

The Creative Economy of Illinois:

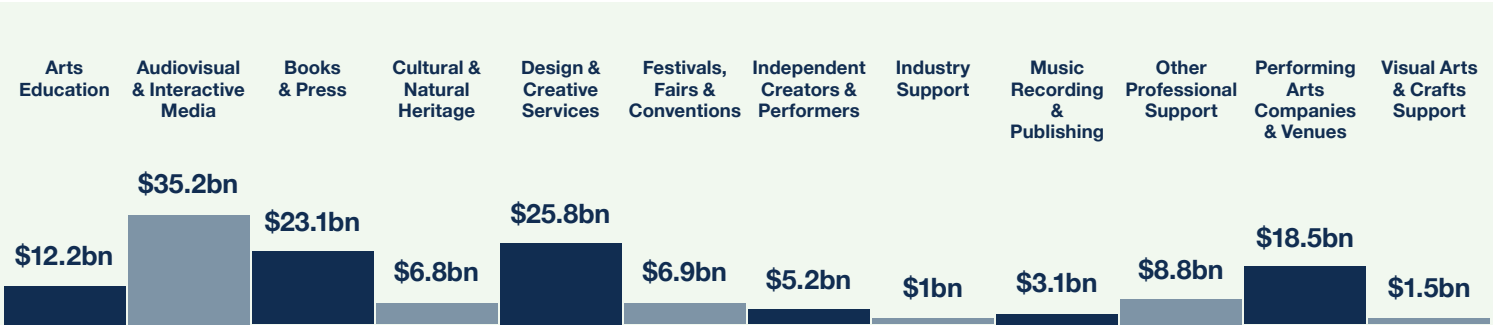
Impact and Assets



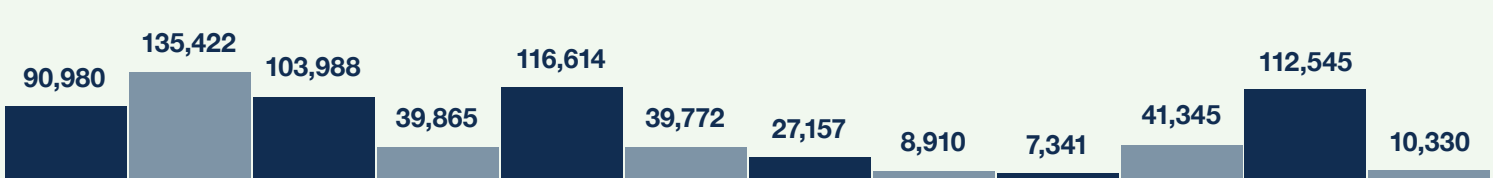
The creative economy powers communities across Illinois, supporting jobs, businesses, cultural organizations, and local economies across every region of the state.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Supports 734,269 jobs
- Generates \$148.1B in annual economic output



Total Output: \$148.1bn



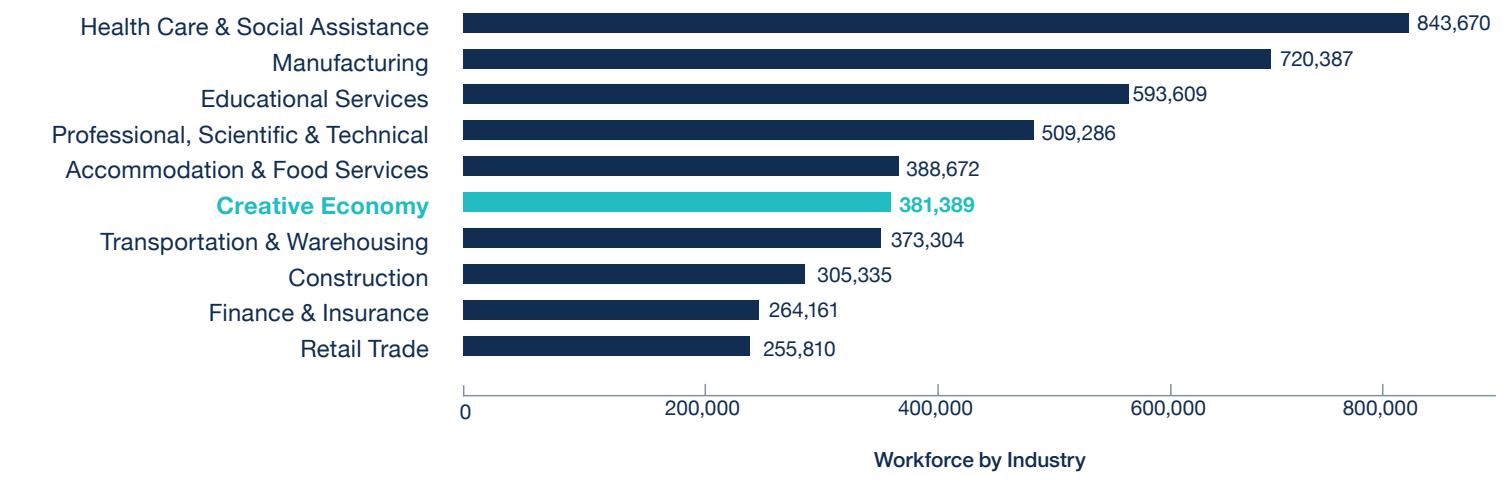
Total Employment: 734,269

\$1 ➡ \$1.95

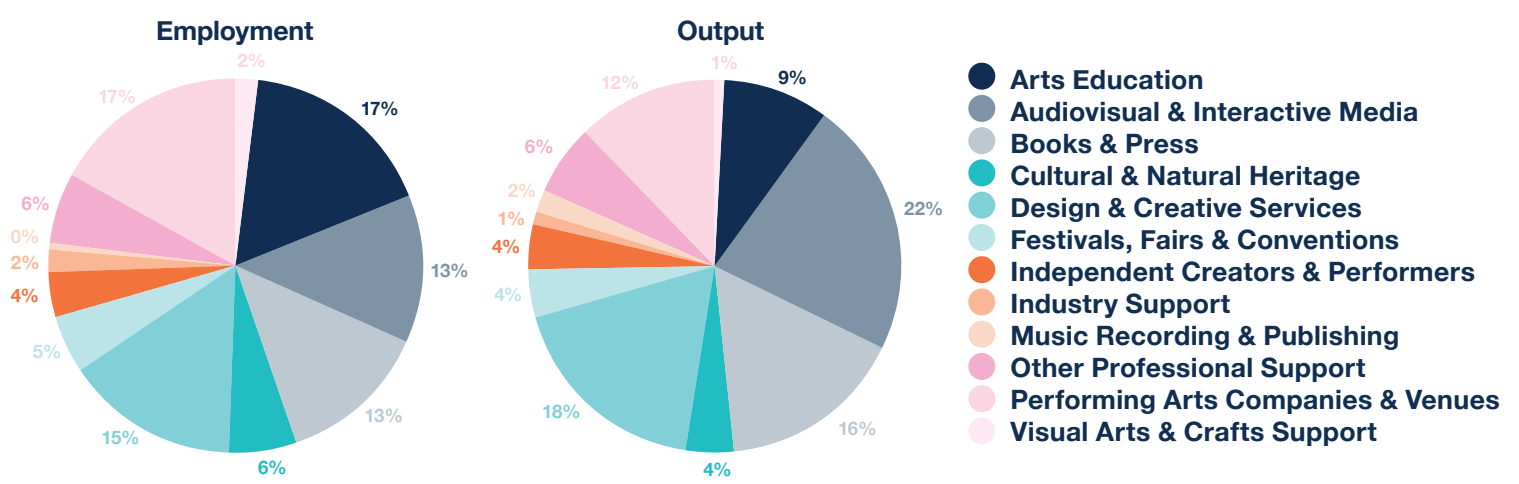
Every \$1 generated by the Illinois creative economy produces an additional \$0.95 in economic activity elsewhere in the state’s economy.

This analysis does not include visitor spending that occurs adjacent to creative experiences, such as restaurant, retail, transportation, or hotel spending. As a result, the findings represent a conservative estimate of the sector’s total economic impact.

THE CREATIVE ECONOMY IS A MAJOR STATEWIDE EMPLOYER



DIRECT EMPLOYMENT AND OUTPUT BY INDUSTRY



DESIGNING ILLINOIS' CREATIVE FUTURE

The Illinois creative economy is a powerful economic and cultural asset. This data points to clear opportunities for growth and investment.

- Public Investment**
Public funding remains small relative to the sector's impact.
Invest to unlock greater economic and community returns.
- Creative Workers and Workforce Development**
Many creative workers face economic insecurity.
Expand pathways to sustainable careers.
- Arts Education**
Arts education builds tomorrow's creative workforce.
Strengthen access to arts learning and career pathways.

What's Next?

This data is just a starting point. Join fellow artists, creative workers, cultural organizations, business leaders, and community partners to discuss the findings and help shape the future of the Illinois creative economy.



Read more about the creative economy of Chicago and Illinois in the full report, view the asset map, and sign up to join a community conversation near you at artsalliance.org/creative-economy.