

CONNECTING THE DOTS - #YES THIS IS AN ARTS STORY

Dance Data Project®



April 2021

“ Everything we worked for, that has taken 25 years, could be lost in a year. ”
-UN Women Deputy Executive Director Anita Bhatia.
([BBC, November 2020](#))

Performing Arts & Culture

- The arts & culture sector have endured \$15.2 billion in financial losses (admissions, non-admissions and expenditures), as performing arts organizations are also dealing with an additional estimated \$15.5 billion reduction in sales and audience spending. ([AFTA, The Economic Impact of Coronavirus on the Arts & Culture Sector, February 2021](#))
- [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) reports nation's arts & culture sector is \$878 billion industry supporting 5.1 million jobs, 4.5% of GDP. ([AFTA ArtsBlog, December 2020](#))
 - 35% of institutions have laid off staff.
 - 41% of not for profits arts & culture organizations open.
 - Museums are at 66% v. performing arts at 26%.
- Employment in New York City's arts, entertainment and recreation sector plummeted by 66% from Dec. 2019 to Dec. 2020. ([New York Times, February 2021](#))
- 55% of dancers unemployed by end of Q3 in 2020 when unemployment rate was 8.5%. ([New York Times, January 2021](#))
- Total giving to the arts dropped 14% last year, more donors to the arts, amounts are shrinking ([TRG Arts "COVID -19 Sector Benchmark: Insight Report October 2020"](#))
- From April to July 2020- Fine and Performing Arts Cluster lost 1.38 Million jobs (50%) and \$42.5 Billion in sales (27%). ([Brookings Institution's Lost Art: Measuring COVID-19's devastating impact on America's creative economy, August 2020](#))
- Women represent 65% of the arts & culture sector in NYC, men represent 31%. Leadership: 51% of executive leadership and 50% of board members identify as female. ([SMU/DataArts: NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Workforce Demographics Pilot Study Results, July 2019](#))

“ The bigger the wage gap across spouses, the smaller the labor supply of the secondary earner, which is typically the wife. ”
— Stefania Albanesi, economics professor at the University of Pittsburgh ([New York Times, October 2020](#))

Women & the Workforce

- The WEF estimates now post-pandemic that it would take 267.6 years to close the world's gender economic gap, while reaching gender equity in politics would take 145.5 years, an increase of 36 years from before Covid-19. ([World Economic Forum, March 2021](#))
- 4,637,000 payroll jobs lost by women in the U.S. since the pandemic began. ([New York Times: The Primal Scream, January 2021](#))
- Net job loss of 100% for U.S. women in December 2020. Current unemployment rates are the worst among women of color (Latinas 9.1%, Black women 8.4%, White women 5.7%). ([CNN, January 2021](#))
- Women have suffered the majority of pandemic-related job losses: since February 2020, women have lost over 5.4 million net jobs, and account for 55.0% of overall net job loss since the start of the crisis. ([National Women's Law Center, January 2021](#))
- Women are leaving the workforce at 4 times the rate of men. ([NPR, October 2020](#))
- As of October 2020, 2.2 million fewer women in the workforce versus October 2019. ([Rand Corporation, "Women Leaving the Labor Force in Record Numbers", November 2020](#))
- For every 100 men promoted to manager, only 85 women, this number is 58 for Black women, and 71 for Latinas. ([McKinsey and Company, Women in the Workplace, July 2020](#))
- Two in four Mothers, and three in four Black Mothers, are Breadwinners for their Families. ([IWPR Breadwinner Mothers by Race/Ethnicity, April 2020](#))
- A gender pay gap already existed in the gig economy before the pandemic. Discrimination and lower pay expectations may have contributed to women undervaluing their labor. ([Columbia, The Gender Pay Gap Persists in the Gig Economy, March 2020](#))

“ Although their incomes are above poverty levels, dancers/choreographers are the artists closest to poverty—their ratio was 2.2. In fact, 46 percent of dancers/choreographers have incomes at less than twice their poverty thresholds. ”

-Artists and Other Cultural Workers: A Statistical Portrait, National Endowment for the Arts, April 2019



Home Obligations: Housework, Elder/Sick Care, and Child Care, Home Schooling

- Women say healthcare, the economic recession, and jobs must be top priorities for the Biden Administration and Congress." Across race and ethnicity, 69% of women surveyed strongly support paid sick and time away from work to have a child, recover from serious health condition, or to care for a family member." (IWPR Women's Priorities and Economic Impact Survey, February 2021)
- 66% of mothers with partners say they are chiefly responsible for childcare, compared with 24% of fathers. (New York Times, February 2021)
- 70% of women say they're fully or mostly responsible for housework during lockdown, and 66 percent say so for child care - roughly the same shares as in typical times. (New York Times, May 2020)
- Nearly half of men think they do most of homeschooling, only 3% of women agree. Men consistently overestimate how much they contribute. (New York Times, May 2020)
- Women do 2 hours a day more housework than men (Today Show, January 2020)
- U.S. working families currently lose \$22.5 billion in wages annually due to lack of paid family and medical leave. (Center for American Progress, January 2020)
- 29% of women in the US out-earn their husbands. "But the more economically dependent men are on their wives, the less housework they do. Even women with unemployed husbands spend considerably more time on household chores than their husbands." (The Atlantic, May 2019)
- Most men (54%) and women (49%) say that women provide the majority of childcare. (Boston College Center for Work and Family, 2019)
- 67% of voters favor a proposal in current legislation that would provide a more expansive system of paid family and medical leave that would be supported by a new payroll tax and would be permanent. (University of Maryland Program for Public Consultation, April 2020)

Pay Gap in the Arts & Dance

- The National Endowment for the Arts estimates the median salary of choreographers and dancers in the U.S. is \$31,150. (Artists and Other Cultural Workers: A Statistical Portrait, National Endowment for the Arts, April 2019)* A more recent calculation of \$36,500 by the NEA staff appeared in the article "A 'Great Cultural Depression' Looms for Legions of Unemployed Performers."+ (New York Times, December 2020)
- On average female artistic directors make \$.63 to every dollar made by their male counterparts in the Top 50 companies, if they can get the job at all. (2020 Artistic and Executive Leadership Report, Dance Data Project®, March 2020)
- Average male choreographer/ dancer salary is \$42,551, while female choreographers/ dancers make \$25,312 on average. The average salary for a workforce of 15,700 is \$28,828, according to a study by Deloitte and Datawheel.* (DataUSA.io)
- A \$13,000 wage gap exists between men and women in the arts. (An Asymmetrical Portrait: Exploring Gendered Income Inequality in the Arts, March 2016)

“ We live in a country ... that has left it to individuals to figure out their family caregiving arrangements on their own. ... There were never the structures in place to help us and to provide for working families in this country in the way that there are elsewhere. ”

-Claire Cain Miller, New York Times Reporter (NPR Fresh Air, February 2021)

*DDP notes a discrepancy in choreographer/dancer median salaries from the NEA's "Artists and Other Cultural Workers: A Statistical Portrait" study and DataUSA. Both organizations used U.S. Census data from 2012-2016 and ACS PUMS estimates. The NEA's numbers are adjusted to 2016 dollar values, while the DataUSA numbers reflect salaries based on 2018 dollar values.
+ Reporter Patricia Cohen stated in an email to DDP dated January 26, 2021 that she had obtained updated information regarding dancer/choreographer median salary from NEA staff.