

## 12. The Performing Arts

The term 'performing arts' covers a range of art forms including theatre, opera, music theatre, dance, popular and classical music concerts and festivals. There are also businesses which support the performing arts industry in terms of venues, costume and set design and ticketing.

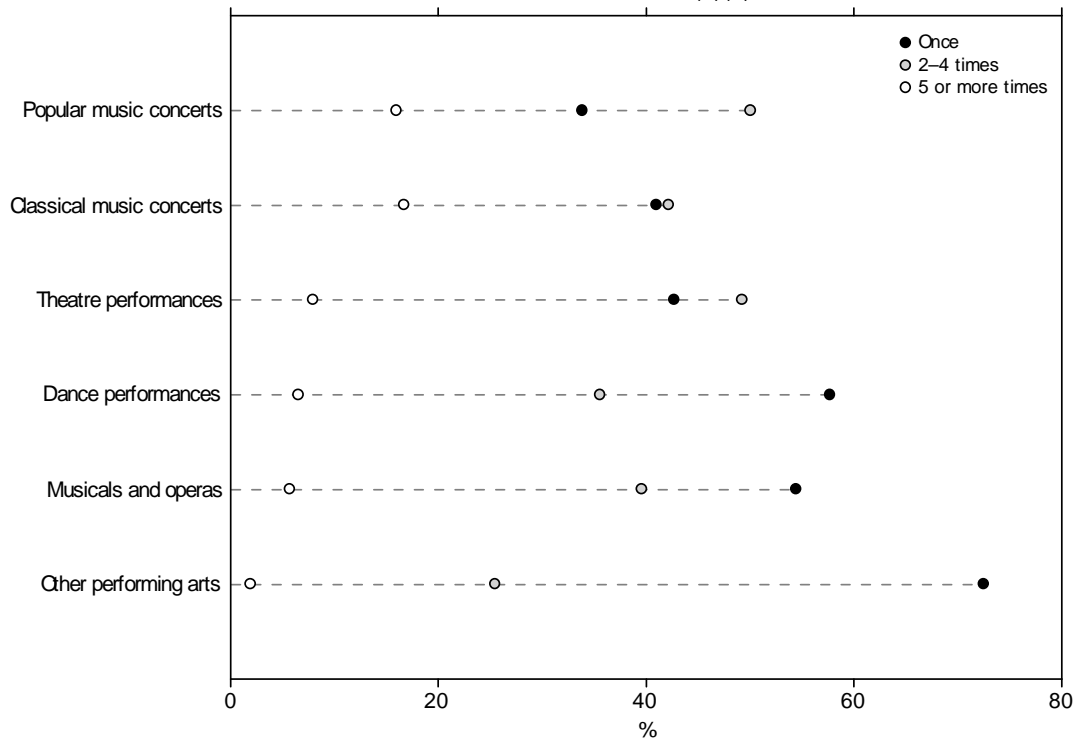
### ATTENDANCE AT PERFORMING ARTS

The 2005–06 ABS Survey of Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events showed that in the previous 12 months, of the 1.6 million people living in WA aged 15 years or over:

- 31% had been to popular music concert (compared to 25% nationally)
- 11% had been to a classical music concert (compared to 9% nationally)
- 17% had been to a theatre performance (compared to 17% nationally)
- 10% had been to a dance performance (compared to 10% nationally)
- 15% had been to a musical or opera (compared to 16% nationally)
- 18% had been to an other performing art event (compared to 17% nationally)

Of those who attended dance performances, musicals and operas, and other performing arts events, most people went only once in the previous 12 months. However, of those who went to popular music concerts, classical music concerts and theatre performances, most people attended 2–4 times in the previous 12 months.

12.1 FREQUENCY OF ATTENDANCE AT PERFORMING ARTS(a)(b), WA, 2005–06



(a) Persons aged 15 years or over.

(b) In the 12 months before interview.

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

## PERFORMING ARTS OPERATION

The 2006–07 Performing Arts Survey covered employing and significant non-employing organisations in Australia that generated their income predominantly from live theatrical or musical presentations (including concerts, opera, ballet or drama).

Performing arts operation businesses staged 4,438 paid performances in WA in 2006-07, which generated 1,186,400 paid admissions. The events with the largest number of paid admissions were popular music performances and musical theatre productions.

At the end of June 2007, there were 75 performing arts operation businesses in WA. More than half (56%) of these were non-profit businesses. Performing arts operation businesses generated \$45 million of income and expended \$15 million on wages and salaries in 2006–07.

### 12.2 PERFORMING ARTS OPERATION, Selected characteristics, WA and Australia, 2006–07

		WA	Australia	Percentage in WA(a) %
<b>Main Activity</b>				
Popular music performance	no.		180	
Symphony and choral performance	no.		102	
Drama production	no.		143	
Dance production	no.		36	
Other Performing arts operation	no.		264	
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>726</i>	<i>10.3</i>
<b>Number of organisations at end June 2003</b>				
For Profit	no.	*33	381	8.6
Not for Profit	no.	42	345	12.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>726</i>	<i>10.3</i>
<b>Employment at end June 2007</b>				
Wages and salaries	\$m	15.5	219.1	7.1
Total income	\$m	44.8	733.4	6.1

np not available for publication

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

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

Source: ABS, *Performing Arts, Australia, 2006–07* (cat. no. 8697.0).

## PERFORMING ARTS VENUE INDUSTRIES

At the end of June 2007, there were 16 employing and significant non-employing businesses in WA in the performing arts venues industry. These businesses operated 34 performing art spaces, generated \$31 million of income and spent \$11 million on wages and salaries in 2006–07.

### 12.3 PERFORMING ARTS VENUE INDUSTRIES, Selected characteristics, WA and Australia, 2006–07

		WA	Australia	Percentage in WA(a) %
Number of businesses	no.	16	145	11.1
Performing arts spaces	no.	34	271	12.4
Employment	no.	455	5 876	7.7
Wages and salaries	\$m	10.8	154.0	7.0
Income	\$m	30.7	494.4	6.2

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

Source: ABS, *Performing Arts Industries, Australia, 2006–07* (cat. no. 8697.0).

## FESTIVALS

In 2002–03, WA businesses staged 24 festivals of more than two days duration. Almost half (46%) of these were music festivals.

According to the ABS Performing Arts survey, the 2,433 performances attracted 715,000 attendances, most of which were free admissions (77%). As some festivals were not able to maintain accurate records, these figures should be used with caution.

The majority of the performances were paid (52%) and were Australian acts (79%).

These festivals generated \$15 million in income, and had \$15 million of expenses. The festivals engaged 987 volunteers and employed 277 people.

### 12.4 PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVALS(a), Selected characteristics, WA and Australia, 2002–03

		WA	Australia	Percentage in WA(b) %
<b>Number of Festivals</b>				
Music	no.	11	85	12.9
Other(c)	no.	13	91	14.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>13.6</i>
<b>Attendances</b>				
Free attendances(d)	'000	547	6 031	9.1
Paid attendances	'000	168	1 508	11.1
<i>Total attendances</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>715</i>	<i>7 539</i>	<i>9.5</i>
<b>Performances</b>				
Performances by Australian acts	no.	1 916	26 738	7.2
Performances by overseas acts	no.	517	2 969	17.4
<i>Total performances</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>2 433</i>	<i>29 707</i>	<i>8.2</i>
Free performances	no.	1 159	6 569	17.6
Employment	no.	277	1 272	21.8
Volunteers	no.	987	15 728	6.3
Expenses	\$m	14.5	82.8	17.5
Income	\$m	14.7	88.5	16.6

(a) With a duration of more than two days during 2002–03.

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

(c) Other includes multi-faceted, drama, dance, and comedy festivals.

(d) Some festivals were not able to maintain accurate records. For this reason use figures with caution.

Source: ABS, *Performing Arts, Australia, 2002–03* (cat. no. 8697.0).

## OTHER SERVICES TO THE ARTS INDUSTRIES

These industries include a diverse range of businesses such as those operating primarily in costume design, set design, casting, theatre lighting, theatre ticketing, arts administration, and the promotion of artists.

At the end of June 2000, in WA there were 20 employing businesses in service to arts industries. These businesses generated \$20 million of income and expended \$2 million on wages and salaries.

### 12.5 OTHER SERVICES TO THE ARTS INDUSTRIES, Selected characteristics, WA and Australia, 1999–2000

		WA	Australia	Percentage in WA(a) %
Number of businesses	no.	20	454	4.4
Employment	no.	96	3 846	2.5
Wages and salaries	\$m	1.6	82.8	1.9
Income	\$m	20.3	709.8	2.9

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

Source: ABS, *Performing Arts Industries, Australia, 1999–2000* (cat. no. 8697.0).