

Contact:



## Statistical Advance: Analyzing the Federated Auto Parts 400

**DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (September 2, 2014)** – One race left. Two spots up for grabs, and 19 different drivers still have a chance at locking themselves into the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup this weekend in the regular season finale. Below are the statistics of a number of those drivers at Richmond International Raceway in Richmond, Virginia going into the Federated Auto Parts 400 on September 6 (7:30 p.m. ET on ABC, MRN Radio, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

### RICHMOND-SPECIFIC STATISTICS

#### Marcos Ambrose (No. 9 DEWALT Ford)

- One top five, two top 10s
- Average finish of 19.5
- Average Running Position of 21.8, 24th-best
- Driver Rating of 70.1, 23rd-best
- 35 Fastest Laps Run, 32nd-most
- 608 Green Flag Passes, 29th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 115.710 mph, 25th-fastest
- 1,197 Laps in the Top 15 (27.2%), 25th-most
- 174 Quality Passes (passes of cars in the top 15 under green), 26th-most

#### Greg Biffle (No. 16 3M Call Before You Dig Ford)

- Two top fives, six top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 16.9
- Average Running Position of 17.1, 18th-best
- Driver Rating of 81.5, 17th-best
- 176 Fastest Laps Run, 12th-most
- 893 Green Flag Passes, 11th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 116.067 mph, 14th-fastest
- 3,871 Laps in the Top 15 (50.8%), 15th-most
- 355 Quality Passes, 17th-most

## 2014 Chase Grid Outlook

Pos.	Drivers	Wins	Points	Chase Bonus Pts
1	Jeff Gordon	3	872	9
2	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	3	851	9
3	Joey Logano	3	791	9
4	Brad Keselowski	3	782	9
5	Jimmie Johnson	3	766	9
6	Carl Edwards	2	755	6
7	Kevin Harvick	2	748	6
8	Kasey Kahne	1	708	3
9	Kyle Busch	1	657	3
10	Denny Hamlin	1	636	3
11	Kurt Busch	1	614	3
12	Aric Almirola	1	594	3
13	AJ Allmendinger	1	590	3
14	Matt Kenseth	0	794	0
15	Ryan Newman	0	747	0
16	Greg Biffle	0	728	0
<b>Outside Looking In</b>				
17	Clint Bowyer	0	705	0
18	Kyle Larson	0	704	0
19	Paul Menard	0	675	0
20	Austin Dillon	0	674	0
21	Jamie McMurray	0	666	0
22	Brian Vickers	0	650	0
23	Marcos Ambrose	0	628	0
24	Casey Mears	0	583	0
25	Martin Truex Jr.	0	561	0
26	Tony Stewart	0	540	0
27	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	0	538	0
28	Danica Patrick	0	500	0
29	Justin Allgaier	0	443	0
30	Michael Annett	0	393	0
	Green = Locked into the Chase, provided they attempt to qualify at Richmond			
	Orange = No wins, Inside the current Chase Grid's top 16 - Currently in the Chase, not locked in			
	Red = Inside the current top 30 in points, outside of the Chase cutoff			

## 2-2-2 STATISTICAL ADVANCE

### Clint Bowyer (No. 15 5-Hour Energy Toyota)

- Two wins, three top fives, nine top 10s
- Average finish of 12.0
- Average Running Position of 10.9, fourth-best
- Driver Rating of 98.7, fourth-best
- 185 Fastest Laps Run, 11th-most
- 857 Green Flag Passes, 15th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 116.279 mph, seventh-fastest
- 5,232 Laps in the Top 15 (76.8%), fifth-most
- 485 Quality Passes, fourth-most

### Austin Dillon (No. 3 American Ethanol Chevrolet)

- Average finish of 27.0
- Average Running Position of 25.8, 36th-best
- Driver Rating of 54.9, 39th-best
- 2 Fastest Laps Run, 47th-most
- 33 Green Flag Passes, 51st-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 115.322 mph, 38th-fastest
- 1 Laps in the Top 15 (.3%), 49th-most
- 0 Quality Passes, 50th-most

### Kyle Larson (No. 42 Target Chevrolet)

- Average finish of 16.0
- Average Running Position of 22.1, 26th-best
- Driver Rating of 66.1, 25th-best
- 0 Fastest Laps Run, 51st-most
- 53 Green Flag Passes, 49th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 115.569 mph, 29th-fastest
- 47 Laps in the Top 15 (11.8%), 45th-most
- 7 Quality Passes, 44th-most

### Jamie McMurray (No. 1 Cessna Chevrolet)

- One top five, four top 10s
- Average finish of 22.0
- Average Running Position of 18.5, 20th-best
- Driver Rating of 74.8, 20th-best
- 72 Fastest Laps Run, 19th-most
- 1,017 Green Flag Passes, second-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 115.936 mph, 20th-fastest
- 3,042 Laps in the Top 15 (39.9%), 18th-most
- 305 Quality Passes, 18th-most

## **Chase Contenders**

### **NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Winners List:**

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Track</u>
1. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (1)	Daytona International Speedway
2. Kevin Harvick (1)	Phoenix International Raceway
3. Brad Keselowski (1)	Las Vegas Motor Speedway
4. Carl Edwards (1)	Bristol Motor Speedway
5. Kyle Busch	Auto Club Speedway
6. Kurt Busch	Martinsville Speedway
7. Joey Logano (1)	Texas Motor Speedway
8. Kevin Harvick (2)	Darlington Raceway
9. Joey Logano (2)	Richmond International Raceway
10. Denny Hamlin	Talladega Superspeedway
11. Jeff Gordon (1)	Kansas Speedway
12. Jimmie Johnson (1)	Charlotte Motor Speedway
13. Jimmie Johnson (2)	Dover International Speedway
14. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (2)	Pocono Raceway
15. Jimmie Johnson (3)	Michigan International Speedway
16. Carl Edwards (2)	Sonoma Raceway
17. Brad Keselowski (2)	Kentucky Speedway
18. Aric Almirola	Daytona International Speedway
19. Brad Keselowski (3)	New Hampshire Motor Speedway
20. Jeff Gordon (2)	Indianapolis Motor Speedway
21. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (3)	Pocono Raceway
22. AJ Allmendinger	Watkins Glen International
23. Jeff Gordon (3)	Michigan International Speedway
24. Joey Logano (3)	Bristol Motor Speedway
25. Kasey Kahne	Atlanta Motor Speedway
26.	Richmond International Raceway

### **The Top 16**

#### **Following Race 25 of 36**

<u>Driver</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Poles</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Driver Rating</u>
1. Jeff Gordon	845	3	2	1	108.4
2. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	818	3	0	2	99.0
3. Brad Keselowski	776	3	3	3	101.5
4. Joey Logano	761	3	1	4	106.4
5. Matt Kenseth	751	0	1	5	92.6
6. Jimmie Johnson	726	3	1	7	99.8
7. Kevin Harvick	721	2	5	6	105.2
8. Carl Edwards	716	2	0	8	82.4
9. Ryan Newman	710	0	0	9	83.6
10. Clint Bowyer	699	0	0	10	85.1
11. Greg Biffle	694	0	0	11	81.4
12. Kyle Larson	668	0	1	14	79.1
13. Kasey Kahne	661	0	0	12	90.1
14. Austin Dillon	654	0	1	13	71.8
15. Paul Menard	649	0	0	17	78.0
16. Jamie McMurray	634	0	1	19	88.2

### **3-3-3-3**

#### **STATISTICAL ADVANCE**

##### **Paul Menard (No. 27 Sylvania/Menards Chevrolet)**

- One top five, one top 10
- Average finish of 24.5
- Average Running Position of 25.1, 35th-best
- Driver Rating of 58.8, 36th-best
- 17 Fastest Laps Run, 38th-most
- 727 Green Flag Passes, 25th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 115.486 mph, 33rd-fastest
- 685 Laps in the Top 15 (11.4%), 30th-most
- 68 Quality Passes, 32nd-most

##### **Ryan Newman (No. 31 Caterpillar Chevrolet)**

- One win, six top fives, 15 top 10s; one pole
- Average finish of 11.3
- Average Running Position of 11.6, fifth-best
- Driver Rating of 92.0, seventh-best
- 122 Fastest Laps Run, 16th-most
- 977 Green Flag Passes, seventh-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 116.241 mph, eighth-fastest
- 5,747 Laps in the Top 15 (75.5%), third-most
- 591 Quality Passes, second-most

##### **Tony Stewart (No. 14 Bass Pros Shops/Mobil 1 Chevrolet)**

- Three wins, 11 top fives, 19 top 10s
- Average finish of 11.1
- Average Running Position of 12.7, sixth-best
- Driver Rating of 94.5, sixth-best
- 276 Fastest Laps Run, 10th-most
- 903 Green Flag Passes, 10th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 116.374 mph, fourth-fastest
- 4,756 Laps in the Top 15 (65.9%), seventh-most
- 462 Quality Passes, sixth-most

##### **Brian Vickers (No. 55 Aaron's Dream Machine Toyota)**

- Three top 10s; two poles
- Average finish of 24.6
- Average Running Position of 22.1, 25th-best
- Driver Rating of 65.9, 26th-best
- 68 Fastest Laps Run, 20th-most
- 733 Green Flag Passes, 24th-most
- Average Green Flag Speed of 115.699 mph, 26th-fastest
- 1,609 Laps in the Top 15 (26.7%), 22nd-most
- 178 Quality Passes, 25th-most

4-4-4-4

# **STATISTICAL ADVANCE**

## **The NASCAR Sprint Cup Series 2014 Top 10 at Richmond International Raceway**

Rank	Driver	Races	Poles	Wins	Top Fives	Top 10s	DNFs	Average Finish	Driver Rating
1	Jeff Gordon	43	6	2	17	27	7	13.9	98.1
2	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	30	1	3	9	13	1	13.5	86.8
3	Matt Kenseth	29	1	1	5	13	1	15.4	85.7
4	Joey Logano	11	0	1	3	3	1	16.3	77.8
5	Brad Keselowski	10	0	0	1	3	1	18.5	85.8
6	Jimmie Johnson	25	2	3	5	8	1	17.9	88.2
7	Carl Edwards	20	1	1	4	11	1	13.5	90.1
8	Kevin Harvick	27	1	3	7	16	0	11.3	109.9
9	Ryan Newman	25	1	1	6	15	0	11.3	92.0
10	Greg Biffle	24	1	0	2	6	1	16.9	81.5

\* – Based on last 19 races at Richmond International Raceway.

## **Win And You're In...**

*Of the drivers inside the Top 30 in the points standings, but outside the Chase Grid Outlook, only one race remains to earn a win – and the Chase spot that goes with it. Below is a list of drivers currently outside the Chase Grid Outlook and their NSCS career number of wins and average finish at the final track on the regular season schedule.*

Pos.	Driver	Wins	Points	Richmond Wins	Richmond Avg. Finish
17	Clint Bowyer	0	705	2	12.0
18	Kyle Larson #	0	704	0	16.0
19	Paul Menard	0	675	0	24.4
20	Austin Dillon #	0	674	0	27.0
21	Jamie McMurray	0	666	0	22.0
22	Brian Vickers	0	650	0	24.6
23	Marcos Ambrose	0	628	0	19.5
24	Casey Mears	0	583	0	24.0
25	Martin Truex Jr.	0	561	0	21.8
26	Tony Stewart	0	540	3	11.1
27	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	0	538	0	21.3
28	Danica Patrick	0	500	0	31.0
29	Justin Allgaier #	0	443	0	21.0
30	Michael Annett #	0	393	0	33.0

**5-5-5-5**  
**STATISTICAL ADVANCE**

**At Richmond International Raceway:**

**History**

- Originally known as the Atlantic Rural Exposition Fairgrounds, Richmond International Raceway held its first race in 1946 as a half-mile dirt track.
- The first NASCAR Sprint Cup race was April 19, 1953 won by **Lee Petty**.
- The spring 1964 race was run on a Tuesday night under temporary lighting.
- The track name changed to Virginia State Fairgrounds in 1967.
- The track surface was changed from dirt to asphalt between races in 1968.
- The track name changed to Richmond Fairgrounds Raceway in 1969.
- The track was re-measured to .542-mile for 1970.
- The track was rebuilt as a three-quarters-mile D-shaped oval following the Feb. 21, 1988 race.
- The first race under permanent lights was Sept. 7, 1991.
- The first season with both races as night races was 1999.

**Notebook**

- There have been 116 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Richmond International Raceway, one NSCS event from 1953 - 1958 and two races per year since 1959.
- 477 drivers have competed in at least one NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Richmond; 308 in more than one.
- NASCAR Hall of Famer **Richard Petty** leads the series in starts at Richmond with 63. **Jeff Gordon** leads all active drivers with 43 starts.
- **Buck Baker** won the inaugural Coors Light pole at Richmond in 1953 with a speed of 48.465 mph.
- 52 drivers have Coors Light poles at Richmond, led by **Richard Petty** and **Bobby Allison** with eight each. **Jeff Gordon** leads all active drivers with six.
- Seven drivers have won consecutive Coors Light poles at Richmond. **Bobby Allison** holds the record for most consecutive poles at Richmond with five (1972 - 1974).

**Richmond International Raceway Data**

**Season Race #:** 26 of 36 (09-06-14)

**Track Size:** 0.75-miles

**Banking/Turns 1 & 2:** 14 degrees

**Banking/Turns 3 & 4:** 14 degrees

**Banking/Frontstretch:** 8 degrees

**Banking/Backstretch:** 2 degrees

**Frontstretch Length:** 1,290 feet

**Backstretch Length:** 860 feet

**Race Length:** 400 laps / 300 miles

**Top 10 Driver Rating at Richmond**

Denny Hamlin.....	112.5
Kyle Busch .....	111.1
Kevin Harvick .....	109.9
Clint Bowyer .....	98.7
Jeff Gordon .....	98.1
Tony Stewart .....	94.5
Ryan Newman.....	92.0
Kurt Busch.....	90.9
Carl Edwards.....	90.1
Jimmie Johnson .....	88.2

*Note: Driver Ratings compiled from 2005-2014 races (19 total) among active drivers at Richmond International Raceway*

**Qualifying/Race Data**

**2013 pole winner:**

Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet

130.599 mph, 20.674 secs. 09-05-13

**2013 race winner:**

Carl Edwards, Ford

105.028 mph, (02:51:23), 09-07-13

**Track qualifying record:**

Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet

130.599 mph, 20.674 secs. 09-05-13

**Track race record:**

Dale Jarrett, Ford

109.047 mph, (02:45:04), 09-06-97

**6-6-6-6**

**STATISTICAL ADVANCE**

- Youngest Richmond pole winner: **Brian Vickers** (05/15/2004 – 20 years, 6 months, 21 days).
- Oldest Richmond pole winner: **Mark Martin** (04/28/2012 – 53 years, 3 months, 19 days).
- 49 different drivers have won at Richmond International Raceway, led by **Richard Petty** with 13. **Kyle Busch** leads all active drivers with four.
- **Petty Enterprises** has the most wins at Richmond in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series with 15; followed by **Hendrick Motorsports** with 10, **Joe Gibbs Racing** and **Richard Childress Racing** with nine each.
- **Chevrolet** leads the series in wins at Richmond with 36 victories; followed by **Ford** with 30 wins and **Toyota** with seven.
- 22 of the 116 (18.9%) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Richmond International Raceway have been won from the Coors Light pole. Only three active drivers have been able to accomplish the feat: **Kasey Kahne** (2005), **Jimmie Johnson** (2007) and **Kyle Busch** (2010).
- The pole starting position is the most proficient starting position in the field, producing the more winners than any other starting position at Richmond (22).
- 35 of the 116 (30.1%) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Richmond have been won from the front row: 22 from the pole and 13 from second-place.
- 90 of the 116 (77.5%) NASCAR Sprint Cup races at Richmond International Raceway have been won from a top-10 starting position.
- 13 of the 116 (11.2%) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Richmond International Raceway have been won from a starting position outside the top 20.
- The deepest in the field that a race winner has started at Richmond International Raceway was 31st, by **Clint Bowyer** in the spring of 2008.
- Youngest Richmond winner: **Richard Petty** (04/23/1961 – 23 years, 9 months, 21 days).
- Oldest Richmond winner: **Harry Gant** (09/07/1991 – 51 years, 7 months, 28 days).
- **Bobby Allison** and **Richard Petty** are tied for the lead in runner-up finishes at Richmond with nine each. **Jeff Gordon**, tied with **Dale Earnhardt**, leads all active drivers with seven.
- **Richard Petty** leads the series in top-five finishes at Richmond with 34. **Jeff Gordon** leads all active drivers with 17; followed by **Kyle Busch** with 13.
- **Richard Petty** leads the series in top-10 finishes at Richmond with 41. **Jeff Gordon** leads all active drivers with 27; followed by **Tony Stewart** with 19.
- **Jeff Gordon** leads all active drivers in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series in average starting position at Richmond International Raceway with an 8.047.
- **Kyle Busch** leads all active drivers in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series in average finishing position at Richmond International Raceway with a 7.000.
- Two active drivers have a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series average finish in the top 10 at Richmond: **Kyle Busch** (7.0) and **Denny Hamlin** (9.7).

**7-7-7-7**  
**STATISTICAL ADVANCE**

Top 10 Drivers with the Best Regular Season Average Finish During the Chase Era

<b><i>Driver</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Season Average Finish (During Chase Era: 2004-2014)</i></b>
Jimmie Johnson	12.435
Jeff Gordon	13.067
Matt Kenseth	13.168
Tony Stewart	13.556
Carl Edwards	13.624
Kevin Harvick	14.249
Kyle Busch	14.576
Dale Earnhardt Jr	14.779
Denny Hamlin	14.816
Clint Bowyer	15.363

- Four drivers have come from outside the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup cut-off to make the Chase at Richmond in the previous championship format:
  - **Jeremy Mayfield** in 2004 made up a 55-point deficit
  - **Ryan Newman** in 2005 made up a one-point deficit
  - **Kasey Kahne** in 2006 made up a 30-point deficit
  - **Brian Vickers** in 2009 made up a 20-point deficit
- **Brad Keselowski** and **Denny Hamlin** are the two drivers that clinched the Wild Card in 2011 to make the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup. Keselowski was 11th in points with three wins; Hamlin was 12th in points with one win.
- **Kasey Kahne** and **Jeff Gordon** are the two drivers that clinched the Wild Card in 2012 to make the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup. Kahne was 11th in points with two wins; Gordon was 12th in points with one win.
- Due to a rare instance in the final race of the regular season that resulted in penalties being issued; a 13th car (Jeff Gordon's No. 24) was added to the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup.
- There have been two NSCS race resulting with a green-white-checkered finish at Richmond International Raceway: spring of 2008 (400/410) and spring of 2013 (400/406).
- Only four of the 116 races at Richmond International Raceway have been shortened due to weather conditions: spring of 1962, spring of 1977, spring of 1982 and spring of 2003.
- Qualifying has been cancelled due to weather conditions in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at Richmond International Raceway six times; most recently fall of 2008.
- **Brian Vickers** (05/15/2004) posted his first NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Coors Light pole at Richmond.
- **Tony Stewart** (09/11/1999) and **Kasey Kahne** (05/14/2005) posted their first NASCAR Sprint Cup Series wins at Richmond.
- Eight drivers in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series have posted consecutive wins at Richmond International Raceway. **Richard Petty** leads the series in consecutive wins at Richmond after posting seven consecutive wins from the fall of 1970 – 1973. **Jimmie Johnson** (2007 sweep) is the only active driver with consecutive wins at Richmond.

### 8-8-8-8

#### STATISTICAL ADVANCE

- All of the 15 active NASCAR Sprint Cup Series winners at Richmond International Raceway participated in at least one or more races before visiting Victory Lane. **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** and **Tony Stewart** won at Richmond in their second appearance.
- **Joe Nemechek** competed at Richmond International Raceway 18 times before winning in 2003; the longest span of any the 15 active NASCAR Sprint Cup Series winners.
- **Joe Nemechek** (18), **Kevin Harvick** (11) and **Jimmie Johnson** (10) all made 10 or more attempts before their first win at Richmond International Raceway.
- **Greg Biffle** leads the series among active drivers with the most NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts at Richmond without visiting Victory Lane at 24.
- Since the advent of electronic scoring the closest margin of victory in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at Richmond International Raceway was the (09/12/1998) race won by **Jeff Burton** with a MOV of 0.051 second.
- Two female drivers have competed at Richmond in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series:

<i><b>Driver</b></i>	<i><b>Starting Position</b></i>	<i><b>Finishing Position</b></i>	<i><b>Date</b></i>
Danica Patrick	35	34	4/26/2014
Danica Patrick	36	30	9/7/2013
Danica Patrick	30	29	4/27/2013
Janet Guthrie	14	12	9/11/1977
Janet Guthrie	13	12	2/27/1977

- **Danica Patrick** posted her career-best finish (sixth) in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series this past weekend at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

#### NASCAR in Virginia

- There have been 284 NASCAR Sprint Cup races among nine tracks in Virginia.

<i><b>Track Name</b></i>	<i><b>City</b></i>	<i><b>NSCS</b></i>
Martinsville Speedway	Martinsville	131
Richmond International Raceway	Richmond	116
South Boston Speedway	South Boston	10
Langley Field Speedway	Hampton	9
Old Dominion Speedway	Manassas	7
Southside Speedway	Richmond	4
Starkey Speedway	Roanoke	4
Norfolk Speedway	Norfolk	2
Princess Anne Speedway	Norfolk	1

- Martinsville Speedway held the first NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race in Virginia in 1949; Richmond International Raceway was the second track to host the NSCS in 1953.



**9-9-9-9**  
**STATISTICAL ADVANCE**

**NASCAR in Virginia**

- 171 drivers in NASCAR national series history have their home state recorded as Virginia.
- 19 drivers from Virginia have won at least one race in NASCAR's three national series; 11 have won in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series.
- 2015 NASCAR Hall of Fame inductee **Wendell Scott** and 2012 NASCAR Hall of Fame driver/owner **Glen Wood** are the only two drivers from the state of Virginia to be inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

<b>Driver</b>	<b>NSCS</b>	<b>NNS</b>	<b>NCWTS</b>
Joe Weatherly	25	0	0
Denny Hamlin	24	11	2
Ricky Rudd	23	1	0
Jeff Burton	21	27	0
Curtis Turner	17	0	0
Ward Burton	5	4	0
Glen Wood	4	0	0
Elliott Sadler	3	10	1
Emanuel Zervakis	2	0	0
Lennie Pond	1	0	0
Wendell Scott	1	0	0
Tommy Ellis	0	22	0
Jimmy Hensley	0	9	2
Rick Mast	0	9	0
Hermie Sadler	0	2	0
Elton Sawyer	0	2	0
Stacy Compton	0	0	2
Jon Wood	0	0	2
Jeb Burton	0	0	1