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Statistical Advance: Analyzing The Daytona 500

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (Feb. 11, 2019) – Below is a statistical look at some of the top performers at Daytona International Speedway, in Daytona Beach, Florida going into the Daytona 500 on February 17 at 2:30 p.m. ET on FOX, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio (Channel 90). The stats include both the Daytona 500 and the annual July race and are among active drivers (listed in alphabetical order).

DAYTONA-SPECIFIC STATISTICS

Ryan Blaney (No. 12 Team Penske Ford Mustang)

- One top five, two top 10s
- Average finish of 21.0, 18th-best
- Average Running Position of 14.7, third-best
- Driver Rating of 88.7, second-best
- 31 Fastest Laps Run, 20th-best
- 850 Laps in the Top 15 (65.3%), 18th-most
- 129 Laps Led (9.9%), eighth-most
- 1,400 Quality Passes, 16th-most

Clint Bowyer (No. 14 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford Mustang)

- Four top fives, 12 top 10s
- Average finish of 19.2, 13th-best
- Average Running Position of 18.0, 11th-best
- Driver Rating of 78.8, ninth-best
- 111 Fastest Laps Run, second-best
- 2,143 Laps in the Top 15 (46.1%), eighth-most
- 159 Laps Led (3.4%), seventh-most
- 2,912 Quality Passes, ninth-most

Kurt Busch (No. 1 Chip Ganassi Racing Chevrolet Camaro ZL1)

- One win, 13 top fives, 17 top 10s
- Average finish of 16.9, fourth-best
- Average Running Position of 15.6, sixth-best
- Driver Rating of 88.5, second-best
- 99 Fastest Laps Run, sixth-best
- 2,993 Laps in the Top 15 (61.0%), third-most
- 291 Laps Led (6.1%), third-most
- 4,024 Quality Passes, second-most

Daytona International Speedway Data

Race #: 1 of 36 (2-17-19)

Track Size: 2.5 miles

Banking/Corners: 31 degrees

Banking/Straights: 3 degrees

Banking/Tri-Oval: 18 degrees

Total Race Length: 500 miles (200 laps)

Stage 1 Length: 150 miles (60 laps)

Stage 2 Length: 150 miles (60 laps)

Final Stage Length: 200 miles (80 laps)

Top 10 Driver Ratings at Daytona

Kyle Busch	90.6
Ryan Blaney	88.7
Kurt Busch	88.5
Denny Hamlin	87.9
Jimmie Johnson	86.8
Joey Logano	86.0
Bubba Wallace	83.8
Kevin Harvick	83.1
Clint Bowyer	78.8
Jamie McMurray	78.6

Note: Driver Ratings are compiled from 2005-2018 races (28 total) at Daytona (active drivers only).

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Kyle Busch (No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota Camry)

- One win, seven top fives, eight top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 19.2, 13th-best
- Average Running Position of 14.6, second-best
- Driver Rating of 90.6, series-best
- 106 Fastest Laps Run, fourth-best
- 3,013 Laps in the Top 15 (62.7%), second-most
- 383 Laps Led (8.0%), second-most
- 3,538 Quality Passes, fourth-most

Austin Dillon (No. 3 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet Camaro ZL1)

- One win, two top fives, seven top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 13.4, second-best
- Average Running Position of 17.5, ninth-best
- Driver Rating of 78.3, 12th-best
- 49 Fastest Laps Run, 18th-best
- 989 Laps in the Top 15 (50.1%), 15th-most
- 18 Laps Led (0.9%), 21st-most
- 1,348 Quality Passes, 18th-most

Denny Hamlin (No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota Camry)

- One win, seven top fives, eight top 10s
- Average finish of 17.7, seventh-best
- Average Running Position of 15.2, fifth-best
- Driver Rating of 87.9, fourth-best
- 101 Fastest Laps Run, fifth-best
- 2,683 Laps in the Top 15 (57.7%), fourth-most
- 407 Laps Led (8.8%), series-most
- 997 Quality Passes, fourth-most

Kevin Harvick (No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford Mustang)

- Two wins, nine top fives, 14 top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 17.9, ninth-best
- Average Running Position of 19.2, 14th-best
- Driver Rating of 83.1, eighth-best
- 114 Fastest Laps Run, series-best
- 2,445 Laps in the Top 15 (48.8%), seventh-most
- 166 Laps Led (3.3%), sixth-most
- 3,347 Quality Passes, sixth-most

Daytona International Speedway Qualifying / Race Data

Daytona 500 Qualifying record:

Bill Elliott, Ford Thunderbird
Melling Racing
Crew Chief: Ernie Elliott
(210.364 mph, 42.783 secs., 02-09-1987)

2019 pole winner:

William Byron, Chevrolet Camaro ZL1
Hendrick Motorsports
Crew Chief: Chad Knaus
(194.305 mph, 46.319 secs., 02-10-2019)

2018 pole winner:

Alex Bowman, Chevrolet Camaro ZL1
Hendrick Motorsports
Crew Chief: Greg Ives
(195.644 mph, 46.002 secs., 02-11-2018)

Daytona 500 Race record:

Buddy Baker, Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme
Ranier Racing
Crew Chief: Waddell Wilson
(177.602 mph, 02:48:55, 02-17-1980)

2018 race winner:

Austin Dillon, Chevrolet Camaro ZL1
Richard Childress Racing
Crew Chief: Justin Alexander
(150.545 mph, 03:26:15, 02-18-2018)

2017 race winner:

Kurt Busch, Ford Fusion
Stewart-Haas Racing
Crew Chief: Tony Gibson
(143.187 mph, 03:29:31, 02-26-2017)

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Jimmie Johnson (No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet Camaro ZL1)

- Three wins, 11 top fives, 14 top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 20.8, 16th-best
- Average Running Position of 15.1, fourth-best
- Driver Rating of 86.8, fifth-best
- 74 Fastest Laps Run, 11th-best
- 3,069 Laps in the Top 15 (61.2%), series-most
- 272 Laps Led (5.4%), fourth-most
- 3,834 Quality Passes, third-most

Brad Keselowski (No. 2 Team Penske Ford Fusion)

- One win, three top fives, four top 10s
- Average finish of 23.0, 26th-best
- Average Running Position of 18.1, 12th-best
- Driver Rating of 78.4, 11th-best
- 61 Fastest Laps Run, 14th-best
- 1,669 Laps in the Top 15 (48.9%), 11th-most
- 199 Laps Led (5.8%), fifth-most
- 2,698 Quality Passes, 10th-most

Joey Logano (No. 22 Team Penske Ford Fusion)

- One win, five top fives, eight top 10s
- Average finish of 17.7, fifth-best
- Average Running Position of 17.1, seventh-best
- Driver Rating of 86.0, sixth-best
- 78 Fastest Laps Run, 10th-best
- 1,938 Laps in the Top 15 (54.4%), 10th-most
- 63 Laps Led (1.8%), 13th-most
- 938 Quality Passes, seventh-most

Jamie McMurray (No. 40 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet Camaro ZL1)

- Two wins, three top fives, five top 10s
- Average finish of 20.8, 16th-best
- Average Running Position of 17.8, 10th-best
- Driver Rating of 78.6, 10th-best
- 80 Fastest Laps Run, ninth-best
- 2,529 Laps in the Top 15 (50.5%), fifth-most
- 52 Laps Led (1.0%), 15th-most
- 4,202 Quality Passes, series-most

Daytona 500 All-Time Winners

<u>Season</u>	<u>Daytona 500 Winners</u>
2018	Austin Dillon
2017	Kurt Busch
2016	Denny Hamlin
2015	Joey Logano
2014	Dale Earnhardt Jr
2013	Jimmie Johnson
2012	Matt Kenseth
2011	Trevor Bayne
2010	Jamie McMurray
2009	Matt Kenseth
2008	Ryan Newman
2007	Kevin Harvick
2006	Jimmie Johnson
2005	Jeff Gordon
2004	Dale Earnhardt Jr
2003	Michael Waltrip
2002	Ward Burton
2001	Michael Waltrip
2000	Dale Jarrett
1999	Jeff Gordon
1998	Dale Earnhardt
1997	Jeff Gordon
1996	Dale Jarrett
1995	Sterling Marlin
1994	Sterling Marlin
1993	Dale Jarrett
1992	Davey Allison
1991	Ernie Irvan
1990	Derrike Cope
1989	Darrell Waltrip
1988	Bobby Allison
1987	Bill Elliott
1986	Geoff Bodine
1985	Bill Elliott
1984	Cale Yarborough
1983	Cale Yarborough
1982	Bobby Allison
1981	Richard Petty
1980	Buddy Baker
1979	Richard Petty
1978	Bobby Allison
1977	Cale Yarborough
1976	David Pearson
1975	Benny Parsons
1974	Richard Petty
1973	Richard Petty
1972	A.J. Foyt
1971	Richard Petty
1970	Pete Hamilton
1969	LeeRoy Yarbrough
1968	Cale Yarborough
1967	Mario Andretti
1966	Richard Petty
1965	Fred Lorenzen
1964	Richard Petty
1963	Tiny Lund
1962	Fireball Roberts
1961	Marvin Panch
1960	Junior Johnson
1959	Lee Petty

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Ryan Newman (No. 6 Roush Fenway Racing Ford Mustang)

- One win, five top fives, 10 top 10s
- Average finish of 17.9, 10th-best
- Average Running Position of 19.6, 17th-best
- Driver Rating of 75.3, 15th-best
- 110 Fastest Laps Run, third-best
- 2,068 Laps in the Top 15 (41.3%), ninth-most
- 102 Laps Led (2.0%), ninth-most
- 2,439 Quality Passes, 11th-most

Martin Truex Jr (No. 19 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota Camry)

- Two top fives, four top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 21.7, 22nd-best
- Average Running Position of 17.5, eighth-best
- Driver Rating of 77.8, 13th-best
- 95 Fastest Laps Run, seventh-best
- 2,519 Laps in the Top 15 (51.9%), second-most
- 92 Laps Led (1.9%), 10th-most
- 3,330 Quality Passes, seventh-most

Bubba Wallace (No. 43 Richard Petty Motorsports Chevrolet Camaro ZL1)

- One top five
- Average finish of 10.3, series-best
- Average Running Position of 13.9, series-best
- Driver Rating of 83.8, seventh-best
- 10 Fastest Laps Run, 29th-best
- 328 Laps in the Top 15 (61.0%), 26th-most
- 0 Laps Led (0%)
- 405 Quality Passes, 25th-most

All-Time Duel Winners

<u>Rk.</u>	<u>Winners</u>	<u>Duel Wins</u>
1	Dale Earnhardt	12
2	Bobby Allison	5
	Cale Yarborough	5
	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	5
	Darrell Waltrip	5
	Jeff Gordon	5
7	Bill Elliott	4
8	Buddy Baker	3
	Denny Hamlin	3
	Kyle Busch	3
	Sterling Marlin	3
	Tony Stewart	3
13	Bobby Isaac	2
	Chase Elliott	2
	Elliott Sadler	2
	Ernie Irvan	2
	Jimmie Johnson	2
	Ken Schrader	2
	Matt Kenseth	2
	Michael Waltrip	2
	Neil Bonnett	2
22	A.J. Foyt	1
	Benny Parsons	1
	Bobby Labonte	1
	Coo Coo Marlin	1
	Dale Jarrett	1
	Dave Marcis	1
	Davey Allison	1
	David Pearson	1
	Donnie Allison	1
	Geoff Bodine	1
	Jeff Burton	1
	Kasey Kahne	1
	Kevin Harvick	1
	Kurt Busch	1
	Mike Skinner	1
	Richard Petty	1
	Ricky Rudd	1
	Robby Gordon	1
	Ryan Blaney	1
41	Terry Labonte	1

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Pre-Race Loop Data Category Leaders At Daytona International Speedway

Note: Loop Data is compiled from 2005-2018 races (28 total) at Daytona (active drivers only).

<u>Loop Data Categories</u>	<u>Active Series Leaders</u>	<u>Stat</u>
Driver Rating	Kyle Busch	90.6
Average Running Position	Bubba Wallace	13.909
Percentage of Laps In The Top 15	Ryan Blaney	65.3%
Laps Led	Denny Hamlin	407
Fastest Laps Run	Kevin Harvick	114
Quality Passes	Jamie McMurray	4,202
Green Flag Passes	Jamie McMurray	6,676
Closers	David Ragan	3.3 Avg. Spots Gained
Fastest On Restarts	Daniel Suarez	176.550 MPH

Daytona 500 Tidbits

- The 2019 edition will be the 61st running of the Daytona 500.
- Although the first Daytona 500 was held in 1959, it has been the season-opener only since 1982.

Starts

- A total of 547 different drivers have competed in at least one Daytona 500; 331 in more than one.
- **Dave Marcis** leads the series all-time in Daytona 500 starts with 33; followed by NASCAR Hall of Famers **Richard Petty** (32) and **Terry Labonte** (32).
- **Jimmie Johnson**, **Kevin Harvick**, **Ryan Newman** and **Kurt Busch** lead all active Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series drivers in Daytona 500 starts with 17 each.
- **Chase Elliott** leads the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series in average starting position (2.0) in the Daytona 500.
- 12 different manufacturers have made at least one start in the Daytona 500: **Chevrolet**, **Ford**, Dodge, Pontiac, Oldsmobile, Buick, **Toyota**, Plymouth, Mercury, Chrysler, American Motors Company and Studebaker

Poles

- A total of 42 different drivers have won a pole for the Daytona 500.
- **Bill Elliott**, **Cale Yarborough** and **Buddy Baker** lead the series Daytona 500 poles with four each.
- **William Byron** won the pole for 2019 Daytona 500.
- A total of 10 drivers have posted multiple poles for the Daytona 500; **Jimmie Johnson** (two) and **Chase Elliott** (two) are the only active drivers with more than one Daytona 500 pole.

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ANALYZING THE DAYTONA 500

Poles

- Five drivers have won consecutive Daytona 500 poles – **Fireball Roberts** (1961-1963), **Buddy Baker** (1979-1980), **Bill Elliott** (1985, 1986, 1987), **Ken Schrader** (1988, 1989, 1990), **Chase Elliott** (2016, 2017).
- **Chase Elliott** became the youngest Daytona 500 pole winner at the age of 20 years, 2 months, 17 days with his pole in 2016.
- Hendrick Motorsports has won 13 Daytona 500 poles, the series most: **Ken Schrader** (1988, 1989, 1990), **Jeff Gordon** (1999, 2015), **Jimmie Johnson** (2002, 2008), **Mark Martin** (2010), **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** (2011), **Chase Elliott** (2016, 2017), **Alex Bowman** (2018), **William Byron** (2019).
- Hendrick Motorsports has won a record five Daytona 500 poles in a row – (2015-2019).
- Seven different manufacturers have won the pole for the Daytona 500, led by **Chevrolet** with 27; followed by **Ford** (12), Pontiac (eight), Mercury (five), Dodge (four), Oldsmobile (three), Plymouth (two).
- The 2019 Daytona 500 pole was the 700th pole in the Monster Energy Series all-time.

Wins

- A total of 39 different Monster Energy Series drivers have won a Daytona 500.
- **Lee Petty** won the inaugural Daytona 500 on Feb. 22, 1959; he led 38 laps and won by 2 feet.
- **Austin Dillon** won the most recent (2018) Daytona 500.
- Youngest Daytona 500 winner: **Trevor Bayne** (02/20/2011 - 20 years, 0 months, 1 days)
- Oldest Daytona 500 winner: **Bobby Allison** (02/14/1988 - 50 years, 2 months, 11 days)
- Nine different manufacturers have won the Daytona 500, led by **Chevrolet** with 24 victories; followed by **Ford** (15), Dodge (four), Plymouth (four), Buick (three), Mercury (three), Oldsmobile (three), Pontiac (three) and **Toyota** (one).
- Seven drivers posted their career-first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series victory with a win in the Daytona 500.

<u>Drivers</u>	<u>Seasons</u>
Tiny Lund	1963
Mario Andretti	1967
Pete Hamilton	1970
Derrike Cope	1990
Sterling Marlin	1994
Michael Waltrip	2001
Trevor Bayne	2011

- Three other drivers posted their career-first victory in (points-paying) qualifying races: **Johnny Rutherford** (1963), **Bobby Isaac** (1964) and **Earl Balmer** (1966).
- **Lee Petty**, who won the inaugural Daytona 500, and **Trevor Bayne**, 2011 Daytona 500 champion, are the only two drivers to win the Daytona 500 in their first appearance.

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ANALYZING THE DAYTONA 500

Wins

- A total of 11 drivers have won multiple Daytona 500s, led by **Richard Petty** with seven victories.

The 11 Drivers With Multiple Daytona 500 Wins

No. of Wins	Drivers	Seasons
7	Richard Petty	1964 1966 1971 1973 1974 1979 1981
4	Cale Yarborough	1968 1977 1983 1984
3	Bobby Allison	1978 1982 1988
3	Dale Jarrett	1993 1996 2000
3	Jeff Gordon	1997 1999 2005
2	Bill Elliott	1985 1987
2	Sterling Marlin	1994 1995
2	Michael Waltrip	2001 2003
2	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2004 2014
2	Jimmie Johnson	2006 2013
2	Matt Kenseth	2009 2012

- A driver has won back-to-back Daytona 500s three times - **Richard Petty** (1973-74), **Cale Yarborough** (1983-84) and **Sterling Marlin** (1994-95).
- The Daytona 500 has been won from the pole position nine times; **Bill Elliott** (1985, 1987) and **Cale Yarborough** (1968, 1984) are the only two drivers to accomplish the feat more than once. **Dale Jarrett** was the most recent driver to win from the pole in 2000.

The pole position has a winning percentage of 14.7%.

Season	Driver
1962	Fireball Roberts
1966	Richard Petty
1968	Cale Yarborough
1980	Buddy Baker
1984	Cale Yarborough
1985	Bill Elliott
1987	Bill Elliott
1999	Jeff Gordon
2000	Dale Jarrett

Daytona 500 Wins by Starting Positions

Starting Pos.	Wins	Winning %
1	9	15.0%
2	7	11.7%
3	3	5.0%
4	7	11.7%
5	2	3.3%
6	2	3.3%
7	5	8.3%
8	3	5.0%
9	5	8.3%
11	1	1.7%
12	3	5.0%
13	2	3.3%
14	1	1.7%
15	2	3.3%
19	3	5.0%
32	2	3.3%
33	1	1.7%
34	1	1.7%
39	1	1.7%

- The pole position is the most proficient starting position in the Daytona 500 field, producing more winners (nine) than any other position.
- 16 of the 60 Daytona 500s (26.7%) have been won from the front row; nine from the pole position and seven from the second-place position.
- Matt Kenseth** won the Daytona 500 from the 39th starting position in 2009, the deepest a race winner has started.

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ANALYZING THE DAYTONA 500

Wins

- Five reigning Monster Energy Cup Series champions have gone on to win the Daytona 500 the season after winning the championship: **Lee Petty** (1959), **Richard Petty** (1973), **Cale Yarborough** (1977), **Jeff Gordon** (1999) and **Dale Jarrett** (2000).

Five Drivers Have Won the Daytona 500 and the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Championship In The Same Season

Drivers	Seasons			
Richard Petty	1964	1971	1974	1979
Jimmie Johnson	2006	2013		
Lee Petty	1959			
Cale Yarborough	1977			
Jeff Gordon	1997			

- A driver has swept both the Daytona 500 and the July race only five times at Daytona International Speedway: **Jimmie Johnson** (2013), **Bobby Allison** (1982), **LeeRoy Yarborough** (1969), **Cale Yarborough** (1968) and **Fireball Roberts** (1962).
- Eight drivers made 10 or more attempts before their first Daytona 500 victory: **Dale Earnhardt** (19), **Buddy Baker** (18), **Kurt Busch** (16), **Darrell Waltrip** (16), **Bobby Allison** (14), **Michael Waltrip** (14) and **Sterling Marlin** (12) and **Denny Hamlin** (11).
- The driver with the all-time most Daytona 500 starts without a victory is **Dave Marcis** with 33 races; **Martin Truex Jr.** (14) leads all active drivers with the most Daytona 500 starts without a win.
- Drivers who have won the Daytona 500 in more than one car manufacturer:
 - **Driver – Manufacturer (Number of wins in that manufacturer)**
 - Richard Petty – Plymouth (3), Dodge (2), Oldsmobile (1) and Buick (1)
 - Cale Yarborough – Chevrolet (2), Mercury (1) and Pontiac (1)
 - Bobby Allison – Buick (2) and Ford (1)
 - Dale Jarrett – Ford (2) and Chevrolet (1)
- Drivers who have won The Clash and the Daytona 500 in the same season:
 - **Driver – (Year)**
 - Bobby Allison (1982)
 - Bill Elliott (1987)
 - Dale Jarrett (1996 and 2000)
 - Jeff Gordon (1997)
 - Denny Hamlin (2016)

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Wins

- Car Numbers that have produced three or more Daytona 500 victories:

Car Number – Drivers – (Years)

- **No. 43** – Richard Petty (1964, '66, '71, '73, '74, '79, '81)
- **No. 21** – Tiny Lund (1963), Cale Yarborough (1968), A.J. Foyt (1972), David Pearson (1976) and Trevor Bayne (2011)
- **No. 28** – Fred Lorenzen (1965), Buddy Baker (1980), Cale Yarborough (1983 and 1984) and Davey Allison (1992)
- **No. 4** – Ernie Irvan (1991), Sterling Marlin (1994 and 1995)
- **No. 15** – Bobby Allison (1978), Michael Waltrip (2001 and 2003)
- **No. 17** – Darrell Waltrip (1989), Matt Kenseth (2009 and 2012)
- **No. 88** – Bobby Allison (1982), Dale Jarrett (1996 and 2000) and Dale Earnhardt Jr. (2014)
- **No. 24** – Jeff Gordon (1997, 1999 and 2005)
- **No. 11** – Mario Andretti (1967), Cale Yarborough (1977) and Denny Hamlin (2016)

- Drivers that have won both the Daytona 500 and Coca-Cola 600 (18 total):

	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Daytona 500s</u>	<u>Coca-Cola 600s</u>
1	Richard Petty	7	2
2	Bobby Allison	3	3
3	Dale Jarrett	3	1
4	Jeff Gordon	3	3
5	Jimmie Johnson	2	4
6	Matt Kenseth	2	1
7	Darrell Waltrip	1	5
8	Austin Dillon	1	1
9	Benny Parsons	1	1
10	Buddy Baker	1	3
11	Dale Earnhardt	1	3
12	Davey Allison	1	1
13	David Pearson	1	3
14	Fred Lorenzen	1	2
15	Kevin Harvick	1	2
16	Kurt Busch	1	1
17	LeeRoy Yarbrough	1	1
18	Marvin Panch	1	1

- Drivers that have won both the Daytona 500 and Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis (eight total):

<u>Winners</u>	<u>Daytona 500s</u>	<u>Brickyard 400s</u>
Dale Jarrett	3	2
Jeff Gordon	3	5
Bill Elliott	2	1
Jimmie Johnson	2	4
Dale Earnhardt	1	1
Jamie McMurray	1	1
Kevin Harvick	1	1
Ryan Newman	1	1

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Additional Finishing Positions

- **Dale Earnhardt** leads the series in runner-up finishes in the Daytona 500 with five.
- **Kurt Busch** leads all active drivers in the series in runner-up finishes in the Daytona 500 with three.
- **Dale Earnhardt** leads the series in top-five finishes in the Daytona 500 with 12 top fives in his 23 Daytona 500 starts.
- **Jimmie Johnson** leads all active drivers in Daytona 500 top-five finishes with seven (Johnson is tied with NASCAR Hall of Famer **Fred Lorenzen** for ninth most-all-time).
- **Dale Earnhardt** and **Richard Petty** each posted a series-leading 16 top 10s in the Daytona 500.
- **Kevin Harvick** leads all active drivers in Daytona 500 in top-10 finishes with eight.
- **Bubba Wallace** leads the series in average finishing position in the Daytona 500 with a 2.0 (in his lone appearance last season); of drivers with more than one start **Lee Petty** leads the series with a 2.5 in two appearances.
- 2018 Daytona 500 champion **Austin Dillon** (13.8) has the best average finish among active drivers with more than one start; he has made six appearances in the Daytona 500.

Female Competitors

- **Danica Patrick** on Sunday, Feb. 19, 2013 became the first female in Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series history to win a pole for the Daytona 500 posting a speed of 196.434 mph.
- **Janet Guthrie** previously held the record for top starting position by a female NASCAR premier series driver, starting ninth twice in 1977 - at Talladega Superspeedway on Aug. 7, 1977 and at Bristol Motor Speedway on Aug. 28, 1977.
- In 2012, **Danica Patrick** became the third female driver to compete in a Daytona 500 joining **Janet Guthrie** and **Shawna Robinson**. Below are the previous female driver performances in the Daytona 500.

Race	Season	Driver	Start	Finish
Daytona 500	1977	Janet Guthrie	39	12
Daytona 500	1980	Janet Guthrie	18	11
Daytona 500	2002	Shawna Robinson	36	24
Daytona 500	2012	Danica Patrick	29	38
Daytona 500	2013	Danica Patrick	1	8
Daytona 500	2014	Danica Patrick	27	40
Daytona 500	2015	Danica Patrick	20	21
Daytona 500	2016	Danica Patrick	16	35
Daytona 500	2017	Danica Patrick	12	33
Daytona 500	2018	Danica Patrick	28	35

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Track / Daytona 500 Specific Stats

- **Denny Hamlin's** 0.001-second margin of victory over **Martin Truex Jr.** in the 2016 Daytona 500 is the closest Daytona 500 finish and tied with Atlanta (3/12/2000) and ISM Raceway (3/13/2016) as the seventh closest MOV since the advent of electronic scoring in 1993.
- **Kevin Harvick's** 0.020-second margin of victory over **Mark Martin** in the 2007 Daytona 500 is the 12th-closest overall since the advent of electronic scoring in 1993, and the second closest in Daytona 500 history.
- Top five closest margins of victory in the Daytona 500

Margin of Victory	Winner	Runner-Up	Date
0.01	Denny Hamlin	Martin Truex Jr	Sunday, February 21, 2016
0.02	Kevin Harvick	Mark Martin	Sunday, February 18, 2007
0.092	Ryan Newman	Kurt Busch	Sunday, February 17, 2008
0.118	Trevor Bayne	Carl Edwards	Sunday, February 20, 2011
0.119	Jamie McMurray	Dale Earnhardt Jr	Sunday, February 14, 2010

- NASCAR Hall of Famer **Richard Petty** has led the most laps in a single Daytona 500; leading 184 laps in the 1964 Daytona 500.
- Among active drivers, **Ryan Blaney** has led the most laps in a single Daytona 500, when he led 118 laps in last season's (2018) Daytona 500.
- **Kurt Busch** (2017) and **Austin Dillon** (2018) have led the fewest laps in the Daytona 500 and won - both led just the final lap on their way to winning the Daytona 500.
- The 2011 Daytona 500 had the most all-time lead changes with 74; which is 14 more than the race with the second-most lead changes – the 1974 Daytona 500 with 60 lead changes.
- The 1964 Daytona 500 won by **Richard Petty** had the fewest lead changes with a mere six.
- 2011 Daytona 500 had the most all-time leaders with 22.
- 2011 Daytona 500 had the most all-time cautions with 16.
- 1968 and 2011 Daytona 500s had the most all-time Caution Laps with 60 laps each.
- The Daytona 500 has finished under NASCAR Overtime conditions eight times: 2018, 2015, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2007, 2006 and 2005.
- Due to the overtime rules in NASCAR, the longest Daytona 500 ever run was the 2010 and 2011 Daytona 500 races – both went 208 laps/520 miles – eight laps and 20 miles more than the scheduled distance.
- The largest field to compete in the Daytona 500 was 68 cars in the 1960 race.

12-12-12-12

ANALYZING THE DAYTONA 500

Statistical Look At Daytona International Speedway

History

- Groundbreaking for Daytona International Speedway was Nov. 25, 1957. The soil underneath the banked corners was dug from the infield of the track and the hole filled with water. It is now known as Lake Lloyd.
- The first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race at Daytona was a 100-mile qualifying race for the Daytona 500 on Feb. 20, 1959.
- **Richard Petty** won his 200th career race on July 4, 1984 at Daytona.
- Lights were installed in the spring of 1998. However, the July race was delayed until October that year due to thick smoke from wildfires. The second Daytona race has been scheduled for under the lights ever since.
- The track underwent a repave in 2010.
- 2016 marked the next phase in the existence of Daytona International Speedway as the DAYTONA Rising project was completed, ushering in the first 'motorsports stadium,' a 400-million-dollar project.

Notebook

- There have been 143 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series races since the track hosted its first race in 1959: 60 have been 500 miles, 56 were 400 miles and four 250 miles. There were also 23 qualifier races that were point races.
- **Fireball Roberts** won the inaugural pole at Daytona in a Pontiac with a speed of 140.121 mph.
- **Bob Welborn** won the first race at Daytona, the 100-mile qualifying race for the Daytona 500.
- **Fireball Roberts** won the first 400-mile race at Daytona, the 1963 Firecracker 400.
- A total of 60 different drivers have posted poles at Daytona.
- A total of six active drivers have won their first career pole at Daytona – **Chase Elliott** (2016), **Austin Dillon** (2014), **Paul Menard** (2008), **Kevin Harvick** (2002), **Jimmie Johnson** (2002) and **William Byron** (2019).
- **Cale Yarborough** leads all drivers with 12 poles at Daytona – (D500 = 4; July Race = 8).
- **Jimmie Johnson**, **Chase Elliott** and **David Gilliland** lead all active drivers with two poles each at Daytona.
- A total of 64 different drivers have won at Daytona International Speedway.
- NASCAR Hall of Famer **Richard Petty** with 10 points-paying victories at Daytona, leads the series.
- The **Wood Brothers** have won 15 races at Daytona, more than any other organization.

13-13-13-13

ANALYZING THE DAYTONA 500

- 18 full-length races at Daytona have been won from the pole; most recent **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** (July, 2015).

NASCAR in Florida

- There have been 377 NASCAR national series races among 10 tracks held in the state of Florida.

Track Name	City	First Year	Monster Energy	Xfinity	Gander Outdoors	Total Races
Daytona International Speedway	Daytona Beach	1959	143	54	19	283
Homestead-Miami Speedway	Homestead	1995	20	24	23	73
Daytona Beach & Road Course	Daytona Beach	1949	10	0	0	10
Palm Beach Speedway	W. Palm Beach	1952	7	0	0	7
Speedway Park	Jacksonville	1951	6	0	0	6
Volusia County Speedway	Barberville	1989	0	4	0	4
Walt Disney World Speedway	Orlando	1997	0	0	2	2
Five Flags Speedway	Pensacola	1953	1	0	0	1
Golden Gate Speedway	Tampa	1963	1	0	0	1
Titusville-Cocoa Speedway	Titusville	1957	1	0	0	1
TOTAL			189	82	44	388

NASCAR Drivers From Florida

- A total of 181 drivers in NASCAR's three national series have their home state recorded as Florida.
- There have been 12 race winners with their home state recorded as Florida in NASCAR's three national series; totaling 93 victories among them:

Driver	Monster Energy	Xfinity	Gander Outdoors	TOTAL
1 Fireball Roberts	33	0	0	33
2 LeeRoy Yarbrough	14	0	0	14
3 Marshall Teague	7	0	0	7
4 Joe Nemechek	4	16	0	20
5 Aric Almirola	2	3	2	7
6 Bobby Johns	2	0	0	2
7 David Reutimann	2	1	1	4
8 Shorty Rollins	1	0	0	1
9 Rick Wilson	0	2	0	2
10 Ross Chastain	0	1	0	1
11 Joey Coulter	0	0	1	1
12 Ben Kennedy	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	65	23	5	93

14-14-14-14

ANALYZING THE DAYTONA 500

Monster Energy Series - Achievable Milestones

Starts

Kurt Busch	Has:	648	Needs:	2
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To become the 23rd driver all-time in the Monster Energy Series to make 650 starts or more.

Kyle Busch	Has:	498	Needs:	2
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To become the 41st driver all-time in the Monster Energy Series to make 500 starts or more.

Wins

Jimmie Johnson	Has:	83	Needs:	1
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Tie Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip for fourth on the all-time series wins list.

Kevin Harvick	Has:	45	Needs:	1
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Tie Buck Baker (46) for 16th on the all-time MENCS wins list.

Denny Hamlin	Has:	31	Needs:	1
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To tie Dale Jarrett for 24th on the all-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series wins list.

Kurt Busch	Has:	30	Needs:	1
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To tie Denny Hamlin for 25th on the all-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series wins list.

Busch Poles

Ryan Newman	Has:	51	Needs:	3
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Tie Bill Elliott for eighth on the all-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series poles list.

Jimmie Johnson	Has:	35	Needs:	1
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To tie Rusty Wallace and Rex White for 18th on the all-time series poles list.

Kyle Busch	Has:	31	Needs:	1
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To tie Fonty Flock for 23rd on the all-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series poles list.

Denny Hamlin	Has:	30	Needs:	1
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To tie Kyle Busch for 24th on the all-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series poles list.

Laps Led

Jimmie Johnson	Has:	18,703	Needs:	297
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To become the ninth driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 19,000 laps.

Kyle Busch	Has:	15,849	Needs:	151
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To become the 10th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 16,000 laps.

Kevin Harvick	Has:	13,081	Needs:	919
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To become the 11th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 14,000 laps.

Kurt Busch	Has:	9,521	Needs:	479
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To become the 18th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 10,000 laps.

Denny Hamlin	Has:	9,223	Needs:	777
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To become the 18th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 10,000 laps.

Martin Truex Jr.	Has:	7,535	Needs:	465
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To become the 26th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 8,000 laps.

Brad Keselowski	Has:	6,315	Needs:	685
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To become the 30th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 7,000 laps.

Joey Logano	Has:	5,097	Needs:	903
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To become the 36th driver in the MENCS all-time to lead 6,000 laps.