

BUCKLE UP FOR KOBE BRYANT

A TALE OF TWO KOBES

1996 to 2006:

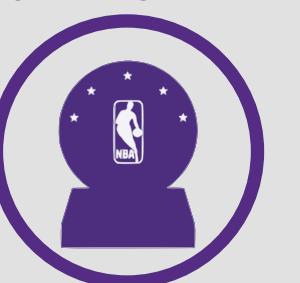


16,866 points
in 707 games

3x NBA CHAMPION



2002 ALL-STAR MVP



8 All-Star
appearances

The NBA career of Kobe Bryant can be sifted through multiple, legacy defining moments. One moment, however, splits his career neatly down the middle: the change from #8 to #24 on his jersey. 10 years with #8 and 10 years with #24.

2006 to 2016:



16,777 points
in 639 games

2x NBA CHAMPION



2x FINALS MVP



2007, 2009, 2011
ALL-STAR MVP



10 All-Star
appearances

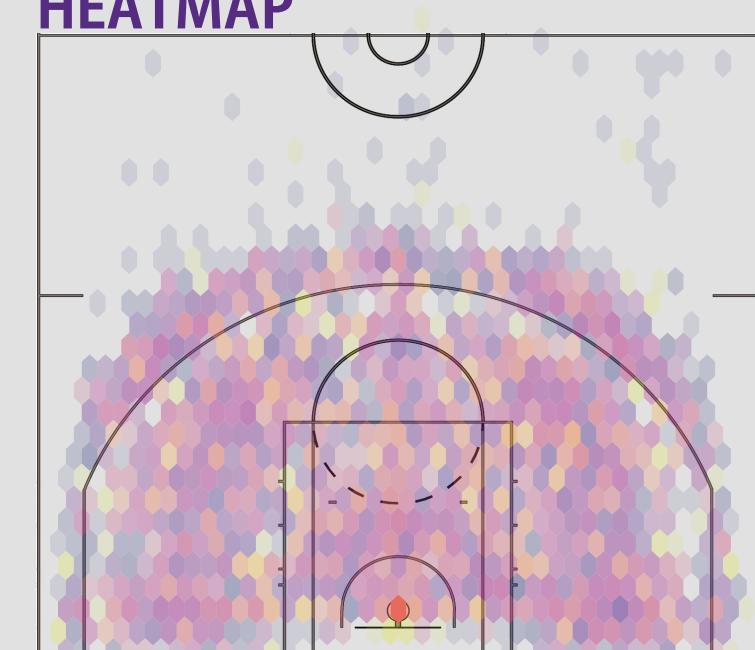
2008 LEAGUE MVP



28.3 Points, 6.3 Rebounds,
and 5.4 Assists per game

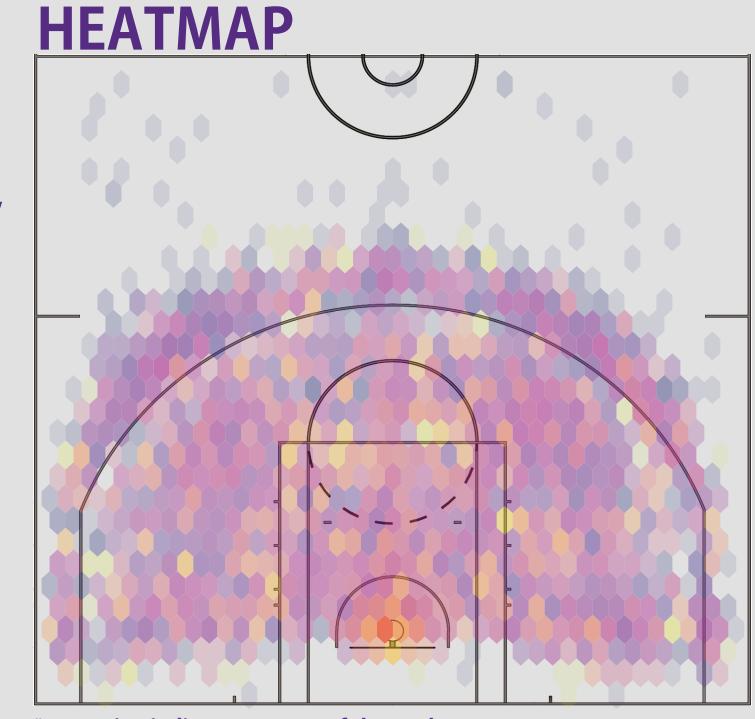
While there can be no doubt that #24 had more individual hardware for his trophy case, was he the better player? Did he have a more varied offensive arsenal in the second half of his career?

HEATMAP

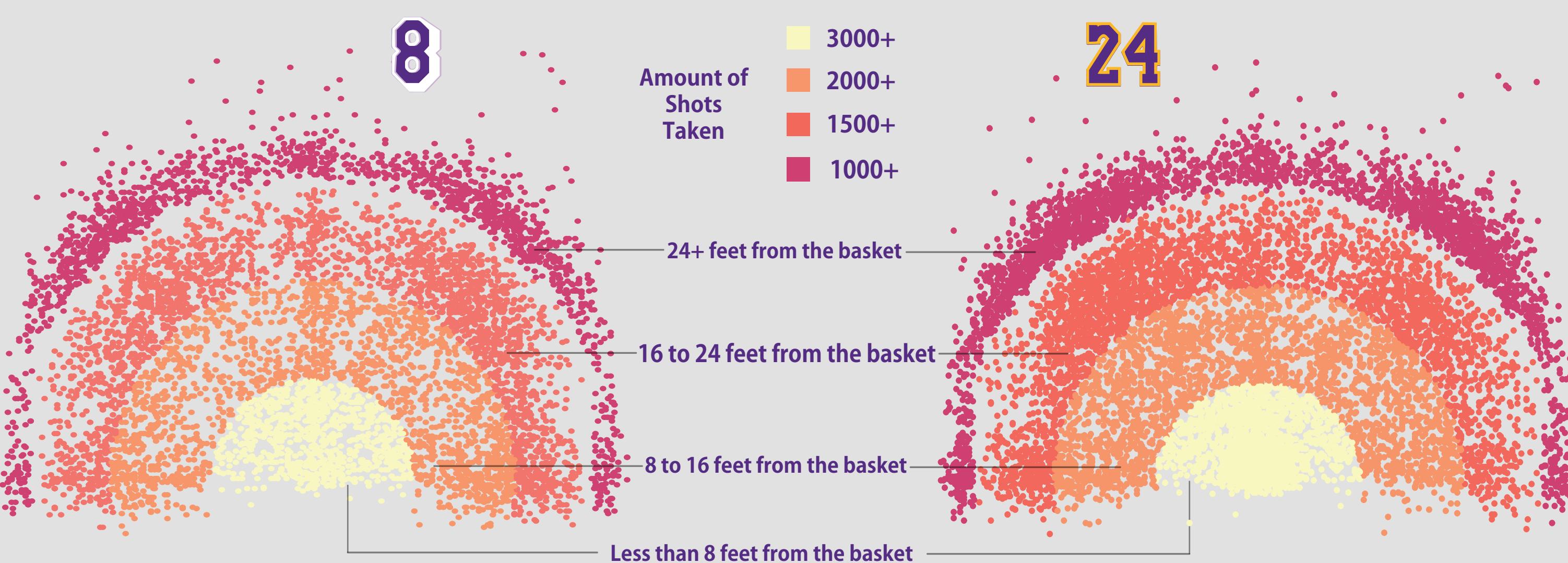


ACCURACY
100%
75%
50%
25%
0%

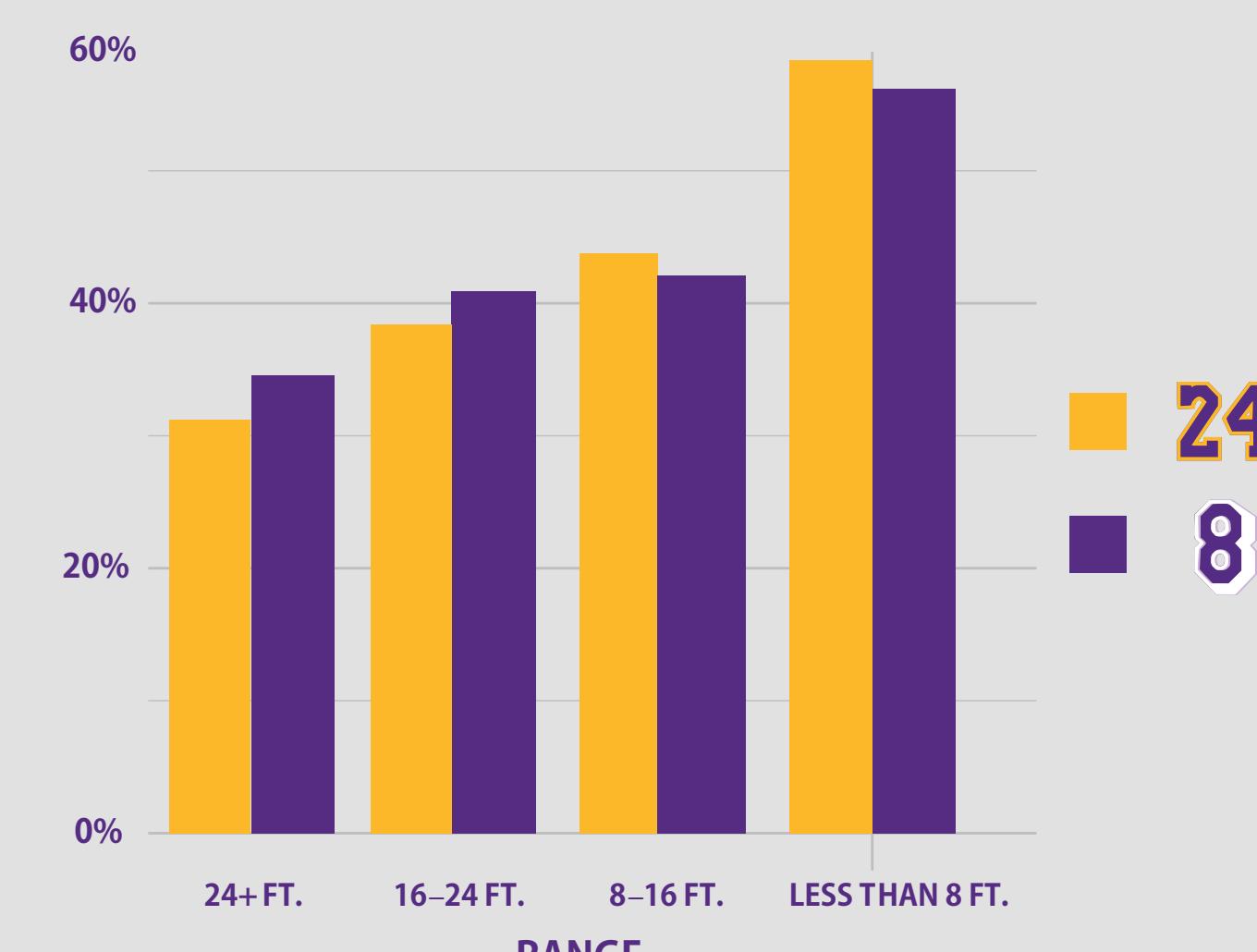
HEATMAP



ACCURACY
100%
75%
50%
25%
0%



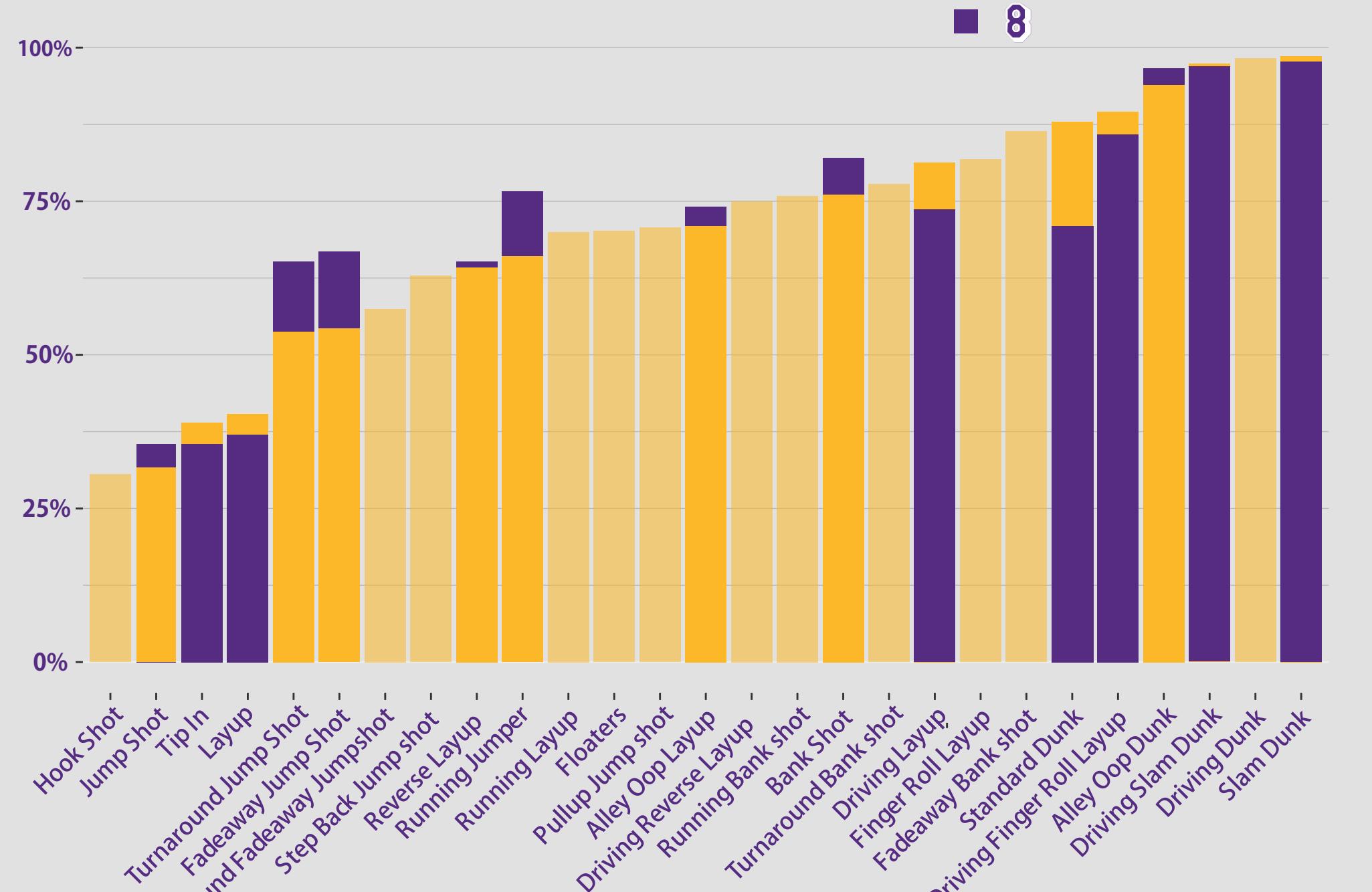
ACCURACY BY RANGE



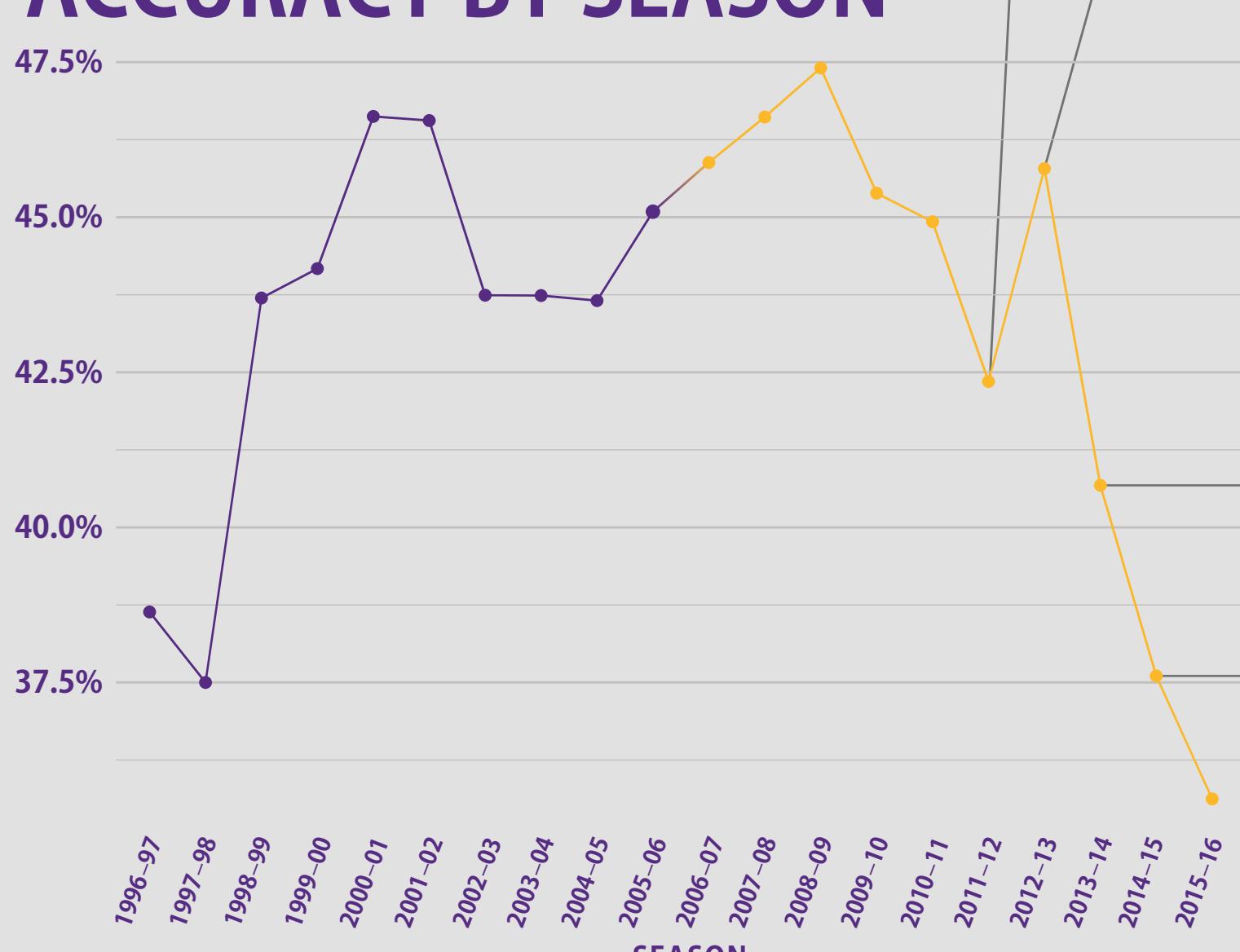
#24 Kobe was able to essentially open up another section of the court compared to #8. The area above the free throw line but before the 3 point line was a significant addition to his scoring zone in the latter half of his career.

For the most part, Kobe Bryant had a fairly even career. #8 was not outright better than #24 and vice versa. Certain mechanics in Kobe Bryant's game had to change due to age and attrition. The injuries in the latter half of his career tanked his percentages and derailed him from a possibly longer playing career.

ACCURACY BY SHOT TYPE



ACCURACY BY SEASON



Lockout shortened season

Kobe Bryant's season was cut short due to an achilles injury on 4/12/13. Many regard this season as the final year of his physical prime. His stats quickly depressed in the following seasons.

8

24

Bryant suffered a lateral tibial plateau fracture on 12/21/13. He would not return for the season.

Kobe suffered another season ending injury on 1/21/15 by tearing his rotator cuff in his right shoulder.

KOBE BRYANT
The Black Mamba

1978 - 2020



Dataset Description: This dataset was taken from the Kobe Bryant Shot Selection data on Kaggle. The dataset has 23,569 rows and 26 columns. The data was originally collected by the NBA and can be found on stats.NBA.com

Dataset URL: <https://www.kaggle.com/c/kobe-bryant-shot-selection/overview>

Packages used: tidyverse, grid, jpeg, RCurl, hexbin, viridis

JUAN BUENA - IST 421