ACPSA Issue Brief #3: Arts and Cultural Production and the Recession of 2007-2009

The arts suffered more than the overall economy during the severe recession of 2007-2009. Between 1998 and 2006, the production of arts and cultural goods and services made up roughly 3.5 to 3.7 percent of U.S. GDP. Even during the relatively mild recession of 2001, the arts were nearly 3.6 percent of the U.S. economy.

In 2007, however, the arts and cultural economy fell to 3.3 percent of GDP, and it dipped further to 3.2 percent in 2009. The production of arts and cultural goods and services stabilized in 2010 and posted a modest gain in 2011, when arts and cultural production composed almost 3.3 percent of the U.S. economy.

