

Batting Averages Table

Directions: Enter batting averages data into a spreadsheet, and make a scatter plot showing how averages change over time. Analyze the graph, looking for strength and consistency over time, to determine the relative value of the players.

Player	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Sammy Sosa	0.308	0.288	0.320	0.328	0.288	0.279	0.253
Ken Griffey	0.284	0.285	0.271	0.286	0.264	0.247	0.253
Derek Jeter	0.324	0.349	0.339	0.311	0.297	0.324	0.292
Roberto Alomar	0.282	0.323	0.310	0.336	0.266	0.258	0.263

Data source: www.baseball-reference.com*

Use the data and your graph to respond to the following:

1. Analyze the data and rank the players. Write an explanation of the results and defend your choice using data.
2. Explain how batting average is calculated using several sentences and an equation.
3. What limitations does the batting average statistic have? What doesn't it tell you about a player?
4. Why is the batting average designated as an "average"?
5. How does looking at a graph of data provide you with more information than just looking at the data in a table?
6. How do you choose the appropriate graphical representations for a certain set of data?