

A Look into Rangers Offensive Struggles

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- Project Goal
 - Find out why the Rangers have had an ineffective and inconsistent offense thus far into the 2025 season.
- Project Intro
 - The Rangers are 2 years removed from winning a World Series led by a powerful offense. Their offensive roster has the same core players, with offseason moves that on paper should have bolstered their offensive power. Yet as of June 3rd, the Rangers are a below .500 team and 3rd in the AL West.

- Project Roadmap
 - Find what the Rangers as a team are doing ineffectively on offense, and find solutions to fix the problem
 - Find what key players are doing ineffectively, and find individual solutions to bring life back into the bats
 - Marcus Semien, Joc Pederson, Adolis Garcia
- Data Used
 - All league, team, and player data used is as of June 3rd, 2025. Data originating from both Baseball Savant and pulled from pybaseball. Visuals created on Python and PowerBI.

Texas Rangers as a Team

- The Rangers offensively as a whole have been under performing greatly to their pre-season expectations. So much so, that the head hitting coach was fired not even a month and a half into the season, on May 4th.
- My analysis has concluded that the team should be much more selective on the pitches they are swinging at, while also lowering their launch angles (yes lowering).

Texas Rangers as a Team

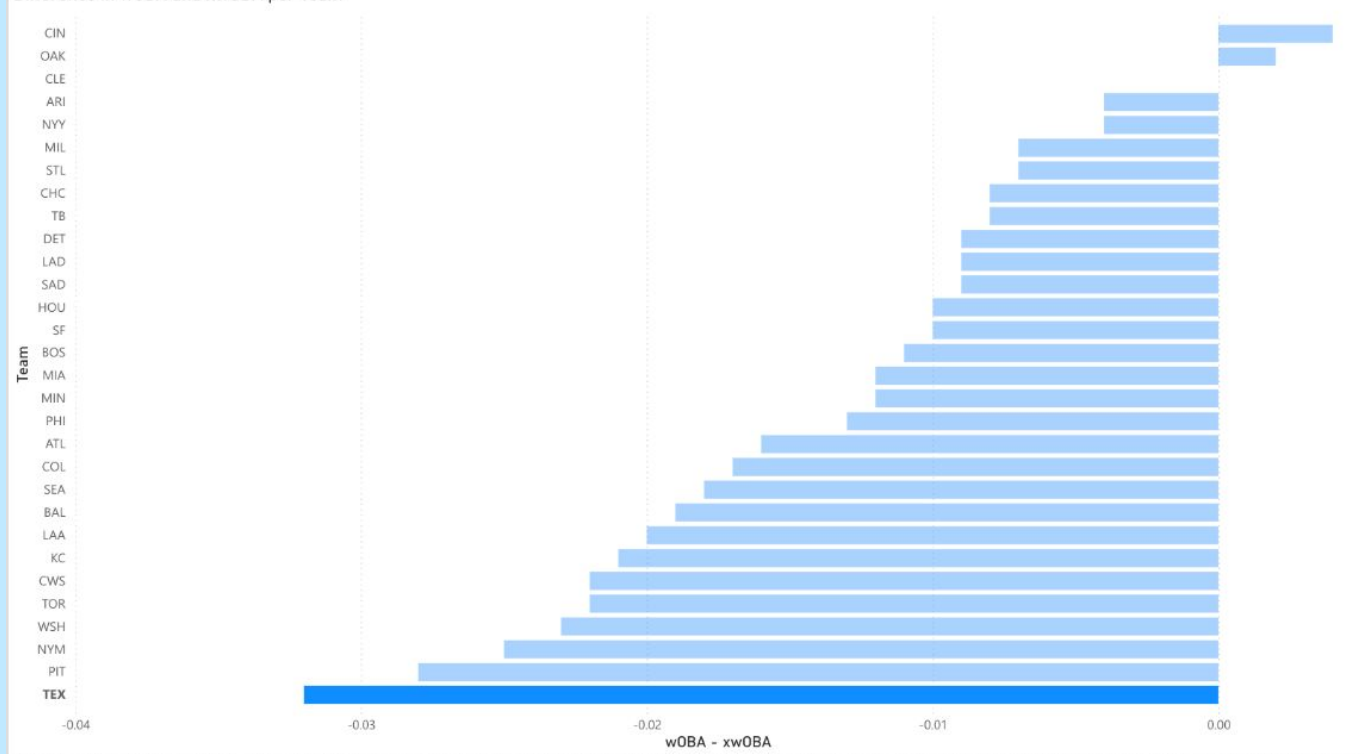
- A common trait with hitters on the team is the tendency to be extremely aggressive swingers and have high launch angles.
- Compared to MLB; the team is 2nd highest in Swing % (49.5), 3rd highest in Chase % (30.2), and 6th highest in 1st Pitch Swing % (34.4)
- Highest Launch Angle in MLB (16.1), FB% is 4th highest (28.9) and PU% is 2nd highest (9.5), Unsurprisingly 4th highest in Under% (28.8), all while LD% is 2nd lowest (22.0), 9th lowest LA Sweet-Spot% (32.8)
- The team should focus on being more selective and wait on their pitch. A team like the Dodgers has the highest FB%, but also has the highest LA Sweet-Spot% and 3rd highest LD%. Better quality air hits.

Texas Rangers as a Team

- The Rangers are 3rd worst in MLB at wOBA (.286), 4th worst in MLB at wOBAcon (.332). But 10th worst in MLB at xwOBA (.318), and 16th worst at xwOBAcon (.379)
- The team has the highest difference in wOBA and xwOBA compared to any team in MLB
- This indicates the team has been struggling offensively as a whole, but has also struggled by being unlucky with their hits.

Texas Rangers as a Team

Difference in wOBA and xwOBA per Team



*It is interesting to note that almost the whole league has been “unlucky” to some extent. Perhaps the Expected Stats need to be adjusted for modern defenses and shifts?

Marcus Semien

- Marcus Semien's best year with the Rangers was in 2023, where he received 3rd place MVP votes. He earned a 7.7 WAR and an OPS+ of 126. So far this 2025 season he has shown no where near that level of production. Having a 0.7 WAR and a 78 OPS+.
- He has been a tricky case to identify what exactly has caused his downturn in production. His metrics such as bat speed, LA Sweet-Spot %, BB%, Swing %, & xwOBA are all only slightly down or the same compared to his 2023 season.
- My analysis is, he is just not seeing the pitches as well as he used to, and chasing far too much to be effective.

Marcus Semien

- This table shows that Semien's plate discipline has fallen considerably.
- As a Ranger, he has always been aggressive swinging (MLB average 1st Pitch Swing % being 30.0). But now he is chasing more and not making contact with his chase pitches as he was before.
- As a result his Whiff% and K% have risen out of his former elite MLB percentiles.

Season	2025	2023
Swing %	49.6	47.1
1st Pitch Swing %	38.6	36.4
Chase %	25.6	21.4
Chase Contact %	43.1	60
Whiff %	25.1	18
K%	21.7	14.6

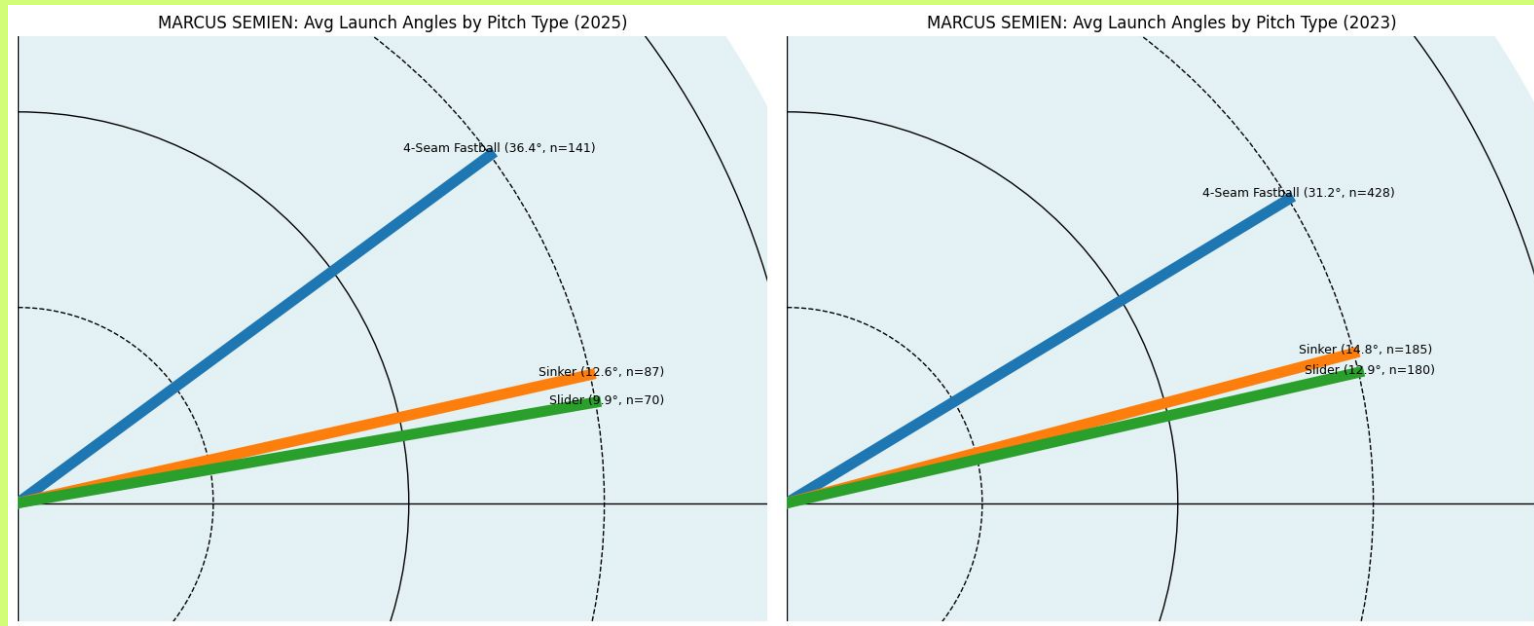
Marcus Semien

- This table shows Semien has been getting somewhat unlucky when he does hit the ball, especially when facing sliders this season.
- Regardless his numbers have been worse against the fastball and slider (the 2 pitches he faces the most) in terms of wOBA, xwOBA, & K%.
- It seems like his biggest problem currently is reading the slider. He has a 11% uptick in K% and a 3° downtick in Launch Angle.

Season	2025			2023		
Pitch Type	Fastball	Slider	Sinker	Fastball	Slider	Sinker
wOBA	0.318	0.174	0.340	0.348	0.390	0.486
xwOBA	0.333	0.279	0.390	0.367	0.327	0.385
Run Value	-2	-5	-1	-3	9	9
Launch Angle	36.6	9.9	12.6	31.2	12.9	14.8
K%	17.4	31.0	12.2	9.2	20.3	11.6
Usage %	26.7	19.8	19.5	31.8	20.2	14.1

Marcus Semien

More favorable launch angles for Fastball, Slider, & Sinker in 2023:
Fastball has too much loft, while Slider & Sinker are too low in 2025.



Joc Pederson

- Had a career year last season with the D-Backs, and signed a two year deal with the Rangers this past offseason to bolster the lineup. Sadly he has done anything but that. He currently has a career worst wOBA and xwOBA (30th Percentile), after having a career best wOBA and xwOBA (98th Percentile) just last season.
- My analysis on Pederson is he forgot the type of player he is. A pull-hitting, high launch angle guy. Currently he is spreading the field and hitting too many Ground Balls. Pederson got paid to hit the ball hard in the air and strike out if he fails. Not completely lower his K% to a career low to generate Oppo GBs.

Joc Pederson

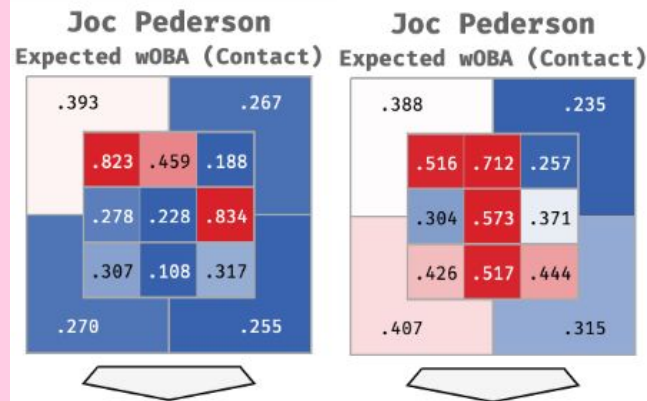
- I know it sounds counter intuitive, but Pederson needs to allow himself to whiff and strike out more to have better production.
- His Pull-Air% and LA Sweet-Spot% are low and not like his normal self.
- Also his GB% and Oppo% are high compared to last season.
- This means he is prioritizing getting the ball in play over smashing covers like he used to go.

Season	2025	2024
Pull-Air %	16.0	26.7
LA Sweet-Spot %	24.5	34.2
GB %	45.7	39.8
Oppo %	26.6	15.0
Whiff %	22.8	25.0
K%	19.2	23.4

Joc Pederson

- Pederson used to absolutely crush balls when he made contact. Now he is only excelling in two zones of the plate (shown by the xwOBAcon Heat Maps).
- The blue on the 2025 graph represents that he is making poor contact with the ball. As opposed to 2024 when he would strike out more but in turn would get good results when he did make contact.

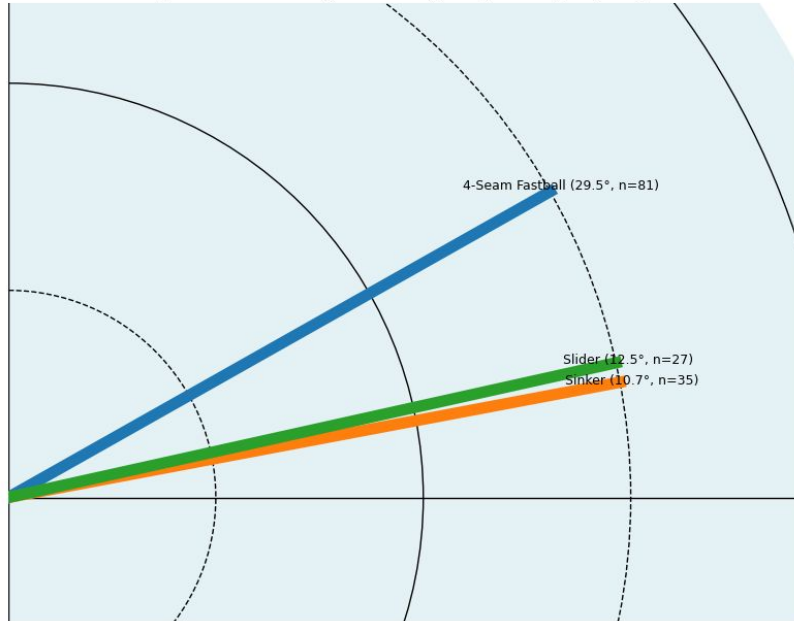
Season	2025	2024
wOBA	0.243	0.391
xwOBA	0.312	0.376
Launch Angle	15.8	16.9
xwOBAcon	0.310	0.439



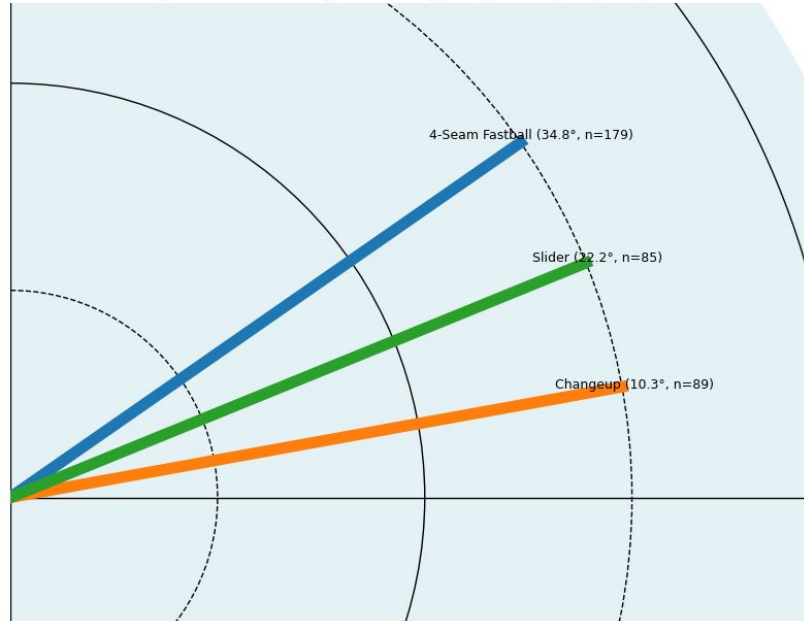
Joc Pederson

In 2024 Pederson's launch angles were higher, which led to more success compared to Pederson's current launch angles.

JOC PEDERSON: Avg Launch Angles by Pitch Type (2025)



JOC PEDERSON: Avg Launch Angles by Pitch Type (2024)



Adolis Garcia

- Garcia made headlines earlier this month due to being benched for multiple games. With reports coming out saying the team was looking for “production over pedigree”. They say they need to see the 2023 Adolis Garcia back.
- My analysis on Garcia is he is trying too hard to hit home runs every time. He is constantly under the ball and chases too much trying to be the hero. Although I love the mentality and aggressiveness he brings with the high EV, he needs to be more selective on his pitches.

Adolis Garcia

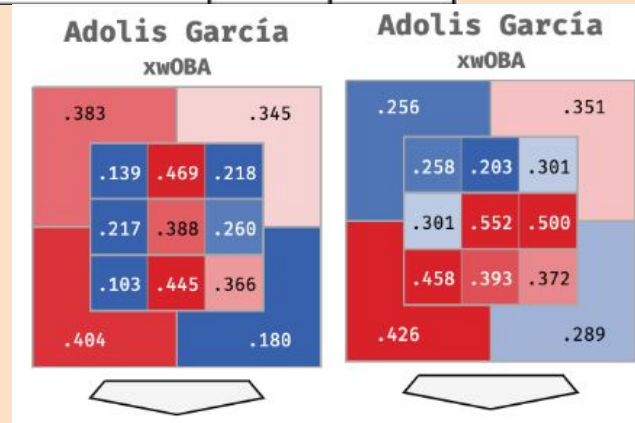
- Garcia gets under the ball way too much to be effective on a daily basis. His Under% is more than 11% greater than in 2023, while his LA Sweet-Spot% has gone down about 6%.
- This along with a greater chase rate and less walks, results with Garcia being benched for not being discipline in his pitch selection.

Season	2025	2023
Under %	36.5	25.4
LA Sweet-Spot %	30.1	36.0
BB %	4.7	10.3
Chase %	40	29.3

Adolis García

- The bottom two-thirds of the zone used to be apart of Garcias wheelhouse. Now he is seemingly have the same amount of success outside of the zone as inside.
- In the long run, success outside the zone will be difficult to maintain. Especially with his xwOBACon being significantly lower than in 2023, he can not afford to continue to chase outside of the zone.

Season	2025	2023
wOBA	0.272	0.354
xwOBA	0.311	0.366
Launch Angle	20.7	15.7
xwOBACon	0.399	0.471



Adolis García

- In 2025 García has been lifting all balls more compared to 2023.

