



NBA ROSTERS FEATURE RECORD-TYING 125 INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS FROM RECORD-TYING 43 COUNTRIES ACROSS SIX CONTINENTS

– Opening-Night Rosters Feature 23 Players from and with ties to Canada, which is Most-Represented Country Outside the U.S. for 11th Consecutive Season –

– All 30 Teams Feature at Least One International Player –

– Oklahoma City Thunder and Portland Trail Blazers Have League-High Seven International Players Each –

NEW YORK, Oct. 22, 2024 – The National Basketball Association (NBA) today announced that a record-tying 125 international players from a record-tying 43 countries across six continents are on opening-night rosters for the 2024-25 season, including a record number of players from Australia (13), Germany (8) and Cameroon (5), and a record-tying 14 players from France and 17 from the continent of Africa. Opening-night rosters feature at least 120 international players for the fourth consecutive season and at least 100 international players for the 11th straight season. All 30 NBA teams feature at least one international player.

The records for international players and countries and territories represented were set at the start of the 2023-24 and 2017-18 seasons, respectively.

For the 11th consecutive season, Canada is the most-represented country outside of the U.S. with 21 players, followed by France, Australia, Germany and Serbia (6). There are 61 European players on opening-night rosters, including four members of the 2023-24 Kia All-NBA Team: 2021 NBA champion and two-time Kia NBA Most Valuable Player (MVP) Giannis Antetokounmpo (Milwaukee Bucks; Greece; ties to Nigeria), five-time NBA All-Star and All-NBA First Team member Luka Dončić (Dallas Mavericks; Slovenia), 2023 NBA champion and three-time Kia NBA MVP Nikola Jokić (Denver Nuggets; Serbia), and three-time NBA All-Star Domantas Sabonis (Sacramento Kings; Lithuania). The record-tying 17 players from Africa, including a record five players from Cameroon, are headlined by 2022-23 Kia NBA MVP and seven-time NBA All-Star Joel Embiid (Philadelphia 76ers).

The Oklahoma City Thunder and the Portland Trail Blazers feature a league-high seven international players each, followed by the Atlanta Hawks, Mavericks, Houston Rockets, Orlando Magic and Toronto Raptors with six each.

Below are additional international player milestones and storylines for the upcoming season:

- Three international players have won the last six Kia NBA MVP Awards: Embiid (2022-23), Jokić (2023-24, 2021-22 and 2020-21) and Antetokounmpo (2019-20 and 2018-19). Last season also marked the third consecutive season that three international players finished top three in MVP voting: Jokić, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander (Thunder; Canada) and Dončić. Antetokounmpo and the Bucks visit Embiid and the 76ers on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. ET on ESPN in the season opener for both teams. Gilgeous-Alexander and the Thunder visit Jokić and the Nuggets on Thursday, Oct. 24 at 10 p.m. ET on TNT in the season opener for both teams.
- There are 15 international players on opening-night rosters who have been NBA All-Stars: Antetokounmpo, Dončić, Embiid, Gilgeous-Alexander, Rudy Gobert (Minnesota Timberwolves; France), Al Horford (Boston Celtics; Dominican Republic), Kyrie Irving (Mavericks; Australia), Jokić, Lauri Markkanen (Utah Jazz; Finland), Kristaps Porziņģis (Celtics; Latvia), Sabonis, Pascal Siakam (Indiana Pacers; Cameroon), Ben Simmons (Brooklyn Nets; Australia), Nikola Vučević (Chicago Bulls; Montenegro) and Andrew Wiggins (Golden State Warriors; Canada).
- At least five international players have made the Kia All-NBA Team each season since 2018-19.
- As part of the [2024-25 NBA GM Survey](#), Gilgeous-Alexander (No. 1), Dončić (No. 2), and Embiid and Jokić (T- No. 3 with the Celtics' Jayson Tatum) were voted as the players most likely to win the 2024-25 Kia NBA MVP Award (40%, 30% and 7% of votes, respectively).
- Four international players were voted as the players GMs would most want to sign if they were starting a franchise today: 2023-24 Kia NBA Rookie of the Year Victor Wembanyama (San Antonio Spurs; France; ties to the Democratic Republic of the Congo; 77% of votes), Gilgeous-Alexander (10% of votes), Jokić (10% of votes) and Dončić (3% of votes). Wembanyama and the Spurs visit Dončić and the Mavericks on Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. ET on TNT in the season opener for both teams.
- There are also a number of American players with ties to other countries as well as more than 35 players with at least one parent from an African country. Among the American players with ties to other countries are Bam Adebayo (Miami Heat; ties to Nigeria), Jalen Green (Rockets; ties to the Philippines), Karl-Anthony Towns (New York Knicks; ties to the Dominican Republic) and Jaylin Williams (Thunder; ties to Vietnam).

The 79th NBA regular season tips off tonight with a doubleheader on TNT and will reach fans in 214 countries and territories in 60 languages through the league's broadcast partners around the world and NBA League Pass, the league's premium live game subscription service available via the NBA App. In the first game, Horford and the defending NBA champion Celtics will receive their championship rings before hosting OG Anunoby (United Kingdom; ties to Nigeria), Towns and the Knicks (7:30 p.m. ET). In the second game, Gobert and the Timberwolves visit Rui Hachimura (Japan) and the Los Angeles Lakers (10 p.m. ET).

Below is the full list of international players on 2024-25 opening-night rosters (active and inactive):

Country	Name	Team	Ties
Angola	Bruno Fernando	Toronto Raptors	
Australia	Dyson Daniels	Atlanta Hawks	
Australia	Ben Simmons	Brooklyn Nets	
Australia	Josh Green	Charlotte Hornets	
Australia	Josh Giddey	Chicago Bulls	
Australia	Luke Travers*	Cleveland Cavaliers	
Australia	Danté Exum	Dallas Mavericks	
Australia	Kyrie Irving	Dallas Mavericks	
Australia	Jack McVeigh*	Houston Rockets	

Australia	Jock Landale	Houston Rockets	
Australia	Johnny Furphy	Indiana Pacers	Ties to Papua New Guinea
Australia	Joe Ingles	Minnesota Timberwolves	
Australia	Alex Ducas*	Oklahoma City Thunder	
Australia	Patty Mills	Utah Jazz	
Austria	Jakob Poeltl	Toronto Raptors	
Bahamas	Buddy Hield	Golden State Warriors	
Bahamas	Kai Jones*	LA Clippers	
Bahamas	Deandre Ayton	Portland Trail Blazers	Ties to Nigeria
Belgium	Ajay Mitchell*	Oklahoma City Thunder	
Belgium	Toumani Camara	Portland Trail Blazers	Ties to Mali
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Karlo Matković	New Orleans Pelicans	Ties to Croatia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jusuf Nurkić	Phoenix Suns	
Brazil	Gui Santos	Golden State Warriors	
Cameroon	Pascal Siakam	Indiana Pacers	
Cameroon	Christian Koloko*	Los Angeles Lakers	
Cameroon	Yves Missi	New Orleans Pelicans	
Cameroon	Joel Embiid	Philadelphia 76ers	
Cameroon	Ulrich Chomche*	Toronto Raptors	
Canada	Tristan Thompson	Cleveland Cavaliers	
Canada	Dwight Powell	Dallas Mavericks	
Canada	Olivier-Maxence Prosper	Dallas Mavericks	Ties to Haiti
Canada	Jamal Murray	Denver Nuggets	
Canada	Andrew Wiggins	Golden State Warriors	
Canada	Dillon Brooks	Houston Rockets	
Canada	Andrew Nembhard	Indiana Pacers	
Canada	Benedict Mathurin	Indiana Pacers	Ties to Haiti
Canada	Brandon Clarke	Memphis Grizzlies	
Canada	Zach Edey	Memphis Grizzlies	
Canada	Leonard Miller	Minnesota Timberwolves	
Canada	Nickeil Alexander-Walker	Minnesota Timberwolves	
Canada	Luguentz Dort	Oklahoma City Thunder	
Canada	Caleb Houston	Orlando Magic	
Canada	Cory Joseph	Orlando Magic	Ties to Trinidad and Tobago
Canada	Dalano Banton	Portland Trail Blazers	
Canada	Shaedon Sharpe	Portland Trail Blazers	
Canada	Trey Lyles	Sacramento Kings	
Canada	Kelly Olynyk	Toronto Raptors	
Canada	RJ Barrett	Toronto Raptors	
Canada	Shai Gilgeous-Alexander	Oklahoma City Thunder	
China	Yongxi Cui*	Brooklyn Nets	
Croatia	Bojan Bogdanović	Brooklyn Nets	
Croatia	Dario Šarić	Denver Nuggets	
Croatia	Ivica Zubac	LA Clippers	
Czech Republic	Vít Krejčí	Atlanta Hawks	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Jonathan Kuminga	Golden State Warriors	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Oscar Tshiebwe*	Utah Jazz	
Dominican Republic	Al Horford	Boston Celtics	
Dominican Republic	Chris Duarte	Chicago Bulls	
Finland	Lauri Markkanen	Utah Jazz	
France	Zaccharie Risacher	Atlanta Hawks	
France	Moussa Diabaté*	Charlotte Hornets	Ties to Guinea and Mali
France	Tidjane Salaün	Charlotte Hornets	

France	Nicolas Batum	LA Clippers	Ties to Cameroon
France	Armel Traoré*	Los Angeles Lakers	Ties to Mali
France	Rudy Gobert	Minnesota Timberwolves	
France	Pacôme Dadiet	New York Knicks	Ties to Côte d'Ivoire
France	Ousmane Dieng	Oklahoma City Thunder	Ties to Senegal
France	Guerschon Yabusele	Philadelphia 76ers	Ties to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
France	Rayan Rupert	Portland Trail Blazers	Ties to Morocco
France	Sidy Cissoko	San Antonio Spurs	Ties to Senegal
France	Victor Wembanyama	San Antonio Spurs	Ties to the Democratic Republic of the Congo
France	Alex Sarr	Washington Wizards	Ties to Senegal
France	Bilal Coulibaly	Washington Wizards	Ties to Mali
Georgia	Goga Bitadze	Orlando Magic	
Georgia	Sandro Mamukelashvili	San Antonio Spurs	
Germany	Dennis Schröder	Brooklyn Nets	Ties to The Gambia
Germany	Maxi Kleber	Dallas Mavericks	
Germany	Daniel Theis	New Orleans Pelicans	
Germany	Ariel Hukporti*	New York Knicks	Ties to Togo
Germany	Isaiah Hartenstein	Oklahoma City Thunder	
Germany	Tristan da Silva	Orlando Magic	
Germany	Franz Wagner	Orlando Magic	
Germany	Moritz Wagner	Orlando Magic	
Greece	Giannis Antetokounmpo	Milwaukee Bucks	Ties to Nigeria
Israel	Deni Avdija	Portland Trail Blazers	
Italy	Simone Fontecchio	Detroit Pistons	
Jamaica	Nick Richards	Charlotte Hornets	
Japan	Rui Hachimura	Los Angeles Lakers	Ties to Benin
Japan	Yuki Kawamura*	Memphis Grizzlies	
Latvia	Kristaps Porziņģis	Boston Celtics	
Lithuania	Domantas Sabonis	Sacramento Kings	
Lithuania	Jonas Valančiūnas	Washington Wizards	
Mali	Adama Sanogo*	Chicago Bulls	
Mali	N'Faly Dante*	Houston Rockets	
Montenegro	Nikola Vučević	Chicago Bulls	
Netherlands	Quinten Post*	Golden State Warriors	
Netherlands	Jesse Edwards*	Minnesota Timberwolves	
New Zealand	Steven Adams	Houston Rockets	
Nigeria	Precious Achiuwa	New York Knicks	
Nigeria	Adem Bona	Philadelphia 76ers	Ties to Turkey
Nigeria	Josh Okogie	Phoenix Suns	
Nigeria	Charles Bassey	San Antonio Spurs	
Portugal	Neemias Queta	Boston Celtics	Ties to Guinea-Bissau
Senegal	Mouhamed Gueye	Atlanta Hawks	
Serbia	Bogdan Bogdanović	Atlanta Hawks	
Serbia	Vasilije Micić	Charlotte Hornets	
Serbia	Nikola Jokić	Denver Nuggets	
Serbia	Nikola Jović	Miami Heat	
Serbia	Nikola Topić	Oklahoma City Thunder	
Serbia	Tristan Vukčević	Washington Wizards	Ties to Sweden
Slovenia	Vlatko Čančar	Denver Nuggets	
Slovenia	Luka Dončić	Dallas Mavericks	
South Sudan	Duop Reath	Portland Trail Blazers	Ties to Australia
Spain	Santi Aldama	Memphis Grizzlies	
St. Lucia	Chris Boucher	Toronto Raptors	Ties to Canada

Sudan	Bol Bol	Phoenix Suns	
Sweden	Bobi Klintman	Detroit Pistons	
Sweden	Pelle Larsson	Miami Heat	
Switzerland	Clint Capela	Atlanta Hawks	Ties to Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Switzerland	Kyshawn George	Washington Wizards	Ties to Canada and France
Turkey	Alperen Sengun	Houston Rockets	
Ukraine	Alex Len	Sacramento Kings	
Ukraine	Svi Mykhailiuk	Utah Jazz	
United Kingdom	OG Anunoby	New York Knicks	Ties to Nigeria
United Kingdom	Jeremy Sochan	San Antonio Spurs	Ties to Poland

* - *Two-Way Player*

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Contact

Ashton Lawrence, NBA, (416) 788-6004, ashlawrence@nba.com