



2020 NHL DRAFT GUIDE

THE NHL'S GROWING NCAA INFLUENCE

The impact of former NCAA players, executives and coaches continues to grow; the 2020 NHL Draft is just the latest step in a developing trend.

Consider:

- The 2019 NHL Draft saw 70 NCAA players selected, the most in 12 years.
- Seven of the first 16 selections in 2019 were college players, the most ever.
- Thirteen NHL general managers played NCAA hockey and eight of the last 12 Stanley Cup-winning GMs are graduates of NCAA schools.



NHL DRAFT BY THE NUMBERS

- 184 – NCAA players selected by the Montreal Canadiens in NHL Amateur/Entry Drafts, the most of any franchise
- 173 – NCAA players drafted in the first round since 1964 (St. Lawrence's Alex Campbell was the first)
- 125 – NCAA players taken in the 1987 Entry Draft, the most in any one draft
- 106 – NCAA players and recruits in NHL Central Scouting's Final Rankings
- 88 – Percentage of Americans taken in the last two drafts (2018, '19) that played NCAA hockey
- 70 – NCAA players and recruits selected in the 2019 NHL Draft, the most in 12 years
- 35 – Schools represented (of the 60 in Division I) in the Central Scouting rankings
- 27 – Schools that have produced a first-round pick all-time (18 in the last 12 drafts)
- 24 – Consecutive years with a draft pick for Boston College and Michigan (starting in 1996), tied for the second-longest such streak for any school in history (Minnesota had picks in 27 straight drafts, 1974-2000)
- 18 – Age Connecticut's Yan Kuznetsov turned on March 2, the youngest player in NCAA Division I men's hockey in 2019-20
- 17 – The most NCAA selections in any one round of a draft (fourth round in 2018, sixth round in 2015, ninth round in 2004)
- 11 – College players taken in the first round in 2016 and 2007, the most first-rounders in any draft
- 11 – First rounders who played NCAA hockey in 2019-20
- 10 – First round picks from Boston University in the last five NHL Drafts
- 9 – The most picks from one school in one draft (Minnesota, 2007)
- 9 – Points for Wisconsin's Dylan Holloway in the last 10 games of 2019-20
- 7 – NCAA picks among the first 16 selections of the 2019 NHL Draft, the most ever
- 6 – The most first-round picks to play for one NCAA team (North Dakota, 2005-06; Joe Finley, Brian Lee, T.J. Oshie, Drew Stafford, Jonathan Toews, Travis Zajac)
- 4 – The most top-10 picks in one draft to play NCAA hockey (2006: Erik Johnson, Jonathan Toews, Phil Kessel and Kyle Okposo)
- 1 – Joe Murphy (1986), Rick DiPietro (2000) and Erik Johnson (2006) are the three NCAA players to be selected first overall in the NHL Draft

All-Time NCAA First Round Picks: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/nhl-draft-first-round-college-players.php>

NCAA Draft Picks by Year

Year	1st Rd.	NCAA	Total Picks
2019	9	70	217
2018	7	65	217
2017	6	60	217
2016	11	60	211
2015	7	56	211
2014	3	61	210
2013	-	58	211
2012	5	65	211
2011	2	55	211
2010	8	61	210
2009	6	63	210
2008	4	62	211
2007	11	75	211
2006	7	70	213
2005	8	69	230
2004	7	90	291
2003	9	72	292
2002	6	77	291
2001	4	56	289
2000	7	65	293
1999	3	60	272
1998	1	44	258
1997	-	43	246
1996	3	41	241
1995	-	12	234
1994	2	63	286
1993	3	70	286
1992	3	55	264
1991	3	97	264
1990	3	109	250
1989	3	112	252
1988	2	112	252
1987	1	125	252
1986	5	92	252
1985	3	89	252
1984	2	98	250
1983	1	75	242
1982	1	71	252
1981	1	48	211
1980	1	55	210
1979	1	16	126
1978	-	79	234
1977	-	52	185
1976	1	31	135
1975	-	65	217
1974	-	48	246
1973	-	26	168
1972	-	21	152
1971	1	24	117
1970	-	17	115
1969	-	8	85
1968	1	3	24
1967	-	1	18
1966	-	1	24
1965	-	1	11
1964	1	6	25
1963	-	2	21

ARE NCAA PLAYERS UNDERVALUED IN THE NHL DRAFT?

An average of 60 current/future NCAA players have been selected in the last 12 NHL Drafts. Nevertheless, evidence from recent years suggests that NCAA players are undervalued in the draft.

Drafts in Hindsight

A popular pastime among hockey news organizations is to look back at drafts five, 10 or 15 years ago and “re-draft” them – see where the selections should have fallen, given how the players’ careers have played out.

Invariably – no matter the year or the news organization – NCAA players were under-represented in the original draft.

Source	Original Draft	Re-Evaluated
1994 Draft, NHL.com	2 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
1997 Draft, NHL.com	0 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	3 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
1998 Draft, NHL.com	1 NCAA player in 1st Rd.	4 NCAA players in top 24 picks
2000 Draft, NHL.com	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	8 NCAA players in top 23 picks
2001 Draft, NHL.com	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	4 NCAA players in top 19 picks
2003 Draft, NHL.com	9 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	10 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2003 Draft, Sportsnet	2 NCAA players in top 11 picks; 9 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	4 NCAA players in top 9 picks; 11 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2004 Draft, NHL.com	5 NCAA players in top 23 picks	6 NCAA players in top 23 picks
2005 Draft, NHL.com	8 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	11 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2006 Draft, NHL.com	5 NCAA players in top 19 picks	5 NCAA players in top 13 picks
2007 Draft, NHL.com	11 NCAA players in top 29 picks	11 NCAA players in top 24 picks
2008 Draft, ESPN.com	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	6 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2008 Draft, NHL.com	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2009 Draft, NHL.com	6 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2009 Draft, ESPN.com	0 NCAA players in top 15 picks	4 NCAA players in top 15 picks
2010 Draft, NHL.com	8 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	9 NCAA players in top 26 picks
2010 Draft, ESPN.com	8 NCAA players in top 30 picks	9 NCAA players in top 23 picks
2011 Draft, NHL.com	2 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2012 Draft, NHL.com	5 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	6 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2013 Draft, The Athletic	0 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2013 Draft, NHL.com	0 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in top 26 picks
2014 Draft, NHL.com	3 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2014 Draft, The Athletic	3 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	6 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
2015 Draft, The Athletic	3 NCAA players in top 10 picks; 7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in top 10 picks; 8 NCAA players in top 26 picks



DRAFT RESEARCH

First-Round Draft Picks

A study of the 480 first-round draft picks from 2000-15 shows that 76% of those players who developed in the NCAA went on to have a significant NHL career (200+ games played). By contrast, 65% of all other players in that time met the same standard.

NCAA First-Round Picks

Of those 480 first-round picks from 2000-15, 88 (or 18%) were on the NCAA path, fewer than the CHL (266, 55%) or Europe (23%).

College players enjoyed that success despite, on average, being taken later in the first round:

Average Draft Position, 2000-15 First Rounders

CHL	14.8
European	15.3
NCAA	17.3

Current College Players

A small subset of the NCAA players taken in the draft – likely between eight and 15 – will be players who spent 2018-19 playing college hockey.

Recent history suggests that those selections may be the best values in the draft.

College Hockey Inc. conducted a study of the 11 drafts from 2006-16. In that period 100 players were taken after spending their draft season in the NCAA.

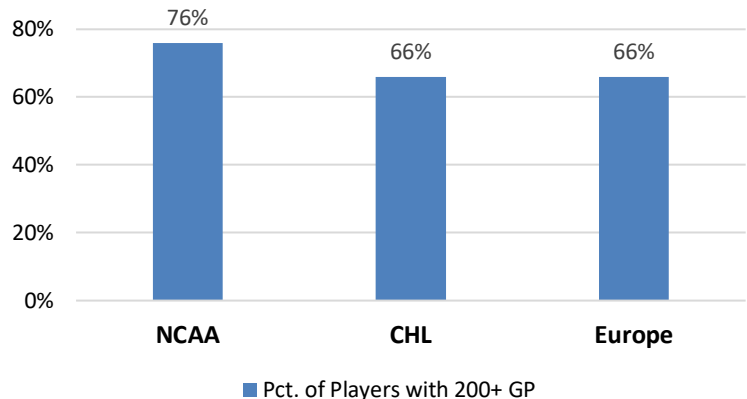
Of those players, a remarkable 68% reached the NHL for at least one game and 33% have appeared in more than 100 games. Those figures are 21 and 7 percentage points higher, respectively, than all other players in the draft.

For picks beyond the first round – where roughly 40% of all selections ever make the NHL – 65% of players who spent their draft year in the NCAA reached the NHL for at least a game (33% for 100+ GP).

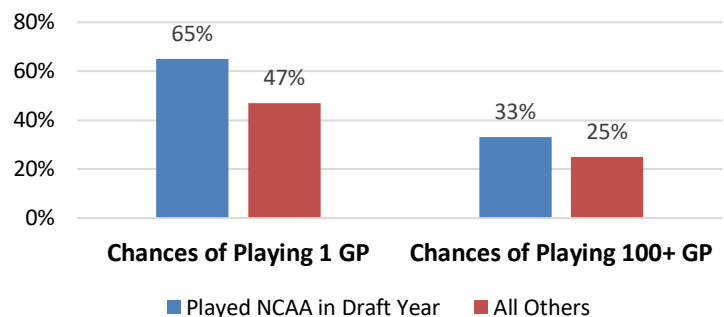
Picks who Played NCAA in their Draft Year

2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
4	9	8	13	9	5	6	8	10	9	7	9	8	16

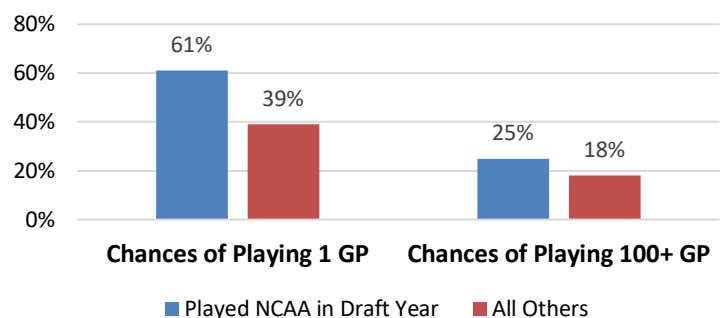
First-Round NHL Draft Picks, 2000-15



NHL Draft Picks, 2006-16



NHL Draft Picks, 2006-16 - Rounds 2-7



CURRENT & FUTURE NCAA PLAYERS IN NHL CENTRAL SCOUTING'S RANKINGS

- 35 schools represented (of 60 in Division I) • 4 uncommitted players
- Sortable rankings: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/articles/2020/04/central-scouting-ranks-106.php>

North American Skaters

Rank	Name	NCAA Team			
4	Jake Sanderson	North Dakota	126	Nick Capone	Connecticut
12	Dylan Holloway	Wisconsin	127	Lucas Mercuri	Massachusetts
20	Brendan Brisson	Michigan	128	David Ma	Princeton
24	Ty Smilanic	Quinnipiac	131	Mason Langenbrunner	Harvard
29	Thomas Bordeleau	Michigan	132	Mason Lohrei	Ohio State
31	Sam Colangelo	Northeastern	140	Ryan Tverberg	Harvard
36	Yan Kuznetsov	Connecticut	141	David Sacco	New Hampshire
37	Wyatt Kaiser	Minnesota Duluth	142	Danny Weight	Boston College
40	Luke Tuch	Boston University	143	Trevor Kuntar	Harvard
41	Danil Gushchin	Uncommitted	144	Zachary Urdahl	Wisconsin
42	Tyler Kleven	North Dakota	145	Alex Young	Colgate
43	Dylan Peterson	Boston University	146	Joel Maatta	Uncommitted
44	Brock Faber	Minnesota	152	Grant Slukynsky	Northern Michigan
45	Brett Berard	Providence	156	Evan Bushy	St. Cloud State
47	Ian Moore	Harvard	157	Daniel Laatsch	Wisconsin
49	Mitchell Miller	North Dakota	158	Kyle Aucoin	Harvard
50	Carter Savoie	Denver	159	Ben Schoen	Penn State
51	Eamon Powell	Boston College	160	Timofey Spitserov	Massachusetts
57	Michael Benning	Denver	161	Ryan Alexander	Arizona State
61	Alex Laferriere	Harvard	162	Declan Carlile	Merrimack
62	Sean Farrell	Harvard	167	Carter Loney	Minnesota Duluth
64	Blake Biondi	Minnesota Duluth	168	Kyler Kovich	Cornell
68	Jacob Truscott	Michigan	169	Jack Smith	Minnesota Duluth
71	Colby Ambrosio	Boston College	170	Cole O'Hara	Massachusetts
77	Ethan Edwards	Michigan	174	Tucker McIntosh	St. Lawrence
82	Zachary Uens	Merrimack	180	Joe Miller	Minnesota
83	Luke Reid	New Hampshire	181	Dylan Abbott	Minnesota State
88	Landon Slaggert	Notre Dame	182	Timothy Lovell	Boston College
90	Jake Ratzlaff	Minnesota	184	Christian Jimenez	Harvard
91	Wyatt Schingoethe	Denver	185	Cameron Berg	Omaha
92	Chase Yoder	Providence	186	Kienan Draper	Miami
93	Artem Shlaine	Connecticut	187	Paul Dore	Uncommitted
94	Jackson Kunz	North Dakota	189	Matthew Gleason	Colorado College
95	Riley Duran	Providence	195	Seamus Campbell	Quinnipiac
96	Matteo Costantini	North Dakota	199	Zakary Karpa	Princeton
97	Alex Jefferies	Merrimack	203	Zachary Michaelis	Omaha
102	Ryder Rolston	Notre Dame	204	Hank Kempf	Cornell
104	Carson Bantle	Michigan Tech	205	Christian Miller	St. Cloud State
105	Ryan McGuire	Colgate	206	Hunter McKown	Colorado College
110	Sam Stange	Wisconsin	211	Gunnarwolfe Fontaine	Northeastern
111	Carsen Richels	New Hampshire	212	Carl Berglund	UMass Lowell
113	Jake Boltmann	Minnesota	214	Chase Bradley	Northeastern
117	Nathan Schweitzer	Colorado College	215	Noah Ellis	Massachusetts
119	Ethan Bowen	North Dakota	216	Trey Taylor	Clarkson
122	Jacob Flynn	Connecticut	LV	Ben Meehan	UMass Lowell
123	Stephen Halliday	North Dakota	LV	Michael Gildon	Ohio State
124	Aidan Thompson	Denver	ITL-72	Veeti Miettinen	St. Cloud State
125	Kristof Papp	Michigan State	ITL-82	Vittorio Mancini	Omaha

North American Goaltenders

2	Drew Comness	Boston University
8	Devon Levi	Northeastern
15	Noah Grannan	Wisconsin
17	Colin Purcell	Massachusetts
18	Gustave Bylin	Uncommitted
20	Jakub Dobes	Ohio State
21	Grant Riley	Boston College
23	Gabriel Carriere	Vermont
25	Cameron Rowe	Wisconsin
27	Victor Ostman	Maine

NCAA IN THE NHL**45 schools had an alum in the NHL in 2019-20. Colleges producing the most 2019-20 NHLers:**

Boston College, Michigan, North Dakota – 20

Minnesota – 18

Boston University – 17

Notre Dame, Wisconsin – 16

NHL players by years in school**(66% played at least three years)**

Four years – 81

Three years – 109

Two years – 62

One year – 35

By position:

166 forwards ▪ 102 defensemen ▪ 20 goaltenders

By NHL Draft status:

70 – First round

41 – Second round

25 – Third round

20 – Fourth round

28 – Fifth round

11 – Sixth round

15 – Seventh round

1 – Ninth round

68 were undrafted free agents (47% of all undrafted NHL players)

IN THE NHL

43 schools had at least one NHL Draft pick on their roster in 2019-20. Colleges with the most draft picks:

Minnesota – 14

Boston College, Boston University, Wisconsin – 12

North Dakota – 10

Harvard – 9

Northeastern – 8

All 31 NHL teams had prospects in college in 2019-20. Those with the most:

Florida – 12

Philadelphia, Tampa Bay – 10

Anaheim, Carolina, Colorado – 9

Chicago, Minnesota, NY Islanders, NY Rangers, Vegas – 8

Full list: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/nhl-draft-picks-playing-college-hockey.php>

13 NHL general managers played college hockey:

Don Sweeney, Boston (Harvard)

Kevyn Adams, Buffalo (Miami)

Don Waddell, Carolina (Northern Michigan)

Jarmo Kekalainen, Columbus (Clarkson)

Bill Zito, Florida (Yale)

Rob Blake, Los Angeles (Bowling Green)

Bill Guerin, Minnesota (Boston College)

David Poile, Nashville (Northeastern)

Tom Fitzgerald, New Jersey (Providence)

Lou Lamoriello, NY Islanders (Providence)

Chuck Fletcher, Philadelphia (Harvard)

Kelly McCrimmon, Vegas (Michigan)

Brian MacLellan, Washington (Bowling Green)

9 NHL head coaches played college hockey:

Rod Brind'Amour, Carolina (Michigan State)

John Tortorella, Columbus (Maine)

Jeff Blashill, Detroit (Ferris State)

Dave Tippett, Edmonton (North Dakota)

John Hynes, Nashville (Boston University)

David Quinn, New York Rangers (Boston University)

Mike Sullivan, Pittsburgh (Boston University)

Jon Cooper, Tampa Bay (Hofstra club hockey/varsity lax)

Peter Laviolette, Washington (Westfield State)

Many more former NCAA players play key roles on the draft floor. Full list of former NCAA players in NHL executive roles: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/former-collegians-nhl-front-offices.php>

OTHER RESOURCES

College Hockey, Inc. Media Center: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/media-center>

For additional information:

Nate Ewell

College Hockey, Inc.

newell@collegehockeyinc.com

Cell: 617-780-0295