



# List of NBA franchise post-season droughts



This is an **old revision** of this page, as edited by [14.201.207.13 \(talk\)](#) at 09:12, 2 October 2018 (→ *Teams awaiting their first NBA championship: Formatting error*). The present address (URL) is a **permanent link** to this revision, which may differ significantly from the **current revision**.

This is a **list of National Basketball Association (NBA) franchise post-season appearance droughts**. This list includes the all-time and the active consecutive non-playoffs. Aside from the NBA playoff appearance droughts, this list also includes droughts of series wins, appearances in the NBA Finals and NBA championship wins. The teams which have never made an NBA Playoffs appearance, an NBA Finals appearance championship. The oldest such franchise is the Suns (48 seasons), while the Royals/Kings and the Hawks have even longer championship droughts (67 and 60 seasons, respectively). Seven franchises have never been to the NBA Finals, the highest number among the major North American sports.<sup>[1]</sup> The oldest such team is the Braves/Clippers franchise (45 seasons); the Kings and the Hawks have appearance droughts that are even longer (65 and 58 seasons, respectively). The longest a franchise has gone without appearing in the playoffs at all is 15 seasons: the Braves/Clippers franchise from 1977 to 1991.

Of the 18 franchises that have won an NBA championship, 8 have droughts of 35 seasons or more, which is to say that the past 35 championships have been shared among only 10 franchises: the Lakers (8), the Bulls (6), the Spurs (5), the Celtics (3), the Pistons (3), the Heat (3), the Warriors (3), the Rockets (2), the Mavericks (1), and the Cavaliers (1). By contrast, the other three major North American sports have each had at least 16 franchises become champions over the same period of time.<sup>[2][3]</sup>

## Active droughts

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### NBA Playoffs appearance droughts

*Appearance droughts updated through the 2018 playoffs.  
Playoff picture at [NBA.com](#)<sup>[4]</sup>*

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Longest drought in team history

Seasons	Team	Last earned appearance in NBA playoffs	Reference
12	<u>Sacramento Kings</u> ^	<u>2006 First Round</u>	[5]
8	<u>Phoenix Suns</u> ^	<u>2010 Western Finals</u>	[6]
6	<u>Orlando Magic</u> ^	<u>2012 First Round</u>	[7]
5	<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u> ^	<u>2013 First Round</u>	[8]
5	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>2013 First Round</u>	[9]
5	<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>2013 Eastern Semifinals</u>	[10]
3	<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	<u>2015 First Round</u>	[11]
2	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u>	<u>2016 First Round</u>	[12]
2	<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>2016 First Round</u>	[13]
2	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>2016 First Round</u>	[14]
1	<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>2017 First Round</u>	[15]
1	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	<u>2017 First Round</u>	[16]
1	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>2017 First Round</u>	[17]
1	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	<u>2017 First Round</u>	[18]
–	<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[19]
–	<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[20]
–	<u>Washington Wizards</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[21]
–	<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[22]
–	<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[23]
–	<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[24]
–	<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[25]
–	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	<u>2018 First Round</u>	[26]
–	<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u>	<u>2018 Eastern Semifinals</u>	[27]
–	<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	<u>2018 Eastern Semifinals</u>	[28]
–	<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u>	<u>2018 Western Semifinals</u>	[29]
–	<u>Utah Jazz</u>	<u>2018 Western Semifinals</u>	[30]
–	<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>2018 Eastern Finals</u>	[31]
–	<u>Houston Rockets</u>	<u>2018 Western Finals</u>	[32]
–	<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u>	<u>2018 NBA Finals</u>	[33]
–	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>2018 NBA Finals</u>	[34]

# NBA Playoffs series win droughts

*Droughts updated through the 2018 playoffs.  
Playoff picture at [NBA.com](#)<sup>[4]</sup>*

^	Longest drought in team history
†	Tied for Longest drought in team history
♦	Most consecutive series losses in team history
♣ ♣	Most consecutive losses in NBA history

Current Playoff series loss streak

Team	Last series win in NBA Playoffs	Seasons since win	Losing streak	Series losses – teams	Ref
<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u> ^	<u>2001 Eastern Semifinals</u>	17	9 ♣♣	<u>2001</u> Philadelphia <u>2003</u> New Jersey Nets <u>2004</u> Detroit <u>2006</u> Detroit <u>2010</u> Atlanta <u>2013</u> Miami <u>2015</u> Chicago <u>2017</u> Toronto <u>2018</u> Boston	[22]
<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> ^	<u>2002 Eastern First Round</u>	14 <sup>[a]</sup>	4 ♦	<u>2002</u> New Jersey Nets <u>2010</u> Orlando <u>2014</u> Miami <u>2016</u> Miami	[12]
<u>Sacramento Kings</u>	<u>2004 Western First Round</u>	14	3	<u>2004</u> Minnesota <u>2005</u> Seattle <u>2006</u> San Antonio	[5]
<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u> †	<u>2004 Western Semifinals</u>	14	2	<u>2004</u> Los Angeles Lakers <u>2018</u> Houston	[26]
<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>2008 Eastern Semifinals</u>	10	3	<u>2008</u> Boston <u>2009</u> Cleveland <u>2016</u> Cleveland	[13]
<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>2009 Western Semifinals</u>	9	5	<u>2009</u> Los Angeles Lakers <u>2010</u> Utah <u>2011</u> Oklahoma City <u>2012</u> Los Angeles Lakers <u>2013</u> Golden State	[9]
<u>Orlando Magic</u>	<u>2010 Eastern Semifinals</u>	8	3	<u>2010</u> Boston <u>2011</u> Atlanta <u>2012</u> Indiana	[7]
<u>Phoenix Suns</u> ^	<u>2010 Western Semifinals</u>	8	1	<u>2010</u> Los Angeles Lakers	[6]
<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>2011 Finals</u>	7	4 ♦	<u>2012</u> Oklahoma City <u>2014</u> San Antonio <u>2015</u> Houston <u>2016</u> Oklahoma City	[14]
Team	Last series win in NBA Playoffs	Seasons Since win	Losing Streak	Series Losses – Teams	Ref

Team	Last series win in NBA Playoffs	Seasons since win	Losing streak	Series losses – teams	Ref
<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u> ^	<u>2012 Western First Round</u>	6	2	<u>2012</u> Oklahoma City <u>2013</u> San Antonio	[8]
<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>2013 Eastern First Round</u>	5	1	<u>2013</u> Indiana	[10]
<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	<u>2014 Eastern First Round</u>	4	2	<u>2014</u> Miami <u>2015</u> Atlanta	[11]
<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>2014 Eastern Semifinals</u>	4	4	<u>2014</u> Miami <u>2016</u> Toronto <u>2017</u> Cleveland <u>2018</u> Cleveland	[19]
<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>2015 Eastern First Round</u>	3	2	<u>2015</u> Cleveland <u>2017</u> Boston	[15]
<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	<u>2015 Western First Round</u>	3	2	<u>2015</u> Golden State <u>2016</u> San Antonio Spurs <u>2017</u> San Antonio Spurs	[16]
<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	<u>2015 Western First Round</u>	3	3	<u>2015</u> Houston <u>2016</u> Portland <u>2017</u> Utah	[18]
<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>2016 Eastern First Round</u>	2	2	<u>2016</u> Cleveland <u>2017</u> Washington	[17]
<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u>	<u>2016 Western First Round</u>	2	3	<u>2016</u> Golden State <u>2017</u> Golden State <u>2018</u> New Orleans	[23]
<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>2016 Eastern First Round</u>	2	2	<u>2016</u> Toronto <u>2018</u> Philadelphia	[20]
<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>2016 Western Semifinals</u>	2	3	<u>2016</u> Golden State <u>2017</u> Houston <u>2018</u> Utah	[25]
<u>Washington Wizards</u>	<u>2017 Eastern First Round</u>	1	2	<u>2017</u> Boston <u>2018</u> Toronto	[21]
<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>2017 Western Semifinals</u>	1	2	<u>2017</u> Golden State <u>2018</u> Golden State	[25]
Team	Last series win in NBA Playoffs	Seasons Since win	Losing Streak	Series Losses – Teams	Ref

Team	Last series win in NBA Playoffs	Seasons since win	Losing streak	Series losses – teams	Ref
<a href="#">Toronto Raptors</a>	<a href="#">2018 Eastern First Round</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Cleveland</a>	[28]
<a href="#">Philadelphia 76ers</a>	<a href="#">2018 Eastern First Round</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Boston</a>	[27]
<a href="#">New Orleans Pelicans</a>	<a href="#">2018 Western First Round</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Golden State</a>	[29]
<a href="#">Utah Jazz</a>	<a href="#">2018 Western First Round</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Houston</a>	[30]
<a href="#">Boston Celtics</a>	<a href="#">2018 Eastern Semifinals</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Cleveland</a>	[31]
<a href="#">Houston Rockets</a>	<a href="#">2018 Western Semifinals</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Golden State</a>	[32]
<a href="#">Cleveland Cavaliers</a>	<a href="#">2018 Eastern Finals</a>	—	1	<a href="#">2018 Golden State</a>	[33]
<a href="#">Golden State Warriors</a>	<a href="#">2018 Finals</a>	—	0	<i>8 series win streak</i>	[34]
Team	Last series win in NBA Playoffs	Seasons Since win	Losing Streak	Series Losses – Teams	Ref

<sup>a</sup> Charlotte was inactive for two years following the [2001–02](#) season.

## NBA Division Championship droughts

*Updated through the 2017-18 regular season.*

^	Longest drought in team history
♦	2017–18 Division Champion

Left click once on *Seasons since win* column heading then once on *Division* column heading to show teams listed in order of division championships.

Franchise	Most recent title	Division	Seasons since win
<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> <sup>^</sup>	None	Southeast	28
<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u> <sup>^</sup>	None	Southwest	23
<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u> <sup>^</sup>	<u>2000–01</u>	Atlantic	17
<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u> <sup>^</sup>	<u>2000–01</u>	Central	17
<u>Sacramento Kings</u>	<u>2002–03</u>	Pacific	15
<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	<u>2003–04</u>	Northwest	14
<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	<u>2005–06</u>	Atlantic	12
<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	<u>2006–07</u>	Pacific	11
<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u> <sup>^</sup>	<u>2007–08</u>	Southwest	10
<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>2007–08</u>	Central	10
<u>Orlando Magic</u>	<u>2009–10</u>	Southeast	8
<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>2009–10</u>	Southwest	8
<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>2009–10</u>	Northwest	8
<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u>	<u>2011–12</u>	Pacific	6
<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>2011–12</u>	Central	6
<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>2012–13</u>	Atlantic	5
<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>2013–14</u>	Central	4
<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	<u>2013–14</u>	Pacific	4
<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>2014–15</u>	Southeast	3
<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>2015–16</u>	Northwest	2
<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>2016–17</u>	Atlantic	1
<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>2016–17</u>	Southwest	1
<u>Utah Jazz</u>	<u>2016–17</u>	Northwest	1
<u>Washington Wizards</u>	<u>2016–17</u>	Southeast	1
<u>Toronto Raptors</u> <sup>♦</sup>	<u>2017–18</u>	Atlantic	—
<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u> <sup>♦</sup>	<u>2017–18</u>	Central	—
<u>Miami Heat</u> <sup>♦</sup>	<u>2017–18</u>	Southeast	—
<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u> <sup>♦</sup>	<u>2017–18</u>	Northwest	—
<u>Golden State Warriors</u> <sup>♦</sup>	<u>2017–18</u>	Pacific	—
<u>Houston Rockets</u> <sup>♦</sup>	<u>2017–18</u>	Southwest	—

## NBA Conference Finals appearance droughts

<sup>^</sup>	Longest drought in team history
<sup>†</sup>	Tied for longest drought in team history

Seasons	Team	Last appearance in Conference Finals	Result	Reference
48	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u> ^	Never	—	[18]
39	<u>Washington Wizards</u> ^ <sup>[c]</sup>	<u>1979</u>	Won vs. San Antonio	[21]
28	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> ^	Never	—	[12]
18	<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u> ^	<u>2000</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	[23]
18	<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>2000</u>	Lost vs. Indiana	[10]
17	<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u> ^	<u>2001</u>	Lost vs. Philadelphia	[22]
17	<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u> ^	<u>2001</u>	Won vs. Milwaukee	[27]
16	<u>Sacramento Kings</u>	<u>2002</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	[5]
16	<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u> ^	Never	—	[29]
15	<u>Brooklyn Nets</u> <sup>[d]</sup>	<u>2003</u>	Won vs. Detroit	[11]
14	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u> †	<u>2004</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	[26]
11	<u>Utah Jazz</u>	<u>2007</u>	Lost vs. San Antonio	[30]
10	<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>2008</u>	Lost vs. Boston	[13]
9	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>2009</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	[9]
8	<u>Orlando Magic</u>	<u>2010</u>	Lost vs. Boston	[7]
8	<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	<u>2010</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	[6]
8	<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u> †	<u>2010</u>	Won vs. Phoenix	[8]
7	<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>2011</u>	Lost vs. Miami	[15]
7	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>2011</u>	Won vs. Oklahoma City	[14]
5	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	<u>2013</u>	Lost vs. San Antonio	[16]
4	<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>2014</u>	Won vs. Indiana	[20]
4	<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>2014</u>	Lost vs. Miami	[19]
3	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>2015</u>	Lost vs. Cleveland	[17]
2	<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	<u>2016</u>	Lost vs. Cleveland	[28]
2	<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>2016</u>	Lost vs. Golden State	[24]
1	<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>2017</u>	Lost vs. Golden State	[25]
0	<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u>	<u>2018</u>	Won vs. Boston	[33]
0	<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>2018</u>	Lost vs. Cleveland	[31]
0	<u>Houston Rockets</u>	<u>2018</u>	Lost vs. Golden State	[32]
0	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>2018</u>	Won vs. Houston	[34]



## NBA Finals appearance droughts

Seasons	Team	Last appearance in NBA Finals	Result	Reference
68	<u>Sacramento Kings</u> <sup>[a]</sup>	<u>1951</u>	Won vs. New York	<sup>[5]</sup>
58	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u> <sup>[b]</sup>	<u>1961</u>	Lost vs. Boston	<sup>[17]</sup>
48	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	Never	—	<sup>[18]</sup>
44	<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u>	<u>1974</u>	Lost vs. Boston	<sup>[22]</sup>
42	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	Never	—	<sup>[9]</sup>
39	<u>Washington Wizards</u> <sup>[c]</sup>	<u>1979</u>	Lost vs. Seattle	<sup>[21]</sup>
29	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	Never	—	<sup>[26]</sup>
28	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u>	Never	—	<sup>[12]</sup>
26	<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u>	<u>1992</u>	Lost vs. Chicago	<sup>[23]</sup>
25	<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	<u>1993</u>	Lost vs. Chicago	<sup>[6]</sup>
23	<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	Never	—	<sup>[28]</sup>
23	<u>Houston Rockets</u>	<u>1995</u>	Won vs. Orlando	<sup>[32]</sup>
23	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	Never	—	<sup>[16]</sup>
20	<u>Utah Jazz</u>	<u>1998</u>	Lost vs. Chicago	<sup>[30]</sup>
20	<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>1998</u>	Won vs. Utah	<sup>[15]</sup>
19	<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>1999</u>	Lost vs. San Antonio	<sup>[10]</sup>
18	<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>2000</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	<sup>[19]</sup>
17	<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u>	<u>2001</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	<sup>[27]</sup>
16	<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u>	Never	—	<sup>[29]</sup>
15	<u>Brooklyn Nets</u> <sup>[d]</sup>	<u>2003</u>	Lost vs. San Antonio	<sup>[11]</sup>
13	<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>2005</u>	Lost vs. San Antonio	<sup>[13]</sup>
9	<u>Orlando Magic</u>	<u>2009</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	<sup>[7]</sup>
8	<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>2010</u>	Lost vs. Los Angeles Lakers	<sup>[31]</sup>
8	<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u>	<u>2010</u>	Won vs. Boston	<sup>[8]</sup>
7	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>2011</u>	Won vs. Miami	<sup>[14]</sup>
6	<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>2012</u>	Lost vs. Miami	<sup>[24]</sup>
4	<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>2014</u>	Lost vs. San Antonio	<sup>[20]</sup>
4	<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>2014</u>	Won vs. Miami	<sup>[25]</sup>
0	<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u>	<u>2018</u>	Lost vs. Golden State	<sup>[33]</sup>

Seasons	Team	Last appearance in <u>NBA Finals</u>	Result	Reference
0	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>2018</u>	Won vs. Cleveland	<u>[34]</u>

- a The Sacramento Kings last appeared in the 1951 NBA Finals as the Rochester Royals.
- b The Atlanta Hawks last appeared in the 1961 NBA Finals as the St. Louis Hawks.
- c The Washington Wizards last appeared in the 1979 Conference Finals and NBA Finals as the Washington Bullets.

- <sup>d</sup> The Brooklyn Nets last appeared in the 2003 Conference Finals and NBA Finals as the New Jersey Nets.

## NBA championship title droughts

Seasons	Team	Last NBA championship	Reference
67	<u>Sacramento Kings</u> <sup>[a]</sup>	<u>1951</u>	<sup>[5]</sup>
60	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u> <sup>[b]</sup>	<u>1958</u>	<sup>[17]</sup>
50	<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	Never	<sup>[6]</sup>
48	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	Never	<sup>[18]</sup>
47	<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u>	<u>1971</u>	<sup>[22]</sup>
45	<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>1973</u>	<sup>[10]</sup>
44	<u>Utah Jazz</u>	Never	<sup>[30]</sup>
42	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	Never	<sup>[9]</sup>
42	<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	Never	<sup>[11]</sup>
42	<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	Never	<sup>[19]</sup>
41	<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u>	<u>1977</u>	<sup>[23]</sup>
40	<u>Washington Wizards</u> <sup>[c]</sup>	<u>1978</u>	<sup>[21]</sup>
39	<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u> <sup>[d]</sup>	<u>1979</u>	<sup>[24]</sup>
35	<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u>	<u>1983</u>	<sup>[27]</sup>
29	<u>Orlando Magic</u>	Never	<sup>[7]</sup>
29	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	Never	<sup>[26]</sup>
28	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u>	Never	<sup>[12]</sup>
23	<u>Houston Rockets</u>	<u>1995</u>	<sup>[32]</sup>
23	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	Never	<sup>[16]</sup>
23	<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	Never	<sup>[28]</sup>
20	<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>1998</u>	<sup>[15]</sup>
16	<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u>	Never	<sup>[29]</sup>
14	<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>2004</u>	<sup>[13]</sup>
10	<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>2008</u>	<sup>[31]</sup>
8	<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u>	<u>2010</u>	<sup>[8]</sup>
7	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>2011</u>	<sup>[14]</sup>
5	<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>2013</u>	<sup>[20]</sup>
4	<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>2014</u>	<sup>[25]</sup>

Seasons	Team	Last NBA championship	Reference
2	<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u>	<u>2016</u>	[33]
<b>Defending NBA champion</b>			
0	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>2018</u>	[34]

- a The Sacramento Kings last won an NBA championship in 1951 as the Rochester Royals.
- b The Atlanta Hawks last won an NBA championship in 1958 as the St. Louis Hawks.
- c The Washington Wizards last won an NBA championship in 1978 as the Washington Bullets.
- d The Oklahoma City Thunder last won an NBA championship in 1979 as the Seattle SuperSonics.

## All-time droughts

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### Closest approaches without winning

*Updated through the 2018 playoffs.*

Last team to leave list - Cleveland Cavaliers 2016

Team	Conference Quarter-Final appearances	Conference Semi-Final appearances	Conference Final appearances	NBA Final appearances	Fewest wins short of NBA Championship
<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	19	7	2	2	2 wins short : <u>2003</u>
<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	25	10	8	1	2 wins short : <u>2000</u>
<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	26	18	9	2	2 wins short : <u>1976</u> , <u>1993</u>
<u>Utah Jazz</u>	27	16	6	2	2 wins short : <u>1997</u> , <u>1998</u>
<u>Orlando Magic</u>	14	5	4	2	3 wins short : <u>2009</u>
<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	10	4	1		6 wins short : <u>2016</u>
<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	9	1	1		6 wins short : <u>2004</u>
<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	22	8	3		6 wins short : <u>1978</u> , <u>2009</u>
<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	10	3	1		8 wins short : <u>2013</u>
<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	11	7			9 wins short : <u>1975</u> , <u>2006</u> , <u>2015</u>
<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u>	7	2			9 wins short : <u>2008</u>
<u>Charlotte Hornets</u>	10	4			11 wins short : <u>2002</u>

### Longest post-season droughts in team history

*Updated through the 2018 playoffs.*

^	Denotes <u>active drought</u>
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Team	Longest streak with no post-season appearances	Seasons	Team	Longest streak with no post-season series wins	Seasons
<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	<u>1976–77 through 1990–91</u>	15	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	<u>1976–77 through 2004–05</u>	29
<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	<u>2004–05 through 2016–17</u>	13	<u>Washington Wizards</u>	<u>1982–83 through 2003–04</u>	22
<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>1994–95 through 2005–06</u>	12	<u>Sacramento Kings</u>	<u>1981–82 through 1999–2000</u>	19
<u>Sacramento Kings</u> ^	<u>2006–07 through 2017–18</u>	12	<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>1976–77 through 1992–93</u>	17
<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>1990–91 through 1999–2000</u>	10	<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	<u>1984–85 through 2000–01</u>	17
<u>Utah Jazz</u>	<u>1974–75 through 1982–83</u>	9	<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u> ^	<u>2001–02 through 2017–18</u>	17
<u>Washington Wizards</u>	<u>1988–89 through 1995–96</u>	8	<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>1953–54 through 1967–68</u>	15
<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	<u>1995–96 through 2002–03</u>	8	<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u>	<u>1976–77 through 1990–91</u>	15
<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>1995–96 through 2002–03</u>	8	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>1991–92 through 2005–06</u>	15
<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>1999–2000 through 2006–07</u>	8	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u>	<u>1995–96 through 2009–10</u>	15
<u>Phoenix Suns</u> ^	<u>2010–11 through 2017–18</u>	8	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	<u>1989–90 through 2002–03</u>	14
<u>New York Knicks</u>	<u>1959–60 through 1965–66</u>	7	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>1994–95 through 2007–08</u>	14
<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>1967–68 through 1973–74</u>	7	<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	<u>2001–02 through 2014–15</u>	14
<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u>	<u>1991–92 through 1997–98</u>	7	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> ^	<u>2004–05 through 2017–18</u>	14
<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u>	<u>1991–92 through 1997–98</u>	7	<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>1962–63 through 1974–75</u>	13
<u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u>	<u>1998–99 through 2004–05</u>	7	<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u>	<u>2000–01 through 2012–13</u>	13
<u>Portland Trail Blazers</u>	<u>1970–71 through 1975–76</u>	6	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>1988–89 through 1999–2000</u>	12
<u>Detroit Pistons</u>	<u>1977–78 through 1982–83</u> <u>2009–10 through 2014–15</u>	6	<u>Orlando Magic</u>	<u>1996–97 through 2006–07</u>	11
			<u>Houston Rockets</u>	<u>1997–98 through 2007–08</u>	11
<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>1995–96 through 2000–01</u>	6	<u>Utah Jazz</u>	<u>1974–75 through 1982–83</u>	9
<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>1998–99 through 2003–04</u>	6	<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>1992–93 through 2000–01</u>	9

Team	Longest streak with no post-season appearances	Seasons	Team	Longest streak with no post-season series wins	Seasons
<u>Orlando Magic</u> ^	<u>2012–13 through 2017–18</u>	6	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>1999–2000 through 2007–08</u>	9
<u>Houston Rockets</u>	<u>1969–70 through 1973–74</u>	5	<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u>	<u>2008–09 through 2016–17</u>	9
<u>Indiana Pacers</u>	<u>1981–82 through 1985–86</u>	5	<u>Philadelphia 76ers</u>	<u>1968–69 through 1975–76 &amp; 2003–04 through 2010–11</u>	8
<u>Brooklyn Nets</u>	<u>1986–87 through 1990–91 &amp; 2007–08 through 2011–12</u>	5		<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>1988–89 through 1995–96</u>
<u>Charlotte Hornets</u>	<u>2004–05 through 2008–09</u>	5	<u>Chicago Bulls</u>	<u>1998–99 through 2005–06</u>	8
<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	<u>2008–09 through 2012–13</u>	5	<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	<u>2010–11 through 2017–18</u>	8
<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u> ^	<u>2013–14 through 2017–18</u>	5	<u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u>	<u>1967–68 through 1973–74</u>	7
<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>1988–89 through 1990–91</u>	3	<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>1983–84 through 1988–89</u>	6
<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u>	<u>2004–05 through 2006–07</u> <u>2011–12 through 2013–14</u>	3	<u>Los Angeles Lakers</u> ^	<u>2012–13 through 2017–18</u>	6
<u>San Antonio Spurs</u>	<u>1983–84</u> <u>1986–87</u> <u>1988–89</u> <u>1996–97</u>	1			

## Longest NBA Playoffs appearance droughts

*Appearance droughts updated through 2017–18 season.*

^	Denotes <u>active drought</u>
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Streak	Team	NBA Playoffs appearance droughts	Reference
15 seasons	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u> <sup>[a]</sup>	<u>1977–1991</u>	[18]
13 seasons	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u>	<u>2005–2017</u>	[26]
12 seasons	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>1995–2006</u>	[34]
12 seasons	<u>Sacramento Kings</u> ^	<u>2007–2018</u>	[5]
10 seasons	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	<u>1991–2000</u>	[14]
9 seasons	<u>Utah Jazz</u> <sup>[b]</sup>	<u>1975–1983</u>	[30]
9 seasons	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	<u>1978–1986</u>	[34]
9 seasons	<u>Sacramento Kings</u>	<u>1987–1995</u>	[5]
8 seasons	<u>Washington Bullets</u>	<u>1989–1996</u>	[21]
8 seasons	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	<u>1996–2003</u>	[9]
8 seasons	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u> <sup>[c]</sup>	<u>1996–2003</u>	[16]
8 seasons	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u>	<u>1998–2005</u>	[18]
8 seasons	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	<u>2000–2007</u>	[17]
8 seasons	<u>Phoenix Suns</u>	<u>2011–2018</u>	[6]

- <sup>a</sup> Streak included Buffalo Braves 1977–78 seasons, and San Diego Clippers 1979–84 seasons.
- <sup>b</sup> Streak included New Orleans Jazz 1975–79 seasons.
- <sup>c</sup> Streak included Vancouver Grizzlies 1996–2001 seasons.

## Longest Conference finals droughts

*Appearance droughts updated through the 2018 playoffs. The current Conference Finals format was introduced in 1971.*

^	Denotes <u>active drought</u>
†	Year the team joined the NBA



Seasons	Team	NBA Conference Finals appearance droughts	Subsequent appearance in Conference Finals	Reference
48	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u> ^ [a]	1971 <sup>†</sup> – 2018	Active drought	[18]
44	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u>	1971 – 2014	2015	[17]
38	<u>Golden State Warriors</u>	1977 – 2014	2015	[34]
39	<u>Washington Wizards</u> ^[b]	1980 – 2018	Active drought	[21]
28	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> ^ [c]	1989 <sup>†</sup> – 2018	Active drought	[12]
25	<u>New Jersey Nets</u> [d]	1977 <sup>†</sup> – 2001	2002	[11]
23	<u>Denver Nuggets</u>	1986 – 2008	2009	[9]
20	<u>Toronto Raptors</u>	1996 <sup>†</sup> – 2015	2016	[28]
20	<u>Sacramento Kings</u> [e]	1982 – 2001	2002	[5]

- <sup>a</sup> Streak includes seasons as Buffalo Braves and San Diego Clippers.
- <sup>b</sup> Team last qualified for the Conference Finals as Washington Bullets.
- <sup>c</sup> Franchise inactive for two seasons between 2002 and 2004.
- <sup>d</sup> Current Brooklyn Nets; includes one season as New York Nets.
- <sup>e</sup> Includes four seasons as Kansas City Kings.

## Finals droughts

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### NBA Finals in which neither team had previously won a championship

In these instances, the matchup ensured that one team would win the first NBA championship in its history.

*	Both Teams in 1st NBA Finals appearance
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Season	Won	Lost	Number of years till drought ended
2006*	<u>Miami Heat</u>	<u>Dallas Mavericks</u>	5
1978	<u>Washington Bullets</u>	<u>Seattle SuperSonics</u> (OKC)	1
1971*	<u>Milwaukee Bucks</u>	<u>Baltimore Bullets</u> (WSH)	7
1957*	<u>Boston Celtics</u>	<u>St. Louis Hawks</u> (ATL)	1
1955	<u>Syracuse Nationals</u> (PHI)	<u>Fort Wayne Pistons</u> (DET)^	34
1951*	<u>Rochester Royals</u> (SAC)^	<u>New York Knicks</u>	19
1949*	<u>Minneapolis Lakers</u> (LAL)^	<u>Washington Capitols</u> †	defunct 2 years later
1947*	<u>Philadelphia Warriors</u> (GSW)	<u>Chicago Stags</u> †	defunct 3 years later

- ^- Team had previously appeared in the National Basketball League finals before said league was merged for the NBA's formation.
- †- Defunct franchise.

- Abbreviation in parentheses – Current location of NBA franchise.

## NBA Finals in which neither franchise had won a championship in 20-plus seasons

Teams that had never won the NBA championship are included, even if they were less than 20 seasons old at the time.

Season	Won	Drought (seasons)	Lost	Drought (seasons)
<a href="#"><u>2015</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Golden State Warriors</u></a>	39	<a href="#"><u>Cleveland Cavaliers</u></a>	44*
<a href="#"><u>2006</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Miami Heat</u></a>	17*	<a href="#"><u>Dallas Mavericks</u></a>	25*
<a href="#"><u>1999</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>San Antonio Spurs</u></a>	22*	<a href="#"><u>New York Knicks</u></a>	25
<a href="#"><u>1994</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Houston Rockets</u></a>	26*	<a href="#"><u>New York Knicks</u></a>	20
<a href="#"><u>1978</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Washington Bullets</u></a>	16*	<a href="#"><u>Seattle SuperSonics</u></a>	10*
<a href="#"><u>1971</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Milwaukee Bucks</u></a>	2*	<a href="#"><u>Baltimore Bullets</u></a>	9*
<a href="#"><u>1957</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Boston Celtics</u></a>	10*	<a href="#"><u>St. Louis Hawks</u></a>	7*
<a href="#"><u>1955</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Syracuse Nationals</u></a>	5*	<a href="#"><u>Fort Wayne Pistons</u></a>	6*
<a href="#"><u>1951</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rochester Royals</u></a>	2*	<a href="#"><u>New York Knicks</u></a>	4*
<a href="#"><u>1949*</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Minneapolis Lakers</u></a>	0*	<a href="#"><u>Washington Capitols</u></a>	2*
<a href="#"><u>1947</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Philadelphia Warriors</u></a>	0*	<a href="#"><u>Chicago Stags</u></a>	0*

Numbers marked with \* indicates that the number is counted from either the franchise's first year in the NBA or the first year of the league (1946, then known as the BAA).

## Teams awaiting their first NBA championship

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This list includes teams within the current NBA that have never won an NBA championship—sorted by the number of seasons played in the NBA.

Last team to leave list: Cleveland, 2016

<b>Total seasons (NBA)</b>	<b>Franchise</b>	<b>Last NBA Finals appearance</b>
50 seasons	<u>Phoenix Suns</u> (1969–2018)	<u>1993</u>
48 seasons	<u>Los Angeles Clippers</u> § (1971–2018)	—
44 seasons	<u>Utah Jazz</u> § (1975–2018)	<u>1998</u>
42 seasons	<u>Denver Nuggets</u> (1977–2018)	—
42 seasons	<u>Indiana Pacers</u> ‡ (1977–2018)	<u>2000</u>
42 seasons	<u>Brooklyn Nets</u> §‡ (1977–2018)	<u>2003</u>
29 seasons	<u>Minnesota Timberwolves</u> (1990–2018)	—
29 seasons	<u>Orlando Magic</u> (1990–2018)	<u>2009</u>
28 seasons	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> † (1989–2002; 2005–2018)	—
23 seasons	<u>Toronto Raptors</u> (1996–2018)	—
23 seasons	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u> § (1996–2018)	—
16 seasons	<u>New Orleans Pelicans</u> † (2003–2018)	—

## Notes

- § NBA teams that have relocated from their original city(s).
- † NBA teams that have re-branded to/from their original concept.
- ‡ NBA teams that have won an ABA championship.

## Cities awaiting first NBA championship

Listed according to seasons waited. Current NBA cities/regions only.

Last city to leave list: Cleveland, 2016

City	Seasons waited	Conference Title(s)	NBA Team(s)
<u>Phoenix</u>	50	<u>1976</u> , <u>1993</u>	<u>Phoenix Suns</u> ( <u>1969</u> –present)
<u>Atlanta</u>	50	None	<u>Atlanta Hawks</u> ( <u>1969</u> –present)
<u>Denver</u>	42	None	<u>Denver Nuggets</u> ( <u>1977</u> –present)
<u>Indianapolis</u>	42	<u>2000</u>	<u>Indiana Pacers</u> ( <u>1977</u> –present)
<u>Salt Lake City</u>	39	<u>1997</u> , <u>1998</u>	<u>Utah Jazz</u> ( <u>1980</u> –present)
<u>Sacramento</u>	33	None	<u>Sacramento Kings</u> ( <u>1986</u> –present)
<u>Orlando</u>	29	<u>1995</u> , <u>2009</u>	<u>Orlando Magic</u> ( <u>1990</u> –present)
<u>Charlotte</u>	28	None	<u>Charlotte Hornets</u> ( <u>1989</u> – <u>2002</u> ; <u>2015</u> –present) <u>Charlotte Bobcats</u> ( <u>2005</u> – <u>2014</u> )
<u>Toronto</u>	24	None	1 <u>Toronto Huskies</u> season ( <u>1947</u> ) 23 <u>Toronto Raptors</u> seasons ( <u>1996</u> –present)
<u>New Orleans</u>	21	None	<u>New Orleans Jazz</u> ( <u>1974</u> – <u>1979</u> ) <u>New Orleans Hornets</u> ( <u>2003</u> – <u>2013</u> ) <u>New Orleans Pelicans</u> ( <u>2014</u> –present)
<u>Memphis</u>	17	None	<u>Memphis Grizzlies</u> ( <u>2002</u> –present)
<u>Oklahoma City</u>	12	<u>2012</u>	2 <u>New Orleans/Oklahoma City Hornets</u> seasons ( <u>2006</u> – <u>2007</u> ) 10 <u>Oklahoma City Thunder</u> seasons ( <u>2008</u> –present)

## NBA Championship droughts by division

Division	Last NBA Championship	Seasons
<u>Northwest Division</u> ‡	<u>1979</u> — <u>SuperSonics</u> †	39
<u>Atlantic Division</u>	<u>2008</u> — <u>Celtics</u>	10
<u>Southeast Division</u>	<u>2013</u> — <u>Heat</u>	5
<u>Southwest Division</u>	<u>2014</u> — <u>Spurs</u>	4
<u>Central Division</u>	<u>2016</u> — <u>Cavaliers</u>	2
<u>Pacific Division</u>	<u>2018</u> — <u>Warriors</u>	0

### Notes

- ‡ The last time a team playing in the present-day Northwest Division won an NBA Championship.
- † The SuperSonics won this NBA Championship as part of the Pacific Division. The team has relocated to Oklahoma City as the Oklahoma City Thunder.

## See also

- List of NBA franchise post-season streaks
- List of National Basketball Association longest losing streaks
- List of National Basketball Association longest winning streaks

- [List of Major League Baseball \(MLB\) franchise post-season droughts](#)
- [List of National Football League \(NFL\) franchise post-season droughts](#)
- [List of National Hockey League \(NHL\) franchise post-season droughts](#)
- [List of Major League Soccer \(MLS\) club post-season droughts](#)

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