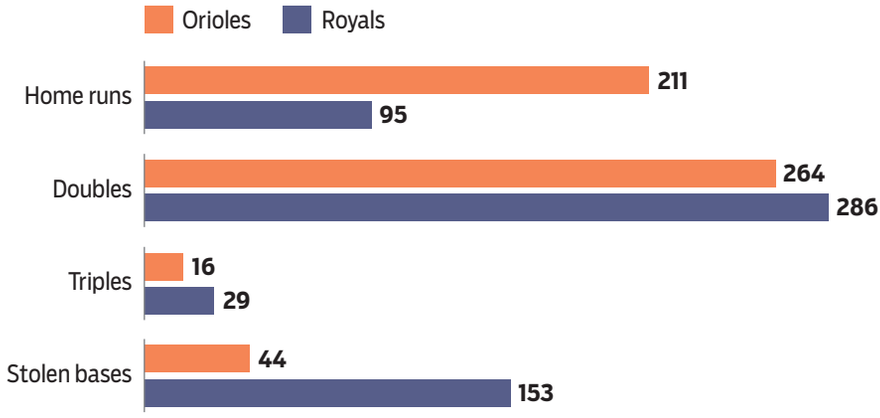
Power vs. speed

The Orioles have a clear edge in the power category, ranking first in the majors with 211 home runs during the regular season while the Royals ranked last with 95. In situations in which speed is a factor, the Royals have the advantage, outpacing the Orioles in doubles, triples and stolen bases.

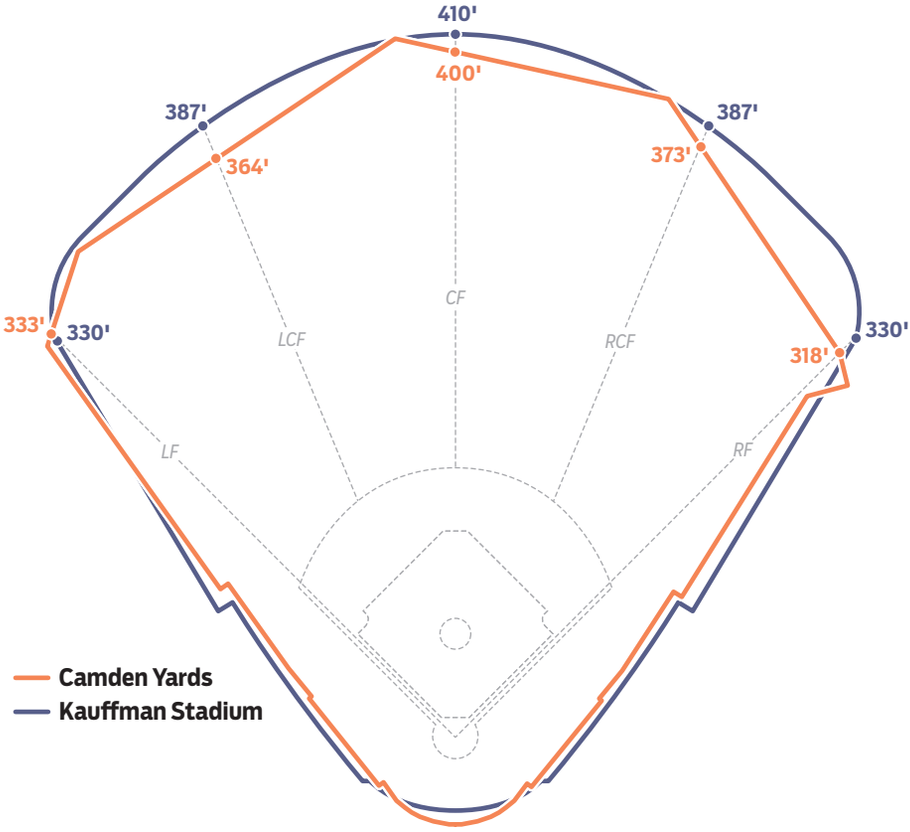


The ballparks

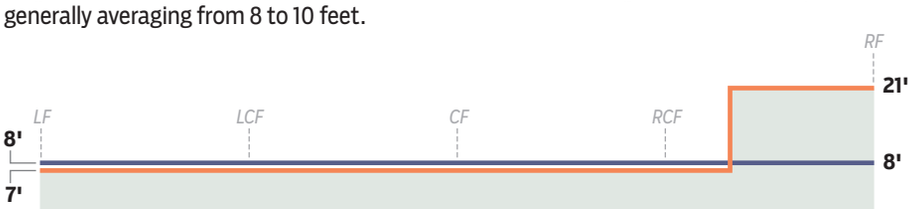
With an average outfield depth of about 358 feet, Camden Yards has long been considered to favor hitters. During the regular season, 175 home runs left the ballpark, second most in the AL and third most in the MLB. Inversely, Kauffman Stadium, with an average depth of about 389 feet, ranked last in the AL and 29th in MLB for homers, making it pitcher-friendly.

Home runs by ballpark, 2014 regular season

The short right-field porch and shallow power alleys at Camden Yards provide opportunities for home run hitters. Balls hit to right field can sail over the 21-foot-high wall or bounce off for an extra-base hit. Likewise, balls hit into the alleys that might otherwise be caught in deeper parks such as Kauffman Stadium routinely fly over the fences for a home run.



With the exception of the 21-foot-high right-field wall, which is only 318 feet from home plate down the line, the height of the outfield wall at Camden Yards is just 7 feet. The wall height at Kauffman Stadium is a consistant 8 feet, with the height for all MLB ballparks generally averaging from 8 to 10 feet.



Outfield wall height *(exaggerated for clarity)*

Sources: MLB, Baseball-Reference.com

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