

THE NEXT TIER

Batters

The preceding section provided player boxes and analysis for 441 batters. As we know, far more than 441 batters will play in the major leagues in 2017. Many of those additional hitters are covered in the minor league section, but that still leaves a gap: established major leaguers who don't play enough, or well enough, to merit a player box.

This section looks to fill that gap. Here, you will find "The Next Tier" of batters who are mostly past their growth years, but who are likely to see some playing time in 2017. We are including their 2015-16 MLB stats here for reference for you to do your own analysis. This way, if Chase D'Arnaud stumbles into some playing time in June, a quick check would show that his Spd skills were an asset even in 2016. Or if you're looking for a short-term backup catcher, Josh Phegley's bit of pop might stand out.

Batter	Yr	B	Age	Pos	AB	R	HR	RBI	SB	BA	xBA	OPS	VL	VR	bb%	Ct%	Eye	GLF	HctX	PX	xPX	SPD	SBO	SB%	BPV
Aviles, Mike	15	R	34		290	37	5	17	3	.231	.240	.599	542	650	6	87	.53	49/16/35	88	54	71	90	6	75	33
	16	R	35		167	17	1	6	2	.210	.243	.528	480	558	5	84	.33	53/19/28	86	37	51	112	11	50	11
Blanco, Andres	15	B	31	45	233	32	7	25	1	.292	.295	.863	798	974	8	81	.48	46/20/34	88	143	102	100	4	50	87
	16	B	32		190	26	4	21	2	.253	.271	.721	551	764	5	78	.27	52/19/29	87	103	68	88	13	40	35
Butera, Drew	15	R	31	2	107	9	1	5	0	.196	.186	.505	476	586	5	76	.23	33/19/49	66	43	57	88	4	0	-23
	16	R	32		123	18	4	16	0	.285	.256	.808	555	883	6	71	.22	40/22/38	71	138	95	102	0	-	38
Cabrera, Ramon	15	B	25	2	30	4	1	3	0	.367	.254	.867	909	750	0	83	.00	64/16/20	59	80	25	119	0	-	35
	16	B	26		171	11	3	23	1	.246	.249	.635	558	658	4	82	.27	41/22/38	80	72	64	56	5	50	15
Colabello, Chris	15	R	31	3	333	55	15	54	2	.321	.271	.886	868	935	6	71	.23	48/25/27	98	142	94	97	2	100	42
	16	R	32		29	0	0	1	0	.69	.76	.225	0	333	6	69	.22	60/10/30	70	0	76	72	0	-	-87
Colon, Christian	15	R	26	4	107	8	0	6	3	.290	.252	.692	666	746	9	84	.65	44/27/29	57	40	32	99	14	60	19
	16	R	27		147	13	1	13	0	.231	.223	.586	648	557	7	79	.35	50/20/30	63	45	43	101	3	0	-1
Conger, Hank	15	B	27	2	201	25	11	33	0	.229	.250	.759	892	618	10	69	.37	35/22/44	75	159	110	65	2	0	44
	16	B	28		124	6	3	10	0	.194	.182	.571	708	562	9	68	.30	44/18/38	100	82	106	68	0	-	-22
Crawford, Carl	15	L	33		181	19	4	16	10	.265	.255	.707	712	678	5	77	.24	43/24/33	105	93	108	98	28	83	26
	16	L	34		81	8	0	6	0	.185	.275	.464	167	514	5	86	.36	59/24/17	40	29	14	99	6	0	10
D'Arnaud, Chase	15	R	28	6	17	2	0	0	0	.176	.164	.516	200	615	6	59	.14	50/10/40	26	73	10	137	33	0	-51
	16	R	29		233	24	1	21	9	.245	.241	.652	681	635	9	79	.46	42/23/35	84	65	71	129	19	75	25
De Aza, Alejandro	15	L	31		325	51	7	35	7	.262	.245	.755	800	470	9	74	.37	39/23/38	85	109	104	146	14	58	47
	16	L	32		234	31	6	25	4	.205	.231	.618	581	625	10	71	.39	34/28/38	127	78	157	76	12	57	-6
De Jesus, Ivan	15	R	28	46	201	15	4	28	0	.244	.247	.684	667	728	9	73	.35	50/24/27	74	95	78	92	4	0	13
	16	R	29		221	21	1	20	3	.253	.246	.623	533	646	7	77	.33	48/27/25	72	46	60	70	6	75	-17
Drew, Stephen	15	L	32	4	383	43	17	44	0	.201	.245	.652	642	690	9	81	.52	38/16/47	77	109	95	90	3	0	60
	16	L	33		143	24	8	21	0	.266	.284	.864	485	910	10	78	.52	32/22/47	132	155	187	93	3	0	87
Ellis, A.J.	15	R	34	2	181	24	7	21	0	.238	.257	.758	642	913	15	79	.84	44/21/35	103	108	108	84	0	-	60
	16	R	35		171	11	2	22	2	.216	.238	.599	566	620	10	82	.61	41/22/36	102	55	92	75	7	67	16
Gimenez, Chris	15	R	32	2	98	19	5	14	2	.255	.284	.820	711	1095	9	81	.53	42/18/41	86	145	86	87	9	100	85
	16	R	33		139	17	4	11	0	.216	.223	.602	736	557	7	70	.24	49/21/30	94	75	113	78	0	-	-18
Gose, Anthony	15	L	24		485	73	5	26	23	.254	.238	.688	713	546	8	70	.31	54/21/25	77	87	54	160	26	68	17
	16	L	25		91	11	2	7	0	.209	.204	.628	361	730	9	58	.24	58/19/23	76	95	77	139	5	0	-28
Hanigan, Ryan	15	R	34	2	174	28	2	16	0	.247	.247	.664	587	895	10	78	.51	52/24/24	82	62	47	88	0	-	9
	16	R	35		105	9	1	14	0	.171	.219	.468	245	548	6	74	.26	54/21/26	70	49	65	64	0	-	-29
Heisey, Chris	15	R	30		55	8	2	9	0	.182	.182	.674	974	570	21	69	.88	21/13/67	91	105	119	92	5	0	33
	16	R	31		139	18	9	17	0	.216	.231	.736	764	722	9	68	.30	31/19/50	81	139	124	104	3	0	35
Infante, Omar	15	R	33	4	440	39	2	44	2	.220	.246	.552	548	561	2	84	.13	41/21/38	87	66	72	116	5	50	31
	16	R	34		134	16	0	11	0	.239	.235	.600	604	598	6	83	.39	38/20/42	101	60	99	116	0	-	29
Kratz, Erik	15	R	35	2	26	3	0	3	0	.192	.218	.484	336	600	4	81	.20	45/14/41	97	69	132	69	0	-	9
	16	R	36		85	3	1	4	0	.94	.129	.258	607	102	1	62	.03	41/8/51	98	47	108	67	0	-	-88
Mathis, Jeff	15	R	32	2	93	9	2	12	0	.161	.227	.504	476	676	7	74	.29	41/20/39	91	89	97	84	0	-	9
	16	R	33		126	12	2	15	0	.238	.194	.601	845	498	3	71	.11	41/16/43	76	63	101	108	0	-	-22
McGehee, Casey	15	R	32	5	237	14	2	20	1	.198	.230	.538	508	645	8	79	.42	57/19/25	78	60	53	47	4	50	-3
	16	R	33		92	4	0	1	0	.228	.173	.500	700	412	3	85	.21	53/14/33	110	9	104	85	0	-	-19
Morneau, Justin	15	L	34	0	168	19	3	15	0	.310	.272	.821	813	849	7	85	.52	48/19/33	129	93	122	123	0	-	68
	16	L	35		203	16	6	25	0	.261	.253	.731	798	717	6	74	.23	50/20/31	85	113	88	84	0	-	26
Nava, Daniel	15	B	32		139	13	1	10	1	.194	.194	.560	548	597	13	74	.56	45/18/37	93	41	112	90	2	100	-16
	16	B	33		130	11	1	13	0	.223	.241	.590	1167	579	7	77	.33	38/28/34	109	52	97	70	0	-	-12
Paredes, Jimmy	15	B	26		363	46	10	42	4	.275	.242	.726	740	651	5	69	.17	49/23/28	104	105	101	114	9	50	8
	16	B	27		158	15	5	19	0	.222	.228	.620	402	694	4	70	.15	55/17/27	83	102	94	94	3	0	0

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Batter	Yr	B	Age	Pos	AB	R	HR	RBI	SB	BA	xBA	OPS	VL	VR	bb%	Ct%	Eye	GLF	HctX	PX	xPX	SPD	SBO	SB%	BPV
Pennington, Cliff	15	B	31	4	210	24	3	21	3	210	228	578	618	427	11	77	.55	44/24/32	96	51	88	68	5	100	-6
	16	B	32		172	18	3	10	1	209	202	573	190	624	7	68	.24	40/22/38	67	64	65	121	3	100	-23
Phegley, Josh	16	R	27	2	78	11	1	10	0	256	250	686	658	709	6	83	.38	39/20/41	108	80	108	83	0	-	36
	15	R	28		225	27	9	34	0	249	266	749	709	788	6	77	.27	37/21/43	101	137	120	69	0	-	53
Pierzynski, A.J.	15	L	38	2	407	38	9	49	0	300	294	769	799	655	4	91	.51	47/25/29	104	80	75	69	2	0	59
	16	L	39		247	15	2	23	1	219	261	547	216	604	2	88	.21	50/20/30	94	57	69	51	2	100	21
Plawecki, Kevin	15	R	24	2	233	18	3	21	0	219	209	576	609	411	7	74	.28	46/20/34	92	60	87	91	0	-	-11
	16	R	25		132	6	1	11	0	197	187	563	651	530	11	75	.52	56/17/27	58	52	44	88	0	-	-6
Raburn, Ryan	15	R	34	o	173	22	8	29	0	301	290	936	467	1004	12	75	.52	44/22/35	131	175	152	96	0	-	92
	16	R	35		223	30	9	30	0	220	220	712	835	615	11	64	.35	46/16/38	100	130	148	113	0	-	19
Recker, Anthony	15	R	31	2	80	6	2	5	1	125	174	452	326	756	12	56	.31	40/24/36	88	73	101	72	6	100	-68
	16	R	32		90	6	2	15	1	278	247	828	872	812	15	76	.73	30/22/48	119	113	182	51	3	100	40
Reimold, Nolan	15	R	31	o	170	24	6	20	0	247	225	738	691	791	12	72	.49	49/16/35	88	97	94	117	0	-	28
	16	R	32		203	25	6	15	1	222	227	664	565	768	10	69	.35	45/20/35	71	97	83	118	6	33	12
Robinson, Clint	15	L	30	3	309	44	10	34	0	272	274	782	757	985	11	83	.71	41/25/34	105	95	111	89	0	-	59
	16	L	31		196	16	5	26	0	235	206	637	653	634	9	81	.53	47/16/37	96	54	75	65	0	-	6
Robinson, Shane	15	R	30	o	180	28	0	16	6	250	237	621	641	592	6	84	.41	52/16/32	83	48	77	154	15	86	35
	16	R	31		98	16	1	10	3	173	228	492	556	411	9	83	.59	46/19/35	65	39	79	104	22	60	14
Rollins, Jimmy	15	B	36	6	517	71	13	41	12	224	245	643	610	762	8	83	.51	38/19/43	93	84	106	109	17	60	51
	16	B	37		149	25	2	8	5	221	234	624	1311	502	10	78	.48	48/16/36	65	72	55	117	18	71	25
Romine, Andrew	15	L	29	35o	184	25	2	15	10	255	229	622	613	640	6	75	.24	58/20/22	46	45	39	118	29	67	-14
	16	L	30		174	21	2	16	8	236	258	626	611	630	7	78	.34	52/26/22	73	52	53	120	18	100	6
Rosales, Adam	15	R	32	45	114	14	3	7	4	228	219	638	684	608	8	74	.33	49/15/36	77	80	95	108	28	50	9
	16	R	33		214	37	13	35	4	229	235	814	843	789	12	59	.33	37/17/46	88	200	145	134	8	100	62
Ruf, Darin	15	R	28	3	268	30	12	39	1	235	251	714	483	1107	7	74	.30	45/20/35	115	120	129	51	2	100	25
	16	R	29		83	8	3	9	0	205	215	573	695	511	5	70	.16	42/20/38	71	84	113	82	6	0	-16
Ruiz, Carlos	15	R	36	2	284	23	2	22	1	211	246	575	501	886	9	85	.65	44/22/33	60	53	52	82	3	50	26
	16	R	37		201	21	3	15	3	264	246	713	793	668	12	84	.82	46/21/33	115	53	71	68	6	75	23
Soto, Geovany	15	R	32	2	187	20	9	21	0	219	234	708	676	780	10	66	.33	37/23/40	98	139	163	69	2	0	19
	16	R	33		78	11	4	9	0	269	290	809	952	729	7	73	.29	37/32/32	111	141	129	72	0	-	43
Stewart, Chris	15	R	33	2	159	9	0	15	0	289	231	659	657	667	4	82	.21	54/22/24	64	45	29	85	0	-	-1
	16	R	34		98	10	1	7	0	214	225	604	778	563	11	85	.80	49/17/34	70	46	70	90	0	-	27
Tejada, Ruben	15	R	25	5	360	36	3	28	2	261	258	688	675	731	10	81	.54	40/27/33	94	71	101	91	3	67	27
	16	R	26		66	9	0	5	0	167	233	489	742	265	10	80	.54	42/20/38	74	63	80	97	0	-	22
Thole, Josh	15	L	28	2	49	5	0	2	0	204	229	495	466	583	6	82	.33	48/23/30	54	36	47	84	0	-	-5
	16	L	29		118	7	1	7	0	169	203	474	563	440	10	76	.46	38/22/40	72	35	83	61	0	-	-26
Uribe, Juan	15	R	36	5	360	40	14	43	2	253	251	737	685	893	9	78	.43	45/19/36	96	108	100	55	2	100	33
	16	R	37		238	19	7	25	0	206	236	591	472	645	6	79	.31	46/20/34	102	75	106	33	0	-	1
Weeks, Rickie	16	R	32	4o0	180	29	9	27	5	239	251	777	1010	639	10	70	.37	45/18/37	114	137	151	98	11	100	41
	15	R	33		84	7	2	9	0	167	145	513	290	691	10	70	.36	52/5/43	52	55	67	60	0	-	-35
Wilson, Bobby	15	R	32	2	132	8	1	14	0	189	199	505	590	296	8	70	.28	50/20/30	68	53	59	49	3	0	-43
	16	R	33		228	25	7	33	0	237	226	626	739	589	5	72	.17	41/24/35	73	74	71	45	0	-	-27