



## 2019 NHL DRAFT GUIDE



### THE NHL'S GROWING NCAA INFLUENCE

The impact of former NCAA players, executives and coaches continues to grow; the 2019 NHL Draft is just the latest step in a developing trend.

Consider:

- A record 327 NCAA alumni appeared in the NHL this season, comprising 33% of all NHL players. | [Infographic](#)
- The 2018 NHL Draft saw 64 NCAA players selected, the most in six years.
- Twelve NHL general managers played NCAA hockey and eight of the last 11 Stanley Cup-winning GMs are graduates of NCAA schools.

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**TOP STORYLINES**

**First things** – Most mock drafts project from eight to 10 future NCAA players to be selected in the first round of the 2019 NHL Draft. That would mark the most NCAA first-round selections since 2016 and close to an all-time record (11, set in 2016 and 2007).

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

**U!S!A!** – It is expected to be a big year for American-born players in the NHL Draft, and college hockey is naturally a part of that. Eighty percent of American players in the NHL played NCAA hockey. In the 2018 NHL Draft, 46 of 52 Americans selected were current or future NCAA players.

**NHL DRAFT BY THE NUMBERS**

179 – NCAA players selected by the Montreal Canadiens in NHL Amateur/Entry Drafts, the most of any franchise

164 – NCAA players drafted in the first round since 1964 (St. Lawrence’s Alex Campbell was the first)

124 – NCAA players taken in the 1987 Entry Draft, the most in any one draft

115 – NCAA players and recruits in NHL Central Scouting’s Final Rankings

37 – Schools represented (of the 60 in Division I) in the Central Scouting rankings

23 – 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 – NCAA schools that have produced a first-round pick in the last 11 drafts

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

9 – The most picks from one school in one draft (Minnesota, 2007)

9 – First round picks from Boston University in the last four NHL Drafts

4 – The most top-10 picks in one year 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

**NCAA Draft Picks by Year**

Year	1st Rd.	NCAA	Total Picks
2018	7	64	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	61	211
2007	11	75	211
2006	7	70	213
2005	8	68	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	43	258
1997	-	43	246
1996	3	41	241
1995	-	12	234
1994	2	64	286
1993	3	70	286
1992	3	55	264
1991	3	97	264
1990	3	109	250
1989	3	112	252
1988	2	108	252
1987	1	124	252
1986	5	91	252
1985	3	88	252
1984	2	98	250
1983	1	75	242
1982	1	71	252
1981	1	49	211
1980	1	56	210
1979	1	17	126
1978	-	81	234
1977	-	52	185
1976	1	29	135
1975	-	64	217
1974	-	47	246
1973	-	26	168
1972	-	20	152
1971	1	25	117
1970	-	17	115
1969	-	8	85
1968	1	3	24
1967	-	1	18
1966	-	1	24
1965	-	0	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 11 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
<a href="#">1994 Draft, NHL.com</a>	2 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">1997 Draft, NHL.com</a>	0 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	3 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">1998 Draft, NHL.com</a>	1 NCAA player in 1st Rd.	4 NCAA players in top 24 picks
<a href="#">2000 Draft, NHL.com</a>	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	8 NCAA players in top 23 picks
<a href="#">2001 Draft, NHL.com</a>	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2003 Draft, NHL.com</a>	9 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	10 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2003 Draft, Sportsnet</a>	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.
<a href="#">2004 Draft, NHL.com</a>	5 NCAA players in top 23 picks	6 NCAA players in top 23 picks
<a href="#">2005 Draft, NHL.com</a>	8 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	10 NCAA players in top 27 picks
<a href="#">2007 Draft, NHL.com</a>	11 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	13 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2008 Draft, ESPN.com</a>	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	6 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2008 Draft, NHL.com</a>	4 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	6 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2009 Draft, ESPN.com</a>	0 NCAA players in top 15 picks	4 NCAA players in top 15 picks
<a href="#">2010 Draft, NHL.com</a>	8 NCAA players in top 30 picks	9 NCAA players in top 29 picks
<a href="#">2010 Draft, ESPN.com</a>	8 NCAA players in top 30 picks	9 NCAA players in top 23 picks
<a href="#">2012 Draft, NHL.com</a>	5 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	9 NCAA players in top 25 picks
<a href="#">2013 Draft, The Athletic</a>	0 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2013 Draft, NHL.com</a>	0 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	5 NCAA players in top 26 picks
<a href="#">2014 Draft, NHL.com</a>	3 NCAA players in 1st Rd.	7 NCAA players in 1st Rd.
<a href="#">2015 Draft, The Athletic</a>	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

The Washington Post

Fancy Stats

### College hockey players undervalued in the NHL draft and here's why

By Neil Greenberg June 23, 2014



Why you should hope your favorite team drafts an NCAA hockey player

by Justin Bourne Jun 24, 12:44 PM

**DRAFT RESEARCH**

**First-Round Draft Picks**

A study of the 374 first-round draft picks from 2000-12 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 374 first-round picks from 2000-12, 78 (or 21%) were on the NCAA path, fewer than the CHL (207, 55%) or Europe (24%).

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

**Average Draft Position, 2000-12 First Rounders**

CHL	14.7
European	15.0
NCAA	17.5

**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.

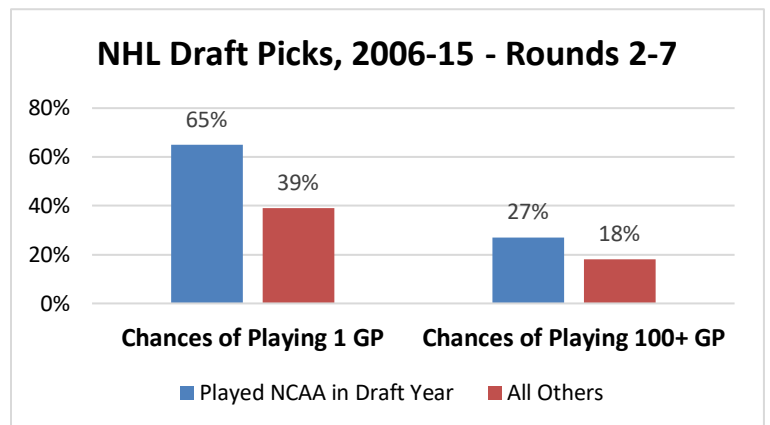
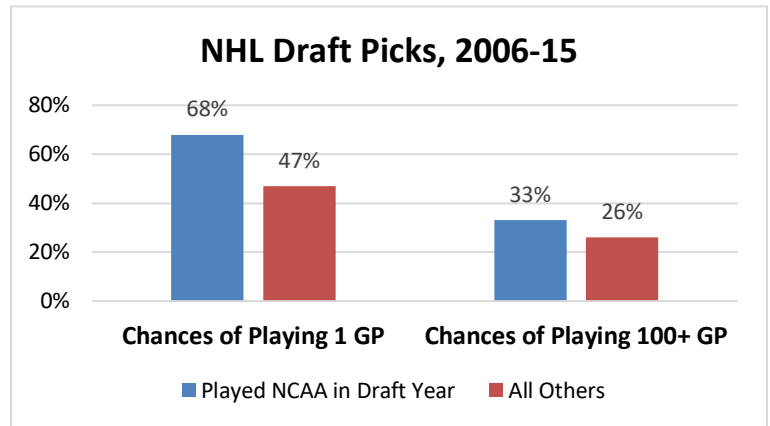
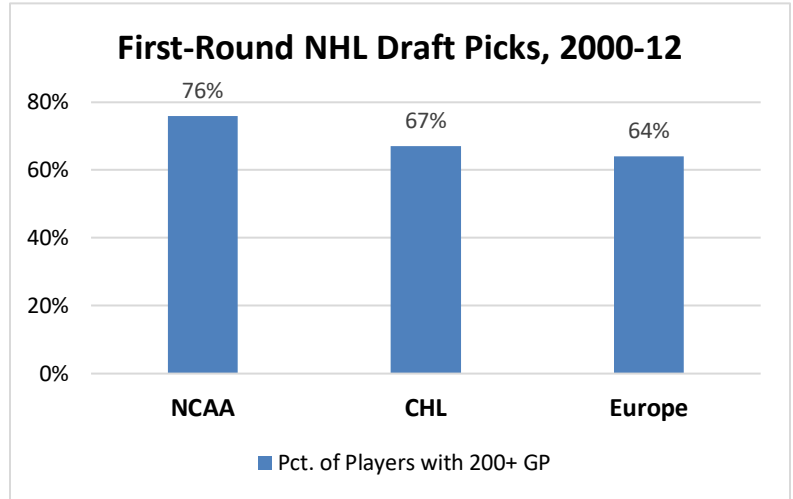
College Hockey Inc. conducted a study of the 10 drafts from 2006-15. In that period 87 players were taken after spending their draft season in the NCAA.

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**

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



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

- 37 schools represented (of 60 in Division I) • 6 uncommitted players
- Sortable rankings: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/2019-nhl-central-scouting-final-rankings.php>

**North American Skaters**

Rank	Name	NCAA Team			
			105	Quinn Olson	Minnesota Duluth
4	Alex Turcotte	Wisconsin	106	Garrett Pinoniemi	Minnesota
6	Trevor Zegras	Boston University	107	Alexander Yakovenko	Uncommitted
8	Cole Caufield	Wisconsin	108	Eric Ciccolini	Michigan
9	Matthew Boldy	Boston College	109	Austen Swankler	Michigan
12	Cam York	Michigan	110	Michael Gildon	Ohio State
13	Alex Newhook	Boston College	111	Jackson Millar	Colorado College
19	Bobby Brink	Denver	112	Sam Stange	Wisconsin
23	Vladislav Firstov	Connecticut	114	Jeremie Bucheler	Northeastern
28	Shane Pinto	North Dakota	115	Benjamin Brinkman	Minnesota
33	Ryan Johnson	Minnesota	116	Ryan Siedem	Harvard
35	John Farinacci	Harvard	119	Trevor Janicke	Notre Dame
36	Jackson Lacombe	Minnesota	120	Hunter Skinner	Western Michigan
38	Alex Vlasic	Boston University	121	Nikita Nesterenko	Brown
39	Henry Thrun	Harvard	122	Nicholas Abruzzese	Harvard
40	Braden Doyle	Boston University	124	Kevin Wall	Penn State
43	Alexander Campbell	Clarkson	129	Keighan Gerrie	Bowling Green
46	Drew Helleston	Boston College	130	Zachary Uens	Merrimack
47	Marcus Kallionkieli	Uncommitted	131	Tomas Mazura	Providence
48	Jayden Struble	Northeastern	133	Matthew Steinburg	Cornell
49	John Beecher	Michigan	134	Marc Del Gaizo	Massachusetts
51	Matias Maccelli	Uncommitted	137	Luke Bast	North Dakota
52	Anthony Romano	Clarkson	139	Ben Meehan	UMass Lowell
53	Robert Mastrosimone	Boston University	143	Jami Krannila	St. Cloud State
60	Grant Silianoff	Notre Dame	144	Arlo Merritt	Ohio State
61	Marshall Warren	Boston College	147	Joshua Luedtke	Denver
62	Layton Ahac	Ohio State	150	Matej Blumel	Connecticut
67	Judd Caulfield	North Dakota	154	Christopher Giroday	Western Michigan
68	Domenick Fensore	Boston University	155	Brendan Budy	Uncommitted
69	Michael Koster	Minnesota	157	Carter Berger	Connecticut
70	Zachary Jones	Massachusetts	163	Malik Alishlalov	Connecticut
73	Patrick Moynihan	Providence	167	Ethan Leyh	Quinnipiac
75	William Francis	Minnesota Duluth	173	Cade Alami	Providence
76	Ronald Attard	Western Michigan	176	Nate Warner	Minnesota
77	Case McCarthy	Boston University	177	John Beaton	Rensselaer
78	Ethan Phillips	Boston University	178	Spencer Meier	St. Cloud State
80	Harrison Blaisdell	North Dakota	179	Chase Felgueiras	Uncommitted
82	Jack Malone	Cornell	180	Jackson Jutting	Colorado College
83	Tyce Thompson	Providence	183	Lynden Breen	Maine
84	Massimo Rizzo	North Dakota	184	Tyler Spott	Northeastern
85	Maxwell Crozier	Providence	185	Tyler Young	Providence
86	Joshua Nodler	Michigan State	191	Kyle Bettens	Bemidji State
87	Cade Webber	Boston University	193	Simon Mack	Penn State
88	Cooper Moore	North Dakota	195	Jack Jensen	Minnesota
89	Bryce Brodzinski	Minnesota	196	Kaden Bohlsen	Omaha
90	Aaron Huglen	Minnesota	197	Kirby Proctor	Omaha
93	Owen Lindmark	Wisconsin	201	Zachary Okabe	St. Cloud State
97	Ryder Donovan	Wisconsin	203	Michael Vorlicky	Wisconsin
98	Rhett Pitlick	Minnesota	205	Jonathan Sorenson	Minnesota

Rank	Name	NCAA Team
207	Jack Ring	New Hampshire
210	Parker Ford	Providence
211	Alexander Steeves	Notre Dame
212	Mason Snell	Penn State
215	Ty Glover	Western Michigan

North American Goaltenders		
1	Spencer Knight	Boston College
4	Cameron Rowe	North Dakota
5	Samuel Hlavaj	Uncommitted

9	Cole Brady	Arizona State
10	Carter Gylander	Colgate
11	Ethan Haider	Clarkson
13	Isaiah Saville	Omaha
14	Henry Wilder	Boston College
15	Gabriel Carriere	Vermont
19	Jonathan Williams	Michigan State
24	Matthew Davis	Denver
26	Alexandros Aslanidis	Providence
29	Derek Mullahy	Harvard
31	Ben Kraws	Miami

**NCAA IN THE NHL**

A record 33% of all NHL players in 2018-19 developed in the NCAA (327 players)

Full list: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/2018-19-alums-nhl.php>

49 schools had an alum in the NHL last season

**Colleges producing the most 2018-19 NHLers:**

- Boston College, Minnesota – 22
- Michigan, North Dakota – 21
- Boston University – 20
- Wisconsin – 15
- St. Cloud State – 14

**NHL players by years in school (70% played at least three years)**

- Four years – 108
- Three years – 119
- Two years – 68
- One year – 32

**By position:**

182 forwards ▪ 117 defensemen ▪ 28 goaltenders

**By nationality:**

231 Americans ▪ 84 Canadians ▪ 12 Europeans

**By NHL Draft status:**

- 70 – First round
- 44 – Second round
- 26 – Third round
- 21 – Fourth round
- 31 – Fifth round
- 20 – Sixth round
- 17 – Seventh round
- 1 – Ninth round
- 97 were undrafted free agents (56% of all undrafted NHL players)

**2018-19 ALUMNI IN THE NHL THE MOST EVER!**

- 327 NCAA ALUMNI IN THE NHL (95% ↑ IN THE LAST 15 YEARS)
- 33% OF ALL NHL PLAYERS (MATCHING THE RECORD HIGH)
- 14 PLAYERS DEBUTED AFTER THE NCAA SEASON
- 1 OF EVERY 3 NHL PLAYERS IN 2018-19 DEVELOPED IN NCAA HOCKEY
- 28 NCAA ALUMNI GOALIES
- 90% GRADUATION RATE OF NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S HOCKEY PLAYERS
- 49 OF 60 NCAA DIVISION I SCHOOLS HAD AN ALUM PLAYING IN THE NHL IN 2018-19
- 70% OF NCAA ALUMNI PLAYED AT LEAST THREE SEASONS ON CAMPUS.

**JAKE GUENTZEL**  
One of two NCAA alumni with 40+ goals

**JOHNNY GAUDREAU**  
Paced the Western Conference-leading Calgary Flames

**CHARLIE MCAVOY**  
Top Bruins defenseman in ice time in second pro season

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## IN THE NHL

### **43 schools had at least one NHL Draft pick on their roster in 2018-19. Colleges with the most draft picks:**

Minnesota – 13  
Boston University – 12  
Boston College – 11  
Providence – 10  
Michigan – 9  
North Dakota, Notre Dame, Wisconsin – 8

### **All 31 NHL teams had prospects in college in 2018-19. Those with the most:**

Chicago – 13  
Florida, Nashville, Philadelphia – 10  
Florida, NY Islanders, Ottawa, San Jose, Tampa Bay – 9  
Buffalo, Colorado, Detroit, Edmonton – 8

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

### **12 NHL general managers played college hockey:**

Don Sweeney, Boston (Harvard)  
Jason Botterill, Buffalo (Michigan)  
Don Waddell, Carolina (Northern Michigan)  
Jarmo Kekalainen, Columbus (Clarkson)  
Rob Blake, Los Angeles (Bowling Green)  
Paul Fenton, Minnesota (Boston University)  
David Poile, Nashville (Northeastern)  
Ray Shero, New Jersey (St. Lawrence)  
Lou Lamoriello, NY Islanders (Providence)  
Chuck Fletcher, Philadelphia (Harvard)  
Kelly McCrimmon, Vegas (Michigan)  
Brian MacLellan, Washington (Bowling Green)

### **11 NHL head coaches played college hockey:**

Rod Brind'Amour, Carolina (Michigan State)  
John Tortorella, Columbus (Maine)  
Jim Montgomery, Dallas (Maine)  
Jeff Blashill, Detroit (Ferris State)  
Dave Tippett, Edmonton (North Dakota)  
Peter Laviolette, Nashville (Westfield State)  
John Hynes, New Jersey (Boston University)  
David Quinn, New York Rangers (Boston University)  
Mike Sullivan, Pittsburgh (Boston University)  
Jon Cooper, Tampa Bay (Hofstra club hockey/varsity lax)  
Todd Reirden, Washington (Bowling Green)

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>

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