



THE ARTS AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION SATELLITE ACCOUNT AND THE PERFORMING ARTS FACT SHEET

What do nonprofit theater companies, dance companies, symphony orchestras, music groups and artists, and presenters have in common? They are all driving consumer spending in the arts. Learn more in the latest economic analysis from the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account (ACPSA) is the first federal effort to provide in-depth analysis of the arts and cultural sector's contributions to the economy – both commercial and nonprofit -- for 1998 to 2013.

Discover how the performing arts sector is an economic player in [Issue Brief #5, Trends Related to Independent Artists and Performing Arts Industries \(1998-2013\)](#). Visit the [ACPSA Arts Data Profile](#) for more information on fast-growing arts industries, export trends, employment figures, and consumer data. For a primer on the account, visit the [NEA Guide to the U.S. Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account](#), which describes the rationale, methods, and goals of the account.

QUICK FACTS

Arts contributions to GDP

- In 2013, arts and cultural production contributed \$704.2 billion to the U.S. economy, or 4.23 percent of Gross Domestic Product.
- Broadcasting was the top arts and cultural industry in 2013, contributing \$117 billion to arts and cultural GDP.
- Independent artists, writers and performers generated \$19.4 billion in GDP in 2013. This group includes writers, visual artists, actors, composers, independent conductors, music directors, comedians, magicians, and more.

Performing arts and GDP

- Consumer spending on the performing arts grew 10 percent annually between 1998-2013.
- Theater companies contributed \$7.1 billion in GDP in 2013.
- Performing arts presenters contributed \$8.5 billion in GDP in 2013.
- Non-profit theater companies contributed \$2.8 billion in GDP in 2013.
- Non-profit symphony orchestras and chamber groups contributed \$2.1 billion in GDP in 2013.
- Non-profit opera companies contributed \$997 million in GDP in 2013.
- Non-profit dance companies contributed \$732 million in GDP in 2013.

Arts and culture workers

- In 2013, arts and cultural sector employed 4.7 million wage and salary workers, earning \$339 billion.
- Industries employing the largest number of ACPSA workers include government (including school-based arts education), retail trade (such as art galleries, book stores, and music stores), broadcasting, motion picture industries, and publishing.

Top arts and cultural exports

- Since 2006, U.S. arts and culture has run a trade surplus that's grown every year (currently at \$24.1B in 2013).
- Movies and TV shows were the top U.S. export in 2013, generating \$15.9 billion in GDP.
- Arts-related software publishing (i.e. games, photo processing software) was the second highest export, \$9.9B in 2013.