

GLOBAL TRANSFER MARKET REPORT 2019

FIFA[®]

WOMEN PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

A REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TRANSFERS WORLDWIDE





Foreword

The development of women's football is at the top of FIFA's agenda, and understanding the international transfer market – however embryonic it might still be – is a valuable step in the process of strengthening the game from its foundations up, and not simply as a facsimile of the men's.

The year of a historic edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup™, 2019 was also the second year during which the use of FIFA's International Transfer Matching System (ITMS) was mandatory for professional female player transfers. And the results in comparison with 2018 are yet another testament to just how much the game is growing.

Surely enough, in only a few years' time the figures in this second edition of the Global Transfer Market Report will seem paltry next to a new, enhanced reality of women's football. When that time comes, we will be proud to have documented each step of the way.

Enjoy the report,



James Kitching
Director of Football Regulatory



Jacques Blondin
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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 a professional player is temporarily engaged by a new club on the basis of a loan agreement during the term of his/her employment contract with the former club.

Loan extension

The instruction type entered when the loan is being extended by the new club (where the player is currently on loan) for an additional period of time, with the agreement of the former club and the player.

Loan to permanent

The instruction type entered when the new club (where the player is currently on loan) wishes to engage the player permanently, with the agreement of the former club.

Member association

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

Minor application

The submission of a request by the new association for an international transfer or the first registration of a minor.

Out of contract (transfer)

The type of transfer conducted when a player signs for a new club when he/she is 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 his/her former club; the player was not under contract with his/her former club, i.e. he/she was an amateur.

Permanent transfer (with transfer agreement)

The type of transfer conducted when a player is permanently engaged by a new club and a transfer agreement is signed by the new club and the former club.

Professional player

A player who has a written contract with a club and is paid more for his/her football activity than the expenses he/she effectively incurs (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 (buy-out) fee

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

Return from loan

The instruction type entered when a player who was loaned to another club returns to his/her 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 his/her contract, 5% of any compensation (not including training compensation paid to his/her former club) shall be distributed between the clubs that have contributed to his education. This solidarity contribution reflects the number of years the player was registered with the relevant club(s) between the seasons of his/her 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.

Total transfer fee

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

Training compensation

Sum paid to the player's training club(s): (1) when a player signs his first contract as a professional, and (2) each time a professional is transferred until the end of the season of his 23rd birthday. (cf. art. 20 of the RSTP). Training compensation only applies to men's football.

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, release (buy-out) fees. Sell-on fees, solidarity contribution and training compensation are covered separately.

Transfer with fees

Transfer where at least one of fixed transfer fees, conditional transfer fees, release (buy-out) fees is greater than zero.

Methodology

General methodology

All transfer data provided in the report only concern international transfers of professional female football players within the scope of 11-a-side football. The section on minors refers to minor applications for female players.

Transfer data has been analysed for all completed transfers between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2019. The data was extracted from TMS on 20 January 2020.

All information on transfer fees and intermediary commissions is automatically converted into US dollars on the basis of conversion rates as of the day when the transfer instruction is created in TMS.

Numbers in the report are rounded.

Methodology changes

In past editions of this report and in other previous TMS publications, "total transfer fees" were intended as the sum of fixed transfer fees, conditional transfer fees, release (buy-out) fees, solidarity contribution and training compensation.

From this edition, a new definition is applied. "Total transfer fees" are defined as the sum of fixed transfer fees, conditional transfer fees and release (buy-out) fees. Solidarity contribution and training compensation are covered separately as "training rewards" generated from transfers.

In the event of any mismatch between the content of this report and past publications by FIFA and/or FIFA TMS, the most recent shall always prevail.



2019 in the International Transfer Matching System

Volume of transfers

In 2019, clubs around the world completed 833 international transfers. This represents a 19.7% increase from the previous year. Overall, 757 professional players were involved in these transfers (+23.3%), representing 81 different nationalities (+12.5%).

Since the use of the International Transfer Matching System (ITMS) became mandatory for women's transfers in 2018, a total of 1,529 international transfers have been completed.

Timing of transfers

Figure 2 shows the distribution of international transfers across the year. Transfers occur every month, but most are typically completed during the months when the majority of associations have their registration periods open: January, July and August. In 2019, 55.7% of all transfers occurred during these three months.

Fig. 1: Total number of international transfers by year

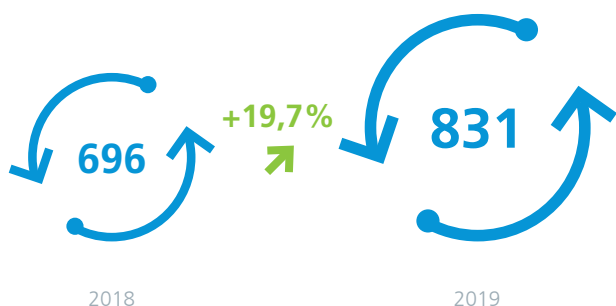
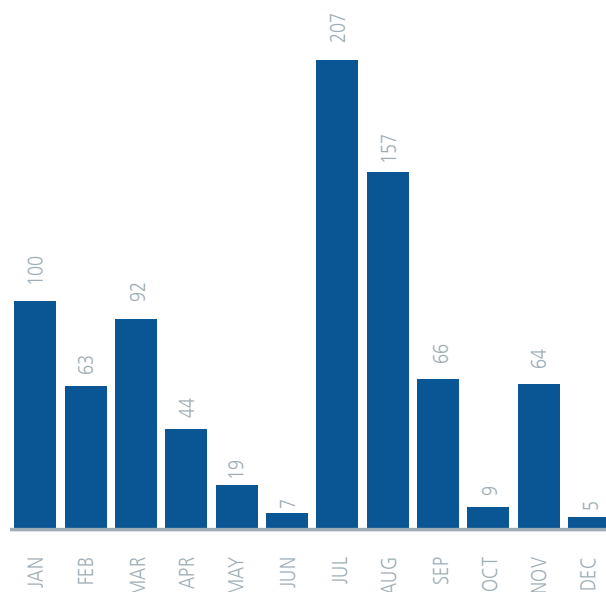


Fig. 2: International transfers by month (2019)



Types of transfers

The vast majority of transfers involved players out of contract, which accounted for 86.3% of all transfers in 2019. Instead, permanent transfers with a transfer agreement between the two clubs accounted for only 3.5% of the total. The remaining transfers were all loan-related: 4.7% were loans, 0.4% were loan to permanent transfers, and 5.2% were transfers of players returning from a loan. Interestingly, there were no loan extensions in the whole of 2019.

There are four possible reasons why a player can be without a contract with a club prior to a transfer out of contract. The most frequent reason in 2019 – accounting for 46.7% of the cases – was that the player did not have a contract with her

previous club because she played as an amateur. In 36.6% of transfers out of contract, the player's contract with the previous club had expired. In 15.6% of the cases, the club and the player had mutually agreed on terminating the contract early, and in 1.1% one of the parties had unilaterally terminated the contract

Clubs and associations involved

In 2019, 274 clubs were active on the international transfer market by either engaging or releasing a player. This marks a strong increase of 24.5% from the 220 active clubs recorded in 2018. The number of FIFA member associations involved in international transfers of players has also grown, reaching a total of 86 (from 74 in 2018, +16.2%).

Fig. 3: International transfers by type (2019)

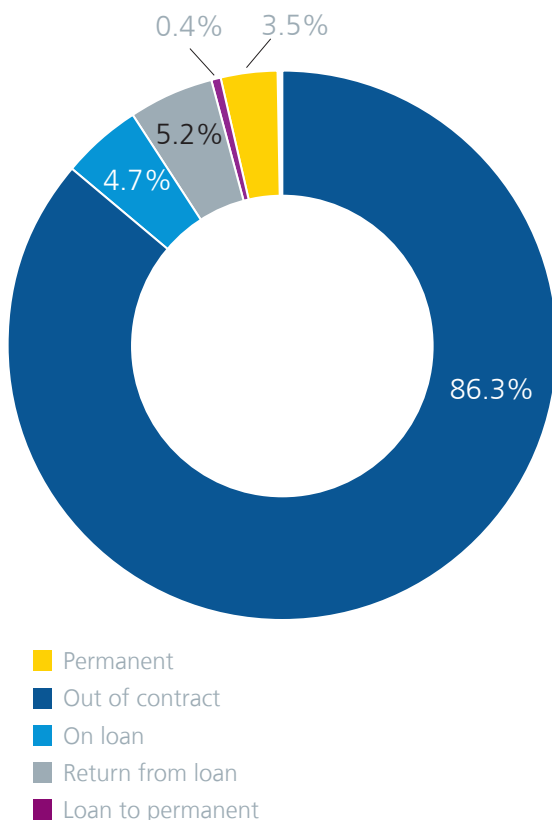
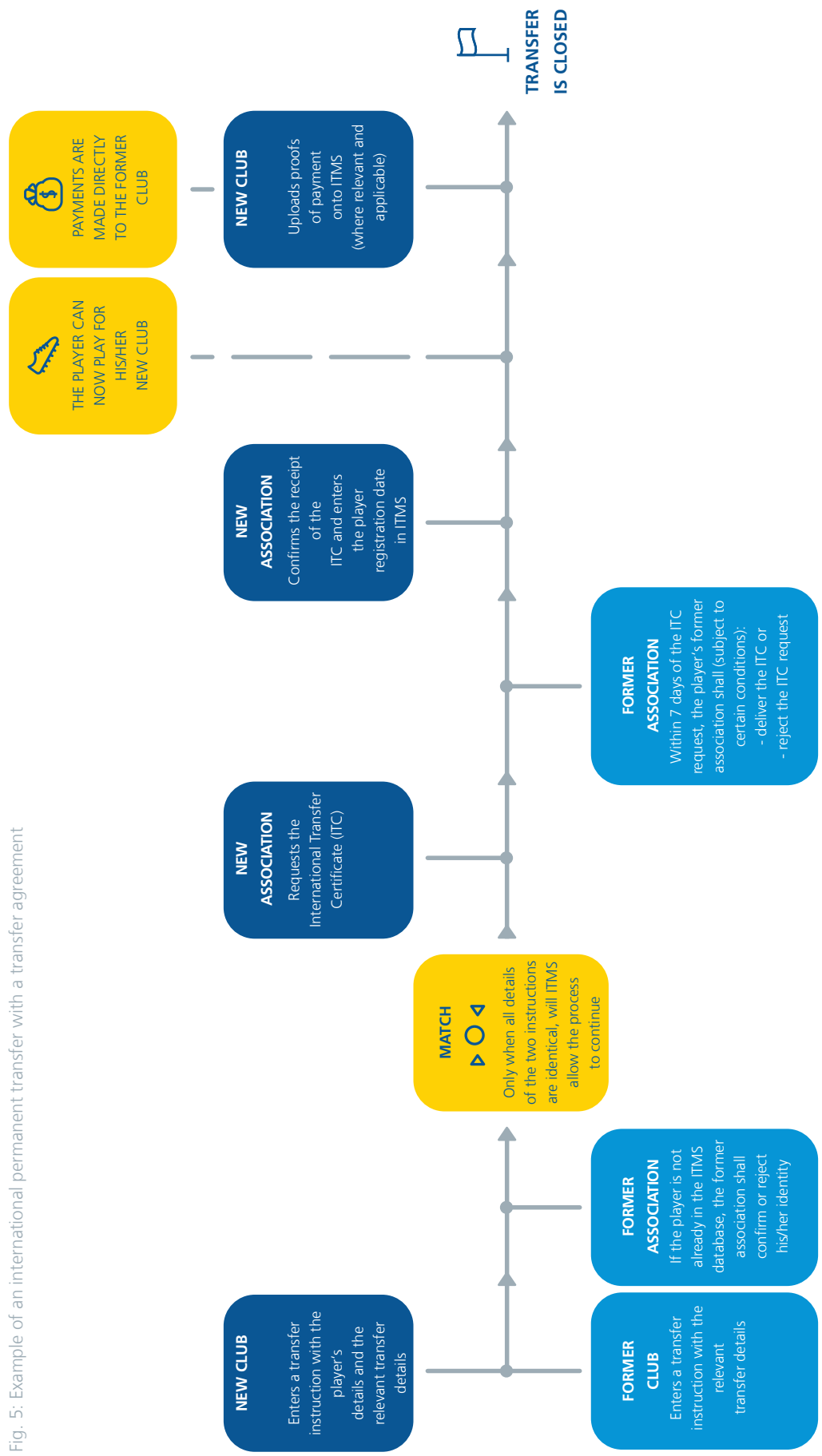


Fig. 4: Number of member associations and clubs involved in international transfers by year

Year	Associations involved	Clubs involved
2017	74	220
2018	86	274



Disclaimer:

The above illustration is for information purposes only and is not an exhaustive description of either the transfer process or the steps to be followed in a particular transfer. The illustration is not to be relied upon when processing a transfer. Each particular transfer is subject to and must be completed in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP)

Transfer fees

In 2019, spending on fees grew by 16.3% compared to 2018. In total, it amounted to USD 652,032 in 2019. The share of transfers that included a fee also increased from 3.2% to 3.7%, but the vast majority of transfers still did not include a transfer fee. This share is also relatively low in men's professional football (14.9% over the same period).

Clubs declared 86.0% of the transfer fees as fixed fees, 13.6% as conditional fees and the remaining 0.4% as release (buy-out) fees.

Sell-on fees

In 1.3% of transfers, the two clubs included a sell-on fee, meaning that, if the player were to

leave her new club in the future, the former club would receive a percentage of any transfer fee generated from this future transfer.

Sell-on fees ranged between 10% and 50% of the future transfer fee, with an average of 25.9%. As shown in Figure 7, the share of transfers with a sell-on fee is high among transfers that also entail a transfer fee. For these transfers, clubs agreed to an additional sell-on fee in 32.3% of the cases, whereas among all transfers without fees, they agreed to a sell-on fee in just one single case (0.1%).

Training rewards

Clubs declared a total of USD 1,681 in solidarity contribution in 2019. This amount came from just two international transfers.

Fig. 6: Spending on transfer fees by year

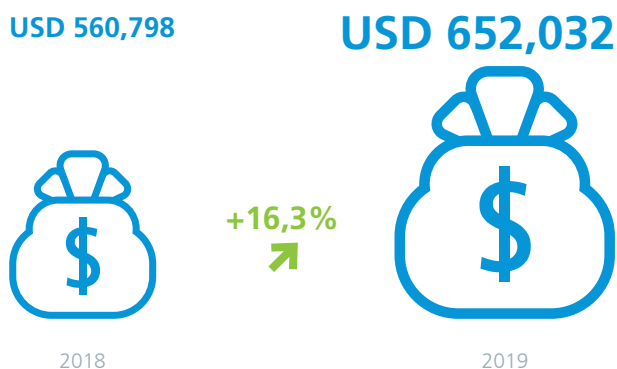
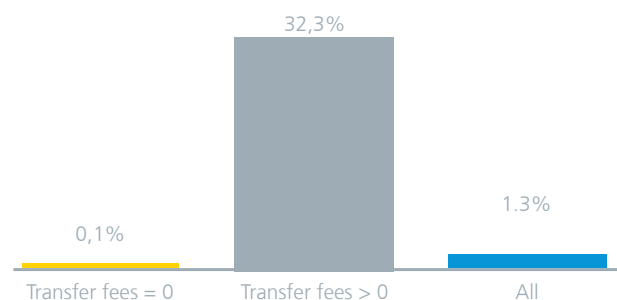


Fig. 7: Percentage of transfers with sell-on fees (2019)



¹ Transfer fees as defined in this report. See definitions on page 6.

Volume of transfers

Confederations

In 2019, UEFA was the most active of the six confederations recognised by FIFA: 188 clubs from 45 different European associations were involved in 646 international transfers, which corresponds to more than three quarters of the worldwide activity. With nine out of its ten member associations actively involved, CONMEBOL exhibited the highest share of active associations.

New Zealand was the only association from the OFC that was actively involved in international transfers of female players in 2019. Because all of

these transfers were outgoing transfers of players out of contract, the former clubs were not involved in them so the number of actively involved clubs from the OFC was in fact zero.

Figure 9 shows the transfer streams within and between the six confederations. For all of them but the AFC, the largest stream of outgoing transfers was to clubs in UEFA. However, in terms of incoming transfers, European clubs play a less prominent role. For instance, for clubs in the AFC and Concacaf regions, UEFA is not the primary origin of their incoming transfers. Most of them in fact moved between these two confederations.

Fig. 8: Number of incoming and outgoing transfers and involvement by confederation (2019)

	Incoming transfers	Outgoing transfers	Associations involved	Clubs involved
AFC	83	85	9 of 46	31
CAF	6	50	13 of 54	5
CONCACAF	90	171	9 of 35	16
CONMEBOL	76	108	9 of 10	34
OFC	0	4	1 of 11	0
UEFA	578	415	45 of 55	188
TOTAL	833	833	86 of 211	274

Fig. 9: Number of international transfers within and between confederations (2019). In parentheses, percentage change from 2018

Transfers		Engaging					
		AFC	CAF	CONCACAF	CONMEBOL	OFC	UEFA
Releasing	AFC	11 (0%)	0 (n/a)	44 (+15.8%)	4 (+100%)	0 (n/a)	26 (+30.0%)
	CAF	0 (-100%)	5 (+400.0%)	0 (-100%)	0 (n/a)	0 (n/a)	45 (+136.8%)
	CONCACAF	48 (+9.1%)	0 (n/a)	13 (+550.0%)	9 (+12.5%)	0 (n/a)	101 (+26.3%)
	CONMEBOL	6 (-14.3%)	0 (n/a)	3 (+50.0%)	43 (-47.6%)	0 (n/a)	56 (+5.7%)
	OFC	1 (n/a)	0 (n/a)	0 (n/a)	0 (n/a)	0 (n/a)	3 (+50.0%)
	UEFA	17 (+6.3%)	1 (n/a)	30 (+50.0%)	20 (+185.7%)	0 (n/a)	347 (+24.8%)

Associations

Note: figures 11, 12 and 13 can be found from the next page onwards.

As shown in figure 11, the 29 clubs from Spain constituted the largest number of clubs actively involved in international transfers from any single association in 2019. Sweden and England followed with 20 and 19 active clubs respectively.

With a total of 104 transfers, Spanish clubs also completed the most incoming transfers of all associations. This corresponds to 12.5% of the entire market. Although only nine clubs from the USA completed any international transfers in 2019, they still combined for 72 transfers, the second largest number of incoming transfers of any association. The top five was completed by

England (57 transfers), Australia (52), France and Sweden, both with 51 incoming transfers.

Clubs from the USA also completed a total of 147 outgoing transfers. This put them in front by a large margin, as Australia and Brazil followed in second and third place with 56 and 51 outgoing transfers respectively.

Figure 10 shows that a substantial part of the activity by the USA and Australia was in fact due to players moving between the two associations. In fact, the two most common transfer streams in 2019 were those of transfers going from Australia to the USA (43 transfers) and those going from the USA to Australia (41). The third most common stream was of players moving from Venezuela to Colombia. These top three transfer streams are the same as they were in 2018.

Fig. 10: Top ten transfer streams by number of transfers (2019). In parentheses, percentage change from 2018

From	To	Transfers	
Australia	USA	43	(+13.2%)
USA	Australia	41	(-2.4%)
Venezuela	Colombia	15	(-54.5%)
USA	Mexico	13	n/a
USA	France	12	(+33.3%)
France	England	11	(+266.7%)
USA	Spain	11	(+57.1%)
Brazil	Portugal	10	(+100%)
Brazil	Spain	9	(0%)
Brazil	Israel	9	(+50%)

Fig. 11: Number of clubs involved in international transfers by association (2019) and percentage change from 2018. In parentheses, global rank

AFC	31		CAF	5				
China PR (8)	10	+25%	Nigeria (24)	3	+200%	Sudan	0	n/a
Australia (9)	9	0%	Ghana (37)	1	n/a	Swaziland	0	n/a
Japan (15)	6	0%	Kenya (37)	1	n/a	Tanzania	0	n/a
Korea Republic (24)	3	+50%	Algeria	0	n/a	Togo	0	n/a
India (37)	1	n/a	Angola	0	n/a	Tunisia	0	n/a
Lebanon (37)	1	n/a	Benin	0	n/a	Uganda	0	n/a
Uzbekistan (37)	1	n/a	Botswana	0	n/a	Zambia	0	n/a
Afghanistan	0	n/a	Burkina Faso	0	n/a	Zimbabwe	0	n/a
Bahrain	0	n/a	Burundi	0	n/a	CONCACAF	16	
Bangladesh	0	n/a	Cameroon	0	n/a	USA (9)	9	0%
Bhutan	0	n/a	Cape Verde Islands	0	n/a	Mexico (12)	7	+600%
Brunei Darussalam	0	n/a	Central African Republic	0	n/a	Anguilla	0	n/a
Cambodia	0	n/a	Chad	0	n/a	Antigua and Barbuda	0	n/a
Chinese Taipei	0	n/a	Comoros	0	n/a	Aruba	0	n/a
Guam	0	n/a	Congo	0	n/a	Bahamas	0	n/a
Hong Kong	0	n/a	Congo DR	0	n/a	Barbados	0	n/a
Indonesia	0	n/a	Côte d'Ivoire	0	n/a	Belize	0	n/a
Iran	0	n/a	Djibouti	0	-100%	Bermuda	0	n/a
Iraq	0	n/a	Egypt	0	n/a	British Virgin Islands	0	n/a
Jordan	0	n/a	Equatorial Guinea	0	n/a	Canada	0	n/a
Korea DPR	0	n/a	Eritrea	0	n/a	Cayman Islands	0	n/a
Kuwait	0	n/a	Ethiopia	0	n/a	Costa Rica	0	n/a
Kyrgyz Republic	0	n/a	Gabon	0	n/a	Cuba	0	n/a
Laos	0	n/a	Gambia	0	n/a	Curaçao	0	n/a
Macau	0	n/a	Guinea	0	n/a	Dominica	0	n/a
Malaysia	0	n/a	Guinea-Bissau	0	n/a	Dominican Republic	0	n/a
Maldives	0	n/a	Lesotho	0	n/a	El Salvador	0	n/a
Mongolia	0	n/a	Liberia	0	n/a	Grenada	0	n/a
Myanmar	0	n/a	Libya	0	n/a	Guatemala	0	n/a
Nepal	0	n/a	Madagascar	0	n/a	Guyana	0	n/a
Oman	0	n/a	Malawi	0	n/a	Haiti	0	n/a
Pakistan	0	n/a	Mali	0	n/a	Honduras	0	n/a
Palestine	0	n/a	Mauritania	0	n/a	Jamaica	0	n/a
Philippines	0	n/a	Mauritius	0	n/a	Montserrat	0	n/a
Qatar	0	n/a	Morocco	0	n/a	Nicaragua	0	n/a
Saudi Arabia	0	n/a	Mozambique	0	n/a	Panama	0	n/a
Singapore	0	n/a	Namibia	0	n/a	Puerto Rico	0	n/a
Sri Lanka	0	n/a	Niger	0	n/a	St. Kitts and Nevis	0	n/a
Syria	0	n/a	Rwanda	0	n/a	St. Lucia	0	n/a
Tajikistan	0	n/a	São Tomé e Príncipe	0	n/a	St. Vinc. & the Grenadines	0	n/a
Thailand	0	n/a	Senegal	0	n/a	Suriname	0	n/a
Timor-Leste	0	n/a	Seychelles	0	n/a	Trinidad and Tobago	0	n/a
Turkmenistan	0	n/a	Sierra Leone	0	n/a	Turks and Caicos Islands	0	n/a
United Arab Emirates	0	n/a	Somalia	0	n/a	US Virgin Islands	0	n/a
Vietnam	0	n/a	South Africa	0	n/a			
Yemen	0	n/a	South Sudan	0	n/a			

CONMEBOL	34	
Colombia (5)	13	-23.5%
Argentina (15)	6	n/a
Brazil (19)	5	+66.7%
Ecuador (19)	5	n/a
Venezuela (24)	3	-66.7%
Bolivia (37)	1	0%
Chile (37)	1	n/a
Paraguay	0	n/a
Peru	0	n/a
Uruguay	0	n/a
OFC	0	
American Samoa	0	n/a
Cook Islands	0	n/a
Fiji	0	n/a
New Caledonia	0	n/a
New Zealand	0	n/a
Papua New Guinea	0	n/a
Samoa	0	n/a
Solomon Islands	0	n/a
Tahiti	0	n/a
Tonga	0	n/a
Vanuatu	0	n/a
UEFA	188	
Spain (1)	29	+38.1%
Sweden (2)	20	+25%
England (3)	19	+18.8%
France (4)	17	+54.5%
Germany (6)	12	-20%
Norway (6)	12	+20%
Israel (11)	8	+14.3%
Finland (12)	7	+40%
Ukraine (12)	7	+75%
Iceland (15)	6	-14.3%
Portugal (15)	6	+100%
Russia (19)	5	+66.7%
Cyprus (22)	4	0%
Poland (22)	4	-42.9%
Belarus (24)	3	-25%
Belgium (24)	3	+200%
Denmark (24)	3	0%
Hungary (24)	3	-40%
Kazakhstan (24)	3	+50%
Netherlands (24)	3	n/a
Czech Republic (33)	2	-33.3%
Malta (33)	2	n/a

Scotland (33)	2	+100%
Switzerland (33)	2	+100%
Albania (37)	1	n/a
Armenia (37)	1	n/a
Austria (37)	1	0%
Lithuania (37)	1	0%
Romania (37)	1	0%
Serbia (37)	1	n/a
Andorra	0	n/a
Azerbaijan	0	n/a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	-100%
Bulgaria	0	n/a
Croatia	0	n/a
Estonia	0	n/a
Faroe Islands	0	n/a
FYR Macedonia	0	n/a
Georgia	0	n/a
Gibraltar	0	n/a
Greece	0	n/a
Italy	0	n/a
Kosovo	0	n/a
Latvia	0	n/a
Liechtenstein	0	n/a
Luxembourg	0	n/a
Moldova	0	n/a
Montenegro	0	n/a
Northern Ireland	0	n/a
Republic of Ireland	0	n/a
San Marino	0	n/a
Slovakia	0	n/a
Slovenia	0	n/a
Turkey	0	n/a
Wales	0	n/a

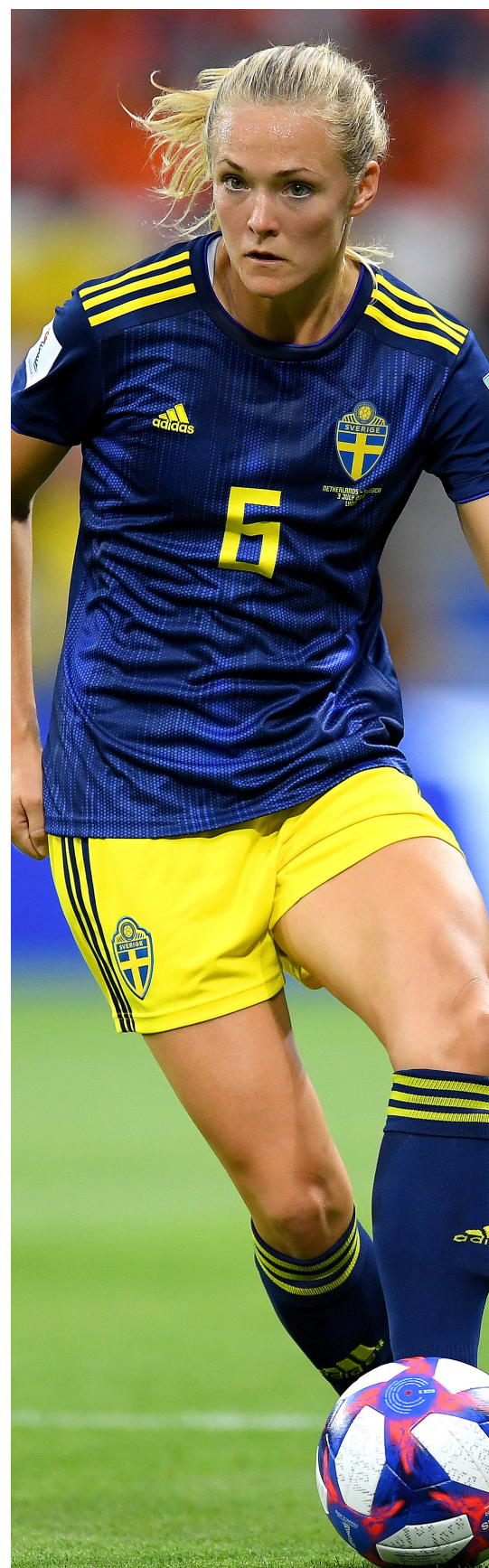


Fig. 12: Number of incoming transfers by association (2019) and percentage change from 2018. In parentheses, global rank

AFC	83		CAF	6				
Australia (4)	52	-3.7%	Nigeria (36)	4	n/a	Sudan	0	n/a
China PR (15)	15	0%	Kenya (39)	2	n/a	Swaziland	0	n/a
Japan (28)	7	0%	Algeria	0	n/a	Tanzania	0	n/a
Korea Republic (30)	6	+50%	Angola	0	n/a	Togo	0	n/a
India (43)	1	n/a	Benin	0	n/a	Tunisia	0	n/a
Lebanon (43)	1	n/a	Botswana	0	n/a	Uganda	0	n/a
Uzbekistan (43)	1	n/a	Burkina Faso	0	n/a	Zambia	0	n/a
Afghanistan	0	n/a	Burundi	0	n/a	Zimbabwe	0	n/a
Bahrain	0	n/a	Cameroon	0	n/a	CONCACAF	90	
Bangladesh	0	n/a	Cape Verde Islands	0	n/a	USA (2)	72	+14.3%
Bhutan	0	n/a	Central African Republic	0	n/a	Mexico (12)	18	+1700%
Brunei Darussalam	0	n/a	Chad	0	n/a	Anguilla	0	n/a
Cambodia	0	n/a	Comoros	0	n/a	Antigua and Barbuda	0	n/a
Chinese Taipei	0	n/a	Congo	0	n/a	Aruba	0	n/a
Guam	0	n/a	Congo DR	0	n/a	Bahamas	0	n/a
Hong Kong	0	n/a	Côte d'Ivoire	0	n/a	Barbados	0	n/a
Indonesia	0	n/a	Djibouti	0	-100%	Belize	0	n/a
Iran	0	n/a	Egypt	0	n/a	Bermuda	0	n/a
Iraq	0	n/a	Equatorial Guinea	0	n/a	British Virgin Islands	0	n/a
Jordan	0	n/a	Eritrea	0	n/a	Canada	0	n/a
Korea DPR	0	n/a	Ethiopia	0	n/a	Cayman Islands	0	n/a
Kuwait	0	n/a	Gabon	0	n/a	Costa Rica	0	n/a
Kyrgyz Republic	0	n/a	Gambia	0	n/a	Cuba	0	n/a
Laos	0	n/a	Ghana	0	n/a	Curaçao	0	n/a
Macau	0	n/a	Guinea	0	n/a	Dominica	0	n/a
Malaysia	0	n/a	Guinea-Bissau	0	n/a	Dominican Republic	0	n/a
Maldives	0	n/a	Lesotho	0	n/a	El Salvador	0	n/a
Mongolia	0	n/a	Liberia	0	n/a	Grenada	0	n/a
Myanmar	0	n/a	Libya	0	n/a	Guatemala	0	n/a
Nepal	0	n/a	Madagascar	0	n/a	Guyana	0	n/a
Oman	0	n/a	Malawi	0	n/a	Haiti	0	n/a
Pakistan	0	n/a	Mali	0	n/a	Honduras	0	n/a
Palestine	0	n/a	Mauritania	0	n/a	Jamaica	0	n/a
Philippines	0	n/a	Mauritius	0	n/a	Montserrat	0	n/a
Qatar	0	n/a	Morocco	0	n/a	Nicaragua	0	n/a
Saudi Arabia	0	n/a	Mozambique	0	n/a	Panama	0	n/a
Singapore	0	n/a	Namibia	0	n/a	Puerto Rico	0	n/a
Sri Lanka	0	n/a	Niger	0	n/a	St. Kitts and Nevis	0	n/a
Syria	0	n/a	Rwanda	0	n/a	St. Lucia	0	n/a
Tajikistan	0	n/a	São Tomé e Príncipe	0	n/a	St. Vinc. & the Grenadines	0	n/a
Thailand	0	n/a	Senegal	0	n/a	Suriname	0	n/a
Timor-Leste	0	n/a	Seychelles	0	n/a	Trinidad and Tobago	0	n/a
Turkmenistan	0	n/a	Sierra Leone	0	n/a	Turks and Caicos Islands	0	n/a
United Arab Emirates	0	n/a	Somalia	0	n/a	US Virgin Islands	0	n/a
Vietnam	0	n/a	South Africa	0	n/a			
Yemen	0	n/a	South Sudan	0	n/a			

CONMEBOL	76	
Colombia (8)	39	-43.5%
Argentina (20)	12	n/a
Brazil (21)	10	+233.3%
Ecuador (26)	8	n/a
Chile (36)	4	n/a
Venezuela (39)	2	-92%
Bolivia (43)	1	-50%
Paraguay	0	n/a
Peru	0	n/a
Uruguay	0	n/a
OFC	0	
American Samoa	0	n/a
Cook Islands	0	n/a
Fiji	0	n/a
New Caledonia	0	n/a
New Zealand	0	n/a
Papua New Guinea	0	n/a
Samoa	0	n/a
Solomon Islands	0	n/a
Tahiti	0	n/a
Tonga	0	n/a
Vanuatu	0	n/a
UEFA	578	
Spain (1)	104	+50.7%
England (3)	57	+39%
France (5)	51	+50%
Sweden (5)	51	-1.9%
Germany (7)	40	+5.3%
Norway (8)	39	-7.1%
Israel (10)	33	+10%
Portugal (11)	25	+25%
Finland (12)	18	+100%
Ukraine (14)	17	+41.7%
Iceland (15)	15	0%
Kazakhstan (17)	14	+55.6%
Hungary (18)	13	0%
Russia (18)	13	+116.7%
Belarus (21)	10	-9.1%
Cyprus (23)	9	-25%
Czech Republic (23)	9	0%
Netherlands (23)	9	n/a
Albania (26)	8	n/a
Belgium (28)	7	+40%
Denmark (30)	6	0%
Lithuania (30)	6	n/a

Poland (33)	5	-54.5%
Scotland (33)	5	+66.7%
Switzerland (33)	5	+66.7%
Malta (38)	3	n/a
Armenia (39)	2	n/a
Austria (39)	2	+100%
Romania (43)	1	0%
Serbia (43)	1	n/a
Andorra	0	n/a
Azerbaijan	0	n/a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	n/a
Bulgaria	0	n/a
Croatia	0	n/a
Estonia	0	n/a
Faroe Islands	0	n/a
FYR Macedonia	0	n/a
Georgia	0	n/a
Gibraltar	0	n/a
Greece	0	n/a
Italy	0	n/a
Kosovo	0	n/a
Latvia	0	n/a
Liechtenstein	0	n/a
Luxembourg	0	n/a
Moldova	0	n/a
Montenegro	0	n/a
Northern Ireland	0	n/a
Republic of Ireland	0	n/a
San Marino	0	n/a
Slovakia	0	n/a
Slovenia	0	n/a
Turkey	0	n/a
Wales	0	n/a



Fig. 13: Number of outgoing transfers by association (2019) and percentage change from 2018. In parentheses, global rank

AFC	85		CAF	50				
Australia (2)	56	+14.3%	Nigeria (16)	13	+160%	Somalia	0	n/a
Japan (19)	11	+10%	Ghana (22)	9	+200%	South Sudan	0	n/a
China PR (20)	10	+66.7%	Cameroon (32)	6	+200%	Sudan	0	n/a
Korea Republic (46)	3	-25%	Côte d'Ivoire (32)	6	+200%	Swaziland	0	n/a
Thailand (46)	3	n/a	South Africa (32)	6	+20%	Togo	0	n/a
Chinese Taipei (68)	1	n/a	Gambia (54)	2	+100%	Tunisia	0	n/a
Lebanon (68)	1	n/a	Tanzania (54)	2	n/a	Uganda	0	n/a
Afghanistan	0	n/a	Zambia (54)	2	+100%	Zimbabwe	0	n/a
Bahrain	0	n/a	Ethiopia (68)	1	n/a	CONCACAF	171	
Bangladesh	0	n/a	Gabon (68)	1	n/a	USA (1)	147	+23.5%
Bhutan	0	n/a	Guinea (68)	1	n/a	Canada (20)	10	+42.9%
Brunei Darussalam	0	n/a	Mali (68)	1	0%	Panama (32)	6	+500%
Cambodia	0	n/a	Algeria	0	n/a	Costa Rica (54)	2	-60%
Guam	0	n/a	Angola	0	n/a	Puerto Rico (54)	2	n/a
Hong Kong	0	n/a	Benin	0	n/a	Guatemala (68)	1	0%
India	0	-100%	Botswana	0	n/a	Jamaica (68)	1	0%
Indonesia	0	n/a	Burkina Faso	0	n/a	Mexico (68)	1	n/a
Iran	0	n/a	Burundi	0	n/a	Suriname (68)	1	n/a
Iraq	0	n/a	Cape Verde Islands	0	n/a	Anguilla	0	n/a
Jordan	0	n/a	Central African Republic	0	n/a	Antigua and Barbuda	0	n/a
Korea DPR	0	n/a	Chad	0	n/a	Aruba	0	n/a
Kuwait	0	n/a	Comoros	0	n/a	Bahamas	0	n/a
Kyrgyz Republic	0	n/a	Congo	0	n/a	Barbados	0	n/a
Laos	0	n/a	Congo DR	0	n/a	Belize	0	n/a
Macau	0	n/a	Djibouti	0	n/a	Bermuda	0	n/a
Malaysia	0	n/a	Egypt	0	n/a	British Virgin Islands	0	n/a
Maldives	0	n/a	Equatorial Guinea	0	n/a	Cayman Islands	0	n/a
Mongolia	0	n/a	Eritrea	0	n/a	Cuba	0	n/a
Myanmar	0	n/a	Guinea-Bissau	0	n/a	Curaçao	0	n/a
Nepal	0	n/a	Kenya	0	-100%	Dominica	0	n/a
Oman	0	n/a	Lesotho	0	n/a	Dominican Republic	0	n/a
Pakistan	0	n/a	Liberia	0	n/a	El Salvador	0	n/a
Palestine	0	n/a	Libya	0	n/a	Grenada	0	n/a
Philippines	0	n/a	Madagascar	0	n/a	Guyana	0	n/a
Qatar	0	n/a	Malawi	0	-100%	Haiti	0	n/a
Saudi Arabia	0	n/a	Mauritania	0	n/a	Honduras	0	n/a
Singapore	0	n/a	Mauritius	0	n/a	Montserrat	0	n/a
Sri Lanka	0	n/a	Morocco	0	-100%	Nicaragua	0	n/a
Syria	0	n/a	Mozambique	0	n/a	St. Kitts and Nevis	0	n/a
Tajikistan	0	n/a	Namibia	0	n/a	St. Lucia	0	n/a
Timor-Leste	0	n/a	Niger	0	n/a	St. Vinc. & the Grenadines	0	n/a
Turkmenistan	0	n/a	Rwanda	0	n/a	Trinidad and Tobago	0	n/a
United Arab Emirates	0	-100%	São Tomé e Príncipe	0	n/a	Turks and Caicos Islands	0	n/a
Uzbekistan	0	n/a	Senegal	0	n/a	US Virgin Islands	0	n/a
Vietnam	0	n/a	Seychelles	0	n/a			
Yemen	0	n/a	Sierra Leone	0	n/a			

CONMEBOL	108	
Brazil (3)	51	+27.5%
Venezuela (9)	20	-42.9%
Colombia (13)	15	-57.1%
Chile (24)	8	-20%
Ecuador (39)	4	-42.9%
Argentina (46)	3	-50%
Bolivia (46)	3	n/a
Peru (54)	2	n/a
Uruguay (54)	2	+100%
Paraguay	0	-100%
OFC	4	
New Zealand (39)	4	+100%
American Samoa	0	n/a
Cook Islands	0	n/a
Fiji	0	n/a
New Caledonia	0	n/a
Papua New Guinea	0	n/a
Samoa	0	n/a
Solomon Islands	0	n/a
Tahiti	0	n/a
Tonga	0	n/a
Vanuatu	0	n/a
UEFA	415	
Sweden (4)	42	+2.4%
France (5)	38	+90%
Germany (6)	36	+33.3%
Norway (7)	35	+66.7%
Spain (8)	25	+56.3%
Iceland (9)	20	+17.6%
Italy (9)	20	+33.3%
England (12)	19	+35.7%
Denmark (14)	14	+40%
Finland (14)	14	+180%
Netherlands (17)	12	-7.7%
Switzerland (17)	12	-29.4%
Israel (22)	9	+200%
Azerbaijan (24)	8	+100%
Czech Republic (24)	8	+100%
Kazakhstan (24)	8	+300%
Russia (28)	7	+16.7%
Scotland (28)	7	0%
Serbia (28)	7	+250%
Turkey (28)	7	+75%
Poland (32)	6	+50%
Cyprus (37)	5	-16.7%

Ukraine (37)	5	-37.5%
Belarus (39)	4	-20%
Portugal (39)	4	+33.3%
Romania (39)	4	0%
Slovenia (39)	4	+300%
Wales (39)	4	n/a
Armenia (46)	3	-25%
Belgium (46)	3	0%
Lithuania (46)	3	-50%
Northern Ireland (46)	3	n/a
Austria (54)	2	-71.4%
Bosnia & Herz. (54)	2	-50%
Estonia (54)	2	n/a
Greece (54)	2	-33.3%
Hungary (54)	2	-33.3%
Moldova (54)	2	+100%
Republic of Ireland (54)	2	-33.3%
Albania (68)	1	n/a
Croatia (68)	1	0%
Latvia (68)	1	n/a
Montenegro (68)	1	n/a
Slovakia (68)	1	-75%
Andorra	0	n/a
Bulgaria	0	n/a
Faroe Islands	0	n/a
FYR Macedonia	0	n/a
Georgia	0	-100%
Gibraltar	0	n/a
Kosovo	0	n/a
Liechtenstein	0	n/a
Luxembourg	0	n/a
Malta	0	n/a
San Marino	0	n/a



Clubs

In 2019, 274 clubs were actively involved in international transfers. A significantly large share of them completed incoming transfers but no outgoing transfers (80.7%). A total of 46 clubs (16.8%) completed both incoming and outgoing international transfers, and the remaining seven clubs only completed outgoing transfers.

Fig. 14: Number of clubs completing only incoming transfers, only outgoing transfers or both (2019)

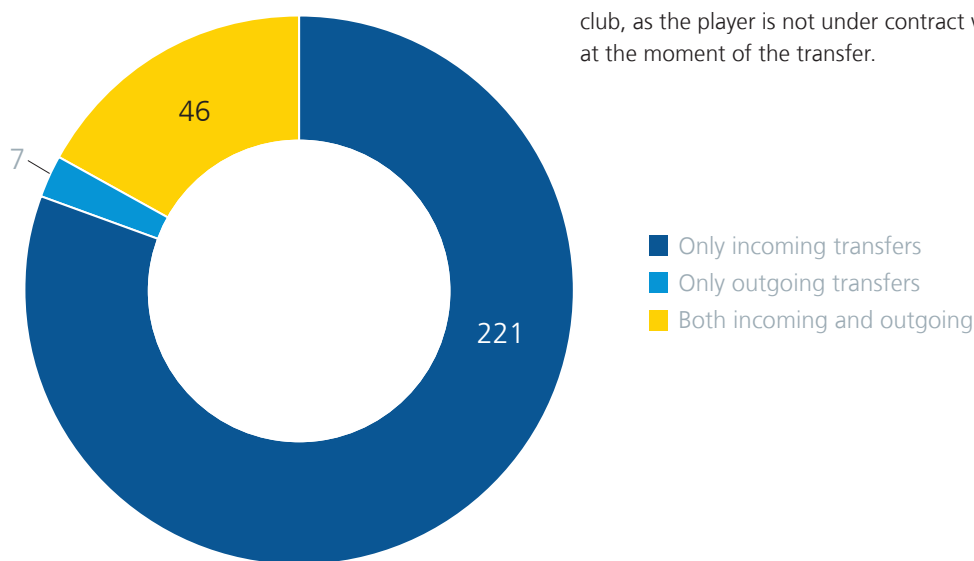


Fig. 15: Number of clubs by international transfers completed (2019)

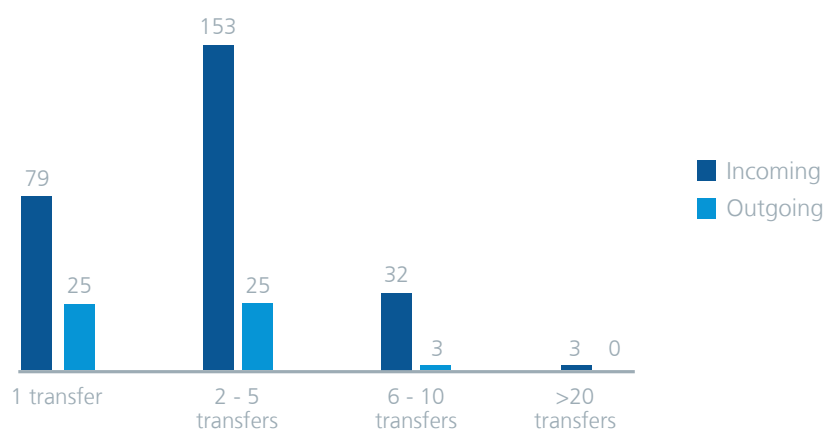


Figure 15 shows the distribution of the number of incoming and outgoing international transfers per club. During the past year, 79 clubs completed exactly one incoming transfer (29.6%), while most clubs completed between two and five (57.3%). Just above 13.0% completed more than five transfers and only three clubs completed more than ten. Among the 53 clubs that were actively involved in outgoing transfers, the pattern was similar, the only difference being the overall lower number of transfers. This is a direct consequence of the extremely high incidence of transfers of players out of contract. Such transfers – which, as seen in previous sections, accounted for 86.3% of all transfers in 2019 – do not involve a releasing club, as the player is not under contract with one at the moment of the transfer.



Player characteristics

Player age

A total of 757 players from 81 countries across the globe were involved in the 833 international transfers completed in 2019. On average, they were 24 years and 7 months old. Their age range spanned across two decades, with the youngest player transferred being 16 and the oldest 36 years old.

Player nationality

As was also the case in 2018, players from the USA were by far the most transferred nationality with a total of 159 transfers. Brazilian and British players followed in second and third place, having been involved in 61 and 44 transfers respectively.

Contract duration

The professional employment contracts concluded in 2019 most frequently had a duration of seven to 12 months (43.7%). The second largest group was contracts with a duration of six months or less (29.8%), while 21.2% of the contracts signed had a duration of 13 to 24 months and 5.3% of more than 24 months. Overall, the average contract duration has risen from 10.5 months in 2018 to 12.1 months in 2019 (+16%). A possible reason for this increase lies in the improved planning stability for clubs due to the introduction of the fixed four-year international match calendar for women's football (WIMC). The new WIMC allows clubs and leagues to make longer-term commitments and thus creates an opportunity to offer extended contract durations.

Fig. 16: Number of international transfers by player age (2019)

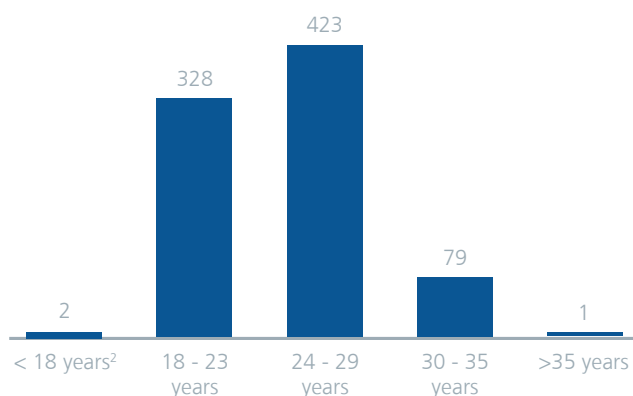


Fig. 18: Number of international transfers by contract duration (2019)

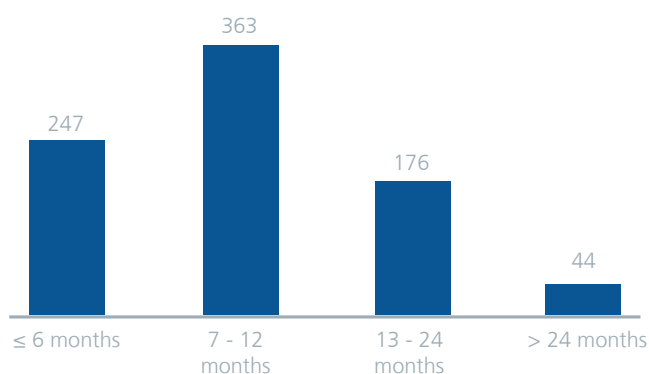


Fig. 17: Top ten player nationalities by number of transfers (2019). In parentheses, percentage change from 2018

Nationality	Transfers	
USA	159	(+10.4%)
Brazilian	61	(+32.6%)
British	46	(+39.4%)
Australian	36	(+9.1%)
Venezuelan	33	(-50.7%)
Canadian	27	(+68.8%)
Nigerian	23	(+155.6%)
Mexican	22	(+214.3%)
Finnish	20	(+81.8%)
German	20	(+53.8%)

² Transfers of player under 18 only occur after approval of the respective minor application by a single judge of the FIFA Players' Status Sub-committee.



Minors

Introduction

Article 1 of Annexe 2 of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP) requires the International Transfer Matching System (ITMS) to also be used in the context of so-called minor applications. The term “minor” indicates a player who has not yet reached the age of 18, while “application” refers to the submission of a request through ITMS by the engaging member association for one of two instances:

1. International transfer: a minor of any nationality who has previously been registered with a club at one association is registered with a club at a new association.
2. First registration: a minor who has never previously been registered with a club and is not a national of the country in which he/she wishes to be registered for the first time.

As a general rule, international transfers and first registrations of foreign players are only permitted if the player is over the age of 18. However, there are exceptions to this rule.

The first three exceptions and the so-called five-year rule are outlined in the RSTP, and can be summarised as follows:

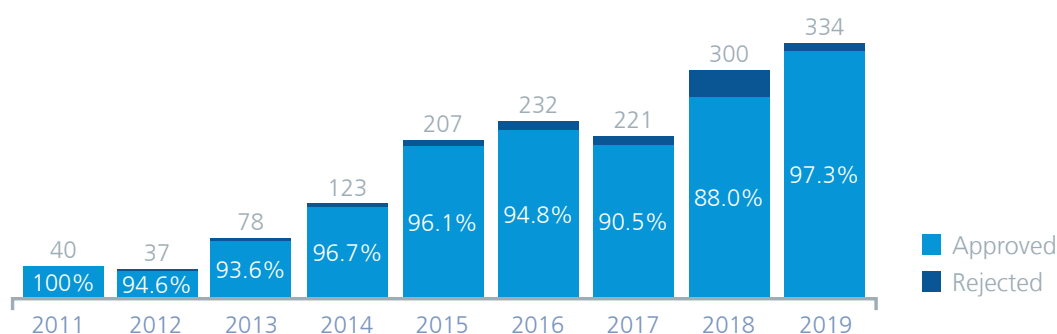
- a) the parents of the player moved to the new country for reasons not linked to football;

- b) the player is aged between 16 and 18 and is moving within the territory of the EU/EEA;
- c) both the player’s domicile and the new club are within 50km of their common borders and the distance between the two is under 100km;
- d) the player has lived continuously for at least the last five years in the country of intended first registration prior to the request.
With high reservation and under very specific circumstances only, two additional exceptions are recognised by FIFA for certain groups of minor players based on jurisprudence³, and can be summarised as follows:
 - e) the player moving due to humanitarian reasons without his/her parents could not be expected to return to his/her country of origin (“unaccompanied refugee player”);
 - f) the player’s education was clearly the primary reason for the move without his/her parents and the duration did not exceed one year (“exchange student player”).

Number of minor applications

Of all minor applications created for female players through TMS in 2019, 334 have been decided upon to date, meaning they were either approved or rejected by a single judge of the sub-committee of the FIFA Players’ Status

Fig. 19: Minor applications decided upon, by year of creation



³ In October 2019, the FIFA Council endorsed the proposal of the Players’ Status Committee to include the established jurisprudence regarding minors in the RSTP.

Committee. It is important to note that this number is subject to change. The sub-committee reviews each application individually, and certain cases may require more time than others. Therefore, some of the applications submitted in 2019 may have not been approved or rejected yet.

Reasons

As pointed out above, minor applications can be either for an international transfer or for a first registration of a minor player abroad. 191 of the 327 female minor applications that were submitted in 2019 and have since been decided upon were for international transfers, and the remaining 143 were for first registrations of non-nationals. Figure 20 breaks down these minor applications by their reasons, as declared by the engaging member association in TMS. As in previous years, the most common reason in 2019

was that of the player's parents moving for reasons not linked to football.

Player age

Figure 21 shows that the number of minor applications slightly peaks for players aged 16. This can be explained by the fact that once a player turns 16, the exception in article 19, par. 2b of the RSTP can be applied, allowing minor players to move within the EU/EEA subject to certain conditions.

Player status

94.6% of the female minor applications in 2019 were for minors moving to play as amateurs, leaving just two of the minor applications for minors transferring as a professional player.

Fig. 20: Minor applications created in 2019 and decided upon, by reason

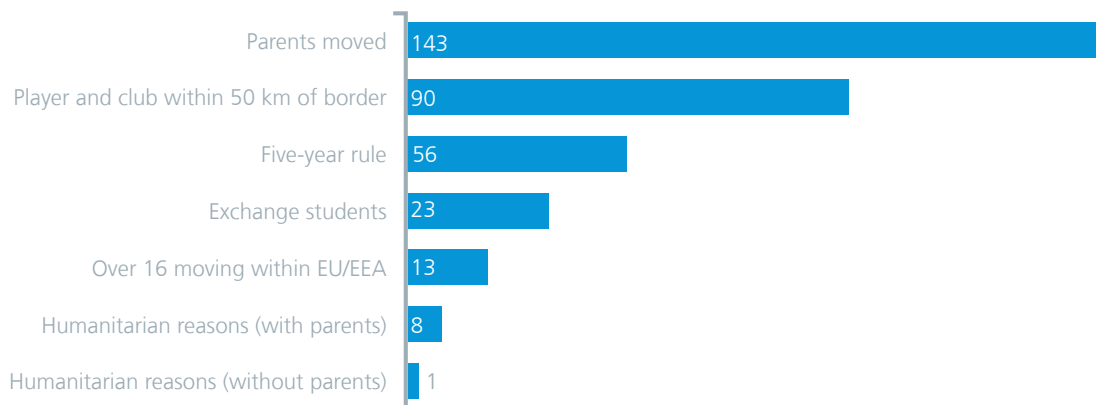


Fig. 21: Minor applications created in 2019 and decided upon, by player age



Associations and nationality

By far the largest number of minor applications were for minor players moving to the USA. In fact, these 62 minor applications represented 18.6% of the global total of minor applications that were submitted in 2019 and have since been decided upon. In second and third place were England and Germany with 28 and 26 minor applications respectively.

Due to a strong increase in the number of minor applications for Canadian players, Canadian has moved up from being the third most common player nationality in 2018 to being the most common in 2019.

Fig. 22: Top 10 member associations by number of minor applications created in 2019 and decided upon

Association	Minor applications	% approved
USA	62	100.0%
England	28	100.0%
Germany	26	92.3%
Spain	16	100.0%
Luxembourg	15	93.3%
Finland	14	100.0%
Switzerland	12	100.0%
Netherlands	11	100.0%
Portugal	11	100.0%
Cyprus	9	100.0%

Fig. 23: Top 10 player nationalities by number of minor applications created in 2019 and decided upon

Nationality	Minor applications	% approved
Canadian	40	100.0%
USA	32	93.8%
Dutch	26	100.0%
British	21	100.0%
French	18	100.0%
German	15	100.0%
Spanish	11	100.0%
Finnish	10	100.0%
Brazilian	9	88.9%
Norwegian	9	100.0%



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