

Information on Artists

IOA is a 1988 survey of 10,000 artists (1,000 per site) in Boston, Cape Cod, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco and western Massachusetts to determine artists' work-related, human and social service needs. Areas of study include health coverage and insurance, life insurance, retirement plans, credit, live/work space, legal and financial service needs. The average response was 42%, with some locations as high as 48%.

Methodology included site visits to each location, the creation of a site inventory of organizations with artist constituents, and the creation of a random sample from four organizational lists in each city including a representative random sample from Actors' Equity Association in each location.

Some of the findings are:

- 92% of the respondents consider themselves professional artists and 50% earned their income as artists
- 42% have college degrees and 38% have graduate degrees
- Areas of greatest legal need are taxation and contracts
- Area of greatest financial need is taxation
- 60% have workspace in a building with residential zoning; 15% in a building zoned for commercial activity
- 49% get routine care from a private physician
- Over three-fourths earn under \$7,000 a year from their art and over half earn under \$20,000 individual gross income

The results are published in 12 reports: an executive summary, a report on Actors' Equity Association, and a report for each location.

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