



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

{Appendix 1, to [Sports Facility Reports, Volume 12](#)}

Research completed as of August 3, 2011

Team: Arizona Diamondbacks

Principal Owner: Ken Kendrick

Year Established: 1998

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$238 (2004)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$396 (#20)

Percent Change From Last Year: +4%

Stadium: Chase Field

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$354

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 75%

Facility Financing: The Maricopa County Stadium District provided \$238 million for the construction through a .25% increase in county sales tax from April 1995 to November 1997. In addition, the Stadium District issued \$15 million in bonds that are being paid off with stadium-generated revenue. The remainder was paid through private financing, including a naming rights deal worth \$66 million over 30 years and the Diamondbacks' investment of \$85 million. In 2007, the Maricopa County Stadium District paid off the remaining balance of \$15 million on its portion of Chase Field. The payment erased the final debt for the stadium 19 years earlier than expected.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In July 2011, Chase Field hosted the MLB All-Star Game. As part of offseason preparations, the party suites and meeting spaces were renovated, and Daktronics LED high-def lineup boards were installed on each side of the HD video board. Also, AT&T Wi-Fi and broadband connectivity were improved with nearly 290 access points added in the stadium.

Additionally, Chase Field and the Arizona Diamondbacks undertook some unique efforts to conserve energy and go “green.” For instance, prior to the 2011 season, the retractable roof was resurfaced with ENERGY STAR-certified material, and a solar-powered cooling station was installed at the metro stop near the ballpark. Further, as part of a partnership between the Diamondbacks, Maricopa County Stadium District, and APS, a solar pavilion structure was added above the plaza area near the stadium’s western entrances and ticket booths. The solar facility provides shade, generates power, includes electric vehicle charging stations and a test battery storage system, and will feature various educational exhibits.

On January 14, 2012, Chase Field will host a 2012 Monster Energy AMA Supercross race, an FIM World Championship.

NAMING RIGHTS: On June 5, 1995, the Arizona Diamondbacks entered into a \$66 million naming-rights agreement with Bank One that extends over 30 years, expires in 2028, and averages a yearly payout of \$2.2 million. In January 2004, Bank One Corporation and J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. merged and announced they were phasing out the Bank One brand name. In 2005, the name was changed from Bank One Ballpark to Chase Field.

Team: Atlanta Braves

Principal Owner: Liberty Media

Year Established: 1876

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$400 (2007)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$482 (#13)

Percent Change From Last Year: +7%

Stadium: Turner Field

Date Built: 1996 (Opened 1997)

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$235

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: The original stadium was built for the 1996 Summer Olympics at a cost of \$232 million. After the games, it was converted into a 50,000-seat baseball stadium for the Braves. The Braves paid for the conversion.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Following the 2010 season, AT&T installed a new Distributed Antenna System (DAS) to increase broadband coverage. Additionally, all TVs inside the stadium are now flat screen and HD-ready. Although the MARTA board stopped the shuttle bus service from Underground Atlanta to Turner Field after the season, the MARTA board reinstated it for the 2011 season.

Turner Field hosted the 2011 Civil Rights Game and was featured in the film, “The Change-Up,” which is to be released in August 2011.

NAMING RIGHTS: In September 1996, Time Warner Chairman Gerald Levin announced that he planned to name the Braves' new stadium for Ted Turner after his company's merger with Turner Broadcasting System. The decision disappointed many fans in Atlanta who had hoped that the stadium would be named after legend Hank Aaron or former mayor Ivan Allen Jr. By naming the stadium after Turner, Time Warner gave up at least \$3 million a year in potential naming rights revenue. In 2011, the Braves completed a naming rights deal for a 500-space portion of the Green Parking Lot, now deemed the "Delta SkyMiles Medallion Lot," which is an exclusive lot reserved for Delta SkyMiles Medallion members.

Team: Baltimore Orioles

Principal Owner: Peter Angelos

Year Established: 1953

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$173 (1993)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$411 (#18)

Percent Change From Last Year: +9%

Stadium: Oriole Park at Camden Yards

Date Built: 1992

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$107

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 96%

Facility Financing: The project was financed with \$137 million in lease revenue bonds and \$60 million in lease revenue notes issued by the Maryland Stadium Authority. The debt is being repaid from revenue generated by special sports-themed lottery tickets. The remaining costs were covered with cash that accumulated in the lottery fund since it was established in 1988 to finance sports stadiums. The team contributed \$9 million for the construction of skyboxes. The Maryland Sports Authority spent \$1.5 million on improvements in 1998.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Oriole Park at Camden Yards is now the 10th oldest ballpark in MLB. As such, team officials are looking to make necessary renovations in such a way that will attract visitors for non-baseball events as well. Changes made for the 2011 season are part of a \$30 million, three-year renovation project taken on by the Maryland Stadium Authority, and included replacing lower-level seating, adding bar-like seating areas and restaurants, and adding new concessions. One major change involved decreasing the number of seats from 48,290 to 45,971 in an attempt to imitate the more intimate atmospheres at most of MLB's newer stadiums.

The Orioles also ended their deal with Aramark in favor of a twelve-year deal with Delaware North Companies. The parties are working on a separate \$11 million renovation project involving the stadium's concession stands.

Labor Day weekend 2011, marks the much-anticipated Baltimore Grand Prix event. Streets surrounding Camden Yards are part of the race-course.

NAMING RIGHTS: In September of 2001, the Maryland Stadium Authority amended its lease with the Orioles giving the team the authority to enter into a naming rights agreement. However, as of June 2010, the Orioles had not entered into a corporate naming rights agreement for their stadium.

Team: Boston Red Sox

Principal Owner: John Henry and Tom Werner

Year Established: 1901

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$380 (2002)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$870 (#2)

Percent Change From Last Year: +4%

Stadium: Fenway Park

Date Built: 1912

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$.450

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 0%

Facility Financing: The cost of constructing the stadium was funded entirely with private money.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Fenway Park is the oldest ballpark in use, and 2012 will mark its centennial. Red Sox officials have a variety of events planned for the celebration and have even created a separate website, <http://www.fenwaypark100.com>, to inform fans regarding the history of the stadium and the events surrounding the celebration.

A ten-year, \$285 million renovation concluded before the 2011 season with \$40 million in construction upgrades, including the installation of a new concrete floor, expansion of merchandise and concession areas, replacement and refurbishment of seats in right field, and the addition of three new scoreboards. As part of this project, after the Boston Landmarks Commission approved it, the Fenway Park bullpen was widened by nine feet.

Although nothing is official yet, rumors have circulated about the possibility of college hockey and college football games taking place at Fenway Park in 2012. Also, as the Red Sox owners purchased Liverpool (English Premier League), discussions have taken place regarding the possibility of a friendly soccer match at Fenway Park.

NAMING RIGHTS: Former Boston Globe owner General Charles Henry bought the team for his son, John Taylor, in 1904. After changing the name from the Pilgrims to the Red Sox in 1907, Taylor announced plans to build a new ballpark in 1910. Taylor called the new ballpark

Fenway Park because of its location in the Fenway district of Boston. There are no current plans to change the name.

Team: Chicago Cubs

Principal Owner: Ricketts family

Year Established: 1876

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$700 (2009)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$773 (#4)

Percent Change From Last Year: +6%

Stadium: Wrigley Field

Date Built: 1914

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$.250

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 0%

Facility Financing: Restaurateur Charles H. Weeghman privately funded the entire cost of the ballpark.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Wrigley Field hosted its first football game since the 1970 Chicago Bears season in November 2010, when the two in-state Big Ten teams—the University of Illinois and Northwestern University—faced off. The red Wrigley Field sign on the stadium’s façade was temporarily painted purple, as the game was deemed a “home game” for Northwestern.

The Ricketts family originally hoped to use amusement-tax growth to finance \$200 million worth of renovations, but they could not get approval. With the recent change in Chicago mayors, this financing hope was renewed, but Mayor Rahm Emmanuel reportedly rejected this plan as well. Part of the renovations and development include the “Triangle Building Project,”—a space adjacent to Wrigley Field that officials hope could become similar to Boston’s Yawkey Way. Originally, the former owners planned for amenities such as upscale dining and a hotel. However, a recent survey noted that Chicagoans prefer a more casual atmosphere with things such as a sports museum and more open space that would eliminate planned parking spots. However, these eliminated parking spots would also remove an anticipated revenue stream. Although major development and renovation plans are on hold pending financing, Wrigley Field’s locker rooms, training rooms, and portions of the physical structure were renovated for the 2011 season.

In conjunction with Wrigley Field’s upcoming 100th Anniversary, Cubs officials hope to land the 2014 All-Star Game. However, lack of renovation financing could affect this plan, as it is still not clear where Cubs ownership will find the necessary funds for the renovation and development projects.

NAMING RIGHTS: Originally known as Weeghman Park, Wrigley Field was built on grounds once occupied by a seminary. The ballpark became known as Cubs Park in 1920 after the Wrigley family bought the team. In 1926, the ballpark was named Wrigley Field after William Wrigley Jr., the club's owner. Although experts in sports marketing believe the sale of naming rights will prove necessary as a means of financing Wrigley renovations, the Ricketts Family says they will not sell the naming rights because of the strong history associated with the ball park.

Team: Chicago White Sox

Principal Owner: Jerry Reinsdorf

Year Established: 1900

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$20 (1981)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$526 (#10)

Percent Change From Last Year: +13%

Stadium: U.S. Cellular Field

Date Built: 1991

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$167

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: The Illinois Sports Facilities Authority issued \$150 million in bonds for the land and the construction of the new stadium. A 2% hotel tax levied on Chicago hotels services the debt.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The 2011 season brought with it a host of changes and additions to U.S. Cellular Field. Although the CTA's Red Line trains have long serviced the stadium, a new Metra Station now exists just east of the Dan Ryan Expressway, which will provide alternate transportation options for those fans traveling to and from Chicago suburbs. Additionally, U.S. Cellular Field is now home to the new Bacardi at the Park Restaurant, run by Gibsons Restaurant Group. The restaurant bar features more than 65 flat screen TVs, and is currently open on game days. However, White Sox officials eventually hope the restaurant will be open year-round. Also, a new state-of-the-art, two-level, 13,000 square foot team store is set to open in Fall 2011.

NAMING RIGHTS: On January 31, 2003, U.S. Cellular and the Chicago White Sox agreed to a 20-year, \$68 million naming rights deal. In 2011, the White Sox agreed to a multi-year naming rights sponsorship deal with Gold Coast Tickets for the premium club level seating at U.S. Cellular Field, an area formerly known as the Jim Beam Club.

Team: Cincinnati Reds

Principal Owner: Robert Castellini

Year Established: 1869

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$270 (2006)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$375 (#23)

Percent Change From Last Year: +13%

Stadium: Great American Ball Park

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$291

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 96%

Facility Financing: The Reds contributed \$30 million toward construction of the stadium. Rent will amount to \$2.5 million annually for nine years, and then one dollar per year for the remaining 21 years of the 30-year lease. However, because of the extra costs of the project, the team expanded its lease with the facility to 35 years. The county will pay most of the cost, using proceeds from the 0.5% sales tax increase voters approved in 1996.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In March 2011, a \$720,000 proposed payment was accepted from AT&T to lease space at both Great American Ball Park and Paul Brown Stadium (NFL) for an enhanced cell phone antenna system to improve reception and mobile Internet connections. The \$360,000, to be paid out over ten years, will go into the fund that pays for the two stadiums.

In addition to these network improvements and improved concession offerings, the stadium will play host to Sir Paul McCartney for an August 2011 concert. Reds officials hope this big act will lead to more concerts in the future.

“The Banks” is a development between Great American Ball Park and Paul Brown Stadium. Developers are currently looking to lease space there and create a mix of restaurants, pubs, and entertainment venues. Additionally, if a proposed Cincinnati streetcar project comes to fruition, a streetcar stop serving Great American Ball Park could exist as early as 2013.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Cincinnati Reds and The Great American Insurance Company agreed to a 30-year, \$75 million naming-rights deal that expires in 2033. The average annual payout is \$2.5 million.

Team: Cleveland Indians

Principal Owner: Larry Dolan

Year Established: 1901

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$323 (2000)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$353 (#25)

Percent Change From Last Year: -10%

Stadium: Progressive Field

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$175

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 82%

Facility Financing: The stadium was built as part of a city sports complex that was funded both publicly and privately. The Gateway Economic Development Corp. issued \$117 million in bonds backed by voter approved countywide sin taxes on alcohol (\$3/gallon on liquor, 16 cents/gallon on beer) and cigarettes (4.5 cents/pack) for 15 years. It also issued \$31 million in stadium revenue bonds. The Gateway Corp. received about \$20 million up front from early seat sales.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: During Winter 2010, Progressive Field hosted an extended winter event as part of an effort to draw people to the facility during the off-season and generate more revenue. Although not confirmed, there are reports that the 2011 winter event could feature a college hockey game between Ohio State and Michigan. As part of this same effort to generate additional revenue, the Indians held the Inaugural Indians Music Festival in June 2011 that featured prominent country singers.

The Indians are known as a social media leader in the sports world having in 2010 offered the first ever social media section, the “Tribe Social Deck”. This section was originally available by invitation only to Indians bloggers and other known Indians-related social media users, but an online application was eventually open to the public. The Tribe Social Deck included ten seats in left field, a flat screen TV, and wireless Internet. In 2011, the Tribe Social Deck was replaced in 2011 with the “Indians Social Suite,” an entire suite dedicated to social media users; fans can apply online for tickets to the Indians Social Suite, which are distributed on a game-by-game basis. The 2011 season also brings with it different food options from Food Network sponsored signature items to retro beer offerings such as Pabst.

NAMING RIGHTS: Former owner Richard Jacobs bought the naming rights when the ballpark opened in 1994 for \$13.9 million for 20 years (expiring in 2014). However, when Jacobs sold the Indians to Larry Dolan in 2000, Jacobs retained naming rights only through the 2006 season as part of the deal. The team had some conversations with Jacobs about extending the deal because Jacobs expressed an interest in keeping his family's name on the ballpark. The name of the ballpark remained Jacobs Field throughout the 2007 season. However, the stadium was

renamed Progressive Field in 2008. The Ohio-based insurance company entered into a 16 year naming rights deal for approximately \$3.6 million per year. This agreement also made the company the official auto insurer of the ballclub.

Team: Colorado Rockies

Principal Owners: Charlie and Dick Monfort

Year Established: 1991 (First Game - 1993)

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$95 (1992)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$414 (#17)

Percent Change From Last Year: +8%

Stadium: Coors Field

Date Built: 1995

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$215

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 75%

Facility Financing: The legislature created the Denver Metropolitan Major League Baseball Stadium District in the six counties surrounding Denver. The district issued bonds and levied a one-tenth of 1% sales tax within the six-county area to fund the stadium. The tax remains in place until the bonds are paid off in about 10 years. The Rockies contributed \$53 million.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Rockies unveiled many changes at Coors Field for the 2011 season. AT&T added 160 antennas and other enhancements, resulting in a capacity more than four times greater than the stadium had previously. Coors Field now features the new Familia Camarena Tequila Bar, dubbed the “Camerena Loft,” as part of a three-year deal. In July 2011, the Rockies added “Wok in the Park,” the first food truck in the country to be stationed inside a major sports venue.

Coors Field placed 5th in PETA’s 10th annual ranking of the Top 10 Vegetarian-Friendly Ballparks.

In May 2011, a man at Coors Field died from injuries he suffered after falling while trying to slide down a railing at the stadium.

NAMING RIGHTS: Coors Brewing Company purchased the naming rights to the stadium prior to its completion in 1995.

Team: Detroit Tigers

Principal Owner: Mike Ilitch

Year Established: 1901

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$82 (1992)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$414 (#17)

Percent Change From Last Year: +8%

Stadium: Comerica Park

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$361

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 38%

Facility Financing: Public financing paid for 38% (\$115 million) of the ballpark's cost through a 2% car rental tax, a 1% hotel tax, and money from Indian casino revenue. Tigers owner Mike Ilitch footed the remaining 62%.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Mike Ilitch hopes to make Comerica a regular concert venue and eventually host approximately ten concerts annually at the park as additional revenue-producing opportunities. As part of this goal, Comerica Park featured a Fall 2010 concert with headliners Jay-Z and Eminem, and 2011 is set to feature the Vans Warped Tour, Kid Rock, and Sir Paul McCartney.

Comerica Park hosted its first collegiate baseball game in April 2011 with a contest between Michigan State University and Central Michigan University. There are rumors of a possible Red Wings outdoor hockey game at Comerica Park sometime in the future.

NAMING RIGHTS: Comerica, a financial services company, purchased the naming rights for Comerica Park on December 21, 1998. Comerica will pay \$66 million over 30 years. The average annual payout is \$2.2 million, and the deal expires in 2030.

Team: Florida Marlins

Principal Owner: Jeffrey Loria

Year Established: 1991 (First Game - 1993)

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$158 (2002)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$360 (#24)

Percent Change From Last Year: +13%

Stadium: Sun Life Stadium

Date Built: 1987

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$115

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 0%

Facility Financing: The stadium was originally built with private funds as a football stadium. The Marlins spent an additional \$10 million to renovate the stadium for baseball.

[Facility Website](#)

Future Stadium: New Marlins Ballpark

Scheduled Opening: 2012

Estimated Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$515 million

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 76%

Facility Financing: Miami-Dade County is responsible for a large percentage of the financing for the new facility with \$347 million coming from tourist related taxes and bond money, and \$12 million for road and utility repairs. The City of Miami has agreed to pay \$13 million in addition to covering the cost of land and demolition. The Marlins will cover \$155 million plus any cost overruns in addition to purchasing \$100 million worth of parking from the City of Miami.

UPDATE: For the 2011 season, set to be the last for the Marlins in Sun Life Stadium, Centerplate is offering new menu concepts and service enhancements. In July 2011, the Marlins announced that the upper deck seats would be closed for the rest of the season for efficiency purposes.

The Marlins new stadium in Little Havana is expected to be ready for Opening Day 2012. As of July 2011, the project was said to be approximately 70% complete and includes amenities such as a retractable roof, a swimming pool, and a glass wall with views of Downtown Miami. As part of the Marlins' and MLB's sustainability efforts, the stadium was designed in the hopes of achieving LEED Silver Status, which would make it the first certified retractable roof ballpark in baseball. Although cracks were found in the parking garages for the new stadium, they are not expected to delay the timeline. Once complete, Marlins officials hope to slowly open the building to the public through a series of "soft openings" such as college games and Marlins exhibition games before a requested nationally televised official home opener.

NAMING RIGHTS: In January 2010, Sun Life Financial agreed to pay \$4 million a year for the naming rights, without including additional commitments to community organizations. The agreement is for five years with an option of another five. The Marlins have no control over the naming rights at their current facility; however, the Marlins will have ownership of the naming rights at their new facility. As of July 2011, three finalists for a naming rights deal exist, but no deal has been announced yet. The Marlins are also hoping to sell naming rights for each entrance to the new stadium.

Team: Houston Astros

Principal Owner: Robert Drayton McLane Jr.

Year Established: 1962

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$103 (1992)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$474 (#14)

Percent Change From Last Year: +5%

Stadium: Minute Maid Park

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$265

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 68%

Facility Financing: Public financing of \$180 million (68%) came from a 2% hotel tax and a 5% rental car tax. The Houston Sports Facility Partnership provided a \$33 million (12%) interest-free loan with no repayment due until 10 years of ballpark operation occurred. Astros owners contributed \$52 million (20%). The project was completed under budget because only \$248.2 million of \$250 million in public money allotted for the project was used.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The commencement of the 2011 season revealed the first major renovations in Minute Maid Park's existence. AT&T now provides a Wi-Fi network without any required setup or login information, and it expanded its broadband connectivity at the stadium with a new Distributed Antenna System (DAS) by adding 225 access points inside the venue. Additionally, a new HD scoreboard, the largest board in the majors in 1080i format, was unveiled in right field. Other enhancements include a secondary LED HD video board in left field and the addition of an upscale, premium club seating level.

Reports indicate that a \$680 million sale of the club—a sale that includes the lease on Minute Maid Park—has been made to Jim Crane, a businessman who lost the bid to buy the Texas Rangers in 2010. However, this sale is still pending MLB approval.

Minute Maid Park was ranked 9th in PETA's 10th annual ranking of the Top 10 Vegetarian-Friendly Ballparks.

NAMING RIGHTS: On June 5, 2002, the Houston Astros inked a 28-year deal with Minute Maid, a division of Coca-Cola, worth \$100 million. The Astros had to pay Enron \$2.1 million to opt out of a 30 year, \$100 million agreement signed in 2000. The deal expands a long-term relationship with Minute Maid and Coca-Cola, who signed the deal in an effort to compete with rival PepsiCo owned Tropicana. Tropicana currently owns the naming-rights for the Tampa Bay Rays' stadium in Florida.

Team: Kansas City Royals

Principal Owner: David Glass

Year Established: 1969

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$96 (2000)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$351 (#26)

Percent Change From Last Year: +3%

Stadium: Kauffman Stadium

Date Built: 1973

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$43

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: The stadium was financed through a \$43 million county bond issue. Half of the bond money (\$21.5 million) was used to fund the neighboring Arrowhead Stadium (NFL Kansas City Chiefs). The \$250 million renovation of Kauffman Stadium was financed by a 3/8-cent increase in the county sales tax.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Preparations for the 2012 MLB All-Star Game are under way following substantial renovations completed in 2009. Officials are looking to enhance the transportation system to prepare for the influx of people to the area.

NAMING RIGHTS: On July 2, 1993, Royals Stadium was renamed in honor of former owner Ewing M. Kauffman, who passed away on August 1, 1993. Kauffman, a self-made millionaire and beloved member of the Kansas City community, purchased the Royals as an expansion team in 1968 with the commitment of making the Royals a competitive team. It is highly unlikely that the Royals would entertain any thoughts of selling the naming rights under these circumstances.

Team: Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim

Principal Owner: Arturo Moreno

Year Established: 1961

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$184 (2003)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$554 (#9)

Percent Change From Last Year: +6%

Stadium: Angel Stadium of Anaheim

Date Built: 1966

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$24

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: In April 1998, Disney completed a \$117 million renovation. Disney contributed \$87 million toward the project while the City of Anaheim contributed \$30 million through the retention of \$10 million in external stadium advertising and \$20 million in hotel taxes and reserve funds.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In honor of the franchise's 50th Anniversary, the Angels are hosting a summer concert series following Saturday night home games. Two races for the Monster Energy AMA Supercross Series are to be held in 2011. Additionally, a pilot transportation project offering \$7 roundtrip express train services has been successful thus far, and the Angels would like to enhance it. Reports have also surfaced that plans for a residential and retail development project near Angel Stadium are moving forward.

NAMING RIGHTS: In early 2004, Edison International exercised their option to terminate their 20-year, \$50 million naming rights agreement with the Anaheim Angels. Beginning with the 2004 season, the ballpark changed its name from Edison International Field of Anaheim to Angel Stadium of Anaheim. No decision on reselling the naming rights has been made.

Team: Los Angeles Dodgers

Principal Owner: Frank McCourt

Year Established: 1890

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$355 (2004)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$800 (#3)

Percent Change From Last Year: +10%

Stadium: Dodger Stadium

Date Built: 1962

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$18

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 0%

Facility Financing: The stadium was privately funded by then owner, Walter O'Malley.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In 2011, the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) awarded a grant of \$450,000 to Metro to again offer express bus service from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles to Dodger Stadium, after the program was successful in 2010. Summer 2011 also marks the first time Dodger Stadium will host a Monster Energy AMA Supercross series race.

On Opening Day 2011 Giants-Dodgers game at Dodger Stadium, a Giants fan was brutally beaten outside the stadium. This highly publicized tragedy highlighted security issues at the stadium, and since the attack, the Dodgers have increased security. Some of the changes include the addition of a "zero-tolerance" policy and the removal of half-price beer nights from the

promotional schedule. The victim's family filed suit against the Dodgers and owner Frank McCourt, alleging that there was inadequate security and poor lighting at the stadium, which contributed to his injuries.

Amidst this security issue, Dodgers' ownership issues and current Dodgers' owner Frank McCourt's ongoing divorce battle continue to be hot news topics. In April 2011, MLB took over the daily operations of the Dodgers. Frank McCourt apparently had reached a divorce settlement agreement that was contingent on MLB's approval of a proposed \$3 billion TV deal with Fox. However, Commissioner Selig rejected the Fox deal, and Frank McCourt subsequently filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy to avoid seizure of the team by Commissioner Selig in the event the team could not meet its payroll. Additionally, a trial set for August 4, 2011 will determine whether Frank McCourt owns the team individually or whether the team is considered community property, a determination that could result in a court-ordered sale of the team. It is still unclear as to how the bankruptcy and divorce litigation will play out, but MLB will still have a right to approve a new owner, and any renovation plans for Dodger Stadium are on hold.

NAMING RIGHTS: There is no current naming rights deal in place for Dodger Stadium.

Team: Milwaukee Brewers

Principal Owner: Mark Attanasio

Year Established: 1970

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$223 (2005)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$376 (#22)

Percent Change From Last Year: +7%

Stadium: Miller Park

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$414

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 71%

Facility Financing: The Brewers contributed \$90 million for the stadium, while the public contributed \$310 million through a five-county, 0.10% sales tax increase. The \$72 million infrastructure costs were split as follows: \$18 million from the city, \$18 million from Milwaukee County, and \$36 million from the state.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Prior to the 2011 season, a new Daktronics HD video board, the 4th largest in MLB, was added—a project reported to cost between \$10-11 million. Other enhancements in 2011 include an upgraded sound system, newly renovated suites, and new food offerings such as specialty options sponsored by the Food Network. Recently, the Brewers were also the beneficiary of a land swap deal in which 2.7 acres of space used for overflow parking that had been subleased to the Brewers was exchanged for 3.6 acres next to lots east of Miller Park Way.

Some Milwaukee and Wisconsin officials urged for an extension of the Miller Park stadium sales tax to help fund a new arena for the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks. However, representatives in power have not yet been in favor of the option, and the taxes are still set to end sometime between 2016 and 2018.

NAMING RIGHTS: Miller Brewing Company purchased the naming rights to Miller Park for \$41.2 million over 20 years. The deal has an average annual payout of \$2.1 million and expires in 2020. For the first time in Miller Park history, the club level at Miller Park is now the subject of a naming rights deal and known as the "PNC Club Level," as part of an expanded five-year sponsorship deal with PNC Bank.

Team: Minnesota Twins

Principal Owner: Pohlad Family

Year Established: 1961

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$44 (1984)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$490 (#12)

Percent Change From Last Year: +21%

Stadium: Target Field

Date Built: 2010

Estimated Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$545 (includes site acquisition and infrastructure)

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 72%

Facility Financing: The Twins contributed \$152.4 million. Hennepin County contributed \$392 million raised from bonds, which will be financed through a .15% sales tax increase.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The 2010 season was the inaugural season at Target Field, and after a wildly successful first year, all 25,000 season tickets were sold for the 2011 season. Compared to the Metrodome in 2009 (the last Twins season played at the Metrodome), Target Field yielded more than three times the sales and use-tax revenue. Although the focus the first couple of years is the baseball product, officials hope that Target Field will eventually serve as a venue for other revenue-producing events such as concerts.

Following its inaugural season, changes were already made to enhance the experience for both players and fans. Kosher food is now being offered, and a rabbi is going to be present at most home games to supervise the food preparation. More heating units were added to the concourses, a new video board was placed in right-center field, and the Twins are now offering the Twins Wi-Fi network at the stadium. As for the improvements on the playing field, officials removed the spruce trees that had comprised the batter's eye for the 2010 season, in favor of a backdrop that would produce less glare for hitters. Some prominent Twins' players had pushed for the team to shorten the field dimensions because of low homerun totals. However, this change did not take place.

Recently, developer Hines Interests submitted plans to the city to build a “transit-oriented urban community” near Target Field dubbed, “Dock Street Apartments.” Plans had been discussed a few years earlier, but economic constraints forced the project to be put on hold.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Twins and Target Corp reached a 25-year marketing deal that includes the naming rights to the new ballpark. The 25-year deal is believed to cost \$5-\$8 million annually. Target also holds the naming rights to the Target Center, home of the NBA Minnesota Timberwolves. This is the first time that one company has had dual facility naming rights in a single city.

Team: New York Mets

Principal Owner: Fred Wilpon

Year Established: 1962

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$391 (2002)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$747 (#5)

Percent Change From Last Year: -13%

Stadium: Citi Field

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$688

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 19% (not including savings gained through use of tax-exempt bonds)

Facility Financing: The Mets were responsible for the construction cost of Citi Field. The Mets initially contributed \$613 million from tax-exempt municipal bonds to pay for the construction, with another \$82.28 million in tax-exempt bonds needed to complete construction. The use of tax-exempt bonds saved the Mets an estimated \$513 million. An additional \$89.7 came from the City of New York and \$74.7 million came from the State of New York to cover infrastructure improvements, site preparation, installation of pilings, and mass transit improvements.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Mets’ owners are currently the subject of a lawsuit related to the Bernie Madoff scandal that alleges among other things that the owners “consciously disregarded” red flags about Madoff. Although Citi Field is not named in the lawsuit, the litigation could affect Wilpon’s ability to control the team. To prevent any litigation-related issues, a deal is in the works for David Einhorn to become a minority partner by purchasing a share of the team.

Citi Field received an Honorable Mention in PETA’s 10th annual ranking of the Top 10 Vegetarian-Friendly Ballparks.

The stadium will likely get the nod for the 2013 MLB All-Star Game.

Citi Field hosted its inaugural soccer match, an exhibition between Greece and Ecuador, in June 2011. In July 2011, Italian soccer team Juventus FC will face off at Citi Field against Mexican team Club America as part of the Herbalife World Football Challenge. Owner, Fred Wilpon, hopes to bring additional soccer events to the stadium.

Lower power numbers at Citi Field prompted some players and baseball insiders to call for a change in field dimensions after the 2010 season, a change some are still hoping will happen.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Mets and Citigroup reached a 20-year, \$400 million, naming-rights and multifaceted strategic marketing and business partnership. The naming rights agreement has been under intense scrutiny in light of the \$45 billion in government bailout money Citigroup took in 2008 and 2009. There was a failed attempt by a few members of Congress to dissolve the naming-rights agreement between the Mets and Citigroup. As of July 2011, some officials were still calling for a name change, but nothing is currently in the works.

Team: New York Yankees

Principal Owner: Hank Steinbrenner

Year Established: 1903

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$10 (1973)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$1,700 (#1)

Percent Change From Last Year: +6%

Stadium: Yankee Stadium

Date Built: 2009

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$1,100

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 32%

Facility Financing: The Yankees contributed approximately \$1.1 billion. The public contributed \$480 million for parking facilities, park land, infrastructure improvements, and transportation improvements. The use of tax-exempt bonds will save the Yankees an estimated \$786 million over 40 years.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In November 2010, Notre Dame University faced Army in the first football game held at the new Yankee Stadium. In December, the Pinstripe Bowl—the first bowl game at new Yankee Stadium—took place and resulted in a Syracuse University win over Kansas State University. Yankee Stadium is set to host two football games in 2011 as well—Army-Rutgers in November, and the 2nd Pinstripe Bowl in December. Additionally, rumors have circulated that the Miami Hurricanes may play a football game at Yankee Stadium sometime in 2013. In addition to football, other non-baseball events have included a concert featuring Eminem and Jay-Z in the fall of 2010—the inaugural concert at the new stadium—as well as a concert in July 2011 by Sir Paul McCartney.

The 2011 season brings with it some additions to the stadium. The Yankee Stadium Museum now features a Balfour World Series Ring Display presented by Bank of America. This exhibit features exact replicas of the 26 rings and one pocket watch for the team's 27 World Series Championships. Also, set for completion in the fall of 2011 is Heritage Field—a baseball field on the site of Old Yankee Stadium. In addition, Scotts—the Official Lawn Care Company of the Yankees and MLB—now offers Yankee Stadium Lawn Fertilizer and Yankee Stadium Grass Seed Mix for sale to the general public.

Reportedly, the Bronx Parking Development Company that runs the garages for the new stadium defaulted on its bond payments due to lower than anticipated usage of the parking garages.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Yankees own the naming rights to the New Yankee Stadium, and do not have any current plans to seek a corporate sponsor for the ballpark. The Yankees join the Cubs, Dodgers, Red Sox, and Royals in electing to not sign a naming right deal and instead opt for corporate sponsorship of specific sections of the ballpark, such as club levels, restaurants, and viewing areas.

Team: Oakland Athletics

Principal Owner: Lewis Wolff and John Fisher

Year Established: 1901

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$180 (2005)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$307 (#29)

Percent Change From Last Year: 4%

Stadium: O.co Coliseum

Date Built: 1966

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$26

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: The cost of constructing the stadium was underwritten through a city bond issue. A \$200 million renovation was completed in 1996.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Oakland A's lease to play at O.co Coliseum expires in 2013. The team is in the process of searching for a stadium to call its own; San Jose has emerged as the preferred choice city of A's owner Lew Wolffe. The San Jose City Council has taken steps to pursue the A's, but the Council made it clear that any stadium must be privately built and make money for the city. MLB considers Santa Clara County, where San Jose is located, to be the territorial rights of the San Francisco Giants. A change in territorial rights requires approval by 75% of MLB owners.

MLB Commissioner Bud Selig appointed a committee in 2009 to analyze the A's ballpark situation. The committee is to assess a variety of issues to help aid in the decision, ranging from the territorial issue to general economic uncertainties regarding MLB in the Bay area. The A's

and MLB have made it clear that the team will not continue indefinitely in its current situation; however, the committee has not yet reported to Commissioner Selig, and no decision has been made.

In 2011, O.co Coliseum officials were the subject of intense criticism following botched parking and traffic planning for a June U2 concert.

NAMING RIGHTS: In September 2009, McAfee elected to not renew its sponsorship agreement to the naming rights of Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, which reverted back to its original name. Networks Associates bought the naming rights to the facility in 1998, transferring the rights to McAfee when the company changed its name in 2004. McAfee was paying \$1.3 million to the city/county Coliseum Commission for naming rights to the facility and an additional \$600,000 to \$700,000 for sponsorships with the A's and Oakland Raiders. Premier Partnerships was retained to identify potential corporations for the naming rights of the facility. In April 2011, Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Authority approved a naming rights deal for the stadium with Overstock.com, now O.co. The official name of the stadium is now "O.co Coliseum." The naming rights deal is for six years, but given that both the Raiders (NFL) and A's have leases that expire in 2013, the deal with O.co provides the company with necessary protection. The O.co Coliseum signage officially debuted on June 7, 2011.

Team: Philadelphia Phillies

Principal Owners: David Montgomery

Year Established: 1883

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$30 (1981)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$609 (#6)

Percent Change From Last Year: +13%

Stadium: Citizens Bank Park

Date Built: 2004

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$346

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 50%

Facility Financing: Approximately half of the financing for Citizens Bank Park came from a combination of city and state funds. The state contributed a total of \$170 million to the Phillies and Eagles (NFL) for their new stadiums through grants. The City of Philadelphia contributed \$304 million total toward the construction of the two stadiums. This money is being collected through a 2% car rental tax. It is unclear how the city and state monies were divided between the two facilities.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: During the latter part of the 2010 season, both Verizon Wireless and AT&T enhanced the wireless networks at Citizens Bank Park. Continuing these technological enhancements, the 2011 season features the largest HD video board in the National League,

made possible through a joint effort between Daktronics and Sony Electronics' System Solutions Corporation. The new video board cost \$10 million.

Citizens Bank Park will host the 2012 NHL Winter Classic between the Philadelphia Flyers and the New York Rangers. Additionally, there are reports that the Penn State Icers will face the Neumann University Knights two days after the Winter Classic.

NAMING RIGHTS: On June 17, 2003, the Phillies entered into a naming-rights agreement for its new stadium. The ballpark is called Citizens Bank Park. The deal totals \$95 million. Citizens Bank is paying \$57.5 million over 25 years, or \$2.3 million annually to put its name on entrances, scoreboards, concourses, parking lot banners, and behind home plate. The bank is also paying the Phillies an additional \$37.5 million for advertising during Phillies radio and television broadcasts.

Team: Pittsburgh Pirates

Principal Owner: Robert Nutting

Year Established: 1887

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$92 (1996)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$304 (#30)

Percent Change From Last Year: +5%

Stadium: PNC Park

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$237

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 85%

Facility Financing: The Pirates contributed \$40 million to the project. The remaining amount came from the state, county, and city as part of an \$809 million sports facilities/convention center financing proposal that included Heinz Field for the Steelers (NFL).

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: During the 2010 offseason, the walkway between PNC Park and the Allegheny River underwent repairs paid for by the Sports and Exhibition Authority and capital reserve fund for PNC Park. The repairs cost approximately \$285,000.

The 2011 season marks the 10-year anniversary of PNC Park and with that comes a few minor changes. New concession items were added prior to the season, such as gluten free beer and food options. Fans even had a chance to vote for the new "signature sandwich." Other changes include renovated World Series Suites and retrofit lighting throughout the stadium. As part of a continued "green" effort at PNC Park, unused food will be donated to local shelters and soup kitchens.

NAMING RIGHTS: In August 1998, PNC Bank agreed to a 20-year, \$40 million deal for the naming-rights to PNC Park. The deal officially ends in 2020 and averages an annual payout of \$2 million.

Team: San Diego Padres

Principal Owner: John Moores and Jeff Moorad

Year Established: 1969

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$480 (2009)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$406 (#19)

Percent Change From Last Year: 0%

Stadium: PETCO Park

Date Built: 2004

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$285

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 66%

Facility Financing: The Padres contributed \$146.1 million toward the construction of PETCO Park. The city contributed the remaining money needed for the stadium. This money was raised through hotel taxes, \$75.4 million from the City Center Development Corp., and \$21 million from the Port of San Diego. An additional \$171.8 million was required for land acquisition and infrastructure.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: PETCO Park continues to serve as more than a baseball venue, having held American Idol auditions in July 2011 and a soccer exhibition match in September 2010 between Mexico's Chivas and Chivas USA (MLS).

The 2011 season features improved wireless services, as CommScope installed in-stadium distributed antenna systems (DAS). However, the most visible change at PETCO for the 2011 season is the addition of a TaylorMade-adidas Golf Company R11 driver foul pole in right field. A charitable donation is made for each "drive" out of the park. Additionally, the Padres and PETCO Park partnered with Newport Digital Technologies, Inc. and SASCO Electric to analyze the infrastructure and recommend any potential digital signage improvements to enhance the overall fan experience.

NAMING RIGHTS: In January 2003, the San Diego Padres agreed to a 22-year, \$60 million naming rights deal with San Diego-based PETCO.

Team: San Francisco Giants

Principal Owner: William Neukom

Year Established: 1883

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$100 (1992)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$563 (#7)

Percent Change From Last Year: +16%

Stadium: AT&T Park

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$325

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 0%

Facility Financing: The stadium was financed using \$121 million from a naming rights deal and other sponsorships, a \$170 million loan secured by the Giants, and \$15 million in tax increment financing by the city's redevelopment agency. Selling concession rights and charter seats helped obtain additional financing.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The San Francisco Giants were the 2010 World Series Champions, a feat that has had a tremendous impact on ticket and souvenir sales and has also served as a boost for area businesses.

In July 2011, AT&T Park hosted a soccer game between Manchester City and Mexico Club America as part of the World Football Challenge. Additionally, in August 2010, AT&T Park served as the site of the San Francisco American Idol auditions.

NAMING RIGHTS: Pacific Telesis purchased the naming rights to Pac Bell Park in 2000. The agreement extends over 24 years, paying the Giants \$50 million at an average of \$2.1 million annually. In December 2002, San Antonio based SBC Communications decided to retire its Pacific Bell trade names. Pacific Bell Park became SBC Park on January 1, 2004. Prior to the 2006 season, the name of the stadium was changed from SBC Park to AT&T Park. The change was the result of SBC Communications Inc. purchasing AT&T and adopting the name AT&T Inc.

Team: Seattle Mariners

Principal Owner: Nintendo Company Ltd.

Year Established: 1977

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$100 (1992)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$449 (#15)

Percent Change From Last Year: +2%

Stadium: Safeco Field

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$517

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 76%

Facility Financing: The Mariners contributed \$145 million, including \$100 million in cost overruns towards the financing of the stadium. The public's share was capped at \$372 million. Washington State's contribution comprised of a .017% sales tax credit, proceeds from the sale of sports lottery scratch games (\$3 million/year guaranteed), and proceeds from the sale of commemorative ballpark license plates. King County contributed via a .5% sales tax on food and beverages in King County restaurants, taverns, and bars, 2% sales tax on rental car rates in King County, and 5% admission tax on events at the new ballpark.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The 2011 season at Safeco Field features new LED boards along the 1st and 3rd base lines, a new LED board in right field, and new culinary offerings per an agreement with Centerplate. Additionally, in March 2011, Safeco Field served as the host for a meeting of an inter-league group where six teams from six different leagues formed the Green Sports Alliance (GSA). The Mariners served as MLB's representative.

In 2010, legendary HOF broadcaster, Dave Niehaus, passed away. To honor his legacy, the Mariners hosted a public celebration at Safeco Field in December, 2010. Also, a portion of 1st Avenue outside of Safeco is to be renamed "Dave Niehaus Way."

NAMING RIGHTS: Safeco, an insurance company, bought the naming rights to Safeco Field in June of 1998. The deal extends until 2019, paying an average of \$2 million annually for a total of \$40 million. In May 2008, Liberty Mutual acquired Safeco Corp., but there currently are no plans to change Safeco Field's name to reflect the new ownership.

Team: St. Louis Cardinals

Principal Owner: William DeWitt Jr.

Year Established: 1892

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$150 (1995)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$518 (#11)

Percent Change From Last Year: +6%

Stadium: Busch Stadium

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$357

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 12%

Facility Financing: The ballpark was primarily privately financed - \$90.1 million came from the Cardinals, \$9.2 million in interest earned on the construction fund, and \$200.5 million in bonds to be paid over a 22-year period (\$15.9 million per year) by the team. Public financing came from St. Louis County contributing \$45 million through a long-term loan.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Financing for the Ballpark Village development remains unsettled. However, the current plan calls for an increased investment from the development team, and in January of 2011, the city reportedly approved \$47 million in tax revenue bonds for the project. Notwithstanding the uncertainty, the project finally appears to be moving forward after more than ten years since it was first introduced.

The current plan breaks the development project into multiple phases with the first phase serving as the only concern for the time being. Of an estimated \$550 million entire cost, the first phase is expected to cost \$155 million and will feature a venue for concerts, festivals, and other events. It will also include a 14-story office building that, in addition to office space, will include seat decks with views into Busch stadium, restaurants, and a St. Louis Cardinals museum. If all goes according to plan, the project is targeted for completion sometime in 2013.

In 2010, the Cardinals conducted a test run for a Bottoms Up draft beer pouring system and added more of these state-of-the-art systems for the 2011 season. Busch Stadium is also one of a small group of MLB stadiums benefitting from a deal with the Food Network that features unique, local food offerings sponsored by the Food Network.

NAMING RIGHTS: The St. Louis Cardinals entered into a 20-year naming rights deal (through the 2025 season) with Anheuser-Busch to give its new stadium the same name as its previous stadium. Terms of the deal were not released.

Team: Tampa Bay Rays

Principal Owner: Stuart Sternberg

Year Established: 1995 (First Game - 1998)

Team Website: <http://tampabay.devilrays.mlb.com>

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$200 (2004)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$331 (#28)

Percent Change From Last Year: 5%

Stadium: Tropicana Field

Date Built: 1990

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$138

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: The City of St. Petersburg issued general obligation bonds to fund construction. The bond debt is being partially serviced through a 1% increase in the countywide bed tax. A tourist development commission issued additional bonds of \$62 million to renovate the stadium. The debt is serviced by a combination of bed tax revenues, stadium revenues, and city general fund monies. In addition, the team qualified for the state rebate program designed to attract new teams to Florida. A \$65 million renovation project was completed in 1998, \$14 million of which was funded by the Rays.

Facility Website: <http://mlb.com/tb/ballpark/>

UPDATE: The Rays and MLB have maintained their insistence on the need for a new stadium for the team. Conversely, St. Petersburg's mayor has continued to express concern over a potential move for the team, given that some of the proposed locations do not fall within the city limits of St. Petersburg. The terms of the current contract require the Rays to remain at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg until 2027. Notwithstanding this contract and the long-standing stadium debate, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce and the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce are currently working together to study potential financing options for a new stadium without focusing on any specific location for the proposed site.

For now, though, the Rays continue to play at Tropicana Field, which underwent some changes prior to the 2011 season. New AstroTurf was installed that is more similar to natural grass than the former FieldTurf material. Additionally, a deal with Centerplate facilitated new food offerings and guest service enhancements.

Tropicana Field also continues to host non-baseball events. In 2008, the Rays began their summer concert series events, and in 2011, acts include the likes of Darius Rucker; REO Speedwagon; the Goo Goo Dolls; Miranda Lambert; and the Go-Go's. Additionally, the famous East-West Shrine Game, a college all-star football game, will be held at Tropicana Field on January 21, 2012 and will be broadcast on the NFL Network.

NAMING RIGHTS: Tropicana, owned by PepsiCo, holds the naming rights to Tropicana Field. The agreement extends for 30 years and pays out a total of \$50 million dollars with an annual payout of \$1.5 million.

Team: Texas Rangers

Principal Owner: Ray Davis and Bob Simpson

Year Established: 1960

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$250 (1998)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$561 (#8)

Percent Change From Last Year: +25%

Stadium: Rangers Ballpark in Arlington

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$191

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 71%

Facility Financing: Financing for the stadium came from \$135 million in bonds sold by the Arlington Sports Facilities Development Authority and the remaining balance was provided by the sale and lease of luxury suites and seat options, loans guaranteed by the team, a concessions contract with Sportservice, and city street funds. Debt service on the bonds is financed through a \$3.5 million annual rental payment by the team and a .5% local Arlington sales tax that was approved in 1991.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In August 2010, a group financed by Ray Davis and Bob Simpson known as the Greenberg-Ryan Group won the bid to purchase the organization as part of Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. The group's winning bid was for \$593 million, which included the lease to the Rangers Ballpark in Arlington; the MLB owners unanimously approved the sale.

In March 2011, the Rangers announced that Chuck Greenberg, the team's CEO and part of the purchasing group, would leave the team. However, Nolan Ryan assumed the CEO title in addition to his other responsibilities, and the move did not have any effect on the organization's daily operations.

Amidst these front office changes, the Rangers Ballpark at Arlington underwent approximately \$17 million in improvements prior to the 2011 season. Both right and center field feature new video boards in addition to the stadium's revamped audio system and control room. Each seat and cup holder was also repaired, and stripes were painted on steps to enhance fan safety.

Unfortunately, the issue of fan safety came to the forefront of discussions for both the Rangers and MLB in July 2011. Rangers' outfielder, Josh Hamilton, threw a ball into the stands to a fan. As the fan, Shannon Stone, was reaching over a railing for the baseball, he fell to his death. In July 2010, a similar incident occurred. That time, a fan fell from the second deck of the stadium while trying to catch a foul ball, resulting in a fractured skull and sprained ankle. Following the

2011 incident, the Rangers Foundation created a Memorial Account in honor of Shannon Stone. They also decided to make arrangements to increase the height of the railings to 42 inches.

The Rangers advanced to the 2010 World Series, eventually losing the series to the San Francisco Giants.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Rangers' home field received a new name when the team signed a naming rights agreement with California-based Ameritrust Mortgage Co. in May 2004. The team signed a 30-year agreement with the company worth \$75 million. In March 2007, the Texas Rangers announced that its home field, Ameritrust Field in Arlington, was being renamed Rangers Ballpark in Arlington following an agreement with Ameritrust Mortgage Company to return the naming rights to the team. The Rangers first proposed to Ameritrust an end to the naming rights agreement and related corporate affiliation in 2006. The Rangers lose \$2.5 million per year from the naming right agreement but get back a number of advertising outlets at the ballpark that were included in the Ameritrust deal.

Team: Toronto Blue Jays

Principal Owner: Rogers Communications

Year Established: 1976 (First Game - 1977)

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$137 (2000)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$337 (#27)

Percent Change From Last Year: +3%

Stadium: Rogers Centre

Date Built: 1989

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$570 (Canadian)

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 63%

Facility Financing: The local government paid \$360 million, 30 corporations contributed \$150 million, and the final \$60 million came from luxury seat fees.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Buffalo Bills are currently slated to play the Washington Redskins at the Rogers Centre on October 30, 2011. This is part of an ongoing deal allowing Toronto to showcase itself as a potential city for a future NFL team, with the Buffalo Bills playing an agreed upon number of games at the Rogers Centre from 2008 to 2012.

The Rogers Centre continues to be a popular venue for a wide variety of non-baseball activities, having hosted events such as a July 2011 U2 concert and an April 2011 UFC event that marked the first ever UFC stadium event in Toronto.

NAMING RIGHTS: In November 2004, the owners of the Toronto Blue Jays, Rogers Communication, purchased the Sky Dome from Sportsco International and renamed it the Rogers Centre.

Team: Washington Nationals

Principal Owner: Ted Lerner

Year Established: 1969

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$450 (2006)

Current Value (\$/Mil): \$417 (#16)

Percent Change From Last Year: +8%

Stadium: Nationals Park

Date Built: 2008

Facility Cost (\$/Mil): \$611+

Percentage of Stadium Publicly Financed: 100%

Facility Financing: The City of Washington D.C. agreed to pay up to \$610.8 million to finance the stadium, with the money generated by issuing bonds. Revenue to pay the debt will come from in-stadium taxes on tickets, concessions and merchandise (estimated at \$11-\$14 million annually), a new tax on businesses with gross receipts of \$3 million or more (estimated at \$21-\$24 million annually), and \$5.5 million in annual rent payments over a 30 year lease term from the baseball team's owner. The Nationals are responsible for any cost overruns.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2011, the Nationals debuted a renovated Miller Lite Scoreboard Walk, which is home to four new stadium eateries per a partnership with Danny Mayer's Union Square Hospitality Group. Additionally, the area features lounge seating in a park-like atmosphere with live plants and a new HDTV screen for fans to watch the action on the field.

Nationals Park also features the newly modernized, upscale PNC Diamond Club.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Nationals own the naming right for the new Nationals Park and are considering selling the naming rights to the stadium. The team might even sell the naming rights to the levels of luxury suites, which currently bear the names of presidents Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln.