

NUMBER TAMER

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## **MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**

# **2023 ATTENDANCE ANALYSIS**

## **INCLUDES 2024 UPDATES**

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#### HOW THE REPORTING AND ANALYSIS OF 2021 BASEBALL ATTENDANCE IN THIS REPORT DIFFERED FROM PAST NUMBER TAMER ATTENDANCE REPORTS

The 2021 Major League and Minor League Baseball season certainly was unique in terms of attendance.

Every Major League club, except for Texas, and many, if not most of, the Minor League teams, were only allowed to sell a limited number of tickets to their games at the start of the season. MLB tickets were sold only electronically, and the same was true for many Minor League teams. For many teams, tickets were not sold at a team's box office, and fans couldn't print tickets bought online. A Smartphone app was needed.

All teams went through the off-season prior to 2021 not knowing how the Covid-19 pandemic would affect their ability to host fans, in-person, in their ballparks. As a result, teams couldn't do their usual off-season marketing of tickets. On top of all this, the MLB-affiliated Minor Leagues underwent a comprehensive reorganization. The 4 short-season leagues that charged admission to their games were no longer MLB-affiliated leagues. Both the Pioneer and Mexican Leagues became independent pro leagues. The number of MLB-affiliated teams in the U.S. and Canada charging admission, declined from 160 in 2019 to 120 in 2021. The 11 remaining MLB-affiliated leagues played 120 or 130-game schedules in 2021, compared to a 140-game schedule that all full-season leagues had in 2019. Most teams couldn't even begin planning for the 2021 season until December or January. Covid caused the cancellation of numerous Minor League games.

Many of the teams that were dropped from the roster of MLB-affiliated professional minor leagues, joined professional independent leagues, or Summer Collegiate wood-bat leagues. The entire former Rookie Appalachian League became a Summer Collegiate league. Much more detail about the Minor League reorganization in the 2021 Minor League Baseball Attendance Analysis on numbertamer.com.

While all MLB teams, except for the Toronto Blue Jays, were eventually allowed to play to full stadium capacity, there was still a significant decline in 2021 attendance compared to 2019. Every Major League team, and nearly every Minor League team, had lower attendance in 2021 than in 2019.

These baseball attendance reports have always noted which teams had the biggest increases and declines in attendance from one year to the next. For each team, the current season vs. previous season gain or loss in both total attendance and average attendance per date was always mentioned.

For the 2021 season, this was rarely done. Any comparison of 2021 attendance with attendance from any previous season would be misleading, and would lack context. Different teams faced different restrictions on how many tickets they could sell in 2021. Some Minor League teams, along with the Toronto Blue Jays, were displaced from their home ballparks. Other Minor League teams had to play some games with no fans allowed to attend. For a look at recent attendance trends, prior to 2021, some of the data from the 2019 attendance are included in this document

#### WHAT'S NORMAL?

The phrase 'normal season' often appears in this report. What does it mean? Simply put, it excludes 2021.

2022 had almost a complete return to normal. 2023 was a totally normal season. Affiliated Minor League teams played longer schedules in 2022 and 2023 (150 games in the Triple-A leagues, up from 130 games in 2021, 138 games in the Double-A leagues, up from 120 games in 2021, and 132 games in the High-A and Single-A leagues, also up from 120 games in 2021.) Major League teams played their usual 162-game schedules in 2021, and despite the later start due to the lockout, did it again in 2022. 2023 was played as scheduled.

In addition to the usual **2023 vs. 2022** comparisons, **2023 vs. 2019** comparisons will be made for each team. This allows a 'normal' 2023 season to be compared with the last 'normal' season prior to 2022.

#### AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE OR GAME GUIDELINES USED IN NUMBER TAMER REPORTS

2020 through 2023 average attendance per date or per game figures in any of these Number Tamer reports, are only, as far as can be determined, for games played with fans in attendance. Games played with no fans in attendance are not counted as 'dates' or 'openings,' when figuring an average per date, or average per game, figure. But they are counted as 'lost dates.' Some leagues in various sports, have included all games, whether fans were in attendance or not, in their reported average attendance per date or game. This is why their 2020, 2021, and 2022 reported average attendance per game figures are sometimes lower than those shown in these Number Tamer reports.

#### A NOTE ABOUT 2020, 2021, AND 2022 ATTENDANCE FIGURES IN THIS REPORT, AND THE EFFECT OF THE MARCH, 2020 SUSPENSION OF SPORTS DUE TO COVID-19

This report mainly covers Major League Baseball attendance. But there is also attendance data for the 2019-20 through the 2023-24 seasons for the NBA, WNBA, NHL, Pro Women's Hockey League, Minor League hockey and basketball, the XFL, leagues in soccer and lacrosse, NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball, and Men's and Women's hockey. The pro sports had the ends of their 2019-20 regular seasons cancelled. NCAA Basketball and hockey finished the regular 2019-20 seasons, but post-season was cancelled.

The 2019-20 figures noted in this report for those sports go up to the time when their seasons ended. Total attendance is noted, but really shouldn't be compared with a previous season, if that league's or sport's 2019-20 regular season was halted prior to its completion. A relatively fair comparison with previous seasons can be made for average per game. The NBA and NHL did resume their seasons later in 2020, and had playoffs. But games were played without fans in attendance.

In 2020, Major League Baseball teams played a 60-game regular season, followed by expanded playoffs. No fans were in attendance for any regular season games, or for the first two playoff rounds. A limited number of fans were permitted to attend the 7 National League Championship Series games, and the 6 World Series games, all of which were played at Globe Life Field, the new home of the Texas Rangers. The NLCS games drew a total of 75,843, and the World Series games drew 68,622. Combined total attendance was 144,465, an average of 11,113, per game, which is slightly above 27% of Globe Life Field's normal seating capacity of 40,518.

The American Association, Pecos, and United Shore Baseball Leagues, which are independent pro leagues, did play 2020 games, with a limited number of fans in attendance, as did 5 summer collegiate baseball leagues.

In the American Association, 6 teams played, using 5 ballparks, and limiting the number of available seats. The league drew a total of 176,439 in 163 dates, averaging 1,082 per date. Attendance by location was: Fargo – 39,936 in 44 dates (908 per date); Sioux Falls, SD – 34,254 in 39 dates (878 per date); Milwaukee – 38,780 in 33 dates (1,175 per date); Chicago – 32,468 in 26 dates (1,249 per date with 14 sellouts of 1,400); St. Paul – 31,001 in 21 dates (1,476 per date with 16 sellouts of 1,500). Winnipeg played its 'home' games in Fargo, and St. Paul played its early-season 'home' games in Sioux Falls, before fans were allowed to attend games in St. Paul. The 5 post-season games drew a total of 3,736.

The Pecos League games drew a total of 500 fans, even though the teams didn't try to sell any tickets. The United Shore League, which plays all of its games in Utica, MI, had 63 dates, with a very limited number of fans in attendance. In normal times, this league, on average, sells out around 80% of its games. They also streamed their 2020 games, and they averaged 16,000 viewers per game for the 2020 season.

Not all of the teams from the 5 summer collegiate leagues that played sold tickets. But among those teams that did, total attendance was 383,912 in 817 dates (470 per date). Capacity was limited in ballparks.

Many college and pro leagues played in the 2020-21 and 2021 seasons, some with a reduced number of games, and all with a limited number or no fans, in attendance at most games. For this reason, comparing attendance from 2020 or 2021, with attendance of past seasons, has less value, and is only being done on a limited basis.

### LAWRENCE PETER (YOGI) BERRA (1925-2015)

"He lived his life with pride and humility, and an original open mind. One thing we know for sure: If you can't imitate him, don't copy him."

Former President Obama at the ceremony awarding Yogi Berra the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

"Yogi Berra is a national treasure, and the world needs more like him."

Dr. Bobby Brown, former president of the American League, and a teammate of Yogi Berra.

Throughout this report, there are quotes from Yogi Berra, who was one of the most popular and beloved sports figures in American history. Perhaps his most famous quote was: "It ain't over till it's over." Another was: "You can observe a lot by just watching." His description of the outfield shadows at the old Yankee Stadium was: "It gets late early out there." If you think about them, most 'Yogisms' make perfect sense.

But Yogi Berra was also one of the all-time great players in Major League history. He won the American League's Most Valuable Player award 3 times, and was one of the best defensive catchers, and clutch hitters ever. The Hall-of-Famer hit 358 home runs, and held many World Series records. Yogi played, coached, or managed for 21 teams who won a league championship, and for 13 World Series winners. He also served as a Spring Training instructor for several other Yankee championship teams. He was chosen to the American League All-Star team in 15 seasons.

Yogi Berra was a free-swinging, power hitter. Yet he never struck out more than 38 times in one season. In 1950, he caught 148 games, scored 116 runs, hit 28 home runs, had 124 runs batted in, and struck out just 12 times in 656 plate appearances, with a .322 batting average, just an amazing performance, especially for a catcher.

More importantly, Yogi Berra was a decorated member of the United States Navy, who served heroically in the D-Day invasion, and in other battles of World War II. Above all, he was a kind and gentle soul.

Yogi, who passed away in 2015 at the age of 90, and his late wife Carmen, were instrumental in the founding and operation of the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center on the campus of Montclair State University in New Jersey.

In 2021, the United States Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp honoring Yogi Berra.

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#### **AUTHOR'S NOTES**

On Page 2, it is noted that the sources of Major League Baseball total season attendance data in this report are the Major League Baseball Information System and the MLB Stats Reporting Platform, for the years 1998 through 2023.

Attendance from years prior to 1998 was obtained from Total Baseball -The Ultimate Baseball Encyclopedia – 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, published in 2004.

There are other published listings of season attendance by Major League teams, such as each team's Media Guide, Baseballreference.com, and the MLB Stats Reporting Platform, introduced by MLB Advanced Media in 2019. Retrosheet.org lists game-by-game home attendance for each team, and for almost all games, going back to the 1890's. I researched and found many of those 1890's through 1920's attendance figures (19,195 of them, if you're keeping score), which are now listed by retrosheet.org. Official attendance began to be listed in box scores in 1939. Before then, it was often estimated by reporters covering games, if noted at all.

There are discrepancies in this published data from one source to another. In some cases, there may be as many as 4 different total attendance figures listed for one season for one team.

Major League Baseball attendance reporting guidelines have changed over the years. National League teams didn't count 'no-shows,' that is tickets sold, but not used, in their official attendance until 1993, while American League teams did count them long before then. Years ago, tickets sold at steep discounts, such as for Ladies Days, Senior Citizens Days, School and Camp Days, and for members of the military, were not included in the official attendance. Now, most teams do include them. Some teams now include 'comp' tickets in their announced daily attendance, and some teams don't.

The Miami Marlins changed their attendance policy in 2018, and no longer included tickets given away for free, or at very steep discounts, in their official announced attendance. This resulted in a huge decline in announced attendance vs. 2017. In reality, they sold around the same number of full-priced, or nearly full-priced, tickets in 2018 as in 2017.

It will probably be impossible to know the exact, real attendance figure for every single year, for each team, especially from long ago. If Major League Baseball ever designates an official attendance figure for every team, for every season, this report will use those updated numbers.

Number Tamer has a Major League Baseball attendance database, showing yearly total attendance, the number of dates played, and the average attendance per date, for each team going back to 1900 for National League teams, and 1901, the league's first season, for American League teams. The sources are Total Baseball for each team's total attendance, and retrosheet.org for the yearly number of dates, from 1900 through 1997. Some teams list the number of dates played for some seasons in their Media Guides, and when they do, those figures replace the numbers from Retrosheet.org, though they almost always are the same. The Major League Baseball Information System, and its successor, the MLB Stats Reporting Platform, are the sources for all figures from 1998 through 2023. If you'd like a copy of my MLB database, or my attendance databases from the NFL, NBA, WNBA, NHL, or MLS, just send a me request, and I'll e-mail it to you. It's all available to you for free.

#### SCORING CHANGES

In December, 2020, there were many small changes made to this report's pre-1955 figures. While compiling data for Retrosheet.org's attendance database, I learned that in the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, teams often played separate-admission, morning-afternoon doubleheaders on holidays. This increased a team's number of dates played, thus reducing their average attendance per date. Retrosheet.org added many more attendance figures to their tables, resulting in a few other minor changes.

In 2023, upon further review, it was found that the Mets had one extra home date listed on the MLB Stats Platform. On September 27, they played a single-admission doubleheader, and not a separate-admission day-night doubleheader. This reduced their number of dates to 78, resulting in an increase in their 2023 average per date, with one more lost date.

David P. Kronheim

Numbertamer.com

This report is a comprehensive analysis of Major League Baseball Attendance for 2023, and throughout Major League history. Highlights of this report include:

- An overview and analysis of Major League attendance for 2023, and other recent seasons.
- League and team-by-team analysis, highlights, and historical data.
- How attendance has been affected by: pennant winning seasons; team relocations; new ballparks; World Series winners in two-team markets.
- The economy and baseball attendance. It includes recent attendance trends in other sports.
- Multi-team MLB market trends (New York, Chicago, San Francisco/Oakland, and Los Angeles).
- How **2023** attendance compares with attendance just prior to the 1994 shutdown.
- Major League attendance history and analysis since 1900. Includes a yearly listing of total attendance and average attendance per date for both leagues.
- Biggest team attendance increases and declines in Major League history.
- "First Licks" and "Last Licks" Attendance at the first and last games at Major League ballparks.
- Best and worst season attendance at current ballparks. 2021 data is excluded due to restricted capacity.
- Analysis of attendance changes in a ballpark's second season.
- How teams that won or lost 100 games in a season fared in attendance.
- A section on Division Series, Championship Series, World Series, and All-Star Game attendance.
- A comparison of each team's yearly attendance with the annual MLB average attendance per team.
- Attendance growth in a ballpark's final year.
- History of attendance at night games from 1935 through 1950, and Sunday and holiday doubleheaders.
- A yearly listing of the team with the highest and lowest attendance in each league--1900-2023.
- The number of times each team had the highest or lowest attendance in its league.
- Negro Leagues attendance notes.
- A look back at 1961 and 1962, Major League Baseball's first expansion seasons.
- 10, 20, 30, 40-year (**2023** vs. 2009, 1999, 1989, 1979) attendance growth rate for other sports.
- A listing of record-high total and average per date/game attendance records for baseball and other professional sports leagues. Includes team and league records, and trends since 1990.

#### NOTE TO LEAGUES, TEAMS, MEDIA, AND WEBSITES

You can download this report, and the 2023 **Minor League Baseball** Attendance Analysis, in PDF format, at numbertamer.com. Go to the Website's 'Major League Baseball' and 'Minor League Baseball' pages for the PDF links to each report.

Permission is granted for you to copy, distribute, publish, and use any of the material, including tables, that appear in these attendance analyses. Credit to numbertamer.com would be appreciated. Please contact David Kronheim (d.kronheim@verizon.net) if you have any questions about these reports. Comments, corrections, and suggestions are always welcome. Note that these reports are copyrighted.

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE REPORTING GUIDELINES

All 1998-2023 attendance figures used in this analysis were obtained from the Major League Baseball Information System, or the MLB Stats Reporting Platform, and are for tickets sold. Tickets purchased, but never used, are included in attendance totals. All professional sports leagues in North America, except for the Pecos Baseball League, now use this method to compile official attendance. So quite often, actual attendance in the ballpark is significantly lower than the official announced attendance.

Until 1993, the National League only counted tickets sold and actually used, as their official paid attendance. The National League didn't count 'no-shows' in their attendance figures through 1992. American League figures did include the 'no-shows' for many years before then.

Attendance from years prior to 1998 was obtained from Total Baseball -The Ultimate Baseball Encyclopedia – 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, published in 2004.

Major League Baseball issues a report on attendance right after the regular season. Those figures are later audited, and changes are sometimes made. This can result in discrepancies in attendance figures listed by different sources, such as team media guides, the Major League Averages Book, and the formerly published American League Red Book, National League Green Book, and The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book.

Unlike some other leagues, Major League Baseball announced regular season attendance figures often, but not always, do not include tickets that teams give away free. Announced attendance for post-season games is for all tickets distributed. That is why the listed attendance for sold out post-season games is almost always higher than listed attendance for sold out regular season games. Some ballparks have fewer seats available for post-season play because sections in the stands are used as additional media seating.

#### WHAT'S A SELLOUT?

Each team has its own policy on declaring a home game as a sellout. It is unofficially defined as <u>all seats</u> available for public purchase to a particular game being sold out. Free tickets provided to players, league and team officials, and other guests, may, or may not be, included in the announced attendance for each game. So a game listed as a sellout may have an announced attendance figure that is less than the ballpark's seating capacity, and there may be plenty of empty seats at the game.

Standing-room tickets sold are included in the official game attendance. But the standing-room tickets don't have to be sold out for a game to be listed as a sellout. As long as all available <u>seats</u> to a game are sold, it's a sellout. This is a fair policy since not all teams sell standing-room tickets.

In 2012, Boston and San Francisco sold out every home game. San Francisco's sellout streak continued through the entire 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 seasons, ending on July 17, 2017 after 530 straight regular season (plus 25 post-season) games. The Giants sold standing-room tickets.

Boston's streak ended at 794 straight regular season sellouts (820 straight including post-season) after Opening Day 2013. During Boston's streak, they listed a number of games as sellouts even though some obstructed view seats for those games were unsold. However, the total number of seats sold or donated to charity, plus standing-room tickets sold for those games, exceeded Fenway Park's seating capacity.

The Philadelphia Phillies ended their then-National League record sellout streak in 2012 at 257 regular season games (273 including post-season). San Francisco set a new National League sellout streak record in April, 2014.

### EXCEPT WHERE SPECIFICALLY NOTED OTHERWISE, ALL TEAM, LEAGUE, AND OVERALL MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE FIGURES IN THIS REPORT ARE FOR HOME, REGULAR SEASON GAMES ONLY.

This report was compiled, analyzed, and written by David P. Kronheim, Director of Marketing Research for Number Tamer, which is a marketing research service with clients in the sports industry.

#### **INFORMATION AND DATA SOURCES USED TO COMPILE THIS REPORT**

All tables and analyses in this report and in the 2023 Minor League Baseball Attendance Analysis were created by David Kronheim. But much of the raw data, and other information, come from the following Websites and publications, all of which are and were excellent sources of information:

<u>Total Baseball – The Ultimate Baseball Encyclopedia – 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, published in 2004</u> - Contains Major League attendance figures and player records going back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

<u>The ESPN Official Encyclopedia of Major League Baseball</u> – Edited by Pete Palmer and Gary Gillette This book has the most comprehensive review of yearly Major League statistical data as far back as the 1870's. But the book's most unique feature is its player register, which lists the yearly and career statistics for every single player who has ever appeared in a Major League game.

<u>MLB.com – The Official Website of Major League Baseball</u> - This is the official source of current Major League statistics, which are updated daily during the season. The site has a great deal of statistical information about Major League history, and for some teams, the daily game notes. MLB.com also runs each team's Website, which has team information, videos, and many other features.

<u>Minorleaguebaseball.com (or MiLB.com)</u>– The Official Website of Minor League Baseball - This site covers Minor Leagues and teams that are affiliated with Major League Baseball. It has up-to-date statistics for every league and team, and a host of other features and videos. Also of great help, are the annual Minor League Baseball Information Guide, and individual league and team media guides.

<u>Oursportscentral.com</u> -- A site that covers news and provides links to minor leagues in baseball and other sports.

<u>Retrosheet.org</u> – This site has box scores and play-by-play reports from tens of thousands of Major League games, going back decades. The information used here was obtained free of charge and is copyrighted by retrosheet.org.

<u>Websites of Independent Minor Leagues</u> - Every independent minor league has its own site, which contains news features, statistics, and links to each independent team Website.

Baseball Hall of Fame Reference Library - Located at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.

<u>Major League Team Media Guides</u> - All Major League teams publish an annual Media Guide, which is the team's official record book. These guides also contain biographical and statistical data about each player on the team's Major League roster, and in its Minor League system, along with a good deal of information about the team's history.

<u>Baseballparks.com</u>, and <u>Ballparkdigest.com</u> - These sites have features, extensive reviews, and photos about Major League and Minor League ballparks, past, present, and future. Ballparkdigest.com also has local and national coverage of the business side of baseball.

BallparkBiz.com – It was a great Website with daily stories about the business side of all levels of baseball.

The Baseball America Directory – This is an annual compilation of Minor League team and ballpark information.

<u>The Sporting News Official Baseball Guides</u> – From the 1940's to the early 2000's, this book had been a complete review of the previous season. It is no longer published.

<u>Mud Hens and Mavericks</u> – by Judith Blahnik and Phillip S. Schulz, published in 1995 by Viking Penguin --This book had ballpark and attendance information about many Minor League teams.

<u>Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball (Third Edition - 2007)</u> – Edited by Lloyd Johnson and Miles Wolff, and published by Baseball America. It contains standings and statistics on every Minor League since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

<u>Thebaseballcube.com</u> – A historical Website containing team and individual player statistics for every Major League team. Also has an extensive Minor League statistical database going back to the late 1970's.

<u>Other Sources</u>: - Information in this report was also obtained from the NFL, NBA, WNBA, NHL, MLS, NCAA, Minor League Hockey Websites, kenn.com, remembertheABA.com, basketballreference.com, and the MLB Stats Reporting Platform. Other sources, used for one or two stats, are listed on the appropriate pages of this report.

#### A NOTE ON HOW MIAMI AND TORONTO CHANGED THE WAY THEY COMPILED THEIR OFFICIAL 2018 ATTENDANCE, AND WHY DECLINES BY THESE TEAMS MAY BE LESS THAN THE FIGURES INDICATE

In 2018, both the Miami Marlins and Toronto Blue Jays revised their methods of compiling their official attendance. These changes resulted in both teams, particularly the Marlins, reporting huge attendance declines in 2018, compared to 2017. While both of these decreases were among the largest in Major League history, some context is needed in reporting them.

In 2017, the Marlins included tickets sold at deep discounts, or distributed for free, in their official reported attendance of 1,651,997. Their new ownership group decided to change this policy in 2018, and only include tickets actually sold at, or close to, the regular price, in their official attendance. As a result of this change, 2018 official Marlins' attendance was listed as 811,104, a decline of 840,893 (50.9%). It was the first time, at least officially, that a team had its attendance cut in half from one year to the next since 1950.

According to a March 29, 2018 article in the Miami Herald, if the Marlins had used the same method of calculating attendance in 2017, as they were planning to do in 2018, their 2017 attendance would have been around 820,000. So virtually their entire 2018 listed attendance decline is due to them no longer reporting free, or deeply-discounted tickets, in the official attendance figures announced by the team, and compiled by the Major League Baseball Information System.

As for Toronto, according to an article by Maury Brown in the October 3, 2018 issue of Forbes, the Blue Jays released far fewer tickets to resellers in 2018, compared to previous years. Toronto's attendance fell 878,605 (27.4%) in 2018. Much, or perhaps even most of, this decrease could be attributed to the Blue Jays finishing 35 games out of first place in the American League East. But the change in ticket distribution policy was certainly a factor in the decline.

This report, and probably all other news media reports about Major League Baseball attendance, use the official figures provided by Major League Baseball. So the 2018 attendance declines listed for Miami and Toronto are official. But wherever they are noted in this report, and in future editions of the Number Tamer Major League Baseball Attendance Analysis, the change in how these teams compiled their attendance in 2018 will be mentioned.

Miami used the same method of compiling attendance in 2023, 2022, 2021, and 2019, as they did in 2018.

#### SOMETHING TO KEEP IN MIND ABOUT THE BIG DECLINES IN NEW YORK IN 2009

In 2009, the Yankees had the biggest loss ever for a team that won a division, and/or the World Series. The Mets had the second worst attendance decline in Major League history.

The main reason for the drop in attendance for both teams is that they each drew more than 4 million in 2008, and then moved into smaller ballparks in 2009. Even if both teams had sold out every game in 2009, they still would have posted a significant decline in attendance. Old Yankee Stadium had a 2008 seating capacity of 57,545, while new Yankee Stadium's capacity was listed as 52,325 in 2009, 50,287 in 2010, 50,291 in 2011, 2012, and 2013, 49,642 in 2014, 49,638 in 2015, 49,469 in 2016, 47,222 in 2017, 47,309 in 2018 and 2019, 46,537 from 2020 through 2023, and 46,543 in 2024. Shea Stadium's final capacity was 57,365. Citi Field seats 41,922 (It had 41,800 seats from 2009 through 2011).

The Colorado Rockies and the St. Louis Cardinals are the only other teams to draw at least <u>3 million</u> in the final full season in a ballpark. Colorado set the all-time Major League attendance record in 1993, their only full season in Mile High Stadium, when they drew 4,483,350. St. Louis drew 3,538,948 in 2005, their final year in Busch Memorial Stadium. Both of these teams moved to smaller ballparks.

#### 2021 MAJOR LEAGUE STADIUM CAPACITY GUIDELINES

At the start of the 2021 season, due to Covid-19, every Major League team, except Texas, faced restrictions on the number of seats they could sell to games. For some teams, it was a listed number of seats that could be filled, while other teams were restricted by a percentage of their stadium's capacity. All **2022 and 2023** Major League games were played with full capacity permitted.

The table below is an attempt to show the seating restrictions each team faced during the first part of the **2021 season**, and when they were allowed to return to full-capacity (except for Toronto). No restrictions were ever reimposed after teams were allowed to sell tickets to full capacity. This information is based on teams' press releases, information in their Game Notes, and from attendance figures in day-by-day tables in Game Notes, and in the MLB Stats Reporting Platform.

Team	2021 Early-Season Attendance Restrictions
Baltimore	11,000 or 25% until June 1. Full capacity afterward.
Boston	Under 5,000 through May 6. Under 10,000 through May 28. Full capacity starting May 29.
Chicago White Sox	20% of capacity at start, 25% through May 16, 60% starting May 24. Full capacity June 25.
Cleveland	30% of capacity through May 12. 40% of capacity for the rest of May. Full capacity June 2.
Detroit	8,000 through May 30. Full capacity starting June 8.
Houston	50% of capacity early in the season. Full capacity May 25.
Kansas City	Appx. 10,000 through May 6, then raised to 17,400. Full capacity May 31.
Los Angeles Angels	About 30% through June 9. Full capacity June 17.
Minnesota	25% through May 6, 60% through May 30, 80% in June. Full Capacity July 5.
New York Yankees	10,850 through May 9, 15,000 through May 27. 20,000 in early June. Full capacity June 15
Oakland	10,000 in April, May, and most of June. Full capacity June 29.
Seattle	9,000 through early June, then raised to slightly above 30,000. Full capacity July 2.
Tampa Bay	9,000 through May, 20,000 in June. Full capacity July 5.
Texas	The only team that was permitted full capacity for the entire season.
Toronto	Not allowed into Canada at the start of the season. Played at below 1,700 capacity at their
	Spring Training park in Dunedin, FL in April and May. Then moved to Buffalo in June, starting
	at 35% of capacity there, going to 45% on June 15, and full capacity on June 24. Returned to
	Toronto on July 30, with 15,000 capacity through Sept. 19, and 30,000 capacity afterward.
Arizona	20,000 capacity at the start of the season. Full capacity May 25
Atlanta	Started season at 33% capacity (around 14,000). Full capacity May 7.
Chicago Cubs	10,343 through May 9, 11,145 through May 20, 24,824 through early June. Full cap. June 11.
Cincinnati	30% capacity at start of season, raised to 40% on April 30. Full capacity June 2.
Colorado	21,000 in April and May. Full capacity in June.
Los Angeles Dodgers	15-16,000 through June 2, then 20,000. Full capacity June 15. 16 crowds topped 50,000.
Miami	27% early season. Full capacity July 5.
Milwaukee	12,000 through May 14, 16-20,000 through June 16. Full capacity June 25.
New York Mets	Started at 20% (8,384), up to 12,222 May 29, 33,875 on June 11. Full capacity June 21.
Philadelphia	Started at 20%, up to 25% through May 20, 40% through June 10. Full capacity June 12.
Pittsburgh	20% into May, then 25% in late May, 55% in June. Full capacity July 1.
St. Louis	13,000 at start, up slightly to 32% in May. Full capacity June 14
San Diego	10,350 in homestand 1, 15,250 in May, 16,000 in early June. Full capacity June 17
San Francisco	22% (around 9,000) at start, gradually increased to 18,000. Full capacity June 25.
Washington	Under 9,000 through May 13, up to 36% into early June. Full capacity June 10.

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL - 2023 ATTENDANCE SEASON-IN-REVIEW

#### 2023 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SEASON ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2023, Major League Baseball drew its highest attendance since 2017.
- Total 2023 attendance was 70,747,365, up 6,190,707 (9.6%) from the 2022 total of 64,556,658. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest numerical increase (to 1946) in Major League history, excluding expansion years, and years where the previous season was a shorter season, and excluding 2022, which followed the unique 2021 season.
- The **2023** total was up 25,442,656 (56.2%) from **2021**, when early season games were played with limited capacity allowed in ballparks. **Vs. 2019**, the total was up 2,254,272 (3.3%), and **vs. 2018**, the total was up 1,122,121 (1.6%).
- On a percentage basis, the 2023 gain in total attendance was the 6<sup>th</sup> highest, since 1946. Only 1946, 1966, 1954, 1959, and 1987, had higher percentage gains during this period. Again, this excludes the types of seasons noted above.
- 2023 average per date was 29,295, up 2,452 (9.1%) vs. 2022. The average per date had been above 30,000 for 14 straight years until 2018.
- The 2023 average per date was up 10,394 (55.0%) from the 2021 full-season average, and up 5,244 (21.8%) from the 2021 full-capacity average. Vs. 2019, the 2023 average per date increased 957 (3.4%), and vs. 2018, average per date rose 465 (1.6%).
- 1,204 home dates played by American League teams in **2023** drew 32,486,633, up 3,382,437 (11.6%) from 2022. Average per date was 26,982, up 2,688 (11.1%).
- 1,211 home dates were played by National League teams in **2023**, and they drew 38,260,732, up 2,808,270 (7.9%). Average per date was 31,594, up 2,222 (7.6%).
- The 2023 figures include 2 San Diego home games played in Mexico City, 2 St. Louis home games in London, and a Washington home game at the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA.
- For 2023 vs. 2022, 26 teams had increases in total attendance, and 24 teams were up in average per date. The last time 4 or fewer teams had total attendance declines was in 1946 when all 16 teams were up. Other 'normal' years with 4 or fewer teams with declines were 1945 (4), 1936 (3), 1920 (3), 1916 (3), and 1903 (2).
- The only teams with **2023 vs. 2022** total attendance declines were the White Sox (down 339,731), the Dodgers (down (24,329), St. Louis (down 79,460), and Washington (down 160,569)
- A 2023 vs. 2019 comparison has 16 teams up in total attendance, and 15 teams with average per date gains.
- A record-tying 17 teams topped 2.5 million in total attendance in 2023.
- 8 teams (Houston, Yankees, Toronto, Atlanta, Dodgers, Philadelphia, San Diego, St. Louis) surpassed 3 million, the most teams reaching this level since 2013. A record-high 10 teams reached 3 million in 2000, 2007, and 2008.
- Although difficult to quantify, the new rules instituted in 2023 may have been a factor in the big attendance increase. Average time of game for 9-inning games was 2 hours and 40 minutes in 2023, 24 minutes less than in 2022, 30 minutes less than in 2021, 25 minutes less than in 2019, and 21 minutes less than in 2018.
- In 2022, Major League Baseball had its lowest total attendance in a 'normal' season (so it excludes 2020 and 2021) since 1997, when there were two fewer teams than in 2022. The average per date was the lowest since the shorter and late-starting 1995 season, following the 1994 work stoppage. The last full and normal season, prior to 2022, with a lower MLB average per date was 1990, when the National League was not including 'no-shows' (tickets sold but not used) in its official attendance. The American League had its lowest normal and full-season total since 1988, and its lowest normal and full-season average per date since 1986. For the National League, it was their lowest 'normal' season total since 1997, and their lowest average per date since 2003.
- The labor dispute that delayed the start of Spring Training and the regular season, along with ongoing Covid concerns, may have been a factor in Major League attendance in **2022**.

- 15 dates in **2023** were lost to rainouts, and were rescheduled as part of single-admission doubleheaders. There were 25 lost dates in **2022**, 34 'lost dates' due to weather and Covid-19 in **2021**, and 13 dates were 'lost' in **2019**.
- The largest gains in total attendance for **2023 vs. 2022** were by Philadelphia (up 775,869–34.1%), Cincinnati (up 642,532–46.0%), Baltimore (up 568,431–41.5%), Cleveland (up 538,198–41.5%), and Texas (up 521,683–25.9%). Houston, Seattle, Tampa Bay, Toronto, Arizona, and Pittsburgh achieved increases of at least 300,000.
- Philadelphia's increase of 775,869 was the highest by any team not moving into a new ballpark since Cleveland had a 953,634 gain in 1993, their final year in Cleveland Stadium. Many fans bought 1993 ticket plans in Cleveland in order to have priority for good seat locations when Progressive Field opened in 1994. The most recent similar gains when playing in the same park were by the Angels (755,525 in 2003), and Kansas City (752,067 in 2015). All these big gains only compare full seasons in both years, and exclude 2021 for all teams, and 1993 for National League teams. The National League began to include tickets sold, but not used, in its official attendance starting in 1993, which led to inflated increases vs. 1992. The American League had been including 'no-shows' in its attendance before then.
- Top increases in 2023 vs. 2022 average per date were by Philadelphia (9,699 34.1%), Cincinnati (7,717 44.2%), Cleveland (6,463 37.9%), Texas (6,440 25.9%), and Baltimore (6,368 36.3%). 7 other teams had increases of at least 10%. The largest declines were by the White Sox (3,402 13.7%), and Washington (1,982 7.9%). The Dodgers, Mets, Colorado, and St. Louis had the only other average per date losses, but those declines were all under 1,000 per date, and less than 2.5%.
- In 2023 vs. 2019 average per date, best gains were by Toronto (15,700 72.7%), Seattle (11,115 50.3%), San Diego (10,805 36.5%), Baltimore (7,563 46.3%), and Atlanta (6,622 20.2%). Miami had a 43.3% increase, and Tampa Bay was up 20.7%. The biggest decline was by Oakland (10,245 49.9%). No other team had a loss that was more than 5,000 per date, or above 18%.
- In **2023**, 91 dates played in Major League parks drew under 10,000. Oakland had 47 dates under 10,000, including 18 which drew less than 5,000, with a Major League low of 2,064 on May 15. Other teams with dates that failed to draw at least 10,000 were Miami (22), Pittsburgh (6), Tampa Bay (4), Cincinnati (4), Cleveland (3), Kansas City (2), Arizona (2), and Baltimore (1).
- In 2022, there were 167 dates in Major League parks drawing under 10,000. Oakland with 49 under 10,000 dates, and Miami, with 42, accounted for a majority of the 2022 low-attendance dates. Tampa Bay had 22, and Pittsburgh had 20. 563 dates played in Major League ballparks drew under 10,000 in 2021. This figure excludes games played in Dunedin, Buffalo. Dyersville, and Williamsport. Yet many of these games were reduced-capacity sellouts, or near sellouts. In 2019, there were 99 dates in Major League parks that drew under 10,000, and in 2016, there were just 3.
- The 2 largest crowds of the **2023** regular season were 54,662 and 55,565, for the 2 St. Louis home games in London.
- The Dodgers led the Major Leagues in attendance for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight season in 2023, and for the 32<sup>nd</sup> time since moving to Los Angeles in 1958. They drew 3,837,079, averaging 47,371 per date. 26 dates drew at least 50,000, including an MLB ballpark season high of 53,057. Dodger Stadium has the highest listed capacity of any Major League park.
- In 2023, the Yankees drew 3,269,016, averaging 40,863 per date. They were the American League's attendance leader for the 17<sup>th</sup> time in the last 20 seasons, and for the 58<sup>th</sup> time since 1920, which was Babe Ruth's first year with the team.
- San Diego drew a team record-high total (3,271,554), and average per date (40,390). The Padres had an MLBhigh 61 sellouts, the most of any team. This includes 2 sellouts for games in Mexico City.
- St. Louis had an MLB 4<sup>th</sup> best 2023 attendance with a total of 3,241,091, and an average per date of 40,013. This included the 2 home dates played in London. Their 81 regular season dates all drew over 30,000. This extended the Cardinals' record streak of 30,000+ attendance to 1,410 consecutive dates (1,361 regular season, 49 post-season). The streak does not include 2021, when early season capacity restrictions did not allow crowds so large. It also excludes 2 games in 2023 played in London. Both of those games drew over 54,000 each.
- Atlanta (3,191,505 total, 39,401 average) was 5<sup>th</sup> in **2023** attendance. The Braves had 54 regular season sellouts, 2<sup>nd</sup> most of any team. 18 teams surpassed 2 million in total attendance, and 17 teams drew over 30,000 per date.

- An estimated 375 dates were sold out in 2023.
- On the other end of the **2023** attendance leader board, Oakland had the lowest total (832,352), and average per date (10,276) in the Major Leagues. Miami, which does not count free or sharply reduced priced tickets in its official attendance, drew 1,162,819, averaging 14,356 per date. Tampa Bay and Kansas City also failed to reach 1.5 million in total attendance, and 20,000 in average per date. The Rays and Marlins did have increases of more than 27%.
- The Cubs led the Major Leagues in road attendance in **2023**, with a total of 2,650,565, averaging 32,723 per date. The Yankees were the American League's biggest road draw (2,638,432 32,573 per date).
- Major League Baseball's 2019 total attendance was 68,493,093. It was the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year with a decline, the 6<sup>th</sup> decrease in the 7 previous years, and the 9<sup>th</sup> drop in attendance in the previous 12 seasons. Total MLB attendance had topped 73 million for 13 years in a row (2004-2016). From 2010, until 2018, the yearly changes were small. Attendance fell 1.6% in 2019, 4.2% in 2018, 0.7% in 2017, 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, 6.6% in 2009, and 1.2% in 2008. It was up 4.6% in 2007, and up 1.5% in 2006.
- Home games played in American League parks had a combined 2019 vs. 2018 loss of 1,783,597 (5.5%) to 30,591,020. Attendance for games in National League parks rose 651,446 (1.7%) to 37,902,073. In 2018, the American League had a 5.8% total attendance decline, while the National League was down 2.8%. The National league was up 0.5% in 2017 total attendance, but the American League had a 1.9% dip. 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.
- **2023** total attendance was 8,755,810 (11.0%) lower than the record-high of 79,503,175, set in **2007**. Average attendance <u>per team</u> was 2,358,246 in **2023**, down 291,860 (11.0%) from all-time high of 2,650,106 in **2007**. The **2023** average <u>per date</u> of 29,295 was down 3,490 (10.6%) from the **2007** record-high of 32,785.
- 42 games were postponed due to weather in 2023. 27 of them were rescheduled on off-days or as a part of a separate-admission, day-night doubleheader. The other 15 games were played as part of single-admission doubleheaders. The Mets and Tigers had the most postponements, with 6 each. The Red Sox, White Sox, and Phillies each had 4 rainouts. A West Coast rarity Hurricane Hilary affected Southern California in August, and caused the Angels, Dodgers, and Padres to postpone or reschedule games. The Angels had to reschedule 2 games, which were their first rainouts since 2015. For the Padres, it was the first rainout since 2017. The Dodgers ended a streak of 1,872 consecutive regular season games, (1,925 games including the post-season,) without a rainout. Prior to this, the last postponed regular season game at Dodger Stadium was on April 17, 2000. All the 2023 California postponements were rescheduled as part of separate-admission doubleheaders, so no dates were lost.
- There were 45 weather postponements in **2022**. Cleveland had 10 of them, the Yankees had 6, and Baltimore had 5. 74 games were postponed in **2021** due to weather or Covid-19. The Mets had 9 home postponements, all due to weather. Cleveland had 7. Washington also had 7 postponements, including their first 4 home dates, which were due to Covid. In **2019**, there were 37 postponements, 17 fewer than in 2018, a year with cold early-season weather.
- 336 games were scheduled for outdoor, non-retractable roof ballparks in March-April, 2019. 15 were postponed, which was 12 fewer than during the same months in 2018. 9 of these early season games in 2019 began in under 40-degree temperatures, compared to 28 in 2018. There were 41 March-April, 2019 games with gametime temperatures of less than 50 degrees, compared to 98 such games in 2018. On the warmer side, 203 games started with temperatures of at least 60 degrees in March-April, 2019, compared to just 146 games in 2018.
- Mother Nature was not kind to Major League, and especially to Minor League, Baseball in **2018**. In the Major Leagues, there were 54 postponements in 2018, tying 1997 for the most since 1989. Early season games that were played often took place in terrible conditions. Of the 351 games scheduled for outdoor stadiums in March or April, 2018 (excludes retractable-roof parks), 27 were postponed due to rain, snow, or cold. 98 games began with temperatures under 50 degrees, including 28 games under 40 degrees. One game each, in Minnesota and Colorado, started with a gametime temperature of 27 degrees. In April 2018, 10 of 15 games played in Cleveland, and 10 of 14 games in Detroit, started with temperatures under 50. 5 of the games in Detroit had gametime temperatures of less than 40 degrees.

- The bad weather in **2018** caused a decline in the official announced attendance, which includes tickets sold, but not used. But perhaps more significantly, it likely caused declines in short-term advance and day-of-game ticket sales, and in the number of people who actually did attend the games. Many of those early-season bad-weather games were played in front of very sparse crowds. With more and more ballpark revenue generated from sources other than ticket sales, such as parking, concessions, ballpark dining and bar facilities, and merchandise sales, bad weather may be costlier to teams now, than it has ever been. On the other hand, day-of-game sales account for a smaller percentage of ticket sales now, than they did more than 40 years ago. In March-April, 2018, the Major League average attendance per date was 9.4% lower than it was for those months in 2017. Despite better weather in 2019, there still was a decline comparing March-April, 2019 vs. March-April, 2018, but it was just 0.5%.
- 41 post-season games were played in 2023, and they drew 1,774,366, an average of 43,277. The largest crowd was 51,653 for Game 1 of a National League Division Series at Dodger Stadium. Tampa Bay drew only 19,704 and 20,198 to the Wild Card games they hosted. Attendance at Game 1 was the lowest for a post-season game since Game 7 of the 1919 World Series in Cincinnati drew just 13,923. It was not a Series deciding game. That year, the World Series was a best of 9, and the Reds won Game 8 and the Series, in Chicago, beating the White Sox. 17 World Series games between 1903 and 1909 drew less than 13,923, with a low of 6,210 in Detroit in 1909.
- The 40 post-season dates in 2022 drew 1,766,263, averaging 44,157 per game. In 2021, the 37 post-season games drew 1,571,603, an average of 42,476 per game. The only games with fans in attendance in 2020 were played at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas. Those 13 NLCS and World Series games drew a limited capacity total of 144,465, averaging 11,113 per game. 2019 post-season attendance was 1,650,223 for 37 games, averaging 44,601 per game. 2018 post-season attendance was 1,497,352 for 33 games, an average of 45,374 per game. In 2017, it was 1,746,109 for 38 games, an average of 45,950 per game. The 2016 post-season drew 1,552,257 for 35 games, averaging 44,350 per game. 2015 post-season drew 1,634,763 for 36 games, averaging 45,410 per game.
- In 2023, 2022 and 2021, no games had to be relocated to other ballparks due to storms, though Tampa Bay did have a 2021 postponement due to a hurricane. But there were games scheduled for non-Major League ballparks. In 2023, San Diego hosted 2 games in Mexico City, and St. Louis had 2 home games in London. Cincinnati (2022) and the Chicago White Sox (2021) were the home teams at games played at the Field of Dreams site in Dyersville, Iowa. Washington (2023), Baltimore (2022) and Cleveland (2021) were the home teams at the annual Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA. Toronto had to play some of their 2021 home games in Dunedin, FL and Buffalo, NY.
- In 2023, the New York Yankees topped the American League in total attendance for the 58<sup>th</sup> time. They extended their Major League record streak of reaching 3 million to 23 straight years (excludes 2021).
- 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 and 2017, Texas led in 2021.) 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.
- 2019 was the first full season since 1964 that both teams in the World Series had a decline in attendance in their pennant-winning season. It also occurred in 1963, 1958, 1952, 1943, 1942, 1923, 1922, 1910, and in the short seasons of 1918 and 1981. From the first World Series in 1903, through 2023, 39 of 115 teams, had an attendance decline in the year of their World Series win. It excludes short seasons in 1918 and 1981, and of course 2020 and 2021, due to the special nature of those seasons. There was no World Series in 1904 and 1994. Houston and Philadelphia, the 2022 World Series teams, both had increases in attendance vs. 2021, but had declines vs. 2019.
- In 2023, for the 8<sup>th</sup> time in MLB history, the gap between the team with the highest and lowest attendance topped 3 million. The Dodgers outdrew Oakland by 3,004,727 in 2023, and by 3,073,506 in 2022. Other occurrences of a 3 million+ gap were in: 2019 (Dodgers outdrew the Miami Marlins by 3,163,007, the largest margin ever between the highest and lowest team total attendance in a season); 1991 (Toronto over Montreal by 3,066,785); 1993 (Colorado over San Diego by 3,107,918); 2004 (Yankees over Montreal by 3,026,742); 2006 (Yankees over Marlins by 3,079,646); and 2018 (Dodgers outdrew the Marlins by 3,046,396).
- The Dodgers had the best MLB combined home/road attendance, by a good margin, in **2023**. The drew 6,420,414, an average of 39,878 per date. For the 23<sup>rd</sup> time in the last 24 seasons with attendance, the Yankees led the American League in combined home/road attendance, with a total of 5,907,448, which averaged 36,692 per date. San Diego was 3<sup>rd</sup> in combined home/road 2023 attendance attracting 5,827,298, and averaging 35,971 per date.

- Honors for the top 2022 combined home/road attendance also went to the Dodgers, who drew 6,390,902, an average of 39,450 per date. The Yankees had the American League's top combined home/road attendance, drawing 5,600,088, averaging 35,221 per date. St. Lous was 3<sup>rd</sup> in combined home/road 2022 attendance with a total of 5,552,187, and a 34,486 average per date.
- In 2021, the Dodgers led MLB in combined home/road attendance, and the Yankees were the AL leaders. The Dodgers had the highest combined 2019 Major League home/road attendance, drawing 6,681,929 (41,246 per date). The Yankees drew a home/road combined 5,765,148 (36,259 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, and the Yankees led in 2017 and 2018.
- Miami had the lowest total attendance in the Major Leagues in **2019**, drawing just 811,302 (10,016 per date). The 2018 Marlins had the lowest attendance in the Majors since the Montreal Expos drew 748,550 in 2004, and the lowest attendance ever for a team whose ballpark opened after 1990. The Expos split their 2004 home games between Montreal and San Juan, and became the Washington Nationals in 2005. Note that the Marlins stopped including free and deeply-discounted tickets in their official attendance in 2018, which resulted in that sharp decline, and that policy has continued since then.
- Despite winning 96 games in **2019**, Tampa Bay had the lowest American League attendance in 2019, drawing 1,178,735, an average of 14,734 per date. The 2013 and 2019 Rays are the only teams in MLB history to make the playoffs while having their league's lowest attendance. The 2019 Rays had the most wins ever for a team that finished last in its league in attendance. Just 4 teams (2012, 2013, 2018, and 2019 Tampa Bay) have been last in league attendance while winning at least 90 games. The 1978 Baltimore Orioles, who drew 1,051,724 in 73 dates, were the last team to win at least 90 games, and have a lower total attendance than both 2018 and 2019 Tampa Bay.
- The Rays' <u>2018</u> average per date of 14,259, was the lowest for a team with at least 90 wins since the 1976 Pirates, who averaged 14,054 per date. 1975 Oakland, which drew 1,075,518, was the last team, in a normal season, that won at least 96 games, and drew worse than the Rays did in 2019. The 2019 Rays had the smallest attendance for a playoff team since that 1975 Oakland club. In **2023**, the Rays won 99 games, but they had the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest attendance (to Oakland and Kansas City) in the American League. It was the 9<sup>th</sup> time in the last 15 full seasons that Tampa Bay won at least 90 games. The Rays won 86 games in 2022, and were a Wild Card playoff team.
- In **2018**, the Marlins had a 50.9% decline, due to their change of method in reporting attendance. It was the only time a team had its attendance cut in half since 1950. **This excludes 2021.** According to data in 'Total Baseball,' the 1950 Philadelphia A's had a 62.1% decline in total attendance from 1949. Retrosheet.org data shows a 59.9% drop for the 1950 A's, who shared Shibe Park with the National League champion Phillies.
- San Diego was the only team to set a new team total attendance and average per date record in **2023**. The **2019** Dodgers were the previous team that set its new total attendance and/or average per date record.
- Interleague play increased significantly in **2023**, with 690 scheduled games, compared to 300 scheduled interleague games in recent previous seasons. Every team now plays at least one series with every team in the other league. The American League had 328 interleague wins in 2023, and the National League won 362.
- Due to such a large increase in interleague games, their affect on attendance is minimized. But some interleague games still draw particularly large crowds, especially those where a team plays its same-market rival. These series had 2 games in each team's park in **2023**. The 4 Yankees-Mets games drew 181,129 (45,282 average), White Sox-Cubs games drew 155,551 (38,888 average), Dodgers-Angels games drew 194,734 (48,684 average), and Giants-A's games drew 141,090 (35,273 average). These 16 'same-market' games drew 672,504 (42,032 average). 2023 interleague games averaged 1,375 more per date than non-interleague games.
- The 298 interleague dates in **2022** drew 8,564,908, an average of 28,741 per date. The 2,107 non-interleague dates drew 55,991,750, an average of 26,574 per date. The interleague games drew an average of 2,167 (8.2%) higher than non-interleague dates.
- There were 300 interleague dates played in **2021**, and they drew a total of 6,028,198, an average of 20,094. Many were played under reduced capacity guidelines. Non-interleague games averaged 18,739 per date. Interleague games drew an average of 1,355 (7.2%) higher than non-interleague games.

- The 299 interleague dates drew 8,774,747 in **2019**, an average of 29,347 per date. Non-interleague games averaged 28,196 per date, so the interleague games averaged 4.1% higher than the non-interleague average. Interleague games average per date was 8.8% higher than non-interleague games in 2018, 0.3% higher in 2017, 4.1% higher in 2016, and 4.2% higher in 2015. The interleague games averaged only 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. This was 13.9% above the average of 30,454 per date for non-interleague games.
- From the start of interleague play in 1997, through 2012, interleague games averaged 7.3% to 20.5% higher attendance per year 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 at the end of the season. With each league having 15 teams due to the move of the Astros to the American League in 2013, there is now at least one interleague game played nearly every day of the season.
- 15 single-admission doubleheaders were played in **2023**. In **2022**, there were 25 single-admission doubleheaders. They were make-ups of weather postponements, and of some games originally scheduled for the first week of the delayed 2022 regular season. 33 single admission doubleheaders were played in **2021**, all of them making up rained-out or Covid-postponed games. A rainout in Atlanta was not made up. There were 12 single admission doubleheaders on a team's original schedule was in Tampa Bay on Saturday, June 10, 2017. It drew 17,775. Oakland played an original schedule doubleheader on May 8, 2024.
- 2023 vs. 2022 average per date was up in every month. March (2 days) April had the smallest gain, up 3.1%. June had the largest gain, up 13.1%. Combined March through June was up 7.9%. July through October (1 day in October) rose 10.9%. The overall season increase was 9.1%. See the tables on Pages 32-33 for more 2023 details.
- **2022** average per date was down **vs. 2019** for each month of the season, with June having the largest decline (9.7%), and April posting the smallest loss (2.5%). The months of April through June had a combined decline of 6.7%, and the months of July through October saw a 4.4% loss.
- From April through June **2021**, when every team except Texas had reduced capacity restrictions at least some of the time, average attendance per date was 14,097. From July 1, through the end of the season, when every team except Toronto was allowed full capacity, average per date was 23,555. July (24,718 per date) was the highest drawing month. In **2019**, March through June dates averaged 27,799, and July through October dates averaged 28,917.
- A monthly comparison shows that **2019 vs. 2018** average per date was down 0.5% for March-April dates, down 2.1% in May, down 1.3% in June, down 2.5% in July, down 0.2% in August, and down 3.5% for September-October. Combined average per date for March, April, May, and June was 27,799 in 2019, down 1.3% from those same months in 2018. The combined July, August and September-October average per date was 28,917, down 2.0%.

July dates had the best average per date in **2023** (32,559), **2022** (28,919), 2021 (24,718), 2019 (30,360), 2018 (31,131), 2017 (32,805), 2016 (33,259), 2015 (33,007), 2014 (32,168) and 2013 (32,399). March-April had the lowest average per date in **2023** (26,879), 2019 (26,722), and 2018 (26,867), May had the lowest average in **2022** (24,936), 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), and of course in 2021 (10,008), as all teams except Texas had restricted capacity.

- 2,415 dates were played in **2023**. There were 2,405 dates played in **2022**. 2,397 dates were played in **2021**. That was the lowest number of dates played in a full season since Major League Baseball expanded to 30 teams in 1998.
- The number of dates played was 2,417 in 2019, 2,415 in 2018, 2,419 in 2017, 2,425 in 2016, 2,417 in 2015, 2,421 in 2014, and a record-high 2,426 in 2013. The 2018 and 2013 total number of dates included 'Tiebreaker' games to determine Division Champions or who made the post-season as a Wild Card team. Officially, those are extra regular season games, so all statistics, including attendance, are included in the regular season stats.
- The Dodgers, Cardinals, Braves, Blue Jays, Phillies, Padres, Astros, and Yankees all drew over 3 million in **2023**. 4 teams surpassed 3 million in **2022**. No team reached 3 million in **2021**. 5 teams (Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Cubs) topped 3 million in **2019**. 7 teams drew at least 3 million in 2018, 2017, and 2016. 5 teams reached 3 million in 2015 and 2014. The season record for the most teams above 3 million is 10 teams, in 2000, 2007, and 2008.

- A record-tying 17 teams topped 2.5 million in **2023**, and one other team reached 2 million. 11 teams drew better than 2.5 million in **2022**. Due to reduced-capacity rules, just 6 teams topped 2 million in **2021**, and only the Dodgers reached 2.5 million. In 2019, 12 teams surpassed 2.5 million, and 18 teams reached 2 million.
- 2013 and 2012 were the only seasons that every Major League team surpassed 1.5 million in attendance. Miami, Tampa Bay, Kansas City, and Oakland fell below that figure in **2023**.
- Both 2022 World Series teams had big attendance gains in 2023. Houston was up 363,349, and Philadelphia gained an MLB-best 775,869. 2021 World Series teams Houston and Atlanta both had attendance increases in 2022 vs. 2021. 2022 Atlanta was up 474,831 vs. 2019, but 2022 Houston was down 168,369 vs. 2019. As is usually the case following a World Series win, the Red Sox had a gain (29,052) in 2019. But the Chicago Cubs followed up their 2016 World Series win with a 32,858 decline in total attendance. The 2017 Cubs were just the 11<sup>th</sup> team since 1971 to have an attendance decline in the season following a World Championship. This excludes strike affected seasons, plus 2021 and 2022. Prior to 1971, 42 of 67 defending World Champions saw attendance fall in the year after their World Series win.
- 2015 World Champion Kansas City also had an attendance dip 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 25<sup>th</sup> in average per date in 2014. But they moved up to 10<sup>th</sup> best in the Majors in 2015. They ranked #12 in 2016, but fell to 17<sup>th</sup> in 2017, 23<sup>rd</sup> in 2018, 26<sup>th</sup> in both 2019 and 2022, and 28<sup>th</sup> in 2023. This excludes 2022 vs. 2021. Toronto was up 903,686 for 2022 vs. 2019.
- An estimated 375 dates were sold out in 2023, the most sellouts since at least 2013. A few teams don't list sellouts in their Game Notes, so an estimated figure, based on attendance and ballpark capacity had to be made. San Diego had 61 sellouts, 59 in San Diego, and 2 in Mexico, Atlanta listed 54, Toronto had an estimated 37, Philadelphia listed 26, and Houston listed 23. Oakland and Miami didn't have any sellouts, and the only sellouts in Kansas City, Minnesota, and Arizona were on Opening Day. There were an estimated 220 sellouts in 2022, 279 in 2019, 295 in 2018, 302 in 2017, 352 in 2016, 364 in 2015, and 366 in 2014.
- 220 dates were estimated to be sellouts in **2022.** Atlanta had 42 sellouts, St. Louis had 29, San Diego had a team record-high of 26, the Yankees had 16, and Boston had 14. All these teams did list their sellouts.
- The number of sellouts is difficult to note for **2021**. When reduced capacity restrictions were in place, some teams listed games where all tickets were sold, as sellouts, while other teams didn't do so. All available tickets were sold for many of the early season games where only a low percentage of ballpark capacity was allowed.
- The Chicago Cubs had an estimated 42 sellouts in **2019**, while Boston had 30, and the Dodgers had 28. The Cubs don't list sellouts in their Game Notes, so an estimate was made that crowds above 39,000 were sellouts.
- San Francisco's National League record-high sellout streak ended in July, 2017. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> longest sellout streak in Major League history, and is currently the 9<sup>th</sup> longest in North American sports history. Boston sold out 794 straight regular season dates, plus 26 post-season dates, from 2003 to 2013.
- The Minor League Baseball Dayton Dragons have an active sellout streak of 1,507 regular season dates through the end of the **2023** season, and 1,385 dates through **2019**, going back to their first game in 2000. They didn't sell out every game in **2021**. Considering the unique situation of 2021, it really wouldn't be fair to end the streak on that note. In 2022, the Dragons drew above seating capacity, and therefore a sellout, at all 56 dates. They had 10 lost dates. They did the same in 2023, but this time, they didn't have any lost dates, which made their achievement even greater.
- The Red Sox' streak, noted above, is now the 3<sup>rd</sup> longest. NBA teams hold 3 of the 5 longest streaks, which include playoff games: Dallas 961 through the end of the 2023-24 playoffs (excludes 2020-21); Portland 814; Boston 662. The NBA Chicago Bulls had a 610-game sellout streak. The NHL Pittsburgh Penguins had a streak of 633 sold-out games, starting on February 14, 2007, and ending on October 19, 2021. The NHL's Chicago Black Hawks' 535-game sellout streak ended on October 24, 2021. Montreal of the NHL had a 583-game sellout streak that ended on October 15, 2018. The Toronto Maple Leafs may have once had a longer sellout streak, but they don't report it.
- Biggest 2023 crowds were 54,662 and 55,565 at the St. Louis home games in London. For games played in Major League Parks, Dodger Stadium, with the highest seating capacity of any MLB ballpark, hosted the largest crowd of 2023 (53,057), 2022 (53,432), and of 2021 (53,114). The Yankees had the top American League crowds in 2023 (47,295), and 2022 (49,217). Seattle had the highest 2021 single game crowd in the American League (44,414).

- The largest crowd of the **2019** regular season was 59,659 in London, for a Boston 'home' game vs. the Yankees. The Dodgers drew 54,307 on May 31, which was the year's highest attendance at a National League park. Oakland's 53,367 crowd on August 24 was the largest in an American League park. Highest 2019 post-season crowd was 54,159 at Dodger Stadium for Game 5 of the National League Division Series.
- Texas (40,738) and Cincinnati (44,073) set new records in **2023** for the highest regular season, single game attendance in their current ballpark. Atlanta (43,898), and Texas (42,500) drew current park highs for the post-season. In **2022**, St. Louis and Texas set new records for the highest regular season single game attendance in their current ballparks, and San Diego and St. Louis each drew a record-high post-season crowd to their current parks.
- In 2023, the Dodgers surpassed 2 million for an MLB record 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive season, including 1994, 1995, and 2021. Atlanta reached 2 million for the 32<sup>nd</sup> straight year, and St. Louis topped 2 million for the 27<sup>th</sup> year in row. Through 2023, but not including 2021, Boston has topped 2 million for 27 straight seasons, and the Yankees and Cubs achieved this mark for 26 straight years.
- The Dodgers have now reached 2.5 million for a Major League record 49 times, **including 2021**. St. Louis has done it 32 times. The Yankees have topped 2.5 million in 28 seasons, the most for an American League team.
- Through **2023**. the Dodgers reached 3 million in attendance 35 times. St. Louis (25 times), the Yankees (23), San Francisco (17), and the Angels (17), are next on the list. In **2019**, the Cubs drew 3 million for the 12<sup>th</sup> time.
- The Yankees topped 3 million for a record 23rd straight 'normal' year in 2023, and St. Louis did it for the 18<sup>th</sup> 'normal' year in a row. The Angels had been above 3 million for the 17 years in a row through 2019, but that streak has ended. Until 2019, the Giants had topped 3 million for 9 years in a row, and 17 times in 19 years. The Dodgers drew 3 million in 15 straight seasons from 1996 through 2010.
- Another milestone was achieved by the Yankees in 2019 as they became the first U.S. or Canadian sports team to reach 200 million in attendance in one market. This covers 1903 through 2023. In 1901 and 1902, the Yankees were the Baltimore Orioles. The Dodgers have also surpassed 200 million in attendance since 1900, but some of that was during their years in Brooklyn. Since moving to Los Angeles in 1958, the Dodgers have drawn 192,219,865, by far the most of any team during this period.
- 48 of the 236 teams in the World Series from 1903 through 2023 (excluding 2020, which had no fans in attendance) led Major League Baseball in attendance that year. This includes the 2018 and 2017 Dodgers. (The 2021 Braves finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Dodgers.) 47 additional World Series teams led their own league, but did not lead the Majors. From 1903 through 1978, 83 of the 150 World Series teams were league leaders in attendance. The 2022 Astros ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in average per date, and the Phillies ranked 16<sup>th</sup>. 2023 Texas ranked 16<sup>th</sup>, and Arizona ranked 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Starting in 1979, through 2023, just 12 of the 86 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 and 2018 Dodgers. There have been 27 World Series with each league's attendance leader participating, but only one (1992-Toronto-Atlanta) since 1982.
- The 2016 Cleveland Indians (now named the Guardians) became just the 3<sup>rd</sup> team to play in the World Series in a year when they had the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest attendance in the Major Leagues. 2003 Florida and 1974 Oakland were the others. No team with a year's lowest or 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest Major League attendance, or with the lowest attendance in their league, has ever played in the World Series.
- The term 'lost dates' in this report refers to games postponed and either not made up, or made up as part of a singleadmission doubleheader. Postponed games made up as part of a separate-admission doubleheader, or on what was originally an off-day, are not considered to be lost dates.
- 24 of the 30 MLB clubs played the maximum 81 home dates in **2023.** Detroit had the most lost dates (4), the White Sox and Cleveland lost 3 each, the Mets lost 3, and Philadelphia and the Yankees each had one lost date. The last time the Mets had no lost home dates was 2015. All other teams have played at least one season with no lost dates since then.
- 17 teams played all 81 home dates in **2022.** Cleveland had the most lost dates (5), followed by the Mets (4), Baltimore and the Yankees (3 each). Two Oakland home dates from the originally scheduled first week of the season were made up as parts of single-admission doubleheaders.

- 16 of the 30 teams played their full 81-date home schedules in **2021**. The Mets lost 8 dates, all due to weather. They only played 73 home dates, the fewest for them in any full season since 1979. In those days, teams would have doubleheaders on their original schedules, and not just to make-up postponed games. 1980 Minnesota was the last team with as few as 73 dates in a season, and 1979 Cleveland, Baltimore, and Montreal each had just 72 home dates that year. Also in **2021**, Cleveland had 4 lost dates, while Baltimore, the White Sox, Atlanta, and Colorado each had 3. Even though Tampa Bay has an indoor ballpark, they lost a date due to a hurricane threat.
- Until 2014, Pittsburgh had been the only recent non-expansion team whose current all-time attendance record was set in a year with a losing record. The Pirates reached their old high in 2001, the year PNC Park opened. But in 2014, the Pirates had a winning year, and a new attendance record-high, and they broke that in 2015, another winning year. Miami, Colorado, Tampa Bay, Washington, and Arizona, each set their records in their first season.
- Attendance declines in 2022, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013, 2010 and 2009 pushed average per date figures back below levels reached prior to the 1994 strike. 2023 average attendance per date of 29,295 is 2,042 (6.5%) below the 1993 average of 31,337. If 1998 expansion teams Tampa Bay and Arizona are excluded, the 2023 average for the 28 teams that operated in 1993 (including Montreal, who moved to Washington in 2005) rises to 29,892 per date, which is a loss of 1,445 (4.6%) from 1993. Only 9 of the 28 teams that played in 1993 were still in the same home ballpark in 2023 (Baltimore, Boston, Chicago White Sox, Kansas City, Los Angeles Angels, Oakland, Toronto, Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers). Since 1993, Atlanta and Texas have each opened two new parks.
- In April 2022, the Cardinals reached 50 million in regular season attendance at Busch Stadium III, in their 1,221<sup>st</sup> date there. This is the fewest number of dates needed for a ballpark to achieve this attendance level. The Giants had the old record of 1,261 dates to reach 50 million (some sources list it as 1,259 dates).
- In 2023, Major League attendance was 69.91% of listed stadium capacity. In 2022, it was 63.7%. A 2021 figure would be very difficult to determine due to the early-season reduced capacity, and it would be rather meaningless anyway. Total attendance as an average of stadium capacity was 66.68% in 2019, 67.41% in 2018, 70.73% in 2017, 70.40% in 2016, 71.01% in 2015, 70.57% in 2014, and 70.60% in 2013. The probable highest percentage of capacity ever drawn is 73.28% in 2007. All figures are for stadium capacity in the season noted. Stadium capacity was obtained from the team media guides of the season that is noted.
- The 2023 teams drawing the highest percentage of their ballpark's listed seating capacity were San Diego (101.2%), Atlanta (95.7%), Houston (90.6%), St. Louis (90.3%), Toronto (89.9%), Philadelphia (88.9%), and Boston (88.2%).
- For post season, 9-inning games, average time of game was 3:02 in 2023. It was 3:23 in 2022, 3:37 in 2021, 3:32 in 2020, 3:34 in 2019, and 3:35 in 2018.

#### **TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – AMERICAN LEAGUE**

• **Baltimore** – Over the last 2 years, on the field, the Orioles have accomplished one of greatest turnarounds in Major League history. They won just 52 games in 2021, improved to 83 wins in 2022, and then won an American League-best 101 games in 2023. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, they were the first team since 1900 to win 77 or more games in a year following a season with at least 110 losses. Baltimore also became the first team to win at least 70 games following 3 straight full seasons with 100 or more defeats. Their attendance boomed as well.

Total **2023** attendance was 1,936,798, averaging 23,911 per date, the Orioles' best since 2017. The total was up 568,431 (41.5%) vs. **2022**, which was the biggest A.L. gain, and up 628,991 (48.1%) vs. **2019**. Baltimore's average per date rose 6,368 (36.3%) vs. **2022**, and 7,563 per date (46.3%) vs. **2019**. The **2023 vs. 2022** average per date gain was 2<sup>nd</sup> best numerically, and best by percentage, among American League teams. There were 6 sellouts in 2023, and no dates were lost. Baltimore has drawn over 2 million in all but 9 'normal' seasons since 1989.

Boston – 2023 total attendance was 2,672,130, an average of 32,989 per date. The total was up 47,041 (1.8%) vs. 2022, but down 252,497 (8.6%) vs. 2019. Average per date was 580 (1.8%) higher than in 2022, but declined 3,118 (8.6%) from 2019. The Red Sox filled Fenway Park to 88.19% of capacity, which was the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest such figure in the American League. There were 20 sellouts.

Total attendance has topped 2 million in 35 of the last 37 seasons (shorter 1994 season, and reduced capacity 2021, are the exceptions). The 35 consecutive 'normal' years above 2 million through 2023 is an American League record. Attendance has been above 2.5 million for 22 straight 'normal' seasons through 2023. Average per date has topped 30,000 for 23 years in a row, excluding 2021, and had been above 35,000 in 15 of 16 years until 2021. Through the end of 2019, 1,588 of the last 1,602 regular season dates (99.1%) at Fenway Park had topped 30,000, including all games from 2014 through 2019. 61 of the 81 dates in 2022 drew over 30,000, as did 70 of the 81 dates in 2023. So through 2023, but excluding 2021, 1,719 of the last 1,764 (97.4%) regular season dates at Fenway Park have drawn at least 30,000.

For over 9 full seasons, starting on May 15, 2003, and ending on April 10, 2013, the Red Sox sold out 794 straight regular season games, and 820 in a row if post-season games are included. This had been the longest sellout streak in North American Major League sports history, breaking the record of 814 held by Portland of the NBA. The Dallas Mavericks of the NBA have a current sellout streak of 961 games through the 2023-24 playoffs (excludes 2020-21). The Dayton Dragons of the Minor League Baseball Midwest League, have the longest sellout streak ever in North American sports, having sold out all 1,573 regular season dates in their history from 2000 through the end the 2019 season, plus 2022, 2023, and 2024. They did not sell out all their 2021 games due to so much uncertainty that year.

Chicago White Sox – In 2022, the White Sox had their best total attendance and highest full season average per date since 2010. But in 2023, they had the only decrease in the American League, and the largest decline in the Majors. They drew 1,669,628, down 339,731 (16.9%) from 2022, and up 19,853 (1.2%) from 2019. 2023 average per date was 21,405, down 3,402 (13.7%) from 2022. The average per date was down 21 (0.1%) from 2019. In 2023, there were 2 sellouts, and 3 lost dates. The 41 full capacity dates in 2021 averaged 27,866, up 6,440 from 2019. The White Sox and Padres were the only teams whose full capacity average per date was higher in 2021 than in 2019.

The White Sox posted an attendance increase in 2019, despite 4 lost dates. That was just their second gain in the previous 13 seasons. After a Major League record 8 straight attendance declines, the White Sox saw attendance rise in 2015.

Cleveland – 2023 was a much improved year in attendance, which was 1,834,068, up 538,198 (41.5%) from 2022, and up 95,426 (5.5%) from 2019. Average per date was 23,514, up an American League best 6,463 (37.9%) from 2022, and up 1,506 (6.8%) from 2019. The total attendance percentage growth tied Baltimore for best in the A.L. 5 dates were sellouts. The weather was better in 2023 with 3 lost dates and 3 postponements. In 2022, Cleveland had Major League highs in lost dates (5) and rainouts (10). 2017 is Cleveland's only year above 2 million since 2008.

Cleveland had a big attendance increase (202,762) in 2016. But their total of 1,591,667 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, 35,225 in 2016, 35,051 in 2017, 35,041 in 2018, 34,788 in 2019, 34,830 from 2021 through 2023, and 34,631 in 2024.

#### **TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – AMERICAN LEAGUE**

- Detroit 2023 total attendance was 1,612,876, up 37,332 (2.4%) from 2022, and up 111,446 (7.4%) from 2019. Average per date was 20,946 in 2023, up 1,252 (6.4%) from 2022, and up 2,268 (12.1%) vs. 2019. The 2019 total attendance and average per date were Detroit's lowest figures since 2003. Detroit had an MLB-high 4 lost dates in 2023, and 3 dates were sold out. The Tigers reached 3 million 4 times in the 7 years from 2007 through 2013, and had topped 2 million in 13 straight years until 2018. A streak of 11 seasons in a row with average per date above 30,000 ended in 2017. Until 2006, the Tigers reached 30,000 per date just twice in their history.
- Houston The 2022 World Series champions had the 3<sup>rd</sup> best attendance in their history in 2023, topped only by 2000 and 2004. The Astros drew 3,052,347 in 2023, averaging 37,683 per date. The total was up 363,349 (13.5%) vs. 2022, and up 194,980 (6.8%) vs. 2019. Average per date rose 4,485 (13.5%) vs. 2022, and gained 2,407 (6.8%) from 2019. 23 dates were sold out in 2023. Followed up their 2017 World Series win with baseball's best attendance growth in 2018. The Astros had the best record in the Majors in 2019, and made it to Game 7 of the World Series, but total attendance fell 123,182. Astros' 2023 total attendance is up 1,444,614 (89.9%) from 2012.

In 2013, the Astros became the 16<sup>th</sup> team in MLB history to lose at least 110 games in a season, and the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 – In 2022, they had their lowest total attendance and average per date in a full and 'normal' season since 1975. 2023 had a slight gain. Total attendance was 1,307,052, with an average of 16,136 per date. The total was up 29,366 (2.3%) vs. 2022, but declined 172,607 (11.7%) vs. 2019. Average per date in 2023 rose 165 (1.0%) vs. 2022, and was down 2,360 (12.8%) vs. 2019. There was one sellout, but no lost dates.

After total attendance declined 337,342 (13.2%) in 2017, it fell 555,263 (25.0%) in 2018, and 185,448 (11.1%) in **2019**. Compared to the record-highs of 2015, when the Royals won the World Series, total attendance by **2023** had fallen 1,401,497 (51.7%), and the average per date was down 17,303 (51.7%).

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 gain in total attendance was the best for any team that didn't move into new park since the Angels rose 755,525 in 2003.

- Los Angeles Angels The incredible Shohei Ohtani Show in Anaheim, which moved to Dodger Stadium in 2024, drew 2,640,575 in **2023**, up 183,114 (7.5%). Average per date increased 2,261 (7.5%) to 32,600, which was the 19<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' season above 30,000. There were 7 sellouts. Vs. **2019**, total attendance dipped 378,437 (12.5%), and average per date was down 4,672 (12.5%). Although the Angels didn't have any lost dates, they did have their first postponements since 2015. The Angels have drawn at least 2 million for 24 straight 'normal' years, and in all but 2 non-strike and 'normal' seasons since 1979. They topped 3 million for 17 straight years from 2003 through 2019.
- Minnesota –2023 total attendance was up 172,996 (9.6%) vs. 2022, to 1,974,124, but was down 320,028 (13.9%) vs. 2019. 2023 average per date was 24,372, up 1,858 (8.3%) vs. 2022, and down 3,951 (14.0%) vs. 2019. There was one sellout, one postponement, but no lost dates. The Twins drew 1,801,128 (22,514 per date) in 2022. These were the lowest 'normal season' figures for the Twins since 2001.

A streak of 11 straight seasons above 2 million had ended in 2016. The Twins topped 2 million in 2017, and again in **2019** as they had a 101-win season. Total attendance was up 334,955 (17.1%). Average per date rose 3,833. These increases were the best in the American League in 2019, and second-best in the Majors to the Phillies. It was the Twins' best total and average per date since 2013. In 2014, Minnesota set a record for best attendance by a team with at least 4 straight seasons with 90+ losses, 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.

#### **TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – AMERICAN LEAGUE**

New York Yankees – Led the American League in attendance for the 58<sup>th</sup> time in 2023. The Yankees drew 3,269,016, up 132,809 (4.2%) vs. 2022. They topped 3 million for a Major League record-high 23<sup>rd</sup> consecutive 'normal' season. The Dodgers, who topped 3 million in 15 straight years from 1996 through 2010, hold the N.L. record. Total attendance was down 35,388 (1.1%) vs. 2019. The Yanks led the A.L. with a 40,863 average per date in 2023, up 655 (1.6%) vs. 2022. The 2023 average per date fell by 965 (2.3%) vs. 2019. Attendance surpassed 40,000 at 45 dates, with 15 sellouts. 2023 was the 26<sup>th</sup> 'normal' year in a row above 2 million for the Yankees, the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest American League streak in that category. Boston, with 35 'normal' 2 million+ years in a row (excludes 1994 and 2021), from 1986-2023, holds the A.L. record). It was also the Yankees' 28<sup>th</sup> time above 2.5 million, which is an A.L. record. Average per date was above 35,000 for the 24<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year. There was one lost date and 2 games were postponed.

Through 2015, the Yankees led the American League in total home attendance for 13 straight years, the longest streak of leading a league in Major League history. From **1999 through 2023**, **including 2021**, the Yankees have had the best A.L. combined home/road attendance every year except 2016. It was 5,907,448 and 36,692 per date in **2023**. Toronto had the top A.L. home, and combined home/road totals in **2016**. The Yankees also posted the best road attendance (2,638,432, 32,573 per date, with an estimated 28 sellouts) of any American League team in **2023**.

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 crowds of more than 30,000. St. Louis topped this streak a few days after the Yankee streak ended, and that 30,000+ streak in **St. Louis** is still active at 1,410 dates **through 2023**, **but excluding 2021**. Covid regulations prohibited the Cardinals from selling 30,000 tickets to many of their 2021 games.

In 2019, the Yankees, who began to play in New York (as the Highlanders) in 1903, became the first United States or Canadian sports team to reach 200 million in home attendance in one market. Their total regular season attendance from 1903 through 2023 is 209,972,341.

• **Oakland** – The A's are heading to Las Vegas. Attempts to fund a ballpark in Oakland failed, and the team bought land in Las Vegas for a ballpark there. The new, enclosed ballpark, is expected to open in 2028. The A's will play a final season in Oakland in 2024, and from 2025 through 2027, they will play in a Minor League park in Sacramento.

**2023** A's attendance was a Major League low 832,352, up 44,450 (5.6%) from **2022**. Average per date was 10,276, up 303 (3.0%). There were no sellouts or rainouts. 47 dates drew under 10,000, and 18 of those dates attracted less than 5,000, with a low of 2,064. 5 dates drew over 20,000, with a high of 37,553. Compared to **2019**, the 2023 total was 829,859 (49.9%) lower, and the average per date was down 10,245 (49.9%), the biggest losses of any team.

In **2022**, the Athletics drew just 787,902, averaging 9,973 per date. This was lowest attendance for any Major League team in a 'normal' year since Montreal's final season in 2004. In the American League, it was the first 'normal' season below one million, and the lowest attendance, since Cleveland drew 655,181 in 1985. This was the lowest attendance in Oakland since the A's drew a total of just 306,763, and an average of 3,984 per date, in 1979.

Las Vegas is currently the home of the Aviators, one of the most successful teams, in terms of attendance, in Minor League Baseball. Their ballpark opened in **2019**, and the Aviators led Minor League Baseball in attendance that year, drawing 650,934, an average of 9,299 per date, with 47 sellouts. In **2023**, the Aviators drew 506,047, an average of 6,838 per date, with 17 sellouts, and a top crowd of 11,268. 9 dates drew less than 5,000, with a low of 4,368. In the 4 seasons in their new ballpark, the Aviators have drawn a total of 2,103,571, with 81 sellouts.

• Seattle – In 2022, the Mariners made the playoffs for the first time since 2001, and had a huge increase in attendance, not only vs. 2021, but vs. 2019 as well. They were playoff contenders again in 2023, and posted another big gain in attendance, attracting a total of 2,690,418 (33,215 per date). This was the best attendance in Seattle since 2005.

The **2023** total was up 403,151 (17.6%) from **2022**, and up 900,357 (50.3%) from **2019**. The **2023** average per date increased 4,624 (16.2%) vs. **2022**, and 11,115 (50.3%) vs. **2019**. The growth **from 2019** was 2<sup>nd</sup> best in the Major Leagues to Toronto. The Mariners have topped 2 million in all but 4 'normal' years since 1996, after doing it just twice from 1977 through 1995. They had 7 sellouts in 2023, and 24 dates drew over 40,000.

#### **TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – AMERICAN LEAGUE**

**Tampa Bay** – The Rays continue to do everything right on both the business and the baseball sides. They won 101 games in 2021, and 99 games in **2023**. Tampa Bay has reached at least 90 wins 9 times in the last 15 full seasons. Only the Dodgers (11) have more 90-win seasons during this period. The Yankees also have 9. St. Louis had 8. Tampa Bay has the 3<sup>rd</sup> best won-loss record in the Majors since 2008, with 1,366 regular season wins. The Dodgers have 1,459 wins during this period, the Yankees have 1,419, St. Louis has 1,360, and Atlanta has 1,329. Ticket prices are low, and the Rays have a very fan-friendly reputation. But perhaps soon, they will begin building a new ballpark in St. Petersburg, next to Tropicana Field.

Although **2023** was the best attendance year for the Rays since 2014, it remains low. In **2023**, the Rays drew 1,440,301, averaging 17,781 per date. The total was up 312,174 (27.7%) vs. **2022**, and up 261,566 (22.2%) from **2019**. Average per date rose 3,854 (27.7%) vs. **2022**, and 3,047 (20.7%) from **2019**. 4 dates drew less than 10,000. 6 dates sold out. A Wild Card game drew 19,704, the smallest post-season crowd since 13,923 in Cincinnati in 1919.

**The 2019** Rays had more wins than any team in MLB history that finished last in its league in attendance. They were also just the second team (2013 Tampa Bay was the other) to reach the post-season in a year when they ended up in their league's attendance basement. Tampa Bay's 2012, 2013, 2018, and 2019 teams are the only 90-win teams ever in the Major Leagues to finish last in their league in attendance. The previous team with at least 96 wins, and a lower attendance than the 2019 Rays were the 1975 Oakland A's. That 1975 Oakland club was also the most recent team that made the post-season with a lower attendance figure than the 2019 Rays.

**2023** was the 16<sup>th</sup> time in the team's 24 'normal' years, that the Rays drew under 1.5 million. They posted the A.L.'s worst attendance in 14 of the last 22 years, though not in 2022 or 2023, reaching 2 million only in 1998, their first year.

- Texas The 2023 World Champions drew 2,533,044, their best figure since 2016, up 521,683 (25.9%) vs. 2022, and up 400,050 (18.8%) from 2019. Average per date was 31,272 in 2023, up 6,440 (25.9%) from 2022, and up 4,939 (18.8%) vs. 2019. There were 15 sellouts. The Rangers have topped 2 million in 32 of the last 34 years, including 2021, and reached 2.5 million 17 times. Globe Life Field, which opened in 2020, is next to AT&T Stadium, home of the NFL Cowboys. The park has a smaller capacity than Globe Life Park, their home from 1994 through 2019, but it has a retractable roof, and air conditioning.
- Toronto The Rogers Centre underwent a major renovation before the 2023 season, resulting in the seating capacity being reduced from 49,286 to 41,500. But attendance grew. The 2023 total was 3,021,904, up 368,074 (13.9%) from 2022. Average per date was 37,307, up 4,544 (13.9%). An estimated 37 dates sold out, and 42 dates topped 40,000. It was the 8<sup>th</sup> time above 3 million for Toronto. For 2023 vs. 2019, the Blue Jays had the biggest increases of any team, up 1,271,760 (72.7%) in total attendance, and up 15,700 (72.7%) in average per date.

After leading the A.L. in total attendance in 2016 and 2017, the Blue Jays suffered one of the worst attendance losses in MLB history in **2018**. Toronto had the biggest 2018 declines in total attendance, down 878,605 (27.4%) to 2,325,281, and in average per date, down 10,488 to 29,066. This was the 4<sup>th</sup> worst total attendance loss, and 10<sup>th</sup> worst average per date decline, in Major League history. Giving fewer tickets to resellers was a factor in the decline. History repeated itself in **2019**, as Jays' attendance fell an MLB worst 575,137 (24.7%) to 1,750,144. Average per date was down 7,459 to 21,607.

In **2016**, the Blue Jays had the best MLB gains in total attendance, average per date, and percentage gain. The total 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 gain of 419,366 (5,178 per date) in 2015. Average per date topped 40,000 in 2016 for the 7<sup>th</sup> time in team history, but for the first time since 1989 through 1994. Toronto's attendance nearly doubled from 2010 to 2017, up 97.1%.

No Major League team suffered more from Covid restrictions than Toronto. The closure of the U.S./Canadian border forced the Blue Jays to play all **2020** home games in Buffalo. In **2021**, the Blue Jays finally returned to Toronto on July 30, after playing 21 April and May home dates at their Spring Training park in Dunedin, FL. Allowed capacity there was under 1,700. They moved to Buffalo for 22 dates in June and July. In Toronto, the Jays had 36 dates. Toronto capacity was limited to 15,000 until the final homestand, when it was raised to 30,000. They were the only team to not have full-capacity allowed at any of their 2021 home games in their normal home ballpark.

#### TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – NATIONAL LEAGUE

- **Arizona** In **2022**, the D-Backs had the lowest attendance in a 'normal' season in team history, which goes back to 1998. It was the first time Arizona drew under 2 million and averaged less than 25,000 per date in a 'normal' season.
- The D-Backs' record improved from 110 losses in 2021, to National League Champions in 2023. Attendance also grew nicely. The 2023 total was 1,961,182, up 355,983 (22.2%) from 2022, but down 174,328 (8.2%) from 2019. The 2023 average per date of 24,212 was 4,395 (22.2%) higher than in 2022, but it was 2,152 (8.2%) lower than in 2019. Opening Day was the only sellout, and 5 dates topped 40,000. Arizona's attendance had been very steady from 2009 through 2019, with the total ranging from 2,036,216 to 2,242,695, and the average per date ranging from 25,138 to 27,688. They drew 3,600,412, averaging 44,450 per date, in 1998.
- Atlanta Achieved their highest attendance since 2000. Total attendance was 3,191,505 in 2023, up 61,574 (2.0%) from 2022, and up 536,405 (20.2%) from 2019. Average per date in 2023 was 39,401, which is 95.67% of Truist Park's seating capacity. That was up 760 (2.0%) from 2022, and up 6,622 (20.2%) from 2019. Atlanta had a Major League high 42 sellouts in 2022 and 54 sellouts in 2023. A game that drew 28,241 was the only one below 30,000 in 2023. In 2017, the first year at Truist Park in suburban Atlanta, the Braves had the best total and average per date gains in the Majors. The Braves have now reached 2 million for 32 straight years, (1991-2023 including 2021), after doing it just once (in 1983) from 1966, their first year in Atlanta, through 1990. 2023 was the 8<sup>th</sup> time above 3 million.
- Chicago Cubs Drew a total of 2,775,149 in 2023, up 158,369 (6.1%) vs. 2022, but down 319,716 (10.3%) from 2019. Average per date was 34,261 in 2023, up 1,955 (6.1%) vs. 2022, and down 3,947 (10.3%) vs. 2019. The Cubs topped 3 million 12 times in 16 years through 2019. Since 1984, the Cubs have drawn 2 million in all full 'normal seasons,' except 1986. Through 2023, they've averaged at least 30,000 per date for 24 straight 'normal' years, and have topped 35,000 per date in 15 of 17 seasons through 2019. The Cubs didn't list sellouts in their Game Notes or Media Guide. Based on listed attendance, and assuming that 39,000+ is a sellout, there were 12 estimated sellouts in 2023. An estimated 42 games were sold out in 2019, which was the most by a Major League team that year.
- Cincinnati 2022 had the lowest attendance for the Reds since 1984. This includes the shorter seasons of 1994 and 1995, plus 2021. But in 2023, the Reds had the highest percentage increases in total attendance and average per date of any team, and their best figures since 2015. The 2023 total was 2,038,302, up 642,532 (46.0%) vs. 2022, and up 229,617 (12.7%) vs. 2019. Average per date rose 7,717 (44.2%) from 2022, to 25,164, and was up 2,835 (12.7%) vs. 2019. There was one rainout, no lost dates, and 10 sellouts. The June 2 game, which was followed by a Zac Brown concert, drew 44,073, the largest regular season crowd in the history of Great American Ballpark.

The Reds finished in last place in the National League Central Division in 2018, 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 then had the longest 'non-cellar' streak. The Spurs hadn't finished last since 1986-87, and were in the playoffs in 22 straight years (1998-2019), all with Head Coach Gregg Popovich. The Spurs' playoff streak ended in 2020, but their streak of avoiding last place continued through 2021-22. They finished in a tie for last place in their division in 2022-23, and were in last place by themselves in 2023-24.

Colorado – Drew a total of 2,607,935 in 2023, up 10,507 (0.4%) vs. 2022, but down 385,309 (12.9%) vs. 2019.
 2023 average per date was 32,197, down 271 (0.8%) vs. 2022, and down 4,757 (12.9%) vs. 2019. It was the 14<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year above 2.5 million, and the 14<sup>th</sup> 'normal' year in a row with average per date over 30,000. There were 9 sellouts, one postponement, but no lost dates. 19 dates drew above 40,000. The Rockies have topped 35,000 in average per date 14 times. Colorado has surpassed the 2 million mark in 28 of their 30 seasons with attendance, through 2023. The only seasons under 2 million, including the shorter seasons of 1994 and 1995, were 2005, and capacity-limited 2021. In both of those years, Colorado drew over 1.9 million. The Rockies hold the all-time Major League total attendance record (4,483,350) set in 1993, and the record-high average per date (58,598), set in the shorter 1994 season.

#### TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – NATIONAL LEAGUE

Los Angeles Dodgers – Led the Major Leagues in attendance for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year in 2023, and for the 32<sup>nd</sup> time since moving to Los Angeles in 1958. It was the 38<sup>th</sup> year the Dodgers have led the National League in attendance since then. Drew 3,837,079, averaging 47,371 per date. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> best total ever in the National League, and the 19<sup>th</sup> highest season total for Major League Baseball. 2023 total attendance was down 24,329 (0.6%) vs. 2022, and down 137,230 (3.5%) vs. 2019. The 2023 average per date fell 301 (0.6%) vs. 2022, and was down 1,695 (3.5%) vs. 2019. Every 2023 game drew at least 35,521. For the first time since April 17, 2000, there was a weather postponement at Dodger Stadium. It broke a streak of 1,872 consecutive dates (1,925 if post-season games are included) without a rainout.

76 dates drew 40,000+ in **2023**, and 26 dates topped 50,000, with an estimated 19 sellouts. Dodger Stadium hosted the largest regular season (53,057), and post-season (51,653) crowds of the year. The Dodgers led MLB in combined home-road attendance (6,420,414 total – 39,878 per date).

Drew a team record-high 3,974,309 in 2019, which was the 3<sup>rd</sup> best total ever by a National League team, topped only by the 1993 Rockies and 2008 Mets. It was the highest by any team since the 2008 Mets and Yankees. This was also the 10<sup>th</sup> best Major League total in history.

The Dodgers have surpassed 3 million in 25 of the last 26 'normal' years, and an MLB-best 35 times overall, and reached 3.5 million for the 17<sup>th</sup> time in **2023**. Attendance has topped 2 million for 50 seasons in a row, **including 2021**. The Dodgers reached an average per date of at least 40,000 for the 18<sup>th</sup> time in the previous 19 years (includes 2021 full-capacity dates). The 2019 Dodgers had the highest attendance ever for a team that won at least 100 games, surpassing the totals of the 1993 Braves, 2004 Yankees, and 2017 Dodgers.

Miami – Though the Marlins had the lowest 2023 National League attendance – 1,162,819 total, 14,356 average per date, it was their best, by far, since 2017. The Marlins likely again only included tickets sold at full or near-full price in their reported attendance figures in 2023. Their total rose 255,332 (28.1%) from 2022, and rose 351,517 (43.3%) vs. 2019. The 2023 average per date was up 3,152 (28.1%) from 2022, and up 4,340 (43.3%) from 2019. Miami had the lowest attendance in the National League for the 15<sup>th</sup> time in the last 16 years. 22 dates drew less than 10,000, and 12 dates topped 20,000. There were no sellouts.

In **2018**, Miami drew a team record-low 811,104, which was also the lowest attendance by any team since the 2004, lame-duck, Montreal Expos, who moved Washington the following year. The Expos also played many home games in San Juan in 2004. 2018 Marlins' attendance was the smallest ever for any team playing in a park built after 1989.

**2018** Marlins' total attendance, at least officially, plunged 840,893 (50.9%). According to data in Total Baseball, the last time any team had their attendance cut by more than half was in 1950, when the Philadelphia Athletics had a 62.1% decline. (Attendance data in retrosheet.org shows a 59.9% decrease for the 1950 A's.) 13 teams in Major League history have seen attendance reduced by at least 50% from one season to the next. The numerical decline in total attendance was the 6<sup>th</sup> worst ever. Average per date fell 10,381 to 10,014. That is the 12<sup>th</sup> worst drop in average per date in MLB history. All of this excludes 2021.

It is important to note nearly all of the 2018 decline was due the Marlins changing the guidelines of how they report attendance. Their 2018 official attendance, unlike in 2017, only included tickets sold at or close to full price. It did not include tickets distributed for free or at very large discounts. According to an article in the Miami Herald, had the Marlins reported 2017 attendance using the same method as in 2018, their 2017 attendance would have been around 820,000, which is very similar to the 2018 total. They used the same guidelines in 2019, 2021, 2022, and likely 2023.

Milwaukee – Drew a total of 2,551,347 in 2023, up 128,927 (5.3%) vs. 2022, and down 371,986 (12.7%) vs. 2019. Average per date in 2023 was 31,498, up 1,218 (4.0%) vs. 2022, but down 4,593 (12.7%) vs. 2019. There were 5 sellouts. 2019 attendance was 2,923,333, with 20 sellouts, the 4<sup>th</sup> best total in team history. The Brewers have topped 2 million for 18 straight 'normal' years through 2023. Milwaukee's average per date has been above 30,000 for 15 of 16 seasons since 2007, including the full-capacity 2021 average, and it has reached 35,000 in 6 of those seasons. That's quite a feat for the smallest TV market (A.C. Nielsen data) in the Majors.

#### 2023 - ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS - TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY - NATIONAL LEAGUE

- New York Mets Total 2023 attendance was 2,573,555, up 8,818 (0.3%) vs. 2022, and up 131,023 (5.4%) vs. 2019. Average per date in 2023 was 32,994, down 314 (0.9%) from 2022, but up 2,462 (8.1%) vs. 2019. An estimated 9 dates were sellouts. There were 3 lost dates, and 6 postponements. Weather was a big problem in 2021. The Mets had 8 lost dates and played only 73 dates, their fewest number of dates in a full season since 1979. The last team to have so few dates in a full season was 1980 Minnesota. 2023 was the 24<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year above 2 million for the Mets, and average per topped 30,000 for the 17<sup>th</sup> time in the previous 23 'normal' seasons.
- Philadelphia Drew 3,052,605 in 2023, up 775,869 (34.1%) vs. 2022 in total attendance, and averaged 38,158 per date, up 9,699 (34.1%). These were the best 2023 vs. 2022 numerical increases in the Major Leagues, and the best gain for any team not moving into a new ballpark since 1993 Cleveland. It was also Philadelphia's highest attendance since 2012, and their 10<sup>th</sup> time reaching 3 million. There was one lost date, 4 rainouts, and 26 sellouts. 40 dates topped 40,000, and all games surpassed 27,000. Vs. 2019, a year the Phillies had the best gains in the Majors, 2023 total attendance rose 325,184 (11.9%), and average per date was up 4,486 (13.3%). From 2013 through 2015, the Phillies became the first team to suffer declines of at least 500,000 in 3 straight years. Their combined 3-year decline of 1,734,638 was the worst in MLB history. (Excludes comparisons involving 2021.) 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. Since 2015, the Phillies' total is up 1,221,525 (66.7%), with an average per date gain of 14,683 (62.5%).
- Pittsburgh –The 2023 total was 1,630,624, up 373,166 (29.7%) vs. 2022, and up 139,185 (9.3%) vs. 2019. Average per date was 20,131, up 4,607 (29.7%) vs. 2022, and up 1,718 (9.3%) vs. 2019. There were 2 sellouts, and 13 dates had crowds above 30,000, but 6 dates drew under 10,000. One game was postponed. Yet this was the 4<sup>th</sup> straight full season that the Pirates played 81 home dates. In 2022, the Pirates had their lowest total attendance and average per date in a full and 'normal' season since 1987. Pittsburgh drew over 2 million in 5 straight seasons (2012-2016). Prior to 2012, the Pirates reached 2 million just 3 times.
- St. Louis In 2023, the Cardinals had their first losing record since 2007, and their first 90+ loss season since 1990. But they still drew an MLB 4<sup>th</sup> best 3,241,091, averaging 40,013 per date. This includes 2 home games played in London, which drew the biggest MLB crowds of the year (54,662 and 55,565). The total was down 79,460 (2.4%) vs. 2022, and down 239,302 (6.9%) vs. 2019. Average per date fell 981 (2.4%) vs. 2022, and fell 2,955 (6.9%) vs. 2019. Games in St. Louis averaged 39,631 per date, down 1,363 (3.3%) vs. 2022. There was one postponement, but no lost dates. 15 dates sold out, including those in London, and 40 dates drew over 40,000.

**2023** was the Cards' 18<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year, and the 25<sup>th</sup> time, above 3 million. Cardinals' attendance has been over 2 million in all full seasons since 1982, **including 2021**. Through **2023**, the Cards have averaged over 30,000 per date for 27 straight seasons, counting full capacity 2021 dates. They have topped 35,000 per date in each of the last 24 'normal' years, and have drawn better than 40,000 per date in 16 of the last 17 'normal' seasons.

Games in St. Louis drew at least 30,000 for a Major League record-high 1,471 straight dates (1,422 regular season, 49 post season) from May 5, 2005 through August 20, 2024. The streak ended on August 21, 2024. It excludes 2021, when early season Covid restrictions prohibited crowds of 30,000, and the 2 London games in 2023. (A Yankees' streak of 990 straight dates of 30,000+ ended in 2016.) The first 1,398 dates, excluding 2021, at Busch Stadium III, all drew over 30,000. Colorado sold out the first 560 dates at Coors Field (Source: Elias Sports Bureau). St. Louis reached 50 million in attendance at Busch Stadium III in April, 2022, in the 1,221<sup>st</sup> regular season date there. This was the fewest number of regular season dates any ballpark has ever needed to surpass 50 million.

San Diego – 2023 was a record-setting attendance year! The Padres broke their previous high, set in 2004, which was their first year at Petco Park, and had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best MLB attendance. The 2023 total was 3,271,554, up 284,084 (9.5%) vs. 2022, and up an N.L. best 875,155 (36.5%) vs. 2019. Average per date was 40,390, up 3,508 (9.5%) vs. 2022, and up an N.L. best 10,805 (36.5%) vs. 2019. These figures include 2 home games played in Mexico City, which drew sellouts of 19,611 and 19,633. Games in San Diego averaged 40,915 per date, up 4,033 (10.9%) vs. 2022. An MLB-high 61 dates sold out. It includes 59 in San Diego, all of which drew over 40,000. Only 4 dates in San Diego drew under 33,000. The Padres drew an MLB-best 101.21% of listed seating capacity (102.52% excluding the Mexico City games). In 2021, San Diego's full capacity average per date was up 7,072 vs. 2019. The White Sox were the only other team to have a 2021 full capacity vs. 2019 increase. The Padres have reached a total attendance of 2 million in 26 of the last 27 years, including 2021. They hit 2 million only twice in their first 27 seasons (1969-1996). The 2023 postponement due to Hurricane Hilary was the first in San Diego since 2017.

#### **TEAM-BY-TEAM SUMMARY – NATIONAL LEAGUE**

San Francisco – Total 2023 attendance was 2,500,153, up 17,467 (0.7%) vs. 2022, but down 207,607 (7.7%), vs. 2019. Average per date was 30,866 in 2023, up 216 (0.7%) vs. 2022, and down 2,563 (7.7%) vs. 2019. There were 3 sellouts, and 24 dates topped 35,000. Since Oracle (formerly AT&T) Park opened in 2000, through the end of the 2019 season, 1,009 of 1,620 (62.3%) regular season dates there were sellouts, and 1,589 (98.1%) of those dates have had crowds of at least 30,000. Through 2023, but excluding 2021, 1,021 of 1,782 (57.3%) dates were sellouts, and 1,677 (94.1%) of those dates topped 30,000. 1993, when they drew 2,606,354 (32,177 per date), was the Giants' only season in Candlestick Park (1960-1999) with higher attendance than any 'normal' season has had in Oracle Park, including 2022 and 2023.

The Giants had a sellout streak of 530 regular season dates, plus 25 post-season dates, for a total of 555, that ended in July, 2017. It was the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest regular-season sellout streak in MLB history behind Boston (794), and the 9<sup>th</sup> longest sellout streak, including post-season games, in North American sports history. Longer streaks are: Dayton (Minor League Baseball) – 1,507 regular season dates through 2023, but excluding 2021; Boston Red Sox (820); from the NBA: Dallas (a streak of 951 games through the 2023-24 regular season, excluding 2020-21); Portland (814); Boston Celtics (662); Chicago Bulls (610); and from the NHL: Pittsburgh Penguins (633), which ended in **October**, 2021; Montreal (583). The Chicago Black Hawks had a 535-game sellout streak, which also ended in **October**, 2021.

Until 2019, average per date had been above 35,000 in the first 19 seasons of Oracle Park, and had surpassed 40,000 for 12 seasons during this period. Total attendance has topped 3 million in 17 of these years, including 2010 through 2018. The Giants averaged 39,509 per date in their first 20 years (2000-2019) at Oracle Park, which is 94.3% of capacity. In 2018, total regular season attendance at Oracle Park hit 60 million in its 19<sup>th</sup> year, needing fewer seasons, and the fewest number of dates, to reach this total, of any ballpark in Major League history.

San Francisco had drawn at least 35,000 at 659 straight regular season dates (plus 25 post-season dates), starting in September, 2010, through Opening Day 2019, after which the streak ended. The Yankees had 655 straight regular season dates (plus 32 post-season dates) of at least 35,000 from late in the 2004 season until April, 2013. The record for consecutive regular season dates above 35,000 is 666 (plus 2 post-season) by Colorado from their first-ever game in 1993, through July, 31, 2001. The Giants had a regular season streak of 708 straight dates topping 30,000 which ended on April 8, 2019.

In <u>each</u> of their first 20 'normal' seasons (2000-2019) at Oracle Park, Giants' attendance was higher than it ever was in <u>any</u> of their 40 seasons at Candlestick Park. They were the only MLB team whose attendance had been higher in every season, now excluding 2021, 2022 and 2023, in their current park, than it ever was in their former park, among teams that moved to a new park after 1973. Kansas City has had higher attendance in all 50 seasons at Kaufman Stadium (excludes 2020, which had no attendance), than they had in any of their 4 seasons at Municipal Stadium (1969-1972).

Washington – Drew 1,865,832, and averaged 23,035 per date in 2023. This total was down 160,569 (7.9%) vs. 2022, and down 393,949 (17.4%) vs. 2019. The average fell 1,982 (7.9%) vs. 2022, and fell 4,864 (17.4%) vs. 2019. These 2023 vs. 2022, and 2023 vs. 2019 declines, were the biggest in the National League. There was one sellout. 3 games were postponed, but there were no lost dates. One 2023 home game was the Little League Classic at Williamsport, PA, and it drew 2,473. The 80 dates in Washington averaged 23,292 per date, down 1,725 (6.9%) vs. 2022, and down 4,607 (16.5%) vs. 2019.

In **2019**, the Nationals played in, and won, the World Series for the first time in franchise history, including the 1969 through 2004 seasons as the Montreal Expos. Attendance fell 269,823 (10.7%). The total attendance decline was the largest for a team that made the post-season since 2011 Tampa Bay, and the worst decrease by a league champion since the 2009 Yankees. That Yankee team played its first season in the new, and smaller-capacity, Yankee Stadium, and matching their better than 4.25 million 2008 attendance would have been impossible. Prior to 2009, the 2005 Astros were the previous pennant winner whose attendance fell more than Washington's did in 2019. The Nats were the 39<sup>th</sup> team, in a full season, to suffer an attendance decline in a year they won the World Series. This excludes 2021.

Oh, and Teddy Roosevelt finished on top of the **2019** Presidents race standings, and by a very wide margin. Thomas Jefferson won the most races in 2021. The Presidents race standings from 2022 and 2023 are not yet available. (Source: Letteddywin.com). As a matter of national security, it is vital that these results should be reported.

#### YEARLY PRO BASEBALL ATTENDANCE

- In **2023**, combined reported Major League and Minor League attendance was 119,234,733, in 14,753 dates. That is up 9,729,837 (8.9%) from the **2022** total. This includes Major League Spring Training, regular season games, the All-Star Home Run Derby and Game, and the post-season. Minor League figures include regular season and playoffs for all MLB-affiliated leagues, and for all but one of the independent leagues. Attendance for the Arizona Fall League is also included. Data for the Empire Pro Baseball League has not been available, and may never be.
- Combined total attendance for all Major League and Minor League games in **2022** was109,504,896. In **2021**, the combined total was 76,543,688.
- Total attendance for all Major League and Minor League games was 122,179,236 in **2019**, down 562,923 (0.5%) from 2018. The figures include Major League Spring Training, regular season and post-season games, plus all 3 days of All-Star Game events. The Minor League figures include regular-season, playoff, and All-Star Games for the MLB-affiliated leagues, and the independent leagues, along with the Arizona Fall League.
- In 2018, the grand total Major League/Minor League attendance figure was 122,742,159. It was 127,461,645 in 2017, 127,585,535 in 2016, and 129,519,817 in 2015. The all-time high may have been reached in 2007, when the total was 136,466,114. This excludes the Major League Home Run Derby, and independent league All-Star Games and playoffs, so the actual total may have been over 100,000 higher. Based on the available figures, the total professional baseball attendance was 10.5% lower in 2019 than in 2007, 19.8% lower in 2022 than in 2007, and 12.6% lower in 2023 than in 2007.

#### **TEAM-BY-TEAM ATTENDANCE TABLES**

The table on Page 24 shows each Major League team's **2023 and 2022** total attendance and average per date. 2023 vs. 2022 numerical changes are shown for total attendance and average per date, along with the percentage change in average per date.

A table on Page 25 lists all Major League and Minor League **2023** attendance, including Spring Training, Home Run Derby, All-Star Game, and Wild Card, Division Series, Championship Series, and World Series games. Attendance for the 2023 Arizona Fall League is also included. The MLB-Affiliated Minor League figures are subject to updating.

The table on Page 26 **compares 2023 Major League attendance with 2019**, which was the last 'normal' season prior to 2022.

A table on Page 27 compares **2023 vs. 2022 average per date**, and shows how each team ranked in average per date in both of those years. Also listed, for each team, is 2023 ballpark seating capacity, attendance as a percentage of capacity in 2023, and the number of sellouts in 2023.

Note that the tables on Page 24 (**2023 vs. 2022**), and Page 26 (**2023 vs. 2019**) are identical in appearance, except for some of the figures.

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME ATTENDANCE - 2023 vs. 2022

10/19/2023 MLB Data

TEAM	2023 # OF <u>DATES</u>	2023 TOTAL <u>ATTENDANCE</u>	2023 AVERAGE <u>PER DATE</u>	2022 TOTAL <u>ATTENDANCE</u>	2023 vs. 2022 # CHANGE <u>TOTAL ATT.</u>	2022 AVERAGE <u>PER DATE</u>	'23 vs. '22 # CHANGE <u>AVG./DATE</u>	'23 vs. '22 % CHANGE <u>AVG./DATE</u>
AMERICAN LEAGUE								
Baltimore	81	1,936,798	23,911	1,368,367	568,431	17,543	6,368	36.3
Boston	81	2,672,130	32,989	2,625,089	47,041	32,409	580	1.8
Chicago White Sox	78	1,669,628	21,405	2,009,359	(339,731)	24,807	(3,402)	(13.7)
Cleveland	78	1,834,068	23,514	1,295,870	538,198	17,051	6,463	37.9
Detroit	77	1,612,876	20,946	1,575,544	37,332	19,694	1,252	6.4
Houston	81	3,052,347	37,683	2,688,998	363,349	33,198	4,485	13.5
Kansas City	81	1,307,052	16,136	1,277,686	29,366	15,971	165	1.0
Los Angeles Angels	81	2,640,575	32,600	2,457,461	183,114	30,339	2,261	7.5
Minnesota	81	1,974,124	24,372	1,801,128	172,996	22,514	1,858	8.3
New York Yankees	80	3,269,016	40,863	3,136,207	132,809	40,208	655	1.6
Oakland	81	832,352	10,276	787,902	44,450	9,973	303	3.0
Seattle	81	2,690,418	33,215	2,287,267	403,151	28,591	4,624	16.2
Tampa Bay	81	1,440,301	17,781	1,128,127	312,174	13,927	3,854	27.7
Texas	81	2,533,044	31,272	2,011,361	521,683	24,832	6,440	25.9
Toronto	<u>81</u>	<u>3,021,904</u>	<u>37,307</u>	<u>2,653,830</u>	<u>368,074</u>	<u>32,763</u>	<u>4,544</u>	<u>13.9</u>
American Lea. Total	1,204	32,486,633	26,982	29,104,196	3,382,437	24,294	2,688	11.1
NATIONAL LEAGUE								
Arizona	81	1,961,182	24,212	1,605,199	355,983	19,817	4,395	22.2
Atlanta	81	3,191,505	39,401	3,129,931	61,574	38,641	760	2.0
Chicago Cubs	81	2,775,149	34,261	2,616,780	158,369	32,306	1,955	6.1
Cincinnati	81	2,038,302	25,164	1,395,770	642,532	17,447	7,717	44.2
Colorado	81	2,607,935	32,197	2,597,428	10,507	32,468	(271)	(0.8)
Los Angeles Dodgers	81	3,837,079	47,371	3,861,408	(24,329)	47,672	(301)	(0.6)
Miami	81	1,162,819	14,356	907,487	255,332	11,204	3,152	28.1
Milwaukee	81	2,551,347	31,498	2,422,420	128,927	30,280	1,218	4.0
New York Mets	78	2,573,555	32,994	2,564,737	8,818	33,308	(314)	(0.9)
Philadelphia	80	3,052,605	38,158	2,276,736	775,869	28,459	9,699	34.1
Pittsburgh	81	1,630,624	20,131	1,257,458	373,166	15,524	4,607	29.7
St. Louis	81	3,241,091	40,013	3,320,551	(79,460)	40,994	(981)	(2.4)
San Diego	81	3,271,554	40,390	2,987,470	284,084	36,882	3,508	9.5
San Francisco	81	2,500,153	30,866	2,482,686	17,467	30,650	216	0.7
Washington	<u>81</u>	<u>1,865,832</u>	<u>23,035</u>	<u>2,026,401</u>	<u>(160,569)</u>	<u>25,017</u>	<u>(1,982)</u>	<u>(7.9)</u>
National Lea. Total	1,211	38,260,732	31,594	35,452,462	2,808,270	29,372	2,222	7.6
Major League Total	2,415	70,747,365	29,295	64,556,658	6,190,707	26,843	2,452	9.1

In 2022, Cincinnati was the home team in the 'Field of Dreams' game in Iowa, which drew 7,823. Games in Cincinnati averaged 17,569 per date. Baltimore was the home team for the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA, which drew 2,467. Games in Baltimore averaged 17,739 per date.

In 2023, St. Louis was the home team for 2 games in London which drew 110,227. Games in St. Louis averaged 39,631 per date. Washington was the home team for the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA, which drew 2,473. Games in Washington averaged 23,292/date. San Diego had two 'home' games in Mexico City that drew 39,244. Games in San Diego averaged 40,915 per date. All of these non-MLB Park games were sellouts, and are included in the home team's sellout total.

SOURCES: MLB Information System, MLB Stats Reporting Platform; Team Game Notes

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#### 2023 MAJOR AND MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TOTAL ATTENDANCE

MAJOR LEAGUES	Total <u>Attendance</u>	# of Dates	Average <u>per Date</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Spring Training	3,175,704	452	7,026	
Regular Season	70,747,365	2,415	29,295	
Wild Card Games	290,328	8	36,291	Tampa Bay, Minnesota Philadelphia, Milwaukee
Division Series	632,314	14	45,165	Baltimore, Texas, Houston, Minnesota, Atlanta, L.A. Dodgers, Philadelphia, Arizona
Championship Series	621,336	14	44,381	Texas, Houston Philadelphia, Arizona
World Series	230,388	5	46,078	Arizona, Texas
MLB Post-Season Total	1,774,366	41	43,277	
Futures Game	42,755	1		at Seattle
Home Run Derby	46,952	1		at Seattle
All-Star Game	47,159	1		at Seattle
Major League Total	75,834,301	2,911	26,051	
MINOR LEAGUES				
MLB Affiliated Regular Sea.	32,152,384	7,873	4,084	
MLB Affiliated Post-Season	227,582	70	3,251	
MLB Affiliated All-Star	0	0	0	None played
Independent Regular Sea.	10,160,535	3,680	2,761	
Independent Post-Season	807,397	125	6,459	
Independent All-Star	14,738	3	4,913	Mexican, Frontier, American Assoc.
Arizona Fall League	37,796	91	415	
Minor League Total	43,400,432	11,842	3,665	
Majors/Minors Total	119,234,733	14,753	8,082	

Post-season independent attendance is for Atlantic, Mexican, Frontier, and Pioneer Leagues, and the American Association. Mexican League post-season games (included in Indys) drew 693,528 for 73 games, an average of 9,500. Arizona Fall League Total Includes the Fall Stars Game and 2 playoff games, which drew a total of 4,081.

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME ATTENDANCE - 2023 vs. 2019

<u>TEAM</u> AMERICAN LEAGUE	2023 # OF <u>DATES</u>	2023 TOTAL <u>ATTENDANCE</u>	2023 AVERAGE <u>PER DATE</u>	2019 TOTAL <u>ATTENDANCE</u>	2023 vs. 2019 # CHANGE <u>TOTAL ATT.</u>	2019 <u>AVG/DATE</u>	'23 vs. '19 # CHANGE <u>AVG./DATE</u>	'23 vs. '19 % CHANGE <u>AVG./DATE</u>
Baltimore	81	1,936,798	23,911	1,307,807	628,991	16,348	7,563	46.3
Boston	81	2,672,130	32,989	2,924,627	(252,497)	36,107	(3,118)	(8.6)
Chicago White Sox	78	1,669,628	21,405	1,649,775	19,853	21,426	(21)	(0.1)
Cleveland	78	1,834,068	23,514	1,738,642	95,426	22,008	1,506	6.8
Detroit	77	1,612,876	20,946	1,501,430	111,446	18,678	2,268	12.1
Houston	81	3,052,347	37,683	2,857,367	194,980	35,276	2,407	6.8
Kansas City	81	1,307,052	16,136	1,479,659	(172,607)	18,496	(2,360)	(12.8)
Los Angeles Angels	81	2,640,575	32,600	3,019,012	(378,437)	37,272	(4,672)	(12.5)
Minnesota	81	1,974,124	24,372	2,294,152	(320,028)	28,323	(3,951)	(14.0)
New York Yankees	80	3,269,016	40,863	3,304,404	(35,388)	41,828	(965)	(2.3)
Oakland	81	832,352	10,276	1,662,211	(829,859)	20,521	(10,245)	(49.9)
Seattle	81	2,690,418	33,215	1,790,061	900,357	22,100	11,115	50.3
Tampa Bay	81	1,440,301	17,781	1,178,735	261,566	14,734	3,047	20.7
Texas	81	2,533,044	31,272	2,132,994	400,050	26,333	4,939	18.8
Toronto	<u>81</u>	<u>3,021,904</u>	<u>37,307</u>	<u>1,750,144</u>	<u>1,271,760</u>	<u>21,607</u>	<u>15,700</u>	<u>72.7</u>
American Lea. Total	1,204	32,486,633	26,982	30,591,020	1,895,613	25,429	1,553	6.1
NATIONAL LEAGUE								
Arizona	81	1,961,182	24,212	2,135,510	(174,328)	26,364	(2,152)	(8.2)
Atlanta	81	3,191,505	39,401	2,655,100	536,405	32,779	6,622	20.2
Chicago Cubs	81	2,775,149	34,261	3,094,865	(319,716)	38,208	(3,947)	(10.3)
Cincinnati	81	2,038,302	25,164	1,808,685	229,617	22,329	2,835	12.7
Colorado	81	2,607,935	32,197	2,993,244	(385,309)	36,954	(4,757)	(12.9)
Los Angeles Dodgers	81	3,837,079	47,371	3,974,309	(137,230)	49,066	(1,695)	(3.5)
Miami	81	1,162,819	14,356	811,302	351,517	10,016	4,340	43.3
Milwaukee	81	2,551,347	31,498	2,923,333	(371,986)	36,091	(4,593)	(12.7)
New York Mets	78	2,573,555	32,994	2,442,532	131,023	30,532	2,462	8.1
Philadelphia	80	3,052,605	38,158	2,727,421	325,184	33,672	4,486	13.3
Pittsburgh	81	1,630,624	20,131	1,491,439	139,185	18,413	1,718	9.3
St. Louis	81	3,241,091	40,013	3,480,393	(239,302)	42,968	(2,955)	(6.9)
San Diego	81	3,271,554	40,390	2,396,399	875,155	29,585	10,805	36.5
San Francisco	81	2,500,153	30,866	2,707,760	(207,607)	33,429	(2,563)	(7.7)
Washington	<u>81</u>	1,865,832	<u>23,035</u>	2,259,781	(393,949)	<u>27,899</u>	(4,864)	<u>(17.4)</u>
National Lea. Total	1,211	38,260,732	31,594	37,902,073	358,659	31,221	373	1.2
Major League Total	2,415	70,747,365	29,295	68,493,093	2,254,272	28,338	957	3.4

In 2022, Cincinnati was the home team in the 'Field of Dreams' game in Iowa, which drew 7,823. Games in Cincinnati averaged 17,569 per date. Baltimore was the home team for the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA, which drew 2,467. Games in Baltimore averaged 17,739 per date.

In 2019, Oakland played 2 home games in Tokyo, that drew a total of 92,238. Games in Oakland averaged 19,873. Cincinnati had 2 home games in Monterrey, Mexico, which drew a total of 33,289. Games in Cincinnati averaged 22,473. The L.A. Angels had 2 Monterrey home games that drew a total of 35,791. Games in Anaheim averaged 37,762. Kansas City's game in Omaha drew 25,454. Games in KC averaged 18,408. Boston played 2 home games in London that drew a total of 118,718. Games in Boston averaged 35,518. Pittsburgh's Liitle League Classic home game in Williamsport, PA drew 2,503. Games in Pittsburgh averaged 18,612 per date.

SOURCES: MLB Information System, MLB Stats Reporting Platform; Team Game Notes

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#### 2023 MLB AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE, '22 & '23 Rankings, 2023 Sellouts

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				2023	2022	2023	2023 Attend.	Estimated
TEAM Deltimente	2023 AVG. <u>per DATE</u>	2022 AVG. per DATE	2023 v. 2022 <u># CHANGE</u>	MLB <u>Rank</u>	MLB <u>Rank</u>	SEATING <u>CAPACITY</u>	as a % of <u>Capacity</u>	# of 2023 SELLOUTS
Baltimore	23,911	17,543	6,368	21	23	44,487	53.75	6
Boston	32,989	32,409	580	11	10	37,405	88.19	20
Chicago W. Sox	21,405	24,807	(3,402)	24	18	40,126	53.34	2
Cleveland	23,514	17,051	6,463	22	25	34,830	67.51	5
Detroit	20,946	19,694	1,252	25	22	40,988	51.10	3
Houston	37,683	33,198	4,485	7	7	41,592	90.60	23
Kansas City	16,136	15,971	165	28	26	37,903	42.57	1
L.A. Angels	32,600	30,339	2,261	12	13	45,603	71.49	7
Minnesota	24,372	22,514	1,858	19	20	38,544	63.23	1
N.Y. Yankees	40,863	40,208	655	2	3	46,537	87.81	15
Oakland	10,276	9,973	303	30	30	46,847	21.94	0
Seattle	33,215	28,591	4,624	10	15	47,349	70.15	7
Tampa Bay	17,781	13,927	3,854	27	28	25,025	71.05	6
Texas	31,272	24,832	6,440	16	19	40,518	77.18	15
Toronto	37,307	32,763	4,544	8	8	<u>41,500</u>	<u>89.90</u>	<u>37</u>
A.L. Avg./Date	26,982	24,294	2,688			40,617	66.43	148
NATIONAL LEAG	JE							
Arizona	24,212	19,817	4,395	20	21	48,330	50.10	1
Atlanta	39,401	38,641	760	5	4	41,184	95.67	54
Chicago Cubs	34,261	32,306	1,955	9	11	41,298	82.96	12
Cincinnati	25,164	17,447	7,717	18	24	45,814	54.93	10
Colorado	32,197	32,468	(271)	14	9	46,896	68.66	9
L.A. Dodgers	47,371	47,672	(301)	1	1	56,000	84.59	19
Miami	14,356	11,204	3,152	29	29	37,446	38.34	0
Milwaukee	31,498	30,280	1,218	15	14	41,700	75.53	5
N.Y. Mets	32,994	33,308	(314)	13	6	41,922	78.70	9
Philadelphia	38,158	28,459	9,699	6	16	42,901	88.94	26
Pittsburgh	20,131	15,524	4,607	26	27	38,075	52.87	2
St. Louis	40,013	40,994	(981)	4	2	44,309	90.30	15
San Diego	40,390	36,882	3,508	3	5	39,909	101.21	61
San Francisco	30,866	30,650	216	17	12	40,260	76.67	3
Washington	<u>23,035</u>	<u>25,017</u>	(1,982)	23	17	<u>41,373</u>	<u>55.68</u>	<u>1</u>
N.L. Avg./Date	31,594	29,372	2,222			43,161	73.20	227
MLB Avg./Date	29,295	26,843	2,452			41,889	69.93	375

"MLB Rank" column shows each team's rank in 2023 and 2022 average attendance per date, from highest (rank #1) to lowest (rank #30). \* - Fenway Park-Boston capacity is 37,105 (day), and 37,555 (night). Listing above is pro-rated for 27 day and 54 night games in 2023. Home games played at neutral sites are counted in each team's home attendance, and are not factored into % capacity figures.

In 2022, Cincinnati was the home team in the 'Field of Dreams' game in Iowa, which drew 7,823. Games in Cincinnati averaged 17,569 per date. Baltimore was the home team for the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA, which drew 2,467. Games in Baltimore averaged 17,739 per date.

In 2023, St. Louis was the home team for 2 games in London which drew 110,227. Games in St. Louis averaged 39,631 per date. Washington was the home team for the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA, which drew 2,473. Games in Washington averaged 23,292/date. San Diego had two 'home' games in Mexico City that drew 39,244. Games in San Diego averaged 40,915 per date. All of these non-MLB Park games were sellouts, and are included in the home team's sellout total.

Attendance comparison for 2023 vs. 2022 is based on total home attendance for each year, regardless of the number of home dates.

2023 sellouts are estimated for a few teams. These figures will be updated upon publication of 2024 media guides.

SOURCES: MLB Information System, MLB Stats Reporting Platform, Team Media Guides, Team Game Notes

#### 2021 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW

Due to the unusual circumstances of the 2021 season, comparisons of 2021 attendance with attendance from previous seasons has far less meaning than usual, and will generally not be made in this report.

2021 Major League total attendance was 45,304,709, with an 18,901 average per date. The 1,463 dates played with full capacity allowed in ballparks drew 35,186,010, averaging 24,051 per date. The 934 dates with reduced capacity drew 10,118,699, averaging 10,834 per date. There were 20 fewer dates played in 2021 than in 2019.

The Dodgers led the Majors in attendance for the 8<sup>th</sup> straight year. They drew 2,804,693, with a 34,626 average per date. Their average per date was 47,440 when they were allowed to have full capacity at Dodger Stadium. Texas, the only team to play at full capacity for their entire 2021 home schedule, led the American League with a 2,110,258 total, and a 26,053 average per date. The Yankees had the highest full-capacity A.L. average per date (32,832).

Houston, Atlanta, St. Louis, and San Diego also topped 2 million in total attendance. Baltimore, Oakland, Tampa Bay, Toronto, Miami, and Pittsburgh, drew less than one million. Toronto was not allowed to play in Canada until July 30. They played their first 21 home dates at their Spring Training park in Dunedin, FL. Their next 22 home dates were in Buffalo. Their final 36 home dates were in Toronto, but full capacity was not allowed at any of those games.

All 30 teams had declines in total attendance and average per date vs. 2019. Texas had the smallest losses (down 22,736 in total attendance and down 281 in average per date). In the National League, the smallest declines were by San Diego, down 204,449 in total attendance, and down 2,524 in average per date.

If average per date for games played at full capacity in 2021 is compared with 2019 average per date, there were two teams with increases. San Diego was up 7,072 per date, and the White Sox had a 6,440 per date increase.

Teams that are generally the biggest draws had the most to lose from reduced capacity limits, and for the most part they did. Of the 11 teams whose 2021 total attendance was at least one million less than their 2019 total, only Arizona was not a usually high-ranked team in attendance.

There were 74 postponed games in 2021, including some due to Covid. The Mets had 9 postponements, Cleveland had 7. Washington also had 7, including their first 4 dates of the season which were due to Covid.

#### 2019 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW

**Major League Baseball attendance was down 1,132,151 in 2019 to 68,493,093, the lowest total since 2003.** In 2018, the decline was 3,045,179, the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest full-season total attendance decline ever. Total attendance was down 488,621 in 2017. It fell 600,976 in 2016, rose 20,398 in 2015, fell 288,608 in 2014, and was down 831,038 in 2013. The 2018 and 2013 figures include 'Tiebreaker' games at Texas in 2013, and at the Cubs and Dodgers in 2018, to determine playoff teams and first round byes. Attendance rose 1,443,962 in 2012, and it was up 360,899 in 2011. This followed 3 straight years of declines. In 2010, the loss was 313,252. But in 2009, attendance declined 5,220,345, the worst loss ever for a full season. A record-high attendance of 79,503,175 was reached in 2007.

On a percentage basis, in 2019, total attendance fell 1.6%. The 2018 loss was 4.2%, the 9<sup>th</sup> worst decline since 1946. It was down 0.7% in 2017, and 0.8% in 2016. The 2015 gain was less than 0.1%. Losses were 0.4% in 2014, and 1.1% in 2013. There were increases of 2.0% in 2012, and 0.5% in 2011. The 2010 decline was 0.4%. The 6.6% decline in 2009 was the largest percentage loss since 1952.

In the last 39 non-strike affected seasons, excluding 2021, total attendance was up 22 times and down 17 times.

16 of the 30 teams had attendance gains in 2019. 13 teams were up in 2018. 12 teams posted gains in 2017. 13 teams were up in 2016 and 2015. 16 teams saw gains in 2014. In both 2013 and 2012, 15 teams were up. 17 teams were up in 2011 and 14 teams posted gains in 2010. Attendance rose for 9 teams in 2009, while a record-high 21 teams had a decline. 13 teams had gains in 2008. 22 teams posted increases in 2007.

Philadelphia, up 26.4%, had the best percentage total attendance gain in 2019. Other teams up at least 10% were Minnesota (17.1%), Cincinnati (11.0%), and San Diego (10.5%). The 2018 teams with 10%+ growth were Houston, the Yankees, Milwaukee, and Philadelphia. In 2017, Cleveland, Atlanta, Colorado, and Milwaukee, had total attendance growth of at least 10.0%. Only Cleveland and Toronto were up 10%+ in 2016. 6 teams had 10%+ increases in 2015. In both 2014 and 2013, 4 teams had 10%+ total gains. There were 8 teams with increases of at least 10% in 2012, and 6 teams up that much in 2011. 4 teams posted double-digit % gains in 2010, and only 2 teams were up 10%+ in 2009. 4 teams had a double-digit % increase in 2008, and 9 teams did it in 2007.

These 7 teams were down 10%+ in total attendance in 2019: Toronto (24.7%); Seattle (22.2%); Detroit (19.1%); Baltimore (16.4%); San Francisco (14.2%); Kansas City (11.1%); Washington (10.7%). In 2018, Miami, Toronto, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Detroit, Texas, and Cincinnati fell by at least 10%. 3 teams were down at least 10% in 2017. 4 teams in 2016 and 2015, 2 teams in 2014, 5 teams in 2013, 3 teams in 2012 and 2011, and 4 teams in 2010, had 10%+ losses. In 2009, attendance fell by at least 20% for the Mets, Toronto, Washington, and San Diego. 6 other teams had dips of at least 10%. 5 teams were down at least 10% in 2008. No team had a 10%+ decline in 2007.

4 teams had total attendance increases of at least 200,000 in 2019, led by a gain of 569,297 by Philadelphia. Minnesota was up 334,955, San Diego gained 227,863, and the Mets rose 217,537. There were gains of at least 200,000 for 4 teams in 2018 and 2017, 5 teams in 2016, 6 teams in 2015, 3 teams in 2014, 4 teams in 2013, 8 teams in 2012, and 5 teams in both 2011 and 2010. Kansas City and Texas were the only teams whose attendance rose at least 200,000 in 2009. 4 teams had a total attendance increase of at least 200,000 in 2008, and 9 teams posted gains of 200,000 or more in 2007.

There were 6 teams with 200,000+ losses in 2019. Toronto was down 575,137, Seattle fell 509,428, San Francisco had a 448,425 loss, Detroit slipped by 355,540, Washington dipped 269,823, and Baltimore had a 256,385 drop. 9 teams were down at least 200,000 in 2018. 5 teams suffered losses of at least 200,000 in 2017. 6 teams fell 200,000+ in 2016 and 2015. Just 3 teams were down at least 200,000 in 2014. 8 teams had 200,000+ declines in 2013. There were 5 teams down over 200,000 in 2012 and in 2011, and 4 teams had losses that big in 2010. In 2009, attendance fell more than 500,000 for a record-high 6 teams, and 12 teams had declines of at least 200,000 that year. In 2008, 8 teams had a 200,000+ decline, but only the White Sox had a dip of at least 200,000 in 2007.

In 2019, 5 teams surpassed 3 million in home attendance, while 12 teams drew at least 2.5 million, and 18 teams reached 2 million. A record-tying 24 teams topped 2 million in 2015, 2014, 2007, and 2006. In 2008, a record-tying 10 teams drew more than 3 million.

There were 17 fewer postponements in 2019 than in 2018, and the early season weather was much warmer. There were 336 games scheduled for outdoor, non-retractable roof ballparks in March-April, 2019. 15 were postponed, which was 12 fewer than during the same months in 2018. 9 of these early season games in 2019 began in under 40degree temperatures, compared to 28 in 2018. There were 41 March-April, 2019 games with gametime temperatures of less than 50 degrees, compared to 98 such games in 2018. On the warmer side, 203 games started with temperatures of at least 60 degrees in March-April, 2019, compared to just 146 games in 2018.

Two teams accounted for more than half of the **2018** attendance decline. Toronto's total attendance fell 878,605 (27.4%). This was the 4<sup>th</sup> worst decrease in total attendance in Major League history. Only the 1967 Dodgers, 2009 Mets (first season in Citi Field, a much smaller park than Shea Stadium, where the 2008 Mets topped 4 million), and 2003 Indians, had bigger declines. There was one less date played in Toronto than in 2017, as a game was postponed after snow falling off the CN Tower caused damage to the roof of the Rogers Centre. As noted in the box on Page 4, the Blue Jays released far fewer tickets to resellers in 2018, and this was a factor in their decline.

Miami had an 840,893 (50.9%) decrease, becoming the first team since the 1950 Philadelphia Athletics to have their attendance cut in half from one season to the next. It was the 6<sup>th</sup> worst total decline in MLB history. But the main reason for this huge decrease, also noted on Page 4, was that the Marlins didn't include free and deeply-discounted tickets in their official attendance in 2018, something they did do in 2017. Had they used the same method of counting official attendance in 2017 as they used in 2018, the Marlins would have listed roughly the same attendance for both years.

# **LEAGUE ATTENDANCE - 2021**

- Games played at American League parks drew 19,940,436 for the full season, averaging 16,617 per date. Average attendance for dates with full capacity allowed was 21,351. Reduced capacity dates drew an average of 9,852. American League average per date is much lower than the National League average, in part, due to Toronto playing most of its home games in Dunedin and Buffalo, and not playing any home dates will full capacity allowed.
- National League hosted games drew a full season total of 25,364,273, with a 21,190 average per date. Full capacity dates in N.L. parks averaged 26,569 per date. Reduced capacity dates in those parks averaged 11,936 per date.

#### LEAGUE TOTAL ATTENDANCE - 2023 vs. 2022 and 2019 - 15 teams in each league in all seasons

- The American League's 2023 attendance was 32,486,633, up 3,382,437 (11.6%) vs. 2022, and up 1,895,613 (6.2%) vs. 2019. All teams except the White Sox had a higher total and average per date in 2023 than in 2022.
- The National League drew 38,260,732 in **2023**, up 2,808,270 (7.9%) from **2022**, and up 358,659 (0.9%) from **2019**. 12 of the 15 teams had 2023 vs. 2022 gains in total attendance, and 10 were up in average per date.
- **2022** American League attendance fell 4.9% **vs. 2019** to 29,104,196, down 1,486,824. The American League record-high of 35,389,658 for the then-14 team league was set in 2007.
- National League 2022 attendance was 35,452,462, down 6.5% (2,449,611) vs. 2019. The then-16 team National League drew a record-high 44,113,517 in 2007.
- Texas and Cincinnati had the only total attendance declines for 2022 vs. 2021. 5 American League teams, and 4 National League teams had total attendance growth for 2022 vs. 2019. 6 A.L. teams and 10 N.L. teams had higher attendance in 2019 than in 2018. 5 A.L. and 8 N.L. teams had attendance growth in 2018. In 2017, 5 A.L. and 7 N.L. teams achieved gains. 8 A.L. and 5 N.L. teams posted increases in 2016.

# AVERAGE SEASON ATTENDANCE PER TEAM

In **2023**, the 30 MLB teams drew an average of 2,358,246 per team, up 206,357 (9.6%) vs. **2022**, and up 75,143 (3.3%) per team vs. **2019**. American League teams averaged 2,165,776 per team in 2023. National League teams averaged 2,550,715 per team.

Average total per team was 2,151,889 in 2022, up from 1,510,157 in **2021**, but down 131,214 (5.7%) **vs. 2019**. American League teams averaged 1,940,280 per team, and National League teams averaged 2,363,497 per team.

The 30 Major League teams had a combined average season attendance of 2,283,103 per team in **2019**, down 37,738 from an average of 2,320,841 per team in 2018. The American League averaged 2,039,401 per team in 2019, while the National League averaged 2,526,805. The record-high Major League average per team was 2,650,106 in 2007. In 2006, the average was 2,534,760. Before that, the record-high average per team was in 1993, when the 28 teams existing at that time averaged 2,509,159.

#### **ROAD ATTENDANCE LEADERS**

In **2023**, the Cubs led the Major Leagues in road attendance, drawing 2,650,565, an average of 32,723 per date away from Wrigley Field. As usual, the Yankees had the highest road attendance of any American League team, with a 2,638,432 total, and a 32,573 average per date.

In **2023** combined home and road attendance, the Dodgers had the top figures with a total of 6,420,414 (39,878 per date). The Yankees led the American League for the 23<sup>rd</sup> time in the last 24 seasons, with a total of 5,907,448 (36,692 per date). San Diego came in 3<sup>rd</sup>, drawing a total of 5,827,298, averaging 35,971.

The Dodgers led the Major Leagues in road attendance in **2022**, with a total of 2,529,494, averaging 31,228 per date. The Yankees were the American League's biggest road draw (2,463,881 – 30,418 per date).

The Dodgers had the best MLB combined home/road attendance, by far, in **2022.** They drew 6,390,902, an average of 39,450 per date. The Yankees had the American League's top combined home/road attendance, drawing 5,600,088, averaging 35,221 per date. St. Lous was 3<sup>rd</sup> in combined home/road 2022 attendance with a total of 5,552,187, and a 34,486 average per date.

The Dodgers, who drew 2,038,320 (25,163 per date) on the road in **2021**, led the Major Leagues in road attendance for the season. The Yankees, as usual, led the American League in road attendance with a 1,669,639 total, and a 20,613 average per date. The Dodgers had the best combined home/road attendance with a 4,842,923 total, and a 29,895 average per date. The Yankees had the best combined home/road attendance for an American League team drawing 3,629,493, and averaging 22,543 per date.

Top **2019** road attendance honors went to the Cubs. They drew 2,709,810 (33,454 per date) away from Wrigley Field. The Yankees led American League teams on the road, drawing 2,460,744 (30,759 per date). The Dodgers had the highest combined 2019 Major League home/road attendance, drawing 6,681,929 (41,246 per date). The Yankees drew a home/road combined 5,765,148 (36,259 per date) to lead the American League.

San Francisco had the best road attendance (2,747,164 - 33,916 per date) in **2018**. The Yankees led the American League in road attendance (2,454,838 - 30,685 per date). Once again, the Dodgers had the best combined home and away attendance (6,538,203 - 40,112 per date). The Yankees (5,937,693 - 36,880 per date) had the top combined home/road attendance among American League teams.

The Cubs led the Major Leagues in road attendance in **2017**, drawing 2,791,299 (34,460 per date). The Yankees had the highest 2017 road attendance (2,620,718, and 32,355 per date) among American League teams. The Dodgers had the top MLB combined home/road attendance of 6,485,777 (40,036 per date). The Yankees drew a combined 5,767,684 (36,048 per date) to lead the American League. They also had the best combined home/road attendance among American League teams each year from 1999 through 2015. Toronto led in 2016.

In **2016**, the Cubs led the Majors in road attendance, with the Red Sox as the top road draw in the American League. The all-time record for Major League road attendance is 3,308,666 by the 2004 Yankees. Prior to 2004, Cincinnati held the road attendance record (3,016,074), set in 2000.

## MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY MONTH

The next 3 tables show **2023** Major League Baseball attendance by month. They also have **2022 and 2019** monthly average attendance per date. There were no 2022 games played in March.

A monthly breakdown of American League and National League attendance is on the next page.

**2023** Major League average attendance per date was up **vs. 2022** in every month, and was up in every month but May **vs. 2019**. There were games in October 2022 and 2023, but not in October 2019. The largest percentage gain was 13.1% in June. The rate of growth was higher in the second half of the 2023 season (10.9%) than in the first half (7.9%).

In **2019**, the American League was down 5.3% vs. **2018**, for the year, but National League average per date was up 1.3%. **2022** MLB average attendance per date was down 6.7% vs. **2019** for the combined months of March, April, May, and June (A.L. down 6.3%, N.L. down 7.1%), and fell 4.4% vs. **2019** for the combined months of July, August, September, and October (A.L. down 3.5%, N.L. down 5.1%). The biggest year-to-year change in **2019 vs. 2018** was a 3.5% decline in September-October.

The figures in these tables were compiled from data in the MLB Stats Reporting Platform.

One factor to note in these tables is that teams that draw well may have played more games in certain months than in others. For example, if a month has a higher than usual number of home games for teams like the Dodgers, Yankees, Rockies, Giants, Cubs, Cardinals, or Angels, the month's average per date will tend to be higher.

Month	2023 # of Dates	2023 Total Attendance	2023 Average per Date	2022 Average per Date	# Change in Average per Date - 2023 vs. 2022	% Change in Average per Date - 2023 vs. 2022	2019 Average per Date
March – April	422	11,342,961	26,879	26,064	815	3.1	26,722
May	414	11,129,758	26,883	24,936	1,947	7.8	27,003
June	388	11,787,245	30,379	26,870	3,509	13.1	29,772
July	365	11,884,189	32,559	28,919	3,640	12.6	30,360
August	408	12,340,817	30,247	27,727	2,520	9.1	29,125
September-October	418	12,262,395	29,336	26,496	2,840	10.7	27,343
March - June Total	1,224	34,259,964	27,990	25,942	2,048	7.9	27,799
July - October Total	1,191	36,487,401	30,636	27,636	3,000	10.9	28,917
Season Total	2,415	70,747,365	29,295	26,843	2,452	9.1	28,338

# 2023 vs. 2022 AND 2019 MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY MONTH

# MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY MONTH

2023 vs. 2022 average per date was up in all months in both leagues, with the biggest gain in the American League coming in July. The best increase in the National League was in June. 2023 average per date attendance vs.
2019 rose in every month for games played at American League parks, but was down in April and May at games in National League parks. No games were played in March, 2022.

Month	2023 # of Dates	2023 Total Attendance	2023 Average per Date	2022 Average per Date	# Change in Average per Date - 2023 vs. 2022	% Change in Average per Date - 2023 vs. 2022	2019 Average per Date
March – April	212	5,277,278	24,893	23,297	1,596	6.9	23,445
May	212	5,144,629	24,267	21,875	2,392	10.9	23,890
June	192	5,324,347	27,731	24,469	3,262	13.3	27,071
July	180	5,479,560	30,442	26,602	3,840	14.4	27,611
August	199	5,624,694	28,265	25,466	2,799	11.0	26,649
September-October	209	5,636,125	26,967	23,993	2,974	12.4	24,189
March - June Total	616	15,746,254	25,562	23,209	2,353	10.1	24,763
July - October Total	588	16,740,379	28,470	25,250	3,220	12.8	26,157
Season Total	1,204	32,486,633	26,982	24,294	2,688	11.1	25,430

# 2023 vs. 2022 AND 2019 AMERICAN LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY MONTH

National League home games had a higher average per date than American League home games in every month in **2019**, **2022**, and **2023**.

# 2023 vs. 2022 AND 2019 NATIONAL LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY MONTH

Month	2023 # of Dates	2023 Total Attendance	2023 Average per Date	2022 Average per Date	# Change in Average per Date - 2023 vs. 2022	% Change in Average per Date - 2023 vs. 2022	2019 Average per Date
March – April	210	6,065,683	28,884	28,779	105	0.4	29,884
May	202	5,985,129	29,629	27,923	1,706	6.1	30,285
June	196	6,462,898	32,974	29,320	3,654	12.5	32,469
July	185	6,404,629	34,620	31,043	3,577	11.5	33,216
August	209	6,716,123	32,135	30,099	2,036	6.8	31,494
September-October	209	6,626,270	31,705	29,021	2,684	9.2	30,293
March - June Total	608	18,513,710	30,450	28,656	1,794	6.3	30,854
July - October Total	603	19,747,022	32,748	30,003	2,745	9.1	31,607
Season Total	1,211	38,260,732	31,594	29,372	2,222	7.6	31,221

#### MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY DAY OF THE WEEK

As would be expected, Saturday was the day with the highest Major League attendance in **2023**, followed closely by Friday and Sunday. Monday had the lowest total attendance and average per date of any day. Mondays and Thursdays have the fewest number of dates, since those are the most common off-days in the Major Leagues. However, the 2023 season began on Thursday, March 30, and the 15 games that day drew 591,186, an average of 39,412.

The highest total attendance for any day in 2023 was 603,303 (37,706 average per game) on Sunday, June 18. 16 games were played that day as Boston had a separate-admission doubleheader. 8 of those games drew over 40,000, topped by a crowd of 52,307 at Dodger Stadium.

In the table below, the column 'Date with the Highest Total Attendance' is for which Monday had **the top total** attendance of all Mondays, which Tuesday had the top attendance, and so forth. The 'Average per Date on That Day' is for the date shown in the table. It is possible that another day may actually have had a higher average per date.

Friday through Sunday dates drew an average of 6,360 (24.3%) higher per date than Monday through Thursday dates.

Day of the Week	# of Dates	Total Attendance	Average per Date	% of Yearly Attendance	Date with Highest Total Attendance	Total Attendance on That Top Date	Average per Date on That Day
Monday	258	6,508,767	25,228	9.20	July 3	385,856	38,586
Tuesday	373	9,899,007	26,539	13.99	July 4	514,688	34,313
Wednesday	364	9,299,091	25,547	13.14	July 24	477,612	30,227
Thursday	223	6,147,560	27,568	8.69	March 30	591,186	39,412
Friday	385	12,239,994	31,792	17.30	August 18	524,103	34,940
Saturday	410	13,957,849	34,044	19.73	July 15	592,173	34,834
Sunday	402	12,695,097	31,580	17.94	June 18	603,303	37,706
MonThurs. Total	1,218	31,854,425	26,153	45.03			
FriSunday Total	1,197	38,892,940	32,492	54.97			
Season Total	2,415	70,747,365	29,295	100.00	June 18	603,303	37,706

## 2023 MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE BY DAY OF THE WEEK

Source: Major League Baseball Stats Reporting Platform

## A BIG DAY AT THE GATE

The best day of attendance in Major League history was on July 28, 2007, when 717,478 tickets were sold for the 17 games played that day. (There were two, separate-admission day/night doubleheaders.) Average attendance per game for that day was 42,205.

The largest crowds of **2023** were 54,662 and 55,565 for the 2 St. Louis home games played in London. At Major League parks, the Dodgers had the biggest crowd (53,057), and the Yankees had the top American League crowd (47,295).

Dodger Stadium, with the highest seating capacity of any MLB ballpark, hosted the largest crowd of **2022** (53,432 on August 10), and of **2021** (53,114 on August 17). The Yankees drew 49,217 on August 23, the largest **2022** American League crowd.

The largest regular season crowd of **2021** was 53,114 at Dodger Stadium. Seattle had the top single-game crowd (44,144) at American League parks. Highest post-season attendance was 53,299 at Dodger Stadium.

The largest crowd of the **2019** regular season was 59,659 in London, for a Boston 'home' game vs. the Yankees. The Dodgers drew 54,307 on May 31, which was the year's highest attendance at a National League park. Oakland's 53,367 crowd on August 24 was the largest in an American League park. Highest 2019 post-season crowd was 54,159 at Dodger Stadium for Game 5 of the National League Division Series.

The biggest crowd at any type of game in Major League history was 115,300, for an exhibition game between the Dodgers and Red Sox at the Los Angeles Coliseum in 2008. The game was a return to the Dodgers' original home in Los Angeles, where they played from 1958 through 1961. The old record for best attendance at any type of MLB game was 93,103, at the Los Angeles Coliseum for a 1959 exhibition game with the Dodgers and Yankees that honored former Dodger catcher Roy Campanella. For regular season games, the biggest crowd was 84,587 at Cleveland on September 12, 1954. Top post-season attendance is 92,706 on October 6, 1959 for a World Series game at the Los Angeles Coliseum. Smallest crowd ever was 0, for an April 29, 2015 game in Baltimore, when due to civil unrest, fans were not admitted to the park, and for all 2020 Major League regular season games, due to Covid. See pages 54, 55, and 329 for more details about other MLB small crowds.

#### 2023 MINOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE

The Minor Leagues had a totally normal season in 2023. Just like the Major Leagues, the Minor Leagues returned to almost normal in 2022. But some 2022 games were cancelled due to Covid. The 2 teams in Jupiter, Florida have played some games without fans in attendance each year since 2021, including in 2024. In 2021, the Major League affiliated leagues had a reorganization, with most short-season teams being eliminated. All MLB-affiliated leagues that charge admission are now full-season leagues. The Mexican and Pioneer Leagues are now independent pro leagues, and the Appalachian League is now a Summer Collegiate league. These 3 leagues, and other independent leagues, maintain a relationship with Major League Baseball, and are considered to be MLB Partner Leagues.

2023 was a very successful attendance season for Minor League Baseball. 90 of the 120 MLB-affiliated Minor League teams had increases in total attendance vs. 2022, and 91 of those teams had growth in average per date. It was the largest percentage of 'same market' teams showing attendance increases in decades (certainly since at least 1970, and probably ever). The significance of this achievement is that it was done with a smaller group of teams. The last time at least 90 teams had gains was in 2007, when 114 of 171 NAPBL 'same market' teams, including Mexican League teams, did it. That year 104 of 158 (65.8%) U.S./Canadian MLB-affiliated teams (excludes the Mexican League) showed gains in total attendance. In 1991, 99 of the 148 (66.9%) U.S./Canadian MLB-affiliated teams posted increases, the highest percentage of teams achieving gains between 1970 and 2019.

The 120 Major League affiliated Minor League teams had a total **2023** attendance of 32,152,384. That total was up 1,231,662 (4.0%) from **2022**. The 4.0% increase in total attendance for 2023 vs. 2022 is very impressive because it was accomplished without any team relocations or new ballparks. Teams moving to new markets or new ballparks have accounted for much of Minor League Baseball's yearly attendance growth over the past 4 decades. Since 2000, and until 2023, the largest yearly percentage increase in total attendance among the U.S./Canadian MLB-affiliated teams playing in the same market and ballpark in the 2 years being compared, was 1.5% for 2007 vs. 2006. (If the now independent Mexican League is included, the 2007 vs. 2006 gain was 1.1%.) The last time the 'same ballpark, same market' teams had a gain of at least 4% was in 1991, with a 4.6% increase.

82 independent league teams (4-team United Shore Baseball League in Utica MI, and 4-team Mavericks League in Keizer OR, each count as one team because all of each of those league's teams play in the same park, and Northern Colorado of the Pioneer League is excluded.) drew an estimated 10,160,535 in **2023**, up 569,915 (5.9%) from **2022**.

Combined Major League-affiliated and independent leagues regular season attendance in **2023** was an estimated 42,312,919 in 11,552 dates, an average of 3,663 per date. These figures include playoff games from the United Shore, Pecos, and Mavericks Leagues, but do not include playoff attendance from any other leagues.

The 120 MLB-affiliated teams in the 11 leagues that charged admission to their games drew 30,920,722 in **2022**, up 8,831,708 (40.0%) **from 2021**. Average per date was 3,933, up 691 (21.3%), with 1,048 more dates. The 81 independent teams with reported attendance drew 9,690,620, up 3,543,273 (58.6%). Their average per date was 2,613, up 589 (29.1%), with 682 more dates. The 4-team United Shore Baseball League, based in Utica, Michigan, and the 4-team Mavericks League, based in Keizer, Oregon, are counted as one team each. Combined affiliated and independent attendance was 40,511,342, up 12,374,981 (44.0%). Average per date was up 642 (22.4%), with 1,730 more dates.

MLB-affiliated and independent professional Minor League teams played 11,532 dates in 2022, and 9,802 dates in 2021, with fans in attendance. The pro leagues had 12,693 dates in 2019.

Much more detail about Minor League attendance from 2023 and previous years, and its attendance history, can be found in the 2023 Minor League Baseball Attendance Analysis. Find it on the 'Minor League Baseball' page at numbertamer.com.

## TOTAL MINOR LEAGUE REGULAR SEASON ATTENDANCE WAS UP IN 2019

In 2019, the last year before realignment, attendance for Minor Leagues affiliated with Major League Baseball was 41,504,077 up 1,053,740 (2.6%). Independent minor leagues drew 5,690,513, down 228,840 (3.8%). Combined affiliated/independent minor leagues attendance rose 824,900 (1.8%) to 47,194,590. Prior to 2009, the last overall decline in the Minors was in 1984. Total combined Major League/Minor League 2023 regular season attendance was 113,060,284. It was 105,068,000 in 2022, and 115,687,683 in 2019, down 307,251 (0.3%) from 2018. The combined Major League/Minor League record is 130,801,908, set in 2007. The 2019 combined total was down 15,114,225 (11.6%) from that 2007 record-high.

#### THE '3 MILLION' CLUB

The Yankees, Dodgers, Braves, Cardinals, Astros, Blue Jays, Phillies, and Padres topped 3 million in **2023**. 4 teams reached 3 million in **2022**. Due to reduced capacity restrictions in **2021**, no team drew 3 million. Strike-shortened 1981 had been the last time no Major League team reached 3 million. 1979 was the last 'normal' season without at least one team drawing at least 3 million.

The 1978 Dodgers were the first team to top 3 million in attendance. They've reached that level 35 times, which includes every year since 1995, except 2011 and 2021. In 1988, Minnesota was the first American League team to draw 3 million. But they didn't do it again until 2010. In 2023, The Yankees reached 3 million for the 23<sup>rd</sup> straight 'normal' year.

Attendance of 3 million has been achieved 219 times, 83 times by American League teams, and 136 times in the National League. In 2012, Texas became the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the 30 MLB teams to have drawn 3 million at least once. The Yankees, Mets, Toronto, and Colorado have all surpassed 4 million in a season. In 2008, 2007, and 2000, a record-high of 10 teams reached 3 million.

Only the Dodgers, Yankees, Giants, Cardinals, and Angels topped 3 million in 2014 and 2015. Those 5 teams, plus the Cubs and Blue Jays did it in 2016 and 2017. The Rockies were added to this list in 2018, and the Blues Jays were removed. The Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cubs, and Cardinals reached 3 million in 2019. Prior to 2014, the last time only 5 or fewer teams reached 3 million was in 2003.

#### "3 MILLION" SEASONS THROUGH 2023

# Seasons	<u>Teams</u>	# Seasons	Teams
35	Los Angeles Dodgers	8	Toronto, Atlanta
25	St. Louis	6	Cleveland, N.Y. Mets
23	N.Y. Yankees	5	Seattle, Boston, Houston
17	San Francisco	4	Detroit
17	Los Angeles Angels	3	Arizona, Minnesota, Milwaukee
12	Chicago Cubs	2	Texas, San Diego
10	Colorado, Philadelphia	1	Miami
9	Baltimore	0	Tampa Bay, Chicago White Sox, Kansas City, Oakland, Washington, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati

#### SHORTER SEASONS

As a result of a labor dispute between Major League team owners and players, the **2022** season began later than usual. But the full 162-game season was played. Several seasons have been delayed or disrupted by work stoppages. In some cases, attendance was negatively affected longer term, while in others, it was not.

The 1972 season began about a week late, but unlike in 2022, the lost games were not made up. Average attendance per date had been 16,401 in 1971. It fell to 15,864 per date in 1972. But in 1973, the average per date was 16,774, which was 373 above the 1971 average.

A two-month strike in the middle of the 1981 season led to a significant decline in the number of games played that year. But attendance quickly recovered in 1982. 1980 average per date was 21,443. In 1982, it was 21,975, and has been above that figure every year since, except for the unusual 2021 season.

In 1994, a strike halted the season in August, and delayed the start of the 1995 season until late April. This time, there was a significant decline in attendance from the pre-strike figures. 1993 average per date was a then-record-high 31,337. In 1994, the average per date was 31,612 when the season was halted. But in the slightly shorter 1995 season, average per date was just 25,260, and in 1996, the first full season after the strike, the average per date was 26,889.

An average per date of at least 30,000 was not reached again until 2001. An average per date that's higher than the 31,337 of 1993, has been achieved only in 2006, 2007, and 2008.

# 2023 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW - THE '3 MILLION' CLUB

Year	# of Teams	Teams that Drew at Least 3 Million
1978	1	Dodgers
1980	1	Dodgers
1982	1	Dodgers
1983	1	Dodgers
1984	1	Dodgers
1985	1	Dodgers
1986	1	Dodgers
	•	
1987	2	Cardinals, Mets
1988	2	Mets, Twins
1989	2	Blue Jays, Cardinals
1990	2	Blue Jays, Dodgers
1991	2	Blue Jays, Dodgers
1992	3	Blue Jays, Orioles, Braves
1993	7	Blue Jays, Orioles, Phillies, Marlins, Braves, Dodgers, Rockies
1000	,	
1994	1	Rockies (shorter season due to work stoppage)
1995	2	Orioles, Rockies (short season due to work stoppage)
1996	4	Orioles, Indians, Dodgers, Rockies
1997	6	Orioles, Indians, Mariners, Braves, Dodgers, Rockies
1998	7	Orioles, Indians, Braves, Cardinals, Dodgers, Rockies, Diamondbacks
1999	8	Yankees, Dodgers, Orioles, Indians, Braves, Cardinals, Diamondbacks, Rockies
1333	0	Tankees, Dougers, Onoies, Indians, Draves, Cardinais, Diamonubacks, Nockies
2000	10	Yankees, Orioles, Indians, Mariners, Braves, Astros, Cardinals, Dodgers, Giants, Rockies
2000	8	Yankees, Orioles, Indians, Mariners, Cardinals, Dodgers, Giants, Rockies
2001	6	Yankees, Mariners, Cardinals, Diamondbacks, Giants, Dodgers
2002	5	Yankees, Mainers, Cardinais, Diamonduacks, Giants, Dodgers
2003	9	Yankees, Angels, Phillies, Cardinals, Astros, Giants, Dodgers, Padres, Cubs
2004	6	Yankees, Angels, Cardinals, Cubs, Giants, Dodgers
2005	8	Yankees, Angels, Cardinals, Cubs, Glans, Dodgers Yankees, Angels, Mets, Cardinals, Astros, Cubs, Dodgers, Giants
2000	0	
2007	10	Tigers, Angels, Yankees, Cubs, Astros, Dodgers, Mets, Phillies, Cardinals, Giants
2007	10	Red Sox, Tigers, Angels, Yankees, Cubs, Dodgers, Mets, Primes, Cardinals, Glants
2000	9	Red Sox, Angels, Yankees, Cubs, Dodgers, Brewers, Mets, Cardinals, Thines
2003	9	Red Sox, Angels, Twins, Yankees, Cubs, Dodgers, Phillies, Cardinals, Giants
2010	9	Red Sox, Angels, Twins, Tankees, Cubs, Bougers, Finnes, Cardinals, Gants
2011	9	Red Sox, Tigers, Angels, Yankees, Rangers, Dodgers, Phillies, Cardinals, Giants
2012	8	Tigers, Angels, Yankees, Rangers, Dodgers, Phillies, Cardinals, Giants
2013	0	rigers, Angels, Tankees, Nangers, Dougers, Finnes, Cardinais, Glants
2014	5	Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants
2014	5	Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants
2015	5 7	Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants, Blue Jays, Cubs
2016	7	
2017	7	Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants, Blue Jays, Cubs
		Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants, Rockies, Cubs
2019	5	Angels, Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Cubs
2022	4	Yankees, Cardinals, Dodgers, Braves
2023	8	Yankees, Astros, Blue Jays, Dodgers, Braves, Cardinals, Phillies, Padres

On page 39 is a table listing how many seasons each team has drawn at least 2 million, 2.5 million, 3 million, 3.5 million, and 4 million. Also listed is the first year that each team reached these levels.

At one time, reaching one million was significant. 1946 was the first year that a majority of MLB teams (9 of 16) reached one million in attendance. There were years in the 1950's and 1960's when fewer than half the teams topped that mark, the last such season being 1964. 1989 was the first year that a majority of teams (15 of 26) reached 2 million. 21 of 28 teams topped 2 million in 1993, but only 13 did it in 1996. 18 teams topped 2 million in 2019. Despite capacity restrictions in 2021, 6 teams topped 2 million. 19 teams drew 2 million+ in 2022, and 18 teams did it in 2023.

#### SEASON TOTAL ATTENDANCE MILESTONES BY TEAM - Through 2023

The 1946 Yankees were the first team to reach 2 million in attendance, the 1948 Indians were the first to 2.5 million, the Dodgers were the first to 3 million (1978) and 3.5 million (1982), and 1991 Toronto was first to 4 million.

The table below lists how many times every team has reached each of these milestones, and what was the first year they achieved it. For example, Baltimore has reached at least 2 million in attendance 28 times, with the first time occurring in 1983. The Orioles topped 2.5 million in 14 seasons, with the first time in 1991, and hit 3 million in 9 years, initially in 1992. The first year each team played in its current city is listed. Separately noted are the Milwaukee Braves and Montreal Expos, who each topped 2 million 4 times. Milwaukee Braves numbers are not included in the listing for either Atlanta or the Milwaukee Brewers, and Expos numbers are excluded from those of the Washington Nationals.

	TEAM'S	# OF YEARS	# OF YEARS	# OF YEARS	# OF YEARS	# OF YEARS
	FIRST YEAR			3,000,000+ &	3,500,000+ &	4,000,000+ &
TEAM	IN CURRENT	2,000,000+ & FIRST YEAR	2,500,000+ & FIRST YEAR	FIRST YEAR	5,500,000+ & FIRST YEAR	FIRST YEAR
	CITY	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE
Deltimerre						
Baltimore	1954	28 (1983)	14 (1991)	9 (1992)	5 (1992)	
Boston	1901	38 (1977)	25 (1989)	5 (2008)		
Chi. White Sox	1901	14 (1983)	6 (1991)			
Cleveland	1901	15 (1948)	9 (1948)	6 (1996)		
Detroit	1901	20 (1968)	11 (1984)	4 (2007)		
Houston	1962	26 (1965)	14 (1999)	5 (2000)		
Kansas City	1969	14 (1978)	2 (2015)			
L.A. Angels	1961	38 (1979)	27 (1979)	17 (2003)		
Minnesota	1961	19 (1987)	4 (1988)	3 (1988)		
N.Y. Yankees	1903	45 (1946)	28 (1979)	23 (1999)	9 (2004)	4 (2005)
Oakland	1968	12 (1988)	3 (1989)			
Seattle	1977	24 (1991)	12 (1996)	5 (1997)	2 (2001)	
Tampa Bay	1998	1 (1998)				
Texas	1972	32 (1989)	17 (1994)	2 (2012)		
Toronto	1977	29 (1984)	17 (1987)	8 (1989)	4 (1990)	3 (1991)
				- ( /		
Arizona	1998	22 (1998)	8 (1998)	3 (1998)	1 (1998)	
Atlanta	1966	33 (1983)	22 (1992)	8 (1992)	1 (1993)	
Chicago Cubs	1876	35 (1984)	25 (1993)	12 (2004)		
Cincinnati	1876	28 (1973)	4 (1976)			
Colorado	1993	28 (1993)	24 (1993)	10 (1993)	4 (1993)	1 (1993)
00101000	1000	20 (1000)		10 (1000)	4 (1000)	1 (1000)
L.A. Dodgers	1958	58 (1959)	49 (1962)	35 (1978)	17 (1982)	
Miami	1993	3 (1993)	1 (1993)	1 (1993)		
Milwaukee	1995	20 (1983)	14 (2001)	3 (2008)		
New York Mets	1970	35 (1969)	21 (1970)	6 (1987)	2 (2007)	1 (2008)
Philadelphia	1883	29 (1976)	17 (1977)	10 (1993)	4 (2009)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Filladelpfila	1003	29 (1970)	17 (1977)	10 (1993)	4 (2009)	
Dittaburgh	1000	9 (1000)				
Pittsburgh St. Louis	1882	8 (1990)			4 (2005)	
St. Louis	1892	41 (1967)	32 (1985)	25 (1987)	4 (2005)	
San Diego	1969	28 (1985)	8 (1998)	2 (2004)		
San Francisco	1958	25 (1989)	22 (1993)	17 (2000)		
Washington	2005	12 (2005)	6 (2005)			
	(0.50. (0.05					
Milw. Braves	1953-1965	4 (1954)				
Montreal Expos	1969-2004	4 (1979)				
Total Times		768 (1946)	442 (1948)	219 (1978)	53 (1982)	9 (1991)
Achieved						

## BIGGEST YEAR-TO-YEAR CHANGES IN ATTENDANCE – Excludes 2021 and 2022

**The 2023 numerical increase in total attendance was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest ever.** The percentage gain was 5<sup>th</sup> **best since 1946.** 2009 had the biggest total attendance decline ever in a non-strike year, and the worst % decline since 1952. 2007 had the 5<sup>th</sup> largest increase in total attendance in a non-expansion year, or in a year that did not follow a season shortened either by a strike, or by World War I. 2018 had the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest total decline.

Despite 9 'normal' year attendance declines since 2008, the **2023** total attendance was still up 3,178,968 (4.7%) from 2003, and average per date was 1,282 higher. Since 1996, the first full season after the strike-shortened 1994 and 1995 seasons, through 2023, attendance had increased by 10,649,984 (17.7%), with two more teams playing now. Average 2023 attendance per team was up 211,911 (9.9%) since 1996, and average per date was up 2,406.

LARGEST INCREASES IN MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE
(Non-expansion years, full season the previous year, excludes 2022)

<u>BY TO</u>	TAL ATTENDANCE (since 1901)	BY % INCREA	<u>SE</u> (since 1946)
<u>Year</u>	<u># Increase</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
1946	7,682,166	1946	70.86%
<b>2023</b>	<b>6,190,707</b>	1966	12.21
2004	5,454,572	1954	10.79
1987	4,505,303	1959	9.64
2007	3,460,388	<b>2023</b>	<b>9.59</b>
1997	3,071,308	1987	9.48
1979	2,913,512	2004	8.07
1966	2,740,209	1947	7.29
2000	2,312,093	1979	7.17
1989	2,174,192	1970	5.57

Total attendance declines in 2018, 2009, and 2002 were much higher than in any other years. But all were down from a total of over 72 million the previous year. The 1950 decline was down from 20.2 million in 1949.

LARGEST DECLINES IN MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE (Full Seasons – excludes 2021)

BY TOTAL ATTENDANCE (since 1901)			BY % DECLINE (since 1946)		
<u>Year</u>	<u># Decline</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>% Decline</u>		
2009	(5,220,345)	1950	(13.62)%		
2002	(4,558,769)	1952	(9.26)		
2018	(3,045,179)	1951	(7.65)		
1950	(2,752,388)	2009	(6.64)		
1914	(1,903,348)	2002	(6.30)		
1931	(1,665,155)	1961	(5.11)		
1952	(1,493,632)	1968	(4.96)		
1932	(1,492,541)	1963	(4.20)		
1951	(1,336,301)	2018	(4.19)		
1917	(1,283,525)	1967	(3.47)		

Prior to 1946, attendance fluctuated much more on a percentage basis. It fell over 10% in these 7 full seasons: 29.9% in 1914; 19.7% in 1917; 17.6% in 1932; 16.4% in 1931; 14.4% in 1910; 12.7% in both 1933 and 1943.

Pre-1946 attendance increased by at least 10% in these 10 years: 39.6% in 1920 (In 1919, teams played 140 games instead of 154); 33.7% in 1916; 23.6% in 1945; 21.8% in 1903; 20.1% in 1904; 18.0% in 1908; 17.5% in 1944; 14.4% in 1934; 10.7% in 1924; 10.6% in 1937.

#### SPRING TRAINING - 2019 - 2024 REVIEW, PLUS SPRING TRAINING ATTENDANCE HISTORY

In recent years, 15 teams have held Spring Training in Arizona (Cactus League), and 15 teams are based in Florida (Grapefruit League).

All teams in Arizona are in the Phoenix area. 5 sites are shared by 2 teams each. The Diamondbacks and Rockies are at Salt River Flats in Scottsdale, the Reds and Guardians share Goodyear, the White Sox and Dodgers train in Glendale, the Royals and Rangers are in Surprise, and the Padres and Mariners play in Peoria. Single team facilities are in Tempe for the Angels, Maryvale for the Brewers, whose complex had a big renovation for 2019, Mesa (in different parks) for the Cubs and Athletics, and the Giants are in Scottsdale Stadium.

Teams in Florida are spread out in the Gulf Coast, central, and southeast sections of the state. Houston and Washington moved to shared-site in West Palm Beach in 2017. The Mets are in Port St. Lucie, and Miami and St. Louis share a site in Jupiter. The Braves moved to North Port in Sarasota County in 2020, and the Tigers train in Lakeland. The Yankees, Phillies, Blue Jays (rebuilt park in 2020), Orioles, and Pirates are all in the Tampa-St. Petersburg area. The Rays are in Port Charlotte, and the Red Sox and Twins train at different sites in the Fort Myers area.

#### **A NOTE OF CAUTION**

There have been some minor changes to data published in this section in previous years. Some figures now listed on the MLB Stats Reporting Platform differ slightly from those reported at the end of Spring Training in years past.

One change not made is from 2020. The number of Spring Training dates listed in the Stats Reporting Platform include 'Summer Camp' games played that July, before the start of the short-schedule regular season. Those extra games were played with no fans in attendance. 2020 Spring Training figures shown in this report are only for those games played in February and March, with fans in attendance. This was before Covid-19 shut down all sports.

#### <u>2024</u>

**2024** total Spring Training attendance for games where Major League teams played each other, at all sites, was 3,334,536 in 453 dates, an average of 7,361 per date. The total was up 158,832 (5.0%) vs. 2023, and average per date rose 335 (4.8%). It was the highest Spring Training total and average per date since 2019. Included in these figures are 16 games between Major League teams that were not played in the Spring Training parks of Florida and Arizona, including Boston and Tampa Bay 'home' games played in the Dominican Republic, and Oakland 'home' games at Las Vegas. Those 16 games drew 311,878, an average of 19,492 per date, with top crowds of 44,377 at Angels Stadium, 42,607 at Dodger Stadium, and 37,544 in San Diego. There were 41 tie games played in 2024 Spring Training.

Not included in the above figures is attendance from 16 games where MLB teams played non-MLB opponents, such as games vs. Minor League or college teams, or for the Yankees in Mexico City vs. los Diablos Rojos, or for 4 Dodgers and Padres games in South Korea vs. Korean teams. They also exclude attendance from 3 'Spring Breakout' games that the MLB Stats Reporting Platform did not list. These 16 games drew 179,251, an average of 11,203. The Mexico City games each drew over 20,000. (Attendance from 5 other 'Spring Breakout' games was not reported.)

The 223 dates played at **Grapefruit League ballparks in Florida** drew 1,419,643, up 48,177 (3.5%) vs. 2023. Average per date was 6,366, up 351 (5.8%). There were 7 rainouts. The Yankees had the highest total attendance (158,972, 9,351 per date), followed by Philadelphia (150,860, with a Grapefruit League best 9,429 average per date, a top crowd of 10,966, and 13 sellouts). Boston drew 129,801, averaging 8,653 per date. Washington likely had the lowest total (47,091), and average (3,364), as figures from one Houston home game were not reported. The listed Astros' total was 46,969.

There were 214 dates played at **Cactus League parks in Arizona**. They drew 1,603,015, up 35,450 (2.3%). Average per date was 7,491, down 82 (1.1%). 10 games were rained out. As usual, the Cubs, with the biggest park, led in attendance, with a 241,215 total, a 13,401 average per date, with 7 games drawing above 15,000, and the top crowd of 16,142. The Arizona Diamondbacks' Spring Training park home games drew 171,866, an average of 10,742. San Diego had the lowest Cactus League total (63,450) and Kansas City had the lowest Cactus average per date (4,859).

Combined Cactus and Grapefruit Leagues total attendance for 437 dates at Spring Training sites in Florida and Arizona was 3,022,658, up 83,627 (2.8%) from 2023. Average per date was 6,917, up 207 (3.1%), with 17 rainouts.

Grand total for all Spring Training games involving MLB teams, regardless of opponent or site, was 3,513,787 in 469 dates, an average of 7,492 per date. It includes an estimated 14,014 sellout for a Giants game at Sacramento.

## SPRING TRAINING - 2019 - 2024 REVIEW, PLUS SPRING TRAINING ATTENDANCE HISTORY

# <u>2023</u>

**2023** was the first 'normal' Spring Training since 2019. Total Spring Training attendance at all sites was 3,175,704 in 452 dates, an average of 7,026 per date. **Vs. 2019**, the 2023 total was down 407,189 (11.4%), and average per date dipped 597 (7.8%), with 18 fewer dates in 2023. There were only 8 rainouts in 2023. These figures exclude 20 games that Major League teams played vs. World Baseball Classic teams, which drew 89,635, averaging 4,482 per date. (If those games are included, the total is 3,265,339 in 472 dates, an average of 6,918 per date.)

The 2023 totals include 14 games played away from Spring Training Sites that drew 236,673, with a top crowd of 37,192 at Dodger Stadium for the Freeway Series against the Angels.

The 228 games played at Spring Training sites in **Florida (Grapefruit League)** in **2023** drew 1,371,466, averaging 6,015 per date. **Compared to 2019**, the total declined 65,713 (4.6%), and average per date dipped 288 (4.6%). The Yankees had the highest Grapefruit League attendance (161,501, averaging 9,500 per date), and Miami had the lowest (43,128, averaging 3,318 per date). Largest crowd was 10,933 at Clearwater for a Phillies home game.

210 games were played at Spring Training sites in **Arizona (Cactus League)** in **2023**. They drew 1,567,565, an average of 7,573 per date. For **2023 vs. 2019**, the total fell 169,417 (9.8%), and average per date declined 322 (4.1%). **As usual, the Cubs, with the largest park, had the highest total (231,711) and average per date (13,630). 9 of their games drew over 15,000, with an all-time Cactus League record-high of 16,152.** Cincinnati had the lowest figures in Arizona, with a 59,592 total and a 4,257 average per date.

Combined Cactus and Grapefruit Leagues total attendance at Spring Training sites was 2,939,031, down 235,130 (7.4%) **vs. 2019**. Average per date was 6,710, down 375 (5.3%), with 10 fewer dates in 2023.

**2023 vs. 2022** comparisons have limited value due to the late start of Spring Training in 2022. For **2023 vs. 2022**, total attendance at all games, regardless of location was up 1,774,738 (126.7%), and average per date rose 1,799 (34.4%). Average per date at Spring Training sites was up 1,808 (36.9%).

# <u>2022</u>

The start of Spring Training was delayed due to a lockout, and far fewer than the usual number of games were played. Due to the uncertainty of when the games would begin, attendance was significantly lower than before 2020.

Total Spring Training attendance was 1,400,966 in 268 dates, averaging 5,227 per date. All but 6 games were played at Spring Training sites. The 262 games at Spring Training sites drew 1,284,334, an average of 4,902 per date. Games at Arizona Spring Training sites drew 716,166, averaging 5,305 per date. The Cubs led in total attendance (99,219), average per date (9,922), and largest crowd (12,839), at Arizona Spring Training sites. The Angels played a Freeway Series game vs. the Dodgers in Anaheim, which drew 44,401, the largest crowd at a 2022 Spring Training game.

At Florida Spring Training sites, the 127 games drew 568,168, an average of 4,474 per date. Boston's long Spring Training sellout streak ended. But the Red Sox had the highest total attendance (73,303) and average per date (7,330) among the Florida-based teams. The Yankees had the largest single crowd in Florida (9,502).

# <u>2021</u>

All teams, except Toronto, had fans at their 2021 Spring Training games, with reduced capacity. They drew a total of 821,204 (2,053 per game). Games at Spring Training sites in Florida drew 331,683 (1,774 per game), and games at Arizona Spring Training sites drew 446,935 (2,148 per game). 3 games in MLB parks (Texas, Arizona) drew a total of 29,337. The Cubs had the top Cactus average per game (3,484), and the Yankees topped the Grapefruit (2,515/game). Boston had sold out 262 of its last 263 home Spring games through 2021, including the last 159 in a row, but this streak ended in 2022.

## SPRING TRAINING - 2019 – 2024 REVIEW, PLUS SPRING TRAINING ATTENDANCE HISTORY

## <u>2020</u>

Spring Training was shut down due to the Covid-19 on March 12. At that point, 293 games had been played, and they drew a total of 1,838,914, an average of 6,276 per date.

Florida-based teams (Grapefruit League) drew 889,801 in 150 dates, an average of 5,933 per date. Boston had the best average per date in this group (9,587), and continued to sell out every game. The Yankees were close behind, averaging 9,540 per date. The 15 Arizona-based teams (Cactus League) drew 949,113 in 143 dates, averaging 6,637 per date. The Cubs again had the best average (12,153), followed by the Dodgers (10,661).

These figures include 4 games in Las Vegas (2 home games for the Cubs, and 2 for Oakland) which drew a total of 36,157, and a Detroit home game in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, which drew 10,672.

The above figures for the number of dates do not include 31 'Summer Camp' exhibition games played in July, 2020, prior to the delayed start of the 2020 regular season. No fans were in attendance for those games.

# 2019 AND EARLIER

2019 Spring Training exhibition games (no matter where they were played) drew 3,582,893, down 83,117 (2.3%) from 2018. The record-high is 4,025,874 in 2015. There were 470 Spring Training dates played in 2019, down from 485 in 2018, and 516 in 2017. All Spring Training figures noted here are only for games vs. other Major League teams.

The 2019 average per date was 7,623 up 64, from 7,559 in 2018. Average per date was a record-high 8,602 in 2016, 8,368 in 2015, and 8,078 in 2014. Prior to 2014, the top Spring average was 8,058 in 2008, including a game at the Los Angeles Coliseum that drew 115,300. Exclude that game, the average was a still then-record high of 7,823.

2019 attendance at Arizona Spring Training sites was 1,736,982, in 220 dates, down 23,833 (1.4%) from 2018, and averaged 7,895 per date, up 272. At Florida Spring Training sites, 2019 attendance was 1,437,179, in 228 dates, down 88,829 (5.8%) from 2018, averaging 6,303 per date, down 163. Combined 2019 attendance at all <u>Spring Training sites</u> was 3,174,161 in 448 dates, down 112,662 (3.4%), with 19 fewer dates. Combined Florida/Arizona average per date was 7,085, up 47. 22 dates at non-Spring Training sites in 2019 drew 408,732 (average - 18,579), vs. 403,049 (18 dates, 22,392 per date) in 2018.

The Cubs opened a new park in Mesa, AZ in 2014, and drew a Cactus League record 213,815, (14,254 per date). In 2015, the Cubs drew 222,415 (14,828 per date). They broke the record again in 2016, drawing 226,163, (15,078 per date). In 2017, they drew 226,933, (15,129 per date). 2018 attendance was 222,023 (13,876 per date). 9 of 15 games drew over 15,000. The Cubs drew a Spring Training site record-high 250,893 (13,939 per date) in 2019, topping 15,000 at 9 of 18 games, including a then-Cactus League record-high of 16,100 (topped in 2023).

The Red Sox had the highest attendance among Florida teams in 2019 (147,751 – 9,850 per date). Miami (49,172 – 3,512 per date) had the Grapefruit low. Oakland (68,991) had the lowest 2019 Cactus League total attendance, and Cincinnati had the lowest Cactus average (5,475).

Prior to the Cubs' records starting in 2014, the Arizona Diamondbacks had the highest Arizona Spring Training site home attendance in 2013, 2012, and 2011. The D-backs drew 176,336 in 2013, 186,868 in 2012, and 189,767 in 2011. San Francisco drew 155,819 to lead the Cactus League in 2010. Cactus League lows were by Cleveland in 2014, Cincinnati in 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2013, and 2011, Oakland in 2012, and Cleveland in 2010.

In 2011, Arizona and Colorado drew a combined 359,336, which was the highest spring attendance at a ballpark shared by 2 teams. The old record was 230,136 by Seattle and San Diego, at Peoria in 2008. The D-backs and Rockies broke their own record in 2012, drawing a combined 369,393 at Salt River Flats. These 2 teams have drawn a combined 300,000+ in the first 8 seasons there, including 345,948 in 2015, 331,001 in 2016, 310,420 in 2017, and 317,297 in 2018. This streak ended in 2019, when the Diamondbacks and Rockies drew a combined 288,823.

In Florida, the Yankees, in Tampa, led the Grapefruit League in attendance in 2016 (160,813), 2015 (171,712), and in 2014 (159,272). They had the best average per date in 2018. Boston was tops in total for 2018 and 2017. They also led in 2013, drawing 180,875. Philadelphia led in 2012, with 153,493 in Clearwater. The Yankees had Florida's best attendance in 2011, (163,085), and also in 2010, (147,557). Houston, who played in Kissimmee, next Disney World, through 2016, had the Grapefruit League low in 2016, 2015, 2014, 2012, and 2011. Miami had the 2019, 2018, 2017 and 2013 Florida lows, and Toronto had the low in 2010.

# **SPRING TRAINING - ATTENDANCE HISTORY**

The table below lists yearly total Spring Training attendance (at all sites) since 1975 for games when Major League teams played each other. Figures from 2006 through 2024 are from the MLB Information and Stats Reporting Systems. Data from 1975 through 2005 was published by the Website of 'Spring Training Magazine.' Attendance for 1978 was unavailable. Record-highs are shown in bold. Work stoppages caused a reduction in the number of Spring Training games in 2022, 1995, 1990, and 1976.

Some attendance figures for games played at Spring Training sites came from the Major League Baseball Spring Training Media Guide, and from team media guides and game notes.

	Total		Average			Total		Average
Year	Attendance	# of Dates	per Date	Y	ear	Attendance	# of Dates	per Date
2024	3,334,536	453	7,361		999	2,978,638	466	6,392
2023	3,175,704	452	7,026		998	2,761,299	461	5,990
2022	1,400,966	268	5,227		997	2,625,247	435	6,035
2021	821,204	400	2,053		996	2,486,241	427	5,823
2020	1,838,914	293	6,276		995	853,304	169	5,049
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2019	3,582,893	470	7,623	19	994	3,330,200	432	7,709
2018	3,666,010	485	7,559	19	993	2,945,439	418	7,047
2017	3,954,970	516	7,665	19	992	2,066,166	364	5,676
2016	4,025,874	468	8,602	19	991	2,126,844	366	5,811
2015	4,024,927	481	8,368	19	990	647,366	178	3,637
2014	3,610,738	447	8,078	19	989	1,980,161	372	5,323
2013	3,823,839	507	7,542	19	988	1,840,275	375	4,907
2012	3,675,307	480	7,657	19	987	1,566,089	355	4,412
2011	3,513,711	488	7,200	19	986	1,485,034	350	4,243
2010	3,477,006	459	7,575	19	985	1,384,185	355	3,899
2009	3,748,625	521	7,195		984	1,210,549	328	3,691
2008	3,690,755	458	8,058	19	983	1,113,696	312	3,570
2007	3,426,636	473	7,244	19	982	1,091,103	307	3,554
2006	3,263,022	465	7,017	19	981	1,136,535	353	3,220
2005	3,405,043	460	7,402	19	980	803,086	262	3,065
2004	3,312,087	462	7,169		979	967,251	320	3,023
2003	2,937,715	455	6,457		978	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002	3,115,651	476	6,545		977	854,878	326	2,622
2001	3,083,969	455	6,778		976	396,836	168	2,362
2000	3,023,582	461	6,559	19	975	820,757	315	2,606

## SPRING TRAINING ATTENDANCE - AT ALL SITES

## 2023 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW – POST-SEASON AND SPECIAL EVENTS

#### OPENING DAY

The 30 Opening Day games at Major League ballparks in **2024** drew 1,218,702, an average of 40,623 per game. 26 of the 30 openers were sellouts. In addition, the Dodgers and Padres opened their regular season in Seoul, South Korea. Each team had one 'home' game there.

Opening Day **2023** drew 1,224,618, averaging 40,821 per game. This is up 1,523 (3.9%) from the 2022 average, but down 129 (0.3%) from 2019. Combined ballpark capacity is slightly lower in 2023 than it was in 2019. 24 teams had sellouts, including Kansas City, which sold out a game for the first time since August 11, 2018.

The 30 Opening Day games for the slightly delayed **2022** season drew 1,178,952, an average of 39,298 per game. This was the lowest average Opening Day attendance since 1995, a season that also had a delayed start. American League Openers drew an average of 37,309, the lowest since 1983. National League Openers averaged 41,288, lowest since 2006. At least 18 of the 2022 Opening Day games were sellouts.

The Texas Rangers were the only team to have full capacity available on **Opening Day 2021**. All other teams played to limited capacity. At least 27 teams, including Texas, had a sellout. Miami, Kansas City, and Oakland may have also sold out their Home Openers. No fans were in attendance for the delayed **2020** Opening Day games.

Kansas City, Oakland, Miami, and the White Sox didn't have sellouts for their **2019** home openers. 13 teams had their best 2019 crowd for their Opener. Miami, Oakland, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, and the White Sox did not sell out their 2018 home openers. 15 teams had their largest 2018 crowd on Opening Day. In 2017, all home openers, except for the White Sox, were sellouts. The White Sox' scheduled opener was rained out. The game was played the next day, and was a near-sellout. 18 teams drew their best 2017 crowd on Opening Day. All 2016 Home Openers were sold out, and it was the largest crowd of the year for 18 teams. Every team sold out Opening Day in 2015, and for 21 teams, it was their top crowd of the year. 21 teams also drew their best crowds of 2014 on Opening Day, with Minnesota having the only non-sellout. In 2013, 28 teams had Opening Day sellouts. All teams sold out their home openers in 2012 and in 2011. 28 of the 30 teams sold out Opening Day 2010, with 19 teams having their year's top crowd that day.

Opening Day 1993 had the highest combined attendance ever (1,393,111, a 28-team average of 49,754 per game). More big capacity parks existed then. The largest crowd for an Opening Day game was 80,227 at Mile High Stadium in Denver in 1993, at the first home game in Colorado Rockies history. It was also the biggest crowd for any regular-season National League game. In 1958, at the Memorial Coliseum, 78,762 attended the first game the Dodgers played in Los Angeles. The American League record for Opening Day was 74,420 at Cleveland, in 1973. The Indians only drew 615,107 that entire season. The biggest regular-season crowd in Major League history was 84,587 in Cleveland on September 12, 1954.

## ALL-STAR GAME

In 2023, Seattle hosted the All-Star Game for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. It drew 47,159. The Futures game drew 42,755, and the Home Run Derby attracted 46,952. In 1979, the Game drew 58,905 at the Kingdome. The 2001 Game at T-Mobile Park drew 47,364.

The 2022 MLB All-Star Game in Los Angeles drew 52,518, Home Run Derby attendance was 50,099, and the Futures Game attracted 49,565. This was the 4<sup>th</sup> time the Dodgers have been All-Star hosts. The 1949 game in Brooklyn drew 32,577. In Los Angeles, the Dodgers hosted the All-Star Game in 1959 (55,105), and in 1980 (56,088).

Colorado replaced Atlanta as the host of the 2021 game, and it drew 49,184. The 2021 Home Run Derby drew 49,098. The 1998 All-Star Game at Coors Field drew 51,267.

The 2019 All-Star Game was in Cleveland for the 6<sup>th</sup> time. The first 4 were played at the huge Municipal Stadium, and the 1997 game was at much smaller Progressive Field. (1935 – attendance 69,812, 1954 – 68,751, 1963 – 44,160, 1981 – 72,086, 1997 – 44,916). The 2019 game drew 36,747 to Progressive Field, which has reduced its capacity since 1997. Futures Game attendance was 34,386, while the Home Run Derby drew 36,119.

The site of the 2024 game will be Arlington, Texas. The Rangers hosted the 1995 game, and it drew 50,920. The 2025 game will be in Atlanta. Philadelphia has been awarded the 2026 game in honor of the USA's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Game was played in Philadelphia in 1943 (31,938), 1952 (32,785), 1976 (63,974), and 1996 (62,670).

## 2023 ATTENDANCE OVERVIEW – POST-SEASON AND SPECIAL EVENTS

## POST-SEASON

41 post-season games were played in **2023**, and they drew 1,774,366, an average of 43,277. The largest crowd was 51,653 for Game 1 of a National League Division Series at Dodger Stadium. Tampa Bay drew only 19,704 and 20,198 to the Wild Card games they hosted. Attendance at Game 1 was the lowest for a post-season game since Game 7 of the 1919 World Series in Cincinnati drew just 13,923. It was not a Series deciding game. That year, the World Series was a best of 9, and the Reds won Game 8 and the Series, in Chicago, beating the White Sox. 17 World Series games between 1903 and 1909 drew less than 13,923, with a low of 6,210 in Detroit in 1909.

The **2022** post-season featured expanded playoffs. 9 Wild Card games drew 377,714 (41,968 average per game), 16 Division Series games drew 719,699 (44,981 average per game), 9 Championship Series games attracted 402,965 (44,774 average per game), and the 6 World Series games drew 265,885 (44,314 average per game). Combined post-season attendance for the 40 games was 1,766,263, an average of 44,157 per game.

The usual sellout crowds attended the **2021** post-season. The 2 wild card games drew 91,517. 17 Division Series games had a total of 702,032. The 12 Championship Series games attracted 520,383. Attendance at the 6 World Series games was 257,671. The 37 post-season games drew 1,571,603, an average of 42,476 per game. Highest single game attendance was 53,299 at Dodger Stadium for Game 3 of the NLDS.

The only games played with fans in attendance in **2020** were in Arlington, TX. The NLCS drew 75,843, and the World Series drew 68,222, for a total of 144,465. This averaged 11,113 per game, which is 27% of Globe Life Field's 40,518 capacity.

In **2019** post-season play, the 2 wild card games attracted 96,998. 18 Division Series games drew 792,394. The 10 League Championship Series games attracted 455,759, and attendance for the 7 World Series games was 305,072. The 37 post-season games drew a total of 1,650,223, an average of 44,601 per game.

Total attendance for the 33 post-season games in **2018** was 1,497,352, an average of 45,374 per game. In **2017**, the 38 post-season games drew a total of 1,746,109, an average of 45,950 per game. **2016** post-season attendance was 1,552,257 for 35 games, an average of 44,350 per game. The **2015** post-season drew 1,634,763 for 36 games, an average of 45,410 per game.

**2014** post-season attendance was 1,418,103 for 32 games, averaging 44,316 per game. The 38 post-season games in **2013** drew 1,681,954, an average of 44,262 per game. 37 post-season games in **2012** drew a total of 1,649,712 (44,587). 38 post-season games in **2011** drew 1,744,852 (45,917 per game), and in **2010**, the 32 post-season games drew a total of 1,486,274 (46,446 per game). Comparing post-season attendance year-to-year has little value since the number of games, and the capacity of the ballparks they're played in, can vary.

More data on post-season attendance can be found in this report's Historical Notes section on Pages 284-287.

#### WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

## <u>2023</u>

The 2023 World Baseball Classic attracted a record-high 1,267,202 for the 47 games played in March, 2023. Average per game was 26,962. Attendance for the first round of games, at 4 sites, was 1,010,999 up 98% from 2017. The 10 games in Taichung, Taiwan drew 110,523 (11,052 average). In Tokyo, the first round drew 361,976 (36,198 average), the best figures ever at one site. 2 second round games in Tokyo drew 76,784. The 10 first round games in Phoenix attracted 242,650 (24,265 average). In Miami, the 10 first round games drew 295,850 (29,585 average). The 5 quarterfinal, semi-final, and final games in Miami drew 179,419, an average of 35,884 per game.

In addition, in September and October 2022, qualifying games were played in Regensburg, Germany (9 games – total attendance – 11,069), and in Panama City, Panama (9 games – total attendance 15,011). These figures are not included in any of the total listed above.

## <u>2017</u>

Total attendance for the 2017 WBC, including the qualifying rounds was 1,085,494, up 200,282 (22.6%) from the 2013 event. Average per game for the 64 dates was 16,961. These figures are from the totals listed in the box scores of these games. A Major League Baseball press release listed the total attendance as 1,086,270.

The 24 qualifying games were played in 2016 in: Sydney, Australia; Mexicali, Mexico; Panama City, Panama; and Brooklyn, New York USA; and drew a total of 111,795, an average of 4,658 per game.

First round 2017 games were played in: Seoul, South Korea (52,286 – 8,714 per game); Tokyo (206,534 – 34,422 per game); Miami (163,878 – 27,313 per game); Jalisco, Mexico (86,132 – 12,305 per game). Total first round attendance was 508,830, an average of 20,353 per game.

The second rounds were played at Tokyo (209,072 – 34,845 per game), and San Diego (145,905 – 24,318 per game). The second-round total was 354,977, an average of 29,581 per game.

The 3-game Championship-round was played at Dodger Stadium and drew 109,892 (36,631 per game), including 51,565 for the Championship Game. 8 other games, 7 in Tokyo, and one in San Diego, drew over 40,000.

Total attendance for the 40 games played in March, 2017 was 973,699, an average of 24,342 per game.

# <u>2013</u>

Total attendance for the 39 games of the 2013 World Baseball Classic was 778,625, averaging 19,965 per game. The 3 game Championship Round at AT&T Park at San Francisco drew 96,913, an average per game of 32,304. Total attendance including 2012 qualifying games was a then-record-high 885,212, breaking the mark of 801,410 in 2009.

## WHEN IS A 'HOME' GAME PLAYED AWAY FROM HOME?

The Dodgers and Padres opened the **2024** regular season with 2 games in Seoul, South Korea, which drew 15,952 and 15,928. Each team had one official home game there. Other non-Major League sites of 2024 regular season games are Mexico City (19,934 and 19,841), Rickwood Field in Birmingham AL (Field of Dreams Game), London (53,882 and 55,074), and Williamsport PA.

**2023** games in non-Major League parks were played in Mexico City, London, Dyersville Iowa, and Williamsport PA. The first two Mexico City games, with the Padres as home team, drew sellout crowds of 19,611 and 19,633.

In **2022**, Cincinnati played a 'home' game at the Field of Dreams in Iowa, and Baltimore was the home team at the Little League Classic in Williamsport, PA.

The closing of the U.S./Canadian border forced the Toronto Blue Jays to play **2020** home games in Buffalo, April and **May 2021** home games at their Spring Training park in Dunedin, and June/July 2021 home games in Buffalo. The White Sox played a 'home' game at the Field of Dreams in Iowa, and Cleveland had a home game in Williamsport, PA.

In **2019**, Oakland had its first 2 home games in Tokyo (attendance - 45,787, 46,451). Cincinnati (16,496, 16,793) and the Los Angeles Angels (18,177, 17,614) each had 2 home games in Monterrey, Mexico. Kansas City played a home game in Omaha (25,454) in conjunction with the NCAA College Baseball World Series. Boston hosted the Yankees for 2 games in London (59,659, 59,059). These were the first Major League games ever played in Europe. Pittsburgh had a home game in Williamsport, PA as part of the Little League World Series that drew 2,503.

In **2018**, Minnesota played 2 home games in San Juan, Puerto Rico. San Diego had 3 home games in Monterrey, Mexico. Philadelphia had a home game in Williamsport, PA.

Hurricanes caused 3 series to be moved in **2017**. Houston played a 'home' series at Tampa Bay. A series scheduled in Tampa Bay was moved to Citi Field in New York. Miami had a 'home' series in Milwaukee. Pittsburgh played a home game in Williamsport, PA.

In **2011**, a concert at Sun Life Stadium forced Florida to play a 3 game home series with the Mariners in Seattle. The Marlins were the 'home' team for the series, and the 43,100 attendance for those games is included in their home total. Likewise, in 2010, an economic summit in Toronto forced the Blue Jays to play a home series with the Phillies in Philadelphia, and in 2015, when the Orioles were the 'home' team for 3 games vs. the Rays in St. Petersburg due to civil unrest in Baltimore.

In **2013**, a Reds-Giants game in Cincinnati was rained out. It was re-scheduled as part of a single-admission double-header in San Francisco a few weeks later. Since no separate admission was charged for this make-up game, the attendance was credited to the Giants, even though the Reds batted last in one game of that double-header.

**Through 2024,** there have been 41 MLB regular season games played outside of the United States and Canada. These games have drawn a total of 1,357,668, averaging 33,114 per game. All games have been sellouts or nearsellouts. 11 games in Monterrey, Mexico have drawn 228,682 (20,789 average). 4 games in Mexico City drew 79,019 (19,755 average). Tokyo has hosted 10 games, which drew 489,219 (48,922 average). Excluding Montreal Expos home games, there have been 6 other games in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which drew 114,622 (19,104 average). Sydney, Australia's 2 games drew 76,345 (38,173 average). The 6 games in London have drawn 337,901 (56,317 per game). Seoul, South Korea's 2 games drew 31,880 (15,940 average). Source: MLB Weekly Notes – June 6, 2024

The figures in the previous paragraph exclude home games played in San Juan, Puerto Rico by the Montreal Expos. In 2003 the Expos had 22 home dates in San Juan, which drew 312,882 (14,222 per date). In 2004 the Expos played 21 home dates in San Juan, which drew 217,005 (10,334 per date).

#### GOOD DAY SUNSHINE - IN THE MAJORS

Mid-week day games are very popular for many Major League teams. They are often used as Businessperson Specials, and also attract school and camp groups.

The table below lists the number of Monday through Friday day games (starting at 4:10 P.M. or earlier) that each team scheduled in 2019, on the 2020 schedules, and in 2021, the <u>original</u> 2022 schedules (excludes changes made after the lockout), 2023, and 2024. It excludes Opening Day and holidays (Memorial Day, Victoria Day and Canada Day for Toronto, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Labor Day).

This table only lists the 229 games on the original 2019 schedules, the 250 games on the <u>original 2020</u> schedules, the 237 games on the original 2021 schedules, the 241 games on the <u>original 2022</u> schedules, the 259 games on the 2023 schedules, and the 263 games on the 2024 schedules, so games that were rained out <u>are</u> included. But rained out games rescheduled as the day part of a day-night doubleheader are not included. The Cubs were the only team that scheduled non-opener day games on Fridays. There were 211 scheduled mid-week day games in 2016, 222 such games in 2017, and 223 games in 2018.

#### NUMBER OF MID-WEEK DAY GAMES ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED - 2019 THROUGH 2024

Team	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Team	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
American League							National League							
Baltimore	3	5	5	2	8	7	Arizona	8	8	9	8	9	9	
Boston	4	5	5	6	3	5	Atlanta	4	5	5	5	5	5	
Chi. W. Sox	9	10	5	10	8	11	Chi. Cubs	22	24	19	19	16	22	
Cleveland	9	10	7	7	9	9	Cincinnati	9	9	10	9	10	9	
Detroit	16	15	15	14	13	16	Colorado	10	10	13	10	10	10	
Houston	4	6	6	6	7	7	L.A. Dodgers	2	2	1	3	5	3	
Kansas City	9	5	8	9	10	6	Miami	5	6	5	4	7	6	
L.A. Angels	1	4	5	7	6	5	Milwaukee	11	12	10	12	11	10	
Minnesota	8	12	9	9	12	9	N.Y. Mets	6	7	5	7	7	8	
N.Y. Yankees	6	6	4	4	4	6	Philadelphia 6		6	7	7	9	7	
Oakland	9	12	13	12	12	12	Pittsburgh	6	7	8	9	13	11	
Seattle	8	8	9	9	8	8	San Diego	10	9	7	9	10	11	
Tampa Bay	8	8	8	7	8	6	San Francisco	9	10	7	11	9	9	
Texas	4	6	9	7	7	8	St. Louis	8	9	8	6	7	9	
Toronto	4	5	4	4	5	8	Washington	9	9	11	9	11	1 11	
LEAGUE TOTAL	102	117	112	113	120	123	LEAGUE TOTAL	125	133	125	128	139	140	

## **RAINY SEASON REPORT**

"Into each life some rain must fall" - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow – Source: brainyquote.com

42 games were postponed due to weather in **2023**. 27 of them were rescheduled on off-days or as a part of a separate-admission, day-night doubleheader. The other 15 games were played as part of single-admission doubleheaders. The Mets and Tigers had the most postponements, with 6 each. The Red Sox, White Sox, and Phillies each had 4 rainouts.

There were 45 postponements and 25 lost dates in **2022**. Cleveland had 5, the Mets had 4, and the Yankees and Baltimore had 3 each. A few single-admission doubleheaders were played to make-up games that were originally scheduled for the first week of the season. The later start to the season necessitated the rescheduling of these games.

74 games were postponed in **2021** due to weather or Covid. The Mets had 9 home rainouts. Cleveland had 7. Washington also had 7 postponements, including their first 4 home dates, which were due to Covid.

There were 37 postponements in **2019**, 17 fewer than in 2018, and the early season weather was much warmer. There were 336 games scheduled for outdoor, non-retractable roof ballparks in March-April, 2019. 15 were postponed, which was 12 fewer than during the same months in 2018. 9 of these early season games in 2019 began in under 40-degree temperatures, compared to 28 in 2018. There were 41 March-April, 2019 games with gametime temperatures of less than 50 degrees, compared to 98 such games in 2018. On the warmer side, 203 games started with temperatures of at least 60 degrees in March-April, 2019, compared to just 146 games in 2018. There were 13 lost dates in 2019. 17 dates were lost in 2018, compared to 10 in 2017, 5 in 2016, 13 in 2015, 9 in 2014, and 5 in 2013.

In **2018**, there were 54 games that were rained or snowed out. This tied 1997 for the most rainouts since the 1980's. 38 of those 54 games were made up on off-days, or as parts of day-night doubleheaders. A rainout in Pittsburgh was not rescheduled. The remaining 15 games were played as parts of single-admission doubleheaders. This includes a game in Toronto that was postponed after snow and ice damaged the roof of the Rogers Centre. Oakland had a lost date when they did not charge admission to the game celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Oakland.

38 games were rained out in **2017**. This does not include 3 games each in Houston, Tampa Bay, and Miami that were moved to other locations due to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. 28 of the 38 rainouts were made up on off-days or as part of day-night doubleheaders. The White Sox, Yankees, and Phillies each lost 2 dates, and the Royals, Twins, A's, and Mets each lost one date, that were each made up as part of single-admission doubleheaders. Texas, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, the Angels, and the Dodgers were the only teams with outdoor ballparks that didn't have a 2017 rainout.

In 2015, the Angels ended a streak of 1,609 games without a rainout, and had a July rainout for the first time ever. San Diego had its first July rainout as well, ending a streak of 820 games since their last rainout. There have never been rainouts in July in San Francisco, Oakland, or at Dodger Stadium.

In 2014, there were 2 rainouts in Oakland. Prior to that, the last time a California team had a game rained out was in 2006. There were 37 weather postponements in the Major Leagues in 2013. This included snowouts in Minnesota, Colorado, and Kansas City. There were 51 rainouts in the Majors in 2011. Minor League Baseball was also hit very hard by bad weather in 2013 and in 2018, especially early in the season.

## THE WEATHER OUTSIDE WAS FRIGHTFUL EARLY IN THE 2018 SEASON

Weather was a big problem for baseball in 2018. Early season games that were played often took place in terrible conditions. Of the 351 games scheduled for outdoor stadiums in April, 27 were postponed due to rain, snow, or cold. 98 games began with temperatures under 50 degrees, including 28 games under 40 degrees, and one game each in Minnesota and Colorado with a gametime temperature of 27 degrees. In April, 10 of 15 games played in Cleveland, and 10 of 14 games in Detroit, started with temperatures under 50. 5 of the games in Detroit had gametime temperatures of less than 40 degrees.

The bad weather in 2018 caused a decline in the official announced attendance, which includes tickets sold, but not used. But perhaps more significantly, it likely caused declines in short-term advance and day-of-game ticket sales, and in the number of people who actually did attend the games. Many of those early-season bad-weather games were played in front of very sparse crowds. With more and more ballpark revenue generated from sources other than ticket sales, such as parking, concessions, ballpark dining and bar facilities, and merchandise sales, bad weather is now costlier to teams than it's ever been.

#### **RAINY SEASON REPORT**

#### IT RARELY RAINS IN CALIFORNIA DURING BASEBALL SEASON, THOUGH IT DID IN 2023, 2018, 2017, AND 2015

With domed stadiums, and fields that drain much better than in the past, rainouts are now less common. They are especially rare in California. But in 2023, Hurricane Hilary affected Southern California in August, and caused the Angels, Dodgers, and Padres to postpone or reschedule games. The Angels had to reschedule 2 games, which were their first rainouts since 2015. For the Padres, it was the first rainout since 2017. The Dodgers ended a streak of 1,872 consecutive regular season games, (1,925 games including the post-season) without a rainout. Prior to this, the last postponed regular season game at Dodger Stadium was on April 17, 2000. All the 2023 California postponements were rescheduled as part of separate-admission doubleheaders, so no dates were lost.

Since 1961, the Angels have had only 18 home rainouts. Their last one until 2015, was on June 16, 1995. Just 18 home games have been rained out at Dodger Stadium since it opened in 1962. They've had rain delays since 2000, including some in 2024. San Diego has had 19 home rainouts since they began play in 1969, but just 5 since 1983, including one in 2017. In April, 2014, Oakland has its first 2 postponements since May 5, 1998. One was due to wet grounds. There was a rainout in Oakland in April, 2017. The A's have been rained out 21 times since 1968. California's 'wet spot' is San Francisco, where 33 games have been rained out since 1958, including one in April, 2018. The last postponed games in California until 2014 were in April, 2006, when San Diego had a rainout, and San Francisco had 2 straight rainouts.

#### BUT IT DOES SNOW IN DENVER

In On May 20, 2022, the Rockies had the 20<sup>th</sup> snowout in their history, and their first one in May, as 1.8 inches of snow was measured at Denver International Airport. 17 of these snowouts took place in the month of April. There was one in September, 1993, and one for a Division Series game in October, 2009.

Early and late season snowfalls are not that unusual in Denver. According to the National Weather Service, from 1950 through 2023, there have been 25 years when Denver had at least one inch of snow in May (the high was 13.6 inches in May, 1950). There were 16 years where September had at least an inch of snow (record-high 17.2 inches in 1971), but only once since 1999.

## AND EVEN A DOMED STADIUM CAN HAVE A RAINOUT OR A SNOWOUT

Minute Maid Park in Houston has a retractable roof. But in 2008, due to Hurricane Ike, one game was cancelled, and 2 others got moved to Milwaukee. It was not the first indoor postponement in Houston. In a 1976 storm, 10 inches of rain fell. People couldn't travel to the Astrodome, resulting in what the Astros called a 'rain-in.' In 1983, a game at the Metrodome in Minnesota was postponed because heavy snow made it impossible for fans to get to the park. Snowed out games have returned to Minnesota now that the Twins have moved back outdoors, and they had 3 in 2018, and one in 2019. Toronto also had a snowed-out game in 2018 after snow fell off the CN Tower and damaged the roof of the Rogers Centre.

In 2017, Hurricane Harvey forced 3 Houston home games to be moved to Tampa Bay. Hurricane Irma caused 3 Miami home games to move to Milwaukee, and 3 Tampa Bay home games to be played at Citi Field in New York.

#### PLENTY OF TEAMS ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT ATTENDANCE GROWTH IN 2023

# 26 of the 30 teams had 2023 vs. 2022 increases in total attendance. This is the largest number of teams with an increase when comparing 2 'normal' seasons in Major League history.

These 5 teams had increases of at least 500,000: Philadelphia (775,869); Cincinnati (642,532); Baltimore (568,431); Cleveland (538,198); Texas (521,683). Houston, Seattle, Tampa Bay, Toronto, Arizona, and Pittsburgh had increases of more than 300,000.

On a percentage basis, 12 teams were up at least 10% in total attendance, led by Cincinnati (46.0%), Baltimore and Cleveland (41.5% each), and Philadelphia (34.1%). Tampa Bay, Texas, Arizona, Miami, and Pittsburgh were all up better than 20%.

#### TEAMS WITH BIG INCREASES IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE FOR 2022 vs. 2021

Every team except Texas (down 98,897) and Cincinnati (down (109,254), had an increase in **2022** total attendance compared to **2021**. This was expected because many games in 2021 were played with reduced capacity restrictions. St. Louis, up 1,218,021 had the biggest gain, followed by the Yankees, up 1,176,353. Seattle, Toronto, the Dodgers, and the Mets, also had gains of over one million. 13 other teams had gains of at least 500,000. Toronto had a 1,847,929 increase from **2021**, but this is an exceptionally distorted figure since they played most of their 2021 home season in Minor League ballparks, and none of their games in Toronto had anything close to full capacity allowed.

#### TEAMS WITH BIG INCREASES IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE FOR 2023 vs. 2019

16 teams had **2023 vs. 2019** total attendance increases, and 15 teams were up in average per date. Toronto had the biggest total gain (1,271,760), followed by Seattle (900,357), San Diego (875,155), and Baltimore (628,991).

No teams had increases in total attendance in 2021 vs. 2019.

#### TEAMS WITH BIG INCREASES IN 2019 AND IN OTHER RECENT YEARS

16 teams had total attendance rise in 2019, and 4 of them posted increases of more than 200,000. Philadelphia had the biggest growth, up 569,297. Minnesota, whose attendance rose 334,955, achieved the American League's best gain. San Diego (227,863), and the Mets (217,537) were the other 200,000+ gainers. 4 teams were up at least 200,000 in 2018 and 2017, and 5 teams in 2016, 6 teams in 2015, and 3 teams in 2014, had such large gains.

4 teams had gains of at least 200,000 in 2013, and 8 teams had such large increases in 2012. In 2011 and in 2010, there were 5 teams with increases of better than 200,000. Just 2 teams were up more than 200,000 in 2009, 4 teams had increases of 200,000+ in 2008, and 9 teams had total attendance gains of at least 200,000 in 2007.

On a percent growth basis in 2019, Philadelphia, up 26.4%, Minnesota, up 17.1%, Cincinnati, up 11.0%, and San Diego, up 10.5%, had double-digit gains. Attendance rose 10%+ for 4 teams in both 2018 and 2017, 2 teams in 2016, 6 teams in 2015, and for 4 teams in 2014 and 2013. 8 teams were up at least 10% in 2012, and 6 teams did it in 2011. In 2010, 4 teams increased their attendance by at least 10%. Only 2 teams had double-digit % gains in 2009. Gains of at least 10% were reached by 4 teams in 2008, and by 9 teams in 2007.

#### THE NUMBER OF TEAMS WITH A 2023 vs. 2022 TOTAL ATTENDANCE DECLINE WAS THE LOWEST SINCE 1946

Only 4 of the 30 MLB teams had a decline in total attendance in 2023. This was the fewest number of teams with a loss when comparing 2 'normal' seasons since 1946, when all 16 teams at that time had a gain. 4 of the 16 teams were down in 1945, 3 teams had losses in 1936, 1920, and 1916. 2 teams had declines in 1903.

The Chicago White Sox had the largest 2023 total attendance dip, down 339,731 (16.9%). The other decreases were by Washington (160,569), St. Louis (79,460), and the Dodgers (24,329). These 3 declines were all less than 8%.

#### TOTAL ATTENDANCE DECLINES -continued

#### AS EXPECTED, FEW DECLINES IN 2022 vs. 2021, BUT THERE WERE SOME BIG DECLINES FOR 2022 vs. 2019

As noted on the last page, only 2 teams had **2022 vs. 2021** decreases in total attendance. For **2022 vs. 2019**, 21 teams were down. The largest declines were by Oakland (874,309), the Angels (561,551), Arizona (530,311), and Milwaukee (500,913). Cleveland, Minnesota, the Cubs, and Cincinnati also had decreases which exceeded 400,000.

11 teams had **2021 vs. 2019** total attendance declines of at least one million. But this was mainly because 934 of the 2,397 dates (39.0%) in 2021 were played with restricted ballpark capacity. Generally, teams that usually draw well, took the biggest hit in attendance in 2021, because with fewer seats available for sale, they had the most to lose.

14 teams had attendance fall **in 2019**, with 6 of them down more than 200,000. Toronto had the biggest drop, down 575,137, and Seattle was down 509,428. Other 200,000+ losses were by San Francisco (448,425), Detroit (355,540), Baltimore (256,385), and Washington (269,823).

On a percentage loss basis, Toronto, (down 24.7%), Seattle (down 22.2%), Detroit (down 19.1%), Baltimore (down 16.4%), San Francisco (down 14.2%), Kansas City (down 11.1%), and Washington, (down 10.7%), had 2019 double-digit declines in total attendance. 10%+ losses were posted by 8 teams in 2018, 3 teams in 2017, 4 teams in 2016, 4 teams in 2015, 2 teams in 2014, 8 teams in 2013, 3 teams in both 2012 and 2011, and 4 teams in 2010.

Total attendance fell for 17 teams in in **2018**, with 9 falling by over 200,000. 18 teams had declines in **2017**, with 5 down more than 200,000. 17 teams had a loss in **2016**, with 6 down 200,000+. Total attendance dipped for 17 teams in **2015**, with 6 dipping over 200,000. 13 teams had a loss in **2014**, but only 3 fell at least 200,000. 15 teams had total attendance declines in **2013**, with 8 of them down over 200,000. Attendance fell for 15 teams in **2012**, and 5 of them were down over 200,000. 13 teams had attendance fall in **2011**, with 5 of them down at least 200,000. There were 16 teams with attendance declines in **2010**, but just 4 were down more than 200,000.

In **2009**, total attendance declined for 21 teams. A record-high 6 teams had attendance fall by at least 500,000. For 12 teams, the losses exceeded 200,000. The Mets, in their much smaller ballpark, dipped 906,139, the 2<sup>nd</sup> worst drop in MLB history. Detroit was down 635,452. 10 teams had double-digit percentage declines. 17 teams had total losses in **2008**. But only 8 teams had a decline in total attendance in **2007**. At the time, it was the smallest number of teams showing a decline since 1987, when just 6 of the 26 teams playing at that time had lower attendance than in 1986. Only 4 teams were down in **2023**, the fewest number of teams with a loss since 1946, when all teams achieved gains.

In **2007**, the Chicago White Sox had the biggest decline (273,016) that year. The last year prior to 2007 that the team with the worst drop in attendance had a smaller loss (not counting years where the previous season was shortened greatly by a strike) came in 1973. That year, the Mets had the largest dip (221,795), even though they won the National League championship. The 1972 season was one week shorter due to a strike.

If you compare two seasons that were not shorter for <u>any</u> length, you had to go back 48 years since the team with the biggest decline for the year, had a smaller loss than the White Sox did in 2007. In 1959, the Milwaukee Braves had the year's worst decline in the Major Leagues. Their attendance fell 221,989, even though they finished in a first place tie (They lost a pennant playoff to the Dodgers.). Two years earlier, the Brooklyn Dodgers, in their final season in New York, had the biggest loss in the Majors, as their attendance dipped 185,304.

The White Sox also suffered the biggest percentage loss in 2007, down 9.2%. The previous time that not even one team had a drop of at least 10% was in 1946, when all 16 teams operating at that time had increases. 1946 is the only year that followed a year with a full schedule, where every MLB team achieved an attendance increase.

## GAMES WITH ATTENDANCE UNDER 10,000 - 1993-2023

91 dates played in Major League parks drew under 10,000 in **2023**. In **2022**, 167 dates played in Major League parks drew less than 10,000.

563 dates, in Major League parks, drew under 10,000 in **2021**. This figure is so high because at many games, teams were not allowed to sell 10,000 tickets. 422 dates played with reduced capacity restrictions drew under 10,000. 141 full-capacity dates had crowds of under 10,000. Those games are listed on the 2021 line in the table on the next page. 21 teams had some dates that drew under 10,000. 9 teams had full-capacity dates with attendance below 10,000.

More games drew less than 10,000 in **2019** than in any season since 2002. Even if all the under 10,000 games in Miami were excluded, this would still have been the highest number since 2004.

The table on the next page lists the number of dates in a team's regular home park that drew under 10,000 for each season starting in 1993, the year the National League began to include 'no-shows' in its official attendance. Some of these games, such as those for the Yankees and Cubs, were make-ups of postponed games, and so were not on the original schedule.

**This table excludes games played in non-Major League parks** such as 13 Montreal Expos games in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2004, 4 Oakland home games in Las Vegas in 1996, and 6 Tampa Bay games in Orlando in 2007 and 2008. It also excludes the Field of Dreams games in Iowa and the Little League Classic games in Williamsport, PA. Games re-scheduled from one MLB park to another MLB park are included only if they involved the team whose park hosted the game. For example, the Orioles' 'home' game with the Rays in 2015 that was moved from Baltimore to Tampa Bay is included, while 3 Astros-Rangers games moved from Houston to Tampa Bay in 2017, are not.

# GAMES WITH ATTENDANCE UNDER 10,000 – 1993-2023

Year	# Dates	Teams and Number of Home Major League Park Dates with Attendance Under 10,000
2023	91	Oakland (47), Miami (22), Pittsburgh (6), Tampa Bay (4), Cincinnati (4), Cleveland (3),
		Kansas City (2), Arizona (2), Baltimore (1)
2022	167	Oakland (49), Miami (42), Tampa Bay (22), Pittsburgh (20), Baltimore (14), Cincinnati (6),
		Kansas City (5), Cleveland (5), Arizona (2), Seattle (1), Washington (1)
2021	563-total	Baltimore (25), Detroit (3), Kansas City (2), Oakland (20), Tampa Bay (17), Arizona (29),
	141-full cap.	Cincinnati (1), Miami (30), Pittsburgh (14) Only full-capacity dates are listed here.
2019	99	Baltimore (13), Tampa Bay (19), Oakland (2), Miami (53), Cincinnati (1), Pittsburgh (11)
2018	90	Baltimore (7), Cleveland (1), Oakland (13), Tampa Bay (9), Cincinnati (2), Miami (51), Pitt. (7)
2017	15	Oakland (3), Tampa Bay (12)
2016	3	Cleveland (3)
2015	12	Cleveland (2), Tampa Bay (10)
2014	9	Cleveland (8), Tampa Bay (1)
2013	9	Cleveland (5), Seattle (2), Tampa Bay (1), Pittsburgh (1)
2012	9	Cleveland (5), Tampa Bay (4)
2011	15	Cleveland (7), Kansas City (2), Oakland (1), Pittsburgh (5)
0040	10	
2010	10	Baltimore (4), Oakland (1), Pittsburgh (5)
2009	9	Kansas City (1), Cincinnati (4), Pittsburgh (4)
2008	7	Pittsburgh (7)
2007	19	Kansas City (1), Tampa Bay (15), Pittsburgh (3)
2006	43	Detroit (1), Kansas City (7), Tampa Bay (15), Florida (20)
2005	32	Kanaga City (6) Tampa Bay (25) Dittaburah (1)
2003	63	Kansas City (6), Tampa Bay (25), Pittsburgh (1) Detroit (3), Tampa Bay (11), Milwaukee (2), Pittsburgh (4), Montreal (43)
2004	86	Chicago W.S. (1), Detroit (7), Kansas City (1), N.Y. Yankees (1), Oakland (1), Tampa Bay (34),
2003	00	Florida (6), Milwaukee (1), Pittsburgh (2), Montreal (32)
2002	104	Detroit (1), Kansas City (2), N.Y. Yankees (1), Oakland (1), Florida (51), Montreal (48)
2002	83	Minnesota (3), N.Y. Yankees (1), Florida (8), N.Y. Mets (3), Montreal (68)
2001		
2000	120	White Sox. (2), Minnesota (38), Oakland (8), Cubs (1), Florida (21), Milwaukee (8), Mets (1),
		Montreal (41)
1999	99	Chicago W.S. (3), Minnesota (12), Oakland (23), Florida (6), Montreal (54), San Francisco (1)
1998	108	Detroit (3), Minnesota (27), Oak. (26), Milwaukee (3), Pitts. (9), Montreal (39), San Fran. (1)
1997	71	Detroit (13), Minnesota (4), Oak. (18), Milwaukee (11), Pitts. (10), Montreal (5), San Fran. (10)
1996	93	Detroit (23), Minnesota (4), Oakland (18), Milwaukee (15), Pittsburgh (15), Montreal (6), San
		Diego (1), San Francisco (11)
1995	90	Detroit (9), Minnesota (12), Oakland (9), Seattle (1), Texas (1), Milwaukee (10), Pittsburgh
		(23), San Diego (16), San Francisco (8), Montreal (1)
1994	16	Detroit (2), N.Y. Yankees (1), Milwaukee (1), Pittsburgh (3), San Diego (9)
1993	16	Milwaukee (1), Pittsburgh (3), San Diego (12)

#### DOES THE ECONOMY HELP OR HURT MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE?

#### "A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore." - Yogi Berra

Major League attendance fell 1.6% in 2019, and 4.2% in 2018. It had leveled off in 2010 after significant declines in 2009, caused in good part by the recession. But except for 2009, and for The Great Depression, economic recessions seem to have had little effect on baseball attendance. High gas prices don't seem to negatively impact attendance either.

Major League attendance was a then-record-high 10,132,262 in 1930. But the next 3 years had declines of 16.4%, 17.6%, and 12.7%. In 1933, Major League attendance was only 6,089,031, down 40% from the peak reached in 1930. Then, starting in 1934, there were 5 consecutive seasons of attendance increases, and 3 of those gains exceeded 10%. But the 1930 total was not topped until 1945.

Attendance did fall for 5 years in a row from 1949 to 1953, mainly due to the appearance of television in millions of homes. By 1953, MLB attendance was down 31% from the record-high of 20.9 million reached in 1948.

During other significant recessions in the Post World War II era, Major League ticket prices were much lower, even adjusting to inflation, than they are today. In 1973, according to the *Baseball Dope Book*, published by The Sporting News, the only tickets priced above \$5 were a few Club Boxes. For most teams, the top price for a box seat, even in the front rows, was around \$4, and many teams had an average cost per ticket of less than \$3.

1973 was the final season at Yankee Stadium before it underwent a major rebuilding. The average price of a ticket to Yankee Stadium that year was \$2.53. (This excludes 135 Loge Box seats, whose price was unlisted.) 17,876 Box seats were priced at \$4, 19,182 Reserved seats were \$3, General Admission (14,079 seats) cost \$1.50, and 13,738 Bleacher tickets went for \$1. If every ticket were sold at full price, the total cost to buy all regular 64,875 tickets to one game in 1973, would have been \$163,906. You can add about \$1,000 for those Loge seats.

In 2009, the original price of the most expensive ticket in the new Yankee Stadium was <u>\$2,500 per game</u>, if bought on a season ticket basis, and \$2,625 if purchased for an individual game. So had the Yankees not lowered prices in May 2009, it would have cost around <u>\$35,000 more</u> to buy a season ticket for <u>one such seat</u> for 2009, than it would have cost to buy every single seat in the old Yankee Stadium for one game in 1973.

#### ERA OF MAJOR LEAGUE MULTI-PURPOSE STADIUMS ENDED AFTER 2019

In 2019, Oakland was the last Major League team to share its park with a National or Canadian Football League team. The NFL Raiders moved to Las Vegas in 2020. When they move to Las Vegas in 2028, the A's will have their own park, and will not share a facility with the Raiders. Hard Rock Stadium, formerly Sun Life Stadium and a many other names, in Miami Gardens, FL was a Major League Baseball facility for the last time in 2011, as the Marlins moved to a retractable-roof, baseball-only, ballpark in 2012. The Miami Dolphins, and the Miami University Hurricanes football teams continue to play at Hard Rock Stadium. The Toronto Argonauts and Buffalo Bills no longer play at the Rogers Centre in Toronto. That stadium has been renovated, changing from a multi-purpose facility, to more of a baseball park.

Sharing a park with a pro football team was once common. In 1971, 18 of the 24 Major League teams played in a stadium that was also home to an NFL team. That includes the Brewers. The Green Bay Packers played some home games every year at County Stadium in Milwaukee through 1994. The Packers still have two sets of season ticket holders. The 'Green Package' is made up of fans that had tickets to the games that were played in Green Bay, and now their ticket plan is for one pre-season and 6 regular season games. The 'Gold Package' primarily owned Packers Milwaukee tickets, and they now get tickets to one pre-season game and regular season games 2 and 5. (With a 17-game schedule, there is now one less pre-season home game, and one more regular season home game, every other year.) Many fans likely had tickets for both the Green Bay and Milwaukee games. The Packers have a season ticket waiting list of nearly 100,000. Lambeau Field added about 7,000 more seats in 2013, and now has a capacity of 81,041.

Tampa Bay, Texas, Arizona, and Washington are the only MLB teams that never shared a park in their current city with an NFL or CFL team. When the Washington Nationals were the Montreal Expos, they did share Olympic Stadium with the CFL Alouettes. The Texas Rangers used to play in Washington, and were co-tenants in Robert F. Kennedy Stadium with the Redskins (now named the Commanders). Earlier in Washington, the original Senators shared Griffith Stadium with the Redskins. In Chicago, the Bears used to play at Wrigley Field, and the Chicago Cardinals, who later moved to St. Louis, and then to Arizona, played at Comiskey Park, the home of the White Sox.

#### AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER HOME DATE

**24 teams had 2023 vs. 2022 gains in average attendance per date.** The 30 MLB teams averaged a combined 29,295 per date in **2023**, the best since 2017, and up 2,452 (9.1%) vs. 2022, up 957 (3.4%) vs. 2019, and up 465 (1.6%) vs. 2018. The Chicago White Sox had the largest decline for **2023 vs. 2022**, down 3,402 (13.7%). Washington, down 1,982 (7.9%) had the biggest dip among National League teams. 4 other teams (Dodgers, Mets, Cardinals, Rockies) had very small declines. American League teams averaged 26,982 per date, up 2,688 (11.1%) vs. 2022, and up 1,553 (6.1%) vs. 2019. The National League averaged 31,594, up 2,222 (7.6%) vs. 2022, and up 373 (1.2%) vs. 2019.

Many teams had significant increases in **2023 vs. 2022** average per date, led by a 9,699 (34.1%) gain by Philadelphia. Other big increases were by Cincinnati (7,717 – 44.2%), Cleveland (6,463 – 37.9%), Texas (6,440 – 25.9%), and Baltimore (6,368 – 36.3%). Houston, Seattle, Tampa Bay, Toronto, Arizona, Miami, Pittsburgh, and San Diego each posted average per date growth of more than 3,000 per date.

15 teams had **2023 vs. 2019** gains in average per date, led by Toronto (15,700 - 72.7%), Seattle (11,115 - 50.3%), San Diego (10,805 - 36.5%), Baltimore (7,563 - 46.3%), and Atlanta (6,662 - 20.2%). The largest declines were by Oakland (10,245 - 49.9%), Washington (4,864 - 17.4%), Colorado (4,757 - 12.9%), the Angels (4,672 - 12.5%), and Milwaukee (4,593 - 12.7%).

2022 Major League average per date was 26,843, the lowest since 1995, up 2,792 (11.6%) from the 2021 FULL CAPACITY average per date of 24,051. It declined 1,495 (5.3%) from the 28,338 average per date in 2019. For American League teams, 2022 average per date was 24,294, up 2,943 (13.8%) from their 2021 FULL CAPACITY figure, but fell 1,135 (4.5%) from the 2019 average of 25,429. National league clubs averaged 29,372 per date, a 2022 vs. 2021 FULL CAPACITY gain of 2,803 (10.5%), but were down 1,849 (5.9%) from their 2019 average of 31,221

For **2022 vs. the 2021 FULL CAPACITY** average per date, 24 teams had increases, led by Toronto (up 32,763), who had no full-capacity games in 2021, and played much of their 2021 season in Minor League parks. Other big gains were by St. Louis (8,287), Seattle (8,104), the Mets (7,592), the Yankees (7,376), and the Angels (7,094). The largest declines were by Cincinnati (4,083), the White Sox (3,059), and Oakland (2,396).

In **2021**, MLB average attendance per date was 18,901 for all dates. It was 24,051 for full-capacity dates, and 10,834 at reduced-capacity dates. The Dodgers had the best average per date for all dates (34,626), and full-capacity dates (47,440). Texas, which played all home games at full-capacity, led the American League with a 26,053 average per date. But the Yankees had the best average per date (32,832) for full capacity dates in the American League. Atlanta, the Cubs, Milwaukee, St. Louis, and San Diego, also averaged over 30,000 per date at full-capacity dates.

No team had a **2021 vs. 2019** increase in average attendance per date over the entire season. Texas, down 281, and the White Sox, down 959, had the smallest decreases in average per date over the entire season. **For 2021 full-capacity dates vs. 2019**, San Diego had a 7,072 increase per date, and the White Sox were up 6,440. The smallest decreases for 2021 full-capacity dates vs. 2019, were by Miami (270 per date), Atlanta (543), and Cincinnati (799).

American League teams averaged 16,617 per date for the 2021 full season, and 21,351 for dates played at full capacity. These averages are lowered because Toronto played the first 4 months of the season in Minor League ballparks, and even after returning to Toronto at the end of July, they never were permitted to play at full-capacity. National League teams averaged 21,190 per date for the full season, and 26,569 at full-capacity dates.

Major League average attendance per date was 28,338 in **2019**, at the time, the lowest average since 2003, and down 492 from the 2018 average of 28,830. The record-high average of 32,785 was set in 2007. Games played in A.L. parks in 2019 averaged 25,429, down 1,416 from the 2018 average of 26,845. It was the lowest A.L. average since 1995 (25,359), and the lowest in a full season since 1987 (24,420). The A.L. record-high is 31,318 in 2007. National League home dates averaged 31,221 in 2019, up 410 from the 2018 average of 30,811. N.L. record average is 34,201, in 2008.

The National League has had a higher average per date than the American League each year since 1996, and 64 times in 70 years since 1953. The A.L. had a higher average per date 38 times in 52 years from 1901 through 1952.

In **2023**, the Dodgers averaged 47,371 per date, best in the Majors. The Yankees (40,863), Padres (40,390) and Cardinals (40,013) also averaged over 40,000 per home date. 13 other teams averaged at least 30,000 per date. Oakland (10,276), Miami (14,356), Kansas City (16,136), and Tampa Bay (17,781), averaged under 20,000 per date.

#### AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER HOME DATE

15 of the 30 teams had increases in average attendance per home date in **2019**. Philadelphia had the biggest increase, up 6,354 per date. Minnesota posted a gain of 3,833, San Diego was up 2,813, and the Mets rose 2,368.

Toronto had the worst decline in average per date in 2019, down 7,459. Seattle fell 6,289. San Francisco had a 5,536 per date loss, Detroit was down 4,444, Washington dropped by 3,721, and Baltimore dipped 3,706. Cleveland and Kansas City were down more than 2,000 per date.

In **2008**, two teams averaged more than 50,000 tickets sold per home date. The Yankees averaged 52,585, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest average ever for a full season. Colorado set the full-season record in 1993, and had an even higher average in 1994, when the strike ended the season in August. The Mets averaged 51,165 in 2008.

With fewer large capacity ballparks these days, only the Dodgers have a realistic chance of ever averaging at least 50,000 per date in a season.

Year	Team	Total Attendance	# Dates	Average Per Date
Teal	Tean	Total Attenuance	# Dates	Average Fer Date
1994	Colorado	3,281,511	56	58,898
1993	Colorado	4,483,350	79	56,751
2007	New York Yankees	4,271,083	81	52,729
2008	New York Yankees	4,259,375	81	52,585
2006	New York Yankees	4,243,780	81	52,392
2008	New York Mets	4,042,043	79	51,165
2005	New York Yankees	4,090,692	81	50,502
1993	Toronto	4,057,947	81	50,098

#### TEAMS THAT HAVE AVERAGED AT LEAST 50,000 PER HOME DATE IN A SEASON

The 1994 season ended early due to a strike. Toronto drew over 4 million in both 1991 and 1992, but did not average more than 50,000 per date in those years.

## A NOTE ABOUT THE TERM 'HOME DATE:'

The term 'average attendance per home date' or 'average attendance per opening' is used in baseball, rather than 'average attendance per game.' It is used because baseball teams still play single-admission doubleheaders--two games for one ticket. For attendance purposes, single-admission doubleheaders count as one 'date.' Day/night doubleheaders, requiring a separate ticket to each game, count as two separate 'openings' or 'dates.'

Single-admission doubleheaders were once part of the regular schedule, often on Sundays and holidays. But they are rare in the Major Leagues these days, and are almost always used just to make up rained-out games. Covid postponements resulted in many more single-admission doubleheaders in 2021. There were 15 single-admission doubleheaders in 2023, 25 in 2022, 33 in 2021, 11 in 2019, 15 in 2018, and 11 in 2017. Tampa Bay had one on its original 2017 schedule, and Oakland had one in 2024. 3 single-admission doubleheaders took place in 2016. There were 11 single-admission doubleheaders in 2015, 9 in 2014, 5 in 2013, and 7 in 2012. By contrast, in 1962, the Mets played 30 doubleheaders. They won 3, lost 17, and split 10. The Mets played 22 doubleheaders in 1969 (won 11, lost 3, and split 8), as they became the first expansion team to not only make the post-season, but to win the World Series.

## TEAMS THAT DREW THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF CAPACITY, AND HAD THE MOST SELLOUTS IN 2023

The 2023 Major League average attendance per date of 29,295 was 69.93% of listed seating capacity. Some teams can sell more tickets than their park's seating capacity. San Diego drew 101.21% of capacity with an MLB-leading 61 sellouts. Other % of capacity leaders were Atlanta (95.67% with 54 sellouts), Houston (90.60%), and St. Louis (90.30%). Other teams that drew at least 80% of capacity were Boston, the Yankees, Toronto, the Cubs, the Dodgers, and Philadelphia. Toronto had an American League leading 37 sellouts, and Atlanta had 54.

#### INTERLEAGUE PLAY NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL ANYMORE

Houston's move to the American League in 2013 gave each league 15 teams, and required at least one interleague game almost every day, all season. That took much of the novelty out of interleague play, and attendance for those games was not as high as it had been in previous years. Starting in **2023**, there were more interleague games (690) than ever. These interleague games averaged 1,375 more per date in 2023 than non-interleague games.

The 298 interleague dates in **2022** drew 8,564,908, an average of 28,741 per date. The 2,107 non-interleague dates drew 55,991,750, an average of 26,574 per date. The interleague games drew an average of 2,167 (8.2%) higher than non-interleague dates.

**2021** interleague games drew an average of 20,094 per date. This was 1,355 (7.2%) higher than the 18,739 average per date for non-interleague games. This fact doesn't mean all that much, since it doesn't take into account how many of these interleague games were played with capacity restrictions.

In **2019**, the 299 interleague dates drew 8,774,747 (29,347 per date). Non-interleague dates drew 59,718,346 (28,196 per date). Interleague dates averaged 1,151 (4.1%) more than non-interleague dates.

The 299 interleague dates drew 9,278,727 in **2018**, an average of 31,033 per date. Non-interleague dates averaged 28,519 per date. So the interleague games averaged 2,513 (8.8%) higher than the non-interleague average. This is the biggest gap between interleague and non-interleague average per date since 2012.

In **2017**, the 300 interleague dates drew 9,040,019, an average of 30,133 per date. This average was just 105 (0.3%) higher than non-interleague games which averaged 30,029 per date. **2016** interleague dates drew 9,374,030, (31,247 per date), which was 1,230 (4.1%) more than non-interleague games.

**2015** interleague games averaged 31,642 per date, 1,284 (4.2%) higher than all other games. **2014** interleague games averaged 30,827 per date, 1.4% higher than non-interleague games. Interleague games averaged 31,046 per date in 2013, 2.0% higher than the 30,439 average for all other games. In 2012, interleague games averaged 34,693 per date, with non-interleague games averaging 30,454. The pre-**2013** interleague record-high was 8,932,384 (35,587 per date) in 2008.

**Between 1997 and 2012**, interleague games averaged 33,373 per date, and outdrew non-interleague games by an average of 3,558 (11.9%). Before 2013, interleague games were scheduled for May, June and early July, when attendance is higher than at the start and end of seasons. From **2013 through 2019**, interleague games averaged 30,754 per date, and outdrew non-interleague games by an average of 1,043 per date (3.5%).

Through **2023**, American League teams had 3,962 interleague wins, while the National League teams had 3,690 wins. American League teams won 328 interleague games in 2023, and National League teams won 362. The American League had 152 interleague wins in 2022, and the National League had 148. In 2021, American League teams had 167 wins, and National League teams won 133. Each league won 149 games in 2020. In 2019, the National League had a 166-134 interleague record. The National League had a 158-142 edge in interleague games in 2018. It was the first time since 2003 that the National League finished on top in interleague play.

Until 2013, teams in two-team markets (New York, Chicago, Los Angeles-Anaheim, and San Francisco-Oakland) played each other for 3 games at each team's ballpark annually. It was 2 games in each park in 2013 and in 2014. It was back to 6 games, 3 at each park, in 2015, but just 2 games at each park in 2016 and 2017. It was 3 games in each park in 2018, but it was back to 2 games in 2019, and 2 games on the original 2020 schedules. 3 games per park returned in 2021, but it went back to just 2 games in 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Due to such a large increase in interleague games, their effect on attendance in minimized. But some interleague games still draw particularly large crowds, especially those where a team plays its same-market rival. These series had 2 games in each team's park in **2023**. The 4 Yankees-Mets games drew 181,129 (45,282 average, all sellouts), White Sox-Cubs games drew 155,551 (38,888 average, all sellouts), Dodgers-Angels games drew 194,734 (48,684 average, all sellouts), and Giants-A's games drew 141,090 (35,273 average, one sellout). These 16 'same-market' games drew 672,504 (42,032 average per date, 13 sellouts). The 8 teams averaged 31,080 for all other games, so the local rivalry games averaged a combined 10,952 (35.2%) higher per date compared to their other home dates.

In **2022**, both Cubs-White Sox games at Guaranteed Rate Field were sold out, as were all 4 Yankees-Mets games, and both Dodgers-Angels games in Anaheim.

#### INTERLEAGUE PLAY NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL ANYMORE

In **2021**, the 3 Cubs-White Sox games at Guaranteed Rate Field were sellouts, and the 3 games at Wrigley Field likely sold out as well. (The Cubs don't list sellouts in their day-by-day listings.) One Yankees-Mets game, at Citi Field, was a sellout. None of the Giants-A's games sold out. The 3 Dodgers-Angels games in Anaheim, early in the season, were reduced-capacity sellouts. None of the games at Dodger Stadium sold out, though 2 of them drew over 50,000.

In **2019**, all 4 Cubs-White Sox games, and all 4 Angels-Dodgers games were sellouts. Both Mets-Yankees games at Citi Field, and one Giants-A's game at Oakland, were also sold out.

In **2018**, all 6 Giants-A's games were sellouts. For the Dodgers and Angels, 2 of the 3 games in Anaheim, and 2 of the 3 at Dodger Stadium were sellouts. All 3 Cubs-White Sox games at Wrigley Field sold out, as did 2 of the 3 games at Guaranteed Rate Field on the South Side of Chicago. The Yankees and Mets drew sellout crowds at all 3 games at Yankee Stadium, and at 2 of the 3 games at Citi Field.

In **2017**, all Cubs-White Sox games sold out. In New York, both games at Citi Field, and one at Yankee Stadium were sellouts. The 2 Giants-A's games in Oakland sold out, as did both Angles-Dodgers games in Anaheim. All Mets-Yankees and Cubs-White Sox games in 2016 sold out, as did both A's-Giants games in San Francisco, and one in Oakland. Both Angels-Dodgers games in Anaheim sold out, but the games at Dodger Stadium did not.

In **2015**, all 6 A's-Giants games sold out, as did all 3 Cubs-White Sox games at Wrigley Field, and 2 of 3 at U.S. Cellular Field. For Yankees-Mets, all 3 games at Citi Field, and 2 of 3 at Yankee Stadium sold out. The Angels-Dodgers rivalry had 2 sellouts at Dodger Stadium and one at Angels Stadium. So 19 of the 24 games sold out. All Giants-A's and Angels-Dodgers games sold out in 2014, but no Yankees-Mets or Cubs-White Sox games were sellouts.

In **2013**, the only sellouts in the two-team markets were the 4 Giants-A's games in both San Francisco and Oakland. In **2012**, all 3 Yankees-Mets games at Yankee Stadium and 2 of 3 at Citi Field were sellouts, as were all 6 Giants-A's games. All 3 Angels-Dodgers games in Anaheim, and one at Dodger Stadium were sold out. The only Cubs-White Sox sellout was at Wrigley Field. Overall, 16 of the 24 games were sold out.

In **2011**, the Cubs-White Sox games at Wrigley Field, all 6 of the Giants-A's games, the 3 Yankees-Mets games at Citi Field, and 2 of the 3 games at Yankee Stadium were sellouts. None of the Dodgers-Angels games, or the Cubs-White Sox games at U.S. Cellular Field, sold out. 14 of the 24 games were sellouts.

In **2010**, all Yankees-Mets, and Cubs-White Sox games were sellouts, along with 2 of the 3 Giants-A's games in Oakland and one in San Francisco. In the Angels-Dodgers series, one game in Anaheim was sold out, and although there were no sellouts at Dodger Stadium, all 3 games there drew above 52,000.

In **2009**, all 6 Cubs-White Sox games were sold out, as were all 3 games at Angels Stadium, all 3 at Citi Field, along with 2 games at Dodger Stadium, and one in Oakland. No Yankee-Met games at Yankee Stadium or Giants-A's games in San Francisco were sellouts. 15 of the 24 games were sellouts. In 2008, all Yankees-Mets, and Cubs-White Sox games were sold out, as were the 3 games at Angels Stadium, and at AT&T Park in San Francisco. The non-sellouts were 2 games each in Oakland and at Dodger Stadium. The overall result was 20 sellouts in 24 games.

All of these inter-market games in the two-team markets were sellouts in both **2007 and 2006**. The only nonsellout in **2005** was for one game in Oakland. In **2004**, there were sellouts for all of the Cubs-White Sox and Giants-A's games, as well as the Dodgers-Angels games in Anaheim, and the Yankees-Mets games at Shea Stadium. One of the games at Dodger Stadium didn't sell out. A Yankee-Mets game at Yankee Stadium was rained out, and re-scheduled as part of a day/night doubleheader. Since fans that had tickets to that rained out game could exchange them for tickets to any other game that season, the make-up game didn't officially sell out.

In **2003**, the same thing happened in New York, except this time, it was for a Mets home game that was rained out. All other Mets-Yankees games sold out, as did all the Giants-A's, Cubs-White Sox, and the Dodgers-Angels games at Anaheim. One Dodgers-Angels game in Los Angeles wasn't a sellout.

From **1997, when interleague play began, through 2023**, in the same-market head-to-head competition, in the Bay Area, the A's have 74 wins, and the Giants have 70. In New York, the Yankees have won 80, and the Mets have won 62. In Chicago, the White Sox lead the Cubs 74 wins to 68, and in Los Angeles, the Angels have posted 73 victories, and the Dodgers have 71.

# INTERLEAGUE PLAY NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL ANYMORE

Interleague play began in 1997. The table below compares yearly attendance for interleague games and noninterleague games. The column 'Diff. per Date' shows how much higher the average per date for interleague games was compared to the average per date for non-interleague games. The column '% Diff. per Date' shows this as a % difference.

Major League Baseball did not issue a separate interleague games attendance report in 2023. With 690 interleague games played, separating their attendance is now far less noteworthy.

# YEARLY INTERLEAGUE ATTENDANCE vs. NON-INTERLEAGUE ATTENDANCE

Year	Total Interleague	# of	Average	Non-Interleague	# of	Average	# Diff.	% Diff.
	Attendance	Dates	per Date	Total Attendance	Dates	per Date	per Date	per Date
1997	7,149,001	214	33,407	56,019,688	2,020	27,733	5,674	20.5
1998	7,044,211	224	31,447	63,328,010	2,179	29,063	2,384	8.2
1999	8,303,521	248	33,482	61,835,859	2,158	28,654	4,828	16.8
2000	8,336,370	251	33,213	64,115,103	2,165	29,614	3,598	12.2
2001	8,493,234	252	33,703	63,924,711	2,161	29,581	4,122	13.9
2002	8,036,514	252	31,891	59,822,662	2,160	27,696	4,195	15.1
2003	7,741,496	249	30,090	59,826,901	2,163	27,659	3,431	12.4
2004	8,222,875	249	33,024	64,800,094	2,153	30,098	2,926	9.7
2005	8,312,211	252	32,985	66,613,963	2,166	30,754	2,231	7.3
2006	8,592,482	252	34,097	67,450,305	2,168	31,112	2,985	9.6
2007	8,795,939	252	34,905	70,707,236	2,173	32,539	2,366	7.3
2008	8,932,393	251	35,587	69,655,611	2,165	32,173	3,414	10.6
2009	8,371,002	251	33,851	64,996,657	2,168	29,980	3,371	11.2
2010	8,380,597	252	33,256	64,673,810	2,172	29,776	3,480	11.7
2011	8,468,301	252	33,604	64,947,005	2,166	29,985	3,620	12.1
2012	8,742,577	252	34,693	66,116,691	2,171	30,454	4,238	13.9
2013	9,313,939	300	31,046	64,714,291	2,126	30,439	607	2.0
2014	9,124,749	296	30,827	64,614,873	2,125	30,407	420	1.4
2015	9,461,036	299	31,642	64,298,984	2,118	30,358	1,284	4.2
2016	9,374,030	300	31,247	63,785,014	2,125	30,016	1,230	4.1
2017	9,040,019	300	30,133	63,630,404	2,119	30,029	105	0.3
2018	9,278,727	299	31,033	60,346,517	2,116	28,519	2,513	8.8
2019	8,774,747	299	29,347	59,718,346	2,118	28,196	1,151	4.1
2021	6,028,198	300	20,094	39,276,511	2,096	18,739	1,355	7.2
2022	8,564,908	298	28,741	55,991,750	2,107	26,574	2,167	8.2

#### BOSTON HOLDS THE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL RECORD SELLOUT STREAK

Boston had sold out 794 consecutive regular-season home games through Opening Day 2013. It is the longest sellout streak in Major League history. The streak began on May 15, 2003, so it covered 9 full seasons through April 8, 2013. The 820-game sellout streak, including post-season games, was then the longest by any Major League sports team. Portland, of the NBA, had 814 sellouts in a row (including playoffs) from 1977 to 1995. Dallas of the NBA broke Portland's streak on February 12, 2020, and it is still active at 961 games through the end of the 2023-24 playoffs.

5 other Major League teams have had 'sellout seasons': Colorado (1996); San Francisco (2000, 2011-2016); Philadelphia (2010-2011); St. Louis (2006-2007); Cleveland (1996-2000). In 2010, Minnesota sold out 79 of 81 games. St. Louis sold out the last 3 games at Busch Stadium II, and the first 162 dates at Busch Stadium III, for a total of 165.

Prior to Boston's streak, the Major League consecutive sellouts record was 455 regular season dates, plus 27 post-season dates, at Jacobs (Progressive) Field in Cleveland, from June 12, 1995, through Opening Day (April 2) of 2001. On the day after the Indians' streak began, Colorado had the first of 203 consecutive sellouts at Coors Field. That streak ran through the first game of a day/night doubleheader on September 7, 1997. Philadelphia set a then-National League record with their 204<sup>th</sup> straight regular season sellout on the final day of their 2011 home season. Their streak lasted 257 regular season dates, plus 16 post-season dates, from July 7, 2009 through August 5, 2012.

The Red Sox also had 2 long Spring Training sellout streaks. They sold out 105 consecutive home games at City of Palms Park in Fort Myers, Florida. That streak began in 2003, and ended when a 2011 split-squad game that was a late addition to their schedule, did not sell out. From 2012 through 2021, the Red Sox sold out all 149 games in their new Spring Training ballpark, making it 159 sellouts in a row, and 262 in their last 263 Grapefruit League home games. This streak included reduced capacity sellouts in 2021. The streak ended in 2022.

Boston is the only market which has teams in all 4 Major League sports (MLB, NFL, NBA, NHL) to ever have each team sell out all regular season games in a year (2010, 2011, 2012). The Patriots have 325 straight sellouts, including pre-and post-season games, from the start of the 1994 season through January, 2025. No fans attended in the 2020 season. The Bruins have sold out all 630 regular season (including outdoor) and playoff games from Dec. 5, 2009 through the end of their 2023-24 playoff run. The Celtics had 6 straight years of sellouts covering 2007-08 through 2012-2013, but that streak ended at 289 games early in the 2013-14 season. They now have a 311-game sellout streak (through the 2023-24 playoffs, but excluding 2020-21), that started with the last 15 regular season games in the 2016-17 season.

## THE STREAK ENDED IN SAN FRANCISCO IN 2017, BUT IN 2014, THEY SET A NATIONAL LEAGUE RECORD

The sellout streak of the San Francisco Giants began on October 1, 2010, and stood at a National League record 530 regular season dates, plus 25 post-season dates, when it ended on July 17, 2017. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest sellout streak in Major League history, topped only by Boston (794 regular season dates). Since Oracle (formerly AT&T) Park opened in 2000, through 2023 but excluding 2021, 1,021 of 1,782 (57.3%) regular season dates there have been sold out.

## ATTENDANCE DURING MAJOR LEAGUE SELLOUT STREAKS OF AT LEAST 200 REGULAR SEASON DATES

Post-Season list is for post-season games that took place during the period of the regular season sellout streaks.

Data for San Francisco is through July 9, 2017, after which the sellout streak ended.

	REGULA	R SEAS	POST-SEASON				REGULAR + POST-SEASON				
	Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./
Team	Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date
Boston	29,067,613	794	36,609		948,374	26	36,476		30,015,987	820	36,605
San Francisco	22,076,066	530	41,653		1,082,007	25	43,280		23,158,073	555	41,726
Cleveland	19,324,272	455	42,471		1,204,999	27	44,630		20,529,271	482	42,592
Philadelphia	11,585,952	257	45,082		739,963	16	46,248		12,325,915	273	45,150
Colorado	9,760,243	203	48,080		100,103	2	50,052		9,860,346	205	48,099

## **CONSECUTIVE GAME SELLOUT STREAKS IN BASEBALL AND OTHER SPORTS**

## THE SELLOUT STREAK OF THE DAYTON DRAGONS REACHED 1,573 IN 2024!

The Dayton Dragons, of Minor League Baseball's Class A Midwest League have sold out all 1,573 regular season dates in team history, from 2000 through 2019, and in 2022, 2023, and 2024. This excludes 2021. This streak excludes playoff games and 2 Midwest League All-Star Games, which probably sold out as well. It's the longest sellout streak ever for a North American sports team. Though the Dragons didn't sell out all games in 2021, it really isn't fair to end their streak due to the uncertainty of that year. They sold out all 56 dates in 2022, and all 66 dates in both in 2023 and 2024.

## National Basketball Association

The Dallas Mavericks set an NBA record for consecutive combined regular season and post-season sellouts on February 12, 2020, with their 815<sup>th</sup> straight sellout (748 regular season, 67 playoffs). The streak began on December 15, 2001, and was still active at 961 games (excludes 2020-21) at the end of the 2023-24 playoffs. The American Airlines Center in Dallas has 19,200 seats. Portland sold out 814 consecutive games (744 regular season, 70 playoffs) from April 9, 1977 to November 16, 1995. The arena they played in had fewer than 13,000 seats. From December, 1980 to May 5, 1995, Boston had 662 straight sellouts, 94 of them in the playoffs. Chicago, led by Michael Jordan, sold out 610 straight games (515 regular-season, 95 playoffs) from October 20, 1987 to November 7, 2000. Michael Jordan had a hand in a Minor League Baseball attendance record. When he played for the Birmingham Barons of the Southern League in 1994, the league set its all-time attendance record, and the Barons had the highest attendance ever for one team in that league. Both of those records still stood through 2024.

The New York Knicks had 433 straight sellouts from 1993 to 2002. Sacramento had sellout streaks of 497 games from 1985 to 1997, and 354 games from 1999 to 2007. Phoenix had a 390-game streak from 1990 until 1999. In 2017-18, a sellout streak by Chicago ended at 315 games, and an L.A. Clippers' streak ended after 280 games. Cleveland's 231-game streak ended on February 13, 2019. Oklahoma City had a 419-game streak until 2021-22, and Toronto's streak ended at 245 games on December 1, 2019, a day when Toronto was hit by a snowstorm.

Dallas has the longest current NBA sellout streak at 961 games (including 84 playoff games) starting on Dec. 15, 2001, and that streak is still active after the 2023-24 playoffs, as noted above. Other active sellout streaks **through the end of the 2023-2024 playoffs** were by Miami (598), Golden State (518), Boston (311), Utah (231), and Milwaukee (181).

National Football League – Through 2023, unless noted otherwise. Figures are subject to change due to multiple sources

In the National Football League, there have been some long running sellout streaks through the 2019 season, and continuing in 2021, 2022, and 2023. **The Denver Broncos have sold out an NFL record 449 straight games since 1970 through 2024**, **including 22 in the playoffs.** There have been 404 straight sellouts through 2024 (23 in the playoffs) at Lambeau Field in Green Bay going back to 1960. Until 1995, the Packers played some home games each year in Milwaukee, and those 107 games between 1960 and 1994 are <u>not</u> included in this streak. The New York Giants have a 398-game streak. Pittsburgh has sold out 402 straight regular season games, plus 31 playoff games, for a total of 433 since 1972. Chicago had a 293-game streak through 2019, including playoffs, but that may have ended. New England has a 325-game streak through 2024, which includes pre-season and playoff games. Dallas has 273 straight sellouts, including playoffs. Houston had a 185-game sellout streak through 2019. New Orleans has sold out 168 straight, Philadelphia has 203 straight sellouts, and Seattle has a 173-game sellout streak, all through 2023. Washington had 398 sellouts in a row (including 15 in the playoffs) <u>through 2015</u>, going back to 1966, but that streak has ended.

## College Football – All figures through 2024

Nebraska has the NCAA football record with 403 straight sellouts in Lincoln (they won 326 of these games), starting November 3,1962, and continuing through 2024. (2020 is excluded from this streak.) Notre Dame had the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest streak–273 games since 1973, and all but one game sold out since 1966 (321 of 322 games). But that streak ended in 2019. Oklahoma has the current 2<sup>nd</sup> longest sellout streak at 154 games. Michigan has topped 100,000 at 323 straight games (excluding 2020) since 1975, but not all those games were sellouts. They've led the NCAA in football average per game attendance in 47 of the last 50 years, including 2024, when they averaged 111,170 per game. Ohio State led the NCAA in total attendance and in average per game in 2014, and in total attendance in 2017. Their home attendance has been above 100,000 for 153 games since 2002, but this is not a consecutive games streak. Ohio State has finished in the top 5 in college football average attendance per game each year since 1949. Michigan, Penn State, Ohio State, Tennessee, LSU, Alabama, Texas A&M, and Texas all averaged better than 100,000 per game in 2024.

## **CONSECUTIVE GAME SELLOUT STREAKS IN BASEBALL AND OTHER SPORTS**

#### National Hockey League

The Pittsburgh Penguins set an NHL record for consecutive sellouts during the 2019-2020 season. They sold out 609 consecutive games, including playoffs, through the suspension of the 2019-20 season. Their streak began on February 14, 2007, and ended at 633 games in October, 2021. The Montreal Canadiens had the old record for the longest NHL sellout streak (583 games, including playoffs) starting on January 13, 2004, and ending on October 15, 2018. Colorado had 487 straight sellouts (including 80 in the playoffs), from November 9, 1995 through October 16, 2006. Detroit had 452 consecutive sellouts, including playoffs, from December 1996 through April 2007. The Minnesota Wild's streak of 409 straight sellouts covering pre-season, regular-season, and playoff games, ended at the start of 2010-11. Vancouver's streak of 474 straight sellouts ended early in the 2014-15 season, as did a 386-game streak by Calgary. Buffalo had a 359-game streak from 1970 until November, 1980.

Sellout streaks at the end of the 2018-19 playoffs included Edmonton (553 games, streak ended at 555 games in October, 2019), Pittsburgh (574), Chicago (498), Washington (460), Boston (441), Minnesota (242, streak ended at 243 in October 2019), and Tampa Bay (201). The first 337 games of the current version of the Winnipeg Jets sold out, but that streak ended after two 2019-20 games. The (Las) Vegas Golden Knights, who in 2017-18 had the best first-season record of any expansion team ever in the 4 major sports leagues, and played in the Stanley Cup finals, sold out all 82 regular season games, plus 13 playoff games, through the end of their 2018-19 playoffs. Chicago's streak, which began on March 8, 2008, ended at 535 games on October 24, 2021. Washington's 579 game streak ended on October 16, 2023. At the end of the **2023-24 playoffs**, teams with long and active sellout streaks included Boston (630), Tampa Bay (372), and Vegas (all 270 games in their history, excluding 2020-21). Seattle has sold out all 126 regular season and playoff games in its 3-season history through the end of the 2023-24 playoffs.

Some NHL teams do not publish attendance figures or sellout data in their media guides. Unofficially, a 13-year sellout streak in Toronto ended in March, 2015 (source: thescore.com), and both Montreal and Toronto may have had very long sellout streaks in the past. Neither team's media guide notes such streaks.

#### Major League Soccer

Portland sold out its first 163 matches from the start of the 2011 season, until the 2020 season was halted.

## Other College Sports

There is no official consecutive sellout listing in men's college basketball. Duke has sold out 524 straight home men's basketball games from November 21, 1990 through the **2023-24** season (excluding 2020-21). They've won 476 (90.8%) of these games. Kansas has 368 sellouts in a row through the 2023-24 season, including 2020-21. Michigan State sold out 323 consecutive home hockey games from 1985 through 2004.

The longest sellout streak in NCAA women's sports is 385 volleyball matches (337 in the regular season) from 2001 through 2024, at Nebraska. This includes a 2023 game played in Nebraska's football stadium that drew 92,003, the largest crowd for a U.S. women's sports event. It may also have been a world record.

Utah's Women's Gymnastics team had the NCAA women's sports best average per game/match of 14,376 in 2014, 14,950 in 2015, 14,928 in 2016, 15,244 in 2017, 15,139 in 2018, 14,842 in 2019, and 15,273 in 2020. They averaged 11,595 in 2022, but were out-averaged by the South Carolina Women's Basketball team (12,268). South Carolina Women's Basketball averaged 12,942 in 2022-23. Utah was back on top of the NCAA Women's sports attendance standings in 2023, averaging 13,427 per match, and they averaged 12,946 in 2024. Utah has led in gymnastics attendance every year since 1984, except in 1997, 2001, 2004, and 2022. In those 4 seasons, they missed leading by a tiny margin.

#### TEXAS GOT A SMALL BUMP IN ATTENDANCE IN 2019 BEFORE MOVING TO A NEW BALLPARK IN 2020

Teams in their final season at an old park often achieved good attendance growth. Part of the reason for this is that fans buy season tickets for the final year in the old park, in order to get a better seating location in the new one. Since 1990, 21 teams have played a full season in their old ballpark prior to moving. 15 of the 21 teams had an attendance increase in their last season at the old park. 6 of those teams were up at least 10%.

Cleveland had the biggest gain. In 1993, their final year at Municipal Stadium, the Indians (now the Guardians) posted a 953,634 increase, up 77.9% from 1992. Detroit was up 43.8% in 1999, their last season in Tiger Stadium. Philadelphia's attendance rose 37.4% in 2003, which was their final season at The Vet. Atlanta in 1996, Houston in 1999, and St. Louis in 2005 also had double-digit percentage increases in the last year in an old park.

Washington's attendance fell 8.9% in 2007, which was their last year at R.F.K. Stadium. San Diego bade farewell to Jack Murphy Stadium in 2003 with an 8.6% decrease. Milwaukee was down 7.5% in 2000, their last season in County Stadium. Cincinnati in 2002, the Yankees in 2008, and Florida in 2011, had very small decreases. Overall, the 21 teams combined, averaged a 7.5% gain in their final year in an old park.

The list of these teams does not include Toronto and Seattle, who moved into their current ballparks in the middle of a season. It also does not include Colorado, because the 1994 season, their final year at Mile High Stadium, ended early due to a strike. Rockies' attendance was up when the strike ended the 1994 season in August.

In 2016, the Atlanta Braves played their final season at Turner Field. Their total attendance was up 19,522 (1.0%), but their average per date declined by 67 because they played one more date than in 2015, and also because they were the home team for a 2016 game at Fort Bragg, NC. That game was played at a temporary ballpark and drew a sellout crowd of 12,582. In 2019, Texas had a 25,887 gain (1.2%) in their final year at Globe Life Park.

#### ATTENDANCE IN THE FINAL YEAR IN A BALLPARK - SINCE 1990

Team	Final Year	Final Year Att.	Prev. Year Att.	# Difference	% Change
Chicago White Sox	1990	2,528,986	2,510,012	18,974	0.8
Baltimore	1991	2,552,753	2,415,189	137,564	5.7
Cleveland	1993	2,177,908	1,224,274	953,634	77.9
Texas	1993	2,244,616	2,198,231	46,385	2.1
Atlanta	1996	2,901,242	2,561,831	339,411	13.2
Detroit	1000	2.026.444	1 400 201	617.050	42.0
Detroit	1999	2,026,441	1,409,391	617,050	43.8
San Francisco	1999	2,078,399	1,925,634	152,765	7.9
Houston	1999	2,706,017	2,450,451	255,566	10.4
Milwaukee	2000	1,573,621	1,701,796	(128,175)	(7.5)
Pittsburgh	2000	1,748,908	1,638,023	110,885	6.8
Cincinnati	2002	1,855,973	1,882,732	(26,759)	(1.4)
Philadelphia	2003	2,223,353	1,618,141	605,212	37.4
San Diego	2003	2,030,064	2,220,416	(190,352)	(8.6)
St. Louis	2005	3,538,948	3,048,427	490,521	16.1
Washington	2007	1,961,606	2,153,058	(191,452)	(8.9)
Now York Mate	2000	4.040.040	2.052.040	100.004	1.0
New York Mets	2008	4,042,043	3,853,949	188,094	4.9
New York Yankees	2008	4,259,375	4,271,083	(11,708)	(0.3)
Minnesota	2009	2,416,237	2,302,431	113,806	4.9
Miami	2011	1,520,582	1,535,226	(14,644)	(1.0)
Atlanta	2016	2,020,914	2,001,392	19,522	1.0
Texas	2019	2,132,994	2,107,107	25,887	1.2

Excludes Montreal in 2004 and Oakland in 2024, because those teams relocated to other markets the next year

#### FIRST TO FIFTY (MILLION, THAT IS)

The table on the next page lists the total attendance in the history of each current Major League ballpark through 2023. It also shows the total number of dates (not games) played at each park, and the average attendance per date. The older parks naturally have a lower average per date than the new parks since Major League attendance is much higher now than it was before 1990. Also, the National League didn't include 'no-shows' in its attendance until 1993.

# On April 28, 2022, St. Louis set a new Major League record for the fewest number of dates needed to reach 50 million in attendance at one ballpark. The Cardinals hit this mark on their 8<sup>th</sup> home date, in their 16<sup>th</sup> year (excludes 2020, which had no fans in attendance), in Busch Stadium III. It took the Cardinals 1,221 dates to reach 50 million.

San Francisco held the former Major League record for fastest to reach 50 million in attendance at one park. The Giants did it in their 46<sup>th</sup> home date in 2015, which was their 16<sup>th</sup> year at Oracle Park. It took the Giants 1,261 dates to get to 50 million. (Some sources list this as 1,259 dates, but Giants data, and originally issued MLB data, has it as 1,261.)

Baltimore held the record until 2015. The Orioles reached 50 million in their 17<sup>th</sup> season (2008) at Oriole Park at Camden Yards, and in 1,311 dates. They would have reached it sooner if a full schedule had been played in 1994 and 1995. Their attendance was much higher in those years, than in 2008.

The table below lists the current and former Major League ballparks that reached 50 million in attendance in the shortest period of time. It includes the rebuilt original Yankee Stadium, which reopened in 1976. Dodger Stadium data is for the Dodgers only, and excludes attendance from Angels home games there from 1962 through 1965.

Many of the newer ballparks have yet to reach 50 million. The Yankees appear to have the best chance of topping 50 million faster than the Cardinals did, if attendance in their current ballpark continues to be high. Fenway Park and Wrigley Field surpassed 50 million in attendance long ago. But since attendance was much lower in the past, it took the Red Sox and Cubs far longer to reach 50 million that it would now.

Team	Ballpark	Year Reached 50 Million (Year # in Park)	Date Reached 50 Million (Date # of the Season)	Total Number of Dates Needed to Reach 50 Million
St. Louis	Busch Stadium III	2022 (Year 16)	April 28 (Date #8)	1,221
San Francisco	Oracle Park	2015 (Year 16)	July 11 (Date #46)	1,261
Baltimore	Oriole Park	2008 (Year 17)	Aug. 19 (Date #57)	1,311
Colorado	Coors Field	2012 (Year 18)	April 17 (Date #8)	1,372
Philadelphia	Citizens Bank Park	2023 (Year 19)	May 7 (Date #16)	1,460
Toronto	Rogers Centre	2008 (Year 20)	April 9 (Date #5)	1,486
Atlanta	Turner Field	2015 (Year 19)	Aug. 30 (Date #62)	1,512
Texas	Globe Life Park	2013 (Year 20)	June 11 (Date #28)	1,525
Los Angeles Dodgers	Dodger Stadium	1982 (Year 21)	Aug. 7 (Date #50)	1,595
Milwaukee	American Family Field	2021 (Year 21)	July 9 (Date #46)	1,585
Houston	Minute Maid Park	2019 (Year 20)	Sept. 10 (Date #74)	1,612
Seattle	T-Mobile Park	2019 (Year 21)	July 3 (Date #44)	1,625
Arizona	Chase Field	2018 (Year 21)	July 6 (Date #47)	1,667
Cleveland	Progressive Field	2015 (Year 22)	June 23 (Date #37)	1,685
New York Yankees	Rebuilt Yankee Sta.	1998 (Year 23)	Sept. 22 (Date #74)	1,728
Philadelphia	Veterans Stadium	1994 (Year 24)	July 19 (Date #44)	1,794
Cincinnati	Riverfront Stadium	1995 (Year 26)	July 22 (Date #39)	1,891
Chicago White Sox	U.S. Cellular Field	2015 (Year 25)	June 18 (Date #29)	1,912
New York Mets	Shea Stadium	1990 (Year 27)	July 26 (Date #47)	1,921
St. Louis	Busch Stadium II	1991 (Year 26)	Aug. 4 (Date #54)	1,972
Kansas City	Kauffman Stadium	2000 (Year 28)	April 25 (Date #8)	2,069
Los Angeles Angels	Angels Stadium	1993 (Year 28)	Aug. 5 (Date #58)	2,171

BALLPARKS REACHING TOTAL ATTENDANCE OF 50 MILLION IN THE FASTEST TIME Year # in park listed excludes 2020, which had no fans in attendance

# **TOTAL ATTENDANCE IN CURRENT MAJOR LEAGUE PARKS - Through 2023**

# of Seasons includes 2020, but # of Full Seasons and # of Dates excludes 2020

<u>Team</u>	<u>Ballpark</u>	Year <u>Opened</u>	# of Total <u>Seasons</u>	# of Full <u>Seasons</u>	Total <u>Attendance</u>	<u># of Dates</u>	Avg. Att. <u>per Date</u>
Baltimore	Oriole Park	1992	32	29	76,302,527	2,448	31,169
Boston	Fenway Park	1912	112	107	169,910,710	7,979	21,295
Chicago White Sox	Guaranteed Rate Field	1991	33	30	63,051,564	2,516	25,060
Cleveland	Progressive Field	1994	30	27	62,312,003	2,278	27,354
Detroit	Comerica Park	2000	24	23	52,004,236	1,850	28,110
Houston	Minute Maid Park	2000	24	23	58,089,836	1,862	31,198
Kansas City	Kauffman Stadium	1973	51	46	88,727,635	3,904	22,727
Los Angeles Angels	Angels Stadium	1966	58	53	128,991,170	4,517	28,557
Minnesota	Target Field	2010	14	13	29,470,396	1,049	28,094
New York Yankees	Yankee Stadium	2009	15	14	45,874,123	1,123	40,850
Oakland	Oakland Coliseum	1966	56	52	80,910,193	4,281	18,900
Seattle	T-Mobile Park	1999	25	23	57,042,184	1,904	29,959
Tampa Bay	Tropicana Field	1990	26	25	34,750,664	2,019	17,212
Texas	Globe Life Field	2020	4	3	6,654,663	243	27,385
Toronto	Rogers Centre	1989	35	31	84,331,032	2,650	31,823
Arizona	Chase Field	1998	26	25	57,735,781	2,025	28,511
Atlanta	Truist Park	2017	7	6	16,337,816	483	33,826
Chicago Cubs	Wrigley Field	1914	108	103	166,426,413	7,799	21,339
Cincinnati	Great American Park	2003	21	20	40,702,920	1,618	25,156
Colorado	Coors Field	1995	29	27	79,092,105	2,250	35,152
Los Angeles Dodgers	Dodger Stadium	1962	62	58	184,245,117	4,821	38,217
Miami	loanDepot Park	2012	12	11	14,990,027	890	16,843
Milwaukee	American Family Field	2001	23	22	56,045,823	1,781	31,469
New York Mets	Citi Field	2009	15	14	33,714,226	1,106	30,483
Philadelphia	Citizens Bank Park	2004	20	19	52,461,106	1,524	34,423
Dittaburah	PNC Park	2001	23	22	39,772,527	1,756	22,650
Pittsburgh St. Louis	Busch Stadium III	2001	23 18	17	56,264,630	1,756	40,920
St. Louis San Diego	Petco Park	2006 2004	20	17	56,264,630 46,412,646	1,375	40,920 30,158
San Francisco	Oracle Park	2004	20 24	23	46,412,646 70,667,334	1,539	30,156 37,932
Washington	Nationals Park	2000	24 16	23 15	33,284,249	1,003	37,932 27,599
vvasilingion	Nationals Faik	2000	10	15	33,204,249	1,200	21,599

NOTES:

1918, 1981, 1994, 1995, and 2020 were not full seasons. 1919 and 1972 were slightly shorter, but are listed as full seasons in this table. Toronto moved into the Rogers Center during the 1989 season, and Seattle moved into Safeco Field during the 1999 season, so those are not listed as 'Full Seasons' for those teams. Dodger Stadium attendance listed is for Dodger games only. Excludes the Angels (1962-1965).

Figures for Angels Stadium listed above are for 1966-2021. Since 1998, after the completion of that park's rebuilding, total attendance for 24 full seasons is 71,632,442 in 2,025 dates, an average of 35,374 per date.

The Oakland Coliseum opened in 1966 for the AFL's Raiders. The A's moved there in 1968. Tropicana Field opened in 1990. First season for the Rays was 1998. Toronto attendance only includes the 36 dates played in Toronto in 2021. Wrigley Field opened in 1914 for the Federal League Whales. The Cubs first played there in 1916.

This table lists regular season attendance only. Number of dates may not be the total number of games.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME ATTENDANCE - 1993 - 2023**

1993 was the first season that both the American and National Leagues counted 'no-shows in their official reported attendance. Until 1993, the National League only counted 'in park' attendance and excluded 'no-shows.'

The table below shows Major League team-by-team total attendance from 1993 through 2023, along with each team's average per season, and average per date for these years. It lists each team's highest and lowest attendance for this 29 year period, excluding the shorter 1994, and 1995 seasons, and 2021. Tampa Bay and Arizona began in 1998.

AMERICAN LEAG	GUE							
TEAM	<u># DATES</u>	1993 - 2023 <u>ATTENDANCE</u>	1993 - 2023 <u>AVG./DATE</u>	1993-2023 <u>AVG./YEAR</u>	1993-20 <u>HIGH ATT.</u>	23 <u>YEAR</u>	1993-20   <u>LOW ATT.</u>	23 <u>YEAR</u>
Baltimore	2,368	72,734,708	30,716	2,424,490	3,711,132	1997	1,307,807	2019
Boston	2,398	80,506,504	33,572	2,683,550	3,062,699	2009	2,226,136	1997
Chicago W. Sox	2,355	57,436,314	24,389	1,914,544	2,957,411	2006	1,338,851	1999
Cleveland	2,358	64,489,911	27,349	2,149,664	3,468,456	1999	1,295,870	2022
Detroit	2,379	62,311,018	26,192	2,077,034	3,202,645	2008	1,168,610	1996
Houston	2,396	72,278,456	30,166	2,409,282	3,087,872	2004	   1,607,733	2012
Kansas City	2,364	49,402,441	20,898	1,646,748	2,708,549	2015	1,277,686	2022
L.A. Angels	2,404	80,539,055	33,502	2,684,635	3,406,790	2006	1,767,330	1997
Minnesota	2,394	59,151,345	24,708	1,971,712	3,223,640	2010	1,059,715	2000
N.Y. Yankees	2,371	96,809,612	40,831	3,226,987	4,271,083	2007	2,250,877	1996
Oakland	2,381	47,727,278	20,045	1,590,909	2,216,596	2003	   787,902	2022
Seattle	2,384	71,501,680	29,992	2,383,389	3,540,482	2002	1,721,920	2012
Tampa Bay	2,019	34,750,664	17,212	1,390,027	2,261,158	1998	1,058,622	2003
Texas	2,387	75,643,302	31,690	2,521,443	3,460,280	2012	1,945,857	2008
Toronto	2,396	69,988,847	29,211	2,332,962	4,057,947	1993	1,625,555	2010
NATIONAL LEAG	iUE						   	
Arizona	2,025	57,735,781	28,511	2,309,431	3,600,412	1998	1,605,199	2022
Atlanta	2,382	80,672,762	33,868	2,689,092	3,884,725	1993	2,001,392	2015
Chicago Cubs	2,378	83,900,186	35,282	2,796,673	3,300,200	2008	2,190,308	1997
Cincinnati	2,388	60,709,435	25,423	2,023,648	2,577,131	2000	1,395,770	2022
Colorado	2,385	86,856,966	36,418	2,895,232	4,483,350	1993	1,914,389	2005
L.A. Dodgers	2,396	102,322,652	42,706	3,410,755	3,974,309	2019	2,934,808	2011
Miami	2,377	45,485,002	19,135	1,516,167	3,064,847	1993	811,104	2018
Milwaukee	2,378	67,948,009	28,574	2,264,934	3,071,373	2011	1,327,155	1996
N.Y. Mets	2,322	73,199,628	31,524	2,439,988	4,042,043	2008	1,588,323	1996
Philadelphia	2,362	74,003,426	31,331	2,466,781	3,680,718	2011	1,490,638	1997
Pittsburgh	2,362	51,488,211	21,799	1,716,274	2,498,596	2015	   1,257,458	2022
St. Louis	2,389	93,399,730	39,096	3,113,324	3,552,180	2007	2,634,014	1997
San Diego	2,391	68,191,994	28,520	2,273,066	3,271,554	2023	1,375,432	1993
San Francisco	2,396	83,328,620	34,778	2,777,621	3,387,303	2011	1,413,922	1996
Washington	1,449	40,130,906	27,696	2,229,495	2,731,993	2005	1,817,202	2009
Montreal	<u>933</u>	<u>13,030,345</u>	<u>13,966</u>	1,085,862	1,641,437	1993	609,473	2001
MLB Total	70,667	2,077,674,788	29,401	2,334,466	2,650,106	2007	   2,146,335	1996

All of Houston's attendance is listed with the American League. The Astros were in the National League through 2012. Attendance for Milwaukee for all seasons is listed with the National League. The Brewers were in the A.L. through 1997.

Washington's data only covers 2005-2023. Montreal (1993-2004) is listed separately, below Washington. The MLB total for high and low is for the highest and lowest average per team. Excludes shorter 1994 and 1995 seasons, and 2021.

## DECADE ATTENDANCE CHANGES

#### ATTENDANCE IN THE 2000-2009 DECADE vs. ATTENDANCE IN THE 1990-1999 DECADE

Total Major League attendance was 22.2% higher in the 10-year period from 2000 through 2009, than it was during the decade of 1990 through 1999. Two seasons in the 1990's were shorter than usual due to a strike. Also, 4 teams were added in the 1990's, and the National League did not include 'no-shows' in its attendance figures until 1993. The Colorado Rockies and Florida Marlins began play in 1993, and the Tampa Bay Rays and Arizona Diamondbacks had their first seasons in 1998. The Montreal Expos moved to Washington after the 2004 season.

Another method of comparing attendance in these two decades is by average attendance per team/per season. Average attendance per team/per season was 2,452,493 in the decade from 2000 through 2009. This is up 13.3% from the average per team/per season of 2,165,551 from 1990 through 1999.

20 of the 26 teams that played during the entire decade of the 1990's had higher attendance in the 2000-2009 decade than in the 1990-1999 decade. The San Francisco Giants had the biggest % gain for the decade, as their attendance increased 75.9%. They drew 31.6 million from 2000 through 2009, compared to just 17.9 million in the 1990's. Moving from cold and windy Candlestick Park, to Oracle (AT&T) Park in 2000 was the big reason for this gain.

The New York Yankees had the biggest total attendance gain, from 22.5 million in the 1990's to 37.7 million in the 2000's, up 67.8%. Other teams with big percentage increases in the 2000-2009 decade include Houston (57.3%), the Mets (53.9%), Milwaukee (53.2%), Detroit (52.6%), and the Angels (42.7%).

Toronto had the 2000-2009 decade's largest decrease in both total attendance, and percent decline. The Blue Jays drew 31.5 million from 1990 through 1999, but only 20.0 million from 2000 through 2009, a decline of 36.4%. Baltimore's attendance fell 22.3% during this period. Other teams with declines for the 2000-2009 decade were Cleveland, Kansas City, Texas, and Atlanta. Also, Colorado and Florida played only 7 seasons in the 1990's. Yet their total attendance for those 7 years was higher than their 10-year total from 2000 through 2009.

The Yankees had the highest attendance of any team for the decade from 2000 through 2009, drawing 37,736,795. The Dodgers were next (34,497,939), followed by St. Louis, San Francisco, the Chicago Cubs, the New York Mets, and the Los Angeles Angels.

The Florida (now Miami) Marlins had the lowest attendance for the 2000-2009 decade (13,505,417), followed closely by Tampa Bay (13,586,943), and then by Washington/Montreal, Kansas City, and Pittsburgh.

#### ATTENDANCE IN THE 2010-2019 DECADE vs. ATTENDANCE IN THE 2000-2009 DECADE

The next page has a table comparing each team's total attendance and average per date for the 2010-2019 decade vs. the 2000-2009 decade. The figures for Houston, listed with the American League teams, include figures for 2000 through 2012, when they were in the National League. Figures for Washington include 2000-2004 Montreal.

The decade league figures in the table are not a sum of the total attendance for each team as shown. Instead, they are the actual totals for American League teams in that decade, and for National League teams in that decade. Houston's 2000-2012 figures are included in the National League totals, and their 2013-2019 figures are in the American League totals. From 2000-2012, the American League had 14 teams, and the National League had 16 teams. Each league has had 15 teams since 2013, when the Astros moved from the National to the American League. This change is why the American League shows an increase in 2010-2019 total attendance vs. 2000-2009, but has a decline in average per date, and the National League has a decrease in total attendance, but a gain in average per date.

Total Major League attendance fell 8,943,102 (1.2%) when comparing the 2010-2019 decade with 2000-2009. Average per date was down 432. But 18 of the 30 teams drew higher in the 2010-2019 decade than from 2000-2009.

Washington shows the largest total attendance gains. But that's because figures for the 2000-2004 Montreal Expos, who drew very poorly, are included in their 2000-2009 data. Washington averaged 27,260 per date from 2005-2009 in D.C. Otherwise, the largest total increases were by Minnesota, Toronto, Kansas City, and Milwaukee. Kansas City, Minnesota, along with Washington, had percentage gains of at least 20%.

The largest total attendance declines were by Seattle, Cleveland, Houston, Baltimore, along with the Mets, who played the 2010-2019 decade in a much smaller-capacity ballpark (Citi Field) than they had in the first 9 years of the previous decade (Shea Stadium). These 5 teams all had total attendance declines of at least 20%.

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AMERICAN	2010-2019	2000-2009	2010-2019 vs. 2 TOTAL /		AVERAGE	PER DATE	CHANGE IN AVG.
<u>TEAM</u>	TOTAL ATTEND	TOTAL ATTEND	<u># CHANGE</u>	<u>% CHG.</u>	<u>2010-2019</u>	<u>2000-2009</u>	PER DATE
Baltimore	19,806,109	25,074,980	(5,268,871)	(21.0)	24,820	31,188	(6,368)
Boston	29,506,878	28,283,359	1,223,519	4.3	36,428	34,918	1,510
Chicago W.S.	17,971,125	22,030,373	(4,059,248)	(18.4)	22,520	27,367	(4,847)
Cleveland	16,543,615	23,027,484	(6,483,869)	(28.2)	20,705	28,606	(7,901)
Detroit	25,031,827	22,681,368	2,350,459	10.4	31,018	28,176	2,842
Houston	22,111,774	28,168,208	(6,056,434)	(21.5)	27,298	34,819	(7,521)
Kansas City	19,418,569	15,716,341	3,702,228	23.6	24,093	19,769	4,324
L.A. Angels	30,682,032	29,564,455	1,117,577	3.8	37,879	36,499	1,380
Minnesota	24,384,945	19,958,819	4,426,126	22.2	30,179	24,641	5,538
N.Y. Yankees	33,834,551	37,736,795	(3,902,244)	(10.3)	42,083	46,878	(4,795)
Oakland	16,342,316	19,531,704	(3,189,388)	(16.3)	20,276	24,113	(3,837)
Seattle	20,217,305	28,814,705	(8,597,400)	(29.8)	24,960	35,574	(10,614)
Tampa Bay	14,010,236	13,586,943	423,293	3.1	17,339	16,836	503
Texas	26,759,544	23,962,245	2,797,299	11.7	32,996	29,990	3,006
Toronto	23,921,709	20,026,523	3,895,186	<u>19.5</u>	29,509	24,724	4,785
A.L. Total *	334,536,296	329,996,094	4,540,202	1.4	28,229	29,242	(1,013)
NATIONAL							
Arizona	21,179,375	25,326,949	(4,147,574)	(16.4)	26,147	31,268	(5,121)
Atlanta	23,944,653	26,108,653	(2,164,000)	(8.3)	29,671	32,473	(2,802)
Chicago Cubs	29,926,238	30,339,577	(413,339)	(1.4)	36,900	37,924	(1,024)
Cincinnati	21,178,571	20,901,089	277,482	1.3	26,179	25,932	247
Colorado	27,949,015	25,559,166	2,389,849	9.4	34,590	31,672	2,918
L.A. Dodgers	36,413,030	34,497,939	1,915,091	5.6	44,899	42,590	2,309
Miami	15,332,912	13,505,417	1,827,495	13.5	18,976	16,882	2,094
Milwaukee	27,197,890	23,623,505	3,574,385	15.1	33,578	29,237	4,341
N.Y. Mets	23,928,104	29,955,362	(6,027,258)	(20.1)	30,023	37,775	(7,752)
Philadelphia	26,867,063	25,985,535	881,528	3.4	33,458	32,604	854
Pittsburgh	19,969,171	17,804,684	2,164,487	12.2	24,868	22,566	2,302
St. Louis	33,864,995	32,694,549	1,170,446	3.6	41,809	40,014	1,795
San Diego	22,275,167	24,738,101	(2,462,934)	(10.0)	27,500	30,579	(3,079)
San Francisco	32,448,655	31,556,356	892,299	2.8	40,060	38,958	1,102
Washington (1)	23,787,283	14,986,575	8,800,708	<u>58.7</u>	29,586	18,571	11,015
N.L. Total *	392,268,361	405,751,665	(13,483,304)	(3.3)	31,752	31,527	225
M.L.B. Total	726,804,657	735,747,759	(8,943,102)	(1.2)	30,027	30,459	(432)

\* - The figures on the American and National League 'Total' lines are not the sum of the figures in the column. They are the actual league totals for the decade. Houston's figures are in the National League total from 2000-2012, and in the American League total from 2013-2019. From 2000-2012, the American League had 14 teams, and the National League had 16 teams. Each league has had 15 teams from 2013 forward.

Washington's 2000-2009 attendance includes 4,000,278 (9,902 per date) for 2000-2004 as the Montreal Expos, and 10,985,847 (27,260 per date) for 2005-2009 as the Washington Nationals.

All of Houston's attendance is listed with the American League, even though they were in the National League through the 2012 season.

## COMPARING 2023 ATTENDANCE WITH 2000, 2002, and 2007 ATTENDANCE

## MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE IN 2023 COMPARED TO 2000

Major league attendance in **2023** was 1,704,108 (2.4%) lower than in 2000. 2023 National League teams posted a composite gain of 4.3%. 2023 American League teams were down 9.2%. The A.L. had 14 teams in 2000, and the N.L. had 16. Each league had 15 teams in 2023. 8 of the 11 teams with higher attendance in 2023 than in 2000 had increases of at least 10%. 11 of the 19 teams that were down saw declines of at least 10%. 16 teams have moved into new ballparks since the start of 2000, including Texas in 2020. 30 teams were in operation in 2000, 2002, and 2007. 2023 average per date of 29,295 was down 681 (2.3%) from the 2000 figure of 29,976.

Philadelphia had the biggest total attendance gain. They drew 3,052,605 in 2023, up 1,439,836 (89.3%) from 2000. Toronto posted a 1,201,614 (66.0%) gain during this period. Milwaukee was up 977,726 (62.1%), Minnesota had a 914,409 (86.3%) gain, San Deigo's attendance increased by 848,407 (35.0%) since 2000, and the Dodgers were up 826,260 (27.4%). Washington drew 979,708 (110.6%) more than in 2000, when the team was in Montreal.

The largest declines from 2000 were by Cleveland, down 1,622,310 (46.9%), Baltimore, down 1,358,387 (41.2%), Arizona, down 985,272 (33.4%), Detroit, down 920,876(36.3%), and Oakland, down 896,536 (51.9%).

Even though the declines in total attendance since 2007 resulted in a 2.4% 2023 vs. 2000 loss, there has been a significant increase in <u>average attendance per team</u> over the last few decades. The 2023 average attendance per team of 2,358,246 is up 11.8% vs. 1990, 42.5% vs. 1980, and 96.9% vs. 1970. Note that National League teams did not include 'no-shows' in their official attendance until 1993, and that attendance reporting guidelines have also changed. So this does lead to inflated increases when making comparisons with seasons prior to 1993.

## MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE IN 2023 COMPARED TO 2002

There was a significant decline in attendance in **2002 vs. 2001**. MLB attendance was 4.3% higher in **2023 than in 2002**. Total attendance is up 2,888,189 since then. Average attendance per date was up 1,161 (4.1%) in 2023 compared to 28,134 in 2002. 18 of the 30 teams had higher attendance in 2023 than in 2002. 2023 American League teams had an 2.8% total attendance decline, but the 2023 National League teams were up a combined 11.1%.

Philadelphia had the top gain over the past 21 years, up 1,434,464 (88.6%). Toronto had a 1,385,000 (84.6%) increase. San Diego drew 1,051,138 (47.3%) more in 2023 than in 2002. The Dodgers were up 706,002 (22.5%). Atlanta had a 588,023 (22.6%) increase, and Milwaukee was up 581,654 (29.5%). Washington drew 1,132,931 (154.6%) higher than in 2002, when the team played in Montreal.

Oakland had the biggest decline since 2002, down 1,337,459 (61.6%). Arizona fell 1,239,543 (38.7%), Seattle was down 850,064 (24.0%), Cleveland declined 782,872 (29.9%), and San Francisco dipped 753,052 (23.1%).

## MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE IN 2023 COMPARED TO 2007

MLB drew a record-high 79,503,175 in 2007. 2023 attendance is down 8,755,810 (11.0%) since then. Average per date has declined 3,490 (10.6%) from the record-high of 32,785 set in 2007. 2023 American League teams suffered a 15.4% decrease from 2007, and the 2023 National League teams fell 6.9%. 7 teams sustained losses of at least 500,000. Just 8 teams had better attendance in 2023 than in 2007, with 3 of them up at least 10%.

Toronto was up 661,256 (28.0%). San Diego had a gain of 481,480 (17.3%), Atlanta increased 446,295 (16.3%), Colorado rose 231,685 (9.8%), Texas had a total uptick of 179,182 (7.6%).

Attendance fell at least 10% for 16 teams, with 7 of them down at least 20%. Detroit had a 1,434,263 (47.1%) decline, the Mets, now playing in a much smaller park, were down 1,280,394 (33.2%). Oakland dipped 1,089, 482 (56.7%), and the White Sox had a 1,014,767 (37.8%) loss. The Yankees, also now in a much smaller ballpark, had a 1,002,067 (23.5%) decrease. In 2007, the Yankees drew 4,271,083, and the Mets drew 3,853,949. Even if the Mets and Yankees had sold out every game in 2023, they would not have come close to reaching their 2007 totals. Other teams with a 2023 vs. 2007 decline of at least 20% were the Los Angeles Angels, and San Francisco.

Sources: NCAA; NFL; NBA; WNBA; NHL; MLS; ESPN.com; CFL; cfldb.com; apbr.org; SI.com; minor hockey league Websites; Sports Business Journal; arenafan.com; womensbasketballonline.com; kenn.com; remembertheaba.com; Soccer Stadium Digest; National Women's Soccer League; Professional Women's Hockey League; hockeydb.com.

This section covers attendance trends in baseball and other team sports going back more than 40 years. The first group of tables shows yearly total attendance and average attendance per game/date, and annual growth in both total attendance and average per game or date for the following leagues or groups of leagues since either 1990 or the league's origin:

- Major League Baseball
- Minor League Baseball (affiliated leagues only)
- Minor League Baseball (all leagues including independent leagues)
- National Football League
- Canadian Football League
- NCAA College Football (Football Bowl Subdivision Division I-A)
- NCAA College Football All Divisions Combined
- Arena Football League
- National Basketball Association
- Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA)
- NCAA Men's Basketball (Division I)
- NCAA Women's Basketball (Division I)
- National Hockey League
- Minor League Hockey
- Professional Women's Hockey League
- NCAA Men's Hockey (Division I)
- Major League Soccer
- National Women's Soccer League

Other sports and leagues noted in this section include NCAA Men's College Baseball, Soccer, and Lacrosse, Women's Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Softball, and Soccer, the North American Soccer League, the Canadian Major Junior hockey leagues, and the United States Junior Hockey League, indoor and outdoor professional lacrosse leagues.

Later in this section, tables show attendance growth by league and sport for 2023-24 and 2023 vs. 2009, 1999, 1989, and 1979. (Updates will be made when more 2023 and 2023-24 attendance data is issued.) Another table lists the highest season total attendance, and average attendance per date or game <u>each league or group of leagues</u> achieved. There is also a table that notes the highest season total attendance and record-high average per date or game ever achieved by <u>an individual team</u> in each league. The final table in this section lists the highest individual game attendance for every league. For hockey it includes both indoor and outdoor games.

With the exception of the 'NCAA College Football – Both the Division 1-A (Football Bowl Subdivision), and the All Divisions' table, and the NCAA Men's and Women's Division I Basketball tables, all figures in this group of tables cover regular season attendance only, and don't include post-season games. Record highs in total attendance and average per game/date are shown in bold. Record highs set prior to 1990, which don't appear in these tables, will be noted.

All leagues and teams had either limited or no attendance due to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, 2020-21, 2021, and 2021-22. Attendance is simply noted for those seasons in this section, and is not compared with previous years.

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Yearly total attendance and average per date going back to 1900 can be found on pages 308-311 of this report. The 1994 season ended on August 12, and the 1995 season began late due to a work stoppage. The National League began to count 'no-shows' in its official attendance in 1993. The American League already included 'no-shows' earlier. **The 2022 comparison is vs. 2019**.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.		Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year		Date	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	30	71,348,413	601,048	0.8		29,568	273	0.9
2023	30	70,747,365	6,190,707	9.6		29,295	2,452	9.1
2022	30	64,556,658	(3,936,435)	(5.7)		26,843	(1,495)	(5.3)
2021	30	45,304,709				18,901		
2020	30	0				0		
2019	30	68,493,093	(1,132,151)	(1.6)		28,338	(492)	(1.7)
2018	30	69,625,244	(3,045,179)	(4.2)		28,830	(1,212)	(4.0)
2017	30	72,670,423	(488,621)	(0.7)		30,042	(127)	(0.4)
2016	30	73,159,044	(600,976)	(0.8)		30,169	(348)	(1.1)
2015	30	73,760,020	(20,398)	(0.0)		30,517	59	0.2
2014	30	73,739,622	(288,608)	(0.4)		30,458	(57)	(0.2)
2013	30	74,028,230	(831,038)	(1.1)		30,515	(380)	(1.2)
2012	30	74,859,268	1,443,962	2.0		30,895	533	1.8
2011	30	73,415,306	360,899	0.5	-	30,362	224	0.7
2010	30	73,054,407	(313,252)	(0.4)		30,138	(192)	(0.6)
2009	30	73,367,659	(5,220,345)	(6.6)		30,330	(2,198)	(6.8)
2008	30	78,588,004	(915,171)	(1.2)		32,528	(257)	(0.8)
2007	30	79,503,175	3,460,388	4.6		32,785	1,362	4.3
2006	30	76,042,787	1,116,613	1.5		31,423	436	1.4
2005	30	74,926,174	1,903,205	2.6		30,987	586	1.9
2004	30	73,022,969	5,454,572	8.1		30,401	2,388	8.5
2003	30	67,568,397	(290,779)	(0.4)		28,013	(121)	(0.4)
2002	30	67,859,176	(4,558,769)	(6.3)		28,134	(1,878)	(6.3)
2001	30	72,417,945	(33,528)	(0.0)		30,012	24	0.1
2000	30	72,451,473	2,312,093	3.3		29,988	836	2.9
			(	(2.2)			( ) = = )	(5.5)
1999	30	70,139,380	(232,841)	(0.3)		29,152	(133)	(0.5)
1998	30	70,372,221	7,203,532	11.4		29,285	1,009	3.6
1997	28	63,168,689	3,071,308	5.1		28,276	1,411	5.3
1996	28	60,097,381	9,628,145	19.1		26,865	1,605	6.4
1995	28	50,469,236	459,220	0.9		25,260	(6,352)	(20.1)
4004		50.040.040				04.040	075	
1994	28	50,010,016	(20,246,443)	(28.8)		31,612	275	0.9
1993	28	70,256,459	14,384,188	25.7		31,337	4,359	16.2
1992	26	55,872,271	(941,489)	(1.7)		26,978	(349)	(1.3)
1991	26	56,813,760	1,989,992	3.6		27,327	714	2.7
1990	26	54,823,768	(349,328)	(0.6)		26,613	(157)	(0.6)

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL YEARLY ATTENDANCE SINCE 2000

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

Major League Baseball

**<u>2024</u>** – The Dodgers topped MLB for the 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row, with a total of 3,941,251, averaging 48,657 per date. The Yankees had the best American League figures, for the 59<sup>th</sup> time, drawing 3,309,838, with a 41,897 average per date.

**2023** – The Dodgers were the top draw for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year, with total attendance of 3,837,079, averaging 47,371 per date. The Yankees led the American League with a 3,269,016 total, and a 40,863 average per date.

**<u>2022</u>** – For the 9<sup>th</sup> straight year, the Dodgers led in attendance, drawing 3,861,408, averaging 47,672 per date. The Yankees led the American League with a 3,136,207 total, and a 40,208 average per date.

**2021** – The Dodgers led MLB for the 8<sup>th</sup> straight year with a 2,804,693 total, and a 34,626 average per date. Texas, the only team allowed full-capacity at all games, led the American League (2,110,258 total, 26,053 average per date).

**<u>2019</u>** – The Dodgers led the Majors with a team record-high 3,974,309, averaging 49,066 per date. The Yankees had the best attendance in the American League, drawing 3,304,404, an average of 41,828.

**<u>2018</u>** – The Dodgers had the top total (a team record-high 3,857,500), and average per date (47,043) for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row. The Yankees led the American League in total attendance (3,482,855) and average per date (42,998).

**<u>2017</u>** – The Dodgers led MLB for the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year in total attendance (3,765,856), and average per date (46,492). Toronto had the A.L. total high (3,203,886), while the Yankees led in average per date (39,835).

**<u>2016</u>** – The Dodgers drew 3,703,312 (45,720 per date) to lead the Majors for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year. Toronto led the American League with a total of 3,392,099 (41,878 per date).

**<u>2015</u>** – The Los Angeles Dodgers again led the Major Leagues in attendance, drawing a total of 3,764,815, and an average of 46,479 per date. The Yankees led the American League with a total of 3,193,795 (39,922 per date).

**2014** – The Dodgers drew 3,782,337, an average of 46,696 per date, to lead MLB, and the National League. The Yankees drew 3,401,624 (42,520 per date) to lead the American League.

**<u>2013</u>** – The Dodgers (3,743,527, 46,216 per date) had the top Major League attendance. The Yankees were best in the American League 3,279,589, 40,489 per date).

#### MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

There was a reorganization and contraction in the MLB-affiliated Minor Leagues in 2021. The table below only covers the 11 Minor Leagues that charge admission, and are affiliated with Major League Baseball, plus, except for 2021 through 2024, the Mexican League, and the short-season leagues. The 'farm' teams of Major League teams are all members of this group. Figures in this table exclude independent minor leagues, which starting in 2021, now includes the Mexican League. Average attendance per date is not available for years prior to 1992.

2022 is compared with 2019. The 120 U.S./Canadian full-season teams drew 33,321,002 (4,201 per date) in 2019. 2022 total attendance fell 2,400,280 (7.2%), and average per date fell 268 (6.4%) vs. the 2019 U.S. 120 teams.

Much more information about Minor League attendance can be found in the 2023 Minor League Baseball Attendance Analysis at numbertamer.com. None of these leagues played in 2020.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL - AFFILIATED LEAGUES - YEARLY ATTENDANCE SINCE 1990

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Date	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	120	31,346,469	(805,915)	(2.5)	3,985	(100)	(2.4)
2023	120	32,152,384	1,231,662	4.0	4,084	151	3.8
2022	120	30,920,722	(10,583,305)	(25.5)	3,933	(111)	(2.7)
2021	120	22,089,014			3,242		
2019	176	41,504,077	1,053,740	2.6	4,044	84	2.1
2018	176	40,450,337	(1,382,027)	(3.3)	3,960	(135)	(3.3)
2017	176	41,832,364	455,162	1.1	4,095	97	2.4
2016	176	41,377,202	(1,184,243)	(2.8)	3,998	(106)	(2.6)
2015	176	42,561,445	150,251	0.4	4,104	5	0.1
2014	176	42,411,194	857,413	2.1	4,099	59	1.5
2013	176	41,553,781	273,399	0.7	4,040	73	1.8
2012	176	41,280,382	28,329	0.1	3,967	(62)	(1.5)
2011	174	41,252,053	(180,403)	(0.4)	4,029	37	0.9
2010	176	41,432,456	(212,062)	(0.5)	3,992	(63)	(1.6)
				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			
2009	176	41,644,518	(1,619,222)	(3.7)	4,055	(119)	(2.9)
2008	176	43,263,740	450,928	1.1	4,174	19	0.5
2007	175	42,812,812	1,102,455	2.6	4,155	107	2.6
2006	176	41,710,357	377,078	0.9	4,048	62	1.6
2005	176	41,333,279	1,445,524	3.6	3,986	24	0.6
2004	176	39,887,755	818,048	2.1	3,962	101	2.6
2003	176	39,069,707	430,565	1.1	3,861	129	3.5
2002	176	38,639,142	(169,197)	(0.4)	3,732	(6)	(0.2)
2001	176	38,808,339	1,160,520	3.1	3,738	80	2.2
2000	176	37,647,819	2,468,348	7.0	3,658	272	8.0
1999	176	35,179,471	(248,147)	(0.7)	3,386	(45)	(1.3)
1998	174	35,427,618	705,902	2.0	3,431	(38)	(1.1)
1997	172	34,721,716	1,428,333	4.3	3,469	119	3.6
1996	171	33,293,383	166,449	0.5	3,350	24	0.7
1995	172	33,126,934	(228,265)	(0.7)	3,326	(38)	(1.1)
		. ,		, <i>,</i> ,	,	, <i>, ,</i>	
1994	172	33,355,199	3,332,438	11.1	3,364	290	9.4
1993	169	30,022,761	2,842,591	10.5	3,074	259	9.2
1992	168	27,180,170	590,074	2.2	2,815	N.A.	N.A.
1991	168	26,590,096	1,345,527	5.3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1990	164	25,244,569	2,140,976	9.3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

#### MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

The table below is a combination of all Minor League attendance, including affiliated leagues, and available independent leagues data. The first independent leagues began play in 1993. Attendance information for some independent minor leagues with very low attendance was not available in some seasons. The number of teams listed excludes independent teams that didn't report attendance, or that played all of their games on the road.

The all-time high independent leagues total was 8,485,921 in 2007, with 67 teams that played home games. The highest independent leagues average per date was 3,000 in 2004. Only 6 independent teams sold tickets in 2020. 2022 attendance is compared with 2019.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL – ALL LEAGUES - YEARLY ATTENDANCE SINCE 1993

Year	# of Teams	Total Attendance	# Change vs. Previous Year	% Chg. vs. Prev. Year	Average per Date	# Change vs. Previous Year	% Chg. vs. Prev. Year
2024	214	41,885,669	(427,250)	(1.0)	3,580	(83)	(2.3)
2023	208	42,312,919	1,801,577	4.4	3,663	150	4.3
2022	210	40,511,342	(6,683,248)	(14.2)	3,513	(205)	(5.5)
2021	195	28,136,361	(0,000,2.0)	(/	2,870	()	(0.0)
2020	6	176,439			1,082		
		,			,		
2019	232	47,194,590	824,900	1.8	3,718	83	2.3
2018	235	46,369,690	(1,682,962)	(3.5)	3,635	(139)	(3.7)
2017	233	48,052,652	449,240	0.9	3,774	69	1.9
2016	231	47,603,412	(1,275,515)	(2.6)	3,705	(88)	(2.3)
2015	228	48,878,927	302,749	0.6	3,792	(19)	(0.5)
2014	226	48,577,425	315,351	0.7	3,811	40	1.1
2013	229	48,262,074	(146,242)	(0.3)	3,771	61	1.6
2012	231	48,408,316	325,486	0.7	3,710	(29)	(0.8)
2011	229	48,082,830	(1,454,672)	(2.9)	3,739	(8)	(0.2)
2010	236	49,537,502	(72,201)	(0.1)	3,747	(57)	(1.5)
2009	237	49,609,703	(1,966,706)	(3.8)	3,804	(88)	(2.3)
2008	237	51,576,409	277,676	0.5	3,892	68	1.8
2007	242	51,298,733	2,029,940	4.1	3,824	6	0.2
2006	231	49,268,793	417,393	0.9	3,818	80	2.1
2005	230	48,851,400	2,405,770	5.2	3,738	(53)	(1.4)
2004	221	46,445,630	817,774	1.8	3,791	212	5.9
2003	239	45,627,856	578,643	1.3	3,579	42	1.2
2002	226	45,049,213	243,435	0.5	3,537	21	0.6
2001	228	44,805,778	1,576,126	3.6	3,516	71	2.1
2000	218	43,229,652	3,178,384	7.9	3,445	187	5.7
1999	220	40,051,268	756,841	1.9	3,258	91	2.9
1999	220	39,294,427	1,066,447	2.8	3,167	N.A.	N.A.
1998	223	38,227,980	1,480,040	4.0	<u> </u>	N.A.	N.A.
1997	230	36,747,940	539,140	1.5	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1996	234	36,208,800	922,248	2.6	N.A. N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1990	231	30,200,000	922,240	2.0	N.A.	IN.A.	N.A.
1994	202	35,286,552	4,529,724	14.7	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1993	181	30,756,828	3,576,658	13.2	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

There were no independent leagues prior to 1993. The 1993 vs. 1992 change in total attendance covers all Minor League attendance, including independent leagues in 1993, compared to the affiliated leagues in 1992.

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

## Minor League Baseball

**2024** – Lehigh Valley had the highest total attendance of any team (588,788). Indianapolis led all U.S./Canadian teams in average per date (8,405). Richmond topped Double-A with a 435,295 total and a 6,595 average. Dayton sold out every game for the 23<sup>rd</sup> straight 'normal' season, and led Class-A with a 528,778 total, and an 8,012 average per date. Fresno (256,446 total,4,007 average) posted the best attendance among Single-A teams.

Mexico City had the top average per date of any team (11,761). They also had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best independent league total attendance ever (505,726), topped only by 2023 Yucatan. Long Island led the U.S./Canadian independent teams in total attendance (290,073). Kane County, IL topped the U.S./Canadian independent teams in average per date (5,606).

**2023** – The Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs of the Triple-A International League led the all the Minor Leagues in total attendance (567,322), and all U.S./Canadian teams in average per date (7,990). Richmond had the top figures among Double-A teams with a 428,541 total, and a 6,396 average per date. High-A Dayton topped High-A and all of Class-A with a total of 520,433, averaging 7,885 per date, and selling out every game for the 22<sup>nd</sup> straight 'normal' year. Fresno posted the best total (277,089) and average per date (4,198) in the Single-A group of teams.

For the independent teams, Yucatan had the top total (506,765) and average per date (10,558). Among U.S./Canadian teams, Long Island's 297,745 was the highest total, and Kane County drew the top average per date (5,571).

**2022** – Triple-A Nashville (555,576) led all of Minor League Baseball in total attendance. High-A Dayton had the top average per date (7,935) among all MLB-affiliated teams. Dayton may be the first Class A team to ever lead the MLB-affiliated leagues in average per date. Lehigh Valley topped Triple-A in average per date (7,665). Richmond led Double-A in total attendance (406,550) and in average per date (6,160), followed closely by Hartford. Dayton also led both groups of Class-A teams in total attendance (444,346).

Among independent leagues, which now include the Mexican and Pioneer Leagues, Tijuana had the highest total (453,961), and their average per date of 10,088 was the best of all Minor League teams. The Mexican League played a 90-game schedule in 2022. Among U.S./Canadian teams, Long Island had the best total (285,888), and Kane County, IL had the highest average per date (5,068).

**2021** – Nashville had the top total (436,868) in all of Minor League Baseball, and the best average per date (6,721) among the 120 MLB-affiliated teams. Amarillo posted the top total (316,288) among Double-A teams, with Rocket City (Madison, Alabama – near Huntsville) achieving the highest average per date (5,726) in this class. In the High-A and Single-A leagues, as usual, Dayton had the best total (344,167), and average per date (6,258). The short-season leagues were eliminated after 2019.

Among the independent leagues, including the Mexican and Pioneer Leagues, Long Island had the top total (224,120). Tijuana had the highest average per date in all of the Minors (7,557). The Mexican League only played a 66-game schedule in 2021, instead of the usual 120-game schedule.

**2019** – Tijuana of the Mexican League had the top total (677,464), and average per date (11,291). Monterrey had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best average (9,770). Among U.S. teams, Triple-A Las Vegas, in their new park, had the highest total and average (650,934 – 9,229 per date). Frisco's total of 455,765, and average per date of 6,802, were best in Double-A.

Dayton led Class A for the 20<sup>th</sup> straight year, drawing 545,108 (7,900 per date), and extended their North American sports record sellout streak to 1,385 regular season dates. Vancouver was best among short-season teams with a 235,980 total, and 6,210 average. St. Paul topped the independent teams, drawing 394,970 (8,061 per date).

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

## Minor League Baseball

**2018** – The Charlotte Knights led all of Minor League Baseball in total attendance (619,639), followed closely by Indianapolis (619,122). Monterrey of the Mexican League had the top average per date (10,059). Charlotte had the highest U.S. team average per date (8,980). Frisco again led Double-A (468,259 total, 6,886 average per date). Dayton topped Class A with a 550,725 total and a 7,868 average per date. Vancouver had the best short season total attendance (239,086) and average per date (6,292). St. Paul led all independent league teams, drawing a total of 408,921, an average of 8,178 per date.

**<u>2017</u>** – The Monterrey Sultanes of the Mexican League had the top total (659,791), and average per date (11,575). Indianapolis led U.S. teams in total (641,141), and average per date (9,159). Frisco topped Double-A (470,003 total - 6,812 average per date).

Dayton led Class A, drawing 554,638, an average of 8,038 per date. Vancouver topped all short-season teams (239,527-total, 6,303 – average per date). St. Paul led the independent leagues (406,501 – total, 8,296 average per date).

**2016** – Monterrey led Minor League Baseball in both total attendance (690,305), and average per date (12,783). Among U.S./Canadian teams, Indianapolis drew 636,888 to lead in total attendance, and Charlotte led in average per date (8,974). Frisco was the leader once more in Double-A with a total of 463,564, and an average of 7,024.

Dayton was the Class A leader, drawing 548,574 (8,188 per date). Vancouver ended Brooklyn's, streak among shortseason teams. The Canadians drew 222,363, which was 6,177 per date. St. Paul topped all independent league teams in total attendance (413,482), and drew a new independent record-high average of 8,438.

**<u>2015</u>** – Sacramento of the Pacific Coast League led all of Minor League Baseball in attendance for the 10<sup>th</sup> time in their 16-year history. They drew a total of 672,354 (9,338 per date). Charlotte had the best average per date (9,428). Frisco again led Double-A in both total attendance (477,354), and average per date (6,918).

Dayton led full-season Class A, drawing 574,830 (8,212 per date). Brooklyn was the short-season leader for the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row, as they drew 230,658 (6,234 per date). The independent team attendance leader in both total and average per date was St. Paul, who drew 404,528. Their average per date of 8,091 was the best ever, until 2016, for an independent league team.

**2014** – The Charlotte Knights of the Triple-A International League moved into a new ballpark and led all of Minor League Baseball in total attendance, drawing 687,715 (9,686 per date). Monterrey of the Mexican League had the highest average per date, 11,856. Frisco of the Texas League had the best attendance among Double-A teams, drawing 449,773, and averaging 6,614 per date.

The full-season leader in Class A was Dayton, who drew 573,709, and averaged 8,437 per date. Brooklyn led all shortseason teams, drawing 231,628 (6,260 per date) in 2014. Among independent league teams, Sugar Land of the Atlantic League had the top total (383,465), and Winnipeg of the American Association led in average per date (5,618).

**2013** – Indianapolis had the highest total (637,579). Monterrey had the best average per date (11,145). Frisco, Dayton, and Brooklyn led their respective classes. Sugar Land had the best total attendance among the independent league teams (382,059), while Winnipeg posted the best average per date (5,880).

#### NCAA DIVISION I COLLEGE BASEBALL

**2024** preliminary data noted that the top 10 teams in total attendance drew 2,821,709, an average of 7,816 per date or game. The top 50 teams drew a combined 6,696,769, an average of 4,088. Arkansas had the highest total (394,146), and averaged 10,106 per game or date, followed by LSU (390,033 – average 10,834), Mississippi State (370,711 – and an average best 10,903, including a 2024 NCAA on-campus top crowd of 14,273), Ole Miss (298,461 – average 9,628), and Texas 269,143 – average 7,476). South Carolina, Florida, Southern Mississippi, Tennessee, Nebraska, and Texas A&M, all averaged above 5,000 a game. 19 teams topped 4,000 a game.

Preliminary data showed that the top 10 teams in total attendance in **2023** drew a combined 2,774,001, averaging 7,642 per date or game. The top 50 teams drew a combined 6,463,763, an average of 3,864. (The 2024 NCAA Baseball Record Book did not list 2023 attendance.) College World Series champion LSU led in total attendance for the 25<sup>th</sup> time in the last 28 seasons, drawing 447,527, and a record-high average of 11,188 per game. This was followed by Arkansas (370,940, average-9,762), Mississippi State (332,838, average-11,095, including an NCAA on-campus, season high crowd of 16,423), Ole Miss (323,047, average- 10,095), Florida (259,236, average-6,029), and South Carolina (256,075, average-7,113). 16 teams averaged at least 4,000 per date or game.

In **2022**, the top 10 teams in total attendance drew a combined 2,555,792, averaging 7,517 per date. Arkansas led with a total of 363,153, and a 10,376 average per date. LSU was just a bit behind, with a total of 362,759, and a 10,365 average per date. Following these 2 schools were Mississippi State (318,971 total, 10,289 average), Ole Miss (309,949 total, 9,998 average), and Texas (235,220 total, 6,918 average). The top 50 teams in total attendance drew a combined total of 5,888,677, averaging 3,741 per date. The **2022** total for these 50 teams was 540,096 (10.1%) higher than what the 50 teams with the highest **2019** total attendance drew that year. Those top 50 teams in the 2022 group drew 277 (8.0%) more per date than the teams in the 2019 top 50 group.

Just like Major League and Minor League Baseball, NCAA College Baseball was adversely affected by Covid in **2021**, with reduced capacity, and lower attendance for most teams. Ole Miss led in attendance in 2021, drawing 303,859, and averaged 7,596 per date. They were followed by Arkansas (264,643, 6,964 per date), Mississippi State (235,207, 6,031 per date), LSU (144,982, 3,815 per date), and Texas Tech (119,916, 3,527 per date).

The top 10 teams in **2021** attendance drew a combined 1,504,011, averaging 4,087 per date. The 20 teams with the highest attendance, drew 2,021,596, and averaged 2,947 per date.

When the **2020** season was halted in the middle of March, LSU had the top average per date (10,296), followed by Arkansas (8,953), Mississippi State (8,732), and Ole Miss (8,652).

The top 50 teams in **2019** attendance drew 5,348,581 in 1,544 dates, averaging 3,464 per date. LSU drew 425,377 (10,634 per date) to lead the NCAA. Through 2019, LSU led the NCAA in total baseball attendance for 24 straight years (since 1996), and in average per date each year since 1996, except for 2007, when Arkansas was the leader. LSU averaged better than 10,000 per date each season from 2010 through 2019, and again in 2022.

Most of the usual attendance leaders finished in the Top 10 in **2019** total attendance: LSU, Mississippi State, South Carolina, Ole Miss, Arkansas, Texas A&M, Texas, and Clemson. They were joined by Louisiana and Texas Tech in 2019. All these teams except Texas Tech also finished in the Top 10 in average per date. Nebraska was in the Top 10 in average per date, but not in the Top 10 in total attendance.

The SEC continues to be the baseball attendance leader among college conferences. In **2019**, the SEC drew 2,554,427 (5,213 per date) topping 2 million in attendance for the 9<sup>th</sup> straight year. This figure probably includes post-season games. The SEC led the NCAA in total attendance and average per date for the last 19 seasons, and 24 times in the last 30 years through 2019. Attendance by SEC teams has surpassed one million for 16 years in a row. The record-high regular season total attendance for SEC teams is 2,319,937 in 2014.

In **2018**, the top 50 teams drew 5,333,906 in 1,560 dates, an average of 3,419 per date. LSU led in total attendance (399,085), and average per date (10,786). The top 50 teams in total attendance in **2017** drew 5,534,376 in 1,599 dates, an average of 3,461 per date. LSU was the leader in both categories in 2017, drawing 418,291, an average of 10,725 per date.

#### NCAA DIVISION I COLLEGE BASEBALL

In **2016**, the Top 50 teams in total attendance drew 5,511,902 in 1,611 dates, an average of 3,421 per date. LSU had the highest total attendance (433,783) and average per date (10,580). For the **2015** season, the NCAA listed attendance for 301 teams. Total attendance was 7,495,301. The top 50 teams in attendance drew a combined 5,022,496. Louisiana State University led in total attendance (421,771), and average per date (10,815).

For **2014**, the NCAA listed the top 50 teams in attendance, but did not provide a total for all teams. These top 50 teams drew a total of 5,206,928, an average of 3,285 per date. LSU averaged 10,812 per date. In **2013**, LSU drew 413,638 for the regular season, averaging an NCAA record-high 10,885 per date. That broke the NCAA regular season average per date of 10,673, set by LSU in 2010. If post-season play is included, LSU's total attendance was a record-high 473,298, and a then-record-high average per date of 11,007.

#### College Baseball World Series

The College World Series is played every year in Omaha. Through 2010, it was played at Rosenblatt Stadium, which was also home to the Omaha team in the Pacific Coast League. Separate new ballparks opened in 2011. The larger park is in Omaha, and is used for the College World Series. The smaller park is located in the suburbs, and is the home of the Omaha Storm Chasers. In 2015, total attendance for the 16 different World Series game sessions was a then-record-high 353,378, averaging 22,086 per session, some of which can be doubleheaders. **Record-high for one session is 30,533 in 2008.** Average per session has topped 20,000 every year since 1996.

The 2016 College Baseball World Series drew 341,667 with 17 sessions, an average of 20,098 per session. Coastal Carolina was the winner. Oregon State won the 2018 CWS, which drew 333,482 in 16 sessions, averaging 20,843 per session. Vanderbilt was the College World Series champion in 2019. Attendance was 332,454 in 15 sessions, an average of 22,164 per session. The CWS was cancelled in 2020. In 2021, the CWS drew 361,711 in 16 sessions, averaging 22,607 per session, with Mississippi State as the champion. In 2022, Ole Miss won, as the CWS drew then-record-highs in total attendance (366,105), and average per session (24,407).

The College Baseball World Series attendance records were broken again in 2023 as total attendance (392,946 for 16 games), and average per game (24,559) reached new highs. LSU won the championship.

In 2024, the 15 games in the College World Series, won by Tennessee, drew 371,818, averaging a new record-high of 24,788 per game. The biggest crowd was 26,498.

#### SUMMER COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUES

In addition to NCAA play in the spring, there are numerous summer college baseball leagues. These leagues are not affiliated with any school or athletic conference. Their players are amateurs, but these leagues operate in a similar way to the pro minor leagues. They use wood bats, and some leagues charge admission to games, and keep attendance figures. Many of the cities with teams in these leagues once hosted professional Minor League teams.

In 2021, Major League Baseball set up a 6-team MLB Draft League for draft-eligible players, including graduating high school seniors. All teams in the league were MLB-affiliated Minor League teams in 2019. The entire Appalachian League, which was an MLB-affiliated short-season Rookie league, became a Summer Collegiate league, with all 10 teams in the same locations (with new team names) as in 2019.

In **2024**, 189 teams from 20 leagues reported attendance. These teams drew 5,650,112, an average of 1,210 per date. The Northwoods League again had the top total (1,339,157). The MLB Draft League had the highest average per date (2,660). Madison had the top total (217,070), and average (6,202). Trenton of the MLB Draft League averaged 5,320 per date. Other teams topping 3,000 per date were Okotoks of the Western Canadian League (4,774), Edmonton (4,675), and Portland, OR (3,613), both of the West Coast Collegiate League, Thrillville (Marion, IL) of the Prospects League (3,637), Johnson City of the Appalachian League (3,546), Elmira of the Perfect Game League (3,212), and Martha's Vineyard of the New England Collegiate League (3,056).

195 Collegiate Summer League teams listed attendance in **2023**, and they drew a total of 5,592,207, averaging 1,203 per date. As usual, the Northwoods League had the top total attendance (1,297,864). The MLB Draft League had the highest average per date (2,669). Madison, WI led all teams in total attendance (228,692), and average per date (6,353). Trenton of the MLB Draft League finished second in total attendance (196,669) and average per date (5,463). Savannah continued to be very successful as an exhibition team, but no longer plays in any Collegiate Summer League.

The 178 Collegiate Summer League teams with **2022** reported attendance drew 5,402,435, an average of 1,178 per date. The Northwoods League had the highest announced league total (1,160,821). The 6-team MLB-Draft League, made up of former MLB-affiliated pro Minor League teams, had the highest average per date (2,839).

Madison, WI of the Northwoods League, had the **2022** top team total (199,785), and the best average per date (5,550), among all Summer Collegiate teams. Trenton of the MLB-Draft League drew 195,610, averaging 5,016 per date. Savannah, which has a very unique and entertaining way of presenting its games, sold out every game as usual, averaging 4,256 per date.

The 173 Collegiate Summer League teams with **2021** reported attendance drew 3,981,808, an average of 959 per date. The Northwoods League had the highest announced league total (981,040). The 6-team MLB-Draft League likely had the highest average per date. But attendance from the West Virginia Black Bears and the Trenton Thunder (who only played one series in their home park, because the Buffalo Bisons were using it), was not available.

MLB-Draft League Frederick, which was in the Class A Carolina League in 2019, had the top **2021** total (125,378), and the best average per date (4,179). Savannah sold out every game, averaging 3,757 per date.

Teams that sold tickets in 2020 drew 383,912 in 817 dates, averaging 470 per date.

164 teams in 19 leagues reported attendance in **2019.** They drew 3,998,646 in 3,985 dates, averaging 1,003 per date. The Northwoods League, with 22 teams, drew a summer collegiate league record-high 1,262,625 in 769 dates, an average of 1,642 per date. The Cape Cod, Coastal Plain, Futures, and West Coast Leagues also topped 1,000 per date. Madison, WI of the Northwoods League led all teams (218,866 – 6,080 per date). Savannah averaged 4,205 per date, selling out every game again. Okotoks averaged 3,937. Overall, 15 teams reached 2,000 per date. Two teams moved from the pro independent Frontier League to collegiate leagues, and played shorter seasons. Traverse City averaged 1,674 per date in the Northwoods League in 2019, compared to 2,261 in the Frontier League in 2018. Normal averaged 705 per date in the collegiate Prospect League in 2019, compared to 1,857 per date in the 2018 Frontier League.

In **2018**, 174 teams in 20 leagues reported attendance. These teams drew 4,162,081 in 4,138 dates, averaging 1,006 per date. The 20-team Northwoods League just missed another record-high, drawing 1,162,164 in 707 dates, an average of 1,644 per date. Also topping 1,000 per date were the Cape Cod, Futures, Coastal Plain, Prospect, and West Coast Leagues. Madison, WI of the Northwoods League had the top attendance (218,712 – 6,249 per date). Savannah sold out all 25 dates, and averaged 4,229 per date. Ballpark Digest noted that Okotoks averaged 3,676 per date, Kenosha, La Crosse, and Worcester topped 2,500 per date, and 10 other teams drew at least 2,000 per date.

#### COLLEGIATE SUMMER BASEBALL LEAGUES

19 leagues and 172 teams reported attendance in **2017**. The total for these teams was 4,108,188 in 4,099 dates, an average of 1,002 per date. The 20 teams in the Northwoods League drew a record-high 1,164,745 in 703 dates, averaging 1,657 per date. The Cape Cod, Futures, Coastal Plain, Great West, Prospect, and West Coast Leagues also averaged at least 1,000 per date. Madison outdrew all teams with a total of 214,485, averaging 6,308 per date. The Savannah Bananas sold out all 26 dates, and averaged 4,173. Data compiled by Ballpark Digest showed that Okotoks and Elmira topped 3,000 per date, and LaCrosse, Kenosha, Worcester, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Valley, and Newport averaged at least 2,000 per date.

Attendance was reported by 20 leagues and 169 teams in **2016**. The total was 4,087,385 in 4,181 dates, an average of 978 per date. The 18-team Northwoods League drew 1,084,297, an average of 1,713 per date. Madison had the best attendance, drawing 205,324, an average of 6,039 per date. According to data compiled by Ballpark Digest, Savannah GA, Elmira NY, and Okotoks Alberta also averaged better than 3,000 per date. Teams in Kenosha, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, Victoria BC, Worcester, Holyoke, and Newport RI averaged at least 2,000 per date.

21 of these leagues reported attendance in **2015**. The highest attendance was by the 18-team Northwoods League. That league drew 1,088,747, an average of 1,776 per date in 2015. Madison, WI from that league had the best 2015 attendance, drawing 216,159 in 34 dates, an average of 6,358 per date. Altogether, 154 teams in the 21 leagues that compiled attendance data in 2015, drew a total of 3,759,090, an average of 958 per date.

In **2014**, the 159 teams in the 21 leagues that reported attendance drew 3,819,955, an average of 1,000 per date. Madison was the leader, drawing 214,849 in 35 dates, an average of 6,139 per date. The Northwoods League became the first summer league to top one million, drawing 1,096,433, an average of 1,766 per date.

There were 171 teams from 20 leagues that recorded attendance in **2013**. These teams drew a total of 3,427,260, an average of 854 per date. Madison led all teams, drawing 213,833 in 35 dates (6,110 per date).

**2012** attendance was available for 153 teams in 15 summer leagues. They drew 3,364,786, averaging 962 per date, led by Madison, who attracted 217,143 in 35 dates, which was 6,204 per date. Madison averaged 6,278 per date in 2011, and 5,884 in 2010.

Madison had professional Minor League teams in the past. From 1982 through 1994, there was a Madison ballclub in the Midwest League. Their highest attendance was 131,646 in 1983. This team played more dates than the college summer league teams play. From 1996 through 2000, Madison played in the independent Northern League. Their highest attendance in that league was 83,573 in 1996.

Sources: Ballpark Digest and league Websites

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

NFL attendance data in the table on the next page is from the annual NFL Official Record and Fact Book. Individual NFL team media guides often have different attendance figures than what's in the NFL Fact Book. For example, 2022 NFL attendance, as listed in team's 2023 Media Guides was 18,744,096, an average of 69,166 per game.

Preliminary unofficial **2024** NFL attendance was a record-high 18,906,353, as reported by Pro Football Reference. Average per game was a record-high 69,509. Dallas led with an average of 92,972 per game.

The 2024 NFL Record and Fact Book listed 2023 total attendance as a record-high 18,206,594. Average per game was 66,936, the highest since 2007.

The Official NFL 2022 attendance figure was 18,096,245. Average per game was 66,776. This excludes the Buffalo at Cincinnati game that was cancelled in the first half.

**2021** NFL regular season attendance, as reported in the 2022 NFL Fact Book, was a record-high 17,511,681. This is due to 16 more games played as a result of teams playing a 17-game schedule. Average per game was 64,381. AFC teams had an extra home game in 2021, and again in 2023. NFC teams had an extra home game in 2022, and will have it in 2024. Figures reported in 2022 team Media Guides had a total of 18,294,263, with a 67,258 average per game.

18 teams sold a limited number of tickets to at least some games in **2020**. 108 of 256 games had paid attendance. Some teams did not sell tickets, but gave them free to essential workers. Average per game only includes games with fans in attendance. 2021 NFL team media guides had 2020 attendance as 1,211,119 (11,214/game).

**2019** NFL attendance data, as reported by in the 2020 NFL Fact Book, showed a total of 16,382,231, an average of 63,993 per game. This was the lowest total since 2001, when there were 31 teams. The average per game was the lowest since 1997. It should be noted that the Raiders averaged 51,781 per game, which includes one game in London. They moved to Las Vegas in 2020. The Chargers averaged 31,169, which includes one game in Mexico City. They open a new 70,000 seat stadium in 2020, that is also home to the Rams. Both the Raiders and Chargers were expected to draw much better in 2020 than in 2019 if all seats were available for sale.

**2014** attendance as listed in the NFL Official Record and Fact Book, and in the table below, excludes a Buffalo home game that was moved to Detroit due to a huge snowstorm. So the number of games included in the 2014 total attendance was 255 instead of 256. The 2015 Buffalo Bills Media Guide lists attendance for that game as 56,044.

**2010** attendance in the NFL table excludes one game that had been scheduled in Minnesota. A big snowstorm caused damage to the roof of The Metrodome, and that game was moved to Detroit. Tickets were distributed for free to that game, so it had no official attendance. The 2003 total attendance excludes one game moved from San Diego to Arizona due to wildfires in Southern California. No admission was charged to that game.

Total attendance for the 58 Super Bowls (1967-2024) is 4,371,570, an average of 75,372. The 2015 game in Glendale, AZ drew 70,288. The 2016 game in Santa Clara, CA drew 71,088. The 2017 game in Houston drew 70,807. The 2018 game in Minneapolis drew 67,612. The 2019 game in Atlanta drew 70,081. The 2020 game in Miami Gardens drew 62,417. In 2021, the game was in Tampa, with a limited attendance of 24,835. The 2022 game in Inglewood, CA drew 70,048. The 2023 game was in Glendale, AZ, and drew 67,827. Attendance for the 2024 game in Las Vegas was 61,629. Future Super Bowls: 2025 – Caesars Superdome in New Orleans; 2026 – Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, CA; 2027 – SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, CA.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE - As listed in the National Football League Fact Book

The addition of a 17<sup>th</sup> game in 2021, results in AFC teams playing 9 home regular season games in odd years, and NFC teams playing 9 home games in even years. Another factor in the 2021 gain was that the Chargers moved into a larger stadium, and the Raiders moved from Oakland to Las Vegas. Changes shown on the 2021 line are vs. 2019.

Team media guides usually show higher attendance than the NFL Fact Book. Total 2023 attendance, as listed in 2024 NFL team media guides, was 18,902,791, an average of 69,496 per game.

The 2024 figures are from Pro Football Reference and are not official. The official NFL figure will be released later, and will be updated in this table.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	32	18,906,353			69,509		
2023	32	18,206,594	110,349	0.6	66,936	160	0.2
2022	32	18,096,245	584,564	3.3	66,776	2,295	3.7
2021	32	17,511,681	1,129,450	6.9	64,381	388	0.6
2020	32	1,004,097			9,297		
2019	32	16,382,231	(45,964)	(0.3)	63,993	(180)	(0.3)
2018	32	16,428,195	4,342	0.0	64,173	17	0.0
2017	32	16,423,853	(657,819)	(3.9)	64,156	(2,569)	(3.9)
2016	32	17,081,672	307,512	1.8	66,725	1,201	1.8
2015	32	16,774,160	(154,243)	(0.1)	65,524	(862)	(1.3)
2014	32	16,928,403	90,727	0.5	66,386	614	0.9
2013	32	16,837,676	178,726	1.1	65,772	698	1.1
2012	32	16,658,950	96,244	0.6	65,074	376	0.6
2011	32	16,562,706	(6,808)	(0.0)	64,698	(280)	(0.4)
2010	32	16,569,514	(81,612)	(0.5)	64,978	(65)	(0.1)
2009	32	16,651,126	(404,856)	(2.4)	65,043	(1,582)	(2.4)
2008	32	17,055,982	(289,223)	(1.7)	66,625	(1,130)	(1.7)
2007	32	17,345,205	4,326	0.0	67,755	17	0.0
2006	32	17,340,879	328,426	1.9	67,738	1,283	1.9
2005	32	17,012,453	11,642	0.1	66,455	46	0.1
2004	32	17,000,811	87,227	0.5	66,409	81	0.1
2003	32	16,913,584	80,274	0.5	66,328	573	0.9
2002	32	16,833,310	667,052	4.1	65,755	568	0.9
2001	31	16,166,258	(221,031)	(1.3)	65,187	(891)	(1.3)
2000	31	16,387,289	180,649	1.1	66,078	729	1.1
1999	31	16,206,640	841,767	5.5	65,349	1,329	2.1
1998	30	15,364,873	397,559	2.7	64,020	1,656	2.7
1997	30	14,967,314	354,897	2.4	62,364	1,479	2.4
1996	30	14,612,417	(431,145)	(2.9)	60,885	(1,797)	(2.9)
1995	30	15,043,562	1,013,127	7.2	62,682	46	0.1
1994	28	14,030,435	63,592	0.5	62,636	284	0.5
1993	28	13,966,843	137,956	1.0	62,352	616	1.0
1992	28	13,828,887	(12,572)	(0.1)	61,736	(56)	(0.1)
1991	28	13,841,459	(118,437)	(0.8)	61,792	(529)	(0.8)
1990	28	13,959,896	334,234	2.5	62,321	1,492	2.5

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1990

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

National Football League

<u>2023</u> – The 2024 Cowboys Media Guide, Sports Business Journal and other sources list Dallas with the highest average per game (93,594 – a league record). The 2024 NFL Fact Book figure lists their average per game as 86,587. AFC teams had 9 home games each in 2023, and NFC teams had 8.

<u>2022</u> – The 2023 NFL Fact Book credits Dallas with the top 2022 attendance (total of 779,247, averaging 86,583 per game). Other sources, including the 2023 Cowboys Media Guide, showed Dallas with a league record-high total of 841,192, and a then record-high 93,466 average per game. NFC teams had 9 home games each, and AFC teams had 8 home games. Cincinnati had 7 games..

**<u>2021</u>** – The 2022 NFL Fact Book listed Dallas as the top draw (691,390, averaging 86,424 per game). The Cowboys' 2022 Media Guide listed their 2021 attendance as 747,368, an average of 93,421 per game.

**2020** – 18 teams sold a limited number of tickets in 2020. 6 teams (Dallas, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Miami, Indianapolis, and Cleveland) sold tickets to every home game. Dallas, who has the largest capacity NFL stadium, sold the most tickets (219,021, an average of 27,378 per game). Jacksonville was next with 127,355 (15,919 per game).

**2019** – Dallas led again, drawing 727,432, and averaged 90,929 per game, as listed in their 2020 Media Guide. The 2020 NFL Fact Book listed Dallas' 2019 attendance as 667,377, an average of 84,672.

**<u>2018</u>** – Dallas was the leader in figures from the 2019 NFL Fact Book (673,134 – 84,142 per game), and from the 2019 Cowboys Media Guide (732,968 – 91,621 per game).

**2017** – Dallas led in the 2018 NFL Fact Book (686,833 – 85,854 per game), and in the 2018 Cowboys Media Guide (741,775 – 92,722 per game). The Media Guide total and average would be an NFL record-high.

**<u>2016</u>** – Dallas was the leader in the 2017 NFL Fact Book (678,465 – 84,808 per game), and in the 2017 Cowboys Media Guide (740,318 – 92,540 per game).

**<u>2015</u>** – The 2016 NFL Fact Book showed Dallas leading with 668,909 (83,614) per game. The 2016 Cowboys Media Guide listed their 2015 attendance as 731,672 (91,459 per game).

**2014** – According to the 2015 Dallas Cowboys Media Guide, they drew 720,558 (90,070 per game) to lead the NFL. The NFL Fact Book has their attendance as 665,923 (83,240 per game). Other teams topping 75,000 per game based on media guide figures were Denver, the Jets, the Giants, Green Bay, and Washington.

**2013** – The 2014 NFL Fact Book shows Dallas as the 2013 attendance leader, drawing 648,683 (81,085 per game). The 2014 Dallas Cowboys Media Guides lists their 2013 attendance as 704,345 (88,043 per game). Variations in attendance from figures listed in the NFL Fact Book, and figures listed in team media guides are quite common.

## CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The CFL did not play in 2020, and had a 14-game schedule in 2021. (2022 attendance comparison is with 2019.)

Record-high total attendance for the CFL was 2,569,481 in 1995. That year, the league had 13 teams, including 5 in the United States. There were 4 U.S. teams in 1994. Top average per game was 31,843 in 1978.

The current version of the CFL began play in 1958, and through 2024, there have been 66 Grey Cup Championship games. Total Grey Cup attendance is 3,041,064, an average of 46,077 per game. The 2014 game in Vancouver drew 52,056. The 2015 game in Winnipeg drew 36,634. The 2016 game in Toronto drew 33,421. The 2017 game was in Ottawa and drew 36,154. The 2018 game in Edmonton drew 55,819. The 2019 game in Calgary drew 35,439. The 2021 game in Hamilton drew 26,324. The 2022 game in Regina drew 33,350. The 2023 game in Hamilton drew 28,808. The 2024 game in Vancouver drew 52,439.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	9	1,843,897	29,871	1.6	22,764	369	1.6
2023	9	1,814,026	47,757	2.7	22,395	589	2.7
2022	9	1,766,269	(90,884)	(4.9)	21,806	(1,122)	(4.9)
2021	9	1,207,321			19,164		
2019	9	1,857,153	(77,921)	(4.0)	22,928	(962)	(4.0)
2018	9	1,935,074	(61,407)	(3.1)	23,890	(758)	(3.1)
2017	9	1,996,481	(3,531)	(0.2)	24,648	(44)	(0.2)
2016	9	2,000,012	(3,166)	(0.2)	24,692	(39)	(0.2)
2015	9	2,003,178	(44,980)	(2.2)	24,731	(555)	(2.2)
2014	9	2,048,158	103,737	5.3	25,286	(1,720)	(6.4)
2013	8	1,944,421	(85,303)	(4.2)	27,006	(1,185)	(4.2)
2012	8	2,029,724	29,189	1.5	28,191	406	1.5
2011	8	2,000,535	46,012	2.4	27,785	639	2.4
2010	8	1,954,523	(94,869)	(4.6)	27,146	(1,318)	(4.6)
					· ·		
2009	8	2,049,392	(32,409)	(1.6)	28,464	(450)	(1.6)
2008	8	2,081,801	(18,215)	(0.9)	28,914	(253)	(0.9)
2007	8	2,100,016	16,122	0.8	29,167	224	0.8
2006	8	2,083,894	(219,471)	(9.5)	28,943	506	1.8
2005	9	2,303,365	90,750	4.1	28,437	1,121	4.1
2004	9	2,212,615	168,245	8.2	27,316	2,077	8.2
2003	9	2,044,370	35,820	1.8	25,239	442	1.8
2002	9	2,008,550	271,036	15.6	24,797	665	2.8
2001	8	1,737,514	(59,517)	(3.3)	24,132	(827)	(3.3)
2000	8	1,797,031	81,155	4.7	24,959	1,127	4.7
1999	8	1,715,876	89,071	5.5	23,832	1,237	5.5
1998	8	1,626,805	87,303	5.7	22,595	1,213	5.7
1997	8	1,539,502	(261,480)	(14.5)	21,382	(852)	(3.8)
1996	9	1,800,982	(768,499)	(29.9)	22,234	273	1.2
1995	13	2,569,481	223,476	9.5	21,961	239	1.1
			, 		, í		
1994	12	2,346,005	384,273	19.6	21,722	(2,497)	(10.3)
1993	9	1,961,732	134,634	7.4	24,219	(1,157)	(4.6)
1992	8	1,827,098	(174,580)	(8.7)	25,376	(2,425)	(8.7)
1991	8	2,001,678	63,794	3.3	27,801	886	3.3
1990	8	1,937,884	103,861	5.7	26,915	1,442	5.7

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

## Canadian Football League

- 2024 Winnipeg had the top attendance (280,497 31,166 per game), followed by Saskatchewan (249,334 27,704).
- 2023 Winnipeg drew 274,039, an average of 30,449 to lead the league, followed by Saskatchewan (248,837 27,649).

<u>2022</u> – Winnipeg had the top attendance (257,775, averaging 28,642 per game), followed closely by Saskatchewan (252,993, averaging 28,110 per game).

- 2021 In a shorter season, Saskatchewan had the top average per game (28,680), followed by Edmonton (26,210).
- 2020 The league did not play in 2020.
- 2019 Top draws were Saskatchewan (276,511, 30,723 average), and Edmonton (264,068, 29,341 average).
- 2018 Saskatchewan led (288,516, 32,057 average), followed by Edmonton (280,416, 31,157 average).
- 2017 Saskatchewan was the leader (295,160, average 32,796) followed by Edmonton (291,916, average 32,435).
- 2016 The leader was Saskatchewan, who drew 281,943, averaging 31,327 per game.
- <u>2015</u> Edmonton topped the league drawing 283,657, an average of 31,517 per game.
- 2014 Edmonton averaged 33,485 per game to lead the league in 2014.
- 2013 Saskatchewan led the CFL, averaging 37,503 per game. Sources: CFL and cfldb.ca.

#### NCAA COLLEGE FOOTBALL – FOOTBALL BOWL SUBDIVISION (Division I-A)

Combined attendance for all 4 NCAA Football Divisions was a record high 50,291,275 in 2013. This attendance includes all neutral site, playoff, and bowl games. The Division I-A record-high total attendance, including bowl games, is 38,135,118 in 2013. The record-high average per game, including bowl games, is 46,971 in 2008.

This first table only covers FBS (Division I-A) regular season games, including those played at neutral sites, and bowl games. Many teams added a 12<sup>th</sup> regular season game to their schedules in 2006, which is why total attendance increased so much that year. **The NCAA has not released a football attendance report since the 2019 season.** 

If bowls and neutral site games are excluded, FBS teams averaged 41,129 per home game in 2019. Since the record-high for average per game was set in 2008, 12 schools have joined the FBS, and Idaho has left. These 12 schools have pulled the average attendance per game down. The 118 schools that were in the FBS in both 2019 and 2008 averaged 43,500 per home game in 2019, down 3,207 from the 46,707 per home game they averaged in 2008. Average 2019 stadium capacity for these 118 teams was 53,099. The 12 schools that have joined the FBS since 2008 averaged 16,506 per home game in 2019. Average 2019 stadium capacity for these 12 teams was 25,163. 2019 average stadium capacity for all 130 FBS teams was 50,521. 46 teams were up vs. 2008, and 72 were down.

NCAA COLLEGE FOOTBALL - FBS (Division I-A) ATTENDANCE SINCE 1990 - INCLUDES NEUTRAL SITES, BOWLS

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	135	N.A.			N.A.		
2023	133	N.A.			N.A.		
2022	131	N.A.			N.A.		
2021	130	N.A.			39,848		
2020	98 w.att.	3,219,702			7,235		
2019	130	36,831,692	124,181	0.3	41,477	(379)	(0.9)
2018	129	36,707,511	74,886	0.2	41,856	(347)	(0.8)
2017	129	36,632,625	(1,441,042)	(3.8)	42,203	(1,409)	(3.2)
2016	128	38,073,667	115,746	0.3	43,612	(321)	(0.7)
2015	127	37,957,921	44,683	0.1	43,933	(670)	(1.5)
2014	125	37,913,238	(221,880)	(0.6)	44,603	(1,068)	(2.3)
2013	123	38,135,118	964,883	2.6	45,671	231	0.5
2012	120	37,170,235	(241,560)	(0.6)	45,440	(634)	(1.4)
2011	120	37,411,795	(266,927)	(0.7)	46,074	(558)	(1.2)
2010	120	37,678,722	237,662	0.6	46,632	351	0.8
2009	120	37,441,060	(42,098)	(0.1)	46,281	(690)	(1.5)
2008	119	37,483,158	336,497	0.9	46,971	9	0.0
2007	119	37,146,661	332,193	0.9	46,962	713	1.5
2006	119	36,814,468	4,172,942	12.8	46,249	210	0.5
2005	117	32,641,526	146,125	0.4	46,039	335	0.7
2004	118	32,495,401	(2,590,245)	(7.4)	45,704	257	0.6
2003	117	35,085,646	701,382	2.0	45,447	1,080	2.4
2002	117	34,384,264	4,085,690	13.5	44,367	328	0.7
2001	115	30,298,574	1,459,290	5.1	44,039	409	0.9
2000	114	28,839,284	(193,689)	(0.7)	43,630	37	0.1
1999	114	29,032,973	1,358,756	4.9	43,593	1,083	2.5
1998	112	27,674,217	108,258	0.4	42,510	425	1.0
1997	112	27,565,959	945,017	3.5	42,085	748	1.8
1996	111	26,620,942	784,473	3.0	41,337	(134)	(0.3)
1995	108	25,836,469	246,279	1.0	41,471	(207)	(0.5)
1994	107	25,590,190	284,752	1.1	41,678	397	1.0
1993	106	25,305,438	(96,608)	(0.4)	41,281	111	0.3
1992	107	25,402,046	(244,021)	(1.0)	41,170	(873)	(2.1)
1991	106	25,646,067	132,969	0.5	42,043	558	1.3
1990	106	25,513,098	205,183	0.8	41,485	(485)	(1.2)

## NCAA COLLEGE FOOTBALL – ALL DIVISIONS COMBINED

The table below covers all NCAA Football Divisions (D-I-A Football Bowl Subdivision, D-I-AA Football Championship Subdivision, Division II, and Division III) and <u>includes</u> all regular season, post-season, and bowl games.

The 2018 total was the lowest since 2005. The 2019 average per game was the lowest since 2000.

The NCAA did not issue their usual attendance report, covering all divisions, for the 2020 through 2023 seasons. If the NCAA releases this attendance data, the table below, and the one on the previous page, will be updated.

NCAA COLLEGE FOOTBALL – ALL	. DIVISIONS, ALL	GAMES, SINCE 1990

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	666	N.A.			N.A.		
2023	665	N.A.			N.A.		
2022	668	N.A,			N.A.		
2021	664	N.A.			N.A.		
2019	669	47,537,702	552,982	1.2	12,586	(82)	(0.4)
2018	669	46,984,720	(637,476)	(1.3)	12,668	(220)	(1.7)
2017	666	47,622,196	(1,693,661)	(3.4)	12,888	(380)	(2.9)
2016	668	49,315,857	257,891	0.5	13,268	27	0.2
2015	666	49,057,966	(546,416)	(1.1)	13,241	(44)	(0.3)
		,	(0.10, 1.10)	()		( 1 1 /	(010)
2014	655	49,604,382	(686,893)	(1.4)	13,285	(304)	(2.2)
2013	657	50,291,275	1,332,728	2.7	13,589	(129)	(0.9)
2012	644	48,958,547	(740,872)	(1.5)	13,718	(329)	(2.3)
2011	638	49,699,419	28,524	0.1	14,047	43	0.3
2010	639	49,670,895	1,386,222	2.9	14,004	165	1.2
			.,,		,		
2009	630	48,284,673	(554,330)	(1.1)	13,839	(143)	(1.0)
2008	628	48,839,003	87,142	0.2	13,982	(306)	(2.1)
2007	619	48,751,861	842,548	1.8	14,288	164	1.2
2006	615	47,909,313	4,422,739	10.2	14,124	962	7.3
2005	615	43,486,574	381,026	0.9	13,162	(36)	(0.3)
2000	010	10,100,071	001,020	0.0	10,102	(00)	(0.0)
2004	612	43,105,548	(3,038,991)	(6.6)	13,198	(370)	(2.7)
2003	617	46,144,539	1,588,324	3.6	13,568	444	3.4
2002	617	44,556,215	4,075,392	10.1	13,124	446	3.5
2002	608	40,480,823	1,421,598	3.6	12,678	167	1.3
2000	606	39,059,225	(423,432)	(1.1)	12,511	(75)	(0.6)
2000	000	00,000,220	(+20,+02)	(1.1)	12,011	(10)	(0.0)
1999	601	39,482,657	1,991,579	5.3	12,586	270	2.2
1998	595	37,491,078	633,229	1.7	12,316	22	0.2
1997	581	36,857,849	774,796	2.1	12,294	(42)	(0.3)
1996	566	36,083,053	445,269	1.2	12,336	144	1.2
1995	565	35,637,784	(822,112)	(2.3)	12,000	(350)	(2.8)
1000	505	00,007,704	(022,112)	(2.3)	12,132	(000)	(2.0)
1994	568	36,459,896	1,589,262	4.6	12,542	468	3.9
1994	560	34,870,634	(354,797)	(1.0)	12,074	(400)	(3.2)
1993	552	35,225,431	(302,789)	(0.9)	12,474	(324)	(2.5)
1992	548	35,528,220	198,274	0.6	12,798	(268)	(2.3)
1991	533	35,329,946	213,758	0.6	13,066	(286)	(2.1)
1990	555	55,529,940	213,730	0.0	13,000	(200)	(∠.1)

#### INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - NCAA College Football - Most Recent Seasons

<u>2024</u> – **Division I-A FBS** - Ohio State led in total attendance (936,550) because they had a home playoff game. They had a 104,061 average per game. Michigan drew 884,382, with an NCAA-best 110,548 average per game. Michigan has been the leader in average per game every year since 1974, except for 1997, when Tennessee had the best average, and 2014, when Ohio State led.

Up next in total attendance were Penn State- 864,665 (108,083 per game), Texas – 817,852 (102,232), Texas A&M – 719,927 (102,847), Tennessee – 713,405 (101,915), LSU – 708,645 (101,235), and Alabama – 700,539 (100,077). Georgia and Florida average over 90,000 per game. Auburn, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Clemson topped 80,000 per game. South Carolina, Notre Dame, Wisconsin, and Southern California surpassed 70,000 per game. 42 FBS teams averaged at least 50,000 per game.

Home Games with Attendance over 100,000 through 2024 – 56 games drew over 100,000 in 2024. Teams that have drawn 100,000 to a game include: Michigan (341 home games since 1956, including 323 straight starting in 1975 through 2024); Ohio State (153 starting in 2002); Tennessee (132 starting in 1996); Penn State (132 starting in 2002); Alabama (88 starting in 2010); LSU (48 starting in 2014); Texas A&M (43 starting in 2014); Texas (46 starting in 2009); University of Southern California (6 – last in 1954). In addition, 38 Rose Bowl games drew over 100,000 between 1950 and 1998.

**In Division 1-AA FCS**, Jackson State had the highest average per game (26,638), with a total of 159,828. Montana drew an FCS leading total of 193,391, averaging 24,174 per game. Montana State had a 187,093 total, and a 20,788 average per game. 21 FCS teams averaged at least 10,000 per game. The 5 largest FCS crowds were at neutral sites, all involving Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). The 2 largest crowds, by far, were 69,125 for the Alabama State-Alabama A&M game in Birmingham, and 63,207 for the Grambling-Southern Bayou Classic in New Orleans. Largest home crowd was 34,932 at Jackson State. There were 21 crowds of at least 25,000.

**In Division II –** Grand Valley State led once again in total attendance (80,523 – 10,065 per game). Tuskegee had the top average per game (18,363), with a 55,148 total. Pittsburg State had a 51,010 total, and an 8,502 average. Fort Valley State averaged 10,195, with a 40,781 total. A Tuskegee home game drew 47,311, the best crowd in this division. Howard and Morehouse played in front of 31,124 at Met Life Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ. 18 crowds topped 10,000.

**Division III** – It was a close race for the total attendance lead, but not close at all in average per game. Wisconsin-Whitewater had the best total (65,355) and average per game (13,071). St. John's of Minnesota drew 63,592, averaging 7,949 per game. Hampton-Sydney and Maryville (TN) also topped 5,000 per game. A Wisconsin-Whitewater crowd of 21,233 was the best in D-III. 8 games in this Division drew at least 10,000.

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - NCAA College Football - Most Recent Seasons

**2023** – Once again, Michigan was the leader in total attendance (769,797), and average per game (109,971). Up next in total attendance were Penn State - 758,864 (108,409 per game), Tennessee – 713,405 (101,915), LSU – 705,191 (100,742), and Alabama – 700,539 (100,077). Ohio State (103,792), and Texas (101,625), also averaged over 100,000 per game. Texas A&M and Georgia averaged over 90,000 per game, and Auburn, Nebraska, Clemson, Florida, and Oklahoma all topped 80,000 per game. 41 teams averaged at least 50,000 per game.

47 games drew over 100,000 in 2023.

**In Division 1-AA FCS**, Jackson State again led in average per game (30,060). Montana had the top total attendance (225,623), and averaged 25,069 per game. Montana State - 146,909 (20,987 per game), and South Dakota State - 141,898 (15,766) were next. The 4 largest FCS crowds were at neutral sites, all involving Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). Alabama State at Alabama A&M drew 69,210 in Birmingham, Southern and Grambling played in front of 64,699 in New Orleans, the Florida A&M-Bethune Cookman game in Orlando drew 56,227, and Prairie View vs. Grambling in Prairie View attracted 52,389. The other FCS game to top 50,000 was Harvard at Yale (52,389).

**In Division II**, Grand Valley State drew 100,882, with a 12,610 average per game. Tuskegee (10,858) was next in average. Central Missouri State and Pittsburg, KS also topped 8,000 per game. The largest DII crowd was 31,726 at Tuskegee. The **Division III** leader was Wisconsin-Whitewater with a 62,113 total and an 8,873 average per game. St. John's of Minnesota was next with a 40,881 total and an 8,176 average per game. No other DIII team averaged better than 4,400. Wisconsin-Whitewater had the top 3 crowds (20,113, 15,236, 11,889). St. John's had the only other 10,000+ crowd. Note that FCS, Division II, and Division III team figures can include home playoff games.

**2022** – Michigan led in total attendance (881,971), average per game (110,246), and had the highest single game attendance (111,083 vs. Michigan State). Next in total attendance were Ohio State (total -837,300, average – 104,663), Penn State (total - 751,650, average - 107,379), LSU (total – 704,172, average - 100,596), Tennessee (total – 703,727, average - 100,532), and Texas (701,697, average - 100,242). Alabama, Texas A&M, and Georgia all averaged over 90,000 per game, and Auburn, Florida, Nebraska, Clemson, and Oklahoma topped 80,000. 44 games drew at least 100,000.

Among conferences, the SEC led with an average of 76,828 per game, followed by the Big 10 (67,550), and the Big 12 (59,139). Since 1998, The SEC has had the highest average attendance of any conference every year

**In Division 1-AA FCS**, Jackson State, coached by former Major Leaguer Deion Sanders (who is now the Head Coach at Colorado), drew 221,951, averaging 44,390 per game. This average per game was higher than what 85 of the 131 Division 1-A (Football Bowl Subdivision) teams drew. Montana was next (total - 165,178, average – 23,597), followed by Montana State (total - 158,416, average – 19,802). The largest crowd was 67,532 for Alabama State at Alabama A&M in Birmingham (67,532). Jackson State drew 53,885 vs. Southern. **In Division II**, Grand Valley State led (total – 81,767, average - 11,681). Tuskegee also topped 10,000 per game, and had the top crowd (35,275). **In Division III**, St. John's of Minnesota had the top total (57,715), and Wisconsin-Whitewater had the best average (10,934). Top crowd of 2022, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest Division III crowd of all time, was 40,232 for SUNY-Cortland vs. Ithaca at Yankee Stadium. (These two schools drew 45,161 to their game at Met Life Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ in 2019.) A game between Albright and Lebanon Valley, in Annville, PA, drew 21,345.

#### NCAA COLLEGE FOOTBALL - INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

**2021** – Capacity in stadiums was close to normal for FBS teams. Only Florida International didn't allow fans. Michigan was the **Division 1-A FBS** leader in total attendance (761,341) and average per game (108,763). Next in total attendance were Penn State (total - 747,595, average – 106,799), Texas A&M (total - 720,181, average - 102,883), Tennessee (total - 691,088, average 86,386), Alabama (total - 691,038, average 98,720), Ohio State (total - 677,295, average – 96,756), and LSU (total - 663,653, average 94,008). In addition, Georgia (92,746), and Texas (91,939) also topped 90,000 per game, and Nebraska, Auburn, and Florida, also averaged over 80,000 per game. The largest crowd of the year was 111,156 for Ohio State at Michigan. 29 games drew over 100,000. Preliminary stats show that the Southeastern Conference averaged 72,392 per game, the best of any conference for the 23<sup>rd</sup> straight year. It was the 22<sup>nd</sup> year in a row above 70,000 per game for the SEC, but their lowest average per game since 2000.

In **Division 1-AA FCS**, Jackson State led with a 253,756 total, and a 42,293 average per game. This average per game was higher than 79 of the 130 Division 1-A FBS programs achieved. Next was Montana (total – 172,085, average 24,584). Largest FCS crowd was 58,892 for Alcorn State at Jackson State, played in Jackson, MS. In Division II, Grand Valley State (total – 76,334, average – 10,905) led. Wisconsin-Whitewater led Division III with a 69,754 total, and a 6,975 average per game.

**2020** – 98 of the 126 Division 1-A (Football Bowl Subdivision) teams let a limited number of fans to attend their games. 30 teams had a total season attendance of at least 50,000. All teams, except Troy, played to less than 30% of their stadium's capacity. Oklahoma had the highest total attendance (113,500, average per game - 22,700). Texas A&M had the highest average per game (24,876, with a total of 99,503). Other attendance leaders were Tennessee (112,660 total, 22,532 average), Clemson (112,367 total, 18,728 average), Alabama (97,120 total, 19,424 average), Auburn (87,450 total, 17,490 average), and LSU (87,233 total, 21,808 average). Georgia was the only other team to average 20,000+. The largest crowd was 27,114 for Arkansas at Texas A&M.

Only 16 Football Championship Subdivision (DI-AA) games were played with fans in attendance during the fall. The season resumed in Spring 2021, and Jackson State (75,051) had the highest total attendance.

**2019** – Michigan led in total (780,215 – 7 games) and average per game (111,459), followed by Penn State (105,678), Ohio State (103,383), Texas A&M (101,608), Alabama (101,117), and LSU (100,842). Georgia and Texas each topped 90,000 per game. Tennessee, Nebraska, Auburn, Clemson, Florida, and Oklahoma averaged over 80,000 per game. The Southeast Conference topped all conferences for the 22<sup>nd</sup> straight year (72,723 per game). Ohio State at Michigan (112,071) was the largest crowd of the year, and one of 37 games that attracted over 100,000 fans.

Jackson State led the Football Championship Subdivision (D-1AA), with a total of 168,808 (33,672 per game). The Southern-Grambling State game in New Orleans drew 68,314, the biggest FCS crowd of the season. In Division II, Grand Valley State had the best total (68,746), and Morehouse (10,924) had the highest average per game. The Division III leaders were Wisconsin-Whitewater in total (48,760), and Hampden-Sydney in average (6,949). The Ithaca-SUNY Cortland game at Met Life Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ, drew a Division III record-high crowd of 45,161

**2018** – Michigan had the highest total (775,156) and average per game (110,737). Penn State, Ohio State, Alabama, and LSU also topped 100,000 per game. Texas A&M, Tennessee, Georgia, and Texas drew over 90,000 per game. Nebraska, Oklahoma, Auburn, Florida, and Clemson topped 80,000 per game. The Southeast Conference had the highest attendance of any conference for the 21<sup>st</sup> straight year (73,994 per game). Penn State at Michigan was the top crowd (111,747). 39 games drew over 100,000.

North Dakota State had the top total, including playoff games, and Jackson State (24,770) had the best average per game in the Football Championship Subdivision (I-AA). Montana (24,677) led in FCS regular season average for the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year. The Southern-Grambling game in New Orleans drew an FCS-best crowd of 67,871. The Division II total attendance leader was Grand Valley State, and Morehouse had the best average per game (12,037 – including playoffs). St. John's of Minnesota led Division III in total attendance. They had the best regular season average per game (5,912) for the 20<sup>th</sup> time since 1993. Including post-season play, Hampton-Sydney had the top average per date (7,716).

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

## NCAA College Football

**2017** – Ohio State had the top total (752,464). Michigan led in average per game (111,589). Other teams that averaged at least 100,000 per game were Ohio State (107,495), Penn State (106,707), and Alabama (101,722). Texas, Georgia, Texas A&M, Tennessee, and LSU averaged better than 90,000 per game. Florida, Auburn, Oklahoma, Clemson, and Nebraska reached 80,000 per game. Purdue had the best gain in average per game, up 13,433. The largest crowd of the season was 112,432 for Michigan State at Michigan, and 33 games drew 100,000+.

Montana had the top Football Championship Subdivision (1-AA) average per game (23,535), while James Madison had the best total (195,514). In Division II, Tuskegee had the top average (14,998), and Grand Valley State had the best total (67,159). St. Thomas (MN) led Division III in both total attendance (52,349), and average per game (7,478).

**2016** – Michigan had the top total (883,741), and average (110,468). Also averaging 100,000+ per game were Ohio State (107,278), Texas A&M (101,917), Alabama (101,821), Louisiana State (101,231), Tennessee (100,968), and Penn State (100,257). Texas, Georgia, and Nebraska averaged better than 90,000 per game. Florida, Auburn, Oklahoma, Clemson, and Notre Dame reached 80,000 per game. Eastern Michigan, up 12,781 per game, had the top average per game increase. The SEC led all conferences with a total of 7,518,208 (77,507 per game). The Virginia Tech-Tennessee game, played at the Bristol Motor Speedway, drew an all-time NCAA record-high 156,990. 44 games drew over 100,000.

In the FCS (1-AA), North Dakota State had the top total (167,002), and Montana had the best average per game (25,377). In Division II, Grand Valley State was the leader again in total attendance (100,388), and average per game (12,549). Wisconsin-Whitewater had the best Division III total (51,549). St. John's of Collegeville, MN led in average per game (7,787). It was the 19<sup>th</sup> time since 1993 that St. John's had the best average per game in Division III.

**2015** – Michigan had the highest total (771,174) and average per game (110,168). Others topping 100,000 per game were Ohio State (107,244), Texas A&M (103,622), Louisiana St. (102,004), Alabama (101,112) and Tennessee (100,584). Penn State, Georgia, Florida, and Texas all averaged over 90,000 per game. Temple, up 20,789 to 44,159, had the biggest average per game increase. Southeast Conference teams drew 7,784,376, an average of 78,630 per game. Those are the highest season figures for any conference in NCAA history. The Ohio State at Michigan game drew 111,829, for the largest crowd of the year, and 41 games topped 100,000.

Montana led the FCS (Division 1-AA) in both total attendance (168,975) and average per game (24,139). Grand Valley State topped Division II (74,187, averaging 12,635 per game). St. John's (Collegeville, MN) led Division III in both total attendance (53,372) and average per game (7,625).

**2014** – Ohio State had the highest total (744,075) and average per game (106,296) in the Football Bowl Subdivision (Division 1-A). From 1951 through 1973, Ohio State led in average per game every year except 1955, 1957, and 1972. Michigan led in those 3 years. Also topping 100,000 per game in 2014 were Texas A&M, Michigan, Louisiana State, Penn State, and Alabama. Tennessee, Texas, Georgia, and Nebraska averaged better than 90,000 per game. Texas A&M, up 17,998 per game, had the biggest average per game increase. Penn State at Michigan was the top crowd (113,085), one of 42 games drawing over 100,000.

North Dakota State drew 167,136 to lead the FCS (Division 1-AA) in total attendance. Montana had the highest average per game (23,777). The Division II total attendance leader was Pittsburg (KS) State, who drew 58,878. Grand Valley State (Allendale, MI) had the top average per game (11,699). St. John's (MN) was the Division III leader in both total attendance (46,511) and average per game (7,752).

**2013** – The University of Michigan had the highest Football Bowl Subdivision (Division I-A) total (781,144) and average per game (111,592). Ohio State (104,933), and Alabama (101,505), also averaged over 100,000 per game. Texas, Penn State, Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana State, and Nebraska averaged over 90,000 per game. Notre Dame at Michigan drew an on-campus game record-high 115,109. 26 games drew at least 100,000.

In the FCS (Division I-AA), Montana had the top total (170,660), and Appalachian State had the highest average per game for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year (24,894 in 2013). The Division II total attendance leader was Grand Valley State, who drew 91,045. Tuskegee (AL) had the best D-II average per game (14,954). The Division III total attendance champ was Wisconsin-Whitewater (45,571). St. John's (Collegeville, MN) averaged 7,354 to lead Division III in average attendance.

#### INDOOR FOOTBALL

In 2015, the Arena Football League added Las Vegas, and dropped teams in Iowa, Pittsburgh, and San Antonio. The league played 36 games in 2019, 24 in 2018, 35 in 2017, 64 in 2016, 107 in 2015, and 126 games in 2014.

In 2016, the Arena League had 8 teams, dropping Las Vegas, New Orleans, San Jose, and Spokane. Baltimore, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Tampa Bay, and Washington were the only teams for 2017. Baltimore, Albany, NY, Philadelphia, Washington, and Albany NY were in the league in 2018. Columbus, OH, and Atlantic City, NJ were added in 2019. This league did not operate from 2020 through 2023. It returned in 2024, with 15 teams, though not all might finish the season. The Indoor Football League operates mainly in small markets. Attendance for the league could not be found. That league had 16 teams to start the 2024 season, but only 8 teams managed to finish. Arenafan.com showed attendance for only 18 of the 48 regular season games, and the total was 49,776, an average of 2,765 per game.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2019	6	259,050	73,001	39.0	7,196	(571)	(7.4)
2018	4	186,409	(137,297)	(42.4)	7,767	(1,482)	(16.0)
2017	5	323,706	(274,245)	(45.9)	9,249	(94)	(1.0)
2016	8	597,951	(359,463)	(37.5)	9,343	396	4.4
2015	12	957,414	(110,191)	(10.3)	8,947	474	5.6
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2014	14	1,067,605	34,969	3.4	8,473	278	3.4
2013	14	1,032,636	(159,208)	(13.4)	8,195	354	4.5
2012	17	1,191,844	(143,214)	(10.7)	7,841	(400)	(4.9)
2011	18	1,335,058	358,751	36.7	8,241	106	1.3
2010	15	976,307	(785,956)	(44.6)	8,135	(4,822)	(37.2)
2009	0	Didn't operate					
2008	17	1,762,263	(121,336)	(6.4)	12,957	565	4.6
2007	19	1,883,599	101,095	5.7	12,392	14	0.1
2006	18	1,782,504	37,667	2.2	12,378	(451)	(3.5)
2005	17	1,744,837	(82,066)	(4.5)	12,829	810	6.7
2004	19	1,826,903	368,058	25.2	12,019	622	5.5
2003	16	1,458,845	343,539	30.8	11,397	1,439	14.5
2002	16	1,115,306	(106,711)	(8.7)	9,958	770	8.4
2001	19	1,222,017	77,413	6.8	9,188	(430)	(4.5)
2000	17	1,144,604	93,135	8.9	9,618	(395)	(3.9)
1999	15	1,051,469	13,248	1.3	10,013	(581)	(5.5)
1998	14	1,038,221	(33,450)	(3.1)	10,594	(341)	(3.1)
1997	14	1,071,671	(61,001)	(5.4)	10,935	148	1.4
1996	15	1,132,672	254,331	29.0	10,787	(473)	(4.2)
1995	13	878,341	168,965	23.8	11,260	512	4.8
1994	11	709,376	17,529	2.5	10,748	(782)	(6.8)
1993	10	691,847	(44,239)	(6.0)	11,530	(738)	(6.0)
1992	12	736,086	326,056	79.5	12,268	2,018	19.7
1991	8	410,030	196,427	92.0	10,250	1,350	15.2
1990	6	213,603	156,544	274.4	8,900	3,195	56.0

#### ARENA FOOTBALL LEAGUE – ATTENDANCE SINCE 1990

The Arena Football League did not operate in 2009. The 2010 comparison is with 2008.

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

## Arena Football League

- 2019 Albany drew 60,319 (10,053 per game), leading the league in its final season until 2024.
- 2018 Albany led the league, averaging 9,714 per game.
- 2017 Washington topped the league (77,288 total, 11,041 average per game).
- 2016 Arizona drew 100,694 (12,587 per game) to lead the league.
- 2015 Tampa Bay had the top attendance of 110,808, an average of 12,312 per game.
- 2014 Tampa Bay led in 2014 with a total of 102,693 (11,402 per game).
- 2013 The leader was Orlando, which drew 106,546 (11,838 per game).

Source: arenafan.com

## Alliance of American Football

<u>2019</u> – This NFL development league, with 8 teams, suspended operations after 8 weeks of its scheduled 10-week season. According to DraftDiamonds.com, the league drew 489,330, averaging 15,292 per game. San Antonio had the league's highest attendance, with a 27,721 average per game.

## THE XFL

The XFL played 5 weeks of its 10-week 2020 schedule before the season was suspended, and the league disbanded. Total attendance was 362,515, an average of 18,126 per game. The league returned in 2023 with 8 teams playing a 10-game regular season. Total attendance was 577,223, an average of 14,431 per game. St. Louis, with a 35,104 average per game led the league, and also had the highest single-game attendance (38,310).

## THE USFL

From 1983 through 1985, there was a USFL. A league by that name returned in 2022, playing all of its games in Birmingham. Attendance was not available. In 2023, games were played in Birmingham, Memphis, Canton, and Detroit. The league did not announce attendance, but most games drew few fans.

## THE UNITED FOOTBALL LEAGUE - Began play in 2024

This 8-team league, is made up of 4 of the USFL teams and 4 teams from the XFL. It played a 10-week 2024 regular season, running from March 30 through June 1. The league drew 513,105, an average of 12,828 per game. Top draw, by far, was St. Louis, with a 171,825 total, and a 34,365 average per game. DC (Washington) had the next highest figures (70,715 total, 14,143 average). Sources: UFLBoard.com, Sports Business Journal

#### NBA PRO BASKETBALL - Men

#### The NBA set its all-time total attendance and average per game record-highs in 2023-24. Details on next page.

In **2021-22**, all teams except Toronto played at full capacity. Toronto had 27 full capacity games, 2 at 50% capacity, and 12 with no fans. In **2020-21**, 26 teams sold tickets to 499 games (of 1080). In the shorter **2019-20** season, about 569 of the 971 (58.6%) games played in front of fans were sold out. **2018-19** was the 15<sup>th</sup> straight year that the NBA drew at least 90% of capacity, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year above 95%. But it was the first full-season with an attendance decrease since 2009-10. Arena renovations led to fewer available seats. A then-record-high 760 games (61.8% of all games) were sold out. There were a then-record-high 741 sellouts (60.2% of all games) in **2017-18**. In **2016-17** the league tied their old record for sellouts in a season (723). **2021-22 changes** listed are **vs. 2018-19**.

	N	ATIONAL BASKE	ETBALL ASSOCI	ATION – ATTE	IN	DANCE SINCE	1989-1990	
	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. Vs.		Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year		Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2023-24	30	22,538,436	299,834	1.3		18,324	244	1.3
2022-23	30	22,238,602	1,338,749	6.4		18,080	907	5.3
2021-22	30	20,899,853	(1,064,594)	(4.8)		17,173	(684)	(3.8)
2020-21	30	1,471,008				2,948		
2019-20	30	17,274,621	(4,689,826)	(20.4)		17,791	(66)	(0.4)
2018-19	30	21,964,447	(164,474)	(0.7)		17,857	(134)	(0.7)
2017-18	30	22,128,921	131,509	0.6		17,991	107	0.6
2016-17	30	21,997,412	25,283	0.1		17,884	20	0.1
2015-16	30	21,972,129	45,581	0.2		17,864	38	0.2
2014-15	30	21,926,548	516,275	2.4		17,826	419	2.4
2013-14	30	21,410,273	89,954	0.4		17,407	59	0.3
2012-13	30	21,320,319	4,219,268	24.7		17,348	74	0.4
2011-12	30	17,101,051	(4,201,522)	(19.7)		17,274	(45)	(0.3)
2010-11	30	21,302,573	189,845	0.9		17,319	154	0.9
2009-10	30	21,112,728	(436,285)	(2.0)		17,165	(355)	(2.0)
2008-09	30	21,549,013	158,029	0.7		17,520	129	0.7
2007-08	30	21,390,984	(450,496)	(2.1)		17,391	(366)	(2.1)
2006-07	30	21,841,480	245,676	1.1		17,757	199	1.1
2005-06	30	21,595,804	299,307	1.4		17,558	244	1.4
2004-05	30	21,296,497	1,024,302	5.1		17,314	264	1.5
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2003-04	29	20,272,195	197,822	1.0		17,050	167	1.0
2002-03	29	20,074,373	(107,767)	(0.5)		16,883	(91)	(0.5)
2001-02	29	20,182,140	226,159	1.1		16,974	190	1.1
2000-01	29	19,955,981	(102,532)	(0.5)		16,784	(86)	(0.5)
1999-00	29	20,058,513	7,923,607	65.3		16,870	132	0.8
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1998-99	29	12,134,906	(8,217,251)	(40.4)		16,738	(379)	(2.2)
1997-98	29	20,352,157	47,528	0.2		17,117	40	0.2
1996-97	29	20,304,629	(208,589)	(1.0)		17,077	(175)	(1.0)
1995-96	29	20,513,218	1,996,734	10.8		17,252	525	3.1
1994-95	27	18,516,484	532,470	3.0		16,727	481	3.0
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1993-94	27	17,984,014	205,719	1.2		16,246	186	1.2
1992-93	27	17,778,295	411,055	2.4		16,060	371	2.4
1991-92	27	17,367,240	491,115	2.9		15,689	444	2.9
1990-91	27	16,876,125	(492,534)	(2.8)		15,245	(445)	(2.8)
1989-90	27	17,368,659	1,903,665	12.3	$\vdash$	15,690	602	4.0

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION – ATTENDANCE SINCE 1989-1990

A lockout at the start of the 2011-2012 NBA season reduced the number of home games from 41 to 33. Boston played one less home game in 2012-13 as a game was cancelled due to the Boston Marathon terrorist attack. A lockout at the start of the 1998-99 season reduced the number of home games for each team to 25. 2 teams were added for the 1989-90 season which accounts for the big increase in total attendance.

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

## National Basketball Association

**2023-24** – The league record-high attendance includes the NBA Cup Championship Game. A record-high 873 games (71.8% of all games) were sold out. 12 teams sold out all games, and the league drew 97.8% of listed capacity. Chicago had the top attendance – 845,620 total, 20,625 average per game. Dallas (20,217), and Philadelphia (20,042), were next. Boston, Cleveland, Denver, Miami, New York, and Toronto also topped 19,000 per game. Minnesota (in a conventional arena), Denver, and Sacramento set record-highs, and Boston tied its record-high. The 82 playoff games drew 1,574,245, an average of 19,198 per game.

**2022-23** – Chicago led with a total of 841,632, averaging 20,528 per game, followed by Philadelphia (839,261 total – 20,470 per game), and Dallas (827,282 – 20,178 per game). Boston, Denver, Cleveland, Miami, New York, and Toronto, also averaged above 19,000 per game. A then-record-high 791 games (64.3% of all games) were sold out. The league drew 96.7% of capacity. 9 teams drew at least 100% of listed capacity. Atlanta, Brooklyn, and Denver, set team record-highs, and Boston tied its record-high. The playoffs drew 1,602,213 in 84 games, an average of 19,074 per game.

**<u>2021-22</u>** – Chicago led the league in attendance (856,148 total – 20,882 per game), followed by Philadelphia (846,867, 20,655), Dallas (809,315, 19,739), Miami (804,761, 19,628), and Boston (785,396, 19,156). Toronto played only 29 home games with fans in attendance, and Sacramento had one less home game than usual.

**2020-21** – All teams except Indiana. Miami, Oklahoma City, and Sacramento played at least some home games with limited fan attendance. Houston and New Orleans had fans in attendance for all 36 home games, while Orlando had fans at 35 games. Utah had the top total and average per game attendance (151,300 – 4,450 per game), with 34 home games. Houston, Orlando, and Phoenix also topped 100,000 in total attendance.

**2019-2020** – When the season was suspended, Philadelphia had the top attendance per game (20,629 per game), followed by Dallas (20,062). 569 of the 971 games played (58.6%) with fans in attendance were sold out. The season eventually resumed in the 'Orlando Bubble,' with fans not allowed to attend.

**2018-19** – Philadelphia had the top attendance (838,342 – 20,447 per game), followed by Chicago (20,085), and Dallas (20,014). It was the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row that the NBA drew at least 90% of capacity. ESPN data shows that 11 teams drew at least 100% of arena capacity, while 18 teams reached 95%. A record-high 760 games were sold out.

**<u>2017-18</u>** – Chicago led the league with a total of 851,824 (20,776 per game). Cleveland (20,562), and Philadelphia (20,329) also averaged better than 20,000. ESPN reported that 9 teams drew at least 100% of their arena's capacity, and 17 teams reached 95%. There were 741 sellouts, a new record.

**2016-17** – The Chicago Bulls topped the league again drawing 888,882 (21,680 per game). Cleveland averaged 20,562 per game. The league drew 94% of arena capacity, and tied its record of 723 sellouts. According to espn.com, 9 teams drew at least 100% of arena capacity, while 15 teams topped 95%.

<u>2015-16</u> – Chicago again led (894,659, 21,820 per game), followed by Cleveland (20,562), and Dallas (20,143). The league had a record-high 723 sellouts, and 17 teams drew at least 95% of capacity (Source: ESPN).

2014-15 – Chicago drew 896,525, an average of 21,866 per game, followed by Cleveland (20,562) and Dallas (20,188).

**<u>2013-14</u>** – The Bulls drew 890,370 (21,716 per game) to lead the league.

#### WNBA PRO BASKETBALL - Women

The WNBA played in the Orlando 'Bubble' in 2020, and did not sell any tickets. 11 of the 12 teams in the league in 2021 did sell a limited number of tickets. Indiana did not sell tickets.

In 2024, the WNBA had its best total attendance since 2002, and its highest average per game since 1999. The 2024 vs. 2023 percentage increase in average per game or date is the highest of any pro major league since Major League Baseball gained 55.3% in 1946. It is by far, the largest increase of any pro league since 1990. 2022 attendance is compared with 2019. In 2018, according to Sports Illustrated, then-WNBA Commissioner Lisa Borders reported that the league's TV viewership rose 31%, League Pass subscriptions were up 39%, and merchandise sales rose 66%. Each team added 2 more home games in 2023.

## WOMEN'S NBA (WNBA) - ATTENDANCE SINCE THE LEAGUE BEGAN PLAY IN 1997

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	12	2,353,755	766,267	48.3	9,807	3,192	48.3
2023	12	1,587,488	384,087	31.9	6,615	1,043	18.7
2022	12	1,203,401	(129,692)	(9.7)	5,571	(957)	(14.7)
2021	12	440,009			2,651		
2019	12	1,333,093	(41,217)	(3.0)	6,528	(242)	(3.6)
2018	12	1,374,310	(199,048)	(12.7)	6,770	(943)	(12.2)
2017	12	1,573,358	11,828	0.8	7,713	58	0.8
2016	12	1,561,530	68,603	4.6	7,655	337	4.6
2015	12	1,492,927	(52,972)	(3.4)	7,318	(260)	(3.4)
2014	12	1,545,899	9,640	0.6	7,578	47	0.6
2013	12	1,536,259	14,959	1.0	7,531	74	1.0
2012	12	1,521,300	(87,797)	(5.5)	7,457	(431)	(5.5)
2011	12	1,609,097	13,451	0.8	7,888	66	0.8
2010	12	1,595,646	(177,675)	(10.0)	7,822	(202)	(2.5)
2009	13	1,773,321	(114,385)	(6.1)	8,024	92	1.2
2008	14	1,887,706	168,337	9.8	7,932	152	2.0
2007	13	1,719,369	(69,171)	(3.9)	7,780	265	3.5
2006	14	1,788,540	(17,397)	(1.0)	7,515	(657)	(8.0)
2005	13	1,805,937	(97,490)	(5.1)	8,172	(441)	(5.1)
2004	13	1,903,427	(197,203)	(9.4)	8,613	(213)	(2.4)
2003	14	2,100,630	(291,342)	(12.2)	8,826	(518)	(5.5)
2002	16	2,391,972	68,811	3.0	9,344	269	3.0
2001	16	2,323,161	732	0.0	9,075	3	0.0
2000	16	2,322,429	366,148	18.7	9,072	(1,117)	(11.0)
1999	12	1,956,281	326,679	20.0	10,189	(675)	(6.2)
1998	10	1,629,602	547,509	50.6	10,864	1,242	12.9
1997	8	1,082,093			9,622		

## WNBA PRO BASKETBALL - Women

<u>2024</u> – The WNBA had incredible attendance growth in 2024. All 12 teams had an average per game increase of at least 1,270. The league had its best total since 2002, when it had 16 teams, and its highest average per game since 1999. 6 teams set record-highs in average per game in 2024. 101 of the 240 games drew at least 10,000. (Some teams play in arenas with capacity well below 10,000.) The 22 playoff games drew 262,836, an average of 11,947 per game.

Caitlin Clark joined the Indiana Fever in 2024. In 2023, for the entire season, the Fever drew 81,336 at home, averaging 4,067 per game, and drew 146,643 on the road, an average of 7,332 per game. In 2024, Indiana drew league all-time record-highs in total attendance (340,715) and average per game (17,036) at home, and combined home/road league record highs (643,343 total, 16,084 average per game). Their home attendance rose 318.9%, with the total up 259,379, and the average per game up 12,969. 16 of their 20 home games each drew a sellout crowd of 17,274. Indiana averaged 15,131 on the road, including a league official single-game record-high crowd of 20,711 for a game in Washington. Exclude all Indiana home and road games from both seasons, and the other 11 teams still had a combined 25.8% increase in 2024 vs. 2023, with total attendance up 350,903, and average per game up 1,754.

According to the Elias Sports Bureau, in 2024, Indiana, New York, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and Seattle posted the 5 highest combined home/road attendance totals in WNBA history.

Besides these WNBA figures, the all-time largest percentage year-to-year increases in average per date or game in major sports were 55.3% by Major League Baseball (1946), 34.5% by the NBA (1955-56), and since 1976, 26.2% by NCAA Football (1982). Since 1990, the biggest gains were 32.2% by the National Women's Soccer League (2023), 26.8% by NCAA Women's Basketball (1992-93), 17.2% by Minor League Hockey (2022-23), and 12.7% by Major League Soccer (2015). Major League Baseball average per date rose 16.2% in 1993, which was the first year that the National League included tickets sold, but not used, in its official attendance.

- 2023 Las Vegas had the top attendance (191,024, 9,551 average per game), and the biggest increases of any team.
- 2022 Seattle led the league with a total of 191,367, averaging 10,632 per game.
- 2021 All teams except Indiana allowed fans to attend. Phoenix was the attendance leader (total-93,585, average-5,849).
- <u>2020</u> The league played in a 'bubble' with no fans in attendance.
- 2019 Los Angeles drew a league high 192,224 (11,307 per game).
- 2018 Los Angeles was the league leader (180,910 total, 10,642 average per game).
- <u>2017</u> Los Angeles drew 192,957 (11,350 per game) to lead.
- 2016 Once again, Phoenix was the leader, drawing 175,965 (10,351 per game).
- 2015 Phoenix led again with a total of 169,077, an average of 9,946 per game.
- 2014 The Phoenix Mercury topped the attendance chart, drawing 162,464 (9,557 per game).
- 2013 Top attendance was by the Los Angeles Sparks, who drew 167,773 (9,869 per game).

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

## NBA Development League – The 'G' League

This is the NBA's minor league. The schedule was reduced from the pre-Covid years. Each of the 31 teams played 17 home games in 2023-24, and each team played 16 home games in 2022-23.

The league drew 1,277,320 in **2023-24**, up 108,075 (9.2%). Average per game was 2,424 down 12 (0.5%). Mexico City had the best attendance with a 101,608 total and a 5,977 average per game. Texas (Frisco) drew 99,568, averaging 5,587 per game, followed by Iowa (81,609 - 4,801), and Grand Rapids (75,629 - 4,449).

In **2022-23**, the league drew a total of 1,169,245, averaging 2,436 per game. Attendance leaders were Texas (Frisco) with a total of 98,907, an average of 6,182 per game, Iowa (Des Moines) (70,853 - 4,428), Rio Grande Valley (McAllen, TX) (62,269 - 3,892), Mexico City (58,349 - 3,647), and Grand Rapids (55,941 - 3,496).

In the **2021-22** season, it drew 731,720, averaging 1,598 per game. Texas (Frisco) led the league with a total attendance of 93,010, and a 5,167 average per game. Austin was next in average per game (3,031), followed by Birmingham (2,470), Rio Grande Valley (Edinburg - 2,468), Iowa (Des Moines - 2,463), and Wisconsin (Oshkosh - 2,443).

The league played in a 'bubble' with no fans in attendance in **2020-21**. No league attendance could be found for 2016-17, or 2015-16. When the **2019-20** season was suspended, the 28 teams had drawn 1,342,997, an average of 2,253 per game It was the league's  $11^{\text{th}}$  straight year above one million. Attendance leaders were Texas (129,567 – 5,633 per game), and Rio Grande Valley (95,497 – 5,026 per game). There were 27 teams in the league in **2018-19**, and they drew 1,583,212 in 675 games, averaging 2,345 per game. Texas (Frisco) led the league with a total of 143,552 (5,742 per game), followed by Rio Grande Valley (McAllen) at 5,016 per game.

26 teams, playing 25 home games each, were in the league in **2017-18**. They drew a league record-high 1,616,656, an average of 2,487 per game. The total was up 11% from 2016-17. A single-game record-high (18,900) was set on December 5, 2017 at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto. There were 22 teams, playing a 25-game home schedule, in **2016-17**. 19 teams played in **2015-16**. The league had 18 teams in **2014-15**, and attendance was 1.24 million. In the **2013-14** season, there were 17 teams, each playing 25 home games. The only attendance figure available is a league total of 1,181,404, an average of 2,780 per game. The league noted that this was a 5% increase from 2012-13.

# 2023 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE

NCAA	DIVISION	I MEN'S BASKE	TBALL – <u>Includes</u>	<u>s</u> Neutral Site a	Ind	Post-season g	ames – SINCE 1	989-1990
	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.		Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year		Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2023-24	351	26,636,195	1,086,189	4.3		4,627	159	3.6
2022-23	352	25,550,006	1,760,514	7.4		4,468	155	3.6
2021-22	350	23,789,492	(3,211,891)	(11.9)		4,313	(346)	(7.4)
2020-21	200	1,818,983		· · ·				<b>x</b> <i>i</i>
2019-20	350	25,925,284	(1,076,099)	(4.0)		4,689	30	0.6
2018-19	351	27,001,383	147,709	0.6		4,659	(34)	(0.7)
2017-18	351	26,853,674	(130,214)	(0.5)		4,693	(106)	(2.2)
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2016-17	347	26,983,888	(250,722)	(0.9)		4,799	(115)	(2.3)
2015-16	346	27,234,610	(188,005)	(0.7)		4,914	(25)	(0.5)
2014-15	345	27,422,615	(97,241)	(0.4)		4,939	(75)	(1.5)
2013-14	345	27,519,856	(356,793)	(1.3)		5,014	(115)	(2.2)
2012-13	345	27,876,649	185,598	0.7		5,129	(61)	(1.2)
2011-12	338	27,691,051	64,886	0.2		5,190	(47)	(0.9)
2010-11	335	27,626,165	86,706	0.3		5,237	(8)	(0.2)
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2009-10	334	27,539,459	(227,652)	(0.8)		5,245	(133)	(2.5)
2008-09	330	27,767,111	(368,790)	(1.3)		5,378	(146)	(2.6)
2007-08	328	28,135,901	429,989	1.6		5,524	(24)	(0.4)
2006-07	325	27,705,912	1,897,566	7.4		5,548	122	2.2
2005-06	326	25,808,346	442,029	1.7		5,426	92	1.7
2004-05	326	25,366,317	(182,151)	(0.7)		5,334	(109)	(2.0)
2003-04	326	25,548,468	546,790	2.2		5,443	71	1.3
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2002-03	325	25,001,678	502,067	2.0		5,372	85	1.6
2001-02	321	24,499,611	399,056	1.7		5,287	(24)	(0.5)
2000-01	318	24,100,555	(181,219)	(0.7)		5,311	(75)	(1.4)
1999-00	318	24,281,774	693,950	2.9		5,386	(65)	(1.2)
1998-99	310	23,587,824	305,050	1.3		5,451	(8)	(0.1)
1997-98	306	23,282,774	91,918	0.4		5,459	(26)	(0.5)
1996-97	305	23,190,856	(351,796)	(1.5)		5,485	(103)	(1.8)
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1995-96	305	23,542,652	(17,843)	(0.1)		5,588	(53)	(0.9)
1994-95	302	23,560,495	285,337	1.2		5,641	70	1.3
1993-94	301	23,275,158	(46,497)	(0.2)		5,571	(64)	(1.1)
1992-93	298	23,321,655	(572,338)	(2.4)		5,635	(8)	(0.1)
1991-92	298	23,893,993	116,556	0.5		5,643	(92)	(1.6)
1990-91	295	23,777,437	195,614	0.8		5,735	14	0.2
1989-90	292	23,581,823	522,394	2.3		5,721	156	2.8

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The 2018-19 average per game was the lowest since at least the 1975-76 season. Men's NCAA Division 1 record-high average per game is 5,735 in 1990-91. Many 2020 conference tournaments, and the 2020 NCAA tournament, were not played or completed. 2020-21 attendance is unofficial.

Average per game for home games only was 4,354 in 2022-23, 4,204 in 2021-22, 4,601 in 2019-20, 4,593 in 2018-19, 4,607 in 2017-18, 4,633 in 2016-17, 4,744 in 2015-16, 4,754 in 2014-15, 4,817 in 2013-14, 4,921 in 2012-13, 4,994 in 2011-12, 5,025 in 2010-11, 5,038 in 2009-10, 5,185 in 2008-09, 5,325 in 2007-08, 5,327 in 2006-07, 5,198 in 2005-06.

2019-20 average attendance per home game was down 726 vs. 2006-07. The 323 teams that played in Division I in both 2019-20 and 2006-07, averaged 4,819 per game, down 533 since 2006-07. 27 teams that joined Division I since 2006-07 averaged 1,783 per game in 2019-20. 201 teams had a lower 2019-20 average per game vs. 2006-07, with 40 teams down at least 2,000 per game. 121 teams were up vs. 2006-07, with 25 teams up 2,000+. Duke averaged the same both years. Fresno State, down 5,994, and Oklahoma State, down 5,399 per game, had the worst losses. Nebraska, up 5,020, and Colorado, up 4,655, posted the best per game gains since 2006-07. 2 teams left Division I since 2006-07.

#### NCAA COLLEGE BASKETBALL – MEN - INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

**2023-24** – Kentucky led **Division I** in total attendance (358,702), and was 3<sup>rd</sup> in average per game (19,928). Next in total attendance were Arkansas – 343,905 (19,106 per game), Syracuse – 324,603 (20,288), Tennessee – 314,617 (19,664), and North Carolina – 308,895 (20,593, the leading average per game). Indiana (16,468), BYU (15,689), Creighton (17,269), Wisconsin (15,496), Marquette (16,307), and Kansas (16,300), also averaged over 15,000 per game. 39 teams averaged at least 10,000 per game. St. John's (NY) had the biggest average per game growth, up 3,874. South Carolina was up 2,927, and California rose 2,411. The Big 10 had the top average per game of any conference (11,962).

Excluding the NCAA Tournament, there were 42 crowds of at least 20,000, with 13 at Kentucky, 12 at North Carolina, 9 at Tennessee, 7 at Syracuse, and one at Arkansas. The largest on-campus crowd was 25,194 at Syracuse. There have been 86 crowds of at least 30,000 at the JMA Wireless Dome (formerly named the Carrier Dome) in Syracuse since it opened for the 1980-81 season, through 2023-24. Since this facility has the largest capacity, by far, of any on-campus basketball arena, Syracuse annually has the largest on-campus crowd of the season – 31,963 in 2022-23, 31,803 in 2021-22, 31,458 in 2019-20, an all-time on-campus record high 35,642 in 2018-19, 28,670 in 2017-18, 30,448 in 2016-17, 28,696 in 2015-16, 35,446 in both 2014-15 and 2013-14, 35,012 in 2012-13, 33,430 in 2011-12, 33,736 in 2010-11, and 34,616 in 2009-10.

The **Division II** leader in total attendance was Minnesota State (38,253 total, 2,250 average per game). Northern State (Aberdeen, SD), led Division II for the 16<sup>th</sup> straight year in average per game, with a 37,076 total, and a 2,472 average per game. Fort Lewis drew (32,178 - 2,011 average), and Fort Hays State drew 31,464, with a 2,249 average. Top crowd was at Indianapolis for a Winston-Salem vs. Virginia Union game that drew 9,691. The largest on-campus Division II attendance was 4,527 at Johnson C. Smith.

In **Division III**, Trine (MI) had the top total (26,145, averaging 1,376 per game). Hope had the highest average per game (1,446). John Carroll, Calvin, Mount Union, and Illinois Wesleyan also averaged over 1,000 per game. A Trine vs. Hampton-Sydney game at Fort Wayne, IN had the top crowd – 4,546. Best single game on-campus attendance was 4,102 at Calvin.

**2022-23** – Kentucky had the top total (357,721), and was 2<sup>nd</sup> in average per game (19,873), followed by Syracuse (343,828 - 19,102), Arkansas (323,875 - 19,051), and Tennessee (300,496 - 18,781). North Carolina drew 298,344, with an NCAA leading 19,890 per game. It was the first time since 1975-76 (Indiana), that the average per game leader was not Kentucky (led 29 times) or Syracuse (led 17 times). 28 regular season games drew at least 20,000 including 10 at Kentucky, 6 each at North Carolina and Tennessee, 5 at Syracuse, plus a doubleheader at New York's Madison Square Garden. Missouri, up 4,971 per game vs. 2021-22, had the biggest increase.

Prior to 2020-21, Kentucky averaged at least 20,000 every year since moving into Rupp Arena in 1976. Recent renovations have reduced Rupp Arena's capacity to 20,500.

The Big 10 has posted the highest average per game each year starting in 1975-76, and averaged 12,063 in 2022-23. The SEC and Big 12 also average above 10,000 per game. The 36 sessions of the 2023 NCAA Tournament drew 722,121, an average of 20,059 per session. The record-high is 800,377 (22,233 per session) in 2013.

Northern State (Aberdeen, SD), led Division II with a 41,030 total, and a 2,735 average per game. Top Division II crowd was 6,000 at Morehouse. Hope (Holland, MI) topped Division III for the 20<sup>th</sup> straight year, with a total of 25,622, averaging 1,830 per game. Top Division III crowds were 3,986 for Hope at Calvin, and 3,329 for Calvin at Hope.

**2021-22** – Arkansas had the top total (361,412). Syracuse had the highest average per game (20,017), followed by Kentucky (19.338), Arkansas (19,022), North Carolina (18,536), and Tennessee (18,202). 10 teams topped 15,000 per game, and 34 teams averaged over 10,000 per game. The Big 10 averaged 12,520 per game, and has led all conferences in average per game each year since 1976-77.

Northern State led Division II (total – 37,714, average per game – 2,357). Top on-campus crowd was 5,000 at West Virginia State. Hope had the best Division III attendance, drawing 24,290 (1,735 per game). Valley Forge had the largest on-campus Division III crowd (4,000).

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

# NCAA College Basketball - Men

**2020-21** – 55 teams had a total attendance of at least 10,000, with 191 teams drawing a total of at least 100. Arkansas had the highest total (72,822), followed by Tennessee (67,056), Texas Tech (58,734), and Oklahoma State (43,550).

**2019-20** – Syracuse had the top total (390,666), and average per game (21,704). Other top draws were Kentucky (20,160 per game), North Carolina (20,103), Tennessee (18,990), Creighton (17,314), Wisconsin (16,912), Louisville (16,658), Kansas (16,388), Memphis (16,212) and Indiana (16,300). Tennessee State, up 2,278 per game, had the best average per game growth. Big 10 Conference teams averaged 12,709, tops in the NCAA.

Northern State topped Division II (total – 49,086, average per game – 3,506). Hope had the best Division III attendance, drawing 26,571 (2,214 per game).

**2018-19** – Syracuse had the best total (417,852), and average per game (21,992). Following Syracuse in average per game were Kentucky (21,695), North Carolina (19,715), Tennessee (19,034), and Wisconsin (17,170). Memphis had the biggest increase in average per game, up 7,840.

Northern State topped Division II (total – 51,526, average per game – 3,680). Hope had the best Division III attendance, drawing 28,687 (2,207 per game).

**2017-18** – Syracuse had the top total (407,778 – average of 21,462 per game). Kentucky had the top average per game (21,874). North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Creighton also reached 17,000 per game. Missouri had the best average gain, up 5,131. Their average was 15,061 in 2017-18 compared to 6,295 in 2015-16.

Northern State (Aberdeen, SD) topped Division II (total – 55,980, average per game – 3,732). Hope (Holland, MI) had the best Division III attendance, drawing 24,347 (2,434 per game).

**2016-17** – Top average per game was by Kentucky (23,461). Top total was by Syracuse (444,809, – average – 21,181). Louisville (20,846) was next in average. 39 teams averaged at least 10,000 per game. The Big 10 averaged 12,235 per game, the best of any conference. Missouri had the top gain, up 3,635 to 9,930.

Northern State (Aberdeen, SD) led Division II (total – 49,728, average per game – 3,552). Hope (Holland, MI) led Division III, drawing 41,759 (2,319 per game).

**2015-16** – Kentucky had the best total (397,148) and average per game (23,361), followed by Louisville (396,333 total, 20,859 average per game), and Syracuse (367,068 total, 21,952 average per game). The best average per game increase among Division I teams was by Maryland, up 5,169 per game to 17,863. Northern State topped Division II, drawing 50,200, an average of 3,346 per game. The Division III leader in total attendance was Hope with a total of 34,300. They also had the best Division III average per game (2,638).

**2014-15** – Kentucky had the highest total (447,874), while Syracuse had the best average per game (23,854). Louisville averaged 21,386 per game. Northern State was tops in Division II, drawing 54,435, an average of 3,402 per game. Leading Division III was Hope with a total of 27,972, and an average of 2,331.

**2013-14** – Syracuse had the best total attendance (472,550) and average per game (26,253). Kentucky drew 413,350, averaging 22,964 per game. Louisville's total attendance was 383,070, and they averaged 21,282 per game. Northern State led Division II with a total of 54,129, and an average of 3,383 per game. The Division III leader in total attendance was Wooster (OH), who drew 32,420. Hope had the best Division III average per game (2,459 in 2013-14).

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL – Includes Neutral Site and Post-season games – SINCE 1989-1990

2020-21 attendance is not official. It was compiled by adding team attendance figures listed on ncaa.org. The NCAA did not publish team attendance data for the 2020-21 season for Men's and Women's Basketball. 2020-21 figures do not include post-season play. 2021-22 figures are compared with 2018-19.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2023-24	349	10,412,141	1,627,740	18.5	1,921	278	16.9
2022-23	350	8,784,401	1,856,500	26.8	1,643	285	21.0
2021-22	348	6,927,901	(1,706,211)	(19.8)	1,358	(267)	(16.4)
2020-21	205	824,100	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, <i></i>		, <i>i</i>	, <i>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,</i>
2019-20	348	8,240,648	(393,464)	(4.6)	1,604	(21)	(1.3)
2018-19	349	8,634,112	66,622	0.8	1,625	3	0.2
2017-18	349	8,567,490	267,387	3.2	1,622	36	2.3
2016-17	345	8,300,103	13,747	0.2	1,586	(6)	(0.4)
2015-16	344	8,286,356	174,500	2.2	1,592	27	1.7
2014-15	343	8,111,856	(24,999)	(0.3)	1,565	(14)	(0.9)
2013-14	343	8,136,855	124,782	1.6	1,579	46	3.0
2012-13	343	8,012,073	(165,038)	(2.0)	1,533	(101)	(6.2)
2011-12	336	8,177,111	49,170	0.6	1,634	(8)	(0.5)
2010-11	333	8,127,941	76,133	0.9	1,642	5	0.3
2009-10	332	8,051,808	9,768	0.1	1,637	(27)	(1.6)
2008-09	328	8,042,040	(54,812)	(0.7)	1,664	(30)	(1.8)
2007-08	326	8,096,852	210,645	2.7	1,694	39	2.4
2006-07	325	7,886,207	792,565	11.2	1,655	80	5.1
2005-06	332	7,093,642	25,811	0.4	1,575	(3)	(0.2)
2004-05	324	7,067,831	(105,546)	(1.5)	1,578	(39)	(2.4)
2003-04	324	7,173,377	(178,257)	(2.4)	1,617	(2)	(0.1)
2002-03	322	7,351,634	413,821	6.0	1,619	29	1.8
2001-02	322	6,937,813	418,146	6.4	1,590	66	4.3
2000-01	315	6,519,667	162,938	2.6	1,524	33	2.2
1999-00	315	6,356,729	515,795	8.8	1,491	16	1.1
1998-99	304	5,840,934	458,892	8.5	1,475	91	6.6
1997-98	300	5,382,042	519,246	10.7	1,384	89	6.9
1996-97	298	4,862,796	699,826	16.8	1,295	10	0.8
1995-96	296	4,162,970	193,350	4.9	1,285	44	3.5
1994-95	293	3,969,620	367,109	10.2	1,241	89	7.7
4000.01			400.100	40 -			
1993-94	293	3,602,511	429,480	13.5	1,152	7	0.6
1992-93	294	3,173,031	290,091	10.1	1,145	214	23.0
1991-92	288	2,882,940	480,877	20.0	931	197	26.8
1990-91	284	2,402,063	73,815	3.2	734	(42)	(5.4)
1989-90	279	2,328,248	223,341	10.6	776	80	11.5

Average per game for <u>home games only</u> was **a record-high 1,849 in 2023-24**, 1,604 in 2022-23, 1,300 in 2021-22, 1,582 in 2019-20, 1,583 in 2018-19, 1,569 in 2017-18, 1,538 in 2016-17, 1,548 in 2015-16, 1,519 in 2014-15, 1,526 in 2013-14, 1,549 in 2012-13, 1,583 in 2011-12, 1,585 in 2010-11, 1,584 in 2009-10, 1,610 in 2008-09, 1,629 in 2007-08, 1,586 in 2006-07, and 1,544 in 2005-06. The total of 9,588,921 for home games in 2023-24 was a record-high.

#### INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - NCAA College Basketball - Women

<u>2023-24</u> – South Carolina drew an all-time Division I high total (273,133), and led in average per game (16,067). It was the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year with the highest average for South Carolina. Next up were Iowa (238,620 total – 14,914 average – all sellouts), LSU (220,932 – 11,628), Connecticut (181,623 – 10,684), Indiana (175,705 – 10,336), and Iowa State (150,107–10,007). 28 teams averaged at least 5,000 per game. Colorado, up 3,882, had the best average per gain increase. The Big 10 had the highest average per game (6,010) of any conference.

An exhibition game, outdoors at Kinnick Stadium at Iowa, drew a women's game record-high 55,651. The largest indoor, on-campus crowd was 18,660 for Iowa at Ohio State. South Carolina had 13 home games which drew over 15,000.

In **Division II**, Northern State had the highest average per game (2,375) for the 15<sup>th</sup> straight year, and had the top total (28,499). Fort Hays State drew 27,897, with a 2,146 average per game. 9 other teams averaged over 1,000 per game. 2 CIAA Conference Tournament games in Baltimore drew over 5,000, with a high of 5,820. The on-campus high was 4,000 at Albany State. **Division III** Hope and Wisconsin-Whitewater tied for the best average per game (831). It was the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row with the best average for Hope. Wisconsin-Whitewater had the best total (14,125). Largest crowd was 2,650 at Carroll (WI).

# CAITLIN CLARK'S AFFECT ON ATTENDANCE IN THE 2023-24 SEASON

The biggest story in college basketball during the **2023-24** season was the incredible record-setting performance of Caitlin Clark of the University of Iowa. Her games had some the best TV ratings ever for Women's College Basketball.

Caitlin Clark also helped lowa achieve some very impressive attendance figures. Iowa sold out every home game (238,620, 16 games, 14,914 average), and had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best home attendance in NCAA Women's Basketball. This includes 2 NCAA Tournament home games. In addition, 2 home pre-season games drew 55,651 (outdoors at Kinnick Stadium), and 14,998 (indoors). The 12 games at neutral sites drew 160,670, an average of 13,389 per game. On the road, as shown in the table below, every lowa opponent drew its highest attendance of the 2023-24 season for the game vs. Iowa. The 41 lowa pre-season, regular season, and post-season games drew 618,657, averaging 15,089 per game.

The table shows lowa's attendance, a sellout, at each 2023-24 road game, and what each road opponent drew, in total attendance and average per game, for games against all other opponents. At all the road sites, the lowa game outdrew the combined average for all other games by a significant margin. At Wisconsin, Ohio State, Minnesota, and Maryland, the game vs. lowa outdrew the average for all other games by more than 10,000. Overall, when hosting lowa, opposing teams drew 8,016 (145.6%) higher than their average per game vs. all other home opponents.

Iowa averaged 14,914 per home game in 2023-24, up an NCAA Women's 2<sup>nd</sup> best 3,771, 11,143 in 2022-23, 8,224 in 2021-22, 7,102 in 2019-20, 6,797 in 2018-19, 5,452 in 2017-18, 4,395 in 2016-17, and 4,688 in 2015-16.

# 2023-24 ATTENDANCE AT IOWA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ROAD GAMES

IOWA ROAD	ATTENDANCE AT	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	AVERAGE PER	DIFFERENCE-
OPPONENT	OPPONENT'S HOME	AND # OF HOME	GAME VS.	IOWA GAME VS.
	GAME VS. IOWA	GAMES VS. OTHERS	OTHER TEAMS	OTHERS AVG.
Northern Iowa	6,790	47,768 (12)	3,981	2,809
Iowa State	14,267	135,740 (14)	9,696	4,571
Wisconsin	14,252	52,047 (14)	3,718	10,534
Rutgers	8,000	42,445 (17)	2,497	5,503
Purdue	14,876	81,923 (14)	5,852	9,024
Ohio State	18,660	116,299 (17)	6,841	11,819
Northwestern	7,039	27,184 (14)	1,942	5,097
Maryland	17,950	95,431 (14)	6,817	11,133
Nebraska	15,042	82,369 (15)	5,491	9,551
Indiana	17,022	158,483 (16)	9,905	7,317
Minnesota	14,625	79,528 (20)	3,976	10,649
Total	148,723 (11)	919,217 (167)	5,504	8,016
Average per Game	13,520			

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

# NCAA College Basketball - Women

**2022-23** – South Carolina had the top total (220,010). They led in average per game (12,942) for the 9<sup>th</sup> straight year. Next in total attendance were lowa (200,569 - 11,143), Connecticut (174,333 - 10,255), Tennessee (163,003- 8,150), 2022-23 Champion LSU (148,468 – 8,733), Indiana (145,868 – 8,104), and Iowa State (144,525 – 10,323). 18 teams averaged at least 5,000 per game. The Big 10 had the top conference average per game (4,761). Indiana had the best average per game increase, up 3,378. The Division I tournament drew a record-high total of 357,542, averaging 7,773 per session. Record-high average per session for the Women's Tournament is 7,966 in 2003.

Fort Hays State had the top total in Division II (29,806), and Northern State had the highest average per game (2,012) for the 14<sup>th</sup> time in the last 15 years. In Division III, Hope had the top total (24,894) and average for the 14<sup>th</sup> year in a row (1,310). Biggest crowds were Florida and Oklahoma at Charlotte (19,236), and 2 games at South Carolina (18,000 each). In Division II, it was 10,500 at Delta State, and in Division III, it was 3,329 at Hope.

**2021-22** – South Carolina had the top total (196,286). They also led in average per game (12,268), followed by Iowa State (9,567), Connecticut (8,892), Louisville (8,361), and Iowa (8,224). 7 other teams also averaged over 5,000 per game, and 34 teams drew over 3,000 per game. The SEC had the top average per game (4,221 in 2021-22) for the 7<sup>th</sup> straight year. The Big 12 led in average per game each season from 1999-2000 through 2013-14. In Division II, Fort Hays State led in total attendance (39,315) and average per game (2,184). Hope led Division III in average per game (1,342) for the 13<sup>th</sup> straight year, and had the top total (28,183). Top on-campus crowds were: 18,000 at South Carolina (Division I), 4,500 at West Virginia State (Division II), 2,812 at Hope (Division III).

<u>2020-21</u> – 17 teams had total attendance of at least 10,000, and 190 teams drew a total of at least 100. South Carolina had the top total (38,500), followed by Louisville (35,796), Texas Tech (35,544), and Tennessee (31,425).

**2019-20** – South Carolina had the top average per game for the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year (12,218), and also had the best total (183,272). Other average per game leaders were Oregon (10,852), Iowa State (9,690), Connecticut (9,527), Louisville (9,159), Tennessee (8,645), and Baylor (7,929). Northern State had the best Division II average (2,470) for the 13<sup>th</sup> straight year, and also led in total attendance (37,050). In Division III, Hope led in average for the 12<sup>th</sup> year in a row (1,202), and also had the best total (16,823). Oregon had the best average per game gain, up 3,704. SEC teams had the best average per game (4,183) among all conferences. 18,000 at South Carolina was the largest on-campus crowd.

**2018-19** – Iowa State had the highest total attendance (191,462). South Carolina led in average per game (10,406), followed by Iowa State (9,573), Louisville (9,531), Connecticut (8,870), and Mississippi State (8,446). Oregon, up 2,893 per game had the biggest increase. Northern State had the best Division II average (2,609). Fort Hays State had the top total (47,848). In Division III, Hope led in average (954), and Bowdoin had the best total (17,002). St. John's (19,812 at Madison Square Garden), and South Carolina (18,000) had the biggest single game attendance.

**2017-18** – South Carolina led Division I for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year in total attendance (225,064), and average per game (13,239). Connecticut, Iowa State, and Tennessee also averaged at least 8,000 per game. Oregon, up 1,680 per game, had the best increase. Northern State topped Division II for the 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row (42,788 – averaging 3,056 per game). Hope had the best Division III average for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year (26,707 – averaging 1,484 per game). Connecticut drew 18,000 at Hartford for the largest crowd of the season.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

# NCAA College Basketball - Women

**2016-17** – South Carolina was the leader and the only team to top 10,000 per game (196,431 total, 12,277 average per game). They also had the largest crowd (18,000). 15 teams averaged at least 5,000 per game. The SEC had the best conference average of 4,221 per game. Washington, up 2,200 to 4,080 had the best average per game increase. Northern State led Division II (37,835 total, 2,910 per game). In Division III, Hope had the top average (1,132), and Puget Sound posted the highest total (18,645).

**2015-16** – South Carolina again led in total attendance (244,196), average per game (14,364), and had the biggest crowd (18,000). Best average per game increase was by Missouri, up 2,193 to 3,990. Northern State was the Division II leader for the 9<sup>th</sup> year in a row, drawing 34,558 (2,880 per game). Hope led Division III for the 8<sup>th</sup> straight year with a total of 21,004 (1,313 per game).

<u>2014-15</u> – South Carolina led in total attendance (196,684) and average per game (12,293). Tennessee, which had led Division I in attendance for 11 straight years, drew 186,754 (10,375 per game). The biggest crowd was 22,075 at Kentucky. Northern State led Division II with a total of 44,128 (2,758 per game). Hope's total attendance of 13,478 (963 per game) topped Division III.

**2013-14** – Tennessee had the best total (198,692) and average (11,038). UT has posted the best women's basketball attendance 18 times since the 1994-95 season. Connecticut led in the other 2 years, and as noted above, South Carolina was the 2014-15 leader. Top crowd was 23,706 at Kentucky. Northern State led the women as well as the men in Division II for the 7<sup>th</sup> year in a row, drawing 36,165 (2,583 per date). Hope drew 14,217 (1,094 per game) to lead Division III.

#### <u>HOCKEY</u>

In 2023-24, the NHL set a record-high total attendance, with an estimated 865 sellouts (65.9% of all games). Arizona's arena had a 4,600 capacity. There were some capacity restrictions in 2021-22. 20 U.S.-based NHL teams played at least some home games with fans in attendance in 2020-21. 311 of 868 scheduled regular season games in 2020-21 (none in Canada) had a limited number of fans attending. The 2021-22 comparison is with 2018-19.

Work stoppages resulted in shorter seasons in 2012-13 and in 1994-95. Each team played 24 home games instead of 41 in both of those seasons. The entire 2004-05 season was cancelled due to a lockout. 2005-06 comparison is with the 2003-04 season. The league had its highest total attendance ever in 2018-19. The 2013-14 total was the highest for the league when it had 30 teams. The average per date record was set in a short season.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2023-24	32	22,873,142	436,610	1.9	17,434	433	1.9
2022-23	32	22,436,532	1,652,186	7.9	17,101	1,259	7.9
2021-22	32	20,784,346	(1,402,505)	(6.3)	15,842	(1,614)	(9.2)
2020-21	31	1,004,925			3,231		
2019-20	31	18,835,275	(3,351,576)	(15.1)	17,408	(48)	(0.3)
2018-19	31	22,186,851	12,489	0.1	17,456	10	0.1
2017-18	31	22,174,362	629,338	2.9	17,446	(55)	(0.3)
2016-17	30	21,545,024	(70,373)	(0.3)	17,516	(57)	(0.3)
2015-16	30	21,615,397	81,978	0.4	17,573	66	0.4
2014-15	30	21,533,419	(225,483)	(1.0)	17,507	(183)	(1.0)
2013-14	30	21,758,902	8,966,195	70.1	17,690	(78)	(0.4)
2012-13	30	12,792,707	(8,675,414)	(40.4)	17,768	314	1.8
2011-12	30	21,468,121	355,982	1.7	17,454	290	1.7
2010-11	30	21,112,139	115,684	0.6	17,164	94	0.6
2009-10	30	20,996,455	(478,768)	(2.2)	17,070	(390)	(2.2)
2008-09	30	21,475,223	238,968	1.1	17,460	195	1.1
2007-08	30	21,236,255	374,468	1.8	17,265	304	1.8
2006-07	30	20,861,787	7,618	0.0	16,961	6	0.0
2005-06	30	20,854,169	497,970	2.4	16,955	405	2.4
2004-05		None-Lockout			None		
2003-04	30	20,356,199	(52,505)	(0.3)	16,550	(42)	(0.3)
2002-03	30	20,408,704	(205,909)	(1.0)	16,592	(168)	(1.0)
2001-02	30	20,614,613	241,234	1.2	16,760	196	1.2
2000-01	30	20,373,379	1,573,240	8.4	16,564	188	1.1
1999-00	28	18,800,139	798,398	4.4	16,376	114	0.7
1998-99	27	18,001,741	737,063	4.3	16,262	66	0.4
1997-98	26	17,264,678	(375,851)	(2.1)	16,196	(352)	(2.1)
1996-97	26	17,640,529	598,915	3.5	16,548	561	3.5
1995-96	26	17,041,614	7,807,730	84.6	15,987	1,189	8.0
1994-95	26	9,233,884	(6,871,720)	(42.7)	14,798	49	0.3
1993-94	26	16,105,604	1,947,427	13.8	14,749	703	5.0
1992-93	24	14,158,177	1,388,501	10.9	14,046	(465)	(3.2)
1991-92	22	12,769,676	425,779	3.4	14,511	(184)	(1.3)
1990-91	21	12,343,897	(235,754)	(1.9)	14,695	(281)	(1.9)
1989-90	21	12,579,651	161,682	1.3	14,976	193	1.3

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE - SINCE 1989-1990

# INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

# National Hockey League

**2023-24** – The league averaged 97.6% of listed capacity. Montreal led with an average of 21,099 per game, followed by Edmonton (19,173), and Tampa Bay (19,092). 10 teams drew at least 100% of listed capacity, while 5 others topped 99%. 25 of the 32 teams drew at least 95% of listed capacity. An estimated 863 games were sellouts. Florida had the largest gain (11.7%), and Winnipeg had the biggest loss. 24 teams had increases vs. 2022-23, 2 had the same average per game, and 6 teams were down. The playoffs (88 games) drew 1,626,399, an average of 18,462 per game. TV ratings were up 8% in the US, and 7% in Canada, for network games. Sources: Hockey Reference; Sports Business Journal; NHL.

**2022-23** – Montreal led with a total of 864,180 (21,078 per game). 11 other teams averaged above 18,000 per game, according to Hockey Reference. 9 teams drew at least 100% of arena capacity, and 6 other teams drew at least 99% of capacity. The league average per game was 95.7% of capacity. There were 670 sellouts. The 88 playoff games drew 1,615,636, an average of 18,360 per game.

**<u>2021-22</u>** – There were some capacity restrictions, but all 1,312 scheduled games were played. Tampa Bay led in attendance (782,772 total, 19,092 average per game). Also averaging above 18,000, as per ESPN, were Chicago, Minnesota, Nashville, Vegas, and Washington. 7 teams drew at least 100% of seating capacity, and 9 others reached 90%. The league drew an estimated 90% of modified capacity. 3 outdoor games drew a total of 133,357.

**2020-21** – Dallas (121,534), and Arizona (89,167), played all 28 home games with fans in attendance. Florida drew 113,538 in 27 games. Carolina, Pittsburgh, and Tampa Bay each played at least 20 homes in front of fans. 11 teams didn't have fans in attendance at any game. Vegas had the highest average per game with fans in attendance (4,362).

**2019-20** – At the time the season was suspended, Montreal had the top total (780,155), averaging 21,085 per game. Chicago had the highest average per game (21,445). Dallas averaged 20,326 per game. 569 of the 1,082 games played with fans in attendance (52.6%) were sold out. ESPN data showed that 11 teams drew 100%+ of capacity.

**2018-19** – Chicago led the league in attendance (930,086, 22,685 per game). This includes an outdoor game at Notre Dame Stadium that drew 76,126. 40 games in Chicago drew 853,960, which averages 21,349 per game. Montreal averaged 21,046 per game. Philadelphia's average was 20,372, but that included an outdoor game at Lincoln Financial Field that drew 69,620. Indoor Flyers home games averaged 19,141. ESPN's attendance chart showed that 10 teams drew at least 100% of capacity, and only 9 teams drew under 95% of capacity. As a whole, the league drew 95.5% of capacity. 11 teams sold out all games, and 685 of the 1,271 games (53.9%) were sellouts.

**2017-18** – Chicago drew 887,794 (21,654 per game) to lead the league. Montreal (21,302) also averaged above 20,000 per game. ESPN figures show that 13 of the 31 teams drew at least 100% of their arena's seating capacity. Only 7 teams drew less than 95% of capacity. 14 teams sold out all games. Leaguewide, 791 of 1,271 games (62.2%) sold out.

**2016-17** – Once again, Chicago was the leader with total attendance of 891,827 (21,752 per game). Montreal (21,288) and Detroit (20,077) also topped 20,000 per game. ESPN noted that 15 of the 30 teams averaged at least 100% of their arena's capacity. Only 8 teams drew less than 95% of capacity. 761 of 1,230 games (61.9%) were sold out.

**2015-16** – Chicago led the league again, drawing 896,240, an average of 21,860 per game. Montreal (21,288) and Detroit (20,027) also averaged over 20,000. According to ESPN, 13 of the 30 teams averaged at least 100% of arena capacity, and just 7 teams averaged below 95.0% of capacity.

**<u>2014-15</u>** – Chicago drew 892,532, (21,769 per game) to lead the league. Montreal (21,287), and Detroit (20,027) were the other teams to average better than 20,000.

**2013-14** – The Chicago Black Hawks had the best attendance, drawing 927,545, and average of 22,623 per game. This total includes a crowd of 62,921 for an outdoor game at Soldier Field, the home stadium for the NFL's Bears. The 40 indoor games at the United Center drew an average of 21,616. In the lockout-shortened 2012-13 season, Chicago also led the NHL in attendance, averaging 21,776 per game.

#### MINOR LEAGUE HOCKEY

The table below shows combined total attendance for all professional hockey minor leagues. It does not include the 'Junior Leagues' which are considered to be amateur leagues.

31 of the 51 teams that played in 2020-21 had fans in attendance at some games. Some teams had fewer games than scheduled in 2021-22 due to Covid outbreaks. 2021-22 comparisons are with 2018-19.

Since 1992-93, the highest total attendance in the hockey minor leagues was 19,736,526 (109 teams) in the 1999-2000 season. Highest average per game was 5,092 in 1997-98. Unofficially, according to hockeydb.com, the highest average per game since 1992-93 was 5,543 in 1994-95. The 2017-18 average per game was the best since 2001-02. Change for 2004-05 vs. 2003-04, and figures from prior to 2004-05, exclude Ligue Nord-Americaine, whose attendance was not available for those seasons. Figures from some other small minor leagues may be missing from seasons prior to 1997-98.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2023-24	87	13,775,623	853,330	6.6	4,835	323	7.2
2022-23	88	12,922,293	2,613,858	25.3	4,512	661	17.2
2021-22	82	10,308,435	(1,950,857)	(15.9)	3,851	(715)	(15.7)
2020-21	51	1,555,613			2,052		
2019-20	83	9,867,159	(2,392,133)	(19.5)	4,270	(296)	(6.5)
2018-19	80	12,259,292	211,889	1.8	4,566	(15)	(0.3)
2017-18	79	12,047,403	274,943	2.3	4,581	227	5.2
2016-17	81	11,772,460	(404,987)	(3.3)	4,354	(146)	(3.2)
2015-16	81	12,177,447	214,052	1.8	4,500	89	2.0
2014-15	80	11,963,395	(215,066)	(1.8)	4,411	57	1.3
2013-14	84	12,178,461	(508,872)	(4.0)	4,354	(126)	(2.8)
2012-13	85	12,687,333	283,239	2.3	4,480	236	5.6
2011-12	88	12,404,094	(170,184)	(1.4)	4,244	29	0.7
2010-11	88	12,574,278	(24,563)	(0.2)	4,215	(27)	(0.6)
2009-10	85	12,598,841	(210,619)	(1.6)	4,242	177	4.4
2008-09	93	12,809,460	(856,659)	(6.3)	4,065	(177)	(4.2)
2007-08	98	13,666,119	(677,662)	(4.7)	4,242	(98)	(2.3)
2006-07	95	14,343,781	(396,793)	(2.7)	4,340	55	1.3
2005-06	97	14,740,574	(1,228,674)	(7.7)	4,285	(26)	(0.6)
2004-05	105	15,969,248	813,136	5.4	4,311	(30)	(0.7)
2003-04	97	15,156,112	2,082	0.0	4,341	(117)	(2.6)
2002-03	93	15,154,030	(666,084)	(4.2)	4,458	(138)	(3.0)
2001-02	94	15,820,114	(1,723,835)	(9.8)	4,596	100	2.2
2000-01	106	17,543,949	(2,192,577)	(11.1)	4,496	(404)	(8.2)
1999-00	109	19,736,526	150,012	0.8	4,900	35	0.7
1998-99	109	19,586,514	438,925	2.3	4,865	(227)	(4.5)
1997-98	102	19,147,589	1,132,005	6.3	5,092	(225)	(4.2)
1996-97	92	18,015,584	2,314,014	14.7	5,317	292	5.8
1995-96	85	15,701,570	1,288,107	8.9	5,025	(518)	(9.3)
1994-95	71	14,413,463	3,099,463	27.4	5,543	753	15.7
1993-94	66	11,314,000	1,674,991	17.4	4,790	377	8.5
1992-93	66	9,639,009	N.A.	N.A.	4,413	N.A.	N.A.

MINOR LEAGUE HOCKEY - SINCE 1992-1993

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

# Minor League Hockey

<u>2023-24</u> – The AHL, ECHL, SPHL, and the Federal Prospects League all set record-highs in total attendance. The SPHL and Federal Leagues also set record highs in average per game. The AHL posted its 3<sup>rd</sup> best-ever average per game, and the ECHL had its 4<sup>th</sup> highest-ever average per game. The top ranked AHL drew 6,819,875, up 319,256 (4.9%) from the revised 2022-23 figure. Average per game was 5,920, up 278 (4.9%). League leaders were Cleveland (369,500, 10,264 per game), Hershey (339,819, 9,439 per game), and Laval (333,222, 9,256 per game). Coachella Valley, Chicago, Grand Rapids, Ontario CA, Providence, and San Diego also averaged above 7,000 per game. Leaders in the ECHL were Jacksonville (315,649, 8,768 per game), Fort Wayne (293,639, (8,157 per game), Toledo (284,894, 7,914 per game), and Tulsa (265,606, 7,378 per game). Colorado of the AHL, and Jacksonville, Idaho, and Toledo of the ECHL, all drew at least 100% of their arena's listed seating capacity. 2024 Minor League Hockey playoffs drew a combined 1,157,013, the best since 2007. The playoffs averaged 5,030 per game, the best since at least 1997.

**2022-23** – The top-ranked AHL played a slightly shorter schedule, and drew 6,500,619, up 1,326,125 (25.6%) **from 2021-22.** Average per game was 5,642, up 1,014 (21.9%). **Vs. 2018-19**, the last really normal season, the AHL total was down 168,295 (2.5%), and average per game declined 157 (2.7%). 2023 league leaders were Cleveland (342,752, 9,521 per game), Hershey (318,983, 8,861 per game), and Chicago (309,818, 8,606 per game). Coachella Valley (Thousand Palms, CA), Grand Rapids, Laval, Ontario CA, and Providence, also averaged above 7,000 per game. Leaders in other leagues were Jacksonville FL (278,958, 7,749 per game), Fort Wayne (278,634, 7,740 per game), and Toledo (277,683, 7,713 per game). Combined **2022-23 vs. 2018-19** total attendance for the 5 minor leagues was up 663,001 (5.4%), but average per game declined by 54 (1.2%), with 8 more teams and 179 more games played in 2022-23. The ECHL drew its highest total since 1999-2000. Their total was up 8.0% vs. 2018-19, and average per game rose 4.2%. Savannah, Colorado (Windsor), Utica, Idaho (Boise), and Toledo, had average per game of at least 100% of their arena's capacity.

**2021-22** – Schedules were close to normal, with just a few games from the AHL cancelled due to Covid. The top-ranked AHL drew 5,174,494, averaging 4,628 per game. Hershey had the top attendance (301,528, 7,935 per game.). Cleveland (272,840, 7,180 per game), and Grand Rapids (267,095, 7,029 per game) were the other AHL leaders. Charlotte, Chicago, Lehigh Valley PA, Ontario CA, Providence, and San Diego, were the other AHL teams that averaged at least 6,000 per game. Among teams in all other leagues, Toledo (264,901, 7,358 per game), had the top figures, followed by Fort Wayne 246,163, 6,838 per game), and Jacksonville, FL (230,596, 6,405 per game).

2020-21 - 4 of the 5 leagues played this season, each with a reduced schedule. 10 AHL teams had some games with fans in attendance. Those games drew 239,043, an average of 1,758 per game. Iowa had the top AHL total (55,645), followed by Cleveland (53,548).

**2019-20** – Covid-19 caused all leagues to cancel the remainder of their seasons in March. The AHL, which is the top league, drew 5,211,579, averaging 5,538. Cleveland had the top attendance (280,318), averaging 9,043. Hershey drew 280,091, an average of 8,753 per game. Fort Wayne again led all teams in the other leagues, drawing 242,700 (8,090 per game), followed by Toledo (208,531 – 7,448 per game). 12 AHL teams, and the 2 ECHL teams just noted, averaged at least 6,000 per game.

**2018-19** – The AHL, drew 6,668,914, as they added one team. Their average per game was 5,799. Hershey (338,452 – 38 home games – 8,907 average per game) had the top total, followed closely by Cleveland (338,220 – 38 home games - 8,901 average). San Diego had the highest average per game (9,021 in 34 games). Some AHL teams only play 34 home games. In other leagues, Fort Wayne of the ECHL again had the leading attendance (285,551 – 7,932 average), followed by Toledo (280,170 – 7,783 average). 12 AHL and 2 ECHL teams averaged at least 6,000 per game.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

#### Minor League Hockey

**2017-18** - The AHL drew 6,583,341 (5,904 per game). Cleveland of the AHL had the top total (349,503 in 38 home games – 9,197 average per game). San Diego had the top average per game (9,305 in 34 games). Hershey (9,099), and Providence (8,357) also topped 8,000 per game. Some AHL teams play 34 home games instead of 38. In other leagues, Fort Wayne of the ECHL had the top attendance (280,241 – 7,784 per game). Toledo of the ECHL averaged 7,600. 13 AHL and 3 ECHL teams averaged at least 6,000 per game.

**2016-17** – The AHL, drew 6,498,733 (5,823 per game). Hershey of the AHL again had the top total attendance (353,759), and average per game (9,309). AHL teams Cleveland, Providence, Ontario CA, and San Diego all averaged over 8,000 per game. Fort Wayne of the ECHL led teams in all other leagues, drawing 272,456 (7,568 per game). Toledo of the ECHL averaged 7,074 per game.

<u>2015-16</u> – The AHL drew a then-record-high 6,693,526, averaging a record-high 5,981 per game. Hershey drew 372,008 (9,790 per game) to lead that league. Lake Erie (Cleveland), Grand Rapids, Lehigh Valley (Allentown, PA), Ontario CA, Providence, and San Diego, all of the AHL, also averaged over 8,000 per game. Fort Wayne drew 269,413 (7,484 per game) to lead all other leagues, followed by Toledo's 251,369 (6,982 per game).

**2014-15** – AHL attendance was 6,279,281, up 120,931 (2.0%), and average per game increased 106 to 5,508. The AHL's Hershey Bears again had the best minor league hockey attendance (372,070 – 9,791 per game). In the other minor leagues, Ontario, CA of the ECHL led with a total of 280,966 (7,802 per game).

**2013-14** - The AHL drew 6,158,350. Total attendance fell 351,535 (5.4%), and their average per game was down 308 to 5,402. Top attendance in hockey's minor leagues was 367,238 (9,664 per game) by the Hershey (PA) Bears of the AHL. Best attendance in other minor leagues was 293,670 (8,158 per game) by Ontario, CA of the ECHL.

# Professional Women's Hockey League

The PWHL played its first season, starting in January, 2024. The 6-team league drew 392,259 in 72 games, averaging 5,448 per game. Top attendance was by Ottawa (89,952, 7,496 average), followed by Minnesota (85,660, 7,138 average), and Montreal (84,536, 7,045 average). The 13 playoff games drew 91,271, averaging 7,021 per game.

Some teams played in small facilities. Toronto's regular rink had a capacity of 2,620. They played one game at Scotiabank Arena, home of the NHL Maple Leafs and the NBA Raptors, which drew a sellout crowd of 19,285. Montreal played some of its games in arena seating 3,232, and others in an AHL arena in Laval with a capacity of 10,172. One Montreal home game was played at the Bell Centre, home of the NHL Canadians. Tickets to that game were sold out in 20 minutes, and it drew a league-high 21,105. Another Montreal 'home' game was played at PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh, home of the NHL Penguins. One Boston home game was played at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit, home of the NHL Red Wings.

#### NCAA MEN'S DIVISION I HOCKEY

Figures in bold in this table for highest total and average attendance only cover years shown here. The NCAA does not list combined total attendance for all hockey teams in its record books. Attendance prior to 2002-03 is not available. Attendance for only 50 teams was listed for 2003-04 (64 teams played), and for 60 teams in 2018-19 and 2019-20, (66 teams played in both seasons). 2021-22 is compared with 2019-20.

The NCAA did not publish hockey attendance data for 2020-21.

# NCAA MEN'S DIVISION I HOCKEY - SINCE 2002-03

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2023-24	64	3,956,476	419,078	11.8	3,533	230	7.0
2022-23	61	3,537,398	451,108	14.6	3,303	327	11.0
2021-22	59	3,086,290	(222,241)	(6.7)	2,976	(284)	(8.7)
2020-21	23	68,471					
2019-20	60	3,308,531	(173,732)	(5.0)	3,260	(44)	(1.3)
2018-19	60	3,482,263	(106,221)	(3.0)	3,304	(50)	(1.5)
2017-18	60	3,588,484	63,555	1.8	3,354	(19)	(0.6)
2016-17	60	3,524,929	(60,495)	(1.7)	3,373	(105)	(3.0)
2015-16	60	3,585,424	(42,033)	(1.2)	3,478	(71)	(2.0)
2014-15	59	3,627,457	(47,388)	(1.3)	3,549	(36)	(1.0)
2013-14	59	3,674,845	(20,608)	(0.6)	3,585	(13)	(0.4)
2012-13	58	3,695,453	(1,378)	(0.0)	3,598	(33)	(0.9)
2011-12	58	3,696,831	(106,888)	(2.8)	3,631	(124)	(3.3)
2010-11	58	3,803,719	149,919	4.1	3,755	148	4.1
2009-10	58	3,653,800	(46,379)	(1.3)	3,607	(60)	(1.6)
2008-09	58	3,700,179	5,357	0.1	3,667	52	1.4
2007-08	59	3,694,822	41,748	1.1	3,615	(53)	(1.4)
2006-07	58	3,653,074	(42,027)	(1.1)	3,668	52	1.4
2005-06	59	3,695,101	104,851	2.9	3,616	(3)	(0.1)
2004-05	58	3,590,250	17,170	0.5	3,619	(400)	(10.0)
2003-04	50	3,573,080	(48,658)	(1.3)	4,019	361	9.9
2002-03	57	3,621,738	N.A.	N.A.	3,658	N.A.	N.A.

# INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

# NCAA Division I College Hockey – Men

**2023-24** – North Dakota led in total attendance (278,677) for the 12<sup>th</sup> straight year, and in average per game (11,612) for the 9<sup>th</sup> straight season. Wisconsin drew 211,233, averaging 10,059, followed by Minnesota (193,727, 9,225 average), and Omaha (133,826, 7,043 average). Boston College, Denver, Penn State, Michigan State, and Minnesota-Duluth also averaged at least 6,000 per game. Top crowds were 18,694 and 18,598 at the Frozen Four in St. Paul, 18,410 for a Michigan-Michigan State game in Detroit, and 17,850 for each game of the Beanpot Tournament in Boston. The largest on-campus crowd was 15,359 at Wisconsin.

**2022-23** – North Dakota had the top total (216,578), and best average per game (11,399). Minnesota's total was 183,122, and they averaged 9,156 per game. Denver drew 151,069 – 6,295 per game, and Wisconsin had a 143,991 total, and an 8,000 average. Omaha and Penn State also averaged better than 6,000 per game. Best crowds were 45,523 for Michigan vs. Ohio State, outdoors in Columbus, 22,500 for Massachusetts and Boston College in Boston, and 17,952 at Denver University.

**2021-22** - North Dakota led in total attendance (237,177), and in average per game (11,194) Wisconsin drew 175,241 (9,736 per game), and Minnesota drew 158,268 (7,913 per game).

<u>2020-21</u> – 23 teams played at least some home games with a limited number of fans in attendance. North Dakota (24,454), was the only team to draw at least 10,000.

**2019-20** – North Dakota led Division I in total attendance (214,701), and in average per game (11,300). Wisconsin drew 195,552 (10,864 per game), and Minnesota drew 164,027 (7,456 per game).

2018-19 - North Dakota led Division I in total attendance (216,570), and in average per game (11,398).

**<u>2017-18</u>** – North Dakota led Division I in total attendance (239,563), and in average per game (11,408).

2016-17 – The leader once more was North Dakota in total attendance (241,603), and average per game (11,504).

2015-16 – North Dakota led in both total attendance (221,828), and average per game (11,675).

**<u>2014-15</u>** – The leader in total attendance and average per date was North Dakota, who drew 253,344 (11,515 per game).

**2013-14** – North Dakota had the highest total (249,445), and Minnesota had the highest average per game (11,552). In 2012-13, the attendance leader was North Dakota, who drew 11,592 per game. Wisconsin led the NCAA in hockey attendance in 14 straight seasons from 1998-99 through 2011-12. Their top average was 15,048 per game in 2009-10.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS - Most Recent Seasons

#### NCAA WOMEN'S DIVISION I HOCKEY

There were 44 teams with attendance in **2023-24**. Preliminary data shows that total attendance was 410,151, an average of 539 per game. Wisconsin (47,652, 2,269 average) had the top attendance, followed by Minnesota (36,843, 1,942 average), and Minnesota-Duluth (22,735, 1,137 average). Top crowd was 10,633 for Northeastern vs. Boston U.

There were 42 teams in **2022-23**. Total attendance was 362,848, an average of 509 per game. Wisconsin led in total attendance (52,321), average per game (2,907), and had the largest crowd (14,430). Minnesota drew 38,110, averaging 2,006 per game.

41 teams had attendance in **2021-22**. The total was 259,336, with a 385 average per game. Wisconsin led in total attendance (35,944), and average per game (2,247), followed by Minnesota (29,846 - 1,421 per game), and Minnesota-Duluth (17,258 - 1,015 per game).

In **2020-21**, the 8 teams that played home games with fans in attendance drew a total of 6,055, led by Bemidji State (MN).

In **2019-20**, the top 30 in attendance Division I Women's Hockey teams drew 298,715, averaging 589 per game. Wisconsin had the highest total (43,910), and average per game (3,136), followed by Minnesota (38,864 - 2,045 per game), and Cornell (27,526 - 1,449 per game).

**2018-19** attendance for the top 30 Division I Women's hockey teams was 314,068 (611 average per game). Wisconsin had the top total (51,347), and average per game (2,232). 47 teams played in 2018-19.

The 40 NCAA Division I Women's hockey teams drew 314,639 (477 average per game) in **2017-18**. The top 20 teams in total attendance drew 246,592 (707 per game), led by Wisconsin who drew 38,505 (2,265 per game).

In **2016-17**, the 35 NCAA Division I Women's hockey teams drew 323,066, an average of 541 per game. The top 20 teams in attendance drew 257,792, averaging 760 per game. Wisconsin had the highest total (55,315) and average per game (2,911).

Attendance was reported by 35 NCAA Division I Women's hockey teams in **2015-16**. They drew 310,696, an average of 517 per game. The 20 teams with the highest total attendance drew 257,797, an average of 712 per game. Minnesota again led in total attendance (42,501), and average per game (2,125).

36 Division I NCAA Women's hockey teams reported attendance for the **2014-15** season. These teams drew 318,714, an average of 521 per game. The 20 best drawing teams had a combined attendance of 264,651, an average of 737 per game. Minnesota led in total attendance (46,862), and average (2,037).

In the **2013-14** season, 20 Women's Division I hockey teams reported attendance. The total for those 20 schools was 274,444, an average of 784 per game. Wisconsin had the highest total (46,589), and Minnesota posted the best average per game (2,394). Minnesota played at Wisconsin on Feb. 15, 2014, and drew an NCAA Women's Hockey record crowd of 13,573.

#### CANADIAN MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUES

These are amateur leagues that are feeders to colleges and the NHL. The 3 Major Junior leagues are the renamed Quebec Maritimes Junior Hockey League (18 teams - 68 game schedule), the Ontario Hockey League (20 teams - 3 in the U.S. - 68 game schedule), and the Western Hockey League (22 teams – 5 in the U.S. - 72 game schedule through 2017-18, 68 games since then). All of these leagues ended their seasons early in 2019-20. The Quebec Remparts, who averaged 13,835 per game had the highest attendance of any team in these leagues in 2015-16.

The **United States Hockey League**, a lower level junior league, drew 1,384,820 (2,715 per game) in **2014-15**, 1,375,654 (2,697 per game) in **2015-16**, 1,255,602 (2,462 per game) in **2016-17**, 1,166,098 (2,286 per game) in **2017-18**, and 1,219,476 (2,313 per game) in **2018-19**. Sioux Falls had the top average per game (6,359). The **2019-20** season ended early, and drew 892,958 (2,307 per game). In **2020-21**, the league drew 211,779 for 198 games with fans in attendance, an average of 1,070 per game. For the **2021-22** season, the 16-team league drew 940,551, averaging 1,896 per game. Sioux Falls led the league with a total attendance of 146,619, an average of 4,887 per game. In **2022-23**, the 16-team league drew 1,083,980, averaging 2,185 per game. Sioux Falls led again, drawing 146,886, averaging 4,896 per game. The 16-team league drew 1,113,828 in **2023-24**, an average of 2,266 per game. Sioux Falls had the top total (139,667) and average per game (4,816).

Regular season attendance, according to League Websites, LeagueStat.com, and Hockeydb.com

2023-24	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Maritimes Junior League	2,045,453	612	3,342
Ontario Hockey League	2,794,935	680	4,110
Western Hockey League	3,076,922	748	4,114
TOTAL	7,917,310	2,040	3,881

**2023-24** attendance leaders were London in the Ontario Hockey League (307,190 – 9,035), Edmonton in the Western Hockey League (251,728 – 7,404), and Quebec in the Quebec Maritimes League (334,556 – 9,840).

2022-23	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	1,957,770	612	3,198
Ontario Hockey League	2,692,562	680	3,960
Western Hockey League	2,899,964	748	3,877
TOTAL	7,550,296	2,040	3,701

**2022-23** attendance leaders were Quebec in the Quebec Major Junior League (330,689 – 9,726), London in the Ontario Hockey League (305,830 – 8,995), and Edmonton in the Western Hockey League (211,595 – 6,223).

2021-22	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	1,521,231	612	2,485
Ontario Hockey League	2,001,240	680	2,943
Western Hockey League	2,395,699	748	3,203
TOTAL	5,918,170	2,040	2,901

Attendance leaders in 2021-22 were London in the Ontario Hockey League (approximately 7,109 per game), Everett in the Western Hockey League (5,341), and Quebec in the Quebec Major Junior League (6,797). The 2019-20 attendance leaders were London (8,975) in the OHL, Quebec (8,477) in the QMJHL, and Edmonton (7,008) in the WHL. All of these leagues suspended their seasons in March.

## CANADIAN MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUES

In 2020-21, the OHL did not play, and the WHL played with no fans in attendance. The QMJL had 6 teams that played with fans in attendance, drawing 144,698 (109 games), an average of 1,328 per game.

2019-20	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	1,842,313	571	3,226
Ontario Hockey League	2,444,496	624	3,917
Western Hockey League	2,860,412	688	4,157
TOTAL	7,147,221	1,883	3,796

2018-19 team attendance leaders were London (8,997 per game) in the Ontario Hockey League, Quebec (9,230) in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, and Edmonton (7,661) in the Western League.

2018-19	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	2,026,749	612	3,311
Ontario Hockey League	2,682,124	680	3,944
Western Hockey League	3,261,756	748	4,361
TOTAL	7,970,629	2,040	3,907

In 2017-18, London (8,959 per game) led the Ontario Hockey League, Edmonton (8,154) topped the Western Hockey League, and Quebec of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League led all teams, averaging 9,002 per game.

2017-18	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	1,955,645	612	3,195
Ontario Hockey League	2,760,290	680	4,059
Western Hockey League	3,509,649	792	4,431
TOTAL	8,225,584	2,084	3,947

For the 2016-17 season, Edmonton of the Western Hockey League (9,461 per game), Quebec of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (9,421 per game), and London of the Ontario Hockey League (9,003 per game) had the highest attendance.

2016-17	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	1,939,449	612	3,169
Ontario Hockey League	2,785,212	680	4,096
Western Hockey League	3,543,688	792	4,474
TOTAL	8,268,349	2,084	3,968

2015-16	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	# OF GAMES	AVERAGE PER GAME
Quebec Major Junior League	2,083,602	612	3,405
Ontario Hockey League	2,825,876	680	4,156
Western Hockey League	3,592,115	792	4,535
TOTAL	8,501,593	2,084	4,079

#### PROFESSIONAL SOCCER

Major League Soccer had its highest total attendance and average per game in 2024. 7 teams drew record-highs. Cincinnati joined in 2019, Nashville, Miami, and Austin were added by 2021. 2021 Average per game only includes the 367 games with attendance. 93 games didn't have any recorded attendance. Charlotte was added in 2022, and St. Louis joined in 2023. 2022 changes shown are vs. 2019.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER – ATTENDANCE SINCE THE LEAGUE BEGAN PLAY IN 1996

Year	# of Teams	Total Attendance	# Change vs. Previous Year	% Chg. vs. Prev. Year	Average per Game	# Change vs. Previous Year	% Chg. vs. Prev. Year
2024	29	11,294,907	394,103	3.6	 22,911	800	3.6
2024	29	10,900,804	904,861	9.1	 22,911	1,111	5.3
2023	29	, ,	,	14.9	 ,	(330)	(1.5)
2022	20	9,995,943 6,213,022	1,293,269	14.9	 21,000 16,929	(330)	(1.5)
2021	26	637,020			 24,501		
2020	20	037,020			24,501		
2019	24	8,702,674	150,171	1.8	21,330	(543)	(2.5)
2019	24	8,552,503	284,969	3.4	 21,330	(233)	(2.5)
2018	23		892,247	3.4 12.1	21,873	414	1.9
2017	22	8,267,534 7,375,287	40,234	0.5	22,106	118	0.5
	20	, ,	,		 ,	-	0.5
2015	20	7,335,053	1,150,703	18.6	21,574	2,427	12.7
2014	10	6 104 250	170.250	3.0	10 1 17	553	3.0
2014 2013	19 19	6,184,350	178,359	3.0	19,147	(213)	3.0 (1.1)
		6,005,991	(68,738)		 18,594		
2012	19	6,074,729	605,880	11.1	 18,807	935	5.2
2011	18	5,468,849	1,466,796	36.7	17,872	1,197	7.2
2010	16	4,002,053	393,005	10.9	16,675	635	4.0
0000	45	0.000.040	450.407		 40.040	(400)	(0,0)
2009	15	3,609,048	152,407	4.4	16,040	(420)	(2.6)
2008	14	3,456,641	186,431	5.7	16,460	(310)	(1.8)
2007	13	3,270,210	293,423	9.9	16,770	1,266	8.2
2006	12	2,976,787	76,071	2.6	15,504	396	2.6
2005	12	2,900,716	566,919	24.3	15,108	(451)	(2.9)
0004	40	0 000 707	00.050		45 550	001	
2004	10	2,333,797	99,050	4.4	15,559	661	4.4
2003	10	2,234,747	19,769	0.9	14,898	(923)	(5.8)
2002	10	2,214,978	(148,911)	(6.3)	15,821	860	5.7
2001	12	2,363,889	(277,197)	(10.5)	14,961	1,205	8.8
2000	12	2,641,086	(101,016)	(3.7)	13,756	(526)	(3.7)
			(	(2.2)		(2.2)	(2.2)
1999	12	2,742,102	(5,795)	(0.2)	14,282	(30)	(0.2)
1998	12	2,747,897	411,368	17.6	14,312	(291)	(2.0)
1997	10	2,336,529	(448,472)	(16.1)	14,603	(2,803)	(16.1)
1996	10	2,785,001			17,406		

Number of home games per season for Major League Soccer teams: 14 – 2002; 15 - 2003, 2004, 2007-2010); 16 – 1996-2000, 2005, 2006; 17 - 2011-2024 (excludes 2020); 12-14 in 2001 when the season ended early.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE LEADERS – Most Recent Seasons

Major League Soccer

- <u>2024</u> Atlanta again led with a 796,120 total, and a 46,831 average per game.
- 2023 Atlanta topped the league, drawing 807,947, with an average of 47,526.
- 2022 Atlanta drew 800,966, averaging 47,116 per game, to lead the league.
- <u>2021</u> Atlanta led with a total of 747,386, averaging 43,964. All 17 home games had fans in attendance.
- <u>2020</u> No fans were in attendance after the second week of games.
- 2019 Atlanta led, drawing 892,663, averaging 52,510 per game.
- 2018 Atlanta drew a league record-high 901,033, an average of 53,002 per game.
- <u>2017</u> Expansion team Atlanta led with a total of 819,404, averaging 48,200 per game.
- 2016 Seattle was tops in attendance again, drawing 724,809, an average of 42,636 per game.
- <u>2015</u> Seattle set an all-time league record, drawing 752,192, an average of 44,247 per game.
- 2014 Seattle led again, drawing 743,845, an average of 43,734 per game.
- 2013 The attendance leader was Seattle, who drew 748,652, averaging 44,038 per game.

# Other Men's Professional Soccer Leagues

Lower level men's pro soccer leagues: The North American Soccer League has not played since 2017. That league drew 556,302 (8 teams), an average of 4,486 per game in 2017, 885,539, an average of 4,736 per game in 2016 (12 teams), and 975,065, an average of 5,909 per game in 2015 (11 teams).

The United Soccer League Champion Division, with 24 teams, drew a league record-high estimated total of about 2,300,000 in **2023**, and estimated average of around 5,620 per game. If the league issues an exact figure, this will be updated Sacramento had the top attendance (180,665 – 10,627 average), followed closely by Louisville (179,299 – 10,547 average). In **2022**, the USL Championship Division with 27 teams, drew 1,983,922, averaging 5,061 per game, led by Louisville in total (177,901), and New Mexico in average (10,724). Some teams didn't report attendance for all games. The 36 team United Soccer League drew 1,532,677 (3,880 per game) in **2021**, led by Louisville City (150,300 – 10,020 per game). The league drew 2,734,599 (4,916 per game) in **2019**, led by New Mexico (215,775 – 12,693 per game), 2,753,439 (4,908 per game – 33 teams) in **2018**, 2,061,159 (4,294 per game- 30 teams) in **2017**, 1,496,493 (3,439 per game-29 teams) in **2016**, and 1,121,962 (3,369 per game) in **2015**. Sources: Soccer Stadium Digest, kenn.com.

USL League 1, with 12 teams in **2023**, drew 426,778, and average of 2,453 per game, led by Richmond (76,577 - 4,786 per game. The 11 teams in **2022** drew 329,275, averaging 2,271 per game. The league averaged 1,911 per game in **2021**.

The 13-team Major Arena Soccer League (indoor) drew 337,112 (2,147 per game) in **2023-24**, 364,822 (2,172 per game – 14 teams) in **2022-23**, 264,448 (1,849 per game – 12 teams) in **2021-22**, 454,670 (2,540 per game – 17 teams) in **2019-20**, 462,670 (2,268 per game – 17 teams) in **2018-19**, 446,913 (2,539 per game – 16 teams) in **2017-18**, 467,549 (2,750 per game – 17 teams) in **2016-17**, 480,019 (2,424 per game – 20 teams) in **2015-16**, and 546,705 (2,451 per game – 23 teams) in **2014-15**. Previous indoor soccer leagues drew 214,522 (1,349 avg.) in 2013-14, 146,193 (968 avg.) in 2012-13, 63,003 (656 avg.) in 2011-12. The Major Indoor Soccer League drew 326,123 (4,658 avg.) in 2013-14, 377,027 (4,143 avg.) in 2012-13, 336,478 (4,005 avg.) in 2011-12, 199,123 (3,984 avg.) in 2010-11, and 188,068 (3,761 avg.) in 2009-10.

The Canadian Premier League played its first season in **2019**. That year, the 7 teams drew a combined 420,034, averaging 4,286 per game. In **2022**, the 8 teams drew 355,696, an average of 3,176 per game, led by Halifax (81,547, 5,825 per game). The league drew 428,210, averaging 3,858 per game in **2023**, led by Halifax, who averaged 5,854. (Sources: Soccer Stadium Digest, kenn.com, league Websites, Wikipedia, @leonard\_FC)

#### PROFESSIONAL SOCCER

#### NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE - SINCE PLAY BEGAN IN 2013

# In 2024, the league drew a record-high total attendance and average per game. The Chicago Red Stars drew 35,038 for a game at Wrigley Field on June 8, 2024, the largest NWSL crowd ever.

One 2023 game, in Houston, was not completed due to weather. This league cancelled its season in 2020. 2022 changes are vs. 2019.

	# of	Total	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.	Average per	# Change vs.	% Chg. vs.
Year	Teams	Attendance	Previous Year	Prev. Year	Game	Previous Year	Prev. Year
2024	14	2,044,848	678,267	49.6	11,235	803	7.7
2023	12	1,366,581	324,518	31.1	10,432	2,538	32.2
2022	12	1,042,063	249,654	31.5	7,894	557	7.6
2021	10	480,961			5,528		
2020		0			0		
2019	9	792,409	142,536	21.9	7,337	1,230	20.1
2018	9	649,873	39,913	6.5	6,107	1,024	20.1
2017	10	609,960	54,185	9.7	5,083	(475)	(8.5)
2016	10	555,775	101,675	22.4	5,558	512	10.1
2015	9	454,100	7,087	1.6	5,046	907	21.9
2014	9	447,013	71,189	18.9	4,139	(132)	(3.1)
2013	8	375,824			4,271		

Number of home games per team: 13 in 2024; 11 in 2013, 2022, and 2023 – 11; 2014 – 12; 2015 and 2016 – 10; 2017, 2018, and 2019 - 12. Number of games with attendance varied by team in 2021.

Angel City (Los Angeles) had the highest total in 2024 (league record-high 251,073), averaging 19,313 per match. San Diego had the highest average per match (19,575). Their total was 234,896. One San Diego home game in 2024 was moved to Louisville due to field conditions. Portland drew 243,428, an average of 18,725.

In 2023, San Diego led the league with a total of 227,893, and a league record-high average of 20,718 per game. Angel City (Los Angeles), was a close second (217,313 – 19,756 average, followed by Portland (208,094 – 18.918 average)/ Angel City drew 210,153, averaging 19,105 per game to lead the league in 2022. Portland, OR had led the league in each season until 2022. In 2021, Portland drew 100,738 in 7 games with attendance, an average of 14,391. Portland's highest total was a then-league record-high 241,181 in 2019. Their top average per game was 20,098 in 2019. Sources: Soccer Stadium Digest, NWSL Website, Wikipedia

#### NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S SOCCER

The NCAA lists the top 50 in total or average per game attendance Division I Men's Soccer teams each year. There were 213 teams in Division I in **2023**. The top 50 in total attendance drew 781,215, averaging 1,466 per match. South Carolina had the top total (43,055) and average per match (4,306). Largest crowd was 8,574 in St. Louis. Cal Poly had the largest on-campus attendance (8,128).

In **2022**, there were 214 teams in Division I. The top 50 teams in attendance drew 710,142, an average of 1,298 per game. Clemson had the top total (31,639), and South Carolina led in average per game (2,839). The largest crowd was 10,392 at Cal Poly. In **2021**, the top 50 teams in attendance drew 695,018, averaging 1,285 per game. Saint Louis had the highest attendance drawing 39,787, with a 3,061 average per game.

Only 16 teams had attendance in **2020**, led by Clemson (3,748 total, 937 average per game). Wake Forest had the top total in **2019** (30,885), and Maryland had the best average per game (2,311). The top 50 teams drew 668,559, an average of 1,234 per game. In **2018**, the top 50 teams drew 696,623, averaging 1,388 per game, led by Connecticut (38,555 total, 3,213 per game). In **2017** the top 50 teams in total attendance drew 783,201, an average of 1,442 per game. Connecticut led in total attendance (42,029) and average per game (3,502).

In **2016**, the top 50 in total attendance drew 834,478, averaging 1,548 per game. The total and average per game leader was Maryland (52,189 total – 4,014 per game). In **2015**, the 50 teams drew 837,880, averaging 1,532 per game. Wake Forest led in total attendance (46,248), while UC-Santa Barbara averaged 3,844 per game to again lead in that category. The 50 teams drew 823,029 in **2014**, an average of 1,493 per game. Louisville had the best total attendance (46,433), while UC-Santa Barbara led in average per game (3,844).

Total **2013** attendance for these 50 teams was 771,159, an average of 1,455 per game. The University of California at Santa Barbara had the highest total attendance (48,191), and also the best average per game (3,707). UCSB led the NCAA in Men's Soccer attendance from 2007 through 2015. Their best total was 70,471, and the top average was 5,873, both in 2010. These are also the best total and average for Men's soccer in NCAA history.

#### NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S SOCCER

349 teams played in **2023**. The 50 top teams in total attendance drew 728,603, an average of 1,347 per match. BYU had the top total (52,471), and South Carolina led in average per match (4,150). A playoff game in Cary, NC had the largest crowd (10,953). Top on-campus crowd was 7,462 at Rider (NJ). The top 50 in attendance in **2022** drew 653,119, averaging 1,192 per game. BYU was the leader (35,041 total, 3,186 average). The largest on-campus crowd was 6,086 at Texas A&M. **In 2021**, the top 50 teams in attendance drew 571,780, and averaged 1,069 per game. BYU led in total attendance (32,670) and average per game (2,513).

50 teams played in front of fans in **2020**. Texas A&M led in average per game (690), followed by Texas (658), and Oklahoma State (top total – 3,250, average - 650). In **2019**, BYU had the best total attendance (35,339), and average per game (2,945). The top 40 teams drew a total of 518,203, an average of 1,162 per game.

The top 47 teams in Women's NCAA Soccer average attendance per date in **2018** drew a total of 561,463, an average of 1,097 per game. Texas A&M (33,310 total, and 2,562 per game) was the leader. South Carolina and BYU also topped 2,000 per game. The Women's College Soccer teams that finished in the top 40 in total attendance in **2017** were listed in the 2018 NCAA Record Book. The top 40 drew 530,660 in **2017**, averaging 1,260 per game. UCLA had the highest total (37,383, and they averaged 2,670 per game). BYU had the best average per game (3,006).

In **2016**, the top 40 teams drew a total of 569,733, averaging 1,272 per game. South Carolina had the top total (38,209), while BYU posted the best average per game (2,957). In **2015**, the top 40 drew 572,943, an average of 1,336 per game. BYU had both the highest total (38,466) and average per game (3,496). Only 40 Women's Soccer teams had listed attendance for **2014**. They drew a total of 561,703, an average of 1,271 per game. Texas A&M had the highest total attendance (44,141), while the University of Portland (OR) had the best average per game (2,971).

In **2013**, the NCAA listed attendance for 75 Division I Women's Soccer teams. Total attendance for those 75 teams was 785,847, an average of 982 per game. Portland was the leader in both total attendance (35,243), and average per game (2,937). They led all Women's Soccer teams in attendance each year from 2005 through 2014. Their best total was 46,143 in 2010, and top average per game was 3,771 in 2007. Brigham Young University holds the record for the highest total attendance in NCAA Women's Soccer (48,858 in 2012). The highest all-time average per game was 3,983 by North Carolina in 2001.

#### NCAA WOMEN'S DIVISION I SOFTBALL

In **2024**, there were 307 teams in Division I. The top 20 teams in total attendance drew 1,145,269 in 593 dates, an average of 1,931 per date. The top 50 teams had a 1,682,233 total, and a 1,264 average per date. Oklahoma led in total attendance (110,668) and average per date (4,099), followed by Alabama (106,893/3,818), Arkansas (97,744/3,258), and LSU (83,661/2,202). The 2024 Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City drew 109,798, averaging 12,200 per session. **12,566 attended a May 31 session of the World Series, the largest-ever Women's Softball crowd**.

In **2023**, the top 20 teams in total attendance drew 904,440 in 483 dates, averaging 1,873 per date. Alabama led for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year, with a total of 100,052, and a 3,573 average per date or game, followed by Arkansas (83,374 – 2,875 average), Arizona (64,168 – 2,567 average), LSU (54,022 – 2,001 average), Oklahoma (37,774 – 2,222 average), and Missouri (44,870 - 2,001 average). Oklahoma drew 8,930 on March 31, the largest home regular season crowd in NCAA Women's Softball history. The 2023 Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City drew 110,607 in 9 sessions, an average of 12,290 per session.

In **2022**, Alabama led the NCAA in regular season Women's Softball attendance for the 9<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' season. The Crimson Tide drew 93,636, averaging 3,745 per date, followed by Arizona (74,028, 2,644 average), Arkansas (57,097, 2,039 average), LSU (47,786, 2,078 average), and Texas A&M (43,628, 1,504 average). The 20 teams with the highest total attendance drew a total of 825,166 in 486 dates, averaging 1,698 per date. The Southeastern Conference drew 507,491 in its regular season, averaging 1,547 per date.

In **2021**, Alabama had the top total attendance (61,991), and average per date (1,442), followed by Arkansas (31,602 total, 1,019 average), and LSU (30,191 total, 915 average).

When the 2020 season was suspended, Alabama had the top total (45,048), and average per date (3,465), followed by Arizona (2,051), Auburn (1,611), and Clemson (1,554). In **2019**, the 55 teams drew 1,152,050 in 1,121 dates, an average of 1,028 per date. The 20 teams with the highest total attendance drew a total of 742,122 in 484 dates, an average of 1,533 per date. Alabama led in total attendance for the 8<sup>th</sup> straight year, and the 11<sup>th</sup> time since 2008, drawing 72,243, averaging 2,750 per date.

In **2018**, the 20 teams with the highest total attendance drew a total of 757,194 in 497 dates, and average of 1,523 per date. Alabama led, drawing 63,038, averaging 3,002 per date. 2017 attendance data listed average per game, instead of average per date. The top 20 teams in attendance drew a total of 842,615, an average of 1,386 per GAME. Average per date is higher since teams play doubleheaders. Alabama led in total attendance (79,218), averaging 2,641 per DATE.

In 2016, Alabama led in both total attendance (76,109) and average per date (2,927). The 10 schools with the highest total attendance in 2016 drew a combined 473,177, averaging 1,947 per date. Alabama also holds the records for highest regular season total (**100,052 in 2023**), and average per date (3,745 in 2022). Either Alabama, Fresno State or Arizona has been the leader in all other years since 1991.

Largest crowd ever at a regular season game was 8,930 for Oklahoma at the World Series park in Oklahoma City, in 2023.

#### PROFESSIONAL LACROSSE

Major League Lacrosse played outdoors (except for Dallas, starting in 2018) with a 14-game season. According to Wikipedia, the 6-team league drew 220,183 in **2019**, averaging 4,587 per date. Chesapeake, who plays in Annapolis, MD, led in attendance (57,165/7,145 per game). The 9-team league drew 228,001 in **2018**, averaging 3,619 per game. Denver drew best with a total of 54,308 and 7,758 per game. The league drew 242,199 in **2017**, an average of 3,844 per game. Denver led with a total of 64,490, averaging 9,212 per game. In **2016**, they drew 268,938, an average of 4,268 per game, with Denver having the best attendance (65,730, an average of 9,390 per game). In **2015**, its 8 teams drew 245,528, an average of 4,384 per game. Denver led the league, averaging 9,502. In **2014**, the league drew 266,557, averaging 4,760 per game. Denver had the top average of 10,383. The league merged with the Premier Lacrosse league for the 2021 season, and had 8 teams, who played a 9-game season. No total attendance data was available. But the league reported a 56% increase in ticket revenue vs. 2019. The league merged into the Premier Lacrosse League in 2021. This league had 8 teams in 2022, and said that attendance was up 24%.

The National Lacrosse League plays indoors. There were 15 teams in the league in **2023 and 2024**, and they drew a total of 1,060,706, an average of 7,857 per game in **2024**. It was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest total in the league's 37-year history. Buffalo led with a total of 152,767 (16,974 per game). In **2023**, the league drew a total of 1,039,418, averaging 7,699 per game. ILindoor.com reported that Buffalo led the league (132,581 – 14,731 average), followed by Calgary (104,984, 11,664 average). The league resumed play in **2021-22**, with 14 teams that drew 830,694, an average of 6,865 per game. Buffalo had the top total and average (89,293 - 9,921), followed by Calgary (83,539 - 9,282). There were 13 teams in the shorter **2020** season, and they drew 618,738, averaging 8,035 per game. Buffalo had the top total (72,537), and Calgary had the best average (12,677).

The NLL had 11 teams in **2019**, and it drew 950,083, an average of 9,596 per game. Average per game leaders were Saskatchewan (13,459), Buffalo (13,046), Colorado (12,815), and Calgary (12,593). In **2018**, the league's 9 teams drew 762,367, averaging 9,411 per game. Average per game leaders were Saskatchewan (14,639), Buffalo (14,181), and Colorado (14,077). In **2017**, its 9 teams drew 765,811, an average of 9,454 per game. Buffalo had the highest total (136,340) and average per game (15,148). In **2016**, the 9 teams drew 741,391, averaging 9,153 per game. Buffalo had the highest average per game (15,833). The league drew 726,632 (8,971 per game) in 2015, led by Colorado's 14,787 average per game.

#### NCAA DIVISION I LACROSSE

Syracuse holds the men's record for combined home/road season attendance (195,530 in 2009). Johns Hopkins has the highest average per game (11,323 in 2008). In 2010, Ohio State drew the highest single-game attendance (31,078). Best attendance for a post-season tournament game was 52,004 in 2007 in Baltimore.

76 Men's teams played in **2024**. The top 25 in total attendance drew 393,394, averaging 2,049 per game. Syracuse led, with a 45,767 total and a 4,577 average per game, followed by Virginia (30,721/3,413), and Johns Hopkins (29,223/3,653). Top crowd was 32,269 for a playoff game in Philadelphia. Biggest on-campus crowds were 10,458 at John's Hopkins, and 10,400 at Army West Point vs. Navy. In **2023**, there were 75 men's teams. The top 25 in total attendance drew 351,023, an average of 1,809 per game. Syracuse led in total attendance and average per game (36,089/4,232), followed by Virginia (31,265/3,474), and Maryland (27,644/3,456). Largest crowd on campus was 7,014 for Army at Navy. In **2022**, the top 25 in attendance drew 347,356, averaging 1,686 per game. Syracuse led in total (31,277) and average per game (3,910). Top on-campus crowd was 9,618 at Army.

There was very limited attendance in **2021**. North Carolina had the top total (9,867), and Navy posted the highest average per game (1,541). In **2019**, the top 25 teams in men's total attendance drew 369,826 (1,877 per game), led by Maryland (35,226, 4,403 per game). In **2018**, the top 25 teams drew 373,915, averaging 1,851 per game. Syracuse had the top total (41,947) and average per game (4,194). The 25 teams drew 415,390 in **2017**, averaging 2,056 per game. Syracuse had the top total (34,271), and Maryland had the best average per game (4,719). In **2016**, Syracuse had the best total attendance (36,120), and average per game (4,013).

For the women, there were 127 teams in **2024**. The top 25 in attendance drew 178,942, averaging 742 per game. Boston College led in total attendance (19,740), and average per game (1,645), followed by Syracuse (16,887/1,535), Northwestern (13,315/1,110), and Maryland (12,272/1,116). Highest regular season crowd was 4,337 at Boston College. 126 teams played in **2023**. The top 25 teams in attendance drew 161,784, averaging 706 per game. Syracuse led in both total and average per game (20,662/1,589), followed by Loyola of Maryland (11,999/923), including a regular season top crowd of 5,432, North Carolina (11,786/1,310), and Maryland (11,259/1,251). The top 25 in attendance in **2022** drew 177,986, averaging 712 per game. Syracuse led with a total of 23,126, averaging 2,313 per game, and had the top on-campus crowd (7,314).

**2021** attendance was limited. North Carolina had the top total (6,394), and Richmond had the leading average per game (500). The top 25 teams in **2019** total attendance drew 171,229 (685 per game), led by Maryland (20,658, 2,066 per game, which are all-time NCAA Women's Lacrosse record-highs). In **2018**, Army had the highest season total (18,261), and the best average per game (2,029). Largest 2018 single-game attendance was 15,033 at Army. The top 25 teams drew 157,908 (645 per game) in 2018. In **2017**, the top 25 teams in attendance drew 144,810 (614 per game), led by Maryland, who drew 16,440 (1,265 per game).

## COMPARING THE MOST RECENT YEAR'S ATTENDANCE WITH A LEAGUE'S RECORD-HIGH ATTENDANCE

Updates to this section will be done as leagues report their official attendance for 2024, and 2023-24.

The table on the next page compares 2023-24, 2023, or 2022-23 attendance with each league's record-high attendance for Major League Baseball, NAPBL Minor League Baseball, all of Minor League Baseball, including the independent leagues, the National Football League, National Basketball Association, National Hockey League, Major League Soccer, the National Women's Soccer League, the WNBA (women's pro basketball), Minor League Hockey, the American Hockey League, NCAA Football Bowl Sub-division (formerly Division 1-A), NCAA Division 1 Men's Basketball, and Division 1 Women's Basketball.

Comparisons with the record-highs are made for total attendance for all the leagues and sports, and for average per date for Major and Minor League Baseball, and average per game for all other leagues and sports. Baseball uses average per date, or average per opening, since single-admission doubleheaders count as one date or opening.

Figures for the professional leagues and sports are for regular season games only. The NCAA sports include neutral-site games, and post-season events such as football bowl games, and the Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments.

The Minor League comparison is made first for the MLB affiliated (NAPBL or Minor League Baseball) leagues only, for years through 2019, and then for years starting in 2021, after the reduction of 56 teams. A separate line lists the combined affiliated and independent leagues. This is because the number of independent teams and leagues change frequently, and this then often becomes an 'apples to oranges' comparison, and loses some validity. The Minor League Hockey figures are also distorted for the same reason, as there has been a significant reduction in the number of teams since the late 1990's, and some leagues have merged. The record-high attendance for Minor League Hockey, set in 1994-95, may not have included every single league. So to provide at least some sort of even comparison, there is a separate line for the American Hockey League. That is the top hockey minor league, and its attendance is included in the Minor League Hockey line as well.

**2023** Major League Baseball total attendance is down 8,755,810 (11.0%) from its record-high of 79,503,175. MLB average per date is down 3,490 (11.6%) from the 2007 record-high of 32,785.

The WNBA has suffered a significantly bigger decline from its peak attendance than MLB has, while the NFL, NHL and Minor League Baseball have had small decreases in average per game/date from their record-highs. The NBA, NHL, Major League Soccer, National Women's Soccer League, and NCAA Women's Basketball, each had their record-high total attendance in their most recent full seasons.

It must be noted that Major League Baseball has, by far, the highest number of tickets available, with 81 games per team, with an average ballpark capacity of 41,889 in 2023. NFL stadiums had an average stadium capacity of 70,083 in 2023, but teams only have 8 or 9 regular season home games. Both the NBA and NHL have 41 home games per team, with an average 2023-24 arena capacity of 18,731 for the NBA, and 17,858 for the NHL. These 2 leagues played to better than 97.6% of arena capacity in 2023-24. If MLB drew that percentage of capacity, attendance would be close to 100 million. But with its long season, and high number of available tickets, reaching such a level of capacity for MLB would be nearly impossible.

Average per game for NCAA Division 1 Men's Basketball reached its record-high in 1990-91, and is down 19.9% since then. But this decline is a bit misleading. There were 295 Division 1 teams in 1990-91, compared with 352 teams in 2022-23. Nearly all, if not all, of the schools joining Division 1 since 1990-91, play in small facilities, and that is a factor in the average attendance per game decline.

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# SPORTS ATTENDANCE - MOST RECENT SEASON vs. THE LEAGUE OR GROUP RECORD-HIGH ATTENDANCE SEASON

			ECENT SEAS	ON	REC		GH TOTAL					H AVG. R GAME		
League or Group of Leagues	<u>Year</u>	<u># of</u> <u>Teams</u>	Total <u>Attendance</u>	Average <u>per Game</u>	     <u>Year</u>	# of <u>Teams</u>	Total <u>Attendance</u>	Change-Most vs. Record-H <u># Change</u>		     <u>Year</u>	# of <u>Teams</u>	Average per Game	Change-Most R vs. Record-Hig <u># Change</u>	
Major League Baseball	2023	30	70,747,356	29,283	   2007	30	79,503,175	(8,755,819)	(11.0)	   2007	30	32,785	(3,502)	(10.7)
MLB-Affiliated Minor Leagues MLB-Affiliated Minor Leagues	2019 2023	176 120	41,504,077 32,149,464	4,044 4,083	2008   2023	176 120	43,263,740 32,149,464	(1,759,663) 0	(4.1) 0.0	2008   2023	176 120	4,174 4,083	<mark>(130)</mark> 0	<mark>(3.1)</mark> 0.0
Baseball-Minor Lg. (all Lgs.)	2023	202	42,306,739	3,662	   2008	237	51,576,409	(9,269,670)	(18.0)	   2008	237	3,892	(230)	(5.9)
National Football League	2022	32	18,096,245	66,776	   2022	32	18,096,245	0	0.0	2007	32	67,755	(979)	(1.4)
National Basketball Assn.	2023-24	30	22,538,436	18,324	2023-24	30	22,538,436	0	0.0	2023-24	30	18,324	0	0.0
National Hockey League	2023-24	32	22,873,142	17,434	   2023-24	32	22,873,142	0	0.0	   2012-13	30	17,768	(334)	(1.9)
Major League Soccer	2023	29	10,900,804	22,111	   2023	29	10,900,804	0	0.0	   2023	29	22,111	0	0.0
Women's Soccer (NWSL)	2023	12	1,366,581	10,432	   2023	12	1,366,581	0	0.0	   2023	12	10,432	0	0.0
Women's Basket (WNBA)	2023	12	1,587,488	6,615	   2002	16	2,391,972	(804,484)	(33.6)	   1998	10	10,864	(4,249)	(39.1)
Minor League Hockey (all)	2023-24	87	13,664,932	4,847	   1999-00	109	19,736,526	(6,071,594)	(30.8)	   1994-95	71	5,543	(696)	(12.6)
American Hockey League	2023-24	32	6,819,875	5,920	   2015-16	30	6,693,526	126,349	1.9	   2015-16	30	5,981	(61)	(1.0)
NCAA Football-FBS D1-A	2019	130	36,831,692	41,477	   2013	123	38,135,118	(1,303,426)	(3.4)	   2008	119	46,971	(5,494)	(11.7)
NCAA Men's Basket - D-1	2022-23	352	25,694,139	4,455	   2007-08	328	28,135,901	(2,441,762)	(8.7)	   1990-91	295	5,735	(1,280)	(22.3)
NCAA Women's Bask.D-1	2022-23	350	8,765,724	1,639	   2022-23	350	8,765,724	0	0.0	   2007-08	326	1,694	(55)	(3.2)

NOTES: Average attendance for Major and Minor League Baseball is for average per DATE (Single-admission doubleheader counts as one date).

NCAA Football, and NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball figures include neutral site and post-season games. Figures for all other leagues are for regular season games only.

The listed National Hockey League average per game record-high is for a shorter season due to work stoppage. Record-high average for a full season is 17,690 in 2013-14.

2019-20 seasons were shorter than usual and are not listed here. Also excluded is any data from 2021, due to the Covid-19 situation.

There are separate listings for the MLB-Affiliated Minor Leagues. One covers years through 2019. The other covers years after the 2021 reorganization.

The NCAA Football Attendance Report has not been issued since 2019.

# 10, 20, 30, AND 40 YEAR ATTENDANCE GROWTH RATE FOR NORTH AMERICAN SPORTS LEAGUES

This section will be updated as each league, or groups of leagues, report 2023 or 2023-24 attendance.

The tables on the following 2 pages compare **2023** North American sports attendance (2023 for the NFL, and 2023-24 for the NBA, NHL, and Minor League Hockey, and 2023-24 for college basketball) with attendance in 2009, 1999, 1989, and 1979 (2008-09, 1998-99, 1988-89, and 1978-79 for basketball and hockey). Comparisons are made for total attendance and for average attendance per date or game. <u>College Football figures in this section include bowl games.</u> Due to the reorganization of Minor League Baseball, the total attendance comparisons, and to a lesser extent, the average per date comparisons, for 2023 vs. previous years have less meaning.

Leagues and sports covered in this comparison include Major and Minor League Baseball, the National Football League, Canadian Football League, College Football Bowl Subdivision (Div.I-A), the National Basketball Association, the Women's NBA, Division I Men's and Women's College Basketball, the National Hockey League, Minor League Hockey, and Major League Soccer. Yearly attendance for NCAA Hockey and Baseball is not available.

Combined attendance for all of Minor League Hockey is not available for 1988-89, and 1978-79, so the leading hockey minor league, the American Hockey League is listed. There were 6 independent minor leagues in baseball in 1999, with 44 teams that compiled attendance. They drew a combined 4,871,797. In 2009, there were 8 independent baseball leagues, with 61 teams. They drew 7,965,185. There were no independent baseball leagues in 1989, or in 1979. So the comparison is only made for the affiliated leagues (NAPBL) for those years.

# NUMBER OF TEAMS BY LEAGUE OR GROUPS OF LEAGUES

The number of teams in leagues or groups of leagues has increased significantly since 1979. The table below shows the number of teams in each league, or groups of leagues, for the seasons covered in the following 4 tables. Major League Soccer began play in 1996. The first WNBA season was 1997. The World Hockey Association played from 1972-73 (12 teams that season) through 1978-79, after which 4 of their teams joined the NHL. 1975-76 is the first year that the NCAA lists Men's Division 1 Basketball attendance. The NCAA did not govern Women's College Basketball until 1981-82.

The NCAA has not issued a College Football attendance report since 2019, so the figures that appear in these tables are for 2019.

	# TEAMS	# TEAMS	# TEAMS	# TEAMS	# TEAMS
LEAGUE OR GROUP OF LEAGUES	2023	2009	1999	<u>1989</u>	1979
Major League Baseball	30	30	30	26	26
Minor League Baseball – Affiliated	120	176	176	164	150
Minor League Baseball Total	201	237	220	164	150
National Football League	32	32	31	28	28
Canadian Football League	9	8	8	8	9
NCAA FBS (Div. IA) College Football (2019)	130	120	114	106	139
NCAA College Football – All Divisions (2019)	669	630	601	524	478
National Basketball Association	30	30	29	25	22
Women's NBA Basketball (WNBA)	12	13	12	Х	Х
NCAA Men's Div. I Basketball	351	330	310	293	257
NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball	349	328	304	281	N/A
			~ ~ ~		
National Hockey League	32	30	27	21	17
American Hockey League	32	29	19	14	9
All of Minor League Hockey	86	93	109	N/A	N/A
Major League Soccer	29	15	12	Х	Х

# ATTENDANCE COMPARISON - 2023 or 2022-23, 2023-24 (2023 NFL, 2019 NCAA FOOTBALL) vs. 2009 or 2008-09

Major League Soccer, the American Hockey League, and NCAA Women's Basketball had the % best growth in total attendance. Major League Soccer, the AHL, and Minor League hockey had the biggest increases in average per game or date. The WNBA, CFL, and Major League Baseball had the largest total attendance % declines.

	2022/2022 22	2022 414	2000/2009 00	2000 41/2	0/ Cha In	0/ Chaile
	2023/2022-23	2023 Avg.	2009/2008-09	2009 Avg.	% Chg. In	% Chg. In
Sport or League	2023-24 Total	per Date	Total	per Date	Total Att.	Avg. Attend.
	Attendance	or Game	Attendance	or Game	'23 vs. '09	'23 vs. '09
Major League Baseball	70,747,365	29,295	73,367,659	30,330	(3.6)	(3.4%)
Minor Lg. Baseball (Affiliated)	32,154,384	4,084	41,644,518	4,055	(22.8)	0.7
Minor League Baseball (all)	42,312,919	3,663	49,609,703	3,804	(14.7)	(3.7)
NFL Football (2023 v. 2009)	18,206,594	66,936	16,651,126	65,043	9.3	2.9
Canadian Football League	1,814,026	22,395	2,049,392	28,464	(11.5)	(21.3)
NCAA FBS (D-I-A) Football (2019)	36,831,692	41,477	37,441,060	46,281	(1.4)	(10.4)
NBA Basketball (2023-24)	22,538,436	18,324	21,549,013	17,520	4.6	4.6
WNBA Basketball	1,587,488	6,615	1,773,321	8,024	(10.5)	(17.6)
NCAA Men's D-1 Basketball	26,636,195	4,627	27,767,111	5,378	(4.1)	(14.0)
NCAA Women's D-1 Basket	10,412,141	1,921	8,042,040	1,664	29.5	15.4
National Hockey League (2023-24)	22,873,142	17,434	21,475,223	17,460	6.6	(0.1)
Minor Lg. Hockey (All) (2023-24)	13,667,932	4,849	12,809,460	4,065	6.7	19.3
American Hockey Leag. (2023-24)	6,819,875	5,920	5,933,381	5,114	14.9	15.8
Major League Soccer	10,900,804	22,111	3,609,048	16,040	202.0	37.8

## ATTENDANCE COMPARISON - 2023 or 2022-23, 2023-24 (2023 NFL, 2019 NCAA FOOTBALL) vs. 1999 or 1998-99

The WNBA began in 1997. Major League Soccer started in 1996. There were 44 independent minor league baseball teams in 1999, but none in 1989 and 1979. A comparison is being made with 2019 attendance for the affiliated (NAPBL) leagues, and for all leagues in the following 3 tables, to show the full amount of growth in the sport. Baseball's National League began to count 'no-shows' in its attendance in 1993. The A.L. counted 'no-shows' before 1993. \* The NBA 1998-1999 season was shortened due to a strike/lockout.

	2023/2022-23	2023 Avg.	1999/1998-99	1999 Avg.	% Chg. In	% Chg. In
Sport or League	2023-24 Total	per Date	Total	per Date	Total Att.	Avg. Attend.
	Attendance	or Game	Attendance	or Game	'23 vs. '99	'23 vs. '99
Major League Baseball	70,747,365	29,295	70,139,380	29,152	0.9	0.5%
Minor Lg. Baseball (Affiliated)	32,154,384	4,084	35,179,471	3,386	(8.6)	20.6
Minor League Baseball (all)	42,312,919	3,663	40,051,268	3,258	5.6	12.4
NFL Football (2023 v. 1999)	18,206,594	66,936	16,206,640	65,349	12.3	2.4
Canadian Football League	1,814,026	22,395	1,715,876	23,832	5.7	(6.0)
NCAA FBS (D-1-A) Football (2019)	36,831,692	41,477	29,032,973	43,593	26.9	(4.9)
NBA Basketball * (2023-24)	22,538,436	18,324	12,134,906*	16,738	85.7*	9.5
WNBA Basketball	1,587,488	6,615	1,956,281	10,189	(18.9)	(35.1)
NCAA Men's D-1 Basketball	26,636,195	4,627	23,587,824	5,451	12.9	(15.1)
NCAA Women's D-1 Basket	10,412,141	1,921	5,840,934	1,475	78.3	30.2
National Hockey League (2023-24)	22,873,142	17,434	18,001,741	16,262	27.1	7.2
Minor League Hockey (2023-24)	13,667,932	4,849	19,586,514	4,865	(30.2)	(0.3)
American Hockey Lea. (2023-24)	6,819,875	5,920	4,149,750	5,460	64.3	8.4
Major League Soccer	10,900,804	22,111	2,742,102	14,282	297.5	54.8

#### ATTENDANCE COMPARISON - 2023 or 2022-23, 2023-24 (2023 NFL, 2019 NCAA FOOTBALL) vs. 1989 or 1988-89

There were no independent baseball minor leagues in 1988.

	2023/2022-23	2023 Avg.	1989/1988-89	1989 Avg.	% Chg. In	% Chg. In
Sport or League	2023-24 Total	per Date	Total	per Date	Total Att.	Avg. Attend.
	Attendance	or Game	Attendance	or Game	'23 vs. '89	'23 vs. '89
Major League Baseball	70,747,365	29,295	55,173,096	26,770	28.2%	9.4%
Minor Lg. Baseball (Affiliated)	32,154,384	4,084	23,103,593	N/A	39.2	N/A
Minor League Baseball (all)	42,312,919	3,663	23,103,593	N/A	83.1	N/A
NFL Football (2023 v. 1989)	18,206,594	66,936	13,625,662	60,829	33.6	10.0
Canadian Football League	1,814,026	22,395	1,834,023	25,473	(1.1)	(12.1)
NCAA FBS (D-1-A) Football (2019)	36,831,692	41,477	25,307,915	41,970	45.5	(1.2)
NBA Basketball (2023-24)	22,538,436	18,324	15,464,994	15,088	45.7	21.4
	00.000.405	1.007	00.050.400		45.5	(10.0)
NCAA Men's D-1 Basketball	26,636,195	4,627	23,059,429	5,565	15.5	(16.9)
NCAA Women's D-1 Basket	10,412,141	1,921	2,104,907	696	394.7	176.0
National Hockey League (2023-24)	22,873,142	17,434	12,417,969	14,783	84.2	17.9
American Hockey League (2023-24)	6,819,875	5,920	2,171,909	3,878	214.0	52.7

#### ATTENDANCE COMPARISON - 2023 or 2022-23, 2023-24 (2023 NFL, 2019 NCAA FOOTBALL) vs. 1979 or 1978-79

Operating in 1978-79 was the World Hockey Association, which drew 2,078,922, an average of 8,089 per game. The table below has a separate line comparing attendance with 1977-78 for just the NHL and a line comparing 1977-78 combined NHL/WHA attendance. 1976-77 was the first season after the NBA/ABA merger, which added 4 teams.

The NCAA began to list Division 1A separately in 1976. They also listed Division 1 Men's College Basketball attendance for the first time in 1975-76. Women's basketball was not administered by the NCAA until 1982.

	2023/2022-23	2023 Avg.	1979/1978-79	1979 Avg.	% Chg. In	% Chg. In
Sport or League	2023-24 Total	per Date	Total	per Date	Total Att.	Avg. Attend.
	Attendance	or Game	Attendance	or Game	'23 vs. '79	'23 vs. '79
Major League Baseball	70,747,365	29,295	43,550,398	21,940	62.4%	33.5%
Minor Lg. Baseball (Affiliated)	32,154,384	4,084	15,304,724	N/A	110.1	N/A
Minor League Baseball (all)	42,312,919	3,663	15,304,724	N/A	176.5	N/A
NFL Football (2023 v. 1978)	18,206,594	66,936	13,182,039	58,848	38.1	13.7
Canadian Football League	1,814,026	22,395	2,237,355	31,074	(18.9)	(27.9)
NCAA D1-A (FBS) Football (2019)	36,831,692	41,477	25,862,801	33,414	42.4	24.1
NBA Basketball (2023-24)	22,538,436	18,324	9,761,377	10,822	130.9	69.3
NCAA Men's D-1 Basketball	26,636,195	4,627	18,649,383	5,271	42.8	(12.2)
NHL Hockey only (2023-24)	22,873,142	17,434	7,758,053	11,409	194.8	52.8
NHL/WHA Combined (2023-24)	22,873,142	17,434	9,836,975	10,498	132.5	66.1
American Hockey League (2023-24)	6,819,875	5,920	1,366,106	3,805	399.2	55.6

## SEASON ATTENDANCE RECORDS IN BASEBALL AND OTHER SPORTS

The table on this page shows the all-time season record-high attendance for various North American leagues or groups of leagues. Record-highs in both total attendance and average per game/date are listed.

Baseball leagues covered include the Major Leagues, the affiliated Minor Leagues (NAPBL), independent Minor Leagues, all Minor Leagues combined, and the Southeast Conference. The NCAA does not list a grand total attendance for all of their baseball teams, but the SEC is the conference with the highest baseball attendance.

The football listing covers the National Football League (as listed in the NFL Fact Book), Canadian Football League, and Arena Football League, along with the NCAA College Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-A).

Basketball includes both the NBA and WNBA, along with NCAA Division I for both Men and Women. Hockey covers the National Hockey League and the American Hockey league, which is hockey's top minor league. Record high attendance for all hockey minor leagues combined is not available. Major League Soccer is covered.

At the bottom of each table, are listings for defunct leagues (AFL, USFL, ABA, WHA, NASL, MISL).

The table on the next page covers the same leagues, but shows the highest season total attendance, and the highest season average attendance per game or date, for an <u>individual team</u> in those leagues.

# ALL TIME REGULAR SEASON ATTENDANCE RECORDS – BY LEAGUE OR GROUP OF LEAGUES

Sport or League	Record-High Total Attendance	Season	Record-High Average per Game or Date	Season
Major League Baseball	79,503,175	2007	32,785	2007
Minor League Baseball – Affiliated Leagues	43,263,740	2008	4,174	2008
Minor League Baseball – Independent Lgs.	8,485,921	2007	3,000	2004
Total Minor League Baseball	51,576,409	2008	3,892	2008
College Baseball – Southeast Conference	2,319,937	2014	5,181	2012
National Football League	18,206,594	2023	67,755	2007
Canadian Football League	2,569,481	1995	31,843	1978
Arena Football League	1,883,599	2007	12,957	2008
NCAA College Football - Division 1A (FBS)	38,135,118	2013	46,971	2008
NCAA College Football - All Divisions	50,291,275	2013	14,288	2008
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National Basketball Association	22,538,436	2023-24	18,324	2023-24
Women's National Basketball Association	2,391,972	2002	10,864	1998
NCAA Basketball – Men's Division 1	28,135,901	2007-08	5,735	1990-91
NCAA Basketball – Women's Division 1	10,412,141	2023-24	1,921	2023-24
National Hockey League	22,873,142	2023-24	17,768	2012-13
American Hockey League	6,819,875	2023-24	5,981	2012-13
Professional Women's Hockey League	392,259	2023-24	5,448	2023-24
Major League Soccer	11,294,907	2024	22,911	2024
National Women's Soccer League	1,366,589	2023	10,432	2023
North American Soccer League (1967-1984)	5,544,960	1980	14,440	1980
American Football League (1960-1969)	2,843,373	1969	40,620	1969
United States Football League (1983-1985)	4,389,304	1984	27,094	1984
American Basketball Assoc. (1967-1976)	2,716,509	1974-75	7,287	1975-76
World Hockey Association (1972-1979)	4,123,121	1975-76	8,720	1977-78
Major Indoor Soccer League (1978-1992)	2,820,424	1984-85	8,717	1985-86

## SEASON ATTENDANCE RECORDS IN BASEBALL AND OTHER SPORTS

## ALL TIME TEAM SEASON ATTENDANCE HIGHS – INDIVIDUAL TEAM RECORDS

	TOTAL ATTENDANCE AVERAGE PER GAME/DATE							
Sport or League	Team	Record- High Total Attendance	Season	Team	Record- High Average	Season		
Major League Baseball	Colorado	4,483,350	1993	Colorado	58,598	1994		
Minors Baseball – Affiliated	Buffalo	1,188,972	1991	Monterrey,Mex	17,990	2006		
Minors Baseball – Independ.	Sugar Land	465,511	2012	St. Paul	8,438	2016		
College Baseball	Louisiana St.	473,298	2013	Louisiana St.	11,007	2013		
National Football League	Dallas	779,247	2022	Dallas	86,583	2022		
Canadian Football League	Montreal	476,201	1977	Montreal	59,525	1977		
Arena Football League	Colorado	139,418	2003	Tampa Bay	20,469	1993		
NCAA Football –Div.1A (FBS)	Michigan	897,431	2011	Michigan	112,252	2012		
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National Basketball Assn.	Minnesota	1,072,572	1989-90	Minnesota	26,160	1989-90		
Women's NBA (WNBA)	Indiana	340,715	2024	Indiana	17,036	2024		
NCAA Basketball–Men's D-1	Syracuse	537,949	1988-89	Syracuse	29,918	1989-90		
NCAA Basket.–Women's D-1	So. Carolina	273,133	2023-24	Tennessee	16,565	1998-99		
National Hockey League	Chicago	896,240	2015-16	Chicago	21,860	2015-16		
American Hockey League	Philadelphia	480,106	1998-99	Philadelphia	12,002	1998-99		
Pro. Women's Hockey League	Ottawa	89,952	2023-24	Ottawa	7,496	2023-24		
NCAA Men's Hockey	Wisconsin	316,014	2009-10	Wisconsin	15,048	2009-10		
Majar Lagrage Casaar	A41	004.000	0040	<b>A</b> 41 - 1-4 -	50.000	0040		
Major League Soccer	Atlanta	901,033	2018	Atlanta	53,002	2018		
National Women's Soccer Lea.	Angel City	251,073	2024	San Diego	20,718	2023		
N. Amer. Soccer (1967-83)	N.Y. Cosmos	717,842	1978	N.Y. Cosmos	47,856	1978		
Amer. Football Lea. (1960-69)	N.Y. Jets	440,422	1969	N.Y. Jets	62,917	1969		
United States F.L. (1983-85)	Jacksonville	420,571	1984	Jacksonville	46,730	1984		
			1075		40.000			
Amer. Basket. Asn. (1967-76)	Denver	545,253	1975-76	Denver	12,982	1975-76		
World Hockey Asn. (1972-79)	Edmonton	450,207	1978-79	Edmonton	11,255	1978-79		
Major Indoor Soccer (1978-92)	Kansas City	378,864	1983-84	St. Louis	17,107	1981-82		

<u>NOTES</u> - On figures in italics: Monterrey of the Mexican League holds the Minor League Baseball highest average. The 1992 Buffalo Bisons have the highest average per date for a U.S. based team – 16,937. MLB average/date record by Colorado is for a shortened season. Full season record is 56,751 by Colorado in 1993.

The National Football League figures are from the league's 2023 Official Record and Fact Book. Washington's 2018 Media Guide showed a 2005 total attendance of 716,999, averaging 89,625 per game. Dallas Cowboys Media Guides list their 2022 total attendance as 841,192, and their 2023 average per game as 93,496.

Minnesota's NBA records were set in the Metrodome. The record-high total for a team playing in a conventional arena is 985,722 – 24,042 per game, by the Charlotte Hornets (the team now in New Orleans) in both 1995-96 and 1996-97.

The National Hockey League record by Chicago in 2015-16 is for all 41 games at the United Center. In 2013-14, the Black Hawks played one game at Soldier Field which drew 62,921. Total attendance for that year was 927,545, averaging 22,623 per game. At one time, NHL attendance policy regarding outdoor games, which draw much larger crowds than in the usual indoor arenas, was to credit the home team with the figure that represents a sellout in their arena. So if a team played an outdoor game that drew 45,000, and their indoor arena sellout figure is 19,000, they were officially credited with an attendance of 19,000 for the outdoor game. That policy may have changed, and total tickets sold, regardless of venue, are now the official attendance figure.

# SINGLE GAME ATTENDANCE RECORDS IN BASEBALL AND OTHER SPORTS

League	Rec. High	Date	Home Team & Facility
Major League Baseball – all	115,300	3/29/2008	Exhibition-L.A. Dodgers vs. Boston at L.A. Coliseum
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National League-Reg. Sea.	80,227	4/9/1993	Colorado at Mile High Stadium, Opening Day
American League-Reg. Sea.	84,587	9/12/1954	Indians at Cleveland Municipal Stadium
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MLB – Wild Card Game	52,631	10/5/2012	National League - Atlanta vs. St. Louis-Turner Field
MLB – Division Series	65,464	10/4/2003	Game 4 – National League at Florida vs. San Fran.
MLB-Championship Series	65,829	10/11/2003	Game 4 – National League at Florida vs. Chi. Cubs
World Series	92,706	10/6/1959	Dodgers vs. White Sox at L.A. Coliseum – Game 5
MLB All-Star Game	72,086	8/9/1981	At Cleveland Municipal Stadium
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Minor League Baseball	65,666	7/1982	Denver (American Association) at Mile High Stadium
NCAA College Baseball-all	40,106	3/11/2004	San Diego State at Petco Park, San Diego
NCAA Baseball-on campus	15,586	4/12/2014	At Mississippi State University
NCAA College World Series	30,422	6/19/2008	North Carolina-L.S.U. at Rosenblatt Stadium, Omaha
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National Football League- all	112,376	8/15/1994	Dallas-Houston (pre-sea.), Azteca Stad., Mexico City
NFL – Regular Season	105,121	9/20/2009	Dallas at Cowboys Stadium (AT&T), Arlington, TX
NFL – Super Bowl	103,985	1/20/1980	Super Bowl XIV at Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA
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Canadian Football League	68,318	11/27/1977	Grey Cup at Olympic Stadium – Montreal
Arena Football League	28,745	6/19/1993	Tampa Bay at Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, FL
3			
NCAA Football	156,990	9/10/2016	Tennessee-Virginia Tech at Bristol Motor Speedway
NCAA Football – on campus	115,109	9/7/2013	Notre Dame at Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Rose Bowl Game	106,869	1/1/1973	Ohio State vs. U.S.C. at Pasadena
	,		
NBA – Regular Season	68,323	1/13/2023	San Antonio at the Alamo Dome
NBA – Conventional Arena	24,544	1996, 1997	Chicago-11 times at United Center (unofficial record)
NBA – All Time High	108,713	2/14/2010	NBA All Star Game at AT&T Stadium, Arlington, TX
Women's NBA (WNBA)	20,711	9/19/2024	At Washington (vs. Indiana)
	,		
NCAA Men Baskreg. season	78,129	12/13/2003	Kentucky-Michigan State at Ford Field, Detroit
NCAA Men Baskon campus	35,642	2/23/2019	Syracuse-Duke, Carrier Dome, Syracuse, NY
NCAA Men's Bsktournament	79,444	4/5/2014	Final Four at AT&T Stadium, Arlington TX
NCAA Women's Bask all	55,651	10/15/2023	Exhibition at Iowa outdoors at Kinnick Stadium
NCAA Women's Baskplayoff	29,619	3/29/2002	NCAA Finals at Alamo Dome, San Antonio
NCAA Women-on campus	24,653	1/7/2006	Tennessee at Thompson-Boling Arena, Knoxville, TN
National Hockey League-all	105,491	1/1/2014	Ann Arbor, MI - Outdoor Classic at Michigan Stadium
NHL – Indoor Stadium	27,227	10/9/1993	Tampa Bay at Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, FL
NHL – Conventional Arena	N/A		Most likely at United Center, Chicago
Prof. Women's Hockey League	21,105	4/20/2024	At the Bell Centre – Montreal
American Hockey League-all	45,653	1/6/2012	Hershey at Citizens Bank Park – Philadelphia
AHL – Indoor Arena	20,672	1/18/1997	At Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, NC
AHL – Indoor Stadium	30,715	11/22/2014	Carrier Dome, Syracuse
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NCAA Hockey – Outdoor	113,411	12/11/2010	Michigan at Michigan Stadium, Ann Arbor, MI
NCAA Hockey – Indoor	20,899	1/21/1995	Notre Dame-Michigan at Palace of Auburn Hills, MI
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Major League Soccer – all	92,650	8/6/2006	Chivas USA at Los Angeles Coliseum
MLS Single Game	82,110	7/4/2023	LA Galaxy vs. LAFC at Rose Bowl
National Women's Soccer Lea.	35,038	6/8/2024	Chicago at Wrigley Field
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NCAA Men's Soccer	22,512	10/30/1980	Saint Louis University at Busch Stadium
NCAA Women's Soccer	14,410	12/5/1999	North Carolina – Notre Dame, NCAA Championship
Any Soccer Game in U.S.	101,799	8/11/1984	France vs. Brazil at the Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA
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## NEBRASKA WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL SETS A WORLD WOMEN'S SPORTS ATTENDANCE RECORD

On August 30, 2023, the Nebraska University Women's Volleyball team hosted Omaha in a game played outdoors at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, which is the home field of Nebraska Football.

The game drew 92,003. That is the largest crowd ever, anywhere, for a women's sporting event. Extra seats were placed on the field at Memorial Stadium, whose listed football capacity is 85,458.

This game ranks among the highest attended non-football games in NCAA history. The Michigan State at Michigan hockey game, played outdoors at Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor on December 12, 2010 drew 113,411.

The former world record for a women's sports event was 91,648 at the 2022 Champions League Women's Soccer semi-final in Camp Nou, in Barcelona, Spain, as Barcelona played Wolfsburg.

The previous highest attendance ever for a women's sports event in the United States was 90,185, at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA on July 10, 1999, when the U.S. Women's National Soccer team beat China to win the World Cup.

Nebraska has led the NCAA in women's volleyball attendance in each of the last 10 seasons, and has finished either first or second in volleyball attendance in every year but one, since 1990. This excludes 2020. The Huskers have the longest sellout streak in college women's sports, which stands at 320 straight regular season games, plus 44 post-season games, through the 2023 season.

Nebraska's football team holds the NCAA record for consecutive football sellouts at 396, starting in 1962, and continuing through the end of the 2023 season. This streak excludes 2020, when there were limits on stadium attendance.

# **UNITED STATES OPEN TENNIS SET A NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD IN 2023**

The 2023 U.S. Open Tennis Tournament at Flushing Meadows, NY drew a record-high total of 957,387. All 25 sessions at Arthur Ashe Stadium were sold out. The previous highs were 888,044 in 2022, and 853,227 in 2019. The figures include Fan Week, which includes the qualifying matches played the week before the main draw.

# THE KENTUCKY DERBY

The 2024 Kentucky Derby drew 156,710, its highest attendance since a 157,813 crowd in 2018. The record-high for the Derby is 170,513 in 2015. Source: Louisville Courier Journal

# **THE INDIANAPOLIS 500**

The Indy 500 annually draws the largest crowd of any sporting event in North America (or perhaps anywhere). The track does not issue an exact attendance figure, but it is estimated that a record-high 350,000 were at the 2016 race.

# HOW BIG IS THE BALLPARK, STADIUM, OR ARENA?

The tables on the following pages show the average listed capacities, by league or sport, for North American stadiums and arenas. This covers Major League, Minor League, and NCAA Division 1 Baseball, the National and Canadian Football Leagues, as well as the Football Bowl Subdivision (Division 1-A), and Football Championship Subdivision (Division 1-AA) of NCAA College Football, the NBA, WNBA, 'G' League, and NCAA Division I Basketball, the National Hockey League, Minor League Hockey, and NCAA College Division 1 hockey, Major League Soccer, and the National Women's Soccer League.

Venue capacity figures, which may be rounded slightly by teams and schools, are from team, league, or conference 2019 or 2020-2023 Media Guides and Websites. If a team's venue capacity couldn't be found from those sources, Wikipedia was used. The average capacity for each league or groups of leagues and conferences are shown, and the league's largest and smallest venues are also noted. Capacity estimate in some parks is for fixed seating only. Others list a full sellout figure as capacity.

For baseball, Major League figures come from each team's 2023 Media Guide. U.S./Canadian NAPBL data is from the 2020 Minor League Baseball Information Guide. Mexican League data is from Wikipedia, as is data from the independent Atlantic and Frontier Leagues. American Association figures are from their 2020 Media Guide. The United Shore Baseball League figure is from their Website. All teams in the USBL play in the same park in Utica, MI.

Fenway Park in Boston has a different day and night capacity, due to some centerfield seats being covered for day games to provide a better hitting background. That park's capacity was pro-rated with a 2/1 ratio for night games to day games. The Florida State League has 11 parks, as Palm Beach and Jupiter play in the same park. Nuevo Laredo of the Mexican League splits its games between Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, Laredo, Texas. So the Mexican League had 17 parks in 2023. That league has added 2 teams for 2024.

Only the leading NCAA baseball conferences were included, since many lower Division 1 teams don't really have stadiums, just some bleachers at their home fields.

The University of Florida's baseball figure, included in the Southeast Conference's total, is for their new park which opened in 2021. The University of Minnesota figure, included in the Big 10 total, is for their on-campus park. Minnesota plays many of its early season games at the domed US Bank Stadium, home of the NFL Vikings. Baseball capacity for that stadium was not listed. Alabama-Birmingham splits its season between the Minor League Regions Field, and an on-campus park. Their capacity, listed in the Conference USA total, has been equally pro-rated between the two parks. All parks with a capacity of at least 10,000 in the 8 NCAA baseball conferences in the table are listed.

In the NFL, the New York Jets and Giants share a stadium, as do the Los Angeles Chargers and Rams. Capacity at AT&T Stadium (Dallas) is listed as 80,000 to100,000, so 90,000 was used to compile the NFL average. Leading college conferences are listed for the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (Division 1-A). Totals are listed for the combined D1-A and D1-AA college football. D1-AA listings show the biggest and smallest stadiums overall in the Division. These conference listings do not account for the many recent changes in conference membership. When this listing is updated, the data will reflect the changes.

The NBA Lakers and Clippers both play at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, but the seating capacity differs slightly for each team. So both teams' figures were included to come up with an NBA average arena capacity. The Clippers will move to a new arena in Inglewood, that opens for the 2024-25 season. For NCAA Men's basketball, the leading conferences are listed separately, and a total is also given the combined 357 teams playing in Division 1 in 2020-21. St. John's (5,602 and 19,786), Villanova (6,501 and 20,456), Sacred Heart (2,479 and 10,000), and UConn (10,167 and 15,564), each have two home arenas, and so their capacity figure was pro-rated. Nearly all NCAA College Women's Basketball teams play in the same venue as their men's teams.

Some Major League Soccer teams play in very large stadiums, but don't put all seats in that stadium on sale. The includes New England at Gillette Stadium, N.Y.C.F.C. at Yankee Stadium, and Chicago at Soldier Field. MLS capacity listings are from team Websites and Wikipedia.

# HOW BIG IS THE BALLPARK, STADIUM, OR ARENA?

PRO BASEBALL BALLPARK CAPACITY – MLB -2024, 11 Minor Leagues – 2024 (Northwest, California, Florida State, Mexican, Atlantic, Pioneer – 2021 or 2024, Frontier, American Association - 2024)

2024 ballpark capacity for each Major League Baseball team can be found on Page 273

League	# of Parks	Average Capacity	League's Biggest Park	Capacity	League's Smallest Park	Capacity
BASEBALL						
American	15	40,449	Seattle	47,376	Tampa Bay	25,025
			Oakland	46,847	Cleveland	34,631
			New York	46,543	Boston – day	37,105
					Boston – night	37,555
National	15	43,287	L.A. Dodgers	56,000	Miami	37,446
nauonai	10	10,201	Arizona	48,330	Pittsburgh	38,048
			Colorado	46,896	San Diego	39,860
MLB Average	30	41,868				
International	20	10,880	Buffalo	17,600	St. Paul	7,210
Pacific Coast	10	10,634	Salt Lake City	16,531	Tacoma	6,500
AAA Average	30	10,798		10,001		0,000
Eastern	12	7,329	Bowie	10,000	Erie	6,000
Southern	8	6,922	Birmingham	8,500	Pensacola	5,038
Texas	10	7,771	Frisco	10,216	Midland	4,922
AA Average	30	7,368	1 11300	10,210		4,322
	00	7,000				
Midwest	12	6,705	Lansing	11,000	Beloit	3,500
South Atlantic	12	5,809	Greensboro	7,499	Asheville	4,000
Northwest	6	4,850	Spokane	6,803	Everett	3,682
High-A Average	30	5,975	· ·			
Carolina	12	5,683	Columbia, SC	9,902	Down East (Kinston)	3,410
Florida State	9	8,027	Tampa	10,031	Daytona	4,200
California	8	5,464	Fresno	10,500	Visalia	2,468
Single-A Average	30	6,350				,
MLB-Affiliate Avg.	119	7,634	Buffalo	17,600	Visalia	2,468
Mexican	21	10,792	Monterrey	22,061	Durango	4,983
Atlantic	10	5,726	Lexington	8,394	Hagerstown	4,000
Frontier	16	5,392	Schaumburg	7,365	Windy City, IL	2,557
American Assn.	12	5,453	Kane County, IL	10,923	Lake Country, WI	3,641
Pioneer	12	4,757	Rocky Mtn. (Col. Spr)	8,890	Billings	3,071
Mavericks	1	4,300				
United Shore	1	4,500				
Independ. Average	73	6,870	Monterrey	22,061	Windy City	2,557
7 leagues listed						
Total Minors Avg.	192	7,343	Monterrey	22,061	Visalia	2,468

# HOW BIG IS THE BALLPARK, STADIUM, OR ARENA?

# VENUE CAPACITY - 2019 or 2020 (NFL-2023)

League or Conference	# of Venues	Average Capacity	League's Biggest Venue(s)	Capacity	League's Smallest Venue(s)	Capacity
NCAA BASEBALL						
Southeast (SEC)	14	7,805	Mississippi State	15,000	Missouri	3,031
		,	Ole Miss	11,477		- ,
			Arkansas	10,737		
			Louisiana State	10,326		
Atlantic Coast (ACC)	14	4,228	Duke	10,000	Pittsburgh	900
American (AAC)	9	3,921	Wichita State	8,153	Connecticut	1,500
Big 10	13	3,451	Nebraska	8,486	Northwestern	600
Big 12	9	3,992	Texas	6,649	Kansas State	2,344
Big West	9	2,840	Hawaii	4,312	UC Santa Barbara	1,000
Conference USA	12	3,029	Rice	6,193	Texas-San Antonio	800
	12	0,020	UAB (part-time)	8,500		000
Pac 12	11	4,862	Utah	14,511	UCLA	1,879
Total – 8 listed		1,002		,		1,070
conferences above	91	4,284	Mississippi State	15,000	Northwestern	600
	υ	7,204		10,000	MOLINVESIEIII	000
NFL (2023)	30	70,083	Dallas	90,000+	Chicago	61,500
INI L (2023)	50	10,005	New York (both)	90,000+ 82,500	Indianapolis	63,000
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	81,041	Detroit	64,500
			Green Bay	01,041	Detroit	64,500
CFL	9	24.472	Edmonton	56.400	Mantraal	20.025
GFL	9	34,173	Edmonton	56,400	Montreal	20,025
NCAA Football						
FBS–(Division 1-A)	130	50,521	Michigon	107,601	Charlotte	15 214
Southeast	130	80,146	Michigan Texas A&M	107,001	Vanderbilt	15,314 40,350
Soumeast	14	00,140	Tennessee	,	vanderbiit	40,350
				102,455		
			Louisiana State	102,321		
			Alabama	101,821		
Dia 40	4.4	74 704	NAi a la invana	407.004	N a with a set a wa	47.400
Big 10	14	71,701	Michigan	107,601	Northwestern	47,130
			Penn State	106,572		
			Ohio State	104,944		
<b>D</b> <sup>1</sup> = 40	40				- Decision	45.440
Big 12	10	61,328	Texas	100,119	Baylor	45,140
Atlantic Coast (ACC)	14	57,880	Clemson	81,500	Wake Forest	31,500
Pac 12	12	56,186	UCLA	80,616	Washington State	33,952
American (AAC)	12	44,499	South Florida	65,857	Tulane	30,000
				ļ	Tulsa	30,000
Notre Dame (Indep.)	1	77,622				
Total Above C. Oraf	77	60.700	Michigan	107.004	Tulong and Tula-	20.000
Total-Above 6 Conf.	77	62,796	Michigan	107,601	Tulane and Tulsa	30,000
plus Notre Dame				<u> </u>		
	<b>F</b> 0	20.000		70.000	Charlett-	45.044
All other D1-A Conf.	53	32,686	Alabama-Birmingh'm	72,000	Charlotte	15,314
		<u> </u>	BYU	63,470	Massachusetts	17,000
			San Diego State	54,000	Florida International	20,000
		<u> </u>		<b>├</b> ───┤	Coastal Carolina	20,000
	400	40.000			D	0.000
All NCAA Football	126	13,692	Yale	61,446	Duquesne	2,200
FCS–(Div. 1-AA)		ļ ļ	Penn	52,958	Georgetown	2,500
			Jackson State	44,215	Robert Morris	3,000

## HOW BIG IS THE BALLPARK, STADIUM, OR ARENA?

VENUE CAPACITY - 2019 or 2020 (NBA, NHL - 2023-24)

League or Conference	# of Venues	Average Capacity	League's Biggest Venue(s)	Capacity	League's Smallest Venue(s)	Capacity
NBA	30	18,731	Chicago	20,917	New Orleans	16,867
			Washington	20,362	Atlanta	16,951
			Detroit	20,332	Phoenix	17,071
			Philadelphia	20,007	Minnesota	17,136
WNBA	12	10,561	Minnesota	18,997	Atlanta	3,500
'G' LEAGUE	31	8,445	lowa	16,110	South Bay, CA	750
NCAA DIVISION 1 Men's Basketball	357	7,672	Syracuse	35,446	So. Carolina-Upstate	833
Big 10	14	14,596	Ohio State	19,049	Northwestern	7,039
Atlantic Coast (ACC)	15	14,280	Syracuse	35,446	Miami (Florida)	7,972
			North Carolina	21,750		.,
Big East	10	13,193	Georgetown	20,600	Butler	9,100
Southeast (SEC)	14	14,236	Tennessee	21,678	Auburn	9,121
Big 12	10	13,111	Texas	16,540	T.C.U.	6,800
Pacific 12	10	11,783	Utah	15,000	Stanford	7,329
American (AAC)	12	9,811	Memphis	18,400	Tulane	4,000
Mountain West	11	11,468	Nevada-Las Vegas	18,000	San Jose State	5,000
Atlantic 10	14	6,653	Davtan	13,371	LaSalle	3,400
Conference USA	14	7,749	Dayton Texas-El Paso	11,892	Texas-San Antonio	2,650
Missouri Valley	14	8,287	Bradley	11,092	Loyola-Chicago	4,963
West Coast	10	5,956	Brigham Young	18,987	San Francisco	3,006
Above 12 Confer.	146	11,029	Syracuse	35,446	Texas-San Antonio	2,650
America East	9	4,731	Maine	8,000	New Hampshire	3,000
ASUN	10	4,759	Liberty	9,511	Jacksonville	1,452
Big Sky	11	5,730	Weber State	11,500	Cal State-Sacramento	1,012
Big South	11	3,098	Winthrop	6,100	So. Carolina-Upstate	833
Big West	10	4,743	Hawaii	10,300	Cal State-Northridge	2,200
Colonial (CAA)	10	5,530	William & Mary	8,600	Drexel	2,509
Horizon	10	8,409	Cleveland State	13,610	Oakland (MI)	4,000
Ivy League	8	4,029	Penn	8,722	Harvard	2,050
MAAC	11	3,452	Sienna	7,146	Rider	1,650
Mid-East (MEAC)	11	4,255	Florida A&M	9,639	Delaware State	1,800
Mid-American	12	7,463	Ohio University	13,080	Bowling Green	4,347
Northeast	11	2,381	Robert Morris	4,000	Merimack/St. Fran(NY)	1,200
Ohio Valley	12	6,281	Tennessee State	9,100	Jacksonville State	3,500
Patriot	10	4,154	Boston University	7,200	Loyola (Maryland)	2,100
Southern (SOCON)	10	5,849	UTennChattanooga	10,995	Furman	3,000
Southland	13	5,555	Lamar	10,080	Houston Baptist	1,000
Summit	9	7,111	Ind/Purdue-Ft. Wayne	13,000	North Dakota	3,300
Sunbelt	12	7,057	Louisiana-Lafayette	12,362	Coastal Carolina	3,212
SWAC	10	6,914	Jackson State	9,639	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	4,500
Western Athletic	11	5,127	New Mexico State	12,572	Seattle	999
Remaining 20 Conf.	211	5,350	Cleveland State	13,610	So. Carolina-Upstate	833

## HOW BIG IS THE BALLPARK, STADIUM, OR ARENA?

VENUE CAPACITY - 2019 or 2020 (MLS - 2023, NWSL- 2024, NBA, NHL, Minors Hockey - 2023-24)

League or Conference	# of Venues	Average Capacity	League's Biggest Venue(s)	Capacity	League's Smallest Venue(s)	Capacity
NHL	32	17,858	Montreal	21,105	Arizona (temp. arena)	4,700
		, ,	Chicago	19,717	Winnipeg	15,325
			Detroit	19,515	New Jersey	16,514
			Calgary	19,289	Seattle	17,100
			Florida	19,256		,
MINOR LG. HOCKEY	86	7,384	Cleveland	18,277	Delaware	700
AHL	32	9,154	Cleveland	18,277	Utica	3,917
ECHL	27	7,329	Tulsa	17,096	Adirondack	4,794
Southern Professional	10	7,630	Peoria	9,919	Birmingham	4,100
Federal Prospects	11	4,563	Columbus, GA	7,259	Delaware	700
Ligue Nord Americane	6	2,952	Laval	3,500	St. Georges	2,476
NCAA D-1 HOCKEY	60	4,921	Ohio State	17,500	Arizona State	747
Atlantic Hockey Assn.	11	3,127	Sacred Heart	8,500	Robert Morris	1,200
E.C.A.C.	12	3,196	Rensselaer	4,800	Princeton	2,054
Hockey East	11	5,692	Massachusetts	8,373	Merrimack	2,549
Big 10	7	9,332	Ohio State	17,500	Notre Dame	4,850
National Collegiate	8	6,547	North Dakota	11,634	Miami (Ohio)	3,642
Western Collegiate	10	4,142	Alabama-Huntsville	6,600	Alaska-Anchorage	800
IndepArizona State	1	747				
JUNIOR HOCKEY	76	6,124	Calgary	19,289	Winnipeg	1,952
Quebec Major Junior	18	5,516	Quebec	18,259	Baie Comeau	3,042
Ontario Hockey League	20	6,101	Hamilton	17,383	Owen Sound	3,500
Western Hockey Leag.	22	7,574	Calgary	19,289	Winnipeg	1,952
United States Hockey L.	16	6,124	Sioux Falls, SD	10,678	Chicago	2,800
		05.000		74.000		40.000
MAJOR LEA. SOCCER	29	25,223	Atlanta	71,000	San Jose	18,000
			Charlotte	40,000	Miami	18,000
			Seattle	37,722	Colorado	18,061
NATIONAL WOMEN'S	14	24,034	Seattle	68,740	North Carolina	10,000
SOCCER LEAGUE	14	24,004	San Diego	35,000	Kansas City	11,500
JUCCER LEAGUE			Orlando	25,500		11,300
		<u>├</u>				
			Portland	25,218		

## A COMPARISON OF EACH TEAM'S ANNUAL ATTENDANCE WITH ANNUAL MLB AVERAGE PER TEAM

The unusual nature of the 2021 season would distort figures in this section, and in the following table, so 2021 figures are not being included in these figures. But 2022 and 2023 are included.

In **2023**, the 30 Major League teams drew 70,747,365, an average of 2,358,246 <u>per team</u>. 17 teams drew higher than this average, while 13 teams were below it. For 8 teams, attendance was at least 500,000 above this average, while 7 other teams were at least 500,000 below the average.

This section compares each team's yearly attendance with the MLB average attendance per team for the same year, and notes how often the team has drawn above or below average. The table on the next page covers the expansion era, going back to 1961. For each team, there is a listing of the number of seasons it has played in its current city since 1961, and the number of years during that period that the team has achieved a winning record.

The next columns list the number of years that the team's attendance was higher than the Major League average attendance per team, and then, in how many seasons that attendance was at least 500,000 higher than the MLB average per team. This is followed by columns listing the number of years each team drew below the MLB average per team, and in how many seasons the team drew at least 500,000 below that average. The last column shows each team's current streak (through the 2023 season) of drawing above or below the MLB average per team.

For example, in 2023, Boston drew 2,672,130. That was above the 2023 MLB average per team, but it was not more than 500,000 above that average. The table on the next page shows that the Red Sox have played 61 'normal' seasons in Boston since 1961, with a winning record in 43 of those years. Their attendance was above the Major League season average per team 49 times since 1961, and in 15 of those years, they drew more than 500,000 above the MLB average for that year. There were 12 seasons where Red Sox attendance was below the MLB average for the year, but in none of those seasons was it ever more than 500,000 below that MLB average. The current streak column shows that Boston's attendance has been higher than the annual Major League average per team for 23 straight years through 2023.

The Dodgers have been by far the most successful team at the gate in the past half century. In every single year, since 1958 actually, their attendance has been higher than the MLB average for that year! In 55 of those seasons, Dodger attendance has been at least 500,000 above the MLB average per team for that year. 1957, their final season in Brooklyn, was the last time the Dodgers drew less than the MLB average per team. However, they were above the MLB average in 18 of their final 20 seasons in Brooklyn. The Dodgers' current streak of 64 straight years (not including 2021) drawing better than the MLB annual average is a record. The Yankees held the old mark, topping the MLB average attendance per team for 50 straight years from 1916 through 1965.

St. Louis has the next best record since 1961, finishing above the MLB average 53 times, while the Yankees have been above in 50 seasons, and the Red Sox have drawn better than average in 49 years. All this excludes 2021.

On the down side, Tampa Bay has never drawn above the MLB annual average per team in its 24 seasons, and has been at least 500,000 below the average in 23 of those years. In 54 seasons in Oakland, the A's have drawn better than average just 7 times, despite having a winning record in 29 of those seasons, including 4 World Series titles. Pittsburgh has been below average 52 times in the last 61 years, including in 44 of the last 46 seasons. The Bucs were above the average in 2015. Cleveland has just 9 seasons above average, all of them consecutively from 1994 through 2002. Miami Marlins attendance has been at least 500,000 below average in 23 of the last 24 years (2012 was the exception). Kansas City drew below the MLB average attendance per team for 24 years in a row through 2014. But they finished above the average in 2015, drawing a team record-high attendance, and also were above in 2016.

## Some Historical Notes About Average Attendance Per Team From Before 1961

The Browns played in St. Louis from 1902 until they moved to Baltimore in 1954. They drew above the MLB yearly average just 6 times in those 52 years, and only once (1922) after 1908....The Cubs drew better than average every year from 1901 through 1926....The original Washington Senators (now the Twins) drew better than average only twice from 1901 through 1960. That came in their pennant winning years of 1925 and 1933....The Philadelphia Athletics were below average in their final 23 seasons in Philadelphia (1932-1954)....The Boston Braves drew above the MLB average just 6 times from 1900 until moving to Milwaukee in 1953....The Phillies were above average only 10 times from 1900 through 1969....The St. Louis Cardinals, now a great draw, finished above average only 15 times from 1900 through 1960....The New York Giants drew above the average for 43 consecutive seasons, from 1900 through 1942, missed doing it in 1943 by less than 600, and were again above average from 1944 through 1948. Overall, the Giants were above average 51 times from 1900 until they moved to San Francisco in 1958... Brooklyn was below average every year from 1900 through 1915, but finished above average in all but 6 years from 1920 through 1957, after which the team moved to Los Angeles.

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE ABOVE OR BELOW YEARLY MAJOR LEAGUE AVERAGE PER TEAM 1961-2023 Excludes 2020 and 2021

<u>Team</u>	# Seasons <u>1961-2023</u>	# Winning <u>Seasons</u>	# Seasons Above MLB <u>Average Att.</u>	# Seasons 500,000+ <u>Above</u>	# Seasons Below MLB <u>Average Att.</u>	# Seasons 500,000+ <u>Below</u>	Current <u>Streak</u>
Baltimore	61	35	26	10	35	7	7 below
Boston	61	44	49	15	12	0	23 above
Chicago White Sox	61	28	15	2	46	19	14 below
Cleveland	61	24	9	7	52	32	19 below
Detroit	61	32	31	7	30	16	5 below
Houston	60	31	28	9	32	7	4 above
Kansas City	53	21	18	4	35	25	5 below
L.A. Angels	61	25	38	26	23	1	20 above
Minnesota	61	28	19	3	42	17	2 below
New York Yankees	61	51	50	33	11	0	26 above
Oakland	54	29	7	3	47	28	29 below
Seattle	45	16	13	8	32	16	2 above
Tampa Bay	24	10	0	0	24	23	24 below
Texas	50	23	22	6	28	5	1 above
Toronto	45	24	24	15	21	7	2 above
Arizona	24	11	7	5	17	1	17 below
Atlanta	56	32	28	11	28	9	5 above
Chicago Cubs	61	24	41	15	20	0	24 above
Cincinnati	61	33	19	8	36	12	7 below
Colorado	29	9	25	12	4	1	14 above
L.A. Dodgers	61	48	61	55	0	0	61 above
Miami	29	7	3	1	26	23	24 below
Milwaukee	52	20	20	5	32	12	5 above
New York Mets	60	27	38	20	22	7	3 above
Philadelphia	61	28	35	19	23	10	3 above
Pittsburgh	61	24	9	0	52	30	6 below
St. Louis	61	44	53	35	8	0	26 above
San Diego	53	16	17	3	36	12	3 above
San Francisco	61	36	31	19	30	13	22 above
Washington	17	8	7	0	10	4	3 below

# Seasons is the number of years team has been in its current market.

# Winning seasons is the number of years from 1961 (or team inception) through 2023 that team had winning record.

Current streak is the consecutive number of seasons the team's attendance had been above or below the yearly Major League average attendance per team - after the 2023 season.

Milwaukee's figures include 1970-1997 when they played in the American League.

Houston's figures include 1962 through 2012 when they were in the National League.

#### YANKEES LED A.L. ATTENDANCE FOR THE 58th TIME, TOP 3 MILLION FOR THE 23rd STRAIGHT 'NORMAL' YEAR

"There it goes to deep left field. It is high! It is far! It is gone! Ballgame over! Yankees win! Thaaaah Yankees win!

Yankee broadcaster John Sterling, who retired in April, 2024, after calling 5,631 Yankee games since 1989.

The New York Yankees have done more winning than any professional sports team in North America. They've won 40 American League Championships, 27 World Series titles, and have posted a winning regular season record in 99 of the 121 seasons (1903-2023) they've played in New York. They had 39 consecutive winning seasons from 1926 through 1964, and 31 straight winning records from 1993 through 2023, the two longest such streaks in MLB history.

2023 was the 32<sup>nd</sup> year in row that the Yankees have posted a winning record at home. That is the longest current streak in the Majors. They hold the record for most consecutive winning home records with 47, from 1918 through 1964, including an incredible 65-16 home record in 1961 (Source: Elias Sports Bureau). 2019 was also their Major League record 21<sup>st</sup> season with at least 100 wins. Since 2009, through 2023, the Yankees have an MLB-second-best 1,330-998 record, topped only by the Dodgers (1,374-954).

Yankee average attendance per date has been above the Major League average per date (which includes Yankee home games) 102 times since the team's first season in New York in 1903. It has been above the MLB average in 98 of the last 107 years through 2023. Starting in 1916, the only seasons the Yankees drew less than the MLB average per date attendance were 1966, 1971, 1972, and 6 years in a row from 1990 through 1995. The average per date fell below 40,000 in 2015 for the first time since 1998, and was also under 40,000 in 2016 and 2017. It's been above since then, except for 2021. The Yankees' 13-year streak of leading the A.L. in attendance ended in 2016. A pair of rainouts, made up as part of single-admission doubleheaders, cost them the A.L. total attendance lead in 2017. But they led the league in average per date.

In 2023, the Yankees led the American League in total attendance for the 58<sup>th</sup> time, drawing 3,269,016, up 132,809 (4.2%) from 2022, with 2 postponements and one lost date. They topped the A.L. in average per date for the 18<sup>th</sup> time in the last 19 years - 40,863, up 655 (1.6%), vs. 2022. 15 home dates were sellouts, along with an estimated 29 road sellouts. Attendance topped 40,000 at 45 home dates in 2023, led by a crowd of 47,295, the highest in the American League for the year. Every home game drew at least 30,000. From 2004 to 2016, the Yankees had a then-Major League record streak of 990 straight dates (957 regular season, 33 post-season) with attendance above 30,000. The St. Louis Cardinals broke this record later in 2016, and if 2021 is excluded, that streak is still active at 1,410 dates going into 2024. 11 Yankee road games drew less than 20,000 in 2023, as did 15 in 2022, 10 in 2019, 11 in 2018, 9 in 2017, 11 in both 2016 and 2015, and only one game in 2014.

Compared to 2019, the 2023 total was down 35,388 (1.1%), and average per date fell 965 (2.3%).

In 2019, the Yankees became the first North American sports team, and perhaps the first sports team anywhere, to reach 200 million in regular season attendance in their current market. Since coming to New York in 1903, through 2023, they have drawn 209,972,341. The Dodgers have also topped 200 million, but that includes their years in Brooklyn. Their total through 2023 since moving to Los Angeles in 1958 is 192,219,865.

On May 18, 2014, to make-up a rainout, the Yankees had their first home single-admission doubleheader since 2004. It drew 46,858. It was also their first home Sunday doubleheader since 1997. Yankee Stadium single-admission doubleheaders drew 46,278 in 2015, 47,883 and 39,598 in 2017, 41,138 and 40,504 in 2019, a limited-capacity 14,056 in 2021, 40,714, 36,167, 30,157 in 2022, and 40,659 in 2023, making up a game postponed due to bad air quality.

**2023** was the 26<sup>th</sup> 'normal' year in a row that the Yankees have reached 2 million, and the 23<sup>rd</sup> straight 'normal' season above 3 million. This is a Major League record for the longest streak of '3 million' seasons. The Dodgers topped 3 million from 1996 through 2010. Only the Dodgers (35 times), and St. Louis (25) have drawn 3 million more often than the Yankees, who've done it 23 times. In 2023, the Yankees topped 2.5 million for an A.L. record 28<sup>th</sup> time. Average per date has surpassed 35,000 in 24 straight 'normal' seasons through 2023.

The Yankees have exceeded 2 million in 45 seasons (40 of the last 43 'normal' seasons), which is more than any American League team, and in each of the last 26 'normal' seasons. Boston has topped 2 million for the last 35 'normal' seasons in a row. The Dodgers have done it 58 times, including the last 50 years in a row, including 2021. The Yanks have topped one million every year since 1946, except 1972, which was slightly strike-shortened. They've also exceeded 1.6 million every year since returning to the rebuilt old Yankee Stadium in 1976. From 2001 through 2007, they had 7 straight years of attendance increases, setting a team record 6 times. They've also posted gains in 18 of the last 27 seasons, which includes 2022 vs. 2021.

#### **YANKEES NOTES - continued**

**2015** was the 13<sup>th</sup> year in a row that the Yankees had the best American League attendance. That is the record for consecutive seasons leading a league in attendance. The Yankees led the A.L. each year from 1949 through 1959. The Dodgers led the National League in attendance for 10 straight years from 1977 through 1986, and from 2013 through 2023 (no attendance in 2020).

Since 1920, the Yankees have led the American League in total attendance in 58 seasons, and have posted the best Major League attendance 23 times. The Dodgers have topped the N.L. in attendance 48 times, including 10 years in Brooklyn. 2003 was the first time since 1981 that the Yankees had the top American League attendance. But from 1920 to 1981, the Yankees had the best attendance in the American League 41 times, and led the Major Leagues 16 times. They led the American League 13 times in 14 seasons from 1920 through 1933, all of which were in the Babe Ruth era. They also had the best A.L. attendance 16 times in the 19 seasons from 1946 through 1964. The Yankees won 15 A.L. pennants and 10 World Series during this period. Yankee attendance has been the best in the Majors in 5 different decades since the 1920's, and tops in the American League in 7 decades during this period.

The Yankees had a very large attendance increase during the 2000-2009 decade compared to the 1990-1999 decade. Average attendance per date for the 2000-2009 decade was 46,878, up 58.8% from 29,517 in the 1990's. From 2010 through 2019, playing in a smaller-capacity stadium, they averaged 42,083 per date.

In the 30 seasons from 1993 through 2023, (excludes 2020, which had no attendance), the Yankees have drawn 96,809,612 in 2,371 dates, averaging an A.L. best 3,226,987 per season, and 40,831 per date. Only the Dodgers' attendance is higher (102,322,652 in 2,396 dates, 3,410,755 per season, and 42,706 average per date).

Since 2000, the Yankee attendance is an American League leading 76,667,407 in 1,767 home dates, averaging 3,484,882 per season, and 43,388 per date. During this 23-year period, the Dodgers have drawn a Major League leading 77,577,070 in 1,783 dates, averaging 3,526,230 per season, and 43,509 per date.

In 2009, the Yankees had the biggest attendance decline in Major League history for a team finishing in first place in a league or division, and the worst decrease in attendance for a World Series winning team. Their 6-year streak of leading the Major Leagues in attendance came to an end. But there were mitigating circumstances.

The Yankees drew 3,674,495 in 2009, down 584,880 from 2008. A major factor in that decline was that new Yankee Stadium originally seated 50,329, while the old Yankee Stadium's capacity was 57,545. In 2008, the Yankees averaged 52,585 per date, a figure beyond the capacity of their new park. They averaged 45,364 per date in 2009, topping 42,000 for every game. Another reason for the decline was that the Yankees had difficulty selling some of the most expensive seats in the new park, and had to reduce the price of many of them after the start of the season.

Only 3 other teams have seen attendance fall when their first season in a new ballpark was a full season, and their last season in the old park was also a full season. The 2009 Mets also moved into a much smaller park, and were down 906,139. In 2006, the St. Louis Cardinals sold out every game, but attendance fell 131,834 because new Busch Stadium was a bit smaller than Busch Memorial Stadium. Some seats in that new park were not available until June. The 1923 Yankees drew 1,007,066 in their first season in the original Yankee Stadium. Their 1922 attendance at the Polo Grounds was 1,026,134.

In the first 14 years (2009-2023) at the current Yankee Stadium, regular season attendance has totaled 45,874,123 for 1,123 dates, an average of 40,850 per date. The final 14 seasons at the old Yankee Stadium (1995-2008) had a total regular season attendance of 46,842,968 in 1,113 dates, an average of 42,087 per date. That average per date for the new park is 2.9% lower than for the old park when making this 14-season comparison. Note again that the current Yankee Stadium has a smaller capacity than the old park. (2021 figures affected by reduced-capacity limits.)

#### YANKEES NOTES - continued

In 2008, the Yankees played their final season in historic Yankee Stadium (84 years and 6,580 games), and became the first team in Major League history to draw 4 million in 4 straight seasons. Their Major League leading attendance of 4,259,375 was actually down from the American League attendance record they set when they drew 4,271,083 in 2007. That 2007 total was the second best (to 1993 Colorado) in MLB history.

The Yankees had 58 home sellouts in 2008, and their smallest crowd was 41,302. Attendance was less than 50,000 at only 7 games that year, and at none after May 22. The final 38 games were sellouts, as were 46 of the last 47 games played at old Yankee Stadium.

In 2007, Yankee Stadium had 50 sellouts, including 32 of the final 34 games of the year. Attendance was less than 50,000 at only 8 games, and just one game drew under 40,000. In 2006, all but 2 dates topped 40,000, and attendance was over 50,000 at 70 dates, including the final 58. The Yankees drew 4 million for the first time in 2005. Attendance topped 50,000 at 54 dates that year.

## 2023 YANKEES LED THE A.L. IN COMBINED HOME AND ROAD ATTENDANCE FOR THE 23rd TIME IN 24 YEARS

The Yankees led the American League in road attendance (2,638,432, 32,573 per date) in **2023**. They also had an American League-best home/road combined attendance for the 23<sup>rd</sup> time in the last 24 seasons, with a total of 5,907,448, averaging 36,692 per date.

The Yankees had a 17-year streak of topping the A.L. in combined total home/road attendance from 1999 through 2015. Toronto led the American League in 2016. The Dodgers had the highest Major League 2023 combined home/road total (6,420,414 – 39,878 per date). The Chicago Cubs had the highest road attendance in 2023 (2,650,565 – 32,723 per date).

In 2006, the Yankees set a record for combined home and road attendance by a Major League team, with a total of 7,325,051. Prior to 2006, the Major League combined total record was 7,178,421, by the 1993 Colorado Rockies, who drew nearly 4.5 million at home. The old record for an American League team was 7,088,291 by the Yankees in 2005.

## YANKEES NOTES - continued

"It gets late early out there." - Yogi Berra, commenting about the afternoon outfield shadows at old Yankee Stadium

## HISTORICAL YANKEES ATTENDANCE NOTES

There have been many attendance milestones set by the Yankees. They were the first team to draw one million in a season (1920), the first to top 2 million (1946), and the only team to draw over 4 million in a season 4 times. They also were the first team to average 15,000 per date (1920), and top 25,000 and 30,000 per date (1946). In 1948, the Yankees and Indians became the first teams to average better than 35,000 per date.

When Babe Ruth joined the Yankees in 1920, the result was a huge attendance increase. The Yankees drew a then-record 1,289,422 in 1920, up 670,258 (108.3%) from 1919. Average per date rose 8,011 (78.9%), from 10,150 in 1919 to 18,161 in 1920. During the 15 years (1920-1934) that Babe Ruth played for the Yankees, they averaged 15,323 per date, which was 98.7% higher than the 7,712 that the other 15 teams combined to average for those years.

Between 1936 and 1943, the Yankees won 7 American League titles and 4 World Series. Their total combined home attendance for those 8 years was 7,299,200, averaging 14,201 per date. That was 70.0% above the 8,353 per date that averaged by the other 15 teams combined at home during this 8-year period.

The longest dynasty period for the Yankees was from 1947 through 1964, when they won 15 A.L. pennants, and 10 World Series. <u>During those years, the Yankees averaged a combined 25,527 per date at home.</u> That was 10,089 (65.4%) higher than the 15,438 per date averaged by all other teams combined, including their home dates vs. the Yankees, during this 18-year period.

Lights were added to Yankee Stadium in 1946, and the early night games there drew huge crowds. 14 night dates in 1946 attracted 690,712, an average of 49,337 per date. In 1947, the 14 night dates drew 737,212, averaging 52,658 per date. 14 night dates in 1948 attracted 730,366 (52,169 per date). 665,177 attended the 13 night dates in 1949, averaging 51,167 per date. From 1946 through 1949, the 55 Yankee Stadium night dates drew 2,823,467, an average of 51,336 per date, with 20 crowds above 60,000, and 5 crowds topping 70,000. (Source - Retrosheet.org)

Yankee home attendance reached a high of 2,373,901 (37,681 per date) in 1948. The Yankees did not top that total until 1979, and their average per date didn't surpass the 1948 figure until 1999. In 1948, 28 of the 63 dates at Yankee Stadium had attendance of better than 40,000. There were crowds of at least 60,000 at 18 dates.

Even though the Yankees won 5 straight World Series from 1949 through 1953, their 1953 home attendance of 1,537,811 was 836,090 (35.2%) lower than it was in 1948. Average per date fell by 16,323 (43.3%) during this period. There was a smaller, yet still significant decline in road attendance as well. In 1953, Yankee total road attendance was down 554,349 (28.8%), and road average per date was 6,199 (21.9%) lower than in <u>1949</u>.

Television was the main reason for the big decline, for the Yankees, and for all of Major League and Minor League Baseball as well. Major League total attendance peaked at 20,920,842 (19,868 per date) in 1948. By 1953, total attendance had fallen to 14,383,797. That's a decline of 6,537,045 (31.2%) from 1948. Average per date in 1953 was 13,764, down 6,104 (30.7%). Minor League attendance fell from 39,640,443 in 1949 to 21,109,565 in 1953, and the number of teams fell from 448 in 1949 to 288 in 1953. By 1962, attendance was down to 9,732,582 with 134 teams. In **2019**, total Minor League regular season attendance, including independent leagues, was 47,194,590 with 232 teams playing home games and reporting attendance. It was 42,312,919, with 203 teams, in **2023**.

Total Major League attendance did not reach the 1948 total until 1962, when there were 4 more teams. The American League 1948 total of 11,150,099 didn't get topped until 1967. The National League high of 10,388,470, set in 1947, wasn't surpassed until 1960. Major League average per date didn't top the 1948 average per date figure until 1978. In the American League, their 1948 average per date of 21,238 was not surpassed until 1983. The National League average per date of 19,638 in 1947 didn't get topped until 1966.

'Bronx Bombers' notes – According to research done by the Elias Sports Bureau, through 2023, the Yankees have hit 17,004 home runs since 1903 (including 2020 and 2021), which is more than any other team. In 2018, they set a Major League record-high for home runs with 267. The Yankees hit 306 home runs in 2019, but Minnesota set a new Major League record that year with 307 homers. They had 219 home runs in 2023. A Yankee player has led the American League in home runs in 31 seasons since 1916. Babe Ruth led the A.L. 10 times as a Yankee.

YANKEES NOTES - continued

#### HISTORICAL YANKEES ATTENDANCE NOTES

The Yankees accounted for a big share of the home attendance of other American League teams, as is noted in the tables on this, and the next pages, and in the section about 1961 and 1962, which begins on page 328.

Although the Yankees had a losing record in 1965 and 1966, they were still a good draw at that time for other teams in the American League. Those extra 2 years are included in these tables. After 1918, the only Yankee seasons with more losses than wins were 1925, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1973, 1982, and 4 years in a row from 1989 through 1992. That makes it just 11 losing seasons out of the last 105.

The Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers were a big draw for their National League opponents when they were the visiting team. A table in the Dodgers section of this report, on page 206, combines Yankees and Dodger home and away attendance, and compares it with attendance for all other teams combined.

Nearly all of the road attendance data in these sections is from Retrosheet.org. Some figures that were missing in the Retrosheet.org listings were found in the archives of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, and The New York Times.

Although these figures are not official, it is quite probable that the 1949 Yankees were the first team to ever draw over 4 million in combined home and road attendance. The 1962 Yankees were likely the first team to top 2 million in road attendance. Many ballparks in use at that time, especially in the National League in the 1950's, were quite small. Dodgers' road attendance first topped 2 million in 1966.

From 1947 through 1953, the Yankees had a higher total attendance at home than they did on the road. But from 1954 through 1966, Yankee road total attendance was higher than Yankee home total attendance each year.

## YANKEE HOME ATTENDANCE, ROAD ATTENDANCE, AND COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE - 1947-1966

	YANKEES HOME ATTEND.			YANKEES R	OAD AT	TEND.	С		EES HO	ME/ROAD	
	Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./
Year	Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date
1947	2,178,937	66	33,014		1,479,353	63	23,482		3,658,290	129	28,359
1948	2,373,901	63	37,681		1,540,531	69	22,327		3,914,432	132	29,655
1949	2,283,676	68	33,583		1,927,025	68	28,339		4,210,701	136	30,961
1950	2,081,380	66	31,536		1,582,279	68	23,269		3,663,659	134	27,341
1951	1,950,107	67	29,106		1,579,231	66	23,928		3,529,338	133	26,536
1952	1,629,665	67	24,323		1,476,208	66	22,367		3,105,873	133	23,352
1953	1,537,811	72	21,358		1,372,676	62	22,140		2,910,487	134	21,720
1954	1,475,171	67	22,017		1,635,430	71	23,034		3,110,601	138	22,541
1955	1,490,138	67	22,241		1,680,106	65	25,848		3,170,244	132	24,017
1956	1,491,784	65	22,951		1,714,442	74	23,168		3,206,226	139	23,066
1957	1,497,134	66	22,684		1,838,083	72	25,529		3,335,217	138	24,168
1958	1,428,438	63	22,674		1,633,243	69	23,670		3,061,681	132	23,195
1959	1,552,030	66	23,516		1,852,834	71	26,096		3,404,864	137	24,853
1960	1,627,349	64	25,427		1,838,562	72	25,536		3,465,911	136	25,485
1961	1,747,725	66	26,481		1,952,704	75	26,036		3,700,429	141	26,244
1962	1,493,574	66	22,630		2,212,004	75	29,493		3,705,578	141	26,281
1963	1,308,920	68	19,249		2,088,536	74	28,233		3,397,456	142	23,926
1964	1,305,638	66	19,782		1,941,666	76	25,548		3,247,304	142	22,868
1965	1,213,552	69	17,588		1,545,846	75	20,611		2,759,398	144	19,162
1966	1,124,648	69	16,299		1,444,809	70	20,640		2,569,457	139	18,485
Total	32,791,578	1,331	24,637		34,335,568	1,401	24,508		67,127,146	2,732	24,571

The Yankees won the World Series in years shown in bold, and won the American League pennant in years in italics.

#### HISTORICAL YANKEES ATTENDANCE NOTES

The next table shows Yankees' combined home and away attendance for each year from 1947 through 1966, and compares it with the Major League average per date each year for games <u>not involving the Yankees</u>. It shows how much higher average per date was each year for games involving the Yankees, compared to all other Major League games, by numerical increase, and by percentage increase. For example, in 1947, dates where the Yankees were the home or visiting team had an average attendance of 28,359. Major League dates in 1947 not involving the Yankees had an average attendance of 17,938. Yankee home or road dates in 1947 drew an average of 10,421 per date (58.1%) higher than all other 1947 Major League dates.

Overall during this 20-year period, any dates involving the Yankees drew an average of 9,607 more than dates without the Yankees. Yankee home or road dates drew an average of 64.2% higher attendance than Major League dates that didn't involve the Yankees. *From 1947 through 1964, Yankees home and away games averaged 10,457 (70.8%) more per date than dates not involving the Yankees.* The Yankee home/road average per date was at least 50% higher than the average for the rest of MLB in each of the first 18 years listed here until 1965, and in 7 of these years, that Yankee average was at least 80% higher. Yankee home/away dates averaged at least 10,000 more per date than other MLB dates in 9 of these 20 years.

All Yankee regular season games were with American League teams only, until interleague play began in 1997.

In 1961, the American League added 2 teams and 8 games to the schedule, and the National League did the same thing in 1962.

#### YANKEE COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO THE REST OF MLB ATTENDANCE-1947-1966

YANKEES	ES COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATT		REST OF MLB	ATTENDA	ANCE	YANKEE H/A AVG. vs. MLB AVG.			
								Yankee Avg. per	NYY %
Year	Total	# of	Avg./	Total	# of	Avg./		Date Above MLB	Above
	Attendance	Dates	Date	Attendance	Dates	Date		Avg. per Date (#)	MLB Avg.
1947	3,658,290	129	28,359	16,216,249	904	17,938		10,421	58.1
1948	3,914,432	132	29,655	17,006,410	922	18,445		11,210	60.8
1949	4,210,701	136	30,961	16,004,664	950	16,847		14,114	83.8
1950	3,663,659	134	27,341	13,799,318	909	15,181		12,160	80.1
1951	3,529,338	133	26,536	12,597,338	919	13,708		12,828	93.6
				1					
1952	3,105,873	133	23,352	11,527,171	915	12,598		10,754	85.4
1953	2,910,487	134	21,720	11,473,310	911	12,594		9,126	72.5
1954	3,110,601	138	22,541	12,825,282	927	13,835		8,706	62.9
1955	3,170,244	132	24,017	13,447,139	918	14,648		9,369	64.0
1956	3,206,226	139	23,066	13,337,024	923	14,450		8,616	59.6
1957	3,335,217	138	24,168	13,680,602	948	14,431		9,737	67.5
1958	3,061,681	132	23,195	14,398,949	959	15,015		8,180	54.5
1959	3,404,864	137	24,853	15,739,115	974	16,159		8,694	53.8
1960	3,465,911	136	25,485	16,445,578	969	16,972		8,513	50.2
1961	3,700,429	141	26,244	15,194,089	1,114	13,639		12,605	92.4
1962	3,705,578	141	26,281	17,669,637	1,287	13,729		12,552	91.4
1963	3,397,456	142	23,926	17,079,618	1,298	13,158		10,768	81.8
1964	3,247,304	142	22,868	18,033,037	1,288	14,001		8,867	63.3
1965	2,759,398	144	19,162	19,682,502	1,293	15,222		3,940	25.9
1966	2,569,457	139	18,485	22,612,752	1,308	17,288		1,197	6.9
Total	67,127,146	2,732	24,571	308,769,784	20,636	14,963		9,607	64.2

The Yankees often drew huge crowds on the road during this period, especially in Cleveland. Between 1947 and 1955, 23 dates with the Yankees in Cleveland drew over 60,000, and 10 of those dates topped 70,000. 1949 saw incredible crowds in Cleveland for games with the Yankees. Attendance averaged 60,506 per date, and was over 60,000 at 7 of the 10 dates.

The next table lists each non-New York A.L. team's combined 1947-1966 average per date vs. the Yankees, and their combined average per date vs. all other teams. It also shows how much more per date the other A.L. teams drew vs. the Yankees, compared to other opponents. It is shown in both a number and a percentage increase. Example: From 1947 through 1966, the Red Sox averaged 24,777 per date when they hosted the Yankees at Fenway Park. They averaged 14,279 per date at home against all other teams. The average per date vs. the Yankees in Boston was 10,498 higher (73.5% higher) than the average per date the Red Sox drew at home vs. everyone else.

Overall during these 20 years, the other American League teams averaged 24,508 per date when the Yankees were the visiting team, and averaged 12,771 when hosting all other teams. Average per date vs. the Yankees in A.L. cities other than New York was 11,737 higher (91.9% higher) than it was for all other visiting teams combined. *This average per date was 12,110 (94.3%) higher if only the dynasty years of 1947 through 1964 are included.* 

## A.L. CITIES - ATTENDANCE vs. YANKEES, COMPARED TO ATTENDANCE vs. ALL OTHER TEAMS- 1947-1966

Home Team	Years	Average Attendance per Home Date vs. Yankees	Average Attend. Per Home Date vs. All Other A.L. Opponents	Yankee Avg./Dt. Above All Other Teams in That City (# Higher)	Yankee Avg./Dt. Above All Other Teams in That City (% Higher)
Boston Red Sox	1947-1966	24,777	14,279	10,498	73.5
Philadelphia A's	1947-1954	16,212	8,549	7,663	89.6
Kansas City A's	1955-1966	20,898	10,037	10,861	108.2
St. Louis Browns	1947-1953	7,818	4,723	3,095	65.5
Baltimore Orioles	1954-1966	24,195	12,408	11,787	95.0
Chicago White Sox	1947-1966	28,577	15,496	13,081	84.4
Cleveland	1947-1966	35,044	15,856	19,188	121.0
Detroit	1947-1966	26,823	16,299	10,524	64.6
Original Washington	1947-1960	14,541	8,459	6,082	71.9
Minnesota	1961-1966	30,908	15,697	15,211	96.9
Expansion Washington	1961-1966	19,626	7,668	11,958	155.9
Los Angeles Angels	1961-1966	27,928	9,763	18,165	186.0
American League Total	1947-1966	24,508	12,771	11,737	91.9

In 1947 and 1948, the Brooklyn Dodgers had a higher total road attendance and average per date than the Yankees. These were Jackie Robinson's first 2 seasons in the Majors. The Dodgers drew a total of 1,874,134 on the road in 1947, averaging 26,773 per date. Their total road attendance in 1948 was 1,624,325, an average of 25,380 per date. Compare these Dodgers' road figures with the Yankee road numbers in the table on page 142. The Dodgers also outdrew the Yankees in total road attendance in 1950, 1951, 1953, 1954, 1965, and 1966. More details on Dodgers' road attendance from 1947 through 1966 can be found in the Dodgers section starting on page 195.

From 1996 through **2023**, but excluding 2021, the Yankees averaged 3,425,076 per season, and 42,731 per date for their home games. All other MLB teams averaged 2,363,443 per season, and 28,380 per date, during this period. The Yankee home average per date for these 26 years is 14,351 (50.6%) higher compared all other teams combined.

While the Yankees are still a good draw at many opponent's ballparks these days, the difference between what the Yankees draw and what other teams draw is much less than it was years ago. In **2023**, the Yankees averaged 32,573 per date on the road. Excluding all Yankee games, the 29 other MLB teams averaged 28,767 vs. all other opponents at home. Having the Yankees as the visiting team in 2023 resulted in an average per date increase of 3,806 (13.2%), compared to the average per date vs. all other teams. This difference was 4,168 (15.9%) in 2022, 2,979 (10.7%) in 2019, 2,430 (8.6%) in 2018, 2,739 (9.2%) in 2017, 1,074 (3.6%) in 2016, 1,168 (3.9%) in 2015, 5,662 (19.0%) in 2014, 3,586 (11.9%) in 2013, and 3,835 (12.6%) in 2012. Figures from 2021 have far less meaning due to restricted capacity guidelines.

YANKEES NOTES – continued

"Why buy expensive luggage? You only use it when you travel." - Yogi Berra

#### HISTORICAL YANKEES ATTENDANCE NOTES

#### LOOKING BACK A LITTLE FURTHER - 1936-1946

Attendance was first included in official box scores in 1939. But during this era, some teams listed only an estimated figure for daily attendance. Daily listed attendance during the 1940's often included military service personnel who were admitted for free.

Attendance figures for Yankee road games from 1936 through 1946 were found on Retrosheet.org. To stay consistent, only Retrosheet.org figures are now used here. This has resulted in some minor changes in these tables from what was previously published. Since some teams estimated attendance for many games, at times rounding to the nearest thousand, the figures in this section are certainly not exact. But they do show how much better the Yankees drew as a visiting team compared to other teams. For years prior to 1936, attendance from too many games is missing, either from Retrosheet.org, or from newspaper game stories, to make any kind of attendance comparison. It would be great to know what Yankees road attendance was from 1920 through 1934, when Babe Ruth played for them. It likely was significantly less than in the later years, since all games were played in the daytime, and the ballparks were smaller. Also, far fewer people owned cars, so getting to a game was tough for many fans.

There are some discrepancies regarding Yankee home attendance figures for 1942 and 1943. The figures used in this table, and everywhere else in this analysis for years prior to 1998, are from 'Total Baseball.' They often differ from figures found in other sources. The Yankees Media Guide lists home attendance in 1942 as 988,251, and in 1943 as 645,006. The MLB Stats Reporting site shows Yankee attendance as 1,072,933 in 1942, and 662,192 in 1943. Adding up the numbers from Retrosheet.org, and The New York Times archives, shows attendance as 1,045,023 in 1942 and 738,233 in 1943. Some totals may include fans admitted for free, and some might not.

The 3 tables in this section cover 1936-1946, and are in the same format as the tables covering 1947-1966 that appeared on the 3 previous pages. The Yankees average per date at home for these 11 seasons combined was almost identical to their average per date road attendance.

The 1946 Yankees and Tigers were the first teams to ever draw at least 1.5 million, and the 1946 Yankees were the first team to top 2 million in total attendance, and average better than 25,000 and 30,000 per date.

	YANKEES HO	ME ATTI	END.	YANKEES R	OAD AT	TEND.	СС		EES HO	ME/ROAD
	Total	# of	Avg./	Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./
Year	Attendance	Dates	Date	Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date
1936	976,913	65	15,029	887,423	68	13,050		1,864,336	133	14,018
1937	998,148	66	15,123	1,152,170	70	16,460		2,150,318	136	15,811
1938	970,916	64	15,171	1,076,968	68	15,838		2,047,884	132	15,514
1939	859,785	65	13,227	1,076,972	62	17,371		1,936,757	127	15,250
1940	988,975	63	15,698	1,079,614	68	15,877		2,068,589	131	15,791
1941	964,722	68	14,187	1,096,733	67	16,369		2,061,455	135	15,270
1942	922,011	63	14,635	923,942	61	15,147		1,845,953	124	14,887
1943	618,330	60	10,306	844,270	60	14,071		1,462,600	120	12,188
1944	789,995	62	12,742	925,230	61	15,168		1,715,225	123	13,945
1945	881,845	60	14,697	995,894	58	17,171		1,877,739	118	15,913
1946	2,265,512	65	34,854	1,295,845	65	19,936		3,561,357	130	27,395
Total	11,237,152	701	16,030	11,355,061	708	16,038		22,592,213	1,409	16,034

## YANKEE HOME ATTENDANCE, ROAD ATTENDANCE, AND COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE - 1936-1946

The Yankees won the World Series in years shown in bold, and won the American League pennant in years in italics.

YANKEES NOTES - continued

## HISTORICAL YANKEES ATTENDANCE NOTES

#### LOOKING BACK A LITTLE FURTHER - 1936-1946

The next table shows Yankees' combined home and away attendance for each year from 1936 through 1946, and compares it with the Major League average per date each year for games <u>not involving the Yankees</u>. It shows how much higher average per date was each year for games involving the Yankees, compared to all other Major League games, by numerical increase, and by percentage increase. For example, in 1936, dates where the Yankees were the home or visiting team had an average attendance of 14,018. Major League dates in 1936 not involving the Yankees had an average attendance of 6,789. Yankee home or road dates in 1936 drew an average of 7,229 per date (106.5%) higher than all other 1936 Major League dates.

Overall, during this 11-year period, any dates involving the Yankees drew an average of 7,089 more than dates without the Yankees. Yankee home or road dates drew an average of 79.3% higher attendance than Major League dates that didn't involve the Yankees. The Yankee home/road average per date was at least 63% higher than the average for the rest of MLB in 10 of the 11years listed here. Yankee home/away dates averaged at least 7,000 more per date than other MLB dates in 7 of these 11 years.

Note that Major League attendance was much lower prior to 1946 than it was in the years covered in the previous section.

YANKEE	S COMBINED	HOME/R	OAD ATT.	REST OF MLB	ATTENDA	ANCE	Y	ANKEE H/A AVG. vs	. MLB AVG.
								Yankee Avg. per	NYY %
Year	Total	# of	Avg./	Total	# of	Avg./		Date Above MLB	Above
	Attendance	Dates	Date	Attendance	Dates	Date		Avg. per Date (#)	MLB Avg.
1936	1,864,336	133	14,018	6,218,277	916	6,789		7,229	106.5
1937	2,150,318	136	15,811	6,789,745	900	7,544		8,267	109.6
1938	2,047,884	132	15,514	6,958,627	889	7,827		7,687	98.2
1939	1,936,757	127	15,250	7,041,022	901	7,815		7,435	95.1
1940	2,068,589	131	15,791	7,754,895	886	8,753		7,038	80.4
1941	2,061,455	135	15,270	7,628,148	910	8,383		6,887	82.2
1942	1,845,953	124	14,887	6,707,616	853	7,864		7,023	89.3
1943	1,462,600	120	12,188	6,003,311	819	7,330		4,858	66.3
1944	1,715,225	123	13,945	7,057,521	851	8,293		5,652	68.2
1945	1,877,739	118	15,913	8,963,384	809	11,080		4,833	43.6
1946	3,561,357	130	27,395	14,961,932	890	16,811		10,584	63.0
Total	22,592,213	1,409	16,034	86,084,478	9,624	8,945		7,089	79.3

## YANKEE COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO THE REST OF MLB ATTENDANCE-1936-1946

#### HISTORICAL YANKEES ATTENDANCE NOTES

#### LOOKING BACK A LITTLE FURTHER - 1936-1946

The next table lists each non-New York A.L. team's combined 1936-1946 average per date vs. the Yankees, and their combined average per date vs. all other teams. It also shows how much more per date the other A.L. teams drew vs. the Yankees, compared to other opponents. It is shown in both a number and a percentage increase. Example: From 1936 through 1946, the Red Sox averaged 18,593 per date when they hosted the Yankees at Fenway Park. They averaged 9,685 per date at home against all other teams. The average per date vs. the Yankees in Boston was 8,908 higher (92.0% higher) than the average per date the Red Sox drew at home vs. everyone else.

During these 11 seasons, Cleveland split its home games between the very small League Park, and the huge Cleveland Municipal Stadium. Most Sunday games, and all of their night games, were played at Municipal Stadium. There were 11 games there vs. the Yankees that drew over 50,000 in this 11-year period. In 1938, the 5 dates that Cleveland played vs. the Yankees at Municipal Stadium drew 292,187, an average of 58,437 per date.

Overall, during these 11 years, the other American League teams averaged 16,038 per date when the Yankees were the visiting team, and averaged 8,047 when hosting all other teams. Average per date vs. the Yankees in A.L. cities other than New York was 7,991 higher (99.3% higher) than it was for all other visiting teams combined.

Home Team	Years	Average Attendance per Home Date vs. Yankees	Average Attend. Per Home Date vs. All Other A.L. Opponents	Yankee Avg./Dt. Above All Other Teams in That City (# Higher)	Yankee Avg./Dt. Above All Other Teams in That City (% Higher)
Boston Red Sox	1936-1946	18,593	9,685	8,908	92.0
Philadelphia A's	1936-1946	15,491	5,904	9,587	162.4
Chicago White Sox	1936-1946	16,859	8,443	8,416	99.7
St. Louis Browns	1936-1946	7,307	3,703	3,604	97.3
Cleveland	1936-1946	18,266	8,189	10,077	123.1
Detroit	1936-1946	21,036	13,308	7,728	58.1
Original Washington	1936-1946	14,294	6,753	7,541	111.7
American League Total	1936-1946	16,038	8,047	7,991	99.3

## A.L. CITIES - ATTENDANCE vs. YANKEES, COMPARED TO ATTENDANCE vs. ALL OTHER TEAMS- 1936-1946

## THE 1927 YANKEES

The 1927 World Champion Yankees are regarded as one of the greatest teams of all time. They had a regular season record of 110-44, and swept Pittsburgh in the World Series. Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs, scored 158 runs, drove in 165 runs, and hit .356. Lou Gehrig had a .373 batting average, with 149 runs scored, 47 home runs, and 173 runs batted in. The team had a combined batting average of .307, and hit 158 home runs. The New York Giants, with 109, were the only other Major League team to hit at least 85 home runs that year. **Babe Ruth's 60 home runs were more home runs than 12 of the other 15 entire teams hit that season.** 

Listed home attendance for the Yankees in 1927 was 1,164,015, an average of 17,637 per date. This was a very high figure for that era. Daily attendance was often estimated, and rarely listed in box scores. Baseballreference.com, Retrosheet.org, or The New York Times and New York Daily News archives, had estimated road attendance for 69 of the 70 road dates the Yankees played in 1927 (April 29 in Boston is missing). Washington averaged 12,850 per date vs. the Yankees, compared to averaging 6,257 vs. other teams. In Detroit, it was 20,278 vs. New York, and 9,692 against others. The White Sox averaged 25,909 when hosting the Yankees, compared to 5,883 per date for other opponents. The St. Louis Browns averaged 9,175 against the Yankees, and 2,578 against other teams. The Philadelphia Athletics averaged 25,500 hosting the Yankees, and 6,614 per date vs. other teams. Boston averaged 17,286 vs. the Yankees for the 7 dates where attendance was found, and 3,413 for other games, including the one with missing attendance vs. the Yankees. Cleveland averaged 9,909 vs. the Yankees, and 4,717 vs. other teams. Overall, the 69 Yankee road dates in 1927 where estimated attendance was found, drew an average of 17,129 per date. This was 203.0% higher than non-Yankee A.L. games (including that April 29 game in Boston vs. the Yankees), which averaged 5,653 per date.

#### YANKEES ROAD ATTENDANCE DURING THEIR BABE RUTH ERA (1920-1934)

The Yankees were a big draw, relatively speaking, during the 15 seasons that Babe Ruth played for them. Attendance was far lower in those days than it is now. But when the Yankees were the visiting team, the other 7 American League teams would draw significantly better than usual.

Game-by-game attendance data from those seasons is not official, and the listed data on Retrosheet.org was often an estimate by a writer who was covering a game, and rounded to the nearest one thousand. But retrosheet.com estimated attendance was found for 1,013 of the 1,031 road dates that the Yankees played between 1920 and 1934. Many of these attendance figures probably include fans admitted for free.

The table below shows Yankee estimated road attendance for each season from 1920 through 1934. It also lists the number of dates with reported attendance, the number of dates with missing attendance, and the average attendance per date for those dates where attendance was available. Also listed is the yearly combined total home attendance for all American League teams, <u>except the Yankees</u>, and the season's average per date for those teams. (Sources: Total Baseball for total attendance, and Retrosheet.org for the number of dates played, which is used to figure average per date.) The figures for the 7 other A.L. teams <u>include dates vs. the Yankees</u>, so this table's guidelines differ from the 1936-1946 and 1947-1966 tables on the previous pages. The column on the far right of the table shows how much higher the average per date was for games vs. the Yankees than it was for all games, including those with the Yankees.

Based on these figures, the Yankees averaged 13,613 per date for their road dates from 1920 through 1934. This is 6,430 higher than the 7,183 the other 7 American League teams averaged for all of their home dates during this period, <u>including</u> those vs. the Yankees. If an 'apples-to-oranges' comparison is made, based on available data, the other 7 A.L. teams averaged 7,183 per date vs. all teams including the Yankees. By 2024, retrosheet.org listed attendance from 15 games that had been missing. 18 attendance figures remain missing from these tables. Most figures that are available are estimates.

Year	Yankee Road Dates with Listed Attend.	Yankee Road Dates with Missing Attend.	Estimated Yankee Road Attendance for Dates with Listed Attendance	Yankee Road Avg. per Date for Dates with Listed Attend.	Total Combined Home Attend. for the Other 7 A.L. Teams – Includes Games vs. Yankees	# of Home Dates for the Other 7 A.L. Teams	Avg. per Date for the Other 7 A.L. Teams	Difference in Avg. per Date for Games vs. Yankees vs. All Games for the Other 7 A.L. Teams
1920	67	4	1,063,513	15,873	3,794,878	485	7,824	8,049
1921	67	3	928,500	13,858	3,389,632	493	6,876	6,982
1922	69	3	995,272	14,424	3,848,221	499	7,712	6,712
1923	69	3	883,884	12,810	3,595,523	488	7,368	5,442
1924	63	1	948,712	15,059	4,201,906	472	8,902	6,157
1925	70	0	768,000	10,971	4,489,584	491	9,144	1,827
1926	69	1	953,061	13,812	3,884,908	479	8,110	5,702
1927	70	1	1,201,927	17,170	3,448,936	470	7,338	9,832
1928	68	1	995,600	14,641	3,149,056	472	6,672	7,969
1929	69	0	1,197,236	17,351	3,702,322	483	7,665	9,686
1930	70	0	851,980	12,171	3,516,500	481	7,311	4,860
1931	65	0	767,691	11,811	2,970,855	463	6,417	5,394
1932	67	0	667,423	9,962	2,170,912	462	4,699	5,263
1933	63	0	782,771	12,425	2,198,196	449	4,896	7,529
1934	67	1	784,518	11,709	2,908,924	451	6,450	5,259
Total	1,013	18	13,790,088	13,613	 51,270,353	7,138	7,183	6,430

## YANKEES ROAD ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO HOME ATTENDANCE OF THE 7 OTHER A.L. TEAMS - 1920-1934

In 1925, the Yankees had a record of 69-85-2. This was their only losing season between 1919 and 1964. This accounts for the lower than usual difference in attendance for games vs. the Yankees, compared to attendance for all games, including those with the Yankees, for the other 7 American League teams.

## FOOTBALL AND SOCCER AT YANKEE STADIUM

The current Yankee Stadium is host to the annual college football Pinstripe Bowl game. It drew 35,314 in 2023, 31,131 in 2022, 29,653 in 2021, 36,895 in 2019, 37,821 in 2018, 37,667 in 2017, 37,918 in 2016, and 37,218 in 2015. The 2014 game drew a record-high 49,012, and it attracted 47,122 in 2013. Also in 2014, Lehigh and Lafayette played their 150<sup>th</sup> matchup at Yankee Stadium in front of a crowd of 48,256. Largest football crowd in the current Yankee Stadium was 54,251 for an Army-Notre Dame game in 2010. A Syracuse-Notre Dame game in 2018 drew 48,104. 22 college games at the current stadium, through 2023, have drawn a total of 803,757, an average of 36,534 per game.

There were many college football games at the original Yankee Stadium, especially in the Stadium's early years. New York University, which dropped football long ago, played 90 of its home games there between 1926 and 1941. The largest football crowd there was an estimated 88,000 for an Army-Stanford game in 1928. Army and Notre Dame played regularly in Yankee Stadium, and 19 games from 1925 through 1946, each had a reported attendance of at least 70,000. More recently, the largest college football attendance at the original version of The Stadium was 65,055 for Grambling-Morgan State in 1971. Top college football crowd at the rebuilt park was 40,661 for Grambling-Florida A&M in 1981.

There were 169 college football games at the original (1923-1973) version of Yankee Stadium (excludes 3 NYU Freshmen team games played as parts of a double-header, with the NYU Varsity hosting a game on the same day), and they drew a reported total of 5,839,762, an average of 34,555 per game. 140 of those games took place between 1923 and 1942. The rebuilt (1976-2008) Stadium hosted 12 college games that drew a total of 410,285, an average of 34,190 per game.

Original Yankee Stadium was home to a pair of National Football League teams, 3 old-time American Football League teams, and an All-America Conference team. The football Yankees or Yanks played there from 1926-1928, 1936, 1940, and 1946-1951. The 1926 AFL Yankees drew 102,387 (4 games, average per game - 20,477). In 1927 and 1928, the NFL Yankees drew a combined 109,500 (10 games, average per game - 10,950). A 1936 AFL team drew 80,365 at 4 Yankee Stadium games (20,091 per game), and a 1940 AFL team drew 28,259 (5 games, 5,652 per game).

The All-America Football Conference Yankees played 28 Yankee Stadium games between 1946 and 1949. They drew a total of 828,630, an average of 29,594 per game. 4 games drew over 50,000. A 1947 game drew 70,060. This team joined the NFL for the 1950 and 1951 seasons, drawing a combined 170,483 for 10 games (17,048 per game).

The New York Giants of the NFL called Yankee Stadium home from 1956 through the first two home games of 1973, and sold out just about every game from 1959 through 1973. They played a total of 124 games at Yankee Stadium (4 pre-season, 116 regular season, 4 post-season) which drew a total of 7,472,645, an average of 60,263 per game. Attendance topped 60,000 at 101 of those games. The rebuilt Stadium hosted 3 New York Jets' 1976 pre-season games, that drew a total of 50,408 (19,469 average per game). No other pro football team has played its home games at either version of Yankee Stadium since 1976.

SOURCES: NFL team media guides, 2024 Yankees Media Guide, Pro Football Reference, Pro FB Archive, Wikipedia

Best soccer crowd at the current Yankee Stadium was 49,653 to see a Manchester City play Liverpool in 2014. 49,407 attended a Real Madrid-AC Milan match in 2012. Starting in 2015, a new Major League Soccer team, the New York City Football Club, has played most of its home games at Yankee Stadium. They drew 336,870 (19,816 per game) in 2023, 292,057 (17,180 per game in 2022, 47,183 (5,898 per game) for the 8 games with fans in attendance in 2021, 358,820 (21,107 per game) in 2019, 394,583 (23,211 per game) in 2018, 377,016 (22,177 per game) in 2017, 462,336 (27,196 per game) in 2016, and 493,267 (29,016 per game) in 2015. A new soccer-specific stadium for this team has been approved for a location in Queens, across Seaver Way from Citi Field. Construction begins in 2024.

## HOCKEY AT YANKEE STADIUM

In January, 2014, Yankee Stadium hosted 2 National Hockey League games. The New York Rangers and New York Islanders played in front of a crowd of 50,027, and the Rangers and the New Jersey Devils drew 50,105.

## CONCERTS AT YANKEE STADIUM

11 performers or groups have been featured at 20 concerts at the current Yankee Stadium. The largest crowds were 45,434 and 46,272 in 2010 for 2 concerts by JAY-Z and Eminem.

#### **YANKEES NOTES - continued**

#### THE RED SOX-YANKEES RIVALRY

The Red Sox and Yankees have one of the greatest rivalries in any sport, anywhere. Since 1903, when the Yankees began play in New York as the Highlanders, through 2023, the Yankees have 1,238 wins vs. Boston, and the Red Sox have beaten the Yankees 1,022 times in the regular season. This includes that classic 1978 playoff game. There have been 14 ties. The Yankees beat the Red Sox in the 2003 American League Championship Series. But the following year, the Red Sox triumphed over the Yankees in the ALCS after losing the first 3 games of that series. That is the only time in Major League history that a team has overcome a 0-3 deficit to win a post-season series.

Through 2023, in New York, the Yankees have won 669 games vs. Boston, lost 459, with 7 ties. At Red Sox home ballparks, Boston has 563 wins, while the Yankees have won 569 games, and there have also been 7 ties. This includes the 2 Red Sox home games played in London in 2019.

In attendance, the Yankees have outdrawn the Red Sox 209,972,341 to 174,459,750 since the Yankees started play in New York in 1903. In the last 120 seasons, the Yankees have posted higher attendance than the Red Sox 88 times, including every year from 1918 through 1966. The Red Sox topped the Yankees in attendance each year from 1967 through 1975, and again from 1989 through 1996, but the Yankees have the edge each year since then. Of course the Yankees' home fields at the Polo Grounds and at the 3 versions of Yankee Stadium have had a much larger seating capacity than Fenway Park.

Yankee-Red Sox games at Yankee Stadium were hugely well-attended after World War II. From 1946 through 1951, the Yankees had 60 home dates with the Red Sox, drawing a combined 2,991,171, averaging 49,853 per date. Attendance at 32 of those dates topped 50,000, with 22 dates drawing over 60,000.

One Yankees-Red Sox game in New York in 2018, 2 in 2016, and 3 in 2015, drew under 40,000. None did in 2023, 2022, 2019, or 2017. Prior to 2015, the last time a Yankee-Red Sox game in The Bronx drew less than 40,000 was in 1999. Between 2003 and 2008, 53 straight Yankee-Red Sox games in New York drew over 50,000. In Boston, the last Yankee-Red Sox game drawing less than 30,000 was on September 8, 1987, played in front of 29,468. A game in Boston on April 11, 1985 drew 19,060 (Source: Retrosheet.org). These figures exclude 2021.

In 2019, 2 Red Sox home games with the Yankees were played at London Stadium in London, Great Britain. The games drew sellout crowds of 59,659, and 59,059. These were the first Major League games ever played in Europe, and were the largest crowds to attend a Major League game in 2019.

## "GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WELCOME TO YANKEE STADIUM"

From 1951 through 2007, these words, eloquently spoken by Yankee Stadium Public Address Announcer Bob Sheppard, greeted fans to over 4,500 Yankee games. Bob Sheppard was likely the most recognized sports P.A. voice in North America. In addition, Mr. Sheppard was the P.A. announcer for the NFL New York Giants for 50 years. He was a quarterback at St. John's University, and later played semi-pro football. Bob Sheppard was also the Chairman of a Speech Department at a New York City high school, and a Professor of Speech at St. John's. His goal as a public address announcer, in his words, was to be "clear, concise, and correct."

#### YANKEES HOME OPENERS

Attendance data has been found for all 121 home opening games the New York Highlanders/Yankees franchise played from 1903 through 2024 (excludes 2020). 10 Home Openers at Hilltop Park (1903-1912) drew a reported average of 17,059, with the largest crowds (estimated at 25,000 each) in 1905 and 1910. 10 Home Openers at the Polo Grounds (1913-1922) drew a reported average of 18,650, with a top crowd of 37,000 in 1921. Figures are from retrosheet.org, and from game stories in The New York Times, and The New York Herald. Many figures prior to 1935 were estimated.

In 1974 and 1975, while Yankee Stadium was under reconstruction, the Yankees played at Shea Stadium. Their 1974 Home Opener drew 20,744, and 1975 Opening Day drew 26,212.

120 of 122 Yankee Home Opening games (excludes 2020, which had no fans in attendance, and 2021, which drew a Covid capacity-limited crowd of 10,850) have drawn a reported total of 4,501,206, an average of 37,510 per game. 35 Openers drew at least 50,000, 5 of them topped 60,000, and the 1923, 1927, and 1931 Openers had reported attendance of at least 70,000. From 1933 through 1975, only the 1946 Opener drew at least 50,000. But 27 of the 33 Openers at the rebuilt Yankee Stadium (1976-2008) reached that level.

The table below lists average attendance per Opening Day at the original, rebuilt, and current versions of Yankee Stadium. It also has the highest and lowest Home Opener attendance for each decade.

Decade	Average	Decade's Highest	Decade's Lowest
200440	Opener Attend.	Opener Attendance	Opener Attendance
ORIGINAL STADIUM	•		•
1923-1929 (7 Openers)	54,683	74,200 (1923)	40,000 (1926, 1929)
1930-1939 (10 Openers)	42,567	70,000 (1931)	22,256 (1936)
1940-1949 (10 Openers)	29,677	54,826 (1946)	7,057 (1943)
1950-1959 (10 Openers)	27,147	45,240 (1952)	11,251 (1955)
1960-1969 (10 Openers)	23,928	40,006 (1966)	12,709 (1964)
1970-1973 (4 Openers)	21,118	34,745 (1971)	11,319 (1972)
Original Stadium – 1923-1973	33,342		
(51 Openers)			
REBUILT STADIUM			
1976-1979 (4 Openers)	48,446	52,719 (1979)	43,786 (1977)
1980-1989 (10 Openers)	51,719	55,802 (1988)	31,008 (1982)
1990-1999 (10 Openers)	54,775	56,717 (1998)	50,114 (1990)
2000-2008 (9 Openers)	52,015	55,814 (2001)	33,109 (2003)
Rebuilt Stadium – 1976-2008	52,329		
(33 Openers)			
Average – Combined Original and	40,801		
Rebuilt Stadium (84 Openers)			
CURRENT STADIUM			
2009-2024 (14 Openers)*	47,847	49,514 (2013)	46,097 (2022)

## YANKEE STADIUM OPENING DAY ATTENDANCE - BY DECADE

The 1929, 1943, 1955, 1964, 1982, 2003, and 2022 Opening Day games noted in the table above, were not played on their original dates due to weather postponements. The 1990 game was moved from its original date due to a strike. Fans were not permitted to attend games in 2020. \*The 2021 Opener was played with reduced capacity and drew 10,850. This figure is excluded from the table.

The rebuilt Yankee Stadium had a smaller capacity than the original. The current Yankee Stadium has a lower capacity than either version of the original. In addition, the seating capacity of the current Yankee Stadium has been reduced since it opened in 2009.

## BASEBALL'S MOST HISTORIC BALLPARK -- YANKEE STADIUM (1923-2008)

This section takes a brief look at the attendance history of old Yankee Stadium, which closed in 2008, and was replaced in 2009 by a new park, with the same name, located across the street from the original stadium.

From 1903 through 1912, the Yankees were called the Highlanders and played at Hilltop Park in Manhattan. In 1913, the team changed its name to the Yankees, and moved into the Polo Grounds, the home of the New York Giants. The Giants outdrew the Yankees in 6 of the first 7 seasons they shared the Polo Grounds. But after Babe Ruth came to the Yankees in 1920, the Yankees outdrew the Giants 3,546,252 to 2,848,895 over the next 3 years. The Giants then evicted the Yankees from the Polo Grounds. But the Yankees then built a magnificent new stadium in the Bronx. Yankee attendance actually dipped slightly in their first season in their own home.

Yankee Stadium was the home of the Yankees for 84 seasons. It opened in 1923, and was expanded in 1928, and again in 1937. Following the 1973 season, Yankee Stadium underwent a major rebuilding. In 1974 and 1975, the Yankees played at Shea Stadium. Rebuilt Yankee Stadium opened in 1976. Its capacity was reduced from 65,010 to 57,145. Some box seats were later added, so the Stadium's final seating capacity was 57,545.

161 post-season games were played at old Yankee Stadium. All 74 post-season games at the original stadium were World Series games. The rebuilt stadium hosted 87 post-season games, including 26 World Series games. Altogether, the Yankees won 37 A.L. pennants and 26 World Championships in old Yankee Stadium.

As successful as the Yankees were on the field, they had almost equal success at the box office. Often, Yankee yearly attendance far surpassed the <u>combined average yearly attendance</u> of the other Major League teams. In 84 seasons at Yankee Stadium, Yankees attendance was higher than the Major League yearly average attendance per team 73 times. 1966 was the first year since Yankee Stadium opened that Yankee attendance was less than the MLB annual average. It was also less than the MLB average from 1969 through 1972, and again from 1990 through 1995.

The table below shows original and rebuilt Yankee Stadium <u>average attendance per season</u>, broken out by decade, and compares it with attendance for all other MLB teams. The column: 'Avg. Att/Team – Other MLB Teams' is the average attendance, per year, in each decade for all teams <u>except</u> the Yankees. The column: 'Yank. Avg. vs. MLB Avg/Team' shows in numbers, how much the average Yankee attendance per year in each decade differed from the combined average per year of all other teams. The column: 'Yank. Avg. vs. MLB Avg. (%)' makes the same comparison on a % basis. EXAMPLE: In the 7 years in the 1920's that Yankee Stadium was open, the Yankees averaged 997,405 per year, compared to a combined average per year of 564,510 for all other teams. The Yankees outdrew all other teams by an average of 432,895 (76.7%) per year, for the decade. Near the bottom of the table, the 'Total Original' line is for the Stadium from 1923 through 1973. The 'Total Rebuilt' line is for the rebuilt Stadium from 1976 through 2008, and includes attendance for one game played at Shea Stadium in 1998.

## ORIGINAL YANKEE STADIUM ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO MLB ATTENDANCE BY DECADE - 1923-2008

	Total Yankee	Avg. Yankee	Avg. Att./Team -	Yank. Avg. vs.	Yank. Avg. vs.
Years	Stad. Attend.	Att. per Year	Other MLB teams	MLB Avg/Team	MLB Avg. (%)
1923-1929	6,981,836	997,405	564,510	+432,895	+76.7%
1930-1939	9,089,953	908,995	479,260	+429,735	+89.7
1940-1949	14,267,904	1,426,790	802,750	+624,040	+77.7
1950-1959	16,133,658	1,613,366	994,599	+618,767	+62.2
1960-1969	13,334,582	1,333,458	1,121,643	+211,815	+18.9
1970-1973	4,436,081	1,109,020	1,201,977	-92,957	-7.7
1976-1979	8,989,162	2,247,291	1,481,900	+765,391	+51.6
1980-1989	22,077,255	2,207,726	1,747,466	+460,260	+26.3
1990-1999	22,492,091	2,249,209	2,162,429	+86,780	+4.0
2000-2008	34,062,300	3,784,700	2,407,348	+1,377,352	+57.2
Total-Original	64,244,014	1,259,687	864,929	+394,758	+45.6
Total-Rebuilt	87,620,808	2,655,176	2,040,982	+614,194	+30.1
Total-All 84Yrs	151,864,822	1,807,915	1,467,382	+340,533	+23.2
	0.504.400	4 000 500	4.044.004	.05.004	
Shea ('74-'75)	2,561,123	1,280,562	1,244,661	+35,901	+2.9

## BASEBALL'S MOST HISTORIC BALLPARK -- YANKEE STADIUM (1923-2008)

The following table compares attendance figures of original Yankee Stadium (1923-1973), with attendance at rebuilt Yankee Stadium (1976-2008). New Yankee Stadium opened in 2009, and the old stadium was demolished.

## ATTENDANCE COMPARISON - ORIGINAL YANKEE STADIUM AND REBUILT YANKEE STADIUM

Original Stadium (1923-1973)	Rebuilt Stadium (1976-2008)
51 (winning record in 45 seasons)	33 (winning record in 28 seasons)
65,010	57,545
	52,613
32,938 (9/30/1973)	54,610 (9/21/2008)
1 007 066 (1923)	2,012,434 (1976)
	4,271,083 (2007)
	1,748,733 (1992) @
	4,259,375 (2008)
1,202,103 (1973)	4,239,375 (2008)
64 244 014 (1923-1973)	87,580,065 (1976-2008) &
	2,655,176
1,200,001	2,000,110
18	0
28	6
5	17
0	6
0	4
4,757,461 (74 World Series games)	4,891,534 (30 ALDS, 31 ALCS,
	26 World Series Games)
64,290	56,225
04.044 (5/00/4000)	
	56,717 (1998 Opener)
	57,485 (Game 2 – 1999 ALDS)
11 (3 in 1947)	0 (smaller capacity)
413 (9/22/1966)	5,851 (4/7/1994)
	47,505 (Game 5 – 1981 ALDS)
00,000 (Came 7 - 1520 World Cer.)	
None Played	170,013 (2001 – 3 games)
	225,132 (2003 – 4 games)
288,843 (1947 – 4 games)	169,766 (1977 – 3 games)
62,892 (1939); 38,362 (1960)	56,683 (1977); 55,632 (2008)
69,102,729	92,583,914
	51 (winning record in 45 seasons) 65,010 74,200 (announced) Actual attendance estimate: 60,000 32,938 (9/30/1973) 1,007,066 (1923) 2,373,901 (1948) 618,330 (1943) 1,262,103 (1973) 64,244,014 (1923-1973) 1,259,687 18 28 5 0 18 28 5 0 0 4,757,461 (74 World Series games) 64,290 81,841 (5/30/1938) 74,065 (Game 4 - 1947 World Ser.) 11 (3 in 1947) 413 (9/22/1966) 38,093 (Game 7 - 1926 World Ser.) None Played None Played None Played 288,843 (1947 - 4 games) 62,892 (1939); 38,362 (1960)

@ - Attendance was smaller in strike-shortened seasons of 1981, 1994, and 1995.

& - Excludes 40,743 for a game played at Shea Stadium on 4/15/1998 due to a fallen beam at Yankee Stadium.

## COMBINED ATTENDANCE: ORIGINAL AND REBUILT YANKEE STADIUM

Regular Season –	151,824,079	Division Series –	1,688,254
All- Star Games	213,569	Championship Series –	1,738,324
		World Series –	6,222,417
		TOTAL POST-SEASON –	9,648,995
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GRAND TOTAL - 161,686,643

## BASEBALL'S MOST HISTORIC BALLPARK -- YANKEE STADIUM (1923-2008)

## **BIG CROWDS AT THE ORIGINAL YANKEE STADIUM**

In the early years of Yankee Stadium, building code laws were not as strict as they became later, and the Yankees were able to sell over 80,000 tickets to some games.

Officially, the largest paid crowd ever at Yankee Stadium was 81,891 paid (83,533 total) on May 31,1938. 84,044 tickets were distributed on that day, but according to a New York Times story, 511 fans got refunds because they couldn't see the field due to the large crowd.

The highest total attendance for a Yankee game at Yankee Stadium was 85,265 (81,622 paid) on September 9, 1928. The New York Times reported that around 100,000 more fans who showed up at Yankee Stadium had to be turned away. Two other games topped 80,000 (80,403 on April 19, 1931, and 82,437 on May 30, 1940).

Lights were installed at Yankee Stadium in 1946, and many of the early night games drew huge crowds. Between 1946 and 1951, 23 night games drew at least 60,000, and 5 of those games topped 70,000.

There were 120 regular season and 62 World Series games at the original version of Yankee Stadium that drew at least 60,000. 34 of those regular season games, and 11 of those World Series games, drew over 70,000. The 1939 All-Star Game also topped 60,000. 1948 had the most 60,000+ crowds with 18. The most 70,000+ crowds were in 1927, 1946, and 1948, with 3 each year.

The first 60,000+ crowd was on the day The Stadium opened in 1923, with an announced attendance of 74,200, though the actual crowd may have been somewhat less. The final 70,000+ attendance took place on June 20, 1965, when 71,245 attended the first-ever 'Bat Day' at Yankee Stadium. Another 20,000 fans were turned away that day. The last time attendance reached 60,000 was on June 24, 1973 on Ball Day. The rebuilt Yankee Stadium couldn't hold so many fans, and neither can the current Yankee Stadium.

Decade	Regular Season # Games 60,000+	World Series # Games 60,000+	Regular Season # Games 70,000+	World Series # Games 70,000+
ORIGINAL STADIUM				
1923-1929	15	7	7	0
1930-1939	23	3	10	0
1940-1949	54	14	13	4
1950-1959	18	25	2	5
1960-1969	7	13	2	2
1970-1973	3	None Played	0	None Played
1923-1973 Total	120	62	34	11

## YANKEE STADIUM 60,000+ CROWDS BY DECADE

Sources: Retrosheet.org; Baseballreference.com; New York Times archives

#### RED SOX, AS USUAL, AMONG THE TOP DRAWS IN THE AMERICAN LEAGUE

"Swing and a ground ball stabbed by Foulke. He has it. He underhands to first, and the Boston Red Sox are the World Champions! For the first time in 86 years, the Red Sox have won Baseball's World Championship. Can you believe it?"

The 2004 World Series ending call by 2024 Baseball Hall-of-Fame inductee Joe Castiglione, who has been a radio broadcaster for the Red Sox since 1983.

Between 1903 and 1918, the Boston Red Sox won 5 of the first 15 World Series. They didn't win another World Series until 2004. But they've now won 4 of them in the last 19 years. This includes 2018, when the Red Sox set a team record for the most wins in a season. This success on the field, plus the more than \$400 million that the team has spent on renovations to Fenway Park, continues to attract fans in very large numbers.

In **2023**, the Red Sox drew 2,672,130 in total attendance, up 47,041 (1.8%) from 2022. Average per date was 32,989, up 580 (1.8%). There were no lost dates.

The Red Sox' **2023** average per date was 88.19% of Fenway Park's capacity. 70 of 81 dates drew at least 30,000, with a high of 37,457. All games drew at least 24,000, and there were 20 sellouts.

For **2023 vs. 2019**, total attendance dipped 252,497 (8.6%), and average per date declined 3,118 (8.6%). There were no lost dates in either year.

**2019** attendance was 2,924,627, up 29,052 (1.0%) **vs. 2018**. Average per date rose by 359 to 36,107. 2 home games were played in London and they drew sellout crowds of 59,659 and 59,059. That first crowd was the largest for a Major League regular season game since September 28, 2003, when the Padres drew 60,988 to the final game at Jack Murphy Stadium. Games at Fenway Park averaged 35,518, down 230. That was 94.5% of Fenway Park's capacity. There were 30 sellouts in 2019, including both games in London. For the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year, all games drew at least 30,000.

**2023** was the 27<sup>th</sup> 'normal' year in a row above 2 million for the Red Sox. This added to their American League record for consecutive seasons reaching 2 million. The old record was set by Baltimore from 1989 through 2007, and the Yankees have a current streak, through 2023, of 26 straight 'normal' years drawing at least 2 million. The Major League record for consecutive '2 million' seasons is 50 by the Dodgers from 1973 through 2023, including 2021.

The Red Sox have drawn at least 2 million in 35 of 37 'normal' seasons through 2023. The only years during this time below 2 million were the short 1994 season, and the unusual 2021 season. Boston has topped 2.5 million for 22 straight 'normal' years through 2023, and drew better than 2.8 million in each of 16 straight seasons through 2019.

Average per date reached 30,000 for the 23<sup>rd</sup> straight 'normal' season in 2023, and has been above 35,000 in 15 of the last 18 'normal' years. In 2013, the Red Sox just missed that mark, when they averaged 34,979 per date.

Starting with the last 65 dates of 2000, and continuing through the end of the **2019** season, the Red Sox drew at least 30,000 at 1,588 of 1,602 (99.1%) regular season dates at Fenway. The only dates below 30,000 during this period were 5 in 2001, 3 in 2003, and 6 in 2013. 20 dates in 2022, and 11 dates in 2023, drew under 30,000. Through 2023, but excluding 2021, 1,719 of the last 1,764 (97.4%) regular season dates at Fenway Park have drawn at least 30,000. Until 2021, the last Fenway Park crowd under 20,000 was on April 16, 1999, and the last time attendance there was under 10,000 was on August 16, 1984. In 2021, fewer than 10,000 fans were allowed to attend any games until late May.

In 2013, the Red Sox won the World Series for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the previous 10 years. But their streak of 5 straight years of attendance above 3 million, and their long sellout streak, ended.

#### **BOSTON NOTES** - continued

Total attendance in 2013 was down 209,670 (6.9%) from 2012. The 2013 and 2018 Red Sox were the 36<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> teams to have an attendance drop in a year they won the World Series. The 2014 Giants had a very small decline. The 2019 Nationals became the 39<sup>th</sup> team with an attendance loss in a World Series winning season.

The Red Sox had a huge improvement on the field in 2013. They won 28 more games than in 2012, when they had a winning percentage of just .426. No other World Championship team ever had such a low winning percentage the year before. Also, the 2013 Red Sox and the 1991 Twins are the only teams to win the World Series after finishing the previous year in last place in their league or division.

The 2013 Red Sox were one of just 24 teams since 1901 to increase their win total over the previous year by at least 28 games. (This includes 2 teams from 1919, which was a longer season than 1918. It excludes 1982, 1995, and 2021. The 1981 and 1994 seasons were shorter due to work stoppages. Covid reduced the 2020 season to 60 games, all played without fans in the stands.) But of these 24 teams, only the 2013 Red Sox, and the 1999 Arizona Diamondbacks, who won 35 more games than in 1998, had an attendance decline.

Boston has topped 2 million in road attendance in all normal and full seasons since 1988. Highest attendance for a Red Sox road game is 81,841 for a doubleheader at Yankee Stadium on May 30, 1938. The single game high is 75,997 at Cleveland on August 26, 1951.

Because of the lack of ticket availability to Fenway Park, the Red Sox make up rainouts as part of separate admission doubleheaders, or on off-days. The last originally scheduled, single-admission doubleheader at Fenway was in 1978, and the last make-up single admission doubleheader was in 1998. Boston has not played fewer than the maximum 81 home dates since 1998. The last time the Red Sox had an originally scheduled doubleheader on the road was in 1984 at Detroit.

Fenway Park has a different capacity for day (37,105) and night (37,555) games. Some seats in the center field bleachers are covered up for day games to provide a better background to the batters. Before the major rebuilding of Fenway Park began in 2002, seating capacity was 33,577 for day games and 33,993 for night games.

The Red Sox have played their Opening Day game on the road 80 times, including 2024, since 1901. Only the Pirates, with 98 road Opening Day games since 1901, and 106 road openers overall, have begun the season on the road more often.

*"If you can't imitate him, don't copy him."* – Batting stance advice to a player from Yogi Berra

#### **BOSTON NOTES** - continued

#### SELLOUT STREAKS IN BOSTON

The Red Sox had sold out 794 consecutive regular season home dates, covering 9 full seasons, from May 15, 1993 through Opening Day 2013. In addition, all 26 post-season games sold out during this period. The 820-game sellout streak was, at the time, the longest by any North American Major League sports team. The record had been held by the Portland Trail Blazers of the NBA, who had 814 sellouts in a row, including playoffs, between 1977 and 1995. Dallas broke Portland's NBA record on February 12, 2020. Through the end of the 2023-24 regular season, but excluding 2020-21, the Mavericks have 951 consecutive sellouts.

The old Major League Baseball record for consecutive sellouts was 455 at Progressive Field in Cleveland from June 12, 1995 through Opening Day 2001. The San Francisco Giants had a 555-game sellout streak covering 530 regular season games plus 25 in the post-season, that began in 2010. This streak ended in July, 2017.

The longest sellout streak by any pro sports team is 1,507 regular season games by the Minor League Baseball Dayton Dragons of the High-A Midwest League through the end of the **2023** season, and continuing in **2024**, but **excluding 2021**. Dayton probably sold out most playoff and All-Star games as well. The Dragons began play in 2000, and have sold out every regular season game in their history, excluding 2021.

Since the start of their sellout streak in 2003, **through 2019**, the Red Sox sold out 1,118 of 1,403 dates (79.7%), including 43 in the post-season. They had 30 regular season sellouts in 2013, 43 in 2014, 34 in 2015, 53 in 2016, 47 in 2017, 45 in 2018, 30 in 2019, 14 in 2022, and 20 in 2023.

In addition to the Fenway Park sellouts, the Red Sox achieved a remarkable sellout record at their Spring Training sites in Fort Myers, Florida. Starting in 2003, and continuing **through 2021** Spring Training, 262 of 263 home Grapefruit League (vs. Major League teams) games were sellouts. The only non-sellout was a 2011 split-squad game that was a late addition to the schedule. Through 2021, they had a 159-game sellout streak, including all 149 Major League games at Jet Blue Park, which opened in 2012. All 10 home games of 2020 Spring Training that were played were sold out. So were all 14 games in 2021, played with a reduced capacity of 2,400, instead of 9,909. But the sellout streak ended during the delayed 2022 Spring Training.

Boston is the only market which has teams in all 4 of the North American Major League sports (Major League Baseball, National Football League, National Basketball Association, and the National Hockey League) to ever have each of its teams sell out all regular season games in a calendar year. The 4 teams achieved this in 2010, 2011, and 2012. For the 2022, 2023, and the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 seasons, the Patriots, Celtics, and Bruins, sold out all games.

The Patriots have 315 straight sellouts, including pre-and post-season games, from the start of the 1994 season through the **2023** season. They had no home attendance in 2020.

The NHL Bruins have sold out all 630 regular season and playoff games from Dec. 5, 2009, through the end of the 2023-24 playoff run. This includes two outdoor games.

The NBA Celtics had 6 straight years of sellouts covering 2007-08 through 2012-2013. That streak ended at 289 games early in the 2013-14 season. The Celtics sold out all 2017-18, 2018-19, 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 regular season games, and have a 311-game streak through the end of their 2023-24 NBA championship playoff run.

More information about sellout streaks in North American professional and college sports can be found on pages 62-64 of this report.

Football returned to Fenway Park for the first time since 1968 when Boston College hosted Notre Dame on November 21, 2015, in front of a sellout crowd of 38,686. More football games have been played at Fenway Park since then. The post-season Fenway Bowl began in 2022. The 2022 game drew an estimated 15,000. The 2023 game drew 16,238.

## FENWAY PARK HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES

"America's Most Beloved Ballpark." - Red Sox' trademarked slogan about Fenway Park

"A treasure worth preserving forever." – From a Sport magazine review of ballparks published in the 1980's.

- A pre-Fenway note: In 1904, the Boston Pilgrims (now the Red Sox), and the New York Giants, became the first teams to ever draw at least 600,000 in a season. The Red Sox topped 600,000 again in 1909, but didn't reach that level again until 1934.
- The Red Sox drew 597,096 (8,781 average per date) in 1912, their first year at Fenway Park. In 1911, they played at the Huntington Avenue Grounds, and drew 503,961 (7,753 average per date).
- In 1914, the Boston Braves played their World Series home games at Fenway Park. In 1915 and 1916, the Red Sox played their World Series games at new Braves Field, which had a larger capacity than Fenway Park.
- The largest Red Sox crowd ever at Fenway was 47,627 on Sept. 22, 1935, for a doubleheader with the Yankees. Two doubleheaders in August 1934 drew 46,995 and 46,766. Safety regulations didn't allow such large crowds into this park in later years. The largest crowd since World War II was 38,540 for "The \$1 Beard Night" on September 18, 2013. Largest post-season crowd was 39,530 for Game 3 of the 2016 ALDS.
- The largest crowd for any event at Fenway Park was an estimated 54,000 for a free 'Open House' on April 19, 2012, celebrating the ballpark's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- The Red Sox led the American League in attendance in 1904, 1914, 1915, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1974, and 1975. They had the lowest attendance in the A.L. each year from 1921 through 1925, and overall in the 1920's. The Boston Braves had the lowest National League attendance in each decade from 1900 through 1929.
- Record-high season attendance at Fenway was 3,062,699, an average of 37,811 per date, in 2009. The pre-1946 high was 730,340 in 1942. Attendance topped one million in 13 of 15 seasons from 1946 through 1960.
- Lowest attendance was 182,150, averaging 2,760 per date, in 1932. The post WW II low total was 652,201 (9,058 per date) in 1965. From 1961 through 1966, the Red Sox never drew over 950,000. Since 1967, the lowest figures have been 1,441,718 (19,223 per date) in 1972, and 1,481,002 (19,234 per date) in 1973.
- There have been 3 seasons when the Red Sox doubled the previous year's attendance. In 1934, the year Fenway Park was rebuilt, they drew 610,640, up 127.2% from the 1933 total of 268,715. Average per date rose from 4,405 to 9,693. Attendance increased from 603,794 in 1945 to 1,416,944 in 1946, a 134.7% gain. Average per date went from 9,739 to 22,854. The Red Sox had 33 more wins in 1946, when they won the American League pennant, than they had in 1945. In 1967, the Red Sox drew 1,727,832, up 113.0% from 811,172 in 1966. The average per date increased from 11,929 to 23,998.
- 1967 brought a huge turnaround for Boston, as they stunned baseball by winning the A.L. pennant on the last day of the season. In the 6 years prior to 1967, the Red Sox drew a total of 4,872,960 in 429 dates, an average of 812,160 per season, and 11,359 per date. For the next 6 years, starting in 1967, the Sox drew 10,127,594 in 451 dates, an average of 1,702,932 per season, and 22,655 per date. Comparing these two 6 year periods (1967-1972 vs. 1961-1966), total attendance was up 109.7%, while the average per date increased 99.4%.
- Red Sox attendance has been above 1.4 million in all full seasons since 1967, above 1.7 million in all years starting in 1985, including 2021, above 2 million 38 times, including the last 27 'normal' years through 2023, and above 2.5 million for 22 'normal' years in a row, also through 2023. Except for 2021, the only season below 2 million since 1986 was strike-shortened 1994. It surpassed 3 million each year from 2008 through 2012.
- Since 1986 (37 seasons), the Red Sox have drawn 97,420,554 in 2,953 regular season dates, an average of 2,632,988 per year, and 32,990 per date. These figures include 2021.

## FENWAY PARK HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES - continued

- The Red Sox hold the Major League records for most consecutive seasons with an increase in attendance (12 years from 1998 through 2009), and most consecutive years setting a new team season attendance high (10 years from 2000 through 2009).
- Average per date at the Huntington Avenue Grounds first reached 10,000 in 1909. It didn't occur at Fenway Park until 1938, and then in 1940, 1941, and 1942. An average of 20,000+ was achieved each year from 1946 through 1951, but didn't happen again until 1967.
- The average per date has been above 20,000 each year starting in 1975. It first topped 30,000 in 1978, then each year from 1988 through 1993, in 1995, and in all 'normal' years starting in 1999 through 2022. It reached 35,000 every year from 2004 through 2012, but fell just below that mark (34,979) in 2013, before going above 35,000 again from 2014 through 2019. These are amazingly good figures considering Fenway Park's small size.

## FENWAY PARK FIRSTS AND FACTS

- Construction cost in 1912 \$650,000. (Source: <u>Ballparks, A Panoramic History</u>, by Marc Sandalow and Jim Sutton, 2004) The improvements made to Fenway Park since 2002 cost over \$300 million.
- First Red Sox Game April 20, 1912 with an estimated attendance of 27,000.
- First College Football Game Boston College vs. Norwich University, Oct. 31, 1914.
- First Patriots Game October 11, 1963 vs. Oakland, attendance 26,494. Fenway Park was home to the AFL Patriots from 1963 through 1968. They played 40 regular season games there, averaging 24,222 per game. Highest attendance was 39,350 vs. Buffalo on Dec. 4, 1966. The smallest crowd was 13,056 vs. Kansas City on Nov. 21, 1965. There were 11 games with attendance under 20,000.
- There was NFL football at Fenway earlier. The Boston Redskins played there for 4 years before moving to Washington in 1937. From 1944 through 1948, the Boston Yanks called Fenway home. That team first moved to New York, then went to Dallas, and eventually became the Baltimore, and now Indianapolis, Colts.
- First Fire 1926. Second Fire Jan. 5, 1934, while the ballpark was being rebuilt.
- First Sunday Game July 3, 1932. The Red Sox played their Sunday games at Braves Field from 1929 until July, 1932 because Fenway Park was near a church. Sunday baseball was banned in Boston before 1929.
- First Night Game June 13, 1947 attendance 34,510. Capacity crowds were very common for those first night games. In 1947, average attendance at 14 night dates was 33,130. In 1948, it was 31,537, and in 1949, the average was 33,147. Total 1947-1949 night game attendance was 1,304,715 (40 dates, 32,618 per date).
- The left field wall is 37 feet high, and 231 feet long, with 228 feet of it in fair territory.
- There are 269 "Monster Seats" on top of the left field wall. There are 208 seats on the right field roof deck.
- The 'Green Monster' was painted green in 1947. Ads were painted on the wall before then.
- Original dimensions of Fenway Park were 321 feet to left, 488 in center, and 314 in right. (Source: <u>Diamonds The Evolution of the Ballpark</u>, by Michael Gershman, 1993)
- The National Hockey League Winter Classic Game on January 2, 2023 drew 39,243.
- Going into 2024, 13,238 home runs have been hit at Fenway Park. 7,000 of them were hit by the Red Sox, including 248 by Ted Williams, 237 by Carl Yastrzemski, and 221 by David Ortiz. There have been 14,287 home runs hit at Wrigley Field since it opened in 1914. This includes Federal League games in 1914 and 1915. The Cubs first played there in 1916. There were 11,270 home runs hit at the original Yankee Stadium from 1923 through 1973, and then after it was rebuilt, from 1976 through 2008. Detroit's Tiger Stadium (1912-2000) had 11,111 homers.

#### THE RAYS CONTINUE TO DO IT ALL RIGHT, AND IT NOW LOOKS LIKE A NEW BALLPARK IS ON THE WAY

*"I'm ready to party!* Let's go!" – Dave Wills (1964-2023) - Rays' broadcaster from 2005 to 2023, about to call a gameending home run as the Rays clinched a playoff spot in 2011. He brought laughter and joy to every game he broadcast.

In many ways, the Tampa Bay Rays are a model franchise. In their first 10 seasons (1998-2007), they never won more than 70 games, they finished in last place in the A.L. East every year but one, and averaged 97 losses per season. But since Stuart Sternberg became team C.E.O. in 2008, the Rays have been in the playoffs 9 times, going to the World Series in 2008 and 2020. They have the 3<sup>rd</sup> best record in the Majors (1,366 wins, topped only by the Dodgers (1,459), and the Yankees (1,419), and have won at least 90 games in 9 seasons, including 2023. Only the Dodgers, with 11 seasons of 90+ wins, and Yankees, with 9, have done it as often from 2008 through 2023. In 2020, Baseball America rated the Rays' Minor League system as the best among the 30 Major League organizations. The Rays had the best record in the American League in 2020, and also in 2021, when they won a team record-high 100 games.

The Rays have a reputation as a very fan-friendly team. Ticket prices are low, and management has offered many incentives for fans to attend games. They have some of the most popular giveaway days and promotions in Major League Baseball, and have been recognized as one of the best bargains for the money from a fans' standpoint. In the last 7 years, the team has invested \$25 million for improvements to Tropicana Field.

In 2014, Bloomberg Business listed the Rays as #5 in the category of "Smartest Spenders" among all 122 MLB, NFL, NBA, and NHL teams, topped only by the Baseball's St. Louis Cardinals, the NFL New England Patriots, and the NHL's Chicago Black Hawks and Boston Bruins. ESPN ranked the Rays as the #1 team in affordability among all MLB teams. It was the 4<sup>th</sup> time in the last 14 seasons that the Rays finished on top of this listing. Their local TV ratings more than doubled from 2005 to 2015. Team Marketing Report listed the Rays as the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest fan cost (to Arizona) for 2019.

And now, it looks like the Rays will finally get a new ballpark, located in St. Petersburg, next to Tropicana Field. It will be intimate, seating around 30,000, fully enclosed, yet with much natural light.

In **2023**, the Rays had their best attendance since 2014. They drew 1,440,301, up 312,174 (27.7%) **vs. 2022**, and up 261,566 (22.2%) **vs. 2019**. Average per date in **2023** was 17,781, up 3,854 (27.7%) vs. 2022, and up 3,047 (20.7%) vs. 2019. 4 dates drew under 10,000, 31 dates topped 20,000, with 6 sellouts. Extra tickets were sold to a Yankee series in May, with a top crowd of 32,142, instead of the usual sellout figure of 25,025. But 2023 was the 8<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year under 1.5 million, and the 16<sup>th</sup> time below that figure in the club's 24 'normal' seasons. One of the Wild Card games drew 19,704, the smallest post-season crowd since a World Series game in Cincinnati in 1919.

In **2019**, Tampa Bay had the lowest attendance in the American League, drawing 1,178,735. Average per date was 14,734. There were 3 dates that drew a sellout of 25,025. 18 dates drew at least 20,000. Only 9 did in 2018. But attendance at 43 dates was less than 15,000, with 19 of those dates drawing under 10,000, including a low of 5,746.

The Rays had a 96-66 record in 2019. Their total attendance was the lowest for a team with at least 96 wins since the 1975 Oakland A's, who had 98 wins, and drew 1,075,518. The 2019 Rays also had the most wins in MLB history for a team last in its league in attendance. The 2013 and 2019 Rays are the only teams to make the post-season in a year when they had their league's worst attendance. Their 2012, 2013, 2018, and 2019 clubs are the only teams to finish last in league attendance in a season with at least 90 wins.

In 2015, the Rays drew 1,247,668. At that time, it was the lowest total attendance among all teams in the Major Leagues since 2006, when Florida drew 1,164,134, and for the Rays since 2005 (1,152,793). Average per date was a Major League low 15,403. The Rays' 2015 attendance figures exclude 3 games originally scheduled to be played in Baltimore, but moved to St. Petersburg due to civil unrest. The Orioles got attendance credit for those games.

Tampa Bay has averaged 17,212 per home date in their 26-year history, topping 20,000 only in 1998, 2008, 2009, and 2010. They averaged under 15,000 per date in 2002, 2003, 2005, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2022. The Rays had the American League's worst total attendance in 14 of the last 23 years, including 7 straight years from 2001 through 2007, but not in 2022 or 2023.

The 2019 Rays were the 18<sup>th</sup> team to post the lowest attendance their own league, in a year when they had a winning record. (6 of those teams, including the 2012 and 2013 Rays, also had the worst Major League attendance.)

#### TAMPA BAY NOTES - continued

There have been 17 teams since 1900 that had <u>the best total attendance</u> in their league, yet had a losing record. 8 of these teams had the best attendance that year in the Majors. The 1993 Colorado Rockies, playing their first season, set the all-time Major League attendance record of 4,483,350, with a record of 67-95. The 1902 New York Giants led the National League in attendance, but won just 48 games while losing 88. The 1999 Rockies are the most recent team to lead Major League Baseball in attendance in a losing season, and the 2017 Blue Jays are the most recent team to lead their own league, while posting a losing record. While Toronto had the highest A.L. total attendance in 2017, the Yankees, who lost 2 dates to weather, had the league's best average per date.

# In 2012, Tampa Bay's total attendance of 1,559,681 was the highest attendance ever for a team that finished with Major League Baseball's worst attendance in a particular year.

The Rays topped 1.5 million for 6 straight years through 2013, after failing to reach that level in the 7 previous seasons. Tampa Bay has reached 1.5 million in only 8 of its 25 seasons, and has been above 1.6 million only 4 times. In 2011, the Rays made the playoffs with a thrilling come-from-way-behind win on the last day of the regular season. But their attendance fell 314,257 (17.0%), the biggest drop in total and percentage in the American League.

The 2011 Rays became just the 7<sup>th</sup> team in Major League history to be in the post-season in a year when they had the largest total attendance decline in their league. The others: 1907 Chicago Cubs; 1916 Boston Red Sox; 1952 New York Yankees; 1973 New York Mets; 1983 Philadelphia Phillies; 1999 Arizona Diamondbacks.

Tampa Bay has sold out just 56 regular-season games in their history, through Opening Day 2024. There were only 3 sellouts in the club's first 9 years. Tropicana Field has 41,810 seats. But some have obstructed views, and except for one game in 2016, are not sold. The ballpark's listed capacity was 34,078 for several years. Renovations to Tropicana Field reduced it to 31,042 from 2014 through 2018. Starting in 2019, the team did not sell tickets to the upper level, and listed capacity is 25,025. That 2016 game where the obstructed seats were sold, was dedicated to the victims of the Orlando nightclub mass shooting, and it drew 40,135. It was the largest regular season crowd for the Rays since 2006, and the top non-Opening Day attendance since 2004. The largest crowd for any event in that ballpark was 48,044 in 2024 for the WWE Royal Rumble. A New Kids on the Block Concert in 1990 drew 47,150.

In 2008, Rays' attendance rose by 424,379 (30.6%). Both the total and % increases were the best in the Majors for 2008. There were 8 regular-season, and 8 post-season sellouts. That year was the first time since 1999 that the Rays topped 1.5 million. Their attendance has surpassed 2 million only in 1998, their first season.

The Rays won 31 more games in 2008 than in 2007. Since 1900, only 7 teams have had a higher increase in their win total from one season to the next. Not surprisingly, 13 of the 14 teams that increased their win total by at least 30 games had a big increase in attendance. The exception was the 1999 Arizona Diamondbacks, who, until 2009, had the biggest decline ever by a team that finished in first place in a league or division. A table listing attendance for those teams with a big increase in wins can be found on page 278.

Among the sites mentioned for a new park had been the St. Petersburg bayfront, where AI Lang Field, the former Minor League and Spring Training park is located. So was the area next to Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, home of the NFL Buccaneers, and near George Steinbrenner Field, the Yankees Spring Training park. The I-4 corridor was another possibility. The most likely site that had been proposed was in the Ybor City section of Tampa, near Downtown. There was a proposal to build an open-air park in Tampa, play the first 3 months of the season there, and then play the rest of the season in a proposed new park in Montreal. But now, it appears the new park in St. Petersburg will happen.

Splash hits in St. Petersburg – Since 2006, there has been a fish tank, with live rays that can be fed by fans, in the outfield stands at Tropicana Field. Only 7 homers have been hit into the tank, including one in the post-season.

There are 4 catwalks (called rings) at Tropicana Field located above the playing field. A fair ball that hits one of these rings is either a home run, or in play, depending on which ring is hit. Through 2023, 197 fair balls, including a record-high 14 in 2016, have hit one of the rings. 8 didn't come down from the catwalk, and so became ground-rule doubles. Not included in this total is one ball that actually hit the roof.

In 2016, the Rays played a Spring Training game vs. the Cuban National Team in Havana. Attendance for this game was listed as 55,000 guests invited by the Cuban government. The only other time since the early 1960's that a Major League team visited Cuba was in 1999, when the Orioles beat the Cuban National Team in front of an estimated crowd of 50,000.

"In baseball, you don't know nothing." - Yogi Berra (Source: Baseballalmanac.com)

#### FOR THE TWINS, ALMOST WIRE-TO-WIRE TO THE AMERICAN LEAGUE CENTRAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2023

The Twins were in first place in all but 3 days of the 2023 season. They also had an attendance increase.

In **2023**, total attendance was 1,974,124, up 172,996 (9.6%) **vs. 2022**, but down 320,028 (13.9%) **vs. 2019**. Average per date was 24,372, an 1,858 (8.3%) increase **from 2022**. It was down 3,951 (14.0%) **vs. 2019**. Opening Day had the top crowd (38,465) and only sellout. There were no lost dates. 17 dates topped 30,000.

Minnesota won 23 more games in **2019 than in 2018**, and had their best attendance since 2013. The 101 wins were the most for the Twins since 1965. Total attendance rose 334,955 (17.1%) to 2,294,152. Average per date was up 3,833 to 28,323. **This was the best increase among American League teams, and 2<sup>nd</sup> best overall to Philadelphia**. The 2018 figures include 2 April games played in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which drew a total of 39,053. The 78 Target Field dates in 2018 averaged 24,617, so the average per date for games at Target Field was up 3,706 in 2019.

There were 12 sellouts in 2019, vs. just Opening Day in 2018. 40 dates drew at least 30,000 in 2019, compared to just 8 in 2018. Since Target Field opened in 2010, 184 of the 1,049 dates there have been sellouts. But 136 of the sellouts took place in the ballpark's first 2 years.

In 2018, the Twins suffered through some horrible April weather. 4 of the first 10 scheduled dates were postponed, 3 of them due to snow. Minneapolis had 26.1 inches of snow in April, 2018, the most since record-keeping began in 1884. The weather was pretty awful for the games that did get played. One began with a temperature of 27 degrees, 3 others started in the 30's, and temperatures were in the 40's for 2 other games. It wasn't much better in April 2019, when 3 games began in temperatures of less than 38 degrees, and 6 others started with temperatures in the 40's.

The **2023** total attendance was down 1,249,516 (38.8%) from 3,223,640 in **2010**, the first year at Target Field, and average per date was down 15,426 from 39,798 in 2010. The Twins had topped 2 million for the 11 straight years until 2016, going back above this level in 2017, and then below it in 2018, and above it in 2019. This followed a streak of 11 straight years (1994-2004) below 2 million. Prior to 2005, Minnesota drew at least 2 million in only 6 seasons.

In 2014 the Twins drew 2,250,606 to set a record for the highest attendance by a team that had at least 90 losses in 4 straight seasons. The previous high for such a team was 2,062,362 by Milwaukee in 2004. The American League high was 2,024,485 by Detroit in 2005. The Twins had 8 seasons with at least 90 losses at the Metrodome. Average season total attendance for those 8 years was 1,240,480. At Metropolitan Stadium, the Twins had only one 90-loss season. It was 1961, their first season in Minnesota. Attendance was 1,256,723.

A streak of 403 straight dates with attendance above 20,000 ended on September 15, 2014. In the first 3 years at Target Field, which opened in 2010, there had been only 6 dates, all in 2012, which drew under 30,000. 169 straight crowds above 30,000 attended Twins home games from 9/18/2009 through 8/27/2012. 6 dates were sellouts in 2013.

The Twins averaged 30,588 per date in 2013, their 4<sup>th</sup> straight year above 30,000. Prior to moving to Target Field, the Twins topped 30,000 per date only twice (1988, 1992) in their history. It took this franchise 85 years, going back to its days as the original Washington Senators, to have a season where average attendance per date reached 20,000. The Twins finally topped 20,000 per date in 1985. They reached this level only 9 times through 2000, but have topped 20,000 per date every year since. This includes the 2021 average per date for when full-capacity was allowed.

In their first 13 years at Target Field (2010-2023, excludes 2020), the Twins drew 29,470,396, an average of 2,266,954 per year, and 28,094 per date. In their final 13 years at the Metrodome (1997-2009), they drew 23,738,692, which averaged 1,826,053 per year, and 22,870 per date. The Twins averaged 81.8 wins per year in those last 13 Metrodome seasons, and have averaged 77.2 wins per year in 13 full seasons (excludes 2020) at the Target Field. Despite the poorer record in recent years, and reduced capacity for part of 2021, total attendance for the first 13 years at Target Field was 24.1% higher than it had been for the last 13 years at the Metrodome.

#### **MINNESOTA NOTES - continued**

In 2010, the Twins won 94 games. In 2011, they won just 63. Only 9 other teams in Major League history have seen their win total drop by at least 30 from one year to the next. All of those other teams had significant declines in attendance. The 2004 Mariners were down 10.0%, and all the other teams had declines of at least 23%.

But for the 2011 Twins, attendance fell just 55,533 (1.7%), and every game drew at least 34,000. 57 games were sold out, including a streak of 37 in a row. The total of 3,168,107 was the 8<sup>th</sup> highest for a team in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new park. The best attendance totals for a team in Year 2 in a ballpark were 3,891,014 by Colorado in 1996, and 3,885,284 by Toronto in 1990. (The Blue Jays moved to Skydome on June 5, 1989.)

In 2010, The Twins moved into Target Field and drew a team record-high 3,223,640. This was up 807,403 (33.4%) from 2009, their final year in the Metrodome, and was the largest increase of any team that year. The 2010 attendance was up 204.2% from 2000, and up 68.7% from 2004. The Twins report that all games that year were sellouts. 40 games drew over 40,000, and average attendance per home date was 39,798, in a ballpark that seated around 39,500. The sellout streak ended at 83 games early in the 2011 season.

The Twins topped one million in each of their first 10 seasons (1961-1970) in Minnesota, but reached that level just twice over the following 12 years (1971-1983).

In 1988, the Twins drew 3,030,672 to become the first American League team to surpass 3 million in attendance. The 1978 Dodgers were the first National League team to do it.

Target Field is located in downtown Minneapolis, next to the Target Center, home of the NBA Minnesota Timberwolves. Due to often early-season cold weather in Minnesota, there is heat in the concourses, concession areas, and rest rooms. The ballpark is one of the most environmentally-friendly major sports facilities in North America. The Twins organization has spent about \$50 million on improvements since 2010, including a big new scoreboard for 2023.

Highest attendance for a Target Field event was 44,627 for Pink's Summer Carnival Tour in 2023. A Kenny Chesney-Jason Aldean concert in 2015 drew 44,152. Kenny Chesney and the Zac Brown Band drew 43,940 in 2013, and a Paul McCartney 'Out There' concert drew 43,143 in 2014. In 2017, Billy Joel drew 40,098, and Florida-Georgia Line, with the Backstreet Boys, Nelly, and Chris Lane, drew 40,010. 4 concerts in 2018 drew 150,534 (37,634 per event). The "Hella Mega Tour" drew 36,500 in 2021.

Target Field hosted NCAA Division III football on September 23, 2017. Traditional rivals St. John's and St. Thomas, both Minnesota schools, played in front of 37,355, at the time, by far the largest crowd to ever attend a Division III football game. The old record was 17,535 on October 8, 2016 at Wisconsin-Whitewater. Source: D3football.com. In 2019, a North Dakota State-Butler game at Target Field drew 34,544.

The National Hockey League Winter Classic was held at Target Field on January 1, 2022, with a Minnesota Wild home game. Attendance was 38,619. Gametime temperature was 8 degrees below zero, making this the 3<sup>rd</sup> coldest event in American sports history. The only games that began with a colder temperature were NFL playoff games in Green Bay in 1967 (13 below), and in 1982 in Cincinnati (9 below).

The Twins played 28 years (1982-2009) in the Hubert Humphrey Metrodome. They drew just 921,186 (11,373 per date) in 1982, their first season there, and only 858,939 in 1983, the lowest attendance of any season in the Metrodome. Attendance reached 1.5 million for the first time in 1984. Regular-season attendance from 1982 through 2009 was 49,884,973, an average of 1,781,606 per season. Average attendance for the 2,234 dates there was 22,330.

The Metrodome hosted 9 A.L. Division Series games, 6 A.L. Championship Series games, and 8 World Series games. Those 23 post-season games drew 1,268,241, an average of 55,141 per game. The 1985 All-Star Game there drew 54,960. 34 regular season, and all post-season games at the Metrodome drew over 50,000.

In 2014, the Metrodome was demolished. It was replaced on the same site, by the enclosed US Bank Stadium for the NFL's Minnesota Vikings, which opened in 2016. The architects were able to get a baseball field to fit into the new stadium so college and high school baseball games could be played there. US Bank Stadium was the site of Super Bowl LII in 2018, and hosted the NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four in 2019.

#### **MINNESOTA NOTES - continued**

From 1961 through 1981, the Twins played outdoors at Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington. That stadium was replaced by the Mall of America, the largest shopping mall in the United States. In 21 years at 'The Met,' the Twins drew 22,285,287, averaging 1,061,204 per season. The highest attendance was 1,483,547 (19,520 per date) in 1967, while the lowest for a full season was 662,401 (8,603 per date) in 1974. During the strike-shortened 1981 season, the Twins averaged just 7,951 per date. In 9 of their last 11 years at Metropolitan Stadium, the Twins failed to draw at least one million. Average attendance per date for 1,568 dates at 'The Met' was 14,213.

A New York Times report says that according to Minnesota baseball historian Stew Thornley, there were 4 games postponed due to snow when the Twins played in Bloomington. 2 games in 2013, and one in 2014, 3 in 2018, and one in 2019, at Target Field were postponed by snow, or a mixture of snow and rain. A game in April 2018 had a gametime temperature of 27 degrees, the coldest ever for a Twins' home game.

Weather data from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources shows that in 32 different years from 1971 through 2024, there has been at least one inch of snow for the month of April at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, with a high of 26.1 inches in 2018. 17.9 inches of snow fell in April, 2013, and 9.8 inches of snow fell in April, 2019. There has been at least one inch of snow for the month of October in 12 different years from 1939 through 2023, with a high of 9.3 inches in 2020.

The Twins draw from a large area of the Upper Midwest. Their radio network has 69 stations, in 5 states.

#### CLEVELAND POSTS A HUGE ATTENDANCE INCREASE IN 2023

Attendance rose significantly in Cleveland in **2023**. The total reached 1,834,068, the best since 2018. It was up 538,198 (41.5%) vs. **2022**, and up 95,426 (5.5%) compared to **2019**. **The 2023 vs. 2022 percentage gain tied Baltimore for the best in the American League.** Average per date was 23,514, up an American League best 6,463 (37.9%) vs. **2022**, and up 1,506 (6.8%) vs. **2019**. There were 5 sellouts. 16 dates drew over 30,000, with a high of 38,260. Although there were 3 postponements and 3 lost dates in 2023, this was an improvement from 2022, when 10 games were rained out, and an MLB-high 5 dates were lost.

In **2022**, the Guardians had their 9<sup>th</sup> winning season in the previous 10 years, including 6 years with at least 90 wins. They won the A.L. Central for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in the previous 7 years. But the attendance was only 1,295,870, with a 17,051 average per date, the lowest figures since 1992, when the team still played at Cleveland Stadium.

**2023** was 15<sup>th</sup> time in the last 19 'normal' seasons that Cleveland drew under 2 million. 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2017 were the seasons above 2 million between 2003 and 2023.

The club was renamed the Guardians starting with the 2022 season. The name comes from the 'Guardians of Traffic,' who are 8 figures, found on the stone pylons of the Hope Memorial Bridge, which is located near Progressive Field. The bridge was named in honor of a Cleveland stonemason, who was the father of actor and comedian Bob Hope.

In **2020**, Cleveland had their 8<sup>th</sup> winning year in a row, tying their longest winning-season streak since 1994-2001. During the 2017 season they had an A.L. record 22-game winning streak. The 1916 New York Giants' 26-game winning streak is the only longer one in Major League history.

The success on the field got matched at the gate in **2017** when the Guardians had the best total attendance percentage gain in the Majors, and the top total and average per date increases in the American League. Cleveland drew over 2 million for the first time since 2008.

In 2016, the Guardians won the American League pennant, but drew only 1,591,667. That team, along with the 2008 Rays, and 2003 Marlins, are the only league champions to draw less than 2 million since 1984. Cleveland's 2016 total was the lowest attendance for any league champion since the Marlins drew 1,303,214 in 2003, and the lowest for an American League pennant winner since Oakland drew just 845,693 in 1974.

Progressive Field has been getting significant upgrades in recent off-seasons. New areas where fans can socialize have been added, and renovations will continue through 2025. Seating capacity has been reduced from 42,487 some years ago, to 34,830 in 2020 through 2023, and to 34,631 in 2024.

Cleveland won 24 more games in 2013 than in 2012, and were one of the American League Wild Card teams. But their attendance fell 30,670 (1.9%) to 1,572,926, averaging 19,662 per date. Tampa Bay was the only MLB club with lower 2013 total attendance, and only the Rays and Marlins had a lower average per date. In 2013, Cleveland and Boston became just 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> teams in Major League history, going back to 1901, and excluding strike-affected years, to have a decline in attendance in a year when they increased their win total by at least 24 games.

The Guardians had the best total and percentage attendance increases in the Major Leagues in 2011 (446,023 and 32.0%), with 20 games drawing better than 30,000. But in 2012 attendance fell 237,239 (12.9%) to 1,603,596. This total, and the average per date of 19,797 were the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest (to Tampa Bay) of any team that year.

In 2010, Cleveland drew just 1,394,812, at that time their lowest total since 1992, including the strike years, and the smallest attendance of any team. Attendance fell by 382,092. This followed a decline of 392,818 in 2009. Opening Day 2010 was a sellout. The only other games that drew over 30,000 were one with the Yankees, and one with Washington when Stephen Strasburg pitched.

Between 1932 and 1946, Cleveland split their home games between League Park, which was quite small, seating around 23,000, and Cleveland Municipal Stadium, which was huge. They played their first game at Cleveland Stadium on July 31, 1932, in front of 76,979 paid, and a total of 80,284. The Indians had 32 games at the big stadium in 1932, and then scheduled all of their games there in 1933. But they went back to League Park for all games in 1934, 1935, and all but one game in 1936, which drew 65,342. After that, they regularly played Sunday, holiday, and night games at Cleveland Stadium, while still playing much of the schedule at League Park. In 1945, there were 17 double-headers at Cleveland Stadium, but just 12 single games there. Only 2 of the 29 dates at League park that year were double-headers. (Source: Retrosheet.org)

#### **CLEVELAND NOTES - continued**

Altogether, from 1932 through 1946, the Guardians played 478 games at Cleveland Stadium, and 691 games at League Park. In 2014, the site of League Park was redeveloped as a baseball field.

In 1946, the final year they played in both parks, the Guardians drew 875,931 in 30 dates at Cleveland Stadium, averaging 29,198 per date. The top crowd of the year was 74,529. Attendance for 32 dates, all day games, at League Park was 181,358, an average of 5,667 per date. The largest crowd was 14,466, and only 3 dates drew at least 10,000.

In 1948, the team was owned by master promoter Bill Veeck, and they set a new Major League attendance record, drawing 2,620,627 to Municipal Stadium. No American League team topped Cleveland's 1948 total until the Yankees did it in 1980. 1948 was the last time Cleveland won a World Series. They played 13 single-admission doubleheaders that year, and averaged 39,706 per date for 66 home dates (only one home date in April). There were 11 regular season crowds of at least 70,000, and attendance topped 60,000 at 14 dates, and 50,000 at 23 dates. One World Series game in 1948 drew 86,288, the largest crowd for any game ever in an American League ballpark, while the other two World Series games attracted 70,306 and 81,897. The 2 World Series games in 1954 each drew over 70,000.

Very large crowds were quite common in Cleveland in those years. From Cleveland Stadium's opening in 1932 through 1946, there were at least 10 crowds of better than 60,000. From 1947 through 1951, there were 37 crowds of at least 60,000 for regular season games at Cleveland Stadium. 17 of those big crowds were with the Yankees as the opponent. In the remaining 42 years (1952-1993) that the Guardians played there, 32 crowds topped 60,000. This includes just 4 crowds of 60,000+ from 1960 through 1979. But each of the last 3 games there, in 1993, drew over 72,000. Overall from 1932 through 1993, there were 79 crowds of 60,000+ and 36 crowds of 70,000+ for regular season games. (Source for Cleveland Stadium figures: Retrosheet.org).

Cleveland also topped 2 million in total attendance in 1949, and the average per date that year was 34,903. Average per date was better than 22,000 from 1947 through 1952. But from 1953 through 1992, Cleveland's average per date reached 20,000 only in 1959. It was under 10,000 per date in 7 seasons, the last of which was 1985. From 1956 through 1987, the average per date topped 15,000 only in 1959, 1974, and 1986.

On September 12, 1954, a game in Cleveland drew 84,587, the largest regular-season crowd in Major League history. But the team and its attendance soon went into a long decline. Between 1956 and 1985, the team had just 8 seasons with a winning record. Attendance topped one million only 5 times, and surpassed 1.1 million just twice. Cleveland didn't top 2 million again until 1993, their final year in Cleveland Municipal Stadium. First Energy Stadium, home of the NFL Cleveland Browns, is now on the site of Cleveland Stadium.

Moving to Progressive Field in 1994 led to a boom in attendance. The Guardians topped 3 million each year from 1996 through 2001, including a team record and Major League leading 3,468,456 in 2000. Average per date was above 40,000 from 1995 through 2000.

Cleveland sold out a then-Major League record 455 straight regular season dates, plus 27 more in the postseason, between June 12, 1995, and Opening Day 2001. Boston surpassed that sellout streak in 2008, and San Francisco later topped it as well. There have been 611 sellouts at Progressive Field since it opened. Attendance topped 20,000 at all games at Progressive Field from its 1994 debut, through Opening Day 2003.

In the first 8 years at Progressive Field (1994-2001), the Guardians averaged 41,603 per date. This was 138.4% higher than the average per date of 17,454 that they averaged during their final 8 years (1986-1993) at Cleveland Stadium. However, in the last 19 'normal' seasons (2003-2023, excludes 2020 and 2021), the Guardians have averaged 22,066 per date, a decline of 47.0 from their 1994 through 2001 average.

Since moving to Progressive Field, the Guardians have drawn 62,312,003 in 29 seasons, including 2021. They've averaged 2,148,690 per season, and 27,354 per date. From 1960 through 1993 (34 seasons) at Cleveland Stadium, the Guardians drew just 31,726,325 in 2,426 dates, averaging 933,127 per season, and 13,078 per date.

Cleveland hosted the 2019 All-Star Game. It was the 6<sup>th</sup> time the game has been played in Cleveland. The first 4 were at Municipal Stadium, and drew 69,831 in 1935, 68,751 in 1954, 44,160 in 1963, and 72,086 in 1981. The 1997 game at smaller Progressive Field drew 44,916. Attendance at the reduced-capacity park for the 2019 game was 36,747.

#### ROYALS TIE THEIR RECORD FOR MOST LOSSES, BUT AT LEAST THE CHIEFS WON ANOTHER SUPER BOWL

In 24 years from 1971 through 1994, the Royals had 17 winning seasons, an excellent record for a team from a small market. But in the 29 years since then, they've only had a winning record in 2002, 2013, the 2014 American League Championship year, and the 2015 World Series winning season. They had 106 losses in 2023, tying their team record. The Royals' attendance history shows that when the team is good, so is attendance. Meanwhile, the NFL Chiefs, who play next to Kauffman Stadium, won the Super Bowl again in 2024.

**2023** attendance was 1,307,052, up 29,366 (2.3%) **vs. 2022**. Average per date was 16,136, up 165 (1.0%). There were 2 dates that drew under 10,000, and 38 dates attracted fewer than 15,000. 18 dates topped 20,000, with 2 of them drawing above 30,000. Opening Day had the largest crowd (38,351), and was the first sellout since 2018. There were no lost dates, and one game was postponed. There have been 91 weather postponements in the 51-year history of Kaufman Stadium. **Compared to 2019**, the **2023** total declined 172,607 (11.7%), and average per date fell 2,360 (12.8%). Perhaps, a sign of good things to come: The **2024** Home Opener drew 38,775, the largest crowd in Kansas City since June 23, 2017.

Royals' 2022 attendance was the lowest in a full and 'normal' season since 1975.

In **2019**, their total attendance fell 185,448 (11.1%) to 1,479,659. Average per date was 18,496, down 2,061, with one lost date. These were the lowest figures for the Royals since 2006. One game was played in Omaha in conjunction with the College Baseball World Series, and it drew 25,454. Games in Kansas City averaged 18,408. No games were sold out, 2 dates reached 30,000, 50 dates drew under 20,000, and 24 dates drew less than 15,000. Attendance fell 555,263 (25.0%) in 2018, and 337,342 (13.2%) in 2017.

From 2015 through 2023, total attendance fell 1,401,497 (51.7%), and average per date is down 17,303 (51.7%).

In 2015, the Royals drew team record-highs in total attendance (2,708,549), and average per date (33,439). Previous highs were 2,477,700 and 30,971 per date in 1989. Total attendance rose 752,067 (38.4%). It was the biggest gain for any team not moving into a new park since the Angels gained 755,525 in 2003. Average per date was up 9,285. The total, average, and percentage increases were the best in the Major Leagues in 2015. This was the first time since 1991 that the Royals topped 2 million in total attendance. No other team had such a long 'sub-2 million' streak coming into the 2015 season. Tampa Bay now has that mark, drawing under 2 million for the last 23 'normal' seasons. From 2013 to 2015, Royals total attendance was up 910,662 (54.7%), and average per date was up 11,825.

Average per date in 2015 topped 25,000 for the first time since 1991. Kansas City reached 25,000 per date in 12 seasons from 1978 through 1991. They topped 20,000 per date in all years from 1976 through 1994, but finished below 20,000 per date in 11 seasons from 1995 through 2008. The Royals had been above that level in the 10 years after that, until 2019. 20 dates were sellouts in 2015, and 60 dates had crowds of at least 30,000, and every date topped 20,000. Back in 2007, only 7 dates drew at least 30,000, and there were 29 dates with attendance that was under 15,000.

There was much success for the Royals on television in 2015. Their local 12.3 rating was the highest of any MLB team on a regional sports network since 2002. They also had the highest local rating in 2016. The Royals' radio network has 50 affiliates in 4 states. 2024 is the 56<sup>th</sup> season that Hall-of-Famer Denny Matthews has broadcast Royals games. Only Vin Scully (67 years), and Jaime Jarrin (64 years), both with the Dodgers, have ever broadcast longer with one team.

A \$250 million renovation of Kauffman Stadium was completed in 2009, and this beautiful ballpark is now fully up-to-date. It opened as Royals Stadium in 1973. It stood out among Major League stadiums that opened in that era because it was built specifically for baseball. This park was renamed in memory of team owner Ewing Kauffman in 1993. The 322-foot wide water spectacular behind the outfield wall is the largest privately-funded fountain in the world.

Until 2015 and 2016, the only year the Royals had averaged over 30,000 per date was 1989. Lows at Kauffman Stadium were 1,151,836 (14,959 per date) in 1975. The 2021 average per date was lower, but that was due to the restricted capacity rules early in the season. 2023 capacity of the park is 37,903. It was 40,775 prior to 2009.

1973 was the first time the Royals drew one million. They reached 2 million initially in 1978, did it again in 1979, 1980, 1982, and each year from 1985 through 1991, and from 2015 through 2017. Between 1985 and 1991, the Royals averaged 2,301,479 per season, and 28,975 per date. Those were excellent figures for that era for a small-market team.

#### KANSAS CITY NOTES - continued

The Royals played their first 4 seasons (1969-1972) at Municipal Stadium, which was a rebuilt and expanded Minor League park. In 4 seasons there, they averaged 803,475 per season, and 11,237 per date. In their first 4 years at Kauffman Stadium (1973-1976), the Royals averaged 1,337,684 per season and 17,429 per date. Total attendance in the first 4 years at Kauffman Stadium was 66.5% higher, and average per date was up 55.1%, compared to the 4 years that the Royals played at Municipal Stadium. Highest attendance for the Royals at Municipal Stadium was 910,784 (12,650 per date) in 1971, and their lowest total was 693,047 (9,626 per date) in 1970.

The first Major League team to call Kansas City home were the Athletics, who came there from Philadelphia in 1955. They drew 1,393,054 in their first season in Missouri, drew 1,015,154 in 1956, and then never topped one million again prior to moving to Oakland in 1968. In their 13 years in Kansas City, the A's averaged 825,095 per season and 11,387 per date. Total attendance was under 800,000 every year from 1960 through 1967, with a low of 528,344 (7,548 per date) in 1965. Average per date for the A's was 20,189 in 1955, but never topped 15,000 afterward. It was under 10,000 per date each season from 1961 through 1965.

Municipal Stadium had been home to the Minor League Kansas City Blues until 1955. That team's highest attendance was 425,064 in 1923. The only other years the Blues topped 300,000 were 1922, 1927, and 1947. So the big boom in post-World War II Minor League attendance was not that big a factor in Kansas City. That park also hosted the Kansas City Monarchs, who were the longest running franchise in the history of the Negro Leagues. The greats who played for the Monarchs included Satchel Paige, Cool Papa Bell, and Jackie Robinson. The Monarchs name has returned with the independent American Association Minor League team in Kansas City, KS. The Negro Leagues Hall-of-Fame is in Kansas City, and its founder, long-time Royals' scout Buck O'Neil, was inducted into the National Baseball Hall-of-Fame in 2022.

As noted earlier, Kauffman Stadium has undergone a major renovation, and is a beautiful facility. But the Royals are looking to build a new ballpark in downtown Kansas City.

## WHITE SOX HAD THE LARGEST DECLINE IN ATTENDANCE IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2023

The **2023** White Sox had 101 losses, their most defeats since 1970. It probably affected attendance, which suffered the biggest declines in the Major Leagues, and was the only decrease in the American League. The total dipped 339,731 (16.9%) **vs. 2022** to 1,669,628. Average per date fell 3,402 (13.7%) to 21,405. There were 3 lost dates. The 2 home games with the Cubs were the only sellouts, and drew the largest crowds of the year (37,214 and 37,019). 6 other dates also topped 30,000. **Vs. 2019**, the total was up 19,583 (1.2%), and average per date dipped 21 (0.1%).

The White Sox drew 2,009,359 in 2022, their highest total attendance since 2010, and their 14<sup>th</sup> season above 2 million. This was up 412,974 (25.9%) from 2021, and up 359,584 (21.8%) vs. 2019. 2022 average per date was 24,807, down 3,059 (11.0%) from the 2021 full-capacity average. But the 2022 average was up 3,381 (15.8%) from 2019, and was the highest full-season average per date since 2010. In the last 15 'normal' seasons, White Sox attendance has increased in 2015, 2019, and 2022.

In **2021**, the White Sox won the American League Central by 13 games. They posted 93 wins, the most for the Chisox since their World Championship 2005 season.

The White Sox also had what was for 2021, a significant attendance achievement. Along with the Padres, they were the only team whose 2021 full-capacity average attendance per date was higher than their 2019 average per date. Average per date for the 41 full-capacity dates for the White Sox was 27,866, up 6,440 from their average per date in 2019, when of course, all dates were full-capacity. Overall, in 2021, the White Sox drew 1,596,385, averaging 20,466 per date. This includes their 'Field of Dreams' home game next to the Dyersville, Iowa cornfield, from the movie of the same name. This game drew a sellout crowd of 7,832.

**2019** White Sox total attendance rose 40,958 (2.5%) to 1,649,775, with an MLB-high 4 dates lost due to weather. Average per date was 21,426, up 1,316. There were 5 sellouts, with 11 dates drawing at least 30,000. But 39 dates attracted less than 20,000, and for 17 of those dates, attendance was below 15,000.

2014 was the 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row with an attendance decline for the White Sox. This broke the Major League record for consecutive years with a decline in home attendance that had been held by the White Sox (1926-1932), Pittsburgh (1949-1955), Colorado (1997-2003), and Atlanta (1998-2004). The Boston Red Sox hold the record for consecutive years with a gain. Their attendance rose for 12 straight years from 1998 through 2009.

In 2006, the White Sox drew their all-time highs in total attendance (2,957,414) and average per date (36,511). A team-record 52 dates were sold out that year. Compared to 2006, the 2023 total attendance is down 1,287,786 (43.5%), and average per date is down 15,106 (41.4%). In 2005, the White Sox won the World Series for the first time since 1917. They had 18 sellouts in 2005.

Chicago White Sox attendance had been above 2 million each year from 2005 through 2011. Prior to this streak, attendance reached 2 million just 6 times (1983-1984, 1990-1993) in team history.

Average attendance per date first reached 10,000 in 1920. But the White Sox posted an average that high only 4 more times (1925, 1926, 1940, 1941) until 1945. The average per date exceeded 20,000 in 1951, 1959, and 1960. But that level was not reached again until 1977 and 1981. It has been above 20,000 each year from 2000 through 2023, and reached 30,000 each year from 1991 through 1994, and again from 2006 through 2008.

In the first 20 years of the franchise (1901-1920), the White Sox drew at least 600,000 in 9 seasons. None of the other 15 Major League teams reached this level as often during that period. The New York Giants topped 600,000 in 8 of those seasons, and the Cubs and Athletics each did it 3 times. The Red Sox, Tigers, and Yankees, each with 2 years above 600,000, were the only other teams who did it more than once. But the White Sox didn't draw at least 600,000 in any year from 1928 through 1939.

The White Sox, Reds, Philadelphia A's, and St. Louis Browns, were the only teams that did not draw at least one million in any of 5 years following World War II (1946-1950). But starting in 1951, the White Sox reached one million in 14 of the next 15 years, and were Chicago's dominant team, in attendance, and on the field. Then attendance fell under one million for 6 straight years, with a low of 495,355 in 1970.

#### CHICAGO WHITE SOX NOTES - continued

After the White Sox played some home games in Milwaukee in 1968 and 1969, it was thought they would move there. Attendance in Chicago later picked up, and by 1983, it topped 2 million. When it fell again, there was talk of moving the team to a new park in St. Petersburg. A White Sox presence in Chicago was assured when new Comiskey Park (later named U.S. Cellular Field, and now named Guaranteed Rate Field, for a Chicago-based mortgage lender) opened in 1991. That ballpark in St. Petersburg is now home to the Tampa Bay Rays.

The White Sox had incredible increases in attendance in their final year at old Comiskey Park (1990) and in their first year at Guaranteed Rate Field (1991). In 1989, they drew 1,045,651. Attendance rose by 956,706 (91.5%) in 1990 as Sox fans said farewell to their old home, which opened in 1910. The first year in the new park had a 931,797 (46.5%) gain. There have been only 7 other times where a team had consecutive attendance increases of at least 500,000. Atlanta in 1992 and 1993, is the only other team with consecutive increases of at least 900,000. (See page 263 for the list.) Average per date rose from 13,406 in 1989 to 25,346 in 1990 to 36,224 in 1991.

In the first 32 years with attendance at Guaranteed Rate Field (1991-2023, excludes 2020 which had no attendance), total attendance is 63,051,564 in 2,516 dates, averaging 25,060 per date. This includes the 'Field of Dreams' game in Dyersville, IA in 2021. The Guaranteed Rate Field average per date is 7,327 (41.3%) higher than the 1970 through 1990 average of 17,733 at old Comiskey Park. The White Sox drew 27,504,001 in 1,551 dates from 1970-1990.

Guaranteed Rate Field cost \$137 million to build. In 2003, the ballpark underwent a major renovation, even though it was only 12 years old. These renovations have cost \$90 million. The top 8 rows of the very steep upper deck were removed, and capacity was decreased from 47,098 in 2003 to 40,615 in 2004, and was 40,126 in 2023.

The White Sox are looking to build a new ballpark in the South Loop area of downtown Chicago. This would be part of a redevelopment in that area.

On September 13, 2016 the White Sox drew 15,588 people, and 1,122 dogs for a Bark in the Park promotion. This may have been the largest number of dogs to ever attend a Major League game.

#### 2023 ATTENDANCE IN DETROIT BUMPED UP JUST A BIT

Detroit's **2023** total attendance was 1,612,876, up 37,332 (2.4%) **from 2022**, and up 111,446 (7.4%) **from 2019**. Average per date was 20,946 up 1,252 (6.4%) from 2022, and up 2,268 (12.1%) vs. 2019. There were a Major League high 4 lost dates, and 7 postponements. 11 dates drew over 30,000, with 3 sellouts, led by a 44,650 crowd. The Tigers posted their most wins since 2016.

The Tigers had a 47-114 record in **2019**, their worst since losing 119 games in 2003. Total attendance fell 355,540 (19.1%) to 1,501,430. This followed a 464,629 (20.0%) drop in 2018. Average per date in 2019 was 18,768, down 4,444. There was one lost date. These were the lowest figures for the Tigers since 2003. Opening Day was the only sellout. 2 dates drew above 30,000. Attendance was under 20,000 at 56 of 80 dates. A 13-year streak above 2 million ended in 2018. The Tigers have topped 3 million 4 times in the last 14 'normal' years.

Detroit has drawn over 2 million in 14 of 22 'normal' years at Comerica Park. They did it only 6 times at Tiger Stadium. 2.5 million has been reached 10 times at Comerica. That figure was reached at Tiger Stadium only in 1984.

An 11-year streak of average per date above 30,000 ended in 2017. Until 2006, the Tigers topped 30,000 per date only in 1984 at Tiger Stadium, and in 2000, the first year at Comerica Park. Their average per date was above 20,000 each year from 1945 through 1950, but then reached that level just once, in 1961, until 1967.

The Tigers surpassed 5 million in combined home and road attendance for the 6<sup>th</sup> time in team history in 2015, drawing 5,073,890. Their all-time record for combined home/road attendance is 5,547,305 in 2008. Their combined total has not reached 5 million since 2015.

2013 was a great year in attendance. The Tigers drew 3,083,397, averaging 38,067 per date, with 34 sellouts. Those figures were 2<sup>nd</sup> best in team history, finishing only behind 2008, when Detroit drew 3,205,645 (39,539 per date).

In 2012, the Tigers had their 3<sup>rd</sup> best attendance ever, and sold out 33 dates. There were 17 sellouts in 2011.

In 2009, Tiger attendance fell 635,452, the worst dip in the A.L. for that year, the 6<sup>th</sup> worst decrease ever in the A.L., and the 15<sup>th</sup> largest decline in MLB history. But that decline was from a then-record-high of 3,202,645 set in 2008.

2008 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year the Tigers set a new team attendance record. There were 27 sellouts, and attendance topped 40,000 at 43 games. In 2007, the Tigers had 41 sellouts and surpassed 3 million for the first time. It broke the record of 2,704,794, set in 1984, their last World Championship year. **The 1968 World Champion Tigers were the only A.L. team from 1951 through 1975 that drew 2 million.** 

Tiger attendance has reached one million in all but 3 years (1953, 1963, 1964) since 1945, and in each of the past 58 years. Only the Dodgers (78 years), and the Cardinals (60 years), have a longer streak of consecutive million+ seasons among all MLB teams.

A coincidence: The 2015 seating capacity listing, as reported in each team's media guide, for Comerica Park in Detroit, and for Minute Maid Park in Houston, was exactly the same – 41,574. Comerica's 2024 capacity is 40,988.

It was quite a comeback for the Tigers 18 years ago, both on the field, and at the gate. In 2003, the Tigers lost 119 games, and drew just 1,368,285. That's a very low figure for a team playing in a ballpark which was just in its 4<sup>th</sup> year. But by 2006, the Tigers were A.L. champions, and had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best attendance increase (571,452) in the Majors. Despite some recent declines, Tigers' **2023** total attendance was still 17.9% higher than in 2003.

#### TIGERS NOTES - continued

The table below shows Detroit's improvement in both won/loss record, and combined attendance, for the 17 years from 2006 through 2023, compared with 17 years from 1989 through 2005. The 1992 through 1999 seasons were played at Tiger Stadium. Total attendance is 47.2% higher for the 2006-2023 period, than it was for the 1989-2005 period, while average per date is up 42.7%. A labor dispute led to shorter seasons in 1994 and 1995. The 2021 season began with ballpark capacity limited. No fans were in attendance in 2020, and it was not included in figuring average attendance per year and per date, and also excluded from the won/loss record in the table below.

#### TIGERS WON/LOSS RECORD AND ATTENDANCE - 2006-2023 vs. 1989-2005

	TOTAL	AVERAGE ATT.	# OF HOME	AVERAGE	WON/LOSS
YEARS	ATTENDANCE	PER YEAR	DATES	ATT./DATE	RECORD
1989-2005	27,680,301	1,628,253	1,327	20,859	1,147-1,540
2006-2023	40,735,782	2,396,222	1,369	29,756	1,346-1,406

Another example of improved attendance in Detroit is to compare the first 23 years at Comerica Park (2000-2023) with the last 23 seasons (1977-1999) at Tiger Stadium. The shorter 1981, 1994, and 1995 seasons will have a small effect on the total attendance and average per year for 1979-1999. Total attendance has been 34.9% higher in the 23 years at Comerica than it was in the last 23 years at Tiger Stadium, and average per date is up 27.2%

#### TIGER ATTENDANCE - 2000-2023 AT COMERICA PARK vs. 1977-1999 AT TIGER STADIUM

	TOTAL	AVERAGE ATT.	# OF HOME	AVERAGE
YEARS	ATTENDANCE	PER YEAR	DATES	ATT./DATE
1977-1999 – at Tiger Stadium	38,551,488	1,676,152	1,745	22,093
2000-2023 – at Comerica Park	52,004,236	2,261,054	1,850	28,110

As noted earlier, the highest attendance at Tiger Stadium was 2,704,794 (35,589 per date) in 1984. The highest attendance prior to 1945 was 1,112,693 (16,363 per date) in 1940. Detroit also drew better than one million in 1924, 1935, and 1937. This was quite rare at the time. Between 1900 and 1939, there were only 15 other times, 9 of them by the Yankees, where a team drew at least one million.

Lowest pre-1945 full-season attendance (excludes shorter 1918) at Tiger Stadium was 320,972 (5,095 per date) in 1933. Attendance increased significantly in the following 2 seasons. The Tigers drew 919,161 in 1934 and 1,034,929 in 1935. The 186.4% increase in 1934 is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest percentage increase in Major League history.

The lowest post-1945 total attendance in Detroit was 816,139 in 1964, and the lowest post-1945 average per date was 11,577 in 1963.

Top baseball crowd in Detroit was 58,369 at Tiger Stadium for a twin-bill with the Yankees on July 20, 1947.

Tiger Stadium was the next-to-last of the pre-1950 ballparks to get lights. The first night games there took place in 1948. That year, the 13 night dates drew 575,175, an average of 44,244 per date. In 1949, 14 night dates averaged 41,106 per date. The 13 night dates in 1950 averaged 43,207 per date. From 1948 through 1950, the 40 night dates drew 1,712,339, an average of 42,808 per date. In 1988, Wrigley Field in Chicago finally got lights.

**TIGERS NOTES - continued** 

#### ATTENDANCE FOR OTHER PRO SPORTS TEAMS IN DETROIT

The population of the City of Detroit has declined sharply since 1950, though Downtown Detroit is making a big comeback. But the Tigers have mostly drawn well, and attendance for other pro sports teams there has also been good.

Average per game attendance for the NFL's Lions fell from 61,304 per game in 2007, to 54,497 in 2008, and to 49,395 in 2009. That was a 19.4% decline in 2 years. But this decrease had as much to do with the Lions' poor record as it did with the economy. In 2010, their average per game was 55,786. They made the playoffs in 2011, averaging 63,743 per game. The Lions averaged 63,770 per game in 2012, and 63,796 in 2013. They averaged 63,025 in 2014, 61,348 in 2015, 60,793 in 2016, 64,138 in 2017, 62,758 in 2018, 61,342 in 2019, 51,522 in 2021, 63,423 in 2022, and a Ford Field best 64,850 in 2023.

The NBA Pistons played in suburban Auburn Hills until 2017-18. They had a 35% dip in average per game from 2007-08 to 2011-12. All games were sold out from the start of the 2004-05 season, to the end of the 2007-08 season, averaging 22,076 per game. Average per game was 21,877 for 2008-09, 18,752 in 2009-10, 16,660 in 2010-11, and bottomed-out at 14,413 in 2011-12, the lowest figure since the 1982-83 season. It rose to 14,783 in 2012-13, and was 15,006 in 2013-14, 15,266 in 2014-15, 16,515 in 2015-16, 15,979 in 2016-17, 17,413 in 2017-18, and 16,487 in 2018-19. The Pistons were averaging 15,438 for 33 games, when the 2019-20 season was stopped, and 16,184 in 2021-22. In 2022-23, the Pistons drew an average of 18,530 per game, their best since 2009-10. They averaged 18,159 in 2023-24.

The Red Wings of the NHL have fared best among Detroit's teams in maintaining consistently strong attendance. A streak of 452 straight sellouts ended at the start of the 2007-08 season. But their 2010-11 average of 19,680 was only down 1.9% from the 2006-07 sellout average of 20,066, and they had 29 sellouts that season. From 2011-12, through the first 5 games of 2018-19, the Red Wings had 318 straight sellouts. Another 21 games were sold out in 2018-19 after the streak ended. 12 games in the shorter 2019-20 season, 6 games in 2021-22, 22 games in 2022-23, and 27 games in 2023-24, were sellouts. No wonder Detroit is called Hockeytown.

The Red Wings and Pistons moved to the new Little Caesars Arena for the 2017-18 season. That is just one of many projects to rebuild Downtown Detroit, under the leadership of the late Mr. I, Tigers and Red Wings owner Mike Ilitch.

#### 2023 ASTROS HAD THEIR 3rd HIGHEST ATTENDANCE IN TEAM HISTORY

**The 2023 Houston Astros had the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest attendance in the club's 62-year history.** Only 2000 and 2004 drew better. Total attendance was up 363,349 (13.5%) **from 2022**, to 3,052,347. Average per date rose 4,485 (13.5%) to 37,683. Every game drew at least 29,272. 79 dates topped 30,000, 63 dates drew over 35,000, and at 27 dates, attendance was above 40,000, with a high of 43,032. There were 23 sellouts. **Vs. 2019**, total attendance rose 194,980 (6.8%), and average per date increased 2,407 (6.8%).

The Astros won the American League Championship in **2019**, and had a 107-55 record. But attendance declined 123,182 (4.1%) to 2,857,367. Average per date was 35,276, down 1,521. There were 15 sellouts. Attendance at 19 dates reached 40,000, 66 dates drew 30,000+, and the 15 dates with attendance under 30,000 all topped 22,000.

It took 56 years, but in **2017**, the Astros won the World Series for the first time. In **2018**, their total attendance rose 576,878 (24.0%) to 2,980,549. Average per date was up 7,122. **The total, percentage, and average per date gains were the best in the Major Leagues in 2018**. It was the Astros' 6<sup>th</sup> straight increase after 6 consecutive seasons of declines. Both the total and average per date were Houston's best since 2007.

The Astros' record improved from 56-106 in 2011, 55-107 in 2012, 51-111 in 2013, and 70-92 in 2014, to 86-76 in 2015, 84-78 in 2016, 101-61 in 2017, 103-59 in 2018, 107-55 in 2019, 95-67 in 2021, 106-56 in 2022, and 90-72 in 2023.

In their first 49 seasons (1962-2010), Houston never lost 100 or more games in a season. In 30 seasons from 1979 through 2008, they had a losing record just 7 times. But in 2011, the Astros lost 106 games. They lost 107 games in 2012, and in 2013, their first year in the American League, they had 111 losses. The Astros became the 16<sup>th</sup> team in MLB history to lose at least 110 games in a season, and the 17<sup>th</sup> team to suffer at least 100 losses in 3 straight seasons.

Total attendance was 1,651,911 in 2013, and average per date was 20,394. Record-high attendance for a team with at least 110 losses is 2,519,560 by the 2004 Arizona Diamondbacks, who lost 111 games. The 1965 Mets, who drew 1,768,389, hold the record-high attendance for a team with at least 3 straight 100-loss seasons.

Astros' attendance was down 459,283 (22.2%) in 2012, the biggest decline of any MLB team in both total and percentage for that year. The total of 1,607,733 was their lowest in a full season since 1992, and was the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year with a decline. Houston was the only National League team that didn't top 2 million in total attendance, or 20,000 in average per date in 2012. It was the only season from 1996 through 2023 (including 2021), that the Astros didn't average at least 20,000 per date. From 2007 through 2012, total attendance fell 1,412,672 (46.8%), and average per date fell from 37,289 to 19,849. But there has been a huge increase since then. **2023 vs. 2012** Astros' total attendance was up 1,444,614 (89.9%), and average per date was up 17,834 (89.9%).

The Astros played their first 3 years (1962-1964) as the Houston Colt .45s in Colt Stadium, a temporary outdoor park, seating around 33,000, located next to the Astrodome construction site. Colt Stadium was later dismantled, and then rebuilt in Torreon, Mexico. In their 3 seasons at Colt Stadium, the Colts drew a total of 2,369,731, averaging 10,259 per date. Top season attendance was 924,456 (12,326 per date) in 1962. The low total was 719,502 in 1963, and the low average per date was 9,187 in 1964. The brutal summer heat, humidity, and bugs, were the main reasons for the low attendance. Insect repellent was sold at the concession stands of that ballpark.

In 1965, the team was renamed the Astros. They drew 2,151,470 (26,893 per date), as they opened the Astrodome, baseball's first indoor stadium. Their 1965 attendance was up 1,425,697 from 1964, the largest increase in MLB history for a team that did not relocate to a new market. The 1946 New York Yankees, whose attendance was up 1,383,667 from 1945, have the record for the biggest increase for a team that didn't move into a new ballpark. The Astros' 1965 average per date rose 17,706, the 2<sup>nd</sup> best gain (to the 1946 Yankees) ever.

The Astrodome had natural grass in its first season. But fielders had difficulty with fly balls due to glare from the dome. The panels of the dome were painted to cut the glare, but that killed off the grass. So in 1966, the Astrodome became the first Major League ballpark with artificial turf.

By 1967, the novelty of the Astrodome began to wear off. Astros' attendance was 1,348,303, down 803,167 (37.3%) from 1965. Average per date was 16,854. The Astros didn't reach 1.5 million in total attendance or 20,000 per date again, until 1979. For the entire decade of the 1970's, they averaged just 15,812 per date.

#### ASTROS NOTES - continued

The Astros reached 2 million only in 1965, 1980, and 1993 until 1997, but have been above that level every year except 2012, 2013, and 2014, since then. This includes 2021. Until 2010, the Astros drew 2.5 million+ for 6 years in a row, and in 9 of 10 years. They've topped 3 million in 5 seasons since 2000. Average attendance per date was above 30,000 for 12 straight years from 1998 through 2009.

Seating capacity at the Astrodome was originally 42,217. Many seats were later added to the outfield area, and by 1990, capacity at 'The Dome' reached 54,816.

The largest crowd for an Astros game at the Astrodome was 54,037 in 1999. The smallest crowd, on May 12, 1995, had an official paid attendance of 0. But there were plenty of fans in the ballpark. All tickets were free as the Astros tried to make amends with fans after the 1994-95 strike.

22 regular season dates at the Astrodome had crowds of at least 50,000. All but 3 of those big crowds were in 1998 or 1999.

Highest season attendance in the Astrodome was 2,706,017 (33,408 per date) in 1999, the final year that it was home to the Astros. Lowest Astrodome total was 858,002 (10,861 per date) in 1975.

Minute Maid Park, the current home of the Astros, has a retractable roof, and a railroad motif. It is located next to Union Station, a classic railroad depot built in 1911. The train station was incorporated into the ballpark's design. The park includes a replica 1860's era locomotive and coal tender. This train runs back and forth along an 800-foot long track above the left field wall.

Since the park opened in 2000, 376 games have been played with the roof open, 1,370 games were played with the roof closed, and at 145 games, the roof was opened during the game. In the early years of Minute Maid Park, the roof was often opened in the latter stages of games. But until 2014, this had not been done since 2006. In the 2019 regular season, 7 games began with the roof open, and 74 started with the roof closed. All 28 games in 2020 were played with the roof closed. In 2021, 7 regular season games had an open roof, and at the other 74, the roof was closed. Only one regular season game was played with the roof open in both 2022 and in the 2023 regular season. One 2023 post-season game took place with an open roof.

Highest season attendance at Minute Maid Park was 3,087,872 (38,122 per date) in 2004.

In the first 23 years at Minute Maid Park (2000-2023), the Astros have drawn a total attendance of 58,089,836 in 1,862 dates (31,198 per date). In the final 23 seasons (1977-1999) at the Astrodome, the Astros drew 38,379,911 in 1,783 dates (21,525 per date). This is a 44.9% increase in average per date for Minute Maid Park vs. The Astrodome's last 23 seasons. The 1981, 1994, and 1995 seasons were shorter due to labor issues, and that 'no-shows' were not included in the National League until 1993. Fans were not admitted in 2020. Covid restrictions reduced 2021 crowds.

Spring Training 2016 was the final year for the Astros at Kissimmee, FL, right down the road from the entrance of Disney World. The Astros moved there in 1985. Their highest total Spring Training attendance there was 66,811 in 1991. Best average per game was 5,067 in 2004. The average per game was under 4,000 in 6 of 7 springs from 2009 through 2015. It was 4,344 in 2016.

In 2017, the Astros and Nationals moved to a shared facility in West Palm Beach. The Ballpark of the Palm Beaches has a capacity of 7,858. The Astros drew 55,081 in 15 dates there in 2017, averaging 3,672 per date, an Astros' Spring Training site record high 67,931 (4,529 per date) in 2018, 58,583 (4,185 per date) in 2019, 34,559 (3,840 per date) in 2020, a reduced capacity 18,199 (1,517 per date) in 2021, 14,155 (2,359 per date) in 2022, 51,481 (3,677 per date) in 2023, and 46,969 (3,914 per date) in 2024, with one game's attendance not reported.

The Nationals drew 84,804 (5,300 per date) in that park in 2017, 73,002 (4,867 per date) in 2018, 69,725 (4,648 per date) in 2019, 43,552 (4,839 per date) in 2020, a reduced capacity 17,164 (1,430 per date) in 2021, 20,164 (2,521 per date) in 2022, when Spring Training was shorter than normal, 47,598 (3,400 per date) in 2023, and 47,091 (3,364 per date) in 2024.

At various games in 2018, the Astros gave fans replicas of their 2017 World Championship rings. The more than 250,000 rings distributed are believed to be the biggest giveaway of a single item in Major League history.

#### ORIOLES HAD A GREAT YEAR ON THE FIELD IN 2023, AND BIG GAIN IN ATTENDANCE AS WELL

Over the last 2 years, on the field, the Orioles have accomplished one of greatest turnarounds in Major League history. They won just 52 games in 2021, improved to 83 wins in 2022, and then won an American League-best 101 games in 2023. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, they were the first team since 1900 to win 77 or more games in a year following a season with at least 110 losses. Baltimore also became the first team to win at least 70 games following 3 straight full seasons with 100 or more defeats. Their attendance boomed as well.

Total **2023** attendance was 1,936,798, averaging 23,911 per date. That was Baltimore's best attendance since 2017. **The total was up an American League best 568,431 (41.5%) vs. 2022**. **The 2023 average per date increase of 6,368 (36.3%), was the 2<sup>nd</sup> best numerically, and best by percentage, among A.L. teams**. Compared to 2019, the total increased 628,991 (48.1%), and average per date was up 7,563 (46.3%). Those were the 4<sup>th</sup> best 2023 vs. 2019 increases among all Major League teams. There were 2 postponements, but no lost dates in 2023. One game drew under 10,000. 21 dates topped 30,000, and 7 dates drew over 40,000, with a high of 45,017, and 6 sellouts.

The Orioles had a 54-108 record in **2019**, and that was an improvement from the 47-115 record in 2018. The 2018 record was their worst since moving to Baltimore from St. Louis for the 1954 season. Attendance continued to fall in 2019. It was down 256,385 (16.4%) to 1,307,807. Average per date declined 3,706 to 16,348, with one lost date. The total and average per date were the lowest in a full season since 1978.

Opening Day was the only sellout, and the only 40,000+ crowd, of 2019. 4 dates drew at least 30,000, and only 21 dates topped 20,000. Attendance was under 15,000 for 39 dates, and 13 dates failed to attract at least 10,000.

In 2012, the Orioles' win total went from 69 to 93, and they were one of the A.L. Wild Card teams. Attendance rose 346,779 (19.8%) to 2,102,240. It increased 255,321 (12.1%) in 2013, and 106,912 (4.5%) in 2014, but fell 148,244 (6.4%) in 2016, 143,920 (6.6%) in 2017, and 464,232 (22.9%) in 2018.

Baltimore drew 1,733,019 in 2010, at the time, its lowest attendance since 1988. In 2011, Opening Day and one other game were the only sellouts, and no other games drew more than 40,000. There were 37 dates with attendance under 20,000. From Oriole Park's opening in 1992, until 2003, the Orioles never drew under 20,000 for any home game.

Starting in 1989, the Orioles have reached 2 million in all but 8 'normal' seasons (2008-2011, 2018-2023), with 9 years at Camden Yards (1992, 1993, and 1995-2001) topping 3 million. Best total was 3,711,132 in 1997. Top average per date was 46,951 in 54 dates in the short season of 1994. Full season average per date high is 45,816 in 1997.

Attendance topped 2.5 million every year from 1990 through 2005, except 2003. Baltimore had the MLB top total attendance in the 1990's. They led the American League in attendance each year from 1995 through 1998, and set American League records by surpassing 2 million for 19 years in a row, and reaching 2.5 million 15 times. The Yankees and Red Sox have since broken those records. Boston has topped 2.5 million 25 times, including the last 22 'normal' years through 2023. They extended their A.L. record by topping 2 million for the 27<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year in 2023. The Yankees reached 2 million for the 26<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year in 2023, and drew over 2.5 million for the last 25 'normal' years through 2023, and 28 times overall. The Dodgers have topped 2 million for the last 50 seasons, and have exceeded 2.5 million 49 times in their history. These Dodgers figures <u>do include</u> 2021.

Besides the team's won-loss record, the 2005 relocation of the Montreal Expos to Washington, just 40 miles away, reduced attendance. Before then, an estimated 20-25% of Orioles attendance was from the Washington area.

With new ownership in 2024, Oriole Park is expected to get some significant upgrades in the next few years.

In 2008, Oriole Park, in its 17<sup>th</sup> season, welcomed its 50 millionth fan. That was the quickest any ballpark reached 50 million in attendance. The San Francisco Giants broke this record in 2015, their 16<sup>th</sup> season at Oracle Park. In 2022, the Cardinals set a new record for the 'fastest to 50 million,' also in their 16<sup>th</sup> season with attendance (so it excludes 2020) at the current Busch Stadium. Coors Field in Denver topped the 50 million level in 2012, its 18<sup>th</sup> year.

All 32 Oriole Park home openers, including 2021 (limited capacity) and 2024, have been sellouts. The ballpark was upgraded in the 2010-11 off-season. With wider seats installed, capacity fell from 48,290 to 45,971. For 2024, capacity was listed as 44,487. The park's 31-year attendance total is 76,302,527 in 2,448 dates, an average of 31,169 per date. This excludes 3 'home' dates played at Tampa Bay in 2015 due to civil unrest in Baltimore. Those games at Tampa Bay drew a total of 39,386. It does include the Little League Classic game in Williamsport in 2022.

#### **ORIOLES NOTES** - continued

Oriole Park opened in 1992, and was the first of the 'retro ballparks,' built just for baseball, in a traditional design, yet with all the modern amenities. It was an instant hit! That year the Orioles drew 3,567,819, an average of 44,598 per date. In 1991, in their final year at Memorial Stadium, the Birds drew 2,552,753, an average of 32,313 per date. The total attendance increase of 1,015,066 (39.8%) from 1991 to 1992 currently ranks at the 11<sup>th</sup> best in MLB history. Average per date was up 12,285.

In their history at Oriole Park (1992-2023), the Birds have averaged 31,169 per date. The average was above 40,000 in all seasons from 1992 through 2000. It surpassed 30,000 every year from 1989 through 2005, and then again in 2014 and 2015. From 1954 through 1991 at Memorial Stadium, the Orioles averaged 18,353 per date.

At Oriole Park, attendance has topped 40,000 at 858 of 2,447 (35.1%) regular-season dates played there. The number of dates includes 2021, but excludes the 2022 Williamsport game. But most of those big crowds came in the early years. From 1992 through 2002, attendance reached 40,000 at 660 of 851 dates (77.6%). But from 2003 through 2023 (excluding 2021), only 197 of 1,520 dates (13.0%) had crowds over 40,000, and attendance topped 40,000 at 119 of 1,197 dates (9.9%) from 2007 through 2023 (excludes 2021, and the 3 home dates at Tampa Bay).

Attendance in the last 20 normal seasons (2002-2023) at Oriole Park was 41,756,842, in 1,599 dates, an average of 2,087,842 per season, and 26,114 per date (excludes dates at Tampa). In the first 10 seasons (1992-2001) at Oriole Park, which included 2 short seasons, the Orioles drew 33,713,070, averaging 3,371,307 per year and 43,783 per date.

In the last 10 years (1982-1991) at Memorial Stadium, the Orioles drew 20,806,029, an average of 2,080,603 per year and 26,881 per date. The average per date for the first 10 years at Oriole Park was 16,902 (62.9%) higher than it was for the final decade at Memorial Stadium.

186 of the first 214 dates at Oriole Park were sellouts, including a then-Major League record 65 in a row from May 23, 1992 through April 20, 1993. In this park's first 4 years, a 'make-up' game in 1993 was the only time attendance was under 30,000, and only 3 other games, all in 1995, had attendance under 35,000.

A well-known feature of Oriole Park at Camden Yards is the warehouse in right and center field. It is 1,016 feet long and 51 feet wide, and was built between 1898 and 1905. An extension of Eutaw Street runs in front of the warehouse, and every home run which lands there is marked with a plaque on the ground. 122 home runs have landed on Eutaw St. Oriole batters have hit 58 of them (11 by Chris Davis), while the opposition has 64. The most in one year was 11 in 2013. There were 6 in 2016, all hit by Orioles' players, 5 were hit in 2017, all by opposition players, there were 5 in 2018, 3 of them by Orioles, 7 in 2019, with Oriole players hitting 4, 1 in 2020, 7 in 2021, with 5 by the Orioles, 4 in 2022, with Orioles' hitters getting 2, and 5 in 2023, with 3 by the Orioles.

Over one million people have taken the paid tour of Oriole Park since 1992, including more than 16,000 in 2019.

Baltimore once had a reputation as a city that did not support its very good baseball team. The Orioles won 4 A.L. pennants and 2 World Series between 1966 and 1971, plus A.L. East titles in 1973 and 1974. But their highest attendance in those years was just 1,203,366 in 1966. There was a team in Washington, the Senators, through 1971. Lowest attendance ever in Baltimore was 774,343 (10,755 per date) in 1963. The Orioles drew over a million in 1954, their first season in Baltimore. But they reached that level just 7 more times through 1974. Highest total at Memorial Stadium was 2,552,753 in 1991. The best average per date there was 32,503 in 1989. The Orioles had only 2 seasons with a losing record from 1960 through 1985. They had 14 straight losing years from 1998 through 2011.

Average attendance per date was under 15,000 in 18 different seasons from 1954 through 1978. The Orioles didn't average at least 20,000 per date until 1979. They did it again in 1980, and in every season starting in 1982. That streak ended in 2019.

In 1979, the Orioles drew a then-team record-high of 1,681,009 (23,347 per date) en-route to the A.L. pennant. This total was up 59.8% from the 1978 figure of 1,051,724 (14,407 per date). The winning year was one reason for the big gain. But so was radio. Oriole broadcasts moved from WBAL, a station with an older audience, to WFBR, a rock station. WFBR promoted their association with the Orioles constantly, and many young people began to attend games.

Baltimore's highest attendance as a Minor League city was 620,726 in 1946.

#### St. Louis Browns Attendance

Before moving to Baltimore in 1954, this franchise was the St. Louis Browns, a team known for poor play on the field, and awful attendance. They had only 11 winning records in 52 seasons.

Top attendance for the Browns was 712,918 (9,259 per date) in 1922. The Browns topped 500,000 in total attendance in only 6 seasons. From 1930 through 1939, the Browns never drew more than 180,000 in a season, falling below 100,000 in 3 of those years. The low was 80,922 (1,420 per date) in 1935. This is the lowest attendance that any Major League team has posted since 1900. Average per date for the Browns was less than 3,000 in 14 different seasons, including all years from 1930 through 1939.

During the entire decade of the 1930's, the Browns drew a total of 1,184,076 (1,916 per date). Their highest attendance that decade was 179,126 (2,936 per date) in 1931. From 1990 through 2005, Orioles' attendance in <u>each</u> season was at least double the Browns' combined attendance for <u>the entire decade</u> of the 1930's. In 5 individual seasons in the 1990's, the Orioles drew more than 3 times the Browns' total attendance for the entire 1930's decade.

In 52 seasons in St. Louis, the Browns had the worst attendance in the American League 31 times, including 18 straight years from 1926 through 1943, and again in each of their final 8 seasons in St. Louis. It was 26 times in 28 years, at the bottom of the A.L. attendance standings for the Browns. No wonder they moved. In their 70 years in Baltimore, the Orioles have never had the lowest season attendance in the American League.

#### TEXAS WINS THE WORLD SERIES FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND THEIR ATTENDANCE BOOMED

It took 63 years, starting in Washington as the expansion Senators in 1961, and then moving to Arlington, Texas in 1972, but the Texas Rangers are the 2023 World Champions. They had 102 losses in 2021, the most defeats for any team that went on to win the World Series 2 years later. They were also the first team to finish at least 25 or more games below .500 one year, and then win the World Series the next season.

They were very successful at the gate in **2023** as well. Total attendance was 2,533,044, the best since 2016, and up 521,683 (25.9% **vs. 2022**, and up 400,050 (18.8%) from **2019**. Average per date was 31,272, up 6,440 (25.0) **vs. 2022**, and up 4,939 (18.8%) from **2019**. The Rangers had 15 sellouts, 48 dates that drew above 30,000, with 3 drawing over 40,000, with a high of 40,738. It was the 14<sup>th</sup> straight season, and  $32^{nd}$  time in the last 34 years, with total attendance above 2 million.

The Rangers first played in Globe Life Field, their new, retractable-roof ballpark, in 2020. But due to Covid restrictions, no fans were admitted to Rangers' regular season games. Some 2020 post-season games, including the World Series, were played there, with a limited number of fans permitted to attend.

Since there were no capacity restrictions for Texas in 2021, they didn't have the big increases in 2022 attendance that most teams achieved. The **2022** total was 2,011,361.

In **2021**, the Rangers were the only MLB team able to have full capacity at every game. They drew an American League leading 2,110,258, averaging 26,053 per date. The total attendance ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the Major Leagues, and average per date was 5<sup>th</sup> best. There were 2 sellouts, and 23 dates drew at least 30,000, with a high of 38,238.

According to the Rangers' Media Guide, Globe Life Field has the largest single-panel operable roof in the world, and it weighs 24 million pounds. The roof was open for 6 regular-season, and 13 post-season games in 2020, 11 games in 2021, 16 games in 2022, and 12 games, including the post-season, in 2023.

In **2019**, the final year at Globe Life Park, Rangers' attendance rose 25,887 (1.2%) in 2019 to 2,132,994. There were 4 sellouts, 6 crowds topped 40,000, and 24 dates reached 30,000. But 20 dates drew under 20,000. Average per date was 26,333, up 319.

2012 total attendance was a record-high 3,460,280, up 513,331 from the old high set in 2011. 38 games were sold out, and 59 games drew at least 40,000. Those are team records. The old sellout record was 21 in 1994. Average per date was a record high 42,720. The previous high was 40,374 in 1994, a season that ended on August 12, and that was also the first season of Globe Life Park. The old record for a full season was 36,815 in 1997. The Rangers posted the 2<sup>nd</sup> best total attendance increase in the Major Leagues in each year from 2009 through 2012. A team record-high 79 dates topped 30,000 in both 2012 and 2013.

In 2012, the Rangers became just the 2<sup>nd</sup> team in MLB history to post 4 consecutive seasons where total attendance rose by at least 200,000, and by at least 10%, and average per date was up at least 3,000, in each year. The Yankees also did this from 1996 through 1999.

	TEXAS RANGERS ATTENDANCE 2008-2012, AND CHANGES FROM THE FREMOUS SEASON											
Year	Total Attendance	Gain in Total Att.	% gain	Average per date	Gain. in Avg./DT							
2008	1,945,857			24,323								
2009	2,156,016	210,159	10.8	27,641	3,298							
2010	2,505,171	349,155	16.2	30,928	3,287							
2011	2,946,949	441,778	17.6	36,382	5,454							
2012	3,460,280	513,331	17.4	42,720	6,338							

TEXAS RANGERS ATTENDANCE 2008-2012, AND CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS SEASON

Such growth over a 4-year period in even just one of these categories is quite rare. The 2009-2012 Rangers, 1996-1999 Yankees, 1987-1990 Oakland A's, and the 2005-2008 New York Mets are the only teams to have 4 straight years with an average per date gain of at least 3,000. In addition to the Rangers, Yankees, and A's teams just noted, only the 1944-1947 New York Giants posted 4 straight total attendance gains of at least 200,000 each.

#### **RANGERS NOTES** - continued

It has been a bit more common to have 4 straight total attendance increases of at least 10%. But most of those were from a much smaller attendance base than the Rangers had. The 1902-1906 Chicago Cubs, and the 1919-1923 Philadelphia A's each had 5 straight years of total attendance gains of at least 10%. Other teams with 4 consecutive seasons of 10%+ total attendance growth, other than the 2008-2012 Rangers and the 1996-1999 Yankees are: St. Louis Cardinals (1908-1911 and 1919-1922); Pittsburgh and Washington (both 1918-1921); Chicago White Sox (1943-46); New York Giants (1944-1947); Cleveland and Boston Braves (both 1945-1948). The 1959-1962 Washington Senators/Minnesota Twins did it. But that team relocated to Minnesota in 1961, so it gets an asterisk.

It took a while for the Rangers to become popular in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Attendance failed to reach 700,000 in both 1972 and 1973, the first 2 seasons the team played in Texas, after moving from Washington, DC. They topped 1.5 million just once until 1986, but have done it every year since then. They reached 2 million for the first time in 1989, and have topped that every year except 1995, which was a shortened season, and 2008, from 1989 on. The Rangers have reached 2.5 million in 17 seasons, including 7 of the last 10 years through 2019, plus 2023.

There were 59 sellouts in 22 years for the Rangers at Arlington Stadium, an expanded minor league park. There were 186 sellouts at Globe Life Park from 1994 through 2019. Total attendance in 26 years there was 66,744,023 in 2,065 dates, an average of 32,322 per date. This is 72.1% higher than the average per date of 18,777 for 22 seasons at Arlington Stadium. 29 Globe Life Park crowds topped 50,000, including 20 in the post-season. Top crowds were 51,573 (2006 regular season), and 52,419 (2010 post-season). Globe Life Park became a football and soccer stadium in 2020, and was renamed Choctaw Stadium. It is maintained by the Rangers, and is also used for many non-sports events, including the United Football League.

In their first 14 years in Texas (1972-85), and in their 11 years (1961-71) as the 'new' Washington Senators, this team never averaged over 20,000 per date. But they've topped 24,000 per date every year starting in 1989, including 2021, and have been above 35,000 in 8 seasons. Of the 22 teams that moved into a new ballpark from 1990 through 2019, including Atlanta in both 1997 and 2017, the Rangers were the only one whose new park had a larger capacity than the old one. That changed in 2020, as the Rangers moved into Globe Life Field, a new, smaller (40,518 capacity – vs. the old park's 48,114), retractable-roof park, located next to Globe Life Park. The new park has panels that allow much natural light inside, even when the roof is closed. Despite fewer seats, Globe Life Field has over 300,000 more square feet than the old park.

Weather note: The Rangers have had 68 postponements in their 51 years in Texas. But only one rainout has taken place in July (in 1989), and there has only been one rainout in August (in 1981). Rainouts should be a thing of the past, now that the Rangers have a retractable-roof park. However, postponements have occurred in domed stadiums due to hurricanes and floods.

On June 12,1997, the Rangers hosted the first regular season interleague game in Major League history. This game against the Giants drew a sellout crowd of 46,507.

This report mentions streaks quite often. They include consecutive sellouts, and reaching certain attendance levels for a number of games, or a number of seasons, in a row. Here is another one: Through the 2023 season, Texas Rangers Executive Vice President Chuck Morgan has served as ballpark Public Address Announcer for 3,244 straight games. He started with the Rangers in 1983, spent 2002 as P.A. Announcer for the Royals, and came back to the Rangers in 2003.

#### DESPITE ENDING A STREAK OF 17 'NORMAL' YEARS IN A ROW OF 3 MILLION+, THE ANGELS STILL DRAW WELL

The Los Angeles Angels and New York Yankees are the only teams who drew over 3 million each year from 2003 through 2019. In 2023, the Angels drew 2,640,575, up 183,114 (7.5%) vs. 2022, but down 378,437 (12.5%) from 2019. This was the 24<sup>rd</sup> straight 'normal' year above 2 million. Average per date was 32,600 in 2023, up 2,261 (7.5%) from 2022, but down 4,672 (12.5%) from 2019. It was the 19<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' season that averaged above 30,000 per date. 46 dates drew over 30,000, and 12 of them topped 40,000, with a high of 44,760, with 7 sellouts.

The Angels have also reached 2 million in attendance 38 times in the last 40 full and 'normal' seasons (missing in 1996 and 1997), and have topped 1.5 million in all years since 1982, including 2021.

There were no lost dates in 2023, but in August, the Angels had their first rainout since 2015. On July 19, 2015, the Angels had their first home rainout since June 16, 1995, ending a streak of 1,609 games without a postponement. That was the 16<sup>th</sup> home rainout in Angels' history, and their first ever in the month of July.

**In 2019**, total attendance was down less than 0.1% (1,204) to 3,019,012, which was 2<sup>nd</sup> best to the Yankees in the American League. Every game in Anaheim drew at least 28,000, with just 2 dates under 30,000. 24 dates attracted better than 40,000, and there were 3 sellouts. The team record for sellouts is 45 in 2004. 2 Angel home games were played in Monterrey, Mexico, and they drew a combined total of 35,791.

Average attendance per date for the Angels didn't reach 20,000 until 1978. They've topped this level every 'normal' year since, and have surpassed 30,000 in 28 seasons, including topping 37,000 for 17 years in a row through 2019. The Angels have averaged above 40,000 in 7 seasons. In 2019, they averaged 37,272 per date. Games in Anaheim averaged 37,762. Record-high attendance for the Angels was 3,406,790 (42,059 per date) in 2006.

There were 5 dates with attendance below 30,000 in 2012. This ended a streak of 691 straight regular season dates, going back to the last 40 dates of 2003, with attendance of at least 30,000.

In 2011, for the only time, the Angels had a higher season attendance than the Dodgers. The Los Angeles teams have not been all that far apart in attendance in many recent seasons, even though Angel Stadium's seating capacity is about 10,000 less than Dodger Stadium's. But in their early years, the Angels were a distant second in fan appeal in the Los Angeles area. Dodgers' official attendance was at least one million higher than Angels' attendance in 22 seasons, including in 15 of the first 18 years (1961-1978) that the Angels were in operation. It happened again in 2021, 2022, and 2023. Until 1986, there were only 2 years (1967, 1979) when the Dodgers didn't draw at least 500,000 more than the Angels. This despite the fact that until 1993, the Dodgers, like all National League teams, did not include 'no-shows' in their official attendance, while the Angels, and all American League teams, did.

In 1961, their first season, the Angels played at Wrigley Field. No, not the Wrigley Field in Chicago, but Wrigley Field in Los Angeles, which had been home to a Cubs minor league team before the Dodgers moved to California in 1958. The Angels drew 603,510 there, an average of 8,047 per date. The largest crowd of the 1961 season was 19,930. Season attendance high for the Pacific Coast League Angels at Wrigley Field was 622,485 in 1947.

In 1962, the Angels moved into Dodger Stadium. Their attendance nearly doubled to 1,144,063 (15,254 per date). During their 4 years at Dodger Stadium, the Angels drew a total of 3,292,244 in 290 dates, an average of 11,353 per date. In those same 4 seasons, the Dodgers drew 10,076,114 in 309 dates, an average of 32,609 per date.

The Yankees were a big attraction for the Angels when they played at Dodger Stadium. In 1962, the Angels averaged 44,834 for their 9 dates with the Yankees. In 66 dates with all other teams, they averaged 11,221. In their 4 years at Dodger Stadium, the Angels averaged 30,526 for 36 dates with the Yankees, and 8,635 for 254 dates with all other teams. In 1962, they drew 53,591 for a game with the Yankees, their largest crowd ever at Dodger Stadium.

#### ANGELS NOTES - continued

The Angels moved to Anaheim in Orange County in 1966. First season attendance there was 1,400,321, up 833,594 (147.1%) from 1965. Average per date was 18,186, up 9,973. This total and average per date was not topped until 1977. Lowest season attendance in Anaheim was 744,190 (9,420 per date) in 1972. Between their first season in 1961, and 1974, Angels' attendance was under one million 8 times.

Angel Stadium, formerly named Anaheim Stadium, was originally designed just for baseball. It was expanded to a capacity of 65,158 in 1980, in order to accommodate Rams football. The expanded seating was added to the outfield area. After the Rams moved to St. Louis, the ballpark underwent a major rebuilding, at a cost of \$100 million, completed in 1998. It is once again a primarily baseball facility, and its 2024 seating capacity is 45,603.

The 'Big A' scoreboard was preserved and moved to the stadium parking lot when Anaheim Stadium was expanded for football. That structure is 230 feet in height, and the halo around it is 70 feet in diameter.

The Angels have achieved a huge increase in attendance since their first decade and a half in Anaheim. In their first 14 years in Anaheim (1966-1979), the Angels drew 17,002,688 in 1,093 dates, averaging 1,214,478 per season, and 15,556 per date. In the next 14 seasons (1980-1993), attendance rose sharply to 33,506,887 in 1,101 dates, an average of 2,393,349 per year, and 30,433 per date. For the 22 'normal' years from 2000 through 2023 (excludes 2021), the Angels drew 65,344,523 in 1,782 dates, an average of 2,970,206 per season, and 36,669 per date.

#### THE A'S CHOOSE 2 NEW HOMES - SACRAMENTO IN 2025, 2026 AND 2027, AND LAS VEGAS STARTING IN 2028

"If you don't know where you're going, you might not get there." - Yogi Berra

The uncertainty of where the A's would play in the future (Oakland or Las Vegas?) certainly affected attendance in **2022 and 2023**. In 2022, it seemed that progress on funding a new ballpark at Howard Terminal in Oakland, was being made. But it didn't happen, and in April, 2023, the A's announced that they had purchased land in Las Vegas for a new park. A few months later, Major League Baseball approved the move. In 2024, the A's announced that they would play the 2025 through 2027 seasons at their Triple-A team's park in Sacramento, and then move to Las Vegas in 2028.

The 58-year-old Oakland Coliseum is the worst stadium in the Major Leagues, with its non-baseball-oriented layout, distant sightlines, lack of amenities for fans, and the occasionally flooded player areas. In April, 2023, a visiting possum left its calling card in a TV booth, forcing the broadcasters to relocate.

**In 2023,** the Athletics had their worst season (50-112) since 1916, when their home was in Philadelphia. But since 1999, they've had 15 winning records in 25 years, with 7 American League West championships.

In **2022**, the Athletics drew just 787,902, averaging 9,973 per date. This was the lowest attendance for any Major League team in a 'normal' year since Montreal's final season in 2004. In the American League, it was the first 'normal' season below one million, and the lowest attendance, since Cleveland drew 655,181 in 1985. This was the lowest attendance in Oakland since the A's drew a total of just 306,763, and an average of 3,984 per date, in 1979.

Attendance actually increased in **2023**. The total was up 44,450 (5.6%) from **2022**, to 832,352. **2023** average per date rose 303 (3.0%) to 10,276. **2023** total attendance fell by 829,859 (49.9%), and the average per date declined 10,245 (49.9%), **vs. 2019**. The **2023 vs. 2019** decreases were the worst of any Major League team. No games were sold out in 2023, and just 5 dates drew at least 20,000, with a high of 37,553. There were 47 dates which attracted fewer than 10,000, with 18 of them drawing under 5,000, including an MLB season-low crowd of 2,064. No dates were lost or postponed.

That low 2023 crowd took place on a Monday, a day when few Minor League teams play. The 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest 2023 attendance in Oakland was 2,583 on Tuesday, May 2. That day 33 Minor League games played in Triple-A, Double-A, Class-A, and in the independent Mexican and Atlantic Leagues, drew bigger crowds.

The Athletics posted a **2019** attendance increase of 134,623 (8.8%) to 1,662,211. This included 2 games in Tokyo that drew a combined 92,238. Average per date was 20,521, up 1,426. Games played in Oakland averaged 19,873 per date, up 778. 4 dates, including both in Tokyo, sold out. In Oakland, 3 dates drew over 40,000, including a crowd of 53,367, the largest in the American League in 2019, and 9 topped 30,000. But attendance was under 20,000 at 47 dates, with 26 of those dates drawing less than 15,000, and 2 of them attracting under 10,000.

The A's celebrated 50 years in Oakland on April 17, 2018. 46,028 fans took advantage of free parking and free admission to the game that evening. Attendance from this game is not included in the 2018 total, and it is not counted as a date played. The first game in Oakland was on April 17, 1968, and it drew a crowd of 47,233 – paid, and 50,164 - total.

Despite 97 wins in both 2019 and 2018, and 15 winning seasons, including 10 years with at least 90 wins, plus an 81-81 year, since 1999, the A's continued to have attendance troubles. 2014 was their only season above 2 million in the past 14 years. Oakland has drawn under 1.6 million in 13 seasons since 1996, including 2021, 2022, and 2023. In 2023, the A's had the lowest attendance in the Majors for the 9<sup>th</sup> time since moving to Oakland in 1968.

A rarity occurred in Oakland in 2017 and 2014—rainouts. Two regular season games, plus an exhibition game with the Giants were postponed in 2014. The previous rained-out home game for any California team was in 2006, and the last Oakland rainouts prior to 2014, had been in 1998. There have been 21 regular season postponements, including one in April, 2017, in Oakland's Major League history. The field at the Oakland Alameda County Coliseum is 22 feet below sea level. The San Diego Padres also had a home rainout in 2017, and the Giants had a rainout in 2018.

Another rarity – anywhere in the Major Leagues these days: On Wednesday, May 8, 2024, the A's hosted a single-admission doubleheader that was listed as such on the pre-season schedule. It drew 8,230 on a beautiful day. This was the first scheduled doubleheader on a team's original schedule since Tampa Bay hosted one in 2017. In 2022, the A's played a home doubleheader that was added to the schedule to make up a game that was postponed when the originally scheduled first week of the season was delayed due to a lockout.

#### OAKLAND NOTES - continued

The A's have tried for a more intimate feel for their ballpark. For several years through 2017, they didn't sell upper deck seats, and listed their capacity as 35,067, (46,847 listed capacity in 2024) in the Oakland Coliseum, which can seat 63,024 for football. The most recently listed football capacity was 56,063. In 2019, the Coliseum was the last Major League park that was shared with an NFL team. But the Raiders moved to Las Vegas for the 2020 season.

The biggest crowd ever to attend an A's game in Oakland was 56,310 in 2018, which was also the top crowd in the Majors for the season. The A's honored their 1989 World Championship team that day. A sign of how things have changed is that in 2023, the A's celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1973 World Championship team. That game drew 17,645. The largest number of sellouts in team history was 20, in 1990, when the A's set their all-time season attendance record of 2,900,217.

In the early 1970's the A's were very successful, with 5 consecutive A.L. West titles, and winning 3 straight World Series from 1972 to 1974. They had colorful uniforms, and their share of zany promotions. But their attendance was poor. The only World Champion team of those years to top one million in attendance was in 1973, and they barely made it, drawing 1,000,763. 1981 was the first season in Oakland with an average per date of at least 20,000.

Their worst attendance was just 306,763 in 1979. That was the lowest attendance for any team since the Browns drew 297,238 in 1953, their final season in St. Louis before moving to Baltimore. In 1979, the A's averaged just 3,984 per date. Attendance was below 1,000 at 2 games, with a low of 653, and 19 games had crowds between 1,000 and 2,000. Just 5 games all year had crowds above 10,000, the largest being 19,538 for a July 6 twi-night doubleheader with the Yankees. (Source for 1979 data: Box scores from The Sporting News, and the MLB Stats Reporting Platform)

Since moving to Oakland in 1968, the A's have posted a higher season total attendance at home than on the road only in 1981, 1982, and from 1988 through 1992. The 2024 A's Media Guide notes that since 1968, through 2023, at home, the A's have drawn an average of 1,471,231 per season, averaging 18,902 per date. On the road, the average per season has been 1,973,028, with a 25,444 average per date. The road season total attendance average has been 34.1% higher than the home total, and the road average per date has been 34.6% higher than the home average.

The Athletics played in Philadelphia from 1901 through 1954. In 1909, they became the first American League team that averaged at least 10,000 per date. The 1908 New York Giants were the first National League team to top 10,000 per date. The A's averaged 10,000+ per date again in 5 of 6 years from 1925 through 1930. More recently, their average per date has been under 20,000 in 13 'normal' seasons since 1995, including 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017, and 2018, (2019 as well, if the Tokyo games are excluded), and 2021, 2022, and 2023. It has reached 30,000 only in the 4 years from 1989 through 1992.

Highest Athletics attendance in Philadelphia was 945,076 in 1948. They topped one million in each of their first 2 seasons in Kansas City (1955 and 1956), but never reached that level again until 1973 and 1975 after moving to Oakland. This franchise reached one million only 4 times in its history until 1981. Oakland has drawn 2 million each year from 1988 through 1993, then from 2001 through 2005, and again in 2014.

#### LAS VEGAS ATTENDANCE NOTES

As noted earlier, that the Athletics will play in Sacramento from 2025 through 2027, and move to a new ballpark in Las Vegas in 2028. Both of those cities have Pacific Coast League teams, and have often drawn very well.

Below, and on the next page, are the Las Vegas and Sacramento notes from the 2023 Minor League Baseball Attendance Analysis.

- Las Vegas drew 506,047, down 12,174 (2.3%) in **2023**. Average per date was 6,838, down 71 (1.0%). It was the 9<sup>th</sup> highest total, and 9<sup>th</sup> best average per date, among MLB-affiliated teams. One postponement resulted in one less date than in 2022. 17 dates were sold out, and 19 crowds topped 8,000, with a high of 11,268. In 2022, Las Vegas Ballpark was voted again as the best Triple-A ballpark in a poll taken by ballparkdigest.com. The Aviators have had their 4 best total attendance and average per date figures ever, including 81 sellouts, in their 4 seasons at Las Vegas Ballpark.
- In 2019, Las Vegas moved to a new ballpark in the suburb of Summerlin, and had an incredible attendance year. The newly-named Aviators had the highest total attendance and average per date of any U.S. or Canadian team. Only Tijuana of the Mexican League had a higher total, and only Tijuana and Monterrey, also of the Mexican League, posted a better average per date. The Aviators also had the best total and average per date increases of any team in 2019, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> best percentage gains vs. 2018.
- The Aviators blew away their previous attendance records in 2019, drawing 650,934, up 318,710 (95.9%). Average per date was 9,299 up 4,553. The old records were set in 1993, when this franchise drew 386,310, averaging 5,441 per date. In 2019, the Aviators had 47 sellouts, 23 dates drew at least 10,000, 4 of them topped 11,000, with a high of 12,111. Only 10 dates drew under 8,000 in a park that has 8,196 fixed seats.
- Prior to 2019, Las Vegas had attendance consistency. They drew between 290,000 and 390,000, every year since joining the P.C.L. in 1983, and topped 300,000 each year from 1988 through 2018. In 2018, their final season at Cashman Field, the 51's drew 332,224, averaging 4,746 per date. Las Vegas averaged over 4,000 every year, with a high of 5,441 in 1993, and a low of 4,089 in 1986. In their 36 years at Cashman Field, the team drew 11,971,061 to regular season games, averaging 332,529 per year. Average per date, including post-season games was 4,704.

#### SACRAMENTO ATTENDANCE NOTES

- Sacramento was hit hard by the Covid restrictions in 2021, and their attendance is slowly recovering. Total attendance increased 15,706 (4.2%) in 2023, to 388,475. Average per date rose 209 (4.2%) to 5,180. There were no games were postponed in both 2023 and 2022. 27 dates drew over 6,000, with 9 above 8,000. The largest crowd was 10,267.
- Sacramento won the Triple-A championship, but had the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest attendance in the club's first 20 years in **2019**, though it was still quite good. The total was 549,440, and the average per date was 7,849. That was the 10<sup>th</sup> highest total in the Minors in 2019. 27 dates drew better than 8,000, with 12 of them topping 10,000.
- Sacramento has been one of the best draws in Minor League history. As the table below shows, they led the Minor Leagues in total attendance 10 times, and in average per date 6 times. In 4 other years, they had the best average per date among U.S./Canadian teams, and in one other season, they led this group of teams in total attendance. The River Cats have 102 regular season sellouts in their history, all with a crowd of better than 14,000. They averaged more than 10,000 per date in each of their first 8 seasons. Unlike most teams, Sacramento has drawn well in the playoffs, with 17 crowds above 10,000.
- The River Cats are one of only 4 teams, along with Louisville, Buffalo, and Monterrey, Mexico, to reach 900,000 in attendance in any season.
- In 2017 and 2016, Sacramento gave back the gains it made in 2015, when their total attendance rose 64,515, and average per date was up 777, with 25 crowds of at least 10,000 and 12 sellouts. 2016 attendance fell 62,688, which was the worst total loss among U.S. teams. In 2017, the total fell 47,429, which was the 6<sup>th</sup> worst loss in the MLB-affiliated leagues, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> biggest decline among U.S. teams. Average per date declined by 555, which was the biggest U.S. loss, and the 5<sup>th</sup> worst affiliated decline overall. (Some Mexican League teams, which were part of the MLB-affiliated leagues at that time, had bigger declines in 2017.)
- In 2015, Sacramento led all of Minor League Baseball in attendance for the 10<sup>th</sup> time since the team began play in 2000. They also led the Pacific Coast League in attendance for the 14<sup>th</sup> time. Their biggest crowd ever was 15,808 in 2008. 2012, 2017, 2018, and 2019 were the only years, until 2021, that this team drew under 600,000.
- Through 2023, the River Cats have drawn 14,662,136 since starting play in 2000, the quickest any team has ever reached 14 million. They have averaged 637,484 per season (654,059 excluding 2021), and 8,940 per date (1,640 dates) in their history. Their average per date excluding 2021 is 9,144. Sacramento had been for a few years, the largest TV market without a Major League team. (Orlando-Daytona holds that distinction now.) From 1961 through 1973, and again from 1977 through 1999, Sacramento didn't even have a Minor League team.

Year	Total Attend.	Avg./Date	Year	Total Attend.	Avg./Date	Year	Total Attend.	Avg./Date
2000	861,808*	12,312*	2008	700,168*	9,725#	2016	609,666	8,587
2001	901,214*	12,517*	2009	657,095^	9,126	2017	562,237	8,032
2002	817,317*	11,512*	2010	657,910*	9,138^	2018	538,785	7,808
2003	766,326*	10,643#	2011	600,306	8,455	2019	549,440	7,849
2004	751,156*	10,433^	2012	586,090	8,140	2021	259,640	3,994
2005	755,750*	10,497#	2013	607,329	8,435	2022	372,769	4,970
2006	728,227#	10,257#	2014	607,839	8,561	2023	388,475	5,180
2007	710,235*	10,003*	2015	672,354*	9,338			

#### SACRAMENTO RIVER CATS ATTENDANCE - 2000-2023

\* - Best in Minor Leagues # - Led U.S./Canadian teams ^ - 2<sup>nd</sup> among U.S./Canadian teams

#### 2023 BLUE JAYS POST THEIR BEST ATTENDANCE SINCE 2017

**In 2023,** the Blue Jays had another significant increase in attendance, posting their best figures since 2017, and topping 3 million for the 8<sup>th</sup> time. This despite a reduction in capacity at the Rogers Centre from 49,286 to 41,500.

**2023** total attendance was 3,021,904, up 368,074 (13.9%) from **2022**, and up 1,271,760 (72.7%) from **2019**. Average per date was 37,307 in **2023**, up 4,544 (13.9%) from **2022**, and up 15,700 (72.7%) from **2019**. **The 2023 vs. 2019 increases were the best of any Major League team.** There were an estimated 37 sellouts in 2023. Every game drew at least 23,000. 42 dates drew over 40,000, with a high of 43,196. 2023 was the 11<sup>th</sup> time in the last 13 'normal' seasons with a double-digit percentage change, up or down, in attendance. In 6 of those years, changes exceeded 20%.

Due to Covid-19, resulting in the closing of the U.S./Canadian border, the Blue Jays played all **2020** home games in Buffalo. In **2021**, the Blue Jays became the first team since 1903 Cleveland and Detroit to play home games in 3 different cities. They played their first 21 home dates at their Spring Training park in Dunedin, FL, drawing 30,936 (1,473 per date), with a high of 1,641. Allowed capacity in Dunedin was 1,700. They played in Buffalo from June 1 through July 21, drawing 170,130 in 22 dates, averaging 7,733 per date, with a high of 14,607. The first games in Buffalo had 35% capacity allowed, and it was raised to 45% on June 15, and full-capacity (16,600) on June 24.

The Blue Jays returned to Toronto on July 30, 2021, for the first time in 670 days. They played the final 36 dates of the season in Toronto, which drew 604,835, an average of 16,801 per date. Capacity was limited to 15,000 through September 19. It was raised to 30,000 for the final homestand of the year, and all 6 of those games drew over 28,000. Overall, Toronto's 2021 total attendance was 805,901, an average of 10,201 per date. The largest crowd in Toronto was 29,942. Despite the unusual nature of their season, the Blue Jays had a 91-71 record.

Just like in all other years since 2009, as noted in the table on the next page, Toronto's attendance underwent significant changes in 2019. Total attendance fell 575,137 (24.7%) to 1,750,144, and average per date plunged 7,459 to 21,607. These were the largest decreases in total attendance and average per date in the Majors in 2019. There was one sellout, which was the only date above 40,000. 5 dates drew at least 30,000. There were 31 dates with attendance under 20,000. From 2016 through 2019, total attendance fell 1,641,995 (48.4%), and average per date dipped 20,271.

The 2018 total attendance decline of 878,605 was the 4<sup>th</sup> worst in MLB history, topped only by the 1967 Dodgers, 2009 Mets, and 2003 Indians. The average per date dip of 10,488 was the 10<sup>th</sup> worst ever in the Major Leagues.

According to an article by Maury Brown in the October 3, 2018 issue of Forbes, the Blue Jays released far fewer tickets to resellers in 2018, compared to previous years. Much, or perhaps even most of, their decrease could be attributed to the Blue Jays finishing 35 games out of first place in the American League East. But the change in ticket distribution policy was certainly a factor in the large attendance decline. The Blue Jays were 36 games back in 2019.

This report, and probably all other news media reports about Major League Baseball attendance, use the official figures provided by Major League Baseball. So, the 2018 attendance decrease listed for Toronto is official.

The Blue Jays led the American League in total attendance in 2017, though the Yankees had the league's best average per date. The Jays became the 17<sup>th</sup> team since 1900 to lead their league in total attendance in a year they had a losing record. Average per date was 39,554, down 2,324. Every game drew at least 28,000. Crowds topped 30,000 at 74 dates, and reached 40,000 at 40 dates. There were 17 sellouts.

2016 was the best attendance season in Toronto since the early-to-mid 1990's. The Blue Jays led the American League in attendance, drawing 3,392,099, up 597,208 (21.4%), their best total since 1993. Average per date rose 7,373 to 41,878, their highest since 1994. These gains in total attendance, percentage growth, and average per date, were the best in the Major Leagues in 2016. It was the 5<sup>th</sup> time in 6 years that Toronto had posted a 10% or better attendance increase. This was the 7<sup>th</sup> time that their average per date exceeded 40,000. There were 39 sellouts. 58 dates, including 36 of the final 38 dates, attracted at least 40,000. Blue Jays' total attendance went up 108.7% from 2010 to 2016, and average per date increased by 21,809 during this same period.

#### **BLUE JAYS NOTES** - continued

Year	Total Attendance	Change in Total Attendance	% Change Total Att.	Average per date	Change in Average/Date
2009	1,876,129	(524,287)	(21.8)	23,162	(6,473)
2010	1,625,555	(250,574)	(13.4)	20,069	(3,093)
2011	1,818,103	192,548	11.8	22,446	2,377
2012	2,099,663	281,560	15.5	25,922	3,476
2013	2,536,562	436,899	20.8	31,316	5,394
2014	2,375,525	(161,037)	(6.3)	29,327	(1,989)
2015	2,794,891	419,366	17.7	34,505	5,178
2016	3,392,099	597,208	21.4	41,878	7,373
2017	3,203,886	(188,213)	(5.5)	39,554	(2,324)
2018	2,325,281	(878,605)	(27.4)	29,066	(10,488)
2019	1,750,144	(575,137)	(24.7)	21,607	(7,459)
2022	2,653,830	903,686	51.6	32,763	11,156
2023	3,021,904	368,074	13.9	37,307	4,544

TORONTO ATTENDANCE – 2009-2023 (excludes 2021) 2022 Changes are vs. 2019

In 2015, the Blue Jays made the post-season for the first time since 1993, and they had their best attendance since 1995. There were 27 sellouts, including 20 of the last 21 dates of the year. 36 dates drew at least 40,000, but 14 had crowds of less than 20,000. The fans really came out as the season progressed. For the first 41 dates, the average attendance was 27,517. But for the final 40 dates of 2015, the average increased to 41,667.

In 2013, Toronto had the best attendance improvement in the Majors for that year.

Average per date in Toronto has been above 30,000 in all seasons from 1985 through 1998, and again in 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2022, and 2023. The Blue Jays have averaged at least 20,000 per date in each of 39 'normal' seasons through 2023.

Until 2021, the only seasons in Blue Jays history with an average per date of less than 20,000 were 4 years in a row from 1979 to 1982. There were 6 seasons in a row (1989-1994) where average per date was above 40,000. 430 of the 437 regular season dates at SkyDome (now named the Rogers Centre) during those 6 seasons had attendance over 40,000. SkyDome opened on June 5, 1989, and the first game there with attendance below 40,000 was in 1995. The first sub-30,000 crowd there came in 1996, and the first crowd of less than 20,000 was in 2000.

In 2010, Toronto had its lowest attendance in 28 years, with 50 games drawing less than 20,000. Prior to posting losses of 250,574 in 2010, and 524,287 in 2009, the Blue Jays had 6 consecutive attendance gains from 2003 to 2008.

Attendance had been above 2 million for 16 straight years, from 1984 through 1999, but then fell below that mark for 5 years. The Jays went back above 2 million for 4 straight seasons until 2009. Strike-shortened 1981, and Covid-affected 2021, are the only years in Blue Jays history, which began in 1977, that the team did not draw at least 1,275,000.

The Blue Jays played at Exhibition Stadium until June, 1989. Highest full season attendance there was 2,778,429 (34,302 per date) in 1987. Lowest full-season attendance there was 1,275,978 (16,571 per date) in 1982. During that shorter 1981 season, the Blue Jays averaged 14,806 per date.

#### **BLUE JAYS NOTES** - continued

When the Blue Jays moved to SkyDome (officially, there was no 'The' in front of the name Skydome), they began to set all sorts of Major League attendance records. In 1991, they became the first team to ever draw 4 million in a season. The Blue Jays topped 4 million again in their World Series winning years of 1992 and 1993. They reached a high of 4,057,947 (50,098 per date) in 1993. That year the Jays and the Colorado Rockies became the first teams to ever average at least 50,000 per date.

From 1989 through 1994, Toronto averaged 49,220 per date at SkyDome. In the 1990's, they averaged 40,403 per date. The average was 24,724 from 2000 through 2009, and was 29,569 from 2010 through 2019.

During the early years at SkyDome, the Jays had 5 sellout streaks of at least 38 games, with the longest streak of 60 games from May 18, 1990 to Opening Day 1991. But the 1994 strike denied the Blue Jays the opportunity to defend their World Title as there were no playoffs that year. Attendance took a huge hit in the following seasons, falling to 1,636,904 by 2002. Other than 2021, lowest Rogers Center/SkyDome attendance was 1,625,555 (20,069 per date) in 2010.

Rogers Centre was the first stadium with a retractable roof in the Majors. The facility includes a hotel in the outfield. Through 2023, the Blue Jays have played 2,680 games there, including post-season games. 1,463 games have been played with the roof open, and 1,077 with the roof closed. At 140 games, the roof was moved during the game due to weather, or in the case of a game in 1990, due to flying insects. In fact, that game had a 35 minute 'bug delay.' An unsafe roof on April 12, 2001 resulted in a postponement. The 2016 American League Wild Card Game was the first post-season game played with the roof open.

The earliest date in a season that a game was played with the roof open was April 12 in 2023, when it was 61 degrees Fahrenheit (or as they say in Canada – 16 degrees Celsius). There have been 10 seasons when the first game with the roof open was in April. Excluding 2021, the latest first 'open-roof' games were on June 6 in both 2019 and 2001. The next-latest first 'open-roof' game was on May 28, 2017. The first open-roof game in 2022 was on May 16, and in 2024, it was on May 12.

Seattle, Arizona, Houston, Miami, Milwaukee, and Texas, also have retractable roof parks. Tampa Bay is the only team with a roof that can't be opened. In 2016, the Rogers Centre had a dirt infield for the first time, instead of just having dirt sliding boxes around each base.

There was a snowout at Rogers Centre in 2018. Snow fell off the CN Tower, located next to the ballbark, and damaged the retractable roof, causing the postponement.

The largest baseball crowd at Skydome/Rogers Centre was 52,382 for the 1991 All-Star Game. A game in the 1992 World Series drew 52,268. The biggest regular-season attendance was 50,560 on Opening Day 2005. But the largest crowd ever for an event in this stadium was 68,237 for WrestleMania X8 in 2002.

The Rogers Centre has undergone a C\$300 million renovation to turn it into more of a baseball park, and to give it many more fan amenities. Seating capacity has been reduced from 49,286 to 41,500 in 2023, and 39,150 in 2024.

#### MARINERS HAVE THEIR BEST ATTENDANCE SINCE 2005

Seattle had another big increase in attendance in 2023, reaching their best figures since 2005.

Total **2023** attendance, as reported by the MLB Stats Reporting Platform, was 2,690,418, averaging 33,215 per date. (As usual, the Mariners made some modifications to that figure in their 2024 Media Guide, listing the total as 2,690,934, and the average per date as 33,221.) The Stats Reporting Platform total was up 403,151 (17.6%) **from 2022**, and up 900,357 (50.3%) **vs. 2019**. Average per date gain was 4,624 vs.**2022**, and 11,115 (50.3%) **vs. 2019**. The 2023 vs. 2019 gains were the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest, to Toronto, among all Major League teams. 50 crowds topped 30,000, and 24 of them were above 40,000, with a high of 45,819. There were 7 sellouts.

The Mariners lost 21 more games in **2019** than in 2018, and they had their lowest attendance since 2013. The total was 1,790,061, down 509,428 (22.2%), and the average per date fell 6,289 to 22,100. This followed 5 increases in the previous 6 years through 2018. There had been a decline in total attendance in 9 of 10 seasons from 2003 through 2012. The attendance noted here was updated by the MLB Information System on October 24, 2019, is slightly lower than the end of season reported total of 1,791,863.

Opening Day was the only sellout of 2019, and the only 40,000+ crowd. 14 dates drew over 30,000. But there were 33 dates that attracted less than 20,000, with 20 of those dates drawing under 15,000. In 2013, there were 2 dates that drew under 10,000, which were the smallest crowds, until 2021, in the 24-year history of T-Mobile Park (formerly Safeco Field). The 2012 total of 1,721,920 was the team's lowest since 1995, and the smallest for a full season since 1992.

2019 total attendance was down 1,750,421 (49.4%), and average per date was down 21,610, from the team record-highs of 3,540,482 (total) and 43,710 (average per date) set in 2002. But the big increases in 2022 and 2023 reduced those deficits from 2002 to a total of 850,064 (24.0%), and 10,495 in average per date. In 2001, the Mariners had one of the best records in Major League history, winning 116 regular season games, and losing just 46.

The Mariners had low attendance from their start in 1977 until the mid-1990's, and then had a huge upswing. They didn't have a winning record in any season until 1991. Seattle failed to draw one million in 6 of its first 8 seasons. They averaged less than 15,000 per date each year from 1978 through 1988, and never reached at least 20,000 per date until 1991. But they have topped 20,000 per date ever since then, excluding 2021. Average per date was over 30,000 from 1996 through 2007, and again in 2023. It topped 40,000 from 2001 through 2003.

From 1977 through 1990, only 19 of the 1,099 dates (1.7% of all dates) at the Kingdome had crowds of at least 40,000. From 1977 through the first 67 dates of 1995, attendance topped 40,000 at 53 of 1,453 dates (3.6%), and averaged 15,627 per date. Seattle had the worst attendance of any team during the 1980's. Their average per date for that decade was just 12,551. Lowest season attendance was 813,537 (10,044 per date) in 1983, with only 23 dates topping 10,000. They did not reach 1.5 million until 1990, and topped 1.7 million just twice until 1996.

The Mariners had a great finish in 1995, tying the California Angels for the A.L. West title, beating them in a one game playoff, then coming back from 0-2 down to win 3 straight from the Yankees in the Division Series, before falling to Cleveland in the A.L. Championship Series. Attendance surged! From the last 6 regular season dates in 1995, through the first 39 dates of 1999, after which the Mariners moved from the Kingdome to T-Mobile Park, attendance averaged 34,594 per date, and topped 40,000 at 80 of 288 (27.8%) dates.

Seattle has drawn over 2 million each year from 1996 through 2010, then from 2014 through 2018, and in 2022 and 2023. They topped 3 million in 5 of those seasons (1997, 2000-2003). Huge increases took place in 1996 and 1997. In 1995, Seattle averaged 22,510 per date. But by 1997, that average was up to 39,410, a 75.1% gain in just 2 years.

#### MARINERS NOTES - continued

Total Kingdome attendance was 32,669,054 in 1,741 dates, averaging 18,765 per date. At T-Mobile Park, through 2023, the Mariners have drawn 57,042,184 in 1,904 regular season dates, an average of 29,959 per date. This is 59.7% higher than the Kingdome average per date.

The roof at T-Mobile Park was closed or moved at 19 games in 2023. 1,518 of 1,934 games (78.5% of all games), including post-season games, in T-Mobile Park's history have been played with the roof open. The roof was opened or closed during a game 152 times (7.9%). Only 264 games (13.7%) have been played with the roof closed for the entire game.

In 2011, the Marlins had to play 3 'home' games vs. the Mariners in Seattle due to a scheduled concert at Sun Life Stadium in Miami. Attendance for those games was included in the Marlins' total since they were the 'home' team.

On July 29, 1993, the Mariners sold 30,220 tickets for that day's game with Minnesota. That's the largest day-of-game sale in team history. Attendance for the game at the Kingdome was 45,607. The largest 'walk-up' ticket sale was 23,625 on May 9, 1981 for a game that drew 51,903.

As a Minor League city, Seattle drew over 400,000 each year from 1945 through 1951. The best season was 1947, when the Rainiers of the Pacific Coast League drew 548,308.

# VIN SCULLY (1927-2022) – BASEBALL'S GREATEST BROADCASTER

Legendary Dodgers' broadcaster Vin Scully retired after the 2016 season, his 67th year calling their games.

His poetic descriptions of games, and many of his historic calls, can be found on YouTube, and at Dodgers.com.

The honors and awards he's received are far too numerous to list here. They include membership in the Baseball Hall-of-Fame, and a star on the Hollywood 'Walk-of-Fame.'

In 2016, the street leading to Dodger Stadium was renamed for Vin Scully before Opening Day, and an elaborate ceremony saluting him was held during the Dodgers' final homestand. In November, at the White House, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. When he was told he was getting this award, he said, *"Are you sure? I'm just an old baseball announcer."* Well one tribute to Vin Scully is nearly universal – that he was the best baseball announcer ever.

Here some highlights from his incredible career, and from his final broadcasts:

"It's time for Dodger baseball." "And a very pleasant good evening to you, wherever you may be." "So pull up a chair. We've just begun."

"Ladies and gentlemen, the Brooklyn Dodgers are the champions of the world."

(In 1955, the Dodgers had their only World Series win while representing Brooklyn.)

"There's 29,000 people in the ballpark, and a million butterflies... The mound at Dodger Stadium right now, is the loneliest place in the world... He is one out away from the promised land... It is 9:46 P.M. Two and two to Harvey Kuehn. One strike away. Sandy into his windup, here's the pitch. Swung on and missed. A prefect game."

"On the scoreboard in right field, it is 9:46 P.M. in the City of Angels, Los Angeles, California, and a crowd of 29,139 just sitting in to see the only pitcher in baseball history to hurl 4 no-hit, no-run games. He has done it 4 straight years, and now he capped it on his fourth no-hitter. He made it a perfect game."

"And Sandy Koufax, whose name will always remind you of strikeouts, did it with a flourish. He struck out the last 6 consecutive batters. So when he wrote his name in capital letters in the record books, that 'K' stands out even more than the o-u-f-a-x."

(The final out of Sandy Koufax's prefect game, September 9, 1965.)

"High fly ball into right field, she is gone! In a year that has been so improbable, the impossible has happened."

(Kirk Gibson's dramatic game-winning home run in Game 1 of the 1988 World Series.)

*"Fernando Valenzuela has pitched a no-hitter at 10:17 in the evening of June the 29<sup>th</sup>, 1990. If you have a sombrero, throw it to the sky."* 

(Celebrating a no-hitter by Mexican native Fernando Valenzuela.)

"People say to me, well now that you're retiring, what are you going to do? Well you know when you're 65 and you retire, you might have 20 years left of life, or more, and you better have some plans. When you're 89, and they ask what your plans are, I'm gonna try to live."

"And one last thing, for those of you who wonder what I'll do, put it this way, I'm looking for a much smaller house, and a much larger medicine cabinet."

# MORE HIGHLIGHTS FROM VIN SCULLY'S FINAL BROADCASTS

Leave it to Vin Scully that his final call at Dodger Stadium was a game-winning, division-clinching, home run.

"0 and 1 to Charlie, swung on, a high fly ball to deep left field, could you believe a home run? And the Dodgers have clinched the division, and will celebrate on schedule. Charlie Culberson, a game-winning home run. What a moment to have it, and would you believe, his first home run of the year."

Vin Scully often told about how his interest in baseball began when he was a young boy, living in upper Manhattan. On October 2, 1936, the Giants were playing the Yankees in the World Series. Vin passed a laundry that posted the score in its window. The Giants had lost 18-4, and Vin felt so bad for them, he decided to become a Giants fan. Amazingly, 80 years later, to the day, October 2, 2016, Vin Scully broadcast his final game as the Dodgers played the Giants in San Francisco.

"Hi everybody, and a very pleasant Sunday afternoon to you, wherever you may be. We're at AT&T Park for a Giant-Dodger ballgame. Talk about putting the ribbon on the package. What a tremendous way to conclude the season."

"The Giants are dancing in the streets, leading 4 to nothing."

"I was thinking, sitting in the booth, talking to Willie. Who would have ever thought that little red-headed kid, with a tear in his pants, shirttail hanging out, playing stickball in the streets of New York with a tennis ball and a broom handle, would wind up sitting here, 67 years of broadcasting, and with my arm around one of the greatest players I ever saw, the great Willie Mays. There are miracles, aren't they?"

"This crowd is bursting at the seams right now. Two balls, two strikes, two out. Boy, 489 consecutive sellouts here at AT&T Park. All right, big pitch coming out. Romo out of the stretch, and the 2-2 pitch on the way. Sergio deals a slider hit in the air to left center, coming over is Pagan – he puts it away! And the Giants are the wild-card team. The city is going wild, appropriately enough, and they are heading to New York."

(The call of the final play.)

"I have said enough for a lifetime."

"You know friends, so many people have wished me congratulations on a 67-year career in baseball, and they've wished me a wonderful retirement with my family. And now, all I can do is tell you what I wish for you:

*"May God give you for every storm a rainbow, for every tear, a smile. For every care, a promise, and the blessing in each trial.* 

*"For every problem life seems, a faithful friend to share. For every sigh, a sweet song, and an answer for each prayer.* 

"You and I have been friends for a long time. But I know in my heart that I've always needed you more than you've ever needed me. And I'll miss our time together, more than I can say.

"But you know what. There will be a new day, and eventually, a new year. And when the upcoming winter gives way to spring, oh rest assured, once again, it will be time for Dodger baseball.

"So this is Vin Scully, wishing you a very pleasant good afternoon, wherever you may be."

Quotes are from the 2016 Dodgers Media Guide, Dodgers.com, MLB Advanced Media, and YouTube.

# JAIME JARRIN – 64 ANOS de EXCELENCIA

"Se va, se va, se va, y despidala con un beso." "It's going, it's going, it's going. Kiss it goodbye."

Home run call of Hall-of-Famer Jaime Jarrin, legendary Dodgers Spanish language broadcaster

Jaime Jarrin retired after the 2022 season, his 64<sup>th</sup> year broadcasting Dodger baseball. He had the secondlongest tenure of any broadcaster in Major League history. Only his longtime close friend, and fellow Dodger broadcaster, Vin Scully, who had 67 years in the Dodgers broadcast booth, had broadcast Major League Baseball longer.

A native of Ecuador, Jarrin began his Dodger career in 1959. Since then, he had broadcast 30 World Series, 30 All-Star Games, and more than 30 World Boxing Championships. Jaime also has broadcast 3 perfect games and 22 nohitters.

He is a member of the broadcasting wing of the Baseball Hall-of-Fame, and has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The Dodgers Spanish language broadcast booth in named in his honor, and he is one of the best-known sports voices in Latin America.

#### 2023 ATTENDANCE -- TEAM HIGHLIGHTS - NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### THE DODGERS LED THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE 10th STRAIGHT YEAR IN 2023

In 2023, the Dodgers had the best attendance in the Major Leagues for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year, and for the 32<sup>nd</sup> time since moving to Los Angeles in 1958. It was the 38<sup>th</sup> year the Dodgers have led the National League in attendance since then. They drew 3,837,079, averaging 47,371 per date. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> best total ever in the National League, and the 19<sup>th</sup> highest season total for Major League Baseball. 2023 total attendance was down 24,329 (0.6%) vs. 2022, and down 137,230 (3.5%) vs. 2019. The 2023 average per date fell 301 (0.6%) vs. 2022, and was down 1,695 (3.5%) vs. 2019.

76 dates drew 40,000+ in **2023**, and 26 dates topped 50,000, with an estimated 19 sellouts. Dodger Stadium hosted the largest MLB park regular season (53,057), and post-season (51,653) crowds. The Dodgers led MLB in combined home-road attendance (6,420,414 - 39,878 per date).

The Dodgers have surpassed 3 million in 25 of the last 26 'normal' years, and an MLB-best 35 times overall, and reached 3.5 million for the 17<sup>th</sup> time in 2023. Attendance has topped 2 million for 50 seasons in a row, including strike years, and 2021 and 2022. The Dodgers reached an average per date of at least 40,000 for the 18<sup>th</sup> time in the previous 19 years (includes 2021 full-capacity dates), and for the 26<sup>th</sup> time overall. 2023 was the 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive 'normal' year above 35,000, the 49<sup>th</sup> straight year above 30,000 per date, the 52<sup>nd</sup> year in a row above 25,000, and the 65<sup>th</sup> consecutive season above 20,000 per date.

In **2022**, the Dodgers won 111 games. It was just the 7<sup>th</sup> time in Major League history that a team had at least 110 wins, and only the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in the National League. The 1906 Cubs won 116 games, and lost 36. In the 3 combined full seasons of 2019, 2021, and 2022, the Dodgers had a Major League record 323 victories, breaking the record of 322 in 3 straight full seasons, set by the Chicago Cubs from 1906 through 1908.

**2021** was an unusual season, but the Dodgers were in their usual spot at the top of the MLB attendance standings. They drew an MLB-best 2,804,693, an average of 34,626 per date. The 48 dates with full-capacity permitted averaged 47,440 per date, with all but one drawing at least 40,000. 16 dates drew over 50,000, including an MLB season-high crowd of 53,114. 47 dates topped 40,000. There were 41 sellouts, including reduced-capacity sellouts. Allowed capacity was 15-16,000 through June 2, was then raised to 20,000, and full-capacity began on June 15.

The Dodgers also led MLB in 2021 road attendance (2,038,320 – 25,163 per date), and in combined home/road attendance (4,842,923 – 29,895 per date).

The 2019 Los Angeles Dodgers won the N.L. West, and set their team record for total attendance and average per date! (In 2020, the Dodgers had the best regular season record of any team, and won the World Series.)

# Dodger attendance was a 2019 Major League high, and team record-high 3,974,309, up 116,809 (3.0%), with one less date than in 2018, when the previous record was set. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest total ever for a National League team (1993 Rockies, 2008 Mets), and the 10<sup>th</sup> best total in MLB history.

2019 average per date rose 2,023 to a team record-high 49,066, topping the old mark of 47,618 in 2007. In addition, the Dodgers' combined home/road attendance was a Major League leading 6,681,929 (41,246 per date). They also drew the biggest 2019 home National League and U.S./Canadian regular season crowd (54,307), and the top post-season crowd (54,159). Boston had bigger crowds for 2 of their home games that were played in London.

The Dodgers had 28 sellouts in 2019 at Dodger Stadium, which has the largest capacity of any MLB ballpark. Attendance topped 50,000 at 39 dates, 62 dates surpassed 45,000, and every game drew over 40,000.

The 2019 Dodgers won 106 games, and had the highest attendance ever for a team with at least 100 wins. Following them on this list are the 1993 Braves (3,884,725), 2022 Dodgers (3,861,408), 2023 Dodgers (3,837,079), 2004 Yankees (3,775,292), and 2017 Dodgers (3,765,856).

In 2014, the Dodgers became the first team to reach 200 million in attendance since either 1900, or the inception of the franchise. This total includes 1900-1957, when the Dodgers were in Brooklyn.

#### 2023 ATTENDANCE -- TEAM HIGHLIGHTS - NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### **DODGERS NOTES** - continued

The 2013 Dodgers got off to a tough start on the field. But from June 22 through August 18, they won 42 of 50 games, leading to a National League West title. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, the 2013 Dodgers were just the 3<sup>rd</sup> team in MLB history to be at least 9½ games behind first place at some point in a season, yet still finished first by at least 10 games. Other teams to do it were the 1911 Philadelphia Athletics and the 1914 Boston Braves.

In terms of attendance, 2013 was also a great year for the Dodgers. They led all of Major League Baseball in home attendance, drawing 3,743,527, averaging 46,216 per date. Attendance rose 419,281 (12.6%) in 2013, the best total and percentage gain in the National League. There were 29 sellouts, the most since 1983, when 37 dates were sold out at Dodger Stadium. Attendance was over 50,000 at 34 dates, and 67 dates drew better than 40,000. Every single date topped 30,000.

The Dodgers also led the Majors in road attendance in 2013, drawing 2,863,366. They became the first National League team to lead the Majors in both home and road attendance in the same season since at least 1988, and they did it again in 2015, 2021, and 2022. Their 2019 combined home/road total of 6,681,929 was the highest in the Majors since the 2008 Yankees. The Dodgers had the highest 2022 road attendance of any team.

It was a big comeback in attendance for the Dodgers after 2011. 2022 attendance was 926,600 (31.6%) higher than it was in 2011. Ownership problems, and security concerns at Dodger Stadium, resulted in huge attendance losses in 2011.

Dodger attendance fell 627,512 (17.6%), the worst total and percentage decreases of any team in 2011. That drop in total attendance is now the 19<sup>th</sup> worst in MLB history. The 2011 total of 2,934,808 was their smallest since shorter-season 1995, and lowest for a full season since 1992. To top it off, the Dodgers were outdrawn by the Angels in a season for the first and only time. The Dodgers and Angels have shared the Los Angeles market since 1961.

But things turned around in 2012, as a new ownership group bought the team. It included Lakers basketball legend Magic Johnson, one of the most popular athletes in any sport, ever. Dodgers' 2012 attendance rose 389,438 (13.3%) to 3,324,246.

#### DODGERS ATTENDANCE HISTORY

Dodger Stadium, still in one of the most beautiful settings of any ballpark, celebrates its 63<sup>rd</sup> season in 2024, and has undergone considerable renovation over the past decade. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest ballpark in the Majors. Fenway Park in Boston opened in 1912, and Wrigley Field in Chicago opened in 1914.

The Dodgers have a 2,867-2,041 record at Dodger Stadium through 2023, which is a .584 winning percentage. Only the Yankees have a better home winning record (2,949-1,943, .603) since 1962.

The Dodgers have the highest attendance of any of the original 16 Major League franchises. They've drawn 231,727,048 since 1900, which includes 58 seasons (1900-1957) in Brooklyn. Since moving to Los Angeles in 1958, they've been the most successful team, by a good margin, in the Majors in terms of attendance.

This section will cover the attendance history of the Dodgers from Washington Park and Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, to the Memorial Coliseum and Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. It will also show that the Dodgers were a big draw on the road, especially in the late 1940's, and then again in the early to mid-1960's.

The Dodgers have always had one of the largest numbers of season tickets sold among Major League teams. It can be assumed that they sold many more tickets than what were shown in their official attendance figures through 1992, a period when 'no-shows' were not included in N.L. attendance. A good example of this is 1982, when the Dodgers had a team-record high of 42 games listed as sellouts. Yet only 12 of those games had an official attendance figure of at least 50,000. It is also possible that the Dodgers did not include discounted or free tickets in their official attendance figures. But it's certain that over 50,000 tickets were sold for many more than 12 games that year.

Dodger Stadium's capacity has always been listed as 56,000 in team publications. There have been some seating alterations at Dodger Stadium over the years, but that 56,000 figure has never been changed. The actual capacity of Dodger Stadium has probably been slightly above or below that figure at times. It is probably around 53,000 or 54,000 now.

#### 2023 ATTENDANCE -- TEAM HIGHLIGHTS - NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### SINCE MOVING WEST, THE DODGERS HAVE THE BEST ATTENDANCE OF ANY TEAM—BY FAR

- In their 65 years in Los Angeles (1958-2023, excludes 2020, when no fans were in attendance), the Dodgers have drawn 192,219,865, averaging 2,957,229 per season. No other team comes even close to those figures. The Yankees (156,807,205 and an average of 2,412,419 per season), and St. Louis (155,120,478 and an average of 2,386,469 per season), are next. Note that National League attendance excluded 'no-shows' until 1993.
- According to retrosheet.org, since 1958, the Dodgers have won more games (5,667) than any National League team. Only the Yankees (5,814) have more wins since 1958. 14 teams have been added to MLB since 1958.
- There is an average attendance per Major League team for each season. (Example: The 30 teams drew a total attendance of 70,747,365 in 2023, an average of 2,358,246 per team.) In each of the 65 years with attendance they've been in Los Angeles, the Dodgers have drawn above the average attendance per team for that year. In 59 of these seasons, they've outdrawn the MLB average per team by at least 500,000, and in 39 seasons, including 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2023, their attendance has been at least one million higher than the MLB average per team. The Dodgers also topped the MLB average per team in 18 of their final 20 years in Brooklyn, so they've done it in 83 of the last 85 seasons, going back to 1938.
- The old record for consecutive seasons drawing above the MLB season average per team was 50 by the Yankees from 1916 through 1965. Since 1958, St. Louis has drawn above the MLB average per team 54 times, the Yankees have also done it 54 times, and Boston has done it 50 times. These figures include 2021.
- The Dodgers have led all of Major League Baseball in attendance 32 times since 1958, including the last 10 seasons. They have been the National League leader 38 times, including 15 times in the last 19 seasons.
- The Dodgers have achieved 13 of the 20 highest season attendance totals in National League history.

#### ATTENDANCE IN THE 62-YEAR (1962-2023) HISTORY OF DODGER STADIUM

- The Dodgers have attracted 184,245,117 to 4,821 regular season playing dates (excludes 2020) at Dodger Stadium since its opening in 1962. That's an average of 3,020,412 per season, and 38,217 per date.
- From 1962 through **2023**, the combined average attendance per date for all other Major League teams is 24,868. During this period, Dodgers' average per date attendance was 13,349 (53.7%) higher than the combined average per date of all other teams.
- Since 1993, when 'no-shows' began to be included in National League attendance, the Dodgers have drawn an MLB-best 102,322,652, an average of 42,706 per date. Next on this list are the Yankees, who have drawn 96,809,612 since 1993. The Yankees, who've played 25 fewer dates than the Dodgers, have averaged 40,831 per date from 1993 through 2023. St. Louis has drawn 93,399,730 (39,096 per date) since 1993.
- In 1962, the Dodgers drew a then-Major League record 2,755,184, breaking the MLB mark of 2,620,627 set by Cleveland in 1948, and their own National League record of 2,253,887 in 1960.
- The Dodgers broke their own Major League attendance record again in 1977, 1978, and 1982. Colorado set the alltime Major League record in 1993, when they drew 4,483,350. That record still stands.
- The Dodgers have topped 2.4 million in every season since 1977, including 2021.
- In 1978, the Dodgers became the first team to top 3 million, drawing 3,347,845. They've now done it 35 times, including 15 years in a row from 1996 through 2010. Next in line for drawing 3 million through 2023 are the St. Louis Cardinals (25 times), the Yankees (23 times), the Giants (17 times), and the Angels (17 times).
- Dodger attendance has been over one million for 78 straight years, going back to their days in Brooklyn. It has been in excess of 2 million in each of the last 50 years, <u>including</u> strike seasons and 2021, and 58 times overall, including shortened seasons of 1981, 1994, and 1995. It has also topped 2.5 million 49 times, including 2021. These are all Major League records! Next in line for drawing 2 million through 2023 are the Yankees (45 times), St. Louis (41 times), and the Angels and Red Sox (38 times each).
- The largest season attendance at Dodger Stadium was 3,974,309 in 2019 (49,066 per date). That's now the 3<sup>rd</sup> best attendance ever for a National League team. It was also the highest total by an N.L. team since the Mets drew 4,042,043 in 2008.
- Largest season attendance prior to 1993 was 3,608,881 (45,111 per date) in 1982. If the current policy of counting 'no-shows' in the official attendance for National League teams was in place in 1982, that Dodger team might have been the first in the Major Leagues to officially draw 4 million.
- Smallest season total at Dodger Stadium was 1,581,093 in 1968, an average of 20,270 per date.
- Excluding 2021, the smallest full-season total since 1993 was 2,934,808 in 2011. This is the only season since 1995 that attendance was under 3 million.
- Dodger attendance rose for a National League record 7 straight years from 2001 through 2007.
- In Los Angeles, the Dodgers set new National League season attendance records in 1960, 1962, 1977, 1978, and 1982. That last mark was broken by Colorado in 1993.
- In 1967, Dodgers attendance declined 952,667 from 2,617,029 to 1,664,362. This was the biggest decline for a full season in Major League history. Los Angeles won the National League pennant in 1966. But after the season, star pitcher Sandy Koufax, who was a big draw, home and away, retired. In 1967, the Dodgers finished 28½ out of first place. The 36.4% attendance decline in 1967 was the worst percentage loss by a defending league champion since Detroit's attendance dipped by 38.4% in 1941.
- Retrosheet.com data shows the Dodgers averaged 38,217 for 21 games when Koufax was the starting pitcher at Dodger Stadium in 1966. They averaged 31,833 for all other home dates. Koufax's 20 road starts averaged 34,077 per date. The other 9 National League teams averaged 18,138 per date when Koufax wasn't the starter.

- The 1978 Dodgers were the first team to top 5 million in combined home and road attendance, drawing 5,494,204.
- There have been 99 post-season games at Dodger Stadium. The 4 National League Division Series games drew 208,631. The 33 Division Series games have drawn 1,750,584 (53,048 per game). The 36 Championship Series games attracted 1,969,286 (54,702 per game). Attendance at 27 World Series games was 1,498,542 (55,502 per game). Total attendance for all post-season games is 5,374,707 (54,290 per game).

## THE DODGERS vs. THE GIANTS

- On pages 215-216, there are notes about the high attendance the Giants had vs. the Dodgers when both teams were still in New York, and during their early years in San Francisco. The Dodgers drew big crowds for their home dates with the Giants as well. At the L.A. Coliseum, from 1958 through 1961, the 43 dates with the Giants drew an average of 38,137 per date, with 8 crowds above 50,000.
- In the first 5 years at Dodger Stadium (1962-1966), they averaged 49,077 per date for the 47 dates with the Giants (includes 2 playoff games to determine the N.L. championship in 1962), and 27 of those dates drew over 50,000. In 340 dates with all other teams from 1962 through 1966, the Dodgers averaged 30,549 per date.
- Between 1946 and 1957, the Brooklyn Dodgers averaged 23,698 per date at home vs. the Giants. They averaged 17,601 for home dates against all other National League opponents. From 1932 through 1945, the Dodgers averaged 17,948 per date at home vs. the Giants (Retrosheet.org data), and 10,449 against all other N.L. teams.
- Since they began to play each other in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the Dodgers have 1,269 wins, 1,282 losses, and 17 ties vs. the Giants. In their New York City days, the record was Dodgers 671 wins, Giants 722 wins, and those 17 ties. In their Media Guide, the Giants claim one less Brooklyn Dodger win. Since moving to California in 1958, the Dodgers have won 599 and lost 558 vs. the Giants.

## SMALL CROWDS AT DODGER STADIUM – Excludes 2021

- Due to their large season ticket base, the Dodgers have not had an official attendance of less than 20,000 at any game since the National League began to count 'no-shows' in its attendance in 1993.
- Just 17 dates had attendance under 20,000 from 1978 through 1992 when actual in-stadium attendance was used to announce attendance figures. 5 dates drew less than 20,000 in 1992, with the last one on September 26.
- There have been 15 under-10,000 Dodger crowds at Dodger Stadium. The last one was 9,926 on September 26, 1977. There were 5 sub-10,000 crowds in 1970, the most at Dodger Stadium in any year. In 4 seasons (1958-1961) at the Coliseum, there were 11 dates that drew less than 10,000. In the final season in Brooklyn, 15 dates at Ebbets Field, and 2 games in Jersey City (where the Dodgers played a few home games), drew under 10,000.

## BIG CROWDS AT DODGER STADIUM

- The largest crowd in the history of Dodger Stadium was 57,097 on Opening Day 2009.
- 16 regular season dates, and 12 post-season dates have drawn at least 56,000.
- Through 2023, there have been 838 crowds (741 regular season, 97 post-season) of at least 50,000 at Dodger home games. In addition, the Angels drew at least 50,000 at 4 dates in 1962, their first year playing at Dodger Stadium. The Angels did not draw any crowds that large in their other seasons (1963-65) at Dodger Stadium.
- The highest number of 50,000+ crowds in a regular season prior to 1993 was 22 in 1978. There were 16 crowds that large in 1977. There were no crowds of at least 50,000 in 1967, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, and 1992. Attendance in these seasons excluded 'no-shows.'
- Starting in 1993, when 'no-shows' are included, the largest number of regular season 50,000+ crowds was 39 in 2019. There were 36 dates with announced attendance of at least 50,000 in 2022, 34 in 2013, 32 in 2004, 31 in 2009, and 30 in 2007. The fewest number of dates with attendance above 50,000 was 5 in 2011.

#### **OPENING DAY IN LOS ANGELES**

• Attendance on Opening Day at Dodger Stadium has topped 50,000 every year, except reduced-capacity 2021, since the National league began to include 'no-shows' in its figures starting in 1993. Opening Day **2024** drew 52,667. From 1958 to 1992, when the turnstile count, and not tickets sold, determined official National League attendance, there were 10 home openers that drew at least 50,000. The first home opener in 1958 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum drew 78,762, which at that point was the largest crowd ever at a National League game. That record was topped by Colorado, who drew 80,227 to their first Home Opener in 1993.

#### AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE

- Average attendance per date has been above 20,000 every year in Los Angeles. It has topped 30,000 every year since 1974, and 53 times overall. The Dodgers have averaged at least 25,000 per date for the past 52 seasons.
- Except for 2021, average per date has been above 35,000 each year since 1993. It has topped 40,000 in 26 seasons, including 17 of the last 18 'normal' years through 2023.

#### SELLOUTS

• There have been 599 sellouts at Dodger Stadium from 1982 through 2023, including reduced-capacity 2021 sellouts. The most in a season was 42 in 1982. There were 37 sellouts in 1983, 29 in 2013, and 28 in 2019. There were 41, including those with reduced capacity, in 2021 Dodger Media Guides didn't list the number of sellouts prior to 1982.

#### TICKET PRICES

- The Dodgers kept ticket prices low in the first 15 years at Dodger Stadium. The 1962 prices of \$5.50 for Dugout and Club Level seats, \$3.50 for Box seats, \$2.50 for Reserved seats, \$1.50 for General Admission, and \$1.00 for Pavilion (Bleacher) seats were not raised until either 1976 or 1977. At that time, the price for Box Seats and Pavilion seats rose by \$1.00, and the cost of a Reserved or General Admission ticket went up 50 cents. (Source: The Sporting News Dope Book)
- The price of a Dodger Yearbook was 50 cents from the early 1950's through 1973. The price was raised to \$1.00 in 1974, to \$1.50 in 1979, and to \$2.00 in 1981. They sold the 2014 Yearbook for \$20. The 2018 Yearbook was \$15.

#### RAINOUTS AT DODGER STADIUM – THERE WAS ONE IN 2023

- There have been only 23 rainouts at Dodger Stadium, 18 for Dodgers home games, and 5 for Angels home games.
- The first Dodger rainout was in 1967, and the next was in 1976. Prior to 2023, the last one was on April 17, 2000, and there had been just 2 rainouts since 1988, when 3 straight games were rained out in April. From 2000, until August 19, 2023, there had been 1,925 straight dates for the Dodgers, including 2020 and post-seasons, but excluding exhibition games, without a rainout. There have been rain delays since 2000, including 2 in April, 2024.

#### OTHER DODGER STADIUM NOTES

- Dodger Stadium was the first Major League ballpark built with private funding since Yankee Stadium opened in 1923. The next park built privately was Oracle Park in San Francisco, which opened in 2000.
- Dodger Stadium is built on top of an earthquake fault (The Elysian Fault).
- The first full-color video board in the Major Leagues was installed in Dodger Stadium in 1980.
- Dodger Stadium hosted the All-Star Game in 1980 and 2022. The 1959 Game was played at the L.A. Coliseum.

#### OTHER DODGER STADIUM NOTES

- There are 16,000 parking spots, and a service station, in the Dodger Stadium parking lots.
- An estimated 2 million Dodger Dogs are sold each year at Dodger Stadium.
- Two of baseball's legendary announcers have been associated with the Dodgers for a long time. Hall-of-Famer Vin Scully, considered to be the greatest baseball broadcaster ever, completed his 67<sup>th</sup> and final season with the team in 2016. Hall-of-Famer Jaime Jarrin, the Spanish language voice of the team, was a Dodger broadcaster for 64 years, through 2022, after which he retired. His son Jorge, was one his broadcast partners from 2012 through 2020.
- On April 30, 2014, the Dodgers earned their 10,000<sup>th</sup> win in team history (Sources: Elias Sports Bureau and Baseball Almanac). Other teams with at least 10,000 wins are the Braves, Giants, Cubs, Cardinals, Reds, Pirates, Phillies, and Yankees, who in 2015, became the first American League team to reach 10,000 wins. The American League began Major League play in 1901, which is later than the National League teams noted here began.
- In November, 2022, Elton John's last 3 North American concerts drew a total of nearly 150,000 to Dodger Stadium.

#### THE ANGELS AT DODGER STADIUM

- The Angels played at Dodger Stadium from 1962 through 1965.
- Highest attendance for the Angels was 1,144,063 (15,254 per date) in 1962. Lowest attendance was 566,727 (8,213 per date) in 1965. The Angels drew 1,400,000 (18,186 per date) in 1966, their first season in Anaheim (now Angel) Stadium.
- The Dodgers were far more popular than the Angels at Dodger Stadium. From 1962 through 1965, the Dodgers drew a total of 10,076,114 in 309 regular season dates, an average of 32,609 per date. The Angels drew 3,292,244 in 290 dates, an average of 11,353 per date.
- The Yankees were a big attraction for the Angels. In 1962, the Angels averaged 44,834 for their 9 dates with the Yankees. In 66 dates against all other teams, they averaged 11,221. In their 4 years at Dodger Stadium, the Angels averaged 30,526 for 36 dates with the Yankees, and 8,635 for 254 dates with all other teams.

#### THE DODGERS AT THE LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

- The Dodgers played at the Coliseum in their first 4 years in Los Angeles (1958-1961). They drew a total of 7,974,738 (27,125 per date) in that facility. During those 4 years, there were 12 crowds that exceeded 60,000. In 1960, they drew 2,253,887, which was a new National League record-high at that time.
- In the 1959 World Series, the Dodgers drew 92,394, 92,650, and 92,706 for the 3 games there. Those are the largest post-season crowds in Major League Baseball history. They also drew 115,300 in 2008 at the Coliseum for an exhibition game with the Red Sox. That is the largest American baseball crowd ever. In 1959, an exhibition game honoring Hall-of-Famer Roy Campanella drew 93,103.
- The Coliseum was designed for the Olympics and for football, and so it had rather unusual outfield dimensions, including a very short left field. It was said that the Coliseum had enough room for more than 90,000 fans, but just 2 outfielders.

#### THE N.H.L. AT DODGER STADIUM

• On January 25, 2014, the Los Angeles Kings and Anaheim Ducks of the National Hockey League played at Dodger Stadium. The game drew 54,099.

#### BROOKLYN DODGERS ATTENDANCE NOTES

The Dodgers called Brooklyn home through the 1957 season, and played at Ebbets Field starting in 1913. They had played in Washington Park in Brooklyn through 1912. Brooklyn was an independent city until becoming a borough of New York City in 1898.

Brooklyn first topped 500,000 in a season in 1920, when they drew 808,722, averaging 11,232 per date. That was also the first year their average per date reached 10,000. The Dodgers drew one million for the first time in 1930, drawing 1,097,329. They also surpassed one million in 1941, 1942, and each year from 1945 through 1957.

The Dodgers were the only team in the Major Leagues who topped one million each season from 1945 through 1957. The Yankees did it each year from 1946 through 1957. Detroit did it in all but one year from 1945-1957, and the Red Sox topped one million 11 times in 12 years from 1946-1957. The St. Louis Cardinals were next highest to the Dodgers in the National League, topping one million 9 times from 1946 through 1957.

Lowest post-1900 attendance in Brooklyn was 83,831 (1,863 per date) for the shorter 1918 season. That is the only season in Dodger history that they've had the lowest attendance in the National League. For a full season, the low was 122,671 (1,947 per date) in 1914, a year when Brooklyn also had a Federal League team. The post-1945 low was 1,020,531 (14,579 per date) in 1954.

The Dodgers set a new National League season attendance record when they drew 1,796,824 in 1946. They broke that record the following season.

Highest attendance in Brooklyn was 1,807,526 (25,458 per date) in 1947, which was Jackie Robinson's first year with the Dodgers. Average per date was above 20,000 in 1946, 1947, and 1949. The Dodgers never led the National League in attendance until 1940. But in their final 18 seasons in Brooklyn (1940-1957), they had the highest total home attendance in the N.L. 10 times.

In 1956, the Dodgers played 7 home dates at Roosevelt Stadium in Jersey City, NJ. Those games drew an average of 21,196 per date. The 60 dates at Ebbets Field that year averaged 17,753 per date. In 1957, the Dodgers played 8 dates in Jersey City, averaging 15,924 per date there. The 59 dates at Ebbets Field drew an average of 15,269 per date. Seating capacity at Ebbets Field was around 32,000.

The Dodgers hoped to build a new domed stadium in Downtown Brooklyn, but that facility never came to pass. Ironically, in 2012, a new indoor arena, the Barclays Center, opened on that site. It is currently home to the Brooklyn Nets of the NBA, and starting in 2015, the NHL New York Islanders, played there. The 2019-20 season was the final one at Barclays for the Islanders. They played all 2020-21 games at their rebuilt former home, the Nassau Coliseum, and moved to the new UBS Arena on the grounds of Belmont Park Racetrack, for the 2021-22 season.

Pro baseball returned to Brooklyn in 2001 when the Minor League Brooklyn Cyclones of the New York-Penn League began to play in a new park right next to the beach at Coney Island. The Cyclones, who are affiliated with the New York Mets, led all short-season Minor League teams (76-game schedule), in 15 of the first 19 seasons they played through 2019. They are now a High-A full-season team in the South Atlantic League. The Cyclones hold the record for the highest season attendance by a short-season team (a total of 317,124, and an average per date of 8,345, in 2002), and regularly outdrew Minor League teams that played a full season.

#### DODGERS WERE A BIG DRAW ON THE ROAD

The Dodgers were a very popular opponent when it came to attracting fans on the road in the late 1940's and early 1950's. This was the era of Jackie Robinson, and "The Boys of Summer." The Dodgers won National League pennants in 1947, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, and 1956. Their won Brooklyn's only World Championship in 1955. The Dodgers of the mid-1960's, led by the great pitching duo of Sandy Koufax and Don Drysdale, were also a very big draw on the road.

On pages 142-144 in this report, home and road attendance for the Yankees from 1947 through 1966 was compared with attendance for other Major League teams. Here, the same will be done for the Dodgers, covering 1947 through 1966. The individual game attendance figures are from Retrosheet.org, and may not be official.

Between 1947 and 1966, the Dodgers outdrew the Yankees in road total attendance in 1947, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1953, 1954, 1965, and 1966, and outdrew them in road average per date in 1947, 1948, 1965, and 1966.

DODGER HOME ATTENDANCE, ROAD ATTENDANCE, AND COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE – 1947-1966 (Home games played in Brooklyn – 1947-1957, Jersey City (7 in 1956, 8 in 1957), Los Angeles – 1958-1966)

This first table shows Dodgers' home, road, and combined home and road attendance, and average attendance per date for each season from 1947 through 1966. Road figures for 1958-1962, and 1964-1966 are from the 2014 Dodgers Media Guide. All other road figures were compiled from individual game attendance published on Retrosheet.org, and may not be official. Attendance was missing from the retrosheet.org data for a few games, and was obtained from articles and box scores in The New York Times and Brooklyn Daily Eagle archives.

The L.A. Coliseum and Dodger Stadium are much larger than Ebbets Field was. Dodger attendance was higher on the road than in Brooklyn each year from 1947 through 1957. In Los Angeles, Dodger home attendance has been higher than their road attendance for all 65 seasons with attendance.

In 1961, the American League added 2 teams and 8 games to the schedule, and the National League did the same thing in 1962. Until expansion, teams played the other 7 teams in their league 11 times at home and 11 times away each year. After the first expansion, teams opposed the other 9 teams in their league 9 times at home and 9 times away every season. Unbalanced schedules began with the next expansion in 1969, when 2 teams were added to both leagues, and each league was split into 2 divisions. Teams then were scheduled for 9 home and 9 away games with each team in their own division, and for 6 home and 6 away games with teams in the other division.

DODGER HOME ATTENDANCE	<u>, ROAD ATTENDANCE</u>	, AND COMBINED HOME/ROA	<u> D ATTENDANCE – 1947-1966</u>

[	DODGERS HOME ATTEND.				DODGERS ROAD ATTEND.			COMBINED DODGERS HOME/ROAD			
	Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./		Total	# of	Avg./
Year	Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date		Attendance	Dates	Date
1947	1,807,526	72	25,105		1,874,134	70	26,773		3,681,660	142	25,927
1948	1,398,967	73	19,164		1,624,325	64	25,380		3,023,292	137	22,068
1949	1,633,747	77	21,217		1,837,343	73	25,169		3,471,090	150	23,141
1950	1,185,896	71	16,703		1,616,808	70	23,097		2,802,704	141	19,877
1951	1,282,628	69	18,589		1,622,967	74	21,932		2,905,595	143	20,319
1952	1,088,704	70	15,553		1,344,136	67	20,062		2,432,840	137	17,758
1953	1,163,419	67	17,364		1,446,463	71	20,373		2,609,882	138	18,912
1954	1,020,531	70	14,579		1,626,497	72	22,590		2,647,028	142	18,641
1955	1,033,589	66	15,660		1,576,288	70	22,518		2,609,877	136	19,190
1956	1,213,562	67	18,113		1,557,098	68	22,899		2,770,660	135	20,523
1957	1,028,258	67	15,347		1,569,734	72	21,802		2,597,992	139	18,691
1958	1,845,556	70	26,365		1,160,807	69	16,823		3,006,363	139	21,629
1959	2,071,045	74	27,987		1,294,229	71	18,229		3,365,274	145	23,209
1960	2,253,887	75	30,052		1,380,121	72	19,168		3,634,008	147	24,721
1961	1,804,250	75	24,057		1,249,762	73	17,120		3,054,012	148	20,635
1962	2,755,184	78	35,323		1,593,665	77	20,697		4,348,849	155	28,057
1963	2,538,602	76	33,403		1,634,842	78	20,960		4,173,444	154	27,100
1964	2,228,751	77	28,945		1,562,734	76	20,562		3,791,485	153	24,781
1965	2,553,577	78	32,738		1,918,669	75	25,582		4,472,246	153	29,230
1966	2,617,029	78	33,552		2,141,212	77	27,808		4,758,241	155	30,698
Total	34,524,708	1,450	23,810		31,631,834	1,439	21,982		66,156,542	2,889	22,899

The Dodgers won the World Series in years shown in bold, and won the National League pennant in years in italics. They finished in a tie for the National League pennant in 1951 and 1962, but lost in a playoff series to the Giants in both of those years.

DODGER HOME ATTENDANCE, ROAD ATTENDANCE, AND COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE – 1947-1966 (Home games played in Brooklyn – 1947-1957, Jersey City (7 in 1956, 8 in 1957), Los Angeles – 1958-1966)

The next table shows Dodgers combined home and away attendance for each year from 1947 through 1966, and compares it with the Major League average per date each year for games <u>not involving the Dodgers</u>. It shows how much higher average per date was each year for games involving the Dodgers, compared to all other Major League games, by numerical increase, and by percentage increase.

For example in 1947, dates where the Dodgers were the home or visiting team had an average attendance of 25,927. Major League dates in 1947 not involving the Dodgers had an average attendance of 18,174. Dodger home or road dates in 1947 drew an average of 7,753 per date (42.7%) higher than all other Major League dates.

Overall during this 20-year period, dates involving the Dodgers drew an average of 7,773 more than games without the Dodgers. Dodger home or road dates drew an average of 51.4% higher than Major League dates that didn't involve the Dodgers. The Dodger home/road average per date was at least 40% higher than the average for the rest of Major League Baseball in 11 of these 20 years, and in 5 of these years, that Dodger average was at least 80% higher. Dodger home/away dates averaged at least 10,000 more per date than other MLB dates in 5 of these 20 years.

#### DODGER COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO THE REST OF MLB ATTENDANCE-1947-1966

DODGER	COMBINED F	IOME/RO	DAD ATT.	REST OF MLB ATTENDANCE		D	ODGER H/R AVG. vs	<u>. MLB AVG.</u>	
								Dodger Avg. per	LAD %
Year	Total	# of	Avg./	Total	# of	Avg./		Date Above MLB	Above
	Attendance	Dates	Date	Attendance	Dates	Date		Avg. per Date (#)	MLB Avg.
1947	3,681,660	142	25,927	16,192,879	891	18,174		7,753	42.7
1948	3,023,292	137	22,068	17,897,550	917	19,518		2,550	13.1
1949	3,471,090	150	23,141	16,744,275	936	17,889		5,252	29.4
1950	2,802,704	141	19,877	14,660,273	902	16,253		3,624	22.3
1951	2,905,595	143	20,319	13,221,081	909	14,545		5,774	39.7
1952	2,432,840	137	17,758	12,200,204	911	13,392		4,366	32.6
1953	2,609,882	138	18,912	11,773,915	907	12,981		5,931	45.7
1954	2,647,028	142	18,641	13,288,855	922	14,413		4,228	29.3
1955	2,609,877	136	19,190	14,007,506	914	15,325		3,865	25.2
1956	2,770,660	135	20,523	13,772,590	927	14,857		5,666	38.1
1957	2,597,992	139	18,691	14,417,827	947	15,225		3,466	22.8
1958	3,006,363	139	21,629	14,454,267	952	15,183		6,446	42.5
1959	3,365,274	145	23,209	15,778,705	966	16,334		6,875	42.1
1960	3,634,008	147	24,721	16,277,481	958	16,991		7,730	45.5
1961	3,054,012	148	20,635	15,840,506	1,107	14,309		6,326	44.2
1962	4,348,849	155	28,057	17,026,366	1,273	13,375		14,682	109.8
1963	4,173,444	154	27,100	16,303,630	1,286	12,678		14,422	113.8
1964	3,791,485	153	24,781	17,488,856	1,277	13,695		11,086	80.9
1965	4,472,246	153	29,230	17,969,654	1,284	13,995		15,235	108.9
1966	4,758,241	155	30,698	20,423,968	1,292	15,808		14,890	94.2
Total	66,156,542	2,889	22,899	309,740,388	20,478	15,126		7,773	51.4

DODGER COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATT. REST OF MLB ATTENDANCE DODGER H/R AVG. vs. MLB AVG.

Sources for road attendance data and # of dates: Retrosheet.org, 2014 Dodgers Media Guide

The next table lists the total 1947-1966 total Dodger attendance in each National League city, other than Brooklyn (1947-1957), Jersey City (1956, 1957) and Los Angeles (1958-1966), along with the combined average per date. It also shows how much higher per date the other N.L. teams drew vs. the Dodgers, compared to their other opponents. It is expressed in both a number average, and a percentage increase.

For example, the Phillies averaged 20,633 for their home dates with the Dodgers. They averaged a combined 13,175 per date when they hosted all other N.L. teams. Dodger games in Philadelphia drew an average of 7,458 (56.6%) higher than Phillies home dates averaged with all other teams.

Another example: In the final 11 seasons that the Giants were in New York (1947-1957), they played 115 home dates with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Those games drew a combined total of 3,802,170, an average of 33,062 per date, with 34 dates drawing at least 40,000. The Giants had 601 home dates with all other regular season opponents. Combined attendance for those dates was 7,603,494, an average of 12,651 per date. So in those years, the Giants averaged 20,411 (161.3%) more per home date vs. Brooklyn, than their average per date for home games with all the other National League teams combined.

In their 2 years at Seals Stadium (1958-1959), a small facility, the Giants averaged 19,245 per date against the Dodgers, and 17,472 vs. all other teams. During the first 7 years at Candlestick Park (1960-1966), attendance for 68 dates with the Dodgers was a combined 2,419,658, an average of 35,583 per date, with 28 crowds above 40,000. The Giants hosted 532 dates with all other teams during this period, and they drew a combined 8,637,908, averaging 16,237 per date. From 1958 through 1966, the Giants averaged 31,589 for their home dates vs. the Dodgers. This was 13,223 (72.0%) higher per date than the average of 18,366 for Giants' home dates vs. all other teams.

Overall during these 20 years, National League teams averaged 21,965 per date when the Dodgers were the visiting team, and averaged 14,563 when hosting all other teams. Average per date vs. the Dodgers in N.L. cities other than Brooklyn or Los Angeles was 7,402 higher (50.8% higher) than it was for all other visiting teams combined. As noted earlier in the Yankees section, between 1947 and 1964, American League teams, on average drew 94.3% higher when hosting the Yankees than they did when hosting all other A.L. teams. It was 91.9% higher if the years 1965 and 1966 are added to this comparison.

Home Team	Years	Average Attendance per Home Date vs. Dodgers	Average Attend. Per Home Date vs. All Other N.L. Opponents	Dodger Avg./Dt. Above All Other Teams in That City (# Higher)	Dodger Avg./Dt. Above All Other Teams in That City (% Higher)
Boston Braves	1947-1952	18,973	13,085	5,888	45.0
Milwaukee Braves	1953-1965	24,818	20,488	4,330	21.1
Atlanta Braves	1966	36,943	18,020	18,923	105.0
New York Giants	1947-1957	33,062	12,630	20,432	161.7
San Francisco Giants	1958-1966	31,589	18,397	13,192	71.7
Chicago Cubs	1947-1966	16,344	12,447	3,897	31.3
Cincinnati	1947-1966	15,859	11,549	4,310	37.3
Philadelphia Phillies	1947-1966	20,633	13,175	7,458	56.6
Pittsburgh	1947-1966	18,447	14,810	3,637	24.6
St. Louis Cardinals	1947-1966	21,791	14,286	7,505	52.5
Houston Colts/Astros	1962-1966	23,918	15,347	8,571	55.8
New York Mets	1962-1966	37,151	20,170	16,981	84.2
National League Total	1947-1966	21,965	14,563	7,402	50.8

N.L. CITIES - ATTENDANCE vs. DODGERS, COMPARED TO ATTENDANCE vs. ALL OTHER TEAMS- 1947-1966

The National League total average attendance per date vs. the Dodgers shown in the table above is 17 less than the total in the table on page 203. This is because some of the road totals on that table were from the 2014 Dodger Media Guide, which did not break down the yearly totals by opponent. The average per date figures in the table above, were all compiled from individual game box score attendance published by Retrosheet.org.

#### YANKEE AND DODGER ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO ATTENDANCE FOR OTHER TEAMS - 1947-1966

As both the Yankees and Dodgers were big draws during these years, this page looks at their combined attendance for that 20-year period from 1947 through 1966. The table below lists both Yankees and Dodgers combined home and away attendance for each year from 1947 through 1966, and compares it with the Major League average per date each year for games <u>not involving the either the Yankees or the Dodgers</u>. It shows how much higher average per date was each year for games involving the Yankees or the Dodgers, compared to all other Major League games, by numerical increase, and by percentage increase.

Using 1947 once again as an example, dates where either the Yankees or the Dodgers were the home or visiting team had an average attendance of 27,085. Major League dates not involving the Yankees or the Dodgers had an average attendance of 16,450. The 1947 Yankee or Dodger home or road dates drew an average of 10,635 per date (64.7%) higher than all 1947 Major League dates that didn't involve either the Yankees or Dodgers.

During this 20-year period, dates involving the Yankees or Dodgers drew an average of 10,041 (73.4%) more than games without these 2 teams. The Yankee/Dodger home/road average per date was at least 44% higher than the average for the rest of MLB in each of these 20 years, and in 6 of these years, that average was at least 80% higher. Yankee/Dodger home/away dates averaged at least 10,000 more per date than other MLB dates in 8 of these 20 years.

In **2023**, the 318 home and road dates involving either the Yankees or Dodgers averaged 37,585 per date. All other **2023** MLB dates averaged 28,033. Those 318 dates involving either the Yankees or the Dodgers in 2023 drew an average of 9,552 (34.1%) higher than the 2,096 other Major League dates. These teams played each other 3 times in 2023 at Dodger Stadium. The games were all sellouts, and drew a total of 158,325.

# YANKEES AND DODGERS COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATTENDANCE COMPARED TO THE REST OF MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE-1947-1966

	YANKEES AND DODGERS						YANKEES/DODGERS HOME/				
	COMBINED HOME/ROAD ATT.				REST OF MLB ATTENDANCE			R	ROAD AVG. DATE vs. MLB AVG.		
	<b>T</b> (1)		A		Titil		A		Yankee/Dodger	Yankees/	
N/	Total	# of	Avg.		Total	# of	Avg.		Avg. per Date	Dodgers	
Year	Attendance	Dates	per		Attendance	Dates	per		Above MLB Avg.	% Above	
10.17		074	Date		10 50 1 500	=00	Date		per Date (#)	MLB Avg.	
1947	7,339,950	271	27,085		12,534,589	762	16,450		10,635	64.7	
1948	6,937,724	269	25,791		13,983,118	785	17,813		7,978	44.8	
1949	7,681,791	286	26,859		12,533,574	800	15,667		11,192	71.4	
1950	6,466,363	275	23,514		10,996,614	768	14,319		9,195	64.2	
1951	6,434,933	276	23,315		9,691,743	776	12,489		10,826	86.7	
1952	5,538,713	270	20,514		9,094,331	778	11,689		8,824	75.5	
1953	5,520,369	272	20,295		8,863,428	773	11,466		8,829	77.0	
1954	5,757,629	280	20,563		10,178,254	785	12,966		7,573	58.3	
1955	5,780,121	268	21,568		10,837,262	782	13,858		7,710	55.6	
1956	5,976,886	274	21,813		10,566,364	788	13,409		8,404	62.7	
1957	5,933,209	277	21,420		11,082,610	809	13,699		7,720	56.4	
1958	6,068,044	271	22,391		11,392,586	820	13,893		8,498	61.2	
1959	6,770,138	282	24,008		12,373,841	829	14,926		9,081	60.8	
1960	7,099,919	283	25,088		12,811,570	822	15,586		9,502	61.0	
1961	6,754,441	289	23,372		12,140,077	966	12,567		10,804	86.0	
	, ,		,		, ,		,		· ·		
1962	8,054,427	296	27,211		13,320,788	1,132	11,767		15,443	131.2	
1963	7,570,900	296	25,577		12,906,174	1,144	11,282		14,296	126.7	
1964	7,038,789	295	23,860		14,241,552	1,135	12,548		11,313	90.2	
1965	7,231,644	297	24,349		15,210,256	1,140	13,342		11,007	82.5	
1966	7,327,698	294	24,924		17,854,511	1,153	15,485		9,439	61.0	
	,,		,		.,	.,			-,		
Total	133,283,688	5,621	23,712		242,613,242	17,747	13,671		10,041	73.4	

#### FOLLOWING THEIR 2022 N.L. TITLE, PHILADELPHIA POSTS THE BIGGEST ATTENDANCE INCREASE OF 2023

When the Phillies have been successful on the field, incredible attendance at their games follows. After getting off to a tough start in 2022, the Phillies surprised the baseball world by winning the National League pennant. They made the playoffs again in 2023. This all led to their best attendance since 2012, with the biggest increase of any team.

The Phillies drew 3,052,605 in **2023**, up 775,869 (34.1%) vs. **2022.** Average per date was 38,158, up 9,699 (34.1%). There was one lost date, 4 postponements, and 26 sellouts. All games drew at least 27,000, 76 dates drew over 30,000, with 40 of them topping 40,000. The largest crowd of the year was 44,669. It was the 16<sup>th</sup> time in the last 19 'normal' seasons with a total above 2 million, and the 10<sup>th</sup> time in team history that 3 million was reached.

For **2023 vs. 2019**, total attendance is up 325,184 (11.9%), and average per date is up 4,486 (13.3%). Compared to **2015**, the 2023 attendance is up 1,221,525 (66.7%), with a 14,683 (62.5%) gain in average per date.

Philadelphia's total attendance rose 569,297 (26.4%) in **2019**, to 2,727,421. Average per date was up 6,354 to 33,672. **These were the best increases in the Majors for 2019**, and the top figures for the Phillies since 2013. 13 dates were sold out, 17 dates topped 40,000, 54 dates drew over 30,000, and every game drew at least 23,000. In 2018, the Phillies had a 252,770 (13.3%) increase. Attendance in Philadelphia was up 822,067 (43.1%) since 2017.

In 2015, Phillies' attendance took a big hit for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. Total attendance fell 592,772 (24.5%) to 1,831,080. Average per date was 23,475, down 6,449. These were the worst declines in the Major Leagues in 2015, and the lowest figures for the Phillies since 2002, excluding 2021. 3 home dates were lost due to weather.

Attendance had declined 588,551 (19.5%) in 2014, and 553,315 (15.5%) in 2013. This was the first time in Major League history that a team has suffered total attendance losses of at least 500,000 in 3 consecutive seasons. The 2009 and 2010 Mets, 2002 and 2003 Indians, and 1989 and 1990 Twins had 500,000+ declines in 2 straight years.

The Phillies' 3-year decline of 1,734,638 from 2012 to 2015, and 4-year decline of 1,849,638 (50.3%) from 2011 to 2015, were the largest total losses for a 3 or 4-year period in MLB history. Cleveland fell 1,726,377 from 2000 to 2003, and the Mets, who moved into a much smaller ballpark, saw their attendance drop by 1,799,240 from 2008 through 2012. Toronto experienced a 1,641,955 decrease from 2016 to 2019. But if the Phillies had not lost 3 home dates to rain in 2015, they might not have set these records. Average per date was 21,966 lower in 2015 than in 2011. To be fair, it has to be noted that the Phillies drew 3,680,718 in 2011, and 3,565,718 in 2012. So such large declines would have been very unlikely if the Phillies had not drawn so well 2011 and 2012.

In 2003 and 2004, the Phillies accomplished a positive attendance feat reached by just 7 other teams, when they had consecutive years of attendance increases of at least 500,000. The only other teams to do that were the 1984 and 1985 Mets, the 1987 and 1988 Twins, the 1988 and 1989 Blue Jays, the 1990 and 1991 White Sox, the 1991, 1992, and 1993 Braves, and the 2005 and 2006 Mets. More details about these teams can be found in the section that starts on page 263. The Phillies have seen attendance rise by at least 500,000 in 9 seasons, including 2019 and 2023, but excluding 2022 vs. 2021. No other team has posted such a large gain in one season so often. The Tigers and White Sox have each done it 8 times.

A couple of Phillies attendance streaks ended in 2013. Until April, they had drawn at least 40,000 for 313 straight dates, a streak that began on May 1, 2009. Later in the year, there were 5 dates with attendance under 30,000. That ended a 30,000+ streak of 469 dates in a row, going back to the 4<sup>th</sup> date of 2008. In Citizens Bank Park's first 11 seasons (2004-2014), only 2 dates, both in 2006, drew less than 20,000.

It had been a great attendance run for the Phillies until 2013! They led the Major Leagues in attendance for the first time ever in 2011, and did it again in 2012. They achieved a National League record sellout streak, which ended on August 6, 2012 after 257 straight sellouts (273 including post-season). This N.L. record streak was broken by the San Francisco Giants in 2014, and it continued through 2015, 2016, and into 2017. The Phillies had 62 sellouts in 2012.

2011 was an amazing attendance year! The Phillies drew a Major League best 3,680,718 (45,441 per date), setting a team record-high for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight season, and a National League record for consecutive games sold out! That sellout streak reached 204 on the last day of the regular season, breaking the National League record of 203 straight sellouts set by Colorado from 1995 to 1997.

#### PHILLIES NOTES - continued

In 2008, they won the World Series, drew 3,422,583, which was then, a team record-high, and was, and still is, also the best attendance ever for a National League World Series winner. (Toronto drew over 4 million in their World Championship years of 1992 and 1993.) 50 games were sold out. 2009 was an even better year than 2008 in terms of attendance, with a new team record-high of 3,600,693. 73 dates were sellouts, including the final 42 of the year. There were only 3 crowds below 40,000, all in April. In 2010, the Phillies drew another new team record-high of 3,647,249 to lead the National League in attendance for the first time since 1950. Every game was sold out.

The Phillies have surpassed 3 million in 9 of their 19 seasons with attendance at Citizens Bank Park, including 7 straight years from 2007 through 2013, plus 2004 and 2023. 1993 was the only year they drew 3 million at Veterans Stadium, their former home. That year, they had a streak of 20 straight dates with attendance of at least 40,000, drew over 50,000 at 16 dates, and set a then-team record of 8 sellouts.

Many years ago, the Phillies were pretty much ignored. From the inception of the team in 1883, the Phillies topped 500,000 only once until 1946. In 1916, they drew 515,365 (8,180 per date). There were only 6 seasons with attendance above 400,000, and just 15 years above 300,000, during this period. In 9 seasons between 1900 and 1938, attendance was under 200,000. Attendance never rose above 306,000 in any season from 1921 through 1942.

Between 1900 and 1945 (46 seasons), the Phillies drew a total of 12,633,260, an average of 274,636 per season and 4,472 per date. Average per date was less than 5,000 in 34 of 43 years from 1900 through 1942, and never reached 5,000 from 1928 through 1942. The Phillies played at a very run-down ballpark called the Baker Bowl, until moving in with the Athletics at Shibe Park (later named Connie Mack Stadium) in the middle of the 1938 season. Low attendance at Baker Bowl was 112,066 (1,868 per date) in 1902. The lowest attendance at Connie Mack Stadium for the Phillies was 207,177 (3,289 per date) in 1940.

Bad attendance wasn't the only problem for the Phillies. From 1918 through 1948, a 78-76 record in 1932 was their only winning year. The Phillies finished 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> in the 8-team National League 24 times in these 31 years.

In 1946, the Phillies improved from 46 wins to 69 wins. That was still a losing season, but attendance boomed. It rose 760,190 to 1,045,247. The 266.7% increase is the best percentage gain for any team in Major League history.

Attendance high for the Phillies at Connie Mack Stadium was 1,425,891 (19,533 per date) in 1964. The post-World War II low was 519,414 (7,316 per date) in 1969.

Moving to Veterans Stadium in 1971 brought big attendance gains. In the final 10 years (1961-1970) at Connie Mack Stadium, the Phillies drew a total of 8,680,777, averaging 12,313 per date. The first 10 years at The Vet had a total attendance of 21,238,637, an average of 27,872 per date. This was a 126.3% gain in average per date.

The Phillies topped one million just 6 times until they moved into Veterans Stadium in 1971. In the first season there, attendance was up 803,076 (113.4%) to 1,511,823. The Phils drew better than 1.5 million in all but 3 of the 33 seasons they played at The Vet. Overall, Philadelphia has now drawn at least 2 million 29 times.

Philadelphia's average per date reached 6,000 just 7 times from 1900 through 1945, and stayed below 10,000 as late as 1968, 1969, and 1970. Things have really turned around. Average per date first reached 20,000 in 1971. It was above that level every year at The Vet except for 1972, 1973, and 1997. Average per date was above 42,000 for the 5 seasons from 2008 through 2012 at Citizens Bank Park.

Highest attendance at Veterans Stadium was 3,137,674 (39,221 per date) in 1993. That year, Phillies' attendance rose 1,210,226, the 4<sup>th</sup> best total attendance gain in Major League history. Note that in 1993, 'no-shows' were included in the attendance in the National League for the first time. The average per date high was 39,500 in the shortened 1994 season. Lowest Veterans Stadium attendance was 1,343,329 (18,657 per date) in 1972. 14 regular season games, 21 post-season games, and 2 All-Star Games, drew over 60,000 at The Vet.

The Phillies have experienced a huge increase in attendance since their 2004 move to Citizens Bank Park, which has a much lower seating capacity than Veterans Stadium. Until 2015, attendance had been above 2.4 million every year at Citizens Bank Park. It topped 3 million for 7 years in a row from 2007 through 2013, and in 2004 and 2023. In 2004, the first year at Citizens Bank Park, attendance rose 1,026,739 (46.2%), the 10<sup>th</sup> best total gain ever in the Majors.

# ATTENDANCE COMPARISON – FIRST 19 YEARS AT CITIZENS BANK PARK VS. LAST 19 YEARS AT THE VET Excludes 2020, when no fans were in attendance, but does include 1994, 1995, and 2021

	Citizens Bank Park 2004-2023	Veterans Stadium 1985–2003	# GAIN CBP vs. The Vet	% Gain CBP vs. The Vet
# of Home Dates	1,524	1,463	61	4.2%
Seating Capacity	43,651 (a)	61,831	(18,180)	(29.4)
Total Attendance	52,461,106	37,328,085	15,133,021	40.5
Average per Season	2,761,111	1,964,636	796,475	40.5
Average per Date	34,423	25,515	8,908	34.9

(a) – Seating capacity reduced to 43,035 in 2018, and 42,792 in 2019 and 2021, and raised to 42,901 in 2022.
 'No-shows' were not included in National League attendance until 1993, which lowers the 1985-1992 figures at The Vet.

In the final 19 years (1985-2003) at The Vet, there were 156 crowds of at least 40,000 (41 of them in 1993). In the first 19 years at Citizens Bank Park, attendance has topped 40,000 at 609 regular season dates, with 403 full capacity sellouts, and 20 reduced-capacity sellouts in 2021.

In 2004, the Phillies became the first team to open a new Spring Training ballpark, and a new regular season ballpark in the same season.

A new scoreboard which is 152 feet wide and 86 feet high, was installed at Citizens Bank Park in 2023.

# A BASEBALL FIRST FOR THE PHILLIES, AND THEIR MINOR LEAGUE TEAMS

# The 2011 Philadelphia Phillies were the first team to ever lead Major League Baseball in attendance in the same year that one their Minor League affiliates led all of Minor League Baseball in attendance.

The Lehigh Valley IronPigs, who play in Allentown, PA, are the Triple-A farm team of the Phillies. (The name comes from 'Pig Iron' which is used to make steel.) They drew 628,925 in 2011, the best attendance in the Minor Leagues for the year. Never before had a team achieved the top attendance in the Minor Leagues in the same year that their parent Big League team led all of MLB in attendance.

A Major League team has led <u>its own league, but not all of the Majors</u>, in attendance in the same year that one of its affiliates had the best attendance in the Minor Leagues. It has occurred in these 7 seasons: 1931 and 1932 Yankees led the A.L. (Newark, NJ led the Minors); 1955 and 1956 Yankees (Denver); 1979 Yankees (Columbus, OH); 1980 Yankees (Class AA Nashville); 1999 Cleveland (Buffalo). No National League team has ever done this.

Two other Phillies affiliates, Reading of the Eastern League, and Clearwater of the Florida State League, led their leagues in total attendance in 2011, and Lakewood (now named Jersey Shore) had the best average per date in the South Atlantic League. The last time the Major League attendance leader had so many affiliates lead their leagues in attendance, was in 1987. That year, the St. Louis Cardinals led the Majors in attendance, and 4 of their farm teams topped their respective leagues.

# PHILLIES' MINOR LEAGUE AFFILIATES HAVE CONTINUED TO DRAW VERY WELL AFTER 2011

In **2012**, the Phillies led the Major Leagues in attendance again, and Lehigh Valley had the highest attendance among United States-based Minor League teams. Clearwater and Lakewood had the highest total attendance in their leagues. Reading led the Eastern League in average per date, but Richmond had the best total attendance in that league. In **2013**, Reading led the Eastern League in total attendance. Clearwater topped the Florida State League in both total attendance and average per date, and Lakewood did the same among South Atlantic League teams.

#### PHILLIES' MINOR LEAGUE AFFILIATES HAVE CONTINUED TO DRAW VERY WELL AFTER 2011

In **2014**, Lehigh Valley drew 614,888 (ranked 5<sup>th</sup> best in the Minors), averaging 9,042 per date (ranked 4<sup>th</sup>). Reading's Double-A record streak of 16 years in a row with attendance above 400,000 ended in 2014, when they drew 394,458. They still had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best total and average per date in the Eastern League. Clearwater's total attendance of 195,063 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest attendance ever in that league. Lakewood again led the South Atlantic League in both total attendance and average per date.

Lehigh Valley drew 613,815 in **2015**, averaging 8,769 per date. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> best total and 7<sup>th</sup> best average in the Minors. Reading was back over 400,000 again (417,010), and averaged 6,044 per date. Both of those figures were just short of Richmond's numbers for best in the Eastern League. Clearwater led the Florida State League as they drew 174,283. Their attendance was down from 2014, in part, due to playing 6 fewer dates. Lakewood drew 388,718, and averaged 5,634 per date, the top total and average in the South Atlantic League.

In **2016**, Lehigh Valley again had the 5<sup>th</sup> best total (611,015) and 7<sup>th</sup> best average per date (8,729). The IronPigs were the only Minor League team to top 600,000 in each year from 2008 through 2016. Reading finished on top of the Eastern League attendance standings with a total of 420,320, and an average of 6,092 per date. Clearwater attracted 181,594 (2,710 per date) to lead the Florida State League. Lakewood again had the best South Atlantic League total attendance (353,080) and average per date (5,350). Through 2016, the BlueClaws posted their league's best total attendance 14 times in their first 16 seasons, and in the 2 years they didn't have the league's highest total attendance, they still led the league in average per date. Lakewood didn't lead the SAL in either category in 2017. Greensboro did.

In **2017**, despite a decline, Lehigh Valley was 9<sup>th</sup> in the Minors in both total attendance and average per date. Reading led the Eastern League in total attendance (411,698) for the 11<sup>th</sup> time in the last 16 years, and also led in average per date (6,054). Clearwater drew 200,201, the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest attendance in their league's history.

In **2018**, Lehigh Valley finished 7<sup>th</sup> in total attendance and 9<sup>th</sup> in average per date in the Minor Leagues. Clearwater led the Florida State League. In **2019**, Lehigh Valley ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in total attendance, and 8<sup>th</sup> in average per date. Clearwater topped the Florida State League. Even though they didn't lead the Eastern League in 2019, Reading continued to draw very well. In **2021**, Lehigh Valley had the 7<sup>th</sup> best total attendance and 8<sup>th</sup> best average per date.

Lehigh Valley had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best **2022** total attendance and average per date among the 120 MLB-affiliated teams. The IronPigs posted the 2<sup>nd</sup> best numerical gain in total attendance and the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest average per date increase.

In 2023, the IronPigs had the highest total attendance of any Minor League team (567,322), and the best average per date (7,990) among MLB-affiliated teams. Their game attendance has exceeded their ballpark's seating capacity at 672 of 1,025 dates in team history. They do sell lawn seating and standing room tickets. Clearwater led the Florida State League for the 18<sup>th</sup> time in the last 19 years. Double-A Reading averaged at least 5,400 per date for the 27<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year.

# PHILADELPHIA STANDS ALONE

2024 is the 142<sup>nd</sup> season for the Phillies. They have the distinction of being the oldest, continuous, onenickname, one city, franchise in American professional sports.

# PHILADELPHIA SPORTS PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS HAVE LONGEVITY

Dan Baker has been the Phillies Public Address Announcer since 1972, longer than anyone in his position in Major League Baseball. He also served as the P.A. voice for the NFL Eagles from 1985 through 2013, and has handled P.A. duties at every Army-Navy game at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia.

Across Pattison Ave., Lou Nolan is the longest serving National Hockey League P.A. announcer, doing Flyers games since the 1972-73 season. He began his Flyers' career as a press box assistant in 1967-68, their first season.

The legendary Dave Zinkoff was the P.A. announcer for the NBA Philadelphia Warriors and 76ers from the NBA's inception in 1946 until his passing in 1985. He also served as the Phillies P.A. announcer at Shibe Park in the 1940's.

# DESPITE SOME RECENT DECLINES, THE GIANTS CONTINUE TO BE A VERY GOOD DRAW

The Giants had what would be for most teams, a pretty good year at the gate in **2023**. For the 22<sup>nd</sup> 'normal' year in a row, their attendance was above the Major League team average. Their total and average per date was 17<sup>th</sup> best among the 30 teams in the Majors in 2023. The Giants were #12 in average per date in 2022, #11 in 2019, #4 in 2018, # 3 in 2017, #4 in 2016, #3 in 2015, #4 in 2014, #3 in 2013, and #4 in 2012. Since moving to Oracle Park in 2000, the Giants have finished in the Top 5 in Major League attendance in 14 different seasons (2000-2005, 2011-2018). They had been in the Top 12 in MLB total attendance in every season from 2000 through 2022.

Total **2023** attendance was 2,500,153, up 17,467 (0.7%) vs. **2022**, but down 207,607 (7.7%), vs. **2019**. Average per date was 30,866 in **2023**, up 216 (0.7%) vs. **2022**, and down 2,563 (7.7%) vs. **2019**. There were 3 sellouts, 46 dates drew over 30,000, with 24 dates above 35,000. Top crowd was 40,711.

In 2010, the Giants won their first World Series since moving to San Francisco in 1958. It only took them until 2012 to win another World Series, and then in 2014, they were World Champions once again. This was the 8<sup>th</sup> World Series victory for the Giants franchise, including 5 wins when the team was in New York. The only teams with more World Series wins are the Yankees (27 times), Cardinals (11), Red Sox (9), and the Athletics (5 wins in Philadelphia and 4 in Oakland, for a total of 9).

The only teams with at least 3 World Series wins in a 5-year period are the: 1910, 1911, and 1913 Philadelphia Athletics; 1912, 1915, 1916, and 1918 Boston Red Sox; 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, and 1943 New York Yankees; 1947, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1956, 1958, 1961, and 1962 Yankees; 1972, 1973, and 1974 Oakland Athletics; 1996, 1998, 1999, and 2000 Yankees; 2010, 2012, 2014 Giants.

**2019** Giants' total attendance was down 448,425 (14.2%) to 2,707,760, and average per date fell 5,536 to 33,429. These were the biggest declines in the National League. It was the lowest Giants' attendance in their first 20 years at Oracle Park, but was still 79.75% of Oracle Park's seating capacity. Overall, MLB drew 66.69% of seating capacity in 2019. The smallest crowd of the year was 26,627, and the biggest was 41,909. There were 2 sellouts, and 67 dates topped 30,000. But 14 dates drew under 30,000, a rarity in Oracle Park's history.

The Giants drew at least 35,000 at 659 straight regular season games, plus 25 post-season games, for a total of 684 games, from September 2010, through Opening Day 2019, after which the streak ended. The Major League record for consecutive regular season games with attendance above 35,000 is 666 by Colorado from their first home game in April, 1993, through July 31, 2001. The Rockies also had 2 post-season games during that time. The longest combined regular and post-season streak of games drawing at least 35,000 is 687 (655 regular season games, plus 32 post-season games) by the New York Yankees from September 29, 2004 through April 13, 2013.

The Giants' had a historic sellout streak that ran from October 1, 2010, through July 9, 2017, as all 530 regular season, and 25 post-season games during this period were sold out. That sellout streak was the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest in Major League history, the longest ever in the National League, and the 9<sup>th</sup> longest in North American pro sports. The old National League record for consecutive sellouts was 257 regular season dates (plus 16 in the post-season) by the Phillies from 2009 through August, 2012. The Giants also sold out every game in 2000.

The only longer sellout streaks in North American pro sports have been: Dayton (Minor League Baseball) – 1,507 regular season dates through 2023 (2021 was excluded from this streak.); Boston Red Sox (820); from the NBA: Dallas (a current streak of 951 and still active at the end of the 2023-24 regular season); Portland (814); Boston Celtics (662); Chicago (610); and from the NHL: Pittsburgh – 633 games, which ended in October, 2021, and Boston – 630 games through their 2023-24 playoff run. Montreal had a 583-game streak that ended on October 15, 2018. Other than Dayton, these figures include post-season playoff games.

The Boston Red Sox' streak of 820 sellouts in a row (794 regular season plus 26 in the post-season) ran from May, 2003 through Opening Day 2013. Cleveland sold out 455 straight regular season dates, and 27 post-season dates, from June 12, 1995 through Opening Day 2001. The Dayton Dragons' streak, which began in 2000, is the longest sellout streak by any North American sports team. It includes all regular season games that team has played, excluding 2021.

Oracle Park was the first privately financed Major League ballpark since Dodger Stadium opened in 1962. The park has been a huge success. Attendance has topped 3 million 17 times in the 23 seasons with attendance. The only teams that have drawn over 3 million more often than the Giants have been the Dodgers (35 times), St. Louis (25), and the Yankees (23). All those teams play in bigger capacity ballparks than Oracle Park.

2012 was the 6<sup>th</sup> time that the Giants outdrew the Dodgers since both of these teams moved to California in 1958. The Giants also finished ahead of their Southern California rivals in the attendance race each year from 2000 through 2003, and in 2011. The Dodgers moved back ahead from 2013 to 2023, leading MLB in attendance in all 10 years.

From 2000 through 2007, and again from 2010 through 2018, the Giants topped 3 million every year. The only other teams to achieve at least 8 seasons in a row with attendance above 3 million are the Dodgers (1996-2010) and (2012-2019, plus 2022 and 2023), Colorado (1993-2001), the Angels (2003-2019), St. Louis (2004-2019, plus 2022 and 2023), the Cubs (2004-2011), and the Yankees (2000-2019, plus 2022 and 2023). The Giants had topped <u>2 million</u> only 3 times until they moved into Oracle Park in 2000.

# MORE ORACLE PARK NOTES

- Oracle Park (cost-\$357 million), was the first privately financed MLB park since Dodger Stadium opened in 1962.
- Oracle Park opened on April 11, 2000, when it was named Pacific Bell Park. The name became SBC Park on January 1, 2004, was then changed to AT&T Park on March 1, 2006, and was renamed Oracle Park for 2019.
- 2019 listed seating capacity for Oracle Park, at 24 Willie Mays Plaza, was 41,915. It was 41,331 in 2021 and 2022, 40,260 in 2023, and is 42,300 in 2024. Total Oracle Park regular season attendance is 70,667,334 through 2023.
- 1,009 of the 1,620 (62.3%) regular season dates (2000-2019) at Oracle Park were sellouts.
- 1,024 of the 1,863 (55.0%) regular season dates (2000-19, and 2021-23) at Oracle Park have been full-capacity sellouts (excludes reduced capacity sellouts in 2021, but does include 3 full-capacity sellouts).
- 1,021 of 1,782 (57.3%) regular season dates (2000-2023, but excluding 2021) at Oracle Park were sellouts.
- 1,589 of the 1,620 (98.1%) regular season dates (2000-2019) attracted at least 30,000.
- 1,697 of the 1,863 (91.1%) regular season dates (2000-2019, and 2021-2023) have attracted at least 30,000.
   61 of the 166 dates with attendance of less than 30,000 took place in 2021, when restrictions reduced Oracle Park's capacity to less than 30,000 at 34 dates. Attendance was under 30,000 at 35 dates in 2023.
- Excluding 2021, but including 2022 and 2023, 1,677 of the 1,782 (94.1%) of regular season dates at Oracle Park have drawn at least 30,000.
- In their first 20 years (2000-19) at Oracle Park, the Giants averaged 39,509 per date. This is 94.3% of capacity.
- In their first 23 seasons at Oracle Park (excludes 2020, but includes 2021 through 2023) the Giants have averaged 37,932 per date. This is 90.8% of capacity. (Capacity pro-rated 41,915 from 2000-2019, 41,331 in 2021 and 2022, and 40,260 in 2023, averages 41,792 per season.)
- **Excluding 2021**, the Giants have drawn 68,987,850 in 22 seasons with attendance at Oracle Park, averaging 38,714 per date for 1,782 dates played. This is 92.6% of capacity pro-rated at 41,814.
- Since Oracle Park opened in 2000, through 2019, the Major League average attendance per date for all teams combined, including home dates for the Giants, was 30,243. The Giants' 2000-2019 average per date was 9,266 (30.6%) per date higher than the combined 2000-2019 MLB average per date for all 30 teams. Only 48 dates at Oracle Park drew less than that 30,243 MLB average (5 dates in 2008, 20 in 2009, 8 in 2010, and 15 in 2019), through 2019.
- Since Oracle Park opened in 2000, through 2023, and INCLUDING 2021, the Major League average attendance per date for all teams combined, including home dates for the Giants, is 29,565. The Giants' 2000-2023 average per date is 8,367 (28.3%) per date higher than the combined 2000-2023 MLB average per date for all 30 teams. Through 2023, only 162 dates at Oracle Park have drawn less than that 29,565 MLB average (12 dates in 2009, 5 in 2010, 12 in 2019, 60 in 2021, which includes reduced capacity dates, 39 in 2022, and 34 in 2023). Dates played in 2020, when no fans were in attendance, are not included when figuring average per date figures.

- Since Oracle Park opened in 2000, through 2023, but EXCLUDING 2021, the MLB average per date for all teams combined, including Giants' home dates, is 30,046. The Giants' 2000-2019 plus 2022 and 2023 average per date is 8,668 (28.8%) per date higher than combined 2000-2019 plus 2022 and 2023 MLB average per date for all 30 teams.
- If Giants home dates are excluded, the Major League average attendance per date for the other 29 teams, from 2000-2019 was 29,922. The Giants 2000-2019 average per date was 9,587 (32.0%) per date higher than the MLB 2000-2019 combined average per date for the other 29 teams. Just 31 Oracle Park dates (12 in 2009, 5 in 2010, and 14 in 2019) drew less than that 29,922 2000-2019 MLB average.
- If Giants home dates are excluded, the Major League average attendance per date for the other 29 teams, from 2000-2023, INCLUDING 2021 is 29,275. The Giants 2000-2023 average per date is 8,657 (29.6%) per date higher than the MLB 2000-2023 combined average per date for the other 29 teams. Dates played in 2020, when no fans were in attendance, are not included when figuring average per date figures.
- If Giants home dates are excluded, the Major League average attendance per date for the other 29 teams, from 2000-2023, but EXCLUDING 2021, is 29,746. The Giants 2000-2019, plus 2022 and 2023 average per date is 8,968 (30.1%) per date higher than the MLB 2000-2019, plus 2022 and 2023 combined average per date for the other 29 teams. Dates played in 2020, with no fans in attendance, are not included when figuring average per date figures.
- In each of their first 20 seasons at Oracle Park (2000-2019), Giants' attendance had been higher than it ever was in any of their 40 seasons at Candlestick Park. They were the only MLB team whose attendance had been higher in every season in their current park, until 2021, 2022 and 2023, than it ever was in their former park, among teams that moved to a new park after 1973. Kansas City has had higher attendance in all 50 seasons at Kaufman Stadium (excludes 2020, which had no attendance, but does include 2021), than they had in any of their 4 seasons at Municipal Stadium (1969-1972).
- Only one season at Candlestick Park had higher attendance than the 2,500,153 that the Giants drew in 2023. The 1993 Giants drew 2,606,354, averaging 32,177 per date. The next highest Candlestick Park attendance was in 1999, when the Giants drew a total of 2,078,399, and averaged 25,659 per date.
- In 2015, the Giants surpassed 50 million in attendance at Oracle Park. At that time, they had reached this level faster than at any ballpark in Major League history. This total was achieved in Oracle Park's 16th season, and on the 1,261st regular season date played there. The old record was held by Baltimore, who reached 50 million at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in 1,311 dates, and in that park's 17th season. St. Louis broke this record in 2022, reaching 50 million in their 1,221st date at Busch Stadium III. St. Louis, San Francisco, Baltimore, Colorado, and Toronto are the only teams to reach 50 million in attendance at a ballpark in less than 1,500 regular season dates. Philadelphia was added to this list in 2023.
- In 2018, the Giants surpassed 60 million in attendance at Oracle Park. Again, it was faster than any other ballpark to reach this level. Total Oracle Park regular season attendance is 70,667,334 through 2023.
- In 2023, the Giants surpassed 70 million in attendance at Oracle Park. Oracle Park reached that milestone faster than any other park, doing it in season #23 (2020 does not count). Coors Field, previously had been the fastest to 70 million, reaching it in 2019 (season #25). Baltimore, Toronto, and the Dodgers, all reached 70 million in their current park in season #27. The Yankees did it in season #29, in the rebuilt Yankee Stadium (1976-2008).
- Largest regular season crowd at Oracle Park was 43,503 vs. the Yankees on June 24, 2007. The biggest postseason crowd was 44,046 on October 8, 2010 for a National League Division Series game with Atlanta.
- Excluding 2021, the smallest crowd was 20,039 on May 9, 2022. The only games that drew less than 30,000 at Oracle Park have been in 2009 (12 dates), 2010 (5 dates), 2019 (14 dates), 2022 (39 dates), and 2023 (35 dates) for a total of 105 dates. This excludes 2021, when 61 dates drew under 30,000.
- Highest season attendance at Oracle Park is 3,387,303 (41,819 per date all sellouts) in 2011.
- Attendance has topped 3 million in 17 of the 23 years at Oracle Park, including 8 straight years from 2000 through 2007, and in 9 straight years from 2010 through 2018. The only teams with a 9-season or longer streak of 3 million seasons are the Dodgers (1996-2010), Yankees (2000-2019, plus 2022 and 2023), Angels (2003-2019), Cardinals (2004-2019, plus 2022 and 2023), and Rockies (1993-2001). No team drew at least 3 million in 2021. The Dodgers, Yankees, Cardinals, Braves, Blue Jays, Astros, Phillies, and Padres drew at least 3 million in 2023.

- The Giants have topped 3 million in 17 seasons. The only teams to draw 3 million more often than the Giants are the Dodgers (35 times), the Cardinals (25), and the Yankees (23). This includes 2022 and 2023. All these teams play in ballparks with a higher capacity than Oracle Park.
- The Giants have outdrawn the A's in 38 of the 55 years these teams have shared the Bay Area, including every year starting in 1993. This includes 2021, 2022, and 2023, but of course, excludes 2020.
- In their first year at Oracle Park, the Giants drew 3,244,167 (40,051 per date all sellouts). This was up 1,165,768 (56.1%) from what they drew at Candlestick Park in 1999. That increase in total attendance was the 5th best gain in Major League history.
- In the first 20 years (2000-2019) at Oracle Park, the Giants drew 64,005,011, an average of 3,200,251 per season, and 39,509 per date. In that same period, only the Yankees (71,571,346), Dodgers (70,910,969), and Cardinals (66,559,544) outdrew the Giants. All 2000-2023 home ballparks of these 3 teams have, and had, a higher capacity than Oracle Park.
- In the 23 years with attendance (2000-2019, 2021-23) at Oracle Park, the Giants have drawn 70,667,334, an average of 3,072,493 per season, and 37,932 per date. In this same period, only the Dodgers (81,414,149), Yankees (79,936,423), and Cardinals (75,223,973) have outdrawn the Giants. All 2000-2023 home ballparks of these 3 teams have, and had, a higher capacity than Oracle Park. If 2021 is excluded, the Giants have averaged 3,135,811 per season at Oracle Park.
- Giants' attendance topped 30,000 at 742 consecutive regular season dates from the last 6 at Candlestick Park in 1999 through the first 7 dates of 2009. Another streak of regular season dates with attendance of 30,000+ began with the last 57 dates of 2010, and ended at 708 straight dates after April 8, 2019. The Major League record for consecutive dates with attendance above 30,000 is 1,410 (1,361 regular season, 49 post-season) by St. Louis from May 5, 2005 through the end of the 2023 season.
- The Giants drew at least 35,000 at 659 straight regular season games, plus 25 post-season games, for a total of 684 games, from September 2010, through Opening Day 2019. The Major League record for consecutive regular season dates with attendance above 35,000 is 666 by Colorado from their first home game in April, 1993, through July 31, 2001. The Rockies also had 2 post-season games during that time. The longest combined regular and post-season streak of games drawing at least 35,000 is 687 (655 regular season games, plus 32 post-season games) by the New York Yankees from September 29, 2004 through April 13, 2013.
- In 40 years at Candlestick, the Giants drew 54,134,580, an average of 1,353,365 per season, and 17,961 per date. Attendance didn't include 'no-shows' until 1993. Keeping that in mind, note that the Giants have now drawn 16,532,754 more in **23 years** at Oracle Park than they did in 40 years at Candlestick (includes 2021).
- Largest regular season crowd at Oracle Park was 43,503 vs. the Yankees on June 24, 2007. The biggest postseason crowd was 44,046 on October 8, 2010 for a National League Division Series game with Atlanta.
- Average attendance per season, including 2021, at Oracle Park is 127.0% higher than the Candlestick Park average per season. Labor disputes reduced the length of the 1972, 1981, 1994, and 1995 seasons.
- Attendance for the first 4 years (2000-2003) at Oracle Park was 13,039,519, an average of 3,259,880 per season, and 40,245 per date. In their final 4 years at Candlestick Park, the Giants drew 7,108,824, an average of 1,777,206 per season, and 22,146 per date. So in the first 4 years at Oracle vs. the last 4 years at Candlestick, total attendance was up 83.4%, and the average per date increased by 18,099.
- Average attendance per date has been above 35,000 in 19 of 23 seasons at Oracle Park, and has topped 40,000 per date in 12 years (2000-2004 and 2011-2017). At Candlestick, average per date reached 20,000 in just 6 seasons from 1958 through 1986, and only once (1978) from 1967 through 1986. It hit 30,000 for the first time in 1993.
- In 2001, the Giants had the National League's highest attendance for the first time since 1944. Between 1902 and 1944, the New York Giants had the best N.L. attendance 24 times. The Giants topped the National League in attendance again in both 2002 and 2003.

Faster games likely contributed to the 9.1% increase in Major League attendance in 2023. The Giants played the quickest games of any team, averaging 2 hours and 30 minutes for their 9-inning games. This was 35 minutes less than their average time of game for 9-inning games in 2022. The Major League average time of game, for 9-inning games, was 2 hours and 40 minutes in 2023, 24 minutes quicker than in 2022.

On September 28, 1919, the Giants played the Phillies in a doubleheader on the final day of the season. There was probably a lot of first pitch swinging. The first game was played in a Major League record-low 51 minutes. According to data on Retrosheet.org, the Giants won 6-1, and the teams had a combined 18 hits and 3 walks.

#### Candlestick Park

The Giants played at Candlestick Park from 1960 through 1999. First year attendance there was 1,795,356, averaging 23,623 per date. That total or average per date was not surpassed until 1987. Attendance reached 2 million for the first time in 1989.

Attendance was below one million in 9 of 10 seasons from 1968 through 1977, with attendance under 800,000 in 6 of those seasons. Lowest attendance was 519,987 (7,027 per date) in 1974. Total attendance in 40 seasons (3,015 dates) at windy Candlestick Park was 54,134,580, an average of 1,353,365 per season, with an average per date of 17,955. In 2016, the 17-season Oracle Park total surpassed the 40-season Candlestick Park total attendance. Note that 'no-shows' were not included in the Candlestick Park and National League attendance until 1993.

Through 2019, the Giants averaged 3,200,251 per year for their 20 seasons at Oracle Park, an increase of 136.5% over the 1960-1999 Candlestick Park average per year. Attendance in the first 20 years at Oracle Park was 9,870,431 more than it was in 40 seasons at Candlestick.

Between 1968 and 1985, Giants attendance reached 30,000 at only 97 dates out of 1,321 (7.3%). In 7 seasons from 1972 through 1977, there were a combined total of just <u>12 crowds above 30,000</u> (Source: retrosheet.org). Those attendance figures did not include 'no-shows.' As noted earlier, in the first 20 years at Oracle Park, there were a total of just 31 crowds below 30,000.

Average attendance per date reached 20,000 in just 6 seasons from 1958 through 1986, and only once (1978) from 1967 through 1986. It topped 30,000 for the first time in 1993. But the average per date had been above 35,000 in every season at Oracle Park, until 2019, and has surpassed 40,000 in 12 seasons (2000-2004, 2011-2017).

In the early years of Candlestick Park, games with the Dodgers drew exceptionally well. During the first 7 years at Candlestick (1960-1966), attendance for 68 dates with the Dodgers was a combined 2,419,658, an average of 35,583 per date, with 28 crowds above 40,000. The Giants hosted 532 dates with all other teams during this period, and they drew a combined 8,637,908, averaging 16,237 per date. (Dodgers-Giants games attendance source: Retrosheet.org.)

After the Giants moved to Oracle Park, Candlestick continued to be the home of the NFL San Francisco 49ers through 2013. They moved to the new Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara in 2014. Super Bowl 50 was played there in February, 2016. In February, 2026, Levi's Stadium will host Super Bowl LX.

#### Seals Stadium

In their first 2 seasons in San Francisco, the Giants played at Seals Stadium (capacity 22,900). They drew 1,272,625 (16,968 per date) in 1958, and 1,422,130 (18,469 per date) in 1959.

Seals Stadium had been home to the Pacific Coast League Seals through 1957. In 1946, the Seals drew a then-Minor League record-high 670,653. That record was not broken until Louisville drew 868,418 in 1982. The Seals also topped 600,000 in 1947 and 1948. They drew over 300,000 each year from 1919 through 1929, and from 1944 through 1950. Their post-World War II low was 161,570 in 1955.

Another P.C.L. team named the Mission Reds, also played at Seals Stadium from 1926 through 1937. Their best attendance was 299,670 in 1926. Across the Bay, the P.C.L. Oakland Oaks drew a high of 634,311 in 1946. Oakland's attendance surpassed 300,000 in 1921, 1924, 1926, 1927, and each year from 1945 through 1950. Their final season was 1955, when they drew 141,397. (Minor League attendance figures are from The Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball – Third Edition, published by Baseball America.)

# **GIANTS NOTES** - continued

#### The New York Years and More San Francisco Notes

In New York, the Giants drew 910,000 in 1908, a record-high figure for that era. They topped 900,000 in 4 seasons in the 1920's. Attendance reached one million for the first of 7 straight years in 1945. But the Giants drew one million just one more time (the World Championship year of 1954) before leaving New York after the 1957 season.

One more early 20<sup>th</sup> Century attendance rarity that the Giants achieved was reaching a 10,000 per date average. The Giants did it in 1908, 1909, and 1911, then again in every season from 1919 through 1931, and in all but 3 years until 1956. The average was over 20,000 in 1946, 1947, and 1948.

In the final 12 seasons that the Giants were in New York (1946-1957), they played 123 home dates with their crosstown rivals, the Brooklyn Dodgers. Those dates drew a combined 4,131,509, an average of 33,590 per date, with 39 of those dates drawing at least 40,000. There were 652 dates with all other regular season opponents, which drew 8,494,028, an average of 13,028 per date. Just 18 of those 652 dates topped 40,000, with only 3 of these big crowds attending from 1949 through 1952, and none from 1953 through 1957. There were 23 dates with Brooklyn that topped 40,000 between 1949 and 1957. From 1936 through 1946, the Giants averaged 24,728 per date in 93 home dates against Brooklyn, and 10,334 per date in 524 dates vs. the other National League teams. (Sources: Retrosheet.org., Brooklyn Daily Eagle archives.)

All-time vs. the Dodgers **through 2023**, the Giants have won 1,280 games, lost 1,270, and there have been 17 ties. When both teams played in New York, through 1957, the Giants had a 722-670-17 edge. There is a disagreement between the Dodgers and Giants about this. In their Media Guides, the Dodgers list 671 wins for them in the New York years. Since these teams moved to California in 1958, the Giants have won 558, and the Dodgers have won 599. The Giants are 104-107 at Oracle Park against the Dodgers, and are 240-297 at Dodger Stadium.

More information about the Giants-Dodgers attendance rivalry, and also a Bay Area attendance comparison between the Giants and the Oakland A's can be found in the 'Multi-teams Markets' section on pages 300 through 304.

The Giants, who began play in 1883, had a winning record in 55 of their 75 seasons in New York. They've posted a winning record in 40 of 65 years in San Francisco. Here's another example of how the attendance fortunes of the Giants have changed: In 2017, they had a 64-98 record, their worst since 1985. Yet the 2017 Giants drew 3,303,652. By comparison, the 1985 Giants drew just 818,697. To be fair, the 1985 figure does not include 'no-shows.'

With the incredible attendance success that the Giants have achieved since 2000, it's hard to believe that they were ready to leave the San Francisco area during two periods of their history. Their attendance fell sharply after the Athletics moved to Oakland in 1968, and it was felt by many that the Bay area couldn't support more than one Major League team. Plus, Candlestick Park, with its hard-to-reach location, cold temperatures, and winds, was far from being a good ballpark for fans and players alike.

By the mid-1970's, the Giants were considering a move to Toronto. Then in the early 1990's, after failing to get funding for a new ballpark, they proposed going to the Tampa Bay area and playing in the already built Tropicana Field, now home to the Rays. When government funding of a new ballpark in San Francisco couldn't be agreed on, Giants' ownership arranged for private funding for what became Oracle Park. They are now developing 'Mission Rock,' a 25-acre site across from McCovey Cove. It will include 8 acres of parkland, a brewery, 1,500 residential units, 1.3 million square feet of office space, a parking garage, and retail and public spaces. Also, the Chase Center, an arena nearby for the NBA Golden State Warriors, opened for their 2019-20 season.

'Splash Hits' in San Francisco – Through 2023, there had been 161 home runs that reached the waters of McCovey Cove on the fly since the opening of Oracle Park. 101 of those home runs were hit by Giants players, including 35 by Barry Bonds. Opponents had 60 of them. Bonds hit 29 of the first 38 'Splash Hits.' There were 13 'Splash Hits' in 2014, the most in any season. There had been 12 in 2001, 9 of them by Bonds. Cody Asche of the Phillies hit the only 'Splash Hit' home run in 2015. There were 6 in 2016, 2 by Denard Span, and 7 in 2017, with Span hitting 3. There were 5 in 2018, 7 in 2019, 4 in the short 2020 season, 13 in 2021, 8 in 2022, and 9 in 2023.

McCovey Cove, a small inlet of San Francisco Bay, is named for all-time Giants' great and Hall-of-Famer, Willie McCovey. The address of Oracle Park is 24 Willie Mays Plaza, honoring the name and number of the Giants' Hall-of Fame centerfielder. The ballpark is located on a 13-acre site that is owned by the Port of San Francisco, and is leased to the Giants.

#### 2023 WAS A HUGE ATTENDANCE YEAR FOR THE BRAVES - THEIR BEST SINCE 2000

The 2023 Atlanta Braves won another NL East title, and were very well-rewarded by their fans, achieving their highest attendance since 2000. Total attendance was 3,191,505 in 2023, up 61,574 (2.0%) from 2022, and up 536,405 (20.2%) from 2019. This was the 8<sup>th</sup> time the Braves have topped 3 million. Average per date in 2023 was 39,401, up 760 (2.0%) from 2022, and up 6,622 (20.2%) from 2019. Atlanta had a Major League 2<sup>nd</sup> best (to San Diego) 54 sellouts in 2023. All those sellouts topped 40,000, and only one game drew under 30,000. The attendance was 95.67% of Truist Park's capacity. Only San Diego drew a higher percentage of capacity. There were no lost dates or postponed games.

In **2023**, the Braves topped 2 million for the 32<sup>nd</sup> straight year, including 2021. Only the Dodgers, who have reached 2 million in each of the last 50 years, have a longer streak of seasons above 2 million. Prior to 1991, the Braves drew 2 million just once (1983) in Atlanta.

The Braves won the World Series in **2021**, and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Dodgers in Major League attendance. Total attendance was 2,300,247, with an average per date of 29,490. Atlanta had 65 dates with full capacity allowed, more than any team except Texas. Those full capacity dates drew an average of 32,236 per date.

Atlanta's **2019** total attendance was 2,655,100, up 99,310 (3.9%). Average per date rose 1,226 to 32,779. This was the best total and average per date for the Braves since 2007. 17 dates in 2019 were sold out and drew over 40,000, and with 50 dates above 30,000. Just 2 dates drew under 20,000, compared to none in 2022, 8 in 2018, and one in 2017. In 2016, there were 27 Turner Field crowds under 20,000. 23 dates drew less than 20,000 in 2015. But only 10 dates in 2014, 7 dates in 2013, and 14 dates in 2012, drew less than 20,000.

Since 1991, Atlanta has 21 division titles, including 2020 through 2023, and has won at least 90 games in 20 of those seasons, including 2022 and 2023. In this 33-year period, 2006, 2008, and 2014 through 2017 have been the only seasons that the Braves had a losing record. Attendance has been pretty stable in Atlanta in recent years, but there was a big increase in 2017, as the Braves moved into a new home, and it was followed by more gains in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023. Since 1960, there have been 39 times that a team played a full season in both of their first 2 years in a new ballpark. The 2018 Braves were just the 9<sup>th</sup> of those teams to draw better in Year 2 in the new park than in Year 1.

# In 2017, their first year at SunTrust (now Truist) Park, the Braves drew 2,505,252, up 484,338 (24.0%). Average per date was 30,929, up 5,979. Those were the year's best total and average per date increases.

In their 20 years at Turner Field, the Braves drew 52,435,326 in 1,610 regular season dates, averaging 2,621,766 per season, and 32,569 per date. This total excludes a 'home' game in Fort Bragg, NC in 2016. Best total was 3,464,488 (42,771 per date) in 1997. The low was 2,001,392 (25,017 per date) in 2015. The Braves had a 951-667 (.588) record at Turner Field. That park was originally built for the 1996 Summer Olympics, and was rebuilt for baseball for the 1997 season. In 6 years at Truist Park, the Braves have drawn 16,337,816, averaging 2,722,969 per season, and 33,826 per date.

Braves' average per date reached 20,000 just 4 times in Atlanta until 1991. They've done it every year since then, reaching 29,000 per date each year from 1992 through 2014, and from 2017 through 2023. Atlanta has topped 30,000 in 24 seasons, and surpassed 40,000 in 5 years.

Braves' attendance achieved a huge turnaround in the early 1990's after being quite bad for the 1970's and part of the 1980's. They moved to Georgia in 1966, and drew 1,539,801 (20,261 per date) that year, figures not topped until 1982. In their first 14 years in Atlanta (1966-1979), the Braves averaged 1,002,360 per year, and 13,429 per date.

From 1972 through 1979, attendance was less than one million every year, bottoming out at 534,672 (7,324 per date) in 1975. That year only 4 dates topped 20,000, just 12 dates drew at least 10,000, and attendance was under 5,000 for 33 dates, with a low of 737. A year earlier, with home run king Henry Aaron still on the team, 43 dates drew less than 10,000, and attendance was under 5,000 for 10 dates. Average per date was less than 15,000 for 12 straight years from 1970 through 1981. In the decade of the 1970's, the Braves averaged just 11,591 per date.

#### **BRAVES NOTES - continued**

Things improved slightly in the 1980's. Attendance was 2,119,935 in 1983, but then fell below one million in 1988, 1989, and 1990. From 1980 through 1990, the Braves averaged 1,272,592 per season, and 16,906 per date. From 1985 through 1990 attendance was less than 10,000 at 182 dates out of 468 played, 'no-shows' not included.

In 1991 the Braves went from last place in the N.L. West with a 65-97 record, to first place, and a 94-68 mark. Attendance boomed! In 1991, they drew 2,140,217. This was up 1,160,088 (118.4%). That total attendance increase is currently the 6<sup>th</sup> best in MLB history. 1992 saw Braves attendance rise 937,183 (43.8%) to 3,077,400.

In 1993, the Braves set their all-time high, drawing 3,884,725, which at that time was the 2<sup>nd</sup> best N.L. figure ever (now ranks #6). This was an 807,325 (26.2%) gain. The 1993 total was up 2,904,596 (296.3%) from 1990. Average per date rose from 12,896 in 1990 to 47,960 in 1993. "No-shows' began to be included in N.L. attendance in 1993.

# The 1991-1993 Braves are the only team in Major League history to post 3 consecutive attendance increases of better than 500,000. There have been 7 times when a team had 2 years in a row of 500,000+ gains.

For the 1990's decade, Braves' average per date was 36,809. From 1991 through 2023, the Braves drew 85,890,379 in 2,540 dates, averaging 2,684,074 per season, and 33,815 per date. Attendance has topped 3 million in 8 seasons, and has been above 2.5 million 22 times.

#### New Parks for the Braves

In 2017, the Braves opened SunTrust Park in Cumberland in Cobb County, northwest of Atlanta. Sun Trust, the bank, was renamed Truist in 2020, and so the park has taken that new name as well. Seating capacity is 41,108, and there are about 10,000 parking spaces on-site. The Braves say that this location is easier to reach than Turner Field, and that it is closer to where a majority of their attendees live. The ballpark is part of a major development project.

The new park paid off financially for the Braves. According to an article posted on the Ballpark Digest website, Liberty Media, parent company of the Braves, reported that team revenue was \$386 million in 2017, compared to \$262 million in 2016. Revenue from ticket sales rose 76%, from concessions it was up 31%, and retail sales increased 45%.

A new ballpark and facility in North Port, FL, in the southern part of Sarasota County, near Port Charlotte, became the Braves' Spring Training home starting in 2020. They played their final 2019 Spring Training home game there.

#### Braves in Boston

When the Braves played in Boston, they drew less than 200,000 in 17 different seasons from 1900 through 1929. Attendance didn't reach 400,000 until 1930, and was never above 520,000 until 1946. From 1900 through 1944, total attendance was less than 300,000 in 30 seasons, and average per date was under 5,000 in 28 seasons.

The low total was 84,938 (1,770 per date) in the shorter 1918 season. Full season low was 116,000 (1,731 per date) in 1911. Lowest average per date was 1,729 per date in 1912. Average per date finally reached 10,000 in 1946. The team was bad on the field as well, having only 9 winning seasons between 1900 and 1945. Attendance topped one million in 1947, 1948, and 1949, with a high of 1,455,439 (21,404 per date) in 1948, but then fell sharply to 281,278 (4,668 per date) in 1952. After that season, the Braves moved to Milwaukee.

#### **BRAVES NOTES - continued**

#### Braves in Milwaukee

In Milwaukee, the Braves were an instant sensation. They drew 1,826,397 in their first season there. In a small market, they became the first National League team to top 2 million, reaching that level in 4 straight years (1954-1957), with a high of 2,215,404 (30,348 per date) in 1957. The top average per date was 30,448 in 1954. From 1954 through 1957, the Braves averaged 2,099,740 per season, and 29,890 per date.

Attendance then began to slide fast, falling to 766,921 (10,364 per date) in 1962. This was a 65.4% decline from 1957. In their final 4 years in Milwaukee (1962-1965), the Braves averaged 751,609 per season, and 10,089 per date.

It's hard to explain the attendance collapse in Milwaukee. The Braves won the World Series in 1957, won the National League pennant in 1958, and tied for the pennant in 1959, losing to the Dodgers in a playoff. They had a winning record in every season in Milwaukee, with great players such as Henry Aaron, Eddie Mathews, Warren Spahn and Lew Burdette. One cause, mentioned in the book 'Calling the Game' by Stuart Shea, published by SABR, may have been that the Braves refused to televise any games until 1962. The owner of the team at that time, felt that televised games hurt attendance.

#### 2024 Braves Radio Note

The Braves Radio Network has over 150 stations in 9 states in 2024. The Braves and St. Louis Cardinals have some of the largest radio networks of any North American professional sports team.

#### Turner Field and Truist Park Weather Note

Atlanta often gets much rain in the summer. But only 18 games were rained out in 20 seasons (1997-2016) at Turner Field. There were no rainouts in 9 seasons, including the first 5 (1997-2001) that the Braves played there. There were no rainouts in 2016. There were 2 Truist Park rainouts in 2017, 3 in 2018, none in 2019, 2 in 2020, 3 in 2021, and none in both 2022 and 2023. In 2022 and 2023, only 4 home games in each year had rain delays.

#### 2023 NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPION ARIZONA POSTS A VERY GOOD ATTENDANCE INCREASE

"Deep drive...warning track...wall...you can touch 'em all." – Greg Schulte, D-backs broadcaster who retired after 2023.

In **2022**, the D-Backs had the lowest attendance in a 'normal' season in team history, which goes back to 1998. It was the first time Arizona drew under 2 million and averaged less than 25,000 per date in a 'normal' season.

The D-Backs' record improved from 110 losses in 2021, to National League Champions in **2023**. Attendance also grew nicely. The **2023** total was 1,961,182, up 355,983 (22.2%) from **2022**, but down 174,328 (8.2%) from **2019**. The **2023** average per date of 24,212 was 4,395 (22.2%) higher than in **2022**, but it was 2,152 (8.2%) lower than in **2019**. Opening Day was the only sellout, 2 dates drew under 10,000, 19 dates topped 30,000, with 5 dates above 40,000.

Arizona had attendance stability from 2009 through 2019. In those 11 years, their high was 2,242,695 in 2018, while the low was 2,036,216 in 2016, which was the lowest in the team's first 22 years. Average per date ranged from 25,138 to 27,688. In **2019**, the total was down 107,185 (4.8%) to 2,135,510. Average per date was 26,364, down 1,324. There were 3 sellouts, 5 dates drew at least 40,000, and 22 dates topped 30,000. 19 dates drew under 20,000.

Arizona fans do get a good bargain at the ballpark. According to Team Marketing Report, in 2022, the average ticket price of \$22.12 for the Diamondbacks was the lowest in Major League Baseball. The average Major League ticket price was \$35.93. The Diamondbacks have had the lowest Fan Cost Index each year from 2009 through 2023.

The D-backs opened the 2014 season with 2 home games in Sydney, Australia Cricket Ground, which first hosted baseball in 1888. The games drew 38,266 and 38,079, and are included in the 2014 D-backs' home attendance totals.

In 1998, their first year, the D-backs drew 3,600,412, with 21 sellouts. It was the 2<sup>nd</sup> best attendance ever (to 1993 Colorado) for a first-year team. That year, all games drew at least 38,000, with all but 7 dates above 40,000.

Arizona has topped 2 million every year, except 2021, 2022, and 2023, and has reached 3 million 3 times (1998, 1999, 2002). The team record-high average per date was 44,450 in 1998. The low, until 2021, was 25,138 per date in 2016. Average per date reached 30,000 in the D-backs' first 7 seasons (1998-2004), but only once (2008) since then.

In 1999, the D-backs had 100 wins, topping the N.L. West by 14 games, in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the Majors. This was a 35-win gain from 1998. The 1962 Angels, who went 86-76, were the only other 2<sup>nd</sup> year team to post a winning record. But Arizona's 1999 attendance fell 580,758 (16.1%). It was the largest decline ever by any team that improved its win total by at least 30 games, and also the worst decline ever by an N.L. team that finished first in the league or in a division.

The 1999 Diamondbacks were one of 49 teams in MLB history to suffer an attendance decline of at least 500,000 in a season that was not shortened by a work stoppage, or affected by Covid. This includes 2019 Seattle and Toronto. Only these 6 teams had a winning record in a year in which their attendance fell at least 500,000: 1950 Cleveland; 1999 Arizona; 2005 Philadelphia; 2009 New York Yankees; 2009 Detroit; 2011 Los Angeles Dodgers.

Since the Diamondbacks began play in 1998, they've drawn 57,735,781, an average of 2,309,431 per season, and an average of 28,511 per date. This includes 2021. Fortunately, their park is air conditioned. In 2023, Phoenix temperatures reached 100 degrees or higher on 133 days, and hit at least 110 degrees on 55 of those days.

Arizona won the World Series in 2001, which was just their 4<sup>th</sup> season of play. That's the quickest any MLB expansion team has won a World Championship. The 1997 Florida Marlins won the World Series in their 5<sup>th</sup> season.

The D-backs and Rockies share a Spring Training facility on Native American land at Salt River Flats in Scottsdale, AZ. In 2012, they drew a combined total attendance of 369,393, a record-high for a 2-team Spring Training ballpark. Average per game that year was 11,677. There were 161 sellouts at this park from 2011 through 2023. Both the Diamondbacks (14,035), and the Rockies (14,022) drew record-high Salt River Flats crowds in 2019.

In 2000, Chase Field hosted the first-ever outdoor college basketball game. It was between the women's teams of Arizona State University and the University of Tennessee.

Splash hits in Arizona – Chase Field has a swimming pool located behind the right field wall, 415 feet from home plate. There is also a hot tub. Through 2023, 70 home runs were hit **directly** into the pool, 37 by the Diamondbacks, and 33 by opponents. Mark Grace hit the first one in 1998, a year with 10 'pool homers,' the most ever. Until 2014, no opposing player had hit one since 2008. There was one 'pool homer' in 2013. 4 were hit into the pool in 2014, there were 2 in 2015, 3 in 2016, 5 in 2017, 1 in 2018, 2 in 2019, 1 in 2020, 4 in 2021, and 1 each in 2022 and 2023.

#### 2022 WAS A TOUGH ATTENDANCE YEAR FOR THE PITTSBURGH PIRATES. 2023 WAS QUITE A BIT BETTER

PNC Park may be the most beautiful setting in all of Major League Baseball, with its spectacular riverfront site, downtown Pittsburgh skyline view, and the adjacent bridge named for Pirate all-time great Roberto Clemente. But until 2013, the Pirates' last winning season was 1992. That streak of 20 consecutive losing years is a Major League record.

The **2022** Pirates had their lowest total attendance and average per date in a full and 'normal' season since 1987. Total attendance was 1,257,458, and average per date was 15,524.

In **2023**, total attendance rose 373,166 (29.7%) from 2022, to 1,630,624. Average per date was up 4,607 (29.7%) to 20,131. 6 dates drew under 10,000. 13 dates topped 30,000, with a high of 39,167, and 2 sellouts. Although there were 12 rain delays, and one rainout, at home games, there were no lost dates for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year. Since the record-high 2015 season, Pirate total attendance is down 867,972, and average per date declined by 10,716. Both of these figures are down 34.7% vs. 2015.

**2019** attendance was 1,491,439, up 26,123 (1.8%). This followed losses of 454,131 in 2018, and 329,754 in 2017. Average per date in 2019 was 18,413, down 373. It includes the Little League Classic in Williamsport, which drew 2,503. Games in Pittsburgh averaged 18,612, down 174. Attendance was less than 20,000 for 51 of the 80 dates played in Pittsburgh, and 11 of them drew under 10,000.

21 regular season dates sold out in 2015. In 2013 and 2014, a record-high 23 dates sold out. Prior to 2013, the high for sellouts was 19 in 2001, PNC Park's first year. There were 17 sellouts in both 2011 and 2012.

2016 was the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year above 2 million in Pittsburgh, and only the 8<sup>th</sup> year overall that they've reached that level (also in 1990, 1991, 2001, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015), and just the 5<sup>th</sup> year above 2.1 million. Only Tampa Bay, whose first season was 1998, and Miami, who began play in 1993, have reached 2 million less often than the Pirates.

In 2015, the Pirates set team record-highs in total attendance and average per date. They drew 2,498,596, breaking the record set in 2014. Average per date was 30,847, which broke the mark of 30,837 in 2001. The Bucs topped 30,000 at 51 dates, and just 7 dates drew less than 20,000. By comparison, in 2010, there were 7 sellouts, only 11 dates drew at least 30,000, and attendance was under 20,000 at 46 dates, with 5 of them attracting less than 10,000. 2001, 2014, and 2015 are the only seasons that Pittsburgh has averaged above 30,000 per date.

2014, 2017, and 2019 are the only years with no rainouts in the 23 years at PNC Park, and 2015, 2021, 2022, and 2023 are the only other years with the full figure of 81 home dates. There have been 40 weather postponements at PNC Park, but none have occurred in the month of July.

From 2009 through 2015, Pirates' total attendance had increased from 1,577,853 (19,480 per date) to the 2015 figures noted above. That was a gain of 920,743 (58.4%) in total attendance, and an average per date increase of 11,367 (58.4%). Prior to 2018, the 2009 attendance was the lowest total ever at PNC Park. 2019 had the lowest average per date for a 'normal' season until 2022.

There were signs of a better future for the Pirates in 2011, as they stayed in playoff contention through much of the summer. Attendance was up 327,030 (20.3%) to 1,940,429. In 2012, they Bucs had a 63-47 record on August 8, but went 16-36 the rest of the way. Yet, the 79 wins tied the 1997 team for the most victories since 1992. Attendance rose 151,489 (7.8%) in 2012 to 2,091,918.

The pre-2014 Pirates' record high attendance had been 2,436,126 in 2001, PNC Park's first year. This was up 687,218 (39.3%) from the 1,748,908 at Three Rivers Stadium in 2000. Average per date was 30,837, up 8,699 from 22,138. The average per date at PNC Park was under 20,000 in 2009 (19,480), 2010 (19,919), and 2018 (18,786), 2019, 2021, and 2022. The Pirates first topped 20,000 per date in 1948 and 1949, when fans came out to see Hall-of-Famer Ralph Kiner hit home runs. They reached 20,000 per date just 6 more times until 1990.

#### **PIRATES NOTES - continued**

The Pirates got a much smaller attendance bounce than many other teams have achieved after opening a new park. Total attendance in the first 5 years at PNC Park (2001-2005) was 9,258,156 (390 dates), an average of 23,739 per date. Over the last 5 seasons at Three Rivers Stadium (1996-2000), the Pirates drew 7,937,053 (397 dates), an average of 19,993 per date. That's a total attendance gain of 16.6%. Average per date was up 3,746.

Total attendance at PNC Park (2001-2023) is 39,772,527 in 1,756 dates, an average of 1,807,842 per season, and 22,650 per date.

The Pirates have drawn well on Opening Day. 19 of the first 22 'normal' openers at PNC Park, including 2024, have sold out. So did the final 4 Opening Day games at larger Three Rivers Stadium. The only non-sellouts on Opening Day at PNC Park were in 2003, 2018, and 2022. This excludes 2020 and 2021. Largest regular season crowd in PNC Park history was 39,933 for the 2015 Home Opener. The post-season high was 40,889 for the 2015 National League Wild Card Game.

In their 138 seasons, including 2024, the Pirates have played their first game of the season at home only 32 times. They've opened on the road in 106 seasons, including 60 in a row from 1894 through 1953. Since 1901, the Pirates have opened on the road 98 times. The Red Sox, with 80, are next with having played the most Opening Day games on the road since 1901.

Top crowds for any PNC Park events were 42,301 for a Bruce Springsteen concert in 2003, 41,939 for Jimmy Buffett in 2005, and 41,245 for Billy Joel in 2016. In 2022, Billy Joel, Metallica, Motley Crue/Def Leppard, and Elton John, all had sold out concerts at PNC Park, as did PINK and Morgan Wallen in 2023.

The right field wall at PNC Park is 21 feet high, in memory of Roberto Clemente, who wore number 21. There are statues outside PNC Park honoring Honus Wagner, Roberto Clemente, Bill Mazeroski, Willie Stargell, the Negro League teams of Pittsburgh, and the home run producing hands of Ralph Kiner.

In 2013, the Pirates joined the Phillies as the only teams to play a post-season home game in 4 different ballparks in the same city. Pirates' post-season home games have been at Exposition Park, Forbes Field, Three Rivers Stadium, and PNC Park. Phillies' post season home games have been played at Baker Bowl, Shibe Park (Connie Mack Stadium), Veterans Stadium, and Citizens Bank Park.

"Splash Hits in Pittsburgh" - The shortest distance from home plate to the Allegheny River is 456 feet, down the right field line. Through 2023, 73 PNC Park home runs, had been hit into the river. 39 were by the Pirates and 34 were struck by opponents. (There have been 3,330 home runs hit at PNC Park through 2023.) 51 different players have done it. But only 5 reached the water on the fly. The first was a 479-foot shot by Daryle Ward in 2002. There was a 463-foot homer by Garrett Jones in 2013. Pedro Alvarez hit a 461-foot home run that landed in a docked boat in 2015, and Josh Bell had 2 in 2019. A record-high 8 homers reached the river in 2019, but none did in 2018. 4 home runs landed in the river in 2022, and there were 3 Splash home runs in 2023.

PIRATES NOTES - continued

# Three Rivers Stadium - 1970-2000

From 1970 through 2000, the Pirates played at Three Rivers Stadium, located in what is now a parking lot between PNC Park, and Heinz Field (renamed Acrisure Stadium in 2022), home of the NFL Steelers. Original construction cost was \$55 million.

Opening Night at Three Rivers Stadium was July 16, 1970, with a crowd of 48,846. In 1970, the Pirates played their first 40 home dates of the year at Forbes Field, and averaged 9,671 per date. The final 36 dates were at Three Rivers Stadium, and attendance there averaged 26,531 per date.

In their 30 and a half seasons at Three Rivers Stadium, the Pirates drew 41,258,249 in 2,280 regular season dates, an average of 18,096 per date. Largest regular season game crowd there was 55,351 in 2000. The top post-season attendance was 57,533 for a National League Championship Series game in 1991. Largest baseball crowd overall in Pittsburgh was 59,568 at the 1994 All-Star Game.

The best season attendance at Three Rivers was 2,065,302 in 1991. Highest average per date was 26,281 in 1990. Lowest attendance for a full year at Three Rivers was 735,900 (9,435 per date) in 1985. Attendance also was under one million in 1978, 1984, and in the strike-shorter seasons of 1981 and 1995.

Average per date was above 20,000 in 12 of 31 seasons from 1970 through 2000, but was under 15,000 in 9 years. Until 1990, average per date reached 20,000 only in 1970 (36 home dates), 1972, 1980, and 1988.

# Forbes Field - 1909-1970

The first game at Forbes Field was on June 30, 1909. That game drew 30,338 to a park with 25,000 seats at that time. The last game there was on June 28, 1970, in front of 40,918, the largest crowd since 1956.

Attendance at Forbes Field topped one million in 10 different seasons. The first time was in 1947. Highest season attendance at Forbes Field was 1,705,828 (24,722 per date) in 1960. Average per date at Forbes Field was at least 20,000 in 1948, 1949, 1958, 1959, and 1960.

Post World War II low total attendance was 469,397 in 1955. Lowest average per date for those years was 7,571 in 1955. The all-time low at Forbes Field was 139,620 (2,023 per date) in 1914.

The 1909 Pirates drew 534,950, splitting the season between Exposition Park and Forbes Field. Attendance didn't reach 500,000 again until 1921. It topped 500,000 only twice (1938, 1940) from 1928 through 1943.

As with most teams after World War II, the Pirates had a big boom in attendance. In 1948 it was 1,517,021, up 150.9% from the 1945 total of 604,694. But starting in the early 1950's, it fell. The 1955 total of 469,397 was down 69.1% from 1948.

What had been the area of home plate in Forbes Field is now inside a building at the University of Pittsburgh.

There never was a Major League no-hitter pitched at Forbes Field in its 62 seasons of play.

# 2023 WAS A RECORD-HIGH YEAR FOR SAN DIEGO PADRES ATTENDANCE

San Diego had its highest attendance ever in 2023, topping the record set in 2004, the first year at Petco Park. Only the Dodgers drew better, among all MLB teams. The 2023 total was 3,271,554, up 284,084 (9.5%) vs. 2022, and up an N.L. best 875,155 (36.5%) vs. 2019. Average per date was 40,390, up 3,508 (9.5%) vs. 2022, and up an N.L. best 10,805 (36.5%) vs. 2019. 2004 was the only other year that the Padres have topped 3 million.

There were a team record-high 59 sellouts in San Diego in 2023, all of which drew over 40,000. Only one game in San Diego drew under 30,000 (29,581). 2 Padres home games were played in Mexico City, drawing sellout crowds of 19,611 and 19,633. The 61 Padres sellouts were the most by any team in 2023. Games in San Diego averaged 40,915 per date, up 4,033 (10.9%) vs. 2022. Top crowd of 2023 was 45,116. The Padres drew 102.52% of Petco Park's seating capacity, the highest percentage of capacity drawn of any MLB team in 2023.

The 46 dates in **2021**, played with full-capacity allowed, at Petco Park, drew an average of 36,657 per date. This was up 7,072, from what the Padres averaged in 2019, when all games were full-capacity. The Chicago White Sox were the only other team whose 2021 average attendance per date at full-capacity dates was higher than it was in 2019.

San Diego had a losing record in 10 of the previous 11 seasons through **2021**. In their 55 seasons, the Padres have posted only 17 winning records (including 2020), plus a pair of .500 years. But signing Manny Machado and other free agents, led to the on-field improvement in 2022, with the club reaching the National League Championship Series.

Their **2019** attendance rose 227,863 (10.5%) to 2,396,399. Average per date was up 2,813 to 29,585. In 2018, the Padres played 3 home games in Monterrey, Mexico that drew a combined 65,116. 2019 average per date for games at Petco Park was up 2,617 vs. 2018. The Padres had 11 sellouts in 2019. There were 12 dates that drew over 40,000, and 32 dates with attendance above 30,000. Attendance was under 20,000 at 6 dates in 2019, compared to 11 dates in 2018, 18 dates in 2017 and just 2 dates in 2016. All full-capacity dates in **2021 and 2022** drew above 20,000.

The Padres have topped 2 million in total attendance, and 25,000 in average per date, in 26 of the past 27 years, including 2021. 2009 was the only year in this period with attendance below 2 million, and under 25,000 per date.

Prior to 1996, the Padres reached a total of 2 million and an average per date of 25,000 only in 1985 and 1989. Their average per date topped 20,000 just 8 times in the team's first 27 seasons (1969-1995). It was under 10,000 per date in the first 5 years, with a low of 6,840 in 1969.

Petco Park, located at 19 Tony Gwynn Drive, opened in 2004. Ownership of the park is 70% by the City of San Diego, and 30% by the Padres. After 2034, the park will be solely owned by the City of San Diego. 2024 fixed seating capacity is 39,860, plus ADA accessible seating. The Padres also sell passes for standing room and lawn seating in the 'Park in the Park,' which is a 2.8-acre area behind the outfield fence. This area is a free public park on non-gamedays. The ballpark had a new LED lighting system added in 2016.

The Western Metal Supply Building in left field opened in 1909, and was incorporated into the ballpark.

First year attendance at Petco Park was 3,016,752 in 2004. This was the first time the Padres have topped 3 million. Average per date that year was a then-team record-high 37,244. Total attendance was up 986,688 from 2003 at Jack Murphy Stadium, and average per date increased by 12,181. A then-team record 24 dates were sold out in 2004, and attendance was above 30,000 at 70 dates. Lowest season attendance, including 2021, at Petco Park was 1,922,603 (23,736 per date) in 2009.

Average per date at Petco Park reached 30,000 from 2004 through 2007. Other seasons in Padres' history with average per date above 30,000 were 1998,1999, and 2015, plus 2021 for the full-capacity games, and 2022 and 2023.

In the first 19 years at Petco Park (2004-2023), total attendance was 46,412,646, an average of 2,442,771 per season. The average per date (1,539 dates) was 30,158.

The last 19 seasons at San Diego/Jack Murphy/Qualcomm Stadium (1985-2003) had combined total attendance of 36,148,191, in 1,494 dates. This averages 1,902,536 per season, and 24,196 per date. The 1994 and 1995 seasons were shorter seasons due to a work stoppage. Total attendance for the first 19 years at Petco Park is 28.4% higher than it was in the final 19 seasons at "The Murph." Average per date is 24.6% higher. Jack Murphy Stadium was much larger than Petco Park, with a baseball capacity above 65,000 in its final years as the Padres' home.

#### PADRES NOTES - continued

There have been just 4 rainouts at Petco Park. The first was in 2006, the 2<sup>nd</sup> came on July 19, 2015, ending a streak of 820 dates without a postponement, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> was on May 7, 2017. In 2023, one game was rescheduled due to a rare California hurricane. There were 15 rainouts at Jack Murphy Stadium, but only one after 1983. Petco Park has had 8 rain delays in its history. Two games (one in 2009, and one in 2019) were delayed due to an invasion of bees.

The All-Star Game was played in San Diego in 2016, and drew 42,386. Previously, the Padres hosted the Mid-Summer Classic at much larger Jack Murphy Stadium in 1978 (51,549 in attendance), and in 1992 (59,372).

#### San Diego/Jack Murphy/Qualcomm Stadium

San Diego Stadium opened in 1967 as the home of the Chargers of the American Football League, and was used in 1968 by the San Diego Padres of the Pacific Coast League. The name of Jack Murphy was added in 1981. Jack Murphy was the Sports Editor of the San Diego Union, and played a key role in attracting the AFL Chargers and the Major League Padres to San Diego, and getting funding for the stadium. Jack's brother Bob was a Major League broadcaster for 50 years, including more than 40 years for the Mets, and is in the Baseball Hall of Fame. The name Qualcomm was added to the stadium in 1997. The Chargers played their final season in the stadium in 2016, and moved to Los Angeles.

In 1969, their first season, the Padres drew just 512,970, an average of 6,840 per date. That was the worst attendance in the National League, and the lowest first-year attendance by any post-1960 expansion team. Attendance improved to 643,679 in 1970 (8,818 per date), but it still was the lowest in the National League.

Despite the great weather in San Diego, in the early seasons of the Padres, it was believed that geography would prevent the Padres from ever being a good draw at home. Mexico is to the south, desert is to the east, the Pacific Ocean is to the west, and the Angels and Dodgers are to the north. But the Padres soon began to disprove that theory.

In their first 5 seasons (1969-1973), the Padres drew a combined total of 2,970,261, an average of 594,052 per season, and an average of 8,205 per date. The team was going to move to Washington for the 1974 season. But McDonald's Chief Executive Officer Ray Kroc bought the team, and decided to keep it in San Diego. Attendance improved dramatically over the next 5 seasons. From 1974 through 1978, the Padres drew 6,862,000, averaging 1,372,400 per season, and 17,777 per date. Total attendance in the second 5 years of the Padres was up 131.0% compared to the first 5 years, and average per date was up 116.7%.

The Padres topped one million for the first time in 1974. Attendance reached 2 million initially in 1985, and then again in 1989, and in each of the final 8 years (1996-2003) at Jack Murphy Stadium.

At Jack Murphy Stadium, top attendance was 2,555,901 in 1998. The best average per date was 32,353 also in 1998. 1999 was the only other year at The Murph when average per date reached 30,000.

Regular-season single game attendance high at The Murph was 61,674 in 1999. In 2001, there were 7 crowds of better than 60,000. From 1997 through 2003, there were a total of 20 regular season crowds above 60,000. Game 4 of the 1998 World Series had the largest post-season crowd, drawing 65,427.

In 35 years at Jack Murphy Stadium, the Padres drew a total of 54,226,841 in 2,688 regular season dates. This averages out to 1,549,338 per season, and 20,174 per date.

A game in 1981 had 52,000 fans in the stands, but an official attendance of 0. All fans were admitted free to one game after the strike.

The Padres of the Pacific Coast League played their final year (1968) at the new San Diego Stadium, and drew 203,369. That was the 2<sup>nd</sup> best attendance (to Hawaii) in the 12-team league that year. The highest attendance ever for that team was 493,780 in 1949. They topped 250,000 just once (1967) in their last 14 seasons of operation.

#### FOR THE METS IN 2023: THE 21st SEASON WITH ATTENDANCE ABOVE 2.5 MILLION

Total **2023** attendance for the Mets was 2,573,555, up 8,818 (0.3%) vs. **2022**, and up 131,023 (5.4%) vs. **2019**. Average per date in **2023** was 32,994, down 314 (0.9%) from **2022**, but up 2,462 (8.1%) vs. **2019**. It was the 24<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year above 2 million, and the 21<sup>st</sup> time over 2.5 million. Average per date has reached 30,000 in 17 of the last 23 'normal' years. An estimated 9 dates were sellouts. Every game drew over 20,000, 53 topped 30,000, with 10 above 40,000. Largest crowd was 44,121. 3 dates were lost, with 6 rainouts.

The Mets had 8 lost dates, and only played 73 home dates in **2021**. This was the fewest number of dates played by the Mets in a full season since 1979, and the fewest by any team since 1980 Minnesota.

There were 9 more wins for the Mets in 2019 than in 2018, and they were playoff contenders. That helped lead to a 217,537 (9.8%) gain in total attendance to 2,442,532. Average per date was 30,532, up 2,368. There were 4 sellouts, 9 dates drew at least 40,000, and 41 dates had a crowd of 30,000+. Every date drew at least 20,000.

The Mets had an attendance oddity in 2017 in that their home and away total attendance was nearly identical. Their home games drew 2,460,622, and their road games drew 2,460,154.

2016 total attendance increased 219,849 (8.6%) to 2,789,602. Average per date was 34,870, up 3,145. The total and average per date were the best since 2009, Citi Field's first year. In 2009, every game drew at least 35,000.

In 2015, the New York Mets won the National League pennant, and they had the best N.L. attendance gains. Their total was up 420,945 (19.6%). Only Kansas City had a bigger increase. Average per date rose an N.L. best 4,865.

In 2010, Mets' attendance fell 576,166 (18.4%), the worst decline for that year in the Majors. But perhaps no other attendance statistic could be misinterpreted as much as the one that shows that attendance for the Mets dropped 906,139 in 2009. It was the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest decline ever, exceeded only by the loss of 952,667 by the 1967 Dodgers.

The Mets moved from 57,365 seat Shea Stadium, to 41,800 seat (2024 capacity is 41,922) Citi Field in 2009. In Shea Stadium's final season (2008), the Mets set their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive team attendance record, drawing 4,042,043, averaging 51,165 per date. That was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest attendance ever by a National League team. 30 of the last 36 dates played at Shea drew more than 50,000, and 47 crowds reached that level for the year. The <u>smallest</u> attendance at any Mets home game in 2008 was 45,321, which was over 3,500 higher than Citi Field's 2009 capacity. Standing-room was not sold at Citi Field in 2009. The April 30, 2016 game drew a Citi Field regular season record-high of 44,466.

So considering how high Mets' attendance was in 2008, and how much smaller their new ballpark is, they were going to have a huge decline in total attendance in 2009, no matter what. Even if the Mets had sold every single ticket possible in 2009, including player and 'comp' tickets, their attendance still would have fallen by 656,243.

In the 14 years with attendance at Citi Field (2009-2023), the Mets have drawn 33,714,226 in 1,106 dates, an average of 2,408,159 per season, and 30,483 per date. In the last 14 years at much larger Shea Stadium (1995-2008), the Mets drew 36,460,748 in 1,095 dates, an average of 2,604,339 per year, and 33,297 per date.

From 2005 through 2007, the Mets had 3 straight years with gains of more than 470,000. They had the biggest increase among National League teams in both 2005 and 2006, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> best gain in both the National League, and in the Majors, in 2007. Average per date rose from 27,693 in 2003 to 51,165 in 2008.

Until 2024, every game at Citi Field, except for a day game in 2010, which was a make-up of a rainout the previous day, and a 2017 game which drew 19,617, has had an official attendance of at least 20,000. This excludes 2021. Some games in April 2024 had an announced attendance of less than 20,000.

Citi Field hosted the NHL Winter Classic on January 1, 2018, when the New York Rangers played Buffalo. This was a Buffalo 'home' game, and it drew 41,821.

#### Polo Grounds and Shea Stadium

After playing their first two years in the Polo Grounds, the Mets moved into new Shea Stadium in 1964, drawing 1,732,597, despite a 53-109 record, and a last (10<sup>th</sup>) place finish in the N.L. In 1964, in the Bronx, the Yankees won their 5<sup>th</sup> straight A.L. pennant, yet their attendance was 1,305,638. The Yankees played their home games at Shea in 1974 and 1975 while Yankee Stadium was rebuilt. Their combined attendance for those 2 years was 2,561,123, *including 'no-shows*,' an average of 18,294 per date. In those same 2 seasons, the Mets drew 3,452,775, *excluding 'no-shows*,' averaging 23,488. The Yanks had a home game at Shea Stadium in 1998 after a beam fell at Yankee Stadium.

During their 45 years at Shea (1964-2008), the Mets drew a total of 94,745,995 in 3,332 regular season dates. This averages to 2,105,467 per season and 28,435 per date. The best attendance was, as noted above, in 2008. Lowest attendance in a full season was 788,905 (11,433 per date) in 1979. In strike-shortened 1981, the Mets drew 704,244. The Mets led the Majors in attendance in 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, and 1988, and led the N.L. in 2008.

The Mets first topped 2 million in their miracle championship season of 1969. Through 2023, they've reached that level 35 times, including the last 24 'normal' years in a row. 1987 was the first of the 6 seasons that Mets' attendance was above 3 million. They did it again in 1988, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. In 1987 and 1988, the National League only counted tickets sold and used in their official attendance. The Mets claim to have sold around 3.5 million tickets in each of those seasons, even though the official attendance was slightly above 3 million.

Average attendance per date topped 20,000 each year from 1964 through 1975. It then fell below 20,000 for the next 8 years (1976-1983). But except for 1995, it has been above 20,000 since then, including 2021. Their average per date has surpassed 30,000 in 26 seasons, been above 40,000 in 2006, 2007, 2008, with record high of 51,165 in 2008.

Mets' attendance posted a big increase in the 2000-2009 decade compared to the 1990-1999 decade. From 1990 through 1999, the Mets averaged 26,089 per date. The N.L. began to count 'no shows' in its official attendance in 1993. In the 2000-2009 decade, which includes the first year at Citi Field, the Mets averaged 37,775 per date. This is up 11,686 per date from the previous decade. They averaged 30,023 per date in the 2010-2019 decade.

Each of the last 10 home openers at Shea Stadium drew at least 52,000. But between 1972 and 1981, only 2 of the 10 home openers topped 20,000 (27,306 in 1973 and 23,907 in 1977). The low was 10,406 in 1979.

The last Shea Stadium date to draw under 30,000 was in 2007. Last Shea date under 20,000 was date #2 in 2006. A 2003 make-up game was the last with an official attendance of less than 10,000. The last regularly scheduled date that drew under 10,000 was on Sept. 28, 1992, when 'no-shows' were not yet included in the announced attendance.

The Mets have not outdrawn the Yankees in any season since 1992. But they did outdraw them in 21 of the 29 previous seasons (1964-1992), despite not counting 'no-shows' while Yankee attendance did include 'no-shows.'

In their 2 years at the Polo Grounds (1962, 1963), the Mets drew a combined 2,002,638, averaging 15,172 per date. The combined total for the first 2 years at Shea Stadium (1964, 1965) was 3,500,986, averaging 26,127 per date.

Shea Stadium was the only facility to ever be the home of 4 teams from the 4 major sports leagues in one year. The Jets played there from 1964 through 1983. The Yankees also called Shea home in 1974 and 1975, while Yankee Stadium was being rebuilt, and the NFL's New York Giants used it as a home field for the 1975 season.

In 1975, the Mets drew 1,730,566, averaging 22,771 per date. Yankee attendance was 1,288,048, an average of 18,942 per date. Home attendance for the Jets was 361,102, an average of 51,586 per game. The Giants had attendance of 366,801, an average of 52,400 per game. NFL teams played 7 regular season home games in 1975. These figures include 'no-shows' for the Yankees, but exclude them for the Mets, Jets, and Giants.

Major League 'lost dates' are less common now. Better draining fields and domed parks have reduced rainouts. Rainouts are often made up on off-days, or as part of separate admission doubleheaders. But 2001, 2007, 2009, and 2015 are the only 4 seasons that the Mets had the maximum 81 home dates. No other team has gone so long without losing a date, and the Mets already have a lost date in **2024**. They lost 3 dates in 2023, 4 in 2022, 8 in 2021, one in 2019, 2 in 2018, one each in **2023**, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013 and 2012, and 3 in 2011. 6 teams played less than 81 dates in **2023**. The number of teams losing at least one date was 13 in 2022, 14 in 2021, 8 in 2019, 10 in 2018, 6 in 2017, 5 in 2016, 7 in 2015, 6 in 2014, 5 in 2013, 5 in 2012, and 7 in 2011. Note that at one time, nearly every team had single-admission doubleheaders on their original schedules, so it was rare for a team to have 81 home dates in a season.

*"We'll be back with the happy recap."* - The radio or TV call after most Mets' wins, by Hall-of-Famer Bob Murphy. He broadcast Major League Baseball for 50 years from 1954 through 2003, including 43 seasons with the Mets from the team's inception in 1962, until he retired in 2003. Bob Murphy's on-air note about 1962 and 1963 Mets' attendance vs. the Dodgers and Giants, compared to attendance vs. other opponents, inspired the research for the tables on this page.

In the early years for the Mets, home games with the Dodgers and Giants, former New York teams, were a big draw. In 1962, the Mets averaged 31,538 per date for 15 dates with the Dodgers or Giants. But they only averaged 9,364 per date against all other teams. 9 of the 10 largest crowds the Mets drew in their 2 seasons in the Polo Grounds were with Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The table below shows Mets' home attendance in their first 5 years (1962-1966) vs. the Dodgers, the Giants, and then vs. all other teams. In those 5 years, 40.7% of Mets' home attendance came when they hosted the Dodgers or Giants. Only 23.9% of their home dates in that 5-year period were with Los Angeles or San Francisco. Combined average attendance per date for those 5 years against the Dodgers and Giants was 37,861, which was 119.5% higher than their combined average per date of 17,284 vs. their 7 other National League opponents. From 1962 through 1966, the Mets' home won-loss record against the Dodgers was 11-34-1, and their home record against the Giants was 15-30.

# 1962-1966 METS HOME ATTENDANCE vs. DODGERS, GIANTS, AND ALL OTHER TEAMS

	vs. Los Angeles Dodgers			vs. San Francisco Giants			vs. the 7 Other N.L. Teams		
	TOTAL	AVERAGE		TOTAL	AVERAGE		TOTAL	AVERAGE	
YEAR	ATTENDANCE	PER		ATTENDANCE	PER		ATTENDANCE	PER	
	(# OF DATES)	DATE		(# OF DATES)	DATE		(# OF DATES)	DATE	
1962	243,094 (8)	30,387		229,972 (7)	32,853		449,464 (48)	9,364	
1963	220,270 (8)	27,534		229,984 (8)	28,748		629,854 (53)	11,884	
1964	326,231 (8)	40,779		357,475 (8)	44,684		1,048,891 (50)	20,978	
1965	337,910 (8)	42,239		326,248 (8)	40,781		1,104,231 (52)	21,235	
1966	358,518 (8)	44,815		399,207 (9)	44,356		1,174,968 (52)	22,596	
Total	1,486,023 (40)	37,151		1,542,886 (40)	38,572		4,407,408 (255)	17,284	

In the following 5 seasons, the Dodgers and Giants continued to be good draws at Shea Stadium, but attendance vs. other teams increased greatly. The Mets began a dramatic improvement on the field, with a stunning World Series win in 1969. Their attendance surged. For the 1967-1971 period, 23.6% of Mets' home attendance, and 19.2% of home dates, came vs. the Dodgers and Giants. Starting in 1969, when the National League expanded to 12 teams, the Dodgers and Giants only played 6 games a year at Shea, compared to 9 a year through 1968, so average per date is a more accurate comparison. Dates with the Dodgers and Giants averaged 36,342 per date, which was 29.7% higher than the 28,026 average against all other teams. From 1967 through 1971, the Mets home won-loss record was 22-14 vs. the Dodgers, and 17-19 vs. the Giants.

	vs. Los Angeles Dodgers			vs. San Francis	co Giants	vs. All Other N.L. Teams		
	TOTAL	AVERAGE		TOTAL	AVERAGE		TOTAL	AVERAGE
YEAR	ATTENDANCE	PER		ATTENDANCE	PER		ATTENDANCE	PER
	(# OF DATES)	DATE		(# OF DATES)	DATE		(# OF DATES)	DATE
1967	205,542 (9)	22,838		246,942 (8)	30,868		1,113,008 (50)	22,260
1968	280,141 (8)	35,018		309,738 (8)	38,717		1,191,778 (53)	22,486
1969	218,012 (6)	36,335		265,921 (6)	44,320		1,691,440 (58)	29,163
1970	209,129 (6)	34,855		265,046 (6)	44,174		2,223,304 (62)	35,860
1971	183,315 (5)	36,663		287,471 (6)	47,912		1,795,894 (63)	28,506
Total	1,096,139 (34)	32,239		1,375,118 (34)	40,445		8,015,424 (286)	28,026

Retrosheet.org is the source for individual game attendance vs. the Dodgers and Giants

#### CUBS' ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO BE QUITE GOOD

*"It's a beautiful day for baseball. So let's play two."* – Hall-of-Famer Ernie Banks – 'Mr. Cub' – (1931-2015)

In **2023**, the Cubs drew a total of 2,775,149, up 158,369 (6.1%) vs. **2022**, but down 319,716 (10.3%) from **2019**. They had no postponed games. Average per date was 34,261 in **2023**, up 1,955 (6.1%) vs. **2022**, and down 3,947 (10.3%) vs. **2019**. The Cubs didn't list sellouts in their Game Notes or Media Guide. Based on listed attendance, and assuming that 39,000+ is a sellout, there were 12 estimated sellouts in **2023**. All games drew over 26,000. 67 dates topped 30,000, and 9 of them drew over 40,000, with a high of 40,869.

The Cubs topped 3 million 12 times in 16 years through 2019. Attendance has surpassed 2.5 million, with a 30,000+ average per date, in each of the last 24 'normal' seasons. The average per date had been above 35,000 in 15 of 17 seasons from 2003 through 2019. Since 1984, the Cubs have drawn 2 million in all full 'normal seasons,' except 1986.

Average per date has topped 20,000 for 39 straight seasons (1984-2023). Through 2023, it reached 25,000 in each of the last 35 'normal' seasons. A 10-year streak of averaging at least 35,000 per date ended in 2013. The average was back above 35,000 each year from 2015 through 2019.

In **2019**, the Cubs drew 3,094,865, down 86,224 (2.7%), and averaged 38,208 per date, down 586. It was the 10<sup>th</sup> best total and average in team history. Average per date was 91.7% of Wrigley Field's capacity. Every game had attendance of at least 30,000, and all but 9 dates topped 35,000. 23 dates drew over 40,000. The Cubs sold out an estimated 42 dates in 2019, which was the most of any team. The last Wrigley Field game, prior to the reduced capacity restrictions in 2021, drawing under 20,000, was on April 9, 2002.

In 2016, the long wait ended! The Chicago Cubs played in the World Series for the first time since 1945, and won it for the first time since 1908.

2013 Cubs' attendance (2,642,682) was the highest ever for a team that had lost 90 or more games for at least 3 straight years. The 2013 Twins, who drew 2,477,644, are 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 2013 Cubs among such 90+ loss teams.

In 2012, the Cubs had their first 100-loss season since 1966, and just the 3<sup>rd</sup> 100-loss year in the team's history, going back to 1876. The Cubs drew 2,882,756 in 2012. That is the highest total ever for a team with at least 100 losses. The 2004 Arizona Diamondbacks, who drew 2,519,560, had held the record.

Wind is usually a factor at Wrigley Field. Since the start of the 2003 season, through 2023 (1,654 games), the wind blew in at the start of 909 games (55.0% of games), blew out at 460 games (27.8%), 283 games (17.1%) began with a crosswind, and 2 games had no wind.

Since 2007, games that started with the wind blowing in averaged 7.83 runs combined for both teams per game (5,766 runs in 736 games). When the wind blew out, an average of 11.14 runs per game were scored (3,721 runs in 334 games), and an average of 8.87 runs per game scored (2,199 runs in 248 games) when there was a crosswind. Since this is Chicago, where the saying goes: "If you don't like the weather right now, wait 10 minutes, it will change," these figures don't take into account changes in wind direction during a game. They also don't report about how strong the wind was.

The Cubs began playing in the National League in 1876, when they were known as the Chicago White Stockings. Their first game was on Tuesday, April 25, 1876, and they beat Louisville 4-0. (No pre-game or post-game notes, or video highlights, from that game are available.) From 1876 through 2023, the National League team in Chicago has played 21,769 games.

**CUBS NOTES** - continued

# THE CUBS HAVE PLAYED AT 110-YEAR OLD WRIGLEY FIELD SINCE 1916 - Cubs Historical Attendance Highlights

Wrigley Field was originally named Weeghman Park when it opened in 1914. Original capacity was 14,000, and it cost \$250,000 to build. In 1914 and 1915, Weeghman Park was home to the Chicago Whales of the Federal League. The Whales drew 200,729 in 1914 to lead that league in attendance. Their 1915 attendance is not available.

The Cubs moved from the West Side Grounds to Weeghman Park for 1916, after the Federal League folded. They drew 453,685 in 1916, more than doubling their 1915 attendance of 217,058. The ballpark was renamed Cubs Park in 1919, and became Wrigley Field in 1926.

The stands were double-decked in 1926 and 1927. The current bleachers and hand-operated scoreboard were built in 1937. Ivy on the outfield wall was planted by Bill Veeck, also in 1937, and lights were finally added in 1988. Night games often drew capacity crowds in 1988 and 1989, but so did the day games. Lights for Wrigley Field were ordered for the 1942 season, but the team donated them to the war effort. Until 2004, the Cubs never played more than 19 home night games in any season. They had 30 home night games in 2012 and 2013, 38 in 2014 and 2015, 36 in 2016 and 2017, 31 in 2018, 33 in 2019, 24 in 2020, 36 in 2021, 41 in 2022, and 38 in 2023. 31 night games are on the original schedule in 2024. There have been 889 night games at Wrigley from 1988 through 2023. The Cubs have a 469-420 record in home night games. Wrigley Field has undergone a \$750 million renovation in recent years. The bleachers have been rebuilt, new video boards have been added, and the team clubhouses have been greatly enlarged.

Highest season attendance at Wrigley Field was 3,300,200 in 2008. The record high average per date of 40,743 was also set that year. Every 2008 date drew at least 37,000, and crowds exceeded 40,000 at 42 of the last 43 dates that year, and at 65 dates overall. Average per date also topped 40,000 in 2007, with 58 dates above 40,000.

Attendance topped 3 million for 8 straight years, from 2004 through 2011, and again from 2016 through 2019. Those are the highest Chicago totals ever, as the White Sox have never reached 3 million in attendance. Since 1901, the Cubs have outdrawn the White Sox in 77 of 122 seasons. They've had the higher attendance in Chicago in each of the past 30 seasons, and 47 times in the last 55 years. Remember, no attendance in 2020.

The Cubs led the National League in attendance in 1906, 1910, 1918, each year from 1926 through 1932, and in 1938. They led the Major Leagues in 1906, 1918, and each year from 1928 through 1932. They had the lowest National League attendance in 1915, 1962, and 1966, with 1962 having the lowest MLB attendance as well.

The largest crowd ever at Wrigley Field was 51,556 for a Ladies Day game in 1930. The post-season record is 50,740 for Game 1 of the 1929 World Series. Safety regulations would prohibit such large crowds now.

The Cubs topped 600,000 at the West Side Grounds in 1906, 1908, and 1909. But they did not draw at least 600,000 at Wrigley Field until 1923.

The 1927 Cubs drew 1,159,168 to become the first National League team to top one million. They reached this level in 5 straight seasons from 1927 through 1931. They next drew one million in 1945. The only team to draw over one million more often than the Cubs did prior to 1945 was the Yankees, who did it 9 times.

In 1929, the Cubs attracted 1,485,166 to set a Major League record. That total was not surpassed by any team until 1946, when the Dodgers, Yankees, and Tigers did it. The Cubs did not top that team total until 1969.

The 1929 Cubs averaged 20,345 per date. They were the first Major League team that averaged at least 20,000 per date. However, they surpassed that 20,000 average just 4 times from 1930 through 1977, and just 6 times from 1930 through 1983.

In 1930, Cubs' attendance was 1,463,624, the highest season figure in the Major Leagues in the 1930's decade. The Cubs also had the best 10-year total National League attendance for the entire decade of the 1930's.

Lowest season attendance at Wrigley Field was 337,256 for the shorter 1918 season. The full season with the smallest total and average was 1917, when the Cubs drew 360,218, averaging 5,003 per date.

#### **CUBS NOTES** - continued

Total attendance topped one million each year from 1945 through 1950, and again in 1952. But it did not reach one million again until 1968. Attendance has been above that level each year, except short 1981, since then. Lowest post-World War II attendance was 609,802 (8,131 per date) in 1962.

1984 was the first season that the Cubs drew at least 2 million. The only full season since then where their attendance has been under 2 million was 1986. It was a bit under 2 million in the short seasons of 1994 and 1995.

Average per date topped 25,000 for the first time, also in 1984, initially reached 30,000 in 1989, and went over 35,000 for the first time in 1999. It was above 40,000 in 2007 and 2008.

The record for most home runs hit in a season at Wrigley Field is 242, set in 2021. The most ever by the Cubs at home in a season is 137, in 2004. The record for most home runs by opponents is 136 in 2021. Through the 2023 season, there have been 14,287 home runs hit at Wrigley Field. This includes Federal League games. 7,207 of these home runs were hit by the Cubs, 6,998 by their opponents, and 82 were struck in Federal League games.

A few more Cubs notes: No batted ball has ever hit the big center field scoreboard at Wrigley Field...35 home run balls have hit either the left field or right field video boards that were installed in 2015...In 1941, Wrigley Field became the first ballpark to have an organist....According to Major League Baseball historian John Thorn, in 1916, the Cubs became the first team to allow fans to keep balls hit into the stands....In their long history, the Cubs have played regular season games at 127 different ballparks including in London in 2023... Since 1990, the coldest temperature at the start of a Wrigley Field game was 26 in 1993, and the hottest was 103 in 1995... There have been over 40 concerts at Wrigley since 2005.

# Cubs' Spring Training Park is a Big Hit

The Cubs moved into a new Spring Training park in 2014. Sloan Park, in Mesa, AZ has a capacity of around 15,000, which includes seating in the grassy area behind the outfield fence. 2014 attendance for Spring Training at Sloan Park was a then-Cactus League record-high 213,815 (14,254 per game). In 2015, the Cubs set new records, drawing 222,415 (14,828 per game).

The records were broken again in 2016, as total attendance was 226,163 (15,078 per game). 13 of 15 games drew over 15,000, with a then-Cactus League record-high of 15,523. 2017 attendance was a new record-high 226,933 (15,129 per game), with 12 games topping 15,000. An additional 2 games vs. World Baseball Classic teams drew 24,966. In 2018, they drew 222,023, an average of 13,876. 9 games topped 15,000, with another new Cactus League record high of 15,849. **There was a record-high total of 250,893 in 2019** (average – 13,939), with a single game record of 16,100. In 2023, the Cubs led all teams in Spring Training attendance – 231,711 in 17 dates, an average of 13,630, with a new Cactus League record-high crowd of 16,152. They led again in 2024, with a 241,215 total in 18 dates, averaging 13,401 per date. Through 2024, there had been 79 crowds of at least 15,000 at Sloan Park.

# "ATTENTION PLEASE. GET YOUR SCORECARDS AND PENCILS READY, AND I WILL GIVE YOU THE LINEUPS."

These were the words announced by Pat Pieper before Cubs games for 6 decades.

Pat Pieper served as Public Address Announcer at Wrigley Field for 59 seasons, from 1916 through 1974, when he was 88 years old. In his early years with the Cubs, before a loudspeaker system was installed, he announced the lineups with a megaphone.

#### FOR ST. LOUIS IN 2023: THE RARE - A LOSING RECORD. THE USUAL - GREAT ATTENDANCE

*"Get up baby, get up, get up, at the wall, it's a two-run homer. Cardinals win 4-2. Listen to this crowd."* Mike Shannon (1939-2023). Cardinals' Hall of Famer and a St. Louis native, who played on two Cardinal World Series winning teams. He broadcast their games for 50 seasons, from 1972 through 2021.

The St. Louis Cardinals had a rarity in **2023** – A 90-loss season. It was their first season with a losing record since 2007, and their only 90-loss year since 1990. Attendance still was excellent. The Cardinals drew a Major League 4<sup>th</sup> best 3,241,091, averaging 40,013 per date in **2023**. This includes 2 home games in London, which drew 54,662 and 55,565, the largest crowds at any MLB 2023 game. The games in St. Louis averaged 39,631 per date. There was one rainout, and no lost dates. 15 games, including those in London, were sellouts, and 40 dates topped 40,000.

The **2023** total was down 79,460 (2.4%) **vs. 2022**, and down 239,302 (6.9%) vs. **2019**. Average per date fell 981 (2.4%) vs. **2022** average, and fell 2,955 (6.9%) vs. **2019**. The **2023** average for the 79 games in St. Louis declined 1,363 (3.3%) from **2022**.

**2023** was the Cards' 18<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year, and the 25<sup>th</sup> time, above 3 million. Excluding 2021, the only year below 3 million since 1998 was 2003, when they still drew over 2.9 million. Only the Dodgers have drawn 3 million more often than St. Louis. Cardinals' attendance has been over 2 million in all full seasons since 1982, **including 2021**. Through **2023**, the Cards have averaged over 30,000 per date for 27 straight seasons, counting full capacity 2021 dates. They have topped 35,000 per date in each of the last 24 'normal' years, and have drawn better than 40,000 per date in 16 of the last 17 'normal' seasons.

St. Louis drew at least 30,000 for a Major League record-high 1,471 straight dates (1,422 regular season, 49 post season) from May 5, 2005 through August 20, 2024. This excludes 2021 when early season Covid restrictions prohibited crowds of 30,000. The streak ended on August 21, 2024. (A Yankees' streak of 990 straight dates of 30,000+ ended in 2016.) Excluding 2021, the last under-30,000 crowd was at date #13 in 2005, and the last under-20,000 attendance came in 1997. The first 1,398 dates at Busch Stadium III all drew over 30,000. Second longest 30,000+ streak at a new park were the first 560 dates at Coors Field (Source: Elias Sports Bureau). Through 2023, and excluding 2021, 995 of the last 1,302 dates (76.4%) have drawn at least 40,000. Lowest game attendance in 16 'normal' seasons (excluding 2021) at the current Busch Stadium is 30,090 in 2012. In 2023, the Cardinals drew 90.3% of capacity.

**'Fastest to 50 Million'** – In April, 2022, The Cardinals set a Major League record by hitting 50 million in regular season attendance at a ballpark in fewest dates ever. 50 million at Busch Stadium III was reached in the 1,221<sup>st</sup> regular season date, breaking the record set by the San Francisco Giants in 2015, whey reached 50 million in Oracle Park's 1,261<sup>st</sup> regular season date.

The Cardinals drew 2,102,530 in **2021**, averaging 26,282 per date. The 50 full-capacity dates averaged 32,707, with a high of 46,525. 32 dates drew at least 30,000, with 7 of them topping 40,000. Capacity was set at 13,000 at the start of the season, raised to 32% in May, and full capacity was allowed by June 14.

St. Louis has made the post-season 16 times in the last 24 years, through 2023. They've had just 10 seasons with a losing record after 1980, and only 2 (2007, 2023) after 1999. The Cards have only 4 seasons with 90 or more losses since 1917. The only consecutive losing seasons they've had after 1920 were 1954, 1955, and 1956, then 1958 and 1959, and finally, strike-shortened 1994 and 1995.

In their first 29 seasons (1892-1920), the Cardinals managed just 5 winning years. But in the 103 seasons since then, they've posted a winning record 78 times, a losing mark only 24 times, and finished at .500 in one season. The Cardinals also have a winning record in 8 of the last 10 decades. They've been at least 100 games above .500 in 6 of those decades. St. Louis has at least 90 wins in 13 seasons since 2000.

The fans continue to reward the Cardinals at the gate incredibly well. In 2019, the Cardinals drew 3,480,393 (42,968 per date). This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> best attendance in the Majors in 2019, and the 5<sup>th</sup> best total in Cardinals' history. 22 dates were sold out in 2019, and every game drew over 35,000. Attendance topped 40,000 at 65 dates. A streak of 255 straight dates (240 regular season, 15 post-season) above 40,000 ended in 2016.

The Cardinals once sold out 165 straight dates, from the final 3 dates at Busch Stadium II in 2005, and then at Busch Stadium III through 2006, 2007, and Opening Day 2008.

# CARDINALS NOTES - continued

Top season attendance at Busch Stadium III is 3,552,180 (43,854 per date) in 2007. The "smallest" yearly figures in this park, excluding 2021, are 3,093,954 (38,197 per date) in 2011. Busch Stadium III and the current Yankee Stadium are the only Major League parks that have achieved 3 million in every season, except 2021.

Average per date has topped 40,000 in 16 of the last 18 seasons (2011 and 2021 are the exceptions). 1999 was the first year above 40,000 per date. The average has been over 35,000 in each of the last 24 'normal' years through 2023. It first reached 30,000 in 1985, and has been above that every year, except 1991,1995, and 2021 since then.

Cardinals' attendance has been above 2 million in every full season since 1982, including 2021, and over one million every year since 1963. Only the Dodgers, who have surpassed 2 million in <u>every</u> season since 1973, and been over one million in all seasons since 1945, have a longer streak. 2023 was the 25<sup>th</sup> time that St. Louis has topped 3 million. They've surpassed 2.5 million 32 times, and have drawn above 2 million in 41 seasons. Here again, only the Dodgers have reached the 3 million and 2.5 million levels more often, and only the Dodgers and Yankees have drawn over 2 million in more seasons than St. Louis has.

The 2006 Cardinals became the first team since the 1923 New York Yankees to win the World Series in their first year in a new ballpark. (The 2009 Yankees did it too.) Yet their attendance fell 131,834 from 2005, even though every game was sold out. That's because new Busch Stadium has a lower seating capacity than Busch Stadium II. It had 43,975 seats, and a full capacity of 46,861, including standing room, and party rooms. All 2007 games were sold out as well. The 2014 opening of Ballpark Village, next to the park, had increased seating capacity to 45,529 in 2017, but it was reduced to 44,494 in 2018 and 2019, to 44,383 in 2021, and to 44,309 in 2022 and 2023.

A new park can be a big boost for attendance. But the Cardinals were drawing great even before they moved. In 17 seasons at Busch Stadium III (2006-2023), the Cardinals have drawn a total of 56,264,630 in 1,375 dates, averaging 3,309,684 per season, and 40,920 per date. The Cardinals reached 50 million at Busch Stadium III in the fewest dates in any ballpark's history. In the final 17 years at Busch Stadium II (1989-2005), the Cardinals drew 47,656,230 in 1,339 dates, averaging 2,803,308 per season, and 35,591 per date. The average per date is 15.0% higher in the new park when comparing these 17-year periods.

The average per date hit 20,000 for the first time in 1966, the year the Busch Stadium II opened. That average has surpassed 24,000 every year since 1982, including 2021. The Cardinals first averaged 10,000 per date in 1927 and 1928. They next reached this level in 1945, and have been above it every year since. Average per date has been above 15,000 every season since 1963.

From 1993, when National League official attendance began to include 'no-shows,' through 2023, the Cardinals have the 3<sup>rd</sup> best attendance in the Major Leagues. They've drawn 93,399,730 in 2,389 regular season dates, averaging 39,096 per date. The Dodgers have the best total and average attendance for this period, drawing 102,322,652 in 2,396 dates (42,706 per date). The Yankees are next, with a total of 96,809,612 in 2,371 dates (40,831 per date).

These figures are even more impressive if you consider that St. Louis ranks as just the 24<sup>th</sup> largest United States TV market, based on A.C. Nielsen 2023-2024 estimates. It ranks 20<sup>th</sup> in the number of TV households among the 26 Major League TV markets, including Toronto. Orlando-Daytona, FL, Sacramento-Stockton, CA, Charlotte, NC, Raleigh-Durham, and Portland, OR, are the bigger markets than St. Louis with no MLB team. The Cardinals draw from a very wide geographical area of the Midwest. For years, they've had a large radio network that broadcasts their games. In 2024, it has stations in 105 locations, spread out over 8 states.

Until the end of World War II, the Cardinals struggled at the gate. Part of the reason was that the Browns also played in St. Louis until they moved to Baltimore after the 1953 season. The Cardinals outdrew the Browns in 35 of the 52 seasons (1902-1953) that both teams played in St. Louis, including in 27 of the last 28 years (1926-1953). But for most of those seasons, both teams drew poorly.

A 1951 'Brooklyn Eagle' article about a Dodgers game there called St. Louis "a bad baseball town." This may have been true in 1913, when the St. Louis Cardinals had the lowest attendance in the National League, and the St. Louis Browns had the lowest attendance in the American League. Since 1900, there have been 5 seasons when the Cardinals finished last in N.L. attendance, but the last time was in 1919. The Browns had the lowest American League attendance 31 times between 1910 and 1953. The Cardinals led the National League in attendance in 1901, but didn't do that again until 1967. They also had the best National League attendance in 1968, 1987, 1989, and 2000.

#### CARDINALS NOTES - continued

The Cardinals did not reach 500,000 in attendance until 1922, and topped 700,000 just twice, in 1927 and 1928, until 1946. In all those years, the Cards drew at least 500,000 just 11 times. Back in the 1930's, the Cardinals were one of the most exciting and colorful teams in baseball. Yet the World Champion 1934 team attracted only 325,056.

The 1946 World Series winners were the first Cardinal team to draw one million. The Redbirds then topped one million each year through 1951, and then in 1954, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1960, 1963, and every year after that.

Attendance of 2 million was reached in 1967 and 1968, and then in 1982. It surpassed 3 million for the first time in 1987.

The largest attendance for the Cardinals at Busch Stadium I (Sportsman's Park) was 1,430,676 (19,076 per date) in 1949. Smallest attendance was 256,171 (4,003 per date) in 1933. As bad as this was, that year in the same ballpark, the St. Louis Browns had much worse attendance. They drew just 88,113 for the entire year, averaging 1,444 per date. For the entire decade of the 1930's, the Cardinals drew 4,054,118, averaging 6,115 per date. In that same decade, the Browns drew just 1,184,076, averaging 1,916 per date. Combined 1930's attendance for both St. Louis teams was 5,238,194 in 1,281 dates, an average of 4,089 per date.

In May, 1966, the Redbirds moved into the downtown Busch Memorial Stadium (Busch Stadium II). In that first year, they averaged 12,216 per date for 10 dates in the old park before the move, and 24,103 for 66 dates in the new place. For the last 2-plus years at the old park (1964, 1965, plus those 10 dates in 1966), the Cards averaged 15,569 per date. In the new park, for the remaining 66 dates in 1966, plus all of 1967 and 1968, the Cardinals averaged 26,232 per date.

Best attendance at Busch Stadium II came in its final year of 2005. The Cardinals drew 3,538,948, selling out many games, and averaging 43,691 per date. Smallest attendance was 1,196,894 in 1972, a season shortened slightly by a strike. In 1976, total attendance was 1,207,079, and the average per date of 15,279 was the lowest for this park.

In 1950, the Cardinals became the first Major League club to schedule a night home opener. The game drew 20,871, which was the highest Opening Day attendance for the Cardinals from 1938 (and perhaps earlier) until 1956. From 1900 through 1937, only the 1902, 1903, and 1937 Openers had estimated attendance of 20,000. None drew higher. From 1938 through 1955, the Cardinals drew an average of 12,885 on Opening Day.

Opening Day wasn't a big deal in St. Louis from the late 1930's until the mid-1950's. Average attendance for the final 16 Opening Days for the St. Louis Browns (1938-1953) was 7,076, with an MLB ballpark record Opening Day low of 1,500 in 1936. (Toronto drew a smaller crowd in 2021, but that was in their Spring Training park in Dunedin, FL, with limited attendance.) Highest estimated Opening Day attendance for the Browns was 25,000 in 1909. Other Opening Day games for the Browns that drew at least an estimated 20,000 were in 1910, 1923, and 1925.

#### DESPITE THEIR WORST RECORD EVER, THE ROCKIES' ATTENDANCE CONTINUED TO BE GOOD IN 2023

2023 was not a good season for the Colorado Rockies. They had a 59-103 record, the worst in the 31-year history of this club. But attendance continued to be good. Colorado drew a total of 2,607,935 in **2023**, up 10,507 (0.4%) vs. **2022**, but down 385,309 (12.9%) vs. **2019**. **2023** average per date was 32,197, down 271 (0.8%) vs. **2022**, and down 4,757 (12.9%) vs. **2019**. It was the 14<sup>th</sup> straight 'normal' year above 2.5 million, and the 14<sup>th</sup> 'normal' year in a row with average per date over 30,000. There were 9 sellouts, one postponement, but no lost dates. There were 49 crowds of at least 30,000, 19 of them topped 40,000, with a high of 48,632.

The Rockies drew 2,993,244 in **2019**, down 22,636 (0.8%). This was their 2<sup>nd</sup> highest attendance since 2001. 36 dates topped 40,000, attendance reached 35,000 at 47 dates, and exceeded 30,000 at 64 dates. All games drew at least 20,000. There were 13 sellouts. Average per date was 37,233, the 14<sup>th</sup> time in team history it has topped 35,000.

The Rockies' first season was 1993, and in their early years, they set attendance records that may never be broken. In their first 2 seasons, they played at Mile High Stadium, which could hold more than 75,000 fans. Their current park, Coors Field, had a 2017 seating capacity of 50,398, a 2019-2022 capacity of 46,897 seats (46,896 in 2023 and 2024), and a ballpark capacity of 50,144 (50,141 in 2023 and 2024). Since moving to Coors Field in 1995, the Rockies have posted a better won/loss record at home than on the road every year except for the short 2020 season. 2018 was the 10<sup>th</sup> time that Colorado has drawn at least 3 million.

#### Colorado led the Major Leagues in attendance in each of their first 7 seasons (1993-1999).

The Rockies topped 3 million in each of their first 9 years, including the first 7 years (1995-2001) at Coors Field. In those first 7 years at Coors Field, which includes a slightly shorter 1995, they drew a total of 24,878,741 in 558 dates, averaging 44,586 per date. Until 2018, the Rockies had not reached 3 million since 2001. From 2002 through 2023, the Rockies drew a total of 54,213,361 in 1,692 dates, averaging 32,041 per date.

Toronto is the only team to have a higher average per date for a team in its first 7 seasons in a new ballpark. The Blue Jays drew 24,335,614 in 509 dates (47,811 average per date) in their first 7 seasons (1989-1995) at Skydome. This period covers 3 partial seasons. In 1989, the Blue Jays played 54 dates at Skydome after opening that season at Exhibition Stadium. 1994 and 1995 were shorter due to the strike.

Baltimore drew 23,889,894 (540 dates, 44,241 per date) in its first 7 years (1992-1998) at Oriole Park.

In their final 7 years at old Yankee Stadium (2002-2008), the Yankees drew at total of 27,567,451 in 564 dates, an average of 48,878 per date. That is the highest 7-year total and average per date at any single ballpark.

From 1993 through 1999, the Rockies drew a total of 26,204,777 in 531 dates, averaging 49,350 per date. This includes 1993 and the shorter 1994 season at Mile High Stadium. The Yankees have the Major League record high attendance for any 7-year period. Between 2004 and 2010, which covers the first 2 years at new Yankee Stadium, they drew 28,080,524 in 565 dates, averaging 49,700 per date.

Record high attendance at Coors Field is 3,891,014 in 1996. Average per date that year was 48,037.

Lowest attendance at Coors Field was 1,914,389 in 2005, averaging 23,930 per date. This is the only season, other than 2021, that the Rockies have ever drawn under 2 million. It is also the only year, again except 2021, they've averaged less than 25,000 per date. 2006 is the only other year they've had attendance below 2.3 million.

Attendance was over 40,000 at 480 of the first 484 dates in team history, covering the full seasons of 1993 through 1998, and the first 34 dates of 1999. Only 3 dates in 1995, and one date in 1998 drew less than 40,000.

The Rockies drew at least 30,000 for their first 695 regular season dates, running through date #2 in 2002. Attendance was above 20,000 for the first 860 dates, until date #6 of 2004, the team's 12<sup>th</sup> season.

Average per date was above 40,000 in each of the team's first 8 seasons. The average has been above 30,000 in 24 of the team's 30 years with attendance, including in each of 14 straight 'normal' seasons through 2023.

#### **ROCKIES NOTES - continued**

The Rockies have 3 of the 5 highest season attendance totals in National League history (1993, 1996, 1997). The 2008 Mets (rank #2), and 2019 Dodgers (rank #3), have the others.

There were 203 consecutive sellouts at Coors Field from June 12, 1995 through September 6, 1997. That was the National League record for consecutive sellouts until Philadelphia broke it at the end of the 2011 season.

Since 1993 through 2023, the Rockies have drawn 86,856,966, averaging 36,418 per date. Only the Dodgers (102,322,652), the Yankees (96,809,612), and the Cardinals (93,399,730), have a higher total attendance over this 29-year period, which excludes 2020. The Giants, Cubs, Angels, Braves, Rangers, Red Sox, Orioles, Mets, Astros, Mariners, and Phillies, are next on this list, each drawing over 70 million since 1993.

The 20<sup>th</sup> row of the upper deck at Coors Field marks an elevation of one mile above sea level. That high altitude leads to many home runs. In the first 10 years at Coors Field (1995-2004), the Rockies and their opponents combined to hit at least 212 home runs each year. Then they began to store the baseballs used at Coors Field in a humidifier, and that cut down on the homers. From 2005 through 2011, there were less than 200 home runs hit each year, with a low of 168 in 2006. There were 218 home runs in 2012. In 2013, an all-time low of 159 home runs were hit at Coors Field. There were 209 homers at Coors in 2014, 202 in 2015, 215 in 2016, 208 in 2017, 220 in 2018, 276 in 2019, 83 in the short 2020 season, 202 in 2021, 200 in 2022, and 208 in 2023.

In 1999, an MLB ballpark record-high of 303 home runs were struck at Coors Field, which has 4 of the 5 highest combined single season home run totals in MLB history. There were 276 home runs at Coors in 2019, and 271 in 1996, and 268 in 2001. 277 home runs were hit in 2004 at Guaranteed Rate Field, the home of the White Sox in Chicago. The Rockies hit 149 homers at Coors in 1996. Texas, who hit 153 home runs at home in 2005, and Houston, with 150 in 2019, are the only teams to hit more homers in their home park than the 1996 Rockies.

The record for combined homers by both teams in a game at Coors is 10. It's been done 5 times there. 6,114 home runs in 2,290 regular season games have been hit at Coors Field in its 29 years, an average of 2.67 per game. On the other hand, Coors Field had no 1-0 games from 1995 through 2004. There were 9 from 2005 through 2010, but only 2 (in 2018 and 2023) since 2010.

In their history, the Rockies have posted a higher batting average at home (by at least .028) than on the road every year. The biggest gap was in 1996, when the Rockies hit .343 at home, and .228 on the road. In 2021, Colorado hit .280 at home, and just .217 on the road. The Rockies had a .269 batting average at home in 2023, and hit .228 on the road. There have been 3 seasons when their team earned run average was better at home than away – 2003 by 0.28, 2013 by 0.01, and 2021 by 0.33. In 1995, they had a 6.17 ERA at home and a 3.70 ERA on the road. The home/road split in 1999 was 7.11/4.84. In 2023, Colorado's home ERA was 6.12, and it was 5.18 on the road.

Mile High Stadium, home of the Rockies in 1993 and 1994, was originally built as a Minor League baseball stadium in 1948. The American Football League Broncos began to play there in 1960. The stadium was enlarged numerous times, and had a seating capacity of 76,098 when the Rockies called it home in 1993 and 1994. There was extra seating added for some Rockies games. In 1993, the most expensive regular seat in the stadium was \$16. Many seats to Rockies games were less than \$10, and seats in the 'Rockpile' bleachers were just \$1.

# In 1993, the Rockies set the all-time Major League record for total attendance, drawing 4,483,350. The average per date that year of 56,751 was a record for a <u>full season</u>. Only 16 dates had attendance below 50,000, and the smallest crowd was 40,813.

1994 Rockies attendance was even better. But the strike ended the season in August. The 1994 average per date of 58,598 is an MLB record for a season of any length. The smallest crowd in 1994 was 45,667, and only 8 dates drew under 50,000. Attendance topped 60,000 at 14 of the final 16 games before the premature end to the season.

#### **ROCKIES NOTES - continued**

# In their 2 seasons combined at Mile High Stadium, the Rockies drew a total attendance of 7,764,861 in 135 dates, an average of 57,517 per date. Crowds of at least 60,000 were at 52 dates, and there were 21 dates where attendance reached 70,000.

Other attendance records set at Mile High: Largest crowd for a National League day game, and for Opening Day – both set on Opening Day 1993 with a crowd of 80,227; Largest N.L. night game crowd – 73,957 in 1994; Major League high for a 3 game series – 217,009 in 1994; Major League high for a 4 game series – 259,113 in 1994.

There have been only 5 seasons (2004 through 2007 and 2016) when the Rockies had a higher average attendance per date on the road than they had at home.

Fireworks Nights have been held 75 times in Rockies' history. 64 of those nights drew over 40,000.

Denver was a great Minor League market. In 1949, Denver became the first Class A team to reach 400,000 when the Bears of the Western League drew 463,039. The 1952 Bears, who drew 461,419, are the only Class A team to ever lead the Minor Leagues in total attendance. Toronto had a higher average per date that year. (2022 Dayton may be the first Class A team to ever lead Minor League Baseball in average per date.) Later, Denver moved to the Triple-A American Association, and their highest attendance was 565,214 in 1980. The Bears topped 500,000 in 4 seasons. Denver also holds the record for the largest crowd ever at a Minor League game. In 1982, the Bears drew 65,666 for Fireworks Night.

Through 2023, there have been 20 games snowed out in Denver's Major League history, including 3 in 2013. 17 of these snowouts have been in April, 2 were in May, and one was for a Division Series game in October, 2009.

According to the Denver office of the National Weather Service, from 1950 through 2023, there have been 25 years when Denver has recorded at least one inch of snow in the month of May. The record total for the month of May is 13.6 inches in 1950. At least one inch of snow has been recorded in the month of September in 16 different years since 1950, with a monthly record of 17.2 inches in 1971.

Cold and hot weather has also been part of Rockies history. Through 2023, the gametime temperature was less than 37 degrees at 11 games. The coldest gametime temperature was 23 degrees for a <u>day game</u> on April 23, 2013. A 2018 game had a 27-degree temperature, with a snow delay to boot. 11 games have begun with a temperature of at least 97 degrees. A game in 2012 had a temperature of 100 degrees at its start.

#### REDS HAD A MUCH BETTER 2023 THAN 2022 ON THE FIELD, AND HAD THE BEST MLB % ATTENDANCE GAIN

In 2022, for just the second time in their 139-year history, the Reds had a 100-loss season (1982 is the other year). Cincinnati's **2022** total attendance was 1,395,770, an average of 17,447 per date. The last time the Reds had such low attendance was in 1984. This includes the shorter seasons of 1994 and 1995, along with 2021. 2022 was the 5<sup>th</sup> 'normal' season since 2009 that the Reds drew under 2 million.

But in 2023, the Reds' won 20 more games than in 2022. Their total attendance rose 642,532 (46.0%) to 2,038,302, and average per date increased 7,717 (44.2%) to 25,164. The 2023 vs. 2022 percentage increases were the best of any Major League team. 2023 attendance was the highest since 2015. There was one rainout, and no dates were lost. 4 dates drew under 10,000, 26 dates topped 30,000, and the 10 sellouts all surpassed 40,000. The June 2 game and Zac Brown concert drew a Great American Ball Park all-time record-high crowd of 44,073. Compared to 2019, the 2023 total attendance was up 229,617 (12.7%), and average per date rose 2,835 (12.7%).

After 4 straight N.L. Central last place finishes, the Reds reached in 4<sup>th</sup> place in 2019. Their total attendance rose 179,329 (11.0%) to 1,808,685, as listed by the MLB Stats Reporting Platform. (The Reds 2023 Media Guide shows 2019 attendance as 1,775,396, because they didn't include 33,289 for 2 Reds home games played in Monterrey, Mexico.) Average per date was up 2,213 to 22,329. Games in Cincinnati averaged 22,473 per date, up 2,357.

Cincinnati had 2 sellouts in 2019. Opening Day had a Great American Ball Park then-record-high 44,049. 17 dates drew at least 30,000, but there were 36 dates with attendance below 20,000, and one of them drew less than 10,000. 2018 was the first time since 2009 that a game in Cincinnati had crowd below 10,000. Since 2000, the Reds' best total is 2,492,059 in 2013, with a team record-high of 16 games sold out.

In 2015, the Reds won their fewest games since 1982, and ended up in last place for the first time since 1983. No other team in the 4 major league sports (MLB, NFL, NBA, NHL) had gone so long without being last in their division. San Antonio of the NBA, who finished last in 1986-87, and had the longest 'non-cellar' streak through 2021-22. They tied Houston for last place in their division in 2022-23, and were in last place by themselves in 2023-24. The Spurs had been in the playoffs for 22 straight years (1998-2019), before missing the playoffs in 2020. The Reds had a winning record in 29 of 40 years from 1961 through 2000.

Weather was a problem in Cincinnati in 2015. There were 18 rain delays totaling 26 hours and 57 minutes at Great American Ball Park. It was the highest total of weather delays since the Reds began to keep track of this in 1978.

In 2008, Cincinnati's attendance was up by 37. That's not 37 per date, but 37 for the entire season. This is the smallest year-to-year change in attendance in Major League history. In 1970, the Oakland A's had a gain of 123 for the year, and in 1930, attendance for the New York Giants fell by 92. According to <u>Total Baseball</u>, St. Louis Cardinals attendance rose by 121 in 1903. (The Cardinals Media Guide shows a gain of 37,121.) Now here are a couple of 'two-year' oddities in attendance change: In 1954, the Chicago White Sox drew exactly 46 less than in <u>1952</u>, and attendance for the Angels in 1975 was 43 less than in <u>1973</u>.

Since Great American Ball Park opened in 2003, 140 games, including post-season games, through 2023 have been sold out. This park was built right next to Riverfront Stadium, the Reds' home from mid-1970 through 2002. The White Sox, Yankees, Mariners, Rangers (doing it for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 2020), Braves (Ted Turner Field), Brewers, Mets, Phillies, Pirates, and Cardinals have also opened new ballparks adjacent to their former homes.

In 20 seasons at Great American Ball Park, the Reds have drawn 40,702,920 in 1,618 dates, averaging 2,035,146 per season and 25,156 per date. This includes the 2019 games in Mexico, and the 2022 game in Iowa. The season high, as noted above, was set in 2013. The Reds drew 2,355,160 in 2003, Great American Ball Park's first year, averaging 29,076 per date. By comparison, attendance in 2002, the final season at Riverfront Stadium (then called Cinergy Field) was 1,855,973, an average of 23,200 per date.

The Reds, who were founded in 1869, are the oldest Major League franchise. They were an original member of the National League when it was founded in 1876, and then moved to the American Association, when it was a Major League. They returned to the National League in 1890.

#### **REDS NOTES** - continued

Cincinnati's attendance reached 500,000 just 4 times until 1938. The Reds drew less than 400,000 in 27 different seasons from 1900 through 1945. They came close to one million in 1939, drawing 981,443. But it took until 1956 for them to reach one million. That year they drew 1,125,928 (16,558 per date). That was the best attendance ever at Crosley Field. Cincinnati drew at least one million only 3 more times (1957, 1961, 1965) until moving into Riverfront Stadium in 1970. Their average per date reached 20,000 for the first time in 1970, and was above that level every year from 1985 through 2019. It was under 20,000 in 2021 and 2022. Average per date surpassed 30,000 each year from 1975 through 1979, 1990, 1993, 1994, 2000, 2013, and 2014.

The highest attendance ever in Cincinnati was in 1976, when The Big Red Machine World Series winners drew 2,629,708 (35,063 per date) in just 75 home dates. 10 dates had crowds above 50,000, and attendance topped 45,000 for 20 dates. The Reds are the only Major League team whose current season record-high attendance mark was set prior to 1990. Riverfront Stadium seated 51,744, while Great American Ball Park has a 2024 capacity of 45,814.

The Reds drew more than 2 million for 8 straight years from 1973 through 1980. This is the longest '2 million' streak in team history. Total attendance for those 8 seasons was 18,558,769, averaging 2,319,846 per season, and 30,726 per date. That was very impressive for a team in what is now the Major Leagues' 2<sup>nd</sup> smallest TV market (to Milwaukee). At that time, National League attendance figures only counted actual in-stadium paid attendance, and did not include 'no-shows,' which are tickets sold but not used. Teams also played more single-admission doubleheaders in those days. So most teams had fewer home dates per year than they do now.

Riverfront Stadium opened in late June of 1970. That year, the Reds played their first 34 dates at Crosley Field. Those games drew 558,266, averaging 16,420 per date. The 43 dates at Riverfront attracted 1,245,302, an average of 28,961 per date. From the 1970 opening, through 2002, its final year, attendance at Riverfront Stadium totaled 64,663,050 in 2,482 dates, averaging 26,053 per date.

Lowest attendance at Crosley Field was just 100,791 (1,482 per date) in 1914. The post-World War II low total was 538,794 in 1950. Lowest post-WWII average per date was 8,700 in 1953. In 1969, the final full season at Crosley Field, the Reds drew 987,991 (13,534 per date).

Cincinnati was the first Major League team to put lights in their ballpark. The first night game was played at Crosley Field on May 24, 1935, and drew a paid crowd of 20,422. The Reds played 7 night games that year. They were the only team with lights in 1935, 1936, and 1937. The next team to install lights was the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1938. More details about the early history of Major League night games can be found in the section starting on page 288.

The All-Star Game came to Cincinnati for the 5<sup>th</sup> time in 2015. The 1938 game, which drew 27,607, and the 1953 game, played in front of 30,846, took place at Crosley Field. In 1970, the game was played at Riverfront Stadium just 2 weeks after that ballpark opened. It drew 51,838. The 1988 game at Riverfront attracted 55,837. Attendance for the 2015 game was 43,656. The 2015 Futures Game drew 43,661, and the Home Run Derby attracted 43,587.

Although Cincinnati is a small-sized Major League market (A.C. Nielsen ranked #37 for 2023-24), compared to others in the Major Leagues, the Reds have a strong regional fan base. They draw from some fairly large TV markets such as Columbus, Indianapolis, and Louisville. Their radio network has 112 stations, in 7 states, in 2024.

Great American Ball Park is located on Joe Nuxhall Way, a street named after the former Reds pitcher who in 1944, became the youngest player in Major League history. He was 15 years old when he made his debut. Nuxhall spent 41 seasons as a Reds broadcaster from 1967 through 2007.

Another street bordering Great American Ball Park is Pete Rose Way. Rose, who remains ineligible for the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, was inducted into the Reds Hall of Fame in 2016.

2019 marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of professional baseball. The Cincinnati Red Stockings were the first pro team.

#### MIAMI WAS LAST AGAIN IN NATIONAL LEAGUE ATTENDANCE. BUT IT CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

Marlins management has been making a serious effort to improve the fan experience at loanDepot Park, with reduced-price parking, and a \$3-\$5 concessions menu. In 2023, the Marlins were in the playoffs, and had their best record since 2009. Plus, the ballpark is beautiful. And now, slowly but surely, their attendance is growing.

Miami still had the lowest National League attendance for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight season in **2023**, and for the 15<sup>th</sup> time in the last 16 years – 1,162,819 total, and 14,356 average per date. But those were their best figures since 2017. Compared to **2022**, the total was up 255,332 (28.1%), and average per date grew by 3,152 (28.1%). **Vs. 2019**, the total was up 351,517 (43.3%), and average per date increased 4,340 (43.3%). The Marlins again only included tickets sold at full or near-full price in their reported attendance figures in **2023**. 22 dates drew less than 10,000, and 12 dates topped 20,000, with a high of 35,043. There were no sellouts. 2012, the year loanDepot Park opened, was the last time the Marlins avoided the N.L. attendance basement.

The Marlins drew 811,302 in **2019**, up 198 (0.0%), from the team record-low 811,104 in 2018. That was the low by any team since the 2004, lame-duck, Montreal Expos, who moved Washington the following year. 2019 average per date was 10,016, up 2. Only 3 dates drew over 20,000, with a high of 29,720. 53 dates failed to attracted at least 10,000, and 3 drew under 6,000, with a low of 5,297. The 2018 and 2019 figures are the two lowest attendances ever, excluding 2021, for a team playing in a ballpark built since 1990. There have been 5 seasons (2002, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022) with attendance below one million.

2018 Marlins' total attendance, at least officially, plunged 840,893 (50.9%). According to data in Total Baseball, the last time any team had their attendance cut by more than half was in 1950, when the Philadelphia Athletics had a 62.1% decline. (Attendance data in retrosheet.org shows a 59.9% decrease for the 1950 A's.) 13 teams in MLB history have seen attendance fall by at least 50% from one season to the next (excludes 2021 and shorter seasons). The numerical decline in total attendance was the 6<sup>th</sup> worst ever. Average per date fell 10,381 to 10,014. That is the 12<sup>th</sup> worst drop in average per date in MLB history.

It is important to note nearly all of the 2018 decline, and the low 2018-2023 numbers, are because the Marlins changed the guidelines of how they report attendance. Their 2018-2023 official attendance, unlike in 2017, only included tickets sold at, or close to, full price. It didn't include tickets distributed free or at very large discounts. According to a Miami Herald article, had the Marlins reported 2017 attendance using the same method as in 2018, their 2017 attendance would have been around 820,000, which is very similar to the 2018 total.

51 dates in 2018 drew less than 10,000, with 9 of them failing to attract 6,000. Note that those figures are for tickets sold and include 'no-shows.' The smallest crowd, for the Marlins, and in the Majors in 2018, was 5,265 on July 11. Only 5 dates drew at least 20,000, and those were the only dates that topped 15,000. How bad was it? On Friday, August 10, the Marlins were outdrawn by 22 Minor League teams. 24 Minor League games had higher attendance than Miami on Friday, August 24, and 23 Minor League games outdrew the Marlins on Saturday, August 25. But attendance for some of these Minor League games may have included tickets distributed for free.

A new era arrived for the Marlins in 2012. Their name changed from Florida to Miami, and they moved into their new retractable-roof, sleekly-designed ballpark. It is on the site of the old Orange Bowl stadium in the Little Havana section. The ballpark is air conditioned, and the roof eliminated rain delays and rainouts. Well, almost. On Opening Day 2015, there was a 16-minute rain delay, as the roof had to be closed during the game.

The roof has been open at the start of just 95 of the 890 games (10.7%) played at loanDepot Park. The largest number of games started with an open roof was 20 in 2018. There were 14 'open roof' games in 2019, none in 2020, 2 in 2021, 3 in 2022, and 5 in 2023.

2012 was expected to bring a big increase in attendance for the Marlins, and it did. But attendance was far less than expected. There was plenty of controversy about the mostly public-funded cost of Marlins Park. With the expected increase in revenues due to the new park, the Marlins spent more on players than they had in recent years. But the team played poorly, and during and after the season, they traded many of their best players.

#### MARLINS NOTES - continued

The total attendance of 2,219,444 was Miami's best since 1997. The gain of 698,862 (46.0%) from 2011 was the biggest total and percentage increase in the Majors in 2012. But that total was the smallest for any team that played a full season in a new ballpark since Minnesota drew just 921,186 in 1982, their first year in the Metrodome. According to a Marlins executive, quoted in the March 25, 2013 issue of Sports Illustrated, the actual in-stadium attendance (excluding tickets sold, but not used, and perhaps excluding tickets distributed for free) at Marlins Park was only 1.4 million

There were only 2 sellouts, and 22 dates had crowds above 30,000 in 2012. But the Marlins had only 19 home crowds of at least 30,000 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens for the 2009, 2010, and 2011 seasons combined.

Things got much worse in 2013. The Marlins drew just 1,586,322 (19,584 per date). This was down 633,122 (28.5%) from 2012, and was the worst total and percentage decline in the Majors for the year. The 2013 decline is now the 18<sup>th</sup> worst in Major League history in terms of total attendance. It was also the 4<sup>th</sup> worst decrease among teams in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new ballpark. Miami was the only National League team to draw less than 2.1 million, and to average less than 26,000 per date. Only Tampa Bay and Cleveland drew worse than the Marlins.

There were no sellouts at loanDepot (spelled with a lower case 'L') Park (formerly Marlins Park) in 2013, and Opening Day had the only crowd above 30,000. Just 30 dates drew at least 20,000, with only 6 of the 43 dates between April 15 and July 26 reaching that level. 21 of the last 32 dates of the season did top 20,000. The Marlins lost the first 13 games of the year played with the roof open. They won the last 'roof-open' game of the season.

The 2013 total attendance figure was the lowest 'Year 2 in a new park' attendance since Tampa Bay drew 1,562,827 in 1999. It was also the lowest 'Year 2' total for a team in a completely new ballpark since Minnesota drew 858,939 in 1983. Pittsburgh, which drew 1,784,993 in 2002, had the next lowest 'Year 2' figure until the 2013 Marlins.

Lowest 'Year 2' averages per date since 1989 are 19,294 by Tampa Bay in 1999, 19,584 by the Marlins in 2013, and 22,595 by Pittsburgh in 2002. Minnesota averaged 10,737 per date in 1983. The 1963 Washington Senators had the lowest 'Year 2 in a new ballpark' attendance by any team since before 1920, drawing just 535,604 at D.C. (later named Robert F. Kennedy) Stadium, and averaging 7,877 per date.

Until the Marlins did it in 2013, the last time a team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new park had the lowest attendance in its league was San Diego in 1970. The Padres also had the National League's lowest attendance in 1969, their first season. San Diego/Jack Murphy Stadium opened for the American Football League Chargers in 1967. Minnesota had the lowest American League attendance in 1982, <u>their first year</u> at the Metrodome. Washington had the lowest MLB attendance in 1963, which was Year 2 at D.C. Stadium. Also in 1963, their 2<sup>nd</sup> season, Houston had the lowest National League attendance, but that was at Colt Stadium, a temporary facility in use while the Astrodome was being built.

In 2011, the Marlins finished last in the National League attendance standings for the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year. The total of 1,520,582 included 3 'home' games that were played in Seattle due to a concert at then-named Sun Life Stadium. Overall, the Marlins drew more than 30,000 just 4 times in 2011, and 45 games had crowds of under 20,000. But attendance topped 20,000 at each of the last 22 games of the season.

In their first season (1993) the Marlins drew 3,064,847. But since then, they've topped 2 million only in 1997 and 2012, despite winning the World Series twice. Average attendance per home date was 38,311 in 1993, and 32,838 in 1994, but has been over 25,000 only twice (1997, 2012) since then. 2012 was the first time since 2005, and just the 3<sup>rd</sup> time since 1998, that average per date reached 20,000. The Marlins have averaged less than 20,000 per date in 16 of their 29 seasons. Lowest Marlins' season attendance prior to 2018 was 813,111 (10,038 per date) in 2002.

### MARLINS NOTES - continued

The heat, humidity, and constant threat of rain during the summer were a major problem for the Marlins until 2012. They averaged 1-2 weather postponements, and around 9-10 rain delays per year in the 19 years they played outdoors. 6 of the postponements had been due to hurricanes. (There have been 3 more hurricane postponements since the Marlins moved to loanDepot Park.) In 2009, the Marlins lost 3 dates to rain, and also had a team record-high 22 rain delays. The previous record for rain delays in a season was 16 in both 1999 and 2005. In those 19 outdoor years, the Marlins had 29 postponements, and 177 rain delays totaling 177 hours and 22 minutes.

Hard Rock Stadium, formerly known as Joe Robbie Stadium, Dolphins Stadium, Pro Player Stadium, Sun Life Stadium, and some other names, was the home of the Marlins from 1993 through 2011. That stadium opened in 1987 for the NFL's Dolphins, and was reconfigured in 1993 to allow regular season Major League Baseball games to be played there. In recent years, this facility has been significantly upgraded. One of the benefits of the recent \$500 million stadium improvement project is that about 92% of the seats are now protected from rain and sun.

The Marlins played 1,479 regular season dates in this stadium and drew a total to 30,386,717, averaging 20,545 per date. This total excludes 8 games moved from Miami due to weather or concerts. The 2005 opener drew 57,405, which is the largest regular season crowd in team history, and the lowest attendance for a Marlins game in Miami was 4,466 on April 11, 2002. In 11 years at loanDepot Park (2012-2023), attendance has totaled 14,990,027 in 890 dates, an average of 1,362,730 per season, and 16,843 per date. This includes the 3 home games in 2017 that were moved to Milwaukee due to Hurricane Irma. The Marlins get credit for the attendance at those games.

From 1988 through 1992, Hard Rock Stadium hosted 13 Spring Training games. Those 13 games drew a total of about 370,000. In 1991, 67,654 attended an Orioles-Yankees game. At that time, it was the largest crowd ever at an exhibition game played at a (then) non-Major League ballpark. A game the following day drew 57,359.

There have been 17 post-season games in Miami, and they attracted a total of 1,033,966, an average of 60,822 per game. The last 12 post-season home games for the Marlins at Hard Rock Stadium all drew at least 60,000 each, and attendance topped 65,000 at 11 of those games. The Marlins hold the records for largest crowd at a National League Division Series game (65,464 in 2003), and a National League Championship Series game (65,829 in 2003).

Some other notes about loanDepot Park: It takes 13 minutes to open and close the roof. The park has plenty of artwork, and a Bobblehead Museum. 600 baseball-themed bobbleheads are housed in a display case that moves slightly so the bobbleheads can bobble. Significant upgrades were made to loanDepot Park prior to the 2019 season.

# WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC GAMES AT LOANDEPOT PARK HAVE BEEN A HUGE HIT

The World Baseball Classic came to loanDepot Park again in 2023. It was an electric atmosphere, with lots of enthusiastic fans from different countries. The 10 first-round games in Miami drew 295,850, averaging 29,585 per game. The 5 quarter-final, semi-final, and final games had total attendance of 179,419, a near-sellout average of 35,884 per game.

loanDepot Park also hosted first-round games in the 2017 WBC. Those games drew 163,878, averaging 27,313 per game.

The 2024 Serie del Caribe (Caribbean Series), which is the championship series of the Caribbean Winter Leagues, was played at IoanDepot Park in February, 2024. Teams representing the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Venezuela, Curacao, Panama, and Nicaragua played. The 25 games drew a total of 340,325, an average of 13,613 per game. The Championship Game, won by Venezuela, drew a Series high of 36,677. 2 other games drew more than 30,000

### SMALL MARKET BREWERS CONTINUED TO BE A GOOD DRAW IN 2023

Milwaukee drew a total of 2,551,347 in **2023**, up 128,927 (5.3%) vs. **2022**, and down 371,986 (12.7%) vs. **2019**. Average per date in **2023** was 31,498, up 1,218 (4.0%) vs. **2022**, but down 4,593 (12.7%) vs. **2019**. Only 2 crowds were under 20,000. 48 dates drew over 30,000, 6 of them topped 40,000, with a high of 43,209, with 5 sellouts.

The Brewers' recent attendance achievements, topping 2 million in each of the last 18 'normal' seasons, through 2023, including 3 years with attendance over 3 million, are significant. Milwaukee, ranked #38, with 895,700 TV households, is the smallest market with a Major League Baseball team, based on the A.C. Nielsen 2023-2024 estimate of TV households. There are 13 TV markets with more households than Milwaukee that do not have a Major League team. Brewers' attendance was up 73.5% from 2003 **through 2019**. They are one of only 8 teams to reach 2.3 million in attendance each year from 2006 through 2019, and then again in 2022 and 2023. The Cubs, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants, Red Sox, Angels, and Yankees are the others.

Brewers' **2019** attendance rose 72,458 (2.5%) to 2,923,333. Average per date was up 895 to 36,091. These followed gains of 292,153 in 2018, and 244,108 in 2017. 2019 had the Brewers' 4<sup>th</sup> best total and average in their 53-year history. It was the 12<sup>th</sup> time in 13 years, through 2019, that Milwaukee's total attendance exceeded 2.5 million, and that average per date was over 30,000. 2016 was the year with figures below that. 20 dates were sellouts, and attendance topped 40,000 at 29 dates. It was above 30,000 at 66 dates, and every game drew at least 21,000.

A Milwaukee streak of 689 consecutive dates that drew at least 20,000 ran from 2007 to September 1, 2015. Average per date has been above 35,000 in 6 seasons since 2001.

In 2014, the Brewers had the best attendance increase in the National League. Total attendance was up 266,269 (10.5%). Average per date rose by 3,288. Only Seattle had bigger gains in these categories in 2014. Brewers' attendance fell 300,270 (10.6%) in 2013, and 239,988 (7.8%) in 2012.

In 2011, the Brewers had the most wins (96) in team history, a record they tied in 2018. They also set a season attendance record, drawing 3,071,373. This was up 294,842 (10.6%) from 2010. The old record was set in 2008. There were 37 sellouts, and 71 games drew over 30,000. Attendance also topped 3 million in 2009.

2008 was the first time since 1982 that the Brewers were in the playoffs, and fans turned out in huge numbers. Attendance topped 3 million for the first time ever, as the Brew Crew drew 3,068,458, breaking a record they had set in 2007. A record-high 44 games were sold out at Miller Park, including 22 in a row.

In 2007, the Brewers had their first winning record since 1992. Their total attendance increase from 2006 (533,501), and the percentage gain (22.8%), were the best in the Major Leagues that year. There were 31 sellouts at American Family Field in 2007, breaking the previous record of 20.

In 31 seasons at County Stadium (1970-2000), the Brewers reached 2 million only once, in 1983, when they drew 2,397,131, averaging 31,132 per date. Overall at County Stadium, the Brewers drew 45,309,656 in 2,325 dates, averaging 1,461,602 per season, and 19,488 per date. The final game at County Stadium, on September 28, 2000, drew 56,354, the largest regular season crowd in Milwaukee baseball history. American Family Field seats 41,700.

Milwaukee has topped 2 million 19 times since moving to American Family Field (formerly Miller Park) in 2001. Their total attendance there, through 2023, is 56,045,823 in 1,781 dates. That's an average of 2,547,537 per season, and 31,469 per date.

173 dates (7.4% of all dates) for the Brewers at County Stadium had attendance of at least 40,000. Through 2023, but excluding 2021, 368 of the 1,700 dates (21.6%) at Miller Park, which is significantly smaller than County Stadium, had attracted at least 40,000. There have been 239 sellouts at American Family Field from the start of the 2007 season through 2023.

In 2001, their first year at American Family Field, the Brewers drew 2,811,041 (34,704 per date). It was the first time since 1983 that the Brewers averaged at least 30,000 per date. In 2000, their final season at County Stadium, Brewers' attendance was 1,573,621 (19,919 per date). Lowest attendance at Miller Park was 1,685,049 (20,803 per date) in 2003.

### BREWERS NOTES - continued

Attendance was low during the early years for the Brewers in Milwaukee. In 1970, their first season in Wisconsin, the Brew Crew drew 933,690 (12,790 per date). That wasn't so bad, considering that the team moved to Milwaukee from Seattle just before the start of the regular season. The 1969 Seattle Pilots, in their only season, drew 677,944 (9,161 per date), playing at Sicks Stadium, an expanded Minor League ballpark.

In the slightly shorter 1972 season, Brewers' attendance was at an all-time low of 600,440 (8,830 per date). That year, only 3 dates drew at least 20,000. Their full season low was 731,531 (9,754 per date) in 1971. Attendance was under one million in 4 of their first 5 seasons in Milwaukee. 1973 was the exception, with attendance of 1,092,158.

Average per date first hit 20,000 in 1978. But after 1983, it didn't reach 25,000 again until 2001.

Major League Baseball first came to Milwaukee in 1953, when the Boston Braves moved there. That was the first time in half a century that a Major League team relocated. The original Baltimore Orioles became the New York Highlanders (later renamed the Yankees) in 1903. The Braves were quite a hit in their early seasons in Milwaukee. First season attendance in 1953 for the Milwaukee Braves was 1,826,397, averaging 28,537 per date, with 38 dates drawing over 30,000.

In 1954, the Braves drew 2,131,388 (average per date of 30,448 was a Milwaukee Braves high), becoming the first National League team to draw 2 million. 41 dates that year topped 30,000. The Braves also reached 2 million in 1955 and 1956, and achieved a total high of 2,215,404 (30,348 per date) in 1957, a year they won the World Series. The Braves won the National League pennant in 1958, and tied for it in 1959, losing a playoff to the Dodgers.

In the 7 seasons from 1953 through 1959, the Braves drew 13,945,569, an average of 1,992,224 per season, and 28,577 per date. 235 of 488 dates (48.2% of all dates) during those years had attendance of at least 30,000.

But then attendance began to rapidly tumble, falling to 766,921 in 1962. In 1964, it was revealed that the Braves would be moving to Atlanta in 1966. They had a 'lame-duck' season in Milwaukee in 1965, drawing just 555,584, an average of 7,611 per date. The Braves had a winning record in every season they were in Milwaukee.

From 1960 through 1965, the Braves drew 5,605,674, an average of 934,239 per season, and 12,769 per date. Only 15 of 439 dates (3.4%) had crowds of at least 30,000. Attendance topped 30,000 at just one date in each year from 1962 through 1965. (Game-by-game attendance figures are from Retrosheet.org)

After the Braves left, the Chicago White Sox played some home games in Milwaukee in both 1968 and 1969. In 1968, there were 9 White Sox home dates in Milwaukee, drawing 264,297, averaging 29,366 per date. The 11 dates in 1969 drew 198,211, an average of 18,018. But Milwaukee got a new team of its own in 1970. The Seattle Pilots were a 1969 expansion team that developed financial problems. The team was declared bankrupt the following spring, moved to Milwaukee, and became the Brewers.

### BREWERS NOTES - continued

More American Family Field notes: The roof was open at 44 games, and closed at 37 games in 2023. In 2022, there were 45 games played with an open roof, and at 36 games, the roof was closed. 42 games were played with the roof open, and 39 with the roof closed in 2021. The roof was open for 9 games and closed for 20 games in 2020. In 2019, there were 39 games with A.M.F.'s retractable roof open, and 42 games with the roof closed. The roof was open for 49 games in 2018, 53 in 2017, 49 in 2016, 36 in 2015, 45 in 2014, 50 in 2013, and for 51 games in 2012.

A 2022 addition to American Family Field was the X-Golf Simulator, which allows fans to 'play' some of the world's top golf courses. In 2023, the park added J. Leinenkugel's Barrel Yard, which is a working brewery with specialty beer.

There are 5 statues outside American Family Field honoring notable Milwaukee baseball personalities. One is for Home Run King Henry Aaron, who hit 755 homers, had 3,771 hits, drove in at least 100 runs in 11 seasons, had 2,297 career runs batted in, and posted a lifetime .305 batting average. Another statue honors Robin Yount who was a two-time Most Valuable Player, scored 1,632 runs, and had 3,142 hits. Former Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig, who bought the Seattle Pilots and moved them to his hometown of Milwaukee, is also recognized with a statue. A statue also honors the memory of 3 ironworkers killed when a crane collapsed during the construction of the park.

And the 5<sup>th</sup> statue, dedicated in 2012, is a likeness of Bob Uecker, who managed to get a total of 74 runs batted in for his entire Major League career, along with a .200 lifetime batting average. Yet Bob Uecker is one of the most beloved personalities in Wisconsin. He's been a Brewers broadcaster since 1971, a noted actor in film and television, a top-selling author, and a comedian who made 100 appearances on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. Bob Uecker has been voted into the broadcasting wing of the Baseball Hall-of-Fame, and into the Radio Hall-of-Fame.

In 2014, Bob Uecker got another statue. This one is in the top row of the upper deck at American Family Field, and honors his famous commercial for Miller Lite beer where, when told by an usher that he was in the wrong seat, Bob said, "I must be in the front row." The next scene showed him sitting all alone near the top of the stands at Dodger Stadium. That last row of seats in American Family Field's upper deck is called "The Bob Uecker Seats."

The Brewers Media Guide notes that the weight of American Family Field is 500,000 tons, or 62,500,000 16pound bowling balls. The guide also mentions that it would take 4,655,926,995 baseballs to fill the park.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Men's and Women's Basketball teams played a doubleheader at American Family Field in November, 2022. The event drew 17,927.

A fan favorite at American Family Field is the Sausage Race between 5 mascots wearing sausage costumes. In 2023, the Italian Sausage had 17 wins, the Chorizo won 10 races, the Hot Dog was victorious 15 times, the Polish Sausage had 20 wins, and the Bratwurst won 19 times. The Hot Dog won the most races in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2021. The Polish Sausage had the most wins in 2010, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2019, and the Italian Sausage had the lead in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2018, 2020, 2023, and tied for the lead in 2022 with the Bratwurst. Combined wins from 2007-2023 are: Polish Sausage – 318; Hot Dog – 298; Italian Sausage – 281; Chorizo – 243; Bratwurst – 217.

### THE NATIONALS HAVE AN ATTENDANCE DECLINE IN 2023

In 2019, the Nationals won the World Series for the first time in franchise history, including the Montreal Expos years. It was just the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Series win for a Washington team. The Senators won the World Series in 1924, and played in the Fall Classic in 1925 and 1933. But the Covid pandemic, which caused the short 2020 season to be played with no fans at regular season games, prevented the Nationals from getting the usual attendance increase that comes a year after a World Series win.

Washington posted a total attendance of 1,865,832, and averaged 23,035 per date, in **2023**. This total was down 160,569 (7.9%) vs. **2022**, and down 393,949 (17.4%) vs. **2019**. It ended a streak of 9 consecutive 'normal' years above 2 million. The average per date fell 1,982 (7.9%) vs. **2022**, and was down 4,864 (17.4%) vs. **2019**. The 2023 vs. 2022 and 2023 vs. 2019 declines were the highest among National League teams. 2023 data includes one home game in Williamsport, PA for the Little League Classic. That game drew 2,473. The 80 dates in Washington averaged 23,292 per date, down 1,725 (6.9%) vs. 2022, and down 4,607 (16.5%) vs. 2019. 29 dates in Washington drew under 20,000, There was one estimated sellout. 15 dates topped 30,000, with a high of 38,853. 3 games were rained out, but no dates were lost.

The Washington Nationals were the **2019** Major League World Champions. But their attendance fell 269,823 (10.7%) to 2,259,781. Average per date fell 3,721 to 27,899, ending a 7-year streak of averaging over 30,000 per date. There were 5 sellouts. (The team record for sellouts is 11 in 2015.) One date topped 40,000, and there were 27 crowds of better than 30,000. 5 dates drew under 20,000. Every game had drawn at least 20,000 in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Attendance was below 20,000 at 21 dates in 2011, 8 dates in 2012, 6 dates in 2016, and 2 dates each in 2017 and 2018.

The attendance decline by the 2019 Nationals was the largest by a team in the playoffs since 2011 Tampa Bay. It was the worst decrease by a league pennant winner since the 2009 Yankees, who had a 584,880 decline. But 2008 Yankee average attendance per date was above the capacity of the new Yankee Stadium, which opened in 2009. Prior to 2009, the 2005 National League Champion Houston Astros were down 283,112. Washington was the 39<sup>th</sup> World Series winning team to have a loss in the year they won, when that year was a full season.

Pitcher Stephen Strasburg attracted lots of fans in 2010, his first year. The Nats averaged 33,446 for the 7 home games that Strasburg started in 2010. Their season average per date for all 2010 games was 22,569. Attendance increased 281,614 (11.9%) in 2013, and in 2012, the Nationals had a 430,314 (22.2%) increase. 2013 attendance of 2,652,408 (32,746 per date) was the best ever at Nationals Park. Lowest figures there were a total of 1,817,202 in 2009, and an average per date 22,569 in 2010. This excludes 2021.

The Nationals drew the current team record-high of 2,731,993 (33,728 per date) in 2005, which was their first year in Washington, after moving from Montreal. It was a nice surprise considering the team's move was not finalized until the previous December. Washington did not have a team from 1972 through 2004. Attendance fell after 2005, until Nationals Park opened in 2008, but it was a big improvement from both versions of the old Washington Senators, who were bad on the field, and at the box office.

In 15 years with attendance (excludes 2020) at Nationals Park, the Nats have drawn 33,284,249, averaging 2,218,950 per year, and 27,599 per date. In their 3 seasons (2005-2007) at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, the Nationals drew a total of 6,846,657, which is an average of 2,282,219 per season, and 28,176 per date. This 3-year R.F.K. Stadium total for the Nationals is higher than the 10-year total for the expansion Washington Senators at R.F.K. Stadium. Between 1962 and 1971, the Senators drew 6,717,408, averaging 671,741 per season, and 9,461 per date.

Total attendance in 13 seasons (1962-1971, 2005-2007, 10 for the Senators and 3 for the Nationals) at R.F.K. Stadium was 13,564,065, an average of 1,043,390 per year, and 14,248 per date in 952 dates.

The 2015 National Hockey League Winter Classic was played at Nationals Park, and drew a crowd of 42,842.

# NATIONALS NOTES - continued

Washington Senators - 1901-1960 for the original team, 1961-1971 for the expansion team

The original Senators, who became the Minnesota Twins in 1961, had only 4 winning years from 1934 through 1960. The expansion Senators, who became the Texas Rangers in 1972, had just one winning record in 11 seasons in Washington. In the final 38 years in D.C., the two versions of the Senators came within 13 games of first place just once. The attendance record wasn't better. Only in 1946, did the Senators top one million (1,027,216 – 16,305 per date), and attendance reached 800,000 only 5 times.

The original Senators topped 800,000 just 3 times, and drew at least 600,000 in only 12 of 60 seasons. Attendance didn't reach 400,000 until 1921, and topped 500,000 for the first time in 1924. Their lowest season attendance was 89,682 (1,319 per date) in 1917. Attendance was under 600,000 in 6 of this team's final 8 seasons (1953-1960) in Washington. Average per date reached 10,000 for the first time in 1925. The next seasons above this level were each year from 1945 through 1952, and in the team's last season of 1960, when they averaged 10,325 per date, with a total attendance of 743,404.

The expansion Senators played at old Griffith Stadium in 1961, their first season, and attracted just 597,287 (8,656 per date). They drew only 729,775 in 1962, their first year in new DC Stadium (later renamed Robert F. Kennedy Stadium), and their highest attendance was 918,106 (12,241 per date) in 1969. The expansion Senators drew less than 600,000 in 5 of their 11 seasons. Low total was 535,604 in 1963, and the low average per date was 7,699 in 1968. They drew 655,156 (8,509 per date) in their last D.C. season in 1971. Washington teams had the league's lowest attendance 11 times in the last 17 years that Washington had a team in the American League (1955-71).

After the expansion Senators left, R.F.K. Stadium hosted 15 Major League exhibition games between 1972 and 1999. They drew 434,409, averaging 28,961 per game. Largest attendance at these exhibitions was 45,614 in 1987.

# Montreal Expos - 1969-2004

The Nationals played as the Montreal Expos from 1969 through 2004. They got off to a good start in 1969, drawing 1,212,608 (16,842 per date). Of the 8 expansion teams of the 1960's, only the Expos topped one million in their first year. Montreal exceeded one million in all but 3 seasons through 1997, including the strike years. They drew better than 2 million in 1979, 1980, 1982, and 1983. But attendance fell below one million in 6 of the last 7 seasons in Canada, and was 748,550 in 2004, the team's last year in Montreal.

In 8 seasons (1969-1976) at 28,450 seat Jarry Park (Parc Jarry) in Montreal, the Expos drew a total of 8,891,392 in 573 dates, averaging 1,111,424 per season and 15,517 per date. Highest total there was 1,424,683 (19,252 per date) in 1970. The lowest total was 646,704 (9,652 per date) in 1976.

The Expos moved into Olympic Stadium in 1977, and drew 1,433,757 (18,620 per date). Highest attendance at Olympic Stadium was 2,320,651 (30,535 per date) in 1983. The low of 609,473 (7,524 per date) came in 2001. The Expos drew under one million in 1975, 1976, 1991, 1998 through 2002, and in 2004. Average per date topped 20,000 in 11 seasons from 1979 through 1994. Total attendance at Olympic Stadium from 1977 through 2004 was 39,172,505 in 2,098 dates, averaging 1,399,018 per season, and 18,671 per date.

These Olympic Stadium totals exclude home games that the Expos played at Hiram Bithhorn Stadium in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2003 and 2004. In 2003, the 22 dates in San Juan drew a total of 312,882 (14,222 per date). 59 dates in Montreal that year drew 710,798 (12,047 per date). In 2004, attendance was 217,005 (10,334 per date) for 21 dates in San Juan, and 531,545 (9,009 per date) for 59 dates at Olympic Stadium.

Montreal hopes to return to the Majors. 2 annual Spring Training games had been played there. They drew a combined 96,350 in 2014, 96,545 in 2015, 106,102 in 2016, 95,382 in 2017, 51,151 in 2018, and 46,984 in 2019. The 12 games drew a combined 492,514 (41,043 per game). The 2018 and 2019 games were played on weeknights, which accounts for their lower attendance. Montreal has not hosted a game since 2019.

### NATIONALS NOTES - continued

### Some Presidential Notes, plus Teddy Roosevelt was the Big 2019 Winner in the Presidents Race

Starting with President William H. Taft, it's been a tradition for the President of the United States to throw out the first pitch at Opening Day in Washington. 13 presidents, from Taft to Obama, have attended a Washington Opening Game in 49 seasons. Franklin D. Roosevelt attended 8 Openers, while both Harry Truman and Dwight Eisenhower each threw out 7 Opening Day first pitches. Washington teams have won 25 of these 'Presidential Openers' and lost 24.

But these days, there are former 'presidents' who appear at every Nationals home game. Since 2006, home games feature a race of mascots who wear oversize heads that represent former presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt. William H. Taft, Herbert Hoover, and Calvin Coolidge have also appeared in the race. But they've 'retired,' from Washington, and now race at the Nationals' Spring Training park in West Palm Beach.

Thomas Jefferson won the most races in 2006. George Washington had the most wins in 2007, 2012 and 2013. Abraham Lincoln won most often in 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2015. Lincoln and Jefferson tied for the lead in 2011.

And then there was Teddy Roosevelt. Through the first 525 races, Teddy couldn't win even one race. He came close many times, but was often tripped up at the last moment, or disqualified. Thousands of people joined a grassroots movement to support Teddy. T-shirts were made up, there were protests, and a Website named Letteddywin.com, which is the source of the race results listed here, was created. (This site has not been updated since 2022.) Members of Congress, and even President Obama, weighed in to support Teddy, and yet he still never won.

But at the last regular season game in 2012, it finally happened. Teddy won! This was thanks to a fake Phillie Phanatic mascot who tackled the other 'presidents,' allowing Teddy to get the victory. Then, Teddy won all 3 races during that year's post-season games. In 2013, Teddy won 11 times, and he was the biggest winner in 2014, with 29 victories, and in 2016, with 23 wins.

However, in 2017, it was back to old times, and Teddy lost every race. Washington and Jefferson each had 29 wins in 2017, Lincoln had 25, and Screech the Eagle, a mascot, won a race. Teddy won 10 times in 2018, Washington had 31 wins, Jefferson had 25, Lincoln won 17, and Screech had one. In 2019, Teddy led with 38 wins, Lincoln and Jefferson each won 20, Washington won 18, Screech and Buster Olney of ESPN each had one win. In 2020, Teddy and Lincoln each won 8 races, and Washington and Jefferson each won 6. Thomas Jefferson did best in 2021 with 19 wins, Washington had 16, Lincoln won 13, and Teddy Roosevelt was victorious 8 times. The race was not run during early-season 2021 games.

The all-time totals for the race **through 2021** were: Lincoln – 384 wins; Washington – 330 wins; Jefferson – 306 wins; Teddy Roosevelt – 142 wins; William Howard Taft – 46 wins; Calvin Coolidge – 12 wins; Herbert Hoover – 10 wins; Jason Werth, a Nationals player who slipped into a 2011 race in a futile attempt to get Teddy his first win – 1 win. Screech the Eagle – 3 wins, sportswriter and broadcaster Buster Olney – 1 win.

What about 2022 and 2023? Despite a massive search, no data about the results of the 2022 and 2023 Presidents Races could be found. The investigation continues. Congressional and Senate committees, government agencies, and national security services, have all been enlisted to try to uncover this vital data. If this fails to reveal the 2022 and 2023 race results, one last desperate attempt will be made through the Freedom of Information Act. Highpowered lawyers are standing by. Government works slowly at times, but hope still exists. Call your Senators, members of Congress, and the White House. Insist that the yearly Presidents race results be released to our citizens.

# MLB TEAM SEASON ATTENDANCE RECORDS FOR TOTAL ATTENDANCE AND AVERAGE PER DATE

	RECORD TOTAL		RECORD	
TEAM	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	YEAR	AVG./DATE	<u>YEAR</u>
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
	0.744.400	4007		4004
Baltimore	3,711,132	1997	46,951	1994
Boston	3,062,699	2009	37,811	2009
Chicago White Sox	2,957,411	2006	36,511	2006
Cleveland	3,468,456	1999	42,820	1999
Detroit	3,202,645	2008	39,539	2008
Houston	3,087,872	2004	38,122	2004
Kansas City	2,708,549	2015	33,439	2015
Minnesota	3,223,640	2010	39,798	2010
Los Angeles Angels	3,406,790	2006	42,059	2006
New York Yankees	4,271,083	2007	52,729	2007
Oakland	2,900,217	1990	36,253	1990
Seattle	3,540,482	2002	43,710	2002
Tampa Bay	2,261,158	1998	27,916	1998
Texas	3,460,280	2012	42,720	2012
Toronto	<u>4,057,947</u>	1993	50,098	1993
AMERICAN LEA. TOTAL	35,389,658	2007	31,318	2007
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
Arizona	3,600,412	1998	44,450	1998
Atlanta	3,884,725	1993	47,960	1993
Chicago Cubs	3,300,200	2008	40,743	2008
Cincinnati	2,629,708	1976	35,063	1976
Colorado	4,483,350	1993	58,598	1994
	0.074.000	0040		0040
Los Angeles Dodgers	3,974,309	2019	49,000	2019
Miami	3,064,847	1993	38,311	1993
Milwaukee	3,071,373	2011	37,918	2011
New York Mets	4,042,043	2008	51,165	2008
Philadelphia	3,680,718	2011	45,441	2011
Pittsburgh	2,498,596	2015	30,847	2015
St. Louis	3,552,180	2007	43,854	2007
San Diego	3,330,545	2024	41,118	2024
San Francisco	3,387,303	2011	41,819	2011
Washington	<u>2,731,993</u>	2005	33,728	2005
NATIONAL LEA. TOTAL	44,113,517	2007	34,201	2008
MAJOR LEAGUE TOTAL	79,503,175	2007	32,785	2007

Baltimore's record high average per date for a full season is 45,816 in 1997. Colorado's record high average per date for a full season is 56,751 in 1993.

# **INDIVIDUAL TEAMS – SINGLE HOME DATE ATTENDANCE RECORDS**

This table lists each team's highest attendance for a regular-season game and for a post-season game at their current ballpark, through 2024. It also lists regular-season and post-season game attendance highs at each team's previous home park. Oakland, Tampa Bay, and Arizona have only played at their current parks. Boston has played at Fenway Park since 1912, and the Cubs have been at Wrigley Field since 1916, so data for their previous homes is not listed. Game attendance records for the Red Sox and Cubs are much higher than their ballpark's current capacity, because long ago, teams sold tickets which allowed fans to watch from the edge of the field or from the aisles.

Record attendance for post-season games is almost always higher than the record for a regular-season game because free tickets, which often don't get included in attendance totals, are not issued for post-season games.

Starting in 1990, all teams, except Texas in 1994, moving to a new park went into a smaller facility than their previous home. The new park for the Rangers, opened in 2020, is smaller than their two former parks. Capacity at Angels Stadium in Anaheim was reduced in 1997 when the park was rebuilt. Best regular season crowd at Angels Stadium since 1997 was 45,477 in 2019, and top post-season attendance was 45,361 in 2014. The biggest regular season crowd at rebuilt Yankee Stadium (1976-2008) was 56,717 in 2008, and best post-season crowd there was 57,485 in 1999. Top crowd at Citi Field was 45,186 for the 2013 All-Star Game.

	Current Park	Current Park	Former Park	Former Park
Team	Regular-Season	Post-Season	Regular-Season	Post-Season
Baltimore	49,828 (2005)	49,137 (1997)	52,395 (1988)	54,458 (1966)
Boston	47,627 (1935)	39,530 (2016)		
Chicago White Sox	46,027 (2002)	46,246 (1993)	55,555 (1973)	48,013 (1959)
Cleveland	43,399 (1999)	45,274 (1997)	84,587 (1954)	86,288 (1948)
Detroit	45,280 (2008)	44,923 (2024)	58,369 (1947)	55,500 (1945)
Houston	43,836 (2010)	43,759 (2005)	54,037 (1999)	53,688 (1997)
Kansas City	42,039 (1983)	42,633 (1980)	36,623 (1971)	No Games Played
Los Angeles Angels	63,132 (1983)	64,406 (1982)	53,591 (1962)	No Games Played
Minnesota	41,679 (2024)	42,035 (2010)	54,088 (2009)	55,990 (2002)
New York Yankees	49,716 (2010)	50,960 (2011)	81,841 (1938)	74,065 (1947)
Oakland	56,310 (2018)	55,861 (2001)		
Seattle	47,149 (2018)	48,010 (2000)	57,816 (1998)	59,579 (1997)
Tampa Bay	45,369 (1998)	41,845 (2010)		
Texas	42,130 (2024)	42,500 (2023)	51,573 (2006)	52,419 (2010)
Toronto	50,560 (2005)	52,268 (1992)	47,828 (1987)	39,115 (1985)
Arizona	50,180 (2019)	49,707 (2001)		
Atlanta	43,619 (2019)	43,898 (2023)	54,296 (2010)	54,357 (2003)
Chi. Cubs	51,556 (1930)	50,740 (1929)		
Cincinnati	44,073 (2023)	44,599 (2010)	55,596 (2000)	56,393 (1975)
Colorado	49,509 (2010)	50,724 (2007)	80,227 (1993)	No Games Played
Los Angeles Dodgers	57,097 (2009)	56,800 (2008)	78,762 (1958)	92,706 (1959)
Miami	37,116 (2014)	No Games Played	57,405 (2005)	67,498 (1997)
Milwaukee	46,218 (2003)	44,122 (2011)	56,354 (2000)	56,562 (1982)
New York Mets	44,466 (2016)	44,859 (2015)	56,350 (2008)	57,397 (1969)
Philadelphia	45,989 (2012)	46,575 (2011)	63,816 (1984)	67,064 (1983)
Pittsburgh	39,933 (2015)	40,889 (2015)	55,351 (2000)	57,533 (1991)
St. Louis	48,581 (2022)	48,515 (2022)	53,415 (1994)	56,782 (1996)
San Diego	47,559 (2024)	47,773 (2024)	61,674 (1994)	65,427 (1998)
San Francisco	43,503 (2007)	44,046 (2010)	61,389 (1999)	62,084 (1989)
Washington	45,274 (2013)	45,966 (2012)	45,596 (2005)	No Games Played
washington	40,214 (2010)	40,900 (2012)	40,090 (2000)	No Games Played

Regular-season single game records listed here for the former ballparks in Pittsburgh and Washington come from Retrosheet.org. The Pirates and Nationals did not list these records in their Media Guides.

# A PENNANT HASN'T ALWAYS LED TO A BOOST IN ATTENDANCE

The Chicago Cubs followed-up their 2016 World Series win with a 32,858 (1.0%) decrease in attendance in 2017. The 2012 World Champion San Francisco Giants had a very slight decline in 2013, but still sold out every game. The 2017 Cubs, 2016 Royals, and 2013 Giants were the only World Series winners to post a decline in attendance the following season since the Yankees saw attendance fall in 2000 after they won the 1999 World Series.

A drop in attendance a year after winning a pennant was common for a long time in the Majors. Between 1901 and 1970, 93 of the 140 pennant winners (66.4%) saw attendance fall the following year. For 62 of those teams, it was at least a 10% decline, with 34 of those teams suffering losses of more than 20%. The 1915 Philadelphia Athletics had the worst % decline (57.8%) for a team <u>the year after</u> they won a pennant. This followed their 39.4% decrease in 1914, a year in which the A's not only finished first in the American League, but also were the defending 1913 World Champions. A's attendance tumbled from 571,896 in 1913 to 146,223 in 1915.

Since 1971, excluding strike-affected seasons, and **2021**, only 23 of 90 league champions (25.6%) had lower attendance the following year. Teams now sell a much larger percentage of their tickets prior to the start of a new season than they did decades ago, so there is a greater ticket sales 'bump' after a championship season, than in the past.

42 of the 67 World Series winners between 1903 and 1970 had an attendance decrease <u>the next season</u>. The 1932 St. Louis Cardinals were the biggest losers the year after winning the World Series, as their attendance declined 54.1%. Pittsburgh saw a 29.7% decrease in 1961, a year after they won a thrilling World Series.

But again since 1971, just 11 of the 44 World Champions saw attendance go down the following year. Florida, down 26.0% in 1998, had the worst drop, when many of the best players from their 1997 World Series winning team did not return. Detroit was down 15.5% in 1985, following their incredible wire-to-wire win in 1984. Oakland had a 15.5% dip in 1974, a year they won their 3<sup>rd</sup> straight World Series. All these figures exclude strike-affected years, and 2021.

# BIGGEST DECLINES IN ATTENDANCE THE YEAR AFTER PLAYING IN THE WORLD SERIES

Teams are listed in chronological order. Excludes following seasons that were shorter than normal, and **2021**.

WORLD SERIES WINNING TEAMS WORLD SERIES LOSING TEAMS							
	Following Year		Following Year				
Pennant Winning Year	Attendance	%	Pennant Winning Year Attendance %				
and Team	Loss (#)	Decline	and Team Loss (#) Decline				
1913 Philadelphia A's	(225,255)	(39.4)	1913 New York Giants (265,687) (42.2)				
1931 St. Louis Cardinals	(329,316)	(54.1)	1925 Washington (265,619) (32.5)				
1932 New York Yankees	(234,306)	(24.3)	1927 Pittsburgh (374,650) (43.1)				
1948 Cleveland	(386,856)	(14.8)	1928 St. Louis Cardinals (361,687) (47.5)				
1951 New York Yankees	(320,442)	(16.4)	1932 Chicago Cubs (380,576) (39.0)				
1954 New York Giants	(330,955)	(28.7)	1940 Detroit (427,778) (38.4)				
1957 Milwaukee Braves	(244,303)	(11.0)	1942 New York Yankees (303,681) (32.9)				
1960 Pittsburgh	(506,700)	(29.7)	1947 Brooklyn Dodgers (408,559) (22.6)				
1961 New York Yankees	(254,151)	(14.5)	1948 Boston Braves (373,644) (25.7)				
1963 L.A. Dodgers	(309,851)	(12.2)	1949 Brooklyn Dodgers (447,851) (27.4)				
1968 Detroit	(454,366)	(22.4)	1950 Philadelphia Phillies (279,377) (23.0)				
1984 Detroit	(418,185)	(15.5)	1966 L.A. Dodgers (952,667) (36.4)				
1997 Florida Marlins	(613,992)	(26.0)	1968 St. Louis Cardinals (328,384) (16.3)				
			1970 Cincinnati (302,446) (16.8)				
			1978 L.A. Dodgers (486,891) (14.5)				

# WORLD SERIES WINNING TEAMS

WORLD SERIES LOSING TEAMS

The 1917 Chicago White Sox won the World Series. In 1918, their attendance fell 489,440 (71.5%). But 1918 was a slightly shorter season than 1917. Other World Series teams with big following year % declines not listed in the above table: Winners: 1905 N.Y. Giants (down 27.1%); 1912 Red Sox (26.8%); 1940 Cincinnati (25.4%). Losers: 1906 Chicago Cubs (35.4%); 1914 Philadelphia A's (57.8%); 1916 Brooklyn (50.5%); 1931 Philadelphia A's (35.4%).

### **BIG ATTENDANCE GAINS BY PENNANT WINNING TEAMS**

The **2023** Phillies had a 775,869 (34.1%) gain in attendance following their 2022 National League Championship. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> best total increase by a defending league champion. Atlanta had a 829.684 gain in 2022, but this was not vs. a 'normal' season. 1988 Minnesota had the best increase (948,696). In 2015, Kansas City had the now- 6<sup>th</sup> best total increase in MLB history for a team a year after a World Series appearance. The 2016 Mets had a gain of 219,849 (8.6%). 2017 Cleveland was up 456,471 (28.7%). 2018 Houston had a 576,878 (24.0%) increase.

Until 1969, very few teams posted big gains in attendance the year after they appeared in the World Series. Just 4 World Series winners, and 3 World Series losing teams, had a total attendance increase of at least 200,000 in the year after they made an appearance in the World Series from 1903 through 1968. Teams had much smaller attendance in those days, especially before 1946, than they've had in the last 40 years.

The 1988 Minnesota Twins had the biggest increase ever for a team that won the World Series the previous year. Twins' attendance grew by 948,696, and they became the first American League team to draw 3 million in a season. Minnesota's 45.6% increase was the best percentage gain by any team that was in the World Series in the previous year since the 1934 Cardinals had a 55.7% increase. Two other World Series winners, not listed in the table below because their attendance rose less than 200,000 the following year, had significant percentage gains. The 1944 Yankees had a 27.8% gain, and the 1944 Cardinals were up 28.7%.

The biggest gain by a team that lost the World Series the previous year was 937,183 by the 1992 Atlanta Braves. Attendance rose 43.8%, which was the 2<sup>nd</sup> best percentage gain ever by a defending World Series runner-up. The 1908 Detroit Tigers, who lost the 1907 World Series, had a 48.8% increase.

There was no World Series in 1902. But the National League champion Pittsburgh Pirates had a 34.1% increase in attendance the following year.

### BIGGEST INCREASES IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE THE YEAR AFTER PLAYING IN THE WORLD SERIES

Teams listed in chronological order. Excludes following seasons that were longer than the World Series year, and 2022.

WORLD SERIES WINNING TEAMS				WORLD SERIES LOSING TEAMS			
	Following Year				Following Year		
Pennant Winning Year	Attendance	%		Pennant Winning Year	Attendance	%	
and Team	Increase (#)	Increase		and Team	Increase (#)	Increase	
1903 Boston Red Sox	243,957	64.3		1945 Chicago Cubs	306,584	29.6	
1907 Chicago Cubs	242,775	57.5		1959 Chicago White Sox	221,316	15.6	
1924 Washington	232,889	39.9		1967 Boston Red Sox	212,956	12.3	
1945 Detroit	442,249	34.5		1972 Cincinnati	406,142	25.2	
1969 New York Mets	522,106	24.0		1977 L.A. Dodgers	392,758	13.3	
1974 Oakland	229,825	27.2		1982 Milwaukee Brewers	418,235	21.1	
1975 Cincinnati	314,105	13.6		1984 San Diego	226,448	11.4	
1977 New York Yankees	232,779	11.1		1988 Oakland	379,920	16.6	
1978 New York Yankees	201,894	8.6		1991 Atlanta	937,183	43.8	
1979 Pittsburgh	211,303	14.7		1992 Atlanta	807,325	26.2	
1982 St. Louis Cardinals	206,008	9.8		1996 Atlanta	563,246	19.4	
1986 New York Mets	266,528	9.6		2003 New York Yankees	309,707	8.9	
1987 Minnesota	948,696	45.6		2004 St. Louis Cardinals	490,521	16.1	
1989 Oakland	232,992	8.7		2005 Houston	218,003	7.8	
1996 New York Yankees	329,448	14.6		2006 Detroit	451,202	17.4	
1998 New York Yankees	341,269	11.6		2007 Colorado	273,938	11.5	
2001 Arizona	460,171	16.8		2010 Texas	441,778	17.6	
2002 Anaheim Angels	755,525	32.8		2011 Texas	513,331	17.4	
2003 Florida Marlins	419,891	32.2		2014 Kansas City	752,067	38.4	
2005 Chicago White Sox	614,578	26.2		2015 New York Mets	219,849	8.6	
2010 San Francisco	349,860	11.5		2016 Cleveland	456,471	28.7	
2018 Houston	576,878	24.0		2022 Philadelphia	775,869	34.1	

### IN TWO-TEAM MARKETS, A WORLD SERIES FOR ONE TEAM, USUALLY DOESN'T HURT THE OTHER TEAM

"It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future." - Yogi Berra

There are currently four markets (New York, Los Angeles/Anaheim, San Francisco/Oakland, and Chicago) with two Major League teams. Recent history has shown that when one team in a two-team market plays in the World Series, attendance for the other team in that market, more often than not, rises the next year.

Since 1959, there have been 37 World Series appearances in non-strike affected seasons by a team that plays in the same market as another team. This includes the Dodgers in 2018, but due to attendance restrictions in 2020 and 2021, excludes the 2020 Dodgers. The following season, the team that <u>did not</u> play in the World Series had an increase in their attendance 24 of 37 times. EXAMPLE: In 2018, the Los Angeles Dodgers were in the World Series. In 2019, attendance for the Los Angeles Angels was down very slightly.

The team that did play in the World Series in those 37 years had an increase in attendance the following year also 24 times, including the 2019 Dodgers. The New York Yankees were in the World Series in 1962, 1963, and 1964. Yet their attendance fell in 1963, 1964, and 1965. Meanwhile, the New York Mets, who finished last in the National League, and lost over 100 games in each of those years, had an increase in attendance in every year.

The notes above do not include 1989, when both the A's and Giants were in the Bay Area World Series, and 2000, the year of the Yankees-Mets New York Subway Series. In both of these cases, attendance for the World Series winning team (Yankees, A's) increased the following year, while it fell for the losing team.

Until teams began to relocate in the 1950's, Boston (Red Sox, Braves), Philadelphia (Phillies, Athletics), St. Louis (Cardinals, Browns) and Chicago (Cubs, White Sox) had 2 teams each, and New York had 3 teams (Dodgers, Giants, Yankees). With 16 Major League teams operating, only 5 other markets (Detroit, Pittsburgh, Washington, Cincinnati, Cleveland) had a team. Between 1901 and 1957, there were only 3 World Series (1909 – Pittsburgh-Detroit, 1925 – Pittsburgh-Washington, 1940 – Cincinnati-Detroit) where both participating teams were from a one-team city.

During this same period of time, there were 15 World Series where both teams played in the <u>same market</u>. In New York, the Yankees played the Giants in 1921, 1922, 1923, 1936, 1937, and 1951. The Giants won the first 2 of these matchups, but the Yankees were the victors in all the others. The Yankees faced the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1941, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, and 1956. The Dodgers' win in 1955 was the only time they ever won the Fall Classic while playing in Brooklyn. In Chicago, the White Sox beat the Cubs in 1906. The St. Louis Browns made their only World Series appearance in 1944, when they lost to the St. Louis Cardinals.

In the year after those 15 intra-city World Series, the winning team had an increase in attendance 7 times, and had a decline 8 times. The losing team posted a gain the following year just 4 times, and had a decline 11 times.

Both participants saw attendance fall the next year after 7 of these World Series (1921, 1922, 1937, 1941, 1949, 1951, 1953). There were 3 times when both teams had an increase in the following season (1923, 1936, 1955). In 4 seasons, the World Series winning team had a gain the following year, while the loser had a loss.

The only time the winning team had a loss the following year while the losing team had an increase in attendance the next season was in 1953. In 1952, the Yankees beat the Dodgers in the World Series, but Yankee attendance fell in 1953, while Brooklyn had an increase.

### THE NEW BALLPARK IN MIAMI BROUGHT A BIG BOOST IN ATTENDANCE, BUT LESS THAN EXPECTED

A team moving into a new park usually has a large increase in attendance. Atlanta got one in 2017. That also occurred in Washington in 2008, and it happened in Minnesota in 2010. By Opening Day, the Twins had already sold more tickets for the 2010 season than they sold in all of 2009. Attendance ended up rising 807,403 (33.4%). The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> games of the season were the only non-sellouts, as the Twins set an all-time team attendance record.

In 2012, the Marlins moved into a new park, and their attendance rose by 698,862 (46.0%). However, their season total of 2,219,444 was the smallest attendance for a team in the first full year in a new park since Minnesota's first season in the Metrodome in 1982.

But increased attendance did not, and could not happen in New York in 2009, for both the Yankees and Mets in their new homes. Regardless of what Yankee and Met fans thought of the new ballparks, their teams had far fewer tickets to sell. Both new ballparks have a smaller capacity than old Yankee Stadium and Shea Stadium, and the capacity in each team's new park is less than the average attendance per date that each team had in 2008.

In 2006, the St. Louis Cardinals moved into a new ballpark that had fewer seats than the old one. Cardinals' attendance still dropped a bit from 2005, even though all games in 2006 were sellouts. Parts of the new ballpark were not completed at the start of the season, and some seats were not able to be sold until June. The Cardinals set a team attendance high in 2007, and again sold out every game.

In recent years, many teams have moved from multi-purpose stadiums, to smaller parks, built just for baseball. But nearly all have seen an increase in attendance during the first season in the new park, even though it had a smaller capacity than the old one. Cleveland's total attendance declined in 1994, their first year at Jacobs Field (now named Progressive Field). That's because they played far fewer games due to the strike. But their average attendance per date rose from 27,224 in 1993 at Cleveland Municipal Stadium to 39,121 in 1994 at Jacobs Field.

14 of the 34 biggest attendance increases in Major League history, including Minnesota in 2010, have taken place in a season that was a team's first in a new ballpark. This includes the 1970 Cincinnati Reds, and the 1989 Toronto Blue Jays, who moved into new ballparks around mid-season of those years.

### WHAT WAS MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S WORST YEAR IN ATTENDANCE?

There is no definitive answer. The 2009 attendance decline of 5,220,345 was the largest in Major League history in terms of total attendance in a full season. The highest previous loss had been 4,558,769 in 2002. But these attendance decreases are from a very high base. On a percentage basis, the 6.6% decline in 2009 was 4<sup>th</sup> worst since 1946. The greatest % decline in a season since 1946 was 13.6% in 1950, as television cut into the gate. The biggest % drops for a full season since 1901 were 29.9% in 1914, and 19.7% in 1917. Federal League teams operated in 4 Major League markets in 1914, and the United States entered World War I in 1917.

21 teams had a decline in attendance in 2009. That's the most teams to ever have a loss in attendance in any single season. But with expansion, this comes from a larger number of teams. A record-high 6 teams had declines in excess of 500,000. 8 teams had the lowest attendance ever at their current ballparks up to that point.

From 1901 through 1960, when Major League Baseball had 16 teams, there were 5 seasons (1910, 1931, 1932, 1950, and 1953) when 13 teams had a decline from the previous year. In 1953, only the Dodgers and Phillies saw attendance rise. The Braves also had a gain, but that was due to their move that year from Boston to Milwaukee. More recently, 20 of 30 teams had a decline in 2002, while 18 of 26 teams were down in 1992.

The lowest average attendance per team was 225,226 in 1901, the first year that the American League was a recognized Major League. Other poor years, relative to their era, were 1933, at the low point of The Great Depression (380,564 per team), 1953, as television cut into live attendance at games (898,987), and 1969 (1,134,570), when 3 of the 4 expansion teams who began play that year drew poorly. 1969 was the first season for the Kansas City Royals, San Diego Padres, Seattle Pilots (now the Milwaukee Brewers), and Montreal Expos (now the Washington Nationals). Of these 4 teams, only the Expos topped one million in 1969. Average attendance per team has surpassed 2 million in all full seasons since 1987.

All 30 teams had a decline in **2021 vs. 2019**, but that was due to ballpark capacity and Covid restrictions.

#### TEAMS WITH A LEAGUE OR MLB SEASON WORST ATTENDANCE AND A WINNING WON-LOSS RECORD

In 2023, Miami became just the 21<sup>st</sup> team in Major League history to have the worst attendance in its league in a year when they had a winning record.

The 2014 Cleveland Indians were only the 7<sup>th</sup> team with a winning record that had the lowest attendance in all of Major League Baseball (shown in bold in the table below, teams not in bold had the worst attendance in their own league, but not in the Majors overall). However, the Indians lost 3 home dates due to weather, and didn't have the lowest average per date in 2014. Tampa Bay did. All other teams in this table also had the lowest average per date either in their own league or in the Majors.

Among the teams listed in the table below, only the 2012, 2013, 2018, and 2019 Tampa Bay Rays had at least 90 wins. The 2019 Rays, who won 96 games and lost 66, had the best record ever for a team with the worst attendance in its league.

The 2013 Tampa Bay Rays were the first team in Major League history to reach the post-season in a year when they had the lowest attendance in their own league, or in the Major Leagues overall. The Rays won a tiebreaker game to reach the playoffs as a Wild-Card team. The 2019 Rays and 2023 Marlins also made the postseason.

Year	League/Div.	Team	Won-Loss	Standings Pos.	G.B.	Attendance
1905	A.L.	Detroit	79-74	3 of 8	15.5	193,384
1929	A.L.	St. Louis Browns	79-73	4 of 8	26	280,697
1932	N.L.	Philadelphia Phillies	78-76	4 of 8	12	268,914
1942	A.L.	St. Louis Browns	82-69	3 of 8	19.5	255,617
1965	N.L.	Milwaukee Braves	86-76	5 of 10	11	555,584
1967	N.L.	Philadelphia Phillies	82-80	5 of 10	19.5	828,888
1974	A.L. West	Minnesota	82-80	3 of 6	8	662,401
1976	A.L. West	Minnesota	85-77	3 of 6	5	715,394
1980	N.L. West	Atlanta	81-80	4 of 6	11	1,048,411
1982	N.L. East	Pittsburgh	84-78	4 of 6	8	1,024,106
2002	N.L. East	Montreal	83-79	2 of 5	19	732,901
2003	N.L. East	Montreal	83-79	4 of 5	18	1,023,680
2006	N.L. East	Florida Marlins	84-77	3 of 5	7.5	1,164,134
2009	N.L. East	Florida Marlins	87-75	2 of 5	6	1,464,109
2012	A.L. East	Tampa Bay	90-72	3 of 5	5	1,559,681
2013	A.L. East	Tampa Bay	92-71	2 of 5	5.5	1,510,300
2014	A.L. Central	Cleveland	85-77	3 of 5	5	1,437,393
2018	A.L. East	Tampa Bay	90-72	3 of 5	18	1,154,973
2019	A.L. East	Tampa Bay	96-66	2 of 5	7	1,178,735
2021	A.L. West	Oakland	86-76	3 of 5	9	701,430
2023	N.L. East	Miami	84-78	3 of 5	20	1,162,819

Standings Pos. – Place in league or division standings and number of teams in league or division. G.B- Games back

### TEAMS WITH A LEAGUE OR MLB SEASON BEST ATTENDANCE AND A LOSING WON-LOSS RECORD

There have been 18 teams since 1900, including Texas in 2021, listed in the table below, who topped their league in attendance, yet had a losing won-loss record. 8 of these teams had the best attendance that year in the Major Leagues (shown in bold, teams not in bold had the best attendance just in their own league). The 1993 Colorado Rockies, in their first season, won 67 games and lost 95, the most losses ever by a team which led its league in attendance. In fact, they set the all-time Major League attendance record of 4,483,350.

The 1902 New York Giants, with a 48-88 record, had the fewest wins among yearly league attendance leaders. The 1999 Rockies are the most recent team with a losing record that led the Major Leagues in attendance. The 2017 Blue Jays are the most recent team to lead its own league, but not the Majors, in total attendance in a losing 'normal' season. Texas led the American League in 2021, but they were the only team to have full-capacity allowed all season.

The 1979 Los Angeles Dodgers, listed in the table below, had the best total attendance in the Major Leagues that year. But Philadelphia had the highest average per date. All other teams listed, except for 2017 Toronto, had the highest average per date in their league that year, or for those listed in bold, in the Major leagues, as well.

Year	League/Div.	Team	Won-Loss	Standing Pos.	G.B.	Attendance
1902	N.L.	New York Giants	48-88	8 of 8	53.5	302,875
1944	N.L.	New York Giants	67-87	5 of 8	38	674,483
1964	N.L.	Los Angeles Dodgers	80-82	T-6 of 10	13	2,228,751
1966	A.L.	California Angels	80-82	6 of 10	18	1,400,321
1979	N.L. West	Los Angeles Dodgers	79-83	3 of 6	11.5	2,860,954
1983	A.L. West	California Angels	70-92	5 of 7	29	2,555,016
1984	N.L. West	Los Angeles Dodgers	79-83	4 of 6	13	3,134,824
1986	N.L. West	Los Angeles Dodgers	73-89	5 of 6	23	3,023,208
1993	N.L. West	Colorado	67-95	6 of 7	37	4,483,350
1994	N.L. West	Colorado	53-64	3 of 4	6.5	3,281,511
1994	A.L. East	Toronto	55-60	3 of 5	16	2,907,933
1995	A.L. East	Baltimore	71-73	3 of 5	15	3,098,475
1998	A.L. East	Baltimore	79-83	4 of 5	35	3,685,194
1998	N.L. West	Colorado	77-85	4 of 5	21	3,789,347
1999	N.L. West	Colorado	72-90	5 of 5	28	3,481,065
2005	N.L. West	Los Angeles Dodgers	71-91	4 of 5	11	3,603,646
2017	A.L. East	Toronto	76-86	4 of 5	17	3,203,886
2021	A.L. West	Texas	60-102	5 of 5	35	2,110,258

Standings Pos. – Place in league or division standings and number of teams in league or division. G.B- Games back

### SMALLEST CROWDS AT MAJOR LEAGUE AND MINOR LEAGUE GAMES

On April 29, 2015, a Baltimore Orioles home game was played with no fans in attendance, due to civil unrest in Baltimore. It is believed that this is the first time ever that fans were not permitted to see a Major League game. In 2020, all regular season games were played with no fans in attendance.

According to <u>The Baseball Encyclopedia</u>, edited by Pete Palmer and Gary Gillette, in 1882, a National League game in Worcester, MA drew just 6 fans. Worcester drew an estimated 11,000 for the entire season, and had a won/lost record of 18-66.

The Websites Bleacherreport.com, and Answers.com report that the lowest attendance since 1900 is 23 for a game in Philadelphia (Yankees at Athletics) on September 8, 1916. Retrosheet.org reports the 'crowd' as 50. More recently, in 1979, a game in Oakland had an official attendance of 653, but only about 250 people were in the ballpark.

In the Minor Leagues, a 2002 game in Charleston, SC had an official attendance of 0 as part of a promotion called 'Nobody Night.' Fans partied outside the park until the game became official after the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, and then were admitted free. A 1905 Pacific Coast League game in San Francisco, on a rainy day, drew a 'crowd' of 1.

### BIGGEST INCREASES AND WORST DECLINES IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE

# A NOTE TO KEEP IN MIND ABOUT THOSE VERY LARGE DECLINES IN ATTENDANCE BY MIAMI AND TORONTO IN 2018 WHEN LOOKING AT SOME OF THE TABLES IN THIS SECTION

In 2018, both the Miami Marlins and Toronto Blue Jays revised their methods of compiling their official attendance. These changes resulted in both teams, particularly the Marlins, reporting huge attendance declines in 2018, compared to 2017. While both of these decreases were among the largest in Major League history, some context is needed in reporting them.

In 2017, the Marlins included tickets sold at deep discounts, or distributed for free, in their official reported attendance of 1,651,997. Their new ownership group decided to change this policy in 2018, and only include tickets actually sold at, or close to, the regular price, in their official attendance. As a result of this change, 2018 official Marlins' attendance was listed as 811,104, a decline of 840,893 (50.9%). It was the first time, at least officially, that a team had its attendance cut in half from one year to the next since 1950.

According to a March 29, 2018 article in the Miami Herald, if the Marlins had used the same method of calculating attendance in 2017, as they were planning to do in 2018, their 2017 attendance would have been around 820,000. So virtually their entire 2018 listed attendance decline is due to them no longer reporting free, or deeply-discounted tickets, in the official attendance figures announced by the team, and compiled by the Major League Baseball Information System.

As for Toronto, according to an article by Maury Brown in the October 3, 2018 issue of Forbes, the Blue Jays released far fewer tickets to resellers in 2018, compared to previous years. Toronto's attendance fell 878,605 (27.4%) in 2018. Much, or perhaps even most of, this decrease could be attributed to the Blue Jays finishing 35 games out of first place in the American League East. But the change in ticket distribution policy was certainly a factor in the decline.

This report, and probably all other news media reports about Major League Baseball attendance, use the official figures provided by Major League Baseball. So the 2018 attendance declines listed for Miami and Toronto are official.

The following section will cover the biggest season-to-season attendance increases and decreases by teams since 1900.

The first table, on page 259, lists teams that had an increase in total attendance of at least 700,000 in a season. **This excludes 2022.** On page 260, there is a table listing those teams whose total attendance fell at least 500,000 in a year. **This excludes 2021.** The table on page 261 lists teams that either doubled their total attendance in one year, or saw it cut in half. **This too, excludes 2021.** Nearly all of those very large percentage gains and losses took place early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, when the average team's attendance was much lower than it is today. It would be almost impossible for a team to double its attendance in one season now. A 50% decline in one season is about as unlikely, unless there is a situation such as noted above with Miami.

These tables do not include increases by teams that moved to a new city. See page 275 for that listing. The table of increases also does not include seasons that followed strike-shortened years (1982, 1995, 1996). The table of decreases excludes the strike-shortened 1981, 1994, and 1995 seasons, and the 2021 season, which began with limitations on stadium capacity. The 1918 season, which was shortened by World War I, and the following shorter (140 games) 1919 season, are also excluded from all these lists.

### BIGGEST INCREASES AND WORST DECLINES IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE

### Large Total Attendance Increases – excludes 2022. 2021 had reduced capacity for most early-season games.

There have been 115 occurrences in MLB history of a team increasing its total attendance by at least 500,000 in one year. Again, this excludes teams that moved to a new market, or seasons following strikes. The 1920 New York Yankees, in Babe Ruth's first season with that team, were the first to do it. The 1934 Detroit Tigers were the only other team until 1946 to post such a big gain.

Until the 1970's, few teams ever had increases of at least 500,000, due to the fact that attendance was much lower then. Besides the 2 teams noted above, the only pre-1970 teams to post such big increases were the 1946 Yankees, Red Sox, Braves, Dodgers, and Phillies, the 1947 Pirates, the 1948 and 1959 Indians, the 1951 and 1959 White Sox, the 1962 Angels and Dodgers, the 1964 Mets and Phillies, the 1965 Astros, the 1966 Angels, the 1967 Red Sox, the 1968 Tigers and the 1969 Cubs. 2012 Miami (up 698,862), and Texas (up 513,331), 2015 Kansas City (up 762,067), 2016 Toronto (up 597,208), 2018 Houston (up 576,878), 2019 Philadelphia (up 569,297), and 2023 Baltimore (up 568,431), Cleveland (up 538,198), Texas (up 521,683), Cincinnati (up 642,532), and Philadelphia (up 775,869), are the most recent teams to do it.

**6** of the 12 largest increases have taken place in a season in which that team moved into a new ballpark. 1948 was the third year (1933, 1947) that Cleveland played all of its home games in Municipal Stadium. In 1932, and between 1934 and 1946, they split their home schedule between League Park, and the much larger Municipal Stadium.

The biggest increases ever by a team which did not move from a different city that year, were posted by Houston in 1965, their first year in the Astrodome, and by the New York Yankees in 1946, the first season in which they played home night games. Major League Baseball overall, had its best gain in 1946, the only year following a full season, where every team posted an increase in attendance. 4 teams were up at least 700,000 that year.

# Large Total Attendance Decreases – excludes 2021. 2020 regular season games didn't have fans in attendance.

49 teams, including the 2019 Mariners and Blue Jays, 2018 Royals, Blue Jays, and Marlins, the 2016 Reds, the 2015, 2014, 2013 Phillies, and the 2013 Marlins, saw total attendance fall over 500,000 in one season. A record-high 6 teams did it in 2009, led by a 906,139 dip by the Mets. The main cause for this loss by the Mets was that they drew over 4 million in 2008, and then moved into a much smaller park in 2009.

The worst decline for a team in a non-strike season was when Dodger attendance fell 952,667 from 2,617,029 in 1966, to 1,664,362 in 1967. The Dodgers won 95 games and the National League championship in 1966. But after that season, star pitcher Sandy Koufax, who was a big draw, home and away, retired. The Dodgers averaged 38,217 in 1966 for the 21 dates when Koufax was the starting pitcher at Dodger Stadium, and 31,833 for all other home dates. Koufax's 20 starts on the road in 1966 averaged 34,077 per date. The other 9 N.L. teams averaged 18,138 per date when Koufax didn't pitch in their ballparks. (Raw data is from retrosheet.org.) In 1967, the Dodgers' record fell to 73-89, and they finished 28½ games out of first place. The 36.4% attendance drop by the Dodgers in 1967 was the worst percentage decline by a defending league champion since 1941, when Detroit's attendance fell 38.4%.

In 2003, Cleveland had the biggest total attendance decline in American League history, with a loss of 886,939. The previous year, Indians' attendance fell 558,583. Overall, Indians' attendance slumped to 1,730,001 in 2003, down from 3,175,523 in 2001. The Indians had a winning record for 8 straight years from 1994 through 2001. However, in 2002, their record was just 74-88, and they fell further, to 68-94 in 2003.

The 1950 Cleveland Indians, who had a 92-62 record, and the 1950 Philadelphia Athletics, who were 52-102, were the first teams to have attendance fall by at least 500,000. A year later, the Detroit Tigers also had such a big loss. Until 1984, the only other teams to suffer declines of at least 500,000 in a season were the 1960 Indians, the 1961 Pirates, and the 1967 Dodgers and Astros.

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE INCREASES OF 700,000+

Excludes years following strikes	(1982, 1995,	1996), and 2022

YEAR vs. PREV. YEAR							
<u>TEAM</u>	YEAR	ATTENDANCE	# DIFFERENCE	<u>% CHANGE</u>	NOTES		
Houston	1965	2,151,470	1,425,697	196.4	First year at Astrodome		
N.Y. Yankees	1946	2,265,512	1,383,667	156.9	Night games. First team to top 2 million		
Milwaukee Brew.	2001	2,811,041	1,237,420	78.6	Opening season at Miller Park		
Phila. Phillies	1993	3,137,674	1,210,226	62.8	Won N.L. Pennant, 'no-shows' counted		
San Francisco	2000	3,244,167	1,165,768	56.1	First Year at Pac Bell (AT&T) Park		
Atlanta	1991	2,140,217	1,160,088	118.4	Last place to first place, won N.L. pennant		
Allanta	1331	2,140,217	1,100,000	110.4	Last place to hist place, world.L. permant		
Cleveland	1948	2,620,627	1,098,649	72.2	Won pennant, set attendance record		
San Francisco	1993	2,606,354	1,044,367	66.9	31 more wins, 1993 includes 'no-shows'		
San Francisco	1978	1,740,477	1,040,421	148.6	14 more wins than in 1977		
Phila. Phillies	2004	3,250,092	1,026,739	46.2	First year at Citizens Bank Park		
Baltimore	1992	3,567,819	1,015,066	39.8	Oriole Park at Camden Yards opens		
San Diego	2004	3,016,752	986,688	48.6	First Year at Petco Park		
ouri biogo	2001	0,010,102	000,000	10.0			
Chicago W. Sox	1990	2,002,357	956,706	91.5	Final season at old Comiskey Park		
Cleveland	1993	2,177,908	953,634	77.9	Final season at Municipal Stadium		
L.A. Dodgers	1962	2,755,184	950,934	52.7	First year at Dodger Stadium		
Minnesota	1988	3,030,672	948,696	45.6	Follow-up season to World Series win		
Atlanta	1992	3,077,400	937,183	43.8	Won second straight N.L. pennant		
Chicago W. Sox	1991	2,934,154	931,797	46.5	First year at new Comiskey Park		
		_,			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
New York Mets	1985	2,761,601	918,906	49.9	In N.L. East race to the end		
Boston Red Sox	1967	1,727,832	916,660	113.0	The 'Impossible Dream' A.L. Champions		
Detroit	1984	2,704,794	875,158	47.8	Wire-to-wire' World Champions		
Baltimore	1989	2,535,208	874,470	52.7	33 more wins		
Houston	1993	2,084,546	873,134	72.1	Only 4 more wins, 'no-shows' counted		
Cleveland	1959	1,497,976	834,171	125.7	Finished just 5 games out of first in A.L.		
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L.A. Angels	1966	1,400,321	833,594	147.1	First year at Anaheim Stadium		
Minnesota	1987	2,081,976	826,523	65.8	Won their first World Series		
Cleveland	1986	1,471,805	816,624	124.6	24 more wins		
Cincinnati	1970	1,803,568	815,577	82.5	First year at Riverfront, N.L. champions		
Boston Red Sox	1946	1,416,944	813,150	134.7	Won A.L. pennant, 33 more wins		
Minnesota	2010	3,223,640	807,403	33.4	First year at Target Field, 79 sellouts		
Atlanta	1993	3,884,725	807,325	26.2	3rd straight N.L. West Championship		
Phila. Phillies	1971	1,511,323	803,076	113.4	First year at Veterans Stadium		
Montreal	1977	1,433,757	787,053	121.7	First year at Olympic Stadium		
Toronto	1989	3,375,883	780,708	30.1	Moved to Skydome in mid-season		
Phila. Phillies	2023	3,052,605	775,869	34.1	Followed up N.L. Championship		
Houston	1979	1,900,312	774,167	68.7	15 more wins		
L.A. Angels	1979	2,523,575	768,189	43.8	Won A.L. West		
Phila. Phillies	1946	1,045,247	760,190	266.7	From 46 to 69 wins, post-WW II boom		
L.A. Angels	2003	3,061,090	755,525	32.8	Followed up World Series win		
Kansas City	2015	2,708,549	752,067	38.4	Followed AL Title with World Series win		
L.A. Angels	1998	2,519,107	751,777	42.5	Just one more win in 1998 than in 1997		
Chicago W. Sox	1977	1,657,135	742,190	81.1	Was it 26 more wins, or uniform w/shorts?		
• • •	1001	( 500 000	700 750	00.4			
Minnesota	1984	1,598,692	739,753	86.1	11 more wins		
Brooklyn	1946	1,796,824	737,604	69.6	2 games out, post-WW II boom		
Montreal	1992	1,669,077	734,335	78.6	16 more wins		
New York Mets	1984	1,842,695	729,921	65.6	22 more wins		
N.Y. Yankees	1976	2,012,434	724,386	56.2	First year at rebuilt Yankee Stadium		
Minnesota	2001	1,782,926	723,211	68.2	16 more wins		
Mantuaal	4007	4 050 004	704 040	<u> </u>			
Montreal	1987	1,850,324	721,343	63.9 86 7	13 more wins		
San Francisco	1986	1,528,748	710,051	86.7	21 more wins		
Pittsburgh	1988	1,866,713	705,520	60.8	Only 5 more wins		

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE DECLINES OF 500,000+

Excludes years affected by strikes (1981, 1994, 1995), and 2021

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TEAM	<u>YEAR</u>	ATTENDANCE	YEAR vs. <u># DIFFERENCE</u>	PREV. YEAR <u>% CHANGE</u>	NOTES
L.A. Dodgers	1967	1,664,362	(952,667)	(36.4)	22 fewer wins than in 1966, Koufax retired
New York Mets	2009	3,135,904	(906,139)	(22.4)	Citi Field much smaller than Shea Stadium
Cleveland	2003	1,730,001	(886,939)	(33.9)	Won only 68 games
Toronto				· · · ·	
	2018	2,325,281	(878,605)	(27.4)	Far fewer tickets sold to brokers
L.A. Dodgers	1992	2,473,266	(874,904)	(26.1)	30 fewer wins than in 1991
Milwaukee Brew.	2002	1,969,673	(841,368)	(29.9)	2nd year at Miller Park
Miami	2018	811,104	(840,893)	(50.9)	Excluded free and discounted tickets
Detroit	1951	1,132,641	(818,833)	(42.0)	22 fewer wins
Milwaukee Brew.	1984	1,608,509	(788,622)	(32.9)	20 fewer wins, last in A.L. East
Minnesota	1989	2,277,438	(753,234)	(24.9)	80-82 two years after World Series win
Montreal	1984	1,606,531	(714,120)	(30.8)	Only 4 fewer wins than in 1983
Tampa Bay	1999	1,562,827	(698,331)	(30.9)	Big decline in team's second year
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Cincinnati	2001	1,882,732	(694,399)	(26.9)	19 fewer wins
Florida	2006	1,164,134	(688,474)	(37.2)	Only 5 more losses
New York Mets	2003	2,132,341	(672,497)	(24.0)	Second straight last place finish
Pittsburgh	2002	1,784,993	(651,133)	(26.7)	2nd year at PNC Park
Detroit	2009	2,567,193	(635,452)	(19.8)	It's the economy
Miami	2013	1,586,322	(633,122)	(28.5)	2nd year in Marlins Park
L.A. Dodgers	2011	2,934,808	(627,512)	(17.6)	Ownership and ballpark safety problems
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Florida	1998	1,750,395	(613,992)	(26.0)	38 fewer wins after winning W.S. in 1997
Detroit	2001	1,921,305	(612,447)	(24.2)	Just 66 wins in year 2 at Comerica Park
Phila. Phillies	2015	1,831,080	(592,772)	(24.5)	Only team down 500,000 in 3 straight years
Phila. Phillies	2014	2,423,852	(588,551)	(19.5)	2 straight years down 500,000+
N.Y. Yankees	2009	3,674,495	(584,880)	(13.7)	World Champs play in a smaller park
Phila. Phillies	2005	2,665,304	(584,788)	(18.0)	Year 2 at Citizens Bank Park
Montreal	1998	914,717	(582,892)	(38.9)	Finished 41 games out of first place
Arizona	1999	3,019,654	(580,758)	(16.1)	100 wins, and led N.L. West by 14 games
Washington Nats.	2006	2,153,058	(578,935)	(21.2)	71 wins, 2nd year in D.C.
New York Mets	2010	2,559,738	(576,166)	(18.4)	Year 2 at Citi Field
Toronto	2019	1,750,144	(575,137)	(24.7)	95 losses, 36 games out of first place
Cleveland	2019	2,616,940	(558,583)	(17.6)	First losing year since 1993
Cleveland	2002	2,010,940	(556,565)	(17.0)	First losing year since 1995
Kansas City	2018	1,665,107	(555,263)	(25.0)	104 losses
Phila. Phillies	2013	3,012,403	(553,315)	(15.5)	102 wins to 73 wins - 2011 to 2013
Seattle Mariners	1998	2,644,305	(547,932)	(17.2)	14 fewer wins
Cleveland	1960	950,985	(546,991)	(36.5)	From pennant contenders to 21 GB in A.L.
Detroit	1989	1,543,656	(537,506)	(25.8)	103 losses, dead last in A.L. East
Minnesota	1909	1,751,584	(525,854)	(23.0)	Last place in A.L. West
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Cincinnati	2016	1,894,085	(525,421)	(21.7)	2 straight years with 90+ losses
Toronto	2009	1,876,129	(524,287)	(21.8)	Losing record
Houston	1990	1,310,927	(523,981)	(28.6)	11 fewer wins
Houston	1967	1,348,303	(523,805)	(28.0)	Astrodome novelty starting to wear off
Seattle	2019	1,790,061	(509,428)	(22.2)	94 losses, 39 games out of first place
St. Louis Cards	1990	2,573,225	(507,755)	(16.5)	16 fewer wins, last in N.L. East
Philadelphia A's	1950	309,805	(506,709)	(62.1)	102 losses, Phillies won N.L. pennant
Pittsburgh	1961	1,199,128	(506,700)	(29.7)	From World Champs to 18 games out
Cleveland	1950	1,727,464	(506,307)	(22.7)	More wins than in '49, TV cuts gate
New York Mets	1992	1,779,534	(504,950)	(22.1)	Expected contender wins just 72 games
San Diego	2009	1,922,603	(504,932)	(20.8)	Losing year
Washington Nats.	2009	1,817,202	(504,786)	(21.7)	103 loses, 2nd year at Nationals Park
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# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAMS THAT DOUBLED ATTENDANCE

Excludes years following strikes (1982, 1995, 1996), and 1919, which followed a shortened season, and 2022

			YEAR vs.	PREV. YEAR	
<u>TEAM</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	ATTENDANCE	<u># DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>	NOTES
Phila. Phillies	1946	1,045,247	760,190	266.7	Post-WW II boom, 23 more wins vs. 1945
Phila. Phillies	1915	449,898	311,424	224.9	National League champions
Cleveland	1916	492,106	332,821	208.9	20 more wins
Houston	1965	2,151,470	1,425,697	196.4	First year in Astrodome
Detroit	1934	919,161	598,189	186.4	A.L. pennant and 26 more wins
Oakland	1980	842,259	535,496	174.6	29 more wins
Boston Braves	1946	969,673	595.495	159.1	Post-war boom, 14 more wins
N.Y. Yankees	1946	2,265,512	1,383,667	159.1	First to top 2 million, lights at Yank. Stadium
San Francisco	1940	1,740,477	1,040,421	148.6	14 more wins
	1978	1,400,321	833,594	140.0	First year at Anaheim Stadium
L.A. Angels Cincinnati				147.1	•
	1946 1915	715,751	425,681	140.0	Just 6 more wins in post-WW II year
Brooklyn	1915	297,766	175,095	142.7	Slightly better record
St. Louis Browns	1944	508,644	294,252	137.2	Won the only pennant in team history
Boston Red Sox	1946	1,416,944	813,150	134.7	Won A.L. pennant, 33 more wins
Boston Red Sox	1934	610,640	341,925	127.2	Fenway Park expanded and refurbished
Phila. Phillies	1905	317,932	177,161	125.9	31 more wins
Cleveland	1959	1,497,976	834,171	125.7	Finished 5 games out of first
Cleveland	1986	1,471,805	816,624	124.6	24 more wins than in 1985
Brooklyn	1920	808,722	448,451	124.5	24 more wins, first Brooklyn pennant
St. Louis Browns	1916	335,740	185,382	123.3	16 more wins, no more Federal Lea. team
Montreal	1977	1,433,757	787,053	121.7	First season at Olympic Stadium
Atlanta	1991	2,140,217	1,160,088	118.4	Last place to first, won N.L. pennant
Cincinnati	1915	218,878	118,087	117.2	11 more wins
Phila. Phillies	1971	1,511,323	803,076	113.4	Opening season at Veterans Stadium
Boston Red Sox	1967	1,727,832	916,660	113.0	From 9th place to American Lea. Champs
Cleveland	1907	275,395	144,015	109.6	15 more wins
Chicago Cubs	1902	453,685	236,627	109.0	Federal League gone, first year at Wrigley
N.Y. Yankees	1910	1,289,422	670,258	109.0	Babe Ruth's first year with Yankees
N.Y. Yankees	1920	439,919	228,111	108.3	Team adds 20 wins, Chesbro wins 41
Phila. Athletics	1904	•	213,749	107.7	•
	1902	420,078	213,149	103.0	American League champions
Phila. Phillies	1943	466,975	236,792	102.9	Finished 41 out in 1943, lost 109 in 1942
St. Louis Browns	1922	712,918	356,940	100.3	2nd place, just one game out
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# MAJOR LEAGUE TEAMS THAT HAD ATTENDANCE CUT IN HALF

Excludes strike years (1981, 1994), and shortened season of 1918, plus 2021

Phila. Phillies	1914	138,474	(331,526)	(70.5)	The economy, and 17 more losses
Cleveland	1914	185,997	(355,003)	(65.6)	36 more losses
Brooklyn	1914	122,671	(224,329)	(64.6)	10 more wins, hurt by Federal League
Phila. Athletics	1950	309,805	(506,709)	(62.1)	102 losses, Phillies won N.L. pennant
Cincinnati	1914	100,791	(157,209)	(60.9)	94 losses
Phila. Athletics	1915	146,223	(200,418)	(57.8)	From A.L. champs to 109 losses
St. Louis Cards	1932	279,219	(329,316)	(54.1)	From World champs to 72-82
Pittsburgh	1914	139,620	(156,380)	(52.8)	Lost 14 more, Federal Leag. in Pittsburgh
Phila. Phillies	1902	112,066	(122,871)	(52.3)	24 more losses
Chicago Cubs	1914	202,516	(216,484)	(51.7)	Lost 11 more, Federal League in Chicago
Boston Red Sox	1943	358,275	(372,065)	(50.9)	15 more losses, World War II
Miami	2018	811,104	(840,893)	(50.9)	Changed method of compiling attendance
Brooklyn	1917	221,619	(226,128)	(50.5)	From pennant to 7th place

### BIGGEST INCREASES AND WORST DECLINES

### Frequency of Big Gains and Losses – excludes strike affected seasons and 2021 and 2022

The Philadelphia Phillies have seen attendance rise by at least 500,000 in 9 different seasons. The Chicago White Sox and Detroit have had 8 seasons with a gain of at least 500,000. On the down side, Cleveland, Detroit, Miami, and the New York Mets, and Philadelphia Phillies have each had 4 seasons with decreases of at least 500,000.

# NUMBER OF SEASONS EACH TEAM HAS POSTED A 500,000 TOTAL ATTENDANCE INCREASE OR DECLINE

ТЕАМ	# YEARS UP 500,000+	# YEARS DOWN 500,000+	TEAM	# YEARS UP 500,000+	# YEARS DOWN 500,000+
Baltimore	4	0	Arizona	0	1
Boston Red Sox	2	0	Atlanta	4	0
Chicago White Sox	8	0	Chicago Cubs	3	0
Cleveland	5	4	Cincinnati	4	2
Detroit	8	4	Colorado	0	0
Houston	5	2	Los Angeles Dodgers	3	3
Kansas City	2	1	Miami	2	4
Los Angeles Angels	5	0	Milwaukee Brewers	3	2
Minnesota	6	2	New York Mets	7	4
New York Yankees	4	1	Philadelphia Phillies	9	4
Oakland	2	0	Pittsburgh	5	2
Seattle Mariners	1	2	St. Louis Cardinals	3	1
Tampa Bay	0	1	San Diego	2	1
Texas	4	0	San Francisco	4	0
Toronto	4	3	Washington	0	2
Philadelphia Athletics	0	1	Brooklyn Dodgers	1	0
			Boston Braves	1	0
			Montreal Expos	4	2

# Teams That Doubled Their Total Attendance, or Saw it Cut in Half - excludes strike affected years and 2021 and 2022

32 teams in Major League history doubled their total attendance from one season to the next. The 1991 Atlanta Braves were the last to do it. They won the National League pennant after a last place finish in 1990.

There have been 13 teams that suffered a total attendance decline of at least 50% in one year. Until the 2018 Miami Marlins did it due to the change they made in how they listed official attendance, the last team to have such a loss was the 1950 Philadelphia Athletics. They lost 102 games that year, while the Phillies, who shared the same ballpark with the A's, won the National League Championship for the first time since 1915.

# HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES - BIGGEST INCREASES AND WORST DECLINES

### Consecutive Seasons with Total Attendance Gains or Losses of at Least 500,000 - excludes 2021 and 2022

The 2015 Phillies became the first team in Major League history to post an attendance decline of at least 500,000 in 3 consecutive seasons. 2019 Toronto became the 5<sup>th</sup> team to suffer consecutive 500,000+ declines.

Team	Year	Attendance	Prev. Year Attend.	Total Decline	% Decline
Toronto	2019	1,750,144	2,325,281	(575,137)	(24.7)
Toronto	2018	2,325,281	3,203,886	(878,605)	(27.4)
Philadelphia Phillies	2015	1,831,080	2,423,852	(592,772)	(24.5)
Philadelphia Phillies	2014	2,423,852	3,012,403	(588,551)	(19.5)
Philadelphia Phillies	2013	3,012,403	3,565,718	(553,315)	(15.5)
New York Mets	2010	2,559,738	3,135,904	(576,166)	(18.4)
New York Mets	2009	3,135,904	4,042,043	(906,139)	(22.4)
Cleveland	2003	1,730,001	2,616,940	(886,939)	(33.9)
Cleveland	2002	2,616,940	3,175,523	(558,583)	(17.6)
Minnesota	1990	1,751,584	2,277,438	(525,854)	(23.1)
Minnesota	1989	2,277,438	3,030,672	(753,234)	(24.9)

TEAMS WITH 500,000+ TOTAL ATTENDANCE DECLINES IN CONSECUTIVE SEASONS

Only 8 teams have ever had consecutive increases of at least 500,000. The 1991, 1992, and 1993 Atlanta Braves are the only team whose attendance rose at least 500,000 in 3 straight years. The Mets who did it in 1984 and 1985, and then in 2005 and 2006, are the only team to do it more than once. The 2004 Phillies, 2000 Tigers, and 1991 White Sox moved into new parks in those years. The1989 Blue Jays moved to a new park midway through the season. In 1993, The Braves, and all National League teams, began to include 'no-shows' in their announced attendance.

TEAMS WITH 500,000+ TOTAL ATTENDANCE INCREASES IN CONSECUTIVE SEASONS

Team	Year	Attendance	Prev. Year Attend.	Total Gain	% Gain
New York Mets	2006	3,379,535	2,829,931	549,604	19.4
New York Mets	2005	2,829,931	2,318,321	511,610	22.1
Philadelphia Phillies	2004	3,250,092	2,223,353	1,026,739	46.1
Philadelphia Phillies	2003	2,223,353	1,618,141	605,212	37.4
Detroit	2000	2,533,752	2,026,441	507,311	25.0
Detroit	1999	2,026,441	1,409,391	617,050	43.8
Atlanta	1993	3,884,725	3,077,400	807,325	26.2
Atlanta	1992	3,077,400	2,140,217	937,183	43.8
Atlanta	1991	2,140,217	980,129	1,160,088	118.4
Chicago White Sox	1991	2,934,154	2,002,357	931,797	46.5
Chicago White Sox	1990	2,002,357	1,045,651	956,706	91.5
Toronto	1990	3,885,284	3,375,883	509,401	15.1
Toronto	1989	3,375,883	2,595,175	780,708	30.1
Minnesota	1988	3,030,672	2,081,976	948,696	45.6
3Minnesota	1987	2,081,976	1,255,453	826,523	65.8
New York Mets	1985	2,761,601	1,842,695	918,906	49.9
New York Mets	1984	1,842,695	1,112,774	729,921	65.6

### BIG LOSSES AND BIG GAINS IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE OVER A 3, 4, OR 5 YEAR PERIOD – excludes 2021, 2022

In 2015, the Phillies set a record for the largest attendance declines over a 3 and 4-year period. This is a comparison of their 2015 attendance with their attendance in 2011 and 2012. The Phillies drew incredibly well during those 2 seasons. They also lost 3 dates to weather in 2015, and would not have set those records if they played their entire home schedule.

The following tables show the large total attendance declines and increases over a 3, 4, or 5-year period. Base 'high' figure in the declines table is at least 1,400,000. Base 'high' figure in the increases table is at least 1,000,000

The big declines by the New York Mets comparing 2011 and 2012 with 2008 are due, in large part, to the move from Shea Stadium to a Citi-Field, a much smaller ballpark.

Much more common, are large increases in attendance over a 3, 4, or 5-year period, due to a team moving into a new ballpark. Increases that involved teams moving into new ballparks are shown in italics in the table on the next page.

If the season at the start or end of the period was not a full season, such as 1981, 1994, or 1995, it is not listed in these tables.

	LOW YEAR HIGH YEAR					AR		
							TOTAL	
# YEARS	TEAM	YEAR	ATTENDANCE		YEAR	ATTENDANCE	DECLINE	% CHG.
3	Philadelphia	2015	1,831,080		2012	3,565,718	(1,734,638)	(48.6)
3	Cleveland	2003	1,730,001		2000	3,456,378	(1,726,377)	(49.9)
3	New York Mets	2011	2,352,596		2008	4,042,043	(1,689,447)	(41.8)
3	Toronto	2019	1,750,144		2016	3,392,099	(1,641,955)	(48.4)
3	Toronto	1996	2,559,573		1993	4,057,947	(1,498,374)	(36.9)
3	Philadelphia	1996	1,801,677		1993	3,137,674	(1,335,997)	(42.6)
3	Florida Marlins	1996	1,746,767		1993	3,064,847	(1,318,080)	(43.0)
4	Philadelphia	2015	1,831,080		2011	3,680,718	(1,849,638)	(50.3)
4	New York Mets	2012	2,242,803		2008	4,042,043	(1,799,240)	(44.5)
4	Cleveland	2003	1,730,001		1999	3,468,456	(1,738,455)	(50.1)
4	Philadelphia	1997	1,490,638		1993	3,137,674	(1,647,036)	(52.5)
4	Cleveland	2004	1,814,401		2000	3,456,378	(1,641,977)	(47.5)
4	Toronto	1997	2,589,297		1993	4,057,947	(1,468,650)	(36.2)
4	New York Mets	1992	1,779,534		1988	3,055,445	(1,275,911)	(41.8)
4	Colorado	2005	1,914,389		2001	3,159,385	(1,244,966)	(39.4)

### BIG TOTAL ATTENDANCE LOSSES OVER 3, 4, or 5 YEARS - HIGHER FIGURE AT LEAST 1,400,000

The Boston Braves had an 80.7% decline from 1948 through 1952, as their attendance fell from 1,455,439 in 1948 to 281,278 in 1952, a loss of 1,174,161.

Some large 5-year declines were 1,766,574 (48.0%) by the Philadelphia Phillies from 2011 to 2016, 1,551,276 (65.6%) by the Florida Marlins from 1997 to 2002, 1,448,483 (65.4%) by the Milwaukee Braves from 1957 through 1962, 1,204,195 (38.0%) by Minnesota from 2011 through 2016, and 1,226,427 (38.8%) by Detroit from 2013 through 2018. In the 6-year period from 2013 through 2019, Detroit was down 1,581,967 (51.3%).

Minnesota had a 2-year decline of 1,279,088 (42.2%) from 1988 through 1990, and Toronto was down 1,066,818 (31.5%) from 2016 through 2018, and Toronto was also down 1,453,742 (45.4%) from 2017 through 2019.

# BIG INCREASES IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE OVER A 3, 4, OR 5-YEAR PERIOD - excludes 2021 and 2022

Teams that moved into new ballparks during the 3, 4, or 5-year period shown in italics.

	HIGH YEAR			LOW YEAR					
						TOTAL			
# YEARS	TEAM	YEAR	ATTENDANCE	YEAR	ATTENDANCE	INCREASE	% CHG.		
3	Atlanta	1993	3,884,725	1990	980,129	2,904,596	296.3		
3	Chicago W. Sox	1991	2,934,154	1988	1,115,749	1,818,405	163.0		
3	New York Mets	1986	2,767,601	1983	1,112,774	1,654,827	148.7		
3	N.Y. Yankees	1946	2,265,512	1943	618,330	1,647,182	266.4		
3	California Angels	1979	2,523,575	1976	1,006,774	1,516,801	150.7		
3	Montreal Expos	1979	2,102,173	1976	646,704	1,455,469	225.1		
3	Oakland	1982	1,735,489	1979	306,763	1,428,726	465.7		
3	L.A. Angels	2004	3,375,677	2001	2,000,917	1,374,760	68.7		
3	Boston Red Sox	1968	1,940,788	1965	652,201	1,288,587	197.6		
3	San Francisco	1978	1,740,477	1975	522,919	1,217,558	232.8		
4	Atlanta	1993	3,884,725	1989	984,930	2,899,795	294.4		
4	Atlanta	1992	3,077,400	1988	848,089	2,229,311	262.9		
4	Cleveland	1948	2,620,627	1944	475,272	2,145,355	451.4		
4	Cleveland	1996	3,318,174	1992	1,224,274	2,093,900	171.0		
4	New York Mets	1930	3,034,129	1983	1,112,774	1,921,355	172.7		
	New FOR Meta	1307	3,004,123	1303	1,112,774	1,921,000	172.7		
4	Baltimore	1992	3,567,819	1988	1,660,738	1,907,081	114.8		
4	San Francisco	2000	3,244,167	1996	1,413,922	1,830,245	129.4		
4	Detroit	2007	3,047,139	2003	1,368,285	1,678,854	122.7		
4	Philadelphia	2004	3,250,092	2000	1,612,769	1,637,323	101.5		
4	Oakland	1990	2,900,217	1986	1,314,646	1,585,571	120.6		
4	Texas	2012	3,460,280	2008	1,945,857	1,514,423	77.8		
4	Toronto	1992	4,028,318	1988	2,595,175	1,433,143	55.2		
4	L.A. Angels	2005	3,404,686	2001	2,000,917	1,403,769	70.2		
4	Detroit	2000	2,533,752	1996	1,168,610	1,365,142	116.8		
4	Atlanta	1983	2,119,935	1979	769,465	1,350,470	175.5		
5	Atlanta	1993	3,884,725	1988	848,089	3,036,636	358.1		
5	Cleveland	1993	3,318,174	1988	1,051,863	2,266,311	215.5		
5	Minnesota	1990	3,030,672	1983	858,939	2,200,377	275.5		
5	Baltimore	1988	3,644,965	1983	1,660,738	1,984,227	119.5		
5	New York Mets	1993	3,055,445	1983	1,112,774	1,942,671	179.5		
5	New York Mets	2008	4,042,043	2003	2,132,341	1,942,071	89.6		
5	San Francisco	2001	3,277,244	1996	1,413,922	1,863,322	131.8		
5	Detroit	2008	3,202,645	2003	1,368,285	1,834,360	134.1		
5	Toronto	2016	3,392,091	2011	1,818,103	1,573,996	86.6		
5	Seattle	1997	3,192,237	1992	1,651,398	1,540,839	93.3		
5	Houston	1980	2,278,217	1975	858,002	1,420,215	165.5		
5	Houston	2018	2,980,549	2013	1,651,911	1,328,638	80.4		

The National League began to include 'no-shows' in its attendance in 1993.

Some notable percentage increases: The Boston Braves had a 597.4% gain from 1944 to 1948, and a 512.1% gain from 1944 to 1947. Vs. 1943, the Boston Red Sox were up 295.5% in 1946, 298.4% in 1947, and 335.1% in 1948. The Yankees had a 290.4% increase from 1918 to 1920, largely due to trading for Babe Ruth.

#### BIGGEST INCREASES IN AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE - excludes 2022

There have been 39 times in Major League history where a team increased its average attendance per date by at least 10,000. This includes 1981 Oakland, and 1994 Texas and Cleveland. Those seasons were shorter due to strikes. The 1946 Yankees had the best average per date gain ever, up 20,157. That was the first season that there were lights in Yankee Stadium. The gain of 17,706 by Houston in 1965 was in the first season in The Astrodome. The 14,785 gain by Milwaukee in 2001 was in their first year at Miller Park.

Other teams on this list who were in their first seasons in a new ballpark were 2000 San Francisco, 1992 Baltimore, 2004 San Diego, 2004 Philadelphia, 1994 Texas, 1994 Cleveland, 1962 Los Angeles Dodgers, 1991 Chicago White Sox, 1964 New York Mets, 1971 Philadelphia, 2010 Minnesota (the most recent team to make this list), and 1989 Toronto, which moved to Skydome in mid-season that year.

Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Houston all had increases of 10,000+ per date in 1993. That was the first year that the National League counted 'no-shows' in its official paid attendance.

7 of the 39 teams on this list increased their average per date by at least 10,000 in a season in which they had a losing record. Those teams were: 1965 Houston; 2001 Milwaukee; 1946 Philadelphia Phillies; 1994 Texas; 1993 Cleveland; 1964 New York Mets; 1971 Philadelphia. The 1946 Phillies, and the 1993 Indians were the only teams that didn't move into a new ballpark that year. The 1982 San Diego Padres finished at .500.

The tables in this section include teams that moved into new ballparks. However, they don't include teams that moved to new markets. 6 teams that moved to new markets had average per date increases of better than 10,000. Total attendance growth and average per date growth for those relocated teams can be found in the table on page 275.

		AVERAGE PER			AVERAGE PER
YEAR	TEAM	DATE GAIN	YEAR	TEAM	DATE GAIN
1946	New York Yankees	20,157	1994	Cleveland	11,897
1965	Houston	17,706	1988	Minnesota	11,713
2001	Milwaukee Brewers	14,785	1993	Cleveland	11,528
1991	Atlanta	14,543	1984	Detroit	11,515
1993	Philadelphia Phillies	14,510	1991	Chicago White Sox	11,331
2000	San Francisco	14,392	1962	Los Angeles Dodgers	11,266
1981	Oakland	14,340	1996	Seattle Mariners	11,118
1948	Cleveland	14,340	1992	Atlanta	11,029
1978	San Francisco	14,060	1993	Houston	10,779
1959	Cleveland	13,405	1985	New York Mets	10,746
1946	Boston Red Sox	13,115	1982	San Diego	10,734
1946	Philadelphia Phillies	12,960	1964	New York Mets	10,597
1993	San Francisco	12,405	1971	Philadelphia Phillies	10,448
1996	San Diego	12,338	1979	Montreal	10,421
1992	Baltimore	12,285	2010	Minnesota	10,332
2004	San Diego	12,181	1979	Houston	10,241
1982	Atlanta	12,175	1987	Minnesota	10,204
2004	Philadelphia Phillies	12,121	1989	Toronto	10,160
1967	Boston Red Sox	12,069	1989	Baltimore	10,061
1994	Texas	11,961			

### TEAMS THAT INCREASED AVERAGE PER DATE BY AT LEAST 10,000

### WORST DECLINES IN AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE - excludes 2021

Declines of 10,000 or worse in average per date are far less common than gains that big. Usually, when attendance falls, it is a more gradual decline from year to year. Only 6 teams, including Toronto and Miami in 2018, have ever had losses of 10,000 in average per date if seasons that had or followed strikes are not included. In the shorter 1995 season, 7 teams saw average per date fall by at least 10,000 following the 1994 strike. Overall MLB average per date fell by 6,352 in 1995 vs. 1994. Pittsburgh's 1981 decline took place in a season with a mid-season strike.

The biggest average per date loss in a full season was 12,450 by the 2009 New York Mets, who moved into Citi Field. Citi Field had a 41,800 capacity in 2009. That is a much smaller park than Shea Stadium, where the Mets averaged 51,165 in 2008. The 1995 Colorado Rockies and the 2009 Yankees also moved into new ballparks in those years where capacity was less than what they drew in the final season in their old parks.

Average per date fell by 11,937 for the 1967 Los Angeles Dodgers, whose win total fell from 95 in 1966 to 73 in 1967. The 2003 Cleveland Indians lost 94 games. 2002 was Milwaukee's 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Miller Park, and they lost 106 games that year, finishing 41 games out of first place in the National League Central. **The 13 teams listed in italics had winning records in seasons where their average per date declined by at least 7,000.** The 1995 Braves and the 2009 Yankees won the World Series.

As to be expected, none of these big gains and losses in average per date took place prior to 1946, when attendance per date was much lower. 1995 Texas, 2002 Milwaukee, 1999 Tampa Bay, 2002 Pittsburgh, 2013 Miami, 2005 Philadelphia, 2001 Detroit, and 1999 Arizona were each in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new, or fairly new, ballpark.

		AVERAGE PER			AVERAGE PER
YEAR	TEAM	DATE LOSS	YEAR	TEAM	DATE LOSS
1995	Texas	(12,792)	2003	New York Mets	(8,266)
2009	New York Mets	(12,450)	2002	Pittsburgh	(8,242)
1967	Los Angeles Dodgers	(11,937)	1950	Philadelphia Athletics	(8,134)
1995	San Francisco	(11,649)	2001	Cincinnati	(7,984)
1995	Colorado	(11,514)	1961	Detroit	(7,845)
1995	Atlanta	(11,442)	2009	Miami Marlins	(7,817)
1981	Pittsburgh	(10,966)	2013	Los Angeles Dodgers	(7,747)
2003	Cleveland	(10,950)	2011	Chicago White Sox	(7,668)
1995	Philadelphia Phillies	(10,717)	1996	Toronto	(7,657)
2018	Toronto	(10,488)	1961	Pittsburgh	(7,592)
2002	Milwaukee Brewers	(10,387)	2019	Toronto	(7,459)
2018	Miami	(10,381)	1998	Florida Marlins	(7,398)
1995	St. Louis	(10,167)	2002	Cleveland	(7,386)
1995	Toronto	(10,030)	1969	Detroit	(7,347)
1984	Milwaukee Brewers	(9,967)	1995	Milwaukee Brewers	(7,332)
1984	Montreal	(9,396)	2005	Philadelphia Phillies	(7,310)
1951	Detroit	(9,364)	2014	Philadelphia Phillies	(7,266)
1995	Chicago White Sox	(9,353)	2001	Detroit	(7,265)
1989	Minnesota	(9,299)	1995	Houston	(7,252)
1992	Los Angeles Dodgers	(9,215)	2009	New York Yankees	(7,221)
1960	Cleveland	(9,146)	2018	Kansas City	(7,198)
1995	Minnesota	(9,014)	1998	Montreal	(7,196)
1999	Tampa Bay	(8,622)	1999	Arizona	(7,170)
1995	Florida Marlins	(8,546)	2006	Washington Nationals	(7,147)
2006	Florida Marlins	(8,500)	1962	Detroit	(7,115)
1950	Cleveland	(8,327)			

TEAMS THAT HAD DECREASES IN AVERAGE PER DATE OF AT LEAST 7,000 - excludes 2021

### TEAMS THAT DOUBLED THEIR AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE - excludes 2022

35 teams have doubled their average attendance per date from one season to the next, while playing in the same city in both seasons. Of these teams, only the 1965 Astros, 1966 Angels, and 1971 Phillies moved into a new ballpark that year. The 1965 Astros and 1971 Phillies were the only teams listed in this table that had fewer wins than a year earlier. In most of these cases, the team had a significant increase in their number of wins.

While only the 2018 Marlins, who changed their attendance reporting policy, have seen average attendance per date cut in half since 1950, 12 teams have doubled their average per date in a season since then. The most recent team to achieve this, were the 1991 Atlanta Braves, who had a 94-68 record, and won the National League championship. In 1990, the Braves finished last in the National League West, with a 65-97 record.

The teams listed in italics had losing records in a season when their average per date doubled. 1916 Cleveland, 1934 Boston Red Sox, and 1982 San Diego each finished with the same number of wins and losses.

TEAMS (SINCE 1901), WHOSE AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE MORE THAN DOUBLED

		Average Att.	Previous Year	Gain in Avg.	Year to Year Change
Year	Team	per Date	Avg./Date	per Date	in Won/Loss Record
1902	Cleveland	4,371	2,119	2,252	55-82 to 69-67
1903	New York Giants	9,823	4,660	5,163	48-88 to 84-55
1915	Cincinnati	3,127	1,482	1,645	60-94 to 71-83
1915	Brooklyn Dodgers	4,653	1,917	2,736	75-79 to 80-72
1915	Philadelphia Phillies	6,922	2,098	4,824	74-80 to 90-62
1916	St. Louis Browns	5,011	2,425	2,586	63-91 to 79-75
			_,		
1916	Cleveland	6,475	2,451	4,024	57-95 to 77-77
1919	St. Louis Browns	5,545	2,654	2,891	60-64 to 67-72
1919	Brooklyn Dodgers	6,012	1,863	4,149	57-69 to 69-71
1919	New York Yankees	10,150	4,948	5,202	60-63 to 80-59
1919	Chicago White Sox	9,223	3,981	5,242	57-67 to 88-52
1919	Cincinnati	8,452	2,811	5,641	68-60 to 96-44
1919	Detroit	9,609	3,994	5,615	55-71 to 80-60
1919	New York Giants	11,814	5,579	6,235	71-53 to 87-53
1934	Boston Red Sox	9,693	4,405	5,288	63-86 to 76-76
1934	Detroit	12,591	5,095	7,496	75-79 to 101-53
1943	Philadelphia Phillies	8,648	3,901	4,747	42-109 to 64-90
1944	St. Louis Browns	7,948	3,573	4,375	72-80 to 89-65
1946	Cincinnati	11,544	5,274	6,270	61-93 to 67-87
1946	Boston Braves	16,161	6,929	9,232	67-85 to 81-72
1946	Philadelphia Phillies	18,338	5,378	12,960	46-108 to 69-85
1946	Boston Red Sox	22,854	9,739	13,115	71-83 to 104-50
1946	New York Yankees	34,854	14,697	20,157	81-71 to 87-67
1959	Cleveland	23,777	10,372	13,405	77-76 to 89-65
1965	Houston	26,893	9,187	17,706	66-96 to 65-97
1966	California Angels	18,186	8,213	9,973	75-87 to 80-82
1967	Boston Red Sox	23,998	11,929	12,069	72-90 to 92-70
1971	Philadelphia Phillies	20,150	9,702	10,448	73-88 to 67-95
1978	San Francisco	23,520	9,460	14,060	75-87 to 89-73
1980	Oakland	11,230	3,984	7,246	54-108 to 83-79
1981	Oakland	25,570	11,230	14,340	83-79 to 64-45
1982	San Diego	20,348	9,614	10,734	41-69 to 81-81
1982	Atlanta	23,102	10,927	12,175	50-56 to 89-73
1986	Cleveland	18,630	8,736	9,894	60-102 to 84-78
1991	Atlanta	27,439	12,896	14,543	65-97 to 94-68

### TEAMS THAT HAD THEIR AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE CUT IN HALF - excludes 2021

There have been 15 teams since 1901, including Miami in 2018, whose average attendance per date fell by at least 50% from one season to the next. Nearly all of these huge declines took place early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, and Philadelphia teams accounted for 5 of those losses.

Prior to 2018 Miami, with their attendance reporting change, the 1950 Philadelphia Athletics were the previous team to suffer such a big percentage loss. That year, the Philadelphia Phillies, who shared Shibe Park (Connie Mack Stadium), won the National League pennant, while the Athletics went 52-102, finishing dead last in the American League. Also in Philadelphia, the Athletics' record fell from 99-53 and an American League championship in 1914, down to 43-109 and last place in 1915, after team owner and manager Connie Mack traded or sold some star players. The Phillies, who played in their own ballpark at that time, won the 1915 National League pennant.

The 1914 Chicago Cubs were the only team in this group with a winning season. The 1914 Brooklyn Dodgers were the only team in this group who didn't lose more games than in the previous season. A major reason why these teams experienced such a sharp decline was that the new Federal League had teams in Brooklyn and Chicago. Overall, 6 teams had average per date decline by at least 50% in 1914.

World War I was a factor in 1918 as 3 teams had their average per date cut by more than half. The post-war season of 1919 saw 7 teams more than double their average per date, as noted in the table on the previous page.

		Average Att.	Previous Year	Loss in Avg.	Year to Year Change
Year	Team	per Date	Avg./Date	per Date	in Won/Loss Record
1902	Philadelphia Phillies	1,868	3,851	(1,983)	83-57 to 56-81
1914	Pittsburgh	2,023	4,169	(2,146)	78-71 to 69-85
1914	Cleveland	2,657	7,514	(4,857)	86-66 to 51-102
1914	Cincinnati	1,482	3,794	(2,312)	64-89 to 60-94
1914	Chicago Cubs	2,774	5,986	(3,212)	88-65 to 78-76
1914	Philadelphia Phillies	2,098	7,121	(5,023)	88-63 to 74-80
1914	Brooklyn Dodgers	1,917	4,819	(2,902)	65-84 to 75-79
1915	Philadelphia Athletics	2,397	5,252	(2,855)	99-53 to 43-109
1918	Chicago White Sox	3,981	9,641	(5,660)	100-54 to 57-67
1918	Philadelphia Phillies	2,658	5,717	(3,059)	87-65 to 55-68
1918	St. Louis Cardinals	1,875	4,306	(2,431)	82-70 to 51-78
1932	Boston Red Sox	2,760	5,754	(2,994)	62-90 to 43-111
1932	St. Louis Cardinals	4,231	9,220	(4,989)	101-53 to 72-82
1950	Philadelphia Athletics	5,251	13,385	(8,134)	81-73 to 52-102
2018	Miami	10,014	20,395	(10,381)	77-85 to 63-98

### TEAMS (SINCE 1901), WHOSE AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER DATE FELL BY AT LEAST 50%

### ATTENDANCE OFTEN DECLINES SHARPLY IN A BALLPARK'S 2<sup>nd</sup> YEAR, BUT NOT FOR ATLANTA IN 2018

There have been 4 eras of Major League ballparks. The first were the small wooden ballparks of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Then there were the classic concrete and steel parks, the first of which were Shibe Park (later named Connie Mack Stadium) in Philadelphia, and Forbes Field in Pittsburgh, both of which opened in 1909.

The era of the large multi-purpose stadiums began with the opening of Candlestick Park in San Francisco in 1960. For the next 3 decades, all new Major League stadiums, except for Dodger, Anaheim, Royals, and Arlington Stadiums were built for both baseball and football. The current era, returning to baseball-only facilities, many of them with a retro-era design, started with the openings of new Comiskey Park (now Guaranteed Rate Field) in Chicago in 1991, and Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore in 1992.

For many teams in Major League history, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a ballpark has often been plagued by significant attendance losses. It happened to Miami in 2013, as their attendance fell 633,122, the 4<sup>th</sup> worst total attendance decline ever for a team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a park.

In 2011, their 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Target Field, the Twins had a 63-99 record, compared to a division-winning 94-68 mark in 2010. But their attendance fell just 55,533 (1.7%) from the record high set in 2010. The Twins had a 391,753 drop in attendance in 2012, a 298,710 decline in 2013, were down 227,038 in 2014, and dipped 30,552 in 2015, and 256,142 in 2016. Minnesota's attendance rose 87,367 in 2017, as they had a big improvement on the field, but were down 92,082 in 2018.

Since 1960, only 8 teams, most recently the 2018 Braves, had an attendance increase in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new ballpark when the 2<sup>nd</sup> year was a full season, which followed a full season in the new park's first year. So this excludes teams that moved into a new ballpark at any time other than at the start of a season, and also excludes teams whose first or 2<sup>nd</sup> years in a new park were shorter due to strikes.

Also excluded are the 1963 Houston Colts, and the 1970 Montreal Expos, both of whom played in what were considered to be temporary ballparks, and the 1993 Colorado Rockies, who set Major League Baseball's all-time total attendance record in 1993, and the all-time average per date record in 1994. Mile High Stadium, the Rockies' home for those seasons was not a new park. It was originally built in 1948 as a Minor League baseball stadium, and then expanded several times for the pro football Denver Broncos in the 1960's and 1970's.

The 1962 Minnesota Twins had a 176,393 (14.0%) gain in attendance in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Metropolitan Stadium. That was not a brand new park, but actually an expansion of a park that opened in 1956. San Diego had a 130,889 (25.5%) gain at Jack Murphy-San Diego Stadium in 1970. These 2 facilities also had the largest percentage gains of any park in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Baltimore's attendance rose 77,146 in 1993, their 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Oriole Park. The Yankees were up 90,658 in 1977. But that was at the rebuilt original Yankee Stadium, which might not be considered as a new park.

Big drops in year 2 are more common. A losing record is often the culprit in the decreases shown in the table on the next page. But teams with good won/loss records had large dips in attendance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new park.

The Dodgers won the World Series, but had a decline of more than 200,000 in 1963, their 2<sup>nd</sup> year in Dodger Stadium. Philadelphia won 88 games in 2005, finishing two games out of first place in the N.L. East, and one game out of the wild-card spot. Arizona had 100 wins in 1999, which was just their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of operation, and they won the N.L. West by 14 games. But their attendance fell by 580,758 that year, the biggest decline ever by an N.L. team that finished in first place. Both the 1961 Giants and the 1992 White Sox had winning records.

The table on the next page lists teams with the largest total attendance declines in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new ballpark that opened since 1960. For a fair comparison, the table excludes teams who moved into a new park after the start of a season, such as Cincinnati and Pittsburgh in 1970, Toronto in 1989, and Seattle in 1999. On a percentage basis, the teams with the biggest drop in attendance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, when the first year was a full season in the new park, were 1978 Seattle, down 36.1%, 1999 Tampa Bay, down 30.9%, 2002 Milwaukee, down 29.9%, and 2013 Miami, down 28.5%.

Also excluded from the next table are teams whose first or 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new ballpark was shortened due to strikes. For example, in 1994, their first year at The Ballpark in Arlington (now Rangers Ballpark), the Texas Rangers drew a per-date average of 40,374. A strike ended that season on August 12<sup>th</sup>. The 1995 season started late, and each team played 72 home games instead of 81. In 1995, the Rangers averaged 27,582 per date, down 12,792.

## ATTENDANCE CHANGES IN A BALLPARK'S SECOND SEASON

# LARGEST TOTAL ATTENDANCE DECLINES - YEAR 2 IN A NEW BALLPARK - SINCE 1961

				Attendance Loss
Team	Ballpark	Year 2 in Park	Win/Loss Record	in Year 2
Milwaukee	Miller Park	2002	56-106	(841,348)
Tampa Bay	Tropicana Field	1999	69-93	(698,331)
Pittsburgh	PNC Park	2002	72-89	(651,133)
Miami	Marlins Park	2013	62-100	(633,122)
Detroit	Comerica Park	2001	66-96	(612,447)
Philadelphia	Citizens Bank Park	2005	88-74	(584,788)
Arizona	Bank One Ballpark	1999	100-62	(580,758)
New York Mets	Citi Field	2010	79-83	(576,166)
Washington	Nationals Park	2009	59-103	(504,786)
Seattle	The Kingdome	1978	56-104	(461,071)
San Francisco	Candlestick Park	1961	85-69	(404,677)
Los Angeles Angels	Dodger Stadium	1963	70-91	(323,048)
Houston	The Astrodome	1966	72-90	(279,362)
Chicago White Sox	(New) Comiskey Park	1992	86-76	(252,998)
Los Angeles Dodgers	Dodger Stadium	1963	99-63	(216,582)

NOTES: The Los Angeles Angels played at Dodger Stadium from 1962-65, prior to moving to Anaheim in 1966. National League teams before 1962, and American League teams before 1961, had 154 game schedules.

The table on the next page lists <u>all teams</u> that moved into a new, or fairly new, permanent ballpark since 1960. It shows change in total attendance and change in average attendance per date in the park's 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Unlike the table above, teams that moved into a new park in the middle of a season, and in seasons shortened by strikes, are included.

The figures in the 'Year 1 Total Attendance' column are for the full season. If the team moved into the new ballpark after the season began, the figures are in italics. For example, both Pittsburgh and Cincinnati moved into new ballparks around mid-season in 1970. The figures in that 'Year 1 Total Attendance' column are for the combined total attendance at the old and new parks.

But a different method is used in the 'Year 1 Average per Date' column. Those figures are only for the new ballpark. Retrosheet.org has a game-by-game listing of attendance, which is how these numbers were able to be obtained. In 1966, St. Louis played 10 dates at old Busch Stadium and 66 dates at Busch Memorial Stadium. In 1970, Cincinnati had 34 dates at old Crosley Field and 43 dates at new Riverfront Stadium. Pittsburgh that year, played 40 dates at Forbes Field before moving to Three Rivers Stadium for 36 dates. Toronto, in 1989, had 26 dates at Exhibition Stadium, and 54 dates at Skydome. In 1999, Seattle played 39 dates at the Kingdome before moving to Safeco Field for 42 dates. The 43,250 average on the 2000 Seattle line in the table is for games at Safeco Field only.

Of the 48 teams listed in the following table, just 15 showed increases in total attendance in a ballpark's 2<sup>nd</sup> year. In only 8 instances, including 2018 Atlanta, a gain in total attendance was achieved when the team played a full season in a new park in both Year 1 and Year 2. Just 13 teams, again including 2018 Atlanta, up 624, had a higher average per date for games played in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a new park than they did for games played in that park during its first season.

The 1967 St. Louis Cardinals, who won the World Series, had the biggest increase in average per date in a ballpark's 2<sup>nd</sup> year, up 3,766 per date. Their 15.6% increase in average per date was also the highest. The 1962 Minnesota Twins had the next best increase with a 2,101 (12.5%) gain in average per date. 1970 San Diego, up 1,978 (28.9%), the 2010 Yankees, and 2007 St. Louis were the only other teams to post a gain of at least 1,000 per date. Some seats in Busch Stadium III in St. Louis were not ready for sale until late June of 2006, the park's opening season.

The largest 2<sup>nd</sup> year decline in average per date was by Texas in 1995, down 12,792 (31.7%), with both years shorter due to a strike. Milwaukee had a 10,387 (29.9%) dip in 2002, Cincinnati was down 9,209 (31.8%) in 1971, which was Riverfront Stadium's 2<sup>nd</sup> year, and Tampa Bay posted a loss of 8,622 (30.9%) in 1998.

# CHANGE IN ATTENDANCE IN A NEW BALLPARK'S SECOND SEASON

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		Year 2	Year 1	# Change in	% Chg.	Year 2	Year 1	# Change	% Chg.
<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Team</u>	Total Attend.	Total Attend.	Total Attend.	<u>in Total</u>	<u>Avg./Date</u>	<u>Avg./Date</u>	<u>in Avg./Dt.</u>	<u>in Avg./Dt.</u>
1961	San Francisco	1,390,679	1,795,356	(404,677)	(22.5)	18,793	23,623	(4,830)	(20.4)
1962	Minnesota	1,433,116	1,256,723	176,393	14.0	18,857	16,756	2,101	12.5
1963	L.A. Dodgers	2,538,602	2,755,184	(216,582)	(7.9)	33,403	35,323	(1,920)	(5.4)
1963	L.A. Angels	821,015	1,144,063	(323,048)	(28.2)	11,095	15,254	(4,159)	(27.3)
1963	Washington Sen.	535,604	729,775	(194,171)	(26.6)	7,877	10,732	(2,855)	(26.6)
1965	New York Mets	1,768,389	1,732,597	35,792	2.1	26,006	26,251	(245)	(0.9)
1966	Houston	1,872,108	2,151,470	(279,362)	(13.0)	23,401	26,893	(3,492)	(13.0)
1967	California Angels	1,317,713	1,400,321	(82,608)	(5.9)	17,570	18,186	(616)	(3.4)
1967	St. Louis	2,090,145	1,712,980	377,165	22.0	27,869	24,103	3,766	15.6
1967	Atlanta	1,389,222	1,539,801	(150,579)	(9.8)	17,365	20,261	(2,896)	(14.3)
1969	Oakland	778,232	837,466	(59,234)	(7.1)	10,809	10,737	72	0.7
1970	San Diego	643,679	512,790	130,889	25.5	8,818	6,840	1,978	28.9
	0		,			,	,		
1971	Cincinnati	1,501,122	1,803,568	(302,446)	(16.8)	19,752	28,961	(9,209)	(31.8)
1971	Pittsburgh	1,501,132	1,341,947	159,185	11.9	19,752	26,531	(6,779)	(25.6)
1972	Philadelphia	1,343,329	1,511,223	(167,894)	(11.1)	•	20,150	(1,493)	(7.4)
1973	Texas	686,085	662,974	23,111	3.5	9,271	8,840	431	4.9
1974	Kansas City	1,173,292	1,345,341	(172,049)	(12.8)	15,042	18,180	(3,138)	(17.3)
1978	Montreal	1,427,007	1,433,757	(6,750)	(0.5)	18,776	18,620	156	0.8
1070	Wohlou	1,121,001	1,100,101	(0,700)	(0.0)	10,110	10,020	100	0.0
1978	Toronto	1,562,585	1,701,052	(138,467)	(8.1)	21,405	23,626	(2,221)	(9.4)
1978	Seattle	877,440	1,338,511	(461,071)	(34.4)	11,249	17,612	(6,363)	(36.1)
1983	Minnesota	858,939	921,186	(62,247)	(6.8)	10,737	11,373	(636)	(5.6)
1990	Toronto	3,885,284	3,375,883	509,401	15.1	47,966	48,669	(703)	(1.4)
1992	Chicago W. Sox	2,681,156	2,934,154	(252,998)	(8.6)	33,101	36,677	(3,576)	(9.7)
1992	Baltimore	3,644,965	3,567,819	77,146	2.2	45,562	44,598	964	2.2
1995	Daitimore	3,044,903	5,507,619	77,140	2.2	43,302	44,590	904	2.2
1994	Florida	1,937,467	3,064,847	(1,127,380)	(36.8)	32,838	38,311	(5,473)	(14.3)
1995	Texas	1,985,910	2,503,198	(517,288)	(20.7)	27,582	40,374	(12,792)	(31.7)
1995	Cleveland	2,842,745	1,995,174	847,571	42.5	40,039	39,121	918	2.3
1996	Colorado	3,891,014	3,390,037	500,977	14.8	48,037	47,084	953	2.0
1998	Atlanta	3,361,350	3,464,488	(103,138)	(3.0)	41,498	42,771	(1,273)	(3.0)
1999	Tampa Bay	1,562,827	2,261,158	(698,331)	(30.9)	19,294	27,916	(8,622)	(30.9)
1000	rampa bay	1,002,021	2,201,100	(000,001)	(00.0)	10,201	21,010	(0,022)	(00.0)
1999	Arizona	3,019,654	3,600,412	(580,758)	(16.1)	37,280	44,450	(7,170)	(16.1)
2000	Seattle	3,150,034	2,916,346	233,688	8.0	38,889	43,250	(4,361)	(10.1)
2001	Detroit	1,921,305	2,533,752	(612,447)	(24.2)	24,016	31,281	(7,265)	(23.2)
2001	Houston	2,904,280	3,056,120	(151,840)	(5.0)		37,730	(1,875)	(5.0)
2001	San Francisco	3,277,244	3,244,167	33,077	1.0	40,460	40,051	409	1.0
2002	Pittsburgh	1,784,993	2,436,126	(651,133)	(26.7)	22,595	30,837	(8,242)	(26.7)
2002	i nobulgii	1,101,000	2,100,120	(001,100)	(_0)	22,000	00,001	(0,212)	(20.1)
2002	Milwaukee	1,969,693	2,811,041	(841,348)	(29.9)	24,317	34,704	(10,387)	(29.9)
2002	Cincinnati	2,287,250	2,355,160	(67,910)	(2.9)		29,076	(838)	(2.9)
2004	San Diego	2,869,787	3,016,752	(146,965)	(4.9)		37,244	(1,815)	(4.9)
2005	Philadelphia	2,665,304	3,250,092	(140,903) (584,788)	(18.0)	33,316	40,626	(7,310)	(18.0)
2003	St. Louis	3,552,180	3,230,092 3,407,114	145,066	4.3	43,854	40,020	1,265	3.0
					•				
2009	Washington Nat.	1,817,202	2,321,988	(504,786)	(21.7)	22,715	29,025	(6,310)	(21.7)
2010	New York Mets	2,559,738	3,135,904	(576,166)	(18.4)	32,402	38,715	(6,313)	(16.3)
	N.Y. Yankees								2.5
2010		3,765,807	3,674,495	91,312	2.5	46,491	45,364	1,127	
2011	Minnesota Miami	3,168,107	3,223,640	(55,533)	(1.7)		39,798	(686)	(1.7)
2013	Miami	1,586,322	2,219,444	(633,122)	(28.5)		27,401	(7,817)	(28.5)
2018	Atlanta	2,555,781	2,505,252	50,529	2.0	31,553	30,929	624	2.0
2022	Texas	2,011,361	2,110,258	(98,897)	(4.7)	24,832	26,053	(1,221)	(4.7)

Italics are for teams that moved into a new park after the start of Season #1.

Total attendance in italics is combined for the old and new parks. Average per date in italics is for the new park only.

# 2024 SEATING CAPACITY AND BEST AND WORST SEASON ATTENDANCE AT 2019 BALLPARKS

The 27 parks that have opened since 1989 have been a big factor in the increase in MLB attendance. Except for Atlanta, both New York teams, Miami, Cincinnati, Texas, and Washington, all teams have set their season attendance records in their current ballparks, even though most of these parks are smaller than the team's previous home.

This table shows best and worst season attendance at every 2024 park, plus 5 former parks. For the 3 'old' parks, (Fenway Park, Wrigley Field, and old Yankee Stadium), the low figure is since 1960. 'Old' Yankee Stadium capacity listed is for 2008. Seating capacity shown for current parks is for the 2024 season.

# BEST AND WORST SEASON ATTENDANCE IN 2024 MAJOR LEAGUE BALLPARKS

		First	2024 Seating	Highest Season	Lowest Season
Team	Ballpark	Season	Capacity	Attend. (year)	Attend. (Year) *
Baltimore	Oriole Park/Camden Y.	1992	44,487	3,711,132 (1997)	1,307,807 (2019)
Boston	Fenway Park	1912	37,105-day		
			37,555-night	3,062,699 (2009)	652,201 (1965)
Chi. White Sox	U.S. Cellular Field	1991	40,126	2,957,411 (2006)	1,338,851 (1999)
Cleveland	Guaranteed Rate Field	1994	34,631	3,468,456 (1999)	1,295,870 (2022)
Detroit	Comerica Park	2000	40,988	3,202,645 (2008)	1,368,285 (2003)
Houston	Minute Maid Park	2000	41,592	3,087,872 (2004)	1,607,733 (2012)
Kansas City	Kauffman Stadium	1973	37,903	2,708,549 (2015 <b>)</b>	1,151,836 (1975)
L.A. Angels	Angel Stadium	1966	45,603	3,406,790 (2006)	744,190 (1972)
Minnesota	Target Field	2010	38,544	3,223,640 (2010)	1,801,128 (2022)
N.Y. Yankees	Yankee Stadium (new)	2009	46,543	3,765,807 (2010)	3,063,405 (2016)
	Yankee Stadium (old)	1923	57,545	4,271,083 (2007)	966,328 (1972)
Oakland	Oakland Coliseum	1968	46,847	2,900,217 (1990)	306,763 (1979)
Seattle	T-Mobile Park	1999	47,376	3,540,482 (2002)	1,721,920 (2012)
Tampa Bay	Tropicana Field	1998	25,025	2,261,158 (1998)	1,058,622 (2003)
Texas	Globe Life Park	1994	48,114	3,460,280 (2012)	1,945,857 (2008)
	Globe Life Field	2020	40,518	2,533,044 (2023)	2,011,361 (2022)
Toronto	Rogers Centre	1989	39,150	4,057,947 (1993)	1,625,555 (2010)
Arizona	Chase Field	1998	48,330	3,600,412 (1998)	1,605,199 (2022)
Atlanta	Turner Field	1997	49,586	3,464,488 (1997)	2,001,392 (2015)
	Truist Park	2017	41,108	3,191,505 (2023)	2,505,252 (2017)
Chicago Cubs	Wrigley Field	1916	41,298	3,300,200 (2008)	609,802 (1962)-&
Cincinnati	Great American Ball Park	2003	45,814	2,492,059 (2013)	1,395,770 (2022)
Colorado	Coors Field	1995	46,896	3,891,014 (1996)	1,914,389 (2005)
L.A. Dodgers	Dodger Stadium	1962	56,000	3,974,309 (2019)	1,581,093 (1968)
Miami (Florida)	Hard Rock Stadium	1993	38,560	3,064,847 (1993)	813,111 (2002)
	IoanDepot Park	2012	37,446	2,219,444 (2012)	811,104 (2018)
Milwaukee	American Family Field	2001	41,700	3,071,373 (2011)	1,685,049 (2003)
New York Mets	Citi Field	2009	41,922	3,135,904 (2009)	2,136,655 (2013)
	Shea Stadium	1964	57,365	4,042,043 (2008)	788,905 (1979)-&
Philadelphia	Citizens Bank Park	2004	42,901	3,680,718 (2011)	1,831,080 (2015)
Pittsburgh	PNC Park	2001	38,048	2,498,596 (2015)	1,257,458 (2022)
St. Louis	Busch Stadium	2006	44,309	3,552,180 (2007)	3,093,954 (2011)
San Diego	Petco Park	2004	39,860	3,330,545 (2024)	1,922,603 (2009)
San Francisco	Oracle Park	2000	42,300	3,387,303 (2011)	2,482,686 (2022)
Washington	Nationals Park	2008	41,373	2,652,408 (2013)	1,817,202 (2009)

Season-high figures shown in italics are not that team's all-time season attendance record.

First season is the first year that the team used the ballpark, and may not be the year the facility first opened.

Seating Capacity is for baseball, as listed in the 2024 team media guides and MLB publications.

\* - Excludes 2021. Low season attendance for the Cubs, the Yankees at Old Yankee Stadium, and Boston is since 1960.

& - In 1981, the Cubs drew 565,637, and the Mets drew 704,244, but that was a strike-shortened season.

### WHO HOLDS THE RECORD FOR THE BIGGEST INCREASE EVER BY A FIRST PLACE TEAM? – excludes 2022

In 2000, new Pac Bell (now Oracle) Park, and a first place team, resulted in an attendance increase of 1,165,768 for the San Francisco Giants. This was the second largest total attendance increase ever for a team which finished in first place. Or did the 2000 Giants really have the biggest increase ever?

Philadelphia officially holds the record for the biggest gain in attendance by a first place team. In 1993, the Phillies drew 1,210,226 more fans than in 1992. But 'no-shows' were not included in the Phillies 1992 attendance. The National League began counting 'no-shows' in its official attendance starting in 1993. Because of this, there is a greater increase in official attendance for National League teams for 1993 vs. 1992 than there would have been if the 'no-shows' had been counted for both years.

Atlanta had an increase of 1,160,088 when they finished first in 1991. The 1948 Cleveland Indians still hold the American League record for a gain by a first place team -- 1,098,649.

Atlanta's 1991 increase was 118.4% over 1990. This was the biggest % gain by a first place team since Boston Red Sox attendance rose 134.7% in 1946. The all-time highest % increases by pennant winners occurred in 1919, when Cincinnati had a 226.7% gain, while the now infamous Chicago White Sox were up 221.5%. It has to be noted that the 1918 season was shorter than normal due to World War I, and 1919 was a 140-game season. So if 1919 is excluded, the 1915 Phillies (up 224.9%), and the 1934 Detroit Tigers (up 186.4%) would hold the records.

# ANOTHER DISPUTE - DID THE 2009 YANKEES HAVE THE WORST LOSS EVER BY A FIRST PLACE TEAM?

This excludes 2021, which began with ballpark capacity restrictions for all teams except Texas.

The 2009 New York Yankees won the American League East en route to their 27<sup>th</sup> World Championship. But their move into a smaller ballpark, and to a lesser extent, the very high prices for some of their seats, led to an attendance decline of 584,880. This is the adjusted attendance figure reported by Major League Baseball in their 2009 Official Averages Book, and it would be the biggest decline ever by a team that finished in first place in a league or division. The 2010 American League Red Book and this report used the adjusted numbers.

But the preliminary figures, issued right after the conclusion of the regular season, show that the Yankees drew 3,719,358 in 2009, a 540,017 decline. This is the number that the Yankees published in their 2010 Media Guide, and it is smaller than the decline by Arizona in 1999.

In 1999, Arizona won 100 games, and took the N.L. West by 14 games. Yet their attendance fell 580,758, the biggest decline ever for a National League team that finished in first place. Atlanta's 2001 attendance declined 410,810, even though the Braves won the N.L. East title. That was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest decline by a first place team.

108 of the 382 teams (28.3%) that have finished in first place in a league or division since 1902 had a drop in attendance from the <u>previous season</u>. Since 1972, 59 of 236 division winners (25.0%) had attendance go down in a year they finished first. (This excludes 1981, 1982, 1994, and 1995. Attendance comparisons for all those seasons would be affected by strikes. But it does include 2022.) In 2023, the division-winning Dodgers had a decline. 13 of 76 wild-card playoff teams (17.1%), including Washington in 2019, between 1996 and 2023, excluding 2021, had attendance decreases.

Before 1999, the worst drops in attendance by a first place team had been 320,442 by the New York Yankees in 1952, and a decline of 303,681, also by the Yankees, in 1943. In the National League, the worst dip was 248,055 by Philadelphia in 1983.

On a percentage loss basis, the 13.7% decline by the 2009 Yankees was not even close to being the largest % decrease by a team that finished in first place in its league or division, and/or won the World Series.

Arizona's 16.1% drop in attendance in 1999 was the biggest since the 1952 World Champion Yankees saw attendance fall 16.4%. The Diamondbacks % loss was the worst by a National League first place team since the 1910 pennant winning, but World Series losing, Chicago Cubs dipped 16.9%. The 1914 Philadelphia Athletics (down 39.4%), and the 1907 Chicago Cubs (down 35.4%) hold the American League and National League records, respectively, for worst % decline by a first place team. The Cubs won the World Series in 1907 and in 1908, but didn't win it again until 2016. The 1914 Athletics were swept in the World Series by the Boston Braves.

### 2005 WASHINGTON NATIONALS HAD THE BEST INCREASE FOR A RELOCATED TEAM

After the 2004 season, the Montreal Expos became the first team since 1972 to relocate, as they moved to Washington, and were renamed the Nationals. They more than doubled the previous all-time attendance high set by a team in the Nation's Capital, and they had the best year-to-year increase ever, by any team. The prior record for best attendance increase was set in 1953 by the Milwaukee Braves, who moved that year from Boston.

The Expos had serious attendance problems in Montreal, even though they had a winning record in both 2002 and 2003. In 2004, the Expos split their home schedule, playing 59 games in Montreal, and 21 games in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and drew just 748,550. This was an improvement from 2001, when the Expos drew only 609,473, the lowest attendance in a non-strike season since Oakland in 1979. Expos' total attendance in 2001 was surpassed by 7 Minor League Baseball teams that year, and their 7,524 average per date was topped by 13 Minor League teams.

The 1979 Oakland A's, who only sold 306,763 tickets, were the last team to draw so poorly in a full season. In the National League, attendance as low as the Expos had in 2001 had not been seen since 1975, when both Atlanta and San Francisco failed to reach 540,000.

There have been 13 franchise moves in Major League history. As the table below indicates, for most teams, moving led to huge attendance increases for them in their new cities. A 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> move will take place, first in 2025, as the A's temporarily relocate to Sacramento, and then in 2028, they move to their permanent new home in Las Vegas.

### RELOCATED TEAMS IN MAJOR LEAGUE HISTORY

LAST YEAR IN OLD CITY		FIRST YEAR IN NEW CITY							
							Total Att.	Avg./Date	
Year	Team	Attendance		Year	Team	Attendance	Gain	Gain	
1901	Milwaukee Brewers	139,034		1902	St. Louis Browns	272,283	133,249	1,975	
1902	Baltimore Orioles	174,606		1903	N.Y. Highlanders (c)	211,808	37,202	742	
1952	Boston Braves	281,278		1953	Milwaukee Braves	1,826,397	1,545,119	23,849	
1953	St. Louis Browns	297,238		1954	Baltimore Orioles	1,060,910	763,672	11,040	
1954	Philadelphia A's	304,666		1955	Kansas City A's	1,393,054	1,088,388	15,111	
1957	Brooklyn Dodgers	1,028,258		1958	Los Angeles Dodgers	1,845,556	817,298	11,018	
1957	New York Giants	653,923		1958	San Francisco Giants	1,272,625	618,702	7,351	
1960	Wash. Senators (a)	743,404		1961	Minnesota Twins	1,256,723	513,319	6,431	
1965	Milwaukee Braves	555,584		1966	Atlanta Braves	1,539,801	984,217	12,650	
1967	Kansas City A's	726,639		1968	Oakland A's	837,466	110,827	51	
1969	Seattle Pilots	677,944		1970	Milwaukee Brewers	933,690	255,746	3,629	
1971	Wash. Senators (b)	655,156		1972	Texas Rangers	662,974	7,818	331	
2004	Montreal Expos (d)	748,550		2005	Washington Nationals	2,731,993	1,983,443	24,371	
2024	Oakland			2025	Sacramento				

Some teams, like the Browns, never drew well in their old cities, but others did. Montreal had the highest first season attendance of the eight 1960's expansion teams, and topped one million in 26 of their first 29 years.

# HIGHEST SEASON ATTENDANCE FOR TEAMS THAT EVENTUALLY RELOCATED

Team	Highest Attend.	Year	Team	Highest Attend.	Year
Boston Braves	1,455,439	1948	Wash. Senators (a)	1,027,216	1946
St. Louis Browns	712,918	1922	Milwaukee Braves	2,215,404	1957
Philadelphia A's	945,076	1948	Kansas City A's	1,393,054	1955
Brooklyn Dodgers	1,807,526	1947	Wash. Senators (b)	918,106	1969
New York Giants	1,600,793	1947	Montreal Expos	2,320,651	1983
Oakland A's	2,900,217	1990			

The Seattle Pilots played only one season before moving to Milwaukee.

- (a) Original Washington Team
- (b) 1961 Expansion Washington Team
- (c) Renamed the New York Yankees in 1913
- (d) Split schedule between Montreal and San Juan

# ATTENDANCE RECORDS FOR TEAMS THAT WON AT LEAST 100 GAMES IN A SEASON

Since 1900, there have been 116 teams, including Baltimore, Atlanta, and the Dodgers in 2023, and Houston, Atlanta, the Mets, and Dodgers in 2022, have won at least 100 games in a season. It has been done 76 times since the schedules were increased to 162 games in 1961 for the American League, and in 1962 in the National League.

The 1902 Pittsburgh Pirates were the first post-19<sup>th</sup> Century team to win 100 games, and the teams noted above in 2023 and 2022 were the last teams to accomplish this feat. The Yankees have done it 21 times. The Athletics won at least 100 games in 5 seasons when they played in Philadelphia, and 5 more times in Oakland. The Dodgers have 10 years with 100 wins, and the Cardinals have 9. The New York/San Francisco Giants have 8 seasons with 100+ wins. The Braves have done it 8 times, with all those 100-win years since they moved to Atlanta in 1966. The Cubs and Orioles have 6 years with 100 wins. Detroit has done it 5 times. Each of the original 16 franchises has at least one 100-win year. Among the 14 expansion teams, Houston, with 5 seasons of at least 100 wins, has done it most often. Washington/Texas, Seattle Pilots/Milwaukee Brewers, San Diego, Montreal Expos/Washington Nationals, Toronto, Miami, and Colorado, all of which are expansion teams, have never had a 100-win season.

**The highest attendance for a 100-win team was 3,974,309 by the 2019 Dodgers.** That is also the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest attendance ever for a National League team. 2<sup>nd</sup> best among 100 or more game winners were the 1993 Braves (3,884,725), followed by the 2022 Dodgers (3,861,408), the 2018 Dodgers (3,857,500), the 2023 Dodgers (3,837,079), and the 2004 Yankees (3,775,292). 20 other teams, including the 2015 Cardinals, 2016 Cubs, 2017 Dodgers, 2019 Yankees, and the 2022 and 2023 Braves, that won at least 100 games, topped 3 million.

The famed 1927 Yankees were the first 100-win team to draw one million. The 1928 Yankees, and the 1941 and 1942 Brooklyn Dodgers were the other pre-1946 100-win clubs to reach one million. Since 1946, the 1971 Oakland A's, who drew 914,993, were the only 100-win team that didn't draw at least one million.

In 1962, the Los Angeles Dodgers won 102 games, and became the first 100-win team to top 2 million. That was their first season in Dodger Stadium, and they drew 2,755,184, a then-Major League record. The 1988 New York Mets were the first 100-win team to reach 3 million. Since 1997, 24 of the 35 teams with at least 100 wins have drawn over 3 million. Excluding the 2021 Rays and Giants, the last 100-win team that didn't draw 2 million was the 2023 Orioles, and the most recent 100-win teams that drew under 3 million, besides the 2021 Dodgers, and 2023 Orioles, were the 2019 Twins and Astros.

The largest total attendance increases by teams that won at least 100 games in a season (excluding years where the previous season was shortened, and 2022) were by the 1993 Giants (up 1,044,367), the 1962 Dodgers in their first season at Dodger Stadium (up 950,934), and the 1984 Tigers (up 875,158). The gain for the Giants was helped because the 'no-shows' began to be included in National League attendance in 1993.

Excluding 2022, the biggest percentage gains by 100+ game winners have been the 1934 Tigers (up 186.4%), the 1946 Red Sox (up 134.7%), the 1970 Reds (up 82.5%), the 1993 Giants (up 66.9%), and the 1979 Orioles (up 59.8%). In 1970, the Reds moved from Crosley Field to Riverfront Stadium in mid-season.

A great record usually helps attendance. But there have been 36 teams that won at least 100 games who had a decline in attendance, including the 2023 Dodgers, and the 2019 Yankees and Astros. This excludes the 2021 teams. There were 14 teams whose attendance declined by at least 100,000. For 13 of these 36 teams, attendance fell at least 10%. The 1970 Orioles, who won 108 games, had the most wins among this group of teams who had an attendance decline. They were down a total of 5,025 from 1969.

By far the largest declines in total attendance, excluding 2021, were by the 2009 Yankees (down 584,800), and the 1999 Diamondbacks (down 580,758). The Yankees moved into the smaller new Yankee Stadium in 2009, and it would have been impossible for them to equal their 2008 attendance at the original Yankee Stadium.

Excluding 2021, the largest percentage declines by a 100-win team were by the 1907 Cubs (down 35.4%), the 1910 Cubs (down 16.9%), and the 1999 Diamondbacks (down 16.1%).

In 1907, the Cubs had a 107-45 record, won the National League pennant by 17 games, and then beat the Detroit Tigers in the World Series. That year, the Cubs drew 422,550. But the 1906 Cubs hold the post-1900 record for the highest winning percentage of any team. They went 116-36, a .763 percentage, and won the National League by 20 games. Then they lost the World Series to their neighbors, the Chicago White Sox. The 1906 Cubs drew 654,300. In 1908 the Cubs drew 665,325, but won 'only' 99 games, and finished one game ahead of the Giants and Pirates for the N.L. Pennant. They beat the Tigers again in the World Series. The next time the Cubs won the World Series was 2016.

# ATTENDANCE RECORDS FOR TEAMS THAT LOST AT LEAST 100 GAMES IN A SEASON

161 teams, most recently Oakland, Kansas City, Colorado, and the White Sox in 2023, and Oakland, Washington, Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati in 2022, have lost at least 100 games in a season since 1900. It has been done 90 times since the 162-game schedule was established in 1961 in the American League, and in 1962 in the National League.

The 2012 Chicago Cubs drew 2,882,756, best ever for a team with 100 or more losses. Previous record for a 100-loss team was 2,519,560 by Arizona in 2004. Lowest attendance for a 100-loss team was 109,159 by the 1939 St. Louis Browns. The 1911 Boston Braves drew just 116,000. 20 teams with 100+ losses drew less than 200,000.

Until the post-World War II era, a 100-loss season was almost a guarantee of terrible attendance. Between 1900 and 1945, only 3 of the 55 teams that lost 100 games drew at least 400,000, and only 8 of these teams managed to attract at least 300,000. The 1930 Boston Red Sox, who drew 444,045, had the best attendance among 100-game losing teams during this period. The 1906 Red Sox, and 1940 Athletics were the others who topped 400,000.

Detroit, in 1952, was the first 100-loss team to top one million. The 1954 Orioles, in their first season in Baltimore, and the 1956 Kansas City A's, also lost at least 100 games, yet drew over one million. The 1964 Mets, who drew 1,732,597, were the first 100-loss team to surpass 1.1 million. They lost over 100 games again the following year, yet their attendance increased to 1,768,389. That would remain as the highest attendance by a 100-loss team until the 1993 Mets, in the year the National League began to count 'no-shows,' drew 1,873,183.

Only 10 teams with at least 100 losses have reached 2 million. The 2001 Pirates, in their first year at PNC Park, were the first to do it. Besides the 2012 Cubs and 2004 Arizona, other 100 game losers who drew 2 million were the 2008 and 2022 Nationals, the Mariners in 2008 and in 2010, Houston in 2011, Texas in 2021, and Colorado in 2023.

The last 100-loss team that didn't reach 500,000 were the 1979 A's, who drew just 306,763. The 2022 and 2023 A's, and 2019 Marlins, were the most recent 100-game losers not topping one million. Besides 2022 and 2023 Oakland, 2022 Pittsburgh and Cincinnati were the last 100-loss teams who drew under 1.5 million. All of this excludes 2021.

51 of the 161 teams with 100+ losses had gains in total attendance, while 105 had declines. **This includes 2021 and 2022**. The other 5 teams each were in their first seasons. Of the 51 teams with gains, 2 (1954 Baltimore and 1972 Texas) were in their first year in a new city. 5 other teams (1962 expansion Washington Senators, 1964 Mets, 1982 Minnesota, 2001 Pittsburgh, 2008 Washington Nationals) were in their first season in a new ballpark. 2 teams (1919 Philadelphia A's, 1982 Cincinnati, plus 1982 Minnesota, which already was counted as playing in a new park) had gains, in part, because the previous year was a shortened season. So that leaves 42 teams (3 in 2022 and 3 in 2023) with 100+ losses, who had a gain, and played a full season in the same park in the previous year.

The biggest total increases were by 1954 Baltimore, 2001 Pittsburgh, and the 1964 Mets, all of whom were in new ballparks that year, with Baltimore relocating from St. Louis. Among teams that played a full season in the same park a year earlier, the 1974 San Diego Padres had the biggest gain, up 463,573. 2006 Tampa Bay was up 219,170, the 1946 Philadelphia A's had a 159,162 increase, and the 1963 Mets posted a 157,578 gain. **2022 is excluded from this list**.

On a percentage gain basis, among teams who played a full season in the same park a year earlier, 20 teams had gains of at least 10%, led by the 1974 Padres who were up 75.8%, 1907 Washington had a 70.8% gain, and the 1937 Phillies had a 66.6% increase. Again, this group excludes the 2022 teams.

Largest total declines, excluding 2021, were by 2002 Milwaukee (841,348), 2013 Miami (633,122), 1998 Miami (613,992), and 2018 Kansas City (555,263). Largest pre-1946 drop was 355,003 by 1914 Cleveland.

**Excluding 2021**, 79 of the 101 '100-loss' teams who saw attendance fall, had a percentage decline of at least 10%. This includes the 2023 White Sox. For 43 teams, including 2018 Baltimore and Kansas City, the loss was at least 20%, and 17 teams suffered dips of at least 30%. 1914 Cleveland (down 65.5%) had the largest percentage loss, followed by the 1950 Philadelphia A's (down 62.1%), the 1915 A's (down 57.8%), and the 1932 Red Sox (down 48.1%). Since 1960, the biggest percentage losses have been by 1979 Oakland (41.8%), 1978 Seattle (34.4%), 1961 Philadelphia Phillies (31.6%), and 1986 Atlanta (30.3%).

The Athletics have the most seasons with at least 100 losses among the original 16 franchises. They did it 11 times while in Philadelphia, 4 times in Kansas City, and 3 times in Oakland. The Phillies have had 14 seasons with at least 100 losses since 1900. The Braves have had 13 years with 100 or more losses. 11 of these seasons were in Boston, and 2 were in Atlanta. They never even had a losing season in Milwaukee. Texas with 7 seasons of at least 100 losses, has the most among expansion franchises. On the other hand, among the original 16 teams, since 1900, the Giants have just one year with 100 losses, while the Yankees, Reds, Cardinals, and Dodgers each have 2. Among expansion teams, only the Angels have never had a 100-loss season. Colorado had their first one in 2023.

## HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES

#### ATTENDANCE FOR TEAMS THAT HAD BIG INCREASES OR DECLINES IN THEIR NUMBER OF WINS Only includes comparison of 2 full seasons

Only 14 teams since 1901 have increased their number of wins from one season to the next by at least 30. The 1914 St. Louis Cardinals drew 256,099, which was the worst attendance among these 13 teams.

Arizona in 1999 is the only team in this group that didn't increase their attendance by at least 25%. But they did have the highest total attendance (3,019,654) of any team in this group. Still, the 1999 Diamondbacks had the largest total attendance decline of any National League team that ever finished in first place. The 2009 Yankees won the A.L. East, but their attendance fell 584,880, mostly because they moved into the new and smaller Yankee Stadium.

Detroit played a 162 game schedule in 1961 and a 154 game schedule in 1960. National League attendance began to include 'no-shows' in 1993, increasing San Francisco's gain that year.

#### ATTENDANCE CHANGE – TEAMS THAT INCREASED THEIR WIN TOTAL BY AT LEAST 30 GAMES

Team	Year	Increase in Wins	# Attendance Chg.	% Change vs.
		vs. Previous Year	vs. Previous Year	Previous Year
New York Giants	1903	36	276,655	91.3
Arizona Diamondbacks	1999	35	(580,758)	(16.1)
Philadelphia Phillies	1962	34	171,995	29.1
Boston Braves	1936	33	107,831	46.3
Boston Red Sox	1946	33	813,150	134.7
Baltimore Orioles	1989	33	874,470	52.7
St. Louis Cardinals	1904	32	160,212	70.7
Philadelphia Phillies	1905	31	177,161	125.9
San Francisco	1993	31	1,044,367	66.9
Tampa Bay	2008	31	424,379	30.6
Baltimore	2022	31	575,138	72.5
St. Louis Browns	1902	30	133,249	95.8
St. Louis Cardinals	1914	30	52,568	25.8
Detroit Tigers	1961	30	433,041	37.1

1902 was the first season for the Browns in St. Louis. They played as the Milwaukee Brewers in 1901. 2022 comparison for Baltimore is with the 2021 season which had capacity restrictions.

The 2011 Minnesota Twins not only had the smallest total and percentage decline in attendance among the 10 teams that had 30 fewer wins from one season to the next, but they also had the highest attendance (3,168,107). The Philadelphia Athletics drew just 146,223 in 1915. They won the American League pennant in 1913 and 1914.

## ATTENDANCE CHANGE – TEAMS WHOSE WIN TOTAL FELL BY AT LEAST 30 GAMES

Team	Year	Decrease in Wins	# Attendance Chg.	% Change vs.
		vs. Previous Year	vs. Previous Year	Previous Year
Philadelphia Athletics	1915	56	(200,418)	(57.8)
Boston Braves	1935	40	(70,451)	(23.2)
Florida Marlins	1998	38	(613,992)	(26.0)
Cleveland Indians	1914	35	(355,003)	(65.6)
Chicago White Sox	1921	34	(289,842)	(34.8)
Washington Senators	1934	33	(107,459)	(24.6)
Minnesota Twins	2011	31	(55,533)	(1.7)
New York Giants	1943	30	(313,526)	(40.2)
Los Angeles Dodgers	1992	30	(874,904)	(26.1)
Seattle Mariners	2004	30	(328,133)	(10.0)

## HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES

"The future ain't what it used to be." - Yogi Berra

#### ATTENDANCE FOR TEAMS THAT HAD BIG INCREASES OR DECLINES IN THEIR NUMBER OF WINS Only includes comparison of 2 full seasons

## RED SOX AND INDIANS EACH HAD A BIG INCREASE IN WINS IN 2013, BUT A DECLINE IN ATTENDANCE

The 2013 Red Sox and Indians became just the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> teams to win at least 24 more games than in the previous season, yet suffer an attendance decline.

Since 1901, there have been 59 teams, including 2022 Baltimore and the Mets, and 2017 Minnesota and Arizona, who won at least 24 more games than they won the year before. This excludes 1982 and 1995, since the 1981 and 1994 seasons were much shorter due to strikes. But it includes the 1919 White Sox, Tigers, and Reds, who all had big increases in their win totals. The 1918 season was shorter due to World War I. Then in 1919, there was a 140 game schedule instead of the usual 154.

The 1903 New York Giants, who increased their win total by 36 from 1902, hold the record for biggest increase in the number of wins. The next best increase in wins was by Arizona in 1999. The Diamondbacks had 35 more wins than in 1998, finishing with a record of 100-62. This was an incredible accomplishment since it was just their 2<sup>nd</sup> season of play. Yet they suffered a significant decline in attendance.

Among all teams that increased their win total by at least 24 games, the 1934 Detroit Tigers (26 more wins than in 1933) had the biggest percentage gain in attendance, up 186.4%. The 1993 Phillies, who increased their win total by 27, had the largest total attendance increase among these teams. Their attendance rose 1,210,226. 1993 was the first year that 'no-shows' were included in National League attendance. So this isn't quite an "apples-to-apples" gain. The 1991 Atlanta Braves, with 29 more wins than in 1990, had an increase of 1,160,088.

Part of the reason why some recent teams improved their won-loss record, yet had attendance fall, is that a much larger percentage of tickets these days are sold prior to the season. Not only are more tickets sold on a season's basis, but teams offer more partial-season ticket plans, which also cost less per ticket than those bought for individual games. For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, a far greater percentage of tickets were sold fairly close to or actually on, the day of a game. So a team's record and position in the standings in that particular season, was a much greater factor in attendance than it would be now.

Year	Team	Won/ Loss Record	Attendance	Previous Year's Record	Gain in # of Wins	Previous Year's Attendance	# Decrease in Attendance	% Decr. In Att.
1999	Arizona	100-62	3,019,654	65-97	35	3,600,412	(580,758)	(16.1)
2005	Arizona	77-85	2,058,741	51-111	26	2,519,560	(460,819)	(18.3)
2009	Seattle	85-77	2,196,461	61-101	24	2,330,749	(134,288)	(5.8)
2013	Boston	97-65	2,833,333	69-93	28	3,043,003	(209,670)	(6.9)
2013	Cleveland	92-70	1,572,926	68-94	24	1,603,596	(30,670)	(1.9)

## TEAMS THAT INCREASED THEIR WIN TOTAL BY AT LEAST 24, BUT HAD A LOSS IN ATTENDANCE

## **HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES – HOME OPENERS**

"The Home Opener is always exciting, whether it's played at home, or on the road." - Yogi Berra

The table on pages 282 and 283 lists MLB total and average Home Opener yearly attendance going back to 1900. It notes which team had the highest Home Opener attendance each year. There is also a summary line for each decade. Most of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century figures were estimated, as official attendance was not always in the box scores. Some of these estimates were made by writers covering the game, so the reported figure may have differed from one newspaper to another. Home Openers not played on their original dates due to weather usually drew smaller crowds.

Attendance for all 2,661 Home Opener games since 1900 has been found, mostly from Retrosheet.org, with some early 20<sup>th</sup> Century figures from newspaper archives, in particular, The Boston Globe, and The New York Times.

Through **2024** (2020 games had no fans in attendance), these Major League Home Openers drew an estimated total of 86,013,804, averaging 32,324 per date. In addition, the 8 Federal League Home Openers drew 136,080 (17,010 average) in 1914, with a top crowd of 27,692 in Baltimore, and 125,145 (15,643 average) in 1915, with Newark drawing a league-best 26,032. The 2022 Home Openers, some of which were rescheduled due to the delayed start of the season, drew 1,178,952, an average of 39,298. 2023 Home Openers drew 1,224,618, averaging 40,821 per game, and **2024** Home Openers attracted 1,218,702, an average of 40,623 per game, with 26 sellouts.

There were extra Home Openers in 1903 (2 games for both the Red Sox and Braves), 1910, 1919, 1940, 1948, and 1953. That's because the Boston teams often played separate-admission, morning-afternoon doubleheaders on Patriots Day, April 19. In the years noted, Patriots Day was also the date of the Home Opener for the Red Sox or Braves (both teams in 1903), with a morning-afternoon doubleheader played. In all these cases, attendance from both games is included in the listed totals, and that is why the total number of Home Openers since 1900 is an uneven number.

## WHEN IS A TEAM'S FIRST HOME GAME NOT PLAYED AT HOME?

Yogi Berra may have slightly misspoken when he made the quote at the top of this page, but actually, he was right. For some teams, especially in recent years, their first official home game of the season was played on the road.

Teams have played their first home games of a season in Las Vegas (Oakland – 1996), Sydney, Australia (Arizona – 2014), Monterrey, Mexico (San Diego – 1999), San Juan, Puerto Rico (Toronto – 2001, Montreal – 2003 and 2004), Tokyo (Mets and Cubs – 2000, Tampa Bay – 2004, Oakland – 2008, 2012, 2019), and Seoul, South Korea (Dodgers and Padres – 2024). Figures in the table do not include these games, but instead include the first home game of the season in these team's regular home ballpark.

## YEARLY OPENING DAY ATTENDANCE

Home Opener attendance grew as ballparks were expanded, and as bigger ballparks opened. It has declined in recent years as many of the huge ballparks such as the original Yankee Stadium, Cleveland Stadium, Jack Murphy San Diego Stadium, Candlestick Park in San Francisco, Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia, and others, were replaced by smaller parks. Since the 1990's, most Home Openers have drawn sellout crowds.

1993 had the largest total attendance with 1,393,111 (49,754 average per game) at the 28 Home Openers. Colorado drew 80,227 for their first home game ever, that year, the largest Opener crowd in MLB history.

## HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES – HOME OPENERS

#### HOME OPENER ATTENDANCE LEADERS

As one might expect, teams with the largest ballparks usually have the largest Home Opener attendance. But that wasn't the case each year. While playing at Crosley Field, the Cincinnati Reds had the top Home Opener crowd in 4 different seasons (1917, 1943, 1944, 1945), yet the highest crowd of these 4 games was 30,154 (a full house) in 1944.

The Los Angeles Dodgers have had the highest Home Opener attendance for the past 17 normal seasons, through **2024**. Overall, the Dodgers have topped MLB in Home Opener attendance 24 times since moving to Los Angeles in 1958. They only did it once in Brooklyn, where they had small ballparks. Both the Yankees and Cleveland, who played in huge parks, had the best Home Opener attendance in 17 seasons apiece. The Giants topped MLB in Home Opener attendance 13 times while in New York, and have done it twice since moving to San Francisco.

There have been 24 seasons when a Home Opener drew at least 60,000. The first was for the first game at the original Yankee Stadium in 1923, and the last was at San Diego in 2003. 27 Home Openers have drawn at least 60,000, with 10 of those topping 70,000, and the 1993 Opener at Colorado surpassing 80,000.

#### HOME OPENERS - 1891-1899

Only the National League operated from 1892 through 1899. The American Association was also considered to be a Major League in 1891. But after that season, 4 teams from that league (St. Louis Browns, Baltimore, Louisville, and Washington) joined the National League, giving it 12 teams. All of those teams stayed in the league through 1899.

During that decade, teams played in fairly-small parks, and Opening Day attendance was often estimated by reporters covering the game. Except for 1891 Louisville, an attendance figure is available for every Opening Day game for this 9-year period. Sources are Retrosheet.org, with some of their data obtained from the research of this report's author, mostly through the Boston Globe archives. An attempt may be made to contact the 1891 Louisville Colonels' Media Relations Director, or a member of their TV broadcast crew, to try to obtain that missing number. Success with this effort is unlikely.

The Opening Day games from 1891 through 1899 drew an estimated average of 9,122 per date. The New York Giants had the highest total for the decade – 125,882, an average of 13,987 for their 9 Home Openers. Following closely were Philadelphia (124,749 total, 13,861 average), and Brooklyn (114,472 total – 12,719 average).

By season, the average attendance for Opening Day games was: 7,264 in 1891; 6,018 in 1892; 6,697 in 1893; 9,827 in 1894; 10,667 in 1895; 12,562 in 1896; 9,819 in1897; 9,702 in 1898; 9,392 in 1899.

Largest Opening Day crowds each year from 1891 through 1899 were: 1891 – 17,892 at Brooklyn; 1892 – 10,000 at St. Louis; 1893 - 15,000 at New York Giants; 1894 – 18,700 at New York Giants; 1895 – 20,000 at both the New York Giants and Philadelphia Phillies; 1896 – 23,000 at Philadelphia Phillies; 1897 – 17,014 at Philadelphia Phillies; 1898 – 18,000 at New York Giants; 1899 – 20,167 at Brooklyn.

An Excel spreadsheet showing attendance for every Home Opener, from every team, since 1891 (except for 1891 Louisville) is available, for free, from <u>d.kronheim@verizon.net</u>. Just ask, and you shall receive.

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME OPENER ATTENDANCE - With Decade Totals

	Total Home	# of	Avg. per	Team with top	Тор Ор.	I	Total Home	# of	Avg. per	Team with top	Тор Ор.
<u>Year</u>	<u>Opener Att.</u>	<u>Openers</u>	<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opener Att.</u>	Attend.	<u>Year</u>	Opener Att.	<u>Openers</u>	<u>Opener</u>	Opener Att.	Attend.
						l					
1900	99,200	8	12,400	Brooklyn	18,000	1930	353,737	16	22,109	N.Y. Yankees	60,000
1901	132,811	16	8,301	St. Louis (N)	17,000	1931	400,682	16	25,043	N.Y. Yankees	70,000
1902	193,225	16	12,077	N.Y. Giants	24,000	1932	314,932	16	19,683	N.Y. Yankees	63,000
1903	224,324	18	12,462	N.Y. Giants	25,000	1933	287,305	16	17,957	N.Y. Yankees	40,000
1904	185,045	16	11,565	N.Y. Giants	30,000	1934	328,485	16	20,530	N.Y. Yankees	40,000
1905	216,687	16	13,543	N.Y. Giants	40,000	1935	305,717	16	19,107	N.Y. Giants	47,009
1906	220,520	16	13,783	N.Y. Giants	20,000	1936	294,214	16	18,388	N.Y. Giants	54,392
1907	156,967	16	9,810	N.Y. Giants	17,000	1937	352,741	16	22,046	N.Y. Yankees	45,850
1908	228,459	16	14,279	N.Y. Giants	25,000	1938	364,589	16	22,787	Detroit	54,500
1909	233,297	16	14,581	Philadel. (A)	30,162	1939	287,108	16	17,944	Detroit	47,000
Total	1,890,535	154	12,276			Total	3,289,510	160	20,559		
1910	291,912	17	17,171	Boston (A)	31,007	1940	302,737	17	17,808	Detroit	49,417
1911	245,415	16	15,338	N.Y. Giants	30,000	1941	349,258	16	21,829	Cleveland	46,064
1912	255,074	16	15,942	Chicago (A)	30,000	1942	297,531	16	18,596	Detroit	39,267
1913	256,166	16	16,010	Chicago (A)	25,000	1943	178,181	16	11,136	Cincinnati	27,709
1914	231,405		14,463	Boston (A)	24,741	1944	193,988	16	12,124	Cincinnati	30,154
						1					
1915	228,232	16	14,265	Cincinnati	24,000	1945	197,998	16	12,375	Cincinnati	30,069
1916	249,180		15,574	Chicago (A)	27,309	1946	492,746	16	30,797	N.Y. Yankees	54,826
1917	192,237	16	12,015	Cincinnati	24,938	1947	436,562	16	27,285	Cleveland	55,014
1918	168,718		10,545	N.Y. Giants	30,000	1948	492,575	17	28,975	Cleveland	73,163
1919	227,030		13,355	N.Y. Yankees	30,000	1949	452,668	16	28,292	Cleveland	63,500
						Ì					-
Total	2,345,369	162	14,478			I Total	3,394,244	162	20,952		
			,			Ì			,		
1920	256,152	16	16,010	Detroit	26,000	1950	427,504	16	26,719	Cleveland	65,744
1921	337,144		21,072	N.Y. Yankees	37,000	1951	350,065	16	21,879	Cleveland	48,316
1922	279,963		17,498	N.Y. Giants	32,000	1952	395,754	16	24,735	Cleveland	56,068
1923	419,982		26,249	N.Y. Yankees	74,200	1953	336,067	17	19,769	Cleveland	53,698
1924	394,452		24,653	N.Y. Yankees	46,584	1954	450,330	16	28,146	Detroit	46,994
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1925	429,967	16	26,873	N.Y. Yankees	55,000	1955	423,616	16	26,476	Milwaukee	43,640
1926	409,869		25,617	N.Y. Giants	45,000	1956	421,181	16	26,324	Detroit	40,506
1927	485,697		30,356	N.Y. Yankees	72,000	1957	427,702		26,731	Milwaukee (N)	41,506
1928	396,700		24,794	N.Y. Yankees	55,000	1958	544,359	16	34,022	L.A. Dodgers	78,672
1929	354,007		22,125	Chicago (N)	46,000	1950	460,571	16	28,786	L.A. Dodgers	61,552
1020	004,007	10	-2, 120		-0,000	1000	400,071	10	20,700	E., Dougoio	01,002
Total	3,763,933	160	23,525			l Total	4,237,149	161	26,318		
10101	0,700,000	100	20,020				1,201,149	101	20,010		

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME OPENER ATTENDANCE - With Decade Totals

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	Total Home	# of	Avg. per	Team with top	Тор Ор.	1	Total Home	# of	Avg. per	Team with top	Тор Ор.
<u>Year</u>	Opener Att.	<u>Openers</u>	<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opener Att.</u>	Attend.	<u>Year</u>	<u>Opener Att.</u>	<u>Openers</u>	<u>Opener</u>	Opener Att.	<u>Attend.</u>
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1960	602,962	16	-	L.A. Dodgers	67,550	1990	1,055,210	26		Seattle	54,874
1961	462,799	18		L.A. Dodgers	50,927	1991	1,122,878	26		San Francisco	55,883
1962	461,654	20		L.A. Dodgers	52,564	1992	1,209,442	26		Cleveland	65,813
1963	552,441	20		Washington	43,022	1993	1,393,111	28		Colorado	80,227
1964	581,610	20	29,081	L.A. Dodgers	50,541	1994 	1,303,336	28	46,548	Colorado	72,470
1965	600,453	20	30,023	Cleveland	44,335	<b> </b> 1995	1,071,342	28	38,262	L.A. Dodgers	51,181
1966	600,529	20	30,026	N.Y. Mets	52,812	1996	1,187,840	28	42,423	Seattle	57,467
1967	523,730	20	26,187	Washington	44,382	1997	1,192,954	28	42,606	Seattle	57,586
1968	575,051	20	28,753	N.Y. Mets	52,079	1998	1,349,097	30	44,970	Seattle	57,822
1969	667,434	24	27,810	Detroit	53,572	1999	1,374,727	30	45,824	San Diego	61,247
Total	5,628,663	198	28,428			l   Total	12,259,937	278	44,100		
1970	699,462	24	29,144	St. Louis	45,960	l   2000	1,372,866	30	45,762	San Diego	60,021
1971	840,652	24	35,027	Philadelphia	55,352	2001	1,312,219	30		San Diego	61,277
1972	505,138	24	21,047	Pittsburgh	47,489	2002	1,338,566	30	44,619	San Diego	59,103
1973	747,539	24	31,147	Cleveland	74,420	2003	1,311,226	30	43,708	San Diego	61,707
1974	700,642	24	29,193	Atlanta	53,775	2004	1,343,310	30	44,777	Florida	55,315
1975	707,416	24	29 476	Cleveland	56,715	   2005	1,357,238	30	45 241	Florida	57,405
1976	889,846	24		Cleveland	58,478	2000	1,317,332	30		L.A. Dodgers	56,000
1970	1,026,102	24	39,465		57,762	2000	1,318,412	30		L.A. Dodgers	56,000
1978	980,509	26	37,712		52,528	2007	1,333,286	30		L.A. Dodgers	56,000
1970	900,009 997,935	26		San Francisco	56,196	2000	1,313,060	30		L.A. Dodgers	57,099
1919	551,555	20	50,502	Gan Trancisco	50,150	2003	1,010,000	50	40,703	L.A. Dougers	57,035
Total	8,095,241	246	32,907			Total I	13,317,515	300	44,392		
1980	982,595	26	37,792	Cleveland	61,753	2010	1,314,608	30	43,820	L.A. Dodgers	56,000
1981	1,106,323	26	42,551	Cleveland	71,067	2011	1,308,382	30	43,613	L.A. Dodgers	56,000
1982	989,450	26	38,056	Cleveland	62,443	2012	1,311,000	30	43,700	L.A. Dodgers	56,000
1983	998,307	26	38,396	N.Y. Yankees	55,579	2013	1,302,154	30	43,405	L.A. Dodgers	53,136
1984	1,065,635	26	40,986	Cleveland	57,114	2014	1,295,513	30	43,184	L.A. Dodgers	53,493
1985	1,156,680	26	44,488	Cleveland	61,978	I   2015	1,296,336	30	43,211	L.A. Dodgers	53,518
1986	1,126,309	26		N.Y. Yankees	55,602	2016	1,296,843	30		L.A. Dodgers	53,279
1987	1,192,962	26	45,883	Cleveland	64,540	2017	1,279,488	30		L.A. Dodgers	53,701
1988	1,219,800	26	46,915	Milwaukee (A)	55,887	2018	1,248,256	30		L.A. Dodgers	53,595
1989	1,108,992	26		N.Y. Yankees	55,655	2019	1,228,497	30	40,950	L.A. Dodgers	53,086
Total	10,947,053	260	42,104			   Total I	12,881,077	300	42,937		
						2021	341,306	30	11,377	Texas	38,238
Grand						2022	1,178,952	30	39,298	L.A. Dodgers	52,995
Total	86,013,804	2,661	32,324			2023	1,224,618	30	40,821	L.A. Dodgers	52,075
						2024	1,218,702	30	40,623	L.A. Dodgers	52,667

Some years have extra Home Openers because both Boston teams sometimes played morning-afternoon separate-admission dourbleheaders when Opening Day was on April 19 (Patriots Day).

Listed attendance is for the Opening game in a team's home city.

No fans in attendance in 2020. Limited number of tickets sold (except for Texas) in 2021

# of MLB Teams: 8 (1900); 16 (1901-60); 18 (1961); 20 (1962-68); 24 (1969-76); 26 (1977-92); 28 (1993-97); 30 (1998-2024)

Sources: Retrosheet.org, newspaper archives

## HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES - ALL-STAR GAMES, POST-SEASON

"I always thought that record would stand, until it was broken." - Yogi Berra (Source: baseball-almanac.com)

#### ALL-STAR GAMES

The first Major League All-Star Game was played in 1933 at Comiskey Park in Chicago. It has been played every year since then, except in 1945, when World War II travel restrictions caused its cancellation, and in 2020. There were two All-Star Games in each season from 1959 through 1962.

The largest crowd for an All-Star Game was 72,086 for the 1981 game at Municipal Stadium in Cleveland. That was the first game played after Major League Baseball had been shut down for two months due to a strike. The smallest crowd was 25,534 in 1936 at Braves Field in Boston. Overall, the 93 All-Star Games, through 2023, have drawn 4,299,071, an average of 46,227 per game.

#### POST-SEASON

The World Series, between the champions of the American and National League was first played in 1903. There was no World Series in 1904. It was resumed the following year, and has been played annually ever since, except for the strike year of 1994. The World Series has been a best-of-7 (first team to win 4 games, wins the series) throughout its history, except for the years 1903, and 1919-1921, when it was a best-of-9.

Both leagues split into two divisions in 1969, which was the first year that each league had a Championship Series. From 1969 through 1984, the Championship Series was a best-of-5. It has been a best-of-7 since 1985.

Division Series were first played after the strike-shortened 1981 season. That season was divided into two halves, and the first place teams from each half (8 teams overall) played in an extra round of playoffs. The Division Series became permanent in 1995, as each league now had 3 divisions. In each league, the division winners, along with the second place team with the best record (wild card), played in a best-of-5 Division Series. Starting in 2012, an additional wild-card team was added for each league. The 2 wild-card teams in each league played each other in one game to determine who advanced to the Division Series. A third Wild-Card team in each league was added in 2022.

All Wild-Card Game, Division Series, Championship Series, and World Series statistics are kept separately from regular-season statistics. This includes attendance.

If two teams finish the regular-season in a tie, and a playoff is needed to determine which team goes on to postseason play, for statistical purposes, those playoff games are counted as an extension of the regular-season. So for example, in 2007, Colorado and San Diego finished in a tie to determine who would be the National League Wild-Card team. All statistics from the playoff game that broke that tie are counted in the 2007 regular-season stats. Likewise, with the statistics from the 2008 Chicago White Sox-Minnesota, and 2009 Detroit-Minnesota playoff games for the American League Central title, the Tampa Bay-Texas A.L. Wild-Card Tiebreaker Game in 2013, and the Cubs-Milwaukee and Dodgers-Rockies Division Tiebreaker games in 2018. Tiebreaker games have now been eliminated.

#### TOTAL POST-SEASON ATTENDANCE

In 2020, playoffs were expanded. There were 53 games, but only the 7 NLCS and 6 World Series games were played (all in Arlington, Texas) with fans in attendance. The playoffs returned to their 2019 format in 2021, and more Wild Card games were added in 2022.

There have been 53 Wild-Card games (2012-2023), 477 Division Series games (1981, 1995-2023), 563 League Championship Series games (1969-1993, 1995-2023), and 695 World Series games (1903, 1905-1993, 1995-2023), for a total of 1,788 post-season games. At 40 of those games in 2020, fans were not allowed to attend.

Total post-season attendance through 2023 (1,748 games with fans in attendance) is 80,482,277. That's an average of 46,042 per game. <u>This average excludes the 2020 games played without fans in attendance</u>. Comparing post-season year-to-year attendance figures means little, since the number of games played and the size of the ballparks they're played in varies from season to season. With smaller ballparks in use today, some post-season game and series attendance records will be impossible to break. Nearly every post-season game in recent years has been a sellout or very close to one. But many of the early League Championship Series games, which began in 1969, were played in front of far-less-than-capacity crowds.

# HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES – POST-SEASON

## WILD CARD GAME ATTENDANCE RECORDS

There were 9 Wild Card games played by each league in 2020. No fans were in attendance at these games, and the games are not included in the average attendance per game figures.

NATIONAL LEAGUE – 27 games (18 with attendance), Total attendance – 795,425, Average per Game – 44,190 Single Game High: 53,193, 2021 at Los Angeles Dodgers Single Game Low: 39,241, 2022 at New York Mets

AMERICAN LEAGUE – 26 games (17 with attendance), Total attendance – 698,928, Average per Game – 41,113 Single Game High: 54,005, 2019 at Oakland Single Game Low: 19,704, 2023 at Tampa Bay

# **DIVISION SERIES ATTENDANCE RECORDS**

There were 9 American League Division Series and 6 National League Division Series games in 2020. No fans were in attendance at these games, and these games are not included in the average per game figures.

NATIONAL LEAGUE – 236 Games (230 with attendance) Total Attendance – 10,850,290, Average per Game – 47,175 Single Game Record High: 65,464, Game 4, 2003, at Florida Single Game Record Low: 34,327, Game 1, 1981, at Montreal

NLDS RECORD HIGHS – By Length of Series:

Series Length	Year	Teams	Total Attendance	Avg./Game
3 Games	2006	N.Y. Mets – L.A. Dodgers	170,301	56,767
4 Games	1998	Houston – San Diego	225,763	56,441
5 Games	1981	L.A. Dodgers – Houston	246,016	49,203

AMERICAN LEAGUE – 241 Games (232 with attendance)

Total Attendance – 10,530,869, Average per Game – 45,392 Single Game Record High: 59,579, Game 1, 1997, at Seattle Single Game Record Low: 26,395, Game 2, 1981, at Milwaukee

ALDS RECORD HIGHS – By Length of Series:

Series Length	Year	Teams	Total Attendance	Avg./Game
3 Games	1999	N.Y. Yankees – Texas	164,853	54,951
4 Games	2003	N.Y. Yankees – Minnesota	224,561	56,140
5 Games	1995	N.Y. Yankees – Seattle	286,839	57,368

# HISTORICAL ATTENDANCE NOTES – POST-SEASON

# CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ATTENDANCE RECORDS

A limited number of tickets were sold for the 2020 National League Championship Series, all 7 of which were played in Arlington Texas. No fans were allowed to at the 2020 American League Championship Series in San Diego.

NATIONAL LEAGUE – 286 Games, Total Attendance -- 14,048,524, Average per Game – 49,121

Attendance for 279 games excluding 2020, was 13,972,681, an average of 50,081 per game. Single Game Record High: 65,829, Game 4, 2003, at Florida Single Game Record Low, excluding 2020: 33,088, Game 1, 1970, at Pittsburgh

NLCS RECORD HIGHS – By Length of Series:

Series Length	Year	Teams	Total Attendance	Avg./Game
3 Games	1976	Cincinnati – Philadelphia	180,338	60,113
4 Games	1977	L.A. Dodgers – Philadelphia	240,584	60,146
5 Games	2000	N.Y. Mets – St. Louis	271,558	54,312
6 Games	1993	Philadelphia – Atlanta	341,046	56,841
7 Games	1987	St. Louis – San Francisco	396,597	56,657

AMERICAN LEAGUE – 277 Games, Total Attendance – 12,235,737, Average per Game – 45,318 (for the 270 games with attendance)

Single Game Record High: 64,406, Game 1, 1982, at California (Anaheim) Single Game Record Low: 24,265, Game 5, 1973, at Oakland

ALCS RECORD HIGHS – By Length of Series:

Series Length	Year	Teams	Total Attendance	Avg./Game
3 Games	1981	N.Y. Yankees – Oakland	151,539	50,513
4 Games	1983	Chicago White Sox - Baltimore	195,748	48,937
5 Games	1982	California Angels – Milwaukee	284,691	56,938
6 Games	2000	N.Y. Yankees – Seattle	309,828	51,638
7 Games	2004	N.Y. Yankees – Boston	329,600	47,086

## HISTORICAL NOTES - WORLD SERIES RECORDS AND WINNERS' ATTENDANCE HIGHS AND LOWS

#### WORLD SERIES ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Starting in 1903, through 2023, there have been 695 World Series Games, with a total attendance of 31,321,504, an average of 45,067 per game. Exclude the 6-game 2020 Series, which had limited attendance, and the total is 31,252,882, an average of 45,360 per game. The average is this low because, for the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, most ballparks where the World Series was played, with the exception of Yankee Stadium and the Polo Grounds, were fairly small.

The largest crowd to ever attend a World Series game was 92,706, at Game 5 in 1959, at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. All 3 games that year in Los Angeles drew more than 92,000. There have been 11 World Series games at the original (1923-1973) Yankee Stadium where attendance topped 70,000. Cleveland Municipal Stadium was another huge ballpark. But only 5 World Series games were ever played there. The largest World Series crowd in Cleveland was 86,288 for Game 5 in 1948. One other game in that series drew over 80,000, and the other 3 World Series games in that park topped 70,000.

More recently, the biggest ballparks to host a World Series have been Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia, and Joe Robbie (Hard Rock) Stadium in Miami. All 9 World Series games at the Vet (1980, 1983, 1993) drew at least 62,000. The 7 World Series games in Miami (1997, 2003) have attracted at least 65,000 per game.

The smallest attendance at a World Series game was 6,210 for game 5 at Detroit in 1908. That game was played at Bennett Park, a small wooden ballpark located on the same site where Tiger Stadium was later built.

The 1945 World Series (Tigers-Cubs) was the first where each team topped one million in regular-season attendance. The Detroit-St. Louis Series of 1968 was the first with both teams above 2 million. In 1992, Atlanta and Toronto met in the first Series with both teams topping 3 million. The biggest 'gap' in attendance between World Series teams was in 2003 when the Yankees outdrew the Florida Marlins by more than 2 million. Overall, there have been 13 World Series, including 2017 and 2016, where one team outdrew the other by at least one million.

Series Length	Year	Teams	Total Attendance	Avg./Game
4 Games	1954	N.Y. Giants – Cleveland	251,507	62,877
5 Games	1983	Philadelphia Phillies – Baltimore	304,139	60,828
6 Games	1959	L.A. Dodgers – Chicago White Sox	420,784	70,131
7 Games	1997	Florida – Cleveland	403,617	57,660
8 Games	1921	N.Y. Yankees – N.Y. Giants	269,976	33,747

WORLD SERIES RECORD HIGHS – By Length of Series

There never was a 9 game World Series.

## HIGHEST AND LOWEST REGULAR-SEASON ATTENDANCE BY WORLD SERIES WINNERS (excluding 2020)

The 1993 Toronto Blue Jays drew 4,057,947. That is the highest regular-season attendance for a team that won the World Series. In 1992, the Blue Jays also won the World Series, and also drew more than 4 million. The 1999, 2000, and 2009 New York Yankees are the only other American League teams that topped 3 million in a year they won the World Series. Among National League World Series winners, the 2008 Philadelphia Phillies had the highest attendance, drawing 3,422,583. The 2006 Cardinals (3,407,114), 2010 Giants (3,037,443), 2011 Cardinals (3,093,954), 2012 Giants (3,377,371), 2014 Giants (3,368,697), and 2016 Cubs (3,232,420) are the other National League teams to draw at least 3 million in a World Series winning season.

The smallest attendance for an American League team that won the World Series was 249,513, by the 1918 Boston Red Sox. That season was shortened by World War I. The 1903 Red Sox won the first-ever American League-National League World Series, but that season, they only drew 379,338. The lowest attendance among National League World Series winners was 325,056, by the 1934 St. Louis Cardinals.

Since the end of World War II, only two World Series winning teams did not draw at least one million, and both of these teams were the Oakland A's. In 1974, the A's won their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive World Championship, but only drew 845,693. The 1972 A's drew 921,923. In 1973, the A's did top one million, but barely, drawing 1,000,763. Every other team that has played in the World Series since 1945 drew at least one million.

## HISTORICAL NOTES – NEGRO LEAGUES ATTENDANCE

Major League Baseball official records are now going to include data from what were called the Negro Leagues. These leagues operated from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the 1950's, with African-American and Afro-Caribbean Latino players, who until 1947, were barred from the Major Leagues. The peak period for these leagues was from the 1920's until the Major Leagues began to integrate in the late 1940's.

There is no doubt that many of the players in the Negro Leagues would have been among the greatest players in Major League history if they had been allowed to play there. Some players from those leagues did eventually play in the Majors, and ultimately were inducted into the Baseball Hall-of-Fame. The Hall-of-Fame has also inducted numerous players and executives who spent their entire careers in the Negro Leagues.

Attendance figures from the Negro Leagues can be hard to find. But Retrosheet.org has begun a project to find more statistics from those leagues, and hopefully, this will result in finding attendance data as well.

Retrosheet.org did find attendance from the annual East-West All-Star Game, which was almost always the biggest event of the season. The East-West Game was played annually from 1933 through 1948 at Comiskey Park in Chicago, and it was a big draw. The 16 games there drew an average of 35,232 per game. 8 of the games drew over 40,000, with a high of 51,723 in 1943.

In 5 seasons (1939 and 1948 at Yankee Stadium, 1942 in Cleveland, 1946 in Washington, and 1947 at the Polo Grounds in New York), a second All-Star Game was added. These 5 games drew an average of 20,078 per game, with a top crowd of 38,402 in 1947.

The 21 East-West All-Star Games drew a total of 664,098, an average of 31,624.

There were two Negro Major Leagues from 1923 through 1929, and again from 1937 through 1948. After seasons from 1924-1927 and 1942-1948, a Negro Leagues World Series was played. Retrosheet.org has attendance from most of those games. Attendance at most games was relatively small since many Negro League teams played in small ballparks. The largest crowds at Negro League World Series games where attendance data was found were 22,129 at Washington, and 25,000 at Yankee Stadium, both in 1942.

Negro League players often played exhibition games vs. Major League players. The highest attendance figures for these games found by Retrosheet.org were 29,775 at Wrigley Field in Chicago, and 25,000 in Washington, both in 1942, plus 27,462 and 21,291 at Yankee Stadium, and 22,577 at Wrigley Field in Los Angeles all in 1946.

The Negro Leagues Museum estimates that the leagues drew 3 million in 1942.

It may be very difficult to find full-season attendance data for individual Negro League teams. But it is quite likely that some of them outdrew some Major League teams of that era.

Cincinnati hosted the first night game in Major League history. It was played at Crosley Field on May 24, 1935, and drew a paid crowd of 20,422, and an estimated total of 25,000. The Reds played 7 night games that year, and those games drew an average of 20,767. The 61 day game dates in Cincinnati that year drew an average of 4,965.

The table below lists the dates and attendance for the first home night games played by the original 16 teams. The Philadelphia Phillies and Athletics shared the same park, as did the St. Louis Cardinals and Browns. The Pirates and Cardinals each played their first home night games on the same evening. The Cubs didn't install lights at Wrigley Field until 1988. All post -1952 relocated and expansion teams played night games in their first seasons.

American League	ague Date Attendance National League		Date	Attendance	
Boston Red Sox	6/13/1947	34,510	Boston Braves	5/11/1946	35,945
Chicago White Sox	8/14/1939	30,000	Brooklyn Dodgers	6/15/1938	38,748
Cleveland Indians	6/27/1939	55,305	Chicago Cubs	8/9/1988	36,399
Detroit Tigers	6/15/1948	54,480	Cincinnati Reds	5/24/1935	20,422
New York Yankees	5/28/1946	49,917	New York Giants	5/24/1940	22,260
Philadelphia Athletics	5/16/1939	15,109	Philadelphia Phillies	6/8/1939	16,123
St. Louis Browns	5/24/1940	24,827	Pittsburgh Pirates	6/4/1940	20,319
Washington Senators	5/28/1941	25,000	St. Louis Cardinals	6/4/1940	23,500

#### FIRST NIGHT GAMES - ORIGINAL 16 TEAMS

SOURCES: <u>Diamonds – The Evolution of the Ballpark, From Elysian Fields to Camden Yards</u>, by Michael Gershman, 1993 – Houghton Mifflin; Retrosheet.org

This section will have notes about attendance at night games from 1935 through 1950. Most of the data is from Retrosheet.org. Other information comes from the archives of the Brooklyn Eagle and The New York Times.

Box scores listed attendance for all games from 1939 on. In earlier years where the attendance was not in the box score, it was sometimes noted in the game story of The New York Times, or the Brooklyn Eagle.

Retrosheet.org notes whether each game was a day or night game. However, a sample check of issues of The New York Times, which did note night games on the daily schedule, found that at times, what Retrosheet.org listed as a day game, was actually a night game, and vice-versa. So the actual number of night games noted in this section, and actual night game attendance may have been slightly different from the figures that will be noted here. However, the significant attendance popularity each team's first few seasons of night games is quite accurate. The number of night games listed probably includes twilight games.

Until 1942, Major League Baseball allowed those teams whose ballparks had lights, to play no more than 7 night games per season. The onset of World War II, with its multiple work shifts, led to many more night games. The Reds were the only team with lights from 1935 through 1937. By 1941, 11 teams had lights, but only 71 night dates were played that year. The number of night dates increased to 149 in 1942, 160 in 1943, and 237 in 1944. Lights were installed in Tiger Stadium in Detroit in 1948, so by that year, all teams, except the Cubs, played home night games. There were 343 night dates in the Majors in 1948, 363 in 1949, and 389 in 1950. In recent years, the number of night games was 1,643 in 2015, 1,638 in 2016, 1,622 in 2017, 1,587 in 2018, 1,580 in 2019, 1,561 in 2021, 1,517 in 2022, and 1,505 in 2023.

Average attendance per date for night games until 1950 was often much higher than the average per date for day games because night games were a novelty at that time. But another factor was that in the early years of ballparks with lights, teams often did not schedule night games early or late in the season, when attendance was usually quite a bit lower than during the summer months. Gradually, the novelty of night games began to wear off. The table on the next page shows that by 1950, as the number of night games increased, there was a much smaller difference between average attendance for day games and average attendance for night games. But the 4 teams that installed lights after 1945 did have much higher attendance for their night games than day games through 1950. More about that in the individual team night game notes on pages 291 through 294.

In the early years of night games, the night games started much later than they do now, often around 8:30 or 8:45 P.M. But, even with the speed-up rules put in place in 2023, the average length of games was about a half hour shorter than now.

				I -				1 -
	# of	Total Night	# Night	Average per	% Dates	Total Day	# Day	Average per
Year	Teams	Attendance	Dates	Night Date	at Night	Attendance	Dates	Day Date
1935	1	145,372	7	20,767	0.7	7,199,944	989	7,280
1936	1	136,836	7	19,548	0.7	7,945,777	1,042	7,626
1937	1	109,673	7	15,668	0.7	8,830,390	1,029	8,582
1938	2	342,426	14	24,459	1.4	8,664,085	1,007	8,604
1939	6	872,487	36	24,236	3.5	8,105,292	992	8,171
1940	10	1,439,386	70	20,563	6.9	8,384,098	947	8,853
1941	11	1,465,108	71	20,635	6.8	8,224,495	974	8,444
1942	11	1,745,313	149	11,714	15.3	6,808,256	828	8,223
1943	11	1,924,165	160	12,026	17.0	5,541,746	779	7,114
1944	11	2,797,252	237	11,803	24.3	5,975,494	737	8,108
1945	11	2,719,997	208	13,077	22.4	8,121,126	719	11,295
1946	13	4,971,371	238	20,888	23.3	13,551,918	782	17,330
1947	14	6,937,163	315	22,023	30.5	12,937,376	718	18,019
1948	15	7,858,939	344	22,846	32.6	13,061,903	710	18,397
1949	15	7,682,441	364	21,106	33.5	12,532,924	723	17,335
1950	15	6,722,608	389	17,282	37.3	10,740,369	654	16,423

NIGHT GAME ATTENDANCE vs. DAY GAME ATTENDANCE – 1935-1950

NOTES FOR THE TABLES ABOVE AND BELOW: The column "% Dates at Night" is the percentage of all Major League dates that year that were played at night.

The column "# of Teams" is the number of teams with lights in their ballparks. The Cubs didn't install lights at Wrigley Field until 1988. The A's and Phillies played in the same park in Philadelphia through 1954, the Browns and Cardinals shared a park in St. Louis through 1953, and the Dodgers and Angels shared Dodger Stadium from 1961 through 1965. The Mets and Yankees both played at Shea Stadium in 1974 and 1975. 16 teams were in the Major Leagues until 1961. Two teams were added in 1961, 1962, 1977, 1993, and 1998, and there were 4 expansion teams in 1969.

Expansion and the near-elimination of single-admission doubleheaders increased the number of dates played. Singleadmission doubleheaders count as one date. Separate admission (day/night) doubleheaders are counted as two separate dates. 1996 is used in the table below because 1995 was a shorter than normal season.

NIGHT DATES AS A % OF TOTAL DATES PLAYED - 1951-1960, AND SELECTED YEARS THEREAFTER

Year	# of Teams	Total # Dates	# Night Dates	% Dates at Night	Year	# of Teams	Total # Dates	# Night Dates	% Dates at Night
1951	15	1,052	395	37.6	1980	25	2,006	1,371	68.3
1952	15	1,048	422	40.3	1985	25	2,050	1,350	65.9
1953	15	1,045	427	40.9	1990	26	2,060	1,469	71.3
1954	15	1,065	437	41.0	1996	28	2,235	1,476	66.0
1955	15	1,050	441	42.0	2000	30	2,417	1,626	67.3
1956	15	1,061	475	44.8	2005	30	2,419	1,634	67.5
1957	15	1,086	501	46.1	2010	30	2,424	1,642	67.7
1958	15	1,091	498	45.6	2015	30	2,417	1,643	68.0
1959	15	1,111	544	49.0	2019	30	2,417	1,580	65.4
1960	15	1,105	578	52.3	2021	30	2,396	1,561	65.2
1965	19	1,437	846	58.9	2022	30	2,405	1,517	63.1
1970	23	1,792	1,163	64.9	2023	30	2,415	1,505	62.3
1975	23	1,790	1,201	67.1					

#### Team Night Game Attendance Highlights – 1935-1950

#### <u>Cincinnati</u> (first night game in 1935)

The first night game in Major League history was played on Friday, May 24, 1935 at Crosley Field. President Franklin D. Roosevelt flipped a switch at the White House to turn on the lights. The game drew a paid crowd of 20,422 and a total attendance of around 25,000. The 7 night games in 1935 drew an average of 20,767. All other games in Cincinnati that year averaged 4,965 per date.

In 1936, the 7 night games averaged 19,548, with day games averaging 5,884. In 1937 and 1938, the 14 night dates from those 2 years averaged 18,692 per date. The day games averaged 7,382. In 1939, all 7 night games drew over 23,000, and averaged 26,423, in a park that seated under 30,000. 1939 day games averaged 12,846 per date.

Overall, from 1935 through 1941, the 49 night games drew an average of 21,873, and the 414 day dates averaged 8,299. By 1945, the night average per date fell to 8,039. But from 1946 through 1949, the Reds averaged 21,020 for the total of 56 night dates, but only 10,153 for day dates.

#### Brooklyn (1938)

June 15, 1938 was a historic night at Ebbets Field. It was the first night game in Brooklyn, and it drew a wellabove capacity crowd of 38,748. Those fans experienced something never seen before or since in Major League Baseball. Reds' pitcher Johnny Vander Meer pitched his 2<sup>nd</sup> straight no-hitter in 2 consecutive starts for him.

The 1938 night games in Brooklyn drew an average of 27,201 per date. Day games that year averaged 9,090. From 1938 through 1941, Ebbets Field night games averaged 28,461 per date, with 14 of the 28 night games drawing at least 30,000, which was a full house in that ballpark. Day games during those 4 years averaged 13,331 per date.

The number of night dates increased from 11 in 1945 to 25 in 1950. From 1945 through 1950, Brooklyn night games drew an average of 26,299. The day games during those years averaged 18,787.

#### Chicago White Sox (1939)

The White Sox played home night games 49 years before the Cubs put lights in Wrigley Field. 1939 night games at Comiskey Park averaged 32,200, while day games drew an average of 7,598. The 16 night games from 1939 through 1941 attracted an average crowd of 27,980, compared to 8,533 for day games. After World War II, from 1946 through 1948, the 50 night dates averaged 21,638, and the day games drew 11,880 per date.

## Cleveland (1939)

From the mid-1930's through 1946, the Indians played in two ballparks. Most games were played at League Park, an old, small park. But night, Sunday, and holiday games took place at the huge Municipal Stadium. In 1939, the first year they played night games, the Indians averaged 29,735 at night, and 6,807 during the day. The 19 night games between 1939 and 1941 drew an average of 32,460, compared to 8,533 for day games.

In the late 1940's, the Indians set attendance records that lasted a long time. From 1947 through 1949, the 78 night dates drew a total of 3,004,063, an average of 38,514. 20 of those dates had crowds of at least 50,000, and at 14 of those dates, attendance topped 60,000. Day games also drew well in those seasons, averaging 30,110 per date.

## Philadelphia Athletics (1939)

Night attendance for the A's was not as high as for other teams. The Athletics averaged 17,045 at night in 1939, compared to 5,136 during the day. Night games from 1939 through 1941 drew an average of 17,729 per date, and day games averaged 6,204 per date. From 1946 through 1948, the A's averaged 17,010 at night, and 11,219 for day games.

#### Team Night Game Attendance Highlights - 1935-1950

## Philadelphia Phillies (1939)

The Phillies shared Shibe Park (Connie Mack Stadium) with the Athletics from mid-season 1938 until the A's moved to Kansas City after the 1954 season. Attendance was quite bad for the Phillies until 1946, and night games were only a small incentive to attract fans. The 6 night games in 1939 drew just 11,719 per date, compared to an average of 3,993 for the day games. The 16 night games from 1939 through 1941 attracted 9,652 per date. Day games in those years averaged only 3,407 per date. Things got better a few years later. From 1946 through 1948, the 62 night dates averaged 16,732 per date. Day games in those years drew an average of 14,632 per date.

#### St. Louis Browns (1940)

The Browns were the first team allowed to have more than 7 night games in a season when they played 12 under the lights in 1940. But attendance wasn't all that good for the Browns regardless of when they played. The 1940 night games averaged 8,633 per date, compared to an average of just 2,615 during the day. From 1940 through 1942, the 33 night dates drew an average of 7,382 per date. Attendance topped 10,000 at only 8 of those 33 dates. Day games during those seasons attracted just 2,778 per date.

In 1944, the Browns won their only American League championship, and played 30 dates at night. A year later they played 37 night dates, and only 22 dates during the day. But the novelty of night games had worn off. Between 1946 and 1950, only 17 of 170 night dates for the Browns drew at least 10,000 (none of the 35 night dates in 1950 managed to draw at least 10,000). Average attendance per date for those night dates was 5,412, which was less than the 5,536 that day games averaged during that 5-year period.

#### St. Louis Cardinals (1940)

The Cardinals had much more attendance success than the Browns, especially at night. Their 7 night dates in 1940 averaged 13,095 per date, while their day games drew an average crowd of 4,469. From 1940 through 1942, the Cardinals drew an average of 14,808 at night, with attendance reaching 10,000 at 22 of 30 night dates. Day games during those 3 years averaged 6,840 per date.

Like the Browns, the Cardinals also played many night games in the mid and late-1940's. They had 31 night dates and 30 day dates in 1944, and 47 night dates in 1949. From 1946 through 1950, attendance reached 10,000 at 172 of 201 night dates including all 47 in 1949. Yet during this period, games played during the day averaged 17,934, compared to an average attendance of 16,641 at night.

## New York Giants (1940)

The New York Giants didn't play very many night games from the time they installed lights in the Polo Grounds in 1940, until they moved to San Francisco in 1958. Night games averaged 24,147 per date in 1940, compared to an average per date of 10,155 for day games. Between 1940 and 1942, the 20 night games drew an average of 22,726, while day games attracted an average of 11,128.

World War II blackout rules in New York required that night games end by one hour after sunset. So the Dodgers and Giants began their night games earlier. The Giants played 6 twilight games, starting around 6:45 P.M., in 1942, but had none in 1943. They had 15 night dates in 1944, which was the most until there were 17 night dates in 1952. It took until 1956 for the Giants to have at least 20 night dates.

Night dates that were played drew very well at the Polo Grounds. From 1945 through 1949, attendance at 62 of the 66 night dates reached 10,000. 51 of those dates drew at least 20,000, and 28 of them topped 30,000. Overall, the average attendance for those night dates was 28,001. Day games in those years averaged 18,667 per date.

#### Team Night Game Attendance Highlights – 1935-1950

#### Pittsburgh Pirates (1940)

In Pittsburgh, night games were an instant hit. 6 of the 7 played in 1940 drew better than 20,000. In the first 3 years (1940-42), night dates averaged 16,574, compared to the day game average of 6,197. Night games continued to draw more than double the attendance of day games through 1945.

From 1943 through 1950, just 7 of the 159 night dates in Pittsburgh had attendance of less than 10,000. Between 1947 and 1950, attendance at 70 of the 100 night dates topped 20,000. From 1946 through 1948, night dates averaged 25,211 per date, while day dates averaged 15,512.

#### Washington Senators (1941)

Washington played more night games than any team during the World War II years. They had just 6 in 1941, which drew an average crowd of 16,833. Day games that year averaged 4,841. There were 22 night dates in 1942. In 1943, the Senators became the first team to play a majority of their dates at night. Their 34 night dates that year drew an average of 11,388. 25 day dates in Washington attracted an average of 7,500 in 1943. A year later, the Senators had 44 night dates, and just 19 dates during the day.

While night dates outdrew those during the day through 1946, attendance wasn't that good. Only 4 of 106 night dates between 1941 and 1944 drew at least 20,000. Griffith Stadium was a small ballpark. Things got somewhat better in 1945 and 1946. During those 2 years, attendance reached 20,000 at 24 of 60 night dates. But from 1947 through 1950, just 18 of 148 night dates topped 20,000. From 1946 through 1948, night dates averaged 11,018, but games played during the day did better, averaging 12,923 per date.

#### Boston Braves (1946)

Night baseball came late to Boston, but when it finally arrived, it was a hit. The Braves put lights in their park in 1946, a year before the Red Sox started playing night home games. 21 night home dates were played at Braves Field in 1946, and they drew an average of 24,424. Day games that year attracted an average of 11,712.

Between 1946 and 1948, 60 of the 82 night dates drew at least 20,000, and 20 of those dates topped 30,000. During those 3 years, night games averaged 24,689 per date, while day dates drew an average of 14,849 per date. By coincidence, night dates in 1947 averaged 24,781 per date, and night dates in 1948 also averaged 24,781 per date. Day and night attendance began to fall in 1949. Only 10 of 39 night dates in 1950 had crowds of 20,000+.

#### New York Yankees (1946)

When the Yankees installed lights in Yankee Stadium in 1946, they began to draw huge crowds on a regular basis. That year, each of the 14 night dates drew over 29,000. Then in both 1947 and 1948, the 14 night dates each year all drew above 33,000. In 1949, all 13 night dates topped 28,000.

From 1946 through 1949, the Yankees had a total of 55 home night dates. Attendance reached 40,000 at 39 of those dates, 30 of those dates drew at least 50,000, and there were crowds of more than 60,000 at 20 night dates. The combined attendance for night games in those 4 seasons was 2,823,467, an average of 51,336 per date. Day dates in those years averaged 30,331 per date.

Despite the huge popularity of night games at Yankees Stadium, not too many of them were scheduled. Through 1956, the Yankees never had more than 17 night dates in any season. They had 19 night dates in 1957, and then had 22 in 1958. The Yankees didn't have at least 30 night dates in a season until 1965.

#### Team Night Game Attendance Highlights – 1935-1950

## Boston Red Sox (1947)

Just like at Braves Field, night games at Fenway Park were an instant success. In 1947, 13 of the 14 night dates drew over 30,000, with 9 of those dates topping a sellout level of 34,000. Every night date until 1950 drew at least 24,000. From 1947 through 1949, the 42 night dates at Fenway averaged 32,602, while 167 day dates averaged 19,242. The Red Sox played relatively few night games in the 1950's. Their first year with at least 20 night dates was 1958.

#### Detroit Tigers (1948)

Detroit was the last team, other than the Cubs, among the "Original 16' to play night home games. But night games in the Motor City were highly attended. From 1948 through 1950, the first 3 years of night games at Tiger Stadium, every night date drew at least 27,000. 24 of the 41 night dates in those years drew at least 40,000, and 11 of those dates had crowds of more than 50,000. The first night game in Detroit that drew less than 20,000 was in 1951.

1948-1950 night dates in Detroit averaged 42,432. Day dates during those years drew an average of 21,333. Like the Yankees and the Red Sox, the Tigers didn't schedule many night games. 1957 was the first year that they had at least 20 night games.

#### Chicago Cubs (1988)

The Cubs purchased lights for Wrigley Field in 1942. But after the U.S. entry into World War II, the team donated the lights to the military. Neighborhood pressure and tradition kept lights out of Wrigley Field until 1988. The lights were ready by August of that year, and 6 night dates were played. 4 of those 6 dates drew over 30,000. In 1989, the Cubs played 17 night dates, and drew better than 30,000 at 14 of them. But they also topped 30,000 in 1989 for 43 day dates. The number of night games at Wrigley has slowly increased since then, reaching 38 in 2014 and 2015, and 36 in both 2016 and 2017, 31 in 2018, 33 in 2019, 24 in 2020, 36 in 2021, 41 in 2022, and 38 in 2023. A total of 889 night games have been played at Wrigley Field since 1988.

## FIRST SEASON NUMBER OF NIGHT GAMES FOR TEAMS WHO MOVED OR BEGAN PLAY AFTER 1950

The table below lists the number of night dates and total dates played in the first season by teams that moved to new markets, or by expansion teams, starting with the 1953 Milwaukee Braves. The 1961 Washington Senators were an expansion team that replaced the original Senators who moved to Minnesota and became the Twins.

		# NIGHT	TOTAL			# NIGHT	TOTAL
YEAR	TEAM	DATES	# DATES	YEAR	TEAM	DATES	# DATES
1953	Milwaukee Braves	24	64	1969	Seattle Pilots	57	74
1954	Baltimore Orioles	38	67	1969	Montreal Expos	47	72
1955	Kansas City Athletics	43	69	1969	San Diego Padres	57	75
1958	Los Angeles Dodgers	43	70	1970	Milwaukee Brewers	48	73
1958	San Francisco Giants	21	75	1972	Texas Rangers	63	75
1961	Los Angeles Angels	53	75	1977	Toronto Blue Jays	46	72
1961	Minnesota Twins	29	75	1977	Seattle Mariners	61	76
1961	Washington Senators	39	69	1993	Florida Marlins	70	80
1962	New York Mets	22	63	1993	Colorado Rockies	54	79
1962	Houston Colts	57	75	1998	Tampa Bay Devil Rays	64	81
1966	Atlanta Braves	53	76	1998	Arizona Diamondbacks	68	81
1968	Oakland A's	56	78	2005	Washington Nationals	56	81
1969	Kansas City Royals	49	73				

#### DOMED STADIUMS

The Houston Astrodome, opened in 1965, was the first enclosed baseball or football stadium in North America. It originally had natural grass. But glare from the roof panels made it difficult to catch fly balls. So the panels were painted, and the grass died. In 1966, the Astrodome became the first park with artificial turf.

Olympic Stadium in Montreal opened in 1976 for the Summer Olympic Games. The Expos started playing there in 1977. A retractable roof was installed in 1988, but it rarely worked properly. Skydome in Toronto had the first working retractable roof.

Chase Field in Phoenix, which opened in 1998, was the first Major League park with a retractable roof and a natural grass field. The grass field was replaced by artificial turf in 2019.

The Texas Rangers opened a retractable roof park in 2020.

		FIRST MLB	
TEAM	Stadium	YEAR	Notes
Houston	Astrodome	1965	Astros played there through 1999.
Seattle	Kingdome	1977	Used until mid-season 1999.
Montreal (1977-2004)	Olympic Stadium	1977	Built for the 1976 Summer Olympic
			Games. Roof installed in 1988, and was to
			be retractable, but never worked properly.
			Replaced by permanent roof in 1998.
Minnesota	Metrodome	1982	Twins played there through 2009.
Toronto	Rogers Centre *	1989	Originally named Skydome. First MLB
			park with retractable roof.
Tampa Bay	Tropicana Field	1998	Opened in 1990, home to National Hockey
			League and Arena Football League teams,
			facility has had other names.
Arizona	Chase Field *	1998	Formerly Bank One Ballpark.
Seattle	T-Mobile Park *	1999	Not a completely indoor facility
Houston	Minute Maid Park *	2000	Formerly Enron Field
Milwaukee	American Family Field *	2001	
Miami	loanDepot Park *	2012	
Texas	Globe Life Field *	2020	

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL DOMED STADIUMS

\* - Facility has a retractable roof.

The Rogers Centre, Globe Life Field, IoanDepot Park, Chase Field, and Tropicana Field are the 2024 ballparks in the Major Leagues with artificial turf.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY ATTENDANCE

July 4 has always been a big attendance day for Major League Baseball. For many years, teams usually played doubleheaders on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, separate-admission morning-afternoon doubleheaders were quite common. Although 4<sup>th</sup> of July doubleheaders are now a thing of the past, July 4 and July 3 games often draw quite well, with many teams having big fireworks shows on either of those days.

The table below shows yearly July 3 and July 4 total attendance and average per date, and the largest crowd in the Major Leagues on each of those days. When July 4 occurs on a Sunday, the attendance shown in the 'July 3' columns is for Sunday July 4, and the attendance shown in the 'July 4' columns is for Monday July 5 (which is a legal holiday when the 4<sup>th</sup> is on a Sunday). These years are shown in italics in the table. The last column on the right side the table, lists the July average per date for the Major Leagues for that season.

Since these 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of July games were played in July, they generally would draw better than the MLB season average. July is usually the month with the highest average per date.

Many of the older stadiums, no longer in use, had a much larger capacity than the newer parks. This explains some of the huge crowds in the former parks in Philadelphia, New York, Cleveland, San Francisco, and San Diego.

Note that the National League did not include 'no-shows' in its attendance until 1993.

Average per date figures for entire seasons can be found in the table on pages 308-311.

#### JULY 3 GAMES (or SUNDAY, JULY 4)

JULY 4 GAMES (or MONDAY, JULY 5)

	Total	Avg. per	Team with	Largest	Τ	Total	Avg. per	Team with	Largest	July
Year	Attend.	Game	Top Attend.	Crowd		Attend.	Game	Top Attend.	Crowd	Average
2024	482,924	32,195	L.A. Dodgers	47,965		500,716	33,381	L.A. Dodgers	52,320	
2023	385,856	38,586	L.A. Dodgers	49,652		514,688	34,313	L.A. Dodgers	51,487	32,739
2022	447,599	29,840	Philadelphia	44,225		431,543	30,825	L.A. Dodgers	47,163	28,919
2021	390,687	24,418	N.Y. Yankees	42,714		261,559	23,778	L.A. Angels	38,201	24,718
2019	490,114	30,632	L.A. Dodgers	53,327		352,856	29,405	L.A. Dodgers	53,801	30,360
2018	490,446	32,696	L.A. Dodgers	48,819		520,279	34,685	L.A. Dodgers	53,139	31,047
2017	400,515	40,052	Colorado	49,131		537,071	35,805	L.A. Dodgers	53,159	32,805
2016	464,252	30,950	Toronto	45,962		495,545	33,036	L.A. Dodgers	47,378	33,259
2015	578,928	38,595	L.A. Dodgers	52,570		563,667	37,578	L.A. Dodgers	51,252	33,075
2014	305,797	33,977	Colorado	48,533		540,440	38,603	Colorado	48,815	32,168
2013	501,459	33,431	Colorado	48,628		468,616	33,473	Colorado	48,794	32,310
2012	448,481	29,899	N.Y. Mets	42,516		506,920	33,795	L.A. Dodgers	53,570	32,408
2011	500,461	33,364	Texas	46,092		564,211	37,614	L.A. Dodgers	55,803	33,188
2010	518,008	34,534	N.Y. Yankees	46,810		360,643	32,786	L.A. Dodgers	47,801	32,163
2009	572,886	38,192	Colorado	49,026		537,128	35,809	Colorado	49,096	32,679
2008	363,970	33,088	N.Y. Yankees	54,677		561,904	37,460	N.Y. Yankees	55,130	34,224
2007	555,498	37,033	N.Y. Yankees	53,862		578,031	38,535	L.A. Dodgers	56,000	32,634
2006	520,048	37,146	N.Y. Mets	54,111		529,403	35,294	L.A. Dodgers	55,816	33,325
2005	536,733	35,782	L.A. Dodgers	55,868		588,414	39,228	N.Y. Yankees	53,844	32,877
2004	505,833	33,722	N.Y. Mets	55,437		419,671	32,282	N.Y. Yankees	52,608	32,351
2003	388,496	29,884	Philadelphia	57,326		526,313	35,088	N.Y. Yankees	55,144	29,871
2002	476,575	31,772	Philadelphia	50,396		468,596	33,471	Atlanta	49,967	30,415
2001	493,840	32,923	N.Y. Mets	52,471		500,051	33,337	L.A. Dodgers	54,636	33,086
2000	330,330	27,528	Atlanta	44,302		582,616	36,414	San Diego	51,285	32,962

# 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY ATTENDANCE - continued

# JULY 3 GAMES (or SUNDAY, JULY 4)

# JULY 4 GAMES (or MONDAY, JULY 5)

	Total	Avg. per	Team with	Largest	Total	Avg. per	Team with	Largest	July
Year	Attend.	Game	Top Attend.	Crowd	Attend.	Game	Top Attend.	Crowd	Average
1999	440,391	29,359	L.A. Dodgers	54,731	344,147	28,679	San Diego	58,333	32,246
1998	552,446	36,830	S. Francisco	56,788	523,638	34,909	San Diego	61,148	31,630
1997	368,850	28,373	S. Francisco	47,719	468,464	33,462	San Diego	47,518	31,253
1996	437,137	33,626	San Diego	48,841	430,528	30,752	L.A. Dodgers	54,331	29,002
1995	441,980	33,998	Philadelphia	59,203	446,195	31,871	L.A. Angels	61,292	27,311
1994	482,837	34,888	L.A. Dodgers	54,167	441,489	33,961	L.A. Dodgers	54,859	34,324
1993	475,356	33,954	Colorado	59,259	413,456	29,533	Colorado	55,185	34,415
1992	439,251	36,604	Toronto	50,408	419,897	34,991	Toronto	50,418	30,635
1991	402,826	30,987	Philadelphia	50,156	429,446	33,034	L.A. Angels	61,056	31,183
1990	459,140	35,318	Philadelphia	55,147	371,956	28,612	Toronto	49,831	30,245
1989	364,109	36,411	Philadelphia	56,498	399,226	30,710	L.A. Angels	62,390	30,831
1988	393,762	30,289	L.A. Dodgers	43,209	381,967	29,382	N.Y. Mets	46,609	28,692
1987	452,173	34,783	Philadelphia	56,825	378,031	29,079	L.A. Angels	62,531	27,290
1986	301,906	33,545	Philadelphia	61,475	445,882	34,299	Cleveland	73,303	25,387
1985	279,527	31,059	Philadelphia	56,092	447,508	34,424	L.A. Angels	62,951	25,810
1984	363,703	27,977	Philadelphia	63,816	404,897	31,146	San Diego	52,134	24,988
1983	392,631	30,202	Cleveland	50,008	403,457	36,678	L.A. Angels	63,132	26,782
1982	351,161	27,012	Atlanta	48,905	365,831	28,141	Philadelphia	63,501	24,868
1981	Strike	None	No Games	None	Strike	None	No Games	None	None
1980	347,780	26,752	Cleveland	73,096	371,251	28,558	L.A. Dodgers	49,846	25,430
1979	381,233	29,326	Cleveland	56,969	393,572	30,275	Atlanta	47,647	25,852
1978	322,007	26,834	L.A. Dodgers	52,190	298,410	24,868	L.A. Dodgers	49,691	23,894
1977	394,714	30,363	Cleveland	54,690	401,103	30,854	Philadelphia	63,283	24,031
1976	284,720	23,727	Cleveland	62,504	319,789	26,649	Philadelphia	60,943	21,598
1975	165,699	15,064	L.A. Dodgers	35,929	402,906	33,576	Philadelphia	55,301	20,005
1974	229,205	19,100	Cincinnati	51,909	258.220	21,518	L.A. Angels	41,760	20,173
1973	199,051	16,588	St. Louis	28,449	305,621	25,468	L.A. Dodgers	46,681	20,939
1972	202,867	25,358	Detroit	50,385	302,153	25,179	Atlanta	50,597	19,908
1971	260,130	21,678	L.A. Angels	44,631	233,000	21,182	N.Y. Mets	39,849	18,991
1970	243,095	20,258	Cincinnati	33,114	254,747	21,229	L.A. Angels	43,041	20,635

Data Source: MLB Stats Reporting Platform

#### 1946 - BASEBALL'S GREATEST YEAR OF GROWTH

1946 was the first full post-World War II season, and fans came out to games in record numbers. The 16 teams drew a combined record-high 18,523,289. That shattered the previous high of 10,841,123 set in 1945. **Total** attendance rose 7,682,166 (70.9%). That remains the biggest yearly total attendance and percentage increase in Major League history when comparing two full seasons. It is also the only year that every single team had an attendance gain. American League attendance went up 72.4%, and the National League was up 69.2%.

Average per date reached a record-high 18,160. That was up 6,465 from 11,695 in 1945, which was the first season that the Major League average per date reached 10,000.

The Yankees drew 2,265,512 in 1946, up 1,383,667 (156.9%), and became the first team to top 2 million. That total gain currently ranks as the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in MLB history (to 1965 Houston). The Yankees' 1946 average per date gain of 20,157 remains as the highest ever. 1946 was the first year with night games at Yankee Stadium.

Both Boston teams had spectacular growth. The Red Sox surpassed 1.4 million, up 134.7% from the 603,974 they drew in 1945. Boston Braves attendance was 969,673 in 1946, which was the first year they played home night games. That was up 159.1% from their 1945 total of 374,178. The biggest percentage gain was by the Phillies, who drew 1,045,247 in 1946, up 266.7%, from just 285,057 in 1945. That percentage gain is still the best in Major League history. The St. Louis Browns, up 9.0%, were the only team whose total attendance didn't rise at least 20%.

A record-high 10 teams topped one million in 1946. Previously, the most teams reaching one million in attendance in a single season were 4 in 1945, and 3 in 1930. 11 of the 16 Major League teams set new records for total attendance and average per date. The Yankees became the first team to surpass 25,000 in average per date.

/	1946 Total	1945 Total	'46 vs. '45	'46 vs. '45	1946 Avg.	1945 Avg.	
League and Team	Attendance	Attendance	Total Gain	40 vs. 45 % Gain	per Date	per Date	Avg. per Date Gain
AMERICAN LEAGUE	Allendarice	Allenuarice	Total Gain	70 Gain	per Date	per Date	Date Gain
Boston Red Sox	1 416 044	603,794	813,150	134.7	22,854	9,739	13,115
	1,416,944	,	,			,	,
Chicago White Sox	983,403	657,981	325,422	49.5	15,861	12,185	3,676
Cleveland Indians	1,057,289	558,182	499,107	89.4	17,053	9,624	7,429
Detroit Tigers	1,722,590	1,280,341	442,249	34.5	23,925	21,339	2,586
			4 0 0 0 0 0 7	157.0		44.007	00.457
New York Yankees	2,265,512	881,845	1,383,667	157.0	34,854	14,697	20,157
Philadelphia Athletics	621,793	462,631	159,162	34.4	9,716	8,261	1,455
St. Louis Browns	526,435	482,986	43,449	9.0	8,630	8,186	444
Washington Senators	1,027,216	652,660	374,556	57.4	16,305	12,314	3,991
American League Total	9,621,182	5,580,420	4,040,762	72.4	18,828	12,079	6,749
NATIONAL LEAGUE							
Boston Braves	969,673	374,178	595,495	159.1	16,161	6,929	9,232
Brooklyn Dodgers	1,796,824	1,059,220	737,604	69.6	23,958	16,049	7,909
Chicago Cubs	1,342,970	1,036,386	306,584	29.6	20,044	17,273	2,771
Cincinnati Reds	715,751	290,070	425,681	146.8	11,544	5,274	6,270
	,	,	,		,	,	,
New York Giants	1,219,873	1,016,468	203,405	20.0	20,676	16,941	3,735
Philadelphia Phillies	1,045,247	285,057	760,190	266.7	18,338	5,378	12,960
Pittsburgh Pirates	749,962	604,694	145,268	24.0	11,718	10,249	1,469
St. Louis Cardinals	1,061,807	594,630	467,177	78.6	16,335	10,078	6,257
	.,,		,				-,
National League Total	8,902,107	5,260,703	3,641,404	69.2	17,489	11,313	6,176
	, <b></b>	3,200,100			,	,	5,5
Major League Total	18,523,289	10,841,123	7,682,166	70.9	18,160	11,695	6,465

MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE GROWTH – 1946 vs. 1945 (Figures in bold were new record highs set in 1946)

#### ATTENDANCE AT THE 24 (9 INNING) PERFECT GAMES IN MAJOR LEAGUE HISTORY

Major League Baseball officially lists 24 perfect games, since 1880, where a pitcher had a complete game with no baserunners allowed. Domingo German of the Yankees pitched the most recent perfect game, in 2023, at Oakland.

The table below lists those perfect games, along with the reported attendance at them. Attendance for the first two perfect games, both in 1880, is not available. Lee Richmond started 66 of Worcester's 85 games that year. John Ward was the starting pitcher in 66 of the 87 Providence games.

There were 3 other games once listed as perfect games, but no longer officially recognized that way. In 1917 at Fenway Park in Boston, starting pitcher Babe Ruth of the Red Sox, walked the first batter, and was then ejected from the game for arguing balls and strikes. Ernie Shore replaced Ruth on the mound. The baserunner was thrown out at second attempting to steal. Then Shore retired all 26 hitters he faced. Attendance at this game was 16,158.

In 1959 in Milwaukee, Pittsburgh's Harvey Haddix pitched 12 perfect innings, retiring the first 36 batters he faced. Leading off the bottom of the 13<sup>th</sup> inning, a Brave reached base on an error. This was followed by a sacrifice bunt, an intentional walk, and a game-winning double. So Haddix ended up being the losing pitcher. This game drew 19,194.

Pedro Martinez of Montreal had a perfect game in San Diego, through 9 innings, in 1995. But he gave up a leadoff hit in the 10<sup>th</sup> inning. The Expos had scored a run in the top of the 10<sup>th</sup>, and won the game, which drew 9,707.

DATE	PITCHER	PITCHER'S TEAM	LOCATION	ATTENDANCE
June 12, 1880	Lee Richmond	Worcester Ruby Legs	Worcester, MA	N/A
June 17, 1880	John Ward	Providence Grays	Providence, RI	N/A
May 5, 1904	Cy Young	Boston Americans	Boston	10,267
October 2, 1908	Addie Joss	Cleveland Naps	Cleveland	10,508
April 30, 1922	Charlie Robertson	Chicago White Sox	Detroit	25,000
October 8, 1956	Don Larsen	New York Yankees	New York–Yankee Stadium	64,519
June 21, 1964	Jim Bunning	Philadelphia Phillies	New York-Shea Stadium	32,026
Sept. 9, 1965	Sandy Koufax	Los Angeles Dodgers	Los Angeles Dodgers	29,139
May 8, 1968	Jim Hunter	Oakland	Oakland	6,298
May 15, 1981	Len Barker	Cleveland	Cleveland	7,290
Sept. 30, 1984	Mike Witt	California Angels	Texas	8,375
Sept. 16, 1988	Tom Browning	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	16,591
July 28, 1991	Dennis Martinez	Montreal	Los Angeles Dodgers	45,560
July 28, 1994	Kenny Rogers	Texas	Texas	46,581
May 17, 1998	David Wells	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	49,820
July 18, 1999	David Cone	New York Yankees	New York Yankees	41,930
May 18, 2004	Randy Johnson	Arizona	Atlanta	23,381
July 23, 2009	Mark Buehrle	Chicago White Sox	Chicago White Sox	28,036
May 9, 2010	Dallas Braden	Oakland	Oakland	12,228
May 29, 2010	Roy Halliday	Philadelphia	Florida	25,086
April 21, 2012	Philip Humber	Chicago White Sox	Seattle	22,472
June 13, 2012	Matt Cain	San Francisco	San Francisco	42,298
August 15, 2012	Felix Hernandez	Seattle	Seattle	21,889
June 28, 2023	Domingo German	New York Yankees	Oakland	12,479

## MAJOR LEAGUE PERFECT GAMES

The Don Larsen perfect game was in the World Series.

The Dennis Martinez and Kenny Rogers perfect games were exactly 3 years apart.

#### NEW YORK, NEW YORK

New York City set a two team/one market record in 2008 as the Yankees and Mets drew a combined 8,301,418. They also had a combined total of 8 million+ in 2007. In 2006, the Mets and Yankees drew a combined 7,623,315, breaking the one-market record set by the Dodgers and Angels (7,008,332) in 2005. Combined Yankees/Mets attendance was 5,746,936 in 2019, 3,741,780 in 2021, 5,700,944 in 2022, and 5,842,571 in 2023.

In 2008, the Yankees and Mets led their respective leagues in attendance, as each team topped 4 million. For the Yankees it was their 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year above 4 million, and the Mets had their highest attendance ever. The 1988 Mets were the first New York City team to top 3 million, drawing 3,055,445. Back then, the National League only counted tickets sold and actually used, in their attendance. The Mets claim to have sold around 3.5 million tickets in 1988. The Yankees topped 3 million for the first time in 1999.

From 1903 through 1957, when New York had 3 Major League teams, their highest combined attendance was 5,587,256 in 1947 (Yankees - 2,178,937; Dodgers - 1,807,526; Giants - 1,600,793). That was Jackie Robinson's first season in the Majors, and the Dodgers and Yankees met in the World Series. In the 55 years that the 3 teams played in New York, the Yankees outdrew the Dodgers (who had a much smaller park) 47 times, and outdrew the Giants 37 times, including in 35 of the last 38 years (1920-57). Total attendance for those 55 years was 53.2 million for the Yankees, 42.8 million for the Giants, and 38.9 million for the Dodgers. Starting in 1958, after the Dodgers moved to Los Angeles, the Dodgers had higher attendance than the Yankees for 41 straight seasons. But the Yankees outdrew the Dodgers each year from 1999 to 2008. The Dodgers took back the lead in 2009, but the Yankees finished ahead of them in 2010, 2011, and 2012. The Dodgers were back on top from 2013 through 2023.

#### NEW YORK: YANKEES VS. METS

In the 62 years that the Mets and Yankees have shared the New York market, the Yankees have been the attendance leader 40 times, and the Mets have led 21 times. But the attendance leadership has run in streaks. There was no attendance in 2020. Since 1962, the Yankees have 5,470 wins, and the Mets have 4,727.

Attendance Leader	Period	Consec. Years	Mets Attendance	Yankees Attendance
Yankees	1962-1963	2	2,002,638	2,802,494
Mets	1964-1975	12	23,419,710	14,154,218
Yankees	1976-1983	8	8,663,939	17,530,127
Mets	1984-1992	9	23,176,944	19,155,192
Yankees	1993-2023	30	73,199,628	96,809,612

Despite the Yankees pulling well ahead in recent years, Yankees vs. Mets attendance from 1962, when the Mets began play, through 2023, is closer than the numbers indicate Until 1993, Mets' attendance excluded sold tickets that were not used ('no-shows'), while the Yankees did include such tickets in their totals.

	Mets	Yankees
Total Attendance 1962-2023	130,462,859	150,451,643
Average Att. per Season (60 seasons)	2,138,735	2,466,420
Average Attendance per Date	28,548 (4,570 dates)	32,622 (4,612 dates)
# Seasons - Att. Below 1 million	3	1
# Seasons - Att. Below 1.5 million	12	14
# Seasons - Att. Above 2 million	35	40
# Seasons - Att. Above 3 million	6	23
# Seasons - Att. Above 4 million	1	4

All Yankee seasons with attendance below 1.5 million were in 14 straight years between 1962 and 1975. The Yankees have drawn at least 1.6 million fans every year since they moved back to the re-built Yankee Stadium in 1976. The Dodgers are the only other team to post attendance of at least 1.6 million every year since 1976.

Starting in 1946, Yankee attendance has topped one million every year, except 1972, a season shortened slightly by a strike. The longest streak of seasons with attendance of at least one million is held by the Dodgers, who have done it every year since 1945. The St. Louis Cardinals have topped one million each year since 1963.

#### LOS ANGELES: DODGERS VS. ANGELS

In 2007, the Dodgers and the Angels drew a combined 7,222,668, the best-ever combined attendance in the Los Angeles market. They drew a combined 6,993,321 in 2019, and 6,477,654 in 2023. Dodger Stadium's capacity is 56,000. Angel Stadium seats 45,517. The Dodgers have a big lead in this market. **But in 2011, for the only time, the Angels outdrew the Dodgers in one season.** The Dodgers took back the lead from 2012 through 2023.

DODGERS vs. ANGELS ATTENDANCE BY DECADE - Since the Angels Began Play in 1961 - Win figures include 2020

	Dodgers	Average		# of	Angels	Average		# of
Decade	Decade	per	# of	Winning	Decade	per	# of	Winning
	Attendance	Date	Wins	Seasons	Attendance	Date	Wins	Seasons
1961-1969	19,527,375	28,097	796	6	8,398,132	12,460	685	3
1970-1979	24,480,796	31,067	910	9	12,500,310	15,944	781	3
1980-1989	30,894,722	39,710	825	6	24,412,059	31,418	783	4
1990-1999	29,732,335	38,563	797	7	20,716,211	26,457	738	3
2000-2009	34,497,939	42,590	862	9	29,564,455	36,499	900	8
2010-2019	36,413,030	44,899	919	9	30,682,032	37,879	822	4
2020-2023	10,503,180	43,223	360	4	6,613,725	27,105	249	0
Total	186,049,377	38,000	5,469	50	132,886,924	27,220	4,958	25

The attendance gap is actually larger because until 1993, Dodgers attendance did not include 'no-shows.' Since 1961, the Dodgers have averaged 3,000,796 per season in attendance, and 88.2 wins per year. The Angels have averaged 80.0 wins per year, and their average season attendance has been 2,143,377. # wins per year excludes 2020.

The Dodgers have been in post-season play 27 times since 1961, and have won 11 National League pennants and 5 World Series. They also won the 1959 World Series. The Angels have appeared in the post-season 10 times in their history, including in 7 of the last 22 years. They won their only American League title and World Series in 2002.

#### DODGERS VS. GIANTS – BROOKLYN VS. MANHATTAN AND LOS ANGELES VS. SAN FRANCISCO

Although these teams are no longer in the same market, they will always be linked. They both played in New York through 1957, and continued to be bitter rivals after both teams headed West in 1958. The Dodgers have had a big upper hand in attendance since then, attracting 64,723,196 more in total attendance, and 12,233 more in average per date, than the Giants. Until 2000, the Dodgers' attendance was nearly double that of the Giants.

In 2012, the Giants outdrew the Dodgers for just the 6<sup>th</sup> time since both teams moved to California in 1958. They also did it from 2000 to 2003, and in 2011. The Giants moved to Oracle Park in 2000, and since then, the attendance has been much closer between these 2 teams. Starting in 2000, the Giants have drawn 70,667,334, (37,932 per date), while the Dodgers, who play in a much bigger ballpark, have drawn 81,414,149 (43,677 per date). From 1958 through 1999, Giants' attendance was 56,829,335 (17,950 per date), while the Dodgers drew 110,805,716 (34,084 per date).

Prior to 2000, the last time the Giants led the Dodgers in attendance was 1954, which was, until 2010, the last year the Giants won a World Series. In 2001, the Giants led the National League in attendance for the first time since 1944. Dodger home attendance has topped 2 million for 50 straight seasons, including 2021, and they've won 6 World Series since moving to Los Angeles. The Giants topped 2 million in 23 straight 'normal' years through 2023, and have 3 World Series wins since 2010.

From 1900 through 1957, the New York Giants outdrew the Brooklyn Dodgers 43,607,407 (11,770 per date) to 39,507,183 (10,388 per date), and led them in attendance 40 times in those 58 years. It took until 1930 for the Dodgers to outdraw the Giants in a season. But Brooklyn topped the Giants in 16 of the last 19 years that these teams were based in New York, even though Brooklyn's Ebbets Field had around a 32,000 capacity while Manhattan's Polo Grounds could seat over 55,000.

#### DODGERS VS. GIANTS - BROOKLYN VS. MANHATTAN AND LOS ANGELES VS. SAN FRANCISCO

	Dodgers	Giants
Total Attendance 1958-2023	192,219,865	127,496,669
Average Att. per Season (65 seasons)	2,957,229	1,961,487
Average per Date	37,580 (5,115 dates)	25,347 (5,030 dates)
Led N.L. in Home Attendance	38	3
# Seasons - Att. Below 1 million	0	11
# Seasons - Att. Below 1.5 million	0	23
# Seasons - Att. Above 2 million	58	25
# Seasons - Att. Above 3 million	35	17

#### DODGERS VS. GIANTS SINCE BOTH TEAMS MOVED TO CALIFORNIA IN 1958

The table below compares attendance, wins, and the number seasons with a winning record for the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants from 1900 through 1957, and for the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Francisco Giants from 1958 through 2023. There was no attendance in 2020, but win totals for that year are included. Subtotals are listed for the New York seasons, and for the California seasons. Sources for number of dates to compile average per date figures are Retrosheet.org and the MLB Information System.

DODGERS vs. GIANTS ATTENDANCE BY DECADE - Since 1900 - Win figures includ	e 2020

	Dodgers	Average		# of	Giants	Average		# of
Decade	Decade	per	# of	Winning	Decade	per	# of	Winning
	Attendance	Date	Wins	Seasons	Attendance	Date	Wins	Seasons
1900-1909	2,422,062	3,709	649	4	5,152,481	7,878	823	7
1910-1919	2,672,676	4,229	696	2	5,228,743	8,183	889	9
1920-1929	6,648,614	9,622	765	3	8,636,285	12,948	890	9
1930-1939	6,554,663	10,471	734	4	7,516,744	11,745	868	9
1940-1949	12,192,581	17,722	894	9	9,945,998	16,252	724	4
1950-1957	9,016,587	16,483	754	8	7,127,156	13,706	659	5
N.Y. Total	39,507,183	10,296	4,492	30	43,607,407	11,685	4,853	43
1958-1959	3,916,601	27,199	159	1	2,694,755	17,729	163	2
1960-1969	21,781,262	28,287	878	7	14,010,869	18,557	902	10
1970-1979	24,480,796	31,067	910	9	8,895,409	12,136	794	4
1980-1989	30,894,722	39,710	825	6	13,292,023	17,629	773	6
1990-1999	29,732,335	38,563	797	7	17,936,279	23,203	790	5
2000-2009	34,497,939	42,590	862	9	31,556,356	38,958	855	6
2010-2019	36,413,030	44,899	919	9	32,448,655	40,060	821	6
2020-2023	10,503,180	43,223	360	4	6,662,323	27,417	296	1
Calif. Total	192,219,865	37,580	5,710	52	127,496,669	25,347	5,394	40
Grand Total	231,727,048	25,886	10,202	82	171,104,076	19,528	10,247	83

In 1958 and 1959, the Giants played at Seals Stadium, a former Minor League park with a seating capacity of just under 23,000. From 1958 through 1961, the Dodgers played at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, where baseball capacity was over 80,000. During the first 11 years at Candlestick Park, capacity was around 42,000. The park was expanded for football in 1971, and baseball capacity was as high as 62,000. Dodger Stadium capacity has always been listed as 56,000, even though now, it is probably slightly lower. Oracle Park's capacity was 41,915 through most of its history, and was 41,331 in 2021, 2022, and 2023, and 42,300 in 2024.

#### CHICAGO: CUBS VS. WHITE SOX

The combined Chicago attendance record is 6,080,626 in 2006. In 2019, the teams drew a combined 4,744,640, and they drew 4,444,777 in 2023. In 2012, the Cubs had the highest attendance ever for a team that lost at least 100 games. The White Sox have never topped 3 million. The Cubs have outdrawn the White Sox in 47 of the last 55 seasons, including in each of the past 30 years, and 77 times in the past 122 years. (No attendance in 2020.)

Since 1901, the Cubs have a 123-year total of 71 more wins than the White Sox. But they've outdrawn the White Sox by an average of 268,809 per year. The Cubs have averaged 1,418,531 per season since 1901, and the White Sox average per season in that period is 1,149,722. The only World Series wins by either team since 1917 were by the White Sox in 2005, and the Cubs in 2016. It was the Cubs' first appearance in the World Series since 1945.

	Cubs	Average		# of	White Sox	Average		# of
Decade	Decade	per	# of	Winning	Decade	per	# of	Winning
	Attendance	Date	Wins	Seasons	Attendance	Date	Wins	Seasons
1901-1909	4,179,631	6,613	814	7	4,588,978	7,227	744	8
1910-1919	4,030,315	5,766	826	7	5,577,496	8,048	798	7
1920-1929	8,149,547	11,414	807	7	6,238,378	8,887	731	3
1930-1939	8,791,668	12,779	889	10	4,109,937	6,513	678	3
1940-1949	8,943,692	13,845	736	2	7,068,975	11,723	707	2
1950-1959	8,701,732	13,512	672	0	11,296,258	17,568	847	9
1960-1969	8,796,707	12,338	735	4	10,830,432	16,335	852	8
1970-1979	13,636,726	18,207	785	3	11,053,371	15,352	752	2
1980-1989	17,245,805	22,692	735	2	14,448,273	19,213	758	4
1990-1999	22,948,269	30,116	739	3	19,777,111	26,195	816	6
2000-2009	30,339,577	37,924	807	6	22,030,373	27,367	857	7
2010-2019	29,926,238	36,900	817	5	17,971,125	22,520	743	2
2020-2023	7,370,863	30,333	262	2	5,275,372	22,259	270	2
Total	173,060,770	19,531	9,624	58	140,266,079	16,240	9,553	63

CUBS vs. WHITE SOX ATTENDANCE BY DECADE – Since the White Sox Began Play in 1901. # wins includes 2020

## SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND: GIANTS VS. ATHLETICS

2024 is the final season that these 2 teams share the same market. The record for this market is a combined 5,481,499, set in 2003. These teams drew a combined 4,369,971 in 2019, and 3,332,505 in 2023. The Bay Area teams often had poor attendance after the Athletics moved to Oakland in 1968. Between 1968 and 1977, the A's reached one million in attendance in only two seasons, and the highest attendance by either team was 1,106,043 for the Giants in 1971. That was the only season San Francisco topped one million in those 10 years.

During the decade of the 1970's, the Giants averaged just 889,541 per year. A's attendance was worse, even though they won the World Series 3 times in that decade. Oakland only averaged 764,660 per year for the decade, with a low of 306,763 in 1979. In 1977, both teams drew a combined total of just 1,195,655. However, in the 1980's, the Athletics more than doubled their attendance, up to an average of 1,581,275 per season, and the Giants' average per season improved to 1,329,202.

The Giants have posted better attendance than the Athletics 38 times in the 55 seasons with attendance that both these teams have played in California, including in each of the last 30 years. Since 1968, San Francisco has drawn 112,501,928, an average of 2,045,490 per season, and Oakland's total attendance is 80,910,193, which averages out to 1,471,094 per season. The Athletics have appeared in the World Series 6 times, winning it 4 times, since 1968. In 2010, the Giants won the World Series for the first time since 1954, and they won it again in 2012 and in 2014.

The opening of Oracle Park for the Giants in 2000 has resulted in a wide attendance gap between these teams since then. The Giants have drawn 70,667,334 (3,072,493 average per year) from 2000 through 2023, while the A's have drawn 38,195,704 (1,660,683 average per year). San Francisco's average per year is 1,411,810 (85.0%) higher than Oakland's during this 23-year period, which excludes 2020. The A's will play in the Minor League park in Sacramento for the 2025-2027 seasons, before moving to their new home in Las Vegas in 2028.

#### MULTI-TEAM MARKETS OF THE PAST

#### "I really didn't say all the things I said." - Yogi Berra

As noted on the previous 4 pages, there are 4 markets that currently have 2 Major League teams, and at one time, New York had 3 teams. But for the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Boston, Philadelphia, and St. Louis also had 2 teams each. Here's a look at how their attendance compared:

#### BOSTON: RED SOX VS. BRAVES

The Red Sox and the Braves shared Boston from 1901 through 1952. For most of that time, the Braves played at Braves Field, just about one mile from Fenway Park. The site of Braves Field is now part of Boston University's Nickerson Field.

Boston clearly was a Red Sox town. In the 52 years that the Red Sox and Braves both played there, the Red Sox had the higher attendance 45 times, including every season from 1934 through 1952. Red Sox attendance totaled 30.3 million, while the Braves drew just 18.2 million.

Red Sox attendance declined slightly in 1953, the first year Boston was a one-team market. The Red Sox drew 1,115,750 in 1952. But in 1953, with the Braves gone to Milwaukee, the Red Sox only drew 1,026,133.

#### ST. LOUIS: CARDINALS VS. BROWNS

An American League team called the Milwaukee Brewers moved to St. Louis in 1902, joining the Cardinals there, and getting renamed the Browns. The two teams shared Sportsman's Park (later named Busch Stadium) from 1920, until the Browns moved to Baltimore after the 1953 season.

The Cardinals were by far the most popular team. They outdrew the Browns in 35 of 52 seasons, including 27 of the final 28 years that St. Louis was a two-team town. Total attendance for the Cardinals for those 52 years was 25.4 million, while the Browns drew under 15.4 million. During the entire decade of the 1930's, the Browns drew just 1,184,076, with a post-1900 Major League season record-low attendance of 80,922 in 1935.

Cardinals' attendance picked up after the Browns became the new Baltimore Orioles. The Redbirds drew 880,242 in 1953, and 1,039,698 in 1954.

#### PHILADELPHIA: PHILLIES VS. ATHLETICS

The Athletics and Phillies both played in Philadelphia from 1901 through 1954. Baker Bowl was the Phillies' home until midway through 1938, when they moved into Shibe Park (later renamed Connie Mack Stadium) which was the home of the Athletics.

Here the team with the attendance edge left. The A's outdrew the Phillies 26.0 million to 20.4 million, and had the higher attendance in 40 of the 54 seasons that both teams were in Philadelphia. But the Phillies topped the A's in each of the final 6 years (1949-54). The Athletics failed to reach 400,000 in 3 of their last 5 years in Philadelphia.

Attendance rose for the Phillies in the first year they had Philadelphia to themselves, after the Athletics went to Kansas City. In 1954, they drew 738,991, and attendance increased to 922,886 in 1955.

#### YANKEES ATTENDANCE AFTER THE DODGERS AND GIANTS LEFT NEW YORK

New York lost both the Dodgers and the Giants after the 1957 season. So New York was left with just one team, and it was thought that the Yankees might pick up new fans. With their big stadium, and great success on the field, the Yankees had outdrawn both the Dodgers and the Giants each year from 1946 through 1957. But Yankee attendance actually dropped from 1,497,134 in 1957, to 1,428,438 in 1958. The Yankees won the American League pennant in 1957, and the World Series in 1958. But their 1958 attendance was their lowest since 1945. The Yankee attendance record at that time was 2,373,901 in 1948. They did not top that total until 1979.

## 2023 ATTENDANCE COMPARED WITH 1993 ATTENDANCE

Declines since 2009 have led to Major League attendance falling below some levels reached prior to the 1994 strike. It went back above in some categories in 2012, but slipped back again in 2013. Attendance initially didn't exceed all the pre-1994 figures until 2006.

The table on the next page compares Major League Baseball's 2023 attendance with attendance in 1993, the last full season prior to the 1994-1995 strike. Milwaukee is listed with the National League teams in this table, and Houston is listed in the American League. The Brewers played in the A.L. until 1998, and the Astros were in the N.L. until 2013.

In 1994, the season-ending strike began on August 12. There were no playoff or World Series games that year. The 1995 season started three weeks late, and teams played only 72 home games instead of the usual 81.

Excluding Arizona and Tampa Bay, the two teams added in 1998, Major League Baseball's 2023 total attendance was down 2,910,577 (4.1%) from 1993, the last full season prior to the strike. If expansion teams Tampa Bay and Arizona <u>are</u> included, 2023 total attendance vs. 1993 was up 490,906 (0.7%).

Average combined attendance <u>per date</u> in 2023 for all 30 teams was 29,295. This was 2,042 less per date than the 1993 average of 31,337. If Arizona and Tampa Bay are excluded, the 2023 Major League average per date attendance moved up to 29,892, which is 1,445 less than the 1993 average per date.

Baseball was heading for a record attendance in 1994, when the strike ended the season. 1994 average attendance per date up to that point was 31,612. We don't know how much this average would have changed over the rest of that season. But this 1994 pre-strike figure was finally exceeded in 2007, before falling back in 2009.

Average attendance <u>per team</u> was a then-record high 2,509,159 in 1993. In 2023, the average attendance per team was 2,358,246, an average decrease of 150,913 per team from 1993. If expansion teams Tampa Bay and Arizona are excluded, the 2023 average per team goes to 2,405,210, down 103,949 from 1993.

13 of the 28 teams drew better in 2023 than in 1993. The best gains from 1993 to 2023 were by San Diego (up 1,896,122), Houston (up 967,801), Milwaukee (up 863,267), the Yankees (up 852,051), the Mets (up 700,372), and the Dodgers (up 666,687). Washington drew 224,395 over what they drew as the Montreal Expos in 1993.

Miami had the worst loss, down 1,902,028. Toronto fell 1,036,043 from the then-American League record of 4,057,947 they set in 1993. Colorado declined by 1,875,415. In 1993, the Rockies played in Mile High Stadium, which had a capacity of nearly 80,000. They set the all-time Major League season attendance record, drawing 4,483,350, an average of 56,751 per date. When the strike halted the 1994 season, the Rockies were averaging 58,598 per home date. Their current home, Coors Field, seated 50,398 in 2017, 46,897 in 2018, 2019, and 2020, and 46,896 in 2024.

Other one million plus declines were by Baltimore (1,708,167) and Oakland (1,202,673). Down at least 500,000 for 2023 vs. 1993 were the White Sox, Kansas City, and Atlanta. The Braves were in a significantly smaller park in 2023.

In average per date, San Diego had the best 2023 vs. 2019 gain, up 23,197, followed by Houston (up 11,948), the Yankees (up 10,471), Milwaukee (up 9,856), the Mets (up 9,283), and the Dodgers (up 8,230).

Colorado had the worst average per date loss, down 24,554. Other 10,000+ declines were by Miami (23,955), Baltimore (21,651), Toronto (12,791), Oakland (15,484), and the White sox (11,267).

Baltimore, Toronto, Atlanta and Colorado all averaged at least 40,000 per home date in 1993, with both the Blue Jays and the Rockies topping 50,000 per date. In 2023, the Dodgers, Cardinals, Padres, and Yankees averaged over 40,000 per home date.

San Diego was the only team whose 1993 average attendance per home date failed to reach 20,000. Oakland, Kansas City, Miami, and Tampa Bay averaged less than 20,000 per home date in 2023.

19 teams in 2023 played in different home ballparks than in 1993. In 2023, all of those 19 teams played in a park with a <u>smaller capacity</u> than the one they played in during the 1993 season. The Orioles, Red Sox, White Sox, Royals, Angels, A's, Blue Jays, Cubs, and Dodgers still play in the same parks as in 1993.

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME ATTENDANCE - 2023 vs. 1993

	<u>2023</u>		<u>1993</u>		<u>2023 vs. 1993 Changes</u>		
	Total	Average	l Total	Average	Total	Average	
<u>Team</u>	Attendance	Per Date	Attendance	Per Date	Attendance	per Date	
Baltimore	1,936,798	23,911	   3,644,965	45,562	(1,708,167)	(21,651)	
Boston	2,672,130	32,989	2,422,021	30,275	250,109	2,714	
Chicago White Sox	1,669,628	21,405	2,581,091	32,672	(911,463)	(11,267)	
Cleveland	1,834,068	23,514	2,177,908	27,224	(343,840)	(3,710)	
Detroit	1,612,876	20,946	1,971,421	24,339	(358,545)	(3,393)	
Houston	3,052,347	37,683	   2,084,546	25,735	 	11,948	
Kansas City	1,307,052	16,136	1,934,578	24,182	(627,526)	(8,046)	
Los Angeles Angels	2,640,575	32,600	2,057,460	25,401	583,115	7,199	
Minnesota	1,974,124	24,372	2,048,673	25,292	(74,549)	(920)	
New York Yankees	3,269,016	40,683	2,416,965	30,212	852,051	10,471	
Oakland	832,352	10,276	   2,035,025	25,760	(1,202,673)	(15,484)	
Seattle	2,690,418	33,215	2,051,853	25,332	638,565	7,883	
Tampa Bay	1,440,301	17,781	-	-	-	-	
Texas	2,533,044	31,272	2,244,616	28,413	288,428	2,859	
Toronto	3,021,904	37,307	4,057,947	50,098	(1,036,043)	(12,791)	
American League Total	32,486,633	26,982	33,729,069	30,369	(1,242,436)	(3,387)	
A.L./exclude Tampa Bay	31,046,332	27,646	33,729,069	30,369	(2,682,737)	(2,723)	
Arizona	1,961,182	24,212	1		1		
Atlanta	3,191,505	39,401	3,884,725	- 47,960	(693,220)	(8,559)	
Chicago Cubs	2,775,149	34,261	2,653,763	33,172	121,386	1,089	
Cincinnati	2,038,302	25,164	2,453,232	31,054	(414,930)	(5,890)	
Colorado	2,607,935	32,197	4,483,350	56,751	(1,875,415)	(24,554)	
Colorado	2,007,933	52,197	4,403,550	50,751	(1,070,410)	(24,004)	
Los Angeles Dodgers	3,837,079	47,371	3,170,392	39,141	666,687	8,230	
Miami	1,162,819	14,356	3,064,847	38,311	(1,902,028)	(23,955)	
Milwaukee	2,551,347	31,498	1,688,080	21,642	863,267	9,856	
New York Mets	2,573,555	32,994	1,873,183	23,711	700,372	9,283	
Philadelphia	3,052,605	38,158	3,137,674	39,221	(85,069)	(1,063)	
Pittsburgh	1,630,624	20,131	   1,650,593	20,894	(19,969)	(763)	
St. Louis	3,241,091	40,013	2,844,328	35,115	396,763	4,898	
San Diego	3,271,554	40,390	1,375,432	17,193	1,896,122	23,197	
San Francisco	2,500,153	30,866	2,606,354	32,177	(106,201)	(1,311)	
Washington	1,865,832	23,035	1,641,437	20,265	224,395	2,770	
National League Total	38,260,732	31,594	36,527,390	32,177	1,733,342	(583)	
N.L./ exclude Arizona	36,299,550	32,123	   36,527,390	32,177	(227,840)	(54)	
Major League Total	70,747,365	29,295	   70,256,459	31,337	   490,906	(2,042)	
M.L/ ex. Tampa, Arizona	67,345,882	29,892	   70,256,459	31,337	(2,910,577)	(1,445)	

Houston totals for all years are listed with the American League.

Milwaukee totals for all years are listed with the National League.

Figures listed under Washington for 1993 are for the Montreal Expos.

Sources: Major League Baseball Stats Reporting Platform, Total Baseball - 8th Edition.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1900**

Major League Baseball attendance from 1900 through 2023 has reached 3.838 billion.

This section will provide an overview of Major League Baseball attendance patterns since 1900. Attendance figures were available for each team from 1900 on in the National League, and since 1901 for the American League. 1901 was the American League's first year as a Major League.

Thanks to the incredible research done by Retrosheet.org, it is now possible to list average attendance per date for each team and league going back to 1900. Retrosheet has a game-by-game log for each team for every season. It also shows doubleheaders. Where a separate attendance figure is listed for each game of a doubleheader, it usually was a day-night or morning-afternoon (common on holidays in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) separate-admission doubleheader. For attendance compiling purposes, these count as 2 separate dates. Where there is only one attendance figure shown for a doubleheader, it is assumed that this was a single-admission doubleheader, meaning 2 games for one ticket. Single-admission doubleheaders count as one date.

Annual attendance for each team, both leagues, and the Major League Total, were divided by the number of dates to come up with the average per date figure. Total attendance numbers from 1900 through 1997 are from <u>Total</u> <u>Baseball</u>. Figures from 1998 through 2023 come from the MLB Information System, or the Stats Reporting Platform.

As shown in the table below, the average number of dates played per team/per season has risen considerably since the 1950's. It first rose in the 1960's due to the change from a 154 to a 162 game schedule. It has gone up since the 1960's due to fewer doubleheaders being played. Far fewer games get rained out these days due to better playing surfaces, and indoor ballparks. Many of the games that are rained out get rescheduled on off days, or as part of separate admission doubleheaders. Non-makeup game, single-admission doubleheaders are very rare.

Decade	Average Number of Dates Per Season/Per Team	Notes
1900-1909	66.5	
1910-1919	66.3	Excluding shorter 1918, 1919 seasons, average is 68.3
1920-1929	68.1	
1930-1939	64.4	
1940-1949	63.0	
1950-1959	66.6	
1960-1969	71.8	A.L. went to 162 games in 1961, N.L. in 1962
1970-1979	74.7	Excluding shorter 1972 season, average is 75.1
1980-1989	75.9	Excluding shorter 1981 season, average is 78.5
1990-1999	76.6	Excluding shorter 1994, 1995 seasons, average is 79.9
2000-2009	80.5	
2010-2019	80.7	
2021-2023	80.2	Excludes 60-game season in 2020

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DATES PER SEASON/PER TEAM

The 1918 season ended early due to World War I. In 1919, there was a 140 game schedule. The 1972 season was about one week shorter due to a strike. The 1981 season had a strike from mid-June to early August. A strike ended the 1994 season on August 12, delayed the start of the 1995 season, and reduced it to 144 games. A 60-game season was played in 2020, with no fans permitted to attend.

The tables on pages 308 through 311 list yearly American League, National League, and Major League total and average per date attendance since 1900. Tables on pages 313-315 list the teams with the high and low attendance in each league every year since 1900. On page 316, a table notes total attendance for each league, and a Major League total, by decade, from 1900-2023. It includes the average season attendance <u>per team</u>, by decade.

That table also shows that with the exception of the 1960's and 1970's, there hasn't been much difference in average attendance per team by decade between the American and National Leagues. The American League had the higher average attendance per team 37 times in the 52 years from 1901 through 1952, including 22 years in a row from 1904 through 1925. The National League's average per team has been higher than the A.L.'s 64 times in 70 seasons from 1953 through 2023. This includes a 33-year streak from 1956-1988, and a 27-year streak from 1996-2023.

	AMERICA	AN LEAGU	E		L LEAGU	E	MAJOR LE	TAL	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	l <u>Total</u> I	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>
1900	0	0	0	I 1,745,490	541	3,226	1,745,490	541	3,226
1901	1,683,584	499	3,374	1,920,031	509	3,772	3,603,615	1,008	3,575
1902	2,206,454	505	4,369	1,683,012	506	3,326	3,889,466	1,011	3,847
1903	2,344,888	501	4,680	2,390,362	489	4,888	4,735,250	990	4,783
1904	3,024,028	552	5,478	2,664,271	538	4,952	5,688,299	1,090	5,219
1905	3,120,752	536	5,822	2,734,310	549	4,981	5,855,062	1,085	5,396
1906	2,938,076	557	5,275	2,781,213	565	4,923	5,719,289	1,122	5,097
1907	3,398,764	553	6,146	2,640,220	531	4,972	6,038,984	1,084	5,571
1908	3,611,366	563	6,415	3,512,108	552	6,363	7,123,474	1,115	6,389
1909	3,740,570	538	6,953	3,496,420 	526	6,647	7,236,990	1,064	6,802
Total	26,068,482	4,804	5,426	25,567,437 	5,306	4,819	51,635,919	10,110	5,107
1910	3,270,689	564	5,799	2,935,758	551	5,328	6,206,447	1,115	5,566
1911	3,339,514	557	5,996	3,231,768	562	5,750	6,571,282	1,119	5,872
1912	3,263,631	541	6,033	2,735,759	545	5,020	5,999,390	1,086	5,524
1913	3,526,805	557	6,332	2,831,531	547	5,176	6,358,336	1,104	5,759
1914	2,747,591	556	4,942	1,707,397 	550	3,104	4,454,988	1,106	4,028
1915	2,434,684	532	4,576	2,430,142	532	4,568	4,864,826	1,064	4,572
1916	3,451,885	560	6,164	3,051,634	523	5,835	6,503,519	1,083	6,005
1917	2,858,858	535	5,344	2,361,136	529	4,463	5,219,994	1,064	4,906
1918	1,707,999	451	3,787	, 1,372,127	428	3,206	3,080,126	879	3,504
1919	3,654,236	507	7,208	2,878,203	483	5,959	6,532,439	990	6,598
Total	30,255,892	5,360	5,645	25,535,455 	5,250	4,864	55,791,347	10,610	5,258
1920	5,084,300	556	9,144	4,036,575	550	7,339	9,120,875	1,106	8,247
1921	4,620,328	561	8,236	3,986,984	550	7,249	8,607,312	1,111	7,747
1922	4,874,355	572	8,522	3,941,820	551	7,154	8,816,175	1,123	7,851
1923	4,602,589	558	8,248	4,069,817	555	7,333	8,672,406	1,113	7,792
1924	5,255,439	537	9,787	4,340,644 	529	8,205	9,596,083	1,066	9,002
1925	5,186,851	560	9,262	4,353,704	537	8,107	9,540,555	1,097	8,697
1926	4,912,583	548	8,965	4,920,399	538	9,146	9,832,982	1,086	9,054
1927	4,612,951	536	8,606	5,309,917	523	10,153	9,922,868	1,059	9,370
1928	4,221,188	530	7,965	4,881,097	534	9,141	9,102,285	1,064	8,555
1929	4,662,470	544	8,571	4,925,713 	527	9,347	9,588,183 I	1,071	8,953
Total	48,033,054	5,502	8,730	44,766,670 	5,394	8,299	92,799,724	10,896	8,517
1930	4,685,730	543	8,629	5,446,532	532	10,238	10,132,262	1,075	9,425
1931	3,883,292	527	7,369	4,583,815	498	9,204	8,467,107	1,025	8,261
1932	3,133,232	527	5,945	3,841,334	517	7,430	6,974,566	1,044	6,681
1933	2,926,210	512	,	<b>j</b> 3,162,821	483	6,548	6,089,031	995	6,120
1934	3,763,606	516	7,294	3,200,105 	514	6,226	6,963,711 I	1,030	6,761
1935	3,688,007	493	7,481	3,657,309	503	7,271	7,345,316	996	7,375
1936	4,178,922	527	7,930	3,903,691	522	7,478	8,082,613	1,049	7,705
1937	4,735,835	520	9,107	4,204,228	516	8,148	8,940,063	1,036	8,629
1938	4,445,684	512	8,683	4,560,827	509	8,960	9,006,511	1,021	8,821
1939	4,270,602	513	8,325	4,707,177 	515	9,140	8,977,779	1,028	8,733
Total	39,711,120	5,190	7,651	41,267,839	5,109	8,077	80,978,959	10,299	7,863

	AMERICA	AN LEAGU	IE		AL LEAGU	E	MAJOR LE	TAL	
<u>Year</u>	Total	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	l <u>Total</u> I	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>
1940	5,433,791	524	10,370	4,389,693	493	8,904	9,823,484	1,017	9,659
1941	4,911,956	529	9,285	4,777,647	516	9,259	9,689,603	1,045	9,272
1942	4,200,216	487	8,625	4,353,353	490	8,884	8,553,569	977	8,755
1943	3,696,569	464	7,967	3,769,342	475	7,935	7,465,911	939	7,951
1944	4,798,158	496	9,674	3,974,588	478	8,315	8,772,746	974	9,007
1945	5,580,420	462	12,079	   5,260,703	465	11,313	10,841,123	927	11,695
1946	9,621,182	511	18,828	8,902,107	509	17,489	18,523,289	1,020	18,160
1947	9,486,069	506	18,747	10,388,470	527	19,712	19,874,539	1,033	19,240
1948	11,150,099	525	21,238	9,770,743	529	18,470	20,920,842	1,054	19,849
1949	10,730,647	534	20,095	9,484,718	553	17,151	20,215,365	1,087	18,597
Total	69,609,107	5,038	13,817	   65,071,364	5,035	12,924	134,680,471	10,073	13,370
1950	9,142,361	520	17,581	I 	523	15,909	17,462,977	1,043	16,743
1951	8,882,674	516	17,214	7,244,002	536	13,515	16,126,676	1,052	15,330
1952	8,293,896	523	15,858	6,339,148	525	12,075	14,633,044	1,048	13,963
1953	6,964,076	523	13,316	7,419,721	522	14,214	14,383,797	1,045	13,764
1954	7,922,364	535	14,808	8,013,519	530	15,120	15,935,883	1,065	14,963
1955	8,942,971	520	17,198	l   7,674,412	530	14,480	16,617,383	1,050	15,826
1956	7,893,683	541	14,591	8,649,567	520	16,634	16,543,250	1,061	15,592
1957	8,196,218	549	14,929	8,819,601	537	16,424	17,015,819	1,086	15,668
1958	7,296,034	544	13,412		547	18,582	17,460,630	1,091	16,004
1959	9,149,454	550	16,635	9,994,525	561	17,816	19,143,979	1,111	17,231
Total	82,683,731	5,321	15,539	             82,639,707 	5,331	15,502	165,323,438	10,652	15,520
1960	9,226,526	543	16,992	10,684,963	562	19,012	19,911,489	1,105	18,019
1961	10,163,016	695	14,623	8,731,502	560	15,592	18,894,518	1,255	15,055
1962	10,015,056	705	14,206	11,360,159	723	15,713	21,375,215	1,428	14,969
1963	9,094,847	704	12,919	11,382,227	736	15,465	20,477,074	1,440	14,220
1964	9,235,151	699	13,212	12,045,190 	731	16,478	21,280,341	1,430	14,881
1965	8,860,764	698	12,695	13,581,136	739	18,378	22,441,900	1,437	15,617
1966	10,166,738	703	14,462	15,015,471	744	20,182	25,182,209	1,447	17,403
1967	11,336,923	694	,	12,971,430	741	17,505	24,308,353	1,435	16,940
1968	11,317,387	729	,	11,785,358	744	15,841	23,102,745	1,473	15,684
1969	12,134,745	884	13,727	15,094,946 	889	16,980	27,229,691	1,773	15,358
Total	101,551,153	7,054	14,396	122,652,382 	7,169	17,109	224,203,535	14,223	15,763
1970	12,085,135	894	13,518	16,662,198	898	18,555	28,747,333	1,792	16,042
1971	11,868,560	878	13,518	17,324,857	902	19,207	29,193,417	1,780	16,401
1972	11,438,538	841	- ,	15,529,730	859	18,079	26,968,268	1,700	15,864
1973	13,433,604	898	,	16,675,322	897	18,590	30,108,926	1,795	16,774
1974	13,047,294	906	14,401	16,978,314	900	18,865	30,025,608	1,806	16,625
1975	13,189,423	882	14,954	I   16,600,490	908	18,282	29,789,913	1,790	16,642
1976	14,657,802	899	16,305	16,660,529	900	18,512	31,318,331	1,799	17,409
1977	19,639,551	1,044	18,812	19,070,228	918	20,774	38,709,779	1,962	19,730
1978	20,529,965	1,051	19,534	20,106,921	908	22,144	40,636,886	1,959	20,744
1979	22,371,979	1,075	20,811	21,178,419	910	23,273	43,550,398	1,985	21,940
Total	152,261,851	9,368	16,253	   176,787,008	9,000	19,643	329,048,859	18,368	17,914

	AMERICA	AN LEAGU	E		AL LEAGU	E	$\left \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		TAL	
<u>Year</u>	Total	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	l <u>Total</u> I	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u># Dates</u>	<u>Avg/Date</u>	
1980	21,890,052	1,079	20,287	21,124,084	927	22,788	43,014,136	2,006	21,443	
1981	14,065,986	725	19,401	12,478,390	622	20,062	26,544,376	1,347	19,706	
1982	23,080,449	1,091	21,155	21,507,425	938	22,929	44,587,874	2,029	21,975	
1983	23,991,053	1,086	22,091	21,549,285	929	23,196	45,540,338	2,015	22,601	
1984	23,961,427	1,095	21,883	20,781,436	934	22,250	44,742,863	2,029	22,052	
1985	24,532,225	1,102	22,262	I   22,292,154	948	23,515		2,050	22,841	
1986	25,172,732	1,109	22,699	22,333,471	947	23,583	47,506,203	2,056	23,106	
1987	27,277,351	1,117	24,420	24,734,155	955	25,900	52,011,506	2,072	25,102	
1988	28,499,636	1,110	25,675	24,499,268	949	25,816	52,998,904	2,059	25,740	
1989	29,849,262	1,109	26,915	25,323,834 	952	26,601	55,173,096	2,061	26,770	
Total	242,320,173	10,623	22,811	216,623,502	9,101	23,802	458,943,675	19,724	23,268	
1990	30,332,260	1,114	27,228	I   24,491,508	946	25,890	54,823,768	2,060	26,613	
1991	32,117,588	1,120	28,676	24,696,172	957	25,806	56,813,760	2,077	27,354	
1992	31,759,501	1,118	28,407	24,112,770	953	25,302	55,872,271	2,071	26,978	
1993	33,332,603	1,120	29,761	36,923,856	1,122	32,909	70,256,459	2,242	31,337	
1994	24,202,197	789	30,675	25,807,819	793	32,545	50,010,016	1,582	31,612	
1995	25,358,988	1,000	25,359	I   25,110,248	998	25,161	50,469,236	1,998	25,260	
1996	29,718,093	1,120	26,534	30,379,288	1,115	27,246	60,097,381	2,235	26,889	
1997	31,283,321	1,114	28,082	31,885,368	1,120	28,469	63,168,689	2,234	28,276	
1998	31,947,900	1,124	28,423	38,424,321	1,279	30,042	70,372,221	2,403	29,285	
1999	31,816,532	1,124	28,307	38,322,848	1,282	29,893	70,139,380	2,406	29,152	
Total	301,868,983	10,743	28,099	300,154,198 	10,565	28,410	602,023,181	21,308	28,253	
2000	32,713,921	1,130	28,950	39,737,552	1,287	30,876		2,417	29,976	
2001	32,783,639	1,128	29,064	39,634,306	1,285	30,844			30,012	
2002	30,910,469	1,127	27,427	36,948,707	1,285	28,754		2,412	28,134	
2003	30,907,838	1,130	27,352	36,660,559	1,282	28,596	67,568,397	2,412	28,013	
2004	32,801,668	1,122	29,235	40,221,301 	1,280	31,423	73,022,969	2,402	30,401	
2005	33,282,189	1,130	29,453	41,643,985	1,289	32,307	74,926,174	2,419	30,974	
2006	34,464,169	1,133	30,419	41,578,618	1,287	32,307	76,042,787	2,420	31,423	
2007	35,389,658	1,130	31,318	44,113,517	1,295	34,064	79,503,175	2,425	32,785	
2008	34,503,077	1,127	30,615	44,085,184	1,289	34,201	78,588,261	2,416	32,528	
2009	32,239,466	1,128	28,581	41,128,193 	1,291	31,858	73,367,659	2,419	30,330	
Total	329,996,094	11,285	29,242	405,751,922	12,870	31,527	735,748,016	24,155	30,459	

	AMERICA	N LEAGUE	E	NATIONAL LEAGUE			MAJOR LEAGUE TOTAL			
2010	32,163,931	1,131	28,438	40,890,476	1,293	31,624	73,054,407	2,424	30,138	
2011	32,674,462	1,132	28,864	40,740,844	1,286	31,680 <b> </b>	73,415,306	2,418	30,362	
2012	33,383,773	1,131	29,517	41,475,495	1,292	32,102	74,859,268	2,423	30,895	
2013	34,591,267	1,214	28,494	39,436,963	1,212	32,539	74,028,230	2,426	30,515	
2014	34,491,145	1,207	28,576	39,248,477	1,214	32,330	73,739,622	2,421	30,458	
2015	34,856,983	1,207	28,879	38,903,037	1,210	I 32,151	73,760,020	2,417	30,517	
2016	35,045,489	1,213	28,892	38,113,555	1,212	31,447	73,159,044	2,425	30,169	
2017	34,363,609	1,207	28,470	38,306,814	1,212	31,606	72,670,423	2,419	30,042	
2018	32,374,617	1,206	26,845	37,250,627	1,209	30,811 <b> </b>	69,625,244	2,415	28,830	
2019	30,591,020	1,203	25,429	37,902,073	1,214	31,221	68,493,093	2,417	28,338	
Total	334,536,296	11,851	 28,229   	392,268,361	12,354	 31,752   	726,804,657	24,205	30,027	
2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2021	19,940,436	1,200	16,617 <b> </b>	25,364,273	1,197	21,190 <b> </b>	45,304,709	2,397	18,901	
2022	29,104,196	1,198	24,294	35,452,462	1,207	29,372 <b> </b>	64,556,658	2,405	26,843	
2023	32,486,633	1,204	26,982	38,260,732	1,211	31,594	70,747,365	2,415	29,295	
Total	81,531,265	3,602	22,635   	99,077,467	3,615	 27,407   	180,608,732	7,217	25,025	
Grand			Í			Í				
Total	1,840,427,201	95,741	19,223 <b> </b>	1,998,163,312	96,099	20,793	3,838,590,513	191,840	20,009	

#### NOTES

Grand Total number of dates excludes 2020 when no fans were in attendance at regular season games.

Attendance totals from 1990-97 are from Total Baseball - 8th Edition. They can differ slightly from figures listed in other official Major League publications such as team media guides. # Dates totals for these years are from retrosheet.org. All figures from 1998-2019 are from the Major League Baseball Information System.

The National League began counting 'no-shows' in 1993. They previously only counted 'in-stadium' paid attendance.

The American League officially became a Major League in 1901. The National League began play in 1876. The 1918 season was shorter due to World War I. The 1919 season was 140 games.

Labor disputes shortened the 1972 season by one week, made the 1981 season much shorter, ended the 1994 season on August 12, and delayed the start of the 1995 season and reduced its length to 144 games.

Regular season schedules in other years were 154 games in length until 1961 in the American League, and until 1962 in the National League. Schedules have been 162 games in all full seasons since then.

#### NUMBER OF MAJOR LEAGUE TEAMS:

8 (1900); 16 (1901-60); 18 (1961); 20 (1962-68); 24 (1969-76); 26 (1977-92); 28 (1993-97); 30 (1998-2023)

Sources: Total Baseball (1900-1997), MLB Information System (1998-2023), Retrosheet.org for # of Dates

## **MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1900**

Major League Baseball attendance has seen three periods of considerable growth. The first took place in the 1920's. Attendance slipped during the Great Depression and World War II years. But from 1946 to 1949, new attendance records were set by every team, except the St. Louis Browns, Chicago Cubs, and Cincinnati Reds. Television was a cause of an attendance decline which started in 1949. In 1948, only about 2% of American homes had a television. The third boom in attendance began in the mid-1970's, and has basically continued, with an occasional decline, through the present time.

Average attendance per team/per season since 2000 is close to twice of what it was in the 1960's.

As recently as 1972 and 1971, American League average attendance per team was less than one million. The last time the National League averaged less than one million per team was in 1955.

## MAJOR LEAGUE SEASON TOTAL ATTENDANCE RECORDS

The Major League season attendance record is 79,503,175, set in 2007. Both the American League and the National League also had their best attendance in 2007.

Total Major League attendance for a season topped 10 million for the first time in 1930. That total was not seen again until 1945. In 1948, a new record was set as the 16 teams at that time drew a combined 20,920,842. Those <u>same 16 teams</u> (so this includes all teams that existed in 1948, even if they later moved to new cities, but excludes all expansion teams), did not combine to exceed this figure again until 1976. Attendance also was more than 20 million in 1949, but then didn't top 20 million again until 1962, when there were 4 more teams than in 1949.

Average attendance per team in 1948 was 1,307,553, a figure not topped by <u>all teams</u> combined, until 1977.

The table below shows total Major League attendance during the first seasons that certain milestones were reached. (60 million, 65 million, and 70 million were all first reached in 1993.)

## TOTAL YEARLY MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE MILESTONES

First Year to Reach:	Year	Total MLB Attendance	<u># of Teams</u>	Average Att. Per Team
10 Million	1930	10,132,262	16	633,266
15 Million	1946	18,523,289	16	1,157,706
20 Million	1948	20,920,842	16	1,307,553
25 Million	1966	25,182,109	20	1,259,105
30 Million	1973	30,108,926	24	1,254,539
35 Million	1977	38,709,779	26	1,488,839
40 Million	1978	40,636,886	26	1,562,957
45 Million	1983	45,540,388	26	1,751,553
50 Million	1987	52,011,506	26	2,000,443
55 Million	1989	55,173,096	26	2,122,042
60, 65 & 70 Million	1993	70,256,459	28	2,509,159
75 Million	2006	76,042,787	30	2,534,760

In 1993, the National League began to count 'no-shows' in its official attendance, and added 2 teams.

1946 was the first year that average attendance per team topped one million. Both leagues reached that figure for the first time that year. Average attendance per team reached 2 million in the National League, and in the Majors overall, for the first time in 1987. The American League's average initially surpassed 2 million in 1988. An average attendance per team of 2.5 million was achieved for the first time in 1993. Average attendance per team was a record high 2,650,106 in 2007, and was 2,283,103 in 2019. With Covid restrictions in place in 2021, the average attendance per team was 1,510,157. It was 2,151,889 in 2022, and 2,358,246 in 2023.

# TEAMS WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST ANNUAL ATTENDANCE - IN EACH LEAGUE

	AMERICAN LEAGUE <u>HIGHEST ATTENDANCE</u>		AMERICAN		NATIONAL     <u>HIGHEST ATT</u>		NATIONAL	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	   <u>Team</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	   <u>Team</u> 	<u>Attendance</u>	   <u>Team</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
1900			 		I Phila. Phillies	301,913	l Cincinnati	155,000
1901	Chi. White Sox	354,350	Cleveland	131,380	St. Louis Cards.	379,988	Boston Braves	146,502
1902	Philadelphia A's	420,078	Baltimore	174,606	N.Y. Giants	302,875	Phila. Phillies	112,066
1903	Philadelphia A's	422,473	Washington	128,878	N.Y. Giants	579,530	Boston Braves	143,155
1904	Boston Red Sox	623,295	Washington	131,744	N.Y. Giants	609,826	Boston Braves	140,694
1905	Chi. White Sox	687,419	Detroit	193,384	   N.Y. Giants	552,700	   Boston Braves	150,003
1906	Chi. White Sox	585,202	Washington	129,903	Chicago Cubs	654,300	Boston Braves	143,280
1907	Chi. White Sox	666,307	Washington	221,929	N.Y. Giants	538,350	St. L. Cardinals	185,377
1908	Chi. White Sox	636,096	Washington	264,252	N.Y. Giants	910,000	St. L. Cardinals	205,129
1909	Philadelphia A's	674,915	Washington	205,199	N.Y. Giants	783,700	Boston Braves	195,188
1000	1 madelpma / to	01 1,010		200,100	İ	100,100		100,100
1910	Philadelphia A's	588,905	St. Lou. Browns	249,889	Chicago Cubs	526,152	Boston Braves	149,027
1911	Philadelphia A's	605,749	St. Lou. Browns	207,984	N.Y. Giants	675,000	Boston Braves	116,000
1912	Chi. White Sox	602,241	St. Lou. Browns	214,070	N.Y. Giants	638,000	Boston Braves	121,000
1913	Chi. White Sox	644,501	St. Lou. Browns	250,330	N.Y. Giants	630,000	St. L. Cardinals	203,531
1914	Boston Red Sox	481,359	Cleveland	185,997	Boston Braves	382,913	Cincinnati	100,791
1915	Boston Red Sox	539,885	   Philadelphia A's	146,223	   Phila. Phillies	449,898	   Chicago Cubs	217,058
1916	Chi. White Sox	679,923	Washington	177,265	N.Y. Giants	552,056	St. L. Cardinals	224,308
1917	Chi. White Sox	684,521	Washington	89,682	N.Y. Giants	500,264	Boston Braves	174,253
1918	Cleveland	295,515	St. Lou. Browns	122,076	Chicago Cubs	337,256	Brooklyn	83,831
1919	Detroit	643,805	Philadelphia A's	225,209	N.Y. Giants	708,857	St. L. Cardinals	167,059
1920	N.Y. Yankees	1,289,422	Philadelphia A's	287,888	   N.Y. Giants	929,609	   Boston Braves	162,483
1921	N.Y. Yankees	1,230,696	Boston Red Sox	279,273	N.Y. Giants	973,477	Phila. Phillies	273,161
1922	N.Y. Yankees	1,026,134	Boston Red Sox	259,184	N.Y. Giants	945,809	Boston Braves	167,965
1922	N.Y. Yankees	1,020,134	Boston Red Sox	239,104	N.Y. Giants	820,780	Boston Braves	227,802
1923	N.Y. Yankees	1,053,533	Boston Red Sox		N.Y. Giants	,	Boston Braves	177,478
1924	N.T. Talkees	1,000,000		448,556		844,068		177,470
1925	Philadelphia A's	869,703	Boston Red Sox	267,782	Pittsburgh	804,354	Phila. Phillies	304,905
1926	N.Y. Yankees	1,027,675	St. Lou. Browns	283,986	Chicago Cubs	885,063	Phila. Phillies	240,600
1927	N.Y. Yankees	1,164,015	St. Lou. Browns	247,879	Chicago Cubs	1,159,168	Boston Braves	288,685
1928	N.Y. Yankees	1,072,132	St. Lou. Browns	339,497	Chicago Cubs	1,143,740	Phila. Phillies	182,168
1929	N.Y. Yankees	960,148	St. Lou. Browns	280,697	Chicago Cubs	1,485,166	Phila. Phillies	281,200
1930	N.Y. Yankees	1,169,230	St. Lou. Browns	152,088	   Chicago Cubs	1,463,624	   Phila. Phillies	299,007
1931	N.Y. Yankees	912,437	St. Lou. Browns	179,126	Chicago Cubs	1,086,422	Pittsburgh	260,392
1932	N.Y. Yankees	962,320	St. Lou. Browns	112,558	Chicago Cubs	974,688	Phila. Phillies	268,914
1933	N.Y. Yankees	728,014	St. Lou. Browns	88,113	N.Y. Giants	604,471	Phila. Phillies	156,421
1934	Detroit	919,161	St. Lou. Browns	115,305	N.Y. Giants	730,851	Phila. Phillies	169,885
1935	Detroit	1,034,929	St. Lou. Browns	80,922	   N.Y. Giants	748,748	   Phila. Phillies	205,470
1936	N.Y. Yankees	976,913	St. Lou. Browns	93,267	N.Y. Giants	837,952	Phila. Phillies	249,219
1937	Detroit	1,072,276	St. Lou. Browns	123,121	N.Y. Giants	926,887	Phila. Phillies	212,790
					•		Phila. Phillies	
1938 1939	N.Y. Yankees	970,916 850 785	St. Lou. Browns	130,417 100 150	Chicago Cubs	951,640 081 443		166,111 277 073
1939	N.Y. Yankees	859,785	St. Lou. Browns	109,159	Cincinnati 	981,443	Phila. Phillies 	277,973
1940	Detroit	1,112,693	St. Lou. Browns	239,591	Brooklyn	975,978	Phila. Phillies	207,177
1941	N.Y. Yankees	964,722	St. Lou. Browns	176,240	Brooklyn	1,214,910	Phila. Phillies	231,401
1942	N.Y. Yankees	922,011		255,617	Brooklyn	1,037,765	Phila. Phillies	230,183
1943	N.Y. Yankees		St. Lou. Browns	214,392		661,739	1	271,289
1944	Detroit	923,176	Cleveland	475,272	N.Y. Giants	674,483	Boston Braves	208,691

# TEAMS WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST ANNUAL ATTENDANCE - IN EACH LEAGUE

	AMERICAN I <u>HIGHEST ATT</u>		AMERICAN I		NATIONAL L		NATIONAL I	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Team</u>	Attendance	l   <u>Team</u> I	Attendance	l   <u>Team</u> I	Attendance	l   <u>Team</u> I	Attendance
1945 1946 1947	Detroit N.Y. Yankees N.Y. Yankees	1,280,341 2,265,512 2,178,937	•	462,631 526,435 320,474	i   Brooklyn   Brooklyn   Brooklyn	1,059,220 1,796,824 1,807,526	   Phila. Phillies   Cincinnati   Cincinnati	285,057 715,751 899,975
1948	Cleveland	2,620,627	•	335,564	Pittsburgh	1,517,021	Phila. Phillies	767,429
1949	N.Y. Yankees	2,283,676	•	270,936	Brooklyn	1,633,747	Cincinnati	707,782
1950	N.Y. Yankees	2,081,380	St. Lou. Browns	247,131	Phila. Phillies	1,217,035	Cincinnati	538,794
1951	N.Y. Yankees	1,950,107	St. Lou. Browns	293,790	Brooklyn	1,282,628	Boston Braves	487,475
1952 1953	N.Y. Yankees N.Y. Yankees	1,629,665 1,537,811	St. Lou. Browns	518,796 297,238	Brooklyn   Milwauk. Braves	1,088,704 1,826,397	Boston Braves   Cincinnati	281,278 548,086
1953	N.Y. Yankees	1,475,171	Philadelphia A's	304,666	Milwauk. Braves	2,131,388	Pittsburgh	475,494
1955	N.Y. Yankees	1,490,138	   Washington	425,238	   Milwauk. Braves	2,005,836	   Pittsburgh	469,397
1956	N.Y. Yankees	1,491,784	Washington	431,647	Milwauk. Braves	2,046,331	N.Y. Giants	629,179
1957 1958	N.Y. Yankees N.Y. Yankees	1,497,134	Washington	457,079	Milwauk. Braves   Milwauk. Braves	2,215,404	N.Y. Giants	653,923
1958	N.Y. Yankees	1,428,438 1,552,030	Washington   Washington	475,288 615,372	L.A. Dodgers	1,971,101 2,071,045	Cincinnati   Cincinnati	788,582 801,298
			l					
1960 1061	Chi. White Sox N.Y. Yankees	1,644,460	Washington	743,404	L.A. Dodgers	2,253,887	Cincinnati   Phila. Phillies	663,486
1961 1962	N.Y. Yankees	1,747,725 1,493,574	Washington   Kansas City A's	597,287 635,675		1,804,250 2,755,184	Chicago Cubs	590,039 609,802
1963	Minnesota	1,406,652	Washington	535,604	L.A. Dodgers	2,538,602	Houston	719,502
1964	N.Y. Yankees	1,305,638	Washington   Washington	600,106	L.A. Dodgers	2,228,751	Houston	725,773
1965	Minnesota	1,463,258	Kansas City A's	528,344	L.A. Dodgers	2,553,577	Milwauk. Braves	555,584
1966	California	1,400,321	Washington	576,260	L.A. Dodgers	2,617,029	Chicago Cubs	635,891
1967	Boston Red Sox	1,727,832		662,980	St. L. Cardinals	2,090,145	Phila. Phillies	828,888
1968	Detroit	2,031,847	Washington	546,661	St. L. Cardinals	2,011,167	Phila. Phillies	664,546
1969	Boston Red Sox	1,833,246	Chi. White Sox 	589,546	New York Mets	2,175,373	San Diego 	512,970
1970	Boston Red Sox	1,595,278	Chi. White Sox	495,355	New York Mets	2,697,479	San Diego	643,679
1971	Boston Red Sox	1,678,732	Cleveland	591,361	New York Mets	2,266,680	San Diego	557,513
1972	Detroit	1,892,386	Milwaukee	600,440	New York Mets	2,134,185	San Diego	644,273
1973	Detroit	1,724,146	•		L.A. Dodgers	2,136,102	San Diego	611,826
1974	Boston Red Sox	1,556,411	Minnesota 	662,401	L.A. Dodgers 	2,632,474	San Francisco 	519,987
1975	Boston Red Sox	1,748,587			L.A. Dodgers	2,539,349	San Francisco	522,919
1976	N.Y. Yankees	2,012,434	Minnesota	715,394	Cincinnati	2,629,708	San Francisco	626,868
1977	N.Y. Yankees	2,103,092		495,599	L.A. Dodgers	2,955,087	San Francisco	700,056
1978 1979	N.Y. Yankees N.Y. Yankees	2,335,871 2,537,765	Oakland   Oakland		L.A. Dodgers   L.A. Dodgers	3,347,845 2,860,954	Atlanta   Atlanta	904,494 769,465
1980	N.Y. Yankees	2,627,417	   Minnesota	769,206	   L.A. Dodgers	3,249,287	   Atlanta	1,048,411
1981	N.Y. Yankees	1,614,353	Minnesota	469,090	L.A. Dodgers	2,381,292	San Diego	519,161
1982	California	2,807,360	Minnesota	921,186	L.A. Dodgers	3,608,881	Pittsburgh	1,024,106
1983	California	2,555,016	•		L.A. Dodgers	3,510,313	New York Mets	1,112,774
1984	Detroit	2,704,794	Cleveland 	734,079	L.A. Dodgers 	3,134,824	Pittsburgh 	773,500
1985	California	2,567,427	Cleveland	655,181	L.A. Dodgers	3,264,593	Pittsburgh	735,900
1986	California	2,655,872	Seattle	1,029,045	L.A. Dodgers	3,023,208	Pittsburgh	1,000,917
1987	Toronto	2,778,429	Cleveland	1,077,898	St. L. Cardinals	3,072,122	Pittsburgh	1,161,193
1988	Minnesota	3,030,672	•	1,022,398	•	3,055,445	Atlanta	848,089
1989	Toronto	3,375,883	Chi. White Sox	1,045,651	St. L. Cardinals	3,080,980	Atlanta	984,930

# TEAMS WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST ANNUAL ATTENDANCE - IN EACH LEAGUE

	AMERICAN <u>HIGHEST ATT</u>		AMERICAN		NATIONAL		NATIONAL	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Team</u> 	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Team</u> 	<u>Attendance</u>	   <u>Team</u> 	<u>Attendance</u>
1990	Toronto	3,885,284	Cleveland	1,225,240	L.A. Dodgers	3,002,396	Atlanta	980,129
1991	Toronto	4,001,527	Cleveland	1,051,863		3,348,170	Montreal	934,742
1992	Toronto	4,028,318	Cleveland	1,224,274	Atlanta	3,077,400	Houston	1,211,412
1993	Toronto	4,057,947	Milwaukee	1,688,080	Colorado	4,483,350	San Diego	1,375,432
1994	Toronto	2,907,933	Seattle	1,104,206	Colorado	3,281,511	San Diego I	953,857
1995	Baltimore	3,098,475	Minnesota	1,057,667	l Colorado	3,390,037	l Pittsburgh	905,517
1996	Baltimore	3,646,950	Oakland	1,148,380	Colorado	3,891,014	Pittsburgh	1,332,150
1997	Baltimore	3,711,132	Oakland	1,264,218	Colorado	3,888,453	Phila. Phillies	1,490,638
1998	Baltimore	3,685,194	Minnesota	1,165,980	Colorado	3,789,347	Montreal	914,717
1999	Cleveland	3,468,456	Minnesota	1,202,829	Colorado	3,481,065	Montreal	773,277
2000	Cleveland	3,456,378	l Minnesota	1,059,715	I St. L. Cardinals	3,336,493	I Montreal	886,124
2001	Seattle	3,507,975	Tampa Bay	1,227,673	San Francisco	3,277,244	Montreal	609,473
2002	Seattle	3,540,482	Tampa Bay	1,065,762	San Francisco	3,253,205	Montreal	732,901
2003	N.Y. Yankees	3,465,585	Tampa Bay	1,058,622	San Francisco	3,264,903	Montreal	1,023,680
2004	N.Y. Yankees	3,775,292		1,275,011	L.A. Dodgers	3,488,283	Montreal	748,550
2005	N.Y. Yankees	4,090,692	l   Tampa Bay	1,152,793	I L.A. Dodgers	3,603,646	l Pittsburgh	1,817,245
2006	N.Y. Yankees	4,243,780	Tampa Bay	1,371,963	L.A. Dodgers	3,758,545	Florida	1,164,134
2007	N.Y. Yankees	4,271,083	Tampa Bay	1,387,603	L.A. Dodgers	3,857,036	Florida	1,370,511
2008	N.Y. Yankees	4,259,375	Kansas City R.	1,578,922	New York Mets	4,042,043	Florida	1,335,079
2009	N.Y. Yankees	3,674,495	Oakland	1,408,783	L.A. Dodgers	3,761,651	Florida I	1,464,109
2010	N.Y. Yankees	3,765,807	Cleveland	1,394,812	l Phila. Phillies	3,647,249	l Florida	1,535,226
2011	N.Y. Yankees	3,653,700	Oakland	1,476,781	Phila. Phillies	3,680,718	Florida	1,520,582
2012	N.Y. Yankees	3,542,406		1,559,681		3,565,718	Houston	1,607,733
2013	N.Y. Yankees	3,279,589			L.A. Dodgers	3,743,527	Miami	1,586,322
2014	N.Y. Yankees	3,401,624	Cleveland	1,437,393	L.A. Dodgers 	3,782,337	Miami 	1,732,283
2015	N.Y. Yankees	3,193,795	   Tampa Bay	1,247,608	L.A. Dodgers	3,764,815	Miami	1,752,235
2016	Toronto	3,392,099	Tampa Bay		L.A. Dodgers	3,703,312	Miami	1,712,417
2017	Toronto	3,203,886	Tampa Bay		L.A. Dodgers	3,765,856	Miami	1,651,997
2018	N.Y. Yankees	3,482,855	Tampa Bay	1,154,973	L.A. Dodgers	3,857,500	Miami	811,104
2019	N.Y. Yankees	3,304,404	Tampa Bay	1,178,735		3,974,309	Miami	811,302
2021	Texas	2,110,258	   Oakland	701.430	   L.A. Dodgers	2,804,693	l   Miami	642,617
2022	N.Y. Yankees	3,136,207	Oakland		L.A. Dodgers	3,861,408	Miami	907,487
2023	N.Y. Yankees	3,269,016	Oakland		L.A. Dodgers	3,837,079	Miami	1,162,819

#### NOTES

1902 Baltimore Orioles became the New York Highlanders in 1903. Name later changed to Yankees.

Philadelphia A's moved to Kansas City in 1955, and to Oakland in 1968.

St. Louis Browns became the Baltimore Orioles in 1954.

1901-1960 Washington Senators became the Minnesota Twins in 1961.

1961-1971 Washington Senators became the Texas Rangers in 1972.

Boston Braves moved to Milwaukee in 1953, and moved to Atlanta in 1966.

Brooklyn Dodgers moved to Los Angeles in 1958.

New York Giants moved to San Francisco in 1958.

Montreal Expos became the Washington Nationals in 2005.

Milwaukee Brewers moved from the American to the National League in 1998.

The American League became a Major League in 1901.

1918 season was shorter due to World War I.

1972, 1981, 1994, and 1995 seasons were shorter due to strikes. No fans were in attendance in 2020.

Houston moved to the American League in 2013.

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE - BY DECADE - 1900-2023

		RICAN LEAG	UE	<u>NATIO</u>	ONAL LEAG	JE	MAJOR LEAGUE TOTAL		
<u>Years</u>	Total Attendance	<u># Seasons</u>	Season <u>Avg. per Team</u>	     <u>Total Attendance</u>	<u># Seasons</u>	Season <u>Avg. Per Team</u>	     <u>Total Attendance</u>	<u># Seasons</u>	Season <u>Avg. per Team</u>
1900-1909	26,068,482	72	362,062	25,567,437	80	319,593	   51,635,919	152	339,710
1910-1919	30,255,892	80	378,199	   25,535,455	80	319,193	55,791,347	160	348,696
1920-1929	48,033,054	80	600,413	44,766,670	80	559,583	92,799,724	160	579,998
1930-1939	39,711,120	80	496,389	   41,267,839	80	515,848	80,978,959	160	506,118
1940-1949	69,609,107	80	870,114	   65,071,364	80	813,392	   134,680,471	160	841,753
1950-1959	82,683,731	80	1,033,547	82,639,707	80	1,032,996	   165,323,438	160	1,033,271
1960-1969	101,551,153	100	1,015,512	   122,652,382	98	1,251,555	224,203,535	198	1,132,341
1970-1979	152,261,851	126	1,208,427	   176,787,008	120	1,473,225	329,048,859	246	1,337,597
1980-1989	242,320,173	140	1,730,858	216,623,502	120	1,805,196	458,943,675	260	1,765,168
1990-1999	301,868,983	140	2,156,207	   300,154,198	138	2,175,030	602,023,181	278	2,165,551
2000-2009	329,996,094	140	2,357,115	405,751,922	160	2,535,950	735,748,016	300	2,452,493
2010-2019	334,536,296	147	2,275,757	   392,268,361	153	2,563,845	726,804,657	300	2,422,682
2021-2023	81,531,265	45	1,811,806	99,077,467	45	2,201,721	180,608,732	90	2,006,764
TOTAL	1,840,427,201	1,310	1,404,906	   1,998,163,312	1,314	1,520,672	   3,838,590,513	2,624	1,462,877

DEFINITION: # Seasons is the number of teams in each league per year, times the number of years per decade.

The American League was not a Major League until 1901. No fans in attendance in 2020.

Sources: Total Baseball - 8th Edition for 1900-1997 data; Major League Baseball Information System, and Stats Reporting Platform for 1998-2023 data.

# of Teams: 1900 (8); 1901-60 (16); 1961 (18); 1962-68 (20); 1969-76 (24); 1977-92 (26); 1993-97 (28); 1998-2023 (30).

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Single-admission doubleheaders (two games for one ticket) on a team's original schedule are mostly a thing of the past in the Major Leagues. (Oakland had one in 2024.) Nearly all of them make up previously postponed games.

But for many years, single-admission doubleheaders were very common in Major League Baseball. Many teams played them on most Sundays and holidays.

This section notes the number of Sunday and holiday (Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Labor Day, also Victoria Day and Canada Day for Montreal and Toronto) games and attendance in the Major Leagues during the 1950's, 1960's, and 1970's, when doubleheaders were still common. The tables on the following pages show decade summaries for each team comparing total and average per date attendance for single games and for single-admission doubleheaders on Sundays and holidays. The games that were part of the very few separate-admission doubleheaders on those dates are listed as single games. Also listed as single games were doubleheaders where the second game was rained out. Retrosheet.org was the source for nearly all the attendance figures. Attendance data not found on retrosheet.org came from The New York Times archives.

It can be assumed that a significant majority of these games were listed as doubleheaders on the team's original schedule. But some almost certainly became doubleheaders to make up rainouts. Rained-out games were far more common during this period, especially before the advent of domed stadiums, artificial turf, and improved drainage of grass fields. For example, in 1971, the Baltimore Orioles had 14 regular season games rained out. Their original home schedule that year had just 2 Sunday afternoon doubleheaders, and 3 twi-night doubleheaders. But they played 13 doubleheaders that year, as some dates, originally scheduled as single games, became doubleheaders. Other postponed games were never made up.

Since so many non-Sunday/holiday doubleheaders are makeups of rained out games, they are not included in these listings. Many of these make-up doubleheaders were played on weeknights in September and didn't draw well.

In general, individual teams drew better for Sunday and holiday doubleheaders than they drew for single games played on those days. But the difference was not that great. Keep in mind that if a team scheduled a single game instead of a doubleheader, that other game would probably have been played on a Monday or Thursday, and would have drawn a much smaller crowd than a typical Sunday single game.

Day-of-game ticket sales accounted for a larger percentage of total ticket sales 4, 5, and 6 decades ago than they do now. So weather, the home team's won-loss record, the opposition, and pitching matchups, played a greater role in what the attendance was. Also, promotions, giveaways, and special events, then as now, boosted attendance. The tables in this section can't account for any of those factors.

In the 1950's, 57.4% of Sunday and holiday dates were single-admission doubleheaders. This fell to 36.6% of Sunday/holiday dates in the 1960's, and to 20.3% in the 1970's. In the decade of the 1980's, just 4.9% (177 of 3,582) of Sunday and holiday dates were single-admission doubleheaders. The Giants (25), Mets (20), A's (19), Indians (16), Pirates (15), and Tigers (11), were the only teams with at least 10 Sunday/holiday home single-admission doubleheaders for the entire decade of the 1980's. The Angels didn't play any, the Astros, Mariners, and Phillies had just one apiece, and the Red Sox, Royals, Dodgers, and Cardinals played just 2.

In the 1990's only 54 of 3,775 Sunday and holiday dates (1.4%) were single-admission doubleheaders. Many, if not most of them, were to make up rainouts. The Mets and Indians played 6 of these doubleheaders during the entire decade, the most of any team. 11 teams didn't have any, and 3 other teams had just one. The Indians, Tigers, Reds, Mets, Pirates and Giants were the only teams that played more than one Sunday or holiday single-admission doubleheader in any season during the 1990's. Cleveland had 3 of these doubleheaders in both 1990 and 1992.

These days, most rainouts are made up either on off-days, or as part of day-night (separate-admission) doubleheaders. Teams don't want to lose revenue by scheduling single-admission doubleheaders. Also, due to the increased length of games, until the 2023 rule changes, it was felt that fewer fans would be willing to sit through 2 games.

In 2019, the single-admission doubleheaders to make up rainouts were played by the White Sox (3), Indians and Yankees (2 each), and the Orioles, Tigers, Royals, Rays, and Mets (1 each). In 2023, single-admission doubleheaders were played by the White Sox (3), Detroit (4), Cleveland (3), Mets (3), Yankees (1), and Philadelphia (1).

On Wednesday, May 8, 2024, Oakland played a doubleheader that was on its original schedule. It drew 8,230. Tampa Bay played such a single-admission doubleheader on Saturday, June 10, 2017, which drew 17,775. The previous single-admission doubleheader on a team's original schedule was on Saturday, July 16, 2011 in Oakland. It drew 27,379. The 12 other Saturday games in Oakland that year drew an average crowd of 23,209.

# THE 1950's

Team

Sunday and holiday doubleheaders were the rule in the 1950's. Of the 2,063 Sunday and holiday dates played by the 16 Major League teams in that decade, 1,184 (57.4%) were single-admission doubleheaders. There probably were more doubleheaders scheduled, but either one or both games were rained out.

The St. Louis Browns (1950-53), Chicago White Sox, Cleveland Indians, and Philadelphia Athletics (1950-1954), played home doubleheaders on Sundays and holidays at least 3 times as often as they played single games on those days. Cincinnati and Pittsburgh came close to that ratio. On the other hand, home doubleheaders were a rarity for the Kansas City Athletics (1955-1959), Los Angeles Dodgers (1958-1959), and San Francisco Giants (1958-1959).

For the 1950's decade, a Sunday or holiday doubleheader drew an average of 3,392 (17.1%) higher than a single game on those days. Doubleheaders in American League ballparks attracted a larger number of fans perhaps due to the large capacities of Cleveland Stadium, Yankee Stadium, and Tiger Stadium. With the exception of the Polo Grounds in New York, and the Los Angeles Coliseum, National League parks were generally small.

In the table below, the 5 franchises that moved during the 1950's have a separate line for each city they called home.

#### Single Game Doubleheader Average Average Decade Total # of Years # of Attend. Decade Total Attend. Per Date Per Date Attendance Dates Attendance Dates St. Louis Browns 1950-1953 83,947 13 6,457 407,354 39 10,445 **Baltimore Orioles** 1954-1959 426,424 37 11,525 806,497 40 20.162 Boston Red Sox 1950-1959 1,362,282 65 1,537,085 59 26,052 20,958

# ATTENDANCE FOR 1950-1959 SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY GAMES

		.,		,	.,		,
Chicago White Sox	1950-1959	376,098	25	15,044	2,760,079	104	26,539
Cleveland	1950-1959	711,429	33	21,558	3,044,146	99	30,749
Detroit	1950-1959	1,757,897	81	21,702	1,478,730	50	29,575
Washington	1950-1959	701,216	64	10,957	872,967	64	13,640
Philadelphia Athletics	1950-1954	41,682	6	6,947	655,652	57	11,503
Kansas City Athletics	1955-1959	894,559	55	16,265	281,647	15	18,776
New York Yankees	1950-1959	1,949,735	60	32,496	2,717,509	71	38,275
American League Total	1950-1959	8,305,269	439	18,919	14,561,666	598	24,351
Boston Braves	1950-1952	159,876	12	13,323	281,535	24	11,731
Milwaukee Braves	1953-1959	1,617,819	47	34,422	1,415,093	40	35,377
Chicago Cubs	1950-1959	1,241,079	54	22,983	1,990,526	76	26,194
Cincinnati	1950-1959	577,632	37	15,612	1,736,783	94	18,476
Brooklyn Dodgers	1950-1957	1,133,839	57	19,892	1,160,634	47	24,694
Los Angeles Dodgers	1958-1959	583,828	21	27,801	135,376	4	33,844
Philadelphia Phillies	1950-1959	612,569	42	14,585	1,581,953	82	19,292
Pittsburgh	1950-1959	621,849	34	18,290	1,984,337	100	19,843
St. Louis Cardinals	1950-1959	1,313,688	78	16,842	1,333,772	55	24,250
New York Giants	1950-1957	761,413	34	22,395	1,292,336	61	21,186
San Francisco Giants	1958-1959	534,046	24	22,252	65,236	3	21,745
National League Total	1950-1959	9,157,638	440	20,813	12,977,581	586	22,146
Major League Total	1950-1959	17,462,907	879	19,867	27,539,247	1,184	23,259

#### THE 1960's

Sunday and holiday doubleheaders were still common in the 1960's, but their frequency declined sharply. In the 1950's, 57.4% of Sunday and holiday dates were single admission doubleheaders. In the 1960's, single admission doubleheaders accounted for 985 (36.6%) of the 2,694 Sunday and holiday dates. Sunday and holiday doubleheaders attracted an average of 6,425 (34.6%) higher than single games on those dates. The 1960 Washington Senators listing in this table is for the team that moved to Minnesota in 1961. The expansion Senators began play in 1961.

The White Sox had the highest frequency of home doubleheaders in the 1960's (98 of 140 Sunday and holiday dates). The Indians, Tigers, Yankees, and Mets were the other teams that played a majority of their Sunday and holiday home dates as single-admission doubleheaders.

Team	Years	Single Game Decade Total Attendance	# of Dates	Average Attend. Per Date		Doubleheader Decade Total Attendance	# of Dates	Average Attend. Per Date
Baltimore	1960-1969	1,205,588	87	13,857		610,161	32	19,068
Boston	1960-1969	1,772,808	88	20,146		908,105	46	19,741
Chicago White Sox	1960-1969	613,998	42	14,619		2,177,306	98	22,217
Cleveland	1960-1969	584,659	46	12,710		1,864,256	87	21,428
Detroit	1960-1969	1,399,053	63	22,207		2,110,477	74	28,520
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Kansas City Athletics	1960-1967	751,495	69	10,891		598,596	39	15,349
Kansas City Royals	1969	150,807	9	16,756		112,440	6	18,740
Los Angeles Angels	1961-1969	1,435,070	107	13,412		294,697	17	17,335
Minnesota	1961-1969	2,394,422	105	22,804		572,004	22	26,000
New York Yankees	1960-1969	1,106,441	53	20,876		3,079,940	84	36,666
Oakland Athletics	1968-1969	271,286	18	15,071		190,702	10	19,070
Seattle Pilots	1969	138,195	14	9,871		0	0	0
Washington Senators	1960	107,744	9	11,972		93,487	5	18,697
Washington Senators	1961-1969	907,724	81	11,206		670,975	39	17,204
American League Total	1960-1969	12,839,290	791	16,232		13,283,146	559	23,762
Atlanta Braves	1966-1969	1,116,605	50	22,332		214,947	6	35,825
Chicago Cubs	1960-1969	1,275,021	75	17,000		1,575,806	59	26,709
Cincinnati	1960-1969	1,353,725	85	15,926		1,005,302	51	19,712
Houston Colts/Astros	1962-1969	1,869,542	103	18,151		182,770	8	22,846
Los Angeles Dodgers	1960-1969	3,359,455	115	29,213		975,139	25	39,006
Milwaukee Braves	1960-1965	874,186	55	15,894		567,612	30	18,920
Montreal Expos	1969	161,728	8	20,216		106,785	4	26,696
New York Mets	1962-1969	1,191,852	44	20,210		2,261,616	65	34,794
Philadelphia	1960-1969	1,114,523	96	11,610		765,671	39	19,633
Pittsburgh	1960-1969	1,542,124	88	17,524		964,310	44	21,916
			-			,		, 
St. Louis	1960-1969	1,978,359	90	21,982	_	1,358,338	49	27,721
San Diego	1969	91,181	10	9,118		47,909	5	9,582
San Francisco	1960-1969	2,971,515	99	30,015		1,312,379	41	32,009
National League Total	1960-1969	18,899,816	918	20,588		11,338,584	426	26,616
Major League Total	1960-1969	31,739,106	1,709	18,572		24,621,730	985	24,997

# ATTENDANCE FOR 1960-1969 SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY GAMES

#### <u>THE 1970's</u>

The frequency of Sunday and holiday doubleheaders continued to decline in the 1970's. In the 1950's, 57.4% of Sunday and holiday dates were single admission doubleheaders, and that figure fell to 36.6% in the 1960's. In the 1970's, single admission doubleheaders accounted for 691 (20.3%) of the 3,406 Sunday and holiday dates. Sunday and holiday doubleheaders attracted an average of 3,976 (18.5%) higher than single games on those dates.

No team played a majority of their Sunday and holiday home dates as single-admission doubleheaders in the 1970's. The White Sox, Indians, Giants, Pirates, and Yankees played the most doubleheaders.

		Single Game		Average	Doubleheader		Average
Team	Years	Decade Total	# of	Attend.	Decade Total	# of	Attend.
		Attendance	Dates	Per Date	Attendance	Dates	Per Date
Baltimore	1970-1979	1,643,472	102	16,112	601,955	27	22,295
Boston	1970-1979	2,967,616	120	24,730	395,739	16	24,734
Chicago White Sox	1970-1979	1,277,180	76	16,805	1,363,049	60	22,717
Cleveland	1970-1979	1,109,350	75	14,791	1,294,225	58	22,314
Detroit	1970-1979	2,535,851	116	21,861	731,814	21	34,848
Kansas City Royals	1970-1979	2,705,480	122	22,176	359,302	21	17,110
California Ángels	1970-1979	2,368,350	139	17,038	194,011	9	21,557
Milwaukee Brewers	1970-1979	1,914,256	97	19,735	842,400	37	22,768
Minnesota	1970-1979	1,863,452	112	16,638	513,734	24	21,406
New York Yankees	1970-1979	2,923,308	91	32,124	1,602,571	46	34,839
		, ,		,	, ,		,
Oakland Athletics	1970-1979	1,290,836	104	12,412	551,275	38	14,507
Seattle Mariners	1977-1979	524,892	40	13,122	47,078	2	23,539
Texas	1972-1979	1,445,127	103	14,030	158,660	10	15,866
Toronto	1977-1979	871,821	27	32,290	264,185	9	29,354
Washington Senators	1970-1971	362,579	25	14,503	64,472	3	21,491
				,	• ., =		,
American League Total	1960-1969	25,803,570	1,349	19,128	 8,984,470	381	23,581
	1000 1000	20,000,010	1,010	10,120	0,001,110	001	20,001
Atlanta Braves	1970-1979	1,687,190	121	13,944	 424,691	21	20,223
Chicago Cubs	1970-1979	2,613,459	110	23,759	947,993	29	32,689
Cincinnati	1970-1979	3,825,526	112	34,156	1,260,027	31	40,646
Houston Astros	1970-1979	2,251,354	135	16,677	129,503	7	18,500
Los Angeles Dodgers	1970-1979	4,430,740	131	33,822	266,203	7	38,029
Montreal Expos	1970-1979	2,473,621	117	21,142	590,201	22	26,827
		2,110,021			000,201		20,021
New York Mets	1970-1979	2,741,797	96	28,560	 1,297,956	38	34,157
Philadelphia	1970-1979	3,902,092	129	30,249	214,907	8	26,863
Pittsburgh	1970-1979	2,035,906	96	21,207	1,366,760	46	29,712
St. Louis	1970-1979	3,176,540	135	23,530	 264,088	9	29,343
San Diego	1970-1979	1,591,494	104	15,303	432,124	29	14,901
San Francisco	1970-1979	1,757,113	80	21,964	1,404,225	63	22,289
	1910-1919	1,707,110	00	21,304	 1,707,220	00	22,209
National League Total	1970-1979	32,486,832	1,366	23,782	 8,598,678	310	27,738
National League Total	1970-1979	52,400,002	1,000	20,102	0,000,070	510	21,130
Major League Total	1970-1979	58,290,402	2,715	21,740	 17,583,148	691	25,446

# ATTENDANCE FOR 1970-1979 SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY GAMES

# DOUBLEHEADERS AS A PERCENTAGE OF DATES PLAYED

The previous pages of this section noted how the number of Sunday and holiday doubleheaders declined sharply since the 1960's. The table on this page shows an estimated number of all single-admission doubleheaders for selected seasons, and what percentage of all dates played that year were single-admission doubleheaders. This list includes all single-admission doubleheaders, regardless of which day of the week they were played, or whether they were on the original schedules, or were used to make up postponed games.

The figures for the total number of games played in each of the seasons listed come from baseballreference.com. Number of dates is from retrosheet.org. The number of dates was subtracted from the total number of games to get the estimated number of single-admission doubleheaders played. The percentage of total dates for that season that those single-admission doubleheaders accounted for was calculated. Single-admission doubleheaders count as one date.

For many years, baseball rules required that games that had a tie score, and were not completed due to weather, darkness, or curfew, had to be replayed from the start. It's impossible to know whether these games were replayed as single games on off-days, as part of a day-night doubleheader, or as part of a single-admission doubleheader.

The table below cover years ending in '0' or '5' as examples. 1946 is used instead of 1945 because World War II travel restrictions affected the 1945 schedule. 1996 is used instead of 1995 because the 1995 season started late due to a work stoppage, and was shorter than usual. There was no attendance in 2020.

# SINGLE-ADMISSION DOUBLEHEADERS AS A % OF DATES IN SELECTED SEASONS

Season	Total # of All Games	Total # of All Dates	Estimated # of Single-Adm. DH	Single-Adm. DH as a % of All Dates
1905	1,218	1,085	133	12.3
1910	1,223	1,115	108	9.7
1915	1,222	1,064	158	14.8
1920	1,228	1,106	122	11.0
1925	1,224	1,097	127	11.6
1930	1,232	1,075	157	14.6
1935	1,219	996	223	22.4
1940	1,228	1,017	211	20.7
1946	1,233	1,020	213	20.9
1950	1,230	1,043	187	17.9
1955	1,231	1,050	181	17.2
1955	1,232	1,105	127	11.5
1965	1,619	1,437	182	12.7
1903	1,943	1,792	151	8.4
1975	1,933	1,792	143	8.0
1010	1,000	1,700	140	0.0
1980	2,101	2,006	95	4.7
1985	2,101	2,050	51	2.5
1990	2,105	2,060	45	2.2
1996	2,266	2,235	31	1.4
2000	2,428	2,417	11	0.5
2005	0.400	0.440	11	0.5
2005	2,430	2,419	11	0.5
2010	2,430	2,424	6	0.2
2015	2,429	2,417	12	0.5
2019	2,429	2,417	12	0.5
2021	2,429	2,397	32	1.3
2022	2,430	2,405	25	1.0
2023	2,430	2,415	15	0.6

# **MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1900** – TOTAL ATTENDANCE MILESTONES

#### INDIVIDUAL TEAM MILESTONES

The first team to ever draw one million fans in a season was the 1920 New York Yankees. That was Babe Ruth's first season with the team. The Yankees also were the first team to draw 2 million.

	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE			
First Team to Draw:	Team	Year	Team	Year	
500,000	Boston Red Sox	1904	New York Giants	1903	
1,000,000	New York Yankees	1920	Chicago Cubs	1927	
1,500,000	Yankees & Detroit	1946	Brooklyn Dodgers	1946	
2,000,000	New York Yankees	1946	Milwaukee Braves	1954	
2,500,000	Cleveland	1948	Los Angeles Dodgers	1962	
3,000,000	Minnesota	1988	Los Angeles Dodgers	1978	
3,500,000	Toronto	1990	Los Angeles Dodgers	1982	
4,000,000	Toronto	1991	Colorado	1993	

One million in attendance was reached only 21 times prior to 1945. It was done by the Yankees (9 times), the Cubs (5 times), Detroit (4 times), and the Brooklyn Dodgers (3 times). 1986 was the first year that every team topped one million. At least one team has topped 2 million every year since 1962, and 3 million has been reached by at least one team in all 'normal' seasons since 1982.

The table below lists the number of times in each decade that teams reached certain attendance milestones. Example: In the 1960's, there were 11 occurrences of a team drawing at least 2 million in a season.

Decade	Under 1 Million	1-2 Million	2-3 Million	Over 3 Million
1900-1909	152	0	0	0
1910-1919	160	0	0	0
1920-1929	148	12	0	0
1930-1939	154	6	0	0
1940-1949	112	42	6	0
1950-1959	77	77	6	0
1960-1969	97	90	11	0
1970-1979	73	140	32	1
1980-1989	28	137	83	12
1990-1999	6	124	106	42
2000-2009	5	85	129	81
2010-2019	2	82	145	71
2021-2023	9	38	31	12
Total	1,023	833	549	219

BREAKDOWN BY DECADE - NUMBER OF TIMES THAT ANY TEAM DREW:

Toronto (1991-93), Colorado (1993), the Yankees (2005-08), and the Mets (2008) all drew 4 million.

The worst single season attendance of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was by the 1935 St. Louis Browns, who drew 80,922, an average of 1,420 per date. <u>During the entire decade of the 1930's, the Browns drew a total of 1,184,076, (1,916 per date)</u>. The Browns became the Baltimore Orioles in 1954. From 1990 to 2005, Orioles attendance in <u>each</u> season was at least double the Browns attendance for the entire decade of the 1930's. **In 5 individual seasons in the 1990's, the Orioles drew more than 3 times the Browns' total attendance for the entire 1930's decade**.

According to *The Baseball Encyclopedia*, in 1899, the Cleveland Spiders of the National League drew only 6,088 paying fans for the whole season, and averaged 165 per game. (Retrosheet.org shows their attendance as 10,229 – 276 per date.) The 1899 Spiders, who played considerably more than half their games on the road, probably were the worst team ever, winning only 20 games and losing 134. The 1962 Mets, who had the worst modern-era record, were 40-120. That team's attendance was 922,530.

# **MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1900** – AVERAGE PER DATE MILESTONES

## OVERALL MAJOR LEAGUE AVERAGE PER DATE FIRSTS

The table below lists the year in which the overall Major League average attendance per date reached certain levels for the first time. For example, 1978 was the first year that total Major League attendance averaged at least 20,000 per date. It also lists the first time that a certain average per date was reached for an entire decade combined. The first full decade where Major League attendance averaged 20,000+ was the 1980's.

Average per Date Reached:	First Year Average was Reached	First Full Decade This Average was Reached
5,000	1904	1900-1909
10,000	1945	1940-1949
15,000	1946	1950-1959
20,000	1978	1980-1989
25,000	1987	1990-1999
30,000	1993	2000-2009

# INDIVIDUAL TEAM AVERAGE PER DATE FIRSTS

This table lists the individual teams who were the first to reach certain average attendance per date milestones.

Average per	First Year Average		Team's Average
Date Reached:	was Reached	Team	Attendance per Date
5,000	1901	St. Louis Cardinals	5,507
5,000	1901	Chicago White Sox	5,289
5,000	1901	New York Giants	5,045
10,000	1908	New York Giants	13,000
15,000	1920	New York Yankees	18,161
20,000	1929	Chicago Cubs	20,345
25,000 & 30,000	1946	New York Yankees	34,854
35,000	1948	Cleveland Indians	39,706
35,000	1948	New York Yankees	37,681
40,000	1978	Los Angeles Dodgers	41,848
45,000	1982	Los Angeles Dodgers	45,111
50,000	1993	Colorado Rockies	56,751
50,000	1993	Toronto Blue Jays	50,098

# MAJOR LEAGUE AVERAGE PER DATE LASTS - excludes 2021

This table lists the last years that the Major League average attendance per date was below certain levels.

Average per Date Below	Last Year Occurred & Average per Date
5,000	1918 Shorter Season (3,504), 1917 (4,906)
10,000	1944 (9,007)
15,000	1964 (14,881)
20,000	1981 Shorter Season (19,706), 1977 (19,730)
25,000	1986 (23,106)
30,000	2023 (29,295)

The last team to average under 5,000 per date was Oakland in 1979 (3,984). The last teams under 10,000 were Montreal in 2004 (9,357), and Oakland in 2022 (9,973). Miami (14,356) and Oakland (10,276) both in 2023 were the last teams to average under 15,000 but above 10,000 per date.

# **MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1900** – AVERAGE PER DATE MILESTONES

## AVERAGE PER DATE STREAKS

The tables on this page list the records for consecutive seasons that a team's average per date was above or below certain levels.

MOST CONSECUTIVE SEASONS THAT A TEAM'S AVERAGE PER DATE WAS ABOVE: (Includes average per date for 2021 full-capacity dates)

Avg. per Date	Team	Period	Streak in Years
At Least 10,000	New York Yankees	1919-2023	104
At Least 20,000	Los Angeles Dodgers	1958-2023	65
At Least 30,000	Los Angeles Dodgers	1974-2023	49
At Least 40,000	New York Yankees	1999-2014	16

- The Los Angeles Dodgers have topped 30,000 per date in 54 seasons, including every year starting in 1974. They've been above 40,000 per date in 18 of the last 19 years, and 27 times overall.
- The Yankees have averaged at least 30,000 per date in 38 seasons, including 26 in a row through 2023. They topped 40,000 per date each year from 1999 through 2014, and in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023. They've averaged over 20,000 per date every year since 1976.
- St. Louis has topped 30,000 per date 36 times, including 27 in a row through 2023. The Cards have averaged more than 40,000 per date in 18 seasons since 1999.
- Boston topped 20,000 per date every year since 1975, and was above 30,000 in 23 straight 'normal' years through 2023.
- Detroit has averaged at least 10,000 per date every year since 1943, and in all but one season since 1934.
- San Francisco topped 20,000 per date just once from 1967 through 1986, but has averaged better than 35,000 per date in 19 of the last 23 seasons.

MOST CONSECUTIVE SEASONS THAT A TEAM'S AVERAGE PER DATE WAS BELOW:

Avg. per Date	Franchise	Period	Streak in Years
Below 10,000	Milwaukee Brewers-St. Louis Browns	1901-1953	53
Below 20,000	Original Washington-Minnesota Twins	1901-1984	84
Below 30,000	Chicago White Sox	1901-1990	90

- The Milwaukee Brewers/St. Louis Browns franchise is now the Baltimore Orioles. This franchise went until 1979 before reaching an average of 20,000 per date in any season, and reached 30,000 per date for the first time in 1989. While in St. Louis (1902-53), the highest average per date for the Browns was 9,259 in 1922.
- The original Washington Senators, now Minnesota Twins, franchise didn't average at least 20,000 per date until 1985, its 85<sup>th</sup> season. Highest average per date in Washington for the original Senators (1901-1960) was 16,305 in 1946. The best average per date for the expansion Senators (1961-71) was 12,241 in 1969.
- The Chicago Cubs went 89 straight years (until 1989) before averaging at least 30,000 per date. But they've now topped 20,000 per date for 39 consecutive seasons, and have been above 30,000 for 25 straight years through 2023, including 2021 full-capacity dates.
- The Athletics, covering Philadelphia, Kansas City, and Oakland, reached 30,000 per date for the first time in 1989, the 89<sup>th</sup> year for the team. Highest average per date in Philadelphia for the A's (1901-54) was 15,001 in 1948. In Kansas City, the best average per date for the A's (1955-67) was 20,189 in 1955.
- Cleveland failed to average at least 20,000 per date in all seasons from 1953 through 1992.

# **MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE SINCE 1900**

#### NUMBER OF TIMES EACH TEAM HAD THE HIGHEST OR LOWEST ATTENDANCE IN ITS LEAGUE – excludes 2021

The table below is a summary of pages 311-313, and lists the number of seasons each team had their league's best or worst attendance in a season. It also notes how many years the team has played in its current city. For example, the Boston Red Sox have been in operation in Boston for 122 seasons with attendance through 2023. They've had the best attendance in the American League in 10 seasons, and the lowest attendance in the league in 5 seasons.

Also listed is the same information for teams that were later relocated, such as the Brooklyn Dodgers, Philadelphia Athletics, New York Giants, and Montreal Expos.

The New York Yankees have led the American League in total attendance 58 times. They've never had the lowest attendance in the league in any season. Among current American League teams, Cleveland and Tampa Bay have the most seasons with the lowest attendance in the league with 15. But the St. Louis Browns, who are now the Baltimore Orioles, had the worst attendance in the league 31 times in their 52 seasons in St. Louis.

The Dodgers have been the National League's attendance leader 38 times since moving to Los Angeles in 1958. The Giants led the league 24 times in 58 seasons from 1900 through 1957, when they played in New York. The Philadelphia Phillies had the lowest N.L. attendance 24 times, but in 2010, 2011, and 2012, they led the league.

Figures in this table cover the American League since it became a Major League in 1901, and cover the National League since 1900. The numbers of years in a city includes 2020, which had no fans in attendance.

AMERICAN LEAGUE NATIONAL LEAGUE							
Tank	# of	# Years	# Years	<b>T</b> = ===	# of	# Years	# Years
Team	Years in City	Best in League	Worst in League	Team	Years in City	Best in League	Worst in League
Baltimore	70	4	0	Arizona	26	0	0
Boston Red Sox	123	10	5	Atlanta	58	1	6
Chicago White Sox	123	10	3	Chicago Cubs	124	11	3
Cleveland	123	4	15	Cincinnati	124	2	10
Detroit	123	11	1	Colorado	31	7	0
Houston	62	0	4	Los Angeles Dodgers	66	38	0
Kansas City Royals	55	0	1	Miami	31	0	16
Los Angeles Angels	63	4	0	Milwaukee Brewers	54	0	2
Minnesota	63	3	10	New York Mets	62	6	1
New York Yankees	121	58	0	Philadelphia Phillies	124	6	24
Oakland	56	0	10	Pittsburgh	124	2	11
Seattle Mariners	47	2	3	St. Louis Cardinals	124	6	5
Tampa Bay	26	0	14	San Diego	55	0	8
Texas	52	1	0	San Francisco	66	3	4
Toronto	47	9	0	Washington Nationals	19	0	0
Baltimore (1901-02)	2	0	1	Boston Braves	53	1	19
St. Louis Browns	52	0	31	Brooklyn Dodgers	58	10	1
Philadelphia A's	54	6	5	New York Giants	58	24	2
Washington-('01-'60)	60	0	14	Milwaukee Braves	13	6	1
Washington ('61-'71)	11	0	5	Montreal Expos	36	0	8
Kansas City A's	13	0	2				
Milwaukee (1901)	1	0	0				
Seattle Pilots	1	0	0				

NOTE: The Milwaukee Brewers played in the American League in the 2 seasons that they had the lowest attendance in a league. Houston was in the National League in the 4 years, including 2012, when they had the lowest attendance in a league. Figures in italics are for teams that later relocated.

# 1900 - 2023 TEAMS OF THE DECADES - AT LEAST IN ATTENDANCE

The Yankees have the top American League total attendance since 1900, and in 8 individual decades. But the Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodgers attracted more fans than any other franchise. Total Dodger attendance from 1900 **through 2023** is over 231 million, and they've led the National League in the each of the last 7 full decades. The Baltimore Orioles had the highest total attendance for the 1990's. However, the Colorado Rockies who began play in 1993, averaged 3,743,540 per season, in their first 7 years. The **1901-2023** total attendance for the Yankees includes 1901 and 1902 when that franchise was the Baltimore Orioles. Totals at the bottom of each table are through 2023.

# TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE IN EACH LEAGUE - BY DECADE - 1900-2023

A	MERICAN LEAGUE	IATIONAL LEAGUE			
Decade	Team	Decade Attend.	Team	Decade Attend.	
1900-09	Chicago White Sox	4,588,978	New York Giants	5,152,481	
1910-19	Chicago White Sox	5,577,496	New York Giants	5,228,743	
1920-29	New York Yankees	10,528,088	New York Giants	8,636,285	
1930-39	New York Yankees	9,089,953	Chicago Cubs	8,791,668	
1940-49	New York Yankees	14,267,904	Brooklyn Dodgers	12,192,581	
1950-59	New York Yankees	16,133,658	Boston/Milwaukee Braves	15,658,713	
1960-69	New York Yankees	13,334,582	Los Angeles Dodgers	21,781,262	
1970-79	Boston Red Sox	18,145,880	Los Angeles Dodgers	24,480,796	
1980-89	California Angels	24,412,059	Los Angeles Dodgers	30,894,722	
1990-99	Baltimore Orioles	32,290,986	Los Angeles Dodgers	29,732,335	
2000-09	New York Yankees	37,736,795	Los Angeles Dodgers	34,497,939	
2010-19	New York Yankees	33,834,551	Los Angeles Dodgers	36,413,030	
2021-23	New York Yankees	8,365,077	Los Angeles Dodgers	10,503,180	
Total	New York Yankees	210,288,899	Brooklyn/L.A. Dodgers	231,727,048	

# WORST ATTENDANCE

The Philadelphia/Kansas City/Oakland Athletics franchise has the lowest attendance among the 'Original 16' since 1900. They played in Philadelphia through 1954, went to Kansas City in 1955, before moving to Oakland in 1968.

In the table below, the 1960's figure for the Washington Senators is for the expansion team that began play in 1961, and moved to Texas, and became the Rangers in 1972. A team had to exist for at least 8 years in a decade to be listed below. The total at the bottom is for 'Original 16' (non-expansion) teams only.

# TEAMS WITH THE LOWEST ATTENDANCE IN EACH LEAGUE - BY DECADE - 1900-2023

A	MERICAN LEAGUE	1	NATIONAL LEAGUE	
Decade	Team	Decade Attend.	Team	Decade Attend.
1900-09	Washington Senators	1,683,751	Boston Braves	1,694,753
1910-19	Washington Senators	2,270,354	Boston Braves	2,093,310
1920-29	Boston Red Sox	3,268,898	Boston Braves	2,559,518
1930-39	St. Louis Browns	1,184,076	Philadelphia Phillies	2,290,639
1940-49	St. Louis Browns	3,330,879	Philadelphia Phillies	5,330,085
1950-59	Washington Senators	5,598,081	Cincinnati	7,463,832
1960-69	Wash. Senators (new)	5,834,750	Chicago Cubs	8,796,707
1970-79	Oakland	7,646,599	Atlanta	8,519,155
1980-89	Seattle Mariners	9,839,630	Pittsburgh	11,350,932
1990-99	Detroit	14,868,191	Montreal	13,006,523
2000-09	Tampa Bay	13,586,943	Miami (Florida)	13,505,417
2010-19	Tampa Bay	14,010,236	Miami (Florida)	15,332,912
2021-23	Oakland	2,321,684	Miami	2,712,923
Total	Phil./Kansas City/Oakland	117,605,824	Pittsburgh	124,884,000

# TOP 10 INDIVIDUAL SINGLE SEASON TEAM ATTENDANCE TOTALS IN EACH LEAGUE

# AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

Year	Team	Attendance	Year	Team	Attendance
2007	New York Yankees	4,271,083	1993	Colorado	4,483,350
2008	New York Yankees	4,259,375	2008	New York Mets	4,042,043
2006	New York Yankees	4,243,780	2019	L.A. Dodgers	3,974,309
2005	New York Yankees	4,090,692	1996	Colorado	3,891,014
1993	Toronto	4,057,947	1997	Colorado	3,888,453
1992	Toronto	4,028,318	1993	Atlanta	3,884,725
1991	Toronto	4,001,527	2022	L.A. Dodgers	3,861,408
1990	Toronto	3,885,284	2018	L.A. Dodgers	3,857,500
2004	New York Yankees	3,775,292	2007	L.A. Dodgers	3,857,036
2010	New York Yankees	3,765,807	2007	New York Mets	3,853,949

# HIGHEST SINGLE SEASON INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE IN EACH DECADE - 1900-2023

# AMERICAN LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Year	Team	Attendance	Year	Team	Attendance
1905	Chicago White Sox	687,419	1908	New York Giants	910,000
1917	Chicago White Sox	684,521	1919	New York Giants	708,857
1920	New York Yankees	1,289,422	1929	Chicago Cubs	1,485,166
1930	New York Yankees	1,169,230	1930	Chicago Cubs	1,463,624
1948	Cleveland	2,620,627	1947	Brooklyn Dodgers	1,807,526
1950	New York Yankees	2,081,380	1957	Milwaukee Braves	2,215,404
1968	Detroit	2,031,847	1962	L.A. Dodgers	2,755,184
1979	New York Yankees	2,537,765	1978	L.A. Dodgers	3,347,845
1989	Toronto	3,375,883	1982	L.A. Dodgers	3,608,881
1993	Toronto	4,057,947	1993	Colorado	4,483,350
2007	New York Yankees	4,271,083	2008	New York Mets	4,042,043
2010	New York Yankees	3,765,807	2019	L.A. Dodgers	3,974,309
2023	New York Yankees	3,269,016	2022	L.A. Dodgers	3,861,408

# LOWEST SINGLE SEASON INDIVIDUAL TEAM ATTENDANCE IN EACH DECADE - 1900-2023

(Excludes strike years, shorter 1918 season, and 2021)

# AMERICAN LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Year	Team	Attendance	Year	Team	Attendance
1903	Washington	128,878	1902	Philadelphia Phillies	112,006
1917	Washington	89,682	1914	Cincinnati Reds	100,791
1923	Boston Red Sox	229,688	1920	Boston Braves	162,483
1935	St. Louis Browns	80,922	1933	Philadelphia Phillies	156,421
1941	St. Louis Browns	176,240	1940	Philadelphia Phillies	207,177
1950	St. Louis Browns	247,131	1952	Boston Braves	281,278
1965	Kansas City A's	528,344	1969	San Diego	512,970
1979	Oakland	306,763	1974	San Francisco	519,987
1985	Cleveland	655,181	1985	Pittsburgh	735,900
1991	Cleveland	1,051,863	1999	Montreal	773,277
2003	Tampa Bay	1,058,695	2001	Montreal	609,473
2018	Tampa Bay	1,154,973	2018	Miami	811,104
2022	Oakland	787,902	2022	Miami	907,487

# A LOOK BACK AT 1961 AND 1962, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S FIRST EXPANSION YEARS

From 1901, when the American League became a Major League, through 1960, there were 8 teams in each league. The American League expanded to 10 teams in 1961, adding the Washington Senators and Los Angeles Angels. The original Senators became the Minnesota Twins in 1961. The National League expanded in 1962, with the New York Mets and Houston Colt .45s.

This section goes back 62-63 years to analyze attendance in those first expansion seasons, with individual team highlights. It also examines the incredible road attendance totals of the Yankees in those years. Raw data on the number of home dates per team, and on Yankee road attendance, was found at 'retrosheet.org.'

Attendance in the early 1960's was much lower than it is now. Average attendance per team was below levels reached in the late 1940's, but had recovered a bit from the television-caused declines of the early 1950's. Only 9 of the 18 teams in 1961 drew more than one million, and just 8 of 20 teams topped that level in 1962. Average attendance per date in those years was around 15,000, about half of what it has been in recent years. There were more rainouts and doubleheaders in those days, so that's why the number of home dates for most teams is less than now. National league teams still played a 77 game home schedule in 1961. When each league expanded, it added 4 home games per year for each team.

There were few new ballparks in the Major Leagues in 1961 and 1962. County Stadium in Milwaukee opened in 1953, Memorial Stadium in Baltimore opened in 1954, Candlestick Park in San Francisco opened in 1960, and Dodger Stadium, which was home to both the Dodgers and the Angels, opened in 1962. D.C. Stadium in Washington also opened in 1962. Houston played in a temporary ballpark from 1962 through 1964, and Municipal Stadium in Kansas City was an expanded minor league park. Metropolitan Stadium in Minnesota opened in 1956, and was expanded when the Twins moved there in 1961.

	1961					1962	
	# of	1961 Total	Average per		# of	1962 Total	Average per
Team	Dates	Attendance	Date		Dates	Attendance	Date
Baltimore	70	951,089	13,587		72	790,254	10,976
Boston	72	850,589	11,814		72	733,080	10,182
Chicago W. Sox	65	1,146,019	17,631		68	1,131,562	16,641
Cleveland	64	725,547	11,337		63	716,076	11,367
Detroit	67	1,600,710	23,891		72	1,207,881	16,776
Kansas City A's	72	683,817	9,497		74	635,675	8,590
L.A. Angels	75	603,510	8,047		75	1,144,063	15,254
Minnesota	75	1,256,723	16,756		76	1,433,116	18,857
N.Y. Yankees	66	1,747,725	26,481		66	1,493,574	22,630
Washington	69	597,287	8,656		67	729,775	10,892
A.L. Total	695	10,163,016	14,623		705	10,015,056	14,206
Chicago Cubs	66	673,057	10,198		75	609,802	8,131
Cincinnati	68	1,117,603	16,435		72	982,095	13,640
Houston					74	924,456	12,493
L.A. Dodgers	75	1,804,250	24,057		78	2,755,184	35,223
Milwaukee	70	1,101,441	15,735		74	766,921	10,364
New York Mets					63	922,530	14,643
Philadelphia	67	590,039	8,807		66	762,034	11,546
Pittsburgh	70	1,199,128	17,130		74	1,090,648	14,738
St. Louis	70	855,305	12,219		70	953,895	13,627
San Francisco	74	1,390,679	18,793		77	1,592,594	20,683
N.L. Total	560	8,731,502	15,592		723	11,360,159	15,713
MLB Total	1,255	18,894,518	15,055		1,428	21,375,215	14,969

# MAJOR LEAGUE ATTENDANCE - 1961 AND 1962

# INDIVIDUAL TEAM - 1961 AND 1962 ATTENDANCE NOTES

**Baltimore** – In 1962, only 7 games (4 vs. the Yankees) drew at least 20,000... **Boston** – In 1962, drew over 20,000 just 6 times, and drew 30,000 just once. 42 of 72 dates had crowds of under 10,000, and 17 dates drew less than 5,000... **Cleveland** – 18 home twin bills in 1962. 20 dates drew under 5,000... **Chicago White Sox** – In both 1961 and 1962, they drew 9 crowds of at least 30,000...**Detroit** – Had 3<sup>rd</sup> best total attendance in 1961. 18 dates drew under 10,000, but had 13 crowds above 40,000...**Kansas City** – Just 18 dates above 10,000 in 1962, but had 20 dates under 5,000.

Los Angeles Angels – played at an old minor league park (Wrigley Field) in 1961, and only had 21 dates above 10,000. Moved to Dodger Stadium in 1962, but still had only 13 dates above 20,000 (9 of them vs. Yankees). Average attendance was 44,834 per date vs. Yankees, but just 11,221 vs. all other teams...<u>Minnesota</u> – In 1962, had 2<sup>nd</sup> best A.L. total. 21 dates drew less than 10,000, but all 9 vs. Yankees drew over 35,000...<u>Washington</u> – Played at old Griffith Stadium in 1961, and just 20 dates drew over 10,000. Moved to new D.C. Stadium in 1962, but only 30 dates there had attendance above 10,000...<u>New York Yankees</u> – In 1961, had 65-16 home record, with 36 dates above 20,000, 14 above 40,000. Season high 74,246 on July 4. Game where Roger Maris hit his 61<sup>st</sup> home run drew just 23,154. In 1962, they had 42 dates above 20,000, and 5 dates above 40,000. They won the World Series both years.

<u>Chicago Cubs</u> – In 1962, had just 19 crowds above 10,000, and 2 dates above 20,000. 25 dates drew less than 5,000, with a low of 595...<u>Cincinnati</u> – Had 23 crowds above 20,000 in 1961, when they won the N.L. pennant. Only 9 dates had attendance of more than 20,000 in 1962, and the next game after the Home Opener to draw at least 20,000 was on July 17...<u>Los Angeles Dodgers</u> – Led the Majors in attendance in both 1961 and 1962. They played at the Coliseum in 1961. Largest 1961 crowds were 72,140 for a doubleheader vs. San Francisco on August 6, and 68,742 for a twin bill with Cincinnati on July 7. Drew what was then a Major League record-high of 2,755,184 in 1962, the inaugural year of Dodger Stadium. 10 dates topped 50,000, 30 dates drew at least 40,000, and only 7 dates failed to draw 20,000. Finished the regular season in a first place tie with San Francisco, but lost a 3 game playoff. Attendance from those playoff games is included in the official regular season totals.

**San Francisco** – N.L. champions in 1962, when 17 dates drew over 30,000, and 6 games vs. Dodgers topped 40,000... **Milwaukee** – In 1962, 39 dates drew under 10,000, and just 5 topped 20,000. This was a huge decline from 1957, when all games topped 10,000, with 38 dates drawing above 30,000...**Houston Colt .45s** – Played outdoors in brutal heat in a temporary park. Only 14 of 39 dates after June topped 10,000...**St. Louis** – Only 4 dates in 1961, and 10 dates in 1962, drew above 20,000.

**Philadelphia** – Topped 10,000 at only 22 dates in 1961, and 26 dates in 1962...**Pittsburgh** – Drew more than 10,000 for all but 11 dates in 1961...**New York Mets** – 1962 was their first season. They averaged 31,538 for 15 dates vs. the Dodgers and Giants, and averaged 9,364 for 48 dates vs. all other teams. Won 40 and lost 120 in 1962. But in 1969, the Mets became the first expansion team to make the post-season and win the World Series.

# SMALL CROWDS

The guidelines for listing official attendance at Major League games have changed since 1961-1962. 'No-shows' are now included in the attendance totals. Some teams also include tickets sold at significant discounts or given away free. In 1961 and 1962, attendance may not have included tickets sold for a service charge only, such as at promotions like Ladies Day, or to military personnel, school or camp groups.

Games played in front of small crowds were much more common 62-63 years ago. In 1961, 484 of 1,255 dates (38.6%) had attendance of less than 10,000. The Los Angeles Angels, who played that year in an old minor league park, drew under 10,000 at 54 of 75 dates. Kansas City failed to reach 10,000 at 51 of 72 dates, and Washington drew less than 10,000 at 49 of 69 dates. The Dodgers (4 dates under 10,000), and the Yankees (7 dates under 10,000) had the fewest number of home dates where attendance was below 10,000. In 1962, 592 of 1,428 dates (41.5%) drew under 10,000. Kansas City was under 10,000 at 56 of 74 dates, and the Chicago Cubs couldn't reach 10,000 in 56 of 75 dates. The Dodgers did not draw less than 10,000 at any home date, and the Yankees had just 3 dates under 10,000.

There were 91 dates with crowds under 10,000 in 2023. 47 of them were in Oakland, and 22 were in Miami. 167 dates drew less than 10,000 in 2022. The unusual 2021 season had 563 dates with attendance under 10,000. 141 of those dates were with full capacity allowed. 99 dates, the most since 2002, drew under 10,000 in 2019. In 2018, 90 dates drew under 10,000. In 2017, 18 of 2,419 dates (0.7%) drew under 10,000. In 2016, only 3 of 2,425 dates (0.1%), all in Cleveland, drew under 10,000. In 2015, 12 of 2,417 dates, 10 in Tampa Bay, (one of which was officially an Orioles 'home' game, rescheduled from Baltimore), and 2 in Cleveland, drew under 10,000. Crowds of less than 10,000 in 2014 were in Cleveland (8), and Tampa Bay (1). In both 2013 and 2012, 9 dates drew under 10,000. In 2007, when MLB had its record-high attendance, 19 dates (Tampa Bay (15), Pittsburgh (3), Kansas City (1), drew under 10,000. See pages 54-55 for more details. These figures only include games at Major League parks.

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# A LOOK BACK AT 1961 AND 1962, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S FIRST EXPANSION YEARS

#### THE YANKEES DREW BIG CROWDS ON THE ROAD IN 1961 AND 1962

Almost all teams had far lower average attendance per date in 1961 and 1962 than in 2023. But American League teams often had crowds much larger than usual when they hosted the Yankees.

In 1961, the other 9 American League teams averaged 26,036 per date for their home games vs. the Yankees, with 27 of 75 dates drawing over 30,000. Those 9 teams averaged just 11,665 per date against all other American League teams, with 29 of 554 dates topping 30,000.

In 1962, the Yankees averaged 29,493 per date on the road. 39 of 75 dates drew more than 30,000, including all games in Minnesota and Los Angeles. But the 9 other A.L. teams averaged just 11,187 per date vs. all other teams in the American League, with only 18 of 564 dates topping 30,000. There was no inter-league play in 1961 and 1962.

Yankee home games averaged 26,481 per date in 1961 (20 dates above 30,000), and 22,630 per date in 1962, with 12 dates over 30,000. Their combined home and road average per date was 26,244 in 1961, and 26,281 in 1962.

In 2023, the Yankees averaged 32,573 per date on the road. At home, they averaged 40,863 per date, and their combined home/road average was 36,692 per date. The Yankees led the American League in both home and road attendance. 2023 games not involving the Yankees averaged 28,767 per date. The Dodgers averaged a combined home/road Major League best 39,878 in 2023, and also had the MLB top combined attendance in 2022, 2021, and 2019.

The tables below show how each of the other 9 American League teams drew when they played at home vs. the Yankees, compared to how they drew at home vs. all other American League opponents in 1961 and 1962.

. . . .

<u>1961</u>								
Home Attendance vs. Yankees Home Attendance vs. Other A.L.								
Team	# of		Average per		# of		Average per	
	Dates	Total Attendance	Date		Dates	Total Attendance	Date	
Baltimore	9	214,991	23,888		61	736,098	12,067	
Boston	9	208,741	23,193		63	641,848	10,188	
Chicago White Sox	8	262,678	32,834		57	883,341	15,497	
Cleveland	8	217,365	27,171		56	508,182	9,075	
Detroit	8	280,356	35,045		59	1,320,354	22,379	
Kansas City A's	9	199,966	22,218		63	483,851	7,680	
Los Angeles Angels	9	166,562	18,507		66	436,948	6,620	
Minnesota	9	269,481	29,942		66	987,242	14,958	
Washington	6	132,564	22,094		63	464,723	7,377	
TOTAL	75	1,952,704	26,036		554	6,462,587	11,665	

<u>1962</u>								
	Home	Attendance vs. Yan	kees		Home At	tendance vs. Other	A.L. Teams	
Team	# of		Average per		# of		Average per	
	Dates	Total Attendance	Date		Dates	Total Attendance	Date	
Baltimore	9	205,701	22,856		63	584,553	9,279	
Boston	9	191,632	21,292		63	541,448	8,594	
Chicago White Sox	9	257,544	28,616		59	874,018	14,814	
Cleveland	7	261,295	37,328		56	454,781	8,121	
Detroit	9	244,731	27,192		63	963,150	15,288	
Kansas City A's	7	158,553	22,650		67	477,122	7,121	
Los Angeles Angels	9	403,503	44,834		66	740,560	11,221	
Minnesota	9	320,642	35,627		67	1,112,474	16,604	
Washington	7	168,403	24,058		60	561,372	9,356	
TOTAL	75	2,212,004	29,493		564	6,309,478	11,187	

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## **"FIRST LICKS AND LAST LICKS"**

The tables on this and the next page show attendance at the final regular season games at ballparks since 1922. and at the first games at the ballparks that replaced them. Figures in italics are for teams that moved to another market. Since 1990, every new ballpark, except for Texas in 1994, had a smaller capacity than the park it replaced.

The 1938 Philadelphia Phillies, 1966 St. Louis Cardinals, 1970 Cincinnati Reds, 1970 Pittsburgh Pirates, 1989 Toronto Blue Jays, and the 1999 Seattle Mariners moved into new ballparks after starting those seasons in their old parks. The 1938 Phillies moved into Shibe Park, which opened in 1909, and was home of the Philadelphia Athletics.

Cleveland played its first game at Municipal Stadium in 1932, but did not move there fulltime until 1947 The first game there in 1932 drew 76,979. The Angels and Dodgers shared Dodger Stadium from 1962 through 1965. The Yankees played at Shea Stadium in 1974 and 1975 while Yankee Stadium was rebuilt.

On the next page, there is also a table listing attendance at the first home game for all expansion teams.

ATTENDANCE AT FINAL GAMES AND FIRST GAMES AT MAJOR LEAGUE BALLPARKS							
Final Year	Team	Old Ballpark	Final Game Attendance	Following Season's New Ballpark	First Game Attendance		
1922	New York Yankees	Polo Grounds	40,000	Yankee Stadium	74,200		
1938	Philadelphia Phillies	Baker Bowl	1,500	Shibe PkConnie Mack	12,000		
1946	Cleveland	League Park	2,472	Municipal Stadium	55,014		
1952	Boston Braves	Braves Field-Boston	8,822	County StadMilwaukee	34,357		
1953	St. Louis Browns	Busch StadSt. Louis	3,174	Memorial StaBaltimore	46,354		
1954	Philadelphia A's	Shibe PkConnie Mack	1,715	Municipal St-Kansas City	32,147		
1957	Brooklyn Dodgers	Ebbets Field – Brooklyn	6,702	Los Angeles Coliseum	78,672		
1957	New York Giants	Polo Grounds-New York	11,606	Seals StSan Francisco	23,448		
1959	San Francisco	Seals Stadium	22,923	Candlestick Park	42,269		
1960	Washington Senat.	Griffith StaWashington	4,768	Metropolitan StMinneso	24,606		
1961	Washington Senat.	Griffith StaWashington	1,498	D.C. (RFK) Stadium	44,383		
1961	Los Angeles Angels	Wrigley Field (L.A.)	9,868	Dodger Stadium	18,416		
1961	L.A. Dodgers	Los Angeles Coliseum	12,068	Dodger Stadium	52,564		
1963	New York Mets	Polo Grounds	1,752	Shea Stadium	48,736		
1964	Houston Colt .45s	Colt Stadium	6,246	Astrodome	42,652		
1965	Milwaukee Braves	County StadMilwaukee	12,577	Atlanta Stadium	50,671		
1965	Los Angeles Angels	Dodger Stadium	3,353	Anaheim Stadium	31,660		
1966	St. Louis Cardinals	Busch Stadium	17,503	Busch Memorial Stadium	46,048		
1967	Kansas City A's	Municipal St-Kansas City	5,325	Oakland Coliseum	50,164		
1969	Seattle Pilots	Sicks Stadium – Seattle	5,473	County StadMilwaukee	37,237		
1970	Cincinnati	Crosley Field	28,027	Riverfront Stadium	51,050		
1970	Pittsburgh	Forbes Field	40,918	Three Rivers Stadium	48,846		
1970	Philadelphia Phillies	Shibe Pk Connie Mack	31,822	Veterans Stadium	55,352		
1971	Washington Senat.	RFK StadWashington	14,460	Arlington (TX) Stadium	20,105		
1972	Kansas City Royals	Municipal Stadium	7,329	Royals (Kauffman) Stad.	39,464		
1973	New York Yankees	Yankee Stadium-original	32,238	Shea Stadium	20,744		
1975	New York Yankees	Shea Stadium	20,399	Yankee Stadium-rebuilt	52,613		
1976	Montreal	Jarry Park	14,166	Olympic Stadium	57,592		
1981	Minnesota	Metropolitan Stadium	15,900	Metrodome	52,279		
1989	Toronto	Exhibition Stadium	46,120	Skydome	48,378		
1990	Chicago White Sox	Comiskey Park-original	42,849	Comiskey (US Cellular)	42,191		
1991	Baltimore	Memorial Stadium	50,700	Oriole Pk-Camden Yards	44,568		
1993	Cleveland	Municipal Stadium	72,390	Jacobs (Progressive) Fld	41,259		

# **"FIRST LICKS AND LAST LICKS"**

# ATTENDANCE AT FINAL GAMES AND FIRST GAMES AT MAJOR LEAGUE BALLPARKS - continued

Final Year	Team	Old Ballpark	Final Game Attendance	Following Season's New Ballpark	First Game Attendance	
1993	Texas	Arlington Stadium	41,039	Rangers Ballpark	46,056	
1994	Colorado	Mile High Stadium	65,043	Coors Field	47,228	
1996	Atlanta	Atlanta-Fulton County	49,083	Turner Field	45.044	
1999	Seattle Mariners	The Kingdome	56,350	Safeco Field (T-Mobile)	44,607	
1999	Detroit	Tiger Stadium	46,302	Comerica Park	39,168	
1999	San Francisco	Candlestick Park	61,389	AT&T Park (Oracle)	40,930	
1999	Houston	Astrodome	52,033	Minute Maid Park	41,583	
2000	Pittsburgh	Three Rivers Stadium	55,351	PNC Park	36,954	
2000	Milwaukee	County Stadium	56,354	Miller Park	42,024	
2002	Cincinnati	Riverfront (Cinergy Fld.)	40,964	Great American Ballpark	42,343	
2003	Philadelphia	Veterans Stadium	58,554	Citizens Bank Park	41,626	
2003	San Diego	Jack Murphy Stadium	60,988	Petco Park	41,400	
2004	Montreal Expos	Olympic Stad. – Montreal	31,395	RFK StadWashington	45,596	
2005	St. Louis	Busch Memorial Stadium	50,434	Busch Stadium III	41,936	
2007	Washing. Nationals	RFK Stadium	40,519	Nationals Park	39,389	
2008	New York Yankees	Yankee Stadium-rebuilt	54,610	Yankee Stadium-new	48,271	
2008	New York Mets	Shea Stadium	56,059	Citi Field	41,007	
2009	Minnesota	Metrodome	54,088	Target Field	38,145	
2011	Florida (Miami)	Sun Life (Joe Robbie) St.	34,615	Marlins Park	36,601	
2016	Atlanta	Ted Turner Field	51,220	SunTrust Park	41,149	
2019	Texas	Globe Life Park	47,144	Globe Life Field (2021)	38,238	
2024	Oakland	Oakland Coliseum		Sacramento	,	

# ATTENDANCE AT FIRST HOME GAMES FOR EXPANSION TEAMS

Year	Team	Ballpark	First Game Attendance
1961	Washington Senators – new	Griffith Stadium	26,725
1961	Los Angeles Angels	Wrigley Field	11,931
1962	New York Mets	Polo Grounds	12,447
1962	Houston Colt .45s	Colt Stadium	25,271
1969	Kansas City Royals	Municipal Stadium	17,688
1969	Seattle Pilots	Sicks Stadium	14,993
1969	Montreal Expos	Jarry Park	29,184
1969	San Diego Padres	San Diego-Jack Murphy Stadium	23,370
1977	Toronto Blue Jays	Exhibition Stadium	44,649
1977	Seattle Mariners	Kingdome	57,762
1993	Colorado Rockies	Mile High Stadium	80,227
1993	Florida Marlins	Joe Robbie (Sun Life) Stadium	42,334
1998	Tampa Bay Rays	Tropicana Field	45,369
1998	Arizona Diamondbacks	Bank One Ballpark (Chase Field)	47,484

Home Opener attendance for Colorado in 1993 was the largest crowd in National League history.

Figures in italics are for teams that moved to a different market.

Sources for the attendance data in these 2 tables are team media guides and retrosheet.org.

# TEAMS THAT HELD THE SEASON ATTENDANCE RECORD

# Pre-1900 Attendance Records

The National League was founded in 1876. The American League was a Minor League in 1900, and became a Major League in 1901. A Major League named the American Association operated from 1882 through 1891.

The Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball lists attendance for many, but not all, of the pre-1900 teams from 1883 through 1899. Some teams may not have compiled attendance.

In the American Association, the first listed attendance record-holder was the Brooklyn Grays, who drew 280,000 in 1887. That record was broken by the renamed Brooklyn Bridegrooms (many of their players were newlyweds), who drew 353,809 in 1889.

In the National League, the Boston Red Stockings, who drew 138,284 in 1883, were the first listed attendance record holder. Boston broke its record in 1884 by drawing 146,777. New records were set by the Philadelphia Quakers who drew 150,698 in 1885 and 175,623 in 1886. National League season attendance records were then set by the Boston Beaneaters in 1887 (261,000), the New York Giants in 1888 (305,455), and in 1894 (387,000), and by the Philadelphia Philadelphia Phillies in 1895 (474,971). The Phillies topped their 1895 attendance just once (in 1916) until 1946.

# Season Record-Holders Since 1900

1900 is considered to be the start of the 'modern era' of Major League Baseball. The table below lists the teams that set the season attendance records starting in 1900 in the National League and in 1901 in the American League, and then each team that later broke the existing record. The records set in the first few years were quickly broken, but later on, it would be many years before some season attendance records were surpassed. Cleveland set a new American and Major League attendance record-high in 1948. That total was not topped in the Majors until 1962, and in the American League until 1980. With smaller ballparks in use now, the current Major League records, by Colorado in 1993, and by the New York Yankees in 2007, may never be reached again.

# SEASON ATTENDANCE RECORD HOLDERS STARTING IN 1900 AND 1901

_	AMERICAN LEAGUE			NATIONAL LEAGUE	_
Year	Team	Attendance	Year	Team	Attendance
1901	Chicago White Stockings	354,350	1900	Philadelphia Phillies	301,913
1902	Philadelphia Athletics	420,078	1901	St. Louis Cardinals	379,988
1903	Philadelphia Athletics	422,473	1903	New York Giants	579,530
1904	Boston Pilgrims	623,295	1904	New York Giants	609,826
1905	Chicago White Sox	687,419	1906	Chicago Cubs	654,300
1920	New York Yankees	1,289,422	1908	New York Giants	910,000
1946	New York Yankees	2,265,512	1920	New York Giants	929,609
1948	Cleveland	2,620,627	1921	New York Giants	973,477
1980	New York Yankees	2,627,417	1927	Chicago Cubs	1,159,168
1982	California Angels	2,807,360	1929	Chicago Cubs	1,485,166
1988	Minnesota	3,030,672	1946	Brooklyn Dodgers	1,796,824
1989	Toronto	3,375,883	1947	Brooklyn Dodgers	1,807,526
1990	Toronto	3,885,284	1953	Milwaukee Braves	1,826,397
1991	Toronto	4,001,527	1954	Milwaukee Braves	2,131,388
1992	Toronto	4,028,318	1957	Milwaukee Braves	2,215,404
1993	Toronto	4,057,947	1960	Los Angeles Dodgers	2,253,887
2005	New York Yankees	4,090,692	1962	Los Angeles Dodgers	2,755,184
2006	New York Yankees	4,243,780	1977	Los Angeles Dodgers	2,955,087
2007	New York Yankees	4,271,083	1978	Los Angeles Dodgers	3,347,845
			1982	Los Angeles Dodgers	3,608,881
			1993	Colorado	4,483,350

# PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL IN JAPAN

There are 2 'Major' baseball leagues in Japan. The Central League and the Pacific League each have 6 teams. Both leagues played reduced schedules in 2020, with each team having 60 dates with a limited number of fans in attendance. All teams played 71 or 72 home games in 2023, 2022, 2021, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, and 2015, and 72 games in both 2014 and 2013.

All 12 teams had higher attendance in **2023** than in **2022**. The Central League was up 2,012,560 (16.6%) vs. **2022**, but down 747,348 (5.0%) vs. **2019**. The Pacific League had a gain of 1,986,429 (22.2%) vs. **2022**, but had a decline of 719,445 (6.2%) vs. **2019**. The combined total rose 3,998,989 (19.0%) vs. **2022**, but fell 1,466,793 (5.5%) vs. **2019**. Orix, Chiba Lotte, and Yakult had the only 2023 vs. 2019 increases.

In 2021, both leagues played a full schedule, but with reduced capacity in ballparks. 816 of 858 games were played with fans in attendance. 6 of the 12 teams played all games with fans in attendance. The largest Central League crowd was 18,202, and the largest Pacific League crowd was 20,569.

The Central League drew a record-high 14,867,071 in 2019, an average of 34,655 per game. Total attendance rose 631,498 (4.4%) from 2018. Pacific League total attendance was record-high 11,669,891 in 2019, up 354,745 (3.1%) from 2018. Average per game was 27,203. Combined 2019 attendance for these 2 Japanese leagues was a record-high 26,536,962, up 986,243 (3.9%) from 2018. Average attendance per game was 30,929, up 1,150. 11 of 12 teams had a gain in average per game in 2019. Hokkaido had the only decline. DeNa had the largest increase. In 2020, with a reduced schedule, and limited capacity, The Central League drew 2,754,626 (7,652 per game), and the Pacific League drew 2,068,952 (5,747 per game). Combined 2020 attendance was 4,823,578 (6,699 per game).

The 2 leagues drew 25,139,463 in 2017 (29,300 per game). In 2016, they drew 24,981,514 in 2016 (29,116 per game). Attendance was 24,236,920 in 2015, (28,248 per game). In 2014, they drew 22,859,351, (26,458 per game). In 2013, the leagues drew a combined 22,047,491, (25,518 per game). Record high average per game: Pacific – 27,203 in 2019; Central – 35,309 in 1992.

Sources: Websites HatenaBlog.com, yakyubaka.com., Nippon Professional Baseball, Reddit, and rbaseball blog.

	2023 Total	2023 Ava	2022 Total	2022 Avg.
City		-		-
City	Allendance	per Game	Allenuarice	per Game
Yokohama	2,280,927	32,126	1,778,980	24,708
Nagoya	2,183,950	30,333	1,807,619	25,459
Nishinomiya	2,915,528	41,064	2,618,626	36,370
Hiroshima	2,054,852	28,540	1,968,991	27,732
Tokyo	1,976,151	27,447	1,614,645	22,741
Tokyo	2,708,315	38,145	2,318,302	32,199
	14.119.723	32.913	12.107.163	28,288
	, -, -		, - ,	-,
Chiba	1,803,994	25,055	1,468,622	20,685
Fukuoka	2,535,061	35,705	2,247,898	31,221
Sapporo	1,882,573	26,515	1,291,495	17,937
Osaka	1,947,453	27,048	1,412,638	19,896
Tokorozawa	1,422,853	20,040	1,212,233	16,837
Sendai	1,358,512	18,868	1,331,131	18,748
	10,950,446	25,526	8,964,017	20,895
	25.070.169	20.210	21 071 180	24,558
	Nishinomiya Hiroshima Tokyo Tokyo Chiba Fukuoka Sapporo Osaka Tokorozawa	Yokohama         2,280,927           Nagoya         2,183,950           Nishinomiya         2,915,528           Hiroshima         2,054,852           Tokyo         1,976,151           Tokyo         2,708,315           Image: Straight of the stra	City         Attendance         per Game           Yokohama         2,280,927         32,126           Nagoya         2,183,950         30,333           Nishinomiya         2,915,528         41,064           Hiroshima         2,054,852         28,540           Tokyo         1,976,151         27,447           Tokyo         2,708,315         38,145           Image: Chiba         14,119,723         32,913           Image: Chiba         1,803,994         25,055           Fukuoka         2,535,061         35,705           Sapporo         1,882,573         26,515           Osaka         1,947,453         27,048           Tokorozawa         1,422,853         20,040           Sendai         1,358,512         18,868	City         Attendance         per Game         Attendance           Yokohama         2,280,927         32,126         1,778,980           Nagoya         2,183,950         30,333         1,807,619           Nishinomiya         2,915,528         41,064         2,618,626           Hiroshima         2,054,852         28,540         1,968,991           Tokyo         1,976,151         27,447         1,614,645           Tokyo         2,708,315         38,145         2,318,302           Image: Chiba         1,803,994         25,055         1,468,622           Fukuoka         2,535,061         35,705         2,247,898           Sapporo         1,882,573         26,515         1,291,495           Osaka         1,947,453         27,048         1,412,638           Tokorozawa         1,422,853         20,040         1,212,233           Sendai         1,358,512         18,868         1,331,131

# JAPAN MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE

# PRO BASEBALL IN PUERTO RICO, SOUTH KOREA, AUSTRALIA, VENEZUELA, TAIWAN AND MEXICO

#### Puerto Rico

6 teams played in the Puerto Rico Winter League in 2023-24, and drew 228,403 in 117 dates, averaging 1,952 per date. Santurce led with a total of 66,693, an average of 3,510 per date. In 2022-23, the league drew 233,753 in 138 dates, which is a 1,694 average per date. 2021-22 attendance was 87,023 in 75 dates, averaging 1,160 per date. The league played a shorter season with no fans in attendance in 2020-21. In 2019-20, the league drew 80,240 in 72 dates, averaging 1,114. In 2018-19, 4 teams drew 57,236 in 65 dates, an average of 881 per date. In 2017-18, a season shortened due to the aftereffects of a hurricane, the league drew 43,469 in 30 dates, averaging 1,449 per date. 2016-17 attendance was 93,551 in 79 dates, an average of 1,184 per date, and in 2015-16 it was 99,710 in 82 dates, an average of 1,216 per date.

#### South Korea

The 10-team Korean Baseball Association, South Korea's top league, drew a near record-high 8,400,483 (11,667 per game) in **2023**, and 6,053,630 in **2022**, (8,420 per game). (Source: myKBOstats) The league drew 1,169,907 in **2021**, averaging 2,246 per game. Many games were played without fans in attendance. According to Wikipedia and Statista, this league drew 328,317, an average of 579 per game in **2020**. The league drew 7,286,008 in **2019**, an average of 10,119 per game, and 8,073,742 in 2018, averaging 11,214 per game. They drew a record-high 8,400,688 in 2017, an average of 11,668 per game. The 10 teams drew 8,338,577 in 2016, an average of 11,582 per game, and 7,360,529 in 2015, averaging 10,223 per game. 9 teams in the league drew 6,509,915 (11,499 per game) in 2014.

#### Australia

The Australian Baseball League plays during their summer, which is winter north of the Equator. In 2023-24, the 8-team league drew 88,604, an average of 895 per date. Melbourne was the leader (27,575 total, 1,451 average per date). 2022-23 attendance was 100,738 in 133 dates, an average of 757 per date. The 2021-22 season was cancelled due to Covid. 6 teams played in 2020-21 with a shorter schedule, and drew 45,697, in 59 dates, an average of 775 per date. 8 teams drew 126,908 in 141 dates in 2019-20 (900 per date), 112,496 in 152 dates in 2018-19 (740 per date), 88,397 in 118 dates (749 per date) in 2017-18, and 87,475 in 98 dates (893 per date) in 2016-17. Attendance was 150,213 in 159 dates (945 per date) in 2015-16, 140,932 in 138 dates, averaging 1,021 per date in the 2014-15 season. In 2013-14 the league drew 147,887 in 125 dates, an average of 1,183 per date. 2012-13 attendance was 129,909 in 122 dates (1,065 per date). It was 123,886 in 118 dates (1,050 average) in 2011-12, and 114,023 in 95 dates (1,200 per date) in 2010-11.

#### Mexico – Mexican Pacific Winter League

The 10-team Mexican Pacific Winter League (2 teams added for 2019-20) drew 2,763,722 in 323 dates, an average of 8,556 per date. Culiacan led with a total of 498,923, averaging 16,094 per date. Hermosillo drew 432,304, an average of 13,100 per date. In 2022-23, the league drew 2,320,599 in 329 dates in 2022-23, averaging 7,053 per date. In 2021-22, attendance was 1,815,541 in 334 dates, averaging 5,436 per date. The league drew 262,423 in 123 dates in 2020-21, an average of 2,134 per date. Attendance was 3,170,417 in 2019-20 in 328 dates, averaging 9,666 per date. They drew 2,672,121 in 267 dates in 2018-19, an average of 10,008 per date. The league attracted 2,584,328, averaging 9,572 per date in 2017-18, and 2,626,114, averaging 9,799 in 2016-17.

# <u>Taiwan</u>

The 5-team Chinese Professional Baseball League **drew a record-high 1,800,130 in 2023**, averaging 6,000 per game, and 1,471,197 in 2022 (4,904 per game). This league had limited attendance in 2021, drawing 954,087 (3,642 per game), and in 2020, with an 857,435 total (4,142 per game). The league drew 1,398,246 (5,826 per game) in 2019, 1,309,879 (5,458 per game) in 2018, and 1,318,275 (5,493 per game) in 2017. Record-high average is 6,878 in 1992.

## PRO BASEBALL IN PUERTO RICO, SOUTH KOREA, AUSTRALIA, VENEZUELA, TAIWAN AND MEXICO

#### Venezuela

2023-24 attendance for the Venezuela Winter League's 8 teams was 918,175 in 210 dates, an average of 4,372 per date. Caracas led with a total of 388,154, and an average of 14,929 per date. In 2022-23, this league drew 554,351 in 208 dates, an average of 2,665 per date. In 2021-22, the league drew 360,650 in 194 dates, averaging 1,859 per date. The league played very few games with fans in attendance in 2020-21 (total attendance - 3,197). In 2019-20, the league drew 537,919 in 161 dates, an average of 3,341 per date. In 2018-19, attendance was 1,262,077 in 233 dates, an average of 5,417 per date. The league drew 1,482,238, averaging 6,228 per date in 2017-18, and 1,295,458, averaging 5,245 per date in 2016-17.

## Dominican Republic

The 6-team Dominican Winter League played 144 dates in 2023-24. Attendance was not reported, but it likely was quite good.

Source for Puerto Rico, Australia, Mexican, and Venezuela Leagues attendance is the MLB Stats Reporting Platform.

# **TWO FINAL QUOTES**

"This guy either spends too much time sitting on barstools, or has too much time on his hands."

An ESPN comment about the author of this analysis, in 2012, after they used a statistic, found in a Number Tamer report, which noted that the 2012 Chicago Cubs had the highest attendance ever for a team with at least 100 losses.

"Since I don't drink, I'm not sitting on any barstools. As for having too much time on my hands, you may be right."

The author's reply to ESPN.