NFL · NOVEMBER 18, 2026

NFL Power Rankings, Week 11 of 2026: all 32 teams ranked from efficiency, results and news

A 1–32 ranking as of 18 November 2026 (games through Week 10), led by San Francisco, Buffalo and Jacksonville. It is built from EPA ranks, point differential and simulation odds, and checked against the AP, ESPN and NFL.com polls.

10 min read · 9 sources · Updated Nov 18, 2026

2026 | 2026 season | injury report | power rankings

CONTENTS

Method 1
The rankings 2
Top eight: the contenders 3
Ranks 9–20: separating the middle 4
Ranks 21–32: the bottom of the league 6
Where I differ from the consensus 6
Bottom line 7
Sources 7

This is a 1–32 ranking as of Wednesday 18 November 2026, with games complete through Week 10. It starts from the site's EPA ranks, point differential and simulated season odds[1]. I then adjusted for injuries and quarterback news from coverage[2][3][4][5]. San Francisco is first, followed by Buffalo and Jacksonville. The league has a large middle tier that is hard to separate, so rankings from about 12th to 24th are close to coin flips.

8–1	+125	18.9%	126	-105
49ers and Bills, best records	Jaguars point differential, best in NFL	Bills Super Bowl odds, highest in model	Points allowed by Vikings, fewest in NFL	Cardinals point differential, worst

Method

Every team gets four inputs:

- **Efficiency.** Offensive and defensive EPA ranks from nflverse play-by-play[1].
- **Results.** Record and point differential[1].
- **Model view.** Projected wins, playoff odds and Super Bowl odds[1].
- **Context.** Injuries, quarterback changes and schedule, taken from reporting.

I weighted efficiency and point differential above record. That is why 7–2 Denver (+12) sits below 7–2 Kansas City (+81), and why Dallas (4–6, +4) sits above Washington (3-5-1, -27).

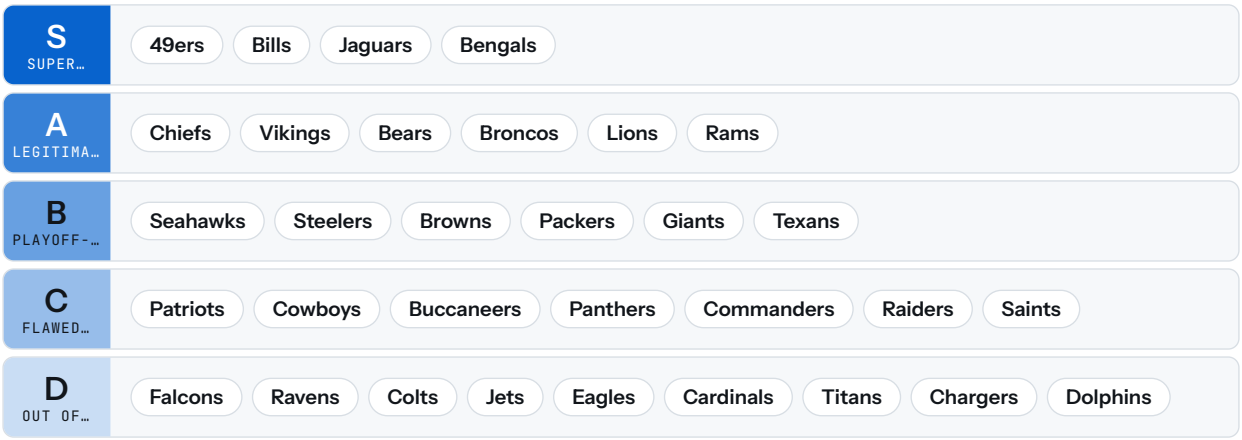
For comparison, here are the three outside lists I read. ESPN's Week 11 top five is 49ers, Bills, Jaguars, Bears, Chiefs, according to a social-media post of its list[6]. The AP-style poll from Arrowhead Pride staff has 49ers, Bills, Jaguars, Bengals, Bears[2]. NFL.com's Nick Shook has 49ers, Bills, Jaguars, Bengals at the top[3]. Everyone agrees on the first three. I match them, but I put Chicago seventh rather than fourth or fifth, for the reasons below.

KEY FINDING

The top three of San Francisco, Buffalo and Jacksonville is the same in the AP-style poll, NFL.com and ESPN. The disagreement is over Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City and Minnesota.

The rankings

Power rankings tiers, Week 11 2026



Author's ranking from EPA ranks, point differential and model odds through Week 10, as of 18 Nov 2026.

RANK	TEAM	RECORD	DIFF	OFF EPA RANK	DEF EPA RANK	PROJ WINS	SUPER BOWL ODDS
1	San Francisco 49ers	8–1	+85	1	10	12.95	10.4%
2	Buffalo Bills	8–1	+88	3	16	13.72	18.9%
3	Jacksonville Jaguars	7–2	+125	4	4	12.86	16.5%
4	Cincinnati Bengals	7–2	+85	2	13	12.38	5.7%
5	Kansas City Chiefs	7–2	+81	6	6	11.73	5.9%
6	Minnesota Vikings	7–2	+50	30	1	11.78	6.1%
7	Chicago Bears	7–2	+57	10	8	11.59	5.5%
8	Denver Broncos	7–2	+12	15	12	12.42	5.1%
9	Detroit Lions	7–2	+58	7	24	12.03	8.2%
10	Los Angeles Rams	6–4	+61	8	3	10.00	4.6%

RANK	TEAM	RECORD	DIFF	OFF EPA RANK	DEF EPA RANK	PROJ WINS	SUPER BOWL ODDS
11	Seattle Seahawks	6–4	+48	21	5	10.63	5.3%
12	Pittsburgh Steelers	6–3	+16	16	11	10.22	1.1%
13	Cleveland Browns	6–4	-32	23	9	9.57	0.3%
14	Green Bay Packers	6–4	+5	14	7	9.36	1.0%
15	New York Giants	5-3-1	+7	11	14	8.19	0.7%
16	Houston Texans	3–6	+14	9	17	7.97	0.6%
17	New England Patriots	5–5	-21	12	25	9.02	1.0%
18	Dallas Cowboys	4–6	+4	5	32	7.43	0.5%
19	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	3–6	+24	28	2	7.68	1.7%
20	Carolina Panthers	4–5	-17	13	20	7.44	0.4%
21	Washington Commanders	3-5-1	-27	18	22	7.31	0.5%
22	Las Vegas Raiders	4–6	-38	17	28	6.06	0.0%
23	New Orleans Saints	3–6	-34	22	23	6.05	0.1%
24	Atlanta Falcons	3–7	-57	27	18	5.64	0.1%
25	Baltimore Ravens	4–6	-50	19	19	6.56	0.1%
26	Indianapolis Colts	3–7	-63	31	21	5.94	0.0%
27	New York Jets	2–8	-60	20	30	4.43	0.0%
28	Philadelphia Eagles	2–7	-73	29	27	4.83	0.0%
29	Arizona Cardinals	3–7	-105	24	31	5.52	0.0%
30	Tennessee Titans	1–8	-72	26	29	3.53	0.0%
31	Los Angeles Chargers	1–8	-95	32	15	4.29	0.0%
32	Miami Dolphins	1–8	-76	25	26	2.90	0.0%

All figures in the table come from the site's standings page[1].

Top eight: the contenders

1. San Francisco (8–1). The 49ers have the league's top offense by EPA. Brock Purdy went 22-for-28 for 389 yards and three touchdowns in the win over Dallas[7]. NFL.com noted that the defense gave up 40 points in that game, and that Nick Bosa is still working back from injury[3]. The defense ranks only 10th by EPA, which is the one real concern. The +85 differential is a notch below Buffalo and Jacksonville. I still rank them first because the offense is the most reliable in the league and every outside poll agrees.

2. Buffalo (8–1). The Bills have the best record, the best projected win total (**13.72**), a division lead the model puts at 98.2%, and the highest Super Bowl odds at **18.9%**. The caveat is the defense (16th by EPA) and a soft recent schedule. NFL.com's recent Buffalo wins came over a Joe Fagnano-led Ravens team, a Carson Wentz-led Vikings team and the Jets, which "haven't been truly tested by an explosive offense"[3]. I don't move them down for that, because they have won the games they were scheduled to play.

3. Jacksonville (7–2). The Jaguars' **+125** differential is the best in the league. They are top five in both offense (4th) and defense (4th) by EPA, and they lead their division at 98.3%[1]. They beat Tennessee 40–23 in Week 10[3]. NFL.com calls them one of the most complete teams in football after a busy trade deadline. A fairly flat offense-defense profile with a large margin is the best predictor of continued success, which is why they sit above Cincinnati.

4. Cincinnati (7–2). The Bengals have the second-best offense by EPA and a +85 differential. Joe Burrow is the leading MVP candidate in coverage, and NFL.com credits the Chase-Higgins pairing and Dexter Lawrence on defense[3]. The defense (13th) is good rather than great. They beat Pittsburgh on Sunday night, which pushed their division odds to **79.2%**[1].

5. Kansas City (7–2). The Chiefs are the only contender in the top six for both offense and defense (6th in each). They were the AP poll's biggest riser, up five places, on the strength of what that poll called Patrick Mahomes' best performance in years[2]. The model gives them only 38.8% to win the division, because Denver is level with them in the loss column.

6. Minnesota (7–2). The Vikings have the most unusual profile in the league. Their defense is first by EPA and allowed only **126** points. Their offense ranks **30th**. Kirk Cousins' first start since returning at the trade deadline was a 30–10 win at Green Bay, where Minnesota sacked Jordan Love a career-high eight times[4][2]. If Cousins stabilizes the offense, they could rank higher. The sample is one game, so I stop at sixth.

7. Chicago (7–2). The Bears are a balanced team (10th on offense, 8th on defense) with a +57 differential. ESPN and the AP-style poll rank them fourth and fifth. I keep them just behind Minnesota and Kansas City because the model gives them the lowest division odds of the NFC North trio (23.7%). Their schedule after the bye is also soft, starting with New Orleans[2].

8. Denver (7–2). The Broncos are the biggest gap between record and underlying numbers. The record is 7–2 with a five-game winning streak, but the +12 differential and 15th offensive EPA rank are weak for that record. The model still likes them (**12.42** projected wins, 61.1% division odds). That is mostly the schedule: the AP-style poll says they have the easiest remaining slate in the NFL[2]. Only the Bills, Jaguars and 49ers project to win more games.

Ranks 9–20: separating the middle

9. Detroit (7–2). The Lions have the third-best offense in this group (7th by EPA), and a defense ranked 24th that has now lost Aidan Hutchinson to a torn ACL. He suffered it celebrating a first-quarter sack in the 35–10 win over New England in Munich[8]. He had six sacks, second on the

team. Dan Campbell said he thinks the team is better suited to cope than it was in 2024[8]. With a defense already 24th, I take them a spot lower than their record suggests.

10. Los Angeles Rams (6–4). They have won four straight, hold a +61 differential, and rank 8th on offense and 3rd on defense. They have done it without Davante Adams and Puka Nacua, according to the AP-style poll[2]. Their playoff odds are only **46%** because of two extra losses and a crowded NFC West. NFL.com asks whether the winning streak can be trusted[3]. By the numbers it can, so they are above Seattle.

11. Seattle (6–4). The Seahawks have the 5th-best defense and the 21st-ranked offense. They would miss the playoffs if the season ended today, according to the AP-style poll[2]. The model gives them 62.8% to make it.

12. Pittsburgh (6–3). The Steelers have the 11th-best defense and a middling offense (16th), with only a +16 differential. The AP-style poll made them the biggest faller (down four places) after the loss in Cincinnati[2]. They have the lowest division odds (10.7%) of any team that is above .500.

13. Cleveland (6–4). The Browns are the surprise of the year. Their defense is 9th by EPA, but the offense is 23rd, and the differential is **-32**. All six wins came with Deshaun Watson leading a winning drive in the fourth quarter or overtime, which ESPN says has only been done by Troy Aikman in 1990 and Matthew Stafford in 2016[5]. Close wins with a negative differential are a classic regression risk, so I stay conservative.

14. Green Bay (6–4). The Packers have a good defense (7th) and a middle-of-the-pack offense. They took the eight-sack loss to Minnesota in the previous game. They are 6–4, but their playoff odds of **27.4%** are poor, since they are in a division with three 7–2 teams.

15. New York Giants (5-3-1). They lead the NFC East at 42.6%, with a +7 differential and 11th-ranked offense. NFL.com points out they "gave away" a game to a Washington team that was 3-5-1[3]. Their roster profile is average, and I do not rank any team above 15th with an average one.

16. Houston (3–6). The Texans' numbers (+14 differential, 9th on offense, 17th on defense) are those of a .500 team that has had bad luck. They also have a long injury list this week (Danielle Hunter, Azeez Al-Shaair, Marvin Harrison Jr. and others did not practice)[9]. Their playoff odds are only **17.8%** and they just lost to Cleveland[5].

17. New England (5–5). The Patriots lost Drake Maye to an ankle injury in the loss in Munich, and he could miss the season if it is fractured[5]. NFL.com dropped them eight spots to 23rd[3]. I place them 17th because their record is still the best of the middle group, but this is the team most likely to fall further.

18–20. Dallas, Tampa Bay and Carolina. Dallas has the NFL's 5th-best offense and its worst defense (32nd), which is why the differential is a flat +4 at 4–6. Tampa Bay has the 2nd-best defense and the 28th-best offense, and a **+24** differential in spite of a 3–6 record. Their passing attack was called "anemic" going into the bye[2]. Carolina leads the NFC South at 4–5.

Ranks 21–32: the bottom of the league

Washington (21st) won on Thursday night and made the biggest climb in ESPN's poll[5]. Las Vegas (22nd) started rookie Fernando Mendoza in a "respectable" debut[2]. New Orleans and Atlanta (23rd and 24th) are both 3–6 or worse. Atlanta has what the AP-style poll called a "major quarterback problem"[2].

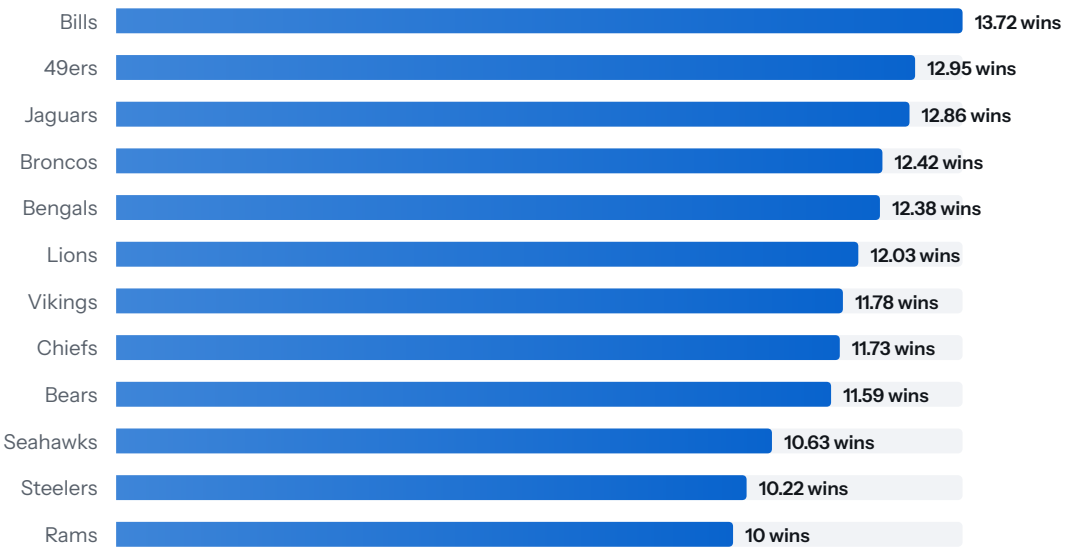
Baltimore (25th) is 4–6 on a five-game losing streak, including a home loss to the 0–8 Chargers[2]. The Colts (26th) have the worst offense by EPA other than the Chargers. The Jets (27th) are 2–8 and lost Geno Smith to injury[2].

Philadelphia (28th) has lost **seven straight**, and its offense ranks 29th. Arizona (29th) has the worst differential in football at **-105**. Tennessee (30th) is 1–8 with a -72 differential.

I place the last two spots on the same evidence. Los Angeles Chargers (31st) are 1–8 with the worst offense in the league (32nd), though their defense is 15th. Miami (32nd) is 1–8 with a **2.90** projected win total, the worst in the model, and no strength on either side of the ball. The AP-style poll also has Miami last[2].

Where I differ from the consensus

Projected wins, top 12 teams in my ranking



Source: stats.innerpulse.net simulation, 18 Nov 2026.

- **Chicago lower than ESPN.** I rank them 7th against ESPN's 4th[6], because the model gives lower division odds than Detroit or Minnesota.
- **Los Angeles Rams higher than the AP-style poll.** I rank them 10th rather than 11th, on a 3rd-ranked defense and +61 differential.

- **Houston and Tampa Bay above their records.** Both have a positive differential despite 3–6 records.
- **Cleveland and Denver below their records.** Both are winning close games with weak differentials.

> CAUTION
> These rankings reflect games through Week 10 and the injury picture on 18 November. Maye's ankle and Hutchinson's ACL are the only major injuries I verified in coverage. The injury data I could pull was limited to Houston and Indianapolis, so other teams may have undetected absences.

Bottom line

San Francisco, Buffalo and Jacksonville form the top three, with Cincinnati close behind. The most interesting teams are Minnesota, which has a first-ranked defense and 30th-ranked offense, and Denver, which has a good record and a thin margin. Detroit's Hutchinson injury and New England's Maye injury matter most going forward. Treat 12th to 24th as one tier, since the AP-style poll, NFL.com and the model move them several places each week[2][3].

Terms used in this document (3)

- **EPA** — Expected points added per play, a measure of how much each play changes a team's expected scoring.
- **Point differential** — Points scored minus points allowed.
- **Proj wins** — The model's projected final win total, from 10,000 simulated seasons.

SOURCES

1 NFL standings and playoff odds, 2026 (stats.innerpulse.net)
https://stats.innerpulse.net/standings

2 Week 11 AP NFL Power Rankings (Yahoo Sports / SB Nation)
https://sports.yahoo.com/articles/week-11-ap-nfl-power-143000782.html

3 NFL Power Rankings, Week 11: Vikings vault into top five (NFL.com)
https://www.nfl.com/news/nfl-power-rankings-week-11-2026-nfl-season?remove_header

4 NFL week 10: Cousins' Vikings comeback crushes Packers (The Guardian)
https://www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2026/nov/15/nfl-week-10-lions-v-patriots-and-more-live

5 2026 NFL Power Rankings: How 32 teams stack up for Week 11 (ESPN)
https://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/50503226/nfl-power-rankings-week-11-non-quarterback-mvps-midseason

6 ESPN Week 11 power rankings list (NFL_Stats on X)
https://x.com/NFL_Stats/status/2122670560073150728

7 Week 11 NFL MVP Power Rankings (USA Today Touchdown Wire, search snippet only)
https://touchdownwire.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/touchdown/2026/11/17/week-11-nfl-mvp-power-rankings-brock-purdy-patrick-mahomes-climb/92829477007/

8 Dan Campbell: Hutchinson injury won't prompt celebration ban (ESPN)
https://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/50510660/dan-campbell-hutchinson-injury-prompt-celebration-ban

9 NFL injury report, week 11 (stats.innerpulse.net)
https://stats.innerpulse.net/schedule?week=11

Researched and written with claude-sonnet-5-5, from the sources listed above. Figures are as reported by those sources. Exported November 29, 2026 from https://intel.innerpulse.net/doc/nfl-power-rankings-week-11-of-2026-all-32-teams-ranked-from-efficiency-results, where the current version lives.