



Manchester City leads the world? List of the most represented clubs at the 2026 World Cup

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world cup

With the final squads for the 2026 World Cup now confirmed, the competition is no longer limited to national teams alone, but has also extended to the clubs that have become the biggest suppliers of stars for the biggest tournament in World Cup history, which will feature 48 teams and 1,248 players for the first time.

According to [data released by FIFA](#) following the approval of the final squads, the major European clubs have dominated the scene, whilst Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal has made an exceptional showing as the leading Arab and Asian representative.

City in the lead? a new record

[English side Manchester City came first globally](#) after sending 19 players to the World Cup finals, the highest number ever recorded by a single club in the tournament's history. The team's players are spread across 12 different national teams, reflecting the extent of the English champions' international reach in recent years.

Germany's Bayern Munich came second with 18 players, whilst England's Arsenal and France's Paris Saint-Germain shared third place with 16 players each, followed by Spain's Barcelona with 15 players.

These figures confirm the continued dominance of major European clubs in the global talent market, with the top five spots comprising clubs from the English, German, Spanish and French leagues – the competitions that attract the largest proportion of players from the national teams participating in the World Cup.

Al-Hilal flies the Arab flag

Amidst European dominance, Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal emerged as the Arab and Asian club with the highest representation at the 2026 World Cup, having secured 12 players in the final squads of the participating national teams.

Al-Hilal is level with Spain's Atl tico Madrid and England's Crystal Palace and Manchester United, whilst Liverpool, Borussia Dortmund and Galatasaray follow with 11 players each.

Al-Hilal's strong presence reflects the Saudi Pro League's success in attracting prominent international names in recent years, as well as its reliance on a large pool of Saudi national team players who are themselves taking part in the finals.

449 clubs representing 71 countries

According to [FIFA](#), the 1,248 players taking part in the tournament belong to 449 clubs from 71 different countries, reflecting the game's growing global reach despite the footballing elite remaining concentrated in a limited number of major clubs.

The lists also show that Premier League clubs were the most represented among the participating national teams, which explains the presence of five English clubs among the most represented in the tournament.

These figures reveal another aspect of the 2026 World Cup; whilst national teams compete for the world title, the major clubs are engaged in a parallel race to prove their ability to produce stars and supply national teams with as many players as possible, in a scenario that reflects the growing influence of European football on the international stage.

The most represented clubs at the 2026 World Cup

- 1- [Manchester City](#) (England)    19 players
- 2- Bayern Munich (Germany)    18 players
- 3- Arsenal (England)    16 players
- 3- Paris Saint-Germain (France)    16 players
- 5- Barcelona (Spain)    15 players
- 6- Manchester United (England)    13 players
- 7- Al-Hilal (Saudi Arabia)    12 players
- 7- Atl tico Madrid (Spain)    12 players

7- Crystal Palace (England) 12 players

10- Liverpool (England) 11 players

10- Borussia Dortmund (Germany) 11 players

10- Galatasaray (Turkey) 11 players

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