

MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES OFFICIAL RACE REPORT No. 31



49TH ANNUAL ALABAMA 500
TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY
Talladega, AL - October 15, 2017
2.66-Mile Paved Tri-Oval
188 Laps - 500.1 Miles



TIME OF RACE: 3 hours, 47 minutes, 52 seconds

AVERAGE SPEED: 131.677 mph

MARGIN OF VICTORY: 0.21 second(s)

Fin Pos	Str Pos	Car No	Driver	Team	Laps	Stg 1 Pos	Stg 2 Pos	Pts	Status	Lead Tms	Playoff Laps	Playoff Pts
1	6	2	Brad Keselowski	Miller Lite Ford	188	1	2	59	Running	3	7	6
2	27	31	Ryan Newman	Caterpillar Chevrolet	188			35	Running	2	3	
3	10	6	Trevor Bayne	Liberty National Ford	188	9		36	Running			
4	3	22	Joey Logano	Shell Pennzoil Ford	188	2		42	Running	3	59	
5	26	43	Aric Almirola	Smithfield Ford	188			32	Running			
6	15	11	Denny Hamlin	FedEx Ground Toyota	188		10	32	Running	2	4	
7	1	88	Dale Earnhardt Jr	Mountain Dew Chevrolet	188			30	Running	1	7	
8	11	5	Kasey Kahne	Farmers Insurance Chevrolet	188	10		30	Running	2	5	
9	39	83	Gray Gaulding #	Dustless Blasting Toyota	188			28	Running			
10	33	38	David Ragan	Juice Batteries Ford	188			27	Running			
11	25	13	Ty Dillon #	GEICO Chevrolet	188			26	Running			
12	20	27	Paul Menard	Knaut/Menards Chevrolet	188			25	Running			
13	12	42	Kyle Larson	First Data Chevrolet	187			24	Running			
14	19	20	Matt Kenseth	DEWALT FLEXVOLT Toyota	187			23	Running	3	7	
15	14	19	Daniel Suarez #	Camping World Toyota	184			22	Accident	2	11	
16	2	24	Chase Elliott	NAPA Chevrolet	182		4	28	Accident	3	26	
17	28	37	Chris Buescher	Bush's Chili Beans Chevrolet	182			20	Accident			
18	9	21	Ryan Blaney	Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center Ford	177	3	1	37	Accident	2	27	1
19	35	75	Brendan Gaughan (i)	Beard Oil Distributing Chevrolet	177			0	Accident	2	6	
20	22	4	Kevin Harvick	Busch Light Outdoors Ford	176		8	20	Accident			
21	13	10	Danica Patrick	Aspen Dental Ford	175			16	Accident			
22	24	47	AJ Allmendinger	Kroger ClickList Chevrolet	172			15	Accident	1	1	
23	21	78	Martin Truex Jr	Bass Pro Shops/Tracker Boats Toyota	171			14	Accident			
24	8	48	Jimmie Johnson	Lowe's Chevrolet	171	5	7	23	Parked			
25	4	41	Kurt Busch	Monster Energy/Haas Automation Ford	171	8	5	21	Accident	1	3	
26	5	17	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	SunnyD Ford	171	4		18	Accident	1	6	
27	16	18	Kyle Busch	M&M's Caramel Toyota	171		9	12	Accident	1	4	
28	30	34	Landon Cassill	Love's Travel Stops/CSX Play It Safe Ford	171			9	Accident			
29	18	3	Austin Dillon	American Ethanol Chevrolet	171		6	13	Accident			
30	29	95	Michael McDowell	K-Love Radio Chevrolet	171	7		11	Accident			
31	32	32	Matt DiBenedetto	Can-Am/Kappa Ford	171			6	Parked	1	12	
32	37	23	Joey Gase (i)	Dr Pepper Toyota	164			0	Accident			
33	40	55	D.J. Kennington	Dirt and Rock Toyota	164			4	Accident			
34	38	72	Cole Whitt	RTIC Chevrolet	155			3	Accident			
35	7	14	Clint Bowyer	Haas Automation Ford	155	6	3	15	Accident			
36	23	77	Erik Jones #	5-hour ENERGY Extra Strength Toyota	26			1	Accident			
37	17	1	Jamie McMurray	Cessna Chevrolet	25			1	Accident			
38	34	33	Jeffrey Earnhardt	Hulu Chevrolet	25			1	Accident			
39	36	15	Mark Thompson (i)	Phoenix Air Chevrolet	25			0	Accident			
40	31	7	Justin Marks (i)	Golden Corral/Katerra Chevrolet	16			0	Accident			

Sunoco Rookie of the Year Contender.
(i) = Ineligible for driver points in this series

Stage 1 Top 10: 2, 22, 21, 17, 48, 14, 95, 41, 6, 5
Stage 2 Top 10: 21, 2, 14, 24, 41, 3, 48, 4, 18, 11

Race Comments: Brad Keselowski (P) won the 49th Annual Alabama 500, his 24th victory in 300 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series races. Prior to the start of the race, the following cars dropped to the rear of the field for the reason indicated: No. 4, 41, 15 and 55 (unapproved adjustments).

Failed to Qualify: n/a

Caution Flags: 11 cautions for 47 laps. [Beneficiary in Brackets] 27-36 (1, 15, 18, 33 And 77 Incident On Frontstretch [None]); 52-54 (27 Incident In Turn 3 [None]); 57-61 (Stage 1 Conclusion [None]); 82-87 (Debris On The Backstretch [83]); 112-115 (Stage 2 Conclusion [55]); 153-155 (6, 19, 41 And 88 Incident In Turn 3 [None]); 157-159 (14, 43, 47, 72, 83 And 95 Incident In Turn 1 [None]); 166-170 (23, 55 And 83 Incident In Turn 2 [83]); 173-176 (3, 4, 10, 13, 17, 18, 20, 32, 34, 38, 41, 48, 75, 78, 88 And 95 Incident In Turn 3 [Red Flag: Lap 173, 12:31] [5]); 179-180 (4, 6, 21, 22 And 75 Incident In Turn 3 [Red Flag: Lap 179, 5:45] [None]); 184-185 (5, 19, 24, 37, 42 And 88 Incident In Turn 3. [Red Flag: Lap 184, 17:14] [20]).

Lead Changes: 30 lead changes among 16 drivers. Earnhardt Jr-pole, Logano 1-13, Earnhardt Jr 14-20, Elliott 21-25, Kenseth 26-29, Allmendinger 30, Logano 31-54, Keselowski 55-57, Kahne 58-61, Kenseth 62-63, Hamlin 64-66, Kenseth 67, Kahne 68, Gaughan 69-70, DiBenedetto 71-82, Stenhouse Jr 83-88, Ku. Busch 89-91, Blaney 92-111, Newman 112, Gaughan 113-116, Hamlin 117, Blaney 118-124, Elliott 125-144, Ky. Busch 145-148, Logano 149-170, Suarez 171-176, Elliott 177, Suarez 178-182, Keselowski 183-185, Newman 186-187, Keselowski 188.

COORS LIGHT POLE AWARD: Dale Earnhardt Jr (190.544 mph. 50.256 secs.)
AMERICAN ETHANOL GREEN FLAG RESTART AWARD: Gray Gaulding
INGERSOLL RAND POWER MOVE: Ryan Newman (26 positions)
MAHLE CLEVITE ENGINE BUILDER OF THE RACE: Roush-Yates Engines (#22)
MOBIL 1 DRIVER OF THE RACE: Aric Almirola

MOOG GO THE EXTRA MILE AWARD: Kasey Kahne (crew chief Darian Grubb, 0.110 seconds)
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS FASTEST LAP AWARD: Paul Menard (lap 101 & 199.725 mph)
SUNOCO ROOKIE OF THE RACE: Gray Gaulding

MANUFACTURERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	Pts	Wins
Toyota	1,097	(12)
Chevrolet	1,090	(10)
Ford	1,081	(9)

AMERICAN ETHANOL GREEN FLAG RESTART AWARD

	(#)	7
Martin Truex Jr	(#78)	7
Kyle Larson	(#42)	7
Kyle Busch	(#18)	7

INGERSOLL RAND POWER MOVE

	(#)	63
Ryan Newman	(#31)	63
Daniel Suarez	(#19)	40
Kasey Kahne	(#5)	31

MAHLE CLEVITE ENGINE BUILDER

	(#)	350
TRD	(#18)	350
Hendrick	(#42)	315
Roush/Yates	(#4)	270

MOBIL 1 DRIVER OF THE RACE

	(#)	10
Kyle Larson	(#42)	10
Kyle Busch	(#18)	6
Kevin Harvick	(#4)	5

MOOG GO THE EXTRA MILE AWARD

	(#)	4
Tony Gibson	(#41)	4
Jason Ratcliff	(#20)	3
Matt McCall	(#1)	3

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS FASTEST LAP AWARD

	(#)	11
Kyle Busch	(#18)	11
Kyle Larson	(#42)	9
Matt Kenseth	(#20)	3

COORS LIGHT POLE AWARD

	8
Kyle Busch	8
Kyle Larson	3
Martin Truex Jr	2
Brad Keselowski	2
Matt Kenseth	2
Dale Earnhardt Jr	2
Denny Hamlin	1
Chase Elliott	1
Ryan Blaney	1
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1
Joey Logano	1
Erik Jones #	1

SUNOCO ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

	256
Erik Jones	256
Daniel Suarez	250
Ty Dillon	185
Corey Lajoie	156
Gray Gaulding	148

NEXT EVENT: October 22, 2017 - 17th Annual Hollywood Casino 400, Kansas Speedway, Kansas City, KS (400.5 Miles) (267 Laps)

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MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES DRIVER LEADERS

Race #31: 49TH ANNUAL ALABAMA "500" Race Date: 10/15/2017

Rank	DRIVER	Points	Behind Leader	Race Wins	Stage Wins	Playoff Points
1	MARTIN TRUEx JR.	3120	0	6	19	64
2	BRAD KESELOWSKI	3101	19	3	6	26
3	KYLE LARSON	3096	24	4	4	34
4	KEVIN HARVICK	3089	31	1	5	17
5	DENNY HAMLIN	3088	32	2	2	13
6	CHASE ELLIOTT	3087	33	0	3	6
7	RYAN BLANEY	3076	44	1	4	9
8	JIMMIE JOHNSON	3074	46	3	1	17
9	KYLE BUSCH	3067	53	4	13	41
10	MATT KENSETH	3066	54	0	3	5
11	RICKY STENHOUSE JR.	3052	68	2	0	10
12	JAMIE McMURRAY	3045	75	0	0	3
13	KASEY KAHNE	2104	1016	1	0	0
14	RYAN NEWMAN	2103	1017	1	0	0
15	AUSTIN DILLON	2099	1021	1	0	0
16	KURT BUSCH	2089	1031	1	0	0
17	JOEY LOGANO	794	2326	1	1	0
18	CLINT BOWYER	775	2345	0	1	0
19	ERIK JONES	749	2371	0	0	0
20	DANIEL SUAREZ	708	2412	0	1	0
21	TREVOR BAYNE	584	2536	0	0	0
22	DALE EARNHARDT JR.	571	2549	0	0	0
23	PAUL MENARD	532	2588	0	0	0
24	TY DILLON	515	2605	0	0	0
25	CHRIS BUESCHER	484	2636	0	0	0
26	A J ALLMENDINGER	467	2653	0	0	0
27	MICHAEL MCDOWELL	461	2659	0	0	0
28	DANICA PATRICK	457	2663	0	0	0
29	DAVID RAGAN	387	2733	0	0	0
30	ARIC ALMIROLA	386	2734	0	0	0
31	MATT DIBENEDETTO	318	2802	0	0	0
32	LONDON CASSILL	316	2804	0	0	0
33	COLE WHITT	279	2841	0	0	0
34	COREY LAJOIE	202	2918	0	0	0
35	GRAY GAULDING	148	2972	0	0	0
36	REED SORENSON	125	2995	0	0	0
37	JEFFREY EARNHARDT	116	3004	0	0	0
38	DERRIKE COPE	36	3084	0	0	0
39	MICHAEL WALTRIP	29	3091	0	0	0
40	BILLY JOHNSON	15	3105	0	0	0
41	BORIS SAID	15	3105	0	0	0
42	GARY KLUTT	6	3114	0	0	0
43	D J KENNINGTON	6	3114	0	0	0
44	CODY WARE	6	3114	0	0	0
45	ALON DAY	5	3115	0	0	0
46	STEPHEN LEICHT	5	3115	0	0	0
47	KEVIN O'CONNELL	4	3116	0	0	0
48	TOMMY REGAN	3	3117	0	0	0
49	BRENDAN GAUGHAN(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
50	DARRELL WALLACE JR.(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
51	TIMMY HILL(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
52	ELLIOTT SADLER(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
53	ROSS CHASTAIN(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
54	JOEY GASE(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
55	REGAN SMITH(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
56	JJ YELEY(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
57	RYAN SIEG(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
58	CARL LONG(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
59	BJ MCLEOD(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
60	BRETT MOFFITT(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
61	JOSH BILICKI(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
62	MARK THOMPSON(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
63	RAY BLACK II(i)	0	3120	0	0	0
64	JUSTIN MARKS(i)	0	3120	0	0	0

(i) = Ineligible for driver points in this series

MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES OWNER LEADERS

Race #31: 49TH ANNUAL ALABAMA "500" Race Date: 10/15/2017

Rank	Car #	OWNER	Points	Behind Leader	Race Wins	Stage Wins	Playoff Points	Qualifying Attempts
1	78	Furniture Row Racing	3120	0	6	19	64	31
2	2	Team Penske	3101	19	3	6	26	31
3	42	Chip Ganassi Racing	3096	24	4	4	34	31
4	4	Stewart-Haas Racing	3089	31	1	5	17	31
5	11	Joe Gibbs Racing	3088	32	2	2	13	31
6	24	Hendrick Motorsports	3087	33	0	3	6	31
7	21	Wood Brothers Racing	3076	44	1	4	9	31
8	48	Hendrick Motorsports	3074	46	3	1	17	31
9	18	Joe Gibbs Racing	3067	53	4	13	41	31
10	20	Joe Gibbs Racing	3066	54	0	3	5	31
11	17	Roush Fenway Racing	3052	68	2	0	10	31
12	1	Chip Ganassi Racing	3045	75	0	0	3	31
13	5	Hendrick Motorsports	2104	1016	1	0	0	31
14	31	Richard Childress Racing	2103	1017	1	0	0	31
15	3	Richard Childress Racing	2099	1021	1	0	0	31
16	41	Stewart-Haas Racing	2089	1031	1	0	0	31
17	22	Team Penske	794	2326	1	1	0	31
18	14	Stewart-Haas Racing	775	2345	0	1	0	31
19	77	Furniture Row Racing	749	2371	0	0	0	31
20	19	Joe Gibbs Racing	708	2412	0	1	0	31
21	6	Roush Fenway Racing	584	2536	0	0	0	31
22	88	Hendrick Motorsports	571	2549	0	0	0	31
23	27	Richard Childress Racing	532	2588	0	0	0	31
24	13	Germain Racing	515	2605	0	0	0	31
25	43	Richard Petty Motorsports	498	2622	0	0	0	31
26	37	JTG Daugherty Racing	484	2636	0	0	0	31
27	47	JTG Daugherty Racing	467	2653	0	0	0	31
28	95	Leavine Family Racing	461	2659	0	0	0	31
29	10	Stewart-Haas Racing	457	2663	0	0	0	31
30	38	Front Row Motorsports	387	2733	0	0	0	31
31	32	GO FAS Racing	318	2802	0	0	0	31
32	34	Front Row Motorsports	316	2804	0	0	0	31
33	72	TriStar Motorsports	279	2841	0	0	0	31
34	23	BK Racing	203	2917	0	0	0	31
35	15	Premium Motorsports	200	2920	0	0	0	31
36	83	BK Racing	197	2923	0	0	0	29
37	33	Circle Sport / TMG	131	2989	0	0	0	31
38	55	Premium Motorsports	90	3030	0	0	0	26
39	175	Beard Motorsports	85	3035	0	0	0	4
40	7	Tommy Baldwin Racing	83	3037	0	0	0	8
41	51	Rick Ware Racing	66	3054	0	0	0	25
42	266	Motorsports Business Management	54	3066	0	0	0	9
43	96	Gaunt Brothers Racing	1	3119	0	0	0	2