

Messi targets La Liga record

Barcelona star Lionel Messi is close to breaking Telmo Zarra's 50-year-old La Liga scoring record – the elusive forward needs just two more strikes to surpass Zarra's 251 goals for Athletic Bilbao

■ **2005:** First league goal against Albacete, aged 17 – youngest player to score for Barcelona in La Liga

■ **2007:** Strikes first hat-trick in *El Classico*, equalising in added time

■ **2009:** Wins first **FIFA Ballon d'Or**

■ **2010:** 100th La Liga goal, scoring hat-trick in 8-0 victory over Almeria

■ **May 2012:** Finishes season top goalscorer in La Liga for second time with outstanding record of 50 goals

■ **Dec 2012:** Surpasses **Cesar Rodriguez's** record of 190 league goals for Barcelona

► **Jan 2013:** Wins fourth consecutive Ballon d'Or, scores 200th La Liga goal

■ **May 2013:** Wins sixth La Liga title

■ **Mar 2014:** Claims record for most goals in El Classico with hat-trick in Bernabeu – first Barcelona player to achieve feat – to pass **Hugo Sanchez** as second highest La Liga scorer

■ **Oct 2014:** Scores 250th La Liga goal in 3-0 victory over Eibar – 7th strike this season – two goals short of breaking arguably most iconic record in Spanish football



LA LIGA		TOP GOALSCORERS	EUROPEAN LEAGUES	
Telmo Zarra	ESP	251	 GER Gerd Muller	365
Lionel Messi	ARG	250	 POR Fernando Peyroteo	331
Hugo Sanchez	MEX	234	 NED Willy van der Kuijlen	311
Raul	ESP	228	 FRA Delio Onnis	299
Alfredo di Stefano	ARG/ESP	227	 ITA Silvio Piola	274
Cesar Rodriguez	ESP	223	 ENG Alan Shearer	260