

Profile of Cultural and Heritage Activities in Alberta

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Provincial Profiles of Cultural and Heritage Activities in 2005, a new report in the *Statistical Insights on the Arts* series from Hill Strategies Research, provides insights into the number and percentage of Albertans 15 or older who, in 2005:

- attended live performances;
- visited art galleries and other museums;
- visited historic sites and other heritage organizations;
- read a newspaper, magazine or book;
- watched movies or videos; or
- listened to recorded music.

Where comparable data is available, trends in cultural and heritage activities between 1992 and 2005 are also highlighted. The data is drawn from Statistics Canada's General Social Surveys of 1992 and 2005, in-depth telephone surveys of about 1,000 Albertans 15 years of age or older. The statistics presented in this summary are reliable estimates from this representative sample of Alberta residents.

Reading, music and movies are among the most popular cultural and heritage activities

In 2005, the most popular cultural and heritage activities in Alberta were:

- Reading newspapers (85% of the population 15 or older);
- Watching a video (rented, purchased, VHS or DVD formats) (84%);
- Listening to music on CD's, cassette tapes, DVD audio discs, records, etc. (83%);
- Reading a magazine (79%);
- Reading a book (68%); and
- Watching a movie at a theatre or drive-in (66%)

Most activities attracted about the same percentage of Alberta residents in 2005 as in 1992

Most cultural and heritage activities attracted a similar percentage of Albertans in 2005 as in 1992.

Activities that attracted a larger percentage of Albertans in 2005 than in 1992 include visits to historic sites, watching movies at a theatre, and watching videos.

Cultural and heritage activities that attracted a smaller percentage of Albertans in 2005 include overall performing arts attendance, visits to conservation areas or nature parks, and newspaper reading.

Given the population growth between 1992 and 2005, **all** cultural and heritage activities saw an increase in the absolute number of Alberta residents attending, visiting, reading, watching or listening.

Full report

The Alberta section of the full report contains much more information and detailed tables regarding Albertans' cultural and heritage activities in 1992 and 2005. The full report, funded by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Ontario Arts Council, is available free of charge on the Hill Strategies Research website (<http://www.hillstrategies.com>) and the websites of the funding organizations.

Methodological notes

Individuals are counted only once in each activity regardless of how many times they participated in the activity. It is also important to note that the data includes attendance of provincial residents while travelling out of province or out of the country and excludes attendance by residents of other provinces or countries while travelling in the province. This would mean, for example, that the data on provincial museum visitors represents the number of provincial residents who visited at least one museum (anywhere) during the survey year, *not* the total visits made to museums in the province.

Contact information

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