

EGMUS, Denmark

Report by

Statistics Denmark

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Statistics on Museums in Denmark

The production of statistics on Museums in Denmark is shared by Statistics Denmark and The Danish Agency for Culture. Statistics Denmark compiles general statistics while the agency compiles more detailed statistics.

Statistics Denmark publishes yearly, in December, a short press release, and detailed figures in the databank "StatBank". Main figures are published in "Statistical Yearbook".

The Danish Agency for Culture¹ publish yearly "Danskemuseer I tal" (only in Danish) with figures that to some extent correspond with the EGMUS questionnaire. The latest release is with data for 2009. A publication with data for 2010 is on its way

The Agency for Culture has recently published a survey on Cultural Habits². Last time the survey was carried out was in 2004. The main conclusion in the field of Museum is that there is a marked increase in the number of visitors to the museums since 2004. 41 pct. of adult Danes visited an Art Museum/Art Exhibition in 2012. In 2004 the figure was 35 pct. The report is not available in English.

Definition of Museum

The term "museum" is not a protected designation in Denmark. Only registered museums are eligible for federal funding. Finance authorities are responsible for deciding whether cultural facilities are eligible for tax exemption. The term "museum" is similar to the situation in other countries. The definition of the term "museum" is largely aligned with the ICOM definition and is also set down in Danish Museum Law. Visitors to zoos are not included in museum statistics, as is also the case of exhibition spaces, science centres, planetariums and nature reserves. However, some monuments and points of interest are included.

Categories used

Museums in Denmark are divided into four categories with regard to their main area: museums of cultural history (including technological museums), art museums, museums of natural history and mixed museums. Mixed museums are museums that comprise of museum departments of more than one category (typically cultural history and art). This classification of museum types is only an approximation of the UNESCO classification.

According to the Museum Law, museums are subdivided into two categories depending on the form of the agency legally responsible for them: State museums and state-supported museums. State museums are almost entirely financed by the state. State-supported museums receive State subsidy along with support from local authorities, from the district in which they are located, as well as from private foundations and the like.

Future statistics

Statistics Denmark is working on developing a culture statistics measuring the structure of the individual cultural area in terms of employment and aggregate payroll costs, based on labour market contributions for employees. The statistics is based on the national NACE classification. The aim of the statistics is to be able to benchmark the cultural area.

¹<http://www.kulturstyrelsen.dk/>

²http://kum.dk/Documents/Publikationer/2012/Bogen%20danskernes_kulturvaner_pdfa.pdf