



COVID-19 and the Arts and Cultural Sector

Sector Status

At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, arts and cultural organizations were among the first to close their doors, and they will be among the last to fully reopen. The essence of arts and culture is to bring people together, yet persistent risks have resulted in shuttered venues, reluctant audiences, and canceled programming. Having quickly pivoted in response to a new reality, organizations are experiencing fatigue, confronting cost increases, and working with fewer resources. For many, the ability to continue providing services is in peril. The information that follows is context for the investment needed to ensure creative industries recover to move our state forward in the years ahead.

National Data



March 2020 to April 2021

Source: Americans for the Arts

\$16 billion = loss by nonprofit arts and cultural organizations

\$15.8 billion = loss in related audience spending (restaurants, lodging, retail, parking)

\$5.4 billion = loss in government revenue

932,000 = jobs no longer being supported

Job Losses Nationally

34.7% Arts nonprofits
vs **7.4%** Nonprofits

Oklahoma Data



March 2020 to December 2020

Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations

Source: Oklahoma Arts Council grantee reporting

Revenue Loss

- **\$43.7** million total loss
- One-half lost **50%** of revenue
- One-third lost **75%** of revenue

Job Loss

- **3,141** canceled artist contracts
- **3,072** canceled service contracts
- 34% have **reduced pay and/or implemented layoffs**
- 45% have **hiring freezes**

Cost Increase

57% increase over annual operating budgets

