



Ajuntament
de Barcelona
Institut de Cultura

Glossary

Barcelona Observatory of Cultural Data

Last revised: November 2021

The following is a definition of the data that can be consulted on the Barcelona Observatory of Cultural Data website. These data are part of the information that the Technical Office of Barcelona City Council's Institute of Culture has been collecting and systematising for years.

The "This includes" section for each area describes the criteria followed in selecting the facilities and data included in this website. The Observatory's objective is not to carry out an exhaustive inventory of the facilities, but rather to make a selection of centres based on specific criteria.

In most cases, data since 2010 is offered, as from that year onwards, the available data is more uniform, comparable and easier to aggregate.

Wherever possible, this glossary has been produced in conjunction with the professionals from each sector, in order to agree on definitions and determine what data to include, how they are calculated and how they are published.



The city in data

THIS INCLUDES	General contextual data on the City of Barcelona and a summary of the main indicators from the various areas of culture.
TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2013
TERRITORY	Municipality of Barcelona / Barcelona Metropolitan Area.
SOURCE	Various sources. Consult the data sheet.



Museums and exhibition venues

THIS INCLUDES	Museums, places of architectural interest and exhibition venues that have provided data and which have more than 5,000 visitors a year, or have had them within the last three years.
DEFINITIONS	<p>Museum: a permanent institution, open to the public and at the service of society and its development, which contains a set of moveable and immovable cultural assets, conserving, documenting and studying them, exhibiting them and disseminating knowledge for research, education and intellectual and aesthetic enjoyment, and which constitutes a place where the general public can enjoy culture, leisure and scientific participation.</p> <p>Collection: a facility with collections where the set of cultural assets conserved by a natural or legal person are exhibited, but which does not meet the legally established conditions for being a museum.</p> <p>Places of architectural interest: A heritage building or place of historic or artistic interest, which has established opening hours for visits (either open or arranged) and which has some system for counting the number of visitors.</p> <p>Exhibition venue: a place that regularly schedules temporary exhibitions for cultural dissemination (concerning visual arts, history, science, etc.) that are open to the public.</p>
TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2010
TERRITORY	Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE	Each centre.

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Visitors.** The number of people that enter the facility, regardless of the amount of visits or activities that they undertake. Only where a single ticket allows access to museum centres that are physically distant from each other (or on different days) may the admission of the same person to different centres be considered as different visits (e.g.: ArticketBCN, MUHBA Plaça del Rei, etc.).
- **Visits to temporary exhibitions.** The total number of people who have been counted as visits to a centre's various temporary exhibitions, either when buying a ticket or by means of a control system. If a single centre has two or more simultaneous temporary exhibitions and controls access to each one, it may count the sum of the visits to these exhibitions as a total, even though the same person is counted twice.
- **Number of temporary exhibitions.** The number of temporary exhibitions that have begun or finished during the course of one year. Displays or interventions included in the permanent exhibition are not counted, nor are temporary exhibitions that do not have any access control system and do not count the number of visits.
- **Museum Collection.** A set of cultural assets that the museum acquires, conserves, documents, investigates and exhibits with the aim of disseminating knowledge for research, teaching and intellectual and aesthetic enjoyment.
- **List of temporary exhibitions.** A list of all the temporary exhibitions that have begun or finished during the course of one year. Visits to exhibitions that span two different years are those that have occurred in the current year, not the total number of visits to the exhibition.



Archives and heritage libraries

THIS INCLUDES

Historic archives and heritage libraries with over 100 in-person consultations per year. The selection of centres and data is in the study phase.

DEFINITIONS

Historic archive: a body or institution which specifically carries out functions of organisation, safekeeping, management, description, conservation and dissemination of documents and document collections.

Heritage library: A library specialising in bibliographic and document collections with a heritage value, and which conserves, studies and disseminates for research, education and intellectual enjoyment.

TIME FRAME

Annual, since 2010

TERRITORY

Municipality of Barcelona.

SOURCE

Each centre.

AVAILABLE DATA

- **On-site users.** People who go to the archive in order to consult the collections and who are attended to by specialised archive personnel, either in the centre's reading rooms or remotely (consultations by telephone, email or fax).
- **On-site consultations.** The total number of consultations made by users who are attended to by specialised archive personnel, either in the centre's reading rooms or remotely (consultations by telephone, email or fax).



Performing arts venues

THIS INCLUDES	All venues that regularly undertake performing arts activities and which belong to the Catalan Association of Theatre Companies (ADETCA). Some of these venues are not theatres as such.
DEFINITIONS	<p>Performing arts venue: a facility mostly dedicated to producing and disseminating stage shows (theatre, dance and music). It has a stage, performing arts infrastructure, an appropriate sound installation and a fixed system for receiving audiences.</p> <p>Special performing arts hall or venue for stage performances: a place, normally in a non-theatrical facility, where it is possible to stage performing arts shows or other acts that do not require stable infrastructures. They do not always have a stage, nor a fixed system for receiving audiences.</p>
TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2010
TERRITORY	Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE	Catalan Association of Theatre Companies (ADETCA).

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Spectators.** Total number of people who have attended the shows.
- **Tickets sold.** The number of paid tickets that have been acquired for the shows.
- **Capacity.** The number of places available for all the functions performed.
- **Shows.** Number of shows that have been programmed.
- **Functions.** The number of performances performed out of the total number of shows.



Concert venues

THIS INCLUDES	Large city auditoriums, live music halls and other halls that put on a continual, stable programme of concerts and which compile indicators of that activity.
DEFINITIONS	<p>Large auditorium: An auditorium is a facility mostly dedicated to the production and dissemination of music shows. This definition includes the city's three big public music facilities.</p> <p>Live music venue: a place with a stable programme of live music concerts.</p>
TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2010

TERRITORY Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE Association of Catalan Concerts Venues (ASACC) and each centre.

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Concerts.** Number of shows that have been programmed.
- **Spectators.** Total number of people who have attended the concerts and shows.

Only for auditoriums:

- **Tickets sold.** The number of paid tickets that have been acquired for the shows.
- **Capacity.** The number of places available for all the functions performed.



Cinemas

THIS INCLUDES Commercial cinemas.
DEFINITIONS **Cinema, projection room or cinema screen:** a place adapted for the exhibition of films, which in general, is composed of a projection screen and a seating area. Each screen in a multiplex cinema is counted as a cinema.
TIME FRAME Annual, since 2010
TERRITORY Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE Catalan Institute of Cultural Businesses (ICEC).

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Screens.** Total number of screens in all the cinemas in the city.
- **Spectators.** Total number of people who have attended the cinema screenings.
- **Seats.** The total number of seats in all the cinemas.
- **Films screened.** The number of films screened in all the cinemas.
- **Sessions.** The number of times the different exhibited films have been screened.
- **Box office.** Total revenue for the sale of tickets



Creation Factories

THIS INCLUDES Data from the municipal network of creation factories.
DEFINITIONS **Creation Factories:** a network of facilities that are municipally owned and, in most cases, privately run, located in sites of an industrial nature that are no longer used as such. The centres in this network provide support for creation

and offer resources, tools and services to creators and artists (residency places, financial aid, grants, training, etc.). The goal of these facilities is to support the creative process of artists and foster a series of values, such as commitment to risk-taking, rigour, quality and professionalism, openness and cooperation, training and research, from a territorial perspective. The network is currently made up of 10 facilities.

TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2014
TERRITORY	Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE	Each centre.

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Total number of creative projects.** Artistic projects that are developed in the centre. This includes projects resulting from a residency (permanent or temporary) and the projects created during a specific stay (leasing or renting the space). This is considered to be the main indicator for creation factories.
- **Training activities for professionals.** The number of activities and attendees at training events related to the centre's mission and aimed at professionals. These may be formal activities (courses, workshops, etc.) or informal (knowledge-exchange sessions among resident artists, etc.).
- **Outreach activities in centres.** Number of events and attendees at activities aimed at disseminating a creation project (shows, exhibitions, experimentation, artistic presentations, etc.) offered to the public and carried out inside the factory premises.
- **Square metres.** The useful surface area of each centre.



Barcelona Libraries

THIS INCLUDES	Barcelona's network of public libraries.
DEFINITIONS	Library: a facility that provides free access for all city residents to information and knowledge, while also fostering reading. It does so through its collection and its open, plural programme, connected with other cultural, social and educational stakeholders in the area.
TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2010
TERRITORY	Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE	Barcelona Libraries.
AVAILABLE DATA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visits. The number of people who enter a library (correction coefficients are applied to the data collected by visitor counters). • On-site loans. The number of physical documents that a user takes away for a specific time period. • Virtual loans. The number of documents that a user downloads online for a specific time period. • Document collection. All the library's documents.

- **Computer use.** The number of times the library's computers have been used.
- **Cultural dissemination and reading activities.** The number of events and the people who have attended the programmed cultural-dissemination and reading activities throughout the year.
- **School visits.** The number of visits and attendees at organised school visits. This includes students from nursery schools, pre-schools, primary schools, compulsory and higher secondary schools, vocational training and special education.
- **Square metres.** The useful surface area of each centre.



Civic centres

THIS INCLUDES	All the centres in the municipal network of civic centres, which are municipally owned and mostly run by organisations.
DEFINITIONS	Civic centre: a municipal cultural facility geared towards artistic and social development at a local level, as well as promoting citizen participation in the cultural dynamics of each neighbourhood and, in general, the promotion of community activities.
TIME FRAME	Annual, since 2015
TERRITORY	Municipality of Barcelona.
SOURCE	Barcelona Institute of Culture (ICUB).

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Training activities.** The total number of courses, workshops and itineraries programmed by a centre or by the organisations that collaborate with that centre. These are activities that aim to offer knowledge and disseminate knowledge, as well as promoting artistic creativity, personal well-being and social relationships among the participants.
- **Registration for training activities.** The total number of enrolments for the courses, workshops and itineraries programmed by a centre or by the organisations that collaborate with that centre.
- **Cultural dissemination activities.** The total number of cultural-dissemination activities programmed by a centre or by the organisations that collaborate with that centre. Only the data for activities where it is possible to count the number of people attending are published. This covers the following types of activities:
 - Performances and shows: concerts, theatre, dance, circus, audiovisuals, multidisciplinary projects, etc.
 - Exhibitions, displays and related activities: the list includes the activities programmed around the exhibitions and displays.
 - Talks, seminars, conferences, etc.
- **Attendance at cultural dissemination activities.** The total number of people attending the cultural activities of a centre, for which there is a system for counting attendees.
- **Associations.** All of the ways in which associations use the various services offered by a centre. The services on offer may be of generic support (a meeting and reference space for the association), for supporting creation (using the centre to carry out new artistic creations), or the allocation of space for holding public or private events. A single association may request spaces for various uses, which

is why the data does not reflect the real total of associations, but rather the number of uses requested.

- **Square metres.** The useful surface area of each centre.



Athenaeums

THIS INCLUDES

centres that are members of the Catalan Federation of Ateneus (FAC).

DEFINITIONS

Ateneu: a non profit organisation linked to architectural heritage (often a popular theatre or a civic facility historically recovered by the organisation's members), in which cultural, social and sports activities are undertaken. These activities may take the form of training (theatre or basketball school), or be aimed at people who do them as a hobby (timpanist group or friends who get together to play cards), or they might be performances open to the public (concerts, dance shows or theatre). Ateneus have open meeting spaces where there is room for activities, leisure and reflection, and they work with values such as integration and social cohesion.

TIME FRAME

Annual, since 2014

TERRITORY

Municipality of Barcelona.

SOURCE

Catalan Federation of Ateneus (FAC).

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Members.** Members of the association that run the Ateneu.
- **Activities.** All the activities that take place in the building.
- **Halls.** Facilities that have halls for performing arts and music performances.
- **Seats.** The total number of seats in the halls for performing arts and music performances.
- **Shows.** The number of performing arts-music performances that have taken place.
- **Square metres.** The useful surface area of each centre.



Festivals and fairs

THIS INCLUDES

Cultural festivals and fairs.

DEFINITIONS

Festival (cultural): an event recognised by a specific brand name, focusing on a cultural area or form of expression, of a periodic nature and a limited, temporary duration, which offers a singular programme aimed at spectators (wholly or mostly), and which is held in a specific geographic location.

Fair (cultural): a meeting of a specific cultural sector's professionals (producers, suppliers and retailers), also open to the general public, normally an annual event and held in a specific location. The aim of the fair is to contract the buying and selling of products or services, while also raising awareness about the sector's activities.

TIME FRAME Annual, since 2010

TERRITORY Municipality of Barcelona.

SOURCE Each organising body.

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Data for festivals and fairs.** Starting and finishing dates for the event, thematic area, number of people attending the series of programmed activities and the place where the activities have taken place.
- **Data for the Grec, by area.** The number of shows, spectators, audience capacity and percentage of occupancy at all the Barcelona Grec Festival events, classified by area (theatre, dance, music, etc.).



Festivities

THIS INCLUDES Annual festivals with a territorial scope that is of interest to the entire population of the municipality.

DEFINITIONS **Festivity:** a publicly organised event of a social nature, which generally commemorates an important event in the history of the city or celebrates a tradition. It is a meeting place for the local community, who gather annually around common settings and who affirm their existence as a group, based on shared symbolic references.

TIME FRAME Annual, since 2010

TERRITORY Municipality of Barcelona.

SOURCE Each organising body.

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Data on city festivals.** Starting and finishing dates for the event, approximate number of people attending all the programmed activities and the place where the activities have taken place.
- **Data for the La Mercè Festival.** People attending the La Mercè festivities, according to the various types of activity (music, street art, traditional, etc.).

Subsidies/transfers

THIS INCLUDES This section provides information on various types of financial transfers from Barcelona City Council, via the Institute of Culture, to public or private organisations, either by direct transfer or subsidies.

TIME FRAME Annual, since 2014

TERRITORY Municipality of Barcelona.

SOURCE Barcelona Institute of Culture (ICUB).

AVAILABLE DATA

- **Subsidy.** A system by which an economic contribution is awarded in order to foster a specific activity of cultural use or interest, or to promote the achievement of a specific public goal. The beneficiary organisation is obliged to carry out the activity that is the subject of the subsidy and to justify its performance. The subsidies are classified into three types:
 - **Transfer** from the City Council to **consortiums and foundations**, in order to collaborate with their general functions or because the City Council is a stakeholder in the beneficiary body.
 - **Subsidy via application campaign**, which is awarded under a competitive regime. The campaign's terms and conditions, which establish the access requirements and conditions, are published.
 - **Subsidy via agreement.** An agreement of intent signed with a company, association or private organisation, which results in a subsidy for the signatory bodies and in which the conditions for developing the subsidised activity are established.
- **Type of transfer.** Depending on the purpose for which the financial contribution is made, there are two distinct types of transfer: **current transfers** (for the activity or function) and **capital transfers** (for investment in a cultural facility).
- **Body.** Name of the body that has received the financial contribution.
- **Project.** The name of the project or reason for which the body has received the financial contribution.
- **Amount.** The amount of the awarded and effectively applied contribution. If a subsidised project is not carried out in the end, and the amount of the subsidy is returned to the City Council the following year, it will be recorded negatively in the list of subsidies for the year in which the reimbursement was made.