

## SUMMARY 2019

### The coverage of Finnish circus statistics

These circus statistics concern professional Finnish circus performances. The circus statistics comprise both contemporary circus companies and traditional touring circuses.

The compilation of statistics on circus began in 2006. Traditional circus was included in 2007. The number of circus companies included in the statistics has grown steadily: from five companies in 2006 to twenty circus companies in 2012. The 2019 statistics gather information from as many as 43 companies, working groups as well as Cirko – Center for New Circus in addition to one traditional touring circus, Sirkus Finlandia.

Circus productions by Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth and Flow Productions are shown in the chart, but the numbers are not included in the total amount of circus performances. Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth and Flow Productions are included in the dance statistics.

The figures of 2019 specify the work of circus companies and artists operating both with and without state support. The statistics include 10 circus companies and one circus center, for which state support was granted in 2019. The figures of state support for circus companies can be found on the chart of 'Incomes in circus groups outside the financing law'.

These statistics cover circus performances ranging from major productions to private gigs and outdoor spectacles. Productions are therefore divided into "shows" and "other performances". The amount of performances and spectators of co-produced shows are specified in separate columns. All the total figures have deductions made of mutual co-productions, mutual guest performances and double bills.

There is one traditional circus company in these statistics. A lot of activity within e.g. social circus and circus for social inclusion is not included in this chart, nor the large number of youth circus performances.

### Number of performances and spectators

Year 2019 broke records: the aggregate number of circus performances and spectators is higher than ever before.

The number of circus performances was altogether 1 898. Out of these, the contemporary circus companies and circus center produced altogether 1 666 performances.

The aggregate attendance of the circus performances in 2019 was 541 987 spectators. Out of these performances, the contemporary circus companies gathered an audience of 343 627 spectators.

During the year 2019 circus companies and the circus center organised altogether 1 107 (in 2018: 757) performances in Finland and 559 performances abroad (in 2018: 406). The aggregate attendance of Finnish contemporary circus companies in the year of 2019 was 123 992 spectators in Finland (in 2018: 95 137) and 219 635 spectators abroad (in 2018: 96 416). Compared to the previous year the numbers of performances and spectators show a remarkable increase both in Finland (perf. +46%, spect. +30%) and abroad (perf. +38%, spect. +128%).

### Performances outside of Finland

It is characteristic of the international nature of circus art that in 2019 one third (34%) of the performances and two thirds of the spectators (64%) for Finnish contemporary circus companies' own productions took place outside of Finland. In 2018, the share of performances abroad was one third (35%) and of spectators a half (50%).

Finnish circus companies' tours reach all corners of the world. During 2019 Finnish circus companies visited a total of 34 countries: besides 22 European countries also in Australia, Canada, China, Brazil, Japan, Malesia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and USA.

### Repertoire and audience development

The circus companies and working groups included in the statistics produced altogether 56 first premieres in 2019. The statistics include a list of repertoires for the companies.

Circus companies' activities are diverse. In addition to performing, events for audience development, such as workshops for school children and audience discussions, are compiled in their own chart third time. During the year 2019 circus companies and circus center reported organising 73 events for audience development and the events gained attendance of 3 135 participants. Functions such as lectures and workshops for performing arts professionals and instructing recreational circus activities are not included in the figures of audience development.

Further information at CircusInfo Finland's website [www.sirkusinfo.fi](http://www.sirkusinfo.fi).