily the free event data from the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022 was released on December 2022 and it can be accessed either by downloading it from the StatsBomb Github Page or through accessing StatsBomb API, The data are stored in JSON format files and every competition, season and match has its own ID.

Ball Progression

This report highlights the ball progression statistics during the 2022 world cup, putting the spotlight on the top ball progressors players whether by progressive passes or progressive ball carries.



Progressive Pass

A Progressive pass is a successful pass made by an attacking team player in which it was directed towards the opposition's goal.

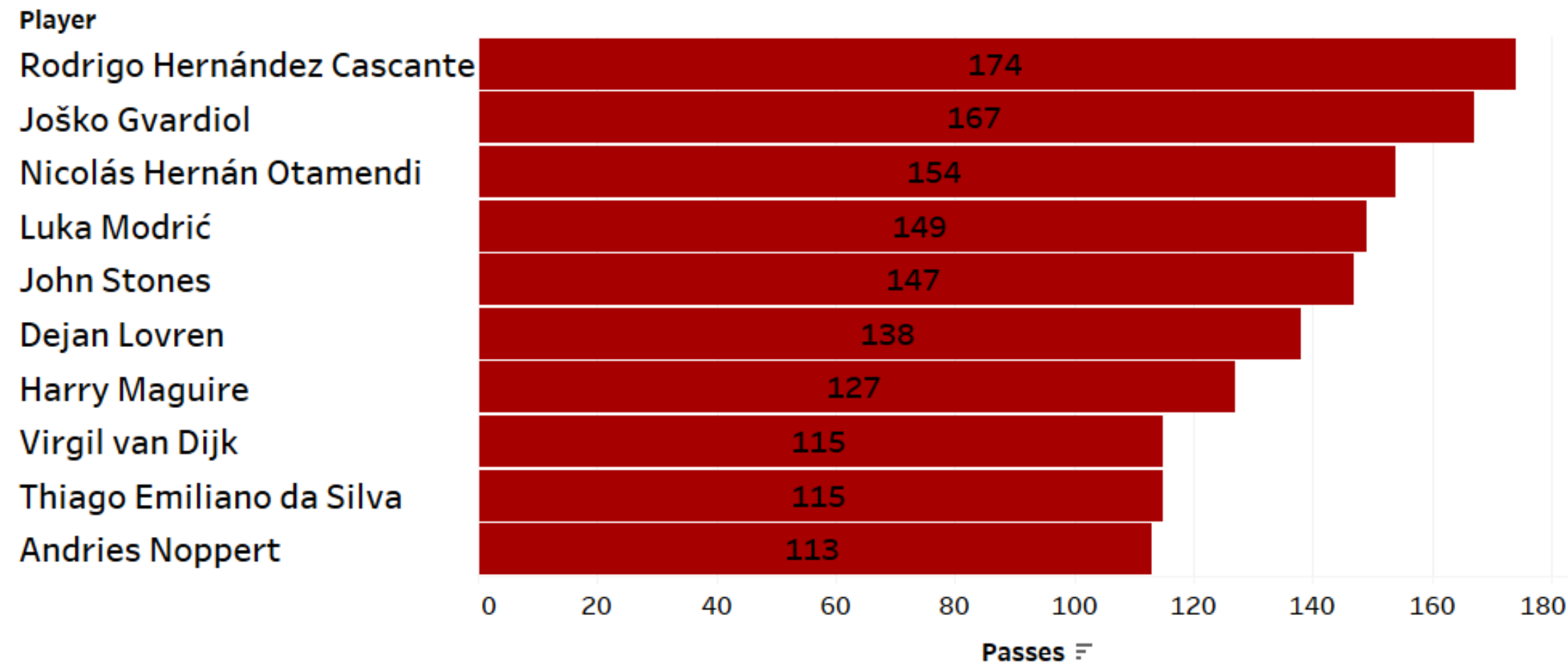
In a simplified way we can filter the progressive passes from all passes by selecting the passes which have an increase in the X dimension value.

In this report a further filtration was done in which the progressive pass is a successful pass made towards the opposition's goal and the distance between the passer and the receiver is at least 10 metres.

Progressive Passes

Here we can see the top 10 players who made successful progressive passes towards the opposition's goal throughout all the games of the world cup.

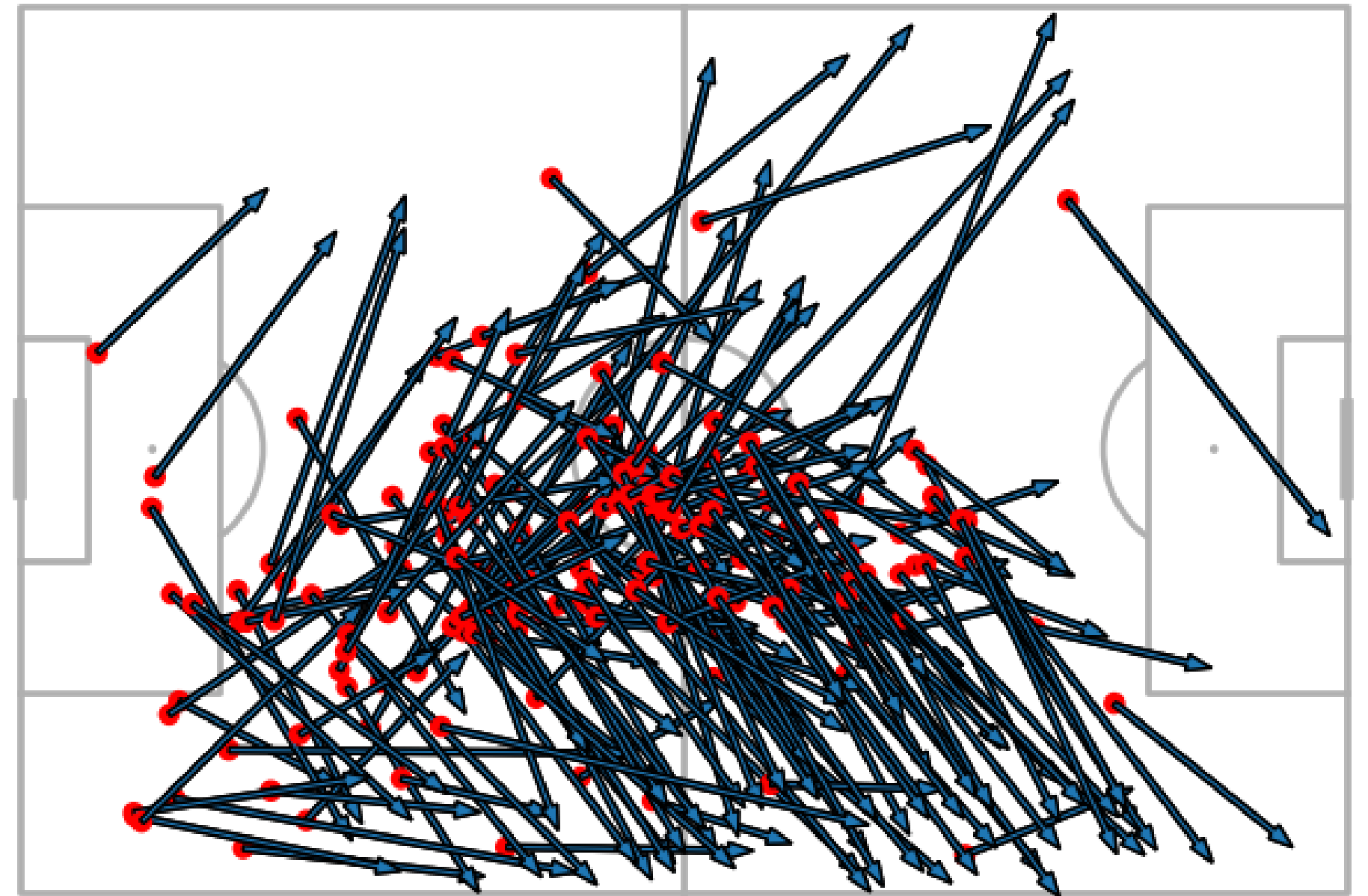
This metric can help performance analysts to recognize the players who are the best at getting the team out of difficult pressure positions and help the team advance forward and also highlights the defensive midfielders and centre backs who you can trust with the ball on their feet after making a tackle or an interception.



Rodri Spain

Progressive Passes

Although Spain only played four games at the world cup, we find that 'Rodri' the 'Manchester City' midfielder is the player who made the most successful progressive passes, being one of the main assets of Pep Guardiola's style of building the play from the back obviously helped him to be that important at helping his team move forward with his key progressive passes, and from the figure shown we can see that he made those passes from almost everywhere on the pitch making him the dream midfielder for any manager.



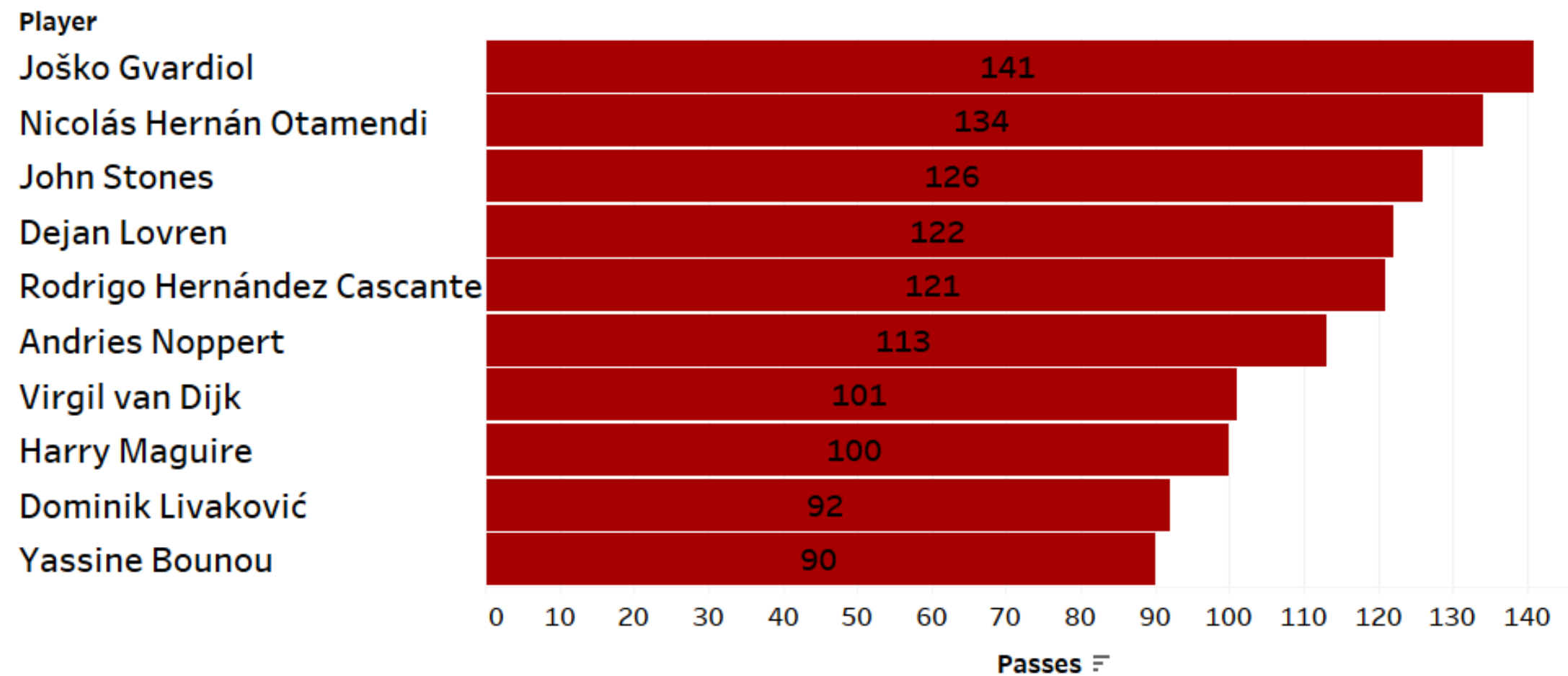
A pass map showing all the successful progressive passes that 'Rodri' made throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.



Progressive Passes From Own Half

In order to get more meaningful analysis and results from the progressive passes metric, we can divide them into different categories, in this category we can see the top 10 players who made successful progressive passes towards the opposition's goal from their own half.

When selecting only the progressive passes that were made from the player's own half, we found that we know have not a metric that mainly highlights the best defenders who you can trust with the ball on their feet and can get the team out of difficult pressure positions.

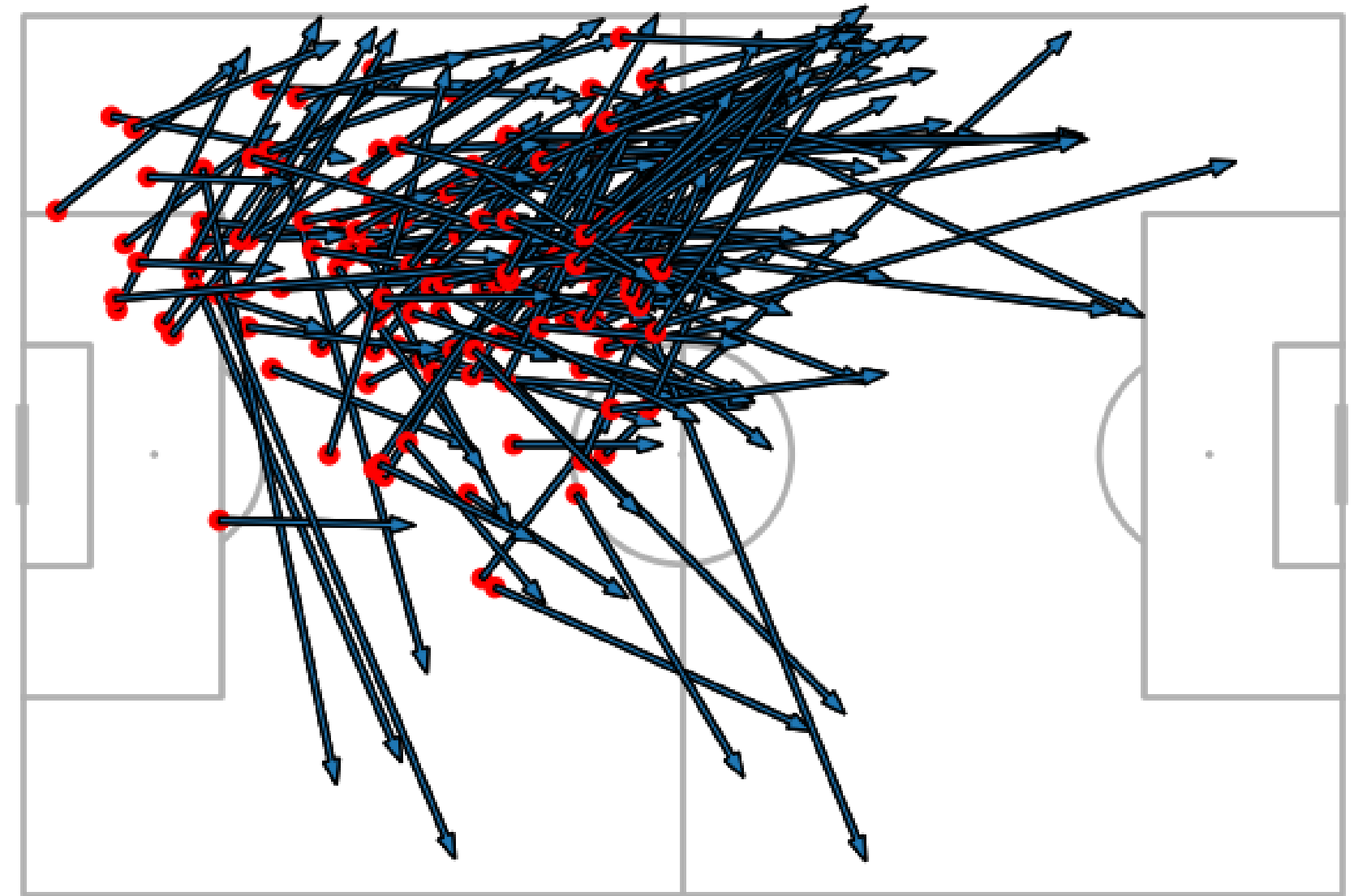


Josko Gvardiol Croatia

Progressive Passes From Own Half

Josko Gvardiol had a moment to forget during the semifinals when he was dribbled past by Lionel Messi in the buildup to Argentina's third goal of the game, however he was selected as a part of the team of the tournament by many mainly because of his defensive performances but here we can spot a different aspect to his game as a key player in building the play from the back.

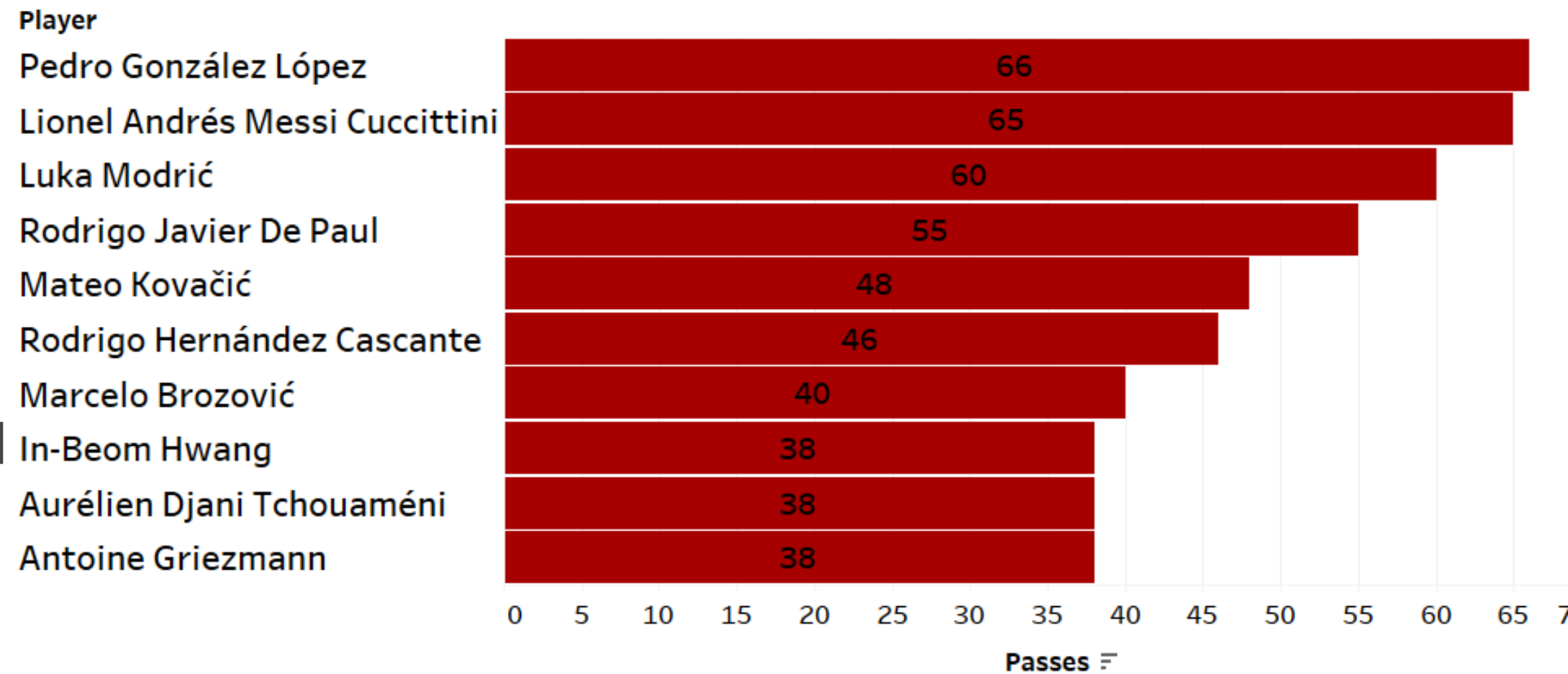
four out of the top five players in the chart are players who play or used to play for Manchester City under Pep Guardiola including his newest signing, Gvardiol himself, Pep clearly has a type.



A pass map showing all the successful progressive passes that 'Gvardiol' made from his own half throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.

Progressive Passes Into Final third

When exploring the previous two metrics we found that they mainly highlighted the defenders and the midfielders who are key players in the buildup from the back, but what if we want to explore the players who make the key passes forward that can create actual danger, in this chart we can see the top 10 players who made successful forward passes into the final attacking third of the pitch.



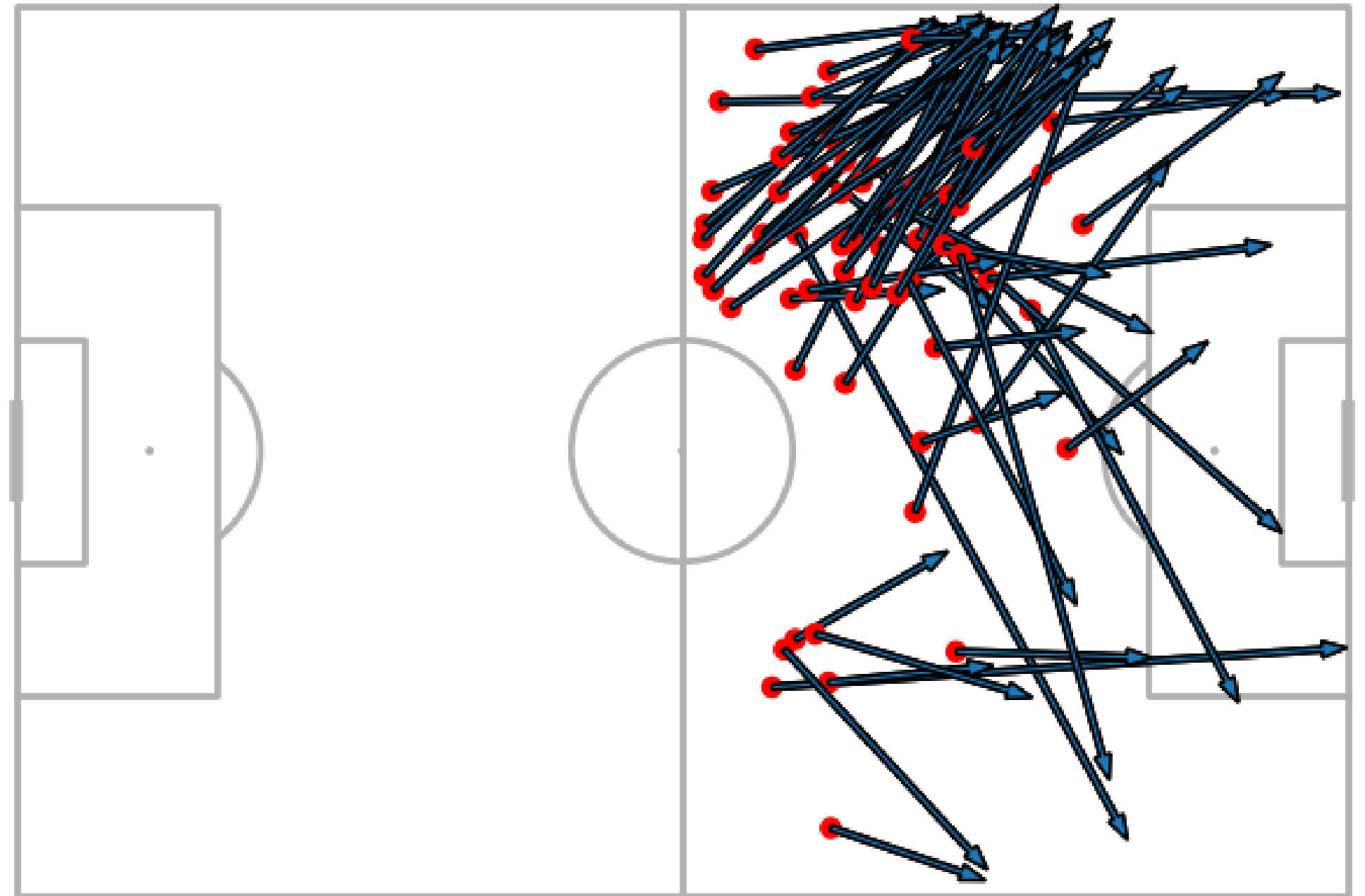
The number of passes have significantly decreased when selecting only the passes that made it into the final attacking third because we are now concerned only with the passes in the dangerous areas, and also new players are shown, the players who are more creative with the ball and can play the maestro role.

Pedri Spain

Progressive Passes Into Final Third

Pedri topped the list of the players who made the most successful forward passes into the final attacking third, beating the likes of Lionel Messi, Luka Modric and Antoine Griezmann despite playing three less games in the world cup with a rate of 16.5 passes per game.

While observing the shown figure we can find that there is a cluster of passes made towards the left wing and the arrows are not scattered along the width of the pitch, which can make us assume that Spain had a lack of attacking options to play the ball to.

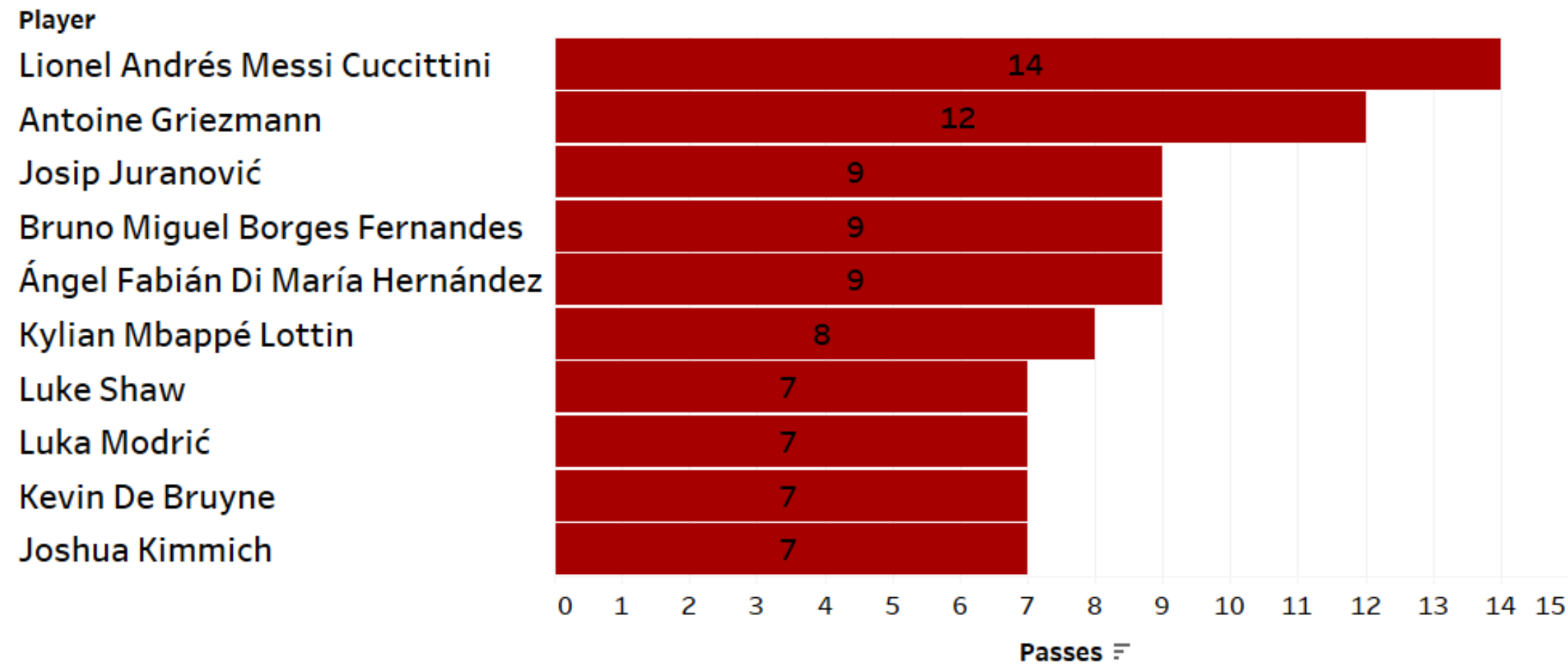


A pass map showing all the successful progressive passes that 'Pedri' made into the final attacking third of the pitch throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.

Progressive Passes Into Opposition's Box

Moving forward into the attacking box we are now highlighting the passes which are most likely to become assists or pre-assists, here we can see the top 10 players who made the most successful forward passes into the opposition's box.

It is no surprise to see that this metric shows the top attacking players of their teams, but it also represents Juranovic of Croatia, Luke Shaw of England and Kimmich of Germany as the fullbacks who made attacking contributions at this world cup.



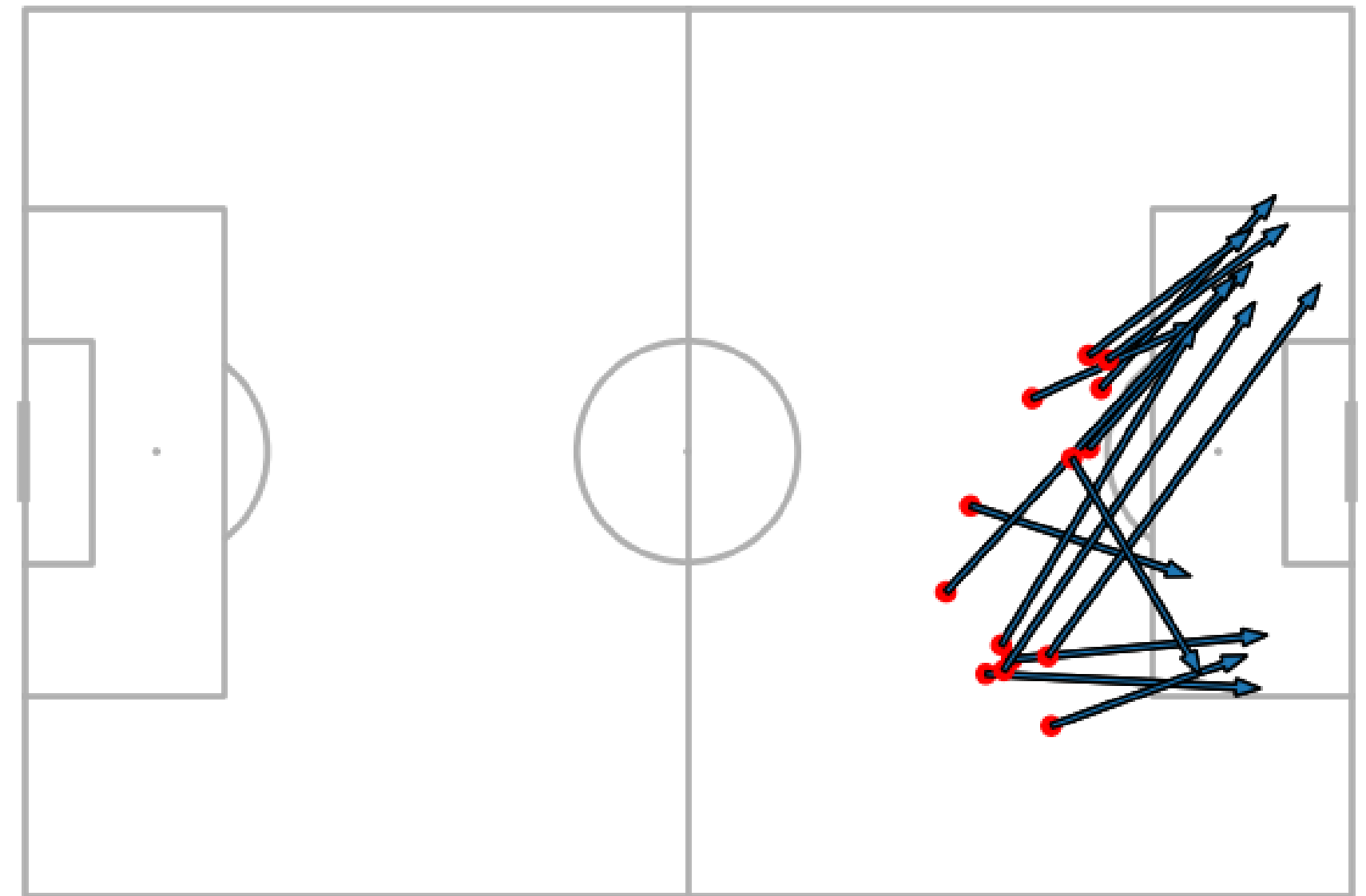
Lionel Messi

Argentina

Progressive Passes Into Opposition's Box

We need no statistics or plots to prove that Lionel Messi had a player of the tournament performance, but the fact that his Argentinian teammates always looked for him in the pitch is also proved by numbers and statistics here, providing fourteen passes into the opposition's box he made Julian Alvarez's job way easier.

It is also worth noting that Messi's teammate and world cup final hero Angel Di Maria made nine progressive passes into the opposition's box but with a rate of 2.79 passes per 90 minutes significantly better than Messi's 1.81.



A pass map showing all the successful progressive passes that 'Messi' made into the opposition's box throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.

Progressive Carry

A Progressive carry is a successful ball carry made by an attacking player in which he covered distance with the ball at his feet and moving towards the opposition's goal.

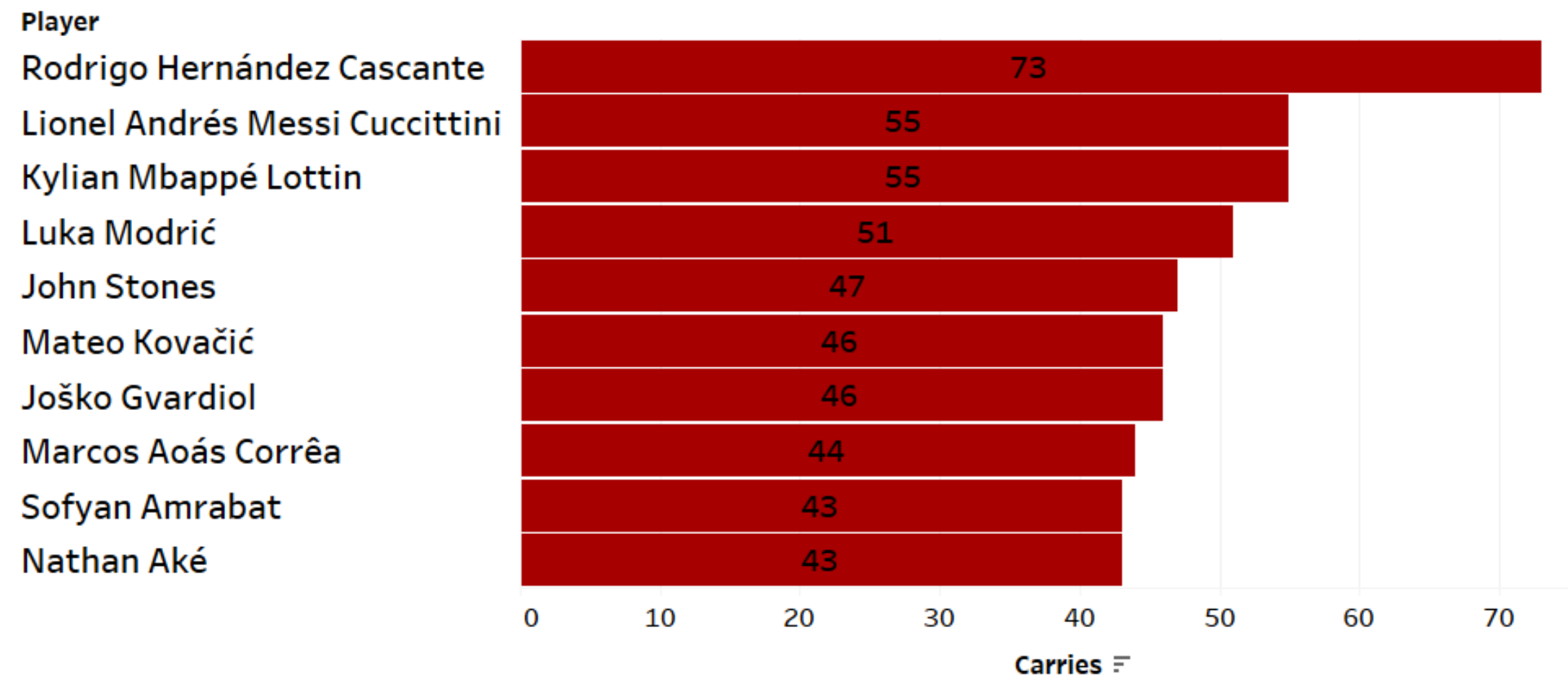
In a simplified way we can filter the progressive carries from all ball carries by selecting the carries which have an increase in the X dimension value.

In this report a further filtration was done in which the progressive carry is a successful carry made towards the opposition's goal and the distance between the start and end point of the carry is at least 10 metres.

Progressive Carries

Here we can see the top 10 players who made successful progressive carries towards the opposition's goal throughout all the games of the world cup.

This metric can help performance analysts to recognize the players who you can trust the most with the ball at their feet when the team is under pressure and also the best dribblers who can create danger and move the whole team forward singlehandedly.

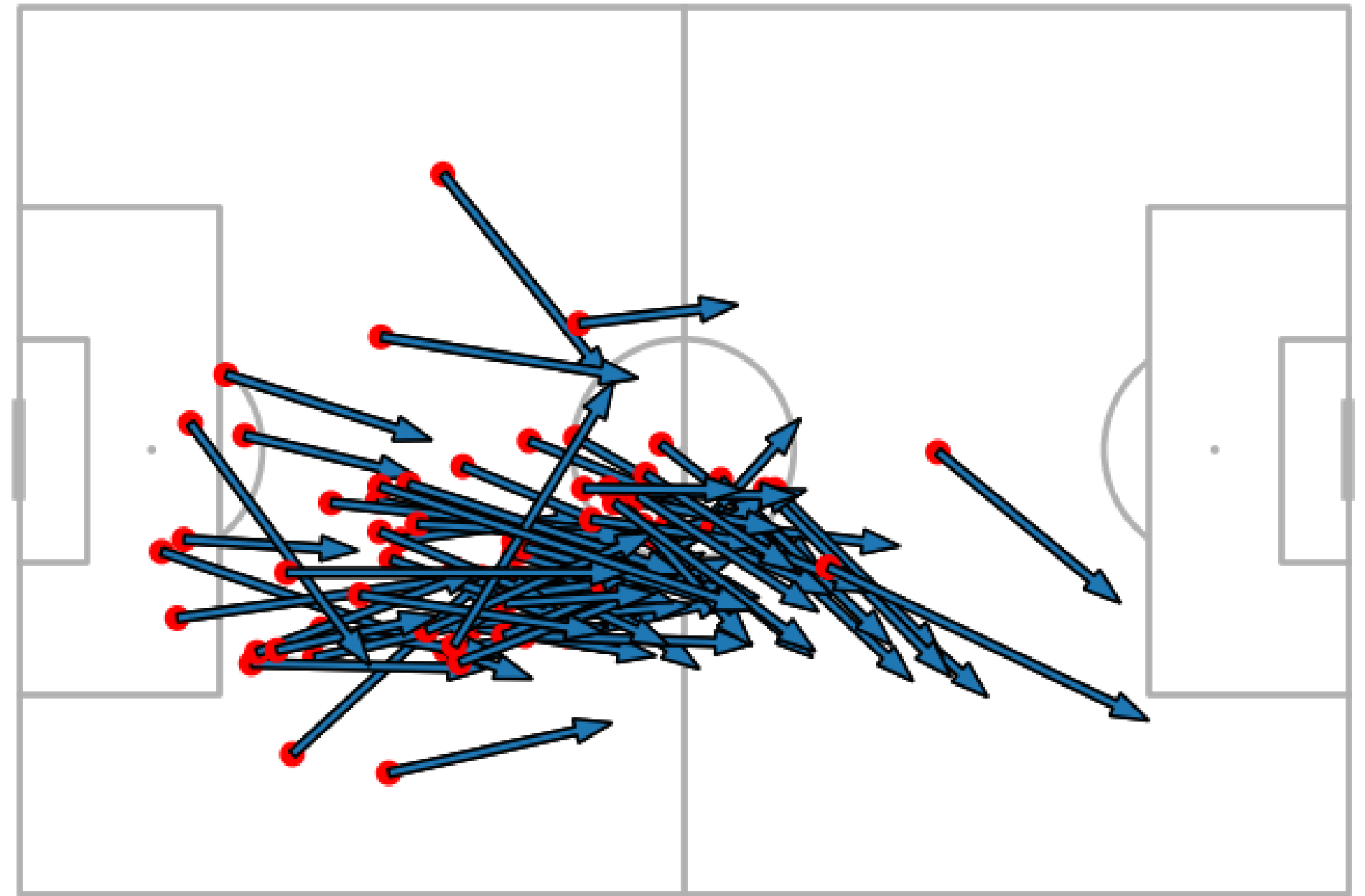


Rodri

Spain

Progressive Carries

Here is another statistic that shows the excellence and the reliability of Rodri as a midfielder who plays the role of being the heartbeat of the whole team, Rodri made 73 successful progressive ball carries but as you can observe from the figure shown that most of those carries started behind the halfway line and most of them ended a few meters beyond the halfway line, a sign that perhaps the kind of ball carries that Rodri made were the once that help the team move forward from the back or out of pressure positions rather than ball carries that create actual danger on the opposing team.

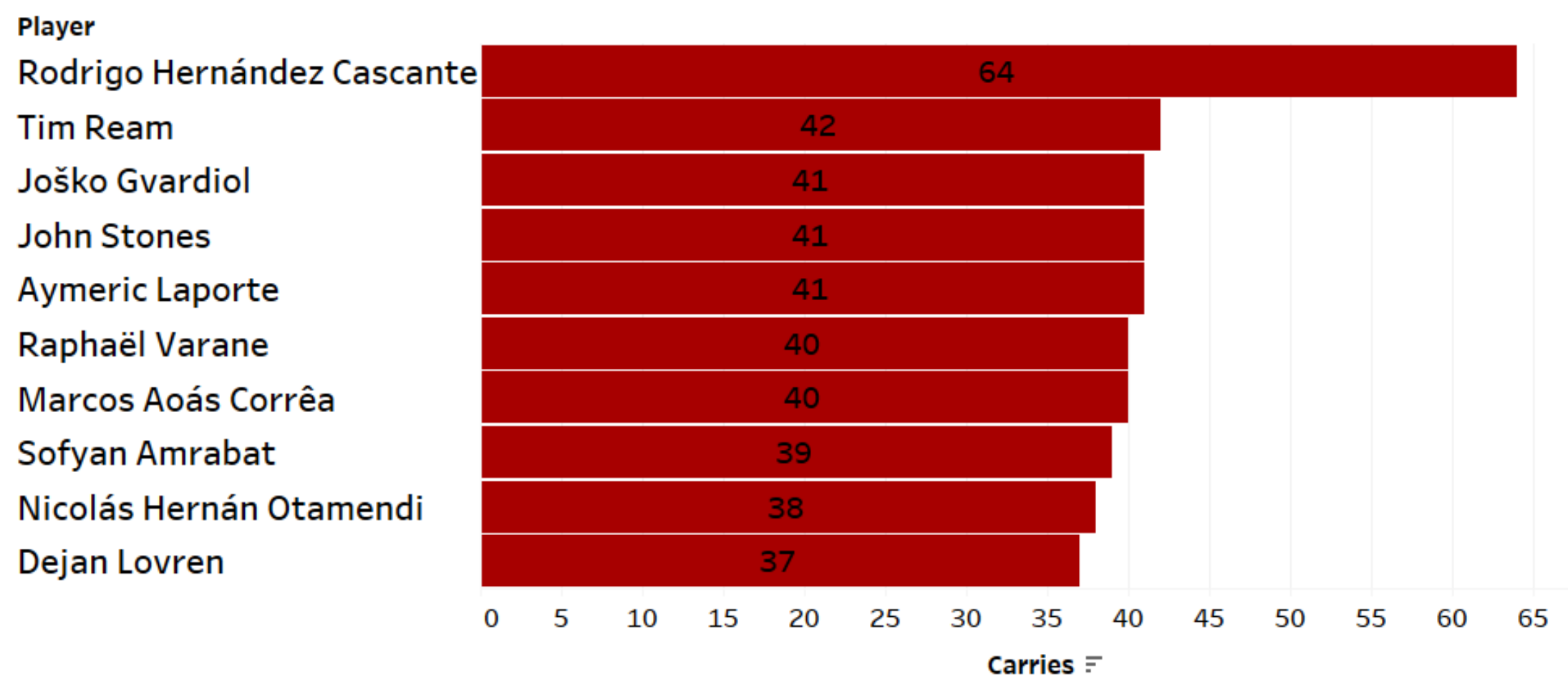


A pitch map showing all the successful progressive carries that 'Rodri' made throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.

Progressive Carries From Own Half

Total Progressive ball carries was a very general statistic because there is a lot of situations and positions in the game where a player would make a progressive carry with the ball at his feet, and not all of those carries produce the same outcome or create the same amount of danger.

Here we are only selecting the ball carries that were started behind the halfway line of the pitch, by doing so we are now highlighting the type of carries which maybe didn't create that much of a danger but helped move the team forward from the back and therefore the players who are on the top of the list in this metric are the defenders and defensive midfielders who are good with the ball at their feet.

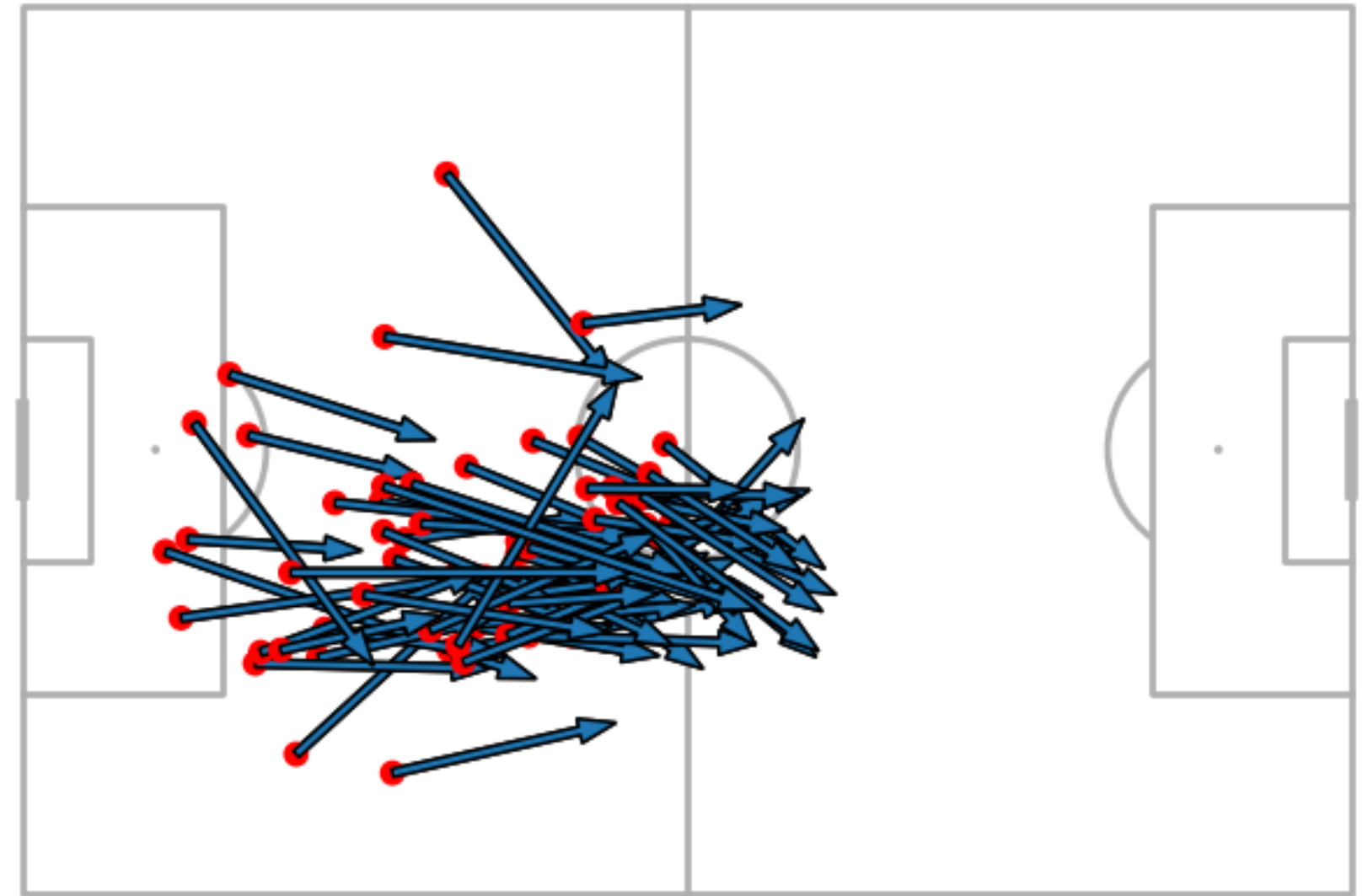


Rodri

Spain

Progressive Carries From Own Half

As we have suggested before that most of Rodri's successful ball carries started before the halfway line, now after selecting only those type of carries Rodri's efforts are put into more meaningful comparison with other defensive midfielders and defenders who have similar roles and instructions when they have the ball at their feet, and again Rodri shows his superiority having made 54 successful progressive ball carries from behind the halfway line which is 12 more than the second guy on the list, the American centre back Tim Ream.

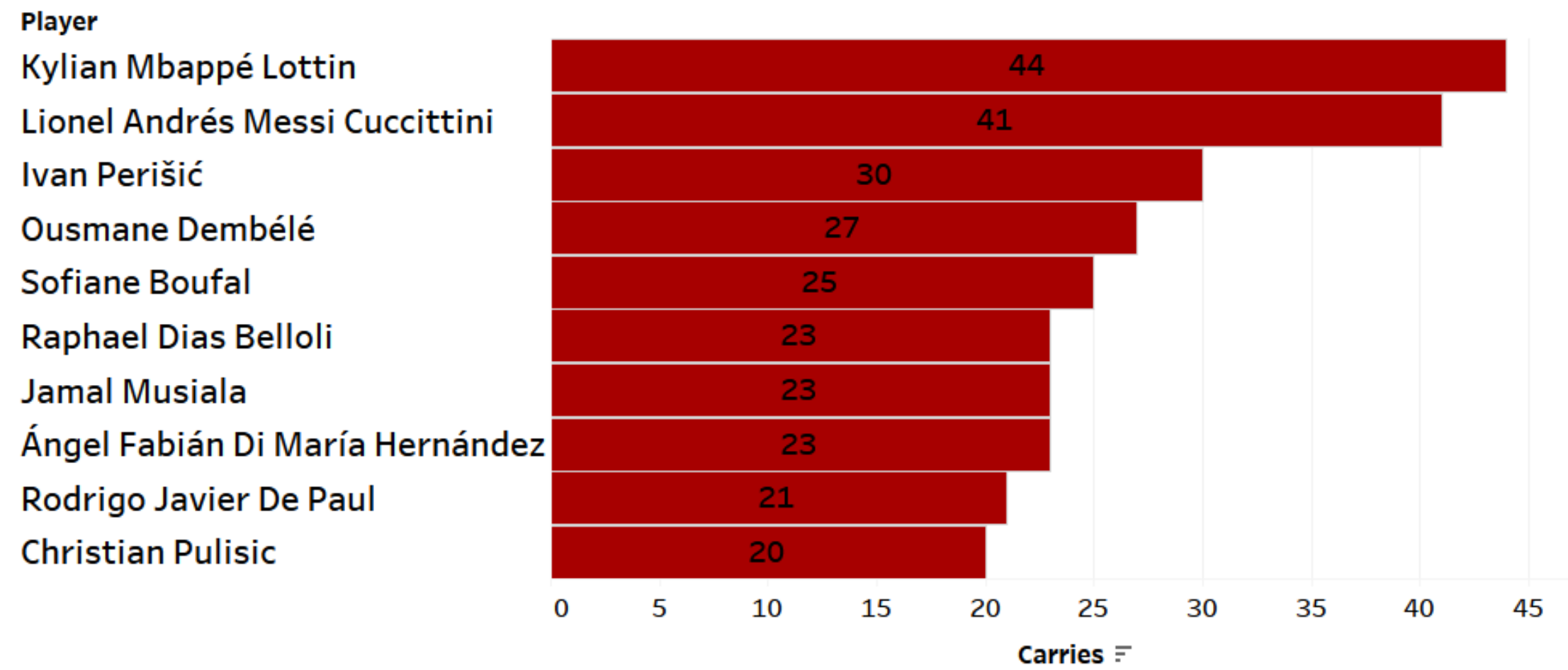


A pitch map showing all the successful progressive carries that 'Rodri' made from his own half throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.

Progressive Carries Into Final third

In this category of ball carries only the carries that ended in the final attacking third of the pitch are selected, giving us the opportunity to explore who are the best players that their team can rely on to move the ball into dangerous areas and break defensive lines with skillful dribbles or brave run-ins.

Now it is no surprise that the list is showing the star wingers and forwards who are known to be gifted and are a joy to watch with the ball at their feet.



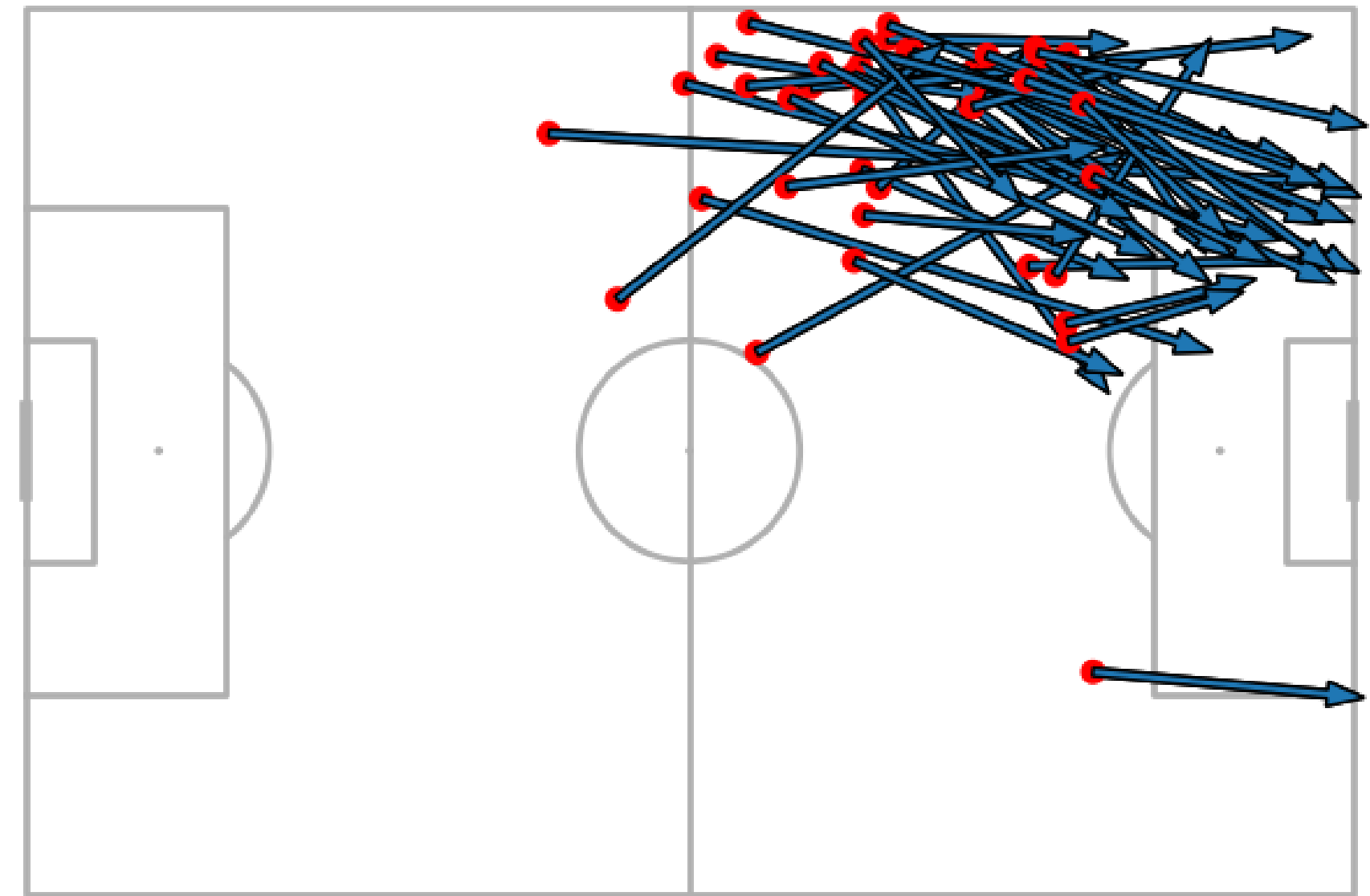
Kylian Mbappe

France

Progressive Carries Into Final Third

Kylian Mbappe's 44 progressive carries into the final third with a rate of 6.28 carry per game makes him the ultimate weapon for France when they need to create danger or break the deadlock of defensive lines.

From the figure shown you can observe that there is a cluster of arrows on the left wing suggesting most of Mbappe's carries came from the byline, and with Ousmane Dembele's 27 Progressive carries into the final third, one can assume that France relied heavily on both flanks to create dangerous chances throughout the whole tournament.

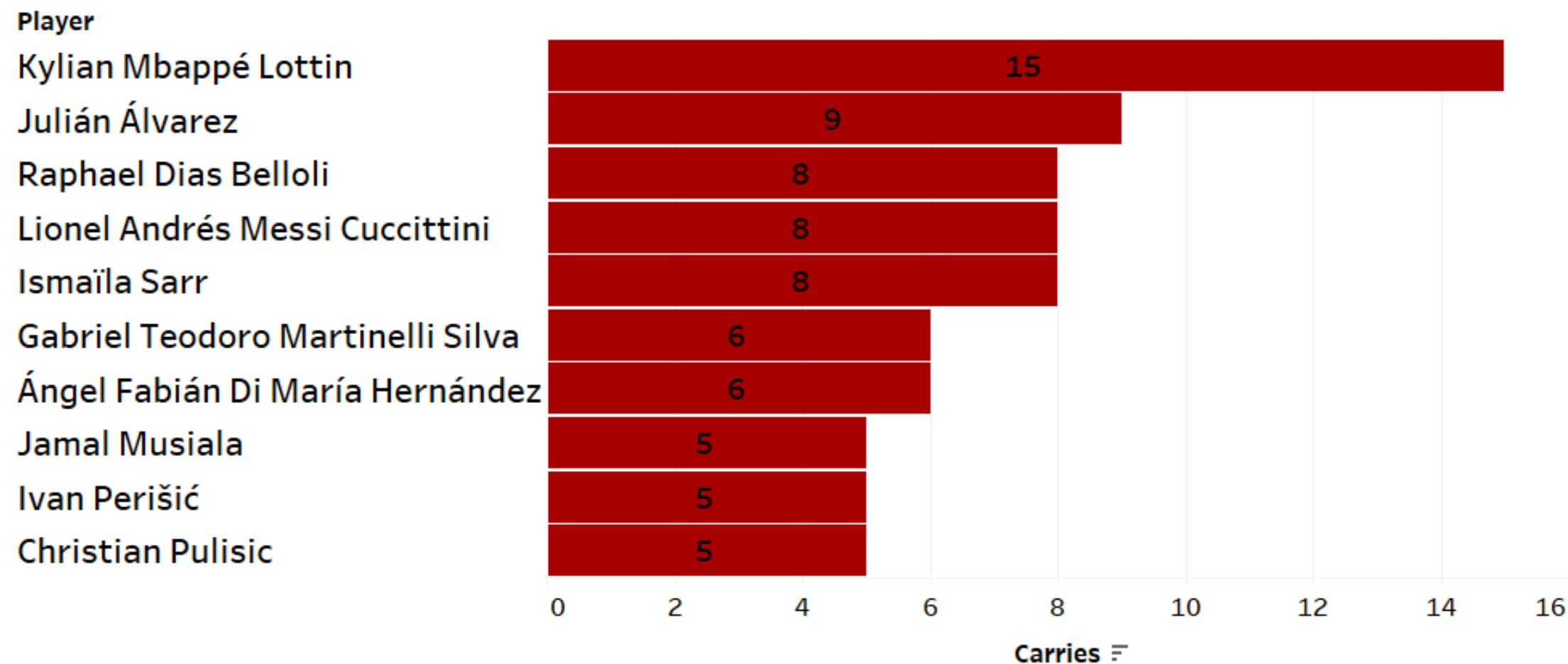


A pitch map showing all the successful progressive carries that 'Kylian Mbappe' made into the final attacking third of the pitch throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.

Progressive Carries Into Opposition's Box

For this category of progressive carries, we are selecting only the carries that made it into the opposition's penalty box, this enables us to identify the players who manage to create chances that will most probably lead to a shot or a goal.

‘Successful dribbles’ is a statistic that highlights the players who have the best footwork and are the best in one-on-ones, but the metric we have here filters out the dribblers who create positive outcome from their dribbles or from their runs towards the opposition's goal.

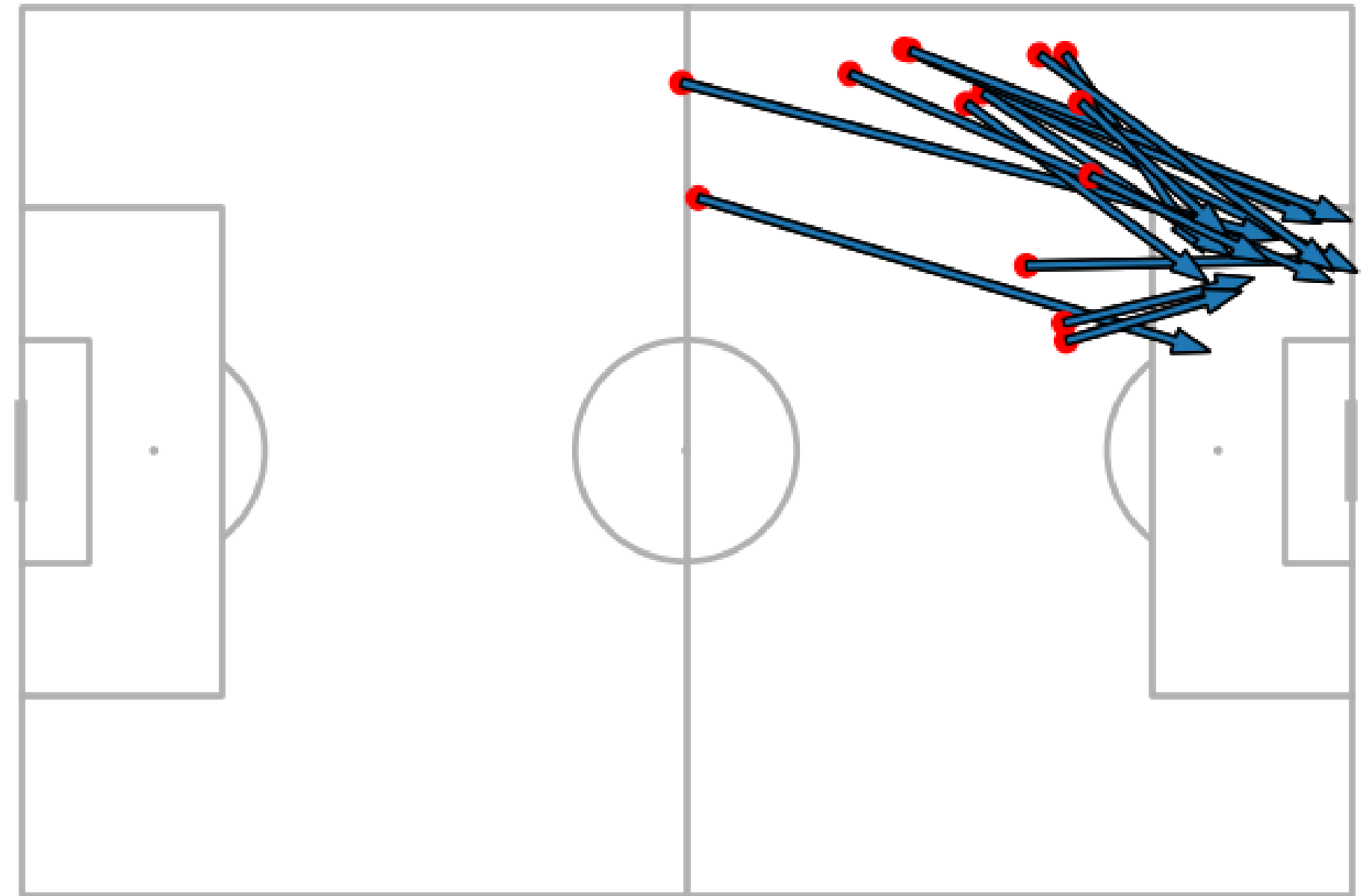


Kylian Mbappe

France

Progressive Carries Into Opposition's Box

Kylian Mbappe's pace, footwork and dribbling skill enabled him to create 15 progressive carries (6 more than the second man on the list) which made him the most dangerous ball progressor in the tournament, as 27% of his total progressive ball carries (55) ended up in the opposition's box.



A pitch map showing all the successful progressive carries that 'Kylian Mbappe' made into the opposition's box of the pitch throughout the FIFA Qatar world cup 2022.