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Performance Portfolio

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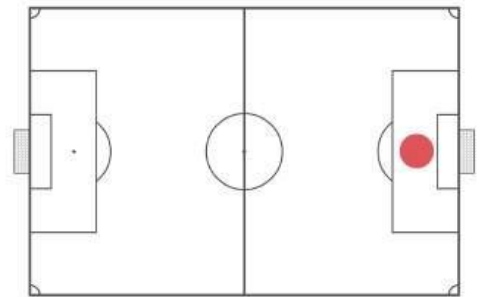
INTRODUCTION

Professional athletes' performance evaluations are typically multidimensional and complex, requiring careful consideration of a variety of factors and metrics. This report aims to conduct an in-depth analysis of one such athlete, Karim Benzema, a professional footballer who has profoundly impacted the sport. The objective is to delve into the intricacies of Benzema's performance, focusing on his key characteristics, their role in his effectiveness, and their relative importance. A range of informative metrics are utilised to support the evaluation, ultimately projecting the future performance of this esteemed athlete based on current trends and additional influencing factors. Through a thorough examination of Benzema's performance, this report intends to provide a holistic understanding of his success and potential trajectory in the professional football landscape.

ATHLETE'S PROFILE



Age 35 19/12/1987	Birth Country  France	Position FW Striker
Strong Foot  Right	Height 183 cm	Weight 78 Kg



Karim Benzema, a 35-year-old forward currently with Al Ittihad Jeddah, has distinguished himself in football with an illustrious career marked by high-profile successes. Benzema's extensive accolades, including being named La Liga Best Player twice, Ligue 1 Male Player of the Year, and French Player of the Year four times, highlight his exceptional skill and influence on the field. Known for his versatile play, he has made significant contributions to his teams, leading to eight Domestic League Championships and five Champions League titles.

CAREER OVERVIEW

Season	Squad	Country	Comp	Domestic Leagues				Domestic Cups				International Cups			
				MP	Min	Gls	Ast	MP	Min	Gls	Ast	MP	Min	Gls	Ast
2017-2018	Real Madrid	ESP	La Liga	32	2,150	5	10	3	237	2	0	10	682	5	0
2018-2019	Real Madrid	ESP	La Liga	36	2,953	21	6	6	454	4	1	9	702	5	2
2019-2020	Real Madrid	ESP	La Liga	37	3,141	21	8	3	182	1	1	8	644	5	2
2020-2021	Real Madrid	ESP	La Liga	34	2,894	23	9	2	141	1	0	10	840	6	0
2021-2022	Real Madrid	ESP	La Liga	32	2,593	27	12	2	210	2	1	12	1,102	15	1
2022-2023	Real Madrid	ESP	La Liga	24	2,038	19	3	7	688	6	1	11	834	5	1

The following Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been identified to conduct a comprehensive analysis of Karim Benzema's performance. Each KPI is selected for its relevance to his role as a forward and his specific strengths and style of play:

Offensive Production:

1. **Goals:** A direct measure of a forward's effectiveness, representing the number of goals Benzema scores per game or season.
2. **Assists:** Reflects Benzema's ability to create opportunities for his teammates, calculated as the number of assists he contributes per game or season.
3. **Shots:** Measures the number of attempts Benzema has made to score. It is a good indicator of his involvement in offensive play and how often he is in scoring positions.
4. **Shots on Target:** A direct measure of Benzema's accuracy. A high percentage suggests a player who often tests the goalkeeper or scores.
5. **Conversion Rate:** Measures the percentage of Benzema's shots on goal that result in goals.
6. **Touches in Penalty Area:** The number of times Benzema touches the ball within the opponent's penalty area, a measure of his positioning in key scoring areas.

Build Up and Individual Skill:

7. **Passes:** It reflects how often Benzema is involved in his team's build-up play. It measures the total number of passes he makes per game or season, with a higher number suggesting a more involved player.
8. **Key Passes:** The number of passes made by Benzema that led directly to a shot by a teammate.
9. **Progressive Passes:** The number of forward passes made by Benzema that advance the ball towards the opponent's goal.
10. **Progressive Carries:** The number of times Benzema carries the ball towards the opponent's goal.
11. **Shot Creation Action:** Tracks how often Benzema creates scoring opportunities that do not necessarily result in an assist, such as key passes leading to a shot on goal.
12. **Goal Creation Actions:** Measures how often Benzema's actions result in a goal, whether through an assist, winning a penalty, or forcing an own goal. It is a measure of how influential he is in creating goals for his team.
13. **Successful Dribbles:** A measure of Benzema's skill and creativity on the ball, representing how often he successfully dribbles past opponents.
14. **Crosses:** The number of times Benzema delivers the ball from the side into the box, a potential scoring opportunity.
15. **Aerial Won%:** A measure of Benzema's physicality and effectiveness in the air, calculated as the percentage of aerial duels won.

Defensive and Discipline:

16. **Tackles:** This metric counts the number of times Benzema successfully challenges an opponent in possession of the ball, disrupting their attack.
17. **Interceptions:** This is the number of times Benzema successfully intercepts a pass from the opposing team, preventing their progress and potentially launching a counterattack.
18. **Ball Recoveries:** A measure of Benzema's work rate and defensive contribution, reflecting how often he regains possession of the ball.
19. **Offsides:** Indicates how well Benzema times his runs and positions himself by tracking how often he is caught offside.
20. **Possession Lost:** A measure of Benzema's decision-making and ball control, calculated as the number of times he loses possession of the ball.

Each of these KPIs will be analysed in detail in the following sections to provide a comprehensive view of Benzema's performance.

RANKINGS

Big 5 European League Weighted Ranking

Last 3 years (2022, 2021, and 2020)

Weightage Criteria:- 2022 - 50%

2021 - 30%

2020 - 20%

Position Included - FW, DF-FW, FW-MF, MF-FW, FW-DF

Minutes Played - Greater than 1868 min (Avg Minutes)

Passes	Total	Accuracy %
1 Lionel Messi	2003	81.5
2 Benjamin Bourigeaud	1968	73.8
3 Sergio Canales	1656	79.9
4 Bernardo Silva	1651	86.9
5 Ridle Baku	1474	76.7
17 Mohamed Salah	1194	77.6
18 Karim Benzema	1156	84.9
19 Domenico Berardi	1137	70.6

Conversion Rate	Goals/Shots
1 Ryan Sessegnon	0.40
2 Wissam Ben Yedder	0.32
3 Erling Haaland	0.31
4 Moussa Koné	0.29
5 Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting	0.29
71 Loïs Openda	0.20
72 Karim Benzema	0.20
73 Phil Foden	0.20

Crosses	Total	per 90
1 Benjamin Bourigeaud	249	7.63
2 Filip Kostić	224	11.90
3 Florian Kainz	202	10.64
4 Franck Honorat	200	6.86
5 Jonas Hofmann	171	7.03
566 Florian Niederlechner	8	0.48
567 Karim Benzema	8	0.29
568 Marko Arnautović	8	0.52

Key Passes	Total	per 90
1 Benjamin Bourigeaud	97	2.99
2 Jonas Hofmann	82	3.36
3 Lionel Messi	81	2.72
4 Franck Honorat	75	2.57
5 Iago Aspas	71	2.17
30 Gerard Deulofeu	50	3.07
31 Karim Benzema	50	1.80
32 Aleksandr Golovin	50	2.67

Aerials Won	Won %
1 Adam Ounas	90.6
2 Alexis Claude-Maurice	89.3
3 Sam Lammers	88.7
4 Chris Wood	86.9
5 Andy Delort	86.6
127 Kingsley Coman	45.4
128 Karim Benzema	45.3
129 Lautaro Martínez	45.3

Possession Lost	Total
1 Ivan Perišić	1
2 Pavel Kaderábek	1
3 Andreas Bruus	2
4 Robert Skov	2
5 Matías Viña	2
589 Niclas Füllkrug	29
590 Karim Benzema	29
591 Patrick Wimmer	29

Goals	Total	per 90	xG
1 Robert Lewandowski	30	0.99	28.4
2 Erling Haaland	30	1.10	24.3
3 Kylian Mbappé	28	0.92	24.7
4 Harry Kane	25	0.67	20.4
5 Karim Benzema	22	0.85	21.6
6 Wissam Ben Yedder	21	0.81	18.0
7 Mohamed Salah	21	0.61	21.5
8 Lautaro Martínez	20	0.73	18.4

Shots	Total	per 90	xG/Shot
1 Robert Lewandowski	139	4	0.20
2 Kylian Mbappé	135	4	0.18
3 Lionel Messi	129	4	0.12
4 Harry Kane	127	3	0.16
5 Mohamed Salah	124	4	0.17
6 Lautaro Martínez	118	4	0.16
7 Karim Benzema	109	4	0.20
8 Victor Osimhen	107	4	0.15

Shot Creation Action	Total	per 90
1 Lionel Messi	194	6.52
2 Benjamin Bourigeaud	160	4.77
3 Vinicius Júnior	152	5.12
4 Bukayo Saka	150	4.48
5 Kylian Mbappé	147	4.72
24 Bruno Fernandes	110	2.97
25 Karim Benzema	109	4.20
26 Rafael Leão	109	4.07

Progressive Passes	Total	per 90
1 Lionel Messi	304	10.25
2 Benjamin Bourigeaud	231	7.07
3 Sergio Canales	183	6.42
4 Harry Kane	159	4.43
5 Neymar	156	8.77
6 Ludovic Blas	147	4.64
7 Florian Sotoca	146	4.97
8 Karim Benzema	145	5.20

Touches in Penalty Area	Total	per 90
1 Mohamed Salah	296	2.92
2 Kylian Mbappé	289	3.17
3 Vinicius Júnior	223	2.69
4 Robert Lewandowski	219	2.39
5 Bukayo Saka	211	2.18
6 Karim Benzema	198	2.37
7 Erling Haaland	188	2.38
8 Gaëtan Laborde	184	1.82

Tackles	Total	Won
1 Joëlinton	63	40
2 Felipe Anderson	62	39
3 Kevin Agudelo	57	32
4 Jordan Ayew	55	35
5 Ridle Baku	54	30
492 Borna Sosa	9	6
493 Karim Benzema	9	6
494 Romain Hamouma	9	5

Offside	Total
1 Álex Fernández	0
2 Charalambos Lykogiannis	0
3 Cristian Ansaldi	0
4 David Pereira da Costa	0
5 Gabriel Strefezza	0
746 Emmanuel Gyasi	23
747 Karim Benzema	25
748 Dušan Vlahović	26

Assists	Total	per 90	xA
1 Lionel Messi	14	0.49	11.2
2 Mohamed Salah	11	0.32	8.1
3 Antoine Griezmann	11	0.36	9.0
4 Moussa Diaby	10	0.33	8.2
5 Benjamin Bourigeaud	10	0.28	10.6
27 Karim Benzema	7	0.25	6.2
28 James Maddison	7	0.25	6.6
28 Julian Brandt	7	0.28	6.4

Shots on Target	Total	Target %
1 Kylian Mbappé	64	47.3
2 Robert Lewandowski	62	44.1
3 Lionel Messi	53	40.0
4 Harry Kane	51	40.2
5 Lautaro Martínez	47	39.9
6 Mohamed Salah	46	37.3
7 Erling Haaland	45	46.0
8 Karim Benzema	43	39.0

Goal Creation Action	Total	per 90
1 Lionel Messi	32	1.10
2 Kylian Mbappé	29	0.93
3 Mohamed Salah	23	0.67
4 Bukayo Saka	22	0.64
5 Harry Kane	21	0.57
37 Iago Aspas	14	0.42
38 Karim Benzema	14	0.50
39 Gabriel Jesus	14	0.61

Progressive Carries	Total	per 90
1 Vinicius Júnior	203	7.34
2 Kylian Mbappé	178	5.85
3 Jack Grealish	152	6.66
4 Bukayo Saka	149	4.60
5 Moses Simon	136	5.25
53 Neymar	84	4.71
54 Karim Benzema	84	3.01
55 Serge Gnabry	83	3.90

Successful Dribbles	Total	Success %
1 Lionel Messi	102	60.0
2 Vinicius Júnior	93	42.8
3 Allan Saint-Maximin	93	60.7
4 Kylian Mbappé	89	44.7
5 Adama Traoré	87	82.7
155 Gelson Martins	29	42.0
156 Karim Benzema	29	56.5
157 Óscar Trejo	29	24.2

Interceptions	Total
1 Joëlinton	36
2 Remi Oudin	33
3 Álvaro García	30
4 Jarrod Bowen	29
5 Benjamin Bourigeaud	28
480 Ivan Perišić	4
481 Karim Benzema	4
482 Lucas Vázquez	4

Ball Recoveries	Total
1 Joëlinton	174
2 Ludovic Blas	173
3 Jack Harrison	169
4 Benjamin Bourigeaud	165
5 Ridle Baku	162
406 Gauthier Hein	45
407 Karim Benzema	45
408 André Hahn	44

2022 La Liga Ranking		
Position Included - FW, DF-FW, FW-MF, MF-FW, FW-DF		
Minutes Played - Greater than 1051 minutes (Avg Minutes)		

Passing	Total	Accuracy %
1 Federico Valverde	1641	87.0
2 Antoine Griezmann	1597	77.4
3 Moi Gómez	1559	84.3
4 Sergio Canales	1474	75.7
5 Isaac Palazón Camacho	1376	71.1
14 Lee Kangin	1103	70.0
15 Karim Benzema	1070	86.4
16 Rodrygo	1050	87.4

Conversion Rate	Goals/Shots
1 Cristhian Stuani	0.31
2 Nicolas Jackson	0.29
3 Borja Iglesias	0.26
4 Mikel Oyarzabal	0.25
5 El Bilal Touré	0.24
9 Ángel Correa	0.21
10 Karim Benzema	0.19
11 Alexander Sørloth	0.19

Crosses	Total	per 90
1 Lee Kangin	201	6.41
2 Isaac Palazón Camacho	192	5.83
3 Nico Williams	174	5.90
4 Raphinha	172	7.47
5 Álex Berenguer	162	6.35
90 Jørgen Strand Larsen	4	0.21
91 Karim Benzema	3	0.13
92 Ante Budimir	3	0.15

Key Passes	Total	per 90
1 Antoine Griezmann	84	2.64
2 Iago Aspas	83	2.60
3 Isaac Palazón Camacho	66	2.00
4 Vinicius Júnior	64	2.04
5 Raphinha	57	2.48
9 Álex Berenguer	52	2.04
10 Karim Benzema	48	2.12
11 Álvaro García	48	1.51

Aerials Won	Won %
1 Federico Valverde	73.8
2 Lucas Ocampos	65.2
3 Joselu	61.9
4 Raphinha	60.9
5 Marco Asensio	60.0
14 Alexander Sørloth	52.6
15 Karim Benzema	51.9
16 Theo Bongonda	51.9

Possession Lost	Total
1 Cristhian Stuani	6
2 Federico Valverde	7
3 El Bilal Touré	9
4 Edinson Cavani	9
5 Youssef En-Nesyri	9
50 Ante Budimir	27
51 Karim Benzema	28
52 Samu Castillejo	28

Goals	Total	per 90	xG
1 Robert Lewandowski	23	0.73	24.3
2 Karim Benzema	19	0.84	21.5
3 Joselu	16	0.48	14.5
4 Antoine Griezmann	15	0.47	12.3
5 Borja Iglesias	15	0.57	14.9
6 Vedat Muriqi	15	0.46	12.5
7 Enes Ünal	14	0.42	11.7
8 Valentín Castellanos	13	0.45	11

Shots	Total	per 90	xG/Shot
1 Robert Lewandowski	134	4.24	0.18
2 Antoine Griezmann	111	3.49	0.11
3 Karim Benzema	99	4.37	0.22
4 Rodrygo	97	3.67	0.14
5 Samuel	96	2.99	0.08
6 Isaac Palazón Camacho	91	2.76	0.08
7 Joselu	87	2.62	0.17
8 Valentín Castellanos	85	2.95	0.13

Shot Creation Action	Total	per 90
1 Antoine Griezmann	162	5.10
2 Vinicius Júnior	161	5.13
3 Iago Aspas	141	4.42
4 Rodrygo	133	5.03
5 Isaac Palazón Camacho	128	3.89
12 Óscar Trejo	103	4.32
13 Karim Benzema	102	4.50
14 Samuel	99	3.09

Progressive Passes	Total	per 90
1 Moi Gómez	184	6.75
2 Antoine Griezmann	171	5.38
3 Iago Aspas	162	5.08
4 Iker Muniain	154	8.21
5 Federico Valverde	151	5.43
6 Sergio Canales	143	5.36
7 Fidel	139	7.30
8 Karim Benzema	138	6.09

Touches in Penalty Area	Total	per 90
1 Vinicius Júnior	260	8.29
2 Robert Lewandowski	210	6.64
3 Rodrygo	204	7.72
4 Iñaki Williams	181	5.74
5 Karim Benzema	175	7.73
6 Samuel	162	5.05
7 Antoine Griezmann	153	4.82
8 Joselu	152	4.58

Tackles	Total	Won
1 Gonzalo Plata	66	35
2 Samuel	66	43
3 Yeremi Pino	62	38
4 Álex Berenguer	58	37
5 Rubén Sobrino	55	37
82 Gerard Moreno	11	6
83 Karim Benzema	9	5
84 Sergi Guardiola	9	7

Offside	Total
1 Álex Fernández	0
2 Rubén García	1
3 Moi Gómez	1
4 Iker Muniain	1
5 Iván Sánchez	1
86 Takefusa Kubo	21
87 Karim Benzema	22
88 Borja Iglesias	22

Assists	Total	per 90	xA
1 Antoine Griezmann	16	0.50	13.9
2 Vinicius Júnior	9	0.29	9.4
3 Rodrygo	8	0.30	7.0
4 Ousmane Dembélé	7	0.45	4.9
5 Robert Lewandowski	7	0.22	6.3
28 Iago Aspas	3	0.09	5.6
29 Karim Benzema	3	0.13	5.8
30 Theo Bongonda	3	0.14	3.0

Shots on Target	Total	Target %
1 Robert Lewandowski	56	41.8
2 Antoine Griezmann	44	39.6
3 Vinicius Júnior	36	46.8
4 Karim Benzema	36	36.4
5 Joselu	33	37.9
6 Samuel	33	34.4
7 Álvaro Morata	32	45.1
8 Iñaki Williams	32	38.6

Goal Creation Action	Total	per 90
1 Antoine Griezmann	26	0.82
2 Vinicius Júnior	21	0.67
3 Rodrygo	21	0.79
4 Robert Lewandowski	16	0.51
5 Samuel Chukwueze	15	0.58
36 Enes Ünal	8	0.24
37 Karim Benzema	7	0.31
38 Lucas Boyé	7	0.26

Progressive Carries	Total	per 90
1 Vinicius Júnior	221	7.05
2 Nico Williams	174	5.90
3 Rodrygo	146	5.52
4 Samuel	144	4.49
5 Samuel Chukwueze	133	5.12
20 Álex Berenguer	73	2.86
21 Karim Benzema	72	3.18
22 Federico Valverde	70	2.52

Successful Dribbles	Total	Success %
1 Vinicius Júnior	112	36.6
2 Lee Kangin	90	67.2
3 Samuel Chukwueze	86	49.1
4 Nico Williams	83	41.5
5 Rodrygo	81	47.9
58 Enes Ünal	21	48.8
59 Karim Benzema	20	45.5
60 Álvaro Morata	20	48.8

Interceptions	Total
1 Álvaro García	34
2 Óscar Plano	29
3 Antoine Griezmann	24
4 Aimar Oroz	24
5 Aitor Ruibal	24
80 Ferrán Torres	3
81 Karim Benzema	2
82 Sergio Camello	2

Ball Recovries	Total
1 Isaac Palazón Camacho	210
2 Álvaro García	184
3 Moi Gómez	176
4 Samuel	170
5 Rubén Sobrino	164
93 Ezequiel Ponce	36
94 Karim Benzema	35
95 José Luis Morales	29

Interpretation:

1. **Goals:** In both the La Liga and the Big 5 European weighted rankings, Benzema ranks highly, indicating his consistent ability to find the back of the net.
2. **Assists:** Benzema's moderate ranking suggests that he contributes to his team's goals, his primary role as a goal scorer may limit his assist opportunities.
3. **Shots:** Benzema's high ranking in both tables, coupled with his high confidence, makes him a significant threat in the attacking 3rd.
4. **Passes:** Benzema's ranking in passes (under 20 in both tables) demonstrates his active involvement in the game and contribution to the team's build-up play. Despite being a forward, his passing ability is commendable and contributes positively to the team's overall performance.
5. **Shots on Target:** Benzema's frequent testing of opposition goalkeepers, reflected in his high ranking in both tables, speaks volumes about his precision in execution and quality of shooting opportunities.
6. **Conversion Rate:** While Benzema's ranking is lower in this category (in the Big 5 European weighted ranking), his high volume of shots and goals indicates efficiency in finishing. Conversion rate can vary due to numerous factors, including the quality of chances created and the strategies employed by the team.
7. **Crosses:** As a central forward, Benzema's role primarily involves finishing crosses rather than delivering them, which is reflected in his lower ranking. However, this does not undermine his overall contribution to the team.
8. **Shot and Goal Creation Actions:** Benzema's consistent performance in creating chances highlights his role as both a finisher and a creator for his team, enhancing his value beyond just scoring goals.
9. **Progressive Passes and Carries:** Benzema's high ranking in progressive passes indicates that he is crucial in forwarding play for his team. Although he is not the primary player carrying the ball forward, his contribution is still noteworthy.
10. **Key Passes:** Benzema's frequent presence in the penalty area, is reflected in his high ranking in La Liga rankings and avg. rank in the Big 5 European weighted ranking table, signals his consistent threat in goal-scoring positions.
11. **Touches in Penalty Area:** The number of touches a player has in the opposition's penalty area can indicate their presence and involvement in dangerous areas. Benzema's high ranking in both tables signifies his ability to get into goal-scoring positions.
12. **Successful Dribbles:** While Benzema's ranking is lower, it does not necessarily indicate poor dribbling skills. Instead, it reflects his playing style and role, which is more focused on finishing attacking moves rather than initiating them.
13. **Aerial Won:** Benzema's balanced performance in aerial challenges adds another dimension to his game, making him a versatile forward capable of contesting in the air when required.
14. **Tackles and Interceptions:** Benzema's lower rankings in these defensive metrics align with his primary role as an attacker and the general expectation that forwards will not rank highly in these categories.
15. **Recoveries:** While Benzema does contribute defensively, his lower ranking in recoveries reflects his offensive focus. It is important to note that forwards are typically not expected to have high recovery numbers.
16. **Possession Lost:** Higher ball losses can be a consequence of being more involved in attacking play and taking more risks. Benzema's higher ranking in possession loss is offset by his significant contributions in other areas.
17. **Offsides:** Benzema's high number of offsides in both tables is indicative of an aggressive, forward-playing style. Although it reflects his ambition to push the boundaries of the opposition's defensive line, it is not necessarily a negative aspect of his game.

Overall, the ranking analysis provides a comprehensive perspective on the effectiveness of different athletes, with Karim Benzema standing out due to his consistently high performance across various metrics. This underlines the importance of both individual skills, such as goal scoring and passing, and team-oriented contributions, such as involvement in build-up play and defensive transitions.

Finishing & Goal Scoring Ability: One of the most prominent characteristics of Benzema is his ability to score goals. The data spanning over the last five years shows a consistent tally of goals scored per season. He has maintained an average of more than 18 goals per season over the past five years, indicating not only his ability to find the back of the net but also his consistency, which is a critical characteristic for any forward. His performance is also in line with the expected goals (xG) for each season, suggesting that he typically converts the chances he is expected to convert.



Figure 1: Benzema's goals and expected goals (xG) over the past five years.



Figure 2: K. Benzema stats compared to other field players in 2022 in LaLiga.

Additionally, Benzema's superior goal-scoring ability is also evident when we look at his goals per 90 minutes, xG per 90 minutes, shots per 90 minutes, and touches in the penalty area per 90 minutes. This indicates that Benzema is likely to score in every game he plays, further emphasising his reliability as a goal scorer.

Playmaking Ability: Benzema's playmaking ability is a prominent aspect of his game. Over the past five years, he has consistently demonstrated his skills as a playmaker, with an increase in assists in the 2021 season, totalling 12. This aligns with his expected assists (xA) data, reinforcing his effectiveness in creating scoring opportunities for his teammates. Additionally, Benzema's contribution to the team's build-up play is evident through his key passes per 90 minutes, and progressive passes per 90 minutes and his ability to move the ball forward towards the

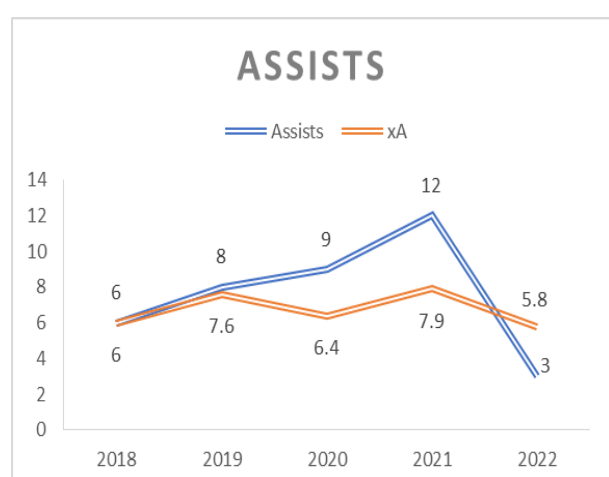


Figure 3: Benzema's assists and expected assists (xA) over the past five years

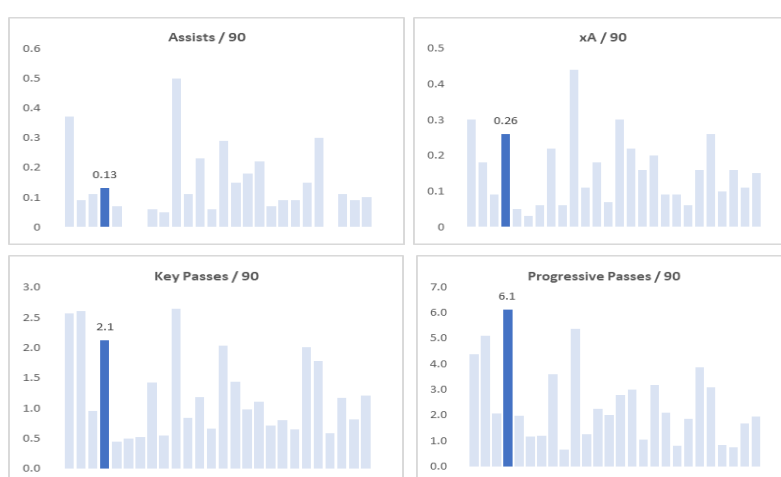


Figure 4: K. Benzema stats compared to other field players in 2022 in LaLiga.

opponent's goal greatly contributes to the team's offensive prowess. Overall, Benzema's playmaking abilities complement his goal-scoring prowess, making him a well-rounded asset to his team.

Distribution & Passing Ability: Benzema's passes per 90 minutes show he is quite involved in gameplay, often participating in the build-up, and dictating the pace of the game. Also, his passing accuracy indicates he is technically skilled and reliable on the ball, able to consistently deliver accurate passes to his teammates and

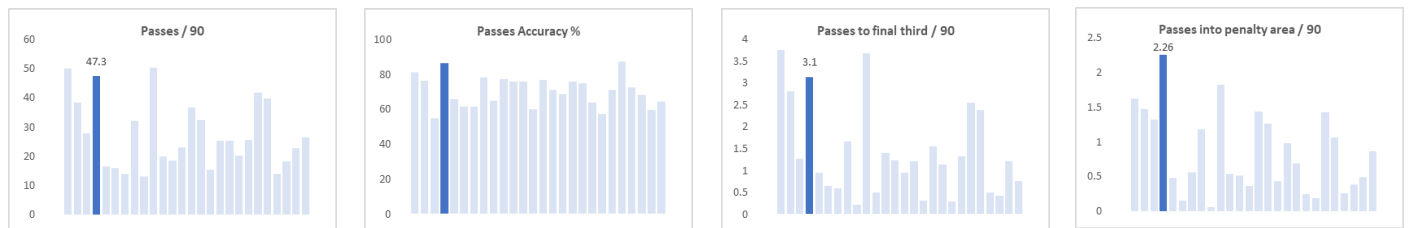


Figure 5: K. Benzema stats compared to other field players in 2022 in LaLiga.

maintain possession. Passes to the final third underlines his ability to contribute to attacking moves and break down defences which is a good indication of his creativity and vision. Moreover, passes into the penalty area show that he is not only a finisher but also contributes to creating scoring opportunities for his team by finding and exploiting gaps in the opponent's defence. Overall, Benzema has strong passing abilities that make him an effective player in his team. He is involved in the game build-up, displays high technical proficiency, and contributes to creating scoring opportunities with his accurate and creative passes.

Physical & Technical Proficiency: Benzema's agility can be seen in his ability to maintain possession under pressure and his successful take-on rate. Also, a consistent number of Ball control per 90 minutes shows his ability to involve himself in the game and contribute to the team's build-up play. While the data does not directly reflect Benzema's pace in terms of sprint speed, we can infer from his high number of touches and the consistent rate at which he takes on opponents that he possesses a good amount of speed. This is necessary to get into good positions, keep control of the ball, and navigate through defences.

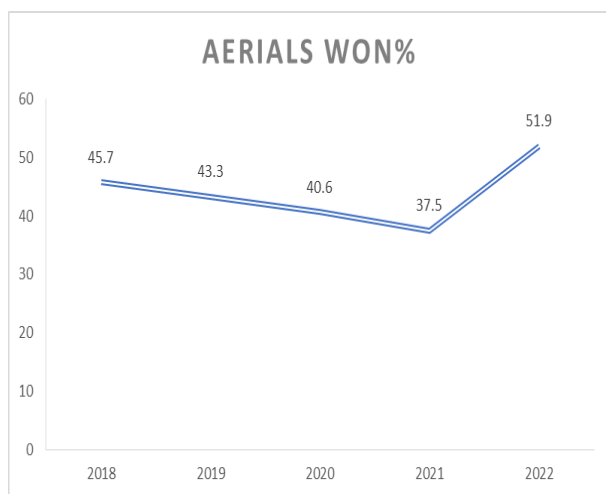


Figure 6: Benzema's aerials won % over the past five years

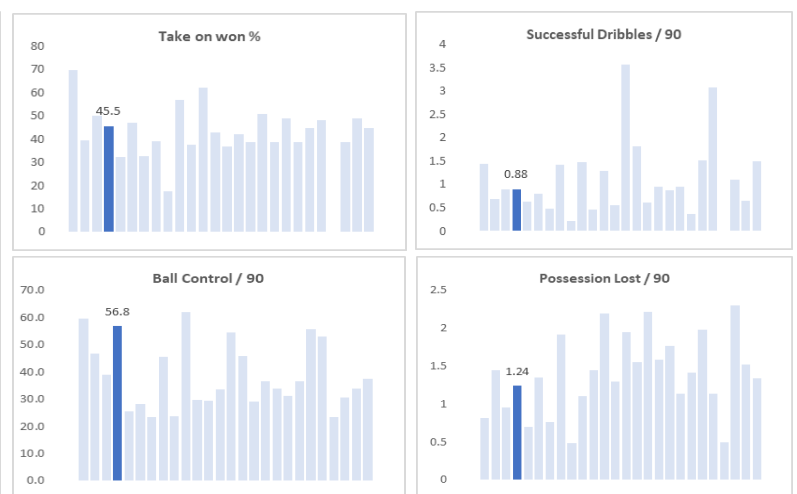


Figure 7: K. Benzema stats compared to other field players in 2022 in LaLiga

Transition Effectiveness: Benzema's performance in terms of tackles per 90 minutes, ball recoveries per 90 minutes, progressive carries per 90 minutes, and interceptions per 90 minutes reveal his ability to be an effective link between defence and attack. His moderate rate of tackles and recoveries show his skill in regaining possession, an important aspect of defensive transitions. Furthermore, his rate of progressive carries highlights his ability to drive the ball forward during offensive transitions. His interceptions per 90 minutes also indicate his defensive awareness, which can lead to sudden offensive opportunities.

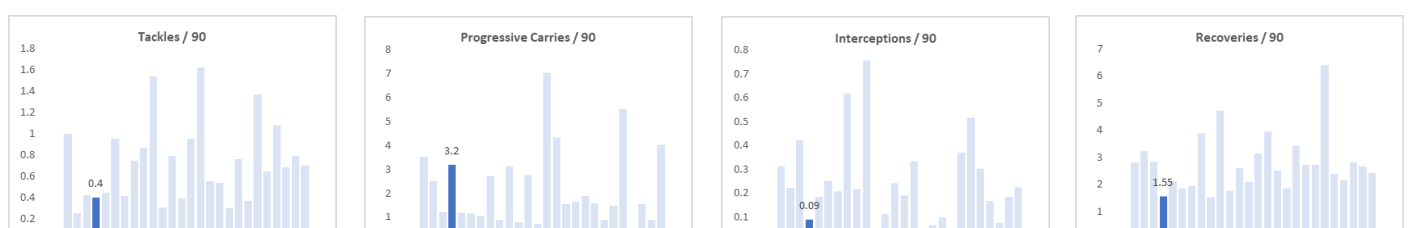


Figure 8: K. Benzema stats compared to other field players in 2022 in LaLiga

Versatility: Benzema's high rankings in different metrics like shots, shots on target, touches in the penalty area, and goal creation actions as well as his ability to hitting the target, and higher pass completion rate show his versatility as an attacker. He is not only a goal scorer but also a creator for his team, and he can pose a threat to the opposition in several ways.

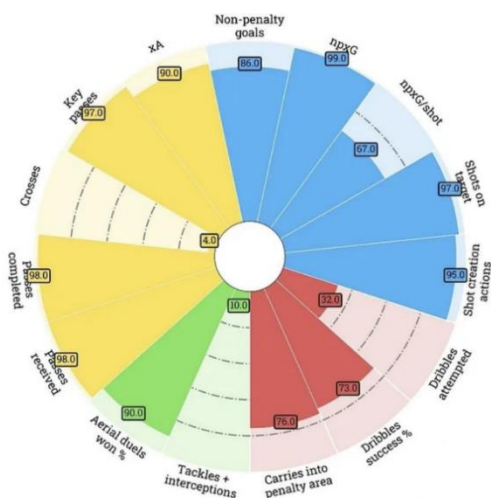


Figure 9: Versatility - Overall performance [\(Source\)](#)

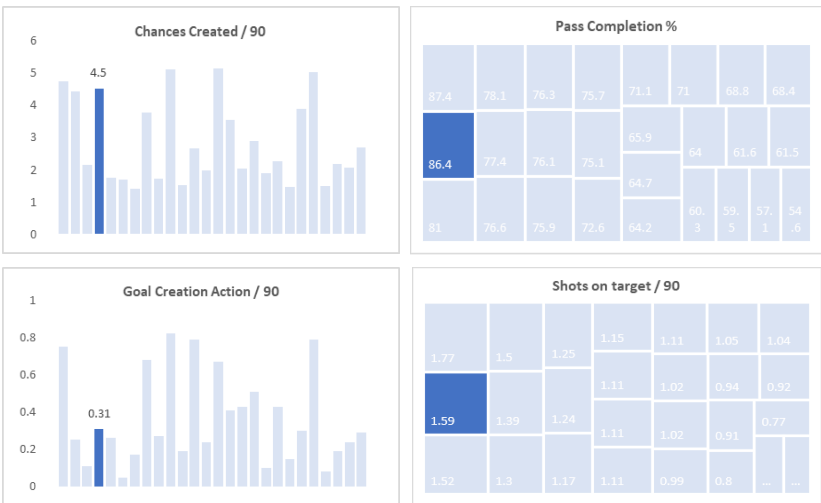


Figure 10: K. Benzema stats compared to other field players in 2022 in LaLiga.

Clutch Performance: Benzema's quality shines through in crucial games, and his contribution in the biggest victories is a testament to his calibre as a top-class forward. Benzema has delivered excellent performances in matches where his team has secured significant victories, both in domestic and international competitions. Benzema has scored multiple goals in several games where Real Madrid recorded a large margin of victory. On December 20, 2015, Benzema scored a hat-trick and provided an assist in a 10-2 La Liga victory. He also scored twice in several other games where Real Madrid scored six or more goals, showing his knack for finding the net in key matches.

In the UEFA Champions League, the pinnacle of European club football, Benzema scored a hat-trick in an 8-0 victory on December 8, 2015, highlighting his ability to perform at the highest level.

Competition	Club	Date	Match	Goals	Assists	minutes played
First Tier						
LaLiga		Dec 20, 2015	10-2	3	1	90'
LaLiga		Apr 5, 2015	9-1	2	-	61'
LaLiga		May 21, 2011	8-1	2	-	84'
LaLiga		Mar 3, 2011	7-0	2	-	90'
LaLiga		Sep 20, 2014	2-8	-	2	59'
LaLiga		Nov 6, 2011	7-1	2	-	41'
LaLiga		Jan 21, 2018	7-1	-	-	26'
LaLiga		Dec 19, 2009	6-0	1	-	27'
LaLiga		Aug 28, 2011	0-6	-	-	75'
Domestic Cup						
Copa del Rey		Dec 22, 2010	8-0	3	2	77'
Coupe de France		Jan 24, 2009	0-6	-	-	67'
International Cup						
UEFA Champions League		Dec 8, 2015	8-0	3	-	90'
National Team						
International Friendlies		Jun 8, 2014	8-0	2	2	86'
National team's qualifiers						
World Cup qualification Europe		Nov 13, 2021	8-0	2	-	71'
European Qualifiers		Oct 13, 2007	0-6	2	1	44'

Figure 11: Biggest Victories [\(Source\)](#)

Experience and Success: Benzema's extensive list of achievements, including multiple League and Champions League titles, shows his experience at the top level and his significant contribution to the success of his team. This level of experience and success is a testament to his quality as a player.

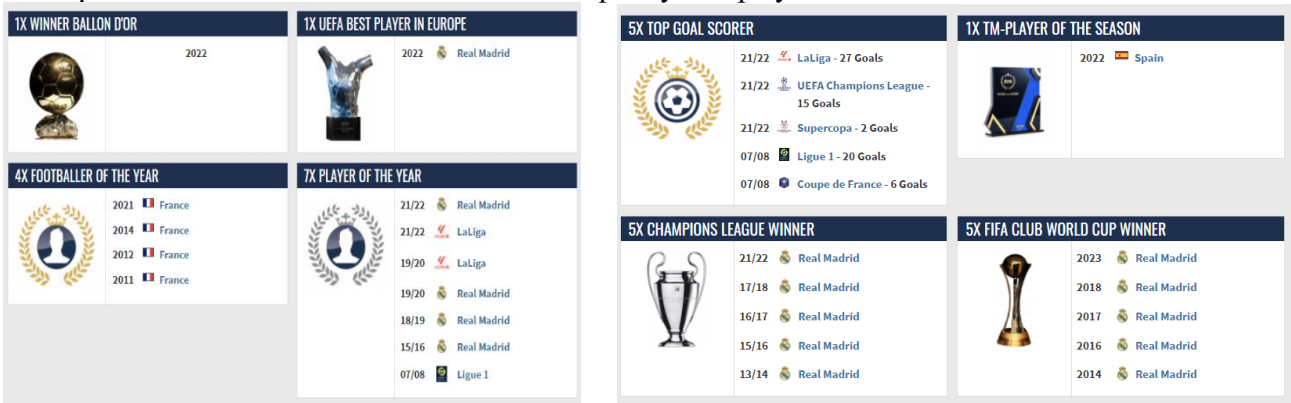


Figure 12: Notable Achievements [\(Source\)](#)

Overall, **Karim Benzema's** effectiveness as an athlete can be attributed to his proficient goal-scoring ability, playmaking talent, distribution and passing skills, physical and technical abilities, effectiveness in transitions, and his versatility as an attacker. His consistency in performance, evident in his goal tally and assists, combined with his crucial contributions during key matches, testifies to his dependability as a player. His ability to perform multiple roles and adapt to different situations demonstrates his versatility, an invaluable asset in today's dynamic football landscape. Additionally, his success in winning multiple titles, both domestically and internationally, showcases his competitive spirit and winning mentality. Collectively, these characteristics make Benzema an impactful player and a crucial asset to his team, underlining his reputation as one of the top forwards in football today.

FUTURE PERFORMANCE

Karim Benzema has demonstrated an exceptional level of consistency and performance over the years, as evident from the provided data. The following factors form an integral part of assessing his future performance:

Performance Trends: Over the past five years, Benzema has shown consistent performance in terms of goal-scoring, playmaking, passing, and transition effectiveness. However, a careful examination of the data reveals some areas of concern. His goals and assists per 90 minutes showed a slight decline in the 2022 season. Similarly, his shots-on-target percentage and his touches in the attacking third also showed a slight decline in 2022. These trends could potentially indicate a gradual slowing down in Benzema's performance in the coming years.

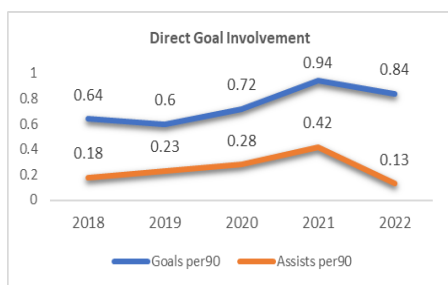


Figure 13: Goal per90 & Assists per90 over past five years.

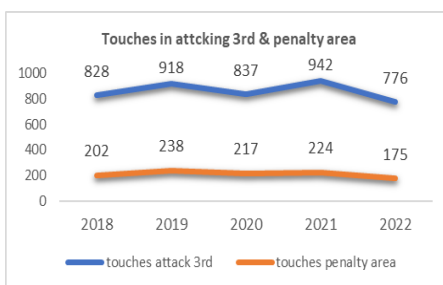


Figure 14: Touches in attacking 3rd & penalty area over past five year.

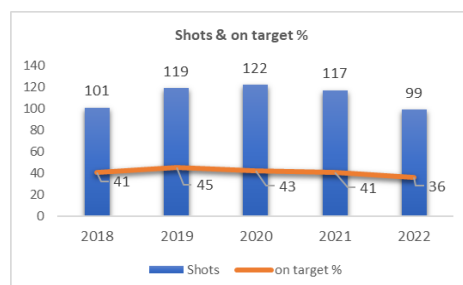


Figure 15: Shots & Shots on Target % over past five years.

Age Factor: At 35, Benzema is at a stage in his career where physical attributes tend to decline. However, his playing style is not heavily reliant on pace but more on technical skills, game intelligence, and experience. His ability to adapt his game with age has been evident, and this adaptability will continue to play a key role in maintaining his performance level in the coming years.

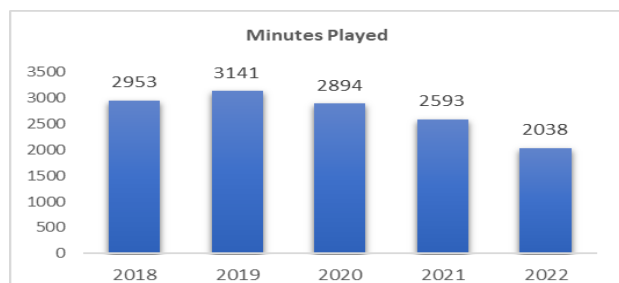


Figure 16: Benzema's playing time over the past five years.

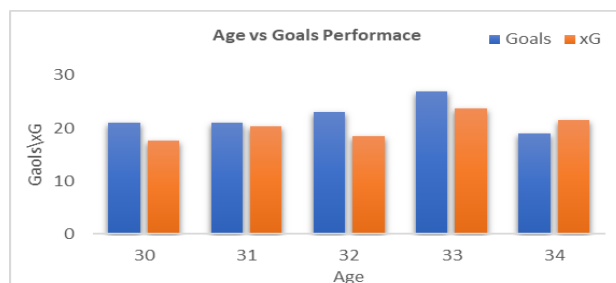


Figure 17: Benzema has maintained his goal-scoring performance despite his age.

Consistent Scoring: Benzema's goal-scoring ability is one of his standout attributes. Despite a minor drop in goals scored in 2022, his Expected Goals (xG) remain high, suggesting that he is still finding himself in goal-scoring positions regularly. Moreover, his high shots per 90 minutes are increasing every year, which is a good indication of his ability to get in a good position to score. This consistency in goal threat underscores his continued relevance in the attacking line-up.

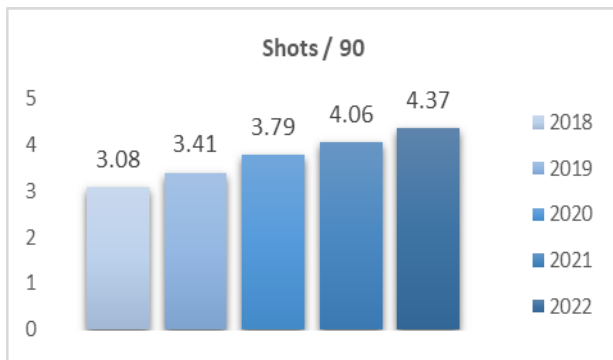


Figure 18: Benzema is consistently getting opportunities to score.

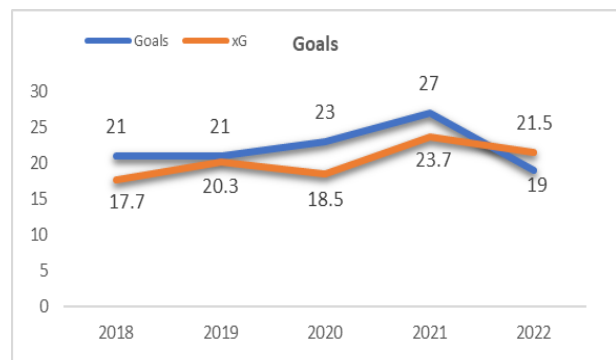


Figure 19: Benzema's goals and expected goals (xG) over the past five years.

Playmaking Ability: Even though there has been a slight dip in assists and Expected Assists (xA) in 2022, Benzema's overall contribution to the team's attacking play goes beyond just scoring. His vision and ability to create goal-scoring opportunities for his teammates make him an invaluable asset to the team's attacking prowess.

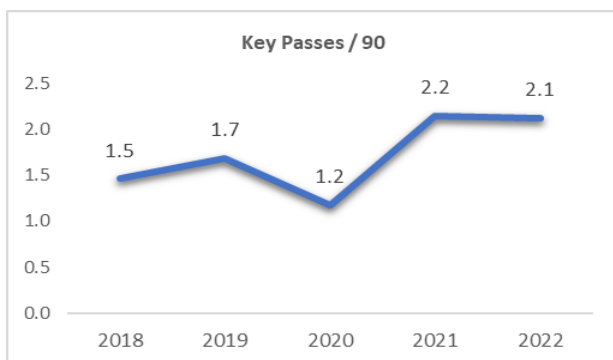


Figure 20: Benzema's Key Passes per 90 minutes over the past five years.

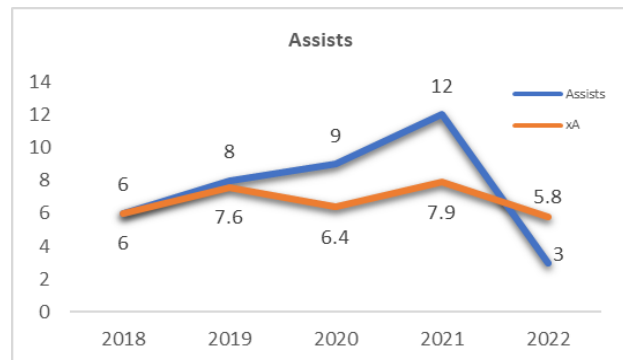


Figure 21: Benzema's assists and expected assists (xA) over the past five years.

Physical and Technical Proficiency: As players age, there is a typical decline in physical attributes like speed and agility. However, Benzema's game is more reliant on his technical skills and game intelligence. His passing accuracy has improved over the years, which is a testament to his technical abilities. His lower number of take-ons could be attributed to a more calculated approach to conserving energy and maintaining effectiveness throughout the game.

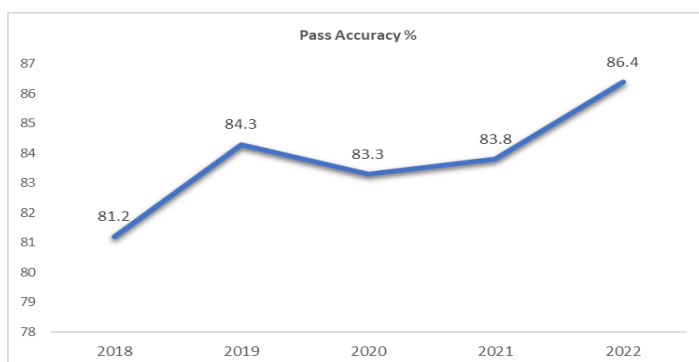


Figure 22: Benzema's Accuracy % over the past five years.

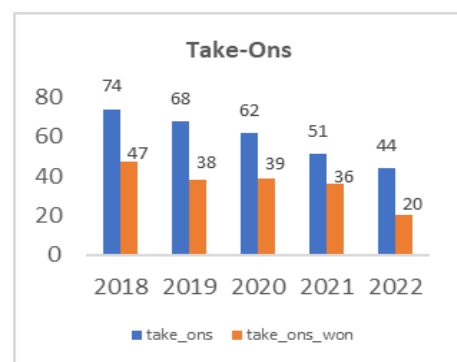


Figure 23: Benzema's take-ons over the past five years.

Transition Effectiveness: There's been a decrease in Benzema's defensive contributions, as evidenced by the decline in tackles and ball recoveries. While this might be a result of an age-related decline in physical attributes, it is important to note that Benzema's primary role is not defensively oriented. Hence, this decline might not significantly impact his overall effectiveness on the field.

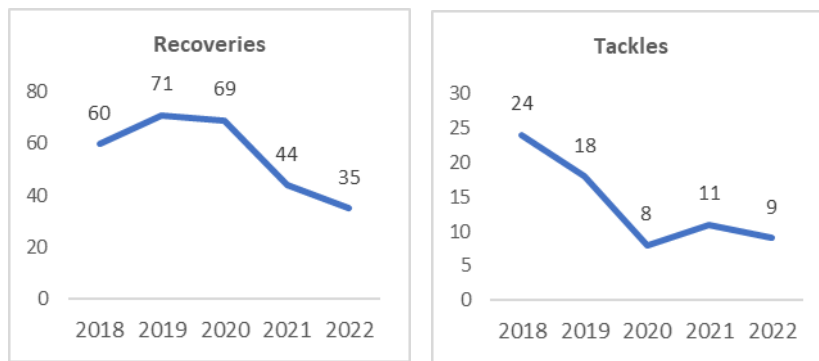


Figure 24: Benzema's ball recoveries and tackles over the past five years.

Team Dynamics: The performance of a player is also heavily influenced by the quality of the team around him. Real Madrid has consistently maintained a squad with high-quality players. However, changes in team management, tactics, or player transfers could potentially impact Benzema's future performance. A new manager might employ different tactics that could affect Benzema's role in the team, and player transfers could alter the team's dynamics and playstyle.

POTENTIAL STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

Strengths

Experience: Benzema's extensive experience at the highest level of football is a significant strength. His understanding of the game, ability to perform under pressure, and leadership qualities will continue to be invaluable to the team.

Technical Skills: Benzema's superior technical skills, including his passing accuracy, ability to take on defenders, and shot precision, underline his technical prowess. These skills tend not to decline with age, suggesting that he will continue to be a technically proficient player in the years to come.

Weaknesses

Age-Related Decline: Age-related decline in physical attributes could impact certain aspects of Benzema's performance, particularly in terms of speed, agility, and stamina. His ability to adapt his game and focus on his strengths will be key to managing this natural progression.

Reduced Defensive Contribution: The decrease in tackles and ball recoveries could indicate a reduced ability or willingness to contribute defensively. While this is not a critical part of Benzema's role, a well-rounded player who can contribute to both attack and defence can be more beneficial to the team.

CONCLUSION

While Benzema's performance may naturally decline over time due to age and physical factors, his technical skills, experience, and versatility should still make him an important player for any team. The extent of his future performance will depend on several factors, including team dynamics, management decisions, and player transfers. It is important to recognise that the future is unpredictable, and unforeseen circumstances can always influence a player's performance. However, based on his track record and current form, Benzema is expected to continue being an asset for any team soon.