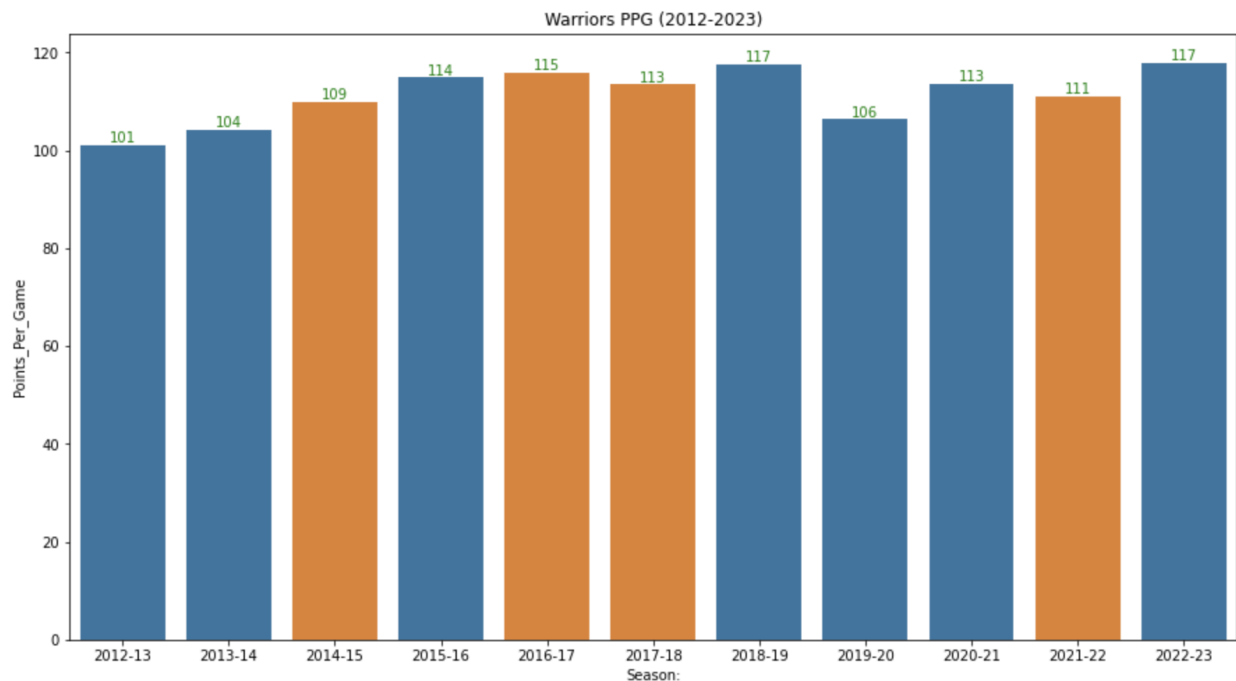


The Golden State Warriors without a doubt has been the most revolutionary professional basketball team in the past decade. They have changed how current day teams have built their roster, shifting from rosters being built around big men with a slower style of play to being built around shooting and a much faster style of play. The Warriors made the finals in the following seasons: 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2021-22. The most recent championship has stood out to me the most as that season seemed to be one of the biggest roller coasters that the Warriors where their play has gone back and forth from extreme highs to abysmal lows. In fact, during that season the main core of Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, and Draymond Green have not played a game together in two years until the playoffs started. The fact that they were able to win the championship despite this speaks volume on how resilient this team is.

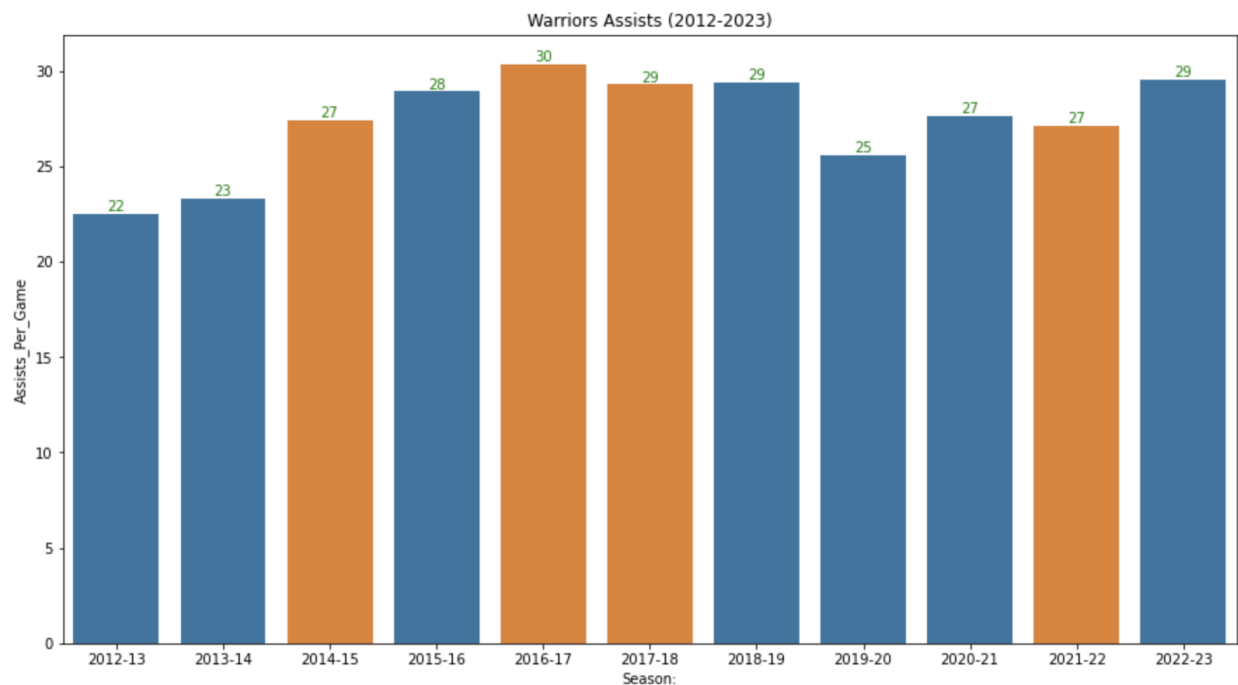
That season ended up posing a question in my head on when exactly the perfect time to peak in a season is in order to put a team in a good position to win a championship. I decided to investigate the Warriors' stats from 2012 to this current season and go through each season seeing when the team peaked. I also want to investigate which stat correlates the most to at least an NBA finals run.

### Overall Averages:

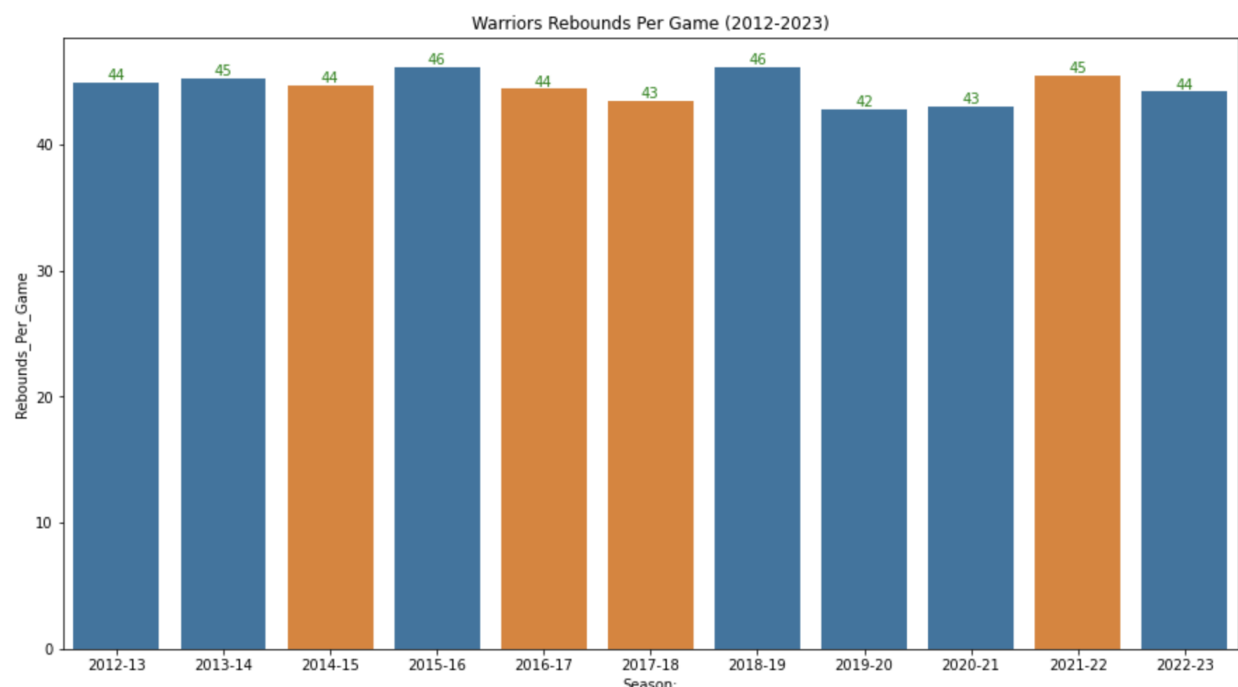
The first step I took was to hypothesize which stat would correlate the most to a NBA finals run. For this, I looked at the Warriors' seasons from 2012-2023 and measured their team points per game, assists, rebounds, steals, blocks, and field goal percentage, as well as how much their opponents scored. The orange bars represent the years that a championship was won. Below are the results of those findings:



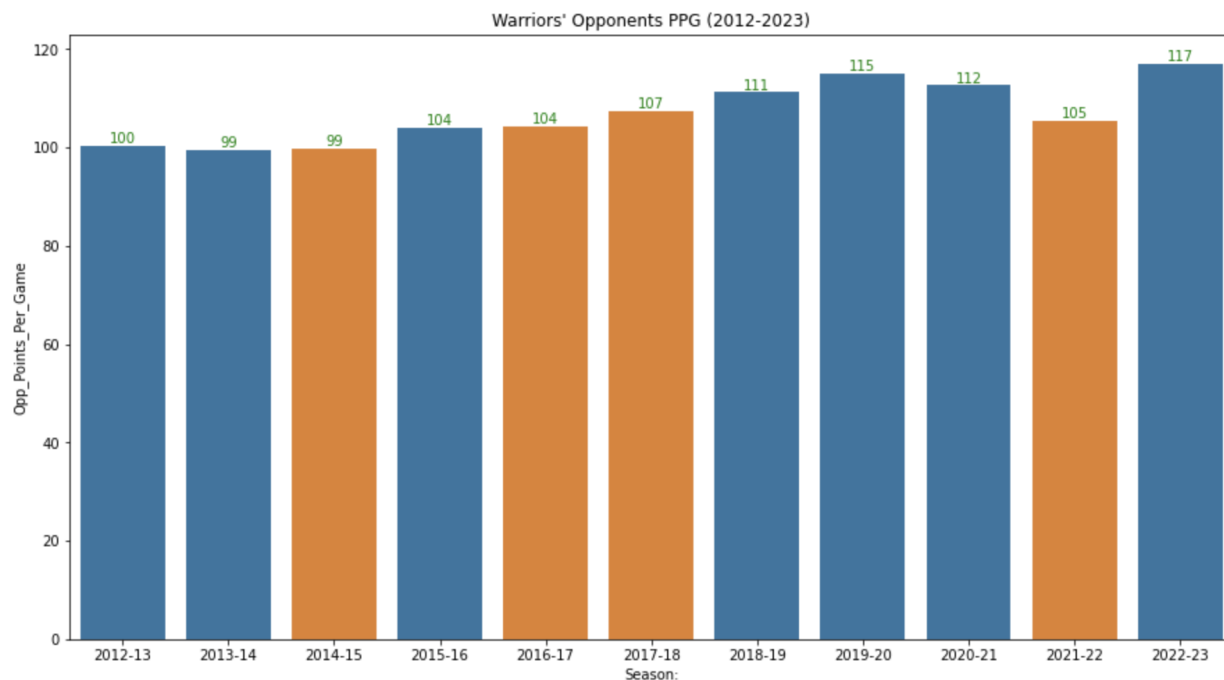
Throughout this span, the Warriors averaged 111 points per game (110.9 exactly). Other than 2014-15, the Warriors exceeded this mark every season that they made the finals.



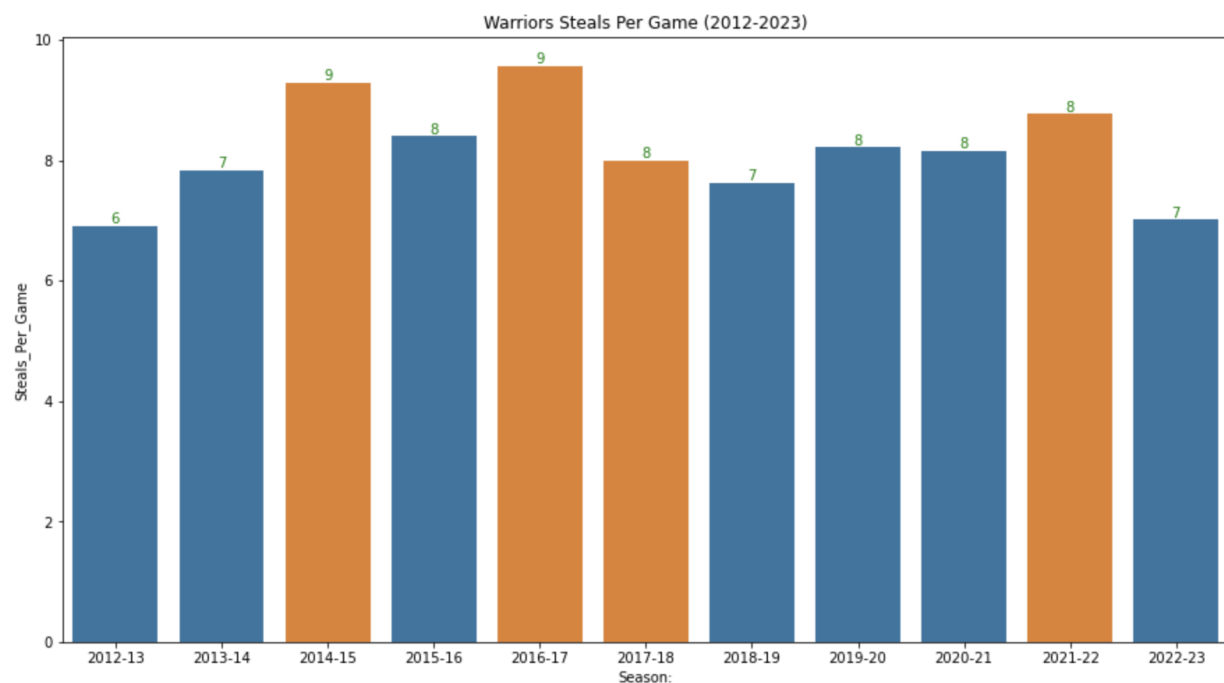
Throughout this span, the Warriors averaged 27 assists (26.9 exactly). Each year that they made the finals, they were able to meet or exceed this mark showing that they are capable of distributing the ball to each other.



Throughout this span, the Warriors averaged 44 rebounds per game (44.2 exactly). The Warriors were able to meet or exceed this mark except for 2017-18 in which they were one rebound away showing that rebounding does play a role.

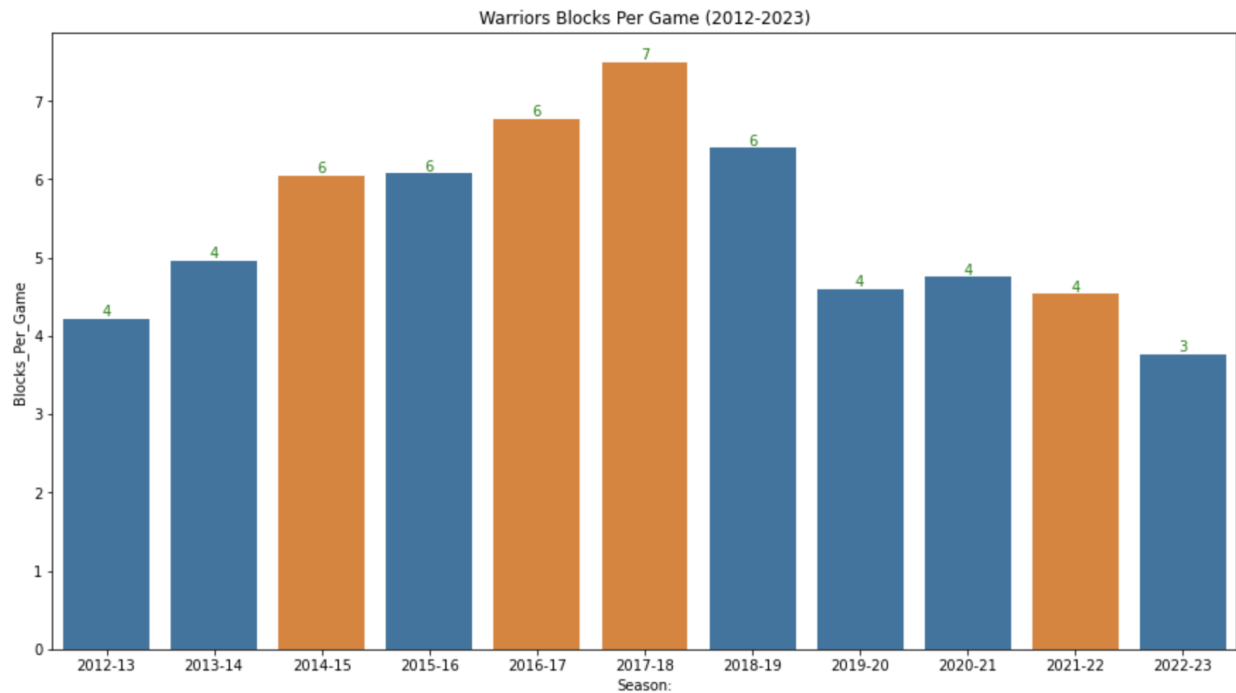


Throughout this span, the Warriors have held their opponents to 106.6 points per game. While from 2017-2019 they have exceeded this mark this is due to the fact that the game has shifted more offensively leading most teams to be able to score more points than normal. Despite that, during the Warriors' most recent championship run, they were able to hold their opponents to 105 points per game showing that this stat might not be correlated to just making the finals but actually winning the whole thing.

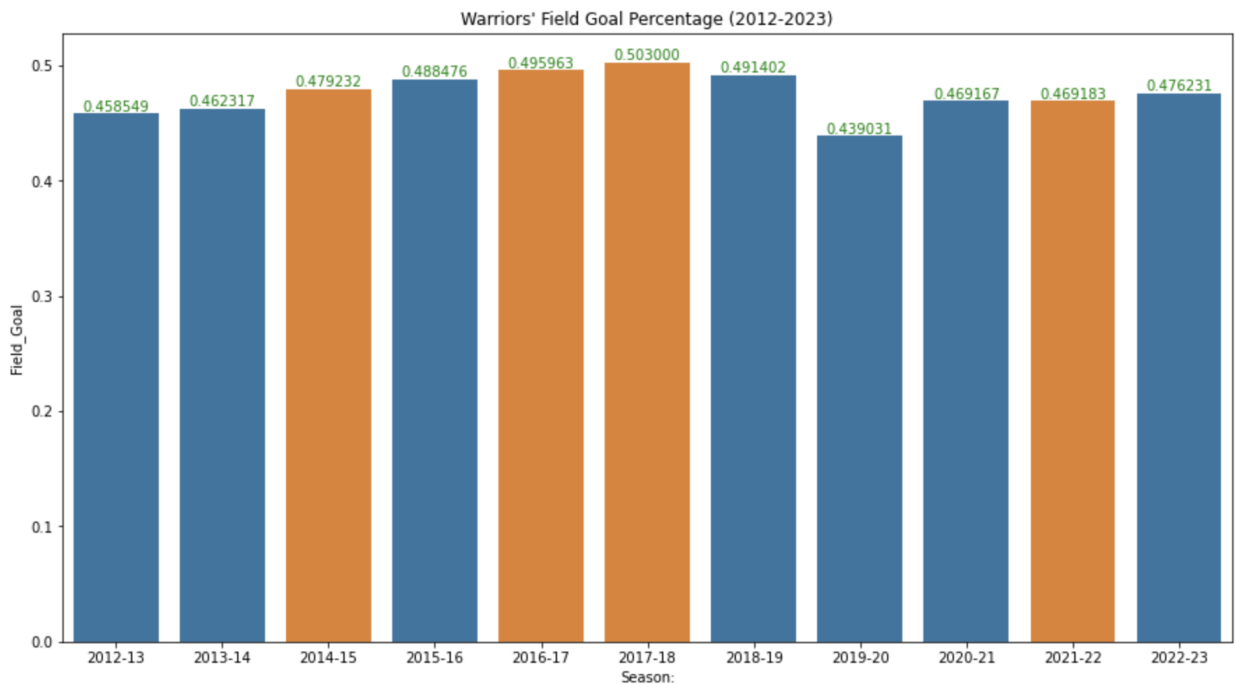


Throughout this span, the Warriors have averaged 7.7 steals per game. The Warriors were able to meet or exceed this mark everytime that they made the finals except for in 2018-19 in which

they did not win the championship.



Throughout this span, the Warriors averaged 4.9 blocks per game. They were able to meet this mark everytime that they made the finals except for 2021-2022, however during that season they were a much smaller team than previous finals teams that they had.



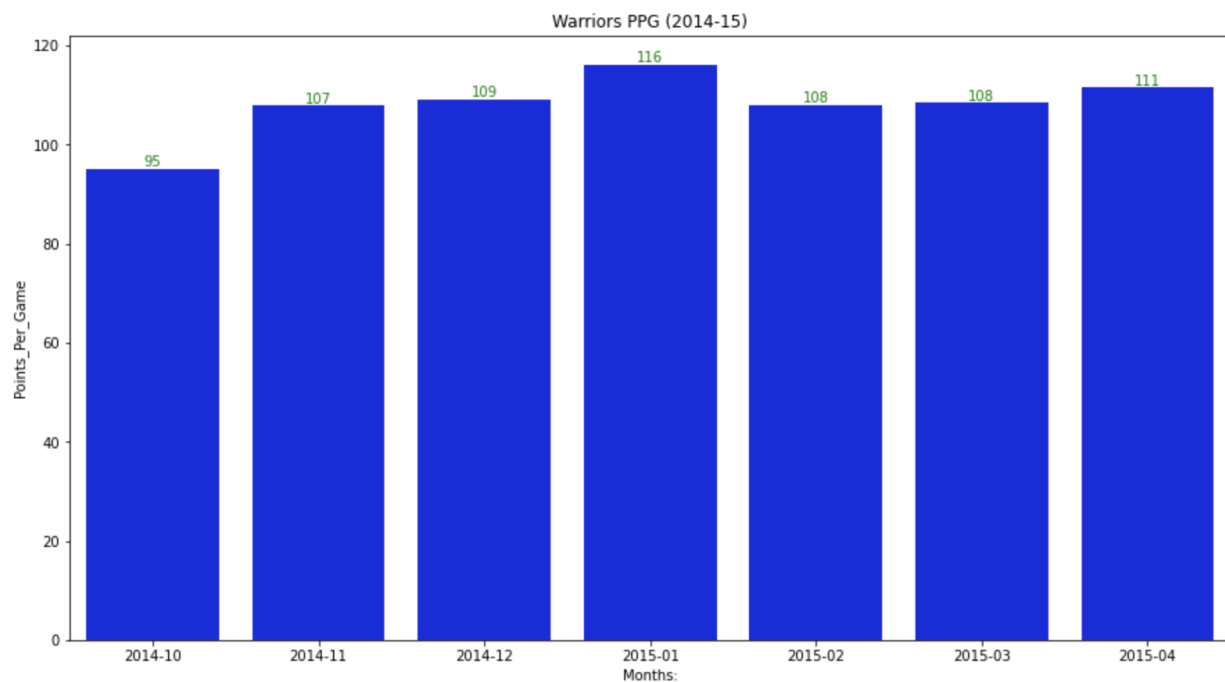
Throughout this span, the Warriors were shooting at a rate of 46.9%. While they did meet this mark in their championship runs, they were able to meet this mark in other seasons as well making this stat not seem as important as the other stats.

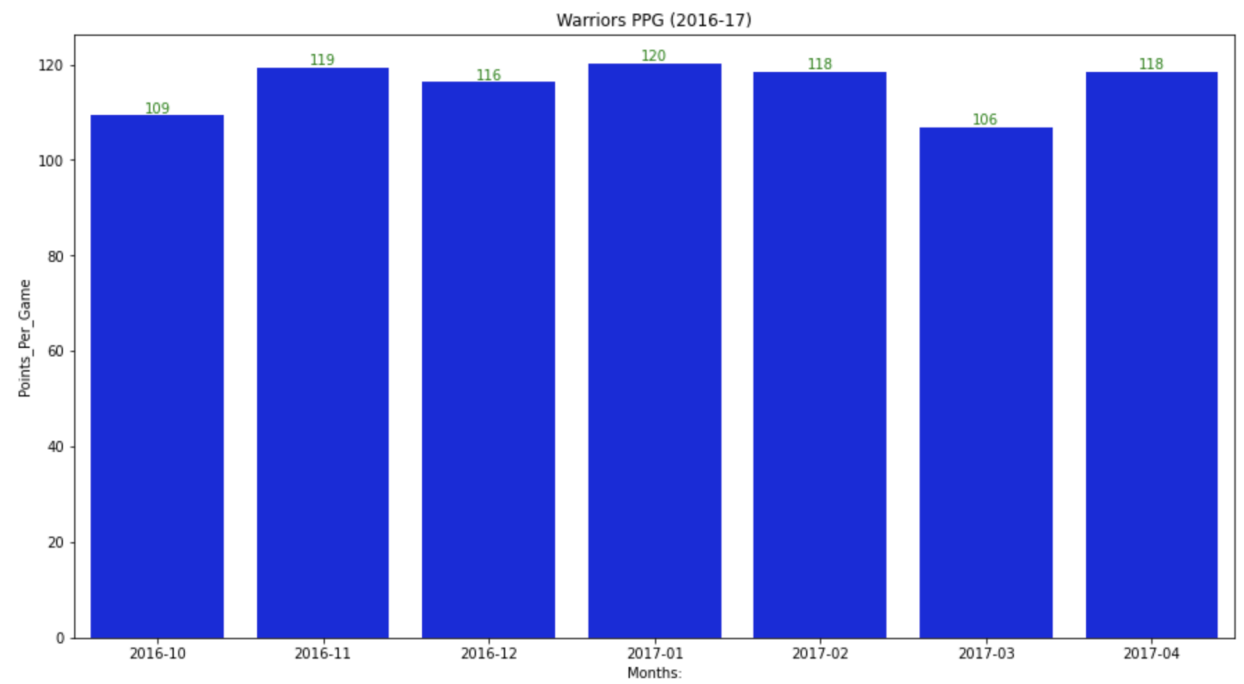
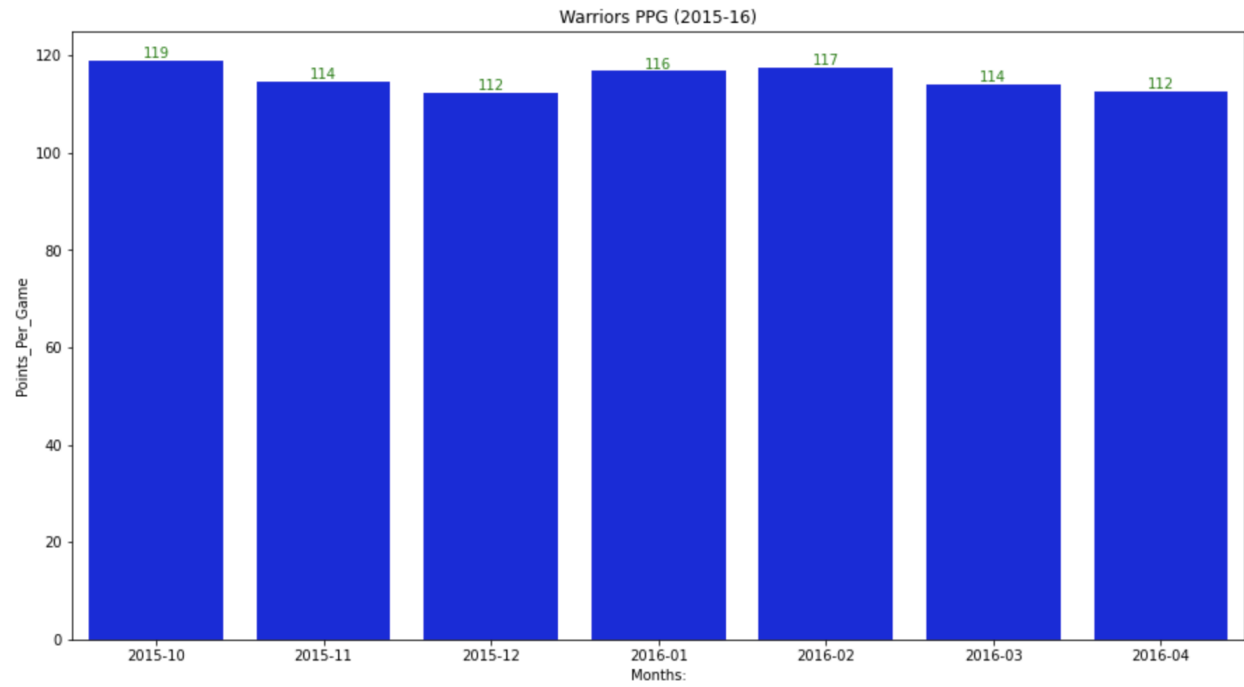
Based on these overall seasonal stats, points per game, assists per game, and opponents points per game were consistently shown to be above the mean each time that the Warriors made the finals. In addition, rebounds and steals have shown to correlate also in them winning a championship or not. As a result, these will be the statistics that we will focus on for this analysis, however all the stats are shown in my Jupyter Notebook.

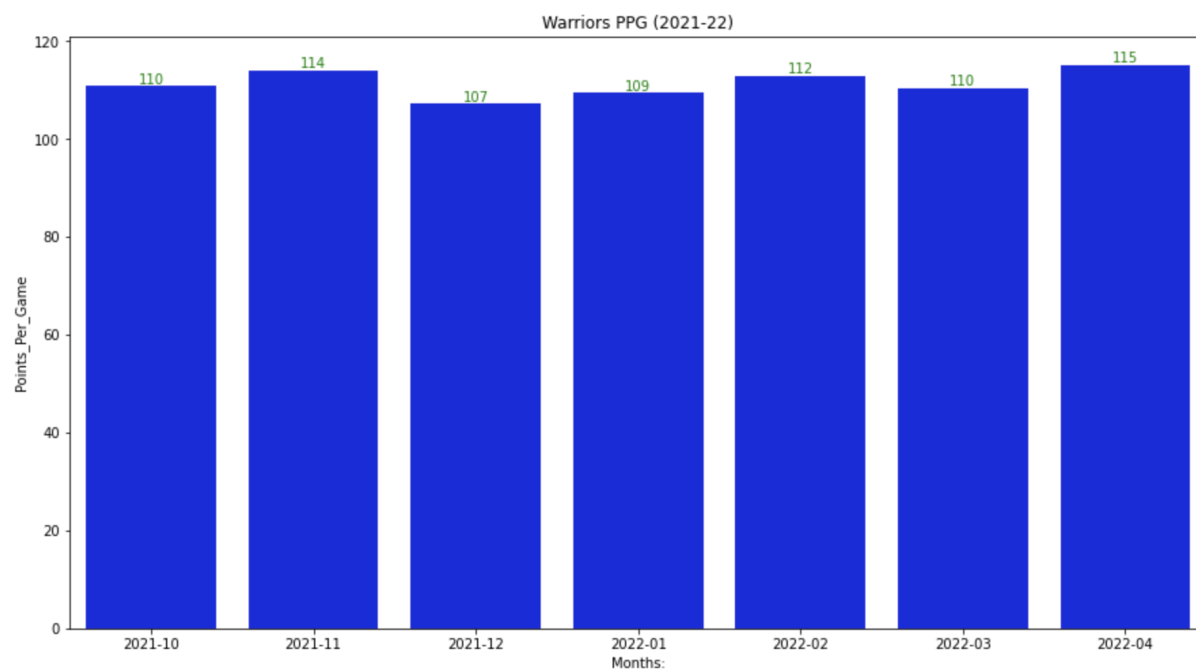
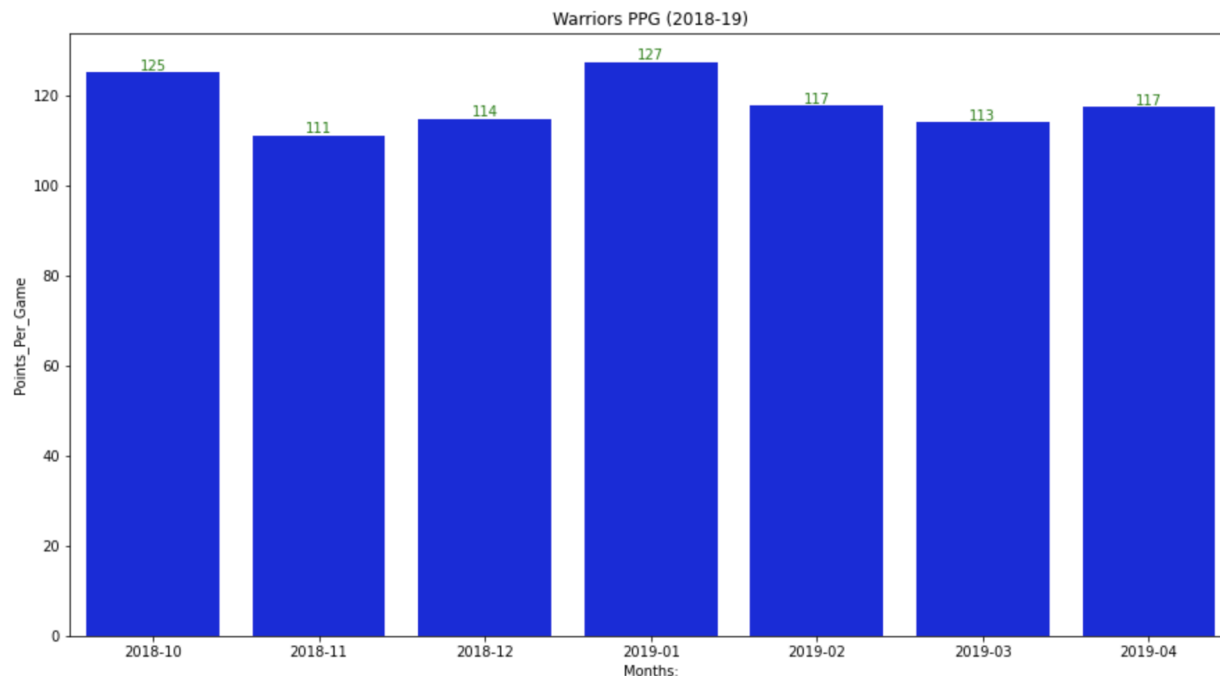
### Seasonal Averages:

For the next step in figuring out when is a good time to peak, I will focus on the Warriors' 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2018-19, and 2021-22 monthly averages as those were when the Warriors made the finals. I could not include 2017-18 as the dataset that I used did not include that season. I will investigate the points per game, assists per game, rebounds per game, opponents points per game, and steals per game to find a pattern on which month they peaked in to find an answer.

### Points Per Game:

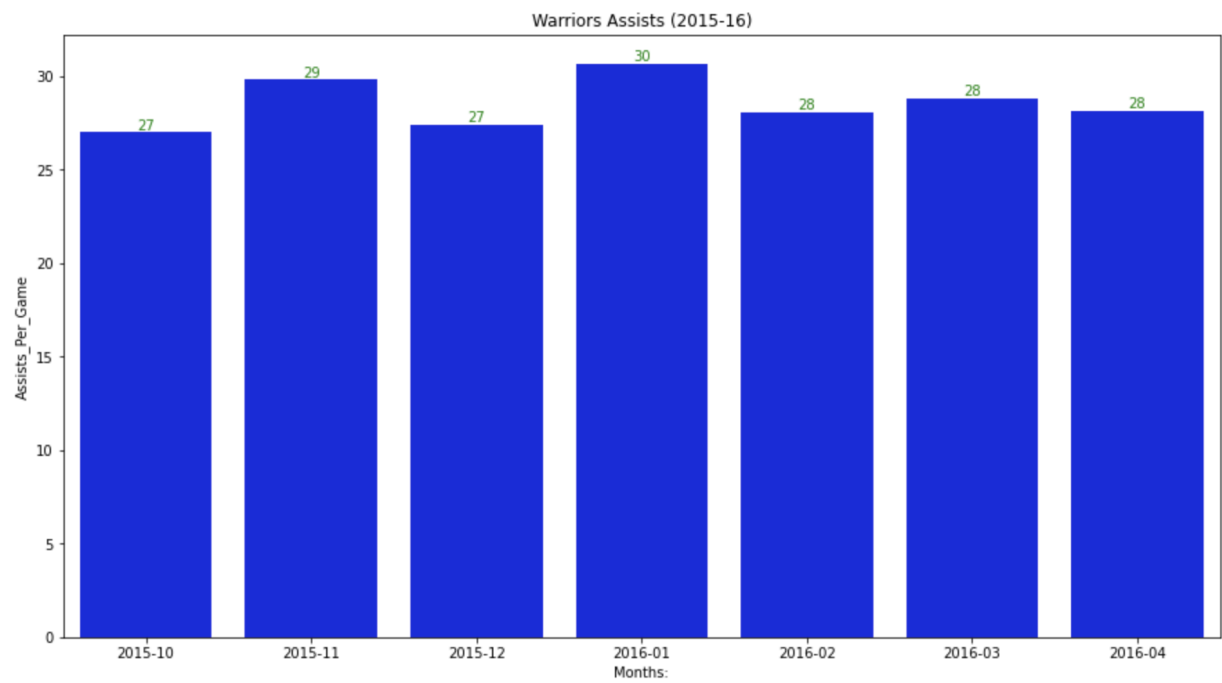
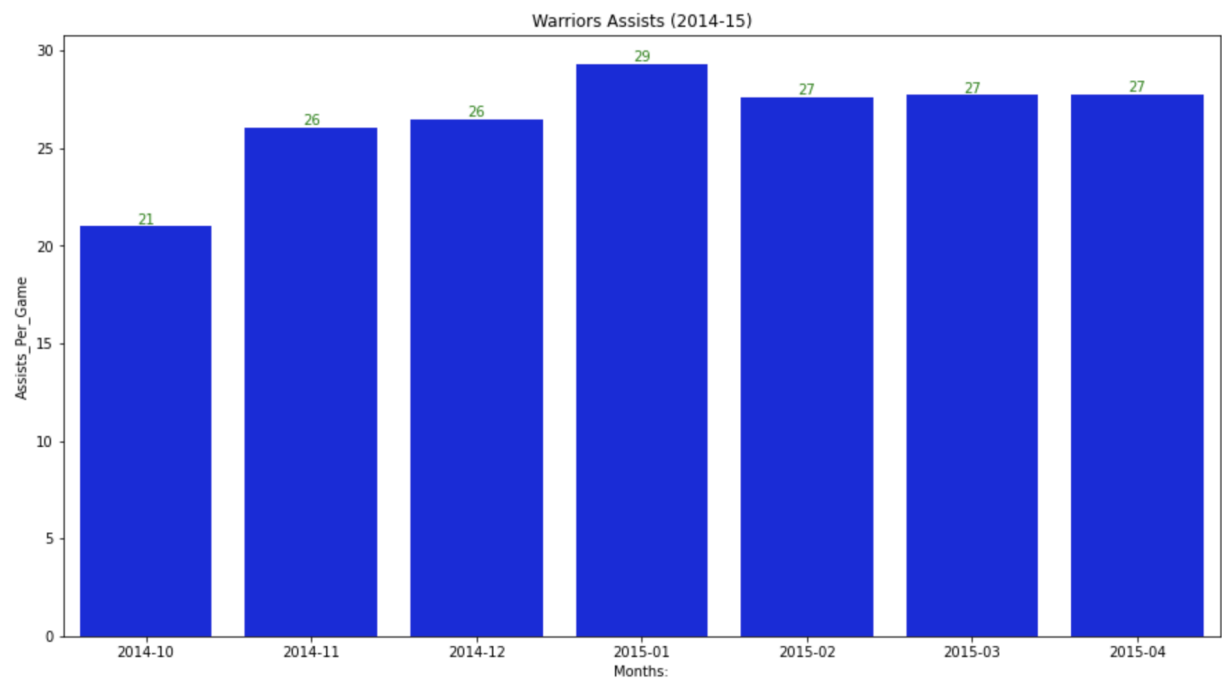




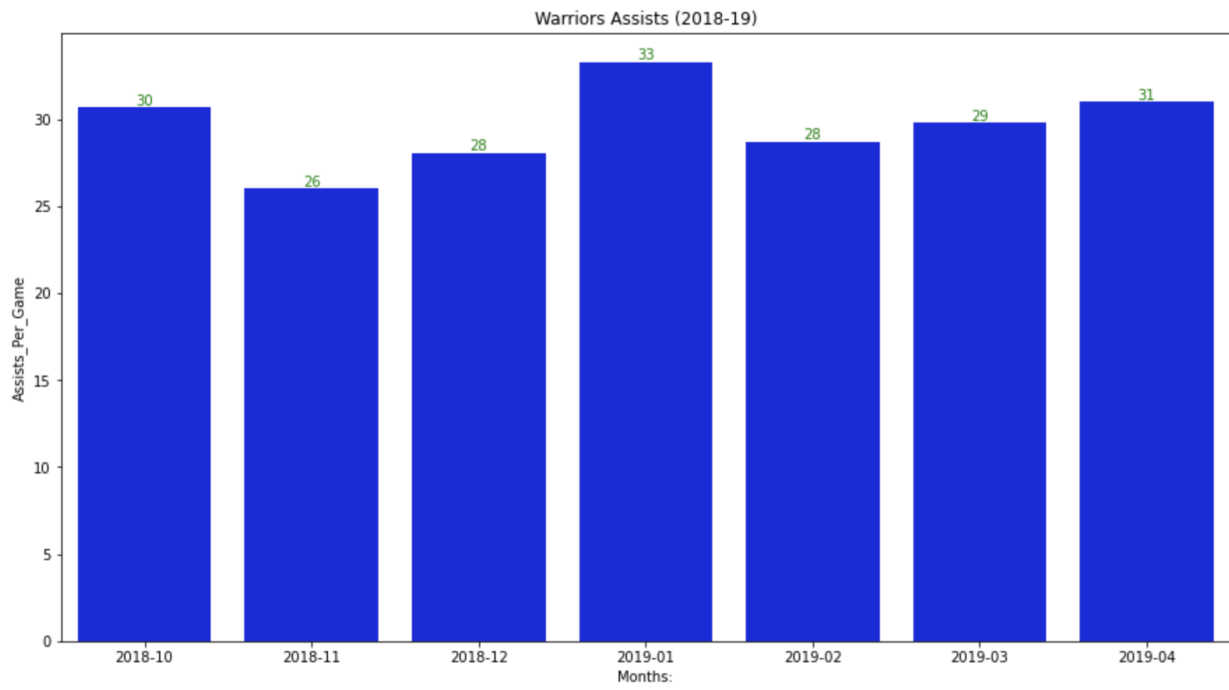
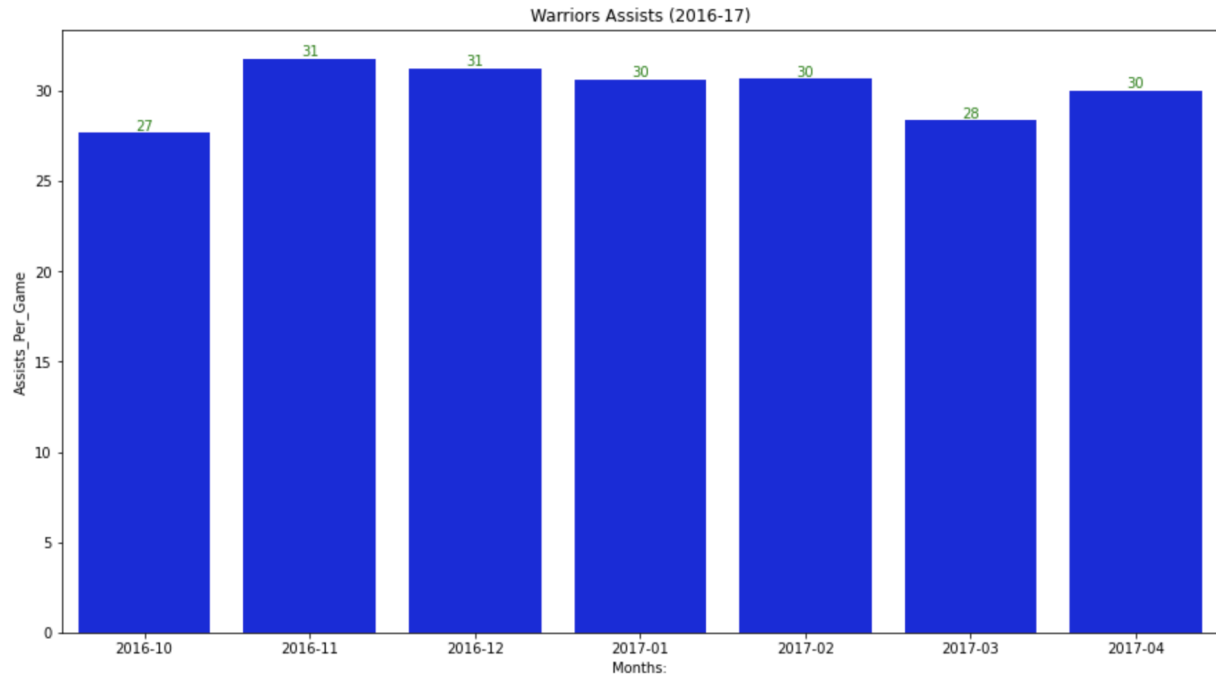


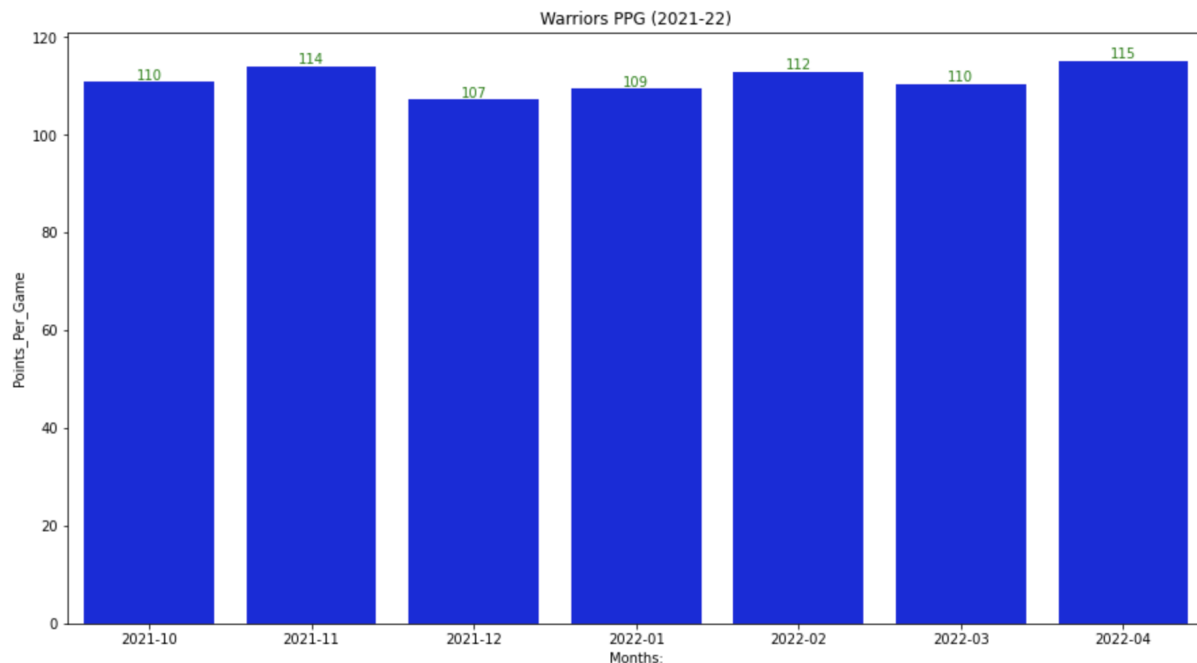
Based on these charts, the Warriors either score the most during January and April. They seem to come out strong in January, fall off a bit in scoring between February and March, but tend to kick it back up in April when it comes time for playoffs. In 2021-22, the Warriors actually condensed this to having scoring well in February and then coming back up again in April however in January they were short manned as Stephen Curry, who many times has led the team in scoring, was out and Klay Thompson, who is typically the second option in scoring, was getting the rust out after missing 2 years of playing.

Assists Per Game:



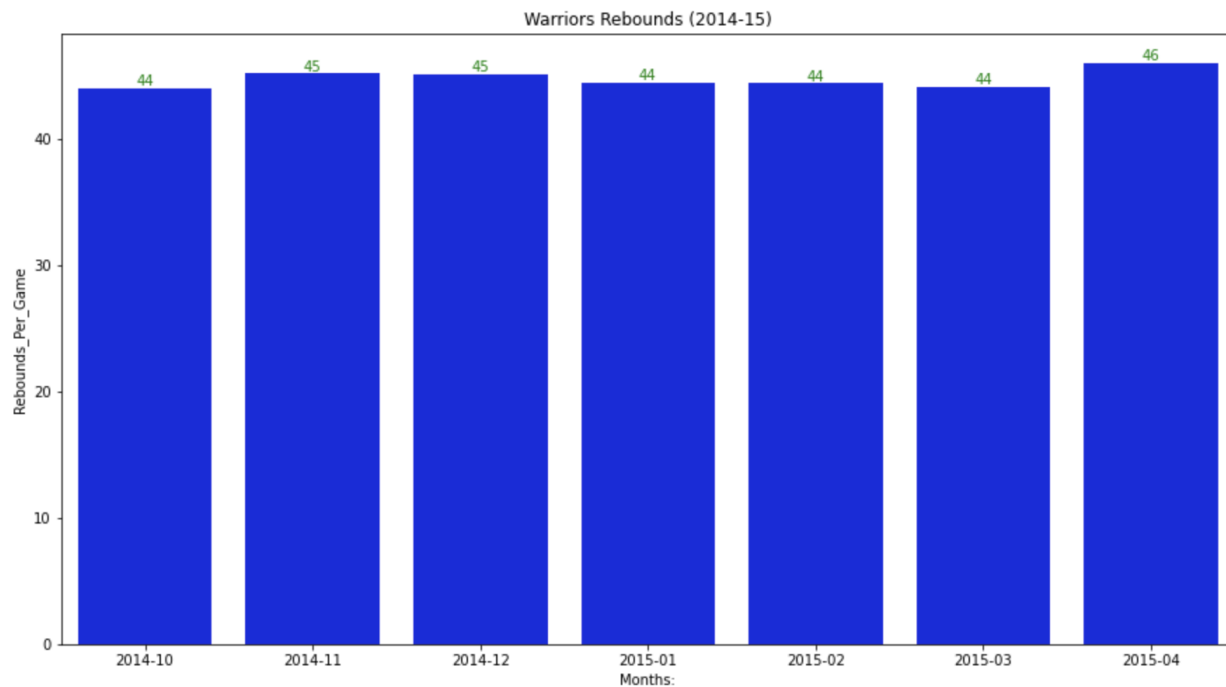


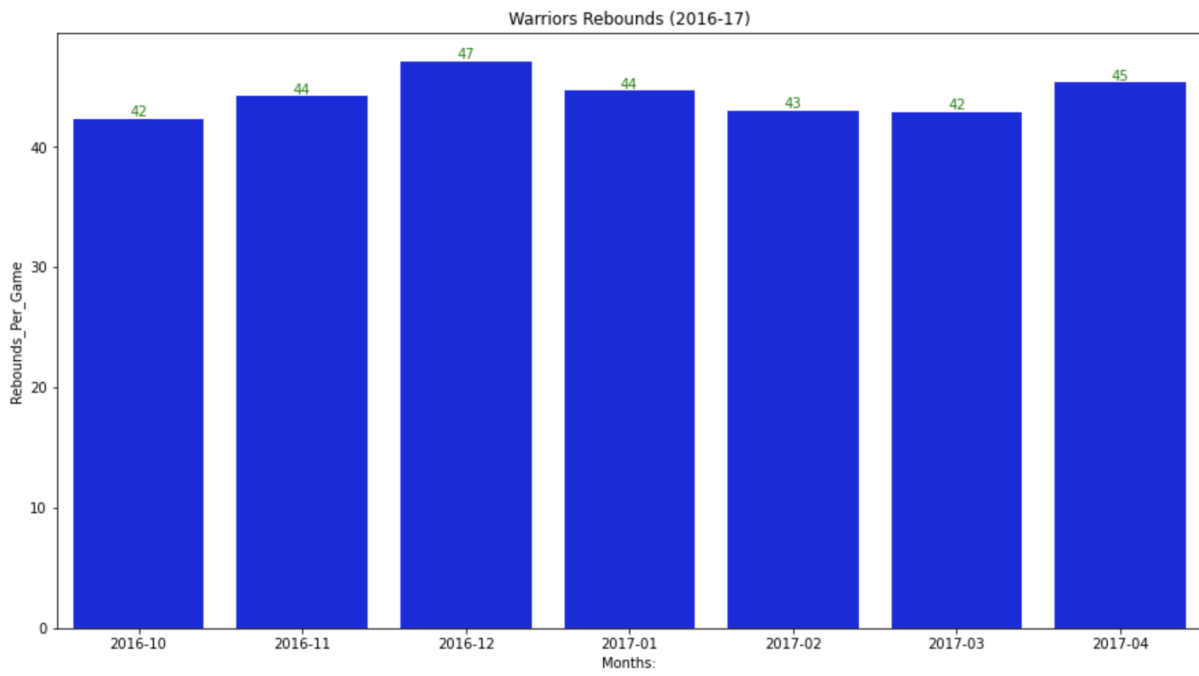
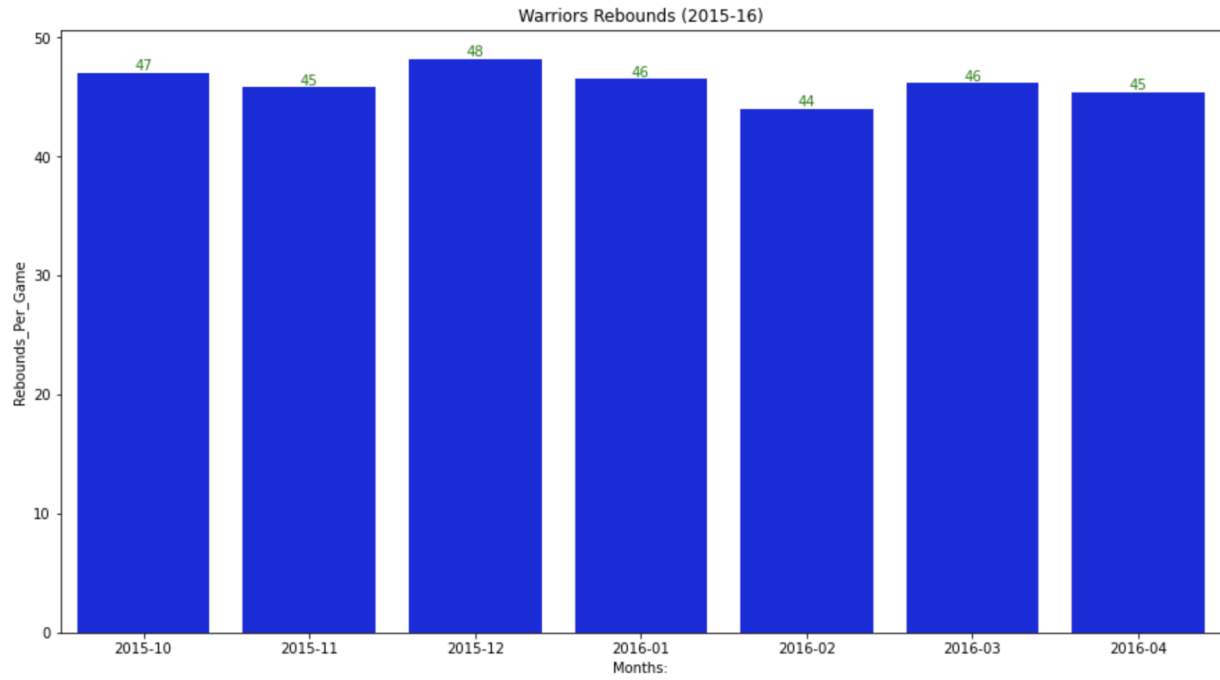


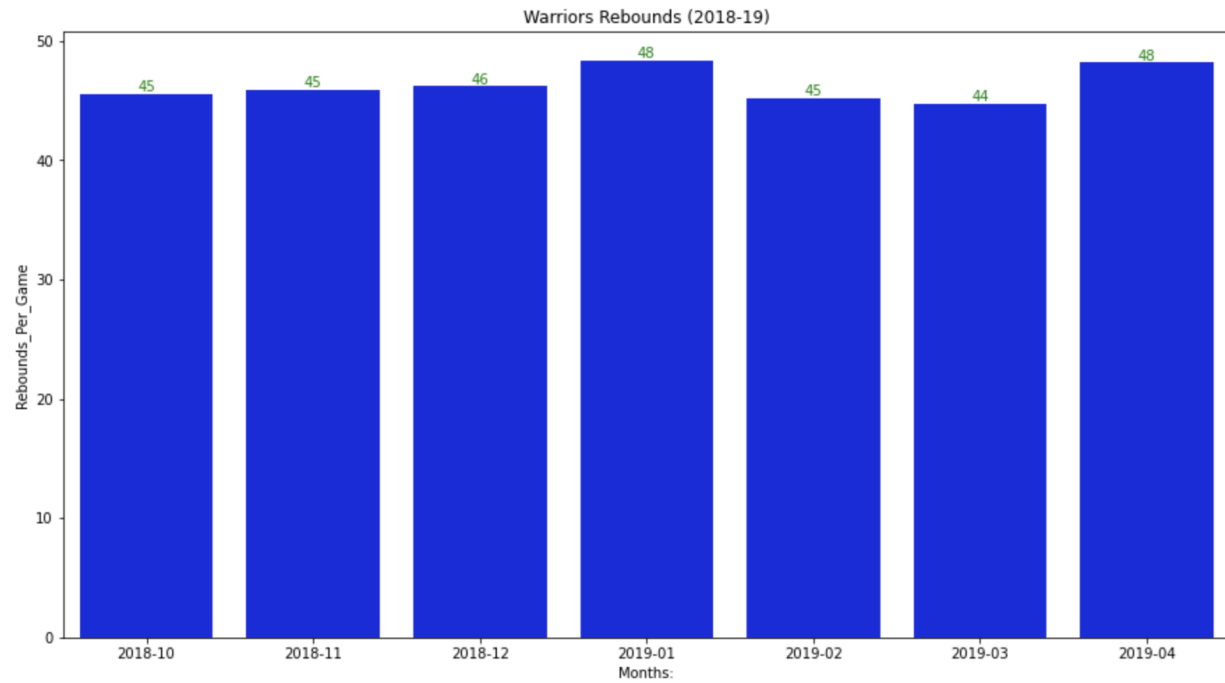


Based on these charts, it shows consistency in seeing high assist marks in November, January, and April. While these numbers are a bit fluctuated all over the place on when the highest assists are made, the fact that January (February for 2021-22's case) and April show highs correlates nicely with points per game showing that those months are when the Warriors are able to move the ball nicely with each other and as a result are able to score more.

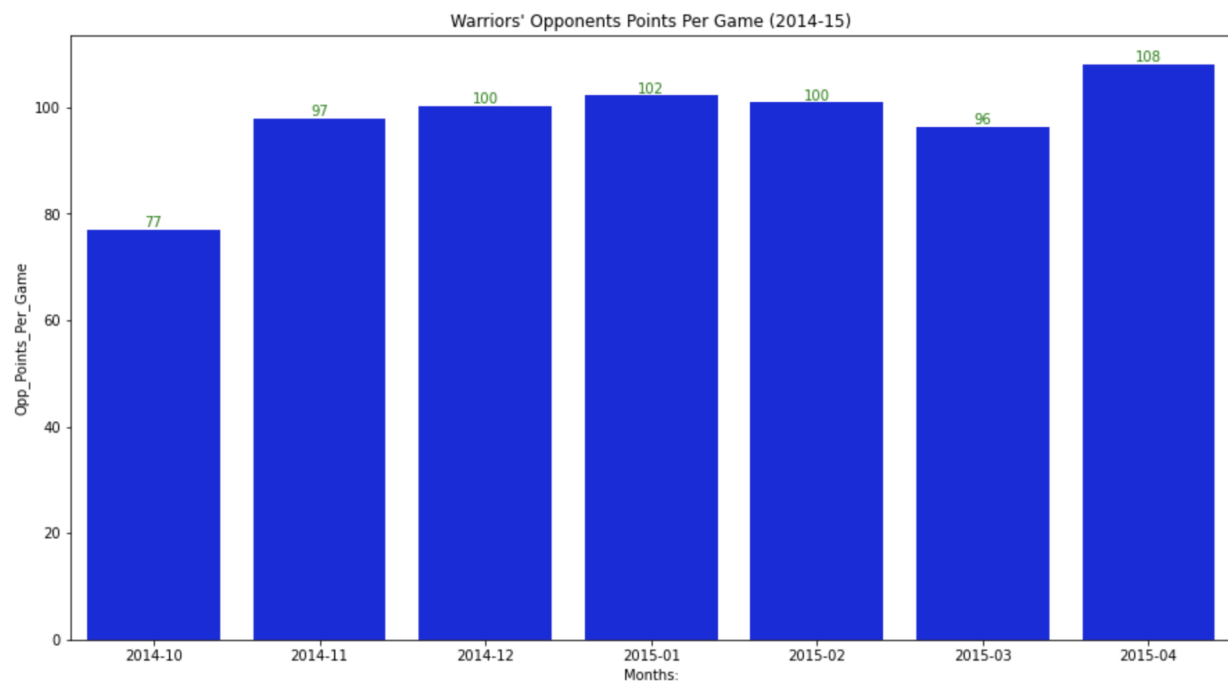
#### Rebounds Per Game:

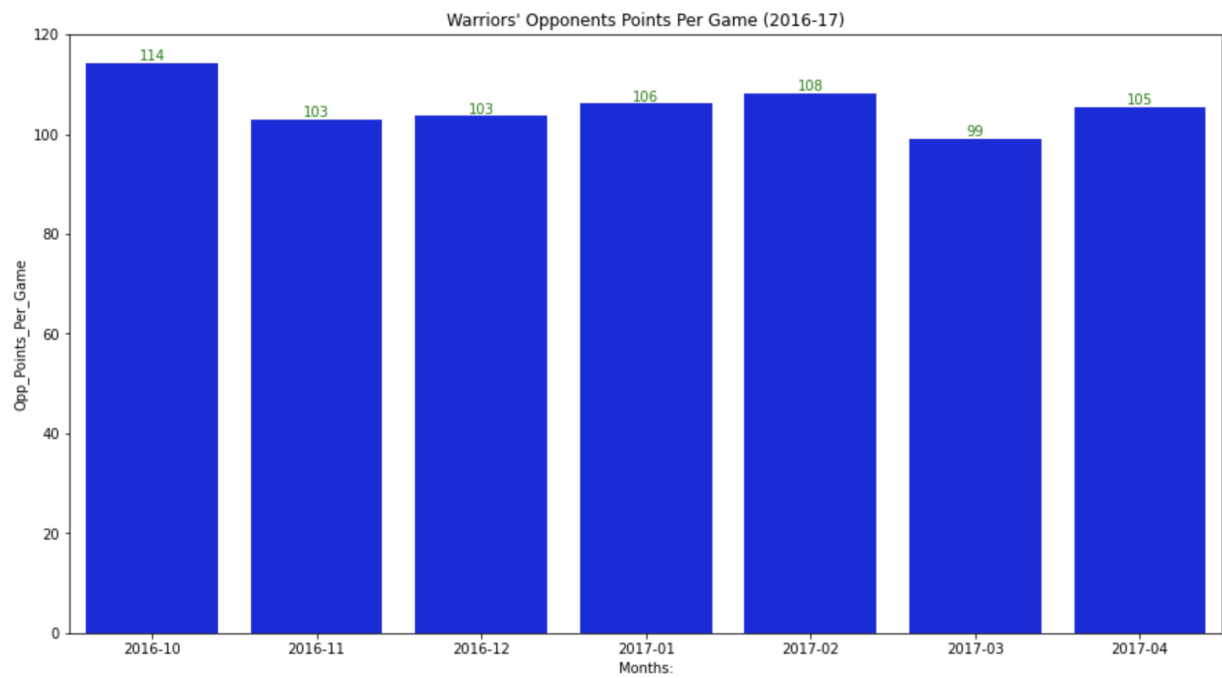
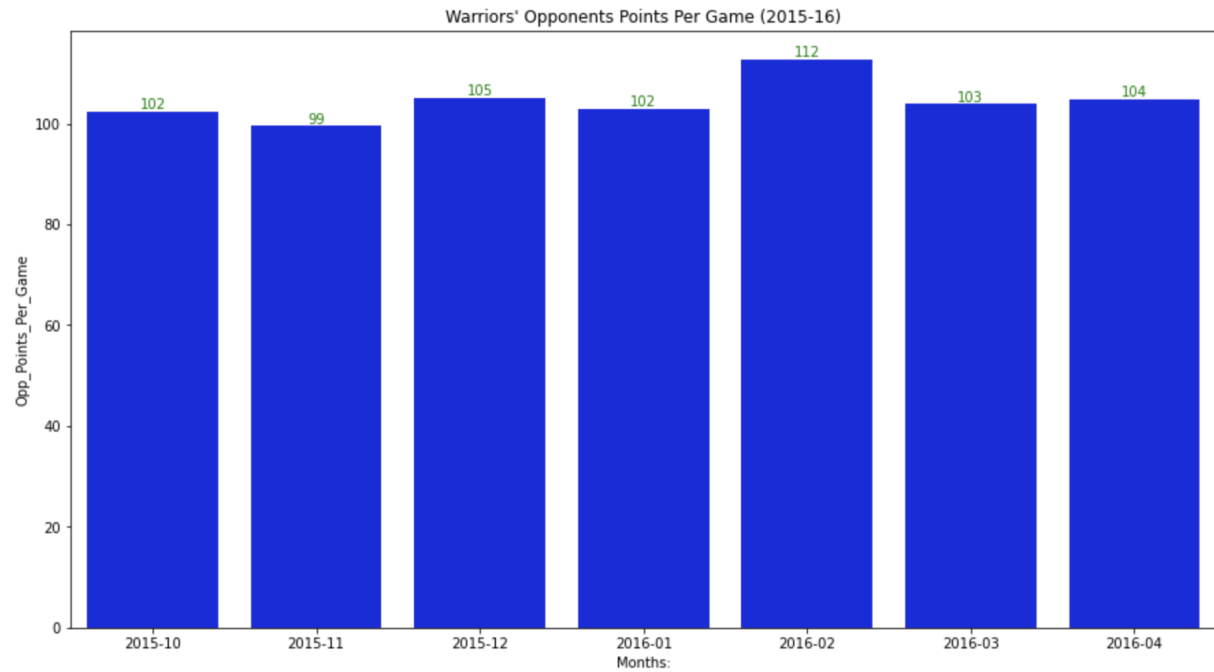






### Opponents' Points Per Game:





Steals Per Game:

