



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Minor League Attendance Increases 450,000 to Record 43.2-Million

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—Minor League Baseball has set its all-time regular season attendance record for the fifth consecutive year. The industry’s 15 leagues and 176 clubs attracted 43,263,740 fans, enabling Minor League Baseball to surpass the 43-million mark for the first time in its 107-year history. This season’s total represents an increase of 450,928 fans, or 1.1%, over 2007.

"Given the obstacles we faced this year with the economy, devastating floods and late season hurricanes, the 2008 attendance number achieved by our teams is further proof of baseball's renaissance and place in the fabric and fiber that is America," said Minor League Baseball President Pat O’Conner. "Each of our host communities and teams should be proud of the job we do to provide this great game to the greatest sports fans in the world."

Four leagues set records of their own. The International League and Texas League eclipsed the 7-million and 3-million fan marks, respectively, for the first time ever. The Midwest and Pioneer circuits set new league records for the second year in a row. Other leagues that topped their 2007 total were the Mexican, Carolina and Appalachian.

Attendance by Leagues:

International	7,097,411	Florida State	1,030,461
Pacific Coast	7,219,356	Midwest	3,602,687
Mexican	4,035,169	South Atlantic	3,777,173
Eastern	3,770,333	New York-Penn	1,815,445
Southern	2,460,838	Northwest	919,153
Texas	3,129,865	Appalachian	317,058
California	1,633,328	Pioneer	728,952
Carolina	1,726,511	Total	43,263,740

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