

Player presentation in support of the  
player's proposed salary in the  
arbitration between:

***Cal Raleigh***  
**v.**  
***Seattle Mariners***

Submitted on behalf of the Player by:

Team 15  
Arizona State University Law  
Cesare DeLuca  
Amir Nawabi  
Jake Johnson

**January 15, 2025**

Service time: 3.085 (1TE)

Player filing: \$6,000,000

Club filing: \$4,500,000

**Midpoint: \$5,250,000**





***Disclaimer:*** *In accordance with arbitration guidelines, all 2020 counting statistics and any relevant career totals have been extrapolated to reflect a full season, using the standard multiplier of 2.7.*

*These adjustments have been applied consistently across all comparable players and are reflected in the tables and analyses presented herein.*

# Salary Arbitration Criteria



## CBA Article VI, Section E (10):

a) The criteria will be the quality of the Player's contribution to his Club during the past season (including but not limited to his overall performance, special qualities of leadership and public appeal), the length and consistency of his career contribution, the record of the Player's past compensation, comparative baseball salaries (see paragraph (11) below for confidential salary data), the existence of any physical or mental defects on the part of the Player, and the recent performance record of the Club including but not limited to its League standing and attendance as an indication of public acceptance (subject to the exclusion stated in subparagraph (b)(i) below). Except as set forth in subsections 10(b) and 10(c) below, any evidence may be submitted which is relevant to the above criteria, and the arbitration panel shall assign such weight to the evidence as shall appear appropriate under the circumstances. The arbitration panel shall, except for a Player with five or more years of Major League service, give particular attention, for comparative salary purposes, to the contracts of Players with Major League service not exceeding one annual service group above the Player's annual service group. This shall not limit the ability of a Player or his representative, because of special accomplishment, to argue the equal relevance of salaries of Players without regard to service, and the arbitration panel shall give whatever weight to such argument as is deemed appropriate.

b) Evidence of the following shall not be admissible:

i. The financial position of the Player and the Club;

ii. Press comments, testimonials or similar material bearing on the performance of either the Player or the Club, except that recognized annual Player awards for playing excellence shall not be excluded;

iii. Offers made by either Player or Club prior to arbitration;

iv. The cost to the parties of their representatives, attorneys, etc.;

v. Salaries in other sports or occupations.

vi. The existence of the Pre-Arbitration Performance Bonus Program described in Article XV(D), including the criteria and any amounts earned pursuant to the Program.

vii. The potential impact of the hearing on the Player's eligibility for termination pay under paragraph (3) above.

c) Admissible Statistics. Only publicly available statistics shall be admissible. For purposes of this provision, publicly available statistics shall include data available through subscription-only websites (e.g., Baseball Prospectus). Statistics and data generated through the use of performance technology, wearable technology, or "STATCAST", whether publicly available or not, shall not be admissible.

# Glossary

	Definition		Definition
<b>rWAR</b>	Wins Above Replacement (Baseball Reference): A comprehensive stat measuring total player value.	<b>PY</b>	Platform Year: The player's most recent season, used as the basis for arbitration.
<b>fWAR</b>	Wins Above Replacement (Fangraphs): A comprehensive stat measuring total player value.	<b>PY-1</b>	One season before the platform year.
<b>G</b>	Games Played.	<b>PY-2</b>	Two seasons before the platform year.
<b>PA</b>	Plate Appearances: Total opportunities to bat, including walks and sacrifices.	<b>PY-3</b>	Three seasons before the platform year.
<b>AB</b>	At-Bats: Official batting opportunities excluding walks, sacrifices, and hit-by-pitches.	<b>1SAE</b>	First-Time Salary Arbitration Eligible: Player's first season eligible for salary arbitration.
<b>R</b>	Runs Scored: Total times the player scored a run.		
<b>H</b>	Hits: Total number of times the player reached base via a hit.	<b>AS</b>	All-Star: Indicates a player was selected to the All-Star Game.
<b>HR</b>	Home Runs: Total number of home runs hit.	<b>MVP</b>	Most Valuable Player: League-wide award; number indicates placement in MVP voting.
<b>RBI</b>	Runs Batted In: Total runs scored as a result of the player's hits, walks, or sacrifices.	<b>GG</b>	Gold Glove: Award for defensive excellence at a specific position.
<b>TB</b>	Total Bases: A weighted total of bases gained via hits (1 for a single, 2 for a double, etc.).	<b>PG</b>	Platinum Glove: Award for the best overall defender in each league.
<b>BA</b>	Batting Average: Hits divided by at-bats.	<b>SS</b>	Silver Slugger: Award for the best offensive player at each position.
<b>OBP</b>	On-Base Percentage: Percentage of plate appearances where the player reached base.	<b>ROY</b>	Rookie of the Year: Award for the top-performing rookie.
<b>SLG</b>	Slugging Percentage: Total bases divided by at-bats, measuring power.		
<b>OPS</b>	On-Base Plus Slugging: Combined metric of OBP and SLG.		
<b>dWAR</b>	Defensive Wins Above Replacement: Value added from a player's defense.		
<b>DRS</b>	Defensive Runs Saved: A measure of runs saved or lost due to defensive performance.		
<b>SB</b>	Stolen Base Attempts: Total attempted steals against the catcher.		
<b>CS</b>	Caught Stealing: Total baserunners caught stealing by a catcher.		
<b>CS%</b>	Caught Stealing Percentage: Percentage of runners caught stealing by a catcher.		

# Cal Raleigh : Player Profile

CAL  
RALEIGH



Major League Service: **3.085 (1TE)**

2023 Salary: **\$795,000**

Position: **Catcher**

Bats: **Both**

Throws: **Right**

## Career Major League Statistics

Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
2021	24	-0.1	47	148	139	6	25	2	13	43	.180	.223	.309	.532	0.0	-1	19	5	20.8
2022	25	4.2	119	415	370	46	78	27	63	181	.211	.284	.489	.774	1.4	14	53	25	32.1
2023	26	4.3	145	569	513	78	119	30	75	234	.232	.306	.456	.762	0.5	2	78	27	25.7
2024	27	5.4	153	628	546	73	120	34	100	238	.220	.312	.436	.748	1.5	17	81	32	28.3
2021-2024		13.9	464	1760	1568	203	342	93	251	696	.218	.296	.444	.740	3.4	32	231	89	26.7

Platform Year

Length and Consistency of  
Career Contributions

Past Compensation

Comparable Salaries

Existence of  
Physical Defects

Team Success

5

# Cal Raleigh : Background

CAL  
RALEIGH



- Drafted by the Seattle Mariners in the 3rd round of the 2018 MLB Draft out of Florida State University, Cal Raleigh debuted in 2021, appearing in 47 games. While his offensive numbers were modest (.180/.223/.309), his defensive skills and exposure to the majors set the stage for his development.
- In 2022, Raleigh emerged as a power threat, hitting 27 home runs in 119 games with a .211/.284/.489 slash line. His season included a walk-off home run to clinch the Mariners' first postseason berth in 21 years, establishing him as a key contributor.
- In 2023, Raleigh solidified his standing as a reliable two-way catcher, delivering 30 home runs, 75 RBIs, and a .232/.306/.456 slash line over 145 games. His consistency at the plate and behind it underscored his importance to the Mariners' success.
- Raleigh's 2024 season was his best yet, winning the MLB Platinum Glove for his elite defense and posting career-highs in home runs (34) and RBIs (100). His 4.7 rWAR and 5.4 fWAR ranked among the top for catchers, highlighting his significant two-way contributions.

# Application Of Salary Arbitration Criteria

CAL  
RALEIGH



## Platform Year

Cal Raleigh's 2024 platform season solidified his reputation as one of MLB's top defensive and offensive catchers. He hit 34 home runs, drove in 100 RBIs, and posted a 5.4 fWAR, all while earning the 2024 MLB Platinum Glove Award for his exceptional defense behind the plate.

## Length and Consistency of Career Contributions

Over his four MLB seasons, Raleigh has established himself as a premier power-hitting catcher with elite defensive abilities. With 93 career home runs, 251 RBIs, and a 13.9 career fWAR, he has been a consistent contributor on both sides of the ball.

## Past Compensation

Raleigh has earned league-minimum salaries throughout his career, which were appropriate for his early developmental years. However, his platform season and overall career achievements now justify a significant salary increase.

## Comparable Salaries

Comparisons to similarly situated first-time arbitration-eligible catchers such as Matt Wieters, Will Smith, and Gary Sánchez demonstrate that Raleigh's combination of power, defense, and leadership warrants a salary closer to the top tier of this market.

## Existence of Physical Defects

The existence of a physical defect is not an issue in this case.

## Team Success

Raleigh's contributions were vital to the Mariners' postseason runs in 2022 and 2023, including his iconic 2022 Wild Card-clinching home run. Despite missing the playoffs in 2024, Raleigh remained a key factor in the team's competitiveness.

Platform Year

Length and Consistency of Career Contributions

Past Compensation

Comparable Salaries

Existence of Physical Defects

Team Success

# 2021 Season

CAL  
RALEIGH



Year	Tm	MLS	IL	G	GS	PA	R	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS	rWAR	fWAR
2021	SEA	0.085	0	47	36	148	6	2	13	.180	.223	.309	.532	-0.5	-0.1

- Raleigh began the 2021 season with Triple-A Tacoma, earning a midseason call-up to the Mariners after showcasing his potential as a power-hitting catcher.
- He made his MLB debut in July 2021, starting 36 of his 47 games and contributing 6 home runs and 13 RBIs.
- Raleigh demonstrated his ability to manage the pitching staff and adjust to the demands of the major leagues, solidifying his role as a future cornerstone player.
- Although the Mariners narrowly missed the playoffs, Raleigh's debut provided valuable experience and set the stage for his growth at the MLB level.

# 2022 Season

CAL  
RALEIGH



Year	Tm	MLS	IL	G	GS	PA	R	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS	rWAR	fWAR
2022	SEA	1.000	0	119	100	415	46	27	63	.211	.284	.489	.774	3.9	4.2

- Raleigh began the 2022 season with the Seattle Mariners, appearing in 119 games and starting 100 as the team's primary catcher.
- He showcased significant power, leading all MLB catchers with 27 home runs, and contributed 63 RBIs, achieving a .774 OPS.
- Defensively, Raleigh continued to develop his skills, effectively managing the Mariners' pitching staff and improving his game-calling abilities.
- The Mariners finished the regular season with a 90–72 record, securing a postseason berth for the first time since 2001. Raleigh's contributions were instrumental in the team's success, including a memorable walk-off home run that clinched their playoff spot.

# 2023 Season

CAL  
RALEIGH



Year	Tm	MLS	IL	G	GS	PA	R	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS	rWAR	fWAR
2023	SEA	1.000	0	145	128	569	78	30	75	.232	.306	.456	.762	3.2	4.3

- Raleigh solidified his role as the Mariners' starting catcher, playing 145 games and starting 128 while managing the Mariners' pitching staff effectively.
- Offensively, he showcased elite power for his position, hitting 30 home runs and driving in 75 RBIs, contributing to a .762 OPS.
- He broke the Mariners' single-season record for extra-base hits by a catcher, recording his 51st on September 20, 2023.
- Despite Raleigh's standout performance, the Mariners narrowly missed the playoffs, finishing just outside postseason contention.

# 2024 Season : Platform Year

CAL  
RALEIGH



Year	Tm	MLS	IL	G	GS	PA	R	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS	rWAR	fWAR
2024	SEA	1.000	0	153	143	628	73	34	100	.220	.312	.436	.748	4.7	5.4

- Played in 153 games, starting 143, and remained a consistent presence behind the plate while contributing offensively with 34 home runs, 100 RBIs, and a .748 OPS.
- Continued to demonstrate his defensive prowess, earning the 2024 MLB Platinum Glove for his elite performance as the league's top defensive player.
- Recorded a career-best 5.4 fWAR, ranking among the league's top catchers, and showcasing his value both offensively and defensively.
- The Mariners made the playoffs for the second time in Raleigh's career, further solidifying his status as a key contributor to the team's success.



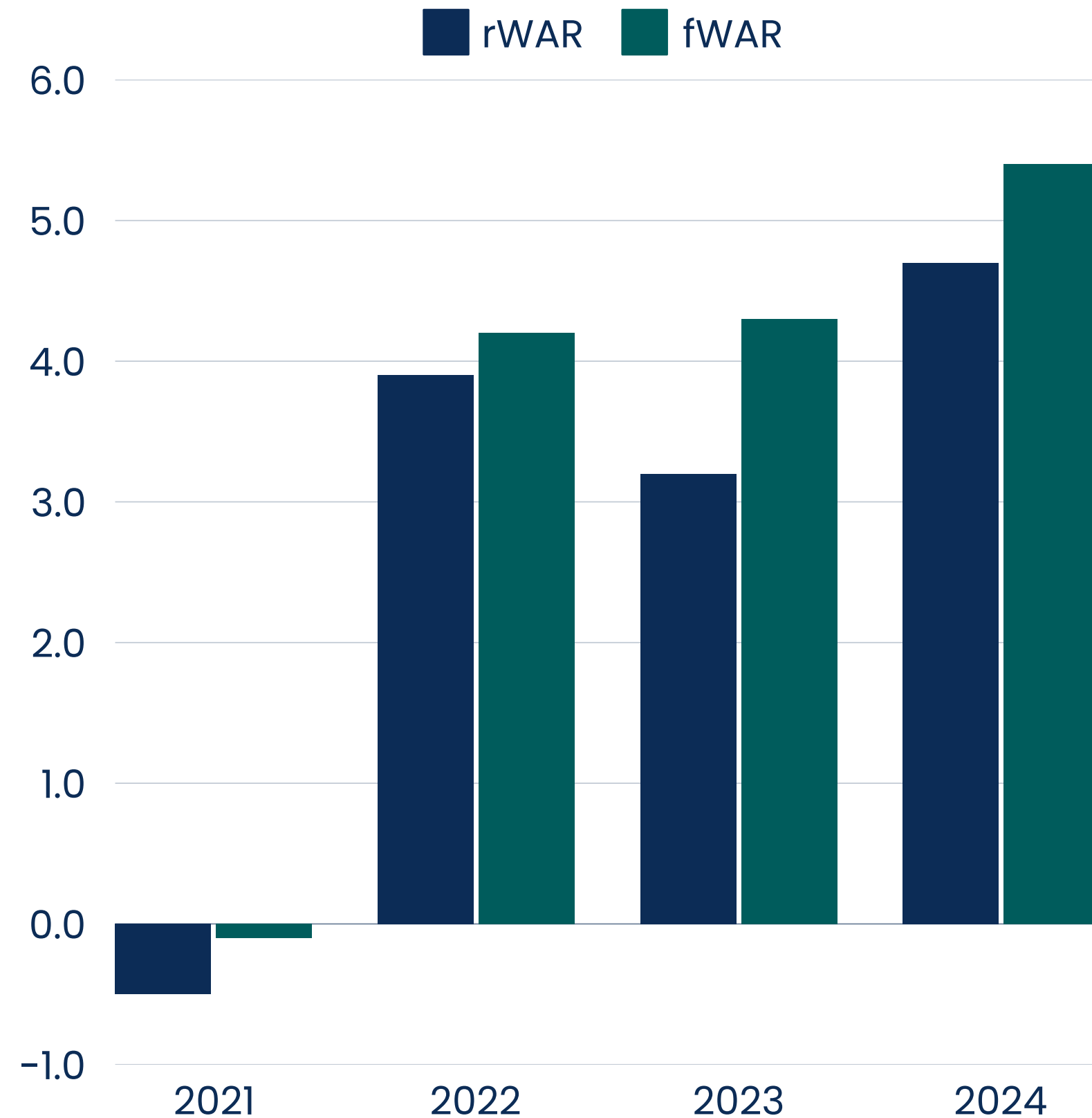
## Length and Consistency of Career Contributions

# Length and Consistency of Career Contributions

CAL  
RALEIGH



Over **four seasons**, Cal Raleigh accumulated 11.3 rWAR and 13.9 fWAR, demonstrating his **consistent** value as a key player for the Mariners.



# Length and Consistency of Career Contributions



Raleigh's career totals—93 home runs, 251 RBIs, and 203 runs—place him among the **most productive catchers** in the league **since his debut**.

MLB Catchers Rank (since 2021)		
4	fWAR	13.9
3	R	203
6	2B	71
1	HR	93
3	RBI	251
3	TB	696

# Length and Consistency of Career Contributions



Since his MLB debut in 2021, Cal Raleigh has been the **Mariners' leader** in home runs (93), RBIs (251), and games played as a catcher.

Seattle Mariners Rank (since 2021)		
2	fWAR	13.9
3	G	464
4	PA	1760
4	R	203
4	2B	71
1	HR	93
1	RBI	251

# Length and Consistency of Career Contributions

CAL  
RALEIGH



Cal Raleigh has exemplified remarkable durability throughout his MLB career, appearing in 464 games over four seasons while spending **0 days on the injured list (IL).**

MLB Catchers Rank (since 2021)		
4	<b>G</b>	464
4	<b>PA</b>	1760
<b>1</b>	<b>IL</b>	0





# Platform Year (2024)

# 2024 Season : MLB Rank

CAL  
RALEIGH



In 2024, Cal Raleigh also **led all MLB catchers\*** in games played (153), plate appearances (628), home runs (34), RBIs (100), total bases (238), and runs created (79).

MLB Catchers Rank (2024)*		
1	G	153
1	PA	628
2	R	73
1	HR	34
1	RBI	100
1	TB	238
1	RC	79

\* at least 80% of Games played at Catcher

# 2024 Season : MLB Rank

CAL  
RALEIGH



In 2024, Raleigh **led all MLB catchers\*** in fWAR (5.4) and runners caught stealing (32).

Raleigh ranked 2nd in dWAR (1.5) and defensive runs saved (17) solidifying his status as one of the **league's most impactful catchers.**

MLB Catchers Rank (2024)*		
1	fWAR	5.4
2	dWAR	1.5
1	CS	32
2	DRS	17

\* at least 80% of Games played at Catcher

# 2024 Season : Awards

CAL  
RALEIGH



Cal Raleigh made history in 2024 as the first player in Mariners history to win the prestigious **Rawlings Platinum Glove Award**, honoring him as the premier defensive player in the American League.

He also earned the AL **Gold Glove** at catcher, recognizing him as the American League's best defensive backstop, and placed **12th in AL MVP voting**.



# 2024 Season : Accolades

CAL  
RALEIGH



Cal Raleigh established himself as the cornerstone catcher for the Mariners in 2024, becoming the **first catcher in Mariners history** to lead the team in home runs (34), RBIs (100), and games played during a single season.

His remarkable season earned him recognition as the **Mariners' Most Valuable Player** by the BBWAA's Seattle Chapter and a spot as an **AL Silver Slugger Award finalist**, solidifying his status among the league's elite.

# Past Compensation



	Year	Age	Service Time	Salary
PRE- ARBITRATION	2021	24	0.085	\$570,500
	2022	25	1.085	\$702,900
	2023	26	2.085	\$758,300
	2024	27	3.085	\$795,000

**Cal Raleigh's pre-arbitration salaries—\$570,500 in 2021, \$702,900 in 2022, \$758,300 in 2023, and \$795,000 in 2024—slightly exceeded MLB minimums**



# Comparable Players

Platform Year

Length and Consistency of  
Career Contributions

Past Compensation

Comparable Salaries

Existence of  
Physical Defects

Team Success

# 1 SAE Market : Entirety

CAL RALEIGH



Buster Posey  
2013  
\$8,000,000



Willson Contreras  
2020  
\$4,500,000



Will Smith  
2023  
\$5,250,000



Seattle Mariners  
\$4,500,000  
(Club Filing)



Matt Wieters  
2013  
\$5,500,000



Jonah Heim  
2024  
\$3,050,000



Gary Sánchez  
2020  
\$5,000,000



Cal Raleigh  
2025  
\$6,000,000 (Player Filing)



\$2,500,000

CLUB FILING  
\$4,500,000

MIDPOINT  
\$5,250,000

PLAYER FILING  
\$6,000,000

\$8,000,000

Platform Year

Length and Consistency of  
Career Contributions

Past Compensation

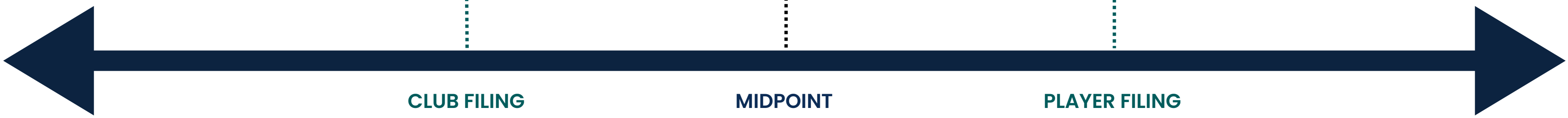
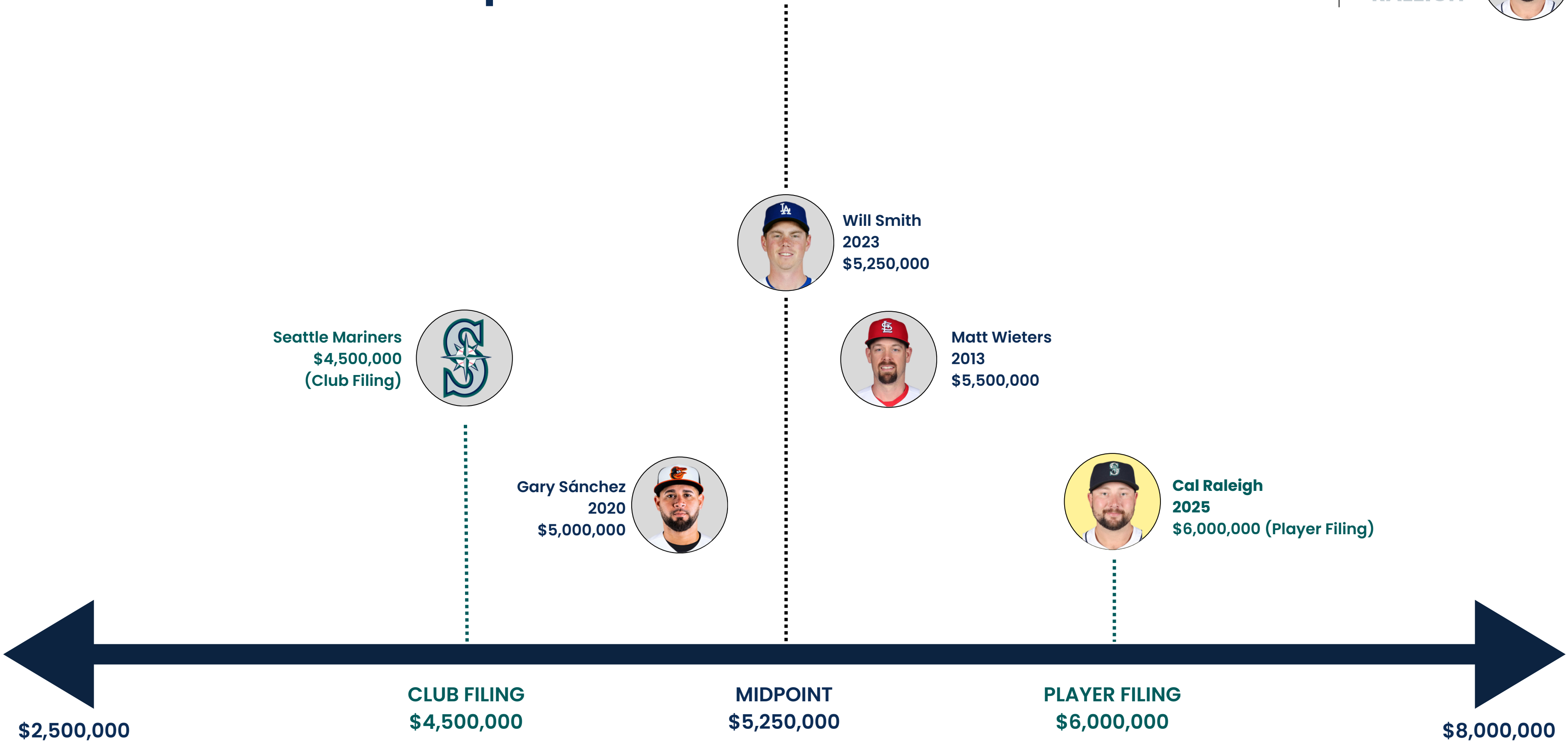
Comparable Salaries

Existence of  
Physical Defects

Team Success

# 1 SAE Market : Comparables

CAL  
RALEIGH



# 1 SAE Market : Comparables



**Gary Sánchez**

1 SAE Salary (2020)  
\$5,000,000



**Will Smith**

1 SAE Salary (2023)  
\$5,250,000

# Raleigh v. Sánchez : Introduction



GARY  
SÁNCHEZ

CAL  
RALEIGH



Gary Sánchez earned \$5M in 2020 as a 1 SAE, but Raleigh outperformed him in his platform year with a 5.4 fWAR compared to Sánchez's 2.1 fWAR, while also hitting the same number of home runs (34) but providing vastly superior defense (17 DRS vs. -2 DRS).

Over four seasons, Raleigh's 93 HR and +32 DRS make him a **more complete and consistent** player than Sánchez, who relied primarily on offense and provided less overall value.

## Cal Raleigh (2025)

1 SAE Player File  
\$6,000,000

1 SAE Midpoint  
\$5,250,000

1 SAE Club File  
\$4,500,000



## Gary Sánchez (2020)

1 SAE Salary  
\$5,000,000

\$1,000,000 below  
Player File

\$250,000 below  
Midpoint

# Raleigh v. Sánchez : Career Summary



GARY  
SÁNCHEZ



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2021-2024	13.9	464	1760	1568	203	342	93	251	696	.218	.296	.444	.740	3.4	32	231	89	26.7
Gary Sanchez	2015-2019	10.2	372	1576	1393	226	343	105	262	721	.246	.328	.518	.846	2.0	5	120	59	33.1

Over four seasons, Sánchez accumulated a 10.2 fWAR while Raleigh **surpassed** him with a 13.9 fWAR. Raleigh’s elite defense (32 DRS vs. 5 DRS) and comparable power (93 HR vs. 105 HR) make him a **more valuable player overall**.

Raleigh’s ability to consistently impact games on both sides of the ball justifies a higher salary than Sánchez’s \$5M.

# Raleigh v. Sánchez : Platform Year



GARY  
SÁNCHEZ

CAL  
RALEIGH



Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2024	27	5.4	153	628	546	73	120	34	100	238	.220	.312	.436	.748	1.5	17	81	32	28.3
Gary Sanchez	2019	26	2.1	106	446	396	62	92	34	77	208	.232	.316	.525	.841	0.7	-2	36	11	23.4

In their platform years, Raleigh’s overall value (5.4 fWAR, 34 HR, 100 RBI, 17 DRS) outshined Sánchez’s strong offensive numbers (2.1 fWAR, 34 HR, 77 RBI, -2 DRS).

Raleigh’s **superior defensive ability and all-around contributions** highlight his worth as a \$6M player compared to Sánchez’s \$5M.

# Raleigh v. Sánchez : PY-1



GARY  
SÁNCHEZ



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2023	26	4.3	145	569	513	78	119	30	75	234	.232	.306	.456	.762	0.5	2	78	27	25.7
Gary Sanchez	2018	25	1.0	89	374	323	51	60	18	53	131	.186	.291	.406	.697	0.3	4	28	12	30.0

Raleigh was **vastly superior** to Sánchez in their respective PY-1 seasons, with 30 HR, 75 RBI, and a 4.3 fWAR compared to Sánchez's 18 HR, 53 RBI, and 1.0 fWAR.

Additionally, Raleigh's defensive contributions (2 DRS) far exceeded Sánchez, who struggled both offensively (.186 BA) and defensively (-4 DRS).

# Raleigh v. Sánchez : PY-2



GARY  
SÁNCHEZ



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2022	25	4.2	119	415	370	46	78	27	63	181	.211	.284	.489	.774	1.4	14	53	25	32.1
Gary Sanchez	2017	24	4.1	122	525	471	79	131	33	90	250	.278	.345	.531	.876	0.5	0	37	23	38.3

Sánchez’s PY-2 season showcased his elite offensive ability with 33 HR, 90 RBI, and an .876 OPS, but Raleigh was **more well-rounded**, producing 27 HR, 63 RBI, and a 4.2 fWAR while adding 14 DRS compared to Sánchez’s 0 DRS.

Raleigh’s value as a two-way player makes him the more complete and impactful catcher.

# Raleigh v. Sánchez : PY-3



GARY  
SÁNCHEZ



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2021	24	-0.1	47	148	139	6	25	2	13	43	.180	.223	.309	.532	0.0	-1	19	5	20.8
Gary Sanchez	2016	23	3.0	53	229	201	34	60	20	42	132	.299	.376	.657	1.032	0.5	3	19	13	40.6

Gary Sánchez was far more productive in his PY-3 season, with 20 HR, a 1.032 OPS, and a 3.0 fWAR compared to Raleigh’s 2 HR, .532 OPS, and -0.1 fWAR.

However, **Raleigh’s defensive tools** (CS% and framing) began developing, setting the foundation for his eventual defensive dominance, which Sánchez never matched.

# Raleigh v. Smith : Introduction



WILL SMITH



CAL RALEIGH

Will Smith earned \$5.25M in 2023 as a 1 SAE, but Raleigh outperformed him in his platform year with a 5.4 fWAR compared to Smith's 4.3, along with more power (34 HR vs. 24 HR) and better defense (17 DRS vs. 7 DRS).

Over four seasons, Raleigh's 93 HR and +32 DRS make him a **more complete player** than Smith, whose strength lay in contact ability but offered less defensive impact.

## Cal Raleigh (2025)

1 SAE Player File  
\$6,000,000

1 SAE Midpoint  
\$5,250,000

1 SAE Club File  
\$4,500,000



## Will Smith (2023)

1 SAE Salary  
\$5,250,000

\$750,000 below  
Player File

\$0 below  
Midpoint

# Raleigh v. Smith : Career Summary



WILL SMITH



CAL RALEIGH

Player	Season	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2021-2024	13.9	464	1760	1568	203	342	93	251	696	.218	.296	.444	.740	3.4	32	231	89	26.7
Will Smith	2019-2022	13.8	421	1645	1400	231	371	86	273	716	.261	.356	.501	.856	2.2	11	184	54	22.2

Over four seasons, Raleigh accumulated a higher fWAR (13.8 vs. 13.9) while also excelling in power (93 HR vs. 86 HR) and defense (32 DRS vs. 11 DRS).

Raleigh's ability to **dominate defensively** while contributing offensively warrants a higher salary than Smith's \$5.25M.

# Raleigh v. Smith : Platform Year



WILL SMITH



CAL RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	F	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2024	27	5.4	153	628	546	73	120	34	100	238	.220	.312	.436	.748	1.5	17	81	32	28.3
Will Smith	2022	27	4.3	137	578	508	68	132	24	87	236	.260	.343	.465	.807	1.2	7	46	10	17.9

Raleigh **outperformed** Smith in his platform year, with 34 HR, 100 RBI, and 17 DRS compared to Smith’s 24 HR, 87 RBI, and 7 DRS.

While Smith had better contact metrics (.260 BA, .807 OPS vs. .220 BA, .748 OPS), Raleigh’s elite defense and fWAR (5.4 vs. 4.3) highlight his **all-around value**.

# Raleigh v. Smith : PY-1



WILL SMITH



CAL RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2023	26	4.3	145	569	513	78	119	30	75	234	.232	.306	.456	.762	0.5	2	78	27	25.7
Will Smith	2021	26	4.6	130	501	414	71	107	25	76	205	.258	.365	.495	.860	0.3	5	72	24	25.0

Smith narrowly edged Raleigh in fWAR (4.6 vs. 4.3) and had better contact metrics (.258 BA, .860 OPS vs. .232 BA, .762 OPS), but Raleigh surpassed him in power (30 HR vs. 25 HR) and defensive value (0.5 dWAR vs. 0.3 dWAR).

Raleigh's ability to combine offense and defense makes him a **more impactful player overall.**

# Raleigh v. Smith : PY-2



WILL SMITH



CAL RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2022	25	4.2	119	415	370	46	78	27	63	181	.211	.284	.489	.774	1.4	14	53	25	32.1
Will Smith	2020	25	3.0	100	370	308	62	89	22	68	178	.289	.401	.579	.980	0.3	-5	46	14	22.7

In PY-2 seasons, Raleigh edged Smith in fWAR (3.0 for Smith, 4.2 for Raleigh), while showcasing more power with 27 HR compared to Smith’s 22 HR and also demonstrated far superior defense (14 DRS vs. -5 DRS).

Raleigh’s **two-way contributions** make him **more valuable** than Smith’s offensive-heavy profile in PY-2.

# Raleigh v. Smith : PY-3



WILL SMITH



CAL RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2021	24	-0.1	47	148	139	6	25	2	13	43	.180	.223	.309	.532	0.0	-1	19	5	20.8
Will Smith	2019	24	1.9	54	196	170	30	43	15	42	97	.253	.337	.571	.907	0.4	4	20	6	23.1

Will Smith significantly outperformed Raleigh in PY-3, with 15 HR, 42 RBI, and a .907 OPS compared to Raleigh's 2 HR, 13 RBI, and .532 OPS.

While Smith's 1.9 fWAR exceeded Raleigh's -0.1 fWAR, Raleigh's limited playing time and defensive development trajectory make this **an outlier season** in his career.

# 1 SAE Market : Closest Comparable

CAL  
RALEIGH



**Matt Wieters**

1 SAE Salary (2013)  
\$5,500,000

Using the **Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI Inflation Calculator**, the \$5.5 million salary that Matt Wieters received in 2013 is **equivalent to \$7.474 million in 2025.**

This adjustment accounts for inflation and ensures the comparison is made using today's market conditions.

# Raleigh v. Wieters : Introduction



MATT  
WIETERS



CAL  
RALEIGH

Matt Wieters earned \$5.5M in 2013 as a 1 SAE, and while his platform year fWAR (4.1) was strong, Raleigh exceeded him with a 5.4 fWAR in his platform year, as well as more power (34 HR vs. 23 HR) and superior defense (17 DRS vs. 13 DRS).

Although Wieters had slightly better contact metrics (BA, OBP), **Raleigh's combination of elite power and defense** demonstrates his value at a level warranting a higher salary.

## Cal Raleigh (2025)

1 SAE Player File  
\$6,000,000

1 SAE Midpoint  
\$5,250,000

1 SAE Club File  
\$4,500,000



## Matt Wieters (2013)

1 SAE Salary  
\$5,500,000

\$500,000 below  
Player File

\$250,000 above  
Midpoint



# Raleigh v. Wieters : Career Summary



MATT  
WIETERS



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2021-2024	13.9	464	1760	1568	203	342	93	251	696	.218	.296	.444	.740	3.4	32	231	89	26.7
Matt Wieters	2009-2012	12.5	509	2031	1826	211	475	65	249	768	.260	.328	.421	.749	7.2	53	227	111	32.8

Over their first four seasons, Raleigh accumulated slightly more fWAR (13.9 vs. 12.5). Raleigh's offensive contributions, highlighted by 93 HR and 251 RBI compared to Wieters' 65 HR and 249 RBI, stand out even more given Raleigh had 271 fewer plate appearances.

This **offensive dominance** helps offset Wieters' elite defense (53 DRS compared to Raleigh's 32 DRS). Raleigh's ability to contribute both offensively and defensively warrants a higher salary than Wieters' \$5.5M.

# Raleigh v. Wieters : Platform Year



MATT  
WIETERS



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2024	27	5.4	153	628	546	73	120	34	100	238	.220	.312	.436	.748	1.5	17	81	32	28.3
Matt Wieters	2012	26	4.1	144	593	526	67	131	23	83	229	.249	.329	.435	.764	1.9	13	51	32	38.6

In their platform years, Raleigh **outperformed** Wieters in fWAR (5.4 vs. 4.1), power (34 HR vs. 23 HR), and RBI (100 vs. 83), showcasing his ability to dominate offensively while also excelling defensively with 17 DRS.

Although Wieters had better contact metrics (BA: .249 vs. .220, OBP: .329 vs. .312), Raleigh's **elite combination of power and defense** justifies his higher value.

# Raleigh v. Wieters : PY-1



MATT  
WIETERS



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2023	26	4.3	145	569	513	78	119	30	75	234	.232	.306	.456	.762	0.5	2	78	27	25.7
Matt Wieters	2011	25	5.0	139	551	500	72	131	22	68	225	.262	.328	.450	.778	3.0	22	58	34	37.0

Wieters was defensively dominant in his PY-1 season with 3.0 dWAR and 22 DRS, but Raleigh **exceeded him offensively** with 30 HR and 75 RBI compared to Wieters' 22 HR and 68 RBI.

While Wieters had a slightly higher fWAR (5.0 vs. 4.3), Raleigh's elite power in this season sets him apart as a difference-maker at the plate.

# Raleigh v. Wieters : PY-2



MATT  
WIETERS



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2022	25	4.2	119	415	370	46	78	27	63	181	.211	.284	.489	.774	1.4	14	53	25	32.1
Matt Wieters	2010	24	2.7	130	502	446	37	111	11	55	168	.249	.319	.377	.695	1.6	15	53	24	31.2

Wieters' PY-2 season showcased strong defense (1.6 dWAR, 15 DRS), but Raleigh **matched** him defensively with 1.4 dWAR and 14 DRS while excelling in power with 27 HR compared to Wieters' 11 HR.

Raleigh also **accumulated a higher fWAR** (4.2 vs. 2.7), demonstrating his growing impact as an elite power hitter and defensive asset.

# Raleigh v. Wieters : PY-3



MATT  
WIETERS



CAL  
RALEIGH

Player	Season	Age	fWAR	G	PA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS	dWAR	DRS	SB	CS	CS%
Cal Raleigh	2021	24	-0.1	47	148	139	6	25	2	13	43	.180	.223	.309	.532	0.0	-1	19	5	20.8
Matt Wieters	2009	23	0.7	96	385	354	35	102	9	43	146	.288	.340	.412	.753	0.7	3	65	21	24.4

Matt Wieters was more productive in his PY-3 season, with a 0.7 fWAR compared to Raleigh's -0.1 fWAR, and significantly outperformed offensively with a .753 OPS and 9 HR compared to Raleigh's .532 OPS and 2 HR.

However, Raleigh's struggles came in **limited playing time**, and his development trajectory ultimately surpassed Wieters in later years, particularly in power and defense.

# 1 SAE Market : Closest Comparable

CAL  
RALEIGH



**Matt Wieters**

Cal Raleigh's platform season and career performance **surpass** Matt Wieters.

Adjusted for inflation, Wieters' \$5.5M salary in 2013 equates to **\$7.474M today**.

Raleigh's \$6.0M filing reflects his superior contributions and is a **reasonable adjustment** based on current market conditions, warranting a salary well above the \$5.25M midpoint.

# 1 SAE Market : Comparables

CAL  
RALEIGH



**Gary Sanchez**  
2020  
\$5,000,000



**Will Smith**  
2023  
\$5,250,000



**Matt Wieters**  
2013  
\$5,500,000



**Cal Raleigh**  
2025  
\$6,000,000 (Player Filing)

Cal Raleigh's \$6M request as a 1 SAE is well-supported compared to Matt Wieters, Gary Sánchez, and Will Smith. Raleigh's 13.9 career fWAR through four seasons **surpasses** Wieters (12.5), Sánchez (10.2), and Smith (13.8), and his 5.4 platform-season fWAR is also the **highest of the group**. With 34 home runs in his platform year, 93 career home runs, and +32 DRS (+17 in his platform year), Raleigh's elite power and defense make him a standout at a premium position.

His exceptional contributions justify a **salary exceeding the \$5M–\$5.5M** range earned by these comparables, making \$6M a reasonable request.