

To succeed in the NHL, GMs need not only to sign advantageous contracts, but also to spend all money available to them

Many GMs whose contract portfolios are beneficial to their teams do not spend to the salary cap, limiting their team's depth and performance.

8 of the top 10 teams in the 2019-2020 season spent all the money available with the salary cap.

7 of the top 10 teams displayed high spending combined with fair contracts (\$-15M to \$5M difference between salaries paid and their fair value).

Franchise	Rank
Salary cap space available, \$M	Total salary over/under paid

How strong is the GM's deal-making ability?

Total salaries paid > total fair salaries

Total salaries paid < total fair salaries

Aggressive spending at cap
Poor deal-making ability

	Carolina	9
\$0.9 M available	\$10.7 M over-paid	

	Vancouver	17
\$0.1 M available	\$6.1 M over-paid	

	Calgary	19
\$0.9 M available	\$9.9M over-paid	

	Arizona	22
\$0.0M available	\$7.6M over-paid	

	Buffalo	25
\$0.8 M available	\$10.5M over-paid	

Aggressive spending at cap
Reasonable deal-making ability

	Boston	1
\$0.6 M available	\$3.1M under-paid	

	Philadelphia	6
\$0.1 M available	\$0.4M over-paid	

	Toronto	13
\$0.0 M available	\$4.8 M over-paid	

	Chicago	23
\$0.2 M available	\$1.7M under-paid	

	St. Louis	2
\$0.1 M available	\$4.0M under-paid	

	Pittsburgh	7
\$0.8 M available	\$1.8M over-paid	

	Florida	15
\$0.3M available	\$0.9M under-paid	

	San Jose	29
\$0.6 M available	\$3.0 M under-paid	

Aggressive spending at cap
Exceptional deal-making ability

	Washington	5
\$0.2M available	\$1.2 M under-paid	

	Vegas	8
\$0.3 M available	\$14.2M under-paid	

	Dallas	10
\$0M available	\$2.3M under-paid	

	Edmonton	12
\$0.6M available	\$4.9M under-paid	

Does the GM spend the money he has available?

Conservative cap management
Poor deal-making ability

	Minnesota	21
\$2.9 M available	\$13.7M over-paid	

	New York	18
\$3.9 M available	\$5.0 M over-paid	

Conservative cap management
Reasonable deal-making ability

	Tampa Bay	4
\$1.3 M available	\$3.3M over-paid	

	Nashville	16
\$2.3M available	\$3.6M under-paid	

	NY (Long Island)	11
\$3.1 M available	\$3.2 M over-paid	

	Winnipeg	20
\$3.7 M available	\$3.5 M over-paid	

Conservative cap management
Exceptional deal-making ability

	Montreal	24
\$4.4 M available	\$10.0M under-paid	

	Anaheim	27
\$2.4M available	\$11.1M under-paid	

	Detroit	31
\$1.6M available	\$9.0 M under-paid	

Spends below salary cap

Severe-under spending of available cap
Poor deal-making ability

Severe-under spending of available cap
Reasonable deal-making ability

	Colorado	3
\$5.3 M available	\$2.7M over-paid	

	Ottawa	30
\$7.2 M available	\$0.1M under-paid	

	Columbus	14
\$5.2M available	\$1.1M under-paid	

Severe-under spending of available cap
Exceptional deal-making ability

	New Jersey	26
\$8.7 M available	\$5.4M under-paid	

	Los Angeles	28
\$7.0M available	\$7.4M under-paid	