



### **Foreword**



European football's success is built on open competitions, sporting excellence, and unity within the European football pyramid. It emerges from both on-field contests and healthy rivalry that goes well beyond the field of play and is based on sporting merit and solidarity, the very fundamentals of the game.

This model highlights the importance of revenue generated at the pinnacle of the football pyramid to sustain its base at the grassroots level and provide the much-needed funding to foster its growth. And the European Club Finance and Investment Landscape is a true testament to UEFA's role in upholding it.

Notably, 93.5% of UEFA club competition revenue

is channelled back to the participating clubs, with the remaining 6.5% reinvested into grassroots funding for the amateur game at the national level.

Over the past decade, the numbers have spoken volumes:

- Revenues from UEFA competitions have surged by a staggering 122%;
- Domestic football TV revenues have grown by 80%;
- Sponsorships and commercial revenues have expanded by 70%.

In addition, the gate and other non-commercial revenues have followed the trend, increasing by 48% and 42%, respectively.

For many participating countries, revenue from UEFA competitions constitutes a significant portion of their total income. Portuguese clubs, for example, saw an average of €29 million in 2022, equivalent to 36% of their total revenue. Similar percentages were reported by Dutch (25%), Danish (34%), and Austrian (36%) clubs.

This enduring model underpins European football's vigour, resilience, and exceptional growth. Conversations with essential stakeholders, such as national associations, clubs, leagues, players, and fans, confirm that the blueprint for this success lies in adhering to a meritocratic approach, which must be preserved.

In its core responsibility as the protector of the beautiful game, UEFA is unwavering in its dedication to collaborating with all stakeholders. Our objective is to shield the sport from the dangers of excessive spending and division, ensuring that football not only endures but also flourishes.

This report also outlines a distinct vision for the future – one of stability, resilience, and a continuous success narrative that should remain accessible to everyone rather than just a privileged few.

Aleksander Čeferin

**UEFA** President

### Introduction



The UEFA European Club Finance and Investment Landscape report has a new title and a new look, and it is packed with fresh information. As anticipated in our last edition, this report focuses solely on the latest financial data and trends, as sporting and transfer trends have already been covered in our latest Club Talent and Competition Landscape report.

The detailed analysis of 700 clubs shows that top-division club revenues reached a record level of almost €24 billion in the 2022 financial year, and revenue is anticipated to grow beyond €26 billion in the 2023 financial year, representing a growth rate of more than a billion euros per year between 2013 and 2023.

Despite this growth, revenue polarisation between and within countries remains large. Broadcasting revenues, totalling €8 billion in 2022, vary the most across leagues, with the sixth ranked league, Portugal, receiving just 6% of the largest recipient, England. Broadcasting revenues remain overall stable, with many leagues embarking on tenders for the sale of their TV rights, mostly commencing in 2024/25 or 2025/26.

However, it is sponsorship and commercial revenues that vary the most across clubs within the same league or across different leagues. Sponsorship and commercial revenue increased strongly in 2023 (a remarkable 30% increase on the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019) with that revenue stream set to exceed domestic TV revenue for the first time in decades. For top clubs, sponsorship and commercial revenue represents between 40% and 50% of total revenues and has become the main source of imbalance between clubs, hence the importance in implementing strict rules on the fair value assessment of related party transactions. In this respect, newly approved financial sustainability rules grant UEFA's independent club financial control body more investigative and disciplinary power than ever before.

On the other end of the spectrum, club wages increased significantly across the pandemic despite the lost revenues and depressed transfer market during the

2020-2021 period, with wage levels being unsustainable in several leagues in 2022, absorbing 89% of revenue at French clubs, 88% at Belgian and Turkish clubs, and 83% at Italian clubs.

However, there are signs that stakeholders' cooperation and new regulations are already having an effect. Faced by strengthened incoming squad cost controls led by UEFA, there are strong signs in the latest figures that clubs are taking stock of their wage bills and trying to get their costs under control. In 2023, player wages increased by less than 1%, the lowest growth level on record, contributing to the re-balancing of the wages/revenue ratio for many clubs.

Nonetheless, more vigilance is needed than ever before regarding club investment and finances. Debt levels continued to increase, with bank debts expected to pass the €12 billion mark in 2023, i.e., 50% higher than the pre-pandemic level, leading to record negative interest expenses causing clubs increasing stress on the financial markets.

Finally, the report focuses on multi-club investments and ownership models, highlighting how nowadays more than 300 clubs are part of multi-club investment groups, leading to an increased risk of seeing two clubs with the same owner or investor facing each other in the same competition, creating potential integrity risks at the European level.

The current context demands strict enforcement of cost control regulations and more harmonization of financial rules between leagues. This is paramount to limit overspending, "creative finance", and rules' circumvention. As long as differences on key regulatory matters continue between leagues, inflationary tensions will persist, contributing to imbalances and instability.

A special thanks go to all colleagues and friends, national associations, clubs, and leagues who helped in compiling this report, which has become an industry reference in promoting financial transparency and benchmarking of European club football.

Andrea Traverso

UEFA Director Financial Sustainability & Research

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### A unique Europe-wide panorama of club finances

#### Scope of financial analyses

This report remains the only publication that analyses all of Europe's top divisions, being compiled on the basis of submissions from more than 700 clubs each year. Just as important for benchmarking purposes are the extended review that is carried out each summer by specialist financial analysts at UEFA and the subsequent exchanges between clubs and national licensing bodies. These can result in more than 500 reclassifications each year, ensuring that the report provides the best possible year-on-year and club-by-club comparisons.

#### Approach and data sources

UEFA's benchmarking reports always endeavour to give the best possible overview of the financial results of Europe's football clubs and the position of European club football as a whole. The type and scope of financial information used varies according to the type of analysis.

The majority of financial analyses in this report are presented across a double-page spread to provide the reader with a clear and consistent format. Depending on the topic, this main spread may be supplemented by specific ad hoc analyses.

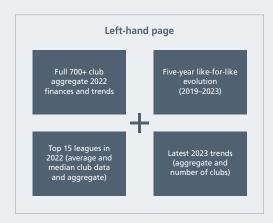
Each main spread starts by presenting aggregate values for all of Europe's top-division clubs, based on the actual figures for 2022 submitted by 718 clubs and reviewed by UEFA, together with simulated figures for the remaining 22 clubs. It also features the top 15 leagues by aggregate values, including each league's average and median club values. This section is limited to 15 leagues for reasons of legibility and brevity; the data on all 55 UEFA member associations is provided in the appendices, across 20 KPIs.

Each double-page spread then presents a five-year evolution and the percentage change from 2022 to 2023, as well as since 2019 (pre-pandemic) where relevant. While this section factors in the very latest data submitted to UEFA for 2023, the five-year analysis only includes clubs whose data is available for all five years, to ensure a like-for-like comparison, splitting clubs into 'early reporting' and 'later reporting'. Finally, we present the top 20 clubs by each financial measure and various key performance indicators (KPIs). These are based on actual, reviewed data for 2023, supplemented on occasion by abbreviated data provided by clubs not in UEFA competitions.

### **Key definitions**

To improve the reading experience some abbreviations are used throughout the report. References to a particular year, such as 2022 or 2023, refer to the financial year, i.e. the 12-month period ending in that year (revenues, costs or profits) or the end of that 12-month period (assets, debts), denoted in previous benchmarking reports as FY[year]. References to 'league' or 'country' results refer to the aggregate of club in the top division.

### Double-page presentation of each major revenue, cost, profit, asset & debt line item

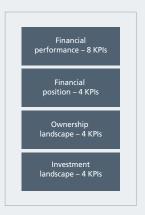




#### Specific ad hoc analyses



### **Appendices (country KPIs)**

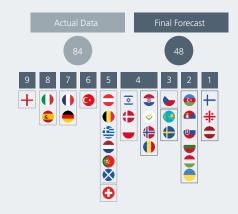


# 2023: Early club reporting allows faster assessment of trends

### Early-reporting clubs account for around 60% of top-division totals by value

The following table and map show the 132 clubs in 32 countries that provided UEFA with early 2023 data. These clubs account for 57–61% of top-division clubs' total revenue, wages, assets, liabilities and transfer activity. The darker dots on the map indicate clubs that have provided final forecasts, rather than actual data. This early more-timely reporting, is just one example of how the UEFA financial sustainability regulations contribute to improved financial transparency.

Country	Club name	Data	Country	Club name	Data	Country	Club name	Data
AUT	FC Salzburg	Actual	ESP	Sevilla FC	Actual	NED	Feyenoord	Actual
AUT	FK Austria Wien	Actual	ESP	Villarreal CF	Actual	NED	PSV Eindhoven	Actual
AUT	LASK	Actual	FIN	HJK Helsinki	Forecast	NOR	FK Bodø/Glimt	Forecast
AUT	SK Rapid Wien	Actual	FRA	AS Monaco FC	Actual	NOR	Molde FK	Forecast
AUT	SK Sturm Graz	Actual	FRA	LOSC Lille	Actual	NOR	Rosenborg BK	Forecast
AZE	Neftçi PFK	Forecast	FRA	Olympique de Marseille	Actual	NOR	SK Brann	Forecast
AZE	Qarabağ FK	Forecast	FRA	Paris Saint-Germain	Actual	POL	KKS Lech Poznań	Actual
BEL	Club Brugge	Actual	FRA	RC Lens	Actual	POL	Legia Warszawa	Actual
BEL	KAA Gent	Actual	FRA	Stade Rennais FC	Forecast	POL	MKS Pogoń Szczecin	Actual
BEL	KRC Genk	Actual	FRA	Toulouse FC	Actual	POL	Raków Częstochowa	Forecast
BEL	R. Union Saint-Gilloise	Actual	GEO	FC Dinamo Batumi	Forecast	POR	FC Porto	Actual
BEL	Royal Antwerp FC	Actual	GER	1. FC Union Berlin	Actual	POR	SC Braga	Actual
BUL	PFC CSKA-Sofia	Forecast	GER	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	Forecast	POR	SL Benfica	Actual
BUL	PFC Ludogorets 1945	Forecast	GER	Borussia Dortmund	Actual	POR	Sporting Clube de Portugal	Actual
CRO	GNK Dinamo Zagreb	Forecast	GER	Eintracht Frankfurt	Forecast	POR	Vitória SC	Actual
CRO	HNK Hajduk Split	Forecast	GER	FC Bayern München	Actual	ROU	CFR 1907 Cluj	Forecast
CRO	HNK Rijeka	Forecast	GER	RB Leipzig	Actual	ROU	FCSB	Forecast
CRO	NK Osijek	Forecast	GER	SC Freiburg	Actual	ROU	FCV Farul Constanța	Forecast
CYP	AC Omonia	Forecast	GRE	AEK Athens FC	Actual	ROU	Sepsi Sfantu Gheorghe	Forecast
CYP	AEK Larnaca FC	Forecast	GRE	Aris Thessaloniki FC	Actual	sco	Aberdeen FC	Actual
CYP	APOEL FC	Forecast	GRE	Olympiacos FC	Actual	sco	Celtic FC	Actual
CYP	Aris Limassol FC	Forecast	GRE	Panathinaikos FC	Actual	sco	Heart of Midlothian FC	Actual
CZE	AC Sparta Praha	Actual	GRE	PAOK FC	Actual	sco	Hibernian FC	Actual
CZE	FC Viktoria Plzeň	Actual	HUN	Debreceni VSC	Forecast	sco	Rangers FC	Actual
CZE	SK Slavia Praha	Forecast	HUN	Ferencvárosi TC	Forecast	SRB	FK Crvena Zvezda	Forecast
DEN	AGF Aarhus	Actual	ISR	Beitar Jerusalem FC	Actual	SRB	FK Partizan	Forecast
DEN	F.C. Copenhagen	Forecast	ISR	Hapoel Beer-Sheva FC	Actual	SUI	BSC Young Boys	Forecast
DEN	FC Midtjylland	Actual	ISR	Maccabi Haifa FC	Actual	SUI	FC Basel 1893	Forecast
DEN	FC Nordsjælland	Forecast	ISR	Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC	Actual	SUI	FC Lugano	Actual
ENG	Arsenal FC	Actual	ITA	AC Milan	Actual	SUI	FC Luzern	Actual
ENG	Aston Villa FC	Actual	ITA	ACF Fiorentina	Actual	SUI	Servette FC	Actual
ENG	Brighton & Hove Albion FC	Actual	ITA	AS Roma	Actual	SVK	FC DAC 1904 Dunajská Streda	Forecast
ENG	Liverpool FC	Actual	ITA	Atalanta BC	Forecast	SVK	ŠK Slovan Bratislava	Forecast
ENG	Manchester City FC	Actual	ITA	FC Internazionale Milano	Actual	SWE	BK Häcken	Forecast
ENG	Manchester United	Actual	ITA	Juventus	Abbreviated	SWE	Djurgårdens IF	Forecast
ENG	Newcastle United FC	Actual	ITA	SS Lazio	Actual	SWE	Hammarby Fotboll	Forecast
ENG	Tottenham Hotspur	Abbreviated	ITA	SSC Napoli	Actual	TUR	Adana Demirspor	Forecast
ENG	West Ham United FC	Actual	KAZ	FC Aktobe	Forecast	TUR	Beşiktaş JK	Actual
ESP	CA Osasuna	Actual	KAZ	FC Astana	Forecast	TUR	Fenerbahçe SK	Actual
	Club Atlético de Madrid FC Barcelona	Actual		FC Tobol Kostanay	Forecast	TUR	Galatasaray AŞ	Actual
ESP		Actual	LVA	Riga FC	Forecast	TUR	İstanbul Başakşehir	Actual
ESP	Real Betis Balompié  Real Madrid CF	Actual	NED NED	AFC Ajax AZ Alkmaar	Actual Actual	UKR	Trabzonspor AŞ	Actual Forecast
ESP			NED			UKR	FC Dynamo Kyiv	
E2L.	Real Sociedad de Fútbol	Actual	NED	FC Twente	Actual	UKK	FC Shakhtar Donetsk	Forecast





# CLUB REVENUES

This chapter looks at the profile of club revenues across Europe, reporting on the very latest trends. It starts with a ten-year revenue retrospective broken down by revenue stream, followed by an assessment of the current polarisation of club revenues at league and club level at the end of this decade of growth. The chapter then looks in detail at each individual revenue stream, using early-reporting clubs' data for 2023 and all top-division clubs' data for 2022. The figures presented here underline the remarkable resilience of European club football, with revenues bouncing back following the darkness of the pandemic and now exceeding pre-pandemic levels.

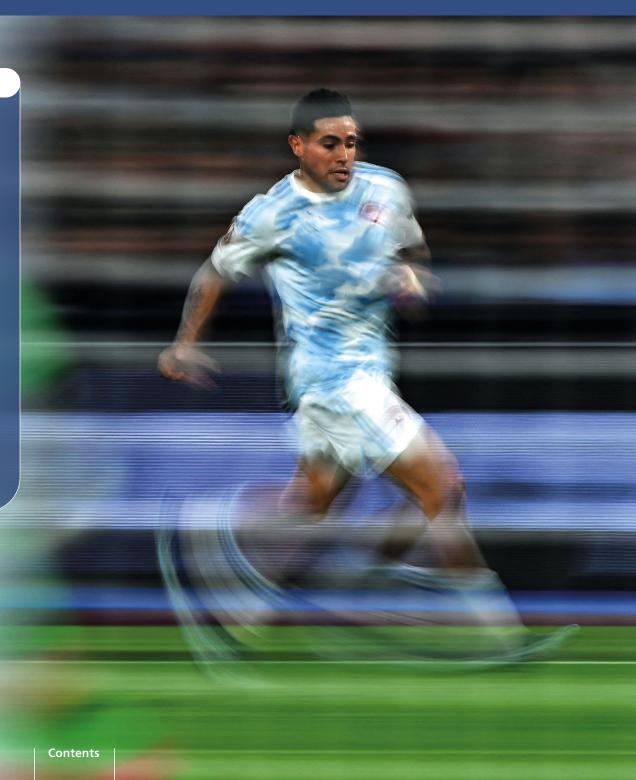
### €24bn

Record top-division club revenues reported in 2022, up 13% on 2021 and up 4% on the pre-pandemic levels seen in 2019 +12%

Extremely strong year-on-year revenue growth seen in 2023 by early-reporting clubs, with gate receipts and sponsorship & commercial revenue now 23% and 30% above pre-pandemic levels respectively

5-12x

Revenue of the average English Premier League club is five times that of the average club in Russia (the sixth-ranked league) and 12 times that of the average club in Belgium (tenth-ranked league)

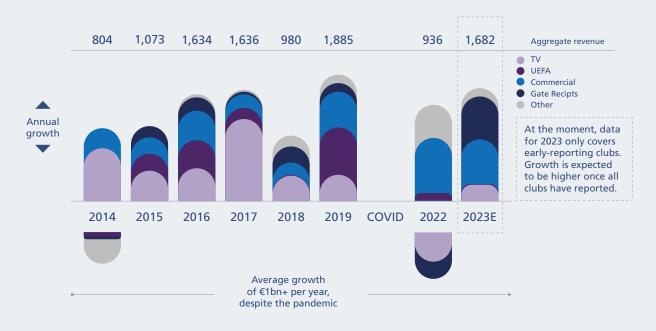


### Early 2023 reporting points to record annual revenue growth

#### Record club revenues reported

The chart below shows the evolution of year-on-year growth in aggregate club revenue over the last decade (together with a breakdown of that growth), with a jump from 2019 to 2022 to exclude the two financial years that were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, increases in (i) sponsorship and commercial revenue, (ii) revenue from UEFA and (iii) 'other revenue' (mainly subsidies, donations, non-football revenue and exceptional items) more than compensated for declines in TV revenue and gate receipts (which were still, to some extent, impacted by pandemic-related restrictions), resulting in record top-division revenues. Data for early-reporting clubs suggests that aggregate revenue in 2023 is likely to be even higher; indeed, 2023 is likely to see the largest annual revenue increase on record once late-reporting clubs have submitted their figures.

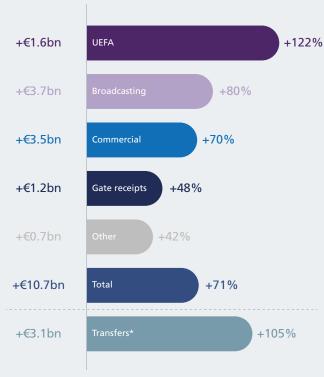
### Evolution of annual growth in aggregate club revenue and a breakdown of that growth, 2014–2023 (€m)



### Healthy growth across all revenue streams

All revenue streams have seen strong growth over the last ten years, with growth rates ranging from 48% for gate receipts to 122% for UEFA prize money. In addition, it is worth noting that transfer income has more than doubled in that time (although, for the avoidance of doubt, transfer income is not included in clubs' revenue or operating profits, neither here nor in the rest of this chapter).

#### Absolute and percentage increases for each revenue stream, 2013–2023



<sup>\*</sup> While club revenue does not include transfers, growth in transfer earnings has been included here for context. This data refers to gross transfer earnings, which is reported separately in club accounts and analysed further in Chapter 4 of this report.

### Revenue landscape remains polarised

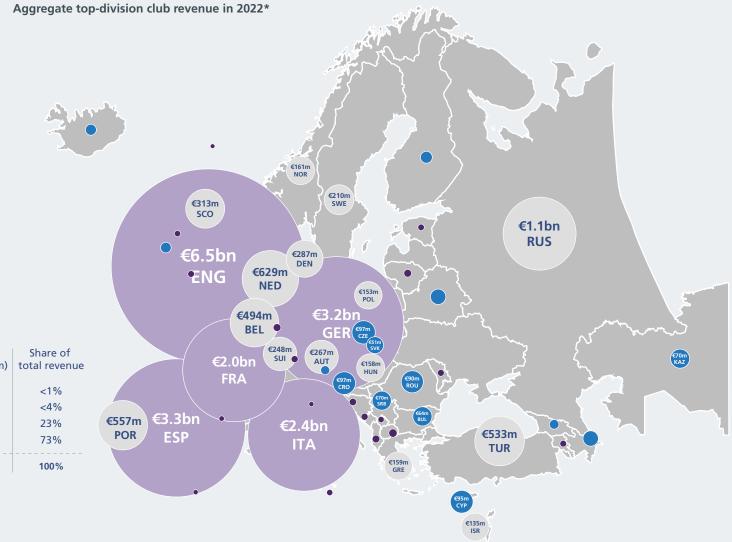
### **Extreme disparities at European level**

Clubs' ability to generate revenue varies enormously across Europe's top divisions – from England, where clubs generate an aggregate total of €6.5bn (€323m per club on average), to San Marino, where the 15 clubs generate an aggregate total of €3.2m, an average of just €215,000 per club (i.e. 2,000 times less than the average English club).

### English Premier League clubs, or LaLiga and DFL clubs combined, generate almost as much revenue as all clubs in the bottom 50 countries combined

In 2022, the revenue of England's 20 top-tier clubs was almost as high as the combined revenue of all 642 clubs in the bottom 50 countries (see map on right). It is worth noting, in the interests of context, that there are 20 different clubs in those countries which have won UEFA silverware in the past.

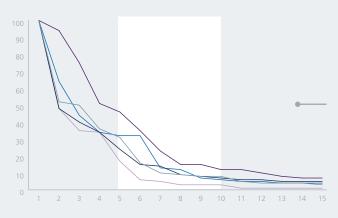
Aggregate club revenues in 2022	Number of countries	Number of clubs	Total revenue (€m)	Share of total revenue
Less than €20m	19	207	204	<1%
● €20m to €100m	15	194	857	<4%
● €100m to €2,000m	16	241	5,475	23%
● €2,000m+	5	98	17,353	73%
Total	55	740	23,889	100%



<sup>\*</sup> All financial data presented and analysed in this report is either collected directly from clubs or collected indirectly through national associations or leagues, using UEFA's extensive online reporting templates. This data is itself sourced from official financial statements verified by independent external auditors. In some cases, certain items have been reallocated in order to achieve consistency in financial reporting across Europe – an important requirement when it comes to benchmarking. In a limited number of cases, data is not available, typically where a club has been relegated or fallen outside the scope of the club licensing system. In these cases, the missing data is simulated by UEFA using data for the relevant club from the previous year or, if this is not representative, extrapolating from data for clubs with a similar profile in the same league. Simulated data makes up less than 1% of total data in value terms.

# Sources of competitive imbalance at club and league level

### Leagues ranked 1 to 15



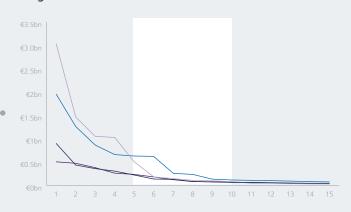
#### Capturing disparities in revenue and spending power

This chapter analyses individual revenue streams at league and club level. However, it is also important to look at those various revenue streams side by side in order to compare and understand the relative contributions that each of them make to overall disparities in revenue and spending power.

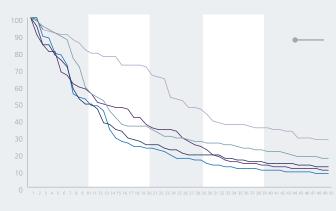
### TV revenue varies the most across leagues

UEFA revenue (prize money and solidarity payments) is the most evenly spread across leagues, with the 6th and 15th largest recipients receiving 35% and 7% respectively of the amount received by the largest recipient. In contrast, the 6th and 15th largest recipients of domestic TV revenue receive 6% and less than 1% respectively of the amount received by the largest recipient.\*

#### Leagues ranked 1 to 15



#### Clubs ranked 1 to 50



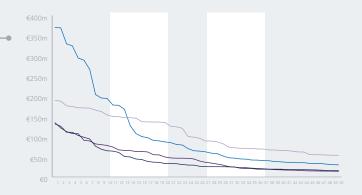


**Revenue streams** 

#### Commercial revenue varies the most across clubs

In contrast, looking at the top 50 clubs for each revenue stream, domestic TV revenue is the most evenly spread, while commercial revenues vary the most. While the 50th largest recipient of TV revenue (ACF Fiorentina) received 28% of the amount received by the largest recipient, Liverpool FC (€53m vs €189m), the 50th largest recipient of commercial revenues (Sporting Clube de Portugal) generated just 8% of the amount enjoyed by the largest recipient, Manchester City FC (€30m vs €371m).

#### Clubs ranked 1 to 50



<sup>\*</sup> This analysis is based on 2022 data. At league level, England was the largest and Portugal the 6th largest recipient of both UEFA revenue and domestic TV revenue, while Scotland was the 15th largest for TV revenue and Sweden was the 15th largest for UEFA revenue. As fully described later in this chapter 'commercial revenues' is a grouping of all contractually committed sponsor and commercial revenue types.

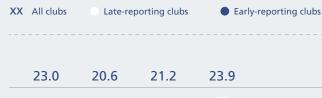
# Record European revenues as post-pandemic growth gathers pace



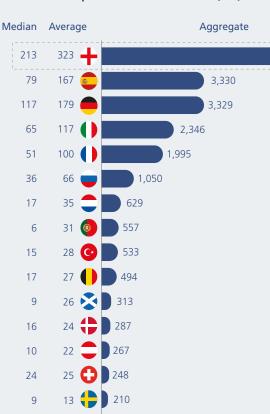
### Europe's top-division clubs achieve record revenues

Europe's 700+ top-division clubs recorded aggregate revenue of €23.9bn in 2022 – a 13% increase on 2021 (some of which was due to the pandemic) and 4.0% higher than the pre-pandemic record of €23.0bn seen in 2019. This was in line with the 4.1% growth projection made in last year's report, based on the revenues of early-reporting clubs.

#### **Evolution of aggregate revenue (€bn)**



### Revenue of top-division clubs in 2022 (€m)



### Median club revenues differ from averages

6.453

English clubs reported just under €6.5bn of revenue in 2022, with median and average revenues of €213m and €323m respectively across the 20 clubs.

Spain was ranked second in terms of aggregate revenue by virtue of having 20 clubs compared with Germany's 18, with its median and average revenues standing €38m and €12m lower respectively than the German equivalents. Meanwhile, the financial polarisation within the Portuguese league is particularly striking, with the league ranked 8th on the basis of aggregate or average revenue, but only 18th on the basis of median club revenue.

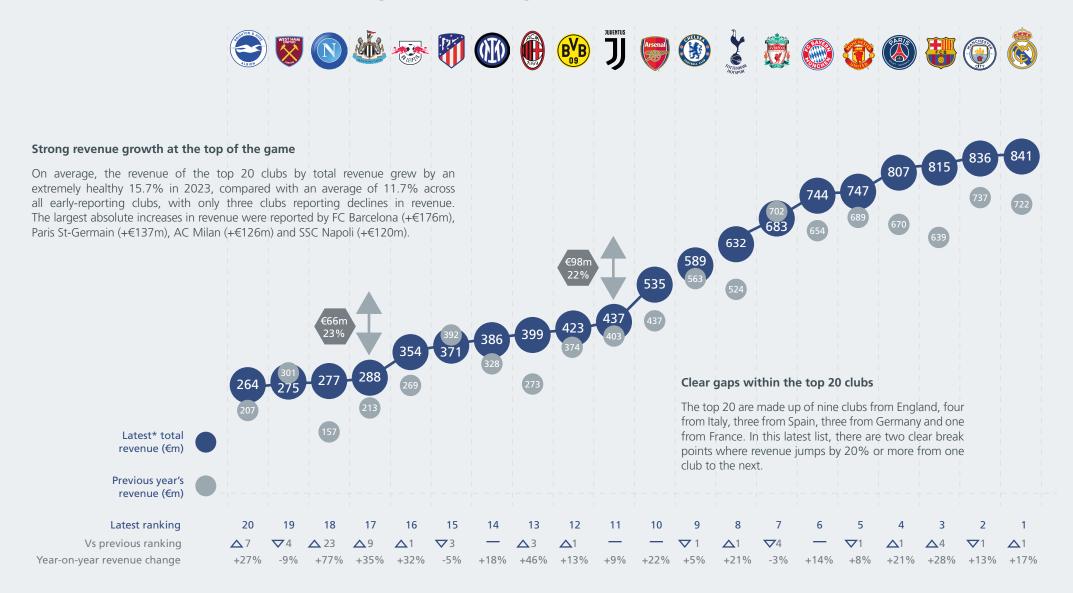
### Strong growth achieved by early-reporting clubs in 2023

Early-reporting clubs saw strong revenue growth in 2023, with their aggregate revenue standing €1.6bn above 2022 levels (a growth rate of 11.7%) on account of fans' insatiable appetite for European football in the post-pandemic landscape. Two-thirds of those clubs reported increases in revenue, and their aggregate revenue of €15.0bn was 20% higher than the pre-pandemic total of €12.4bn seen in 2019.





# Top 20 clubs record strong revenue growth in 2023



<sup>\*</sup> For all top 20 clubs, the 'latest' total revenues values relate to the financial year ending in 2023. Tottenham Hotspur FC and Juventus figures have provided UEFA with abbreviated figures for 2023 to enable their inclusion in the top 20 analysis. Chelsea FC 2023 revenue figures are sourced from the Deloitte Football Money League 2024 publication.

Median Average

11.9

1.3

# Early data for 2023 points to record gate revenues



Gate receipts of top-division clubs in 2022 (€m)

### Gate revenues in 2022 reflected some final pandemic-related restrictions

On aggregate, top-division clubs reported €3.1bn of gate revenue in 2022 – a five-fold increase on the figure for 2021 (which was recorded in the depths of the pandemic), but still 7% down on the pre-pandemic record of €3.3bn seen in 2019 (in line with the 7% decline observed for early-reporting clubs in last year's report). It is worth noting that German and Spanish clubs still faced some crowd restrictions in 2022.

#### Differences between median and average figures

As highlighted in our European Club Talent and Competition Landscape report in September 2023, England and Germany have by far the largest attendance figures. This is reflected in their median gate revenues, which stand at €25m and €12m respectively, compared with €5−7m in France, Italy, Spain and the Netherlands. The huge gate revenues generated by Spain's very largest clubs result in Spain having the second highest average and aggregate gate receipts, but only the fourth highest median. Likewise, aggregate gate receipts in Scotland primarily reflect the revenue of the two largest clubs, whereas Swiss gate revenues are more evenly spread, with that country boasting the seventh highest median.

### Record crowds and gate revenues for early-reporting clubs in 2023

Early-reporting clubs' gate revenues increased strongly year on year in 2023, rising by more than €700m or 32%, reflecting the lifting of the final pandemic-related restrictions. An all-time record of 209 million fans attended top-tier league matches across Europe in 2022/23, with a further 32 million attending various cup matches.\* 84% of early-reporting clubs saw increased gate revenues in 2023, with their aggregate total of €2.6bn representing a 23% increase on the pre-pandemic figure of €2.1bn seen in 2019.

### Evolution of top-division clubs' aggregate gate receipts (€bn)

XX All clubs Late-reporting clubs			<ul><li>Early-reporting clubs</li></ul>
		0.5	2.4
3.3	2.5	0.5	3.1

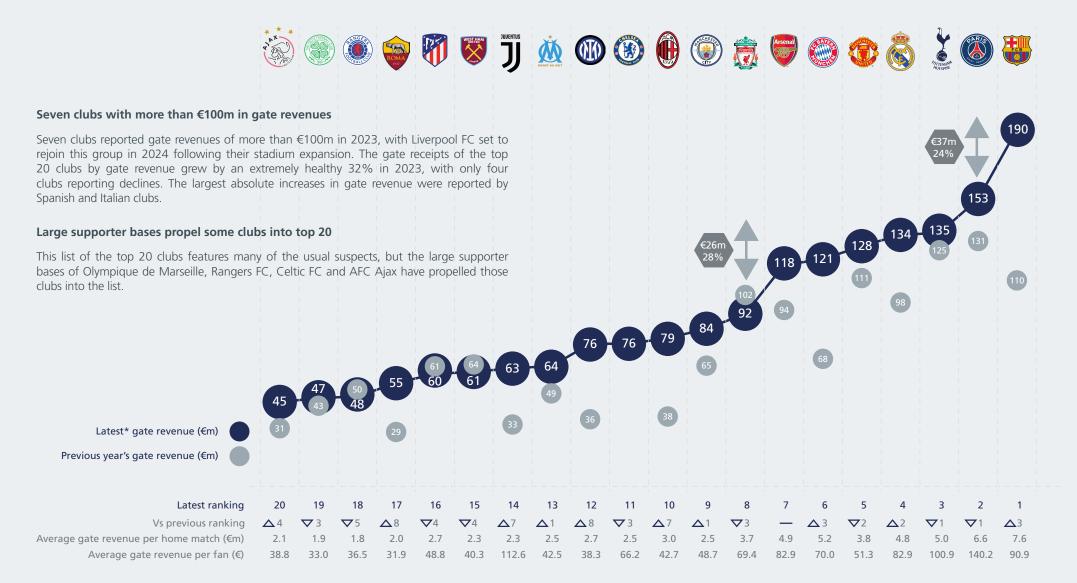




Aggregate

<sup>\*</sup> See the European Club Talent and Competition Landscape report for more details: https://ectcl.uefa.com/2023

### Robust gate revenue growth for top 20 clubs



<sup>\*</sup> The top 20 clubs 'latest' gate revenues values relate to the financial year ending in 2023 apart from Chelsea FC where 2022 confirmed revenue figures are used.

# Robust gate revenue growth for top 50 clubs

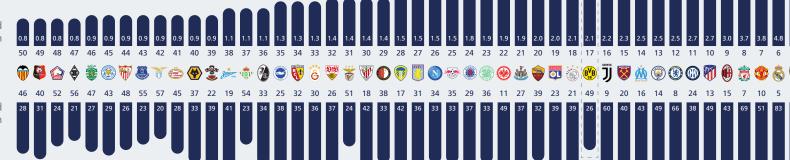
### Matchday yields vary considerably

Matchday gate revenue is derived from season tickets, ticket-related membership fees, single match purchases and matchday hospitality and concessions. The number of fans attending and the general level of ticket prices are both important in driving gate revenue. However, clubs' ability to generate high yields per match\* and per fan is increasingly being driven by the amount of premium seating and the hospitality service on offer. The most extreme example here is Paris Saint-Germain, who generated the second highest aggregate gate revenue in 2022 and the second highest yield per home match, despite having only the 26th highest number of fans attending home matches in 2022/23. Unsurprisingly, that club generated the highest average yield per fan (€140). In contrast, Borussia Dortmund, who had the eighth highest aggregate attendance figure for home matches, do not appear in the top 20 clubs by total gate revenue owing to their €26 average yield per fan.

#### Average gate yield per home match (€m)

Ranking based on yield per home match

Ranking based on yield



Average gate yield per fan (€m)

<sup>\*</sup> Yields per match have been calculated by dividing the latest gate revenues by the number of matches played during the financial year in question. Only home matches in domestic leagues, domestic cup competitions and UEFA competitions (all rounds) are counted. Friendly matches and competitive matches involving other teams are excluded, despite potentially generating some gate revenue. Any sharing of ticketing revenue between home and away teams is not included either, despite this being common in cup competitions. The period under review is based on the club's latest confirmed (not forecast) gate revenues (either the 2023 or 2022 financial year), with attendance figures and match numbers being applied as follows: 2022/23 season for early-reporting clubs with a summer year-end; an average of the 2022/23 and 2021/22 seasons for late-reporting clubs with a 31 December year-end; and 2021/22 season for late-reporting clubs with a summer year-end.

### TV revenues stable amid contrasting fortunes



### TV revenue of top-division clubs in 2022



### Underlying TV revenues broadly stable across last two cycles

On aggregate, Europe's 700+ top-division clubs reported €8.0bn of TV revenue from domestic football in 2022 – down 4% on 2019 (the last year before the pandemic) and down 0.5% on the average for the 2020 and 2021 seasons (with an average being used because some TV revenue was pushed from 2020 into 2021). This was in line with projections made in last year's report on the basis of early-reporting clubs.

#### 18 of the top 20 clubs by TV revenue are English

England's 20 clubs reported just over €3.0bn of TV revenue in 2022, with both median and average TV revenue standing at around €150m. The average Spanish club earned almost half of that amount, but the median Spanish club earned closer to one-third. Indeed, the median German club and the median Spanish club earned €58m and €55m respectively. With the exception of Real Madrid CF (10th) and FC Barcelona (15th), all of the top 20 clubs by TV revenue are English.

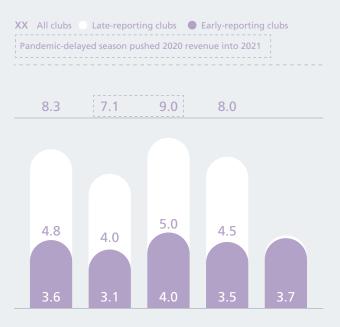
### TV revenue trends vary greatly between leagues

Ten-year growth rates tell an interesting story about the longer-term development of TV revenues among top-division clubs. In 2022, there were six countries (England, Spain, Germany, Russia, Portugal and Switzerland) where clubs, on average, received more than double the TV revenue that they had received in 2013. In France and Türkiye, however, clubs received less than in 2013. As the market analysis on the next page shows, the Netherlands have a large increase on the horizon after a nine-year deal, but conditions in France, Italy and Türkiye remain challenging.

### Strong growth seen by early-reporting clubs in 2023

The TV revenue of early-reporting clubs increased strongly in 2023, rising by more than €200m year on year (an increase of 6%) and exceeding the pre-pandemic level observed in 2019 by 5%. Broadly speaking, early-reporting clubs tend to be clubs that performed well the previous season, so growth across all top-division clubs is likely to be a couple of percentage points lower, but a record level of TV revenue is still expected.

### Evolution of top-division clubs' aggregate TV revenue (€bn)



2021

2022

2023



2019

# Broadcast rights deals poised for new cycle agreements

#### **Definitions**

The totals used in the broadcast deals table are the 'gross' amounts that broadcast partners or third-party commercial agencies have paid directly to the sellers (UEFA, leagues or clubs). They are therefore different to the net TV revenues received and reported by top-division clubs on the previous page and elsewhere in this chapter. Those net TV revenues are the amounts distributed to clubs minus any operating, agency and production costs, parachute payments and distributions to lower leagues and grassroots football. Revenue from other events can also be included in reported TV revenue figures, be that revenue from events such as domestic cups and friendly matches, centrally distributed revenue from title sponsors or revenue from commercial sources.

The table refers to figures per season calendar, yet some clubs will report figures combining two seasons where December financial year-end reporting is in place, spanning two seasons.

#### New deals in four of the most valuable TV media rights markets

The current environment sees leagues embarking on tenders for the sale of their TV rights, mostly commencing in 2024/25 or 2025/26, securing contracts in a market that is being tested for the first time since the pandemic. In some cases, the current rights were rolled over from the previous cycle during the pandemic in conjunction with penalty settlements and TV content restructuring and so the market hasn't fully been tested since before the pandemic. Leagues continue their commercial focus, trialling new approaches to tenders and packages to elicit the maximum value possible from broadcasters, changing to or from all agency approaches, fragmentation of international rights, and altering rights cycle lengths.

In Italy, a five-year deal from 2024/25 for domestic rights was agreed with the two incumbent broadcasters. The deal is reported as a 3% decrease in the guaranteed amount, but with a revenue share that could potentially lead to an increase. Having adopted a market-by-market approach to selling the Serie A international rights, deals are under discussion. Increases in value for the initial eight markets have been reported although this is not unusual as the general industry tendency is to approach buoyant markets first.

A five-year deal also commencing in 2024/25 was proposed for both domestic and international rights for French Ligue 1. Procurements processes were launched Q4 2023. However, the LFP did not receive sufficient interest for the domestic rights, with the long-standing incumbent broadcaster stating disinterest.

The English Premier League has secured its domestic media rights deal for a four-year cycle commencing in 2025/26 with traditional broadcasters chosen, removing the streaming option that was in place for the current rights cycle. The value reported reflects an uplift of 6% per year, with the deal in place for a year longer than previous cycles. In practice the side-by-side analysis of an increase does not always accurately reflect wider market conditions at the time the deal is done, for example, sterling fluctuation against the euro and inflation across the number of years the deal is in place.

In Germany, sale of the domestic rights for the 2025/26 cycle has been stalled owing to ongoing strategic discussions related to ownership of the DFL media rights business and international rights are under negotiation on an individual market basis.

Domestic rights were secured for a five-year term commencing in 2025/26 for the Dutch Eredivisie, worth €750m a year, reflecting an uplift of 12.5% on the annual fee. The deal is with the incumbent broadcaster, and an uplift had been expected owing to the previous deal being a 12-year cycle.

In Türkiye, the next domestic rights cycle for the Süper Lig begins in 2024/25 and will be alongside a major revamp of competition and league format. Details of the new competition format and packages developed to optimise the broadcast tender are imminent. Attention on extracting maximum value has also been the focus in Belgium, where the appointment of an agency to formulate rights tenders that will commence for rights from 2025/26 onwards is seen as key to extracting the greatest value from the product. Initially, penalties were proposed for the agency should they not secure the anticipated level, yet it is understood this has now been dropped from the contract. This does, however, underline the objective and importance for the leagues of such an approach.

#### **UEFA** competitions

UEFA club competition rights have been secured in many markets ahead of the new cycle, due to begin in the 2024/25 season. The outlook is for a significant increase in total fees once rights are secured in all markets.

### Timeline of broadcast deals

									ı		s 2023/24	
	(€m/£m)	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26		Growth €m	Growth %	
	TOTAL	3,602	3,635	3,635	3,944	3,944	3,944	TBC*				
ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE	Domestic	!	5,531 / 4,896 (3 years)			<b>5,531 / 4,896</b> (3 years)		<b>7,800 / 6,700</b> (4 years)	+3yrs	342	9%	
	International		5,127 (3 years)			<b>6,300</b> (3 years)		TBC				
	TOTAL	1,827	1,827	1,827	2,029	2,029	2,029	2,029	+1yr			
SPANISH LALIGA	Domestic		3,380 (3 years)			5,968 (5	years)			202	11%	
	International		2,100 (3 years)			<b>4,175</b> (3-	5 years)		- Tyl			
	TOTAL	1,313	1,313	1,132	1,132	1,132	TBC*	TBC*				
ITALIAN SERIE A	Domestic	2,919 (3	years)		2,783 (3 years)		4,500	(5 years)	+3yrs	-181	-14%	
	International	1,020 (3	years)		<b>615</b> (3 years)			TBC				
	TOTAL	1,440	1,440	1,249	1,249	1,249	1,249	ТВС				
GERMAN BUNDESLIGA	Domestic	4,640 (4	years)		4,316	(4 years)		TBC		-191	-13%	
	International	840 (3 y	rears)		683 (4	4 years)		TBC				
	TOTAL	818	652	660	660	660				-158		
FRENCH LIGUE 1	Domestic	2,952 (4 years)	572 (1 year)		1,740 (3 years)			TBC			-19%	
	International	<b>480</b> (6 years)				TBC						
	TOTAL	198	198	198	198	198	TBC*	ТВС	0	0		
PORTUGUESE PRIMEIRA LIGA	Domestic	190	190	190	190	190	190	TBC			0%	
	International	8	8	8	8	8	TBC	TBC				
	TOTAL	371	371	371	123	123		ГВС				
TURKISH SÜPER LIG	Domestic		1,114 (3 years)		<b>246</b> (2 years)  Part of domestic deal					-248	-67%	
	International		Part of domestic deal									
	TOTAL	119	119	119	117	117	117	TBC*				
DUTCH EREDIVISIE	Domestic		941 (9 years)		102	102	102	<b>750*</b> (5 years)	+4yrs	-2	-1%	
	International		56 (4 years)			<b>45</b> (3 years)		TBC				
	TOTAL	83	103	103	103	103	103	TBC				
BELGIAN PRO LEAGUE	Domestic	249 (3 years)			<b>515</b> (5 years)			TBC		20	24%	
	International	Part of domestic deal	Part of domestic deal		Part of domestic deal			TBC				
	TOTAL	50	50	50	50	67	67	67	ι .			
POLISH EKSTRAKLASA	Domestic		<b>199</b> (4 years)		<b>270</b> (4 years)		+1yr	17	34%			
	International		Sold as internation	nal betting rights		Sold a	s international betting	rights				
	TOTAL	2,744	2,744	3,035	3,035	3,035	TBC*	TBC*				
UEFA CLUB COMPETITIONS	Domestic	6,201 (3	years)		<b>7,371</b> (3 years)		TBC*	(3 years)	. 1.00	291	11%	
	International	2,031 (3			1,734 (3 years)			(3 years)	+1yr			

<sup>\*</sup>TBC is shorthand for 'to be confirmed'. In some cases, for example The Netherlands, the amount in the table references only the live rights, with the highlights (currently €22m p.a.) still to be negotiated. In Italy this is the guaranteed minimum amount subject to additional amounts from revenue sharing. Note that the figures included in the table should be considered as market estimates only, based on gross figures communicated by UEFA, the leagues and broadcast partners and reported by third parties such as SportBusiness. The figures include all the principal items agreed in rights contracts, including live matches, highlights, clips/VOD and delayed broadcast rights where relevant. The foreign exchange rate at the time of the deal has been applied to all figures that were not originally reported in euros. Note that broadcast rights in Portugal are cumulative of those sold by individual clubs. Note that Turkish TV rights are part local currency and part US dollar. The Turkish lira devalued considerably across the 2019/20 to 2021/22 cycle, leading to a renegotiation and lower net amounts received by clubs.

### Commercial revenue continues to increase



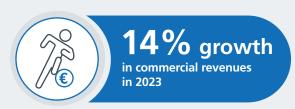
#### Success story continues in 2022

Across all top-division clubs, a record €7.8bn of commercial revenues\* was seen in 2022, representing a 14% increase on 2021. Within commercial revenues, sponsorship revenues were up by 8%, while other commercial revenues were up by 27%, boosted by the removal of restrictions on the use of stadiums and increases in merchandising revenue.



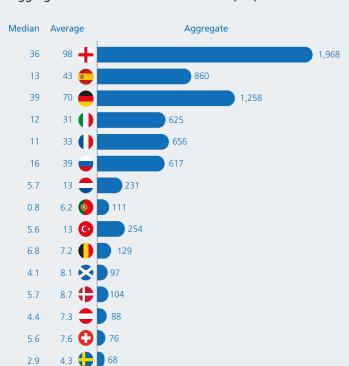








### Aggregate commercial revenue in 2022 (€m)



#### Median revenues revealing

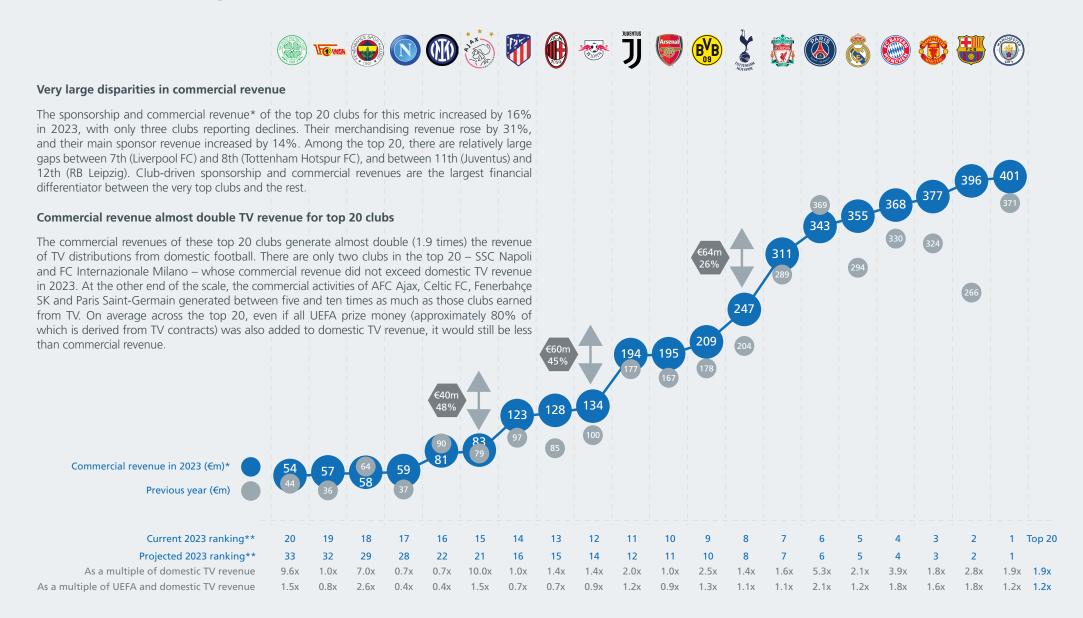
There are not many revenue lists which do not have England at the top. While Premier League clubs generated almost €2bn of commercial revenues in 2022, 56% more than German clubs and 128% more than Spanish clubs, the median German club generated €39m, compared with €36m for the median English club. This shows that once you look beyond the top clubs with 'global' profiles that regularly feature in the UEFA Champions League, clubs' ability to generate commercial revenues is more localised and less polarised. The median French, Italian and Spanish clubs generated between €11m and €13m in 2022, which was roughly double the equivalent figures for Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

### Commercial revenue set to exceed domestic TV revenue from 2023

Early-reporting clubs' commercial revenue increased strongly in 2023, rising by more than €700m year on year to stand at €5.4bn (an increase of 14%). What is more, that figure represents a remarkable 30% increase on the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019. 80% of early-reporting clubs saw increases in commercial revenue in 2023, with that revenue stream set to exceed domestic TV revenue for the first time in decades

\*Commercial revenue replaces two revenue categories (sponsorship revenue and commercial revenue) disclosed separately in previous reports and is the combination of numerous sub-categories. The main sub-categories within commercial are (i) main sponsor, (ii) kit manufacturer sponsorship, and (iii) stadium and perimeter board sponsorship, merchandising, non-matchday usage of facilities (conference suites, club museums, etc.), membership revenue that does not involve ticketing rights, non-centrally distributed prize money, and other commercial activities (such as appearance fees or international tours). These sub-categories are indicative only since most sponsorship and commercial deals involve multiple properties and rights, hence the decision to group them in this chapter. Unlike some other public analysis of revenue streams, items that are considered non-commercial (such as donations by owners or related parties, state or municipal subsidies, income from non-football activities and non-recurring exceptional items) are not included in commercial revenue here. Commercial revenue can be sourced from the open market or from related parties, but it must be underpinned by a contract (as opposed to donations, which can be ad hoc and are included separately under 'other revenue').

### Top 20 clubs generate record commercial revenue



<sup>\*</sup> As per the definition on the previous page

<sup>\*\*</sup> This list of the top 20 clubs is based on 2023 data for clubs with a summer year-end. Celtic FC are 20th in this list but are expected to rank between 30th and 35th once all 700+ clubs have provided data. Chelsea FC will rank between 9th and 12th.

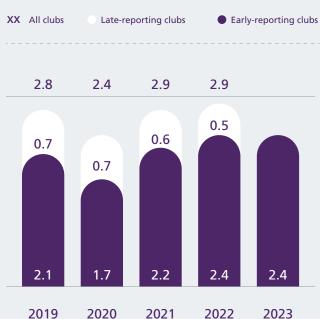
# Revenue from UEFA club competitions rising with each three-year cycle



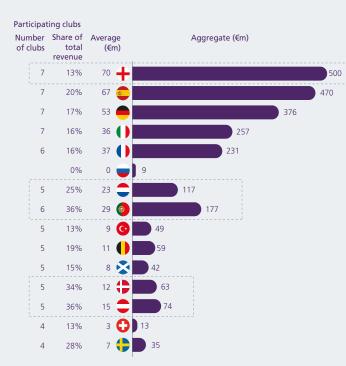
### Distributions stable mid-cycle

Top-division clubs reported €2.9bn of revenue from UEFA (in the form of prize money and solidarity distributions) in 2022 – an increase of 2% on the figure for 2021 (which had included some delayed revenue from 2020 owing to the pandemic).

### Evolution of revenue from UEFA (€bn)



### Top-division clubs' revenue from UEFA in 2022



### UEFA revenue accounts for a double-digit share of total revenue

Revenue from UEFA is derived directly from on-pitch success through competition prize money and the results of the country's teams over a five-year period. English clubs earned the highest amount in 2022, with total UEFA revenue\* of €500m and an average of €70m across the seven participating clubs (equivalent to 13% of those seven clubs' total revenue on average).

UEFA revenue accounts for a significant share of total revenue in mid-level countries with good access to UEFA competitions. For example, the six participating Portuguese clubs averaged €29m in 2022, equivalent to 36% of their total revenue, with similarly high percentages being reported by Dutch clubs (25%), Danish clubs (34%) and Austrian clubs (36%).

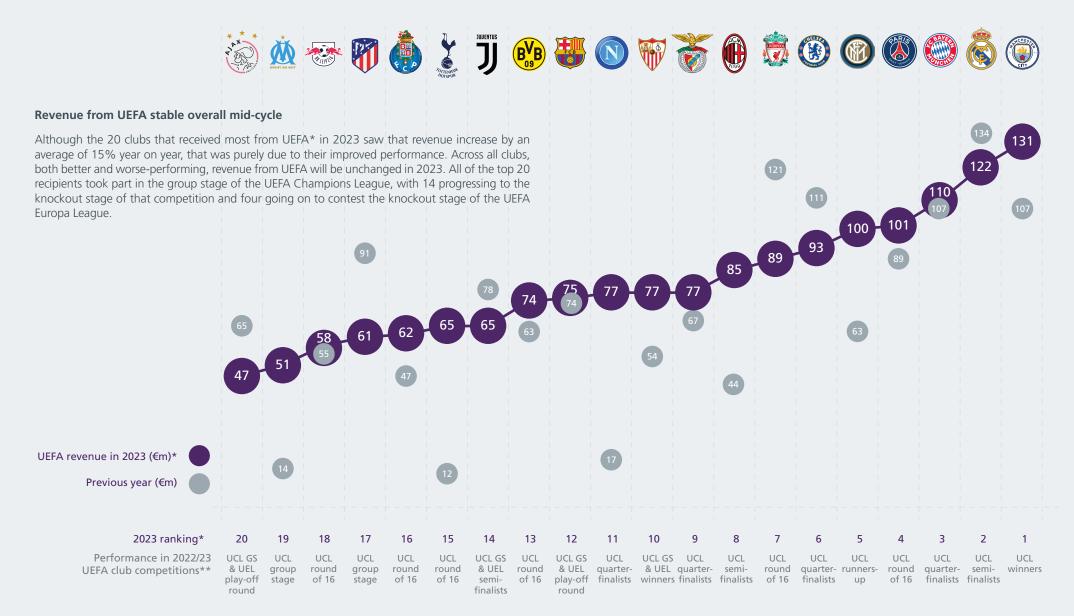
### UEFA revenue set to rise again in 2024 and 2025

Revenue from UEFA will remain unchanged in 2023. The next significant rise will be seen in the financial year ending in 2024 (where figures for clubs with a December year-end will include increased group and qualifying stage payments under the new 2024–27 cycle) and the financial year ending in 2025 (when the full impact of the new cycle will be seen for clubs with a summer year-end).



<sup>\*</sup> Aggregate revenue includes both prize money earned by the four to seven participating clubs and solidarity distributions for non-participating clubs. The average per club and the share of total revenue are calculated on the basis of participating clubs only.

# Overall UEFA revenue remains unchanged mid-cycle



<sup>\*</sup> This list of the top 20 clubs is based on data for all clubs. Since all prize money for the 2022/23 season is known and verifiable, there is no need to wait for audited 2023 data from clubs. Please note, however, that where financial revenue data for 2023 is available, it tends to differ slightly from publicly available data on prize money owing to the timing of the final competition payment.

<sup>\*\*</sup>UCL = UEFA Champions League, UEL = UEFA Europa League, GS = group stage.

### Other non-commercial revenues continue to increase



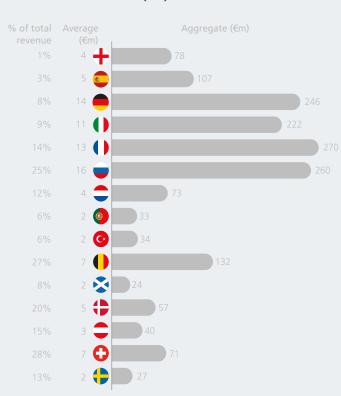
#### Other revenue continues its upward trend

Across all top-division clubs, a total of €2.2bn of other revenue\* was reported in 2022, representing a 9% increase on 2021. Just over half of this revenue category is derived from subsidies, grants or donations, and this is where the year-on-year revenue growth in 2022 originated.

#### Evolution of aggregate commercial revenues (€bn)

XX All clubs	Late-re	porting clubs	Early-rep	orting clubs
1.7	1.8	2.0	2.2	

#### Other revenues in 2022 (€m)



### Types of other revenue vary by country

Other revenue reported by English and Spanish clubs is relatively low and generally made up of non-football revenue. In contrast, other revenue generated by German and Italian clubs accounts for 8–9% of their total revenue and is a combination of all types. State and municipal subsidies or rebates make up the majority of Belgian and French clubs' other revenue, which accounts for 27% and 14% of total revenue respectively. Elsewhere, related-party donations and state subsidies contribute to the high levels of other revenue reported by Russian clubs (which accounts for 25% of their total revenue), related-party donations are the main driver of other revenue for Swiss clubs, and non-football operations are the key driver for Danish clubs.

### Other revenue set to increase again in 2023

Data from early-reporting clubs for 2023 indicates that other revenue is likely to rise again in 2023, with those clubs reporting an 11% increase. However, we will not have full visibility regarding subsidies, donations and exceptional items until all 700+ clubs have submitted data in April. Grants and subsidies originating from the pandemic will be monitored closely in the coming years to see if these amounts taper off.

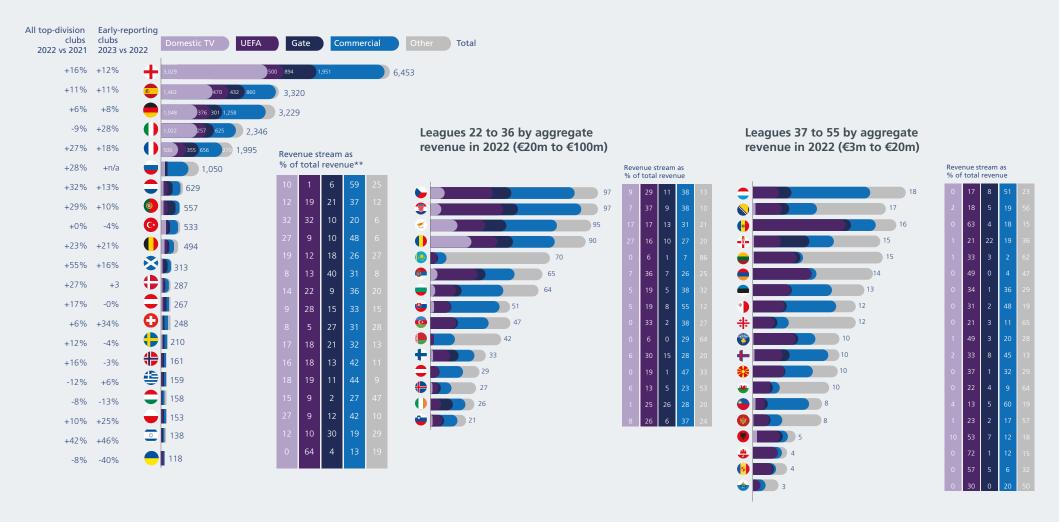




<sup>\* &#</sup>x27;Other revenues' comprises (i) donations or other amounts received from national football bodies, (ii) donations made by owners or related parties, (iii) state or municipal subsidies, (iv) income from non-football activities, (v) the release of provisions or insurance pay-outs, and (vi) other non-recurring exceptional items. These are generally considered to be derived from ad hoc or non-core activities, so it makes more sense to treat them as a separate category, rather than as part of the underlying commercial revenue.

### Summary of relative contributions of different revenue streams

Leagues 1 to 21 by aggregate revenue in 2022 (€100m to €6.5bn)\*



<sup>\*</sup> Clubs reporting data early for 2023 are clubs that have qualified for UEFA competitions or clubs under CFCB settlement agreements. At the level of all top-division clubs, reported UEFA revenue is stable year on year, indicating that comparing 2023 and 2022 is likely to be consistent. At the level of individual countries, the sample of clubs is smaller (see introduction), so growth should be regarded as purely indicative.

<sup>\*\*</sup> In the interests of legibility, absolute values for individual revenue streams have only been included for the Big 5 leagues (and even then, only for values above €250m). For other leagues, percentages show the revenue contributions made by the various streams. Values for individual streams can be calculated by multiplying the total revenue by the percentage for that stream. Figures represent aggregate totals for all of the clubs participating in the relevant league (with the exception of Liechtenstein, where the aggregation is for the seven clubs that participate in the national cup competition).

### **OPERATING COSTS**

This chapter examines clubs' operating costs across Europe and reports on the very latest trends in club costs. Financial discourse tends to focus on the need to grow revenues, but professional club football has never really had a revenue problem. With revenues constantly breaking records, more than doubling since 2012, financial problems are nearly always driven by a lack of cost control.

This chapter breaks operating costs down into two components, looking at employee costs (referred to as 'wages' in the interests of simplicity) and other non-wage operating costs ('OPEX'). Employee costs are also divided into player and non-player employee costs. Next year, with the introduction of UEFA's squad cost rule, accurate data on the remuneration of head coaches will also be available for the first time.

OPEX includes (i) fixed costs such as the depreciation of stadiums and other assets, (ii) a mixture of fixed and variable costs linked to commercial activities, property-related expenses and matchday operations, and (iii) exceptional one-off costs. It can also include the creation of provisions on operating items. Subtracting OPEX and wages from revenue gives us the underlying operating profits/losses presented in the next chapter.

### €17bn

Aggregate top-division wages in 2022, of which player wages accounted for just under €13bn

### 4%

Increase in early-reporting clubs' wages in 2023, with player wages up by less than 1%, suggesting clubs are taking stock of their wage bills (which rose by €2bn on aggregate during the pandemic) ahead of the new squad cost rules

### 13%

Increase in
early-reporting clubs'
OPEX in 2023, reflecting
wider inflationary
pressures, as well as
a return to full
commercial activities
after lockdowns

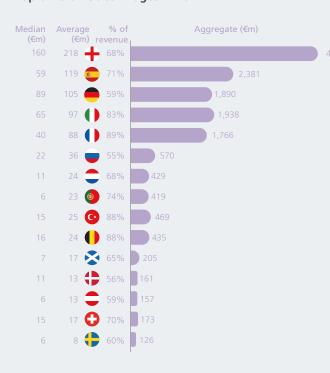




# Wage inflation slowing as clubs adapt to sustainability rules



#### Top-division clubs' wages in 2022



### Clubs' wage costs continued to grow inexorably in 2022

On aggregate, Europe's top-division clubs reported total wages\* of €16.9bn in 2022, which represented a 6.1% increase on 2021 and a 15% increase on the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019. Total wages, which include both players and non-players, absorbed 71% of clubs' revenue in 2022, above the 70% risk indicator in the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Sustainability Regulations.

#### **English clubs outspend all others**

Premier League clubs reported aggregate wages of more than €4.3bn in 2022, which absorbed 68% of their revenue, with the median club paying out €160m. Spanish clubs spent just under €2.4bn, recording the second highest total and average wage bills. However, the median German club (€89m) and the median Italian club (€65m) both had higher wage bills than their Spanish counterpart (€59m).

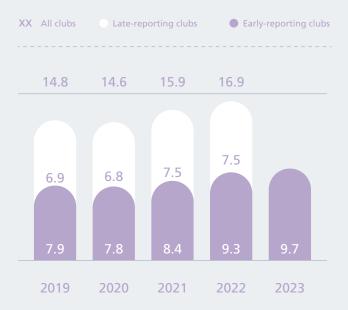
### Unsustainable wage-to-revenue ratios in several leagues in 2022

Clubs in four of the top 15 leagues by total revenue reported concerning wage-to-revenue ratios in 2022. On average, club wages in Belgium, France, Italy and Türkiye absorbed between 83% and 89% of revenue. In contrast, Austrian, Danish, German, Russian and Swedish clubs averaged 60% or less.

### Lower wage growth in 2023, despite wider inflationary pressures

Wage figures for 2023 offer some positive news, with clubs adapting to new sustainability requirements (including the squad cost rule) and assessing their squad management post-pandemic. Early-reporting clubs' aggregate wages increased by just 3.8% year on year in 2023, despite strong inflationary pressures in Europe's economies. With the background of strong revenue growth, this means the key wage to revenue ratio has dropped back to 65% in 2023 among early reporting clubs, closer to the 63% pre-pandemic level.

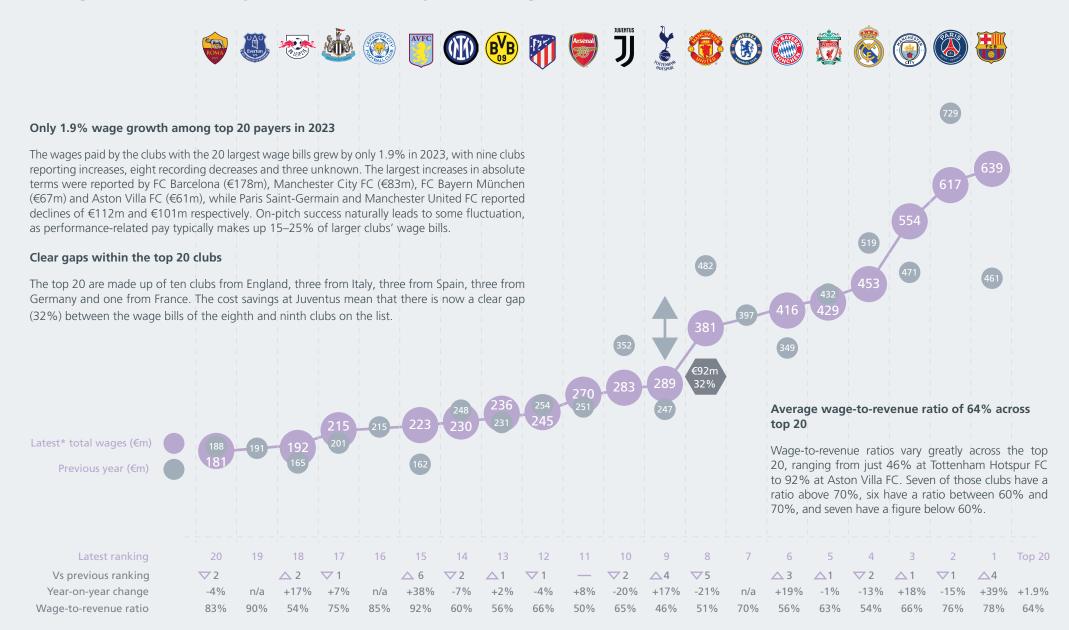
#### Evolution of top-division clubs' aggregate wages (€bn)





<sup>\*</sup> The term 'wages' covers all employee costs for technical and administrative staff as well as playing personnel.

# Wage levels vary considerably among top 20 clubs



<sup>\*</sup> For nearly all of the top 20 clubs, these 'latest' values relate to 2023. The only exceptions are Chelsea FC, Everton FC and Leicester City FC, for which data relates to 2022.

# Growth in player wages slows noticeably in 2023



#### Player wages in 2022



#### Player wages continued to rise in 2022

On aggregate, Europe's 700+ top-division clubs reported €12.8bn of player wages\* in 2022, which represented a 4.7% increase on 2021 and a 13% increase on the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019. On average, player wages absorbed 54% of clubs' total revenue in 2022, a significant increase on the 49% seen in 2019.

#### **English clubs spend most on players**

Premier League clubs reported aggregate player wages of more than €3.2bn in 2022. On average, those wages absorbed 50% of clubs' total revenue, with the median club paying out €123m. Meanwhile, Spanish clubs spent just over €2.0bn on aggregate. Again, while Spain's clubs had the second highest total and average wage bills, the median German club (€57m) and the median Italian club (€57m) both had higher player wage bills than their Spanish counterpart (€54m).

### Unsustainable wage ratio in several leagues in 2022

The same four top divisions that reported high total wages as a share of revenue also reported high player wages as a percentage of revenue in 2022. On average, Belgian, French, Italian and Turkish clubs' player wages absorbed more than two-thirds of total revenue, with ratios ranging from 68% to 77%. In contrast, Danish, Russian, Swedish and Swiss clubs averaged less than 40%.

### Growth in player wages slows appreciably in 2023

The 2023 data on player wages offers some encouragement, with clubs looking to comply with the new squad cost rule and the football earnings rule. Early-reporting clubs' player wages increased by just 0.1% year on year in 2023. Historically, early and late-reporting clubs have been very similar in terms of player wages as a percentage of revenue (within 2 percentage points of each other), which suggests that this ratio may have returned to a healthier level across Europe as a whole in 2023.

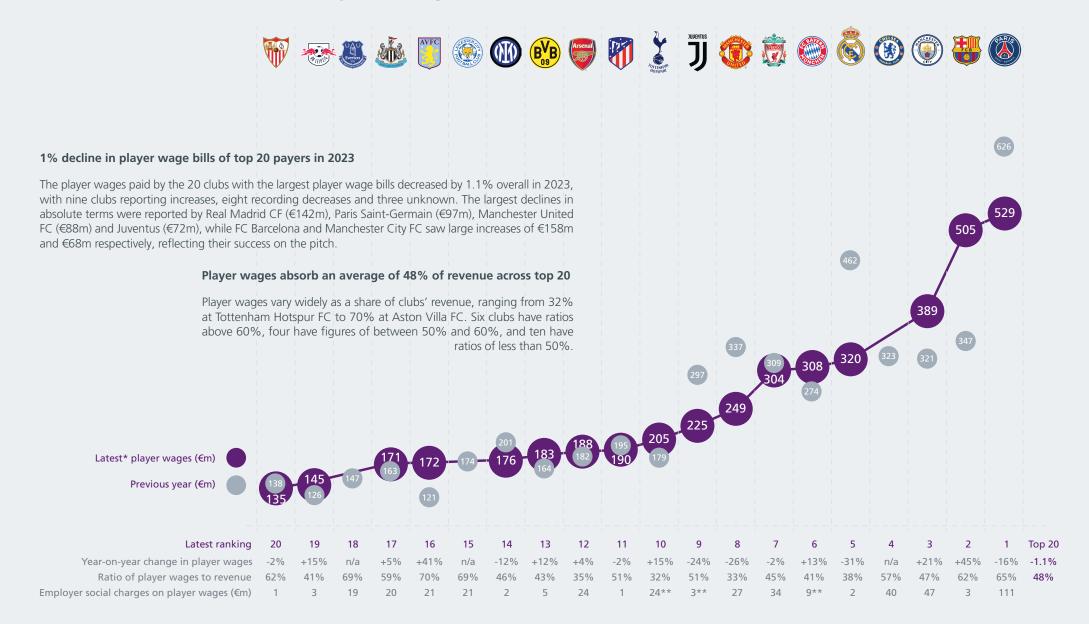
#### Evolution of top-division clubs' player wages (€bn)

XX	All clubs	Late-rep	oorting clubs	● Earl	y-reporting clubs
	56%	56%	56%	54%	
	11.4	11.2	12.3	12.8	
	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.7	
	6.1	6.0	6.4	7.1	7.1
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023



<sup>\*</sup> The term 'player wages' covers all employee costs for players, including salaries, signing and performance bonuses, employer social security contributions, pension contributions and exit payments.

### For first time ever, player wages down at top of market



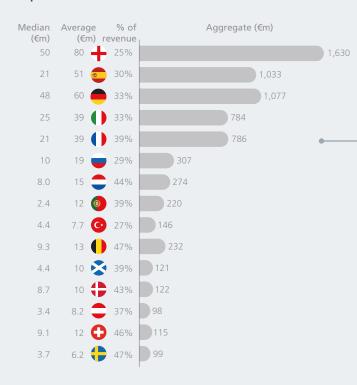
<sup>\*</sup> For nearly all of the top 20 clubs, these 'latest' values relate to 2023. The only exceptions are Chelsea FC, Everton FC and Leicester City FC, for which data relates to 2022.

<sup>\*\*</sup> For these clubs, social security contributions have been estimated on the basis of rates reported by other clubs in the same country.

# Rise in OPEX reflects high inflation and expansion of activities



#### Top-division clubs' OPEX in 2022



### **OPEX bounces back post-pandemic**

On aggregate, Europe's 700+ top-division clubs reported €8.0bn of OPEX\* in 2022, which represented a 25% increase on the pandemic-affected total seen in 2021 and an 8% increase on the pre-pandemic level recorded in 2019. OPEX absorbed 33% of clubs' total revenue in 2022, up slightly on the 32% seen in 2019.

#### OPEX-to-revenue ratios tend to decline as revenue rises

Premier League clubs reported aggregate OPEX of €1.6bn in 2022. On average, that expenditure absorbed 25% of those clubs' revenue, with the median club incurring costs of €50m. The level of stadium and commercial activation strongly influences a club's OPEX, hence the wide variation in cost levels across the top 20 clubs on the next page. In general, the fixed nature of many other operating costs means that they remain unchanged when revenue rises (particularly when it comes to central TV distributions and prize money), which explains why Premier League clubs have the lowest OPEX-to-revenue ratios.

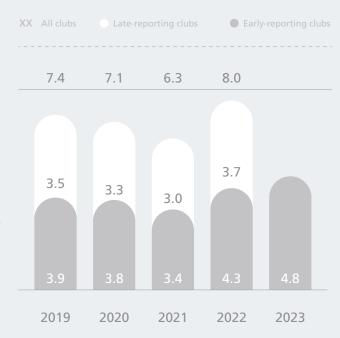
### OPEX-to-revenue ratio is a useful indicator of wage headroom

UEFA has long used a 70% wage-to-revenue ratio as a risk indicator, and 70% will also be the squad cost ratio that clubs are expected to achieve in 2025/26. However, in order to break even, clubs will also need to look at their OPEX and other non-operating costs to see what levels of wage and transfer investment they can afford. In Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland – mid-level countries in revenue terms with significant commercial activities – clubs' OPEX absorbs 43–47% of all revenue on average.

### Signs of strong increases in OPEX in 2023

Early-reporting clubs' OPEX increased by an average of 13% year on year in 2023, fuelled by strong inflationary pressures, increased merchandising activities and a full return to commercial activities (such as stadium tours) post-pandemic. As a result, those clubs' OPEX stood 25% above the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019.

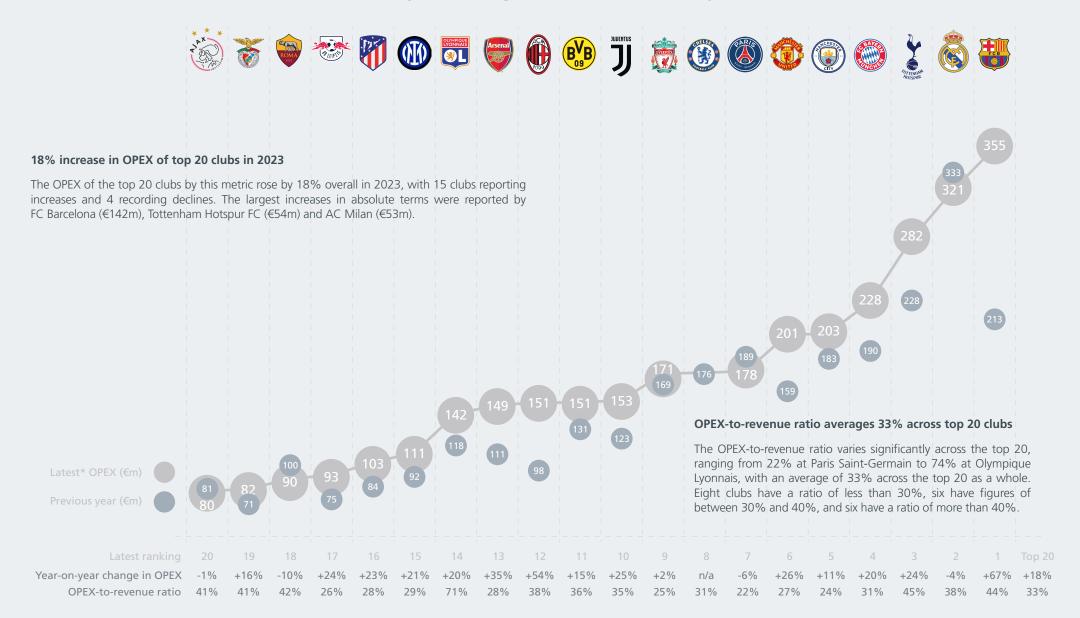
#### Evolution of top-division clubs' OPEX (€bn)





<sup>\*</sup> OPEX includes (i) fixed costs such as the depreciation of stadiums and other assets, (ii) a mixture of fixed and variable costs linked to commercial activities, property-related expenses and matchday operations, and (iii) exceptional one-off costs. It can also include the creation of provisions on operating items.

# Top clubs' OPEX rises sharply owing to inflationary pressures



<sup>\*</sup> For nearly all of the top 20 clubs, these 'latest' values relate to 2023. The only exception is Chelsea FC, for which data relates to 2022.

3

### **TRANSFERS & PROFITABILITY**

This chapter combines our earlier revenue and cost analyses to shed light on the underlying club operating profitability. Transfer activity and non-operating gains and losses are also analysed, leading to the net result (profits or losses) before tax.

As explained every year, the financial analysis of transfer activity is quite complex due to it impacting financial results in numerous ways. To simplify this, the different transfer impacts have been grouped into transfer costs and transfer incomes, the net of which impacts directly the financial result in the profit and loss account. The impact of transfer activity on club finances can differ considerably from the transfer activity viewed by the public because of the phasing of most transfer costs across future years and the immediate recognition of profits at the time of sale.

The 2023 results provide some positive news as clubs are moving back to balancing their books after three financial years (2020, 2021 and 2022) of unprecedented losses, triggered by the pandemic. The impacts of the pandemic have been explained forensically in previous reports. They can broadly be divided into two types of impact: direct lost revenues combined with continuing wage increases that turned operating profits into large operating losses, and reduced transfer activity that caused a temporary collapse in transfer profits/incomes, further exacerbating losses before tax.

### €900m

Combined operating losses in 2022, followed by combined €500m of operating profits generated by early-reporting clubs in 2023

49%

Increase in early reported transfer incomes in 2023. Record top-division transfer incomes are forecast for 2023 and 2024

### 3 of the 10

Largest all-time club profit before tax figures already reported by clubs in 2023. After €11bn of losses between 2020 and 2022, an expected loss of less than €1bn is expected in 2023

# MAKE

Contents





Median Average

17

-12

5

Aggregate

262

176

-81

-13

-40 -16

# Signs of a return to operating profits in 2023



Operating profits/losses in 2022 (€m)

#### Poor cost control leads to further operating losses in 2022

On aggregate, clubs reported total operating losses\* of €0.9bn in 2022 – only a slight improvement on the €1.0bn reported in 2020 and 2021. Those poor results continue to reflect the impact of the pandemic, with some revenue being lost as a result of the final remaining restrictions. However, the results also reflect clubs' lack of cost control during the pandemic (as highlighted in the previous chapter), with aggregate wages more than €2bn higher in 2022 than in 2019.

### Operating losses typical among talent exporters in 2022

Average and median operating results paint similar pictures, with clubs in the top three talent-importing leagues (i.e. those with the highest revenues) tending to report operating profits, and operating losses typically being observed at clubs in talent-exporting leagues. This is the natural balance that the transfer system creates, with clubs broadly targeting a balancing of books in the knowledge that operating profits can be used for net transfer spending and operating losses can be covered by net transfer profits.

Some results stand out, however, with Belgian, French and Italian operating losses being particularly high, and English and German clubs recording significant operating profits.

### Signs of a return to operating profits in 2023

Early-reporting clubs' operating results for 2023 show positive signs overall, with an aggregate operating profit of €500m being reported amid slowing wage inflation and renewed buoyancy in the transfer market. At a granular level, however, the picture is less clear. While the number of clubs reporting operating losses fell by five, more than half of all clubs (55%) reported a worsening of operating results.

### **Evolution of operating profits/losses (€bn)**

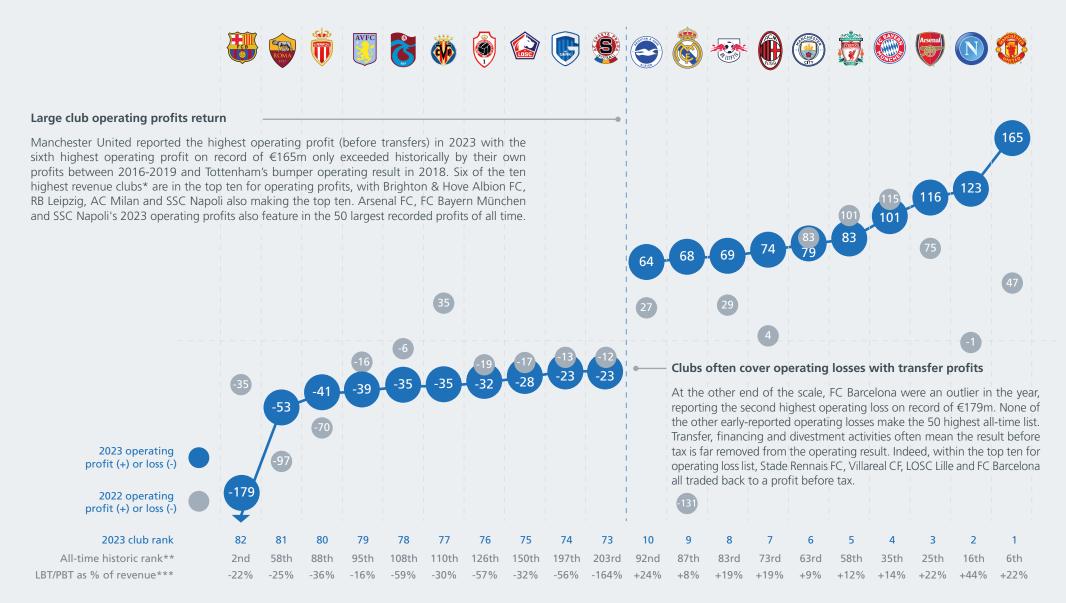




36

<sup>\*</sup> It should be noted that the operating expenditure (OPEX) used for this calculation differs from statutory OPEX in a number of ways. The main difference is that amortisation and impairment charges on player registrations (which are included in statutory OPEX) are excluded here.

### English clubs report half of the highest ten operating profits



<sup>\*</sup> The 20 clubs in this case refers to the ten highest operating profits and ten highest operating losses. Only actual figures from full submissions have been included in this analysis.

<sup>\*\*</sup> All-time rank covers 11,930 sets of reported top division club financial figures between 2008 and 2023. The all-time rank refers to the largest losses for the ten largest losses in year and largest profits for the ten largest profits in the year.

<sup>\*\*\*&#</sup>x27;LBT/PBT' refers to losses before tax and profits before tax.

### Accounting generates high transfer costs despite lower spend



#### Analysing the impact that transfer activity has on clubs' financial results

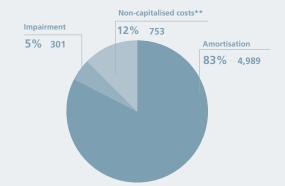
Clubs' transfer activity impacts their financial results in a number of different places. For ease of analysis, we have grouped these various items together as 'transfer costs' and 'transfer income', before combining them to produce a 'net transfer cost', which impacts the profit and loss account. Transfer costs on this page are a combination of amortisation charges, impairment charges, non-capitalised transfer costs (mainly loan fees) and any non-capitalised agent fees.\* The largest element is amortisation charges, which are calculated against the original cost of transfers with the charge spread over the contract period. In effect, a club's transfer costs for a given year are mainly based on its transfer history over a number of years, rather than just activity in the year in question. This explains why transfer costs have remained consistently high over the last four years, despite underlying transfer spending dropping by 40–45% during the pandemic.



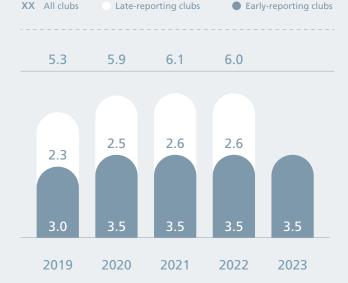
### English and Italian clubs average over €50m in transfer costs

English clubs recorded aggregate transfer costs of €1.8bn in 2022, with Italian clubs also exceeding €1bn. However the trend differs with English club transfer costs increasing by €94m in 2022 and lower pandemic transfer spending creating decreases of €76m at French clubs, €104m at Spanish clubs and €118m at Italian clubs. In total, 13 top-tier clubs reported transfer costs of more than €100m (five in England, three in Spain, three in Italy, one in France and one in Germany), while another 22 clubs reported transfer costs of more than €50m. The Big 5 leagues accounted for 82% of all top-division transfer costs in 2022. However, the median Spanish club had half of the transfer costs of the median German and Italian clubs.

#### Breakdown of 2022 transfer costs (€m)









<sup>\*</sup> Note that non-capitalised transfer costs and agent fees are included in transfer costs again this year. In last year's report, these costs were – exceptionally – netted against income to show how they would be treated in the context of the squad cost rule.

are calculated by spreading a

player's transfer fee over the duration of their contract. Another 5% are in the form of

impairment costs, while 12% are made up of non-capitalised

transfer costs \*\*

<sup>\*\*</sup> Non-capitalised costs include (i) loan fees and non-capitalised agent fees for clubs that capitalise their transfer activity and (ii) all transfer costs for clubs that do not capitalise their transfer activity.

### Market recovery drives higher 2023 transfer income



Aggregate

Median Average

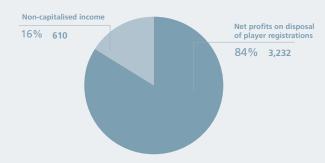
#### Transfer income remained low in 2022

Transfer income\* remained relatively subdued in 2022, reflecting the low levels of transfer activity in the summer of 2021 and January 2022. Aggregate transfer income totalled €3.8bn − €1bn lower than the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019.

#### Transfer income in 2022 (€m) Contrasting fortunes within the Big 5 leagues

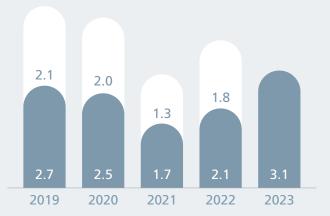
English clubs recorded €793m of transfer income in 2022, followed by Italian clubs with €614m. Meanwhile, Spanish clubs recorded aggregate transfer income of just €251m. By contrast with transfer costs, just four top-tier clubs reported transfer income of more than €100m in 2022 (two in England and two in Italy). Clubs in the Big 5 leagues were responsible for 64% of all top-division transfer income in 2022.

#### Breakdown of 2022 transfer income (€m)



#### Evolution of transfer income (€bn)

XX All clubs	Late-rep	porting clubs	<ul><li>Early-rep</li></ul>	orting clubs
56%	56%	56%	54%	
4.8	4.6	3.0	3.8	





#### 2023 transfer income likely to reach record levels

Early-reporting clubs saw a 49% increase in transfer income in 2023, reflecting the post-pandemic recovery observed in transfer activity in the summer of 2022, January 2023 and the start of the summer 2023 window. The income reported by those clubs was 15% above the record levels seen in the 2019 financial year. This was mainly due to higher activity levels, although transfer income was also positively impacted by players' carrying values on sale, which resulted in an average amortisation rate of 73% (compared with 67% in 2019), yielding higher profit margins on sale. This higher amortisation rate was driven by players moving four months further into their contracts on average during the pandemic.

Although care should always be taken when extrapolating from early-reporting clubs' results, the remaining clubs are likely to follow a similar trajectory in this case. Early-reporting clubs' share of total transfer income has historically been very consistent at between 54% and 56%.

<sup>\*</sup> Note that non-capitalised transfer costs/agent fees are included in transfer costs again this year. In last year's report, these costs were – exceptionally – netted against income to show how they would be treated in the context of the squad cost rule.

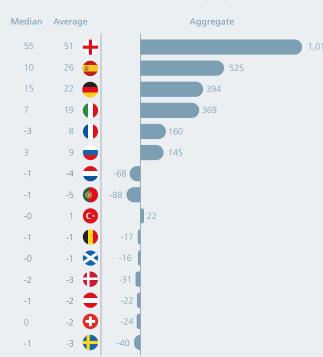
### Lower net transfer costs and net transfer spend



#### Net transfer costs remained at record levels in 2022

Net transfer costs are a product of the fluctuating transfer income and the stable transfer costs that were detailed on the last two pages. Net transfer costs remained extraordinarily high in 2022 due to the reduced transfer incomes, with the aggregate figure of €2.1bn continuing to affect clubs' bottom-line profitability.

#### Net transfer costs/income in 2022 (€m)



#### Declines seen in 2023 after two years of extraordinary figures

English clubs had aggregate net transfer costs of €1,015m in 2022, reflecting their continued spending in the market, whereas Spanish 1,015 clubs' net costs of €525m mainly reflected legacy transfer spending following a sharp reduction in transfer activity. In England, the high net transfer costs were not limited to the very largest clubs, with a median net cost of €55m.

However, net transfer costs are likely to have declined significantly in 2023 and into 2024 owing to increases in transfer income, as the market picked up again in 2022 and reached record levels in 2023. Early-reporting clubs saw their net transfer costs fall from €1.4bn in 2022 to €0.4bn in 2023 – a decline of 69%.

### Lower net transfer costs reflect reduction in underlying spending

The chart on the right shows the evolution of underlying net transfer spending. This is a non-accounting value which simply combines new purchases and sales of players during each 12-month financial period. A comparison of the two charts shows that accounting costs and underlying net spending diverged considerably during the pandemic. As highlighted in the 2023 European Club Footballing Landscape, when clubs cut back on activity during the pandemic, underlying net spending fell in 2021 and 2022, but accounting costs reached record levels. In 2023 the two values converged, meaning that the improved transfer result was aligned with clubs' underlying transfer activity.

#### Evolution of net transfer costs (€bn)

XX All clubs	Late-rep	porting clubs		Early-reporting clubs	S
0.5	1.4	3.1	2.1		

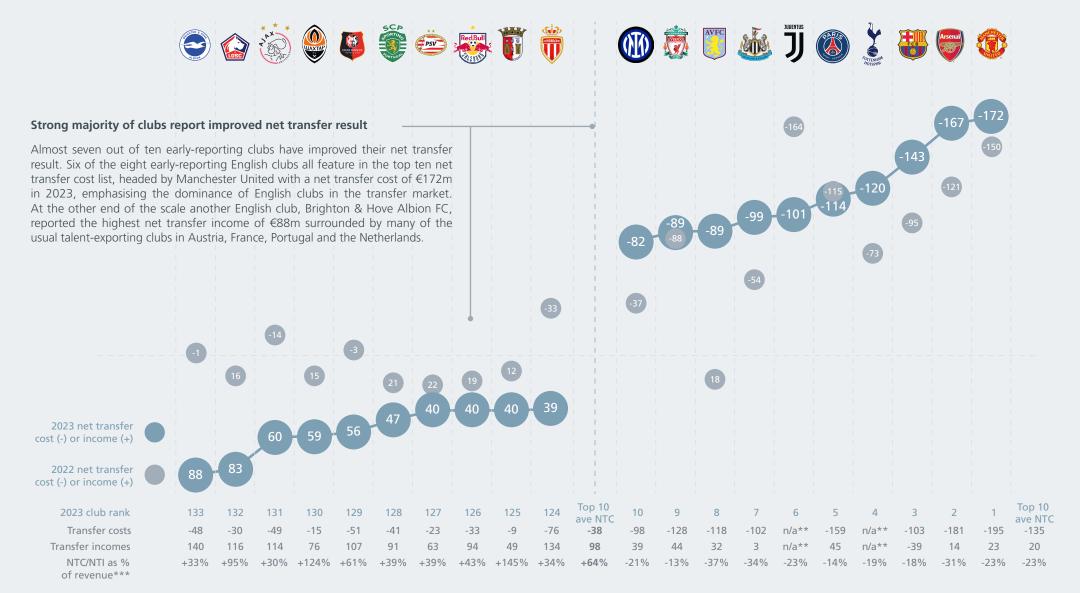




#### Evolution of underlying net transfer spending (€bn)

XX All clubs	Late-re	porting clubs	Early	y-reporting clu	ıbs
2.0	2.7	2.0	1.6		_
1.0	0.9	1.0	0.7		
1.0	1.8	1.0	0.9	0.5	
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	

### More than two-thirds of clubs report improved net transfer result



<sup>\*</sup> Due to year-to-year fluctuations in net transfer results, the top ten highest net transfer costs and top ten highest net transfer incomes are all 2023 figures. Since transfer windows are closed prior to the submission of figures, the projections should be accurate. The FC Shakhtar Donetsk and Stade Rennais FC numbers are projections.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The detailed breakdown of Juventus and Tottenham Hotspur FC's net transfer costs are not yet available so abbreviated accounts were provided to UEFA on a voluntary basis including net transfer costs. The negative 'transfer incomes' value for FC Barcelona is generated by the net losses on their disposal of transfer registrations.

<sup>\*\*\* &#</sup>x27;NTC/NTI' refers to net transfer cost/net transfer income.

### Pre-tax results in 2023 show improvement



#### Pre-tax profits/losses in 2022

Number of clubs with losses	Median (€m)	Average (€m)	Aggregate (€m)
14	-28	-38 🕂	-764
14	-3	-3	-59
9	1	-7	-119
16	-19	-45	-909
13	-10	-36	-717
5	0	-1	-18
8	0	-1	-13
13	-2	-2	-31
18	-11	-16 🚱	-310
14	-5	-17	-128
9	-1	0 📚	-4
6	0	2 🛟	26
3	0	3	31
6	-1	-2 🛟	-17
1	1	2	25

#### Third year of severe pre-tax losses in 2022

On aggregate, clubs reported €3.2bn of pre-tax losses in 2022 – the second-worst annual losses on record and the third-worst loss margin.\* What is more, those poor 2022 results were despite €0.6bn in extra asset sales. The losses reflect (i) some lost revenue as a result of the last remaining pandemic-related restrictions, (ii) clubs' lack of cost control during the pandemic (with wages more than €2bn higher in 2022 than in 2019) and (iii) transfer accounting practices (which resulted in net transfer costs exceeding underlying net transfer spending by €0.5bn).

#### Losses seen across markets in 2022

Sweden was an outlier in 2022 in that it only had one loss-making club, although it (and, to a lesser extent, Russia) benefited from the financial year ending in December, by which point the direct impact of the pandemic was over and the transfer market was recovering.

All other countries had numerous loss-making clubs. Even in countries where losses are usually the exception owing to strong domestic financial regulation, at least half of the clubs reported losses, with 9 of Germany's 18 clubs and 14 of Spain's 20 clubs making a loss, for example.

#### Welcome signs of increased profitability in 2023

The pre-tax results of early-reporting clubs for 2023 are extremely positive, with an aggregate pre-tax profit of €400m being reported amid slowing wage inflation and renewed buoyancy in the transfer market. Those profits could potentially turn into losses once figures for later-reporting clubs have been added, and they do include €800m of non-recurring asset sales, but there is clearly a positive trend. Indeed, 61% of early-reporting clubs reported improved results in 2023, and the same percentage reported pre-tax profits.

#### Evolution of pre-tax profits/losses (€bn)

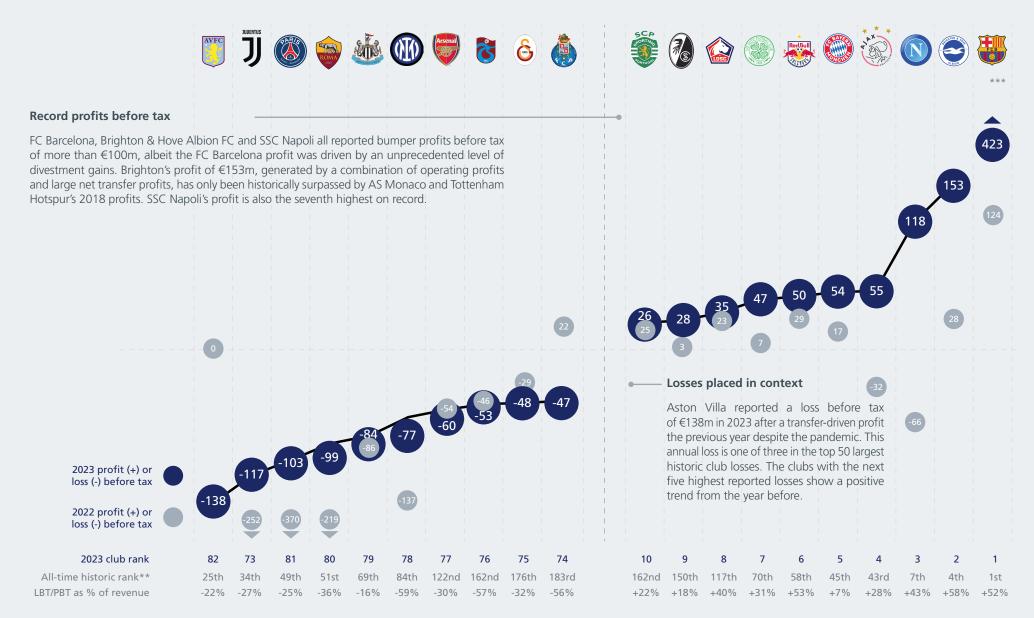
<b>XX</b>	All clubs	Late-reporting clubs		• Early	/-reporting clubs
	-0.1	-3.1	-4.7	-3.2	
	0.1				0.4
	-0.3	-1.8	-2.7	-1.4	
		-1.3		-1.8	
			-2.0		
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023



Clubs moving towards profitability in 2023

<sup>\*</sup> The loss margin is losses as a percentage of revenue. The highest ever loss margin was the 22.3% recorded in 2021, followed by 15.1% in 2020 and 13.5% in 2022.

### Three of the ten largest all-time profits reported in 2023



<sup>\*</sup> The 20 clubs in this case refers to the ten highest losses and ten highest profits before tax ('LBT/PBT'). Only actual figures from full submissions have been included in this analysis.

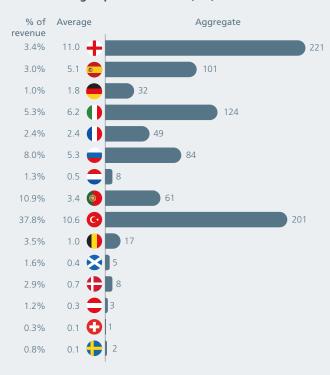
<sup>\*\*</sup> All-time results cover 11,930 sets of financial figures dating back to 2008. With revenues, costs and transfer fees more than doubling since 2008, large values pre-dating 2008 are possible but less likely.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The FC Barcelona record profit before tax amount includes one off gains related to: (i) the sale of 25% of future media rights to financial investor Sixth Street and (ii) the partial divestment of Barca Vision (formerly known as Barca Studios).

### Financing costs are on the rise



#### Net financing expenses in 2022 (€m)



#### Financing costs increasing for the majority of clubs

Net financing expenses rose considerably in 2022, with the pandemic having increased borrowing, the rates on that borrowing and foreign exchange losses, particularly for smaller and mediumsized clubs and clubs not participating in UEFA competitions. While the aggregate financing costs of early-reporting clubs remained unchanged in 2023, such costs increased for 75 clubs and decreased for 50 clubs. In addition to those directly disclosed financing expenses, club acquisitions and investments will involve considerable financing costs, and such costs may potentially be baked into asset sales as well.

#### Non-operating result boosted by an €800m gain from a single non-recurring sale of assets in 2023

The net impact of non-operating items\* for early-reporting clubs has switched from a large net cost of €400-500m to a net gain in the last two years. This change is due to the much-publicised sale of assets by Spain's two largest clubs, which produced a gain of €316m for Real Madrid CF in 2022, and gains of €266m and €801m for FC Barcelona in 2022 and 2023 respectively. The sheer scale of these gains is such that they need to be borne in mind when analysing pre-tax profits/losses at European level. Other gains/losses on the sale of assets and non-operating gains/ losses have not materially changed over the last five years.

## in net financing costs between 2019 and 2022

#### Evolution of net impact of non-operating items (€bn)



#### **Evolution of financing costs (€m)**

467 2019



563

2021

2020

547

2022

548

2023

<sup>\*</sup>The non-operating result includes net financing costs, gains or loses on the sale of assets and other non-operating gains and losses.

### Squad cost simulation

What is the new squad cost ratio that clubs will be assessed against? During the 2023/24 season clubs of a certain size competing in UEFA club competitions (total employee costs of more than €30m) will be assessed against a squad cost ratio under Article 92 of the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Sustainability Regulations. Unlike the old break-even rule or new football-earnings rule, the assessment period will always be the calendar year (first assessment in 2023) which means clubs will effectively be assessed half on the squad costs that qualified them for the competition and half on the cost of the squad competing in the current season. This facilitates a timely assessment with summer transfer activity and wage commitments immediately assessed. Annexes K and L provide the detailed calculation basis and the prescriptive disciplinary measures, which translate to a financial grid which will lead to a financial sanction equivalent to between 10% and 100% of the 'squad overspend' depending on how excessive the breach is in percentage terms and how many times a squad cost breach has occurred. The devil is in the detail of the regulations, but the measure effectively looks at the amount spent on the playing squad and first team coach in employee costs and net transfer fees relative to adjusted revenues. For the first seasons Article 104 provides for a stepped implementation with the target ratio starting at 90% in 2023/24 before moving to 80% in 2024/25 and 70% from 2025/26. In addition, partly to reflect the exceptional nature of the transfer market during the pandemic, in 2023/24 clubs can take the better of the average one, two or three-year net transfer profit result.



<sup>\*</sup> The simulation should be considered a proxy only due to a number of assumptions: actual head coach employee benefit costs are estimated at 6% of total player employee costs and fair-value adjustments to revenue have not been applied apart from related-party donation deductions. The simulation is based on financial reporting periods and not necessarily calendar year results. In addition, it should be noted that the squad cost ratio was not in place during the simulation period, so it is only a theoretical simulation.

#### **BALANCE SHEETS**

This chapter highlights variation in the size and health of clubs' balance sheets across Europe and shines a light on the recent damage caused by the pandemic. It breaks club balance sheets down into the main categories and analyses net equity – assets minus liabilities – for the largest markets and the top 20 clubs. Player assets and combined debt levels are then analysed in more detail.

Many European club balance sheets have been hit hard during the pandemic and there remains a need for recapitalisation through club profits or owner contributions. However, the success of UEFA and domestic financial sustainability rules mean balance sheets have emerged far stronger from the latest pandemic crisis than from the previous global financial crisis at the start of last decade. This is despite the latest pandemic being considerably more disruptive for football.

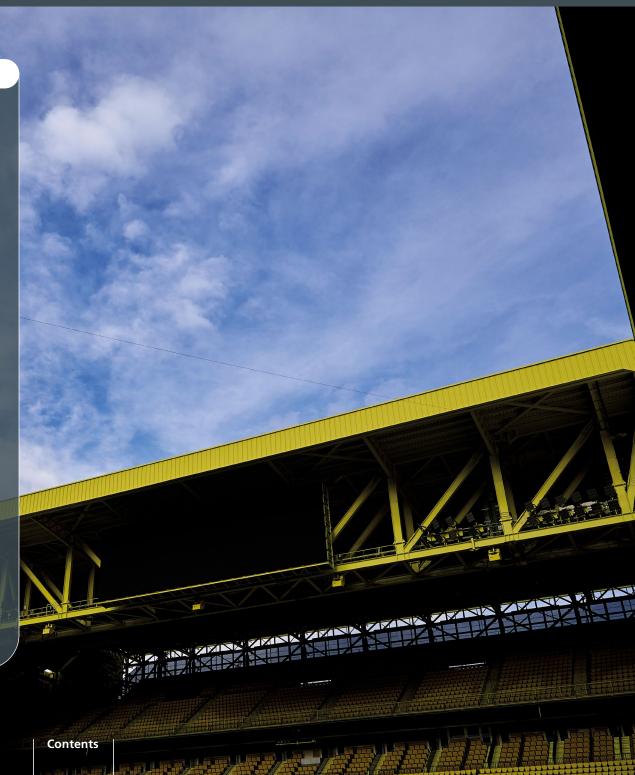
The sheer resilience of European club football is reflected in that grimmest of numbers, insolvent clubs. Across the last 4 years spanning the pandemic, an annual average of eleven of the approximately 1,500 clubs in the top two tiers of domestic football have suffered an insolvent event, which is less than half the rate that existed before stricter financial monitoring was introduced.

€8.4bn

Positive net equity of Europe's top-division clubs in 2022, up 2% on 2021 despite a third year of large losses 38%

Percentage of top-division clubs with negative net equity (liabilities greater than assets) at the end of 2022, showing why new club licensing rules are being introduced to push recapitalisation 8%

Further increase in debt levels in 2023, following a 27% increase between 2019 and 2022

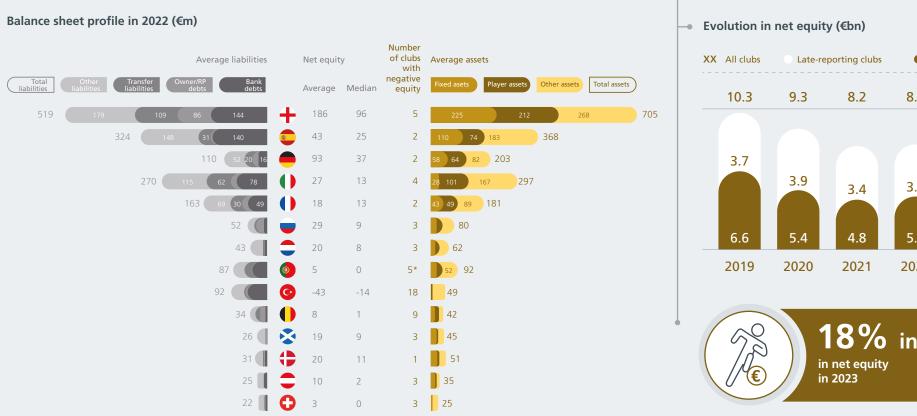


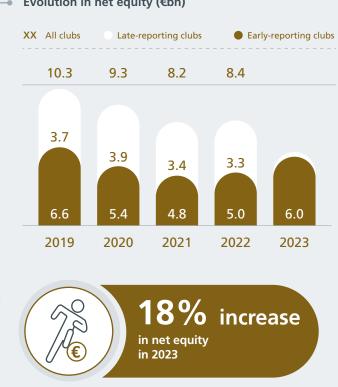
### Clubs strengthening balance sheets, but weakness remains



#### Balance sheets hit hard during the pandemic but now recovering

Many clubs' balance sheets took a significant hit during the pandemic, with capital injections and equity increases unable to cover all of the various losses. Aggregate net equity – calculated as total assets minus total liabilities – fell from a record high of €10.3bn at the end of 2019 to €8.2bn at the end of 2021. It then recovered slightly to stand at €8.4bn in 2022, despite a third year of large losses. In 2023, a combination of improved financial performance and continued owner investment resulted in an encouraging 18% increase in the net equity of early-reporting clubs. While those clubs' aggregate net equity is still 10% below the pre-pandemic peak seen in 2019, the wider context should be considered. Following the global financial crisis of 2008–09, the aggregate net equity of Europe's top-division clubs was just €1.9bn at the end of 2010.





<sup>\*</sup> In Portugal, the number of clubs with negative equity is at least five, since there are seven non-reporting clubs with lower revenue levels.

### Balance sheet capitalisation varies across Europe

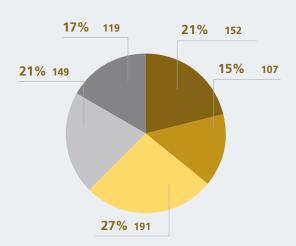
#### **Extreme disparities at European level**

There is significant variation across the 15 leagues whose aggregate balance sheets were profiled on the previous page. Net assets are equal to 50-75% of annual revenue in Denmark, England, Germany, the Netherlands and Scotland, compared with 11% in Switzerland, 15% in Portugal, 18% in France, 23% in Italy, 26% in Spain and 29% in Belgium. However, with the exception of the Nordic countries, there are at least two clubs with negative equity in each of Europe's leagues.

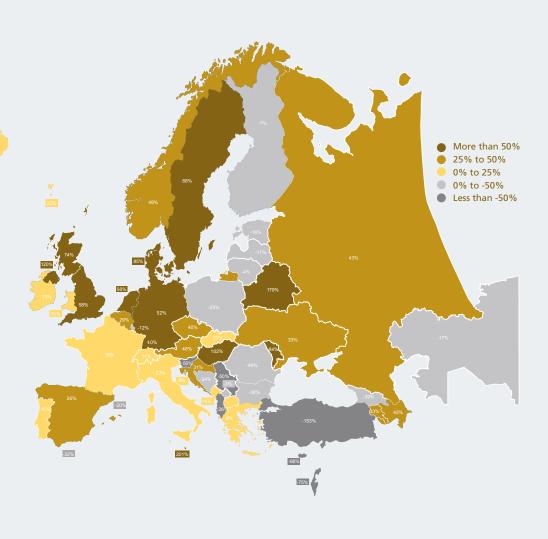
The map on the right covering all 55 leagues clearly shows the areas that generally have weaker balance sheets - namely, eastern Europe, some of the Balkans and Türkiye.

New club licensing rules applicable to nearly all\* top-division European clubs (rather than just the bigger clubs participating in UEFA competitions) are now being introduced in a bid to address the significant numbers of clubs that are still operating with negative net equity.\*\* The fact that 38% of all top-division clubs reported negative net equity in 2022 shows that there is an urgent need to extend the scope of financial regulation in this regard.

#### Numbers of clubs in each category across all top-division clubs

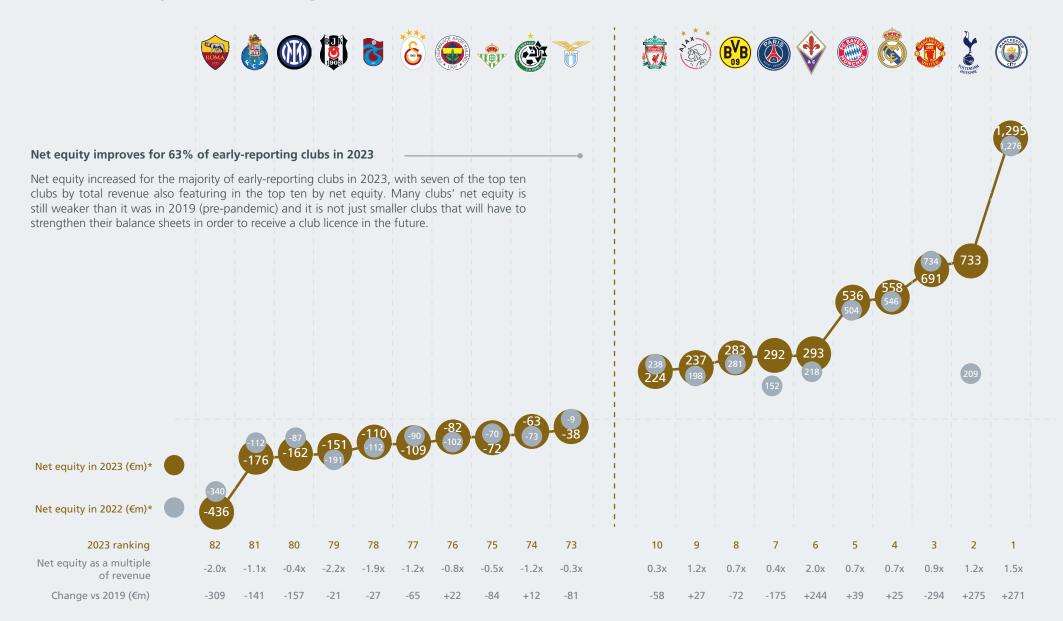


#### Net equity as a percentage of revenue in 2022



<sup>\*</sup> Technically a UEFA club licence is required by only the 239 clubs participating in UEFA club competitions. In practice, however, between 570 and 600 top-tier clubs complete the process every year, either to make sure they have the licence in case they qualify, or because they require the equivalent or a similar licence for domestic league participation, or because they want the quality stamp of being licensed. \*\*Subordinated non-repayable, non-interest-bearing owner debt will be regarded as equity when assessing these new net equity requirements but is not included in the map and chart analysis as the full details are not known.

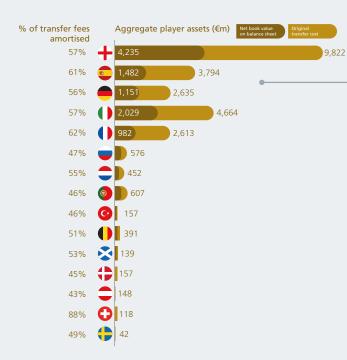
### Net equity has strengthened in almost two-thirds of clubs



<sup>\*</sup> This graphic shows the ten early-reporting clubs with the highest net equity in 2023 and the ten with the lowest net equity. Only actual figures from full submissions have been included in this analysis.

### Asset base growing in line with economic growth







#### Club assets remain highly concentrated

Top-division clubs' aggregate assets increased by 10% in 2022, rising from €41.1bn to €45.1bn. Data for early-reporting clubs, whose assets increased by a further 10% in 2023, suggests that aggregate assets for all top-division clubs will soon approach €50bn. Club assets include shorter-term operating assets, medium-term player registration assets and longer-term fixed assets. Such fixed assets account for just over a quarter of total club assets and will be analysed further in the investment section of this report.

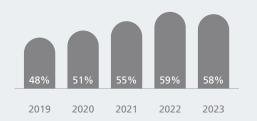
Concentration levels have remained largely unchanged over the last five years, with English clubs accounting for 31% of all top-division clubs' assets and the Big 5 leagues as a whole accounting for 77%.

#### Reduced transfer activity during the pandemic leads to more heavily amortised player assets

Total player assets on clubs' balance sheets stood at €11.5bn at the end of 2022, down from a peak of €13.2bn at the end of 2020, a decline of 13%. Player assets have become more heavily amortised in recent years, with players remaining at their clubs for longer against the background of reduced transfer activity and a switch from transfers to loan deals. Before the pandemic, the 48%, with the strong price inflation seen between 2016 and 2019 also helping to keep rates low. By the end of 2022, the average degree of amortisation had reached 59%, with that average then falling slightly to stand at 58% at the end of 2023.

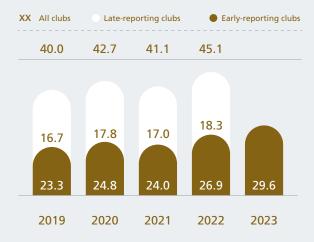
Player assets are even more heavily concentrated than other financial items, with the Big 5 leagues accounting for 86% of all top-division clubs' balance sheet player assets.

#### Aggregate amortisation rate

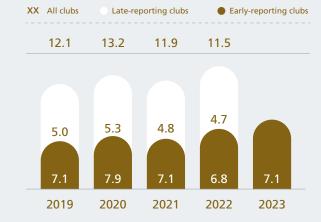




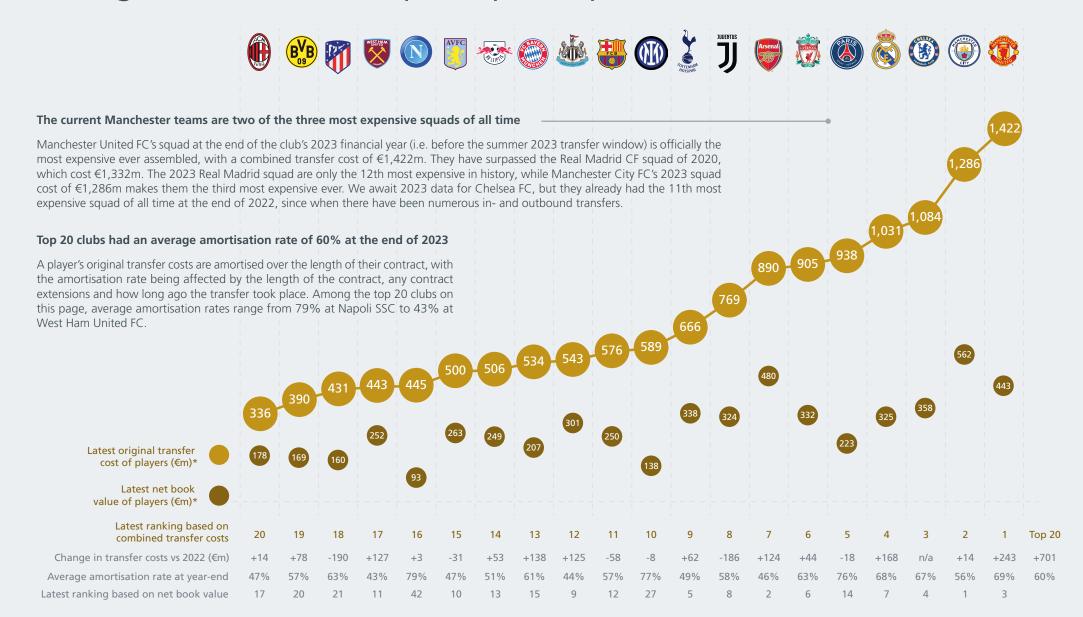
#### **Evolution of aggregate assets (€bn)**



#### Aggregate net book value



### Average transfer cost of top 20 squads up more than €700m in 2023

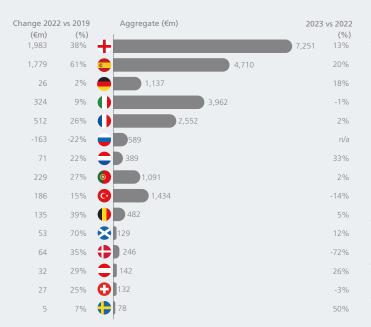


<sup>\*</sup> For nearly all of the top 20 clubs, this 'latest' data relates to 2023. The only exception is Chelsea FC, for which data relates to 2022.

### Debt levels 27% higher than pre-pandemic



#### Debt levels at the end of 2022



#### Increases seen in clubs' debt burdens

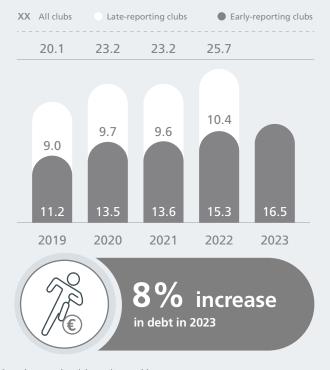
While clubs' asset bases have grown, their aggregate liabilities have also risen significantly in recent years, increasing from €30bn at the end of 2019 to almost €37bn at the end of 2022. Every business uses debt funding, and the working capital component of this increase is a natural result of growth in revenues and costs. Nonetheless, clubs have, in part, used increases in debt levels\* to get them through the pandemic, with aggregate debt levels standing at almost €25.7bn at the end of 2022 and rising by a further 8% for early-reporting clubs in 2023.

As the table below indicates, all subcategories of debt increased between the end of 2019 and the end of 2022, with bank and commercial debt rising by 47% to stand at more than €11.3bn.

English and Spanish clubs are responsible for more than two-thirds of the €5,510m increase in aggregate debt that was observed between the end of 2019 and the end of 2022. This trend looks set to continue, with early-reporting clubs in England and Spain increasing their debt levels by 13% and 20% respectively in 2023.

	Aggregate debt in 2022 (€m)	2022 vs 2019	2023 vs 2022
Bank and commercial debt	11,315	+47%	+6%
Related-party debt	4,211	+17%	+19%
Transfer payables	6,024	+6%	+15%
Social tax balances	2,233	+35%	+5%
Employee payables	1,877	+24%	-11%
'Debt level'	25,660	+27%	+8%
Other liabilities**	11,095	+16%	+8%
Total liabilities	36,755	+24%	+8%

#### **Evolution in debt (€bn)**



<sup>\*</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, 'debt levels' reflect a group of short and long-term balance sheet items, namely bank liabilities, related-party payables, transfer payables, and employee and social security payables.

<sup>\*\*</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, 'other liabilities' covers all balance sheet liabilities not included in the 'debt level' grouping, namely short and long-term accounts payable, accruals and deferred income, non-social security liabilities, provisions for liabilities and other non-allocated payables.

### Debt levels continue to rise across most markets

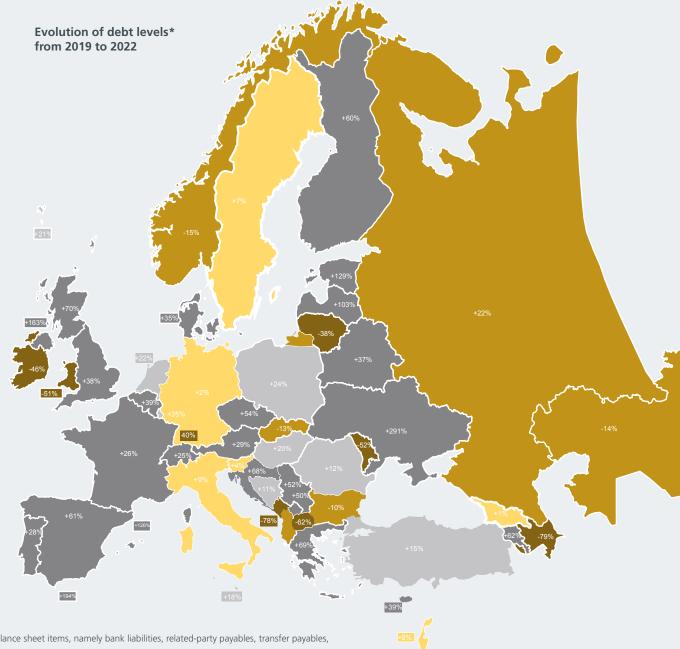
### Debt burdens rising in the majority of countries

Although the largest English and Spanish clubs are responsible for most of the debt increase in absolute terms, the preponderance of silver in the map on the right shows that club debt has risen quite significantly in most countries, increasing by at least 10% in 33 of the 55 countries.

#### Longer-term liabilities on the rise

For five consecutive years, long-term liabilities – defined as those that are due in more than 12 months' time – have increased as a share of total liabilities, rising from 42% in 2019 to 50% in 2023. While clubs' short-term liabilities have risen by €2.5bn, their longer-term liabilities have increased by €4.6bn. Given the recent increases in lending rates, this long-term financing will, to some extent, shield clubs for the immediate future.





### Number of countries

7 Down by 25% or more

7 Down by 0% to 25%

8 Up by 0% to 10%

9 Up by 10% to 25%

24 Up by 25% or more

<sup>\*</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, 'debt levels' reflect a group of short and long-term balance sheet items, namely bank liabilities, related-party payables, transfer payables, and employee and social security payables.

### European clubs remarkably resilient during the pandemic

Licensing event -

#### How are cases of serious financial difficulty recorded?

The UEFA Intelligence Centre's insolvency database contains details of all serious financial difficulties experienced by clubs. Unlike the rest of the financial chapters, which cover the clubs in just the top tier in each country, the insolvency database covers approximately 1,500 clubs from each of the top two tiers in each country.

The Intelligence Centre's analysts monitor the market using various sources. The licensing department at each country's national association or league provides details as part of its SGS external licensing audit each year. The analysts cross-check and supplement this information using the list of licensing decisions submitted to UEFA each year, as well as desktop research (which includes a review of all points deductions across the 1,500 or so clubs competing in the top two divisions in each country).

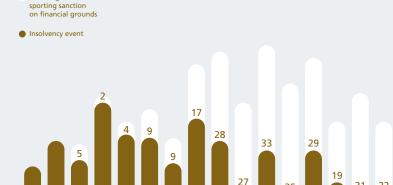
Insolvency events are broken down into (i) clubs that become bankrupt and are wound up. (ii) clubs that become bankrupt but continue as a new legal entity, and (iii) clubs that go into administration and receive temporary protection from creditors.

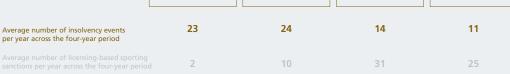
Licensing events are only recorded where licences are refused or mid-season licensing sanctions lead to sporting sanctions such as points deductions, transfer embargoes, relegation or refusal to allow promotion.

per year across the four-year period

#### Strict licensing sanctions applied at national level during the pandemic

The number of licensing sanctions between 2020 and 2022 indicates that domestic licensing authorities followed the same approach as UEFA during the pandemic by continuing to apply strict sanctions, particularly for overdue payables on transfers and late payments to players. A tough approach to financial transgressions is important in club licensing, in order to prevent serious financial positions from turning into insolvency events.





2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023\*

#### Insolvency events dealt with appropriately

Insolvency events damage the reputation of football and have a negative impact on creditors and supporters alike. They result in clubs being refused access to UEFA's competitions. What is more, if a new legal entity is created, that 'phoenix club' is prevented from participating in UEFA's club competitions for at least three seasons

#### Relatively small number of insolvency events during the pandemic

Although 20 insolvency events were recorded in 2020, up sharply from six in the previous year, the following three years saw just ten, seven and seven cases respectively.\* This was considerably lower than the average of 23 cases per year that was seen during/after the global financial crisis of 2008-09 (which was before the full introduction of UEFA's financial fair play rules and the strengthening of domestic financial licensing).

This chapter has highlighted the weakening of clubs' balance sheets and increases in clubs' debt levels during the pandemic – particularly long-term debt that will have to be repaid and serviced in the future. In the short term, however, European football has once again demonstrated its remarkable resilience when faced with the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic. This is also testament to the benefits of stricter financial regulation, with more frequent monitoring, sanctions applied for overdue payables and a requirement to recapitalise in the event of break-even losses over the last decade

<sup>\*</sup> Data for 2023 covers the period from 1 January to 30 November.





### Sponsor investment in clubs

#### Sponsor investment in clubs offers mutual benefits

The aesthetic of football shirts with a main sponsor logo emblazoned across the front became widespread in the early 1980s, and increasingly other parts of the shirt, shorts and socks are used to advertise sponsors nowadays. Companies that invest in football create a partnership between their brand and a club: the brand offers financial returns or value in kind in exchange for promotional benefits. It is an attractive opportunity for a brand to become synonymous with a successful team, thereby increasing its profile locally and globally.

The UEFA Intelligence Centre has undertaken a review of the sponsor inventory of all European top-division teams to identify trends in sponsorship revenue streams. The analysis covers the sponsors of 734 clubs in six main kit categories – main shirt sponsor, second front-of-shirt sponsor, sleeve sponsor, back-of-shirt sponsor, shorts sponsor and back-of-shorts sponsor – alongside kit manufacturers and stadium naming-rights investors.

The high-level role of commercial sources in club revenue is discussed in the club revenue chapter, providing the backdrop to the more detailed analysis of commercial investments presented here. Football teams have a unique ability to reach mass audiences and engage those audiences on and off the pitch, hence the place of sports sponsorship in many companies' marketing mix. Sponsor origin and industry is highlighted to show the global assortment of brands vying for advertising space.



41

leagues have restrictions on sponsor industries (tobacco, alcohol, gambling and political or religious messaging)



65%

of main shirt sponsorships remained the same from 2022 to 2023



**76%** 

of Premier League sponsors are based outside England, the highest percentage in European football



#### **STADIUM NAMING RIGHTS**

Stadium ownership structures influence whether clubs can benef from sponsorship revenue through stadium naming rights.

However, the low percentage of sponsored stadiums is a sign of untapped potential. This is especially the case in the Big 5 leagues. Most clubs in Spain (70%), England (75%), France (78%) and Italy (80%) play in traditionally named stadiums. Conversely, in Germany, only four top-division stadiums are unsponsored.



18%

of clubs have stadiums with naming rights



19

countries have no sponsored stadiums in their top divisions





## Austria & Germany

have the highest percentages of stadiums with naming rights (83% & 78% respectively)



## Financial services

is the industry with the most stadium naming rights

Contents

### Main shirt sponsorship

#### Main shirt sponsorship remains a major part of sponsorship inventory

The main shirt sponsorship is a key element of partnership deals between top-division clubs and companies from a broad spectrum of industries aiming to capitalise on the exposure obtained by having their brands featured on matchday and replica shirts. Looking at the main shirt sponsorship landscape, retail, professional services and betting and gambling firms are the most prolific industries.

Betting and gambling firms account for 23% of all main shirt sponsors across Europe's top divisions in 2023/24, a slight increase on the previous season's 22% share. The slowdown in growth is likely due to existing and pending restrictions on betting sponsorship in many European countries.

In the current season, 93% of the 734 top-division clubs had a main shirt sponsor in place as at 1 November 2023, up 3% on the same stage of the previous season. Clubs without main shirt sponsors are found in 21 countries, with the most (5 clubs each) in Albania and Gibraltar. Of the 15 major markets, after Chelsea FC secured a new shirt sponsor part way into the season, only four clubs (SS Lazio, Istanbulspor, Grasshopper Club Zurich and Sevilla FC) remain without main shirt sponsors in 2023/24. Across the rest of Europe, the clubs with no main shirt sponsor tend to be from smaller revenue markets.

### Domestic companies dominate main shirt sponsorship across Europe, but Big 5 leagues attract global firms for international visibility

In total, 25% of all clubs' main shirt sponsors were foreign companies, a decrease of 3% on 2022/23. The English Premier League has the most foreign company sponsors, the main shirt sponsor of 17 of its 20 clubs being based outside England. Around half (8) are headquartered in Asia. This reinforces the visibility of the Premier League globally and the desire for investment from global companies.

#### Sponsorship churn of main shirt sponsor

Looking at changes in main shirt sponsorship over time, 65% of main shirt sponsorships across Europe have remained the same as the previous season and 38% remain the same as five years ago.\*\* The table indicates the rate of change among the 15 highest revenue leagues; the highest sponsorship churn rate is observed in Portugal and Scotland, while Norway has the highest main shirt sponsor retention rate. The impact of contract length may impact this analysis, however changes in the dominant industries present indicate main sponsor churn.





#### Sponsor industries 2023/24\*

1	Retail	14%
2	Betting & Gambling	13%
3	Professional Services	12%
4	Financial Services	10%
5	Food & Beverage	9%
6	Airline & Automotive	8%
7	Construction & Real Estate	8%
8	Industrial Goods	7%
9	Telecommunications	6%
10	Tourism	6%
11	Energy	5%
12	Charity	1%
13	Pharmaceutical	1%

#### Main shirt sponsors in top 15 leagues\*\*

	% of SAME sponsors 2022-2023	% of SAME sponsors 2018-2023	Main Shirt Sponsor industry 2018	Main Shirt Sponsor industry 2023	% of sponsors that are domestic companies
+	71%	30%	Betting & Gambling	Betting & Gambling	15%
8	63%	25%	Betting & Gambling	Telecommunications	58%
	75%	39%	Financial Services	Financial Services / Retail	78%
0	50%	25%	Airline & Automotive	Tourism	53%
0	63%	17%	Professional Services / Industrial Goods	Professional Services	78%
	57%	31%	Energy	Betting & Gambling	100%
	67%	17%	Professional Services	Betting & Gambling	94%
(3)	93%	6%	Telecommunications / Retail	Betting & Gambling	72%
<b>©</b>	56%	20%	Industrial Goods	Airline & Automotive	95%
	87%	19%	Financial Services / Betting & Gambling	Betting & Gambling	63%
8	45%	8%	Betting & Gambling	Professional Services	75%
<b>(</b>	80%	33%	Financial Services	Food & Beverage	67%
	73%	42%	Food & Beverage / Retail	Energy	83%
0	88%	33%	Professional Services	Financial Services	91%
<b>+</b>	79%	31%	Industrial Goods	Financial Services	94%
AVE	65%	37%	-	-	74%

<sup>\*</sup>Analysis of the six main visible sponsor categories: main shirt, second front of shirt, sleeve, back of shirt, shorts and back of shorts \*\*The assessment of changes in main shirt sponsorship over time looks at the visible brand name. It does not capture cases of parent companies featuring different brands in their portfolio under the same sponsorship agreement. The 2022 to 2023 assessment covers 585 clubs and the 2018 to 2023 assesses 248 clubs from the top 15 leagues who have been in the top division in 2018 and in 2023. Clubs that were not in the top tier in 2018 are excluded.

### Use of visible sponsorship categories varies by league

This page provides an overview of visible\* kit sponsorship.

The areas used as inventory has been increasing in recent years but varies between countries. Optimisation of available space varies between clubs. Elsewhere in this chapter additional detail of the profile of main shirt sponsorship and kit manufacturer is provided.

#### **MAIN FRONT-OF-SHIRT SPONSORS**

93%

23%

#### SECOND FRONT-OF-SHIRT SPONSORS

33%

85%

#### **SHORTS SPONSORS**

34%

100%

10



#### **SLEEVE SPONSORS**

47%

of clubs have a

sleeve sponsor

100%

48

of clubs in the Norwegian Eliteserien have a sleeve sponsor

leagues have at least one club with a sleeve sponsor

#### **BACK-OF-SHIRT SPONSORS**

60%

sponsor

of clubs have a back-of-shirt

Increase in the number of clubs with back-of-shirt

2022/23

+11%

sponsors since

Do not allow back-of-shirt sponsorship

#### **BACK-OF-SHORTS SPONSORS**

20%

sponsor

17%

88%

of clubs have a Retail is the most back-of-shorts prevalent back-ofshorts industry

of back-of-shorts sponsors are domestic companies

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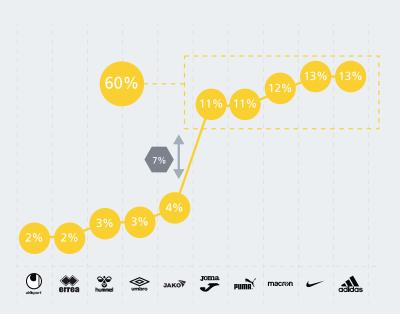
<sup>\*</sup>Analysis of the six main visible sponsor categories: main shirt, second front of shirt, sleeve, back of shirt, shorts and back of shorts.

### Top five kit manufacturers dominate European club market

#### Clear gap between the top five and the rest

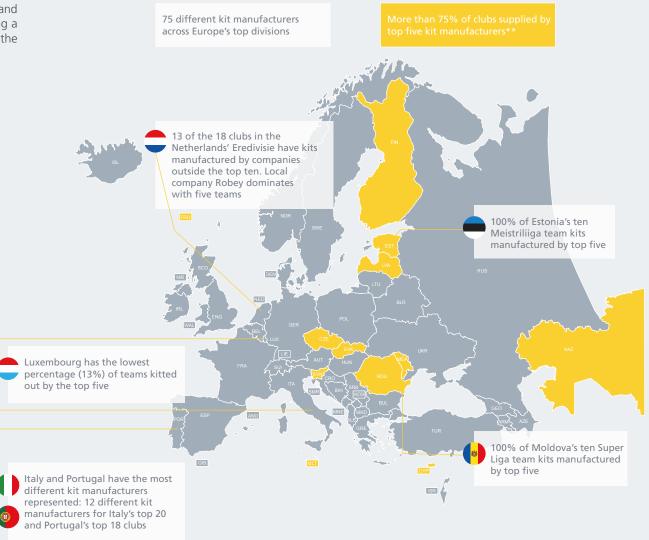
The top five kit manufacturers provide kits for 60% of all top-division clubs,\* and the top ten account for 75%, illustrating a clear market concentration among a small number of firms. There are a further 65 kit manufacturers that equip the remaining teams, of which 31 supply one team only.

#### Top 10 top-division kit manufacturers in 2023/24



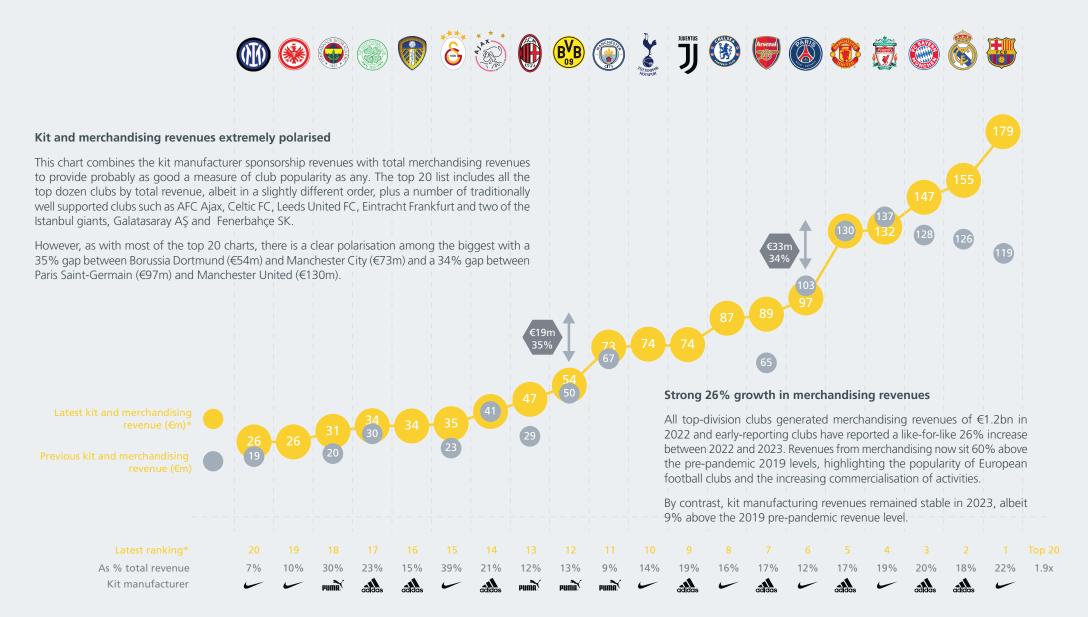
#### Kit manufacturer profile among top 20 clubs





<sup>\*</sup>Analysis of 734 top-tier clubs as at 1 November 2023 \*\* The top five kit manufacturers for teams in European top divisions are adidas, Nike, Macron, Joma and Puma.

### Supporter demand generates record kit and merchandising revenues



<sup>\*</sup> This analysis of the top 20 clubs is based on 2023 data for clubs with a summer year-end and early-reporting clubs. The latest detailed data available for the following clubs is from the 2022 financial year: Chelsea FC, Juventus FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC, Leeds United FC, Eintracht Frankfurt.

### Gambling firms strengthen position as title sponsors

#### Ten top divisions have changed title sponsor

The 2023/24 season has seen a total of ten top divisions change their title sponsor, with gambling and sports betting companies the most prevalent among new sponsorship deals (40% in Greece, Lithuania, Portugal and Slovakia).

Spain is the only Big 5 league to have changed title sponsor since 2021, partnering with a gaming company for naming rights as well as broadcast enhancements including augmented reality graphics and metrics included on real-time broadcasts.

Not having a title sponsor can be a choice, as in the case of the Premier League (since 2016), which cites an interest in building a 'clean' brand for the competition instead.

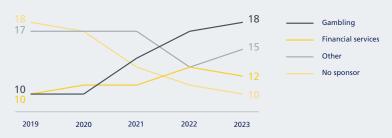
#### Gambling sponsorship dominates domestic cup competitions

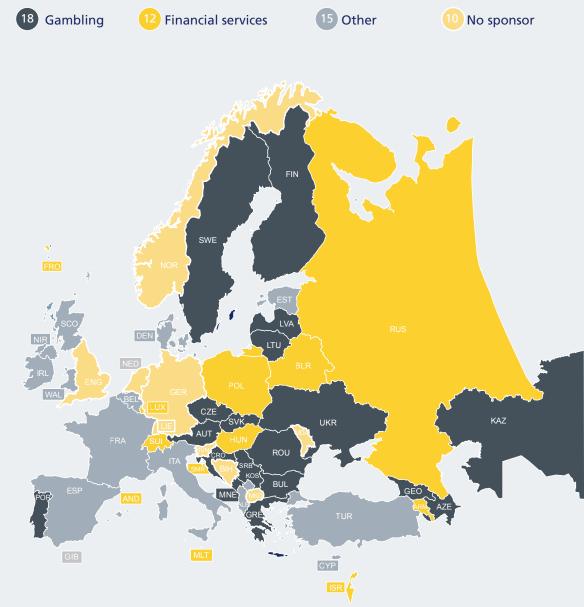
Since 2021, 12 domestic cup or league cup competitions have found a sponsor. Currently, 61% of domestic cups have a title sponsor, nearly 20 percentage points higher than in 2021, when only 42% of cup competitions where sponsored.

Following the trend in domestic leagues, gambling is the number one industry, with a total of 12 cup competitions sponsored by a gambling or sports betting company. Food & beverage companies are second on the list, sponsoring a total of seven different cup competitions.

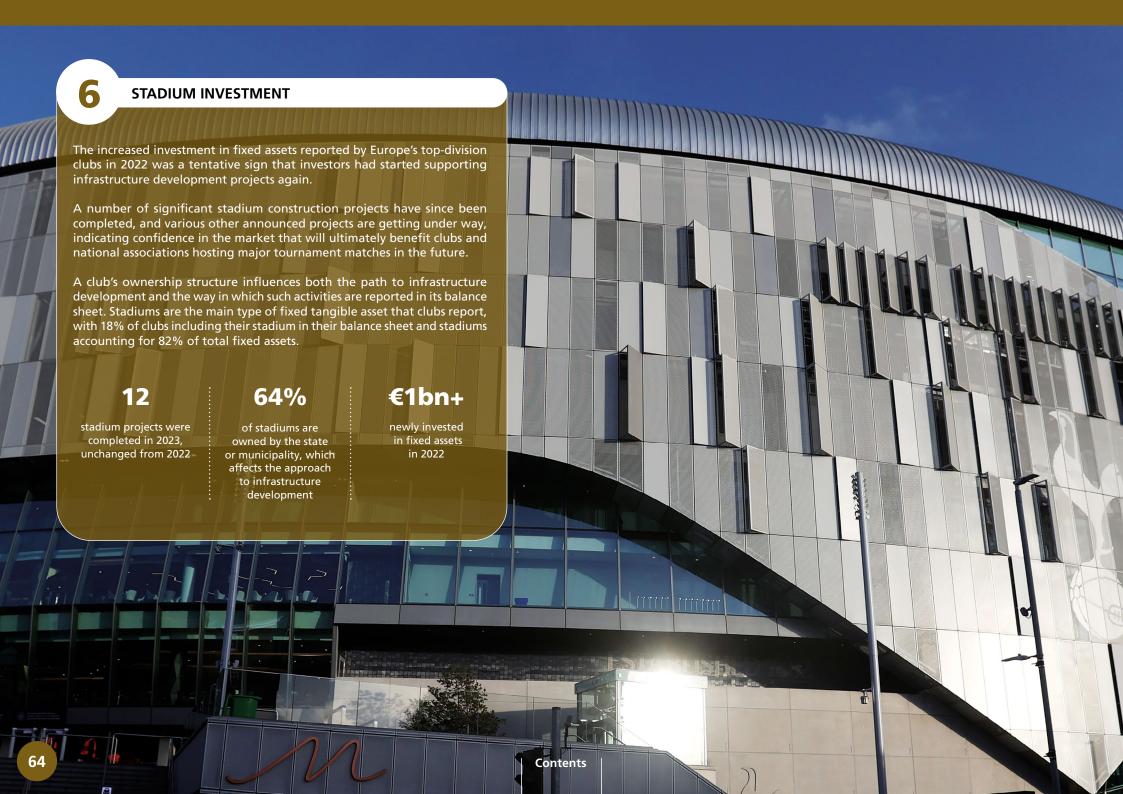
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#### Evolution of league title sponsor by industry









### Stadium infrastructure development

#### Hosting major tournaments acts as a catalyst for infrastructure development

Hosting a major sporting event is often a catalyst for infrastructure development, with stadiums needing to be built or upgraded in order to meet tournament requirements.

For example, Stuttgart Arena is undergoing upgrade work ahead of EURO 2024 in Germany, with new media areas, changing rooms, hospitality facilities, sound equipment and accessible seating all planned. This work will not increase the stadium's capacity, focusing instead on providing facilities commensurate with a modern football experience.

Looking further ahead to EURO 2028 in the United Kingdom and Ireland, Villa Park and the City of Manchester Stadium in England and Hampden Park in Scotland will all undergo renovations in order to increase capacity and improve facilities. Meanwhile, Casement Park in Northern Ireland will be completely rebuilt, with the tournament providing the impetus for construction to finally get under way after a lengthy planning approval process and funding uncertainties.

The fact that the hosts of EURO 2024 and EURO 2028 are all mature in infrastructure terms helps to explain why the number of new stadium projects stabilised in 2023 and the number of scheduled completions is expected to fall in 2024.

#### Construction projects under way across Europe

Financial outlay on stadium development and other infrastructure projects represents an investment for clubs, as increases in capacity can lead to higher gate receipts, while improved training facilities can help to attract higher-quality players. Clubs are not immune to market forces though, as the rising cost of materials in the post-pandemic construction market has prevented projects from getting under way and made it difficult to complete them on time. However, announced projects are now tentatively moving past the design phase towards fruition: designers have been selected, contractor procurement processes are in progress and projects are breaking ground.

2023 saw both renovations and new builds being completed. In Serbia, new 8,000-seat stadiums were built in Loznica and Leskovac, meeting the needs of their respective clubs and communities. In Germany, meanwhile, the 34,000-seat Wildparkstadion – the new home of Karlsruher SC – was inaugurated in July 2023.

In Spain, two historic stadiums are undergoing changes. The summer of 2023 saw FC Barcelona vacate Camp Nou – already the largest football stadium in Europe – ahead of a modernisation project that will increase its capacity to 105,000. In Madrid, the redevelopment of the 84,000-seat Santiago Bernabeu will be inaugurated officially in the first quarter of 2024, marking the end of a five-year project.

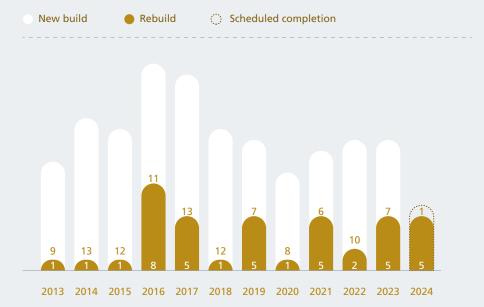
Stadium projects\* completed in 2023



Countries with the most projects under way (three each)

Countries had at least one stadium built in the last decade

#### **Evolution of completed stadium projects**



<sup>\*</sup> Stadium projects come in many different shapes and sizes. In the interests of comparability, the analysis in this report is limited to outdoor stadiums in Europe with a capacity of more than 5,000. It also focuses solely on projects that have been completed since 2013 or are currently in the process of being completed. Stadium project statistics only include projects that significantly increase overall capacity; cosmetic renovations (e.g. the refurbishment of stands) are not included.

Additions to fixed assets

% of

revenue

Five-year period 2018-2022

2,513 8.8%

39 4.6%

Total (m)

### Club stadium assets and the latest 2023 investments



Aggregate 2022 (€m)

#### Investment levels rebounded somewhat in 2022

On aggregate, Europe's 700+ top-division clubs reported €1.1bn of new investment in fixed assets in 2022, which represented a 25% increase on 2021 but was 26% below the pre-pandemic level seen in 2019. This additional investment in tangible fixed assets\* was equivalent to just under 5% of club revenue.

#### Three clubs account for €300m of investment in 2022

Premier League clubs again invested the most money in fixed assets in 2022, with Everton FC accounting for half of the total amount invested by those English clubs. Likewise, in France, Paris Saint-Germain FC and Olympique Lyonnais invested more than €140m between them in 2022. Elsewhere, German, Italian and Spanish clubs invested less than 4% of their revenue in fixed assets in 2022.

#### English clubs led the way over the period 2018–2022

A review of aggregate investment between 2018 and 2022 indicates that the 20 Premier League clubs invested just over €2.5bn in tangible fixed assets over that period, while the other 76 clubs in the Big 5 leagues invested just €2.1bn between them. This represented a continuation of longer-term trends, as well as reflecting levels of stadium ownership among English clubs.

#### Signs of increased investment in 2023

Levels of investment in tangible fixed assets increased in 2023 among early-reporting clubs, whose new investments totalled more than €800m, up from around €500m in 2022. The two clubs with the highest overall wage bills, FC Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain FC, invested a combined total of more than €230m in their stadiums and training facilities. Meanwhile, Olympique Lyonnais, LASK, Liverpool FC and Tottenham Hotspur FC invested more than €50m each in fixed assets in 2023.

#### Evolution of top-division clubs' new fixed asset investments (€bn)

% revenue reinvested

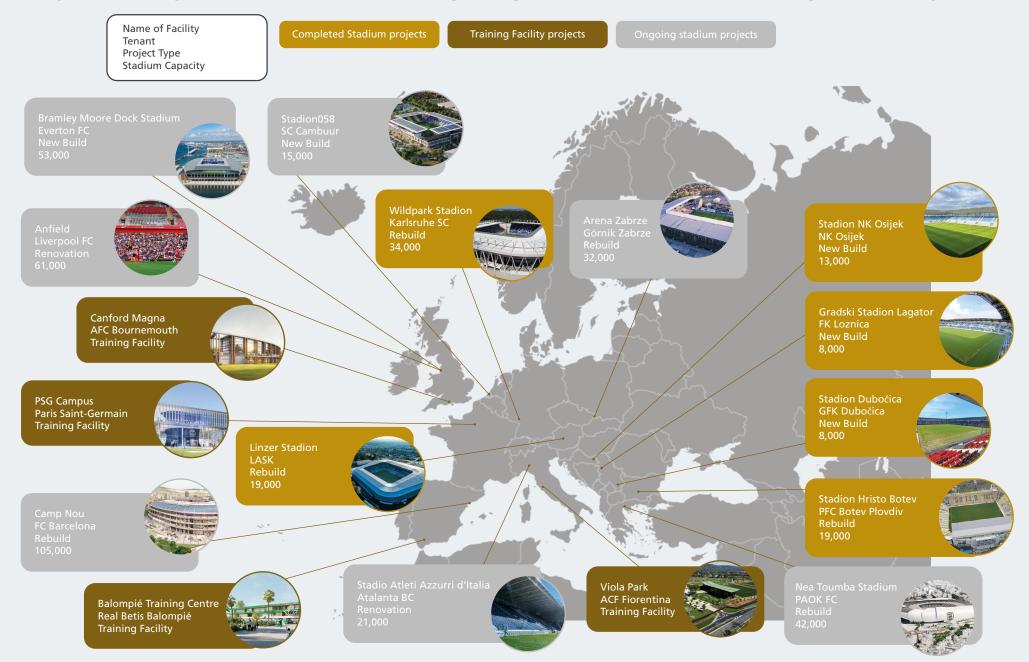
XX	All clubs	Late-reporting clubs		Early-re	eporting clubs
	6.6%	6.4%	4.5%	4.8%	6.2%
	1.5	1.3	0.9	1.1	





<sup>\*</sup> The value relates to additions to tangible fixed assets. It covers all types of fixed asset, including vehicles and computer equipment, but the vast majority relates to investment in new facilities – either stadiums or training grounds.

### Key recently completed and ongoing stadium and training site projects



### Stadium ownership and infrastructure development

#### Stadium investment is an opportunity to improve revenue streams

Increasingly, stadium development is seen not just as a way for clubs to improve facilities for fans. but as an opportunity to increase non-matchday revenue streams. Since a club's financial health is at risk if development plans face problems, having a business case that supports the optimisation of facilities is key.

An assessment of average stadium capacities across the top 15 leagues illustrates the impact that infrastructure development has in terms of improving the overall facilities used by top-division clubs.

In Türkiye, a number of new stadiums have been built in the last decade in the hope of hosting a major event, increasing the country's average stadium size. Likewise, improvements to stadium infrastructure ahead of the 2018 FIFA World Cup left Russia with the third highest average stadium capacity in Europe.

To some extent, a club's ability to develop infrastructure depends on who owns that infrastructure. This varies considerably across clubs and has a large impact on balance sheet values.

In Spain, La Liga clubs have received capital from CVC specifically earmarked for infrastructure development as part of the Impulso investment deal. The number of infrastructure projects is expected to increase as a result.

#### Stadium ownership remains low in large parts of Europe

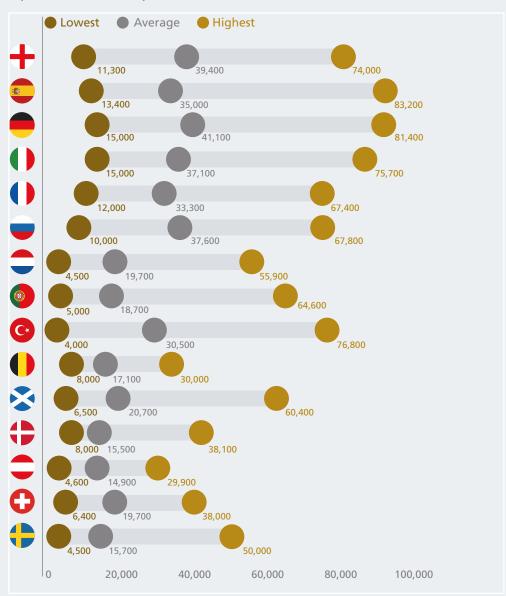
At the end of 2023, only 88 top-tier clubs (12% of the total) owned their stadium directly, while 62 (8%) reported that their stadium was owned by another company in the group or belonged to the club's owner. A further 64% of top-division clubs' stadiums were owned by state or municipal authorities, while the remaining 16% were under the control of other commercial entities. Under accounting rules, subject to certain conditions, clubs are allowed to include their stadium on the balance sheet if they have a long-term lease. In total, 135 (18%) of Europe's top-tier clubs include the whole of their stadium in the balance sheet as either a fixed asset or an investment, and a further 93 clubs include certain leasehold improvements. Fixed assets include various types of long-term asset, but stadiums are the main category: the 18% of clubs that include the stadium in their balance sheet account for 82% of all fixed assets reported.

of stadiums owned by the state or municipality

of stadiums are shown on the club's balance sheet as an asset

Total stadium capacity across all top-division clubs

#### Top-tier club stadium capacities, 2023/24 season



<sup>\*</sup> Source: Intelligence Centre proprietary insights and desktop research based on early-reporting clubs (data as at December 2023).

#### **CLUB OWNERSHIP INVESTMENT**

European football clubs remain a compelling proposition for investors. However, while the past two seasons have seen a surge in club takeovers and minority investments, the pace of investment now appears to be slowing, influenced by a confluence of external and internal factors. This chapter delves into the intricacies of this evolving scenario, shedding light on the dynamics that shape the ownership and investment landscape of European football clubs. In particular, it examines the role of private equity investors and other sophisticated financial investors, as they are continuing to increase their footprint in football's financial ecosystem.

Multi-club investment – where investors hold stakes in multiple clubs – has been a key issue in Europe's football ecosystem for a few years now. That marks a significant shift in traditional ownership structures, with far-reaching implications for the interconnected relationships between clubs, sponsors and fans.

With European football's investment landscape undergoing a nuanced transformation, this chapter provides a comprehensive overview and analysis of the various multifaceted factors surrounding club ownership. By examining trends, ownership structures and the growing influence of multi-club investment, it contributes to a deeper understanding of the evolving dynamics within the football industry. Despite the current slowdown in outright takeovers, the allure of investing in European clubs remains strong, with innovative approaches such as minority investments and multi-club ownership reshaping the investment landscape.

22

Number of European top-division clubs taken over in 2023, down from 47 in 2022 and 30 in 2021, pointing to a return to a more stable environment post-pandemic 39%

Percentage of the 96 clubs in the Big 5 that have ties with private capital investors, through private equity or venture capital investment, or via the backing of private debt firms

300+

Number of clubs worldwide that are now part of a multi-club investment structure, up from less than 100 five years ago and less than 40 in 2012



### The various types of ownership in European club football

#### Typology of club owners

In this report, clubs are broken down into two groups:

#### Privately owned

Ultimate control over the club rests with one or more private individuals and/or organisations.

#### Publicly owned

Ultimate control over the club is held by a legal entity such as a public association or institution.

The data presented on subsequent pages offers an overview of European club football's ownership landscape at the end of the 2022 financial year, incorporating insights from the UEFA Intelligence Centre covering 2023 as a whole.

#### Many privately owned clubs are limited companies

More than half (51%) of all top-division clubs for which sufficient information on ownership is available are currently under private ownership.\* In more than 90% of those cases, the clubs are limited companies (e.g. limited liability companies or joint stock companies) or owned by private individuals.

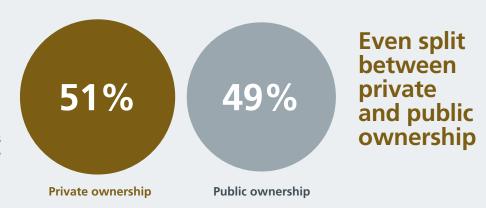
#### Ever-increasing complexity of ownership structures

These days, sophisticated financial investors such as investment funds or professional family offices play an unprecedented role in European club football's ownership structures. This has greatly increased the complexity of club ownership, with many teams now owned through a series of holding companies.

These holding companies are ultimately controlled by other entities, so there is a clear distinction to be drawn between the party that actually benefits financially (the 'ultimate beneficiary') and the party with ultimate control over the club's decisions (the 'ultimate controlling party').

This adds an extra layer of complexity when it comes to who holds the reins at a football club, going beyond straightforward ownership considerations. Unless otherwise specified, the term 'ownership' always refers to 'ultimate beneficiary ownership' (i.e. economic rights over the capital of a club) in this section of the report.

#### Breakdown of club ownership across Europe



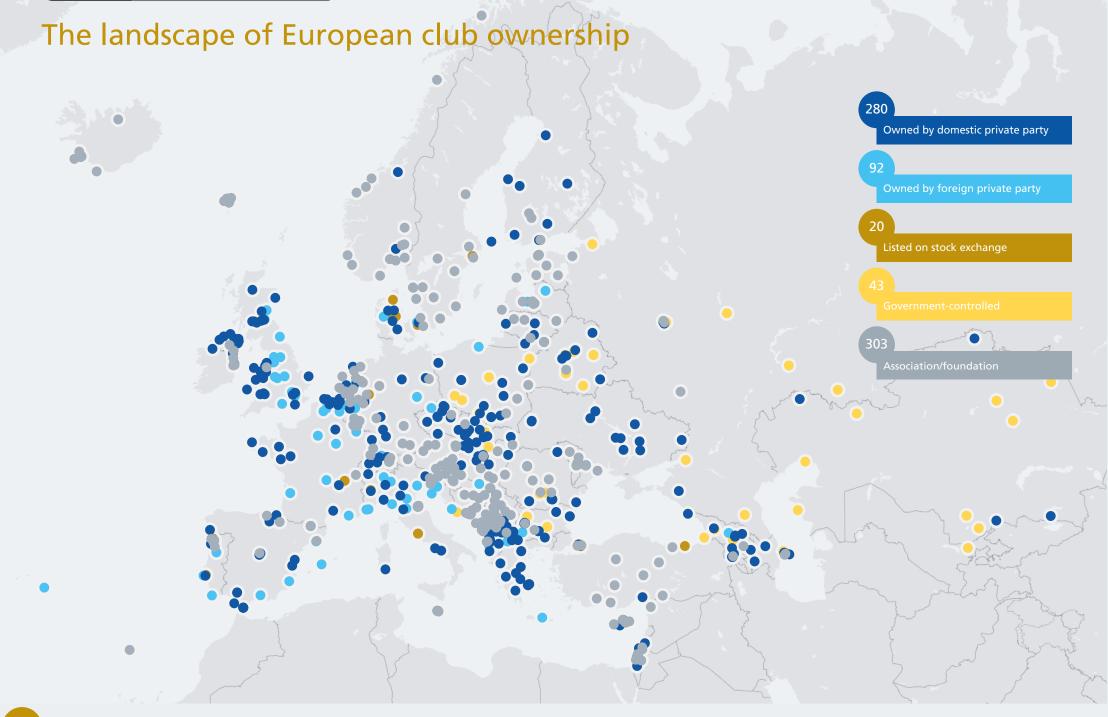
#### 11 leagues consist solely of associations or foundations

In Andorra, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway and San Marino, all clubs are classified as associations or foundations. Those 11 countries account for 45% of all associations and foundations across Europe's top divisions – a share that is growing over time, as in most other countries the trend is for such clubs to convert to limited companies.

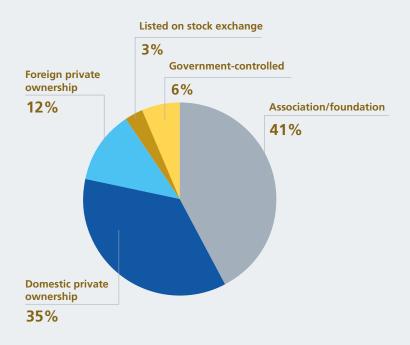
#### 14 leagues feature clubs owned by public institutions

A quarter of Europe's top divisions feature at least one club owned by a public institution, unchanged from last year's report. This form of club ownership is most common in Kazakhstan (nine clubs), Belarus (nine clubs) and Russia (eight clubs). Institutions categorised as public bodies include municipal and state-funded entities – local publicly owned companies.

<sup>\*</sup> Some clubs failed to provide UEFA with sufficient information about their ownership structures. The majority of those clubs did not apply for a UEFA licence for the following season. A more detailed breakdown of the legal nature of top-division clubs by country can be found in the appendices.



### Breakdown of European clubs by ownership type



### Regional patterns in ownership and control structures

Certain forms of ownership are more common in specific regions of Europe. Government-controlled clubs are mostly found in eastern Europe, while associations are more common in Nordic and Balkan countries. In turn, foreign private ownership tends to be concentrated in the largest economies, with England, France, Belgium, Italy and Portugal accounting for more than half (52%) of all clubs with foreign private owners across Europe's top divisions.

### Ownership structures do matter in the face of adversity

As illustrated in the pandemic-specific report a few years ago, a football club's ownership structure can provide insights into its response to financial challenges. Clubs that can call on benefactors' support are potentially more resilient in times of difficulty, as benefactors are often in a better position to offer rapid and flexible emergency assistance. However, these clubs also face elevated levels of risk if their owners and benefactors are adversely affected by external factors (especially amid growing macroeconomic uncertainty).

Conversely, clubs that do not have such benefactors, which are often considered to be more self-sufficient, may have difficulty accessing emergency funding. Nevertheless, they typically have more diverse and flexible business models and cost structures, enhancing their ability to navigate economic crises relative to clubs that are heavily reliant on a single source of investment. Meanwhile, association-type clubs may have more difficulty raising funds given the inherent obstacles created by associations' governance and financial structures. These obstacles could impede clubs' future growth and impact performances on the pitch. Consequently, some such clubs are now opting to alter their ownership structures, seeking funds from privately owned third-party investors, who gain some control over the club's operations in exchange.

### Fewer and fewer clubs listed on stock exchanges

There are now only seven countries where top-division clubs are owned through entities listed on a domestic or international stock exchange. Over the last 20 years, clubs have tended to be delisted, rather than being floated on stock exchanges, with eight clubs being delisted in the United Kingdom alone in this period. The current investment cycle has the potential to trigger further delisting.

Many clubs opt for fully private ownership, mostly as a result of individual investors, families or consortiums preferring to retain full control without diluting ownership by listing on the stock market. In many cases, there is a conflict between (i) the club's long-term vision, which is focused on building a successful team and investing in infrastructure, and (ii) the short-term pressures and fluctuations associated with being publicly traded.

Volatility and speculation in the stock market pose challenges for football clubs, as share prices can experience rapid fluctuations based on various factors. Any negative impact that market speculation and short-term investor sentiment has on the valuation of the club may outweigh the benefits of going public.

Additionally, the fact that it is inherently difficult for a club to generate regular and predictable cash flows for its owners through dividends (save for a few well-known examples) means that shares in football clubs are less attractive to retail investors than shares in traditional businesses.

## A slowdown in top-division club takeovers ...

### Number of takeovers at top-division clubs declines sharply

The pace of investment in top-division clubs has slowed significantly, with the number of takeovers at top-division clubs falling to less than half of the level seen last year. This decline has been particularly marked in the Big 5 leagues, where only RCD Mallorca (Spain) have changed ownership – plus the two relegated clubs Leeds United FC (England) and UC Sampdoria (Italy) – compared with the five changes seen in 2021 and the seven observed in 2022. The substantial drop in takeover activity in those high-profile leagues may be for a number of reasons: it may reflect a shift in investor sentiment; it could indicate a re-evaluation of the risks associated with owning a football club; or it may simply be due to lower numbers of willing sellers after the pent-up demand for change during the pandemic.

In this challenging investment climate, there are only four countries – Belgium, Denmark, Ireland and Portugal – that have seen more than one top-division club change hands in the last 12 months. This confirms their status as hotspots for investment in European club football. It is also worth noting that all four countries have been home to multi-club investment structures – a phenomenon that will be explored on the next few pages.

Controlling stakes were acquired 23 times at top-division clubs in 2023



takeover in 2023

### Timeline of top-division club takeovers in 2023\*

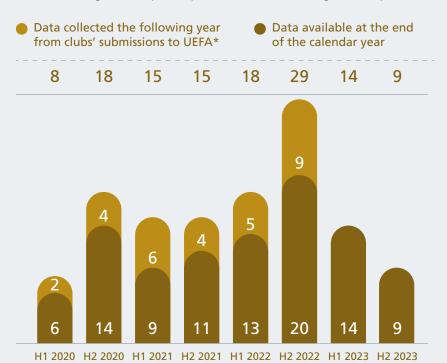


<sup>\*</sup> Source: Intelligence Centre proprietary insights and desktop research based on early-reporting clubs (data as at December 2023).

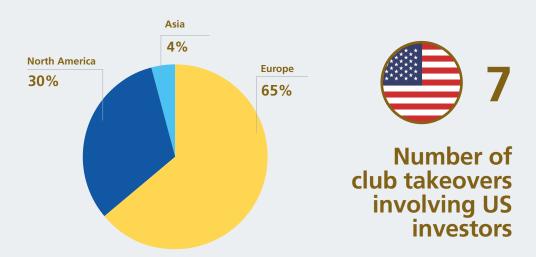
## ... in a market dominated by foreign investment

### A decline in the number of takeovers in 2023

Number of changes in European top-division clubs' controlling ownership, 2020–2023



### Origins of new club owners



### Marked slowdown in transactions in the second half of 2023

The chart above shows the number of changes of controlling ownership at European top-division football clubs since 2020. That data is tracked by the UEFA Intelligence Centre on an ongoing basis, relying on a combination of desktop research throughout the year and ex post data analysis based on clubs' submissions to UEFA.

At this point, comprehensive final data is not available for 2023; however, takeover data collected in 2023 suggests that the pace of investment slowed in the second half of the year, when only nine transactions were recorded. The period from September to December is usually an active one when it comes to club investment, with many takeover deals being concluded. Indeed, a record 29 transactions took place in the second half of 2022.

### A further decline in domestic takeovers; US investors remain active

For the first time since the Intelligence Centre started tracking data, the 2023 calendar year saw domestic takeovers (8) outnumbered by foreign takeovers (15). In 2022, domestic takeovers accounted for around half of all takeovers, which already represented a decline in relative terms. This shows that foreign investors' interest in European club football remains strong.

US investors were involved in 7 of the 15 foreign takeovers at top-division clubs in 2023, confirming their appetite for investment in European clubs. In addition, US investors have also been involved in a number of high-profile minority investments, such as Arctos Sports Partners' recent 12.5% investment in Paris Saint-Germain, demonstrating that those investors are not only interested in controlling stakes and may acquire smaller stakes if the club is deemed an attractive investment proposition.

<sup>\*</sup> Such data is collected as part of clubs' annual submission of information to UEFA. Data is submitted as of the following April, which explains why the totals above differ from those published in previous benchmarking reports.

## The ever-changing club investment landscape

### The end of a historic wave of investment?

The record numbers of transactions in 2021 and 2022 may have marked the peak of an investment wave driven by a unique set of internal and external factors. The availability of low-cost debt during the pandemic, when interest rates remained historically low for an extended period, played a pivotal role in attracting new investors to the football industry. Additionally, the pandemic-induced financial losses suffered by many existing owners resulted in significant numbers of clubs being put up for sale. As the drivers of this trend dissipate, it remains to be seen whether the current slowdown is part of a larger shift in the dynamics of football club investment or simply a temporary adjustment to changing circumstances.

Either way, the decline seen in investment in top-division football clubs is indicative of a shifting landscape driven by a combination of factors. First, the changing perception of the risks around club football is closely tied to the uncertain macroeconomic environment, which is characterised by recently rising interest rates. This directly impacts certain types of investor – particularly investment funds and financial investors that are reliant on high-interest debt. Recent data for individual leagues provides confirmation of this changing risk perception, with key economic indicators (notably the value of media rights) stagnating.

Second, the availability of attractive clubs is dwindling. Following a surge in investment that sharply increased the valuation of prized assets, there is now a lack of good investment propositions at affordable prices. Many investors have entered the market relatively recently and are now focused on increasing the value of their holdings, which limits the number of investment opportunities. In addition, many buyers are being discouraged by the exit prices set by owners (which they regard as unrealistic), which is creating a challenging environment for potential buyers.

### Investors keep adapting to changing market conditions

As a consequence of the changing club investment landscape, some investors are retreating from top-tier clubs and turning their attention to lower-division clubs. These clubs represent more affordable investment opportunities with clearly identified upsides, particularly through the potential for promotion. While comprehensive data on lower-league investment is lacking, there is strong evidence to suggest that the slowdown observed in top divisions has not been mirrored in the lower leagues.

Another noteworthy trend is the increasing prevalence of minority investment in clubs. What was once considered a less attractive investment proposition is now gaining traction. Some investors are acquiring minority stakes as a strategic move in order to navigate the high valuations and uncertain market conditions. This allows them to gain a foothold in a club even if a controlling stake is financially unattainable or the club has not been put up for sale. This trend has been exemplified by high-profile transactions in some of the Big 5 leagues, with new investors recently acquiring minority stakes in AFC Bournemouth, Leeds United FC and Manchester United FC in England, or Paris Saint-Germain FC in France.



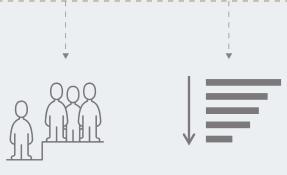
Increased perception of macroeconomic risk



Rising interest rates and problems accessing attractive funding structures



Increases in top-tier clubs' valuations, resulting in fewer compelling investment propositions



Minority investments ever more prevalent

Sustained investment in lower divisions

## The rise of private capital investment in European club football

### Surge in private equity investment since the start of the pandemic

The pandemic has had various systemic effects on European club football and sport in general. Of all of those effects, one of the most significant has been the fast-changing landscape in terms of clubs' ownership structures and the rise of private capital investment. This transformation has been driven by a unique combination of factors.

Even before the pandemic, the loosening of some regulations governing major US sports leagues (which allowed private equity funds to invest in franchises), combined with a few successful exit transactions (notably CVC Capital Partners' exit from Formula One), resulted in the financial investment community giving greater consideration to the potential returns in elite sport.

The pandemic's impact on the sports industry was substantial, with global losses estimated to exceed US\$50 billion.\* The external shock to football was unprecedented, with closed stadiums and postponed or cancelled games casting a dark cloud over the sector for months. This quickly translated into a financial crisis affecting many parties involved in the industry (clubs, leagues, media companies, etc.), with cash injections needed as a matter of urgency in order to keep businesses afloat. This coincided with a broader context where vast amounts of cash were held by private capital investors following two decades of capital accumulation. In addition, further affordable debt was available on the market to finance new acquisitions, thanks to central banks' monetary easing policies pursued as a response to the negative effects of the pandemic. This resulted in a substantial wave of private capital investment in sport – a sector that had long been overlooked by fund managers, which was offering opportunities to invest in growth assets at discounted prices owing to pandemic-related disruption.

In the United States, major professional sports leagues have moved away from their traditional family ownership model in order to accommodate private equity investment. This has been aimed at unlocking value in highly appreciated franchises and increasing the value of those franchises. Private equity investors in the United States tend to be passive, with no direct influence on day-to-day operations.

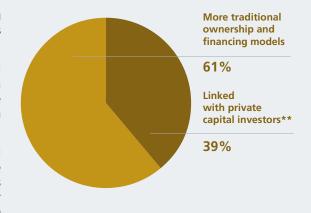
In European football, this has taken the form of club takeovers or minority investment, as well as direct investment in football leagues through specific investment vehicles (see the next page for details). The investors in question have been new entrants, mostly private capital investors coming from the United States (private equity funds, high-net worth individuals or other asset managers). Such investment usually involves transaction structures that incorporate substantial amounts of debt ('leveraged transactions'). In addition, a lot of these new investors are involved in multi-club investment structures (see following pages for more information).

## A unique combination of factors has led to a surge in private capital investment in football in the last few years

### The Big 5 leagues are the primary targets for private capital investment

All in all, 39% (37 out of 96) of the clubs in Europe's Big 5 leagues this season have ties with private capital investors,\*\* either through private equity or venture capital investment, or via the backing of private debt firms. This capital influx is most prevalent in England, where more than half of all top-division clubs fall into this category, and much less so in Germany, where only one club is in such a situation. This can be explained by the fact that some investors are deterred from investing in German clubs, as the Bundesliga's '50+1' rule prevents them from exerting the level of control that they want in return for their investment.

### Big 5 clubs' links with private capital investors\*\*





77

<sup>\*</sup> Source: UEFA Intelligence Centre insights and desktop research based on early-reporting clubs and media organisations (including SportBusiness).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes not only traditional equity investment, but also private credit transactions and other hybrid financing (such as quasi-equity or structured debt transactions).

## New types of investment in European club football

### The 'securitisation' of European football ...

We are arguably witnessing a growing 'securitisation' of European football, as evidenced by the increasing complexity and diversity of the innovative financial instruments linked with European clubs. The surge in interest from financial investors looking to capitalise on football has given rise to a complex financial landscape marked by intricate transactions and a fragmented ownership structure.

Financial investors are using a wide range of instruments to gain exposure to football clubs. Quasi-equity structures, such as preferred shares or convertible debt, may offer a stake in a club's success with reduced risks. Mezzanine financing has also become available recently, providing a middle ground between debt and equity. Additionally, royalty-based financing aligns investors' interests with the club's financial performance, while the factoring of transfer receivables has been used for decades as a way of 'securitising' future transfer payments. Notable examples of such elaborate structures include Ares Management's recent preferred equity investment in Chelsea FC, or recent private equity-led financing of leagues in France and Spain (in which clubs received sizeable lump sums in return for a fixed percentage of the league's long-term media revenue).

### ... and a fundraising dilemma for stakeholders

This trend involves a number of risks. Rising interest rates pose a threat, as clubs that are dependent on financing may struggle with increased debt servicing costs. Refinancing risks might also materialise as a result of reliance on complex financial structures, particularly in unfavourable market conditions. Governance challenges can also arise as diverse investors with varying interests enter the scene. Additionally, there is potential for some tension between local fans and owners who are perceived as distant financial entities, impacting the harmonious relationship that is crucial for long-term success. In addition, the fact that funds have a defined time horizon, necessitating exits and the winding-up of investment, may clash with the inherent fluctuation seen in football results.

The pressure to stay competitive in the fast-paced football market drives the need for immediate funding. Clubs must invest in player acquisitions, infrastructure development and commercial operations in order to keep up with rivals and maintain a competitive edge. However, this urgency creates a delicate balance, as clubs risk overreliance on short-term financing, potentially jeopardising their long-term financial stability.

Navigating this fundraising dilemma becomes more complex when considering the burden of interest and financing-induced constraints. The array of financial instruments, while providing quick access to capital, often comes with a cost in the form of interest payments. The challenge lies in managing these financial obligations without compromising the club's ability to meet long-term financial goals. High interest payments can constrain a club's financial flexibility, limiting its capacity to adapt to unforeseen challenges or opportunities. Maintaining a sound financial profile in the long term is of paramount importance if clubs are looking for sustained success. Clubs need to implement prudent financial management strategies, including effective risk mitigation, the diversification of funding sources and careful debt management, to ensure they can navigate the fundraising dilemma successfully. By striking this delicate balance, clubs can thrive in the competitive football landscape while safeguarding their financial health.

### Fundamentals of investment in club football

Football assets have increasingly become a focal point for financial investors, driven by a combination of factors that underscore the sport's global prominence – those factors are detailed below. In this context, the post-pandemic financial recovery seen in certain countries has, to some extent, demonstrated the resilience of what investors refer to as 'sports assets'. It has also tended to confirm to key stakeholders that football has the potential to deliver strong growth in the future.

### **Global popularity**

Football is the world's most popular sport, boasting a massive and diverse fanbase, so clubs are seen as attractive assets with a reliable revenue stream.

### **Diversified revenue**

Football's popularity extends beyond the pitch, encompassing merchandise, ticket sales and broadcasting rights, creating a robust financial ecosystem for investors.

### Media rights track record

Football's impressive track record in the area of media rights over the last two decades, coupled with the potential for globalisation and entry into international markets (particularly looking ahead to the 2026 FIFA World Cup in the United States) seems to offer significant benefits to investors.

### Long-term potential

Investors are drawn to the long-term potential of the football industry, which is clear from the duration of the commitments made, especially in league financing and senior secured notes. Importantly, returns on investment in sport have, historically, outperformed many other asset classes over the last few decades.

### Stadiums and other infrastructure

Stadiums play a pivotal role in this investment landscape, potentially serving as revenue hubsoutside matchdays. Concerts, conferences and other events can all help to maximise revenue streams, and owning their stadium affords clubs control over the revenue generated from those diverse activities. This means that the stadium itself is a valuable asset for investors. In general, infrastructure investment, including the construction or renovation of stadiums, presents opportunities for financial gain. Public-private partnerships and government incentives can further increase the attractiveness of such investment.

### Fan engagement

The prospect of monetising fan engagement through digital technology and social media is another key attraction for investors. Clubs can leverage these platforms to generate revenue, transforming fan loyalty into a sustainable income stream.

### **Innovation potential**

Investors may also bring a certain amount of innovation to football clubs, leveraging data analytics, sports science and technology to enhance both performance and revenue. This infusion of fresh ideas and technologies goes hand in hand with the evolving landscape of professional sport, making football a dynamic and forward-looking investment area for those seeking opportunities at the intersection of tradition and innovation.

## Multi-club investment continues to increase

### The ever-growing trend of multi-club investment

Multi-club ownership and investment has been one of the fastest-growing trends in football's financial ecosystem in recent years, with an increasing number of examples being seen around the world. This section looks at shareholders in a club – both majority owners (i.e. investors with more than 50% of shares) and minority shareholders – that also hold shares in other clubs (potentially outside Europe).

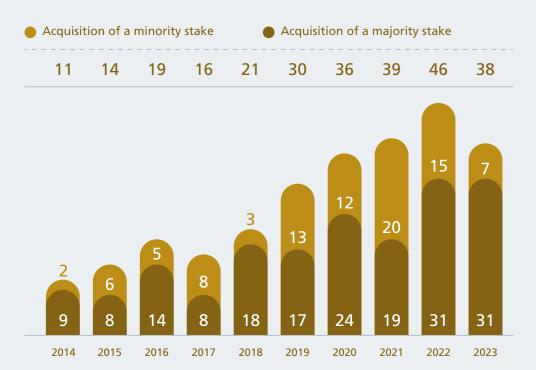
For the purposes of this analysis, 'multi-club ownership' is defined as a situation where a party exerts control and/or decisive influence over more than one club, while 'multi-club investment' refers to a situation where a party has investment interests in more than one club (without exerting control or influence). Multi-club owners or investors are usually private persons or investment funds; however, they can also be other types of entity (e.g. commercial entities), which may or may not have commercial interests that are aligned with those of the club(s) in question. In some cases, a club may itself exert decisive influence over – or even own – other clubs.

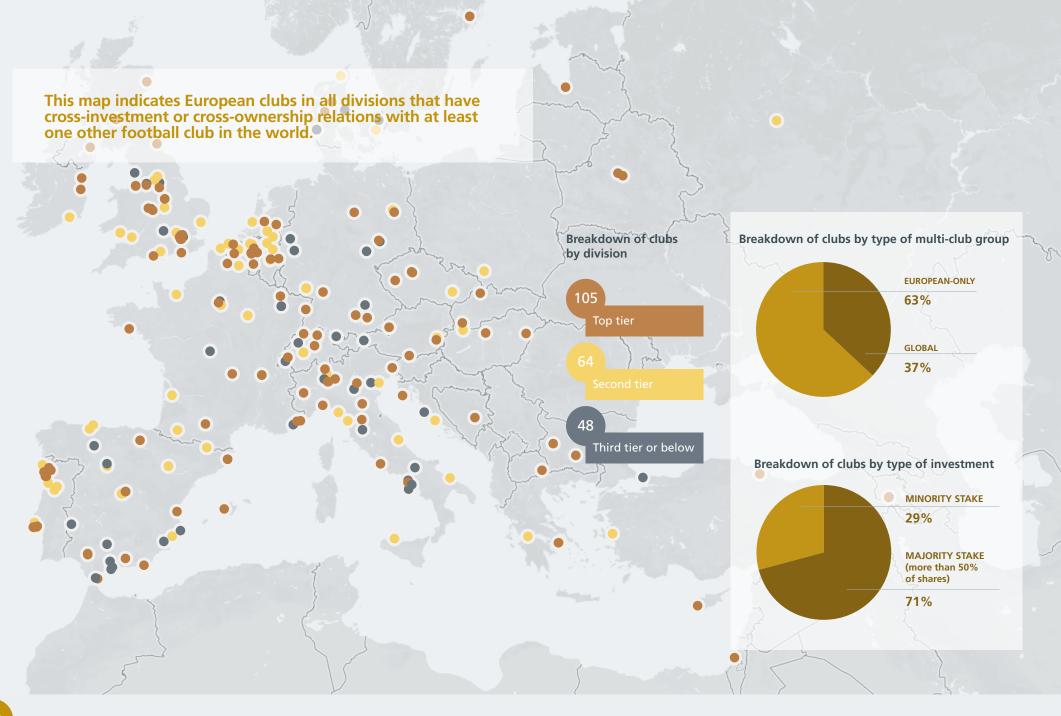
The macroeconomic factors and global investment trends that were described earlier in this chapter have led to a sharp increase in multi-club investment and ownership in the last few years. At the end of 2023, the UEFA Intelligence Centre identified more than 230 clubs worldwide that were part of a multi-club investment structure, compared with less than 100 clubs five years ago and less than 40 in 2012. Following a slight weakening of growth in 2020 on account of the pandemic, multi-club investment has increased strongly in the last couple of years, making it one of the most notable trends in football investment. In the context of the slowdown in club takeovers that was observed in the second half of 2023, it is worth noting that there has been no equivalent slowdown in multi-club investment. These investment structures are becoming widespread in Europe's top-divisions – and are even the norm in certain leagues.

105 top-division clubs (13% of all UEFA clubs) have a cross-investment relationship with one or more other clubs

### Numbers of multi-club investment transactions in the last ten years

Transactions originated by groups already holding a stake in at least one other UEFA club (all tiers included)





## More and more leagues implementing rules on multi-club ownership

Contents

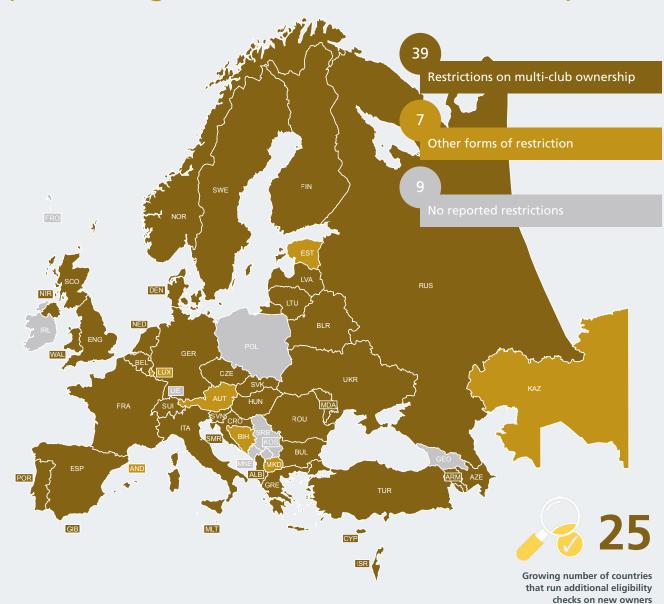
## Multi-club investment is increasingly being regulated at domestic level

The rise of multi-club investment comes with an increased risk of seeing two clubs with the same owner or investor facing each other on the pitch, creating potential integrity risks for club competitions in Europe. All in all, 39 of UEFA's 55 member countries have rules directly limiting or restricting multi-club ownership at domestic level. This figure has increased by three since last year, showing that more and more countries are addressing the potential integrity risks posed by multi-club investment.

Those restrictions range from a cap on the size of shareholdings (whereby a stake in a second club cannot exceed a certain level – e.g. 10%) to a total ban on owning shares in more than one club within the league/country. In addition, there are seven countries which do not have specific rules on multi-club ownership, but do have broader rules restricting or limiting private investment in clubs. Meanwhile, in Andorra, the Faroe Islands, Liechtenstein and Montenegro, most or all clubs are in the form of associations, which in practice limits private investment in those clubs.

### More and more checks and tests for new owners

Growing numbers of countries have adopted rules, checks and tests that new owners have to pass before taking control of a football club. Such procedures typically involve fit and proper person tests, proof of funds checks and other similar processes; however, some countries impose more onerous requirements, while others are less exacting. Such rules are now in place in 25 countries, up from 23 last year, and a few other countries are planning to introduce equivalent rules as early as next year.

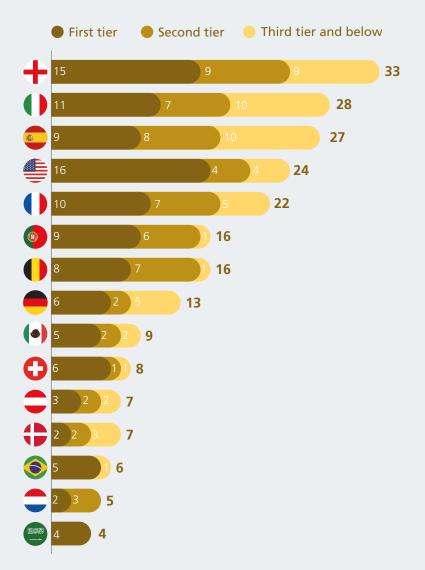


# 39 top divisions have rules restricting domestic multi-club ownership

81

## Where multi-club investment can be found

15 countries worldwide with most clubs involved in multi-club investment structures

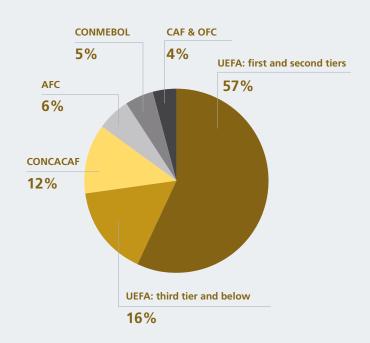


### Multi-club investment targets professional clubs in the most attractive leagues

Recent investment and changes to the composition of top divisions have led to a sharp increase in the number of clubs with cross-investment relationships. In four of the Big 5, as well as Belgium and Portugal, more than a third of all clubs have a cross-investment relationship with at least one other club through a minority or majority stake. This shows investors' growing interest in clubs that have access to the biggest and most stable sources of income – notably TV rights, sponsorship and commercial revenue. In addition, certain countries are favoured by investors as they are deemed to offer better access to foreign players outside Europe.

It appears that multi-club investment is often centred around European club football. UEFA clubs account for almost three-quarters of all clubs identified by the UEFA Intelligence Centre as being part of a multi-club investment group globally. This shows that, with a few notable exceptions in the Americas and Asia, multi-club investment is typically anchored around one or more European clubs, where access to players and business fundamentals is deemed to be better than elsewhere.

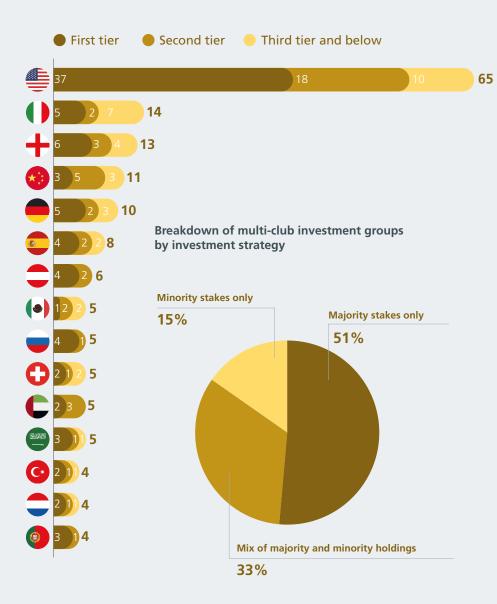
### Breakdown of clubs involved in multi-club investment structures in 2023



## Multi-club owners and their respective holdings

### Top 15 countries by ownership origin: American owners and the rest

Number of European football clubs owned as part of a multi-club investment group



## Most structures do not exceed more than three clubs, as investors focus mainly on majority stakes

Analyses of multi-club investment data reveal a number of clear patterns in terms of how these structures unfold.

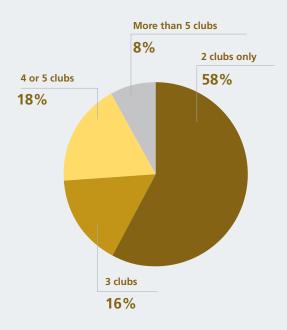
First, multi-club investment remains a trend predominantly fuelled by majority investments or takeovers, which is why it is often described as 'multi-club ownership' in public discourse.

Second, it appears that few investors see compelling benefits in owning more than three clubs: 74% of all multi-club investment groups identified by the UEFA Intelligence Centre own no more than three clubs, and 58% own stakes in only two. It remains to be seen what portion of these investors will pursue further investments in a third, fourth or fifth club in the months ahead.

The multi-club investment trend has been fuelled predominantly by US-based investors, with 44 multi-club investment groups originating in the United States. The next page presents a few insights about American multi-club investors in particular.

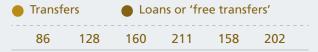
### Breakdown of multi-club investment groups by number of clubs

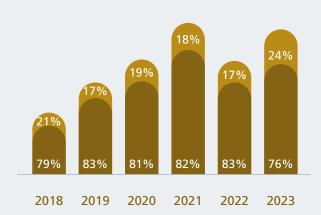
(Majority or minority holdings, as at December 2023)



## Multi-club investors do not rely only on their own transfer network

### Transfer volume within multi-club investment groups involving UEFA clubs\*





Multi-club investments could directly affect the short-term competitive profile of certain clubs, with some potentially used as 'player development platforms' with no clear ambition to improve sporting results in the long term.

The increase in multi-club investment groups is also thought to potentially distort the transfer market, with an increasing share of transfers conducted within cross-ownership groups, at values that suit the investor. The conversion of international loans to 'sale and sale back' transactions could be seen as one way to potentially circumvent FIFA's international loan restrictions, although there is no evidence so far of these types of transaction. It is also worth noting that the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Sustainability Regulations prevent advantages from related-party loans or transfers, by taking into account the less favourable of the book value or ongoing cost and the transaction value in the squad cost ratio and football earnings tests.

Varying transfer volumes have been observed within multi-club investment groups, but activity is dominated by loans and free transfers. Volumes within groups increased during the pandemic, through 2020 and 2021, despite reduced transfer activity generally. However, it has actually dropped in 2022 and 2023 despite the increased number of multi-club investment groups and clubs, suggesting that player transfers are just one driver behind multi-club investments, and perhaps not the main one, as most people tend to think.

Average player movements per club within multi-club investment group\*



Multi-club investment groups do not rely overly on their internal network for transfers. On average, less than one transfer per club is actually executed within the same multi-club ownership structure. As the size of multi-club investment groups has increased, that proportion has even decreased (0.60 in 2023), further implying that the recent multi-club investment trend is not entirely driven by player transfer considerations.

Transfer activity within multi-club investment groups is dominated by loans, but transfers do not seem to be the focus of every multi-club structure

<sup>\*</sup> Transfer data has been extracted from the UEFA Intelligence Centre Composite Transfer Database, which includes comprehensive data for first teams as well as second, third and youth teams.



## **APPENDICES**

The appendices include a series of key performance indicators for top-division club football across each of the 55 UEFA national associations.

These cover eight financial performance measures, and four measures for financial position, club ownership and club investment.







## **FINANCIAL**





### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

Clubs in private

80%

ownership

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**

18th

100% 1st

Stadiums owned by municipality or state

Net equity (-€4.5m v FY2021) 5 21st

Clubs with negative

Gross bank debt

(+€0.5m v FY2021)

-€6.2m 45th



21st Clubs with at least one

16,022 (Loro Boriçi)

38th Largest stadium

foreign shareholder



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties

27th - (\*\*)

10 10th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Clubs in scope (2022/23)



€3.1m 48th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.3m

**PERFORMANCE** 



43rd

50th

(-20% v FY2021)

€0.4m

(+49% v FY2021)

€0.5m

(+58% v FY2021)

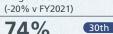
**UEFA** revenue

Domestic TV revenue

(53% of total revenue)

Gate receipts

Wage ratio 74%



53rd

74% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



(-59% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(-€0.5m v FY2021)



€0m

equity

43rd Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

55th

55th



ಕ್ರಿ

Andorra

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

## €3.9m

(-20% v FY2021)

54th Total revenue

€3.5m

as % of revenue

(+0% v FY2021)

-€1.0m

Result before tax

(+€0.2m v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

Wage ratio 91% (+22% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation



-€0.8m 38th



Clubs with negative

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



0% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



26th 4

الما الما

75%

22nd

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

Stadiums owned by municipality or state



(Estadi Nacional)

49th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.1m



Gate receipts (+477% v FY2021)



(+0% v FY2021)

**UEFA** revenue

(57% of total revenue)

53rd

+€0m ভ= Net transfer result

39th

Gross bank debt (+€0m v FY2021)

5

equity



43rd

21st





Takeovers or changes of

ownership or multi-club



€0m Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)



ownership since 2020



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

42nd

53rd

(49th

32nd

€14m

Total revenue

Gate receipts

(+40% v FY2021)

(+296% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

(49% of total revenue)

(-88% v FY2021)

€6.8m

**UEFA** revenue



Wage ratio 50%

(-0.2% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(-143% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(+€0m v FY2021)

31st

Wages and amortisation

+€0.1m 36th

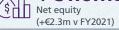
+€0.3m 12th

51%



53rd

+€4.6m@Zth



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



Clubs with negative equity



Gross bank debt (+€2.2m v FY2021)



Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

Takeovers or changes of

ownership since 2020

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

20% 50th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



14,986

Largest stadium (Vazgen Sargsyan Republican Stadium)



33rd Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



34th





**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

(+€23m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

€99m

Gross bank debt

(+€12m v FY2021)

Net equity

3

equity

+€123ma

<u>⊕</u>≡

## Austria

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



Total revenue (+17% v FY2021)

€40m Gate receipts

(+230% v FY2021) 18th





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€157m

Wage ratio 59% (+6.1% v FY2021)

33rd Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

+€22m

Net transfer result (+4.6% v FY2021)

(+€14m v FY2021)

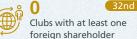
Result before tax

€148m Squad cost (+€30m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



Clubs in private ownership







Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



32,000 Largest stadium (Wörthersee Stadion)

20th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

> 15th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €11m



# Azerbaijan

Clubs in scope (2021/22)



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### **INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE**

€47m Total revenue



30th

€27m Wage ratio 57% (+48% v FY2021)



+€20m 22nd Net equity (+€3.7m v FY2021)



40% Clubs in private ownership



0% 54th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

€0.8m 35th Gate receipts (+785% v FY2021)

(+0% v FY2021)

(+71% v FY2021)



58% 49th Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



Clubs with negative equity



32nd Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



13,000 44th Largest stadium



€0m 54th Domestic TV revenue



44th Net transfer result (+617% v FY2021)



32nd Gross bank debt (-€0.1m v FY2021)



O Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



27th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€16m 21st **UEFA** revenue (33% of total revenue)



+€2.0m 7th Result before tax (+€4.1m v FY2021)



**OWNERSHIP** 

€0.6m Squad cost (+€0.1m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



30th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.2m



## Belarus

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



31st

48th

Wage ratio 68% (-8.5% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

68%

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



36th

+€75m Net equity

Clubs with negative

3

equity

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



(+€31m v FY2021)



**LANDSCAPE** 

40th



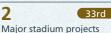
**LANDSCAPE** 63% 30th

**INVESTMENT** 

Stadiums owned by municipality or state 30th











Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.8m



Gate receipts (+3.3% v FY2021)

(-65% v FY2021)

(6% of total revenue)



50th

⊕≡

+€1.8m <sup>24th</sup> Net transfer result (-227% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation



Gross bank debt (+€0.8m v FY2021) €0m



31st



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

ownership or multi-club

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties



9th



Clubs in scope (2022)

**UEFA** revenue

+€0.6m 10th Result before tax (+€6.7m v FY2021)

Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**











### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**









Result before tax (-€7.9m v FY2021)

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**





Clubs with negative equity





Squad cost (+€35m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



ownership



Clubs with cross-

ownership or multi-club investment ties

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**





Largest stadium (Jan-Breydel-Stadion)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



10th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €15m



## Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **FINANCIAL** PERFORMANCE

€17m

Total revenue (+11% v FY2021)

Gate receipts

36th

(+56% v FY2021) €0.4m



**UEFA** revenue (18% of total revenue)

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

Wage ratio 61% (+5.4% v FY2021)

46th Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

+€2.2m <sup>23rd</sup>

Net transfer result (+60% v FY2021)

Result before tax (+€1.5m v FY2021)

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

-€4.2m 43rd

Net equity (+€3.4m v FY2021)

> 9th Clubs with negative

equity

€8.6m 23rd Gross bank debt (+€1.2m v FY2021)

€0m Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



ownership

Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties

43rd

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

### INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE



10th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

36.500 Largest stadium (Stadion Asim Ferhatović-Hase)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

20th

41st



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.4m

### Clubs in scope (2022/23)











(-€6.9m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

€1.3m

Gross bank debt

(+€1m v FY2021)

Net equity

13

equity

-€24m 49th

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### **INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE**

69% Clubs in private ownership



94% 8th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



Clubs with at least one

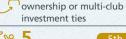
foreign shareholder

22,000 31st Largest stadium

(Stadion Lokomotiv)

9th

Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



O Clubs with cross-

€17m

Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.1m

13th

27th



(+22% v FY2021)

€3.4m

Gate receipts

(+118% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

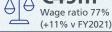
(19% of total revenue)

(+5.3% v FY2021)

€12m

**UEFA** revenue





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28th

29th

26th

27th

90% 14th Wages and amortisation



27th

Net transfer result (+113% v FY2021)

(+€7.7m v FY2021)





€27m Squad cost (+€3.3m v FY2021)



2nd

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Croatia

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



Total revenue (+49% v FY2021) 23rd  $\Diamond$ 

€81m Wage ratio 84% (+9.8% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



13th

+€30m 18th Net equity



Clubs with negative



31st

40% Clubs in private ownership

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 





30th

90% 13th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



35,123 20th Largest stadium (Maksimir Stadion)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

19th



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €4.4m

€8.8m 23rd Gate receipts (+265% v FY2021)



+€21m 9th Net transfer result

(-54% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

91%



Gross bank debt

3

equity





ownership since 2020

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties



€44m 22nd



Clubs in scope (2022/23)

€36m **UEFA** revenue

€6.7m

(+210% v FY2021)

(37% of total revenue)

Result before tax (-€3.5m v FY2021)



€37m Squad cost (+€0.1m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of

ownership or multi-club







**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 

€95m

Total revenue

(+50% v FY2021)

(+136% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

(17% of total revenue)

(+23% v FY2021)

€16m

€17m

**UEFA** revenue

## **FINANCIAL**

24th





42nd

8

equity

-€63m Net equity

Clubs with negative

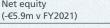
€26m

Gross bank debt

(+€4.5m v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 





**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

Clubs in private

ownership

Clubs with at least one

Clubs with crossownership or multi-club

investment ties

Takeovers or changes of

**INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE** 



50% 36th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



22,859

33rd





Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€19m 26th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.3m



€13m Gate receipts



64% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

(+30% v FY2021)











€11m Squad cost (+€3.5m v FY2021)



ownership since 2020



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Czechia

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€97m Total revenue

22nd



€77m Wage ratio 79%

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

(+6.3% v FY2021)



+€39m 17th

Clubs with negative



3

equity

31st



**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 





75% 22nd Stadiums owned by municipality or state

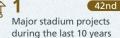
INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



19,370 Largest stadium

(Fortuna Arena)





Net book value of Average: €5.4m

20th

Clubs in scope (2022/23)



(+12% v FY2021)



23rd

**79%** 

Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



20th

€5.1m Gross bank debt



(-€8.7m v FY2021)





Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-



stadium and fixed assets

€8.4m Domestic TV revenue (+25% v FY2021)

€29m **UEFA** revenue

(29% of total revenue)

Gate receipts

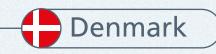
(+85% v FY2021)

18th

-€28m Result before tax (+€3.7m v FY2021)

(-720% v FY2021)

€0m Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### **INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE**



€287m Total revenue



Wage ratio 56% (+16% v FY2021)



+€243m@th \$ Net equity



100% Clubs in private



75% 22nd Stadiums owned by municipality or state



(+27% v FY2021) €25m



70% 34th Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



equity

Clubs with negative

(+€23m v FY2021)





38.065 Largest stadium



12th Domestic TV revenue

(22% of total revenue)

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Net transfer result (-7.2% v FY2021)



€127m ®th Gross bank debt (+€5.2m v FY2021)



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



( 17th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€63m

**UEFA** revenue



+€26m 2nd Result before tax (+€7m v FY2021)



€157m 10th %





Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



€176m 12th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €15m



# **England**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€6.453m

Total revenue (+16% v FY2021)



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€4,359m

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

95%

as % of revenue

(-23% v FY2021)

Wage ratio 68% 1st (+11% v FY2021)

10th



5

+€3.725m \$ Net equity

Clubs with negative

€2.885m

(+€401m v FY2021)

Gross bank debt 1st

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



21st



95% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



15% Stadiums owned by

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



municipality or state 74,879



Largest stadium (Old Trafford)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



2nd



(+4,404% v FY2021)





(8% of total revenue)

Result before tax

(+€118m v FY2021)

-€1.015m

Net transfer result 55th



Squad cost (+€1.007m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €180m



Clubs in scope (2021/22)



## Estonia

Clubs in scope (2022)



**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 

**PERFORMANCE** €13m 43rd

Wage ratio 76% (+4.3% v FY2021)

76%

as % of revenue

**FINANCIAL** 

42nd

26th

-€2m 40th \$ \ \ \ \ Net equity (-€2.6m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

€3.4m

Gross bank debt

(-€2.4m v FY2021)

equity

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

32nd Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

Clubs in private

ownership

O Clubs with crossownership or multi-club

investment ties

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

**INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE** 

43rd

80% Stadiums owned by municipality or state

14,336

41st

Largest stadium (A. Le Coq Arena)

33rd Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.3m

49th



€0.1m

Gate receipts (+57% v FY2021)

48th Domestic TV revenue

(-30% v FY2021) €4.2m

(34% of total revenue)

**UEFA** revenue



⊕≡

-€2.6m

Wages and amortisation

Result before tax (-€1.2m v FY2021)

Net transfer result

(+681% v FY2021)



€0.2m Squad cost (+€0.2m v FY2021)

0



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



(+41% v FY2021)

€0.8m

47th

Gate receipts (+23% v FY2021)

37th Domestic TV revenue (+48% v FY2021)



**UEFA** revenue (33% of total revenue)

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

(+14% v FY2021)

56%

+€0m

Net transfer result

(+0% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(+€1.3m v FY2021)

as % of revenue

€5.6m Wage ratio 56%

Wages and amortisation

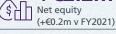


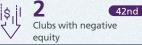
(39th

+€2.2m 31st

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 





€0.8m 40th Gross bank debt





### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



Clubs in private ownership



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



80% 16th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

51st

42nd

51st



Largest stadium (Tofta Leikvøllur)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.2m

### Clubs in scope (2022)







### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

Total revenue

€5m

Gate receipts

€9.8m

**UEFA** revenue (30% of total revenue)

(+17% v FY2021)

(+27% v FY2021)



32nd

25th



## **POSITION**



15th



**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



75% 22nd Stadiums owned by municipality or state 16.800

36th

27th

28th

**INVESTMENT** 

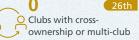
**LANDSCAPE** 

Largest stadium

(Ratinan Stadion)



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



ownership or multi-club investment ties



€14m

Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.1m

Major stadium projects

during the last 10 years



€2m

Domestic TV revenue (+29% v FY2021)



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Result before tax (-€0.8m v FY2021)

Wage ratio 67%

(+17% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(+234% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

+€0.7m<sup>28th</sup>



37th

€1.6m 29th Squad cost (+€0.2m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

Gross bank debt

(+€1.5m v FY2021)

equity



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



## France

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€1.995m

Total revenue (+27% v FY2021)



€1,766m Wage ratio 89% 5th (+11% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



+€369m 6th (\$1/1)

Clubs with negative

Net equity (-€182m v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



ownership



**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



90% 12th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

7th Largest stadium

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

Major stadium projects

during the last 10 years



stadium and fixed assets Average: €71m



Gate receipts (+849% v FY2021) €500m

Domestic TV revenue

€355m



-€160m 51st

Wages and amortisation



as % of revenue

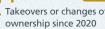


Gross bank debt (+€51m v FY2021)

equity











(-9% v FY2021) €231m **UEFA** revenue

(12% of total revenue)



-€717m 53rd Result before tax (+€119m v FY2021)





Clubs in scope (2021/22)





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**





Total revenue (+21% v FY2021)

€0.4m

Gate receipts

**UEFA** revenue

(+48% v FY2021)



-€9.2m 46th Net equity (-€1.2m v FY2021)





80% Stadiums owned by municipality or state



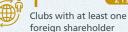
Wages and amortisation

as % of revenue



Clubs with negative equity

€8.1m 25th



55,000 Largest stadium

(Dinamo Arena)



42nd Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



O Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



35th Net book value of ।।। रिं stadium and fixed assets Average: €1m



€0.1m Domestic TV revenue (+367% v FY2021)

(21% of total revenue)

ಲ≡ Net transfer result (+604% v FY2021)

TAX





Squad cost

Gross bank debt

(+€1.9m v FY2021)



(+€0.6m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

## Germany

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

Total revenue

(+6.2% v FY2021)

€1,890m Wage ratio 59% 4th (-1.6% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



23rd

+€1,667m Net equity



Clubs with negative



50% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 





39% Stadiums owned by municipality or state

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



81,365 Largest stadium

19

(Westfalenstadion)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years €1.104m €5th

3rd



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €61m

Gate receipts (+379% v FY2021)







Result before tax

Wages and amortisation

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(-2.3% v FY2021)



Gross bank debt (-€235m v FY2021) €2.635m





**Contents** 

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

ownership or multi-club





Clubs in scope (2021/22)



**UEFA** revenue (12% of total revenue)







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### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

as % of revenue



(-€0.2m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**

(Victoria Stadium)



Total revenue

53rd

Wage ratio 77% (-3.8% v FY2021)



-€1.3m 39th Net equity



100% Stadiums owned by municipality or state



€0m Gate receipts (+0% v FY2021) Wages and amortisation

24th

26th Clubs with negative equity



10th Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



5,000 53rd Largest stadium



€0m 52nd Domestic TV revenue

(72% of total revenue)



TAX

Net transfer result (+19% v FY2021)



54th Gross bank debt



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



49th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



(+0% v FY2021) **UEFA** revenue

47th

54th

Result before tax (-€1.4m v FY2021)



Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



54th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.1m



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Greece

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**





(-12% v FY2021)



€149m Wage ratio 94% (+19% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



+€12m 25th



Clubs with negative

€26m

equity



15th

20th

100% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



9th



43% 40th Stadiums owned by



INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



Largest stadium (Agia Sofia Stadium)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

33rd



Net book value of Average: €7.2m

Clubs in scope (2022/23)



Domestic TV revenue

(+19% v FY2021)

€29m

**UEFA** revenue

(19% of total revenue)

(+1,866% v FY2021)

Gate receipts

14th

ಕಿ≡

+€6.9m 19th Net transfer result (-56% v FY2021)

-€68m

Result before tax

(-€60m v FY2021)

as % of revenue



4th

Gross bank debt (+€0m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

foreign shareholder



stadium and fixed assets



22.0







### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### **INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE**

€158m

Total revenue (-8.1% v FY2021)

€2.9m

Gate receipts

(+69% v FY2021)



18th

+€162m 10th Net equity (-€4.5m v FY2021)



23rd Clubs in private ownership



92% 10th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



Clubs with negative equity



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



23,698

5th





€28m 15th

ಲ=

Net transfer result (+7.1% v FY2021)



Gross bank debt (+€0.7m v FY2021)



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years





16th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €9.3m

Clubs in scope (2022)



€15m **UEFA** revenue (9% of total revenue)



-€0.6m Result before tax (-€26m v FY2021)



Squad cost (-€1.6m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



(+11% v FY2021)



€18m Wage ratio 66% (+20% v FY2021)

67%

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



39th

+€4.1m<sup>28th</sup>

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



equity



49th

0% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 





67% 27th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

(Kaplakriki)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

49th

38th



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.5m

Gate receipts (+70% v FY2021)



29th ಲ≡

Net transfer result (+42% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

Wages and amortisation



€0.5m Gross bank debt (+€0.1m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative



€1.4m Squad cost (+€0.2m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020





(+48% v FY2021) **UEFA** revenue

(13% of total revenue)

42nd

Result before tax

(-€1.3m v FY2021)







### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€41m

Gate receipts

€17m

(+457% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

(+4.3% v FY2021)



(20th



Wages and amortisation

-€3.6m 47th

65%

as % of revenue

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



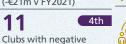
41st



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

equity



10th Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

26th

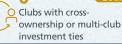
**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

Clubs in private

ownership





Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

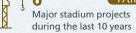
### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



municipality or state



(Teddy-Kollek-Stadion) 17th







24th **UEFA** revenue (10% of total revenue)



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Result before tax (-€7.2m v FY2021)

Net transfer result

(-1.756% v FY2021)



Squad cost (+€5.9m v FY2021)

€5.4m

Gross bank debt

(+€1.4m v FY2021)





INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

Stadiums owned by

municipality or state

65%

(San Siro)

80,018

Largest stadium

8

29th

14th



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Net equity

+€545m

(+€0.7m v FY2021)

## Italy

### **FINANCIAL** PERFORMANCE



€2.346m

Total revenue (-8.5% v FY2021)



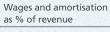
**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

Wage ratio 83%

(-7.1% v FY2021)

€1,938m









€5.042m Squad cost (+€0.7m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



4th

26th

100% Clubs in private

Clubs with cross-

investment ties



13



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

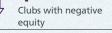


### Clubs in scope (2021/22)

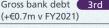














Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

€1.649m **©**rd Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €82m



€257m **UEFA** revenue (11% of total revenue)

Domestic TV revenue

(-26% v FY2021) 4th





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

Total revenue

(-11% v FY2021)

€0.4m

€0.1m

(-25% v FY2021)

**UEFA** revenue

(+108% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

(6% of total revenue)

Gate receipts



40th

38th

26th

Wage ratio 66%

67%

(-13% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(-91% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(+€5.8m v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

-€0.3m 43rd

**FINANCIAL** 



38th



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

(-€3m v FY2021) 6th



€0.7m



(-€8.2m v FY2021)

25th

28th Squad cost



37th Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

ownership or multi-club

Takeovers or changes of

ownership since 2020

16th

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



municipality or state 30,244

Stadiums owned by

9th

**INVESTMENT** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

93%

Largest stadium (Astana Arena)

27th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

37th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.6m



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

⊕=

(TAX)

Kosovo

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€10m 46th

Total revenue (+23% v FY2021)



(-83% v FY2021)





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

60%

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as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(+0% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(+€2.8m v FY2021)

€6.3m Wage ratio 60%

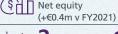
Wages and amortisation

+€0.2m 35th

+€2.7m 6th



-€0.2m 36th \$ | Net equity



42nd Clubs with negative equity



(-€0.8m v FY2021)

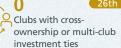


### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



Clubs in private ownership





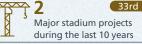


### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



municipality or state 43rd







Clubs in scope (2021/22)







### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€29m

Total revenue

€0.2m

Gate receipts

(+103% v FY2021)



33rd

49th





51st



Clubs with negative

equity

**FINANCIAL** 



0

30% Clubs in private ownership

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



34th

80% 16th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

14th Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

10.461 46th

Largest stadium (Daugava Stadium)



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

42nd



€4.1m 43rd Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.4m



€0.1m

**UEFA** revenue

Domestic TV revenue (+119% v FY2021)

(19% of total revenue)



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Result before tax

(+€5.7m v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

(+50% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(+80% v FY2021)

53%



€0m Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)

€4.9m

Gross bank debt

(-€2.1m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

36th

47th



Lithuania

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€15m 41st

Total revenue (+52% v FY2021)



€11m

75%

Wage ratio 74% (+63% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

as % of revenue

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

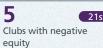


-€0.6m 37th \$ Net equity



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



€0.2m 50th

€0.1m 41st



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

Clubs in private

30%

ownership



26th Clubs with crossownership or multi-club



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.3m

Gate receipts (+226% v FY2021)



€4.8m

**UEFA** revenue

(33% of total revenue)

39th (+26% v FY2021)



(-1.6% v FY2021) -€0.2m

Net transfer result

Result before tax (-€0m v FY2021)



Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)

Gross bank debt

(-€0.1m v FY2021)





Takeovers or changes of

ownership since 2020



15,000 Largest stadium (Dariaus ir Girėno stadionas)

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

Stadiums owned by

municipality or state

50%









Clubs in scope (2022)

**Contents** 





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€18m

Total revenue

€1.5m

Gate receipts

**UEFA** revenue

(+23% v FY2021)

(+52% v FY2021)

## **PERFORMANCE**

37th

32nd

46th

## **FINANCIAL**

38th

29th

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

(-€0.1m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

Net equity

equity

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**





9th









32nd

5,814

52nd Largest stadium



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

(Stade Achille Hammerel)

42nd Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



ownership or multi-club investment ties

40th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.3m



45th Domestic TV revenue

(17% of total revenue)



+€0.4m 32nd Net transfer result (+96% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

Wage ratio 74%

as % of revenue

74%

(+8.5% v FY2021)



(+€0.6m v FY2021)



Squad cost (-€0m v FY2021)

€0.4m

Gross bank debt

(-€0.1m v FY2021)





Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Malta

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€12m 44th

Total revenue (+34% v FY2021)



€9.9m Wage ratio 79% (+24% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



+€25m €21st





Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



54th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE** 



17,797

Largest stadium (National Stadium, Ta Oali)

35th

42nd

Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€1.8m

Net book value of Average: €0.1m

Clubs in scope (2022/23)



€0.3m Gate receipts



51st

81% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

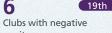
Net transfer result

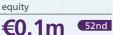
(-131% v FY2021)

(+€1.1m v FY2021)

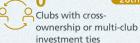


6 equity





foreign shareholder









€3.9m **UEFA** revenue

Domestic TV revenue

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-€1.3m <sup>24th</sup> Result before tax



€1.3m 31st Squad cost (-€0.3m v FY2021)

Gross bank debt

(-€0.1m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



50th stadium and fixed assets



# Moldova

Clubs in scope (2022/23)



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**

€16m Total revenue (-42% v FY2021)



45th Wage ratio 41% (+11% v FY2021)



+€14m 24th Net equity (+€3m v FY2021)



40th Clubs in private ownership



38% 44th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



€0.6m Gate receipts (-24% v FY2021)



43% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



Clubs with negative equity



32nd Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



14,000 42nd Largest stadium



€0.1m Domestic TV revenue

(63% of total revenue)



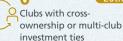
Net transfer result (-300% v FY2021)



€0.1m Gross bank debt (+€0m v FY2021)



26th





49th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



(-30% v FY2021) **UEFA** revenue

28th

Result before tax (-€12m v FY2021)



**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

Clubs in private

ownership

34th Squad cost (+€0.2m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

32nd

27th

52nd



36th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.1m



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€8m 51st

Total revenue (+29% v FY2021)









### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**





Wages and amortisation

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

Result before tax

(+€1.2m v FY2021)

(+1,478% v FY2021)

**75%** 

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+€1.1m 33rd \$ Net equity

(+€0.1m v FY2021)

(+€0m v FY2021)

equity

€0m

Squad cost

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



(+€0.7m v FY2021)



Clubs with negative



43rd

foreign shareholder



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties

Clubs with at least one



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



60%

Stadiums owned by municipality or state



11,264 45th Largest stadium (Podgorica City Stadium)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.2m

Clubs in scope (2022/23)







## **FINANCIAL**



### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

\$ | Net equity

equity





INVESTMENT

29%

Clubs in private ownership

26th

48th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

14th

55.865 Largest stadium

20th

(Johann Cruyff Arena)



Q Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€348m

9th

Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €19m

Clubs in scope (2022/23)

## **PERFORMANCE**



€132m

(+256% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

(-11% of total revenue)

(-0.8% v FY2021)

€117m

**UEFA** revenue

Gate receipts



85%

-€13m

Result before tax

(+€69m v FY2021)



Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



Gross bank debt

(+€0.4m v FY2021)

(-€3.5m v FY2021)



+€353m 7th

(-€7.6m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative



31st

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

(+32% v FY2021)



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€4.9m Wage ratio 50% (+0.4% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



54th

+€1.4m 32nd

Clubs with negative



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

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92% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



67%

Stadiums owned by municipality or state



33,460

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

Largest stadium (Toše Proeski Arena)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.3m



Gate receipts

46th

50% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(+€1.8m v FY2021)

(-32% v FY2021)

+€0.5m 30th



3

€0.9m Gross bank debt



31st

Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



Domestic TV revenue (+184% v FY2021) €3.6m

**UEFA** revenue

€0m



Result before tax



€0m Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)





10th

46th



# Northern Ireland

Clubs in scope (2022/23)



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**

€15m 40th Total revenue (-8.9% v FY2021)



Wage ratio 61% (+11% v FY2021)



+€18m 23rd Net equity



15th Clubs in private ownership



17% 51st Stadiums owned by municipality or state



30th €3.4m Gate receipts



62% 44th Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



(-€2m v FY2021)

49th Clubs with negative equity



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



18.000 34th Largest stadium



€0.2m Domestic TV revenue

(21% of total revenue)



+€0.6m<sup>29th</sup> Net transfer result



€2.5m



26th Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

33rd



(-20% v FY2021)

44th **UEFA** revenue



Result before tax



**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

€0.6m Squad cost (+€0.1m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



KB)

39th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.5m

Clubs in scope (2022)



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

(+16% v FY2021)



€161m

Total revenue

4

€95m Wage ratio 59% (+7.8% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

as % of revenue

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



**POSITION** +€79m 15th

(-€4.7m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

equity

€66m

Gross bank debt

(-€15m v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 



49th

13th





INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



41st Stadiums owned by municipality or state



21,510





33rd

Major stadium projects during the last 10 years





€26m Domestic TV revenue (-1.4% v FY2021)

(+37% v FY2021)

Gate receipts

17th

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14th Net transfer result

(-17% v FY2021)

€47m



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

ownership or multi-club

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €5.1m



**UEFA** revenue

Result before tax (-€4.1m v FY2021)

Squad cost (+€9.3m v FY2021)





### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**





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TAX

Wage ratio 75%

**FINANCIAL** 



18th

-€45m 52nd \$ Net equity (-€23m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



Clubs in private

foreign shareholder

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

ownership



78% 21st Stadiums owned by municipality or state

32nd Clubs with at least one

Largest stadium (Tarczyński Arena Wrocław)

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

14

5th Major stadium projects

during the last 10 years



€48m Net book value of stadium and fixed assets والمالية Average: €2.7m

Total revenue (+9.5% v FY2021) €18m

Gate receipts

€41m

(-12% v FY2021)

UEFA revenue

Domestic TV revenue

(9% of total revenue)

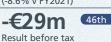


Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

(-€18m v FY2021)

81%





Squad cost (+€6.2m v FY2021)

€57m

Gross bank debt

(+€4.2m v FY2021)

equity



3rd

investment ties

O Clubs with cross-

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

ownership or multi-club



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

## **Portugal**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



Total revenue (+29% v FY2021)



Wage ratio 74% (+4.7% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

€413m

as % of revenue



\$ | Net equity

5

equity



+€88m €14th



Clubs with negative



21st

Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder



48th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



64,642

Largest stadium (Estádio da Luz)

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

20th

Net book value of Average: €20m

Clubs in scope (2021/22)





€58m Gate receipts



Domestic TV revenue



(32% of total revenue)

**UEFA** revenue



(-25% v FY2021) -€31m

Wages and amortisation



Result before tax (+€39m v FY2021)



Gross bank debt (+€10m v FY2021)

€675m 6th



Squad cost (-€25m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

ownership or multi-club





€364m 8th ווו<sup>1</sup>לל stadium and fixed assets





# Republic of Ireland

Clubs in scope (2022)



### **FINANCIAL** PERFORMANCE

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



€26m Total revenue 35th

€15m Wage ratio 59% (+51% v FY2021)



+€3.6m 29th \$ Net equity





40% 42nd Stadiums owned by municipality or state



€6.7m Gate receipts



as % of revenue



3

31st Clubs with negative equity



21st Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



8,000 Largest stadium





(+172% v FY2021)

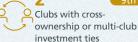


22nd Net transfer result



€0.5m 42nd Gross bank debt (-€0.3m v FY2021)







20th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€6.6m **UEFA** revenue

(25% of total revenue)



-€0m Result before tax (-€2.4m v FY2021)



€0.3m Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



33rd Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.2m



## Romania

### FINANCIAL **PERFORMANCE**



€90m

Gate receipts

(+269% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

(+4.1% v FY2021)

25th



€73m Wage ratio 81% (+7.6% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



-€41m \$ \ \ \ \ Net equity

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

(-€12m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative



38%



32nd Clubs in private

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 



81%



15th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

**INVESTMENT** LANDSCAPE



55.634





Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

8th

24th



Clubs in scope (2022/23)



Total revenue (+39% v FY2021)



19th

Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



15th

equity €12m Gross bank debt



(+€3.5m v FY2021)



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties





Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.6m

€14m **UEFA** revenue (16% of total revenue)



ಲ≡

(+€3.3m v FY2021)

(-50% v FY2021)

Result before tax

Squad cost (+€0.9m v FY2021)

€23m





## Russia

Clubs in scope (2022/23)





€1,050m



Wage ratio 55% (+1.6% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



35th

\$ Net equity (+€204m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

Gross bank debt

(-€7.5m v FY2021)

3

equity

+€458m 5th

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



32nd foreign shareholder

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

Clubs in private

ownership

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

O Clubs with crossinvestment ties

**LANDSCAPE** 50%

INVESTMENT

36th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

33rd

63,026

Largest stadium

(Krestovsky Stadium)

17

4th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€520m Net book value of stadium and fixed assets

Average: €33m

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 



Total revenue (+28% v FY2021)

Gate receipts

(+66% v FY2021)

€104m 8th

Domestic TV revenue

(1% of total revenue)

(+245% v FY2021)

**UEFA** revenue



69% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue







€576m 7th Squad cost (-€21m v FY2021)

€120m 10th



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€3.2m

Total revenue (+9.4% v FY2021)



54th

Gate receipts (+915% v FY2021)



€1.0m

**UEFA** revenue (30% of total revenue)

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 



+€0m

Net transfer result

(+0% v FY2021)

-€0.1m

Result before tax

(-€0.2m v FY2021)

(+14% v FY2021)



76% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



€0m Gross bank debt (+€0m v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

(-€0.1m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

\$ Net equity

6

equity



Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE** +€0.2m 35th



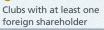
19th

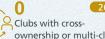
54th

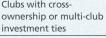
Clubs in private















Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

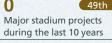
### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



100% Stadiums owned by municipality or state

6,664 Largest stadium (Stadio

Olimpico di Serravalle)





Clubs in scope (2021/22)







### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### **INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE**

Total revenue

Wage ratio 65% (+27% v FY2021)



+€233m 9th Net equity





53rd Stadiums owned by municipality or state

10th

€124m Gate receipts (+146% v FY2021)

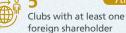
Domestic TV revenue

(+55% v FY2021)

78% 21st Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



31st Clubs with negative equity



60.832 Largest stadium (Celtic Park)



€27m Gross bank debt (-€0.6m v FY2021)



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



33rd Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€183m Net book value of stadium and fixed assets

Average: €15m



€42m

€26m

(-1.9% v FY2021)

**UEFA** revenue (13% of total revenue)

13th



ಲ≡

Result before tax (+€38m v FY2021)

(-321% v FY2021)



€139m (Bth Squad cost (+€32m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

34th

13th



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Serbia

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€65m 27th

Total revenue (+12% v FY2021)



€67m

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

Wage ratio 102% (+22% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation



-€35m 50th



Clubs with negative

10

equity



Clubs in private ownership

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 







56%

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 





Largest stadium (Stadion Rajko Mitić)



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



25th

stadium and fixed assets Average: €1.4m

€4.5m Gate receipts



€23m

**UEFA** revenue

(36% of total revenue)

25th Domestic TV revenue (+89% v FY2021)



Net transfer result (+478% v FY2021)

-€11m

Result before tax (+€2.9m v FY2021)

as % of revenue



6th

(+€12m v FY2021) €29m

Gross bank debt



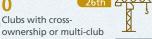
Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties







Net book value of



Contents

# Slovakia

Clubs in scope (2022/23)



**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 



€4.2m

(+164% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue

€2.7m

(+48% v FY2021)

**UEFA** revenue (19% of total revenue)

Gate receipts

(29th

Wage ratio 65% (+24% v FY2021)

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(-55% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(-€7.4m v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

+€2.2m 21st

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



32nd

38th

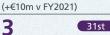
+€11m 26th Net equity

3

equity

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 



Clubs with negative

€3.6m Gross bank debt



(-€0.8m v FY2021)

27th Squad cost (-€3m v FY2021)

**OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE** 

15th

83% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

Takeovers or changes of

ownership since 2020

37th

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

21st

Stadiums owned by municipality or state

47th

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

25%

22,500

Largest stadium

(NFS - Tehelné Pole)

26th

11th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€12m 29th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets

Average: €1m



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Slovenia

8

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



Total revenue

(+21% v FY2021)

Gate receipts (+93% v FY2021)

€1.6m

Domestic TV revenue (+27% v FY2021)

€5.5m **UEFA** revenue (26% of total revenue)

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 

> €22m 33rd

Wage ratio 105% (+7.2% v FY2021)

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TAX

105% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue

Net transfer result (+64% v FY2021)

-€7.9m Result before tax (+€2.4m v FY2021) FINANCIAL **POSITION** 

-€11m 47th

\$ Net equity (-€4.7m v FY2021)

€0m

Squad cost

15th

Clubs with negative

€8.6m Gross bank debt

(+€3.2m v FY2021)

(+€0m v FY2021)

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 

20%

Clubs in private

ownership

**INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE** 



- A

26th

90% Stadiums owned by municipality or state

16,038 Largest stadium

(Stadion Stožice)

49th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

32nd Net book value of stadium and fixed assets

Average: €1.2m

Clubs in scope (2022/23)







**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 

Total revenue

Gate receipts

**UEFA** revenue

(+11% v FY2021)

2nd

Wage ratio 71% 2nd (+8.9% v FY2021)

Wages and amortisation

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

93%

as % of revenue

Net transfer result

(-6.3% v FY2021)

11th

Net equity (+€202m v FY2021)

+€866m 3rd

**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Clubs with negative

equity €2.807m

Gross bank debt 2nd (+€883m v FY2021)

**OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE** 

80%

18th Clubs in private ownership

55% 35th Stadiums owned by municipality or state

99.354 Nou)

Largest stadium (Camp

6th 13 7th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

€2.524m 2nd stadium and fixed assets Average: €126m

Clubs in scope (2022)



(+775% v FY2021) €1,461m

€432m 2nd

Domestic TV revenue (-6.3% v FY2021) 2nd

(14% of total revenue)



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Result before tax (+€762m v FY2021)

53rd









Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

ownership or multi-club

Clubs with at least one

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

(+€17m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative

Net equity

equity

+€143m@

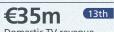
## Sweden

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



Total revenue (+12% v FY2021)





Domestic TV revenue (+1.5% v FY2021)



### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€126m

Wage ratio 60% (+12% v FY2021)

ਰ≡



66% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



Net transfer result (+114% v FY2021)

Result before tax

(+€0m v FY2021)



€63m Gross bank debt (-€5.9m v FY2021)



### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**



Clubs in private ownership



Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder



Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



Stadiums owned by municipality or state



Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



Average: €8.8m









### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€68m

Gate receipts

€21m

(+60% v FY2021)

(-8.2% v FY2021)

**UEFA** revenue

Domestic TV revenue

(5% of total revenue)

Total revenue (+5.6% v FY2021)



26th

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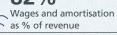
49th

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Wage ratio 70% (+8.1% v FY2021) 82%

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 



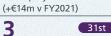
17th

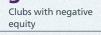
+€24m 7th Net transfer result (-431% v FY2021)



**FINANCIAL POSITION** 







€63m Gross bank debt (-€3.5m v FY2021)



**OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE** 



Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

Takeovers or changes of

ownership since 2020

foreign shareholder

O Clubs with cross-

investment ties

8th

Stadiums owned by municipality or state

INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 

38,512

Largest stadium

36th

(St. Jakob-Park)

50%

20th 8th Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

€165m Net book value of אליווו stadium and fixed assets Average: €16m



## Türkiye

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

€533m 9th

Total revenue (+0.3% v FY2021)

Gate receipts

(+160% v FY2021)

Domestic TV revenue (-44% v FY2021)

€49m **UEFA** revenue (9% of total revenue)

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** 

€469m

Wage ratio 88% (-0.6% v FY2021)

95% Wages and amortisation

as % of revenue

ಕ್ರ≡ Net transfer result (+250% v FY2021)

> -€310m 52nd Result before tax (-€66m v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL POSITION** 

-€814m 55th \$ Net equity

(-€132m v FY2021)

1st

18 Clubs with negative eauity

Gross bank debt 4th (-€163m v FY2021)

€157m 41th Squad cost (-€34m v FY2021)

**OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE** 

26% Clubs in private

ownership

Clubs with at least one foreign shareholder

26th Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020

INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE** 



100% 1st Stadiums owned by

municipality or state 74.753

Largest stadium (Atatürk Olimpivat)

37 1st Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

6th

Net book value of stadium and fixed assets Average: €29m

Clubs in scope (2022/23)







### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **OWNERSHIP LANDSCAPE**

### INVESTMENT **LANDSCAPE**



€118m Total revenue

€66m Wage ratio 56% (-29% v FY2021)



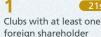
+€30m 19th \$ \ \ \ Net equity (-€9m v FY2021)



93% Clubs in private ownership



63% 30th Stadiums owned by municipality or state



70.050

20th

Largest stadium (NSK Olimpiyskyi)



€4.2m Gate receipts (-0.8% v FY2021)



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27th

78% Wages and amortisation as % of revenue



22nd

equity

(+€2m v FY2021)

Clubs with negative





26th

Clubs with crossownership or multi-club investment ties





Major stadium projects during the last 10 years



€105m 17th Net book value of stadium and fixed assets

Average: €6.6m

Clubs in scope (2021/22)



€76m 8th **UEFA** revenue (64% of total revenue)



Result before tax (+€29m v FY2021)

Net transfer result

(-537% v FY2021)



€123m 14th Squad cost (+€11m v FY2021)



Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



**FINANCIAL** 

**POSITION** 

Wales

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**



€8.5m Total revenue

(+4.4% v FY2021)

€4.5m Wage ratio 52% (+12% v FY2021)

**FINANCIAL** 

**PERFORMANCE** 

52nd

+€0.8m 34th

Clubs with negative



2

equity



92% Clubs in private ownership

Clubs with at least one

ownership or multi-club

foreign shareholder

Clubs with cross-

investment ties

**OWNERSHIP** 

**LANDSCAPE** 





INVESTMENT

**LANDSCAPE** 



5.000 Largest stadium





Major stadium projects during the last 10 years

42nd

45th



stadium and fixed assets Average: €0.3m



€0.3m Gate receipts

(+131% v FY2021) 47th as % of revenue +€0m

Net transfer result

Wages and amortisation

€0.3m Gross bank debt (-€0.1m v FY2021)



47th

Takeovers or changes of ownership since 2020



Net book value of





(22% of total revenue)

**UEFA** revenue

(TAX)

ಲ≡

Result before tax (-€0.5m v FY2021)

(-142% v FY2021)

€0m

Squad cost (+€0m v FY2021)



# Country directory

	OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAMES	TRIGRAM			
	Albania	ALB			
(8)	Andorra	AND			
	Armenia	ARM			
	Austria	AUT			
<u>co</u>	Azerbaijan	AZE			
	Belarus	BLR			
	Belgium	BEL			
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH			
	Bulgaria	BUL			
<b>*</b>	Croatia	CRO			
	Cyprus	СҮР			
	Czechia	CZE			
	Denmark	DEN			
<b>+</b>	England	ENG			
	Estonia	EST			
<b>+</b>	Faroe Islands	FRO			
<b>+</b>	Finland	FIN			
	France	FRA			
#	Georgia	GEO			
	Germany	GER			
	Gibraltar	GIB			
	Greece	GRE			
	Hungary	HUN			
<del></del>	Iceland	ISL			
	Israel	ISR			
0	Italy	ITA			
	Kazakhstan	KAZ			
<b>*</b>	Kosovo	KOS			
	Latvia	LVA			
	Liechtenstein	LIE			
	Lithuania	LTU			
	Luxembourg	LUX			

	Malta	MLT
(8)	Moldova	MDA
<b>®</b>	Montenegro	MNE
	Netherlands	NED
	North Macedonia	MKD
<b></b>	Northern Ireland	NIR
#	Norway	NOR
	Poland	POL
<b>③</b>	Portugal	POR
	Republic of Ireland	IRL
	Romania	ROU
	Russia	RUS
	San Marino	SMR
	Scotland	SCO
	Serbia	SRB
	Slovakia	SVK
	Slovenia	SVN
	Spain	ESP
	Sweden	SWE
•	Switzerland	SUI
<b>©</b>	Turkey	TUR
	Ukraine	UKR
	Wales	WAL

	Brazil	BRA
3	China	CHN
	Malaysia	MYS
<b>a</b> )	Mexico	MEX
M200	Saudi Arabia	KSA
	United Arab Emirates	UAE
	United States of America	USA

# Club directory

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	AC Sparta Praha	3			
<b>*</b>	ACF Fiorentina	1,4,6			
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M	Club Atlético de Madrid	1,2,4			
***************************************	Drogheda United FC	7			
	Dundalk FC	7			
	Eintracht Frankfurt	1,5			
	Everton FC	1,2,6			
	FC Barcelona	1,2,3,4,5,6			
	FC Bayern München	1,2,3,4,5			
<b>(11)</b>	FC Internazionale Milano	1,2,3,4,5			
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٠	FC Porto	1,3,4			
<b>-</b>	FC Salzburg	3			
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	FC Vizela	7			

Zenu	FC Zenit	1				
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	Feyenoord	1				
	FK Dubočica	6				
STEEL STEEL	FK Loznica	6				
6	Galatasaray AŞ	1,3,4,5				
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<b>©</b>	Grasshopper Club Zürich	5				
	Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC	7				
<b>V</b>	HNK Šibenik	7				
8	Istanbulspor	5				
IJ	Juventus	1,2,3,4,5				
	Karlsruher SC	6				
•	KRC Genk	3				
	KV Mechelen	7				
	LASK	6				
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<b>7</b>	Liverpool FC	1,2,3,4,5,6				
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Ċ	Maccabi Haifa FC	4				
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	Manchester United	1,2,3,4,5,7				
<b>1</b>	Newcastle United FC	1,2,3,4				
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5	OFC Pirin Blagoevgrad	7				
M	Olympique de Marseille	1				
© L	Olympique Lyonnias	1,2,6				
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	Paris Saint-Germain	1,2,3,4,5,6,7				
AMD.	PAS Lamia	7				
EOTER	PFC Botev Plovdiv	6				
	Pontypridd United AFC	7				
#PSV	PSV Eindhoven	1,3				

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	Royal Antwerp FC	3			
	SC Braga	3			
=	SC Cambuur	6			
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	Sevilla FC	1,2,5,7			
	Shelbourne FC	7			
8	SL Benfica	1,2			
(Nation	Southampton FC	1			
	Sporting Clube de Portugal	1,3			
U	SS Lazio	1,4,5			
	SSC Napoli	1,3,4			
	Stade Rennais FC	1,3			
*	Tottenham Hotspur	1,2,3,4,5,6			
ठें	Trabzonspor AŞ	3,4			
<b></b>	UC Sampdoria	7			
	Valencia CF	1			
213	VfB Stuttgart	1			
	VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach	1			
	Villarreal CF	3			
X	West Ham United FC	1,4			
	Wisła Kraków	7			
	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC	1			

## **Explanatory Notes**

These explanatory notes supplement the scope and source descriptions included in the introduction to the report.

The FY2022 financial analysis covers and incorporates the audited financials of 718 clubs and projected data for the remaining 22 non-reporting clubs submitted to UEFA in May and October each year (estimated <0.5% by value).

The FY2023 percentage growth analysis, FY2022 v FY2023, covers 132 early reporting clubs, including data on 84 actual closed financial results and 48 final forecasts.

The five-year trend analysis includes FY2023 data for these same 132 clubs, but this club data is divided into 'early' and 'late' reporting figures for FY2019 to FY2023. To ensure a like-for-like comparison across this five-year period, only the 119 clubs who have provided data for each of the five years are included as 'early-reporting'. The other 13 clubs, who did not provide data for every year (outside first tier scope) or who were outside of UEFA competition

scope this year but provided abbreviated figures (Juventus and Tottenham Hotspur) are included in the 'late-reporting' column. These 13 clubs in descending FY2023 revenue order are: Aston Villa, RC Lens, CA Osasuna, Toulouse FC, SK Brann, Aris Limassol FC, Aris Thessaloniki FC, Adana Demirspor, Debreceni VSC, FCV Farul Constanta, FC Aktobe. For the FY2023 top 20 club analysis, publicly available data for two additional clubs, Chelsea FC and Olympique Lyonnais, was also included for categories where data was available.

In the interest of consistent benchmarking, UEFA changes clubs' profit and loss data if the reporting period is shorter than nine months or greater than fifteen months by extrapolating/interpolating the data submitted. Data for nine to fifteen month periods is not adjusted. For FY2022 this comprises ten clubs from the Republic of Ireland (thirteen month periods with year-end changed from November to December and one Slovakian club, FK Dukla Banska Bytrica which reported a 7-month period.

Information on clubs' legal forms, shareholdings, multi-club and private equity investment were taken from the UEFA Intelligence Centre composite databases containing club ownership collected through the various financial submissions, accompanied by desk research. Commercial investment analysis and infrastructure investment is also taken from UEFA Intelligence Centre databases.

Country	Year-End	Common Year- End or Various	Currency	Average Rate Applied 2022	Average Rate Applied 2023	Country	Year- End	Common Year- End or Various	Currency	Average Rate Applied 2022	Average Rate Applied 2023
ALB	12	Common	LEK	0.008408967	n/a	LIE	6/12	Various	CHF	0.9526 / 0.9956	1.0203 / 1.0277
ARM	12	Common	DRAM	0.002201114	n/a	LTU	12	Various	LITAS	0.289620019	n/a
AZE	12	Common	MANAT	0.559177723	0.544818198	LVA	12	Common	LATS	1.422871811	1.422871811
BIH	12	Common	MARK	0.511291881	n/a	MDA	12	Common	LEU	0.050318476	0.051070642
BLR	12	Common	BYR	0.33906451	0.366911014	MKD	12	Common	Denar	0.016231887	n/a
BUL	12	Common	LEV	0.511299931	0.5113	NIR	3/4/5 /12	Various	GBP	1.1760 / 1.1793 / 1.1808 / 1.1732	n/a
CRO	12	Common	KUNA	0.132714869	0.511291881	NOR	12	Common	KRONER	0.099057504	0.087970614
CZE	6 / 12	Various	Kroner	0.0400 / 0.0407	0.0415 / 0.0417	POL	6/12	Various	ZLOTY	0.2168 / 0.2028	0.2137 / 0.2022
DEN	6/12	Various	KRONE	0.1344 / 0.1344	0.1344 / 0.1342	ROU	12	Common	LEU	0.202773374	0.20219993
ENG	5/6/7/12	Various	GBP	1.1808 / 1.1809 / 1.1817 / 1.1732	1.1500 / 1.1499 / 1.1489 / 1.1574	RUS	12	Common	ROUBLE	0.014159933	n/a
FRO	12	Common	KRONE	0.134416285	n/a	SCO	5/6	Various	GBP	1.1808 / 1.1809	1.1500 / 1.1499
GEO	12	Common	LARI	0.327313236	n/a	SRB	6/12	Various	DINAR	0.0085 / 0.0085	0.0085 / 0.0085
GIB	12	Various	GIP	1.173209325	n / a	SUI	6/12	Various	CHF	0.9526 / 0.9956	1.0203 / 1.0277
HUN	12	Common	FORINT	0.002564367	0.002612911	SWE	12	Common	SEK	0.09413334	0.086501788
ISL	12	Common	KRONA	0.007033245	n/a	TUR	5 / 12	Various	LIRA	0.0791 / 0.0579	0.0518 / 0.0406
ISR	5/12	Various	SHEKEL	0.2729 / 0.2830	0.2719 / 0.2515	UKR	12	Common	HRYVNIA	0.029386764	0.031031755
KAZ	12	Various	TENGE	0.002062029	0.002027946	WAL	5/6/ 11/12	Various	GBP	1.1808 / 1.1809 / 1.1756 / 1.1732	n/a



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