As a group, we divided up our data into three sections: offense, defense, and mid-field - my goal was to analyze the defense.  More specifically, my goal was to analyze the defense of Liverpool and Manchester City during the '18-'19 season. I was not sure how to initially begin; however, I knew I wanted to start off and see how the two teams compared against the rest of the league in what I called "straight-forward" defense categories. I started with statistics such as interceptions, blocks, and shots on target. I filtered out any players who did not play defense and I took Manchester City and Liverpool out of the averages as to not include their data in the 'league data' I was analyzing. To my surprise, although the two top teams, they fell below the league averages in the aforementioned categories. The results of these queries altered my thinking quite a bit as my initial assumption was that the two best days would also hover around the top in terms of individual categories. After consulting with my teammates who are the content/industry experts, I started considering more complex statistics - ones that tell a more diverse and layered story.

I continued to analyze Liverpool and Manchester City's defensive data across the rest of the league. This time, I chose  Successful Press (regaining possession within 5 seconds), Successful Press Percentage, and Tackle percentage. It was clear that these two teams ranked way above the league average. These categories tell a much better story about the tenacity and overall efficiency of the defense.

Although initially surprised by the data, I was not able to make much more sense of it. Liverpool and Manchester City rank far below the league average in defense categories (especially as it relates to shots and interceptions) because their defense scheme and strategy was so strong that other teams did not have as much time or as many opportunities to take shots, send crossovers, etc. which is why Liverpool and Manchester City had less opportunities to record these kinds of statistics. These findings were solidified by the research and analysis of my teammates, especially as it relates to the midfield success and data points.