

**HOW OFTEN DO TEAMS WITH  
THE BEST REGULAR-SEASON WINNING PERCENTAGE  
CAPTURE THE POSTSEASON CHAMPIONSHIP?**

**PART I: MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL,  
1884-1890, 1892, 1894-1897, 1900,  
1903, 1905-1993, 1995-2020**

compiled by

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<b>Season</b>	<b>Team with the Best Regular-Season Winning Percentage</b>	<b>Postseason Champion<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Same-Different</b>
1884	St. Louis Maroons <sup>2</sup>	Providence Grays	0-1
1885	Chicago White Stockings	Chicago White Stockings and St. Louis Browns <sup>3</sup>	1-1
1886	Chicago White Stockings	St. Louis Browns	1-2
1887	St. Louis Browns	Detroit Wolverines	1-3
1888	St. Louis Browns	New York Giants	1-4
1889	Brooklyn Bridegrooms	New York Giants	1-5
1890	Brooklyn Bridegrooms and Louisville Colonels	Brooklyn Bridegrooms and Louisville Colonels	2-5
1892	Boston Beaneaters	Boston Beaneaters	3-5
1894	Baltimore Orioles	New York Giants	3-6
1895	Baltimore Orioles	Cleveland Spiders	3-7
1896	Baltimore Orioles	Baltimore Orioles	4-7
1897	Boston Beaneaters	Baltimore Orioles	4-8
1900	Brooklyn Superbas	Brooklyn Superbas	5-8
1903	Boston Americans	Boston Americans	6-8
1905	New York Giants	New York Giants	7-8
1906	Chicago Cubs	Chicago White Sox	7-9
1907	Chicago Cubs	Chicago Cubs	8-9
1908	Chicago Cubs	Chicago Cubs	9-9
1909	Pittsburgh Pirates	Pittsburgh Pirates	10-9
1910	Philadelphia Athletics	Philadelphia Athletics	11-9
1911	Philadelphia Athletics	Philadelphia Athletics	12-9
1912	Boston Red Sox	Boston Red Sox	13-9
1913	New York Giants	Philadelphia Athletics	13-10
1914	Philadelphia Athletics	Boston Braves	13-11
1915	Boston Red Sox	Boston Red Sox	14-11
1916	Brooklyn Robins	Boston Red Sox	14-12

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1917	Chicago White Sox	Chicago White Sox	15-12
1918	Chicago Cubs	Boston Red Sox	15-13
1919	Cincinnati Reds	Cincinnati Reds	16-13
1920	Cleveland Indians	Cleveland Indians	17-13
1921	New York Yankees	New York Giants	17-14
1922	New York Yankees	New York Giants	17-15
1923	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	18-15
1924	New York Giants	Washington Senators	18-16
1925	Washington Senators	Pittsburgh Pirates	18-17
1926	New York Yankees	St. Louis Cardinals	18-18
1927	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	19-18
1928	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	20-18
1929	Philadelphia Athletics	Philadelphia Athletics	21-18
1930	Philadelphia Athletics	Philadelphia Athletics	22-18
1931	Philadelphia Athletics	St. Louis Cardinals	22-19
1932	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	23-19
1933	Washington Senators	New York Giants	23-20
1934	Detroit Tigers	St. Louis Cardinals	23-21
1935	Chicago Cubs	Detroit Tigers	23-22
1936	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	24-22
1937	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	25-22
1938	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	26-22
1939	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	27-22
1940	Cincinnati Reds	Cincinnati Reds	28-22
1941	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	29-22
1942	St. Louis Cardinals	St. Louis Cardinals	30-22
1943	St. Louis Cardinals	New York Yankees	30-23
1944	St. Louis Cardinals	St. Louis Cardinals	31-23
1945	Chicago Cubs	Detroit Tigers	31-24
1946	Boston Red Sox	St. Louis Cardinals	31-25
1947	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	32-25
1948	Cleveland Indians	Cleveland Indians	33-25
1949	Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Yankees	New York Yankees	34-25
1950	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	35-25
1951	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	36-25
1952	Brooklyn Dodgers	New York Yankees	36-26
1953	Brooklyn Dodgers	New York Yankees	36-27
1954	Cleveland Indians	New York Giants	36-28
1955	Brooklyn Dodgers	Brooklyn Dodgers	37-28
1956	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	38-28
1957	New York Yankees	Milwaukee Braves	38-29

<b>Season</b>	<b>Team with the Best Regular-Season Winning Percentage</b>	<b>Postseason Champion</b>	<b>Same-Different</b>
1958	Milwaukee Braves and New York Yankees	New York Yankees	39-29
1959	Chicago White Sox	Los Angeles Dodgers	39-30
1960	New York Yankees	Pittsburgh Pirates	39-31
1961	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	40-31
1962	San Francisco Giants	New York Yankees	40-32
1963	New York Yankees	Los Angeles Dodgers	40-33
1964	New York Yankees	St. Louis Cardinals	40-34
1965	Minnesota Twins	Los Angeles Dodgers	40-35
1966	Baltimore Orioles	Baltimore Orioles	41-35
1967	St. Louis Cardinals	St. Louis Cardinals	42-35
1968	Detroit Tigers	Detroit Tigers	43-35
1969	Baltimore Orioles	New York Mets	43-36
1970	Baltimore Orioles	Baltimore Orioles	44-36
1971	Baltimore Orioles	Pittsburgh Pirates	44-37
1972	Pittsburgh Pirates	Oakland Athletics	44-38
1973	Cincinnati Reds	Oakland Athletics	44-39
1974	Los Angeles Dodgers	Oakland Athletics	44-40
1975	Cincinnati Reds	Cincinnati Reds	45-40
1976	Cincinnati Reds	Cincinnati Reds	46-40
1977	Kansas City Royals	New York Yankees	46-41
1978	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	47-41
1979	Baltimore Orioles	Pittsburgh Pirates	47-42
1980	New York Yankees	Philadelphia Phillies	47-43
1981	Cincinnati Reds	Los Angeles Dodgers	47-44
1982	Milwaukee Brewers	St. Louis Cardinals	47-45
1983	Chicago White Sox	Baltimore Orioles	47-46
1984	Detroit Tigers	Detroit Tigers	48-46
1985	St. Louis Cardinals	Kansas City Royals	48-47
1986	New York Mets	New York Mets	49-47
1987	Detroit Tigers	Minnesota Twins	49-48
1988	Oakland Athletics	Los Angeles Dodgers	49-49
1989	Oakland Athletics	Oakland Athletics	50-49
1990	Oakland Athletics	Cincinnati Reds	50-50
1991	Pittsburgh Pirates	Minnesota Twins	50-51
1992	Atlanta Braves	Toronto Blue Jays	50-52
1993	Atlanta Braves	Toronto Blue Jays	50-53
1995	Cleveland Indians	Atlanta Braves	50-54
1996	Cleveland Indians	New York Yankees	50-55
1997	Atlanta Braves	Florida Marlins	50-56
1998	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	51-56
1999	Atlanta Braves	New York Yankees	51-57

Season	Team with the Best Regular-Season Winning Percentage	Postseason Champion	Same-Different
2000	San Francisco Giants	New York Yankees	51-58
2001	Seattle Mariners	Arizona Diamondbacks	51-59
2002	New York Yankees	Anaheim Angels	51-60
2003	Atlanta Braves and New York Yankees	Florida Marlins	51-61
2004	St. Louis Cardinals	Boston Red Sox	51-62
2005	St. Louis Cardinals	Chicago White Sox	51-63
2006	New York Mets and New York Yankees	St. Louis Cardinals	51-64
2007	Boston Red Sox and Cleveland Indians	Boston Red Sox	52-64
2008	Los Angeles Angels	Philadelphia Phillies	52-65
2009	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	53-65
2010	Philadelphia Phillies	San Francisco Giants	53-66
2011	Philadelphia Phillies	St. Louis Cardinals	53-67
2012	Washington Nationals	San Francisco Giants	53-68
2013	Boston Red Sox and St. Louis Cardinals	Boston Red Sox	54-68
2014	Los Angeles Angels	San Francisco Giants	54-69
2015	St. Louis Cardinals	Kansas City Royals	54-70
2016	Chicago Cubs	Chicago Cubs	55-70
2017	Los Angeles Dodgers	Houston Astros	55-71
2018	Boston Red Sox	Boston Red Sox	56-71
2019	Houston Astros	Washington Nationals	56-72
2020	Los Angeles Dodgers	Los Angeles Dodgers	57-72

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<sup>1</sup>Postseason competitions include the 19th-century World Series, 1884-1890; the National League Championship Series, 1892; the Temple Cup, 1894-1897; the *Chronicle Telegraph* Cup, 1900; and the modern World Series, 1903, 1905-1993, 1995-2020.

<sup>2</sup>The St. Louis Maroons, who had won the Union Association, had the best regular-season winning percentage, but they were not invited to the first 19th-century World Series, which was played between the National League and American Association champions.

<sup>3</sup>If the team with the best regular-season winning percentage tied for the postseason championship or vice versa, the “Same-Different” result is considered to be “Same.”