**First Graph**

A graph of a graph

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**ERA Trends**  
Overall, the ERA values for both leagues have followed similar long-term trends, with noticeable fluctuations during certain eras of baseball (e.g., the “dead-ball” vs. “live-ball” eras). Historically, the AL and NL values often moved in parallel, but the AL–NL difference line shows clear shifts after 1973, when the AL adopted the DH rule. In general, the AL tended to allow slightly more runs on average compared to the NL once the DH was introduced, reflecting the offensive boost from having an extra hitter instead of the pitcher batting. By 2020, when the DH rule was adopted by NL, the ERA gap between the leagues effectively disappeared.

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**Second Graph**   
A graph of slugging lines

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**Slugging Percentage Trends**

The SLG visualization shows a similar story from the offensive side. Before 1973, AL and NL slugging percentages were closely aligned. After the AL introduced the DH rule, the AL slugging percentage was consistently higher than the NL, reflecting stronger overall offensive production. The AL–NL difference line highlights this persistent gap from the 1973 onward. When the NL used the DH rule in 2020, the gap between the leagues closed, showing how the rule change equalized offensive environments.

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