

# PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

## Fantasy Football Depth Chart

QB	Jalen Hurts
	Gardner Minshew
RB	Miles Sanders
	Kenneth Gainwell
WR	Boston Scott
	A.J. Brown
	DeVonta Smith
	Quez Watkins
TE	Zach Pascal
	Dallas Goedert
	Craig Calcaterra
K	Jack Stoll
	Jake Elliott

## 2022 NFL Draft Results

Rd	Pick	Player	Pos	School
1	13	Jordan Davis	DT	Georgia
2	51	Cameron Jurgens	OL	Nebraska
3	83	Nakobe Dean	LB	Georgia
6	181	Kyron Johnson	DE	Kansas
6	198	Grant Calcaterra	TE	SMU

Week	OPP
1	@DET
2	MIN
3	@WSH
4	JAX
5	@ARI
6	DAL
7	--
8	PIT
9	@HOU
10	WSH
11	@IND
12	GB
13	TEN
14	@NYG
15	@CHI
16	@DAL
17	NO
18	NYG

### KEY FANTASY ADDITIONS

A.J. Brown & Zach Pascal, WR

### KEY FANTASY LOSSES

Jordan Howard, RB

## WHAT TO REMEMBER FROM 2021

- There's a lot of hubbub *and* hullabaloo surrounding the Eagles' Jalen Hurts. But, I'm here to tell you, folks: I don't care if he's a good real-life quarterback because he's an incredibly dependable fantasy football quarterback. According to [Ryan McDowell of Dynasty League Football](#), Jalen Hurts ranked second in the league in top-12 quarterback performances, with eleven. He tied with Tom Brady, Patrick Mahomes, and Josh Allen. Unfortunately, according to, uh... me, Jalen Hurts doesn't quite have the upside to sit among those guys. Hurts had just three top-five games this season, whereas Brady, Mahomes, and Allen had 9, 6, and 8 top-five games, respectively. Hurts is a wonderful backend QB1 because he won't fall through a floor, but he needs to take a step forward to be considered among the elites.
- For several years, we all talked about how good Dallas Goedert would be if they just separated Zach Ertz and **Dallas Goedert**. In the end, it took six games for Ertz to end up on another squad. And, Dallas Goedert spiked but was mostly the same. Goedert without Ertz had six targets for four catches and 61 yards per game but spiked in weeks thirteen and fifteen. Prior to Ertz leaving, Goedert averaged... 3 catches for 43 yards on just four targets per game. So, those extra two targets turned into an extra catch and 12 yards for Goedert. Touchdowns were a major problem for Goedert's weekly fantasy value, as he had just three targets inside the ten zone with Ertz (six weeks) and... *zero* the rest of the year. By the way, both those touchdowns after the Eagles traded Ertz were from Gardner Minshew.
- BMI Twitter, you probably want to skip this one. Here's the skinny on **DeVonta Smith's** rookie year: he was really good. Okay, next stat! Okay, if you want more: DeVonta Smith finished with 64 catches, 916 yards, and 5 touchdowns. Granted, he played in seventeen games, but he has to be mad that Ja'Marr Chase and Jaylen Waddle exist to sap all the publicity from his great rookie year. While Chase had 30% of the Bengals' passing yards, the passing yard distribution relative to their team passing production for Jaylen Waddle and DeVonta Smith is virtually identical: DeVonta Smith accounted for 25.5% of his team's passing yards, and Waddle accounted for 25.7% of his team's passing yards. I think we have answered the question about if DeVonta Smith can hack it in the NFL.
- I'm not sure what the Eagles were thinking with their **Miles Sanders** workload, but he was one of the singularly most frustrating fantasy players, not because he was bad, but because the Eagles just straight up decided to not use him until *after he got hurt*. In the first seven weeks of the season, Sanders had 15+ touches twice, and he averaged 60 yards per game on the 11.7 touches. It was maddening because he played very well in limited opportunities. Then, in the second half, after his injury, the Eagles opened the spigot, giving him 16 touches per game, including three games over 15 touches. In that span, he averaged 99 yards per game on just 16 touches. He averaged 6.1 yards per *carry*. Oh, and he scored zero touchdowns all year because he ranked fourth on the Eagles in carries inside the five.
- When you think of **Boston Scott**, what do you think of? Shifty, pass-catching back? The guy who scored a game-winning receiving touchdown in 2020? Well, the pass-catching back has exactly one career receiving touchdown, and it was that game-winner against the Giants. Scott finished 2021 with seven touchdowns, *all from three yards or in*. That's right, 5'6" 203-pound Boston Scott was the Eagles' goal-line back. Also, somehow, he has scored a touchdown in all six of his games against the Giants in his career.

## Sleeper: DeVonta Smith, Wide Receiver (WR33, 74 OVR)

The hate has gone too far with DeVonta Smith, and I know it has to do with the Eagles adding A.J. Brown to their wide receiver room. That's fine, we can doubt DeVonta Smith's upside with a better wide receiver in the room. But, that didn't suddenly make DeVonta Smith not good. Smith earned over 100 targets last season, which he turned into 64 catches for 916 receiving yards and 5 touchdowns. In the end, he finished in a virtual tie with Jaylen Waddle for the rookie wide receiver who accounted for the highest percentage of his team's yardage last season. Despite that, he still ranks in the top ten in unrealized air yards, thanks to the league's sixth-deepest average depth of target, meaning there was still room to grow for him. He was, in all respects, exactly what the Eagles wanted.

But now, since he's been relegated to the WR2 role, he's gotten dashed down the ranks. What happened to targets being earned? People love to talk about how good players earn their targets and they will maintain their relative target load. So, with A.J. Brown in tow, we dismiss DeVonta Smith? I don't think so. Smith falls in the "WR3 you can get for cheap" in salary cap drafts range, and he's the perfect guy to come back on after you've strayed from wide receiver to grab a running back or two in standard snake drafts. He's the forgotten man in Philadelphia thanks to A.J. Brown's arrival, but everyone needs to have some Simple Minds about this because don't you forget about him.

## Breakout: Jalen Hurts, Quarterback (QB8, 75 OVR)

It's weird to call the QB8 a breakout, but I currently have his projections with him as the QB5 on the season. That might seem like a distinction without a difference, it means that I will take him over guys like Joe Burrow, Kyler Murray, and Dak Prescott. In fact, here's the list I'd take over him: Josh Allen, Justin Herbert, Patrick Mahomes, and Lamar Jackson. That's it. Hurts is one of the best running QBs in the league, rushing for 784 yards and ten touchdowns, on 139 attempts. The attempts should stay very high, and I am excited for him to turn his non-DeVonta Smith, Dallas Goedert, and Miles Sanders targets into A.J. Brown. And really, that's the crux of this issue.

The main knock on Jalen Hurts is that he struggles to throw a good football. And with A.J. Brown, who cares? He's one of the best wide receivers in the league with the ball in his hands, and he can take any given pass to the house. So, Jalen Hurts can let A.J. Brown do the hard part for him; Jalen Hurts gets the fantasy points either way. I see Hurts keeping his rushing floor in 2022, and adding a massive ceiling by capping an iffy receiving corps (that he rode to the sixth-most fantasy points per game last season) with one of the best receivers in the league.

## Bust: A.J. Brown, Wide Receiver (WR9, 25 OVR)

It absolutely breaks my heart to put A.J. Brown down on this list, but the ADP necessitates it. While I have no doubt about A.J. Brown's talent, let's break down the math a little bit to figure out if he can even get enough targets to justify this ADP. First, he went from the Tennessee Titans, where he was by far the best passing weapon. All respect to Nick Westbrook-Ikhine and all disrespect to fully broken-down Julio Jones there with that statement. He now moves to the Eagles, where he has to contend with not only DeVonta Smith, but also Dallas Goedert and Miles Sanders for targets. So, he has to chop up the pie into more slices.

Second, the pie is a lot smaller in Philadelphia, thanks to Jalen Hurts' best skill being running the football. While the Titans did not throw the ball a lot (531 times, the seventh-lowest amount), the Eagles would need to add 39 pass attempts to their ledger to reach that amount. The Eagles' QBs threw the ball just 492 times last year, which means that A.J. Brown gets a lot smaller pie to work with.

So, none of this really has anything to do with A.J. Brown. It has to do with suddenly sharing a roster with DeVonta Smith, who had a 22% target share, Dallas Goedert, who had a 19% target share, and Miles Sanders, who had a 10% target share. While I assume targets will come from guys like Quez Watkins and J.J. Arcega-Whiteside, it's hard to get excited about taking A.J. Brown as my WR1 when he is going to one of the lowest pass attempt teams in the league with multiple established solid-to-good pass catchers. Ultimately, I believe we've properly accounted for this with DeVonta Smith's ADP, but not A.J. Brown's.

# PHILADELPHIA EAGLES ROOKIES

## Round 6, Pick 198 Overall: Grant Calcaterra, Tight End, SMU (6'4" 241 lbs)

### TALENT

Calcaterra is athletic and has decent receiving skills, but nothing too exciting. He profiles a lot like Vance McDonald to me; a guy who can't fully take advantage of his athleticism against man coverage, but uses every bit of it to find the holes in zones. But, unlike Vance McDonald, he can actually catch the football. He's an iffy blocker (that's code for not very good). His biggest red flag is that he retired from football due to concussions in 2020 and returned to college football in 2021.

### 2022 OPPORTUNITY

My guess is that the Eagles spend 2022 letting Calcaterra put some distance between him and his concussions, giving him some additional wiggle room should he suffer another one. They'll also let him work against physical defenders to try to up his skills against man coverage and when blocking, both things he needs to work on in spades.

### 2022 FANTASY FOOTBALL OUTLOOK

I doubt Calcaterra makes it off the practice squad this year as an organizational decision. If he makes the game-day roster, I doubt he gets enough targets to matter.

### TALENT

2/5

### 2022 OPPORTUNITY

0/5

### 2022 FANTASY FOOTBALL OUTLOOK

0/5

# JALEN HURTS, Philadelphia | 2021: QB9 (4 PPTD), QB11 (6 PPTD)

Height: 6'3"

Weight: 222 lbs

College: Oklahoma

Draft: #53 (Round 2) by Philadelphia, 2020

## DEPTH CHART

QB1 Jalen Hurts  
QB2 Gardner Minshew  
QB3 Carson Strong

Passing	G	GS	Att	Comp	Comp%	Yds	TD	Int	Att/G	Comp/G	Yds/G	TD/G	INT/G
2021	15	15	265	432	61.3%	3144	16	9	17.7	28.8	209.6	1.1	0.6
2020	15	4	148	77	52.0%	1061	6	4	9.9	5.1	70.7	0.4	0.3
2019	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## 2022 ADP & AAV:

Snake: QB7, 67 overall  
Auction: \$5.4

FPTs	4 PPTD	6 PPTD	4 PPTD/G	6 PPTD/G
2021	312.2	344.2	20.8	22.95
2020	108.1	120.1	7.2	8.01
2019	—	—	—	—

Rushing	Att	Yds	TD	YPC	Att/G	Yd/G
2021	139	784	10	5.6	9.3	52.3
2020	63	354	3	5.6	4.2	23.6
2019	—	—	—	—	—	—

Year	Air Yards	aDOT	Y/A	TD%	INT%	Sacks	Yds/Sack
2020	3867	8.95	7.30	6.0%	3.4%	26	5.77
2019	1332	9.00	7.17	4.1%	2.7%	13	4.54
2018	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## LEGEND

G = Games | GS = Games Started | Att = Pass Attempts | Comp = Pass Completions | Yds = Yards | TD = Touchdowns | Int = Interceptions | 4PPTD = 4 points per passing touchdown | 6PPT = 6 points per passing touchdown  
Air Yards = total amount of yardage between quarterback and catch point on all targets | aDOT = average depth of target, the average air yards per target | aDOT+ = aDOT compared to league average  
Y/A = Passing yards per pass attempt | TD% = percentage of pass attempts that are touchdowns | INT% = percentage of pass attempts that are interceptions

## Overview:

Jalen Hurts finished 2022 tied with Aaron Rodgers as QB6, with 21 fantasy points per game. He was also one of the most consistent fantasy football quarterbacks last year, finishing inside the top-12 in two-thirds of his games. This was more frequent than QB1, Josh Allen, and in fact, more frequent than every top-ten quarterback last season except Dak Prescott and Patrick Mahomes. Hurts was remarkably consistent last year thanks to his rushing floor; he led all quarterbacks in rushing yards and rushing touchdowns.

But, the passing upside is where Hurts found himself struggling to knock into the top five. While he was a remarkably consistent QB1, he rarely spiked, with just three top-five games, which tied him with Lamar Jackson and Joe Burrow in that regard. Hurts has a bad rap as a bad passer because he finished with just 3,144 passing yards last year, but on a per-attempt basis, he was on par with Josh Allen and Lamar Jackson (both with 6.9 yards per attempt in 2021). And he got a top-target upgrade, with A.J. Brown making the entire passing corps better and pushes out borderline guys like Quez Watkins and Jalen Reagor.

## Strategy:

Auction Value: \$13

By both ADP and AAV, Hurts is the QB8 in fantasy football drafts. Do that, right now. Go get Jalen Hurts as the QB8. Go out of your way to get Jalen Hurts. He was QB6 last year, tied with Aaron Rodgers, and everything got better for him headed into 2022. He might run less, but the amount he will run will give him a leg up on every other fantasy football quarterback going in his range. Jalen Hurts is my favorite combination of talent, opportunity, and price, and he is my favorite QB in this year's fantasy football drafts.

He sits between the Kyler Murray and Tom Brady tier in salary cap drafts, and above the Dak Prescott, Matthew Stafford, and Russell Wilson tier. While those three players are quality fantasy assets, I'd rather spend the extra couple of bucks to go get Jalen Hurts onto my roster, who has QB1 upside. In snake drafts, he's going between Clyde Edwards-Helaire and Devin Singletary and is just two picks ahead of Aaron Rodgers. Do the right thing, do what is necessary, and pull the trigger on Jalen Hurts there.

## Best Case Scenario:

Jalen Hurts to A.J. Brown is the new hot connection and it vaults up his passing totals while he maintains his rushing floor on non-A.J. Brown plays. He finishes this year as QB1. Yes, he has that upside.

## Worst Case Scenario:

Nick Sirianni gets really into Gardner Minshew memes and decides to make the switch to bench Jalen Hurts so he can point and laugh and clap and go, "like from the internet!!!"

# MILES SANDERS, Philadelphia | 2021: RB44 (STD), RB46 (PPR)

Height: 5'11"

Weight: 211 lbs

College: Penn State

Draft: #53 (Round 2) by Philadelphia, 2019

## DEPTH CHART

RB1 Miles Sanders  
RB2 Kenneth Gainwell  
RB3 Boston Scott  
RB4 Jason Huntley  
RB5 Kennedy Brooks

## 2022 ADP & AAV:

RB28, #68 overall  
Auction: \$8.5

Stats	G	GS	Ru	Yds	TD	Tgt	Rec	Yards	TD	Tch	Opp.	Total Yds
2021	12	12	137	754	0	34	26	158	0	163	171	912
2020	12	11	164	867	6	52	28	197	0	192	216	1064
2019	16	11	179	818	3	63	50	509	3	229	242	1327

Stats	YPC	Ru/G	Ru Yd/G	Tgt/G	Rec/G	Catch%	Yds/Tgt	Yds/Rec	Tch/G	Opp./G	Yds/G
2021	5.50	11.4	62.8	2.83	2.17	76.5%	4.65	6.08	13.58	14.25	76.0
2020	5.29	13.7	72.3	4.33	2.33	53.8%	3.79	7.04	16.00	18.00	88.67
2019	4.57	11.2	51.1	3.94	3.13	79.4%	8.08	10.18	14.31	15.13	82.94

Year	Std Pts	HPPR Pts	PPR Pts	Pts/G	HPPR Pts/G	PPR Pts/G	Pts/Tch	Pts/Tch (HPPR)	Pts/Tch (PPR)
2021	91.2	104.2	117.2	7.60	8.68	9.8	0.56	0.64	0.72
2020	142.4	156.4	170.4	11.87	13.03	14.2	0.74	0.81	0.89
2019	168.7	193.7	218.7	10.54	12.11	13.67	0.74	0.85	0.96

## LEGEND

G = Games | GS = Games Started | Ru = Rush Attempts | Yds = Yards | TD = Touchdowns | Tgt = Targets | Rec = Receptions | Tch = Total Touches | Opp. = Opportunities (Rush Attempts + Targets)  
YPC = Rushing Yards Per Carry | Catch% = percentage of passes to player that are caught  
Std = Standard Fantasy Scoring ("zero PPR") | HPPR = Half Point Per Reception Fantasy Scoring | PPR = Full Point Per Reception Fantasy Scoring

## Overview:

When you first look at Miles Sanders' opportunities, it seems like he should have a more robust stat line than he does. After all, the Eagles ranked first in rush attempts per game last year, and Miles Sanders is their lead back. It should stand to reason that Sanders would get enough touches to produce. Unfortunately, so many of those rush attempts went to Jalen Hurts, that the Eagles ranked eleventh in running back carries and 24th in running back receptions. But, the Eagles also loved to divide running back touches up among Sanders, Jordan Howard, Boston Scott, and Kenny Gainwell. That's how you end up with a team leading the league in rushing attempts, but with their lead back getting just 11.4 carries and 2.2 receptions per game to go alongside **zero** touchdowns.

It's also something that makes absolutely zero sense, as most teams do things like "get their best players the ball," and, "don't give Jordan Howard the ball since he definitely isn't one of their best players." But, alas, the Eagles spread things out too much to give Miles Sanders the upside many hope he could have when you look at his wild efficiency stats (fifth in breakaway run rate and a 5.5 yards per carry). But, since the Eagles were hellbent on putting him into a timeshare, he ended up averaging the fewest touches and yards per game of his career.

## Strategy:

Auction Value: \$16

There's something worth leaning into with Miles Sanders, however, as his disappointing 2021 has dropped his 2022 draft stock considerably, despite the fact that Jordan Howard is gone, and Gainwell & Scott do not have the chops to take a ton of touches from Sanders, like Howard did. There's another reason why I think that Sanders could have a better 2022 than 2021, and it also has to do with Jordan Howard (sort of). According to playerprofiler.com, Miles Sanders had 23 red zone touches, and Howard, a clearly inferior player, had 24 such touches. Gainwell and Scott also ended up with 20, each. This is probably why Sanders had exactly as many touchdowns in 2021 as you and I did. It's not because he's *bad* but because the Eagles split up their red zone touches a zillion ways.

With Jordan Howard gone and the Eagles seemingly turning to Miles Sanders as their primary back (neither Gainwell nor Scott have the size to be a Jordan Howard), that gives Sanders' a strong upside, especially at his draft price. In salary cap drafts, he's the RB29 by price (\$8.2), and goes behind guys like Damien Harris, Devin Singletary and Travis Etienne, who have shown less in their careers than Miles Sanders showed, at least from a talent perspective. Sanders also isn't the type of guy you're going to see a bidding war for, as he isn't even the sexiest running back name in this price range (that's Rashaad Penny).

In snake drafts, Sanders goes as RB28, and given that snake drafts have a bit more of a "this or that" quality to them, you have to decide between Sanders and the players going around him. Unfortunately for him, I'm unlikely to end up with Sanders in a snake draft unless he falls, as he goes just after Mike Williams & Brandin Cooks, and just before Allen Robinson, Amon-Ra St. Brown, and Jalen Hurts, all players I'm more likely to draft at their ADP. However, even if Sanders falls an extra round from his pick 72 overall ADP, I probably am not drafting him unless I specifically need a running back, as Darnell Mooney, Gabriel Davis, and JuJu Smith-Schuster all go in that range.

## Best Case Scenario:

The Eagles overcorrect and give Miles Sanders all 87 running back red zone touches from last season, and he finishes with more touchdowns than he did last year.

## Worst Case Scenario:

Well he can't finish with *fewer* touchdowns than he did in 2021, right? ...Right?

# A.J. BROWN, Philadelphia | 2021: WR32 (STD), WR32 (PPR)

Height: 6'0"

Weight: 226 lbs

College: Mississippi

Draft: #51 (Round 2) by Tennessee, 2019

## DEPTH CHART

WR1 A.J. Brown  
WR2 DeVonta Smith  
WR3 Jalen Reagor  
WR4 Quez Watkins

## 2022 ADP & AAV:

WR11, #28 overall  
Auction: \$24.4

Stats	G	GS	Tgt	Rec	Yds	TD	Tgt/G	Rec/G	Rec%	Yds/Tgt	Yds/Rec
2021	13	13	105	63	869	5	8.08	4.85	60.0%	8.28	13.79
2020	14	12	106	70	1075	11	8.83	5.00	66.0%	10.14	15.36
2019	16	11	84	52	1051	8	5.25	3.25	61.9%	12.51	20.21

Fpts	STD	HPPR	PPR	STD/G	HPPR/G	PPR/G	STD/Tgt	HPPR/Tgt	PPR/Tgt
2021	117.9	149.4	180.9	9.1	11.5	13.9	1.12	1.42	1.72
2020	177.5	212.5	247.5	12.7	15.2	17.7	1.67	2.00	2.33
2019	165.1	191.1	217.1	10.3	11.9	13.6	1.97	2.28	2.58

Adv	Air Yards	aDOT	YAC	YAC/Tgt	YAC/Rec	AY MS	Tgt MS
2021	1217	11.6	248	2.36	3.94	45%	28%
2020	1134	10.7	427	4.03	6.10	35%	27%
2019	1107	13.2	465	5.54	8.94	29%	19%

## LEGEND

G = Games | GS = Games Started | Tgt = Targets | Rec = Receptions | TD = Touchdowns | Tgt/G = Targets per Game | Rec/G = Receptions Per Game | Rec% = Catch Rate | Yds/Tgt = Yards Per Target | Yds/Rec = Yards Per Reception  
STD = Standard Fantasy Scoring ("zero PPR") | HPPR = Half Point Per Reception Fantasy Scoring | PPR = Full Point Per Reception Fantasy Scoring | Air Yards = yardage between quarterback and catch point on all targets  
aDOT = average depth of target, the average air yards per target | YAC = Yards after the Catch | YAC% = Percentage of Yards after the catch | MS = Market Share (Percentage of team's total going to the player)

## Overview:

I love A.J. Brown, the player. Before his knee issues cropped up again last season, there was a brief time period where I had him as my fantasy football WR1. Those issues caused him to miss six games in the previous two years, but when he played, he was one of the better wide receivers in the NFL, averaging 8 targets, 5 catches, and 72 yards per game, while on pace for 10 touchdowns over 17 games. This is all because he's one of the premier big-play receivers in the league, leading the entire NFL in 50+ yard receiving touchdowns since the Titans drafted him in 2019.

But, A.J. Brown, the situation, is where things start to get somewhat wobbly for me. The Eagles threw the football just 494 times last season, the lowest figure in the league, and A.J. Brown is leaving a situation where the Titans threw the ball 535 times per game. While this is still the seventh-fewest pass attempts per game, it's about 2.5 more pass attempts per game than the Eagles. While I sincerely doubt that the Eagles traded a first-round pick and gave Brown \$100 million to barely sniff 500 pass attempts again this year, I do fear about the distribution of said targets.

Again, I don't doubt A.J. Brown, the talent. I also trust what I saw on tape from DeVonta Smith in college, and he was no slouch last season, getting 104 targets for 916 yards. There's also the Dallas Goedert problem, who averaged four catches for 61 yards after the Eagles traded Zach Ertz to Arizona. There are three valuable receivers in Philadelphia, and I fear chopping up a small pie into that many pieces will leave everyone hungry, and A.J. Brown drafters disappointed.

## Strategy:

Auction Value: \$15

I hate to say it, but I'm out on A.J. Brown this season in snake drafts. He's WR10, pick 26, ahead of guys like Leonard Fournette, Keenan Allen, Antonio Gibson, and Tee Higgins. This sucks, for me, because I consider myself to be a huge A.J. Brown fan. But, I just don't see how it works for him as a top-ten wide receiver unless the Eagles significantly change their DNA on the fly, into being a pass-first team. And given their quarterback's skill set, that would be a crazy move to make just to placate A.J. Brown target share truthers.

But, in salary cap drafts... I might just be in on A.J. Brown. He's just \$25, and getting him for just over 12% of my salary cap makes for an intriguing proposition, especially when you consider that he will likely be my WR3 in this situation (I am going all-in on Mike Evans and Keenan Allen). There's a talent tier drop from Brown to the next guys (Michael Pittman, Jaylen Waddle, Diontae Johnson, and DJ Moore) so I might just dip my toe back in there. But, if I miss, I'm sitting around until Diontae at \$14 falls into my lap.

## Best Case Scenario:

A.J. Brown finally fulfills my prophecy and finishes as THE WR1.

## Worst Case Scenario:

A.J. Brown gets into a fight with DeVonta Smith, who just turns sideways. Confused and disoriented by Smith disappearing in front of him (because he's two-dimensional), A.J. Brown starts to believe in the occult and teams up with Jalen Hurts in a real-life version of *Supernatural*.

# DEVONTA SMITH, Philadelphia | 2021: WR30 (STD), WR29 (PPR)

Height: 6'0"

Weight: 170 lbs

College: Alabama

Draft: #10 (Round 1) by Philadelphia, 2021

## DEPTH CHART

WR1 A.J. Brown  
WR2 DeVonta Smith  
WR3 Jalen Reagor  
WR4 Quez Watkins

## 2022 ADP & AAV:

WR36, #83 overall  
Auction: \$1.3

Stats	G	GS	Tgt	Rec	Yds	TD	Tgt/G	Rec/G	Rec%	Yds/Tgt	Yds/Rec
2021	17	16	104	64	916	5	6.50	3.76	61.5%	8.81	14.31
2020	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2019	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Fpts	STD	HPPR	PPR	STD/G	HPPR/G	PPR/G	STD/Tgt	HPPR/Tgt	PPR/Tgt
2021	121.6	153.6	185.6	7.2	9.0	10.9	1.17	1.48	1.78
2020	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2019	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Adv	Air Yards	aDOT	YAC	YAC/Tgt	YAC/Rec	AY MS	Tgt MS
2021	1448	14.1	220	2.14	3.44	37%	23%
2020	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2019	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## LEGEND

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aDOT = average depth of target, the average air yards per target | YAC = Yards after the Catch | YAC% = Percentage of Yards after the catch | MS = Market Share (Percentage of team's total going to the player)

## Overview:

First and foremost, we have a volume problem with DeVonta Smith, which is the same problem we had for DeVonta Smith in 2021. He finished the year with 64 receptions for 916 yards. This is a highly respectable rookie year but it was overshadowed by Ja'Marr Chase & Jaylen Waddle. Or was it? Well, Chase had one of the best rookie years of all time, so that's a resounding yes. But things get a little woolier when you consider the Jaylen Waddle of it all. Miami threw for 3,936 yards last season, and Jaylen Waddle had 1,015 of those yards (25.7%). The Eagles, in comparison, had 3,585 passing yards, and DeVonta Smith had 916 of them... or 25.5%. Smith impacted the Eagles' passing game as Waddle impacted Miami's, yet we act as though Waddle broke out and Smith had a good, but a not great, season. By relative usefulness to their respective team's passing games, they had essentially the same rookie year.

Waddle and DeVonta Smith also have the same issue: Waddle was pushed down the depth chart by Tyreek Hill's addition, and Philadelphia moved Smith down the pecking order by adding A.J. Brown in the draft. So, things don't look great for Smith, which explains his draft day price.

## Strategy:

Auction Value: \$2

DeVonta Smith is currently WR36 by ADP, and pick 83 overall. In salary cap drafts, he's just \$1.3. I don't really understand this price, not because I think that it's too high, but because I think that it's too low. But, not by much. Sure, Smith will get sidelined by A.J. Brown at times, but this same A.J. Brown missed six games in the last two years thanks to injuries, so Smith will get his chance atop the target depth chart once again. There's also the issue that outside of Smith, Brown, and tight end Dallas Goedert... there isn't much to speak of in this Philadelphia wide receiver corps. Jalen Reagor and J.J. Arcega-Whiteside are both busts, and Quez Watkins is a never-was.

One thing a lot of people can't live with is the outcome that it could be A.J. Brown *and* DeVonta Smith in a grown pass volume offense in Philadelphia. Both players could get a 20%-30% target share, and there's still 40-60% left for the rest of the team to divide up. I feel great about DeVonta Smith as a talent (I had him over Ja'Marr Chase last year, pre-draft because I'm a clown who worried about Chase's year off). So, if DeVonta Smith can get, say, 25% of 500 targets (Hurts paced out to 490 targets), that's still 125 targets for him to work with. Last year, Smith finished as WR36 on 105 targets, meaning that there's room for him to grow from there, and with additional targets. He's a great mid-round value pick as the team's WR2 who has a chance to be the WR1 should things go south for A.J. Brown.

## Best Case Scenario:

There's nobody to come for targets outside of the big three in Philadelphia, and they split a 75% target share. The pie also grows in Philadelphia and the hyper-talented DeVonta Smith ends up with 140 targets and finishes as a top-15 wide receiver.

## Worst Case Scenario:

A.J. Brown gets 150 targets, and Jalen Hurts runs the ball 300 times. DeVonta Smith eventually just sits down on the field to pick grass.

# DALLAS GOEDERT, Philadelphia | 2021: TE9 (STD), TE10 (PPR)

**Height:** 6'5"

**Weight:** 256 lbs

**College:** South Dakota State

**Draft:** #49 (Round 2) by Philadelphia, 2018

## DEPTH CHART

TE1 Dallas Goedert  
TE2 Jack Stoll  
TE3 Grant Calcaterra

## 2022 ADP & AAV:

TE8, #75 overall  
Auction: \$2.6

Stats	G	GS	Tgt	Rec	Yds	TD	Tgt/G	Rec/G	Rec%	Yds/Tgt	Yds/Rec
2021	15	14	76	56	830	4	5.07	3.73	73.7%	10.92	14.82
2020	11	9	65	46	524	3	5.91	4.18	70.8%	8.06	11.39
2019	15	9	87	58	607	5	5.80	3.87	66.7%	6.98	10.47

Fpts	STD	HPPR	PPR	STD/G	HPPR/G	PPR/G	STD/Tgt	HPPR/Tgt	PPR/Tgt
2021	109	137	165	7.3	9.1	11.0	1.43	1.80	2.17
2020	70.4	93.4	116.4	6.4	8.5	10.6	1.08	1.44	1.79
2019	86.7	115.7	144.7	5.8	7.7	9.6	1.00	1.33	1.66

Adv	Air Yards	aDOT	YAC	YAC/Tgt	YAC/Rec	AY MS	Tgt MS
2021	643	8.46	386	5.08	6.89	21%	21%
2020	553	8.51	206	3.17	4.48	17%	17%
2019	499	5.7	331	3.80	5.71	11%	15%

## LEGEND

G = Games | GS = Games Started | Tgt = Targets | Rec = Receptions | TD = Touchdowns | Tgt/G = Targets per Game | Rec/G = Receptions Per Game | Rec% = Catch Rate | Yds/Tgt = Yards Per Target | Yds/Rec = Yards Per Reception  
STD = Standard Fantasy Scoring ("zero PPR") | HPPR = Half Point Per Reception Fantasy Scoring | PPR = Full Point Per Reception Fantasy Scoring | Air Yards = yardage between quarterback and catch point on all targets  
aDOT = average depth of target, the average air yards per target | YAC = Yards after the Catch | YAC% = Percentage of Yards after the catch | MS = Market Share (Percentage of team's total going to the player)

## Overview:

Last year, we saw Dallas Goedert finally break free from Zach Ertz's shackles. For years, we lamented their inclusion on the same team and said that Ertz was limiting Goedert's upside. It turns out that we were right. From 2018 through 2020, Ertz played 37 games with Zach Ertz, and 5 games without him. In the five games without Ertz, he averaged 20 more yards, an extra catch, and 2.2 more targets per game. In 2019 and 2020 (after his rookie campaign), Goedert averaged 9.8 PPR points per game with Ertz, and 11.9 PPR points without him.

It turns out that this was a preview of Goedert's 2021 breakout campaign without Ertz, almost exactly. Thanks to a midseason trade, the fantasy football gods finally separated Ertz and Goedert, and Goedert broke free, averaging 9.7 PPR points in the five games without Ertz, and 11.6 PPR points in the games without Ertz, on... about an extra catch for 20 yards, with 2 extra targets per game. So, all of our prognosticating about players and splits and on/off stats turned out to be spot on once the Eagles freed Goedert from Zach Ertz.

So, I think it's pretty safe to assume that we can expect about 12 PPR points from Goedert this season, even with A.J. Brown on board. Goedert is one of the three best players on the offense and works in a different area of the field than A.J. Brown, who has an aDOT of 11, whereas Goedert's is short of the sticks. DeVonta Smith is the deep threat of the three, so his targets shouldn't matter much to Ertz, either. So, I'm not worried about A.J. Brown stealing anything from Goedert. There's a tight end role in this offense, and Goedert will fill it admirably.

## Strategy:

**Auction Value:** \$2

Dallas Goedert is firmly part of The Blob and represents a good intersection of price and upside that you can justify taking him as your one and only Blob TE. He's currently TE8 off the board, pick 74 overall. Personally, I would pair him with another Blob TE, just in case. For example, Zach Ertz goes 19 picks later, and Mike Gesicki goes 33 picks later. If you get two of these guys, you get an extra chance at a top-six tight end season while insulating yourself from the risky downside of having to go to the waiver wire for Gerald Everett out of desperation.

## Best Case Scenario:

Dallas Goedert continues cooking with Jalen Hurts and finishes as TE5 on the season thanks to a touchdown outburst.

## Worst Case Scenario:

Dallas Goedert never returns to form with Jalen Hurts, and finishes as TE15 on the season thanks to an addiction to Starburst.