



2020 ARTIST IMPACT SURVEY

Key Takeaways

Data analyzed by Minerva Financial Arts.

OVERVIEW

The arts sector contributes \$8.4 billion to Indiana's economy, and Indiana's overall creative economy includes 160,000 jobs, over 87,000 of which are employees of arts organizations and businesses. Since the economic downturn as a result of the novel coronavirus, creative entrepreneurs and artists in Indiana have experienced challenges that threaten the economic stability of the arts and culture sector.

In order to understand individual artists' needs during this time, the Arts Council of Indianapolis, in partnership with the Indiana Arts Commission and more than 25 arts supporting organizations, distributed an online, state-wide survey. **The survey was open from May 12-29, 2020 and received 1,400 responses.**

THINGS ARE NOT GREAT, BUT CREATIVES WANT TO WORK.



79% of Indiana **creatives have been negatively impacted** by COVID-19.



53% of creatives are reporting a **significant loss of income** because of cancellations.

To creatives, meaningful support is contract, project commission, gig and **other paid opportunities**, and guidance on best practices for re-opening and re-engaging the audience and general public.



The most important need? Living expenses.

THOSE WHO "DON'T NEED SUPPORT" MAY SEE HARDSHIP SOON.

Of those who do not need support right now:



- 41% are still working (hours or sales may be lower than normal)
- 23% have family support
- 8% are retired
- 28% are using unemployment, emergency grants, or savings
 - Roughly 55% of respondents have less than three months of savings on hand
 - The extra \$600 Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation will end on July 25

Creatives want to be part of the solution.

Artists see the arts as a community benefit/unifier/force for positivity and social change.

Top Opportunities:

- Connecting communities/human expression
- Source of positivity/joy
- Solving problems



UNEMPLOYMENT IS A CHALLENGE.

About half of respondents consider themselves unemployed.

Of those that consider themselves unemployed:



- 16% have not applied for unemployment
- 33% have applied and are waiting for benefits
- 51% have received benefits

There is confusion about what makes creatives eligible for unemployment benefits. It's likely that not all creatives who are entitled to benefits are applying.

Confusion about the eligibility or process was the most common reason individuals who consider themselves unemployed had not yet applied for unemployment.

Wait times and administrative issues are common for individuals who have been approved to receive unemployment benefits. Creatives may not be fully capturing unemployment benefits from all sources of income (W-2 and freelance/1099)

Without the extra \$600 per week (ending July 25), many more will struggle financially.

