

## The Road to 200 Hits

by Jim Weigand

In 2009 Ichiro Suzuki hit safely in 87.7% of his games. He also had multiple hits in exactly half of his games. This is a modern record, surpassing his 86.0% in 2001 and his 49.7% in 2004. One has to retreat to the 1920s and 1930s to find a comparable accomplishment.

The following tables represent the 445 200-Hit seasons since 1920. One cannot express the inestimable value Retrosheet has proven to be for the researcher, especially in pre-modern baseball statistics. The “official” daily sheets are highly unreliable. Retrosheet’s researchers’ correction and balancing of the boxscores has yielded more reliable daily sheets, fixing many of the earlier errors. In fact, Retrosheet now has made more than two-thirds of all boxscores from 1871 to the present readily available on-line – a mind-boggling achievement.

Several oddities arise. Joe DiMaggio did not appear in a game in April of 1936, yet reached 200 hits for the season. The following year he managed only one hit in April (1 game), as did Ty Cobb (6 games) in 1922 and Dale Mitchell (1 game) in 1948. By the end of August 2004 Ichiro had 212 hits. Bill Terry (1930) collected his 200<sup>th</sup> hit on August 23 – the earliest anyone had done so.

The tables below list the each player’s distribution of hits per game and per month. The months of March and April (M/A) and September and October (S/O) are combined. First let’s look at Ichiro’s amazing nine-year career:

### ICHIRO SUZUKI

Year	G	H	0H	1H	2H	3H	4H	5H	6H	H%	MH%	H/G	M/A	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	S/O
2001	157	242	22	60	49	20	6	0	0	86.0	47.8	1.54	39	47	38	30	51	37
2002	157	208	32	62	44	18	1	0	0	79.6	40.1	1.32	31	44	41	34	33	25
2003	159	212	35	58	49	12	5	0	0	78.0	41.5	1.33	27	44	44	38	29	30
2004	161	262	27	54	46	24	6	4	0	83.2	49.7	1.63	26	50	29	51	56	50
2005	162	206	36	66	42	16	2	0	0	77.8	37.0	1.27	36	32	27	40	29	42
2006	161	224	37	53	49	16	5	1	0	77.0	44.1	1.39	31	46	44	32	27	44
2007	161	238	28	57	52	20	3	1	0	82.6	47.2	1.48	25	46	47	33	45	42
2008	162	213	31	73	38	17	2	1	0	80.9	35.8	1.31	30	36	34	36	43	34
2009	146	225	18	55	54	14	5	0	0	87.7	50.0	1.54	19	49	44	39	33	41
	<b>1426</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>345</b>

### Highest Percentage of Games with Hits (H%) 1920-2009:

Year	Batter	G	H	0H	1H	2H	3H	4H	5H	6H	H%	MH%	M/A	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	S/O
1922	Sisler, George	142	244	17	54	35	24	12	0	0	88.0	50.0	28	48	51	31	51	35
2009	Suzuki, Ichiro	146	225	18	55	54	14	5	0	0	87.7	50.0	19	49	44	39	33	41
1922	Hornsby, Rogers	154	250	19	57	46	27	5	0	0	87.7	50.6	21	39	41	54	35	60
1929	Waner, Lloyd	151	234	19	60	48	20	3	0	1	87.4	47.7	15	40	44	49	42	44
1925	Simmons, Al	153	253	20	48	56	23	6	0	0	86.9	55.6	12	57	36	42	47	59
1930	Klein, Chuck	156	250	21	52	58	18	7	0	0	86.5	53.2	17	38	48	61	47	39
2001	Suzuki, Ichiro	157	242	22	60	49	20	6	0	0	86.0	47.8	39	47	38	30	51	37
1999	Jeter, Derek	158	219	23	68	51	15	1	0	0	85.4	42.4	31	40	37	38	31	42
1937	DiMaggio, Joe	151	215	22	65	44	19	0	1	0	85.4	42.4	1	43	35	52	42	42
1923	Heilmann, Harry	144	211	21	60	42	18	2	1	0	85.4	43.8	26	26	38	34	35	52
1928	Richbourg, Lance	148	206	22	64	45	16	1	0	0	85.1	41.9	9	33	27	43	44	50
1934	Waner, Paul	146	217	22	62	37	19	6	0	0	84.9	42.5	12	35	40	48	49	33
1924	Jamieson, Charlie	143	213	22	59	37	21	3	1	0	84.6	43.4	11	39	44	30	48	41
1977	Carew, Rod	155	239	24	61	41	21	7	1	0	84.5	45.2	31	35	54	31	45	43
2006	Jeter, Derek	154	214	24	67	43	19	1	0	0	84.4	40.9	35	33	28	42	36	40
1929	O'Doul, Lefty	154	254	24	51	46	23	8	2	0	84.4	51.3	17	42	39	53	46	57
1920	Sisler, George	154	257	24	56	33	29	12	0	0	84.4	48.1	12	39	60	40	42	64
1925	Bottomley, Jim	153	227	24	57	52	15	4	1	0	84.3	47.1	23	33	48	46	45	32
1929	Herman, Babe	146	218	23	59	40	18	5	1	0	84.2	43.8	17	38	40	53	36	34
1928	Waner, Paul	152	223	24	59	46	20	3	0	0	84.2	45.4	23	37	34	45	50	34
1930	Waner, Paul	145	217	23	56	43	18	4	1	0	84.1	45.5	20	29	36	42	54	36
1930	Simmons, Al	138	211	22	56	36	14	9	1	0	84.1	43.5	19	40	26	48	46	32
1925	Sisler, George	150	224	24	51	57	14	3	1	0	84.0	50.0	28	51	30	49	35	31
1997	Gwynn, Tony	149	220	24	58	43	20	4	0	0	83.9	45.0	36	46	38	41	32	27
1927	Gehrig, Lou	155	218	25	63	51	11	5	0	0	83.9	43.2	22	47	36	45	32	36
1985	Boggs, Wade	161	240	26	63	46	19	7	0	0	83.9	44.7	25	32	38	40	49	56
1928	Gehrig, Lou	154	210	25	68	44	14	3	0	0	83.8	39.6	17	37	37	42	41	36
1921	Hornsby, Rogers	154	235	25	59	37	30	3	0	0	83.8	45.5	18	39	48	47	49	34
1929	Sisler, George	154	205	25	70	43	15	1	0	0	83.8	38.3	8	38	43	46	31	39
1930	Terry, Bill	154	254	25	49	48	21	9	2	0	83.8	51.9	16	48	39	56	51	44
1920	Collins, Eddie	153	222	25	61	42	23	2	0	0	83.7	43.8	15	37	32	52	43	43
1999	Gonzalez, Luis	153	206	25	67	47	11	3	0	0	83.7	39.9	27	44	33	34	38	30
1954	Mueller, Don	153	212	25	68	42	13	4	1	0	83.7	39.2	15	43	41	41	35	37
2005	Young, Michael	159	221	26	67	47	16	3	0	0	83.6	41.5	28	31	44	40	37	41
1936	Averill, Earl	152	232	25	60	38	21	7	1	0	83.6	44.1	16	37	38	60	42	39
1950	Kell, George	157	218	26	67	44	17	3	0	0	83.4	40.8	11	40	45	39	44	39
1943	Musial, Stan	157	220	26	73	35	16	6	1	0	83.4	36.9	9	40	30	49	51	41
1930	Cuyler, Kiki	156	228	26	61	44	22	2	1	0	83.3	44.2	19	38	41	46	52	32
1929	Terry, Bill	150	226	25	59	41	17	6	2	0	83.3	44.0	11	40	53	52	36	34
2004	Suzuki, Ichiro	161	262	27	54	46	24	6	4	0	83.2	49.7	26	50	29	51	56	50
1953	Rosen, Al	155	201	26	73	41	14	1	0	0	83.2	36.1	13	34	33	38	45	38
1921	Heilmann, Harry	149	237	25	54	36	26	7	1	0	83.2	47.0	24	48	41	54	32	38
1924	Hornsby, Rogers	143	227	24	44	46	25	4	0	0	83.2	52.4	24	35	37	52	54	25

### Highest Percentage of Games with Multiple Hits (MH%) 1920-2009:

Year	Batter	G	H	0H	1H	2H	3H	4H	5H	6H	H%	MH%	M/A	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	S/O
1925	Simmons, Al	153	253	20	48	56	23	6	0	0	86.9	55.6	12	57	36	42	47	59
1930	Klein, Chuck	156	250	21	52	58	18	7	0	0	86.5	53.2	17	38	48	61	47	39
1924	Hornsby, Rogers	143	227	24	44	46	25	4	0	0	83.2	52.4	24	35	37	52	54	25
1930	Terry, Bill	154	254	25	49	48	21	9	2	0	83.8	51.9	16	48	39	56	51	44
1929	O'Doul, Lefty	154	254	24	51	46	23	8	2	0	84.4	51.3	17	42	39	53	46	57
1937	Medwick, Joe	156	237	30	46	57	15	8	0	0	80.8	51.3	15	40	39	48	48	47
1931	Simmons, Al	128	200	23	40	40	21	3	1	0	82.0	50.8	13	47	41	53	20	26
1922	Hornsby, Rogers	154	250	19	57	46	27	5	0	0	87.7	50.6	21	39	41	54	35	60
1927	Waner, Paul	155	237	27	50	52	21	5	0	0	82.6	50.3	14	41	48	49	43	42
1932	Klein, Chuck	154	226	32	45	53	21	3	0	0	79.2	50.0	23	40	48	43	40	32
1922	Sisler, George	142	244	17	54	35	24	12	0	0	88.0	50.0	28	48	51	31	51	35
1925	Sisler, George	150	224	24	51	57	14	3	1	0	84.0	50.0	28	51	30	49	35	31
2009	Suzuki, Ichiro	146	225	18	55	54	14	5	0	0	87.7	50.0	19	49	44	39	33	41
2004	Suzuki, Ichiro	161	262	27	54	46	24	6	4	0	83.2	49.7	26	50	29	51	56	50
1930	Herman, Babe	153	241	31	46	41	29	4	2	0	79.7	49.7	18	47	34	58	44	40
1928	Manush, Heinie	154	241	30	48	46	20	9	1	0	80.5	49.4	25	35	36	55	39	51
2000	Erstad, Darin	157	240	29	51	47	25	5	0	0	81.5	49.0	48	36	44	43	30	39
1923	Frisch, Frankie	151	222	31	46	53	15	5	1	0	79.5	49.0	23	40	38	42	40	39
1920	Hornsby, Rogers	149	218	31	45	52	15	6	0	0	79.2	49.0	23	39	38	38	33	47
1922	Cobb, Ty	137	211	26	44	46	13	4	4	0	81.0	48.9	1	44	31	67	39	29
1986	Mattingly, Don	162	238	33	50	53	22	4	0	0	79.6	48.8	22	44	43	37	38	54
1927	Waner, Lloyd	150	223	32	45	45	25	2	1	0	78.7	48.7	15	31	36	45	39	57
1930	Lindstrom, Fred	148	231	25	51	47	17	5	3	0	83.1	48.6	16	36	35	48	50	46
1921	Sisler, George	138	216	28	43	42	15	7	2	1	79.7	48.6	16	48	30	18	60	44
1920	Sisler, George	154	257	24	56	33	29	12	0	0	84.4	48.1	12	39	60	40	42	64
1921	Tobin, Jack	150	236	30	48	39	22	11	0	0	80.0	48.0	19	47	41	44	51	34
1925	Wheat, Zack	150	221	36	42	44	23	3	2	0	76.0	48.0	24	37	34	31	54	41
1936	Waner, Paul	148	218	29	48	49	16	6	0	0	80.4	48.0	12	34	41	42	44	45
1936	DiMaggio, Joe	138	206	29	43	41	20	4	1	0	79.0	47.8	0	48	42	39	48	29
2001	Suzuki, Ichiro	157	242	22	60	49	20	6	0	0	86.0	47.8	39	47	38	30	51	37
1929	Waner, Lloyd	151	234	19	60	48	20	3	0	1	87.4	47.7	15	40	44	49	42	44
1936	Gehring, Charlie	154	227	29	52	48	21	4	0	0	81.2	47.4	25	39	37	42	50	34
1928	Waner, Lloyd	152	221	34	46	46	21	5	0	0	77.6	47.4	19	39	33	43	50	37
1932	O'Doul, Lefty	148	219	25	53	48	18	4	0	0	83.1	47.3	7	43	44	45	50	30
1920	Jackson, Joe	146	218	29	48	41	24	4	0	0	80.1	47.3	15	34	46	48	32	43
1925	Stock, Milt	146	202	34	43	53	11	5	0	0	76.7	47.3	4	41	48	38	36	35
2007	Suzuki, Ichiro	161	238	28	57	52	20	3	1	0	82.6	47.2	25	46	47	33	45	42
1925	Hornsby, Rogers	138	203	27	46	43	17	5	0	0	80.4	47.1	16	35	48	29	39	36
1925	Lamar, Bill	138	202	30	43	42	17	6	0	0	78.3	47.1	8	20	56	42	37	39
1925	Bottomley, Jim	153	227	24	57	52	15	4	1	0	84.3	47.1	23	33	48	46	45	32
1921	Heilmann, Harry	149	237	25	54	36	26	7	1	0	83.2	47.0	24	48	41	54	32	38
1996	Johnson, Lance	160	227	35	50	51	21	3	0	0	78.1	46.9	31	39	37	36	39	45

### Most Hits by the End of August with Date of 200<sup>th</sup> Hit: 1920-2009

Year	Batter	G	H	0H	1H	2H	3H	4H	5H	6H	M/A	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	S/O	Aug 31	200 H
2004	Suzuki, Ichiro	161	262	27	54	46	24	6	4	0	26	50	29	51	56	50	212	Aug 26
1930	Klein, Chuck	156	250	21	52	58	18	7	0	0	17	38	48	61	47	39	211	Aug 24
1930	Terry, Bill	154	254	25	49	48	21	9	2	0	16	48	39	56	51	44	210	Aug 23
1922	Sisler, George	142	244	17	54	35	24	12	0	0	28	48	51	31	51	35	209	Aug 25
2001	Suzuki, Ichiro	157	242	22	60	49	20	6	0	0	39	47	38	30	51	37	205	Aug 28
1921	Tobin, Jack	150	236	30	48	39	22	11	0	0	19	47	41	44	51	34	202	Aug 30
1924	Hornsby, Rogers	143	227	24	44	46	25	4	0	0	24	35	37	52	54	25	202	Aug 28
1921	Hornsby, Rogers	154	235	25	59	37	30	3	0	0	18	39	48	47	49	34	201	Aug 31
1930	Herman, Babe	153	241	31	46	41	29	4	2	0	18	47	34	58	44	40	201	Aug 31
1974	Garr, Ralph	143	214	26	53	36	23	5	0	0	34	47	33	46	41	13	201	Aug 31
2000	Erstad, Darin	157	240	29	51	47	25	5	0	0	48	36	44	43	30	39	201	Aug 29
1921	Heilmann, Harry	149	237	25	54	36	26	7	1	0	24	48	41	54	32	38	199	
1929	O'Doul, Lefty	154	254	24	51	46	23	8	2	0	17	42	39	53	46	57	197	
1930	Cuyler, Kiki	156	228	26	61	44	22	2	1	0	19	38	41	46	52	32	196	
1977	Carew, Rod	155	239	24	61	41	21	7	1	0	31	35	54	31	45	43	196	
2007	Suzuki, Ichiro	161	238	28	57	52	20	3	1	0	25	46	47	33	45	42	196	
1925	Bottomley, Jim	153	227	24	57	52	15	4	1	0	23	33	48	46	45	32	195	
1927	Waner, Paul	155	237	27	50	52	21	5	0	0	14	41	48	49	43	42	195	
1973	Rose, Pete	160	230	34	56	42	23	4	1	0	25	30	39	52	49	35	195	
1925	Simmons, Al	153	253	20	48	56	23	6	0	0	12	57	36	42	47	59	194	
1932	Klein, Chuck	154	226	32	45	53	21	3	0	0	23	40	48	43	40	32	194	
1936	Medwick, Joe	155	223	28	59	45	18	5	0	0	21	41	30	50	52	29	194	
1998	Bichette, Dante	161	219	40	55	44	13	8	1	0	51	31	35	34	43	25	194	
1920	Sisler, George	154	257	24	56	33	29	12	0	0	12	39	60	40	42	64	193	
1925	Sisler, George	150	224	24	51	57	14	3	1	0	28	51	30	49	35	31	193	
1936	Averill, Earl	152	232	25	60	38	21	7	1	0	16	37	38	60	42	39	193	
1936	Gehring, Charlie	154	227	29	52	48	21	4	0	0	25	39	37	42	50	34	193	
1997	Gwynn, Tony	149	220	24	58	43	20	4	0	0	36	46	38	41	32	27	193	
1929	Terry, Bill	150	226	25	59	41	17	6	2	0	11	40	53	52	36	34	192	
1971	Torre, Joe	161	230	28	66	42	21	3	1	0	34	33	46	35	44	38	192	
1930	Hodapp, Johnny	154	225	26	62	42	17	7	0	0	13	46	45	44	43	34	191	
1930	O'Doul, Lefty	140	202	28	57	28	21	4	2	0	14	35	44	56	42	11	191	
1948	Musial, Stan	155	230	34	53	41	17	6	4	0	14	43	42	44	48	39	191	
1996	Molitor, Paul	161	225	35	54	50	18	3	1	0	39	29	36	40	47	34	191	
1922	Hornsby, Rogers	154	250	19	57	46	27	5	0	0	21	39	41	54	35	60	190	
1928	Manush, Heinie	154	241	30	48	46	20	9	1	0	25	35	36	55	39	51	190	
1929	Waner, Lloyd	151	234	19	60	48	20	3	0	1	15	40	44	49	42	44	190	
1937	Medwick, Joe	156	237	30	46	57	15	8	0	0	15	40	39	48	48	47	190	

### Fewest Hits by the End of April: 1920-2009

Year	Batter	G	H	0H	1H	2H	3H	4H	5H	6H	M/A	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	S/O
1936	DiMaggio, Joe	138	206	29	43	41	20	4	1	0	0	48	42	39	48	29
1922	Cobb, Ty	137	211	26	44	46	13	4	4	0	1	44	31	67	39	29
1937	DiMaggio, Joe	151	215	22	65	44	19	0	1	0	1	43	35	52	42	42
1948	Mitchell, Dale	141	204	25	50	48	14	4	0	0	1	21	32	49	59	42
1935	Jensen, Woody	143	203	29	49	45	16	4	0	0	3	36	44	40	48	32
1925	Stock, Milt	146	202	34	43	53	11	5	0	0	4	41	48	38	36	35
1930	Whitney, Pinky	149	207	29	54	47	17	2	0	0	4	26	43	42	55	37
1937	Fox, Pete	148	208	31	52	43	18	4	0	0	5	25	31	46	47	54
1937	Lewis, Buddy	156	210	32	61	46	12	4	1	0	5	40	36	37	37	55
1920	Tobin, Jack	147	202	34	57	31	18	6	1	0	6	29	44	29	39	55
1937	Gehring, Charlie	144	209	27	52	43	18	3	1	0	6	29	35	36	59	44
1937	Greenberg, Hank	154	200	36	55	47	14	1	1	0	6	45	28	38	46	37
1943	Wakefield, Dick	155	200	36	59	41	17	2	0	0	6	39	35	46	40	34
1956	Aaron, Hank	153	200	30	65	43	11	4	0	0	6	33	32	50	38	41

### 200-Hit Seasons Not Covered in the Study:

Year	Batter	H	Year	Batter	H	Year	Batter	H
1887	O'Neill, Tip	225	1897	Keeler, Willie	239	1905	Seymour, Cy	219
1887	Browning, Pete	220	1897	Clarke, Fred	202	1905	Donlin, Mike	216
1887	Lyons, Denny	209	1897	Delahanty, Ed	200	1906	Lajoie, Nap	214
1887	Thompson, Sam	203	1898	Keeler, Willie	216	1906	Stone, George	208
1889	Glasscock, Jack	205	1898	Burkett, Jesse	213	1907	Cobb, Ty	212
1893	Thompson, Sam	222	1898	Van Haltren, George	204	1908	Wagner, Honus	201
1893	Delahanty, Ed	219	1899	Delahanty, Ed	238	1909	Cobb, Ty	216
1893	Duffy, Hugh	203	1899	Burkett, Jesse	221	1910	Lajoie, Nap	227
1894	Duffy, Hugh	237	1899	Williams, Jimmy	219	1911	Cobb, Ty	248
1894	Hamilton, Billy	220	1899	Keeler, Willie	216	1911	Jackson, Joe	233
1894	Keeler, Willie	219	1899	Tenney, Fred	209	1911	Crawford, Sam	217
1894	Lowe, Bobby	212	1899	Clarke, Fred	206	1912	Cobb, Ty	226
1894	Brodie, Steve	210	1899	Stahl, Chick	202	1912	Jackson, Joe	226
1894	Cross, Lave	204	1900	Keeler, Willie	204	1912	Speaker, Tris	222
1895	Burkett, Jesse	225	1900	Burkett, Jesse	203	1912	Zimmerman, Heinie	207
1895	Keeler, Willie	213	1900	Wagner, Honus	201	1912	Sweeney, Bill	204
1895	Thompson, Sam	211	1900	Flick, Elmer	200	1912	Baker, Frank	200
1895	Jennings, Hughie	204	1901	Lajoie, Nap	232	1914	Kauff, Benny	211
1895	Hamilton, Billy	201	1901	Burkett, Jesse	226	1915	Cobb, Ty	208
1896	Burkett, Jesse	240	1901	Keeler, Willie	202	1916	Speaker, Tris	211
1896	Keeler, Willie	210	1903	Beaumont, Ginger	209	1916	Jackson, Joe	202
1896	Jennings, Hughie	209	1904	Lajoie, Nap	208	1916	Cobb, Ty	201
						1917	Cobb, Ty	225