

2011/12 HSBC SEVENS WORLD SERIES

Text



STATISTICAL REVIEW OVERALL

IRB GAME ANALYSIS

This statistical report summarises the 2011/12 HSBC Sevens World Series. The report comprises a quantitative analysis of all elements of play together with the approach to, and performance of, all participating teams in various aspects of the game.

The CORE TEAM HIGHLIGHTS over the series are as follows:

SCORING

Most tries scored per match – **New Zealand**

Fewest tries scored per match – **Scotland & Wales**

Most tries conceded per match – **Scotland**

Fewest tries conceded per match – **New Zealand**

Best try scoring rate ie tries per minute – **Fiji**

Best try conceding rate – **New Zealand**

Highest conversion success – **Scotland**

TRY SCORING

Most tries scored from penalty/free kicks – **Wales**

Most tries scored from turnovers – **Kenya**

Most tries scored from restarts – **Argentina**

Most tries scored from inside own half – **USA**

Highest % of tries with no rucks in build-up – **Fiji**

Highest % of tries with 3 or fewer passes in build-up – **Fiji**

ACTIVITY/POSSESSION

Highest average possession – **South Africa**

Highest passing rate – **Samoa**

Lowest passing rate – **France**

Most likely to kick – **Argentina**

Least likely to kick – **New Zealand**

Highest rucking rate – **Australia**

Lowest rucking rate - **Fiji**

Highest ruck success – **South Africa**

Lowest ruck success – **Fiji**

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SET PIECE & DISCIPLINE

Highest contestable restart success – **Samoa**

Most likely to kick short ie contestable restarts – **Samoa**

Most likely to kick long ie non-contestible restarts – **England**

Highest scrum success – **New Zealand & USA**

Highest lineout success – **Australia**

Penalised the least – **Australia**

Penalised the most – **Argentina & Kenya**

Most yellow/red cards – **Fiji**

The above data and more extensive analysis on all participating sevens teams can be found in the following report.



**2011/12 HSBC SEVENS
OVERALL STANDINGS**

	AUS	DUB	RSA	NZL	USA	HKG	JAP	SCO	ENG	TOT	
	NZL	19	10	22	22	19	19	17	22	17	167
	FJI	22	17	12	19	17	22	13	17	22	161
	ENG	10	22	15	17	10	15	15	19	12	135
	SAM	12	3	17	15	22	13	19	13	19	133
	RSA	17	12	19	13	15	17	12	10	10	125
	AUS	15	13	10	7	7	10	22	15	13	112
	ARG	8	15	5	5	12	12	10	10	15	92
	WAL	13	10	13	5	10	10	10	12	8	91
	FRA	10	19	10	10	3	5	8	5	3	73
	SCO	7	8	8	3	2	5	3	5	7	48
	USA	5	7	5	1	5	7	7	2	2	41
	KEN	1	2	2	8	13	8	2	3	1	40
	CAN	-	5	7	10	8	3	-	-	-	33
	SPA	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	10	19
	POR	-	5	1	-	-	1	5	1	5	18
	TON	5	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	17
	JAP	2	-	-	1	5	1	1	-	-	10
	RUS	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	1	10
	ZIM	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	5	10
	HKG	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5
	PNG	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	COO	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
	BRA	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	MOR	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	NIU	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	UAE	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	URU	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1



CUP WINNERS

BRISBANE	Fiji
DUBAI	England
PORT ELIZABETH	New Zealand
WELLINGTON	New Zealand
LAS VEGAS	Samoa
HONG KONG	Fiji
TOKYO	Australia
GLASGOW	New Zealand
TOKYO	Fiji



2011/12 IRB SEVENS OVERALL PLAYER STATISTICS

			POINTS SCORED 2011/12			TRIES SCORED 2011/12	
	Tomasi Cama	NZL	390		Mat Turner	ENG	38
	Metuisela Talebula	FIJ	271		Dan Norton	ENG	37
	Colin Gregor	SCO	242		Tomasi Cama	NZL	34
	Mat Turner	ENG	194		Tom Iosefo	SAM	33
	Dan Norton	ENG	191		Frank Halai	NZL	30





2011/12 HSBC SEVENS

STATISTICAL COMPARISON		2011/12 SEVENS	2010/11 SEVENS	2009/10 SEVENS
MATCHES	392	368	368	
SCORING				
POINTS (average per game)	34	37	37	
TRIES (average per game)	5.4	5.9	6.0	
TRY RATE (rate)	1 every 79 secs	1 every 74 secs	1 every 75 secs	
CONVERSION SUCCESS (%)	62%	64%	62%	
PENALTY / DROP GOALS (total)	11	6	3	
MATCHES WON by team scoring most tries (%)	88%	90%	88%	
SOURCE OF TRIES - pens/fks (%)	33%	31%	29%	
ORIGIN OF TRIES - own Half (%)	44%	44%	43%	
BUILD UP TO TRIES – no rucks/mauls (%)	70%	55%	61%	
BUILD UP TO TRIES - 3 Or fewer passes (%)	56%	52%	55%	
ACTIVITY				
BALL IN PLAY (%)	51%	52%	50%	
PASSES (average per game)	68	71	70	
5+ PASSING MOVENTS (rate)	1 in 7.7	1 in 8.7	1 in 7.7	
RUCKS/MAULS (average per game)	18	19	17	
RUCK/MAUL RETENTION (%)	84%	85%	84%	
KICKS (average per game)	2.4	2.4	3.7	
SET PIECE				
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS (%)	70	74%	77%	
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS REGAINED (%)	33%	36%	37%	
RESTART ERRORS (rate)	17	1 in 20	1 in 18	
SCRUMS (average per game)	4	4	4	
SCRUMS possession retained (%)	94%	91%	84%	
LINEOUTS (average per game)	2	2	2	
LINEOUTS possession retained (%)	74%	74%	78%	
QUICK THROWS (total)	1 in 13	1 in 10	1 in 10	
PENALTIES/FREE KICKS & CARDS				
PENALTIES (average per game)	6	5.4	5.4	
CARDS (total)	93 + 4	72 + 4	110 + 4	

1.0 SCORING & CONCEDING

RATES & AVERAGES

The average number of points scored in a match was **34**. The average number of points scored/conceded by a team was **17** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average. **New Zealand** scored an average of 27 points and conceded an average of 9 points, whereas **USA** scored an average of 14 points and conceded an average of 19 points.

Overall there was a try scored every 79 seconds of play

Try scoring rates show how effective each team was in scoring points in relation to the possession that they obtained, and Try conceding rates show how effective each team was in restricting points in relation to the

possession that their opponents obtained. The following table gives the relevant figures for each participating team. **Fiji** had the best try scoring rate, scoring a try every **51** secs of own possession and **New Zealand** had the best try conceding rate, conceding a try every **152** secs of opposition possession.



	Av POINTS SCORED	Av POINTS CONCEDED	Av TRIES SCORED	Av TRIES CONCEDED		TRY SCORING RATE		TRY CONCEDED RATE
NZL	27	9	4.4	1.5	FJI	1 every 51s	NZL	1 every 152s
FJI	25	11	3.9	1.8	NZL	54s	FJI	120s
SAM	21	15	3.4	2.4	SAM	63s	ENG	102s
SA	19	12	3.1	1.9	SA	73s	SA	100s
ENG	18	13	2.9	2.1	ENG	75s	SAM	89s
AUS	18	16	2.9	2.5	AUS	76s	AUS	82s
SCO	18	16	2.7	2.6	Av 79s		FRA	80s
WAL	17	15	2.7	2.4	FRA	82s	WAL	85s
Av 17		17	2.7	2.7	SCO	83s	SCO	79s
ARG	15	19	2.3	3.0	WAL	86s	Av 79s	
FRA	15	18	2.4	2.9	KEN	96s	KEN	77s
USA	14	19	2.3	3.1	ARG	97s	ARG	76s
KEN	14	18	2.2	2.9	USA	99s	USA	62s

	Av POINTS SCORED	Av POINTS CONCEDED	Av TRIES SCORED	Av TRIES CONCEDED		TRY SCORING RATE		TRY CONCEDING RATE
CAN	18	16	2.8	2.5	CAN	73s	CAN	81s
HKG	16	17	2.7	2.7	URU	76s	SPA	81s
SPA	15	14	2.5	2.3	SPA	84s	TON	80s
POR	14	19	2.4	3.0	COO	85s	HKG	74s
RUS	14	22	2.2	3.5	PNG	88s	POR	72s
URU	14	24	2.3	3.7	HKG	94s	PNG	69s
PNG	13	25	2.2	3.8	RUS	95s	URU	68s
TON	13	17	2.1	2.7	POR	95s	RUS	67s
COO	12	25	2.0	4.2	TON	98s	ZIM	56s
ZIM	11	25	1.7	4.0	ZIM	110s	COO	56s
JAP	10	25	1.7	4.0	JAP	113s	JAP	55s
MOR	6	30	0.8	4.8	UAE	188s	MOR	50s
UAE	6	49	1.0	7.6	MOR	211s	NIU	40s
BRA	3	37	0.6	5.8	BRA	262s	BRA	35s
NIU	1	34	0.2	5.4	NIU	960s	UAE	33s

1.1 CONVERSIONS

The overall conversion success rate was **62%**.

There were noticeable variations in the percentage success rates as seen in the attached table:

Because of the relatively few tries scored by some teams, applying percentages can only be regarded as indicative. In addition, the location of the score can be a significant factor in achieving a successful conversion.



The attached table shows the success rate of all participating teams with **Scotland** having the highest conversion success rate with **73%** and **South Africa** the lowest with **56%**.

There were **10** penalty goals and **1** drop goals

	CONVERSION SUCCESS %	CONVERSION SUCCESS %	
SCO	73%	ZIM	75%
FJI	71%	CAN	61%
ARG	66%	TON	53%
WAL	65%	POR	44%
ENG	64%	JAP	41%
KEN	64%	RUS	64%
Av	62%	SPA	50%
SAM	61%	BRA	1/3
USA	60%	COO	6/12
NZL	59%	HKG	5/11
FRA	59%	MOR	4/4
AUS	59%	NIU	1/1
SA	56%	UAE	2/5
		URU	4/6
		PNG	7/13

2. TRY SCORING

2127 tries were scored giving an average of 5.4 per match. **New Zealand** scored an average of 4.4 tries per match and conceded an average of 1.5 tries per match. The average number of tries scored and conceded by all participating teams is shown on the previous page.

During the *pool stage* there were **1155** tries scored (**average – 5.5 per match**) and during the *knockout stages* there were **972** tries scored (**average – 5.4 per match**)



2.1 IMPACT OF TRIES

With 10 penalty goals, 1 drop goal and a conversion success rate of 62%, it was inevitable that tries would determine the winning team in the vast majority of cases – and this proved to be the case.

Of the 392 matches, **344 (or 88%)** were won by the team scoring the most tries, while in **48 (or 12%)** tries were the equal. In those 48 matches, 44 were won by the team that scored the more conversions, 1 match was won through a penalty goal and there were 3 draws.

2.2 POSSESSION SOURCE OF TRIES

Teams obtained possession of the ball prior to the scoring a try from a variety of sources. This is shown in the attached table:

It can be seen that the most fruitful source of tries was **Penalties & Free kicks** (33%). The table shows the importance of restarts, with a fifth of all tries scored from possession originating at a restart.

The following table shows the possession source of tries scored by each team. The team that scored the highest proportion of their tries from penalties/free kicks was **Wales**, from turnovers **Kenya** and from restarts **Argentina**.

TRY SOURCE %
33%
20%
20%
15%
9%
3%

	PEN & FK	TURNOVER	RESTART	SCRUM	LINEOUT	KICK	TOTAL
WAL	42%	16%	20%	15%	6%	0%	130
AUS	41%	24%	14%	9%	9%	3%	153
SCO	40%	17%	21%	15%	6%	1%	138
FRA	34%	17%	22%	12%	13%	3%	115
KEN	34%	28%	19%	13%	1%	4%	114
NZL	34%	24%	15%	13%	9%	5%	233
Av	33%						
USA	32%	16%	23%	18%	8%	2%	111
RSA	31%	17%	18%	20%	12%	1%	163
FJI	30%	23%	19%	18%	7%	3%	211
ARG	26%	23%	29%	13%	8%	1%	114
SAM	26%	20%	25%	16%	11%	2%	185
ENG	25%	19%	16%	15%	19%	5%	150

	PEN & FK	TURNOVER	RESTART	SCRUM	LINEOUT	KICK	TOTAL
TON	53%	5%	5%	16%	16%	5%	19
JAP	52%	19%	7%	15%	4%	4%	27
POR	41%	13%	30%	13%	4%	0%	54
RUS	39%	14%	31%	11%	3%	3%	36
CAN	36%	24%	15%	17%	7%	2%	59
ZIM	25%	19%	31%	19%	6%	0%	32
SPA	21%	18%	21%	14%	21%	4%	28
BRA	1		0	0	2		3
COO	5	1	4	1	1		12
HKG	5	3	1		1	1	11
MOR		3	1				4
NIU		1					1
PNG	3	3	4	1	1	1	13
UAE	2	2		1			5
URU	1	3	1	1	0		6

2.3 ORIGIN & LOCATION OF TRIES

Of all the tries scored, **44%** originated in the try scoring team's own half and **56%** in the opposition half. The team that scored the highest proportion of their tries from their own half was **USA**.

TRY ORIGIN LOCATION	
OWN HALF	44%
OPP HALF	56%

	OWN HALF	HW – 10m	10m – 22m	22m - TRY	TOTAL
USA	57%	6%	23%	14%	111
KEN	55%	11%	19%	15%	114
SCO	52%	11%	25%	12%	138
SAM	48%	6%	27%	19%	185
ENG	46%	10%	29%	15%	150
Av	44%				
FRA	43%	10%	28%	18%	115
FJI	43%	11%	31%	15%	211
WAL	42%	13%	29%	16%	130
NZL	41%	20%	26%	13%	233
AUS	36%	9%	30%	25%	153
RSA	33%	13%	32%	22%	163
ARG	33%	12%	26%	28%	114

	OWN HALF	HW – 10m	10m – 22m	22m - TRY	TOTAL
ZIM	69%	3%	13%	16%	32
RUS	56%	11%	11%	22%	36
POR	52%	7%	26%	15%	54
CAN	42%	17%	20%	20%	59
SPA	36%	18%	21%	25%	28
JAP	33%	15%	15%	37%	27
TON	26%	21%	26%	26%	19
HKG	3	2	3	3	11
MOR	3			1	4
NIU		1			1
PNG	6	2	5		13
COO	7	2	2	1	12
UAE	3		1	1	5
URU	2		3	1	6
BRA	1			2	3

2.4 BUILD-UP TO TRIES

RUCK / MAULS

The table shows how many **rucks / mauls** preceded each try scored in the tournament.

The table shows that **70%** of tries were preceded by **not a single ruck or maul**.

	%	CUMULATIVE %
None	70%	70%
1 rucks / mauls	18%	88%
2+ rucks / mauls	12%	100%

PASSES

The next table shows the total number of **passes** that preceded each try scored in the tournament.

The table shows that **56%** of tries were preceded by **3 or fewer passes**.

The above percentages were similar in both pool and knockout stages..

	%	CUMULATIVE %
No passes	11%	11%
1 - 3 passes	45%	56%
4 - 6 passes	23%	79%
7+ passes	21%	100%

	POOL	KNOCKOUT
No Rucks	69%	71%
< 3 passes	56%	55%



The percentage of tries both scored and conceded with no rucks in the build-up - and the percentage of tries scored with 3 or fewer passes - are in the table below. It shows, 84% of tries scored by **Fiji** contained no rucks in the build-up, while 79% of tries conceded by **South Africa** contained no rucks. It also shows, 63% of tries scored by **Fiji** contained 3 or fewer passes in the build-up, compared with 43% by **USA**.

	% OF TRIES WITH NO RUCKS			% OF TRIES WITH 3 OR FEWER PASSES	
	TRIES SCORED		TRIES CONCEDED	TRIES SCORED	
 FJI	84%	 NZL	61%	 FJI	63%
 USA	74%	 FJI	63%	 KEN	61%
 SAM	72%	 ENG	68%	 AUS	58%
 AUS	72%	 WAL	69%	 FRA	58%
 SCO	72%	 SCO	70%	 NZL	55%
 KEN	70%	 ARG	70%	 RSA	55%
 NZL	70%	 Av	70%	 ARG	53%
	Av		70%	 USA	71%
 FRA	69%	 KEN	71%	 ENG	53%
 WAL	68%	 AUS	72%	 WAL	52%
 ENG	64%	 FRA	73%	 SAM	51%
 RSA	61%	 SAM	75%	 SCO	49%
 ARG	60%	 RSA	79%	 USA	43%
 RUS	94%	 MOR	42%	 NIU	100%
 SPA	93%	 COO	44%	 BRA	100%
 JAP	70%	 CAN	50%	 HKG	82%
 TON	63%	 TON	52%	 COO	75%
 POR	57%	 JAP	60%	 MOR	75%
 CAN	56%	 PNG	65%	 TON	68%
 ZIM	50%	 URU	65%	 JAP	67%
 COO	42%	 NIU	67%	 PNG	62%
 HKG	64%	 HKG	72%	 CAN	61%
 MOR	75%	 ZIM	74%	 UAE	60%
 NIU	100%	 POR	76%	 SPA	57%
 PNG	54%	 UAE	76%	 POR	56%
 UAE	80%	 BRA	79%	 RUS	56%
 URU	67%	 RUS	82%	 ZIM	53%
 BRA	67%	 SPA	100%	 URU	50%

3. BALL IN PLAY & POSSESSION

In a sevens match, the ball is in play for around 50% of the time - with each team averaging 3m 34s possession per match.

There was a considerable variation between the possession achieved by the various teams. This is shown in the following table which gives the average possession times and proportion of possession percentages achieved by each team and their opponents throughout the series:

As seen in the table, there were some measurable differences. **New Zealand** averaged the highest possession per match with 3m 58s, with **France** only averaging 3m 17s.

South Africa achieved the highest proportion of possession with 54%, followed closely by **USA, Australia, Scotland and Wales**.

Of the core teams, **France** had the least proportion of possession compared to their opponents averaging only 46%.



	BALL IN PLAY
AVERAGE	7m 08s or 51%
HIGHEST B-I-P	9m 59s or 71%
LOWEST B-I-P	4m 54s or 35%
AVERAGE PER TEAM	3m 34s

	OWN AVERAGE POSSESSION	%	OPPONENTS AVERAGE POSSESSION	%
SA	3m 49s	54%	3m 12s	46%
USA	3m 34s	53%	3m 12s	47%
AUS	3m 43s	52%	3m 29s	48%
SCO	3m 43s	52%	3m 29s	48%
WAL	3m 47s	52%	3m 27s	48%
ENG	3m 37s	51%	3m 29s	49%
NZL	3m 58s	51%	3m 48s	49%
SAM	3m 37s	51%	3m 30s	49%
ARG	3m 42s	50%	3m 43s	50%
KEN	3m 33s	49%	3m 42s	51%
FJI	3m 19s	48%	3m 39s	52%
FRA	3m 17s	46%	3m 51s	54%
POR	3m 45s	51%	3m 37s	49%
CAN	3m 26s	50%	3m 23s	50%
SPA	3m 26s	50%	3m 29s	50%
TON	3m 22s	49%	3m 32s	51%
ZIM	3m 09s	46%	3m 42s	54%
JAP	3m 07s	46%	3m 38s	54%
RUS	3m 23s	46%	3m 56s	54%
URU	2m 54s	41%	4m 13s	59%
HKG	4m 03s	54%	3m 24s	46%
NIU	3m 11s	47%	3m 37s	53%
PNG	3m 10s	47%	3m 37s	53%
UAE	3m 07s	43%	4m 13s	58%
BRA	2m 37s	43%	3m 25s	57%
COO	2m 49s	42%	3m 51s	58%
MOR	2m 49s	41%	4m 01s	59%

4.0 ACTIVITY

4.1 PASSING

The average number of passes in a game was **68**. The average number of passes by a team was **34** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

RATES & AVERAGES

The table shows major differences between the teams. Such differences can however partly be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team – more possession means more passes. If possession is taken into account, therefore, the rate at which each country passed the ball can be far closer.

Samoa had the highest passing rates ie passes pre minute and **France** had the lowest.

PASSING MOVEMENTS

Of these passing movements:

- 29% comprised 1 pass
- 27% comprised 2 passes
- 20% comprised 3 passes
- 11% comprised 4 passes
- 13% comprised 5 or more passes

Most teams fell into this profile – ie around 56% of their passing movements contained 2 or fewer passes. Where major differences arose, these were seen in the more lengthy passing movements. Of all passing movements, **1 in 7.7** contained 5+ passes.

Certain teams were far more inclined to continue passing than others. This is shown in the attached table which notes the proportion of 5+ pass movements to total number of passing movements made by each country.

Fiji were the most likely to make a 5+ passing movement, **Australia** were least likely.

PASSES	
68	
9.4	
34	

	PASSING RATE	AVERAGE PASSES	5+ PASSING movement	
SAM	10.6	39	FJI 1 in 5.6	
USA	9.9	37	NZL 6.2	
SCO	9.8	37	USA 6.6	
ARG	9.6	36	SCO 6.8	
KEN	9.6	34	SAM 7.2	
WAL	9.5	36	ENG 7.4	
Av 9.4		FRA 7.5		
NZL	9.1	36	KEN 7.6	
SA	9.1	35	WAL 7.7	
AUS	9.0	34	Av 7.7	
ENG	9.0	33	ARG 9.6	
FJI	9.0	30	RSA 10.5	
FRA	8.7	29	AUS 11.2	
ZIM	11.0	35	URU 4.0	
PNG	10.9	35	HKG 5.0	
MOR	10.6	30	ZIM 5.7	
UAE	10.5	33	RUS 5.8	
NIU	10.4	33	PNG 6.3	
HKG	10.0	42	JAP 7.0	
COO	9.7	28	MOR 7.3	
URU	9.6	28	BRA 8.5	
JAP	9.5	30	SPA 9.7	
RUS	9.4	32	CAN 9.8	
BRA	9.2	24	POR 10.0	
SPA	9.1	32	COO 10.7	
TON	8.9	30	TON 10.8	
CAN	8.7	30	UAE 12.2	
POR	8.3	31	NIU 37.0	

4.2 RUCKS & MAULS

The average number of rucks and mauls in a game was **18**. The average number of ruck and mauls by a team was **9** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

RATES & AVERAGES

The table below shows major differences in the average number of rucks created by each team. Some of this can be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team. If this is taken into account, the rate at which each country rucked is far closer, as also shown in the table. This expresses rucks as 'rucks per minute possession'.

Australia had the highest rucking rate and **Fiji** had the lowest.

RUCK SUCCESS

At the breakdown, the team taking in the ball retained possession by either winning the ball or being awarded a penalty on **84%** of occasions.

The percentage success rate of each team in attack and defence is shown above. In Attack **South Africa** had the highest success at own rucks while **France** had least. In defence, **New Zealand** had the highest success at opponent's rucks, while **Kenya** had the least.



	AVERAGE RUCKS
	RUCK RATE PER TEAM
	AVERAGE PER TEAM

SUCCESS %

	RUCKS
	18
	2.6
	9
	84%
	RUCKING RATE
AUS	3.5
SA	3.1
ARG	3.0
WAL	2.7
KEN	2.6
FRA	2.5
SAM	2.5
USA	2.5
ENG	2.4
SCO	2.4
Av	2.4
NZL	2.1
FJI	1.5
BRA	4.0
NIU	3.9
HKG	2.9
POR	2.9
JAP	2.6
UAE	2.6
CAN	2.4
TON	2.4
RUS	2.3
COO	2.2
PNG	2.2
SPA	2.2
MOR	2.1
URU	2.1
ZIM	2.0
	AVERAGE RUCKS
RSA	89%
FJI	88%
NZL	87%
AUS	85%
SAM	85%
ARG	84%
ENG	84%
USA	84%
Av	84%
SCO	83%
WAL	83%
KEN	82%
FRA	79%
UAE	93%
POR	88%
TON	88%
RUS	85%
PNG	85%
SPA	83%
CAN	82%
JAP	82%
MOR	80%
ZIM	80%
HKG	77%
NIU	77%
COO	76%
BRA	76%
URU	64%
	SUCCESS % OWN RUCKS
	SUCCESS % OPP RUCKS

NUMBER OF PLAYERS COMMITTED TO RUCKS – ATTACK & DEFENCE

What is noticeable is that there are clear differences in the approach of the various countries in committing players to the breakdown. It can be seen in the table below, that in attack, **USA** committed more than one player on 13% of occasions while **Fiji** committed more than one player on only 5% of occasions. In defence, **Argentina** committed more than 1 player on 10% of occasions.

	(1) ATTACK		(2) DEFENCE					
	1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS	NO PLAYER	1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS			
	FJI	95%	5%		ENG	35%	60%	5%
	SAM	95%	5%		SCO	31%	65%	4%
	ARG	94%	6%		FRA	30%	65%	5%
	AUS	94%	6%		NZL	30%	65%	4%
	RSA	94%	6%		USA	29%	66%	5%
	NZL	93%	7%		RSA	28%	65%	7%
	SCO	93%	7%		AUS	27%	66%	7%
	WAL	93%	7%		WAL	27%	70%	2%
	Av	92%		Av	25%			
	KEN	91%	9%		FJI	24%	70%	6%
	ENG	90%	10%		KEN	24%	69%	7%
	FRA	89%	11%		SAM	23%	70%	7%
	USA	87%	13%		ARG	19%	71%	10%
	URU	100%	0%		UAE	47%	53%	0%
	COO	97%	3%		BRA	33%	67%	0%
	UAE	95%	5%		CAN	30%	64%	6%
	POR	94%	6%		MOR	25%	69%	6%
	JAP	93%	7%		POR	24%	73%	3%
	RUS	93%	7%		ZIM	23%	70%	7%
	SPA	93%	7%		COO	18%	77%	5%
	TON	93%	7%		JAP	16%	77%	7%
	NIU	92%	8%		SPA	16%	81%	4%
	ZIM	92%	8%		TON	14%	77%	9%
	HKG	91%	9%		NIU	13%	80%	7%
	BRA	90%	10%		RUS	13%	80%	8%
	MOR	90%	10%		URU	13%	87%	0%
	CAN	89%	11%		HKG	9%	81%	9%
	PNG	88%	12%		PNG	9%	75%	16%

4.3 KICKS

Kicks comprise all kicks made in general play including punts, chips, ground (i.e. football kick) and grubber kicks. The average number of kicks in a game was **2.4**.

As can be seen in the table, **Argentina, England, France** and **Kenya** were most likely to kick while **New Zealand** kicked the least.

There were a wide variety of kicks - 38% were **punt** kicks, 26% were **chip** kicks, 17% were **ground** kicks and 19% were **grubber** kicks.



	KICKS
AVERAGE KICKS	2.4
AVERAGE PER TEAM	1.2

	AVERAGE KICKS	TOTAL PUNTS	TOTAL CHIPS	TOTAL GROUND	TOTAL GRUBBER
ARG	1.9	61%	13%	18%	8%
ENG	1.8	52%	22%	22%	5%
FRA	1.4	51%	34%	10%	5%
KEN	1.3	50%	22%	13%	15%
Av	1.2	49%	35%	8%	8%
FJI	1.1	43%	4%	13%	39%
SCO	1.1	42%	24%	14%	20%
SAM	1.1	42%	20%	12%	27%
RSA	0.9	Av	38%		
AUS	0.7	FJI	31%	26%	17%
USA	0.5	FRA	31%	19%	35%
WAL	0.4	ARG	30%	21%	15%
NZL	0.2	SCO	23%	43%	20%
UAE	2.4	RUS	67%	13%	7%
TON	2	ZIM	41%	30%	19%
SPA	1.8	CAN	32%	44%	16%
MOR	1.8	TON	32%	36%	5%
PNG	1.8	JAP	18%	12%	12%
URU	1.8	SPA	11%	50%	22%
COO	1.5	POR	10%	10%	29%
BRA	1.4	COO	3	2	1
ZIM	1.2	HKG	1	1	1
CAN	1.1	MOR	5	1	3
RUS	1.0	NIU	1		
POR	0.8	PNG	5	3	3
JAP	0.8	UAE	5	5	1
HKG	0.6	URU	2	2	3
NIU	0.2	BRA	3	2	2

5. RESTARTS, SCRUMS & LINEOUTS

Restarts are the most common set pieces in sevens rugby with an average of 6 restarts per match. Restarts have been classified into 2 types, contestable and non-contestable:

70% of restarts kicks were **contestable** (kicked short) & **30%** of restarts kicks were **non-contestable** (kicked long)

Retention rates reflect the number of times that possession was retained at contestable restarts – they varied considerably. Overall, of all contestable restarts, the kicking team regained **1 in 2.9**.

Samoa kicked the highest percentage of contestable restarts, and together with **Argentina** and **South Africa** were the most successful in regaining own short restarts. **England** were most likely to kick a non contestable restart.

There was a restart error once in every **17** restarts. **USA** made a restart error 1 in every **8.8**.



	AVERAGE	RESTARTS	SCRUMS	LINEOUTS
	SUCCESS %	6	4	2
SAM	1 in 2.9	85%	15%	
ARG	1 in 2.5	82%	18%	
RSA	1 in 2.6	82%	18%	
WAL	1 in 2.8	77%	23%	
ENG	1 in 2.9	77%	23%	
KEN	1 in 2.9	76%	24%	
SCO	1 in 2.9	75%	25%	
Av	1 in 2.9	70%	30%	
NZL	1 in 3.1	62%	38%	
FJI	1 in 3.2	60%	40%	
USA	1 in 3.4	58%	42%	
FRA	1 in 3.5	58%	42%	
AUS	1 in 3.8	56%	44%	
HKG	1 in 1.2	96%	4%	
SPA	1 in 1.8	80%	20%	
CAN	1 in 2.6	76%	24%	
ZIM	1 in 2.7	71%	29%	
POR	1 in 2.7	70%	30%	
TON	1 in 2.7	65%	35%	
NIU	1 in 3.0	54%	46%	
JAP	1 in 3.2	100%	0%	
URU	1 in 4.0	50%	50%	
PNG	1 in 4.3	46%	54%	
BRA	1 in 8.0	75%	25%	
UAE	1 in 8.0	33%	67%	
COO	1 in 8.0	63%	38%	
MOR	1 in 8.0	40%	60%	
RUS	1 in 11.0	82%	18%	

Overall Scrum success was 94% and overall Lineout success was 74%. Because of the relatively few lineouts by some teams, applying percentages can be misleading. The following table shows the success rates for each team on their own put/throw in and on their opposition's put/throw in. **New Zealand and USA** won 99% of their scrum put ins and **Australia** won 87% of their lineout throw ins.

	SCRUM	LINEOUT
	OWN	OWN
	NZL 99%	AUS 87%
	USA 99%	NZL 86%
	ENG 98%	RSA 85%
	SAM 98%	USA 85%
	WAL 98%	SAM 84%
	ARG 97%	ENG 80%
	RSA 95%	Av 74%
	FJI 94%	ARG 73%
	FRA 94%	FJI 67%
Av 94%		FRA 67%
	AUS 91%	WAL 67%
	SCO 91%	SCO 65%
	KEN 90%	KEN 53%
	RUS 100%	RUS 80%
	CAN 98%	POR 78%
	ZIM 97%	ZIM 76%
	SPA 95%	SPA 67%
	JAP 92%	TON 67%
	POR 90%	CAN 59%
	TON 88%	JAP 44%
	BRA 5/8	BRA 6/7
	MOR 9/11	COO 1/1
	NIU 75%	HKG 6/8
	PNG 75%	MOR 1/1
	COO 11/13	NIU 1/3
	UAE 11/11	UAE 2/3
	URU 6/7	URU 8/8
	HKG 100%	PNG 1/1



6. PENALTIES & FREE KICKS

The average number of penalties and free kicks per game (not including restart errors) was 6.

What needs to be noted that absolute statistics and averages do not necessarily reflect the true degree of discipline or ill-discipline of a particular team.

The number of penalties can, for example, vary from match to match. Some referees penalise more than others. A better and probably more accurate indicator, therefore, is the proportion of penalties conceded by a team in all their matches compared with their opponents. Each team's proportion for and against can be seen in the following table together with the totals. It shows that **6 teams** were awarded more penalties than they conceded.

Of the core teams, **Australia** and **South Africa** were penalised the least. Conversely, **Kenya** were penalised the most.

Of all penalties awarded, **70%** were awarded at the breakdown, with **60%** of the penalties **FOR** the attacking team and **40% AGAINST** the attacking team. Of penalty/free kick options, **84%** were tap kicks.



	PENS & FKS AGAINST	PENS & FKS FOR	PENS & FKS AGAINST
	AVERAGE	%	%
AUS	2.6	59%	41%
RSA	2.6	58%	42%
WAL	3.0	53%	47%
NZL	3.0	52%	48%
SCO	3.0	52%	48%
ENG	3.1	51%	49%
USA	2.5	50%	50%
FRA	3.0	48%	52%
FJI	3.3	46%	54%
SAM	2.9	46%	54%
ARG	3.0	45%	55%
KEN	3.1	45%	55%
TON	2.9	57%	43%
CAN	2.9	54%	46%
ZIM	2.5	53%	47%
POR	3.1	49%	51%
SPA	3.4	47%	53%
JAP	3.5	44%	56%
RUS	3.0	40%	60%
BRA	4.2	38%	62%
COO	2.0	61%	39%
HKG	3.0	45%	55%
MOR	2.8	42%	58%
NIU	3.6	36%	64%
UAE	2.4	43%	57%
URU	4.3	34%	66%
PNG	2.8	50%	50%

7. CARDS

There were **93** yellow cards and **4** red card issued - a yellow card was issued, on average, once in every 4.2 matches. The number of yellow/red cards per team and the reasons for the cards were as follows:



	YELLOW + RED CARDS	OFFENCES
FJI	10 + 1	8 x Dangerous Tackle 1 x Deliberate Knock on 1 x Ruck 1 x Offside
KEN	11	4 x Ruck 2 x Unsportsmanlike 2 x Not 10m 2 x Deliberate Knock on 1 x Dangerous Tackle
SAM	8 + 1	3 x Dangerous Tackle 2 x Not 10m 3 x Punching 1 x Charge
FRA	8	2 x Dangerous Tackle 2 x Unsportsmanlike 2 x Ruck 1 x Offside 1 x Dangerous Play
RSA	8	3 x Dangerous Tackle 1 x Deliberate Knock on 1 x Ruck 1 x Unsportsmanlike 2 x Not 10m
NZL	7	2 x Dangerous Tackle 3 x Deliberate Knock on 2 x Ruck
SCO	6	2 x Offside 1 x Dangerous Tackle 1 x Not 10m 1 x Obstruction 1 x Charge
ENG	4 + 1	2 x Ruck 1 x Deliberate Knock on 1 x Tripping 1 x Obstruction
AUS	5	1 x Unsportsmanlike 1 x Dangerous Tackle 1 x Obstruction 2 x Ruck
USA	3	1 x Dangerous Play 2 x Dangerous Tackle
ARG	3	1 x Ruck 1 x Dangerous Tackle 1 x Obstruction
WAL	2	2 x Obstruction
CAN	5	1 x Dangerous Tackle 2 x Deliberate knock on 1 x Offside 1 x Ruck
JAP	3 + 1	2 x Dangerous Tackle 1 x Unsportsmanlike 1 x Ruck
MOR	2	2 x Ruck
PNG	2	1 x Deliberate Knock on 1 x Dangerous Tackle
RUS	1	1 x Not 10m
SPA	1	1 x Ruck
COO	1	1 x Dangerous play
ZIM	1	1 x Unsportsmanlike
NIU	1	1 x Foul
TON	1	1 x Unsportsmanlike
BRA	0	
HKG	0	
UAE	0	
URU	0	
POR	0	