

Statistical Advance: Analyzing the Hollywood Casino 400

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (Sept. 29, 2014) – Below is a look at the 12 Contenders – and beyond – at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kansas going into the Hollywood Casino 400 on Sunday, October 5. Coverage begins on ESPN at 1 p.m. ET and the race is scheduled for 2 p.m. ET.

2014 Chase Grid

Pos.	Drivers	Season Wins	Chase Points
1	Brad Keselowski	5	3,000
2	Joey Logano	4	3,000
3	Kevin Harvick	2	3,000
4	Jimmie Johnson	3	3,000
5	Jeff Gordon	4	3,000
6	Kyle Busch	1	3,000
7	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	3	3,000
8	Matt Kenseth	0	3,000
9	Ryan Newman	0	3,000
10	Carl Edwards	2	3,000
11	Denny Hamlin	1	3,000
12	Kasey Kahne	1	3,000
13	AJ Allmendinger	1	2,077
14	Kurt Busch	1	2,073
15	Greg Biffle	0	2,072
16	Aric Almirola	1	2,061

	Green = Clinched a spot in the Contender Round of the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup
	Yellow = In position to move to the next round of the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup
	Orange = In position to possibly be eliminated from the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Contender Round
	Red = Eliminated from the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup

KANSAS-SPECIFIC STATISTICS

1 - Brad Keselowski (No. 2 Miller Lite Ford)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 105.0

2014 Rundown

- Five wins, 13 top fives, 16 top 10s; five poles
- Average finish of 12.4
- Led 23 races for 1,496 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- One win, two top fives, four top 10s
- Average finish of 10.6 in nine races
- Average Running Position of 13.8, 10th-best
- Driver Rating of 89.2, 11th-best

2 - Joey Logano (No. 22 Shell Pennzoil Ford)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 106.5

2014 Rundown

- Four wins, 13 top fives, 18 top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 12.2
- Led 19 races for 794 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two top fives, two top 10s
- Average finish of 21.7 in 10 races
- Average Running Position of 20.3, 24th-best
- Driver Rating of 73.2, 21st-best

3 - Kevin Harvick (No. 4 Budweiser Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 108.8

2014 Rundown

- Two wins, 10 top fives, 15 top 10s; seven poles
- Average finish of 14.0
- Led 21 races for 1,592 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- One win, three top fives, eight top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 11.5 in 17 races
- Average Running Position of 11.8, seventh-best
- Driver Rating of 99.1, fifth-best
- 202 Fastest Laps Run, fourth-most
- Series-high 969 Green Flag Passes
- 468 Quality Passes, fifth-most

4 - Jimmie Johnson (No. 48 Lowe's Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 100.8

2014 Rundown

- Three wins, 10 top fives, 18 top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 13.4
- Led 15 races for 1,035 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two wins, six top fives, 14 top 10s; three poles
- Average finish of 7.6 in 16 races
- Series-best Average Running Position of 7.5
- Series-best Driver Rating of 117.4
- Series-high 478 Fastest Laps Run
- Series-best Average Green Flag Speed of 167.549 mph
- Series-high 3,042 Laps in the Top 15 (89.0%)
- Series-high 614 Quality Passes

5 - Jeff Gordon (No. 24 Drive to End Hunger Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 110.4

2014 Rundown

- Four wins, 11 top fives, 19 top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 10.0
- Led 20 races for 665 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Three wins, 10 top fives, 12 top 10s
- Average finish of 10.1 in 17 races
- Average Running Position of 9.7, third-best
- Driver Rating of 101.1, fourth-best
- 147 Fastest Laps Run, fifth-most
- 2,878 Laps in the Top 15 (84.2%), second-most

Chase Contenders

The Top 12 Contenders

2014 Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup

<u>Driver</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Poles</u>	<u>Rank Last Week</u>	<u>Season Driver Rating</u>
1. Brad Keselowski	3,000	5	5	1	105.0
2. Joey Logano	3,000	4	1	2	106.5
3. Kevin Harvick	3,000	2	7	3	108.8
4. Jimmie Johnson	3,000	3	1	4	100.8
5. Jeff Gordon	3,000	4	2	7	110.4
6. Kyle Busch	3,000	1	2	5	90.6
7. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	3,000	3	0	6	97.2
8. Matt Kenseth	3,000	0	1	8	93.5
9. Ryan Newman	3,000	0	0	12	85.1
10. Carl Edwards	3,000	2	0	9	82.5
11. Denny Hamlin	3,000	1	2	13	90.8
12. Kasey Kahne	3,000	1	0	11	88.7

Chase For The NASCAR Sprint Cup Winner Grid

Win And Advance

CHALLENGER

1. Chicagoland Speedway – **Brad Keselowski**
2. New Hampshire Motor Speedway – **Joey Logano**
3. Dover International Speedway – **Jeff Gordon**

Four Drivers Eliminated: AJ Allmendinger, Kurt Busch, Greg Biffle and Aric Almirola

CONTENDER

4. Kansas Speedway -
5. Charlotte Motor Speedway -
6. Talladega Superspeedway -

Four Drivers Eliminated.

ELIMINATOR

7. Martinsville Speedway -
8. Texas Motor Speedway -
9. Phoenix International Raceway -

Four Drivers Eliminated.

CHAMPIONSHIP

10. Homestead-Miami Speedway -

2014 NASCAR Sprint Cup Champion:

** - Denotes non-Chase driver won the event.*

- 536 Quality Passes, second-most

6 - Kyle Busch (No. 18 M&M's Toyota)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 90.6

2014 Rundown

- One win, six top fives, 12 top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 17.1
- Led 13 races for 411 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two top 10s
- Average finish of 22.7 in 14 races
- Average Running Position of 18.7, 19th-best
- Driver Rating of 76.8, 19th-best
- 864 Green Flag Passes, eighth-most
- 404 Quality Passes, 11th-most

7 - Dale Earnhardt Jr. (No. 88 Diet Mountain Dew Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 97.2

2014 Rundown

- Three wins, 11 top fives, 17 top 10s
- Average finish of 11.0
- Led 12 races for 220 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two top fives, eight top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 15.2 in 16 races
- Average Running Position of 14.5, 12th-best
- Driver Rating of 91.5, ninth-best
- 108 Fastest Laps Run, 11th-most
- 855 Green Flag Passes, ninth-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 166.627 mph, eighth-fastest
- 1,981 Laps in the Top 15 (62.8%), 10th-most
- 424 Quality Passes, eighth-most

8 - Matt Kenseth (No. 20 Dollar General Toyota)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 93.5

2014 Rundown

- 11 top fives, 18 top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 13.8
- Led 17 races for 467 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two wins, six top fives, 10 top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 14.3 in 17 races
- Average Running Position of 10.4, fourth-best
- Driver Rating of 107.4, second-best
- 235 Fastest Laps Run, second-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 166.855 mph, third-fastest
- 2,623 Laps in the Top 15 (76.7%), fourth-most

- 418 Quality Passes, ninth-most

9 - Ryan Newman (No. 31 Caterpillar Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 85.1

2014 Rundown

- Two top fives, 11 top 10s
- Average finish of 14.0
- Led 4 races for 24 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- One win, three top fives, four top 10s
- Average finish of 18.7 in 17 races
- Average Running Position of 20.6, 25th-best
- Driver Rating of 69.6, 25th-best
- 908 Green Flag Passes, sixth-most

10 - Carl Edwards (No. 99 Fastenal Ford)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 82.5

2014 Rundown

- Two wins, six top fives, 11 top 10s
- Average finish of 14.8
- Led 10 races for 134 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Five top fives, 10 top 10s
- Average finish of 10.5 in 14 races
- Average Running Position of 12.1, eighth-best
- Driver Rating of 97.1, seventh-best
- 131 Fastest Laps Run, eighth-most
- 877 Green Flag Passes, seventh-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 166.689 mph, seventh-fastest
- 2,352 Laps in the Top 15 (68.8%), sixth-most
- 493 Quality Passes, fourth-most

11 - Denny Hamlin (No. 11 FedEx Office Toyota)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 90.8

2014 Rundown

- One win, six top fives, 12 top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 15.5
- Led 12 races for 195 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- One win, three top fives, three top 10s
- Average finish of 15.1 in 12 races
- Average Running Position of 14.3, 11th-best
- Driver Rating of 87.7, 14th-best
- 69 Fastest Laps Run, 12th-most
- 2,002 Laps in the Top 15 (63.5%), ninth-most
- 399 Quality Passes, 12th-most

12 - Kasey Kahne (No. 5 Farmer's Insurance Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 88.7

2014 Rundown

- One win, three top fives, 10 top 10s
- Average finish of 16.5
- Led 10 races for 204 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Four top fives, seven top 10s; three poles
- Average finish of 13.2 in 14 races
- Average Running Position of 13.6, ninth-best
- Driver Rating of 93.0, eighth-best
- 147 Fastest Laps Run, fifth-most
- 939 Green Flag Passes, second-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 166.619 mph, ninth-fastest
- 2,208 Laps in the Top 15 (64.6%), seventh-most
- 436 Quality Passes, sixth-most

13 - AJ Allmendinger (No. 47 Clorox Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 70.1

2014 Rundown

- One win, two top fives, four top 10s
- Average finish of 20.7
- Led 5 races for 68 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 22.8 in nine races
- Average Running Position of 22.7, 27th-best
- Driver Rating of 68.2, 26th-best

14 - Kurt Busch (No. 41 Haas Automation Chevrolet)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 86.5

2014 Rundown

- One win, six top fives, eight top 10s
- Average finish of 19.3
- Led 11 races for 181 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- One top five, four top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 17.6 in 17 races
- Average Running Position of 14.9, 14th-best
- Driver Rating of 87.3, 16th-best
- 121 Fastest Laps Run, 10th-most
- 923 Green Flag Passes, fourth-most
- 1,980 Laps in the Top 15 (57.9%), 11th-most
- 405 Quality Passes, 10th-most

15 - Greg Biffle (No. 16 3M Filtrete Ford)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 79.4

2014 Rundown

- Three top fives, 10 top 10s
- Average finish of 15.8
- Led 6 races for 109 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Two wins, seven top fives, nine top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 10.7 in 16 races
- Average Running Position of 9.5, second-best
- Driver Rating of 104.7, third-best
- 205 Fastest Laps Run, third-most
- 837 Green Flag Passes, 11th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 166.836 mph, fourth-fastest
- 2,755 Laps in the Top 15 (80.6%), third-most
- 506 Quality Passes, third-most

16 - Aric Almirola (No. 43 Farmland Ford)

- Season-to-Date Driver Rating: 73.5

2014 Rundown

- One win, two top fives, seven top 10s
- Average finish of 20.6
- Led 5 races for 23 laps

Kansas Speedway Outlook:

- Three top 10s
- Average finish of 15.6 in five races
- Average Running Position of 15.3, 15th-best
- Driver Rating of 88.1, 13th-best
- Average Green Flag Speed of 166.561 mph, 11th-fastest

The 12 Challengers at Kansas Speedway

	Driver	Races	Poles	Wins	Top Fives	Top 10s	DNFs	Average Finish	Driver Rating
1	Brad Keselowski	9	0	1	2	4	0	10.6	89.2
2	Joey Logano	10	0	0	2	2	1	21.7	73.2
3	Kevin Harvick	17	2	1	3	8	1	11.5	99.1
4	Jimmie Johnson	16	3	2	6	14	1	7.6	117.4
5	Jeff Gordon	17	0	3	10	12	2	10.1	101.1
6	Kyle Busch	14	0	0	0	2	4	22.7	76.8
7	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	16	1	0	2	8	2	15.2	91.5
8	Matt Kenseth	17	2	2	6	10	2	14.3	107.4

9	Ryan Newman	17	0	1	3	4	3	18.7	69.6
10	Carl Edwards	14	0	0	5	10	1	10.5	97.1
11	Denny Hamlin	12	0	1	3	3	0	15.1	87.7
12	Kasey Kahne	14	3	0	4	7	1	13.2	93

* – Based on last 13 races at Kansas Speedway.

Kansas Speedway:

History

- Groundbreaking was held on May 25, 1999.
- The official opening of Kansas Speedway was in 2001, with the first events being an ARCA race and a NASCAR K&N Pro Series West race on the same day – June 2.
- The first NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race was on Sept. 30, 2001 – won by **Jeff Gordon**.
- During the 2012 season, between the April and October events the 1.5-mile track underwent a repave adding variable banking in the corners.

Notebook

- There have been 17 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Kansas Speedway, one NSCS event from 2001 - 2010 and two races per year since 2011.
- 116 drivers have competed in at least one NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Kansas; 86 in more than one.
- Five drivers have started all 17 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Kansas Speedway – **Jeff Gordon, Kevin Harvick, Kurt Busch, Matt Kenseth** and **Ryan Newman**.
- **Jason Leffler** won the inaugural Coors Light pole at Kansas Speedway in 2001 with a speed of 176.499 mph.
- 11 drivers have Coors Light poles at Kansas, led by **Jimmie Johnson** and **Kasey Kahne** with three each.
- **Jimmie Johnson** and **Kevin Harvick** are the only two drivers to win consecutive Coors Light poles at Kansas Speedway (Johnson – 2007, 2008 and Harvick – fall 2013, spring 2014).
- Youngest Kansas pole winner: **Jason Leffler** (09/30/2001 – 26 years, 0 months, 14 days).
- Oldest Kansas pole winner: **Mark Martin** (10/04/2009 – 50 years, 8 months, 25 days).
- 11 different drivers have won at Kansas Speedway, led by **Jeff Gordon** with three.
- **Hendrick Motorsports** leads the series in wins at Kansas with five: **Jeff Gordon** (three) and **Jimmie Johnson** (two).
- **Chevrolet** leads the series in wins at Kansas with nine victories; followed by **Ford** with four wins.

Kansas Speedway Data

Season Race #: 30 of 36 (10-05-14)

Track Size: 1.5-miles

Banking/Turn 1 & 2: 17 to 20 degrees

Banking/Turn 3 & 4: 17 to 20 degrees

Banking/Frontstretch: 10 degrees

Banking/Backstretch: 5 degrees

Frontstretch Length: 2,685 feet

Backstretch Length: 2,207 feet

Race Length: 267 laps / 400 miles

Top 10 Driver Ratings at Kansas

Jimmie Johnson	117.4
Matt Kenseth	107.4
Greg Biffle	104.7
Jeff Gordon	101.1
Kevin Harvick	99.1
Tony Stewart	97.3
Carl Edwards	97.1
Kasey Kahne	93.0
Dale Earnhardt Jr.....	91.5
Kyle Larson	89.4

Note: Driver Ratings compiled from 2005-2014 races (13 total) among active drivers at Kansas Speedway.

Qualifying/Race Data

2013 pole winner:

Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet
187.526 mph, 28.796 secs. 10-04-13

2013 race winner:

Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet
114.884 mph, (03:29:10), 10-06-13

Track qualifying record:

Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet
194.252 mph, 27.799 secs. 05-10-14

Track race record:

Denny Hamlin, Toyota
144.122 mph, (02:59:51), 04-22-12

- Four of the 17 (23.5%) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Kansas Speedway have been won from the Coors Light pole; **Joe Nemechek** (2004), **Jimmie Johnson** (2008), **Matt Kenseth** (spring 2013) and **Kevin Harvick** (fall 2013).
- Five of the 17 (29.4%) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Kansas Speedway have been won from the front row: four from the pole and one from second-place.
- 10 of the 17 (58.8%) NASCAR Sprint Cup races at Kansas Speedway have been won from a top-10 starting position.
- Two of the 17 (11.7%) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Kansas Speedway have been won from a starting position outside the top 20.
- The deepest in the field that a race winner has started at Kansas Speedway was 25th, by **Brad Keselowski** in the spring of 2011.
- Youngest Kansas winner: **Ryan Newman** (10/05/2003 – 25 years, 9 months, 27 days).
- Oldest Kansas winner: **Mark Martin** (10/09/2005 – 46 years, 9 months, 0 days).
- **Martin Truex Jr.**, **Kasey Kahne** and **Ryan Newman** are tied for the series most runner-up finishes at Kansas Speedway with two each.
- **Jeff Gordon** leads the series in top-five finishes at Kansas Speedway with 10; followed by **Greg Biffle** with seven.
- **Jimmie Johnson** leads the series in top-10 finishes at Kansas Speedway with 14; followed by **Jeff Gordon** (12), **Edwards**, **Kenseth** each have 10.
- **Jimmie Johnson** leads all active drivers in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series in average starting position at Kansas Speedway with an 11.000.
- **Jimmie Johnson** (7.625) leads the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series in average finishing position at Kansas Speedway – he is the only driver with an average finish in the top-10 at Kansas.
- There has been one NSCS race resulting with a green-white-checkered finish at Kansas Speedway: fall of 2011 (267/272).
- Only one of the 16 races at Kansas Speedway has been shortened due to weather conditions: fall of 2007.
- Qualifying has never been cancelled due to weather conditions in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at Kansas Speedway.
- **Denny Hamlin** has participated in the most NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Kansas Speedway without posting a DNF (12).
- 2011 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series champion and 2013 NASCAR Nationwide Series champion **Austin Dillon** (10/09/2011) and **Denny Hamlin** (10/09/2005) made their first NASCAR Sprint Cup Series career starts at Kansas Speedway.
- **Jeff Gordon** and **Matt Kenseth** are the only two NASCAR Sprint Cup Series drivers that have posted consecutive wins at Kansas Speedway: Gordon (2001 and 2002 – the first two NSCS events at Kansas) and Kenseth (fall of 2012, spring of 2013).

- Nine of the 10 active NASCAR Sprint Cup Series winners at Kansas Speedway participated in at least two or more races before visiting Victory Lane. **Jeff Gordon** won at Kansas in his first appearance.
- **Kevin Harvick** competed at Kansas Speedway 15 times before winning last fall; the longest span of any the 10 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series winners at Kansas.
- **Kevin Harvick** (15) and **Matt Kenseth** (13) have made 10 or more attempts before their first win at Kansas Speedway.
- **Kurt Busch** leads the series with the most NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts at Kansas Speedway without visiting Victory Lane at 17.
- Since the advent of electronic scoring the closest margin of victory in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at Kansas Speedway was the (10/10/2004) race won by **Joe Nemechek** with a MOV of 0.081 second.
- **Jimmie Johnson** leads the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series in laps led at Kansas Speedway with 586 laps led in 16 starts.
- **Danica Patrick** is the only female driver that has competed at Kansas Speedway in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series:

Driver	Starting Position	Finishing Position	Date
Danica Patrick	40	32	10/21/2012
Danica Patrick	25	25	4/21/2013
Danica Patrick	29	43	10/6/2013
Danica Patrick	9	7	5/10/2014

NASCAR in Kansas

- There have been 17 NASCAR Sprint Cup races in Kansas.

Track Name	City	NSCS
Kansas Speedway	Kansas City	17

- 17 drivers in NASCAR national series history have their home state recorded as Kansas.
- Two drivers from Kansas have won at least one race in NASCAR's three national series; both have won in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series.

Driver	NSCS	NNS	NCWTS
Clint Bowyer	8	8	3
Jim Roper	1	0	0