



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
Arts Council of Wales

Performing and Touring Companies

Arts Portfolio Wales Survey 2016/17



Noddir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Government

Bianco, NoFit State, Southbank Centre, London
(image: Tristram Kenton)

Attendance at performances by Arts Portfolio Wales organisations increased from 691,997 in 2015/16 to 900,654 in 2016/17, up by almost a third (30.2%).

In this section we are interested in all Performing/Touring Companies that produce any kind of performance work for the public. This includes all touring companies (music, opera, dance and theatre), any venues with resident production companies and Arts in Education companies.

In total 33 Arts Portfolio Wales organisations performed

559

productions in 2016/17.



There were

3,131

performances of these productions
with an attendance of

900,654



Madam Butterfly, Welsh National Opera
(image: Jeremy Abrahams)

Productions

In total
33
organisations performed
559
productions in 2016/17.



This has increased by
14.8%
from 487, since 2015/16.

Two Community Arts Organisations accounted for the majority of the increase in productions in 2016/17. These productions tend to deliver one off shows, as opposed to a run of shows.



Of all the productions performed in 2016/17,
69.9%
were performed for the first time.

This is higher than the 53.2% of all productions in 2015/16.

Both the number of productions performed for the first time and number of productions targeted at children and young people increased from the previous year, up 51.0% and 22.4% respectively.

	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
Total number of Productions	487	559	14.8
Number of Productions performed for the first time	259	391	51.0
Number of Productions targeted at children and young people	67	82	22.4

Base= 34 organisations 2015/16 and 33 organisations in 2016/17

New Commissions

The level of new work remains consistent with previous years.

In total there were
109
 new commissions in 2016/17,
 3 less than the previous year.

The majority (79.8%) of newly commissioned work was from artists based in Wales. However, new commissions from artists based outside Wales experienced a larger year on year increase, up by 83.3% from 2015/16.

	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
Total number of new commissions	112	109	-2.7
% of all productions which were new commissions	23.0	19.5	-
New commissions from artists based in Wales	100	87	-13.0
New commissions from artists based outside Wales	12	22	83.3

Base= 34 organisations 2015/16 and 33 organisations in 2016/17

Two fifths (38.5%) of all new commissions were written in English in 2016/17, with a further fifth (20.2%) being written in Welsh.

New Commissions	English		Welsh		Bilingual		Other Language		Language not Relevant	
	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17
Total number of new commissions	51	42	29	22	5	6	0	2	27	37
New commissions from artists based in Wales	42	22	27	21	4	6	0	1	27	37
New commissions from artists based outside Wales	9	20	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0

Base= 34 organisations 2015/16 and 33 organisations in 2016/17

Performances

Arts Portfolio Wales organisations
toured more performances in 2016/17
than in 2015/16, up by

18.7%



In total there were

3,131

performances by touring companies.

61%

of performances in 2016/17
were performed in Wales compared to

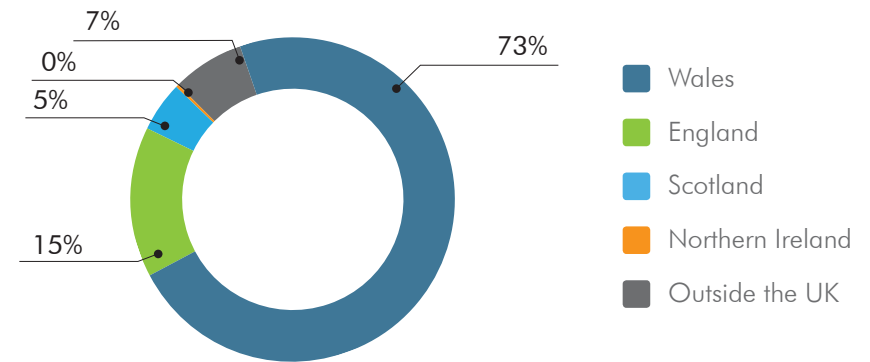
73%

in 2015/16.

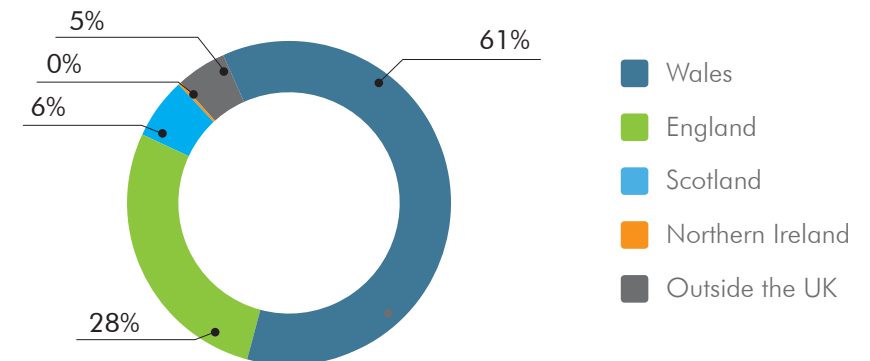
Performances in England saw the highest year on year increase from 393 in 2015/16 to 882 in 2016/17, with these accounting for 28% of all touring companies' performances.

The number of performances outside of the UK dropped by a quarter (-24.2%) to 147 in 2016/17.

2015/16



2016/17



Attendances

Attendance at performances by Arts Portfolio Wales organisations increased from 691,997 in 2015/16 to

900,654

in 2016/17, up by almost a third (30.2%).

The increase in attendance has been driven by the activity primarily of two organisations.

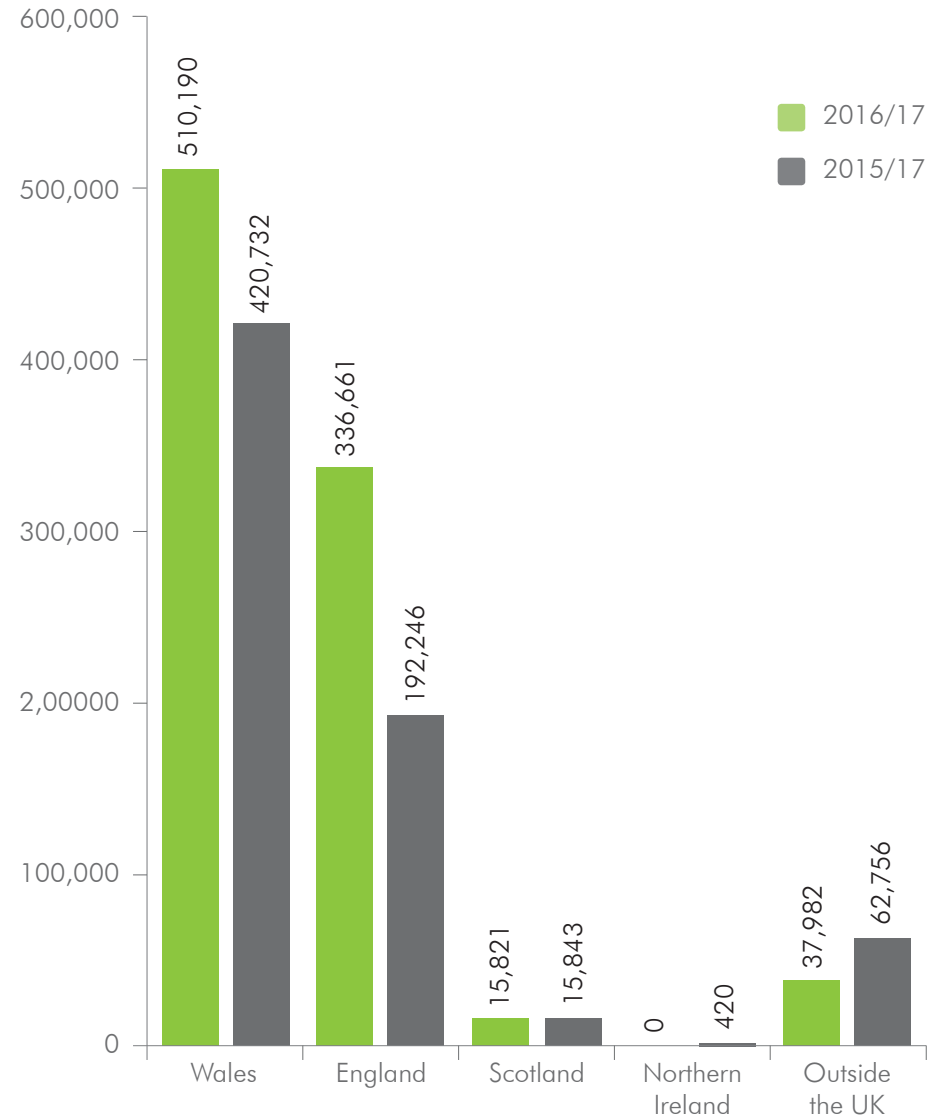
While the number of performances in Wales remained similar to the previous year (1,922 in 2015/16 and 1,921 in 2016/17), attendances to these performances increased by a fifth (21.3%) to 510,190 in 2016/17. One organisation in 2016/17 experienced attendances in Wales three times greater than the previous year despite not performing as many times as 2015/16.

In terms of attendance, the greatest year on year increase was experienced by those performances in England, up by

75.1%

in 2016/17.

One organisation more than trebled its attendances to performances in England from the previous year due to a higher number of co-productions and touring. This accounts for the majority of this increase.



Attendance per Performance

In 2016/17 the pattern of attendances changed to show the overall average attendance per performance had increased from the previous year – up 9.7%.

The average attendance per performance in Wales was the only region to experience an increase in 2016/17.



On average there were

266

attendances per performance
in 2016/17 compared

219

attendances per performance in
Wales in 2016/17 compared to

21.3%

While the total number of attendance at performances in England experienced the greatest year on year increase in 2016/17, the average number of attendance per performance fell by a fifth (22.0%). This is due to the greater number of performances in England also.

	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
Attendance in Wales	218.9	265.6	21.3
Attendance in England	489.2	381.7	-22.0
Attendance in in Scotland	128.8	87.4	-32.1
Attendance in Northern Ireland	70.0	0	-100.0
Attendance outside of the UK	323.5	258.4	-20.1
Total Attendance	262.3	287.7	9.7

Base= 34 organisations 2015/16 and 33 organisations in 2016/17

Language of Performance

In 2016/17 the majority of performances continue to be presented in English

63.7%

while Welsh language performances accounted for

11.5%

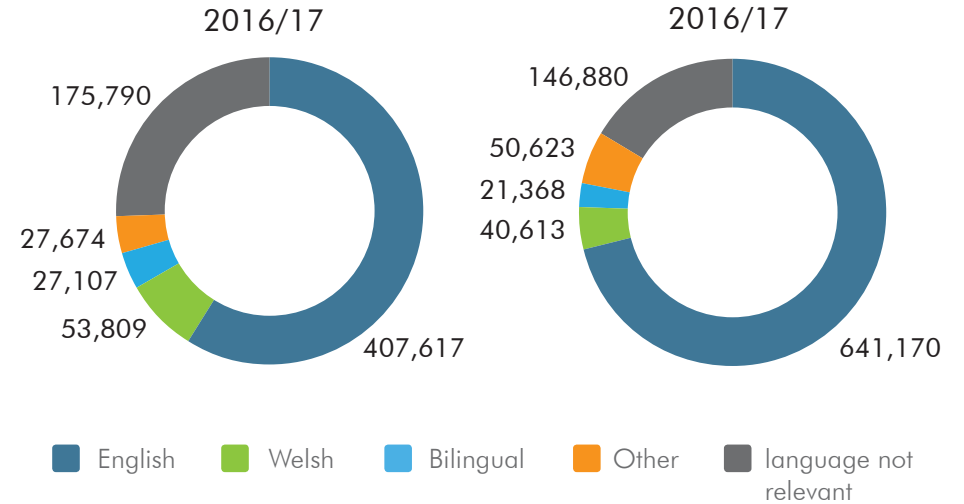
of all performances in 2016/17.

Attendance to English language performances increased by over a half (57.3%) in 2016/17 to 641,170 giving an average attendance per performance of 321.

	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
Total Performances	2,638	3,131	18.7
Performances in English	1,538	1,996	29.8
Performances in Welsh	482	360	-25.3
Performances bilingual	151	187	23.8
Performances other	68	65	-4.4
Performances language not relevant	399	523	31.1

Base= 34 organisations 2015/16 and 33 organisations in 2016/17

Attendance to Performances



	2015/16	2016/17	% Change
Total Attendance to performances	691,997	900,654	30.2
Attendance to performances in English	407,617	641,170	57.3
Attendance to performances in Welsh	53,809	40,613	-24.5
Attendance to performances bilingual	27,107	21,368	-21.2
Attendance to performances other	27,674	50,623	82.9
Attendance to performances language not relevant	175,790	146,880	-16.4

Base= 34 organisations 2015/16 and 33 organisations in 2016/17

Performances in Schools

While the overall number of productions targeted at children and young people overall increased from 67 in 2015/16 to

82

in 2016/17, the number of performances by touring organisations for schools fell from 662 to

638

in 2016/17.

Attendances at these performances for schools also decreased, down by 6.8% from 2015/16 to 67,162. This gives an average attendance per performance in 2016/17 of 105.



Taliesin Dance Days, Swansea city centre
(image: Robert Melen Photography)

Families

There were

83

productions specifically targeted at families in 2016/17, up from 42 productions in 2015/16. In total there were

657

performances of these productions, with attendances of

217,880

Street Performances

13 Arts Portfolio Wales organisations presented street performances of their work in 2016/17.

The estimated attendance at these events totalled

60,538

a 7.1% increase from 2015/16.

Touring performances targeted at those in the Protected Characteristics Groups

The Equality Act 2010 means that the Arts Council of Wales has a legal responsibility to ensure that anyone working as an employee for, or using a service provided by, an arts organisation in receipt of our funding is treated fairly. The protected characteristics include: disability, gender, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, age. We target the over 50s and children and young people within the 'age' component of protected characteristics.

Targeted performances
accounted for
21.3%
of all performances in 2016/17,
compared to
23.4%
% in 2015/16.

While the number of targeted performances increased from 618 in 2015/16 to 668 in 2016/17, attendance at these targeted performances dropped by -17.0% to 74,917.



Of the
668
targeted performances by Arts Portfolio Wales
Organisations over three quarters (76.6%) were
targeted at Children and Young People

There were three times more performances targeted at Older people (50+) in 2016/17.

	Performances by Touring Companies		Attendances		% Change	
	2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17	Events	Attendances
Disabled People	46	23	13,900	10,467	-50.0	-23.4
As % of all targeted Performances	7.4	3.4	15.4	14.2		
Black & Minority Ethnic groups	4	3	873	227	-25.0	-74.0
As % of all targeted Performances	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.3		
Children and young people	514	512	58,233	55,046	-0.4	-5.5
As % of all targeted Performances	83.2	76.6	64.5	73.5		
Older people (50+)	36	103	16,461	7,634	186.1	-53.6
As % of all targeted Performances	5.8	15.4	18.2	10.2		
Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual people	18	17	835	603	-5.6	-27.8
As % of all targeted Performances	2.9	2.5	0.9	0.0		
Pregnant women and new mothers	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
As % of all targeted Performances	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
People with specific religious beliefs or other purposes connected to religion	0	10	0	760	100.0	100.0
As % of all targeted Performances	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.0		
Transgender people who have undergone or are under-going gender re-assignment	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
As % of all targeted Performances	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Total targeted Performances	618	668	90,302	74,917	8.1	-17.0

Base= 31 organisations 2015/16 and 31 organisations in 2016/17