

# Aaron Judge, So Decent & Steady, “Quietly” Eclipses Ruth & Maris

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TJB



## Aaron Judge ties Babe Ruth with 60th home run, one shy of Maris’s AL mark

- Judge’s 60th homer matches Babe Ruth’s single-season high
- Yankees star leads major leagues with 128 RBIs for season



Yankees right fielder Aaron Judge hits his 60th home run of the season during the ninth inning of Tuesday’s game against the Pirates at Yankee Stadium. Photograph: Brad Penner/USA Today Sports

### Aaron Judge as of 20 Sept 2022 & 60 homers:

143 games played of the Yankees’ 147 games.

Judge has had batting behind him, depending on left-or right-handed pitching and injuries:

Anthony Rizzo: 119 games, .839 OPS, .228 BA, 31 HR, 72 RBI); or

Josh Donaldson: 120 games, .699 OPS, .224 BA, 15 HR, 56 RBI); or

Gioncarlo Stanton: 100 games, .748 OPS, .210 BA, 27 HR, 73 RBI).

### Batters Hitting Behind Aaron Judge:

(from [www.mlb.com](http://www.mlb.com))

Home Runs Per Game	% of 339 Games	Share HR’s in 143 Games Behind Judge	Share HR’s in 162 Games Behind Judge
Rizzo: 31/119 = 0.26	0.350	10.85	12.3
Donaldson: 15/120 = 0.125	0.355	5.3	6.0
Stanton: 27/100 = 0.27	<u>0.295</u>	<u>8.0</u>	<u>9.0</u>
Total Games	339	24.15	27.3

**Babe Ruth** in 1927: 60 home runs in 151 games played, Yankee season 155 games.

Ruth had Lou Gehrig batting behind him (155 games, 717 PA, 1.240 OPS, .373 BA, 47 HR, 173 RBI).

(All from [www.baseball-reference.com](http://www.baseball-reference.com))

**Roger Maris** in 1961, 61 homers in 161 games played in Yankees 163 game season. Home run #60 was hit in Yankee game #159, #61 in game #163.

Maris had Mickey Mantle batting behind him (153 games, 646 PA, 1.135 OPS, .317 BA, 54 HR, 128 RBI).

Aaron Judge essentially has had a “weak”—certainly relative to him—hitter behind him all season. Ruth and Maris had batters behind them who were having arguably equal, if not better, overall seasons than they were. Lou Gehrig led the league in both Total Bases (447) and RBI (173, after Ruth had cleared the bases 60 times). In 1961 Mickey Mantle led the league in OPS+ (adjusting for park and era) at 206, over twice as good as the average player. Maris had an OPS (On Base % plus Slugging %) of .993, an OPS+ of 167.