

# Adult Education Survey 2006

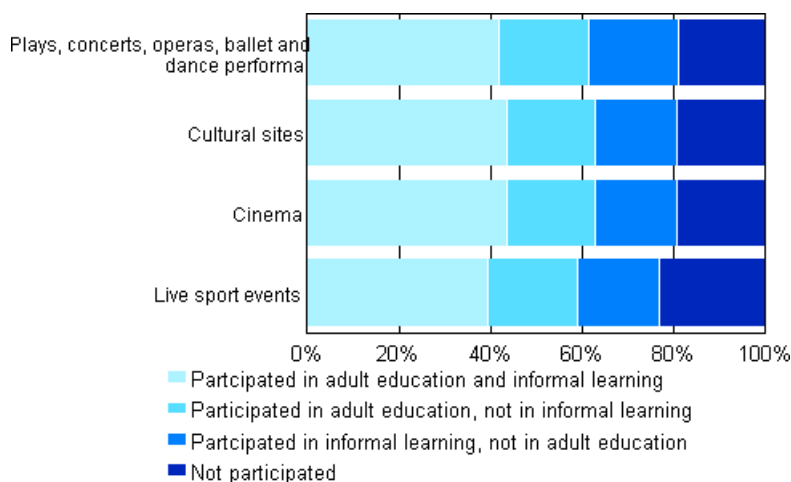
## Participation in cultural and sports events in Finland

### Participants in adult education are active attendants of cultural events

According to Statistics Finland's Adult Education Survey, more than one-half of the population aged 25 to 64 in Finland participate in some education or training during the year and even a higher proportion improve their skills and knowledge through informal learning. Besides in training and education the adult population in Finland also participate actively in cultural and sports events.

According to the 2006 Adult Education Survey, nearly two out of three, (64%) of the population aged 25 to 64 in Finland had been to the theatre, concerts, the opera, ballet or a dance performance at least once during the year. Slightly more than one-half (53%) had been to museums or art exhibitions as well as to the cinema (52%). Slightly fewer than one in two, (47%) of the population of this age had attended sports competitions or events.

**Figure 1. Attendance of cultural and sports events during the year according to participation in adult education and in informal learning in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64 having attended such events)**



Informal learning of adults often takes place in various everyday environments, such as in connection with hobbies or by visiting museums or similar places of historical or scientific interest. Only activity in which the original objective was learning is regarded as informal learning. Naturally, a lot of learning also takes place without the clear existence of such an objective. For this reason, attendance of cultural events, for instance, can be regarded as life-long learning and increasing of human capital.

Education tends to accumulate, in other words, persons who already have high level of education receive most adult education and training. Goal-oriented informal learning is also commonest among those who have also participated in adult education and training. Two out of three of those who participated in informal learning had participated in adult education and training. Similar accumulation also happens with attendance of cultural and

sports events (Figure 1). Approximately two out of five of the persons who had attended cultural events had participated in adult education and training and in informal learning during the past 12 months. Two out of five had either participated in adult education and training or studied otherwise. Only one out of five of those who had attended cultural events had not participated in adult education and training or in informal learning. In respect of sports events, the situation is fractionally more even than this.

Participation in adult education and training and in informal learning not only correlated with general attendance of cultural events but also with the frequency of such attendances. Sixteen per cent of those having participated in adult education and training and in informal learning had been to the theatre, a concert, the opera, ballet or a dance performance at least seven times during the year. By contrast, only four per cent of the adult population who had neither participated in adult education and training nor in informal learning had attended such events at least seven times. In respect of visits to the cinema the corresponding figures were nine and four per cent, and in respect of visits to museums and art exhibitions 10 and one per cent. Sports events had been attended at least seven times by 18 per cent of those who had both participated in adult education and training and in informal learning, and by 12 per cent of those who had done neither.

Employed persons and women attended cultural events and men sports events more frequently than the average.

The Adult Education Survey is an [EU harmonised survey](#) which was conducted in 29 countries between 2005 and 2008. Internationally comparable data on attendance of cultural and sports events are not yet available at the time of writing this release. Eurostat will publish them during this spring.

Results concerning participation in cultural hobbies over the 1991-2009 period will be published from Statistics Finland's Time Use Survey at the end of November 2010.

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## Attendance of performances, exhibitions and sports events

Learning new things often also takes place at diverse shows, exhibitions and sports events. Attendance of such events can be learning-oriented so that the original motive for visiting them was to learn something new. Naturally, learning also takes place otherwise in their context as so-called incidental learning.

### Number of attendants and frequency of attendance

Almost two out of three of the population aged between 25 and 64 in Finland had been to the theatre, a concert, the opera, ballet or dance performance in the course of the year in 2006 (Table 1). Good one-third had attended such events 1-3 times. More than half of the population aged 25 to 64 had been to the cinema at least once and one in three 1-3 times during the year. About the same number had visited museums and art exhibitions. Under one-half of the population of this age had attended sports events during the past 12 months.

The group having attended sports competitions or events contained the largest number of active persons who attended such events at least 12 times during the year. Their share among all persons having attended sports events was 11 per cent. Only a couple of per cent of the attendants of other events and exhibitions were this active.

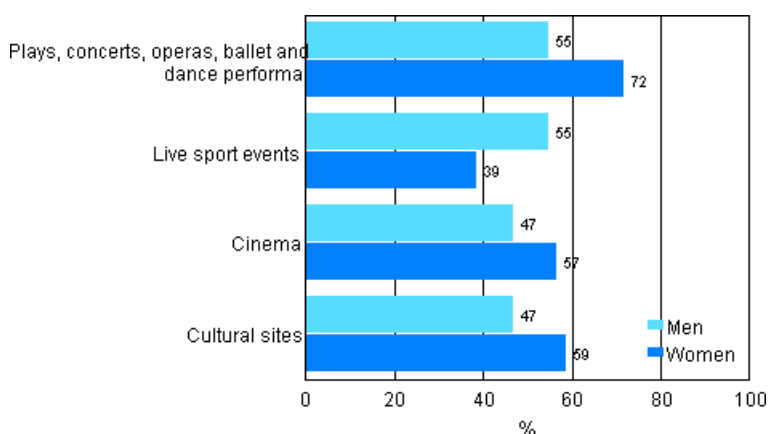
**Table 1. Attendance of diverse events, performances and exhibitions during the year in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64), %**

Event	Number of visits, %					Total
	No visits	1-3 times	4-6 times	7-12 times	More than 12 times	
Plays, concerts, operas, ballet and dance performance	36	39	14	7	4	100
Cinema	47	37	10	3	2	100
Cultural sites	48	34	11	5	2	100
Live sport events	53	24	9	5	11	100

### Impact of gender on attendance of cultural and sports events

Nearly six out of ten, or about 59 per cent, of women aged between 25 and 64 participated in adult education and training in 2006. Men's participation rate was clearly lower (47%) in this age group. Women also attended cultural events more actively than men (Figure 1). While nearly three out of four women between the ages of 25 and 64 had been to the theatre, a concert, the opera, ballet or a dance performance during the year, good one-half of men of the same age group had attended these events. Around six women in ten had visited museums, art exhibitions and the cinema. Around ten percentage points fewer men had attended these events. By contrast, men liked sports competitions and events, and about 55 per cent of men had attended them in the course of the year. The respective share was 16 percentage points lower among women.

**Figure 1. Attendance of various events during the year by gender in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64)**



## ***Impact of age on attendance of cultural and sports events***

People in the younger age group of 25 to 44 participated in adult education and training more during the year than their seniors in the 45 to 64 age group. Around six out of ten of them participated in adult education and training while slightly fewer (56%) of those between the ages of 45 and 54 did so. Fewer than four out of ten of the oldest examined age group of 55 to 64 participated in adult education. However, the impact of age on the attendance of diverse cultural events is not quite as clear as this, although certain differences by age group can be detected.

Age has a linear effect on a person's cinema attendance; the younger a person the more often he/she goes to the cinema. Around seven out of ten of the youngest examined age group of 25 to 34-year-olds had been to the cinema at least once during the year. Of the 35 to 44 age group around six out of ten, of those aged 45 to 54 under one-half and of the oldest group of 55 to 64-year-olds only about one in three had been to the cinema. The share of persons having been to the cinema more than 12 times during the year was also the highest in the youngest age group (5%). Among their senior age groups the share of such very active cinema-goers ranged from one to three per cent.

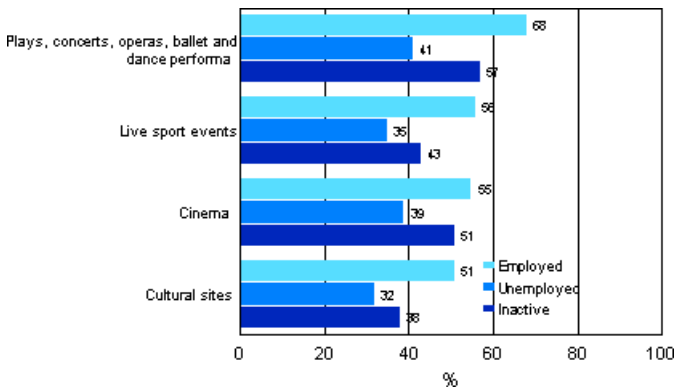
Age also influences the number and frequency of attendance of sports events. The share having attended sports events was the highest in the 35-44 age group, of whom 56 per cent had attended at least one sports event during the year. More than one in two persons in the youngest age group had also been to some sports event. The two oldest age groups contained clearly fewer persons who had attended sports events: around 46 per cent in the 45-54 age group and even ten percentage points less than this in the 55-64 age group. The number having attended sports events more than 12 times in the past year was also the highest in the 35-44 age group (15% of the age group). There were fewer than one in ten (9%) of these very active followers of sports events among people younger than this, in the 45-54 age group their share was about 12 per cent while only seven per cent of the 55-64 age group had been to at least 12 sports events during the year.

Age did not have a statistically significant correlation with attendance of theatre, concerts, opera, ballet or dance performances.

## ***Impact of labour market status on attendance of cultural and sports events***

In 2006, employed persons aged 25 to 64 participated in adult education and training clearly more than unemployed persons and persons not in the labour force. Whereas roughly six out of ten of them participated in adult education the respective ratio among unemployed persons and persons not in the labour force was only one in three. Employed persons between the ages of 25 and 64 had also attended shows, exhibitions and sports events more frequently than unemployed persons and persons outside the labour force in the same age group (Figure 2), although especially compared to persons outside the labour force the difference was not quite so clear. For example, whereas two out of three employed persons had attended the theatre, a concert, the opera, ballet or a dance performance during the year, the respective ratios were under six out of ten among persons outside the labour force and around four out of ten among unemployed persons. The same trend can also be observed in respect of other events: employed persons are the most active, persons outside the labour force come second, and unemployed persons third.

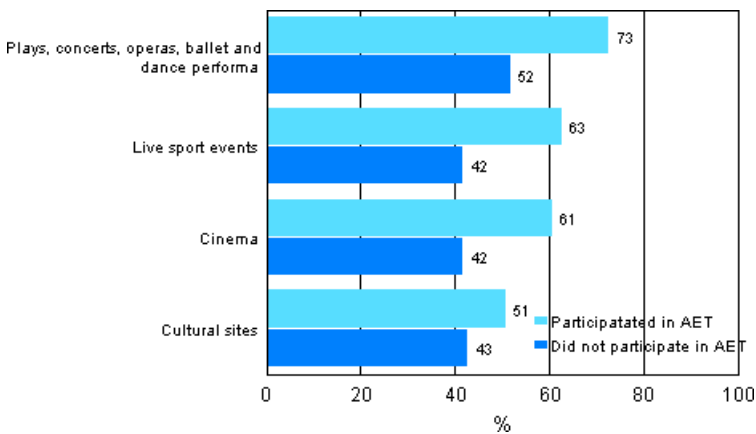
**Figure 2. Attendance of various events during the year by labour market status in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64)**



***Participation in adult education and training and attendance of cultural and sports events***

Participants in adult education and training during the year had attended various cultural and sports events more frequently than non-participants (Figure 3). The differences in favour of the participants are very clear. In attendance of various cultural events and going to the cinema the difference in favour of participants in adult education and training was around 20 percentage points. One out of two of those having participated in adult education and training had attended sports competitions or events while the respective share was just short of ten percentage point smaller among non-participants in adult education and training.

**Figure 3. Attendance of various events during the year by participation and non-participation in adult education and training (AET) in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64)**



## Appendix tables

**Table 1. Attendance of the theatre, a concert, the opera, ballet or a dance performance by gender (population aged 25 to 64), %**

Gender	Number of visits, %					
	No visits	1-3 times	4-6 times	7-12 times	More than 12 times	Total
Men	45	36	11	5	3	100
Women	28	42	18	8	5	100

**Table 2. Going to the cinema by gender in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64), %**

Gender	Number of visits, %					
	No visits	1-3 times	4-6 times	7-12 times	More than 12 times	Total
Men	53	30	10	4	2	100
Women	43	38	12	5	3	100

**Table 3. Visiting museums or art exhibitions by gender in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64), %**

Gender	Number of visits, %					
	No visits	1-3 times	4-6 times	7-12 times	More than 12 times	Total
Men	53	34	9	2	2	100
Women	41	41	11	4	3	100

**Table 4. Attendance of sports competitions or events by gender in 2006 (population aged 25 to 64), %**

Gender	Number of visits, %					
	No visits	1-3 times	4-6 times	7-12 times	More than 12 times	Total
Men	45	25	10	6	14	100
Women	61	22	7	3	8	100

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Suomen virallinen tilasto  
Finlands officiella statistik  
Official Statistics of Finland

*Education 2010*

*Inquiries*

*Timo Ruuskanen (09) 1734 3620*

*Irja Blomqvist (09) 1734 3221*

*Director in charge:*

*Riitta Harala*

*[aet.statistics@stat.fi](mailto:aet.statistics@stat.fi)*

*[www.stat.fi](http://www.stat.fi)*