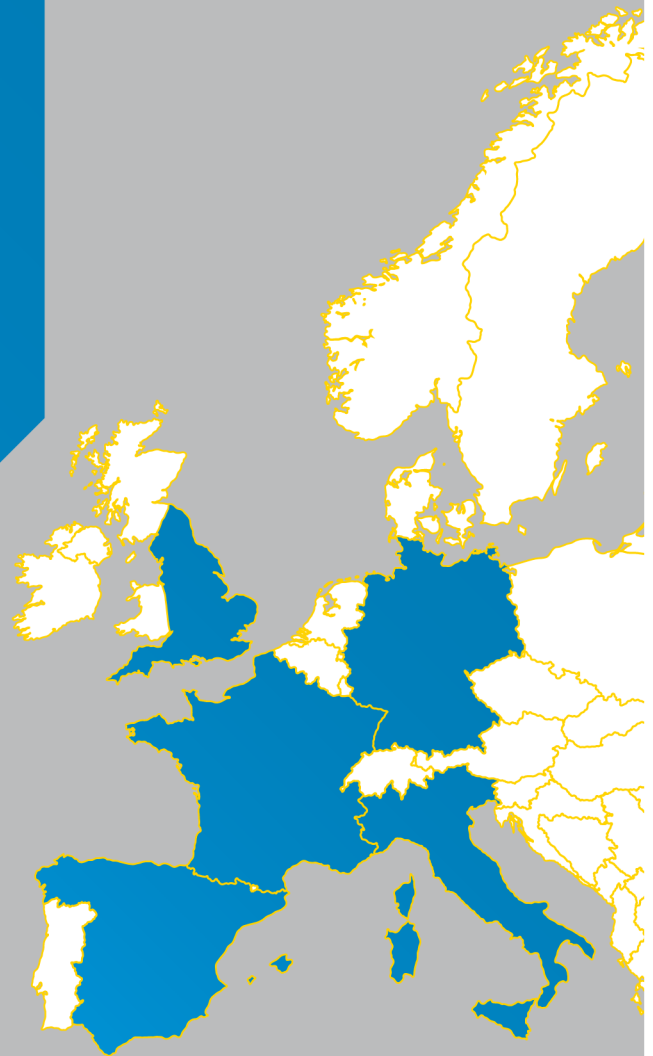

EURO

TRANSFER WINDOW ANALYSIS

SUMMER 2017

Data and analysis covering international transfers involving clubs from England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain.



WORLDWIDE

Introduction

Since October 2010, all professional clubs in the world must use the International Transfer Matching System (ITMS) to transfer players across countries.

Every year, the months of June, July and August are a period of intense activity in the transfer market, and 2017 was no exception: 167 of the 211 FIFA member associations had their registration period open at some point between 1 June and 1 September.

This report is a summary of the activity in ITMS during this period, with a focus on the Big 5: England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Number of transfers

Over 93 days, **7,590 international transfers were completed all around the world**. Of this total, 58.3% were transfers of players out of contract, 16.7% were permanent transfers¹,

13.9% were loans and 11.1% were transfers of players returning from a loan.

Spending

Although only 19.7% of the transfers involved a fee, **global spending² reached USD 4.71 billion**, meaning clubs spent almost as much during those three months as they had in the whole of 2016 (USD 4.79 billion).

Once again, clubs from the Big 5 took centre stage, completing 1,608 incoming transfers (21.2% of the total worldwide) and spending USD 3.67 billion (77.9% of the total global spend), with 36.6% of their incoming transfers involving a transfer fee.

As shown in Fig. 2 and 3, only 6.1% of the total transfers were between clubs of the Big 5, but the value of these transfers accounted for as much as 44.3% of the global spending during the summer.

Fig. 1: Big 5 and Rest of the World - Number of transfers between 1 June and 1 September 2017

Engaging \ Releasing	Big 5	Rest of World
Big 5	461 transfers (6.1%)	1,199 transfers (15.8%)
Rest of World	1,147 transfers (15.1%)	4,783 transfers (63.0%)

Fig. 2: Big 5 and Rest of the World - Spending between 1 June and 1 September 2017

Spending \ Receiving	Big 5	Rest of World
Big 5	USD 2.09 billion (44.3%)	USD 380.3 million (8.1%)
Rest of World	USD 1.58 billion (33.5%)	USD 662 million (14.1%)

¹An international permanent transfer with a transfer agreement between the two clubs

²Total transfer fees include Fixed fees, Conditional fees, Release (buy out) fees, Solidarity contribution and Training compensation

BIG 5

Year after year, the transfer activity by clubs from the Big 5 continues to increase in terms of both volume and value. The 1,608 incoming transfers (+6.2%) and USD 3.67 billion spent (+31.7%) this summer represent new record highs for the period. Spending by the Big 5 this summer was almost three times what it was in the same period in 2012 (USD 1.24 billion).

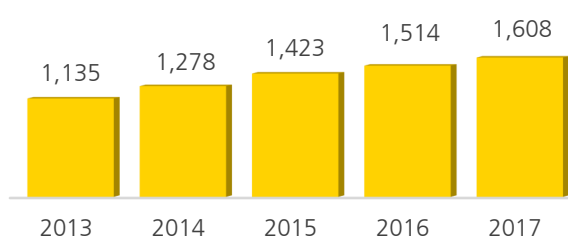
Number of transfers

For the most part, the steady increase in the number of transfers can be attributed to the expanding number of clubs active in the international transfer market. This number has risen significantly over the last five years, going from 351 active clubs in the summer of 2013 to 431 this summer. Meanwhile, the average number of transfers per club has remained relatively stable since 2014.

Spending

The increase in spending appears to be a consequence of two concurrent factors. The first is the number of clubs that spend money on transfer fees. Among the clubs that completed at least one incoming transfer, only 40% spent money on transfer fees. While this percentage has remained stable over the years, the number of clubs engaging players internationally has risen, meaning that in absolute terms, more clubs have been spending for their incoming transfers: from 139 spending clubs active in the summer of 2013 to 171 this summer. In addition, the average expenditure per club³ has also been increasing, rising from USD 14.5 million five years ago to USD 21.4 million this summer.

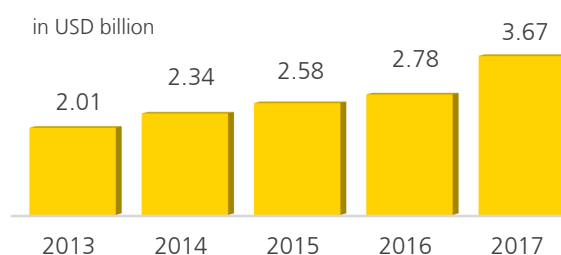
Fig. 3: Number of incoming transfers to the Big 5 during the summer registration period



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Active clubs*	351	354	380	404	431
Transfers per club	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7

*At least one incoming international transfer

Fig. 4: Spending on transfer fees by the Big 5 during the summer registration period



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Spending clubs*	139	141	150	162	171
Avg. spending by club** (USD mill.)	14.5	16.6	17.2	17.2	21.4

*Clubs with total spending on transfer fees greater than zero

**For the spending clubs

³ Among clubs with total spending on transfer fees greater than zero

England was the world’s biggest spender this summer with an outlay of USD 1.40 billion, more than double that of any other country. There were as many as 17 English clubs that spent more than USD 20 million, whereas no other country had more than nine.

Spain was the country with the highest level of receipts (USD 752.3 million), which also made it the only one of the Big 5 that ended the summer with a positive net balance. Spanish clubs this summer have relied heavily on loans, which accountend for almost a third of their incoming transfers (30.9%), compared with an average of 10.5% for the other four countries.

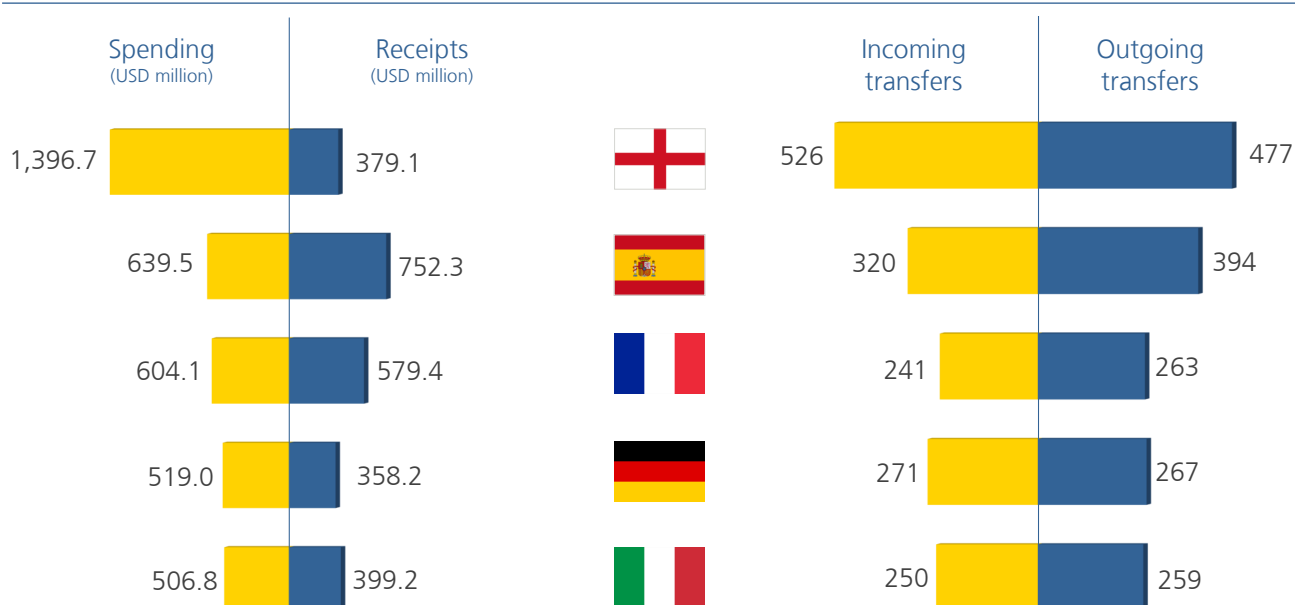
France recorded the largest increase worldwide in international transfer spending during the period, as French clubs spent USD 604.1 million on engaging players from abroad. This was a 250% increase compared to last summer and 191% more than the annual total in 2016.

Germany was the only country among the Big 5 where over half of its clubs’ transfers were to engage players who were out of contract (56.8%).

Italy was the lowest spender of the Big 5 with a total outlay of USD 506.8 million, despite the fact that 45.6% of the transfers to Italian clubs included fees, a significantly higher percentage than that recorded in the other four countries (France 36.9%, England 35.7%, Germany 35.4%, Spain 31.9%).

Behind the Big 5, the largest spenders were clubs from Russia (28 incoming transfers, USD 129.0 million) and Turkey (70 incoming transfers, USD 115.9 million), while one of last year’s biggest spenders, China, had a significant reduction in spending: USD 38.5 million, 74.9% less than in the same period in 2016.

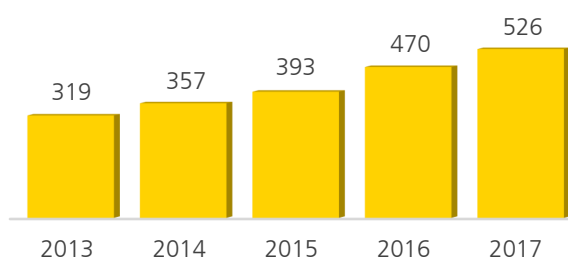
Fig. 5: Big 5 summer registration period 2017 - Summary



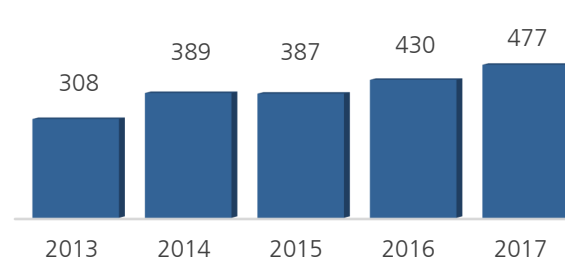
ENGLAND

Summer registration periods 2013 - 2017

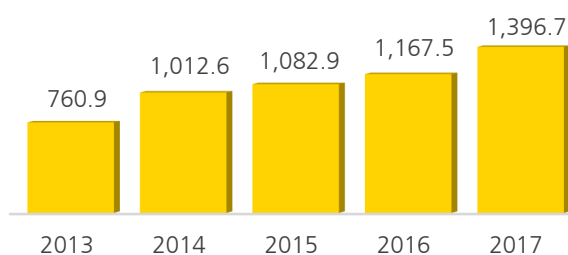
Number of incoming transfers



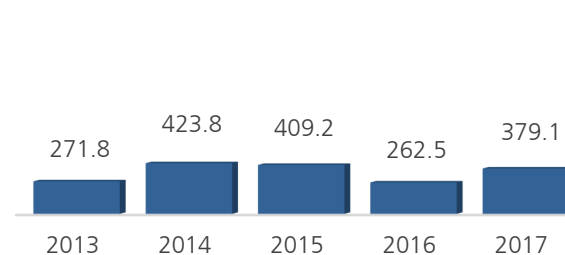
Number of outgoing transfers



Spending on transfer fees (USD million)

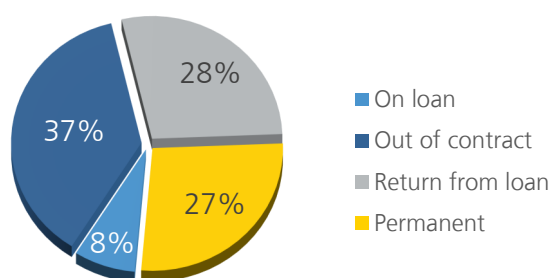


Receipts from transfer fees (USD million)



Summer registration period 2017

Incoming transfers by type



Player age

	Incoming	Outgoing
<21 years old	38.0%	29.4%
21-24 years old	32.7%	32.1%
25-28 years old	20.3%	21.4%
>28 years old	8.9%	17.2%
Average player age	22y 4m	23y 8m

Top transfer streams

From	Transfers	To	Transfers
Scotland	80	Scotland	84
Wales	75	Wales	77
Netherlands	57	Spain	55
Spain	53	Netherlands	34
France	38	Italy	24

Top nationalities

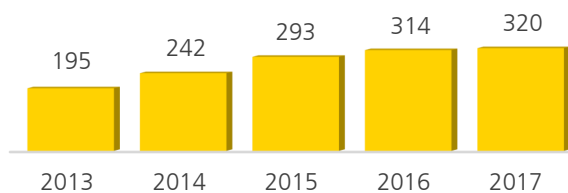
Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Transfers
British	196	British	193
French	42	French	37
Spanish	33	Spanish	33
Dutch	33	Dutch	17
Irish	22	Irish	16



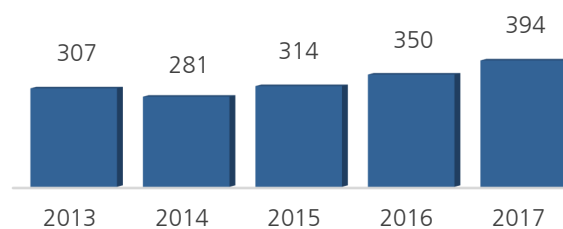
SPAIN

Summer registration periods 2013 - 2017

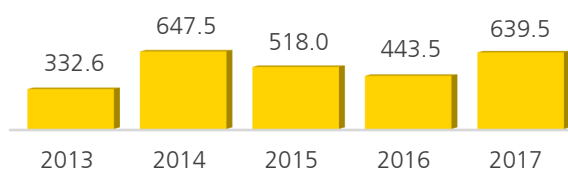
Number of incoming transfers



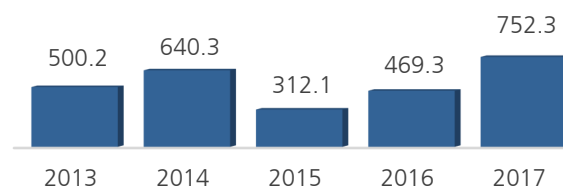
Number of outgoing transfers



Spending on transfer fees (USD million)

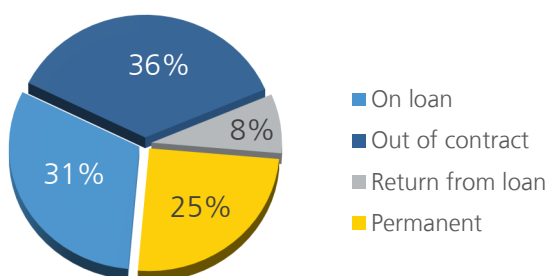


Receipts from transfer fees (USD million)



Summer registration period 2017

Incoming transfers by type



Player age

	Incoming	Outgoing
<21 years old	28.4%	22.8%
21-24 years old	27.2%	29.7%
25-28 years old	22.5%	25.6%
>28 years old	21.9%	21.8%
Average player age	24y 4m	24y 8m

Top transfer streams

From	Transfers	To	Transfers
England	55	England	53
Italy	29	Italy	29
Portugal	22	France	21
France	21	Portugal	17
Uruguay	18	Gibraltar	16

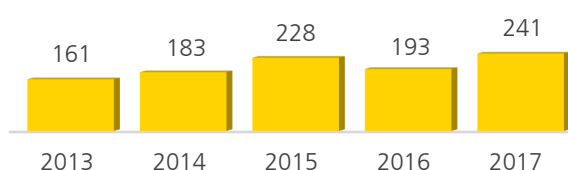
Top nationalities

Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Transfers
Spanish	77	Spanish	152
Argentinian	31	Argentinian	24
Brazilian	26	Brazilian	23
Uruguayan	20	French	20
Colombian	15	Portuguese	16

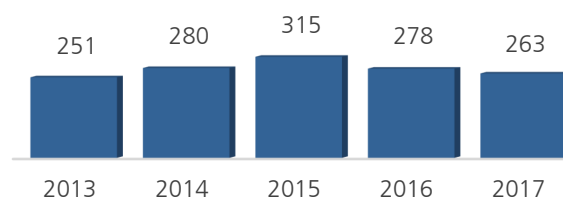
FRANCE

Summer registration periods 2013 - 2017

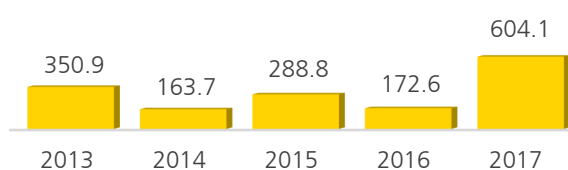
Number of incoming transfers



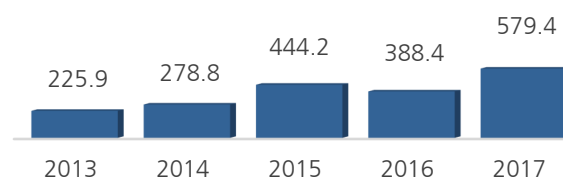
Number of outgoing transfers



Spending on transfer fees (USD million)

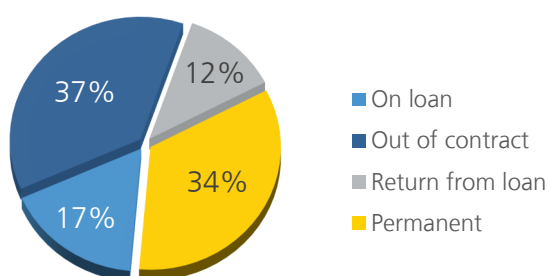


Receipts from transfer fees (USD million)



Summer registration period 2017

Incoming transfers by type



Player age

	Incoming	Outgoing
<21 years old	17.0%	22.6%
21-24 years old	40.2%	32.0%
25-28 years old	26.1%	30.1%
>28 years old	16.6%	15.4%
Average player age	24y 2m	23y 11m

Top transfer streams

From	Transfers	To	Transfers
Belgium	31	England	38
England	23	Belgium	34
Spain	21	Spain	21
Italy	18	Turkey	21
Portugal	16	Italy	18

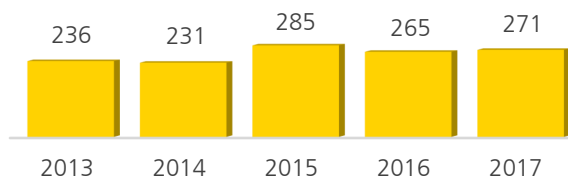
Top nationalities

Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Transfers
French	68	French	155
Brazilian	22	Portuguese	10
Senegalese	17	Senegalese	8
Spanish	12	Belgian	5
Portuguese	9	Brazilian	5

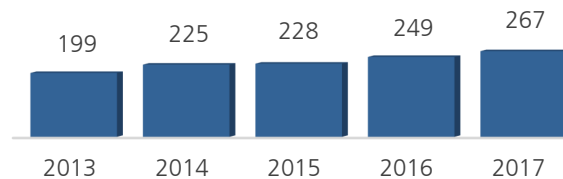
GERMANY

Summer registration periods 2013 - 2017

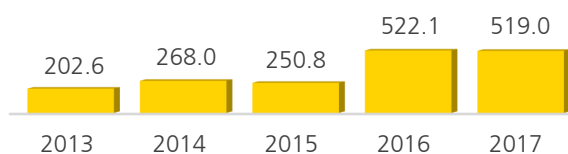
Number of incoming transfers



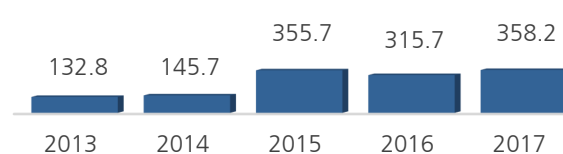
Number of outgoing transfers



Spending on transfer fees (USD million)

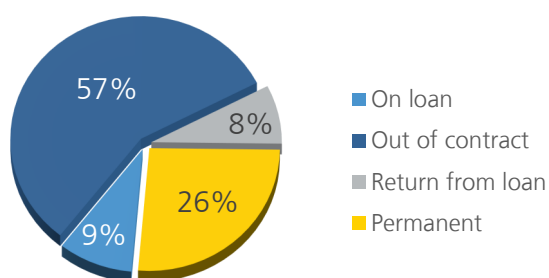


Receipts from transfer fees (USD million)



Summer registration period 2017

Incoming transfers by type



Player age

	Incoming	Outgoing
<21 years old	32.1%	22.3%
21-24 years old	38.4%	32.2%
25-28 years old	21.8%	30.3%
>28 years old	7.7%	15.2%
Average player age	22y 8m	24y 1m

Top transfer streams

From	Transfers	To	Transfers
Austria	34	England	36
Switzerland	22	Turkey	28
England	20	Poland	23
Netherlands	20	Austria	22
Turkey	17	Netherlands	17

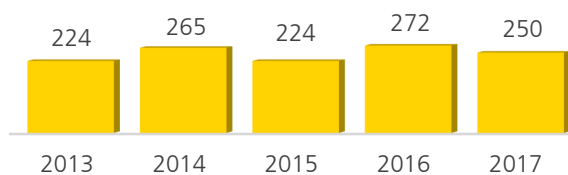
Top nationalities

Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Transfers
German	51	German	75
Austrian	24	Turkish	18
French	18	Brazilian	15
Dutch	16	Polish	15
Croatian	12	Swiss	13

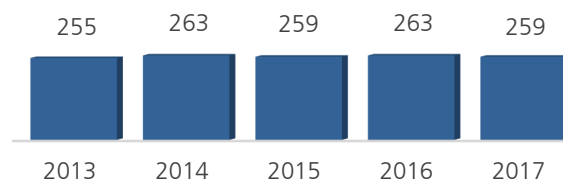


Summer registration periods 2013 - 2017

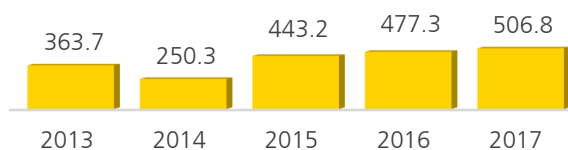
Number of incoming transfers



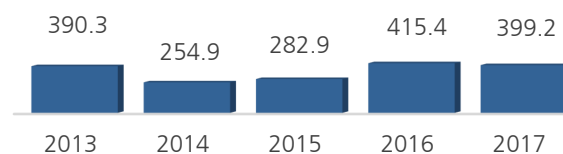
Number of outgoing transfers



Spending on transfer fees (USD million)

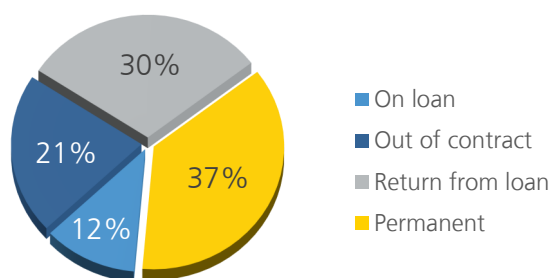


Receipts from transfer fees (USD million)



Summer registration period 2017

Incoming transfers by type



Player age

	Incoming	Outgoing
<21 years old	30.4%	22.4%
21-24 years old	38.0%	33.2%
25-28 years old	22.8%	24.7%
>28 years old	8.8%	19.7%
Average player age	22y 8m	24y 3m

Top transfer streams

From	Transfers	To	Transfers
Spain	28	Spain	29
England	24	Switzerland	22
Portugal	19	France	18
France	18	England	17
Switzerland	15	Portugal	16

Top nationalities

Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Transfers
Italian	30	Italian	40
French	20	Argentinian	21
Brazilian	16	Brazilian	20
Croatian	16	French	18
Portuguese	14	Croatian	12

DISCLAIMER

General disclaimer

The information contained in this report is based on individual transaction data provided directly by football clubs in ITMS. FIFA assumes no responsibility for the accuracy, completeness and reliability of the information provided by the clubs.

With regards to technical references possibly included in the present report, please be advised that in the event of any contradiction between the contents of this report and the actual text of the relevant regulations, the latter shall always prevail. Equally, the contents of this report may not alter existing jurisprudence of the competent decision-making bodies and is without prejudice to any decision which the said bodies might be called upon to pass in the future.

“Spending/receipts by association” refers to spending or receipts on transfer fees by clubs belonging to a specific association.

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

All information contained herein is exclusively owned by FIFA, except as otherwise provided herein. The reproduction of any such images, trademarks, text or any and all content (even partially) is strictly prohibited unless express prior approval is obtained from FIFA, and/or the author of such works (as the case may be). Any views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect those of FIFA.

Source of data

The source of all data and information (unless explicitly indicated differently) is:

FIFA Global Transfers and Compliance
Zurich, Switzerland

Methodological approach

Data and analyses provided only concern international transfers of professional male football players within the scope of 11-a-side football.

Transfer data has been analysed for transfers completed between 1 January 2013 and 1 September 2017. All data has been extracted from ITMS on 12 September 2017.

Transfers are allocated to a certain date according to the date when they reach the status of “ITC request” in ITMS, irrespective of the date of their first entry.

All information on transfer fees is automatically converted into US dollars on the basis of conversion rates as of the day of the transfer’s first registration in ITMS.

Numbers in the report are rounded.

Data protection

The data contained in ITMS and in this report is covered by Swiss data protection law. Those associations and clubs whose names appear in this report have expressly authorised FIFA to disclose information concerning their transfers for reporting purposes.