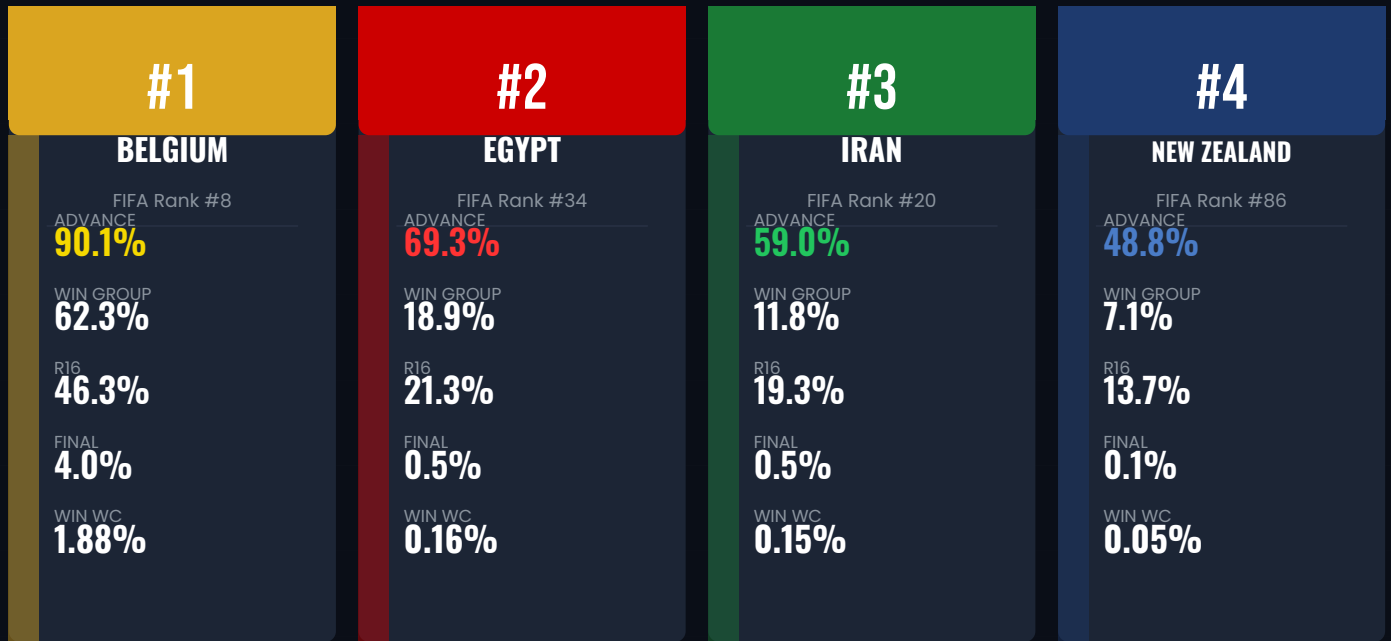
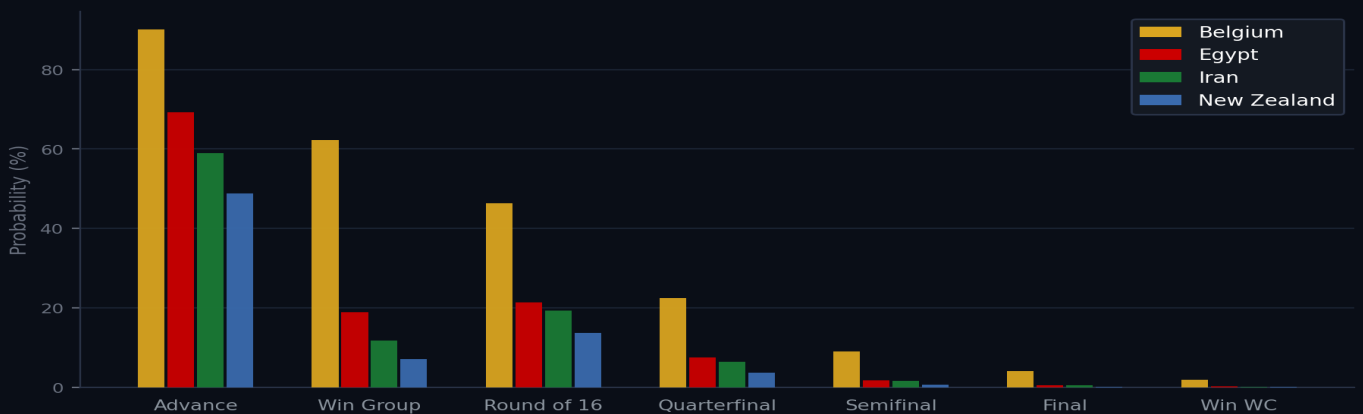


# GROUP G

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 · GROUP STAGE PREVIEW



## STAGE ADVANCEMENT PROBABILITIES



### GROUP OUTLOOK

Belgium enter as clear group favorites, but the race for second place is the central storyline. Egypt and Iran are closely matched enough that their direct encounter on June 26 in Seattle is likely to decide the second qualification spot.

- Belgium hold a 62.3% probability of winning Group G outright, per simulation modelling of matchup data
- In the Egypt vs. Iran fixture, Egypt hold the win probability advantage (48.8%) while Iran edge expected goals (1.21 vs. 1.15)
- New Zealand carry a statistically meaningful 48.8% advancement probability, reflecting a genuinely competitive group

# TEAM ANALYSIS AND KEY PLAYERS

PLAYERS TO WATCH · TEAM NARRATIVES · TOURNAMENT OUTLOOK

## BELGIUM

FIFA #8 · Seed #1

ADV	WIN GRP	R16	QF	SF	FINAL	WIN WC
90.1%	62.3%	46.3%	22.5%	9.0%	4.0%	1.88%

### KEY PLAYER

## KEVIN DE BRUYNE

Midfielder | Napoli

### ONE TO WATCH

## JEREMY DOKU

Winger | Manchester City

### NARRATIVE

Belgium enter as the most complete side in Group G, led by a veteran core featuring Kevin De Bruyne, Romelu Lukaku, Thibaut Courtois and Axel Witsel. Doku, De Ketelaere and Trossard give Belgium a younger attacking layer as Rudi Garcia balances experience with transition.

## EGYPT

FIFA #34 · Seed #2

ADV	WIN GRP	R16	QF	SF	FINAL	WIN WC
69.3%	18.9%	21.3%	7.5%	1.7%	0.5%	0.16%

### KEY PLAYER

## MOHAMED SALAH

Forward | Liverpool FC

### ONE TO WATCH

## OMAR MARMOUSH

Forward | Manchester City

### NARRATIVE

Egypt's attack runs through Mohamed Salah, with Omar Marmoush adding pace, directness and another high-level scoring threat. After qualifying strongly from CAF, Egypt's path out of the group likely depends on turning their attacking quality into results against Iran and New Zealand.

## IRAN

FIFA #20 · Seed #3

ADV	WIN GRP	R16	QF	SF	FINAL	WIN WC
59.0%	11.8%	19.3%	6.4%	1.6%	0.5%	0.15%

### KEY PLAYER

## MEHDI TAREMI

Striker | Inter Milan

### ONE TO WATCH

## SAMAN GHODDOS

Midfielder | Set-piece specialist

### NARRATIVE

Iran arrive with Mehdi Taremi as their main attacking reference point, while Sardar Azmoun's omission from the preliminary squad has become a major off-field storyline. Ghalenoei's side brings experience, but questions remain around attacking balance and final selection.

## NEW ZEALAND

FIFA #86 · Seed #4

ADV	WIN GRP	R16	QF	SF	FINAL	WIN WC
48.8%	7.1%	13.7%	3.7%	0.7%	0.1%	0.05%

### KEY PLAYER

## CHRIS WOOD

Striker | Nottingham Forest

### ONE TO WATCH

## TOMMY SMITH

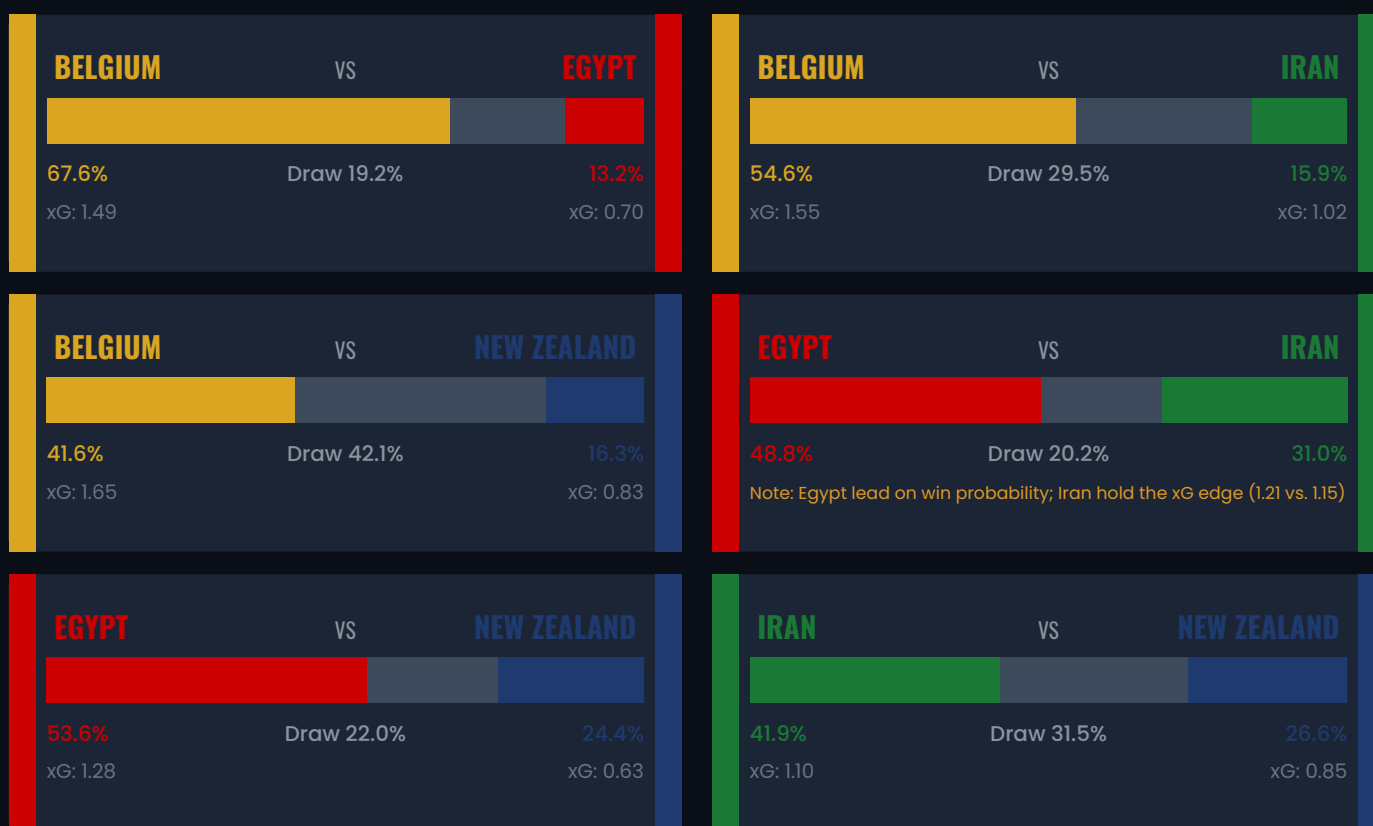
Center-back | Braintree Town | 2nd World Cup

### NARRATIVE

New Zealand return to the World Cup for the first time since 2010, led by record scorer Chris Wood. With Wood and veteran defender Tommy Smith linking this squad to the 2010 team, the All Whites' path depends on defensive discipline and finding moments through Wood.

# HEAD-TO-HEAD MATCHUPS

WIN PROBABILITY · DRAW PROBABILITY · EXPECTED GOALS (xG)



## COMPLETE STAGE PROBABILITY TABLE

TEAM	EXIT	ADVANCE	WIN GRP	R16	QF	SF	FINAL	WIN WC
BELGIUM	9.8%	90.1%	62.3%	46.3%	22.5%	9.0%	4.0%	1.88%
EGYPT	30.7%	69.3%	18.9%	21.3%	7.5%	1.7%	0.5%	0.16%
IRAN	41.0%	59.0%	11.8%	19.3%	6.4%	1.6%	0.5%	0.15%
NEW ZEALAND	51.2%	48.8%	7.1%	13.7%	3.7%	0.7%	0.1%	0.05%

### DATA SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY

Model probability CSVs provided by Evan Pegorsch.

Player and squad information: FIFA.com official squad pages, DAZN Group G preview, and press reports.

Prepared by: Franny Kloska | Group G Preview