

ICHIRO COUNTDOWN TO 3,000

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Ichiro Suzuki is closing in on a very unique milestone in his baseball career. The 3,000-hit mark is one of the most revered milestones in Major League Baseball. There are currently 27 members of MLB's exclusive 3,000-hit club, with Craig Biggio being the latest entry last season.

Ichiro, of course, spent the first seven full seasons of his professional career with the Orix Blue Wave of the Japan's Pacific League. When you combine his hit totals with Orix and the Seattle Mariners, he needs only **1** hit to reach a total of 3,000 (1,278 in Japan, 1,721 with Seattle = 2,999). Here are some notes of interest regarding Ichiro's unique road toward 3,000 hits...

3,000 Hit Club Facts...

- **Youngest to reach 3,000 Hits:** Ty Cobb at 34 years, 231 days...**Ichiro is currently 34.281** (including today's date).
- **Fewest games to reach 3,000 Hits:** Ty Cobb in 2,135 games, Nap Lajoie is 2nd with 2,224...Ichiro has played in 2,174 career games in Japan and MLB.
- **3,000 H, 500 SB** -- Only 6 players (Cobb, Wagner, Molitor, Collins, Henderson, Brock) have recorded 3,000 hits and 500 stolen bases...**Ichiro has 505 career stolen bases (199 in Japan, 306 with Seattle = 505).**
- **Hits Per Game** -- Ichiro has averaged 1.41 hits per game since joining the Mariners in 2001...in 951 games with the Orix Blue Wave, he averaged 1.34 hits per game.

3,000 Hit Club...

Player	Hits	Hit #3,000 Details	
		Age	Games
Pete Rose	4,256	37	2,370
Ty Cobb	4,191	34	2,135
Hank Aaron	3,771	36	2,460
Stan Musial	3,630	37	2,301
Tris Speaker	3,514	37	2,341
Carl Yastrzemski	3,419	40	2,848
Honus Wagner	3,415	40	2,332
Paul Molitor	3,319	40	2,411
Eddie Collins	3,315	38	2,505
Willie Mays	3,283	39	2,639
Eddie Murray	3,255	39	2,764
Nap Lajoie	3,242	39	2,224
Cal Ripken Jr.	3,184	39	2,800
George Brett	3,154	39	2,559
Paul Waner	3,152	39	2,314
Robin Yount	3,142	36	2,708
Tony Gwynn	3,141	39	2,284
Dave Winfield	3,110	41	2,840
Craig Biggio	3,060	41	2,781
Cap Anson	3,055	45	--
Rickey Henderson	3,055	42	2,979
Rod Carew	3,053	39	2,417
Lou Brock	3,023	40	2,629
Rafael Palmeiro	3,020	40	2,809
Wade Boggs	3,010	41	2,430
Al Kaline	3,007	39	2,825
Roberto Clemente	3,000	38	2,433

Ichiro's Career Statistics...

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB
1992	ORIX	.253	40	95	4	24	5	0	0	5	3
1993	ORIX	.188	43	64	4	12	2	0	1	3	0
1994	ORIX	.385	130	546	111	210	41	5	13	54	29
1995	ORIX	.342	130	524	104	179	23	4	25	80	49
1996	ORIX	.356	130	542	104	193	24	4	16	84	35
1997	ORIX	.345	135	536	94	185	31	4	17	91	39
1998	ORIX	.358	135	506	79	181	36	3	13	71	11
1999	ORIX	.343	103	411	80	141	27	2	21	68	12
2000	ORIX	.387	105	395	73	153	22	1	12	73	21
2001	SEATTLE	.350	157	692	127	242	34	8	8	69	56
2002	SEATTLE	.321	157	647	111	208	27	8	8	51	31
2003	SEATTLE	.312	159	679	111	212	29	8	13	62	34
2004	SEATTLE	.372	161	704	101	262	24	5	8	60	36
2005	SEATTLE	.303	162	679	111	206	21	12	15	68	33
2006	SEATTLE	.322	161	695	110	224	20	9	9	49	45
2007	SEATTLE	.351	161	678	111	238	22	7	6	68	37
2008	SEATTLE	.297	105	435	67	129	12	5	4	25	34
Japan Totals		.353	951	3619	653	1278	211	23	118	529	199
ML Totals		.330	1223	5209	849	1721	189	62	71	452	306
Professional Totals		.340	2174	8828	1502	2999	400	85	189	981	505

*2008 statistics and current age thru games of 7/28/08

Multi-Hit Games: 526
5-Hit Games: 7
10+ game Hitting Streaks: 27
20+ Game Hitting Streaks: 6

MOST HITS - 8 YEAR SPAN

Ichiro has 1,721 career MLB hits, the most for any player in an 8-year span...Ichiro has already established the record for most hits by a player in the first eight seasons of a career, bettering the old mark set by Paul Waner (1,643).

Player	Hits
Ichiro Suzuki, 2001-08.....	1,721
Paul Waner, 1927-34.....	1,680
Bill Terry, 1928-35.....	1,672
Rogers Hornsby, 1920-27.....	1,668
Wade Boggs, 1983-90.....	1,666

THE RISING SUN

Ichiro has 2,999 career hits, including 1,278 hits in Japan...he needs 87 hits to pass Isao Harimoto for the All-Time mark in Japan.

Player	Hits
Isao Harimoto.....	3,085
Ichiro Suzuki.....	2,999
Katsuya Nomura.....	2,901

MOST SINCE 2001

Ichiro has recorded 1,721 hits since his Major League debut with the Mariners in 2001...since 2001, Ichiro has played in more games (1,223), recorded more hits and recorded more multi-hit games (526) than any other player.

Player	Hits Since '01
Ichiro Suzuki.....	1,721
Derek Jeter.....	1,461
Albert Pujols.....	1,461
Juan Pierre.....	1,454
Michael Young.....	1,433

200 HITS

Ichiro currently ranks 3rd in the AL with 129 hits...is on pace for 199 hits, and is nearly on pace keep his streak alive of consecutive 200-hit seasons...if he records 200 hits, he will join **Willie Keeler** (1894-1901) as the only players in history to record eight consecutive 200-hit seasons...here is a look at the longest streaks of consecutive 200-hit seasons:

Player	Seasons
Willie Keeler, 1894-1901.....	8
Ichiro, 2001-c.....	7
Wade Boggs, 1983-89.....	7
Chuck Klein, 1929-33.....	5
Al Simmons, 1929-33.....	5
Charlie Gehring, 1933-37.....	5
Michael Young, 2003-c.....	5