

2017 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS

This is a brief summary of 2017 Major League Baseball attendance. It includes league and team attendance totals in the pages that follow the notes below. The link for the full 2017 Minor League Baseball Attendance Analysis can be found on the 'Baseball Reports' page of numbertamer.com.

The 2017 complete Major League Baseball Attendance Analysis should be ready by May, 2018. The full analyses for each season from 2009 through 2016 are available on the 'Baseball Reports' page of numbertamer.com. An updated version of the 2016 Major League Analysis, showing 2016 and 2017 attendance data in other sports besides baseball, has been posted.

If you need any further information please contact David Kronheim – d.kronheim@verizon.net, 718-591-2043. [This data will be provided free-of-charge.](#)

SOURCES:

Major League attendance data was obtained from the Major League Baseball Information System. The office of Minor League Baseball (formerly known as the NAPBL) provided figures for the Major League affiliated leagues. Independent leagues data came from each league's Website. In general, Major and Minor League attendance data is compiled from figures announced in box scores, includes tickets sold but not used, and may include tickets distributed for free. Attendance for the Pecos Baseball League was provided by the league, and only includes tickets sold and used. That league does not count 'no-shows' in its attendance.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL – 2017 Attendance Overview and Summary

These notes come from the regular season attendance figures, issued by MLB on October 2, 2017. They are subject to revision. The final official figures will be reported in the 2017 Major League Baseball Official Averages Book, which is usually issued in early December. If there are any changes at that time in reported attendance, revisions will be made to this document.

-) Major League Baseball's 2017 total attendance was 72,670,423. This is down 488,621 (0.7%) from 2016, and is the lowest total since 2003. Total MLB attendance had topped 73 million for 13 years in a row (2004-2016). Since 2010, there have been small yearly changes. Attendance fell 0.8% in 2016, rose less than 0.1% in 2015, fell 0.4% in 2014 and 1.1% in 2013, rose 2.0% in 2012 and 0.5% in 2011, and fell 0.4% in 2010, and 6.6% in 2009.
-) Home games played in American League parks had a combined 2017 loss of 681,880 (1.9%) to 34,363,609. But for games in National League parks, attendance rose 193,259 (0.5%) to 38,306,814. In 2016, the American League had a 0.5% total attendance increase, while the National League was down 2.0%. In 2015, the American League was up 1.1%, while National League total attendance fell 0.9%. In 2014, the A.L. was down 0.3%, and the N.L. fell 0.5%. Each league was down a combined 1.1% in 2013.
-) Average attendance per date was 30,042 in 2017, down 127 from the 2016 average of 30,169. It was the lowest average per date since 2003. American League teams averaged 28,470 per date (down 422 from 2016), while the National League teams averaged 31,606 (up 159). These league averages include interleague games. It was the 14th straight year that average per date exceeded 30,000. American League teams hosted 6 fewer dates in 2017 than in 2016. National League teams hosted the same number of dates in 2017 as in 2016.
-) 2017 post-season attendance was 1,746,109 for 38 games, an average of 45,950 per game. 2016 post-season attendance was 1,552,257 for 35 games, averaging 44,350 per game. Total 2015 post-season attendance was 1,634,763 for 36 games, an average of 45,410 per game.
-) Hurricanes Harvey and Irma caused 3 teams to play 'home' games away from their regular home ballparks. Houston was the home team for a series played at Tampa Bay, with a 3-game combined total attendance of 12,993. Tampa Bay played a 'home' series with the Yankees at Citi Field in New York. (Yankee Stadium was not available due to a soccer game scheduled there.) Those 3 games drew a combined 49,510. A 3-game home series for Miami was played in Milwaukee, and drew a total of 68,983. Attendance from all these games is credited to the original home team. So for example, even though Tampa Bay's series with the Yankees was moved to New York, the attendance from that series is included in the 2017 total attendance, and in the number of 'home' dates for the Rays, but not in the 2017 total or the number of home dates for the Yankees.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY

-) The Los Angeles Dodgers had their 3rd best attendance ever, and led the Majors, drawing 3,765,856, an average of 46,492 per date. This was also the 10th highest attendance ever by a National League team. They had 8 sellouts, and topped 50,000 at 21 games.
-) Toronto drew 3,203,886, which was the highest 2017 total in the American League. The Blue Jays averaged 39,554 per date, which was the 2nd best average in the American League, and had 17 sellouts.
-) The New York Yankees topped the American League in average per date (39,835). A pair of rainouts, which were made up as part of single-admission doubleheaders, caused them to have only 79 home dates instead of 81. Had the Yankees not lost those 2 dates, they might have topped Toronto in total attendance.

The Yankees had led the American League in total attendance for a record-setting 13 years in a row through 2015. (Toronto led in 2016.) The previous record for consecutive seasons leading a league was 11 by the Yankees from 1949 to 1959. Among National League teams, the Dodgers hold the record for the longest streak as league attendance champion – 10 straight years from 1977 through 1986. In 2017, the Yankees drew 3,146,966, topping 3 million for 19th straight year, which is an extension of their Major League record.
-) Top 2017 road attendance went to the Cubs for the 2nd straight year. They drew 2,791,299 (34,460 per date) away from home. The Yankees led American League teams on the road, drawing 2,620,718 (32,355 per date).
-) The Dodgers had the highest combined Major League home/road attendance, drawing 6,485,777 (40,036 per date). The Yankees drew a combined 5,767,684 (36,048 per date) to lead the American League. From 1999 through 2015, the Yankees had the top combined home/road American League attendance each year. Toronto led the A.L. in combined home/road attendance 2016.
-) Tampa Bay had the lowest total attendance in the Major Leagues in 2017, drawing 1,253,619 (15,670 per date).
-) Oakland attracted 1,475,721 (18,447 per date), which was the 2nd lowest in the Majors. Miami had the National League's lowest attendance-1,651,997 (20,395 per date). The White Sox, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia were the other teams under 2 million.
-) St. Louis and San Francisco, in addition to the Dodgers, averaged over 40,000 per date. 11 other teams averaged over 30,000 per date in 2017. There were also 14 teams averaging at least 30,000 per date in 2016. 17 teams averaged 30,000+ per date in 2015, and 15 teams did it in 2014.
-) 5 American League teams, and 7 National League teams, had gains in total attendance in 2017. These 12 teams, plus Philadelphia, also had average per date increases. The Phillies had 2 fewer dates in 2017 than in 2016. 4 teams (Cleveland, Atlanta, Colorado, Milwaukee) had total increases of at least 200,000. Those same 4 teams also had percentage gains of at least 10%.
-) Atlanta moved into a new ballpark, and posted a Major League-best increase of 484,338 (24.0%) in total attendance. Cleveland, up 456,471 (28.7%) had the best percentage gain of any team, and the American League's best total and average per date increase. In average attendance per date, Atlanta had an MLB-best 5,979 increase, and Cleveland was up 5,636. Milwaukee, Colorado, and the Yankees also gained at least 2,000 per date.
-) Largest 2017 total attendance decrease was 337,342 by Kansas City, followed closely by Pittsburgh (down 329,754), and the Mets (down 328,980). Pittsburgh's 14.7% loss was the largest percentage decline.
-) Texas and San Diego were also down at least 200,000, with the Royals and Mets, also suffering percentage declines of more than 10%.
-) Pittsburgh had the worst average per date decline down 4,418. The Mets had a 4,112 drop in average per date, and Kansas City dipped 3,822. Detroit, Texas, Toronto, and San Diego were also down at least 2,000 per date.
-) No new season team attendance records were set in 2017. The Dodgers fell just 91,180 short of their all-time high in total attendance.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY

-) The 300 interleague dates drew 9,040,019 in 2017, an average of 30,133 per date. Non-interleague games averaged 30,029 per date, so the interleague games averaged 0.3% higher than the non-interleague average. Interleague games average per date was 4.1% higher than non-interleague games in 2016, and 4.2% higher in 2015. The interleague games averaged just 1.4% more than non-interleague games in 2014, and 2.0% higher in 2013. But in 2012, interleague games averaged 34,693 per date, which was 13.9% above the average of 30,454 per date for non-interleague games.
-) In most seasons prior to 2013, interleague games averaged about 10-12% higher attendance than non-interleague games. But until 2013, nearly all interleague games were played from late May to early July when attendance is higher than at the start and end of the season. With each league having 15 teams due to the move of the Astros to the American League in 2013, there was at least one interleague game played nearly every day of the season.
-) 11 single admission doubleheaders were played in 2017, with 10 of them making up rained-out games. Tampa Bay had the only originally scheduled doubleheader. It was played on Saturday, June 10, and drew 17,775.
-) Attendance didn't finish as strong in 2017, 2016, or 2015, as it did in 2014. There was a 2.2% increase in average attendance per date for games played in September 2014, compared to September 2013. Games on the final weekend of the 2014 season drew 1,648,624, the best final weekend total since 2008 (1,683,763). That 2008 weekend had the final games at Shea Stadium in New York, which drew huge crowds. But the September-October 2017 average per date was 3.8% lower, and the 2016 and 2015 average per date were both 3.1% lower, than in 2014. The 2015 season began and ended 6 calendar days later than in 2014, and the 2016 season started and ended 4 days later than in 2014. September-October 2017 had 429 dates, with the season ending on October 1, compared to 386 dates in 2014, when the season ended on September 28.
-) A monthly comparison shows that 2017 vs. 2016 average per date was up 1.4% for April dates, down 2.4% in May, due in part to bad weather, up 0.7% in June, down 1.4% in July, up 0.1% in August, and down 0.7% for September-October. Combined average per date for April, May and June was 29,712 in 2017, down 0.2% from 2016. The combined July, August and September-October average per date was 30,363, down 0.6%. July dates had the best average in 2017 (32,805), 2016 (33,259), 2015 (33,007), 2014 (32,168) and 2013 (32,399). May had the lowest average per date in 2017 (28,715), September-October had the low average per date in 2016 (28,977), and in 2015 (28,989). April had the low average per date in 2014 (28,911), and in 2013 (28,822).
-) In 2017, there were 6 fewer dates played than in 2016, 2 more than in 2015, 2 less than in 2014, and 7 less than in 2013. The 2013 total number of dates includes a 'Tiebreaker' game at Texas to determine the second American League Wild Card team. Officially, that was an extra regular season game, so all statistics, including attendance, are included in the regular season stats.
-) 7 teams (Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants, Blue Jays, Cubs) topped 3 million. Those same 7 teams also drew at least 3 million in 2016. 5 teams reached 3 million in 2015 and 2014. The season record for the most teams above 3 million is 10 teams. In 2017, 13 teams surpassed 2.5 million, and 23 teams reached 2 million. The White Sox, A's, Rays, Marlins, Reds, Pirates, and Phillies drew under 2 million.
-) 2013 and 2012 were the only seasons that every Major League team surpassed 1.5 million in attendance. Tampa Bay and Oakland fell below that figure in 2017.
-) The Chicago Cubs followed up their 2016 World Series win with a 32,858 decline in total attendance. The 2017 Cubs are just the 11th team since 1971 to have an attendance decline in the season following a World Championship. This excludes strike affected seasons.
-) 2015 World Champion Kansas City also had an attendance decrease the following year. In 2015, the Royals had the biggest gains in the Majors in total attendance (up 752,067), percentage gain (up 38.4%) and average per date (up 9,285). The Royals had ranked 25th in average per date in 2014. But they moved up to 10th best in the Majors in 2015. They ranked #12 in 2016, and 17th in 2017. Kansas City's 2015 total attendance gain was the best for any team not moving into a new ballpark since the Angels had a 755,525 gain in 2003.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY

-) Philadelphia lost 2 home dates, and had a 9,790 decline in total attendance, but a 474 increase in average per date. In 2016, the Phillies had a 4.6% increase after 3 straight big declines. In 2013, 2014, and 2015, the Phillies became the first team in MLB history to suffer a 500,000+ decline in 3 consecutive seasons. The Phillies lost 3 home dates in 2015, but they still would have been down over 500,000 even if those dates were played. Their total 2015 attendance loss was a Major League worst 592,772, a 24.5% dip. Average per date was down 6,449. 2015 Phillies' attendance was down 1,734,638 from the Major League leading 3,565,718 they drew in 2012. Losing those 3 dates in 2015 caused the Phillies to have the worst 3-year decline in MLB history. Cleveland was down 1,726,377 from 2000 to 2003. But such big declines over a 3-year period would have been impossible back when attendance was much lower than it is now.
-) San Francisco's National League record-high sellout streak ended in July. At the end of the streak, the Giants had 530 regular season, and 555 combined regular and post-season consecutive sellouts, going back to 2010. This was the 2nd longest sellout streak in Major League history. Boston sold out 794 straight regular season dates, plus 26 post-season dates, from 2003 to 2013. The Giants' streak is the 7th longest in North American sports history. The Minor League Baseball Dayton Dragons have an active sellout streak of 1,246 regular season games, going back to their first game in 2000. The Red Sox' streak, noted above, is the 2nd longest. NBA teams hold the 3rd through 6th longest streaks, which include playoff games: Portland – 814; Dallas – 704 (still active); Boston – 662; Chicago – 610. Montreal of the NHL had a 541 game streak coming into the 2017-18 season.
-) The largest crowd of the 2017 regular season was 53,701 at Dodger Stadium on Opening Day. The Blue Jays drew 48,856 on Opening Day, which was the year's highest attendance at an American League park. Highest 2017 post-season crowds were 54,707, and 54,726 at Dodger Stadium for Games 1 and 2 of the NLDS.
-) Tampa Bay had the smallest 2017 crowd for a regularly scheduled game in a Major League park when they drew 6,509 on September 5. (This excludes the Astros' home games that were played in Tampa Bay due to Hurricane Harvey. Those games drew 3,485, 6,123, and 3,385.) A Pittsburgh 'home game' was played at a Minor League park in Williamsport, PA, and drew a sellout crowd of 2,596.
-) In 2017, Cincinnati and St. Louis set new records for the highest regular season single game attendance in their current ballparks.
-) 2 of the 10 teams that made the 2017 post-season had slight declines in attendance. Cubs' attendance fell 32,858, and Boston dipped by 37,756.
-) The Dodgers surpassed 2 million for an MLB record 45th consecutive season. Atlanta with their new ballpark, reached 2 million for the 27th straight year. Boston achieved this mark for an American League record 23rd year in a row. The Yankees, Cubs, and Cardinals each have drawn over 2 million for 22 straight years through 2017.
-) The Yankees topped 2.5 million for the 24th time, the most ever for an American League team. The Dodgers have now reached 2.5 million for a Major League record 44 times. St. Louis has done it 28 times.
-) The 5 teams who have drawn over 3 million more often than anyone, did it again in 2017. The Dodgers reached this level for the 31st time. St. Louis (21 times), the Yankees (19), San Francisco (16), and the Angels (15) are next on this list. In 2017, the Cubs drew 3 million for the 10th time, and Toronto reached 3 million for the 7th time.
-) The Yankees topped 3 million for record-high 19th straight year. The Dodgers drew 3 million in 15 straight seasons from 1996 through 2010. The Angels had their 15th year in a row above 3 million. St. Louis did it for the 14th straight year, and the Giants achieved it for the 8th year in a row, and for the 16th time in the last 18 years.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY

-) 47 of the 226 teams that were in the World Series from 1903 through 2017 led all of Major League Baseball in attendance that year. This includes the 2017 Dodgers. 47 additional World Series teams led their own league, but not all of the Major Leagues. From 1903 through 1978, 83 of the 150 World Series teams were league leaders in attendance. Starting in 1979, just 11 of the 76 World Series participants led their league in attendance. The labor dispute cancelled the 1994 World Series. Since 1995, the only league attendance leaders who played in the World Series were the 2003 and 2009 Yankees, the 2002 Giants, and the 2017 Dodgers. There have been 27 World Series with each league's attendance leader participating, but only one (1992-Toronto-Atlanta) since 1982.
-) The 2016 Indians became just the 3rd team to play in the World Series in a year when they had the 3rd lowest attendance in the Major Leagues. 2003 Florida and 1974 Oakland are the others. No team with a year's lowest or 2nd lowest Major League attendance, or the lowest attendance in their league, ever played in the World Series.
-) 22 of the 30 teams played their full 81-date home schedules in 2017. The White Sox, Yankees, and Phillies each lost 2 home dates, and the Royals, Twins, A's, and Mets each had one lost date. Tampa Bay played one less date because they had a scheduled single-admission doubleheader.
-) Until 2014, Pittsburgh had been the only recent non-expansion team whose current all-time attendance record was set in a year when they had a losing record. The Pirates reached their old high mark in 2001, the year PNC Park opened. But in 2014, the Pirates had a winning season, and a new attendance record-high, and they broke that mark in 2015, another winning year. Miami, Colorado, Tampa Bay, Washington, and Arizona, each set their records in their first season.
-) Attendance declines in 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013, 2010 and 2009 pushed average per date figures back below levels reached prior to the 1994 strike. 2017 average attendance per date of 30,042 is 1,295 below the 1993 average of 31,337. If 1998 expansion teams Tampa Bay and Arizona are excluded, the 2017 average for the 28 teams that operated in 1993 (including Montreal, who moved to Washington in 2005) rises to 30,683 per date, which is a loss of 654 from 1993. Only 9 of the 28 teams that played in 1993 were still in the same home ballpark in 2017 (Baltimore, Boston, Chicago White Sox, Kansas City, Los Angeles Angels, Oakland, Toronto, Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers).

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY**TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – AMERICAN LEAGUE**

-) **Baltimore** – Attendance was 2,028,424, down 143,920 (6.6%). Average per date fell 1,777 to 25,042. There were 3 sellouts. The Orioles have drawn at least 2 million in all but 4 seasons since 1989.
-) **Boston** – Drew 2,917,678, down 37,756 (1.3%). Average per date fell 466 to 36,021. But this is still 95.8% of Fenway Park's seating capacity, which was the best % of capacity among all A.L. teams, and only trailed the Giants (97.3%). Total attendance has topped 2 million in 31 of the last 32 seasons (shorter 1994 season is the exception). The 23 consecutive years above 2 million through 2017 is an American League record. Attendance has been above 2.5 million for 18 straight seasons. Average per date has topped 30,000 for 19 years in a row.

There were 47 sellouts at Fenway Park in 2017. For more than 9 full seasons, starting on May 15, 2003, and ending on April 10, 2013, the Red Sox sold out 794 consecutive regular season games, and 820 in a row if post-season games are included. This is the longest sellout streak in North American Major League sports history, breaking the record of 814 held by the Portland Trail Blazers of the NBA. The Dayton Dragons of the Minor League Baseball Midwest League, now have the longest sellout streak in American sports, having sold out all 1,246 regular season dates in their history from 2000 through the end of the 2017 season.

-) **Chicago White Sox** – After a Major League record 8 straight attendance declines, the White Sox saw attendance rise in 2015. But it fell back very slightly in 2016. The White Sox were down 116,823 (6.7%) in 2017 to 1,629,470, their lowest total since 1999. There were 2 lost dates. Average per date was 20,626, down 1,203.
-) **Cleveland** – **Had the best % gain in attendance in the Majors in 2017, and the top total attendance and average per date increases in the American League.** Indians' total attendance was up 456,471 (28.7%) to 2,048,138, their best since 2008, and ending a streak of 8 straight years under 2 million. Average per date was 25,286, up 5,636. There were 13 sellouts, the most since 2001.

Indians' 2016 attendance rose 202,762 (14.6%) to 1,591,667. The percentage gain was the 2nd best in the Majors. But the total was the lowest for a division winner since Pittsburgh in 1979, and for a pennant winner since the Wild-Card Florida Marlins in 2003. Progressive Field renovations have resulted in seating capacity being reduced from 42,487 to 36,675 in 2015, to 35,225 in 2016, and 35,051 in 2017.

-) **Detroit** – Total attendance dipped 172,260 (6.9%) to 2,321,599, the lowest total since 2005. The Tigers have reached 3 million 4 times in the last 11 years, and have topped 2 million in 13 consecutive seasons. Average per date decreased by 2,511 to 28,662. This ended a streak of 11 straight seasons above 30,000 per date. Prior to 2006, the Tigers averaged at least 30,000 per date just twice in their history. Opening Day was the only sellout.
-) **Houston** – An improved record from 51-111 in 2013 to 70-92 in 2014, 86-76 in 2015, 84-78 in 2016, and 101-61 in 2017 has led to big attendance increases. Attendance grew by 97,048 (4.2%) to 2,403,671 in 2017, the best total since 2009. The gain would have been better had it not been for Hurricane Harvey, which caused 3 home games to be moved to Tampa Bay. Those 3 games drew a combined total of just 12,993. Average per date was up 1,198 to 29,675, with 7 sellouts. This includes the Tampa Bay 'home' games. Games actually played in Houston averaged 30,650 per date in 2017, up 2,173. Since 2012, Astros' attendance is up 795,938.

In 2013, the Astros became the 16th team in MLB history to lose at least 110 games in a season, and the 17th team to suffer 100 losses in 3 straight years. The Astros drew 1,651,911, which isn't even close to the record attendance for a team with 110+ losses. In 2004, 111 loss Arizona drew 2,519,560. The 1965 Mets, who drew 1,768,389, hold the record for a team with at least 3 straight 100-loss seasons.

-) **Kansas City** – Total attendance fell 337,342 (13.2%) to 2,220,370. This was the worst total decrease in the Majors in 2017. Average per date dipped an American League worst 3,822 to 27,755. Total attendance is still up 605,044 (37.5%) since 2010, and average per date is up 7,563. The total has increased 469,638 (26.8%) since 2013, with average per date up 6,141.

In 2015, the Royals drew a team record-high 2,708,549, (33,439 per date) breaking the old marks of 2,477,700 (30,971 per date) set in 1989. It was the first time since 1991 that they topped 2 million. The Royals led the Majors in total attendance gain (up 752,067), percentage gain (up 38.4%), and average per date gain (up 9,285). The total gain was the best for any team not moving into new park since the Angels were up 755,525 in 2003.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY**TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – AMERICAN LEAGUE**

-) **Los Angeles Angels** – Reached 3 million in total attendance and 37,000 in average per date, for the 15th straight year. Had a total gain of 3,441 (0.1%) to 3,019,583. All but 3 dates drew over 30,000, and there were 7 sellouts. The Angels have drawn at least 2 million for 20 straight years, and in all but 2 non-strike seasons since 1979.
-) **Minnesota** – The Twins went from 59 wins to 85 wins, and attendance went back over 2 million. A streak of 11 consecutive seasons above 2 million had ended in 2016. Total 2017 attendance rose 87,367 (4.4%) to 2,051,279. Average per date was 25,641, up 1,395. This was the first gain since 2010. But since 2010, their first year at Target Field, Twins' attendance is down 1,172,361 (36.4%), and average per date has declined by 14,157. In 2014, Minnesota set a record for the best attendance for a team with at least 4 straight seasons losing 90 or more games, when they drew 2,250,606. The previous record-highs for such teams were 2,062,382 by Milwaukee in 2004, and in the A.L., by Detroit (2,024,485) in 2005.
-) **New York Yankees** – **Despite 2 lost dates, the Yankees drew 3,146,966, up 83,561 (2.7%), topping 3 million for a Major League record-high 19th consecutive season.** The Dodgers, who topped 3 million in 15 straight years from 1996 through 2010, hold the N.L. record. **The Yanks led the American League with a 39,835 average per date, up 2,015.** 2017 was the 22nd year in a row above 2 million for the Yankees, the 2nd longest American League streak in that category (Boston-1995-2017 holds the A.L. record). It was also their 24th time above 2.5 million, which is an A.L. record. Average per date was above 35,000 for the 20th straight year. There were 13 home and 18 road sellouts in 2017.
- Through 2015, the Yankees led the American League in total attendance for the 13th straight years, the longest streak of leading a league in Major League history. 2015 was the 54th time that the Yankees led the American League in attendance. Also through 2015, the Yankees had the best A.L. combined home/road attendance for the 17 years in a row. They did it again in 2017. Toronto had the highest A.L. home, and combined home/road totals in 2016. The Yankees drew under 30,000 for one date in 2016, ending an MLB record streak of 990 straight home dates (957 regular season and 33 post-season) with attendance of at least 30,000. The Cardinals surpassed this streak a few days later. There were only 2 Yankee home crowds of under 30,000 in 2017.
-) **Oakland** – For the 3rd straight year, the A's had an attendance decline. This followed 5 straight seasons with increases. Total 2017 attendance fell 45,785 (3.0%) to 1,475,721, and average per date slipped 337 to 18,447, with 4 sellouts. 32 dates drew less than 15,000. But progress is being made to build a new ballpark in Oakland.
-) **Seattle** – Drew 2,135,445, down 132,483 (5.8%). Average per date was 26,364, down 1,635 with 5 sellouts. The Mariners have topped 2 million in all but 3 years since 1996, after doing it just twice from 1977 through 1995.
-) **Tampa Bay** – Had the lowest total attendance (1,253,619, down 32,544) and the lowest average per date (15,670, down 209) in the Majors for 2017. It was the 12th time in the team's 20 years that it drew under 1.5 million. Attendance was under 15,000 at 39 dates, and below 10,000 at 12 dates. These figures include the 3 'home' games played in New York due to Hurricane Irma, but exclude the 3 Houston 'home' games at Tampa Bay. The Rays have posted the A.L.'s worst attendance in 12 of the last 17 years, and reached 2 million only in 1998, their first year. Their 2013 total was the lowest for any team in the playoffs since Florida in 2003, and the lowest for an A.L. playoff team since the 1975 Oakland A's. The 2013 Rays were the first team to ever make the post-season in a year in which they had the lowest attendance either in their own league or in the Majors overall. They had the best record ever (92-71, including a Wild Card Tiebreaker game) for a team that finished last in MLB attendance.
-) **Texas** – The total attendance fell 202,642 (7.5%) to 2,507,760, and average per date was 30,960, down 2,502. Total attendance is down 952,520 (27.5%) from the 2012 total of 3,460,280. Despite this decline, the Rangers have topped 2 million in 27 of the last 29 years, and reached 2.5 million for the 16th time. Construction began on their new ballpark, next to their current one, with an expected opening in 2020.
-) **Toronto** – **Led the American League again in total attendance, drawing 3,203,886, down 188,213 (5.5%).** Average per date fell 2,324 to 39,554. There were 17 sellouts. In 2016, the Blue Jays had the biggest MLB increases in total attendance, average per date, and percentage gain. Total attendance rose 597,208 (21.4%) to 3,392,099. That was the best total for the Blue Jays since they drew 4,057,947 in 1993. Average per date was 41,878, up 7,373, with 39 sellouts. This followed an A.L.-best increase of 419,366 (5,178 per date) in 2015. Average per date topped 40,000 in 2016 for the 7th time in team history, but for the first time since 1989 through 1994. Toronto's attendance has nearly than doubled from 2010 to 2017, up 97.1%.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY**TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – NATIONAL LEAGUE**

-) **Arizona** – The Diamondbacks have topped 2 million in all 20 years of operation. In 2017, they drew 2,134,375, up 98,159 (4.8%), and average per date rose 1,212 to 26,350. The 2016 figures were the lowest in team history.
-) **Atlanta – Opened SunTrust Park in suburban Atlanta, and had the best total and average per date increases in the Major Leagues. The total was 2,505,252, up 484,338 (24.0%), and the average per date rose 5,979 to 30,929.** That average per date gain is 5,825 if the 2016 home game in a temporary ballpark at Fort Bragg, NC, is excluded. The Braves have reached 2 million for 27 straight years, after doing it just once (1983) from 1966, their first year in Atlanta, through 1990. There were 10 sellouts in 2017.
-) **Chicago Cubs** – The defending 2016 World Champions had a 32,858 (1.0%) decrease in total attendance to 3,199,562. That was still the 4th best total in team history. Average per date was down 405 to 39,501, which is 95.0% of Wrigley Field's seating capacity. It was the 10th time in the last 14 years that the Cubs topped 3 million. Since 1984, the Cubs have drawn 2 million in all full seasons, except 1986. They've averaged at least 30,000 per date for 20 straight years. The Cubs didn't list sellouts in their Game Notes or Media Guide, but based on listed attendance, around 44 games were sold out. They led the Major Leagues in road attendance again, drawing 2,791,299, an average of 34,460 per date.
-) **Cincinnati** – A small decline in 2017 followed a year when the Reds suffered the worst declines in the Majors in total attendance, percentage change, and average per date. Total 2017 attendance fell 57,168 (3.0%) to 1,836,917, the lowest total since 2009. Average per date was 22,678, down 706. The Reds finished in last place in 2017, 2016 and 2015, for the only times since 1983. It was the longest a team in the 4 major sports (MLB, NFL, NBA, NHL) had gone without being last in their division. San Antonio of the NBA now has the longest 'non-cellar' streak. The Spurs haven't finished last since 1986-87.
-) **Colorado** – The Rockies had their best attendance since 2001. The total was 2,953,650, up 351,126 (13.5%). Average per date rose 4,335 to 36,465, with 14 sellouts. It was the 10th straight year above 2.5 million, and also the 10th year in a row with average per date above 30,000. The Rockies have topped the 2 million mark in 24 of the team's 25 seasons, and they hold the all-time Major League attendance record (4,483,350) set in 1993.
-) **Los Angeles Dodgers – Drew 3,765,856, the 3rd highest total in team history, and 10th best N.L. total ever. Led MLB in attendance for the 5th straight year, and for the 27th time since moving to Los Angeles in 1958.** It was also the 33rd year the Dodgers have led the N.L. since then. Also led the Majors in combined home/road attendance, drawing 6,485,777 (40,436 per date). Have surpassed 3 million in 21 of the last 22 years, and an MLB-best 31 times overall, and reached 3.5 million for the 13th time. Attendance has topped 2 million for 45 seasons in a row. 2017 had a gain of 62,544 (1.7%). Dodger average per date was 46,492, up 772, also 3rd best ever for this team, and has now reached 40,000 for the 13th time in the last 14 years. There were 8 sellouts, 21 crowds topped 50,000, and 75 were above 40,000. The Dodgers had a Major League best 104 wins in 2017. Among teams winning at least 100 games, only the 1993 Braves, and the 2004 Yankees, had higher attendance.
-) **Miami** – Had lowest attendance in the National League (1,651,997) for the 11th time in the last 12 seasons. The total fell 60,420 (3.5%). Average per date dipped 1,010 to 20,395, topping 20,000 for only the 7th time since 1998.
-) **Milwaukee** – Attendance rose 244,108 (10.5%) to 2,558,722, with 11 sellouts. Average per date was up 3,014 to 31,589. The Brewers have topped 2 million for 14 straight years. Their average per date has been above 30,000 for 10 of the last 11 seasons. That's quite a feat for the next-to-smallest market (to Cincinnati) in the Majors.
-) **New York Mets** – Drew 2,460,622, down 328,980 (11.8%). Average per date dipped 4,112 to 30,758, with 4 sellouts. Had the top N.L. increase of 2015, and the 2nd best N.L. gain in 2016, in both total and average per date.
-) **Philadelphia** – Lost 2 dates, and total attendance declined 9,790 (0.5%) to 1,905,354. Average per date rose by 474 to 24,118. Prior to a gain in 2016, attendance had fallen 592,772 (24.5%) in 2015, 588,551 (19.5%) in 2014, and 553,315 (15.5%) in 2013. It was the first time that a team has suffered declines of at least 500,000 in 3 straight years. The combined 3-year decline of 1,734,638 was the worst in MLB history. Cleveland was down 1,726,377 from 2000 through 2003. But before 2014, the Phillies had topped 3 million for 7 straight years, with a high of 3,680,718 in 2011, and their average per date reached 30,000 for 10 years in a row.

2017 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW -- SUMMARY**TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – NATIONAL LEAGUE**

-) **Pittsburgh** – After 5 years in a row above 2 million, the Pirates drew 1,919,447, down 329,754 (14.7%) in 2017. Average per date dipped a Major League worst 4,418 to 23,697, with 2 sellouts. Prior to 2012, the Pirates reached 2 million just 3 times.
-) **St. Louis** – The Cardinals drew 3,447,937, up 3,447 (0.1%). They averaged 42,567 per date, up 42, with 14 sellouts. This was the 5th highest total and 6th best average per date in team history, and the 2nd best figures in the Majors for 2017. It was their 14th straight year above 3 million, and the 21st time they've reached that mark. Cardinals' attendance has been over 2 million in all full seasons since 1982. The Cards have averaged over 30,000 per date for 22 straight seasons, topped 35,000 per date in each of the last 20 years, and have drawn better than 40,000 per date in 12 of the last 13 seasons. Attendance topped 40,000 at 68 of 81 dates. **St. Louis has drawn at least 30,000 for a Major League record-high 1,082 straight dates (1,039 regular season, 43 post season) from May 5, 2005 through the end of 2017.** (A Yankees' streak of 990 straight dates of 30,000+ ended in 2016.) For the 41 dates in 2017 that were played on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, the Cards had 11 sellouts, and averaged 44,378 per date. This is 97.5% of Busch Stadium's 2017 seating capacity.
-) **San Diego** – Attracted 2,138,491, down 212,931 (9.1%). Average per date fell 2,629 to 26,401. The Padres have reached 2 million in 21 of the last 22 years.
-) **San Francisco** – Their sellout streak of 530 regular season dates, plus 25 post-season dates, ended in July. It was the 2nd longest regular-season sellout streak in MLB history behind Boston (794), and the 7th longest sellout streak, including post-season games, in North American sports history. Longer streaks are: Dayton (Minor League Baseball) – 1,246 regular season dates and still active going into 2018; Boston Red Sox (820); and from the NBA, Portland (814); Dallas (a current streak of 704 going into the 2017-18 season); Boston Celtics (662); Chicago (610). Since AT&T Park opened in 2000, through the end of the 2017 season, 986 of 1,458 (67.6%) regular season dates there have been sellouts, and 1,441 (98.8%) of those dates have had crowds of at least 30,000. There were 50 sellouts in 2017.

Average per date has been above 35,000 in all 18 seasons in this park, and has surpassed 40,000 for 12 seasons during this period. Total attendance has topped 3 million in 16 of these years, including the last 8 in a row. The Giants have averaged 39,877 per date in their 18 years (2000-2017) at AT&T Park, which is 95.1% of capacity. Total attendance in 2017 was 3,303,652, down 61,604 (1.8%). Average per date was 40,786, down 760. In 2015, total regular season attendance at AT&T Park hit 50 million in its 16th season, reaching this level in fewer seasons, and in the fewest number of dates, of any ballpark in Major League history.

-) **Washington** – Attendance increased 43,042 (1.7%) to 2,524,980, and average per date was up 532 to 31,173. This was the 6th straight year that the Nationals have averaged 30,000+ per date.

TEAM-BY-TEAM ATTENDANCE TABLES

The table on Page 10 shows each Major League team's 2017 and 2016 total attendance, the change in 2017 vs. 2016 total attendance, both on a number and percentage basis, and the 2017 average per date for each team.

The Page 11 table shows changes in average per date, and also ranks the teams from 1-30, from the highest to the lowest average per date for both 2017 and 2016. Seating capacity is for 2017, and was obtained from 2017 team media guides. Not all teams listed the number of games sold out in either their game notes or media guides. So the number of sellouts was estimated for the Washington Nationals and the Chicago Cubs.

A table on Page 12 lists all Major League and Minor League 2017 attendance, including Spring Training, All-Star Games and events, and Wild Card, Division Series, Championship Series, and World Series games. Attendance for the 2017 Arizona Fall League is also included.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME ATTENDANCE - 2017 vs. 2016

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM	# DATES	2017 ATTENDANCE	2017 AVG/DATE	2016 ATTENDANCE	2017 vs. 2016	
					# DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Baltimore	81	2,028,424	25,042	2,172,344	(143,920)	(6.6)
Boston	81	2,917,678	36,021	2,955,434	(37,756)	(1.3)
Chicago White Sox	79	1,629,470	20,626	1,746,293	(116,823)	(6.7)
Cleveland	81	2,048,138	25,286	1,591,667	456,471	28.7
Detroit	81	2,321,599	28,662	2,493,859	(172,260)	(6.9)
Houston	81	2,403,671	29,675	2,306,623	97,048	4.2
Kansas City	80	2,220,370	27,755	2,557,712	(337,342)	(13.2)
L.A. Angels - Anaheim	81	3,019,583	37,279	3,016,142	3,441	0.1
Minnesota	80	2,051,279	25,641	1,963,912	87,367	4.4
New York Yankees	79	3,146,966	39,835	3,063,405	83,561	2.7
Oakland	80	1,475,721	18,447	1,521,506	(45,785)	(3.0)
Seattle	81	2,135,445	26,364	2,267,928	(132,483)	(5.8)
Tampa Bay	80	1,253,619	15,670	1,286,163	(32,544)	(2.5)
Texas	81	2,507,760	30,960	2,710,402	(202,642)	(7.5)
Toronto	<u>81</u>	<u>3,203,886</u>	<u>39,554</u>	<u>3,392,099</u>	<u>(188,213)</u>	<u>(5.5)</u>
American Lea. Total	1,207	34,363,609	28,470	35,045,489	(681,880)	(1.9)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Arizona	81	2,134,375	26,350	2,036,216	98,159	4.8
Atlanta	81	2,505,252	30,929	2,020,914	484,338	24.0
Chicago Cubs	81	3,199,562	39,501	3,232,420	(32,858)	(1.0)
Cincinnati	81	1,836,917	22,678	1,894,085	(57,168)	(3.0)
Colorado	81	2,953,650	36,465	2,602,524	351,126	13.5
Los Angeles Dodgers	81	3,765,856	46,492	3,703,312	62,544	1.7
Miami	81	1,651,997	20,395	1,712,417	(60,420)	(3.5)
Milwaukee	81	2,558,722	31,589	2,314,614	244,108	10.5
New York Mets	80	2,460,622	30,758	2,789,602	(328,980)	(11.8)
Philadelphia	79	1,905,354	24,118	1,915,144	(9,790)	(0.5)
Pittsburgh	81	1,919,447	23,697	2,249,201	(329,754)	(14.7)
St. Louis	81	3,447,937	42,567	3,444,490	3,447	0.1
San Diego	81	2,138,491	26,401	2,351,422	(212,931)	(9.1)
San Francisco	81	3,303,652	40,786	3,365,256	(61,604)	(1.8)
Washington	<u>81</u>	<u>2,524,980</u>	<u>31,173</u>	<u>2,481,938</u>	<u>43,042</u>	<u>1.7</u>
National Lea. Total	1,212	38,306,814	31,606	38,113,555	193,259	0.5
Major League Total	2,419	72,670,423	30,042	73,159,044	(488,621)	(0.7)

Atlanta's 2016 attendance includes one game played in a temporary park at Fort Bragg, NC that drew a capacity crowd of 12,582.

In 2017, Pittsburgh played a home game in Williamsport, PA that drew a sellout of 2,596. Games in Pittsburgh averaged 23,961 per date.

In 2017, Houston had 3 games moved to Tampa Bay due to Hurricane Harvey. The games drew a total of 12,993.

Astros' games in Houston averaged 30,650 per date.

In 2017, Hurricane Irma forced Tampa Bay to play 3 home games at Citi Field in New York. Those games drew a total of 49,510.

Rays' games in Tampa Bay averaged 15,638 per date. Irma also moved 3 Marlins' home games to Milwaukee. They drew 68,983.

Marlins' games in Miami averaged 20,295 per date. Houston, Tampa Bay, and Miami get home game attendance credit for these games.

Attendance comparison for 2017 vs. 2016 is based on total home attendance for each year, regardless of the number of home dates.

SOURCES: MLB Information System; Team Game Notes

2017 MLB AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE - Rankings, vs. 2016, Sellouts

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM	2017 AVG. per DATE	2016 AVG. per DATE	2017 v. 2016 # CHANGE	2017 MLB Rank	2016 MLB Rank	2017 SEATING CAPACITY	2017 Avg. as a % of Capacity	# of 2017 SELLOUTS
Baltimore	25,042	26,819	(1,777)	23	20	45,971	54.47	3
Boston	36,021	36,487	(466)	9	8	37,603	95.79	47
Chicago W. Sox	20,626	21,829	(1,203)	27	26	40,615	50.78	4
Cleveland	25,286	19,650	5,636	22	28	35,051	72.14	13
Detroit	28,662	31,173	(2,511)	16	13	41,299	69.40	1
Houston	29,675	28,477	1,198	15	17	41,168	72.08	7
Kansas City	27,755	31,577	(3,822)	17	12	37,903	73.23	5
L.A. Angels	37,279	37,236	43	7	7	45,477	81.97	7
Minnesota	25,641	24,246	1,395	21	23	38,885	65.94	1
N.Y. Yankees	39,835	37,820	2,015	4	6	47,222	84.36	13
Oakland	18,447	18,784	(337)	27	29	35,067	52.61	4
Seattle	26,364	27,999	(1,635)	19	19	47,943	54.99	5
Tampa Bay	15,670	15,879	(209)	30	30	31,042	50.48	1
Texas	30,960	33,462	(2,502)	12	10	48,114	64.35	2
Toronto	<u>39,554</u>	<u>41,878</u>	(2,324)	5	3	<u>49,286</u>	80.25	<u>17</u>
A.L. Avg./Date	28,470	28,892	(422)			41,510	68.59	130

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Arizona	26,350	25,138	1,212	20	21	48,686	54.12	2
Atlanta	30,929	24,950	5,979	13	22	41,149	75.16	10
Chicago Cubs	39,501	39,906	(405)	6	5	41,577	95.01	44
Cincinnati	22,678	23,384	(706)	26	25	42,271	53.65	2
Colorado	36,465	32,130	4,335	8	11	50,398	72.35	14
L.A. Dodgers	46,492	45,720	772	1	1	56,000	83.02	8
Miami	20,395	21,405	(1,010)	28	27	36,742	55.51	1
Milwaukee	31,589	28,575	3,014	10	16	41,900	75.39	11
N.Y. Mets	30,758	34,870	(4,112)	14	9	41,922	73.37	4
Philadelphia	24,118	23,644	474	24	24	43,651	55.25	1
Pittsburgh	23,697	28,115	(4,418)	25	18	38,362	61.77	2
St. Louis	42,567	42,525	42	2	2	45,529	93.49	14
San Diego	26,401	29,030	(2,629)	18	15	40,209	65.66	7
San Francisco	40,786	41,546	(760)	3	4	41,915	97.31	50
Washington	<u>31,173</u>	<u>30,641</u>	532	11	14	<u>41,339</u>	75.41	<u>3</u>
N.L. Avg./Date	31,606	31,447	159			43,443	72.75	173
MLB Avg./Date	30,042	30,169	(127)			42,477	70.73	303

"MLB Rank" column shows each team's rank in 2017 and 2016 average attendance per date, from highest (rank #1) to lowest (rank #30).

* - Fenway Park-Boston capacity is 37,281 (day), and 37,731 (night). Listing above is pro-rated for 23 day and 58 night games in 2017.

Atlanta's 2016 attendance includes one game played in a temporary park at Fort Bragg, NC that drew a capacity crowd of 12,582. Games at Turner Field drew an average of 25,104, up 87 from 2015.

In 2017, Pittsburgh played a home game in Williamsport, PA that drew a sellout of 2,596. Games in Pittsburgh averaged 23,961 per date. In 2017, Houston had 3 games moved to Tampa Bay due to Hurricane Harvey. The games drew a total of 12,993. Astros' games in Houston averaged 30,650 per date.

In 2017, Hurricane Irma forced Tampa Bay to play 3 home games at Citi Field in New York. Those games drew a total of 49,510. Rays' games in Tampa Bay averaged 15,638 per date. Irma also moved 3 Marlins' home games to Milwaukee. They drew 68,983. Marlins' games in Miami averaged 20,295 per date. Houston, Tampa Bay, and Miami get home game attendance credit for these games.

2017 sellouts are estimated for a few teams. These figures will be updated upon publication of 2018 media guides.

SOURCES: MLB Information System, 2016, 2017 Team Media Guides, Team Game Notes

2017 MAJOR AND MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TOTAL ATTENDANCE

	<u>Total Attendance</u>	<u># of Dates</u>	<u>Average per Date</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<u>MAJOR LEAGUES</u>				
Spring Training	3,954,970	516	7,665	
Regular Season	72,670,423	2,419	30,042	
Wild Card Games	98,083	2	49,042	at Arizona, New York Yankees
Division Series	745,242	17	43,838	at Wash., Arizona, Cubs, Dodgers Boston, Houston, Cleveland, Yankees
Championship Ser.	556,082	12	46,340	at Yankees, Houston, Dodgers, Cubs
World Series	346,702	7	49,529	at Dodgers, Houston
Post-Season Total	1,746,109	38	45,950	
Futures Game	37,000	1		at Miami, attendance estimated
Home Run Derby	37,027	1		at Miami
All-Star Game	37,188	1		at Miami
Major League Total	78,482,717	2,976	26,372	
<u>MINOR LEAGUES</u>				
NAPBL Regular Sea.	41,832,364	10,216	4,095	
NAPBL Post-Season	763,791	169	4,519	
NAPBL All-Star	64,044	11	5,822	
Indy Regular Season	6,220,288	2,516	2,472	
Indy Post-Season	110,997	46	2,413	
Indy All-Star Games	15,335	3	5,112	
Arizona Fall League	56,443	91	620	
Minor League Total	49,063,262	13,052	3,759	
Majors/Minors Total	127,545,979	16,028	7,958	

Post-season independent attendance is for Can-Am, Atlantic, United Shore, Frontier Leagues, and the American Association. Mexican League post-season games (included in NAPBL) drew 469,242 for 37 games, an average of 12,682.