



ANALYSIS METRICS AT THE INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE LEVEL.

Module 3

Individual Assignment

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KEYWORDS:

metrics, analysis, data

I. INTRODUCTION

Module 3 involves analysis of football metrics in relation to individual player and team performances. Various metrics exist in order to assist analysts and strategists to formulate plans for players and teams in an attempt to improve.

II. FABIAN RUIZ: THE SILENT HERO AMONG CHAMPIONS.

The UEFA Euro 2024 competition is an international footballing competition comprised of Europe's most elite national teams competing for the title of being crowned the best country in Europe and the UK. The 2024 competition was won by a very impressive and young Spanish team. Spain currently boasts some of the biggest names in world football, with a new generation of young footballers set to take the world by storm as well as the current Ballon

d'or winner. Amongst these stars was a hero whose name is not sung as loudly as others. Fabian Ruiz formed an integral part of the Spanish national team during the 2024 Euro's. And although he is not seen on the same level as players such as Rodri, Pedri, Lamine Yamal and Nico Williams, his performance in the Euro's could arguably be the key reason to their success and championship status. We shall compare his performance throughout the Euro tournament with his partnering midfield companions as well as the top 4 teams across the tournament's midfield. Namely, England, Germany and France.



Fig. 1. Fabian Ruiz: UEFA Euro 2024

III. ADDITIONAL DECISION DATA

To understand Fabian Ruiz's contribution to the champions team, we will be investigating the following metrics, in particular in the final 3rd of the pitch:

- Shots
- Non-Penalty Goals
- Passes
- Carries
- Progressions
- xG

IV. METRIC ANALYSIS

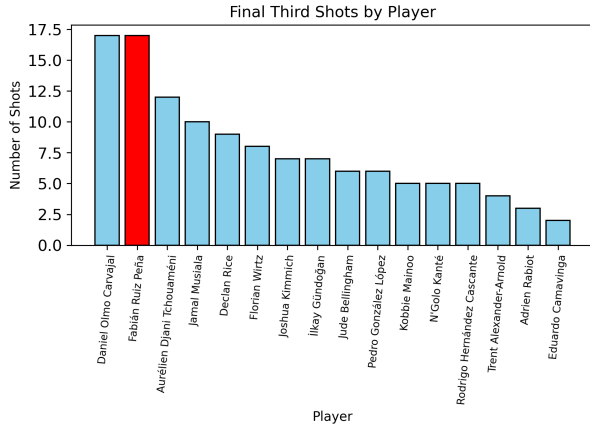


Fig. 2. Number of shots for the top 4 countries.

From figure 2 we can see that Fabian Ruiz contributed heavily to Spain's attacking effort by providing the 2nd highest amount of shots not only for Spain but for all midfielders in the top 4 countries.

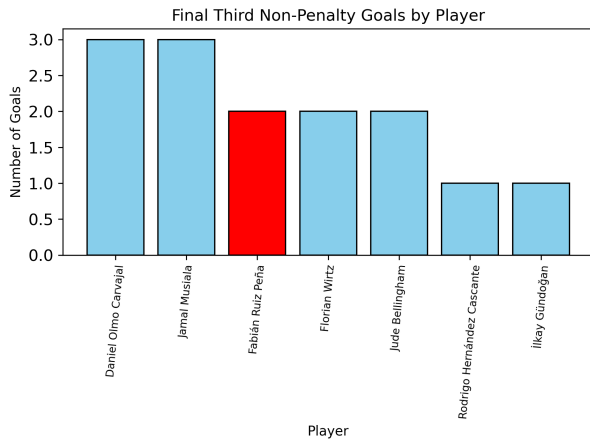


Fig. 3. Number of goals for the top 4 countries.

Figure 3 also gives clear insight into the fact that his shots contributed to positive results as he got the 3rd highest amount of goals compared to the 4 rival countries.

Player	Expected Goals (xG)
Jude Bellingham	1.45
Daniel Olmo Carvajal	1.38
Fabian Ruiz Peña	1.15
Trent Alexander-Arnold	0.91
Jamal Musiala	0.90

TABLE I

TOP 5 PLAYERS WITH THE HIGHEST xG.

Table I shows the expected goals. As can be seen Fabian Ruiz was only outperformed by his national teammate Dani Olmo and England's Jude Bellingham.

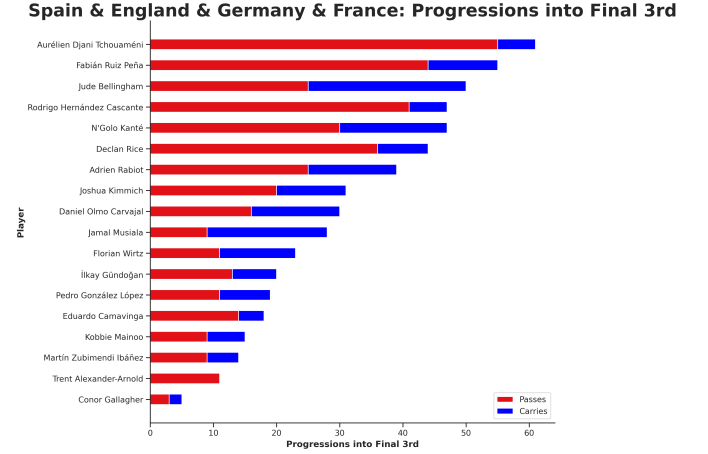


Fig. 4. Most Progressions into the final 3rd.

Figure 4 represents the progressions. This is defined as the amount of carries and passes into the final third. Fabian Ruiz ranks 2nd for this metric and shows his ability to identify passing lines under pressure and filtering a pass between lines.

V. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

From the previous figures and metrics, we can see that Fabian Ruiz's contribution to the Spanish national teams success in the Euro's was undeniably important to their status as champions. The most interesting thing to note is that the metrics showcase his strong performances as a central midfielder. His metrics highlights him as a competitor to other attacking midfielders from other countries. This can both be attributed to Fabian Ruiz's performances as well as the tactical setup by the Spanish coach to utilize him in such a strong manner.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All data was extracted from open data source Statsbomb using the statsbompy python library.

Project Code: Spain vs Europe UEFA Euro 2024: GitHub