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## Hey big spenders - Liverpool lead top-four domination of £1bn deals



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Premier League clubs have until 1 September to strengthen their squads and there have been huge deals every few days, with more still to come.

Arsenal are on the verge of completing the signing of Sporting striker Victor Gyokeres for £63.5m, while his Sweden team-mate Alexander Isak revealed on Thursday he is considering leaving Newcastle.

The 25-year-old forward could cost as much as £150m, with reigning champions Liverpool, who are the top spenders so far this summer, still maintaining an interest.

The Reds have already signed German international Florian Wirtz for a potential British record transfer of £116m and France forward Hugo Ekitike for an initial £69m fee, which could rise to £79m.

## A Super League in the Premier League?

**Data from Transfermarkt** shows Premier League clubs have spent £1.63bn (1.87bn euros) on players since the transfer window first opened at the start of June.

Last season's top four make up five of the biggest spenders this season, with Manchester United - looking to make up ground after finishing 15th - the outlier.

Of the total figure, just over £1bn has come from six teams, the traditional so-called 'big six' in the Premier League era - Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool, Manchester City, Manchester United and Tottenham.

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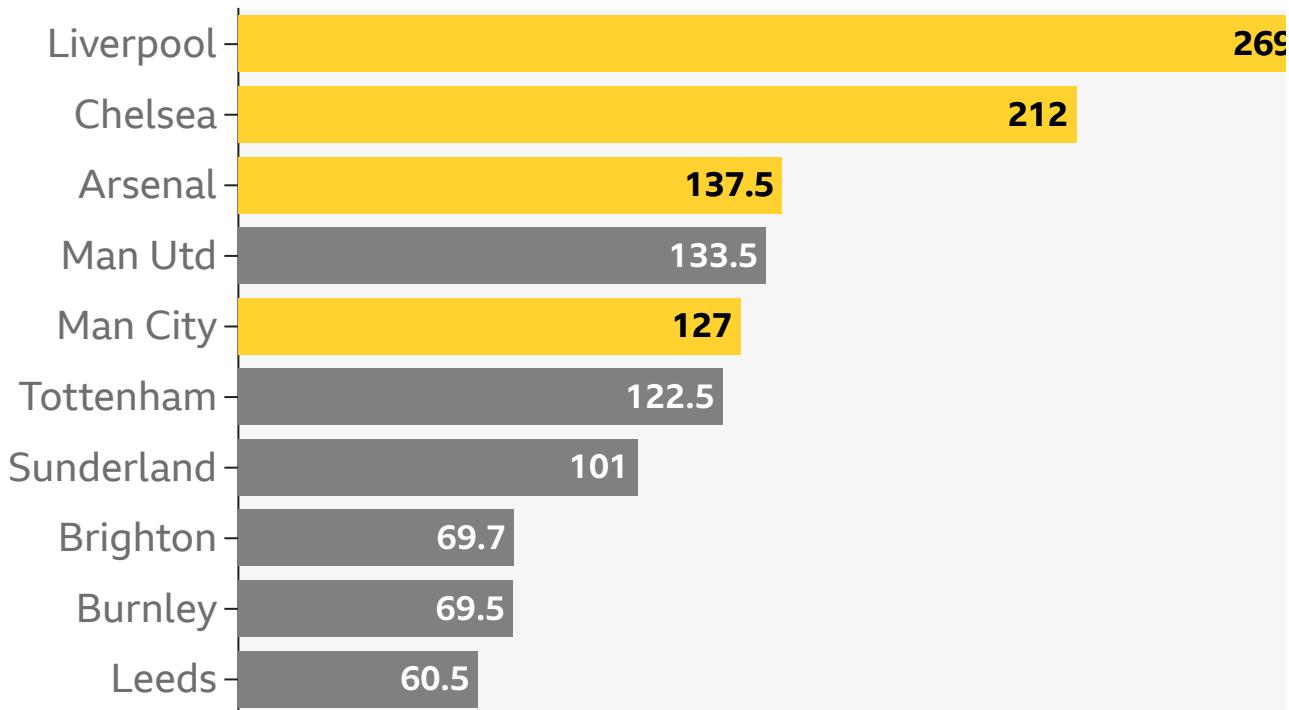
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# Top 10 biggest-spending Premier League clubs this summer

By millions of pounds



Source: Transfermarkt

BBC

**Liverpool**, who won the league by 10 points last season, are top of the list with £269m spent so far this summer. That includes the purchases of Wirtz and Ekitike, as well as Bournemouth left-back Milos Kerkez for £40.8m and right-back Jeremie Frimpong, who cost almost £35m from Bayer Leverkusen.

It has been a contrast to the 2024-25 campaign, when the Anfield outfit's only major signings were goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili and forward Federico

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**Manchester City** finished third last year and did their business early in the summer, with about £127m spent, largely on the trio of midfielder Tijjani Reijnders from AC Milan, left-back Rayan Ait-Nouri from Wolves and French attacker Rayan Cherki from Lyon.

**Manchester United** suffered their worst campaign in the Premier League era when they came 15th. They are the only side outside last season's top four to have spent more than Manchester City this summer, but most of their £133.5m outlay has been on two forwards - Cameroon international Bryan Mbeumo from Brentford and Brazilian Matheus Cunha from Wolves.

**Tottenham** finished 17th in the table, but salvaged a disappointing season by winning the Europa League - beating Manchester United in the final - although it was not enough to avoid manager Ange Postecoglou getting the sack.

Sixth-placed **Tottenham** have since spent £122.5m under new boss Thomas Frank, with almost half of that in one transfer - the £55m purchase of midfielder Mohammed Kudus from West Ham, while it cost £30m to turn attacker Mathys Tel's loan from Bayern Munich into a permanent deal.

## Where would Liverpool's spending rank for an individual window?

Liverpool are already sixth on the list of most money spent by one club in a transfer window around the world.

The top three in that statistic all came from last summer's window, where **Chelsea** spent £404.4m (463m euros), Saudi Arabian side Al-Hilal spent £307.7m (353m euros) and Champions League winners Paris St-Germain paid out £305.1m (350m euros).

Real Madrid's transfer outlay in the 2019-20 summer window was £288.6m

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# How could Liverpool afford to sign Isak?



GETTY IMAGES

| Defenders Trent Alexander-Arnold and Jarell Quansah have both left Liverpool this summer

**It is a question fans were asking** even before they signed the 23-year-old Ekitike from Eintracht Frankfurt.

"Liverpool have two potential restrictions in terms of transfer spending, cash and PSR (profit and sustainability rules). From a cash perspective the club are in a strong position," explained Maguire.

"The group accounts show that Liverpool generated more than £80m cash in each of the last two seasons, and new signings will be paid for on an instalment basis, so no problems here.

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team costs, probably meant that Liverpool had a PSR profit going into the summer 2025 window."

## How does the spending compare to the rest of the league?

Each of the three newly promoted teams - Burnley, Leeds United and Sunderland - are in the top 10 of biggest spenders so far this summer.

Sunderland are seventh and have spent just over £100m on six new players, although they sold Jobe Bellingham and Tom Watson, recouping about £37m.

Burnley have added 10 players to their squad, at a total cost of just under £70m, while Leeds have spent just over £60m for their six new signings.

Fulham are the only Premier League side yet to spend anything this summer, while Crystal Palace's only paid purchase has been Ajax left-back Borna Sosa for £2m.

Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest both qualified for Europe, but are yet to make major signings. Villa's only addition has been teenage Turkish defender Yasin Ozcan in a deal worth £6.7m from Kasimpasa.

Forest have spent £27m on Brazilian duo Igor Jesus and Jair Cunha, but winger Anthony Elanga joined Newcastle for £55m.

## What does this mean for the competitiveness of the league?

With less than a third of the league accounting for nearly two thirds of the total summer spending, what does this mean for the competitiveness of the

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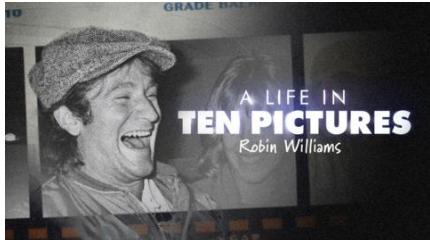
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