

The 2026-27 NHL regular-season will hit its four-week mark Tuesday, Oct. 27. A few #NHLStats to mark the occasion:

Playing at a 200-Point Pace: Reigning scoring champion **Connor McDavid** became the fastest player in NHL history to 20 assists in a season (9 GP), got a quarter of the way to 10th career 100-point season just three weeks into the campaign and, with 8-25—33 in 11 games, is scoring at a 252-point pace (only **Wayne Gretzky**, 4x, has hit 200 points). McDavid trails only **Mario Lemieux** (3x) for the most points through 11 games of a season in NHL history. With the first "Battle of Alberta" just two days away on Prime *Wednesday Night Hockey* – followed by a swing through the tristate area where they will aim to build on their franchise record-setting 5-0-0 road start – the Oilers lead the Western Conference and rank second in the NHL in points percentage (.773) and have three of the League's five 20-point players, with McDavid joined by **Leon Draisaitl** and **Evan Bouchard** (click their names for more on some of their notable achievements so far).



The Last Two Standing Started Strong: A seven-game win streak spurred the Hurricanes to a 9-2-2 start, the best record through 13 games by the reigning Stanley Cup champions since Vegas in 2023-24. The Golden Knights also opened strong following their defeat in the 2026 Final, tied for the most wins and points in the Pacific Division (8-4-1, 17 points). Carolina (7-2-1) and Vegas (8-2-0) combined to mark the first time in more than 40 years that the reigning Stanley Cup champion and finalist each had at least seven wins through their first 10 games; the only other instances in NHL history were in 1985-86 (EDM & PHI: both 8) and 1975-76 (PHI: 7; BUF: 8).

Beasts of the East Set to Clash on ESPN: The reigning Stanley Cup champions are the only 20-point team so far, but the Bruins top the NHL in points percentage (.792; 9-2-1) – ahead of their first head-to-head showdown of the season, tomorrow to open an ESPN doubleheader (8 p.m. ET). New captain **David Pastrnak**, now tied with Hockey Hall of Fame-bound **Patrice Bergeron** as the third-highest goal scorer in club history, and a goaltending tandem of **Jeremy Swayman** and **Michael DiPietro** has backed Boston to its best goal differential through a dozen games in more than 40 years. ICYMI: DiPietro claimed a long-awaited first career shutout during Boston's Hockey Fights Cancer Night and after the game honored his mom, who passed away from cancer when DiPietro was five years old.

LEAGUE LEADERS SO FAR

2026-27 NHL SEASON

STAT	TEAM	VALUE
% TIME LEADING	WILD	49.8%
5-ON-5 GOALS	AVALANCHE	39
GOAL DIFFERENTIAL	BRUINS	+22
POWER-PLAY %	MAMMOTH	38.1%
PENALTY KILL %	MAPLE LEAFS	95.2%
SHOTS/GP	DEVILS	34.1
SHOTS AGAINST/GP	STARS	21.8
COMEBACK WINS	MAPLE LEAFS	5

*Through Oct. 25



Ovi's Farewell Tour Begins: The NHL's all-time goals leader **Alex Ovechkin** announced – on the 21st anniversary of his League debut and before his 101st head-to-head with **Sidney Crosby** – that the 2026-27 NHL season would be his last. Ovechkin's first goal of the season was the 1,007th of his NHL career (including playoffs) but first to be assisted by a pair of brothers. Ovechkin needs nine goals to tie **Wayne Gretzky** (1,016) for the most total goals in League history (regular season and playoffs), one assist to match longtime teammate **Nicklas Backstrom** for the most assists in franchise history and is also approaching career milestones for points (9 from 1,700) and games played (17 from 1,600). The next "final stop" on Ovechkin's farewell tour is Nashville, on Thursday.

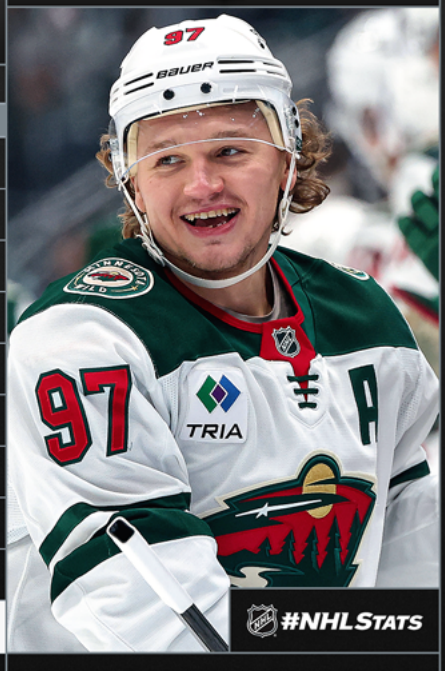
Kirill off to Thrilling Start: The frontrunner for an award Ovechkin has won a League-best nine times is **Kirill Kaprizov**, who is averaging a goal per game (13 in 13 GP) to pace the early Maurice "Rocket" Richard Trophy race. A top five goal scorer since entering the NHL and already the top goal scorer in Wild history, Karpizov became the first Minnesota player to be the NHL's first double-digit goal scorer and has two games remaining this month to challenge for the NHL record for goals in a single October.

MOST GOALS IN OCTOBER

SINGLE SEASON, NHL HISTORY

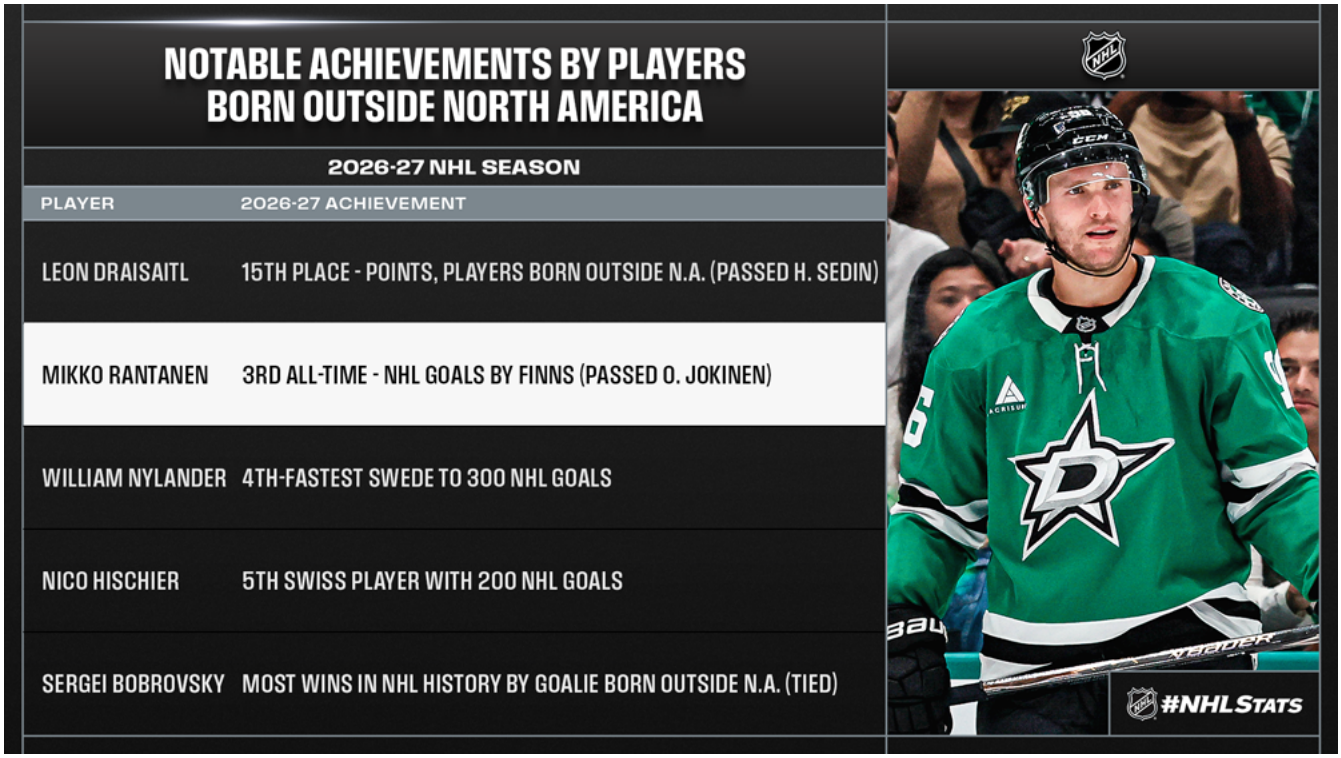
PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	GOALS
MARIO LEMIEUX	PENGUINS	1992	16
MARIO LEMIEUX	PENGUINS	1988	16
BRETT HULL	BLUES	1990	15
MARIO LEMIEUX	PENGUINS	1986	15
ALEX OVECHKIN	CAPITALS	2009	14
DINO CICCARELLI	NORTH STARS	1986	14
RICK VAIVE	MAPLE LEAFS	1983	14
MIKE BOSSY	ISLANDERS	1982	14
PHIL ESPOSITO	BRUINS	1973	14
KIRILL KAPRIZOV*	WILD	2026	13

*12 OTHERS WITH 13 GOALS; LAST: NIKITA KUCHEROV IN OCTOBER 2017



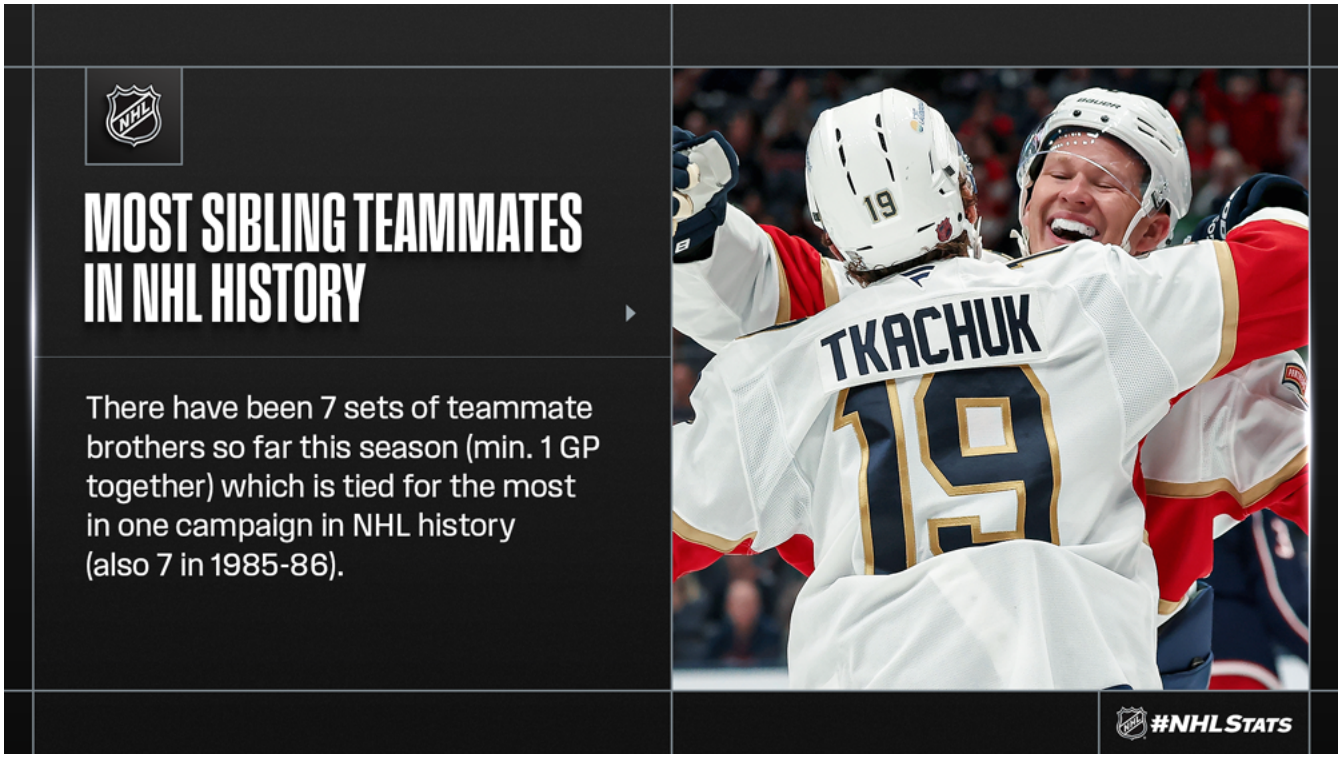
Global Contributors to Goals-per-game Rate: The NHL goals-per-game stands at 6.3 so far this season, marking the fifth consecutive season and ninth time in 10 campaigns that it is 6.0 or higher at this stage (184 GP). The top three goals scorers are from three different countries, with **Leon Draisaitl** (Germany) and **Artturi Lehkonen** (Finland) pursuing the League lead during a campaign in which the NHL will stage regular-season games in both of their home countries.

Gearing Up for Europe: In two weeks, Seattle and Carolina will open the international schedule with two games in Helsinki as part of the NHL Global Series Finland. With four games remaining before their first overseas foray, the Kraken (7-4-1) are off to the best 12-game start of their six NHL seasons and led in scoring by Finnish forward **Kaapo Kakko**. German forward **Tim Stützle** is off to the best goal-scoring start of his career (8 in 12 GP) and the Senators (8-4-0) have their most wins at this stage in 18 years as they gear up for the NHL's return to Germany with two games against **Connor Bedard** and the Blackhawks in Düsseldorf in December.



Other Milestone Moments: Sidney Crosby tied **Ray Bourque** as the NHL's all-time leader for assists with one franchise; **Nikita Kucherov** became Tampa Bay's all-time scoring leader (the third such record to change in 10 months, with the potential of more to fall in 2026-27); **Connor McDavid** (1,237 points in 800 GP) and **Auston Matthews** (436 goals in 700 GP) were among the all-time leaders through games played milestones; back in Chicago, **Patrick Kane** became the all-time leader in assists among U.S.-born and American players (adding to the points distinctions he secured last season) and now nears 900 career helpers; and **Quinn Hughes** celebrated his first game as a visitor in Vancouver by becoming the second-fastest American defenseman in NHL history to 500 career points.

Oh Brother, What a Stretch: Among the 17 sets of brothers on season-opening rosters – and part of the NHL record-tying seven sets to play as teammates so far in 2026-27 – **Brady** and **Matthew Tkachuk** made waves during NHL Frozen Frenzy when they combined for the first natural hat trick in NHL history to include a sibling assist on all three goals (part of a nine-point night for them). Brady later became the third player in NHL history with consecutive *natural* hat tricks and the Panthers the first team in NHL history to score one of that nature in three straight contests. Overall, the Tkachuks are among a group of seven sets of brothers to play as teammates this season which is tied for the most in one campaign in NHL history (also 7 in 1985-86).



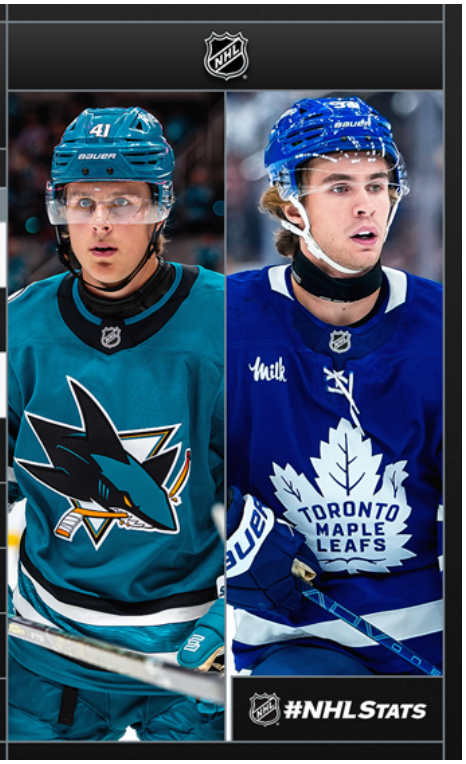
Home Sweet Home: Three teams have perfect home records so far – the Rangers (6-0-0), Lightning (5-0-0) and Wild (4-0-0). **Igor Shesterkin**'s "goalie goal" and **Alexis Lafrenière**'s "Battle of New York" hat trick helped the Rangers post their best start at Madison Square Garden in more than 35 years and tie the second longest home winning streak to start a campaign in their 100-season history – with a chance to extend it tonight (vs. LAK). Tampa Bay can match its club benchmark on Thursday (vs. WPG), while Minnesota needs four more wins to equal theirs.

Welcome to the NHL: A total of 29 players (27 skaters and 2 goaltenders) have made their NHL debut this season, including the tallest netminder in League history **Cooper Black** (FLA) and five teenagers: **Nikita Klepov** (ANA), **Viggo Björck** (WPG), **Gavin McKenna** (TOR), **Alberts Smits** (NYR) and **Ivar Stenberg** (SJS). They are among a rookie cohort looking to follow in the footsteps of last season's record-setting Calder Trophy winner **Matthew Schaefer**, who so far in 2026-27 has surpassed **Bobby Orr** for the second most career goals by a teenage defenseman in NHL history and will take the second-longest season-opening home point streak ever by a teenage blueliner (6 GP) into a Halloween showdown against **Connor McDavid** on Sportsnet – Schaefer's first appearance on the network this season included a special visit from a young fan.

MOST POINTS BY PLAYERS TO DEBUT THIS SEASON

THROUGH OCT. 25

PLAYER	TEAM	AGE	G-A-P
IVAR STENBERG	SJS	19	3-6-9
TREVOR CONNELLY	VGK	20	4-4-8
GAVIN MCKENNA	TOR	18	3-5-8
ROMAN KANTSEROV	CHI	22	4-0-4
JUDD CAULFIELD	ANA	25	2-2-4
OWEN MICHAELS	EDM	24	2-2-4
T.J. HUGHES	COL	24	2-2-4
ANTON JOHANSSON	DET	22	1-3-4



Let's Take This Outside: The Central Division will be home to all three outdoor games this season, with the first in the books after **Kyle Connor** and the Jets hosted a sellout crowd of 32,343 for the *2026 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic*. **Clayton Keller** and the Mammoth lead the West in wins dating to New Year's Day as they prepare for their outdoor debut in the *Discover NHL Winter Classic* on New Year's Eve. **Jake Oettinger** matched the benchmark for fewest appearances to three shutouts in a season by an American goaltender (6 GP) for the Stars, hosts of the *2027 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series* and the League leaders in goals against (20).

Lots of Season Left: Between today and the Quarter Mark of the season (Tuesday, Nov. 17), the League will see the busiest Hockey Halloween in a more than a decade (check out some spooktacular #NHLStats), a Hockey Hall of Fame Game that was always going to honor one Olympic gold medal-winning goaltender but could now feature one on the ice in **Connor Hellebuyck** (who will return to Winnipeg two days later, Nov. 10), as well as two Global Series games in Finland and the potential for **Brent Burns** to play NHL game No. 1,600 during *Saturday Night Hockey* on Sportsnet Nov. 14 (it would be his 1,028th in a row during his record-nearing streak). Burns' milestone game will fall on one of 13 more Hockey Fights Cancer Nights before the Quarter Mark.



STATS AND INFORMATION

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