

#NHLSTATS AHEAD OF THE THIRD ANNUAL “HOCKEY DAY IN FINLAND”

This year's [Hockey Day in Finland](#) will be held approximately 350 miles north of Helsinki in Oulu from Feb. 28 to March 1, with the two-day event highlighted by a star-studded alumni contest featuring former NHL and local players as well as a viewing part for the NHL Saturday presented by Fastenal game between the Predators and Islanders (12:30 p.m. ET on FDSNSO, MSGSN). **All stats are through games played Feb. 23.**

* **Juuse Saros**, who recently represented Finland at the 4 Nations Face-Off, is one of the 49 Finnish-born players who have appeared in at least one game this season (5.2% of 951) – the 2024-25 campaign is tracking to become the fourth in NHL history where at least 5.0% of all players were Finnish born (also 5.6% in 2020-21, 5.3% in 2021-22 & 5.0% in 2022-23). At least 25 Finnish-born players have appeared in at least one game in each of the last 25 seasons.

* **Pekka Rinne**, who spent his entire 15-season career with the Predators, was born just south of Oulu and is set to serve as an ambassador for the event. Rinne is the [winningest Finnish-born goaltender in NHL history](#) and tops Nashville's all-time lists for [victories](#) (369), [shutouts](#) (60) and [games played among netminders](#) (683 GP). Rinne is one of four Finnish-born goaltenders in NHL history with [300 career wins](#) (also **Miikka Kiprusoff**, **Kari Lehtonen** & **Tuukka Rask**), which ranks third among all birthplaces behind Canada (22) and the United States (7).

* Saros and Rinne dressed 380 games together with the Predators across six seasons from 2015-16 to 2020-21 (regular season & playoffs), including all 22 during the 2017 postseason when the duo backstopped Nashville to its [first Stanley Cup Final appearance in franchise history](#). Finnish-born goaltenders have 1,131 combined regular-season appearances with the Predators, representing more than half of all games in franchise history (55.6% of 2,033 GP).

* Saros and Rinne are two of the 21 Finnish-born players who have appeared in at least one game for the Predators. The only active franchises with more Finnish-born players are the Stars (33), Oilers (28) and Panthers (24) – the Islanders rank tied for ninth with 19.

* Rinne captured the [King Clancy Memorial Trophy](#) in 2020-21 and [Vezina Trophy](#) in 2017-18. He accounts for two of the 21 individual NHL Award wins by Finnish-born players in League history.

* The Predators and Islanders have selected four of the 49 Finnish-born players picked during Round 1 in NHL Draft history. Nashville nabbed **Joakim Kemell** (No. 17 in [2022](#)) and **Eeli Tolvanen** (No. 30 in [2017](#)), while New York chose **Petteri Nokelainen** (No. 16 in [2004](#)) and **Sean Bergenheim** (No. 22 in [2002](#)).

* Saros' 4 Nations Face-Off teammate **Aleksander Barkov** became the first Finnish-born player to captain a Stanley Cup winner when captured a championship with the [2024 Panthers](#). Six Finnish-born players have won the Cup in the last three years, including four with the Panthers – that overtook the [1990](#) and [1987 Oilers](#) (both w/ 3) for the most on a Cup-winning roster in NHL history.



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FINNISH-BORN PLAYERS IN THE NHL, SINCE 1994-95

Season	Finnish-Born Players	Total Players	%
2024-25	49	951	5.2
2023-24	47	1,022	4.6
2022-23	53	1,058	5.0
2021-22	60	1,123	5.3
2020-21	57	1,011	5.6
2019-20	48	970	4.9
2018-19	47	999	4.7
2017-18	40	985	4.1
2016-17	37	983	3.8
2015-16	37	990	3.7
2014-15	34	974	3.5
2013-14	32	983	3.3
2012-13	29	921	3.1
2011-12	29	983	3.0
2010-11	30	978	3.1
2009-10	38	962	4.0
2008-09	42	974	4.3
2007-08	40	941	4.3
2006-07	42	942	4.5
2005-06	39	961	4.1
2003-04	38	1,010	3.8
2002-03	38	979	3.9
2001-02	42	963	4.4
2000-01	34	973	3.5
1999-00	26	921	2.8
1998-99	18	899	2.0
1997-98	18	835	2.2
1996-97	18	846	2.1
1995-96	16	855	1.9
1994-95	13	806	1.6

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MOST FINNISH-BORN PLAYERS TO PLAY AT LEAST ONE GAME, ACTIVE FRANCHISES

Franchise	Finnish-Born Players
Dallas Stars	33
Edmonton Oilers	28
Florida Panthers	24
Calgary Flames	21
Colorado Avalanche	21
Nashville Predators	21
Pittsburgh Penguins	21
New Jersey Devils	20
Chicago Blackhawks	19
New York Islanders	19
New York Rangers	19
Carolina Hurricanes	18
Boston Bruins	17
Columbus Blue Jackets	17
Los Angeles Kings	17
San Jose Sharks	17
Vancouver Canucks	17
Winnipeg Jets	17
Anaheim Ducks	16
Montreal Canadiens	15
Philadelphia Flyers	15
Buffalo Sabres	14
Ottawa Senators	14
Minnesota Wild	12
Tampa Bay Lightning	12
St. Louis Blues	11
Toronto Maple Leafs	11
Washington Capitals	8
Detroit Red Wings	6
Seattle Kraken	3
Vegas Golden Knights	1



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FINNISH-BORN INDIVIDUAL NHL AWARD WINNERS, LEAGUE HISTORY

Player	Team	NHL Award	Season
Aleksander Barkov	Florida Panthers	Frank J. Selke Trophy	2023-24
Antti Raanta	Carolina Hurricanes	William M. Jennings Trophy	2021-22
Aleksander Barkov	Florida Panthers	Frank J. Selke Trophy	2020-21
Pekka Rinne	Nashville Predators	King Clancy Memorial Trophy	2020-21
Tuukka Rask	Boston Bruins	William M. Jennings Trophy	2019-20
Aleksander Barkov	Florida Panthers	Lady Byng Memorial Trophy	2018-19
Pekka Rinne	Nashville Predators	Vezina Trophy	2017-18
Tuukka Rask	Boston Bruins	Vezina Trophy	2013-14
Niklas Backstrom	Minnesota Wild	William M. Jennings Trophy	2006-07
Saku Koivu	Montreal Canadiens	King Clancy Memorial Trophy	2006-07
Miikka Kiprusoff	Calgary Flames	William M. Jennings Trophy	2005-06
Miikka Kiprusoff	Calgary Flames	Vezina Trophy	2005-06
Teemu Selanne	Anaheim Ducks	Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy	2005-06
Jere Lehtinen	Dallas Stars	Frank J. Selke Trophy	2002-03
Saku Koivu	Montreal Canadiens	Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy	2001-02
Jere Lehtinen	Dallas Stars	Frank J. Selke Trophy	1998-99
Teemu Selanne	Anaheim Ducks	Maurice "Rocket" Richard Trophy	1998-99
Jere Lehtinen	Dallas Stars	Frank J. Selke Trophy	1997-98
Teemu Selanne	Winnipeg Jets	Calder Memorial Trophy	1992-93
Jari Kurri	Edmonton Oilers	Lady Byng Memorial Trophy	1984-85
Pentti Lund	New York Rangers	Calder Memorial Trophy	1948-49

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FINNISH-BORN PLAYERS SELECTED IN ROUND 1, NHL DRAFT HISTORY

Player	Drafted By	Year	Position	Pick
Kaapo Kakko	New York Rangers	2019	F	2
Patrik Laine	Winnipeg Jets	2016	F	2
Aleksander Barkov	Florida Panthers	2013	F	2
Kari Lehtonen	Atlanta Thrashers	2002	G	2
Jesper Kotkaniemi	Montreal Canadiens	2018	F	3
Miro Heiskanen	Dallas Stars	2017	D	3
Olli Jokinen	Los Angeles Kings	1997	F	3
Aki Berg	Los Angeles Kings	1995	D	3
Joni Pitkanen	Philadelphia Flyers	2002	D	4
Olli Juolevi	Vancouver Canucks	2016	D	5
Mikko Koivu	Minnesota Wild	2001	F	6
Rasmus Ristolainen	Buffalo Sabres	2013	D	8
Mikael Granlund	Minnesota Wild	2010	F	9
Tuomo Ruutu	Chicago Blackhawks	2001	F	9
Mikko Rantanen	Colorado Avalanche	2015	F	10
Teemu Selanne	Winnipeg Jets	1988	F	10
Lauri Tukonen	Los Angeles Kings	2004	F	11
Anton Lundell	Florida Panthers	2020	F	12
Teemu Riihijarvi	San Jose Sharks	1995	F	12
Jani Rita	Edmonton Oilers	1999	F	13
Konsta Helenius	Buffalo Sabres	2024	F	14
Julius Honka	Dallas Stars	2014	D	14
Riku Helenius	Tampa Bay Lightning	2006	G	15
Jesse Niinimäki	Edmonton Oilers	2002	F	15
Juuso Valimäki	Calgary Flames	2017	D	16
Joel Armia	Buffalo Sabres	2011	F	16
Petteri Nokelainen	New York Islanders	2004	F	16
Joakim Kemell	Nashville Predators	2022	F	17
Urho Vaakanainen	Boston Bruins	2017	D	18
Teuvo Teravainen	Chicago Blackhawks	2012	F	18
Lassi Thomson	Ottawa Senators	2019	D	19
Lauri Korpikoski	New York Rangers	2004	F	19
Ville Heinola	Winnipeg Jets	2019	D	20
Rasmus Kupari	Los Angeles Kings	2018	F	20
Tuukka Rask	Toronto Maple Leafs	2005	G	21
Mika Noronen	Buffalo Sabres	1997	G	21
Saku Koivu	Montreal Canadiens	1993	F	21
Kasper Kapanen	Pittsburgh Penguins	2014	F	22
Olli Maatta	Pittsburgh Penguins	2012	D	22
Sean Bergenheim	New York Islanders	2002	F	22
Henrik Borgstrom	Florida Panthers	2016	F	23
Miika Elomo	Washington Capitals	1995	F	23
Kristian Vesalainen	Winnipeg Jets	2017	F	24
Ari Ahonen	New Jersey Devils	1999	G	27
Emil Hemming	Dallas Stars	2024	F	29
Henri Jokiharju	Chicago Blackhawks	2017	D	29
Hannu Toivonen	Boston Bruins	2002	G	29
Brad Lambert	Winnipeg Jets	2022	F	30
Eeli Tolvanen	Nashville Predators	2017	F	30



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FINNISH-BORN STANLEY CUP WINNERS, NHL HISTORY

Player	Team	Season
Aleksander Barkov	Florida Panthers	2023-24
Anton Lundell	Florida Panthers	2023-24
Eetu Luostarinen	Florida Panthers	2023-24
Niko Mikkola	Florida Panthers	2023-24
Artturi Lehkonen	Colorado Avalanche	2021-22
Mikko Rantanen	Colorado Avalanche	2021-22
Olli Maatta	Pittsburgh Penguins	2016-17
Olli Maatta	Pittsburgh Penguins	2015-16
Teuvo Teravainen	Chicago Blackhawks	2014-15
Kimmo Timonen	Chicago Blackhawks	2014-15
Tuukka Rask	Boston Bruins	2010-11
Antti Niemi	Chicago Blackhawks	2009-10
Valtteri Filppula	Detroit Red Wings	2007-08
Teemu Selanne	Anaheim Ducks	2006-07
Ville Nieminen	Colorado Avalanche	2000-01
Jere Lehtinen	Dallas Stars	1998-99
Tomas Sandstrom	Detroit Red Wings	1996-97
Esa Tikkanen	New York Rangers	1993-94
Jari Kurri	Edmonton Oilers	1989-90
Reijo Ruotsalainen	Edmonton Oilers	1989-90
Esa Tikkanen	Edmonton Oilers	1989-90
Jari Kurri	Edmonton Oilers	1987-88
Esa Tikkanen	Edmonton Oilers	1987-88
Jari Kurri	Edmonton Oilers	1986-87
Reijo Ruotsalainen	Edmonton Oilers	1986-87
Esa Tikkanen	Edmonton Oilers	1986-87
Jari Kurri	Edmonton Oilers	1984-85
Esa Tikkanen	Edmonton Oilers	1984-85
Jari Kurri	Edmonton Oilers	1983-84

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