



BY THE NUMBERS

2026-27 OPENING-DAY ROSTERS

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Based on [opening-day rosters](#), as of 10 a.m. ET, on Sept. 29, 2026, excluding Injured and/or Non-Roster players; Notes by nationality and ages as of Sept. 29, 2026, unless denoted otherwise.

See the charts at the bottom of this document for more information.



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723 – Players on official opening-day rosters.

433 – Players who are Gen Z (59.9% of 723). Last season, 61% of NHL players were Gen Z.

306 – Canadian players, the most of any country (42.3% of 723).

283 – Players born in the 2000s (up from [232 last year](#)), amounting to 39% of the League (each team carries at least three).

192 – American players (26.6% of 723); the most American nationals to *dress* in season openers in one campaign is 185, achieved in 2023-24 (178 of them played, also the most).

90 – Players born on or since Oct. 8, 2003, when the oldest active player, **Brent Burns** (COL), made his NHL debut (Burns [can set the NHL “Ironman” record](#) this season).

89 – Undrafted players (12.3% of 723).

41 – Age of **Brent Burns** (COL), the oldest player named to an opening-day roster; **Corey Perry** (LAK) and **Alex Ovechkin** (WSH) are also 41. **Evgeni Malkin** (PIT) is the only other 40-year-old expected to play this season.

34 – Percentage of players age 25 or younger (243 of 723). This season, the [2027 NHL All-Star Skills](#) will spotlight 10 young stars ages 25 or younger competing across eight events.

31 – Percentage of players born outside North America (227 of 723), with Sweden topping the list with 75 players. In 2025-26, 30.4% of players were born outside of North America (316 of 1,038) – the fourth-highest rate in League history.

29 – U.S. birth states represented. Last season, players born in 33 states played in the NHL (regular season or playoffs); the most states represented in one season is 37 (2023-24).

28 – Players born on or since Oct. 5, 2005, when **Sidney Crosby** (PIT) and **Alex Ovechkin** (WSH) both made their NHL debut. That list includes **Michael Brandsegg-Nygard** (DET) who was born that day in Oslo, Norway.

26.4 – Average age of Chicago’s opening-day roster, the youngest in the NHL.

24 – Players with a birth city listed as Toronto, the most common on opening-day rosters and home to the first game of Sportsnet’s doubleheader tonight (7 ET).

22 – Reigning Stanley Cup champions still with Carolina (including **Seth Jarvis** who is part of their Injured and/or Non-Roster list). The only departure is goaltender **Frederik Andersen**; defenseman **Alexander Nikishin** remains a restricted free agent.

20 – Players who are looking to make their NHL debut (regular season or playoffs). Forward **Judd Caulfield** (ANA; 25 years, 194 days) and goaltender **Remi Poirier** (DAL; 24 years, 358 days) are the two oldest players on that list. Last year, goaltender **Brandon Bussi** (CAR) was the oldest player looking to make his NHL debut and went on to secure the Stanley Cup-clinching victory for Carolina.

17 – Sets of brothers, including one trio – **Quinn** (MIN), **Jack** (NJD) and **Luke** (NJD) **Hughes** – and five pairs who are teammates (including one where one brother is on the Injured and/or Non-Roster list).



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16 – *Birth countries* represented, including seven from Germany, where, for the first time since 2011-12, the League will host NHL regular-season games [in 2026-27 \(and beyond\)](#). Players born in at least 20 countries have played in the NHL in each of the past 25 seasons (20 in 2025-26).

12 – Teenagers, including five 18-year-olds (all first-round picks in the 2026 NHL Draft). Last season, 11 teenagers played in a season opener, which was the most since 2018-19 (17). The last time *at least five 18-year-olds played in season openers* was 2016-17 (5).

5 – Members of the 2026 NHL Draft class: **Gavin McKenna** (TOR; No. 1), **Ivar Stenberg** (SJS; No. 2), **Alberts Smits** (NYR; No. 5), **Viggo Bjorck** (WPG; No. 8) and **Nikita Klepov** (ANA; No. 15). The top two picks last played in their team's ensuing season opener in 2019-20 (**Jack Hughes**: No. 1 & **Kaapo Kakko**: No. 2). The last time at least five members of a draft class skated in an ensuing season opener was 2016-17 (6 – **Auston Matthews**: No. 1; **Patrik Laine**: No. 2; **Jesse Puljujarvi**: No. 4; **Matthew Tkachuk**: No. 6; **Mikhail Sergachev**: No. 9; **Jakob Chychrun**: No. 16).

0 – Players with experience in the Stanley Cup Playoffs, but none in the regular season.



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Players on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters, by Birth Decade

Decade	No. Players
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1980s	24
1990s	416
2000s	283

Players on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters, by Age

Age	No. Skaters	No. Goalies	Total
18	5	0	5
19	7	0	7
20	16	0	16
21	24	0	24
22	37	1	38
23	44	2	46
24	41	4	45
25	54	8	62
26	42	5	47
27	47	10	57
28	41	3	44
29	52	5	57
30	47	5	52
31	40	5	45
32	40	4	44
33	37	5	42
34	24	3	27
35	24	1	25
36	17	3	20
37	7	0	7
38	3	2	5
39	3	1	4
40	1	0	1
41	3	0	3



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Youngest Players on 2026-27 Season Opening Rosters

Player	Pos.	Team	Birth Date	Age
Nikita Klepov	F	Anaheim Ducks	6/27/08	18-094
Viggo Bjorck	F	Winnipeg Jets	3/12/08	18-201
Gavin McKenna	F	Toronto Maple Leafs	12/20/07	18-283
Alberts Smits	D	New York Rangers	12/2/07	18-301
Ivar Stenberg	F	San Jose Sharks	9/30/07	18-364
Matthew Schaefer	D	New York Islanders	9/5/07	19-024
Anton Frondell	F	Chicago Blackhawks	5/7/07	19-145
Michael Misa	F	San Jose Sharks	2/16/07	19-225
James Hagens	F	Boston Bruins	11/3/06	19-330
Porter Martone	F	Philadelphia Flyers	10/26/06	19-338
Victor Eklund	F	New York Islanders	10/3/06	19-361
Roger McQueen	F	Anaheim Ducks	10/2/06	19-362

**Age in years and days as of Sept. 29, 2026*

Oldest Players on 2026-27 Season Opening Rosters

Player	Pos.	Team	Birth Date	Age
Brent Burns	D	Colorado Avalanche	3/9/85	41-204
Corey Perry	F	Los Angeles Kings	5/16/85	41-136
Alex Ovechkin	F	Washington Capitals	9/17/85	41-012
Evgeni Malkin	F	Pittsburgh Penguins	7/31/86	40-060
Kris Letang	D	Pittsburgh Penguins	4/24/87	39-158
Cam Talbot	G	Columbus Blue Jackets	7/5/87	39-086
Sidney Crosby	F	Pittsburgh Penguins	8/7/87	39-053
Mats Zuccarello	F	Los Angeles Kings	9/1/87	39-028
Nick Foligno	F	Minnesota Wild	10/31/87	38-333
Claude Giroux	F	Ottawa Senators	1/12/88	38-260
Semyon Varlamov	G	New York Islanders	4/27/88	38-155
Jordan Staal	F	Carolina Hurricanes	9/10/88	38-019
Sergei Bobrovsky	G	Toronto Maple Leafs	9/20/88	38-009

**Age in years and days as of Sept. 29, 2026*



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Most First-Round NHL Draft Picks on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters

Team	Total R1 Draft Picks
St. Louis Blues	13
Dallas Stars	12
Minnesota Wild	12
Philadelphia Flyers	12
Calgary Flames	11
Chicago Blackhawks	11
Edmonton Oilers	11
Montreal Canadiens	11
New York Islanders	11
San Jose Sharks	11
Utah Mammoth	11
Washington Capitals	11
Winnipeg Jets	11
Buffalo Sabres	10
Colorado Avalanche	10
Columbus Blue Jackets	10
Florida Panthers	10
Vancouver Canucks	10
Los Angeles Kings	9
New Jersey Devils	9
Ottawa Senators	9
Anaheim Ducks	8
Boston Bruins	8
Detroit Red Wings	8
New York Rangers	8
Toronto Maple Leafs	8
Carolina Hurricanes	7
Pittsburgh Penguins	7
Seattle Kraken	7
Vegas Golden Knights	7
Nashville Predators	6
Tampa Bay Lightning	6



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Players on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters Drafted by Current Team

Team	Own Draft Picks (Any Round)	Own First-Round Draft Picks
Anaheim Ducks	10	5
Boston Bruins	6	3
Buffalo Sabres	9	7
Calgary Flames	9	6
Carolina Hurricanes	6	1
Chicago Blackhawks	14	8
Colorado Avalanche	3	3
Columbus Blue Jackets	7	5
Dallas Stars	11	6
Detroit Red Wings	13	8
Edmonton Oilers	4	4
Florida Panthers	6	4
Los Angeles Kings	9	5
Minnesota Wild	9	6
Montréal Canadiens	10	3
Nashville Predators	5	1
New Jersey Devils	8	4
New York Islanders	8	4
New York Rangers	11	5
Ottawa Senators	10	5
Philadelphia Flyers	9	7
Pittsburgh Penguins	5	2
San Jose Sharks	7	5
Seattle Kraken	7	3
St. Louis Blues	10	6
Tampa Bay Lightning	7	2
Toronto Maple Leafs	5	5
Utah Mammoth	6	6
Vancouver Canucks	6	4
Vegas Golden Knights	1	1
Washington Capitals	8	4
Winnipeg Jets	9	6



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Sets of Brothers on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters

Player	Team	Player	Team	Birth Country
Quinn Hughes	MIN	Jack and Luke Hughes	NJD	United States
Morgan Barron	WPG	Justin Barron	STL	Canada
Kirby Dach	MTL	Colton Dach	EDM	Canada
William Eklund	OTT	Victor Eklund	NYI	Sweden
Haydn Fleury	WPG	Cale Fleury	SEA	Canada
Nick Foligno	MIN	Marcus Foligno	MIN	United States
Morgan Geekie	BOS	Conor Geekie	TBL	Canada
Lane Hutson	MTL	Cole Hutson	WSH	United States
David Jiricek	PHI	Adam Jiricek	STL	Czechia
Charlie Lindgren	WSH	Ryan Lindgren	SEA	United States
Cale Makar	COL	Taylor Makar*	COL	Canada
Aliaksei Protas	WSH	Ilya Protas	WSH	Belarus
Jason Robertson	DAL	Nick Robertson	PIT	United States
Luke Schenn	VAN	Brayden Schenn	NYI	Canada
Elmer Soderblom	PIT	Arvid Soderblom	CHI	Sweden
Ryan Strome	CGY	Dylan Strome	WSH	Canada
Matthew Tkachuk	FLA	Brady Tkachuk	FLA	United States

*Currently on Injured and/or Non-Roster list; teammates in **bold**



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Team Averages, Opening-Day Rosters (Sorted by Average Age)

Team	Players	Average Age	Average Height	Average Weight (lbs.)
Chicago Blackhawks	23	26.4	6'1.2"	198
Anaheim Ducks	23	26.5	6'2.0"	205
Buffalo Sabres	23	26.6	6'1.1"	200
San Jose Sharks	23	26.6	6'1.7"	199
Montréal Canadiens	23	26.8	6'1.3"	202
St. Louis Blues	23	26.9	6'1.9"	201
Calgary Flames	23	27.0	6'1.8"	195
New York Rangers	23	27.0	6'2.0"	206
Vancouver Canucks	23	27.1	6'1.3"	194
Detroit Red Wings	23	27.4	6'1.6"	201
Ottawa Senators	23	27.4	6'1.8"	204
Philadelphia Flyers	23	27.9	6'1.7"	202
Boston Bruins	23	28.0	6'1.9"	208
Seattle Kraken	23	28.3	6'1.1"	198
Columbus Blue Jackets	21	28.4	6'1.2"	203
Washington Capitals	23	28.6	6'2.6"	213
Edmonton Oilers	23	28.7	6'1.7"	201
Utah Mammoth	23	28.7	6'1.6"	202
Winnipeg Jets	23	28.7	6'1.7"	199
Pittsburgh Penguins	22	28.8	6'1.5"	202
New Jersey Devils	23	28.9	6'1.5"	200
Nashville Predators	23	29.1	6'1.1"	199
Dallas Stars	21	29.7	6'2.5"	207
New York Islanders	23	29.7	6'1.4"	201
Minnesota Wild	23	29.8	6'0.9"	199
Vegas Golden Knights	22	29.8	6'1.9"	202
Carolina Hurricanes	23	30.0	6'1.7"	202
Tampa Bay Lightning	23	30.0	6'2.3"	204
Toronto Maple Leafs	22	30.6	6'1.4"	202
Florida Panthers	21	30.8	6'2.4"	204
Colorado Avalanche	20	31.3	6'1.4"	198
Los Angeles Kings	22	31.7	6'1.9"	204

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Players on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters, by Nationality

Nationality	Players	% NHL
Canada	306	42.3%
United States	192	26.6%
Sweden	75	10.4%
Russia	53	7.3%
Finland	37	5.1%
Czechia	18	2.5%
Switzerland	9	1.2%
Slovakia	7	1.0%
Germany	6	0.8%
Latvia	6	0.8%
Belarus	5	0.7%
Denmark	3	0.4%
Norway	3	0.4%
Austria	2	0.3%
France	1	0.1%

Players on 2026-27 Opening-Day Rosters, by Birth Country

Birth Country	Players	% NHL
Canada	297	41.1%
United States	199	27.5%
Sweden	75	10.4%
Russia	53	7.3%
Finland	35	4.8%
Czechia	17	2.4%
Switzerland	10	1.4%
Slovakia	7	1.0%
Germany	7	1.0%
Latvia	6	0.8%
Belarus	5	0.7%
Denmark	3	0.4%
Norway	3	0.4%
Austria	3	0.4%
France	2	0.3%
Australia	1	0.1%



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Team Breakdown by Nationality

Team	AUT	BLR	CAN	CHE	CZE	DEU	DNK	FIN	FRA	LVA	NOR	RUS	SVK	SWE	USA
Anaheim Ducks			7		1			2				1		1	11
Boston Bruins			6		2	1						2		2	10
Buffalo Sabres			12		1			2						2	6
Calgary Flames		1	10		1							3	3	1	4
Carolina Hurricanes			9				1	2				2			9
Chicago Blackhawks		1	7					1				1		2	11
Colorado Avalanche			14		1			1				1		1	2
Columbus Blue Jackets			11									4			5
Dallas Stars			9	1	1			5						2	3
Detroit Red Wings	1		5			1					1	1		6	8
Edmonton Oilers			10			1		1				2		1	8
Florida Panthers			5	1	1		1	4		2		1		2	4
Los Angeles Kings			8					3			1	1		4	5
Minnesota Wild			4		1	1		1				4		3	9
Montreal Canadiens			13		1			1	1			1	1	1	4
Nashville Predators			9	1				2				1		4	6
New Jersey Devils			13	3								1		2	4
New York Islanders			10		1			1				3		3	5
New York Rangers			9		1		1	2		1		3		2	4
Ottawa Senators			13			1		1						5	3
Philadelphia Flyers			9		2			1				2		1	8
Pittsburgh Penguins		1	6					1		1		3		5	5
San Jose Sharks			12									3		2	6
Seattle Kraken			15			1		2						1	4
St. Louis Blues			12	1	1							2	1	3	3
Tampa Bay Lightning			9	1						1	1	3	1	3	4
Toronto Maple Leafs			11							1		1		3	7
Utah Mammoth			8		1							3		1	10
Vancouver Canucks	1		6		1			3						6	6
Vegas Golden Knights			12		1							1		3	5
Washington Capitals		2	12									2	1	1	6
Winnipeg Jets			10	1				1				1		2	7
TOTAL	2	5	306	9	18	6	3	37	1	6	3	53	7	75	192



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Team Breakdown by Birth Country

Team	AUS	AUT	BLR	CAN	CHE	CZE	DEU	DNK	FIN	FRA	LVA	NOR	RUS	SVK	SWE	USA
Anaheim Ducks				7		1			2				1		2	10
Boston Bruins				6		2	1						2		2	10
Buffalo Sabres				12		1			2						2	6
Calgary Flames			1	10		1							3	3	1	4
Carolina Hurricanes				9				1	2				2			9
Chicago Blackhawks			1	7					1				1		2	11
Colorado Avalanche				13		1			1				1		1	3
Columbus Blue Jackets				11									4			5
Dallas Stars				7	1	1			5						2	5
Detroit Red Wings		1		5			1					1	1		6	8
Edmonton Oilers				10			1		1				2		1	8
Florida Panthers				5	1	1		1	4		2		1		2	4
Los Angeles Kings				8					2			1	1		4	6
Minnesota Wild				3			1		1				4		3	11
Montreal Canadiens				13		1				1			1	1	2	4
Nashville Predators				9	1				2				1		4	6
New Jersey Devils				12	3		1						1		2	4
New York Islanders				10		1			1				3		3	5
New York Rangers				9		1		1	2		1		3		2	4
Ottawa Senators	1	1		11			1		1						4	4
Philadelphia Flyers				8		2			1				2		1	9
Pittsburgh Penguins			1	6					1		1		3		5	5
San Jose Sharks				12									3		2	6
Seattle Kraken				15			1		2						1	4
St. Louis Blues				12	2	1							2	1	3	2
Tampa Bay Lightning				9	1						1	1	3	1	3	4
Toronto Maple Leafs				11						1	1		1		2	7
Utah Mammoth				8		1							3		1	10
Vancouver Canucks		1		6		1			3						6	6
Vegas Golden Knights				12		1							1		3	5
Washington Capitals			2	11									2	1	1	7
Winnipeg Jets				10	1				1				1		2	7
TOTAL	1	3	5	297	10	17	7	3	35	2	6	3	53	7	75	199

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