**Ichiro Suzuki** [/ˈiːtʃɪroʊ suːˈzuːki/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/English) (鈴木 一朗 *Suzuki Ichirō*, born October 22, 1973), often referred to [mononymously](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mononymously) as **Ichiro** (イチロー *Ichirō*), is a Japanese former [professional baseball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Professional_baseball) [outfielder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outfielder). With 27 seasons combined in top-level professional leagues, he spent the bulk of his career with two teams: nine seasons with the [Orix Blue Wave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orix_Blue_Wave) of [Nippon Professional Baseball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nippon_Professional_Baseball) (NPB) in Japan, where he began his career, and 12 with the [Seattle Mariners](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seattle_Mariners) of [Major League Baseball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball) (MLB) in the United States. After playing for the Mariners, he played two and a half seasons in MLB with the [New York Yankees](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_Yankees) before signing with the [Miami Marlins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miami_Marlins). Ichiro played three seasons with the Marlins before returning to the Mariners in 2018. Ichiro established a number of batting records, including MLB's [single-season record for hits](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Major_League_Baseball_hit_records) with 262. He achieved 10 consecutive 200-hit seasons, the longest streak by any player in history. Between his major league career in both Japan and the United States, Ichiro has the most hits by any player in top-tier professional leagues. He also has recorded the most hits of all Japanese born players in MLB history.

In his combined playing time in NPB and MLB, Ichiro received 17 consecutive selections both as an All-Star and Gold Glove winner, won nine league batting titles and was named Most Valuable Player (MVP) four times. While playing in NPB, he won seven consecutive batting titles and three consecutive [Pacific League](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_League) [MVP Awards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nippon_Professional_Baseball_Most_Valuable_Player_Award). In 2001, Ichiro became the first Japanese-born [position player](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Position_player) to be [posted](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Posting_system) and signed to an MLB club.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ichiro_Suzuki#cite_note-1) He led the [American League](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_League) (AL) in [batting average](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batting_average) and [stolen bases](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stolen_bases) en route to being named AL [Rookie of the Year](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MLB_Rookie_of_the_Year_Award) and AL [MVP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_Most_Valuable_Player_Award).

Ichiro was the first MLB player to enter the [Japanese Baseball Hall of Fame (The Golden Players Club)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meikyukai). He was a ten-time [MLB All-Star](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_All-Star_Game) and won the [2007](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007_Major_League_Baseball_All-Star_Game) [All-Star Game MVP Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_All-Star_Game_Most_Valuable_Player_Award) for a three-hit performance that included the event's first-ever [inside-the-park home run](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inside-the-park_home_run). Ichiro won a [Rawlings Gold Glove Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rawlings_Gold_Glove_Award) in each of his first ten years in the majors, and had an American League–record seven [hitting streaks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitting_streak) of 20 or more games, with a high of 27. He is also noted for his longevity, continuing to produce at a high level with batting, slugging, and on-base percentages above .300 in 2016 while approaching 43 years of age. In, Ichiro notched the [3,000th hit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3,000_hit_club) of his MLB career off [Chris Rusin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chris_Rusin) of the [Colorado Rockies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_Rockies) at [Coors Field](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coors_Field), becoming only the 30th player ever to do so. In total he has over 4,300 hits in his professional career across Japan and the United States.