

## Summary 2020

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 in the past years: from five companies in 2006 to twenty circus companies in 2012, and to 43 in 2019. The 2020 statistics, however, gather information only from 34 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 number of circus performances. Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth and Flow Productions are included in the dance statistics.

The figures of 2020 specify the work of circus companies and artists operating both with and without state support. The statistics include 13 circus companies and one circus center, for which state support was granted in 2020. 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.

Since the restrictions placed on public events due to the Covid-19 pandemic prohibited performing for live audiences, online performances were included in the statistics for the first time. These include live-streams, recorded performances, circus films and audience development events organised online.

### Number of performances and spectators

Due to the restrictions placed on public events because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the numbers of circus performances and spectators were remarkably low in 2020.

The number of circus performances was altogether 919. Out of these, the contemporary circus compa-

nies and circus center produced altogether 811 performances. The aggregate attendance of the circus performances in 2020 was 84 577 spectators. Out of these performances, the contemporary circus companies gathered an audience of 47 577 spectators.

During the year 2020 circus companies and the circus center organised altogether 711 (in 2019: 1 107) performances in Finland and 110 performances abroad (in 2019: 559). The aggregate attendance of Finnish contemporary circus companies in the year of 2020 was 35 670 spectators in Finland (in 2019: 123 992) and 11 907 spectators abroad (in 2019: 219 635). Compared to the previous year the numbers of performances and spectators show a decrease both in Finland (perf. -37%, spect. -71%) and especially abroad.

Online performances gathered 23 528 views altogether. A total of 141 online performances and films are included in the statistics.

### Performances outside of Finland

The travel restrictions placed due to the pandemic put international touring on halt for most of the year. Compared to 2019, the number of performances abroad decreased 80% and the number of spectators show a decline of 95%.

During 2020 Finnish circus companies visited a total of 17 countries: besides 13 European countries also in Australia, Mexico, New Zealand and Thailand.

### Repertoire and audience development

The circus companies and working groups included in the statistics produced altogether 26 first premieres in 2020. 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 for the fourth time. During the year 2020 circus companies and circus center reported organising 21 events for audience development and the events gained attendance of 717 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).