

As of the writing of this article, attendance looks like this:

2019 Attendance		Home			Road			Overall			
RK	TEAM	GMS	TOTAL	AVG	PCT	GMS	AVG	PCT	GMS	AVG	PCT
1	LA Dodgers	17	803,091	47,240	0.0	20	38,152	0.0	37	42,328	0.0
2	Philadelphia	21	773,290	36,823	0.0	13	26,662	0.0	34	32,938	0.0
3	NY Yankees	19	752,319	39,595	0.0	15	34,214	0.0	34	37,221	0.0
4	Milwaukee	22	732,543	33,297	0.0	15	31,447	0.0	37	32,547	0.0
5	LA Angels	20	697,329	34,866	0.0	14	21,259	0.0	34	29,263	0.0
6	St. Louis	17	696,914	40,994	0.0	18	29,179	0.0	35	34,918	0.0
7	Atlanta	20	594,882	29,744	0.0	14	23,864	0.0	34	27,323	0.0
8	San Diego	19	594,451	31,286	0.0	17	28,616	0.0	36	30,026	0.0
9	Chicago Cubs	15	536,402	35,760	0.0	17	31,527	0.0	32	33,511	0.0
10	Texas	19	526,256	27,697	0.0	13	23,766	0.0	32	26,100	0.0
11	San Francisco	16	521,297	32,581	0.0	19	28,430	0.0	35	30,328	0.0
12	Colorado	15	506,350	33,756	0.0	20	23,643	0.0	35	27,977	0.0
13	Boston	15	505,504	33,700	0.0	21	27,412	0.0	36	30,032	0.0
14	Washington	18	487,931	27,107	0.0	16	29,201	0.0	34	28,092	0.0
15	Houston	14	449,191	32,085	0.0	21	20,886	0.0	35	25,365	0.0
16	Seattle	18	437,433	24,301	0.0	19	26,458	0.0	37	25,409	0.0
17	NY Mets	15	422,023	28,134	0.0	20	30,748	0.0	35	29,628	0.0
18	Arizona	14	394,417	28,172	0.0	21	27,687	0.0	35	27,881	0.0
19	Oakland	18	354,325	19,684	0.0	18	23,422	0.0	36	21,553	0.0
20	Toronto	16	319,071	19,941	0.0	19	23,360	0.0	35	21,797	0.0
21	Chicago White Sox	17	311,948	18,349	0.0	15	20,710	0.0	32	19,456	0.0
22	Cincinnati	17	291,375	17,139	0.0	18	29,771	0.0	35	23,635	0.0
23	Kansas City	18	273,536	15,196	0.0	17	22,723	0.0	35	18,852	0.0
24	Minnesota	16	269,493	16,843	0.0	16	27,249	0.0	32	22,046	0.0
25	Pittsburgh	16	255,964	15,997	0.0	15	31,310	0.0	31	23,407	0.0
26	Baltimore	15	239,261	15,950	0.0	18	23,496	0.0	33	20,066	0.0
27	Detroit	14	237,670	16,976	0.0	17	26,583	0.0	31	22,244	0.0
28	Cleveland	14	236,404	16,886	0.0	18	18,477	0.0	32	17,781	0.0
29	Tampa Bay	17	232,265	13,662	0.0	16	21,067	0.0	33	17,253	0.0
30	Miami	21	203,038	9,668	0.0	13	25,448	0.0	34	15,702	0.0

*In recent years most cases of doubleheaders are split/day-night doubleheaders which means they have two gates/separate attendance figures. In these cases above they are true doubleheaders with only one attendance number.

This marks a measured decline for three consecutive years, which for any baseball lover is somewhat concerning. There have been [several articles discussing](#) the [declining attendance](#) in major league baseball as of late. [Bad weather](#), [ticket prices](#), and several theories exist as to why, but one I have not read much about is simply *competition*.

For better or worse, baseball follows the laws of supply and demand, and with that the teams who perform poorly will see dramatic declines in attendance (generally speaking). What *usually* accompanies the law of supply and demand is accompanying price changes, but that is not what we are seeing in Major League Baseball. With the exception of my beloved Chicago White Sox, virtually every team has stagnant or *increased* ticket prices. So teams like the Marlins, Orioles, and Royals who are struggling and/or rebuilding **and** increasing prices for the privilege of watching them struggle? Why does that surprise anyone?

Baseball vs. Soccer

All that being said, the actual elephant in the room is actually soccer. While the NFL is still the dominant force in popularity and revenue, baseball remains America's past-time; a tradition "every" kid participates in every summer. Despite some reports of declining youth soccer participation, there is equally (if not more) on the competition of youth soccer and little league which undeniably contributes to the attendance and participation of professional baseball. In [2015, Forbes reported](#) on youth soccer having much quicker and stickier adoption than little league baseball, which I have witnessed as a parent.

My wife and I discussed this recently and her findings and discussions with other parents is not surprising. Baseball is the equivalent of calculus, whereas soccer is closer to addition. What we mean by that is the complexity of the game, particularly for young kids is undeniably in the favor of soccer. For youths, soccer represents as little a learning curve as you can imagine, whereas the rules of baseball alone and the amount of attention span *without* action can be extremely challenging. I struggle with this with my son, where his attention and interest wane rapidly if he is not catching or "pitching" in his coach pitch league.

Nothing beats a father son game of catch

Regardless of all of this and that, *nothing* compares to a game of catch.

Baseball remains healthy and strong, and I don't care what anyone says, baseball is

America's Past Time, and will always be.