

# **CULTURAL ATTRACTION ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**2006**

PREPARED BY:



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I BACKGROUND AND APPROACH	1
II PARTICIPANTS	2
III KEY RESULTS	4
Museums	5
Zoos	10
Aquaria	15
REGISTRATION FORM	20

## LIST OF FIGURES

		<u>Page</u>
Figure 1	Average Museum Attendance	5
Figure 2	Average General Admission Museum Attendance	6
Figure 3	Average Museum Membership	7
Figure 4	Average Museum Total Capital Improvement Expenditures	8
Figure 5	Average Museum Admission Price	9
Figure 6	Average Zoo Attendance	10
Figure 7	Average General Admission Zoo Attendance	11
Figure 8	Average Number of Zoo Members	12
Figure 9	Average Zoo Total Capital Improvement Expenditures	13
Figure 10	Average Zoo Admission Price	14
Figure 11	Average Aquarium Attendance	15
Figure 12	Average General Admission Aquarium Attendance	16
Figure 13	Average Number of Aquarium Members	17
Figure 14	Average Aquarium Capital Improvement Expenditures	18
Figure 15	Average Aquarium Admission Price	19

# **CULTURAL ATTRACTION ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**2006**

## **I BACKGROUND AND APPROACH**

Morey Group is a national market research and consulting firm specializing in the unique needs of non-profit cultural attractions. We conduct surveys, focus groups, audience segmentation, and branding studies of visitors, potential visitors, and members. We have worked with more than 120 non-profit cultural attractions throughout the country. As a service to the cultural attraction industry, we conduct the Annual Cultural Attraction Attendance Report. This report provides information on attendance, membership, capital expenditure, and admission price trends among cultural attractions throughout the U.S.

This year 843 surveys were mailed to museums, zoos, aquariums, and botanical gardens. Surveys were mailed to institutions that vary by geography, operating budgets, and attendance. 140 institutions participated for a 17% response rate.

Surveys were entered into SNAP Survey Tabulation Software and results were analyzed with SNAP and EXCEL.

## II PARTICIPANTS

Abilene Zoological Gardens	Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art
American Visionary Art Museum	John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art
Aquarium of the Pacific	John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Art Institute of Chicago	Lincoln Children's Zoo
Audubon Aquarium of the Americas	Lincoln Park Zoo
Audubon Zoo	Little Rock Zoological Gardens
Austin Children's Museum	Long Island Children's Museum
Autry National Center	Louisville Zoological Garden
Baton Rouge Zoo	Maine State Museum
Bramble Park Zoo	Meadows Museum of Art
Brookfield Zoo	Memphis Zoo
Brookgreen Gardens	Miami MetroZoo
Brooklyn Botanic Garden	Milwaukee Art Museum
Buffalo Bill Historical Center	Milwaukee County Zoological Gardens
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium	Milwaukee Public Museum
Caldwell Zoo	Minnesota Zoo
Calvert Marine Museum	Minnetrista
Carnegie Museum of Art & Natural History	Monterey Bay Aquarium
Central Florida Zoological Park	Museum of Arts & Design
Charles Paddock Zoo	Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Charleston Museum	Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland
Chattanooga Zoo	Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego
Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum	Museum of Modern Art
Children's Museum of Denver	Museum of the Red River
Children's Museum of Portsmouth	Nashville Zoo
Children's Museum of South Carolina	National Aquarium in Baltimore
Children's Museum of the Low Country	National Watch and Clock Museum
Chrysler Museum of Art	Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Cincinnati Art Museum	New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens	New Orleans Museum of Art
Clark County Historical Society	New York Hall of Science
Columbus Zoo and Aquarium	Nicolaysen Art Museum & Discovery Center
Corning Museum of Glass	North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher
Crow Collection of Asian Art	North Carolina Aquarium Pine Knoll Shores
David Traylor Zoo of Emporia	North Carolina Maritime Museum
Dickerson Park Zoo	North Carolina Museum of Art
Discovery Museum	North Carolina Zoo
Entergy IMAX Theater	Norton Simon Museum of Art
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden	Oregon Zoo
Flandrau Science Center	Parrot Jungle Island
Florida Aquarium	Peabody Essex Museum
Fort Wayne Children's Zoo	Peoria Zoo
Fresno Metropolitan Museum	Petersen Automotive Museum
Green Hill Center for North Carolina Art	Philadelphia Museum of Art
Guggenheim Museum	Pima Air & Space Museum
Holden Arboretum	Please Touch Museum
Hutchinson Zoo	Plimoth Plantation
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston	Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
International Center of Photography	Port Discovery

Portland Museum of Art	Staten Island Children's Museum
Pueblo Grande Museum	Strawberry Banke Museum
Pueblo Zoo	Tallahassee Museum of History & Natural Science
Reid Park Zoo	Tennessee Aquarium
Riverbanks Zoo and Garden	The Contemporary Jewish Museum
Rockwell Museum of Western Art	The Henry Ford
Roger Williams Park Zoo	The Morgan Library and Museum
Roosevelt Park Zoo	The Museum of Art and History at the McPherson Center
Sacramento Zoo	The Sandbox
San Diego Natural History Museum	The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
San Diego Zoo/Wild Animal Park	The Tech Museum of Innovation
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art	The Wilds
San Francisco Zoo	Tracy Aviary
Seattle Aquarium	US Space & Rocket Center
Sedgwick County Zoo	Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center
Shark Reef	Virginia Discovery Museum
South Carolina Aquarium	Waukesha County Historical Society & Museum
South Carolina Cotton Museum	Wildlife Experience Museum
Space Center Houston	Woodland Park Zoo
Space Needle	ZEUM
Spartanburg County Museum of Art	Zoo Atlanta
St. Louis Zoo	
State Museum of Pennsylvania	

### III KEY RESULTS

Museum and Zoo attendance increased while Aquarium attendance decreased. The decrease in Aquarium attendance is due to the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas. Factoring out the Aquarium, attendance actually increased.

By facility, aquariums have the highest average visitation followed by zoos.

The average museum adult admission price has increased 74% since 1998. Museums have the lowest adult admission price.

Zoos have the lowest percentage of general admission attendance and highest percentage of member visitation. This is typically due to zoos being visited by a higher percentage of local residents.

The average zoo adult admission price has increased 73% since 2002. Zoos' adult admission price is slightly higher than museums.

Aquariums capture the highest percentage of general admission attendance and the lowest percentage of member attendance. This is due to aquariums being visited by a higher percentage of tourists.

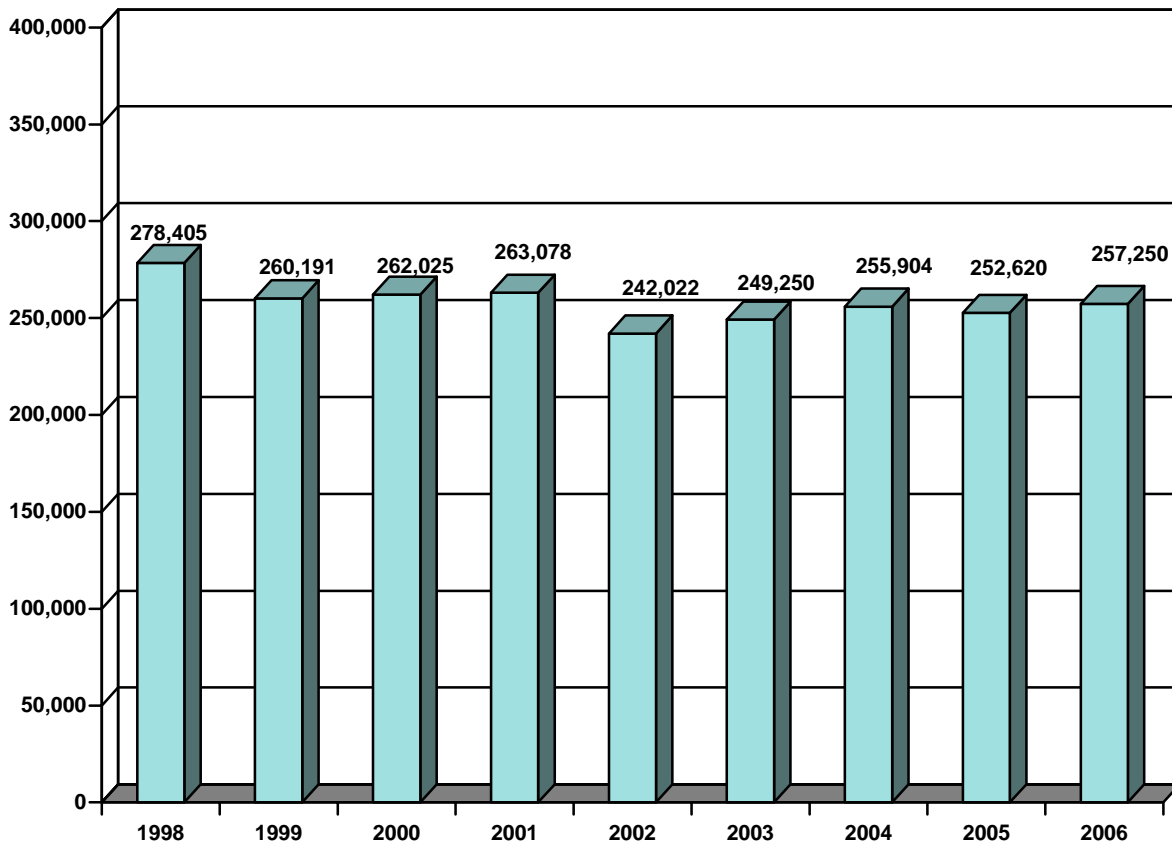
The average aquarium adult admission price has increased 9% since 2002. Aquariums have the highest average adult admission price; 64% higher than museums, and 51% higher than zoos.

## MUSEUMS

### Total Attendance

**Figure 1**

#### AVERAGE MUSEUM ATTENDANCE



The graph indicates average attendance increased 1.8%. Though the aggregate reflects the total of all participating museums, we saw the average increase in attendance per participating museums was higher at 4.6%.

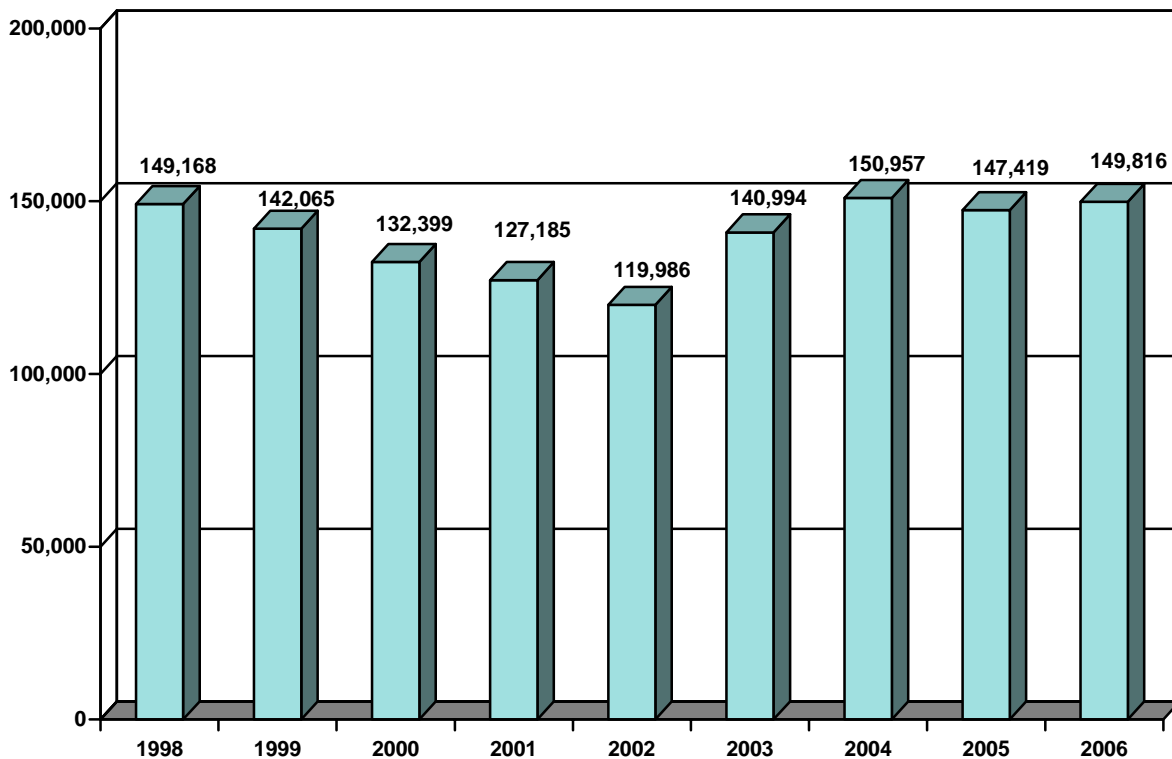
Attendance decreased by more than 1% at 27% of participating museums and attendance increased by more than 1% at 61% of participating museums. This indicates more than twice as many museums' attendance grew in 2006.

40% of surveyed museums have attendance of 100,000 or less, 28% have attendance of 100,001 to 250,000, 22% have attendance of 250,001 to 500,000 and 11% have attendance of more than 500,000.

## General Admission Attendance

**Figure 2**

### AVERAGE GENERAL ADMISSION MUSEUM ATTENDANCE



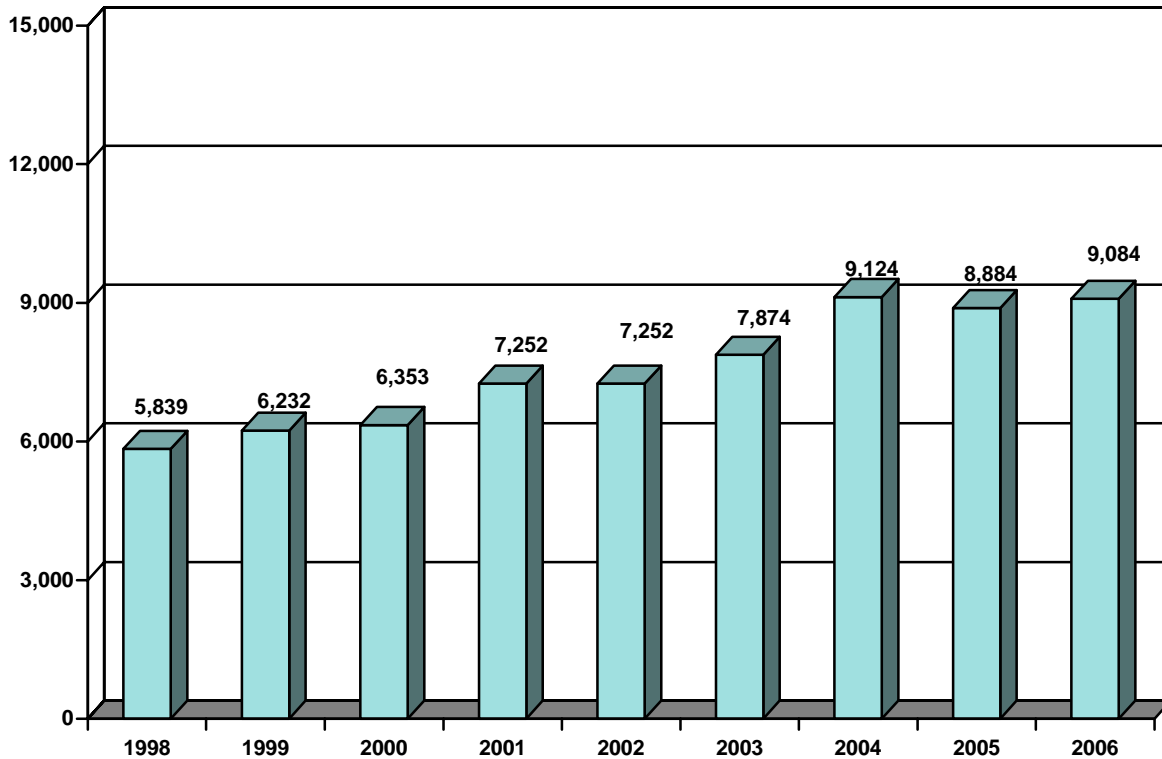
The graph indicates average general admission attendance increased 1.6%. Though the aggregate reflects the total of all participating museums, we saw the average increase in attendance per participating museums was higher at 5.6%.

These graphs indicate 58% of attendance is general admission. In the last 4 years, this percentage has fluctuated between 57% and 59%. During 2000 to 2002, this percentage ranged between 48% and 51%. These results suggest museums are capturing a greater percentage of admission revenue from visitors.

## Membership

**Figure 3**

### AVERAGE MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP



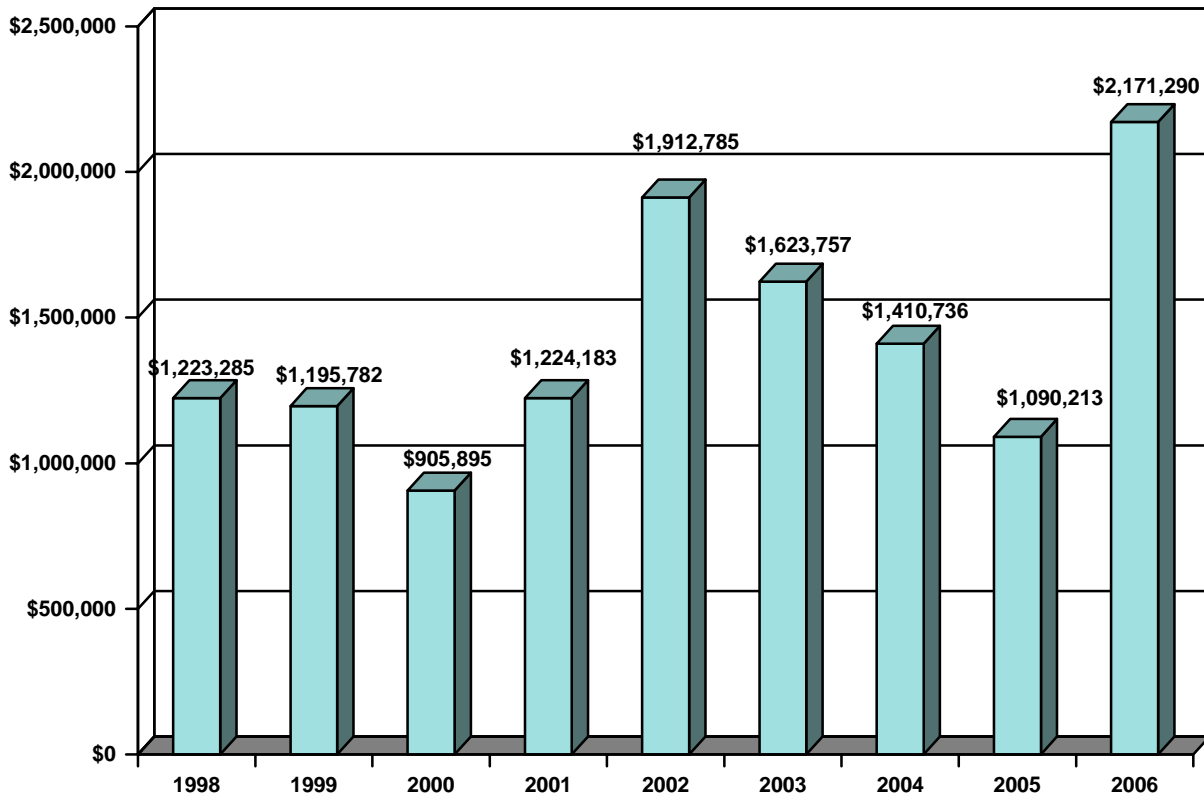
Average membership increased 2.2%. Membership appears to have stabilized after significant growth between 2000 and 2001 and between 2003 and 2004.

According to our Member Benchmark Survey Report, the average number of visits a member makes in a 12 month period is 4.5. If we multiply 4.5 by the average number of members we see that members average 40,878 visits which represents 16% of attendance. This percentage is similar to results we have seen in our clients' on-site visitor surveys.

## Capital Expenditures

**Figure 4**

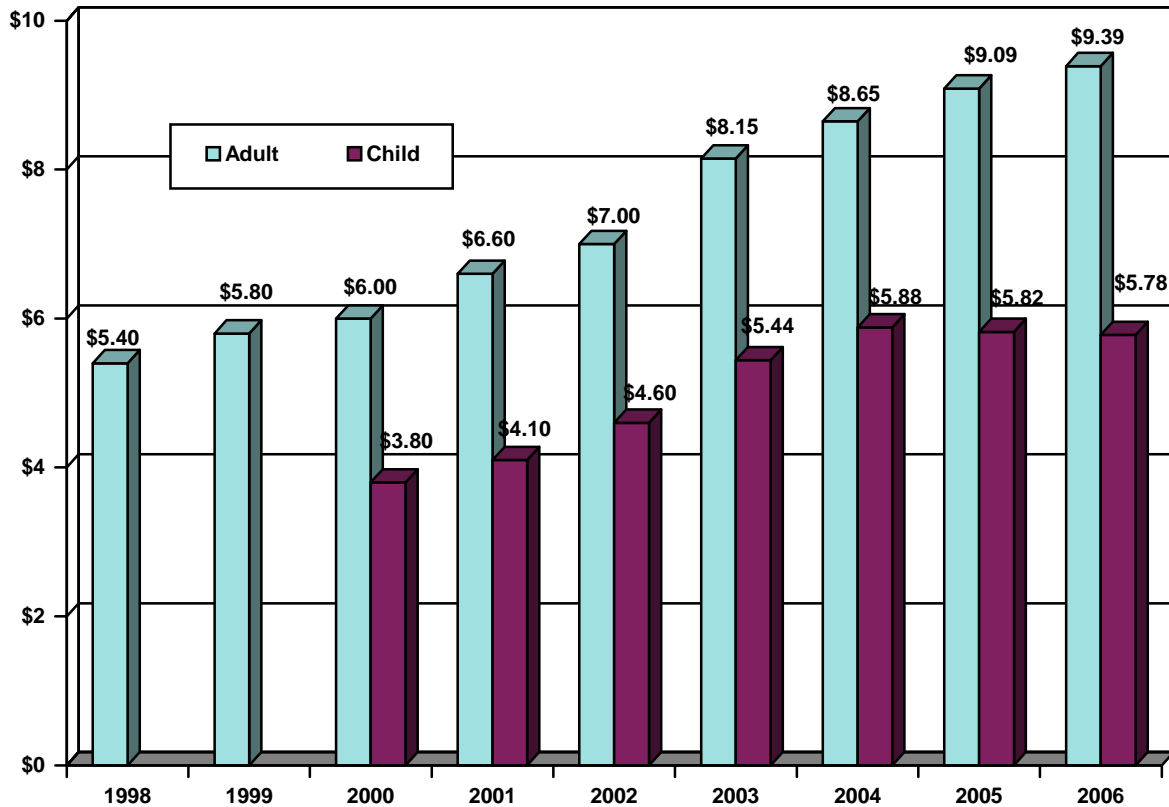
### AVERAGE MUSEUM TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES



## Admission Price

**Figure 5**

### AVERAGE MUSEUM ADMISSION PRICE



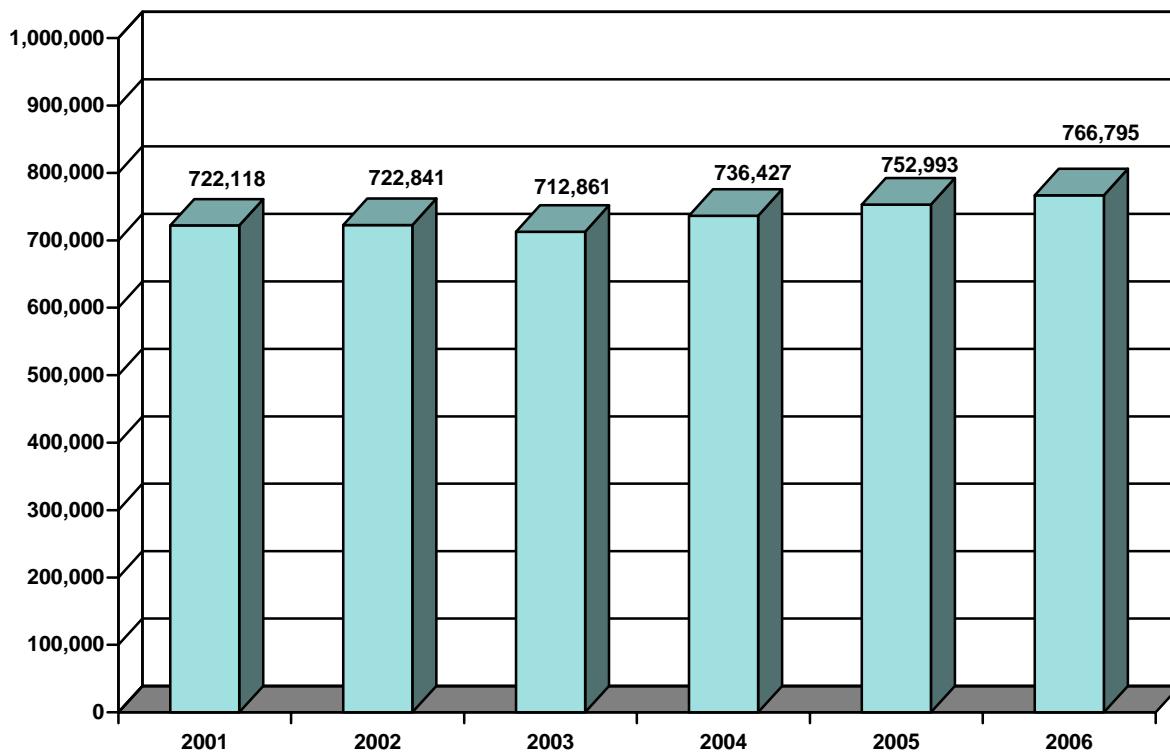
The average admission price continues to increase at a rather significant rate. Since 1998, average admission has increased 74%. Though this increase is significant and reflects a greater need for museums to increase revenue from attendance, we feel museums continue to be a great value and could bear continued price increases.

## ZOOS

### Total Attendance

**Figure 6**

#### AVERAGE ZOO ATTENDANCE



The graph indicates average attendance increased 1.8%. Though the aggregate reflects the total of all participating museums, we saw the average increase in attendance per participating zoos was lower at 0.8%.

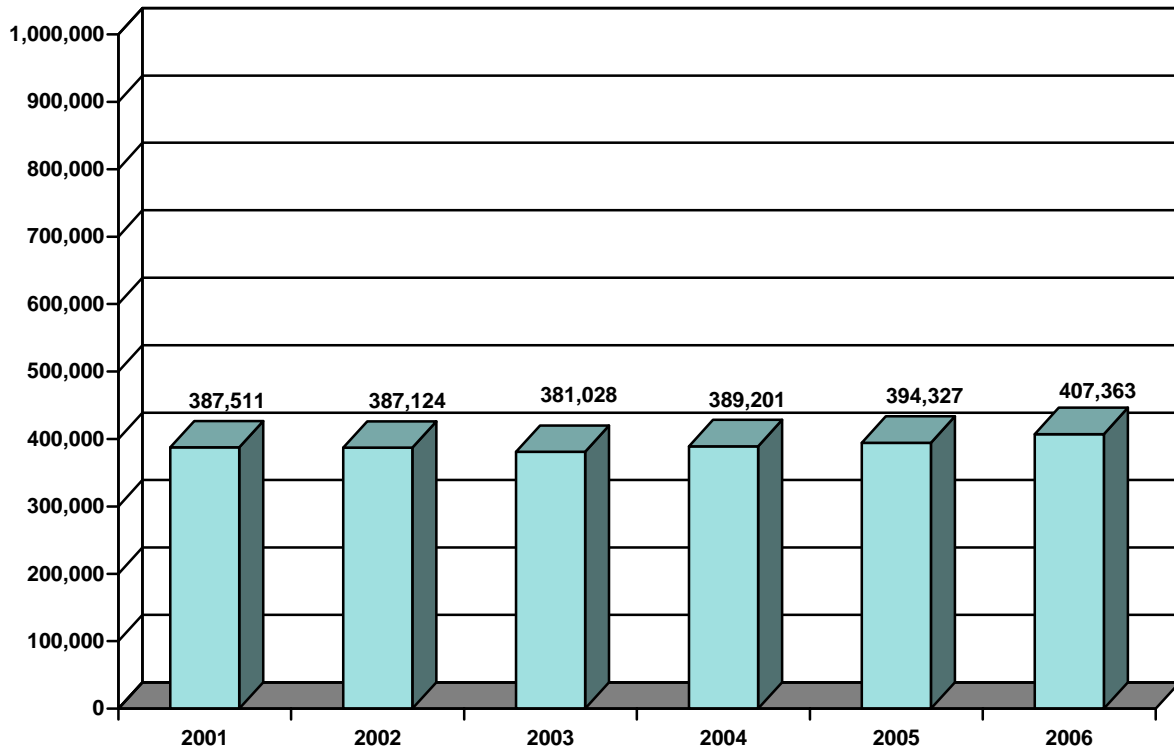
Attendance decreased by more than 1% at 24% of participating zoos and attendance increased by more than 1% at 41% of participating zoos.

16% of surveyed museums have attendance of less than 100,000, 21% have attendance of 100,000 to 299,999, 21% have attendance of 300,000 to 599,999, 16% have attendance of 600,000 to 999,999, and 26% have attendance of 1,000,000 or more.

**General Admission Attendance**

**Figure 7**

**AVERAGE GENERAL ADMISSION ZOO ATTENDANCE**



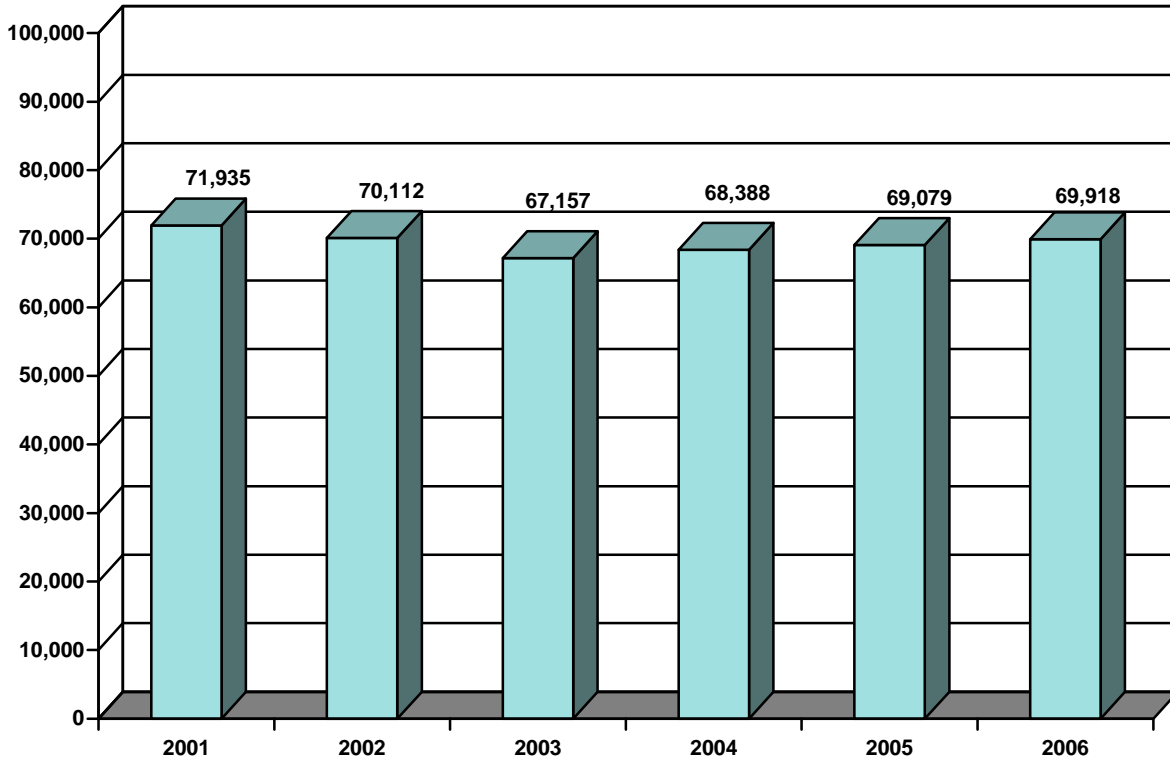
The graph indicates average general admission attendance increased 3.2%. Though the aggregate reflects the total of all participating museums, we saw the average increase in attendance per participating zoos was lower at 0.2%.

These graphs indicate 53% of attendance is general admission. In the last 4 years, this percentage has fluctuated between 52% and 54%.

**Membership**

**Figure 8**

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF ZOO MEMBERS**



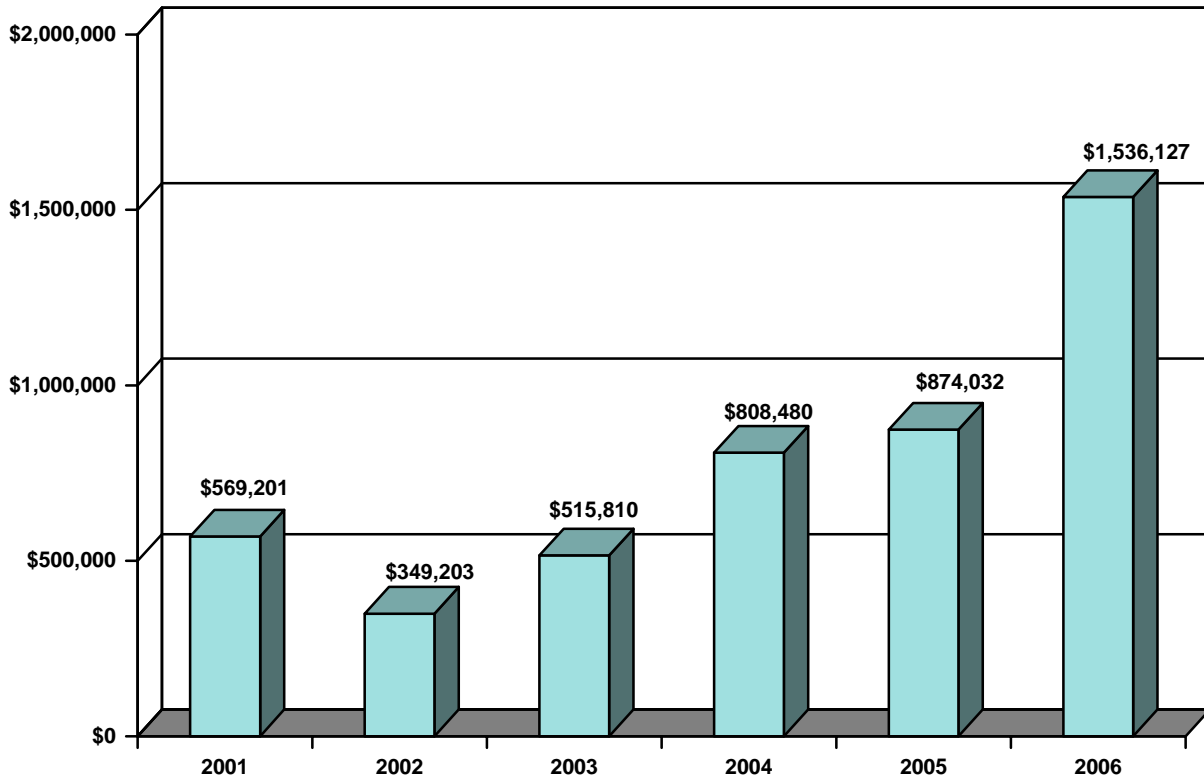
As a whole, the average membership increased 1.2%. At individual zoos, the average increase was 2.0%.

According to our Member Benchmark Survey Report, the average number of visits a member makes in a 12 month period is 4.5. If we multiply 4.5 by the average number of members we see that members average 314,631 visits which represents 41% of attendance.

### Capital Expenditures

**Figure 9**

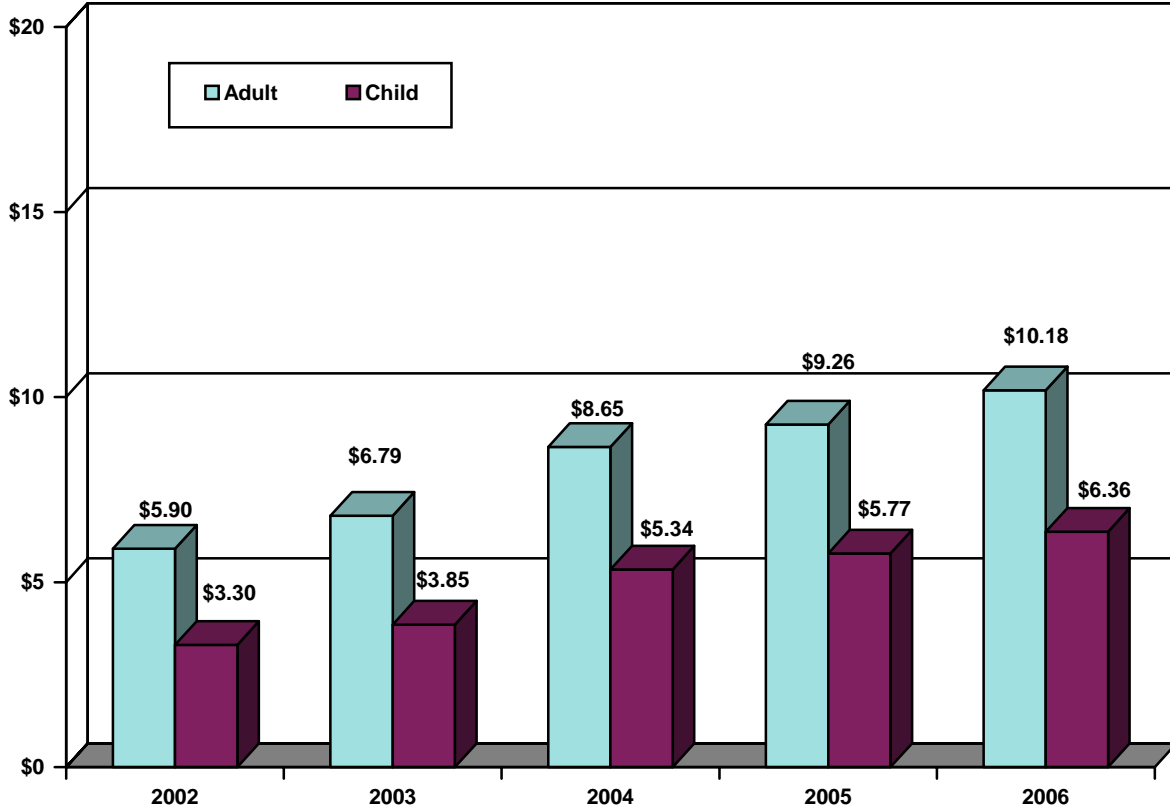
#### AVERAGE ZOO TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES



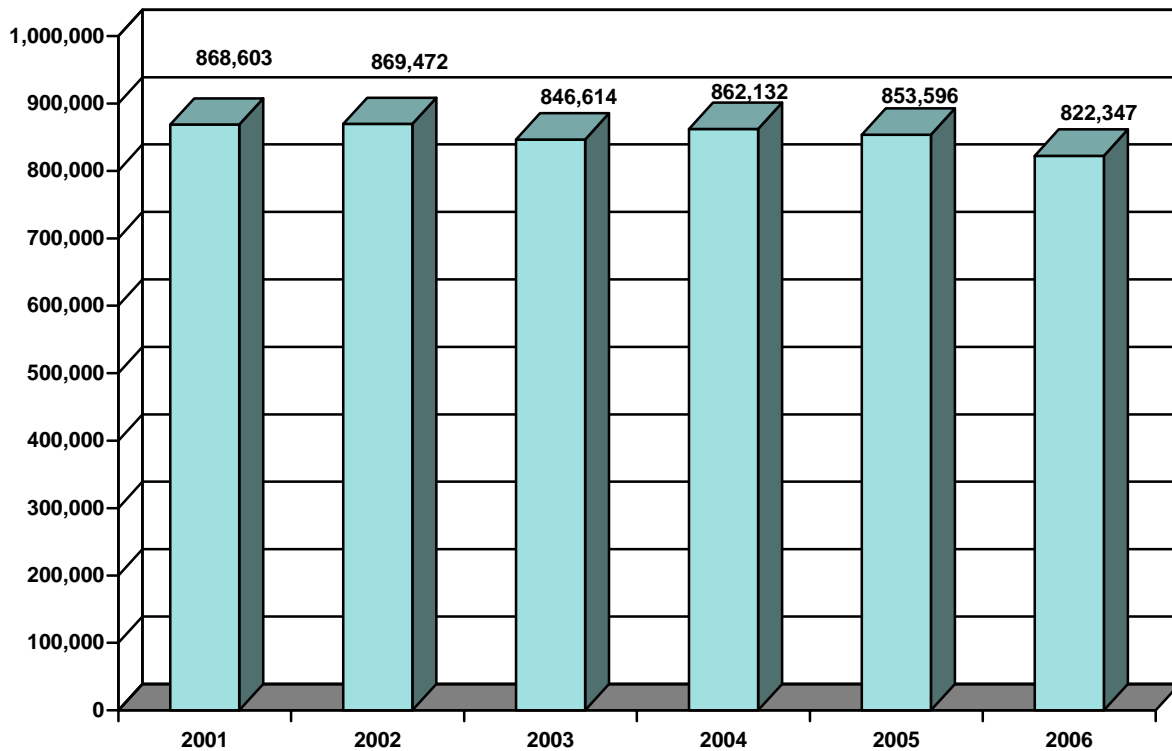
**Admission**

**Figure 10**

**AVERAGE ZOO ADMISSION PRICE**



The average admission price has increased significantly. Our Benchmark Survey Report indicates the average length of stay at a zoo is 3.5 hours, which is nearly twice the average length of stay at a museum. Both are similarly priced.

**AQUARIA****Total Attendance****Figure 11****AVERAGE AQUARIUM ATTENDANCE**

The graph indicates average attendance decreased 3.7%. The decrease was due in part to the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas. Due to the fact there are significantly fewer aquariums than museums or zoos, the impact of one aquarium on an average is much greater. Factoring out the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, overall attendance actually increased 1.9%.

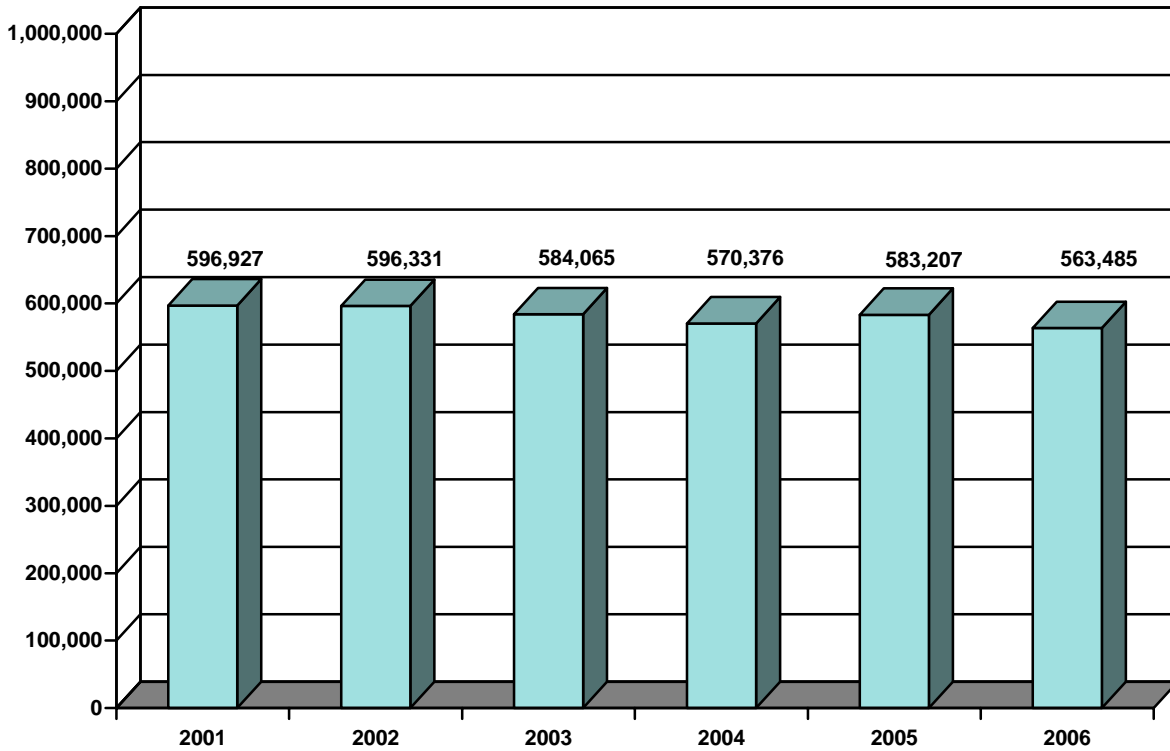
Attendance decreased by more than 1% at 43% of participating aquariums and attendance increased by more than 1% at 29% of participating museums.

33% of surveyed aquariums have attendance of less than 500,000, 33% have attendance of 500,000 to 999,999, and 33% have attendance of more than 500,000.

**General Admission Attendance**

**Figure 12**

**AVERAGE GENERAL ADMISSION AQUARIUM ATTENDANCE**



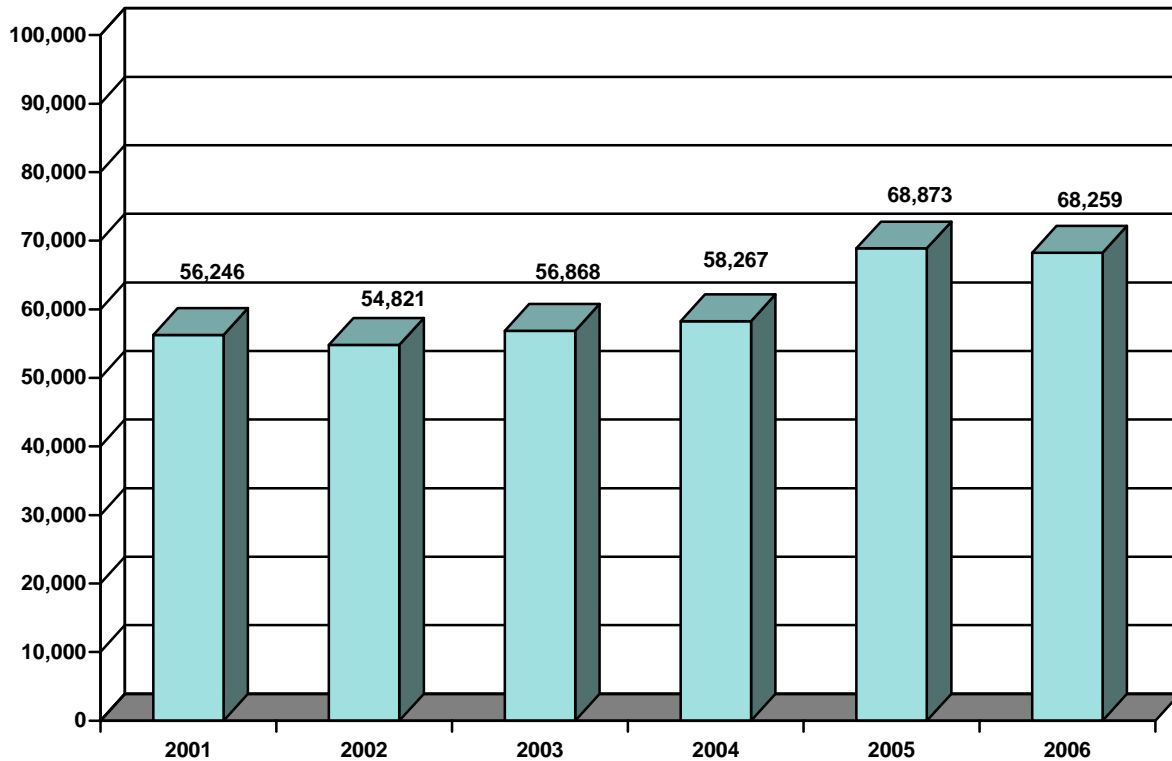
The graph indicates average general admission attendance decreased 3.5%. Factoring out the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, overall attendance actually increased 3.7%.

These graphs indicate 69% of attendance is general admission. In the last 4 years, this percentage has fluctuated between 66% and 69%.

## Membership

**Figure 13**

### AVERAGE NUMBER OF AQUARIUM MEMBERS



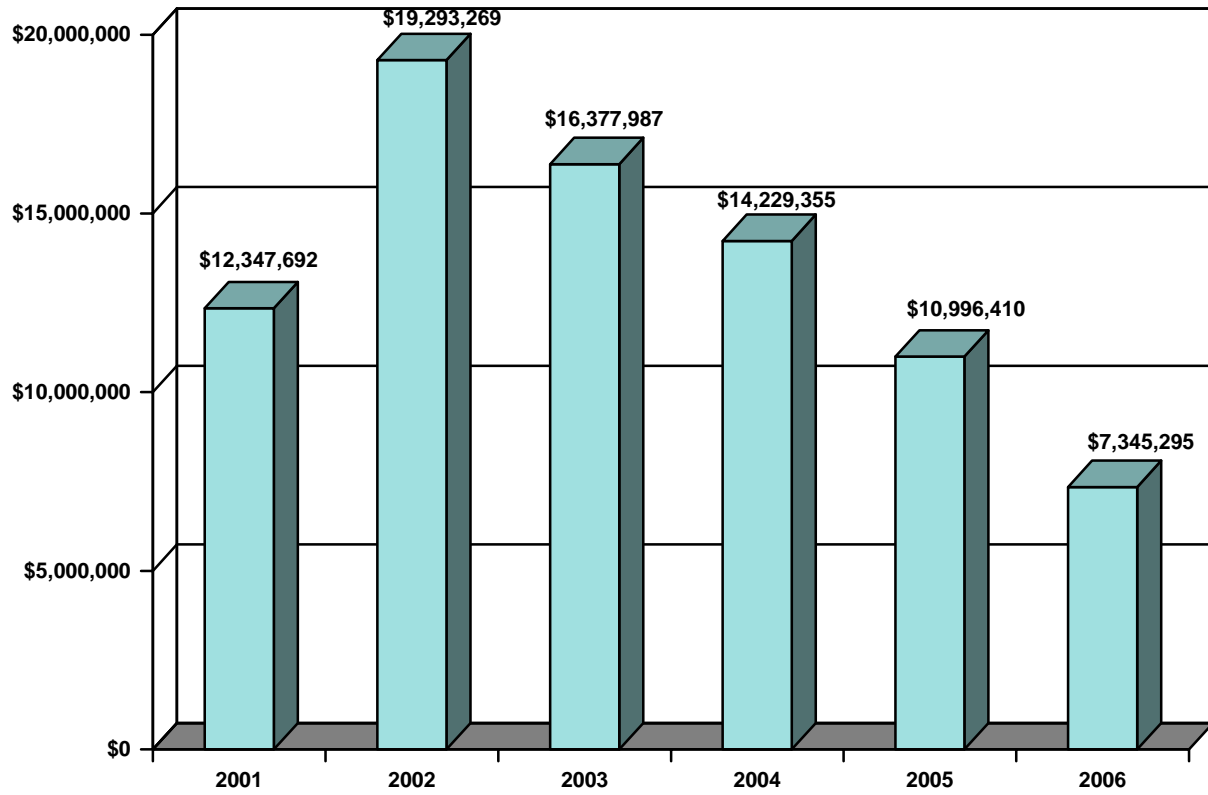
Even though there was a decrease in attendance, membership remained virtually the same.

According to our Member Benchmark Survey Report, the average number of visits a member makes in a 12 month period is 3.0. If we multiply 3.0 by the average number of members we see that members average 204,777 visits which represents 25% of attendance. This percentage is higher than normal due to a decrease in attendance and no change in membership.

### Capital Expenditures

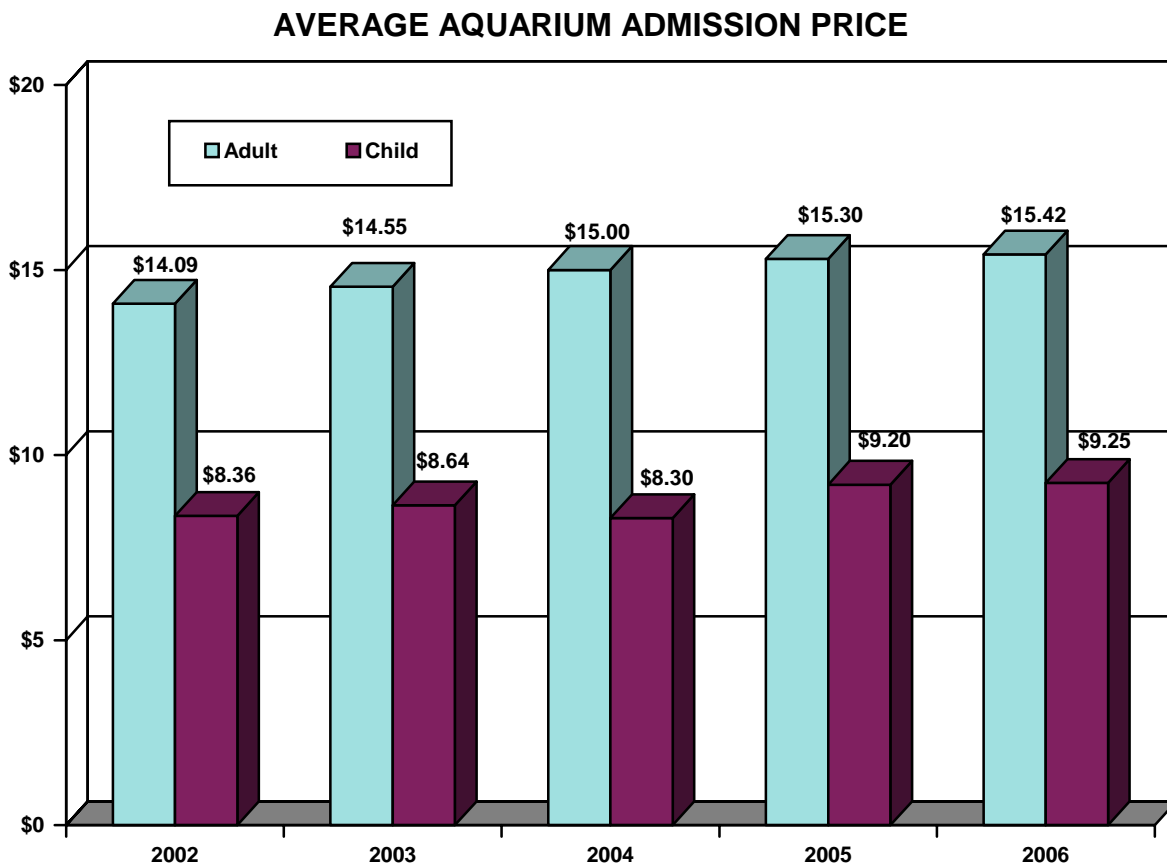
**Figure 14**

#### AVERAGE AQUARIUM TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES



**Admission Price**

**Figure 15**



Aquaria continue to be the most expensive cultural attractions. Concurrently, our Benchmark Survey Report indicates they receive the lowest admission value ratings but overall satisfaction ratings are similar to museums and zoos. This suggests aquaria are maximizing their gate revenue without sacrificing overall satisfaction ratings.

## 2006 CULTURAL ATTRACTION ATTENDANCE REPORT

### REGISTRATION FORM

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Organization:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

**Telephone:**

	2005	2006
<b>TOTAL ATTENDANCE</b>	_____	_____
GENERAL ADMISSION ATTENDANCE	_____	_____
TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERSHIPS* <i>(MEMBERS, NOT HOUSEHOLDS)</i>	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>		
IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES <i>(INDICATE N/A IF INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE)</i>	\$ _____	\$ _____
ADULT ADMISSION PRICE	\$ _____	\$ _____
CHILD ADMISSION PRICE	\$ _____	\$ _____

Please fax to Morey Group at **843.723.7299** by **March 2, 2007**. Feel free to contact us at 800.824.4795 or [kari@moreygroup.com](mailto:kari@moreygroup.com) with any questions.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

The information contained herein is proprietary, and is being provided solely to be aggregated with data from other survey participants in the 2006 Attendance Report. Morey Group is not authorized to share participants' proprietary information with any other third party for any purpose without expressed written permission.