



Strength Through Change

Oregon Convention Center
FY 2023-24 Report



Welcoming Heroes: The National Veterans Wheelchair Games

One of the proudest moments of Fiscal Year 2024 was welcoming the 40th National Veterans Wheelchair Games to Portland. This extraordinary event brought together hundreds of veteran wheelchair athletes representing every era of military service from World War II to today.

The Games demonstrated our city's commitment to accessibility and world-class hospitality. The athletes' remarkable determination inspired all of us, and we were honored to provide a space for competition, connection, and celebration. Veterans and their families also experienced the best of the Pacific Northwest, creating a meaningful reminder of how public venues can serve as platforms for resilience and community pride.

“Hosting the National Veterans Wheelchair Games was truly unforgettable. Our community was honored to welcome veteran athletes from WWII to today and celebrate their strength and competitive spirit. The Oregon Convention Center was proud to support this inspiring week of adaptive sports.”

Lisa Chan
Oregon Convention
Center
Sales Manager



Economic Impact FY 23-24

<u>Total spending:</u>	<u>\$390.5M</u>
<u>Total jobs:</u>	<u>2,760</u>
<u>Total earnings:</u>	<u>\$158.7</u>
<u>Total tax revenues:</u>	<u>\$22.9M</u>

Platinum for a Greener Future

Once again, OCC earned Platinum certification from the Events Industry Council, reinforcing our role as a national leader in sustainable events. This certification recognizes our comprehensive efforts in energy and water conservation, equity, accessibility, and positive community impact—all verified through an independent third-party review.

We maintained a 64.4% waste diversion rate through October, driven by the ongoing work of our Green Team and the expansion of durable serviceware initiatives. From our rooftop solar array and rain gardens to inclusive programming and responsible operations, we continue to demonstrate what's possible when sustainability is not just a goal—but a core value woven into everything we do.



Event Highlights

263

Number
of events

487,400

Total
attendance

Staying Strong in Shifting Times

In a challenging economic climate, OCC remained a vital contributor to the region—generating nearly \$390 million in total economic output and supporting more than 2,700 jobs in Fiscal Year 2023–24.

With fewer events, shorter booking windows, and declining revenue forecasts, OCC is adapting through strategic cost reductions, creative revenue strategies, and a focus on core services.

OCC remains committed to delivering economic impact, supporting Portland's hospitality industry, and creating space for meaningful, community-building events.



From the Director

The Oregon Convention Center continues to serve as a vital economic engine and a gathering place for ideas, culture, and community—anchored in Portland's values. In FY 2023–24, we welcomed events that generated nearly \$390 million in economic output and supported more than 2,700 jobs.

While the industry continues to recover from the pandemic, we remain focused on delivering exceptional service, maintaining critical infrastructure, and ensuring access for all communities.

We renewed our LEED® Platinum and Salmon-Safe certifications and earned Platinum Level recognition from the Events Industry Council, reaffirming our leadership in sustainability. Levy was honored with the Quintessential Cuisine Award and expanded community outreach through student mentoring, volunteering, and a new Random Acts of Kindness program.

As we look ahead, our priorities are clear: stabilize operations, reinvest in essential systems, strengthen partnerships, and prepare for long-term growth. I'm incredibly proud of our team's work—and grateful for the partners who help bring this venue to life.

Cindy Wallace, CMP, CMM, PMP
Oregon Convention Center Executive Director



Oregon Convention Center
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