

NOTES

under John Calipari, UK is 7-5 when both teams are ranked in the AP top five

- All-time, Calipari is 13-9 when both teams are ranked in the AP top five
- When both teams are ranked in the AP Top 25, Calipari's all-time record is 92-68, including a 61-40 mark at Kentucky
- When both are ranked in the top 10 he has a 27-23 record, including 16-16 at UK
- By defeating top-ranked Michigan State to start the 2019-20 season, UK knocked off the No. 1 team in consecutive seasons for the first time in school history. Kentucky downed Tennessee on Feb. 19, 2019
- With the win over MSU to begin 2019-20, the Wildcats have nine victories over the No. 1 team in 24 tries in program history
- Calipari is 6-5 all-time against the No. 1 ranked team

Always Efficient

According to Ken Pomeroy's calculations on kenpom.com, Kentucky teams under John Calipari have consistently ranked among the most efficient teams in the country per possession. Pomeroy's rankings as of Feb. 18, 2024:

Season	Offense (Rank)	Defense (Rank)	Overall
2023-24	120.6 (7)	100.9 (81)	21st
2022-23	116.2 (17)	98.8 (68)	27th
2021-22	120.0 (5)	94.3 (36)	6th
2020-21	108.0 (84)	93.1 (35)	49th
2019-20	112.7 (24)	95.1 (52)	29th
2018-19	117.6 (14)	90.1 (8)	8th
2017-18	115.8 (24)	95.4 (22)	17th
2016-17	119.1 (12)	91.4 (7)	4th
2015-16	120.4 (5)	98.0 (53)	6th
2014-15	119.3 (5)	86.5 (2)	1st
2013-14	117.6 (10)	96.9 (41)	11th
2012-13	108.8 (42)	99.1 (129)	42nd
2011-12	122.9 (2)	88.2 (9)	1st
2010-11	118.1 (7)	90.4 (15)	6th
2009-10	116.1 (15)	86.2 (6)	3rd

Cats Deliver the Knockout Punch

Kentucky is 345-16 (95.6%) in the John Calipari era when leading by at least 10 points at any time in the contest. Twelve of the 16 losses in the Calipari era are to conference opponents.

Perhaps most impressive of all is that 68.8% of games Calipari has coached in at Kentucky have produced 10-point leads at some point during the game for UK. The Wildcats have led by 10 points or more in a whopping 85.2% of Calipari's 405 career wins at Kentucky.

Hold Them to 55 Points, 40%

Defense has always been a recipe for success for the Wildcats under John Calipari. The special ingredient: 55 points. Kentucky is a perfect 90-0 under Calipari when holding the opponent to 55 points or fewer, including 1-0 this season after limiting New Mexico State to 46 points.

The Wildcats are 219-10 (95.6%) under Calipari when limiting the opponent to 63 points or less, including 5-0 this season. Kentucky also fares well when it keeps the competition to 40% or less from the floor. UK is 240-24 (90.9%) vs. opponents under Calipari when their field-goal percentage is 40% or less.

Taking Care of Business

Kentucky's 72-51 record vs. opponents ranked in the Associated Press Top 25 in John Calipari's tenure is impressive, but the Wildcats' ability to beat all comers can't be overlooked. Under Calipari, UK is 333-69 vs. unranked competition, 82.8%.

UK Leads with 26 on NBA Opening-Day Rosters

Kentucky men's basketball's ability to develop and prepare players for the next step continues to manifest itself as 26 former Wildcat student-athletes appeared on NBA opening-day rosters. Kentucky led the nation for the 12th consecutive season with the most alumni on opening-day rosters.

- The total of 26 players on NBA opening-day rosters (including two-way and inactive players) that played and finished their college basketball careers at Kentucky is more than any other college program in the country. Duke, with 24, is the only other school with more than 20 players in the NBA.
- Of the 15 NBA franchises featuring a Wildcat, eight have multiple Kentucky players. New York, Sacramento and Oklahoma City each have a trio of Wildcats on their roster while the Heat, Lakers, Pacers, Bucks and Hornets each have two
- In 14 seasons under head coach John Calipari, 47 players have been selected in the NBA Draft, including 35 first-round selections and three No. 1 overall picks (Anthony Davis, Karl-Anthony Towns and John Wall)
- Calipari has a streak of 16 consecutive drafts with a first-round pick dating back to his time at Memphis
- Calipari is one of only two coaches in the history of the sport to have four players drafted No. 1 overall (Derrick Rose – 2008, Wall – 2010, Davis – 2012, Towns – 2015)
- Using figures compiled by basketball-reference.com and spotrac.com, Calipari-coached players have amassed nearly than \$4 billion in career NBA contracts
- In the 14 seasons Calipari has been the head coach at Kentucky, his players have totaled nearly \$3.5 billion in NBA contracts



A “players-first” coach with a penchant for helping people reach their dreams, John Calipari, a Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Famer, has guided six teams to the Final Four, led one to a national championship and helped 58 players earn selection in the NBA Draft during his 31-year college coaching career.

Calipari guided Kentucky to its eighth national championship and his first national title in 2012. In becoming only the second coach in NCAA history to lead three different schools to the Final Four, he has racked up more than 800 on-court victories, 23 NCAA Tournament on-court appearances, six Final Fours and numerous national coach of the year honors.

From UMass to Memphis and now Kentucky, Calipari’s career has been successful throughout, but his most recent run in Lexington has been the best stretch of his career. During Calipari’s first 14 seasons at UK, he has led all coaches in NCAA Tournament wins (32), Final Fours (four), Elite Eights (seven) and Sweet 16s (eight).

In 2015, Coach Cal led college basketball’s first ever 38-0 team, and became one of just three coaches to make four Final Fours in a five-year span. At the end of the season, Calipari became the 96th coach to join the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

While building a program out of obscurity at UMass, laying the foundation at Memphis and restoring luster at the sport’s greatest program at Kentucky, he totaled the second-most wins in NCAA history in the first 20 years of a college coaching career.

Quite honestly, though, Calipari’s on-court success overshadows a much more significant picture.

In his goal to lead a players-first program, he has helped more than 50 young men realize their dreams and reach the NBA level with 56 players earning NBA Draft selections, including a record five first-round draft picks in 2010. Two years later, six Wildcats heard their names called at the 2012 draft, the most in the two-round draft era. UK, with Calipari’s help, would tie those six picks again in 2015, including a record-tying four lottery selections. His four No. 1 overall picks are more than any other coach, and he has had 45 players drafted during his first 13 years at Kentucky, including 34 first-round picks.

Calipari’s players have entered the league NBA-ready. His players have garnered 39 All-Star selections -- all since 2010 -- with Anthony Davis winning the game’s MVP honor in 2017. Derrick Rose was named NBA MVP in 2011. Six of his players have been tabbed All-NBA (11 times), three have been named NBA Rookie of the Year and 15 players from Calipari’s first 12 teams at Kentucky have made the NBA All-Rookie teams. He is the only coach in history to have a player win each of the NBA’s major honors: MVP, Rookie of the Year, Most Improved Player and Sixth Man of the Year.

Much like he did at UMass, where his players graduated at nearly 80%, Calipari has stressed academics. Seventeen of his last 20 seniors at Memphis earned their bachelor’s degrees, and all 23 players at UK who were eligible to graduate by the end of their senior years walked away with a diploma in hand, including five players who earned their degree in just three years. Calipari’s teams routinely have posted a combined team grade-point average of 3.0 or better.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Date of Birth: Feb. 10, 1959 | **Wife:** Ellen
Children: Erin, Megan, Brad

Education

Clarion State (1982)

Head Coaching Experience

University of Massachusetts (1989-96)

New Jersey Nets (NBA) (1997-99)

University of Memphis (2001-09)

University of Kentucky (2010-present)

COACHING AWARDS

- 2023 Race Amity Medal of Honor
- 2022 Jefferson Award
- 2022 Conference USA Hall of Fame
- 2021 NABC Guardians of the Game Pillar Award - Inclusion
- NABC District 20 Coach of the Year
- USBWA District IV Coach of the Year
- 2020 SEC Coach of the Year (Coaches)
- 2019 *The Sporting News* Coach of the Decade
- 2018 Naismith Hall of Fame 'Service Above Self' Honoree

- 2018 NABC Metropolitan Award
- 2015 Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Inductee
- 2015 AP National Coach of the Year
- 2015 Naismith National Coach of the Year
- 2015 NABC National Coach of the Year
- 2015 The Sporting News National Coach of the Year
- 2015 Adolph Rupp National Coach of the Year
- 2015 SEC Coach of the Year (AP/Coaches)
- 2015 USBWA District IV Coach of the Year
- 2012 Nell & John Wooden Coach of the Year Leadership Award
- 2012 Naismith National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2012 SEC Coach of the Year (AP/Coaches)
- 2010 Adolph Rupp National Coach of the Year
- 2010 Naismith National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2010 SEC Coach of the Year (AP)
- 2010 *Sporting News* SEC Coach of the Year
- 2010 Yahoo! Sports SEC Coach of the Year
- 2010 USBWA District IV Coach of the Year
- 2009 NABC National Co-Coach of the Year
- 2009 *Sports Illustrated* National Coach of the Year
- 2009 Phelan National Coach of the Year
- 2009 Iba National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2009 C-USA Coach of the Year
- 2008 Naismith National Coach of the Year
- 2008 C-USA Coach of the Year
- 2008 Iba National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2008 Phelan National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2007 Phelan National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2007 USBWA District IV Coach of the Year
- 2007 *Basketball Times* South Region Coach of the Year
- 2006 C-USA Coach of the Year
- 2004 NABC District 7 Coach of the Year
- 1996 Naismith National Coach of the Year
- 1996 NABC National Coach of the Year
- 1996 *The Sporting News* National Coach of the Year
- 1996 Atlantic 10 Coach of the Year
- 1995 Naismith National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 1994 Naismith National Coach of the Year Finalist
- 1994 Atlantic 10 Coach of the Year
- 1993 USBWA District I Coach of the Year
- 1993 Atlantic 10 Coach of the Year
- 1992 Eastern Basketball Coach of the Year



