

2023 GAME NOTES



American League East Champions: 1985, 1989, 1991, 1992, 1993, 2015
 American League Champions: 1992, 1993
 World Series Champions: 1992, 1993



Toronto Blue Jays Communications Department
 Follow us on Twitter @BlueJaysComms

TORONTO BLUE JAYS (89-73) at MINNESOTA TWINS (87-75) RHP Kevin Gausman (12-9, 3.16) vs. RHP Pablo López (11-8, 3.66)

ALWC Game #1 October 3, 2023 4:38 pm TV: SNET/TVA RADIO: SN590

2023 AT A GLANCE	
Overall	89-73
Home	43-38
Road	46-35
Day	38-27
Night	51-46
Current Streak	L2
Last 5 Games	2-3
Last 10 Games	4-6
March/April	18-10
May	11-17
June	16-11
July	14-10
August	14-13
Sept./Oct.	16-12
vs. LHSP	20-15
vs. RHSP	69-58
Series Opener	30-22
Series Finale	29-23
By Series	30-20-2
By Home Series	14-11-1
By Road Series	16-9-1
Rubber Games	13-7
Sweeps/Were Swept	9-5
Scored First	56-22
Opponent Scored First	33-51
One-Run Games	25-20
One or Two-Run Games	34-35
Comeback Wins	37-35
Last AB Wins	17-19
Walk-off Wins	6-7
Extra Innings	10-9
Led After 6	61-9
Led After 7	71-7
Led After 8	76-4
Tied After 6	20-10
Tied After 7	11-12
Tied After 8	8-13
Behind After 6	8-54
Behind After 7	7-54
Behind After 8	5-56
Division Games	21-31
vs. Other Divisions	68-42
vs. AL Teams	59-57
vs. NL Teams	30-16
Hit 0 HR	21-29
Hit 1+ HR	68-44
Hit 2+ HR	35-14
Shutouts	15-11
Scored 3 or Fewer Runs	21-43
Scored 4 or More Runs	68-30
Scored 5 or More Runs	55-18
Allowed 3 or Fewer Runs	74-12
Allowed 4 or More Runs	15-61
Allowed 5 or More Runs	9-54
More Hits than Opponent	65-13
Fewer Hits than Opponent	14-49
Committed No Errors	66-41
Committed 1+ Errors	23-32

ROGERS CENTRE IN 2023			
Home Runs	Open	Closed	
Toronto	54	30	
Opponents	69	29	
W/L	Open	Closed	Other
2023	26-25	15-10	2-3
All-Time	794-595	568-484	78-59
Attendance	Total		Average
2023	3,021,904		37,307

BY THE NUMBERS	
MLB, Pitcher Strikeouts - 2023	
Minnesota Twins	1,560
Toronto Blue Jays	1,528
Atlanta Braves	1,516
Tampa Bay Rays	1,507
Miami Marlins	1,490

WILD LIFE:

✦ The Blue Jays wrapped up the regular season with an 89-73 record, 3rd place in the AL East...Claimed the 3rd AL Wild Card spot, entering the postseason as a Wild Card for the 2nd straight year and the 4th time overall...Have gone 1-4 in Wild Card contests all-time...Lost both games vs. Seattle last season and dropped both contests in Tampa Bay in 2020...Won the one-game playoff vs. Baltimore in 2016.

MANAGING EXPECTATIONS:

✦ John Schneider has gone 135-101 since taking over as Toronto's Manager last July...**The .572 win% is the highest all-time by a Blue Jays Manager through his first two seasons** (2nd: Cito Gaston - .566)...Is the only Manager in team history to reach the playoffs in each of his first two seasons at the helm.

GAUS FOR EXCITEMENT:

✦ Kevin Gausman gets the start for Game 1 today, his 3rd career playoff start (8th game)...**Set a career high this season with 237 strikeouts** (227 in 2021)...**Were the most in the AL**, behind only Spencer Strider (281) for the MLB lead, and 4th most in a single season in team history.
 ✦ **The righty also ranked 1st in the AL in K rate (31.1%) and SO/9 (11.53)** while finishing 4th in ERA (3.16), 6th in SO/BB (4.31), 10th in innings pitched (185.0), and 11th in WHIP (1.18)...**Topped all AL pitchers with a 5.3 fWAR**...Threw 100+ pitches on 18 occasions, tied with Blake Snell for the most in MLB.

AL, Strikeouts - 2023			
Rank	Player	Strikeouts	ERA
1	Kevin Gausman	237	3.16
2	Pablo López	234	3.66
3	Gerrit Cole	222	2.63
4	Luis Castillo	219	3.34
5	Dylan Cease	214	4.58

FEELING GEORGEOUS LATELY:

✦ George Springer played in 154 games this year, his 2nd-highest total for a single season (162 in 2016)...Over his last 49 games, batted .284 (56-for-197) with 30 runs scored, 11 doubles, eight homers, 30 RBI, and 22 walks (.815 OPS)...His 30 hits in Sept./Oct. tied for 7th most in the AL.
 ✦ The outfielder has batted .270 (72-for-267) with 34 extra-base hits, 38 RBI, and 31 walks over his 65 career playoff games (.889 OPS)...His 19 career postseason home runs are tied with Albert Pujols for 5th most all-time.

ONE NOTCH AT A TIME:

✦ Brandon Belt homered three times in his last four games of the season, giving him 19 dingers for the year, the 2nd most of his career (29 in 2021)...Went 29-for-101 (.287) with 23 runs scored, five doubles, 11 home runs, 17 RBI, and 18 walks over his last 30 contests (.400 OBP, 1.063 OPS)...**His 1.063 OPS and .663 SLG from Aug. 1 to the end of the season was the best among AL hitters** while he ranked T-8th in OBP (min. 100 PA)...**His 4.45 pitches/PA this season topped all MLB batters** (min. 300 PA)...His walk rate of 6.62 PA/BB was 5th highest in the AL.

BO KNOWS BASE HITS:

✦ Bo Bichette recorded 175 hits this season, 4th most among AL batters, despite missing 25 games over two IL stints...**His 77 opposite-field hits led the Majors** (2nd: Luis Arraez - 66)...Finished 3rd in the AL with a .306 batting average...Tied with Julio Rodríguez for the most games with 4+ hits in the AL at six, tied for 3rd with 15 games with 3+ hits, and tied for 4th with 52 multi-hit games this season.

ROAD READY:

✦ The Blue Jays put together a 46-35 road record this season for a .568 win%, tied for 3rd best in the AL (T-5th in MLB)...The 46 road wins were the 2nd most in a season in team history (47 in 1993)...Held a better road record than home record for the first time since 2003.
 ✦ Blue Jays hitters ranked 2nd among AL clubs with a .334 road OBP while sitting 3rd in road batting average (.263), road SLG (.431), and road OPS (.765)...The pitching staff finished 2nd in the AL in road ERA (3.88), 9th in road opponents' average (.252), and 10th in road WHIP (1.28).

WELCOME TO THE VAR-SHOW:

✦ Daulton Varsho played in a career-high 158 games and reached the 20-homer mark for the 2nd time in his career...**Recorded an MLB-high 29 defensive runs saved this season** (2nd: Fernando Tatis Jr. - 27)...His 18 DRS in center tied for 2nd most among center fielders while his 11 DRS in left were 3rd most among left fielders.

PITCHING IN:

✦ Toronto pitchers combined for a 3.78 ERA in 2023, 2nd best in the AL behind Seattle's 3.74 mark (4th in MLB)...The 3.78 ERA was 7th best in team history and the club's best since 2016 (3.78)...**Recorded a franchise-record 1,528 strikeouts** (1,468 in 2021) which was good for 2nd most in MLB this season (1st: MIN - 1,560)...Ranked 6th in the AL in opponents' batting average (.241) and 7th in WHIP (1.25)...The rotation combined for 70 quality starts, tied for 3rd most in the AL (T-5th in MLB)

BINARY RESULTS:

✦ **The Blue Jays kept opponents to one or no runs on an MLB-high 42 occasions this season** (2nd: LAD - 36)...**The 42 contests set a club record**, besting the 40 such efforts in 1991.

THE D-JAYS:

✦ The Blue Jays kept a .988 fielding percentage this season (4th in the AL)...Made just one error over their final 12 contests...**Played 107 error-free games in 2023, the most in team history** (103 in 1990).
 ✦ According to Sports Info Solutions, **Toronto fielders recorded a total of 82 Defensive Runs Saved, the most in the Majors** (2nd: MIL - 68)...The group is led by an **MLB-high 36 runs saved in center field**, twice as many as any other team (2nd: PHI - 18).

VS. THE TWINS:	All-Time: 233-183
2023: 3-3	Road: 113-99
Road: 2-1	Target Field: 29-17
✦ The Blue Jays are meeting the Twins in the post-season for the 2nd time...Were ousted by Minnesota in five games during the 1991 ALCS...Split their six games with the Twins during the 2023 regular season while winning two of the three games at Target Field.	
✦ George Springer went 10-for-22 (.455) with six doubles, an RBI, and three walks while recording hits in all six games vs. Minnesota this season (.520 OBP, .727 SLG)...Has batted .310 (58-for-187) with 15 doubles, 12 home runs, and 35 RBI across 48 career meetings (.993 OPS).	
✦ Bo Bichette went 9-for-27 (.333) with a triple, two homers, and seven RBI in the six games against the Twins this year...Has hit .310 (27-for-87) with 11 extra-base hits and 16 RBI over 20 career contests vs. MIN (.881 OPS).	
✦ Whit Merrifield leads all current Blue Jays with 110 games played vs. the Twins...Has batted .298 (134-for-449) with 34 doubles, three triples, five home runs, and 48 RBI along the way (.769 OPS).	

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS: (All Times Eastern)

Wednesday, October 4 at Minnesota Twins, 4:38 pm...RHP José Berríos (11-12, 3.65) vs. RHP Sonny Gray (8-8, 2.79)
 Thursday, October 5 at Minnesota Twins (if necessary), 4:38 pm...TBA vs. RHP Joe Ryan (11-10, 4.51)

STARTING PITCHER

Kevin Gausman, RHP #34

Born: Centennial, CO AGE: 32

TODAY'S GAME:

- Making his 8th career postseason appearance (3rd start) and his 2nd in a Blue Jays uniform...Started Game 2 of last season's Wild Card Series at Rogers Centre against the Mariners, giving up 4 runs over 5.2 innings with 5 hits, a walk, and 7 strikeouts.
Named an All-Star for the 2nd time in his career (also: 2021).
His career-high 237 strikeouts were the most in the AL (2nd: Pablo López - 234), and are the 4th most ever by a Blue Jay in a single season (Roger Clemens - 292 in 1997, Roger Clemens - 271 in 1998, Robbie Ray - 248 in 2021).
Also ranked 1st in the AL in K rate (31.1%) and SO/9 (11.53) while finishing 4th in ERA (3.16), 6th in SO/BB (4.31), 10th in innings pitched (185.0), and 11th in WHIP (1.18)...Topped all AL pitchers with a 5.3 fWAR...Threw 100+ pitches on 18 occasions, tied with Blake Snell for the most in MLB.
Has struck out at least 200 batters in each of the last 3 seasons, one of five Major Leaguers to do so (Burnes, Cease, Cole, Nola).
Owns a 2.84 FIP since the start of the 2020 season, the best mark among qualified hurlers (2nd: Corbin Burnes - 2.85).
2023 HIGHLIGHTS:
Picked up his 11th win of the year on 9/9 vs. KC, throwing 8.0 frames of one-run ball with 2 hits, a walk, and 10 strikeouts...Was his AL-leading 8th start with double-digit strikeouts.
Earned his 10th win of the year on 8/28 vs. WAS, giving up 3 runs over 5.0 innings (7H, 2BB, 7K)...Became the 3rd pitcher in team history with back-to-back 200-strikeout seasons, joining Roger Clemens (1997-1998) and Roy Halladay (2008-2009).
Took the loss on 6/27 vs. SF, tossing 6.0 frames of one-run ball with 3 hits, a walk, and 12 strikeouts...Fanned LaMonte Wade Jr. in the 4th inning to reach 1,500 career strikeouts, becoming the 21st active player to reach the mark...Was his MLB-leading 7th double-digit strikeout game of 2023.
Pitched 7.0 frames of one-run ball on 6/6 vs. HOU, scattering 4 hits with no walks and a career-high-tying 13 strikeouts (also: 13K on 4/29/23 vs. SEA)...Became the 4th player (8th time) in franchise history to punch out at least 13 batters without any walks in a single game (last: José Berríos on 7/12/22 vs. PHI).
Tossed 7.0 shutout innings on 4/29 vs. SEA, giving up 5 hits with a walk and a career-high 13 strikeouts...Threw a then season-high 108 pitches (74 strikes) while inducing a career-high 28 swing-and-misses...Got 20 whiffs on his splitter alone, the most on a single pitch in the Majors this season, and the most on a splitter in the pitch-tracking era (since 2008).

VS. THE TWINS:

- Facing the Twins for the 3rd time this season and the 12th time in his career...In his last 3 trips to Target Field, has posted a 2.20 ERA (4 ER/16.1 IP) with 18 strikeouts, giving up no more than 3 runs in any start.

Table with 12 columns: YEAR, W-L, ERA, G, GS, IP, H, ER, HR, BB, SO, AVG. Rows include 2023, 2022, and CAREER totals.

SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

Table comparing 2023 and CAREER single-game highs for various stats including IP, H, R, ER, BB, SO, HR, PITCHES, CG, SHO, W STREAK, and L STREAK.

SPLITS

Table comparing 2023 and CAREER splits for HOME and ROAD, including ERA, G, GS, IP, H, ER, HR, BB, SO, AVG, OPP. AVG, VS. LHH, and VS. RHH.

VS. MINNESOTA

Table comparing 2023, CAREER, and ROAD stats specifically for Minnesota, including W-L, ERA, G, GS, IP, H, ER, HR, BB, SO, AVG.

PITCH SELECTION (2023)

Fourseam Fastball (50.8%, 94.7mph), Split Finger (38.4%, 86.3mph), Slider (10.2%, 84.0mph), Sweeper (0.6%, 77.6mph)

2023 GAME LOGS

Main game log table with columns: DATE, SCORE, OPP, DEC, EXIT SCORE, IP, H, R, ER, BB, K, HR, PIT-STRIKES, NOTES. Lists 48 games from 4/1 to 9/26.

TWINS vs. GAUSMAN

Table showing performance of Twins players against Gausman, including Name, AB, H, 2B, 3B, HR, RBI, BB, SO, AVG.

TOMORROW'S STARTER:

José Berríos is expected to make his 4th career postseason start...All 3 postseason starts have come in a Twins uniform, going 0-1 with a 3.75 ERA (5 ER/12.0 IP) and 14 strikeouts...Has faced his former club 5 times in his career, posting a 4.03 ERA (13 ER/29.0 IP), a 1.17 WHIP, a .210 opponent's AVG, and 35 punchouts.

BLUE JAYS vs. LÓPEZ

Table showing performance of Blue Jays players against López, including Name, AB, H, 2B, 3B, HR, RBI, BB, SO, AVG.

BLUE JAYS BULLPEN

CABRERA, LHP #92 (2-1, 4.04 ERA, 1.31 WHIP) **LH:** .198 (20-101, 4HR) 61G, 55.2IP, 24BB, 58K, .232 AVG **RH:** .264 (29-110, 4HR)
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1.0, 2H, ER, 2K) **SV-OP:** 0-3 **IR-RS:** 38-10
THROWS (2023): Fourseam (36%, 96mph), Cutter (32%, 90mph), Sinker (14%, 95mph), Curve (13%, 80mph), Change (4%, 89mph)

- In his 29G with TOR, allowed 7 earned runs (10R) in 23.2 frames of work (2.66 ERA) with a 0.97 WHIP and a .195 OPP AVG (17H, 6BB, 20K)... Matched Joaquin Benoit (18G in 2016) for the longest streak of ER-free appearances to begin a Blue Jays career.
- Held LHH's to a .198 AVG (20-for-101) this season.
- 7/24 at LAD, made his TOR debut with a 1-2-3 6th inning (K).
- Acquired from STL in exchange for C Sammy Hernandez on 7/21.
- Held a 5.06 ERA (18 ER/32.0 IP) & 1.56 WHIP in 32G for STL (18BB, 38K).

GARCÍA, RHP #93 (3-4, 4.09 ERA, 1.24 WHIP) **LH:** .237 (22-93, 3HR) 73G, 66.0IP, 15BB, 79K, .261 AVG **RH:** .274 (45-164, 5HR)
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (1.0) **SV-OP:** 3-7 **IR-RS:** 35-7
THROWS (2023): Fourseam (34%, 96mph), Curveball (33%, 84mph), Sinker (15%, 96mph), Slider (11%, 90mph), Change (7%, 89mph)

- Stranded 28 of his 35 inherited runners...His 20.0 inherited runners scored percentage is 3rd best in the AL (T-4th in MLB).
- Over his last 42 outings, posted a 2.70 ERA and a 0.93 WHIP while holding hitters to a .211 AVG (36.2IP, 28H, 11ER, 6BB, 43K).
- 7/6 at CWS(1), picked up his 1st save of the season as he retired both batters faced to close out the 11th inning.

GREEN, RHP #37 (3-0, 5.25 ERA, 1.33 WHIP) **LH:** .200 (3-15, 0HR) 12G, 12.0IP, 4BB, 16K, .250 AVG **RH:** .273 (9-33, 1HR)
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1.0, K) **SV-OP:** 0-0 **IR-RS:** 6-1
THROWS (2023): Fourseam (57%, 96mph), Curve (43%, 86mph)

- 9/20 at NYY, faced his former club for the 1st time, tossing a clean 7th inning (1.0IP, 2K).
- Reinstated from the IL on 9/1 (Tommy John surgery recovery).
- Made 12 rehab appearances between A Dunedin and AAA Buffalo this year, posting a 1.46 ERA (2 ER/12.1 IP) and a 0.89 WHIP with 10H, a BB, and 15K while holding hitters to a .217 AVG.

HICKS, RHP #12 (3-9, 3.29 ERA, 1.36 WHIP) **LH:** .225 (20-89, 1HR) 65G, 65.2IP, 32BB, 81K, .231 AVG **RH:** .234 (37-158, 3HR)
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (2.0, 3H, 3R/2ER, 2BB, 2K) **SV-OP:** 12-15 **IR-RS:** 16-2
THROWS (2023): Sinker (63%, 100mph), Sweeper (20%, 87mph), Fourseam (11%, 100mph), Slider (4%, 87mph), Change (2%, 91mph)

- Owned a 2.63 ERA (7 ER/24.0 IP) and a 1.08 WHIP in 25G as a Blue Jay.
- Threw 470 pitches at 100+ MPH (42.2%) this season and 24 pitches at 103+ MPH, both 2nd in MLB to Jhoan Duran.
- 8/19 at CIN, tossed a 1-2-3 8th inning (2K)...Threw a 103.2 MPH sinker to Elly De La Cruz, becoming the 1st TOR player to eclipse the 103 MPH-mark in the Statcast Era (since 2008).
- 8/4 at BOS, earned his 9th save of the year and his 1st in a Toronto uniform (1.1IP, K)...Retired all 4 batters he faced on 9 pitches (all strikes).
- Acquired from STL on 7/30 for Sem Robberse and Adam Kloffenstein.
- Appeared in 40G for STL, going 1-6 with a 3.67 ERA and a 1.51 WHIP.
- Earned saves in 3 consecutive games/days from 6/17-6/19, the 1st Cardinal to do so since Seung-Hwan Oh (4/21-4/23/17).

MAYZA, LHP #58 (3-1, 1.52 ERA, 1.22 WHIP) **LH:** .245 (27-110, 0HR) 69G, 53.1IP, 15BB, 53K, .251 AVG **RH:** .258 (23-89, 2HR)
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1.0, H, ER, HR, 2K) **SV-OP:** 1-3 **IR-RS:** 53-13
THROWS (2023): Sinker (77%, 93mph), Slider (23%, 86mph)

- His 1.52 ERA ranked 3rd among AL relievers.
- His 53 inherited runners this season were 4th most among MLB relievers... His 24.5 inherited runners scored percentage was 8th best in the AL.
- Went ER-free in 62 of 69 appearances this year...The 69 outings were T-12th most in the AL.
- 4/9 at LAA, entered with bases loaded and 2 out in the 10th and got Shohei Ohtani to ground out for his 4th career save.

RICHARDS, RHP #33 (2-1, 4.95 ERA, 1.35 WHIP) **LH:** .207 (24-116, 6HR) 56G, 72.2IP, 35BB, 105K, .228 AVG **RH:** .244 (39-160, 7HR)
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1.0, 2H, ER) **SV-OP:** 0-2 **IR-RS:** 15-1
THROWS (2023): Change (57%, 83mph), Fourseam (43%, 93mph)

- Owned a 36.8 whiff% this year, 5th highest among MLB pitchers (min. 70IP).
- His 13.00 SO/9 was 3rd best among MLB hurlers (min. 70IP).
- Was 0-1 with a 3.00 ERA (3 ER/9.0 IP) in 3 starts (5H, 2HR, 3BB, 14K).
- On IL with neck inflammation from 8/2-8/17.
- 6/28 vs. SF, tossed 3.0 shutout innings in his 3rd start of the year (H, BB, 5K)...Fanned Patrick Bailey in the 1st to reach 500 career strikeouts.
- 6/10 vs. MIN, made his 1st start of the year, throwing 3.0 scoreless innings (H, BB, 7K)...Marked his most K's since 7/22/19 at CWS (7).
- 5/25 at TB, retired all 9 batters he faced, tossing 3.0 shutout frames with 3 strikeouts...Marked the longest scoreless relief outing of his career.

ROMANO, RHP #68 (5-7, 2.90 ERA, 1.22 WHIP) **LH:** .229 (22-96, 5HR) 59G, 59.0IP, 24BB, 72K, .218 AVG **RH:** .210 (26-124, 1HR)
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (1.0, H) **SV-OP:** 36-40 **IR-RS:** 18-2
THROWS (2023): Slider (54%, 87mph), Fourseam (46%, 97mph)

- Named an American League All-Star for the 2nd straight season.
- His 36 saves were 2nd most in the AL (T-5th in MLB).
- Allowed 8ER in 27G (29.0 IP) at Rogers Centre (2.48 ERA).
- Converted 26 consecutive save opportunities from 5/13-9/22, the longest single-season streak in franchise history (Tom Henke - 25 in 1991).
- 8/19 at CIN, saved his 30th game of the year...Became the 4th player in TOR history with consecutive 30-save seasons, joining Roberto Osuna (2016-17), Billy Koch (1999-01), and Tom Henke (1990-92).
- On injured list with lower back inflammation from 7/29-8/14.
- 7/23 at SEA, picked up his 27th save of the season (1.0, BB, HB, K)...Was his 88th career save, the 4th most all-time by a Canadian-born player.
- Notched 26 saves before the ASG, the most ever by a Blue Jay before the All-Star break (B.J. Ryan - 24 in 2006).

SWANSON, RHP #50 (4-2, 2.97 ERA, 1.10 WHIP) **LH:** .198 (21-106, 3HR) 69G, 66.2IP, 21BB, 75K, .217 AVG **RH:** .231 (31-134, 5HR)
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1.0, H, K) **SV-OP:** 4-6 **IR-RS:** 25-7
THROWS (2023): Splitter (48%, 85mph), Fourseam (34%, 94mph), Slider (18%, 87mph)

- Had a 1.10 ERA (2ER/16.1 IP), a 0.86 WHIP, and a .190 AVG over his last 18 games.
- On IL with thoracic spine inflammation from 8/27-9/10.
- Made 1 rehab appearance for AAA Buffalo on 9/9 vs. LHV, earning the win while tossing a clean 9th inning (1.0, K).
- 6/3 at NYM, picked up his 1st save as a Blue Jay and the 7th of his career (1.0, H, K).
- 3/30 at STL, made his TOR debut (1.0, 2K).

BLUE JAYS HITTERS

BELT, #13 (.254, 19HR, .858 OPS) **vs. LHP/RHP:** .235/.256
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (2-5, HR, RBI, K) **STREAK:** 1G, 2-5
HOMESTAND: .300 (6-20), 2B, 3HR, 5RBI, BB, 7K **LAST HR:** 10/1 vs. TB

- Over his last 30G, was 29-for-101 (.287) with 5-2B, 11HR, 17RBI, and 18BB (1.063 OPS).
- His 1.063 OPS and .663 SLG from 8/1 to the end of the season was the best among AL hitters while he ranked T-8th in OBP (min. 100 PA).
- His 4.45 pitches/PA led the Majors (min. 300 PA).
- 10/1 vs. TB, homered for the 3rd time in his last 4 games...His 19HR were his 2nd most in a season in his career (29HR in 2021).
- 9/29 vs. TB, launched his 18th HR of the year, homering in consecutive games for the 3rd time this season (23rd career).
- On IL from 9/12-24 with lumbar spine muscle spasms.
- 8/24 at BAL, hit his 15th home run, homering 4 times in a 4G span for the 6th time in his career.
- 8/22 at BAL, led off the 10th inning with a 2R-HR, his 14th bomb of the year...Was the 1st ever 2R-HR to lead off an inning in TOR history...Homered in consecutive games for the 2nd time this year (22nd career).
- 8/20 at CIN, went deep twice for his 2nd multi-HR game of 2023 (10th career).
- 7/23 at SEA, hit his 8th HR of the year, homering in consecutive games for the 1st time as a Blue Jay (21st career)...Was his 6th homer to tie the game or take the lead.
- On IL with left hamstring inflammation from 6/11-6/20.

BICHETTE, #11 (.306, 20HR, .814 OPS) **vs. LHP/RHP:** .323/.303
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1-4, 3B, R, BB, K) **STREAK:** 4G, 8-17
HOMESTAND: .375 (9-24), 2-2B, 3B, 2RBI, 3BB, 5K **LAST HR:** 9/24 at TB

- Named to his 2nd career All-Star team (also: 2021)...Went 0-for-1 with a sacrifice fly.
- Finished 3rd in the AL in AVG and 4th in hits (175).
- Was T-4th in the AL in multi-hit games (52), T-3rd in 3-hit games (15), and T-1st in 4-hit games (6).
- His 77 opposite-field hits were 11 more than any other MLB batter.
- 9/30 vs. TB, notched his 30th double of 2023...Became the 4th player in TOR history with 30-2B & 20HR in 3 straight seasons, joining Carlos Delgado (1997-2003), Vernon Wells (2002-06), & Joe Carter (1991-93).
- 9/29 vs. TB, went 4-for-5 with a 2B and an RBI...His 6G with 4+ hits matched Shannon Stewart (2000) for most in the single season in TOR history.
- 9/24 at TB, reached the 20HR mark for the 3rd straight season.
- 9/19 at NYY, crushed a 2R-HR as part of a 2-for-4 game, his 19th of the year.
- Returned to the IL with a right quad strain from 8/28-9/7.
- 8/20 at CIN, went 2-for-5 with his 2nd triple and 18th HR of the season.
- On IL with right knee patellar tendonitis from 8/1-8/18.
- His 122 hits before the ASB set a team record (Vernon Wells - 121 in 2003).
- Had a career-high-tying 13G hitting streak from 6/13-6/28, going 19-for-54 (.352) with 9-2B and 5RBI for an .882 OPS.
- 5/1 at BOS, went a perfect 5-for-5 with his team-leading 7th HR...Was his 2nd five-hit game of the year and the 3rd of his career...Became the only player in TOR history with multiple five-hit games in a single season.

BIGGIO, #8 (.235, 9HR, .710 OPS) **vs. LHP/RHP:** .298/.223
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (2-4, RBI, 2R, HBP) **STREAK:** 1G, 2-4
HOMESTAND: .286 (6-21), 4RBI, 4BB, 3K **LAST HR:** 9/11 vs. TEX

- Went 23-for-80 (.288) with 5-2B, 1HR, 14RBI & 16BB in his last 24G (.796 OPS)...Recorded 9 of his 20 multi-hit games over that span.
- Played at 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, and RF this season.
- 9/11 vs. TEX, went 1-for-2 with his 9th HR, 2RBI, and a BB...Of his 9HR, 6 were in the 8th or 9th inning.
- 6/13 at BAL, crushed his 2nd PH-HR of the season in the 8th inning...Became the 14th player in TOR history with multiple PH-HR in a season.
- 5/24 at TB, delivered a pinch-hit, solo home run in the 8th...Was his 3rd HR of the season and his 1st career blast as a pinch-hitter.

BLUE JAYS HITTERS

CHAPMAN, #26 (.240, 17HR, .755 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .307/.223
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (0-4) **STREAK:** 0-4
HOMESTAND: .211 (4-19), 2HR, 2RBI, BB, 4K **LAST HR:** 9/29 vs. TB

- Ranked 4th in the AL in 2B (39) and T-15th in XBH (58).
- Was 2nd among MLB hitters in hard-hit% (56.4) & 9th in barrel rate (10.2%).
- 9/29 vs. TB, went 2-for-4 with his 17th HR of the year, homering in consecutive games for the 3rd time this season (22nd career).
- 9/17 vs. BOS, drove in the game-winning run with an RBI triple in the bottom of the 9th inning...Was his 3rd career walk-off hit and his 1st in a Blue Jays uniform (last: 6/20/19 vs. TB)...Went 2-for-4 with a 2B and a 3B, his 27th multi-hit game and 11th multi-XBH effort.
- On IL with a right middle finger sprain from 8/28-9/13.
- 8/4 at BOS, recorded his AL-best 34th 2B and his 15th HR for his 10th game with multiple XBH.

EDEN, #31 (.167, 0HR, .333 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .250/.000
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1-5, K) **STREAK:** 1G, 1-5
HOMESTAND: .167 (1-6), 2K **LAST HR:** -

- Earned the Bisons' Jimmy Griffin Hometown Hero Award for 2023...Went a perfect 27-for-27 in stolen base attempts at Sahlen Field...Hit .302 across 61 home games to go with a .776 OPS.
- 10/1 vs. TB, recorded his 1st Major League hit with a single in the bottom of the 2nd inning off Jacob Lopez.
- 9/21 at NYY, made his MLB debut as a PR in the 9th for Vlad Guerrero Jr
- Selected to the Major League roster for the 1st time in his career on 9/20.
- Stole 53 bases for AAA Buffalo this season, 2nd most in all of AAA...Was caught just 4 times for a 93% success rate.
- Appeared in 131G for the Bisons this year, batting .257 (101-for-393) with 19-2B, 1-3B, 3HR, and 48RBI (.354 OBP).

ESPINAL, #5 (.248, 2HR, .644 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .252/.244
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (1-5, R, 2K) **STREAK:** 4G, 4-15
HOMESTAND: .200 (1-5), 2K **LAST HR:** 7/29 vs. LAA

- Over his last 21G, batted .383 (18-for-47) with 6-2B and 6RBI (.919 OPS).
- 9/23 at TB, laced a PH-2B to left in the 8th inning, his MLB-leading 4th PH-2B of the year...Became the only player in franchise history to record 4 PH-2B in a single season.
- 9/12 vs. TEX, had a PH-2B in the 7th, his 3rd of the season, becoming the 9th player in team history with 3 PH-2B's in a season (last: Tom Wilson in 2003).
- 7/29 vs. LAA, hit a 2R-HR, his 2nd of the year and 1st since 4/17 at HOU.
- Placed on the IL with right hamstring inflammation from 5/21-6/5.

GUERRERO JR., #27 (.264, 26HR, .788 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .284/.260
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (0-4, BB, 2K) **STREAK:** 0-4
HOMESTAND: .211 (4-19), 2-2B, 3BB, 7K **LAST HR:** 9/24 at TB

- Named an All-Star for the 3rd time in his career (also: 2021 & 2022).
- His 249 hard-hit balls (95+ MPH) ranked 3rd in the AL (4th in MLB).
- Ranked 14th in the AL in hits (159) and T-17th in RBI (94).
- Over his last 15G, hit .278 (15-for-54) with 2-2B, 5HR, 10RBI, & 10BB (.983 OPS).
- Became the 1st player in TOR history to win the Home Run Derby...Along with Vlad Sr., became the 1st father-son duo ever to each win the event.
- 9/24 at TB, crushed his 25th & 26th longballs of the season, his 1st multi-HR game of the year (9th career).
- 9/16 vs. BOS, hit his 24th HR of the year, homering in 3 straight games for the 4th time in his career (last: 3G from 6/24-26/21)...Reached 400 career RBI in his 649th game, becoming the 2nd-fastest player in team history to reach the mark (Carlos Delgado - 597G) and the youngest to do so at 24 years and 184 days old (previous: Lloyd Moseby - 26y, 187d)...Reached base safely 5 times in a game for the 1st time in his career (2-for-3, 3BB).
- 9/15 vs. BOS, went 2-for-4 with his 23rd HR, homering in consecutive games for the 5th time this season (20th career).
- 9/3 at COL, went 2-for-3 with 2RBI including his 21st HR of the year...Matched Fred McGriff for the most HR's by a Blue Jay in a player's first 5 MLB seasons (125).
- 7/14 vs. ARI, hit his 14th HR, becoming the 1st Home Run Derby champ ever to go deep in his 1st plate appearance after the All-Star break.
- 6/23 vs. OAK, went 2-for-4 with a 2B and a 3R-HR, his 10th jack of the year and his 1st at Rogers Centre.
- 5/23 at TB, hit a 9th-inning grand slam as part of a 3-for-6 night, the 4th slam of his career (last: 4/27/21 vs. WAS)...Drove in 6 runs, 1 shy of his career high (7 on 4/27/21 vs. WAS).
- 5/3 at BOS, crushed his 6th HR of the season 450ft out of Fenway Park.
- 3/30 at STL, drove in the game-winning run on Opening Day with a sac fly in the 9th, part of a 2-for-4 effort with 3RBI and a HBP.

HEINEMAN, #55 (.237, 0HR, .699 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .500/.206
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (2-3, 3B, 3RBI, R, HBP, BB) **STREAK:** 2G, 3-6
HOMESTAND: .667 (2-3), 3B, 3RBI, HBP, BB **LAST HR:** 9/26/19 at NYM

- 10/1 vs. TB, went 2-for-3 with a BB, a HBP, his 1st career triple, and a career-best 3 RBI.
- Recalled from AAA Buffalo on 5/26, 6/19, & 9/2.
- Acquired from PIT in exchange for INF Vinny Capra on 4/30.
- Went 1-for-9 in 3G for the Pirates to start 2023...Optioned to AAA on 4/14.
- Has hit .230 in 42G at AAA this season (4-2B, 1-3B, 2HR, 19RBI).

KIERMAIER, #39 (.265, 8HR, .741 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .281/.260
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (1-4, BB) **STREAK:** 2G, 3-7
HOMESTAND: .188 (3-16), 2B, RBI, 2BB, 4K **LAST HR:** 9/10 vs. KC

- Led the AL with 83 hits while batting 9th (2nd: Leody Taveras - 76).
- 9/10 vs. KC, gave the Blue Jays a 3-2 lead in the 7th inning with his 8th HR, his most in a season since 2019 (14).
- On IL with a right elbow laceration from 8/7-8/17.
- 6/1 vs. MIL, picked up his 3rd career Play of the Week Award, taking extra bases away from Andruw Monasterio with a diving grab in RCF...Is the 4th player to win 3 Play of the Week awards in a single season.
- In the month of May, ranked 2nd among AL hitters in AVG (.366), 3rd in OPS (1.044), and T-5th in SLG (.634).
- 5/21 vs. BAL, earned his 2nd Play of the Week nod this year, robbing Gunnar Henderson of extra bases with a leaping catch at the wall in LCF.
- 4/11 vs. DET, robbed Kerry Carpenter of a HR in 2nd inning to win his 1st career Play of the Week...Also hit his 1st homer as a Blue Jay in the 5th.

KIRK, #30 (.250, 8HR, .692 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .264/.244
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (1-5) **STREAK:** 3G, 5-14
HOMESTAND: .300 (6-20), HR, 3RBI **LAST HR:** 9/29 vs. TB

- Over his last 30G, batted .270 (24-for-89) with 11XBH, 13RBI, and a 13BB/11K ratio (.797 OPS).
- 9/29 vs. TB, went 2-for-5 with 3RBI and his 8th HR of the year, his 1st to the opposite field.
- 9/19 at NYY, smashed a 2R-HR in the 9th inning, his 7th of the year and 1st since 7/29 vs. LAA, ending a career-long 34G homerless skid.
- 7/29 vs. LAA, homered twice as part of a 3-for-4 day, his 4th career multi-HR game (last: 5/31/22 vs. CWS).
- On the IL with a left hand laceration from 6/19-6/28.
- 6/7 vs. HOU, plated the game-winning run with a PH RBI single in the 7th.

MERRIFIELD, #15 (.272, 11HR, .700 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .259/.277
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (0-5), K **STREAK:** 0-13
HOMESTAND: .000 (0-11), K **LAST HR:** 8/12 vs. CHC

- Earned his 3rd career All-Star nod (also: 2019 & 2021)...Went 1-for-2.
- Ranked 15th in the AL in AVG and T-11th in stolen bases (26).
- 9/16 vs. BOS, drove in the game-winning run with an RBI single in the 13th inning, his 4th career walk-off hit (last: 1B on 5/26/19 vs. NYY).
- 9/1 at COL, went 3-for-5 with an RBI, his 25th double, and his 25th stolen base...Became the 3rd AL hitter with at least 25 doubles and 25 steals this season, joining Kyle Tucker (31-2B, 26 SB) and Julio Rodriguez (32-2B, 35 SB).
- 8/4 at BOS, hit his 10th HR of the year, his 14th career leadoff jack and his 1st with TOR...Became the 11th Blue Jay since 1988 to homer on the 1st pitch of the game (last: Springer on 7/10/22 at SEA).
- Had a season-high-tying 10G hitting streak from 7/20-31 (18-for-44, .409 AVG, 2-2B, 3HR, 8RBI, 1.072 OPS).
- His 7 HR in July tied for 4th most in the AL.
- 7/7 at DET, went 2-for-5 with a HR and 4 RBI, homering in back-to-back games for the 7th time of his career (last: 6/28-6/29/21).
- 5/22 at TB, went a perfect 4-for-4 with his 2nd HR of the season...Marked the 11th four-hit game of his career (last: 5/11/22 at TEX).
- Reached base safely in his first 22G this year, the 4th-longest on-base streak to start a season in TOR history.

SCHNEIDER, #36 (.276, 8HR, 1.008 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .326/.247
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (2-4, 2-2B, 2R, BB, K) **STREAK:** 1G, 2-4
HOMESTAND: .400 (2-5), 2-2B, BB, 2K **LAST HR:** 9/12 vs. TEX

- His 1.315 OPS through his first 25 career games was the highest mark by any player in MLB history in the modern era (since 1901).
- 9/12 vs. TEX, went 2-for-4 with his 10th 2B and 8th HR, his 8th multi-hit game and 5th with multiple XBH.
- 9/8 vs. KC, reached base safely all 4 times with 2-2B and 2BB...Was his 7th multi-hit effort and 4th game with multiple XBH.
- 9/6 at OAK, went 1-for-2 with his 7th HR of the year and a pair of walks...His 7HR trail only Carlos Delgado (8) for the most homers by a Blue Jay in a player's first 20 career MLB games.
- 8/27 vs. CLE, went 2-for-4 with a 2B and his 5th HR...Became the 3rd rookie in TOR history to homer in 3 consecutive games, joining Danny Jansen (3G from 7/2-4/19) and Teoscar Hernández (3G from 9/22-24/17).
- 8/26 vs. CLE, went 3-for-3 with a 2B, a HR, a BB, 3RBI, and 3 runs scored...Joined Carlos Delgado (5 in 1994) as the only players in TOR history with 4HR in their first 10 career games.
- 8/4 at BOS, became the 4th Blue Jay ever to hit a home run in his 1st Major League at-bat...Went 2-for-5 with a HR in his MLB debut.
- At the time of his promotion to the Blue Jays on 8/4, led all International League batters in walks (72) while 6th in HR (21) and 8th in OPS (.969).

SPRINGER, #4 (.258, 21HR, .732 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .242/.262
LAST APP: 9/30 vs. TB (2-5, 2B, RBI, K) **STREAK:** 1G, 2-5
HOMESTAND: .238 (5-21), 2-2B, RBI, 2BB, 4K **LAST HR:** 9/24 at TB

- His 57 hits to lead off an inning were 4th most in the AL (Marcus Semien - 74, Yandy Díaz - 65, Steven Kwan - 63).
- His 20 stolen bases were a career high (16 in 2015).
- Over his last 49G, went 56-for-197 (.284) with 30 runs scored, 11-2B, 8HR, & 30RBI (.815 OPS).
- His 30 hits in Sept./Oct. were T-7th in the AL.
- 9/24 at TB, hit a 3R inside-the-park HR in the 2nd inning off Taj Bradley, the 3rd IPHR of his career (9/20/20 vs. ARI & 5/14/19 at DET).
- 9/19 at NYY, homered on his birthday for the 1st time in his career...Marked his 5th leadoff HR of the year (57th career)...Reached 20HR in a season for the 8th time in his career.
- 9/9 vs. KC, went 3-for-4 with 2HR and a season-high 4RBI...Was his 1st multi-HR game of the season (21st career).
- 8/9 at CLE, hit his 14th HR on the 13th pitch of his AB, the longest AB to end in a HR in MLB this year...Was the 2nd player in TOR history with a 1st-inning HR in a 1-0 victory (José Bautista - 9/23/10 vs. SEA).
- 6/23 vs. OAK, earned his 1st Play of the Week nod this year (3rd career), making a diving grab on Jace Peterson in the 9th inning.
- 4/12 vs. DET, plated the game-winning run with an RBI single in the bottom of the 10th inning, his 6th career walk-off hit and 1st as a Blue Jay.
- 3/30 at STL, set a franchise record with 5 hits on Opening Day (5-for-6)...Became the 1st player in AL history with 5H and 4R on Opening Day.

VARSHO, #25 (.222, 20HR, .678 OPS) vs. LHP/RHP: .292/.204
LAST APP: 10/1 vs. TB (2-5, 2RBI) **STREAK:** 2G, 4-9
HOMESTAND: .250 (5-20), 2HR, 6RBI, 2BB, 4K **LAST HR:** 9/30 vs. TB

- Named Toronto's 2023 Heart & Hustle Award winner, the 2nd nomination of his career (2022 with ARI).
- Recorded an MLB-high 29 defensive runs saved (2nd: Tatis Jr. - 27).
- Hit .248 (39-for-157) over last 50G with 7-2B, 3-3B, 8HR, & 28RBI (.802 OPS).
- 9/30 vs. TB, went 2-for-4 with his 20th HR and 3RBI...Reached 20HR for the 2nd straight season (27HR in 2022).
- 8/13 vs. CHC, hit his 14th HR and recorded a career-high 5RBI.
- Had a career-high 10G hitting streak from 5/27-6/6 (11-for-38, .289 AVG, 2B, 4HR, 6RBI, .957 OPS).
- 6/6 vs. HOU, smacked his 11th HR, going deep in consecutive games for the 2nd time this year (9th career).
- 6/2 at NYM, hit his 9th HR, a 2R blast in the 9th inning...Was his 4th HR in the 9th inning, tying Yordan Alvarez for the most in MLB at the time.
- 5/7 at PIT, hit his 5th HR of the year, a 2R shot in the 9th...Became the 1st Blue Jay ever (46th player) to homer into the Allegheny River.
- 4/29 vs. SEA, notched his 2nd career walk-off hit with a single in the bottom of the 10th inning (also: HR on 8/13/21 vs. SD).
- 4/4 at KC, hit his 1st homer as a Blue Jay in the 6th
- 3/30 at STL, went 1-for-5 in his TOR debut with a 2B and 2RBI...His 1st-inning 2B is the hardest-hit ball of his career (112.5 MPH).