2024-25 Progress – 60 Games

This is the third of three planned articles where players who have played the best so far in 2023-24 will be identified.

Player data for this article was downloaded on the morning of March 1, 2025. Not all teams had played exactly 60 games at that point.

Top 50 Skaters After 60 Games (at the end of Q3)

Rank	Player	Team	POS	Rank	Player	Team	POS
1	Leon Draisaitl	EDM	F	23	Martin Necas	CAR, COL	F
1	Nathan MacKinnon	COL	F	23	Matt Boldy	MIN	F
3	Cale Makar	COL	D	23	Artemi Panarin	NYR	F
4	Zach Werenski	CBJ	D	23	Brayden Point	T.B	F
5	Nikita Kucherov	T.B	F	23	Clayton Keller	UTA	F
6	Jack Hughes	N.J	F	23	Roman Josi	NSH	D
7	Connor McDavid	EDM	F	23	Kirill Marchenko	CBJ	F
8	Quinn Hughes	VAN	D	33	Mark Scheifele	WPG	F
8	David Pastrnak	BOS	F	33	William Nylander	TOR	F
10	Adam Fox	NYR	D	33	Jack Eichel	VGK	F
11	Mikko Rantanen	CAR, COL	F	36	Rasmus Dahlin	BUF	D
12	Evan Bouchard	EDM	D	36	John Carlson	WSH	D
13	Brandon Hagel	T.B	F	38	Victor Hedman	T.B	D
13	Sam Reinhart	FLA	F	38	Aleksander Barkov	FLA	F
15	Lucas Raymond	DET	F	38	Josh Morrissey	WPG	D
15	Dylan Larkin	DET	F	38	Matthew Tkachuk	FLA	F
17	Sidney Crosby	PIT	F	38	Travis Konecny	PHI	F
17	Mitch Marner	TOR	F	43	Jason Robertson	DAL	F
19	Jesper Bratt	N.J	F	43	Vincent Trocheck	NYR	F
20	Nico Hischier	N.J	F	43	Filip Forsberg	NSH	F
20	Tim Stützle	OTT	F	43	MacKenzie Weegar	CGY	D
20	Jake Guentzel	T.B	F	43	Rickard Rakell	PIT	F
23	Nick Suzuki	MTL	F	48	Matt Duchene	DAL	F
23	Moritz Seider	DET	D	48	Tomas Hertl	VGK	F
23	Kyle Connor	WPG	F	48	Sebastian Aho	CAR	F

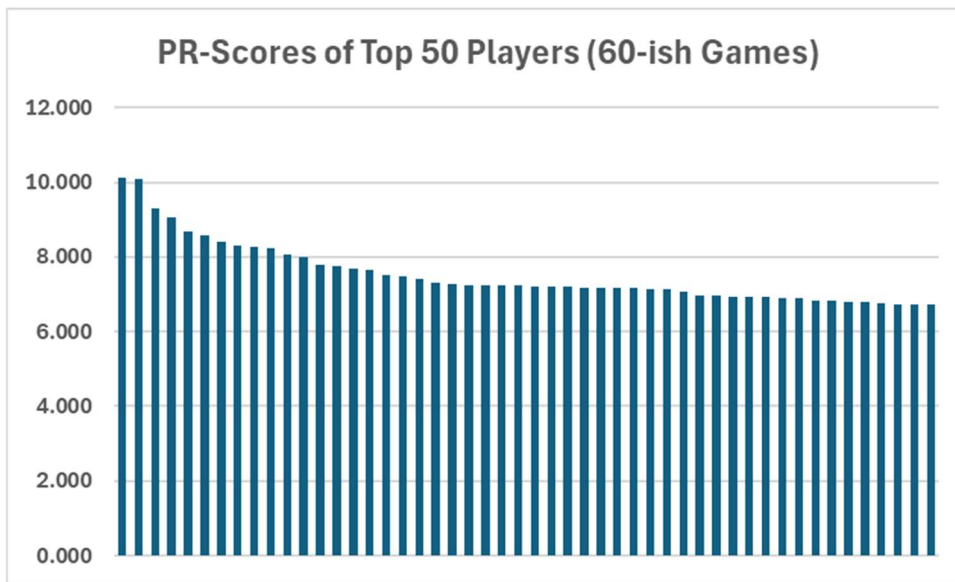# 2024-25 Progress – 60 Games

How Players Were Ranked

Players were ranked by Productivity Rating, specifically PR-Score. While the order of the players was determined by their detailed PR-Scores (four decimal places of precision), their rank (shown in the first column) was based on PR-Scores rounded to one decimal point.

For example, the table order of Quinn Hughes (VAN, PR-Score 8.3011) and David Pastrnak (BOS, PR-Score 8.2769) was determined by their PR-Score. They shared the same rank (8) because their rounded PR-Scores were 8.3.

Distribution of PR-Scores

The following chart shows how the PR-Scores were distributed.

The top two players were clear leaders of the pack. After about a dozen players, the differences between the PR-Scores of two consecutive players tended to be very slight.

As an aside, this chart shows the main reason I tend to avoid stating the detailed PR-Score of a player: it is very close from player to player, and the four-digits of precision gives an unwarranted impression of accuracy in the ratings. Is Rickard Rakell (43rd, PIT, F) better than Sebastian Aho (48th, CAR, F)? PR-Score says he's presently a little better, but that isn't as strong an argument as I'd like it to be, and I designed the PR-Score formulas.

Distribution by Position

The top fifty contains 38 forwards and 12 defensemen, which is a little too many forwards compared to the golden ration for forwards and defensemen (30:20). Maybe it is a big year for many forwards.

Distribution by Team

Tampa Bay has five players in the top fifty. Detroit, Edmonton, Florida, New Jersey, New York Rangers and Winnipeg each have three players on the list. These seven teams make up almost half the list.

Los Angeles, with a team record of 31-18-8, had no players in the top fifty.

New to the List, Dropped from the List

Every player that was added to the top 50 this quarter coincides with a player from the first quarter who was dropped.

Additions to Q3					Subtractions From Q2				
Player	Team(s)	POS	RkQ3	RkQ2	Player	Team(s)	POS	RkQ2	RkQ3
David Pastrnak	BOS	F	8	50	Sean Monahan	CBJ	F	12	105
Jake Guentzel	T.B	F	20	50	Kirill Kaprizov	MIN	F	14	83
Martin Necas	CAR, COL	F	23	77	Mikhail Sergachev	UTA	D	15	69
Artemi Panarin	NYR	F	23	61	Anthony Cirelli	T.B	F	18	69
Clayton Keller	UTA	F	23	61	John Tavares	TOR	F	32	78
Victor Hedman	T.B	D	38	50	Mattias Ekholm	EDM	D	32	97
Matthew Tkachuk	FLA	F	38	111	Neal Pionk	WPG	D	38	89
Jason Robertson	DAL	F	43	194	Colton Parayko	STL	D	38	105
Vincent Trocheck	NYR	F	43	50	Travis Sanheim	PHI	D	38	128
Filip Forsberg	NSH	F	43	133	Mike Matheson	MTL	D	38	128
MacKenzie Weegar	CGY	D	43	50	Brady Tkachuk	OTT	F	44	57
Matt Duchene	DAL	F	48	77	Vladislav Gavrikov	L.A	D	44	199
Tomas Hertl	VGK	F	48	133	Anze Kopitar	L.A	F	50	97

Jason Robertson (DAL), Filip Forsberg (NSH) and Tomas Hertl (VGK) have played exceptionally well over the third quarter of the season.

Sometimes, a player goes cold for a portion of the season: Vladislav Gavrikov has gone freezing cold, getting only four points over the third quarter of the season.

Top 5 Goalies

Goalies were rated by Goalie Expected Points, which is shortened to GxPts. It is based on a goalie's time on ice; his goals against and his expected goals against all game situations are included. GxPts estimates how many points an average team would get with a specific goalie in the nets. For more details, see *Goalie Expected Points – A Rating System*.

Rank Q3	Player	Team	GxPts	Rank Q2
1	Connor Hellebuyck	WPG	58.8	1
2	Andrei Vasilevskiy	T.B	53.5	8
2	Mackenzie Blackwood	COL, S.J	49.6	10
4	Jake Oettinger	DAL	47.6	6
4	Sam Montembeault	MTL	47.1	4

Just out of the top five are Igor Shesterkin (NYR, 46.0 GxPts), Joey Daccord (SEA, 45.7) and Logan Thompson (WSH, 44.7).

Hellebuyck's lead is still impressive, but it's not as big as it was after 40 games.

Summary

I strive to be fair to players, but there is an unavoidable touch of unfairness to mid-season evaluations: they favour players from teams that have played the most games.

It was fun doing these mid-season ratings, but it also confirmed that there is no way I'd increase how frequently ratings are published. It takes too much time to do it regularly.

Related Articles

Introduction to Productivity Rating

Goalie Expected Points – A Rating System

2024 Progress – 20 Games

2024 Progress – 40 Games