

2008 YEAR-END REPORT

>> TOP 50 FAIRS IN NORTH AMERICA IN 2008 <<

State Fair of Texas Dallas 2008: Sept. 26-Oct. 19 2009: Sept. 25-Oct. 18	2008 RANK : 1	2007 RANK : 1	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : None	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 3,000,000+		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 3,000,000+
	GATE REVENUE : \$28.6 million food/rides		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$14	
	COMMENTS : Second-best year, following last year's all-time high of \$29 million gross for food and rides. They credit "staycation" theory with this year's success. Chicken-fried bacon big feature and award-winning food this year.			
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo 2008: March 3-22 2009: March 3-22	2008 RANK : 2	2007 RANK : 2	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -4%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$72.7 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,802,158		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,890,103
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$7	
	COMMENTS : Posted third highest attendance (figures less than 4,000 down from last year) as well as record-breaking revenues. Miley Cyrus performing as Hannah Montana beat her own all-time rodeo attendance record from last year, with 73,459 in attendance compared to last year's 73,291 in the 71,500-seat Reliant Stadium.			
Minnesota State Fair St. Paul 2008: Aug. 21-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 27-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 3	2007 RANK : 3	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +1%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$36 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,693,533		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 1,693,533	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,681,678
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$11	
	COMMENTS : Food spending up 6%. Ride revenue down 1.8% from last year. Brad Paisley and 3 Doors Down drew nearly sold-out crowds to the 13,000-seat grandstand and commanded higher ticket prices. Republican National Convention dates overlapped with fair dates, presenting some issues with logistics and vendors.			
San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo 2008: Jan. 31-Feb. 17 2009: Feb. 5-22	2008 RANK : 4	2007 RANK : 10	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +12%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$25 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,351,300		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,204,417
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$5	
	COMMENTS : Attendance numbers boosted from last year as a result of great weather, a strong concert series, and eight attendance record-breaking days. 13 of 21 concerts were sell-outs (including the Jonas Brothers, Alan Jackson and Gary Allan). Wade Shows had their best year ever, up 27 percent over last year.			
Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) Toronto 2008: Aug. 15-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 21-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 5	2007 RANK : 4	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$19 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,310,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,240,000
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$14 (Canadian)	
	COMMENTS : Near perfect weather helped boost attendance. Ride revenue up 10 percent. Cited "staycation" as a factor in numbers increase.			
Los Angeles County Fair Pomona, Calif. 2008: Sept. 5-28 2009: Sept. 5-Oct. 4	2008 RANK : 6	2007 RANK : 5	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$53 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,303,655		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,365,026
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$12-\$17	
	COMMENTS : Despite drop in attendance, overall sales were pretty much in line with last year. Hosted a record 103,000 Southern California school children free of charge as part of the FairKids Discovery Club Field Trip Program.			
Calgary (Alberta) Stampede 2008: July 4-13 2009: July 3-12	2008 RANK : 7	2007 RANK : 7	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$127 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,236,351		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 711,983	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,251,105
	GATE REVENUE : \$7.9 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$12.25	
	COMMENTS : Slight attendance decrease due to fewer American visitors and some bad weather. Midway gross up 4 percent.			
San Diego County Fair Del Mar, Calif. 2008: June 12-July 5 2009: July 3-12	2008 RANK : 8	2007 RANK : 6	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -2%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$60 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,235,698		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,265,997
	GATE REVENUE : \$7.6 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$12	
	COMMENTS : 2nd largest attendance despite opening one day late to accommodate U.S. Open Golf Tournament. Broke record for largest average daily attendance at 58,843. Fergie and Sugarland drew large crowds. Sports theme (in correlation with summer Olympics) was successful. Second year of "Two Dollar Taste of the Fair."			
Western Washington Fair Puyallup 2008: Sept. 5-21 2009: Sept. 11-27	2008 RANK : 9	2007 RANK : 11	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -2%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$22-\$23 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,163,969		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,182,937
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Rain and cool weather account for a 1.6 percent decline in attendance. Carrie Underwood and Kid Rock sold-out 10,000-seat Columbia Bank Concert Center grandstand.			
Iowa State Fair Des Moines 2008: Aug. 7-17 2009: Aug. 13-23	2008 RANK : 10	2007 RANK : 16	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +11%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$16 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,109,150		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 850,223	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,002,464
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Great weather, "staycation" theory attributed to attendance increase. Def Leppard nearly sold out 10,600-seat grandstand.			
Arizona State Fair Phoenix 2008: Oct. 10-Nov. 2 2009: Oct. 9-Nov. 1 (tentative)	2008 RANK : 11	2007 RANK : 9	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -10%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,095,426		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,214,442
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$12	
	COMMENTS : Economy affected numbers, but still had 4th highest attendance ever.			
Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) West Springfield, Mass. 2008: Sept. 12-28 2009: 18-Oct. 4	2008 RANK : 12	2007 RANK : 8	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -14%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,050,624		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,227,889
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$15 weekends, \$12 weekdays	
	COMMENTS : Attendance decline attributed to rainy weather and Sugarland cancellation. Big ticket acts Fergie and Natasha Bedingfield performed despite rain at the 6,500-seat, outdoor Comcast Arena Stage. Six percent decline in ride revenue.			

SOURCE: Venues Today Research

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Orange County Fair Costa Mesa, Calif. 2008: July 11-Aug. 3 2009: July 10-Aug. 9	2008 RANK : 13	2007 RANK : 14	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -3%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$30.3 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 1,062,673		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 864,727	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,090,653
	GATE REVENUE : \$5.4 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$9	
	COMMENTS : Great weather, spending up despite economy. Attendance down from last year but the number of paying attendees was up. \$1 admission increase from last year. Ride revenue up 11 percent; food and drink sales up 12 percent.			
Oklahoma State Fair Oklahoma City 2008: Sept. 11-21 2009: Sept. 17-27	2008 RANK : 14	2007 RANK : 13	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -9%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : Approx. 1 million		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : Approx. 1.1 million
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Rain key factor in attendance decrease. Despite lower attendance, food/beverage and carnival gross was up.			
New York State Fair Syracuse 2008: Aug. 21-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 27-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 15	2007 RANK : 17	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -1%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 927,871		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 936,399
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Decision to charge Live Nation with concert bookings appears to have worked - 17,000-seat grandstand line-up had three sell-outs (Jonas Brothers, Rascal Flatts with Taylor Swift, and a triple bill of Journey, Heart and Cheap Trick), sold 90,000 tickets compared to last year's 66,000, and grossed more than \$1 million more than the previous year.			
Tulsa (Okla.) State Fair 2008: Sept. 25-Oct. 5 2009: Oct. 1-11	2008 RANK : 16	2007 RANK : 12	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -7%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$22 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 915,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 987,057
	GATE REVENUE : \$1.8 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Gate revenue up although attendance was slightly down. Deemed a successful fair this year.			
Erie County Fair Hamburg, N.Y. 2008: Aug. 6-17 2009: Aug. 12-23	2008 RANK : 17	2007 RANK : 15	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -10%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$8 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 908,241		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 1,009,112
	GATE REVENUE : \$1,681,731		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$9	
	COMMENTS : Nine days of rain. Canceled several events due to bad weather. Otherwise, solid fair.			
Southwestern Expo & Livestock Fort Worth, Texas 2008: Jan. 11-Feb. 3 2009: Jan. 16-Feb. 8	2008 RANK : 18	2007 RANK : 19	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +3%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$13 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 899,200		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 268,536	2007 ATTENDANCE : 875,300
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Numbers went up slightly due to better weather from 2007.			
Wisconsin State Fair West Allis 2008: July 31-Aug. 10 2009: Aug. 6-16	2008 RANK : 19	2007 RANK : 23	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +9%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$12.5 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 872,458		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 650,759	2007 ATTENDANCE : 801,420
	GATE REVENUE : \$3,735,985		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$9	
	COMMENTS : Great weather helped numbers. Also, heavily promoted "staycation" message. Admission price up \$1.			
Indiana State Fair Indianapolis 2008: Aug. 6-17 2009: Aug. 7-23	2008 RANK : 20	2007 RANK : 25	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +15%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$23 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 859,619		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 748,171
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Great weather. "Staycation" helped numbers, overall spending was up. Fair will run 5 days longer next year in order to include all 4H events during actual fair.			
Illinois State Fair Springfield 2008: Aug. 8-17 2009: Aug. 14-23	2008 RANK : 21	2007 RANK : 28	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +18%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$12.1 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 812,052		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 690,110
	GATE REVENUE : \$787,846		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$3	
	COMMENTS : Strong grandstand lineup (including Fergie and ZZ Top with Brooks & Dunn) and great weather made for a successful year. Used "staycation" message in marketing and fair organizers think it helped numbers.			
Ohio State Fair Columbus 2008: July 30-Aug. 10 2009: July 29-Aug. 9	2008 RANK : 22	2007 RANK : 22	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$13 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 809,321		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 806,301
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Attendance slightly up and spending up a lot. Fair officials attributed "staycation" to describe the reason for the numbers. \$2 gate admission increase. Numbers were up in spite of not having a major concert in the 22,500-28,000-seat Columbus Crew Stadium.			
California State Fair Sacramento 2008: Aug. 20-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 21-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 23	2007 RANK : 26	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +8%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$30 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 795,624		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 540,618	2007 ATTENDANCE : 739,380
	GATE REVENUE : \$4,256,711		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Increased from 16 days to 18 days (opened Mondays). Parking: \$1,202,535; Food & Beverage: \$8,467,545. Will be impacted by Southern California fair date changes in 2009.			
North Carolina State Fair Raleigh 2008: Oct. 17-26 2009: Oct. 15-25	2008 RANK : 24	2007 RANK : 21	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -10%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$17 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 765,067		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 846,724
	GATE REVENUE : \$3.36 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$7	
	COMMENTS : Bad weather and a slow economy led to decline in attendance. Only one concert was a sellout, compared to last year's five.			
Evergreen State Fair Monroe, Wash. 2008: Aug. 21-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 27-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 25	2007 RANK : 20	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -14%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$6.9 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 761,867		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 882,095
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$9	
	COMMENTS : 100th anniversary. Established new world record for largest gathering of centenarians (24) to help celebrate anniversary. \$1 admission price increase. Suffered eight days of rain out of 12.			

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Pacific National Exhibition Vancouver, B.C. 2008: Aug. 16–Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 22–Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 26	2007 RANK : 18	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -17%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 753,298		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 906,808
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$15 (Canadian)	
	COMMENTS : Rainiest fair on record; drastically affected attendance numbers.			
Edmonton's Capital EX Edmonton, Alberta 2008: July 17–26 2009: July 17–26	2008 RANK : 27	2007 RANK : 24	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -4%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$22 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 743,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 772,692
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10 (Canadian)	
	COMMENTS : Event competed head-to-head with the new Indy race. Both events managed by Northlands so next year they will look for synergies.			
National Western Stock Show Denver 2008: Jan. 6–21 2009: Jan. 10–25	2008 RANK : 28	2007 RANK : 29	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +6%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$15 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 673,449		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 318,630	2007 ATTENDANCE : 634,467
	GATE REVENUE : \$819,000		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10 weekends, \$7 weekdays	
	COMMENTS : \$1 increase in admission price. Plans for expansion — current site is 100 acres; looking to move to 250 acres. Concessions up significantly. Fair organizers credit advertising and better weather for increased attendance and concession sales.			
Mississippi State Fair Jackson 2008: Oct. 1–12 2009: Oct. 7–18	2008 RANK : 29	2007 RANK : 30	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -4%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 608,610		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 636,840
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$5	
	COMMENTS : Some rain and not having a holiday during this year's fair may have affected numbers, but overall sales were good and vendors did well.			
New Mexico State Fair Albuquerque 2008: Sept. 5–21 2009: Sept. 11–27	2008 RANK : 30	2007 RANK : 27	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -18%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$15 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 602,504		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 446,189	2007 ATTENDANCE : 730,529
	GATE REVENUE : \$2.2 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : 70th anniversary. Fair organizers attribute significant attendance decrease to national and global economic crises and high gas prices.			
Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition Miami 2008: March 27–April 13 2009: March 26–April 12	2008 RANK : 31	2007 RANK : 31	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -9%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 600,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 660,000
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$9	
	COMMENTS : Games down 20 percent; food, 12 percent; and overall attendance, 9 percent. Slow economy cited as a major factor. Admission up \$1. Fair began two weeks later and got off to a slow start, with a lot of entertainment competition in Miami.			
South Florida Fair West Palm Beach 2008: Jan. 18–Feb. 3 2009: Jan. 16–Feb. 1	2008 RANK : 32	2007 RANK : 34	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +2%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$10 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 598,281		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 586,550
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$15	
	COMMENTS : Three-year effort to draw larger crowds on weekdays started to pay off this year. "Party with the Animals" theme helped keep people on the grounds longer.			
Kentucky State Fair Louisville 2008: Aug. 14–24 2009: Aug. 20–30	2008 RANK : 33	2007 RANK : 33	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$31 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 586,106		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 586,106	2007 ATTENDANCE : 589,364
	GATE REVENUE : \$2.5 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : High gas prices kept some concert-goers and school groups away, but overall great weather helped numbers.			
Great Allentown (Pa.) Fair 2008: Aug. 26–Sept. 1 2009: Sept. 1–7	2008 RANK : 34	2007 RANK : 35	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -3%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 570,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 585,000
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$6	
	COMMENTS : Attendance down 2.5 percent. 41 percent increase in carnival revenues with a new midway provider (Rochester, N.Y.-based Powers Great American Midway). Record-setting concert revenues with large grossing shows The Jonas Brothers and Toby Keith.			
Florida Strawberry Festival & Fair Plant City 2008: Feb. 28–March 9 2009: Feb. 26–March 8	2008 RANK : 35	2007 RANK : 36	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : Same	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 550,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 550,000
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Had several days of rain but did not affect attendance too much. Making lots of changes for 2009 festival — moving livestock, increasing the number of kids' rides, and adding extra pig races and bikes, boards, and blades shows.			
Big Fresno (Calif.) Fair 2008: Oct. 1–12 2009: Oct. 7–18	2008 RANK : 36	2007 RANK : 37	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -1%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$16 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 542,717		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 317,113	2007 ATTENDANCE : 548,424
	GATE REVENUE : \$1.6 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Successful fair despite rough economy and several rainy and windy days during fair.			
York (Pa.) Fair 2008: Sept. 5–14 2009: Sept. 11–20	2008 RANK : 37	2007 RANK : 32	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -17%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$6.5 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 508,887		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 615,857
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$6	
	COMMENTS : Admission up \$1. 17 percent decrease in attendance attributed to leftover rainfall from two hurricanes.			

SOURCE: Venues Today Research

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Florida State Fair Tampa 2008: Feb. 17-18 2009: Feb. 5-16	2008 RANK : 38	2007 RANK : 40	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +7%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$17 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 490,513		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 458,158
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Saw record midway gross even though attendance (up 7 percent from last year) was not the highest ever. The La Plaza Village, which focused on Latino culture and heritage, with specialty foods, vendors and entertainers, was a new feature this year.			
Colorado State Fair Pueblo 2008: Aug. 22-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 28-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 39	2007 RANK : 38	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$7.5 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 486,659		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 429,330	2007 ATTENDANCE : 485,038
	GATE REVENUE : \$1.1 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8 weekends, \$5 weekdays	
	COMMENTS : Sugarland concert drew nearly 7,400 people, making it the top performance for 2008. This year's PRCA event drew record attendance with promise of a new Dodge Avenger for one ticket-holder.			
Arkansas State Fair Little Rock 2008: Oct. 10-19 2009: Oct. 9-18	2008 RANK : 40	2007 RANK : 43	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +6%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$5 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 467,007		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 326,905	2007 ATTENDANCE : 441,535
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Entertainment budget increased once again from \$240,000 to \$250,000; booked this year were Rodney Atkins, Three Dog Night, Bo Bice, James Otto and the LoCash Cowboys.			
State Fair of Louisiana Shreveport 2008: Oct. 23-Nov. 9 2009: Oct. 22-Nov. 8	2008 RANK : 41	2007 RANK : 47	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +6%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$3.1 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 430,093		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 405,478
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$10	
	COMMENTS : Benefited from great weather for entire run of the fair. Broke carnival gross record and attendance record from recent years.			
South Carolina State Fair Columbia 2008: Oct. 8-19 2009: Oct. 14-25	2008 RANK : 42	2007 RANK : 39	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -11%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$6 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 425,854		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 319,913	2007 ATTENDANCE : 480,358
	GATE REVENUE : \$2.1 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Bad weather prompted an 11 percent decline in attendance. However, per cap spending was up. Food and ride gross only down 4 to 5 percent. Gate admission price up \$1.			
Bloomsburg (Pa.) Fair 2008: Sept. 20-27 2009: Sept. 26-Oct. 3	2008 RANK : 43	2007 RANK : 44	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 412,839		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 432,860
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$4	
	COMMENTS : Tore down structures on the east end of the grounds and used space for temporary free stage. Rainy weekend and Sugarland cancellation brought slump in attendance.			
SuperEx Ottawa, Ont. 2008: Aug. 14-24 2009: Aug. 20-30	2008 RANK : 44	2007 RANK : 50	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : +12%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$1.7 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 409,823		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 365,427
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$12 [Canadian]	
	COMMENTS : Better weather this year helped numbers. Expanded magic festival, which helped draw crowds as well.			
Georgia National Fair Perry 2008: Aug. 22-Sept. 1 2009: Oct. 2-12	2008 RANK : 45	2007 RANK : 42	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -8%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$4.5 million - fair
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 407,136		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 228,464	2007 ATTENDANCE : 443,351
	GATE REVENUE : \$1.7 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Despite slight attendance drop due to weather, several single-day attendance records were set.			
Pennsylvania Farm Show Harrisburg 2008: Jan. 5-12 2009: Jan. 10-17	2008 RANK : 46	2007 RANK : N/A	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -6%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$9.5 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 400,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : Free gate	2007 ATTENDANCE : 350,000-400,000
	GATE REVENUE : \$2.4 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : Free	
	COMMENTS : Percentage decrease is based on parking receipts. Preparing for early 2009 dates with new events, including an oxen and Haflinger demonstration, along with antique tractor pulls and a stitch-a-quilt group event to be auctioned for charity.			
Greeley (Colo.) Independence Stampede 2008: June 26-July 6 2009: June 25-July 5	2008 RANK : 47	2007 RANK : 41	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -13%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : N/A
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 390,000		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : Free gate	2007 ATTENDANCE : 450,000
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : Free	
	COMMENTS : Overall ticket sales down; beer and carnival sales up.			
Maryland State Fair Timonium 2008: Aug. 22-Sept. 1 2009: Aug. 28-Sept. 7	2008 RANK : 48	2007 RANK : 45	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -7%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$7.75 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 388,090		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : N/A	2007 ATTENDANCE : 417,558
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : Bad weather during Labor Day caused attendance to drop. High gas prices may have affected numbers. Carnival revenue close to last year's record with no price increases. \$2 admission price increase.			
Kern County Fair Bakersfield, Calif. 2008: Sept. 17-28 2009: Sept. 26-Oct. 3	2008 RANK : 49	2007 RANK : 49	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -0.5%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$5 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 384,289		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : 229,088	2007 ATTENDANCE : 386,593
	GATE REVENUE : \$1.3 million		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : \$8	
	COMMENTS : "It was almost the perfect fair," said GM Bill Blair. "Operationally, we had zero negative incidents." Record opening day. Food sales were up 6% and carnival up 3%.			
Ionia (Mich.) Free Fair 2008: July 17-26 2009: July 16-25	2008 RANK : 50	2007 RANK : 46	PERCENTAGE CHANGE : -6%	YEAR-ROUND BUDGET : \$1 million
	2008 ATTENDANCE : 382,452		2008 PAID ATTENDANCE : Free gate	2007 ATTENDANCE : 406,890
	GATE REVENUE : N/A		ADULT ADMISSION PRICE : Free	
	COMMENTS : Economy affected attendance.			

SOURCE: Venues Today Research