

## *Spain*

Report by Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport.

### **Introduction – Key Issues**

#### **Object of this statistical research**

This section offers information on Museums and Museum Collections in the territory of Spain, whatever the legal ownership status or the legal status of the institution responsible for its running and management. The aim is to offer information that will lead to a deeper knowledge of this cultural sector. Results are offered on the number of museum institutions and with regard to certain characteristics of the same, namely: accessibility; availability of services and level of facilities; activities carried out; museum deposits; visitors and staff of these institutions.

The classification variables used were: the type of museum or museum collection, the autonomous region in which it is found, and the ownership of and institution responsible for its running and management.

#### **Source of information**

The information comes from a statistical operation that is part of the National Plan on Statistics, **Statistics on Museums and Museum Collections**. It is a research work carried out every two years by the Statistics unit of this Ministry in collaboration with the General Sub-Directorate of State Museums, Ministry of Defence, National Heritage and The Regional Governments and Autonomous Cities that participate in different phases of elaboration of the same. In addition, the data from Museums and Museum collections in Spain are complemented, in terms of cultural participation, with the results of the Survey on Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain, whose more recent results available are for the period 2010-2011. As an ANNEX, here we include a brief reference to assistance to museums based on the results of the survey.

Details on the methodological aspects, as well as the detailed results can be consulted in the section corresponding to statistics at [www.mcu.es](http://www.mcu.es).

#### **Definition of Museum**

**Museum.** The concept of museum as used in statistics is the one defined by The Law of Spanish Historical Heritage, 16/1985, of June 26, by which “Museums are institutions of a permanent nature that acquire, conserve, research, communicate and exhibit for the purposes of study, education and contemplation, collections that are of historical, artistic, scientific, technical or any other form of cultural value”.

**Museum collection.** For the purposes of statistics, Museum Collections are considered to be “The body of cultural goods which, even though not meeting all the conditions required for the development of the inherent functions of a museum, are exposed to the public in keeping with museum criteria, at fixed visiting hours, and which has a basic set of deposits as well as the means for their conservation and safe keeping”.

#### **Existence of Museum-related Laws**

The Law of Spanish Historical Heritage, 16/1985, of June 26

#### **Categories used regarding Type of Collection**

The classification of Museums and Museum Collections according to type is in keeping, fundamentally, with what has been established by UNESCO, plus variations derived from the contributions of specialists, fundamentally for adaptation to the reality of each autonomous region. It is as follows:

- \* Fine Arts: contains works of art created fundamentally between Ancient times and the XIX century (architecture, sculpture, painting, drawing, etching and, since 2002, religious art)
- \* Decorative arts: contains works of art of an ornamental nature. Also called applied arts or industrial arts.
- \* Contemporary art: contains works of art done, mainly, in the XX and XXI centuries. Includes cinema and photography.
- \* Casa-museo: Museum located in the house or residence of birth of a famous personality.

- \* Archaeological: contains objects, bearing historical and/or artistic values, drawn from excavations, and archaeological discoveries or undertakings. Includes numismatic, glyptic and epigraphic specialities.
- \* In situ. Created when certain historical sites (archaeological sites, monuments, in situ examples of the industrial past, etc.) were turned into museums in the place for which they were originally conceived. (Includes Centres of Archaeological Interpretation, as long as they have a collection that has original deposits; Nature Interpretation Centres are not included).
- \* Historical: Museums and museum collections that illustrate events or historical periods, personalities, etc., are included in this category, as are military museums, etc.
- \* Natural sciences and Natural History: contains objects linked to biology, botanical studies, geology, zoology, physical anthropology, palaeontology, mineralogy, ecology, etc.
- \* Science and Technology: contains objects representative of the evolution of the history of science and technical studies, and also deals with the diffusion of the general principles of the same. Planetariums and scientific centres are not included, save those that may have a Museum or Museum Collection.
- \* Ethnography and Anthropology: devoted to pre-industrial and contemporary cultures and cultural elements, or those belonging to a recent past. This category includes museums of folklore, of the arts and of popular customs and traditions.
- \* Specialised museums: look more specifically at a part of Cultural Heritage not covered in other categories. Until 2002, it included religious art, which, from then on, came to be considered as belonging to the realm of Fine Arts.
- \* General: Museum or Museum Collection that can be identified by more than one of the previously mentioned categories.
- \* Others: cannot be included in the previous categories.

### **Categories used regarding Type of Ownership**

**Ownership:** Refers to the person or corporate body that features as the possessor of the heritage of the Museum or Museum Collection. According to the ownership body, Museums and Museum Collections were classified into:

**\* Public:**

- ° The General Administration of the State (Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport; Ministry of Defence; National Heritage; Other Ministries or Bodies of the General Administration of the State).
- ° The Regional Administration (Ministries of Regional Governments; Other Divisions or Ministries of Regional Governments; Other Bodies (Universities, etc.))
- ° The Local Administration (Provincial Governing Bodies; Cabildo or Island Council; Town Hall; Other Entities).
- ° Others (Public enterprise; Public Foundation; Various public bodies; Other public bodies).

**\*Private:**

- ° Ecclesiastical
- ° Others (Association; Foundation; Society; Unipersonal; Various private bodies; Other private bodies).

**\* Mixed:** Various public and private bodies.

## Existing Data – Basic Figures and Diagrams

### *Main results of the Statistics on Museums and Museum Collections 2012*

Regarding main results for the year 2012, the statistics are relative to the total of 1,464 Museums and Museum Collections that responded to the questionnaire, representing a coverage of 95.7% over the total of 1,529 museums surveyed.

*General characteristics. Profile of the museum institutions.* With respect to the typology of Museums and Museum Collections investigated the most frequent is Ethnography and Anthropology, with 262 museums, 17.9%, followed by the Fine Arts with 227, 15.5%; the Archaeological with 173, 11.8%; the Generals with 144, 9.8% and the Specialized with 140, 9.6%. Most of the Museums and Museum Collections investigated are publicly owned, 67.8%, being privately owned 30.0% and mixed by 2.3%. According to the results of a statistical 97.1% of the Museums and Museum Collections surveyed remained open throughout 2012 and the remaining 2.9% was closed temporarily. The opening on weekdays concentrates on the period from Tuesday to Friday, in which 84.7% of the institutions remained open, compared to a significantly lower percentage, a 30.5% of institutions open on Monday. In weekend activity is also intense, 82.4%, being lower the percentage of those who open their doors on public holidays, 60.5%. The 43.6% of the Museums and Museum Collections investigated are entirely free. Most of those entrance fee, 56.4%, offering reduced fares or free tickets to certain groups. Regarding the price of tickets in full, 769 institutions, 21.3% is less than 2 euros, 46.6% from two to three euros, and above this price 32.1% of the institutions.

*Services and equipment.* The most frequent services and facilities in museum institutions are information on the permanent collection, 75.1%, guided tours, 63.9%, libraries, 43.4%, and access for people with disabilities, 42.7%. With lower intensity but percentages higher than 30% are venues for educational activities, with 37% of the institutions surveyed, shop/bookstore with 36.7%, conference hall with 35.2% and audiovisual room with 31.8%. With values lower than 25% are, in the following order, environmental control, restoration workshop, public parking, accessible information for people with disabilities, research rooms, rental of venue for third parties, electronic guides, cafe/restaurant and photo lab. With regard to the implementation of New Technologies in the museum institutions, nine out of every ten, specifically 89.3%, have computers which are mainly used for administrative tasks and access to the Internet. More than three quarters of the Museums and Museum Institutions, 81.7%, have a Website to facilitate services to inform or communicate with the visitors and users and to provide educational activities or on-line tickets sales.

*Exhibitions, publications and other activities.* Nearly half of the institutions surveyed, 48.1%, held temporary exhibitions in 2012. This indicator is at its highest in *Contemporary art*, 73.8%, followed by *General museums*, 64.6%, *Specialised museums*, 57.1%, *Science and technology*, 53.6% and *Decorative arts*, 51.5%. Throughout the studied period, a 50.1% published some kind of information material; 52.7% guides and about 30.0% scientific catalogs or educational materials. Educational activities have great weight in these institutions. 57.7% offer this kind of activities that are directed, in most cases, to children, 82.7%. Although a great distance in terms of frequency, there are other activities such as courses or seminars, in 33.1%, conferences, at 32.7%, or concerts, in 25.7%.

*Visitors.* 59.0 million people visited a Museum or a Museum Collection throughout 2012, on average 41,535 people per museum open. This figure is much higher in certain types of museums such as Contemporary Art (99,417), Science and Technology (86,316) and Fine Arts (71,649).

*Staff.* The staff estimated in 1,464 Museums and Museum Collections under review was 14,118 people, an average of 9.6 per institution. By gender, more than half are women, 55.0% and 45.0% of men. The type of working day more frequent is full-time, 73.1% compared to 26.9% of part-time hours. By type of employer-paid distinguishes between those with permanent contract, the 71.8%, temporary, 15.9% and unpaid 4.9%, also taking a large volunteer staff, 7.4%

# A Guide to European Museum Statistics

## DIAGRAMS

DIAGRAM 1  
Museums and Museum Collections by type. 2012 (1)  
(As a percentage of the total)

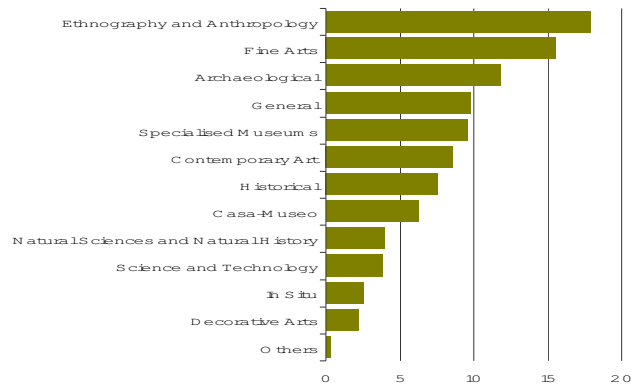


DIAGRAM 2  
Museums and Museum Collections by ownership (1)  
(As a percentage of the total)

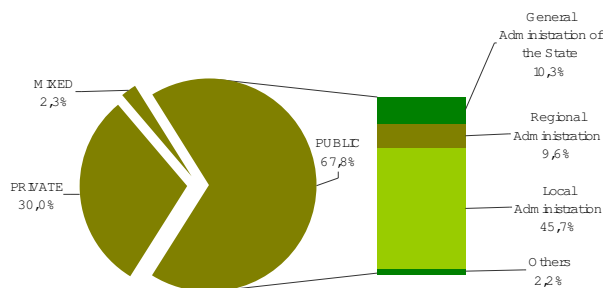
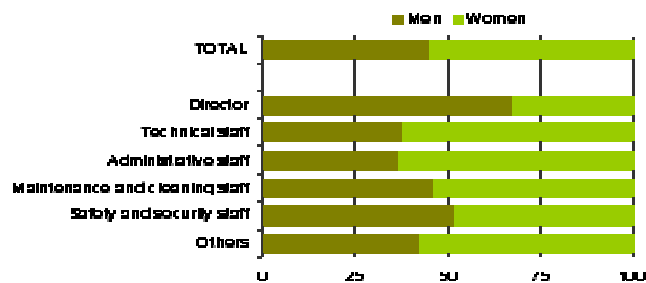


DIAGRAM 3  
Staff assigned to Museums and Museum Collections by gender and type and professional category (1)  
(As a percentage of the total of each group)



1) It refers to the total of 1464 Museums and Museums Collections which answers the 2012 Statistic

## List of References

Details on the methodological aspects of this statistic, as well as the detailed results can be consulted in the section corresponding to statistics at Cultural Statistic Information on Web:

### *Statistics on Museums and Museum Collections in Spain*

<http://www.mecd.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano-mecd/estadisticas/cultura/mc/em/portada.html>

<http://www.mcu.es/culturabase/cgi/um?M=/t11/p11&O=culturabase&N=&L=0>

In addition, the data from Museums and Museum collections in Spain are complemented, in terms of cultural participation, with the results of the **Survey on Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain**, whose more recent results available are for the period **2010-2011**. As an ANNEX, here we include a brief reference to assistance to museums based on the results of the survey.

### *Survey of Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain*

[http://www.mecd.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano-mecd/estadisticas/cultura/mc/ehc/2010-](http://www.mecd.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano-mecd/estadisticas/cultura/mc/ehc/2010-2011/presentacion.html)

[2011/presentacion.html](http://www.mecd.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano-mecd/estadisticas/cultura/mc/ehc/2010-2011/presentacion.html)

A data selection from both of them is included in the **Yearbook of Cultural Statistics 2014**

<http://www.mecd.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano-mecd/estadisticas/cultura/mc/naec/2014.html>

All these data are available on the website of the ministry:

*Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport. Spain*

<http://www.mecd.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano-mecd/estadisticas/cultura.html>

## **ANNEX:**

The **Survey on Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain 2010-2011**, official statistics included in the National Statistics Plan, is a research work done from a sample base of 16 thousand people over the age of 15 carried out by the Ministry of Culture. The sample was selected by the NSI (National Statistics Institute). The survey has many objectives, on the one hand, to assess the evolution of the main indicators of the cultural habits and practices of Spaniards, and on the other to analyse other significant aspects of the field of culture, especially with regard to cultural consumption, with a closer look being taken at the modes of acquisition of certain cultural products that are subject to intellectual property rights, such as books, recorded music, video and software. The survey gives continuity to the work done in 2006-2007. The cultural participation has been investigated in various cultural activities: museums, art galleries, archives and monuments, reading of books and periodic publications and libraries, performing and musical arts: theatre, opera, operetta, ballet or dance, classical music, contemporary music concerts, audiovisual sector: cinema, video, television and radio, new technologies, computer and Internet, as well as other practices related to leisure and culture. Activities that may violate intellectual property rights have been studied in the fields of books, music, video and software. The classification characteristics used in the project are the following: gender, age, level of education, personal situation and work situation. It also provides results according to the individual's place of residence, and size of municipality and autonomous region.

Its methodological details can be found, along with the results of the survey, at [www.mcu.es](http://www.mcu.es)

**Main results.** The results of the survey indicate that the most frequent cultural practices, in annual terms, are listening to music, reading and going to the cinema, with rates of 84,4%, 58,7% and 49,1% respectively. These practices are followed in intensity by the visits to monuments, carried out each year by 39,5% of the population, visits to museums or exhibitions, 30,6% and 25,7% respectively and contemporary music concerts, 25,9.

With regard to **Museums, Exhibitions and Art Galleries** the principal results are that the following.

**Museums:** 30,6% of people surveyed have visited a museum during the last year. With regard to the frequency of attendance, people who visited a museum in the last quarter did so 2,2 times on average. Attendance rates are slightly higher in men, grow significantly when the age decreases and the educational level increases. It is a satisfied public with an average of 8,2 points of satisfaction. 92,2% of people who visited museums in the last year did so for leisure and entertainment, compared to 7,8% who said that the main reason of the visit was the profession or studies. Most visits took place on a weekend or holiday, 52% compared to 48% on a working day. Nearly half of the people who visited a museum, 49,4%, paid a full price ticket, while 14,4% paid a ticket with some discount or have a subscription and 36,2% got a free entry. Among those who didn't get free entry, 5,1% bought the tickets online. 28,3% of people visited a museum located in their city in the last year, 23,9% in the Autonomous Region, 28,4% in the rest of Spain and 19,4% abroad.

**Exhibitions:** 25,7% of the people surveyed have visited an exhibition in the last year. With regard to the frequency of attendance, people who visited an exhibition in the last quarter did so 2,1 times on average. 91,2% of people who visited an exhibition in the last year did so for leisure and entertainment, compared to 8,8% who said that the main reason of the visit was the profession or studies. Nearly half of the visits took place on a weekend or holiday, 48% compared to 52% which took place in a working day.

**Art Galleries:** The attendance rates to art galleries are well below those seen in museums and exhibitions. 13,6% of the people surveyed visited an art gallery in the last year. 92,3% of people who visited an art gallery in the last year did so for leisure and entertainment, compared to 7,7% who said that the main reason of the visit was the profession or studies. Nearly half of the visits took place on a weekend or holiday, 46,3% compared to 53,7% which took place on a working day.

The indicators provided by the survey indicate significant cultural behaviour differences regarding **gender**. Women have rates of visits to exhibitions or art galleries higher than the average, being observed, in men, greater intensity in visits to museums. **Young people** have highest rates of cultural participation and they visit more museums. Undoubtedly the **level of education** is the most determining factor in cultural participation, which systematically increases with it.

The survey also provides **cultural participation indicators which are evaluated in groups of people where there is a certain cultural behaviour, which reflect the strong interrelationships between them**. If we focus on the group of those who have visited museums, galleries and exhibitions in the last year, it can be observed a strong increase in their rates of reading, 84,9%, compared to 58,7 % of the overall population surveyed. They doubled the annual rate of attendance at the theatre. The attendance rate to museums is twice among those who have attended live shows of performing arts, which increases to 63,2% in this group and reaches the highest value in reading and annual attendance to the cinema, with percentages of 85,6% and 74,6% respectively.