

ANALYSIS OF GOALS SCORED IN UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2025

2025 UEFA Kadınlar Avrupa Şampiyonasında Atılan Gollerin Analizi

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to evaluate the goals scored in the 2025 UEFA Women's European Football Championship according to various variables. In this study, a total of 106 goals scored in 31 matches played throughout the tournament were analyzed. The data used in the research were obtained from the technical report published on the official website of UEFA. The goals scored in the tournament were examined under six categories: distribution of goals among teams, timing of goals, time period of goals, goal-scoring zones, types of goals, and the contribution of substitute players. Descriptive statistics, including percentage and frequency distributions, were used in the data analysis. As a result of the analysis, it was determined that an average of 3.42 goals were scored per match in the 2025 UEFA Women's European Championship, with 26 goals recorded per minute excluding extra time, and that 34% of the total goals were scored by the finalist teams, England and Spain. It was also found that 43% of the goals occurred in the first half, 55% in the second half, and 2% during extra time; 80% were scored from open play, 20% from set play, 86% from inside the box, 14% from outside the box, and 15% by players who entered the match as substitutes. In conclusion, the majority of the goals scored in the tournament occurred during the second half, from open play, and inside the box. These findings indicate a high level of attacking efficiency in the tournament and demonstrate that teams adopted an organized, possession-based attacking approach.

Keywords: Women Football, Goal Analysis, Uefa.

ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın amacı, 2025 UEFA Kadınlar Avrupa Futbol Şampiyonası'nda atılan gollerin çeşitli değişkenler açısından değerlendirmektir. Çalışmada, turnuva boyunca oynanan 31 karşılaşmada atılan toplam 106 gol analiz edilmiştir. Araştırmada kullanılan veriler, UEFA'nın resmi internet sitesinde yayımlanan teknik rapordan elde edilmiştir. Turnuvada atılan goller altı kategori altında incelenmiştir: takımlara göre gol dağılımı, gollerin zamanlaması, gollerin zaman dilimleri, gol atılan bölgeler, gol türleri ve oyuna sonradan giren oyuncuların katkısı. Veri analizinde yüzde ve frekans dağılımlarını içeren betimsel istatistikler kullanılmıştır.

Analiz sonuçlarına göre, 2025 UEFA Kadınlar Avrupa Şampiyonası'nda maç başına ortalama 3,42 gol atıldığı, uzatma süreleri hariç tutulduğunda dakika başına 0,26 gol kaydedildiği ve toplam gollerin %34'ünün finalist takımlar olan İngiltere ve İspanya tarafından atıldığı belirlenmiştir. Ayrıca gollerin %43'ünün ilk yarıda, %55'inin ikinci yarıda ve %2'sinin uzatma dakikalarında atıldığı; %80'inin açık oyundan, %20'sinin duran toptan, %86'sının ceza sahası içinden, %14'ünün ceza sahası dışından ve %15'ünün oyuna sonradan giren oyuncular tarafından kaydedildiği tespit edilmiştir. Sonuç olarak, turnuvada atılan gollerin büyük çoğunluğunun ikinci yarıda, açık oyundan ve ceza sahası içinden gerçekleştiği görülmüştür. Bu bulgular, turnuvada yüksek düzeyde hücum verimliliğine işaret etmekte ve takımların organize, topa sahip olmaya dayalı bir hücum anlayışı benimsediğini göstermektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kadın Futbolu, Gol Analizi, Uefa

INTRODUCTION

Soccer is one of the most popular sports worldwide, both in terms of the number of participants and its popularity, followed by millions of people (Sarmiento et al., 2018). In recent years, women's soccer has seen significant development in terms of both its level of professionalism and its global following (Palade et al., 2020). Parallel to this development, the scientific examination of performance parameters, tactical structures, and other factors determining success in women's soccer is also gaining increasing importance.

Match analysis provides coaches and sports scientists with objective data to identify teams' strengths and weaknesses, design effective training programs, and develop competition strategies (Sarmiento et al., 2014; Carling et al., 2007). This analysis is a frequently used method for understanding goals scored, the effectiveness of teams' attacking organization, goal-scoring habits, and critical moments in a match. Knowing when distribution of goals among teams, timing of goals, time period of goals, goal-scoring zones, types of goals and by which players (starting 11 or substitutes) provides critical data for understanding the dynamics of modern soccer (Pratas et al., 2018; Michailidis et al., 2013; Ağyol and Tanyeri, 2022).

A review of the literature reveals that the vast majority of studies on goal analysis focus on men's soccer (Ağyol and Tanyeri, 2022; Kubayi, 2020; Çobanoğlu, 2019). Although there are studies on women's soccer (Başkaya, 2023; Harkness-Armstrong et al., 2022; Maneiro et al., 2019), the number of recent analyses covering elite-level international tournaments is relatively limited. Given the physiological and tactical differences between men's and women's soccer, specific research is needed to understand the unique dynamics of women's soccer.

The UEFA Women's European Football Championship reflects current trends in modern women's football as an elite organization in terms of technique and tactics (Başkaya, 2023; Harkness-Armstrong et al., 2022). Data obtained from such high-level tournaments can play an important role in determining the current state of the sport and its possible future development directions

In this context, the aim of this study is to comprehensively analyze all goals scored in the 2025 UEFA Women's European Football Championship. Within the scope of the research, the 106 goals scored in the tournament were examined in detail in terms of their distribution among teams, the half in which they were scored (first half, second half, extra time), the minutes in the match, the goal areas (inside/outside the penalty area), the types of goals (open play, set pieces), and the contribution of substitutes to the score. The findings of this study aim to contribute to the existing literature by revealing current attacking trends in women's football and to provide practical information to coaches and performance analysts.

METHOD

Research Sample

The sample group consists of 106 goals scored in a total of 31 matches played in the 2025 Women's European Football Championship. All goals were included in the study and analyzed in six different categories (distribution of goals among teams, timing of goals, period of goals, goal-scoring zones, types of goals, and the contribution of substitute players.).

Data Collection

The data used in the research were obtained from the technical report published on the official website of UEFA. <https://uefatechnicalreports.com/pdf-uefa-womens-euro-2025-technical-report> (Last accessed on 20.01.2026).

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed using the SPSS 26.0 software package, and descriptive statistics including frequency and percentage distribution analysis were used in the analysis.

RESULTS

A total of 106 goals were scored in the 31 matches played in the tournament. An average of 3.42 goals per game were scored in this tournament, with a goal occurring every 26 minutes excluding extra time.

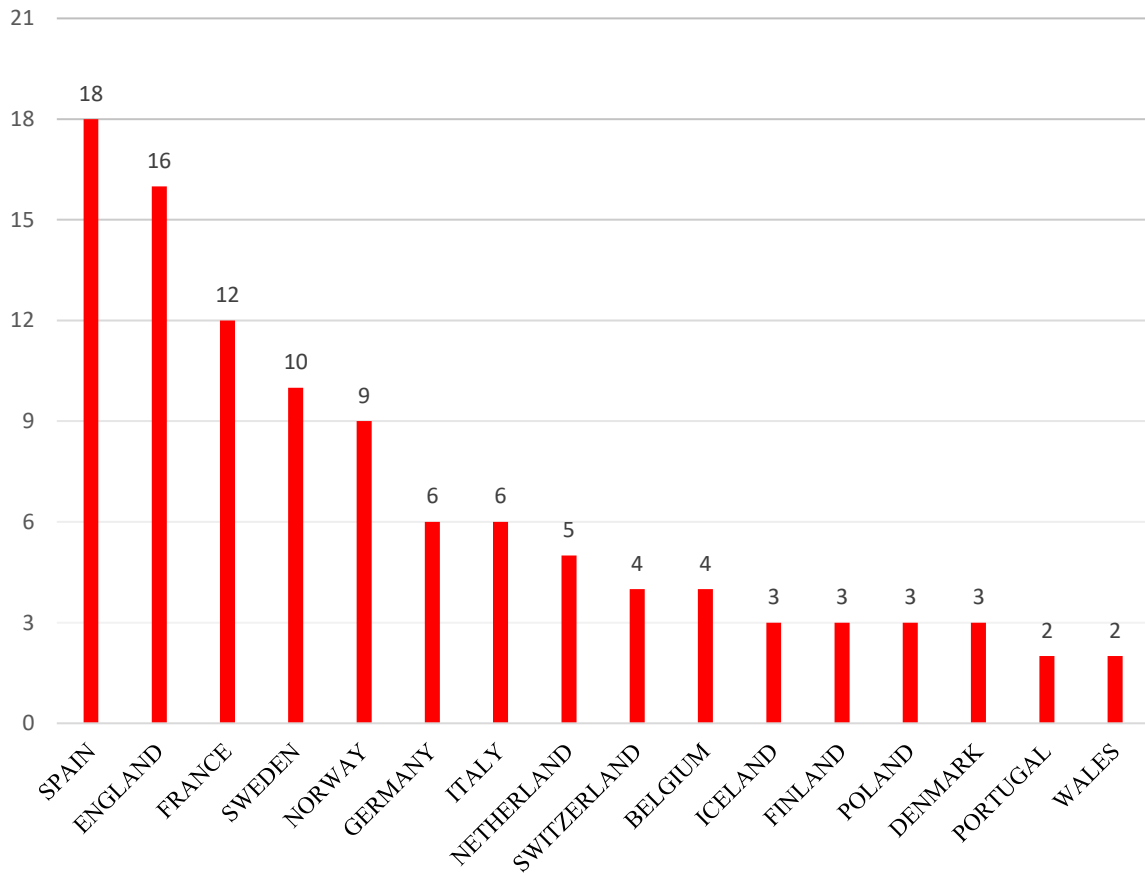


Figure 1. Distribution of goals among nations

The total goal distribution of the nations participating in the tournament is shown (Figure 1). The figure reveals that Spain and England have the highest number of goals, while goal production gradually decreases in other countries.

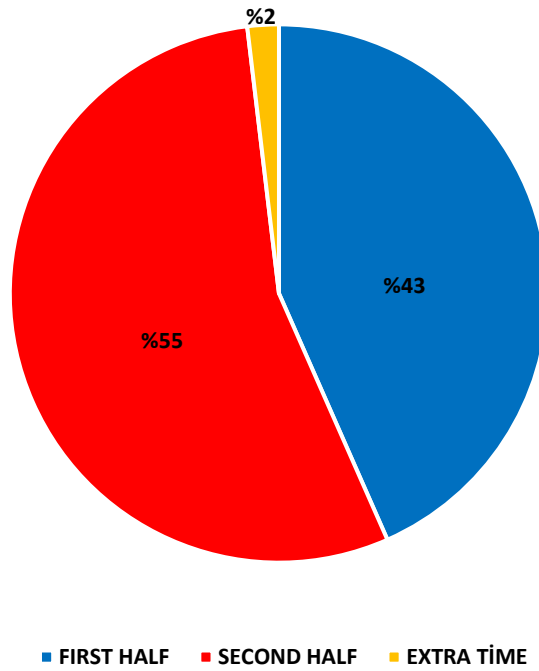


Figure 2. % Period of goals

It was determined that of the 106 goals scored in the 2025 Women's European Football Championship, 46 (43%) were scored in the first half, 58 (55%) in the second half, and 2 (2%) in extra time (Figure 2). The highest number of goals were scored between the 76th and 90th minutes of the match (20 goals; 19%) (Figure 3).

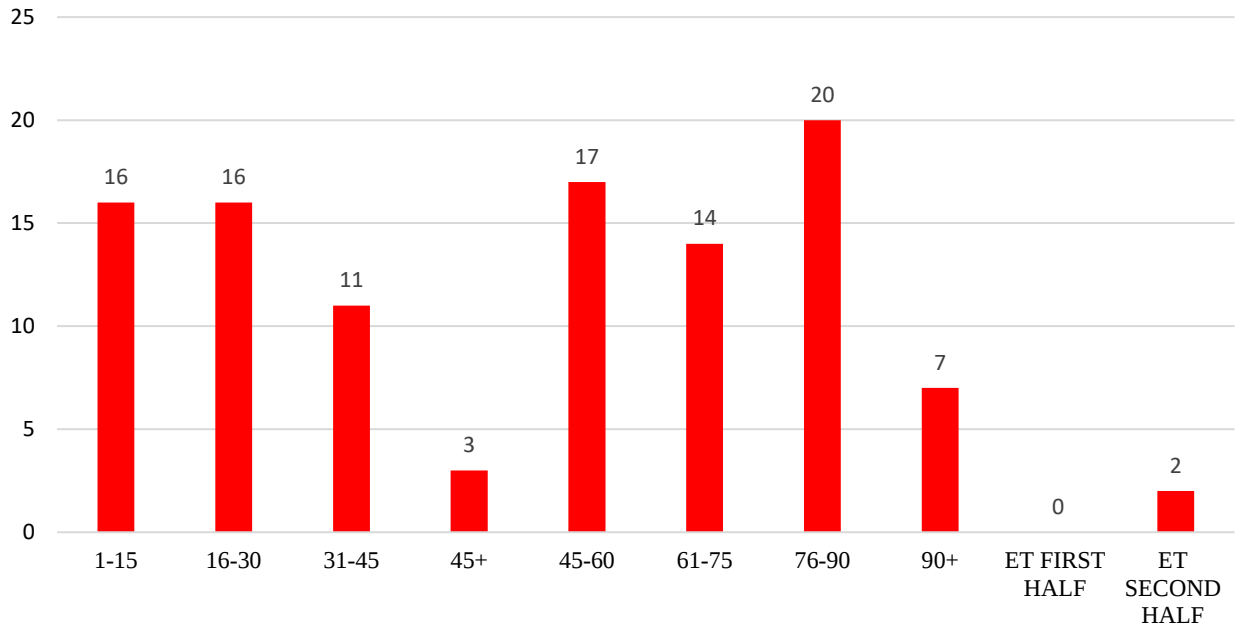


Figure 3. Timing of goals

When examining Figure 4, it is seen that 91 (86%) goals were scored from inside the box, while 15 (14%) goals were scored from outside the box.

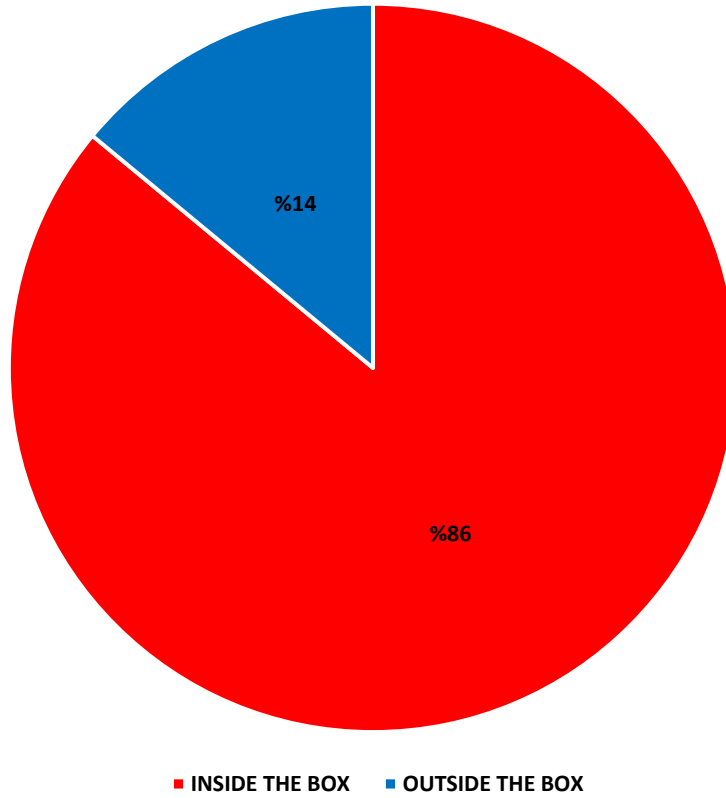


Figure 4. Goal-scoring zones

It was found that 80% of the goals were scored from open play, while the remaining 20% were scored from set-play situations (Figure 5).

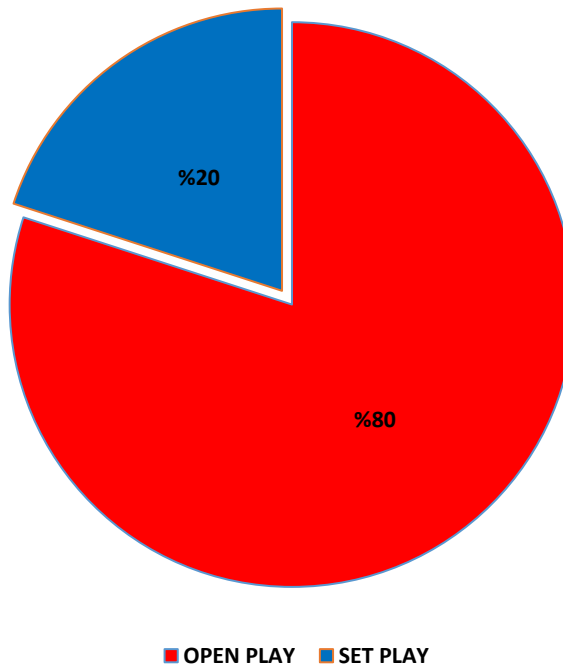


Figure 5. Types of goals

The analysis revealed that 16 (%15) of the goals scored were recorded by players who entered the game from the bench; it was determined that 5 of these goals were scored by England, 3 by Spain,



2 by Switzerland, and 2 by Sweden. Also Iceland, Poland, Portugal, and Wales have each scored one goal. (Figure 6).

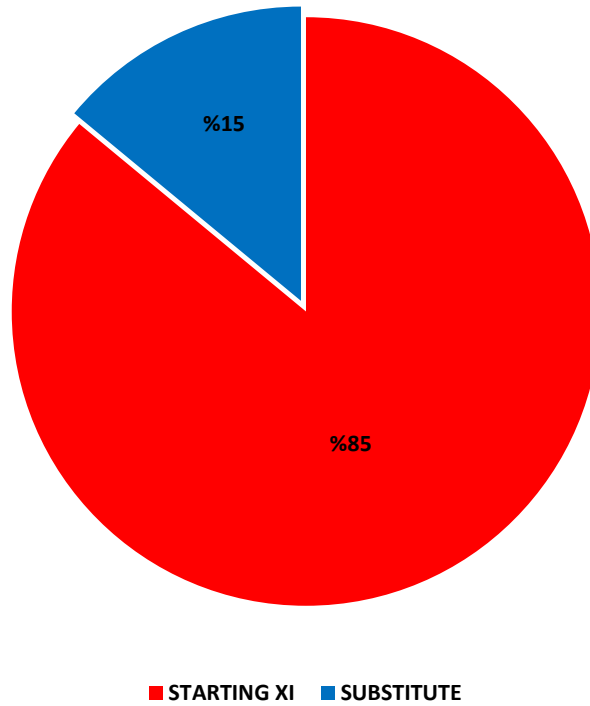


Figure 6. Contribution of Substitute Players

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

At the end of the study conducted to analyze the goals scored in the 2025 European Women's Football Championship, 55% of the total 106 goals scored in the 2025 European Football Championship were scored in the second half, 80% were scored from open play, 86% were scored from inside the box, and 15% were scored by players who entered the game as substitutes.

It has been determined that the vast majority of studies conducted in the literature on goal analysis have been carried out in men's soccer. It has been determined that studies on goal analysis in women's soccer are quite limited (Başkaya, 2023; Baskaya and Senturk, 2017; Harkness-Armstrong et al., 2022; Maneiro et al., 2019).

Başkaya (2023), in a study analyzing the goals scored in the 2022 UEFA Women's European Championship, found that 51% of the goals (48 goals) were scored in the second half, with the highest number of goals (22 goals) scored between the 31st and 45th minutes. followed by goals scored between the 76th and 90th minutes (20 goals), and that goals were concentrated in the final minutes of both halves. This was followed by the 76-90 minute range (20 goals), and goals were concentrated in the final minutes of both halves.

Başkaya and Şentürk (2015) examined the performance of the United States Women's National Team, which won the FIFA Women's World Cup, through various variables such as goals scored and conceded, the distribution of these goals according to time intervals, ball possession rates, number of shots and shots on target, corner kicks, and offsides. Similar to our study, the researchers found that the U.S. National Team scored the majority of its goals in the second half (57.1%). Wang and Qin (2020) found in their study on goals scored in the Women's World Cup that 57.5% of goals were scored in the second half, with the highest number of goals recorded in the last 15 minutes of the match.



Some studies on men's football have generally found that more goals are scored in the second half (Ağyol and Tanyeri, 2022; Kubayi, 2020; Çobanoğlu and Terekli, 2016; Göral, 2016; Çobanoğlu, 2019; Gürkan et al., 2017; Gomes et al., 2011). Especially, the fact that most goals are scored between the 76th and 90th minutes is similar to our study (Gürkan et al., 2017; Çobanoğlu, 2019). Researchers have explained the increased frequency of goals in the second half by the combined effects of factors such as teams losing concentration due to fatigue, teams trailing late in the game increasing their defensive risk, and a decline in physical, psychological, technical performance, and tactical organization levels during this period (Gomes et al., 2011; Gürkan et al., 2017).

Similar to our study, many studies in the literature have shown that goals are scored from inside the box (Başkaya, 2023; Yüksel et al., 2017; Çobanoğlu and Terekli, 2016; Çobanoğlu, 2019; Imamoğlu et al., 2011; Akgül and Pepe, 2017). This situation is thought to be related to players focusing more on scoring as they approach the goal and the accuracy rate of the shots used increasing.

When evaluated in terms of how goals are scored, it has been determined that most goals occur during open play (Başkaya, 2023; Çobanoğlu and Terekli, 2016; Çobanoğlu, 2019; Imamoğlu et al., 2011). Furthermore, a study examining goals scored in the Turkish Super League over five seasons found that 2,594 goals (71.8%) were scored from organized attacks, while 1,020 goals (28.2%) were scored from set plays (Cerrah et al., 2016). These findings show that in modern football, goals are largely the result of organized attacks during open play, and therefore teams' dynamic game structures and ability to capitalize on momentary opportunities are decisive in goal production.

When all these findings are evaluated together, the timing, area, and type of goals scored in the 2025 European Women's Football Championship show similar trends to both previous women's football literature and studies on men's football. Therefore, goal behavior in modern football is largely concentrated in the second half, produced from inside the box and during open play. This is closely related to the evolution of player profiles, game tempo, and tactical organization.

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