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on

Culture Statistics

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Executive Summary

The cultural statistics provide information on Austria's cultural institutions, their offerings, use and financing following the UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics and the recommendations of the ESSnet Culture. Culture is understood in a broad sense and subdivided according to thematic fields (domains, subdomains).

A large number of data sources are used to compile cultural statistics. On the one hand, several primary surveys of cultural institutions are carried out and, on the other hand, many other statistics are used (secondary sources). These are either statistical data from other surveys of Statistics Austria or from external sources. The latter include administrative data, business and association statistics as well as established surveys such as "TELE-TEST", "Radiotest", "Media-Analyse" or "Österreichische Auflagenkontrolle". They are aimed at the needs of the advertising industry. The primary statistics compiled within the framework of cultural statistics are designed as complete surveys. Participation in the primary statistical surveys is, however, always based on voluntary participation in these cases. In contrast some other surveys of Statistics Austria that are used for cultural statistics and provide for mandatory reporting. Moreover, in the case of cultural institutions, the operational delimitation of the respective population is often difficult, as in many cases there is a lack of register-like records on the stock of units.

Figure 1: Data sources used for cultural statistics (focus)

Secondary sources Primary data collections Statistical data from external sources Statistics Austria Museums Architectural heritage Education (Universities of Arts) Archives Folk culture Publicfunding of Libraries (Scientific and Libraries (Association cultural activities specialised libraries) of publiclibraries, ÖBS) Cultural economy Theatres and music (grand and medium-Theatres and music Cultural participation sized theatres, other (Federal theatres) theatres) Cinemas, films Festivals Radio, television Books, press Education (Music schools)

The cultural statistics have been conducted annually since 1985. One publication normally appears per reporting year, summarising the results on all thematic areas.

The internet serves as the primary medium of publication. Since the cultural statistics make use of many different data sources that provide up-to-date data at different points in time (data availability t+12 to t+24), it is thus possible to present data on the various subject areas on the Internet pages of Statistics Austria in a timely manner.

The cultural statistics have been changed several times over the years, both in terms of scope and content. In recent years, there have been major changes, especially in the course of the ESSnet Culture - a project within the framework of the European Statistical System, which carried out basic work for cultural statistical reporting at the European level in the period from 2009 to 2011. A significant expansion resulted, for example, from the introduction of a chapter on "cultural economy".

Data users of cultural statistics are primarily the responsible Federal Ministry (Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport) as well as the cultural departments of the offices of the provincial government, scientific institutes and the media. In addition, there is selective interest on the part of international organisations such as Eurostat and UNESCO.

The cultural statistics are a product commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport (BMKÖS).

Culture statistics – Main Key Points			
Subject matter	The most comprehensible scope of culture institutions as possible, with respect to their offers, usage, funding and economic significance		
Population	Culture-related activities of all individuals, enterprises and institutions in Austria		
Type of statistics	Primary and secondary statistics		
Data sources/Survey techniques	Primary surveys: Census. Secondary sources: Statistical data from other surveys from Statistics Austria; sample, register or administrative data. External sources; Administrative data, business data or data from associations as well as published results from other surveys		
Reference period or due day	Calendar year (occasionally theatre season resp. school year / academic year)		
Periodicity	Annual		
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Voluntary		
Main legal acts	Contract with the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport		
Most detailed regional breakdown	Provinces		
Availability of results	Final data: Partial results are published continuously		
Other	-		