



## ANNUAL STATISTICAL SURVEYS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE IN 2016 - MAIN RESULTS

Statistical surveys in the field of culture conducted by the National Statistical Institute have provided information on activities of museums, theatres, libraries, cinemas, radio and television programmes activities and film productions. Main indicators and coverage are designed in accordance with methodological requirements of UNESCO.

### CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

In the coverage of cultural institutions are included museums, theatres and music groups (performing arts) and libraries.

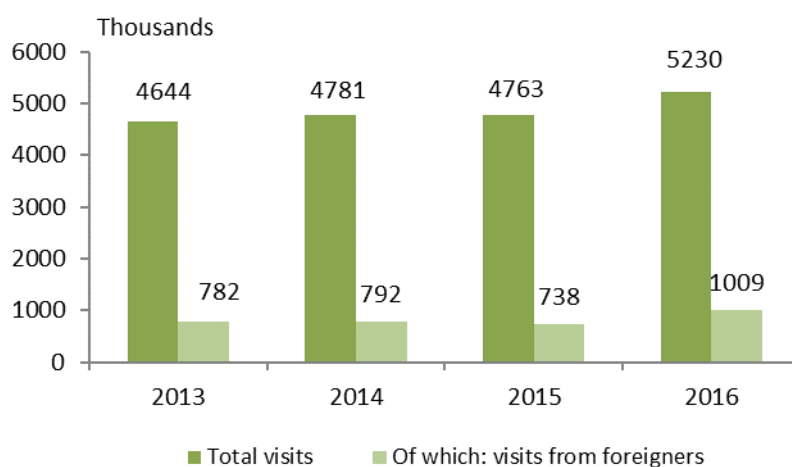
#### 1. Museums

As of 31.12.2016 in the country there were functioning 195 museums registered according to the Cultural Heritage Act. Museums by thematic scope were divided in 88 general museums and 107 specialized museums (incl. art galleries).

Movable cultural values in 2016 formed the National Museum Stock were 7 360 thousand stock units and in comparison with 2015 their number decreased by 2.4%. Of them 334 thousand stock units were digitized which is 5 thousand more in comparison with the previous year.

Visits to museums in 2016 were 5 230 thousand and in comparison with 2015 their number increased by 9.8%. Approximately 1/4 of all visits (1 223 thousands) were carried out during the free entry days. The number of visits of foreigners to museums increased with 271 thousand or 36.8% in comparison to the previous year.

**Figure 1. Visits in museums**





In 2016 the total museum revenues were 56 375 thousand BGN and in comparison with the previous year they increased by 12.5%. Of them the share of budget subsidy was 43 000 thousand BGN (76.3%), revenues from visits were 7 690 thousand BGN (13.6%) and by European programs and projects were 745 thousand BGN (1.3%).

In 2016 the total number of personnel in museums was 3 150 employees and in comparison with 2015 it increased by 4.3%.

In 2016, 1 375 computers were used for administrative purposes, 608 computers - for storing databases and 188 computers - for provision of information to visitors.

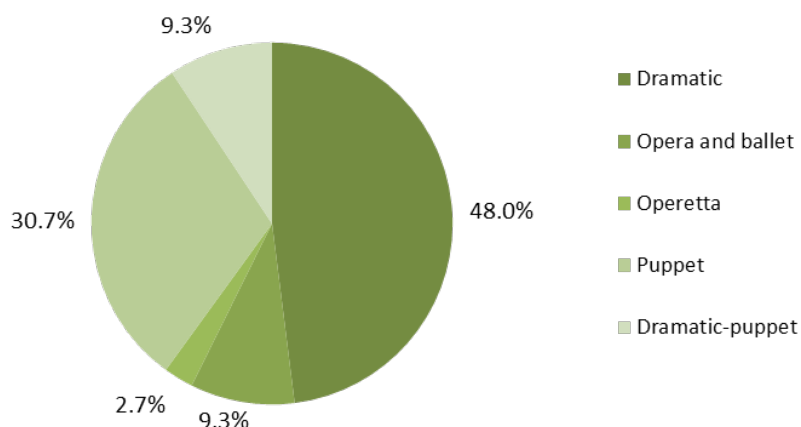
## 2. Performing arts

In 2016 in the operating 75 theatres were organized 15 162 performances, visited by 2 295 thousand viewers. In comparison with 2015 the number of performances increased by 7.0% and the number of visits - by 5.8%. The average number of visitors per one performance decreased from 153 in 2015 to 151 in 2016.

The distribution of theatres by type and presented staging in 2016 was as follow:

- 36 dramatic theatres with 6 110 performances;
- 23 puppet theatres with 5 545 performances;
- 7 dramatic-puppet theatres with 1 987 performances;
- 7 opera and ballet theatres with 1 130 performances;
- 2 operetta theatres with 390 performances;

**Figure 2. Structure of theatres by type**





In 2016 the revenues of theatres were 79 008 thousand BGN of which 19 585 thousand BGN (24.8%) were from ticket sales and from participating in tours in the country and abroad.

In 2016 there were 58 music formations operated in the country - 5 philharmonic orchestras, 29 professional ensembles for folk songs and dances and 24 orchestras. In comparison with 2015 the number of performances and the number of visits decreased respectively by 7.8% and by 3.3%.

Societies, associations and music companies organized 12 recitals (word art), visited by 2 200 spectators.

In 2016 were organized 1 079 concerts visited by 443 thousand visitors. The variety concerts (pop, rock, folk and others) were most often organized - 383 concerts with 204.1 thousand visitors, which was 46.1% of all visitors.

### 3. Libraries

In 2016 libraries with library collection over 200 thousand library units were 47 and their number decreased by 1 compared to the previous year. The collection contained 33 823 thousand units: books, continued editions - newspapers, magazines, bulletins and other. With the highest share of the total library collection in the observed libraries were books - 55.7% (18 823 thousands), followed by other library documents (audio-visual, electronic, graphic and cartographic editions, micro-forms, patents and standards) - 29.7% (10 045 thousands) and continued editions - 14.6% (4 955 thousands).

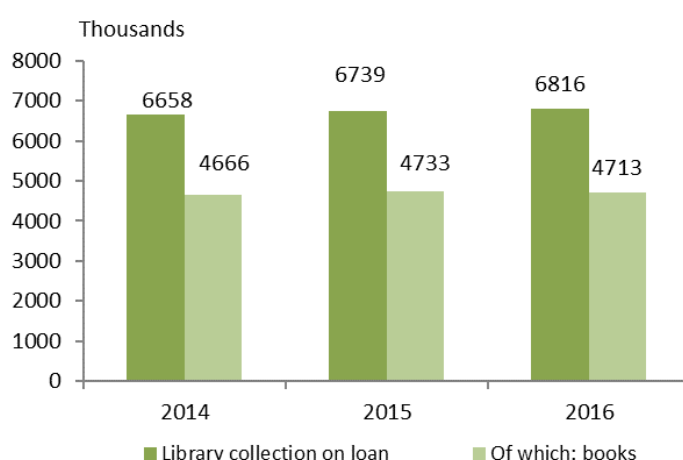
**Figure 3. Library collection**





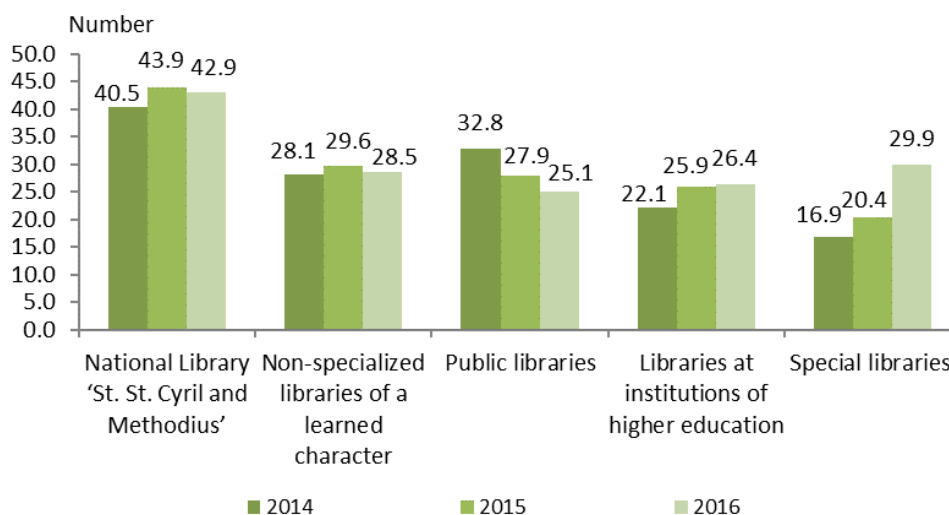
The registered readers (library users) were 239 thousand, which was 1.8% more in comparison with the previous year. The visitors to libraries increased by 3.1% and reached 4 315 thousand. The total library loan collection per reader was 29 in 2016 and remained the same as in 2015.

**Figure 4. Library loan collection**



In 2016 in the National Library 'St. St. Cyril and Methodius' were registered 8 041 thousand library documents, which were 44 thousand more in comparison with the previous year. In the 26-th Regional libraries in the district centres there were a library collection of 11 814 thousand units and the library loan collection decreased by 58 thousand (1.5%) in comparison with 2015 year.

**Figure 5. Library loan collection per reader by kind of the libraries**





## AUDIO-VISUAL ACTIVITIES

Audio-visual activities cover the activities of film production, cinemas, and radio and television programmes activities.

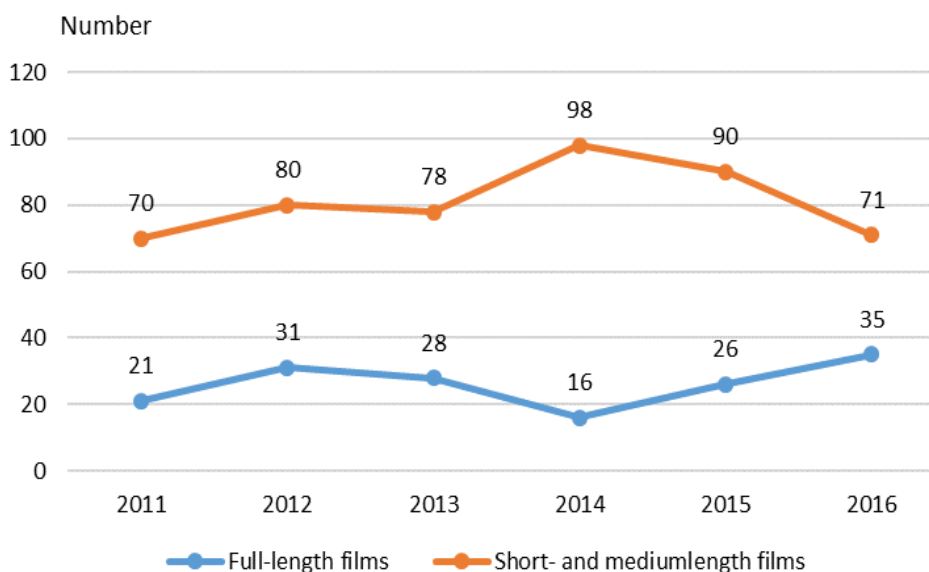
### 4. Film production

In 2016 were produced 106 full-length, short-length and medium-length films, of which 61 for the cinema network, 45 for the television, of which 3 series with total of 106 episodes.

The total number of the produced full-length films was 35 (33 films for the cinema network and 2 - for the television). Their number increased by 34.6% in comparison to the previous year.

The number of the produced short- and medium-length films was 71 of which 8 feature films, 46 documentary and educational films and 17 cartoon films. In comparison with 2015 the production of this type of movies decreased by 21.1%.

**Figure 6. Produced films by kind**





## 5. Cinemas

At the end of 2016 the number of cinemas in Bulgaria was 59, and the number of the screens - 220, which was respectively with 4 and 14 more in comparison with the previous year. The multiplexes<sup>1</sup> were 11 and in them were performed 65.5% of all screenings and 71.5% of all cinema visits.

### 1. Cinemas, screens, screenings and visits

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cinemas - in numbers	41	40	49	55	59
Screens - in numbers	150	157	196	206	220
Screenings - in thousands	243	248	282	306	322
Visits - in thousands	4257	4760	5097	5341	5548

In 2016 in comparison with the previous year, screenings in cinemas increased by 5.2% and visits by 3.9%. In 2016 were screened 7 396 films grouped by nationalities as follows: 650 Bulgarian, 1 874 European, 4 306 American (USA) and 566 from other countries.

The biggest number of cinemas was found in statistical region Yugozapaden - 20 cinemas with 168 thousand screenings, visited by 3.0 million viewers. In the capital there were functioning 16 cinemas with 101 screens and there were screened 3 011 films.

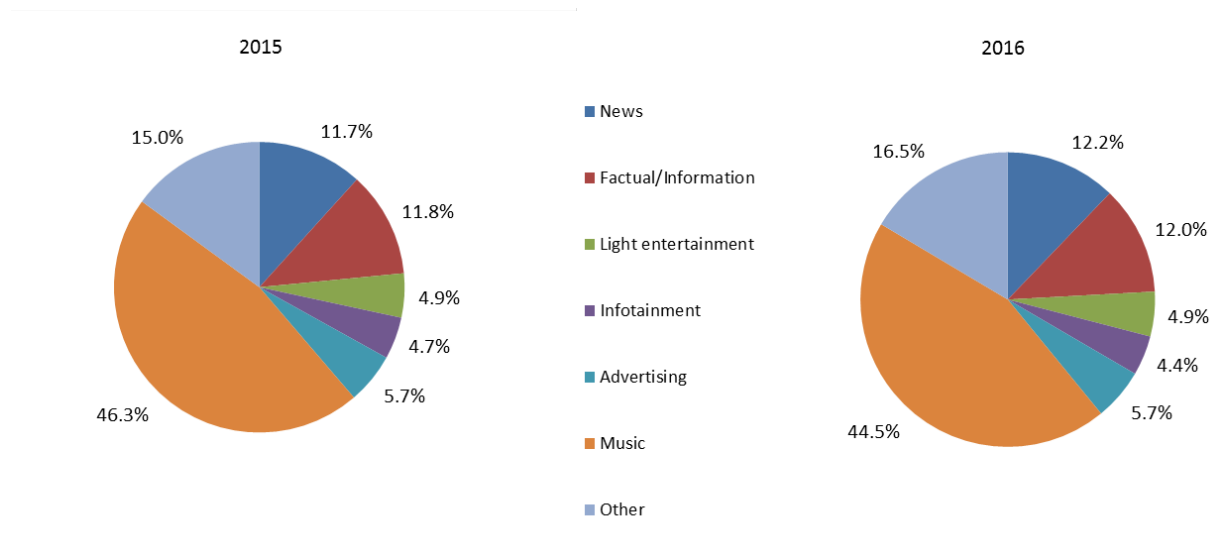
## 6. Radio programmes activities

In 2016 there were operating 84 licensed and registered radio operators in the country, which broadcast 710.3 thousand hours radio broadcasts, or 0.8% (5.7 thousand hours) more in comparison with 2015. The biggest share of radio broadcasts was those of the musical ones - 44.5%, followed by 'News' (bulletins, commentaries, sporting news and forecasts) with 12.2% and 'Factual/Information' broadcasts - 12.0%. The share of 'Art and culture' broadcast was 2.2% and of 'Educational' broadcasts - 1.3%. Broadcast advertisements were 5.7% (40.3 thousand hours) of all transmissions.

<sup>1</sup> Static cinema with 8 or more screens.



**Figure 7. Structure of radio broadcasts by type**



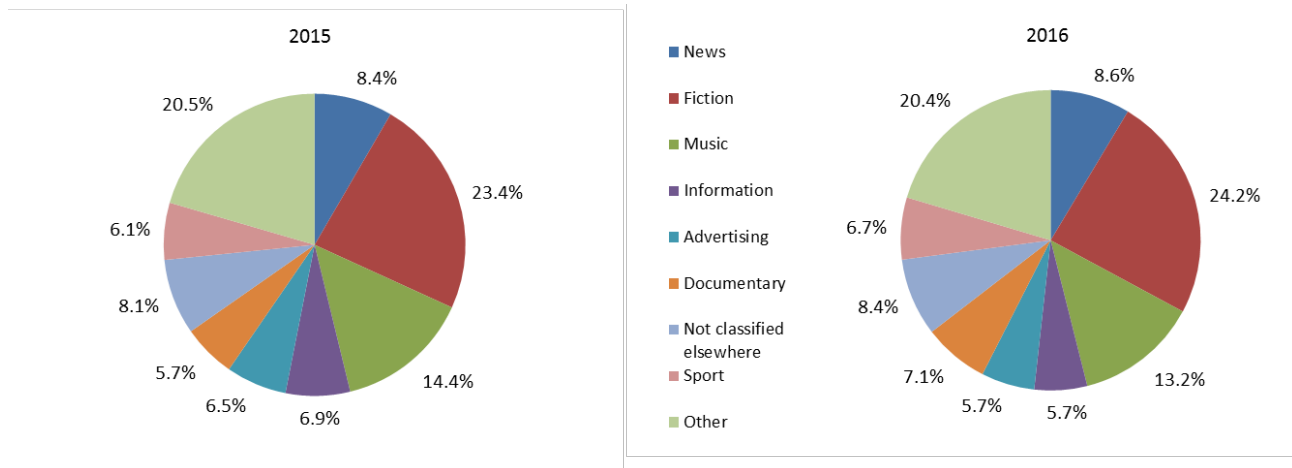
## 7. Television programmes activities

In 2016 in the country there were operating 121 licensed and registered Bulgarian TV operators, which was with 5 more than in the previous year. Terrestrial, cable and satellite televisions broadcasted totally 783.5 thousand hours of programmes or 7.1% more in comparison with 2015. The specialized programmes were distributed in hours as follows:

- Fiction programmes (feature, television and video films) - 190.0 thousand hours (24.2% of the total number);
- Music programmes - 103.5 thousand hours (13.2%);
- News (bulletins, commentaries, sporting news and forecasts) - 67.4 thousand hours (8.6%);
- Advertisements - 45.0 thousand hours (5.7%);
- Education programmes - 11.0 thousand hours (1.4%).



**Figure 8. Structure of TV broadcasts by type**







## Methodological notes

Information on the activities of **museums** is a result of regularly conducted annual survey. Their activity is characterized by: museum stock units, visitors, cultural and educational activities of museums, personnel, revenues and expenditures and material-technical base of museums.

Activity of **performing arts** is object of a separate annual statistical survey. Units of observation are theatres, operas, operettas, circuses, musical formations, companies and associations which organize and hold recitals and concerts (pop music, folk, symphonic, chamber, choral, brass bands mixed and others). Their activity covers the following main characteristics: stages, seating capacity, performances, visitors, staging by nationality of the author, including new staging.

Activity of **libraries** with over 200 thousand library units is object of an annual statistical observation. Their activity has the following main breakdowns of characteristics: library collection (books, continued editions and other library documents), readers, visits, library loan collection, personnel, revenues and expenditures, computers, area of libraries.

Statistical data for the **film production** are collected annually by the National Film Centre and private producers. Their activity is mainly characterized by produced films, incl. videos, films for cinema network and television. The activity of **cinemas** includes the following main characteristics - cinema seats, screens, screenings, visitors, revenues from tickets. Moving film clubs and cinemas are not observed.

Activity of **radio and TV operators** includes the following main characteristics - the programs by type/genre in hours, incomes and expenditures.

More information and data on culture can be found on the NSI website, Statistical data Rubric, theme Culture (<http://www.nsi.bg/en/content/4526/>) and Information System 'Infostat' ([https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x\\_2=36](https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x_2=36)).



## Annex

**Table 1**

### Cultural institutions in the country

	2014		2015		2016	
	Number	Visits - in thousands	Number	Visits - in thousands	Number	Visits - in thousands
Libraries	48	4009	48	4184	47	4315
Museums	204	4781	201	4763	195	5230
Theatres	72	2302	75	2169	75	2295

**Table 2**

### Film production in 2016

(Number)

	Total	Films produced by direction				
		For cinema network	For the television			
			Total	Television films	TV series	
					Total	Episodes
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Full-length films</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>
Feature films	22	20	2	1	1	12
Documentary films	12	12	-	-	-	-
Cartoon films	1	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Short- and medium-length films</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>94</b>
Feature films	8	5	3	1	2	94
Documentary and educational films	46	6	40	40	-	-
Cartoon films	17	17	-	-	-	-