



# #NHLSTATS AHEAD OF 21<sup>ST</sup> LEAP YEAR DAY IN LEAGUE HISTORY



## #NHLSTATS AHEAD OF 21ST LEAP YEAR DAY IN LEAGUE HISTORY

The 2023-24 NHL season marks the 21st in League history to feature contests taking place on Feb. 29, with the 12-game slate headlined by the Blue Jackets hosting the Hurricanes at 7 p.m. ET on ESPN+ and Hulu followed by the Avalanche visiting the Blackhawks at 9 p.m. ET on ESPN. Columbus (1-1-0 in 2 GP), Carolina (2-0-2 in 4 GP), Colorado (1-3-0 in 4 GP) and Chicago (6-4-1 in 11 GP) all contested leap year day games during prior campaigns, with records for each franchise and other all-time lists featured in the charts below.

\* NHL seasons have featured at least one contest on Feb. 29 quadrennially since 1935-36 *except for the 1951-52 and 1959-60 campaigns*. There were no leap year day games during the 1919-20, 1923-24, 1927-28 or 1931-32 seasons.

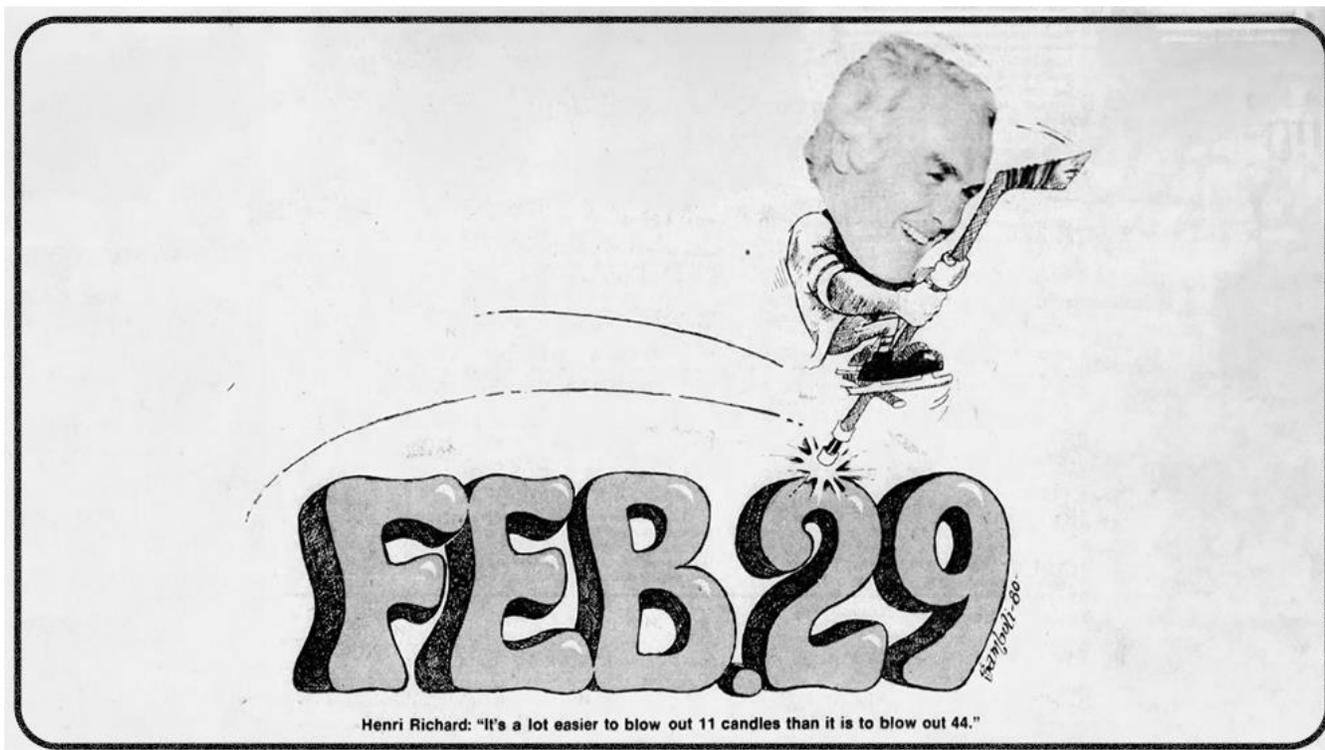
\* The League's most-recent leap year day games saw 24 teams hit the ice less than two weeks before the NHL paused its 2019-20 campaign due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The slate was highlighted by Oilers forward **Leon Draisaitl** recording 2-1—3 to eclipse the 100-point mark and Bruins forward **David Pastrnak** potting his League-leading 47th goal to help the Bruins maintain first place in the League standings. Draisaitl was later named winner of the [Art Ross Trophy](#), [Hart Memorial Trophy](#) and [Ted Lindsay Award](#), while Pastrnak was co-recipient of the [Maurice "Rocket" Richard Trophy](#) (w/ **Alex Ovechkin**).

\* The NHL's first-ever games on Feb. 29 saw the Montreal Maroons earn a [4-2 win against the Canadiens at Montreal Forum](#) and the Maple Leafs land a [4-2 victory versus the Black Hawks at Maple Leaf Gardens](#). Maroons forward **Jimmy Ward** notched a natural hat trick in a span of 8:45 during the third period to complete the comeback, while Maple Leafs forward **Busher Jackson** recorded the 27th of his [37 career multi-goal games with Toronto](#). The 75th regular-season edition of the Maroons-Canadiens rivalry also coincided with the birth of one of Montreal's most-beloved figures on and off the ice, **Henri Richard**.



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Clipping via *The Gazette* (March 1, 1980)

\* Ward and **Ted Irvine** ([Feb. 29, 1976](#)) are the only players in League history with a *natural* hat trick on a leap year day, while five other skaters have scored three goals in any fashion during a game on Feb. 29: **Brayden Schenn** ([Feb. 29, 2016](#)), **Patric Hornqvist** ([Feb. 29, 2016](#)), **Tomas Plekanec** ([Feb. 29, 2008](#)), **Gary Roberts** ([Feb. 29, 1996](#)) and **Bernie Federko** ([Feb. 29, 1984](#)). The most points and assists in a leap year day game is seven and six, respectively, by **Patrik Sundstrom** ([Feb. 29, 1984](#)).

\* Schenn (4-0—4 in 2 GP) also tallied on [Feb. 29, 2020](#), and has four career goals during leap year day games which are tied with **Marian Hossa** (4-0—4 in 2 GP) for the most in NHL history. **Joe Pavelski** (3-1—4 in 3 GP) and **Tyler Johnson** (3-0—3 in 2 GP) are the only other active players with at least three career goals during games on Feb. 29.

\* **Brent Burns** (2-3—5 in 4 GP) has the most points during leap year day games among active players and needs three to tie **Wayne Gretzky** (2-6—8 in 4 GP) for first place in League history. Burns is set to skate in his fifth career game on Feb. 29 and tie former teammate **Patrick Marleau** (5 GP) for the most by an NHL player.

\* **Marc-Andre Fleury** (2-0-0 in 2 GP), **Martin Jones** (2-0-0 in 2 GP), **Antti Raanta** (2-0-0 in 2 GP) and **Andrei Vasilevskiy** (2-0-0 in 2 GP) are four of the eight NHL goaltenders with at least two career wins during leap year day games and can tie **Al Smith** (3-0-0 in 3 GP) for the most in League history.

\* Nine players born on Feb. 29 have appeared in at least one NHL game (regular season or playoffs), including Richard whose 11 Stanley Cup wins mark the [most by a player in League history](#). **Eric Heffler** also *dressed* in three games with the Oilers from 1999-00 to 2000-01.

# PLAYERS BORN ON FEB. 29

NHL HISTORY



PLAYER	POSITION	YEAR
HENRI RICHARD	F	1936
KARI ELORANTA	D	1956
JIM DOBSON	F	1960
DAN DAOUST	F	1960
LYNDON BYERS	F	1964
DARRYL WILLIAMS	F	1968
ERIC HEFFLER	G	1976
SIMON GAGNE	F	1980
CAM WARD	G	1984
BOBBY SANGUINETTI	D	1988



^Min. 1 game dressed in NHL (regular season or playoffs)

\* \* \*

The charts below show each NHL franchise's all-time record during leap year day games as well as players with the most career goals, assists, points and games played on Feb. 29 in League history.

#### RECORDS IN GAMES ON FEB. 29, NHL FRANCHISES

FRANCHISE	GP	W	L	T	OT	P
Toronto Maple Leafs	13	9	3	0	1	19
Chicago Blackhawks	11	6	4	1	0	13
Boston Bruins	10	5	4	1	0	11
Detroit Red Wings	10	5	4	0	1	11
New York Rangers	10	5	4	1	0	11
St. Louis Blues	10	5	4	1	0	11
San Jose Sharks	5	4	1	0	0	8
Pittsburgh Penguins	8	4	4	0	0	8
Montreal Canadiens	11	4	6	1	0	9
Tampa Bay Lightning	3	3	0	0	0	6
Anaheim Ducks	4	3	1	0	0	6
Los Angeles Kings	6	3	2	1	0	7
Philadelphia Flyers	6	3	3	0	0	6
Buffalo Sabres	7	3	4	0	0	6
Ottawa Senators	2	2	0	0	0	4
Carolina Hurricanes	4	2	0	1	1	6
Washington Capitals	4	2	0	2	0	6
New Jersey Devils	4	2	1	0	1	5
Edmonton Oilers	6	2	3	0	1	5
Calgary Flames	5	2	3	0	0	4
Montreal Maroons	1	1	0	0	0	2
Minnesota Wild	2	1	0	1	0	3
Columbus Blue Jackets	2	1	1	0	0	2
Dallas Stars	6	1	2	0	3	5
Vancouver Canucks	8	1	3	3	1	6
Winnipeg Jets	3	1	2	0	0	2
Arizona Coyotes	5	1	3	1	0	3
New York Islanders	5	1	3	0	1	3
Colorado Avalanche	4	1	3	0	0	2
Florida Panthers	4	0	1	2	1	3
Cleveland Barons	1	0	1	0	0	0
Nashville Predators	2	0	2	0	0	0

#### MOST CAREER GOALS IN GAMES ON FEB. 29, NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	GP	G	A	P
<b>Brayden Schenn</b>	2	4	0	4
Marian Hossa	2	4	0	4
Joe Thornton	4	3	3	6
<b>Joe Pavelski</b>	3	3	1	4
Patric Hornqvist	2	3	1	4
<b>Tyler Johnson</b>	2	3	0	3
Tomas Plekanec	2	3	2	5
Alexander Mogilny	3	3	0	3
Dino Ciccarelli	3	3	2	5
Gary Roberts	1	3	0	3
Tomas Sandstrom	2	3	0	3
Bernie Federko	3	3	1	4
Ted Irvine	2	3	3	6
Roy Conacher	2	3	2	5
Jimmy Ward	1	3	0	3

**^Active players in bold**



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### MOST CAREER ASSISTS IN GAMES ON FEB. 29, NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	GP	G	A	P
Gilbert Perreault	3	0	7	7
Wayne Gretzky	4	2	6	8
Patrik Sundstrom	1	1	6	7
James Patrick	2	0	5	5
<b>Tomas Tatar</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Claude Giroux</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
Alex Kovalev	2	0	4	4
Jaromir Jagr	3	1	4	5
Paul Coffey	3	0	4	4
Theo Fleury	1	0	4	4
Denis Savard	3	0	4	4
Bill Barber	2	1	4	5
Bill Cowley	2	1	4	5

*^Active players in bold*

### MOST CAREER POINTS IN GAMES ON FEB. 29, NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	GP	G	A	P
Wayne Gretzky	4	2	6	8
Patrik Sundstrom	1	1	6	7
Gilbert Perreault	3	0	7	7
Joe Thornton	4	3	3	6
Ted Irvine	2	3	3	6
<b>Brent Burns</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
Tomas Plekanec	2	3	2	5
Sergei Fedorov	4	2	3	5
Luc Robitaille	3	2	3	5
Bill Guerin	2	2	3	5
Jaromir Jagr	3	1	4	5
Dino Ciccarelli	3	3	2	5
James Patrick	2	0	5	5
Joe Mullen	2	2	3	5
Bill Barber	2	1	4	5
Roy Conacher	2	3	2	5
Bill Cowley	2	1	4	5

*^Active players in bold*

### MOST CAREER GAMES PLAYED ON FEB. 29, NHL HISTORY

PLAYER	GP	G	A	P
Patrick Marleau	5	0	3	3
Joe Thornton	4	3	3	6
<b>Brent Burns</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
Chris Kunitz	4	2	2	4
Nick Schultz	4	0	2	2
Andrew Brunette	4	1	3	4
Jason Blake	4	1	1	2
Sergei Fedorov	4	2	3	5
Mathieu Schneider	4	2	2	4
Cliff Ronning	4	1	1	2
Mark Messier	4	0	2	2
Murray Baron	4	0	0	0
Claude Lemieux	4	0	1	1
Wayne Gretzky	4	2	6	8
Ron Stewart	4	0	2	2

*^Active players in bold*



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