

## 2022-23 Season Review – Edmonton Oilers

### Standings

Edmonton Oilers							League	
Season	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Rank	PlyOff
2021-22	49	27	6	104	285	251	11	Yes
2022-23	50	23	9	109	325	256	6	Yes
<b>Change</b>	<b>+1</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>+3</b>	<b>+5</b>	<b>+40</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>+5</b>	

### Team Record by Game Type

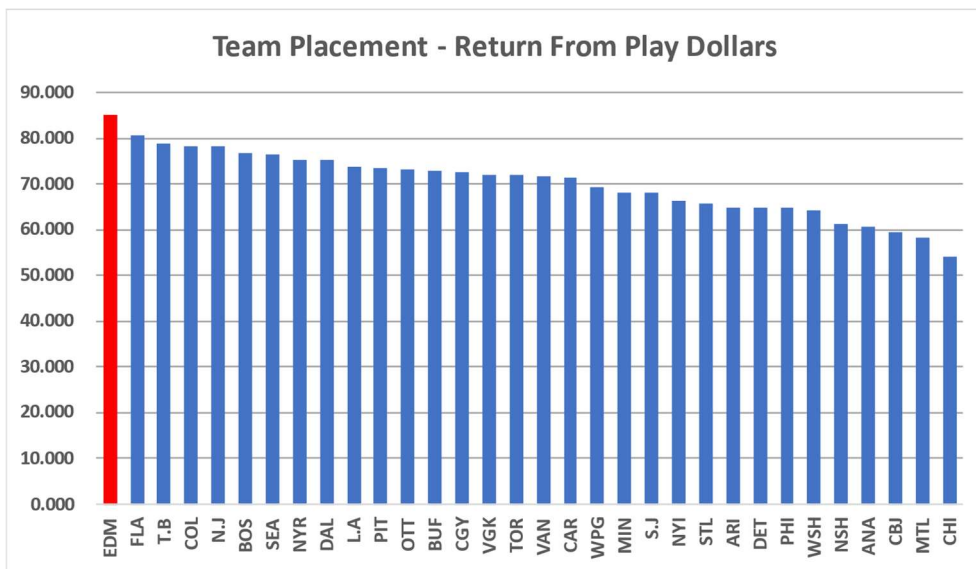
Game Type	GP	Record	Point %
Best 10-Game Streak	10	9 - 0 - 1	0.950
Blowouts (More than 4-goal margin)	7	6 - 1 - 0	0.857
Conceding Exactly 3 Goals	21	15 - 4 - 2	0.762
Vs. Non-Playoff Team	42	28 - 9 - 5	0.726
2-Goal Margin	18	13 - 5 - 0	0.722
Fire-wagon Hockey (More than 8 goals in a game)	27	18 - 6 - 3	0.722
Away Games	41	27 - 11 - 3	0.695
OT/SO	14	5 - 0 - 9	0.679
<b>All Games</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>50 - 23 - 9</b>	<b>0.665</b>
Home Games	41	23 - 12 - 6	0.634
Vs. Playoff Team	40	22 - 14 - 4	0.600
Scoring Exactly 3 Goals	15	7 - 5 - 3	0.567
1-Goal Margin (Excluding overtime games)	19	10 - 9 - 0	0.526
Defensive Battles (fewer than 4 goals in a game)	8	3 - 4 - 1	0.438
Worst 10-Game Streak	10	3 - 7 - 0	0.300

### Talent Distribution

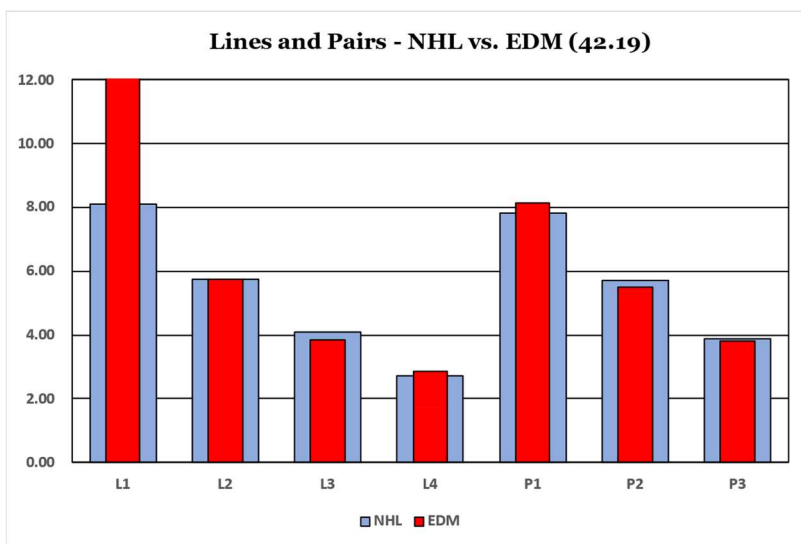
Count by Category			PR% by Age Group			PR% by Draft Status		
PR Category	Fwd	Def	Age Group	NHL PR%	Team PR%	Draft Status	NHL PR%	Team PR%
PR-Elite	3	0	18 to 23	18%	15%	Drafted by Current Team	48%	58%
PR-Star	1	1	24 to 28	45%	46%	Drafted by Other Team	41%	38%
PR-First5	0	1	29 to 33	29%	35%	Undrafted	10%	4%
PR-Regular	3	3	34+	8%	4%			
PR-Fringe	5	3						
PR-CallUp	6	3						

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### Return From Play



### Lines and Pairs



<b>L1</b>	Connor McDavid	Leon Draisaitl	Ryan Nugent-Hopkins
<b>L2</b>	Zach Hyman	Warren Foegele	Derek Ryan
<b>L3</b>	Kailer Yamamoto	Ryan McLeod	Mattias Janmark
<b>L4</b>	Evander Kane	Klim Kostin	Jesse Puljujarvi
<b>P1</b>		Darnell Nurse	Evan Bouchard
<b>P2</b>		Cody Ceci	Brett Kulak
<b>P3</b>		Tyson Barrie	Philip Broberg

## 2022-23 Season Review – Edmonton Oilers

### Team Leaders – Stapled To The Bench Categories

Category	Name	Rating
Most Productive	Connor McDavid	PR-Elite
Most Valuable	Connor McDavid	VR-Elite
Best Center	Connor McDavid	# 1-Center
Most Disruptive	Brett Kulak	DX-B
Best Power Player	Connor McDavid	PX-A+
Best Penalty Killer	Mattias Janmark	KX-C

### Team Leaders – On-Ice Situations

EDM - Team Leaders in Various On-Ice Situations		
Most Time 5v5	Most Time Power Play	Most Time Penalty Kill
Darnell Nurse	Connor McDavid	Darnell Nurse
Cody Ceci	Leon Draisaitl	Cody Ceci
Connor McDavid	Ryan Nugent-Hopkins	Ryan Nugent-Hopkins
Leon Draisaitl	Zach Hyman	Brett Kulak
Brett Kulak	Tyson Barrie	Mattias Janmark
Most Time 3v3	Most Used Off. Zone FO	Most Used Def. Zone FO
Leon Draisaitl	Connor McDavid	Ryan Nugent-Hopkins
Connor McDavid	Evan Bouchard	Darnell Nurse
Darnell Nurse	Zach Hyman	Cody Ceci
Ryan Nugent-Hopkins	Leon Draisaitl	Leon Draisaitl
Evan Bouchard	Brett Kulak	Evan Bouchard

### Team Essay – Best-Two Teams

It should come as no surprise that the Oilers had two of the highest rated players in the league in terms of Productivity Rating (PR). McDavid (1<sup>st</sup>) and Draisaitl (3<sup>rd</sup>) were 1-2 in scoring, and the PR formula “likes” players that score a lot.

The Oil have had McDavid and Draisaitl for years now, and it led me to wonder what happened to other teams that had two top players.

In each season, the “Best-Two” team is the one with the two highest ranked players: the first team to have a second player at the top of the list. One could argue that this method doesn’t actually identify the teams with the two best players. In 2011-12 Boston had Zdeno Chara and Patrice Bergeron (ranked #8 and #9) while Nashville had the dynamic defensive duo of Shea Weber (#4) and Ryan Suter (#11).

Had I used total PR-Score instead of ranking, Nashville’s twosome would have been used. But that would have required a little more work for me, and I didn’t see the value in that extra work: it isn’t at all obvious that Weber and Suter were a better twosome than Chara and Bergeron. Doing extra work to get better results is acceptable, but doing extra work just to get different results is not acceptable.

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The table that follows shows which team had the two highest ranked players in each season since 2007-08, who those players were, and how the team did in the playoffs.

Teams With the Two Highest Ranked Players in a Season - "Best-Two" Teams						
Season	Team	Player #1		Player #2		Playoff Result
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name	
2007-08	DET	2	Pavel Datsyuk	3	Henrik Zetterberg	<b>Won Stanley Cup</b>
2008-09	PHI	2	Jeff Carter	4	Mike Richards	Lost in Round 1
2009-10	WSH	3	Nicklas Backstrom	6	Alex Ovechkin	Lost in Round 1
2010-11	ANA	2	Corey Perry	4	Lubomir Visnovsky	Lost in Round 1
2011-12	BOS	8	Zdeno Chara	9	Patrice Bergeron	Lost in Round 1
2012-13	TB	1	Steven Stamkos	7	Martin St. Louis	<b>Out of Playoffs</b>
2013-14	MTL	11	Andrei Markov	18	P.K. Subban	Lost in Round 3
2014-15	SJ	3	Joe Pavelski	8	Brent Burns	<b>Out of Playoffs</b>
2015-16	LA	6	Drew Doughty	12	Anze Kopitar	Lost in Round 1
2016-17	WPG	5	Dustin Byfuglien	12	Mark Scheifele	<b>Out of Playoffs</b>
2017-18	LA	2	Anze Kopitar	3	Drew Doughty	Lost in Round 1
2018-19	<b>EDM</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Connor McDavid</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Leon Draisaitl</b>	<b>Out of Playoffs</b>
2019-20	NYR	6	Mika Zibanejad	8	Artemi Panarin	Lost in Qualifying Round
2020-21	<b>EDM</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Connor McDavid</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Leon Draisaitl</b>	Lost in Round 1
2021-22	<b>EDM</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Connor McDavid</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Leon Draisaitl</b>	Lost in Round 3
2022-23	<b>EDM</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Connor McDavid</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Leon Draisaitl</b>	Lost in Round 2

One thing that immediately struck me was the lack of continuity. Between 2007-08 and 2019-20, a different team appeared every season and only one pair of players repeated (Los Angeles, 2015-16 and 2017-18). Edmonton's current streak with McDavid and Draisaitl must have given me a little "recency bias": that because Edmonton has dominated the Best-Two players category for five years, other teams must have dominated for a period of years in the past.

Another thing that jumped out was something missing. I thought the obvious tandem of Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin from Pittsburgh would have been listed. The closest they came to being the top pair was 2008-09, when they were 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Both Crosby and Malkin have had issues with injuries, and when one player has had a great season the other player has tended to miss games and get a lower-than-expected rating.

No "Best-Two" team has won the Stanley Cup since 2007-08, a streak which will continue this season. In fact, since 2008-09, Best-Two teams have won only five playoff rounds (including Edmonton's first round this season). Four teams had the best pair of players and managed to miss the playoffs.

As seen in the Lines and Pairs chart, Edmonton is literally off-the-chart-good for their first line, but they are close to average on the other three lines and the three defensive pairs. You can't do well in the playoffs if most of the talent on your team is average, even if you have one line which is exceptionally good.