



GAME NOTES



ITALY VS FRANCE



HEAD TO HEAD

- France and Italy have met on 19 separate occasions in the Six Nations, with France winning 17 of those games.
- Italy's only two victories over the French in this competition came within three games of each other - in 2011 and 2013 - by a combined margin of victory of just six points.
- Italy have failed to score a point three times in the Six Nations, as two of those occasions were against France - in 2004 and again in 2015.
- France have scored 29 points or more in seven of their nine trips to Rome in the Six Nations, losing both games when they failed to reach 29 points.
- Italy's highest points total against France in the Six Nations - 31 - came back in 2000, in their first ever Six Nations meeting.
- France have played Italy in Rome in Round Five of the Six Nations on two previous occasions - scoring at least 50 points on each occasion.

COMMON STATISTICS

- Italy (142) and France (104) are the only nations who have conceded more than 100 points in the 2019 Championship. While this is the first time since 2016 that France have conceded more than 100 points (109 in 2016), this could be the first tournament since 2015 in which Italy have conceded fewer than 200 points (182).
- France have conceded more than 104 points in a single Championship on just two occasions in the Six Nations era - 109 points conceded in 2016 and 138 in 2001.
- France have scored 29 (42.6%) of their 68 points in the final 20 minutes of matches, while this is also the period of matches in which Italy have scored their highest number of points in the 2019 Championship.

Italy	Points Scored	France
13	0'-20'	18
20	20'-HT	16
10	HT-60'	5
22	60'-FT	29

- Italy have also conceded 42 points in the final 20 minutes of games, the highest total in a 20-minute period for any nation in the 2019 Championship.

- No nation has conceded more tries than Italy in any 20-minute quarter of games other than France in the 20 minutes before half-time so far in the 2019 Championship

Italy	Tries Conceded	France
4	0'-20'	2
4	20'-HT	5
5	HT-60'	5
6	60'-FT	2

- Both France and Italy have scored nine tries in the 2019 Championship, with seven tries originating from lineouts and turnovers.

Italy	Try Origins	France
3	Lineouts	4
1	Scrum	2
4	Turnovers	3
1	Others	0

- Lineouts have been the primary source of tries for the opponents of both Italy and France, as the Italians have conceded more tries originating from lineouts than both England (7) and Wales (6) have conceded in the 2019 Championship.

Italy	Opponent Try Origins	France
3	Counter Attacks	5
8	Lineouts	5
4	Turnovers	2
4	Others	2

- Both France and Italy have made only 50% of their kicks at goal (excluding drop goals), the lowest percentages in the 2019 Championship.

Italy	Goal Kicking	France
44.4%	% Conversions Made	44.4%
57.1%	% Penalty Shots Made	57.1%
50.0%	% Made Overall (excluding Drop Goals)	50.0%

- Both nations have been successful from four of their nine conversion attempts and four of their seven penalty attempts. France are also the only nation to score a drop goal in the 2019 Championship, scoring from one of their two attempts.
- No nation has attempted carries with a higher percentage of their possessions than France (43.7%) in the 2019 Championship.

Italy	Types of Play	France
6.6%	Kicks	9.4%
42.9%	Carries	43.7%
50.4%	Passes	46.9%

- France have attempted carries with 48.3% of their possession in their own 22, the second-highest percentage in the 2019 Championship, as no nation attempted passes with a higher percentage of their possessions than Italy (36.5%).

Italy	Types of Play - Own 22	France
21.4%	Kicks	26.5%
42.1%	Carries	48.3%
36.5%	Passes	36.5%

- France lead the 2019 Championship with 54 offloads, 26 more than any other nation, as Italy rank third with 26. The top three players for offloads are all French, as Italy's Jayden Hayward is joint-fourth with six offloads.

Player	Offloads
Antoine Dupont (France)	7
Louis Picamoles (France)	7
Mathieu Bastareaud (France)	7
Damian Penaud (France)	6
Elliot Daly (England)	6
Jayden Hayward (Italy)	6

- France also led the 2018 Championship with 51 offloads, as Italy were joint-second with 43 (alongside Wales).
- France are the slowest nation at the breakdown in the 2019 Championship (4.09 seconds), as only Ireland have a quicker average ruck speed than Italy (3.48 seconds).

Italy	Ruck Speed	France
3.48	Average Speed	4.09
47	6+ Second Rucks	69

- France have had more 6+ second rucks than any other nation (69), while no nation has had fewer than Italy (47) in the 2019 Championship.
- No nation has made fewer dominant tackles than Italy (40) in the 2019 Championship, as the Italians have averaged just 10 dominant tackles per match - less than half their 21 dominant tackles per match average from 2018.

Italy	Tackles	France
821	Total Tackles	775
40	Dominant Tackles	52
4.9%	% Dominant Tackles	6.7%

- France have been successful with 90.6% of their tackles, the highest percentage in the 2019 Championship.

ITALY

- Italy have lost their last 21 Six Nations matches, a run that stretches back to 2015. They had never lost more than 14 consecutive matches prior to this streak.
- A defeat to France would see Italy hit with the wooden spoon for a fourth-straight Championship and the 14th time overall in the Six Nations.
- Italy's final round defeat to Scotland last year provided them with their highest points total in a Six Nations game (27) since their 37-17 win over Scotland in 2007.
- Italy have lost their last 14 home games in the Championship. They had won four of their previous six home matches in the Six Nations, beating Ireland, Scotland and France twice.
- Italy have scored at least 15 points in each of their last five home games in the Six Nations. They had scored at least 15 points just twice in their previous eight games in this tournament.
- Italy have won just 75.9% of their own scrums in the 2019 Championship, as they are the only nation to lose more than two of their scrums. They are also the only nation yet to win an opponent scrum so far in this competition.
- Italy have lost just two of their 41 lineouts, the lowest total in the 2019 Championship. They have also stolen nine lineouts, the joint-highest total in the competition.
- Only Owen Farrell (48) has scored more points than Tommaso Allen (25) in the 2019 Championship, as conversions and penalties have accounted for 20 of Allen's 25 points.
- Tommaso Allan has assisted four tries, the joint-highest total in the 2019 Championship (alongside Elliot Daly).
- Braam Steyn (50) is one of just two players with at least 50 carries so far in the 2019 Championship (alongside Billy Vunipola - 57); however, three of his teammates have carried for more metres - as Steyn has averaged 4.4 metres per carry.

Metres Carried - Italy

Player	Metres Carried
Jayden Hayward	319
Federico Ruzza	234
Michele Campagnaro	234
Braam Steyn	221

FRANCE

- France have never lost four games in a single Six Nations Championship but would do so for the first time if they lose to Italy in round five.
- France scored 27 points against Scotland two games ago in the Six Nations. It was the most points they'd scored against a nation other than Italy in the Six Nations since a 55-35 defeat to England in 2015.
- France have lost four of their last five round five matches in the Championship - they had lost three of their first 14 round five in the Six Nations.
- France have won just one of their last ten away games in the Six Nations, but that was a 40-18 win in Rome in 2017.
- France have lost nine of their last ten away games in the Six Nations. They had lost nine of their previous 17 away matches since the start of the 2009 Championship prior to this run.
- Yoann Huget (6) is the only player with more than four linebreaks in the 2019 Championship, as teammate Antoine Dupont is among a group of five players with four linebreaks.
- Three of Huget's six linebreaks have been in the first phase, as France as a nation have had seven linebreaks in the first phase.
- Yoann Huget has averaged more metres per carry than any other player in the 2019 Championship, as his teammate Damian Penaud ranks fourth (minimum 15 carries).

Player	Average distance per carry
Yoann Huget (France)	12.2
Blair Kinghorn (Scotland)	11.7
Jacob Stockdale (Ireland)	11.3
Damian Penaud (France)	10.4
Manu Tuilagi (England)	10.2

- Wenceslas Lauret is one of three players with four breakdown steals, the joint-highest total in the 2019 Championship.

Player	Breakdown Steals
James Ritchie (Scotland)	4
Peter O'Mahony (Ireland)	4
Wenceslas Lauret (France)	4
Thomas Curry (England)	3
Adam Beard (Wales)	2