

[Portugal]

Report by [Maria Teresa Saraiva]
[Statistics Portugal]

Introduction

Since 1960, Statistics Portugal releases data on the number of museums and visitors.

Statistics Portugal is responsible for conducting a Museums survey in all its phases and processes: design, build, collect, process, analyze and dissemination.

The last three methodological changes in the Museums survey were made in:

2000 - methodological change in the universe, data collection and data analysis.

2007 - changes in the questionnaire design with the exclusion/inclusion of some variables and categories from the universe units.

2012 - changes in the questionnaire design and in the data collection mode, by the adoption of a web based data collection.

Information from the Museums survey is obtained annually, and the data collection is made by electronic means since 2012. The type of statistical operation is census and the geographical coverage is Portugal. The Museums classified in the Class 91.02 from NACE-Rev.2 are the operating reference universe and were exhaustively surveyed. The sampling base consists of Museums that were in activity on the reference year, permanently or seasonally, with at least one exhibition room or space and with at least one employee.

The objective of this statistical operation is to obtain data that characterize Museums in what relates to their activities, physical infrastructures, human and financial resources, archive, collection and inventory, number of visitors, types of visitors (school groups and foreign visitors), admissions (free and in temporary exhibitions).

Every three years, information related to physical infrastructures (total and built environment areas, public and administrative/technical areas), technological resources, partnerships, publications, regulations, norms and plans is gathered.

Despite all Museums surveyed, **five simultaneous conditions** are applied to define the subset of museums considered for statistical and dissemination purposes (**national criteria**). The five criteria, defined in 2000 survey are the following:

- ✓ **Criterion 1:** *museums* with at least one exhibition room.
- ✓ **Criterion 2:** *museums* open to the public (permanently or seasonally).
- ✓ **Criterion 3:** *museums* with at least one curator or senior staff member (including managers).
- ✓ **Criterion 4:** *museums* with a budget (a minimum knowledge of total expenditure).
- ✓ **Criterion 5:** *museums* with an inventory (at least a summary inventory).

Definition of Museum

The definition of museum used by Statistics Portugal is in the line with ICOM (International Council of Museums) definition.

A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.

Existence of Museum-related Laws

Framework Law on Portuguese Museums – Law nº 47/2004 of 19 August

Categories used regarding Type of Collection

Art museums

Archaeology museums

Natural science and natural history museums

Science and technology museums

Ethnology and anthropology museums

Specialized museums

History museums

Mixed and multidisciplinary museums

Territory museums

Other museums

Categories used regarding Type of Ownership

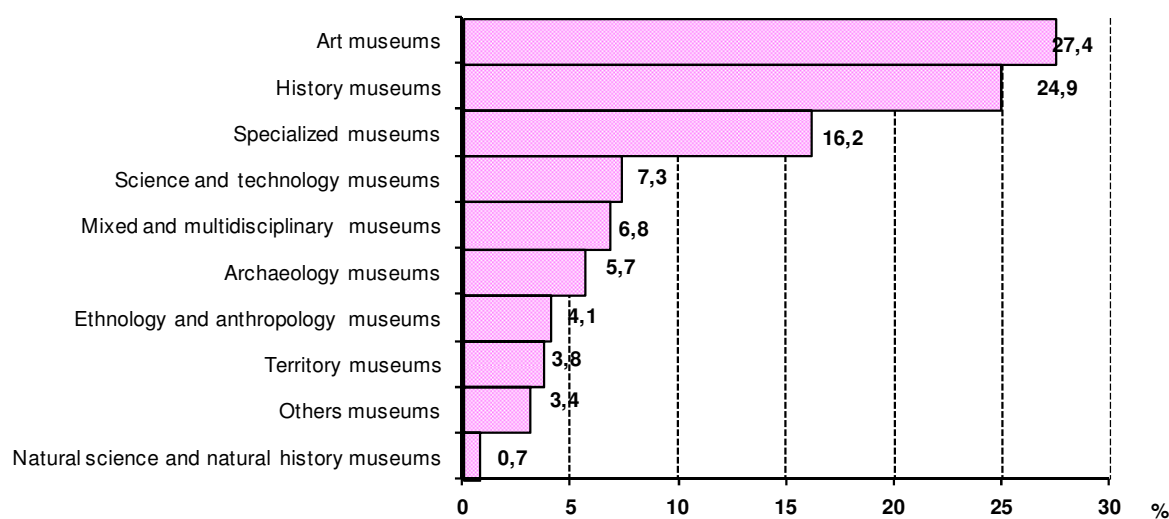
Public museums

Private museums

Existing Data – Basic Figures and Diagrams

Admissions in Museums					
2014		Unit: number			
Museums according to type of collections	Number of Museums	Admissions			
		Total	Admissions in school groups	Foreigners	Free admissions
Total of Museums	392	11 749 732	1 525 223	4 289 128	4 628 748
Art museums	84	3 223 282	380 851	1236 444	1727 866
Archaeology museums	34	664 943	60 869	294 975	307 243
Natural science and natural history museums	7	88 095	18 907	22 216	42 152
Science and technology museums	29	858 801	271548	95 135	354 075
Ethnology and anthropology museums	59	476 503	101999	80 805	251307
Specialized museums	48	1 900 336	179 606	533 335	711260
History museums	47	2 929 596	266 879	1725 560	573 426
Mixed and multidisciplinary museums	63	802 057	152 026	155 661	428 363
Territory museums	14	445 240	71243	64 340	212 953
Others museums	7	360 879	21295	80 657	20 103

Admissions in Museums – Portugal 2014



Based on the *Museums Survey*, in 2014 the 392 Museums, according to national criteria, recorded a total of 11.7 million visitors and held a collection of 24.5 million objects. The most visited were the “Art museums”, with 27.4% of total visitors.

List of References

- Cultural Statistics 2014 – edition November 2015, Statistics Portugal
- Methodology of Survey of Museums, Statistics Portugal
- ICOM - International Council of Museums