

# PRESS RELEASE

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Record 246 players born outside the U.S.



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## ADVERTISEMENT



A record high total of 246 players on Opening Day rosters and disabled lists were born outside the 50 United States, surpassing the previous high of 242 players set in 2005, it was announced today.

Overall, 29.0 percent of the 849 players (750 active 25-man roster players, 99 disabled or restricted players) on April 2 rosters were born outside the 50 United States, representing 15 different countries and territories. The 2007 figure is second to the 2005 record high of 29.2 percent (242 out of 829 players). The Dominican Republic, with 98 players (up from 85 in 2006), produced the most Major Leaguers born outside the U.S., while Venezuela had the next highest total with 51 players (up from 43 in 2006) and Puerto Rico follows with 28. Players from Japan increased to 13, up from nine in 2006.

Among the Major League Clubs, the New York Mets have the most foreign-born players with 15 for the second consecutive season, followed by the New York Yankees (13) and Boston Red Sox, Minnesota Twins and Seattle Mariners, each with 12. The Colorado Rockies have players born in seven different countries or territories outside the 50 United States (Canada, the Dominican Republic, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela), which is high among Major League Clubs.

Additionally, 3,098 of the 6,701 minor league players under contract in 2007 - 46.2 percent - were born outside the United States, compared to 45.1 percent in 2006. Minor leaguers hailed from 35 different countries and territories.

**ARUBA (1)**

Ponson, Sidney (MIN)

**AUSTRALIA (1)**

Snelling, Chris (WSH)

**CANADA (19)**

Bay, Jason (PIT)  
Bedard, Erik (BAL)  
Braun, Ryan Z. (KC)  
Cormier, Rheel (CIN)  
Crain, Jesse (MIN)  
Dempster, Ryan (CHI-NL)  
Francis, Jeff (COL)  
Gagne, Eric (TEX)  
Harden, Rich (OAK)  
Hill, Shawn (WSH)  
Koskie, Corey (MIL)  
Loewen, Adam (BAL)  
Martin, Russell (LA-NL)  
Mathieson, Scott (PHI)  
Morneau, Justin (MIN)  
Orr, Peter (ATL)  
Reitsma, Chris (SEA)  
Stairs, Matt (TOR)  
Thorman, Scott (ATL)

**COLOMBIA (2)**

Cabrera, Orlando (LAA)  
Renteria, Edgar (ATL)

**CUBA (6)**

Baez, Danny (BAL)  
Betancourt, Yuniesky (SEA)  
Contreras, Jose (CWS)  
Hernandez, Livan (ARI)  
Hernandez, Orlando (NYM)  
Pena, Brayan (ATL)

**CURACAO (1)**

Jones, Andruw (ATL)

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (98)**

Alfonseca, Antonio (PHI)  
Aquino, Gregori (MIL)  
Arias, Joaquin (TEX)  
Aybar, Erick (LAA)  
Aybar, Willy (ATL)  
Batista, Miguel (SEA)  
Bautista, Jose (PIT)  
Beltre, Adrian (SEA)  
Benitez, Armando (SF)  
Benoit, Joaquin (TEX)  
Betemit, Wilson (LA-NL)  
Brazoban, Yhency (LA)  
Burgos, Ambiorix (NYM)  
Cabrera, Daniel (BAL)

Olivo, Miguel (FLA)

Ortiz, David (BOS)  
Ortiz, Ramon (MIN)  
Ozuna, Pablo (CWS)  
Paulino, Ronny (PIT)  
Pena, Carlos (TB)  
Pena, Ramon (ARI)  
Pena, Jr., Tony (KC)  
Pena, Wily Mo (BOS)  
Peralta, Jhonny (CLE)  
Peralta, Joel (KC)  
Perez, Juan (PIT)  
Perez, Neifi (DET)  
Perez, Odalis (KC)  
Polanco, Placido (DET)  
Pujols, Albert (STL)  
Ramirez, Aramis (CHI-NL)  
Ramirez, Elizardo (CIN)  
Ramirez, Hanley (FLA)  
Ramirez, Manny (BOS)  
Ramirez, Ramon (COL)  
Reyes, Al (TB)  
Reyes, Jose (NYM)  
Rleal, Sendy (BAL)  
Rodney, Fernando (DET)  
Rodriguez, Wandy (HOU)  
Salas, Juan (TB)  
Sanchez, Duaner (NYM)  
Sanchez, Humberto (NYY)  
Santana, Ervin (LAA)  
Santos, Victor (CIN)  
Soriano, Alfonso (CHI-NL)  
Soriano, Rafael (ATL)  
Sosa, Sammy (TEX)  
Tavarez, Julian (BOS)  
Taveras, Willy (COL)  
Tejada, Miguel (BAL)  
Tejada, Robinson (TEX)  
Torres, Salomon (PIT)  
Uribe, Juan (CWS)  
Valdez, Wilson (LA-NL)  
Valverde, Jose (ARI)  
Vargas, Claudio (MIL)  
Veras, Enger (NYY)  
Villanueva, Carlos (MIL)  
Vizcaino, Luis (NYY)

**JAPAN (13)**

Igawa, Kei (NYY)  
Iguchi, Tadahito (CWS)  
Iwamura, Akinori (TB)  
Johjima, Kenji (SEA)  
Matsui, Hideki (NYY)  
Matsui, Kazuo (COL)  
Matsuzaka, Daisuke (BOS)  
Ohka, Tomo (TOR)

**PUERTO RICO (28)**

Beltran, Carlos (NYM)  
Cabrera, Fernando (CLE)  
Calero, Kiko (OAK)  
Castro, Ramon (NYM)  
Cintron, Alex (CWS)  
Cora, Alex (BOS)  
Cruz, Jose Jr. (SD)  
Delgado, Carlos (NYM)  
Feliciano, Pedro (NYM)  
Hernandez, Roberto (CLE)  
Lopez, Felipe (WSH)  
Lopez, Javier (BOS)  
Lowell, Mike (BOS)  
Molina, Bengie (SF)  
Molina, Jose (LAA)  
Molina, Yadier (STL)  
Nieves, Wilbert (NYY)  
Padilla, Juan (NYM)  
Pineiro, Joel (BOS)  
Posada, Jorge (NYY)  
Rodriguez, Ivan (DET)  
Romero, J.C. (BOS)  
Sanchez, Angel (KC)  
Sanchez, Jonathan (SF)  
Valentin, Javier (CIN)  
Valentin, Jose (NYM)  
Vazquez, Javier (CWS)  
Vidro, Jose (SEA)

**TAIWAN (2)**

Kuo, Hong-Chih (LA-NL)  
Wang, Chien-Ming (NYY)

**VENEZUELA (51)**

Abreu, Bobby (NYY)  
Alfonzo, Eliezer (SF)  
Armas, Tony (PIT)  
Betancourt, Rafael (CLE)  
Blanco, Henry (CHI-NL)  
Cabrera, Miguel (FLA)  
Cairo, Miguel (NYY)  
Castillo, Jose (PIT)  
Callaspo, Alberto (ARI)  
Castillo, Jose (PIT)  
Cedeno, Ronny (CHI-NL)  
Chacin, Gustavo (TOR)  
Chavez, Endy (NYM)  
Escobar, Alexander (WSH)  
Escobar, Kelvim (LAA)  
Flores, Jesus (WSH)  
Garcia, Freddy (PHI)  
Gimenez, Hector (HOU)  
Gonzalez, Alex (CIN)  
Guillen, Carlos (DET)  
Gutierrez, Franklin (CLE)

Cabrera, Melky (NYY)  
Campusano, Edward (DET)  
Cano, Robinson (NYY)  
Carmona, Fausto (CLE)  
Carrasco, Hector (LAA)  
Castillo, Luis (MIN)  
Colome, Jesus (WSH)  
Colon, Bartolo (LAA)  
Colon, Roman (DET)  
Cordero, Francisco (TEX)  
Cruz, Juan (ARI)  
Cruz, Nelson (TEX)  
De Aza, Alejandro (FLA)  
Dotel, Octavio (KC)  
Encarnacion, Edwin (CIN)  
Encarnacion, Juan (STL)  
Feliz, Pedro (SF)  
Franco, Julio (NYM)  
Furcal, Rafael (LA-NL)  
Garcia, Jose (FLA)  
German, Esteban (KC)  
Gil, Jerry (CIN)  
Guerrero, Vladimir (LAA)  
Guillen, Jose (SEA)  
Guzman, Cristian (WSH)  
Liriano, Francisco (MIN)  
Lugo, Julio (BOS)  
Lugo, Ruddy (TB)  
Marte, Andy (CLE)  
Marte, Damaso (PIT)  
Martinez, Carlos (FLA)  
Martinez, Pedro (NYM)  
Mateo, Juan (CHI-NL)  
Mateo, Julio (SEA)  
Mesa, Jose (DET)  
Mota, Guillermo (NYM)  
Nunez, Abraham (PHI)  
Nunez, Leo (KC)

Okajima, Hideki (BOS)  
Otsuka, Akinori (TEX)  
Saito, Takashi (LA-NL)  
Suzuki, Ichiro (SEA)  
Taguchi, So (STL)

**KOREA (3)**

Kim, Byung-Hyun (COL)  
Ryu, Jae-kuk (TB)  
Seo, Jae Weong (TB)

**MEXICO (13)**

Amezaga, Alfredo (FLA)  
Ayala, Luis (WSH)  
Castro, Juan (CIN)  
Cota, Humberto (PIT)  
De La Rosa, Jorge (KC)  
Dessens, Elmer (MIL)  
Gonzalez, Edgar (ARI)  
Loaiza, Esteban (OAK)  
Lopez, Rodrigo (COL)  
Perez, Oliver (NYM)  
Reyes, Dennys (MIN)  
Soria, Joakim (KC)  
Villarreal, Oscar (ATL)

**NICARAGUA (1)**

Padilla, Vicente (TEX)

**PANAMA (7)**

Chen, Bruce (TEX)  
Corpas, Manuel (COL)  
Lee, Carlos (HOU)  
Rivera, Mariano (NYY)  
Romero, Davis (TOR)  
Ruiz, Carlos Joaquin (PHI)  
Saenz, Olmedo (LA-NL)

Guzman, Angel (CHI-NL)  
Hernandez, Felix (SEA)  
Hernandez, Ramon (BAL)  
Infante, Omar (DET)  
Izturis, Cesar (CHI-NL)  
Izturis, Maicer (LAA)  
Julio, Jorge (FLA)  
Ledezma, Wilfredo (DET)  
Lopez, Jose (SEA)  
Machado, Alejandro (MIN)  
Martinez, Victor (CLE)  
Molina, Gustavo (CWS)  
Montero, Miguel (ARI)  
Mora, Melvin (BAL)  
Navarro, Dioner (TB)  
Ordonez, Magglio (DET)  
Pinto, Renyel (FLA)  
Quintero, Humberto (HOU)  
Rincon, Juan (MIN)  
Rivera, Juan (LAA)  
Rodriguez, Francisco (LAA)  
Rodriguez, Luis (MIN)  
Sanchez, Anibal (FLA)  
Santana, Johan (MIN)  
Scutaro, Marco (OAK)  
Silva, Carlos (MIN)  
Torrealba, Yorvit (COL)  
Vizquel, Omar (SF)  
Zambrano, Carlos (CHI-NL)  
Zambrano, Victor (TOR)