**Howden Professional Sport** 

# Men's European football injury index 2023/24



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# Introduction

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# 1.1 Executive summary

Welcome to the fourth edition of the award-winning Howden Men's European football injury index as we analyse the effect of injuries on the 96 teams across the top five European leagues throughout the 2023/24 season.

Following an historic 2022/23 season in which players participated in the inaugural winter FIFA Men's World Cup, our report highlights the continued rise of injuries and associated costs amongst the 96 teams in the top five men's European leagues.

Throughout this edition, we focus on the overall picture, provide further analysis into individual clubs and their respective league average injury count metrics, as well as present an update on the overall injury severity across each of the five leagues with particular attention paid to players under the age of 21 and the noteworthy evolution of knee injury severity since 2020/21.

For the first time, we also investigate the corresponding effect on the number of games and overall minutes played by the top European teams. This analysis allows us to consider the clubs most susceptible to injury during the 2023/24 season.

Duncan Frager

Duncan Fraser
Global Practice Leader

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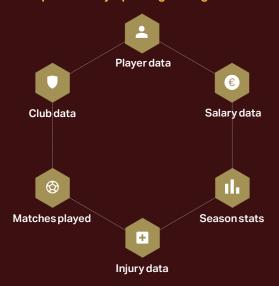
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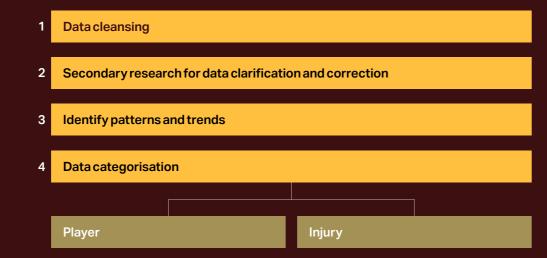
# 1.2 Methodology

### Data collection

### Data provided by Sporting Intelligence and Football Feeds



### Data cleaning and categorisation



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### Caveats and assumptions

- Player injury details are considered for the full 2023/24 season.
- Injury cost is calculated by multiplying the daily base salary of the injured player by the number of days they were unavailable because of an injury.
- For figures in EUR, we have used a conversion rate of £1 = €1.19
- For monthly injury count, the injury has been counted in the month in which it occurred/started. For example, Player A was injured from January to February during the season, his injury is reported in the figures for January.
- Any injury that kept a player out for more than a day has been considered.

- Injury cost only includes the base salary of the injured player and not additional costs associated with treatment/ rehabilitation.
- Player salary data has been provided by Sporting Intelligence and this has been used to calculate injury cost.
- The length of time that a player is paid whilst under contract will vary from league to league, for the sake of comparison we have assumed that all clubs pay all injured players wages in full.
- For the purpose of this report, all injury count and cost figures have been adjusted to exclude player absence as a result of COVID-19.

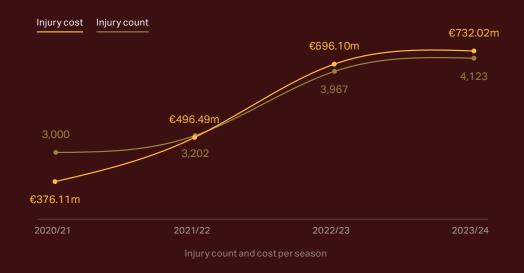
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# 2.1 Key takeaways

### 4,123 injuries were recorded during the 2023/24 season, at a cost of €732.02m a record high for both metrics.

- Over the last four seasons (2020/21 2023/24), men's teams across the top five European leagues have recorded 14,292 injuries excluding COVID-19.
- These 14,292 injuries came at a total cost of EUR 2.3 billion
- The 2023/24 figures represent a 4% increase in injury frequency and 5% in the overall costs associated compared to the 2022/23 season.

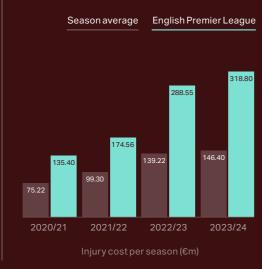


### **English Premier League**

### Injury cost

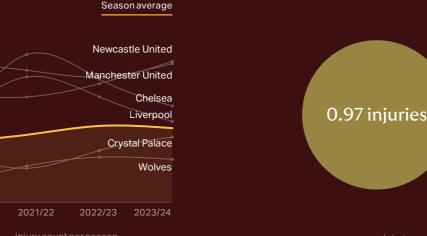
Only the English Premier League has registered above average injury costs since 2020/2021.

 The proportion of injury costs attributed to the English Premier League each year in comparison to the overall figure has risen for the previous three years.



### Injury count

- Wolves and Crystal Palace are the only two teams to compete in each of these previous four seasons and record below average injury levels.
- Conversely, Newcastle United, Manchester United, Liverpool and Chelsea all saw above average injury levels.



Injuries per 90 minute game

Players were involved in a total of 4,232

every game - 0.97.

games and suffered just under one injury

• An injury was incurred across the top five

• From a cost perspective, the 96 men's

Men's European leagues every 92 minutes of

clubs across the top five European leagues

incurred an average injury cost per game

of EUR 172,975 and EUR 1,922 a minute.

competitive football during the 2023/24 season.

per game

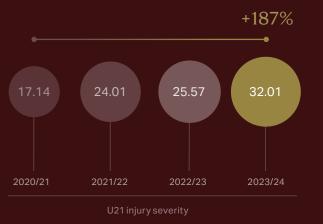
Darmstadt suffered an injury every 33 minutes of competitive football, compared to players at Toulouse who endured 338 minutes for each injury instance.

- German teams account for the 15 of the top 20 to record the most severe minutes per injury figures.
- Six of the top ten teams with the least severe injury per minute figures are from Ligue 1.
- Notably this includes no English Premier League clubs.



Whilst overall injury severity has fallen following the conclusion of the 2023/24 season, injury severity for players under the age of 21 has increased by 187% since 2020/21.

- In 2023/24, under 21 players in England were sidelined for an average of 44 days per occurrence.
- Under 21 players in both the English and Italian top-flight have seen a rise in injury severity in each of the four seasons.
- Under 21 players in Ligue 1 players were sidelined on average for 38 days per occurrence last season.



# 2.2 Overall injury cost and count

### Overview

Injury instances and the associated costs incurred by clubs have grown year on year since the 2020/21 season and 2023/24 was no different. There were a total of 4,123 injuries recorded at a cost of EUR 732.02m last season, representing a 4% and 5% increase respectively.

If we consider the figures from the previous three years (excluding COVID-19), 2023/24 signifies record highs for both metrics as leagues, clubs and players continue to contend with fixture congestion and the overall effects on injury susceptibility.

### Injury count

20/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
000	3,202	3,967	4,123



### Injury cost (€m)

20/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
6.11	496.49	696.10	732.02



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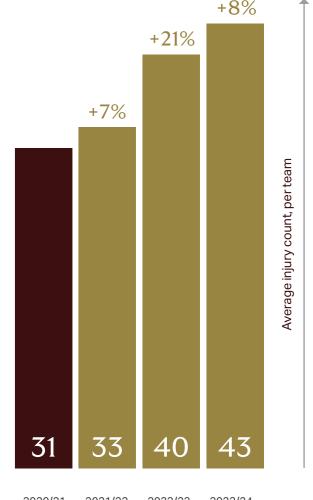
### Injury count

In 2023/24, teams across the top five men's European leagues recorded a further 156 injuries compared to the 2022/23 season. This 4% increase represents the lowest percentage increase since the publication of our first report in 2021. The largest percentage change was seen between the 2021/22 and 2022/23 seasons (+24%) which clearly illustrated the impact of the inaugural winter Men's FIFA World Cup, as highlighted during the 2022/23 report.

Over the last four seasons (2020/21 – 20232/4), men's teams across the top five European leagues have recorded 14,292 injuries – excluding COVID-19. This translates to approximately 3,573 injuries per season at an average of 715 per league with each club incurring 37 injuries on average per season.

It is also important to note that last season, Ligue 1 consisted of 18 teams compared to 20 in previous seasons. An overview of the average number of injuries per team in each of the four seasons offers an intriguing point of analysis.

We see that this figure has increased year-on-year since 2020/21 and as we look ahead, it would be fair to expect a continuation of this upwards trajectory. The squad depth of clubs will continue to be tested, particularly with the impending introduction of the new FIFA Men's Club World Cup in 2025.



2020/21 2021/22 2022/23 2023/24

# 2.2 Overall injury cost and count

### Injury cost

The overall cost of injuries incurred by clubs in the top five Men's European leagues totalled EUR 732.02m in the 2023/24 season – as mentioned earlier, a record high since this report was first published at the end of the 2020/21 season.

This 5% increase (+ EUR 35.92m) also represents the smallest percentage increase in injury cost since this report began – yet the overall situation continues to deteriorate. The 2022/23 season saw the greatest percentage increase in cost – +40% (+EUR 199.61m) – followed by the +32% increase seen in 2021/22 (+EUR 120.38m).

From a full analysis of the data collated from the 2020/21 season to the end of last season (2023/24), we can see that the overall cost of injury totalled in excess of EUR 2.3bn, at an average of EUR 575.18m per year. Breaking this down further and this equates to EUR 115.04m per league and an average of EUR 5.98m per team.

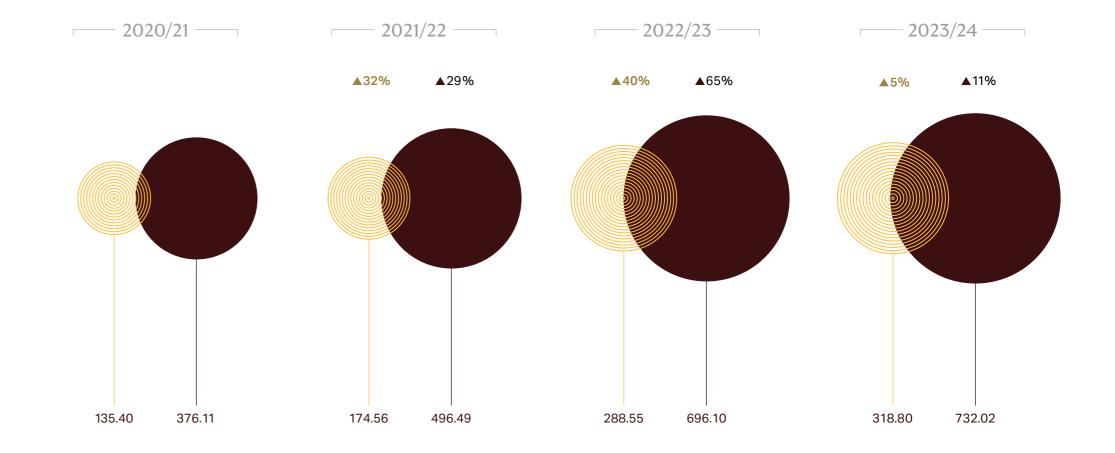
Taking this average cost per league and comparing it to the actual figures of each league per season, we see that only the English Premier League has registered above average injury costs since 2020/2021.

The proportion of injury costs attributed to the English Premier League each year in comparison to the overall figure has risen for the previous three years – 35%, 42% and 44% respectively – a significantly higher rate of increase than that of the total injury cost figure across the top five men's European leagues. This is perhaps unsurprising given the considerable wealth within the league with contributing factors such as increased overseas investment and the rising broadcast income for clubs.

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Total cost of injury (€m)

English Premier League All le

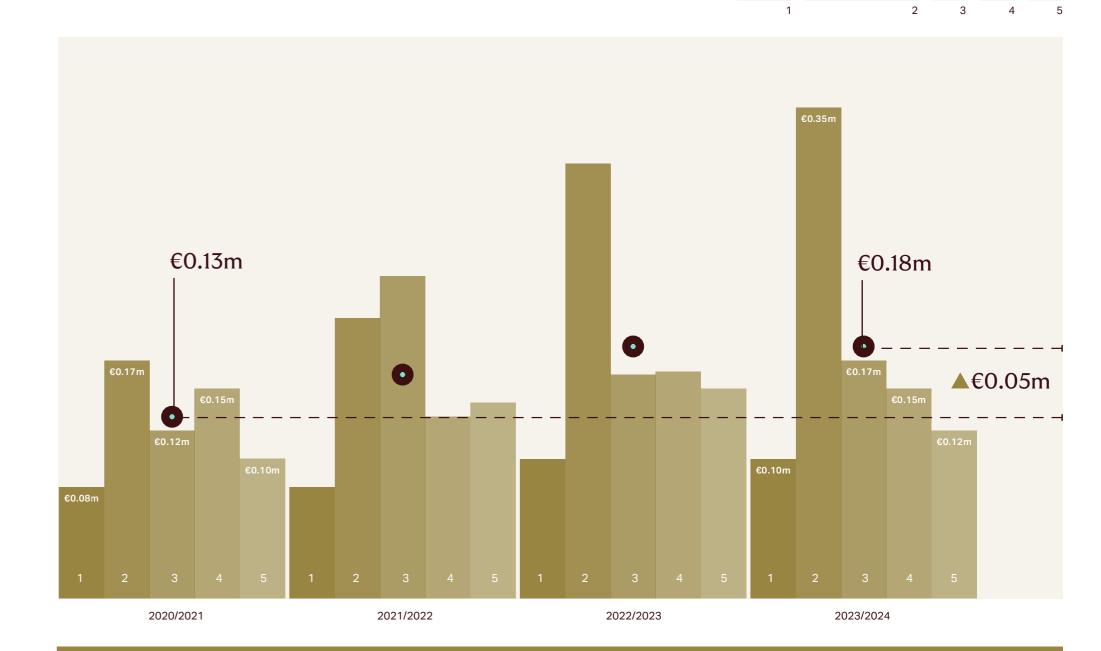


# 2.3 Average cost per injury

Having reviewed the overall evolution of both injury numbers and associated cost, we can analyse the average cost of each injury over the last four seasons – 2020/21 to 2023/24.

This analysis shows an overall increase in average costs per injury over this period and the 2023/24 figures represent a rise of over EUR 50,000 in comparison to the 2020/21 season. If we break this down even further to consider it on a league-by-league basis, we see that the highest figure is recorded by the English Premier League in 2023/24 – EUR 348,000. The English topflight remains the only men's league of the top five European leagues to record an average cost of injury figure in excess of EUR 300,000.

Men's European football injury index



Bundesliga English Premier League La Liga

# 2.4Injury cost and count by league

### Injury count

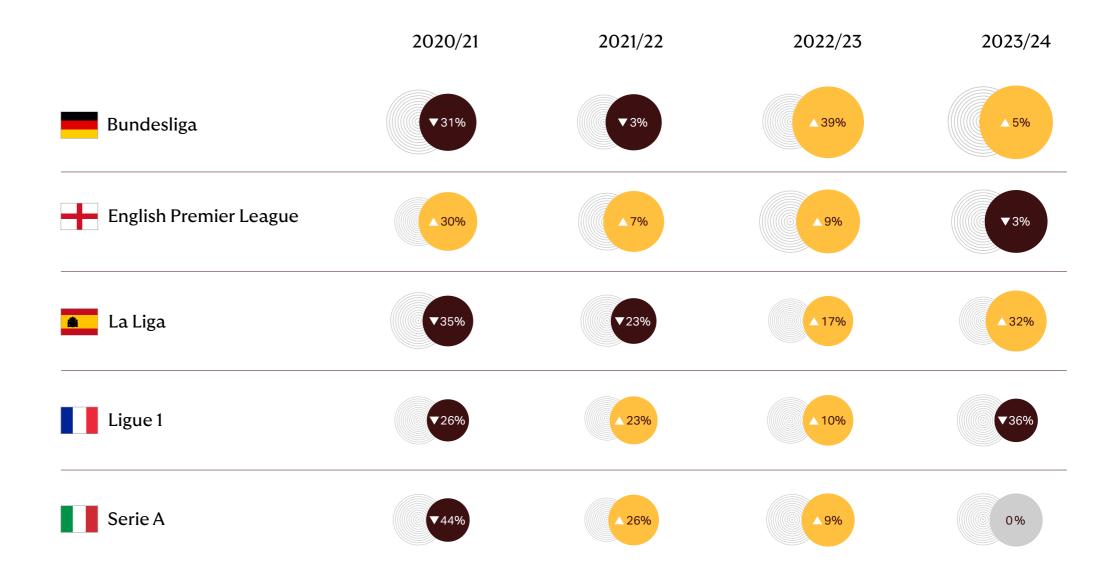
As shown by the diagram on page 21, clubs in Ligue 1 (-26%, -156) and the English Premier League (-3%, -29) saw a fall in injury instances in the 2023/24 season relative to the season prior. Clubs in Spain suffered the greatest increase in injury prevalence (+48%, +279), in stark contrast to the 583 injuries incurred in the 2022/23 season which saw them record the lowest figure of the top five men's European leagues. Serie A remained steady, recording one fewer injury.

Bundesliga clubs saw an increase in injury numbers for a second successive year – 63% in 2022/23 and 5% in 2023/24. The league also remained the most prolific in terms of injuries, a notable 340 instances ahead of the English Premier League.

We have seen that, on average, each team incurs 37 injuries per season over the total period covered. A review of this figure in comparison to the individual statistics for each of the top five men's European leagues yields some noteworthy outcomes.

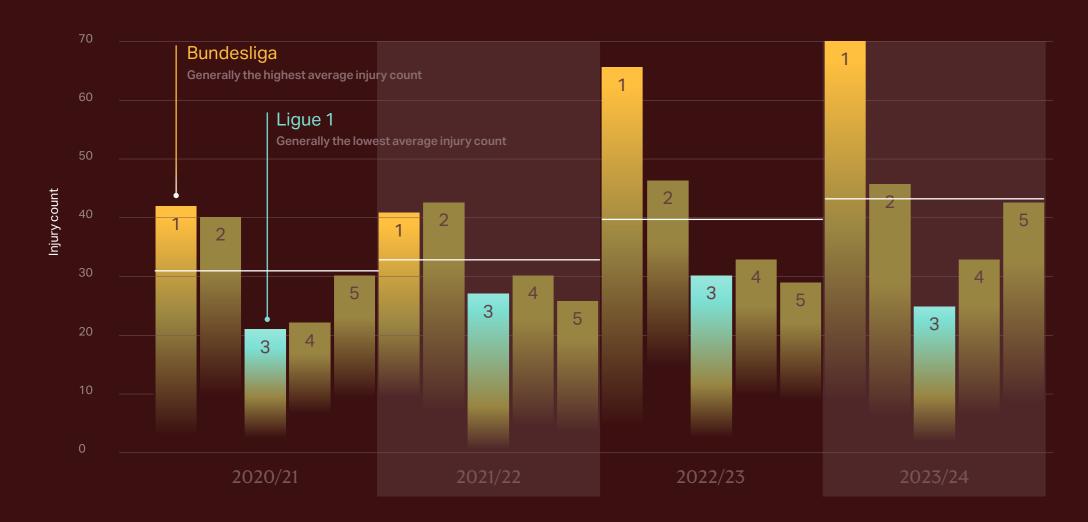
Men's European football injury index

League	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
 Bundesliga	756	731	1,192	1,255
EPL	798	859	944	915
La Liga	595	484	583	862
Ligue 1	412	533	593	437
Serie A	439	595	655	654



Season average Bundesliga English Premier League Ligue 1 La Liga Serie A

### Average injury count per team



As shown, average injuries per team in the Bundesliga sit above the overall average in each of the four individual seasons covered. The highest figure recorded occurred last season (2023/24), where the 18 Bundesliga clubs recorded 1,255 injuries between them, at an average of 70 instances per team.

Contrast this with clubs in Ligue 1, where we have identified the decrease in the number of teams participating from 2023/24, and we observe a decrease in the average number of injuries per team – 33 in 2022/23 and 24 in 2023/24. Whilst this analysis is based on a single season, it is interesting to note a 26% reduction and this area will no doubt provide a point of consideration moving forward.

### Injury cost

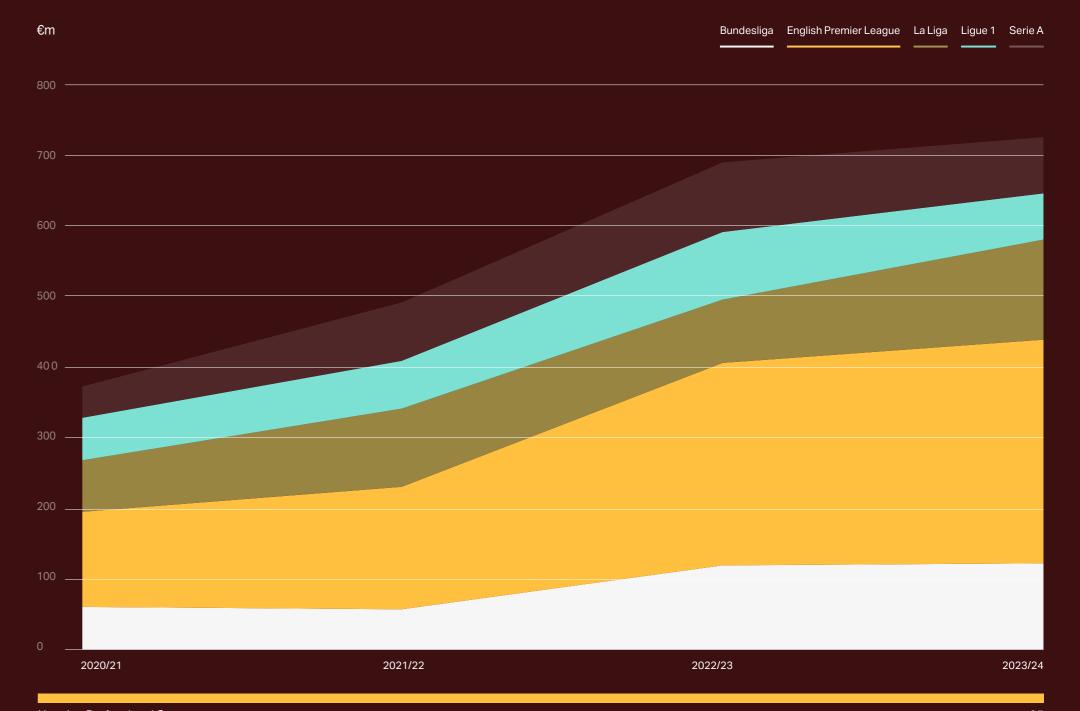
Clubs in Ligue 1 (-32%) and Serie A (-19%) both saw a decline in the overall costs of injury in comparison to the 2022/23 season with La Liga recording the most significant percentage increase (+58%). The increase in costs incurred by Spanish men's clubs is significantly higher than the overall increase in the costs of injuries (+5%) but falls below the highest percentage increase that we have observed - Bundesliga, +106% in the 2022/23 season. The English Premier League recorded a 10% increase in injury costs and has experienced an increase in the costs associated with injuries year-on-year since the 2020/21 season. This 10% increase represents the lowest percentage increase realised by the league throughout the period analysed (2020/21 – 2023/24).

Clubs in the Bundesliga also saw a small 2% increase translating to an additional EUR 2.88m overall.

Earlier in this section, we covered the effect on average number of injuries per club in Ligue 1 following the reduced number of teams introduced in 2023/24. From a cost perspective, we observe a 32% reduction in injury costs (EUR 96.36m vs EUR 65.88m) – a larger percentage reduction compared to what can be seen when analysing injury count (-26%). This also reduced the average injury cost per club in the league to EUR 3.66m from EUR 4.82m in the 2023/24 season.

League	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Bundesliga	62.49	59.07	121.70	124.58
EPL	135.40	174.56	288.55	318.80
La Liga	73.26	111.48	90.20	142.65
Ligue 1	60.48	68.11	96.36	65.88
Serie A	44.49	83.26	99.28	80.12

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# Club analysis

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- 3.4 Serie A<sup>4</sup>

## 3.1 Overview

As we have seen in the previous section, injury frequency and the cost incurred by clubs has continued to rise year on year since the 2020/21 season. However, it is interesting to review the proportional contribution per season of each league and the trends that we see.

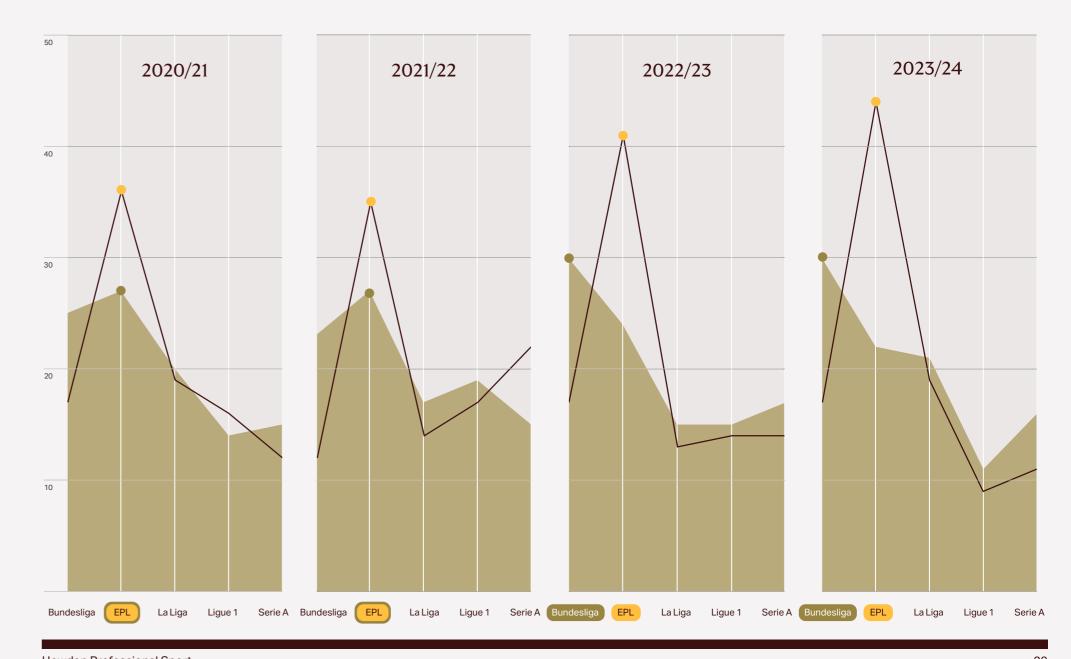
The English Premier League contributed the greatest proportion to both injury count and injury cost over the first two seasons covered - 2020/21 and 2021/22. This is may not come as a surprise if we also consider that four English clubs competed across the five finals of UEFA competitions during this season – notably in 2021 with the all-English UEFA Champions League final and Manchester United's defeat to Villareal in the UEFA Europa League final

The Bundesliga became the largest contributor to injury count following the 2022/23 season (30%), with the English Premier League retaining their top spot in terms of associated injury costs (41%). Both leagues maintained these positions at the conclusion of the 2023/24 season.

Overall contributions by the remaining three leagues have remained steady over the last three seasons. Serie A peaked with a 19% and 17% contribution to injury count and cost respectively in 2021/22. The same year also saw a season-high percentage contributions for Ligue 1 in terms of injury Count (17%) and La Liga with regards to overall costs of injury (22%). Interestingly, this was a season which saw Roma lift the UEFA Conference League title and Frankfurt defeat Rangers in the UEFA Europa League final.

Season	League	Injury count	Share (%)	Injury cost (€m)	Share (%)
2020/21	Bundesliga	756	25%	62.49	17%
	EPL	798	27%	135.40	36%
	La Liga	595	20%	73.26	19%
	Ligue 1	412	14%	60.48	16%
	Serie A	439	15%	44.49	12%
2021/22	Bundesliga	731	23%	59.07	12%
	EPL	859	27%	174.56	35%
	La Liga	484	15%	111.48	22%
	Ligue 1	533	17%	68.11	14%
	Serie A	595	19%	83.26	17%
 2022/23	Bundesliga	1,192	30%	121.70	17%
	EPL	944	24%	288.55	41%
	La Liga	583	15%	90.20	13%
	Ligue 1	593	15%	96.36	14%
	Serie A	655	17%	99.28	14%
 2023/24	Bundesliga	1,255	30%	124.58	17%
	EPL	915	22%	318.80	44%
	La Liga	862	21%	142.65	19%
	Ligue 1	437	11%	65.88	9%
	Serie A	654	16%	80.12	11%

Men's European football injury index



Club analysis

### 3.2 Bundesliga

# 3.2 Bundesliga

### Bundesliga

Title winners Bayer Leverkusen suffered the joint lowest number of injuries throughout the 2023/24 season at a cost of EUR 3.45m. Xabi Alonso's side completed an incredible Bundesliga season without suffering defeat, finishing 17 points clear of second place. VfB Stuttgart also had a memorable campaign which represented a significant swing in fortunes relative to the previous season. A 16th place finish in 2022/23 came at an injury cost of EUR 1.81m across 77 injuries. A 2nd place finish in 2023/24 will no doubt have been assisted by the fact that they

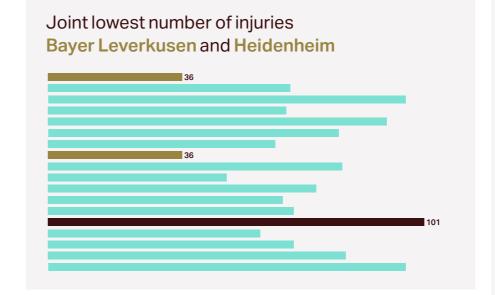
suffered 12 fewer injuries than the season prior. However, these injuries came at a greater average injury cost (EUR 50,000 vs EUR 20,000).

Borussia Mönchengladbach avoided relegation and became only the second team since our records began to suffer from over 100 injuries throughout a season after FC Cologne (104) in 2020/21. Relegated Darmstadt suffered the joint 2nd most injuries (96), along with 3rd place Bayern Munich, at an average cost per injury of EUR 30,000.

Heidenheim recorded the lowest average injury cost in the league (EUR 20,000) as they secured an 8th place finish in their first ever Bundesliga season.

Bayern Munich and Borussia
Dortmund accounted for 45% of
the overall injury costs incurred
by the league (EUR 56.27m). The
former finished third, 2 places ahead
of Borussia Dortmund, despite
recording 5 more injuries at greater
cost (EUR 39.06m vs EUR 17.21m).



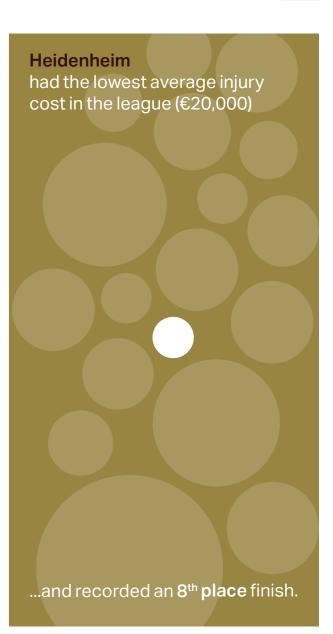




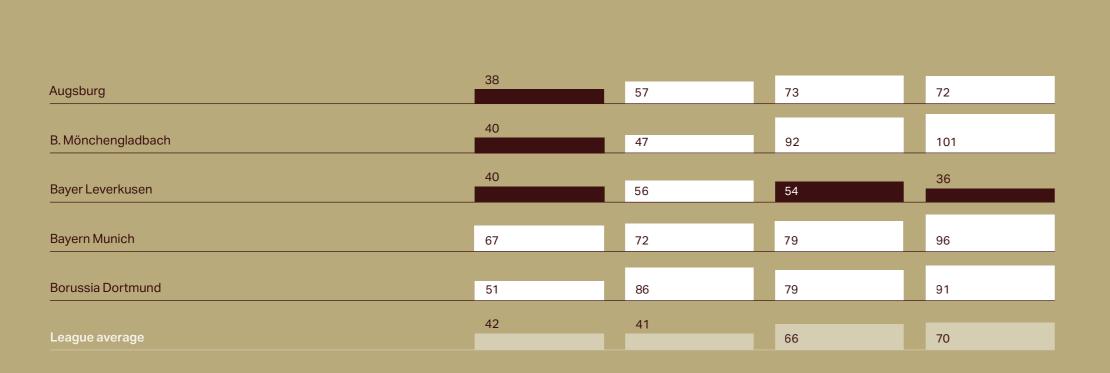


Borussia Mönchengladbach avoid relegation, despite over 100 injuries.

Darmstadt suffered the joint 2nd most injuries (96).



### Average number of injuries per team



A look back at the average number of injuries per team in each of the four seasons tells us that both Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund recorded above average levels of injury instances in each season. This would correlate with their recent performances both domestically and on the European stage.

Borussia Mönchengladbach and Augsburg have also recorded higher than average injury figures since the 2021/22 season. The former avoided a relegation play-off last season by one point, with Augsburg experiencing an identical scenario in 2022/23. This increased level of injury frequency will undoubtedly have affected both clubs in each of these seasons.

The league average per season has seen some considerable rises since 2021/22 and Bundesliga clubs will be looking to stem this continued rise moving forward.

# 3.3 English Premier League

### **English Premier League**

After their historic treble-winning campaign in 2022/23, Manchester City retained the English Premier League title. The title holders recorded 57 injuries at a total injury cost of EUR 32.37m at an average cost of EUR 570,000 per injury.

The 2023/24 season saw Chelsea lose top spot in terms of injury cost, however, the injuries incurred came at a league-high average cost of EUR 640.000. The West London club registered 12 fewer injuries last season relative to 2022/23 which led to an EUR 9.31m reduction in injury costs.

Manchester United's injury problems (75) were well publicised, and they also recorded the highest injury cost figure (EUR 47.38m) in England. Each of the top five injuries incurred by the club saw key members of the squad sidelined for over 90 days.

Following a 21-year UEFA Champions League absence, Newcastle United topped the table in terms of injury instances (76) with Manchester United close behind at an average cost of EUR 630,000. Recent high-profile signings and the increased likelihood of further investments into the playing

squad will no doubt aid the club in navigating the regular demands of European competition in the future.

Both West Ham and Burnley recorded 33 injuries each, however, they finished at opposite ends of the table. The Hammers finished 9th: four places higher than in 2022/23, whereas Burnley were relegated at the first time of asking.

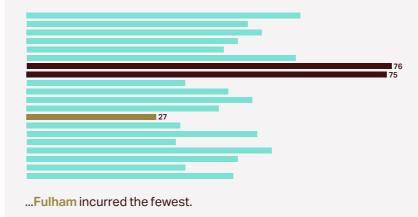


Men's European football injury index

### Manchester City, Arsenal, Liverpool and Aston Villa

UEFA Champions League

Newcastle United suffered the most injuries, followed closely by Manchester United



**Burnley** recorded 33 injuries each

West Ham and

9 West Ham

11 Brighton

14 Wolves

15 Everton 16 Brentford

18 Luton

19 Burnley

10 Crystal Palace

12 Bournemouth 13 Fulham

17 Nottingham Forest

20 Sheffield United

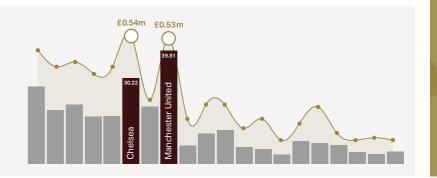
however they finished at opposite ends of the table.





Chelsea recorded the highest average cost of injuries (£540,000 / €640,000)

...and the second highest injury cost.



Average number of injuries per team	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Arsenal	55	55	50	46
Chelsea	45	79	68	56
Crystal Palace	35	28	36	42
Everton	59	61	40	48
Liverpool	49	69	60	49
Manchester City	42	60	40	57
Manchester United	75	72	69	75
Newcastle United	61	60	66	76
Tottenham	54	43	47	41
Wolves	21	29	33	32
League average	40	43	47	46

Looking back the at the previous four years of injury data, we can observe that Wolves and Crystal Palace are the only two teams to compete in each of these four seasons and record below average injury figures.

Tottenham also performed favourably, and the club registered only one season (2020/21) above the league average figure.

Conversely, we can see that Newcastle United, Manchester United, Liverpool and Chelsea

saw above average injury levels in each season, relative to the league average. Arsenal recorded their best figure relative to the average last season, with both Everton and Manchester City incurring seven fewer injuries compared to the average in 2022/23

# 3.4 La Liga

### La Liga

Real Madrid will have been ably assisted by the fact that they suffered 24 fewer injuries last season, compared to 2022/23 enroute to regaining the title. However, these injuries came at a significantly higher average cost (EUR 790,000). However, Barcelona experienced a near doubling of costs associated with injuries compared to that of the previous season (EUR 14.44m vs EUR 27.98m) across their 44 recorded instances.

As you will see on the adjacent page, both clubs have recorded above average injury count figures over the previous four seasons.

Elsewhere, the main story of the Spanish season was Girona. A 3rd place finish in 2023/24 came at a significantly lower cost of injury (EUR 2.87m) in comparison to those around them. Cadiz, despite recording an identical average cost of injury figure to that of Girona (EUR 60,000), finished in 18th place.

Sevilla and Atlético Madrid registered near identical injury costs (EUR 12.39m and EUR 12.27m respectively), yet they were separated by 10 places at the conclusion of the season. Atlético Madrid, who had another successful season, recorded 42 injuries, 30 fewer than Sevilla. However, these injuries came at a great average cost (EUR 290,000 vs EUR 170,000).

Alavés suffered the second fewest number of injuries over the course of last season. These came at the joint lowest average cost per injury in the league (EUR 0.02m).



Men's European football injury index



Real Madrid suffered 24 fewer

injuries last season (2022/23)

significantly higher average cost

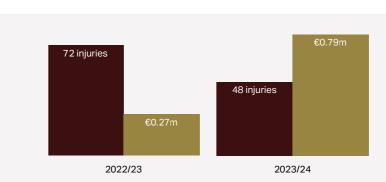
...however these came at a

A 3rd place finish in 2023/24 for Girona came at a significantly lower cost of injury (EUR 2.87m)

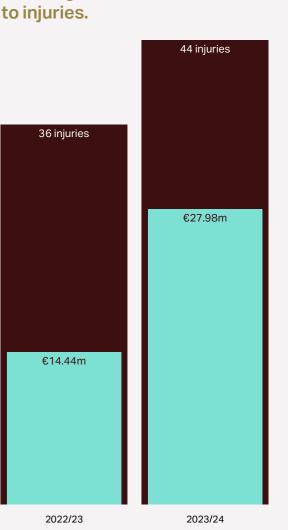
in comparison to those around them.

Sevilla and Atlético Madrid registered near identical injury costs

yet they were separated by 10 league places.







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(€790,000).

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### Average number of injuries per team

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Barcelona	32	80	36	44
Real Betis	34	29	41	67
Getafe	18	21	25	23
Real Madrid	68	114	72	48
Real Sociedad	46	41	32	61
Sevilla	39	52	39	72
League average	30	24	29	43

Getafe achieved a 12th place finish last season recording 23 injuries at a cost of EUR 3.01m. This was the fourth consecutive season that the club's injury levels fell below the league average. Conversely, we can see that there are a total of five clubs that record above average figures, one of which is Real Betis. Looking at the La Liga table over the past four years, we can see that the 2023/24 season was the first since the 2019/20 season where the club finished outside of the top six – perhaps the consistently above average injury figures eventually took their toll?

# **3.5** Ligue 1

### Ligue 1

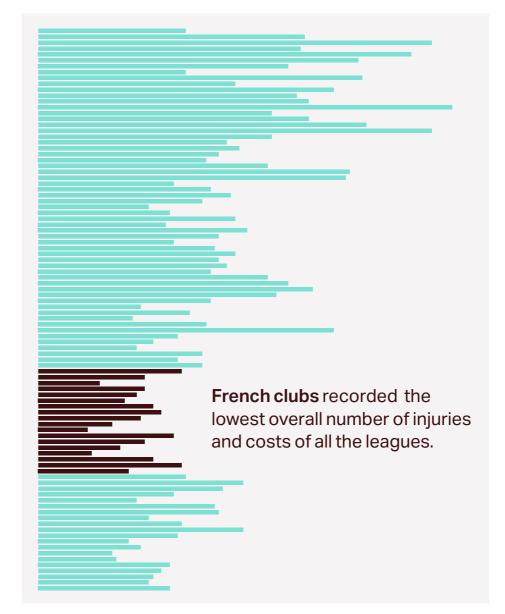
French clubs recorded the lowest overall number of injuries and associated costs of the top five men's European leagues in 2023/24. Paris Saint-Germain accounted for 36.71% of overall Ligue 1 injury costs. However, this was only the second time since the publication of our first report that this has fallen below 50% - 48.4% in 2020/21, 50.66% in 2021/22 and 51.27% in 2022/23. The French champions recorded 21 fewer injuries when compared to the 2022/23 season at a reduced cost – EUR 24.19m vs EUR 49.40m.

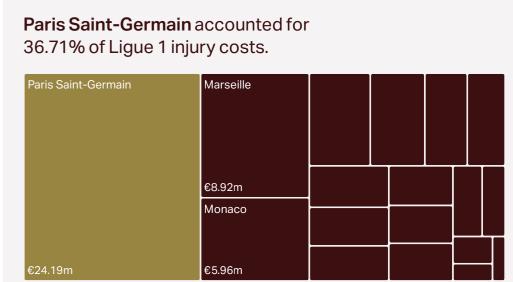
Brest suffered the third fewest number of injuries (15) at a total cost of EUR 1.07m. This injury instance figure halved in comparison to that of 2022/23 – 31 – and will surely have assisted the club in securing their best Ligue 1 finish of 3rd, securing qualification to the UEFA Champions League.

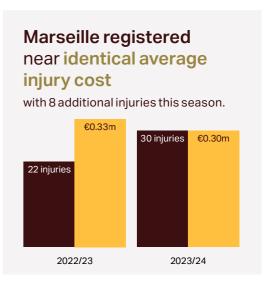
Marseille suffered a nearly identical average cost per injury (EUR 330,000 in 2022/23 vs EUR 300,000 in 2023/24) however they were perhaps hindered by 8 additional injuries year-on-year which led to an 8th place finish.

Metz survived a relegation play-off to maintain their Ligue 1 status and incurred 7 fewer injuries than relegated Lorient.
Clermont Foot also suffered relegation despite recording 6 fewer injury instances than their relegation rival Metz.











Average number of injuries per team

2020/21	2021/22	2022123	2023/24

Lille	19	21	31	26
Montpellier	15	_17	33	33
			30	20
Nantes	39	42	33	20
Paris Saint-Germain	67	75	56	35
League average	21	27	20	24
League average			30	

Over the last four years, we can observe that injury occurrence has worsened for both Lille and Montpellier relative to the league average.

Paris Saint-Germain have consistently recorded injuries higher than the Ligue 1 season average due to their success domestically and reaching the semi-finals of the UEFA Champions League in two of these four seasons.

Last season, Nantes saw an improvement in injury figures relative to the season average, as they incurred 13 fewer injuries compared to the 2022/23 season.

Injury figures peaked in 2021/22 – 42 – following a 9th place league finish, however the French side have since seen an improvement in the number of injury instances, owing in part to positive use of squad rotation.

## 3.6 Serie A

### Serie A

Cagliari avoided relegation from the Italian topflight despite suffering the joint-most injuries (32) of the bottom five placed teams - tied with relegated Salernitana.

Both Napoli and AC Milan suffered the joint highest number of injuries in Serie A (50) but experienced contrasting seasons. 2022/23 champions
Napoli finished in 10th place and suffered injuries amounting to EUR 6.05m, and were hindered by their high level of injury susceptibility.

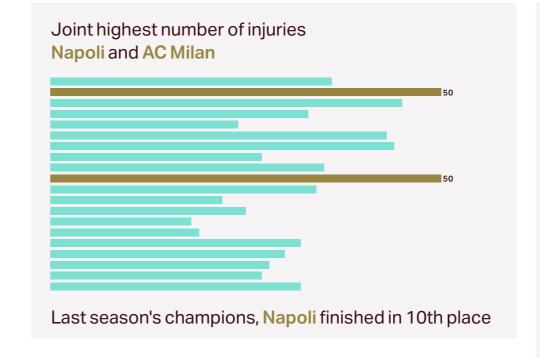
AC Milan were able to build on their 4th place finish in the season prior to end the 2023/24 season as runners up behind champions Inter Milan.

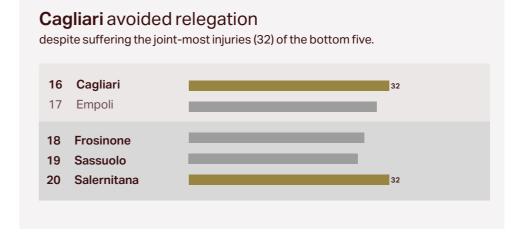
Juventus also improved on their 7th place finish in 2022/23 in part due to incurring 26 fewer injuries. These 45 injuries came at almost half the cost (EUR 10.16m) when compared to the season prior (EUR 19.34m). However, the club remained the greatest contributor in terms of injury cost.

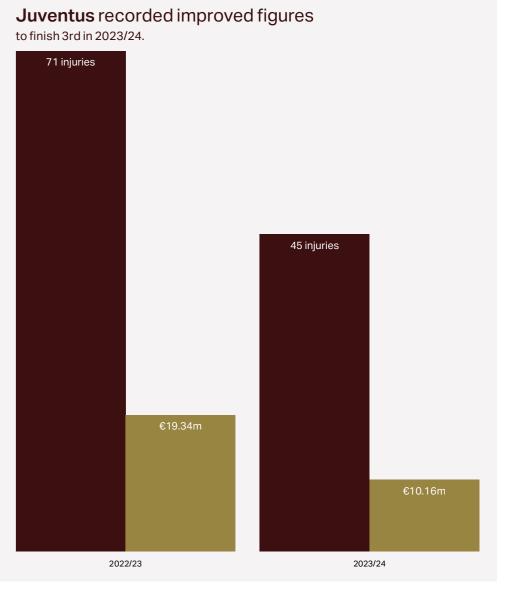
Monza once again retained their Serie A status, however they did finish one place lower than the 2022/23 season. The Northern Italian side recorded 22 injuries at a total cost of EUR 2.38m. Verona incurred the lowest injury cost figure (EUR 0.8m) en route to their 13th place finish.



Men's European football injury index







### Average number of injuries per team

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
				_
AC Milan	46	46	52	50
	26	_ 19	00	27
Fiorentina			32	
Inter	48	33	38	36
Juventus	61	78	71	45
Roma	52	43	53	43
	28	19	26	26
Sassuolo		_		
Torino	35	52	34	35
	22	30	30	
League average				33

We can see a steady increase to the Serie A league average following the sharp rise in 2021/22. Fiorentina and Sassuolo appear to oppose this trend. The trend for Sassuolo is one to particularly note following two back-to-back UEFA Europa Conference League finals in addition to an Italian Cup final and semi-final over the last two seasons.

The graphic also shows that AC Milan, Inter, Juventus and Roma sustained injuries at a greater rate than the league average in each season. Interestingly, Torino also falls into this specific category despite Second Round exits in the Italian Cup in two of the four seasons – has the recent increase in injury instances

hindered their overall league position? The Turin-based side have recorded an improved league position since 2020/21, perhaps investing in greater squad depth to overcome the recent requirement for squad rotation.

- 4.1 Overall<sup>5</sup>
- 4.2 League analysis<sup>5</sup>
- 4.3 Club analysis 56

## 4.1 Overall

Since 2020/21, we have observed a year-on-year increase in the number of injuries and associated costs. During this section, we analyse the number of matches and overall minutes played by teams in the top five men's European leagues.

The 96 clubs participated in a combined 4,232 games during the 2023/24 season – a total of 380,880 minutes (90 minutes per match - not including injury time). This equates to an average of 44 games and 3,968 minutes per club. If we overlay the overall number of injuries and the costs incurred throughout this season, we can draw some interesting conclusions.

Injury count	Injury cost (€m)	Total games	<b>Minutes</b> (90 min games)	<b>Minutes</b> per injury	Injury cost per minute (€)
4,123	732.03	4,232	380,880	92	1,922

Across the top five teams (96 clubs)

Injuries per game

0.97

We can see from the table overleaf that an injury was incurred every 92 minutes across the 4,232 games played involving clubs in the top five men's European leagues. This equates to an average of just under one injury every game – 0.97. This figure illustrates that the high workload shared amongst these clubs has taken its toll over the 2023/24 season.

Injury cost per game

€172,975

From a cost perspective, we know that the 4,123 injuries incurred throughout last season resulted in a total cost to clubs of EUR 732.02m. This allows us to calculate that the 96 men's clubs across the top five European leagues incurred an average injury cost per game of EUR 172,975 – EUR 1,922 a minute.

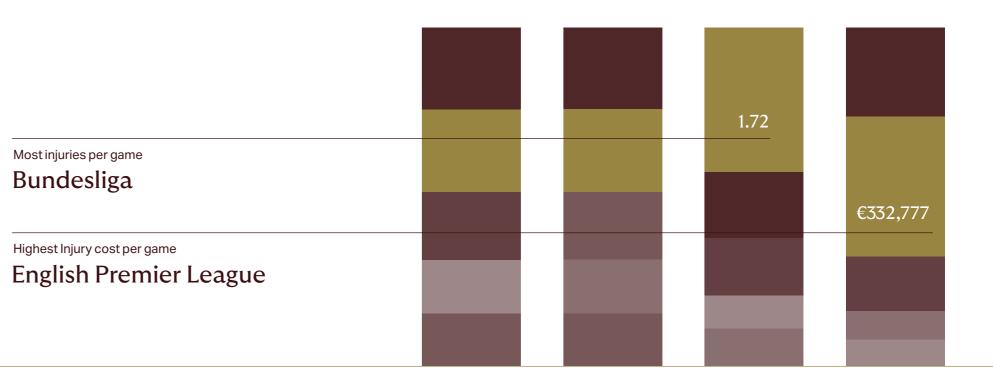
# 4.2 League analysis

We have previously highlighted that Bundesliga clubs suffered the highest number of injuries in the 2023/24 season – 1,255, with the remaining four men's European leagues recording injury instance figures below 1,000. These injuries were incurred over approximately 41 games per club, leading to an injury on average every 52 minutes.

From the graphic on page 55, we observe that clubs in the English Premier League were subject to the most matches (958) and therefore overall minutes (86,220) throughout the 2023/24 season. On average, English clubs played 4,311 minutes of competitive football across 48 matches. Given this, we can calculate that English clubs were subject to an injury every 94 minutes but at what cost?

English Premier League clubs accumulated a total injury cost of EUR 318.8m over the course of the season which meant that clubs were spending EUR 3,698 per minute of competitive football throughout the 2023/24 season on injured player salaries – the highest league figure recorded. Both the Bundesliga and La Liga recorded figures of just under half that of the English Premier League – EUR 1,894 and EUR 1,738 per minute respectively.

League	Total games	Minutes (90 min games)	Minutes per injury	Injury cost per minute
Bundesliga	731	65,790	52	1,894
EPL	958	86,220	94	3,698
La Liga	912	82,080	95	1,738
Ligue 1	733	65,970	151	999
Serie A	898	80,820	124	991
Overall	4,232	380,880	92	1,922



League	Games per club	Minutes per club	Injuries per game	Injury cost per game (€)
Bundesliga	41	3,655	1.72	170,424
EPL	48	4,311	0.96	332,777
La Liga	46	4,104	0.95	156,414
Ligue 1	41	3,665	0.60	89,877
Serie A	45	4,041	0.73	89,220
Overall	44	3,968	0.97	172,975

# 4.3 Club analysis

### Games played

It must be acknowledged that teams that finish higher in each of the leagues are likely to be involved in more games due to overall squad quality and strength in depth available to managers. These characteristics allow for progression into the latter stages of domestic and European competitions.

However, does an analysis of the most active teams (by number of games and minutes played) correlate with the number of injuries and the costs incurred? Four clubs from England and Spain appear amongst those that played the most games during the 2023/24 season. This was due to each club having a strong campaign in European competition which was matched by their performance in domestic league and cup competitions with Real Madrid, Bayer Leverkusen, Atalanta and Fiorentina also reaching the final of their respective UEFA competitions.

Manchester City were involved in the most a player to injury every 193 minutes, competitive matches - 59 - and suffered the second highest number of injury instances amongst the most active teams. to compete on both the domestic and Real Sociedad incurred 61 injuries over their 53 games at an average of an injury every 78 minutes of football at a cost of EUR 5,071 per minute. La Liga champions Real Madrid recorded the highest cost per minute figure of these teams at EUR 7,614.

Conversely, we see Fiorentina recorded the fewest number of injuries (27) considering their season amounted to 58 games across all competitions. Our data shows us that the Italian club lost

pointing to a positive use of squad rotation and overall strength in depth European stage. The same can be said for German champions Bayer Leverkusen who suffered the joint lowest number of injuries of the Bundesliga clubs - 36.

Aston Villa's hugely successful season concluded in qualification for the UEFA Champions League. This will no doubt have been helped by the proportionally low number of injuries incurred – 44 - during their 56-game season.

Men's European football injury index Howden Professional Sport

### Most active teams

. 1000 000110							
		Injuries	Cost (€m)	Games played	<b>Minutes</b> (90 min games)	Minutes per injury	Injury cost per minute
1 Manchester City	English Premier League	57	32.37	59	5,310	93	6,096
2 Liverpool	English Premier League	49	24.86	58	5,220	107	4,762
3 Fiorentina	Serie A	27	2.71	58	5,220	193	519
4 Aston Villa	English Premier League	44	19.69	56	5,040	115	3,907
5 Atalanta	Serie A	33	3.27	56	5,040	153	649
6 Real Madrid	La Liga	48	37.69	55	4,950	103	7,614
7 Atlético Madrid	La Liga	42	12.27	54	4,860	116	2,525
8 Roma	Serie A	43	8.59	54	4,860	113	1,767
9 West Ham	English Premier League	33	7.65	53	4,770	145	1,604
10 Barcelona	La Liga	44	27.98	53	4,770	108	5,866
11 Bayer Leverkusen	Bundesliga	36	3.45	53	4,770	133	723
12 Real Sociedad	La Liga	61	6.08	53	4,770	78	1,275
13 Paris Saint-Germain	Ligue 1	35	24.19	53	4,770	136	5,071

### Injury susceptibility

It is perhaps unsurprising to see that six of the ten teams with the lowest minutes per injury figure are from Ligue 1. It is also noteworthy that no English Premier League clubs are included in the top 10.

Toulouse recorded the best minutes per injury during the 2023/24 season en route to their 10th place finish, incurring an injury every 338 minutes, with Le Havre in second place with an injury every 256 minutes.

Both clubs recorded an identical cost per minute figure of EUR 111 – the lowest of all clubs in the top five men's European leagues. Lecce incurred the second lowest overall injury cost in Serie A – EUR 880,000 over 40 games, suffering an injury every 200 minutes. Udinese were involved in the same number of games – 40 – and incurred 19 injuries at an average of just over one every two matches – 189 minutes.

Lille suffered an injury on average every 170 minutes across their 49-game season. These 26 injuries came at an overall cost of EUR 3.33m – EUR 755 per minute. Lyon recorded an almost identical minutes per injury figure to Lille – 171 – despite playing 9 fewer games. However, Lyon's injuries came at a lower overall cost – EUR 2.31m.

Brest were one of a number of clubs to play 37 matches, recording 15 injuries at an average of one every 222 minutes of football. Getafe are the only Spanish team to make the top 10 - one every 164 minutes, at a cost of EUR 796 per minute, the highest shown in this table.



Toulouse incurred one injury every 338 minutes, making them the least susceptible club to injury.

Men's European football injury index

### Teams least susceptible to injury

			Injuries	Cost (€m)	Games played	<b>Minutes</b> (90 min games)	Minutes per injury	Injury cost per minute	
1	Toulouse	Ligue 1	12	0.45	45	4,050	338	111	
2	Le Havre	Ligue 1	13	0.37	37	3,330	256	111	
3	Rennes	Ligue 1	18	2.17	47	4,230	235	513	
4	Brest	Ligue 1	15	1.07	37	3,330	222	321	
5	Lecce	Serie A	18	0.88	40	3,600	200	244	
6	Fiorentina	Serie A	27	2.71	58	5,220	193	519	
7	Udinese	Serie A	19	2.48	40	3,600	189	689	
8	Lyon	Ligue 1	21	2.31	40	3,600	171	642	
9	Lille	Ligue 1	26	3.33	49	4,410	170	755	
10	) Getafe	La Liga	23	3.01	42	3,780	164	796	

Injury susceptibility



Darmstadt incurred one injury every 33 minutes, across 35 games.

The graphic overleaf shows the top 10 most injury susceptible teams. As you will see, this involves only Bundesliga clubs which further emphasises the high levels of injury occurrence within the league.

Borussia Mönchengladbach incurred the most injuries during the 2023/24 season (101) and became only the second team to register more than 100 injuries since of competitive football. They also the first publication of our report. These injuries came following a 38-game season, meaning the club incurred an injury every 34 minutes of football. This figure is beaten only by Darmstadt, who suffered on an average of one every 49 minutes. average an injury every 33 minutes of football across their 35 games.

Bayern Munich recorded the second highest overall injury cost of the 96 teams - EUR 39.06m - at an average injury cost of EUR 8,857 per minute incurred the joint second highest number of injuries – 96 – across 49 games. Borussia Dortmund is also featured, recording 91 injuries throughout 50 games last season -

Men's European football injury index

### Teams most susceptible to injury

		Injuries	Cost (€m)	Games played	<b>Minutes</b> (90 min games)	Minutes per injury	Injury cost per minute
1 Darmstadt	Bundesliga	96	2.61	35	3,150	33	829
Borussia 2 Mönchengladbach	Bundesliga	101	7.91	38	3,420	34	2,313
3 Werder Bremen	Bundesliga	79	3.61	35	3,150	40	1,146
4 FC Cologne	Bundesliga	80	3.07	36	3,240	41	948
5 FC Augsburg	Bundesliga	72	2.44	35	3,150	44	775
6 Bayern Munich	Bundesliga	96	39.06	49	4,410	46	8,857
7 Mainz 05	Bundesliga	66	4.04	36	3,240	49	1,247
8 Borussia Dortmund	Bundesliga	91	17.21	50	4,500	49	3,824
9 VfL Bochum	Bundesliga	66	4.52	37	3,330	50	1,357
10 VfB Stuttgart	Bundesliga	65	3	38	3,420	53	877

It should be noted that German teams account for the top 13 clubs across the top five leagues around Europe in terms of injury susceptibility and 15 of the top 20. Of the remaining four men's European leagues, the top 20 features two English and three Spanish clubs.

Newcastle United recorded the highest injury susceptibility figure (60 minutes), closely followed by Manchester United with an injury every 62 minutes. However, injuries incurred by the red half of Manchester came at almost double the cost – EUR 47.38m – despite playing only one additional match.

Sevilla played five more matches than RB Leipzig. However, they both recorded identical levels of injury susceptibility – one injury every 63 minutes – at an equivalent injury cost per minute of circa EUR 2,800.

Teams most susceptible to injury (continued)

		Injuries	Cost (€m)	Games played	<b>Minutes</b> (90 min games)	Minutes per injury	Injury cost per minute
						<b>A</b>	
11 VfL Wolfsburg	Bundesliga	63	5.34	37	3,330	53	1,604
12 TSG Hoffenheim	Bundesliga	61	5.08	36	3,240	53	1,568
13 Eintracht Frankfurt	Bundesliga	78	4.45	47	4,230	54	1,052
14 Newcastle United	EPL	76	24.05	51	4,590	60	5,240
15 Manchester United	EPL	75	47.38	52	4,680	62	10,124
16 Sevilla	La Liga	72	12.39	50	4,500	63	2,753
17 RB Leipzig	Bundesliga	64	11.58	45	4,050	63	2,859
18 Union Berlin	Bundesliga	57	2.54	42	3,780	66	672
19 Athletic Bilbao	La Liga	56	5.19	46	4,140	74	1,254
20 Villarreal	La Liga	58	8.09	49	4,410	76	1,834

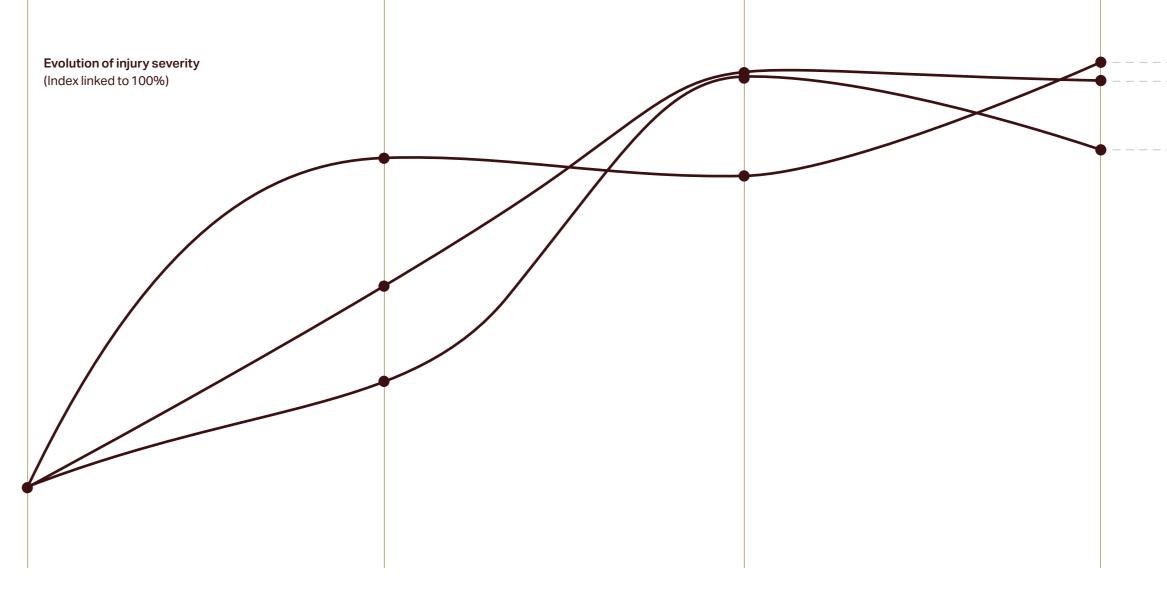
# Injury severity

- 5.1 Overall<sup>6</sup>
- 5.2 League analysis 68
- 5.3 Under 21 players 72
- 5.4 Knee injuries<sup>7</sup>

# 5.1 Overall severity

Last year's report highlighted the sharp increase in injury severity compared to the 2021/22 season. The staging of the inaugural mid-season FIFA Men's World Cup impacted this spike in severity.

We also noted that there was an overall decrease in the number of injuries recorded last year. However, we see that this figure has now risen to the highest overall figure recorded over the four previous seasons.



Number of injuries

Injury severity

The data shows that overall

following the conclusion of the

2023/24 season - 21.96 days.

Players within the top five

days across 4,123 injuries.

men's European leagues were

sidelined for a total of 90,547

injury severity has fallen

Total number of days out

2020/21 2021/22 2022/23 2023/24

Injury severity

# 5.2 League analysis



Average days out per injury for Ligue 1 players.

Despite an overall reduction in injury severity, the breakdown by league shows that one league recorded the highest individual figure since 2020/21 – Ligue 1.

season sidelined players for a record 32 days (on average) per injury instance. Despite recording the lowest number of injuries (437), injured players spent a total of almost 14,000 days absent.

Continuing with last season, English Premier League clubs recorded the overall 3rd highest severity figure - 28 days. It should be noted that English clubs incurred a far higher number of injuries – 915 – relative to those in France. Players in England also recorded the largest figure in terms of overall days

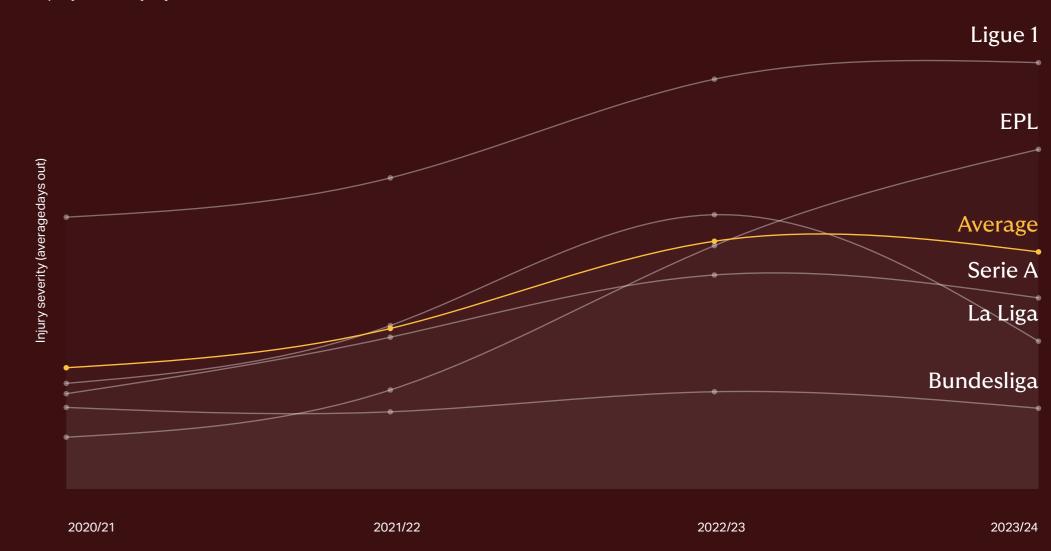
In Ligue 1, injuries throughout the 2023/24 out due to injury – 25,617. A look back at the overall trend in severity since 2020/21 shows us that the overall severity two significant rises (+2 and +4 figure in the English Premier League has almost doubled since 2020/21 - 15 days to 28 days. This would potentially infer that the English Premier League is the most competitive, by workload and overall strain on playing squads, of the top five European leagues studied.

> Overall injury severity has remained consistent in Germany; however, clubs face continuing rises in the overall number of instances incurred each season.

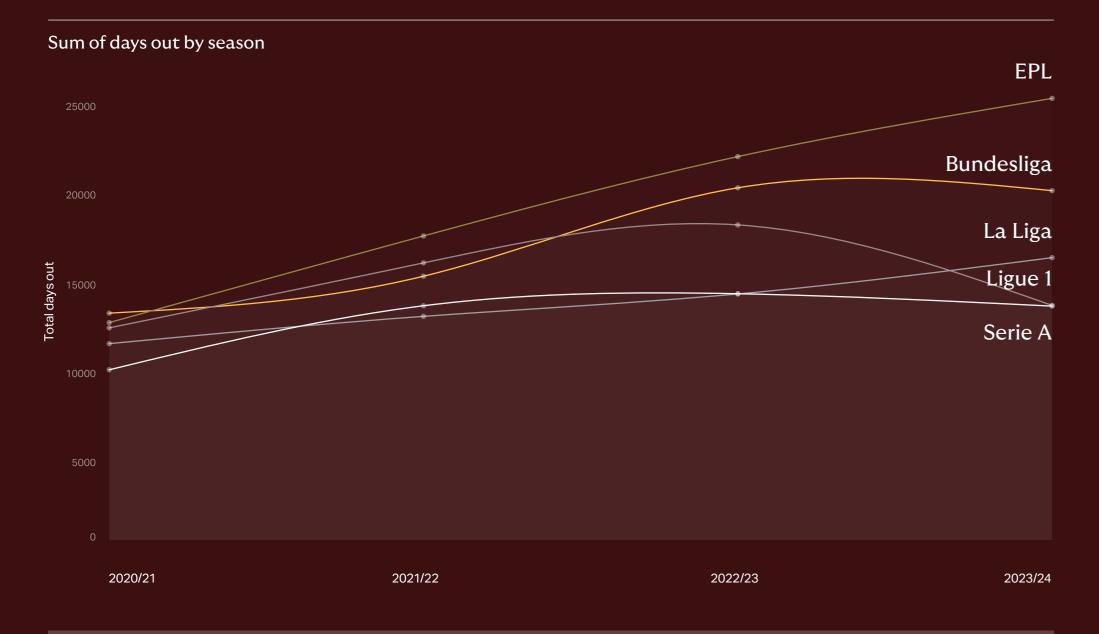
Injury severity levels in Serie A started at 17 days in 2020/21 and then experienced respectively) during the two seasons that followed. The 2023/24 severity figure of 22 represents a marginal decrease compared to the previous season - 23. Interestingly, the total number of days out has increased considerably from 10,326 in 2020/21 to just under 14,000 in 2023/24. This latter figure is almost identical to that of Lique 1, however we see a marked difference in injury severity

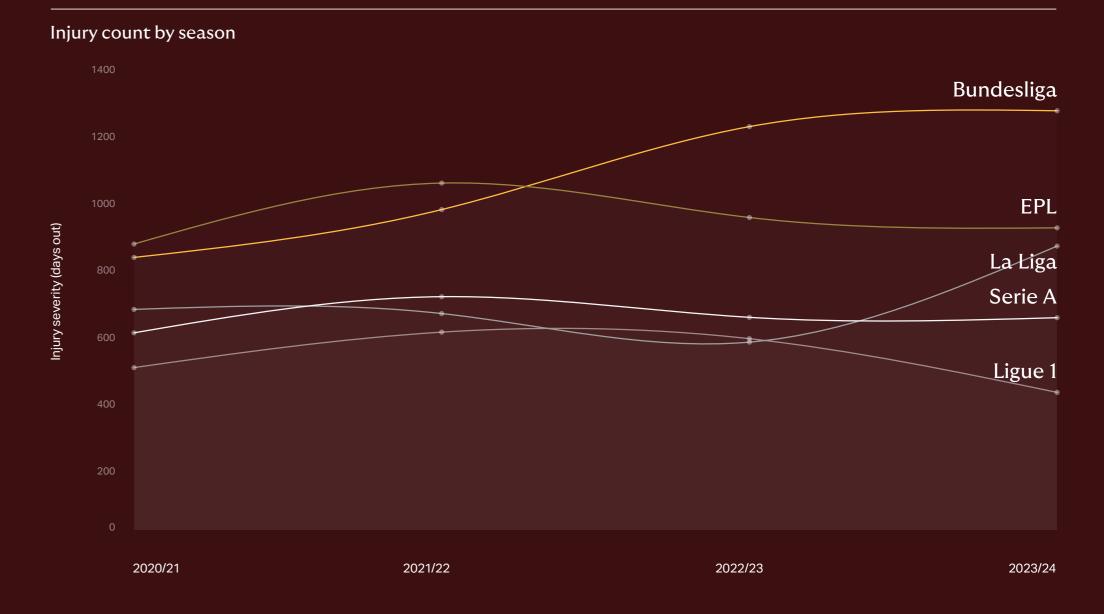
Men's European football injury index

### Injury severity by season



### Injury severity





# 5.3 Under 21 players

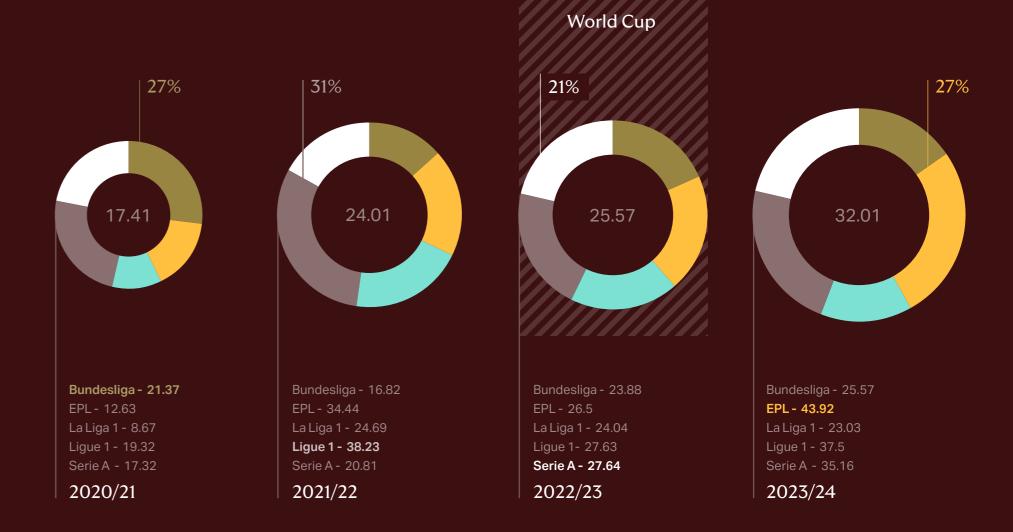
During the second edition of the Howden Men's European Football Injury Index, a concerning trend surrounding injuries to players under the age of 21 arose.

A review of the four years of injury data highlights an overall rise in injury severity for this age group.

As you will note from the table on page 73, there has been an increase in injury severity for this age group in each of the last four seasons. The data suggests two significant jumps in overall severity - one between years 1 & 2 and another between years 3 & 4. Surprisingly, the season that recorded the lowest increase in severity aligned with the season in which players competed in the inaugural mid-season FIFA Men's World Cup. Over this four-year period, we can see that under 21 (U21) players are spending more time on the sidelines because of this in injury severity, with a 187% increase since the 2020/21 season.

Breaking down these figures by league, some significant figures in the English Premier League, Ligue 1 and Serie A appear. In 2023/24, U21 players in England were sidelined for an average of 44 days - 51 instances at a total cost of EUR 11.66m. Top-flight English and Italian U21 players have seen a rise in injury severity in each of the four seasons. This data further gauges how Ligue 1 U21 players were sidelined on average for 38 days per instance last season. However, these injuries came at a much lower cost (EUR 2.08m).

### Average days out for players under 21



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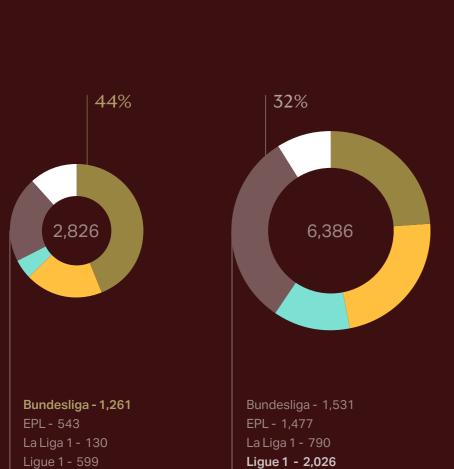
Injury severity

Serie A Ligue 1 La Liga English Premier league Bundesliga

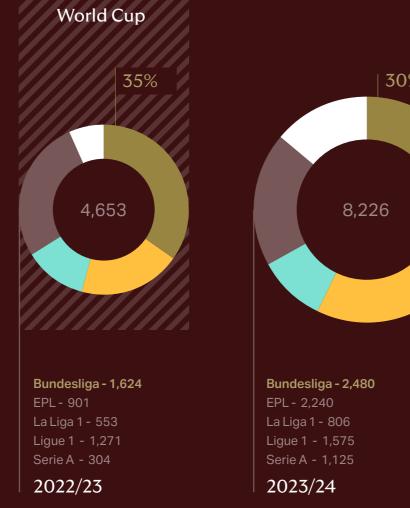
### Total days out for players under 21

2020/21

74

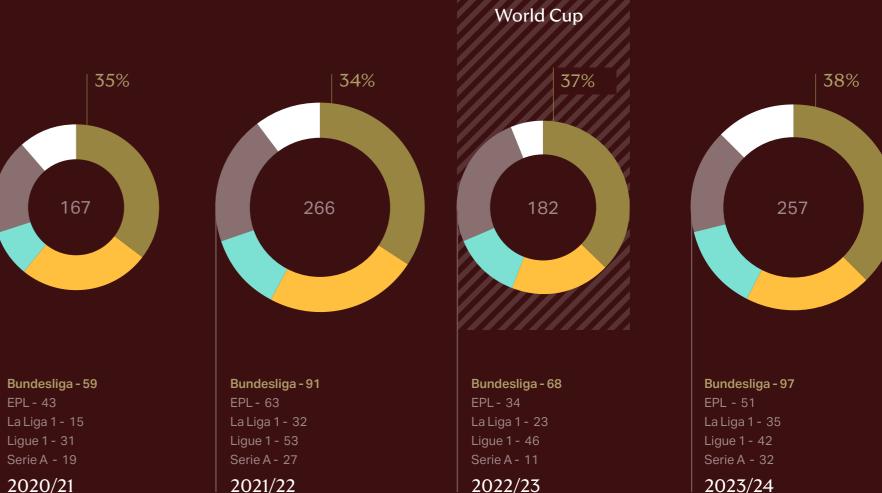


2021/22



# 30%





Men's European football injury index Howden Professional Sport 75

Total number of injuries to players under 21

# 5.4 Knee injuries



Throughout this section we have covered the increasing severity of injuries incurred by players across the top five men's European leagues. However, we can also pinpoint specific injuries with above average severity figures.

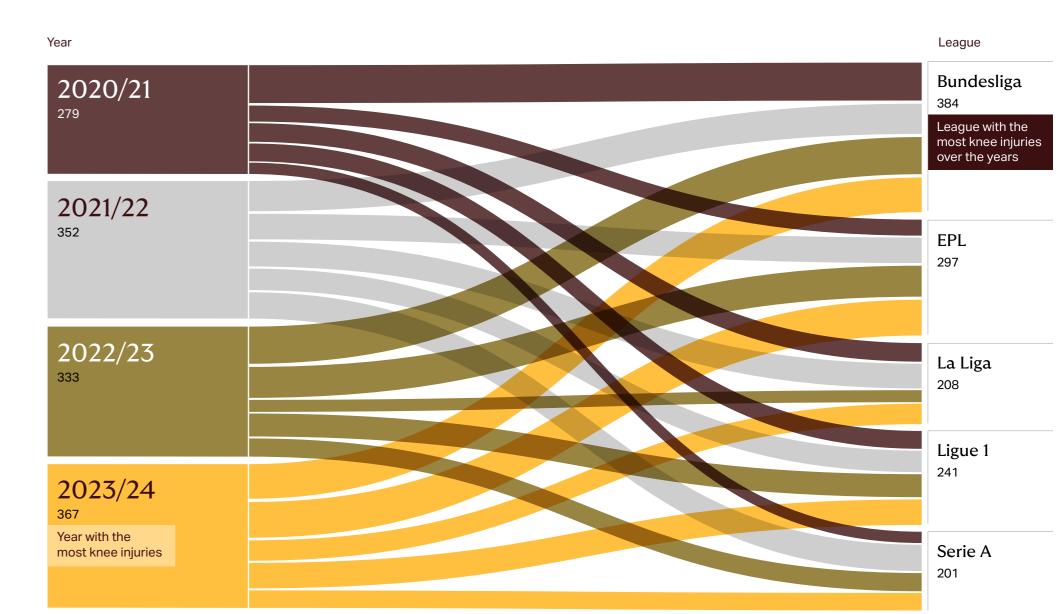
The average severity of knee injuries has increased each season between 2020/21 and 2022/23, reaching an overall figure of 53 days, on average. Now, we can see that this number has fallen slightly to 51 days out on average. To understand this evolution, it is important to analyse the difference between the figures in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

We see an increase in severity of just under 20 days when comparing the 2021/22 and 2022/23 seasons. However, we note that the number of injury instances remains similar. This would reiterate the potential effects of the 2022 FIFA Men's World Cup.

With regards to the overall costs associated with knee injuries, we see a near EUR 100m increase when

comparing the figures in 2020/21 to that of the 2023/24 season. This can certainly, in part, be explained by rising wage expenditure across the top five men's European leagues. However, it is important to note the significant rise in injury severity of this form of injury, despite seeing a slight decline in the severity figure following the conclusion of the 2023/24 season (51).

### Evolution of knee injury instances



### Injury severity

78

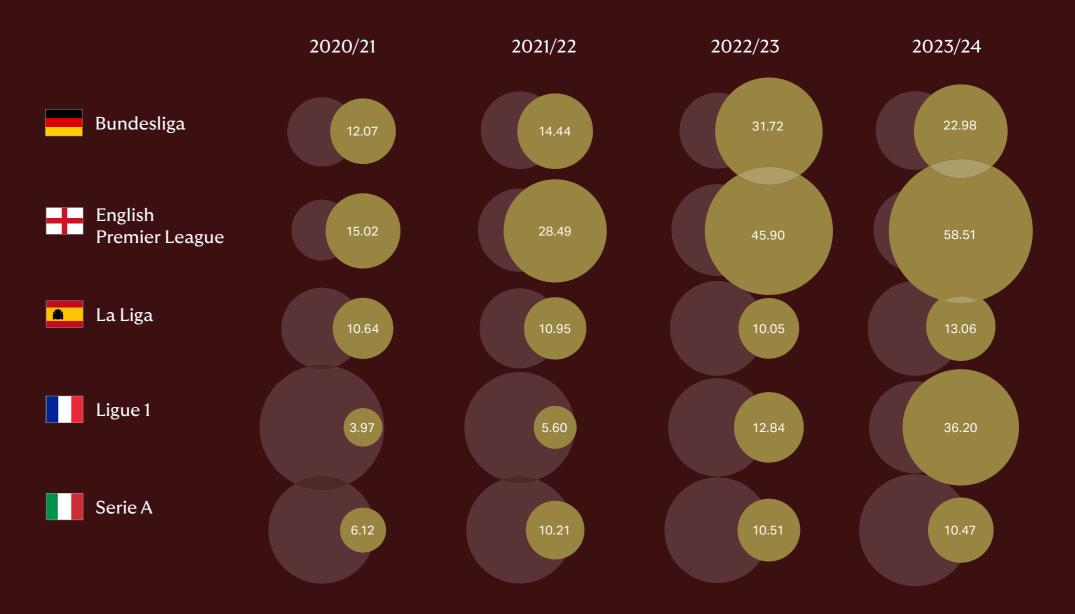
Average days out due to knee injuries and the overall costs, over the years



Average days out due to knee injuries and the overall costs, over the years and split by league

Overall cost, per year (€m) Average days out, per year

79



Men's European football injury index

# Appendix

- 6.1 Bundesliga<sup>83</sup>
- 6.2 English Premier League 94
- 6.3 La Liga 10
- 6.4 Ligue 1<sup>118</sup>
- 6.5 Serie A<sup>130</sup>

# Injury numbers

€39.06m

Bayern Munich recorded the highest total injury cost

W50%

Bayer Leverkusen players saw a 50% decrease in the overall number of days out due to injury

Mönchengladbach suffered from the highest number of injury instances

Men's European football injury index

### All teams

	Team	Injury	Injury cost	Average	Share of
		count	(€m)	injury cost (€m)	injury cost
1	Bayer Leverkusen	36	3.45	0.10	2.77%
2	VfB Stuttgart	65	3.00	0.05	2.41%
3	Bayern Munich	96	39.06	0.41	31.35%
4	RB Leipzig	64	11.58	0.18	9.30%
5	Dortmund	91	17.21	0.19	13.81%
6	Eintracht Frankfurt	78	4.45	0.06	3.57%
7	Hoffenheim	61	5.08	80.0	4.08%
8	FC Heidenheim	36	0.70	0.02	0.56%
9	Werder Bremen	79	3.61	0.05	2.89%
10	Freiburg	48	3.95	80.0	3.17%
11	Augsburg	72	2.44	0.03	1.96%
12	Wolfsburg	63	5.34	80.0	4.28%
13	Mainz 05	66	4.04	0.06	3.25%
14	B. Mönchengladbach	101	7.91	80.0	6.35%
15	Union Berlin	57	2.54	0.04	2.04%
16	Bochum	66	4.52	0.07	3.63%
17	FC Cologne	80	3.07	0.04	2.47%
18	Darmstadt	96	2.61	0.03	2.10%

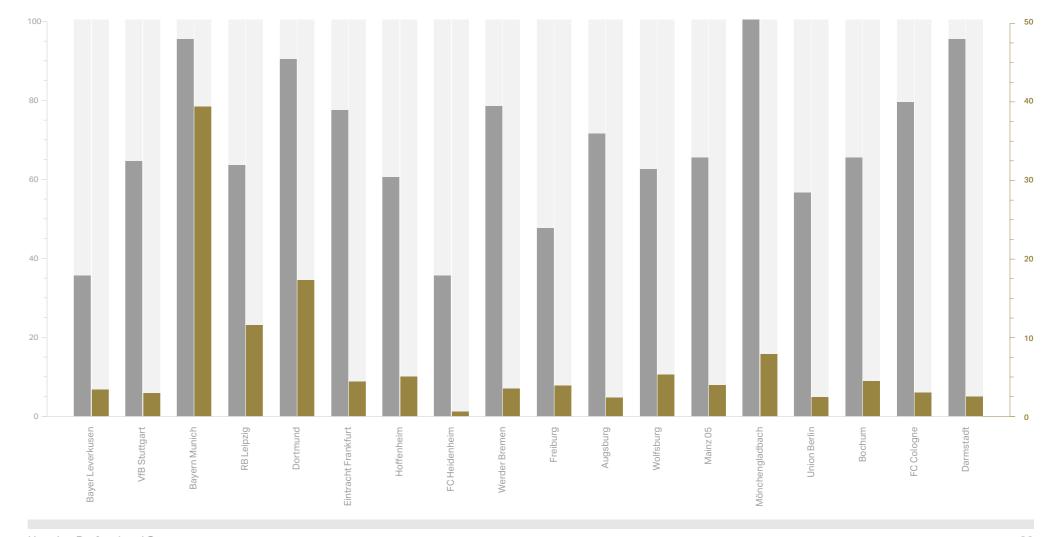
### Top 5 teams

	Team	Injury o	ount	Dayso	ut	Averaç unavai player	lable	Points	
		22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24
1	Bayern Leverkusen %	54	<b>36</b> ▼33%	1219	612 ▼50%	3.34	1.68 ▼50%	50	90 <b>▲80</b> %
2	VfB Stuttgart %	77	<b>65</b> ▼16%	698	853 <b>▲22</b> %	1.91	2.34 <b>^23</b> %	33	73 <b>▲121</b> %
3	Bayern Munich %	84	96 ▲14%	1383	1657 <b>▲20</b> %	3.79	4.54 <b>▲20%</b>	71	72 ▲1%
4	RB Leipzig %	71	<b>64</b> ▼10%	1380	675 ▼51%	3.78	1.85 ▼51%	66	65 ▼2%
5	Dortmund %	79	91 ▲15%	1845	1270 ▼31%	5.05	<b>3.48 ▼</b> 31%	71	<b>63</b> ▼11%

### Injury cost and count

(2023/24)





### 6.1 Bundesliga

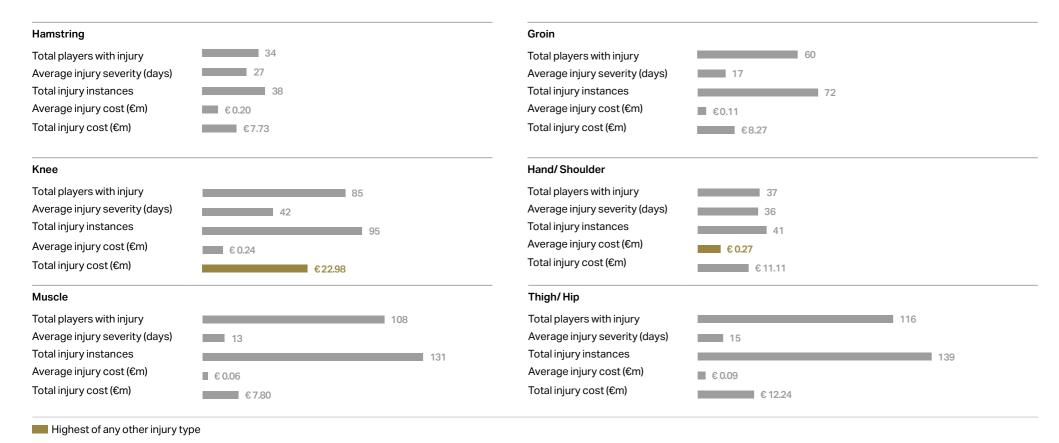
# Injuries by type

204
Total number of players sidelined due to illness

Number of days players were ruled out through knee injuries

139
Total number of thigh/hip injuries

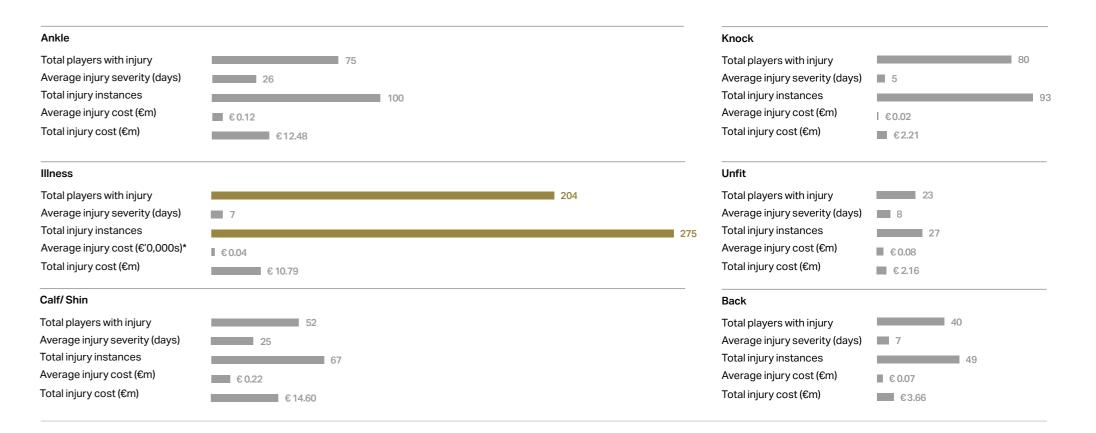
### Type of injury

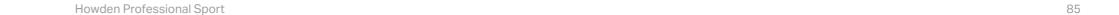


Men's European football injury index









### 6.1 Bundesliga

FC Cologne recorded the highest number of

injuries in December

# Injuries by month

€15.98

November proved to be the most expensive month

Dortmund and Mönchengladbach recorded the highest number of injuries in one month - January





Injury count

Injury cost (€m)



\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RB** Leipzig

€1m

(Jan '24)

(Sep '23)





VfB Stuttgart

Injury cost (€m)



Injury count





9 Injuries

(Nov '23)





(May '24)



(Dec '23)

Dortmund





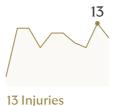
Injury count

(Jan '24)

### Bayern Munich

Injury cost (€m)	
Aug	— May





### (Apr '24)

Men's European football injury index

### Bottom three placed teams

### Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Team Highest monthly figure Bayer Leverkusen VfB Stuttgart Bayern Munich RB Leipzig Dortmund 14 Eintracht Frankfurt 2 10 Hoffenheim FC Heidenheim Werder Bremen Freiburg Augsburg Wolfsburg Mainz 05 Mönchengladbach Union Berlin Bochum FC Cologne 8 8 11 7 8 10 13 7 14 10 Darmstadt

All teams



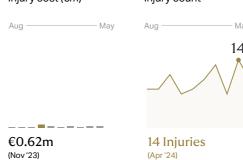




highest injury cost in August

amongst the bottom three







# Injuries by position



# Injuries by age

€44.24m

expensive position in terms of injury cost

Under 21 players recorded the highest injury severity figure



Men's European football injury index

Scale is 2:1 
● 2 players injured; 2 days out through injury; €2m injury cost\* \* numbers rounded to the nearest whole number







Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

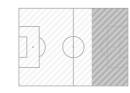
Number of injuries

### Top 5 Defenders (anonymised)

4078	3984	3939	24 3 2 5 8 3 3 668	3555
minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Dortmund	Bayer Leverkusen	Eintracht Frankfurt	Eintracht Frankfurt	RB Leipzig
4078 minutes	3984 minutes	3939 minutes	3668 minutes	3555 minutes
12 days	4 days	6 days	49 days	10 days
4 injuries	1 injury	2 injuries	8 injuries	3 injuries







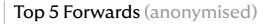
Player

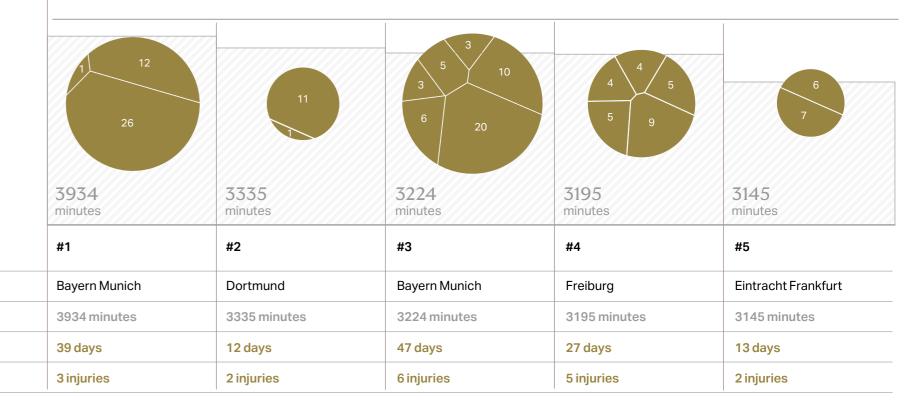
Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries









# Injury numbers

Newcastle United suffered the highest number of injuries

Manchester United recorded the highest injury cost

Men's European football injury index

### All teams

	Team	Injury count	<b>Injury cost</b> (£m)	Average injury cost (£m)	Share of injury cost
				(EIII)	
1	Manchester City	57	27.20	0.48	10.15%
2	Arsenal	46	18.99	0.41	7.09%
3	Liverpool	49	20.89	0.43	7.80%
4	Aston Villa	44	16.55	0.38	6.18%
5	Tottenham	41	16.82	0.41	6.28%
6	Chelsea	56	30.22	0.54	11.28%
7	Newcastle United	76	20.21	0.27	7.54%
3	Manchester United	75	39.81	0.53	14.86%
9	West Ham	33	6.43	0.19	2.40%
10	Crystal Palace	42	10.60	0.25	3.96%
11	Brighton	47	11.84	0.25	4.42%
12	Bournemouth	40	5.91	0.15	2.20%
13	Fulham	27	5.25	0.19	1.96%
14	Wolves	32	3.34	0.10	1.25%
15	Everton	48	8.05	0.17	3.01%
16	Brentford	31	7.32	0.24	2.73%
17	Nottingham Forest	51	6.53	0.13	2.44%
18	Luton	44	4.20	0.10	1.57%
19	Burnley	33	3.50	0.11	1.31%
20	Sheffield United	43	4.24	0.10	1.58%

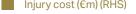
### Top 5 teams

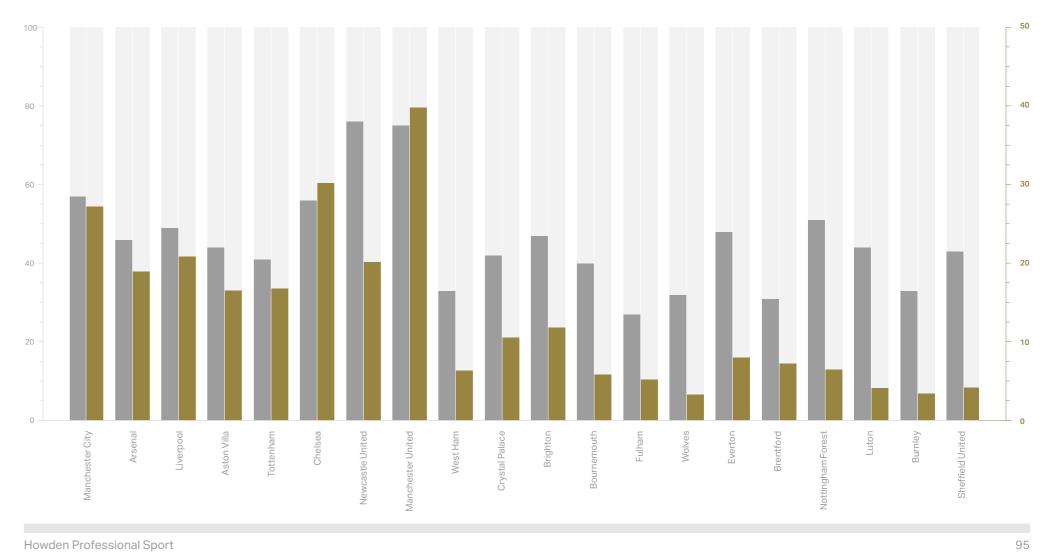
	Team	Injury o	ount	Days o	ut	Averaç unavai player		Points	
		22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24
1	Manchester City %	40	57 ▲43%	495	755 <b>▲53</b> %	1.36	2.07 ▲53%	89	91 <b>▲2</b> %
2	Arsenal %	50	46 ▼8%	1153	994 ▼14%	3.16	<b>2.72</b> ▼14%	84	89 <b>▲6</b> %
3	Liverpool %	60	<b>49</b> ▼18%	1615	1538 ▼5%	4.42	<b>4.21 ▼</b> 5%	67	82 <b>▲22</b> %
4	Aston Villa %	43	44 ▲2%	1039	1054 ▲1%	2.85	3.71 ▲30%	61	68 ▲11%
5	Tottenham %	47	<b>41</b> ▼13%	1071	1327 ▲24%	2.93	3.64 <b>^24</b> %	60	66 ▲10%

### Injury cost and count

(2023/24)







### 6.2 English Premier League

£500k

Average cost of

knee injuries

muscle injuries

# Injuries by type

53 Number of days players were ruled out through

knee injuries

109 Number of players that recorded a hamstring injury

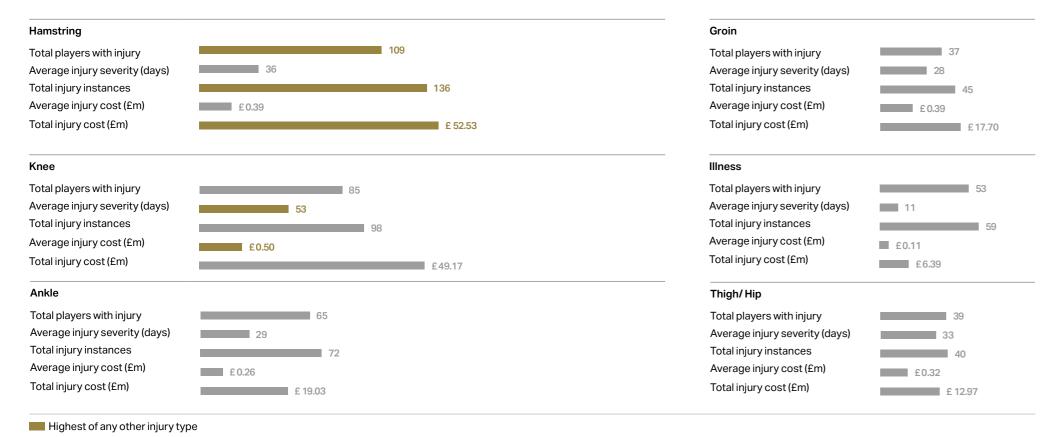
Men's European football injury index

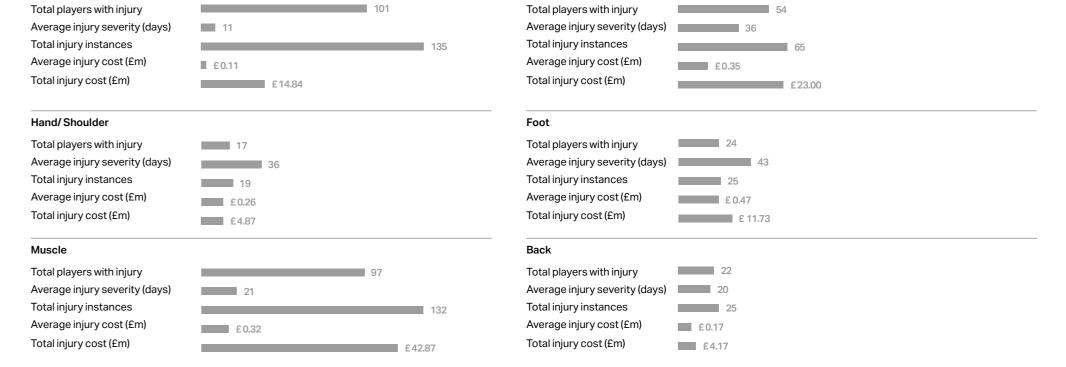
136 Number of recorded hamstring injuries

Knock

### Type of injury

96





Calf/Shin

Manchester United suffered the highest number of injuries in a single month

Manchester City recorded the highest injury cost per month figure in August

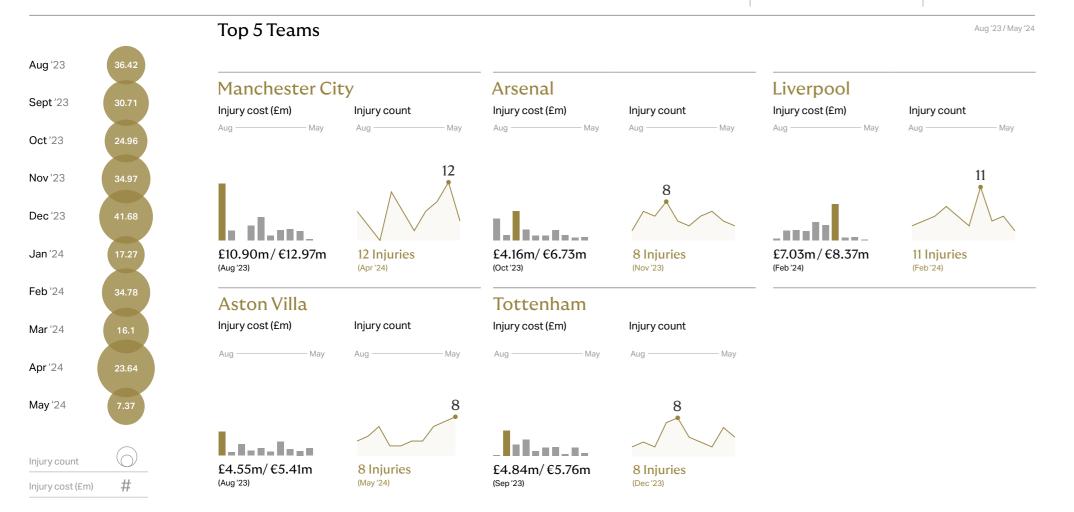
# Injuries by month

£41.68m
December saw the

highest injury cost figure

143
April was the month that recorded the highest number of injuries

Men's European football injury index



### Relegated teams



All teams









# Injuries by position

2023/24



2022/23

Total players with injury

Average injury severity (days)

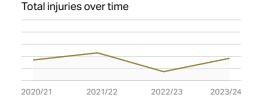
Total injury instances

£0.25m (€0.30m) Average injury cost

£10.88m (€12.95m)

Total injury cost

### **Defenders**



156

Total players with injury

29

Average injury severity (days)

364

Total injury instances

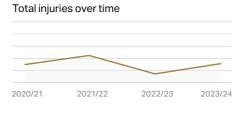
£0.28m (€0.33m)

Average injury cost

£100.49m (£119.58m)

Total injury cost

### **Midfielders**



145

Total players with injury

28

Average injury severity (days)

311

Total injury instances

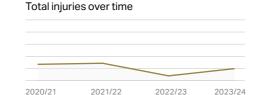
£0.32m (€0.38m)

Average injury cost

£99.22m (£118.07m)

Total injury cost

### **Forwards**



93

Total players with injury

Average injury severity (days)

197

Total injury instances

£0.29m (€0.35m)

Average injury cost

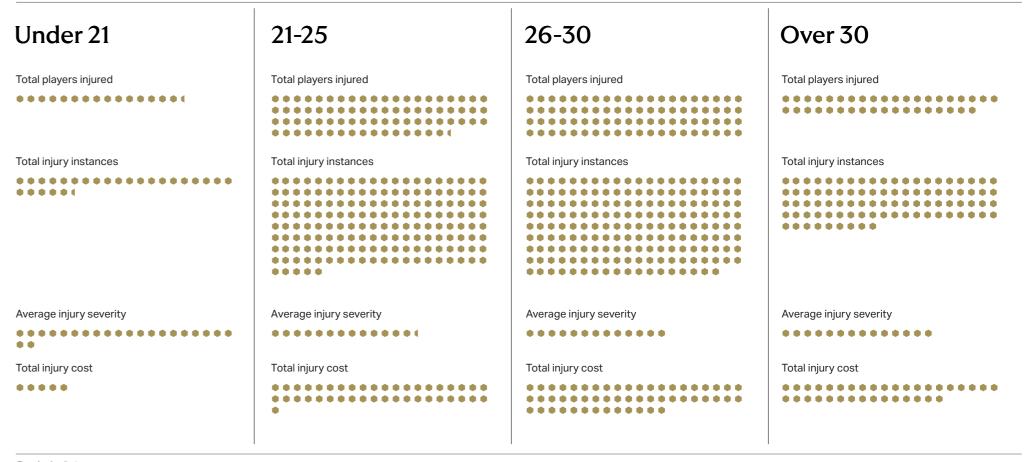
£57.31m (£68 19m)

Total injury cost

# Injuries by age

£106,45m Players aged 26-30 recorded the highest injury cost

U21 players registered the highest injury severity figure



Scale is 2:1 • 2 players injured; 2 days out through injury; £2m injury cost\*

\* numbers rounded to the nearest whole number



Player

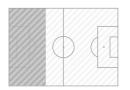
Minutes played

Number of injuries

Days out

### Top 5 Goalkeepers (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

### Top 5 Defenders (anonymised)

4502 minutes	25 4371 minutes	4331 minutes	14 4086 minutes	4083 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Arsenal	Aston Villa	Arsenal	Arsenal	Manchester City
4502 minutes	4371 minutes	4331 minutes	4086 minutes	4083 minutes
11 days	25 days	25 days	14 days	21 days
2 injuries	1 injury	4 injuries	1 injury	1 injury



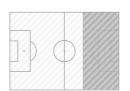


Player

Days out

### Top 5 Midfielders (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

### Top 5 Forwards (anonymised)

6	6 3 18 8 4 13	12 12 8	15	51 5
4323 minutes	3865 minutes	3842 minutes	3798 minutes	3745 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Aston Villa	Arsenal	West Ham	Manchester City	Manchester City
4323 minutes	3865 minutes	3842 minutes	3798 minutes	3745 minutes
8 days	57 days	32 days	30 days	74 days
2 injuries	8 injuries	3 injuries	3 injuries	5 injuries

# Injury numbers

£37.69m

Real Madrid suffered the highest injury cost

Sevilla suffered the highest number of injuries

Men's European football injury index

### All teams

	Team	Injury count	Injury cost (€m)	Average injury cost (€m)	Share of injury cost
1	Real Madrid	48	37.69	0.79	26.42%
2	Barcelona	44	27.98	0.64	19.62%
3	Girona	46	2.87	0.06	2.01%
4	Atlético Madrid	42	12.27	0.29	8.60%
5	Athletic Bilbao	56	5.19	0.09	3.64%
6	Real Sociedad	61	6.08	0.10	4.26%
7	Betis	67	7.43	0.11	5.21%
8	Villarreal	58	8.09	0.14	5.67%
9	Valencia	42	5.30	0.13	3.71%
10	Alavés	25	0.58	0.02	0.41%
11	Osasuna	37	1.25	0.03	0.88%
12	Getafe	23	3.01	0.13	2.11%
13	Celta Vigo	41	3.10	0.08	2.17%
14	Sevilla	72	12.39	0.17	8.69%
15	Mallorca	34	1.79	0.05	1.26%
16	Las Palmas	28	1.26	0.05	0.88%
17	Rayo Vallecano	24	0.52	0.02	0.36%
18	Cadiz	40	2.40	0.06	1.68%
19	Almería	34	1.77	0.05	1.24%
20	Granada	40	1.67	0.04	1.17%

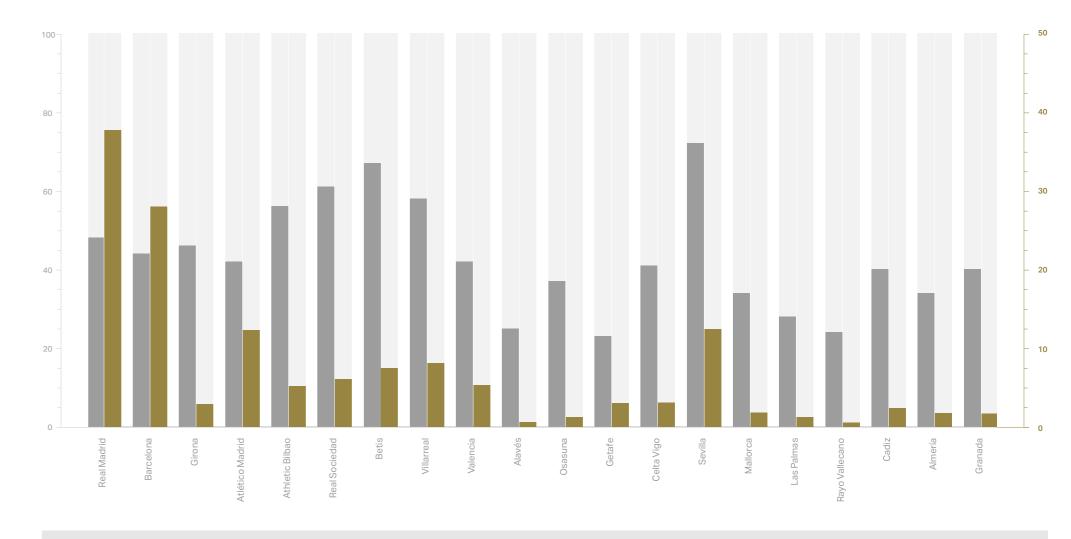
### Top 5 teams

	Team	Injury o	count	Days o	s out Average unavailable player		Points		
		22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24
1	Real Madrid %	72	<b>48</b> ▼33%	617	1073 <b>▲74</b> %	1.69	2.94 <b>▲74%</b>	78	95 <b>▲22</b> %
2	Barcelona %	36	44 ▲22%	737	1221 ▲66%	2.02	3.35 ▲66%	88	<b>85</b> ▼3%
3	Girona %	33	46 <b>▲39</b> %	968	<b>842 ▼</b> 13%	2.65	<b>2.31</b> ▼13%	49	81 <b>▲65</b> %
4	Atlético Madrid %	39	42 ▲8%	721	807 <b>▲12</b> %	1.98	2.21 ▲12%	77	<b>76</b> ▼1%
5	Athletic Bilbao	28	56 <b>▲100%</b>	688	674 ▼2%	1.88	1.85 ▼2%	51	68 <b>▲33</b> %

### Injury cost and count

(2023/24)

Injury count (LHS) Injury cost (€m) (RHS)





# Injuries by type

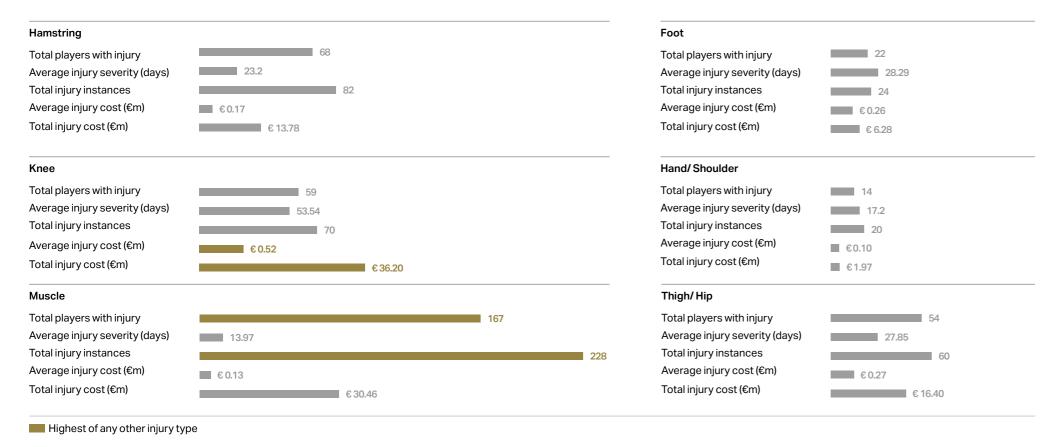
228
Muscle injuries
were the
most common

Ligament injuries recorded the highest severity figure

68
Number of players
that suffered a
Hamstring injuries

### Type of injury

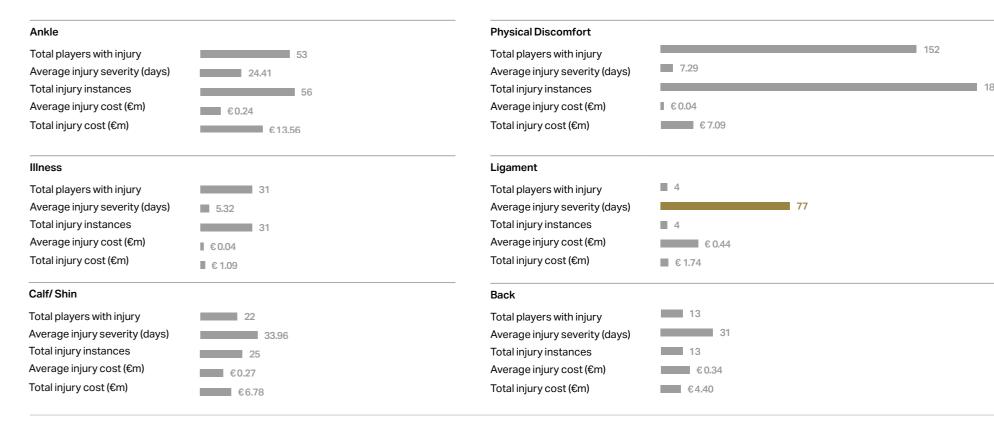
108











Injury cost (€m)

110



highest injury cost in August

# Injuries by month

(Sep '23)

(Aug, Sep and Oct '23)

€22.30m
February was the most expensive month in terms of injury cost

August saw the month with the fewest injuries recorded

Men's European football injury index



(Oct '23)

(Feb '24)

### Relegated teams



All teams

# Cadiz









Number of injuries

suffered by Athletic

Bilbao in February

Almería

Injury cost (€m)



Injury count









112

# Injuries by position



# Injuries by age

€68.43m

Total cost of injury to players aged 26-30

mber of injured players over the age of 30



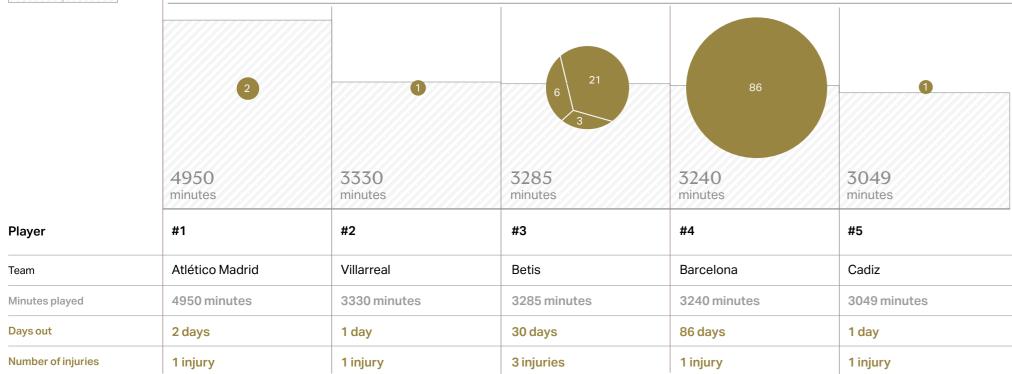
Men's European football injury index

\* numbers rounded to the nearest whole number





### Top 5 Goalkeepers (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

### Top 5 Defenders (anonymised)

18	20	26	2	9
4099 minutes	4076 minutes	3802 minutes	3623 minutes	3493 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Barcelona	Real Madrid	Atlético Madrid	Real Sociedad	Athletic Bilbao
4099 minutes	4076 minutes	3802 minutes	3623 minutes	3493 minutes
21 days	25 days	26 days	2 days	13 days
2 injuries	3 injuries	1 injury	1 injury	2 injuries



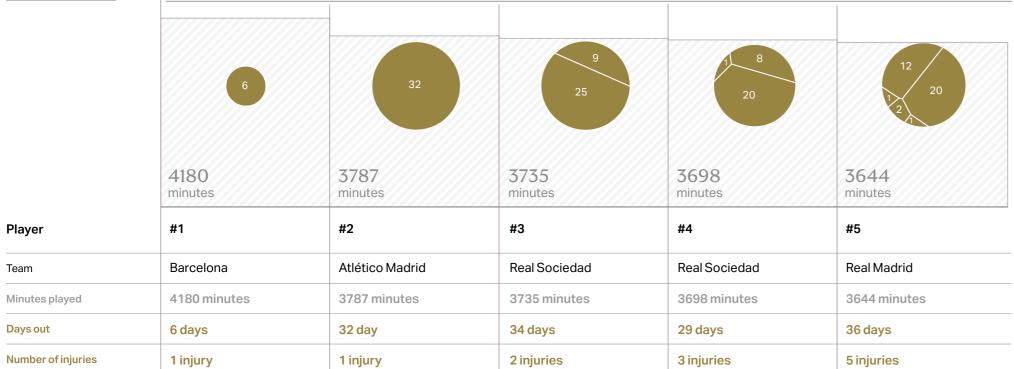


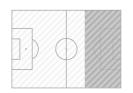
Player

Minutes played

Days out

### Top 5 Midfielders (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

### Top 5 Forwards (anonymised)

20	23	7 2	14 1	4 7
3917 minutes	3800 minutes	3707 minutes	3253 minutes	3243 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Atlético Madrid	Barcelona	Real Madrid	Girona	Sevilla
3917 minutes	3800 minutes	3707 minutes	3253 minutes	3243 minutes
29 days	25 days	10 days	17 days	14 days
2 injuries	2 injuries	3 injuries	3 injuries	4 injuries



# Injury numbers

highest percentage of injury costs

35 PSG and Lorient recorded the joint highest number of injuries

Men's European football injury index

### All teams

	Team	Injury count	Injury cost (€m)	Average injury cost (€m)	Share of injury cost
1	Paris Saint Germain	35	24.19	0.69	36.71%
2	Monaco	26	5.96	0.23	9.04%
3	Brest	15	1.07	0.07	1.63%
4	Lille	26	3.33	0.13	5.05%
5	Nice	24	2.59	0.11	3.94%
6	Lyon	21	2.31	0.11	3.51%
7	Lens	28	1.36	0.05	2.06%
3	Marseille	30	8.92	0.30	13.54%
9	Reims	25	1.84	0.07	2.79%
10	Rennes	18	2.17	0.12	3.30%
11	Toulouse	12	0.45	0.04	0.69%
12	Montpellier	33	1.60	0.05	2.43%
13	Strasbourg	26	1.67	0.06	2.53%
14	Nantes	20	2.02	0.10	3.07%
15	Le Havre	13	0.37	0.03	0.56%
16	Metz	28	1.59	0.06	2.42%
17	Lorient	35	3.72	0.11	5.64%
18	Clermont Foot	22	0.71	0.03	1.08%

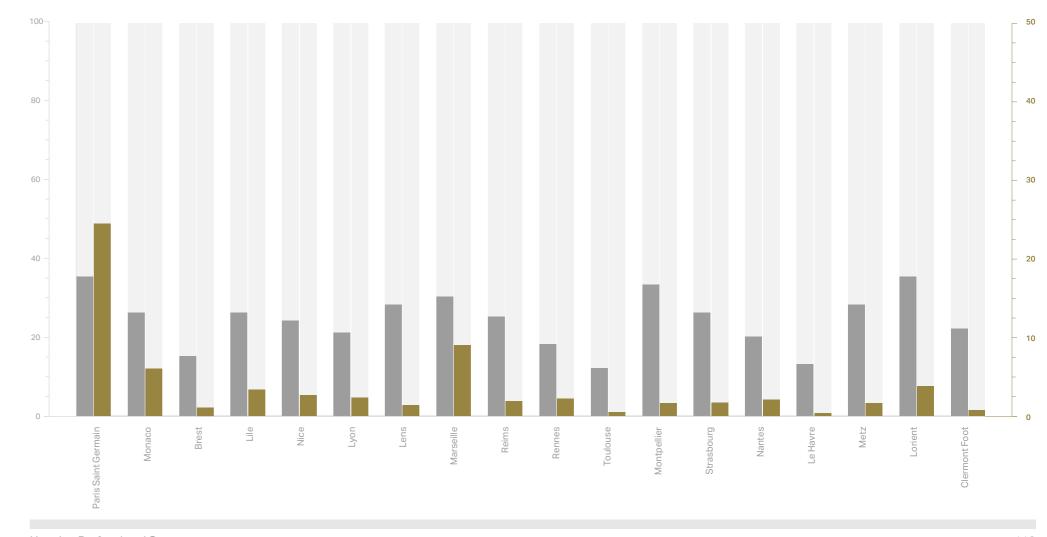
### Top 5 teams

Team		Injury	ry count Day		Days out		Average unavailable player		Points	
		22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	
1	Paris Saint-Germain %	56	<b>35</b> ▼38%	1343	<b>827</b> ▼38%	3.68	2.27 ▼38%	85	<b>76</b> ▼11%	
2	Monaco %	34	<b>26</b> ▼24%	663	1063 ▲60%	1.82	2.91 ▲60%	65	67 <b>▲3</b> %	
3	Brest %	31	<b>15</b> ▼52%	779	<b>412</b> ▼47%	2.13	1.13 ▼47%	44	61 ▲39%	
4	Lile %	31	<b>26</b> ▼12%	946	<b>854 ▼</b> 10%	2.59	<b>2.34</b> ▼10%	67	<b>59 ▼</b> 12%	
5	Nice %	47	<b>24</b> ▼49%	1094	<b>715 ▼</b> 35%	3.00	1.96 ▼35%	58	55 ▼5%	

### Injury cost and count

(2023/24)

Injury count (LHS) Injury cost (€m) (RHS)



### 6.4 Ligue 1

# Injuries by type

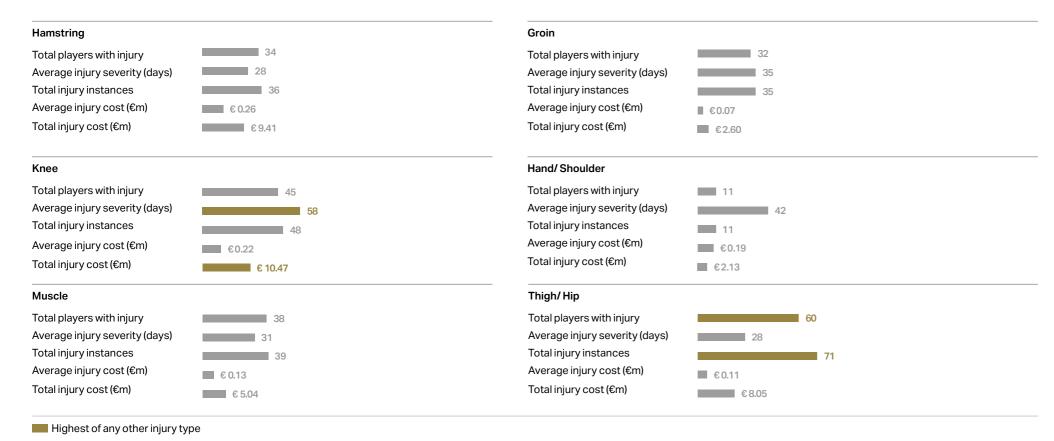
60 Number of players to suffer a

Thigh/Hip injury

58 Average number of days out per knee injury

43 Number of calf injuries incurred by clubs

### Type of injury



120 Men's European football injury index €10.47m knee injuries

hamstring injuries



122



the most injuries

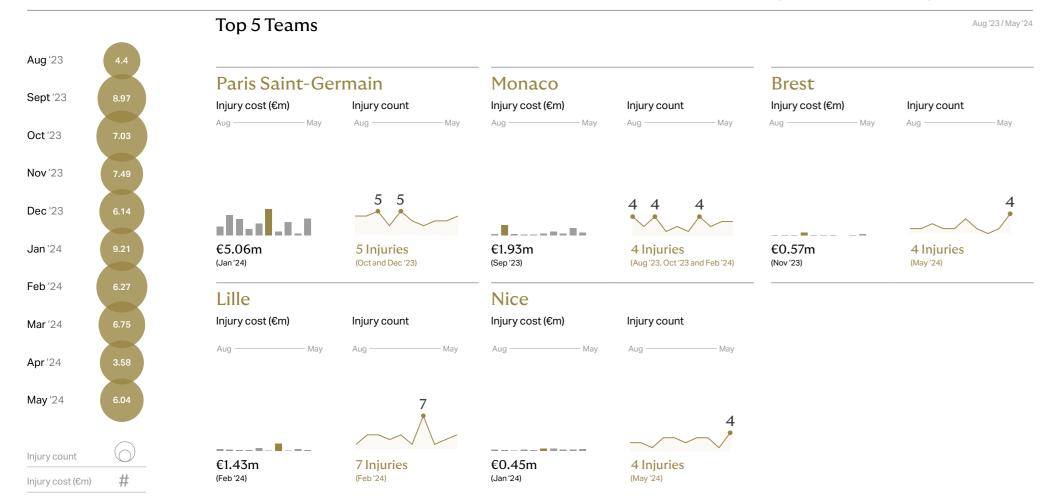
in a single month

# Injuries by month

€9.21m in January

55 October and February saw the joint highest number of injuries

Men's European football injury index



### Relegated teams

### Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Team Highest monthly figure 4 4 5 2 **5** 3 2 3 3 4 Paris Saint-Germain Monaco 4 2 4 1 2 1 4 2 3 3 Brest Lille Nice Lyon Lens Marseille Reims Rennes Toulouse Montpellier Strasbourg Nantes Le Havre Metz Lorient 1 6 7 1 3 6 6 1 4 3 Clermont Foot 0 3 2 3 3 2 3 **5** 1 0

All teams

1etz				Lorient			
ury cost (€m)		Injury count		Injury cost (€m)		Injury count	
g ————	- May	Aug —	May	Aug —	May	Aug ————	May





€5.06m

monthly injury cost









124

# Injuries by position



# Injuries by age

players aged between 26-30

players injured aged 21-25



Scale is 2:1 
● 2 players injured; 2 days out through injury; €2m injury cost\*

Men's European football injury index

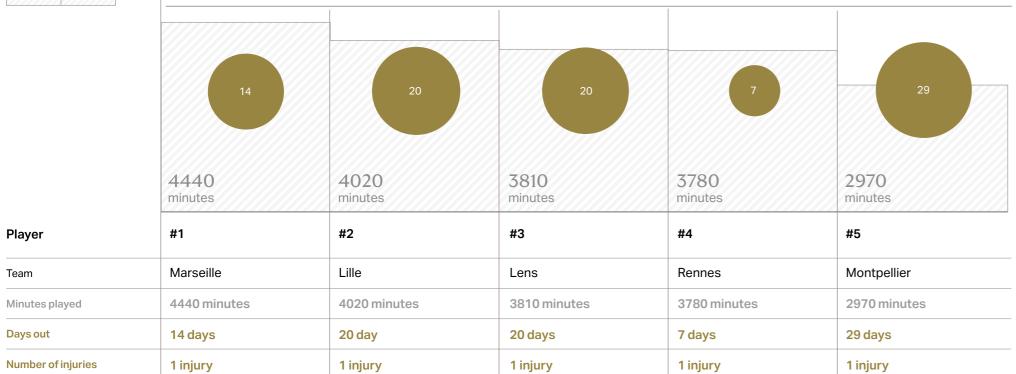
\* numbers rounded to the nearest whole number

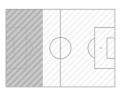


Player

Days out

### Top 5 Goalkeepers (anonymised)





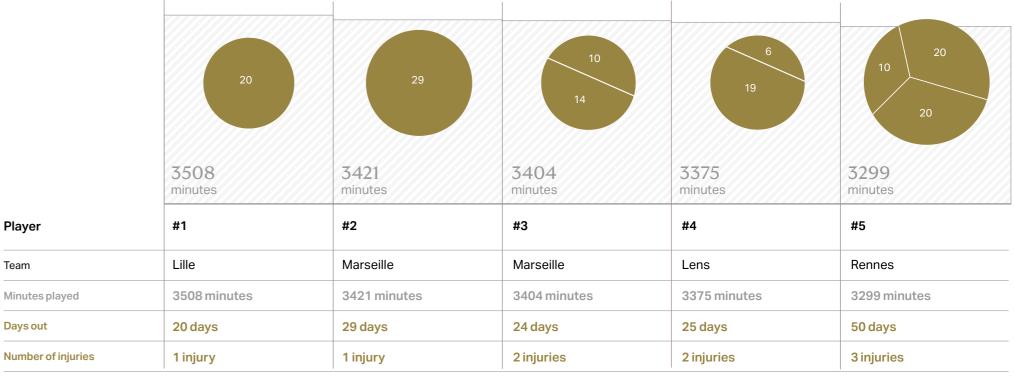
Player

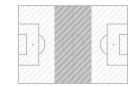
Team

Days out

Minutes played

### Top 5 Defenders (anonymised)





Player

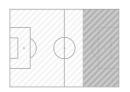
Minutes played

Number of injuries

Days out

### Top 5 Midfielders (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

### Top 5 Forwards (anonymised)

8	5	17	18	17
4005 minutes	3869 minutes	2856 minutes	2774 minutes	2719 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Marseille	Paris Saint Germain	Paris Saint Germain	Rennes	Lyon
4005 minutes	3869 minutes	2856 minutes	2774 minutes	2719 minutes
8 days	18 days	30 days	18 days	17 days
1 injury	2 injuries	2 injuries	1 injury	1 injury



# Injury numbers

€10.16m Juventus suffered the highest total injury cost

Inter Milan recorded the highest average cost per injury

Men's European football injury index

### All teams

130

	Team	Injury count	Injury cost (€m)	Average injury cost (€m)	Share of injury cost
1	Inter	36	8.53	0.24	10.65%
2	AC Milan	50	8.85	0.18	11.05%
3	Juventus	45	10.16	0.23	12.68%
4	Atalanta	33	3.27	0.10	4.08%
5	Bologna	24	1.67	0.07	2.08%
6	Roma	43	8.59	0.20	10.72%
7	Lazio	44	5.21	0.12	6.50%
8	Fiorentina	27	2.71	0.10	3.38%
9	Torino	35	3.14	0.09	3.92%
10	Napoli	50	6.05	0.12	7.55%
11	Genoa	34	3.43	0.10	4.28%
12	Monza	22	2.38	0.11	2.97%
13	Verona	25	0.80	0.03	1.00%
14	Lecce	18	0.88	0.05	1.10%
15	Udinese	19	2.48	0.13	3.10%
16	Cagliari	32	2.57	0.08	3.21%
17	Empoli	30	1.54	0.05	1.92%
18	Frosinone	28	2.23	0.08	2.79%
19	Sassuolo	27	3.17	0.12	3.95%
20	Salernitana	32	2.46	0.08	3.07%

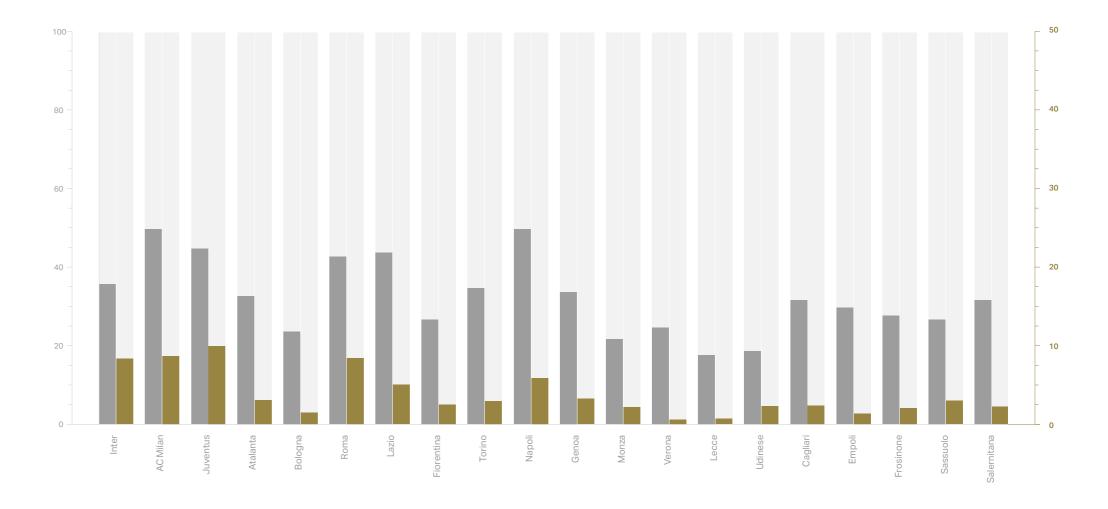
### Top 5 teams

	Team	Injury c	ount	Dayso	ut	Averag unavai player		Points	
		22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24
1	Inter %	38	<b>36</b> ▼5%	545	597 ▲10%	1.49	1.64 ▲10%	72	94 <b>▲31</b> %
2	A.C. Milan %	52	<b>50 ▼</b> 4%	1107	1134 <b>^2</b> %	3.03	3.11 <b>△3</b> %	70	75 <b>▲7</b> %
3	Juventus %	71	<b>45 ▼</b> 37%	987	618 ▼37%	2.70	1.69 ▼37%	62	71 ▲15%
4	Atalanta %	37	<b>33</b> ▼11%	1016	612 ▼40%	2.78	1.68 ▼40%	64	69 <b>▲8%</b>
5	Bologna %	33	<b>24</b> ▼27%	815	518 ▼36%	2.23	1.42 ▼36%	54	68 <b>▲26</b> %

### Injury cost and count

(2023/24)

Injury count (LHS) Injury cost (€m) (RHS)





muscle injuries

# Injuries by type

233
Total number of muscle injuries

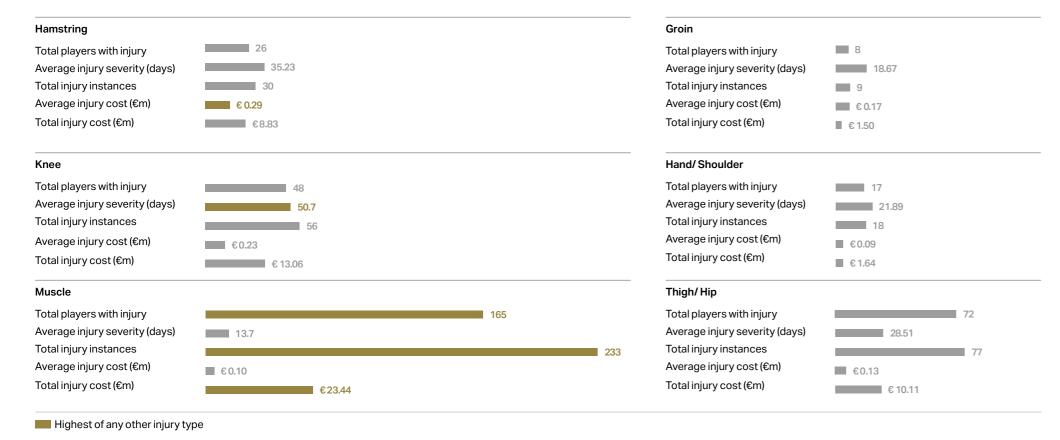
50.70
Average number of days out per knee injury

Men's European football injury index

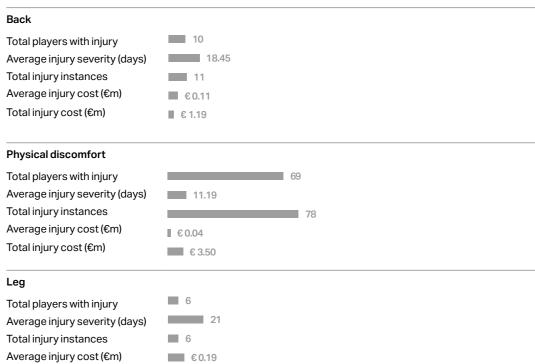
Total number of players to incur a thigh/hip injury

### Type of injury

132







■ €1.15

Average cost of

Hamstring injuries

Howden Professional Sport

Total injury cost (€m)

134

### 6.5 Serie A

injury cost recorded

by Sassuolo

8

Number of injuries

incurred by Roma and AC

Milan in September '23

# Injuries by month

88 Number of injuries incurred in November €15.58m highest monthly injury cost

Men's European football injury index

All teams

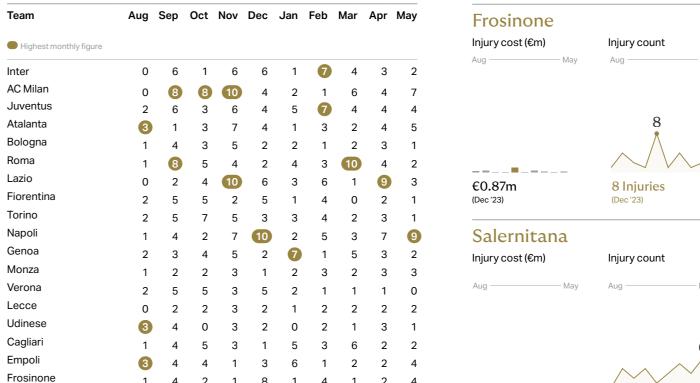
Inter

Sassuolo

Salernitana



### Relegated teams



0 4 2 4 1 3 5 3 6





136

### 6.5 Serie A

# Injuries by position

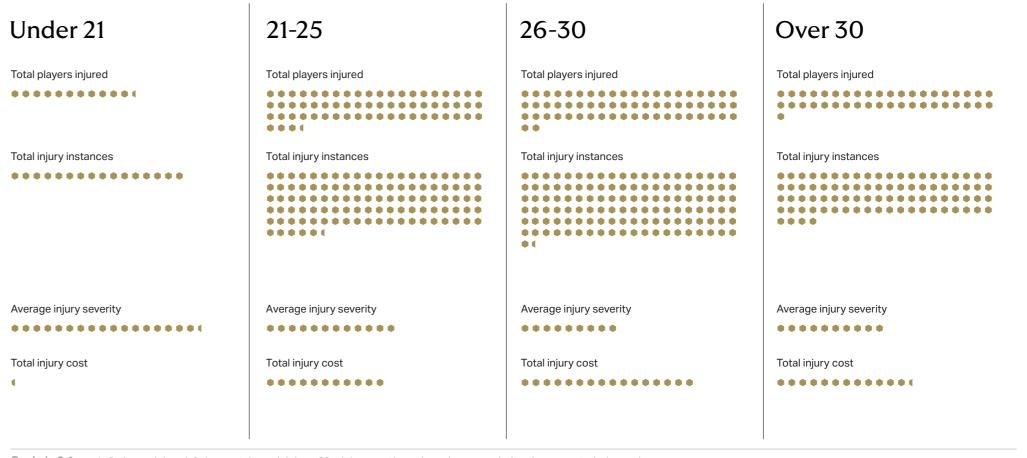


# Injuries by age

€31.88m

Total cost of injuries to players aged 26-30

Number of players to incur an injury aged 21-25



Scale is 2:1 
● 2 players injured; 2 days out through injury; €2m injury cost\*

Men's European football injury index

\* numbers rounded to the nearest whole number





Player

Days out

### Top 5 Goalkeepers (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

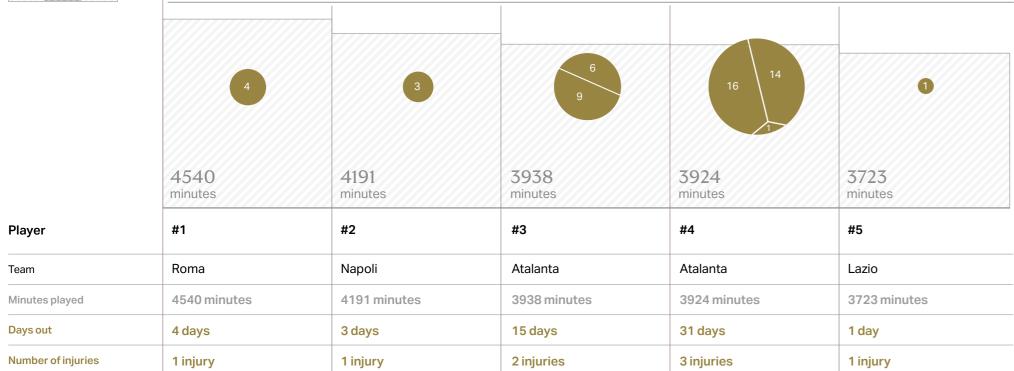
### Top 5 Defenders (anonymised)

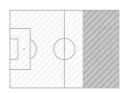
2	4	3	6	2 12
4325 minutes	4171 minutes	4055 minutes	4049 minutes	3982 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Atalanta	Napoli	AC Milan	Roma	Lazio
4325 minutes	4171 minutes	4055 minutes	4049 minutes	3982 minutes
2 days	8 days	4 days	6 days	15 days
1 injury	2 injuries	2 injuries	1 injury	3 injuries





### Top 5 Midfielders (anonymised)





Player

Team

Days out

Minutes played

Number of injuries

### Top 5 Forwards (anonymised)

2 6 10	5 11 2 4	26	13	12
3908 minutes	3594 minutes	3548 minutes	3461 minutes	3366 minutes
#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Roma	Napoli	AC Milan	Inter	Inter
3908 minutes	3594 minutes	3548 minutes	3461 minutes	3366 minutes
18 days	22 days	26 days	13 days	12 days
3 injuries	4 injuries	1 injury	1 injury	1 injury

# Aboutus

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# 7.1 Howden Professional Sport

Howden Professional Sport is a team of experts drawn from around the world with the sole focus of providing and delivering independent risk and insurance solutions to our clients operating in the sport and entertainment sector.

### Capability and experience

Over the last 20 years our team have been appointed to design and place Player Personal Accident programmes for a broad range of clubs competing in the most prestigious leagues around Europe (including La Liga, The Bundesliga, The English Premier League, Serie A and Ligue 1).

We also advise hundreds of players globally in respect of their individual Personal Accident requirements.

In addition to our work for clubs and players, we have advised a wide range of clients from across the world of football including:



# Capability and expertise

In addition to our work for clubs and players, we have also advised a wide range of clients from across the world of football, including:



# 7.2 Howden Independent broker. International focus.

Our local teams and leaders are experts in their field, who know their markets inside-out. So wherever they are in the world, our clients receive a personal service, backed by a global network of industry specialists.

Our principles help us stand out, while driving us to always try harder for our clients:

### People first

We have seen time and time again that when we give our teams the space to perform and the support to grow, our clients reap the rewards.

### Proudly independent

Our independence lets us move fast while making decisions for the long-term. It gives us the freedom to deliver for our clients, grow our base of employee shareholders, and stay true to ourselves. One world. No borders.

One team. No politics.

One point of contact. No limits.

### **Expertise and technology**

Risks are getting more complex every day. But our investment in technology allows us to make data-driven decisions and our specialist teams have the global resources to handle even the most challenging risks

### Committed to simplicity

Our business is run by brokers focused on getting the right expert in the room with our clients. We get out of our own way to provide an experience free of needless complexity - just the advice you need in a language you understand.

- Howden territories
- Howden One Network territories Howden One Network increases our reach to over 90 territories and 20,000 professionals.
- Headquarters

115+

Network territories

\$38bn

Premium placed into international markets

Howden specialists

7.3 Contacts About us

# 7.3 Meet the experts

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