

KICKOFF 2024 GUIDE



KICKOFF 2024



NEW RULES IN 2024

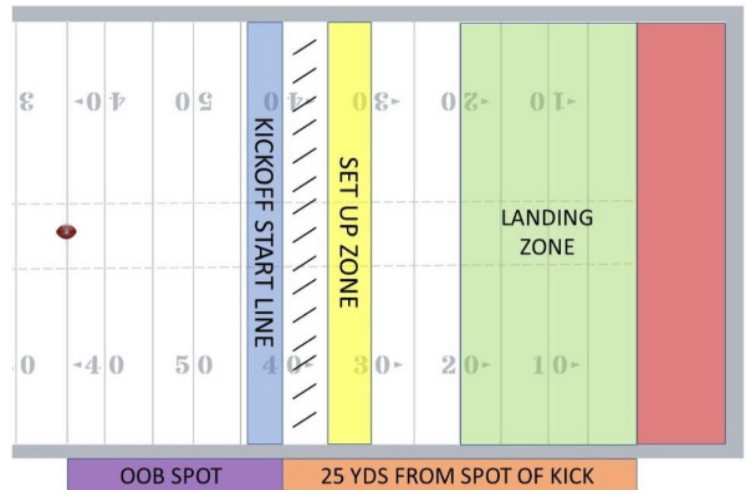
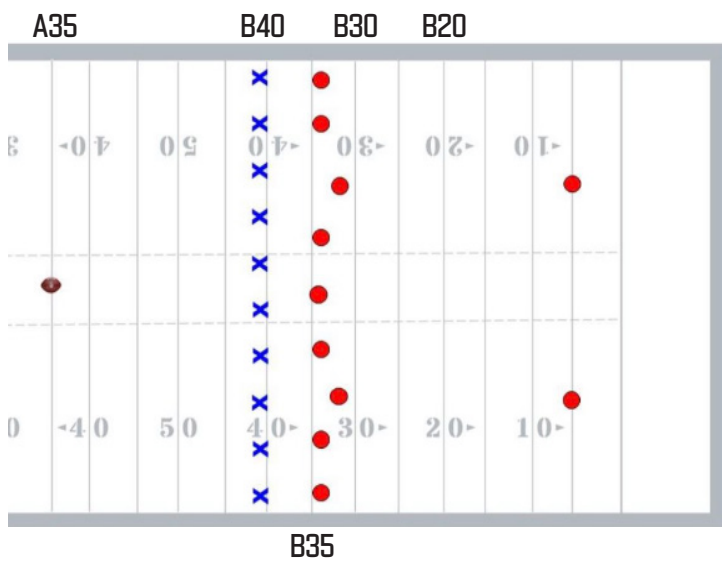
To address the lowest kickoff return rate in NFL history during the 2023 season and an unacceptable injury rate on kickoffs prior to that, NFL clubs have approved a new kickoff rule for the 2024 season.

To create a new form of a free kick play that is designed to:

- Resemble a typical scrimmage play by aligning players on both teams closer together and restricting movement to reduce space and speed
- Promote more returns

DYNAMIC KICKOFF DETAILS

- The ball is kicked from the A35 yard line (same as current rule)
- Safety kicks would be from A20 yard line (same as current rule)



Alignment

- Resemble a typical scrimmage play by aligning players on both teams closer together and restricting movement to reduce space and speed
- All kicking team players other than the kicker will line up with one foot on the receiving team's B40 yard line
 - » Kicker cannot cross the 50-yard line until ball touches the ground or player in landing zone or end zone
 - » The 10 kicking team players cannot move until the ball hits the ground or player in the landing zone or the end zone
- The receiving team will line up as follows:
 - » Setup Zone, a five-yard area from the B35 to the B30 yard line where at least nine receiving team players must line up
 - At least seven players with foot on the B35 yard line (restraining line) with alignment requirements (outside numbers, numbers to hashes, and inside hashes)
 - Players not on the restraining line must be lined up in setup zone outside the hash marks
 - All players in the setup zone cannot move until the kick has hit the ground or a player in the landing zone or the end zone
 - » A maximum of two returners may line up in the landing zone and can move at any time prior to, or during, the kick

NEW RULES IN 2024

Landing Zone

- Landing zone is the area between the receiving team's goal line and its 20-yard line
- Any kick that hits short of the landing zone - treated like kickoff out of bounds and ball spotted at B40 yard line; play would be blown dead as soon as kick lands short of the landing zone
- Any kick that hits in the landing zone - must be returned
- Any kick that hits in the landing zone and then goes into the end zone - must be returned or downed by receiving team - if downed then touchback to B20 yard line
- Kick hits in end zone, stays inbounds - returned or downed - if downed then touchback to B30 yard line
- Any kick that goes out of the back of the end zone (in the air or bounces) - touchback to B30 yard line

Miscellaneous

- Onside kick:
 - » 4th quarter begins, the team trailing has the opportunity to declare an onside kick to the officials
 - » Current onside kickoff rules would apply. If onside kick goes beyond the setup zone untouched, kicking team penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct; return team would start the drive at the A20 yard line
- Penalties:
 - » The setup zone and landing zone will not change with any penalties that carry over to kickoffs. Alignment of 10 kickoff team players and all receiving team players would not change - only the spot of the kick would move
 - » Penalties on scoring plays will not carry over and will be taken on the Try
 - » Penalties on the Try may carry over, and if they do, only the placement of the kicker will change
- Safety Kick:
 - » The kick will be from the 20-yard line, and the kicker will have the option to use a tee; the setup zone and the landing zone will not change

HIP-DROP TACKLE

In advance of the 2024 season, NFL clubs have voted unanimously to remove the hip-drop tackle from the game.

A hip-drop tackle occurs when a defender wraps up a ball carrier and rotates or swivels his hips, unweighting himself and dropping onto ball carrier's legs during the tackle.

A hip-drop tackle will result in a 15-yard penalty and an automatic first-down if a player uses the following technique to bring a runner to the ground:

- Grabs the runner with both hands or wraps the runner with both arms
- Unweights himself by swiveling and dropping his hips and/or lower body, landing on and trapping the runner's leg(s) at or below the knee

NEW RULES IN 2024

ADDITIONAL REPLAY ASSIST

The Replay Official and designated members of the Officiating Department may consult with on-field officials, or conduct a replay review, or advise the game officials on specific, objective aspects of a play when clear and obvious video evidence is present, and/or to address game administration issues, including, but not limited to:

- a. penalty enforcement;
- b. the proper down;
- c. spot of a foul;
- d. the game clock;
- e. possession;
- f. completed or intercepted pass;
- g. touching of a loose ball, boundary line, goal line, or end line;
- h. location of the football or a player in relation to a boundary line, the line of scrimmage, the line to gain, or the goal line; or
- i. down by contact (when a player is not ruled down by contact on the field).

Nothing in this Article precludes a head coach or replay official from initiating a challenge or review otherwise allowed under Rule 15, Section 1.

Item 1. Game Clock. The game clock is reviewable for purposes of restoring time to the clock but not for purposes of taking time off the clock.

Notes:

1. *Time can be restored to the game clock if the clock operator incorrectly starts the game clock when it should remain stopped, provided that the correction occurs before the next legal snap or kick.*
2. *An on-field ruling that time expired during or after the last play of any half, or of an overtime period in the preseason or regular season, or of an overtime half in the postseason, is reviewable by the Replay Official only when the visual evidence demonstrates that the clock should have stopped with two or more seconds remaining. In the first half, time shall be restored only if the additional play will be a snap from scrimmage. In the second half, time shall be restored only if the next play will be a snap from scrimmage by a team that is trailing by eight points or less, or by either team if the score is tied.*
3. *The game clock is reviewable to determine if it properly expired when on-field officials restore time after the last play of any half, or of an overtime period in the preseason or regular season, or of an overtime half in the postseason. Visual evidence that a clock should have stopped includes any situation when the clock stops by rule after the ball becomes dead. Visual evidence that the clock should have stopped for a team timeout occurs when an official starts to raise his or her arm to signal a stopped clock.*

KICKOFF WEEKEND NOTES

Kickoff Weekend begins on Thursday, September 5 in primetime on NBC as the back-to-back Super Bowl champions Kansas City Chiefs welcome the Baltimore Ravens to GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium. Below is a sampling of notable active NFL Kickoff streaks:

- The **NEW ORLEANS SAINTS**, who host Carolina in Week 1, have won their past five Week 1 contests, the longest active streak the NFL.
- The **MIAMI DOLPHINS**, **PHILADELPHIA EAGLES** and **TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS** have each won their past three Kickoff Weekend contests while **BALTIMORE**, **CLEVELAND** and **WASHINGTON** have won their past two season-opening games.
- The **GREEN BAY PACKERS** open their season on the road against the **PHILADELPHIA EAGLES** in Brazil. The Packers have won 59 games on Kickoff Weekend, the most in the NFL.

HEAD COACHES:

- Kansas City's **ANDY REID** is 16-9 (.640) on Kickoff Weekend and his 16 wins are the most among active head coaches.
- Reid, Baltimore's **JOHN HARBAUGH** (12-4; .750), Pittsburgh's **MIKE TOMLIN** (10-6; .618) and Dallas' **MIKE MCCARTHY** (10-7; .588) are the only active head coaches who have won at least 10 Kickoff Weekend games.
- The Los Angeles Chargers' **JIM HARBAUGH** has won four consecutive games on Kickoff Weekend, the longest current streak among active head coaches.
- Jim Harbaugh (4-0), Philadelphia's **NICK SIRIANNI** (3-0) and Miami's **MIKE MCDANIEL** (2-0) are the only active head coaches with perfect records on Kickoff Weekend.
- Tennessee's **BRIAN CALLAHAN**, Carolina's **DAVE CANALES**, Seattle's **MIKE MACDONALD** and New England's **JEROD MAYO** make their NFL head coaching debuts in Kickoff Weekend. Las Vegas' **ANTONIO PIERCE** will make his Week 1 debut with the Raiders.
- Three head coaches - Jim Harbaugh, Atlanta's **RAHEEM MORRIS** and Washington's **DAN QUINN** - will be coaching the first game with their new club in Week 1.



HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

New teams making the playoffs and winning divisions, consistent teams excelling once again, records falling and young players making their mark all combined to help shape the story of the 2023 season.

The final week of the season once again came right down to the wire as five playoff spots were decided on the last day of the season. There were 20 teams still in Super Bowl contention with one week to play last season, tying 2006 for the most teams still in Super Bowl contention with one week to play. The season-ending excitement was due in part to having 16 divisional games played on the season's final weekend, a tradition instituted in 2010.

Every team enters the 2024 season with a trip to New Orleans and Super Bowl LIX in mind, and below are a few reasons why.

The **DETROIT LIONS** (NFC North) and **HOUSTON TEXANS** (AFC South) won their division after missing the postseason in 2022 and at least two teams have won their divisions the season after missing the playoffs in 20 of the past 21 years.

Houston clinched the AFC South after finishing in last place in the division in 2022. In 19 of the past 21 seasons, at least one team finished in first place the season after finishing in last or tied for last.

Teams to win their division a season after missing the postseason since 2003:

SEASON	NEW DIVISION WINNERS AFTER MISSING POSTSEASON
2023	Detroit, Houston*
2022	Jacksonville*, Minnesota
2021	Cincinnati*, Dallas
2020	Pittsburgh, Washington*
2019	Green Bay, San Francisco
2018	Baltimore, Chicago*, Dallas, Houston*
2017	Jacksonville*, L.A. Rams, New Orleans, Minnesota, Philadelphia*
2016	Atlanta, Dallas*
2015	Houston, Minnesota, Washington*
2014	Dallas, Pittsburgh
2013	Carolina*, Philadelphia*
2012	Washington*
2011	Denver*, Houston*, New York Giants, San Francisco
2010	Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City*, Pittsburgh, Seattle
2009	Cincinnati, Dallas, New England, New Orleans*
2008	Arizona, Carolina, Miami*, Minnesota
2007	Green Bay, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay*
2006	Baltimore*, New Orleans*, Philadelphia*, San Diego
2005	Chicago*, Cincinnati, New York Giants, Tampa Bay*
2004	Atlanta*, Pittsburgh, San Diego*
2003	Baltimore, Carolina*, Kansas City*, New England, St. Louis Rams

*worst to first



Since 1990 - a streak of 34 consecutive seasons - at least four teams every season have qualified for the playoffs after failing to make the postseason the year before. Six teams that missed the postseason in 2022 - **CLEVELAND, DETROIT, GREEN BAY, HOUSTON, PITTSBURGH** and the **LOS ANGELES RAMS** - accomplished the feat in 2023.

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

Teams to make the playoffs a season after failing to qualify since 1990:

SEASON	PLAYOFF TEAMS NOT IN PREVIOUS SEASON'S PLAYOFFS
1990	7 (Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, Los Angeles Raiders, Miami, New Orleans, Washington)
1991	5 (Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, New York Jets)
1992	6 (Miami, Minnesota, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Diego, San Francisco)
1993	5 (Denver, Detroit, Green Bay, Los Angeles Raiders, New York Giants)
1994	5 (Chicago, Cleveland, Miami, New England, San Diego)
1995	4 (Atlanta, Buffalo, Indianapolis, Philadelphia)
1996	5 (Carolina, Denver, Jacksonville, Minnesota, New England)
1997	5 (Detroit, Kansas City, Miami, New York Giants, Tampa Bay)
1998	5 (Arizona, Atlanta, Buffalo, Dallas, New York Jets)
1999	7 (Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Seattle, Tampa Bay, Tennessee, Washington)
2000	6 (Baltimore, Denver, New Orleans, New York Giants, Oakland, Philadelphia)
2001	6 (Chicago, Green Bay, New England, New York Jets, Pittsburgh, San Francisco)
2002	5 (Atlanta, Cleveland, Indianapolis, New York Giants, Tennessee)
2003	8 (Baltimore, Carolina, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, New England, St. Louis, Seattle)
2004	5 (Atlanta, Minnesota, New York Jets, Pittsburgh, San Diego)
2005	7 (Carolina, Chicago, Cincinnati, Jacksonville, New York Giants, Tampa Bay, Washington)
2006	7 (Baltimore, Dallas, Kansas City, New Orleans, New York Jets, Philadelphia, San Diego)
2007	6 (Green Bay, Jacksonville, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay, Tennessee, Washington)
2008	7 (Arizona, Atlanta, Baltimore, Carolina, Miami, Minnesota, Philadelphia)
2009	6 (Cincinnati, Dallas, Green Bay, New England, New Orleans, New York Jets)
2010	5 (Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Seattle)
2011	6 (Cincinnati, Denver, Detroit, Houston, New York Giants, San Francisco)
2012	4 (Indianapolis, Minnesota, Seattle, Washington)
2013	5 (Carolina, Kansas City, New Orleans, Philadelphia, San Diego)
2014	5 (Arizona, Baltimore, Dallas, Detroit, Pittsburgh)
2015	4 (Houston, Kansas City, Minnesota, Washington)
2016	6 (Atlanta, Dallas, Detroit, Miami, New York Giants, Oakland)
2017	8 (Buffalo, Carolina, Jacksonville, Los Angeles Rams, Minnesota, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Tennessee)
2018	7 (Baltimore, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Indianapolis, Los Angeles Chargers, Seattle)
2019	5 (Buffalo, Green Bay, Minnesota, San Francisco, Tennessee)
2020	7 (Chicago, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Los Angeles Rams, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay, Washington)
2021	7 (Arizona, Cincinnati, Dallas, Las Vegas, New England, Philadelphia, San Francisco)
2022	7 (Baltimore, Jacksonville, Los Angeles Chargers, Miami, Minnesota, New York Giants, Seattle)
2023	6 (Cleveland, Detroit, Green Bay, Houston, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles Rams)

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

The **KANSAS CITY CHIEFS** won their fourth Super Bowl title in 2023 and begin their quest to become the first franchise to three-peat as champions as the race to New Orleans' Caesars Superdome for Super Bowl LIX kicks off. Only nine teams have repeated as champions since the first Super Bowl in 1967, with the 2023 Chiefs (Super Bowls LVII and LVIII) being the last team to accomplish the feat.

Seven teams enter the 2024 season with a new head coach - **BRIAN CALLAHAN** in Tennessee, **DAVE CANALES** in Carolina, **JIM HARBAUGH** with the Los Angeles Chargers, **MIKE MACDONALD** in Seattle, **JEROD MAYO** in New England, **RAHEEM MORRIS** in Atlanta and **DAN QUINN** in Washington. **ANTONIO PIERCE** will enter his first Week 1 as a head coach in Las Vegas.

Fourteen head coaches in their first year with a new club have led their teams to the playoffs over the last seven seasons (2017-23): **DEMECO RYANS** (Houston) in 2023, **TODD BOWLES** (Tampa Bay), **BRIAN DABOLL** (New York Giants), **MIKE MCDANIEL** (Miami), **KEVIN O'CONNELL** (Minnesota) and **DOUG PEDERSON** (Jacksonville) in 2022, **NICK SIRIANNI** (Philadelphia) in 2021, **RON RIVERA** (Washington) and **KEVIN STEFANSKI** (Cleveland) in 2020, **MATT LAFLEUR** (Green Bay) in 2019, **MATT NAGY** (Chicago) and **FRANK REICH** (Indianapolis) in 2018, and **SEAN MCVAY** (L.A. Rams) and **SEAN MCDERMOTT** (Buffalo) in 2017.

Six quarterbacks - Southern California's **CALEB WILLIAMS** (No. 1 overall, Chicago), LSU's **JAYDEN DANIELS** (No. 2, Washington), North Carolina's **DRAKE MAYE** (No. 3, New England), Washington's **MICHAEL PENIX JR.** (No. 8, Atlanta), Michigan's **J.J. MCCARTHY** (No. 10, Minnesota) and Oregon's **BO NIX** (No. 12, Denver) - were selected in the first round of the 2024 NFL Draft. At least one rookie quarterback has started in Week 1 in 15 of the past 16 seasons.

FROM WORST TO FIRST

Competitive balance, one of the hallmarks of the NFL, gives fans hope entering each season.

In 19 of the past 21 seasons, at least one team finished in first place in its division the season after finishing in last or tied for last place. In fact, of the 53 teams in league history to go from "worst-to-first," 29 of them have done so in the past 21 years (2003-23), including an NFL-record three such teams in 2005 and 2006.

Two teams during that span, the 2009 New Orleans Saints and the 2017 Philadelphia Eagles, won the Super Bowl after finishing in last place in their division the season before.

Last year, the **HOUSTON TEXANS** won their division and advanced to the AFC Divisional playoffs after finishing in last place in the AFC South in 2022. Houston became the first team to win its division in the Super Bowl era with a rookie head coach (DeMeco Ryans) and rookie starting quarterback (C.J. Stroud).

THE TEAMS TO GO FROM "WORST-TO-FIRST" IN THEIR DIVISION SINCE 2003

SEASON	TEAM	RECORD	PRIOR SEASON RECORD
2003	Carolina	11-5	7-9
2003	Kansas City	13-3	8-8*
2004	Atlanta	11-5	5-11
2004	San Diego	12-4	4-12*
2005	Chicago	11-5	5-11
2005	New York Giants	11-5	6-10*
2005	Tampa Bay	11-5	5-11
2006	Baltimore	13-3	6-10*
2006	New Orleans	10-6	3-13
2006	Philadelphia	10-6	6-10
2007	Tampa Bay	9-7	4-12
2008	Miami	11-5	1-15
2009	New Orleans**	13-3	8-8
2010	Kansas City	10-6	4-12
2011	Denver	8-8	4-12
2011	Houston	10-6	6-10*

SEASON	TEAM	RECORD	PRIOR SEASON RECORD
2012	Washington	10-6	5-11
2013	Carolina	12-4	7-9*
2013	Philadelphia	10-6	4-12
2015	Washington	9-7	4-12
2016	Dallas	4-12	3-13
2017	Jacksonville	10-6	3-13
2017	Philadelphia**	13-3	7-9
2018	Chicago	13-3	5-11
2018	Houston	11-5	4-12*
2020	Washington	7-9	3-13
2021	Cincinnati	10-7	4-11-1
2022	Jacksonville	9-8	3-14
2023	Houston	10-7	3-13-1

* Tied for last place

** Won Super Bowl

Since 2003, the NFL's 29 teams to go from "worst-to-first" in their division are the most among the four major professional sports leagues in the United States.

In the NBA, only five teams since the 2003-04 season have finished first in their division after placing in last or tied for last the previous season. There have been seven such teams to accomplish the feat in the past 21 years in both the MLB and the NHL.

SEASON	NO. OF TEAMS TO GO FROM "WORST-TO-FIRST"	TOTAL DIVISIONS
NFL	29	8
MLB	7	6
NHL	7 ^{*^#}	4 ^{*^#}
NBA	5 [%]	6 [%]

*2004-05 season was cancelled due to lockout

% Realigned from four divisions in 2004-05

^Realigned from six divisions in 2012-13

Realigned divisions during 2020-21 season due to COVID-19

DIVISION TITLES - UP FOR GRABS

In the 22 seasons since realignment in 2002, 31 different teams have won division titles. In 2023, four divisions - the AFC North (Baltimore), AFC South (Houston), NFC East (Dallas) and NFC North (Detroit) - saw a new team finish in first place. Last season, the Lions won their first division since 1991.

Both the Detroit Lions (NFC North) and Houston Texans (AFC South) won their division after missing the postseason in 2022 and at least two teams have won their divisions the season after missing the playoffs in 20 of the past 21 years.

Houston completed the "worst-to-first" turnaround, winning the AFC South the season after finishing in last place in the division. At least one team has won its division the season after finishing in or tied for last place in 19 of the past 21 seasons.

Kansas City has won eight consecutive AFC West division titles, the second-longest streak of division titles in NFL history. Only the 2009-19 New England Patriots (11 consecutive seasons) have a longer streak.



THE TEAMS WITH THE MOST DIVISION TITLES & PLAYOFF BERTHS SINCE 2002

TEAM	DIVISION TITLES	PLAYOFF BERTHS
New England	16	17
Green Bay	12	16
Kansas City	10	13
Seattle	9	15
Indianapolis	9	14
Pittsburgh	9	14
Philadelphia	9	14
Baltimore	7	13
Dallas	7	10
New Orleans	7	9
Houston	7	7
Cincinnati	6	9
Denver	6	8
San Francisco	6	8
Tampa Bay	6	7
L.A. Chargers	5	8

TEAM	DIVISION TITLES	PLAYOFF BERTHS
Minnesota	5	8
Carolina	5	7
Atlanta	4	8
Tennessee	4	8
L.A. Rams	4	7
Buffalo	4	6
Chicago	4	5
N.Y. Giants	3	8
Arizona	3	5
Washington	3	5
Jacksonville	2	4
N.Y. Jets	1	5
Detroit	1	4
Miami	1	4
Las Vegas	1	3
Cleveland	0	3

OPENING GAME RECORDS

NFL Head Coaches

HEAD COACH	TEAM	W	L	T	PCT.
Jim Harbaugh	L.A. Chargers	4	0	0	1.000
Nick Sirianni	Philadelphia	3	0	0	1.000
Mike McDaniel	Miami	2	0	0	1.000
Sean McVay	L.A. Rams	6	1	0	.857
John Harbaugh	Baltimore	12	4	0	.750
Doug Pederson	Jacksonville	5	2	0	.714
Todd Bowles	Tampa Bay	4	2	0	.667
Andy Reid	Kansas City	16	9	0	.640
Mike Tomlin	Pittsburgh	10	6	1	.618
Matt LaFleur	Green Bay	3	2	0	.600
Mike McCarthy	Dallas	10	7	0	.588
Sean McDermott	Buffalo	4	3	0	.571
Sean Payton	Denver	8	8	0	.500
Kevin Stefanski	Cleveland	2	2	0	.500
Brian Daboll	N.Y. Giants	1	1	0	.500
Matt Eberflus	Chicago	1	1	0	.500
Kevin O'Connell	Minnesota	1	1	0	.500
Kyle Shanahan	San Francisco	3	4	0	.429
Dennis Allen	New Orleans	2	3	0	.400
Dan Quinn	Washington	2	4	0	.333
Dan Campbell	Detroit	1	2	0	.333
Raheem Morris	Atlanta	1	2	0	.333
Robert Saleh	N.Y. Jets	1	2	0	.333
Zac Taylor	Cincinnati	1	4	0	.200
Jonathan Gannon	Arizona	0	1	0	.000
DeMeco Ryans	Houston	0	1	0	.000
Shane Steichen	Indianapolis	0	1	0	.000
Mike Macdonald	Seattle	0	0	0	--
Jerod Mayo	New England	0	0	0	--
Brian Callahan	Tennessee	0	0	0	--
Antonio Pierce	Las Vegas	0	0	0	--
Dave Canales	Carolina	0	0	0	--

NFL Teams

AFC	W	L	T	PCT.	W Streak	L Streak	Current Streak
Denver	40	23	1	.635	7	4	L-2
Baltimore	16	12	0	.571	5	4	W-2
Kansas City	36	28	0	.563	8	4	L-1
L.A. Chargers	36	28	0	.563	6	6	L-1
Miami	32	25	1	.561	11	5	W-3
Pittsburgh	46	38	5	.547	8	3	L-1
New England	35	29	0	.547	10	3	L-3
Jacksonville	15	14	0	.517	6	5	W-1
Tennessee	32	32	0	.500	4	3	L-3
Las Vegas	31	33	0	.484	5	6	W-1
Houston	10	11	1	.477	5	4	L-1
N.Y. Jets	29	35	0	.453	5	5	W-1
Indianapolis	35	43	2	.449	8	8	L-1
Cincinnati	25	31	0	.446	4	4	L-2
Buffalo	27	37	0	.422	6	5	L-1
Cleveland	29	41	1	.415	5	13	W-2

NFC	W	L	T	PCT.	W Streak	L Streak	Current Streak
Dallas	40	23	1	.635	17	5	W-1
Green Bay	59	41	3	.590	6	6	W-1
Chicago	56	43	5	.566	9	6	L-1
Minnesota	35	27	1	.565	5	3	L-1
San Francisco	40	33	1	.548	6	3	W-1
N.Y. Giants	51	43	5	.543	4	5	L-1
Detroit	49	42	3	.538	10	4	W-1
L.A. Rams	46	40	0	.535	5	6	W-1
Washington	44	44	4	.500	6	5	W-2
Atlanta	29	29	0	.500	5	5	W-1
Philadelphia	42	47	1	.472	5	9	W-3
Tampa Bay	21	27	0	.438	3	5	W-3
Arizona	42	58	3	.421	6	7	L-2
Seattle	20	28	0	.417	4	8	L-1
New Orleans	22	35	0	.386	5	6	W-5
Carolina	11	18	0	.379	3	5	L-2



BEST OPENING GAME PERFORMANCES - 1933-2023

MOST YARDS RUSHING	YARDS	ATT	LG	TD
D.J. Simpson, Buffalo vs. New England, 9/16/73	250	29	80t	2
Arian Foster, Houston vs. Indianapolis, 9/12/10	231	33	42	3
Michael Turner, Atlanta vs. Detroit, 9/7/08	220	22	66t	2
Eddie George, Tennessee vs. Oakland, 8/31/97	216	35	29t	1
George Rogers, New Orleans vs. St. Louis, 9/4/83	206	24	76t	2
Gerald Riggs, Atlanta vs. New Orleans, 9/2/84	202	35	57	2
Duce Staley, Philadelphia vs. Dallas, 9/3/00	201	26	60	1
Norm Bulaich, Baltimore vs. N.Y. Jets, 9/19/71	198	22	67t	1
Curtis Martin, N.Y. Jets vs. Cincinnati, 9/12/04	196	29	24t	1
Alan Ameche, Baltimore vs. Chicago, 9/25/55	194	21	79t	1

MOST YARDS PASSING	YARDS	ATT	COMP	TD	INT
Norm Van Brocklin, L.A. Rams vs. N.Y. Yanks, 9/28/51	554	41	27	5	2
Tom Brady, New England vs. Miami, 9/12/11	517	48	32	4	1
Dan Marino, Miami vs. New England, 9/4/94	473	42	23	5	1
<i>Tua Tagovailoa, Miami vs. L.A. Chargers, 9/10/23</i>	<i>466</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>
Peyton Manning, Denver vs. Baltimore, 9/5/13	462	42	27	7	0
Matt Ryan, Atlanta vs. Seattle, 9/13/20	450	54	37	2	1
Eli Manning, N.Y. Giants vs. Dallas, 9/8/13	450	42	27	4	3
Matt Ryan, Atlanta vs. New Orleans, 9/7/14	448	43	31	3	0
Kurt Warner, St. Louis vs. Denver, 9/4/00	441	35	25	3	3
Drew Brees, New Orleans vs. Tampa Bay, 9/9/18	439	45	37	3	0

MOST YARDS RECEIVING	YARDS	REC	LG	TD
Frank Clarke, Dallas vs. Washington, 9/16/62	241	10	58t	3
Anquan Boldin, Arizona vs. Detroit, 9/7/03	217	10	71t	2
<i>Tyreek Hill, Miami vs. L.A. Chargers, 9/10/23</i>	<i>215</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>2</i>
Hugh Taylor, Washington vs. Philadelphia, 9/28/47	212	8	62t	3
Lance Alworth, San Diego vs. Denver, 9/11/65	211	7	48	1
Irving Fryar, Miami vs. New England, 9/4/94	211	5	54t	3
Anquan Boldin, San Francisco vs. Green Bay, 9/8/13	208	13	43	1
Wes Chandler, New Orleans vs. Atlanta, 9/2/79	205	6	42	1
Don Maynard, N.Y. Jets vs. Kansas City, 9/15/68	203	8	57t	2
Sammy Watkins, Kansas City vs. Jacksonville, 9/8/19	198	9	68t	3
Marty Booker, Chicago vs. Minnesota, 9/8/02	198	8	54	1

2023 PERFORMANCES IN BOLD & ITALICS

BEST OPENING GAME PERFORMANCES

PAST 10 YEARS (2014-23)

MOST YARDS RUSHING	YARDS	ATT	LG	TD
Marlon Mack, Indianapolis vs. L.A. Chargers, 9/8/19	174	25	63t	1
Carlos Hyde, San Francisco vs. Minnesota, 9/14/15	168	26	18	2
Saquon Barkley, N.Y. Giants vs. Tennessee, 9/11/22	164	18	68	1
Jonathan Taylor, Indianapolis vs. Houston, 9/11/22	161	31	17	1
<i>Christian McCaffrey, San Francisco vs. Pittsburgh, 9/10/23</i>	152	22	65	1
Kareem Hunt, Kansas City vs. New England, 9/17/17	148	17	58	1
D'Andre Swift, Detroit vs. Philadelphia, 9/11/22	144	15	50	1
DeAngelo Williams, Pittsburgh vs. Washington, 9/12/16	143	26	17	2
Matt Forte, Chicago vs. Green Bay, 9/13/15	141	24	23	1
Nick Chubb, Cleveland vs. Carolina, 9/11/22	141	22	25	0

MOST YARDS PASSING	YARDS	ATT	COMP	TD	INT
<i>Tua Tagovailoa, Miami vs. L.A. Chargers, 9/10/23</i>	466	45	28	3	1
Matt Ryan, Atlanta vs. Seattle, 9/13/20	450	54	37	2	1
Matt Ryan, Atlanta vs. New Orleans, 9/7/14	448	43	31	3	0
Drew Brees, New Orleans vs. Tampa Bay, 9/9/18	439	45	37	3	0
Derek Carr, Las Vegas vs. Baltimore, 9/13/21	435	56	34	2	1
Philip Rivers, L.A. Chargers vs. Kansas City, 9/9/18	424	51	34	3	1
Drew Brees, New Orleans vs. Oakland, 9/11/16	423	42	28	4	0
Andy Dalton, Cincinnati vs. Seattle, 9/8/19	418	51	35	2	0
Ryan Fitzpatrick, Tampa Bay vs. New Orleans, 9/9/18	417	28	21	4	0
Dak Prescott, Dallas vs. N.Y. Giants, 9/8/19	405	32	25	4	0

MOST YARDS RECEIVING	YARDS	REC	LG	TD
<i>Tyreek Hill, Miami vs. L.A. Chargers, 9/10/23</i>	215	11	47	2
Sammy Watkins, Kansas City vs. Jacksonville, 9/8/19	198	9	68t	3
Tyreek Hill, Kansas City vs. Cleveland, 9/12/21	197	11	75t	1
Deebo Samuel, San Francisco vs. Detroit, 9/12/21	189	9	79t	1
Justin Jefferson, Minnesota vs. Green Bay, 9/11/22	184	9	64	2
Antonio Brown, Pittsburgh vs. Cleveland, 9/10/17	182	11	50	0
Jared Cook, Oakland vs. L.A. Rams, 9/10/18	180	9	45	0
Michael Thomas, New Orleans vs. Tampa Bay, 9/9/18	180	16	35	1
A.J. Green, Cincinnati vs. New York Jets, 9/11/16	180	12	54	1
Willie Snead, New Orleans vs. Oakland, 9/11/16	172	9	49	1

BEST NFL RECORDS - PAST 10 YEARS (2014-23)

THE TEAMS WITH THE BEST OPENING MONTH RECORDS OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS (2014-23):

Getting off to a strong start is important.

Over the past 10 years, eight teams - **KANSAS CITY** (.719 winning percentage), **GREEN BAY** (.700), the **LOS ANGELES RAMS** (.656), **BALTIMORE** (.636), **DALLAS** (.636), **NEW ENGLAND** (.636), **PHILADELPHIA** (.621), and **BUFFALO** (.606) - have a winning percentage of at least .600 through the season's first month. Those eight clubs have combined for 52 playoff berths and 12 Super Bowl appearances - including eight Super Bowl championships - during that span.

Teams with the best opening month records over the past 10 years (2014-23):

TEAM	W	L	T	PCT.	PLAYOFF BERTHS	SUPER BOWL BERTHS	SUPER BOWL WINS
Kansas City	23	9	0	.719	9	4	3
Green Bay	24	10	1	.700	7	0	0
L.A. Rams	21	11	0	.656	5	2	1
Baltimore	21	12	0	.636	6	0	0
Dallas	21	12	0	.636	6	0	0
New England	21	12	0	.636	7	4	3
Philadelphia	20	12	1	.621	6	2	1
Buffalo	20	13	0	.618	6	0	0

In 2023, the four teams to appear on Championship Weekend - **BALTIMORE**, **DETROIT**, **KANSAS CITY**, and **SAN FRANCISCO** - began with a combined 10-3 record during the first month of the season.

THE TEAMS WITH THE BEST REGULAR AND POST-SEASON RECORDS OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS (2014-23):

Over the past 10 years (2014-23), four NFL teams have a winning percentage of .600-or-higher including the postseason - **KANSAS CITY** (133-52, .719), **NEW ENGLAND** (115-64, .642), **GREEN BAY** (108-68-1, .613) and **PITTSBURGH** (105-66-2, .613). Those four clubs have combined for 30 playoff berths, eight Super Bowl appearances and six Super Bowl championships in that span.

The Kansas City Chiefs, under the guidance of head coach **ANDY REID**, have the best regular season record over the past 10 years, qualifying for the postseason nine times and winning Super Bowls LIV, LVII, and LVIII.

Kansas City has won eight consecutive AFC West division titles, surpassing the 1973-79 Los Angeles Rams for the longest streak of division titles in NFL history. Only the 2009-19 New England Patriots (11 consecutive seasons) have a longer streak.

The Chiefs have won at least 11 games in six consecutive seasons (2018-23), joining the 2010-19 New England Patriots (10 consecutive seasons), 2003-09 Indianapolis Colts (seven), and 1976-81 Cowboys (six) as the only teams ever to accomplish the feat in six-or-more consecutive seasons.

The teams with the best records, including the postseason, over past 10 years (2014-23):

AFC	W	L	T	PCT.	PLAYOFF BERTHS	SUPER BOWL BERTHS	SUPER BOWL WINS
Kansas City	113	52	0	.719	9	4	3
New England	115	64	0	.642	7	4	3
Green Bay	108	68	1	.613	7	0	0
Pittsburgh	105	66	2	.613	7	0	0

TOTAL MILES TRAVELED

	TEAM	DIVISION	MILES
1.	L.A. Chargers	AFC West	26,803
2.	Miami	AFC East	25,869
3.	Seattle	NFC West	25,797
4.	New England	AFC East	25,071
5.	San Francisco	NFC West	24,575
6.	L.A. Rams	NFC West	24,263
7.	Las Vegas	AFC West	23,345
8.	Philadelphia	NFC East	22,756
9.	N.Y. Jets	AFC East	22,397
10.	Green Bay	NFC North	22,209
11.	Jacksonville	AFC South	22,075
12.	Carolina	NFC South	21,288
13.	Arizona	NFC West	21,064
14.	Denver	AFC West	19,670
15.	Chicago	NFC North	19,558
16.	N.Y. Giants	NFC East	19,295

	TEAM	DIVISION	MILES
17.	Minnesota	NFC North	19,030
18.	Dallas	NFC East	18,293
19.	Houston	AFC South	18,052
20.	Kansas City	AFC West	16,719
21.	Buffalo	AFC East	16,710
22.	Baltimore	AFC North	15,424
23.	Tampa Bay	NFC South	15,303
24.	Detroit	NFC North	14,328
25.	Cleveland	AFC North	13,998
26.	Tennessee	AFC South	13,311
27.	New Orleans	NFC South	13,084
28.	Atlanta	NFC South	12,416
29.	Pittsburgh	AFC North	12,047
30.	Indianapolis	AFC South	11,497
31.	Cincinnati	AFC North	10,611
32.	Washington	NFC East	10,550

The total distance traveled by all teams during the regular season will be 597,408 miles.

The teams from the NFC West (95,699) have the highest combined mileage total of all divisions.

The remaining division totals ranking from highest to lowest are the AFC East (90,047), AFC West (86,537), NFC North (75,125), NFC East (70,894), AFC South (64,935), NFC South (62,091) and AFC North (52,080).

Four teams - the **LOS ANGELES CHARGERS** (26,803), **MIAMI DOLPHINS** (25,869), **SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** (25,797) and **NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** (25,071) - will "travel around the world" at least once. A trip around the globe is 25,000 miles.

Five teams will have a three-game road trip at some point during the 2024 season: **BUFFALO** (Weeks 4-6), **CHICAGO** (Weeks 13-15), **CLEVELAND** (Weeks 4-6), **DETROIT** (Weeks 13-15) and **MINNESOTA** (Weeks 10-12).

Eight teams will have a three-game home stand at some point during the 2024 season: **ARIZONA** (Weeks 2-4), **ATLANTA** (Weeks 3-5), **CHICAGO** (Weeks 10-12), **CLEVELAND** (Weeks 7-9), the **LOS ANGELES CHARGERS** (Weeks 10-12), the **LOS ANGELES RAMS** (Weeks 5-8), **MINNESOTA** (Weeks 13-15) and **NEW ORLEANS** (Weeks 10-13).

Four teams start the season with back-to-back home games: **DETROIT**, **KANSAS CITY**, **MIAMI** and **PHILADELPHIA**.

Four teams start the season with back-to-back road games: the **LOS ANGELES RAMS**, **LAS VEGAS**, **NEW YORK JETS** and **PITTSBURGH**.

Five teams finish the season with back-to-back home games: the **LOS ANGELES RAMS**, **NEW ENGLAND**, **PHILADELPHIA**, **PITTSBURGH**, and **TAMPA BAY**.

Five teams finish the season with back-to-back road games: **CAROLINA**, **KANSAS CITY**, the **LOS ANGELES CHARGERS**, **MIAMI** and **SEATTLE**.

2024 STRENGTH OF SCHEDULE

TEAM	WIN PCT.	W	L	T	GAMES VS. TEAMS WITH .500+ WIN PCT. IN 2023	GAMES VS. 2023 PLAYOFF TEAMS
Cleveland Browns	.547	158	131	0	12	8
Baltimore Ravens	.536	155	134	0	12	10
Pittsburgh Steelers	.533	154	135	0	10	7
Houston Texans	.526	152	137	0	11	7
Green Bay Packers	.526	152	137	0	11	7
New York Giants	.516	149	140	0	12	8
Buffalo Bills	.516	149	140	0	11	8
Jacksonville Jaguars	.512	148	141	0	10	8
Las Vegas Raiders	.512	148	141	0	11	8
New England Patriots	.512	148	141	0	11	7
Detroit Lions	.509	147	142	0	11	8
Los Angeles Rams	.505	146	143	0	10	7
San Francisco 49ers	.505	146	143	0	11	9
Dallas Cowboys	.505	146	143	0	11	9
New York Jets	.505	146	143	0	11	8
Cincinnati Bengals	.502	145	144	0	9	9
Washington Commanders	.502	145	144	0	10	8
Minnesota Vikings	.502	145	144	0	10	7
Kansas City Chiefs	.502	145	144	0	9	7
Denver Broncos	.495	143	146	0	10	6
Indianapolis Colts	.491	142	147	0	9	7
Philadelphia Eagles	.491	142	147	0	11	8
Tennessee Titans	.491	142	147	0	11	6
Arizona Cardinals	.488	141	148	0	10	8
Seattle Seahawks	.488	141	148	0	8	8
Miami Dolphins	.488	141	148	0	10	7
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	.478	138	151	0	8	6
Los Angeles Chargers	.478	138	151	0	8	6
Carolina Panthers	.467	135	154	0	8	5
Chicago Bears	.467	135	154	0	10	7
New Orleans Saints	.453	131	158	0	8	8
Atlanta Falcons	.453	131	158	0	9	6

THE LAST TIME

THE LAST TIME IN THE REGULAR SEASON ... (2023 GAMES ARE IN BOLD)

PASSING (SINGLE GAME)	
500 YARDS	525, Joe Burrow, Cincinnati vs. Baltimore, December 26, 2021
7 TD PASSES	Drew Brees, New Orleans vs. New York Giants, November 1, 2015
60 ATTEMPTS	68, Patrick Mahomes, Kansas City vs. Tennessee, November 6, 2022
20 CONSECUTIVE COMPLETIONS	20, Patrick Mahomes, Kansas City vs. Houston, December 18, 2022
99-YARD TD PASS	99, Eli Manning to Victor Cruz, New York Giants vs. New York Jets, December 24, 2011

RECEIVING (SINGLE GAME)	
3 100-YARD GAMES, SAME TEAM	Houston vs. Tampa Bay, November 5, 2023 Noah Brown 6-153-1; Dalton Schultz 10-130-1; Tank Dell 6-114-2
300 YARDS	300, Julio Jones, Cincinnati vs. Arizona, October 8, 2023
15 RECEPTIONS	15, Ja'Marr Chase, Tampa Bay vs. Atlanta, December 5, 2021
4 TOUCHDOWNS	Travis Kelce, Kansas City vs. Las Vegas, October 10, 2022

RUSHING (SINGLE GAME)	
5 TOUCHDOWNS	6, Alvin Kamara, New Orleans vs. Minnesota, December 25, 2020
4 TOUCHDOWNS	4, Joe Mixon, Cincinnati vs. Carolina, November 6, 2022
40 ATTEMPTS	40, Shaun Alexander, Seattle vs. Green Bay, November 27, 2006
250 YARDS	253, Jonathan Taylor, Indianapolis vs. Jacksonville, January 3, 2021 250, Derrick Henry, Tennessee vs. Houston, January 3, 2021
99-YARD TD RUN	Derrick Henry, Tennessee vs. Jacksonville, December 6, 2018

INTERCEPTIONS (SINGLE GAME)	
4 INTERCEPTIONS	DeAngelo Hall, Washington vs. Chicago, October 24, 2010
3 INTERCEPTIONS	3, Jordan Whitehead, New York Jets vs. Buffalo, September 11, 2023
2 TOUCHDOWNS	2, Kenny Moore II, Indianapolis vs. Carolina, November 5, 2023
100-YARD TD RETURN	102, Jason Pinnock, New York Giants vs. Miami, October 8, 2023

SCORING (SINGLE GAME)	
10 PATS	10, Jason Sanders, Miami vs. Denver, September 24, 2023
3 FGS, 50 YARDS OR MORE	3, Jason Sanders, Miami vs. Dallas, December 24, 2024
60 OR MORE POINTS, TEAM	Las Vegas (63) vs. Los Angeles Chargers (21), December 14, 2023
100 OR MORE POINTS, BOTH TEAMS	105, Los Angeles Rams (54) vs. Kansas City (51), November 19, 2018
SCORELESS TIE	New York Giants vs. Detroit, November 7, 1943

RETURNS (SINGLE GAME)	
2 KICKOFF RETURN TOUCHDOWNS	Nyheim Hines, Buffalo vs. New England, January 8, 2023
2 CONSECUTIVE KICKOFF RETURN TOUCHDOWNS, BOTH TEAMS	New England vs. Oakland, December 14, 2008
2 PUNT RETURN TOUCHDOWNS	Nyheim Hines, Indianapolis vs. Carolina, December 22, 2019

ANNIVERSARY ANNALS

A SAMPLING OF 2024 NFL ANNIVERSARIES:

ANNIVERSARY	CELEBRATION
120th	Halfback Charles Follis signs a contract with the Shelby (Ohio) AC, making him the first known black pro football player (1904).
115th	A field goal's value changes from four points to three (1909).
105th	Earl (Curly) Lambeau and George Calhoun organize the Green Bay Packers in 1919 after Lambeau's employer at the Indian Packing Company provided \$500 for equipment and allowed the team to use the company field for practices.
100th	The New York Giants play their first season in the NFL (1925).
95th	Providence becomes the first NFL team to host a game at night under floodlights (1929).
85th	On October 22, 1939, an NFL game is televised for the first time when NBC broadcast the Brooklyn Dodgers-Philadelphia Eagles game from Ebbets Field in New York.
80th	The league legalizes the ability to coach from the bench (1944).
75th	The NFL has two 1,000-yard rushers in the same season for the first time - Pro Football Hall of Famers Steve Van Buren of Philadelphia and Tony Canadeo of Green Bay (1949).
55th	The NFL announces a three-year agreement with ABC to televise Monday Night Football. The new series makes the NFL the first league with a regular series of national telecasts in prime time (1969).
40th	The Colts franchise relocates to Indianapolis (1984).
35th	Jerry Jones purchases a majority interest in the Dallas Cowboys (1989).
30th	NFL clubs approve the transition of the Philadelphia Eagles to Jeffrey Lurie on May 6, 1994.
30th	The NFL launches NFL Sunday Ticket, a new season subscription service for satellite television dish owners (1994).
15th	The NFL launches its Red Zone Channel offering fans crucial live action cut-ins of all Sunday afternoon games (2009).
10th	The NFL announced changes to its flexible scheduling procedures, allowing prominent games to be flexed into Sunday Night Football as early as Week 5 and introducing the "cross flex" mechanism, allowing games to be flexed between CBS and FOX during the regular season (2014).
5th	The NFL celebrates its 100th season, which included the league using a special logo throughout the 2019 season, the announcement of its NFL 100 All-Time Team, comprised of the 100 greatest players and 10 greatest coaches in league history, and more celebrations (2019).
5th	The NFL launches the Inspire Change platform, which showcases the collaborative efforts of players, owners and the league to create positive change in communities across the country (2019).

NOT DRAFTED? NOT A PROBLEM

Nine undrafted players were selected to the 2024 Pro Bowl Games last season, including **RAHEEM MOSTERT** and **RASHID SHAHEED**.

After breaking school football records as a freshman and competing in track at Purdue, Mostert was not selected in the 2015 NFL Draft and signed with Philadelphia as a free agent. After being released, he spent time on a few practice squads before earning an active roster spot for San Francisco. In 2022, Mostert signed with Miami, where he has had his two best career seasons, including totaling a league-high 18 rushing touchdowns in 2023, earning his first selection to the Pro Bowl Games.

"In my head, I was like, 'About time,'" said Mostert reflecting on being selected to his first Pro Bowl. "Just because I could've made it for special teams years ago. But it didn't work out in my favor. To finally be named to the Pro Bowl for the first time at my position is truly a blessing. I'm on cloud nine, even now thinking about it.

Undrafted out of Weber State in 2022, Shaheed spent the first few weeks of his NFL career on the Saints' practice squad before being called up to the active roster in Week 6 and scoring a 44-yard rushing touchdown on his first career touch. Shaheed had the third-most punt return yards (339) and was in the top-10 with 384 kickoff return yards in 2023, earning himself his first Pro Bowl Games selection and first first-team All-Pro nomination in his career.

THE UNDRAFTED PLAYERS SELECTED TO THE 2024 PRO BOWL GAMES

POSITION	PLAYER	2023 TEAM	COLLEGE
P	AJ Cole	LV	North Carolina State
LS	Andrew DePaola	MIN	Rutgers
FB	C.J. Ham	MIN	Augustana (S. Dak.)
FB	Alec Ingold	MIA	Wisconsin
LS	Ross Maticcik	JAX	Baylor
RB	Raheem Mostert	MIA	Purdue
RS/WR	Rashid Shaheed	NO	Weber State
K	Justin Tucker	BAL	Texas
CB	Charvarius Ward	SF	Middle Tennessee State



There are 22 members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame who began their careers as undrafted free agents, with **SAM MILLS** being the most recent inductee as part of the Class of 2022.

THE UNDRAFTED PLAYERS IN THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

HOF CLASS	PLAYER	TEAM	COLLEGE(S)
1967	Emlen Tunnell	NYG	Toledo, Iowa
1968	Marion Motley	CLE	South Carolina St., Nevada
1969	Joe Perry	SF	Compton CC
1974	Lou Groza	CLE	Ohio State
1974	Dick "Night Train" Lane	LAR	Western Nebraska CC
1977	Bill Willis	CLE	Ohio State
1984	Willie Brown	HOU Oilers	Grambling St.
1985	Frank Gatski	CLE	Marshall, Auburn
1987	Jim Langer	CLE	South Dakota St.
1989	Willie Wood	GB	USC
1993	Larry Little	SD Chargers	Bethune-Cookman
2006	Warren Moon	HOU Oilers	West LA College, Washington
2008	Emmitt Thomas	KC	Bishop
2010	John Randle	MIN	Texas A&M Kingsville
2012	Jack Butler	PIT	St. Bonaventure
2015	Mick Tingelhoff	MIN	Nebraska
2017	Kurt Warner	STL	Northern Iowa
2020	Cliff Harris	DAL	Quachita Baptist
2020	Donnie Shell	PIT	South Carolina St.
2020	Ed Sprinkle	CHI	Hardin-Simmons, Navy
2021	Drew Pearson	DAL	Tulsa
2022	Sam Mills	NO	Montclair State

SMALL SCHOOL SUCCESS

They may not come from big-time schools in major NCAA conferences, but their NFL contributions cannot go unnoticed. Productive players from small schools are proof-positive of the old adage, "If you can play, the NFL will find you."

There were 11 players selected from FCS schools (NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, formerly known as Division I-AA) in the 2024 NFL Draft, with Yale offensive lineman **KIRAN AMEGADJIE** being the first, chosen by Chicago in the third round (No. 75 overall).

"I think the small school/big school thing is overrated nowadays," said Tampa Bay head coach **TODD BOWLES**. "I think it is about drafting the **best football player**. You can see the small school guys dominate their division and play great football which can also translate into big schools or the NFL. It's not a matter of getting guys from Power-5 conferences. It's a matter of who can play football and who can help you."

The players from FCS schools selected in the 2024 NFL Draft:

PLAYER	POSITION	SCHOOL	TEAM (ROUND)
Kiran Amegadjie	OT	Yale	Chicago (3)
Jalyx Hunt	LB	Houston Christian	Philadelphia (3)
Mason McCormick	OG	South Dakota State	Pittsburgh (4)
Isaiah Davis	RB	South Dakota State	N.Y. Jets (5)
Khristian Boyd	DT	Northern Iowa	New Orleans (6)
Ryan Flournoy	WR	Southeast Missouri State	Dallas (6)
Dylan Laube	RB	New Hampshire	Las Vegas (6)
Josiah Ezirim	OT	Eastern Kentucky	New Orleans (7)
C.J. Hanson	OG	Holy Cross	Kansas City (7)
Myles Harden	CB	South Dakota	Cleveland (7)
Levi Drake Rodriguez	DL	Texas A&M Commerce	Minnesota (7)

Kiran Amegadjie



Mason McCormick

There are several active players from small colleges that have already made their mark in the NFL, including 2024 Pro Bowlers **TERRON ARMSTEAD** (University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff), **JAVON HARGRAVE** (South Carolina State), **KYLE JUSZCZYK** (Harvard), **MILES KILLEBREW** (Southern Utah) and **RASHID SHAHEED** (Weber State).

A sampling of some of the most productive and high-profile small-school stars in the NFL today:

PLAYER, TEAM	SCHOOL	CAREER NOTE
T Terron Armstead, Mia.	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	Five-time Pro Bowler
CB Justin Bethel, Mia.	Presbyterian	Three-time Pro Bowler
CB James Bradberry, Phi.	Samford	Named to 2021 Pro Bowl; Is one of five players in the NFL with at least three interceptions in four of the past five seasons
S Kevin Byard, Chi.	Middle Tennessee St.	Two-time Pro Bowler; Has 28 interceptions since 2017, the second-most in the NFL over that span
RB Austin Ekeler, Was.	Western St. Colorado	Led NFL with 18 touchdowns in 2022 and ranks tied-sixth among all players with 69 touchdowns since entering league in 2017

SMALL SCHOOL SUCCESS

PLAYER, TEAM	SCHOOL	CAREER NOTE
QB Joe Flacco, Ind.	Delaware	Five-time Pro Bowler
QB Jimmy Garoppolo, LAR	Eastern Illinois	Has a .683 winning percentage as starter (43-20), the fourth-highest among active quarterbacks (min. 10 starts)
RB Antonio Gibson, NE	Memphis	Is one of four running backs who entered the NFL in 2020 with at least 3,000 scrimmage yards (3,272) and 25 scrimmage touchdowns (26)
FB C.J. Ham, Min.	Augustana	Named to 2020 Pro Bowl
DL Javon Hargrave, SF	South Carolina State	Named to 2021 and 2024 Pro Bowl
DE Trey Hendrickson, Cin.	Florida Atlantic	Named to Pro Bowl in each of past three years; ranks third in NFL with 53 sacks since 2020
WR Tyreek Hill, Mia.	West Alabama	Became second WR ever to be named to Pro Bowl in each of first seven seasons; set franchise records with 119 catches in 2022 and 1,799 receiving yards in 2023
WR Diontae Johnson, Car.	Toledo	Had 37 games with at least five receptions from 2020-22, tied for the third-most in the league in that span
LB Matthew Judon, Atl.	Grand Valley State	Pro Bowler in four of the past five seasons; Was one of four players with at least 12 sacks in both 2022 and 2023
FB Kyle Juszczyk, SF	Harvard	Pro Bowler in each of the last eight seasons
S Miles Killebrew, PIT	Southern Utah State	Named to 2024 Pro Bowl and earned NFL All-Pro Honors
K Youngbwoe Koo, Atl.	Georgia Southern	Named to 2021 Pro Bowl
WR Cooper Kupp, LAR	Eastern Washington	Led the NFL in receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns in 2021; Named Super Bowl LVI MVP
LB Khalil Mack, LAC	Buffalo	Named to eighth Pro Bowl last season; Ranks third among active players with 101.5 sacks
RB Elijah Mitchell, SF	Louisiana	Totaled 1,100 scrimmage and six total touchdowns as a rookie in 2021
WR Darnell Mooney, Atl.	Tulane	Had a career-high 1,087 receiving yards in 2021
K Jason Myers, Sea.	Marist	Two-time Pro Bowler; Has 230 career made field goals
LB Foyesade Oluokun, Jax.	Yale	Became the first player since 2000 to lead the league in tackles in consecutive seasons in 2022-23
RB Tony Pollard, Ten.	Memphis	Named to 2023 Pro Bowl Games after leading Dallas with 1,007 rushing yards
FB Patrick Ricard, Bal.	Maine	Named to four of the past five Pro Bowls
WR Rashid Shaheed, NO	Weber State	Named to 2024 Pro Bowl and earned NFL All-Pro Honors
WR Adam Thielen, Car.	Minn. State-Mankato	Two-time Pro Bowler; ranks fifth among undrafted players since 1967 with 59 career touchdown receptions
CB Tariq Woolen, Sea.	Texas-San Antonio	Named to 2023 Pro Bowl Games as a rookie after tying for the league lead with six interceptions
CB Charvarius Ward, SF	Middle Tennessee St.	LIV Super Bowl Champion; named to 2024 Pro Bowl

*Teams as of Aug. 20, 2024

FOOTBALL IS FAMILY

The NFL is a family game for players, coaches and fans. Not only can they all share the experience, but brothers also can share the field and sidelines.

This was never more evident than in Super Bowl LVII, when Kansas City tight end **TRAVIS KELCE** and Philadelphia center **JASON KELCE** became the first pair of brothers to face each other in the Super Bowl. The two siblings have combined for 16 Pro Bowls in their career and the pair meeting each other in the sport's biggest game marked the pinnacle of their football journey.

"To see my family be in all its glory, get all the flowers, my mom be the center of attention on the jumbotron before the game on the biggest stage, being able to get closer to my brother throughout the season, then meet him at the mountaintop," Travis said after the Chiefs' victory, "it's the best feeling in the world."

The league features several sets of siblings currently on rosters. San Francisco defensive lineman **NICK BOSA** earned AP Defensive Player of the Year honors in 2022 and is a four-time Pro Bowl selection, while his older brother, Los Angeles Chargers linebacker **JOEY BOSA**, is a four-time Pro Bowl selection.

The Bosa brothers have combined for 120.5 sacks in their careers, the fourth-most combined sacks among pair of brothers where each brother has at least one sack since 1982, when the individual sack became an official statistic. Pittsburgh's **T.J. WATT** and his recently retired brother, **J.J. WATT**, at 211 combined sacks, have the most combined sacks among brothers since 1982.

PAIRS OF BROTHERS WITH THE MOST COMBINED SACKS SINCE 1982, WHERE EACH BROTHER HAD AT LEAST ONE SACK

PLAYERS	COMBINED SACKS
J.J./T.J. Watt*	211
John ^{HOF} /Ervin Randle	145.5
Arthur/Chandler Jones	122
Joey*/Nick Bosa*	120.5

*Active

Three pairs of brothers enter the 2024 season as teammates. The Steelers feature two pair of brothers - guard **NATE HERBIG** and linebacker **NICK HERBIG** and defensive tackle **CAMERON HEYWARD** and tight end/fullback **CONNOR HEYWARD** - and linebacker **QUINCY WILLIAMS** and defensive tackle **QUINNEN WILLIAMS** are each vital members of the Jets defense. In 2021, Quincy and Quinnen became the first pair of brothers to each record a sack in the same game from the same team.

CHRISTIAN, JONAH and **KADEN ELLISS** along with **NEPHI, NOAH** and **PENEI SEWELL** are the only families each with three brothers in the NFL this season.

Three rookies will have the opportunity to be on the same field and potentially go head-to-head with their brothers this season. Las Vegas rookie linebacker **TOMMY EICHENBERG** will travel to Miami in Week 11 to play his brother, offensive lineman **LIAM EICHENBERG**; Denver rookie defensive lineman **JONAH ELLISS** will play his brother, Atlanta linebacker **KADEN ELLISS**, in Week 11; and Arizona rookie defensive back **MAX MELTON** will travel to Green Bay in Week 6 to play his brother, wide receiver **BO MELTON**.



The 2024 NFL Draft saw a continuation of several NFL family legacies, including the below:

- **OL JOE ALT** (No. 5 overall, Los Angeles Chargers): Father, John, was selected in the first round (No. 21 overall) by Kansas City in the 1984 NFL Draft and was a two-time Pro Bowl selection.
- **DL JONAH ELLISS** (No. 76 overall, Denver): Father, Luther, was selected in the first round (No. 20 overall) by Detroit in the 1995 NFL Draft and was a two-time Pro Bowl selection; Brother, Kaden, was selected in the seventh round (No. 244 overall) by New Orleans in the 2019 NFL Draft.

FOOTBALL IS FAMILY

WR MARVIN HARRISON JR. (No. 4 overall, Arizona): Father, Marvin, was selected in the first round (No. 19 overall) by Indianapolis in the 1996 NFL Draft and was an eight-time Pro Bowl selection, Super Bowl champion, member of the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 2000's, member of the NFL's 100th Anniversary All-Time Team and member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

WR LUKE MCCAFFREY (No. 100 overall, Washington): Father, Ed, was selected in the third round (No. 83 overall) by the New York Giants in the 1991 NFL Draft and was a Pro Bowl selection and three-time Super Bowl champion; Brother, Christian, was selected in the first round (No. 8 overall) by Carolina in the 2017 NFL Draft and is a three-time Pro Bowl selection.

WR BRENDEN RICE (No. 225 overall, Los Angeles Chargers): Father, Jerry, was selected in the first round (No. 16 overall) by San Francisco in the 1985 NFL Draft and was a 13-time Pro Bowl selection, three-time Super Bowl champion, member of the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 1980's and 1990's, member of the NFL's 75th and 100th Anniversary All-Time Team and member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame; Stepfather, Rick Cunningham, was selected in the fourth round (No. 106 overall) by Indianapolis in the 1990 NFL Draft.

LB JEREMIAH TROTTER JR. (No. 155 overall, Philadelphia): Father, Jeremiah, was selected in the third round (No. 72 overall) by Philadelphia in the 1998 NFL Draft and was a four-time Pro Bowl selection; Cousin, Terrance Ganaway, was selected in the sixth round (No. 202 overall) by the New York Jets in the 2012 NFL Draft.



NOTABLE 2024 NFL BROTHERS, INCLUDING WHEN THEY PLAY EACH OTHER IN THE REGULAR SEASON (AS OF AUGUST 12, 2024)

FAMILY	BROTHERS	DATE OF GAME
Bosa	LB Joey, LAC DL Nick, SF	
Diggs	WR Stefon, HOU CB Trevon, DAL	HOU at DAL 11/18
Edmunds	S Terrell, JAX LB Tremaine, CHI	JAX vs. CHI 10/13
Elliss	LB Christian, PHI DL Jonah, DEN LB Kaden, ATL	ATL at DEN 11/17
Hennessy	C Matt, PHI C/LS Thomas, NYJ	
Herbig	LB Nick, PIT G Nate, PIT	
Heyward	TE/FB Connor, PIT DT Cameron, PIT	
Hill	DB Dax, CIN RB Justice, BAL	BAL at CIN 10/6 CIN at BAL 11/7
McCaffrey	RB Christian, SF WR Luke, WAS	
Melton	WR Bo, GB DB Max, ARI	ARI at GB 10/13
Niemann	LB Ben, DET LB Nick, LAC	
Paul	OL Chris, WAS OL Patrick, MIA	
Sewell	LB Nephi, NO LB Noah, CHI T Penei, DET	CHI at DET 11/28 DET at CHI 12/22
St. Brown	WR Amon-Ra, DET WR Equanimeous, NO	
Williams	LB Quincy, NYJ DT Quinnen, NYJ	

NFL ON TV IN 2024

The NFL announced its 18-week, 272-game regular-season schedule for 2024, which kicks off on Thursday night, September 5, in Kansas City and concludes with 16 division games in Week 18 - two on Saturday, January 4, and 14 on Sunday, January 5.

The 2024 NFL schedule, powered by AWS, will feature each team playing 17 regular-season games and three preseason games for the fourth consecutive year. The 17th game will feature teams from opposing conferences that finished in the same standing within their respective divisions the previous season. The NFC will be the home conference for the 17th game in 2024. For how opponents were determined for the 2024 season, [click here](#).

The NFL uses the power of Amazon Web Services (AWS) to power its schedule-making process. There are approximately a quadrillion possible schedule combinations each NFL season and over 26,000 factors to take into consideration such as stadium availability, travel requirements, primetime games, competitive fairness and division rivalries. The NFL uses AWS to run high performance computing workloads to find the best possible schedule each year. For more information, [click here](#).

The NFL's 105th season begins with the league's annual primetime kickoff game, as the defending Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs host the Baltimore Ravens at GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium on Thursday, September 5 (8:20 p.m. ET, NBC) in a rematch of last season's AFC Championship Game.

The two most recent winners of the Most Valuable Player award, Baltimore's Lamar Jackson (2023) and Kansas City's Patrick Mahomes (2022), are scheduled to face off for the sixth time in their careers, including the postseason. Should both players start as expected, Jackson (two-time MVP) and Mahomes (two-time MVP) would become the seventh different pair of quarterbacks to meet in a regular-season game after both players had won multiple MVP awards.



The NFL's primetime kickoff game - which has been an annual tradition since 2002 - will feature a rematch of one of the previous season's conference championship games for only the third time and first since 2010, when New Orleans defeated Minnesota in a rematch of the NFC Championship. The other instance was 2004, when New England defeated Indianapolis in a rematch of the AFC Championship.

On Friday, September 6 (8:15 p.m. ET, Peacock), the Green Bay Packers will meet the Philadelphia Eagles at Corinthians Arena in São Paulo, Brazil, the first-ever regular season NFL game to be played in South America. It will mark the first time the NFL has played a game on Friday of their opening weekend in over 50 years, when the St. Louis Cardinals and Los Angeles Rams met on September 18, 1970.

Week 1 continues on CBS at 4:05 PM ET, with two head coaches making their Week 1 debut with their club as Antonio Pierce and the Las Vegas Raiders visit Jim Harbaugh and the Los Angeles Chargers in an AFC West showdown, while Super Bowl-winning head coach Sean Payton and the Denver Broncos travel to Seattle to face the Seahawks, where Mike Macdonald will make his NFL head coaching debut. On FOX at 4:25 PM ET, the Dallas Cowboys visit the Cleveland Browns in a matchup of two 2023 playoff teams and the Washington Commanders, under new head coach Dan Quinn, travel to take on the reigning NFC South champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

NFL ON TV IN 2024

Later that day, NBC's Sunday Night Football begins with Mathew Stafford and the Los Angeles Rams visiting Jared Goff and the Detroit Lions (8:20 p.m. ET), in a rematch of last season's NFC Wild Card round, in which the Lions earned their first playoff victory since 1991. NBC will televise one game each Sunday night in Weeks 1-17. Additionally, NBC will feature Miami at Green Bay (8:20 p.m. ET) on Thanksgiving night as well as Houston at Kansas City (1 p.m. ET) on Saturday in Week 16.



Kickoff Weekend concludes on Monday, September 9, with ESPN/ABC's Monday Night Football, featuring Aaron Rodgers and the New York Jets visiting Brock Purdy and the San Francisco 49ers (8:15 p.m. ET). YouTube TV is the presenting sponsor of Kickoff Weekend, inclusive of the entire Thursday through Monday slate.

ESPN will televise one game each Monday night in Weeks 1-17 and will be simulcast on ABC in Weeks 1, 8, 14 and 17. In Weeks 3 and 4, there will be two Monday night games with broadcasts at 7:30 p.m. ET and 8:15 p.m. ET. In Week 7, there will be two Monday night games, with Baltimore at Tampa Bay on ESPN at 8:15 p.m. ET and the Los Angeles Chargers at Arizona on ESPN+ at 9 p.m. ET. In Week 15, the two Monday night games begin 30 minutes apart, with Chicago at Minnesota at 8 p.m. ET on ABC and Atlanta at Las Vegas at 8:30 p.m. ET on ESPN.

Additionally, ESPN/ABC will air two games with playoff implications on the Saturday of Week 18, January 4, at 4:30 p.m. ET and 8 p.m. ET. These games will be selected following the conclusion of Week 17. There will be no Monday night game on the final regular-season weekend (Week 18) to provide more flexibility for the scheduling of the opening weekend of the NFL playoffs.

Thursday Night Football will air exclusively on Prime Video, kicking off its slate in Week 2 with an AFC East matchup as the Miami Dolphins host the Buffalo Bills (8:15 p.m. ET). Prime Video will broadcast 15 Thursday Night Football games between Weeks 2-17 (excluding Thanksgiving night) and exclusively stream the second-ever NFL Black Friday game when the Kansas City Chiefs host the Las Vegas Raiders in Week 13 (3 p.m. ET).



The first-ever NFL games streamed on Netflix will be played on Christmas, Wednesday, December 25, in Week 17, as the Kansas City Chiefs visit the Pittsburgh Steelers (1 p.m. ET) and the Baltimore Ravens travel to face the Houston Texans (4:30 p.m. ET). Additionally, Netflix will stream at least one holiday game in 2025 and 2026.



NFL Network will exclusively televise seven games - four international games and three games in Week 17 on Saturday, December 28.

The NFL schedule features five international regular-season games - three in the UK, one in Germany and one in Brazil, marking the first-ever regular-season NFL game to be played in South America. As part of the league's expansion of the regular season to 17 games, it was determined that, beginning with the 2022 season, teams from the conference whose teams were eligible for a ninth regular-season home game would be among the designated group to play a neutral-site international game each year.

The international slate begins in Week 1 in Brazil with Green Bay and Philadelphia (8:15 p.m. ET, Peacock) and follows with games in three consecutive weeks, beginning in London at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in Week 5 with the New York Jets and Minnesota Vikings (Sunday, 9:30 a.m. ET, NFL Network). In Week 6, Jacksonville meets Chicago (Sunday, 9:30 a.m. ET, NFL Network) at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium before the London action shifts to Wembley Stadium in Week 7, when the Jaguars will meet the New England Patriots (Sunday, 9:30 a.m. ET, NFL Network). The Jaguars are scheduled to play two regular-season games outside of the United States for the second-consecutive season.

NFL ON TV IN 2024

As part of the league's commitment to playing regular-season games in Germany, the NFL will conclude the international slate of games in Munich in Week 10 as the New York Giants meet the Carolina Panthers (Sunday, 9:30 a.m. ET, NFL Network). It will mark the league's second game in Munich at Allianz Arena - Home of FC Bayern Munich and the fourth international regular-season game to be played in Germany.

The Madden Thanksgiving Celebration will feature a tripleheader on Thursday, November 28. The first game will feature a pair of NFC North foes, as the Bears travel to Detroit to face the Lions (12:30 p.m. ET, CBS). The late afternoon game will match two NFC East rivals, as the New York Giants visit the Dallas Cowboys (4:30 p.m. ET, FOX). The Thanksgiving Day festivities end with the Miami Dolphins traveling to Green Bay to face the Packers on NBC (8:20 p.m. ET).

The regular season will conclude with Week 18 on Saturday, January 4, and Sunday, January 5. For the 15th consecutive year, all 16 games scheduled for the final week of the season are division contests, enhancing the potential for more games with playoff ramifications.

The NFL's 32 teams will each play 17 games over 18 weeks. Byes will begin in Week 5 and end in Week 14.

Additional 2024 schedule notes:

1. Fourteen games will be Super Bowl rematches and nine 2024 games are rematches from the 2023 playoffs, including Super Bowl LVIII (Kansas City at San Francisco in Week 7), both Championship Games (Baltimore at Kansas City in Week 1; Detroit at San Francisco in Week 17) and all four Divisional playoff games (Tampa Bay at Detroit in Week 2; Kansas City at Buffalo in Week 11; San Francisco at Green Bay in Week 12; Baltimore at Houston in Week 17).

2. The top-two picks in the 2024 NFL Draft, Caleb Williams and Jayden Daniels, are scheduled to meet in Week 8 when the Chicago Bears visit the Washington Commanders (1 p.m. ET, CBS). Should both players start, it would mark the sixth game in NFL history between rookie starting quarterbacks selected with the first and second overall picks in the NFL Draft. Williams and the Bears are also slated to play against No. 3 overall pick Drake Maye and the New England Patriots in Week 10 (1 p.m. ET, FOX) and No. 4 overall pick Marvin Harrison and the Arizona Cardinals in Week 9 (4:05 p.m. ET, CBS).

The NFL will continue to use "flexible scheduling" this season to ensure exciting and meaningful games are available for viewing by the largest number of fans. For up-to-date information about "flexible scheduling" for the 2024 season, please visit <https://www.nfl.com/schedules/flexible-scheduling-procedures>.

As in prior seasons, for Week 18, the final weekend of the season, the scheduling of the Saturday, Sunday afternoon, and the Sunday night games is not assigned. In Week 18, two games will be played on Saturday (4:30 p.m. ET and 8 p.m. ET) with the remainder to be played on Sunday afternoon (1 p.m. ET and 4:25 p.m. ET) and one matchup to be played on Sunday night (8:20 p.m. ET). Specific dates, start times, and networks for Week 18 matchups will be determined and announced following the conclusion of Week 17.

Introduced in 2020 and continuing for a fifth-consecutive year, a total of 14 teams - seven each in the American and National Football Conferences - will make the postseason. The No. 1 seed in each conference will receive a bye in the Wild Card round. The remaining division champions in each conference with the best records will be seeded 2, 3, and 4, followed by the next three teams per conference with the best records seeded 5, 6, and 7.

Since 1990 - a streak of 34 consecutive seasons - at least four new teams have qualified for the playoffs that missed the postseason the year before, including seven of the 14 playoff teams in 2022.

AFC and NFC Wild Card games will feature the 2 seed hosting the 7 seed, the 3 seed hosting the 6 seed and the 4 seed hosting the 5 seed.

Super Wild Card Weekend presented by Verizon for the 2024 season will feature six games, starting on Saturday, January 11.

NFL ON TV IN 2024

Wild Card winners join the top seeds in each conference in the Divisional Playoffs, presented by Intuit TurboTax, on Saturday and Sunday, January 18-19. The AFC and NFC Championship Games, presented by Intuit TurboTax, will be played on Sunday, January 26. The winners meet two weeks later on Sunday, February 9, in Super Bowl LIX at New Orleans' Caesars Superdome (FOX), marking the 11th time the league's final game will be played in New Orleans.

The NFL is the only sports league that presents all regular-season and postseason games on free, over-the-air television in local markets. All postseason games are distributed nationally.

Westwood One will broadcast on radio all NFL primetime games, the three Thanksgiving Day games and the entire NFL playoffs. SiriusXM subscribers will have access to every live NFL game, as well as exclusive 24/7 talk channel coverage on SXM NFL Radio. All live and local prime time games will be available to stream on mobile devices with NFL+.

NFL ON RADIO IN 2024

WESTWOOD ONE is the official network radio partner of the NFL for the 38th consecutive season.

The Westwood One NFL schedule features 87 national games, including the Opening night Kickoff game, Monday Night Football, Sunday Night Football, Thursday Night Football, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, the Black Friday game, all five International Games, seven late-season Saturday games, and every NFL postseason game, culminating with Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans. Westwood One also produces weekly specialty programs, including NFL Preview, NFL Insider, NFL Sunday and NFL Fantasy Football Forecast.

KEVIN HARLAN and Hall of Famer **KURT WARNER** will once again be the lead broadcast crew for Westwood One, calling Opening Night, Monday Night Football and Super Bowl LIX. This will be Harlan's 15th full season behind the microphone and Warner's 11th season as an analyst for the network. For the 16th consecutive year, **IAN EAGLE** will be the primary play-by-play announcer for Thursday Night Football. **KEVIN KUGLER** will broadcast select games on the Thursday night package. Brothers **JASON** and **DEVIN McCOURTY**, **ROSS TUCKER** and **RON RIVERA** will rotate as analysts for Thursday Night Football. **RYAN RADTKE** and **MIKE GOLIC** return as the voices of Sunday Night Football.

JASON BENETTI, **TOM MCCARTHY**, **SPERO DEDES**, **J.P. SHADRICK**, and **JOHN SADAK** will also serve as play-by-play announcers for the national package. Other game analysts this season will include **MIKE MAYOCK**, **RYAN HARRIS**, **RYAN LEAF**, **DEREK RACKLEY** and Hall of Famer **JAMES LOFTON**.

NFL Network's **RICH EISEN** returns to anchor the pregame and halftime shows of Monday Night Football. **SCOTT GRAHAM** will once again be the host for the pregame/halftime/postgame portions of all the remaining games in the national radio package.

Westwood One's NFL game broadcasts can be heard on over 500 radio stations across the United States, as well as on SiriusXM, westwoodonesports.com, and via the NFL App.

For complete information regarding Westwood One's NFL coverage, including schedules, links to listen, announcers, highlights, features, interviews and more, log on to westwoodonesports.com.



Westwood One
SPORTS

NEW ORLEANS TO HOST SUPER BOWL LIX

The Caesars Superdome, which opened in 1975 and is home to the New Orleans Saints, will host its eighth Super Bowl when Super Bowl LIX is played on February 9, 2025.

"The New Orleans Saints continue to be one of the biggest draws for visiting fans, said **DENNIS LAUSCHA**, president of the New Orleans Saints. "Other teams see that. It's a great game for the city, a great opportunity for the city. And, look, hospitality is what we do. We do it well and I think we're going to continue to be in that (Super Bowl) rotation."

This will be the 11th time New Orleans hosts the Super Bowl, tying South Florida for most Super Bowls played in an area/city.



THE PREVIOUS SUPER BOWLS PLAYED IN NEW ORLEANS

SUPER BOWL	STADIUM	DATE OF GAME	RESULT
XLVII	Mercedes-Benz Superdome	2/3/13	BAL 34, SF 31
XXXVI	Louisiana Superdome	2/3/02	NE 20, StL 17
XXXI	Louisiana Superdome	1/26/97	GB 35, NE21
XXIV	Louisiana Superdome	1/28/90	SF 55, DEN 10
XX	Louisiana Superdome	1/26/86	CHI 46, NE 10

SUPER BOWL	STADIUM	DATE OF GAME	RESULT
XV	Louisiana Superdome	1/25/81	OAK 21, PHI 10
XII	Louisiana Superdome	1/15/78	DAL 27, DEN 10
IX	Tulane Stadium	1/12/75	PIT 16, MIN 6
VI	Tulane Stadium	1/16/72	DAL 24, MIA 3
IV	Tulane Stadium	1/11/70	KC 23, MIN 7

With this extraordinary group of partners that we have here today, we're going to make the critical infrastructure improvements," said **MICHAEL HECHT**, CEO of Greater New Orleans Inc. "We're going to make the compelling economic development programs to show a new New Orleans and Louisiana that are world class, one of a kind and uniquely powerfully attractive to both visitors and businesses. And that is how New Orleans and Louisiana are going to win Super Bowl 59."

The Caesars Superdome holds a special place in New Orleans history and has shaped the international sports and entertainment landscape for five decades. The stadium is fully enclosed and contains an artificial turf field, allowing the venue to host different events at any given time. With a diameter of 680 feet, the Superdome is the largest fixed dome structure in the world.

In 2005, the Superdome opened its doors as refuge for people who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina. It served as "home" for approximately 30,000 evacuees. While suffering massive damage of its own, the rebuild of the Superdome was the biggest stadium reconstruction project in American history. Its reopening was a spark in the city's post-disaster recovery and launched a phenomenal rebirth of the sports and entertainment business.

Located in the heart of the New Orleans, the Superdome has captivated audiences from all over the world hosting Super Bowls, College Football Playoffs, Final Fours, major concerts, Monster Jam and festivals of all kinds.

In 2020, the Saints embarked on a renovation project to be completed before the 2024 season. Not only do the renovations coincide with Super Bowl LIX, but the Superdome will be celebrating its 50th at the same time. Renovations to stadium entrances, concourses and kitchens, installation of new escalators, and the replacement of older ramps with staircases and elevators were part of the \$500 million project.

SUPER BOWL HOST CITIES (I-LIX)

CITY/REGION	SUPER BOWLS
New Orleans	11*
South Florida	11
Los Angeles	8
Tampa Bay	5
Arizona	4
Atlanta	3
Houston	3
San Diego	3
Detroit	2
Minneapolis	2

CITY/REGION	SUPER BOWLS
San Francisco/Bay Area	2
Indianapolis	1
Jacksonville	1
Las Vegas	1
New York/New Jersey	1
North Texas	1

*Includes Super Bowl LIX

2024 NEW & ALTERNATE UNIFORMS

BALTIMORE RAVENS

The team will wear an alternate 'Purple Rising' helmet for one game this season. Fans have been waiting for it, and the plans have been years in the making. The matte purple helmet features a forward-facing logo, and much thought was placed into that decision. The gold face mask and gold talon stripes were added to give the helmet a signature look.



DENVER BRONCOS

Denver revealed its first set of new uniforms since 1997, as the team unveiled the Mile High Collection that features bold and modern design inspired by Denver's proud tradition, Colorado's landscape and Broncos Country. The process was thoughtful and collaborative, listening to more than 10,000 members of Broncos Country to create nine primary uniform combinations.



DETROIT LIONS

Inspired by the early 1990s teams and Ford Motor Company, the Lions' black alternate uniform conveys a combination of the team's modern era and the legacy of the historic franchise. Paired with the traditional look of the Lions' primary uniforms, the bold attitude of the new alternate jerseys captures the essence of Detroit and the multi-generational fans base that supports the Lions.



GREEN BAY PACKERS

The brand-new helmets include a solid white face mask and a white shell, with the traditional dark green Packers G logo on the sides and dark green stripes down the middle. The white helmets will be paired with the fan-favorite combination of the team's white away jerseys, white pants and solid white socks.



2024 NEW & ALTERNATE UNIFORMS

HOUSTON TEXANS

For the first time since the team's inception in 2000, the Houston Texans rolled out four new, fan-inspired uniforms - four jerseys and three helmets. While still keeping the traditional bull logo, the Texans are incorporating a new "H" as a secondary logo to pay homage to H-Town.



JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

To celebrate their 30th season, the Jacksonville Jaguars will don their "Prowler Throwbacks" at least once this season. The name stems from the running Jaguar embroidered on the sleeves of the jerseys, which also feature a vintage three-color number. The pants feature a teal stripe with gold and black piping going along the length of the pants. The helmets will have the original Jaguars logo on the side used by the team in the inaugural season of 1995 until 2013.



The Jaguars also unveiled a new all matte "Shell White" alternate helmet designed as a tribute to the city's vibrant beaches, the strong military presence in Jacksonville and the enduring spirit of football. This marks a historic moment in Jaguars history as it is the first time the Jaguars will wear a helmet with a primary color other than black.



MINNESOTA VIKINGS

The Vikings "Winter Warrior" uniforms feature white alternate jerseys and pants paired with the first usage of a white helmet in franchise history. The uniforms are accented with metallic gray, including the face mask, and purple.



NEW YORK GIANTS

The Giants "Century Red" uniform harkens back to the earliest days of the franchise and features tan pants; red socks with blue and white stripes from the team's inaugural 1925 season; red jerseys accented with blue from 1933, when the Giants played in the first ever NFL Championship Game; and an iconic winged helmet honoring the 1938 champions as the Giants became a cornerstone in the foundation of the league.



2024 NEW & ALTERNATE UNIFORMS

NEW YORK JETS

The Jets "Legacy Collection" with three uniform versions - legacy green, legacy white and legacy black - is a nod to the Sack Exchange era (1979-89) while modernizing and improving the iconic logo that resonates with all generations of fans. The team's new regalia pay tribute to a historical time in the club's history while taking advantage of technology advancements in the industry. The legacy jerseys will sport double-stripe shoulders and single-stripe pants, the same design the team wore from 1979-89.



Below is a sampling of 13 helmets that are either part of new uniforms or serving as clubs' alternate helmets for the 2024 season.



NOTABLE JERSEY NUMBER CHANGES

NFL players in certain positions have more jersey numbers to choose from.

An update to the NFL Rulebook allows defensive backs, tight ends, wide receivers, running backs, fullbacks, H-backs and linebackers to choose from a wider range of available numbers, including single digit numbers.

The rule change proposal was submitted by the Kansas City Chiefs to the NFL Competition Committee and approved by owners on April 21, 2021. After practice squads were expanded for the 2020 season, some teams did not have enough jersey numbers available at certain positions.

On March 28, 2023, the Philadelphia Eagles proposal to the NFL Competition Committee was approved by owners to allow greater flexibility to jersey numbers including wearing the number zero.

Ahead of the 2024 season, there have been 15 notable jersey number changes.

NOTABLE JERSEY NUMBER CHANGES - 2024 SEASON

TEAM	POSITION	PLAYER	OLD NUMBER	NEW NUMBER
Baltimore	LB	Kyle Van Noy	#50	#53
Chicago	CB	Jaylon Johnson	#33	#1
Cleveland	S	Grant Delpit	#22	#9
Dallas	WR	Jalen Tolbert	#18	#1
Las Vegas	QB	Aidan O'Connell	#4	#12
Las Vegas	RB	Zamir White	#35	#3
Las Vegas	CB	Tre'Von Moehrig	#24	#7
Miami	LB	David Long	#51	#11
New England	CB	Christian Gonzalez	#6	#0
New England	WR	Demario Douglas	#81	#3
New York Giants	CB	Deonte Banks	#25	#3
New York Jets	WR	Garrett Wilson	#17	#5
Philadelphia	DE	Josh Sweat	#94	#19
San Francisco	WR	Deebo Samuel	#19	#1
Tennessee	RB	Tyjae Spears	#32	#2



FOOTBALL DRIVES CAMPUS GROWTH

774 COLLEGES SET TO FIELD TEAMS (information courtesy of the National Football Foundation)

The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) reported today that football continues to expand, with 774 colleges and universities nationwide now offering football programs. This impressive total includes institutions across all NCAA divisions, the NAIA, and independent schools with six new programs launching this fall and six more on the way.

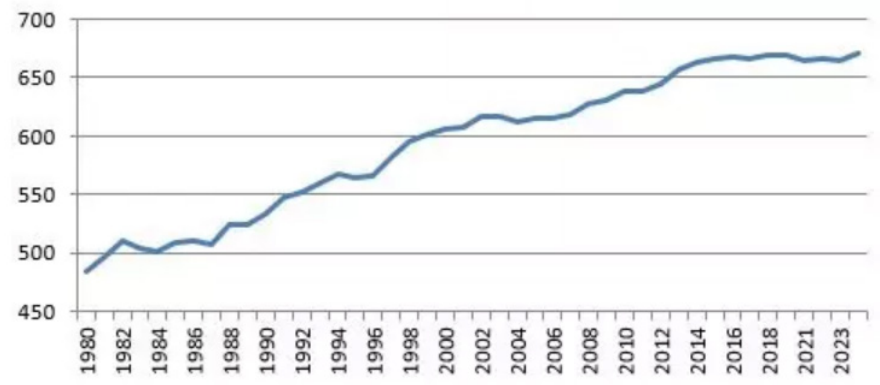
"Football is a catalyst for student engagement and campus vitality," said NFF Chairman Archie Manning. "With over a million high school players, the demand for college football continues to grow, encouraging students to pursue higher education by leveraging their passion for the game."

The expansion of college football is not a recent phenomenon but a continuation of a long-standing trend. Since 1978, when the NCAA began tracking attendance figures, the number of schools playing NCAA football has increased by 187, growing from 484 to 671 institutions by 2024. Including NAIA and independent schools, and accounting for upcoming programs, the total now stands at 774 colleges and universities offering football.

"Football is unmatched in its ability to enhance the vibrancy of college campuses," said NFF President & CEO Steve Hatchell. "It fosters community, boosts enrollment, and strengthens alumni connections."

This surge in football programs is a clear reflection of the sport's enduring popularity and its capacity to drive significant benefits for colleges. In the last decade alone (2014-2024), 51 football programs have been added by NCAA, NAIA, or independent institutions, illustrating the continued demand for the sport at all levels.

**Number of NCAA Schools
Fielding Teams 1978-2024**



New Programs on the Horizon

This year, six institutions—Anderson University (SC), Calvin University (MI), Centenary College of Louisiana, New England College (NH), Simpson University (CA), and William Woods University (MO)—are set to field football teams for the first time. These new programs are poised to energize their respective campuses, offering students new opportunities for engagement and building stronger connections with alumni and local communities.

William Woods, a 154-year-old institution that started as an all-women's college and located halfway between St. Louis and Kansas City in the heart of central Missouri, saw rapid growth in the 1990s after enrolling men and adding graduate degrees. William Woods President Dr. Jeremy L. Moreland, who had been the provost at St. Thomas University (Miami Gardens, FL) when it added football in 2019, knew firsthand the positive impact of adding football, and he embraced the opportunity to add not only men's tackle football but women's flag football too.

"Engaging students on the field and in the stands are two really important parts of life here on campus," said Moreland. "Over the last three years, we've had a remarkable resurgence of enrollment at the university, and we're welcoming the largest incoming class in our history."

FOOTBALL DRIVES CAMPUS GROWTH

"Football is an important part of where we're headed as a university. So, while football players will represent about one out of four of our new students this fall... I say we are adding football because we are growing... We know how important football is... in terms of culture and growing young adults who are leaders and who are real champions of character."

Looking ahead, another six schools are preparing to introduce football programs. Maine Maritime Academy, University of Rio Grande (OH), Roanoke College (VA), Schreiner University (TX), University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and West Virginia University Institute of Technology are all in various stages of launching their teams, with some planning to take the field as early as 2025.

Six Programs Launching in 2024

Anderson University (Anderson, SC): NCAA Division II, South Atlantic Conference (2024) - President Evans P. Whitaker, Vice President for Athletics Bert Epting, Head Coach Bobby Lamb.

Calvin University (Grand Rapids, MI): NCAA Division III, Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (2024) - Interim President Gregory Elzinga, Athletics Director Dr. Jim Timmer, Head Coach Trent Figg.

Centenary College of Louisiana (Shreveport, LA): NCAA Division III, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (2024) - President Dr. Christopher L. Holoman, Athletics Director David Orr, Head Coach Byron Dawson.

New England College (Henniker, NH): NCAA Division III, Great Northeast Athletic Conference (2024) - President Dr. Wayne F. Lesperance Jr., Athletics Director Dave DeCew, Head Coach Kevin Kelly.

Six Programs Launching in Future Sessions

Maine Maritime Academy (Castine, ME): NCAA Division III, Commonwealth Coast Conference (2025) - Interim President Craig Johnson, Athletics Director Steve Peed, Head Coach Calvin Powell.

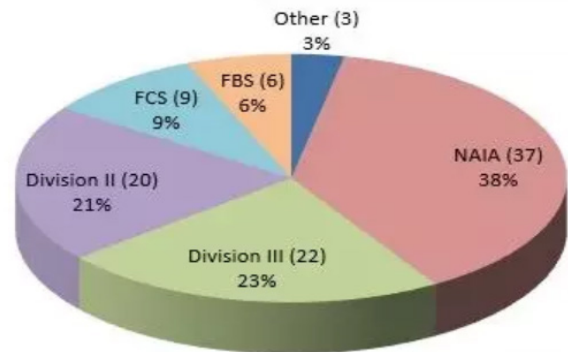
University of Rio Grande (Rio Grande, OH): NAIA, Appalachian Athletic Conference (2025) - President Ryan Smith; Athletics Director Jeff Lanham; Head Coach Quincy Wilson.

Roanoke College (Salem, VA): NCAA Division III, Old Dominion Athletic Conference (2024 Club, 2025 Varsity) - President Frank Shushok, Athletics Director Curtis Campbell, Head Coach Bryan Stinespring.

Simpson University (Redding, CA): NAIA, California Pacific Conference (2024) - President Norman D. Hall, Athletics Director Rob Harley, Head Coach Shawn Daniel.

William Woods University (Fulton, MO): NAIA, Heart of America Athletic Conference (2024) - President Dr. Jeremy L. Moreland, Athletics Director Steve Wilson, Head Coach Julian Mendez.

New Schools by Division: 2008-25



Schreiner University (Kerrville, TX): NCAA Division III, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (2025) - President Dr. Charlie McCormick, Athletics Director Bill Raleigh, Head Coach Kenneth Treschitta.

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (Rio Grande Valley, TX): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Southland Conference (2025) - President Dr. Guy Bailey, Vice President and Director of Athletics Chasse Conque, Head Coach Travis Bush.

West Virginia University Institute of Technology (Beckley, WV): NAIA, Conference TBD (Date TBD) - President T. Ramon Stuart, Athletics Director Kenneth Howell, Head Coach TBD.

FOOTBALL DRIVES CAMPUS GROWTH

Impact on Enrollment and Campus Life

Football's appeal goes beyond the excitement on the field. It plays a critical role in enhancing student life, boosting enrollment, and fostering community engagement. Small colleges often cite football as a strategic tool for increasing enrollment and addressing gender imbalances. Larger universities, on the other hand, emphasize the sport's role in raising the institution's profile, attracting research grants, and creating a vibrant campus atmosphere that appeals to both students and alumni. Moreover, football programs can serve as a powerful tool for alumni relations, driving engagement and donations, and enhancing the overall reputation of the institution.

For example, the University of Rio Grande (OH), which plans to launch its football program in 2025, along with a marching band, anticipates an enrollment increase of 150-200 students, highlighting football's role in strengthening ties with the local community.

"Football is a cherished tradition in Ohio, and we believe the time is now to revive it here at Rio," said President Ryan Smith. "This initiative not only enhances the vibrancy of our campus but also strengthens our bond with the southern Ohio community."

Expanding Options to Play College Football

There are also 123 junior college football programs, 16 collegiate sprint football teams and 30 colleges and universities on tap to offer women's flag football programs as a varsity sport.

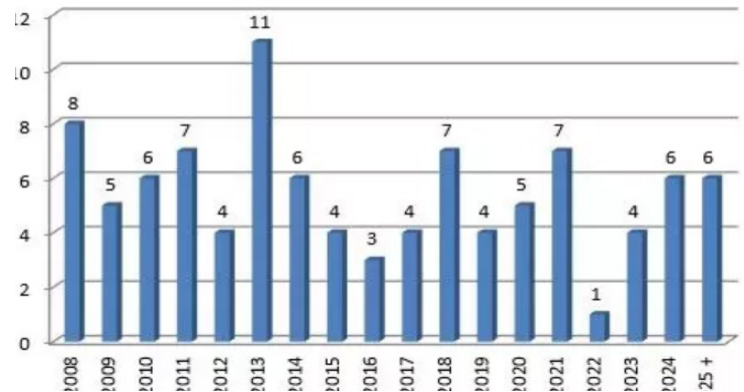
Sprint football is a full-contact sport for players weighing 178 pounds or less with the same rules as regular college football. Since 1934, intercollegiate student-athletes on the East Coast have benefited from the opportunity to play in the Collegiate Sprint Football League (CSFL), which is adding Molloy University (NY) this season as its ninth member. The Midwest Sprint Football League (MSFL), which boasts seven teams, launched in 2022, expanding the sport to the middle of the country and bringing the total of sprint football teams to 16 nationwide.

The NAIA women's flag football league, partnering with NFL FLAG, continues with impressive growth. Building on the 2022 season with 12 NAIA schools rostering teams, the 2023-24 season nearly doubled the roster of schools to a total of 22 teams. This past spring, the Atlanta Falcons hosted the NAIA Women's Flag Football Finals at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta for a fourth consecutive year.

The Atlantic East Conference, in partnership with the NFL and RCX Sports, along with support from the Philadelphia Eagles, became the first NCAA Conference to offer varsity female flag football, playing a club season in 2024 with its inaugural season slated for the Spring of 2025. Eight schools are currently scheduled to participate during the inaugural season: Cabrini University (PA), Centenary University (NJ), Eastern University (PA), Holy Family University (PA), Immaculata University (PA), Marymount University (VA), Neumann University (PA) and Siena Heights University (PA).

Flag football also received a major boost when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced in October 2023 that flag football would be included on the LA28 Olympic sports program. Its inclusion, led by efforts of the International Federation of American Football (IFAF) and supported by the NFL, showcases an aspirational new pathway to play the game on a global level. Played by an estimated 20 million people in more than 100 countries across six continents, flag football has become the most inclusive and accessible format of football. The game is currently played by people of all ages and genders, with women and girls driving some of the sport's fastest growth.

Football Programs Added Each Year



FOOTBALL DRIVES CAMPUS GROWTH

Four Programs Launched in 2023

- Arkansas Baptist College (Little Rock, AR): NAIA, Sooner Athletic Conference (2023)
- Eastern University (St. Davids, PA): NCAA Division III, Middle Atlantic Conference (2023)
- John Melvin University (Crowley, LA): Gulf-Atlantic Christian Athletic Alliance (2023)
- Thomas University (Thomasville, GA): NAIA, Sun Conference (2023)

One Program Launched in 2022

- Hilbert College (Hamburg, New York): NCAA Division III, Independent

Seven Programs Launched in 2021

- Bluefield State College (Bluefield, West Virginia): NCAA Division II, Independent
- Judson University (Elgin, Illinois): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Keystone College (La Plume, Pennsylvania): NCAA Division III, Eastern Collegiate Football Conference
- Lincoln University (Oakland, California): Independent
- Mount Marty University (Yankton, South Dakota): NAIA, Great Plains Athletic Conference
- Post University (Waterbury, Connecticut): NCAA Division II, Independent
- University of Fort Lauderdale (Lauderhill, Florida): National Christian College Athletic Association

Five Programs Launched in 2020

- Barton College (Wilson, North Carolina): NCAA Division II, South Atlantic Conference
- Erskine College (Due West, South Carolina): NCAA Division II, South Atlantic Conference
- Florida Memorial University (Miami Gardens, Florida): NAIA, Sun Conference
- Madonna University (Livonia, Michigan): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Roosevelt University (Chicago, Illinois): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association

Four Programs Launched in 2019

- Clarke University (Dubuque, Iowa): NAIA, Heart of America Athletic Conference
- Franklin Pierce University (Rindge, New Hampshire): NCAA Division II, Northeast-10 Conference
- St. Thomas University (Miami Gardens, Florida): NAIA, Sun Conference
- Wheeling University (Wheeling, West Virginia): NCAA Division II, Mountain East Conference

Seven Programs Launched in 2018

- Allen University (Columbia, South Carolina): NCAA Division II, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
- Alvernia University (Reading, Pennsylvania): NCAA Division III, Middle Atlantic Conference
- Indiana Wesleyan University (Marion, Indiana): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Keiser University (West Palm Beach, Florida): NAIA, Sun Conference
- Lawrence Technological University (Southfield, Michigan): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Ottawa University-Arizona (Surprise, Arizona): NAIA, Sooner Athletic Conference
- University of New England (Biddeford, Maine): NCAA Division III, Commonwealth Coast Football

Four Programs Launched in 2017

- Dean College (Franklin, Massachusetts): NCAA Division III, Eastern Collegiate Football Conference
- St. Andrews University (Laurinburg, North Carolina): NAIA, Mid-South Conference
- Texas Wesleyan University (Fort Worth, Texas): NAIA, Sooner Athletic Conference
- University of Alabama at Birmingham (Birmingham, Alabama): NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, American Athletic Conference



FOOTBALL DRIVES CAMPUS GROWTH

Three Programs Launched in 2016

- Davenport University (Grand Rapids, Michigan): NCAA Division II, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
- University of Texas Permian Basin (Odessa, Texas): NCAA Division II, Lone Star Conference
- University of West Florida (Pensacola, Florida): NCAA Division II, Gulf South Conference

Four Programs Launched in 2015

- East Tennessee State University (Johnson City, Tennessee): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Southern Conference
- Finlandia University (Hancock, Michigan): NCAA Division III, Upper Midwest Athletic Conference. (Note: Entire School Subsequently Closed in May of 2023.)
- Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, Georgia): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, ASUN Conference (Note: Joining the NCAA Division I Bowl Championship Subdivision, Conference USA, in 2024.)
- Lyon College (Batesville, Arkansas): NAIA, Sooner Athletic Conference

Six Programs Launched in 2014

- Arizona Christian University (Glendale, Arizona): NAIA, Sooner Athletic Conference
- College of Idaho (Caldwell, Idaho): NAIA, Frontier Conference
- George Fox University (Newberg, Oregon): NCAA Division III, Northwest Conference
- Limestone University (Gaffney, South Carolina): NCAA Division II, South Atlantic Conference
- Missouri Baptist University (St. Louis, Missouri): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Southeastern University (Lakeland, Florida): NAIA, Sun Conference

Eleven Programs Launched in 2013

- Alderson Broaddus University (Philippi, West Virginia): NCAA Division II, Mountain East Conference (Note: Entire School Subsequently Closed in 2022.)
- Berry College (Mount Berry, Georgia): NCAA Division III, Southern Athletic Association
- Hendrix College (Conway, Arkansas): NCAA Division III, Southern Athletic Association
- Houston Christian University (Houston, Texas): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Southland Conference
- Mercer University (Macon, Georgia): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Southern Conference
- Oklahoma Baptist University (Shawnee, Oklahoma): NCAA Division II, Great American Conference
- Reinhardt University (Waleska, Georgia): NAIA, Mid-South Conference
- Southwestern University (Georgetown, Texas): NCAA Division III, American Southwest Conference
- Stetson University (DeLand, Florida): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Pioneer Football League
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, North Carolina): NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, American Athletic Conference
- Warner University (Lake Wales, Florida): NAIA, Sun Conference

Four Programs Launched in 2012

- Bluefield College (Bluefield, Virginia): NAIA, Mid-South Conference
- Misericordia University (Dallas, Pennsylvania): NCAA Division III, Middle Atlantic Conference
- Point University (West Point, Georgia): NAIA, Mid-South Conference
- Wayland Baptist University (Plainview, Texas): NAIA, Sooner Athletic Conference

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FOOTBALL DRIVES CAMPUS GROWTH

Seven Programs Launched in 2011

- Ave Maria University (Ave Maria, Florida): NAIA, Sun Conference
- Concordia University Ann Arbor (Ann Arbor, Michigan): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Presentation College (Aberdeen, South Dakota): NAIA, North Star Athletic Association (Note: Entire School Subsequently Closed in 2022.)
- Siena Heights University (Adrian, Michigan): NAIA, Mid-States Football Association
- Stevenson University (Owings Mills, Maryland): NCAA Division III, Middle Atlantic Conference
- University of Texas at San Antonio (San Antonio, Texas): NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, American Athletic Conference
- Virginia University of Lynchburg (Lynchburg, Virginia): National Christian College Athletic Association

Six Programs Launched in 2010

- Georgia State University (Atlanta, Georgia): NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, Sun Belt Conference
- Lamar University (Beaumont, Texas): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Southland Conference
- Lindsey Wilson College (Columbia, Kentucky): NAIA, Mid-South Conference
- Notre Dame College (South Euclid, Ohio): NCAA Division II, Mountain East Conference
- Pacific University (Forest Grove, Oregon): NCAA Division III, Northwest Conference
- University of South Alabama (Mobile, Alabama): NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, Sun Belt Conference

Five Programs Launched in 2009

- Anna Maria College (Paxton, Massachusetts): NCAA Division III, Eastern Collegiate Football Conference
- Castleton University (Castleton, Vermont): NCAA Division III, Eastern Collegiate Football Conference
- Old Dominion University (Norfolk, Virginia): NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, Sun Belt Conference
- University of New Haven (West Haven, Connecticut): NCAA Division II, Northeast-10 Conference
- University of the Incarnate Word (San Antonio, Texas): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Southland Conference

Eight Programs Launched in 2008

- Campbell University (Buies Creek, North Carolina): NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision, Big South Conference
- College of St. Scholastica (Duluth, Minnesota): NCAA Division III, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
- Colorado State University-Pueblo (Pueblo, Colorado): NCAA Division II, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference
- Dordt University (Sioux Center, Iowa): NAIA, Great Plains Athletic Conference
- Grand View University (Des Moines, Iowa): NAIA, Heart of America Athletic Conference
- Kentucky Christian University (Grayson, Kentucky): NAIA, Mid-South Conference
- Lake Erie College (Painesville, Ohio): NCAA Division II, Great Midwest Athletic Conference
- Lincoln University (Lincoln University, Pennsylvania): NCAA Division II, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association

**All information taken from the National Football Foundation*



WHAT TO LOOK FOR

WHAT TO LOOK FOR



DAVANTE ADAMS, Las Vegas, needs 100 receptions to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in six seasons, joining Antonio Brown and Brandon Marshall, and the second player ever to reach the mark in five-or-more consecutive seasons, joining Brown. *Keenan Allen can also record his sixth 100-reception season.*

Adams also:

Needs 78 receptions to become the second player ever with 950 receptions in his first 11 seasons, joining Marvin Harrison (1,022). Adams has 872 career receptions.

Needs five touchdown receptions to become the fifth player ever with 100 touchdown receptions in his first 11 seasons, joining Jerry Rice (146), Randy Moss (135), Marvin Harrison (122) and Terrell Owens (114). Adams has 95 career touchdown receptions.

Needs 10 touchdown receptions to become the fifth player ever to reach the mark in seven-or-more seasons, joining Randy Moss (nine), Jerry Rice (nine), Marvin Harrison (eight) and Terrell Owens (eight).

Needs one game with 10 receptions to surpass Antonio Brown (23 games) for the most such games in NFL history. *Keenan Allen can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs three games with 10 receptions and 100 receiving yards to surpass Andre Johnson (21 games) for the most such games in NFL history. *Keenan Allen can also accomplish this feat.*



JORDAN ADDISON, Minnesota, can become the fifth wide receiver since 1966 with at least 10 touchdown receptions in each of his first two seasons, joining Odell Beckham Jr., John Jefferson, Randy Moss and Daryl Turner.



JOSH ALLEN, Buffalo, needs 12 combined passing and rushing touchdowns to surpass Patrick Mahomes (231) for the most combined passing and rushing touchdowns by a player in his first seven career seasons in NFL history. Allen has 220 career combined touchdowns (167 passing, 53 rushing). Allen also:

Needs 4,047 combined passing and rushing yards to surpass Patrick Mahomes (30,360) for the most combined passing and rushing yards by a player in his first seven career seasons in NFL history. Allen has 26,314 career combined yards (22,703 passing, 3,611 rushing).

Needs seven rushing touchdowns to join Cam Newton (75) as the only quarterbacks in NFL history with at least 60 career rushing touchdowns.

Needs six rushing touchdowns to become the first quarterback ever with at least six rushing touchdowns in each of his first seven seasons and surpass Cam Newton (six) for the most career seasons with at least six rushing touchdowns by a quarterback in NFL history.

Needs 25 passing touchdowns and five rushing touchdowns to become the first quarterback in NFL history to reach the marks in five consecutive seasons and five career seasons.

Needs 4,000 passing yards and 25 touchdown passes to become the third quarterback in NFL history to reach the marks in five of his first seven career seasons, joining Patrick Mahomes (six) and Peyton Manning (six).

Needs 4,000 passing yards and 25 touchdown passes to become the sixth quarterback in NFL history to reach the marks in five consecutive seasons, joining Drew Brees (11 from 2006-16), Patrick Mahomes (six from 2018-23, active streak), Peyton Manning (six from 1999-2004 and five from 2006-10), Philip Rivers (six from 2013-18) and Tom Brady (five from 2011-15).



KEENAN ALLEN, Chicago, needs 100 receptions to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in six seasons, joining Antonio Brown and Brandon Marshall. *Davante Adams and Stefon Diggs can also accomplish this feat.* Allen also:


Needs 90 receptions to become the second player ever to reach the mark in seven-or-more seasons, joining Larry Fitzgerald (eight). *Travis Kelce can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs 25 receptions in his first 11 games to surpass Antonio Brown (928) for the most receptions ever

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

by a player in his first 150 games. Allen has 904 receptions in 139 games.

Needs three games with 10 receptions and 100 receiving yards to surpass Andre Johnson (21 games) for the most such games in NFL history. *Davante Adams can also accomplish this feat.*

 **MARK ANDREWS**, Baltimore, can become the fifth tight end in NFL history with at least 500 receiving yards in each of his first seven seasons, joining Rob Gronkowski, George Kittle, Keith Jackson and Ozzie Newsome. Andrews also:


Needs five touchdown receptions to become the sixth tight end ever with at least 45 touchdown receptions in his first seven seasons, joining Rob Gronkowski (68), Antonio Gates (59), Jimmy Graham (59), Tony Gonzalez (47) and Jerry Smith (46). Andrews has 40 career touchdown receptions.

Needs 500 receiving yards and five touchdown receptions to become the fifth tight end ever to reach those marks in six consecutive seasons, joining Antonio Gates (nine), Tony Gonzalez (twice, eight and six), Travis Kelce (seven, active streak) and Ben Coats (six).


Needs one game with at least two touchdown receptions to become the sixth tight end in NFL history with 10 such career games, joining Antonio Gates (21), Rob Gronkowski (20), Tony Gonzalez (18), Jimmy Graham (17) and Travis Kelce (10). Andrews has nine career games with at least two touchdown receptions.

 **DARON BLAND**, Dallas, can become the fourth player since 1990 with at least five interceptions in each of his first three career seasons, joining Marcus Peters, Ed Reed and Duane Starks. Bland also:

Needs one interception return for a touchdown to surpass Ken Houston (five) and Janoris Jenkins (five) for the most by a player in his first three seasons in NFL history. Bland has five career interceptions returned for touchdowns.

 **NICK BOSA**, San Francisco, can become the third player since 1982 with at least 15 sacks in three of his first six career seasons, joining J.J. Watt and Reggie White. Bosa had 18.5 sacks in 2022 and 15.5 sacks in 2021.




 **A.J. BROWN**, Philadelphia, needs 1,000 receiving yards and seven touchdown receptions to become the fifth player in NFL history to reach the marks in five of his first six career seasons, joining Randy Moss (six), Lance Alworth (five), Marques Colston (five) and Jerry Rice (five). Brown also:

Needs 1,400 receiving yards

and seven touchdown receptions to become the sixth player in NFL history to reach the marks in three consecutive seasons, joining Marvin Harrison (four from 1999-2002), Antonio Brown (three from 2013-15), Justin Jefferson (three from 2020-22), Jerry Rice (three from 1993-95) and Demaryius Thomas (three from 2012-14). *Tyreek Hill can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the sixth player in NFL history with at least 50 receptions and five touchdown receptions in each of his first six seasons, joining Gary Clark, Larry Fitzgerald, Marvin Harrison, Tyreek Hill and Randy Moss. *DK Metcalf can also accomplish this feat.*

 **JOE BURROW**, Cincinnati, needs 4,000 passing yards and 30 touchdown passes to become the fourth player in NFL history to reach those marks in three of his first five seasons, joining Josh Allen, Patrick Mahomes and Dan Marino. *Justin Herbert can also accomplish this feat.* Burrow also:

Needs three touchdown passes in his first game to tie Johnny Unitas (53 games) and Deshaun Watson (53) as the fifth-fastest player in NFL history to reach 100 career touchdown passes, trailing only Patrick Mahomes (40), Dan Marino (44), Kurt Warner (50) and Justin Herbert (52). Burrow has 97 touchdown passes in 52 games.

Needs four games with at least three touchdown passes to become the fifth player ever with 20-or-more such games in his first five seasons, joining Dan Marino (33), Patrick Mahomes (28), Kurt Warner (21) and Josh Allen (20). *Justin*

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Herbert can also accomplish this feat.

Needs five games with at least 300 passing yards and three touchdown passes to become the fourth player ever with 15-or-more such games in his first five seasons, joining Patrick Mahomes (19), Dan Marino (19) and Kurt Warner (17). *Justin Herbert can also accomplish this feat.*

DEREK CARR, New Orleans, can become the third player in NFL history with at least 3,000 passing yards in each of his first 11 career seasons, joining Peyton Manning and Russell Wilson. Carr also:

Needs 1,926 passing yards to surpass Matthew Stafford (41,025) for the third-most passing yards by a player in his first 11 seasons in NFL history. Only Matt Ryan (46,720) and Peyton Manning (45,628) have more. Carr has 39,100 career passing yards.

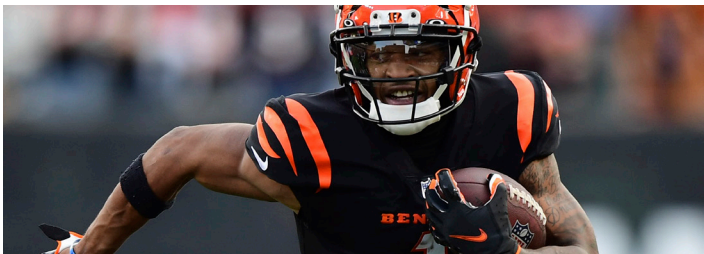
Needs 264 completions to surpass Peyton Manning (3,839) for the second-most completions by a player in his first 11 seasons in NFL history. Only Matt Ryan (4,052) has more. Carr has 3,576 career completions.

JA'MARR CHASE, Cincinnati, needs 80 receptions, 1,000 receiving yards and seven touchdown receptions to become the first player in NFL history to reach the marks in each of their first four seasons. Chase also:

Needs 1,283 receiving yards to become the sixth player ever with 5,000 receiving yards in his first four seasons, joining Justin Jefferson (5,899), Michael Thomas (5,512), Randy Moss (5,396), CeeDee Lamb (5,145) and Torry Holt (5,088). Chase has 3,717 career receiving yards.

Needs 82 receptions to become the fifth player ever with 350 receptions in his first four seasons, joining Michael Thomas (470), Jarvis Landry (400), CeeDee Lamb (395) and Justin Jefferson (392). Chase has 268 career receptions.

Needs six games with at least 100 receiving yards to become the fourth player ever with 20-or-more such games in his first four seasons, joining Justin Jefferson (29), Randy Moss (23) and A.J. Green (20).



AMARI COOPER, Cleveland, needs five touchdown receptions to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in each of his first 10 seasons, joining Marvin Harrison and Don Hutson. Cooper also:

Needs one game with at least 200 receiving yards to become the third player ever with five such games in his career, joining Lance Alworth and Calvin Johnson.

KIRK COUSINS, Atlanta, needs 529 passing yards in his first two games to tie Drew Brees (152 games) as the third-fastest player ever to reach 40,000 career passing yards, trailing only Matthew Stafford (147) and Matt Ryan (151). Cousins has 39,471 passing yards in 150 career games.

STEFON DIGGS, Houston, needs 90 receptions to become the second player in NFL history with at least 900 receptions in his first 10 career seasons, joining Marvin Harrison (927). Diggs has 810 career receptions. Diggs also:

Can become the second player ever with at least 100 receptions in five consecutive seasons, joining Antonio Brown (six from 2013-18). *Davante Adams can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the third player in NFL history with at least 100 receptions in six career seasons, joining Antonio Brown and Brandon Marshall. *Davante Adams and Keenan Allen can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs four games with at least 10 receptions to become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 20 such career games, joining Davante Adams (23), Antonio Brown (23), Andre Johnson (22) and Keenan Allen (20).


AUSTIN EKELER, Washington, needs 405 scrimmage yards to surpass Fred Jackson (8,643) for the third-most scrimmage yards by an undrafted running back in the common-draft era and 635 scrimmage yards to surpass Arian Foster (8,873) for the second-most, trailing only Priest Holmes (11,134). Ekeler has 8,239 career scrimmage yards. Ekeler also:

Needs seven touchdown receptions to surpass Marshall Faulk (36) for the most touchdown receptions by a running back in the Super Bowl era. Ekeler has 30 career touchdown receptions.

Needs 60 receptions to become the sixth running back ever with 500 receptions in his first eight seasons, joining Marshall Faulk (548), LaDainian Tomlinson (510),

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Christian McCaffrey (509 in seven seasons), Roger Craig (508) and Alvin Kamara (505 in seven seasons). Ekeler has 440 career receptions.

 **EVAN ENGRAM**, Jacksonville, needs 40 receptions to become the second tight end in NFL history to reach the mark in each of his first eight seasons, joining Jeremy Shockey. Engram also:

Needs 100 receptions to become the first tight end ever to reach the mark in consecutive seasons and the second tight end ever to reach the mark in multiple career seasons, joining Travis Kelce (three).



ZACH ERTZ, Washington, needs 41 receptions to become the sixth tight end in NFL history with 750 receptions, joining Tony Gonzalez (1,325), Jason Witten (1,228), Antonio Gates (955), Travis Kelce (907 entering 2023), and Shannon Sharpe (815). Ertz has 709 career receptions.

 **MIKE EVANS**, Tampa Bay, needs 1,000 receiving yards to tie Jerry Rice (11 consecutive seasons

from 1986-96) for the longest streak of consecutive 1,000-yard receiving seasons in NFL history. Evans also:


Needs 1,320 receiving yards to become the sixth player ever with at least 13,000 receiving yards in his first 11 seasons, joining Jerry Rice (15,123), Marvin Harrison (13,697), Torry Holt (13,382), Julio Jones (13,330) and Randy Moss (13,201). Evans has 11,680 career receiving yards.

Needs 12 touchdown receptions to become the fifth player ever with at least 12 touchdown receptions in six-or-more career seasons, joining Jerry Rice (eight seasons), Terrell Owens (seven), Marvin Harrison (six) and Randy Moss (six).

Needs six touchdown receptions to become the fifth player ever with at least 100 touchdown receptions in his first 11 seasons, joining Jerry Rice (146), Randy Moss (135), Marvin Harrison (122) and Terrell Owens (114). *Davante Adams can also accomplish this feat.*


Needs 65 receptions to tie Tony Gonzalez (11 consecutive seasons from 2003-13) for the longest streak of consecutive 65-catch seasons in NFL history. *Travis Kelce can also accomplish this feat.*



 **JUSTIN FIELDS**, Pittsburgh, needs 280 rushing yards to become the fourth quarterback in NFL history with at least 2,500 rushing yards in his first four seasons, joining Lamar Jackson (3,673), Cam Newton (2,571) and Jalen Hurts (2,503). Fields has 2,220 career rushing yards. Fields also:

Needs five games with at least 100 rushing yards to become the third quarterback ever with 10-or-more career 100-yard rushing games, joining Lamar Jackson (13) and Michael Vick (10).

Needs seven games with at least 50 rushing yards to surpass Cam Newton (24) for the second-most such games ever by a quarterback in his first four seasons. Only Lamar Jackson (39) has more.

 **MYLES GARRETT**, Cleveland, needs 14 sacks to become the first player since 1982 to reach the mark in four consecutive seasons. Garrett also:

Needs 13 sacks to become the third player since 1982 to reach the mark in five-or-more of his first eight seasons, joining Reggie White (seven) and T.J. Watt (five of first seven).

Needs 12 sacks to become the second player since 1982 to reach the mark in five consecutive seasons, joining Lawrence Taylor (1985-89).

Needs 11.5 sacks in his first 12 games to become the second-fastest player since 1982 to reach 100 career sacks, surpassing DeMarcus Ware (113 games). Only Reggie White (96) reached the mark faster. Garrett has 88.5 sacks in 100

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

career games. *T.J. Watt can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs 11.5 sacks to become the fourth player since 1982 with at least 100 sacks in his first eight career seasons, joining Reggie White (124), DeMarcus Ware (111) and Jared Allen (105). *T.J. Watt can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs 11.5 sacks to become the first player since 1982 with 100 career sacks prior to his 29th birthday. Garrett turns 29 years old on December 29, 2024.

Needs 10 sacks to become the fourth player since 1982 to reach the mark in seven-or-more of his first eight seasons, joining Reggie White (eight), Von Miller (seven) and DeMarcus Ware (seven).



JARED GOFF, Detroit, needs 4,000 passing yards to become the sixth player in NFL history to reach the mark in five-or-more of his first nine seasons, joining Peyton Manning (seven), Matthew Stafford (seven), Patrick Mahomes (six of first seven), Matt Ryan (six) and Kirk Cousins (five). *Josh Allen can also accomplish this feat.* Goff also:

Needs 4,571 passing yards to become the fifth player ever with 35,000 passing yards in his first nine seasons, joining Matt Ryan (37,701), Peyton Manning (37,586), Dan Marino (35,386) and Derek Carr (35,222). Goff has 30,429 career passing yards.

Needs 343 completions to become the fifth player ever with 3,000 completions in his first nine seasons, joining Matt Ryan (3,288), Derek Carr (3,201), Peyton Manning (3,131) and Matthew Stafford (3,005). Goff has 2,657 career completions. *Dak Prescott can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs three games with at least 350 passing yards to become the third player ever with 20-or-more

such games in his first nine seasons, joining Patrick Mahomes (22 in seven seasons) and Matthew Stafford (21).

Needs four games with at least 300 passing yards to become the fifth player ever with 40-or-more such games in his first nine seasons, joining Patrick Mahomes (45 in seven seasons), Dan Marino (41), Matt Ryan (41) and Peyton Manning (40).

DERRICK HENRY, Baltimore, needs 10 rushing touchdowns to become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 100 rushing touchdowns in his first nine seasons, joining LaDainian Tomlinson (138), Emmitt Smith (125), Jim Brown (106) and Shaun Alexander (100). Henry has 90 career rushing touchdowns. Henry also:

Needs 10 rushing touchdowns to become the fourth player in NFL history to reach the mark in seven career seasons, joining LaDainian Tomlinson (nine), Adrian Peterson (eight) and Emmitt Smith (eight).

Needs 10 rushing touchdowns to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in seven consecutive seasons, joining LaDainian Tomlinson (nine from 2001-09) and Adrian Peterson (seven from 2007-13).

Needs 12 rushing touchdowns to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in six career seasons, joining LaDainian Tomlinson (seven) and Emmitt Smith (six).

Needs five rushing touchdowns to become the fifth player in NFL history to reach the mark in each of his first nine career seasons, joining Jim Brown, Marshall Faulk, LaDainian Tomlinson and Ricky Watters.

Needs three games with at least two rushing touchdowns to surpass Shaun Alexander (25 games), Marcus Allen (25) and Priest Holmes (25) for the fifth-most such games by a player in NFL history. Only LaDainian Tomlinson (38), Emmitt Smith (36), Adrian Peterson (28) and Jim Brown (27) have more. Henry has 23 career games with at least two rushing touchdowns.

Needs two games with at least 100 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns to become the third player in NFL history with at least 20 such games in their first nine seasons, joining Jim Brown (25) and LaDainian Tomlinson (24). Henry has 18 career games with at least 100 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns.

Needs one game with at least 200 rushing yards to surpass Adrian Peterson (six games) and O.J. Simpson (six) for the most such games in NFL history.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

JUSTIN HERBERT, Los Angeles Chargers, needs 4,000 passing yards to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in four of his first five seasons, joining Patrick Mahomes and Peyton Manning. Herbert also:

Needs 3,396 passing yards to surpass Peyton Manning (20,618) for the most passing yards ever by a player in his first five seasons. Herbert has 17,223 career passing yards.

Needs 20 touchdown passes to become the fourth player ever to reach the mark in each of his first five seasons, joining Peyton Manning, Dan Marino and Russell Wilson.

Needs 25 touchdown passes to become the fourth player ever to reach the mark in four-or-more of his first five seasons, joining Peyton Manning (five), Patrick Mahomes (four) and Dan Marino (four).

Needs 36 touchdown passes to become the third player ever with at least 150 touchdown passes in his first five seasons, joining Dan Marino (168) and Patrick Mahomes (151). Herbert has 114 career touchdown passes.

Needs 147 completions to surpass Derek Carr (1,759) for the most-ever by a player in his first five seasons. Herbert has 1,613 career completions.

Needs seven games with at least 300 passing yards to surpass Patrick Mahomes (31) for the most such games ever by a player in his first five seasons.

Needs 10 games with at least two touchdown passes to tie Patrick Mahomes (46) for the

second-most such games ever by a player in his first five seasons, trailing only Dan Marino (50).

TYREEK HILL, Miami, needs 1,500 receiving yards to become the first player in NFL history to reach the mark in three consecutive seasons. Hill also:

Needs 1,069 receiving yards to surpass Antonio Brown (11,207) for the fifth-most ever by a player in his first nine seasons, trailing only Julio Jones (12,125), Torry Holt (11,864), Jerry Rice (11,776) and Calvin Johnson (11,6119). Hill has 10,139 career receiving yards.

Needs 110 receptions to become the first player ever to reach the mark in four consecutive seasons and the second player ever to reach the mark in four-or-more career seasons, joining Wes Welker (five).

Needs 83 receptions to become the fifth player ever with 800 receptions in his first nine seasons, joining Marvin Harrison (845), Antonio Brown (837), Stefon Diggs (810) and Torry Holt (805). Hill has 717 career receptions.

Needs six touchdown receptions to become the third player ever to reach the mark in each of his first nine seasons, joining Marvin Harrison and Don Hutson.

Needs seven scrimmage touchdowns to become the first wide receiver and fifth player ever to reach the mark in each of his first nine seasons, joining Jim Brown, Marshall Faulk, LaDainian Tomlinson and Ricky Watters.

Needs seven scrimmage touchdowns to become the fifth wide receiver ever with 90

scrimmage touchdowns in his first nine seasons, joining Jerry Rice (124), Randy Moss (101), Marvin Harrison (98) and Terrell Owens (97). Hill has 83 career scrimmage touchdowns.

Needs three games with at least 150 receiving yards to tie Jerry Rice (19) for the most such games ever by a player in his first nine seasons.

Needs one game with at least 10 receptions and 150 receiving yards to surpass Antonio Brown (10) and Julio Jones (10) for the most such games ever by a player in his first nine seasons.




DEANDRE HOPKINS, Tennessee, needs 72 receptions to become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 1,000 receptions in his first 12 seasons, joining Jerry Rice (1,050), Marvin Harrison (1,042), Larry Fitzgerald (1,018) and Andre Johnson (1,012). Hopkins has 928 career receptions. Hopkins also:

Needs 72 receptions to become the second player in NFL history with 1,000 receptions prior to his 33rd birthday, joining Larry Fitzgerald. Hopkins will turn 33 on June 6, 2025.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Needs at least one reception in each of his first six games to surpass Keyshawn Johnson (first 167 games) for the second-most consecutive games with a reception to begin a career in NFL history, trailing only Marvin Harrison (first 190 career games). Hopkins has at least one reception in each of his first 162 career games.

 **JALEN HURTS**, Philadelphia, needs three rushing touchdowns to surpass Steve Young (43) for the third most rushing touchdowns by a quarterback in NFL history. Hurts has 41 career rushing touchdowns. Hurts also:

Needs four rushing touchdowns to become the fourth quarterback all-time to reach 50 career rushing touchdowns, including the postseason, joining Cam Newton (77), Josh Allen (58, entering 2023) and Steve Young (51). Hurts has 46 career rushing touchdowns, including the postseason.


Needs three rushing touchdowns to surpass Cam Newton (43) for the most rushing touchdowns by a quarterback in his first five career seasons in NFL history.


Needs 10 rushing touchdowns to become the first quarterback in NFL history to reach the mark in four consecutive seasons and four career seasons.

Needs 20 touchdown passes and 10 rushing touchdowns to become the first quarterback ever to reach the marks in three consecutive seasons and three career seasons.

Needs three games with at least one touchdown pass and one rushing touchdown to become the third quarterback ever with 20 such games in his first five career seasons, joining Cam Newton (31) and Josh Allen (25). Hurts has 17 career games with both a touchdown pass and rushing touchdown.

Needs 497 rushing yards to become the fourth quarterback in NFL history with at least 3,000 rushing yards in his first five seasons, joining Lamar Jackson (4,437), Cam Newton (3,207) and Josh Allen (3,087). Hurts has 2,503 career rushing yards.

 **AIDAN HUTCHINSON**, Detroit, needs an interception to become the first player since 1982 with at least 20 sacks and five interceptions in his first three seasons. Hutchinson has 21 sacks and four interceptions in his first two seasons.

 **LAMAR JACKSON**, Baltimore, needs 852 rushing yards to surpass Michael Vick (6,109), Cam Newton (5,628) and Russell Wilson (5,307) for the most rushing yards by a quarterback in NFL history. Jackson has 5,258 career rushing yards. Jackson also:


Can become the first quarterback in NFL history with at least 500 rushing yards in seven consecutive seasons and the second quarterback ever with at least 500 rushing yards in seven career seasons, joining Cam Newton (seven).


Needs one game with at least 50 rushing yards to surpass Michael Vick (54) for the most such games by a quarterback in NFL history. Jackson has 54 career games with at least 50 rushing yards.

Can become the fourth quarterback ever with at least five rushing touchdowns in five career seasons, joining Cam Newton (nine), Josh Allen (six) and Jack Kemp (five).

Needs one game with at least five touchdown passes to become the fourth quarterback in NFL history with at least five such games in his first seven seasons, joining Patrick Mahomes (six), Peyton Manning (six) and Dan Marino (five).



 **JOSH JACOBS**, Green Bay, needs 800 rushing yards and six rushing touchdowns to become the eighth player in NFL history to reach the marks in each of his first six seasons.

 **JUSTIN JEFFERSON**, Minnesota, needs 886 receiving yards to surpass Torry Holt (6,784) for the most receiving yards by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Jefferson has 5,899 career receiving yards. Jefferson also:

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Needs 101 receiving yards in his first game to surpass Lance Alworth (62 games) as the fastest player to reach 6,000 receiving yards in NFL history. Jefferson has 5,899 receiving yards in 60 career games.

Needs 1,101 receiving yards in his first 11 games to surpass Lance Alworth and Julio Jones (72 games) as the fastest player to reach 7,000 receiving yards in NFL history.

Can become the fourth player in NFL history with at least 1,000 receiving yards in each of his first five career seasons, joining Mike Evans, A.J. Green and Randy Moss.

Needs two games with at least 100 receiving yards to surpass Randy Moss (30 games) for the most such games by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history.

Jefferson has 29 career games with at least 100 receiving yards.

Needs one game with at least 125 receiving yards to surpass Lance Alworth (19 games) for the most such games by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Jefferson has 19 career games with at least 125 receiving yards.

Needs two games with at least 150 receiving yards to surpass Lance Alworth (12 games) for the most such games by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Jefferson has 11 career games with at least 150 receiving yards.

Needs three games with at least 175 receiving yards to surpass Lance Alworth (eight games) for the most such games by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Jefferson has six career games with at least 175 receiving yards.

Needs 90 receptions to surpass Jarvis Landry (481

receptions) for the second-most by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Only Michael Thomas (510) has more. Jefferson has 392 career receptions. *CeeDee Lamb can also accomplish this feat.*



ALVIN KAMARA, New Orleans, can become the first running back in NFL history with at least 75 receptions in six career seasons. Kamara also:

Needs 44 receptions to surpass Marshall Faulk (548) for the most receptions by a running back in his first eight seasons in NFL history. Kamara has 505 career receptions. *Christian McCaffrey can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs 83 receptions to surpass Marcus Allen (587) for the fifth-most receptions by a running back in NFL history. Only Larry Centers (827), Marshall Faulk (767), LaDainian Tomlinson (624) and Keith Byars (610) have more. Kamara has 505 career receptions. *Christian McCaffrey can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the fifth running back in NFL history with at least 400 receiving yards in

eight career seasons, joining Larry Centers (10), Marshall Faulk (nine), Ronnie Harmon (nine) and Tiki Barber (eight).

TRAVIS KELCE, Kansas City, needs 93 receptions to become the third tight end in NFL history with 1,000 career receptions, joining Tony Gonzalez (1,325) and Jason Witten (1,228). Kelce has 907 career receptions. Kelce also:

Needs 93 receptions to become the fifth player with at least 1,000 receptions in his first 12 career seasons, joining Jerry Rice (1,050), Marvin Harrison (1,042), Larry Fitzgerald (1,018) and Andre Johnson (1,012). *DeAndre Hopkins can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the first player in NFL history with at least 90 receptions in seven consecutive seasons, surpassing Antonio Brown (six from 2013-18) and Torry Holt (six from 2002-07).

Can become the first player in NFL history with at least 80 receptions in nine consecutive seasons, surpassing Marvin Harrison (eight from 1999-2006), Torry Holt (eight from 2000-07) and Jerry Rice (eight from 1989-96).

Needs 80 receptions to surpass Tony Gonzalez (eight seasons) for the most such seasons by a tight end in NFL history.

Needs two games with at least 10 receptions to surpass Zach Ertz (11 games) and Jason Witten (11) for the second-most such games by a tight end in NFL history. Only Tony Gonzalez (15) has more. Kelce has 10 career games with at least 10 receptions.

Needs 772 receiving yards

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

to become the third tight end in NFL history with 12,000 career receiving yards, joining Tony Gonzalez (15,127) and Jason Witten (13,046). Kelce has 11,328 career receiving yards.

Can become the second player in NFL history with at least 800 receiving yards in 11 consecutive seasons, joining Jerry Rice (12 seasons from 1985-1996). *Mike Evans can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 900 receiving yards in nine consecutive seasons, joining Jerry Rice (12 from 1985-1996), Tim Brown (10 from 1993-2002), Mike Evans (10 from 2014-23, active streak) and Reggie Wayne (nine from 2004-12).

Needs 900 receiving yards to tie Tony Gonzalez (nine seasons) for the most such seasons by a tight end in NFL history.

Needs one touchdown reception to surpass Jason Witten (74) for the fifth-most touchdown receptions by a tight end in NFL history. Only Antonio Gates (116), Tony Gonzalez (111), Rob Gronkowski (92) and Jimmy Graham (89) have more.



GEORGE KITTLE, San Francisco, can become the fifth tight end in NFL history with four career seasons with at least 1,000 receiving yards, joining Travis Kelce (seven), Tony Gonzalez (four), Rob Gronkowski (four) and Jason Witten (four). Kittle has three career seasons with at least 1,000 receiving yards. Kittle also:

Needs 40 receptions and 726 receiving yards to become the third tight end in NFL history with at least 500 receptions and 7,000 receiving yards in his first eight seasons, joining Antonio Gates and Travis Kelce. Kittle has 460 receptions and 6,274 receiving yards entering 2024.

Needs 500 receiving yards to become the third

tight end in NFL history to reach the mark in each of his first eight career seasons, joining Rob Gronkowski and Ozzie Newsome.

Needs 60 receptions to become the fifth tight end in NFL history to reach the mark in six of his first eight career seasons, joining Travis Kelce (seven), Jason Witten (seven), Antonio Gates (six) and Tony Gonzalez (six).

Needs 57 receiving yards in his first two games to surpass Kellen Winslow (6,330) for the third-most receiving yards by a tight end in his first 100 career games in NFL history. Only Rob Gronkowski (7,112) and Travis Kelce (6,762) have more. Kittle has 6,274 receiving yards in 98 career games.

Needs 10 receptions in his first two games to surpass Rob Gronkowski (469) for the fifth-most receptions by a tight end in his first 100 career games in NFL history. Only Travis Kelce (531), Kellen Winslow (497), Jimmy Graham (485) and Zach Ertz (483) have more. Kittle has 460 receptions in 98 career games.

COOPER KUPP, Los Angeles Rams, needs 33 receptions in his first eight games to become the fifth player in NFL history with 600 receptions in his first 100 games, joining Keenan Allen (624), Antonio Brown (622), Julio Jones (619) and Anquan Boldin (614). Kupp has 567 receptions in 92 games.

★ **CEEDEE LAMB**, Dallas, can become the third player in NFL history with at least 100 receptions, 1,300 receiving yards and nine touchdown receptions in three consecutive seasons, joining Marvin Harrison (four from 1999-2002) and Davante Adams (three from 2020-22). Lamb also:

Needs 87 receptions to surpass Jarvis Landry (481 receptions) for the second-most by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Only Michael Thomas (510) has more. Lamb has 395 career receptions. *Justin Jefferson can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs 855 receiving yards and eight touchdown receptions to become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 6,000 receiving yards and 40 touchdown receptions in his first five seasons, joining Mike Evans, A.J. Green, Randy Moss and Jerry Rice. Lamb has 5,145 receiving yards and 32 touchdown receptions.

Can become the first player in NFL history with at least 70 receptions and five touchdown receptions in each

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

of his first five career seasons.

Can join Jarvis Landry as the only players in NFL history with at least 70 receptions in each of his first five seasons.

Needs three games with at least 10 receptions to surpass Brandon Marshall (12 games) for the second-most such games by a player in his first five seasons in NFL history. Only Michael Thomas (18 games) has more. Lamb has 10 career games with 10-or-more receptions.



SAM LAPORTA, Detroit, needs 59 receptions to surpass Keith Jackson (144) for the most receptions ever by a tight end in his first two seasons. LaPorta had 86 receptions in his rookie season. LaPorta also:

Needs 1,092 receiving yards to surpass Mike Ditka (1,980) for the most receiving yards ever by a tight end in his first two seasons. LaPorta had 889 receiving yards in his rookie season.

Needs 10 touchdown receptions to become the sixth player in the Super Bowl era to reach the mark in each of his first two

seasons, joining Odell Beckham Jr., Rob Gronkowski, John Jefferson, Randy Moss and Daryl Turner.

Needs eight touchdown receptions to surpass Mike Ditka (17) for the second-most touchdown receptions ever by a tight end in his first two seasons, trailing only Rob Gronkowski (27). LaPorta had 10 touchdown receptions in his rookie season.

TREVOR LAWRENCE,

Jacksonville, needs 4,000 passing yards to become the fifth player in NFL history to reach the mark in three of his first four seasons, joining Justin Herbert, Patrick Mahomes, Peyton Manning and Dan Marino. Lawrence also:

Needs 3,500 passing yards to become the second player ever to reach the mark in each of his first four seasons, joining Peyton Manning

Needs 3,230 passing yards to become the sixth player ever with 15,000 passing yards in his first four seasons, joining Justin Herbert (17,223), Peyton Manning (16,418), Dan Marino (16,177), Dak Prescott (15,778) and Ryan Tannehill (15,460). Lawrence has 11,770 career passing yards.

Needs 350 completions to become the first player ever to reach the mark in each of his first four seasons.

Needs 384 completions to become the second player ever with at least 1,500 completions in his first four seasons, joining Justin Herbert (1,613).

PATRICK MAHOMES, Kansas City, can become the first quarterback in NFL history with at least 4,000 passing yards in seven of his first eight career seasons. Mahomes also:

Can become the second quarterback in NFL history with at least 25 touchdown passes in seven of his first eight career seasons, joining Peyton Manning (eight).

Can become the third quarterback in NFL history with five seasons of 35-or-more touchdown passes, joining Tom Brady (six) and Aaron Rodgers (six).

Can become the second quarterback in NFL history with at least 4,000 passing yards and 25 touchdown passes in seven consecutive seasons, joining Drew Brees (11 from 2006-16).

Needs 4,766 passing yards to surpass Peyton Manning (33,189) for the most passing yards by a player in his first eight seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 28,424 career passing yards.

Needs 1,576 passing yards in his first 12 games to surpass Matthew Stafford (109 games) as the fastest player to reach 30,000 career passing yards in NFL history. Mahomes has 28,424 passing yards in 96 career games.

Needs 26 touchdown passes to surpass Peyton Manning (244) for the most touchdown passes by a player in his first eight seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 219 career touchdown passes.

Needs 31 touchdown passes to surpass Aaron Rodgers (121 games) as the fastest player to reach 250 career touchdown passes in NFL history. Mahomes has

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

219 touchdown passes in 96 career games.

Needs eight games with at least two touchdown passes to surpass Peyton Manning (74) for the most such games by a player in his first eight seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 67 career games with at least two touchdown passes.

Needs five games with at least three touchdown passes to surpass Dan Marino (42) for the most such games by a player in his first eight seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 38 career games with at least three touchdown passes.

Needs one game with at least four touchdown passes to surpass Peyton Manning (17), Dan Marino (17) and Russell Wilson for the most such games by a player in his first 10 seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 17 career games with at least four touchdown passes.

Needs one game with least 300 passing yards to surpass Matt Ryan (45) for the most such games by a player in his first 10 career seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 45 career games with at least 300 passing yards.

Needs five games with least 300 passing yards to join Drew Brees (57) and Matt Ryan (53) as the only players with 50 games of 300-or-more passing yards in their first 11 career seasons in NFL history. Mahomes has 45 career games with at least 300 passing yards.

Can become the third player in NFL history with at least 400 completions in four consecutive seasons, joining Drew Brees (seven from 2010-16) and Matt Ryan (four from 2012-15).



CHRISTIAN MCCAFFREY, San Francisco, can become the sixth player in the Super Bowl era with at least 12,000 scrimmage yards and 90 scrimmage touchdowns in his first eight career seasons, joining Eric Dickerson, Marshall Faulk, Barry Sanders, Emmitt Smith and LaDainian Tomlinson. McCaffrey has 10,505 scrimmage yards and 81 scrimmage touchdowns in his first seven seasons. McCaffrey also:

Needs nine touchdowns in his first nine games to become the eighth player in NFL history with at least 90 scrimmage touchdowns in his first 100 career games, joining LaDainian Tomlinson (114), Emmitt Smith (109), Jim Brown (103), Shaun Alexander (102), Lenny Moore (92) and Adrian Peterson (91) and Jerry Rice (91). McCaffrey has 81 scrimmage touchdowns in 91 career games.

Can become the sixth player in NFL history with at least 2,000 scrimmage yards in three of his first eight career seasons, joining Eric Dickerson (four), Marshall Faulk (four), Priest Holmes (three), Edgerrin James (three) and LaDainian Tomlinson (three).

Can become the second player in NFL history with at least 1,000 rushing yards and 500 receiving yards in five career seasons, joining Marshall Faulk (five).

Can become the sixth player in NFL history with at least 20 scrimmage touchdowns in consecutive seasons and in two career seasons, joining Shaun Alexander (2004-05), Marshall Faulk (2000-01), Priest Holmes (2002-03), Emmitt Smith (1994-95) and LaDainian Tomlinson (2005-06). *Raheem Mostert can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the second player in NFL history with at least 19 scrimmage touchdowns in three career seasons, joining Emmitt Smith (three).

Needs one game with at least one rushing touchdown and one receiving touchdown to surpass Marshall Faulk (15) for the most such games in NFL history. McCaffrey has 15 career games with at least one rushing touchdown and one receiving touchdown.

Needs six touchdown receptions to join Marshall Faulk (36) as the only running backs in the Super Bowl era with at least 35 touchdown receptions. *Austin Ekeler can also accomplish this feat.*

Can become the second player in NFL history with at least five rushing touchdowns and five receiving touchdowns in three consecutive seasons, joining Marshall Faulk (1999-01) and the first to reach the marks in four career seasons.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Needs 40 receptions to surpass Marshall Faulk (548) for the most receptions by a running back in his first eight seasons in NFL history. McCaffrey has 509 career receptions.

Needs 91 receptions to become the fifth running back in NFL history with at least 600 career receptions, joining Larry Centers (827), Marshall Faulk (767), LaDainian Tomlinson (624) and Keith Byars (610). McCaffrey has 509 career receptions.

W TERRY MCLAURIN, Washington, needs 50 receptions and 900 receiving yards to become the fourth player in NFL history to reach the marks in each of his first six seasons, joining Mike Evans, A.J. Green and Randy Moss. *DK Metcalf can also accomplish this feat.* McLaurin also:

Needs 75 receptions and 1,000 receiving yards to become the fourth player ever to reach the marks in five of his first six seasons, joining Torry Holt, Brandon Marshall and Randy Moss.

DK METCALF, Seattle, needs 900 receiving yards and five touchdown receptions to become the second player in NFL history to reach the marks in each of his first six seasons, joining Randy Moss. Metcalf also:

Needs 50 receptions and 900 receiving yards to become the fourth player in NFL history to reach the marks in each of his first six seasons, joining Mike Evans, A.J. Green and Randy Moss. *Terry McLaurin can also accomplish this feat.*

KYLER MURRAY, Arizona, needs three rushing touchdowns to become the fourth quarterback in NFL history to record at least three rushing touchdowns in each of his first six seasons, joining Josh Allen, Otto Graham and Cam Newton. Murray also:

Needs four rushing touchdowns to become the fifth quarterback ever with at least 30 rushing touchdowns in his first six seasons, joining Josh Allen (53), Cam Newton (48), Jalen Hurts (41 in first four seasons) and Otto Graham (33). Murray has 26 career rushing touchdowns.

Needs two games with both a passing touchdown and rushing touchdown to become the fourth quarterback ever with 20 such games in his first six seasons, joining Josh Allen (36), Cam Newton (35) and Daunte Culpepper (20). *Jalen Hurts can also accomplish this feat.*

PUKA NACUA, Los Angeles Rams, needs 92 receptions to surpass Justin Jefferson (196) and Michael Thomas (196) for the most-ever by a player in his first two seasons. Nacua had 105 receptions in his rookie season. Nacua also:

Needs 100 receptions to become the first player ever to reach the mark in each of his first two seasons.

Needs 1,014 receiving yards to become the sixth player ever with 2,500 receiving yards in his first two seasons, joining Justin Jefferson (3,016), Odell Beckham Jr. (2,755), Randy Moss (2,726), Bill Groman (2,648) and Ja'Marr Chase (2,501). Nacua had 1,486 receiving yards in his rookie season.

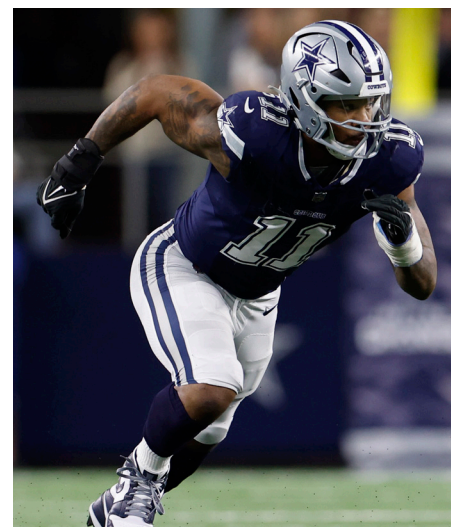
Needs two games with at least 150 receiving yards to become the fourth player ever with five such games in his first two seasons, joining Bill Groman, Randy Moss and Jerry Rice.

FOYESADE OLUOKUN, Jacksonville, needs 160 tackles to become the first player since 2000 to reach the mark in four consecutive seasons.

MICAH PARSONS, Dallas, can become the second player since 1982 with at least 13 sacks in each of his first four NFL seasons, joining Reggie White. Parsons also:

Can become the fourth player since 1982 with at least 10 sacks in each of his first four NFL seasons, joining Dwight Freeney, Derrick Thomas and Reggie White.

Needs 9.5 sacks to become the sixth player since 1982 with at least 50 sacks in his first four NFL seasons, joining Reggie White (70), Derrick Thomas (58), J.J. Watt (57), DeMarcus Ware (53.5) and Dwight Freeney (51). Parsons has 40.5 career sacks.



WHAT TO LOOK FOR

★ DAK PRESCOTT, Dallas, needs two games with at least 400 passing yards to become the sixth quarterback in NFL history with 12 such career games, joining Drew Brees (16), Tom Brady (14), Peyton Manning (14), Dan Marino (13) and Ben Roethlisberger (12). Prescott has 10 career games with at least 400 passing yards. *Patrick Mahomes can also accomplish this feat.* Prescott also:

Needs four games with at least three touchdown passes to become the third quarterback in NFL history with 40 such games in his first nine seasons, joining Dan Marino (46) and Peyton Manning (42). Prescott has 36 career games with at least three touchdown passes.

Patrick Mahomes can also accomplish this feat.

Needs 405 completions to become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 3,000 completions in his first nine seasons, joining Matt Ryan (3,288), Derek Carr (3,201), Peyton Manning (3,131) and Matthew Stafford (3,005). Prescott has 2,595 career completions.

🏈 BROCK PURDY, San Francisco, needs a passer rating of 100-or-higher in one of his first four starts to become the sixth quarterback in NFL history with 15 such games within his first 25 career starts, joining Patrick Mahomes (18), Kurt Warner (16), Carson Palmer (15), Dak Prescott (15) and Tony Romo (15). Purdy has a passer rating of 100-or-higher in 14 of his 21 career starts. Purdy also:

Needs a passer rating of 110-or-higher in one of his first four starts to join Patrick Mahomes (16) as the only quarterbacks in NFL history to reach the mark in 15 of his first 25 career starts. Purdy has a passer rating of 110-or-higher in 14 of his 21 career starts.

Needs six games with a passer rating of 110-or-higher to join Russell Wilson (21) as the only quarterbacks in NFL history with at least 20 such games in their first three seasons. Purdy has 14 career games with a passer rating of 110-or-higher.

Needs three games with a passer rating of 120-or-higher to surpass Russell Wilson (12) for the most such games by a quarterback in his first three seasons in NFL history. Purdy has 10 career games with a passer rating of 120-or-higher.

Needs one game with a passer rating of 130-or-higher to surpass Lamar Jackson (eight) for the most such games by a quarterback in his first three seasons in NFL history. Purdy has eight career games with a passer rating of 130-or-higher.

Needs one game with a passer rating of 140-or-higher to surpass Ed Brown (five) and Frank Filchock (five) for the most such games by a quarterback in his first three seasons in NFL history. Purdy has five career games with a passer rating of 140-or-higher.



🏈 AARON RODGERS, New York Jets, needs 4,386 passing yards to surpass Philip Rivers (63,440) for the sixth-most passing yards in NFL history. Rodgers has 59,055 career passing yards. Rodgers also:

Needs 3,500 passing yards to tie Drew Brees (14) and Brett Favre (14) for the third-most such seasons ever. Only Tom Brady (20) and Peyton Manning (16) have more.

Needs six games with at least 300 passing yards to become the fifth player in NFL history with 75 such career games, joining Drew Brees (123), Tom Brady (113), Peyton Manning (93) and Matt Ryan (76). Rodgers has 69 career games with at least 300 passing yards.

Needs 34 touchdown passes to surpass Brett Favre (508) for the fourth-most ever. Rodgers has 475 career touchdown passes.

Needs 30 touchdown passes to tie Tom Brady (nine), Brett Favre (nine) and Peyton Manning (nine) for the second-most such seasons ever. Only Drew Brees (10 seasons) has more.

Needs 25 touchdown passes to tie Drew Brees (14) for the third-most such seasons ever. Only Tom Brady (17) and Peyton Manning (16) have more.

Needs 25 touchdown passes in his first 12 games to surpass Peyton Manning (244) as the fastest player ever

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to reach 500 career touchdown passes.

DEEBO SAMUEL, San Francisco, can become the third player ever with at least five rushing touchdowns and five receiving touchdowns in three career seasons, joining Marshall Faulk (three) and Christian McCaffrey (three). Samuel also:

Can become the third player ever with at least 25 receiving touchdowns and 20 rushing touchdowns in his first six career seasons, joining Austin Ekeler and Lenny Moore. Samuel has 19 career receiving touchdowns and 19 career rushing touchdowns.

Needs 878 receiving yards to join Charley Taylor as the only players with at least 5,000 receiving yards and 1,000 rushing yards in their first six career seasons in NFL history. Samuel has 4,122 receiving yards and 1,007 rushing yards in his first five seasons.

AMON-RA ST. BROWN, Detroit, needs 100 receptions to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in three of his first four seasons, joining Brandon Marshall and Michael Thomas. St. Brown also:

Needs 90 receptions to become the second player in NFL history to reach the mark in each of his first four seasons, joining Michael Thomas.

Needs 85 receptions to become the third player ever with 400 receptions in his first four seasons, joining Michael Thomas (470) and Jarvis Landry (400). St. Brown has 315 career receptions.

Needs 15 games with at least five receptions to become the second player ever with 50-or-more such games in his first four seasons, joining Michael Thomas (52). St. Brown has 35 games with at least five receptions.

MATTHEW STAFFORD, Los Angeles Rams, needs 3,953 passing yards to become the ninth player in NFL history with 60,000 career passing yards. Stafford has 56,047 passing yards. *Aaron Rodgers can also accomplish this feat.* Stafford also:

Needs 977 passing yards to surpass Eli Manning (57,023) for the tenth-most all-time.

Needs 25 touchdown passes to surpass Matt Ryan (381) for the ninth-most all-time. Stafford has 357 career touchdown passes.

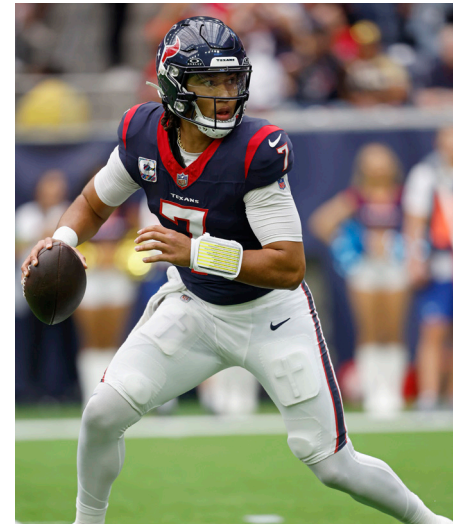
Needs 166 completions to become the ninth player ever with 5,000 career completions. Stafford has 4,834 completions.

C.J. STROUD, Houston, needs 4,000 passing yards to become the third player in NFL history to reach the mark in each of his first two seasons, joining Justin Herbert and Jameis Winston. Stroud also:

Needs 3,892 passing yards to become the fourth player ever with 8,000 passing yards in his first two seasons, joining Justin Herbert (9,350), Andrew Luck (8,196) and Jameis Winston (8,132). Stroud had 4,108 passing yards in his rookie season.

Needs four games with at least 300 passing yards to become the fifth player ever with 10-or-more such games in his first two seasons,

joining Justin Herbert (17), Joe Burrow (11), Patrick Mahomes (10) and Dan Marino (10).



ADAM THIELEN, Carolina, needs 63 receptions to become the fourth undrafted player in the common-draft era with at least 700 career receptions, joining Antonio Gates (955), Wes Welker (903) and Rod Smith (849). Thielen has 637 career receptions. Thielen also:

Needs one game with at least 10 receptions to surpass J.T. Smith (eight games) for the second-most such games by an undrafted player in the common-draft era. Only Wes Welker (18) has more.


Needs 304 receiving yards to become the fourth undrafted player in the common-draft era with at least 8,000 career receiving yards, joining Antonio Gates (11,841), Rod Smith (11,389) and Wes Welker (9,924). Thielen has 7,696 career receiving yards.

Needs 1,000 receiving yards to become the third undrafted player in the common-draft era with four career seasons with 1,000-or-more receiving yards, joining Rod Smith (eight) and Wes Welker (five).


WHAT TO LOOK FOR


Needs one game with at least 100 receiving yards to join Rod Smith (30 games) and Wes Welker (28) as the only undrafted players since 1967 with 25 career games with 100-or-more receiving yards.

Needs one touchdown reception to become the third undrafted player in the common-draft era with at least 60 career touchdown receptions, joining Antonio Gates (116) and Rod Smith (68). Thielen has 59 career touchdown receptions.

 **JAYLEN WADDLE**, Miami, needs 70 receptions and 1,000 receiving yards to become the second player in NFL history to reach the marks in each of his first four seasons, joining Michael Thomas.



 **BOBBY WAGNER**, Washington, needs 100 tackles to become the second player since 2000 to reach the mark in 13-or-more consecutive seasons, joining London Fletcher (14 consecutive seasons from 2000-13).

 **T.J. WATT**, Pittsburgh, can become the first player since 1982 to lead the NFL in sacks four times. Watt led the league in sacks in 2020, 2021 and 2023. Watt also:

Can become the first player since 1982 with three career seasons of 19-or-more sacks.


Can become the third player since 1982 with four career seasons of 15-or-more sacks, joining Reggie White (five) and J.J. Watt (four).


Can become the fourth player since 1982 with six career seasons of 13-or-more sacks, joining Reggie White (nine), Bruce Smith (seven) and Kevin Greene (six).

Needs 3.5 sacks in his first eight games to become the second-fastest player since 1982 to reach 100 career sacks, surpassing DeMarcus Ware (113 games). Only Reggie White (96) reached the mark faster. Watt has 96.5 sacks in 104 career games. *Myles Garrett can also accomplish this feat.*


Needs 3.5 sacks to become the fourth player since 1982 with at least 100 sacks in his first eight career seasons, joining Reggie White (124), DeMarcus Ware (111) and Jared Allen (105). *Myles Garrett can also accomplish this feat.*

Needs 3.5 sacks to become the third player since 1982 with 100 career sacks prior to his 30th birthday, joining Reggie White (108) and Jared Allen (105). Watt turns 30 years old on October 11, 2024.

 **GARRETT WILSON**, New York Jets, can become the fifth player in NFL history with at least 80 receptions and 1,000 receiving yards in each of his first three seasons, joining Odell Beckham Jr., Ja'Marr Chase, Justin Jefferson and Michael Thomas.

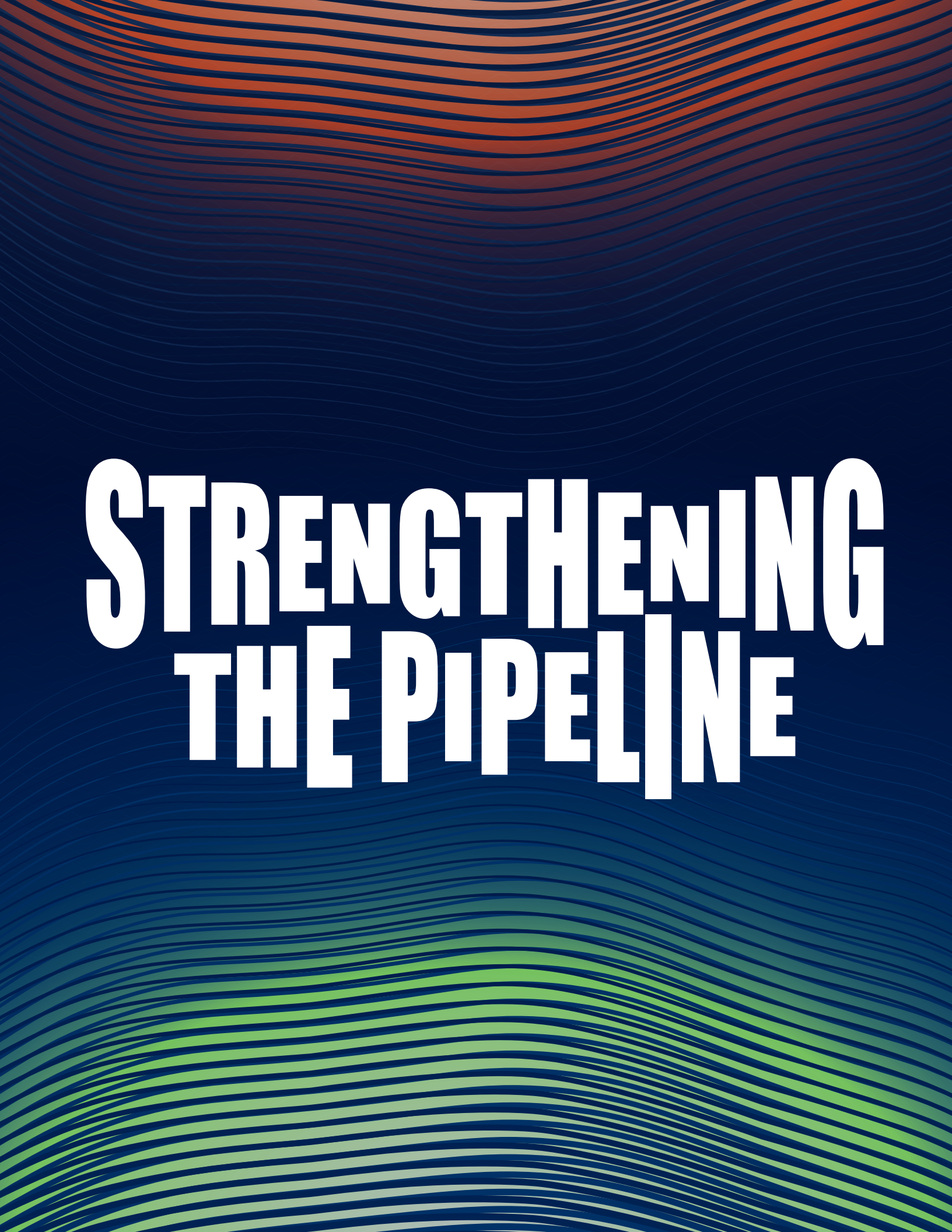
 **RUSSELL WILSON**, Pittsburgh, can join Peyton Manning as the only players ever with at least 3,000 passing yards in each of their first 13 seasons. Wilson also:

Needs 16 touchdown passes to become the fourth player in NFL history with at least 350 touchdown passes in his first 13 seasons, joining Peyton Manning (399), Drew Brees (363) and Dan Marino (352). Wilson has 334 career touchdown passes.

 **ANTOINE WINFIELD JR.**, Tampa Bay, needs one sack to surpass Bill Bates (15.5) for the second-most sacks by a defensive back in his first five seasons since 1982, when the individual sack became an official statistic. Only Jamal Adams (21.5) has more. Winfield also:

Needs two sacks to become the third defensive back with at least two sacks in each of his first five seasons since 1982, joining Adam Archuleta and Keith Bostic.

Needs four sacks to become the first defensive back since 1982 with at least four sacks in three consecutive seasons.

The background features a series of wavy, horizontal lines that create a sense of motion and depth. The top portion of the image is dominated by a gradient of orange and red tones, which transitions into a deep blue. The bottom portion features a gradient of green and light blue tones. The overall effect is a dynamic, layered composition.

STRENGTHENING THE PIPELINE

NFL WOMEN'S FORUM

As part of its ongoing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, the NFL offers innovative career development programs aimed to inspire, engage and connect women with careers in football. Hosting these events is part of the league's overall effort to develop a pipeline of qualified women for football operations positions and provides women with critical knowledge, tools and resources to pursue careers in football.

As part of this outreach, the NFL created the NFL Women's Forum to educate and connect female candidates working in football operations. Participants interact with NFL club owners, general managers, head coaches and club executives in the NFL and college football programs.

Prior to the forum's inception in 2017, there had been one full-time female coach and one female coaching internship. In its first six years, the Forum has resulted the hiring of past participants at 26 NFL clubs and over 225 opportunities have emerged for women to work in football operations across the professional, collegiate and high school levels.

Past participants of the forum include: Brown University quarterbacks coach Heather Marini, the first female positional coach in the history of the sport; New York Giants offensive quality control coach Angela Baker; Cleveland Browns assistant wide receivers coach Callie Brownson; San Francisco 49ers pro personnel analyst Salli Clavelle, the NFL's first Black female scout; Washington Commanders coordinator of football programs Natalia Dorantes, the league's first Latina to serve in a chief of staff role; Washington Commanders assistant running backs coach Jennifer King, the league's first Black female coach; Philadelphia Eagles strength and conditioning seasonal associate coach Autumn Lockwood; Tennessee Titans defensive quality control coach Lori Locust, the first female positional coach in the NFL and first in Titans history; Chicago Bears' Ashton Washington, the club's first female scout.

During the 2022 offseason, the New York Giants hired their first female coach who was a 2017 Women's Forum participant, Angela Baker as their offensive assistant. Seven Women's Forum participants also landed Bill Walsh coaching fellowships during offseason programming and training camp this year.

For the first time since February 2020, the program returned to an in-person format during the NFL Combine. The two days of programming included panel discussions, breakout sessions and networking activities with owners, executives, coaches, industry experts and hiring managers representing all 32 NFL clubs. The NFL partnered with Women Leaders in College Sports to assist with the program and to create a development curriculum for the participants. Featured speakers for this year's forum included NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, Tampa Bay Buccaneers co-owner Darcie Glazer Kassewitz, as well as several NFL club owners, head coaches and general managers.

While the NFL is encouraged by the progress, it is dedicated to further advancement and the normalization of women on the sidelines.



HISTORY OF FEMALE COACHES IN THE NFL

In 2015, Jen Welter became the first female coaching intern in the NFL, working with the Arizona Cardinals' linebackers during training camp and preseason. The next year, Kathryn Smith became the first female to be hired full-time by an NFL club, joining the Buffalo Bills as a quality control coach. Last summer, the NFL had 15 women in coaching roles during training camp, a record for any male professional sports league in the world.

YEAR	NAME	CLUB	POSITION
2015	Jen Welter	ARI	Bill Walsh Fellow
2016	Kathryn Smith	BUF	Quality Control Coach
	Katie Sowers	ATL	Bill Walsh Fellow
2017	Katie Sowers	SF	Offensive Assistant
	Phoebe Schecter	BUF	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Odessa Jenkins	ATL	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Collette Smith	NYJ	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Stephanie Balachko	PIT	Bill Walsh Fellow
	2018	Kelsey Martinez	OAK
Katie Sowers		SF	WR Assistant
Phoebe Schecter		BUF	Coaching Intern
Elena Grigevich		BAL	Bill Walsh Fellow - Analytics
Lo Locust		BAL	Bill Walsh Fellow
Jennifer King		CAR	Bill Walsh Fellow
Stephanie Sharpe		ATL/WAS	Bill Walsh Fellow
Erica Vinson-Ondecko		BAL	Intern
Shaakira Hassell		CAR	Bill Walsh Fellow
Mickey Grace		TB	Intern
Elizabeth Gore	CIN	Bill Walsh Fellow Strength & Conditioning	

YEAR	NAME	CLUB	POSITION
2019	Lo Locust	TB	DL Assistant
	Maral Javadifar	TB	Strength & Conditioning Coach
	Katie Sowers	SF	WR Assistant
	Callie Brownson	BUF/ATL	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Sam Mullet	BAL	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Jennifer King	CAR	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Autumn Lockwood	ATL	Strength & Conditioning Intern
	Chelsea Romero	LAR	Strength & Conditioning Intern
2020	Tracy Zimmer	ATL	Bill Walsh Fellow Strength & Conditioning
	Katie Sowers	SF	WR Assistant
	Jennifer King	WAS	Offensive Asst Coach
	Callie Brownson	CLE	Chief of Staff
	Lo Locust	TB	DL Assistant
	Maral Javadifar	TB	Strength & Conditioning Coach
	Emily Zaler	DEN	Strength & Conditioning Coach
	Cristi Bartlett	TEN	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Chelsea Romero	LAR	Intern
	Melissa Tomlinson	NYG/CHI	Bill Walsh Fellow - Virtual
	Mickey Grace	MIA	Bill Walsh Fellow - Virtual
	Elena Grigevich	CLE	Bill Walsh Fellow - Virtual
Angela Baker	CLE	Bill Walsh Fellow - Virtual	
Sophia Lewin	BUF	Bill Walsh Fellow - Virtual	

HISTORY OF FEMALE COACHES IN THE NFL

YEAR	NAME	CLUB	POSITION	
2021	Katie Sowers	KC	Coaching Intern	
	Jennifer King	WAS	Asst. RB Coach	
	Callie Brownson	CLE	Chief of Staff	
	Lo Locust	TB	DL Assistant	
	Maral Javadifar	TB	Strength & Conditioning Coach	
	Emily Zaler	DEN	Strength & Conditioning Coach	
	Jada Gipson	CLE	Coaching Intern	
	Alex Hanna	CLE	Coaching Intern	
	Sophia Lewin	BUF	Offensive Assistant	
	Tessa Grossman	ATL/CIN	Bill Walsh Fellow	
	Heather Marini	TB	Bill Walsh Fellow	
	Angelica Grayson	WAS	Bill Walsh Fellow	
	2022	Angela Baker	NYG	Offensive Assistant
		Callie Brownson	CLE	Chief of Staff, Asst. WR Coach
Maral Javadifar		TB	Strength & Conditioning Coach	
Jennifer King		WAS	Asst. RB Coach	
Autumn Lockwood		PHI	Asst. Strength Coach	
Lo Locust		TB	DL Assistant	
Kaelyn Buskey		BAL	Strength & Conditioning Intern	
Joan Cantonese		ATL	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Ashley Cornwell		TEN	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Isabel Diaz		WAS	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Mickey Grace		ATL	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Lisa Horton		CLE	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Connor Jo Lewis		BAL	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Sam Mullet		BUF	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Amanda Ruller		SEA	Bill Walsh Fellow	
Alex Hanna		CLE	Coaching Intern	
Sophia Lewin		BUF	Offensive Assistant	
Tessa Grossman	ATL/CIN	Bill Walsh Fellow		
Heather Marini	TB	Bill Walsh Fellow		
Angelica Grayson	WAS	Bill Walsh Fellow		

YEAR	NAME	CLUB	POSITION
2023	Marianna Salas	BAL	Coaching Research Fellow
	Amelia Wilson	BUF	Bill Walsh Fellow
	Brittany Bushman	CLE	Coaching Intern
	Isabel Diaz	IND	Special Teams
	Haley Roberts	TEN	Bill Walsh Fellow Strength & Conditioning
	Ashley Cornwell	TB	Bill Walsh Coaching Fellow
	Graziella Napoli	CLE	Coaching Internship
	Angela Rowe	ATL	Bill Walsh Coaching Fellow
	Callie Brownson	CLE	Asst. Wide Receivers
	Jennifer King	WAS	Asst. Running Backs
	Lori Locust	TEN	Asst. DL Coach
	Maral Javadifar	TB	Director of Rehab & Performance
	Autumn Lockwood	PHI	Asst. Sports Performance
	Angela Baker	NYG	Offensive Quality Control
	Jill Constanza	DET	Strength & Conditioning
	Kaelyn Buskey	BAL	Asst. Strength & Conditioning
	2024	Marianna Salas	BAL
Amelia Wilson		BUF	Bill Walsh Fellow
Isabel Diaz		IND	Special Teams
Haley Roberts		TEN	Bill Walsh Fellow Strength & Conditioning
Callie Brownson		CLE	Asst. Wide Receivers
Jennifer King		CHI	Offensive Assistant Running Backs
Lori Locust		TEN	Asst. DL Coach
Maral Javadifar		TB	Director of Rehab & Performance
Autumn Lockwood		PHI	Asst. Sports Performance
Angela Baker		NYG	Offensive Quality Control
Jill Constanza		DET	Strength & Conditioning
Kaelyn Buskey		BAL	Asst. Strength & Conditioning
Genevive Humphrey		CAR	Asst. Strength & Conditioning Coach
Amelia Wilson	BUF	Fellowship Coach	

GENERAL MANAGER & QUARTERBACK COACHING SUMMIT

NFL Hosts the Annual Ozzie Newsome General Manager Forum and the Quarterback Coaching Summit

In partnership with the Black College Football Hall of Fame, the NFL held the fourth annual Ozzie Newsome General Manager Forum and the seventh annual Quarterback Coaching Summit. On June 17 and 18, 2024, coaches from power five conferences, HBCUs, the NFL and front office personnel took part in both summits at the NFL Los Angeles league office. Participants experienced professional development and networking opportunities among their peers and had the ability to connect with NFL club executives.

"The Quarterback Coaching Summit and Ozzie Newsome General Managers Forum are part of our ongoing efforts to break mobility barriers, establish a cultural norm of opportunity for all, and develop a diverse and inclusive workforce," said Troy Vincent, Sr., NFL executive vice president of football operations. "We are dedicated to identifying and strengthening the coaching and personnel development pipeline for experienced coaches of color and providing each participant with the tools to hone their craft and achieve success."

Since the summit's inception, eight previous participants have gone on to obtain positions as head coaches or general managers, these participants include:

- Terry Fontenot, Atlanta Falcons (GM)
- Raheem Morris, Atlanta Falcons (HC)
- Dave Canales, Carolina Panthers (HC)
- Andrew Berry, Cleveland Browns (GM)
- Brad Holmes, Detroit Lions (GM)
- DeMeco Ryans, Houston Texans (HC)
- Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, Minnesota Vikings (GM)
- Ran Carthon, Tennessee Titans (GM)

Participants engaged in informational sessions and gained knowledge from quarterback coaches, offensive coordinators, head coaches and general managers. The forum and the summit featured various sessions on topics including organizing a personnel department, understanding the role of an assistant GM, transitioning from college coaching to the NFL and leadership and core values.

Member club general managers also hosted a roundtable discussion with participants discussing the different avenues to becoming a GM, relationship building and how to collaborate with your head coach.

The June 17 Ozzie Newsome General Manager Forum featured sessions and panels led by NFL front office personnel including:

- Tim Terry, Kansas City Chiefs
- Brandon Brown, New York Giants
- Khai Harley, New Orleans Saints
- Patrick Foster, Arizona Cardinals
- Artis Twyman, Los Angeles Rams
- Chad Alexander, Los Angeles Chargers
- Brandon Hunt, Philadelphia Eagles
- Andrew Berry, Cleveland Browns
- Terry Fontenot, Atlanta Falcons
- Steve Wyche, NFL Network



The June 18 Quarterback Coaching Summit featured sessions and panels led by current and former coaches, including:

- Jacqueline Davidson, Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- Ben Wilkerson, New York Jets
- Jerry Mack, Jacksonville Jaguars
- Bobby Engram, Washington Commanders
- Kerry Joseph, Chicago Bears
- Mike Adams, Washington Commanders
- Marcus Brady, Los Angeles Chargers
- Marquice Williams, Atlanta Falcons
- Anthony Lynn, Washington Commanders
- David Shaw, NFL Network
- Pep Hamilton, NFL Network

BILL WALSH MINORITY COACHING FELLOWSHIP & NUNN-WOOTEN FELLOWSHIP

Bill Walsh Diversity Coaching Fellowship

Established in 1987, the Bill Walsh Diversity Coaching Fellowship provides annual NFL coaching experience to outstanding coaches from diverse backgrounds. The program, which was named after the man who conceived the idea, late Pro Football Hall of Fame head coach Bill Walsh, exposes talented coaches from other levels of football and NFL Legends to the methods and philosophies of NFL coaching staffs. Walsh introduced the concept to the league in 1987 when he brought a group of minority coaches into his San Francisco 49ers' training camp.

The fellowship was designed as a vocational tool to increase the number of full-time NFL minority coaches within the league. The Bill Walsh NFL Diversity Coaching Fellowship is just one NFL program aimed at developing a diverse pipeline for club personnel.

BILL WALSH NFL DIVERSITY COACHING FELLOWSHIP ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES

NAME	TEAM	TITLE	FELLOWSHIP
Mike Tomlin	PIT	Head Coach	2000 with Cleveland Browns
Ronald Curry	NO	Passing Game Coordinator, Quarterbacks Coach	2011 with San Diego Chargers
Duce Staley	CAR	Assistant Head Coach, Running Backs Coach	2010 with Philadelphia Eagles
Charles London	TEN	Passing Game Coordinator, Quarterbacks Coach	2005 with New England Patriots
Marquice Williams	ATL	Special Teams Coordinator	2015 with Detroit Lions
Chris Horton	BAL	Special Teams Coordinator	2013 with Seattle Seahawks

Nunn-Wooten Scouting Fellowship

The Nunn-Wooten Scouting Fellowship has served to expose former NFL players, former football student-athletes, and college recruiting and personnel staff members to careers in professional scouting since 2015. Named after longtime NFL executives Bill Nunn and John Wooten, the fellowship provides participants rare access to an NFL front office, giving them an on-site, inside look at the skills needed for a career in NFL scouting.



NUNN-WOOTEN
SCOUTING
FELLOWSHIP

BILL WALSH MINORITY COACHING FELLOWSHIP & NUNN-WOOTEN FELLOWSHIP

Since the inception of these programs, all 32 NFL clubs have helped tutor more than 2,000 minority coaches through the years and now participate during offseason workout programs, minicamps and training camp.

In addition to the annual in-person fellowships, virtual programs were established in 2020 by Football Operations and continued as an additional developmental opportunity for current fellows of both programs. These virtual sessions, hosted by coaches and personnel executives at clubs, focused on advancement and mentorship, providing an opportunity for minority coaches and scouts to further their skillset, enhance their knowledge of the game and engage with other colleagues around the league.

Pittsburgh head coach Mike Tomlin, who at the time was the youngest head coach (36 years old) in NFL history to win a Super Bowl when he led Pittsburgh to a victory in Super Bowl XLIII, completed a Bill Walsh fellowship with the Cleveland Browns in the summer of 2000 while the defensive backs coach at the University of Cincinnati.

Former Washington Commanders head coach Ron Rivera understands the value of the program and serves on the Bill Walsh NFL Diversity Coaching Fellowship Advisory Council. The council is comprised of club presidents, general managers, head coaches and assistant coaches, who focus on developing a pipeline of diverse coaches, including former NFL players pursuing opportunities in the coaching profession.

"The Bill Walsh NFL Diversity Coaching Fellowship is essential in creating opportunities," said Rivera. "You can see the benefits of the fellowship program on virtually every coaching staff in the league and the education provided through the program has been invaluable in the development of many young coaches who may not have received exposure to the NFL without it."

For the past 35 years, The Bill Walsh Diversity Coaching Fellowship proves to be a strong pipeline for diverse talent with a rich legacy of success stories.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CAREERS IN FOOTBALL FORUM SERIES FOR HBCU STUDENTS

Career Development Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities Hosted Virtually This Past Season

More than **800** students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were selected to attend the 2023 NFL HBCU Careers in Football Forum. The annual forum, which was held virtually this year, took place on Nov. 13-16.

Since 2016, the forum has introduced over **1,000** students and entry-level athletic department administrators to career opportunities in professional football. Each year, the forum invites participants to hear from sports industry professionals and creates networking opportunities for students to learn more about their desired career path. This year, attendees represented **50** institutions.

The forum hosted a pre-event informational session on Nov. 8th where students heard from talent acquisition specialists and leadership development professionals about early career opportunities, resume preparation, and how to effectively communicate and build your brand.

This year's forum featured four days of programming catered to students' areas of interest including: sports management, medicine, media and law. Speakers were represented from the NFL and its clubs, the NFL Players Association, NBC Sports and the NCAA. Panel discussion topics are outlined in the agenda below:

Monday, November 13, 2023: Media Day

Tackling the Narrative: College Communications
From Sidelines to Headlines: Club Public Relations
The Playbook: NFL Media Business
Behind the Scenes of NBC Sports: NFL Total Coverage

Tuesday, November 14, 2023: The Legalese

League Lawyers
Protecting Players - The National Football League Players Association
Inside Professional and Collegiate Policy Compliance

Wednesday, November 15, 2023: Sports Management 101

League Careers through a Business Lens
Leaders in Intercollegiate Athletics
Technical Trailblazers
Orchestrators of Operations

Thursday, November 16, 2023: Sidelines to Frontlines

Total Wellness
Behind Club Medical Support

The forum concluded with breakout sessions where attendees engaged with NFL HR representatives, club personnel and NFL staff in a smaller, open forum setting. In these sessions, participants received advice from personnel on the ins and outs of their fields and guidance on career mobility.

Since the program's inception, 16 students from the forum have gone on to secure internships or full-time opportunities with the NFL, NFL clubs, colleges and universities, and other sports entities.

The Careers in Football Forum is just one component of a larger initiative to increase career development opportunities for students and athletic administrators from HBCUs.

NFL HBCU COMBINE

This past February, the NFL in partnership with the Black College Football Hall of Fame hosted the 2024 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Combine held at the New Orleans Saints practice facility, the Ochsner Sports Performance Center, on Feb. 19.

The full list of players who participated in the HBCU Combine this year can be found below:

PLAYER	POSITION	COLLEGE
Colton Adams	LB	Alabama St.
Cedric Anderson	DB	Grambling
Ryan Atkins	OL	Arkansas Pine Bluff
Tristian Ballard	TE	Arkansas Pine Bluff
Brennan Brown	TE	Howard
Darrian Brokenburr	DL	Howard
Darran Butts	RB	Hampton
Jordan Carter	DB	Southern
Brandon Codrington	DB/RS	North Carolina Central
Latrell Collier	RB	North Carolina Central
Taymon Cooke	WR/RS	North Carolina A&T
Cameron Covin	OL	Florida A&M
Loobert Denelus	DL	Benedict
Corintheus Edmonds	WR	Fort Valley State
Matthew Foster	OT	Virginia State
Terrell Gardner	WR	Alabama A&M
Stanley Garner	DB	Hampton
Patrick Godbolt	DL	South Carolina State
James Green	LB	Tennessee State
ZaReon Hayes	DL	Alabama A&M
Jaheem Hazel	DB	Jackson State
Aidan Hemphill	OL	Texas Southern
Joshua Heyward	DB	Benedict
Omari Hill-Robinson	DB	Bethune Cookman

PLAYER	POSITION	COLLEGE
Jarveon Howard	RB	Alcorn
John Huggins	DB	Jackson State
Lewis Matthews	LB	Grambling
Myles McHaney IV	LB	Prairie View A&M
R.J. Mobley	WR	Winston Salem
Jae'Veyon Morton	DB	Morgan State
Jeremy Moussa	QB	Florida A&M
LaDarius Owens	RB	Texas Southern
Samuel Pearson	OL	Delaware St.
August Pitre III	WR	Southern
Davius Richard	QB	North Carolina Central
Lawrence Richardson	LB	Morgan State
Donovan Riddick	QB	Southern
Marcus Riley	WR/KR	Florida A&M
Tre'Vion Sherman-Green	LB	Southern
Gerald Simpson	DL	Fayetteville State
Eric Smith	DB	Florida A&M
Dwayne Stevens	TE	Jackson State
Tairiq Stewart	OT	North Carolina A&T
Jordan Toles	DB	Morgan State
Qwashin Townsel	LB	Hampton
Ian Wheeler	RB	Howard
Quinton Willimas	QB	Howard
Kamari Young	TE	Florida A&M

NFL SOURCE

NFL Announces League-Wide Expansion of Procurement Initiative with NFL Source

The NFL announced at the Spring League Meeting the rollout of NFL Source, an evolution of the league's supplier diversity commitments which seek to standardize how the NFL and its partners support working with underrepresented businesses locally and nationally, year-round.

NFL Source will expand the league's day-to-day procurement efforts and is designed to increase access, identify potential qualified partners and drive economic impact locally and nationally across the league and clubs, creating equitable processes to ensure underrepresented businesses have increased exposure and the ability to compete for and win viable league and club contracts.

The league will look to increase partnerships with certified and underrepresented businesses that are 51% owned and operated or led by a veteran, woman, minority, person with disabilities or LGBTQ+.

"NFL Source provides the league with an opportunity to reinvest funds back into the communities that our clubs and offices reside in and gain exposure to an increased number of businesses," said Jonathan Beane, senior vice president and chief diversity & inclusion officer at the NFL. "Doing business with the NFL can provide unparalleled exposure for businesses and boost local economic mobility."

For more than 10 years, the NFL has made a concerted effort to focus on inclusive event-based suppliers, working with Super Bowl Host Committees through programs such as Emerging Business and Business Connect, which focused on subcontracting spend opportunities for tentpole events.

The program supports businesses serving as a pathway to visibility and access to NFL procurement groups. This is done by providing NFL procurement stakeholders at the front office and club levels with the tools, processes, and guidance on how to run equitable procurement programs. The announcement marks the start of a multi-phase rollout that includes:

- Training sessions and adoption by all procurement leads at the league, beginning in June 2024. For all clubs, there will be a two-part training in partnership with Supplier.io, an enrichment partner with the NFL that offers data and tools to monitor, track, and support supplier diversity program performance. These virtual and in-person supplier-diversity education sessions with NFL staff will help educate NFL procurement stakeholders on the impact of supplier diversity on the business and communities.
- Distribution in September 2024 of a supplier diversity playbook for clubs who opt-in to the program, that includes best practices, RFP process recommendations and a list of partners to consider.
- Mandatory adoption of the program for NFL tentpole events by the host club and host/local organizing committees, in addition to networking and matchmaking events in their market, and more.



[SOURCE]

NFL SOURCE

To drive economic impact as a league-wide unit, there will be procurement standards and procedures that include business eligibility criteria, strategic best practices for setting up a local program and more. Several clubs participated in an NFL Source local market test ahead of the official rollout, including the Atlanta Falcons and Detroit Lions.

"The adoption of expanding the NFL's supplier diversity program aligns with our vision to continue to uplift and provide opportunities to local and diverse businesses," said Atlanta Falcons Owner and Chairman Arthur M. Blank. "The Falcons have and will continue to work diligently, alongside the league, as we all work toward the official launch of NFL Source."

Additionally, the NFL will partner with the U.S. Black Chambers (USBC) Inc., to help local businesses across the country obtain the certifications necessary to do business with the league.

"Supplier Diversity is about recognizing the value of local supply chains and small businesses, which are the backbone of the American economy," said Talisha Bekavac, executive vice president of USBC. "USBC remains energized to partner with entities like the NFL to continue creating wealth and economic mobility in Black communities through entrepreneurship."

To learn more about the program, please visit at source.nfl.com.

DIVERSITY IN SPORTS MEDICINE PIPELINE INITIATIVE

The NFL, together with the NFL Physicians Society (NFLPS) and the Professional Football Athletic Trainer Society (PFATS), are committed to increasing diversity in sports medicine. The NFL Diversity in Sports Medicine Pipeline Initiative was developed to encourage medical students from diverse backgrounds to consider sports medicine careers, and over time, help to diversify NFL club medical staffs. Students from medical schools across the country are selected and invited to complete one-month clinical rotations with NFL clubs across the league.

The inaugural program for the 2022 season comprised students from the four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) medical schools, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Howard University College of Medicine, Meharry Medical College and Morehouse School of Medicine. The program has since expanded and in 2024, student participants will join clubs from 21 total medical schools.

During their one-month rotations, students observe and participate in the care of NFL players, working directly with and under the supervision of the orthopedic team physicians, primary care team physicians, athletic trainers, dietitians, mental health clinicians, strength & conditioning coaches, equipment managers and other members of medical staff to gain medical knowledge and exposure to patient care in sports medicine. Additionally, students become familiar with return-to-play guidelines and on-field treatment considerations for NFL players. By the end of the rotation, students understand the basic elements of all facets of care provided to NFL players from an orthopedic, primary care sports medicine and athletic training perspective.

The Diversity in Sports Medicine Pipeline Initiative is part of the league's broader commitment to ensure that staff and leaders in the league office and at NFL clubs reflect the racial and gender makeup of America. Among NFL club medical staffs, the initiative builds on existing efforts to recruit and hire diverse medical staff when positions become available across all roles, and to increase diversity across NFL medical committees.

NFL DIVERSITY IN SPORTS MEDICINE PIPELINE INITIATIVE

MEDICAL SCHOOLS



LEAGUE-WIDE INITIATIVE



DIVERSITY IN SPORTS MEDICINE PIPELINE INITIATIVE

The Students participating in the program for the 2024 season include:

NAME	MEDICAL SCHOOL	NFL CLUB
Craishun Hart	Morehouse School of Medicine	Arizona Cardinals
Jerry Yue	Morehouse School of Medicine	Atlanta Falcons
Allen Opoku	Georgetown University School of Medicine	Baltimore Ravens
Moriah Martindale	Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo	Buffalo Bills
Alexis LeMone	Wake Forest University School of Medicine	Carolina Panthers
Aisha Suhaiba	University of Illinois College of Medicine	Chicago Bears
Dave Delima	Morehouse School of Medicine	Cincinnati Bengals
Rachel Gardenhire	Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine	Cleveland Browns
Mohit Bandla	Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science	Dallas Cowboys
Marquisha Myles	Michigan State University College of Human Medicine	Detroit Lions
Richard Ingram	Meharry Medical College	Green Bay Packers
Amanda Davis	McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston	Houston Texans
Eden Obomeghie	Morehouse School of Medicine	Indianapolis Colts
Sydney Woods	Meharry Medical College	Jacksonville Jaguars
Elizabeth Holmes	University of Kansas School of Medicine	Kansas City Chiefs
Gemma Lagasca	Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV	Las Vegas Raiders
Michael Baham	University of California, Irvine, School of Medicine	Los Angeles Chargers
Raimel Brooks	Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science	Los Angeles Rams
Antonio Lopez	FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine	Miami Dolphins
Jessica Nelson	Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine	Minnesota Vikings
Kyra Caldwell	Howard University College of Medicine	New England Patriots
LaMiah Hall	LSU Health News Orleans	New Orleans Saints
Austin Carey	Morehouse School of Medicine	New York Giants
Joel Sacris	Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University	New York Jets
Faith Kehinde	University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine	Pittsburgh Steelers
Michelle Xiao	Stanford University School of Medicine	San Francisco 49ers
David Orlando	University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine	Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Cara Ford	Meharry Medical College	Tennessee Titans
Caleb Parrish	Howard University College of Medicine	Washington Commanders

ACCELERATOR PROGRAMS

NFL Continues Efforts to Boost Inclusion Across League with Front Office/General Manager and Head Coach Accelerators

Programs Featured Curated Development and Networking Opportunities for High-Potential Candidates

Last season, the NFL continued its efforts to strengthen the pipeline of diverse coaching candidates through hosting the 2023 Front Office & General Manager Accelerator Program from Dec. 11-13 at the league meeting in Dallas, Texas and the 2024 Coach Accelerator program on May 20-22 at the Spring League Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Spring Accelerator was the league's fifth iteration since the program was launched in 2022. For the first time, the accelerator included coaches who have predominantly worked at the college level.

The accelerator serves as a platform for clubs and owners to engage with qualified candidates from diverse backgrounds. Candidates can build relationships with club owners and executives; and further develop and hone their leadership skills. To date, the program has successfully contributed to an increase in diverse candidates being interviewed for open positions, and many past participants have been promoted and hired into more senior coaching and front office positions.

"The NFL is committed to improving diversity throughout the league, and a large part of that is providing leadership opportunities to diverse candidates," said NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. "The Accelerator Program provides our clubs and owners an opportunity to connect directly with some of the finest candidates in the league who they may not know. Our intent is that these efforts translate into more diversity in leadership roles across the league."

In addition to networking and personal development programming, the league provided coaching candidates with insight to future initiatives, both on and off the field, to contextualize how the game will continue to develop and where the NFL is evolving. Front office and general manager candidates participated in a range of personal and professional development programming, including practice interviews led by former general managers and leadership sessions from outside experts. For the first time, personal development workshops have been included to focus on candidates overall wellness and mental preparedness when applying for roles.



Houston Texans quarterbacks coach Jerrod Johnson

"Since its inception, the Coaching Accelerator has prepared candidates to succeed in various coaching roles while cultivating relationships with executives and key decision makers," said Mark Wilf, Minnesota Vikings owner and president. "The program proves to be mutually beneficial for participants and clubs as it breaks down barriers to access and educational tools vital for success. I am proud of the progress already made and look forward to seeing the continuous growth of the Accelerator."

ACCELERATOR PROGRAMS

The Coach Accelerator candidates included:

NAME	NFL CLUB
Terry Braden	Kansas City Chiefs
Marcus Brady*	Los Angeles Chargers
Mike Caldwell*	Las Vegas Raiders
Michael Clay	Philadelphia Eagles
Brian Flores	Minnesota Vikings
Pep Hamilton*	-
Al Holcomb	Buffalo Bills
Shawn Jefferson	New York Jets
Jerrold Johnson*	Houston Texans
Mike Kafka	New York Giants
Thaddeus Lewis*	Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Charles London*	Seattle Seahawks
Brandon Lynch	Cleveland Browns
T.C. McCartney	New England Patriots

NAME	NFL CLUB
Ron Middleton*	New York Jets
Scottie Montgomery*	Detroit Lions
Nate Scheelhaase	Los Angeles Rams
Karl Scott	Seattle Seahawks
David Shaw	-
DeAndre Smith	Indianapolis Colts
Eric Washington*	Chicago Bears
Lunda Wells	Dallas Cowboys
Michael Wilhoite	Denver Broncos
Marquice Williams	Atlanta Falcons
Rod Wilson	Kansas City Chiefs
Dennard Wilson	Tennessee Titans
Israel Woolfork	Arizona Cardinals

*Participant previously a part of the program

The Front Office & General Manager Accelerator candidates included:

NAME	NFL CLUB
Quentin Harris	Arizona Cardinals
Dwaune Jones	Atlanta Falcons
Mark Azevedo	Baltimore Ravens
David Blackburn	Baltimore Ravens
Malik Boyd	Buffalo Bills
Terrance Gray	Buffalo Bills
Samir Suleiman	Carolina Panthers
Adrian Wilson	Carolina Panthers
Ian Cunningham	Chicago Bears
Francis Saint Paul	Chicago Bears
Steven Radicevic	Cincinnati Bengals
Glenn Cook	Cleveland Browns
Catherine Raiche	Cleveland Browns
Brett Maxie II	Dallas Cowboys
Rich Hurtado	Denver Broncos
Kelly Kleine	Denver Broncos
Ray Agnew	Detroit Lions
Richmond Williams	Green Bay Packers
Lee Gissendaner	Green Bay Packers
Chris Blanco	Houston Texans
Regis Eller	Jacksonville Jaguars

NAME	NFL CLUB
Tim Terry	Kansas City Chiefs
Dwyane Joseph	Las Vegas Raiders
Champ Kelly	Las Vegas Raiders
JoJo Wooden	Los Angeles Chargers
Ray Farmer	Los Angeles Rams
Reggie McKenzie	Miami Dolphins
Demitrius Washington	Minnesota Vikings
Steve Cargile	New England Patriots
Khai Harley	New Orleans Saints
Brandon Brown	New York Giants
Chad Alexander	New York Jets
Brian Shields	New York Jets
Ameena Soliman	Philadelphia Eagles
Charles Walls	Philadelphia Eagles
Sheldon White	Pittsburgh Steelers
Tariq Ahmad	San Francisco 49ers
Josh Williams	San Francisco 49ers
DJ Hord	Seattle Seahawks
Jacqueline Davidson	Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Kevin Turks	Tennessee Titans
Eric Stokes	Washington Commanders

PLAYER CARE FOUNDATION

Established in 2007, the NFL Player Care Foundation (PCF) is an independent organization dedicated to helping retired players improve their quality of life. PCF addresses all aspects of life by providing programs and assistance with medical, emotional, financial, social and community issues.

PCF Career Program

As part of its ongoing commitment to helping retired players improve their quality life, PCF provides a year-round Career Program. This includes a job platform, known as the Career Portal, that connects 2,000+ former players with over 130 employers, including NFL Partners such as PepsiCo, Visa, EA Sports, Verizon and more.

PCF also hosts the annual Super Bowl Career Fair, connecting former players to career opportunities with great employers. History of the annual Super Bowl Career Fair:

YEAR	NAME	LOCATION
2018-19	1st Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	Atlanta, GA
2019-20	2nd Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	Miami, FL
2020-21	3rd Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	Virtual
2021-22	4th Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	Los Angeles, CA
2022-23	5th Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	Phoenix, AZ
2023-24	6th Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	Las Vegas, NV
2024-25	7th Annual Super Bowl Career Fair	New Orleans, LA

Other PCF Career Program events include annual Employer Kickoff Summits in concert with NFL Kickoff, monthly virtual info sessions connecting former players with specific companies, virtual workshops designed to help former players build their LinkedIn profiles, and more.

PCF also provides an array of programming and learning opportunities to former players, with a strategic emphasis on creating access and opportunities to careers in tech. This includes scholarships to Google Career Certificates, access to Cisco Networking Academy Courses and technical upskilling pathways through Microsoft Leap.

Through a partnership with Atrium, a global woman-owned talent solutions and extended workforce management provider, PCF also provides one-on-one resume support, career coaching, job matching and job readiness support to former players.

PCF Healthy Body and Mind Screening Program

Since 2016, PCF has partnered with one of the nation's premier medical providers, Tulane University School of Medicine, to conduct its Healthy Body and Mind Screening Program. Piloted in 2007, this program is a national screening program available to any former player who has ever been on an NFL roster. Each screening provides medical testing valued up to \$10,000 at no cost to attendees.

PCF Financial Grants

Since its first financial hardship grant in 2008, PCF has continued to provide financial assistance to former NFL players and their families who are in dire need. PCF has contributed over \$24.4 million to 2,300+ former players to assist in their day to day living expenses, coordinated medical care, disaster relief and mental health resources.

More information about PCF can be found on <https://www.nflplayercare.com/>.



**INTERNATIONAL
NFL**

2024 INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULE

2024 International Games to Kick Off with Historic First Game in São Paulo, Brazil

As the league's global footprint continues to expand, the NFL will play five regular season games internationally across Brazil, London and Germany in 2024.

The International Games will kick off Friday, Sept. 6, with the league's first-ever game in South America as the Green Bay Packers face the Philadelphia Eagles at Corinthians Arena in São Paulo, Brazil.

The Minnesota Vikings will then take the slate to London on Sunday, Oct. 6, as they face the New York Jets at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, the only purpose-built NFL stadium outside the U.S.

The following Sunday, Oct. 13, also at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, the Chicago Bears will play the Jacksonville Jaguars.

The Jacksonville Jaguars will complete the London slate of international games at Wembley Stadium, as they take on the New England Patriots Sunday, Oct. 20. This will be the second consecutive season that Jacksonville will play back-to-back games in the U.K.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, the Carolina Panthers will face the New York Giants in Munich, Germany, at the Allianz Arena - Home of FC Bayern Munich.

"We are delighted to announce these exciting matchups across London and Munich, in addition to the historic first game in São Paulo, Brazil, to complete the 2024 International Games slate," said NFL Executive Vice President, Club Business, Major Events & International Peter O'Reilly. "As the league and its 32 teams continue to prioritize international growth, we look forward to building on the incredible fan experiences seen in Europe while taking the game to new fans in South America."



DATE	MATCHUP	BROADCAST	TIME
September 6 (Week 1)	Green Bay Packers vs. Philadelphia Eagles* (Corinthians Arena)	Peacock	8:15 p.m. ET
October 6 (Week 5)	New York Jets vs. Minnesota Vikings* (Tottenham Hotspur Stadium)	NFL Network	9:30 a.m. ET
October 13 (Week 6)	Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Chicago Bears* (Tottenham Hotspur Stadium)	NFL Network	9:30 a.m. ET
October 20 (Week 7)	New England Patriots vs. Jacksonville Jaguars (Wembley Stadium)	NFL Network	9:30 a.m. ET
November 10 (Week 10)	New York Giants vs. Carolina Panthers* (Allianz Arena - Home of FC Bayern Munich)	NFL Network	9:30 a.m. ET

*indicates designated team

2025 INTERNATIONAL INVENTORY

NFL Ownership Votes to Double International Games Inventory Beginning in 2025

League ownership voted to increase NFL-operated International Game Inventory from four to up to eight games a season beginning in 2025.

"As a league, we welcome the update to this resolution that will ultimately see us play more games internationally than ever before, helping us to expand our global footprint and connect our teams and athletes with new audiences," said Joel Glazer, chairman of the NFL's International Committee and owner of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. "International games have been a huge success, and we are excited for the opportunity to share the sport of American football with more fans from around the world in the future."

After this year's regular season international game in São Paulo, Brazil, the NFL will have played a game in five of the seven continents around the world.

Moving forward, each club designated to play in an international regular season game will be permitted to select two of their regular season opponents that will not be eligible to be scheduled as their opponent in an international game.

All international games will be scheduled before Week 14 of the NFL season. No club is required to play more than one regular season game outside of North America in the same season unless they specifically choose to.

Madrid to Host Spain's First-Ever NFL Regular Season Game in 2025

The NFL is partnering with Real Madrid C.F., the City of Madrid and Comunidad de Madrid to bring the NFL to Spain in 2025 – played at the iconic Santiago Bernabéu Stadium.

"Playing a game in Madrid in 2025 highlights the continued expansion of the league's global footprint and the accelerated ambitions to take our game to more fans around the world," said NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. "We are proud to partner with Real Madrid C.F., a global brand, together with the City of Madrid and Comunidad de Madrid, to bring a spectacular regular season game to Spain at the world-class Santiago Bernabéu Stadium."

"The union between Madrid and the National Football League is full of passion and excellence. We thank the NFL for having the trust in Madrid to host an unprecedented celebration in a legendary and renovated Santiago Bernabéu stadium that will no doubt vibrate with every play of this historic event," said Mayor of Madrid Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida. "The arrival of the NFL in Madrid will make us hosts of the most important league in the world, and the city will welcome our partners with open arms in 2025 and be ready to make history together."

Madrid is the first new market to be confirmed for the 2025 International Games and will be the fourth European city to host a regular season game (*London, Frankfurt, Munich*).



GLOBAL MARKETS PROGRAM

The NFL announced an expansion of its Global Markets Program (GMP), with four new clubs and five new markets participating in 2024 – approved by the International Committee at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Orlando.

First launched in 2022, the Global Markets Program awards NFL clubs international marketing rights to build brand awareness and fandom beyond the U.S., through fan engagement, events and commercial opportunities. In total, 25 clubs will participate in the program across 19 international markets, up from 19 clubs in 14 markets last year.

Highlights for 2024 include:

- **FOUR NEW CLUBS:**

- » **Cleveland Browns:** Granted rights in Nigeria
- » **Detroit Lions:** Granted rights across Austria, Canada, Germany and Switzerland
- » **Indianapolis Colts:** Granted rights across Austria and Germany
- » **New York Giants:** Granted rights in Germany

- **FIVE NEW MARKETS:**

This is the first time clubs will be expanding into the below markets:

- » **Argentina:** Rights granted to the Miami Dolphins
- » **Colombia:** Rights granted to the Miami Dolphins
- » **Japan:** Rights granted to the Los Angeles Rams
- » **Nigeria:** Rights granted to the Cleveland Browns
- » **South Korea:** Rights granted to the Los Angeles Rams

- **EXISTING EXPANSION:**

For 2024, six clubs that currently hold GMP rights applied to expand to additional countries, acquiring between one and three territory adds per club:

- » **Los Angeles Rams:** Currently with rights in Australia, China, Mexico and New Zealand – expanding to South Korea and Japan
- » **Miami Dolphins:** Currently with rights in Brazil, Spain and the United Kingdom – expanding to Argentina, Colombia and Mexico
- » **New England Patriots:** Currently with rights in Austria, Germany and Switzerland – expanding to Brazil
- » **New York Jets:** Currently with rights in the United Kingdom – expanding to Ireland
- » **Pittsburgh Steelers:** Currently with rights in Mexico and the Island of Ireland (both Republic of Ireland & Northern Ireland) – expanding to Germany
- » **Seattle Seahawks:** Currently with rights in Canada – expanding to Austria, Germany and Switzerland



NFL clubs can apply for rights to international markets by submitting proposals to the International Committee for review each spring. Clubs are awarded rights for at least a five-year term through the program, and during this period, can pursue activities in that international market that are consistent with what they can do in their home market.

NFL HERITAGE PROGRAM

The National Football League Celebrates International Diversity with NFL Heritage Program

The NFL celebrated players' and coaching staff's cultural origins during the 2023 season as part of its Heritage program, with all 32 teams represented.

Across Weeks 7 and 8 of the 2023 season, over 330 players and coaches returned to the field wearing international flag decals – with players adding flags to their helmets and coaches wearing patches on jackets – to represent the ever-growing pool of various nationalities and cultures that make up the league.

Fans saw 70+ nations and territories represented by athletes including Tua Tagovailoa, Fred Warner, Amon-Ra St. Brown, Puka Nacua, Chris Olave, DJ Moore, Jimmy Garoppolo, Aaron Jones, Efe Obada and Jordan Mailata, among others, as well as coaching staffs across 17 clubs.



INTERNATIONAL PLAYER PATHWAY PROGRAM

International Player Pathway Program Class of 2024 Make History

The NFL's International Player Pathway (IPP) program Class of 2024 made history, featuring 15 athletes from eight nations around the world – including a first-ever group of five specialists from England and Ireland.

Established in 2017, the IPP program aims to provide elite international athletes with the opportunity to compete at the NFL level, improve their skills and ultimately work to earn a spot on an NFL roster.

Since its inception, 41 international players have signed with NFL teams (allocated, drafted, or signed as free agents), with 23 IPP athletes currently on NFL rosters) as of Aug. 1, 2024). Five players have made teams' active rosters since 2017, including: **David Bada** (Germany - Washington Commanders), **Jakob Johnson** (Germany - Las Vegas Raiders), **Jordan Mailata** (Australia - Philadelphia Eagles), **Efe Obada** (U.K. - Washington Commanders) and **Sammis Reyes** (Chile - Minnesota Vikings).



The Class of 2024 came from various sporting backgrounds including rugby, basketball, track, Gaelic football and Australian football, among others – showcasing how diverse sporting experience and capabilities can continue to enable the impact of international player pathways in enriching the fabric of the league.

Players trained for 10 weeks at IMG Academy in Florida, before showcasing skills at the IPP Pro Day at the University of South Florida.

At the conclusion of training camp, the group of 15 IPP athletes were eligible to fill a 17th practice squad roster spot across any of the 32 teams – an additional spot reserved for an international player – following the rule change beginning with the 2024 season applicable to athletes outside of the United States and Canada.

Since the IPP Pro Day in March 2024, six athletes have signed with teams as free agents and one athlete was drafted in the 2024 NFL Draft (as of Aug. 1, 2024):

- Louis Rees-Zammit (Wales) - Kansas City Chiefs
- Charlie Smyth (Ireland) - New Orleans Saints
- Patrick Murtagh (Australia) - Jacksonville Jaguars
- Travis Clayton (England) - Buffalo Bills; Seventh-round pick (No. 221 overall) in the 2024 NFL Draft
- Bayron Matos (Dominican Republic) - Miami Dolphins
- Jotham Russell (Australia) - New England Patriots
- Praise Olatoke (Nigeria/Scotland) - Los Angeles Chargers

INTERNATIONAL PLAYER PATHWAY PROGRAM

International Player Pathway (IPP) Spotlight

The following players are graduates from the Class of 2024:

BAYRON MATOS (Dominican Republic)

Bayron Matos is a former Division I basketball player from New Mexico who also briefly played spring football at the University of South Florida (USF). Originally from the Dominican Republic, Matos grew up playing baseball and was known for his impressive 95-mph fastball.

At age 16, he relocated to Chattanooga, Tenn., to attend Hamilton Heights Christian Academy, where he earned a scholarship to New Mexico. In 2021, he transferred to USF, appearing in 28 games over two seasons. In 2022, he joined the USF football team as a walk-on, but did not play during the regular season.

Following the IPP program, Matos signed with the Miami Dolphins as an offensive tackle.

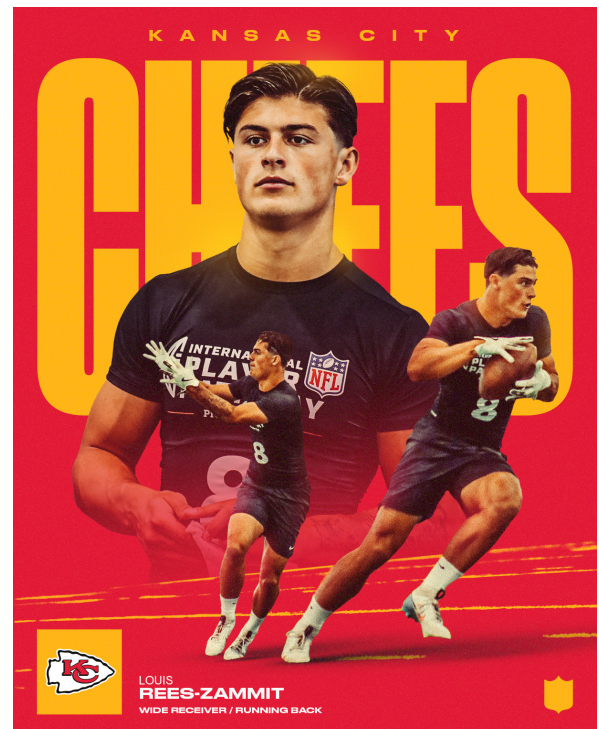


LOUIS REES-ZAMMIT (Wales)

Louis Rees-Zammit has been a standout talent in rugby union, known for his explosive speed and remarkable skill. At just 23 years old, he has already made 77 appearances for Gloucester in the English Premiership and represented both Wales and the British & Irish Lions on the international stage.

In 2019, at the age of 18, Rees-Zammit became Gloucester's youngest-ever top-flight starter. Louis has earned 32 caps for Wales, showcasing his talent by scoring five tries at the recent Rugby World Cup in France. In 2021, he was selected for the British & Irish Lions tour of South Africa, becoming the youngest player to make the squad since 1959, at the age of 20.

In 2024, Rees-Zammit made the bold career move of joining the IPP program. He was signed as a running back for the Kansas City Chiefs.

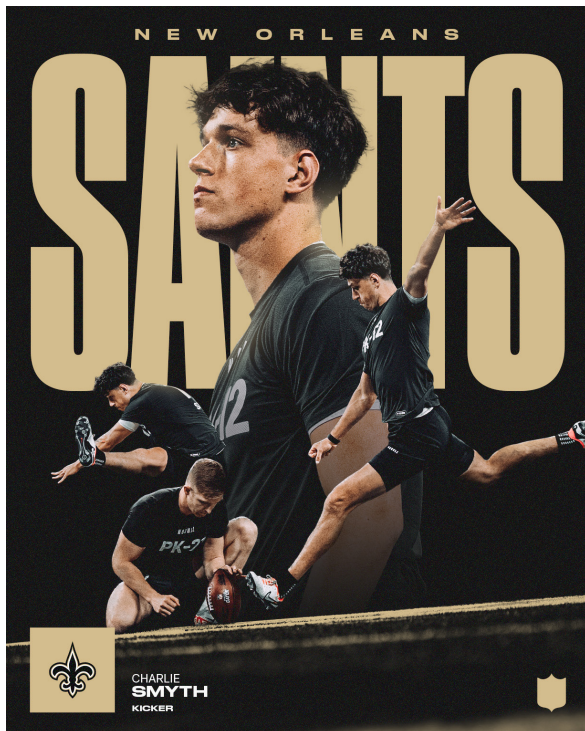


INTERNATIONAL PLAYER PATHWAY PROGRAM

CHARLIE SMYTH (Ireland)

Charlie Smyth was one of three goalkeepers from Ireland's Gaelic football vying for a spot in the NFL as a kicker through the IPP program. A standout for Down, Smyth is an Ulster Under-20 winner who made his senior debut last season in Ireland's elite inter-county league.

Following the IPP program's conclusion and the 2024 NFL Combine, the New Orleans Saints signed Smyth as a kicker.



PATRICK MURTAGH (Australia)

Patrick Murtagh is a former national-level decathlete and Queensland state champion who initially embarked on Australia's Commonwealth pathway before shifting his focus to Australian Rules Football. At 19 years old, he signed with the AFL's Gold Coast Suns, where he played until September 2022. In 2023, Murtagh transitioned to the NFL's IPP program, showcasing his athletic versatility.

Following a successful training camp in Florida, Murtagh was assigned to the Detroit Lions for the 2023 NFL season. However, after just a week in Detroit, he had to return home due to a medical issue. He gave things another shot with a return to the IPP Camp in 2024.

Murtagh's NFL journey will now continue, as the Jacksonville Jaguars signed him as a tight end.



INTERNATIONAL PLAYER PATHWAY PROGRAM

TRAVIS CLAYTON (England)

Travis Clayton is a versatile multi-sport athlete who began his athletic journey in soccer, playing as a center back and midfielder in Fulham's academy. He also had trials with Reading, Southampton and Chelsea. Beyond soccer, Clayton explored rugby and rowing, showcasing his broad athletic talent, before joining the IPP Class of 2024.

The Buffalo Bills drafted Clayton in the seventh round (No. 221 overall) of the 2024 NFL Draft, as an offensive tackle. Clayton is the second player ever to be drafted from the NFL's IPP program, joining offensive lineman Jordan Mailata – who was selected by the Philadelphia Eagles in 2018.



JOTHAM RUSSELL (Australia)

Jotham Russell was an Australian Rugby League player who made the transition to American football via the IPP Class of 2024. The former star of the Brisbane Broncos and Canberra Raiders began his rugby journey at the age of 10, achieving notable success, including winning a Grand Final with his under-18 team, the Tweed Seagulls. Russell also participated in gymnastics and track & field during his childhood, further showcasing his athletic versatility.

Russell signed with the New England Patriots as a defensive end.



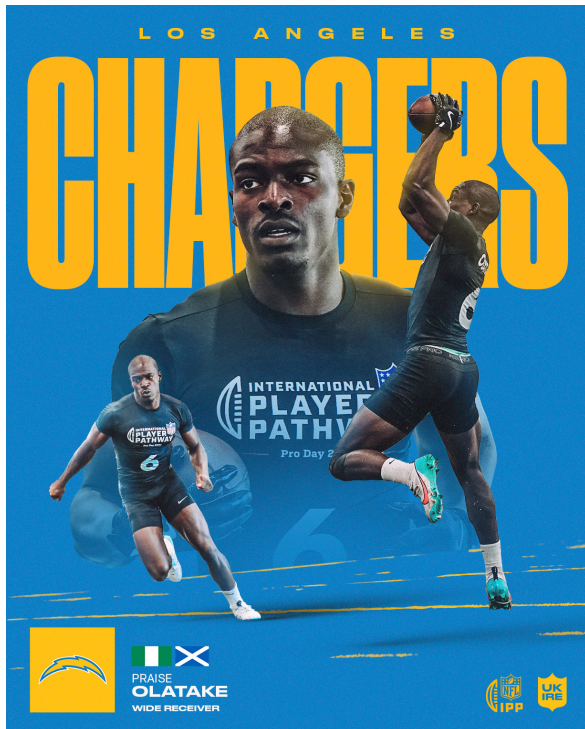
INTERNATIONAL PLAYER PATHWAY PROGRAM

PRAISE OLATAKE (Nigeria/Scotland)

Praise Olatoke's remarkable journey to the IPP program began in Lagos, Nigeria, and has taken him through Glasgow, Scotland, Vancouver, Canada and finally, to the United States. Moving to Scotland at the age of five, Olatoke excelled in track and field, with a brief stint in rugby. He was named the 2019 Scottish Under-20 Athlete of the Year and qualified to represent the U.K. at the 2020 European Athletics Under-20 Championships.

In 2020, Olatoke earned a full scholarship to Trinity Western University in British Columbia, before transferring to Ohio State University on another full scholarship. Olatoke also played club football at Ohio State during their 2022 season, competing against local Division III schools.

Olatoke's versatility and athletic prowess caught the attention of the Los Angeles Chargers, who signed him as a wide receiver following the IPP program's conclusion.



IPP ATHLETES ON NFL ROSTERS (AS OF AUGUST 1, 2024)

PLAYER	TEAM	CLASS OF
Efe Obada	Washington	2017
Jordan Mailata	Philadelphia	2018
Isaac Alarcon	San Francisco	2020
Max Pircher	Seattle	2021
Sammis Reyes	Minnesota	2021
Bernhard Seikovits	Arizona	2021
Marcel Dabo	Indianapolis	2022
Thomas Odukoya	Tennessee	2022
David Agoha	Las Vegas	2023
Junior Aho	Carolina	2023
Chu Godrick	Kansas City	2023
Roy Mbaeteka	Cleveland	2023
Haggai Ndubuisi	Washington	2023
Kenneth Odumewgu	Green Bay	2023
Kehinde Ojinni	Atlanta	2023
CJ Okoye	L.A. Chargers	2023
Travis Clayton	Buffalo	2024
Bayron Matos	Miami	2024
Patrick Murtagh	Jacksonville	2024
Praise Olatoke	L.A. Chargers	2024
Louis Rees-Zammit	Kansas City	2024
Jotham Russell	New England	2024
Charlie Smyth	New Orleans	2024



Washington Commanders defensive end Efe Obada

NFL ACADEMY

The NFL Academy - U.K.

Based at Loughborough's world-renowned center of sporting excellence in the U.K., and in partnership with Loughborough College and Loughborough University, the NFL Academy, which opened in September 2019, is a major initiative by the NFL.



It aims to use American football to create life-changing opportunities for young people all around the world, offering student athletes aged 16 -19 years old a pathway to combine their full-time education alongside intensive training in the sport led by a professional coaching staff.

More than 40 alumni have secured college football scholarships in the U.S. since its inception with over 30 students set to play college football in the 2024-25 season, and 20 of those athletes playing in Division I college programs.



The NFL Academy in the U.K. services talent across the Europe and Africa regions.

In 2023, the NFL Academy played U.S. high schools in Dublin and London, including Bonner & Prendie from Pennsylvania, IMG Academy from Florida and Erasmus Hall from New York.



In 2024, the NFL Academy will participate in the Nike Kickoff Classic in Oregon against Massillon High School from Ohio. Just ahead of the Kickoff Classic, the Academy will play Edgewater High School from Florida in Loughborough, U.K. The NFL Academy will play De La Salle from California under the lights of Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in October and IMG Academy in Munich in November, as part of the 2024 International Games celebrations.



NFL ACADEMY

The NFL Academy - APAC

Following the success of the NFL Academy in the U.K., the NFL will open a second NFL Academy location in Australia to service the Asia-Pacific region in September 2024. The Academy will be based at A.B. Paterson College in south-east Queensland on Australia's Gold Coast, and in partnership with the college, will focus on athletic, educational and career pathway opportunities for the student-athletes and the wider community.



Student athletes aged 12-18 years old will be eligible to apply for a place in the elite football development program.

The NFL and A.B. Paterson College, supported by the City of Gold Coast and the Queensland State Government, will also fund and build an elite high-performance NFL Academy facility on existing college grounds, to be completed in 2026.

The program will be central to continuing to grow flag football in the region for men, women and young people following the sport's successful inclusion at the LA28 Olympic Games. In partnership with the International Federation of American Football (IFAF), the league is investing in the development and growth of flag football at both grassroots and elite levels across Australia, New Zealand and around the world.

Jordan Mailata, Australian NFL offensive tackle for the Philadelphia Eagles and alumni of the NFL's IPP program, will be an ambassador for the NFL Academy in Australia. Mailata's journey from being scouted by the NFL in 2017 to playing at Super Bowl LVII, provides great inspiration to young athletes from the region.



"Football has changed my life, and opening an NFL Academy in Australia will no doubt help many more young people change theirs," said Mailata. "The Asia-Pacific region is rich in sporting talent, and I look forward to seeing the next generation of football players out there craft their own pathway to playing in the NFL in the years to come."



NFL AFRICA

NFL Africa Program Expands to Nigeria

The NFL's Africa program expanded to Nigeria in June 2024 with a three-day football talent identification camp as well as NFL Flag football activities – underlining a commitment to developing more ways to serve athletes and fans across the continent.



"It's truly an honor to be leading the NFL's efforts across Africa and expand key programming into a fourth country across the continent, Nigeria – a place that is very close to my heart," said two-time Super Bowl Champion and NFL's Africa lead, Osi Umenyiora. "We've seen the incredible impact the program has had on young athletes' lives to date, and we look forward to creating more opportunities for global talent to play the game and grow that impact in the years ahead."

With more than 130 players of African descent (born in Africa or first generation born in the U.S.) from across the continent in the NFL, events taking place for promising young athletes in Nigeria will continue to advance pathways to play.

Twenty-one prospects from 10 countries across Africa first took part in the three-day NFL Combine-style football camp to showcase their skills, competing for invites to join the NFL Academy in Loughborough, U.K. or the International Player Pathway (IPP) program.

A number of current NFL players joined the talent identification camp events in Lagos, including Cleveland tight end David Njoku, New York Giants' linebackers Bobby Okereke and Kayvon Thibodeaux, Seattle wide receiver Jaxon Smith-Njigba and free agent Prince Tega Wanogho.

In collaboration with the Nigerian American Football Association (NAFA), an NFL Flag football tournament between 12 U14 local Nigerian school teams followed in Lagos, as part of league efforts to continue to grow the game across the continent.

The NFL also hosted a first-of-its-kind women's flag football workout, with U.S. scholarships available for top athletes – offering talented women in Africa pathways to the game.

NFL Africa expansion throughout the continent follows a successful delivery of programming in Ghana in 2022 and Kenya and Cape Town in 2023, including talent identification camps, NFL Flag football clinics and fan events held in each country.



BORN TO PLAY SPOTLIGHT

As part of Super Bowl LVIII, the NFL debuted an impactful ad-spot showcasing the diverse and inclusive spirit of the international game of football: "Born To Play."

The spot opens in a traditional Ghanaian home with a young football fanatic itching to get outdoors to play the game, imagining himself in an intense football game through the city on his way to school – alongside NFL's prominent players including Saquon Barkley (was then with the New York Giants), Justin Jefferson (Minnesota Vikings), Cameron Jordan (New Orleans Saints) and Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah (Cleveland Browns). The journey leads the young fan to an NFL camp, where he witnesses others training to one day play at the highest levels of the game.

Inspired by a speech given to NFL hopefuls at a football camp hosted by British-Nigerian former NFL player-pioneer, two-time Super Bowl champion and NFL Africa lead, Osi Umenyiora, the story mirrors the NFL and Umenyiora's collective mission to create opportunities for youth globally to play the game.

"Talent is global, but opportunity is not. Opening doors for international athletes is not only a passion of mine, but it's a way to give back to future generations of athletes," said Umenyiora. "The NFL is life-changing, and the pathway to play the sport is now a truly global one. The league's international football development programs are helping to change young people's lives and grow the game around the world. This campaign shows young people globally that it doesn't matter where you were born, but you were born to play."



NFL FLAG

LA 2028 Summer Olympics to Include Flag Football

On Oct. 16, 2023, the International Federation of American Football (IFAF), supported by the NFL, welcomed the vote of the IOC Session in Mumbai, India, which will see flag football as part of the official program of the Olympic Games for the first time in history in 2028 in Los Angeles.

The decision concluded a two-year evaluation process and follows after IFAF and the NFL formed Vision28 – a unique joint venture and partnership model, which places flag football at the heart of shared sport development goals globally.

Flag football, the non-contact version of American football, is fast, highly accessible and inclusive for all. The sport is spearheading extraordinary growth in participation – played by over 20 million people across 100 countries, with women and girls driving some of flag football's fastest growth.

This year will see the biggest-ever IFAF World Flag Football Championships to be held in Lahti, Finland, in August 2024.

2024 Global Flag Ambassadors

Currently, there are 44 athletes driving the game forward as Global Flag Ambassadors. The below 44 ambassadors (both men and women) amplify flag football around the world and inspire young people to play the game:

PLAYER	AFFILIATION	COUNTRY
Desiree Abrams	Football Pioneer	
LeCharles Bentley	NFL Legend	
Drew Brees	NFL Legend	
Derrick Brooks	NFL Legend	
Andrea Castillo	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	Panama
Chase Claypool	Active Player	Canada
Demario Davis	Active Player	
Stefon Diggs	Active Player	
Nausicaa Dell'Orto	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	Italy
Elisa De Santis	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	
Fernando Espinoza	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	Mexico
Diana Flores	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	Mexico
Toni Harris	Football Pioneer	
Torry Holt	NFL Legend	
Darrell Housh Doucette	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	
Jalen Hurts	Active Player	
Lamar Jackson	Active Player	
Justin Jefferson	Active Player	
Jakob Johnson	Active Player	Germany
Vanita Krouch	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	
Cooper Kupp	Active Player	
Fouzia Madhouni	Football Pioneer	Morocco

PLAYER	AFFILIATION	COUNTRY
Eli Manning	NFL Legend	
Willie McGinest	NFL Legend	
Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah	Active Player	Ghana
Dak Prescott	Active Player	
Taylor Rapp	Active Player	China, Canada
Izell Reese	NFL Legend	
Sammis Reyes	Active Player	Chile
Tony Richardson	NFL Legend	
Mike Rucker	NFL Legend	
Phoebe Schecter	Football Pioneer	U.K.
Amon-Ra St. Brown	Active Player	Germany
Equanimeous St. Brown	Active Player	Germany
Katie Sowers	Football Pioneer	
Liz Sowers	Football Pioneer	Canada
Mona Stevens	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	Germany
Bobby Taylor	NFL Legend	
Osi Umenyiora	NFL Legend	Nigeria/U.K.
Charlie Ward	NFL Legend	
Aeneas Williams	NFL Legend	
Russell Wilson	Active Player	
Sebastian Vollmer	NFL Legend	Germany
Luke Zahradka	IFAF/World Flag Athlete	Italy

NFL FLAG

NFL Flag and the 2024 Pro Bowl Games

As part of the 2024 Pro Bowl Games in Orlando, Florida, the NFL hosted the International NFL Flag Championships.

NFL Flag, the official flag football program of the NFL, brings the non-contact version of football to young athletes.

Young players representing 12 different countries traveled to the U.S. to compete in the multi-day flag football tournament to showcase their skills and connect with peers from around the world – after being crowned winners of their home countries' NFL Flag national tournaments in 2023.

The International NFL Flag Championship featured 11 U12 international teams of boys and girls from Australia, Bahamas, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand and the U.K.

For the first time, team Canada had the chance to compete in the National NFL Flag Championship against U.S. flag football teams – following their win last season of the 2023 NFL Flag International Division.

The Nojima Sagamihara Rise team from the city of Sagamihara in Kanagawa, Japan, met Team Mexico in the championship game, winning 18-6 earning the International NFL Flag Championship title at the 2024 Pro Bowl Games.



Currently, NFL Flag is active across 12 international markets, including:

- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Great Britain
- Japan
- Kenya
- Mexico
- New Zealand

For the first time, six international NFL Flag teams from Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Great Britain and Mexico participated in the inaugural 2024 NFL Flag Championships in Canton, Ohio in the U.S. in July. The world's premiere youth flag football tournament saw Team Mexico win across international games, defeating Team Canada 21-12, in an exciting head-to-head championship final. Games were broadcast globally in over 125 countries via ESPN, Disney and the NFL – bringing the exciting action to fans around the world.



The background features a series of wavy, horizontal lines that create a sense of motion and depth. The top half of the image is a dark blue, while the bottom half transitions into a lighter blue and then a bright yellow at the very bottom. The lines are more densely packed and curved in the lower half, giving it a dynamic, almost vibrating appearance.

PLAYER HEALTH & SAFETY



HOW THE NFL IS ADVANCING PLAYER HEALTH AND SAFETY



The National Football League is committed to advancing progress in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of sports-related injuries, enhancing medical protocols, improving how the game is taught and played, and protecting NFL players' overall health, safety and wellbeing.

PLAYER HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The NFL continues to make changes on and off the field in an effort to better protect the health and safety of every player.

CARING FOR PLAYERS ON GAME DAY

On average, there are more than 30 healthcare providers at a stadium on game day to provide immediate care to players, including:

- » **Unaffiliated Neurotrauma Consultants:** Three credentialed neurotrauma consultants, who are unaffiliated with either team, staff the sidelines, monitor the game and work with the team medical staffs to identify, evaluate for and diagnose concussions and other head and spine injuries.
- » **AT Spotters and the Medical Timeout:** For all NFL games, two certified athletic trainers –retained by the league and unaffiliated with any NFL teams – observe the game from a specialized video-equipped booth above the field and monitor all camera views to identify potential injuries, especially concussions and other head and neck injuries. The AT spotters have the authority to call a medical timeout to stop the game for a medical evaluation of a player who may have suffered a possible head injury, including a concussion.
- » **Emergency Response Physicians:** In addition to each club's primary physician and trainers, the NFL and NFLPA require every NFL club to identify and retain at least two Emergency Response Physicians (ERP) to be available to attend each of its home games to treat both home and visiting team players if necessary.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

NFL medical professionals follow the [NFL Concussion Protocol](#) when identifying, diagnosing and treating player concussions. The Concussion Protocol, first developed in 2011, is reviewed and revised by medical experts each year to ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date medical guidance.

To ensure club physicians' implementation of the protocol, the NFL and NFLPA developed an enforcement policy, which includes a process to investigate clubs that fail to follow the protocol and determine appropriate discipline - including fines and possible forfeiture of draft picks.

RETURN-TO-PARTICIPATION PROTOCOL

The NFL and NFLPA, through their leading medical experts, established a [five-step process](#) that every NFL player diagnosed with a concussion must follow before being cleared to fully practice or participate in an NFL game. After a player goes through the process and is cleared for full participation by his club physician, he must also be cleared by an Independent Neurological Consultant, who is jointly approved by the NFL and NFLPA and who is not affiliated with any NFL club. Until a player is cleared by this independent physician, he may not return to contact practice or play in an NFL game.

DATA, EQUIPMENT AND INNOVATION

The NFL champions new developments in engineering, biomechanics and material science to better understand the cause of injuries and try to protect against them. The league collaborates with the NFLPA and the world's foremost engineers and scientists as advisors.

LEVERAGING DATA

Data drives the NFL's decisions about player health and safety.

- » **Injury Data:** Throughout the year, comprehensive NFL player injury data is compiled and analyzed by independent, third-party epidemiological experts and provided to the league, the NFLPA and medical and football committees. The NFL then [shares this data](#) publicly each year. Guided by experts, NFL medical committee members identify trends in how, where and when injuries happen, and assess how protocols and rules changes affect player safety. During the 2023 season, the NFL saw progress in overall injury reduction efforts leading to improved player availability - with 700 fewer games missed during the 2023 regular season due to injury than in the year before.
- » **Taking Data to the Next Level:** The NFL works with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to develop tools to generate better insights into injuries, specifically the impact of game rules, equipment, and rehabilitation and recovery strategies. One of the partnership's primary goals is building the capacity to predict injuries before they occur.
 - The NFL and AWS have developed the [Digital Athlete](#), a joint effort leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) to build a complete view of players' experiences, allowing the league and clubs to better understand and prevent injury. Using a range of inputs - including video filmed during games and practice; systems that capture players' speeds, accelerations, and distances; and sensors and RFID tags in player equipment - the Digital Athlete's AI-backed algorithms run millions of simulations of NFL games and in-game scenarios to tell teams which players are at the highest risk.



In addition to individualized club data, the Digital Athlete allows club staff to benchmark team trends against previous seasons and a league-wide NFL average. The Digital Athlete's Computer Vision Head Impact System also measures the number of head impacts happening during a game.

- The NFL and AWS continue to encourage innovation with annual challenges around data synthesis and analysis. Following the most recent challenge, the NFL and AWS awarded \$100,000 to the winners of a competition in which data scientists from around the world built machine learning and computer vision programs to better measure and analyze the timing, duration and frequency of player contact during NFL games - an effort to identify which types of plays cause unnecessary contact, identify the positions that could be more prone to injuries, and develop potential rules changes.
- » **Electronic Medical Records:** Every club's medical staff has access to players' complete NFL medical records via the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system, and all players, as patients, have access to their medical records. Each player's medical records follow him from one club to another. Players may access their records via the NFL Player Portal and continue to have access to records if they leave the NFL, move clubs or retire, to ensure continuity of care. Third party epidemiologists and experts analyze data extracted from the EMR system to help the league make data-driven decisions on rules changes and permissible techniques used in play.
- » **Comprehensive Video Review:** Each season, biomechanical engineers complete a comprehensive video review of all reported concussions sustained in NFL games. The league shares the data with helmet manufacturers, designers, innovators, entrepreneurs, universities and others to stimulate innovation in protective equipment.

USING DATA TO DRIVE RULES CHANGES

The NFL improves player safety by taking a data-driven approach to eliminating potentially dangerous tactics and reducing the risk of injuries, with a special focus on removing unnecessary head contact from the game. Over the past decade, there have been dozens of health and safety-focused rules changes, including rules that protect "defenseless" players and penalize dangerous techniques. Changes for the 2024 season include:

- » **Dynamic Kickoff:** The 2023 season saw the lowest kickoff return rate in NFL history, as well as an injury rate on the kickoff that was twice as high as other plays and yielded as many as four times the concussions. As a result, the new "Dynamic Kickoff" debuted for the 2024 season and is intended to bring more excitement to the play while lowering the risks of injuries during kickoffs. The new kickoff play is designed to be safer by limiting the space and speed of the play, more closely resembling a typical scrimmage play by aligning players on both teams closer together and restricting movement.
- » **Elimination of the Swivel Hip-Drop Tackle:** This rule change seeks to eliminate the swivel hip-drop tackle from the game. A swivel hip-drop tackle occurs when a defender grabs the runner with both hands or wraps the runner with both arms and also unweights himself by swiveling and dropping his hips and/or lower body, landing on and trapping the runner's leg(s). This type of tackle has caused lower extremity injuries at least 20 times higher than other tackles. A violation of this rule will result in a 15-yard penalty if flagged in a game.
- » **Acclimation Period:** The NFL continues to make progress in driving down lower extremity injury rates.



The league has carefully tracked lower extremity injuries and reduced injury numbers over the past several seasons, particularly with the introduction of the newly mandated approach to ramp-up and acclimation in Training Camp. The results continue to be significant, with the number of lower extremity strain injuries reaching an eight-year low during the 2023 preseason.

As the NFL continuously learns more about player health and safety, the league evaluates and changes rules to evolve the game and try to improve protections for players. All changes made since 2002 can be reviewed on the Player Health and Safety website.

EQUIPMENT INNOVATION

The NFL and NFLPA work together, through leading biomechanical engineering experts, to evaluate the performance of protective equipment and to keep players informed on the latest advances in equipment technology when making decisions about their helmets, cleats and other equipment.

- » **Helmet Poster:** Each year, the NFL and the NFLPA share the results of their experts' extensive laboratory testing with NFL players, club medical, training, coaching and equipment staffs in the form of a poster to help inform players' equipment choices. For the 2024 season, three additional posters were developed to reflect helmet performance specific to quarterbacks, offensive linemen, and defensive linemen.
- » **Driving Helmet Innovation:** This season, five new helmets will be available to NFL players that tested better than any helmet ever worn in the league, reflecting a significant advancement in helmet safety innovation driven by the NFL and its partners' efforts. The league is committed to ensuring players are choosing from a wide selection of high-performing helmet models designed to reduce the severity of head impacts at their position.
- » **Position-Specific Helmets:** For the 2024 season, there are more position-specific helmets available to players at the quarterbacks, offensive linemen, and defensive linemen positions, with eight new models. These helmets are designed to mitigate impacts more likely to be sustained by individual positions, informed in part by game impact data that the league collects and shares with helmet manufacturers. The growing selection of position-specific models marks a significant leap forward in providing players with helmet models designed to reduce severity of head impacts for their position.
- » **Guardian Caps:** The NFL began mandating the use of the Guardian Cap, a helmet shell add-on device that is worn over the helmet, for certain positions during training camps in 2022 and has since expanded the requirement to additional position groups. Data from the past two seasons has shown a significant reduction in concussions among players who wear Guardian Caps during practice, with a nearly 50% reduction in concussions for the position groups that wore them during those periods. For the 2024 season, players will have the option to wear Guardian Caps in regular-season games. Notably, Guardian Caps are now optional in training camp for players wearing select, top-performing helmet models that provide equal or greater protection, compared to other helmets paired with the Guardian Cap
- » **Cleat Poster:** The NFL Musculoskeletal Committee and the NFLPA coordinate extensive research on athletic shoe safety and performance to determine which cleats best permit release from turf during potentially injurious loading. The results are shared with NFL players, in addition to club medical, training, coaching and equipment staffs on a poster to help inform equipment choices.

INNOVATION CHALLENGES

Over the past decade, the NFL and its partners have continuously engaged experts, entrepreneurs and small businesses through crowdsourced challenges to accelerate innovation and stimulate new developments in engineering, biomechanics and materials science designed to better protect against injuries.

- » **The NFL Helmet Challenge:** In 2019, the league launched the NFL Helmet Challenge to stimulate the development of a new helmet that outperforms all helmet models currently worn by NFL players. Since 2020, the NFL has awarded nearly \$3 million in grant funding to teams working to advance their innovative designs and technologies in order to help get their projects on the field as soon as possible. For 2024, two new models in the top-performing category - the LIGHT Gladiator (ATK) and Xenith Orbit Pro - were developed by awardees of the NFL Helmet Challenge, demonstrating how the league's ongoing investment in and commitment to innovation is driving new, highly effective approaches to helmet design.
- » **HealthTECH Challenges:** HealthTECH Challenges attract innovative grant proposals from institutions, individuals and corporations interested in designing the next generation of protective equipment. Since 2017, the NFL has awarded grants totaling nearly \$3 million to help advance the development of 17 new technologies.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

In collaboration with the NFLPA, the NFL fosters a positive culture around mental health by providing players and the NFL family with resources and tools to succeed, on and off the field, over the course of their lives. Mental wellness benefits and resources to current and former players, including:

- » **Team Clinicians**, who are available to players at all team facilities for at least 8-12 hours per week. Some NFL clubs currently have full-time clinicians on staff.
- » **NFL Total Wellness**, which provides wellness resources to all members of the NFL family, including education at every stage of a player's career.
- » **The NFL Player Care Foundation**, which staffs licensed clinical social workers who provide expert consultation and help facilitate specialized treatment services for former players.
- » **NFL Life Line**, a free, confidential and independently operated resource that connects current and former players with trained counselors who can help individuals work through personal or emotional crises 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
- » **Cigna Work/Life Resources Benefit**, which provides active players and Legends—and their loved ones—with eight free, in-person or virtual counseling sessions per topic, per year and unlimited telephonic consulting.
- » **Additional mental health benefits for qualified members of the NFL Family**, including through the NFL Player Insurance Plan and the NFL Dedicated Hospital Network Program.

DIVERSIFYING SPORTS MEDICINE

As part of the NFL's overall commitment to ensuring that staff and leaders in the league office and at NFL clubs reflect the racial and gender makeup of America, leaders in NFL Player Health and Safety are working to diversify the group of people interested in pursuing careers in sports medicine and, over time, to help diversify NFL club medical staff. These efforts include the league-wide NFL Diversity in Sports Medicine Initiative, which provides medical students from diverse backgrounds with the opportunity to complete a clinical rotation with NFL club medical staff. More information on diversity efforts in NFL Player Health and Safety can be found [here](#).

MEDICAL COMMITTEES

The NFL is advised by many of the world's preeminent experts in medicine and science. NFL medical committees frequently review player health and injury data and recommend policies, programs and protocols for the League. An overarching Health and Safety Committee oversees committee efforts and facilitates collaboration among subject matter experts, team physicians and athletic trainers. The NFL also works closely with the NFLPA and its medical advisors on player health and safety issues and has joint committees with the NFLPA focused on Mental Health and Wellness and Pain Management. More information on NFL Medical Committees and their membership can be found [here](#).

INVESTING IN RESEARCH

The NFL supports preeminent experts and institutions in their research on the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of sports-related injuries and other issues affecting NFL players' health, safety and wellbeing.

- » **Medical Research:** The NFL invested \$40 million in independent medical research on the diagnosis, treatment and natural history of concussion and associated comorbid conditions over the last several years. In addition, the NFL has provided more than \$30 million to support brain injury research conducted by the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, and Department of Veterans Affairs. The NFL-NFLPA Joint Pain Management Committee has also awarded more than \$1.5 million in research funding to researchers studying the effects of cannabis and CBD on the performance and pain management of elite athletes, the effects of CBD and non-invasive vagal nerve stimulation on alleviating concussion symptoms, and mindfulness-based intervention in sports.
- » **Engineering Research:** The NFL also allocated \$60 million toward the creation and funding of projects to improve the understanding of the biomechanics of head injuries in professional football and to create incentives for helmet manufacturers, small businesses, entrepreneurs, universities and others to develop and commercialize new and improved protective equipment, including helmets. The investment has since helped drive safer helmets and more choices for players as they select their helmets each NFL season.
- » **Joint Surfaces Committee:** The NFL continues to work closely with the NFLPA and jointly selected experts to drive down injury rates and improve consistency across playing surfaces, led by the Joint Surfaces Committee. The work includes a substantial investment in data collection and research, as the NFL continuously works to further our understanding of all surfaces.

CONCUSSION GAME DAY CHECKLIST

Player receives impact to the head

and

Player exhibits or reports symptoms or signs suggestive of a concussion or stinger

or

ATC, AT spotter, team physician, NFL official, coach, teammate or UNC initiates protocol

Player is immediately removed to sideline or stabilized on field, as needed.

SIDELINE SURVEY

Remove helmet. Team Physician and UNC perform sideline survey:

- » No-Go
- » History of Event
- » Concussion Signs/Symptoms
- » Maddock's Questions
- » Video Review
- » **Focused Neurological Exam:**
 - Cervical Spine Exam (including range of motion- pain)
 - Evaluation of Speech
 - Observation of Gait
 - Eye Movements and Pupillary Exam

If any elements are positive, inconclusive or suspicious of concussion, player is escorted to locker room.

LOCKER ROOM EXAM

Team Physician/ UNC/ ATC OR

Team Physician/ UNC perform locker room exam:

- » Complete NFL SCAT
- » Complete Neurological Exam

If abnormal, NO RETURN TO PLAY:

- » Player stays in locker room
- » Periodic evaluation by medical team
- » Follow-up neurological exam

If normal sideline survey and "benign" video, player may **RETURN TO PLAY.**

No-Go

- » LOC (including Impact Seizure and/or "fencing posture")
- » Ataxia
- » Confusion
- » Amnesia

If observed at any point, **NO RETURN TO PLAY**

During above checklist, if player demonstrates progressive/worsening concussion symptoms, **NO RETURN TO PLAY**

If normal assessment, player may **RETURN TO PLAY.**

RETURN-TO-PARTICIPATION PROTOCOL



PHASE

1

SYMPTOM LIMITED ACTIVITY

The player is prescribed rest, limiting or, if necessary, avoiding activities (both physical and cognitive) which increase or aggravate symptoms. Under athletic training staff supervision, limited stretching and balance training can be introduced, progressing to light aerobic exercise, all as tolerated.

AEROBIC EXERCISE

Under direct oversight of the team's medical staff, the player should begin graduated cardiovascular exercise and may also engage in dynamic stretching and balance training. Neurocognitive and balance testing can be administered after completion of Phase Two and the results should be interpreted as back to baseline.

PHASE

2

PHASE

3

FOOTBALL-SPECIFIC EXERCISE

The player continues with supervised cardiovascular exercises that are increased and may mimic sport-specific activities, and supervised strength training is introduced. The player is allowed to practice with the team in sport-specific exercise for 30 minutes or less with ongoing and careful monitoring.

CLUB-BASED NON-CONTACT TRAINING DRILLS

The player continues cardiovascular, strength and balance training, team-based sports-specific exercise, and participates in non-contact football activities (e.g. throwing, catching, running, and other position-specific activities). Neurocognitive and balance testing should be completed no later than the end of Phase Four with the results interpreted as back to baseline.

PHASE

4

PHASE

5

FULL FOOTBALL ACTIVITY / CLEARANCE

Upon clearance by the Club physician for full football activity involving contact, the player must be examined by the Independent Neurological Consultant (INC) assigned to his Club. If the INC concurs with the Club physician that the player's concussion has resolved, he may participate in his Club's next practice or game.



NFL & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2023 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

How We Helped



◀◀ INSPIRE CHANGE

More than 20 Inspire Change grant partners made meaningful impact in the lives of millions in the areas of education, economic advancement, police-community relations and criminal justice reform. Clubs recognized 32 social justice Changemakers, sending many to Super Bowl to thank them for their work. At Super Bowl, we also launched a program that helps young people in underserved communities learn to read while they are at the barber shop. This year, we also worked with the King family to launch a new five-year commitment that will unite millions to complete service initiatives focused on MLK's tenets of social change and community impact. And finally, the NFL Family surpassed \$375 million in contributions to social justice nationwide.

PLAY 60 ▶▶

Through the League's NFL PLAY 60 partnerships, we championed youth health and wellness by reaching more than 600,000 students through digital PLAY 60 fitness break videos and more than 2.6 million students through 4,200 NFL FLAG-in-School kits distributed to schools across the country.



◀◀ SALUTE TO SERVICE

Nineteen grants totaling \$6.6 million were distributed to the NFL's STS charitable partners this past year. These grants improved overall quality of life, academic advancement, young adult mentorship and mental health programming. Additionally, the NFL expanded the USA Wheelchair Football League to 14 teams nationally.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/SEXUAL ASSAULT ▶▶

The NFL reached a decade of commitment to education on issues including domestic violence and sexual assault. With NFL support in 2023, the National Domestic Violence Hotline answered or assisted 621,008 survivors through calls, texts, chats and online outreach from individuals in crisis. And, with NFL funds, RALIANCE issued \$300,000 in grants to grassroots groups doing groundbreaking work in sexual assault education and prevention.



NFL FOUNDATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY ▶▶

Celebrating 50 years, the NFL Foundation has become one of the leading philanthropic entities in America, contributing to communities across the country, disaster relief efforts, support for youth football and societal issues. Since 1973, NFL Foundation has contributed nearly \$1 billion in charitable giving. It plays a vital role in all of the League's cause initiatives, supporting NFL clubs, players and Legends in their philanthropic efforts. This year's Super Bowl commercials highlighted the Foundation's Character Playbook, a digital character education program on healthy relationships and mental health that has served more than 2 million students.

◀◀ CRUCIAL CATCH

The NFL and American Cancer Society continued to focus on the importance of early detection and risk reduction. To date, we have contributed more than \$30 million to provide cancer screenings and resources to underserved communities. In the month of October, nearly 275,000 fans visited The Defender, an online tool to access cancer resources—including finding their local cancer screening center and scheduling screening reminders.



◀◀ NFL GREEN

At Super Bowl, the NFL hosted two Zero Waste events, increased bin capacity by over 15,000 gallons on gameday and donated 2 million pounds of material post event. The NFL also audited the state of sustainability at the International Games to form a list of actions to reduce carbon and green operations at future events.



Click here or scan the QR code to view the NFL 2023 Social Responsibility Annual Report