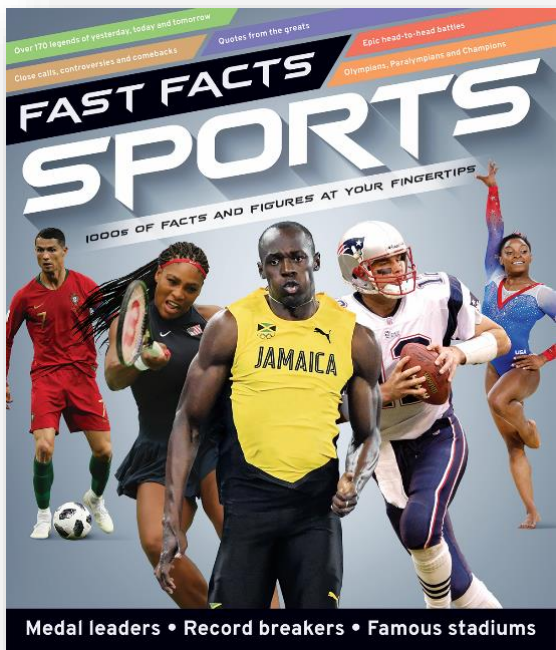


FAST FACTS: SPORTS

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- Over 40 sports from football, baseball and hockey to motorsports, martial arts and cycling.
- Information on famous teams and all-star competitors.
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BASEBALL

Through the first organized game held in Canada in 1838, baseball's heartland is in the United States. Here, in 1845, the game's first rules were compiled, and by the 1850s there was a national league. By 1879 it had become a major sport, taking deepest root in Japan and the Caribbean. Baseball's fans now number 500 million. Played by two teams, the aim is to score maximum runs when batting and to prevent runs when pitching and fielding. To play, you need a round ball, a ball and catcher's mitt, and four bases (home, 1st, 2nd and 3rd) placed on the corners of a square with 90-foot sides. Beyond this infield and inside the foul lines is the outfield.

Record Breakers

MLB career bats hits leaders

Pete Rose	1929-1984	4,254
Ty Cobb	1912-1928	4,191
Jackie Robinson	1947-1956	3,172
Stan Musial	1941-1962	3,030
Tom Seaver	1967-1978	3,024
Sam Rice	1885-1914	3,048
Alvin Dark	1917-1937	2,496
Carl Yastrzemski	1961-1983	3,419
Paul Stanton	1919-1936	3,379
Alvin Karpis	1904-1928	3,363

MLB career home runs leaders

Babe Ruth	1916-1935	5,069
Barry Bonds	1986-2007	4,755
Tommy League	1923-1939	4,532
Roberto Clement	1955-2003	3,542
Carl Yastrzemski	1961-1983	3,514

MLB career RBIs leaders (pitchers)

Tom Seaver	1967-1978	5,274
Steve Carlton	1965-1984	4,134
Tom Seaver	1967-1978	5,274
Steve Carlton	1965-1984	4,134
Tom Seaver	1967-1978	5,274
Steve Carlton	1965-1984	4,134

MLB career strikeouts leaders (pitchers)

Nolan Ryan	1961-1987	5,714
Tom Seaver	1967-1978	5,274
Steve Carlton	1965-1984	4,134
Tom Seaver	1967-1978	5,274
Steve Carlton	1965-1984	4,134

World Series winners by year (in years)

New York Yankees	1903-1919	4
Cleveland Indians	1920-1926	5
New York Yankees	1927-1933	6
Cleveland Indians	1934-1940	7
New York Yankees	1941-1954	17
St. Louis Cardinals	1955-1958	4
New York Yankees	1959-1962	3
Los Angeles Dodgers	1963-1968	6
New York Yankees	1969-1976	8
Los Angeles Dodgers	1977-1981	5
New York Yankees	1982-1988	7
Los Angeles Dodgers	1989-1995	6
New York Yankees	1996-2000	5
St. Louis Cardinals	2001-2005	5
New York Yankees	2006-2008	3
Los Angeles Dodgers	2009-2012	4
New York Yankees	2013-2017	5

Longest World Series droughts (in seasons)

Cleveland Indians	1948
San Diego Padres	1969*
Philadelphia Phillies	1973*
San Diego Padres	1974*
San Diego Padres	1975*
San Diego Padres	1976*
San Diego Padres	1977*
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San Diego Padres	2016*
San Diego Padres	2017*
San Diego Padres	2018*
San Diego Padres	2019*
San Diego Padres	2020*
San Diego Padres	2021*
San Diego Padres	2022*

Commissioner's Trophy

This trophy is presented by the Commissioner of Baseball to the winner of the World Series. It was first presented in 1903 to the St. Louis Cardinals, and is now made each year. The 28-inch tall silver trophy features 30 gold-plated rings representing each MLB team.

New York Yankees

The New York Yankees are the most successful MLB professional team with 27 winning championships. During their 100th anniversary in 2009, they were named the "Most Valuable Team" by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.