Opening—

In honor of the first day of the 2020-2021 NFL Season we decided to take a look at the leading players in interceptions and sacks. Football is a game where the outcome is easily changed with one big play. The biggest plays that influence the game are typically an interception or a sack. Interceptions happen when a member of the opposing team gains control of the ball mid-throw from the quarterback of the offensive team. This play can have many outcomes: loss of yards, turnovers, and even a touchdown. During Superbowl 49 the Seattle Seahawks were in the endzone for the winning score. Russell Wilson threw to a receiver for a touchdown, but the ball was intercepted by Malcom Butler from the New England Patriots. This single play lost the Seahawks the game and the Patriots won yet another Superbowl.

Interceptions—

The data sets that we gathered from data.world had every player from 1989 to present. In this data we were able to find the top ten players by numbers of interceptions. We found fn? Jenkins to be the leading interceptor leading to touchdowns in the league with 14. In his rookie season playing for ?? he had 3 interceptions to touchdowns and 4 interceptions. Fn? Newman is tied for the lead in interceptions with FN? Samuel. They both have 50 total interceptions. FN? Newman had 5 interceptions and 77 solo tackles in the 2010 season alone. In 2006 fn? Samuel had 10 interceptions.

Sacks—

Conclusion—

The offense is typically viewed as the scorers on any football team but games can won or lost by the defense alone. Superbowl ?? between the Carolina Panthers and Denver Broncos was a game of defenses. Both teams played poorly in the offense.