



# THE BATTING AVERAGE PARADOX

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# THE BATTING AVERAGE PARADOX

	Batting Average	
Baseball Player	Able	Baker
1 <sup>st</sup> Half Season	.300	.200
2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Season	.500	.475

*Which player has the higher batting average for the season?*

*Could Baker have the higher batting average for the season?*

**YES!**



# THE BATTING AVERAGE PARADOX RESOLVED

Baseball Player	At Bats		Hits		Batting Average	
	Able	Baker	Able	Baker	Able	Baker
1 <sup>st</sup> Half Season	10	10	3	2	.300	.200
2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Season	10	40	5	19	.500	.475
Season	20	50	8	21	.400	.420

*The moral of the story:*

*Don't take averages of ratios.*

*(The batting average is a ratio, the ratio of hits to at-bats.)*

