
10. Museums and Art Galleries

Museums and art galleries are involved in the collection, display, storage, preservation and research of museum objects and artwork, for the education and enjoyment of the general public and/or specialists.

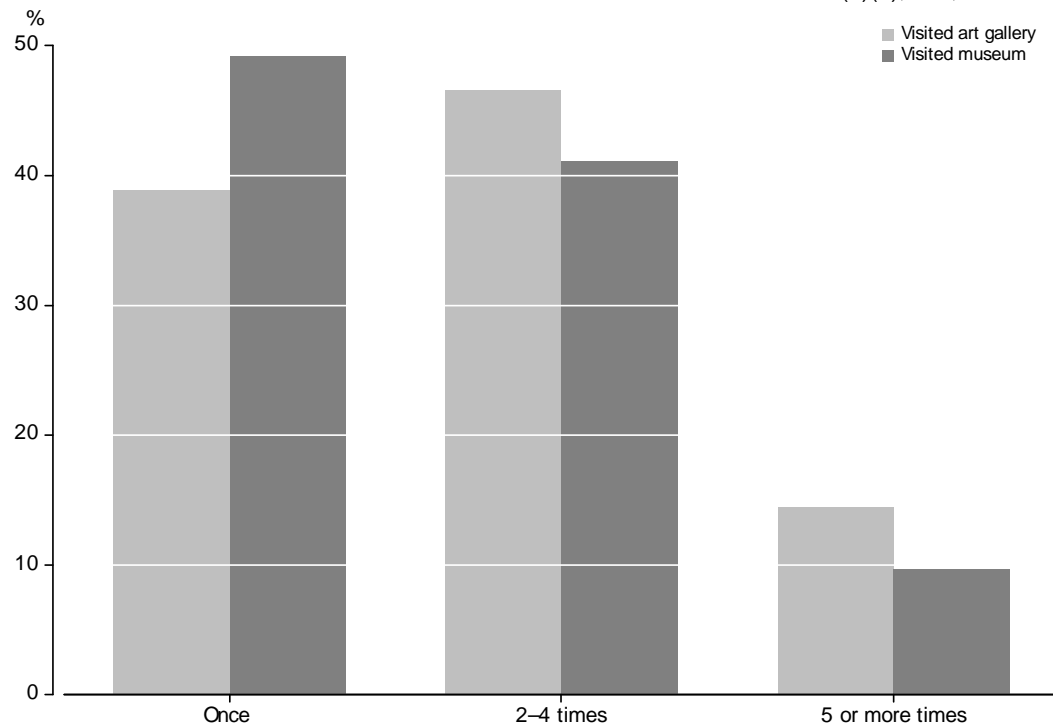
ATTENDANCE AT MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES

Of the 1.6 million people aged 15 years and over living in Western Australia in 2005–06:

- 23% went to an art gallery in the previous 12 months (compared to 23% nationally), and
- 22% went to a museum in the previous 12 months (compared to 23% nationally).

Nearly half (47%) of those who attended an art gallery in the 12 month period attended 2–4 times. Of those who visited a museum, nearly half (49%) attended once during the 12 month period and 41% attended 2–4 times.

10.1 FREQUENCY OF ATTENDANCE AT MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES(a)(b), WA, 2005–06



(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) In the 12 months before interview.

Source: ABS, *Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, 2005–06*, data available on request.

ADMISSIONS, EMPLOYMENT AND FINANCIAL DATA

The 2003–04 Museums Survey shows that at the end of June 2004, there were 153 museums and art galleries operating in WA, which was 12% of the Australian total.

At the end of June 2004, museums and art galleries employed 627 people in WA. There were 1,729 people who volunteered at museums and art galleries during the month of June 2004.

There were 2.1 million admissions to museums and art galleries in WA during 2003–04. Free admissions accounted for 58% of all admissions, while paid admissions accounted for 42%. Income from paid admissions was \$5m. Note that the admissions data include children under the age of 15 years who were excluded from the 2005–06 Survey of Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events.

In 2003–04, museums and art galleries in WA received total income of \$69m. Most of this (81%) was sourced from government funding (\$56m). Expenses totalled \$57m, of which 38% (\$22m) was labour costs.

10.2 MUSEUM AND ART GALLERIES, Selected characteristics, WA and Australia, 2003–04

		WA	Australia	Percentage in WA(a) %
Number of locations at end June	no.	153	1 329	11.5
Employment at end June	no.	627	7 624	8.2
Volunteers during the month of June	no.	1 729	20 443	8.5
Museum objects/artworks at end June	'000	2 833	54 916	5.2
Special exhibitions(b)	no.	188	3 405	5.5
Admissions				
Paid	'000	875.7	10 559.5	8.3
Free	'000	1 209.7	20 630.6	5.9
<i>Total</i>	'000	<i>2 085.4</i>	<i>31 190.1</i>	<i>6.7</i>
Income				
Government funding	\$m	56.4	628.0	9.0
Admissions income	\$m	4.7	55.9	8.4
Income from fundraising	\$m	2.4	89.0	2.7
Other	\$m	5.8	146.5	4.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>69.4</i>	<i>919.4</i>	<i>7.5</i>
Expenses				
Labour costs	\$m	21.6	320.4	6.7
Other expenses	\$m	35.3	489.9	7.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>56.9</i>	<i>810.3</i>	<i>7.0</i>

(a) According to the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, 9.9% of Australia's population lived in Western Australia in August 2006.

(b) Temporary exhibitions on display for less than three months, and include special exhibits curated or developed in-house, touring exhibitions curated or developed in Australia and imported overseas exhibitions.

Source: ABS, *Museums, Australia, 2003–04* (cat. no. 8560.0).