



## A Look at OBP (On-Base Percentage)

Written by

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Here is a list of the Top 50 Offensive Fantasy Baseball Players for 2008. Next to each I have included their OBP from 2007.

### Why this is helpful:

1. When drafting in any league, making the best possible picks in the first 4-5 rounds is critical. If you do not select the correct mix of players, your team is pretty much doomed. These first 4-5 players are the glue that holds your team together. These are the players you depend on to keep your stat totals in check and on point. With out your Power catalyst, say Ryan Howard or Prince Fielder, no matter what you do in the rest of the draft, you might always lack in the power department.
2. With that being said, now choosing players in the first 4-5 rounds with a higher OBP than other players could help a team in normal 5x5 leagues. For one, a higher OBP means more walks which ultimately could mean more runs and more stolen bases.



3. In leagues that count OBP, you can make a better decision when choosing between Hanley Ramirez (.386 OBP in '07) and Jose Reyes (.340 OBP in '07) for example. Hanley had 125 runs while Reyes had 119 (a wash) and while Hanley was superior in the AVG & power departments, Reyes added 27 more stolen bases. Looking at the numbers overall, including OBP, Hanley seems like the better fantasy choice.

1. Alex Rodriguez, NYY - .422
2. Hanley Ramirez, FLA - .386
3. Albert Pujols, STL - .429
4. Jose Reyes, NYM - .354
5. David Wright, NYM - .416
6. Chase Utley, PHI - .410
7. Matt Holliday, COL - .405
8. Miguel Cabrera, DET - .401
9. Grady Sizemore, CLE - .390
10. Jimmy Rollins, PHI - .345
11. Ryan Howard, PHI - .392
12. Prince Fielder, MIL - .395
13. David Ortiz, BOS - .445
14. Alfonso Soriano, CHC - .337
15. Carl Crawford, TB - .355
16. Carlos Beltran, NYM - .353
17. Brandon Phillips, CIN - .331
18. Carlos Lee, HOU - .354
19. Ryan Braun, MIL - .370
20. Vladimir Guerrero, LAA - .403
21. Mark Teixeira, ATL - .400
22. Lance Berkman, HOU - .386
23. Ichiro Suzuki, SEA - .396
24. Victor Martinez, CLE - .374
25. Russell Martin, LAD - .374
26. B.J. Upton, TB - .386
27. Curtis Granderson, DET - .361
28. Derek Jeter, NYY - .388
29. Justin Morneau, MIN - .343
30. Magglio Ordonez, DET - .434
31. Travis Hafner, CLE - .385
32. Manny Ramirez, BOS - .388
33. Nick Markakis, BAL - .363
34. Alex Rios, TOR - .354
35. Bobby Abreu, NYY - .369
36. Chone Figgins, LAA - .393
37. Aramis Ramirez, CHC - .366
38. Garrett Atkins, COL - .367
39. Eric Brynes, ARI - .353

40. Gary Sheffield, DET - .378
41. Michael Young, TEX - .366
42. Derrek Lee, CHC - .400
43. Brian McCann, ATL - .320
44. Troy Tulowitzki, COL - .359
45. Miguel Tejada, HOU - .357
46. Joe Mauer, MIN - .382
47. Brian Roberts, BAL - .377
48. Robinson Cano, NYY - .353
49. Hunter Pence, HOU - .360
50. Adam Dunn, CIN - .386



#### **Possibilities in OBP Leagues:**

- Posada may be a better option than McCann, Posada falls just below the top 50
- Considering Tulowitzki's overall potential, he could be a better option than Tejada, however, Tejada should have a better OBP year as he only struck out 55 times in 514 AB in 2007 as opposed to Tulowitzki who K'd 130 times
- I have declared B.J. Upton the Poor Man's Hanley Ramirez
- Bobby Abreu did not show the type of OBP last season that everyone thought he would, now that he's in his decline stages, its possible his OBP won't increase but will probably stay about the same
- Depending on your first 1-2 picks, choosing between VMart and Russell Martin could be a matter of need, if you want the power/average, go with VMart, if you want the SB's, go with Martin
- In leagues that do not count average or K's, Adam Dunn probably moves up 10-15 spots on this list

#### **A Second Look at OBP**

Every fantasy league is different, but many leagues count OBP (On Base Percentage) as a category. Even when OBP plays a major part, most fantasy managers overlook it. The reason we overlook OBP is because there is a lack of useful OBP draft tools available on the internet. This will be the first attempt at dealing with OBP and revolutionizing helpful draft tools.

**The Following List includes the Top 10 highest **Mixed League** OBP's for players with over 1200 AB**

since 2005

	<u>AB</u>	<u>OBP</u>
1. Albert Pujols	1,691	.429
2. Todd Helton	1,612	.427
3. Chipper Jones	1,282	.416
4. David Ortiz	1,708	.416
5. Alex Rodriguez	1,760	.411
6. Travis Hafner	1,485	.409
7. Lance Berkman	1,565	.405
8. Miguel Cabrera	1,777	.404
9. Manny Ramirez	1,486	.403
10. Derrek Lee	1,336	.402

The Following List includes the Top 10 highest **NL ONLY** OBP's for players with over 1200 AB since 2005

	<u>AB</u>	<u>OBP</u>
1. Albert Pujols	1,691	.429
2. Todd Helton	1,612	.427
3. Chipper Jones	1,282	.416
4. Lance Berkman	1,565	.405
5. Miguel Cabrera	1,777	.404
6. Derrek Lee	1,336	.402
7. Ryan Howard	1,422	.398
8. David Wright	1,761	.395
9. Pat Burrell	1,496	.391
10. Chase Utley	1,731	.386

The Following List includes the Top 10 highest **AL Only** OBP's for players with over 1200 AB since 2005

	<u>AB</u>	<u>OBP</u>
1. David Ortiz	1,708	.416
2. Alex Rodriguez	1,760	.411
3. Travis Hafner	1,485	.409
4. Manny Ramirez	1,486	.403
5. Derek Jeter	1,916	.397
6. Joe Mauer	1,416	.395
7. Vladimir Guerrero	1,701	.392
8. Jorge Posada	1,445	.384
9. Magglio Ordonez	1,493	.384
10. Victor Martinez	1,681	.380

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