



## Doc. 01 Spain. Countries. National Report. February 2024

### Report by the Ministry of Culture

#### Introduction – Key Issues

##### Object of this statistical research

The aim of the Statistic on Museums and Museum Collections is to provide statistical indicators about these cultural institutions and those aspects related to the supply of museums, their general characteristics, accessibility, infrastructure, facilities, deposits, exhibitions, and publications among others, as well as those related to the demand, especially through estimates of visitors. The main classification variables used in the project are the following: autonomous regions or cities and sizes of the municipalities where the institutions are situated, ownership or management, and types of museums or museum collections. The results presented here are expected to provide an instrument for the better understanding of the reality of museums and their development over time.

In the interpretation of the results from the year 2020 onwards, the effects of the COVID-19 crisis should be considered, which brought the temporary closure of museum institutions in 2020, with 119 days on average per institution.

##### Source of information

The Statistic on Museums and Museum Collections is a statistical operation that is carried out biennially and included in the National Statistics Plan, whose most recent results available are for the period 2022. It is developed by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence, National Heritage and the autonomous regions and cities. 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 most recent results available are for the period 2021-2022. As an ANNEX, here we include a brief reference to attendance to museums based on the results of the survey.

The methodological aspects can be consulted in the section of Culture Statistics at the website of the Ministry of Culture, [www.cultura.gob.es](http://www.cultura.gob.es), along with the full results.

##### 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 Collection Houses 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”.

Both for-profit and non-for-profit institutions are considered.

##### Existence of museum-related laws

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

##### Categories used regarding type of museum

The classification of museums and museum collections according to type is basically the one established by UNESCO, including some variations derived from the contributions of specialists on the subject, mainly to adapt it to the reality of each autonomous region. It is the following:

- *Fine Arts.* Contain works of art created fundamentally between Ancient times and the XIX century (architecture, sculpture, painting, drawing, etching and religious art).
- *Decorative Arts.* Contain works of art of ornamental nature. Also called applied arts or industrial arts.
- *Contemporary Art.* Contain works of art made, mainly, in the XX and XXI centuries. Cinematography and photography are included.
- *House-Museum.* Museums located in the house of birth or residence of a famous personality.
- *Archaeological.* Contain objects with historical and/or artistic value from excavations, prospectings and archaeological sites. Numismatics, glyptics, epigraphy and other specialities are included.



- *In Situ*. Contain certain historical goods (archaeological sites, monuments, in situ examples of the industrial past, etc.) in the place where they were originally conceived. Archaeological Interpretation Centres are included, as long as they hold original collections. Nature Interpretation Centres are excluded.
- *Historical*. Museums and museum collections that illustrate events or historical periods, personalities, etc. Military museums are included in this category.
- *Natural Sciences and Natural History*. Contain objects related to biology, botany, geology, zoology, physical anthropology, palaeontology, mineralogy, ecology, etc.
- *Science and Technology*. Contain objects representative of the evolution of science and technical history and attend to the dissemination of their general principles. Planetariums and scientific centres are excluded, except for those holding a museum or museum collection.
- *Ethnography and Anthropology*. Devoted to pre-industrial contemporary elements and culture, or those belonging to a recent past. This category includes museums of folklore, of the arts and of popular customs and traditions.
- *Specialised*. For specific areas of Cultural Heritage not covered in other categories.
- *General*. Museums or museum collections that can be identified by more than one of the previously mentioned categories.
- *Others*. Museums that cannot be included in the previous categories.

#### Categories used regarding Type of Ownership

Refers to the natural person or legal entity that is the title holder of the heritage of a Museum or Museum Collection. According to the ownership, museums and museum collections are classified into:

- **Public:**
  - The General State Administration (Ministry of Culture; 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 Governments Bodies; Cabildo or Island Council; Town Hall; Other Entities).
  - Others (Public enterprises; Public Foundations; Various public bodies; Other public bodies).
- **Private:**
  - Ecclesiastical
  - Others (Associations; Foundations; Societies; Unipersonal; Various private bodies; Other private bodies).
- **Mixed:** Various public and private bodies.

#### Existing Data – Basic Figures and Diagrams

##### **Main results of the Statistic on Museums and Museum Collections 2022**

In the interpretation of the results from the year 2020 onwards, the effects of the COVID-19 crisis should be considered, which affected specially museum institutions, subject matter of this project.

The results of the statistic are based on the 1,492 Museums and Museum Collections that responded to the statistic, representing a coverage of 98% of the total museum institutions in the census, 1,522.

*General characteristics. Profile of the museum institutions.* With respect to the type of Museums and Museum Collections, *Ethnography and Anthropology* represent 16.5% of the total and *Fine Arts* 13.4%. These types are followed by *Archaeological*, *Specialised* and *Historical Museums*, representing 12.5%, 10.9% and 9.4%, respectively. *General Museums* and *Contemporary Art Museums* go after, with 9.3% and 9.1%. Finally, the institutions with relative weights lower than 6% are those dedicated to *House-Museum*, *Science and Technology*, *Natural Science and Natural History*, *In Situ*, *Decorative Arts* and *Others*, in that order. Most of the Museums and Museum Collections investigated are public, 75.1%; 23.3% are private and 1.6% are mixed museums. Regarding public owned museums, the Local Administration shows the most significant weight with a number of museum institutions that represents 50.5% of the total, standing at a large distance both the General Administration of the State, 10.9%, and the Regional Administration, 10.8%. Regarding private owned museums, the weight of ecclesiastical museums is also significant, representing 6.8% of the total analysed. In the interpretation of the results from the year 2020 onwards, the effects of the COVID-19 crisis should be considered, which affected specially museum institutions, subject matter of this project. 98.3% of the institutions investigated (Museums and Museum Collections) were



open in 2022 and 1.7% closed provisionally. Among those that were open, most were permanently open, 89.9%, and very few, 4.4%, opened seasonally. The access is not restricted in 98.2% of the institutions, being restricted in the remaining 1.8%. Advance requests for visits are not required in 39.5% of the Museums and Museum Collections and in 47.6% they are only required for groups. On working days, the opening hours are concentrated from Tuesday to Friday, in which 94% of the institutions were open. A significant lower percentage of institutions, 30.8%, opened on Mondays. The activity was intense on weekends, 89.5% institutions remained open, while the percentage of museums that opened on public holidays is lower, 67.4%. 49.8% of the institutions have exclusively free entrance fees. Most of the museums with entrance fee, 50.2%, offer reduced prices, 43.4%, or free tickets to certain groups, 43.7%, being the target groups seniors and students for reduced fees and children for free tickets. Among the 749 institutions with entrance fee, the price is less than two euro in 31.2%, it is between two and three euro in 25.9% and higher in 42.9%.

*Services and facilities.* The most frequent services and facilities in museum institutions are information on the permanent collection, 89.5%; guided tours, 71.3%, and access for people with disabilities, 56.1%. With lower intensity but percentages higher than 36%, are those with venues for education activities, 48.7%; with library, 48.4%; with conference hall, 43%; with audiovisual room, 41.9%; with shop/bookstore, 40.5%; and with environmental control, 36.7%. With values lower than 30% are, in the following order, those with public parking, accessible information for people with disabilities, research rooms, restoration workshops, electronic guides, rental of venue for third parties, cafe/restaurant and photo lab. Regarding the implementation of information technologies in museum institutions, 99.7%, have computers that are mainly used for administrative tasks and access to the Internet. 97.1% of the institutions researched have a website to provide information and communication services to visitors and users, and education activities or online services, such as tickets sales.

*Exhibitions, publications and other activities.* More than a half of the institutions researched, 56.6%, held temporary exhibitions in 2022. This indicator reaches the highest value for *Contemporary Art*, 76.5%, followed by *General Museums*, 76.3%, *Historical Museums*, 58.6% and *In Situ*, 58.3%. Throughout the period studied, 91.4% of museum institutions published some type of informative material; 65% guides; 51.8% didactic material; 29.5% scientific catalogs and 26.7% periodical publications. Education activities have a large weight in these institutions. 61% of museums offer this type of activities, most of which are targeted to children. Although following at a large distance in terms of frequency, other activities are also offered, such as courses and seminars, 37.9%, conferences, 36.1%, and concerts, 27.7%.

*Museum deposits.* The results on museum deposits refer to the 1,492 Museums and Museum Collections that provided information in 2022. The results indicate that each institution has 38,244 deposits on average and most of them, 90.7%, belong to the permanent collection. The highest rates of deposits per museum are observed in the museum type *Natural Sciences and Natural History*, 327,136.

*Visits.* According to the estimates provided by the statistics, the Museums and Museum Collections that provided information received 51.6 million visitors in 2022. This figure, although showing a significant increase with respect to 2020, does not reach the pre-pandemic levels registered in 2018 (65.4 million visitors). The average number of visits per museum open in 2022 was 35,221, compared to 13,817 in 2020.

*Staff.* The estimated staff of the 1,492 Museums and Museum Collections under study is 15,073 people, 10.1 on average per museum institution. By sex, more than half of the staff are women, 55.8% and the remaining 44.2% are men. By type of workday, the most frequent is full-time, 75.5%, compared to 24.5% for part-time. By type of labour relations, remunerated jobs with permanent contracts amount for 75.4%, 16.1% for remunerated temporary contracts and 4.3% nonremunerated works. Volunteer staff have a significant weight, 4.3%.



FIGURES

FIGURE 1  
Museums and Museum Collections by type. 2022  
(As a percentage of the total)

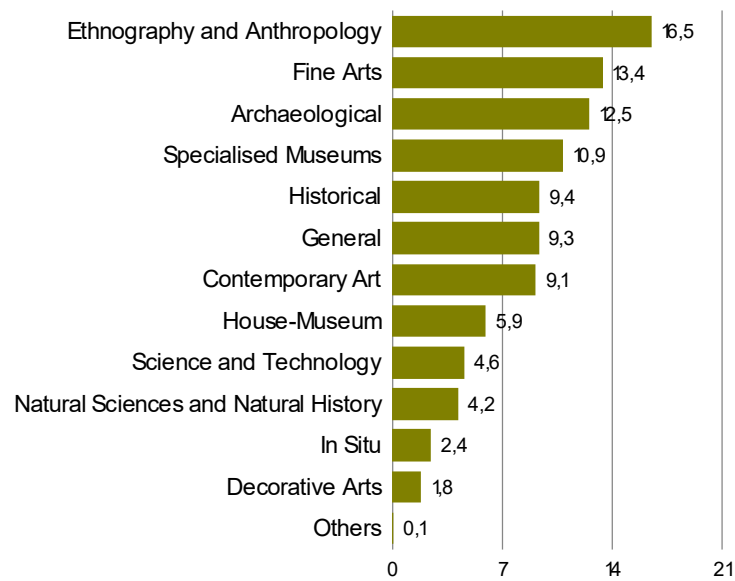
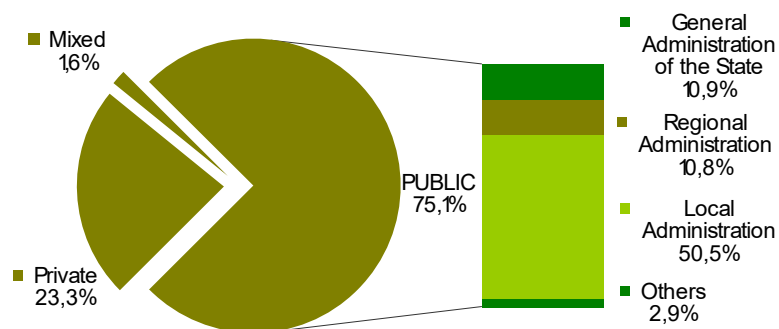


FIGURE 2  
Museums and Museum Collections by ownership.2022  
(As a percentage of the total)





### List of References

The methodological aspects can be consulted in the section of Culture Statistics at the website of the Ministry of Culture, [www.cultura.gob.es](http://www.cultura.gob.es), along with the full results.

#### **Statistic on Museums and Museum Collections in Spain in CULTURABase**

<https://www.cultura.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano/estadisticas/cultura/mc/culturabase/museos-y-colecciones-museograficas/resultados-museos.html>

#### **Statistic on Museums and Museum Collections in Spain. Results summary 2022 (available in English)**

<https://www.cultura.gob.es/dam/jcr:cac06ff3-f17d-4fbd-b486-3a79bddb357f/statistic-on-museums-and-museum-collections-2022-results-summary.pdf>

In addition, the data from Museums and Museum Collections in Spain are complemented, in terms of cultural participation, with the latest available results of the **Survey on Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain** for the period **2021-2022**. A brief reference to attendance to museums based on the results of the survey is included as an ANNEX.

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

<https://www.cultura.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano/estadisticas/cultura/mc/culturabase/encuesta-de-habitos/resultados-habitos.html>

#### **Survey of Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain. Synthesis of results 2021-2022 (available in English)**

<https://www.cultura.gob.es/dam/jcr:e756c819-52ef-4c88-b0cc-9bc5e5de6627/synthesis-of-results-2021-2022.pdf>

Additional references on the website of the Ministry of Culture of Spain:

#### **Yearbook of Culture Statistics**

<https://www.cultura.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano/estadisticas/cultura/mc/aec.html>

#### **Culture Statistics**

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



## ANNEX

The Survey of Cultural Habits and Practices in Spain 2021-2022, is an official statistics produced on a three-year basis that is included in the National Statistics Plan. It is a sample survey that is conducted by the Division for Statistics and Studies of the General Technical Secretariat from the Spanish Ministry of Culture and directed towards a sample of 16,000 people aged 15 and over. The sample was selected by the Spanish National Statistics Institute and the Ministry is grateful for their collaboration. The survey has several objectives: firstly, evaluating the development of the main indicators for cultural habits and practices of the Spanish population over time; secondly, analysing relevant aspects in the field of culture, especially concerning the consumption of culture, and studying in depth the ways of obtaining specific cultural products subject to intellectual property rights, such as books, recorded music, video and software. Similarly to previous three-year editions of the survey, cultural participation has been investigated across different cultural activities: museums, art galleries, archives and monuments; reading of books and periodicals and visiting libraries; performing and musical arts: theatre, opera, operetta, ballet or dance and circus; classical music and contemporary music; the audio-visual and new technologies sector: cinema, video, television and radio, video games, as well as other activities related to culture and leisure. Activities vulnerable to the infringement of intellectual property rights have been investigated in the areas of books, music, video and software. The main classification characteristics used in the project are: sex, age, educational level and personal or professional status. The results were also presented according to the individual's place of residence: the size of the municipality and the autonomous region. The Ministry of Culture appreciates the invaluable collaboration of the respondents and offers users the possible expansion of the information contained in the different instruments of dissemination, wherever allowed by the limitations of the survey derived from the sampling method. The methodological details related to the survey can be found at [www.cultura.gob.es](http://www.cultura.gob.es), along with the full results of the survey.

In the interpretation of the results from the year 2020 onwards, the effects of the COVID-19 crisis should be considered.

**Main results:** The effects of the COVID-19 on cultural habits should inevitably be highlighted, as well as the main differences observed in the results of 2021-2022 with respect to 2018-2019. With very few exceptions, such as reading on digital format or directly on the Internet, or playing videogames, the levels of cultural practices observed are much lower than those registered in previous editions of the survey, showing the strong impact of the COVID-19 crisis on cultural practices. In comparison to the previous edition of the survey (2018-2019), referred to a period in which cultural practices registered maximum levels almost in all categories. The annual rate of attendance at monuments or archaeological sites has decreased nearly down to half, standing at 28.2% (from 50.8%), similarly to museums, exhibitions and art galleries, with an annual rate of attendance of 25.5% (from 46.7%). The results of the survey indicate that, in the period under analysis, the most frequent activities in annual terms were listening to music, watching videos of films or series and reading, with annual rates of 85.7%, 77.7% and 61.7%, respectively.

**Museums, exhibitions, and art galleries:** In the period under research, visits to museums, exhibitions and art galleries overall presented an annual rate of 25.5% (20.1% for museums, 14.5% for exhibitions and 6.9% for art galleries), whereas visits to monuments and archaeological sites reached 28.2%.

**Museums:** Overall, 25.5% of the population analysed visited a museum, exhibition or art gallery in the last year. 11.6% of the population researched visited a museum in the last quarter and 20.1% in the last year. Regarding the number of visits, those who visited a museum in the last quarter did it 2.1 times on average each. Attendance levels per quarter and per year were slightly higher for men, decrease significantly in the oldest groups of age and increase with the education level. The attendance in the last quarter reaches the maximum in Comunidad de Madrid, with 17.5%. Visitors were satisfied, with an average satisfaction index of 8.5 points. 93.7% of the people who visited a museum in the last year did it for leisure or entertainment, whereas 6.3% reported the visit was motivated for professional or study reasons. 99.3% of those who went to a museum visited a permanent or temporary exhibition and 16.6% performed other activities (10.2% participated in educational activities; 4.5% attended courses, workshops or seminars; 6.3% watched conferences or audio-visual projections and 2.3% watched concerts and other performances). More than half of the visits to museums, 56.7%, took place during weekends or public holidays. 34.1% of those who visited museums in the last year did it in their own city, 27.2% in the remaining places of the autonomous region, 30.6% in the rest of Spain and 8.1% abroad. Whereas 47.8% visitors paid the standard entrance fee, 17% used a discounted fee or a season ticket and 35% entered for free. In the period under study, open days accounted for 1.6% of the total number of visitors. Among those who paid an entrance fee,



33.8% acquired it on the Internet, which exceeds in 17 percentage points the number registered in the previous edition. 92.2% visits, nearly the total, were made in company, 12.7% with their own children or other people's, 73.5% with other relatives or friends, 3.2% with a school group and 2.8% with other organized groups. In the last year 7.4% of the population under study carried out virtual visits to museums using through the Internet, reaching the maximum value, 12.2% among those with university education. Among the reasons or obstacles that prevent people from going to museums or not going more often, those related to COVID-19 stand out in this edition of the survey, reaching 26.5%. They are followed at some distance by lack of time, 21.5%, lack of interest, 20.2%, low supply in the place of residence, 13.4%, or the entrance fee, 5%. In addition, the problems of physical accessibility to museums were also investigated and for 1.5% of the population researched there were obstacles to enter the facilities

**Exhibitions:** 8.2% of the population analysed visited an exhibition in the last quarter and 14.5% did it in the last year, nearly half of the percentage registered in the previous edition of the survey. Regarding the frequency of attendance, those who visited an exhibition in the last quarter did it, on average, twice each. 91.4% of the people who visited an exhibition in the last year did it for leisure or entertainment, in comparison to the 8,6% who report the visit was motivated for professional or study reasons. More than half of the visits took place in weekends or public holidays, 53%.

**Art Galleries:** Attendance levels to art galleries are much lower than those observed for museums and exhibitions. 3.6% of the population under research visited an art gallery in the last quarter and 6.9% did it in the last year. 93.1% of the people who visited an art gallery in the last year did it for leisure or entertainment, in comparison to the 6.9% that declare the visit was motivated for professional or study reasons. 50.9% of the visits were during weekends or public holidays, while 49.1% took place in working days. Virtual visits through the Internet to exhibitions were analysed, 3.4%, and to art galleries, 2.3%. The satisfaction indices for visits to exhibitions and art galleries obtained confirm visitors are satisfied, scoring around 8 points

In relation to the *art market*, various issues related to the art market were studied. 1% of the population attended auctions or art fairs in the last year, 0.7% made a purchase and 0.4% were regarded as art collectors.

**Results by sex, age and educational level.** It should be remarked that the indicators show significant differences by sex. Women practice artistic activities more frequently, such as painting or drawing, and men present higher rates of attendance at museums, exhibitions and art galleries, monuments and archaeological sites. The youngest people present the highest rates of cultural participation, almost in all cultural areas: they visit more museums, monuments, etc; they attend more live performances or concerts, they read more, go to libraries more often, purchase more; they do more active cultural practices. This high participation decreases with age, at a faster or slower pace but systematically. Undoubtedly education level is most determining in cultural participation, which increases systematically with it.

**Interrelated indicators of cultural participation.** The survey also provides indicators of cultural participation evaluated in groups of people in which certain cultural behaviour is observed, so that strong interrelations between them are brought to light. When focusing on the group of those who attended museums, galleries or exhibitions in the last year, a strong increase in reading, rates is observed, 82.2% compared to the 61.7% registered for the total population analysed. The rate of attendance at the theatre doubles for them, up to 18.2%, and those in the same group who went to the cinema reach 45.8%. Among those who read a book in the last year, the attendance rate at museums is 27.1%, at the theatre 11.3% and at contemporary music concerts 13.7%. The rate of attendance at museums is higher among the people who attended live performances, amounting to 45% in this group, as well as those for reading and annual attendance to cinema, that reach the maximum values with percentages of 84% and 51.7%, respectively. Focusing on those people who attended any type of concert in the last year, there is a high rate of readers, 81.5% in annual terms, as well as of attendance at the cinema, 49.8%, almost all of them listen to music at least one a month, 93.1%. Those who go to the cinema every year exceed in 13.6 percentage points the average rate of attendance at museums, in 16.2 the one of annual readers, and they present a rate of annual attendance at the theatre of 15.9%.