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OPENING DAY ROSTERS FEATURE 234 PLAYERS BORN OUTSIDE THE U.S.
27.7 Percent of Players Are Foreign-Born, Spanning 14 Countries and Territories

Two-hundred thirty-four (234) players on 2011 Opening Day rosters and disabled lists were born outside the 50 United States, it was announced today.

Overall, 27.7 percent of the 846 players (749 active 25-man roster players and 97 disabled or restricted Major League players) on March 31st rosters were born outside the 50 United States, representing 14 countries and territories. The all-time highs occurred in 2005, when 29.2 percent (242/829) of Opening Day players were foreign-born, and in 2007, when 246 players were born outside the U.S., totaling 29.0 percent of all players. Last season, 231 out of 833 players were foreign-born, also totaling 27.7 percent.



Once again, the Dominican Republic leads the Major Leagues with 86 players born outside the U.S. Venezuela ranks second with 62 players, its highest total ever on Opening Day rosters. Puerto Rico (20) has the next highest total, followed by Canada (16); Cuba (11); Japan (10); Mexico (8); Australia (5); Panama (4); Colombia (3); Curaçao (3); Taiwan (3); Nicaragua (2); and Korea (1). Since 1995, when MLB began to release annual Opening Day data, the 16 Canadian-born players rank second-highest (19 in 2007). Cuba matched its high of 11 set in 2002 and Australia matched its high of five set in 1998. In addition, Colombia, Taiwan and Nicaragua each matched their previous Opening Day bests.

The New York Yankees have the most foreign-born players with a total of 16, the first time the club has led the Majors since its 10 foreign-born players on Opening Day in 2000 shared the lead with three other clubs. Four Clubs – the Colorado Rockies, the Detroit Tigers, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim and the Los Angeles Dodgers – feature 11 foreign-born players apiece, while the Chicago Cubs, the Cincinnati Reds, the Houston Astros, the New York Mets and the Texas Rangers each have 10. The Dodgers have players from eight different countries and territories outside the United States: Canada, Curaçao, the Dominican Republic, Japan, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Taiwan and Venezuela.

Please see below for the complete list of foreign-born players on 2011 Opening Day rosters.

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Contact: Patrick Courtney or Michael Teevan, Major League Baseball, (212) 931-7878, twitter.com/mlb_pr.

AUSTRALIA (5)

Balfour, Grant, OAK
Moylan, Peter, ATL
Rowland-Smith, Ryan, HOU
Thomas, Brad, DET
Thompson, Richard, LAA

CANADA (16)

Axford, John, MIL
Bay, Jason, NYM
Bedard, Erik, SEA
Crain, Jesse, CWS
Dempster, Ryan, CHI
Francis, Jeff, KC
Harden, Rich, OAK
Hawksworth, Blake, LA
Kottaras, George, MIL
Martin, Russell, NYY
Morneau, Justin, MIN
Nickeas, Mike, NYM
Orr, Pete, PHI
Saunders, Michael, SEA
Stairs, Matt, WSH
Votto, Joey, CIN

COLOMBIA (3)

Cabrera, Orlando, CLE
Frieri, Ernesto, SD
Renteria, Edgar, CIN

CUBA (11)

Baez, Danys, PHI
Betancourt, Yuniesky, MIL
Chapman, Aroldis, CIN
Contreras, Jose, PHI
Escobar, Yunel, TOR
Hernandez, Livan, WSH
Miranda, Juan, ARI
Morales, Kendrys, LAA
Pena, Brayan, KC
Ramirez, Alexei, CWS
Viciedo, Dayan, CWS

CURAÇAO (3)

Jansen, Kenley, LA
Jones, Andruw, NYY
Jurrjens, Jair, ATL

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (86)

Abad, Fernando, HOU
Almonte, Erick, MIL
Arias, Alberto, HOU
Arredondo, Jose, CIN
Aybar, Erick, LAA
Bastardo, Antonio, PHI
Batista, Miguel, STL
Bautista, Jose, TOR
Beato, Pedro, NYM
Beltre, Adrian, TEX
Beltre, Omar, TEX
Benoit, Joaquin, DET
Betemit, Wilson, KC
Bonifacio, Emilio, FLA
Borbon, Julio, TEX
Cabrera, Melky, KC
Cano, Robinson, NYY
Carmona, Fausto, CLE
Casilla, Alexi, MIN
Casilla, Santiago, SF
Castro, Starlin, CHI
Colon, Bartolo, NYY
Cordero, Francisco, CIN
Cruz, Juan, TB
Cruz, Nelson, TEX
Cueto, Johnny, CIN
Deduno, Samuel, SD
Del Rosario, Enerio, HOU
Dotel, Octavio, TOR
Encarnacion, Edwin, TOR
Feliz, Neftali, TEX
Francisco, Frank, TOR
Francisco, Juan, CIN
Furcal, Rafael, LA
Gomez, Carlos, MIL
Guerrero, Vladimir, BAL
Jimenez, Ubaldo, COL
Liriano, Francisco, MIN

Marmol, Carlos, CHI
Marte, Damaso, NYY
Martinez, Cristhian, ATL
Martinez, Michael, PHI
Mateo, Marcos, CHI
Mota, Guillermo, SF
Nova, Ivan, NYY
Nunez, Eduardo, NYY
Nunez, Leo, FLA
Ogando, Alexi, TEX
Olivo, Miguel, SEA
Ortiz, David, BOS
Paulino, Felipe, COL
Paulino, Ronny, NYM
Peña, Carlos, CHI
Peña, Tony, CWS
Peralta, Jhonny, DET
Peralta, Joel, TB
Perez, Rafael, CLE
Pie, Felix, BAL
Pineda, Michael, SEA
Polanco, Placido, PHI
Pujols, Albert, STL
Ramirez, Aramis, CHI
Ramirez, Elvin, WSH
Ramirez, Hanley, FLA
Ramirez, Manny, TB
Ramirez, Ramon, SF
Reyes, Jose, NYM
Rodney, Fernando, LAA
Rodriguez, Aneury, HOU
Rodriguez, Wandy, HOU
Rogers, Esmil, COL
Santana, Carlos, CLE
Santana, Ervin, LAA
Santiago, Ramon, DET
Simon, Alfredo, BAL
Soriano, Alfonso, CHI
Soriano, Rafael, NYY
Strop, Pedro, TEX
Tejada, Miguel, SF
Tejada, Robinson, KC
Uribe, Juan, LA
Valdez, Wilson, PHI
Valverde, Jose, DET

Veras, Enger, PIT
Villanueva, Carlos, TOR
Volquez, Edinson, CIN

JAPAN (10)

Fukudome, Kosuke, CHI
Kuroda, Hiroki, LA
Matsui, Hideki, OAK
Matsuzaka, Daisuke, BOS
Nishioka, Tsuyoshi, MIN
Saito, Takashi, MIL
Suzuki, Ichiro, SEA
Takahashi, Hisanori, LAA
Tazawa, Junichi, BOS
Uehara, Koji, BAL

KOREA (1)

Choo, Shin-Soo, CLE

MEXICO (8)

Ayala, Luis, NYY
Cantu, Jorge, SD
De La Rosa, Jorge, COL
Gallardo, Yovani, MIL
Garcia, Jaime, STL
Reyes, Dennys, BOS
Sandoval, Freddy, LAA
Soria, Joakim, KC

NICARAGUA (2)

Lopez, Wilton, HOU
Padilla, Vicente, LA

PANAMA (4)

Chen, Bruce, KC
Lee, Carlos, HOU
Rivera, Mariano, NYY
Ruiz, Carlos, PHI

PUERTO RICO (20)

Beltran, Carlos, NYM
Castro, Ramon, CWS
Cora, Alex, WSH
DeJesus, Ivan, LA
Feliciano, Pedro, NYY
Lopez, Javier, SF
Molina, Jose, TOR

Molina, Yadier, STL
Morales, Jose, COL
Nieves, Wil, MIL
Pagan, Angel, NYM
Piñeiro, Joel, LAA
Posada, Jorge, NYY
Rodriguez, Ivan, WSH
Romero, J.C., PHI
Sanchez, Angel, HOU
Sanchez, Jonathan, SF
Soto, Geovany, CHI
Torres, Andres, SF
Vazquez, Javier, FLA

TAIWAN (3)

Hu, Chin-Lung, NYM
Kuo, Hong-Chih, LA
Wang, Chien-Ming, WSH

VENEZUELA (62)

Abreu, Bobby, LAA
Andrus, Elvis, TEX
Ascanio, Jose, PIT
Belisario, Ronald, LA
Betancourt, Rafael, COL
Blanco, Andres, TEX
Blanco, Henry, ARI
Cabrera, Asdrubal, CLE
Cabrera, Miguel, DET
Cairo, Miguel, CIN
Callaspo, Alberto, LAA
Carrasco, Carlos, CLE
Cedeno, Ronny, PIT
Cervelli, Francisco, NYY
Chacin, Jhoulys, COL
Corona, Reggie, NYY
Doubront, Felix, BOS
Escobar, Alcides, KC
Galarraga, Armando, ARI
Garcia, Freddy, NYY
Gimenez, Hector, LA
Gonzalez, Alberto, SD
Gonzalez, Alex, ATL
Gonzalez, Carlos, COL
Gonzalez, Enrique, DET
Guillen, Carlos, DET

Gutierrez, Franklin, SEA
Gutierrez, Juan, ARI
Hernandez, Felix, SEA
Hernandez, Ramon, CIN
Herrera, Jonathan, COL
Infante, Omar, FLA
Izturis, Cesar, BAL
Izturis, Maicer, LAA
Lopez, Jose, COL
Martinez, Victor, DET
Mijares, Jose, MIN
Molina, Gustavo, NYY
Montero, Miguel, ARI
Mora, Melvin, ARI
Morales, Franklin, COL
Mujica, Edward, FLA
Navarro, Dioner, LA
Ordoñez, Magglio, DET
Parra, Gerardo, ARI
Prado, Martin, ATL
Quintero, Humberto, HOU
Ramos, Wilson, WSH
Rivera, Juan, TOR
Robles, Mauricio, SEA
Rodriguez, Francisco, NYM
Rodriguez, Henry, WSH
Rodriguez, Luis, SEA
Sanchez, Anibal, FLA
Sandoval, Pablo, SF
Santana, Johan, NYM
Scutaro, Marco, BOS
Tabata, Jose, PIT
Torrealba, Yorvit, TEX
Villarreal, Brayan, DET
Vizquel, Omar, CWS
Zambrano, Carlos, CHI