



WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN ALASKA



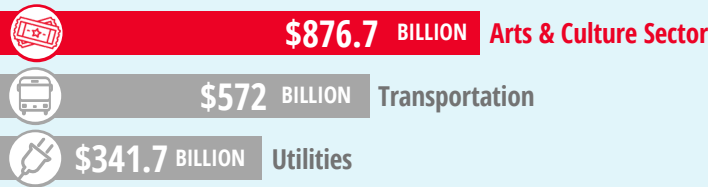
NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR'S PERCENTAGE OF U.S. ECONOMY (Artists, University Arts, Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 4.2% OF NATION'S GDP & 4.6 MILLION JOBS

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector was a **\$876.7 billion industry** in 2020, representing **4.2%** of the nation's GDP, **4.6 million jobs**, and total compensation of **\$446 billion**.

Source: **U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts, 2022** (2020 data collected during the pandemic)



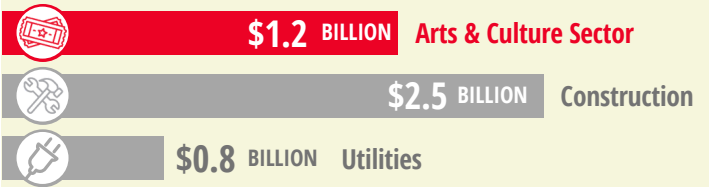
BONUS: In 2020, the arts & culture sector ranked 3rd among comparison sectors.

ALASKA ARTS FACTS

ALASKA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 2.6% OF STATE'S GDP & 10,621 JOBS

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed **\$1.2 billion** to Alaska's economy in 2020, representing **2.6%** of the state's GDP, **10,621 jobs**, and a total compensation of **\$972 million**.

Source: **U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2022** (2020 data collected during the pandemic)



BONUS: In 2020, the supporting arts & culture industry compensation was \$884 mil.

GDP & JOBS

LOSS OF REVENUE AND JOBS (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

Between 2019 and 2020, the U.S. **arts economy** shrank at **nearly twice the rate** of the economy as a whole. Arts and cultural production fell by **6.4%** when adjusted for inflation, compared with a **3.4%** decline overall.

Source: **U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2022** (Data collected during the pandemic)
See Americans for the Arts regularly updated **COVID-19 Impact on the Arts Research Update**.



Alaska arts and culture value added decreased by **4.6%** between 2019 and 2020. In addition, arts & culture employment decreased by **11%**, dropping from **11,871 to 10,621**.

Source: **U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2022** (2020 data collected during the pandemic)



COVID-19 IMPACT

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

Nationally, the nonprofit arts industry alone generates **\$166.3 billion in economic activity** annually that supports **4.6 million jobs** and generates **\$27.5 billion** in federal, state, and local government revenue.

- Spending by arts audiences generated **\$102.5 billion** to local businesses.

Source: Americans for the Arts, **Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, 2017** (Prior to COVID-19 pandemic)



In 2015, the Alaska's arts and culture sector **employed thousands of FTE jobs** and generated **millions of dollars in economic activity**. Nonprofit arts groups helped cultivate that activity.

- In Fairbanks, for example, nonprofit arts groups generated **\$8.7 million** in economic activity. Audiences of 352,100 people added another **\$9.3 million** for a total of **\$18 million** in commerce for the city in 2015.

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, **Fairbanks Report, 2017**.



ECONOMICS

PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & ARTISTS

Q How much is the federal government investing in the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)?

A Congress allocated **\$180 million** to the NEA in **FY22**. This amounts to just **54 cents** per capita. Ideally, Congress should index \$1 per capita funding to the NEA. For COVID economic relief, Congress also allocated **\$75 million** in CARES Act and **\$135 million** in ARPA funding for distribution by the NEA. Additionally, Congress allocated **\$16 billion** to the SBA for shuttered arts venues plus billions more for PPP and EIDL.

Source: **Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2022**.

Q How much did Alaska receive in public funding for the arts and culture?

A In **FY21-22**, the state awarded **\$743,600** to the Alaska State Council on the Arts. The Alaska State Council on the Arts also received **\$726,807** in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another **18** nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling **\$1,415,000**.

Source: **NEA and NASAA, 2022**

FUNDING

“Creativity, innovation and critical thinking skills are essential to lead Alaska into the future. Learning in and through the arts is a proven method to instill these qualities in students so that they are poised to solve the complex problems of today—and tomorrow. That Alaska State Council on the Arts is investing in Alaska’s youth, to equip them with the tools they need to thrive.”

—Shannon Daut, former Executive Director, AK State Council on the Arts



ALASKA ARTS FACTS

IN THE LAST FRONTIER THE ARTS UNITE US AS ALASKANS

The biggest state with the fewest people needs the arts to bring people together. The arts support the collaboration of many nonprofit organizations serving the many diverse communities of the state.

THE ALASKA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

represents, supports and advances the creative endeavors of individuals, organizations and agencies throughout Alaska. The Council works in concert with the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation (AACF), which was established in 2001. The AACF provides funding for some of the Council’s projects.

Executive Director: Andrea Noble-Pelant



[Learn more here.](#)

ART IN ALASKA

- Check out the many arts centers and community festivals, including the Anchorage Film Festival [here](#).
- Plan a cultural trip among the art galleries and museums [here](#).
- Discover how the state is rich in art and crafts created by indigenous communities [here](#).

ALASKA ART ORGANIZATIONS

Juneau Arts & Humanities Council
www.jahc.org
Denali Arts Council
www.denaliartscouncil.org

ALASKA ARTS EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

The Alaska Arts Education Consortium (AAEC) is an affiliation of school districts, organizations and individuals committed to preparing and supporting educators so that they can teach the arts across the curriculum.

Executive Director: Barbara Short
Vice Chairs: Robin Child & Jeanne Kitayama



[Learn more here.](#)
[Join here.](#)

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- In **Anchorage**, the Anchorage Museum tells the story of the North—a story that weaves social, political, cultural, scientific, historic and artistic threads. Explore the full diversity of Alaska Native cultures, including masterworks of Alaska Native art and design from the collections of the Smithsonian Institution.
- Go south to **Seward**, and you can take in the Seward Music and Arts Festival with fabulous art, live music, and dance performances. Local Alaskan artisans and food vendors are featured. It is a family-oriented festival with children’s activities and artist’s projects throughout the weekend; including the creation of a mural-in-a-day by members of the Seward Mural Society.

- Further down the coast in **Ketchikan**, timed for the winter holidays, the Ketchikan Arts & Humanities Council’s Winter Arts Faire showcases the creations of local artists, which make for great gifts. More than 80 artists exhibit their work here, so you could easily fill all of your holiday wish lists with local, handmade gifts.
- Up in **Fairbanks**, you can take a riverboat tour that combines colorful river history, Native traditions and the beauty of Alaska’s Interior. An Alaskan crew will share their culture as you stroll through an Athabaskan Indian village. The Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival offers over 200 workshops and 100 performances held all over Interior Alaska in music, visual arts, dance, writing, theatre, healing arts & culinary arts.

- Way up in **Nome**, the Alappaa Film Festival showcases films that highlight many aspects of living in the Arctic: traditional dance, nature and climate change, string stories, scientific research, wildlife, and more. Recent selections have focused on children of the Arctic, Inuit tattoos, and growing up Native in Alaska.

To View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, Click Here.

ALASKA ARTS NEED YOU!

JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

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To download this factsheet, "Why the Arts Matter in Alaska," with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund/StateFactsheets