

FIFA®



Global Transfer Report 2023

JANUARY 2024



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FOREWORD

With the world of football continuing to evolve, the global transfer system has a pivotal role to play in shaping the competitive landscape of the game all over the world. Over the course of 2023, FIFA demonstrated its unwavering commitment to consistently enhancing the framework governing the international transfer system.

Although the world has started to move beyond the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous challenges remain, all of which naturally have an impact on the global transfer system. The ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine is continuing to affect the world of football, and in 2023 it triggered the need for further regulatory interventions by FIFA, all with the aim of providing more clarity and legal certainty to football stakeholders. Notably, FIFA extended the temporal validity of Annexe 7 to the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP), thereby maintaining the special regulatory framework put in place to address this extraordinary and tragic situation.

FIFA's dedication to modernising the regulatory framework of football remained a central theme throughout 2023. As world's football governing body, FIFA took various measures – in collaboration with all football stakeholders – to enhance the regulatory environment for the global transfer system. For instance, constructive dialogue with stakeholders led to the implementation of new rules that have granted FIFA member associations increased flexibility in setting their respective registration periods.

Moreover, on 1 May 2023, the use of the FIFA Legal Portal became mandatory for all procedures before the Football Tribunal and FIFA's judicial bodies. This modern, unified digital system is now used for all proceedings, showcasing FIFA's unwavering commitment to also modernising the global transfer system on a technical level.

The FIFA Clearing House also witnessed a sharp increase in activity in 2023 following its launch in November 2022. Although there are still a number of practical challenges and stakeholders are continuing to familiarise themselves with the practicalities of this new system, substantial training reward payments were processed efficiently in 2023. Clubs no longer need to navigate potentially complex legal claims for the amounts to which they are entitled under FIFA's regulations because the FIFA Clearing House now handles all calculations and payments in a fully automated manner.

Last year was also a pivotal one for women's football, with the monumental success of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand providing even more evidence of the continued development of the women's game. The remarkable levels of growth in international transfers within women's professional football was another clear sign of this upward trajectory.

Looking ahead to 2024, FIFA will of course remain steadfast in its commitment to enhancing and modernising the global transfer system, and we look forward to our continued collaboration with all key football stakeholders in the months to come.

Emilio García Silvero

FIFA Chief Legal & Compliance Officer



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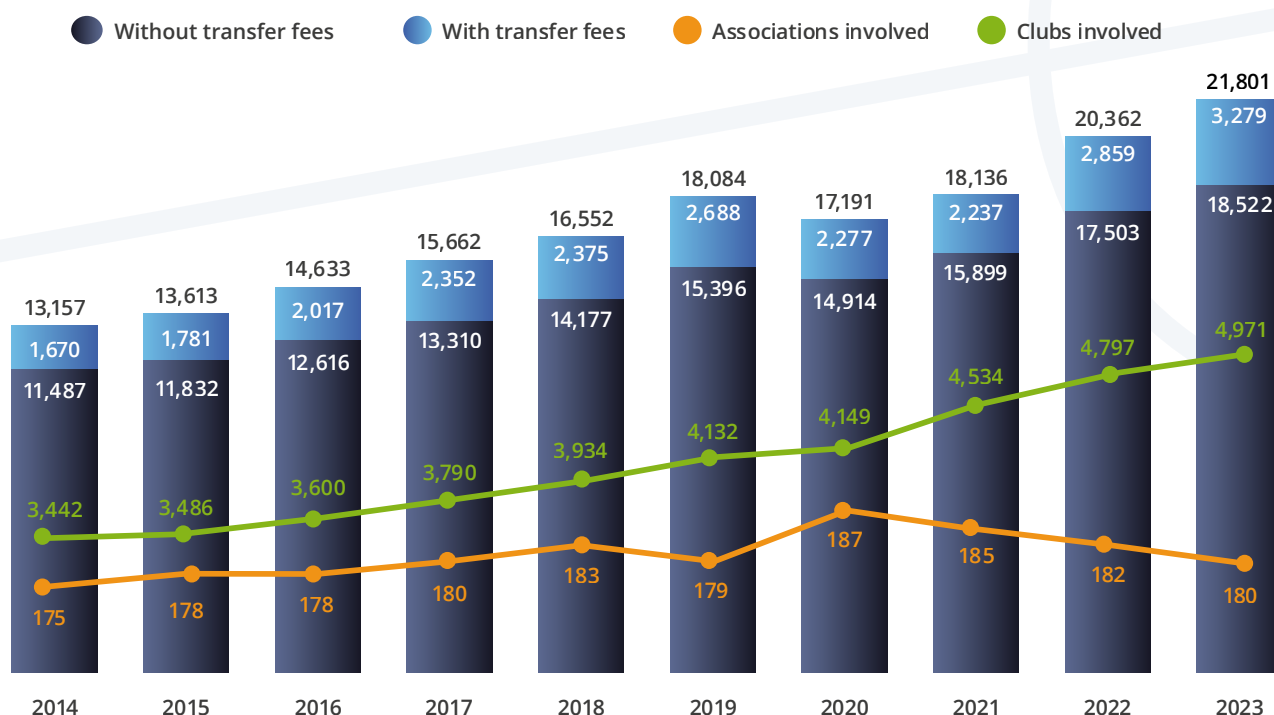
MEN'S PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

Overview

The global transfer landscape once again witnessed significant activity in 2023. There were 21,801 international transfers, reflecting a steady increase of 7.1% in comparison to the previous year. The number of transfers that included a transfer fee (3,279) was also a new all-time high, surpassing the previous record, set in 2022, by 14.7%. Nevertheless, the vast majority of transfers, namely 18,522 (85.0%), occurred without any such fees being exchanged.

A record 4,971 clubs – representing 180 of FIFA's 211 member associations and all six confederations – were involved in these 21,801 transfers, showcasing the wide and diverse range of clubs participating in international transfers. Just as in previous years, most transfer activity occurred during two peak periods: at the beginning of the year in January and February (33.0% of all transfers) and in the middle of the year from July to September (53.6% of all transfers).

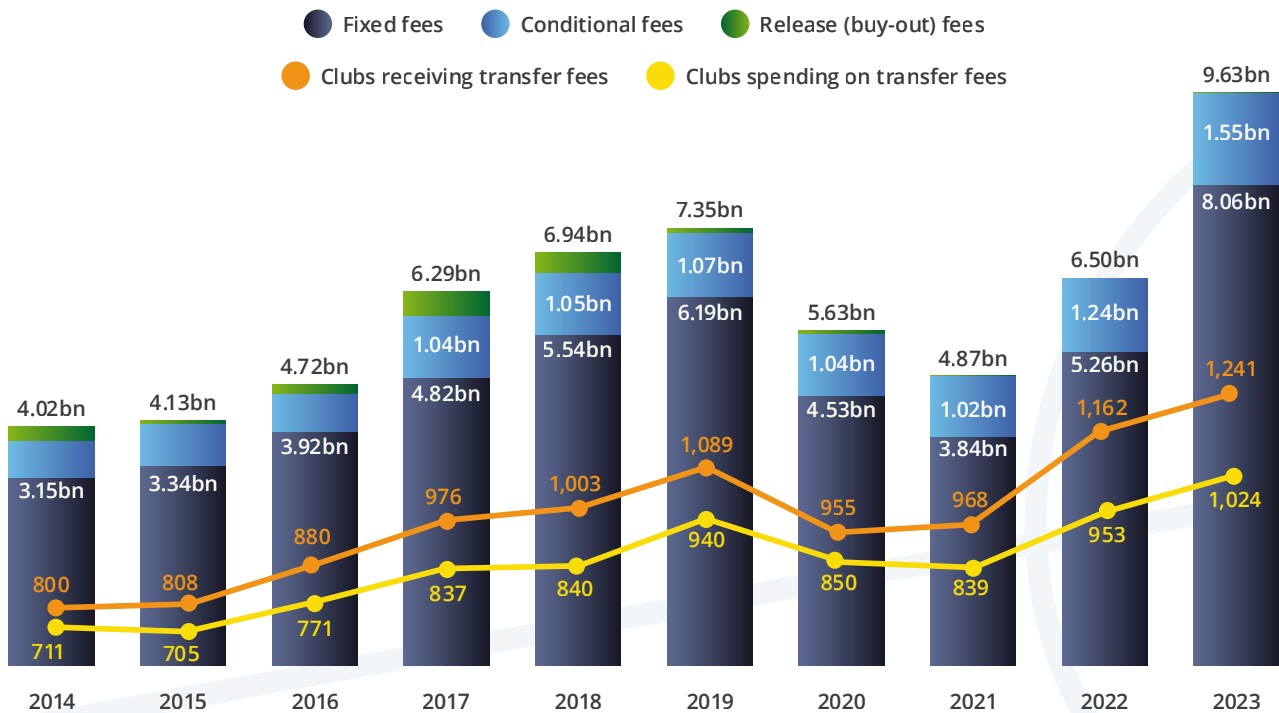
Figure 1: Number of international transfers per year



Following sharp falls in spending in 2020 and 2021 due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, clubs spent a new record high amount on international transfer fees in 2023, with their combined outlay reaching a total of USD 9.63 billion, up from 6.50 billion in 2022 – an increase of 48.1% and surpassing the former record, set in 2019, by more than USD 2 billion.

Last year, and for the first-ever time, more than 1,000 clubs – 1,024 to be precise – spent money on international transfers. The number of clubs (1,241) that received transfer fees also reached a new high. Almost all of the transfer fees last year were either fixed fees (83.7%) or conditional fees (16.1%), and just 0.1% of all fees were declared as release (buy-out) fees.

Figure 2: Transfer fees in USD by type and number of clubs receiving and spending on transfer fees by year

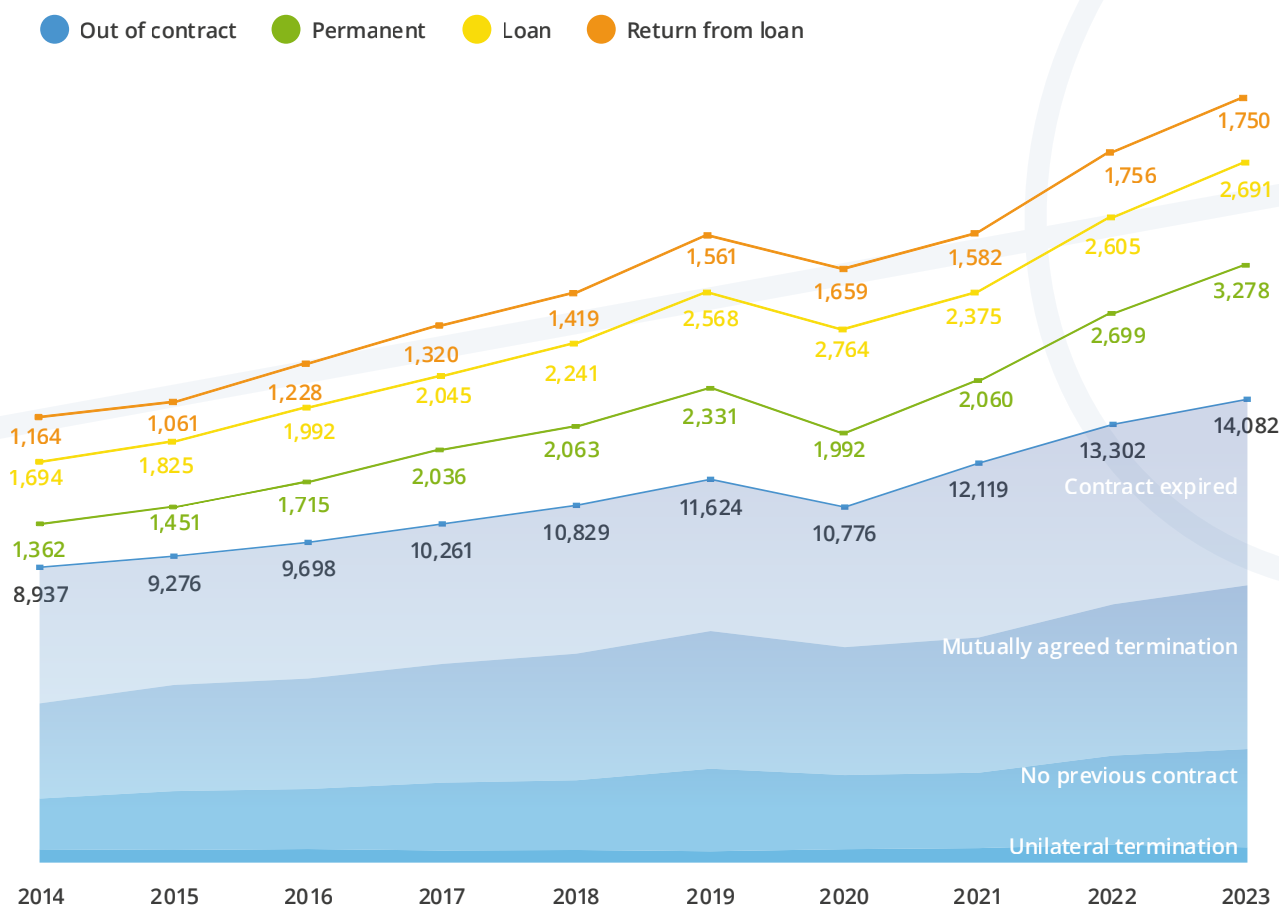


Transfer types

Permanent transfers with a transfer agreement between the two clubs tend to attract most of the public and media attention, but they typically only represent a relatively small fraction of all transfers. 2023 was no exception: there were 3,278 permanent transfers, representing just 15.0% of the total. Players moved on loan in 2,691 transfers (12.3% of all transfers) and the 1,750 players who returned from a loan accounted for just over 8% of the total.

By far the most common transfer type was that of players who moved to a new club abroad while out of contract. There were 14,082 such transfers in 2023, 64.6% of the year's total. When a club registers an out-of-contract player, they also need to declare the reason for the termination of the player's previous employment contract. In 40.1% of all out-of-contract transfers registered in 2023, the players had stayed at their previous club for the full duration of their contract, i.e. their contract had expired by the time of their transfer. The second most common reason (35.4% of all out-of-contract transfers) was that the previous club and the player had mutually agreed to terminate their contract before the transfer. In 21.2% of these transfers, the player was previously registered as an amateur and therefore did not have a previous contract at all. The remaining 3.1% of all out-of-contract transfers were due to a unilateral termination of the player's previous contract.

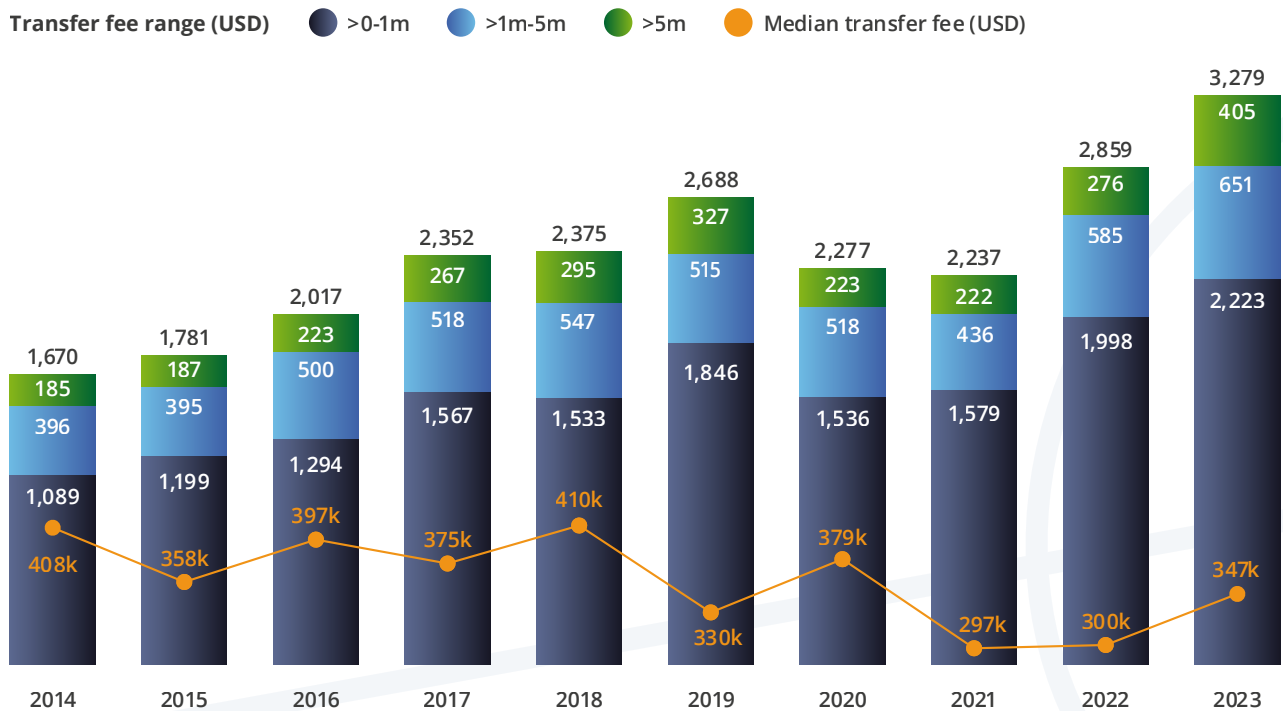
Figure 3: Distribution of transfer types and the reasons for out-of-contract transfers by year



Transfer fees

Transfer fees did not exceed USD 1 million in 67.8% of the cases. In fact, half of all transfer fees were below USD 347,100, as shown by the median transfer fee in Figure 4 below. In 405 transfers, the fee was greater than USD 5 million. While these 405 transfers represented just 12.4% of the 3,279 transfers that included a transfer fee, they accounted for 79.0% of the total spending on transfer fees in 2023 with a combined outlay of USD 7.6 billion.

Figure 4: Transfers by size of transfer fee in USD and median transfer fee by year

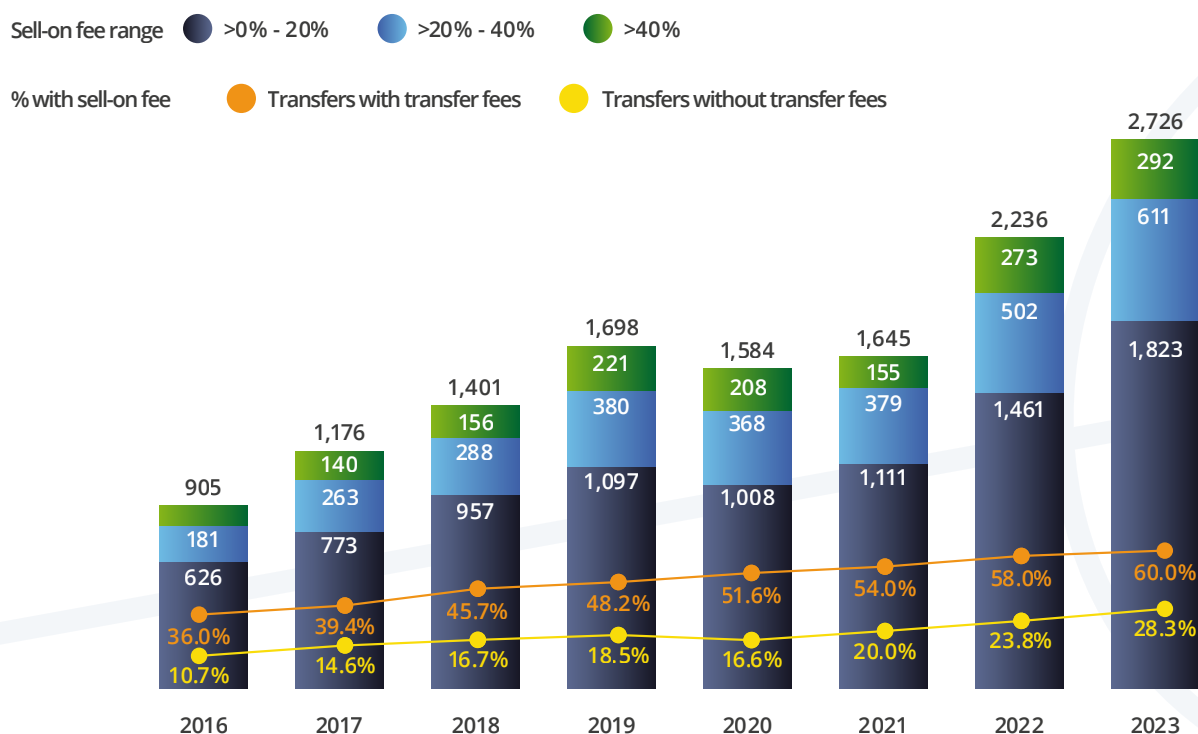


Sell-on fees

In addition to transfer fees, clubs may also agree to include a sell-on fee, which guarantees the releasing club a percentage of the transfer fee of a potential future transfer of the same player to a third club. There were 2,726 transfers with a sell-on fee in 2023 – a new all-time high and 21.9% more than in 2022. As a sell-on fee can only be included for permanent transfers and loans, the 2,726 transfers represented 45.7% of all transfers for which a sell-on fee is feasible.

Sell-on fees are becoming increasingly common in the modern game, especially in transfers that also include a regular transfer fee, 60.0% of which included such a clause in 2023. These clauses are rarer in transfers without a transfer fee, and in 2023 just 28.3% of these transfers included a sell-on fee.

Figure 5: Number of transfers with a sell-on fee by size of the sell-on fee and share of transfers with sell-on fees in transfers with and without a transfer fee (only considering permanent transfers and loans)



Training rewards

On 16 November 2022, the FIFA Clearing House went live with the introduction of the FIFA Clearing House Regulations and corresponding changes to the RSTP. From that date onwards, all player transfers and registrations eligible for training rewards (training compensation and solidarity contribution) are centrally identified, automated and processed via the FIFA Clearing House system.

From a practical perspective, this comprised the introduction of a new Electronic Player Passport (EPP) process and the creation of a new financial entity in Paris, the FIFA Clearing House (FCH), with the aim of assessing clubs' compliance with financial regulations and processing the payments.

In 2023, 19,710 EPPs were generated in TMS, out of which 16,718 (85%) were closed. The total amount of training rewards allocated to training clubs via the FIFA Clearing House system has already reached USD 102.1 million. If the remaining claims processed in 2023 relating to transfers that took place before 16 November 2022 are included, the total amount allocated in 2023 exceeded USD 115 million (around USD 70 million in solidarity contribution and USD 45 million in training compensation). This constitutes an increase of almost 35% compared to the USD 85.2 million declared by clubs for transfers in 2022.

It is important to note that the amount of training rewards allocated by the FIFA Clearing House system is expected to further increase in future years. The amount of solidarity contribution paid for transfers that were completed in 2023 will continue to grow in the future: every time a club pays an instalment of an agreed transfer fee, and the allocations for some of the transfers that occurred in 2023 will only be finalised in 2024. Both of these effects did not occur in 2023 as the major transfer windows of 2022 were before the introduction of the FCH.

Once the amounts have been allocated, the FCH entity, based in Paris, onboards the clubs as clients after a thorough compliance assessment and then processes the payments. The first payments by the FCH were executed in June 2023.

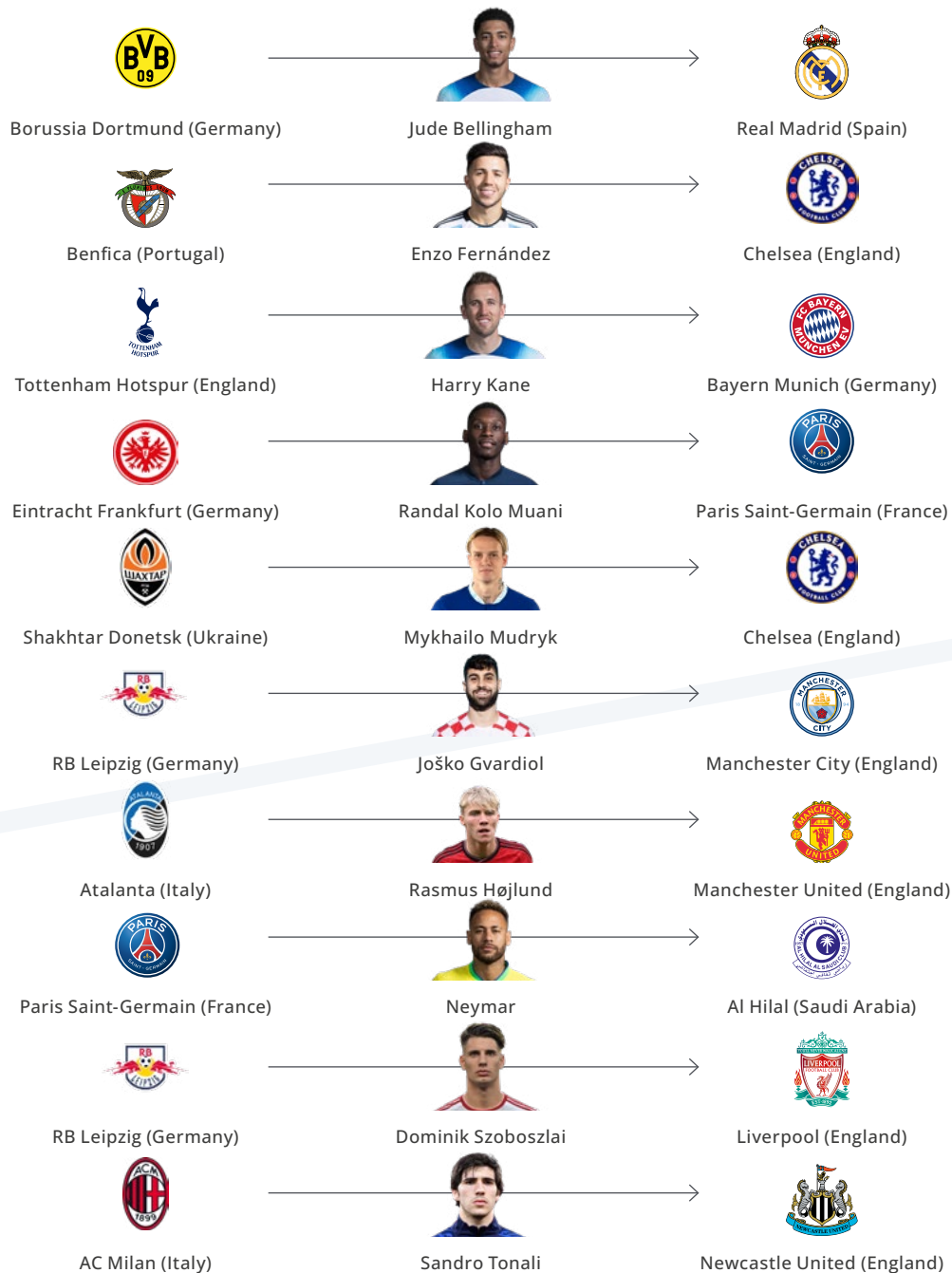
One consequence of the automation of training rewards through the FIFA Clearing House system is that the claims process for training rewards will become obsolete as of November 2024. The positive effects started to become noticeable in 2023 as the number of submitted claims decreased by almost one third, with a total of 1,529 claims submitted in 2023 compared to 2,319 in 2022.



Top transfers

Figure 6 shows the top ten international player transfers by total transfer fee in 2023. These ten transfers alone generated more than 10% of the entire amount spent on transfer fees in 2023. Similarly, of the 3,279 transfers with fees, the top 100 were responsible for more than 45% of all transfer fees in 2023.

Figure 6: Top ten transfers by total transfer fee (2023)

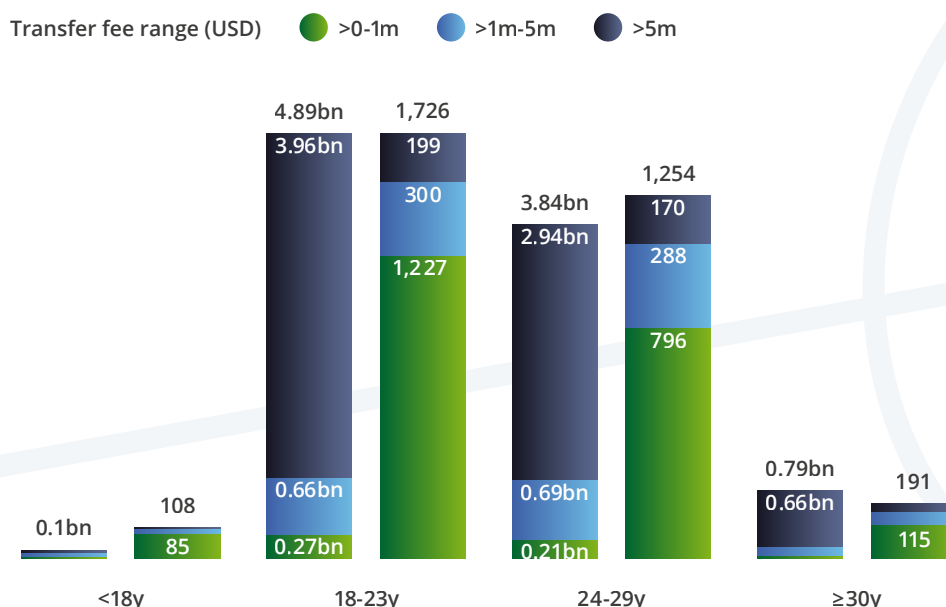


Player characteristics

In 2023, players between 18 and 23 years of age once again dominated the number of transfers with fees as well as the total spending on transfer fees, claiming more than half of each total. Nevertheless, the average transfer fee was higher for more experienced players in 2023, with clubs paying the highest average fee for players aged 30 and up.

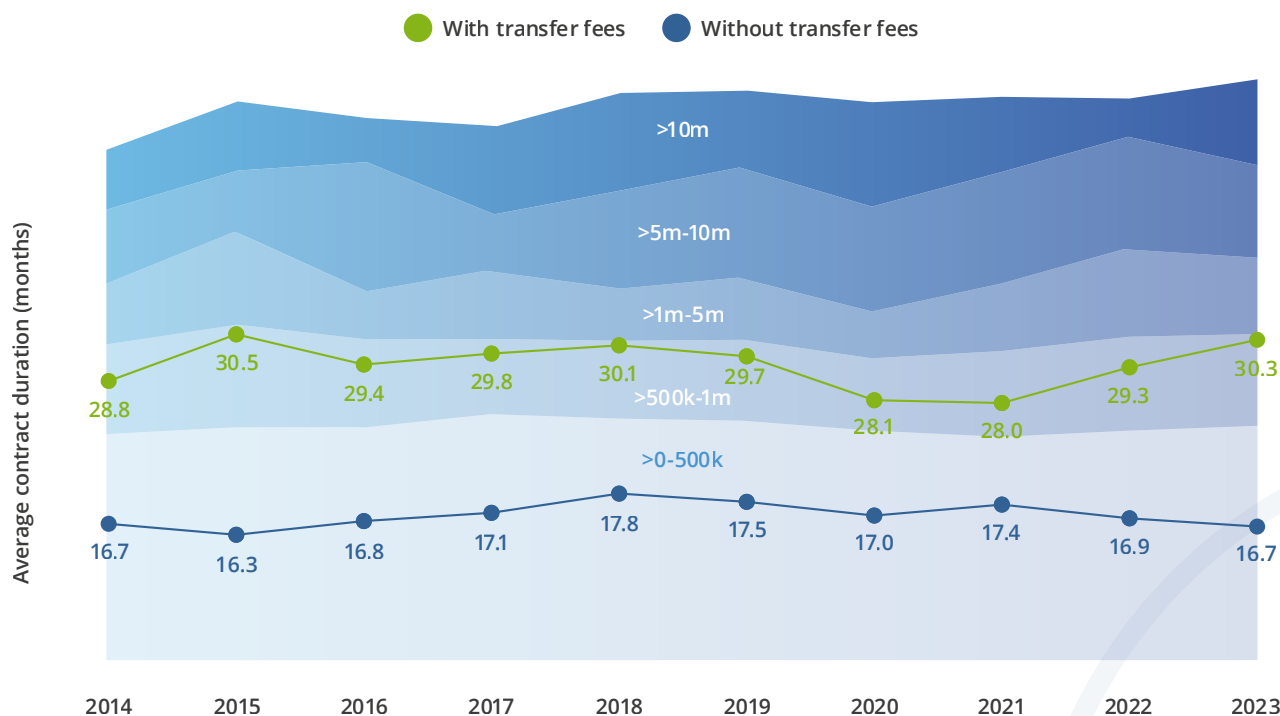
Figure 7 further reveals the substantial impact of the small group of transfers with fees exceeding USD 5 million on the overall total spending on international transfers. The 199 transfers of players between the ages of 18 and 23 with such a high transfer fee represented just 6.1% of all transfers with fees (and less than 1% of all transfers). At the same time, however, their combined transfer fees accounted for more than 40% of the year's total. In stark contrast, the 1,227 transfers in the same age bracket with a maximum fee of USD 1 million accounted for 37.4% of all transfers with fees, yet only accounted for 2.8% of the total fees.

Figure 7: Spending on transfer fees in USD (left columns) and number of transfers with transfer fees (right columns) by size of the transfer fee and player age (2023)



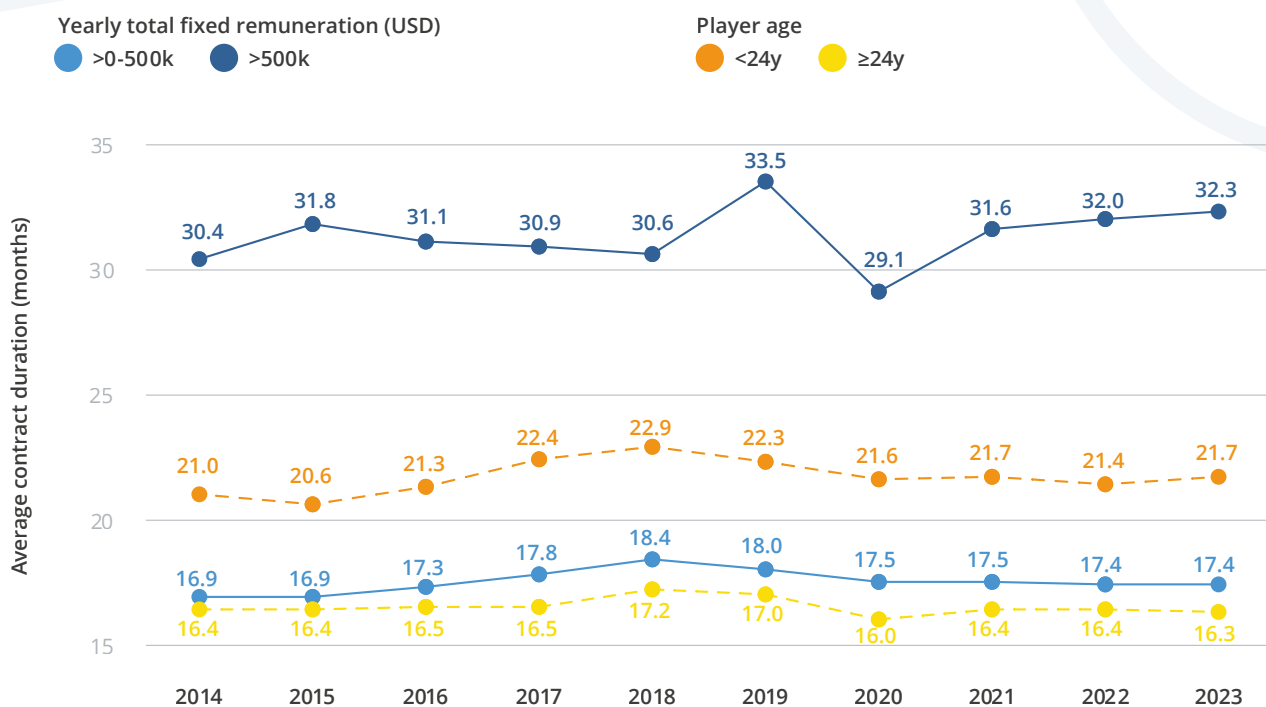
There is a strong correlation between the size of the transfer fee and the duration of the employment contract offered to the player. In transfers without a transfer fee, the average contract duration is typically a little under one-and-a-half years (16.7 months in 2023). For transfers that include a fee, the average contract is typically more than one whole year longer at around 30 months (30.3 in 2023). A similar relationship also exists within transfers with fees: the higher the transfer fee, the longer the contract duration.

Figure 8: Distribution of contract duration by size of the transfer fee in USD



The duration of a contract is also correlated with two further factors: the salary offered to the player and – to a lesser extent – the player’s age. In 2023, contracts with a yearly total fixed remuneration of more than USD 500,000 had an average duration of 32.3 months – more than a whole year longer than contracts with lower fixed salaries (17.4 months on average). Similarly, younger players typically receive longer contracts than older team-mates: the average duration of a contract for players under the age of 24 tends to be more than five months longer than for those aged 24 and older (21.7 v. 16.3 months).

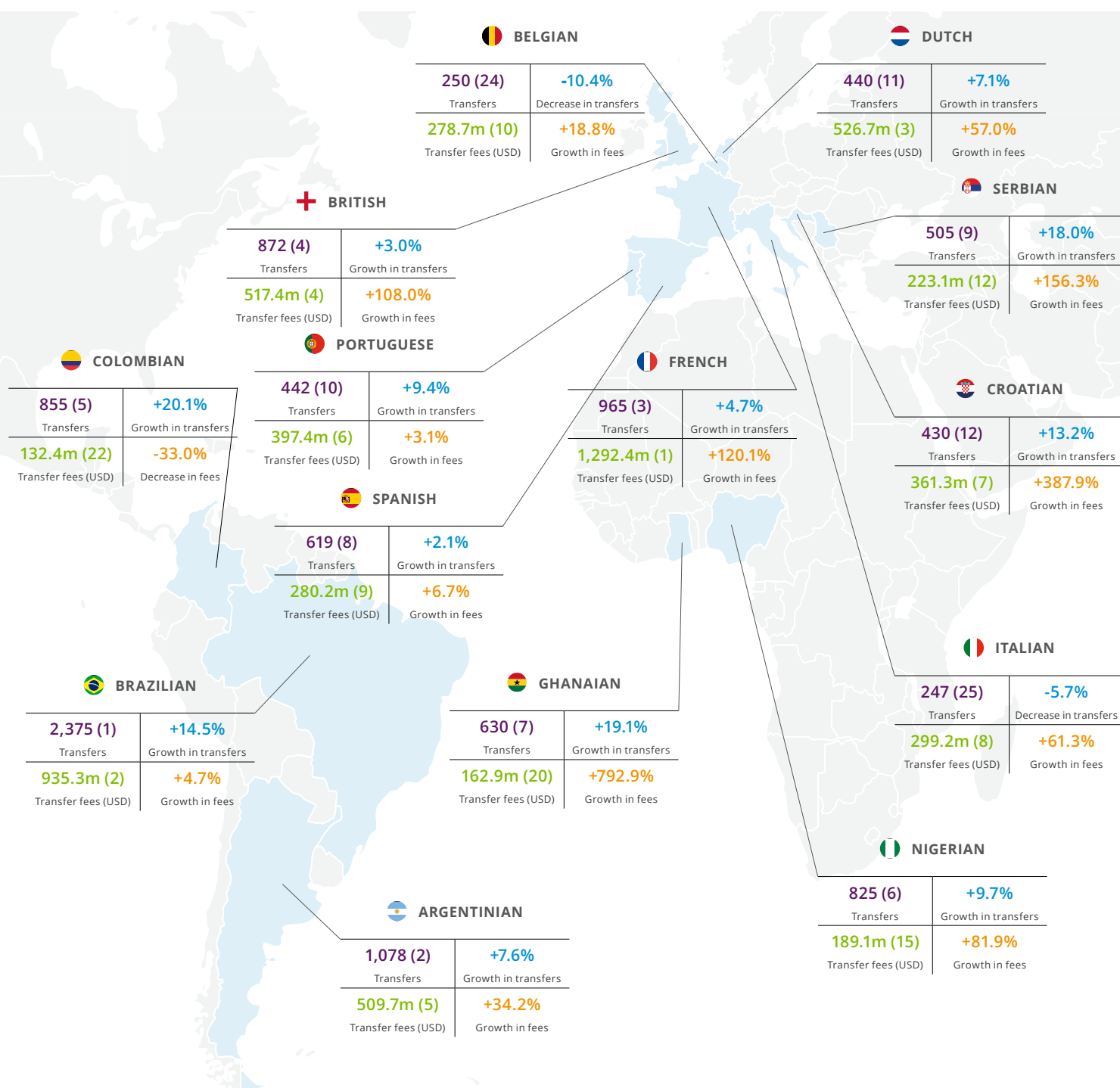
Figure 9: Distribution of contract duration by player’s yearly total fixed remuneration and age



Nationality

In 2023, 179 different nationalities were represented by at least one professional player who moved across borders to join a new club abroad. The top ten nationalities, in terms of the total number of transfers and the total spending on transfer fees in 2023, are shown in Figure 10 below. While Brazilian players completed the most transfers (2,375), the biggest outlay was on players from France, with a combined sum of USD 1.29 billion in transfer fees. While transfers of players from two African nations – Nigeria and Ghana – made the top ten in terms of the number of transfers, the top ten spots in terms of spending were still held exclusively by nationalities from South America and Europe.

Figure 10: Player nationalities featuring in at least one of the top ten rankings by number of transfers and total transfer fees in USD (2023, global ranks in parentheses)



Transfers by confederation

As in previous years, clubs from UEFA dominated both the number of transfers and the amount spent on transfer fees in 2023. For the first time since 2016, however, the total spending of European clubs (USD 7.79 billion) stayed below their total receipts (USD 8.43 billion). As shown in Figure 12, this was largely due to the increased spending of clubs in the AFC on players from European clubs, an amount that reached USD 1.15 billion in 2023 compared to USD 93.9 million in the year before.

Figure 11: Transfers and transfer fees by confederation of the clubs involved (2023)

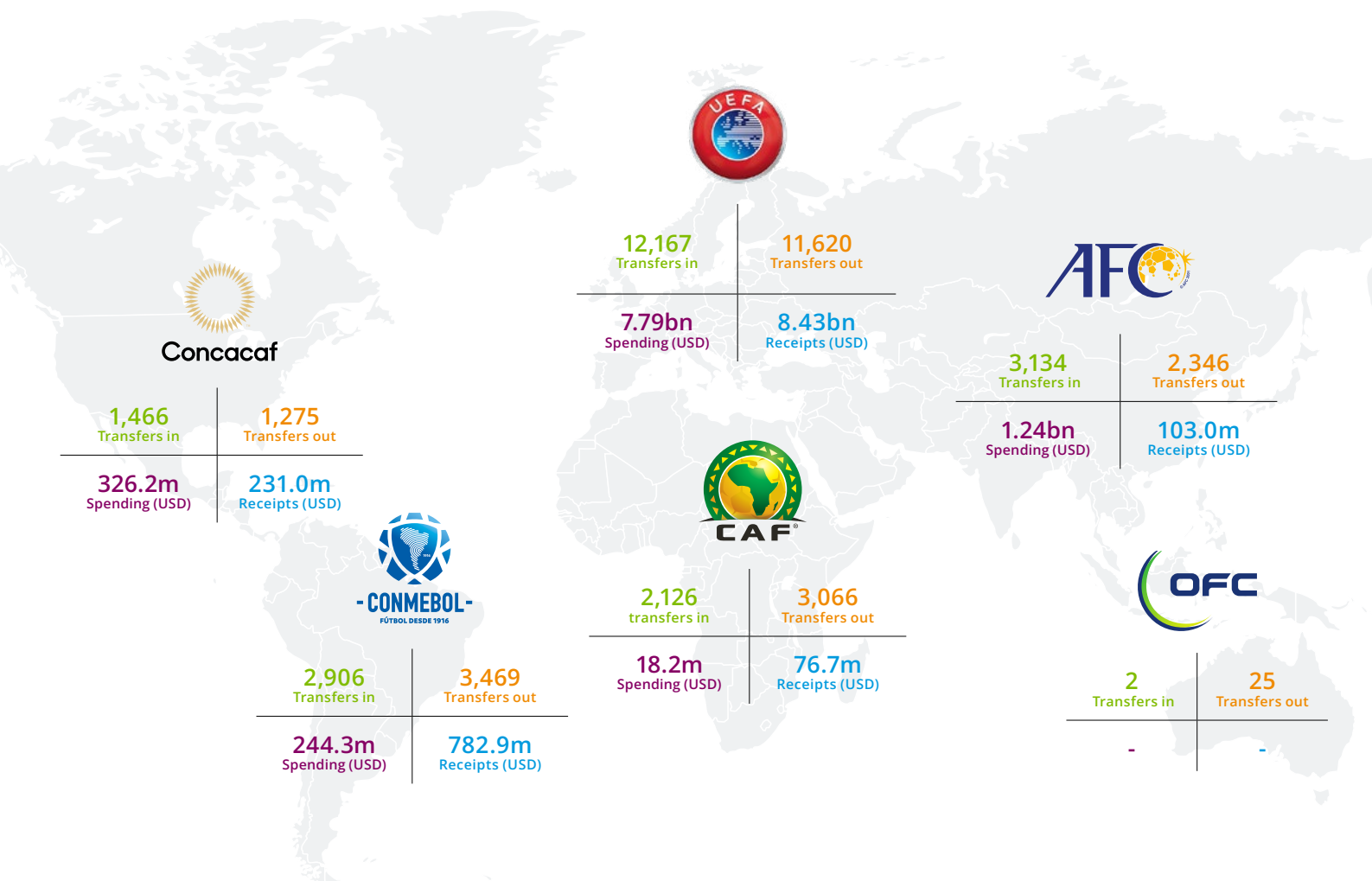














Figure 12: Streams of transfers and transfer fees in USD within and between confederations (2023)

		Engaging confederation					
							
Releasing confederation		1,223 35.5m	232 -	38 -	268 5.9m	2 -	583 52.6m
		560 13.9m	1,587 11.7m	24 4.7m	35 -	0 -	860 46.0m
		56 -	19 -	494 14.8m	321 46.0m	0 -	385 155.7m
		300 33.3m	26 -	532 148.6m	1,522 96.7m	0 -	1,089 503.8m
		11 -	1 -	2 -	3 -	0 -	8 -
		984 1.15bn	261 4.9m	376 150.2m	757 95.2m	0 -	9,242 7.04bn

Transfers by association

For the second year in a row, Portuguese clubs led the way for incoming transfers, with a total of 1,017 such transfers. Clubs from Brazil released the highest number of players, with a total of 1,217 outgoing transfers. In fact, the number-one transfer stream in 2023 was players moving from Brazil to Portugal (414 transfers).

Clubs from England were once again, by a long way, the biggest spenders. Their total outlay nearly hit the USD 3 billion mark, but they still set a new high of almost USD 2.96 billion. England's dominant role is also reflected in the top five streams of transfer fees, four of which had England on the engaging side. Clubs from Saudi Arabia featured among the top five spenders for the first time with a total outlay of USD 970.0 million in 2023, compared to USD 50.4 million in 2022.

Clubs from Germany were the number-one recipients of transfer fees with a total of almost USD 1.21 billion, the first-ever time that clubs from any one association have received more than USD 1 billion in transfer fees in a calendar year. That being said, three more associations also joined Germany in this exclusive group in 2023: France (with total receipts of USD 1.19 billion), England (with USD 1.04 billion) and Italy (with USD 1.02 billion).

Figure 13: Associations featuring in at least one of the top ten rankings by incoming transfers, outgoing transfers, spending on transfer fees or receipts from transfer fees (2023, global ranks in parentheses)



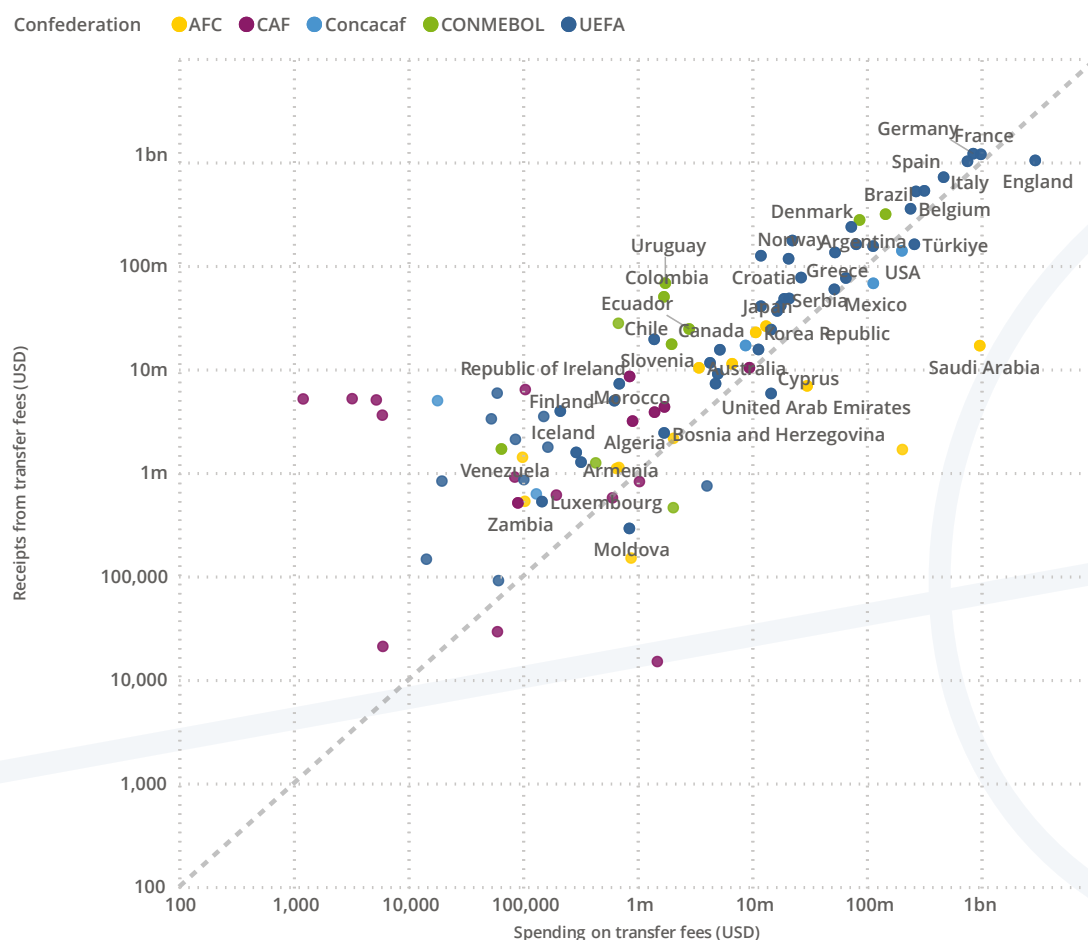
Figure 14: Transfer streams featuring in at least one of the top five rankings by number of transfers or total transfer fees (2023, global ranks in parentheses)

Releasing association	Transfer fees (USD)	Transfers	Engaging association
 GERMANY	← 571.2m (1)	35 (54)	→  ENGLAND
 ITALY	← 465.8m (2)	39 (40)	→  ENGLAND
 FRANCE	← 424.0m (3)	52 (21)	→  ENGLAND
 ENGLAND	← 329.9m (4)	18 (188)	→  SAUDI ARABIA
 NETHERLANDS	← 325.7m (5)	31 (80)	→  ENGLAND
 FRANCE	← 30.4m (63)	80 (3)	→  BELGIUM
 PORTUGAL	← 16.6m (97)	188 (2)	→  BRAZIL
 BRAZIL	← 6.8m (175)	414 (1)	→  PORTUGAL
 ARGENTINA	← 665.0k (565)	72 (5)	→  CHILE
 SPAIN	← -	79 (4)	→  ANDORRA

The scatter plot below shows how clubs from different member associations performed in respect of transfer fees. The majority of associations can be found above the diagonal line, which means that their clubs received more from outgoing transfers than they spent on incoming transfers.

In addition to the associations shown in the graph below, there were 25 associations with clubs that received transfer fees for outgoing transfers but no clubs that spent any money on transfer fees. Similarly, ten associations had clubs with spending on transfer fees but none with receipts from outgoing transfers.

Figure 15: Distribution of associations by spending on and receipts from transfer fees (2023)



Club characteristics

Some 64.4% of the 4,971 clubs that were actively involved in international transfers in 2023 only completed incoming transfers and did not release a player to another club abroad. The 1,486 clubs that made both incoming and outgoing transfers represented 29.9% of the total, while the remaining 285 clubs (5.7%) released at least one player internationally but did not have any incoming international transfers.

It may seem like most clubs are only engaging but not releasing any players internationally. It should be noted, however, that transfers of players moving out of contract typically do not involve a releasing club, but they still make up more than 60% of all transfers. Transfers for which a release (buy-out) clause was activated are the only exception to this rule; these are out-of-contract transfers but they of course require the active involvement of the releasing club. There is also great variation in the number of transfers completed by individual clubs; while the vast majority of clubs completed no more than five transfers, there were also several clubs that made more than 20 transfers in 2023 alone.

Figure 16: Number of clubs by type of transfer activity (2023)

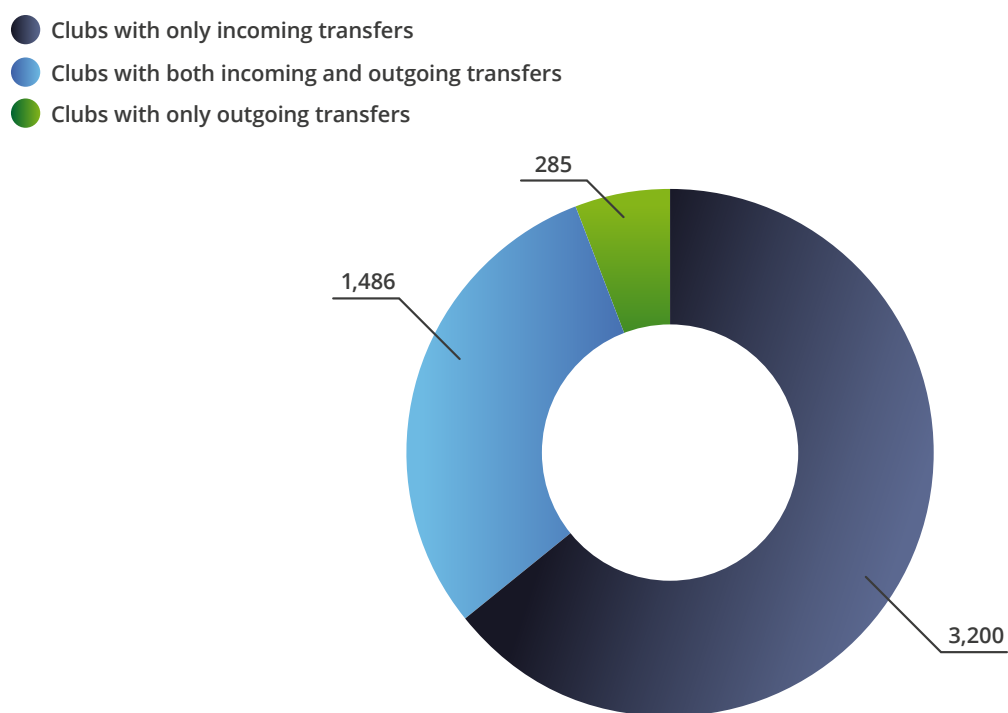
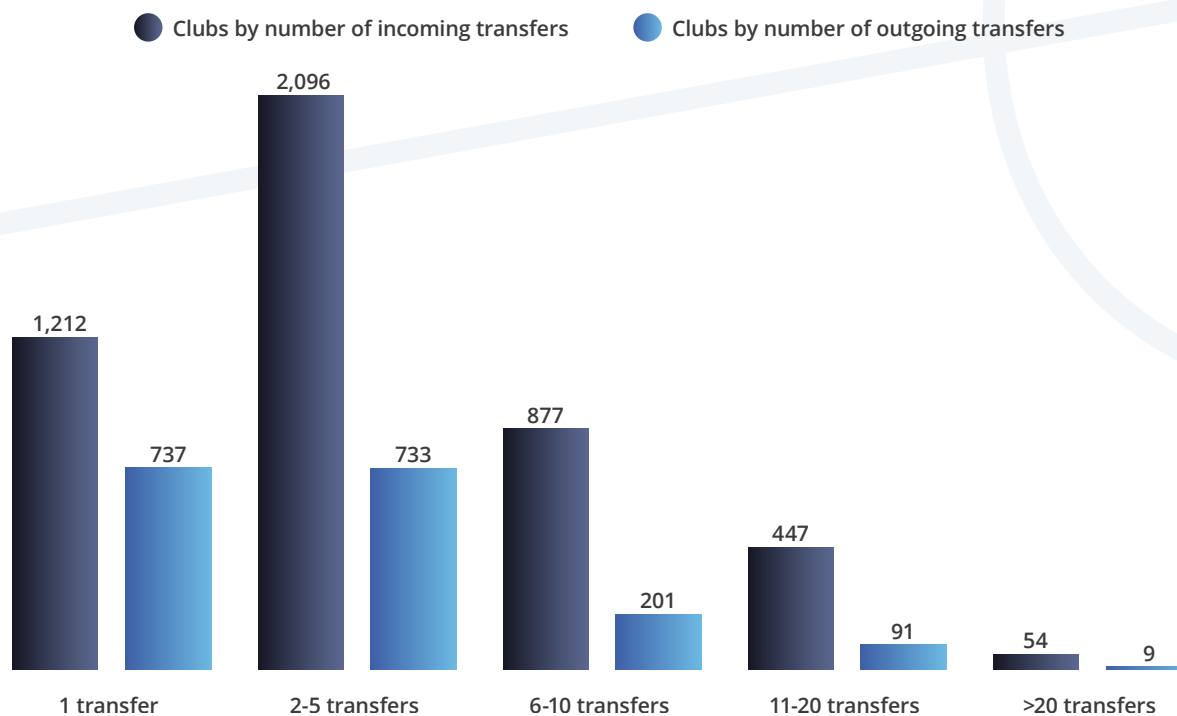


Figure 17: Number of clubs by number of incoming and outgoing transfers (2023)

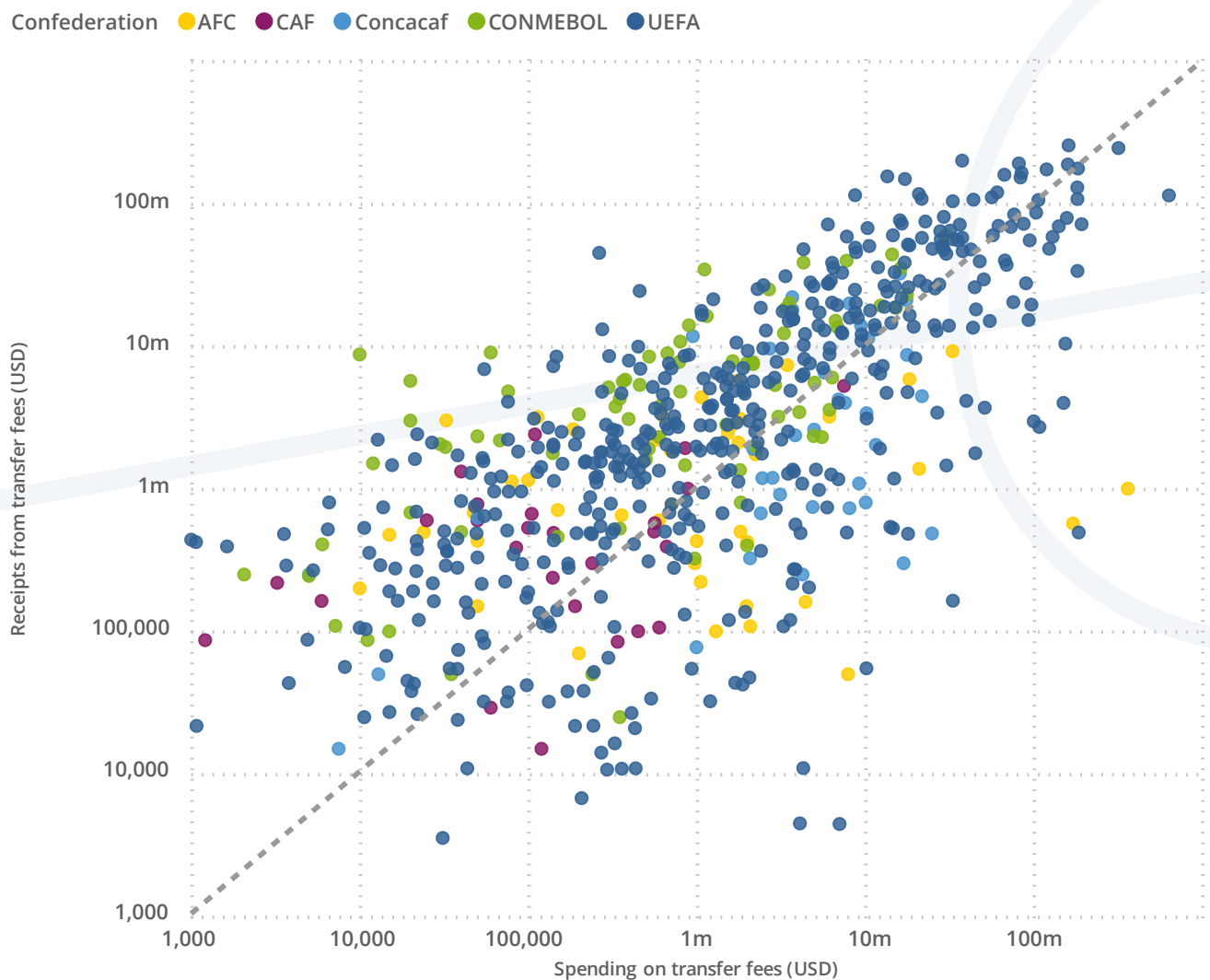


Just like the overall number of clubs involved in international transfers, the number of clubs involved in transfers that include a transfer fee has also been increasing in recent years, with a total of 1,603 clubs involved in 2023. Of these clubs, 1,241 received a transfer fee for at least one outgoing transfer, and 1,024 spent money on incoming transfers. Most of these clubs spent and received less than USD 1 million in transfer fees respectively: 724 of the 1,241 recipient clubs (58.3%) and 607 of the 1,024 spending clubs (59.3%) fall into this category.

The most common range for a club's total transfer fees was between USD 100,000 and USD 1 million. In 2023, there were 25 clubs worldwide that spent more than USD 100 million on transfer fees, and 23 clubs that received more than USD 100 million.

The majority of clubs – 64.4% – received more from their outgoing transfers with fees than they spent on their incoming transfers in 2023. In Figure 18, these clubs appear above the diagonal line, whereas those who spent more than they received are below the line.

Figure 18: Distribution of clubs by spending on and receipts from transfer fees (2023)



Top clubs

The following pages show the confederations' top clubs in terms of their spending on transfer fees. Due to the small number of transfers involving clubs from the OFC (two incoming and 25 outgoing transfers in 2023), only clubs from UEFA, CONMEBOL, Concacaf, the AFC and CAF are shown here.



Figure 19: Top 20 clubs from UEFA by spending on transfer fees (2023)

Club	Association
Chelsea	England
Paris Saint-Germain	France
Liverpool	England
Real Madrid	Spain
Bayern Munich	Germany
Manchester United	England
Manchester City	England
Tottenham Hotspur	England
RB Leipzig	Germany
Ajax	Netherlands
AC Milan	Italy
Aston Villa	England
Bournemouth	England
Wolverhampton Wanderers	England
Olympique de Marseille	France
West Ham United	England
Benfica	Portugal
Leeds United	England
Monaco	France
Bayer 04 Leverkusen	Germany



CONMEBOL



Figure 20: Top ten clubs from CONMEBOL by spending on transfer fees (2023)

Club	Association
 Flamengo – RJ	 Brazil
 Bahia – BA	 Brazil
 Vasco da Gama – RJ	 Brazil
 River Plate	 Argentina
 Talleres (Cordoba)	 Argentina
 Santos – SP	 Brazil
 Red Bull Bragantino – SP	 Brazil
 Estudiantes de L.P.	 Argentina
 Racing Club	 Argentina
 Botafogo – RJ	 Brazil

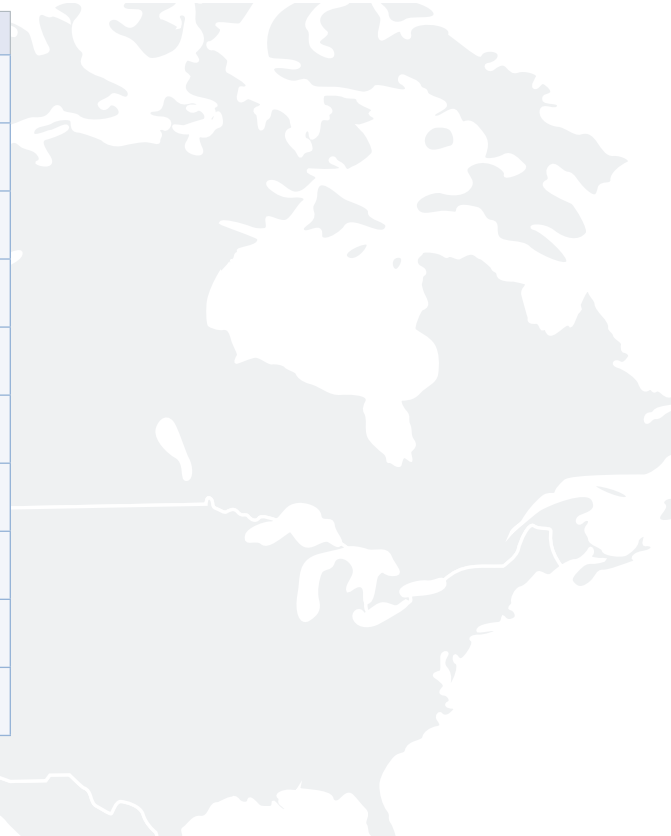


Concacaf



Figure 21: Top ten clubs from Concacaf by spending on transfer fees (2023)

Club	Association
 Inter Miami	 USA
 FC Juárez	 Mexico
 Portland Timbers	 USA
 LAFC	 USA
 Rayados de Monterrey	 Mexico
 Cruz Azul	 Mexico
 New York City	 USA
 Real Salt Lake	 USA
 Charlotte MLS	 USA
 FC Cincinnati	 USA



AFC

 Figure 22: Top ten clubs from the AFC by spending on transfer fees (2023)

Club	Association
 Al Hilal SFC	 Saudi Arabia
 Al Ahli	 Saudi Arabia
 Al Nassr	 Saudi Arabia
 Al Ittihad	 Saudi Arabia
 Al-Arabi SC	 Qatar
 Al-Rayyan SC	 Qatar
 Al Ettifaq	 Saudi Arabia
 Al Shabab	 Saudi Arabia
 Al-Duhail SC	 Qatar
 Al-Sadd SC	 Qatar

CAF

 Figure 23: Top ten clubs from CAF by spending on transfer fees (2023)

Club	Association
 Al Ahly	 Egypt
 Pyramids FC	 Egypt
 Club Sportif Sfaxien	 Tunisia
 Mamelodi Sundowns FC	 South Africa
 Alahly Benghazi SC	 Libya
 Espérance Sp. de Tunis	 Tunisia
 Ahly Tripoli	 Libya
 MCA	 Algeria
 Al Hilal KH	 Sudan
 Young Africans Sports Club	 Tanzania

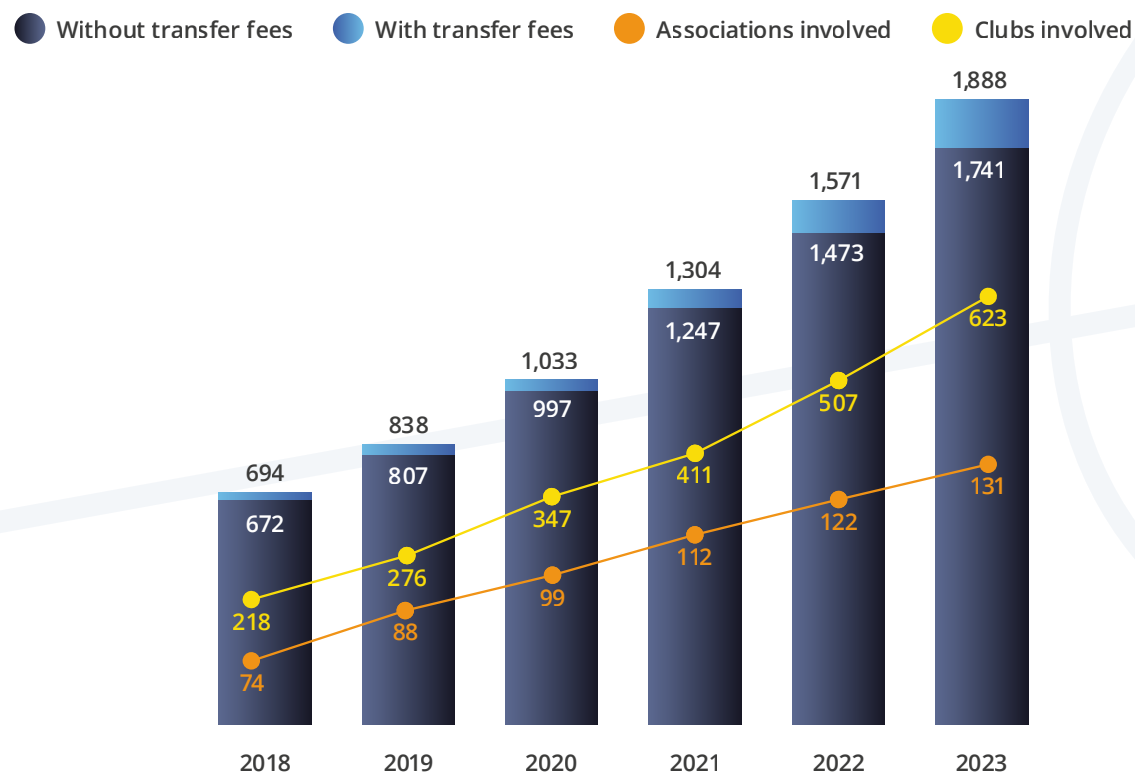
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WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

Overview

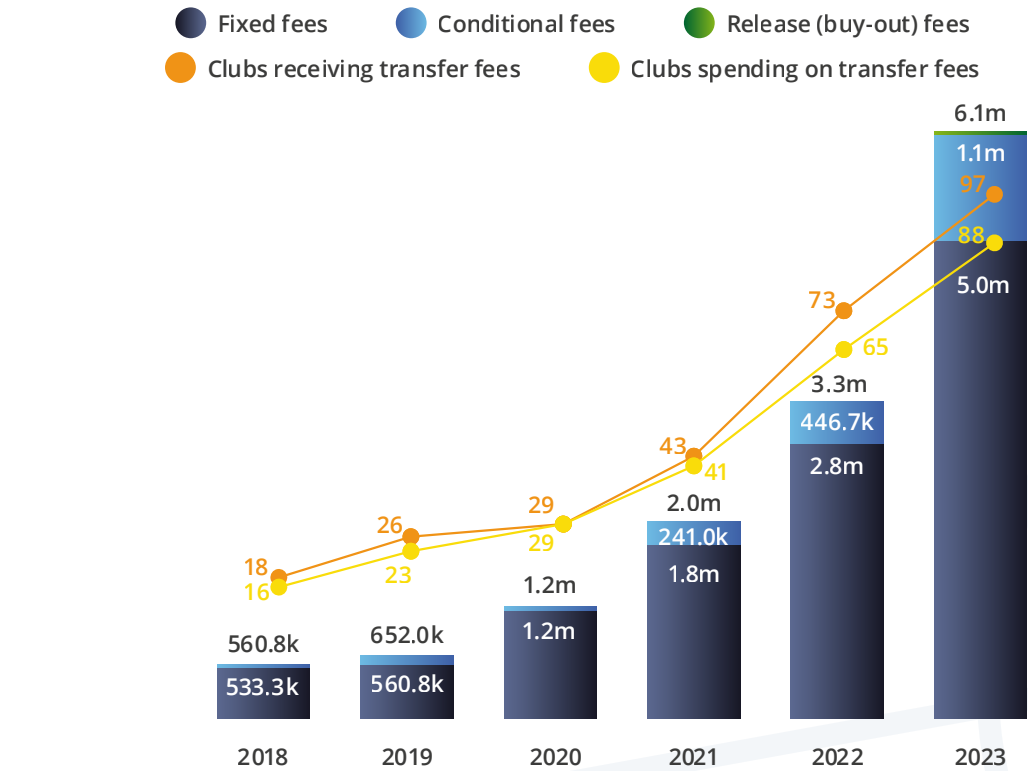
The number of international transfers in women's professional football continues to increase from year to year, as shown by the figures from 2023. Last year, a total of 1,888 transfers were completed by 623 clubs from 131 associations across the globe – each value a new record high, and an increase of more than 20% in the number of transfers compared to 2022. The number of transfers that included a transfer fee (147 in 2023) also grew by 50%.

Figure 24: Number of international transfers per year



The annual outlay on transfer fees was USD 6.1 million, a new record and 84.2% above the level of 2022. The number of clubs involved at both ends of transfers with fees also continued to grow: 97 clubs recorded receipts from transfer fees in 2023 and 88 spent money on transfer fees, increases of 32.9% and 35.4% respectively.

Figure 25: Transfer fees by year (USD)

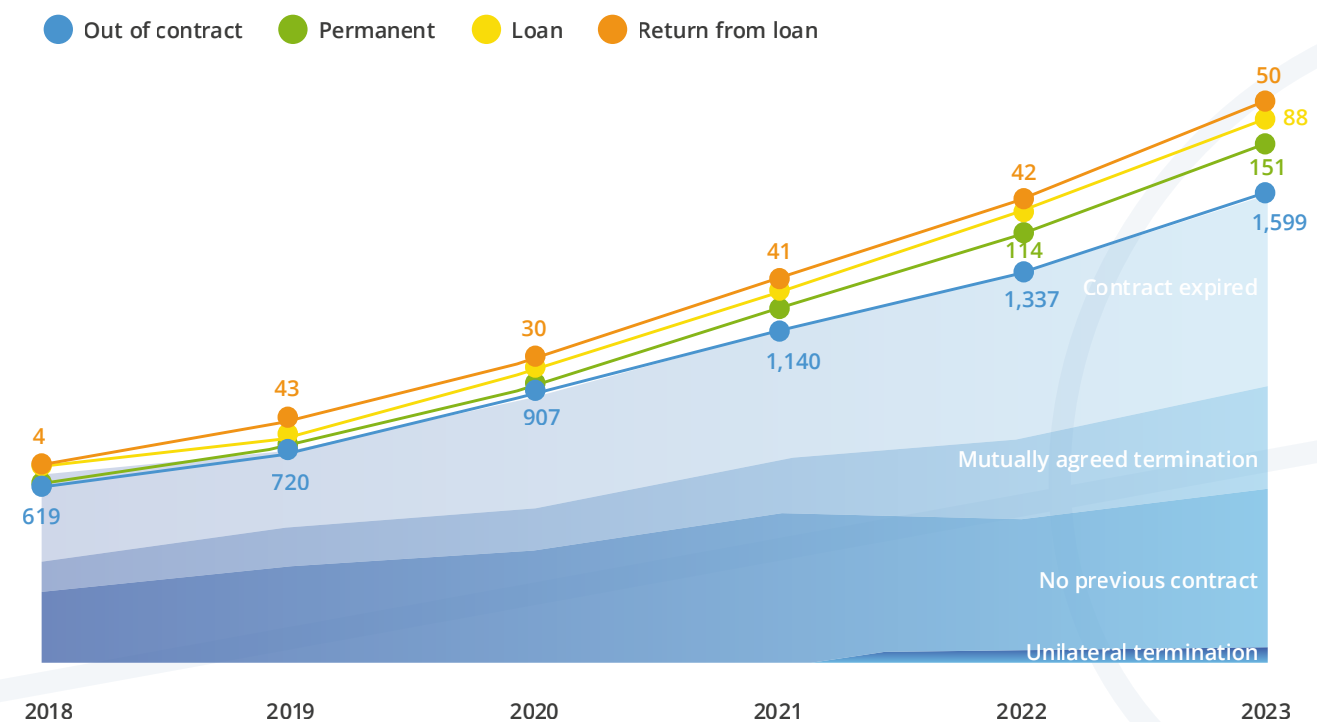


Transfer types

With a share of 84.7%, out-of-contract transfers were once again by far the most common type of transfer in 2023. However, permanent transfers with a transfer agreement between the two clubs have been becoming more and more prevalent in recent years, increasing from 3.5% in 2018 to 8.0% in 2023.

Some 41.7% of the 1,599 players who transferred out of contract in 2023 joined a new club abroad after the expiry of their previous contract, whereas 35.8% of these players did not have a previous professional football contract at all, i.e. they were playing as amateurs for their previous clubs. In 21% of all out-of-contract transfers, the player and the previous club mutually agreed to terminate the contract, and contracts were unilaterally terminated in the remaining 1.6% of transfers.

Figure 26: Distribution of transfer types per year



Top transfers

The five biggest transfers of 2023 are shown below. Together, they accounted for more than 30% of the total spending in 2023. Three of the players involved in the top five transfers went to clubs in England, with the other two going to France and the USA.

Figure 27: Top five transfers by total transfer fee (2023)



Player characteristics

In 2023, the vast majority (88.3%) of players transferred were between the ages of 18 and 29, with the 18-23 and 24-29 age groups almost equally well represented. Players in their 30s accounted for just over 10% of all transfers, and in only 0.6% of all transfers was the player younger than 18. This was also reflected in the breakdown of transfer fees paid per age category.

On average, players who transferred internationally in 2023 received a contract with a duration of 14.4 months. More than half of all contracts were for one year or less, but 2023 also saw the highest-ever share of contracts with a duration of more than two.

Figure 28: Number of transfers by player age (2023)

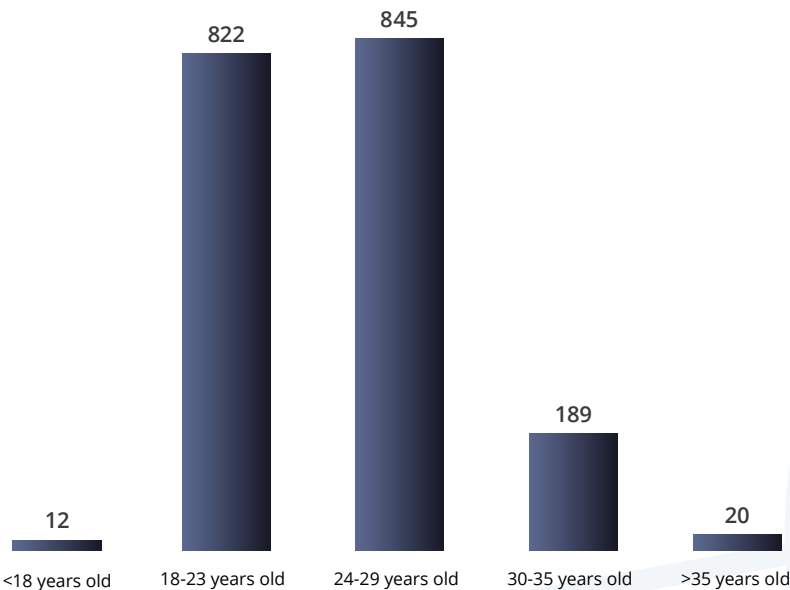
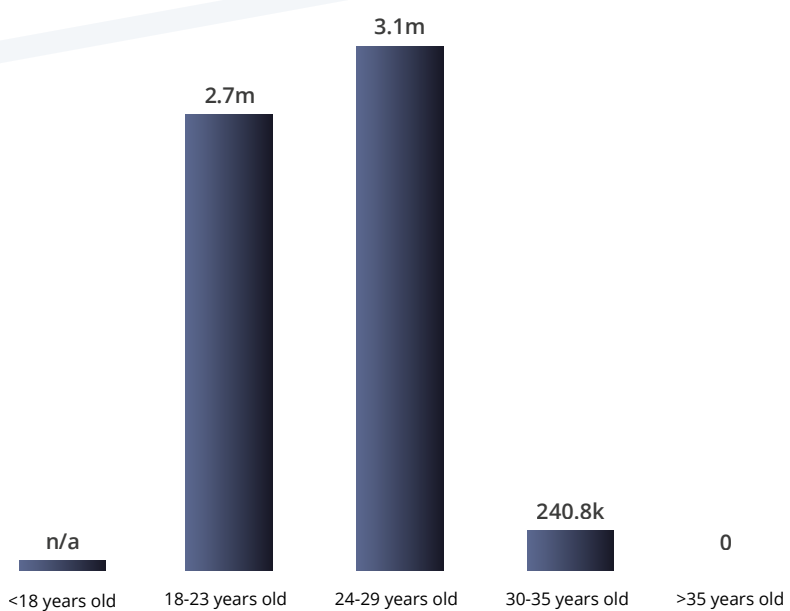


Figure 29: Spending on transfer fees in USD by player age (2023)

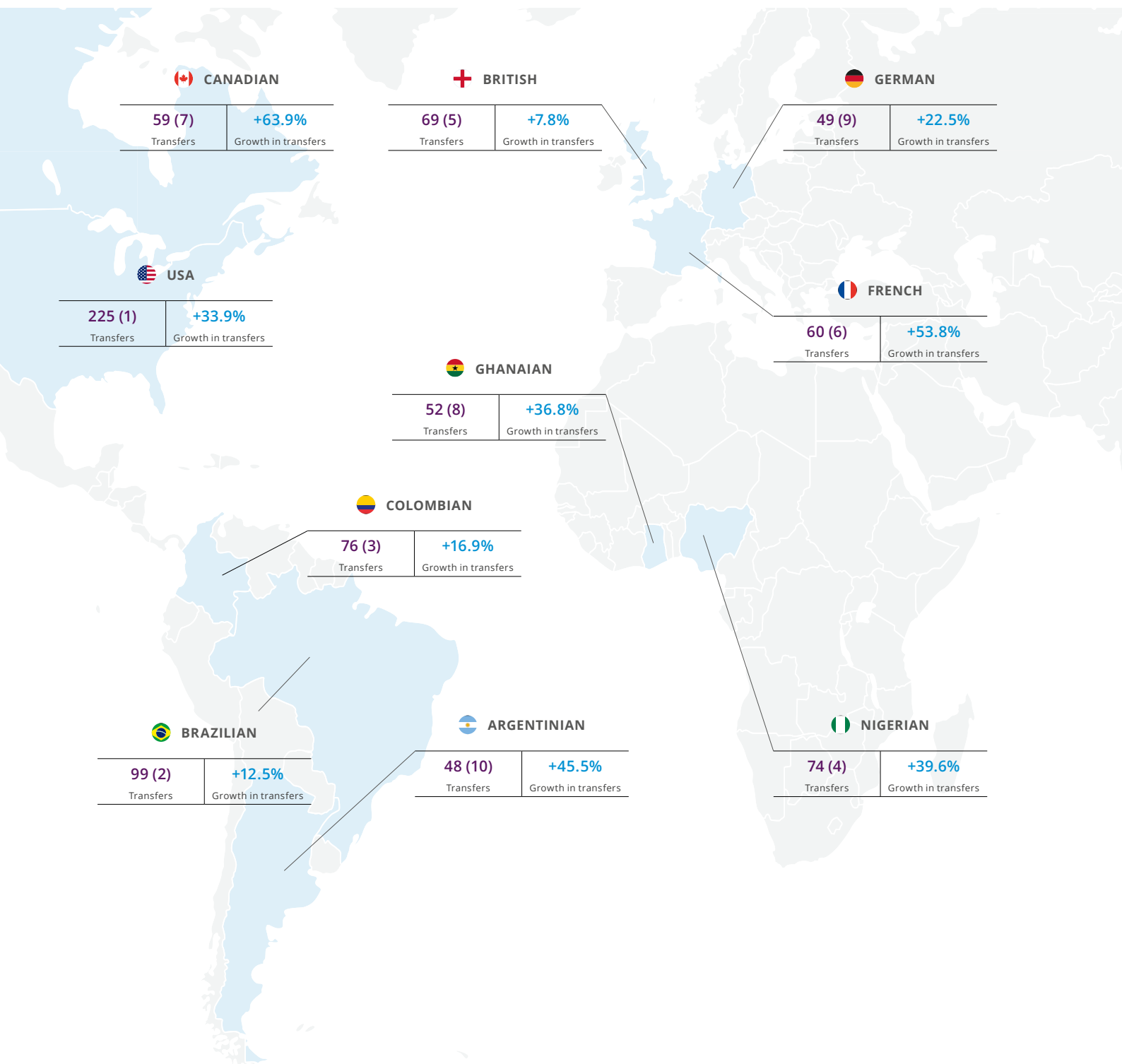


The amounts for spending on transfer fees are only shown for age groups with at least five transfers with transfer fees.

Nationality

With a significant increase of 33.9% compared to 2022, players from the USA once again completed the highest number of transfers in 2023. These 225 transfers represented more than 10% of all international transfers in 2023. In total, players representing 125 different nationalities moved internationally as professional football players in 2023 – more than ever before.

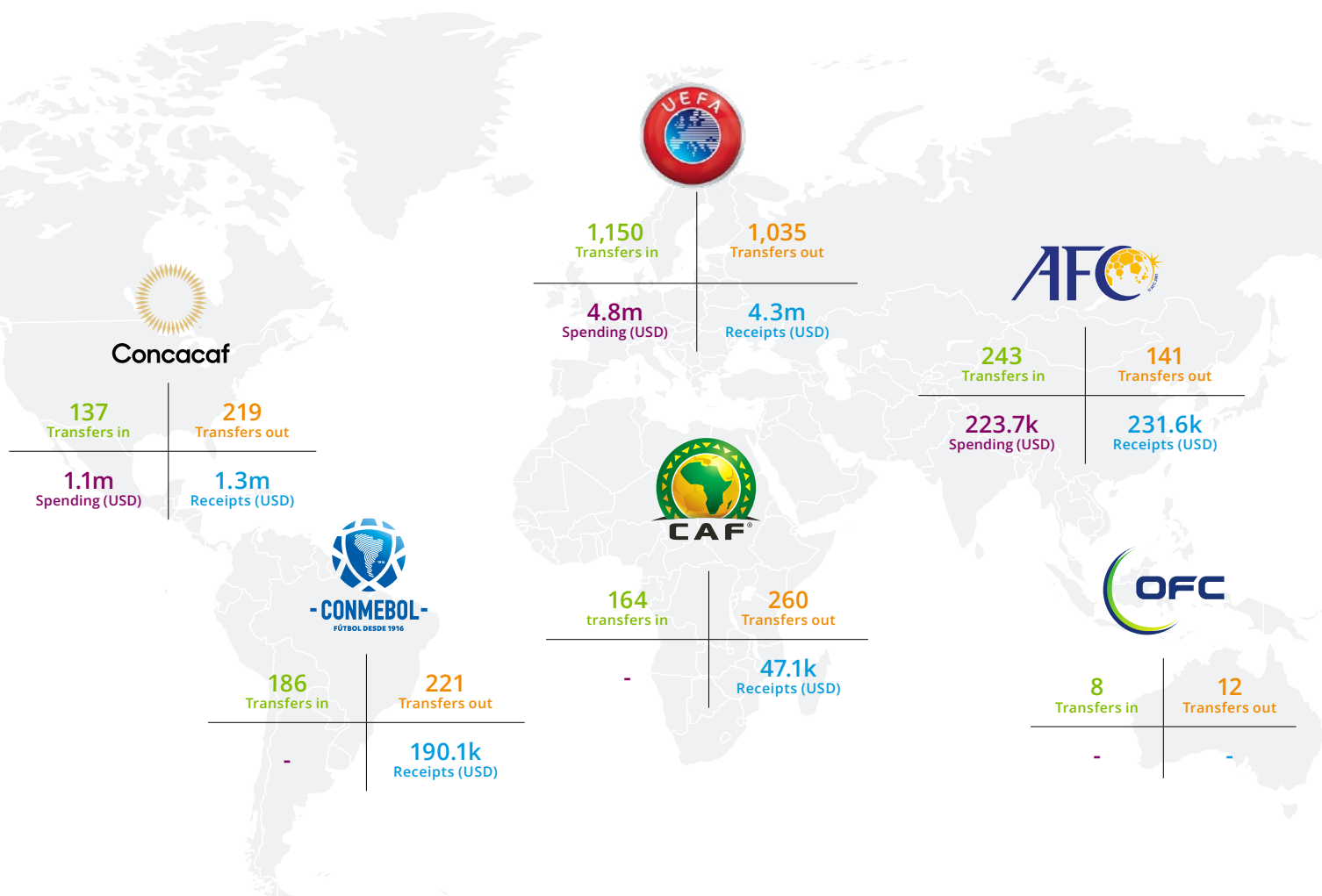
Figure 30: Top ten player nationalities by number of transfers (2023)



Transfers by confederation

Once again, clubs from UEFA member associations were the most active in terms of engaging and releasing players in international transfers in 2023. In fact, 43.5% of all transfers were from one European club to another, and only 27.8% of all transfers had no European involvement at all.

Figure 31: Transfers and transfer fees by confederation of the involved clubs (2023)



The amounts for spending on and receipts from transfer fees are only shown for confederations with at least five incoming and outgoing transfers with transfer fees respectively.

Figure 32: Transfer streams within and between confederations (2023)

		Engaging confederation					
							
Releasing confederation		55	13	18	3	4	48
		49	135	0	2	0	74
		26	1	35	16	2	139
		15	0	14	126	0	66
		9	1	0	0	0	2
		89	14	70	39	2	821



Transfers by association

English clubs completed the most incoming transfers in 2023 with 108, while clubs from the USA led the way in terms of releasing players with a total of 144 outgoing transfers. The top ten associations for incoming and outgoing transfers were predominantly European, but associations from Concacaf, CONMEBOL, the AFC and CAF also featured. In fact, players moving from Nigeria to Benin represented the largest transfer stream between any two associations as there were 23 such moves in 2023, the second year in a row that transfers from one African association to another represented the number-one transfer stream.

Figure 33: Associations featuring in at least one of the top ten rankings by number of incoming or outgoing transfers (2023, global ranks in parentheses)

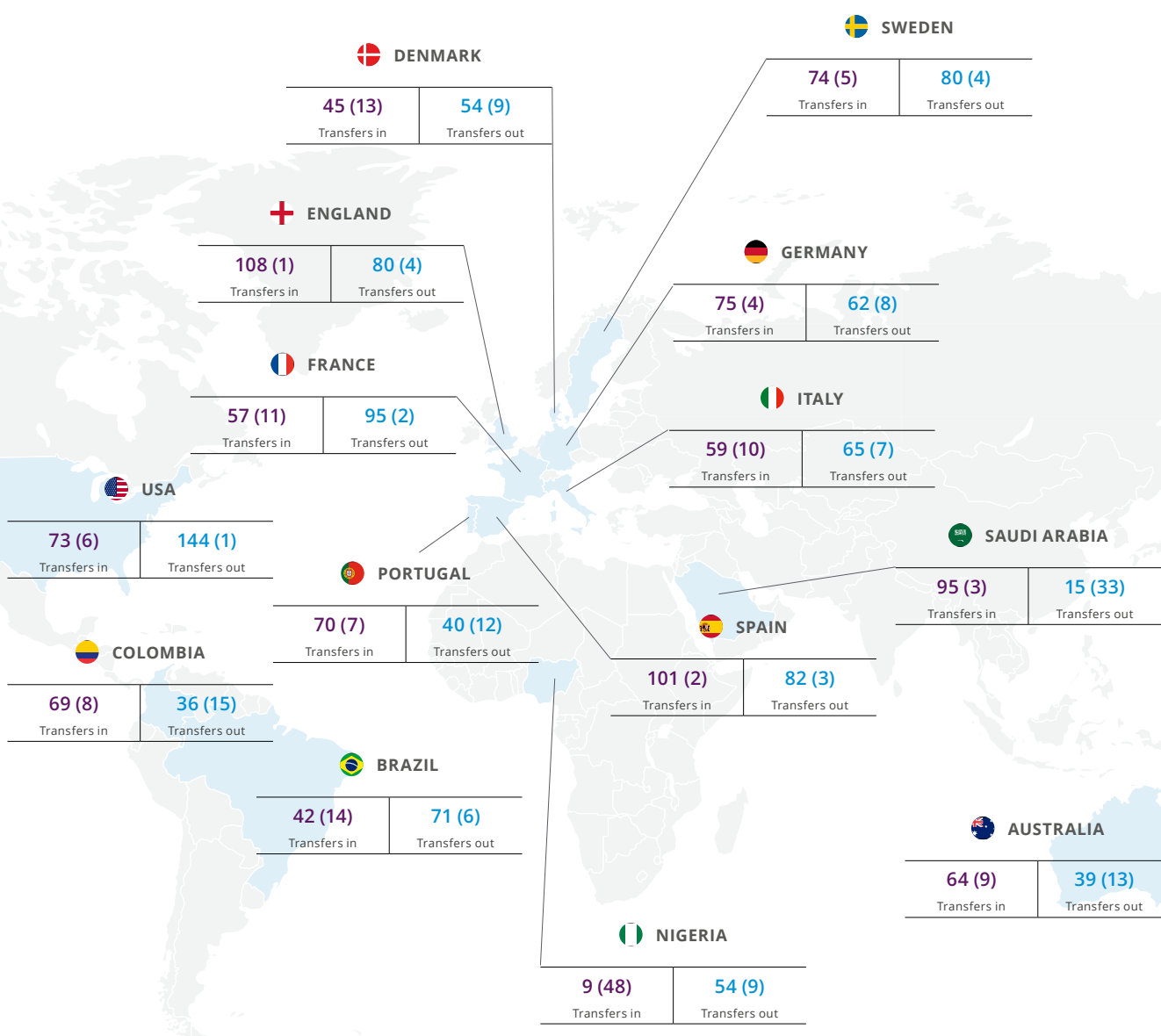


Figure 34: Top ten transfer streams by number of transfers (2023)

Releasing association	Transfers	Engaging association
 NIGERIA	23	 BENIN
 GERMANY	19	 SWITZERLAND
 USA	16	 ENGLAND
 USA	14	 AUSTRALIA
 AUSTRALIA	14	 USA
 ECUADOR	13	 COLOMBIA
 AUSTRIA	13	 GERMANY
 USA	13	 ICELAND
 FRANCE	12	 ENGLAND
 USA	12	 MEXICO
 BRAZIL	12	 PORTUGAL
 FRANCE	12	 SPAIN
 ENGLAND	12	 AUSTRALIA

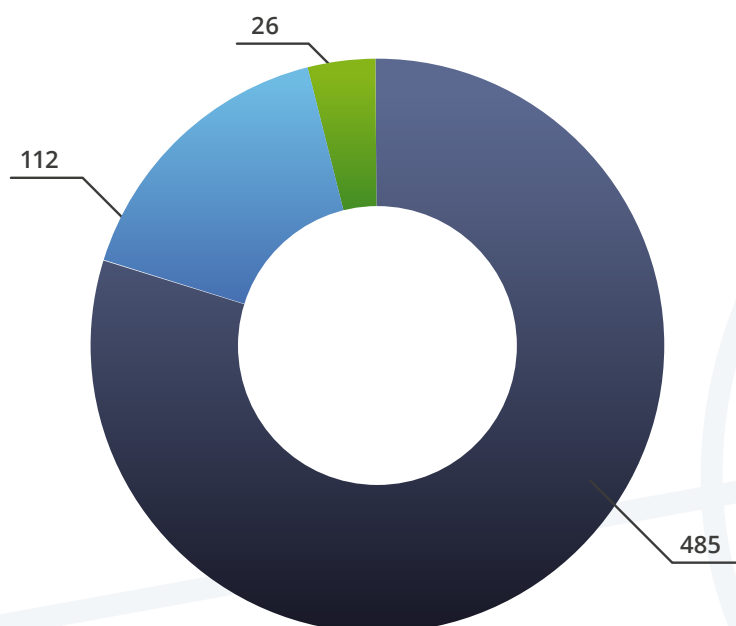
This table excludes transfer streams within the United Kingdom.

Club characteristics

The number of clubs that completed at least one transfer reached another new high last year, with the 623 clubs involved representing an increase of 22.9% compared to 2022. Just as in the men's game, most of these clubs (77.8%) only engaged players from abroad, whereas 18% of them engaged and released players internationally and the remaining 4.2% only released players. The number of clubs (140) that completed transfers with transfer fees also continued to grow in 2023, a rise of 21.7% compared to 2022.

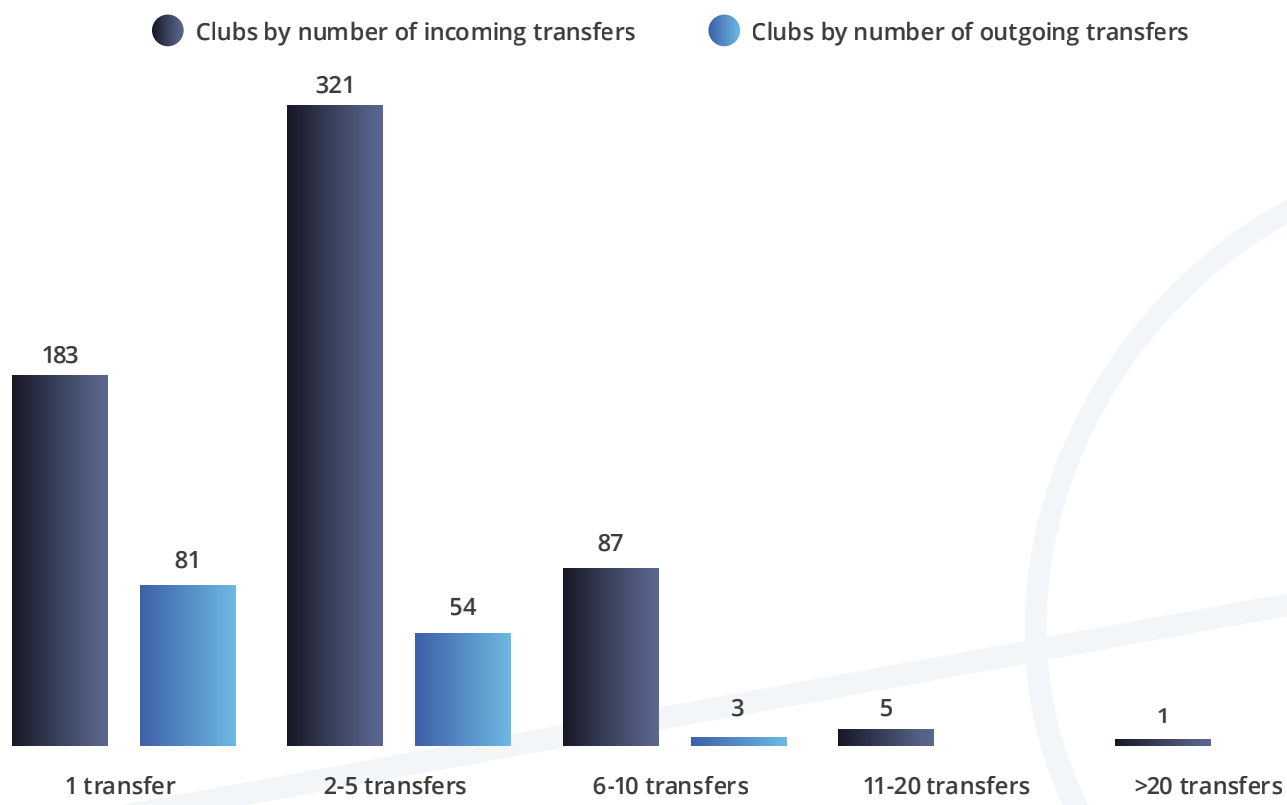
Figure 35: Number of clubs by type of transfer activity (2023)

- Clubs with only incoming transfers
- Clubs with both incoming and outgoing transfers
- Clubs with only outgoing transfers



Most clubs typically engaged no more than five players in 2023, and only 93 of the 597 engaging clubs (15.6%) saw six or more players join their squads, although the most active club engaged as many as 22 players from abroad. A total of 88 clubs spent money on transfer fees. For most of them (84.1%), their total expenditure on transfer fees did not exceed USD 100,000, and just 14 clubs spent more than that but none of them reached the USD 1 million mark. On the releasing side, 97 clubs received transfer fees for outgoing transfers that were mostly below USD 100,000 (84.5%).

Figure 36: Number of clubs by number of incoming and outgoing transfers (2023)



Top clubs

Figure 37: Top ten clubs by number of incoming transfers (2023)

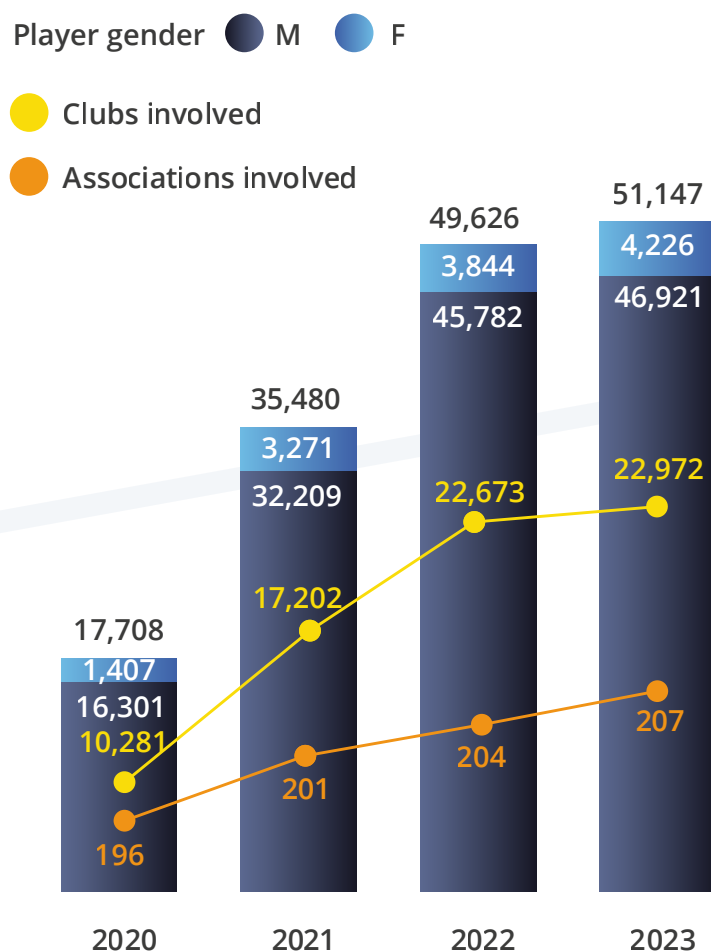
	Club	Incoming transfers
	ONG Académie Sam-Nelly (Benin)	22
	BIIK-Shymkent (Kazakhstan)	18
	FC Basel 1893 Women and Amateurs (Switzerland)	17
	Brighton & Hove Albion Women FC (England)	13
	Racing Louisville FC (USA)	12
	Leicester City Women FC (England)	11
	1.FFC Turbine Potsdam 71 (Germany)	10
	Atlético Nacional (Colombia)	10
	Brann SK (Norway)	10
	Celtic FC Women (Scotland)	10
	Chelsea FC Women (England)	10
	Independiente Santa Fe (Colombia)	10
	Liverpool FC Women (England)	10
	Manchester United Women FC (England)	10
	Paris Saint-Germain Féminine (France)	10

03. AMATEUR FOOTBALL

Overview

Since 1 July 2020, international transfers of amateur players have to be processed through TMS, just like those of professional players. In 2023, there were more than twice as many amateur transfers as professional transfers, with a total of 51,147 amateur players moving across borders and joining a club in a new association. Some 91.7% of these players were male. A total of 207 of FIFA's 211 member associations were involved in at least one amateur transfer last year, once again underlining the global reach of the amateur game.

Figure 38: Number of international transfers per year

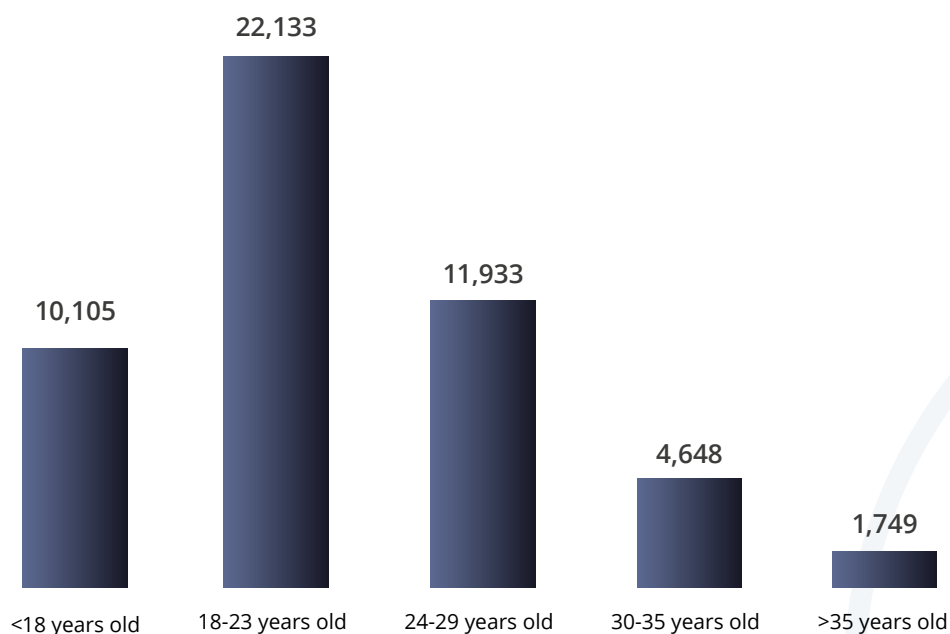


Player characteristics

AGE

Players between 18 and 23 were the best represented age group in 2023, with 43.7% of all amateur transfers falling into this category. Players older than 35 were only involved in 3.4% of all amateur transfers.

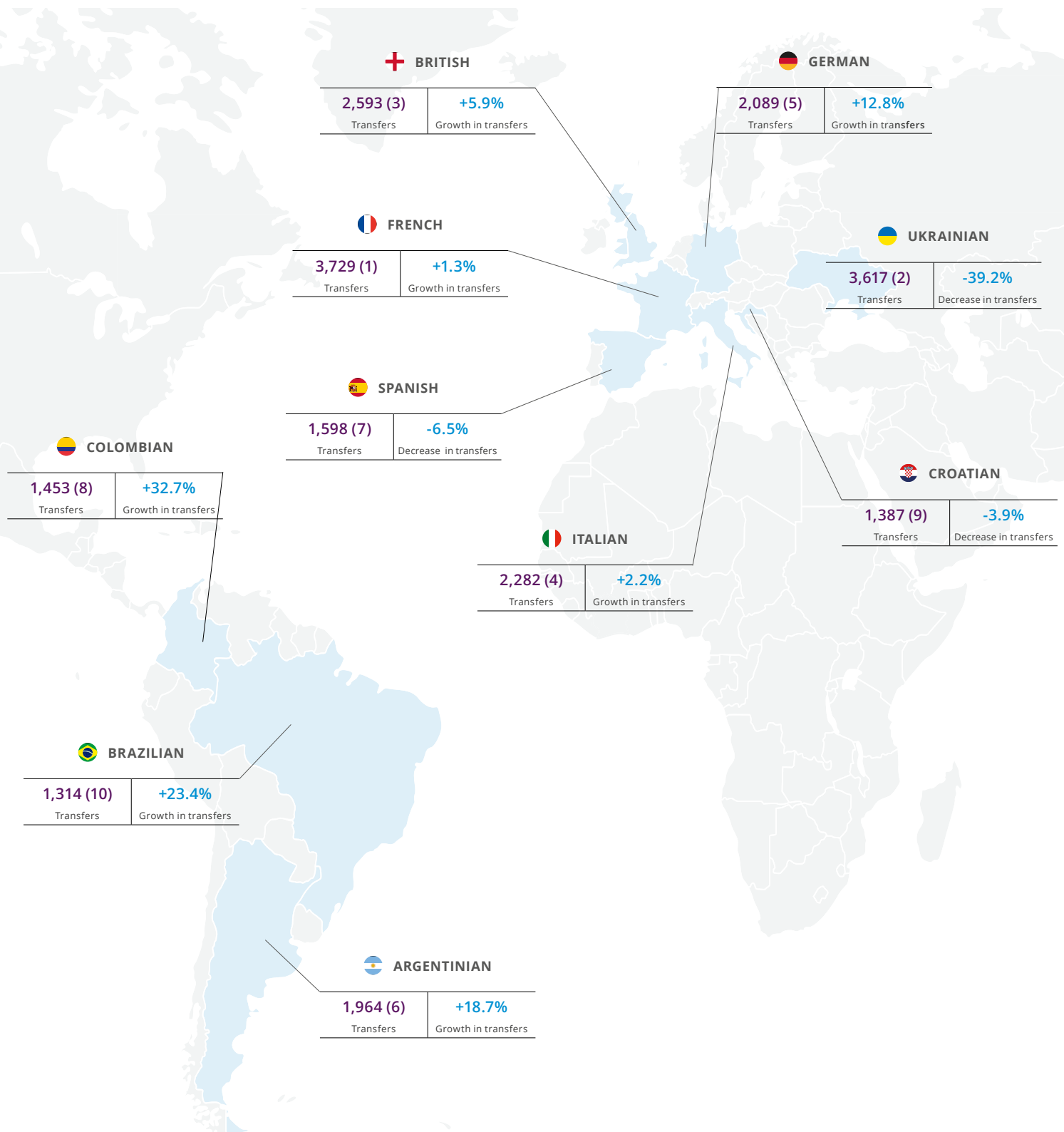
Figure 39: Number of transfers by player age (2023)



NATIONALITY

French players were the best represented group among the amateur transfers completed in 2023, with a total of 3,729 transfers. While the number of international transfers involving Ukrainian amateurs fell compared to 2022, the ongoing war is clearly still having an impact. Nevertheless, there were still 3.5 times as many transfers involving Ukrainian amateurs in 2023 (3,617) as there were in 2021 (969).

Figure 40: Top ten player nationalities by number of transfers (2023)



Transfers by confederation

A total of 82.1% of all amateur players who moved across borders in 2023 joined a club in Europe, and most of them also moved from another European association. Overall, players moved from one confederation to another in 26.6% of all amateur transfers, with most players moving between associations within the same confederation.

Figure 41: Number of incoming and outgoing transfers and annual growth rates by confederation of the clubs involved (2023)

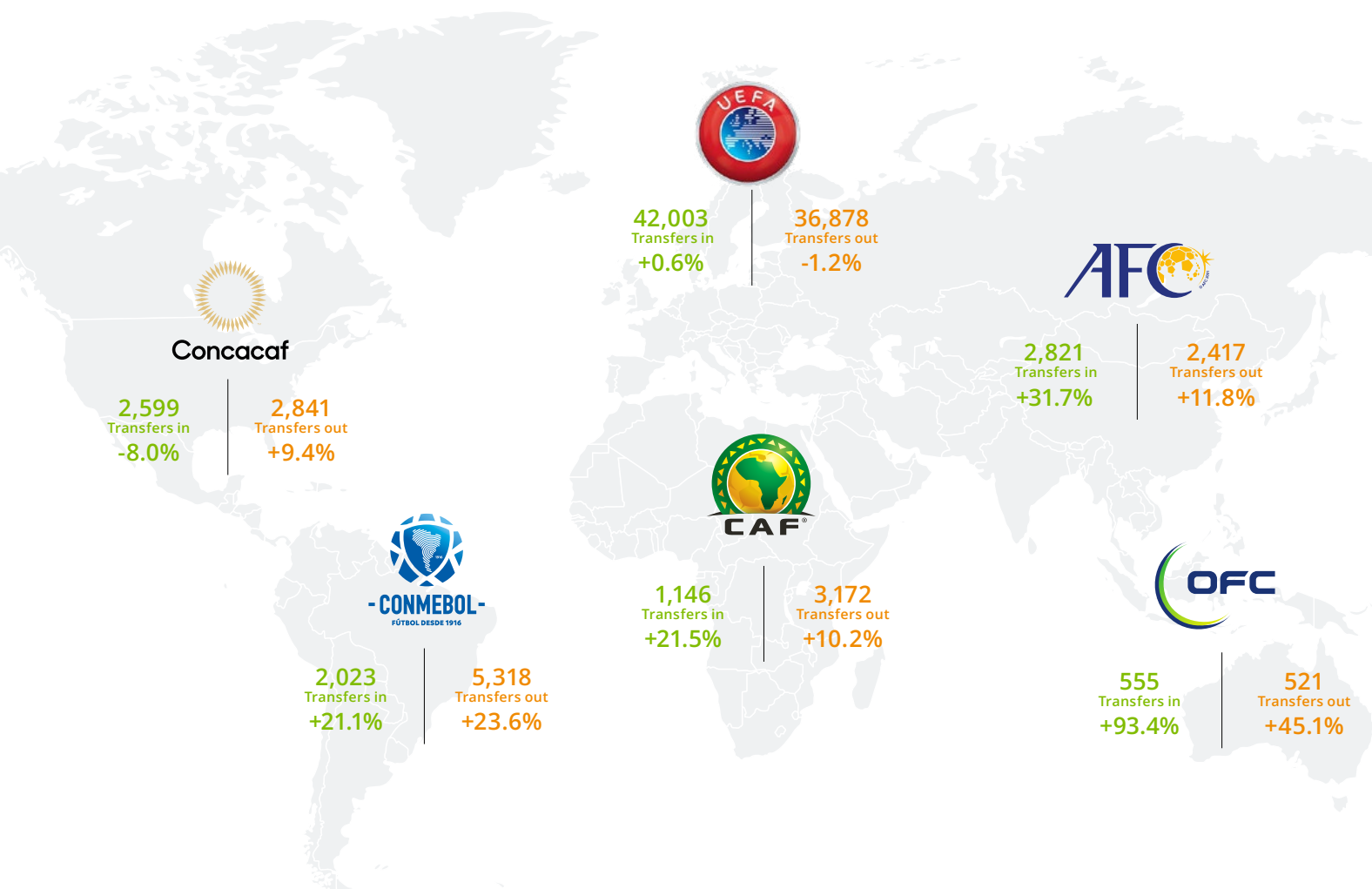


Figure 42: Transfer streams within and between confederations (2023)

		Engaging confederation					
							
Releasing confederation		623	74	155	32	86	1,447
		345	958	87	9	14	1,759
		151	3	748	184	34	1,721
		154	0	405	1,389	76	3,294
		226	1	22	3	148	121
		1,322	110	1,182	406	197	33,661



Transfers by association

The number-one association for both incoming and outgoing amateur transfers in 2023 was Germany, with 7,825 and 3,866 transfers respectively. While most associations among the top ten were European, there were three exceptions in the form of the USA, Argentina and Australia.

Figure 43: Associations featuring in at least one of the top ten rankings by number of incoming and outgoing transfers (2023, global ranks in parentheses)

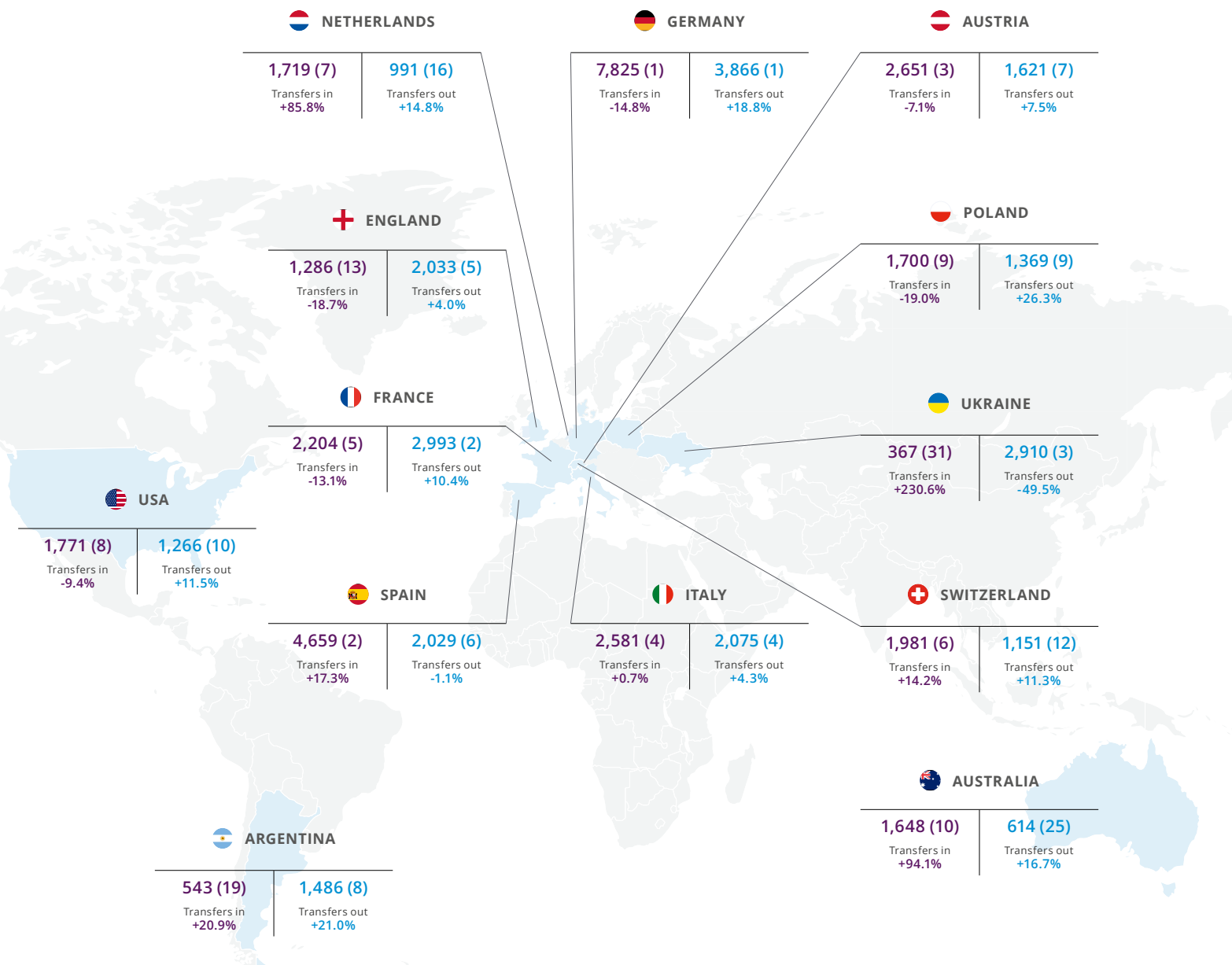






















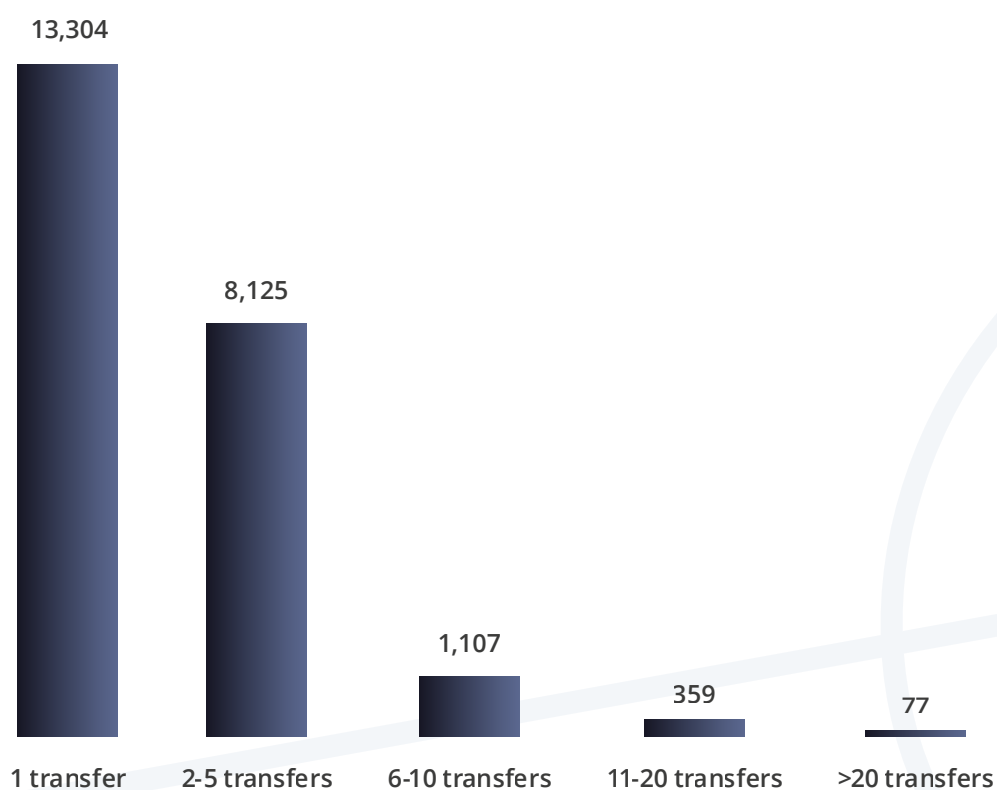
Figure 44: Top ten transfer streams by number of transfers (2023)

From	Transfers	To
 UKRAINE	975	 POLAND
 UKRAINE	726	 GERMANY
 FRANCE	715	 SWITZERLAND
 POLAND	713	 GERMANY
 GERMANY	639	 AUSTRIA
 FRANCE	617	 BELGIUM
 COLOMBIA	469	 SPAIN
 ARGENTINA	459	 SPAIN
 BELGIUM	451	 NETHERLANDS
 BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	447	 GERMANY

Club characteristics

Some 57.9% of the 22,972 clubs involved in international transfers of amateurs in 2023 welcomed exactly one new player from abroad, while another 35.4% of clubs saw between two and five players join their squad. The remaining 6.7% engaged six or more players, with 77 of these clubs even completing more than 20 transfers in 2023.

Figure 45: Number of clubs by number of incoming transfers (2023)



ANNEXE: ASSOCIATION OVERVIEW

Men's professional football

The amounts for spending on and receipts from transfer fees in the table below are only shown for associations with at least five incoming and outgoing transfers with transfer fees respectively.

Figure 46: Number of incoming and outgoing transfers, clubs involved and total spending and receipts by association, men's professional football (2023)

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs	Spending on fees (USD)	Receipts from fees (USD)
Albania (UEFA)	169	127	24	8	n/a	3.5m
Algeria (CAF)	74	69	15	5	906.3k	3.2m
Andorra (UEFA)	120	35	10	0	n/a	n/a
Angola (CAF)	29	42	7	4	n/a	n/a
Antigua and Barbuda (Concacaf)	0	2	0	0	n/a	n/a
Argentina (CONMEBOL)	471	700	109	64	86.7m	276.8m
Armenia (UEFA)	165	97	15	6	292.1k	1.6m
Australia (AFC)	125	122	62	12	3.4m	10.3m
Austria (UEFA)	201	209	32	22	81.0m	161.3m
Azerbaijan (UEFA)	123	69	17	6	4.8m	7.3m
Bahrain (AFC)	119	71	22	2	n/a	n/a
Bangladesh (AFC)	43	32	11	0	n/a	n/a
Belarus (UEFA)	109	118	26	6	n/a	2.1m
Belgium (UEFA)	402	430	40	26	241.5m	355.4m
Belize (Concacaf)	22	6	6	2	n/a	n/a
Benin (CAF)	170	44	34	3	n/a	n/a
Bhutan (AFC)	0	12	0	0	n/a	n/a
Bolivia (CONMEBOL)	123	118	28	2	2.1m	n/a
Bosnia and Herzegovina (UEFA)	173	154	19	7	1.7m	2.4m
Botswana (CAF)	42	7	19	0	n/a	n/a
Brazil (CONMEBOL)	922	1,217	303	116	146.2m	314.9m
Brunei Darussalam (AFC)	20	4	6	0	n/a	n/a
Bulgaria (UEFA)	204	142	29	14	14.7m	24.2m
Burkina Faso (CAF)	45	69	16	10	n/a	1.4m
Burundi (CAF)	48	39	16	4	n/a	n/a
Cabo Verde (CAF)	0	11	0	0	n/a	n/a
Cambodia (AFC)	57	25	13	2	n/a	n/a
Cameroon (CAF)	73	129	26	20	n/a	3.6m
Canada (Concacaf)	93	150	13	8	8.8m	17.0m
Central African Republic (CAF)	0	4	0	3	n/a	n/a
Chad (CAF)	0	4	0	0	n/a	n/a
Chile (CONMEBOL)	154	133	43	13	2.0m	17.5m
China PR (AFC)	79	63	30	6	6.7m	11.3m

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs	Spending on fees (USD)	Receipts from fees (USD)
Chinese Taipei (AFC)	22	6	6	0	n/a	n/a
Colombia (CONMEBOL)	236	465	36	27	1.7m	50.1m
Comoros (CAF)	0	2	0	0	n/a	n/a
Congo (CAF)	0	21	0	4	n/a	n/a
Congo DR (CAF)	31	119	5	15	n/a	609.0k
Costa Rica (Concacaf)	76	65	23	8	n/a	5.0m
Côte d'Ivoire (CAF)	65	160	19	21	n/a	4.4m
Croatia (UEFA)	222	323	27	16	11.9m	125.0m
Cuba (Concacaf)	0	8	0	0	n/a	n/a
Curaçao (Concacaf)	0	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
Cyprus (UEFA)	292	223	39	11	14.7m	5.8m
Czechia (UEFA)	165	158	29	19	21.1m	48.3m
Denmark (UEFA)	223	257	31	23	73.4m	237.4m
Djibouti (CAF)	33	11	8	0	n/a	n/a
Dominican Republic (Concacaf)	52	17	9	1	n/a	n/a
Ecuador (CONMEBOL)	281	158	85	11	2.8m	24.5m
Egypt (CAF)	135	128	51	9	9.5m	10.3m
El Salvador (Concacaf)	78	51	27	1	n/a	n/a
England (UEFA)	681	838	127	77	2.96bn	1.04bn
Equatorial Guinea (CAF)	0	13	0	1	n/a	n/a
Estonia (UEFA)	48	34	11	6	n/a	857.7k
Eswatini (CAF)	30	14	12	3	n/a	n/a
Ethiopia (CAF)	27	12	13	0	n/a	n/a
Faroe Islands (UEFA)	44	24	12	4	n/a	n/a
Finland (UEFA)	157	131	31	10	628.3k	5.0m
France (UEFA)	487	686	100	47	991.8m	1.19bn
Gabon (CAF)	3	22	2	3	n/a	n/a
Gambia (CAF)	6	69	3	18	n/a	5.2m
Georgia (UEFA)	142	89	26	7	n/a	5.9m
Germany (UEFA)	455	558	125	43	850.7m	1.21bn
Ghana (CAF)	119	291	56	60	n/a	6.4m
Gibraltar (UEFA)	43	24	8	2	n/a	n/a
Greece (UEFA)	351	351	41	16	52.2m	59.2m
Guatemala (Concacaf)	112	82	35	2	n/a	n/a
Guinea (CAF)	3	38	3	7	n/a	612.1k
Guinea-Bissau (CAF)	0	9	0	0	n/a	n/a
Haiti (Concacaf)	0	15	0	2	n/a	n/a
Honduras (Concacaf)	135	60	42	3	n/a	n/a
Hong Kong, China (AFC)	63	21	15	1	n/a	n/a
Hungary (UEFA)	164	171	31	14	11.4m	15.5m
Iceland (UEFA)	74	62	23	12	212.2k	3.9m
India (AFC)	134	114	33	0	n/a	n/a
Indonesia (AFC)	178	45	45	3	688.8k	n/a

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs	Spending on fees (USD)	Receipts from fees (USD)
IR Iran (AFC)	38	41	14	2	n/a	n/a
Iraq (AFC)	173	95	36	0	n/a	n/a
Israel (UEFA)	164	150	31	11	11.9m	40.7m
Italy (UEFA)	442	561	63	41	757.6m	1.02bn
Jamaica (Concacaf)	28	33	10	8	n/a	333.0k
Japan (AFC)	117	227	51	26	13.2m	26.1m
Jordan (AFC)	65	61	10	7	n/a	569.0k
Kazakhstan (UEFA)	186	124	26	3	4.0m	n/a
Kenya (CAF)	25	21	12	2	n/a	n/a
Korea Republic (AFC)	116	127	37	11	10.8m	22.7m
Kosovo (UEFA)	122	73	22	5	n/a	1.8m
Kuwait (AFC)	69	61	15	2	879.2k	n/a
Kyrgyz Republic (AFC)	65	48	9	1	n/a	n/a
Laos (AFC)	14	11	5	2	n/a	n/a
Latvia (UEFA)	103	92	11	8	5.0m	9.0m
Lebanon (AFC)	47	29	17	1	n/a	n/a
Lesotho (CAF)	5	6	3	1	n/a	n/a
Liberia (CAF)	14	8	5	1	n/a	n/a
Libya (CAF)	121	132	22	1	1.5m	n/a
Lithuania (UEFA)	117	98	21	7	n/a	831.0k
Luxembourg (UEFA)	76	50	14	6	146.8k	526.8k
Macau (AFC)	0	4	0	0	n/a	n/a
Madagascar (CAF)	0	12	0	1	n/a	n/a
Malawi (CAF)	14	14	6	4	n/a	n/a
Malaysia (AFC)	92	69	14	1	n/a	n/a
Maldives (AFC)	17	15	2	0	n/a	n/a
Mali (CAF)	7	106	6	14	n/a	9.4m
Malta (UEFA)	207	98	41	3	n/a	n/a
Mauritania (CAF)	39	24	8	2	n/a	n/a
Mauritius (CAF)	10	2	7	0	n/a	n/a
Mexico (Concacaf)	253	235	65	24	114.2m	67.6m
Moldova (UEFA)	87	74	11	6	849.6k	289.9k
Mongolia (AFC)	45	23	13	1	n/a	n/a
Montenegro (UEFA)	101	73	20	7	n/a	1.7m
Morocco (CAF)	152	131	53	10	853.7k	8.5m
Mozambique (CAF)	30	18	6	3	n/a	n/a
Myanmar (AFC)	16	9	7	0	n/a	n/a
Namibia (CAF)	61	13	17	0	n/a	n/a
Nepal (AFC)	59	22	14	0	n/a	n/a
Netherlands (UEFA)	306	383	50	32	318.6m	529.5m
New Zealand (OFC)	2	24	1	1	n/a	n/a
Nicaragua (Concacaf)	59	39	12	2	n/a	n/a
Niger (CAF)	44	21	9	3	n/a	n/a

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs	Spending on fees (USD)	Receipts from fees (USD)
Nigeria (CAF)	72	445	31	68	n/a	5.1m
Northern Ireland (UEFA)	49	44	16	7	n/a	3.3m
Norway (UEFA)	175	201	47	29	20.8m	116.9m
Oman (AFC)	67	64	23	1	n/a	n/a
Pakistan (AFC)	0	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
Palestine (AFC)	5	10	4	0	n/a	n/a
Panama (Concacaf)	113	97	19	13	n/a	960.1k
Paraguay (CONMEBOL)	181	182	31	16	n/a	27.8m
Peru (CONMEBOL)	146	103	31	6	432.0k	n/a
Philippines (AFC)	39	26	6	0	n/a	n/a
Poland (UEFA)	298	254	70	25	16.6m	36.6m
Portugal (UEFA)	1,017	731	179	38	269.3m	522.3m
Puerto Rico (Concacaf)	0	3	0	0	n/a	n/a
Qatar (AFC)	130	70	20	3	204.9m	n/a
Republic of Ireland (UEFA)	115	99	15	13	693.6k	7.2m
Republic of North Macedonia (UEFA)	92	82	14	7	321.8k	1.3m
Romania (UEFA)	313	201	58	18	5.2m	15.4m
Russia (UEFA)	205	249	59	21	113.8m	154.7m
Rwanda (CAF)	105	52	21	2	n/a	n/a
Saudi Arabia (AFC)	456	233	106	10	970.0m	16.9m
Scotland (UEFA)	265	254	42	18	65.9m	76.1m
Senegal (CAF)	44	161	16	26	n/a	5.2m
Serbia (UEFA)	304	279	36	18	19.1m	47.9m
Seychelles (CAF)	0	1	0	1	n/a	n/a
Sierra Leone (CAF)	3	20	2	4	n/a	n/a
Singapore (AFC)	27	19	7	2	n/a	n/a
Slovakia (UEFA)	164	170	21	12	4.3m	11.5m
Slovenia (UEFA)	150	176	24	12	1.4m	19.5m
Solomon Islands (OFC)	0	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
Somalia (CAF)	0	5	0	0	n/a	n/a
South Africa (CAF)	52	85	23	8	1.4m	3.8m
South Sudan (CAF)	0	7	0	0	n/a	n/a
Spain (UEFA)	597	773	169	40	469.2m	716.8m
Sri Lanka (AFC)	0	2	0	0	n/a	n/a
St Lucia (Concacaf)	0	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
St Vincent and the Grenadines (Concacaf)	0	1	0	0	n/a	n/a
Sudan (CAF)	31	27	10	1	605.0k	n/a
Sweden (UEFA)	314	275	74	34	26.8m	76.9m
Switzerland (UEFA)	190	189	29	16	53.0m	134.5m
Syria (AFC)	40	25	14	2	n/a	n/a
Tajikistan (AFC)	68	42	10	0	n/a	n/a
Tanzania (CAF)	75	57	15	4	1.0m	n/a
Thailand (AFC)	107	136	34	4	n/a	n/a

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs	Spending on fees (USD)	Receipts from fees (USD)
Timor-Leste (AFC)	1	7	1	0	n/a	n/a
Togo (CAF)	10	75	7	3	n/a	n/a
Trinidad and Tobago (Concacaf)	17	4	5	1	n/a	n/a
Tunisia (CAF)	167	154	35	12	1.7m	4.3m
Türkiye (UEFA)	428	337	64	23	260.6m	161.2m
Turkmenistan (AFC)	0	3	0	0	n/a	n/a
Uganda (CAF)	46	50	18	5	n/a	500.8k
Ukraine (UEFA)	222	125	40	11	22.5m	175.3m
United Arab Emirates (AFC)	235	167	39	9	30.2m	6.9m
Uruguay (CONMEBOL)	229	252	29	21	1.7m	67.9m
USA (Concacaf)	428	405	69	30	203.1m	139.4m
Uzbekistan (AFC)	107	124	28	7	n/a	1.4m
Venezuela (CONMEBOL)	163	141	29	11	65.0k	1.7m
Vietnam (AFC)	75	51	18	0	n/a	n/a
Wales (UEFA)	144	95	19	7	17.8m	41.2m
Yemen (AFC)	4	9	4	0	n/a	n/a
Zambia (CAF)	46	53	17	10	90.5k	511.7k
Zimbabwe (CAF)	20	39	12	4	n/a	n/a

Women's professional football

Figure 47: Number of incoming and outgoing transfers and clubs involved by association, women's professional football (2023)

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs
Albania (UEFA)	12	10	2	0
Algeria (CAF)	0	7	0	0
Argentina (CONMEBOL)	41	w	17	3
Armenia (UEFA)	6	3	2	0
Australia (AFC)	64	39	25	2
Austria (UEFA)	17	24	8	4
Bahrain (AFC)	0	5	0	0
Belarus (UEFA)	11	21	4	1
Belgium (UEFA)	22	12	6	1
Benin (CAF)	23	7	2	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina (UEFA)	0	2	0	0
Brazil (CONMEBOL)	42	71	16	5
Bulgaria (UEFA)	0	1	0	0
Burkina Faso (CAF)	0	6	0	3
Burundi (CAF)	3	3	1	1
Cabo Verde (CAF)	0	1	0	0
Cameroon (CAF)	10	13	5	1
Canada (Concacaf)	0	19	0	0
Cayman Islands (Concacaf)	0	1	0	0
Central African Republic (CAF)	0	1	0	0
Chad (CAF)	0	4	0	0
Chile (CONMEBOL)	14	22	8	1
China PR (AFC)	27	12	9	3
Chinese Taipei (AFC)	5	1	2	0
Colombia (CONMEBOL)	69	36	14	0
Congo (CAF)	0	4	0	1
Congo DR (CAF)	6	1	1	0
Costa Rica (Concacaf)	0	12	0	0
Côte d'Ivoire (CAF)	0	8	0	0
Croatia (UEFA)	3	10	1	0
Cuba (Concacaf)	0	2	0	0
Cyprus (UEFA)	16	10	5	0
Czechia (UEFA)	12	7	3	0
Denmark (UEFA)	45	54	11	6
Ecuador (CONMEBOL)	13	21	6	0
Egypt (CAF)	14	8	5	1
El Salvador (Concacaf)	0	1	0	0
England (UEFA)	108	80	22	10
Equatorial Guinea (CAF)	0	11	0	0

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs
Estonia (UEFA)	1	0	1	0
Faroe Islands (UEFA)	2	2	2	0
Finland (UEFA)	11	27	4	3
France (UEFA)	57	95	20	3
Gabon (CAF)	0	5	0	0
Gambia (CAF)	0	6	0	1
Georgia (UEFA)	3	2	3	0
Germany (UEFA)	75	62	20	7
Ghana (CAF)	11	19	8	3
Greece (UEFA)	0	9	0	0
Guatemala (Concacaf)	8	3	5	0
Guinea (CAF)	0	5	0	0
Guinea-Bissau (CAF)	0	3	0	0
Haiti (Concacaf)	0	2	0	0
Hong Kong, China (AFC)	2	0	1	0
Hungary (UEFA)	24	16	8	1
Iceland (UEFA)	41	25	16	1
India (AFC)	5	8	1	0
Indonesia (AFC)	0	1	0	0
IR Iran (AFC)	4	2	3	0
Iraq (AFC)	6	1	3	0
Israel (UEFA)	33	22	9	1
Italy (UEFA)	59	65	11	6
Japan (AFC)	16	28	9	3
Jordan (AFC)	8	15	4	1
Kazakhstan (UEFA)	33	15	3	1
Kenya (CAF)	4	9	3	1
Korea Republic (AFC)	4	2	3	1
Kosovo (UEFA)	7	0	1	0
Kyrgyz Republic (AFC)	0	1	0	0
Lebanon (AFC)	0	2	0	0
Liberia (CAF)	2	2	1	0
Lithuania (UEFA)	13	11	2	0
Luxembourg (UEFA)	8	0	1	0
Malawi (CAF)	1	5	1	0
Mali (CAF)	0	3	0	1
Malta (UEFA)	16	4	6	1
Mauritania (CAF)	0	2	0	0
Mauritius (CAF)	1	0	1	0
Mexico (Concacaf)	56	24	16	2
Moldova (UEFA)	0	1	0	0
Montenegro (UEFA)	0	3	0	0
Morocco (CAF)	42	14	23	1

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs
Mozambique (CAF)	0	1	0	0
Namibia (CAF)	2	0	1	0
Netherlands (UEFA)	16	21	9	3
New Zealand (OFC)	8	12	1	0
Nicaragua (Concacaf)	0	1	0	0
Niger (CAF)	2	1	1	0
Nigeria (CAF)	9	54	3	2
Northern Ireland (UEFA)	5	1	3	0
Norway (UEFA)	42	39	18	7
Panama (Concacaf)	0	5	0	0
Paraguay (CONMEBOL)	3	12	1	1
Peru (CONMEBOL)	3	9	3	0
Poland (UEFA)	31	19	11	1
Portugal (UEFA)	70	40	16	3
Puerto Rico (Concacaf)	0	3	0	0
Republic of Ireland (UEFA)	3	10	3	1
Republic of North Macedonia (UEFA)	13	4	3	0
Romania (UEFA)	14	13	6	0
Russia (UEFA)	20	13	7	0
Rwanda (CAF)	3	1	1	0
Saudi Arabia (AFC)	95	15	27	0
Scotland (UEFA)	38	23	7	3
Senegal (CAF)	0	3	0	0
Serbia (UEFA)	0	12	0	0
Sierra Leone (CAF)	0	2	0	0
Slovakia (UEFA)	0	3	0	0
Slovenia (UEFA)	4	3	1	0
South Africa (CAF)	0	5	0	0
Spain (UEFA)	101	82	34	6
Sudan (CAF)	0	2	0	0
Sweden (UEFA)	74	80	27	11
Switzerland (UEFA)	38	32	7	4
Syria (AFC)	0	1	0	0
Tanzania (CAF)	18	13	5	2
Thailand (AFC)	0	4	0	0
Togo (CAF)	0	6	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago (Concacaf)	0	2	0	0
Tunisia (CAF)	0	9	0	0
Türkiye (UEFA)	0	43	0	0
Uganda (CAF)	5	9	2	1
Ukraine (UEFA)	42	3	13	0
United Arab Emirates (AFC)	0	2	0	0
Uruguay (CONMEBOL)	0	10	0	0

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs	Releasing clubs
USA (Concacaf)	73	144	12	10
Uzbekistan (AFC)	7	2	4	0
Venezuela (CONMEBOL)	1	15	1	0
Wales (UEFA)	4	1	3	0
Zambia (CAF)	7	4	2	0
Zimbabwe (CAF)	1	3	1	0



Amateur football

Figure 48: Number of incoming and outgoing transfers and clubs involved by association, amateur football (2023)

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs
Afghanistan (AFC)	0	22	0
Albania (UEFA)	170	269	45
Algeria (CAF)	18	224	13
American Samoa (OFC)	8	0	3
Andorra (UEFA)	68	157	15
Angola (CAF)	3	18	2
Anguilla (Concacaf)	8	9	7
Antigua and Barbuda (Concacaf)	38	33	15
Argentina (CONMEBOL)	543	1,486	370
Armenia (UEFA)	62	48	13
Aruba (Concacaf)	2	23	2
Australia (AFC)	1,648	614	596
Austria (UEFA)	2,651	1,621	1,071
Azerbaijan (UEFA)	27	54	18
Bahamas (Concacaf)	0	3	0
Bahrain (AFC)	5	14	2
Bangladesh (AFC)	0	12	0
Barbados (Concacaf)	39	13	11
Belarus (UEFA)	30	97	23
Belgium (UEFA)	1,536	1,239	523
Belize (Concacaf)	6	19	2
Benin (CAF)	37	37	18
Bermuda (Concacaf)	10	17	8
Bhutan (AFC)	46	6	8
Bolivia (CONMEBOL)	283	174	123
Bosnia and Herzegovina (UEFA)	393	930	145
Botswana (CAF)	9	11	8
Brazil (CONMEBOL)	161	1,001	93
British Virgin Islands (Concacaf)	11	8	5
Brunei Darussalam (AFC)	6	2	3
Bulgaria (UEFA)	131	252	90
Burkina Faso (CAF)	26	36	16
Burundi (CAF)	18	19	3
Cabo Verde (CAF)	1	48	1
Cambodia (AFC)	4	16	1
Cameroon (CAF)	8	136	6
Canada (Concacaf)	263	551	81
Cayman Islands (Concacaf)	13	10	6
Central African Republic (CAF)	0	7	0

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs
Chad (CAF)	15	4	7
Chile (CONMEBOL)	72	184	50
China PR (AFC)	0	38	0
Chinese Taipei (AFC)	1	15	1
Colombia (CONMEBOL)	255	1,124	152
Comoros (CAF)	56	65	21
Congo (CAF)	61	35	11
Congo DR (CAF)	40	69	15
Cook Islands (OFC)	11	16	3
Costa Rica (Concacaf)	42	73	16
Côte d'Ivoire (CAF)	67	133	36
Croatia (UEFA)	1,045	1,053	443
Cuba (Concacaf)	0	17	0
Curaçao (Concacaf)	19	54	12
Cyprus (UEFA)	195	187	104
Czechia (UEFA)	1,393	723	703
Denmark (UEFA)	471	309	222
Djibouti (CAF)	10	9	4
Dominica (Concacaf)	6	8	4
Dominican Republic (Concacaf)	13	48	9
Ecuador (CONMEBOL)	57	126	42
Egypt (CAF)	4	208	4
El Salvador (Concacaf)	9	20	6
England (UEFA)	1,286	2,033	618
Equatorial Guinea (CAF)	52	33	13
Estonia (UEFA)	78	43	45
Eswatini (CAF)	2	4	2
Ethiopia (CAF)	0	5	0
Faroe Islands (UEFA)	39	72	16
Fiji (OFC)	19	100	7
Finland (UEFA)	265	191	133
France (UEFA)	2,204	2,993	1,255
Gabon (CAF)	35	27	10
Gambia (CAF)	0	44	0
Georgia (UEFA)	35	146	17
Germany (UEFA)	7,825	3,866	4,121
Ghana (CAF)	30	214	23
Gibraltar (UEFA)	115	103	12
Greece (UEFA)	452	511	313
Grenada (Concacaf)	1	4	1
Guam (AFC)	0	3	0
Guatemala (Concacaf)	13	35	9
Guinea (CAF)	6	42	3

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs
Guinea-Bissau (CAF)	0	32	0
Guyana (Concacaf)	0	16	0
Haiti (Concacaf)	0	23	0
Honduras (Concacaf)	40	82	27
Hong Kong, China (AFC)	22	65	13
Hungary (UEFA)	536	845	314
Iceland (UEFA)	144	153	48
India (AFC)	47	136	31
Indonesia (AFC)	0	9	0
IR Iran (AFC)	8	22	8
Iraq (AFC)	4	19	2
Israel (UEFA)	74	129	58
Italy (UEFA)	2,581	2,075	1,400
Jamaica (Concacaf)	19	56	9
Japan (AFC)	275	644	199
Jordan (AFC)	6	33	4
Kazakhstan (UEFA)	10	69	5
Kenya (CAF)	3	28	3
Korea Republic (AFC)	91	100	71
Kosovo (UEFA)	114	240	32
Kuwait (AFC)	4	4	4
Kyrgyz Republic (AFC)	8	25	3
Laos (AFC)	8	3	4
Latvia (UEFA)	120	123	42
Lebanon (AFC)	3	63	1
Lesotho (CAF)	23	3	8
Liberia (CAF)	26	10	14
Libya (CAF)	259	30	80
Liechtenstein (UEFA)	0	1	0
Lithuania (UEFA)	188	127	43
Luxembourg (UEFA)	820	480	103
Macau (AFC)	12	7	2
Madagascar (CAF)	0	73	0
Malawi (CAF)	0	5	0
Malaysia (AFC)	2	16	2
Maldives (AFC)	8	12	2
Mali (CAF)	6	57	2
Malta (UEFA)	54	96	35
Mauritania (CAF)	10	21	5
Mauritius (CAF)	2	14	2
Mexico (Concacaf)	38	167	29
Moldova (UEFA)	42	163	28
Mongolia (AFC)	37	35	11

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs
Montenegro (UEFA)	66	110	27
Morocco (CAF)	41	248	30
Mozambique (CAF)	1	7	1
Myanmar (AFC)	0	4	0
Namibia (CAF)	12	12	10
Nepal (AFC)	0	66	0
Netherlands (UEFA)	1,719	991	625
New Caledonia (OFC)	9	21	8
New Zealand (OFC)	460	299	140
Nicaragua (Concacaf)	103	72	36
Niger (CAF)	59	13	14
Nigeria (CAF)	14	443	10
Northern Ireland (UEFA)	342	186	121
Norway (UEFA)	413	338	271
Oman (AFC)	0	7	0
Pakistan (AFC)	0	9	0
Palestine (AFC)	23	36	14
Panama (Concacaf)	85	75	29
Papua New Guinea (OFC)	0	3	0
Paraguay (CONMEBOL)	360	361	163
Peru (CONMEBOL)	93	279	59
Philippines (AFC)	5	16	3
Poland (UEFA)	1,700	1,369	965
Portugal (UEFA)	768	809	376
Puerto Rico (Concacaf)	23	21	9
Qatar (AFC)	3	12	3
Republic of Ireland (UEFA)	469	564	213
Republic of North Macedonia (UEFA)	67	285	37
Romania (UEFA)	431	680	259
Russia (UEFA)	120	197	83
Rwanda (CAF)	12	13	9
Samoa (OFC)	4	16	2
San Marino (UEFA)	188	229	15
São Tomé e Príncipe (CAF)	0	8	0
Saudi Arabia (AFC)	20	46	6
Scotland (UEFA)	223	239	144
Senegal (CAF)	25	102	13
Serbia (UEFA)	360	618	209
Seychelles (CAF)	19	1	14
Sierra Leone (CAF)	7	23	4
Singapore (AFC)	17	24	12
Slovakia (UEFA)	845	719	348
Slovenia (UEFA)	529	536	144

Association	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Engaging clubs
Solomon Islands (OFC)	14	23	6
South Africa (CAF)	36	174	26
South Sudan (CAF)	0	10	0
Spain (UEFA)	4,659	2,029	1,812
Sri Lanka (AFC)	0	4	0
St Kitts and Nevis (Concacaf)	6	6	5
St Lucia (Concacaf)	11	33	6
St Vincent and the Grenadines (Concacaf)	10	23	3
Sudan (CAF)	13	8	9
Suriname (Concacaf)	0	5	0
Sweden (UEFA)	434	525	270
Switzerland (UEFA)	1,981	1,151	561
Syria (AFC)	1	12	1
Tahiti (OFC)	24	22	8
Tajikistan (AFC)	0	14	0
Tanzania (CAF)	11	44	4
Thailand (AFC)	101	76	58
Timor-Leste (AFC)	2	7	2
Togo (CAF)	55	60	27
Tonga (OFC)	0	1	0
Trinidad and Tobago (Concacaf)	60	45	16
Tunisia (CAF)	9	208	6
Türkiye (UEFA)	304	581	130
Turkmenistan (AFC)	2	5	2
Turks and Caicos Islands (Concacaf)	0	3	0
Uganda (CAF)	5	23	2
Ukraine (UEFA)	367	2,910	163
United Arab Emirates (AFC)	399	90	45
Uruguay (CONMEBOL)	146	193	81
US Virgin Islands (Concacaf)	0	3	0
USA (Concacaf)	1,711	1,266	528
Uzbekistan (AFC)	2	46	1
Vanuatu (OFC)	6	20	6
Venezuela (CONMEBOL)	53	390	38
Vietnam (AFC)	1	7	1
Wales (UEFA)	864	414	276
Yemen (AFC)	0	1	0
Zambia (CAF)	0	26	0
Zimbabwe (CAF)	0	48	0

Definitions

Association

See member association.

Average transfer fee

Total transfer fees divided by number of transfers with fees.

Club

A member of an association (that is a member association of FIFA) or a member of a league recognised by a member association that enters at least one team in a competition.

Conditional transfer fee

The amount payable by the new club to the former club if certain conditions are fulfilled, e.g. if the player scores ten goals or makes 20 first-team appearances.

Confederation

A group of associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographical region). Confederations are the umbrella organisations of the member associations in each continent:

- AFC – Asian Football Confederation
- CAF – Confédération Africaine de Football
- Concacaf – Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football
- CONMEBOL – Confederación Sudamericana de Fútbol
- OFC – Oceania Football Confederation
- UEFA – Union des Associations Européennes de Football

Fixed transfer fee

The unconditional payment amount for the transfer of the player.

ITC (International Transfer Certificate)

The official document that allows the international transfer of the player's registration from one association to another (cf. art. 9 RSTP).

ITMS (International Transfer Matching System)

Web-based data information system with the primary objective of simplifying the process of international player transfers as well as improving transparency and the flow of information.

Loan

The type of transfer conducted when players are temporarily engaged by a new club: a) on the basis of a loan agreement between the club with which they have an employment contract and a club in another association, during the term of their employment contract with their parent club; or b) when the loan is extended by the new club with the agreement of the parent club (loan extension).

Member association

A football association recognised as such by FIFA. A total of 211 member associations are currently affiliated to FIFA.

Out of contract (transfer)

The type of transfer conducted when a player signs for a new club when they are not contractually bound to any former club and no transfer agreement exists. There are four possible reasons for the player's previous contract termination: the contract with the former club has expired; the contract with the former club was terminated unilaterally; the player mutually agreed an early termination with their former club; the player was not under contract with their former club, i.e. they were an amateur.

Permanent transfer

The type of transfer conducted when players are permanently engaged by a new club in another association and a transfer agreement is signed between the new club and the former club, or when a club in a different association permanently engages players that it has had on loan, with the agreement of the former club (loan-to-permanent transfer).

Professional player

A player who has a written contract with a club and is paid more for their football activity than the expenses that they effectively incur (cf. RSTP art. 2 par. 2).

Receipts

Sum of the value of transfer fees of outgoing transfers. The expression "receipts by association" refers to receipts by clubs belonging to a specific member association.

Release (buyout) fee

Any fee paid in execution of a clause in the player's contract with their former club providing compensation for the termination of the relevant contract.

Return from loan

The instruction type entered when a player who was loaned to another club returns to their club of origin after termination of the loan.

RSTP (FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players)

Global and binding rules concerning the status of players, their eligibility to participate in organised football, and their transfer between clubs belonging to different associations.

Sell-on fee

The percentage of a future transfer fee agreed between the two clubs involved in a transfer. This means that if the new club transfers the player to a third club, the former club is entitled to a percentage of the new transfer fee.

Solidarity contribution

If a professional player moves before the expiry of their contract, 5% of any compensation (not including training compensation paid to their former club) shall be distributed between the clubs that have contributed to their education. This solidarity contribution reflects the number of years the player was registered with the relevant club(s) between the seasons of their 12th and 23rd birthdays (cf. Annexe 5 of the RSTP).

Spending

Sum of the value of transfer fees of incoming transfers. The expression "spending by association" refers to spending by clubs belonging to a specific member association.

TMS (Transfer Matching System)

Web-based data information system with the primary objective of simplifying the process of international player transfers as well as improving transparency and the flow of information.

Total transfer fee

Sum of fixed transfer fee, conditional transfer fee and release (buyout) fee. In this report, sell-on fees, solidarity contributions and training compensation are covered separately.

Training compensation

The sum paid to the player's training club(s): (1) when a player signs their first contract as a professional, and (2) each time a professional is transferred until the end of the season of their 23rd birthday. (cf. art. 20 of the RSTP).

Training rewards

See solidarity contribution and training compensation.

Transfer fee

Financial compensation agreed to be paid between clubs in the course of a player transfer. In this report, transfer fees include fixed transfer fees, conditional transfer fees and release (buyout) fees. Sell-on fees, solidarity contributions and training compensation are covered separately.

Transfer with fees

Transfer where at least one of fixed transfer fee, conditional transfer fee and release (buyout) fee is greater than zero.



Methodology

All transfer data provided in the report only concerns international transfers of football players within the scope of 11-a-side football.

Transfer data has been analysed for all transfers completed between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023.

The data was extracted from TMS on 3 January 2024.

All amounts are automatically converted into US dollars on the basis of conversion rates as of the day when the transfer instruction is created in TMS. They are treated as upfront payments for calculation purposes, notwithstanding any instalment plans that may be agreed by clubs.

Numbers in the report are rounded. Ties in graphs showing the top associations or clubs have been broken at random.



Disclaimer

The information in this report is based on individual transaction data provided directly by football clubs in TMS. FIFA assumes no responsibility for the accuracy, completeness and reliability of the information provided by the clubs. With regard to any technical references included in this report, please be advised that in the event of any contradiction between this report and the actual text of the relevant regulations, the latter shall always prevail. Equally, this report may not alter existing jurisprudence of the competent decision-making bodies and is without prejudice to any decision that the said bodies might be called upon to pass in the future.

Due to the nature of the TMS database, the presence of pending transfers, the potential cancellation of transfers, and data corrections, numbers may differ from one report to another. In the event of any contradiction between this report and other publications by FIFA, the most recent shall always prevail.

Source of data and preparation of report

The source of all data and information (unless explicitly stated otherwise) is:

FIFA
Football Regulatory Subdivision
Legal & Compliance Division
Zurich, Switzerland

Data protection

The data contained in TMS and in this review is covered by Swiss data protection law.

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