

PRESS RELEASE
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2016 MCAS Cherry Point Air Show draws record turnout

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. (May 2, 2016) – Despite a few performances being canceled or modified due to low cloud clearance, the 2016 MCAS Cherry Point Air Show was a success this year, as the estimated tally for visitors finished at more than 200,000 people during the three-day air show and open house.

"We promised that it would be a show worth seeing," said Col. Chris Pappas, Cherry Point's commanding officer Monday. "Even with rain predicted for Sunday, it was impressive to see that Sunday this year beat out Saturday at our last show."

Estimates for the show were based on a formula that accounts for the number of vehicles and busses that come aboard the air station during the hours of the show. What the formula does not measure is the amount of fun visitors had while here, but based on crowd reactions during the performances of the AV-8B Harrier and various aerobatic teams, including the U. S. Navy Blue Angels and USAF F-22 Raptor Demo Team, the fun meter was pegged.

Although Saturday's show drew the largest crowds estimated at more than 95,000 people, the Friday night show was a hit as well, with nearly 60,000 visitors here to watch multiple air and ground displays of dazzling pyrotechnics and a fireworks finale.

With the Cherry Point air show back on a biennial schedule, the next air show will be scheduled for 2018.