AN UNEVEN RECOVERY: *RESULTS FROM THE 2022 NONPROFIT CONNECTICUT CULTURAL CENSUS*

While the Connecticut Cultural Fund has directly supported dramatic attendance growth and engagement at cultural institutions in Connecticut, pandemic recovery has been uneven.

The overall good news is that audiences are returning to Connecticut cultural institutions.
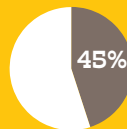
IN-PERSON VISITATION:

2019:	8.5 MILLION
2021:	4.6 MILLION
2022:	9.5 MILLION

But not all cultural institutions are seeing that attendance growth: **45% of Connecticut cultural organizations have not yet rebounded to pre-pandemic norms.**

45%

Additionally, there are two audience segments that have been slow to return:

PERFORMING ARTS

The performing arts in Connecticut continues to struggle with 2022 attendance about half that of 2019. Audience research indicates that some COVID (and flu) cautious audiences may not yet feel comfortable sitting for extended periods in crowded theaters or auditoriums, and they are instead spending their leisure time in settings that feel less risky.

PERFORMING ARTS ATTENDANCE:

2019:	2.2 MILLION
2021:	678,000
2022:	1.2 MILLION

-45%

PREK-12 FIELD TRIPS

School field trips also have seen persistent losses since 2019, as many schools have been slow to re-start field trips due to ongoing pandemic-related restrictions or other external constraints.

-45%

In-person field trips from PreK-12 students has rebounded some from the depths of the pandemic, but are still down 45% from 2019 norms.

2019:	1 MILLION STUDENTS
2021:	260,000
2022:	552,000

While the overall attendance figures for Connecticut cultural organizations are positive, we don't want to lose sight of the fact that some audience segments have declined significantly, and many organizations are still struggling to regain their audiences.

Additionally, the decline of in-person field trips is also of significant concern; for many children, field trips are the only opportunity they have to explore, engage with, and learn from Connecticut's history, art, culture, and natural environment.

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