

Detroit Pistons

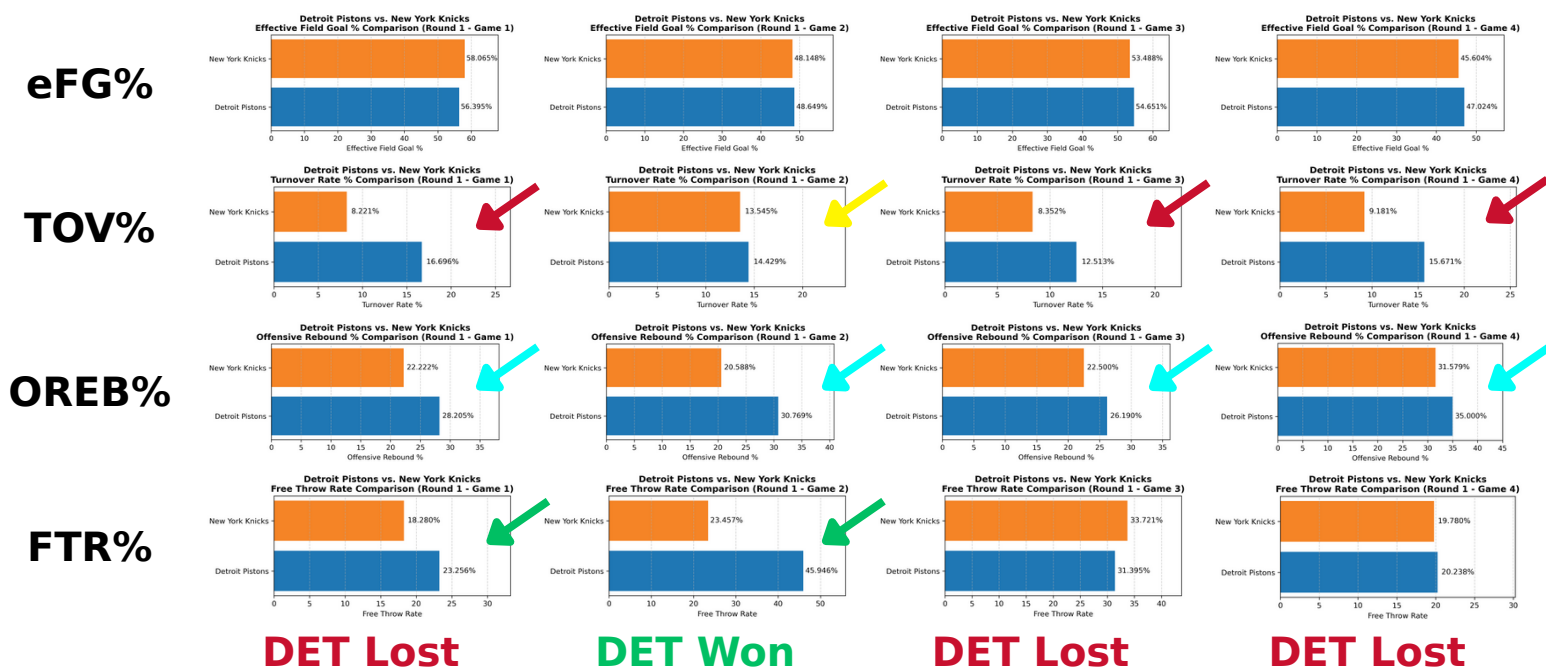
Scouting Report vs NYK



The Detroit Pistons enter Game 5 at Madison Square Garden facing the ultimate challenge: down 3-1 in the series and one loss away from elimination. This is a true win-or-go-home moment, and we fully intend to do both. By winning tonight, we send this series back to Detroit for Game 6, where **momentum**, **home-court energy**, and **preparation** will all be on our side. This report outlines the key offensive and defensive insights from our season and playoff performance against the New York Knicks, evaluates the New York Knicks' strengths and tendencies, and highlights the adjustments required to extend the series.

The mission is clear: survive tonight, bring the fight home, and shift the pressure back onto New York.

Four Factors by Each Game



Points of Emphasis

Red Arrow: In every game we lost, the **TOV** gap was severe. Our **TOV%** has remained consistently at or higher than our Regular Season performance. We need to limit our TOVs, otherwise, the Knicks will take advantage of us.

Bottom Line: If we don't protect the ball in Game 5, then we do not give ourselves a chance to win.

Yellow Arrow: Game 2 was the template for how we can win on the road: even when our TOV rate was poor, we compensated by **forcing TOVs on the New York Knicks**.

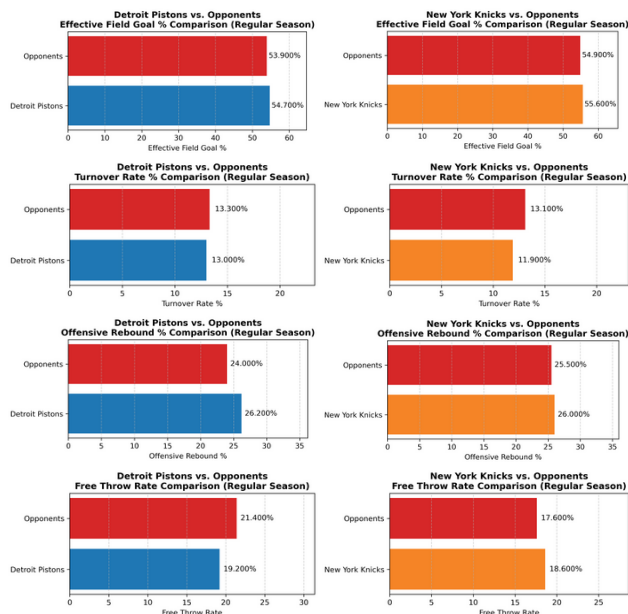
Translation: If we can't protect the ball, then we better get it back by stealing it.

Cyan Arrow: We won the OREB% battle in every single game so far, but we **dominated** that side of the glass in Game 2. Because both teams are evenly matched in eFG%, second-chance points are the separating margin.

Game 5 Priority: Continue crashing the offensive glass and create extra shot attempts. This is their structural weakness. Let's continue to exploit it.

Green Arrow: We opened the series strong by drawing fouls and getting to the line. Since then, the Knicks have steadily increased their FTR and matched our physicality. For Game 5, we must reclaim this advantage by **driving with intent**, **attacking mismatches**, **playing through physicality**, and **defending aggressively without fouling**.

Four Factors: Regular Season*



* - Graphs are hard-coded using data from Basketball Reference as opposed to computed due to time constraints

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Possessions, Ratings, and Pace Through the Playoffs

Statistical Categories	Detroit Pistons - Regular Season	New York Knicks - Regular Season	Detroit Pistons - Playoffs	New York Knicks - Playoffs
Pace	99.8	96.7	97.96	97.96
Possessions	103.1	100.7	99.07	100.80
OER	115.0	118.5	107.31	109.17
DER	113.1	114.3	109.17	107.31
Net Rating	1.9	4.2	-1.86	1.86

→ The Knicks are Controlling the Pace, Even in a Slow Series - The series is being played slow, physical, and grindy. However, the Knicks have a higher average possessions per game, which means they are consistently stealing extra chances within the same tempo environment.

Implication: We are losing the possession battle within the same pace framework. This is not a tempo issue, but an execution issue. We need to have better time management and play for the last possession at the end of quarters.

→ The Efficiency Gap mirrors the Win-Loss Outcomes - The Knicks are **only** scoring ~2 points more per 100 possessions. Although it doesn't sound like much, in a series where each game has been decided by one possession, this is massive!

Implication: The Detroit Pistons do not need to overhaul our offense. We just need to close a very small efficiency gap. Just 2-3 possessions cleaned up per game: **better shot selection, a couple more defensive stops, fewer TOVs, fewer wasted possessions at the rim, fewer fouls, etc.** and that changes the entire series trajectory. Our team is right there with the Knicks, and we have the talent to pull it through.

Shooting Zones - Pistons Regular Season

Zone	FGM	FGA	FG%	Frequency
Arc 3	782	2189	35.72%	29.74%
At Rim	1426	2154	66.20%	29.26%
Corner 3	269	712	37.78%	9.67%
Long Mid	189	480	39.38%	6.53%
Short Mid	835	1826	45.73%	24.81%

Shooting Zones - Pistons Playoffs

Zone	FGM	FGA	FG%	Frequency
Arc 3	33	86	38.37%	26.10%
At Rim	63	100	63.00%	30.30%
Corner 3	11	39	28.21%	11.82%
Long Mid	13	32	40.63%	9.70%
Short Mid	29	73	39.73%	22.12%

Shooting Zones - Knicks Regular Season

Zone	FGM	FGA	FG%	Frequency
Arc 3	715	1967	36.35%	26.91%
At Rim	1500	2272	66.02%	31.09%
Corner 3	316	827	38.21%	11.31%
Long Mid	243	580	41.90%	7.94%
Short Mid	773	1663	46.48%	22.75%

Shooting Zones - Knicks Playoffs

Zone	FGM	FGA	FG%	Frequency
Arc 3	34	88	38.64%	25.07%
At Rim	55	102	53.92%	29.06%
Corner 3	13	38	34.21%	10.83%
Long Mid	11	36	30.56%	10.26%
Short Mid	44	87	50.57%	24.79%

We have done a great job in limiting shot attempts where the Knicks are comfortable: **Arc 3, At Rim, and Corner 3**. Thereby, we have forced more inefficient shots from **Long Mid** and **Short Mid**. We are okay with them taking more of these shots as this is where they are least efficient.

■ Indicates an increase from the regular season
■ Indicates a decrease from the regular season

→ Indicates a Point of Emphasis

Our **Corner 3** has been very inefficient, and we need to shoot better from that zone. A couple more makes will turn this series around. Everywhere else has been as efficient or more efficient than our Regular Season