

The European Club Talent and Competition Landscape

Foreword



Every great football story begins with an opportunity. It might be a child spotted at a local club, a coach who sees what others have missed, or a smaller club that grows by developing its own talent rather than relying on the transfer market. This report is about those opportunities: where they are needed and why, how they help football grow, and what we must do to protect them.

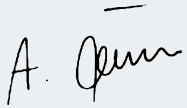
In the pages that follow, you will find an in-depth look at the current state of European club football. You will follow players' pathways through development systems, track clubs' success on the domestic and international stage, and explore the emerging trends that will shape the game in the years ahead. The report shows what is working well and highlights the challenges that we should tackle together.

Broad access at the base of the pyramid drives greater participation and gives clubs of every size a genuine chance to find and develop talent. That is why our competitions must remain what they are today: built on merit and solidarity, exciting for supporters, viable for clubs, and inspiring for players. For clubs, the challenge is to balance sporting ambition, financial sustainability, and long-term investment in young players: three priorities that do not always pull in the same direction. How well they strike that balance will define the future of our game.

The findings presented here give us many reasons to be confident. Above all, they show that the European Sports Model is working. Open competition, participation earned on the pitch, and a strong link between grassroots football and the elite game continue to make it the best model in sport. In recent seasons, supporters across Europe have watched new champions crowned in domestic leagues. They have seen ambitious clubs take on the established order. And they have seen players who climbed every step of the pyramid make their mark at the very top. The feeling that anything is possible is more than a dream or a promise. It's doable, and it is exactly what makes European football so captivating.

None of this can be taken for granted, which is why protecting what makes football unique matters more than ever. Today, our club competitions are strong, our football pyramid is full of life, and new contenders keep emerging. Just as importantly, the game remains deeply rooted in our culture and in the towns, cities, and communities that sustain it. Record attendances at men's and women's matches across Europe clearly show how strong and deep the bond between football and its fans remains. This energy will help guide the decisions that shape what comes next.

I hope these findings will spark open, fact-based conversations among everyone with a stake in our sport, from national associations, clubs, and leagues to players, supporters, and partners. Only together can we shape the bright future for European club football.



Aleksander Čeferin
UEFA President

Introduction



The UEFA European Club Talent and Competition Landscape provides a comprehensive and data-driven overview of the evolving football ecosystem across Europe. By examining players, coaches, clubs, leagues, domestic cups and UEFA competitions, the report moves beyond headlines and anecdotal narratives to deliver the evidence and insights that stakeholders need to make informed decisions.

In the post-pandemic era, European football continues to evolve, with UEFA and its associations adapting competition formats to reflect domestic priorities, sporting calendars and local market realities. Football has never been so popular and continues to attract hordes of supporters who remain at the heart of the European football experience. Record attendance figures once again underline the enduring appeal of live football and demonstrate that fan engagement extends well beyond the elite level of the game, spanning the full breadth of the European club pyramid.

The ongoing debate around player workload has intensified in response to changes in competition structures and the growing number of matches played. Analysis of squad regulations and player utilisation reveals how clubs are responding by distributing playing time across larger groups of players, making greater use of substitution opportunities and adopting more sophisticated squad rotation strategies to manage performance and player welfare.

Squad composition remains therefore a critical factor in sporting success. The review of the summer transfer window also reveals a number of trends, some of which raise concerns from a financial perspective. Transfer values continue to rise sharply, particularly in the English market, increasing future pressure on club financial results through higher amortisation charges. These costs are currently being offset in part by significant transfer profits, but this creates a more fragile model, with clubs increasingly dependent on continued market inflation and liquidity. This risk is amplified by the fact that many acquisitions are not paid for immediately; payments are often deferred over several years, while transfer receivables may be factored to generate short-term cash. The result is a growing level of transfer debt and a greater reliance on future inflows to finance past investment.

These developments also point to an increasing concentration of talent and a growing polarisation of the market, with the emergence of a clear two-speed system. English clubs were involved in more than 60% of the deals and paid an average of around €24 million per inbound player, compared with only around €4 million to €5 million in the other major European leagues, underlining a widening gap in purchasing power.

Under such conditions any slowdown in buyer demand, correction in transfer values or tightening of credit conditions could therefore expose underlying pressure on profitability and financial sustainability.

Through this report, the UEFA Intelligence Centre continues to support transparency and understanding across European club football by providing objective analysis of key developments and trends. We extend our sincere thanks to the many stakeholders and colleagues whose expertise, collaboration and support make this work possible.



Andrea Traverso
UEFA Executive Director Finance, Financial Sustainability & Research

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Key

Men's competitions
Women's competitions

1 ATTENDANCES

For a fourth consecutive season, attendance at European football matches has continued to grow, with a record 242 million fans attending club and national team matches during the 2025/26 season.[1]

Since the pandemic restrictions were lifted, attendance has steadily risen, with top-tier leagues experiencing 15% growth over the post-pandemic period compared to their pre-pandemic averages. In the 2025/26 season, an impressive 27 leagues recorded higher aggregate attendance levels than in the previous season, and nine leagues experienced their highest crowds on record, confirming the growing desire of football fans to experience live football in stadiums.

Spectator interest in European football extends beyond the top tier, and this chapter includes analysis to demonstrate the scale of interest across Europe.



Overall attendance in Europe reaches record levels for a fourth consecutive season

0.7 million [+47%]
Women's UEFA club competitions crowds

4.3 million [+0.6%]
Women's domestic club competition crowds

20 million [-0.9%]
Men's UEFA club competition crowds

82 million [+1.4%]
Men's professional lower-tier league crowds

1. ENG	26.6 (+1%)		7. RUS	2.1 (-2%)	
2. GER	16.5 (-8%)		8. POL	2.0 (+22%)	
3. ITA	9.3 (+11%)		9. TUR	1.0 (-13%)	
4. ESP	8.5 (-3%)		10. SWE	0.9 (+6%)	
5. FRA	4.1 (+9%)		Other	8.8 (+11%)	
6. NED	2.5 (+15%)				



242 million
Number of spectators in European football during the 2025/26 season[2]

13 million [-4.0%]
Men's domestic cup crowds

6.0 million (-25%)
National team crowds in Europe

For a second consecutive season, crowds at national team matches decreased compared to the previous season.

This decline can be largely attributed to large crowds recorded the previous season, notably the 4 million fans that attended UEFA men's Nations League matches and the 650,000 at UEFA Women's EURO 2025, held in Switzerland at the end of the previous season.

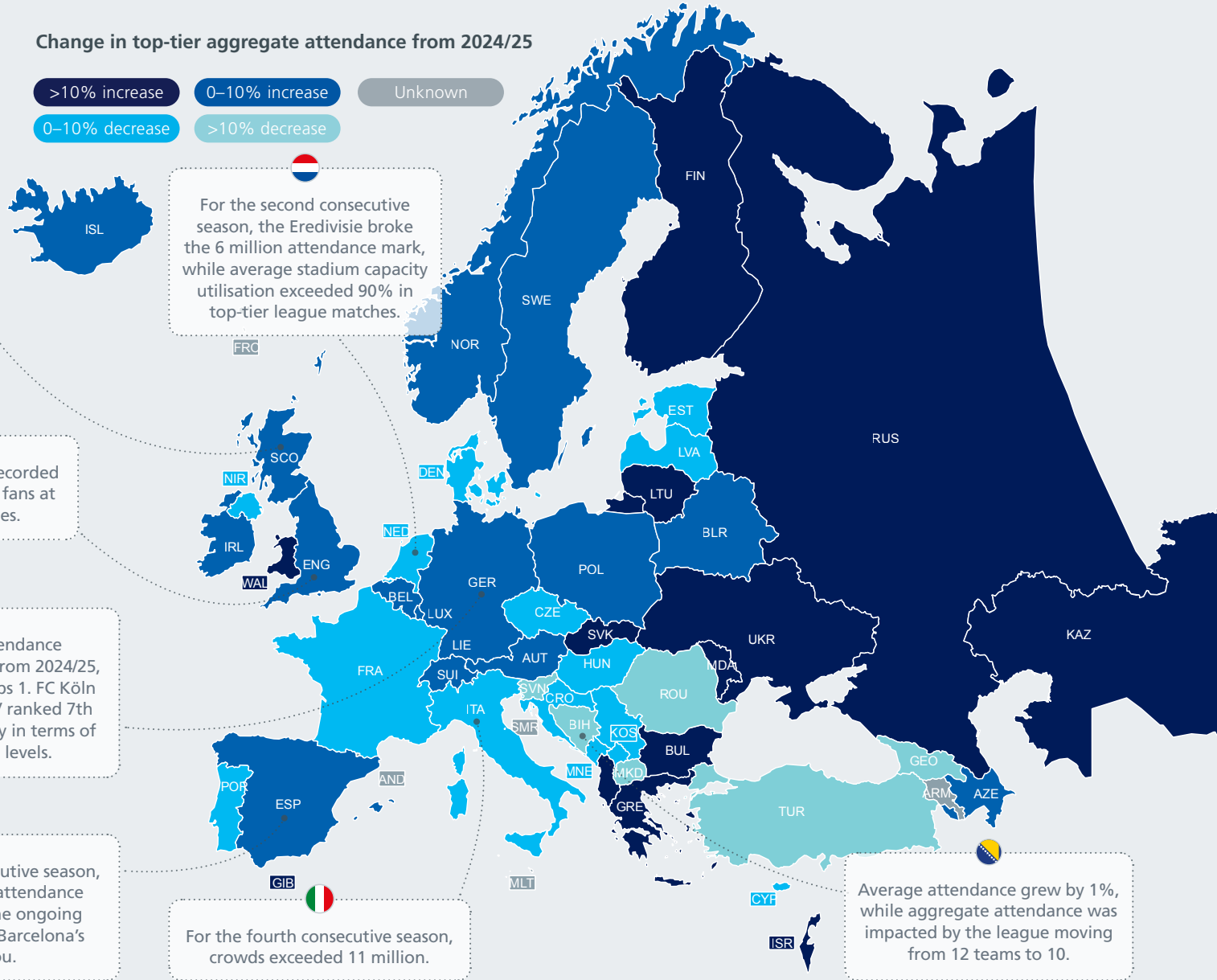
The highest attended national team matches during the 2025/26 season were the qualifying matches for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, with 3.6 million fans in attendance.

116 million [+1.4%]
Men's top-tier league crowds

1. ENG	15.8 (+3%)		13. TUR	2.7 (-34%)	
2. GER	13.0 (+10%)		14. SWE	2.6 (+3%)	
3. ESP	11.8 (+3%)		15. ISR	2.3 (+25%)	
4. ITA	11.4 (-2%)		16. ROU	1.8 (-12%)	
5. FRA	8.4 (-2%)		17. DEN	1.8 (-8%)	
6. NED	6.0 (-2%)		18. GRE	1.8 (+16%)	
7. SCO	4.1 (+3%)		19. NOR	1.7 (+2%)	
8. POL	4.0 (+3%)		20. CZE	1.7 (-0%)	
9. POR	3.7 (-2%)		21. AUT	1.6 (+3%)	
10. RUS	3.3 (+12%)		22. CRO	1.0 (-6%)	
11. BEL	3.2 (+3%)		Other	9.4 (+7%)	
12. SUI	2.8 (+0%)				

Twelve European top-tier leagues with double-digit attendance growth

Twenty-seven top-tier leagues have experienced an increase in aggregate attendance levels. Furthermore, 17 have experienced their highest crowd numbers in at least a decade.



ALL-TIME RECORD
Aggregate attendance exceeded 4 million, a growth of 1.1% compared to 2024/25.

For the second consecutive season, the Eredivisie broke the 6 million attendance mark, while average stadium capacity utilisation exceeded 90% in top-tier league matches.

Eight Premier League clubs recorded home crowds of over 50,000 fans at ALL home league matches.

Aggregate attendance increased by 9.5% from 2024/25, with promoted clubs 1. FC Köln and Hamburger SV ranked 7th and 5th respectively in terms of overall crowd levels.

Highest attendance in at least a decade.

Highest attendance in over 20 seasons.

For a second consecutive season, La Liga broke its attendance record, despite the ongoing renovation of FC Barcelona's Camp Nou.

For the fourth consecutive season, crowds exceeded 11 million.

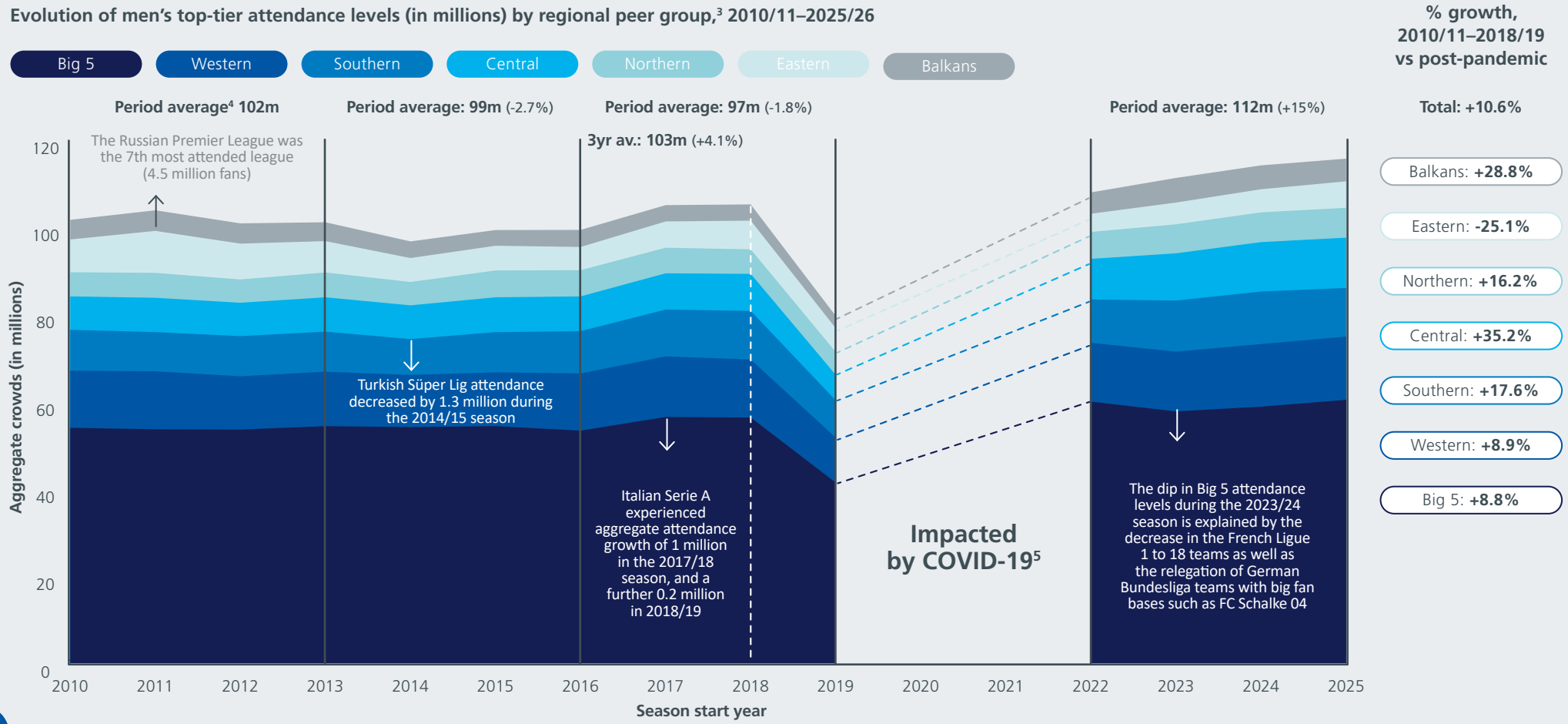
Average attendance grew by 1%, while aggregate attendance was impacted by the league moving from 12 teams to 10.

European top-tier attendance has steadily risen since the pandemic restrictions were lifted

The number of people making their way to football stadiums to support their team remains an important indicator of club football health. While before the pandemic, aggregate attendance levels were reaching the 105 million mark for the first time, the 2025/26 season marks the third consecutive season with over 110 million fans in attendance.

Post-pandemic growth has been recorded across all UEFA member associations, with attendance levels in the Central and Balkans countries increasing the most. Comparing their post-pandemic to pre-pandemic averages, attendance in both regions has grown by 35% and 29% respectively.

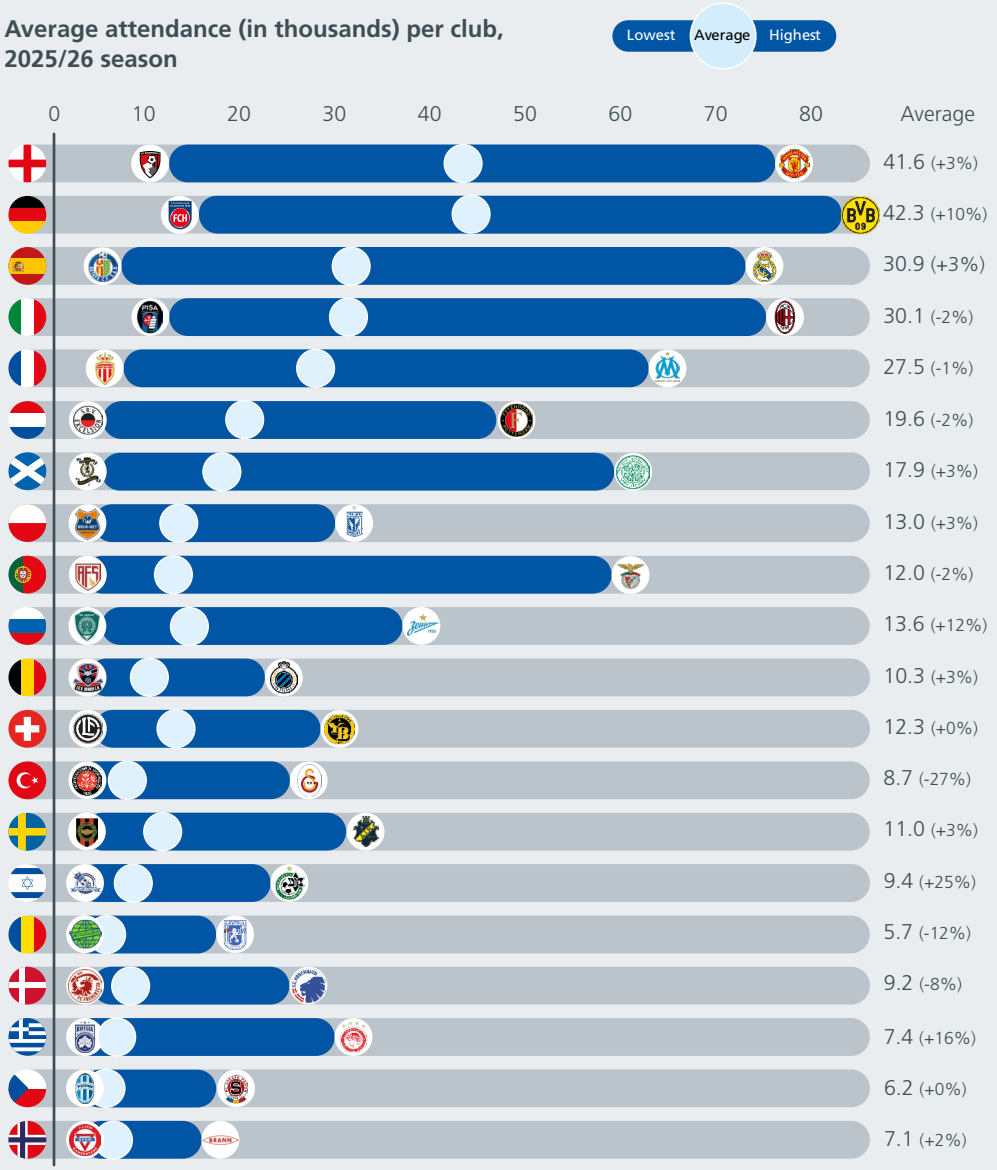
Evolution of men's top-tier attendance levels (in millions) by regional peer group,[3] 2010/11–2025/26



Average attendance at top-tier matches across Europe grew by 2%

Twelve of the top 20 leagues by average attendance experienced growth during the 2025/26 season. Last season, average match attendance across Europe was just under the 9,500 mark, representing a 2% growth if compared to the 2024/25 season.

When using the median rather than the average, country rankings shift slightly. For example, the median club in England ranks 1st in Europe – higher than Germany – while Portugal sees the largest drop, with its median club ranking 25th, compared to its average club ranking of 11th.



9,500
Average attendance at top-tier club football matches across Europe

28
top-tier leagues experienced higher average attendance levels than in the previous season

82 million fans attended a lower-tier match last season

Top 15 countries by attendance (in millions) at men's lower-tier matches

2nd tier | 3rd tier | 4th tier | 5th tier and lower

4%
growth in attendance at third-tier or lower matches across Europe in the 2025/26 season

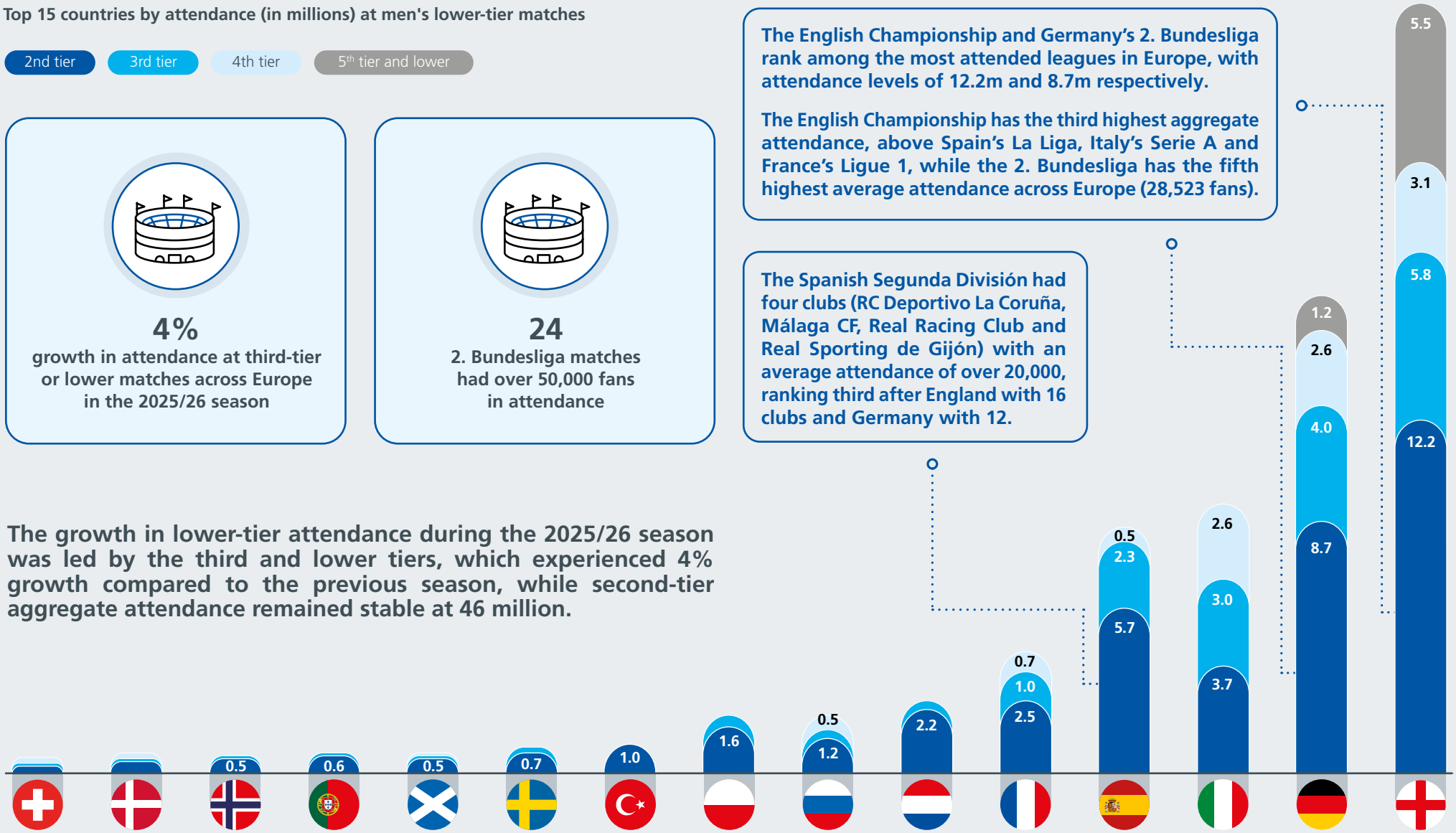
24
2. Bundesliga matches had over 50,000 fans in attendance

The English Championship and Germany's 2. Bundesliga rank among the most attended leagues in Europe, with attendance levels of 12.2m and 8.7m respectively.

The English Championship has the third highest aggregate attendance, above Spain's La Liga, Italy's Serie A and France's Ligue 1, while the 2. Bundesliga has the fifth highest average attendance across Europe (28,523 fans).

The Spanish Segunda División had four clubs (RC Deportivo La Coruña, Málaga CF, Real Racing Club and Real Sporting de Gijón) with an average attendance of over 20,000, ranking third after England with 16 clubs and Germany with 12.

The growth in lower-tier attendance during the 2025/26 season was led by the third and lower tiers, which experienced 4% growth compared to the previous season, while second-tier aggregate attendance remained stable at 46 million.



Interest in cup football remains high, with record aggregate attendance at UEFA Champions League

Unlike many league competitions, the main national cup is always run by the national association. Cup competitions give an opportunity to clubs at different levels of the pyramid to compete against each other. Aggregate attendance levels are therefore impacted by the capacity of the stadiums of the teams progressing through the competition.

The 2025/26 season recorded domestic cup attendance of 13.5 million fans across Europe, a 4% decrease compared to the previous season. Twenty-one countries still recorded higher crowds compared to the 2024/25 season.

Eleven domestic cup finals across Europe surpassed 40,000 fans in attendance.

2025/26 UEFA ATTENDANCE

The 2025/26 season recorded the second highest aggregate attendance in UEFA club competition history. The growing interest in European football is highlighted by the fact that the top seven UEFA club competition seasons by aggregate attendance have all taken place since 2015/16.

9,852,000 (+4.3%)

Record aggregate attendance at the UEFA Champions League
20 different clubs recorded at least one match with a home attendance of 50,000 fans or more.

5,797,000 (-10.5%)

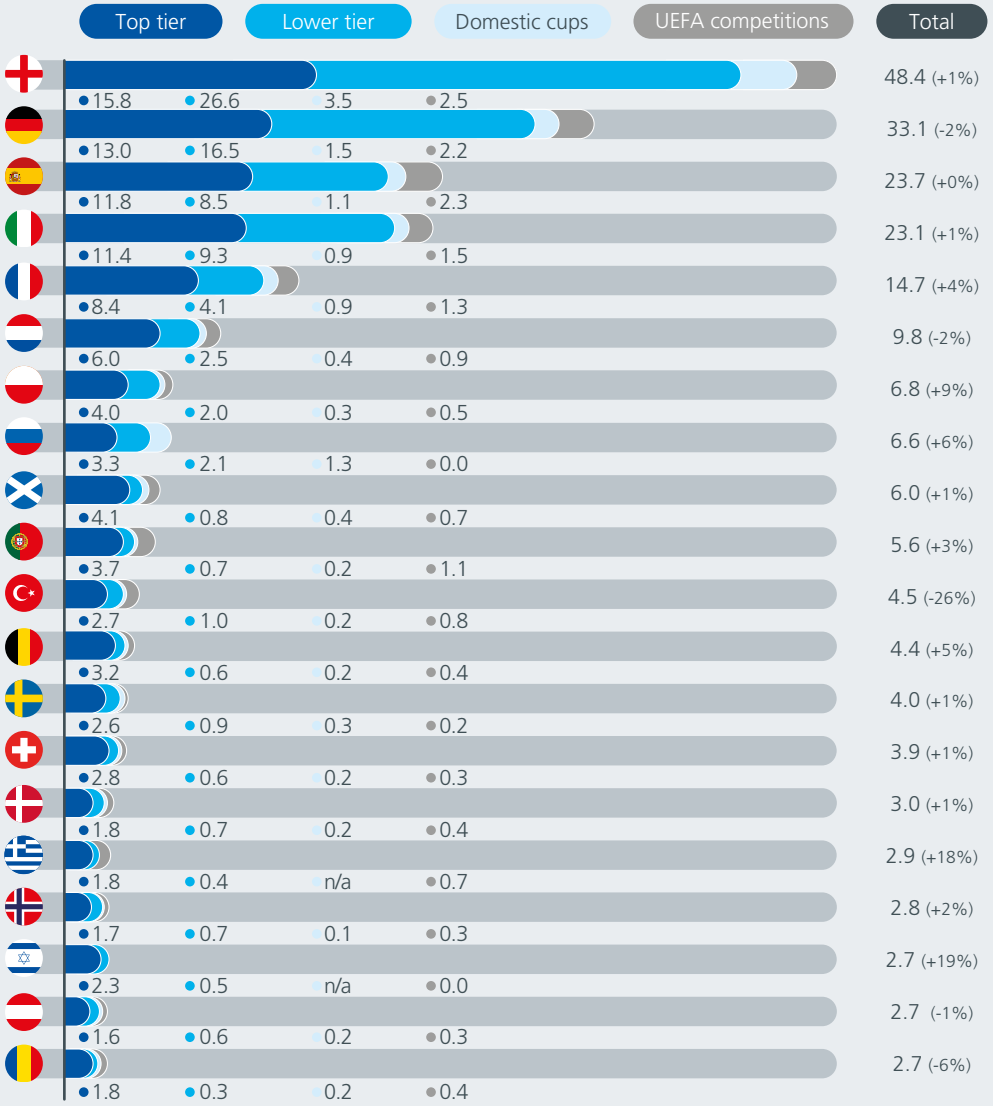
3,727,000 (+2.6%)

Top 15 most attended domestic cup finals, 2025/26

Description	Competition	Stadium (capacity)	Country	Attendance
Arsenal FC vs Manchester City	English League Cup	Wembley Stadium (90,000)	ENG	88,486
Chelsea FC vs Manchester City	English FA Cup	Wembley Stadium (90,000)	ENG	83,337
FC Bayern München vs VfB Stuttgart	German DFB Cup	Olympiastadion Berlin (74,667)	GER	74,036
RC Lens vs OGC Nice	Coupe de France	Stade de France (80,000)	FRA	76,000
Atlético de Madrid vs Real Sociedad de Fútbol	Copa Del Rey	Estadio La Cartuja de Sevilla (72,000)	ESP	70,000
S.S. Lazio vs FC Internazionale Milano	Coppa Italia	Stadio Olimpico (70,634)	ITA	68,729
Górnik Zabrze vs Raków Częstochowa	Polish Cup	Stadion Narodowy (58,580)	POL	50,072
Ferencvárosi TC vs ZTE FC	Hungarian Cup	Puskás Aréna (67,889)	HUN	49,858
Celtic FC vs Dunfermline Athletic FC	Scottish Cup	Hampden Park (51,866)	SCO	49,613
AZ Alkmaar vs N.E.C. Nijmegen	Dutch KNVB Cup	Stadion Feijenoord (51,117)	NED	46,500
R. Union Saint-Gilloise vs RSC Anderlecht	Belgian Cup	King Baudouin Stadium (50,093)	BEL	40,100
Mjällby AIF vs Hammarby IF	Swedish Cup	Nationalarenan (54,329)	SWE	39,903
F.C. Copenhagen vs FC Midtjylland	Danish DBU Cup	Parken Stadion (38,065)	DEN	35,485
Shamrock Rovers FC vs Cork City FC	Irish FAI Cup	Dublin Arena (55,359)	IRL	35,252
PFC Lokomotiv Plovdiv vs PFC CSKA Sofia	Bulgarian Cup	Stadion Vasil Levski (43,362)	BUL	31,000

Growth in European attendance fuelled by domestic leagues at all levels of the pyramid

Breakdown of top 20 countries by attendance (in millions) at men's competitions

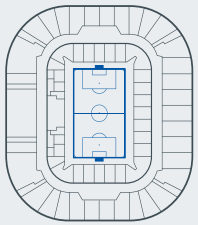


Individual competition trends are impacted by the mix of clubs with high attendance levels are promoted and relegated. In 2025/26, aggregate attendance in Europe increased by 1%, mainly fuelled by domestic leagues, with a 1.4% growth across all levels of the pyramid.

The English Premier League (153) and the German Bundesliga (112) recorded the most matches with over 50,000 fans in attendance.

A total of 88 UEFA Champions League matches recorded attendance levels of over 50,000, accounting for nearly 50% of total matches in the final stages.

Number of matches and teams across Europe by attendance[6] (with previous season comparison)



	50,000+	30,000+	20,000+
Matches	702 (+18)	1,740 (+7)	3,312 (+167)
Teams	56 (+0)	161 (+16)	291 (+39)

Last season, over 670 club matches had attendance over 50,000

A total of 40 clubs from 11 different countries recorded at least one match with an attendance of over 50,000 fans; ten from Germany, nine from England, six from Spain, five from Italy, three from Portugal, two each from France and Scotland, and one each from the Netherlands, Russia and Türkiye.

If domestic cup and UEFA club competition matches are included, a total of 36 clubs had home crowds of over 1 million. Outside the Big 5 leagues, SL Benfica, Rangers FC, FC Porto, AFC Ajax and Sporting Clube de Portugal all welcomed crowds of over 1 million if all competitive matches are included.

Stadium use: Attendance as a percentage of capacity

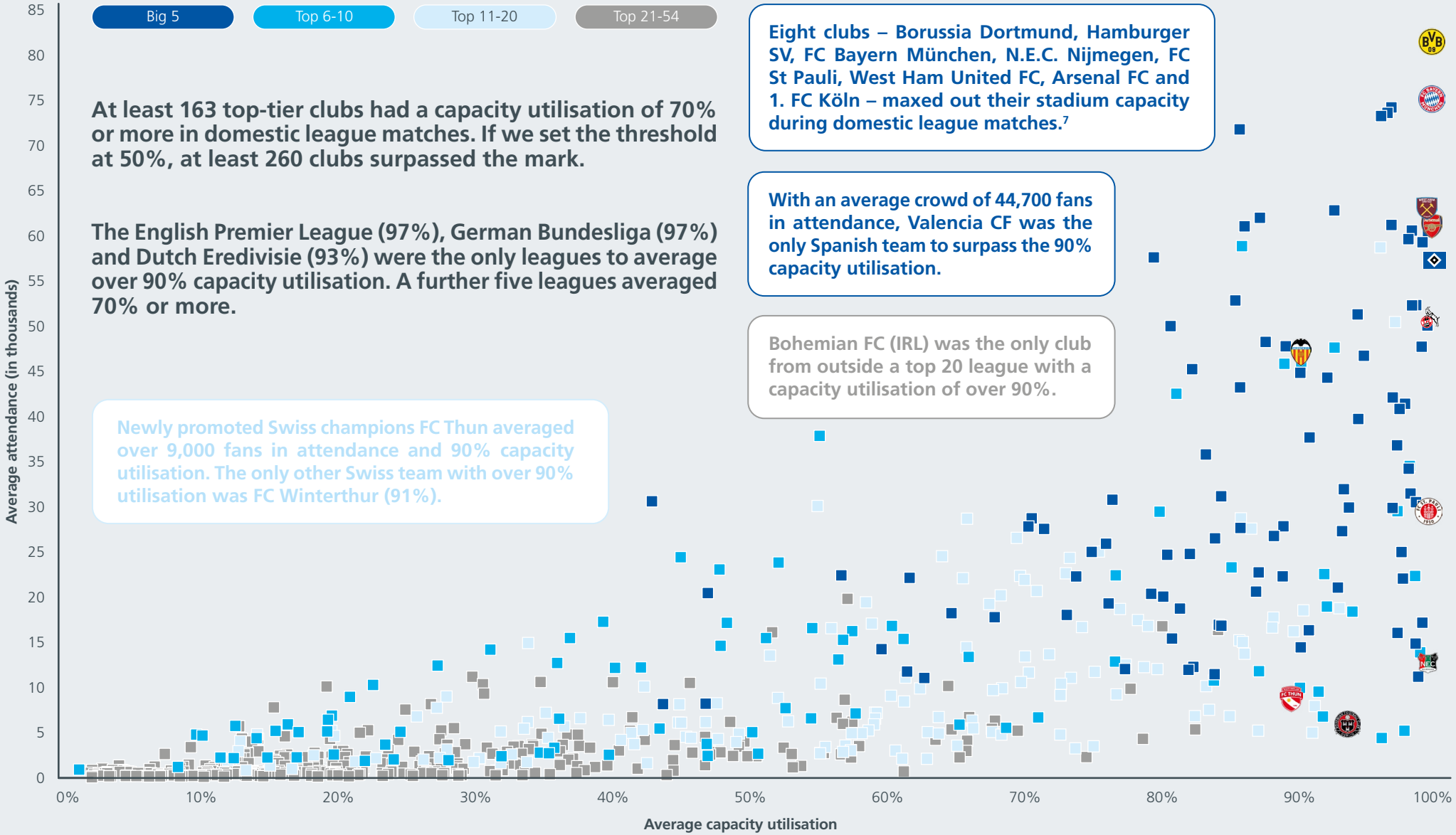
Ranked in order of number of matches with over 50,000 in attendance, from most to least



The '1 million home crowd' club

Club Name / Country	Club tier	League average	Capacity	League total	Domestic cups	UEFA competitions	TOTAL	Total rank
Manchester United (ENG)	First tier	73,975	97%	1,405,516	73,888	-	1,479,405	13
AC Milan (ITA)	First tier	73,373	97%	1,394,089	125,479	-	1,519,569	11
FC Internazionale Milano (ITA)	First tier	73,020	96%	1,387,388	130,203	349,282	1,866,874	3
Borussia Dortmund (GER)	First tier	81,365	100%	1,383,205	81,365	402,360	1,866,931	2
Real Madrid C.F. (ESP)	First tier	71,549	86%	1,359,426	-	531,624	1,891,050	1
FC Bayern München (GER)	First tier	75,000	100%	1,275,000	75,000	516,000	1,866,001	4
West Ham United FC (ENG)	First tier	62,347	100%	1,184,601	169,499	-	1,354,101	9
AS Roma (ITA)	First tier	61,796	87%	1,174,119	60,538	304,568	1,539,226	12
Tottenham Hotspur (ENG)	First tier	61,006	97%	1,159,116	100,191	253,882	1,513,190	7
Atlético de Madrid (ESP)	First tier	60,855	86%	1,156,254	69,200	514,340	1,739,795	6
Liverpool FC (ENG)	First tier	60,389	99%	1,147,390	240,371	359,037	1,746,799	5
Arsenal FC (ENG)	First tier	60,217	100%	1,144,129	238,237	399,660	1,782,027	21
Celtic FC (SCO)	First tier	58,553	96%	1,112,508	36,673	315,340	1,464,522	15
Real Betis Balompié (ESP)	First tier	57,427	80%	1,091,110	104,445	328,852	1,524,408	10
Olympique de Marseille (FRA)	First tier	62,612	93%	1,064,396	125,248	260,242	1,449,887	16
FC Schalke 04 (GER)	Second tier	61,793	99%	1,050,476	-	-	1,050,476	32
VfB Stuttgart (GER)	First tier	59,441	98%	1,010,500	60,000	350,500	1,421,001	17
Eintracht Frankfurt (GER)	First tier	59,100	99%	1,004,700	59,300	234,900	1,298,901	20
Manchester City FC (ENG)	First tier	52,677	86%	1,000,872	228,321	236,998	1,466,192	14

More than 1,100 top-tier matches had a capacity utilisation over 95%



At least 163 top-tier clubs had a capacity utilisation of 70% or more in domestic league matches. If we set the threshold at 50%, at least 260 clubs surpassed the mark.

The English Premier League (97%), German Bundesliga (97%) and Dutch Eredivisie (93%) were the only leagues to average over 90% capacity utilisation. A further five leagues averaged 70% or more.

Newly promoted Swiss champions FC Thun averaged over 9,000 fans in attendance and 90% capacity utilisation. The only other Swiss team with over 90% utilisation was FC Winterthur (91%).

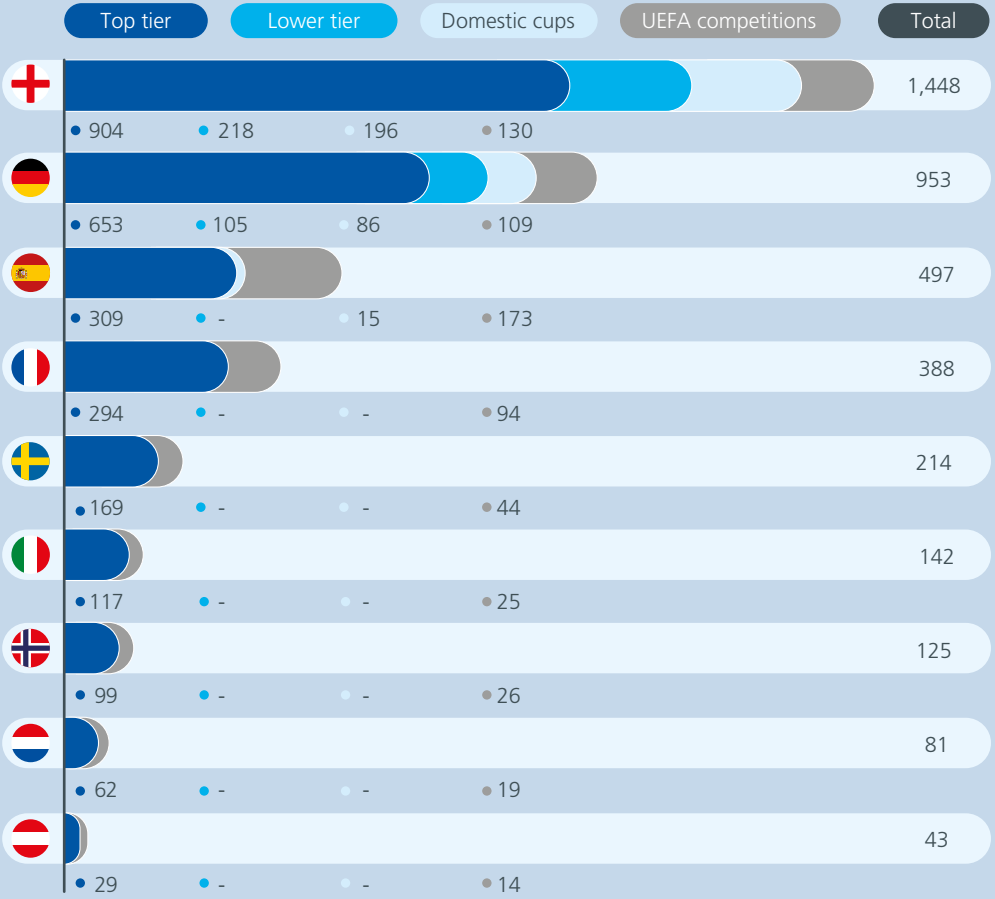
Eight clubs – Borussia Dortmund, Hamburger SV, FC Bayern München, N.E.C. Nijmegen, FC St Pauli, West Ham United FC, Arsenal FC and 1. FC Köln – maxed out their stadium capacity during domestic league matches.[7]

With an average crowd of 44,700 fans in attendance, Valencia CF was the only Spanish team to surpass the 90% capacity utilisation.

Bohemian FC (IRL) was the only club from outside a top 20 league with a capacity utilisation of over 90%.

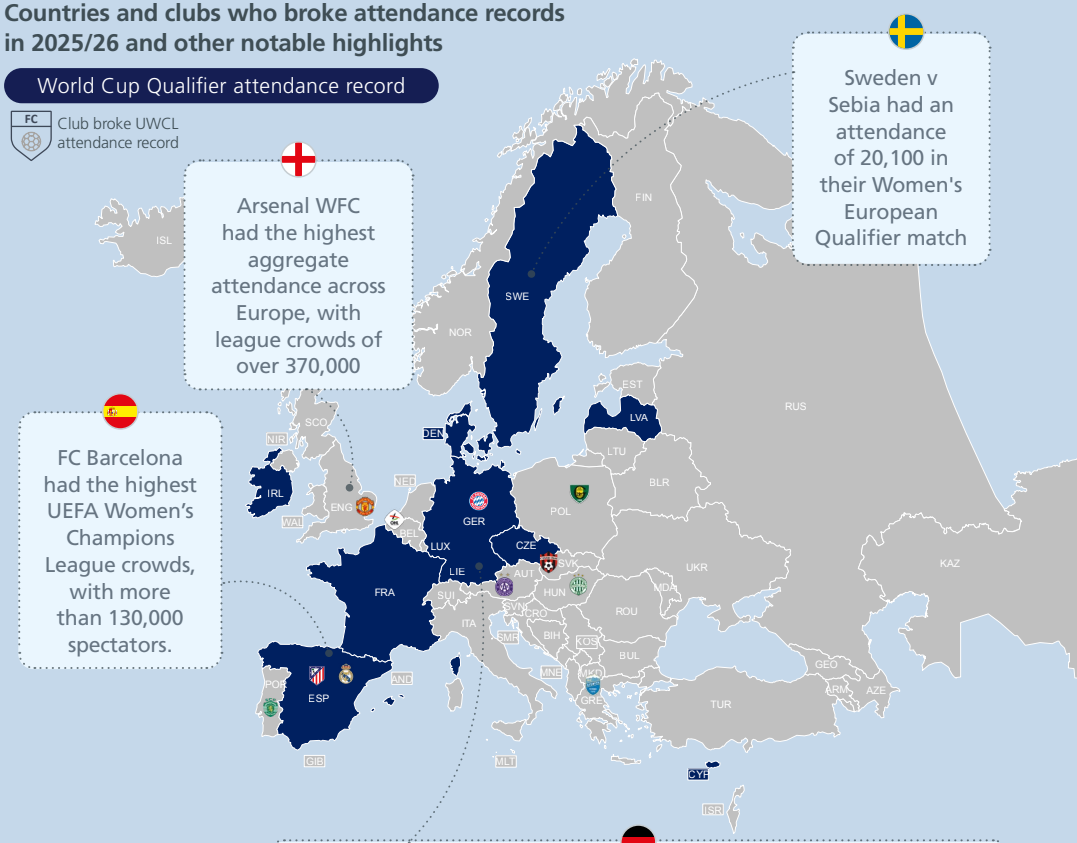
Aggregate attendances in women's football surpass the five million mark

Breakdown of top 10 countries by attendance (in thousands) at women's competitions



The estimated attendance at top-tier women's football matches across the 2025/26 season was over 3.7 million. If the UEFA Women's Champions League, the inaugural UEFA Women's Europa Cup, lower-tier matches and domestic cups are included, the estimated total aggregate attendance exceeds 5.1 million[8].

Countries and clubs who broke attendance records in 2025/26 and other notable highlights



2 TRANSFER TRENDS

This summer has seen another record-breaking transfer window characterised by heavy investment. This reflects ongoing confidence in the European club football market on the back of major inward investments and record club revenue, as documented in February's 'European Club Finance and Investment Landscape' sister report.

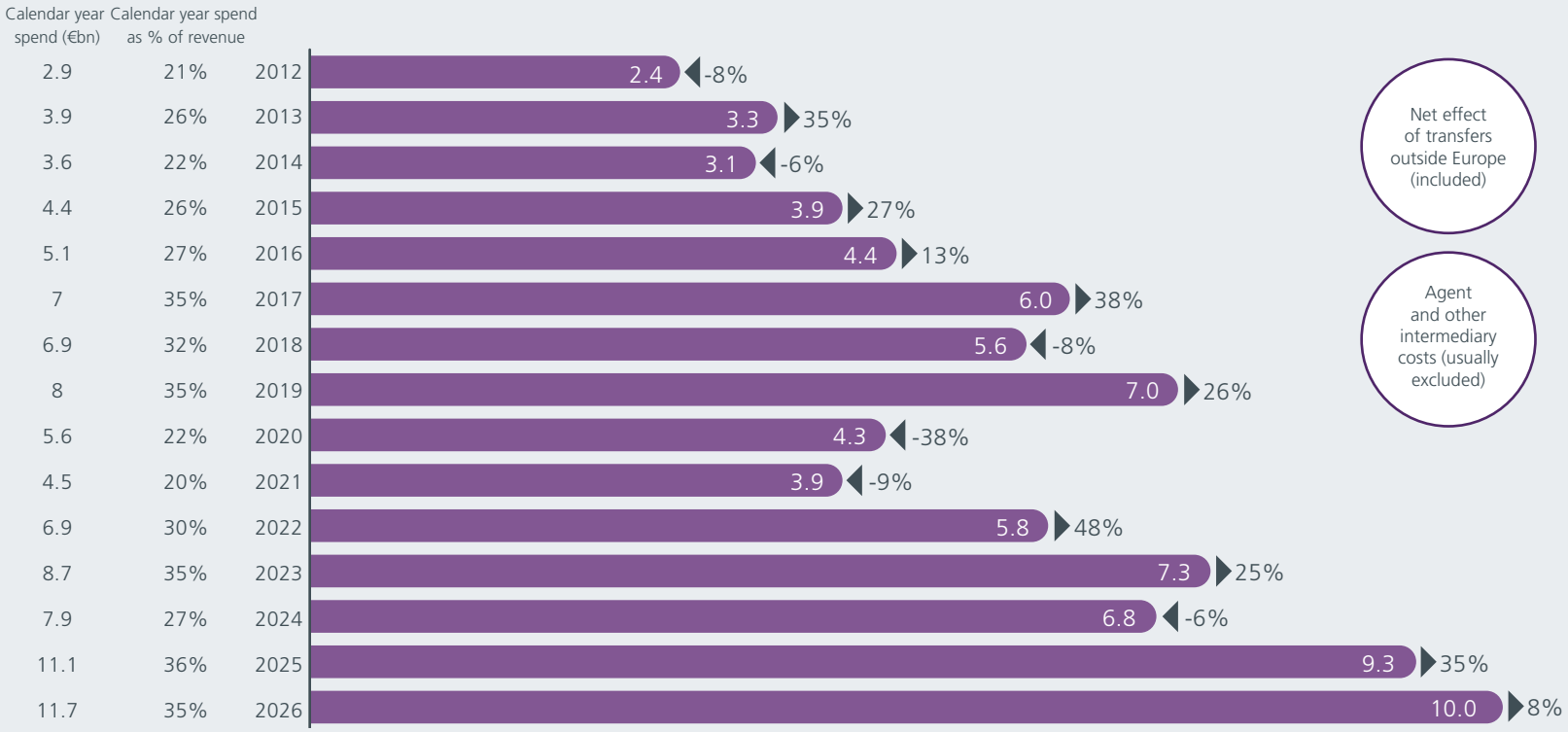
While all major markets were active and 12 countries broke their transfer spend record, it was another significant increase in English club transfer activity that was the biggest news. Their estimated €4.6bn spend this summer is larger than that of the next eight largest European countries combined. Indeed, the transfer spend of the 20 Premier League clubs this calendar year is equivalent to 56% of their annual revenue, which is notably higher than the 33% average of the pre-COVID decade and underlines the increased prominence of transfer activity in their finances. The majority of English club spending (51%) is still with foreign clubs, but as few clubs outside England are able to match wages or transfer prices, English clubs are relying increasingly on the internal market for their record earnings and the profits that these deals tend to trigger.

This chapter presents high-level trends, supported by country-by-country details given in the appendices at the end of the report. When analysing these trends, it is worth considering a number of factors that broadly exerted upward or downward pressure on this summer's activity, including the extended FIFA World Cup tournament (downward); continued strong growth in club revenue (upward); the continued strong influx of ambitious club investors (upward); and domestic financial sustainability and international loan rules (both upward and downward).

European clubs break transfer spend record

The total summer transfer spend[1] of European clubs was €10.0bn, up 8% on last summer and 43% above the pre-pandemic peak of summer 2019. The total calendar year spend, which includes the January transfer window, amounts to €11.7bn, of which top-division clubs are responsible for €10.7bn.

European clubs' summer transfer spending[1] (€bn) and year-on-year change in summer window



Net effect of transfers outside Europe (included)

Agent and other intermediary costs (usually excluded)

256
transfer fees set club records[3] for spending on a single sale

6
transfer fees set country records for transfer spendingon a single sale

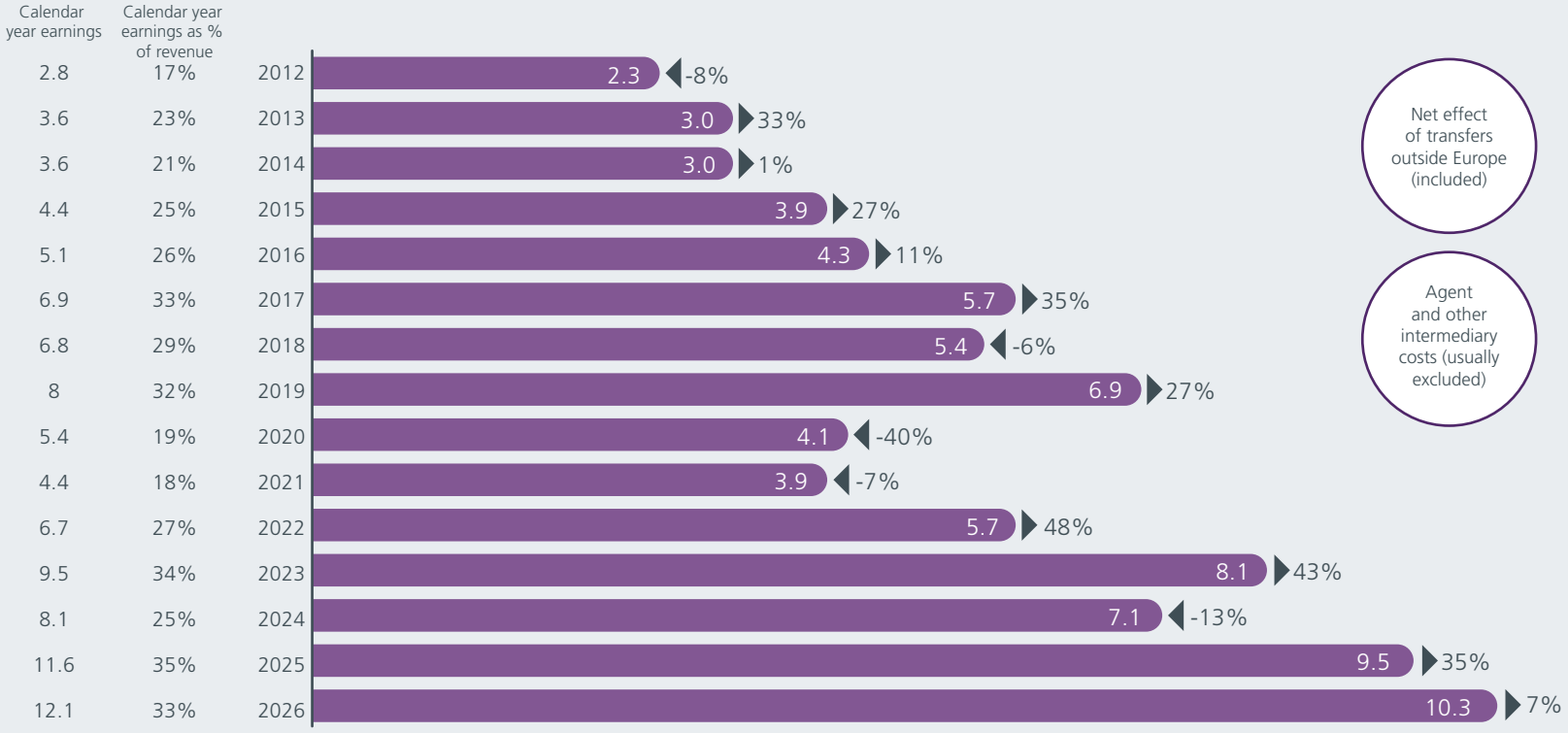
12 UEFA countries with record gross transfer spend in a window

In relative terms, the 2026 transfer spend of top-division clubs is equivalent[2] to 35% of their annual revenue, slightly below the 36% of the previous year and in line with the 35% reported in 2019 and 2023.

European clubs increase earnings from transfer sales

European club transfer sales were €9.3bn, up 31% on last summer and 14% above the previous 2023 summer record level.

European clubs' summer transfer sales[1] (€bn) and and year-on-year change in summer window



Net effect of transfers outside Europe (included)

Agent and other intermediary costs (usually excluded)

215
transfer fees set club records[3] for earnings on a single sale

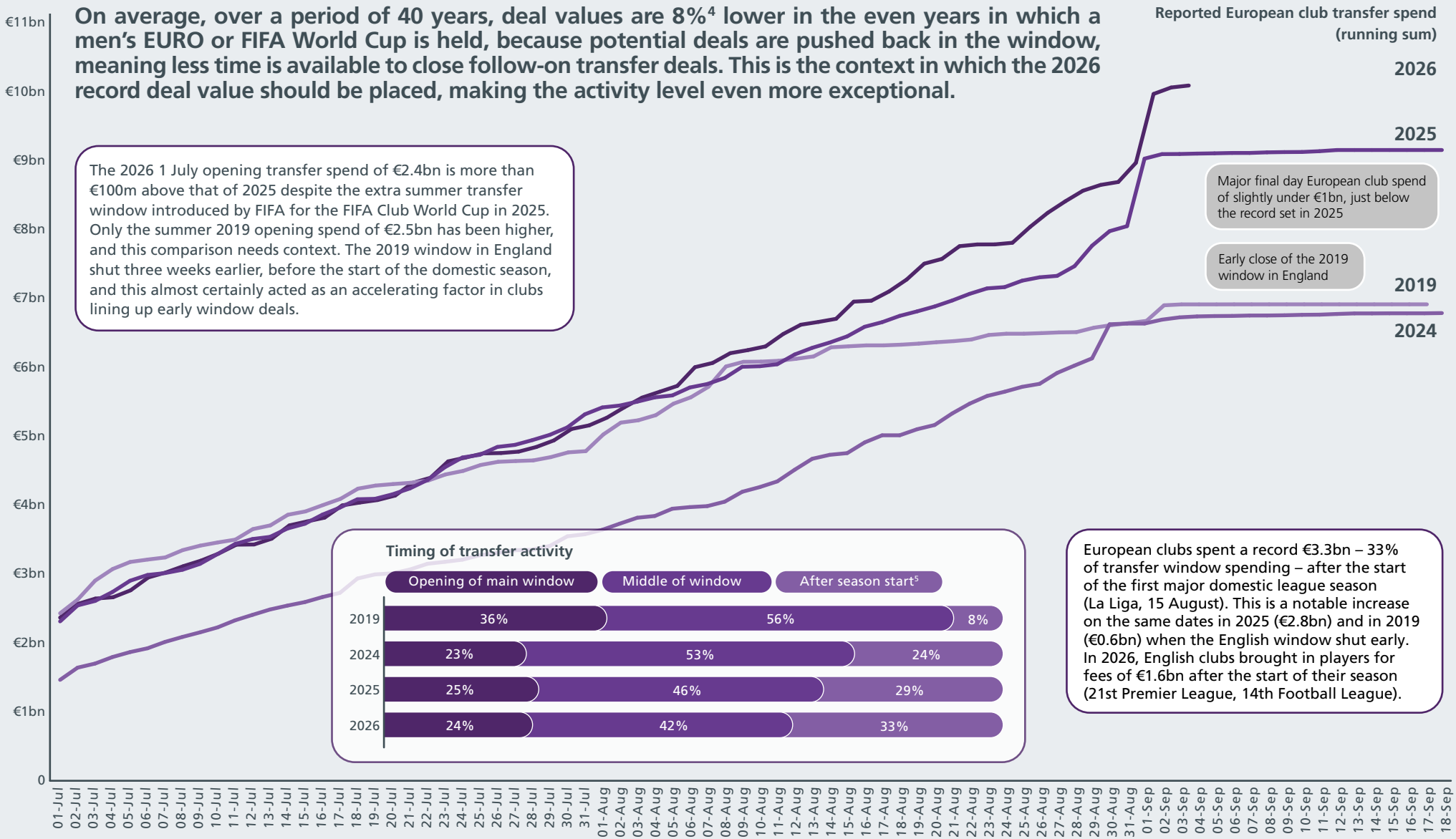
7
transfer fees set country records for transfer earnings on a single sale

17 UEFA countries with record gross transfer earnings in a window

Slower start due to FIFA Word Cup followed by record August spend

On average, over a period of 40 years, deal values are 8%[4] lower in the even years in which a men's EURO or FIFA World Cup is held, because potential deals are pushed back in the window, meaning less time is available to close follow-on transfer deals. This is the context in which the 2026 record deal value should be placed, making the activity level even more exceptional.

The 2026 1 July opening transfer spend of €2.4bn is more than €100m above that of 2025 despite the extra summer transfer window introduced by FIFA for the FIFA Club World Cup in 2025. Only the summer 2019 opening spend of €2.5bn has been higher, and this comparison needs context. The 2019 window in England shut three weeks earlier, before the start of the domestic season, and this almost certainly acted as an accelerating factor in clubs lining up early window deals.



Timing of transfer activity

	Opening of main window	Middle of window	After season start[5]
2019	36%	56%	8%
2024	23%	53%	24%
2025	25%	46%	29%
2026	24%	42%	33%

European clubs spent a record €3.3bn – 33% of transfer window spending – after the start of the first major domestic league season (La Liga, 15 August). This is a notable increase on the same dates in 2025 (€2.8bn) and in 2019 (€0.6bn) when the English window shut early. In 2026, English clubs brought in players for fees of €1.6bn after the start of their season (21st Premier League, 14th Football League).

Major transfer flows highlight dominance of English market

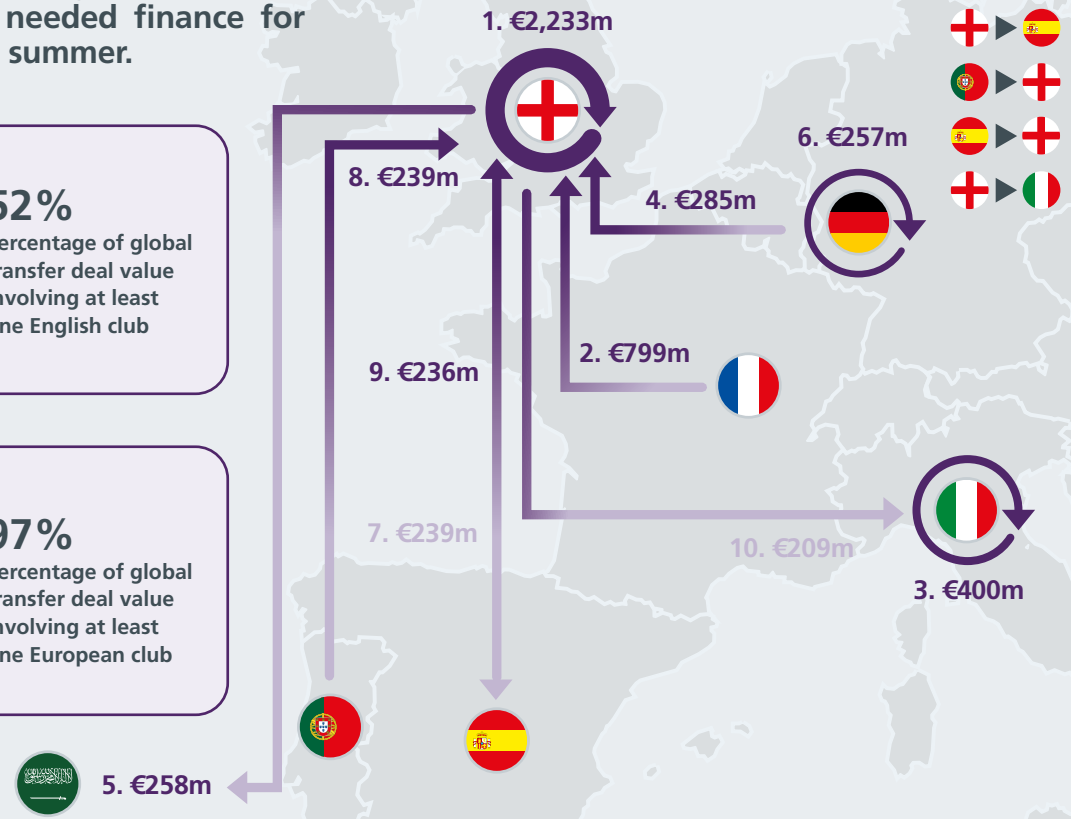
Seven of the top eight global transfer flows in summer 2025 involved the English market.

The most significant change in transfer market flows this summer was the 44% increase in deals between English clubs. The English domestic market was as large in fee value as the next five market flows combined.

Increased transfer earnings from the flow of talent to English clubs also provided much needed finance for French clubs this summer.

52%
Percentage of global transfer deal value involving at least one English club

97%
Percentage of global transfer deal value involving at least one European club



Ten largest transfer flows by fee in summer 2026 (compared with summer 2025 and the number of permanent deals reported with a transfer fee)

		Change from 2025	Number of 2026 transfers with fee
ENG → ENG	€1,554m	+44%	107
FRA → ENG	€437m	+83%	27
ITA → ITA	€501m	-20%	126
GER → ENG	€690m	-59%	13
ENG → KSA	€84m	+207%	5
GER → GER	€188m	+37%	96
ENG → ESP	€129m	+85%	6
POR → ENG	€106m	+125%	12
ESP → ENG	€207m	+14%	16
ENG → ITA	€120m	+74%	11

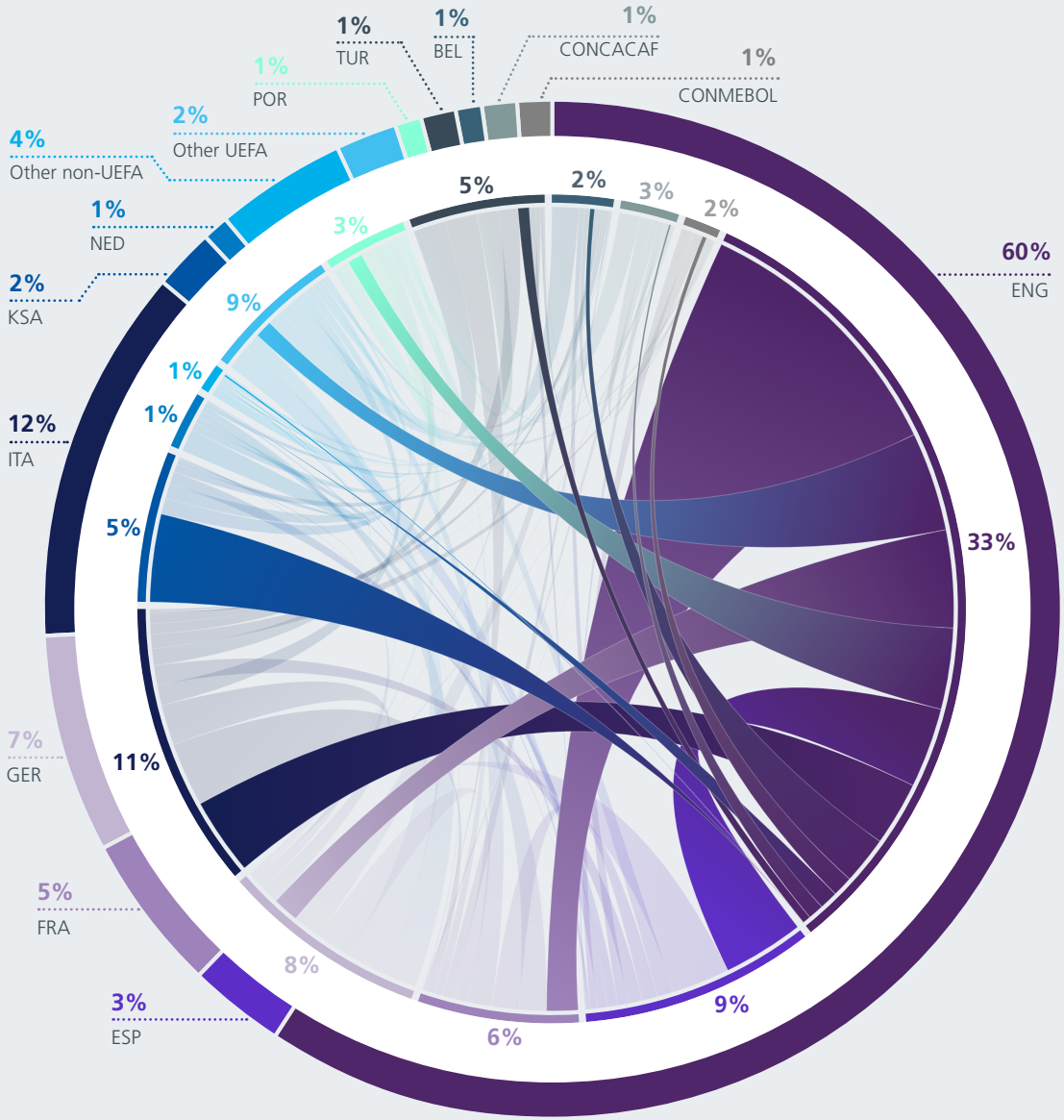
The domestic English market grows to 60% of all domestic markets

Global transfer flows summer 2026:

Outer circle: Domestic market transfers as a percentage of total transfers

Inner circle: Intermarket transfers as a percentage of total transfers

English market flows are highlighted



English market flows:

ENG SELL ▶▶	MARKET	◀◀ ENG BUY
€226.7m	Italy	€188.6m
€239.2m	Spain	€236.4m
€51m	Other UEFA	€291.3m
€76.7m	Germany	€287.7m
€92.5m	France	€802.2m
€258m	Saudi Arabia	€ 0
€32.8m	Türkiye	€24.5m
€44.5m	Portugal	€238.9m
€5.7m	CONCACAF	€45.6m
€13.2m	Belgium	€140.7m
€12.7m	CONMEBOL	€59.8m
€0.5m	Netherlands	€54.4m
€5.2m	Other non-UEFA	€0.5m

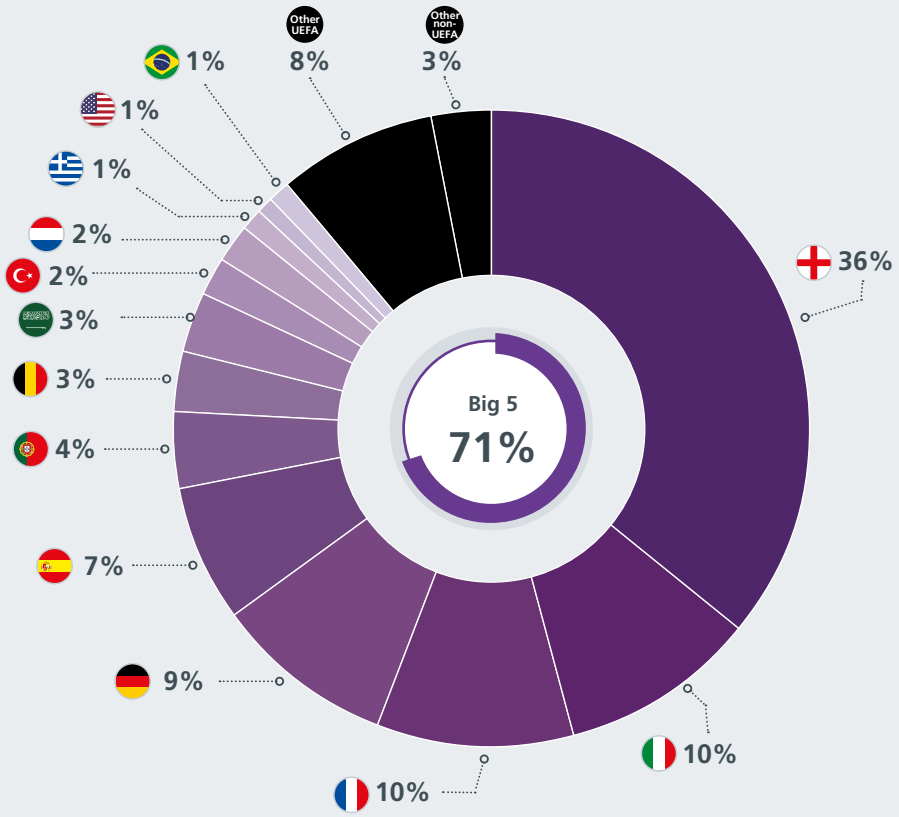
The main intermarket flows are shown within the inner circle, with the values to and from England highlighted. In total, English clubs bought €2.4bn of talent from other markets, a decrease of less than 1% on summer 2025. In 2026, English clubs were involved in 33% of global intermarket flows.

The outside circle illustrates the main intramarket domestic flows. The domestic English market (transfers between two English clubs) increased significantly in summer 2026, with English clubs exchanging talent for estimated fees of €2.2bn. For the first time, the domestic English market accounted for more than 50% of global domestic transfer market values, up from 49% in the summer of 2025 to 60% in the summer of 2026.

Fees in the majority of major transfer markets increase again

The traditional Big 5 European markets were responsible for 71% of global summer transfer activity,[6] a 74% share of global spend and 67% share of global earnings.

Breakdown of transfer activity (sum of spending and earnings)



Although transfer activity remains heavily concentrated in the largest European markets, the share has actually decreased from a peak of 78% of activity in 2017.

Provisional[6] top markets by summer 2026 transfer activity

Activity (€m) in summer 2026 vs summer 2025



		Activity (€m)	Spending (€m)	Earnings (€m)	Net Spend (€m)
1	121%	7,902	4,607	3,295	1,312
2	86%	2,149	1,256	893	363
3	116%	2,114	635	1,479	-843
4	90%	1,884	857	1,027	-170
5	100%	1,537	800	737	62
6	119%	896	310	586	-276
7	115%	608	197	411	-214
9	101%	544	413	131	283
10	89%	537	163	373	-210
11	181%	292	160	131	29
15	93%	195	91	105	-14
16	147%	192	45	147	-103
17	85%	183	53	130	-78
18	140%	169	82	87	-5
19	139%	164	87	77	10
21	160%	143	34	109	-75
22	119%	143	47	96	-49
23	144%	107	17	90	-73
24	82%	103	54	49	5
Other UEFA	95%	459	120	339	-219
8	69%	559	462	97	365
12	197%	275	137	138	-2
13	43%	272	97	175	-78
14	99%	215	90	124	-34
20	90%	162	98	64	34
Other non-UEFA	70%	295	137	158	-20

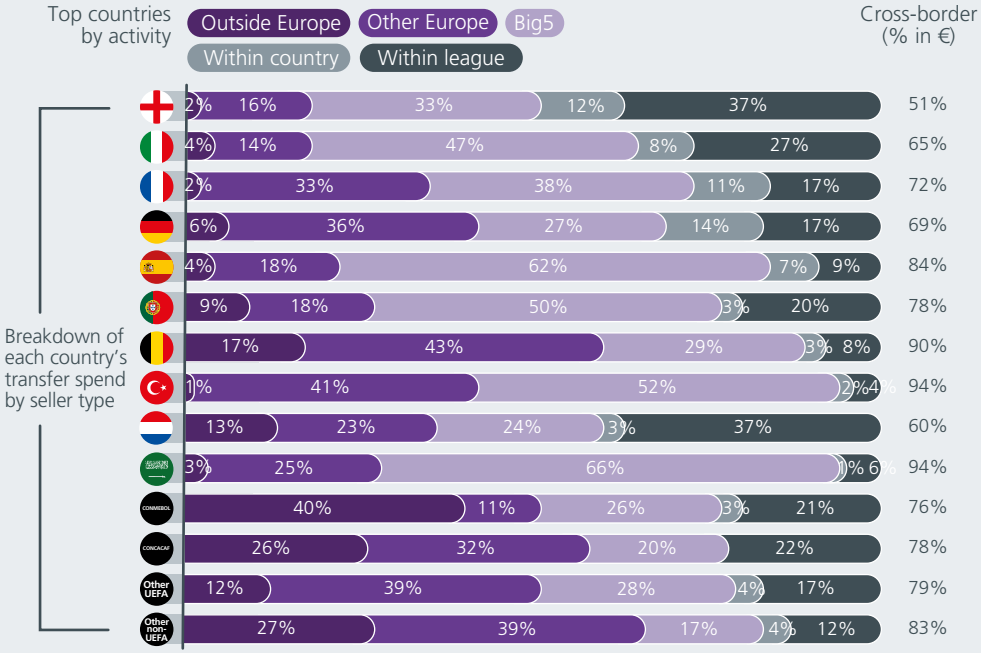
Variations in destination and origin of transfer activity between major leagues

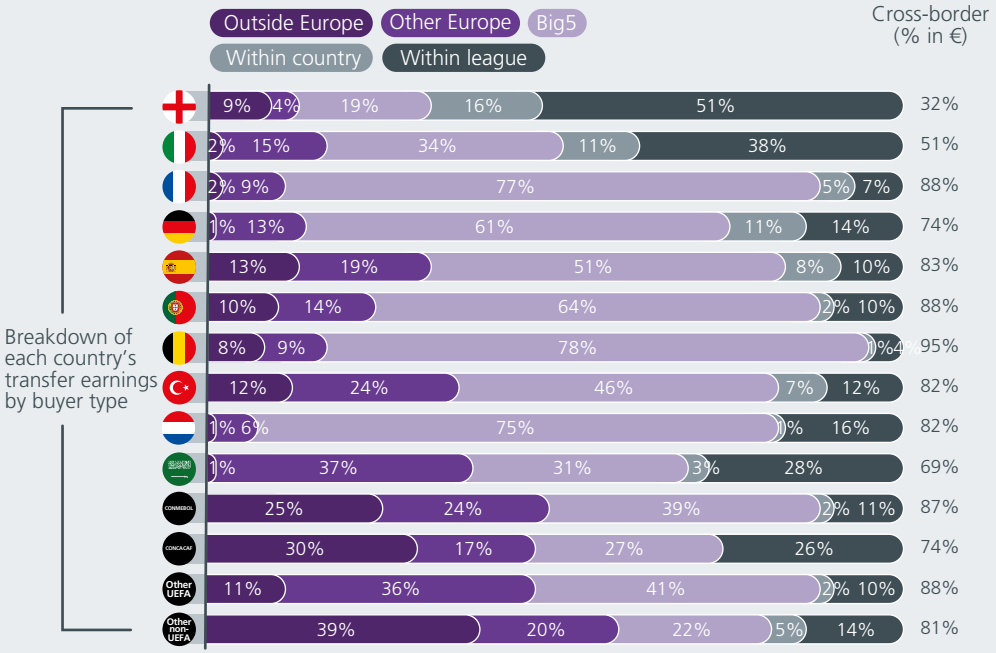
The origin and destination of transfer activity vary considerably across the major markets. The tables below categorise summer 2026 activity by transfer type. Portuguese clubs were among the most internationally oriented, with nearly all transfer activity conducted cross-border and 19% of spending occurring outside Europe. In contrast, English clubs had the highest domestic concentration, with 49% of spending and 67% of transfer earnings arising from deals between domestic clubs.

66%
Share of global club transfer spend on cross-border deals

€1.6bn
Transfer income earned by non-Big 5 European clubs from player sales to Big 5 clubs

Origin and destination of transfer activity:





Top deals shift upwards in value

The number of European transfer fees paid above €50m has significantly increased, from 14 in summer 2024 to 23 in 2025 and to 35 in 2026. English club are, not surprisingly, at the centre of this increase, responsible for 29 of the 35 deals (26 on the buy side and 3 on the sell side).

By contrast, the number and value of deals in the €35m to €50m, €20m to €35m and €10m to €20m ranges have all reduced compared with the same period last summer.

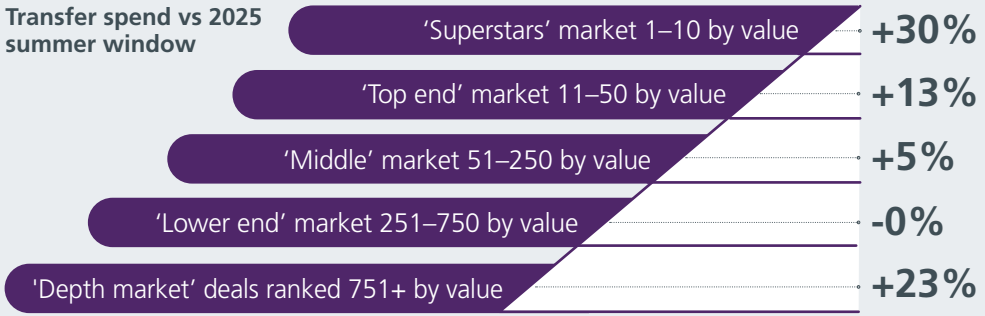
Number of deals by value range vs recent summer windows (2024 and 2025)

	Number	Number	Number	Increase	Value €bn	Value €bn	Value €bn
Value range	2024	2025	2026		2024	2025	2026
€50m+	14	23	35	52%	0.8	1.7	2.6
€35m-50m+	15	28	25	-11%	0.6	1.1	1
€20m-€35m	60	82	75	-9%	1.6	2	1.9
€10m-€20m	120	130	110	-15%	1.6	1.7	1.5
€5m-€10m	121	165	181	10%	0.8	1.1	1.2
€2.5m-€5m	185	203	272	34%	0.6	0.7	0.9
€1m-€2.5m	300	347	411	18%	0.5	0.5	0.6
€0.5m-€1m	237	275	275	0%	0.2	0.2	0.2



English clubs involved in 29 of the 35 large value European deals

The picture is slightly different when comparing with 2023 and when ranking deals by value from high to low. The 2023 spending record has been broken by a significant increase in the 'middle' of the market (+29%, a record increase), 'lower end' of the market (+37%) and through the depth of the market (+77%). The value of 'superstar' transfer spending (deals ranked 1 to 10 by value) was the same as in 2023 and slightly below 2017 and 2019.



Evolution of large value (€50m+) deals by player position

	2024	2025	2026
Goalkeeper	0	0	0
Defender	1	3	8
Midfielder	10	11	23
Forward	3	9	4

The summer window of 2026 witnessed a notable shift away from large value deals involving forward players, the category that traditionally generates large value transfer fees. The number of defenders involved in large value deals rose from three to eight, while midfielders increased from 11 to 23. In contrast, forwards accounted for just four €50m+ deals, down from nine in the summer of 2025.

Increased market prices and sales of club-trained players generate profits of just under €7bn

Clubs generate profits or losses through outbound transfer activity. The UEFA Intelligence Centre estimates the profit or loss on a sale by analysing the original inbound transfer cost and the stage of the contract reached, then comparing to the reported outbound transfer fee and historic discount rate[8].

Player type	Bought-in players	Club-trained players[7]	All players	Club-trained players share
Outbound transfer fee, summer 2026	€7.94bn	€2.18bn	€10.12bn	22%
Original inbound transfer fee	€6.26bn	€0.16bn	€6.41bn	2%
Average % left on contract = "unamortised amount"	33%	45%	33%	
Estimated profit triggered on sale	€6.02bn	€2.11bn	€8.13bn	
Estimated loss triggered on sale	-€0.32bn	-€0.00bn	-€0.32bn	
Profit discount factor[8]	-€0.81bn	-€0.22bn	-€1.03bn	
Estimated net profit/ loss triggered on sale	€5.7bn	€2.11bn	€7.81bn	27%

The main factors that dictate transfer profit rates are player development, the overall trend in market spend (often revenue generated), the contract profile of outbound players, the scarcity of the type of player in the market (pricing impact) and the level of club on both the buy and sell side.

With clubs more keenly aware of the link between transfer activity and financial reporting than ever before, European clubs generated an estimated profit of €6.8bn on transfer sales during the summer 2026 transfer window, which will be reflected in their financial year ending 2026 and/or 2027.[9] This represents an increase of €655m on the 2025 summer dealings.

€6.8bn
Estimated net profit[8] triggered on outbound transfers from European clubs (up from €6.1bn in summer 2025)

27%
Share of profits generated by locally trained player sales (down from 32% in summer 2025)

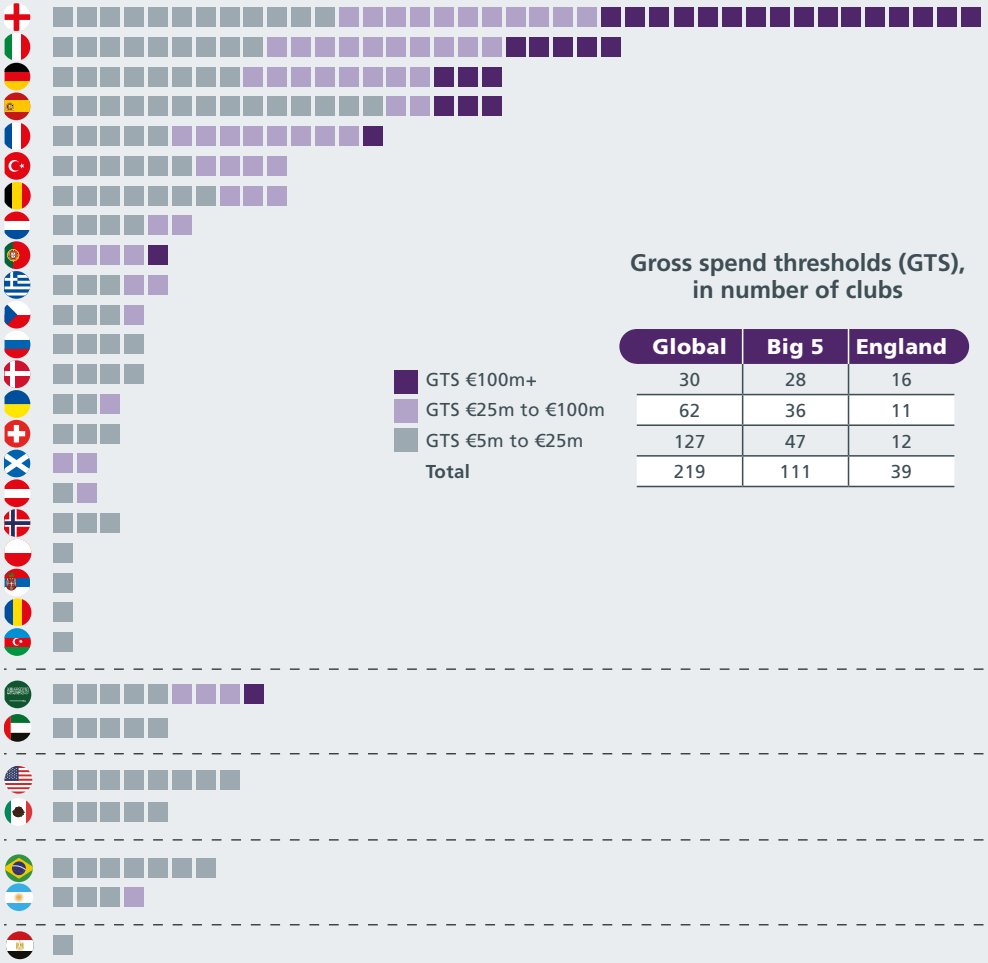
67%
Estimated net profit margin on player sales, made up by 87% margin on club-trained and 62% on non-club-trained

Estimated net profit on summer player sales (€m), 2025 vs 2026

	Summer 2025	Summer 2026	% profit change (2025 vs 2026)	Profit margin on 2026 sales
	1,459	2,002	+37%	61%
	754	1,030	+37%	70%
	854	668	-22%	67%
	749	508	-32%	61%
	526	483	-8%	66%
	226	459	+103%	80%
	273	309	+13%	75%
	283	266	-6%	72%
	74	100	+35%	68%
	82	101	+22%	77%
	113	93	-18%	71%
	129	90	-30%	70%
	53	83	+57%	76%
	31	73	+139%	71%
	63	72	+14%	76%
	43	58	+33%	64%
	38	55	+47%	65%
	69	55	-20%	72%
	63	54	-14%	72%
	34	42	+25%	61%
All UEFA	6,122	6,777	+11%	67%

More than half of transfer spend is recovered through sales in the same window

English clubs represent just over half of clubs with an estimated gross spend of €100m or above in the summer 2026 window. The number of non-English clubs with an estimated gross spend of €100m or above has decreased from 16 to 14 clubs.

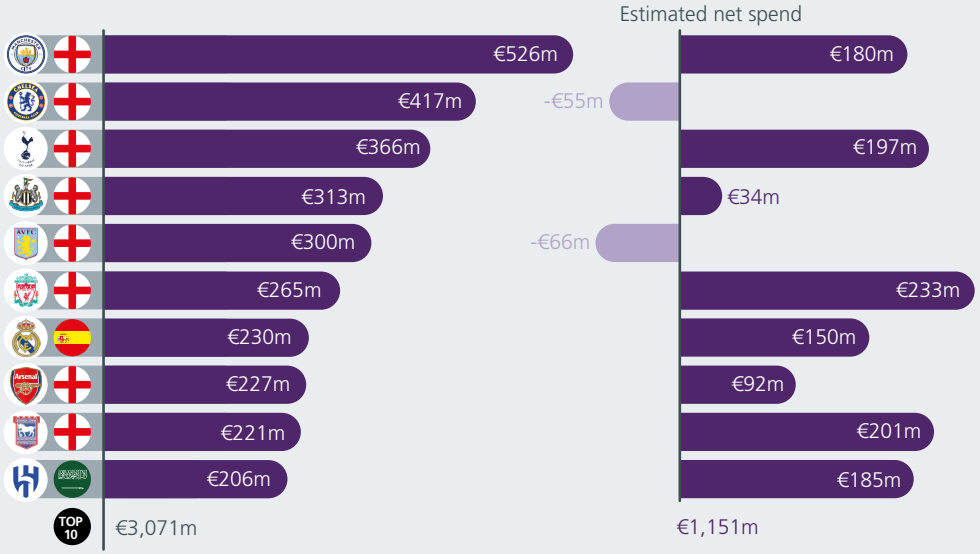


Gross spend thresholds (GTS), in number of clubs

	Global	Big 5	England
GTS €100m+	30	28	16
GTS €25m to €100m	62	36	11
GTS €5m to €25m	127	47	12
Total	219	111	39

The combined spend of the ten largest spenders increased again, from €2.7bn in 2025 to an estimated €3.1bn in the 2026 summer window. English clubs represent 8 of the 10 largest spenders, with Real Madrid CF and Al-Hilal (KSA) the exceptions. Although the transfer values are indicative only[10], two of the highest spending clubs generated net earnings through considerable player sales.

Estimated[10] top ten clubs by gross spend, summer 2026



Transfer spend recovered through sales

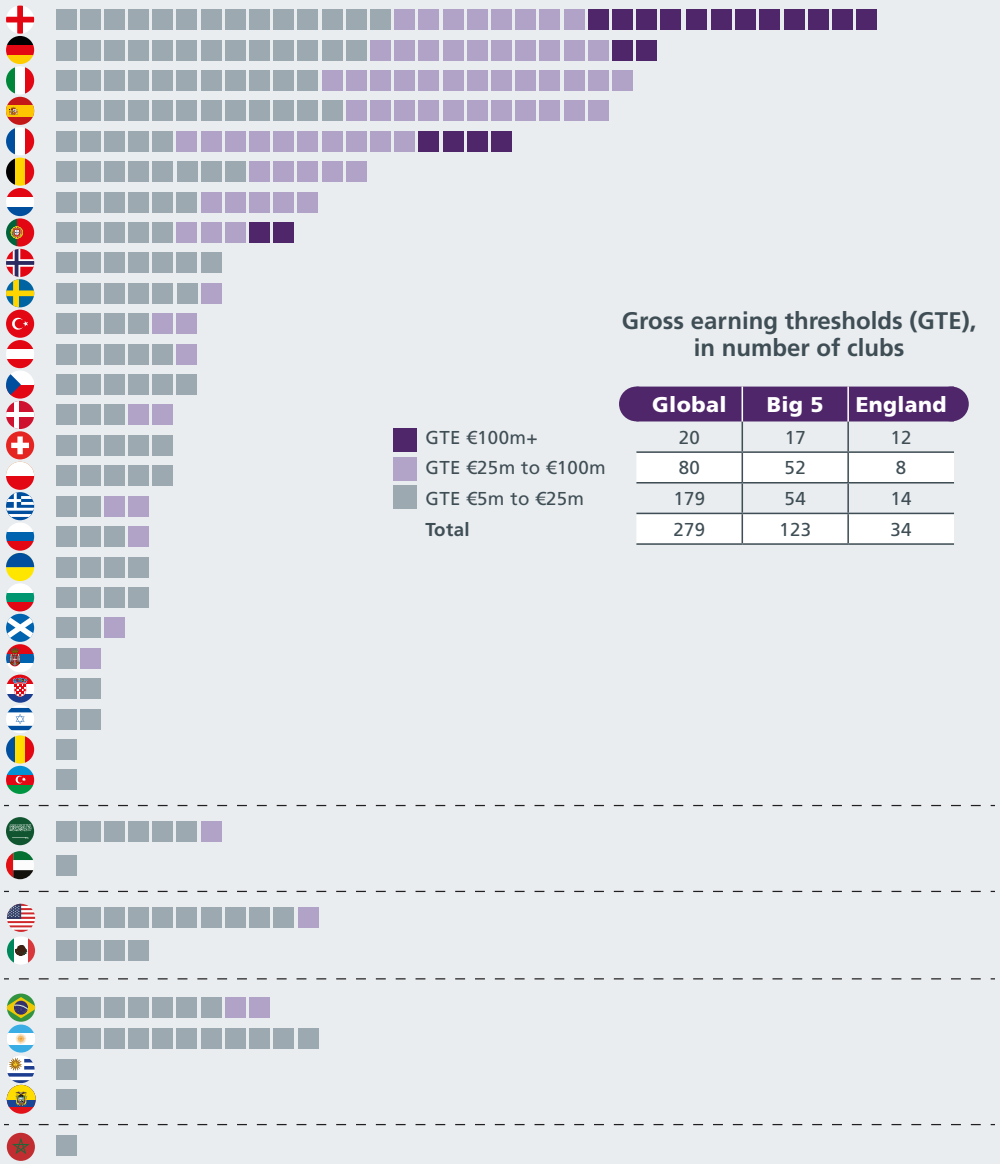
Global gross spend **€11.2bn**

€6.5bn 58%

Net spend not recovered through sales **€4.7bn** 42%

More than half of transfer spend was recouped during the same window

Drop in the number of clubs with summer earnings of €100m+



Gross earning thresholds (GTE), in number of clubs

	Global	Big 5	England
GTE €100m+	20	17	12
GTE €25m to €100m	80	52	8
GTE €5m to €25m	179	54	14
Total	279	123	34

The number of clubs with estimated transfer earnings of €100m or above decreased from 23 to 20 clubs in the summer 2026 window. In total, 80 clubs from 20 different countries reported transfer earnings of between €25m and €100m this summer.

Estimated[10] top ten clubs by gross earnings, summer 2026



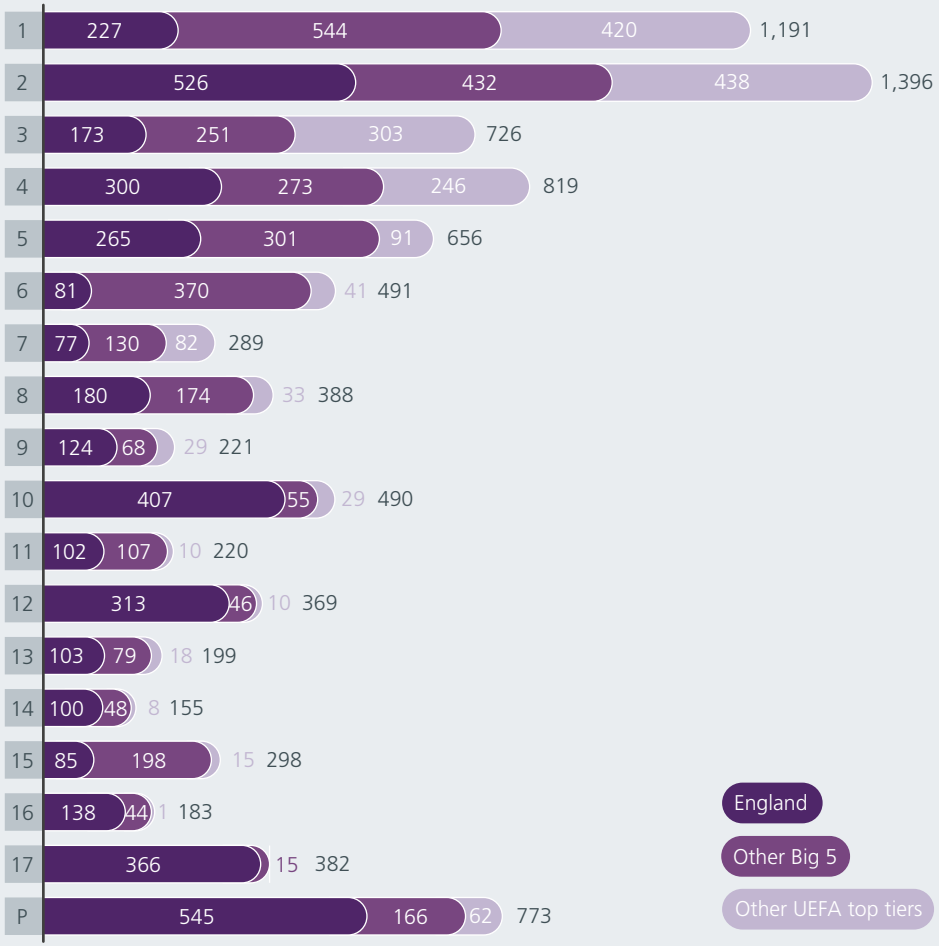
The combined earnings of the top ten sellers were just under €2.8bn (an increase of 40% year-on-year), equivalent to 25% of total global club transfer earnings.

Rapidly escalating transfer fees in the market mean that the top five clubs by summer 2026 earnings also make up half of the all-time top ten clubs by earnings in a single summer, with both Chelsea FC and Aston Villa exceeding the previous record set by AS Monaco in 2017.

League champions and newly promoted clubs active in the market

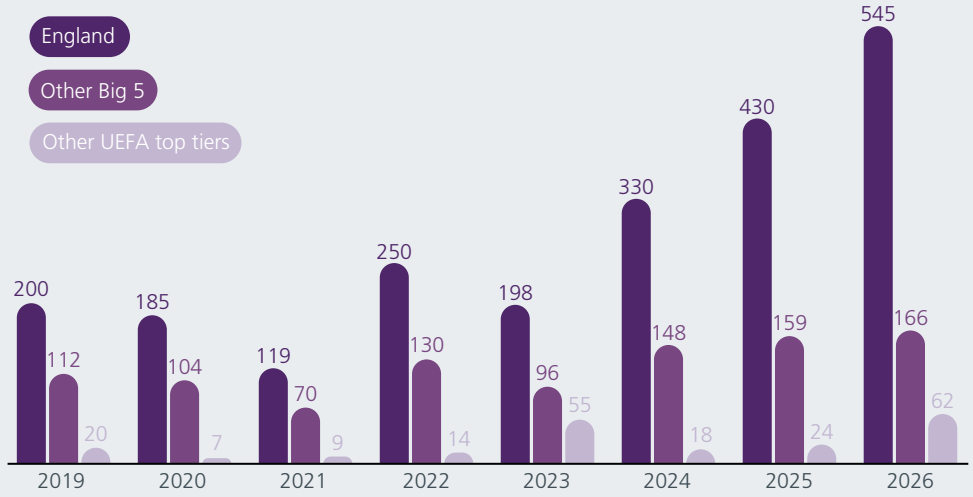
Transfer spend has been analysed according to where each club finished in the season leading up to the summer transfer windows. This provides compelling evidence of the buying power of English top-tier clubs right down the table. Indeed, the financial importance of avoiding relegation incentivises these clubs to invest heavily.

League position in 2025/26 season and summer 2026 spend (€m)



The 54 league champions of the 2025/26 season are estimated to have spent just under €1.2bn this summer as they try to consolidate their success. The second-place teams also invested heavily, to the tune of €1.3bn, as they attempt to move one position up the table to champions.

Evolution of transfer spend by newly promoted clubs (€m)



Clubs promoted at the end of the 2025/26 season are estimated to have spent almost €800m this summer, comfortably the highest amount in recent history. Across the last seven summers, the English club share of transfer spending by promoted clubs has always been above 50% but increased to an estimated 71% in 2026.

Level of player turnover remains stable

Despite the significant increase in transfer fees, the level of squad churn[11] is relatively stable, increasing by just 0.3%, with top-tier clubs on average making 9.6 signings this summer.

Danish clubs are the most stable, with 7.3 inbound players this summer compared to 13.9 at Italian second-tier clubs and 12.8 at Greek first-tier clubs. Second-tier clubs tend to have a higher churn, and averaged 30% more inbound players than first-tier clubs.

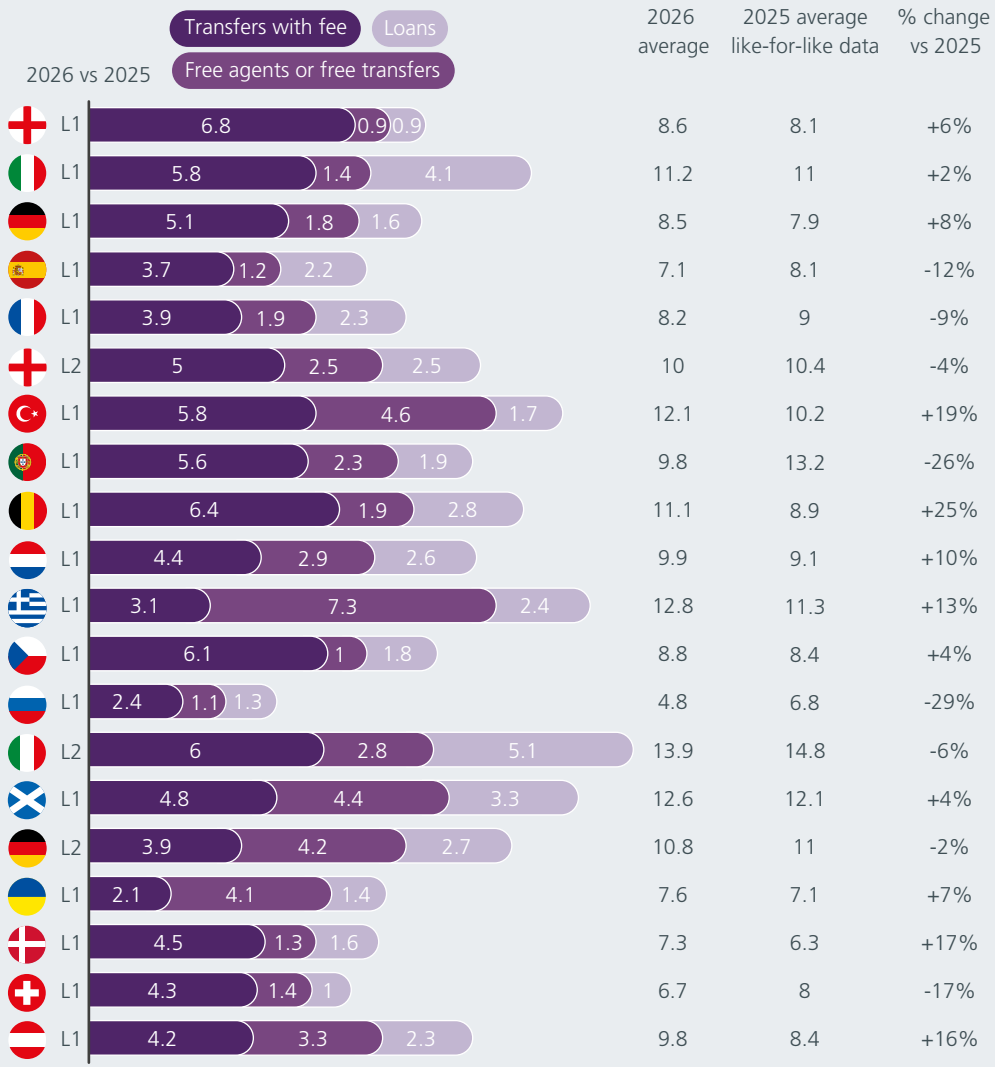
Venezia (21), Hull City AFC (18), Racing Club de Strasbourg Alsace (17), SC Paderborn 07 (15) and Getafe CF (14) were the most active in their respective Big 5 league. Club culture, the duration of head coaches' tenures, changes in ownership, the existence of feeder clubs in lower tiers, and squad and player remuneration policies are just some of the factors that influence player turnover.

0.3%
increase in number of signings at top-tier clubs,

9.6
Average number of signings at top-tier clubs this summer

23
Iraklis FC from the Greek top division had the highest number of new inbound players

Average number of inbound senior players per club in summer window among top 20 European leagues by spend



Average prices show a market with four distinct segments

The average transfer fee for inbound players at English Premier League clubs increased by 8% to a record €24m. If loans, out-of-contract players and free agents are excluded, this average rises to more than €30m.

With a few individual club exceptions, there are clearly four segments to the market with the other Big 5 leagues averaging €4.0m–€5.3m per player, the second-tier English clubs and first-tier Turkish, Portuguese, Dutch, Belgian, Greek and Russian clubs averaging €0.9m–€1.9m and the next tier averaging less than €600,000 per player.

Average prices rose in 16 of the top 20 leagues in 2025, a trend that continued in 2026, with 12 leagues increasing and 8 leagues decreasing their average transfer fee. The fastest growth in percentage terms was recorded at Greek, Czech and Italian second-tier clubs.

Transfer fees in summer 2026 were 9% above expected market prices[12], with English and Scottish (+21%) and Saudi Arabian clubs (+28%) paying the largest mark-ups. English clubs recouped some of these fees by selling with a 7% mark-up.

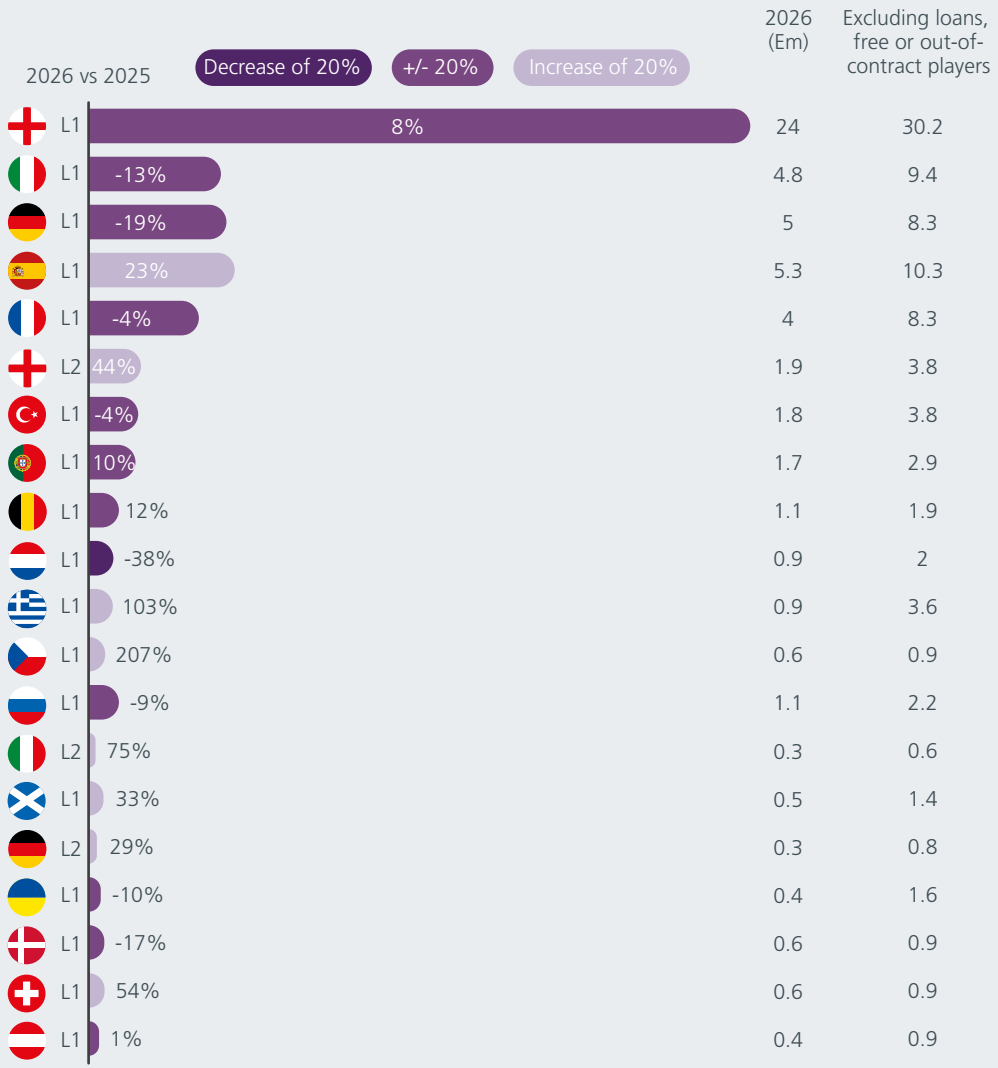
€24m
Average price paid by English clubs

-5%
Average price paid by the other Big 5 leagues compared to last summer

12 of 20
leagues paid more on average for players than in the previous summer

+9%
Transfer fee premium[12] paid in 2026

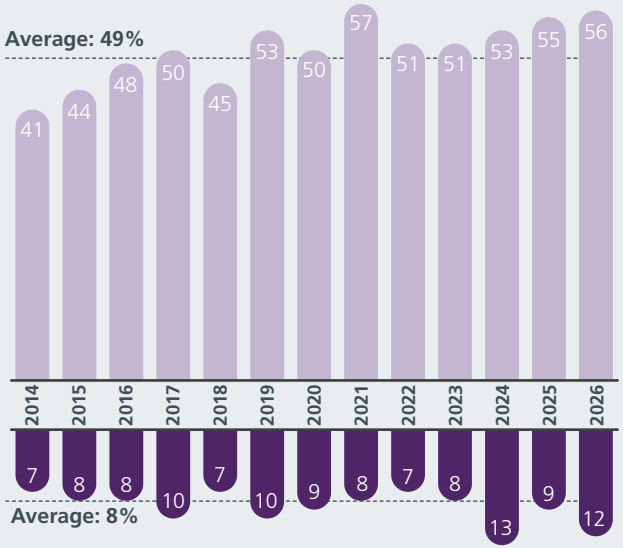
Average price of inbound senior players per club in summer window among top 20 European leagues by spend



Record spend on teenage and other young players

Transfer fees continue to clearly reflect both the value-in-use of inbound players and the potential resale of player registrations, with 12% of transfer spending invested in teenage players and 56% invested in players aged 23 and under (the highest percentage share on record). The estimated €1.2bn spent/invested in teenagers is almost €300m more than the previous record summer spend on teenagers.

Players aged 23 and under as a percentage of total European club transfer spending (by value) in summer window

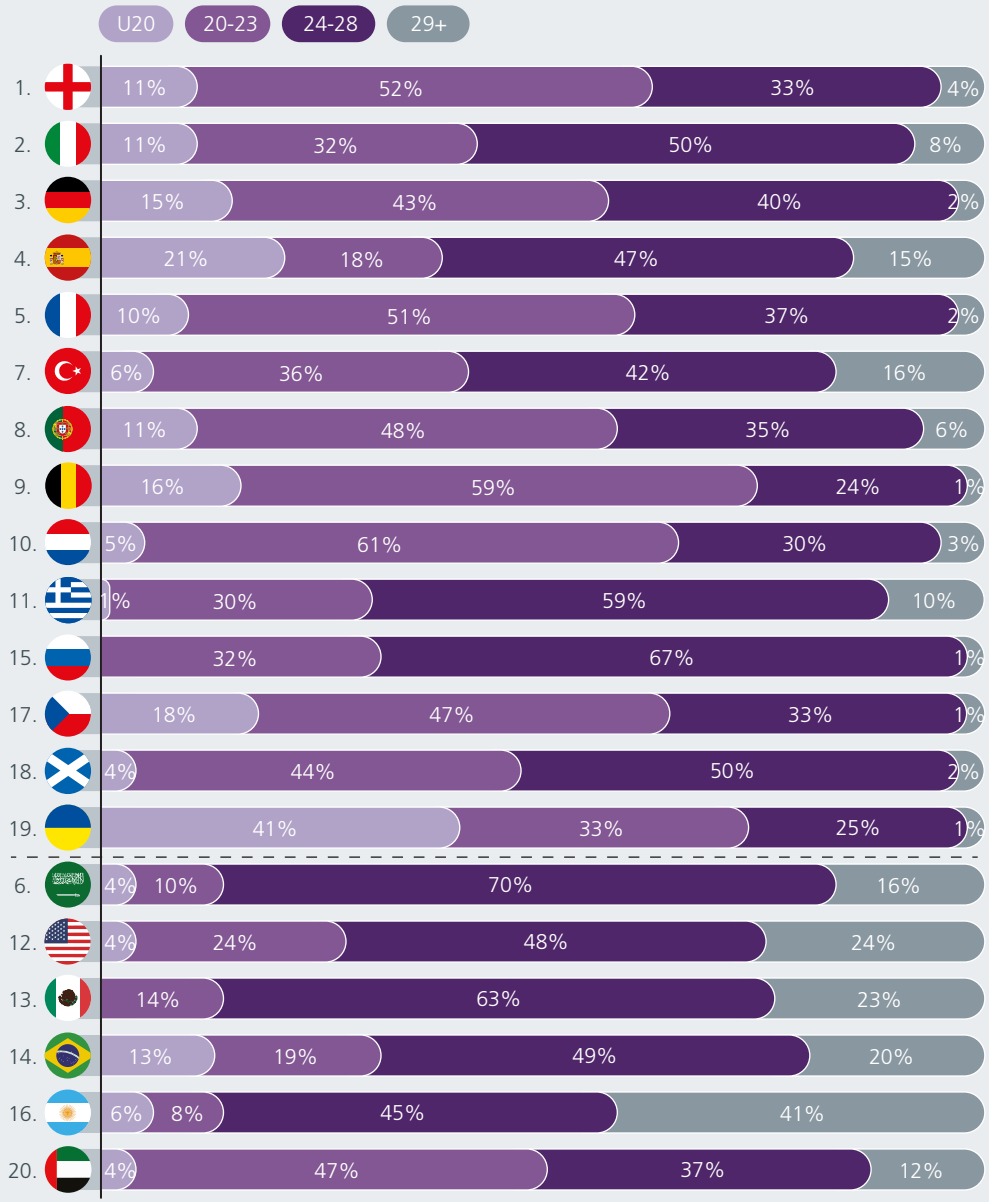


€1.2bn
Record transfer spend invested in teenagers in summer 2026

56%
Record share of European club transfer spend invested in players aged 23 and under

Within Europe, talent-developing/investing clubs in markets seen as stepping stones to the Big 5 focused their transfer spend on younger players (23 and under): 75% in Belgium, 74% in Ukraine and 67% in the Netherlands. As English clubs also invest heavily in younger players, these talent developers are handsomely rewarded, but the development period is shorter as the players move at a younger age. By contrast, Greek (31%) and Russian (33%) clubs, alongside clubs in the five largest non-European markets (13%-32%), directed less than a third of their transfer spend to these younger players.

Distribution by player age of spend in top 25 countries globally by transfer spend



No increasing trend in swap deals or deals between multi-club ownership groups

Player exchanges and multiple transfers during the same window have always been regular features of the transfer market and pre-date financial regulation. While UEFA anticipates and regulates these transactions, through its financial sustainability regulations, perceptions still remain that these deals are connected to clubs' attempts to meet financial targets.

	2016	2019	2024	2025	2026	% profit change (2025 vs 2026)	Profit margin on 2026 sales
European club total spend	€4,352m	€8,478m	€6,847m	€9,271m	€10,025m	+37%	61%
Spend with two-way activity[13]	€167m	€484m	€317m	€351m	€387m	+37%	70%
% spend part of two-way activity	3.80%	5.70%	4.60%	3.80%	3.90%	-22%	67%
Number of club pairs involved	51	74	52	60	66	-32%	61%

The value of transfer deals that are part of two-way activity during the summer window (Club A buys from Club B and vice versa) has remained relatively stable across time, accounting for 3.9% of deal value in 2026 and 3.8% a decade earlier. The number of club pairings taking part in two-way activity fluctuates from window to window but is currently lower than during the last pre-COVID summer transfer window (2019).

Despite widespread commentary on transfer activity between clubs in the same multi-club ownership groups, the number and value of transfer fees (€152m) within these groups was again relatively low this summer, equivalent to 1.4% of total summer transfer fees, with more than half of this estimated value between Chelsea FC and Racing Club de Strasbourg Alsace. A comparison of transfer fees (€152m) and estimated market value (€159m) points towards normal market transactions.

Loans are more common but used almost exclusively for the development of younger players, with the total market value of players loaned or transferred between clubs within the same ownership structure standing at less than €150m, equivalent to less than 3% of the estimated market value of all players loaned in the 2026 summer window (€4.7bn).

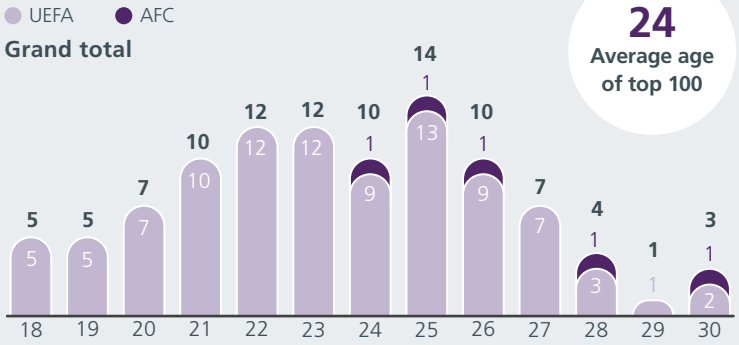
Player profile of top 100 transfer deals

First nationality

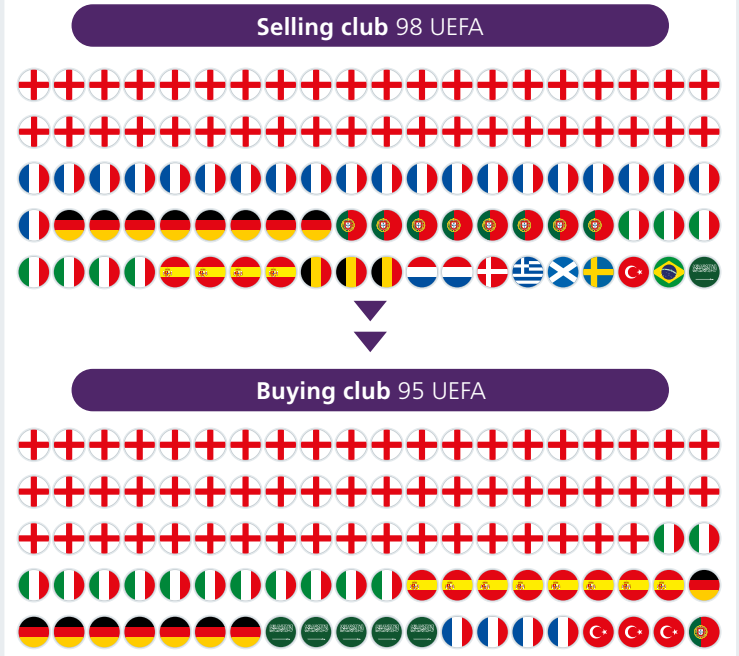
14	3	1
9	2	1
8	2	1
8	2	1
7	2	1
6	1	1
6	1	1
4	1	1
4	1	1
4	1	1
3	1	

77%
have a European passport (first or second nationality)[14].

Age distribution

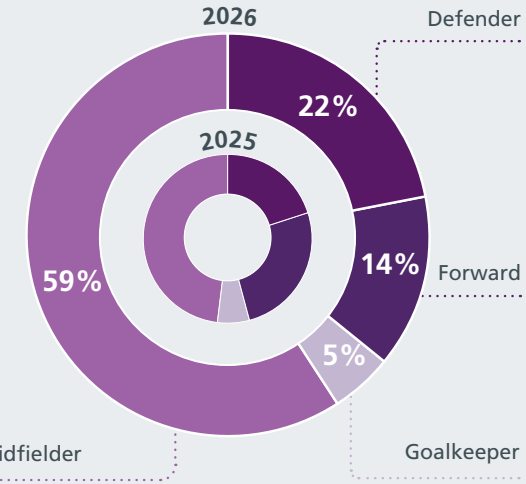


24
Average age of top 100

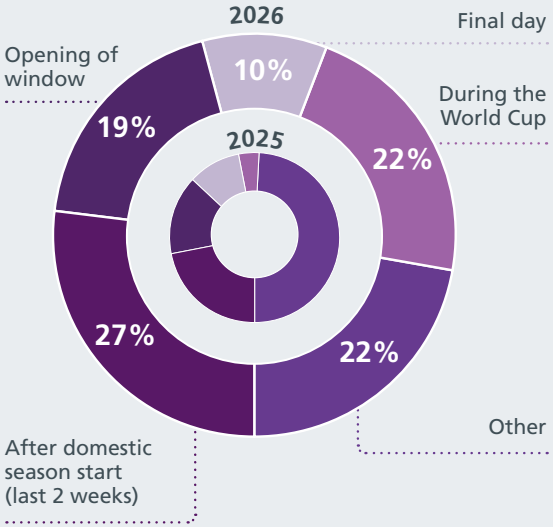


All but one of the buying clubs are top-tier clubs, and seven selling clubs are second-tier clubs.

Position



Deal timing



The top 100 fee size and share

45%
Percentage of global transfer deal value of the top 100 (€4.9bn)

28
deals broke the buying club's previous transfer record (23 different clubs)

16
deals brokered this summer cracked the top 100 deals of all time

3 TALENT LANDSCAPE

The chapter focuses on the 2025/26 winter and 2025 summer seasons, compiling data on player usage and setting this in the context of domestic squad regulations. This context is important for informing discussions about player workload, match calendars, competition formats and rules, competitive balance and transfer and finance regulations. The data makes it clear that clubs are continuing to adapt to workload demands, with a record number of players fielded in 2025/26, more substitutions than in previous seasons and significant squad rotation for domestic cup matches and before and after UEFA club competition matches for those competing on multiple fronts.



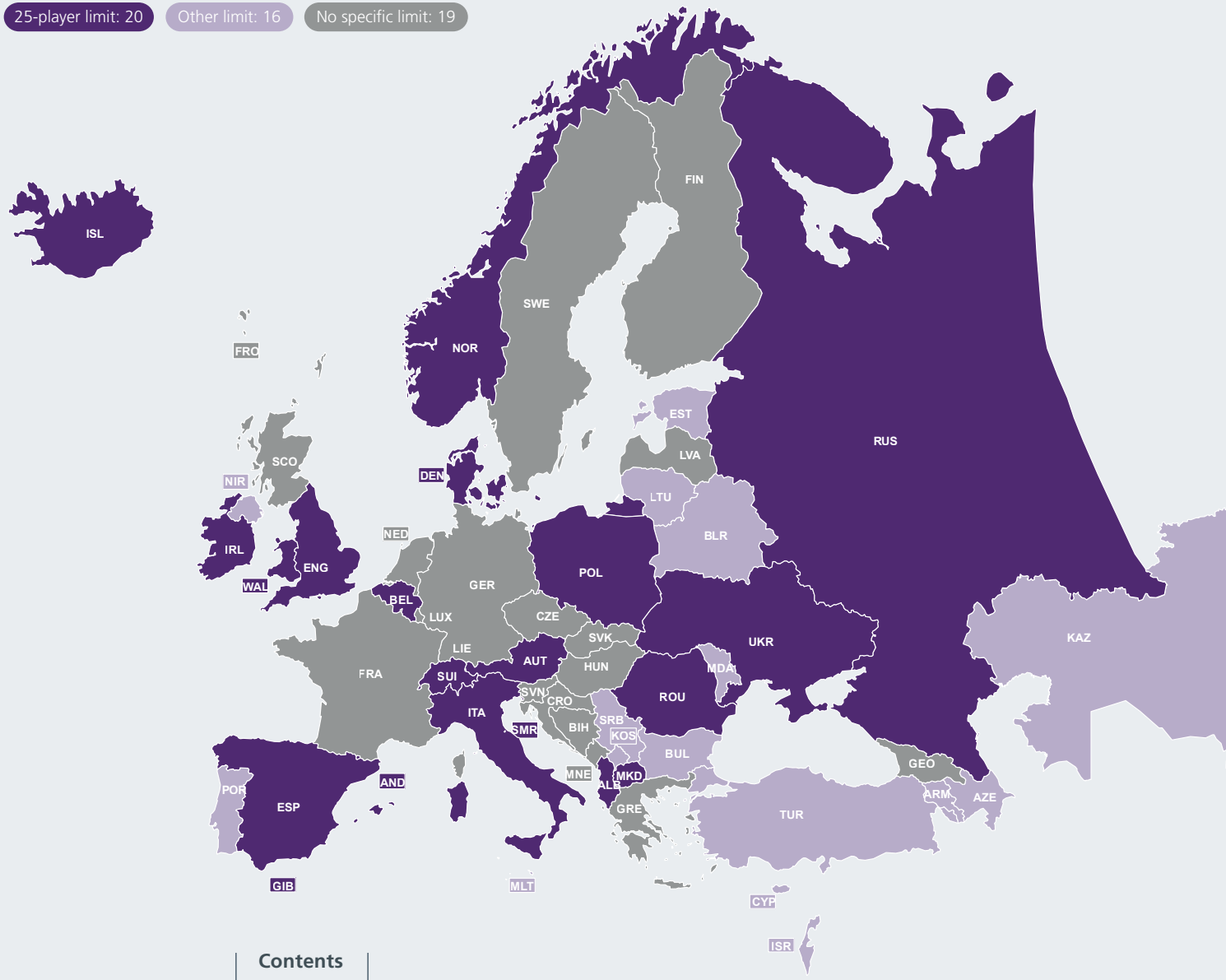
Squad size rules play an important role in discouraging player hoarding and supporting competitive balance

Clubs must submit official squad lists at designated points during the season, and in 36 of the top-tier leagues and across UEFA club competitions, there is a limit on the number of players that can be named on these lists. Youth players are usually exempt and remain eligible throughout the season, facilitating player development and allowing clubs to manage temporary injury crises.

The most common squad size limit is 25 players, the level in place for a long time across UEFA competitions and in 20 domestic first divisions. Northern Ireland applies a lower limit for senior players, while a further 15 leagues have a higher maximum squad size, although in some cases this includes the full senior and youth squad or total player registrations.

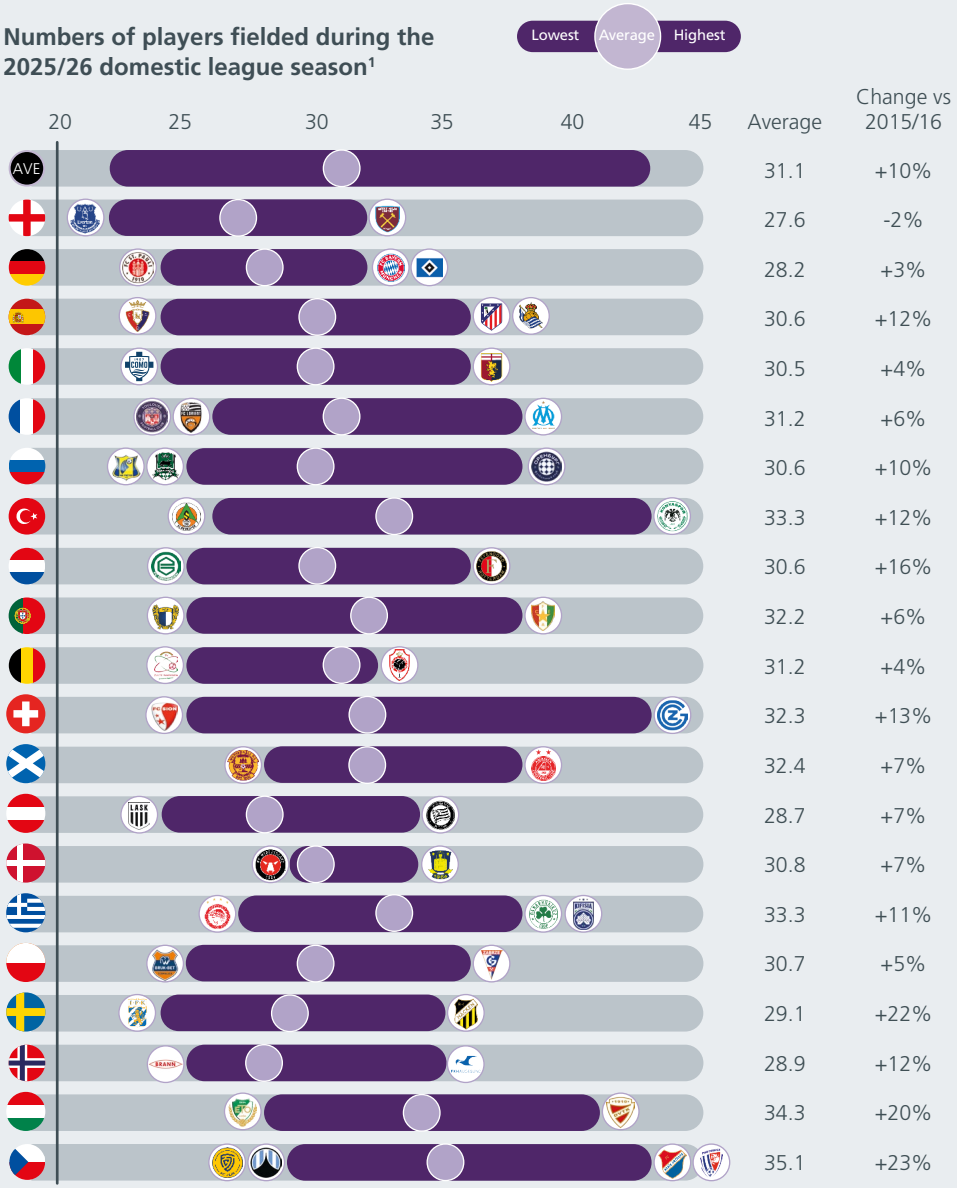
The much greater flexibility provided by competition organisers through expanded matchday squad lists and more substitutions has facilitated broader playing opportunities and a more balanced use of squads in recent seasons.

Map of domestic squad size limits



Clubs are using more players than ever before across their domestic league season

Numbers of players fielded during the 2025/26 domestic league season[1]

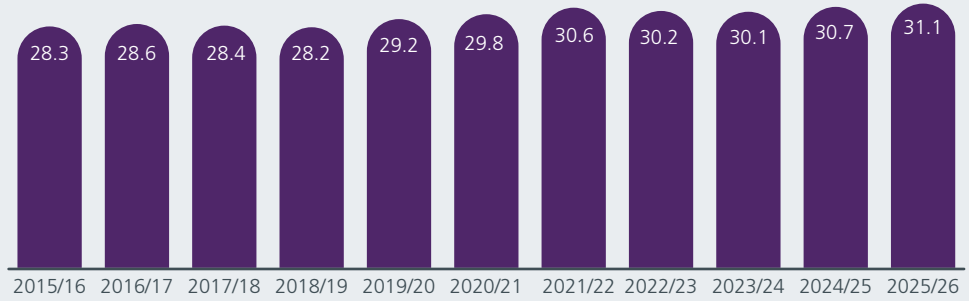


20,966
players fielded in the 54 domestic top-tier leagues in 2025/26 (up 154)

Clubs across European leagues have managed their workload by deploying a record number of players across their league matches in 2025/26.

Across Europe, the number of players fielded during the season has increased by 10% compared to a decade ago. Interestingly, the English Premier League is an outlier. First, as the only one of the top 20 leagues fielding less players than in the 2015/16 season, and second, as the league using the fewest players during the domestic season.

Average number of players fielded by top 20 leagues



Significant player rotation applied in domestic cups as clubs spread their workload

This analysis identifies the top 11 and 18 most fielded players across all competitions and how they were deployed across the different competition types. The data provides two main insights.

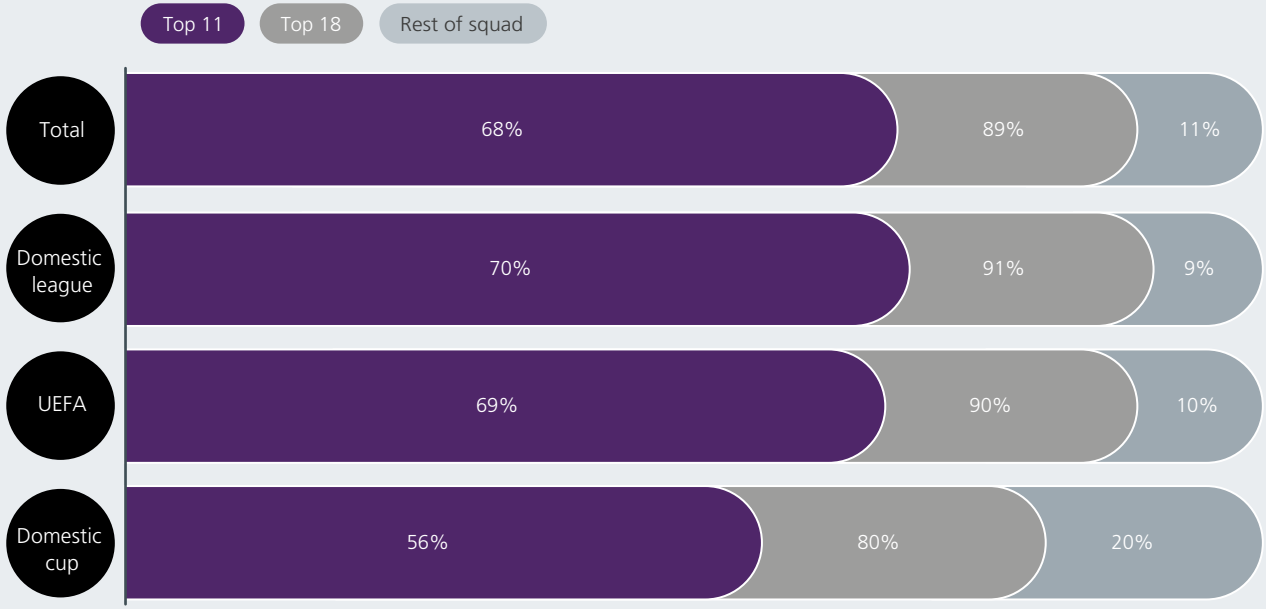
First, clubs are clearly managing their season workload by applying greater rotation for domestic cup matches, with fringe players enjoying 20% of cup minutes, compared with 10% in UEFA competitions and 9% in domestic league matches.

Second, the core group of players continues to absorb a large share of minutes, with the top 11 most fielded players playing 70% of league minutes and the top 18 playing 91%.

The concentration of minutes played by the top 11 players ranges from 63% for Greek clubs to 74% for Austrian clubs.

Clubs participating in UEFA club competitions, having higher workloads and often deeper squads, rotated their players slightly more, with the 11 most fielded players playing 3% fewer domestic league minutes than their counterparts at non-participating clubs.

Percentage of total minutes played by most fielded players[2]



69%
Concentration of minutes played in UEFA club competitions by top 11 players, a 2% increase compared with the 2024/25 season

>50%
Top 11 players are fielded for just over half of all domestic cup minutes: 56% for players from clubs in UEFA league phases and 53% for the rest

Greater starting 11 rotation between domestic league matches among teams participating in UEFA league phases

While the previous analysis looked at the concentration of minutes played across the season, this analysis examines the rotation of starting 11 players between domestic league matches during the UEFA league phase period, running from 1 September to 31 January. Rotation is defined as the changing of players in the starting 11, and domestic league matches are classified as 'UEFA-affected' if they are played up to 6 days before or after a UEFA club competition league phase match.

In 2025/26, clubs participating in the league phase of a UEFA club competition made, on average, across all matches, 2.9 changes to their starting 11. This is considerably higher than the 2.2 changes observed for clubs not participating in UEFA club competitions. The same effect can be observed across all league groups, although it is strongest in leagues 11–20.

Participating clubs tended to make more changes (3.0) before and after a UEFA match than during a week without a UEFA match (average 2.8), but this is still notably higher than non-participating clubs. This suggests that the higher rotation is not solely driven by busy match schedules or back-to-back fixtures within the same week, but is a strategic use of deeper squads.

Among the participating clubs, Bologna FC 1909 (ITA) recorded the highest average rotation, with 4.8 changes to the starting 11, while Crystal Palace F.C. (ENG) had the lowest match-to-match rotation, with 1.3 changes. Among non-participating clubs, Paksi FC (HUN) recorded the highest average rotation, with 3.9 changes per match, while FC Groningen (NED) had the lowest, with 0.5 changes.

Rotation of starting 11 between domestic league matches in 2025/26

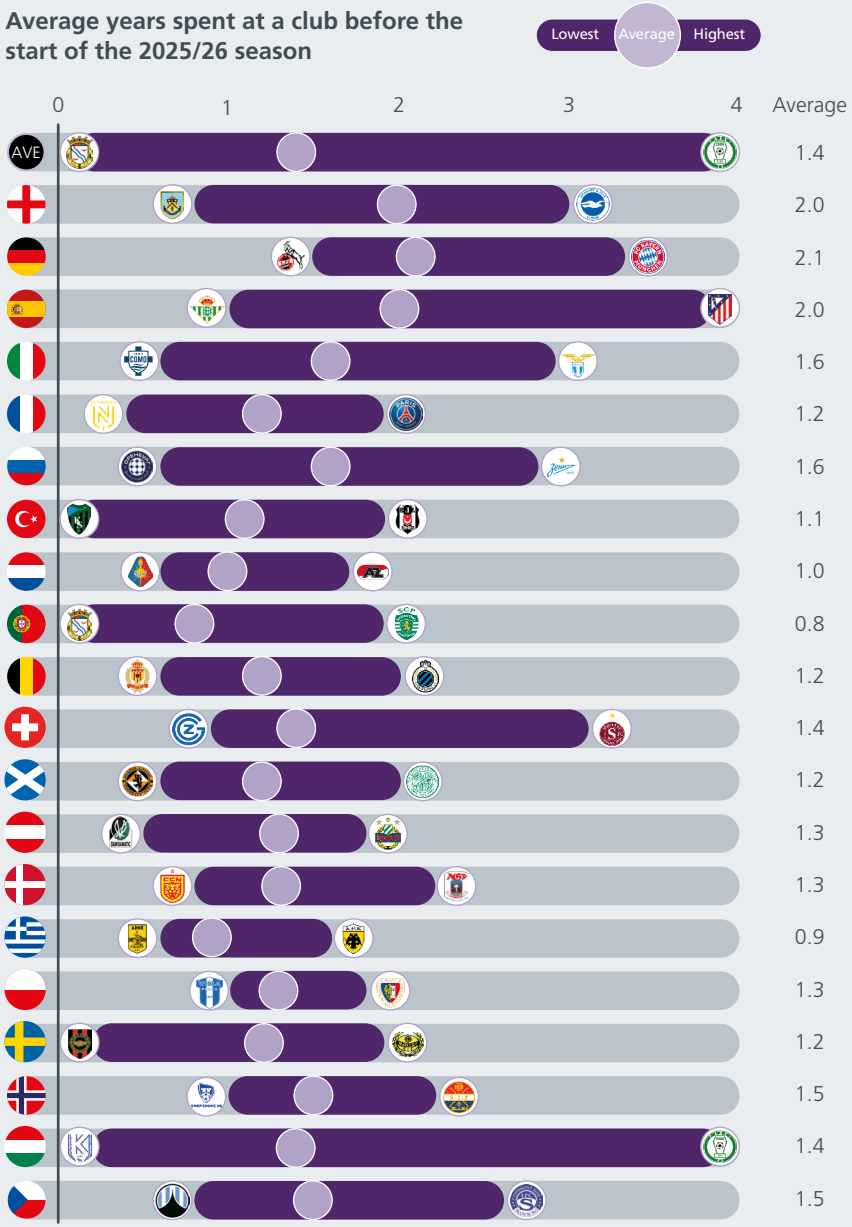


3.0
players rotated for domestic league matches taking place around a UEFA club competition match

24.8
Average number of players fielded in domestic league matches by clubs participating in a UEFA club competition league phase, in contrast to 24.2 players by non-participating clubs

Squad stability varies significantly across European leagues

Average years spent at a club before the start of the 2025/26 season



One-club players are becoming increasingly rare as squad churn rates rise. Across the top 20 leagues, players had spent an average of just 1.4 years at their current club before the 2025/26 season.[3]

Portuguese first-tier clubs exhibit the lowest squad stability, with average tenures below one year. The newly promoted Alverca Futebol was the most extreme case, with an average of just 0.1 years, driven by 28 out of 30 players joining during the 2025 summer transfer window.

In contrast, the German Bundesliga shows the highest level of stability, with average tenures exceeding 2.1 years. FC Bayern München stands out with 3.3 years on average, supported by long-serving players such as Manuel Neuer, who just completed his 14th season at the club. Across all clubs, Igor Akinfeev has the longest tenure, having been part of Russia's PFC CSKA Moskva's first team for 22.5 years.

Hungary displays the greatest within-league variation, ranging from Paksi FC with the highest average tenure across all clubs (3.9 years) to Kazincbarcikai BSC with one of the lowest (0.2 years).



1.9 years

Domestic champions show above-average squad stability, with 17 out of 20 clubs exceeding their respective league averages



1 year

Newly promoted teams for the 2025/26 season show below-average squad stability, with 35 out of 44 clubs below their respective league averages



1.2 years

Teams relegated at the end of the season had below-average squad stability, with 31 out of 44 clubs under their league averages

The number of substitutions continues to edge upwards

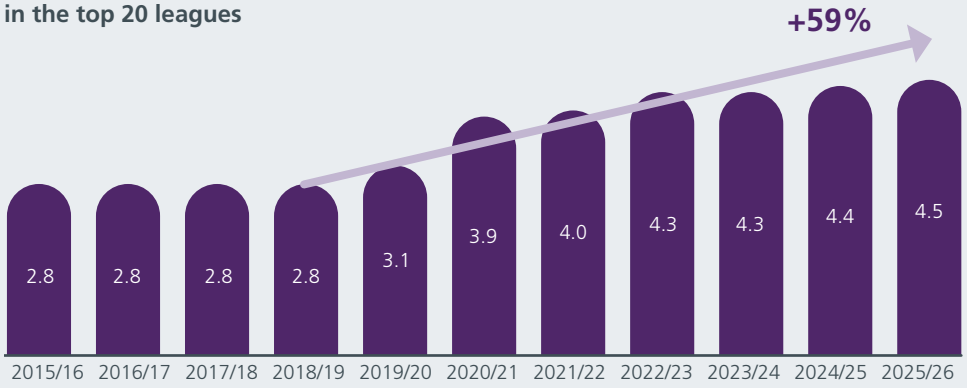
The average number of substitutions per team per domestic league match continues to rise, up 2% on 2024/25, to 4.5 in 2025/26, alleviating player workload and providing experience for younger players. Eighteen of the top 20 leagues saw an increase.

The most significant increases were reported in Hungary (+7%, from 4.2 to 4.5) and Scotland (+5%, from 4.3 to 4.5). In contrast, England (-2%, from 4.2 to 4.1) and Russia (-2%, from 4.4 to 4.3) were the only leagues with fewer year-on-year substitutions.

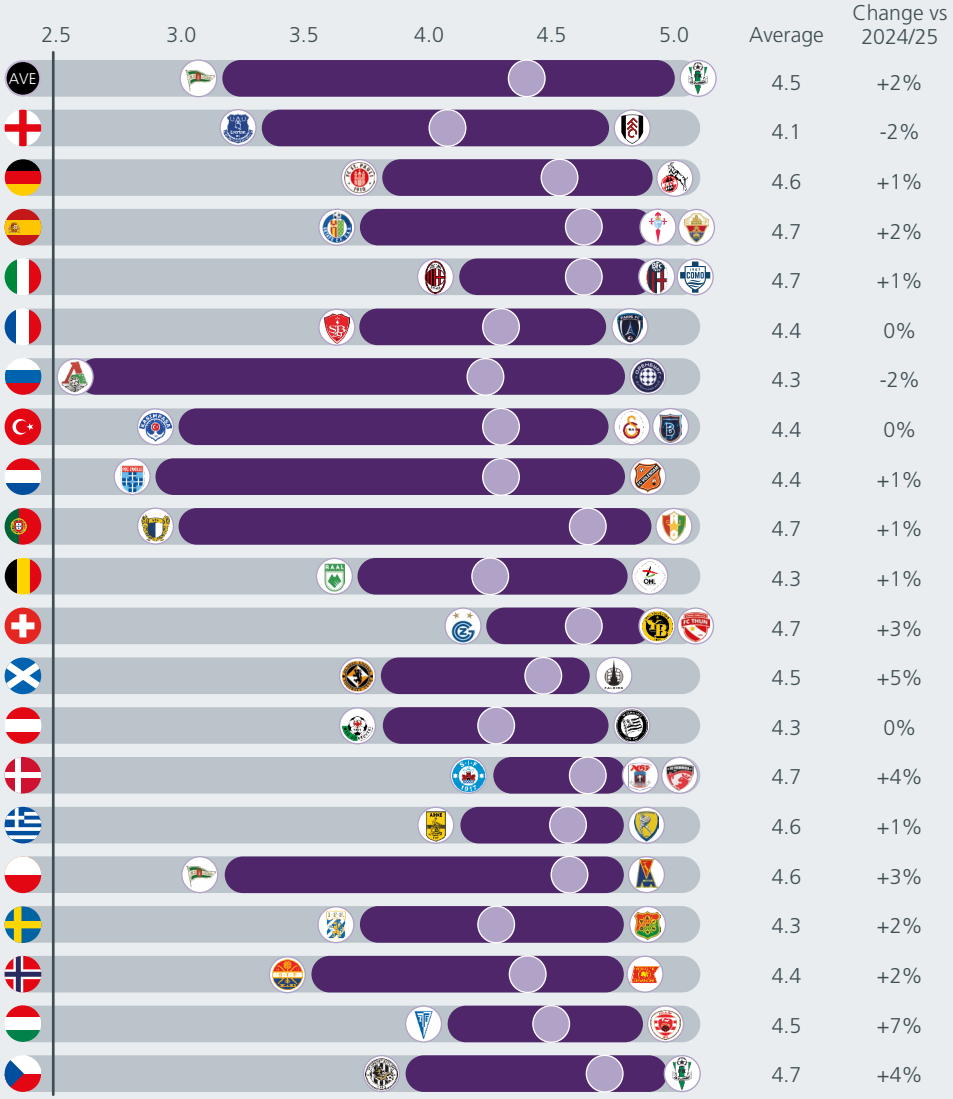
With the adoption of concussion protocols, it is possible for teams to make more than five substitutions in a game, which happened in more than 50 matches during the 2025/26 season, although it is still rare (occurring in less than 1% of matches).

Three teams – FK Jablonec and FC Zlín in Czechia and CF Estrela da Amadora in Portugal – averaged more than five substitutions over the whole 2025/26 season.

Average substitutions per match per club in the top 20 leagues



Average number of substitutions per team in the 2025/26 domestic league season



Head coaches are becoming bolder in their use of substitutions

As well as more substitutions, the pattern of substitutions continues to evolve in elite football as head coaches come to grips with the opportunities afforded to them by the relatively new deeper bench and substitution rules.

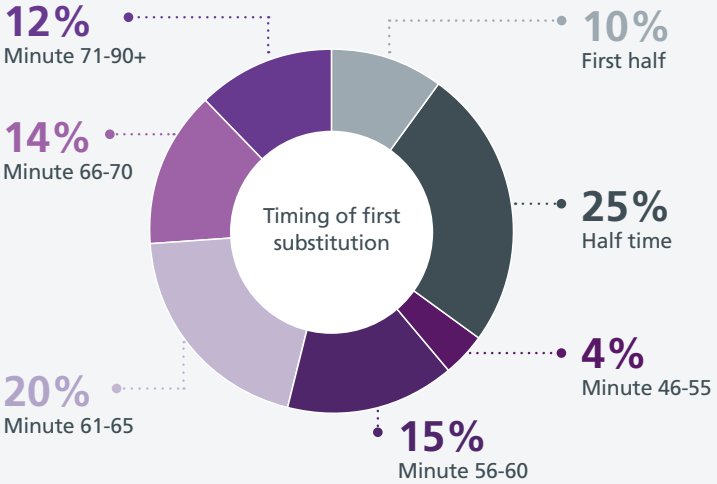
Up to five subtitutes[4] can be deployed during three in-game slots. Substitutions made at half-time do not count towards the three slots, and 25% of all substitutions now occur in this window, edging up from 24% two seasons ago.

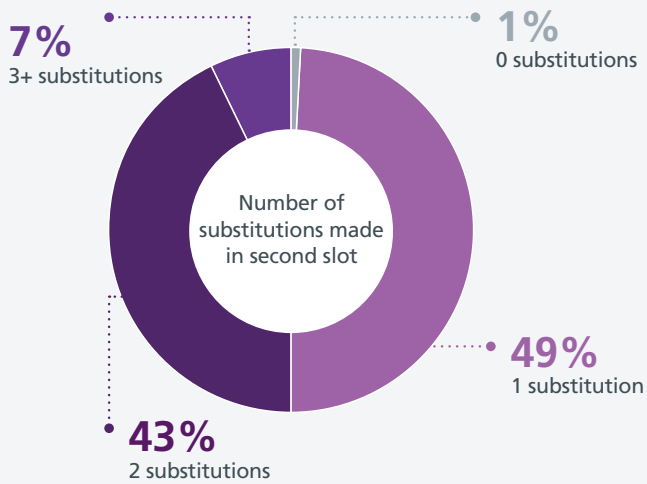
On average, both the first and second substitution slots are happening slightly earlier (in the 56th and 72nd minute respectively) and are somewhat more decisive, with an average of 1.6 substitutions made in the first and 1.7 in the second.

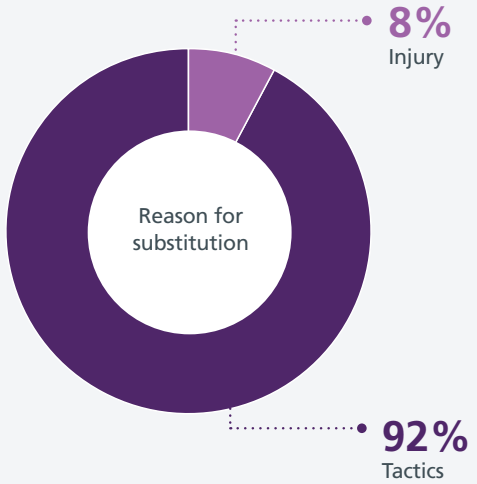
Despite added time increasing in recent seasons, the share of substitutions happening after the 75th minute has notably decreased, from 29% in 2023/24 to 26% in the 2025/26 season.

Making three or more substitutions at a time is still relatively rare, but more common in the first substitution slot (10%) than the second (7%).

In 92% of cases, substitutions were made for tactical reasons, a ratio that has remained the same for two seasons. Across the Big 5 leagues, England registered a slightly higher share of injury-related substitutions (9%), compared with Germany, Italy and France with 8% and Spain with 7%.







Percentage of minutes played by players under 23 remains stable

An increasing share of transfer investment has been directed towards younger players over the last decade, as documented in the transfer sections of this report. An analysis of minutes played by player age suggests this trend has been driven mainly by confidence that transfer market prices will continue to rise and transfer fees on younger players will be recouped or profits generated. Indeed, the share of minutes played across the top 20 leagues by teenagers (6%) and players aged 20 to 23 (28%) has remained the same for the last five seasons.

While this trend is stable, there is a great variety in club strategies, with 19 clubs fielding no players aged 20 or under during their last league season. On the other end of the spectrum, 39% of all minutes played by FC Nordsjælland (NOR) players were played by teenagers.

The Belgian league was the most youthful in 2025/26, with more than half (51%) of all minutes played by squad members aged 23 or under, followed by the Dutch league (48%).

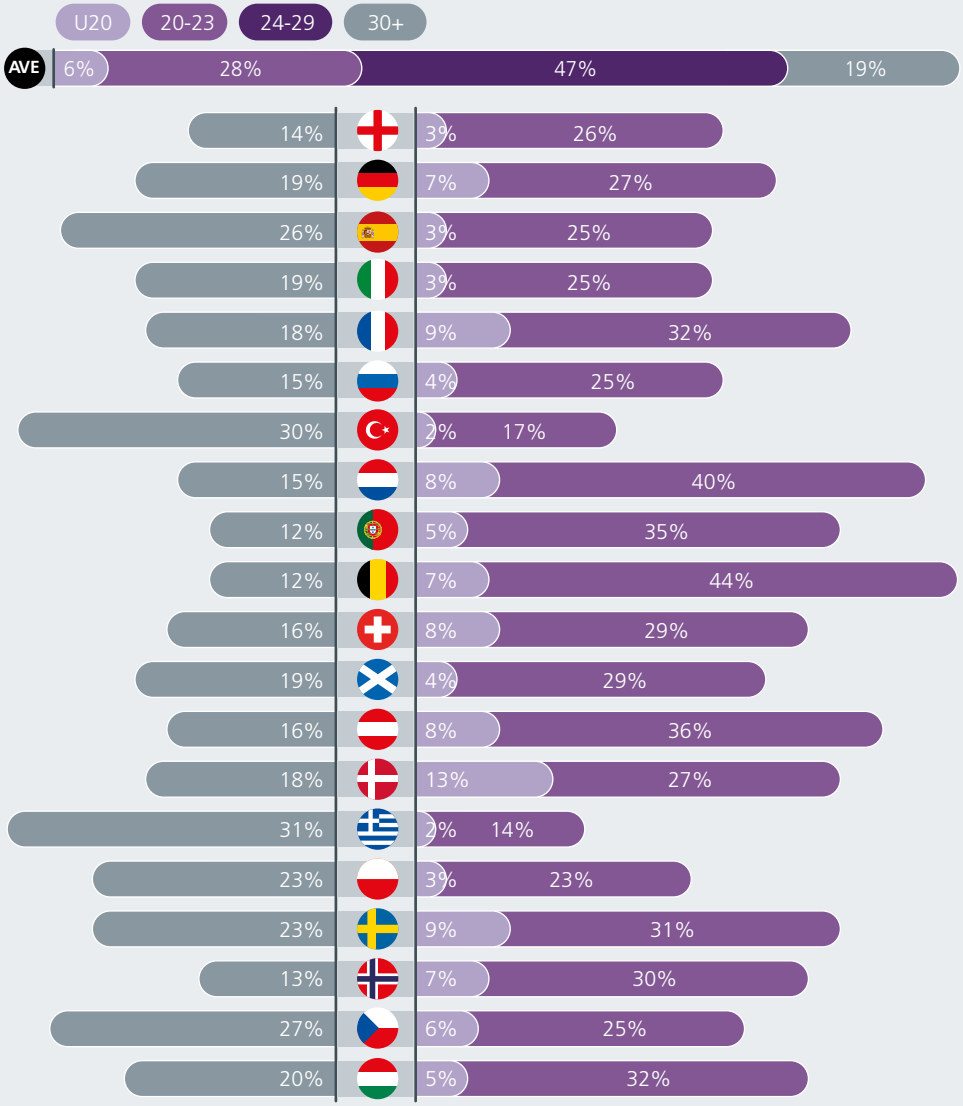


91%
of domestic league minutes at RC Strasbourg (FRA) were played by players aged 23 and under



13%
of domestic league minutes in Denmark were played by teenagers

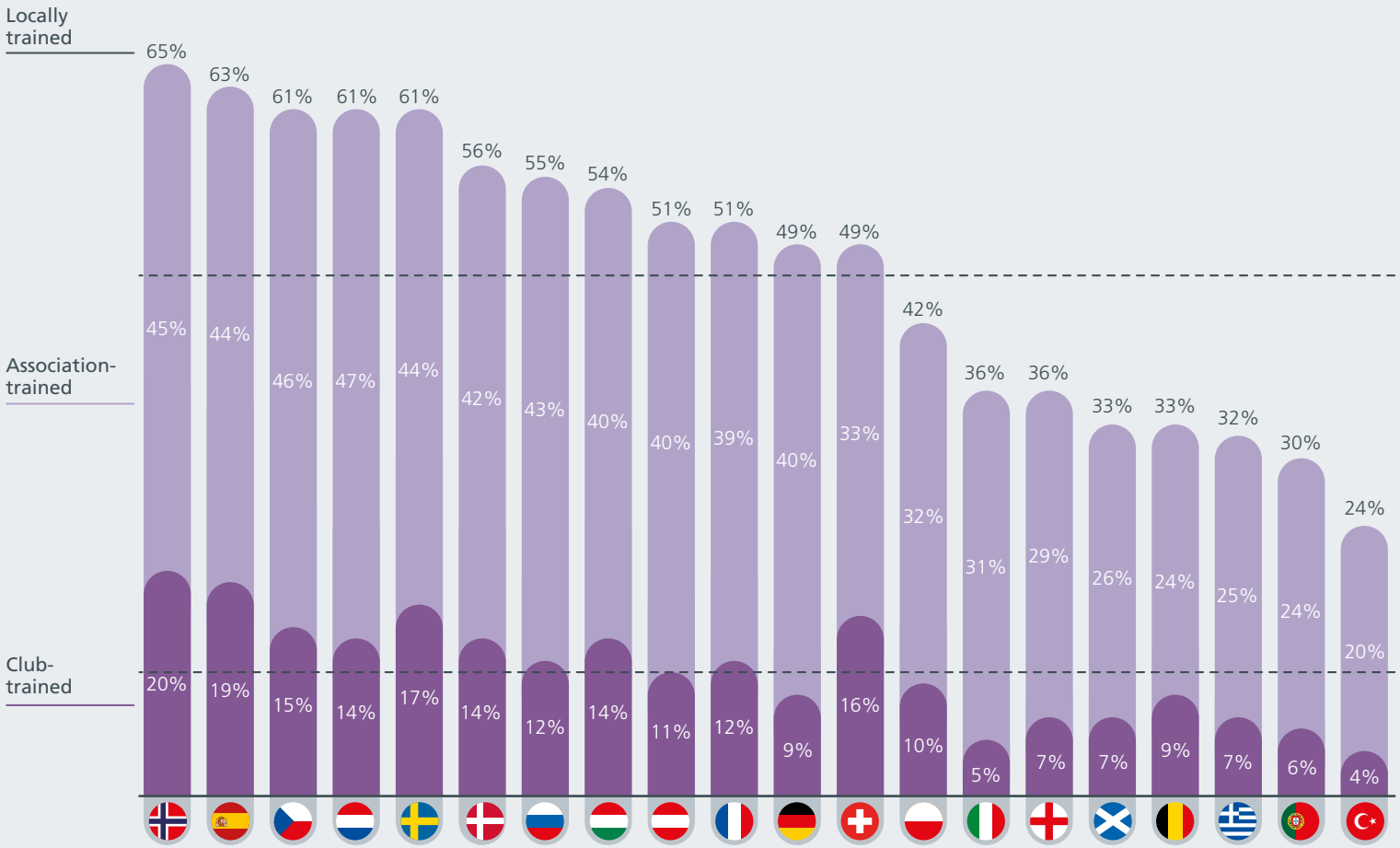
Total 2025/26 domestic league season minutes broken down by player age[5]



Domestic leagues see reduced use of locally trained players in 2025/26

At association level, Norway (65%) and Spain (63%) recorded the highest shares of minutes played by locally trained players[6], while Turkish clubs had the lowest (24%).

At club level, Athletic Club (ESP) relied entirely on locally trained players, who played all 37,538 of the club's league minutes. In contrast, only 14 of Italy's Como 1907's 37,619 league minutes were played by a locally trained player.



47%
of all domestic league minutes played by locally trained players in 2025/26, down from 49% in 2024/25

11%
of all domestic league minutes played by club-trained players in 2025/26, down from 12% in 2024/25

Fewer locally trained players in 2025/26 UEFA league phases

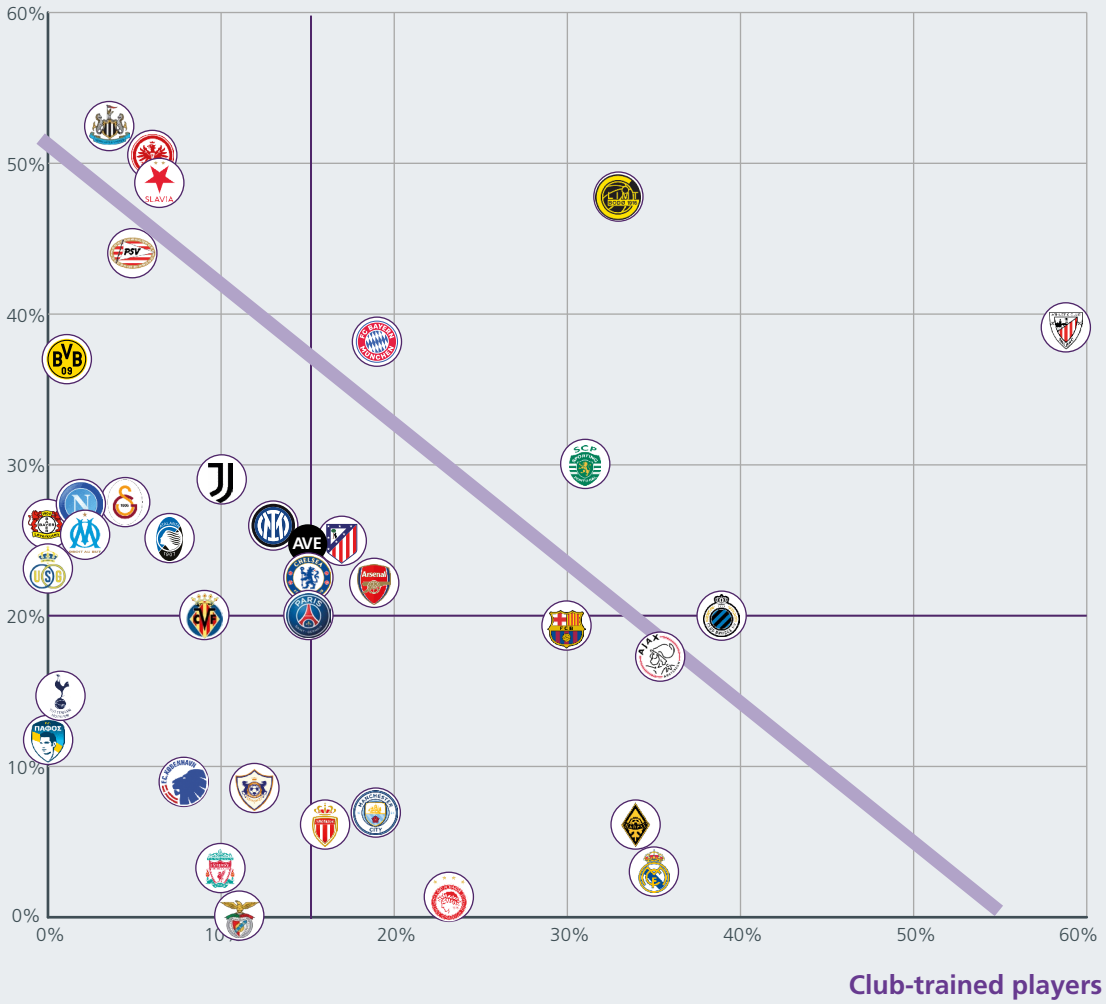
39%
The minutes played by locally trained players were the same in all three UEFA senior men's club competitions

64%
of clubs in the UEFA Champions League were unable to use all their LTP slots in the 2025/26 league phase

<5%
At 8 clubs, club-trained and B-list players played less than 5% of league phase minutes – a total of 0 minutes at 3 of these clubs

59%
Athletic Club (ESP) had the highest share of minutes played by club-trained or B-list players, much higher than the 15% average across all clubs

Percentage of league phase minutes played by locally trained players in the 2025/26 UEFA Champions League



Landscape of domestic loan restrictions across Europe

As documented in previous reports, FIFA has now fully implemented limits on international loans, with certain conditions. These restrictions seek to limit player hoarding and scattershot approaches to recruitment, among other objectives.

As the table below shows, domestic loan rules are highly prevalent, but also varied and nuanced, as regulators try to implement a system that balances the needs of the whole professional game, which vary from country to country (as highlighted in the competition section of this report). Clearly, intraclub loans are less necessary in leagues that permit B teams. The player registration culture in Italy has always been somewhat different, with Serie A clubs holding many young player registrations, which is reflected in the higher limit on loan numbers. Elsewhere, English Premier League clubs have sufficient financial resources to not need to rely on filling their squad each season with loanees.

Domestic loan regulations

	Limit on overall loans		Limit on loans between same clubs
	IN	OUT	IN/OUT
			6
	3	5	
	6	6	3
	6	10	2
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
			2
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
[7]	2	2	1
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	5	7	2
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	4	5	

	Limit on overall loans		Limit on loans between same clubs
	IN	OUT	IN/OUT
	6	6	3
[7]	10	10	3
	6	6	2
	6	6	2
	4	4	2
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	4	4	2
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
	3	6	1
	6	6	3
	2		
[7]	6	6	1
	4		
	6	6	3
	10	10	3
	6	6	3
	6	6	3
[7]	6	6	3

43
Number of countries with loan restrictions in place

59%
leagues had restrictions limiting the number of players any two clubs could have on loan to one another at any given time

Use of outbound loans is bouncing back in Europe in 2025/26

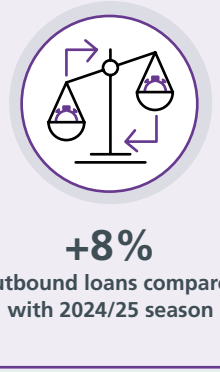
We identified 5,477 outbound loans from 626 clubs during the 2025/26 season. This is a significant 8% increase on 2024/25 but still 3% below the record 2023/24 figures, which were impacted by the build-up of players moving towards the end of their contracts during the COVID-19 period.

In 2025/26, the average Serie A club loaned out 27 players in 31 separate contracts, as some players had multiple loan spells during the season, while the average English Premier League club loaned out 20 players in 23 separate contracts, including a record 288 players in total loaned out from Premier League reserve or junior squads.

On average across the top 20 leagues, 10 players were loaned out in 11 separate contracts. When looking at the figures for all countries, this drops to 6.5 players in 7.5 separate contracts.

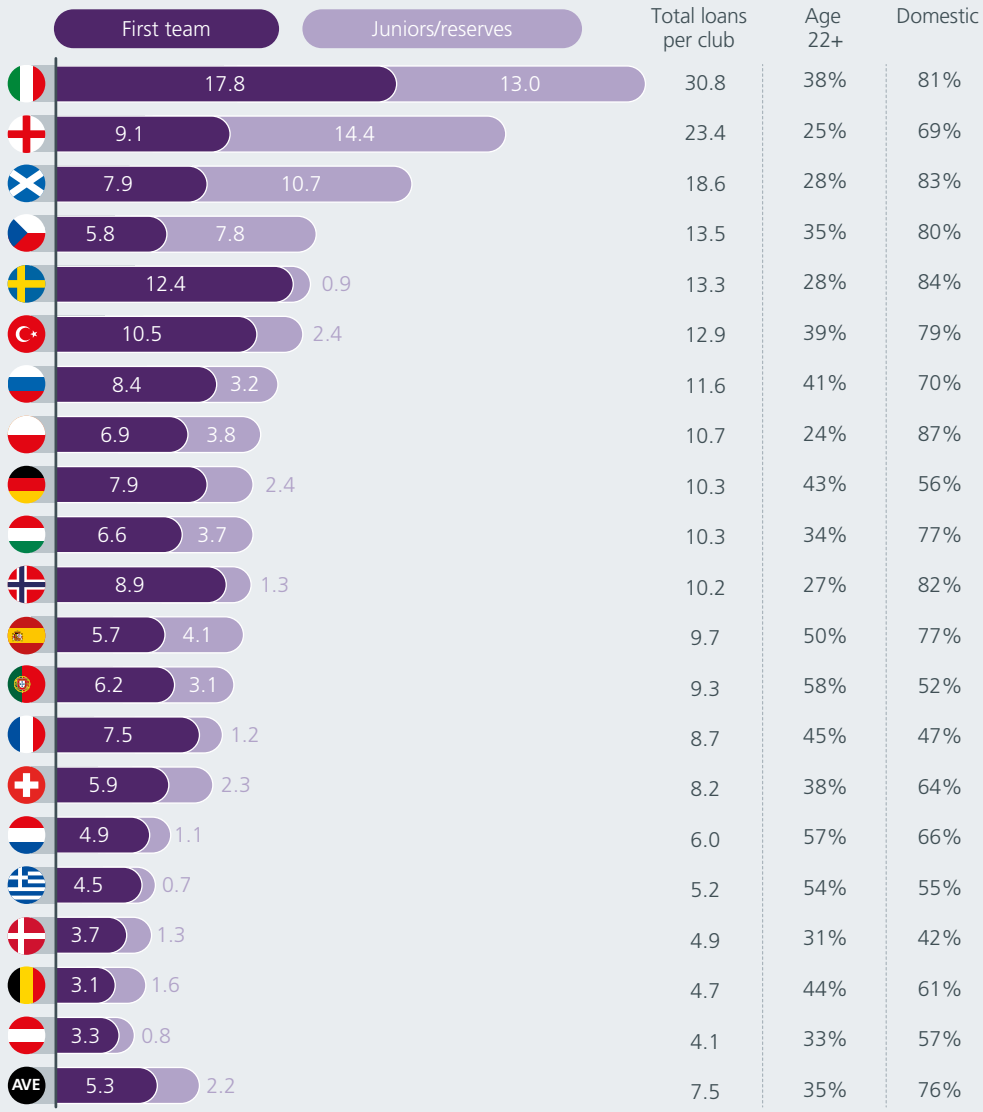


5,477
outbound loans from 626 top-division clubs in 2025/26



+8%
outbound loans compared with 2024/25 season

Total loans per club broken down by team (2025/26)



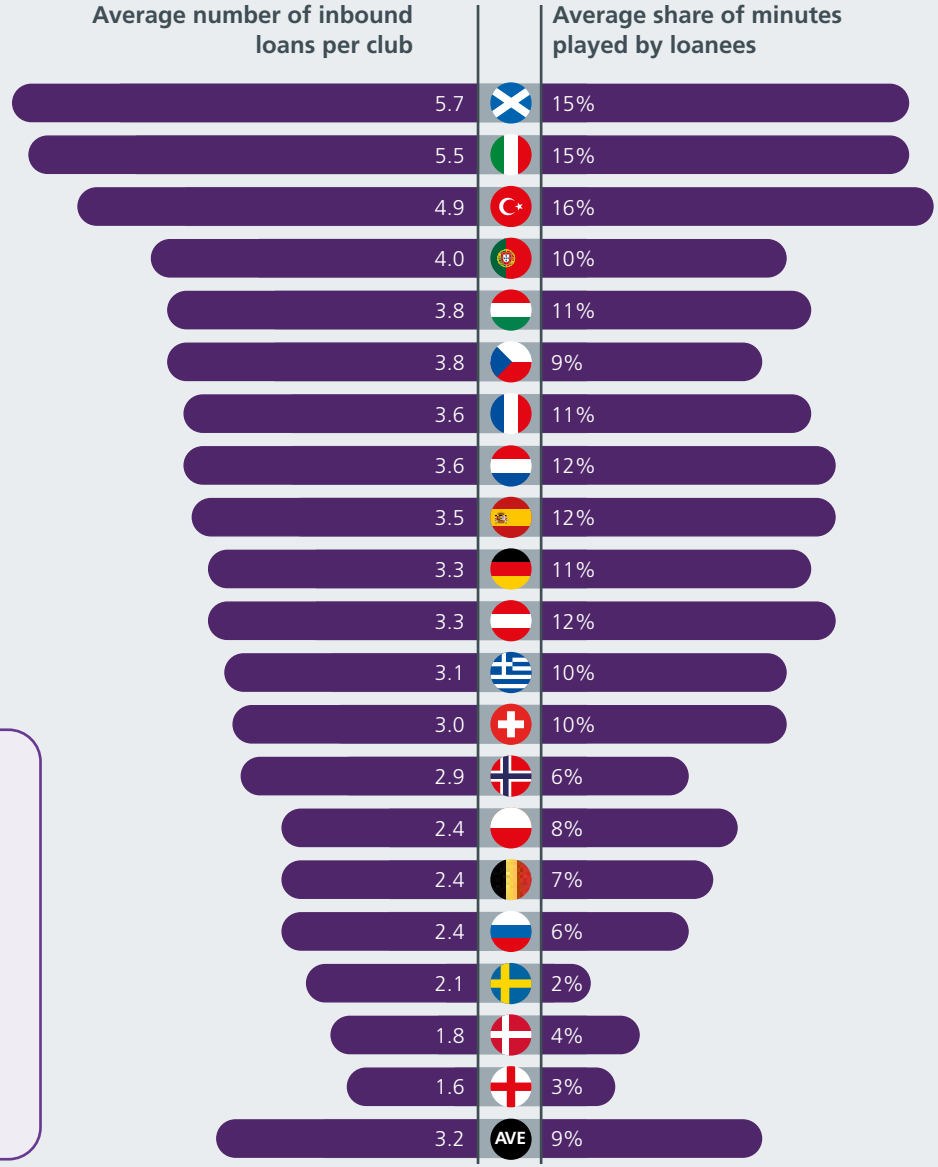
Almost all inbound loanees had playing time in 2025/26 season

Naturally, the average number of inbound loans (3.3 per club) remains fewer than that of outbound loans (5.3 by first teams), since many outbound loans are to clubs outside the top division, lower down the pyramid.

Loanees played 9% of match time in 2025/26, the same percentage as in recent seasons.

The chart clearly illustrates that Scottish, Italian and Turkish clubs are most reliant on inbound loans for player numbers and playing time, with Swiss and Portuguese clubs' use of inbound loans decreasing this season. In the 2025/26 season, two Italian clubs were the top users of loanees, who accounted for 36% of all minutes played at Cremonese and 35% at US Sassuolo Calcio. Meanwhile, 40 of the 322 clubs analysed did not field any loanees at all.

98% of all loanees had playing time during their loan, with 90% starting at least one match and 27% in the top 11 by most minutes played in their team.



2%
of loanees got no match time at their loan club

12%
of incoming loanees were aged under 20 at the start of season

64%
of loanees were expatriate[8] players

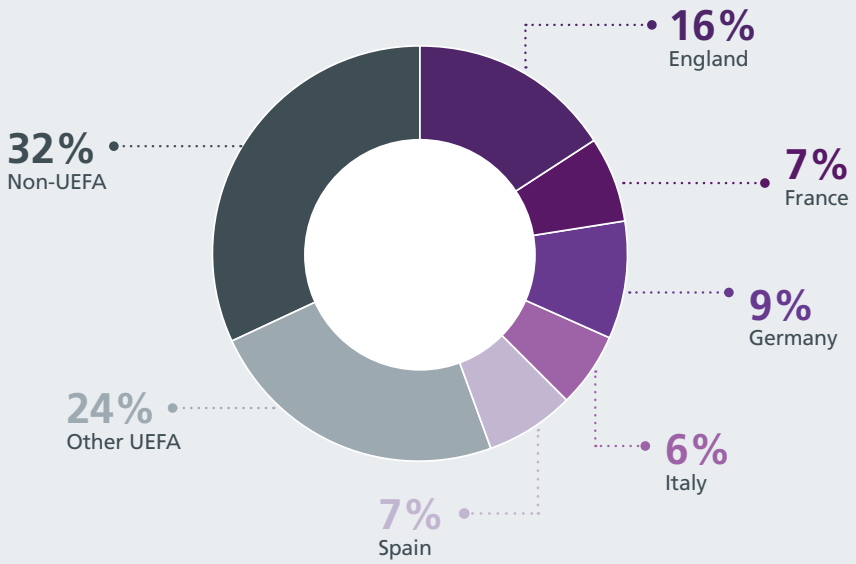
FIFA Men's World Cup 2026 player representation by club and league

Of the 1,248 players at the 2026 FIFA men's World Cup, 68% were affiliated with a UEFA member association, with 44% playing for clubs in Europe's Big 5 leagues. English clubs were the best represented, contributing 204 players (16%).

In terms of club representation, Manchester City (ENG) led the way with 19 players at the tournament, while FC Bayern München's (GER) players accumulated the highest total number of minutes played (5,800).

Overall, 452 clubs from 68 countries sent at least one player to the tournament.

Country of players' clubs



Club representation at 2026 FIFA World Cup

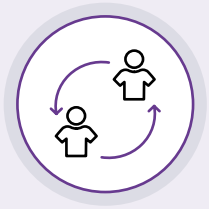
	Number of Players	Total Number of minutes played
Manchester City	19	5,558
FC Bayern München	17	5,800
Paris Saint-Germain	16	4,819
Arsenal	15	4,735
FC Barcelona	15	4,397
Atlético de Madrid	12	2,901
Crystal Palace	12	2,749
Al Hilal	12	2,489
Manchester United	11	2,653
Borussia Dortmund	11	2,306
Galatasaray	11	2,122
Real Madrid	10	4,176
Liverpool	10	3,742
PSV	10	2,491
AC Milan	10	2,326
Sunderland	10	2,131
Fenerbahçe	10	830
SK Slavia Praha	10	685

Number of players fielded in women's football increased in 2025/26

In 2025/26 domestic competitions,[9] clubs fielded 26.3 players on average. This amounted to more than 4,400 players in total, a 2% increase from the previous season.

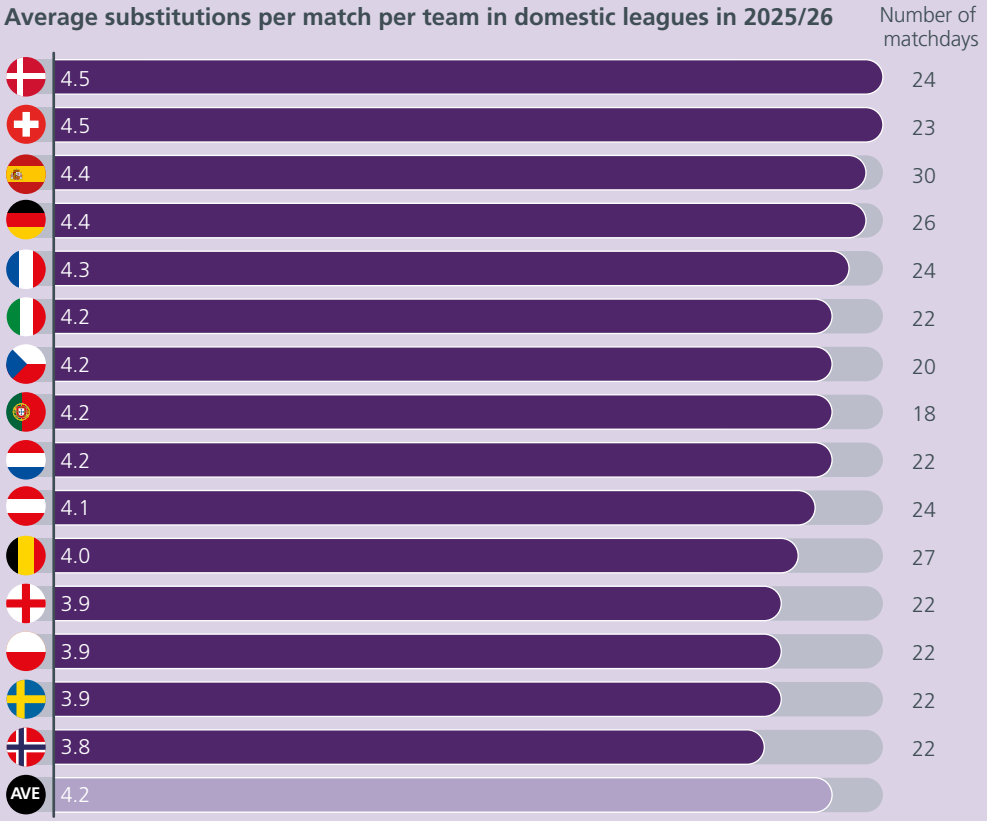


26.3
Average number of players fielded by each club during their league season



4,400
players fielded in the 15 domestic top-tier leagues analysed in 2025/26 (up 2%)

Average substitutions per match per team in domestic leagues in 2025/26



Among the 15 domestic top-tier leagues analysed, Danish clubs fielded the most players on average (28.8), followed by Swiss (27.9) and German (27.4) clubs. Dutch and Polish clubs recorded the lowest averages (24.8), narrowly below Belgian clubs (25.0).

At club level, OL Lyonnes (FRA) led all 168 clubs, fielding 34 players in 2024/25. USV Neulengbach (AUT) and Hamburger SV (GER) ranked joint second, with 33 players each.

The average number of substitutions used per match increased slightly from 4.1 to 4.2 in 2025/26. Danish and Swiss teams made the most use of substitutions (4.5 per game), while Norwegian clubs averaged the fewest (3.8).

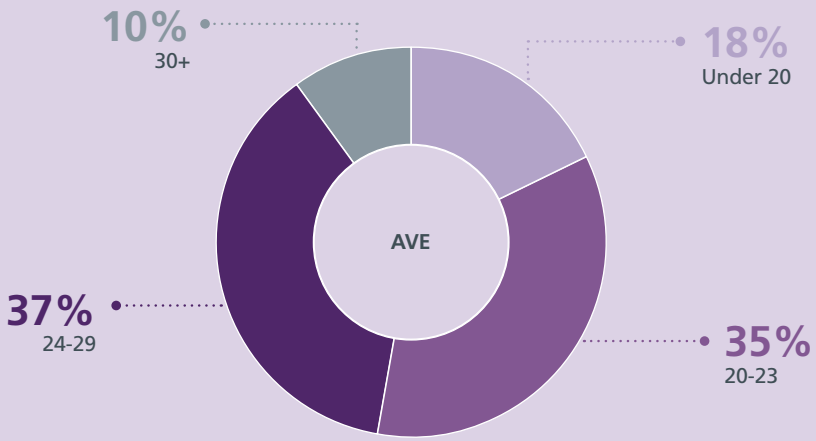
ADO Den Haag (NED) and Genoa CFC (ITA) used the maximum five substitutions in every league match across the whole season. By contrast, Kolbotn IL (NOR) (2.93 per game) and Liverpool FC Women (ENG) (3.0) recorded the lowest averages among the clubs analysed.

More than half of all players fielded in 2025/26 were aged 23 or under

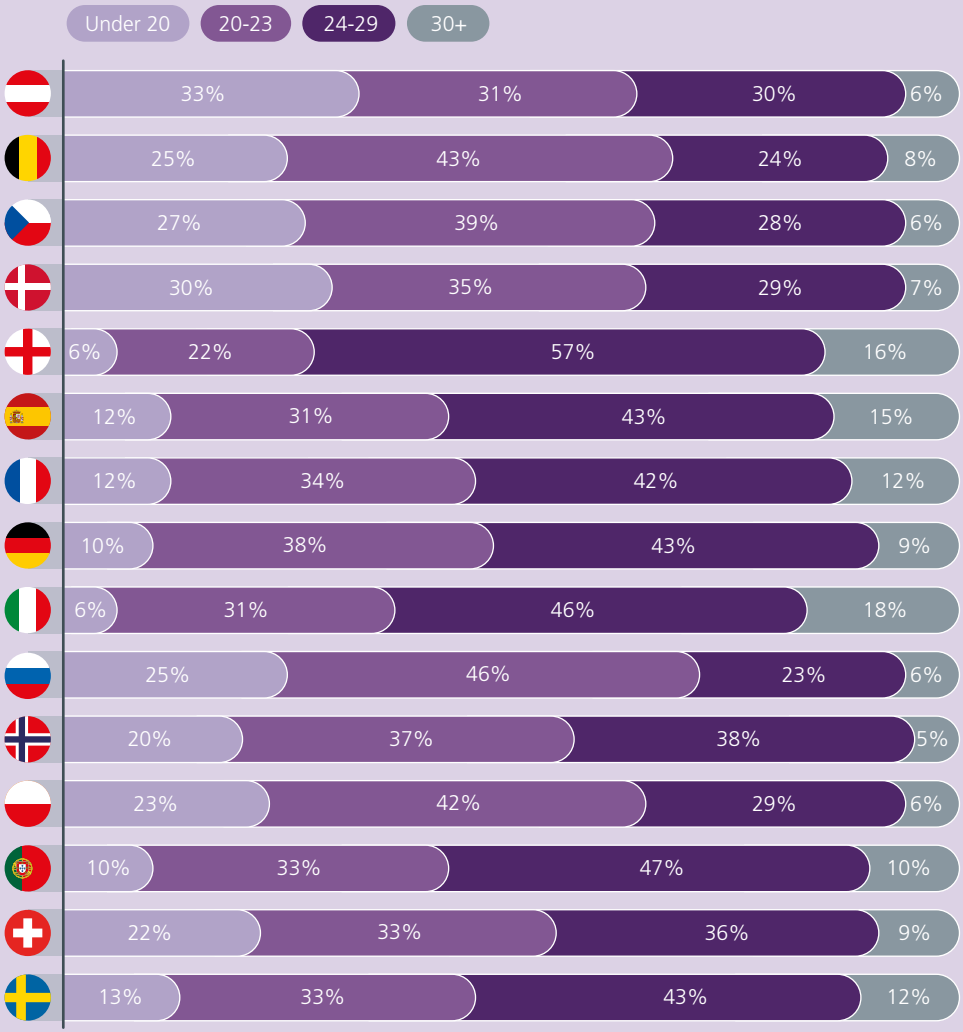
In 2025/26, the majority of playing time (53%) was played by players under the age of 24,[10] a share broadly unchanged from the previous season. This remains substantially higher than in the men's game, where the share was 37%.

The Netherlands (71%), Belgium (68%) and Czechia (66%) recorded the highest shares of minutes played by players aged under 24, while Austria (33%), Denmark (30%) and Czechia (27%) led in playing time awarded to teenagers.

By contrast, England (28%), Italy (36%) and Spain (42%) relied less on younger players. Indeed, of the six countries with the lowest share of minutes played by players aged under 24, five were those of the Big 5.



Percentage of domestic league minutes played by different age groups in 2025/26



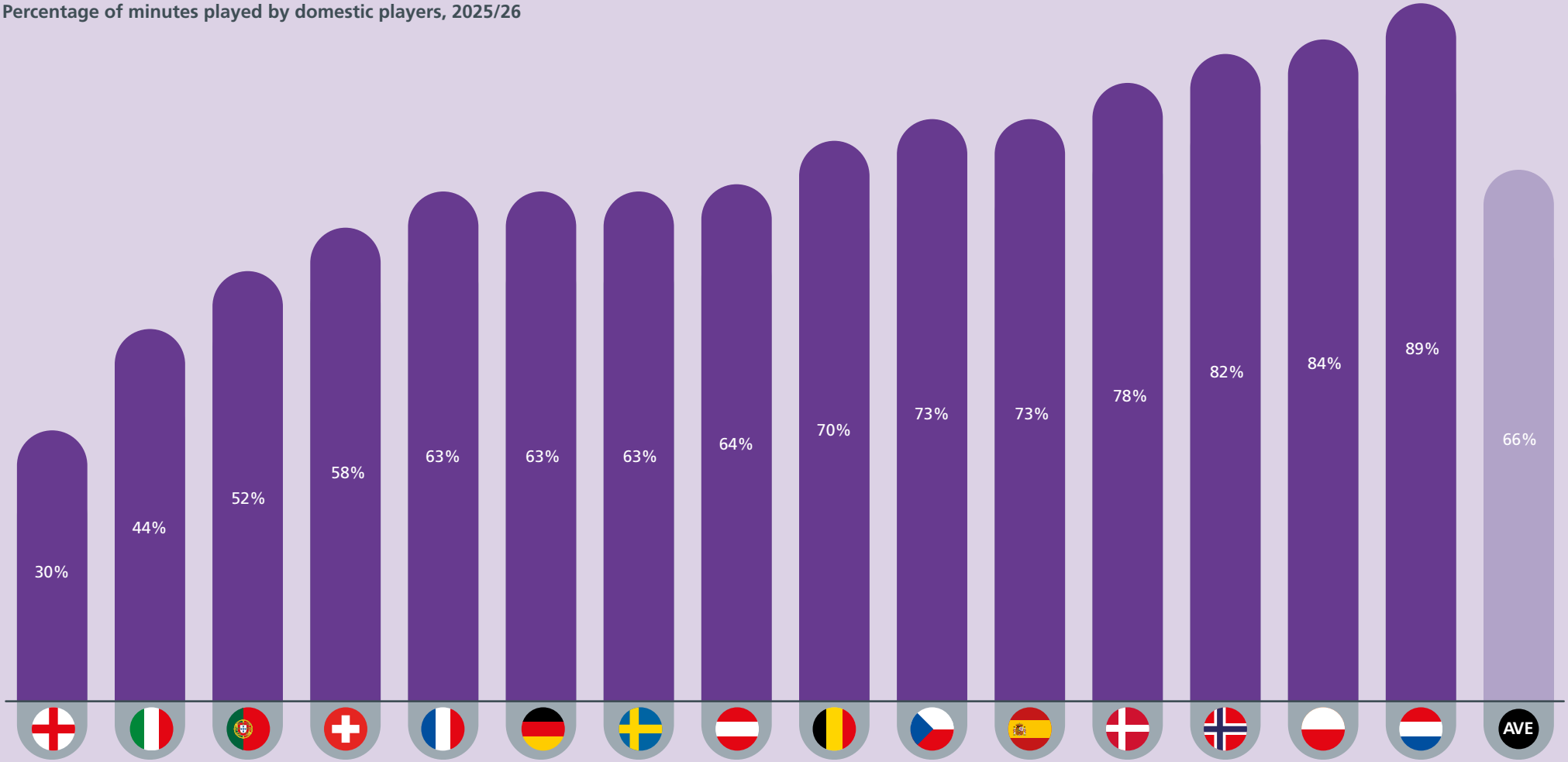
Two thirds of all players fielded in 2025/26 were domestic

Domestic players accounted for 66% of total playing time in 2025/26, down from 69% the previous season.

Despite this decline, domestic players still recorded a majority share of minutes in 13 of the 15 countries analysed.

Women's clubs continued to rely more heavily on domestic talent than men's clubs, where domestic players accounted for around half of total playing time, highlighting a stronger reliance on locally developed playing resources in the women's game.

Percentage of minutes played by domestic players, 2025/26



Locally trained players in the UEFA Women's Champions League

A record 386 players were fielded in the league phase of the 2025/26 UEFA Women's Champions League, an increase of 14% compared to the previous season.

Locally trained players (LTPs)[11] accounted for 48% of total minutes played during the 2025/26 league phase, up three percentage points from the previous season. Of these minutes, 15% were played by CTP+ players (12% club-trained and 3% from the B list), while 33% were played by association-trained players.

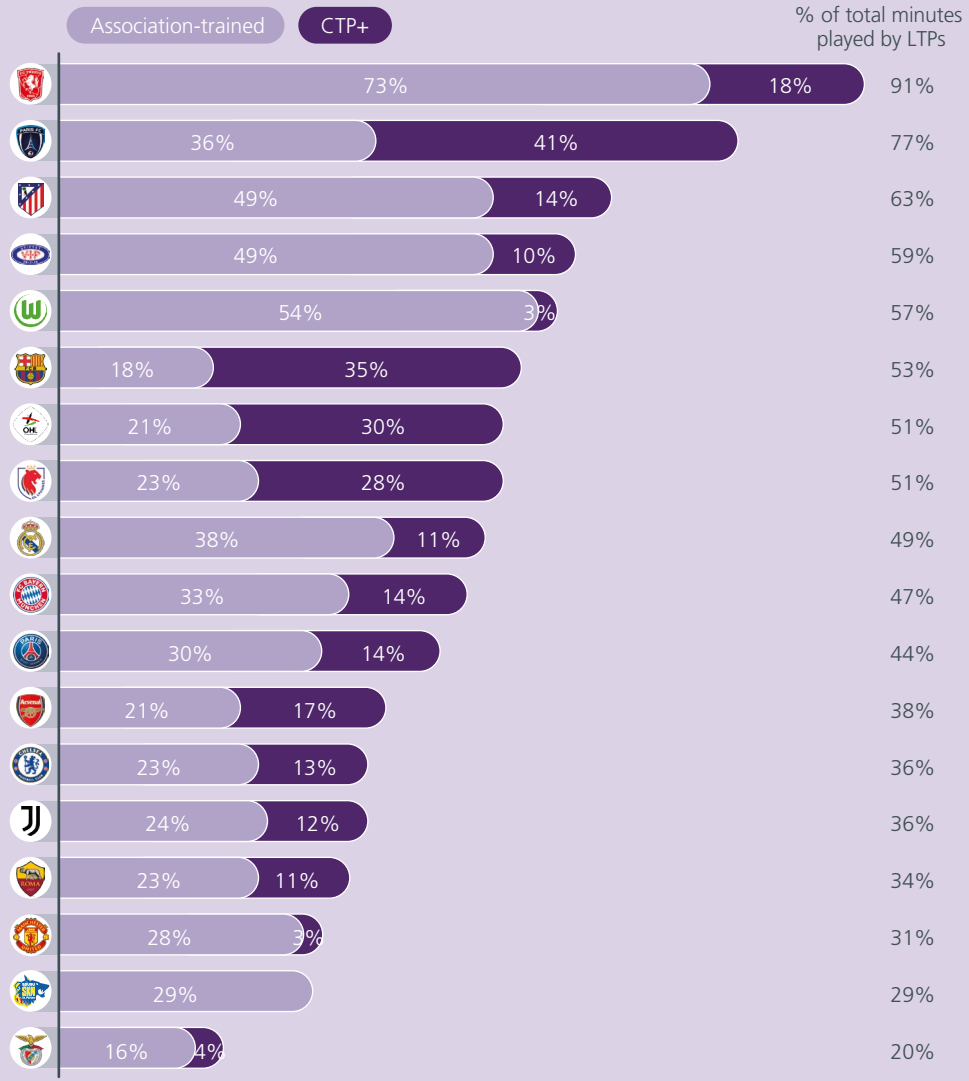
The overall share of minutes played by LTPs was identical in the inaugural edition of the UEFA Women's Europa Cup.[12] However, the composition differed, with a greater contribution from CTP+ players, who accounted for 21% of total minutes played.

The 2025/26 season was the second for which clubs were required to register at least eight LTPs in their 25-player squads, including a minimum of four club-trained players (CTPs). While only one third of clubs met the LTP requirement through their A list alone, many made extensive use of the B list, the players on which are almost always locally trained. Consequently, 72% of clubs relied on their A and B lists combined to meet the requirement.

15%
of minutes were played by CTP+ players, including 3% by B-listers

41%
Paris FC had the highest CTP+ participation

Percentage of league phase minutes played by locally trained players in the 2025/26 UEFA Women's Champions League



4 HEAD COACHES

Head coaches[1] are central actors in the world of club football. At the top, they are well remunerated but work in an insecure profession. This chapter delves into head coach churn, international mobility and coaching pathways, offering a closer look at the dynamic world they inhabit. Country-by-country analysis of head coach changes at European clubs during a 12-month period (the last complete domestic season – 2025/26, or 2025 for summer leagues)[2] clearly reflects the differences in football culture across Europe.



Head coach turnover edges back above one per club

Last year's report heralded the first season in a long time in which head coach changes dipped below an average of one per club over a 12-month period. However, this increased stability was short-lived, with head coach changes rising by 3% in Europe in 2025/26.[3]

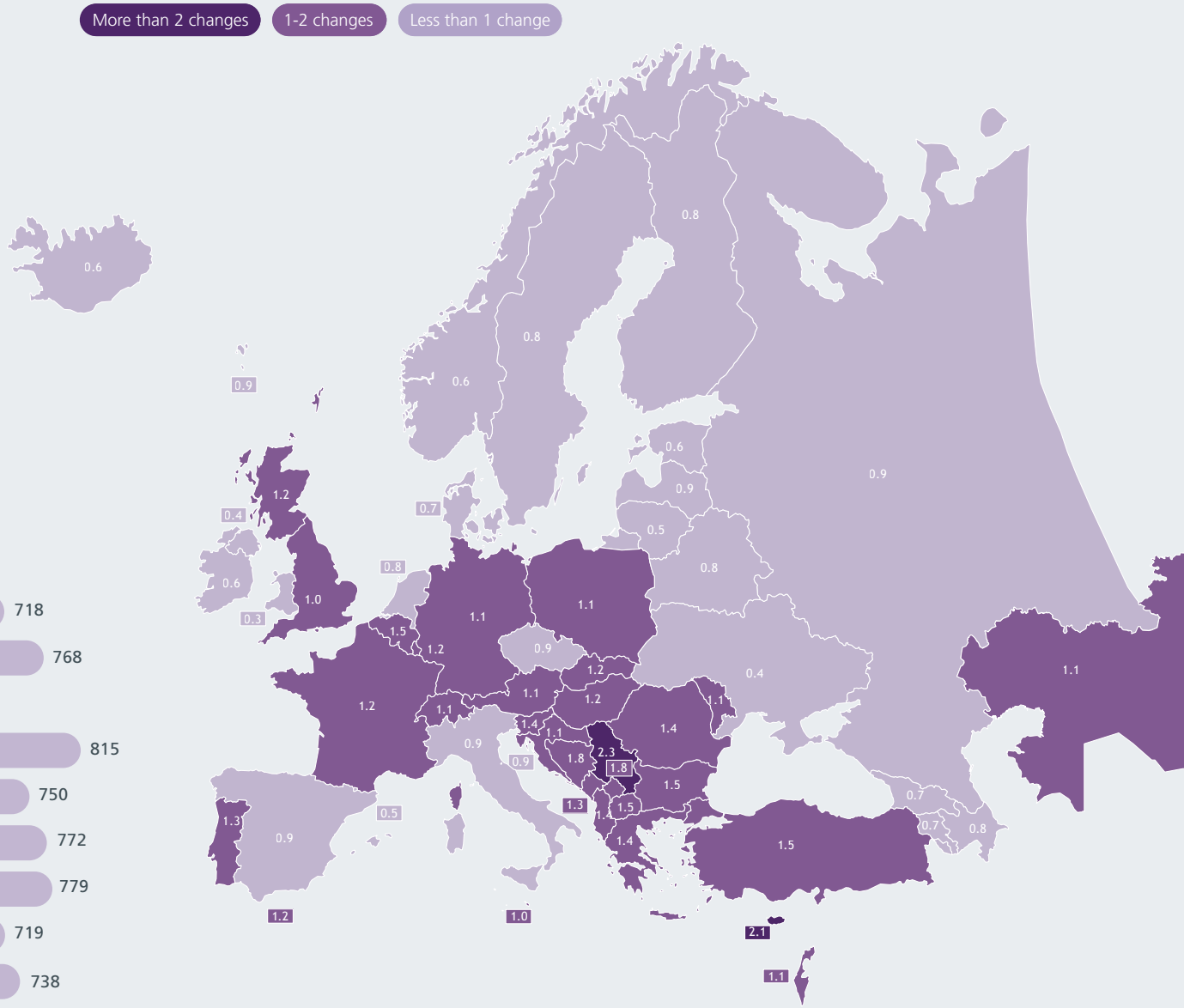
The 738 total changes registered nonetheless constitute the second lowest amount since the pandemic.

1.01
Average number of head coach changes per club in 2025/26

Total head coach dismissals in Europe by season (all 54 leagues)



Average head coach dismissals by club in 2025/26



League level fluctuations from season to season

The chart on the right highlights the differences across the top 20 leagues.[4] The changes per club for all 54 leagues are included in the KPIs section. Job security continues to differ considerably across Europe. Over the 12-month period, Turkish clubs once again posted the most changes (26) and Danish clubs the fewest (8).

Head coach churn in three traditionally (relatively) stable environments – England, Scotland and France – increased considerably in 2025/26. By contrast, there were fewer coach changes in two traditionally unstable markets, Italy and Portugal.

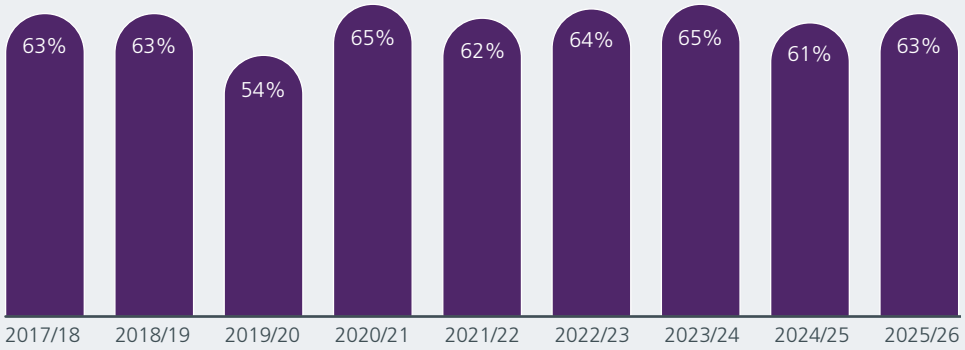


63%
of all European top-division clubs changed their head coach at least once

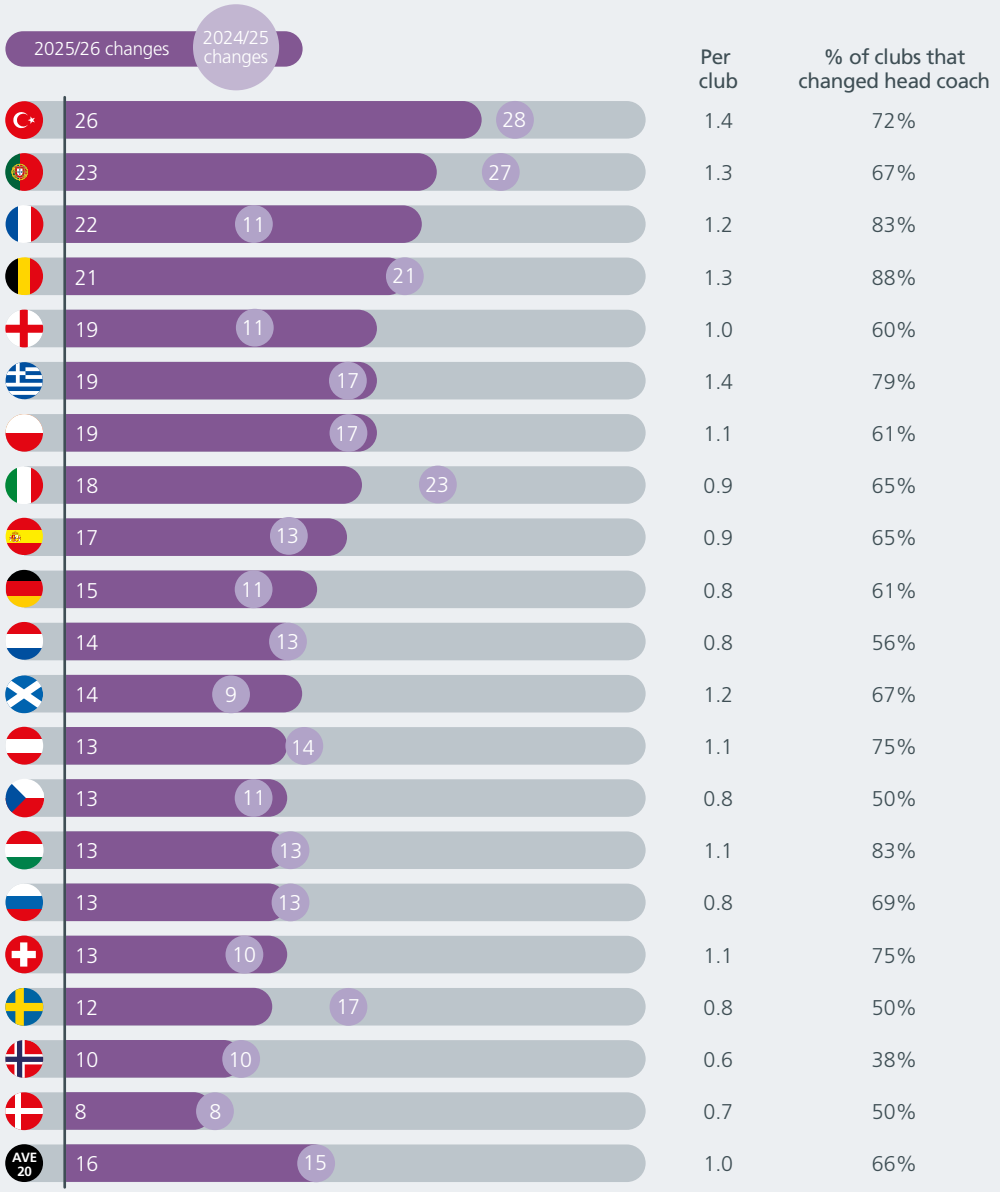


35
Serbia had the highest number of head coach changes in 2025/26 (2.2 per club)

Share of European clubs that have changed their head coach at least once



Head coach changes by top-tier league in 2025/26



Two thirds of head coach changes occur mid-season

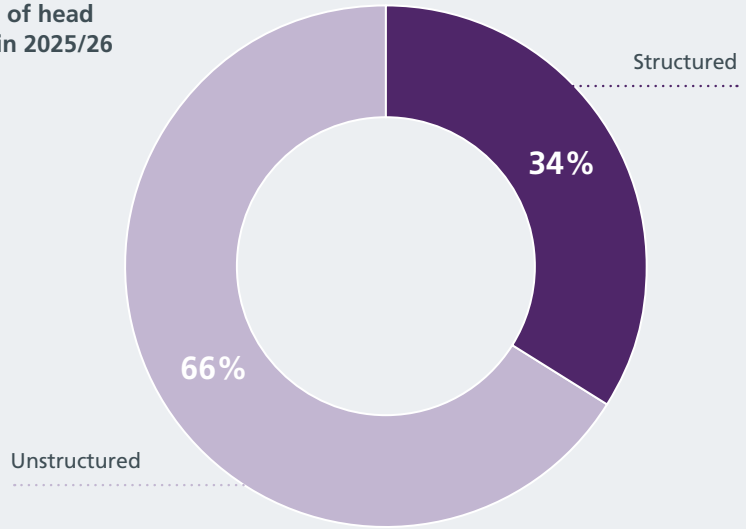
Head coach changes during 2025/26 have been grouped into those that occurred during the off-season (structured) and those mid-season (unstructured)[5].

The vast majority of changes – 66% (488) across Europe – continue to be made mid-season, spread relatively evenly by month, highlighting their unstructured nature.

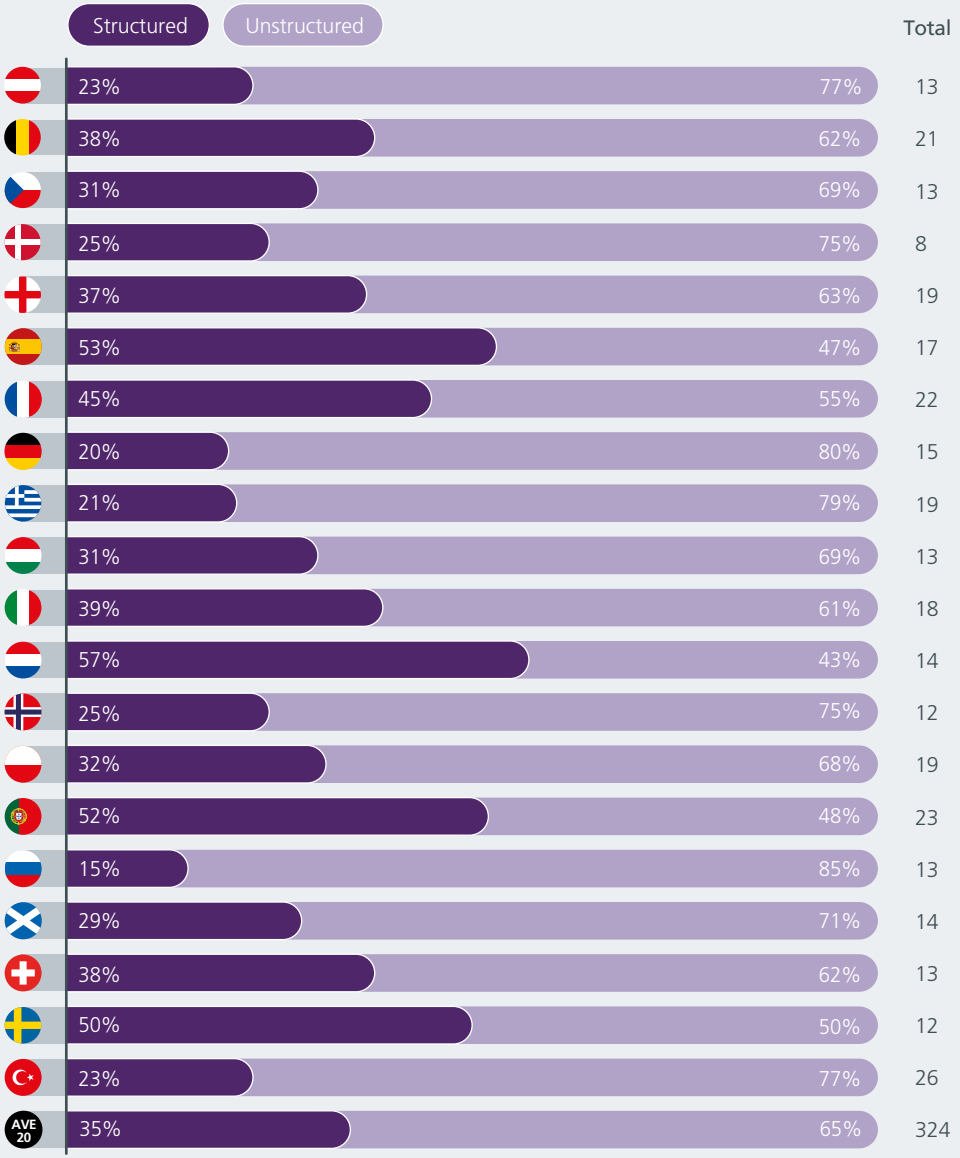
Among the Big 5 leagues, Germany, England and France had the highest number of mid-season head coach changes (12), followed by Italy (11) and Spain (8).

The highest percentage of mid-season head coach changes was in Russia (85%), with the majority of Dutch changes happening before the start of the season.

Average timing of head coach changes in 2025/26 across Europe



Timing of head coach changes in 2025/26 (% and number)



Half of head coaches leave their position within a year

The first two analyses have focused on the volume and timing (churn) of head coach changes. A third way to analyse head coach stability is to examine the length of tenure of the last head coach at the 731 top-tier clubs competing in 2025/26.[6]

These head coaches were in their jobs for an average of 1.3 years, although a few long-serving coaches drive this number up. The typical (median) length of service was less than a year (0.9 years).

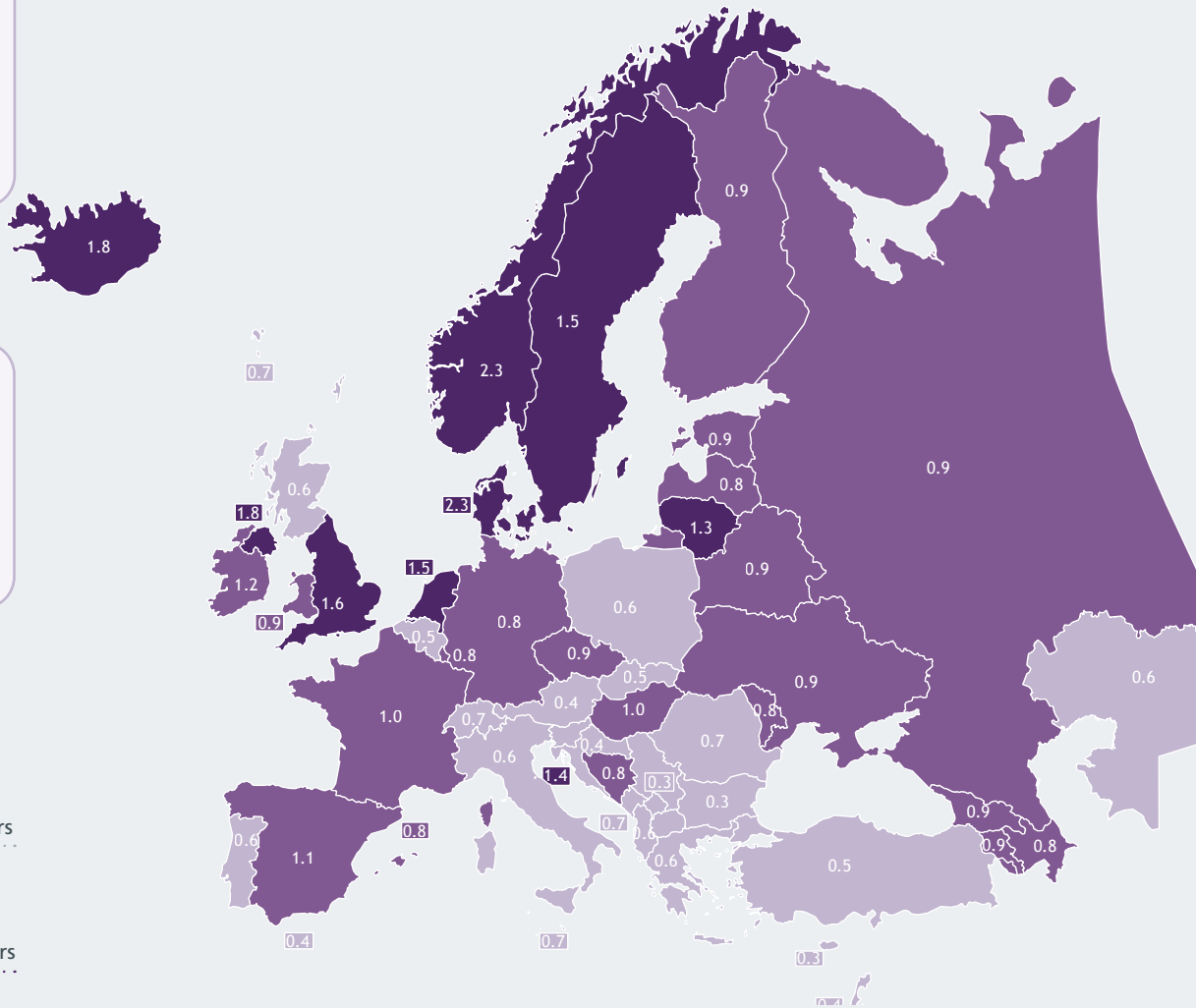
Head coaches that have the opportunity to build performance and experience over time are in the minority, with only 19% keeping their positions for at least two seasons and only 3% for at least five.

0.9 years
Median tenure of top-tier clubs' last head coach

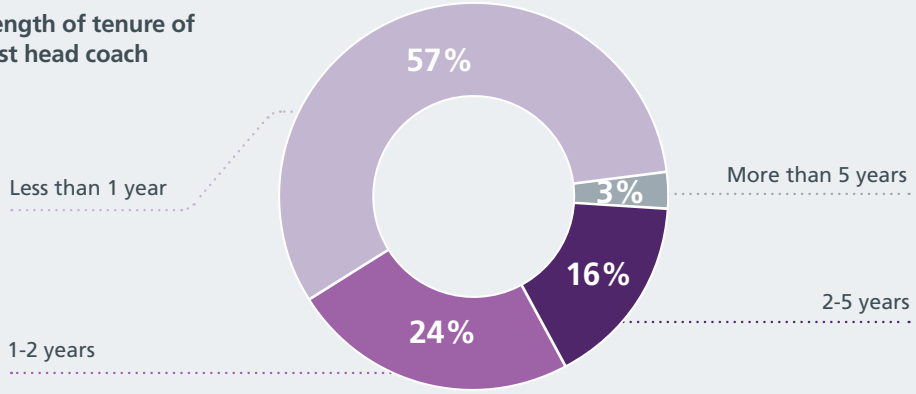
2.3 years
Longest median tenure of last head coach across Europe in 2025/26 (Norway)

Median tenure of last head coach by country in 2025/26[7]

More than 1.25 years | 0.75-1.25 years | Less than 0.75 year



Length of tenure of last head coach



Demand for experienced head coaches varies across leagues

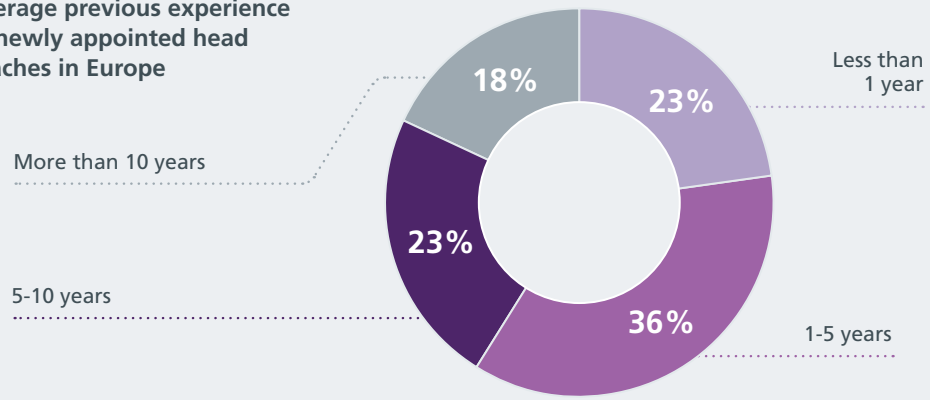
Of all new appointments in 2025/26, 23% had less than one full year of experience as a head coach, and a further 36% had between one and five years. The profile of head coach experience has been fairly consistent across the last decade.

There is a tendency among the wealthier leagues to recruit more experienced head coaches. While only 18% of newly appointed head coaches across the whole of Europe had more than ten years of previous experience, this rate increases to 33% among the Big 5 leagues.

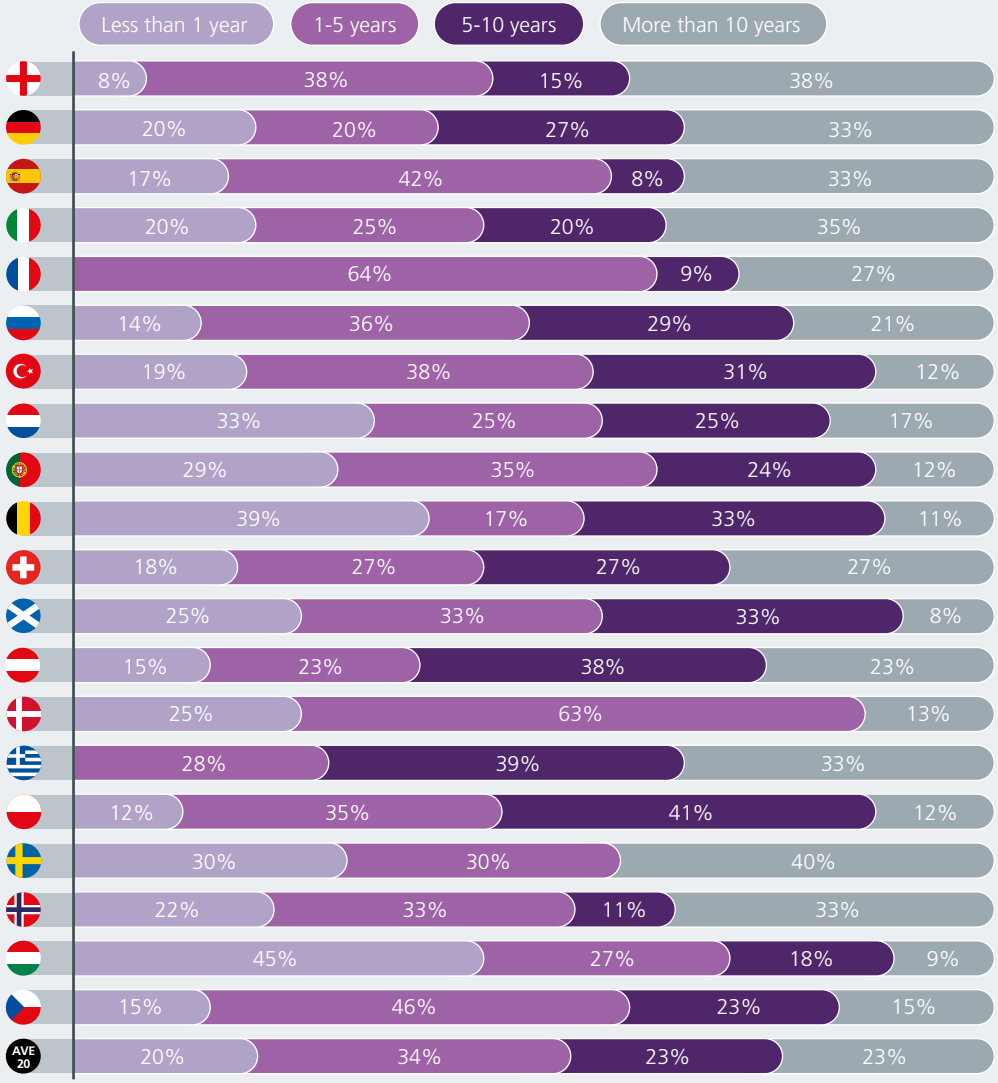
Among the Big 5 leagues, German clubs relied the most on experience, with 60% of all newly appointed head coaches having at least five years of previous professional head coach experience.

Among top 20 leagues, Danish and Hungarian clubs appointed the highest share of head coaches with less than five years of previous head coach experience, while Greek clubs placed the most value on previous experience, with 72% of newly appointed head coaches having at least five years of experience.

Average previous experience of newly appointed head coaches in Europe



Breakdown of new appointments' previous experience as head coaches



Clubs value head coaches with a track record

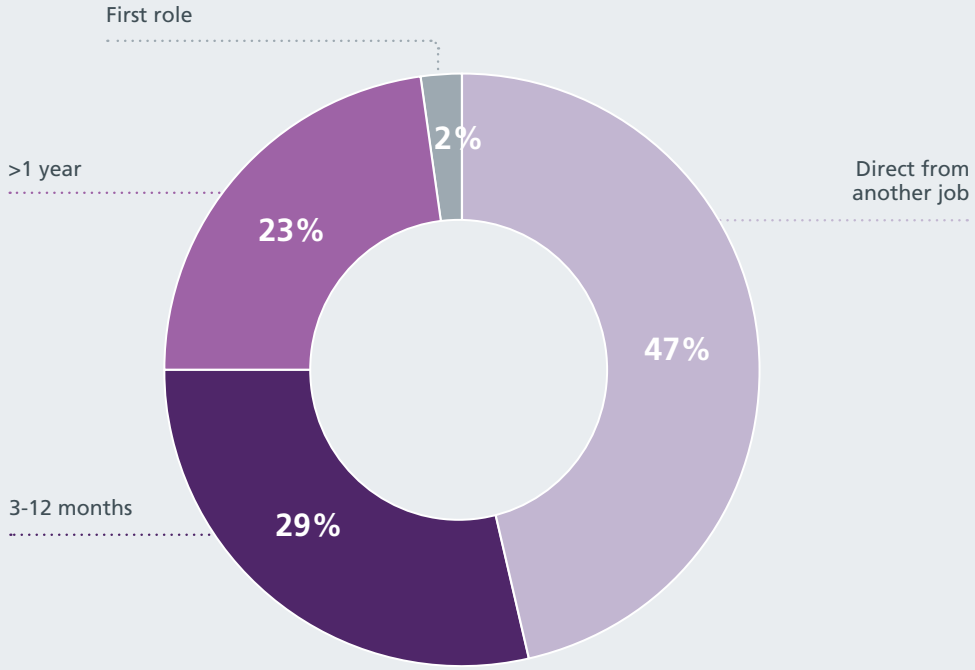
Staying active is crucial not only for head coaches, who need to maintain their professional momentum, but also for the clubs that depend on their expertise and readiness.

In 2025/26, more than three out of four (76%) newly appointed head coaches had been out of work for less than a year, an increase from 73% in 2024/25. This suggests that, although the position offers limited job security, another opportunity is often just around the corner.

Forty-seven per cent of new appointments came directly from another head coach position, a substantial increase from the 40% in 2024/25, while a further 29% (down by four percentage points) were hired within a year of leaving their last role.

In 2025/26, only 2% of new appointments were taking on their first-ever head coach role, compared with 5% in 2024/25. This underlines that only the very fortunate can start right at the top of the club game, with clubs valuing a track record and most coaches starting out in the lower leagues.

Length of time since most recent coaching role



76%
of new appointments were coaching at another club the previous year

2%
of new appointments were first-time head coaches

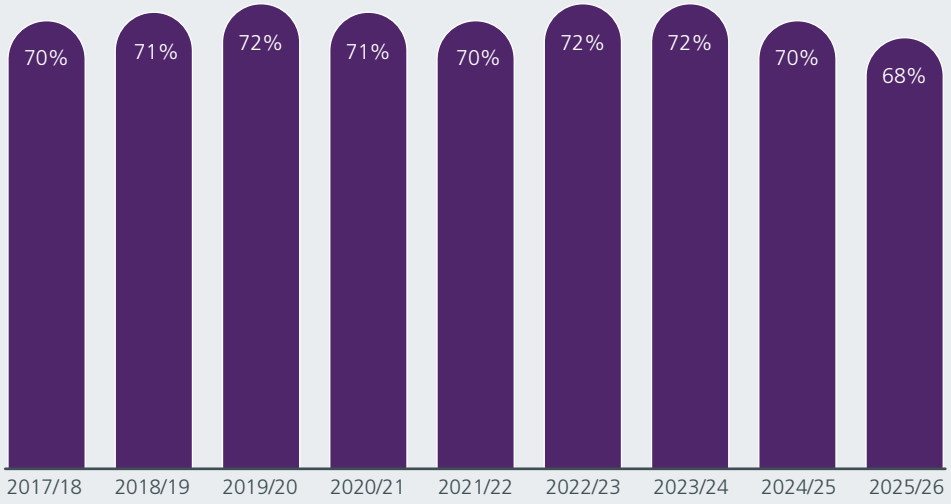
30%
of new appointments were taking on their first head coach role for a top-division club

Majority of head coaches have had professional playing careers

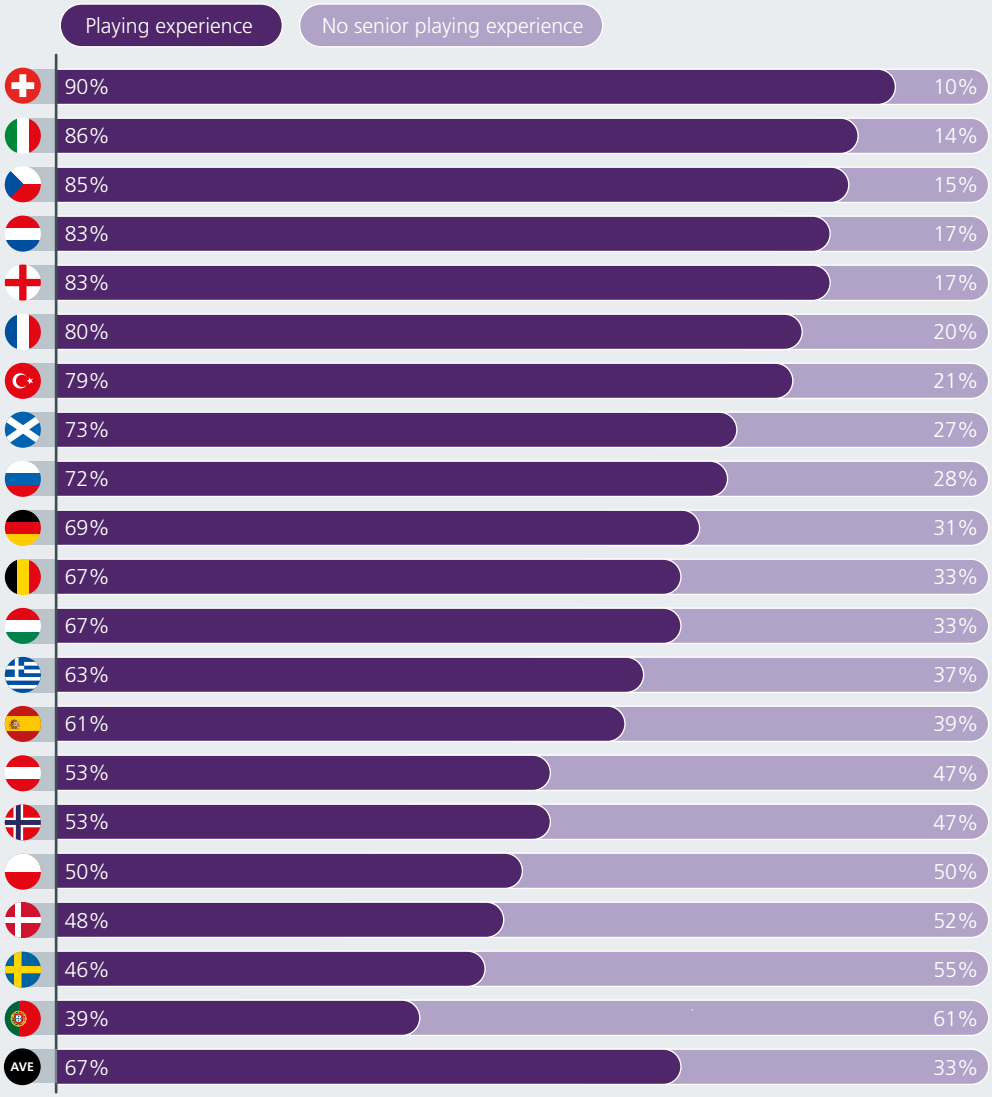
On average, 68% of coaches in 2025/26 had professional playing experience[8]. Although former players still represent the majority, this figure is the lowest value registered since 2017/18 season.

The share of coaches with a background as professional players varies significantly from country to country. For example, in Switzerland, 90% of head coaches have had high-level playing experience compared to just 39% in Portugal.

Evolution of the share of head coaches in Europe with professional experience



Head coaches with professional playing experience



International mobility of European head coaches

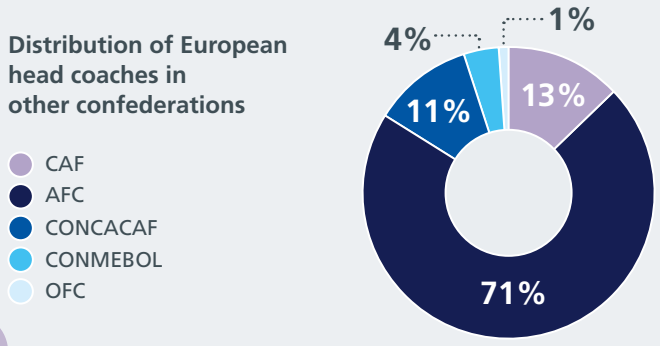
Spanish head coaches[9] were the most sought after last season, with 74 of them managing clubs in one of the top two divisions of another UEFA country in 2025/26. They were followed by Portuguese (53) and Italian (40) coaches.

The success of Spanish head coaches is further confirmed when the analysis is extended to clubs in other confederations,[11] with 107 employed in the top two tiers worldwide, an increase from 99 the previous season. Portuguese coaches rank second in terms of international demand and are the most sought after outside Europe (35).

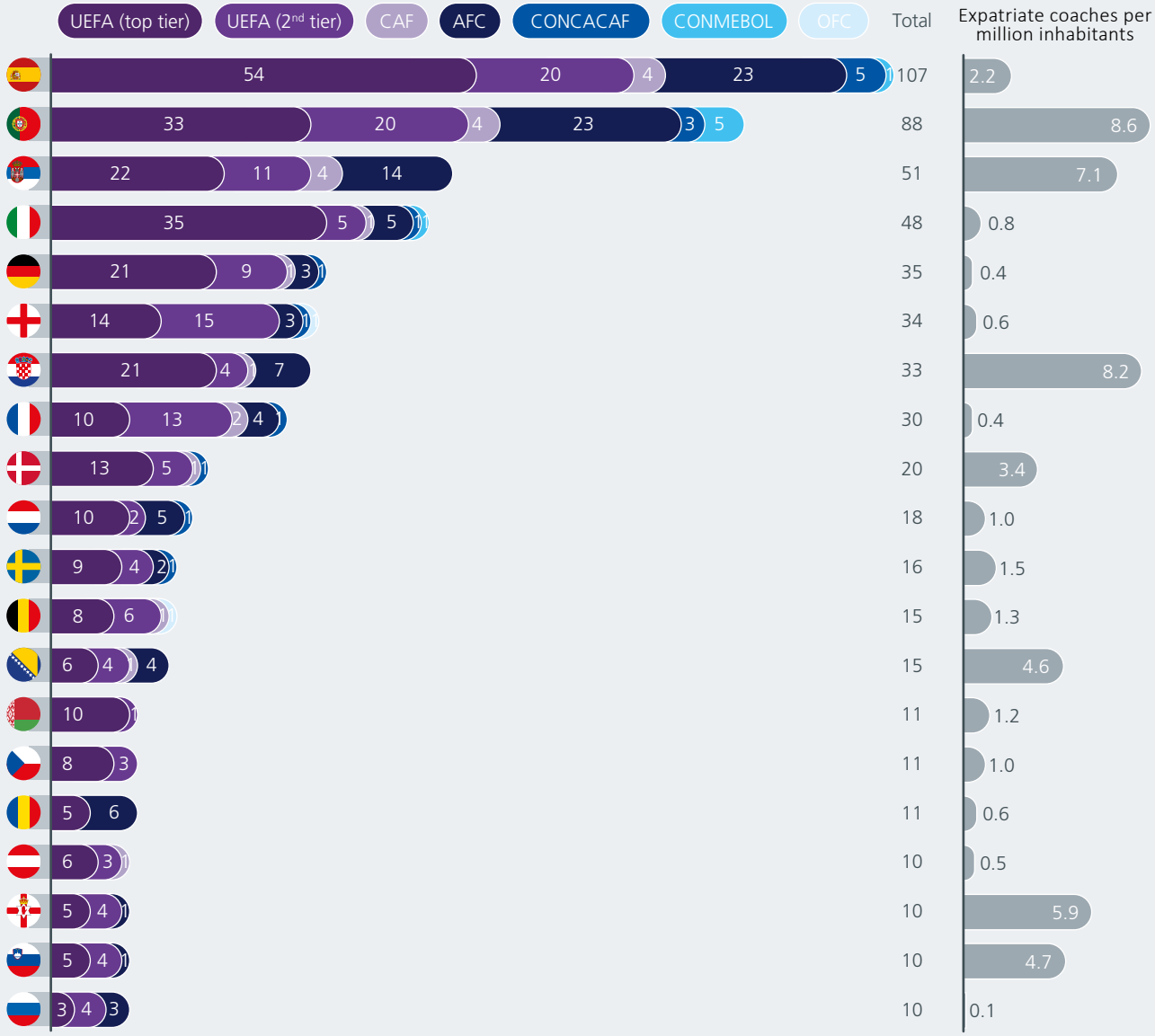
Relative to the size of their home countries, Portuguese (8.6 expatriate coaches per million inhabitants), Croatian (8.1) and Serbian (7.1) head coaches are the most frequent travellers.

The international distribution of European coaches is impacted by various factors, including the relative number and financial power of top-division clubs in each confederation. The strong majority (71%) of European head coaches outside Europe are coaching in Asia, where more than 100 were identified.

Distribution of European head coaches in other confederations



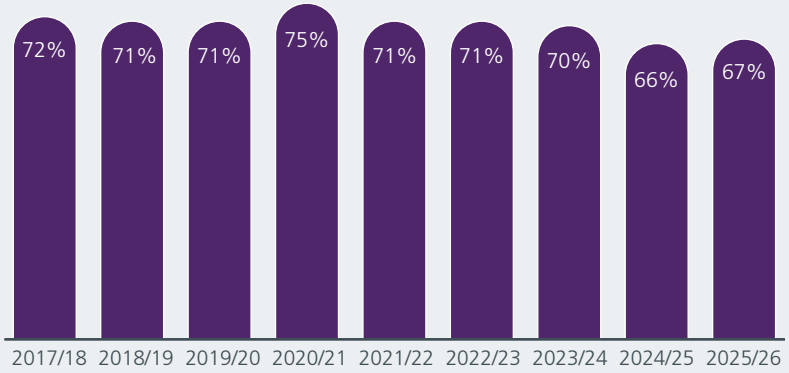
Nationality of head coaches working abroad in 2025/26[10]



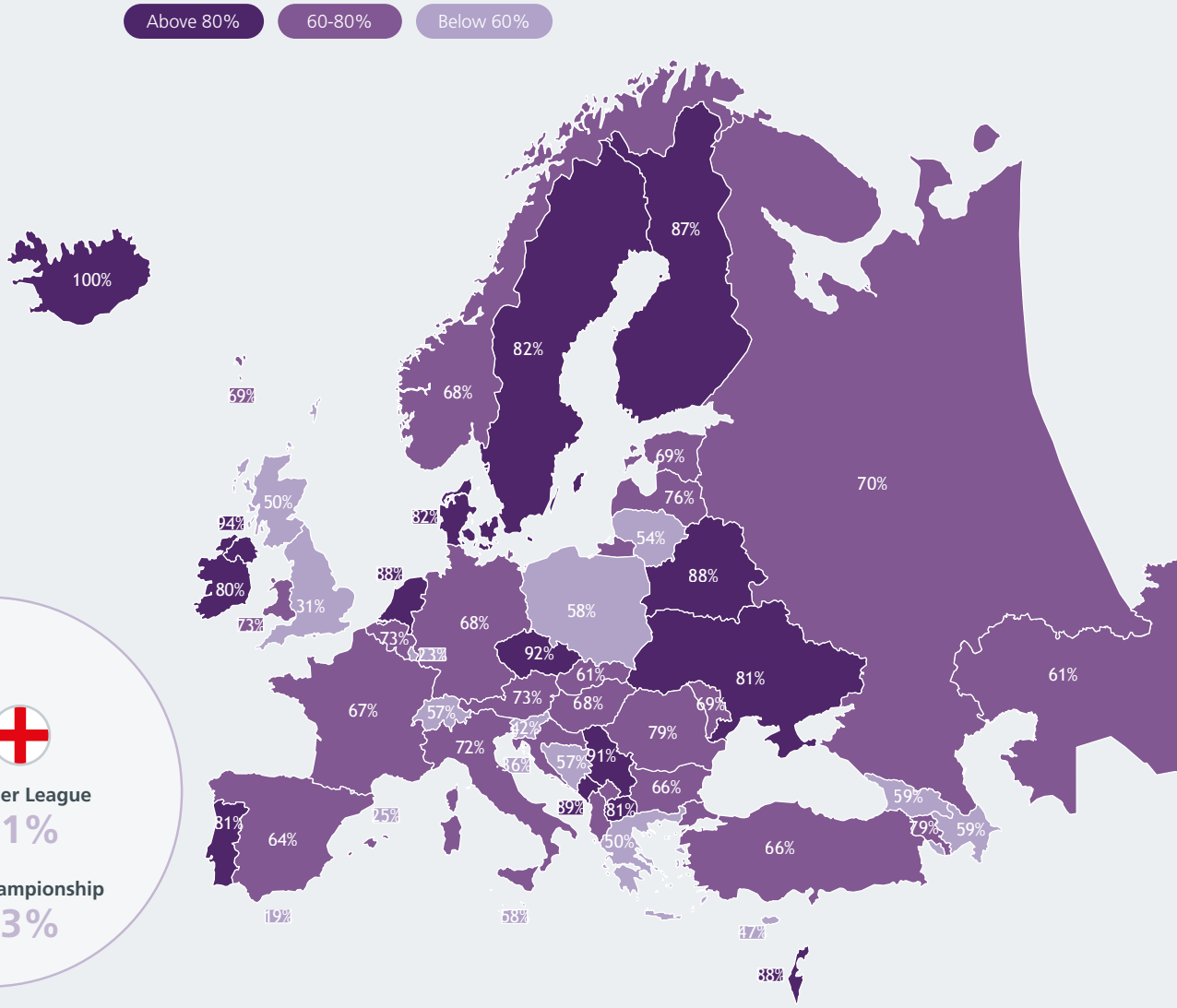
Head coach migration increasingly common less than on the playing side

On average, 67% of top-tier head coaches who led teams during the 2025/26 season[12] were coaching in their home country, the second lowest value registered in the past nine seasons.

Share of head coaches working in home country



Share of domestic top-division head coaches in 2025/26



Head coaches working in home country in 2025/26 season, by league

Serie A	Bundesliga	Ligue 1	LaLiga	Premier League
72%	68%	67%	64%	31%
Serie B	**Bundesliga 2**	**Ligue 2**	**Segunda Division**	**EFL Championship**
3%	4%	13%	2%	53%

More than half of women's clubs retained their coach for at least 12 months

In 2025/26, head coaches working in the women's Big 5 leagues were in a more stable situation than their counterparts in the men's game.

The rate of head coach changes per club in the Big 5 during the 2025/26 season was only 0.58, down from 0.66 in 2024/25 and considerably lower than in the men's game (0.95).

More than half of clubs (52%) made no coaching changes during 2025/26, a similar figure to the previous season (51%) and higher than for men's clubs (33%).

Head coach changes in the Big 5 leagues in 2025/26





39%
fewer head coach changes per Big 5 club compared with men's teams

Percentage of coaches with a UEFA Pro licence in the Big 5 leagues[13]

Primera Division Femenina	Frauen Bundesliga	Women's Super League	Serie A Femminile	Première League
89%	82%	63%	41%	38%

The requirements for head coaches working in women's football are becoming increasingly stringent. Although several leagues have introduced dedicated coach education pathways or grant exemptions for coaches leading top-division teams, only 63% of head coaches across the Big 5 leagues in 2025/26 held a UEFA Pro licence. From the 2029/30 season, new minimum licence requirements for coaches in UEFA women's club competitions will also come into force. Head Coaches will be required to hold a UEFA Pro coaching licence.

Leagues are progressing at different rates in this regard, with Spain (89%) and Germany (82%) leading the way. England (63%) aligns with the Big 5 average, whereas Italy (41%) and France (38%) remain significantly behind.

The head coach profile of women's teams in the Big 5

While there is a strong preference for local head coaches over expatriates among the Big 5 leagues (74%), the 2025/26 season saw more mobility compared with the previous season when 81% of head coaches were local.

On a country level, the picture varies widely. Spain (95%), Italy (88%) and France (86%) are confirmed to rely heavily on local head coaches, while Germany (65%, down from 87% in 2024/25) and England (38%, down from 53% in 2024/25) have been more open to foreign influence.

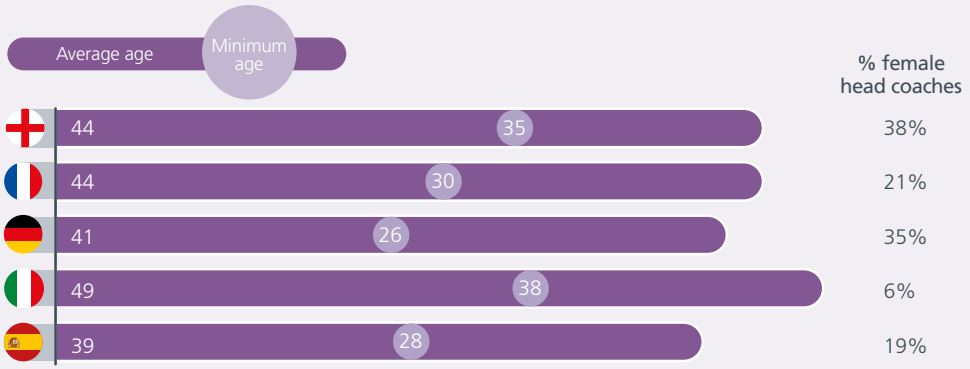
The representation of local head coaches remained higher in the women's Big 5 leagues (74%) than in the men's (60%).

Percentage of local coaches in the Big 5 leagues

Primera Division Femenina	Serie A Femminile	Première League	Frauen Bundesliga	Women's Super League
95%	88%	86%	65%	38%

14%
more local head coaches in the Big 5 than for men's teams

Profile of head coaches in Big 5 leagues in 2025/26



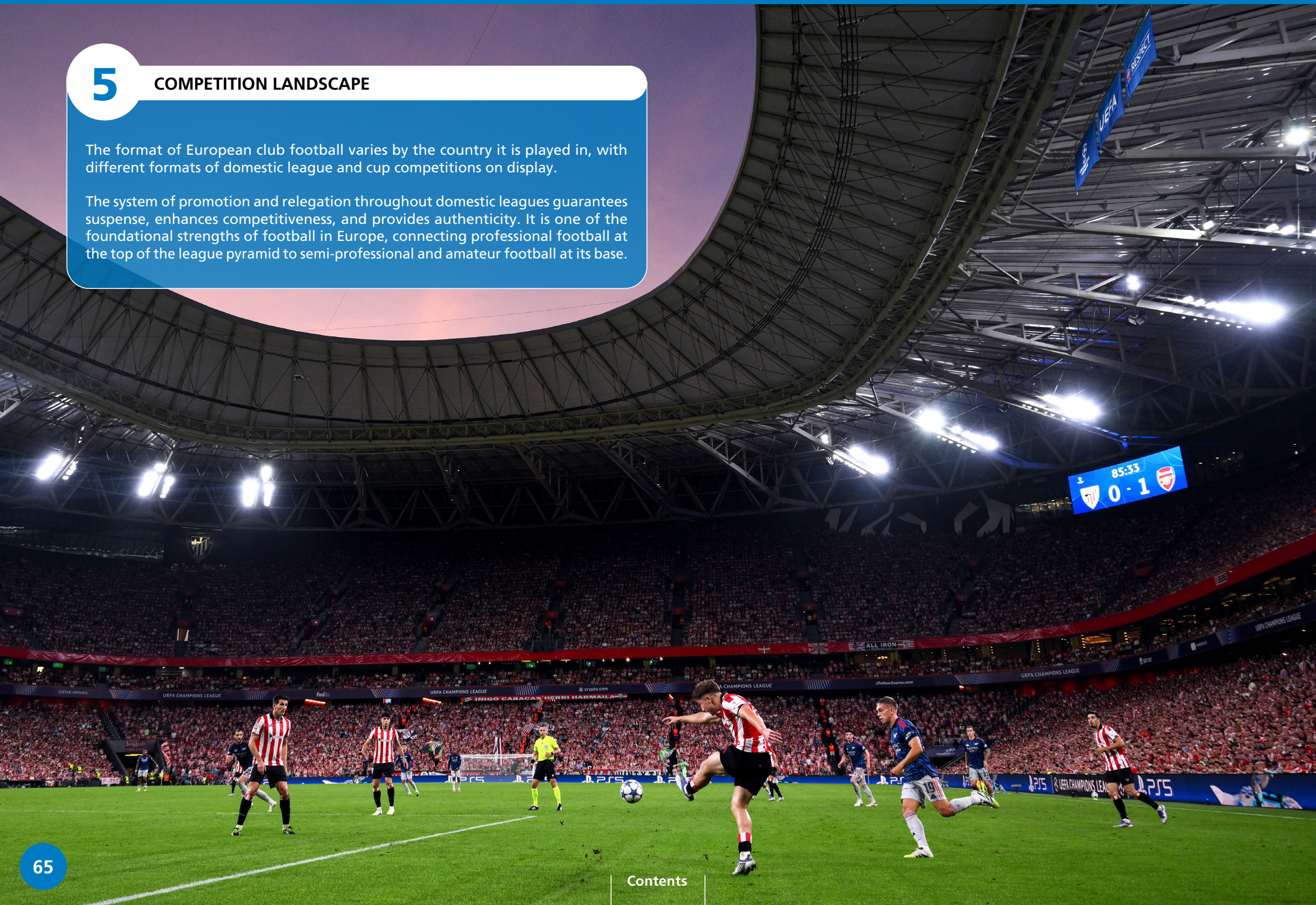
Among the women's Big 5 leagues, Italian clubs relied on the oldest[14] head coaches in 2025/26, with an average age of 49 years across the 12 teams. In contrast, Spanish clubs appointed the youngest head coaches, averaging 39.0 years. Across the Big 5 leagues, head coaches were on average 43.3 years old, significantly younger than their counterparts in the men's game (49.1 years).

The proportion of female head coaches was highest in England (38%) and Germany (35%).

5 COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

The format of European club football varies by the country it is played in, with different formats of domestic league and cup competitions on display.

The system of promotion and relegation throughout domestic leagues guarantees suspense, enhances competitiveness, and provides authenticity. It is one of the foundational strengths of football in Europe, connecting professional football at the top of the league pyramid to semi-professional and amateur football at its base.



European football pyramid mobility brings top-tier competition to over 100 new clubs each season

European club football reflects team performance with upward and downward mobility between leagues through promotion and relegation based on sporting merit.

This is reflected in the fact that 1,240 different clubs have participated in the top tier of their domestic leagues in the last decade, despite there currently being 734 top-tier places.

SV ELVERSBERG (GER): UPWARD MOBILITY CASE STUDY

SV Elversberg has a nearly 120-year history, spent mostly in the lower tiers of German football. The club mostly played at the Regionalliga, which was considered the German third tier up until the creation of the 3. Liga in 2008, where the club had a brief participation in 2013/14 before being relegated the same season. SV Elversberg remained at the Regionalliga until 2022/23, where back-to-back promotions helped the club reach the 2. Bundesliga for the first time in 2023/24, finishing 11th.

In their second 2. Bundesliga season, Elversberg reached the promotion play-offs, but missed out after a stoppage-time goal from 1. FC Heidenheim 1846. The following season, 2025/26, the club finished second, securing promotion to the Bundesliga for the first time in its history. With a population of 13,000, its home city will be the smallest ever to host a Bundesliga club.

LE MANS FC (FRA): UPWARD MOBILITY CASE STUDY

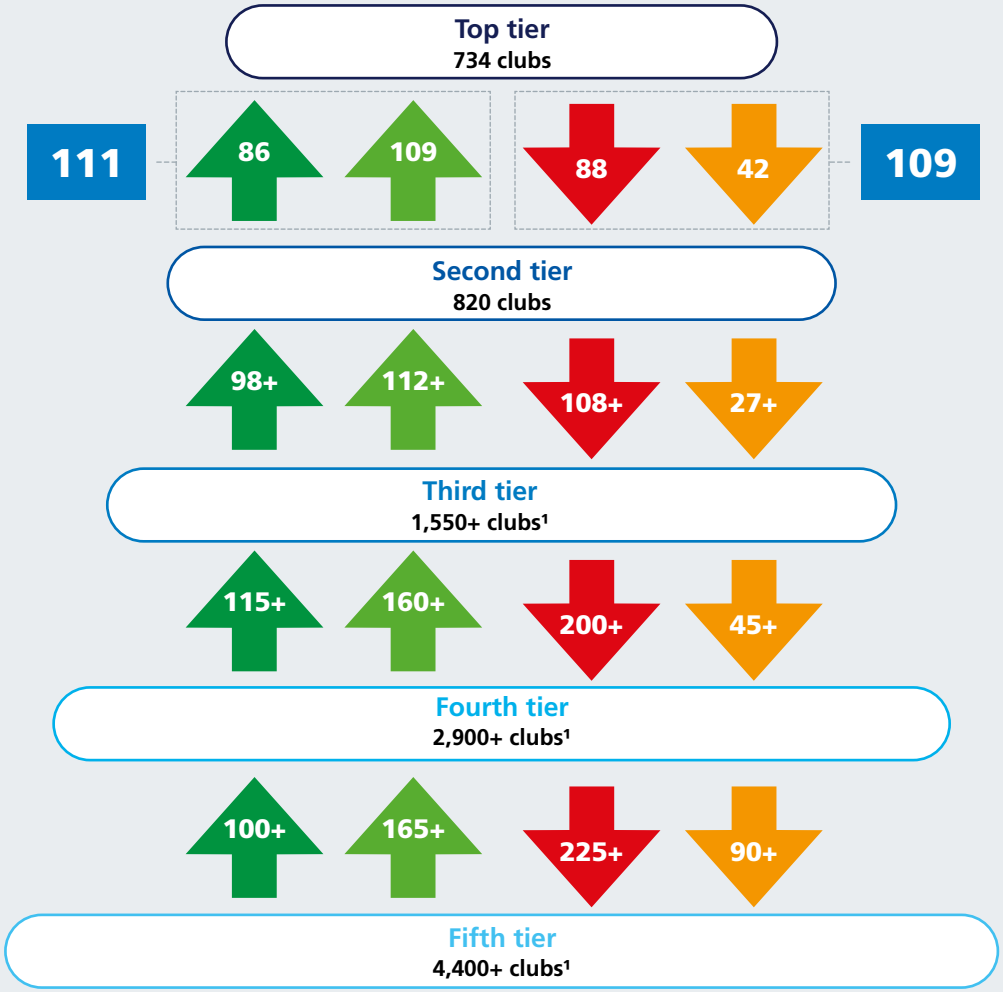
Le Mans FC competed in Ligue 1 during the early 2000s before financial troubles led to liquidation in 2013, having been relegated to the third-tier Championnat National at the end of the 2012/13 season.

The club was reformed in 2014, starting in the sixth tier as an amateur side, and was promoted the same season. After three seasons in the fourth tier, back-to-back promotions in 2017/18 and 2018/19 took the club to the second tier. Relegated in its first season back in Ligue 2, Le Mans then achieved back-to-back promotions to reach Ligue 1 in 2024/25 and 2025/26.

Illustrative league tiering

Direct promotion | Qualify for promotion play-offs | Direct relegation | Qualify for relegation play-offs

Actual promoted and relegated teams for the 2025/26 season



On average, two thirds of newly promoted clubs are avoiding relegation

Each season, more than 100 clubs earn promotion to their domestic top flight. Despite facing stronger opposition, roughly two thirds avoid relegation in their first season, though this rate varies by country, with clubs in the Big 5 facing the hardest challenge.

Newly promoted clubs make up approximately one third of relegated clubs; the rest average 7–8 consecutive seasons in the top tier before being relegated.

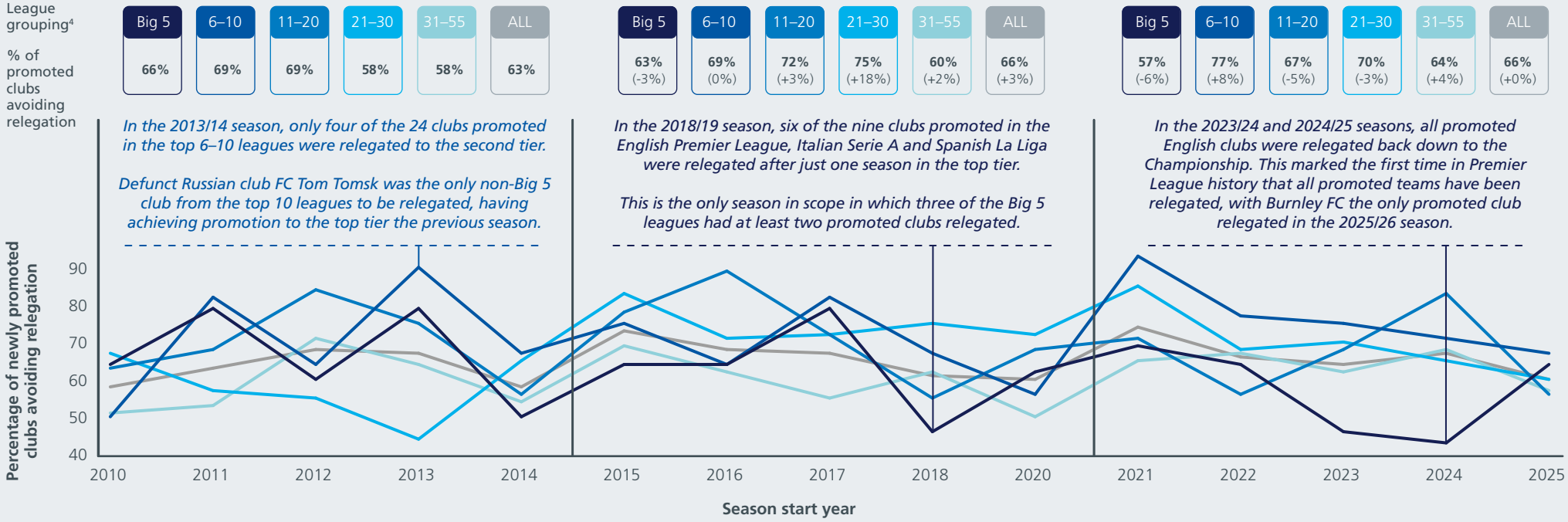
Even long-established clubs are not immune to relegation. Since the 2010/11 season, at least one relegated club each year has previously spent at least 29 consecutive seasons in the top tier. Of the clubs relegated in 2025/26, VfL Wolfsburg (GER) had had the longest such run.

Clubs relegated in the 2025/26 season had previously spent an average of

5.0

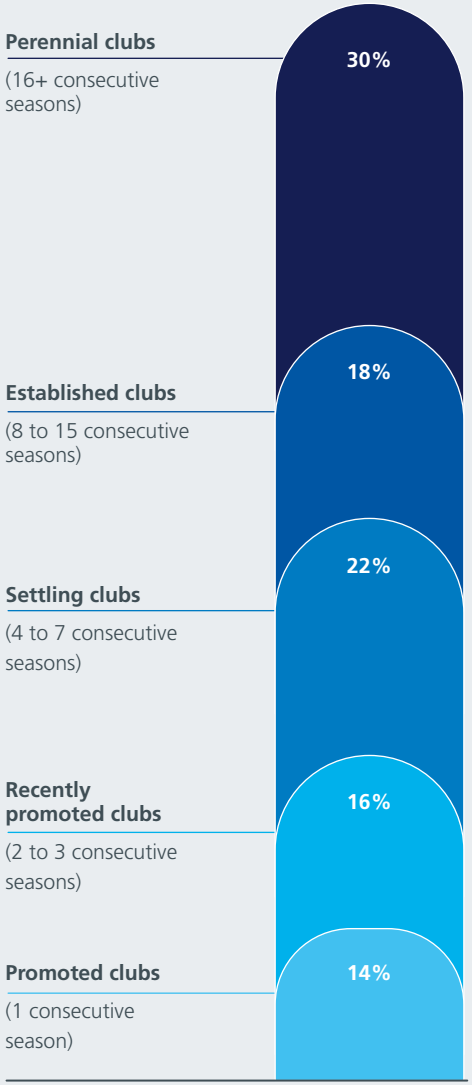
consecutive seasons in the top tier[2]

Percentage of newly promoted clubs avoiding relegation, 2010/11 to 2025/26[3]



Half of Europe's top-flight clubs have, on average, been in their division for eight or more consecutive seasons

Average team composition of European top tiers, 2025/26



For 33 clubs in 16 different countries, the 2025/26 season marked at least their 60th consecutive season in their respective top tier.

England, Greece, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Türkiye each have three clubs that have been in their top-flight division since at least 1960.

While each European top tier typically sees two promoted clubs competing every season, generally, half of the clubs competing each season have been in the top tier for eight or more consecutive seasons.

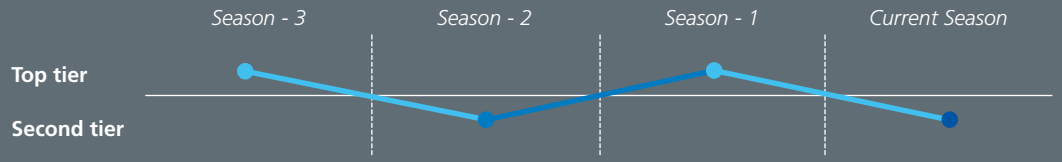
Compared with 20 and 40 seasons ago (2005/06 and 1985/86), the number of perennial clubs has risen by approximately one club every two leagues. This reflects the impact in performance of the increased broadcasting and commercial revenue for top-tier clubs.

CASE STUDY: YO-YO CLUBS

The total number of yo-yo clubs in European top tiers has increased in recent seasons. Excluding the 2021/22 season, which was affected by the partial suspension of relegation in 2019/20 due to COVID-19, every post-pandemic season has recorded nine or more yo-yo clubs, with the number of clubs exceeding ten in four of these seasons. By comparison, over ten yo-yo clubs were recorded in only one season in the 2010s.

This increase coincides with parachute payments and higher revenues associated with top-tier status, both of which may contribute to relegated clubs returning to the top tier. A related pattern appears in the share of promoted clubs that achieve promotion the season immediately after relegation, an average of 26% before the pandemic (28 clubs) compared to 34% after the pandemic (35 clubs).

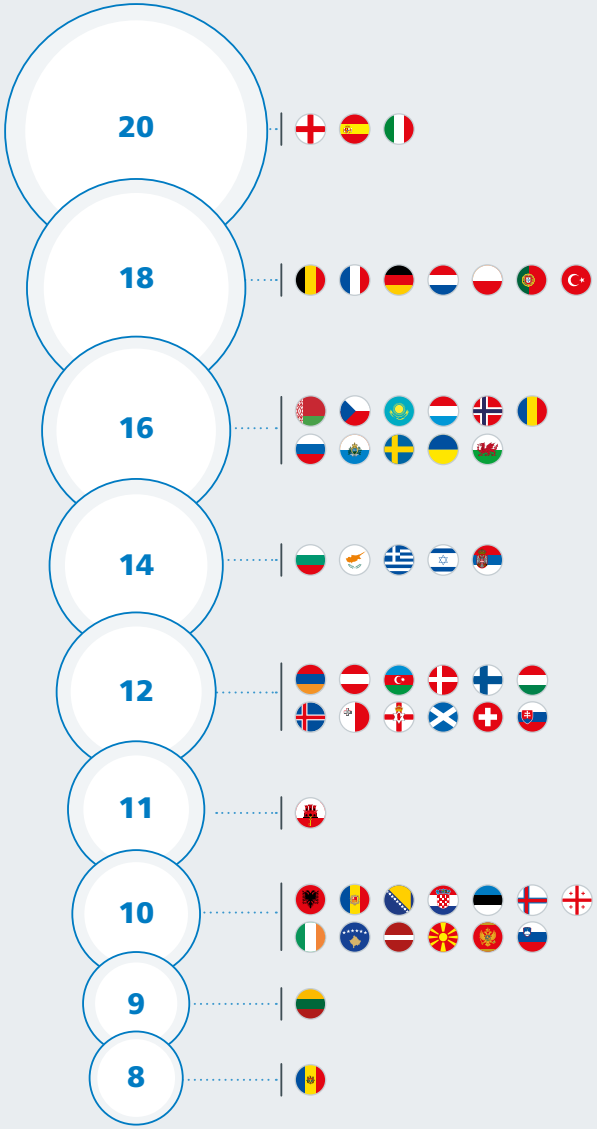
WHAT IS A YO-YO CLUB?



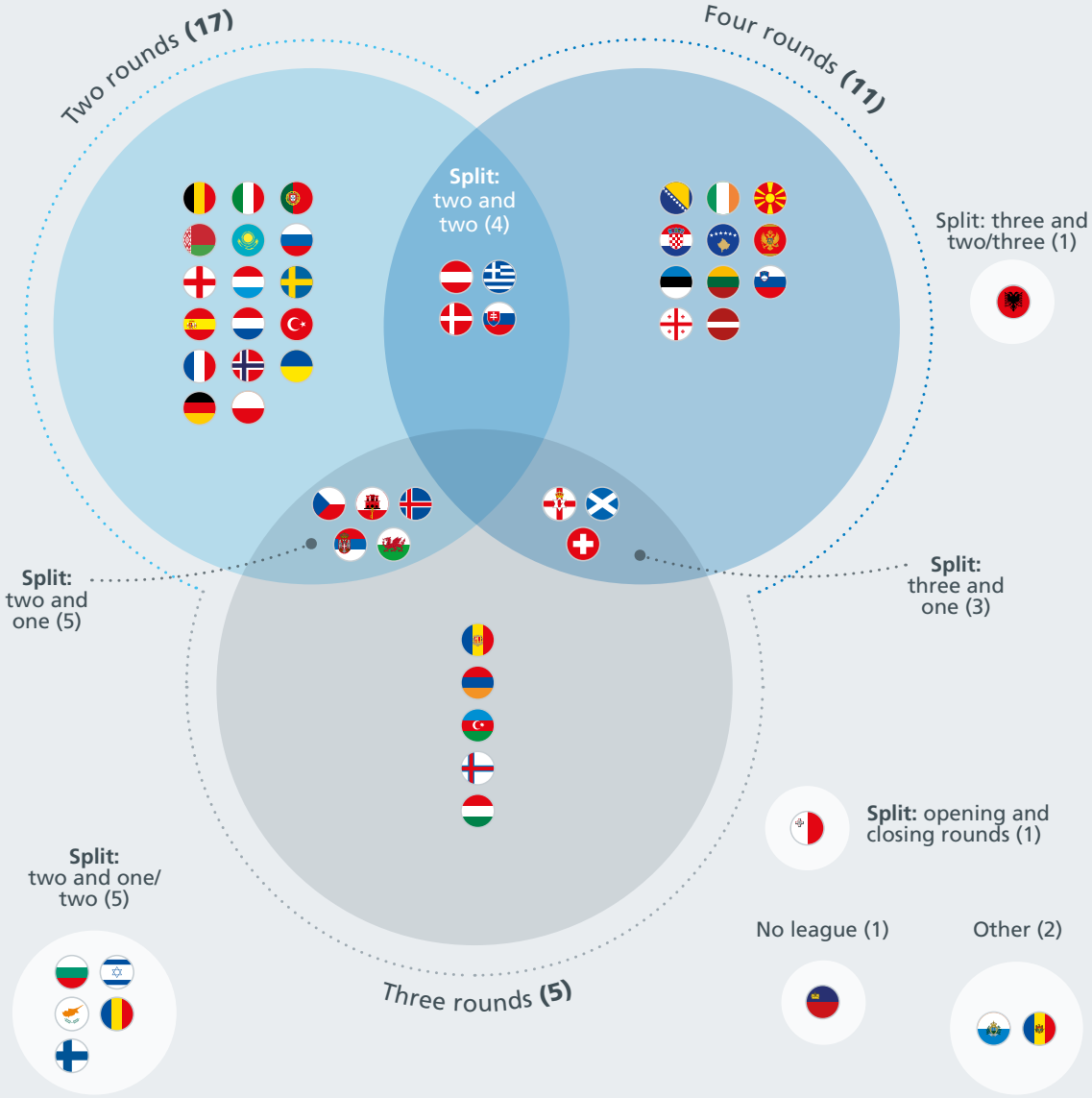
For this analysis, a yo-yo club is a club that has been relegated, promoted and relegated again over three consecutive seasons

The size and formats of European top-tier leagues (2026/27)

Number of top-division teams



Top-division domestic league formats



League formats are in constant evolution

Format changes among top divisions



Nine countries will change the number of clubs competing in their top tier in the 2026/27 season.

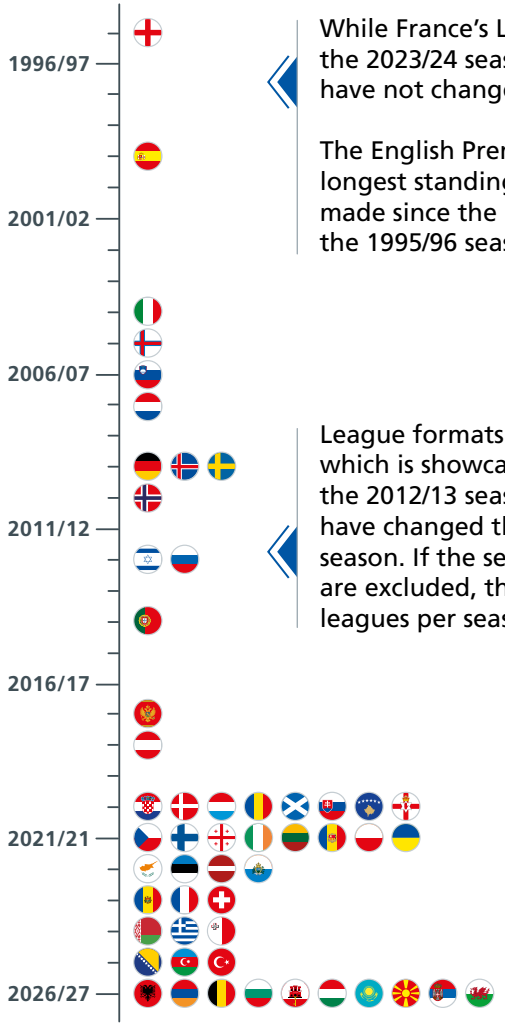
With all these changes, the total number of clubs in the top tier will grow by two to total 734.

The Albanian Kategoria Superiore has also moved away from its final four format to a split season.

12,232
Total number of top-division matches scheduled to take place in 2026/27, 10 fewer than in 2025/26

27
top-tier leagues use head-to-head results to break ties, the most common criteria, followed closely by goal difference, used in 23 leagues

When did top-tier leagues last change their format and/or structure?



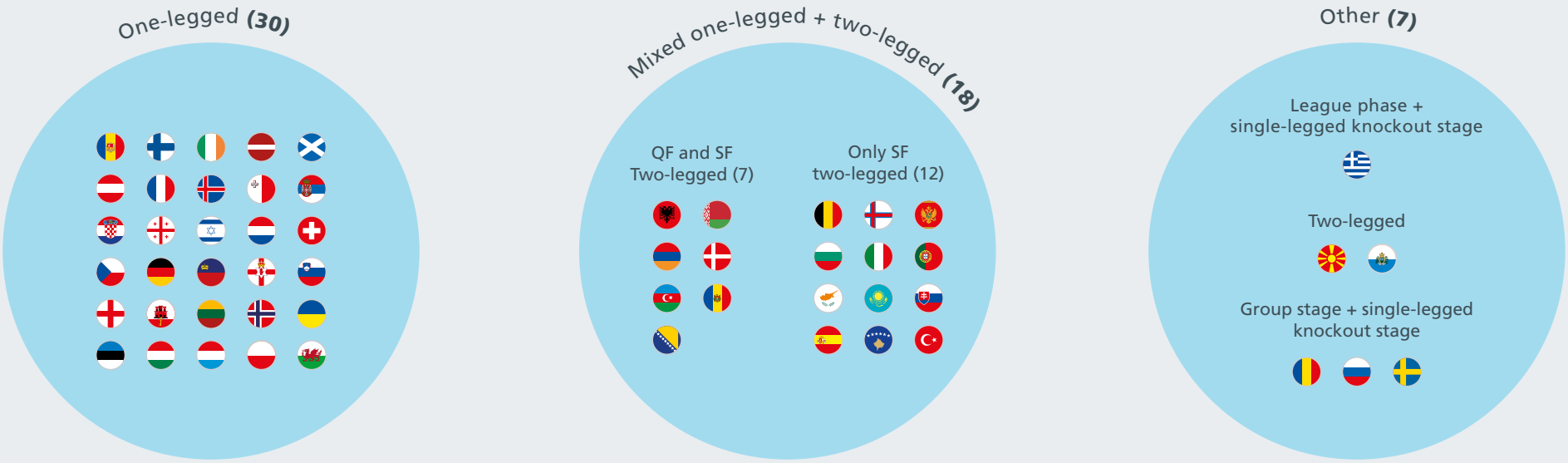
While France's Ligue 1 moved to 18 teams in the 2023/24 season, most of the Big 5 leagues have not changed their format in a long time.

The English Premier League remains the longest standing format, with no changes made since the move from 22 teams to 20 in the 1995/96 season.

League formats are in constant evolution, which is showcased by the fact that, since the 2012/13 season, 15 leagues on average have changed their competition format every season. If the seasons impacted by COVID-19 are excluded, this average goes down to 10 leagues per season.

39 top-tier leagues have adapted their formats since the 2019/20 season, accounting for over 70% of all European top divisions

The different formats of Europe's domestic cup competitions



The single-legged format is the most common, implemented in 50% of domestic cup competitions.

The second most common format is single-legged with two-legged semi-finals, guaranteeing that both teams in the final play at least one match at home.

Number of countries that schedule a league cup competition **8**

36 **Number of countries that schedule a super cup competition**

When are top-tier teams entering the competition?

Domestic cup competitions run by UEFA member associations give opportunities for clubs throughout the pyramid to compete against each other. Formats vary across Europe, with different entry points depending on the tier and, in some cases, later entry points for clubs competing in UEFA club competitions. The most common entry point for top-tier clubs is the round of 32.

128 teams:
112 teams:
110 teams:
64 teams:
60 teams:
59 teams:
58 teams:
52 teams:
48 teams:
40 teams:
32 teams:
30 teams:
28 teams:
26 teams:
20 teams:
16 teams:
15 teams:
14 teams:
12 teams:

Performance of lower-tier teams in domestic cup competitions

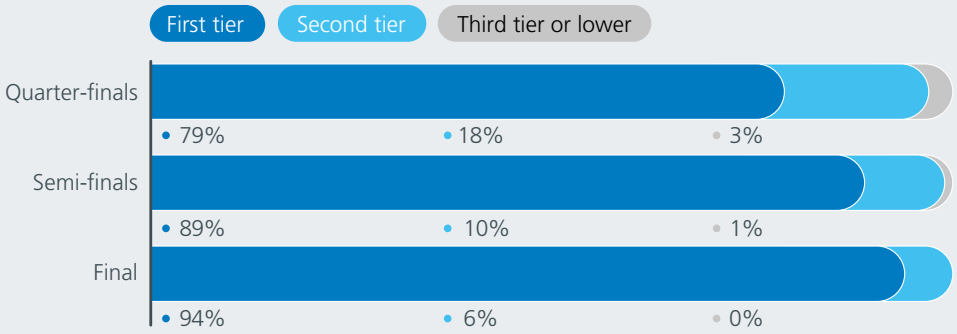
Last season saw 91 non-top-tier clubs reach the quarter-finals of their domestic cup competitions, equivalent to 21% of all teams that reached this stage. Of the 70 lower-tier teams that were drawn against a top-tier team for this competition stage, 14 managed to qualify for the semi-finals.

In the Big 5, Southampton FC (ENG) was the only lower-tier club to reach the semi-final stages of any domestic cup competition. A further six clubs had reached the quarter-finals, but all got knocked out after facing top-tier opposition.

22%
Domestic cup quarter-finalists from the second tier or lower outside the Big 5

15%
Domestic cup quarter-finalists from the second tier or lower in Big 5 countries

Percentage of clubs per tier in domestic cup rounds, 2025/26



LOWER-TIER DOMESTIC CUP CHAMPIONS

Domestic cup competitions provide the opportunity for lower-tier teams to compete against the best teams in the country in a knockout tournament. It is a chance for smaller teams to achieve unimaginable results. Last season, out of the five non-top-tier teams that reached the last stage of the competition, two were crowned cup champions:

Lillestrøm SK, which was playing in the Norwegian second tier during the 2025 season, managed to win its seventh Norwegian cup after beating top-tier team Sarpsborg 08 FF in the final. While Lillestrøm SK has mostly competed in the Eliteserien in recent seasons, the club was relegated to the second tier back in 2024. In 2025/26, the team was not only crowned cup champion, but also promoted back to the top tier.

Sport Clube União Torreense, which is in the Portuguese Liga 2, managed to win its first cup after beating top-tier champion Sporting Clube de Portugal in extra time. SCU Toreense last featured in the Primeira Liga back in 1991/92. After competing as low as the fourth tier in the 2008/09 season, the club found its way back to Liga 2 in the 2022/23 season, finishing third last season and losing the promotion play-offs to top-tier club Casa Pia AC.

The 2024/25 season had over 30 non-repeat title winners

As highlighted in previous editions of the report, domestic top-tier leagues are usually dominated by a select group of clubs, who hold the most league titles.

While a single club being crowned the league champion for the first time highlights the strength of the European football model, the 2025/26 season saw six clubs winning their first-ever league title.

36
Highest number of non-repeat domestic league title winners since the 2010/11 season, an increase of five teams compared with the previous season and a third consecutive season with over 30 non-repeat title winners

Sabah FC (AZE) was founded in September 2017 and achieved promotion in its first season. Sabah FC was crowned league champion for the first time in the 2025/26 season, stopping rival Qarabağ FK from bagging a fifth consecutive title, and also won a second consecutive Azerbaijani Cup title.

ML Vitebsk (BLR), previously known as Dnepr Rogachev, was crowned Belarusian league champion for the first time in the 2025/26 season, after being promoted from the second tier the previous season.

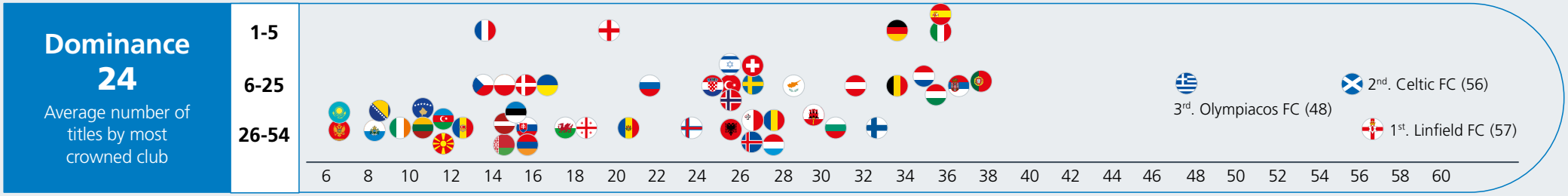
FK Kauno Žalgiris (LTU) was promoted to the Toplyga for the first time in 2015 and, after four top-three finishes in the last six seasons, was crowned top-tier champion for the first time in the club's history in 2025.

FC Atert Bissen (LUX) was founded over 80 years ago and was promoted to the Luxembourg National Division for the first time in its history in the 2024/25 season. The club continued with a historic run and shocked Luxembourgish football by winning the top-tier title in its debut season.

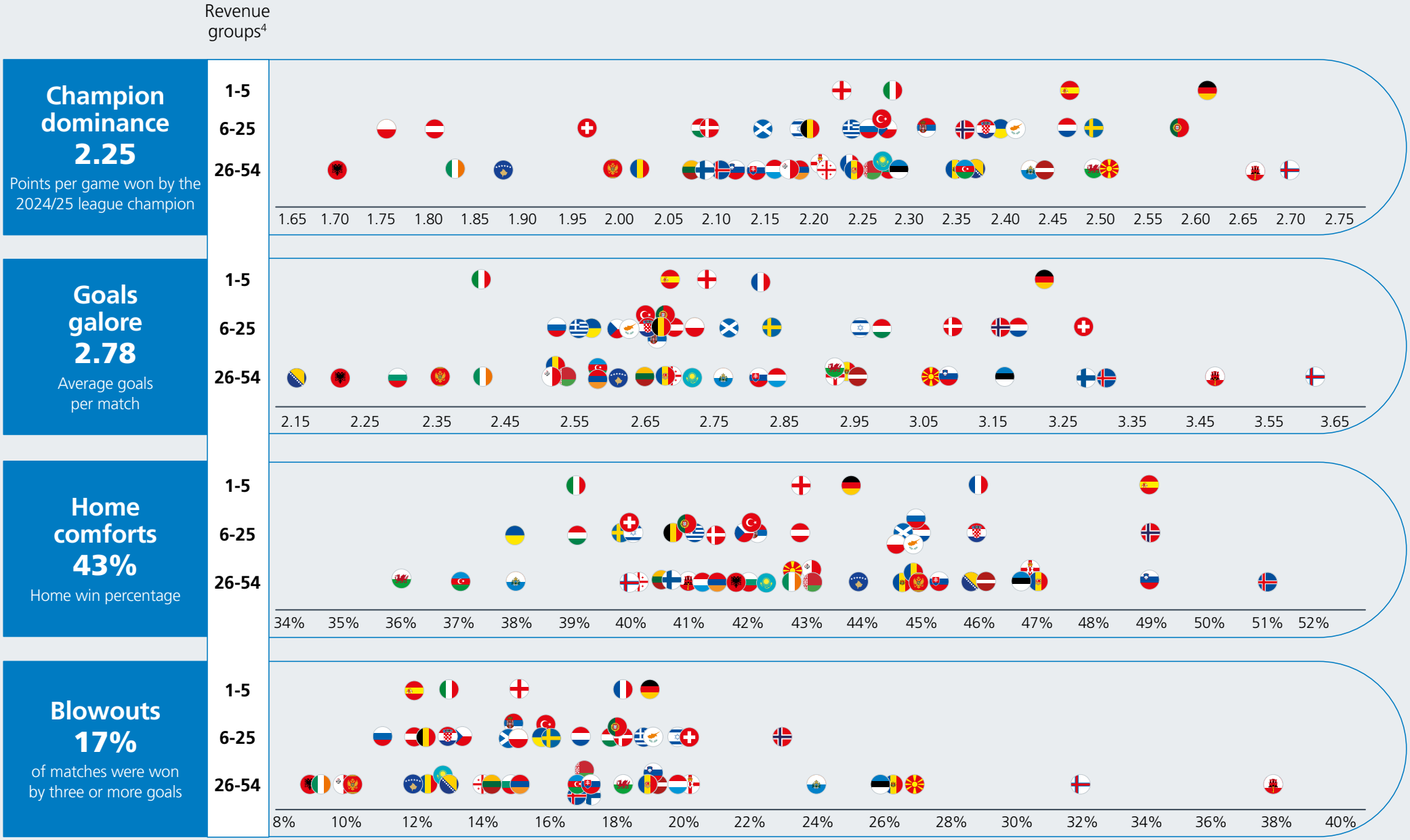
FC Thun (SUI) is a club with 128 years of history. Finishing the 2004/05 season in second place – an all-time high – and reaching the group stages of the UEFA Champions League the following season, FC Thun won its first-ever Swiss Super League title in 2025/26, after being promoted the prior season.

Mjällby AIF (SWE) was crowned Allsvenskan champion for the first time in its 87-year history during the 2025 season. The club followed up the historic success by winning its first domestic cup title in the 2025/26 season, beating Hammarby IF in the final.

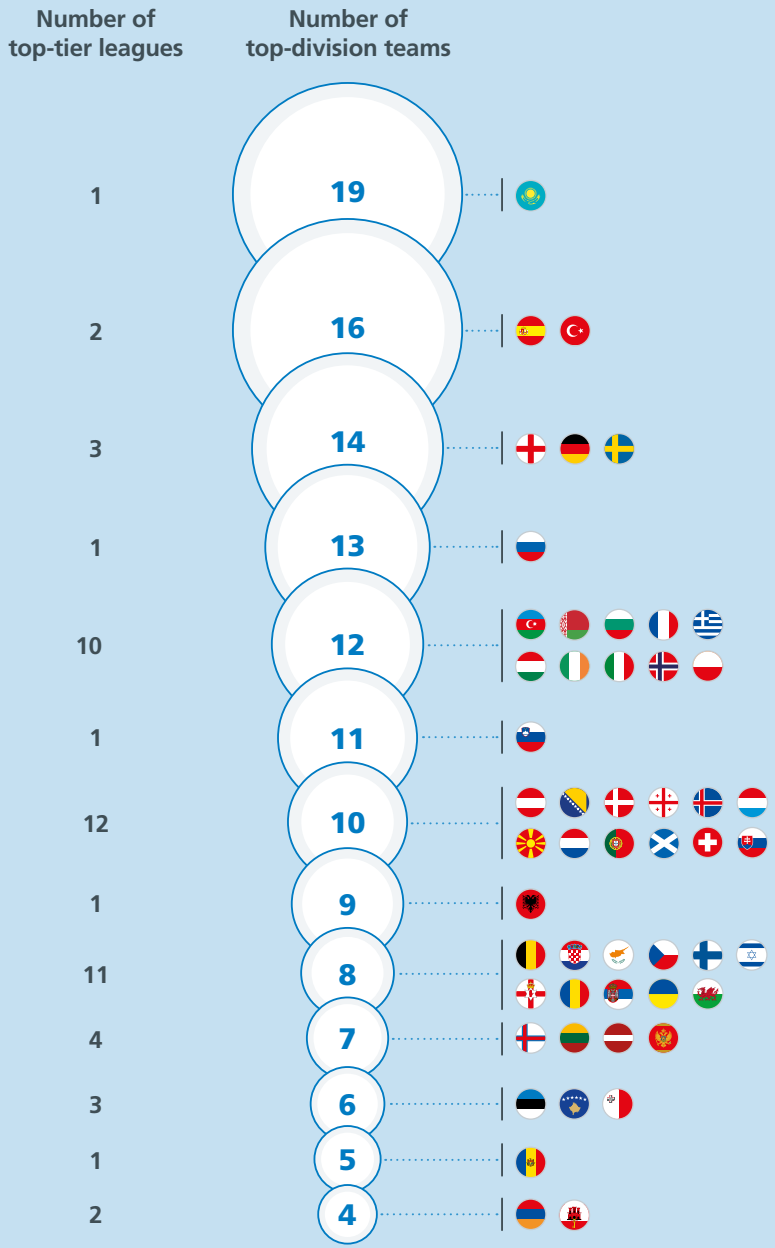
Number of league titles by most crowned team

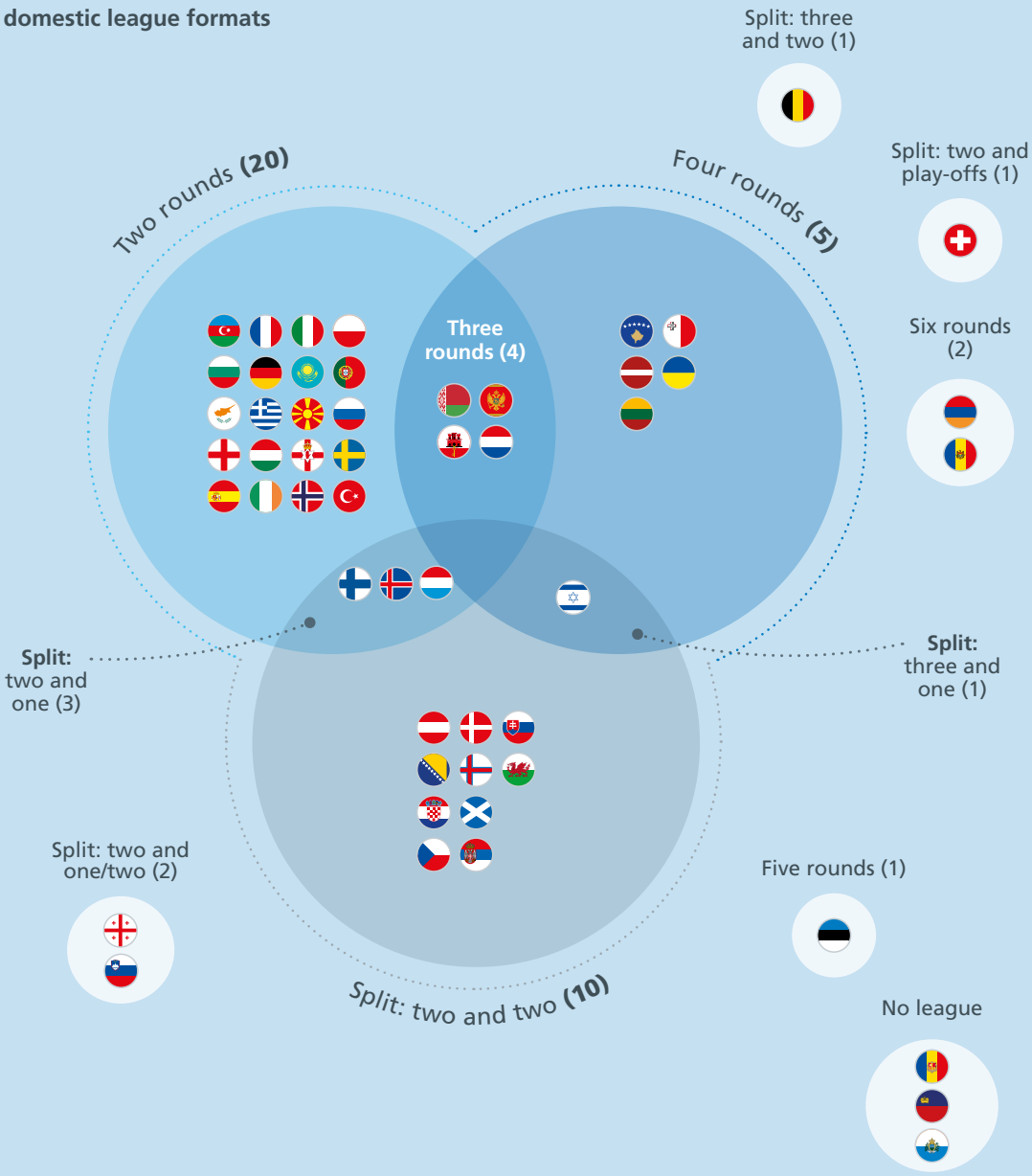


Competition benchmarks (2025/26)



The size and formats of women's top-tier leagues (2026/27)





Organisation of women's clubs across Europe

27%
of women's top-division clubs operate independently of men's clubs, compared with just below 40% in 2022/23

The women's game has evolved at a rapid pace in recent years, and this is reflected in clubs' organisational structures. Since 2020, there has been a noticeable trend of women's football clubs being integrated into the organisational structure of existing men's clubs. The percentage of clubs integrated in existing structures has risen from 43% in 2020 to 59% this upcoming season.

Compared to the previous season, the percentage of clubs involved in a collaboration has grown from only 9% to 14%, while the percentage of independent clubs, has decreced from 32% to 27%. On the other hand, while the number of clubs integrated in existing structures has risen since last season, the percentage remains consistent at 59%

How women's clubs are organised[5]



DEFINITIONS OF CATEGORIES

For the purposes of this report, women's clubs have been broken down into the following categories:

Independent: The women's club is organised as a single entity or group that runs all football activities. It has no link to another club, nor does it receive any type of support from another club.

Collaboration: The women's club collaborates with a professional men's club, sharing its identity and infrastructure, receiving financial support, etc., without necessarily falling within the reporting perimeter of the men's club.

Integrated: The senior women's team is part of an entity running other football activities. The activities of the men's and women's clubs are combined or integrated.

6 APPENDICES

The appendices include the following key performance indicators for top-division club football across each of the 54 UEFA national associations that have national leagues. In addition, a map is provided for each country showing all the teams competing in the top tier during the 2026/27 season.

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE	ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE	PLAYER REGULATORY LANDSCAPE	TRANSFER LANDSCAPE	TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE
When the league is played	Aggregated league attendance	Is squad size regulated?	Net earnings	Average number of players fielded per club
Shape of the top division	Average stadium capacity utilisation	Are locally trained players required?	Estimated gross spend	Percentage of minutes played by expatriate players
Format of the top-division	Trend v 2023/24 season	Are there nationality restrictions?	Average number of player movements per club (squad churn)	Percentage of domestic head coaches
Who is responsible for the league	Largest crowd	Are there domestic loan rules?	Percentage of deals involving an expatriate player (most common nationality)	Average number of head coach dismissals per club
Number and type of relegation places				

M: Men's top division
W: Women's top division
Xth: Where applicable, a ranking of each national association is also provided
All sections refer to activities in the 2025/26 season except for the competition landscape, for which 2026/27 data is used

Albania



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: 9 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (3&2/3)
  W: Other
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 0 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **1,647** 34th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **18%** 38th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **23%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **8,398** 36th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  8 LTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  No
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€1.6M** 27th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1m** 35th
  Estimated gross spend
- **10.4** 15th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **47%** 32nd
  Expatriate player deals **(KOS)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **33.4** 9th
  Average number of players fielded
- **48%** 24th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **76%** 19th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.4** 7th
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Andorra

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: No league
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: No league
- League format
  M: 3 rounds
  W: No league
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: No league
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: No league

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **360** 52nd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **0%** 47th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **0%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **–** 47th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

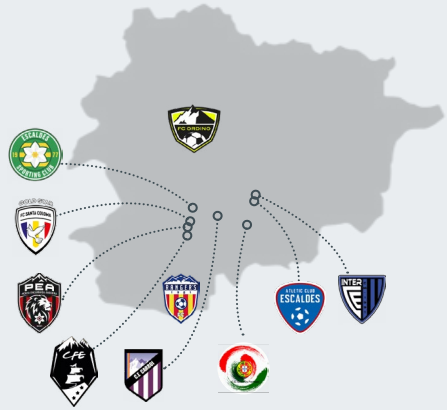
- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (3 IN/5 OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+2.7M** 25th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** 45th
  Estimated gross spend
- **10.1** 18th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **84%** 1st
  Expatriate player deals **(ESP)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **25.3** 52nd
  Average number of players fielded
- **90%** 1st
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **25%** 52nd
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.4** 51st
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Armenia



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 4 clubs
- League format
  M: 3 rounds
  W: 6 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 0 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **400** (50th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **0%** (47th) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **0%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **–** (47th) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit** **Yes** 30 players
- **Locally trained players** **Yes** 9 LTP in MD squad, 3 LTP on-pitch
- **Nationality restrictions** **Yes** (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules** **Yes** (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€1.4M** (30th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** (42nd) Estimated gross spend
- **9.1** (25th) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **56%** (16th) Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.9** (13th) Average number of players fielded
- **49%** (22nd) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **79%** (17th) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.6** (48th) Average head coach dismissals per club

Austria

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&2)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 0 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **8,498** (17th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **57%** (14th) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **3%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **26,000** (24th) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

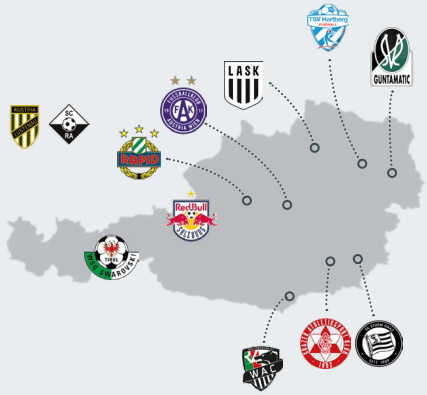
- **Squad size limit** **Yes** 25 players
- **Locally trained players** **No**
- **Nationality restrictions** **Yes** (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules** **Yes** (6 IN/10 OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

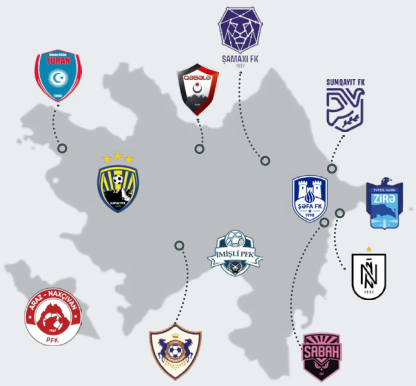
- **+€103M** (6th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€45M** (17th) Estimated gross spend
- **9.5** (21st) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **50%** (25th) Expatriate player deals **(GER)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **28.7** (40th) Average number of players fielded
- **48%** (23rd) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **73%** (21st) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.1** (21st) Average head coach dismissals per club



Azerbaijan



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 12 clubs
- League format
  M: 3 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **1,444** (36th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **18%** (37th) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **4%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **17,338** (29th) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes 30 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes (8 LTP in MD squad)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max 10 non-nationals registered & 6 on-pitch)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€2.4M** (26th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€11M** (23rd) Estimated gross spend
- **10.9** (12th) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **54%** (21st) Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **27.9** (47th) Average number of players fielded
- **67%** (8th) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **59%** (39th) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.8** (36th) Average head coach dismissals per club

Belarus

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Summer
  W: Summer
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: 12 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 3 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **2,229** (30th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **32%** (27th) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **6%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **10,009** (32nd) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  60 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 4 non-nationals fielded)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **-€0.5M** (47th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** (32nd) Estimated gross spend
- **6.1** (44th) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **40%** (39th) Expatriate player deals **(RUS)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.4** (36th) Average number of players fielded
- **24%** (53rd) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **88%** (6th) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.8** (42nd) Average head coach dismissals per club



Belgium



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 18 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: Split (3&2)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

10,309 13th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

56% 15th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

3%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

26,444 23rd
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
25 players

Locally trained players
Yes 8 LTP in squad

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€219M 3rd
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€190M 8th
Estimated gross spend

9.0 26th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

66% 8th
Expatriate player deals **(FRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

31.2 27th
Average number of players fielded

63% 13th
Minutes played by expatriate players

73% 22nd
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.3 11th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Bosnia and Herzegovina

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: 4 rounds
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

2,548 29th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

25% 29th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-5%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

11,300 31st
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 3 non-nationals fielded)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€1.6M 28th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 33rd
Estimated gross spend

12.8 4th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

47% 33rd
Expatriate player deals **(CRO)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

38.7 1st
Average number of players fielded

49% 21st
Minutes played by expatriate players

57% 43rd
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.8 3rd
Average head coach dismissals per club



Bulgaria



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 14 clubs
  W: 12 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1/2)
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 1 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **2,140** 31st
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **12%** 44th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **18%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **29,000** 21st
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  30 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 5 non-EEA registered & 3 fielded)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€0.3M** 35th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€6M** 26th
  Estimated gross spend
- **8.3** 30th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **55%** 19th
  Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.8** 14th
  Average number of players fielded
- **51%** 18th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **66%** 35th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.5** 5th
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Croatia

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: 4 rounds
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 0 PO
  W: 1 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **5,338** 22nd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **32%** 26th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-6%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **32,212** 18th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  6 LTP in MD Squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 6 non-EEA fielded)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€30M** 14th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€3M** 28th
  Estimated gross spend
- **9.3** 23rd
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **32%** 47th
  Expatriate player deals **(BIH)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **34.6** 7th
  Average number of players fielded
- **34%** 42nd
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **71%** 25th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.0** 25th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Cyprus



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 14 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1/2)
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 3 direct & 0 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **2,843** 28th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **22%** 32nd
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-2%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **21,759** 25th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  27 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  10 LTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 7 non-EEA registered)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (Other)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€4.4M** 19th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€4M** 27th
  Estimated gross spend
- **12.9** 3rd
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **55%** 18th
  Expatriate player deals **(GRE)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **31.8** 23rd
  Average number of players fielded
- **76%** 2nd
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **47%** 48th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **2.1** 2nd
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Czechia

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 2 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **6,209** 20th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **55%** 16th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **0%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **19,314** 27th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 5 non-EEA fielded)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **-€9.5M** 49th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€86** 12th
  Estimated gross spend
- **8.8** 27th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **51%** 24th
  Expatriate player deals **(SVK)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **35.1** 5th
  Average number of players fielded
- **38%** 35th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **92%** 3rd
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.8** 38th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Denmark



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&2)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: 0 direct & 4 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **9,196** 15th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **61%** 11th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-8%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **34,442** 15th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  UEFA rules (4+4)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€77M** 7th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€52M** 15th
  Estimated gross spend
- **7.2** 40th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **55%** 17th
  Expatriate player deals **(GHA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.8** 29th
  Average number of players fielded
- **44%** 30th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **82%** 10th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.7** 44th
  Average head coach dismissals per club

England

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 20 clubs
  W: 14 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: League Entity
- Relegation places
  M: 3 direct & 0 PO
  W: 1 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **41,643** 2nd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **96%** 2nd
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **3%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **74,257** 4th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  8 LTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (2 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **-€1,386M** 54th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€4,607M** 1st
  Estimated gross spend
- **8.6** 28th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **63%** 10th
  Expatriate player deals **(FRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **27.6** 48th
  Average number of players fielded
- **70%** 5th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **31%** 51st
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.0** 26th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Estonia



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 10 clubs
W: 6 clubs

League format
M: 4 rounds
W: 5 rounds

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 1 PO
W: 0 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

376 51st
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

20% 34th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-7%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

1,687 46th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes 30 players

Locally trained players
Yes 20 LTP in squad, 12 in MD Squad and 6 on-pitch

Nationality restrictions
No

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

-€0.1M 45th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 37th
Estimated gross spend

2.6 52nd
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

58% 13th
Expatriate player deals **(ESP)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

28.1 44th
Average number of players fielded

26% 50th
Minutes played by expatriate players

69% 27th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.6 48th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Faroe Islands

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 10 clubs
W: 7 clubs

League format
M: 3 rounds
W: Split (2&2)

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 0 PO
W: 0 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

418 48th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

0% 47th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

0%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

– 47th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 4 non-nationals fielded)

Domestic loan rules
No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.0M 38th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 45th
Estimated gross spend

1.7 54th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

47% 34th
Expatriate player deals **(DEN)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

25.2 53rd
Average number of players fielded

24% 51st
Minutes played by expatriate players

69% 28th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.9 30th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Finland



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 12 clubs
W: 8 clubs

League format
M: Split (2&1/2)
W: Split (2&1)

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 1 PO
W: 0 direct & 2 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

3,144 26th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

49% 17th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

16%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

8,133 37th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
Yes 10 LTP MD squad, 4 LTP fielded

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 3 non-EEA in MD squad)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€3.6M 22nd
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 39th
Estimated gross spend

5.8 45th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

62% 12th
Expatriate player deals **(SWE)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

28.3 42nd
Average number of players fielded

41% 33rd
Minutes played by expatriate players

87% 9th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.8 36th
Average head coach dismissals per club

France

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 18 clubs
W: 12 clubs

League format
M: 2 rounds
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 1 PO
W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

27,495 5th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

80% 4th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-2%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

66,279 6th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 4 non-EEA registered)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (5 IN/7 OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€845M 1st
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€635M 5th
Estimated gross spend

8.2 31st
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

48% 29th
Expatriate player deals **(BEL)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

31.2 28th
Average number of players fielded

48% 25th
Minutes played by expatriate players

67% 33rd
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.2 15th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Georgia



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Summer
  W: Summer
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: 4 rounds
  W: Split (2&1/2)
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 2 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **1,165** 38th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **14%** 43rd
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-16%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **9,000** 34th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  5 CTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 15 non-nationals in squad)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€3.8M** 21st
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** 44th
  Estimated gross spend
- **6.6** 42nd
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **51%** 23rd
  Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **33.1** 12th
  Average number of players fielded
- **31%** 43rd
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **59%** 40th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.7** 43rd
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Germany

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 18 clubs
  W: 14 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 1 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **42,329** 1st
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **97%** 1st
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **10%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **81,365** 1st
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes UEFA rules (4+4)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Min. 12 nationals in squad)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

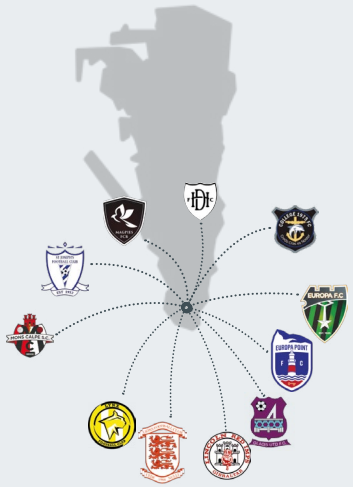
- **+€168M** 5th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€859M** 3rd
  Estimated gross spend
- **8.5** 29th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **54%** 20th
  Expatriate player deals **(FRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **28.2** 43rd
  Average number of players fielded
- **55%** 16th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **68%** 32nd
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.8** 36th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Gibraltar



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 11 clubs
W: 4 clubs

League format
M: Split (2&1)
W: 3 rounds

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: Closed
W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

– 54th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

0% 47th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

0%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

– 47th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
25 players

Locally trained players
Yes 4 LTP in squad, 4 LTP fielded

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 4 non-EEA registered)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.1M 37th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 45th
Estimated gross spend

12.4 6th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

70% 5th
Expatriate player deals **(ESP)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

35.2 4th
Average number of players fielded

65% 9th
Minutes played by expatriate players

19% 54th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.0 25th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Greece

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 14 clubs
W: 12 clubs

League format
M: Split (2&2)
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 0 PO
W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

7,432 18th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

35% 25th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

16%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

32,954 17th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 8 non-EEA registered)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

-€25M 50th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€156M 10th
Estimated gross spend

12.8 5th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

63% 11th
Expatriate player deals **(ESP)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

33.3 11th
Average number of players fielded

67% 6th
Minutes played by expatriate players

50% 46th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.4 10th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Hungary



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 12 clubs
- League format
  M: 3 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **4,258** (24th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **42%** (20th) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-6%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **18,799** (28th) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€30M** (13th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€9M** (24th) Estimated gross spend
- **7.4** (37th) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **34%** (46th) Expatriate player deals **(NGA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **34.3** (8th) Average number of players fielded
- **37%** (36th) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **68%** (30th) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.1** (21st) Average head coach dismissals per club

Iceland

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Summer
  W: Summer
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1)
  W: Split (2&1)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **851** (40th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **37%** (22nd) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **2%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **3,107** (43rd) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes 25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes UEFA rules (4+4)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes Max. 5 non-EEA in MD Squad
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€0.5M** (33rd) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** (45th) Estimated gross spend
- **2.3** (53rd) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **15%** (54th) Expatriate player deals **(SRB)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **24.4** (54th) Average number of players fielded
- **24%** (52nd) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **100%** (1st) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.6** (49th) Average head coach dismissals per club



Israel



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 14 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1/2)
  W: Split (3&1)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **9,395** 9th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **43%** 19th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **25%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **29,395** 20th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  45 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 8 non-nationals registered)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€15M** 17th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€14M** 22nd
  Estimated gross spend
- **10.6** 14th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **22%** 53rd
  Expatriate player deals **(NGA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **31.8** 23rd
  Average number of players fielded
- **35%** 38th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **88%** 7th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.9** 32nd
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Italy

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 20 clubs
  W: 12 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 3 direct & 0 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **30,085** 1st
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **77%** 6th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-2%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **75,681** 3rd
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes UEFA rules (4+4)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes Max. 2 non-EEA registered
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (10 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **-€368M** 53rd
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€1,260M** 2nd
  Estimated gross spend
- **11.1** 10th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **50%** 27th
  Expatriate player deals **(ESP)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.5** 35th
  Average number of players fielded
- **64%** 12th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **72%** 23rd
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.9** 30th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Kazakhstan



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Summer
  W: Summer
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: 19 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 0 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **5,011** 23rd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **41%** 21st
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **36%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **28,211** 22nd
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  30 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes
  Max. 14 non-nationals registered
- **Domestic loan rules**
  No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€1.5M** 29th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€1M** 30th
  Estimated gross spend
- **6.2** 43rd
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **57%** 15th
  Expatriate player deals **(BLR)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.6** 31st
  Average number of players fielded
- **47%** 27th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **61%** 38th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.1** 22nd
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Kosovo

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: 6 clubs
- League format
  M: 4 rounds
  W: 4 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 1 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **477** 43rd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **0%** 47th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **0%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **–** 47th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  35 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  8 LTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes Max. 8 non-nationals on-pitch
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€0.3M** 36th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** 42nd
  Estimated gross spend
- **13.1** 2nd
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **35%** 44th
  Expatriate player deals **(ALB)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **29.0** 38th
  Average number of players fielded
- **42%** 32nd
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **71%** 24th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.7** 4th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Latvia



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 10 clubs
W: 7 clubs

League format
M: 4 rounds
W: 4 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 1 PO
W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

436 45th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

18% 36th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-10%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

5,062 40th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
Yes
5 LTP in MD squad, 3 LTP fielded

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€3.4M 23rd
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 34th
Estimated gross spend

5.4 47th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

57% 14th
Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

31.2 26th
Average number of players fielded

46% 28th
Minutes played by expatriate players

76% 18th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.8 39th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Lithuania

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 9 clubs
W: 7 clubs

League format
M: 4 rounds
W: 4 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: League Entity

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 1 PO
W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

671 41st
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

17% 40th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

24%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

6,675 38th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
30 players

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 8 non-nationals on-pitch)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.0M 39th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 45th
Estimated gross spend

3.8 51st
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

70% 6th
Expatriate player deals **(UKR)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

28.1 44th
Average number of players fielded

54% 17th
Minutes played by expatriate players

54% 45th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.5 50th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Luxembourg



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 16 clubs
W: 10 clubs

League format
M: 2 rounds
W: Split (2&1)

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 2 PO
W: 3 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

407 49th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

15% 41st
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

6%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

3,169 42nd
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
Yes 5 LTP in MD squad, 2 LTP fielded

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (4 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.0M 39th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 44th
Estimated gross spend

10.1 17th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

66% 7th
Expatriate player deals **(FRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

27.9 46th
Average number of players fielded

65% 9th
Minutes played by expatriate players

23% 53rd
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.2 16th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Malta

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 12 clubs
W: 6 clubs

League format
M: Other
W: 4 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 0 PO
W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

428 47th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

0% 47th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

0%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

– 47th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
28 players

Locally trained players
Yes
4 LTP in squad

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

-€0.1M 44th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 41st
Estimated gross spend

12.3 7th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

71% 3rd
Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

32.0 21st
Average number of players fielded

64% 11th
Minutes played by expatriate players

58% 42nd
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.9 28th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Moldova



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 8 clubs
W: 5 clubs

League format
M: Other
W: 6 rounds

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 0 direct & 2 PO
W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

987 39th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

21% 33rd
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

19%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

4,016 41st
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
30 players

Locally trained players
Yes
8 LTP in squad

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.1M 45th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 37th
Estimated gross spend

8.1 32nd
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

28% 50th
Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

26.6 50th
Average number of players fielded

35% 39th
Minutes played by expatriate players

69% 29th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.1 18th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Montenegro

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 10 clubs
W: 7 clubs

League format
M: 4 rounds
W: 3 rounds

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 2 PO
W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

432 46th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

12% 45th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-1%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

2,000 45th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 4 non-nationals in MD squad and 3 fielded)

Domestic loan rules
No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.3M 34th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 45th
Estimated gross spend

8.1 33rd
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

22% 52nd
Expatriate player deals **(SRB)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

31.3 25th
Average number of players fielded

17% 54th
Minutes played by expatriate players

89% 5th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.3 13th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Netherlands



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season **M**: Winter **W**: Winter
- League size **M:** 18 clubs **W:** 10 clubs
- League format **M:** 2 rounds **W:** 3 rounds
- League organiser **M:** League Entity **W:** NA
- Relegation places **M:** 2 direct & 1 PO **W:** 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **19,578** 6th — Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **93%** 3rd — Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-2%** — Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **55,865** 9th — Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit** **No**
- **Locally trained players** **No**
- **Nationality restrictions** **Yes** (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules** **Yes** (7 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€212M** 4th — Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€160M** 9th — Estimated gross spend
- **9.7** 20th — Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **43%** 37th — Expatriate player deals **(BEL)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.6** 32nd — Average number of players fielded
- **39%** 34th — Minutes played by expatriate players
- **88%** 8th — Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.8** 40th — Average head coach dismissals per club

North Macedonia

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season **M**: Winter **W**: Winter
- League size **M:** 10 clubs **W:** 10 clubs
- League format **M:** 4 rounds **W:** 2 rounds
- League organiser **M:** NA **W:** NA
- Relegation places **M:** 2 direct & 1 PO **W:** 1 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **494** 42nd — Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **7%** 46th — Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-24%** — Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **6,000** 39th — Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit** **Yes** 25 players
- **Locally trained players** **No**
- **Nationality restrictions** **Yes** (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules** **Yes** (4 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€0.6M** 32nd — Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** 45th — Estimated gross spend
- **11.0** 11th — Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **23%** 51st — Expatriate player deals **(ALB)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **31.9** 22nd — Average number of players fielded
- **30%** 45th — Minutes played by expatriate players
- **81%** 13th — Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.4** 9th — Average head coach dismissals per club



Northern Ireland



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Summer

League size
M: 12 clubs
W: 8 clubs

League format
M: Split (3&1)
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: League Entity

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 1 PO
W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

1,481 35th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

0% 47th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-3%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

– 47th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
20 players

Locally trained players
No LTP players are exempt from squad limit

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.0M 39th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 36th
Estimated gross spend

7.4 37th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

37% 43rd
Expatriate player deals **(IRL)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

32.3 18th
Average number of players fielded

29% 47th
Minutes played by expatriate players

94% 2nd
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.3 53rd
Average head coach dismissals per club

Norway

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 16 clubs
W: 12 clubs

League format
M: 2 rounds
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 1 PO
W: 2 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

7,068 19th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

66% 9th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

2%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

21,263 26th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
25 players

Locally trained players
Yes 16 LTP in squad (min. 2 CTP)

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€71M 9th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€33M 18th
Estimated gross spend

5.4 46th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

40% 40th
Expatriate player deals **(DEN)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

28.9 39th
Average number of players fielded

31% 44th
Minutes played by expatriate players

68% 31st
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.6 45th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Poland



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 18 clubs
  W: 12 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 3 direct & 0 PO
  W: 1 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **12,999** 9th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **69%** 8th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **3%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **41,589** 13th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  UEFA rules (4+3)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€38M** 12th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€30M** 19th
  Estimated gross spend
- **7.5** 35th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **47%** 31st
  Expatriate player deals **(CRO)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.7** 30th
  Average number of players fielded
- **55%** 15th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **58%** 41st
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.1** 23rd
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Portugal

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 18 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: Other
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 1 PO
  W: 1 direct & 2 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **11,979** 11th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **45%** 18th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-2%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **66,366** 5th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  30 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  8 LTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (3 IN/6 OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€284M** 2nd
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€302M** 7th
  Estimated gross spend
- **9.4** 22nd
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **71%** 4th
  Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.2** 20th
  Average number of players fielded
- **70%** 4th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **81%** 12th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.3** 14th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Republic of Ireland



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 10 clubs
W: 12 clubs

League format
M: 4 rounds
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: NA
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 1 direct & 1 PO
W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

3,778 25th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

58% 12th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

8%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

33,208 16th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
25 players

Locally trained players
Yes
8 LTP in squad

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (4 IN/5 OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€0.6M 31st
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

<€1M 40th
Estimated gross spend

4.2 50th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

38% 42nd
Expatriate player deals **(ENG)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

28.6 41st
Average number of players fielded

30% 46th
Minutes played by expatriate players

80% 15th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.6 48th
Average head coach dismissals per club

Romania

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 16 clubs
W: 8 clubs

League format
M: Split (2&1/2)
W: Split (2&4)

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 2 PO
W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

5,746 21st
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

36% 24th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

-12%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

34,700 14th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
25 players

Locally trained players
Yes
UEFA rules (6+2)

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 4 non-EEA registered)

Domestic loan rules
Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€12M 18th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€9M 25th
Estimated gross spend

10.1 19th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

44% 36th
Expatriate player deals **(POR)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

35.0 6th
Average number of players fielded

45% 29th
Minutes played by expatriate players

79% 16th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

1.4 8th
Average head coach dismissals per club



Russia



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Summer
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: 13 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 2 PO
  W: Closed

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **13,615** 8th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **37%** 23rd
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **12%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **57,777** 8th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes 25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  UEFA rules (4+4)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes Max. 13 non-nationals in squad and 8 fielded
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (2 IN)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€17M** 15th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€87M** 11th
  Estimated gross spend
- **4.8** 49th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **35%** 45th
  Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **30.6** 32nd
  Average number of players fielded
- **43%** 31st
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **70%** 26th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.8** 38th
  Average head coach dismissals per club

San Marino

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: No league
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: No league
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: No league
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: No league
- Relegation places
  M: Closed
  W: No league

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **159** 53rd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **0%** 47th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **0%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **–** 47th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 3 non-EEA registered)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (4 IN)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€0.0M** 39th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** 45th
  Estimated gross spend
- **13.7** 1st
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **81%** 2nd
  Expatriate player deals **(ITA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **26.4** 51st
  Average number of players fielded
- **75%** 3rd
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **36%** 50th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.9** 31st
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Scotland



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (3&1)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: League Entity
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **17,903** 7th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **75%** 7th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **3%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **59,079** 7th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€15M** 16th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€71M** 13th
  Estimated gross spend
- **11.8** 9th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **65%** 9th
  Expatriate player deals **(ENG)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.4** 17th
  Average number of players fielded
- **63%** 13th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **50%** 47th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.2** 17th
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Serbia

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 14 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 2 PO
  W: 1 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **1,948** 32nd
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **15%** 42nd
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-2%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **45,277** 12th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  30 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 4 non-EEA on-pitch)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

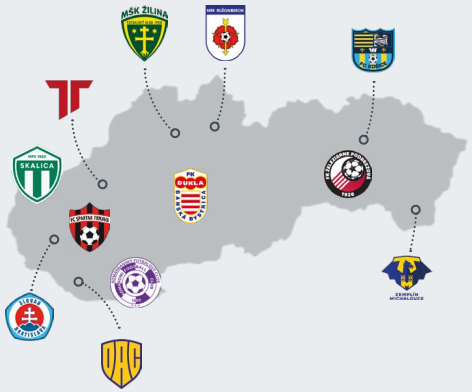
- **+€49M** 10th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€22M** 20th
  Estimated gross spend
- **10.9** 13th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **31%** 48th
  Expatriate player deals **(BIH)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **36.2** 2nd
  Average number of players fielded
- **26%** 49th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **91%** 4th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **2.2** 1st
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Slovakia



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&2)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **3,026** 27th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **31%** 28th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **20%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **17,011** 30th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 5 non-EEA fielded)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (10 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€4.3M** 20th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€3M** 29th
  Estimated gross spend
- **7.6** 34th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **53%** 22nd
  Expatriate player deals **(CZE)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.8** 15th
  Average number of players fielded
- **49%** 19th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **61%** 37th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.9** 28th
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Slovenia

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 10 clubs
  W: 11 clubs
- League format
  M: 4 rounds
  W: Split (2&1/2)
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **1,284** 37th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **19%** 35th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-16%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **8,900** 35th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  No
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 4 non-EEA in MD squad)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€2.8M** 24th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** 31st
  Estimated gross spend
- **10.4** 15th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **49%** 28th
  Expatriate player deals **(CRO)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **36.0** 3rd
  Average number of players fielded
- **47%** 26th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **42%** 49th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.3** 13th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Spain



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Winter
W: Winter

League size
M: 20 clubs
W: 16 clubs

League format
M: 2 rounds
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 3 direct & 0 PO
W: 2 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

30,945 3rd
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

80% 5th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

3%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

78,107 2nd
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
Yes
25 players

Locally trained players
No

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Max. 3 non-EEA registered)

Domestic loan rules
No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

-€62M 51st
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€799M 4th
Estimated gross spend

7.4 39th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

39% 41st
Expatriate player deals **(ARG)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

30.6 34th
Average number of players fielded

34% 40th
Minutes played by expatriate players

64% 36th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.9 33rd
Average head coach dismissals per club

Sweden

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

Sporting season
M: Summer
W: Summer

League size
M: 16 clubs
W: 14 clubs

League format
M: 2 rounds
W: 2 rounds

League organiser
M: League Entity
W: NA

Relegation places
M: 2 direct & 1 PO
W: 2 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

10,983 12th
Average league attendance (Men's top tier)

58% 13th
Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)

3%
Attendance trend v 2023/24

47,727 11th
Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Squad size limit
No

Locally trained players
Yes
9 LTP in MD Squad

Nationality restrictions
Yes (Work permit required)

Domestic loan rules
No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

+€72M 8th
Estimated net earnings (all tiers)

€17M 21st
Estimated gross spend

5.2 48th
Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)

50% 26th
Expatriate player deals **(DEN)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

29.1 37th
Average number of players fielded

37% 37th
Minutes played by expatriate players

82% 11th
Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)

0.8 42nd
Average head coach dismissals per club



Switzerland



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 12 clubs
  W: 10 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (3&1)
  W: Other
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 1 direct & 1 PO
  W: 0 direct & 2 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **12,331** 10th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **65%** 10th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **0%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **31,500** 19th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  No
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 5 non-EEA on-pitch)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€47M** 11th
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€47M** 16th
  Estimated gross spend
- **6.7** 41st
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **48%** 30th
  Expatriate player deals **(FRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.3** 18th
  Average number of players fielded
- **49%** 20th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **57%** 44th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.1** 21st
  Average head coach dismissals per club

Türkiye

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 18 clubs
  W: 16 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 2 rounds
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 3 direct & 0 PO
  W: 3 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **8,680** 16th
  Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **24%** 30th
  Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **-34%**
  Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **51,641** 10th
  Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  28 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  UEFA rules (3+2)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 14 non-nationals registered)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **-€283M** 52nd
  Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€413M** 6th
  Estimated gross spend
- **11.9** 8th
  Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **43%** 38th
  Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **33.3** 10th
  Average number of players fielded
- **67%** 7th
  Minutes played by expatriate players
- **66%** 34th
  Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **1.4** 6th
  Average head coach dismissals per club



Ukraine



COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: 2 rounds
  W: 4 rounds
- League organiser
  M: League Entity
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 2 PO
  W: 2 direct & 1 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **1,742** (33rd) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **18%** (39th) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **51%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **9,850** (33rd) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  UEFA rules (4+4)
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Max. 7 non-nationals on-pitch)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  No

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **-€3.5M** (48th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **€52M** (14th) Estimated gross spend
- **7.5** (35th) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **29%** (49th) Expatriate player deals **(BRA)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **32.7** (16th) Average number of players fielded
- **27%** (48th) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **81%** (14th) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.4** (52nd) Average head coach dismissals per club

Wales

COMPETITION LANDSCAPE

- Sporting season
  M: Winter
  W: Winter
- League size
  M: 16 clubs
  W: 8 clubs
- League format
  M: Split (2&1)
  W: Split (2&2)
- League organiser
  M: NA
  W: NA
- Relegation places
  M: 2 direct & 1 PO
  W: 1 direct & 0 PO

ATTENDANCE LANDSCAPE

- **456** (44th) Average league attendance (Men's top tier)
- **24%** (31st) Average stadium capacity utilisation (Men's top tier)
- **12%** Attendance trend v 2023/24
- **2,357** (44th) Largest crowd

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

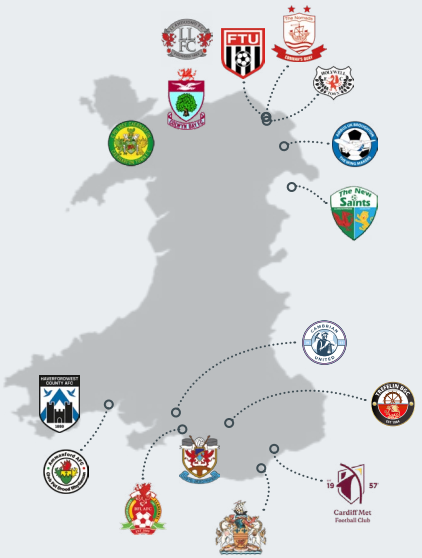
- **Squad size limit**
  Yes
  25 players
- **Locally trained players**
  Yes
  8 LTP in squad
- **Nationality restrictions**
  Yes (Work permit required)
- **Domestic loan rules**
  Yes (6 IN/OUT)

TRANSFER LANDSCAPE

- **+€0.0M** (39th) Estimated net earnings (all tiers)
- **<€1M** (45th) Estimated gross spend
- **9.1** (24th) Squad churn (ave. inbound 1st squad)
- **46%** (35th) Expatriate player deals **(ENG)**

TALENT & HEAD COACH LANDSCAPE

- **26.7** (49th) Average number of players fielded
- **34%** (41st) Minutes played by expatriate players
- **73%** (20th) Domestic head coaches (Men's top tier)
- **0.3** (54th) Average head coach dismissals per club



Club directory

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1.FC Köln	3
1. FC Slovácko	3
Aberdeen FC	3
AC Milan	1
AC Pisa	1
AC Sparta Praha	1
AC Venezia	2
AE Kifisia	1,3
AEK Athens FC	3
AFC Ajax	1,3
AFC Bournemouth	1
AGF Aarhus	3
AIK Stockholm	1
Alanyaspor	3
Al-Hilal SFC	2,3
Alverca Futebol	1,3
Aris Thessaloniki FC	3
Arsenal FC	1,2
AS Monaco	1,2,3
AS Roma	1
Aston Villa	2
Athletic Bilbao	3
Atlético de Madrid	1,3
AVS Futebol SAD	1
AZ Alkmaar	1,3
Bayer 04 Leverkusen	3
BK Häcken	3
Bohemian FC	1
Bologna FC 1909	3
Borussia Dortmund	1
Brighton & Hove Albion	2,3
Brøndby IF	3
BSC Young Boys	1
Burnley FC	3,5
CA Osasuna	3
Casa Pia AC	5
Celtic FC	1,3,5
CF Estrela Amadora	3
Chelsea FC	1,2
Club Brugge KV	1,3
Como 1907	3
Cork City FC	1
Cremonese	3
Crystal Palace F.C.	3
Diósgyőri VTK	3
Dundee United FC	3
Dunfermline Athletic FC	1
Eintracht Frankfurt	1
Elche CF	3
ETO FC Győr	3
Everton FC	3
Excelsior Rotterdam	1
F.C. Copenhagen	1
Falkirk FC	3
Fatih Karagümrükspor SK	1
FC Akhmat Grozny	1
FC Atert Bissen	5
FC Baník Ostrava	3
FC Barcelona	1,3
FC Bayern München	1,3
FC Famalicão	3
FC Fredericia	1,3
FC Groningen	3
FC Hradec Králové	3
FC Internazionale Milano	1
FC Krasnodar	3
FC Lokomotiv Moskva	3
FC Lorient	3
FC Lugano	1
FC Midtjylland	1
FC Nantes	3
FC Nordsjælland	3
FC Orenburg	3
FC Porto	1
FC Rostov	3
FC Schalke 04	1
FC Sion	3
FC Slovan Liberec	3
FC St Pauli	1,3
FC Thun	1
FC Tom Tomsk	5
FC Winterthur	1
FC Zenit	1,3
FC Zlín	3
FCV Dender EH	1
Ferencvárosi TC	1
Feyenoord Rotterdam	1
FK Haugesund	3
FK Jablonec	1,3
FK Kauno Žalgiris	5
FK Mladá Boleslav	1
FK Pardubice	3
Fulham FC	3
GAIS	3
Galatasaray A.Ş.	1
Genoa CFC	3
Getafe CF	1,2,3
Górnik Zabrze	1,3
Grasshopper Club Zürich	3
Hamburger SV	1,3

Hammarby IF	1,5
Hull City AFC	2
IF Brommapojkarna	1,3
IFK Göteborg	3
Ipswich Town FC	2
Iraklis FC	2
Kazincbarcikai BSC	3
KFUM-Kameratene Oslo	1
Kisvárda FC	3
Kocaelispor	3
Konyaspor	3
KS Lechia Gdańsk	3,2
KS Nieciecza	1,3
KV Mechelen	3
LASK	3
Le Mans FC	5
Lech Poznań	1
Lillestrøm SK	5
Linfield FC	5
Liverpool FC	1,2,3
Livingston FC	1
Maccabi Bnei Reineh	1
Maccabi Haifa FC	1
Málaga CF	1
Manchester City	1,2
Manchester United	1
Metaloglobus	1
Mjällby AIF	1,3,5
ML Vitebsk	5
Motherwell FC	3
Motor Lublin	3
N.E.C. Nijmegen	1
Newcastle United FC	1,2
OGC Nice	1

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Oud-Heverlee Leuven	3
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Paksi FC	1,3
Panathinaikos FC	3
Panetolikos GFS	3
Paris FC	3
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PFC CSKA Moskva	3
PFC CSKA Sofia	1
PFC Lokomotiv Plovdiv	1
Piast Gliwice	3
Qarabağ FK	3,5
R. Union Saint-Gilloise	1
RAAL La Louvière	3
Racing Club de Strasbourg Alsace	2,3
Raków Częstochowa	1
Rangers FC	1
RB Leipzig	2
RC Celta de Vigo	3
RC Deportivo La Coruña	1
RC Lens	1
Real Betis Balompié	1,3
Real Madrid C.F	1,2
Real Racing Club	1
Real Sociedad de Fútbol	1,3
Real Sporting de Gijón	1
Royal Antwerp FC	3
RSC Anderlecht	1
S.S. Lazio	1,3
Sabah FC	5
Sarpsborg 08 FF	3,5
SC Paderborn 07	2

Servette FC	3
Shamrock Rovers FC	1
SK Brann	1,3
SK Rapid Wien	3
SK Slavia Praha	3
SK Sturm Graz	3
SL Benfica	1
Southampton FC	3,5
Sport Clube União Torreense	5
Sporting Clube de Portugal	1,2,3,5
Stade Brestois 29	3
Strømsgodset IF	3
SV Elversberg	5
SV Ried	3
Telstar	3
Tottenham Hotspur	1,2
Toulouse FC	3
Universitatea Craiova	1
US Sassuolo Calcio	3
Valencia CF	1
VfB Stuttgart	1
VfL Wolfsburg	5
Viking FK	3
Villarreal CF	3
West Ham United FC	1,2,3
Wisła Płock	3
WSG Tirol	3
ZTE FC	1,3

Club directory

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ADO Den Haag	3
Arsenal Women FC	1,3
AS Roma	3
Chelsea FC Women	3
Club Atlético de Madrid	1,3
FC Barcelona	1,3
FC Bayern München	1,3
FC Spartak Trnava	1
FC Twente	3
Ferencvárosi TC	1
FK Austria Wien	1
Genoa CFC	3
GKS Katowice	1
Hamburger SV	3
Juventus	3
Kolbotn IL	3
Liverpool FC Women	3
Manchester United Women	1,3
OH Leuven	1
OL Lyonnes	3
Paris FC	3
Paris Saint-Germain	3
Real Madrid C.F.	1,3
SKN St. Pölten Frauen	3
Spartak Myjava	1
Sporting Clube de Portugal	1
USV Neulengbach	3
Vålerenga Fotball	3
VfL Wolfsburg	3
ŽFK Ljuboten	1

Country directory

OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAMES	TRIGRAM
Albania	ALB
Andorra	AND
Armenia	ARM
Austria	AUT
Azerbaijan	AZE
Belarus	BLR
Belgium	BEL
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH
Bulgaria	BUL
Croatia	CRO
Cyprus	CYP
Czechia	CZE
Denmark	DEN
England	ENG
Estonia	EST
Faroe Islands	FRO
Finland	FIN
France	FRA
Georgia	GEO
Germany	GER
Gibraltar	GIB
Greece	GRE
Hungary	HUN
Iceland	ISL
Israel	ISR
Italy	ITA
Kazakhstan	KAZ
Kosovo	KOS
Latvia	LVA
Liechtenstein	LIE
Lithuania	LTU
Luxembourg	LUX
Malta	MLT
Moldova	MDA
Montenegro	MNE
Netherlands	NED
North Macedonia	MKD
Northern Ireland	NIR
Norway	NOR
Poland	POL
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
Türkiye	TUR
Ukraine	UKR
Wales	WAL
Argentina	ARG
Brazil	BRA
Cameroon	CMR
Colombia	COL
Cote d'Ivoire	CIV
Ecuador	ECU
Egypt	EGY
Ghana	GHA
Japan	JPN
Mali	MLI
Morocco	MAR
Mexico	MEX
Nigeria	NGA
Paraguay	PRY
Qatar	QAT
Saudi Arabia	KSA
Senegal	SEN
South Korea	KOR
United Arab Emirates	UAE
United States of America	USA
Uruguay	URY

Reference notes

Chapter 1: Attendances

1. The UEFA Intelligence Centre has used a number of sources to determine attendance at professional football matches: OPTA match-by-match data covering over 22,000 men's and 2,000 women's matches was supplemented with data sourced directly from leagues and national associations. Where the professional pyramid extends beyond the second tier, Transfermarkt attendance data was added. The season covered is the last completed season, i.e. 2025/26 for winter leagues and 2025 for summer leagues. Data from some countries and competitions is calculated on the basis of previous seasons and ratios observed across Europe during the last completed season – this can lead to growth percentages being slightly altered from season to season as more data becomes available.

2. 242 million includes the 236 million spectators at European club football matches and 6 million at national team football matches. The 236 million is a conservative estimate of attendance at professional competitive football matches. It excludes crowds at lower-league amateur football matches, age-group football matches with the exception of the UEFA Youth League, non-competitive exhibition matches, preliminary cup competition matches and some professional women's matches.

3. Countries have been grouped by the following regions: Big 5 – ENG, ESP, FRA, GER and ITA; Western – BEL, IRL, LUX, NED, NIR, SCO and WAL; Southern – AND, CYP, GIB, GRE, ISR, MLT, POR, SMR and TUR; Central – AUT, CZE, HUN, POL, SUI and SVK; Northern – DEN, FIN, FRO, ISL, NOR and SWE; Eastern – ARM, AZE, BLR, EST, GEO, KAZ, LAT, LTU, LVA, MDA, RUS and UKR; and the Balkans – ALB, BIH, BUL, CRO, KOS, MKD, MNE, ROU, SRB and SVN. Some associations only have information available from a specific season onwards. For example, attendance data for both the Kosovan and Maltese leagues is available from 2015/16 onwards, while data for the San Marinese league is available from 2013/14.

4. Period averages include the whole four-year period, meaning the 2013/14 and 2016/17 seasons are each included in two periods.

5. The 2019/20 season was cut short in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following two seasons were heavily impacted, as matches were played behind closed doors and with spectator restrictions.

6. These figures include both men's club and men's national team matches taking place in Europe during the season (657 club and 27 national team matches reaching over 50,000 in attendance, and including 45 clubs and 11 national teams playing at home).

7. Attendance figures and capacity use percentages are not an exact science as some clubs (e.g. Arsenal FC) report attendance by tickets sold rather than turnstile clicks, although most clubs are consistent in how they report from year to year. Comparisons between clubs should therefore be considered indicative only.

8. The UEFA Intelligence Centre has used a number of sources to determine women's attendances: OPTA match-by-match attendance coverage is available for 1,800 matches while additional attendance coverage for 3,800 matches across Europe was supplemented with data sourced directly from leagues and national associations. Total aggregate attendance includes additional data extracted through Soccerdonna including available lower tier and domestic cups attendances, and UEFA Women's Champions League attendances which are extracted from match reports.

Chapter 2: Transfer trends

1. Note that the transfer value figures for this summer are estimates only, compiled from reported transfer values sourced through Transfermarkt. The numbers will not be confirmed until clubs submit data directly to UEFA later in the year, so these numbers should be considered indicative only and not relied upon. To enable a like-for-like comparison, Transfermarkt values have also been used for the previous summers, rather than the more accurate club values provided to UEFA. Transfer fees include the most likely performance-related payments, rather than using prudent auditor assessments (club accounts) or full possible amounts (FIFA reporting). A study by the UEFA Intelligence Centre based on detailed club submissions and covering €6bn of conditional transfer fees, yielded a market benchmark of 40% of conditional amounts eventually triggered and paid. The UEFA Intelligence Centre carried out a further transfer-by-transfer review of €40bn+ of transfer fee submissions by clubs, which found the transfer earnings difference between the Transfermarkt values and club submissions to be less than 1%. Due to agent fees and other transaction costs, this translates to an approximate 10% understatement in transfer spend. Please note that this comparison provides a benchmark across the full market transfer value dataset and larger discrepancies on individual transfer deals are possible, with both overstated and understated values. In accounting terms, paid transfer registrations are recognised as intangible fixed assets and the amounts are amortised across the length of the player contract, assuming that the player will leave on a free transfer, to reflect the 'value-in-use' of the signed player. In practice, player registrations reflect this 'value-in-use' but also the potential resale value of players if they leave midway through their contract. Accounting for the player registration as value-in-use means that contract

Reference notes

features such as sell-on clauses or buy-back options are not reflected in the player asset values or in any calculation of profit/ loss on the sale of a player, even though they may one day produce an additional transfer income.

2. This ratio is just for context to illustrate the relative scale of transfer activity. The 2026 summer transfer spend of the 739 top-division clubs is compared with their 2025 financial year revenue. Most of the transfer spend impacts the club profit and loss account through amortisation charges spread across the contract length. Transfer earnings, reflected as profits on sale after comparing with the outbound player's book value, are netted against these amortisation costs.

3. The club record refers to summer 2026 transfer fees which exceed the level prior to the summer 2026 window. On the buy-side (transfer spending) the 256 records were split into 209 deals from first division clubs and 47 from second division clubs. On the sell-side (transfer sales) the 215 records were split into 147 top division and 68 second division clubs. Records outside the top two divisions are not included as fee values become less reliable for smaller fee transfers.

4. The 8% decrease is a like-for-like analysis of odd (no major national team finals apart from rescheduled EURO2020) and even years (major national team finals) across the last 40 years.

5. This corresponds to the start of the first major domestic league season (La Liga, 15 August).

6. Transfer fees include all men's squads, not just the senior squad but exclude women's squad transfer fees. Note that spending and earnings figures balance and do not include intermediary fees, transaction costs or solidarity payments and include a best estimate of likely contingent fees as reported. The figures are provisional as they closed at 3 September, the day after the major European markets closed. The Austrian, Czech, Greek, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Swiss, Saudi Arabian, Mexican, and some smaller markets, are still open for inbound transfers and all markets are still open for outbound transfers. Markets have been included in the pie chart if they account for more than 1% of global transfer activity. Markets have been included in the bar chart if they have had more than €100m of reported activity.

7. Club-trained players, in the simplified definition, have spent at least three years or seasons at the club between the age of 15 and 21. This is based on the UEFA Intelligence Centre's club-trained database for all players. Comparisons to data directly provided by clubs competing in UEFA competitions yields a higher than 99% accuracy in identifying club-trained players. Club-trained players are often referenced with 'pure profit'. Some limited inbound transfer fees (€0.2bn) on locally-trained players are included in analysis.

8. Profits include a 10.2% discount factor applied to transfer earnings that broadly reflects other costs (including share of intermediary fees). This rate is based on the comparison of €60bn Transfermarkt published transfer earnings and individual transfer fees provided by clubs including triggered conditional amounts.. This broad discount rate is not suitable for individual deals as cost rates vary significantly by deal but across a market of multiple deals it is a reasonable discount factor.

9. Profits on transfer sales during the summer 2026 which will be reflected in clubs' financial year ending 2026 and/or 2027 depending on the exact timing of the transfers and their financial year-end.

10. Once again it should be underlined that the transfer value figures for this summer are estimates only, compiled from reported transfer values sourced through Transfermarkt. The numbers will not be confirmed until clubs submit data directly to UEFA later in the year, so these numbers should be considered indicative only and not relied upon. Transfer fees include the most likely performance-related payments, rather than using prudent auditor assessments (club accounts) or full possible amounts (FIFA reporting).

11. On this page, squad churn is analysed from the transfer market perspective rather than the sporting perspective. This means that inbound permanent and loan transfers to the senior squad are included, but inbound players to youth squads or players promoted from youth squads to senior squads are excluded. The 0.3% increase is based on like-for-like figures as at 3 September in both 2025 and 2026 transfer windows. Austrian, Czech, Greek, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Swiss and some smaller markets were still open for inbound transfers at the time of analysis so their final average inbound numbers are likely to increase. As a guide, in the 2025 summer these markets added just under 200 players after the 3rd September cut-off for the analysis.

12. Any comparison of transfer fees to player valuation or market price models should be considered indicative only, used for benchmarking within a population. A transfer fee reflects player, contract, buying and selling club characteristics as well as numerous other specificities. The simple market price analysis here takes Transfermarkt estimated transfer fees and estimated player values prior to sale. The 'mark-ups' include a downwards adjustment factor of 8% to reflect the market transfer fee premium (transfer fee less market value) across all the summer 2026 window.

13. Two-way activity refers to two clubs selling and buying to each other in the same window. These include linked swap deals and also separate independent deals across the window. The value is the lower exchange amount.

Reference notes

14. Across the top 100 deals, there are nine cases of dual nationality where the player has a European nationality but has chosen to represent the senior national team outside of Europe.

Chapter 3: Talent landscape

1. The UEFA Intelligence Centre tracks a wide range of squad statistics for all UEFA member associations' domestic leagues and cup competitions as well as UEFA club competitions. For the purposes of this chapter, the 20 leagues with the highest revenue are presented, but the average number of players fielded in all 54 domestic leagues and each country's rank are included in the appendices. The data covers the 2024/25 (winter) and 2024 (summer) seasons.

2. Analysis of the top 11 and top 18 most fielded players is based on total minutes played in domestic cup, domestic league and UEFA club competition matches.

3. In countries with a summer league (SWE, NOR), squad stability is assessed ahead of the 2025 season, with new winter signings counted as having zero tenure.

4. As explained on the previous page, the maximum 5 substitutions can be increased if players suffer concussion. In this case, both teams are afforded an extra substitution.

5. This analysis is based on players' ages at the start of the domestic season, rather than their age at the time of each individual match, which would increase the average age by approximately five months.

6. For the purposes of this UEFA competition analysis, LTP data is as provided by clubs in their squad submission lists. Players on the B list are considered club trained (CTP) and locally trained (LTP), although a small minority have not yet have reached the full three-season threshold to qualify as LTPs, hence the designation CTP+ and LTP+.

7. In England, the maximum number of loans registrable for Premier League clubs in the same season is four, but only two can be at the same time (regulations for clubs in other leagues could vary). In Italy, U23 players are exempt from the limits. In Scotland, the limit on loans between same clubs is different for clubs in different SFPL leagues; the limit on loans between clubs in the same division is one, and goes up to three for clubs in different divisions. In Wales, the maximum number of loans registrable in the same season is 12, but only six can be at the same time. In the other countries listed, exemptions may be applied to players depending on their age, home-grown status or nationality.

8. Expatriates are defined as players whose first and second nationalities differ from that of the league in which they play.

9. This analysis of player usage in women's football has been undertaken on 15 leagues selected based on a combination of the following factors: domestic market, UEFA club and association coefficients, FIFA coefficient and data availability.

10. For this analysis we have taken the age of the player at the start of season, which we have consider the 1st of July for Winter leagues and 1st of January for Summer leagues.

11. For the purposes of this UEFA competition analysis, LTP data is as provided by clubs in their squad submission lists. Players in the B list are considered club-trained (CTP) and LTP players, hence the designation CTP+ and LTP+, although a small minority will not yet have reached the full three season criteria to qualify as LTPs.

12. As the UEFA Women's Europa Cup does not include a league phase, direct comparisons between the two competitions are not possible. For this analysis, league-phase data from the UEFA Women's Champions League is compared with data from the Europa Cup Round of 32, Round of 16 and quarter-finals.

Chapter 4: Head coaches

1. The chapter focuses on head coaches that have been in charge for more than 30 days, caretaker head coaches that have been in charge for a shorter period are excluded from the analyses.

2. The 'season' cut-off dates for analysis are 1st July to 30th June and 1st January to 31st January.

3. This analysis is based on data collected from Transfermarkt. To accurately track head coach changes, it is essential to include information on new coaches for the following season. Since this data is updated gradually over the summer, the timing of the analysis has a significant impact on the results. For this reason, we compared the 2025/26 season

Reference notes

data with the previous seasons' figures at the same point in time. When using the fully updated dataset, the number of head coach dismissals changes. Therefore, the 2025/26 data should be regarded as preliminary, with an updated version to be provided in the next report.

4. Top 20 leagues by club revenue. The head coach turnover rate per club is included for all 54 domestic first tier leagues in the appendix KPIs.

5. Head coach changes occurring in June, July and August for winter leagues and December-March for summer season leagues, are allocated as 'off-season' with changes in other months considered 'mid-season'.

6. Job tenure is a difficult topic to analyse as is heavily impacted by timing. This analysis focuses on the job tenure of the last dismissed head coach of each of the 733 clubs in first division.

7. Map shows the median job tenure which better represents the typical tenure as it's less affected by outliers.

8. The analysis is based on the full playing careers and defines 'professional player experience' as minutes played at a first or second division club or in international matches. In some countries (see competition pyramid section of report) professional football extends beyond this. A more precise analysis of professional football careers will be performed in future reports.

9. The analysis focuses only on club football, national teams are not included.

10. This analysis considers only the first nationality of each head coach to avoid double count. Head coaches that have never coached in either first or second tier in any UEFA country are outside of the scope of this analysis.

11. The analysis for other federations includes only head coaches in top divisions.

12. The analysis includes every head coach that has been in charge at any point across the season.

13. Head coaches that were undergoing the UEFA Pro Licence course during the season are not counted in this analysis.

14. Age of head coaches is calculated at 1st of July 2025.

Chapter 5: Competition landscape

1. The numbers for lower tiers are not exact, as league reorganisation and club withdrawals become more common moving down the pyramid. In some cases, tier mobility is restricted based on whether clubs are amateur or professional split or on stadium, safety or licensing factors.

2. If recently promoted clubs are excluded, the average relegated club had spent 7.5 consecutive seasons in its domestic top tier.

3. The 2019/20 season is excluded from the chart and the analysis as the season was cut short and there was no relegation in multiple leagues.

4. Country groups are based on financial data reported by the top-tier clubs, as reported in the the European Club Finance and Investment Landscape report. The Big 5 is formed of England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain; the 6-25 group is formed of Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Israel, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and Ukraine; the 26-54 group is formed by the remaining countries.

5. This graphic includes only clubs that provided UEFA with sufficient information regarding their ownership structure; it does not include all top-division clubs, as some clubs did not apply for a licence for the following season.



Production
Financial Sustainability & Research Division / UEFA Intelligence Centre

Enquiries
Enquiries to be addressed to intelligencecentre@uefa.ch

UEFA
Route de Genève 46
CH-1260 Nyon 2
Switzerland