

Museums, archeological areas and monuments in Italy

Year 2015

The Italian cultural heritage had 4,976 museums and similar institutions, both public and private, open to the public in Italy in 2015. They included 4,158 museums, galleries or collections, 282 archeological sites and parks and 536 monuments or monumental compounds. Italy has a widespread heritage of 1.7 museums or similar institutes every 100 km² and about one every 12,000 inhabitants. One Municipality out of three had at least a museum.

Regions with the highest number of institutes (30% of the total) were Toscana (548), Emilia-Romagna (477) and Piemonte (427). On the other hand, in the South and Islands area more than half (52,8%) of the archeological sites were found, one out of three (32.6%) was located in Sicilia and Sardegna.

Most of the museums displayed ethnographical and anthropology collections (16.6%); art (15.9%), Ancient archaeology (14.7%) and history (11.5%) followed.

In 2015, museums and other museum exhibition structures registered a record of 110,6 million admissions (+6.4% compared to 2011) broken down as follows: 59,2 million for museums, 11.9 million for archeological sites, 39,3 million for monuments (they were respectively 53,9, 9,5 and 40,5 million in 2011).

Visitors showed a tendency to concentrate on a limited number of destinations; three regions only accounted for 52.1% of visitors: Lazio (22.3%), Toscana (20.6%), Campania (9.2%).

On average there were just over 22 thousand admissions for each museum but highly polarized: the first 20 museums and similar institutions in 2015 attracted almost a third of these visitors (31.9%) while 36.5% registered not more than one thousand admissions per year.

Two museum institutions out of three (64.1%) were publicly owned and, among these, 2,139 (43% of the total), belonged to the Municipalities. Museums and other state institutions belonging to the Ministry of Culture were only 439 (8.8% of the total), but they attracted more than 47 million visitors (42.6% of the total).

Less than half of Italian museum institutions (45.6%) had a paid entry ticket; 54.4% registered no income from ticket sales.

26.1% of museum institutions received on average less than 10 thousand euros per month from ticket sales, and only 2.6% of the ticket revenues were superior to 500 thousand euros per year.

The staff in six out of ten exhibition structures was able to provide information to the public in English (they were four in ten in 2011).

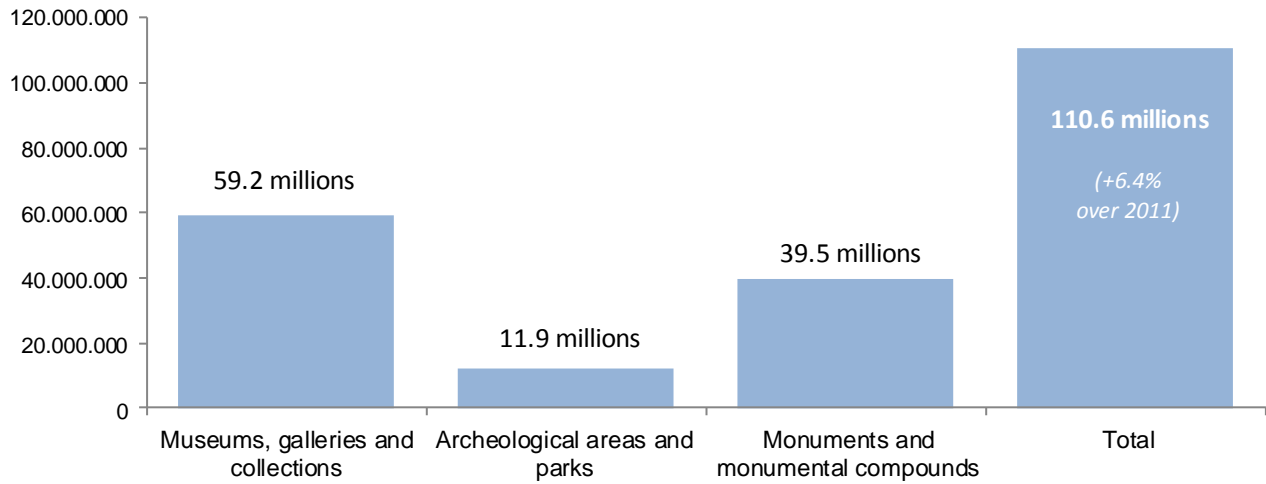
The Italian museum sector employed more than 45 thousand operators: employees, external staff and volunteers, on average one every 2,400 visitors.

67.5% of institutions employed no more than 5 persons and only 8.9% had over 10. Voluntary workers, about 18 thousand, gave support in a museum out of two (47.7%).

Half of the institutions had their own website (57.4% against 50.7% in 2011), 40.5% a social media account (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.), but only 6.6% had online ticket sale and 37.5% assistance services and/or facilities for physical access for disabled visitors.

Only 17.0% of museums stated seismic adjustments, 30.7% reported they were inserted in the municipal civil protection plan, while 34.8% stated they did not have a security and emergency situations plan.

ADMISSIONS OF MUSEUMS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTES BY TYPE OF INSTITUTES. Year 2015



For more details please refer to the Italian version

Contact persons:

Fabrizio Arosio (arosio@istat.it)

ph. +39 06 4673.7210

Alessandra Federici (federici@istat.it)

ph. +39 06 4673.7265

Istat – Italian National Institute of Statistics
Viale Liegi, 14 – 00198 ROMA