

Superforecasting Project : Will Liverpool win the Premier League season 2024/2025?

To establish a prior probability for Liverpool winning the English Premier League (EPL) in the 2024/2025 season based solely on their historical performance over the last 15 years, we analyze their record from the 2009/2010 season to the present. According to historical data from Wikipedia's comprehensive record of Liverpool's seasons, the club has finished in the top four eight times out of 15 seasons, resulting in a 53.3% success rate in securing a position among the league's elite. However, despite this consistent presence near the top of the table, Liverpool has won the Premier League title only once during this period, in the 2019/2020 season under Jürgen Klopp. This solitary title translates to a win probability of **1/15, or approximately 6.7%**.

Based on this historical performance, the prior probability of Liverpool winning the Premier League in the 2024/2025 season is set at **6.7%**, reflecting their title-winning record over the past 15 years. This prior probability serves as a baseline before incorporating additional factors such as current form, managerial changes, and the competitive landscape of the league.

1.How do Liverpool's historical performance, current form and premier league's history impact their likelihood of sustaining dominance and winning the English Premier League in the 2024/2025 season?"

To evaluate Liverpool's likelihood of sustaining dominance and winning the English Premier League (EPL) in the 2024/2025 season, we consider their historical performance and current form. Liverpool has been a dominant force in English football, finishing in the **top four in 7 out of the last 10 seasons**, and securing their first league title in 30 years during the **2019/2020 season**. They have a history of going on extended winning streaks, as seen in the **2018/2019** and **2021/2022** seasons, where they narrowly missed out on the title to exceptionally strong Manchester City teams. In the current season, after **12 matches**, Liverpool sits **8 points ahead** of the second-place team, boasting a record of **10 wins, 1 draw, and 1 loss**, and an impressive **15-game unbeaten run** across all competitions, including the **EFL Cup, FA Cup, and UEFA Champions League** (Google). However, they are managing injuries to key players such as Alisson Becker, Diogo Jota, Federico Chiesa, and Konstantinos Tsimikas, which could impact their performance. History shows that holding the top spot at around Christmas is far from a guarantee of lifting the trophy. In fact, just over half (51.6%) of the team's leaders at Christmas have gone on winning the title, with 16 of 31 Premier League campaigns seeing the Christmas leaders crowned champions and 15 missing out. More recently, three of the last five Christmas leaders failed to maintain their advantage through May. Based on their performance of last 10 seasons, current form and premier league's history increases the probability to **14%** for Liverpool winning the league this season, factoring in both their strong start and the how they have dealt with injuries till now.

2.What is the probability that Liverpool will effectively adapt to Arne Slot's tactical system within the season?

The appointment of **Arne Slot** as the new manager introduces a different tactical approach: a more measured and patient build-up, enhanced defensive solidity, strategic use of wide players to stretch opposition defenses, and a balanced risk-reward mentality (Football made simple, YouTube). Slot has achieved significant success with Feyenoord, winning the **Eredivisie title** in the **2022/2023 season**, the **KNVB Cup** in the **2023/2024 season**, and reaching the **UEFA Europa Conference League final**. He has inherited a strong squad without new signings, relying on existing players to adapt to his system (Wikipedia). Jamie Carragher, a former Liverpool defender and respected pundit, has highlighted Arne Slot's innovative tactics at

Liverpool, noting the novelty of Slot's methods and expressing optimism about their potential impact (Daily Mail, 2024). However, Liverpool's history with managerial transitions suggests adapting to a new manager's system can be challenging. Previous managers like Roy Hodgson were sacked in their first season due to poor performances, indicating difficulties in adjusting to new tactics (Wikipedia, 2021). Brendan Rodgers finished 7th in his first season, showing initial struggles in implementing his approach (Wikipedia, 2021). When Jürgen Klopp took over in 2015, he led the club to two finals, but Liverpool finished 8th in the Premier League, reflecting a period of adjustment (NBC Sports, 2020). After nine seasons under Klopp, players might find it hard to adapt to a new system due to ingrained habits. However, they have shown no significant signs of struggling with the change so far, and senior players have expressed positive attitudes toward learning new tactics (Liverpool FC Official Website, 2024). Considering the players' proven adaptability, expert endorsements, and initial positive signs, there is now a **20% probability** that Liverpool will successfully adapt to Arne Slot's tactical system within the season and win the premier league.

3.What is the probability that Liverpool's key players will return promptly from current injuries, remain fit, and avoid long-term injuries for the rest of the season, performing at their usual levels, and that the squad depth will successfully manage the demands of multiple competitions?

Recent injury updates indicate that Liverpool is facing significant fitness challenges, with key players like Alisson Becker, Diogo Jota, Konstantinos Tsimikas, and Ibrahima Konate sidelined with uncertain return dates (Premier Injuries, 2024). Despite the club's restructuring of their medical and performance department aimed at enhancing injury management (OneFootball, 2023), the immediate benefits may not fully address the current injury situation. Liverpool's recent 1-0 victory over Crystal Palace showcased squad depth but also resulted in additional injuries, highlighting the strain on the team (ESPN, 2024). Historically, Liverpool has struggled to achieve success across all four competitions in a single season. In the 2021-22 campaign, they chased an unprecedented quadruple but ultimately settled for a domestic double, missing out on the Premier League title by a single point and losing the UEFA Champions League final (Sporting News, 2022). The intense schedule and physical demand increase the risk of further injuries and could impact performance levels. Considering these factors, the current injury list, historical challenges in managing multiple competitions, and the upcoming demanding fixtures I change it to a **23% probability** that Liverpool's chances will increase and their key players will return promptly from current injuries, remain fit, avoid long-term injuries, and that the squad depth will effectively manage the demands of multiple competitions.

4.The probability that rival teams will improve significantly to challenge Liverpool's lead and that Slot's tactical approach will be effectively countered by opposition managers as the season progresses?

Manchester City is currently hampered by significant injuries to four first-team players, including Rodri, who is out for the entire season without an adequate replacement, this has left a noticeable void in their midfield, impacting both their defensive stability and transition play. Resulting in a six-match winless streak despite remaining second in the league (Premier League Official Website, 2024). Arsenal has exhibited inconsistency, winning only six out of twelve matches, with manager Mikel Arteta criticizing the team's lack of consistency following their defeat at Newcastle (BBC Sport, 2024). Opposition managers are adept at analyzing and adapting to new tactical systems; as teams become familiar with Slot's approach, they may develop effective counter-strategies (Sports Brain Blog, 2021). Expert analyses, such as Dave Hendrick's article on Yahoo Sports, emphasize Liverpool's dominance and highlight the formidable challenge rivals face in closing the gap due to Liverpool's consistent performances and strong squad depth (Hendrick, 2024).

Statistical models, like the predicted Premier League table by Football Web Pages, project Liverpool maintaining their lead while rivals struggle to catch up (Football Web Pages, 2024). There is now a **29% probability** that Liverpool will win the Premier League, considering their ability to maintain form and adapt to Arne Slot's tactical approach as the season progresses.

5.What is the likelihood that Liverpool will make strategic signings in the January transfer window to strengthen areas needed for Arne Slot's system?

Liverpool has a history of making impactful January signings, typically focusing on one key player to strengthen the squad. Under previous manager Jürgen Klopp, significant additions like Virgil van Dijk, Luis Díaz, and Cody Gakpo became regular starters and greatly contributed to the team's success (Mirror, 2024). This demonstrates the club's willingness to invest in mid-season when opportunities align with their strategic needs. Financially, recent reports indicate Liverpool is cautious with spending on player transfers, allocating only **1%** of expenditure to player registrations and prioritizing investments in infrastructure like stadium expansion (Highradius, 2024). Despite this conservative approach, the tactical requirements of Arne Slot's system and current injury challenges may necessitate strategic reinforcements. Considering the club's past behavior and the potential need to support Slot's tactics, Liverpool's chances of winning the Premier League could increase to **32%** if they make strategic signings in the January transfer window.

Conclusion

Based on the detailed analysis of Liverpool's chances of winning the English Premier League in the 2024/2025 season factoring in historical performance, current form, the challenges of adapting to Arne Slot's tactical system, the ongoing injury situation, the potential improvement of rival teams, and the likelihood of making strategic signings, I arrive at a final probability of **32%**. According to Sherman Kent's Chart of Certainty, a probability of around 32% can be described as "**probably not.**" This classification indicates that while there is still a notable chance for Liverpool to secure the title, the cumulative uncertainties and obstacles make it less likely than an even prospect. In other words, the road to championship glory appears difficult, and the Reds may need to exceed expectations in several key areas tactical adaptation, effective squad management, countering rival improvements, and possibly strengthening their roster mid-season to overcome the odds and claim the Premier League trophy.

References:

Daily Mail. (2024). Jamie Carragher spots tactic he's never seen while analysing Arne Slot's new-look Liverpool; leaves pundit Gary Neville baffled by Dutchman's methods. Retrieved from [dailymail.co.uk](https://www.dailymail.co.uk)

NBC Sports. (2020). Jurgen Klopp at Liverpool: Season-by-Season Record, Trophies, Champions League. Retrieved from [nbcsports.com](https://www.nbcsports.com)

Wikipedia. (2021). List of Liverpool F.C. Managers. Retrieved from en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Liverpool_F.C._managers#Managers

Liverpool FC Official Website. (2024). Player Interviews on Tactical Adaptation. Retrieved from liverpoolfc.com

OneFootball. (2023). Liverpool's Medical and Performance Department Enters a New Era. Retrieved from onefootball.com

Sporting News. (2022). Liverpool's Quadruple Chase in 2021-22 Season. Retrieved from sportingnews.com

ESPN. (2024). Slot shows he can rotate at Crystal Palace, but Liverpool's real tests start now. Retrieved from [espn.com](https://www.espn.com)

Premier Injuries. (2024). Liverpool Injury List and Return Dates. Retrieved from premierinjuries.com/teams/liverpool

Premier League Official Website. (2024). Manchester City's Injury Updates and Squad Analysis. Retrieved from premierleague.com

BBC Sport. (2024). Arteta Criticises 'Inconsistent' Arsenal in Defeat at Newcastle. Retrieved from [bbc.com/sport/football/videos/cm20xey6j87o](https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/videos/cm20xey6j87o)

Sports Brain Blog. (2021). Soccer Strategy: Offensive Tactics and Opponent Interactions. Retrieved from sportsbrain.blog/soccer-strategy-opponent-interactions/

Hendrick, D. (2024). Liverpool's Dominance: A Riveting Analysis of Premier League and Title Contenders. Yahoo Sports. Retrieved from sports.yahoo.com/dave-hendrick-liverpool-title-chances-065000518.html

Football Web Pages. (2024). Premier League Predicted League Table. Retrieved from footballwebpages.co.uk/premier-league/league-table/predicted

Highradius. (2024). 1% of Expenditure on Player Transfers: Decoding Liverpool F.C.'s Treasury Game Plan. Retrieved from highradius.com

Mirror. (2024). Liverpool's January Transfer Window Under Klopp: Hits and Misses. Retrieved from [mirror.co.uk](https://www.mirror.co.uk)

Liverpool FC Official Website. (2024). Player Interviews on Tactical Adaptation. Retrieved from liverpoolfc.com

Total Football Analysis. Arne Slot – Tactical Analysis and Articles. Retrieved from totalfootballanalysis.com

Wikipedia. Liverpool F.C. Retrieved from en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liverpool_F.C.

Transfermarkt. Liverpool F.C. Transfer Records and Historical Performance. Retrieved from transfermarkt.us

New York Times (The Athletic). (2024). Arne Slot's Impact on Liverpool's Players. Retrieved from nytimes.com

Yahoo Sports. (2024). Why Squad Rotation Could Break Arne Slot's Liverpool. Retrieved from sports.yahoo.com

Premier League. Liverpool FC Season History. Retrieved from <https://www.premierleague.com/clubs/10/Liverpool/season-history>

*Arne Slot Just Dominated Guardiola | Tactical Analysis
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_wg0f5CeNsc*

*How often do Christmas leaders go on to win the title?
<https://www.premierleague.com/news/3829850>*