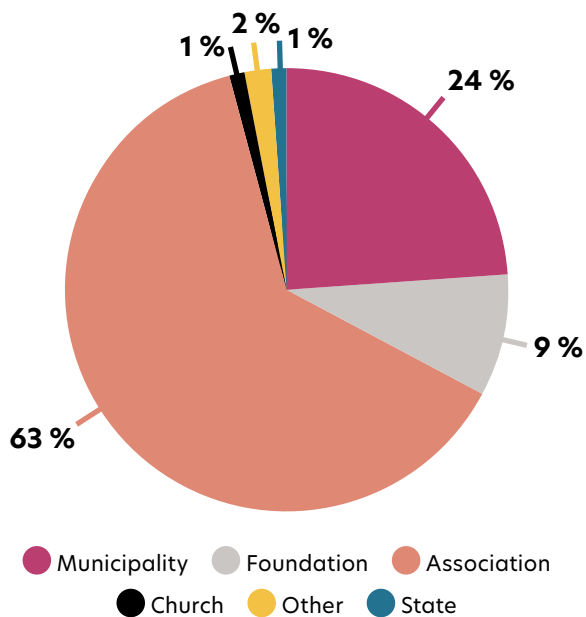


# Local museums in Finland 2021

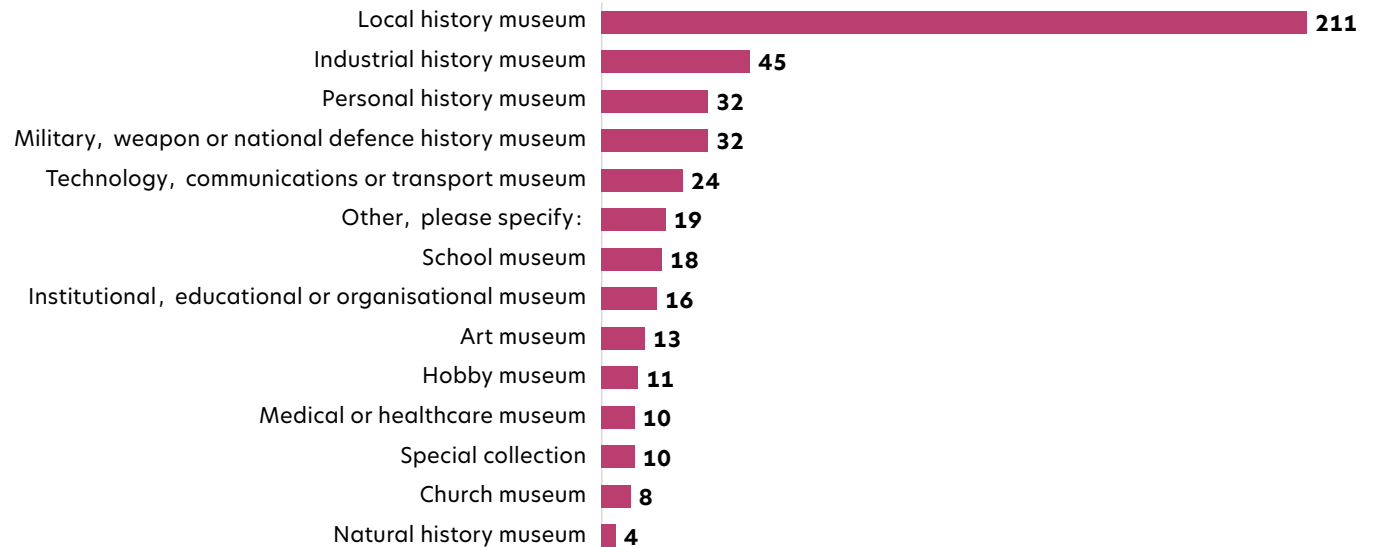
## Local museums in Finland

Local museums mainly refer to local history museums, specialised museums and other museums operated by volunteers or on a part-time basis. According to a more extensive survey conducted in 2012, there were approximately 730 local history museums and specialised museums owned by municipalities, associations and foundations and run by volunteers or on a part-time basis, in addition to which there are hundreds of privately-owned collections and museums in Finland.

### Museum operators



## Museum type of local museums (302 respondents)



Of the museums that responded to the survey,

# 70%

stated that they were of the local history museum type.



## Staff and volunteers at local museums

The organisation of the activities of local museums involves both paid employees and volunteers. Many of those employed by local museums are summer employees. Volunteers and community efforts help repair and maintain museum buildings, maintain and clean the museum area and organise events.

The respondent museums had a total of

# 388

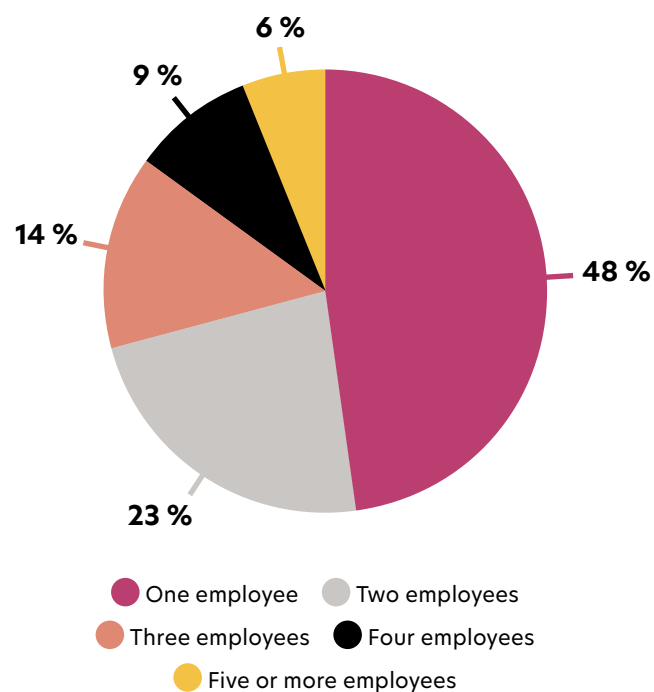
employees.

The respondent museums had more than

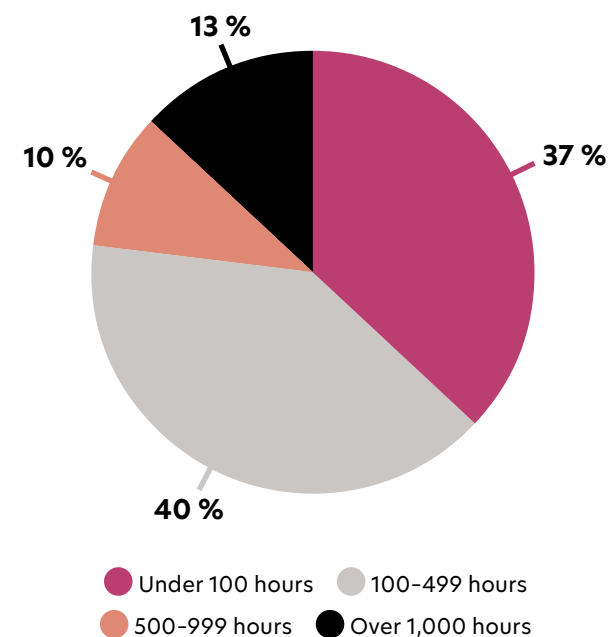
# 3,100

volunteers and community effort participants, working approximately 118,000 hours in total.

### Number of paid employees per museum (183 respondents)



### Number of volunteer and community effort hours per museum (171 respondents)



## Collections of local museums

### Artefact collections (265 respondents)

**637,000** cultural history artefacts  
**2,400** artefacts on average per museum

### Photo collections (173 respondents)

**754,273** photographs  
**4,360** photographs on average per museum

### Art collections (76 respondents)

**6,225** works of art  
**82** works of art on average per museum

### Natural scientific samples (28 respondents)

**109,558** samples  
**3,913** samples on average per museum

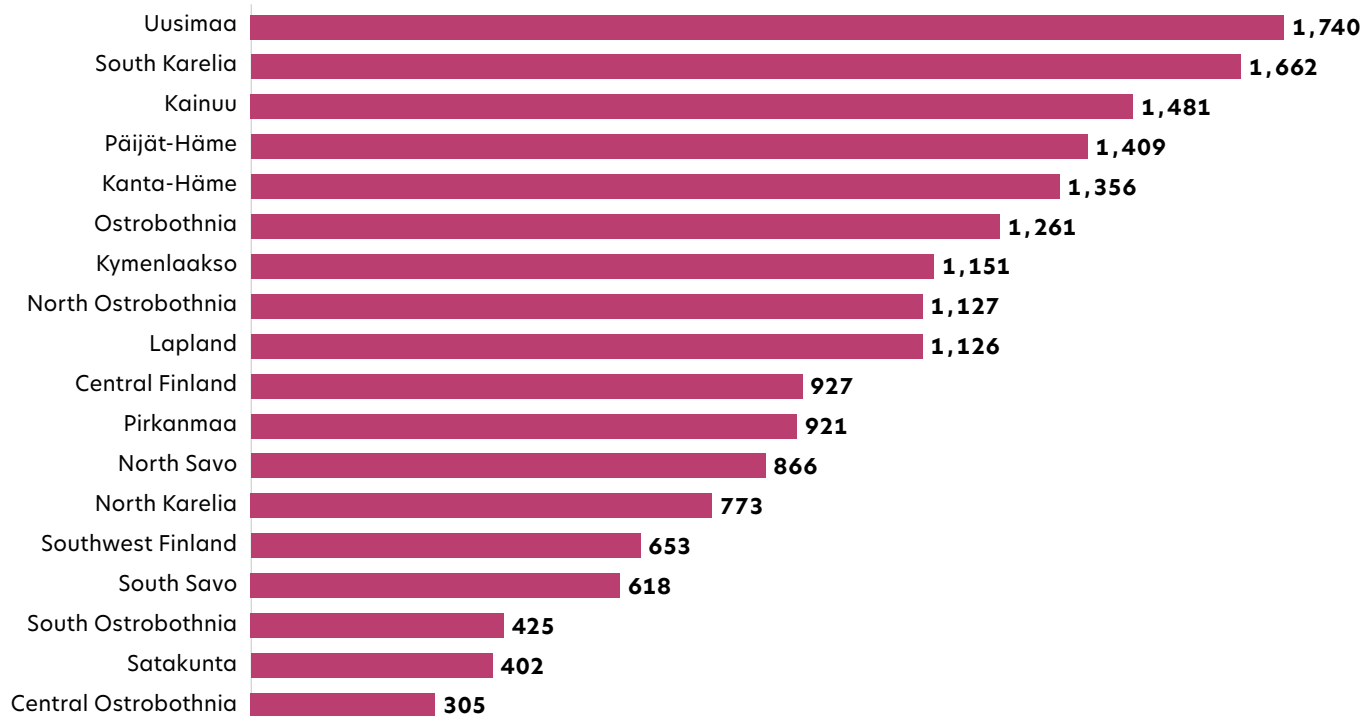


The respondent museums  
have a total of

**1.5  
million**

artefacts in their collections.

### Average museum visits by region



## Activities of local museums

Local museums are low-threshold cultural sites that are mainly open during the summer and rely largely on volunteer work. At their best, local museums are an active and communal part of local recreational and educational activities. They organise events, cooperate with schools and daycare centres, revitalise history and preserve common cultural heritage.

Events that were particularly popular in 2021 included concerts, fairs, theatre performances, themed and role-playing guided tours and children's Christmas paths.



Of the respondent museums,

**45%**

produced new exhibitions.

The respondent museums hosted

**1,161**

public events.

The respondent museums organised

**5,493**

guided tours.

## How is information about local museums collected?

The Finnish Heritage Agency compiles information about local museums in Finland approximately every five years. Information is collected for museums and their stakeholders as well as for research in the field. This time, the collection of statistics was postponed by one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The local museum survey for 2021 was conducted in spring 2022. Responses were requested from museums operated by the state, municipalities, associations, foundations, companies and various communities that do not respond to the annual Museum Statistics survey for professional museums. Responses were received from 302 museums.

### Sources

Rakkaudesta kulttuuriperintöön; Paikallismuseotoiminnan kehittämistyöryhmän loppuraportti 2012 ("For the love of cultural heritage; Final report of the local museum activities development workgroup 2012"), Ministry of Education and Culture: [http://www.minedu.fi/OPM/Julkaisut/2012/Rakkaudesta\\_kulttuuriperintoon.html](http://www.minedu.fi/OPM/Julkaisut/2012/Rakkaudesta_kulttuuriperintoon.html)

Local museum survey 2022, Finnish Heritage Agency: [www.museotilasto.fi](http://www.museotilasto.fi)

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