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2022 State Fair Attendance Rivals Pre-Pandemic Numbers

ALBUQUERQUE, NM – Officials with the New Mexico State Fair released attendance numbers for the 2022 event today. People from all over the state gathered together to celebrate agriculture, music, food, the arts, and everything that makes New Mexico great. This year’s cumulative total State Fair attendance came to 475,318, making it the third best-attended fair since going to an eleven-day format in 2012.

“We couldn’t be happier with the support New Mexico showed for this year’s event,” said State Fair General Manager, Dan Mourning. “This year, more than ever, New Mexicans made the fair an event to remember. We saw a level of enthusiasm for the fair that frankly, we’ve missed and it was so great to see all of the families, exhibitors, and talent return to the fair in such a big way.”

For the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, 4-H and FFA exhibitors returned to the fairgrounds to compete in the popular livestock shows and the Junior Livestock Sale. There were 431 exhibitors who participated in this year’s livestock shows, bringing over 2,000 entries to this year’s fair. The Junior Livestock Sale, held on September 17, yielded \$610,425 for this year’s participants.

2022 was also the first-year partnership with presenting sponsor, Chevron. The multi-year agreement was announced in August and Chevron’s presence was prominent, most notably in the newly renovated Chevron Pavilion.

“This was a fantastic inaugural year with our new presenting sponsor, Chevron,” stated Mourning. “The Chevron Pavilion gave fairgoers a brand new, integrated food, drink, and entertainment experience that crowds loved. Initiatives like these continue to make our fair one of the very best in the nation and continue to appeal to companies looking to make a worthwhile investment in this event. No other event in the state can deliver on New Mexico like the New Mexico State Fair.”

Other fair firsts for this year included the extremely popular, Discovering Cannabis exhibit. The fair’s first-ever educational, over 21 cannabis exhibit was sponsored by local cannabis company, Verdes Cannabis. Discovering Cannabis welcomed approximately 50,000 cannabis curious fairgoers looking to learn more about New Mexico’s newest industry.

Popular discount days for public servants, the fair's School Days program, three sold-out concerts inside Tingley Coliseum, and the always popular Dollar Day helped contribute to this year's high attendance numbers. First-rate programming and excellent weather also contributed to longer fair visits for fairgoers this year.

The New Mexico State Fair is pleased to announce next year's fair dates, which will be September 7 – 17, 2023.

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