

Project 1

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Introduction

For the basis of our first project, we decided to use a data set containing key data points collected from various matches in the game League of Legends. League of Legends is a multiplayer online Battle Arena (MOBA) in which two teams of five players each compete to destroy the opposing team's base, called the Nexus.

The nexus of each team spawns small, NPC characters called minions (sometimes creeps) that follow one of three lanes and support the player(s) that has chosen that lane to capture objectives and move closer towards the enemy nexus. Each lane is guarded by three towers, each at different locations. These towers also support the player by defeating minions and enemy champions who happen to be in the tower's range. Once the three towers have been destroyed, the team can move on to destroy the enemy's inhibitor. This inhibitor prevents the opposing team from summoning an upgraded version of these minions, who deal increased damage and have significantly more health. Each team has three inhibitors, each one corresponding to a lane. Only one needs to be destroyed before the next stage can be completed. The final stage consists of two towers protecting the nexus. Both towers and at least one inhibitor must be destroyed in order to begin damaging the Nexus. The team who destroys their opponent's Nexus first wins the game.

The teams are divided into sub roles that players can choose, which dictates the lane that their champion plays in. Each player must choose a champion character to control for the course of the game, and each champion has unique abilities and play styles to fill the roles that each team must have. Some champions excel full frontal encounters, while others are more suited towards stealth and quick strikes, while few can heal and protect their team. Players kill both enemy minions, elite neutral monsters, and enemy players to increase the power of their champion and buy items from the gold that these kills produce. Items increase the stats of the player and allow for the player to "build" into a sort of play style that is suited for the champion they chose.

Import + Cleaning

```
library(tidyverse)
```

```
## Warning: package 'tidyverse' was built under R version 4.0.3
```

```
## -- Attaching packages ----- tidyverse 1.3.0 --
```

```
## v ggplot2 3.3.2      v purrr   0.3.4
## v tibble  3.0.3      v dplyr   1.0.2
## v tidyr   1.1.2      v stringr 1.4.0
## v readr   1.3.1      v forcats 0.5.0
```

```
## -- Conflicts ----- tidyverse_conflicts() --
## x dplyr::filter() masks stats::filter()
## x dplyr::lag() masks stats::lag()
```

```
df <- read.csv("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/kalihale/miscfiles/main/high_diamond_ranked_10_min.csv")
names(df)[names(df) == "blueWins"] <- "Wins"
df$Wins <- as.factor(df$Wins)
levels(df$Wins) <- c("red", "blue")
df$blueFirstBlood <- as.factor(df$blueFirstBlood)
levels(df$blueFirstBlood) <- c("FALSE", "TRUE")
df$redFirstBlood <- as.factor(df$redFirstBlood)
levels(df$redFirstBlood) <- c("FALSE", "TRUE")

dfBlueWins <- df[df$Wins == "blue", ]
dfRedWins <- df[df$Wins == "red", ]
```

Data Dictionary

This data set is a collection of many of the metrics listed above, and will be used in our analysis to see which of these metrics seems to contribute the most to a victory for a given team. For the sake of our analysis, we have set up a dictionary to make our data more understandable. The following is a list of terms and how they are to be understood within the Data Set.

- “Red” – The Color of the Opposing Team
- “Blue” – The Color of the Current Team
- gameld – The Riot ID assigned to the match
- Champion – Refers to the playable character that the player has chosen to compete with.
- Ward – Device used to grant players vision of areas that they are not currently in range to see.
- First Blood - Refers to the first player kill of the game.
- Kill – Refers to the act of a player defeating another player through combat.
- Death – Refers to the act of being defeated in both Player vs. Player and environmental combat.
- Assists – Refers to score points given to teammates who help another player in killing an enemy.
- Lane – Refers to one of the three standard areas in which players compete (Top, Middle, Bottom). They dictate where champions are best suited as well as where minions can be killed.
- Jungle - Refers to the area outside of the lanes where additional monsters exist that can be slain, including large and elite monsters.
- Minions / Creeps – Small non-player characters who roam the lanes of the game, attempting to help players reach the goal of destroying the enemy Nexus.
- Monster – Small non-player characters who reside in the Jungle and are used by champions to gather resources and experience.

- Elite / Elite Monsters – Large, non-player characters who are substantially tougher than the regular monsters and tend to provide some bonus to the player after being slain.
- Dragon – Large monster that resides in the bottom half of the jungle, that comes in four variants. Each variant corresponds to an element, being Earth, Fire, Water, and Air. Dragons provide a bonus depending on the element when killed. When a team kill four dragons, they receive a large bonus.
- Herald – Large monster that resides in the top half of the jungle, when killed drops an eye which can be used by the player to summon a friendly version of the herald that will attack enemy towers and deal massive amounts of damage.
- Baron / Baron Nashor – Large Elite Monster that resides in the top half of the jungle. Typically require a full team effort to kill. When defeated, Baron drops a buff to the team which killed him that increases the effectiveness that minions have.
- Gold - Currency collected in the game used to buy equipment for champions.
- Experience - Points used to gauge progress towards champion levels, awarded by killing players, monsters, and minions.
- Level – Refers to the current tier that the chosen champion currently resides at. Each level comes with increased value of that champion.
- CS / Creep Score / MS / Minion Score – Score that each player has which is a sum tally of how many non-playable enemies that the player has killed.
- Diff – Refers to the difference in between two measurements.

Exploratory Data Analysis

Dragon, herald

In this section, we are going to explore if the elite monsters on the map will affect the winrate. Since the dragon spawns at 5:00 and respawns every 5 minutes after killed, the Herald spawns at 8:00 and respawns once 6 minutes after killed, there could only be 1 being captured for the first 10 minutes of a game.

```
#Make df$Wins numerical to calculate the winrate
levels(df$Wins) <- c("0", "1")
df$Wins <- as.numeric(df$Wins)
##Select Data
Blue_dragon <- df[df$blueDragons==1,]
Red_dragon <- df[df$redDragons==1,]

Blue_Herald <- df[df$blueHeralds==1,]
Red_Herald <- df[df$redHeralds==1,]

Blue_both <- df[df$blueEliteMonsters==2,]
Red_both <- df[df$redEliteMonsters==2,]

nrow(Blue_dragon)/nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 0.36198
```

```
nrow(Red_dragon)/nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 0.4130985
```

```
##Red side have slightly more chance to get a dragon  
nrow(Blue_Herald)/nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 0.1879745
```

```
nrow(Red_Herald)/nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 0.1600364
```

```
##Blue side have slightly more chance to get a herald  
nrow(Blue_both)/nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 0.07186962
```

```
nrow(Red_both)/nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 0.07389412
```

```
##About the same
```

Does dragon make a difference in winrate?

```
H0: No. The mean difference of winrate is less than or equals to 0.  
Ha: Yes. The mean difference of winrate is greater than 0.
```

```
t.test(df$Wins,Blue_dragon$Wins)$p.value
```

```
## [1] 6.181448e-50
```

```
Very small number. We can reject the null hypothesis. We can conclude that getting dragon can de  
finitely increase the winrate.
```

Does Herald make a difference in winrate?

```
H0: No. The mean difference of winrate is less than or equals to 0.  
Ha: Yes. The mean difference of winrate is greater than 0.
```

```
t.test(df$Wins,Blue_Herald$Wins)$p.value
```

```
## [1] 1.797869e-14
```

Very small number. We can reject the null hypothesis. We can conclude that getting herald can definitely increase the winrate.

How about both?

H₀: No. The mean difference of winrate is less than or equals to 0.

H_a: Yes. The mean difference of winrate is greater than 0.

```
t.test(df$Wins,Blue_both$Wins)$p.value
```

```
## [1] 2.009182e-38
```

Very small number. We can reject the null hypothesis. We can conclude that getting both dragon and herald can definitely increase the winrate.

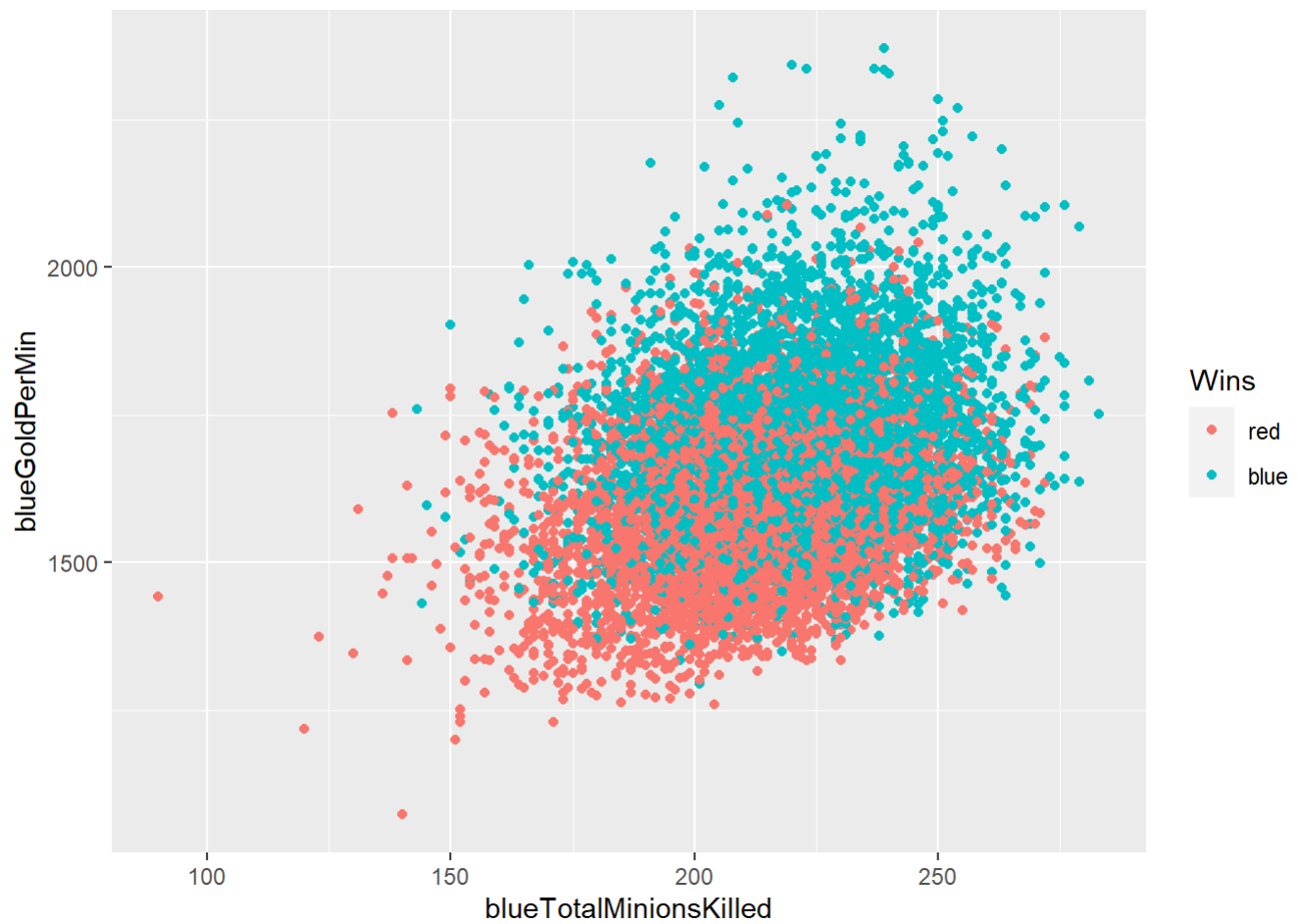
Change df\$Wins back.

```
df$Wins <- as.factor(df$Wins)
levels(df$Wins) <- c("red", "blue")
```

Gold diff

The creep score of a team vs its gold gain rate per minute are positively related. The more minions a team kills, the quicker and more gold they tend to gain.

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = blueTotalMinionsKilled, y = blueGoldPerMin, color = Wins)) + geom_point()
```



```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = blueGoldPerMin, y = redGoldPerMin, color = Wins)) + geom_point()
```

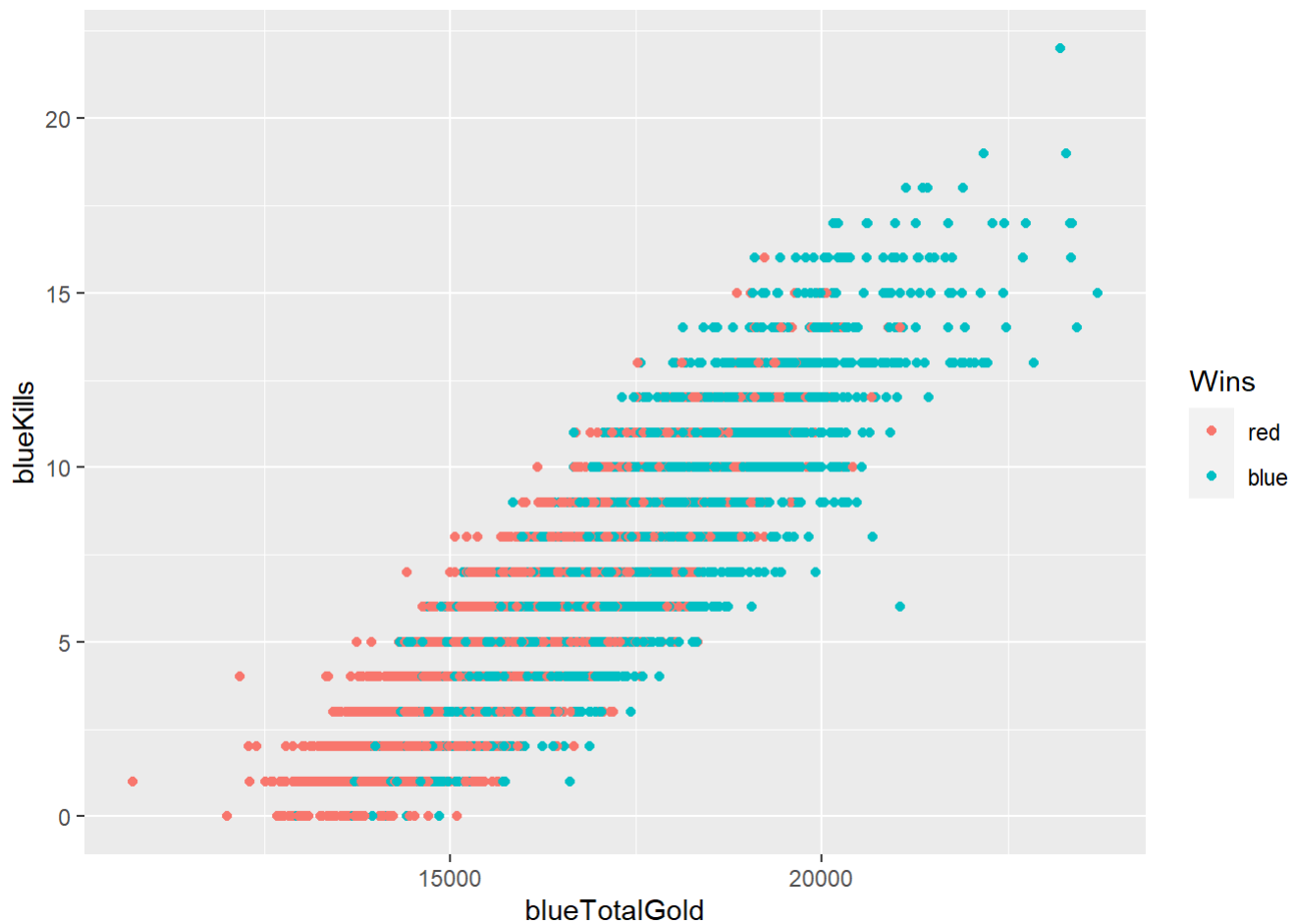


```
cor(df$blueGoldPerMin, df$redGoldPerMin)
```

```
## [1] -0.3142125
```

Kills also play a role in this calculation as kills do provide gold. Again, another positive relationship is exhibited as the more kills a team has, the better financially they tend to do.

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = blueTotalGold, y = blueKills, color = Wins)) + geom_point()
```



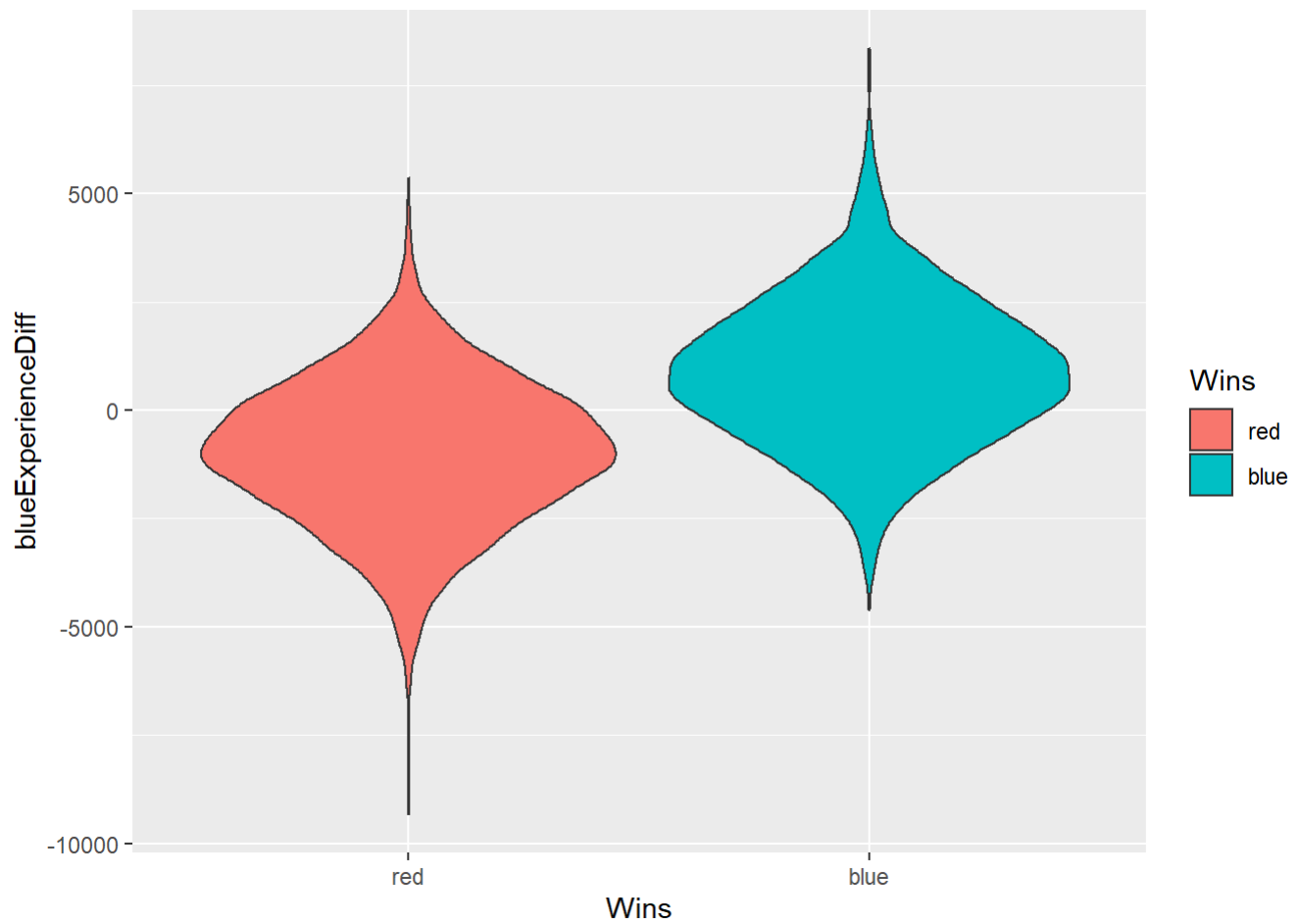
```
cor(df$blueTotalGold, df$blueKills)
```

```
## [1] 0.8887509
```

Experience diff

The experience difference a team has is positively related to their performance in game. If a team has a positive experience diff in comparison to the other team (current - opposing), they exhibit greater frequency of wins.

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = blueExperienceDiff, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin()
```

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = blueTotalExperience, y = redTotalExperience, color = Wins)) + geom_point()
```



```
t.test(dfBlueWins$blueTotalExperience, dfBlueWins$redTotalExperience)
```

```
##
##  Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data:  dfBlueWins$blueTotalExperience and dfBlueWins$redTotalExperience
## t = 40.784, df = 9829.1, p-value < 2.2e-16
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
##  864.6201 951.9288
## sample estimates:
## mean of x mean of y
## 18404.58 17496.30
```

```
t.test(dfRedWins$blueTotalExperience, dfRedWins$redTotalExperience)
```

```
##
## Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: dfRedWins$blueTotalExperience and dfRedWins$redTotalExperience
## t = -43.886, df = 9871.6, p-value < 2.2e-16
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## -1015.3092 -928.4887
## sample estimates:
## mean of x mean of y
## 17453.47 18425.37
```

The Converse also proved to be false.

Wards Placed

```
library(tidyverse)

meanPerGame <- function(default = 1){

  return( (df$blueWardsPlaced[default] + df$redWardsPlaced[default]) )

}

means <- sapply(1:nrow(df), meanPerGame)

mean(means)
```

```
## [1] 44.65624
```

```
max(dfBlueWins$blueWardsPlaced)
```

```
## [1] 250
```

```
max(dfBlueWins$redWardsPlaced)
```

```
## [1] 268
```

```
max(dfRedWins$redWardsPlaced)
```

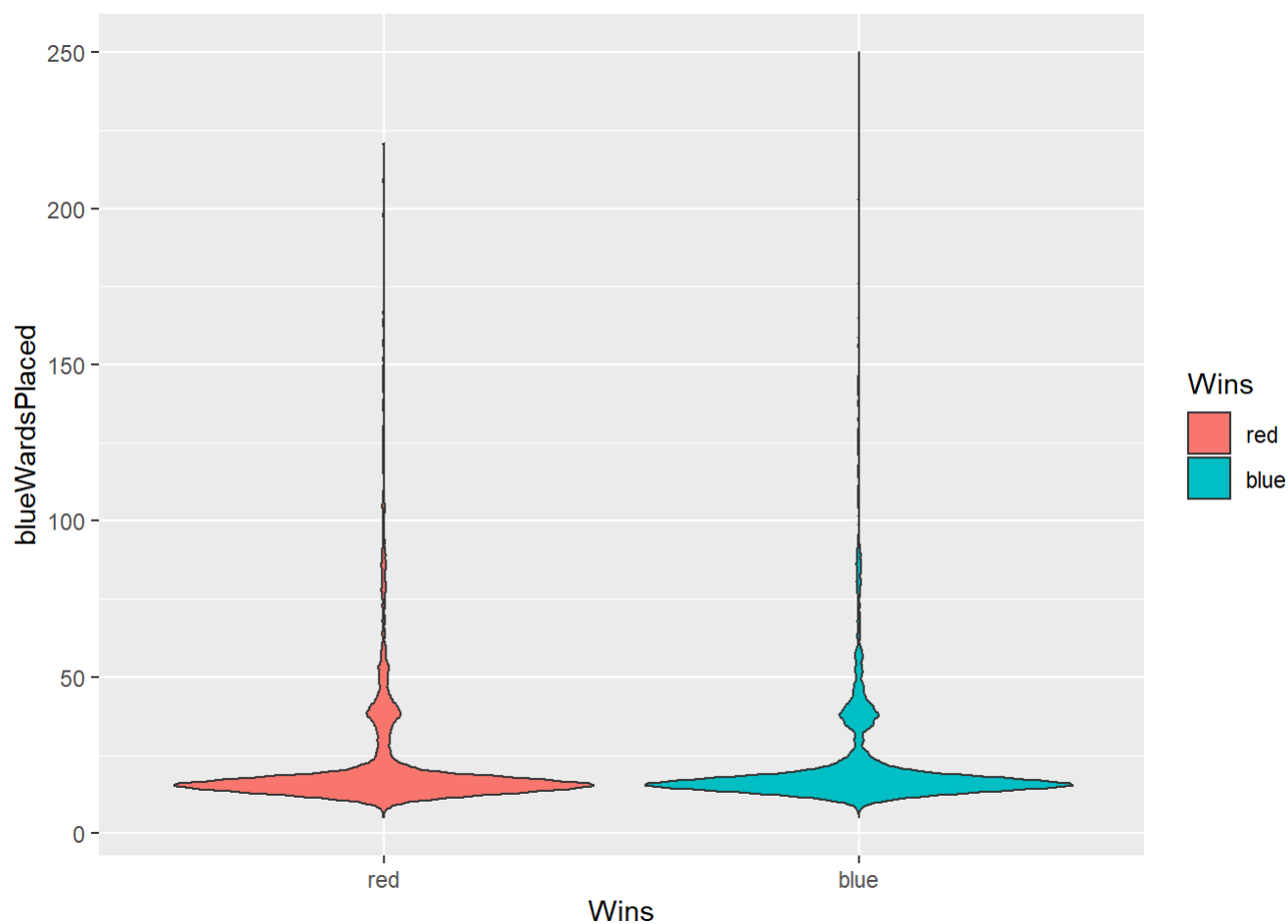
```
## [1] 276
```

```
max(dfRedWins$blueWardsPlaced)
```

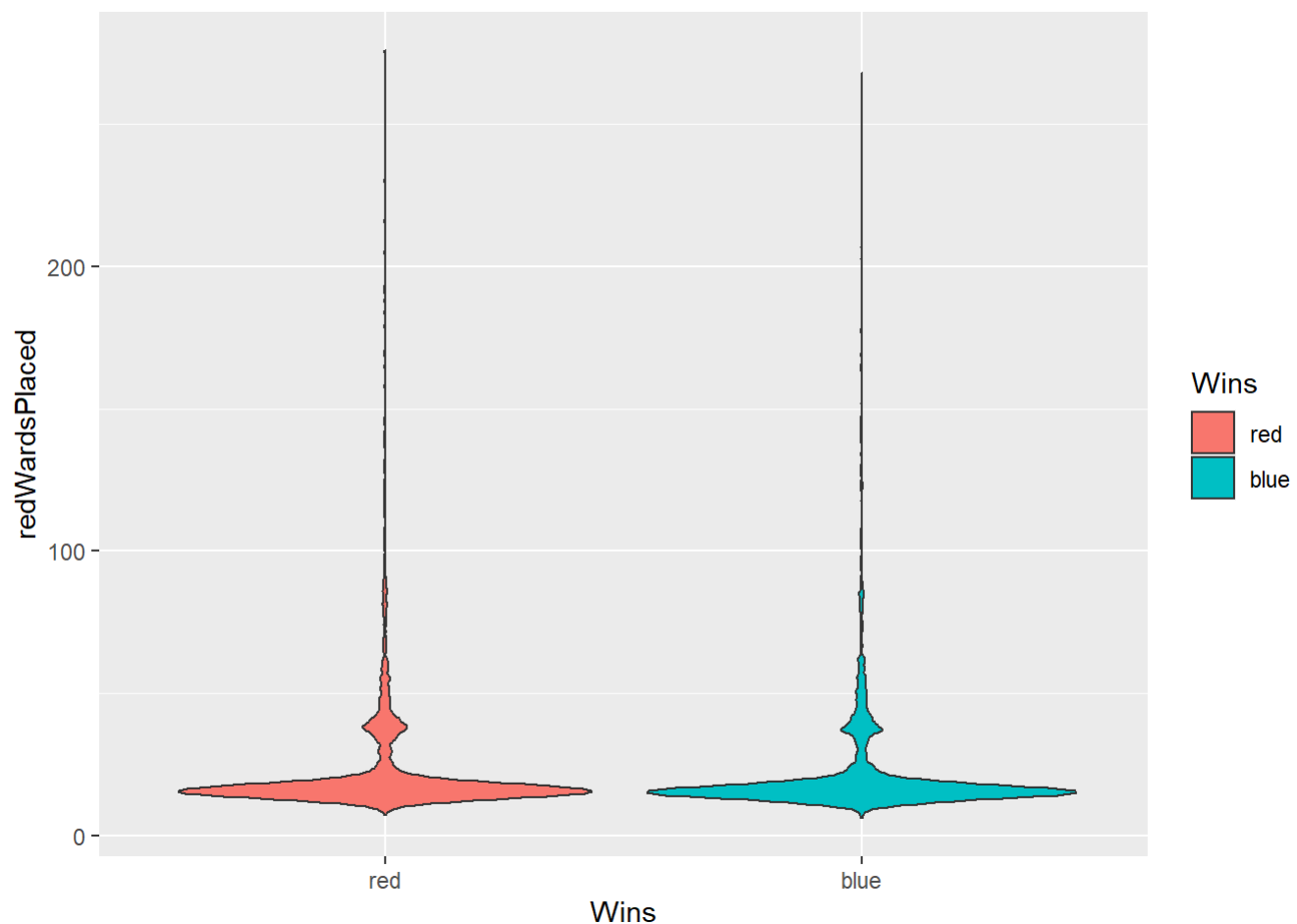
```
## [1] 221
```

Plots of the Distribution of Wards based upon wins-- despite winning or losing, neither team shows any inherent advantage based upon their wards.

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = blueWardsPlaced, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin()
```



```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = redWardsPlaced, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin()
```



```
length(which(df$Wins == "blue"))
```

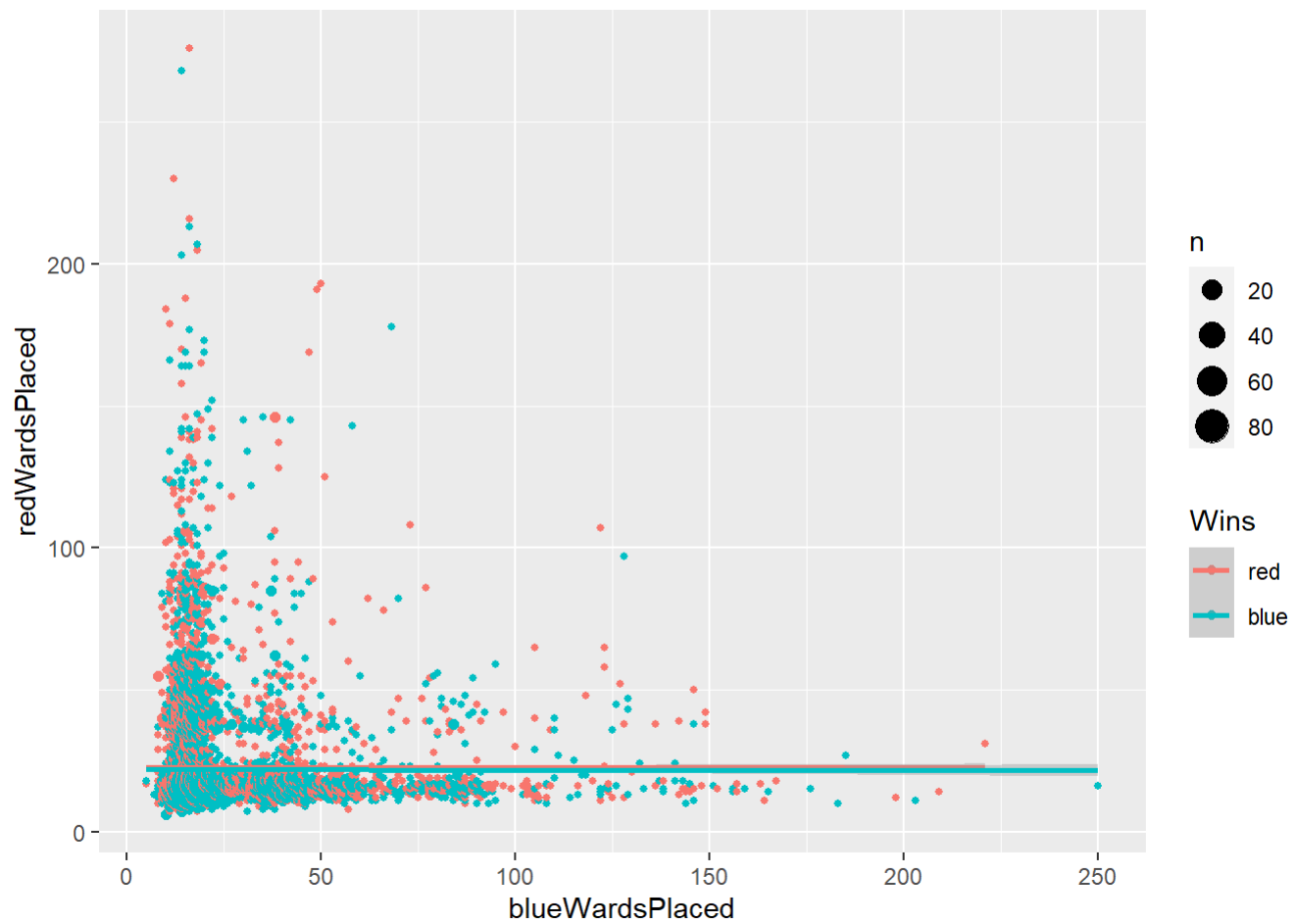
```
## [1] 4930
```

```
length(which(df$Wins == "red"))
```

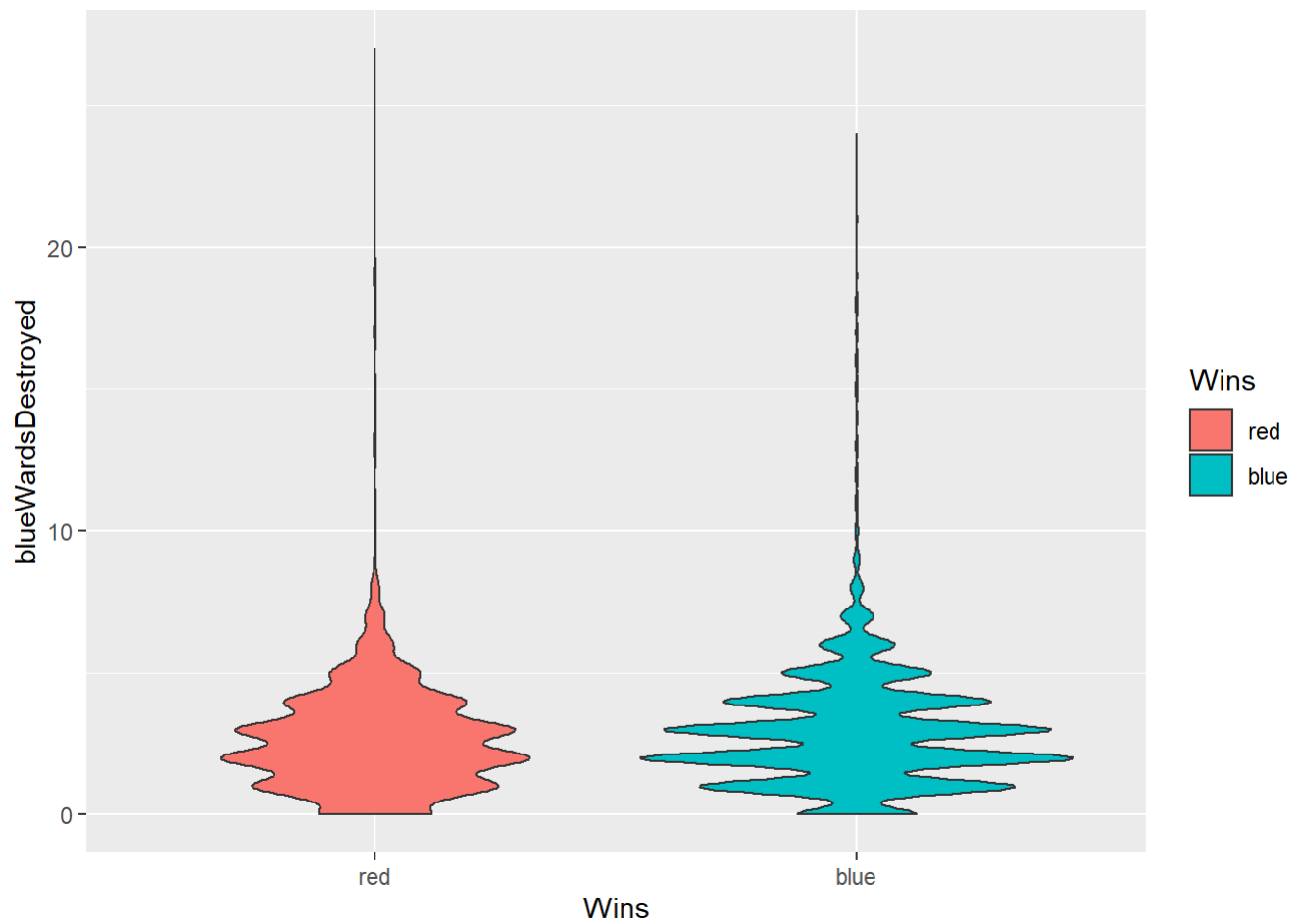
```
## [1] 4949
```

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(blueWardsPlaced, redWardsPlaced, color = Wins)) + geom_count() + geom_smooth()
```

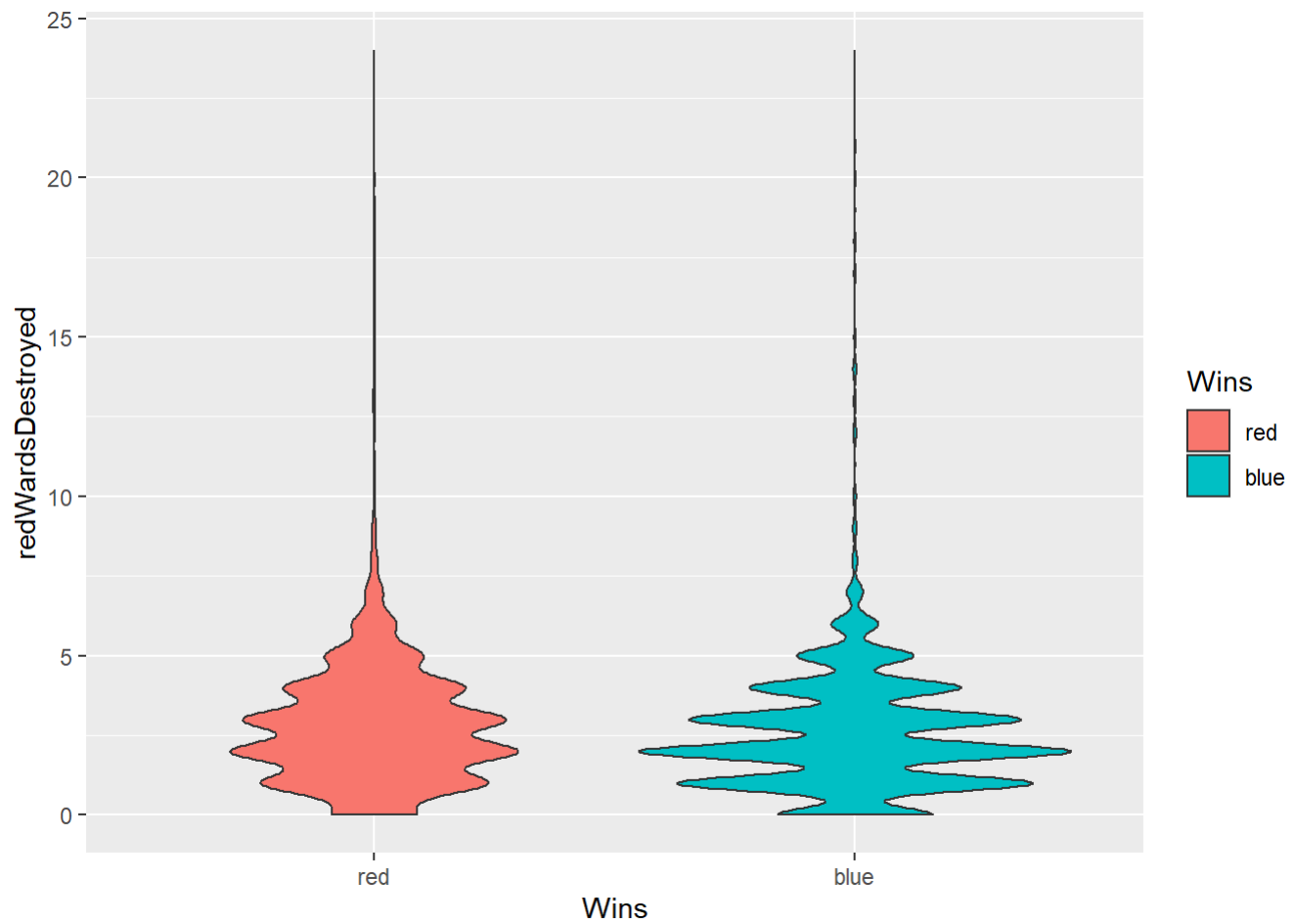
```
## `geom_smooth()` using method = 'gam' and formula 'y ~ s(x, bs = "cs")'
```



```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = blueWardsDestroyed, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin()
```

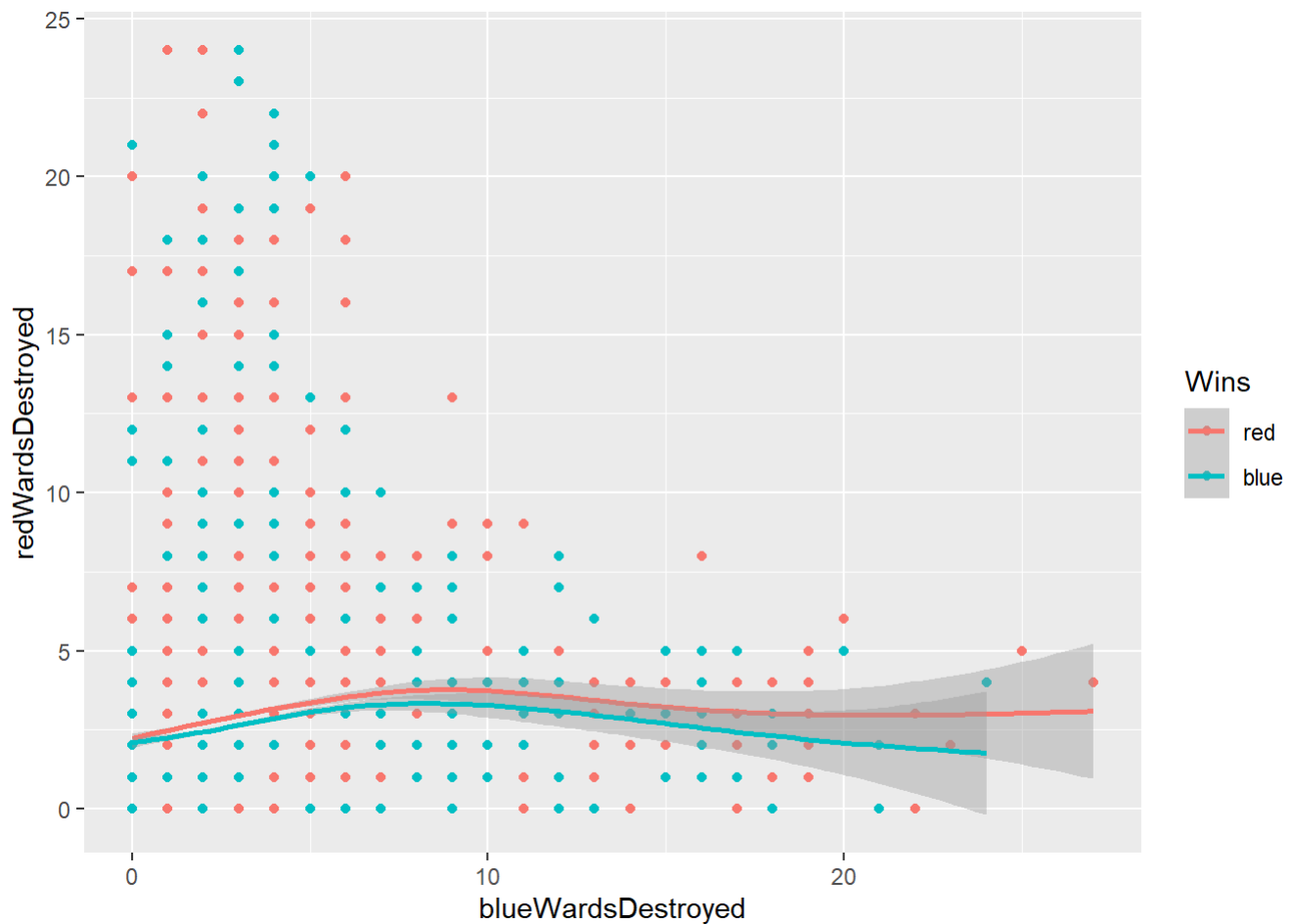


```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = redWardsDestroyed, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin()
```



```
ggplot(data = df, aes(blueWardsDestroyed, redWardsDestroyed, color = Wins)) + geom_point() + geom_smooth()
```

```
## `geom_smooth()` using method = 'gam' and formula 'y ~ s(x, bs = "cs")'
```

Bootstrap assumptions & t Test for the mean of blue wins, all three seem to show little correlation between performance improvement and placing & destroying wards.

```
x <- function(default=1){
  resample <- sample(dfBlueWins$blueWardsPlaced, length(dfBlueWins), replace = T)
  return(mean(resample))
}
data <- sapply(1:10000, x)

sum(data > mean(dfRedWins$blueWardsPlaced)) / length(data)
```

```
## [1] 0.4518
```

```
y <- function(default=1){
  resample <- sample(dfBlueWins$blueWardsDestroyed, length(dfBlueWins), replace = T)
  return(mean(resample))
}
data <- sapply(1:10000, y)
sum(data > mean(dfRedWins$blueWardsDestroyed)) / length(data)
```

```
## [1] 0.6989
```

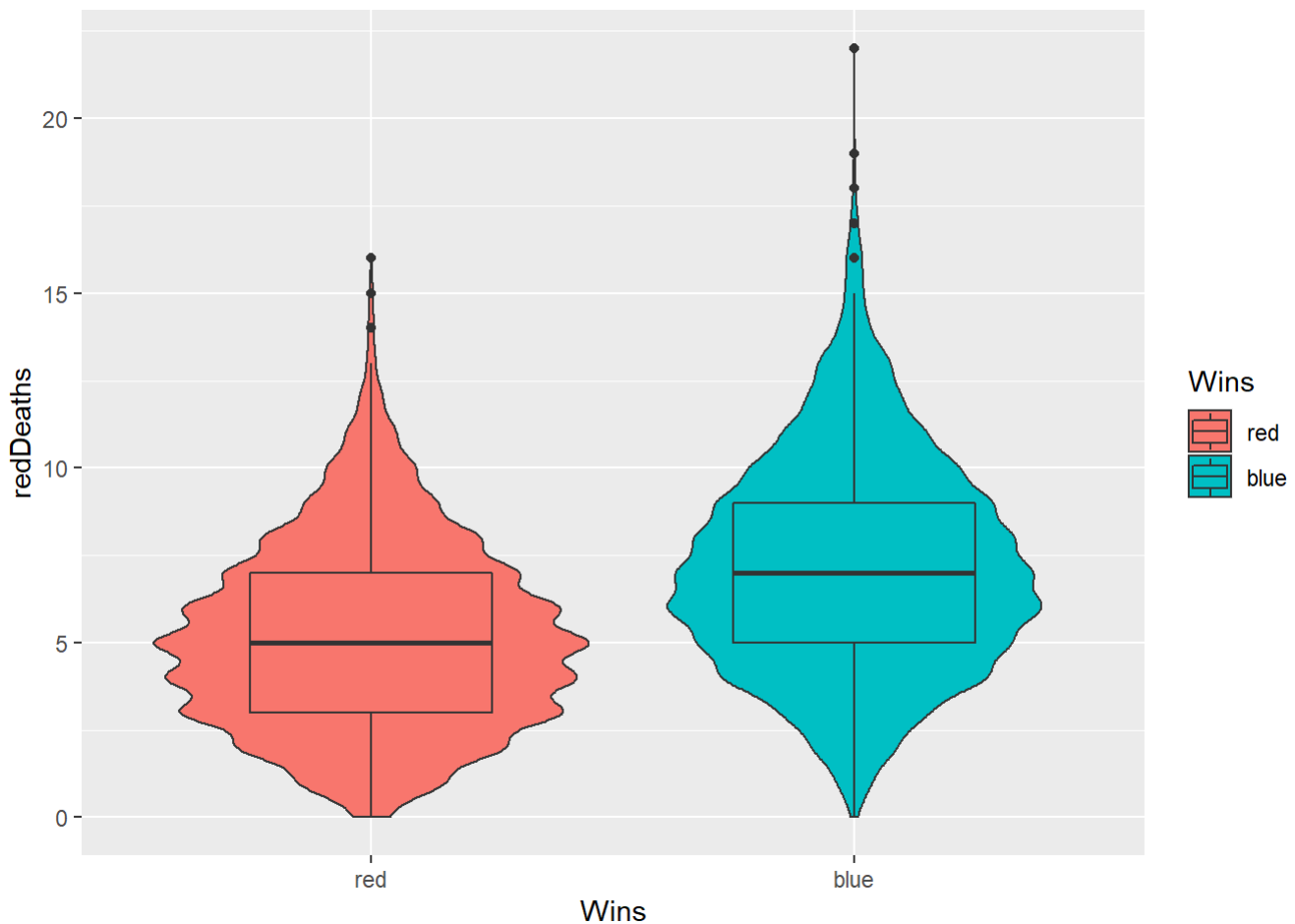
```
t.test(dfBlueWins$blueWardsPlaced,dfRedWins$blueWardsPlaced)$p.value
```

```
## [1] 0.9931048
```

Kills & First Blood

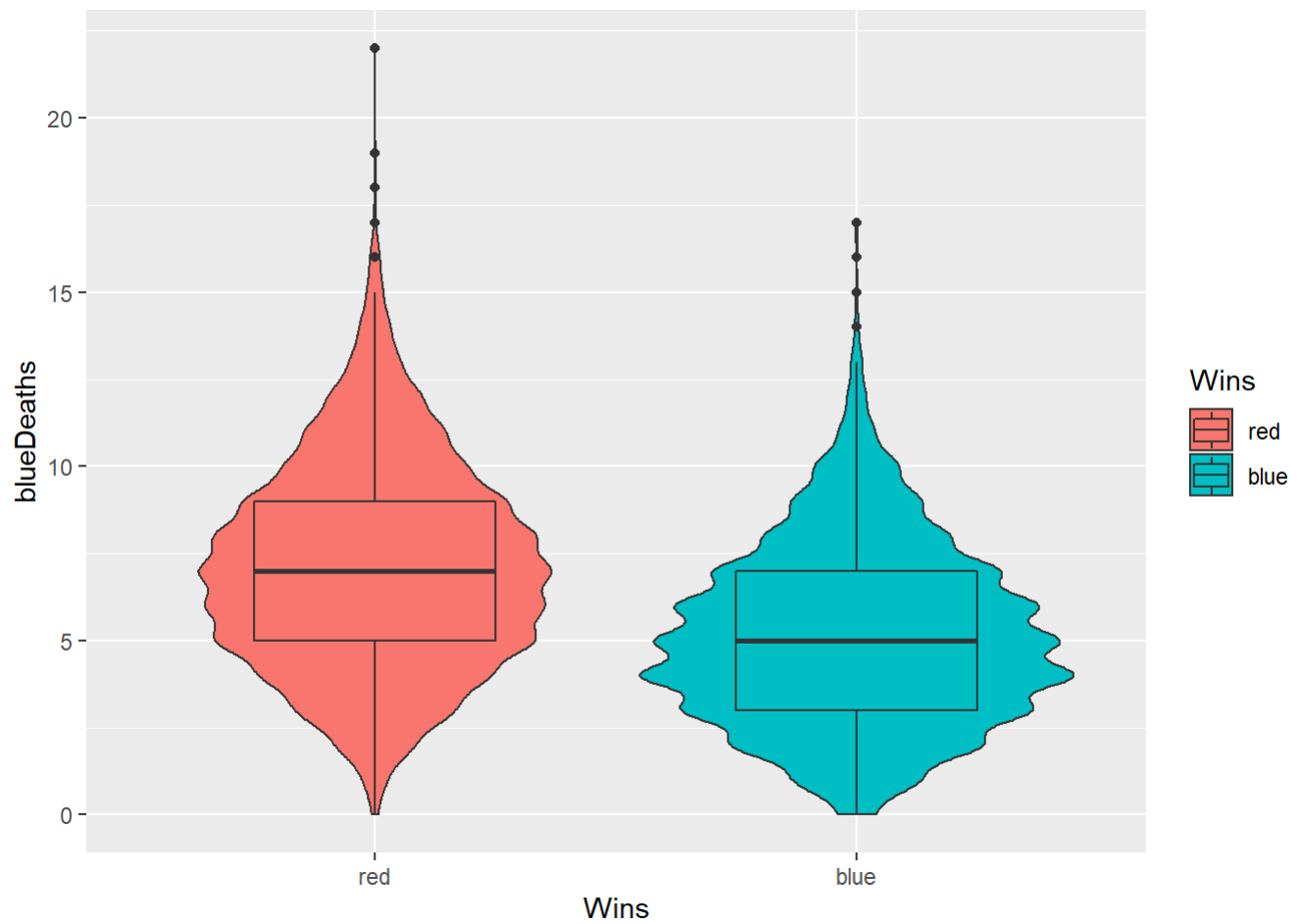
Based upon these violin / box plots, we can assume an inverse relationship between red deaths and red performance in game. The more deaths red has, the less their frequency of winning.

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = redDeaths, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin() + geom_boxplot(width = 0.5)
```

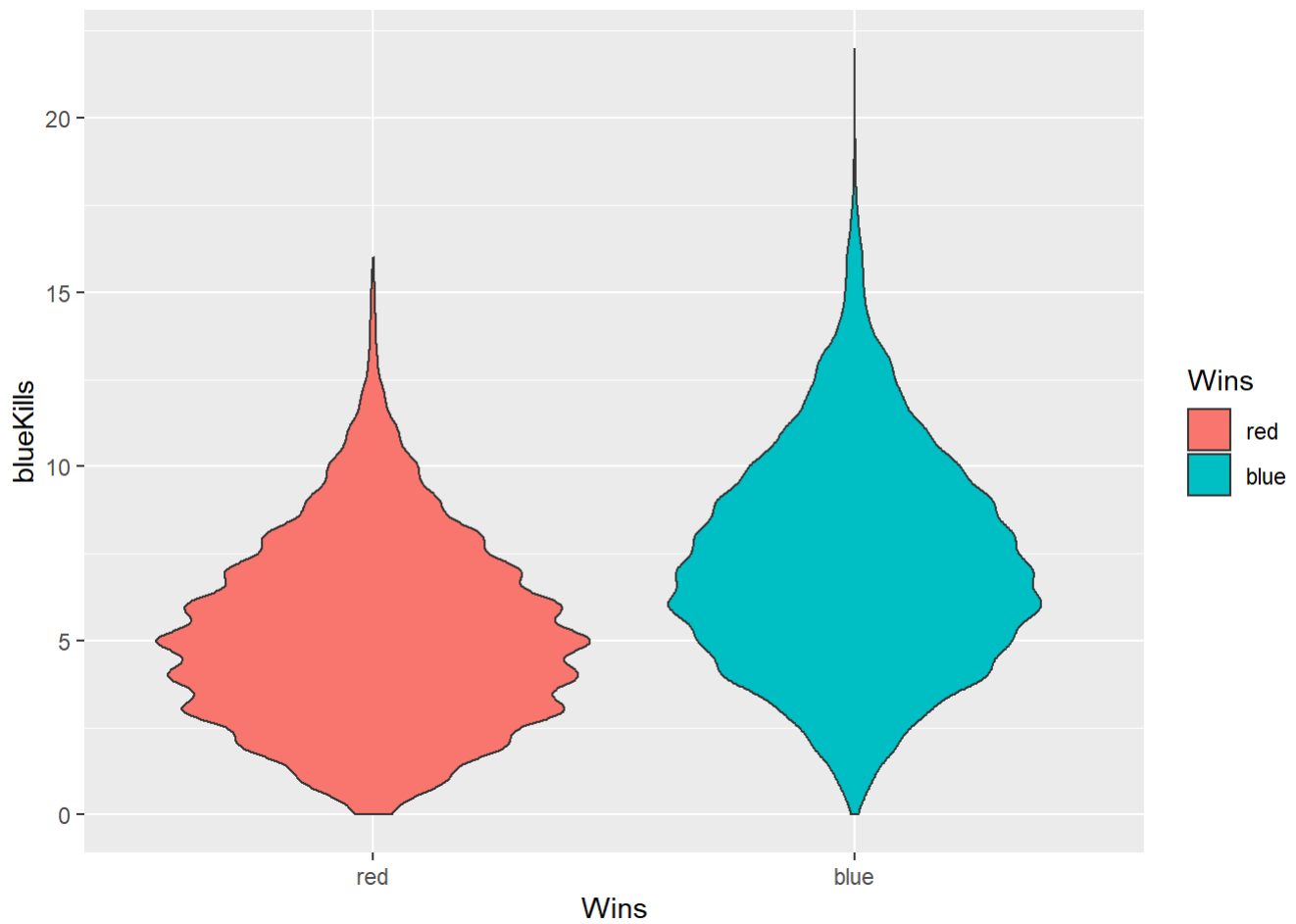


Deaths appear to have a more significant effect on the outcome of the game. The same assumption applies to blue.

```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = blueDeaths, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin() + geom_boxplot(width = 0.5)
```



```
ggplot(data = df, aes(x = Wins, y = blueDeaths, fill = Wins)) + geom_violin()
```



Conclusions & Further Questions

From our analysis, we can conclude that a number of factors influence a team's performance during the game of League of Legends, these factors acting as sort of predictors of a successful strategy. Teams that successfully accomplished the main mechanics of the game such as creep score farming, killing opposing players, and slaying elites and monsters tended to have a higher win rate than those who performed much lower in those aspects.

We also included factors such as warding that we initially thought would have a significant impact on the direction of the game. From our analysis, however, we determined that these factors were ultimately inconsequential to a team's performance, despite our initial beliefs.

Furthermore, we were left with some questions to reflect upon in our analysis. Our data set was a conglomeration of a team, and did not detail the individual performance of each player. As such, we could not get an accurate breakdown of how a team truly performed based upon the overview given. For example, did a certain team member contribute more to the total kills of a team than other players did? In relation to warding, the question also comes up as to the efficacy of a ward. The data only counted the number of wards placed and broken. How many enemies did a ward spot? Could our data be slightly skewed if a player misplaced a ward? The dragon collection also does not specify which type of dragon was defeated, which subtly influences the benefits a team receives. The data set also does not include the champions a team chose, which drastically influences gameplay style as some champions contain abilities that more effectively counter an enemy champion. In addition to this, our analysis only covered the in game factors of a team's performance, but does not account for any additional human interaction as to why a team performed as did. Since humans come from a variety of different statuses, a question to note would be how the player's status influenced their overall gameplay. How tired were they during their game? What foods did they have? are they vision-impaired? The variety of factors and difficult in obtaining data such as this is likely why it is not included.

Overall, the breakdown of our analysis boiled in on finding factors which contributed most to a successful game in order to establish a review of the trends of successful, high-level, League of Legends gameplay.