

Ticket Guardian 500

312 Laps at Phoenix International Raceway

Phoenix, Arizona

312 Miles on 1 mile Speedway

Fin	St	No	Driver	Sponsor	Make	Laps	Laps Led	Race Pts	Bonus Pts	Pts	Status	Earnings
1	4	18	Kyle Busch	Skittles	Toyota	312	177	40		56	running	
2	9	19	Martin Truex,	Bass Pro Shops / Tracker ATV	Toyota	312	0	35		42	running	
3	1	12	Ryan Blaney	MoneyLion	Ford	312	94	34		44	running	
4	14	10	Aric Almirola	Smithfield	Ford	312	26	33		42	running	
5	3	11	Denny Hamlin	FedEx Freight	Toyota	312	7	32		38	running	
6	31	42	Kyle Larson	McDonald's	Chevrolet	312	0	31		36	running	
7	16	1	Kurt Busch	Global Poker	Chevrolet	312	0	30		31	running	
8	15	48	Jimmie Johnson	Ally	Chevrolet	312	4	29		33	running	
9	8	4	Kevin Harvick	Jimmy John's	Ford	312	0	28		37	running	
10	12	22	Joey Lagano	Shell / Pennzoil	Ford	312	0	27		38	running	
11	26	14	Clint Bowyer	ITsavvy	Ford	312	0	26		35	running	
12	18	6	Ryan Newman	Oscar Mayer Bacon	Ford	312	0	25		30	running	
13	19	17	Ricky Stenhaus	Sunny D	Ford	312	0	24		24	running	
14	2	9	Chase Elliott	Hooters	Chevrolet	312	0	23		27	running	
15	20	13	Ty Dillon	GEICO	Chevrolet	312	0	22		22	running	
16	22	37	Chris Buescher	Kroger Flavor Fill Up / Klon	Chevrolet	312	0	21		21	running	
17	17	21	Paul Menard	Menards / Quaker State	Ford	311	0	20		20	running	
18	11	8	Daniel Hemric	Okuma	Chevrolet	311	4	19		19	running	
19	5	2	Brad Keselowsk	Alliance Truck Parts	Ford	311	0	18		18	running	
20	30	36	Matt Tift	Surface Sunscreen / Tunity	Ford	311	0	17		17	running	
21	13	3	Austin Dillon	Dow	Chevrolet	311	0	16		20	running	
22	23	43	Darrell Wallac	World Wide Technology	Chevrolet	311	0	15		15	running	
23	28	41	Daniel Suarez	Ruckus	Ford	311	0	14		14	running	
24	7	24	William Byron	Axalta	Chevrolet	310	0	13		16	running	
25	29	38	David Ragan	Select Blinds	Ford	310	0	12		12	running	
26	24	32	Corey LaJoie	Schluter Systems	Ford	310	0	11		11	running	
27	33	15	Ross Chastain	FitStrong	Chevrolet	308	0	10		0	running	
28	25	95	Matt DiBenedet	Procore	Toyota	308	0	9		9	running	
29	10	20	Erik Jones	Reser's Fine Foods	Toyota	304	0	8		8	running	
30	35	77	Quinn Hougg	Rim Ryderz	Chevrolet	302	0	7		7	running	
31	36	52	Bayley Currey	Mtel-One	Ford	301	0	6		0	running	
32	34	51	Cody Ware	Jacob Companies	Chevrolet	300	0	0		5	running	
33	32	0	Landon Cassill	Iron Mountain Data Centers	Chevrolet	267	0	4		4	running	
34	21	47	Ryan Preece	Kroger.com / Pringles / Brey	Chevrolet	229	0	3		3	crash	
35	6	88	Alex Bowman	Nationwide	Chevrolet	191	0	0		9	crash	
36	27	34	Michael McDowe	Dockside Logistics	Ford	157	0	1		1	crash	

Race Time: 3:04:05

Average Speed: 101.693

Lead Change: 17

LeadDrivers: 6

Cautions: 9

Caution Laps: 57

Margin: 1.259 sec

Qualifying Speed: 141.287

Qualifying Notes Failed to Qualify: n/a

Leaders: R. Blaney 1-35; K. Busch 36-40; R. Blaney 41; D. Hamlin 42-45; K. Busch 46-65; D. Hamlin 66; R. Blaney 67-79; K. Busch 80-152; D. Hamlin 153; K. Busch 154-195; R. Blaney 196; J. Johnson 197-200; K. Busch 201-220; D. Hamlin 221; D. Hemric # 222-225; A. Almirola 226-251; R. Blaney 252-295; K. Busch 296-312.

Kyle Busch passes Ryan Blaney late to win at ISM Raceway

NASCAR WIRE SERVICE MARCH 10, 2019 AT 7:05 PM

AVONDALE, Ariz. - There was an air of inevitability to Kyle Busch's closing run in Sunday's TicketGuardian 500 at ISM Raceway.

Busch was tracking down race leader Ryan Blaney after restarting fourth on Lap 239 of the fourth Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race of the season. Running in Blaney's wake for 37 laps, Busch finally made the winning pass on Lap 296 of 312 and nursed his car to the finish line.

Busch's third victory at the 1-mile track and his 52nd in the series left him one win short of his goal of 200 aggregate victories across NASCAR's three national series. Combined with Saturday's win in the NASCAR



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Xfinity Series event at Phoenix, the Sunday triumph gave Busch the 12th two-race weekend sweep of his career.

Busch, Blaney and most of the rest of the front-running cars pitted for tires and fuel on Lap 221, leaving 91 laps to the finish in a race that featured a projected fuel run of 81 laps. Both made it to the finish line with room to spare, though Martin Truex Jr. charged through the field to grab second place after Blaney surrendered the lead and went into serious fuel-saving mode.

Truex made up roughly seven seconds over the last 22 laps and finished 1.259 seconds behind Busch.

"I knew before we went back green (on Lap 239), that we were going to be right on the verge (of getting to the finish on fuel)," Busch said. "You got to go race hard first and then you have to worry about fuel afterwards.

"Once I got to Blaney, I was able to save a little bit. Then I tried to take care of my tires for the rest of the traffic that we had to get through and make sure we had enough fuel to make it to the end. This makes last weekend so much stupider (in a potential victory spoiled by a pit road speeding penalty). I wish we could have swept last week, too."

Busch can reach his stated goal of 200 combined victories next weekend at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, California, where he will race in both the Xfinity and Cup events. But the driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota has scrupulously avoided comparisons with the record 200 victories recorded by seven-time champion Richard Petty, who posted all his wins in the Cup series.

"It's not for me to worry about," Busch said. "It's for everyone else to discuss and talk about and argue over and debate. For myself and the career that I've had, I've been fortunate to be around a lot of top people and a lot of great sponsors.

"To work with my guys and take them to Victory Lane is what it's all about."

Once Busch gets to his magic number, the 33-year-old from Las Vegas will set his sights on 100 wins in the Cup series. Behind Petty, David Pearson is second with 105 victories, followed by Jeff Gordon with 93.

"Might as well set your goals high, go out there and achieve," Busch said. "Let's set it at a 100 and see if we can't get there. That would certainly put us up there with the top guys, being one of the best of the best.

"But, overall, that's a long ways to go. You've got to win a lot of races, a lot of years, to be able to tally up that many. I'm not quite as good as Jeff Gordon any more with being able to win 10 races a year or 13 races a year. I don't know if those deals will happen that much anymore. Last year, we gave it a shot with eight. See if we can't keep firing them off like we are right now and living the dream, baby."

Aric Almirola, who like Blaney took two tires on the Lap 221 pit stop, ran fourth, followed by Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin and Chip Ganassi Racing drivers Kyle Larson and Kurt Busch. Jimmie Johnson came home eighth for his second top 10 and best result of the season.

Nine-time Phoenix winner Kevin Harvick drove to ninth place after an extra pit stop on Lap 234 for tires and fuel. Las Vegas winner Joey Logano rolled home in 10th.

