

Crowd Management *Strategies*

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Eleventh Rock Concert Safety Survey™

20 Die at Concerts and Festivals in 2002

- Rap concerts top list as most violent; rock festivals most reckless
- Crowdsafe Award winners from Israel, South Africa, England and Australia
 - 2003 concert season will be “Orange”

Chicago, Illinois, March 24, 2003 ... At least 20 people died at concerts and festivals worldwide in 2002, down from 55 the previous year, according to the findings of Crowd Management Strategies' eleventh annual Rock Concert Safety Survey. (The survey was scheduled for release February 24, but postponed following the E2 club and Great White concert tragedies.)

In addition to the 20 deaths, the 31 concerts and festivals resulted in selected 4,567 injuries, 2,683 arrests/citations, and more than \$542,000 in property damage. Crowd Management Strategies estimates the annual number of people who actually receive medical attention for injuries or other disabilities ranges between 20,000 to 40,000 worldwide.

Quick View: Eleventh Rock Concert Safety Survey™ (for 2002)

Concerts/Festivals selected for survey ..	31 Worldwide (15 US)
Deaths.....	20 (plus 1 death from unknown causes)
Injuries.....	4,567+
Arrests/Citations.....	2,683+
Property Damage.....	\$542,000+

Countries listed: *US, England, Australia, South Africa, Philippines, China, France and Thailand.*

Festivals and tours listed: *Big Beach Boutique II (England), Big Day Out (Australia), HFStival (US), Carling Weekend (England), and KUBE Summer Jam (US), Glastonbury Festival (England), Roc-a-Fella Records' Paid in Full tour (US), Sleepless Night festival (France), Farmapalooza (US), 93-X Fest (US), Terrapin Station (US), M-One festival (Australia), Beat Summer Jam (US).*

Artists listed: *DJ Fatboy Slim, Nelly, Gangsta Nutt, Eminem, Guns 'N Roses, System of a Down, Bow Wow, Gareth Gates, The Other Ones, Street Platoon, Widespread Panic, Jacky Cheung, Snoop Doggy Dogg.*

The annual survey lists a sampling of the deaths, injuries, arrests and property damage attributed to lapses in crowd safety and security planning or management at live music concerts and festivals around the world. The annual survey (see chart) does not represent all incidents that occur during a given year. If it did, injury and property damage statistics would be significantly higher.

Rap Concert Violence; Festival Crowd Chaos

Nine rap and hip hop concerts are listed in the 11th Rock Concert Safety Survey. Five people died violent deaths (Street Platoon, February 26; KUBE-FM Summer Jam, July 19; Gangsta Nutt, October 4; Nelly, October 19) and another eight were either shot, stabbed or injured in altercations at these shows. Extreme violence has long plagued rap and hip hop fans due, in part, to improper or deficient security planning and management.

Meanwhile, rock festival audiences fell victim to lax crowd management. Two major events exemplified the type of problems that occurred in 2002. At the annual HFStival (May 25) at RFK Stadium in Washington, DC, reckless crowd management on the stadium field triggered volatile crowd crushing and surging to the extent that two fans were severely injured and nearly crushed to death, while hundreds of other fans were injured.

In Brighton, England, the Big Beach Boutique II concert by international star and local celebrity DJ Fatboy Slim was a disaster waiting to happen that happened. Event organizers and local authorities naively anticipated 60,000 people would attend the free summer beach party. Instead, 250,000 music fans showed up. One person died, at least 140 people were injured, Brighton's famous beach suffered environmental damage and the city's safety services were stretched beyond past their capacity.

US Concert Industry Fails To Respond Effectively To 9/11 Terrorist Threat

Following September 11, 2001, the US concert industry pledged to improve crowd safety and security at concerts, dances and festivals.

Throughout 2002, Crowd Management monitored the industry's response. What it found was disconcerting. No consistent security improvements to counter possible terrorist attacks were evident.

From small club concerts to raves to festivals to prestigious events such as the Rolling Stones 2002 tour, the Bruce Springsteen 2002 tour and Ozzfest, crowd safety and security measures in the US were inconsistent and often surprisingly lax.

At the Rolling Stones' tour stop in Chicago (September 13) only superficial security checks of patrons were performed at Comiskey Park. In Cincinnati, patrons did not go through security checks for the Bruce Springsteen concert (November 12) at US Bank Arena. Mr. Springsteen's tour was among the high-profile concert events where festival seating/standing room was used. The Boss' demand for festival seating in Cincinnati caused a public uproar and a boycott.

Depending on geo-political developments, the threat of terrorist attack against a US public event will be high (Orange level security alert), far greater than in 2002, according to an assessment made by Paul Wertheimer of Crowd Management Strategies. The most vulnerable events will be those that use festival seating/standing room environments, fail to take prudent security and crowd safety steps, fail to adequately train private security and have no emergency plans.

2003 Crowdsafe Awards Announced

Crowdsafe Awards recognize excellence in areas of crowd safety, such as research, planning, management, advocacy, education, guidance, and enforcement. Each year since 2002, Crowd Management Strategies has recognized outstanding achievements in these areas. The recipients are posted on Crowdsafe.com.

The second annual Crowdsafe Awards are presented to:

Israel Police

National Headquarters

Jerusalem, Israel

<http://www.police.gov.il>

In response to ongoing suicide-homicide bombing attacks against its citizens, the Israel Police developed a unique counter-terrorism brochure for the Israeli public called, Terror – Let's Stop It Together. The attractive and well written publication offers simple safety techniques to help identify possible suicide-homicide bombers and explosives hidden in packages and vehicles.

The Israel Police generously posted the brochure on its website in Hebrew and English. Thus, making Terror – Let's Stop It Together available free to communities around the world. (The publication was first posted on Crowdsafe.com).

The Honorable Mr. Justice Bernard M. Ngoepe

Judge President

Transvaal Provincial Division of the High Court of South Africa

Pretoria, South Africa

Judge B. M. Ngoepe was appointed by South African President Thabo Mbeki to head a judicial commission of inquiry into the 2001 Ellis Park stadium soccer crowd crush disaster that took the lives of 43 people and injured scores of people.

The report produced by Judge Ngoepe was refreshingly honest, thorough, and unflinching in its assessment of the problems and crowd management failures that triggered the disaster.

Mendip District Council

Somerset, England

<http://www.mendip.gov.uk>

In the United Kingdom, local government councils give final approval to proposed public events in their communities. Mendip Council exemplifies a public agency determined to provide a consistent level of care for events in its community.

The council presides over one of England's most legendary rock events, the Glastonbury Festival. In 2002, the festival organizers were forced by the Mendip Council to create a new crowd safety plan to receive an event license. Mendip District Council received a much improved crowd safety and security plan and approved the festival organizer's plan.

Ian Weir

Director

Venue & Event Management Services Pty. Ltd.

Sydney, Australia

<http://www.venueevent.com>

Individuals can influence public policy and the public awareness of important issues and solutions. Ian Weir exemplifies the positive impact one person can have.

Mr. Weir worked closely with the father of Jessica Michalik, the young girl crushed to death at Australia's Big Day Out rock festival in 2001. During the Inquest into Ms. Michalik's death, Mr. Weir's venue and crowd management expertise was often solicited by various parties involved in the Inquest.

Previous Crowdsafe Award Winners

Last year, Denmark's Roskilde Festival organizers received the first Crowdsafe Award for excellence in festival crowd management and for crowd safety innovation.

Two Exclusive Crowdsafe Database Charts

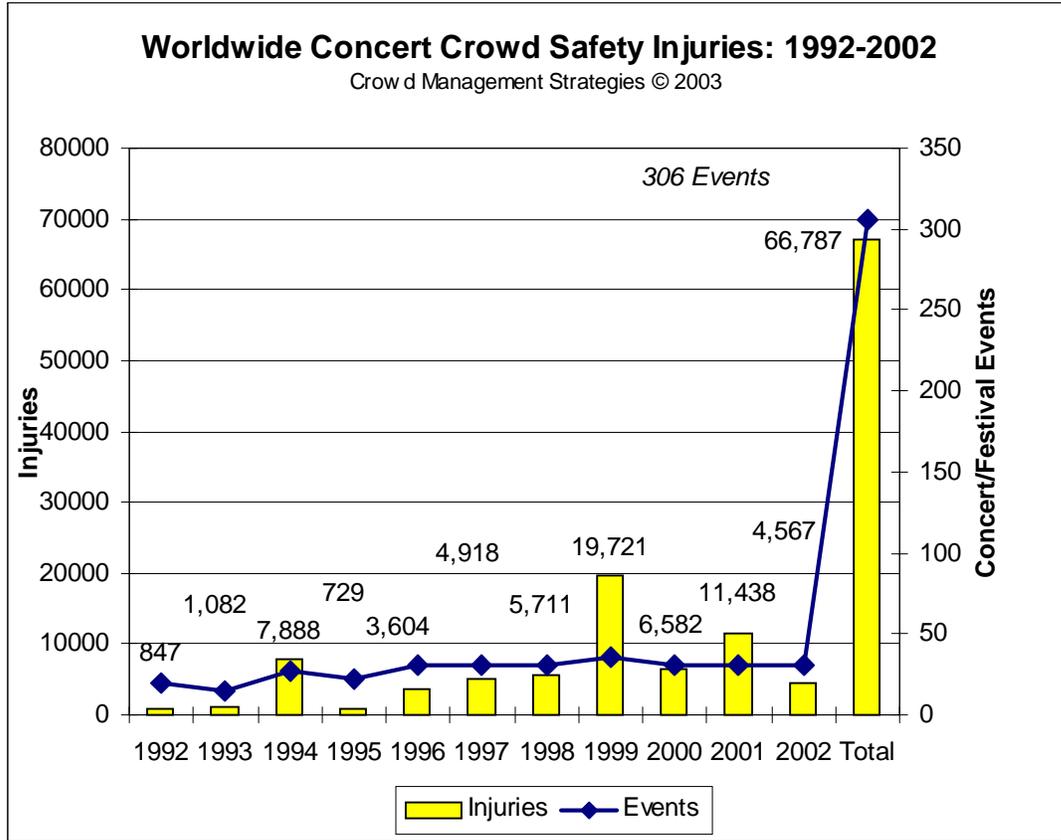


Chart 1: Concerts and festivals listed in Rock Concert Safety Surveys from 1992 to 2002. The bars show injury data. The trend line/diamond represents concerts and festival events. Source: Crowdsafe Database™.

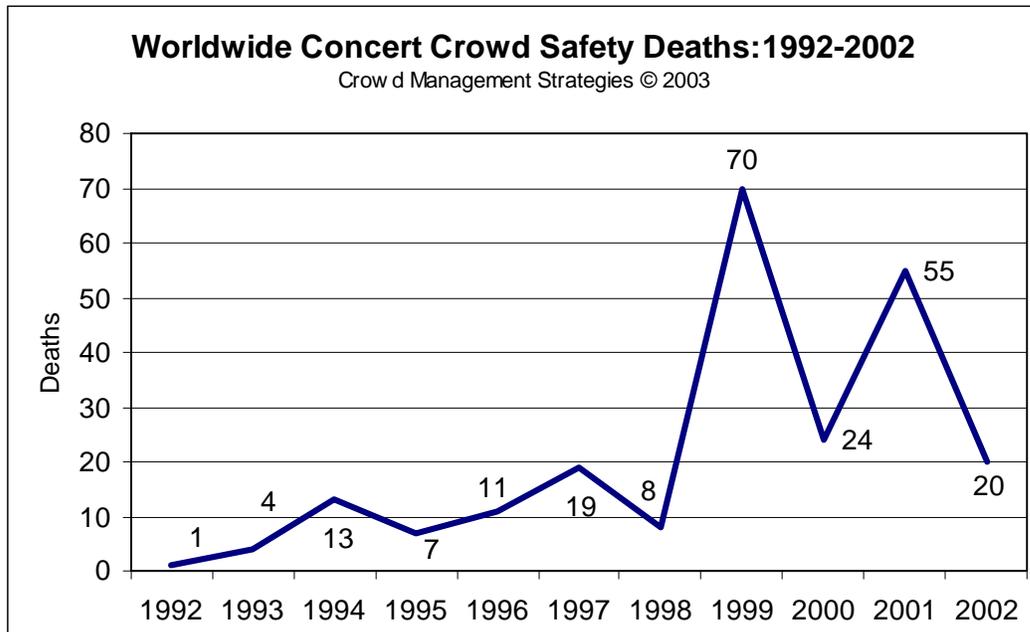


Chart 2: Known deaths attributed to crowd safety problems from concert and festival events listed in the Crowdsafe Database™. (Not included are deaths where causes are not known or are not proven to be related to event safety planning or management). Source: Crowdsafe Database™.

The Rock Concert Safety Survey: The Rock Concert Safety Survey™ (RCSS) is the only annual review of crowd safety incidents and issues at music concert and festival events. The purpose of the RCSS is to assist crowd safety professionals in the planning of concert and festival events and to draw public attention to ongoing and preventable concert and festival crowd safety problems.

The RCSS has proven to be a powerful and accurate crowd safety tool. Data is culled from official reports, eyewitness accounts, litigation, media reports, international concert industry sources, and public information documents. The findings of the RCSS are released as an annual report each February documenting many of the previous year's worst events.

Please note: Each Rock Concert Safety Survey™ lists only a sampling of the most dangerous events of the previous year. If data on all known deaths, injuries, property damage costs and arrests were made public, the statistics for these categories would be higher.

Crowd Management Strategies: Crowd Management Strategies is at the forefront of the international effort to improve crowd safety at concerts and other public events. Crowd Management Strategies was first to:

- develop a database on worldwide concert crowd safety incidents and issues,
- develop an Internet website on concert crowd safety (In 2002, Crowdsafe.com was visited 70,000 by people from 94 countries),
- publish an annual review of the state of concert safety around the world (Rock Concert Safety Survey); and
- publish safety guidance for moshing, rap concerts, websites, etc.

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