

# Kanye West's Saint Pablo Cancellation Could Cost Him North Of \$10 Million



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*Jan. 17, 2014, Kanye West as he arrives for the Givenchy men's Fall-Winter 2014-2015 fashion collection in Paris.  
(AP Photo/Zacharie Scheurer)*

Kanye West abruptly canceled the remaining 21 shows on his current concert tour, a source confirmed to FORBES today.

"The remaining dates on the Saint Pablo Tour have been cancelled," said a spokesperson for concert promoter Live Nation. "Tickets will be fully refunded at point of purchase."

The cancellation comes in the wake of a series of recent rants in which West [declared](#) himself a Donald Trump supporter and [criticized](#) a long list of celebrities including Jay Z, Beyoncé, Hillary Clinton and Mark Zuckerberg.

West, who had been grossing an average of \$1.5 million per city on the tour according to Pollstar, will suffer millions in lost earnings after cutting Saint Pablo short. Live Nation wouldn't comment on specifics, but the back-of-the-envelope math doesn't look good for the rapper's bottom line.

Acts like West, who [earned](#) \$17.5 million this year, typically receive multimillion-dollar advances and massive nightly guarantees. While those numbers can vary widely, an industry rule of thumb used by the likes of FORBES and *Billboard* says artists pocket roughly one-third of gross ticket sales. That suggests West will miss out on \$500,000 or so in earnings per night--a little over \$10 million in total.

West will also miss out on merchandise sales associated with the tour, likely a high six-figure or low seven-figure sum. He could stand to lose even more if he has to bear the cost of

refunding tickets; it's unclear whether or not that will fall to him.

"When you're talking that caliber of artist and tour, hopefully the people involved do have insurance policies," says Priscilla Mattison, counsel at entertainment law firm Bernard M. Resnick PC.

Termination provisions in touring contracts depend on a number of factors, including whether cancellations happen for cause or without cause, which party cancels (the venue, the promoter or the talent) and how far in advance the cancellation occurs.

Representatives for West, who hasn't given a reason for the cancellation, did not immediately reply to a request for comment.