

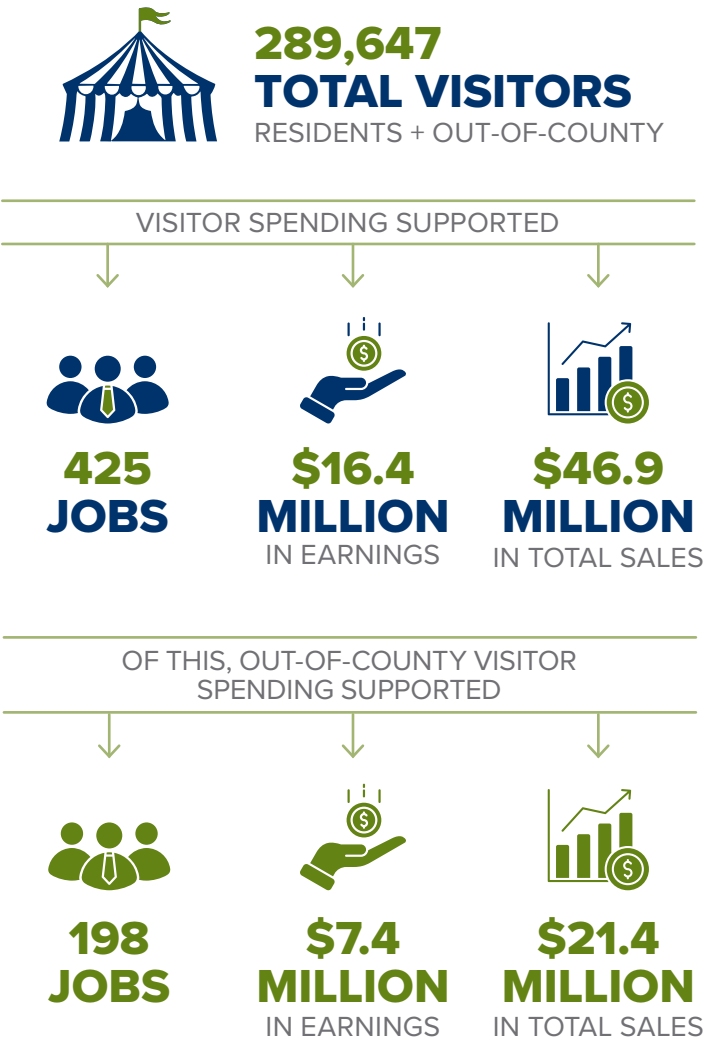
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each August, the Dutchess County Fair in Rhinebeck, NY celebrates the region’s agricultural heritage through livestock competitions, 4-H and FFA exhibits, and equestrian showcases while also offering world-class entertainment, rides, food vendors, and local crafts. Beyond the fair itself, the fairgrounds host dozens of off-season events that generate year-round economic activity and support local businesses throughout Dutchess County.

DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR IMPACT

In 2024, the Dutchess County Fair welcomed an estimated **289,647 visitors**, generating approximately **\$31.1 million in direct spending** on food, lodging, retail, and entertainment. This spending supported around **425 jobs**, **\$16.4 million in labor income**, and **\$46.9 million in total sales** across local industries.

Of this total, out-of-county visitors accounted for roughly **\$14.2 million in direct spending**—new dollars that would not otherwise circulate in the local economy—supporting **198 jobs**, **\$7.4 million in earnings**, and **\$21.4 million in total sales** within Dutchess County.



OFF-SEASON IMPACT

The fairgrounds’ role as a regional destination extends well beyond fair week. In 2024, the site hosted **off-season events on 55 days**, drawing around **77,640 additional attendees** and generating **\$7.1 million in direct spending**. These events supported **100 jobs**, **\$3.7 million in labor income**, and **\$10.6 million in total sales**.

Spending by out-of-county visitors during off-season events contributed **\$5.5 million** to the local economy, supporting **79 jobs**, **\$2.8 million in earnings**, and **\$8.2 million in sales**.



FISCAL IMPACT

The fairgrounds also generate substantial fiscal benefits for State and County governments. In total, visitor spending and earnings supported an estimated **\$3.2 million in combined state and local sales tax revenue** in 2024. Dutchess County retained approximately **\$1.6 million**, including about **\$845,000** directly attributable to out-of-county visitors—representing new tax dollars for local government.

