

White Sox 2019

manager: Rick Renteria

Attendance: 1,649,775

Standings:

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division		Sox		
New York Yankees	103- 59	Minnesota	101- 61	Houston	107-55	ERA: Tampa Bay	3.65	4.90 (9 th)
Tampa Bay	96- 66	Cleveland	93- 69	Oakland	97-65	BA: Houston	.274	.261 (5 th)
Boston	84- 78	Chicago	72- 89	Texas	78-84	FA: Houston	.988	.980 (14 th)
Toronto	67- 95	Kansas City	59-103	LA Angels	72-90			
Baltimore	54-108	Detroit	47-114	Seattle	68-94			

Home record: 39-41 **Best:** Houston 60-21 **Worst:** Detroit 22-59

Road record: 33-48 **Best:** Minnesota 55-26 **Worst:** Detroit 25-55

FA: 1st in double plays turned, but 2nd most in errors (117). 2B **Yolmer Sanchez** won Gold Glove.

Best: Detroit 12-6, Philadelphia 2-1, Cleveland 11-8, NY Yankees, Houston, Texas, Toronto 4-3

Worst: Oakland 1-5, Boston & LA Angels 2-5, Washington 1-3, Atlanta & NY Mets 0-3, Seattle & Tampa 2-4, Minnesota 6-13

Top Pitchers	IP	Record	Shutouts	Saves	ERA	
Ivan Nova	187	11-12			4.72	Lead AL in hits allowed
Reynaldo Lopez	184	10-15			5.38	4 th in HRs allowed (35)
Lucas Giolito	176	14-10	2		3.41	3 CG (tied 1 st)
Dylan Cease	73	4- 7			5.79	
Ross Detweiler	69	3- 5			6.59	
Josh Osich	67	4- 0			4.66	
Aaron Bummer	67	0- 0		1	2.13	
Alex Colome	61	4- 5		30	2.80	
Dylan Covey	58	1- 8			7.98	
Jace Fry	55	3- 4			4.75	
Kelvim Herrera	51	3- 3		1	6.14	
Evan Marshall	50	4- 2			2.49	

Sox: 1st in Complete Games (6), 8th in Hits allowed, 9th in ERA, Runs and HRs allowed

Top Hitters	AB	Runs	Hits	HR	RBI	Ave	EBH	SB	
Tim Anderson	498	81	167	18	56	.335	50	17	AL Batting leader
Yoan Moncada	571	83	161	25	79	.315	64	10	3 rd in BA
Jose Abreu	634	85	180	33	123	.284	72	2	AL RBI leader
Leury Garcia	577	93	161	8	40	.279	38	15	
James McCann	439	62	120	18	60	.273	45	4	
Eloi Jimenez	468	69	125	31	79	.267	51	0	
<u>Yolmer Sanchez</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>.252</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>2</u>	
Jon Jay	165	12	44	0	9	.267	8	0	
Ryan Goins	144	13	36	2	10	.250	9	0	
Adam Engel	227	26	55	6	26	.242	18	3	
Charlie Tilson	144	16	33	1	12	.229	6	4	
Welington Castillo	230	19	48	12	41	.209	24	0	

Sox: 5th in Hits, 10th in Stolen Bases, 13th in 2Bs, 3Bs, HRs, and Runs; 4th most in strikeouts

Anderson: 3rd Sox player to lead AL in batting (Appling – twice; Thomas)

Abreu: 2nd Sox player to lead AL in RBIs (Dick Allen, 1972).

Daniel Palka (.107, 2/4) began the season 0-32 and 1-39.

Add P Manny Banuelos (3-4, 6.93), RPs **Alex Colome** and **Kelvin Herrera**, P **Ivan Nova**, C **James McCann**, P Odrisamer Despaigne (0-3, 9.45), OF **Jon Jay**, RP Jimmy Cordero (1-0,2.75), 1B AJ Reed, and IF/OF Ryan Goins,

Gone: P James Shields, C Kevan Smith, C Omar Narvaez, OF Avisail Garcia, IF/DH Matt Davidson, Ervin Santana (0-2, 9.45), RP Nate Jones (0-1, 3.48 1S), IF Jose Rondon (.197, 3/9), Nicky Delmonico (.206, 1/6), and Yonder Alonso (.178, 7/27)

Rookies: OF Jimenez, C Zach Collins (.186, 3/12), P Cease, IF Danny Mendick (.308, 2/4), RP Jose Ruiz (1-4, 5.63)
#1 Draft: 1B Andrew Vaughn (Cal)

Injuries: Carlos Rodon (3-2, 5.19), Nate Jones, Tim Anderson, Eloi Jimenez, Nicky Delmonico (shoulder), Manny Banuelos, Jon Jay and minor leaguers: Michael Kopech, Micker Adolfo, Dane Dunning, and Jake Burger.

Club:

- Sox made strong effort to sign 3B **Manny Machado**. Final offer was in the range of \$300M/10-years. Machado eventually signed with San Diego.
- *Sports Illustrated* and local writers picked Sox to finish 3rd in the Central Division.
- Slated for 8/13/2020, Sox to play NY Yankees at **Field of Dreams** site (Dyersville, Iowa) for MLB @ Field of Dreams.
- Club signed rookie **Eloy Jimenez** \$43M/6-year contract before Jimenez played in his 1st ML game. **Danny Farquhar** named minor league pitching instructor. Former Sox pitcher suffered ruptured aneurysm in 2018.
- Trouble on the farm: Several top prospects suffered injuries, including Micker Adolfo, Dane Dunning, and Michael Kopech.
- Both SS Tim Anderson and manager Rick Renteria were suspended 1G following Anderson's bat-flip HR on 4/17.
- June: Sox extended **safety netting** from foul-pole to foul-pole.
- Post All Star Game tumble: Sox began 4-15 after the break.
- Sox were not fans of **MLB Players Weekend uniform**. Sox wore all-black, whereas Texas Rangers wore all-white.

8/11: **Harold Baines Day** at Guaranteed Rate Field. Baines was recently enshrined in MLB's Hall of Fame.

Season:

- 3/31: **Beat Kansas City** 6-3 (Giolito/Colome). Sox led 6-0 in the 7th. Abreu and Alonso (2-3/3 RBIs) homered. Moncada 2-5.
- 4/3: **Beat Cleveland** 8-3 (Rodon). Leury Garcia: 4-5/3 runs. Moncada (HR), Abreu (3 RBIs), and Jimenez each had 2 hits.
- 4/7: **Lost to Seattle** 12-5 (Nova). Mariners led 11-2 after 5. Tim Anderson: 4-5/2B. Engel homered; Abreu RBI 2B.
- 4/9: **Lost to Tampa Bay** 10-5 (Santana). Rays led 7-2 after 4. **Rays swept 3G series, outscoring Sox 24-7.**
- 4/12: **Beat NY Yankees** 9-6 (Giolito/Jones). Alonzo: 2-4/HR & 3 RBIs. Jimenez: 3-4/2 HRs, 3 RBIs; McCann also homered.
- 4/14: **Beat NY Yankees** 5-2 (Rodon/Colome). Anderson's 4th inning slam gave Sox 4-2 lead. Abreu added RBI sac fly.
- 4/17: **Lost to Kansas City** 4-3 in 10 (Jones for Giolito). Game known for Anderson's bat toss following 2-run HR in the 4th.
- 4/22: **Beat Baltimore** 12-2 (Fry for Banuelos). Sox led 4-1 after 6. Abreu: 3-6/HR & 5 RBIs; McCann: 3-5/HR & 4 RBIs.
- 4/26: **Beat Detroit** 12-11 (Colome for Rodon) on Tim Anderson's walk-off HR. Abreu, Alonso & Jose Rondon also homered.
- 4/29: **Beat Baltimore** 5-3 (Banuelos/Colome). Yonder Alonso and Tim Anderson each hit a 2-run HR.
SS Tim Anderson AL Player of the Month (.375 6/18, 10-10 in stolen bases)
- 5/1: **Split DH vs Baltimore**. G1: **Lost** 5-4 (Herrera for Rodon). Sox led 4-0 after 3. Abreu: 2-5/2B, 2 RBIs.
G2: **Won** 7-6 (Vieira for Nova) on Alonso's 2-run 1B in the 9th. Abreu: HR & 4 RBIs; Engel: 3-4/3B, 2 runs & RBI.
- 5/2: **Beat Boston** 6-4 (Vieira for Giolito) on Delmonico's 3-run HR. McCann: 2-4/HR & 2 RBIs. Sox took 1 of 4 vs. Boston.
- 5/4: **Lost to Boston** 15-2 (Banuelos). Red Sox scored 9 in the 4th and 5 in the 5th. 1B Michael Chavis (4-6), 2 HRs & 3 RBIs.
- 5/7: **Beat Cleveland** 2-0 (Giolito/Colome). Moncada and McCann (2-4) each drove in a run.
- 5/11: **Beat Toronto** 7-2 (Nova). Sanchez: 2-4/HR & 2 RBIs; Tillson: 2-4/2 RBIs; McCann: 4-5/2 2B & RBI.
- 5/13: **Beat Cleveland** 5-2 (Lopez 2-hitter). Moncada: 3-4/2 HRs.
- 5/14: **Lost to Cleveland** 9-0 (Banuelos). Indians clubbed 5 HRs; 2nd time in 5 days OF Jordan Luplow HR twice vs Sox.
- 5/19: **Beat Toronto** 5-2 (Herrera for Lopez). Tied at 1 after 7. Abreu: 2B & 2 RBIs.
- 5/22: **Beat Houston** 9-4 (Nova). HRs by Jimenez (2), Tillson (grand slam), and Abreu. Defense: 4 DPs 7th inning triple play.
- 5/23: **Beat Houston** 4-0 (Giolito CG 4-hitter). RBIs by Jimenez (HR), Moncada (2B), and Anderson.
- 5/26: **Lost to Minnesota** 7-0 (Covey). Twins led 4-0 after 6. Minnesota swept 3G series.
- 5/29: **Beat Kansas City** 8-7 (Herrera/Colome for Lopez) on Anderson's RBI 2B. Abreu & Moncada homered.
P Lucas Giolito AL Pitcher of Month (5-0, 1.76)
- 6/2: **Beat Cleveland** 2-0 (Giolito/Colome). Anderson (2-4) solo HR and RBI 2B.
P Lucas Giolito AL Player of the Week (2-0, 1/76)
- 6/5: **Lost to Washington** 6-4 (Colome for Covey) on Trey Turner's HR in 8th Moncada, Abreu and Castillo HR for Sox.
- 6/8: **Beat Kansas City** 2-0 (Giolito/Colome) on Jimenez' 2-run HR in the 2nd. Sox outhit Royals 5-3.
- 6/11: **Beat Washington** 7-5 (Marshall/Colome for Banuelos). Castillo hit grand slam in 1st; Jimenez: 2-3/HR, 2B & 2 RBIs.
- 6/14: **Beat NY Yankees** 10-2 (Giolito). Jimenez: 2 HRs & 6 RBIs. Abreu: 3-5/2B & RBI. Sox at .500 (34-34).
- 6/18: **Beat Cubs** 3-1 (Marshall/Colome for Nova) on Jimenez' 2-run HR in 9th. Jimenez, Garcia, and McCann each had 2 hits.
- 6/21: **Beat Texas** 5-4 in 10 (Herrera/Colome for) Jimenez scored on safety squeeze. Zack Collins: 3-run HR in 1st ML AB.
- 6/26: **Beat Boston** 8-7 (Colome for Lopez). Abreu: 3-5/2B, HR & 4 RBIs; McCann: 2-5/HR. Sox took 1 of 3 vs. Boston.
- 6/28: **Beat Minnesota** 6-4 (Detwiler/Colome). McCann and Jimenez each hit a 2-run HR.
- 6/29: **Lost to Minnesota** 10-3 (Nova). Twins led 4-1 after 6. Jimenez HR for Sox. Twins' **Nelson Cruz**: 4-5/2 HRs & 5 RBIs.

- 7/2: **Swept DH vs. Detroit. G1:** Won 7-5 (Cease/Colome). McCann (2B), Sanchez (2B), and Cordell (2B) each had 2 RBIs.
G2: Won 9-6 in 12 (Ruiz for Detwiler) on Abreu's 3-run HR. Moncada's 2nd HR tied game in 10th. Cordell: 2 HRs/3 RBIs.
- 7/7: **Beat Cubs** 3-1 (Nova/Colome). Jimenez hit 2-run HR in 4th; Abreu (3-4) followed with solo HR in 5th.
- 7/13: **Lost to Oakland** 13-2 (Covey). A's led 7-0 after 1. 3B Matt Chapman: 3-4/2 2B; Oakland swept 3G series (21-5).
- 7/16: **Lost to Kansas City** 11-0 (Cease). Royals led 6-0 after 4. Sox were out-hit 14-5. KC swept 4G series.
- 7/19: **Beat Tampa Bay** 9-2 (Lopez). Leury Garcia: 4-5/2Bs, 3 Runs; Yolmer Sanchez: 3-5/HR; Engel: 2-5/3B, 2 Runs.
- 7/20: **Beat Tampa Bay** 2-1 in 11 (Fry/Colome for Giolito). McCann's HR in 9th tied game at 1. Sox took 2 of 3 vs. Rays.
- 7/22: **Beat Miami** 9-1 (Nova CG 4-hitter). Abreu (3 RBIs, 3 Runs), Moncada (4 RBIs), McCann and Goins homered.
- 7/25: **Lost to Minnesota** 10-3 (Lucas Giolito). Sox killer Nelson Cruz: 3 HRs/5 RBIs.
- 7/27: **Beat Minnesota** 5-1 (Nova). Moncada: 3-4/2 2Bs, HR & 2 RBIs. Engel added 2 RBIs. Sox out-hit Twins 10-3.
- 8/1: **Lost to NY Mets** 4-0 (Cease). Mets led 1-0 after 5. Sox totaled 4 hits, all singles. Mets swept 3G series.
- 8/2: **Beat Philadelphia** 4-3 in 15 (Osich for Nova). Abreu: HR & game-winning RBI 1B. PH Skole's RBI 1B in 9th tied game.
- 8/7: **Beat Detroit** 8-1 (Nova). McCann: 3-5/2B & 3 RBIs, Abreu: 3-5/2B & 2 RBIs; Cordell homered; Anderson: 4-4/3 Runs.
- 8/13: **Split DH vs. Houston. G1: Lost** 6-2 (Cease). Game tied at 2 after 5. Jimenez and Abreu each doubled in a run.
G2: Won 4-1 (Nova: CG 4-hitter; 0 ER). Goins (2-4) 2-run 1B; Engel (1B) and Cordell (2B) each drove in a run.
- 8/14: **Beat Houston** 13-9 (Colome for Detwiler) on McCann's grand slam. Jimenez: 2-5/HR & 3 Runs; Anderson: 4-5/2 2Bs.
- 8/16: **Beat LA Angels** 7-2 (Giolito: 6 IP, 11 Ks). Sox led 3-2 after 7. Anderson & Sanchez RBI 1Bs; McCann hit slam in 8th.
- 8/21: **Beat Minnesota** 4-0 (Giolito CG 3-hitter, 12Ks). Abreu: 3-5/2B & 2 RBIs. Garcia and Anderson (2B) each had 2 hits.
- 8/25: **Beat Texas** 2-0 (Lopez/Colome). Five Sox pitchers combined on a 1-hitter. Abreu (1-3) drove in both Sox runs.
- 8/28: **Lost to Minnesota** 8-2 (Detwiler). Twins 2B John Schoop: 2 HRs/4 RBIs. Twins swept 3G series
- 8/31: **Lost to Atlanta** 11-5 (Lopez). Braves led 7-1 after 2. Braves swept 3G series.
- 9/3: **Beat Cleveland** 6-5 (Marshall/Colome for Cease). Jimenez: 2 HRs/3 RBIs. McCann: 3-run HR in 8th.
- 9/8: **Beat LA Angels** 5-1 (Osich for Covey). Danny Mendick (2-4) and Abreu homered. Sox took 1 of 3 vs. Angels.
- 9/12: **Lost to Kansas City** 6-3 (Giolito: 12 Ks - including club-record 8 straight). RBIs by Jimenez, Abreu, Sanchez.
- 9/13: **Beat Seattle** 8-5 (Osich/Colome for Covey). Abreu & Engel homered; Moncada: 3-4/2B, 3B & 4 RBIs.
Eloi Jimenez AL Player of the Week (10-23, .435, 3/11)
- 9/17: **Lost to Minnesota** 9-8 in 12 (Ruiz for Detwiler). Twins led 5-0 after 3. HRs by Collins & Engel in 6th tied game at 5.
 Sox led 6-5 in 11th on Anderson's HR and 8-6 on 2-run HR by Cordell. Sox out-hit Twins 20-15.
- 9/20: **Beat Detroit** 10-1 (Cease). Tigers' 108th loss. Sox led 9-1 after 4 on HRs by Moncada (2-run) & Jimenez (slam).
- 9/26: **Beat Cleveland** 8-0 (Osich for Cease). Palka homered twice, McCann hit 3-run HR. Sox took 2 of 3 vs. Cleveland.
- 9/28: **Split DH with Detroit. G1: Won** 7-1 (Lopez). Mendick & Jimenez homered; Moncada, Sanchez, and Engel all each 2-4.
G2: Lost 4-3 (Colome for Nova). Sox led 2-1 after 8. Collins: 1-3/2 RBIs; Moncada homered in 9th.
OF Eloi Jimenez AL Rookie of the Month (.340, 9/25, 8 2Bs)

All Star Game: AL beat NL 4-3. Sox' Jose Abreu: 0-1; C James McCann 1-1 (single); P Lucas Giolito: 1 IP, 1 BB, 1K.

League:

- 2/7: Hall of Fame OF **Frank Robinson** passed away at 83. Robinson was MLB's 1st black manager (Cleveland Indians) and lone player to win the Triple Crown in both leagues (Cincinnati Reds and Baltimore Orioles).
- 6/9: Former Boston DH **David Ortiz** was shot outside a Dominican Republic nightclub.
 Three months later, Ortiz returned to Fenway Park and threw out the first pitch before the Red Sox played the NY Yankees.
- 7/1: LA Angels P **Tyler Skaggs** passed away at the age of 27. Club postponed their game vs. Texas on that date.

Possible change for 2019: Collective Bargaining discussions were to start earlier. mound visits were reduced from 6 to 5,
Something new: Home Run Derby winner received: \$1M (2019 winner: Peter Alonso, NY Mets).
 Minor leagues tested robot umpires (umpires receiving calls in earpieces)

Trends: fewer singles, triples, stolen bases, sacrifice bunts, hit-by-pitches, and double-plays, and **more** HRs and strikeouts.
 The rise in HRs led Houston P Jason Verlander to claim the ball was juiced.

Year of huge contracts and contract extensions:

LA Angels extended OF **Mike Trout's** contract \$430M/12-years.
 Boston extended P **Chris Sale** (\$145M/5-years); Houston did same for P **Justin Verlander** (\$66M/2-years).

- To increase player safety (i.e. trafficking and exploitation), **MLB** and the **Cuban Baseball Federation** agreed to allow **Cuban players** (primarily 6-year vets, 25 years of age or older) to sign with US teams without having to defect.

- **Fox** extended their contract with MLB through 2028. Pact called for \$525M/year & included All Star Games and the World Series.
- August: Less than a year after the club won the 2018 World Series, **Red Sox fired GM David Dombrowski**.

Fines and Suspensions: Pitchers Eric Skoglund (KC), Steven Wright (Bos) & Frankie Montas (Oak), and IF Tim Beckham (Sea) 80G/each; P Michael Pineda (Min) 60G - all for violating ML's drug program.

Problems in Houston:

- **Astros** for disallowing Detroit sportswriter from post-game media session.
Club fired asst. GM **Branden Taubman** for "inappropriate comments" directed at reporters during ALCS celebration.
- OF **Jake Marisnick** 2G for his violent collision at home plate that injured Texas C Jonathan Lucroy.
Texas manager **Brad Ausmus** 1G and Rangers P **Noe Ramirez** 3G for retaliatory pitch hitting Marisnick on helmet.
- Two weeks after the World Series, a former Astros player claimed that club used a CF camera during the 2017 season **to a steal catcher's signs** and used sounds (i.e. whistling or pounding a trash can lid) to alert the batter.

Major trades: Mike Zunino, Charlie Morton & Guillermo Heredia (Tampa), JP Crawford & Mallex Smith (Seattle), Nelson Cruz and Jonathan Schoop (Min), Ps James Paxton & Jay Bruce, IF DJ LeMahieu (NY Yankees), Domingo Santana (Sea), P Zack Greinke, RP Wade Miley, Aaron Sanchez and Michael Brantley (Hou), RP Cody Allen (LAA), RP Sergio Romo (MN), P Tanner Roark (Oakland)

Noteworthy games:

- 4/7: **NY Yankees** beat Baltimore 15-3 (Domingo Germain). C **Gary Sanchez** (3-6/6 RBIs) hit 3 of the Yankees' 7 HRs.
 4/28: **Texas** beat Seattle 13-1 (Lance Lynn). Rangers OF **Hunter Pence**: 3-5/2B, HR & 4 RBIs.
 4/30: **NY Yankees** lost to Arizona 3-1 (Zach Greinke). Losing pitcher CC Sabathia notched 3,000th strikeout in the 2nd inning.
 5/3: **Oakland** beat Pittsburgh 14-1 (Brett Anderson). A's C **Josh Phegley**: 4-5/2 2B, HR & 8 RBIs.
 5/7: **Kansas City** beat Houston 12-2 (Danny Duffy). Royals 2B Whit Merrifield: 4-5/HR & 5 RBIs.
 5/23: **Minnesota** beat LA Angels 16-7 (Martin Perez). Twins totaled 8 HRs (club record).
 5/29: **Cleveland** beat Boston 14-9 (Shane Bieber). Indians' Carlos Santana: 3-4/2B, 3B, HR & 5 RBIs.
 6/4: **Baltimore** beat Texas 12-11 (Pablo Lopez). Orioles' Pedro Severino homered 3 times; OF Dwight Smith: 2B, HR & 6 RBIs.
 6/19: **LA Angels** beat Toronto 11-6 (Noe Ramirez). Angels' Mike Trout: 3-6/2 HRs & 7 RBIs.
 6/29: **NY Yankees** beat Boston 17-13 (Chad Green) in London, England. Yankees' DJ LeMahieu (5 RBIs) and Luke Voit each had 4 hits. Red Sox 1B Michael Chavis homered twice and drove in 6 runs. Yankees won both games in 2G series.
 7/12: **LA Angels** beat Seattle 13-0 (Felix Pena). Angels used 2 pitchers for no-hitter. Mike Trout: 3-4/HR & 6 RBIs.
 Players wore 45 jersey in memory of Tyler Skaggs, who had passed away 7/1. Skaggs would have turned 28 on 7/13.
 7/15: **Tampa** beat NY Yankees 5-4 (Andrew Kittredge) on C Travis d'Arnaud's 9th inning 3-run HR. Arnaud: 3-3/3 HRs & 5 RBIs.
 7/19: **Seattle** beat LA Angels 10-0 (Mike Leake). Leake lost bid for perfect game in 9th. Mariners' Dan Vogelbach hit (2) 3-run HRs.
 7/25: **Boston** beat NY Yankees 19-3 (Rick Porcello). Sox clubbed 10 doubles and 4 HRs. SS Xander Bogaerts: 4-6/2 HRs & 4 RBIs.
 7/27: **Toronto** beat Tampa 10-9 in 12 (Daniel Hudson) on Teoscar Hernandez' HR. Jays had to overcome 9-2 6th inning deficit.
 8/10: **Houston** beat Baltimore 23-2 (Aaron Sanchez). Rookie Yordan Alvarez: 3 HRs/7 RBIs. Houston led 13-0 after 5.
 8/15: **Cleveland** beat NY Yankees 19-5 (Adam Plutko). Indians' Jose Ramirez: 2 HRs/6 RBIs, Carlos Santana: 2 HRs/5 RBIs.
 8/23: **Boston** beat San Diego 11-0 (Eduardo Rodriguez). Red Sox' JD Martinez: 3-4/2 HRs & 7 RBIs.
 8/26: **Oakland** beat Kansas City 19-4 (Homer Bailey). A's Marcus Semien: 2 HRs/7 RBIs, Khris Davis: HR/3 RBIs.
 9/1: **Houston** beat Toronto 2-0 on Jason Verlander's 3rd career no-hitter. Verlander walked 1 and struck out 14.
 9/8: **Houston** beat Seattle 21-1 (Gerrit Cole: 8IP, 15Ks). Astros clubbed 11 2Bs. DH Yordan Alvarez: 4-6/3 2Bs, HR & 6RBIs.
 9/10: **Detroit** beat NY Yankees 12-11 (Joe Jimenez) on SS Jody Mercer's walk-off 1B. Yankees clubbed 6 HRs in the loss.
Oakland beat Houston 21-7 (Tanner Roark). 1B Matt Olson (2-4) & C Sean Murphy (3-5) each hit 2 HRs and drove in 4 runs.
 9/18: **Houston** beat LA Angels 6-3 (Justin Verlander). Verlander (21-6, 12 Ks) reached 3,000th career strikeout.

Streaks: **Houston** +10 (twice), **NY Yankees** +10, **Oakland** +11, **Baltimore** -10. **Cleveland** went 18-1 vs. Detroit.

NY Yankees lore: NYY hit at least 1 HR in ML-record 28+ games; batters hit 19 HRs in a 4-game span in early August.
 Club hit 52 HRs vs. Baltimore pitching (13 by IF Gleyber Torres in 16G). NY's 32 HRs at Camden Yards was ML record.
 Yankees won the season series vs. Baltimore, 17-2, including winning the final 16G.

Orioles DH/1B **Chris Davis'** hitless streak of 54 at bats was an ML record (26 in 2018, 28 in 2019).

P **Edwin Jackson** signed with Toronto - his ML-record 14th team. Jackson was later released and signed on with Detroit Tigers.

Ball juiced?

ML record 6,770 HRs were hit (previous: 6,105); 15 ML teams set franchise records for HRs.

Minor league teams (International League and Pacific Coast League) began using major league baseballs.

Outcome: HRs rose 58% (5,752 vs. 3,652).

Minnesota Twins were fastest club to reach 100 HRs.

Twins were also first (**NY Yankees** 2nd) to reach ML-record 300. Twins ended with 307 HRs, NY Yankees 306.

Twins were the 1st ML team to have **5 players hit 30+ HRs**.

Baltimore Orioles pitchers allowed ML record 53 HRs *before* May 1st. Opponents hit **ML-record** 305 HRs off O's pitching.

- **The good:** Orioles set ML record by hitting 2+ HRs in 10 straight games.

- **The bad:** Baltimore pitchers set ML record by allowing 2+ HRs in 10 straight games.

NY Yankees went 10-0 at Camden Park, scoring ML record 95 runs.

- **Kansas City OF Jorge Soler's** 47+ HRs was a Royals record and was the franchise's first to win the HR title.
- While HRs were up, **attendance** at several MLB venues was down.
Final year for Ballpark at Arlington. Rangers moved into new stadium across the street.

Playoffs:

10/7: **NY Yankees** beat Minnesota 5-1 (Chad Green). Twins' 16th straight playoff loss (13 to the NY Yankees).

10/29: World Series, G6: **Houston** lost to Washington 7-2. Astros' **Justin Verlander** 0-6 in Series' play.

All Star Game: AL beat NL 4-3. **MVP:** P Shane Bieber (Cleveland).

NY Mets' **Pete Alonso** claimed \$1M prize for winning the HR Derby.

Last Year: CC Sabathia, Jason Hammel, Troy Tulowitzki, manager Ned Yost

First Year: Vladimir Guerrero Jr., P John Means, Bo Bichette, Gio Urshela, Cavan Biggio, Luis Arraez, Brandon Lowe, John Means, Sandy Alcantara

Bichette set ML record for rookies by hitting a 2B in 9 straight games (totaled 13 EBH in 1st 11 games).

#1 Draft Pick: C Adley Rutschman (Baltimore)

Clemente Award: P Carlos Carrasco, Cleveland

Rookie/Year: Yordan Alvarez, Houston

Comeback: DH Hunter Pence, Texas

Exec./Year: Erik Neander, Tampa Bay

Mgr./Year: Rocco Baldelli, Minnesota

MVP: OF Mike Trout, LA Angels

Cy Young: Justin Verlander, Houston
Teammate Gerrit Cole came in 2nd

Hall of Fame: Lee Smith & Harold Baines (Committee), Pitchers Roy Halladay, Mariano Rivera, and Mike Mussina; DH Edgar Martinez. Also: Jason Stark (Spinks Award), Al Helfer (Ford Frick Award)
Rivera was 1st MLB player to be voted unanimously

World Series: Washington beat Houston in 7 games. Note: The visiting team won all 7 games.