

The Migration of Youth Talent to the UK: The Case of Spain and Italy

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Data Sample

- The data sample comprehends 54 players
- All of them were interviewed.
- 47 are Italians and 7 are Spanish.

When they went - Nations

- 40 to England
- 7 to Scotland
- 7 to Switzerland

The Spanish went all to England

The Italians went in all three countries

Where they went - Clubs

- 24 clubs
- 19 in England
- 3 in Scotland
- 2 in Switzerland

Buying Clubs

- Chelsea F.C.: 8 players
- Arsenal F.C. and Bellinzona F.C.: 5 players
- Chelsea F.C. and Arsenal F.C. have signed 33% of those who came to England

Coming from

- 21 Italian Clubs
- 3 Spanish Clubs

Use of homegrown players

SEASON 2006-2007

- Ligue 1 (France) – 6.9 players per team
- Liga (Spain) – 6 players per team
- Premier League (England)- 5.3 players per team
- Bundesliga (Germany) – 5.3 players per team
- Serie A (Italy) – 3.6 players per team

How much they play

Minutes given to Under 22 the season 2006/07

- Liga – 32
- Premiership – 24
- Ligue 1 – 23.5
- Bundesliga – 19
- Serie A - 13

Compensation

The cost of the formation of a player according to the FIFA table for the first 4 years are:

- UEFA clubs: 10000 euros
- All other continents clubs: 2000 US dollars

Reason to go

- Experience abroad
- Learning English
- Joining the first team
- The money

From Italy to UK

- 40 players in 11 seasons
- 33 in 8 English clubs
- 7 in 3 Scottish clubs
- 7 to Chelsea (21% of the English market)
- 3 to Arsenal, Fulham, Southampton, Celtic

From Italy to Uk and Switzerland

- They left from 21 Italian Clubs
- 59% of the contingent came from 5 clubs: Inter, Fiorentina, Lazio (6 players), Roma, Atalanta (5 players)

Going back

- 40 players moved from Italy to UK
- 10 have come in the last year
- The other 30 have ALL left the UK

The “Mirage” of the debut

- Only 7 out of 40 managed to debut with the first team
- Only 3 of those 7 found regular space

Not so good?

- Only 7 of the 20 Italians that have left the UK are now signed by top flight clubs
- Only 4 of them play regularly
- 2 of those 4 play in Spain

Lower Leagues

- Second division – 4
- Third division – 3
- Fourth division – 1
- Fifth division – 5
- Sixth division – 4
- Seventh division – 2
- Retired or not registered - 3

The test

- Vote to the experience – 8.87
- Vote to the difficulties encountered – 2.87
- Would you do it again? YES
- Would you recommend to a youngster? YES
- Leave Italy later? NO

From Spain to England

- 7 players
- Going to 5 different clubs
- Coming from 4 Spanish clubs
- 4 from the Barcelona team
- 5 from the city of Barcelona
- 3 have already played with the first team

Crossing the border

Since 2002, 7 players have left Italy to go, briefly, to Switzerland:

- 5 to Bellinzona
- 2 to Chiasso

All 5 Bellinzona players came back and 3 of them play for Udinese Calcio (Italian Serie A club).

The End



Thanks for your attention

Questions?