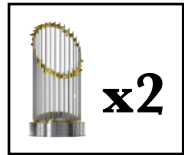




# NEW YORK METS

National League East



4727  
FRANCHISE WINS

75-87  
2023 SEASON

4th  
DIVISION

#11  
FARM SYSTEM RANK

New York City, NY - Citi Field (41,922)  
Manager: Carlos Mendoza (0-0, 1st Season)

## Mets Rebuild Begins in Earnest

Mets owner Steve Cohen was pretty clear, this year will be a rebuilding year for the Mets. He knows this to be true because he took a \$353 million payroll, the highest in Major League Baseball in 2023, and blew it up around the trade deadline when it became increasingly obvious that the Mets would miss the postseason for the sixth time in the last seven years. The rebuild is all-encompassing, yet bizarre. Carlos Mendoza steps in as manager, replacing Buck Showalter. The general manager role won't be filled in 2024 and was made vacant when Billy Eppler "resigned" after MLB launched an investigation that Eppler and the Mets misused the injury list. There are many new faces on the payroll in 2024, several of them prospects, after New York dealt the likes of Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander, among others.

### Batting

For the kind of star power that the Mets possessed in the lineup, the offense was largely underwhelming in 2023. Don't blame **Francisco Lindor**, who had his best season in Met pinstripes and joined the 30-30 club for the first time in his career. He's missed just three games over the past two seasons and he's finished in the top 10 in NL MVP voting in each of those years. Add in his gold-glove caliber defense at shortstop and you get a 6.0 WAR, which tied him for 8th among all position players in MLB. **Pete Alonso** saw his batting average take a dive down to .217 for the season but he smashed a ton of home runs yet again and earned his third All Star nomination while driving in a team-high 118 RBI and he still draws a fair number of walks. **Brandon Nimmo** and **Jeff McNeil** are known more for their ability to hit for average, although the former connected for 20 home runs last year while the latter won the 2022 batting title. McNeil's average fell to .270 but his career average is just a notch below .300 and the Mets are hopeful his 2024 batting more closely resembles that career mark.

The back half of the lineup is where the question marks begin to appear. Gone are players like Mark Canha, Daniel Vogelbach, and Tommy Pham, and the Mets didn't bring in a lot of reinforcements other than **Harrison Bader**. **Joey Wendle** and **Tyrone Taylor** are new additions but both project to be bench players as opposed to starters, although they could be used as platoon options. **Starling Marte** started to show his age last season and it's unclear how many games he can be counted on to play heading into his 13th major league season. **DJ Stewart** found success with the Mets in the second-half of the season and will look to fill the void left by Vogelbach. **Francisco Alvarez** is limited at the plate but he's a borderline-elite pitch framer despite being just 22 years old.

### Pitching

It's certainly no secret that the Mets rotation in 2024 will look vastly different than the one that opened the 2023 season. Even **Kodai Senga**, the ace of the staff, will miss at least a month with a strained shoulder. The Japanese sensation Senga signed with the Mets prior to the 2023 season and baffled MLB hitting last season. He was the runner-up to Corbin Carroll for the NL Rookie of the Year, he was an All-Star, and he received Cy Young votes. Control can sometimes be an issue for Senga but his stuff is simply ridiculous and his "ghost fork" pitch was, for all intensive purposes, unhittable. While they wait on his return, veteran **Jose Quintana** figures to be a top-of-the-rotation pitcher. He recently turned 35 and he'll need to find a way to get outs effectively on the ground as he no longer possesses the ability to strike out double-digit batters like he did earlier in his career. **Luis Severino** and **Sean Manaea** join the rotation. Severino was once the ace of the Yankees but his 2023 season was a complete disaster. However, his Yankee teammate Tommy Kahnle revealed in an interview that injuries were a major contributing factor. He was good in 2022 in 102.0 innings and the Mets desperately need him to return to that version of himself. Manaea doesn't have the upside of Severino but he's been far more reliable and has 30 or more appearances in each of the last three seasons, albeit with an average ERA of above 4.00. **Adrian Houser** is another new face who spent six big league seasons with the Brewers.

The bullpen gets a huge lift with the return of **Edwin Díaz**. When we last saw him in a Mets uniform, he was entering to the beat of Tommy Trumpet and carving up hitting in the ninth inning. Unfortunately, that was in 2022 as a freak injury in a World Baseball Classic celebration cost him the entirety of the 2023 season. He's expected to be fully healthy in 2024 and should again be one of the game's best closers. **Adam Ottavino** and **Brooks Raley** are two very capable arms and quality set up pitchers and **Jake Diekman** pitched well for the Rays last season. **Jorge López** and **Shintaro Fujinami** were free agent signings from the Orioles.

### The Bottom Line

Love him or hate him, Steve Cohen was at least honest with Mets fans when he set expectations of a rebuilding year in 2024 (and maybe 2025). However, there are still some good pieces on the roster so don't expect the Mets to just fall off a cliff unless the injury bug really gets ahold of the team. There are depth questions in both the lineup and the rotation but the duo of Lindor and Alonso is a great one-two punch. The bullpen figures to be a strength despite a rocky performance last year. The Mets will flirt with .500, but nothing more.

2024 Projection: 78-84, 3rd in NL East

### Francisco Lindor

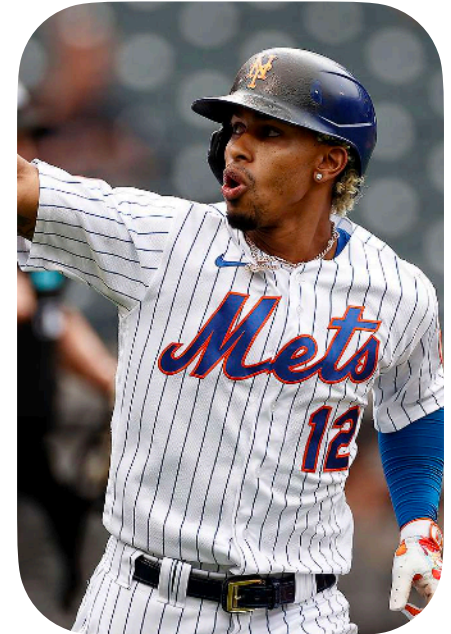


Photo via People



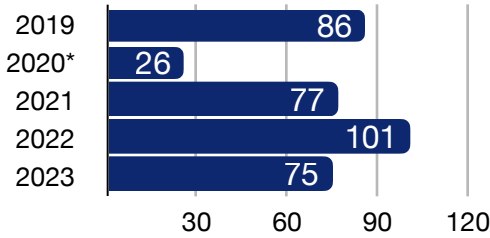
**2023 MLB Ranks**  
RPG - 4.43 (20th)  
HITS - 1276 (27th)  
HR - 215 (10th)  
ERA - 4.30 (19th)  
SO - 1397 (16th)  
FD% - .985% (17th)

## Edwin Díaz



Photo via North Jersey

### METS 5-YEAR WIN TREND



### 321 < Number to Know

The number of games played by shortstop Francisco Lindor out of a possible 324 games over the past two seasons.



Photo via Fox News

### PROSPECT TO WATCH Jett Williams - SS/OF

Williams hasn't even made it past double-A yet, but the Mets top prospect already has a huge selling point: his elite eye and plate discipline. Last year in 121 games, he drew a whopping 104 walks (second in the minor leagues) which gave him an on-base percentage of .425. He was a pitcher's worst nightmare on the base paths, stealing 45 bags while being caught only seven times. Jett also lived up to his first name by legging out eight triples. He'll have to make some necessary adjustments as he works his way from double-A to triple-A but the fact that he is already debuting such impressive skills at only 20-years-old is very notable. He only appeared in six double-A games last season so his big league debut probably won't come this season, but when it does, he'll have a chance to become truly special.



Photo via New York Post

Projected Lineup			'23 AVG
9	Brandon Nimmo	LF	.274
1	Jeff McNeil	2B	.270
12	Francisco Lindor	SS	.254
20	Pete Alonso	1B	.217
6	Starling Marte	RF	.248
29	DJ Stewart	DH	.244
4	Francisco Alvarez	C	.209
22	Brett Baty	3B	.212
44	Harrison Bader	CF	.232

Projected Rotation			'23 ERA
62	Jose Quintana	SP	3.57
40	Luis Severino	SP	6.65
59	Sean Manaea	SP	4.44
35	Adrian Houser	SP	4.12
38	Tylor Megill	SP	4.70
39	Edwin Díaz	CL	-

### PLAYER SPOTLIGHT Pete Alonso - 1B



#### 2023 Statistics

**GP AVG OPS HR RBI**  
**154 .217 .821 46 118**

Alonso's batting average won't look good on the enormous scoreboard hovering over center field in Citi Park, but few can bash home runs like the Polar Bear. He's clubbed 192 homers in only 684 career games and he wields an OPS of .870. It's a contract year for Alonso, so expect the big first baseman to be extra focused and productive. While he strikes out a lot, he draws a lot of walks and he also had the painful distinction of being hit by pitch the most of any NL player. He had 118 RBI last season and if Nimmo, McNeil, and Lindor continue to get on base at a high percentage, he'll top 100 RBI for the third straight year.

### 2024 Schedule

March/April 2024											
						MIL 28				MIL 30	
MIL 1:40	DET 7:10	DET 7:10	DET 7:10	DET 7:10				CIN 6:40	CIN 4:10	CIN 6	
CIN 1:40	ATL 7:20	ATL 7:20	ATL 7:20	ATL 7:20	ATL 12:20			KC 7:10	KC 1:40	KC 13	
KC 1:40	PIT 7:10	PIT 7:10	PIT 7:10	PIT 7:10				LAD 10:10	LAD 4:05	LAD 20	
LAD 4:10	SF 9:45	SF 9:45	SF 9:45	SF 3:45				STL 7:10	STL 4:05	STL 27	
STL 1:40	CHC 7:10	CHC 7:10									

May 2024											
						CHC 1:10	CHC 2	TB 3	TB 4		
TB 1:40	STL 7:45	STL 7:45	STL 1:15					ATL 7:10	ATL 4:10	ATL 11	
ATL 1:40	PHI 7:10	PHI 1:10	PHI 6:40	PHI 15	PHI 16	PHI 6:40		MIA 7:10	MIA 4:10	MIA 18	
MIA 1:40	CLE 6:10	CLE 6:10	CLE 1:10	CLE 22				SF 7:10	SF 1:40	SF 25	
SF 1:40	LAD 4:10	LAD 7:10	LAD 4:10	LAD 29	ARI 30	ARI 7:10					

June 2024											
										ARI 1	
ARI 1:40	WSH 6:45	WSH 6:45	WSH 4:05							PHI 1:10	8
PHI 10:10a			MIA 11	MIA 12	MIA 13	SD 14	SD 15				
SD 1:40	TEX 8:05	TEX 8:05	TEX 8:05					CHC 2:20	CHC 2:20	CHC 22	
CHC 2:20			NYN 25	NYN 26				HOU 7:10	HOU 4:10	HOU 29	
HOU 1:40											

July 2024											
PIT 1:35	PIT 12:35	WSH 7:10	WSH 7:10	WSH 11:05a	PIT 6:40	PIT 4:05					
COL 1:40								MIA 7:10	MIA 4:10	MIA 20	
MIA 1:40	MIA 6:40	NYN 7:05	NYN 7:05	ATL 7:10	ATL 7:10	ATL 4:10					
ATL 1:40	MIN 7:10	MIN 7:10	MIN 1:10								

August 2024											
										LAA 9:38	LAA 9:38
LAA 4:07			COL 8:40	COL 8:40	COL 3:10	SEA 10:10	SEA 9:40				
SEA 4:10			OAK 7:10	OAK 7:10	OAK 1:10	MIA 7:10	MIA 4:10				
MIA 1:40	BAL 7:10	BAL 7:10	BAL 1:10	SD 9:40	SD 9:40	SD 8:40					
SD 4:10			ARI 9:40	ARI 9:40	ARI 3:40	CWS 8:10	CWS 7:10				

September 2024											
CWS 2:10	BOS 7:10	BOS 7:10	BOS 7:10					CIN 7:10	CIN 4:10	CIN 7	
CIN 1:40	TOR 7:07	TOR 7:07	TOR 3:07					PHI 6:40	PHI 4:05	PHI 14	
PHI 1:35	WSH 7:10	WSH 7:10	WSH 7:10	PHI 7:10	PHI 7:10	PHI 4:10					
PHI 1:40			ATL 7:20	ATL 7:20				MIL 8:10	MIL 7:10	MIL 28	
MIL 3:10											

HOME

AWAY