

Activity of cultural institutions in Opolskie Voivodship in 2024

28 August 2025

↓ 0.9%

Decrease in the number of
public library users in
relation to 2023

In Opolskie Voivodship, at the end of 2024 there were 295 public libraries, in which 130.3 thousand library users borrowed out-of-library 2.5 million volumes of book collection during the year. Exhibition activities were conducted by 21 museums and 2 art galleries, while performance activities by 4 theatres and music institutions. At the end of 2024 there were 14 operating indoor cinemas, in which, during the year, 39.2 thousand screenings took place. In the voivodship, there were also 170 cultural institutions, which organised 6.7 thousand events.

Public libraries and library-information units

In Opolskie Voivodship, at the end of 2024 there were 320¹ public libraries and library-information units and their number decreased by 16 compared to the previous year and by 33 in relation to 2015. Among all libraries and library-information units, majority were public libraries. At the end of 2024 there were 295 of them, including 222 library branches. Most public libraries with branches operated in rural areas (74.6%). The number of public libraries and branches decreased by 5 compared with 2023 and by 20 in relation to 2015. At the end of 2024 there were 16 operating library service points, i.e. more by 2 than the year before and by 1 in relation to 2015.

Per 1 public library or branch, there were 3154 persons in the voivodship on average (in the country – 4971), and the year before – 3122. In urban area this indicator was 3 times higher than in rural one and amounted to: 6544 and 1998, respectively.

The level of readership, measured with the number of readers in public libraries decreased both compared to 2023 as well as 2015. The number of registered actively borrowing library users in 2024 amounted to 130.3 thousand, i.e. less by 0.9% in relation to 2023 and by 16.6% compared with 2015.

In 2024, the number of public libraries users decreased compared to the previous year

Table 1. Public libraries (with branches)

Specification	2015	2023	2024		
	In absolute numbers			2015=100	2023=100
Public libraries ^a	315	300	295	93.7	98.3
Library service points ^a	15	14	16	106.7	114.3
Collection ^a in thousand volumes	3844.3	3652.1	3660.7	95.2	100.2
Library users ^b in thousands	156.4	131.5	130.3	83.4	99.1
Loans ^b :					
in thousand volumes	2941.0	2459.8	2450.7	83.3	99.6
per 1 library user in volumes	18.8	18.7	18.8	.	.

a As of 31 December. b Including library service points.

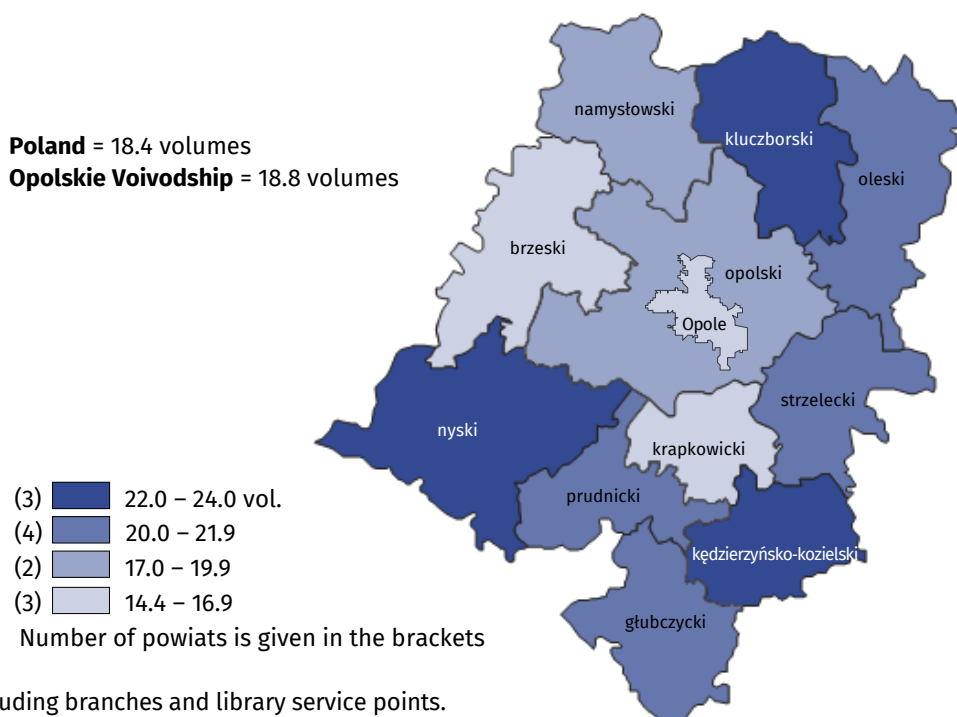
¹ Of which 1 public library also had scientific library status.

In 2024, the most numerous group of public library users by age categories were persons aged 25–44, who constituted 23.2% of the total number of library users. In terms of occupation, the most public library users were employed persons, i.e. 38.4%, while studying persons accumulated 35.8% of library users.

The largest number of library users in 2024 benefitted from public libraries in the city of Opole (31.9 thousand), then in Opolski Powiat (14.8 thousand) and Nyski Powiat (13.7 thousand). In terms of number of library users per 1000 inhabitants, the leading one was the city of Opole (254), while the second place was Krapkowicki Powiat (186), followed by Oleski Powiat (152).

The most public library users per 1000 inhabitants were recorded in the city of Opole

Map 1. Loans^a of collection in public libraries per 1 library user in 2024



^a Including branches and library service points.

In 2024, public libraries in Opolskie Voivodship recorded an increase (by 1.2%) in the number of collection loans to users in reading rooms, however decrease in the number of out-of-library loans (by 0.4%) in relation to the previous year. The highest value of the indicator of loans from public libraries per 1000 population was recorded in the city of Opole (4112 volumes) and in powiats: Oleski (3249 volumes) and Kędzierzyńsko-kozielski (2928 volumes). The value of the loan indicator per 1 library user in 2024 amounted to 18.8 volumes versus 18.7 volumes the year before. The highest value was recorded in powiats: Kluczborski (24.0 volumes), Kędzierzyńsko-kozielski (22.6 volumes) as well as Nyski (22.0 volumes).

The number of collection loans in public libraries in reading rooms increased by 1.2% compared to 2023

The network of public libraries in the voivodship is supported by library-information units. In 2024 conducting activity were 12 scientific libraries, 7 professional libraries, 5 pedagogical libraries, 1 specialised-fiction library and 1 centre of scientific, technical and economic information (INTE).

Collection of public libraries and library-information units, at the end of 2024, amounted to 5704.1 thousand volumes and was higher than the year before by 0.6%. Special collections amounted to 329.1 thousand volumes (in 2023 – 344.4 thousand volumes), of which the most numerous category were audio-visual materials (126.7 thousand).

In 2024, in public libraries and library-information units, 1.7 thousand computers were used, of which 41.3% were computers for the use of library users (of which 97.1% ad an access to the Internet).

Besides lending their collection to library users, public libraries and library-information points organise various kinds of cultural-educational events. In 2024 there were 8.6 thousand of such events (in the year before – 8.9 thousand), of which the most (98.0% of all undertakings) were organised in public libraries. A total of 207.2 thousand users were involved in classes (in 2023 – 249.9 thousand). As part of their activity in 2024 public libraries and library-information units organised 10 conferences and seminars, attended by 0.9 thousand users (the year before: 14 conferences and 1.5 thousand users, respectively).

In terms of amenities for persons with special needs in 2024, building entrances adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities were in 126 facilities, i.e. 39.4% of all public libraries and library-information units. Amenities inside the building were in 27.8% units (29.2% the year before).

Centres of culture, cultural establishments and centres, clubs and community centres

In Opolskie Voivodship, at the end of 2024, there were 170 centres of culture, cultural establishments and centres as well as clubs and community centres. The most numerous group were community centres (48.2% of all establishments), followed by cultural establishments (22.4%), while the least numerous were clubs (4.1%) and centres of culture (7.1%). A larger part of facilities (70.6%) was located in rural areas, with the rural facilities community centres being mostly community centres (93.9% of the total number of this type of institutions) and cultural establishments (71.0%). Clubs occurred only in urban areas.

In Opolskie Voivodship, there were on average 5.5 thousand people (in the country – 9.6 thousand) per 1 facility. The best situation in this regard was in Krapkowicki Powiat, where per 1 facility there were 3.1 thousand inhabitants, followed by powiats: Prudnicki and Strzelecki (3.2 thousand each).

In 2024 there were 12 centres of culture, 31 cultural establishments, 38 cultural centres, 7 clubs and 82 community centres

Table 2. Centres of culture, cultural establishments and centres, clubs and community centres

as of 31 December

Specification	2015	2023	2024		
	In absolute numbers		2015=100	2023=100	
Institutions	214	185	170	79.4	91.9
Events ^a	8157	6868	6738	82.6	98.1
Event participants ^a in thousands	659.4	593.7	567.1	86.0	95.5
Artistic groups (ensembles)	542	462	424	78.2	91.8
Members of artistic groups in thousands	8.3	7.5	6.7	80.5	89.6
Groups (clubs)	687	647	671	97.7	103.7
Members of groups (clubs) in thousands	14.9	11.3	12.1	80.8	106.5
Courses ^a	98	64	54	55.1	84.4
Course graduates ^a in thousands	1.5	1.2	1.1	77.2	97.9

a During the year.

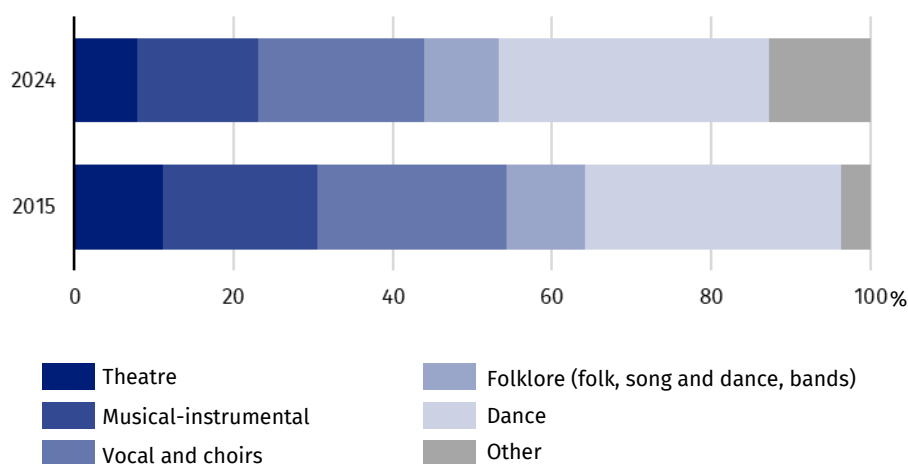
An important aspect of functioning of cultural institution is their infrastructure facilities. In 2024, in Opolskie Voivodship, 93.5% of institutions used a separate building. Premises shared with other institutions were most often used by cultural centres (41.5%), community

centres (34.0%), followed by centres of culture (9.4%). Among all facilities 50.6% were adjusted to the needs of persons with disabilities. Out of this group, 96.3% had an adapted entrance to the building and 67.2% adequate amenities inside the building.

In 2024, centres of culture, cultural establishments, clubs and community centres organised 6.7 thousand events, i.e. less by 1.9% than the year before and by 17.4% in relation to 2015. They were attended by 567.1 thousand participants, that is less by 4.5% compared with 2023 and by 14.0% than in 2015. Workshops (28.5%), concerts (12.2%), presentations, meetings, lectures (11.7%) as well as tourist and sport-recreational events (10.3%) were most often organised. The largest number of participants per 1 event was recorded in following types of events: concerts (224), interdisciplinary events (205) as well as festivals and art shows (169). The most dynamic, in terms of number of organised events per 1 institution, were centres of culture – on average 81 events during the year, while the least, i.e. on average 17 events, were organised by community centres.

In all institutions in 2024, there were 424 artistic groups (the year before – 462, while in 2015 – 542), with 6.7 thousand members (in 2023 – 7.5 thousand and in 2015 – 8.3 thousand). The most numerous were dance groups (2.4 thousand persons), musical-instrumental as well as vocal groups and choirs (1.2 thousand each). On average, 1 artistic group had 16 members. Among members of artistic groups predominant were children and school youth (62.6%). Every fifth member of the artistic group was a person over 60 years of age (20.3%).

Chart 1. Artistic groups by type
As of 31 December



In 2024, on average, per 1000 inhabitants of the voivodship, 7 persons were members of a chosen artistic group operating in the centre of culture, cultural establishment and centre, club or community centre. The most active in this regard were inhabitants of Głubczycki Powiat, in which 18 per 1000 persons took part in activities of artistic groups, followed by powiats: Kluczborski (12) and Krapkowicki (11).

In centres of culture, cultural establishments and centres, clubs and community centres there were also groups, clubs, sections, i.e. systematic classes with specific thematic profile in organised groups. At the end of 2024 there were 671 groups, clubs, sections, i.e. more by 3.7% than the year before, and less by 2.3% versus 2015. There were 12.1 thousand persons (the year before – 11.3 thousand and in 2015 – 14.9 thousand who were members of groups, clubs, sections. On average, there were 18 members per 1 group, club, section. The most members per 1 group, club, section gathered in senior clubs/The Third Age University (61 persons) as well as tourist and sports and recreation centres (clubs, sections) (23). The level of participation rate of inhabitants in centres, clubs, sections activity (the number of centres,

1 institution organised 40 events on average

clubs and sections members per 1000 population) at the end of 2024 in the voivodship amounted to 13 (the year before– 12). The highest rate was recorded in powiats Krapkowicki and Prudnicki (24 each), followed by Oleski Powiat (20).

The offer of centres of culture, cultural establishments and centres, clubs and community centres also included organising various kinds of courses. In 2024 all institutions conducted 54 courses (the year before – 64), among which the most popular were learning foreign languages (16), dance (15) as well as learning to play instruments (8). The status of graduate was given to 1.1 thousand persons, i.e. 2.1% less than the year before. Persons over 60 years of age accounted for 20.5% of all course graduates.

Museums² and art galleries

At the end of 2024 , in Opolskie Voivodship, exhibition activity was carried by 21 museums, including 2 museum branches. Stakeholder of vast majority of institutions were local government units (61.9%). Entrance to the building adjusted to the needs of persons with disabilities was present in 61.9% of museum facilities and just as many facilities were fitted with amenities inside the building.

The total number of museum exhibits, as of the end of 2024, amounted to 294.6 thousand and increased by 3.6%, compared to the previous. The most museum exhibits were located in the city of Opole (48.4%), followed by Brzeski Powiat (22.7%). The richest in museum exhibits were interdisciplinary (40.8%) and historical (33.3%) museums.

Table 3. Museums

Specification	2015	2023	2024		
	in absolute numbers			2015=100	2023=100
Museums and museum branches ^a	16	20	21	131.3	105.0
Museum exhibits ^{ab} in thousand pieces	129.3	284.4	294.6	.	103.6
Temporary exhibitions	148	142	138	93.2	97.2
Museum and exhibition visitors in thousands	237.2	256.2	268.2	113.1	104.7
Of which school youth ^c	60.0	48.6	44.7	74.6	92.1

a As of 31 December. b In 2015 in inventory schools. c Visiting museums in organised groups.

Museums in 2024 were visited by 268.2 thousand persons and their number increased by 4.7% compared with 2023 and by 13.1% in relation to 2015. Organised groups of school youth accounted for 16.7% of the total number of visitors (in 2023 – 19.0%). In 2024, the number of visitors to museums and exhibitions per 1000 amounted to 287 persons (in the country – 1182), and in 2023 – 273. The most popular among visitors were hisorical museums which were visited by 57.2 thousand persons, ethnographic anthropological museums – 48.8 thousand persons and interdisciplinary museums – 47.2 thousand persons.

The annually organised “Night of Museums” is an opportunity to get to know Polish heritage. This form of sightseeing in 2024 in Opolskie Voivodship was used by 11.6 thousand persons versus 11.4 thousand the year before and 11.9 thousand – in 2015.

Museum exhibits were presented as part of permanent and temporary exhibitions. In 2024 in museums, there were 138 temporary and 83 permanent exhibitions. O Besides exhibitions, as part of educational activity, museums organised 502 readings and lectures as well as presented 306 film screenings for visitors. Museums also carried out publishing activity, as

Museums were visited by 4.7% more persons than in 2023

1 museum organised 7 temporary exhibitions on average

² From 2020 onwards, counted as museums are only museums, which operate on the basis of statute agreed with the Minister of Culture and National Heritage or regulation.

part of which they published 18 titles, with a total edition of 11.3 thousand copies (year before: 22 titles and 12.0 thousand copies, respectively).

In Opolskie Voivodship in 2024 there were 2 art galleries. The number of visitors amounted to 127.4 thousand persons and was lower by 8.6% than the year before, and by 12.4% higher compared to 2015. Per 1 art gallery there were, on average 63.7 thousand visitors (in the country – 14.5 thousand), the year before – 69.7 thousand and in 2015 – 37.8 thousand. On average 1 exhibition was seen by 2.1 thousand persons (in the country – 1.1 thousand), the year before – 2.3 thousand and in 2015 – 2.8 thousand.

In 2024 art galleries in Opolskie Voivodship organised 62 exhibitions in the country

Table 4. Art galleries

Specification	2015	2023	2024		
	In absolute numbers			2015=100	2023=100
Art. galleries ^a	3	2	2	66.7	100.0
Exhibitions ^b	41	60	62	151.2	103.3
Expositions ^b	41	60	66	161.0	110.0
Visitors in thousands	113.4	139.3	127.4	112.4	91.4

a As of 31 December. b In the country.

In Opolskie Voivodship's galleries, own collections included, similarly to the year before, 1241 exhibits with the largest part being painting (602) and photography (289).

Art galleries, besides exhibition activity, organised various kinds of educational meetings. In 2024, galleries in Opolskie Voivodship organised 272 workshops and lessons, in which 3.7 thousand persons participated. As part of galleries' activities, lectures and presentations, film screenings, concerts and shows, competitions and performances. These events gathered in total 8.1 2 thousand participants and spectators. Additionally, art galleries carried out publishing activity, which in 2024 covered 47 titles in printed form with a total edition of 8.2 thousand copies.

Theatres and musical institutions

In 2024, in Opolskie Voivodship, performance activity was carried out by 4 theatres and institutions (2 dramatic theatres, puppet theatre and philharmonic hall) and all of them had their own, permanent artistic ensemble.

Table 5. Theatres and musical institutions

Specification	2015	2023	2024		
	in absolute numbers			2015=100	2023=100
Theatres and musical institutions ^a	3	4	4	133.3	100.0
Seats in fixed halls ^a	2048	2286	2286	111.6	100.0
Performances and concerts ^b	806	905	998	123.8	110.3
Spectators and listeners ^b in thousands	160.1	167.6	145.2	90.7	86.6

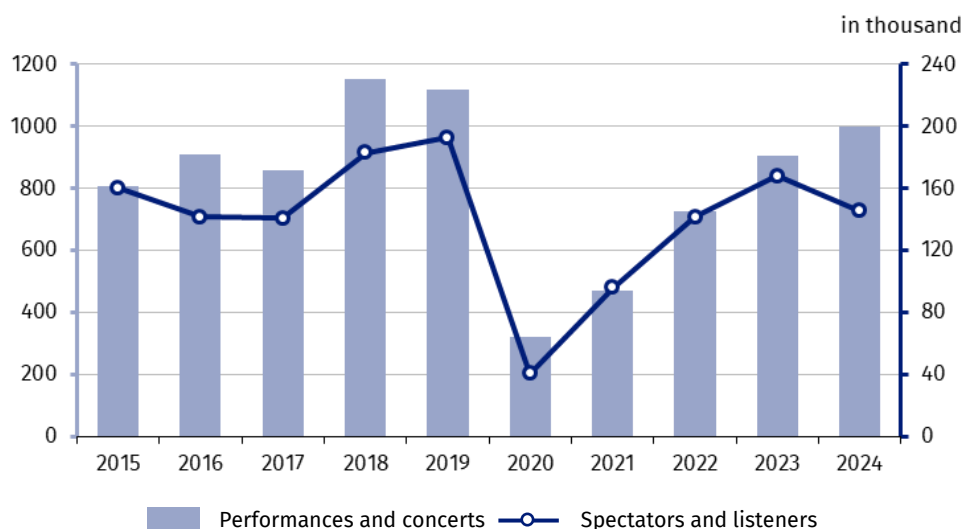
a As of 31 December. b By locality.

Theatres and musical institutions organised 998 performances and concerts, which were attended by 145.2 thousand spectators and listeners. Compared to the previous year, the number of performances and concerts increased by 10.3%, while the number of spectators and listeners was lower by 13.4%. In relation to 2015, there was also an increase: of 23.8% and

Theatres and musical institutions organised by 10.3% more performances and concerts than in 2023

decrease of 9.3%. The average number of performances and concerts per 1 entity in 2024 amounted to 250 (in the country – 336) versus 226 in the year before and 269 in 2015.

Chart 2. Performances and concerts as well as spectators and listeners in theatres and musical institutions^a



^a By locality.

In 2024, the most performances (54.6%) were organised in dramatic theatres, performances in puppet theatres accounted for 32.4% of the total number of performances and concerts, whereas those organised by philharmonic – 13.0%. Theatres: dramatic and puppet in 2024 gathered 99.2 thousand spectators on 868 performances, while 46.0 thousand listeners attended 130 concerts organised by philharmonic.

The number of spectators and listeners per 1 performance and concert in 2024 was at the level of 145 (in the country – 201), the year before 185, and in 2015 – 199. This indicator was the largest in case of philharmonic, where 1 concert was on average listened by 354 persons, followed by dramatic theatres where 1 performance was attended by 123 persons, while in puppet theatre – 99 persons. The indicator describing the number of spectators and listeners per 1000 population amounted to 156 (in the country – 324) versus 178 in 2023.

In 2024 the number of seats in fixed halls during the year did not change, however increased by 11.6% in relation to 2015. There were 407 inhabitants of the voivodship (in 2023 – 410) per 1 seat in fixed halls of theatres and music institutions at the end of 2024.

Buildings of theatres and music institutions in the voivodship were adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities. Adapted entrance to the building was in every facility, as well as all theatres and music institutions were equipped with amenities inside the buildings.

Indoor cinemas

As of the end of 2024, in Opolskie Voivodship, there were 14 indoor cinemas, i.e. as in the previous year and more by 3 than in 2015. Indoor cinemas had 30 projection halls and 5.2 thousand seats. The number of projection halls was the same as in the previous year, while higher by 8 in relation to 2015. The number of seats decreased by 0.1% in relation to 2023 and increased by 10.1% in relation to 2015.

145 persons on average participated in 1 performance

Table 6. Indoor cinemas

Specification	2015	2023	2024		
	in absolute numbers			2015=100	2023=100
Cinemas ^a	11	14	14	127.3	100.0
Projection halls ^a	22	30	30	136.4	100.0
Seats ^a	4701	5178	5175	110.1	99.9
Screenings in thousands	26.5	38.3	39.2	148.0	102.2
Audience in thousands	723.5	804.3	789.5	109.1	98.1

a As of 31 December.

At the end of 2024 in Opolskie Voivodship, 13 indoor cinemas were adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities, of which 12 cinemas had an entrance adapted to the needs of such persons and were equipped with amenities inside the building.

In 2024 there were 39.2 thousand film screenings in indoor cinemas, which were seen by 789.5 thousand spectators. The number of film screenings increased by 2.2% in relation to 2023 and by 48.0% compared with 2015. The number of spectators in indoor cinemas decreased by 1.9% in relation to the previous year, and increased by 9.1% in relation to 2015. On average, per 1 film screening in Opolskie Voivodship, there were 20 spectators (in the country – 23), the year before – 21, versus 27 in 2015. Among the total number of film screenings, 23.5% were Polish production film screenings (in 2023 – 21.0%, in 2015 – 16.7%). In 2024 Polish production films gathered 210.7 thousand spectators in indoor cinemas, which accounted for 26.7% of the total number of spectators in indoor cinemas (in 2023 – 20.7%, in 2015 – 19.8%). Per 1000 population in 2024, there were 846 spectators (in the country – 1319) and this indicator was lower than the year before (856).

On average, there were 20 spectators per 1 screening

Mass events

In 2024, in Opolskie Voivodship 172 mass events were organised, i.e. by 3.9% less than the year before. They were attended by 399.1 thousand persons, i.e. more by 1.0% compared to the previous year. On average, per 1 mass event, there were 2.3 thousand persons (in the country – 4.1 thousand.) versus 2.2 thousand in 2023. Majority of participants, i.e. 88.3%, (the year before – 84.5%) took part in paid mass events. Over a half, i.e. 60.5% of the total number of mass events (in 2023 – 58.7%) were undertakings organised in closed objects.

Mass events were attended by 1.0% more persons than in 2023.

As part of the mass events, 104 sport events took place, i.e. 8.8% less than in 2023. They were attended by 223.5 thousand persons (the year before – 225.6 thousand), which accounted for 56.0% of the total number of participants of mass events. In 2024, 68 (in the previous year – 65) art and entertainment events were organised, and the number of participants in these events amounted to 175.6 thousand i.e. by 3.7% more than the year before.

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