



NBA season preview 2024-25

REGULAR SEASON: OCT 22, 2024 - APR 13, 2025

NBA FINALS TIP-OFF: JUN 5, 2025

NBA Franchises

Two conferences, each with 15 teams divided into three divisions:

Regular season games

EASTERN CONFERENCE

WESTERN CONFERENCE

82

The 79th National Basketball Association season launches with the **Boston Celtics** as reigning champions after beating **Dallas Mavericks** in the 2024 NBA Finals – clinching record 18th title, to surpass fierce rivals the **Los Angeles Lakers** (17)

This year features second edition of **Emirates NBA Cup** before traditional play-offs decide Eastern and Western champions to clash in **NBA Finals**

OFFENSIVE MASTERCLASS: Luka Dončić (left) topped scoring charts last season – one of seven players to tally over 2,000 points

MOST POINTS IN NBA 2023-24

Regular season	Per game	
Luka Dončić DAL	33.9	2370
Shai Gilgeous-Alexander OKC	30.1	2254
Giannis Antetokounmpo MIL	30.4	2222
Jalen Brunson NYK	28.7	2212
Nikola Jokić DEN	26.4	2085
Anthony Edwards MIN	25.9	2049
Kevin Durant PHX	27.1	2032

MONEY GAME: Celtics star **Jayson Tatum** (below) signed five-year extension in July – reportedly largest contract in NBA history. Tatum averaged 26.9pts in regular season in 2023-24, while teammate **Jaylen Brown** hit 23.0pts per game

Jayson Tatum	Boston	2025-29	\$314m
Jaylen Brown	Boston	2024-28	\$285m
Nikola Jokić	Denver	2023-27	\$276m
Bradley Beal	Phoenix	2022-26	\$251m
Anthony Edwards	Minnesota	2024-28	\$245m
Tyrese Haliburton	Indiana	2024-28	\$245m
G. Antetokounmpo	Milwaukee	2021-25	\$228m

GUIDE TO BASKETBALL: OBJECTIVE

Two teams of five players try to score points by shooting ball into opposition's basket – switching between offence and defence



Zaccharie Risacher

French forward selected by **Atlanta** as first overall pick of NBA draft

Opening fixtures

Away team	All games Oct 23 except where indicated	Home team
New York Knicks	TD Garden (Oct 22)	Boston Celtics
Minnesota T'wolves	Crypto.com Arena (Oct 22)	Los Angeles Lakers
Indiana Pacers	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit Pistons
Brooklyn Nets	State Farm Arena	Atlanta Hawks
Orlando Magic	Kaseya Center	Miami Heat
Milwaukee Bucks	Wells Fargo Center	Philadelphia 76ers
Cleveland Cavaliers	Scotiabank Arena	Toronto Raptors
Charlotte Hornets*	Toyota Center	Houston Rockets
Chicago Bulls*	Smoothie King Center	New Orleans Pelicans
Memphis Grizzlies	Delta Center	Utah Jazz
Phoenix Suns	Intuit Dome	Los Angeles Clippers
Golden State Warriors	Moda Center	Portland Trail Blazers
Boston Celtics	Capital One Arena (Oct 24)	Washington Wizards
San Antonio Spurs	American Airlines Center (Oct 24)	Dallas Mavericks
Oklahoma City Thunder	Ball Arena (Oct 24)	Denver Nuggets
Minnesota T'wolves	Golden 1 Center (Oct 24)	Sacramento Kings

*Interleague game between Eastern and Western conference

NBA FINALS: Eastern Conference teams hold 41-37 series advantage over Western Conference

2024	Boston	bt	Dallas	4-1
2023	Denver		Miami	4-1
2022	Warriors		Boston	4-2
2021	Milwaukee		Phoenix	4-2
2020	LA Lakers		Miami	4-2
2019	Toronto		Warriors	4-2
2018	Warriors		Cleveland	4-0
2017	Warriors		Cleveland	4-1
2016	Cleveland		Warriors	4-3
2015	Warriors		Cleveland	4-2

Source: NBA
Pictures: Getty Images

© GRAPHIC NEWS

Bronny James

LA Lakers. Set to make history with **LeBron James** as first father-son duo to play in NBA regular season

