Scouting IND · from Denver's side

Indiana Pacers

2026-27: 9 games (Oct 21 @ NOP · Oct 23 vs DAL · Oct 25 @ BKN · Oct 26 @ MIL · Oct 28 vs PHI · Oct 30 @ MIA · Nov 1 vs BKN · Nov 2 vs ATL · Nov 4 @ MEM) · baseline 2025-26 regular season

DEN @ IND
Sat Nov 7, 2026 · 5:00 PM ET
Game 0022600189

INJURY REPORT & SCHEDULE · official report of 2026-11-07, read 2026-11-07 20:45 UTC; statuses as listed, no reasons

IND Ben Sheppard: Out · Johnny Furphy: Out · Tyrese Haliburton: Out · Kelly Oubre Jr.: Questionable · T.J. McConnell: Questionable

DEN Julian Strawther: Out · DeMar DeRozan: Probable

IND: 2 days of rest, previous game Nov 4 @ MEM.

IN TEN SECONDS

1. **Last season: 8th-fewest rim attempts (28%), 2nd-worst offensive rebounding (26.3%), 7th-fewest turnovers forced (13.5/100), 7th-most fouls (20.9/g).**
2. **Scoring last season: P. Siakam 23.9/g (21.2 so far), A. Nembhard 16.9/g (19.0 so far), K. Oubre Jr. 14.1/g (9.4 so far).**

TEAM KEYS

- Shot profile last season: 46% paint attempts (6th fewest); 28% at the rim (8th fewest); 42% 3PA share (14th of 30). Chase Nesmith 38%, Nembhard 36%, Oubre Jr. 36%, Walker 37%, Slawson 38%; wall up on Nance Jr., Zubac.
- Soft rim protection: get 33% of their shots there (4th most). Get downhill; finish at the rim.
- They run shooters off the line: opponents take only 38% of their shots from 3 (fewest in the league). Attack closeouts.
- They don't crash: 26.3% OREB% (2nd worst). Leak out early.
- Few second chances: 11% of their FGA (4th fewest). One shot and out; run.
- 68% of their makes are assisted (5th most). Take away the pass; stay home.

STARTERS · LAST GAME

43 Pascal Siakam

F · 6-9 · age 32 · 10 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 IND · 62 GP · 33.2 MPG · 23.9 pts · 6.6 reb · 3.8 ast · 35.8% 3P on 4.7 3PA · 69% FT

26-27 8 GP · 31.9 MPG · 21.2 pts · 7.1 reb · 3.8 ast · 30% 3P on 4.1 3PA

3P% **average** · Rim FG% **good** · FT% **bad** · Ball security **excellent** · Gets to line **excellent**

- Capable 3: 35.8% on 4.7/g (49th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.
- Downhill driver: 35% of his shots are drives at 58% (74th pct). Show early help, wall up, make him pass.

2 Andrew Nembhard

G-F · 6-4 · age 26 · 4 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 IND · 57 GP · 31.3 MPG · 16.9 pts · 2.8 reb · 7.7 ast · 36.1% 3P on 5.2 3PA · 82% FT

26-27 7 GP · 33.4 MPG · 19.0 pts · 2.1 reb · 6.9 ast · 40% 3P on 6.1 3PA

3P% **above average** · Rim FG% **bad** · FT% **good** · Ball security **below average** · Gets to line **good**

- Capable 3: 36.1% on 5.2/g (51st pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.
- Pressure him: 13.8 TO per 100 usage (below average, 28th pct), 40% of them bad passes; 17 TO in 7 games so far. Hands in the lanes; 7.7 AST/g, so stay home on shooters when he drives.
- Pull-up shooter: 43% of his shots are pull-ups (97th pct, 40%). Stay attached over screens; contest without fouling.

23 Aaron Nesmith

G-F · 6-5 · age 27 · 6 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 IND · 45 GP · 29.7 MPG · 13.8 pts · 4.2 reb · 1.9 ast · 37.9% 3P on 6.2 3PA · 83% FT

26-27 7 GP · 24.1 MPG · 12.7 pts · 2.0 reb · 1.9 ast · 31% 3P on 5.6 3PA

3P% **good** · FT% **good** · Ball security **good** · Gets to line **below average**

- Knockdown 3: 37.9% on 6.2/g (69th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.

3 Braden Smith

G · 5-11 · age 23 · rookie · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT

26-27 6 GP · 13.9 MPG · 5.0 pts · 0.8 reb · 2.8 ast · 2/6 3P

40 Ivica Zubac

C · 7-0 · age 29 · 10 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 IND/LAC · 48 GP · 30.1 MPG · 14.1 pts · 10.6 reb · 2.2 ast · – 3P on 0.0 3PA · 71% FT

26-27 4 GP · 20.8 MPG · 7.0 pts · 7.8 reb · 1.5 ast · 0/0 3P

Rim FG% **good** · FT% **bad** · Ball security **below average** · Gets to line **good**

- Non-shooter (0.0 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.
- Lives at the rim: 57% of his shots in the restricted area, 68% there. Build the wall, no straight-line drives.
- Pressure him: 13.6 TO per 100 usage (below average, 30th pct), 26% of them bad passes; 7 TO in 4 games so far. Hands in the lanes.

BENCH

5 Jarace Walker
F · 6-7 · age 23 · 3 yrs · STARTED 2 OF 9

25-26 IND · 76 GP · 25.7 MPG · 11.6 pts · 5.1 reb · 2.5 ast · 37.4% 3P on 4.7 3PA · 75% FT
26-27 9 GP · 23.8 MPG · 7.2 pts · 6.3 reb · 2.0 ast · 31% 3P on 3.6 3PA

3P% good · Rim FG% bad · FT% below average · Ball security bad · Gets to line above average

- New this season: drive family share of FGA down, 31% -> 18% (65 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Knockdown 3: 37.4% on 4.7/g (65th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Pressure him: 14.6 TO per 100 usage (bad, 20th pct), 37% of them bad passes; 16 TO in 9 games so far. Hands in the lanes.

29 Quenton Jackson
G · 6-4 · age 28 · 4 yrs · STARTED 1 OF 9

25-26 IND · 49 GP · 18.3 MPG · 9.1 pts · 2.3 reb · 2.9 ast · 35.6% 3P on 2.4 3PA · 82% FT
26-27 9 GP · 21.8 MPG · 10.4 pts · 3.4 reb · 2.7 ast · 33% 3P on 3.3 3PA

3P% average · Rim FG% average · FT% good · Ball security below average · Gets to line excellent

- Lives at the line: 0.36 FTA per FGA (excellent, 84th pct), 2.5 fouls drawn/g, 82% FT. Verticality, hands back, no reach.
- 2.4 3PA/g at 35.6%: contest, don't over-help.
- Downhill driver: 44% of his shots are drives at 60% (91st pct). Show early help, wall up, make him pass.

10 Kelly Oubre Jr.
F-G · 6-7 · age 30 · 11 yrs · Questionable · STARTED 5 OF 7 · DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME · NEW · PHI LAST SEASON

25-26 PHI · 50 GP · 31.5 MPG · 14.1 pts · 5.0 reb · 1.6 ast · 36.0% 3P on 4.8 3PA · 77% FT
26-27 7 GP · 23.2 MPG · 9.4 pts · 2.6 reb · 1.6 ast · 26% 3P on 3.9 3PA

3P% above average · Rim FG% average · FT% below average · Ball security good · Gets to line above average

- Capable 3: 36.0% on 4.8/g (51st pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.
- Corner specialist: 46% from the corners (88 att), 30% above the break (151). No help off the corners; help off him on top.

32 Jay Huff
C · 7-1 · age 29 · 5 yrs · STARTED 5 OF 8

25-26 IND · 82 GP · 21.0 MPG · 9.6 pts · 4.0 reb · 1.5 ast · 31.9% 3P on 4.5 3PA · 83% FT
26-27 8 GP · 19.2 MPG · 8.0 pts · 3.9 reb · 1.1 ast · 31% 3P on 3.2 3PA

3P% bad · Rim FG% elite · FT% good · Ball security good · Gets to line bad

- Elite finisher: 76% at the rim (94th pct) on 182 attempts, 30% of his shots. No free runs; build the wall early.
- New this season: share of FGA from Corner 3 up, 8% -> 22% (46 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Volume 3s at 31.9%, 4.5/g (18th pct): make him shoot contested, no fly-bys.

1 Obi Toppin
F · 6-9 · age 28 · 6 yrs

25-26 IND · 24 GP · 17.7 MPG · 11.6 pts · 4.4 reb · 2.3 ast · 35.2% 3P on 4.4 3PA · 91% FT
26-27 6 GP · 22.2 MPG · 14.5 pts · 5.2 reb · 1.2 ast · 41% 3P on 4.8 3PA

3P% average

- Capable 3: 35.2% on 4.4/g (45th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

0 Tyrese Haliburton
G · 6-5 · age 26 · 6 yrs · Out · STARTED 4 OF 4 · DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 4 GP · 33.0 MPG · 21.8 pts · 4.5 reb · 9.5 ast · 37% 3P on 6.8 3PA

22 Larry Nance Jr.
F-C · 6-8 · age 33 · 11 yrs · NEW · CLE LAST SEASON · FOUL TARGET

25-26 CLE · 34 GP · 12.8 MPG · 3.7 pts · 2.7 reb · 1.0 ast · 32.8% 3P on 1.8 3PA · 46% FT
26-27 8 GP · 16.0 MPG · 3.4 pts · 3.2 reb · 0.6 ast · 5/17 3P

- Low-volume, 32.8% from 3 (1.8/g): help off him in the gaps.
- Foul-prone: 4.5 PF per 36 (2025-26 regular season). Attack him early; get him to two.

18 Jalen Slawson
F · 6-7 · age 27 · 2 yrs · STARTED 1 OF 8

25-26 IND · 13 GP · 23.9 MPG · 7.3 pts · 4.4 reb · 2.8 ast · 37.5% 3P on 3.1 3PA · 71% FT
26-27 8 GP · 15.2 MPG · 3.8 pts · 3.4 reb · 1.0 ast · 2/9 3P

- Knockdown 3: 37.5% on 3.1/g. No help off him; run him off the line.

24 Kobe Brown
F · 6-7 · age 26 · 3 yrs

25-26 IND/LAC · 61 GP · 15.8 MPG · 5.8 pts · 3.0 reb · 1.3 ast · 37.4% 3P on 2.3 3PA · 80% FT
26-27 6 GP · 13.6 MPG · 4.7 pts · 2.3 reb · 1.0 ast · 3/12 3P

3P% good · Rim FG% below average · Ball security bad

- Pressure him: 15.1 TO per 100 usage (bad, 17th pct), 47% of them bad passes; 3 TO in 6 games so far. Hands in the lanes.
- Takes 2.3 3s/g at 37.4% (66th pct): respect it, closeout.

26 Ben Sheppard
G · 6-6 · age 25 · 3 yrs · Out · DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 IND · 65 GP · 21.4 MPG · 7.1 pts · 3.0 reb · 1.8 ast · 36.2% 3P on 3.6 3PA · 76% FT
26-27 1 GP · 12.2 MPG · 3.0 pts · 1.0 reb · 0.0 ast · 1/2 3P

3P% above average · Rim FG% bad · Ball security excellent · Gets to line bad

- Poor finisher: 60% at the rim (bad, 14th pct) on 109 attempts. Meet him at the rim; verticality, no fouls.
- Doesn't turn it over: 9.1 TO per 100 usage (83rd pct). Don't gamble for steals; play him straight up.
- Capable 3: 36.2% on 3.6/g (53rd pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

Not seen yet: J. Furphy (#12 G, IND 18.4 MPG last season), T. McConnell (#9 G, IND 17.2 MPG last season).

GAME PLAN BOXES

FOUL HIM LATE (FT)

- **P. Siakam** — 69% FT (378 FTA, 14th pct), 12/22 in clutch
- **I. Zubac** — 71% FT (142 FTA, 18th pct), 17/22 in clutch
- **J. Walker** — 75% FT (183 FTA, 32nd pct)
- Don't foul: A. Nesmith 83% FT; J. Huff 83% FT; A. Nembhard 82% FT; Q. Jackson 82% FT

FOUL TROUBLE

- **L. Nance Jr.** — 4.5 PF per 36 (2025-26 regular season). Attack him early; get him to two

SHOT PROFILE · ZONES AND DIET

SHOT ZONES · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Restricted area	28%	64%	29%	68%
Paint (non-RA)	18%	45%	19%	50%
Mid-range	12%	41%	9%	34%
Corner 3	10%	37%	13%	36%
Above the break 3	32%	35%	29%	32%

SHOT DIET · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Pull-ups	18%	39%	19%	36%
Drives	27%	55%	29%	59%
Finishes	8%	68%	9%	62%
Catch-and-shoot 3s	31%	36%	29%	32%
Other shots	17%	46%	14%	55%

Zones from the play-by-play (corner 3s merged), FG% on those attempts. Diet from the shot descriptors: pull-ups (pull-ups and step-backs), drives (2s driving or on the run), finishes (cuts, putbacks, alley-oops, tips), catch-and-shoot 3s (3s with no descriptor: a proxy, the feed records no touch time), other shots (turnarounds, fadeaways, floaters and every other move, and 2s with no descriptor). Bars: last season's share of FGA.

3 player rates flagged as changed from last season (bullets starting 'New this season'); 0 team-level (under Team keys).

ROTATION · LAST SEASON RATES

#	PLAYER	MIN 26-27	MPG 25-26	FGA/G	3PA SHARE	3P%	RA SHARE	RA FG%	FT%	PULL-UP SHARE	DRIVE SHARE	C&S 3 SHARE	AST'D SHARE	TO/100 USAGE	FTA/FGA	PF/36	FOULS DRAWN/G	FLAGS
43	P. Siakam	255.0	33.2	18.6	25%	35.8%	30%	68%	69%	14%	35%	76%	55%	9.5	0.33	2.6	5.2	0
2	A. Nembhard	233.6	31.3	13.2	39%	36.1%	19%	60%	82%	43%	25%	47%	45%	13.8	0.31	2.5	3.3	0
5	J. Walker	213.9	25.7	9.6	49%	37.4%	23%	58%	75%	18%	31%	71%	77%	14.6	0.25	2.3	1.7	1
29	Q. Jackson	196.1	18.3	6.7	36%	35.6%	42%	65%	82%	19%	44%	63%	67%	14.0	0.36	3.3	2.5	0
23	A. Nesmith	168.7	29.7	11.4	54%	37.9%	19%	52%	83%	19%	27%	70%	89%	10.1	0.22	3.3	2.6	0
10	K. Oubre Jr.	162.4	31.5	10.9	44%	36.0%	29%	66%	77%	13%	30%	82%	67%	10.2	0.27	2.9	2.5	0
32	J. Huff	154.0	21.0	7.5	61%	31.9%	30%	76%	83%	2%	15%	87%	88%	10.4	0.16	4.1	1.3	2
1	O. Toppin	133.3	17.7	8.3	53%	35.2%	32%	77%	91%	12%	17%	77%	83%	11.3	0.23	2.4	1.7	0
0	T. Haliburton	132.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
22	L. Nance Jr.	128.3	12.8	3.6	50%	32.8%	36%	58%	46%	1%	11%	92%	86%	13.6	0.11	4.5	0.6	0
18	J. Slawson	121.9	23.9	5.9	52%	37.5%	34%	65%	71%	3%	27%	88%	91%	16.8	0.22	3.1	1.5	0
3	B. Smith	83.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
40	I. Zubac	83.0	30.1	10.0	0%	–	57%	68%	71%	0%	19%	–	67%	13.6	0.29	2.8	3.1	0
24	K. Brown	81.6	15.8	4.4	51%	37.4%	40%	64%	80%	8%	28%	84%	69%	15.1	0.22	2.6	0.9	0
26	B. Sheppard	12.2	21.4	6.0	60%	36.2%	28%	60%	76%	11%	25%	75%	86%	9.1	0.13	3.0	0.7	0

HOW TO READ IT

Baseline = 2025-26 regular season (82 games; a player's baseline covers every game he played, with any team). Recent = 2026-27 (9 games). For each rate, shrink the recent proportion toward the baseline with a Beta prior of strength m (empirical-Bayes flavour): p1_shrunk = (k1 + m*p0)/(n1 + m), with m = 60 for shot-diet / zone / assisted shares, m = 250 for FG%-type rates (rim FG%, 3P%; 3P% needs ~750 attempts to stabilize, so a 10-game 3P% is almost never flaggable by design), m = 60 for turnover rate. FLAG when |p1_shrunk - p0| >= 0.06 AND |z| >= 2.0 where z = (k1/n1 - p0)/sqrt(p0*(1-p0)/n1) (raw recent proportion against the baseline proportion, SE from p0) AND n1 >= 15 recent trials. Here the windows are disjoint.

Grades are words on one scale: elite ≥ 90th percentile, excellent 75–89, good 60–74, above average 50–59, average 40–49, below average 25–39, bad < 25. Shooting and ball-security percentiles are computed from the play-by-play among qualified players (3P% 100+ 3PA, rim FG% 100+ restricted-area attempts, FT% 75+ FTA, rates per FGA 300+ FGA, ball security 300+ usage events). Starters are the players who started the team's last game. Statuses are the official injury report's, as listed, with the report's date and the time it was read, never a reason; a carded player listed at either of the two most serious statuses keeps his card but leaves the free-throw and foul boxes. Every sentence above is produced from these numbers by fixed templates.

Computed by NightlyHoops from play-by-play and box scores of regular-season games, and the league's official injury report (statuses only). Data collected 2026-11-07; report built 2026-11-07 20:45 UTC.