

COVID-19 Impact on the Creative Economy Illinois

The creative economy is big business in Illinois.



COVID-19 is devastating Illinois' creative economy.

<p>\$5.3 billion cumulative losses for Illinois creative industries through July 2020 (est.), making Illinois one of the states with the highest loss of creative industry revenue in the nation.⁴</p> <p>\$363,550 average financial loss per arts and culture organization in Illinois.⁵</p> <p>104,618 unemployed creative industry workers in Illinois as a result of COVID-19, making Illinois one of the states with the highest loss of creative industry workers in the nation.⁴</p> <p>371% annual increase in unemployment insurance (UI) claims in Arts, Entertainment, Sport & Media occupations in Illinois since December 2019. This is far higher than the annual increase in UI claims across all industries and occupations in Illinois (238%).⁶</p> <p>8.5% decrease in shares of giving for arts and culture in 2020, the largest such decline in the last decade. 2020 saw record levels of giving; however, in areas like education, human</p>	<p>services, and the environment (Giving USA)</p> <p>96% of Illinois arts and culture organizations report having had to cancel events, leading to an average loss of 1000 attendees per organization.⁷</p> <p>68% of Illinois creative organizations expect to be severely impacted by COVID-19.⁷</p> <p>63% of Illinois's creative organizations reported having laid off or furloughed creative workers and staff.⁷</p> <p>66% of unemployed artists that self reported are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) versus 52% of white artists.⁸</p> <p>20% more revenue loss among smaller BIPOC arts and culture organizations compared to their predominantly white counterparts.⁵</p>
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The creative sector makes communities stronger.

<p>90% of Americans believe that arts and cultural facilities are important for their community's quality of life.⁹</p> <p>72% of Americans believe the arts unify our communities, regardless of age, race, or ethnicity.⁹</p>	<p>\$35.08 is the amount each Illinois nonprofit arts and cultural event attendee spends beyond the ticket cost on meals, retail, parking, lodging, local transportation, childcare, and souvenirs. These dollars provide vital income to local merchants, energize the downtown, and pay salaries and wages in non-arts sectors. This is more than \$2 billion in ancillary spending in Illinois directly because of cultural events and almost \$480 million revenue generated to local and state government.³</p>
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Creative Workers Stand Ready to Aid Recovery

76% of artists have used their art to raise moral and create community cohesion during the pandemic.¹⁰

89% of Illinois arts nonprofits have been delivering artistic content to raise community spirits during social distancing/quarantine.⁷

83% of creative workers are ready to put their creative practice to use as part of national recovery.¹⁰

The creative engine can power America's recovery!

Citations

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