



# **Mapping of youth theatre provision in Scotland 2015**

October 2015

## Table of Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Background and context .....</b>           | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Methodology.....</b>                       | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>KEY FINDINGS.....</b>                      | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>The national picture .....</b>             | <b>5</b>  |
| The geography of youth theatre.....           | 5         |
| Youth theatre numbers.....                    | 8         |
| Youth theatre participants.....               | 9         |
| Youth theatre organisations .....             | 10        |
| Youth theatre venues .....                    | 12        |
| Youth theatre activities.....                 | 13        |
| <b>The regional picture .....</b>             | <b>16</b> |
| Number of venues by region .....              | 16        |
| Number of weekly participants by region ..... | 19        |
| Number of staff by region.....                | 22        |
| Gaps in regional provision .....              | 22        |
| <b>Summary and recommendations .....</b>      | <b>26</b> |

### About Ruthless Research

This report has been compiled by Ruthless Research, an Edinburgh-based independent research consultancy, through which Ruth Stevenson provides a range of qualitative and quantitative research solutions to organisations who work for the benefit of the community.

**[www.ruthlessresearch.co.uk](http://www.ruthlessresearch.co.uk)**

## Background and context

Youth Theatre Arts Scotland (YTAS) wanted to undertake research to review the information that they hold about the youth theatre sector in Scotland, which will be used to inform their understanding of their stakeholders and explore ways to best engage with members and potential members working in the youth theatre sector in Scotland.

The following report comprises the findings from the first component part of this process – the sector mapping exercise.

### **The objectives of the mapping exercise were:**

- To gather a comprehensive picture of youth theatre provision across Scotland.
- To identify gaps in provision.
- To provide a narrative report identifying key findings and detailed analysis of the provision.

The report that follows discusses the findings from the mapping exercise, providing a snapshot of youth theatre provision in Scotland in autumn 2015.

## Methodology

A database was prepared using Microsoft Access, and this was used as the data collection tool for the mapping exercise. The fields for the database were agreed by Ruthless Research and YTAS at the start of the mapping exercise and these formed the basis of every entry. Planning consistent fields in this way ensured that the database was populated in a coherent manner using consistent fields from the outset, as well as making the fully populated database easier to search and analyse.

### The fields in the database were:

- Name of activity
- Venue / address
- Contact details
- Number of separate classes
- Type of group
- Whether includes adults aged 26+
- Charitable status
- Companies House registration status
- Age of young people
- Gender make-up
- Number of participants
- Cost to engage
- Whether provide financial support / subsidy
- Areas of focus
- Type of projects
- Number of staff
- Sources of income

The database was set up with ease of use and sustainability in mind. Data could be entered, viewed and searched via a data entry form, as well as in an exportable table format.

The database was populated by YTAS using information from questions within a short web survey sent out to YTAS contacts, with prompting or follow-up phone calls as required.

Database entries were made where it was clear that they had a youth theatre component, and an entry was made for each separate venue where youth theatre activity took place. This ensured that a geographic picture of youth theatre provision could be achieved.

In total, 215 venues were entered into the database and a further 126 venues were partially entered based on known non-responding groups.

The database contains the results of a focused search for youth theatre venues and activities in Scotland, however it may be that some venues or activities were missed or incomplete information was recorded if information was not provided when asked.

The analysis of this database was conducted by Ruthless Research and the findings are provided in the following report. As part of the analysis of the database, population figures have been based on mid-year estimates 2014 according to the National Records of Scotland<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://nationalrecordsotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2014>

## KEY FINDINGS

### The national picture

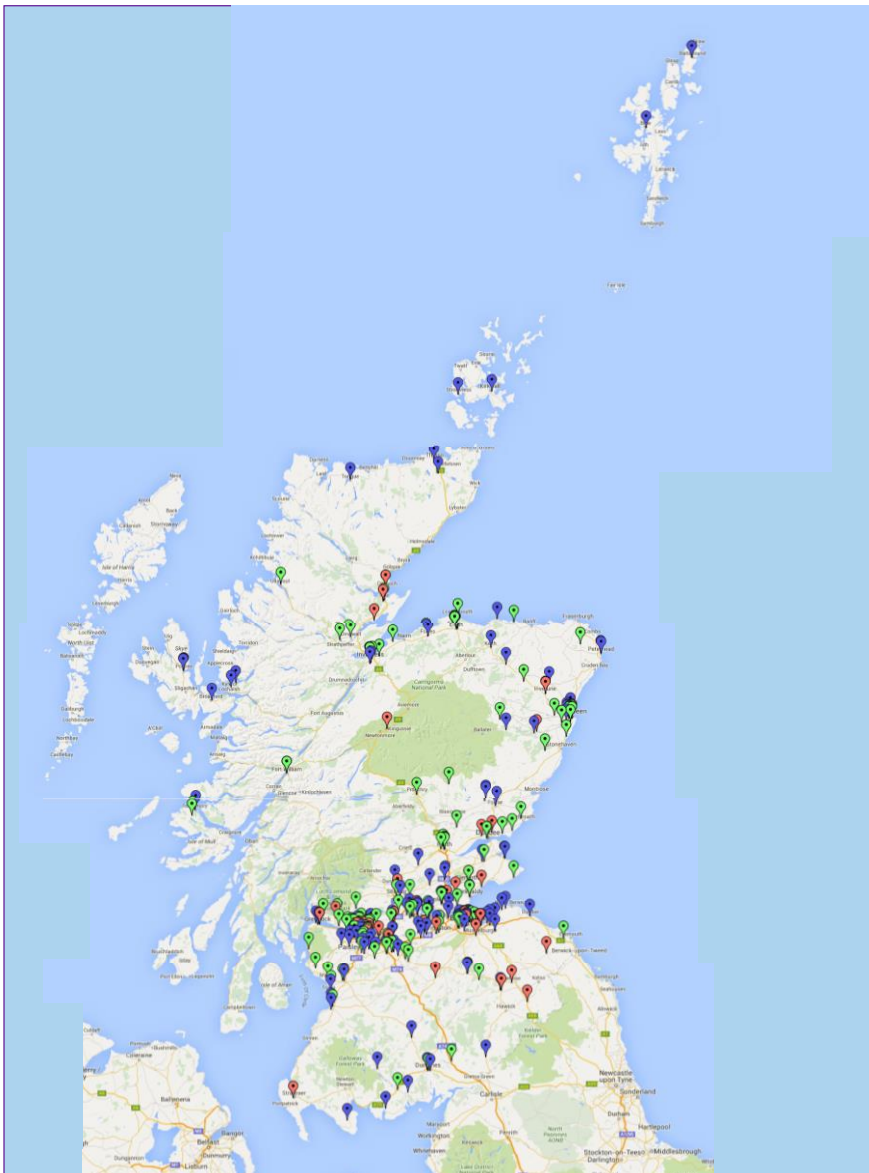
In total 341 youth theatre venues in Scotland were identified, and various details about them (as described above) were entered into the mapping database.

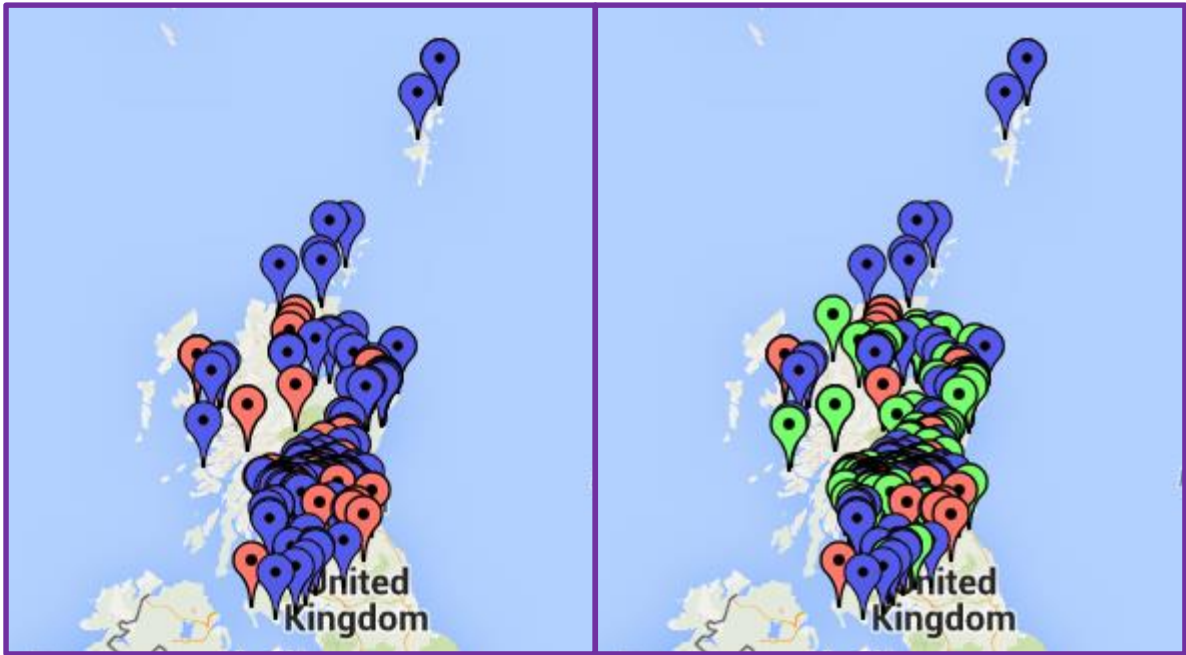
With a Scottish under 25 population of 1,603,331 and a database containing 341 venues, the mapping process has identified one youth theatre venue for every 4,701 members of the Scottish population aged under 25.

This section describes patterns in the composition of the complete database at the end of the data collection period.

### The geography of youth theatre

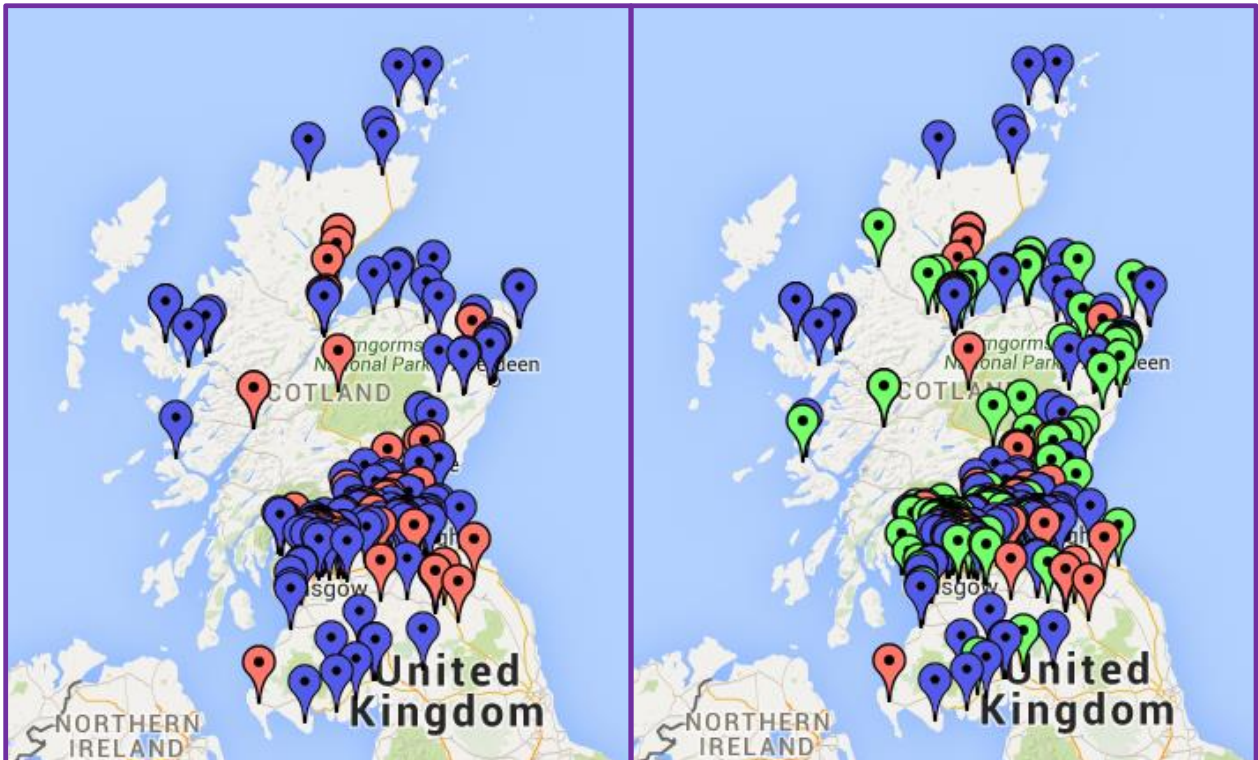
The following map shows the geographic distribution of the 341 youth theatre venues.



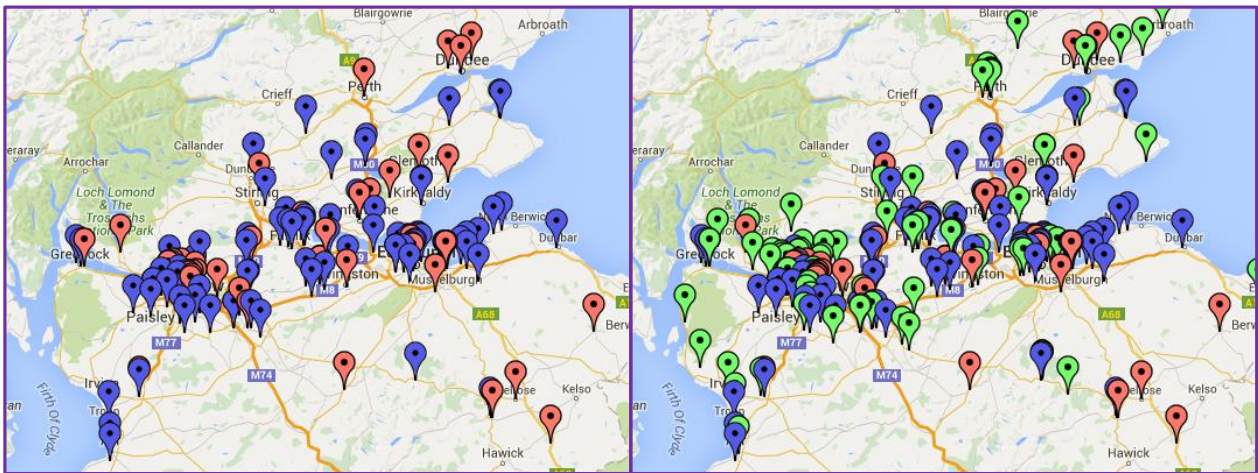


The map on the left shows the venues collected via the survey, with YMAS members (of which there are 70) marked in red and non-members marked in blue. The map on the right shows all 341 of the venues, including those that did not respond to the survey (marked in green).

The following map shows more detail for mainland Scotland.



The following map shows more detail for the central belt.



Mapping the identified youth theatre venues indicates a reasonable spread of activity across Scotland, with a cluster in the central belt and up the east coast.

## Youth theatre numbers

In the survey, respondents were asked to tell us about the number of people that were involved in their activities at each venue.

The following table provides information about the participants involved in youth theatre in Scotland.

|   | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>   |
|---|---------------|------------|
| Number of participants engaged weekly                         | 16,777        | 59         |
| Number of participants engaged in holiday or project activity | 11,702        | 41         |
| <b>Total number of participants engaged</b>                   | <b>28,479</b> | <b>100</b> |

In total the mapping exercise identified an estimated 28,479 young people involved in youth theatre in Scotland, of which 16,777 (59%) attend weekly.

An estimated 12,455 of these young people attend activities run by YTAS members, of which 6,022 attend activities run by YTAS members weekly.

The following table provides information about the staff and volunteers involved in youth theatre in Scotland.

|   | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>   |
|---|---------------|------------|
| Number of paid staff                      | 903           | 50         |
| Number of volunteers                      | 913           | 50         |
| <b>Total number of staff / volunteers</b> | <b>1,816</b>  | <b>100</b> |

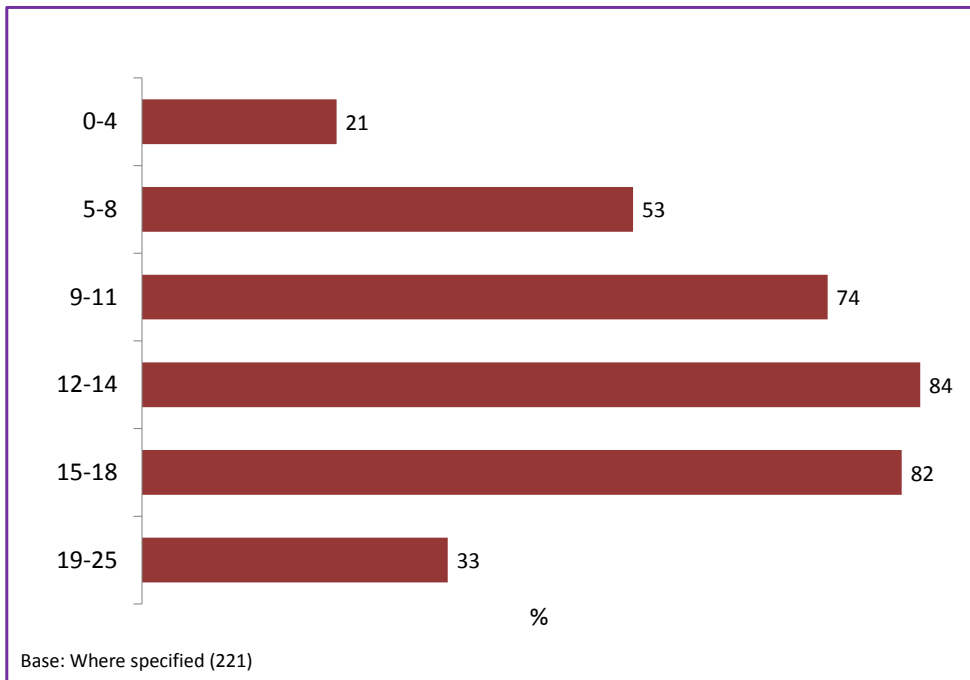
In total the mapping exercise identified an estimated 1,816 people working in youth theatre in Scotland, of which 50% were staff and 50% were volunteers.



## Youth theatre participants

In the survey, respondents were asked to tell us more detail about the participants involved in their activities at each venue.

The following graph provides information about the ages of participants involved in youth theatre at each venue in Scotland.



The majority of venues provided youth theatre activities for high school aged children, with 84% of venues offering activities for 12-14 year olds, and 82% of venues offering activities for 15-18 year olds.

Few venues offered activities for the youngest of children aged 0-4 (21%) or adults aged 19-25 (33%).

The following table provides information about the gender of participants involved in youth theatre in Scotland.

|        | %  |
|--------|----|
| Male   | 34 |
| Female | 66 |

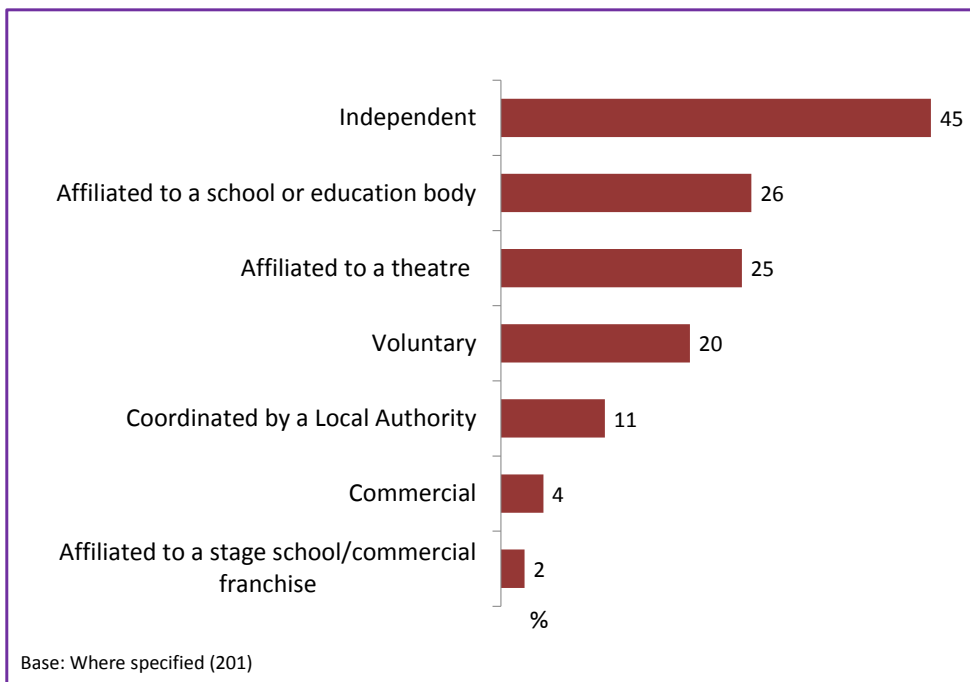
In total the mapping exercise identified an estimated gender split of 66% female and 34% male youth theatre participants across Scotland.

## Youth theatre organisations

In the survey, respondents were asked to tell us more detail about the type of organisations offering youth theatre activities.

In total, 265 youth theatre organisations were identified as operating over the 341 venues. This is an average of 1.29 venues per organisation.

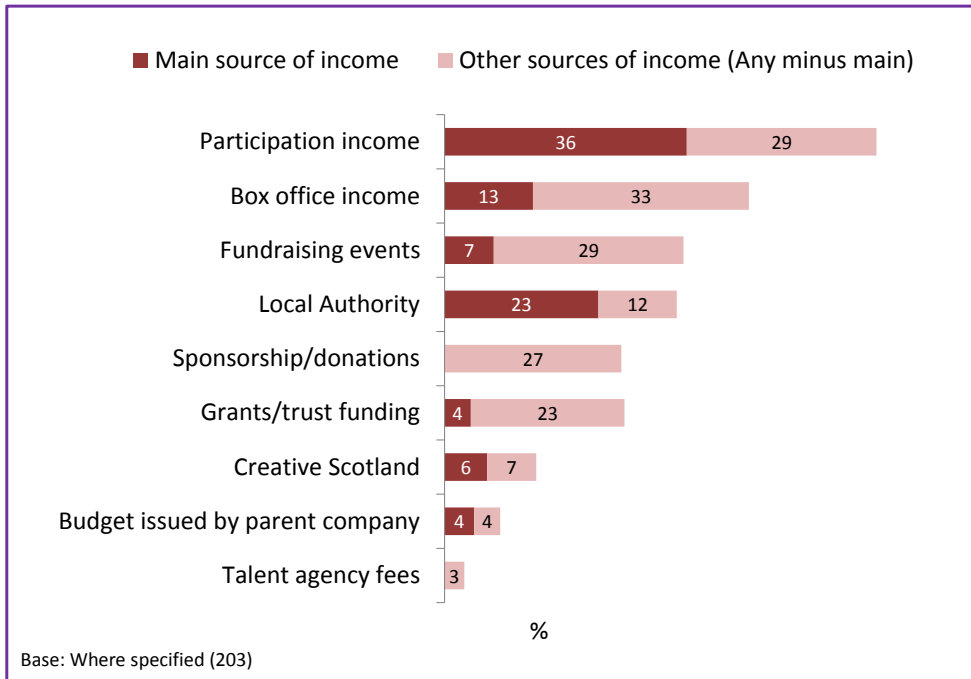
The following graph provides information about the status or affiliation of the organisations offering the youth theatre activity.



Almost half of the organisations (45%) were independent, and this categorisation was the most prevalent. The next most frequently found organisation types were affiliated to schools or education bodies (26%) and affiliated to theatres (25%).

Overall, 75 of the activities were run by organisations that said that they were charities, and 68 of the activities were run by organisations that said that they were registered companies.

The following graph provides information about sources of income of the organisation offering the youth theatre activity.



The most often stated source of income was participation income, both in terms of main income (36%) and total income (65%).

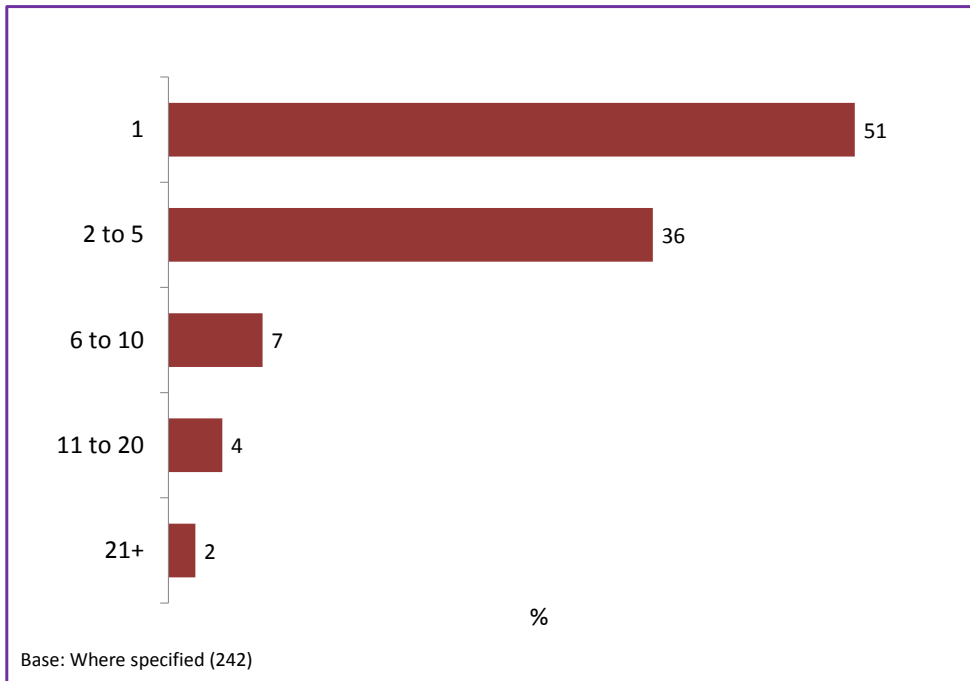
The next most frequently stated overall sources of income were box office income (46%), fundraising events (36%).

However, the next most frequently stated main source of income was the Local Authority (23%).

## Youth theatre venues

In the survey, respondents were asked to tell us more detail about the venues where youth theatre activities are taking place.

The following graph provides information about the number of separate classes that are running on site at each of the venues where youth theatre activities are taking place.



Just over half of the venues (51%) ran one class only, and this categorisation was the most prevalent. The next most frequently stated number of classes per venue was 2 to 5 (36%).

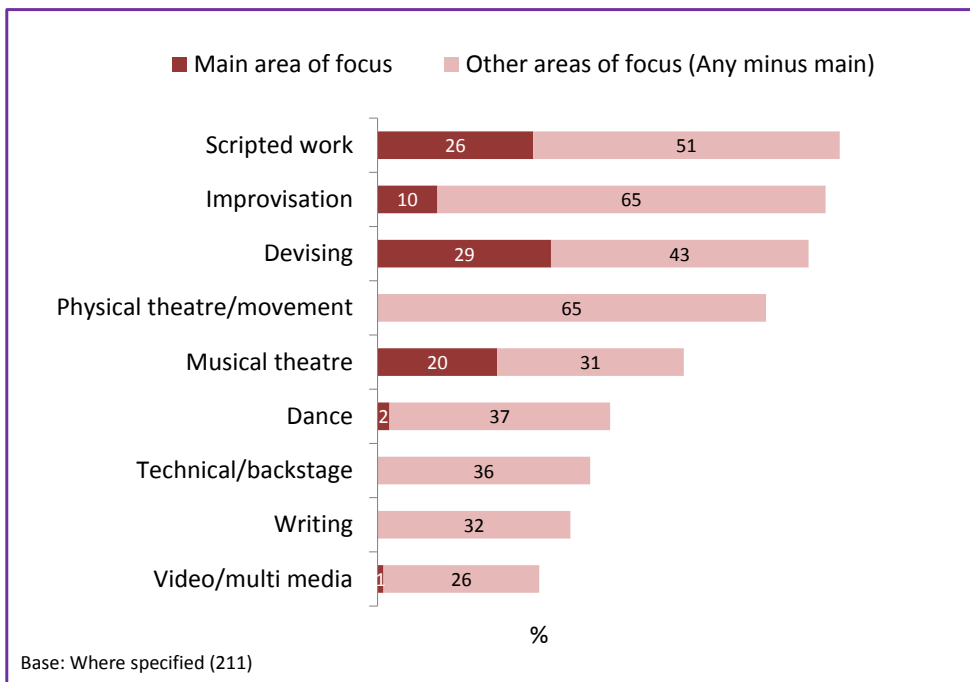
A small number of venues (2%) ran more than 21 classes.

The average number of classes taking place at each venue was 4.14.

## Youth theatre activities

In the survey, respondents were asked to tell us more detail about the youth theatre activities that are taking place.

The following graph provides information about the areas of focus for youth theatre activities in Scotland.

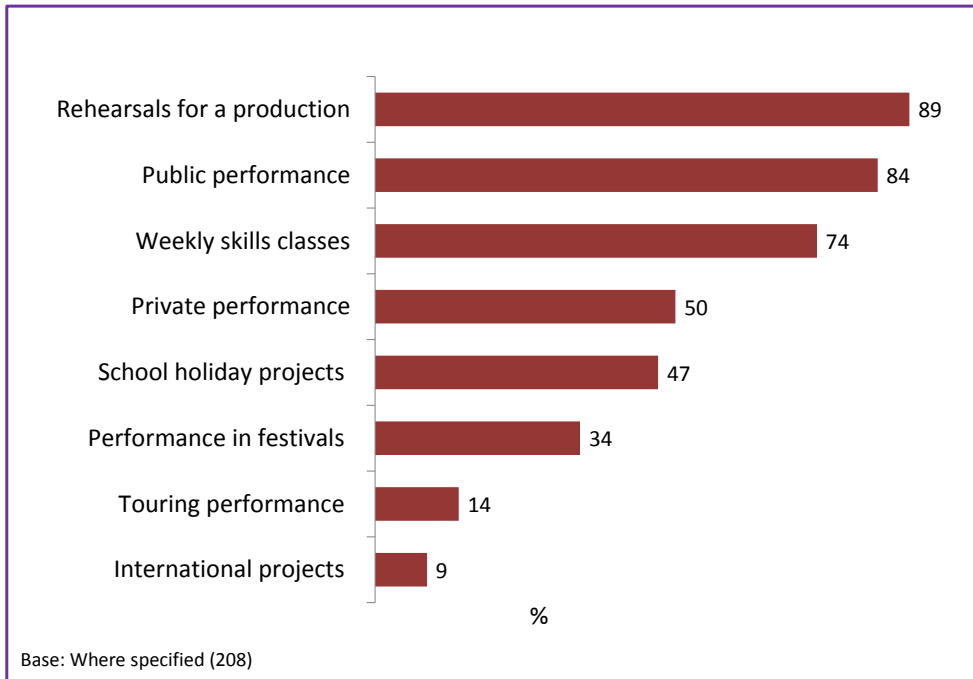


The most often stated focus was scripted work (77%), followed by improvisation (75%) and devising (72%).

However, the most frequently stated main focus was devising (29%) followed by scripted work (26%).

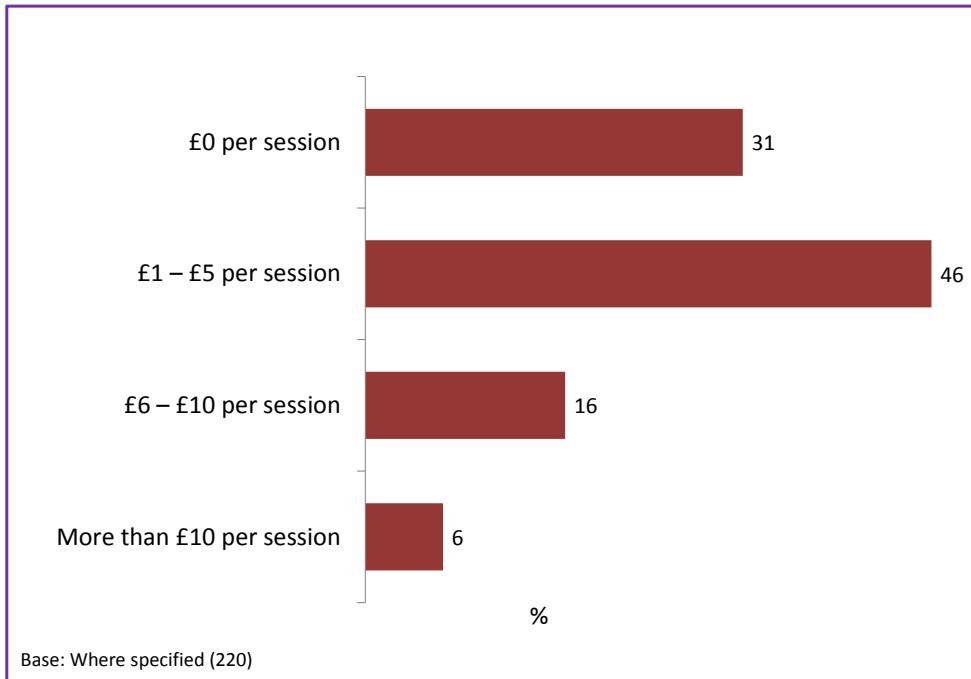
Notably, 20% of activities had the main focus of musical theatre.

The following graph provides information about the type of projects undertaken by youth theatre activities in Scotland.



The most often stated project types were rehearsals for a production (89%), public performance (84%) and weekly skills classes (74%).

The following graph provides information about the cost to participants for youth theatre activities in Scotland.



Just under half of the venues (46%) charged £1-£5 per session, and this categorisation was the most prevalent. The next most frequently stated cost was free (31%).

Overall, 91 venues said that they offered financial support for participants.

## The regional picture

### Number of venues by region

Each of the entries in the database was classified according to its Local Authority region.

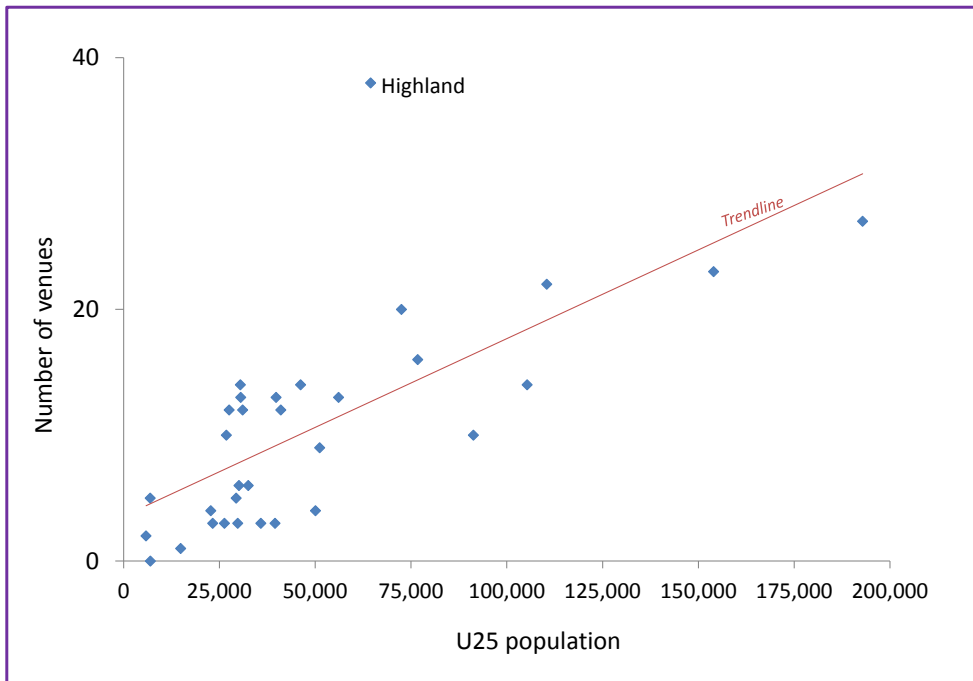
The following table provides information about the number of youth theatre venues in each Local Authority region.

| Region                        | Number     | %          |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Highland                      | 38         | 11         |
| Glasgow                       | 27         | 8          |
| Edinburgh                     | 23         | 7          |
| Fife                          | 22         | 6          |
| Aberdeen                      | 20         | 6          |
| Aberdeenshire                 | 16         | 5          |
| Falkirk                       | 14         | 4          |
| Scottish Borders              | 14         | 4          |
| North Lanarkshire             | 14         | 4          |
| Dumfries and Galloway         | 13         | 4          |
| East Lothian                  | 13         | 4          |
| West Lothian                  | 13         | 4          |
| East Dunbartonshire           | 12         | 4          |
| Perth and Kinross             | 12         | 4          |
| Moray                         | 12         | 4          |
| West Dunbartonshire           | 10         | 3          |
| South Lanarkshire             | 10         | 3          |
| Renfrewshire                  | 9          | 3          |
| South Ayrshire                | 6          | 2          |
| Angus                         | 6          | 2          |
| Shetland                      | 5          | 1          |
| East Renfrewshire             | 5          | 1          |
| Dundee                        | 4          | 1          |
| Inverclyde                    | 4          | 1          |
| Stirling                      | 3          | 1          |
| Argyll and Bute               | 3          | 1          |
| North Ayrshire                | 3          | 1          |
| Midlothian                    | 3          | 1          |
| East Ayrshire                 | 3          | 1          |
| Orkney                        | 2          | 1          |
| Clackmannanshire              | 1          | 0          |
| Western Isles                 | 0          | 0          |
| <b>Total number of venues</b> | <b>341</b> | <b>100</b> |

Overall, the largest number of youth theatre venues were recorded in Highland (11%), Glasgow (8%) and Edinburgh (7%).



The number of venues recorded in each of the Local Authority regions was then analysed against under 25 population figures for the corresponding areas to find out whether population and youth theatre provision were related.



When recorded activities were compared to the populations of the areas, there was a clear trend that more youth theatre venues were available in areas with higher populations.

The following table provides information about the number of youth theatre venues compared to the under 25 population in each Local Authority region.

| Region                | Ratio of venue to u25 population |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Shetland              | 1,393                            |
| Highland              | 1,697                            |
| Scottish Borders      | 2,178                            |
| Moray                 | 2,299                            |
| East Lothian          | 2,353                            |
| East Dunbartonshire   | 2,591                            |
| West Dunbartonshire   | 2,685                            |
| Orkney                | 2,929                            |
| Dumfries and Galloway | 3,064                            |
| Falkirk               | 3,301                            |
| Perth and Kinross     | 3,421                            |
| Aberdeen              | 3,626                            |
| West Lothian          | 4,316                            |
| Aberdeenshire         | 4,798                            |
| South Ayrshire        | 5,019                            |
| Fife                  | 5,020                            |
| Angus                 | 5,428                            |
| Renfrewshire          | 5,690                            |
| Inverclyde            | 5,694                            |
| East Renfrewshire     | 5,881                            |
| Edinburgh             | 6,696                            |
| Glasgow               | 7,143                            |
| North Lanarkshire     | 7,524                            |
| Argyll and Bute       | 7,762                            |
| Midlothian            | 8,774                            |
| South Lanarkshire     | 9,132                            |
| Stirling              | 9,933                            |
| East Ayrshire         | 11,949                           |
| Dundee                | 12,529                           |
| North Ayrshire        | 13,172                           |
| Clackmannanshire      | 14,934                           |
| <i>Western Isles</i>  | <i>n/a</i>                       |

The regions with the best ratios of youth theatre venues to population were Shetland (1 venue for every 1,393 u25 population), Highland (1 venue for every 1,697 u25 population) and Scottish Borders (1 venue for every 2,178 u25 population).

The regions with the least good ratios of youth theatre venues to population were Clackmannanshire (1 venue for every 14,934 u25 population), North Ayrshire (1 venue for every 13,172 u25 population) and Dundee (1 venue for every 12,529 u25 population).

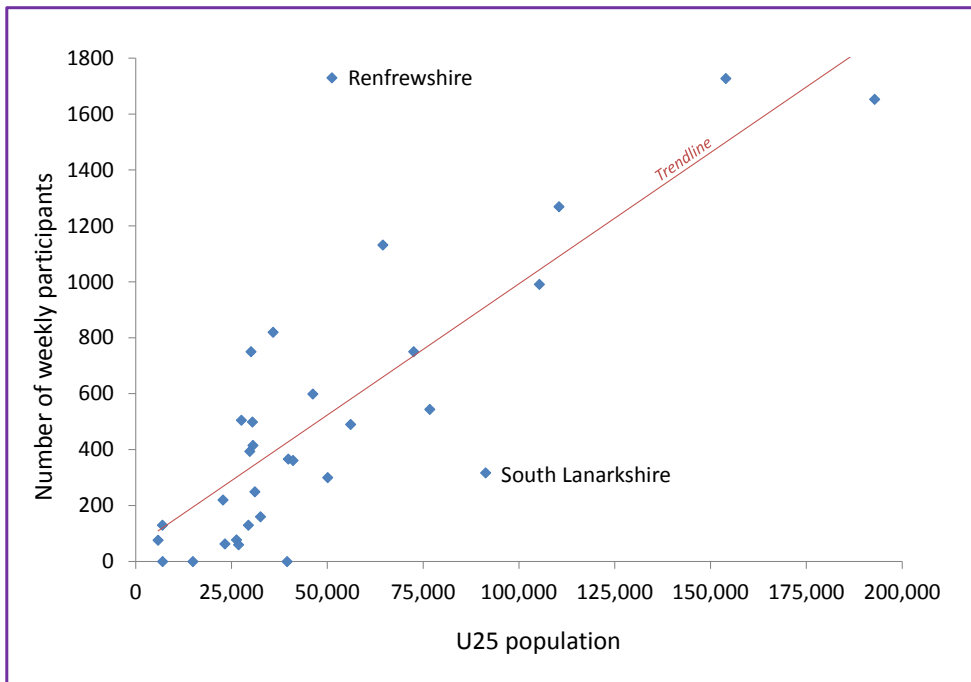
## Number of weekly participants by region

The following table provides information about the number of weekly participants in each Local Authority region.

| Region                                     | Number        | %          |
|--|---------------|------------|
| Renfrewshire                               | 1,730         | 10         |
| Edinburgh                                  | 1,727         | 10         |
| Glasgow                                    | 1,653         | 10         |
| Fife                                       | 1,269         | 8          |
| Highland                                   | 1,132         | 7          |
| North Lanarkshire                          | 991           | 6          |
| East Ayrshire                              | 820           | 5          |
| South Ayrshire                             | 750           | 4          |
| Aberdeen                                   | 750           | 4          |
| Falkirk                                    | 599           | 4          |
| Aberdeenshire                              | 544           | 3          |
| Moray                                      | 505           | 3          |
| Scottish Borders                           | 499           | 3          |
| West Lothian                               | 490           | 3          |
| East Lothian                               | 415           | 2          |
| Stirling                                   | 394           | 2          |
| Dumfries and Galloway                      | 366           | 2          |
| Perth and Kinross                          | 361           | 2          |
| South Lanarkshire                          | 317           | 2          |
| Dundee                                     | 300           | 2          |
| East Dunbartonshire                        | 249           | 1          |
| Inverclyde                                 | 220           | 1          |
| Angus                                      | 160           | 1          |
| East Renfrewshire                          | 130           | 1          |
| Shetland                                   | 130           | 1          |
| Midlothian                                 | 77            | 0          |
| Orkney                                     | 76            | 0          |
| Argyll and Bute                            | 63            | 0          |
| West Dunbartonshire                        | 60            | 0          |
| Clackmannanshire                           | 0             | 0          |
| North Ayrshire                             | 0             | 0          |
| Western Isles                              | 0             | 0          |
| <b>Total number of weekly participants</b> | <b>16,777</b> | <b>100</b> |

Overall, the largest number of weekly participants engaged were recorded in Renfrewshire, Edinburgh and Glasgow (all 10%).

The number of weekly participants recorded in each of the Local Authority regions was then analysed against under 25 population figures for the corresponding areas to find out whether population and youth theatre provision were related.



When recorded weekly participants were compared to the populations of the areas, there was a clear trend that more individuals participated weekly in areas with higher populations.

The following table provides information about weekly attendance compared to the under 25 population in each Local Authority region.

| Region                  | Ratio of weekly attendance to u25 population |
|-------------------------|--|
| Renfrewshire            | 30   |
| South Ayrshire          | 40   |
| East Ayrshire           | 44   |
| Shetland                | 54   |
| Moray                   | 55   |
| Highland                | 57   |
| Scottish Borders        | 61   |
| East Lothian            | 74   |
| Stirling                | 76   |
| Orkney                  | 77   |
| Falkirk                 | 77   |
| Fife                    | 87   |
| Edinburgh               | 89   |
| Aberdeen                | 97   |
| Inverclyde              | 104  |
| North Lanarkshire       | 106  |
| Dumfries and Galloway   | 109  |
| Perth and Kinross       | 114  |
| West Lothian            | 115  |
| Glasgow                 | 117  |
| East Dunbartonshire     | 125  |
| Aberdeenshire           | 141  |
| Dundee                  | 167  |
| Angus                   | 204  |
| East Renfrewshire       | 226  |
| South Lanarkshire       | 288  |
| Midlothian              | 342  |
| Argyll and Bute         | 370  |
| West Dunbartonshire     | 447  |
| <i>Clackmannanshire</i> | 0  |
| <i>North Ayrshire</i>   | 0  |
| <i>Western Isles</i>    | 0  |

The regions with the best ratios of weekly attendance to population were Renfrewshire (1 weekly attender for every 30 u25 population), South Ayrshire (1 weekly attender for every 40 u25 population) and East Ayrshire (1 weekly attender for every 44 u25 population).

The regions with the least good ratios of weekly attendance to population were West Dunbartonshire (1 weekly attender for every 447 u25 population), Argyll and Bute (1 weekly attender for every 370 u25 population) and Midlothian (1 weekly attender for every 342 u25 population).

## Number of staff by region

The following table provides information about the number of paid youth theatre staff in each Local Authority region.

| Region                            | Number     | %          |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Glasgow                           | 366        | 41         |
| Edinburgh                         | 96         | 11         |
| Aberdeen                          | 54         | 6          |
| East Ayrshire                     | 50         | 6          |
| North Lanarkshire                 | 42         | 5          |
| Highland                          | 35         | 4          |
| Fife                              | 31         | 3          |
| Scottish Borders                  | 23         | 3          |
| Aberdeenshire                     | 22         | 2          |
| Renfrewshire                      | 20         | 2          |
| Perth and Kinross                 | 19         | 2          |
| South Ayrshire                    | 19         | 2          |
| West Lothian                      | 16         | 2          |
| East Lothian                      | 15         | 2          |
| Falkirk                           | 14         | 2          |
| South Lanarkshire                 | 14         | 2          |
| Dundee                            | 12         | 1          |
| Stirling                          | 11         | 1          |
| Dumfries and Galloway             | 10         | 1          |
| Moray                             | 8          | 1          |
| Midlothian                        | 7          | 1          |
| East Dunbartonshire               | 5          | 1          |
| East Renfrewshire                 | 4          | 0          |
| Inverclyde                        | 4          | 0          |
| Orkney                            | 3          | 0          |
| West Dunbartonshire               | 2          | 0          |
| Argyll and Bute                   | 1          | 0          |
| Angus                             | 0          | 0          |
| Clackmannanshire                  | 0          | 0          |
| North Ayrshire                    | 0          | 0          |
| Shetland                          | 0          | 0          |
| Western Isles                     | 0          | 0          |
| <b>Total number of paid staff</b> | <b>903</b> | <b>100</b> |

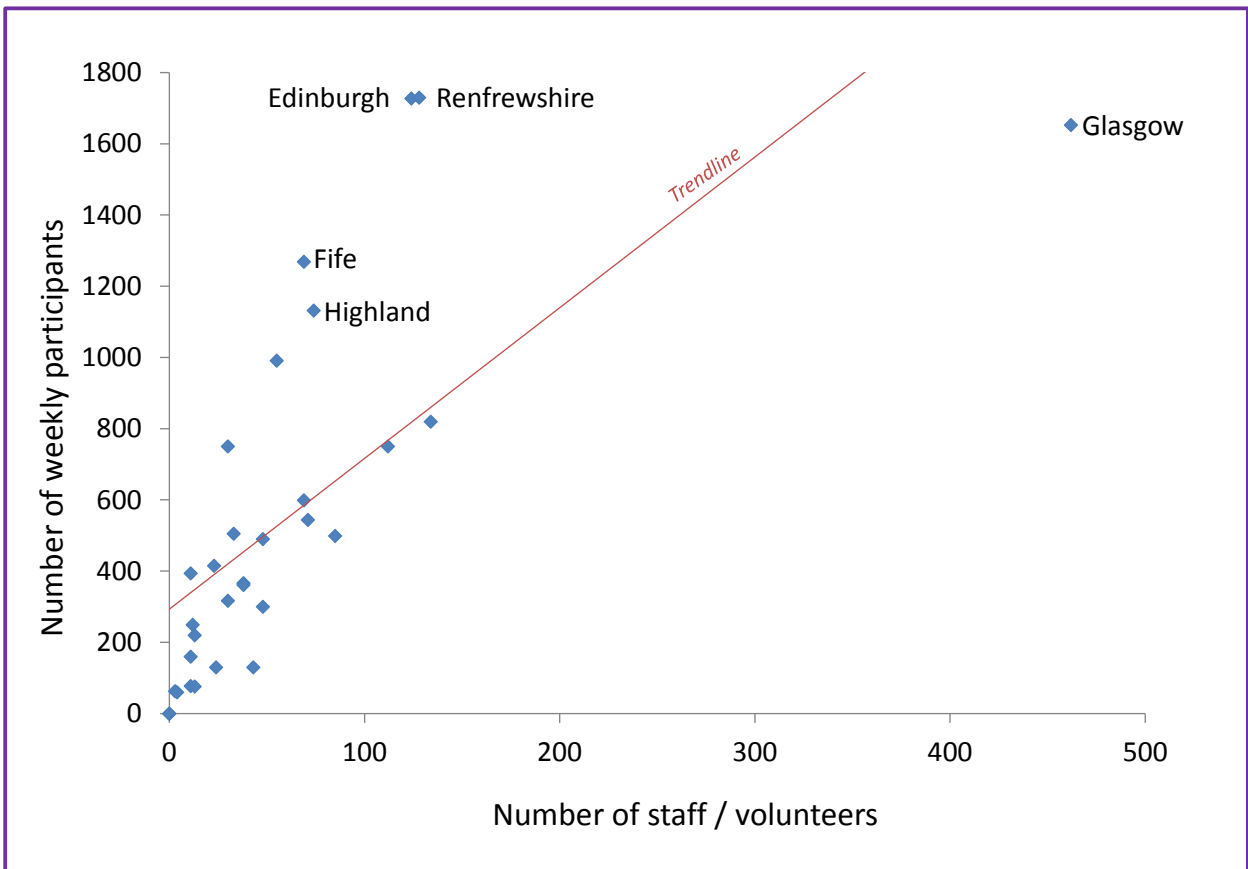
Overall, the largest number of paid youth theatre staff were recorded in Glasgow (41%), Edinburgh (11%) and Aberdeen (6%).

The following table provides information about the number of youth theatre volunteers in each Local Authority region.

| Region                            | Number     | %          |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Renfrewshire                      | 108        | 12         |
| Glasgow                           | 96         | 11         |
| East Ayrshire                     | 84         | 9          |
| Scottish Borders                  | 62         | 7          |
| Aberdeen                          | 58         | 6          |
| Falkirk                           | 55         | 6          |
| Aberdeenshire                     | 49         | 5          |
| Shetland                          | 43         | 5          |
| Highland                          | 39         | 4          |
| Fife                              | 38         | 4          |
| Dundee                            | 36         | 4          |
| West Lothian                      | 32         | 4          |
| Dumfries and Galloway             | 28         | 3          |
| Edinburgh                         | 28         | 3          |
| Moray                             | 25         | 3          |
| East Renfrewshire                 | 20         | 2          |
| Perth and Kinross                 | 19         | 2          |
| South Lanarkshire                 | 16         | 2          |
| North Lanarkshire                 | 13         | 1          |
| Angus                             | 11         | 1          |
| South Ayrshire                    | 11         | 1          |
| Orkney                            | 10         | 1          |
| Inverclyde                        | 9          | 1          |
| East Lothian                      | 8          | 1          |
| East Dunbartonshire               | 7          | 1          |
| Midlothian                        | 4          | 0          |
| Argyll and Bute                   | 2          | 0          |
| West Dunbartonshire               | 2          | 0          |
| Clackmannanshire                  | 0          | 0          |
| North Ayrshire                    | 0          | 0          |
| Stirling                          | 0          | 0          |
| Western Isles                     | 0          | 0          |
| <b>Total number of volunteers</b> | <b>913</b> | <b>100</b> |

Overall, the largest number of youth theatre volunteers were recorded in Renfrewshire (12%), Glasgow (11%) and East Ayrshire (9%).

The number of staff/volunteers recorded in each of the Local Authority regions was then analysed against weekly attendance figures for the corresponding areas.



When recorded weekly participants were compared to the provision of staff/volunteers, there was a clear trend that more staff/volunteers were available in areas where more individuals participated weekly.



The following table provides information about the number of staff/volunteers compared to the weekly attendance in each Local Authority region.

| Region                  | Number of weekly attenders for each staff/volunteer |
|-------------------------|---|
| Shetland                | 3.0   |
| Glasgow                 | 3.6   |
| East Renfrewshire       | 5.4   |
| Orkney                  | 5.8   |
| Scottish Borders        | 5.9   |
| East Ayrshire           | 6.1   |
| Dundee                  | 6.3   |
| Aberdeen                | 6.7   |
| Midlothian              | 7.0   |
| Aberdeenshire           | 7.7   |
| Falkirk                 | 8.7   |
| Perth and Kinross       | 9.5   |
| Dumfries and Galloway   | 9.6   |
| West Lothian            | 10.2  |
| South Lanarkshire       | 10.6  |
| Renfrewshire            | 13.5  |
| Edinburgh               | 13.9  |
| Angus                   | 14.5  |
| West Dunbartonshire     | 15.0  |
| Moray                   | 15.3  |
| Highland                | 15.3  |
| Inverclyde              | 16.9  |
| East Lothian            | 18.0  |
| North Lanarkshire       | 18.0  |
| Fife                    | 18.4  |
| East Dunbartonshire     | 20.8  |
| Argyll and Bute         | 21.0  |
| South Ayrshire          | 25.0  |
| Stirling                | 35.8  |
| <i>Clackmannanshire</i> | <i>0.0</i>  |
| <i>North Ayrshire</i>   | <i>0.0</i>  |
| <i>Western Isles</i>    | <i>0.0</i>  |

The regions with the best staff/volunteers to participant ratios were Shetland (1:3), Glasgow (1:3.6) and East Renfrewshire (1:5.4).

The regions with the least good staff/volunteers to participant ratios were Stirling (1:35.8), South Ayrshire (1:25) and Argyll and Bute (1:21).

## Gaps in regional provision

The following table summarises the regional information provided in this report, in a way which is intended to give an indication of which regions have better than average provision, and which have lower than average provision. To do this, regions appearing in the top half of each ratio table have been given a tick, and the total number of ticks has been added together.

| Region                | Venue to pop. ratio | Weekly attends to pop. ratio | Staff/ vols to pop. ratio | Sum of ticks |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Aberdeen              | ✓                   | ✓                            | ✓                         | 3            |
| Falkirk               | ✓                   | ✓                            | ✓                         | 3            |
| Orkney                | ✓                   | ✓                            | ✓                         | 3            |
| Scottish Borders      | ✓                   | ✓                            | ✓                         | 3            |
| Shetland              | ✓                   | ✓                            | ✓                         | 3            |
| Aberdeenshire         | ✓                   |                              | ✓                         | 2            |
| Dumfries and Galloway | ✓                   |                              | ✓                         | 2            |
| East Ayrshire         |                     | ✓                            | ✓                         | 2            |
| East Lothian          | ✓                   | ✓                            |                           | 2            |
| Highland              | ✓                   | ✓                            |                           | 2            |
| Moray                 | ✓                   | ✓                            |                           | 2            |
| Perth and Kinross     | ✓                   |                              | ✓                         | 2            |
| South Ayrshire        | ✓                   | ✓                            |                           | 2            |
| West Lothian          | ✓                   |                              | ✓                         | 2            |
| Dundee                |                     |                              | ✓                         | 1            |
| East Dunbartonshire   | ✓                   |                              |                           | 1            |
| East Renfrewshire     |                     |                              | ✓                         | 1            |
| Edinburgh             |                     | ✓                            |                           | 1            |
| Fife                  |                     | ✓                            |                           | 1            |
| Glasgow               |                     |                              | ✓                         | 1            |
| Inverclyde            |                     | ✓                            |                           | 1            |
| Midlothian            |                     |                              | ✓                         | 1            |
| Renfrewshire          |                     | ✓                            |                           | 1            |
| South Lanarkshire     |                     |                              | ✓                         | 1            |
| Stirling              |                     | ✓                            |                           | 1            |
| West Dunbartonshire   | ✓                   |                              |                           | 1            |
| North Lanarkshire     |                     |                              |                           |              |
| Angus                 |                     |                              |                           |              |
| Argyll and Bute       |                     |                              |                           |              |
| Clackmannanshire      |                     |                              |                           |              |
| North Ayrshire        |                     |                              |                           |              |
| Western Isles         |                     |                              |                           |              |

Using this metric, gaps in provision may be evident in regions falling into the shaded section – with highest priority North Lanarkshire, Angus, Argyll and Bute, Clackmannanshire, North Ayrshire and the Western Isles. However, gaps in provision may be evident in any area where ticks are not recorded.

## Summary and recommendations

### Summary of the national picture

- 341 youth theatre venues in Scotland were identified – 1 youth theatre venue for every 4,701 members of the Scottish population aged under 25.
- The average number of classes taking place at each venue was 4.14.
- 265 youth theatre organisations were identified – an average of 1.29 venues per organisation.
- The organisations tended to be independent, affiliated to schools or education bodies or affiliated to theatres.
- 75 were charities, and 68 were registered companies.
- The most often stated source of income was participation income, followed by box office income and fundraising events.
- The sector estimated:
  - 28,479 young people involved in youth theatre in Scotland, of which 59% attend weekly.
  - A gender split of 66% female and 34% male youth theatre participants.
  - 1,816 people working in youth theatre in Scotland, of which 50% were staff and 50% were volunteers.

### Summary of youth theatre activities

- The majority provided youth theatre activities for high school aged children. Fewer offered activities for the youngest of children aged 0-4 or adults aged 19-25.
- The most often stated focus was scripted work, followed by improvisation and devising.
- The most often stated project types were rehearsals for a production, public performance and weekly skills classes.
- Sessions were most often charged at £1-£5, or free.
- 91 venues said that they offered financial support for participants.

## Summary of the regional picture

- The largest number of youth theatre venues were recorded in Highland, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Overall, more youth theatre venues were available in areas with higher populations. However:
  - The regions with the best ratios of youth theatre venues to population were Shetland, Highland, and Scottish Borders.
  - The regions with the least good ratios of youth theatre venues to population were Clackmannanshire, North Ayrshire, and Dundee.
  
- The largest number of weekly participants engaged were recorded in Renfrewshire, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Overall, more individuals participated weekly in areas with higher populations. However:
  - The regions with the best ratios of weekly attendance to population were Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, and East Ayrshire.
  - The regions with the least good ratios of weekly attendance to population were West Dunbartonshire, Argyle and Bute, and Midlothian.
  
- The largest number of paid youth theatre staff were recorded in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. The largest number of youth theatre volunteers were recorded in Renfrewshire, Glasgow and East Ayrshire. Overall, more staff/volunteers were available in areas where more individuals participated weekly. However:
  - The regions with the best staff/volunteers to participant ratios were Shetland, Glasgow and East Renfrewshire.
  - The regions with the least good staff/volunteers to participant ratios were Stirling, South Ayrshire and Argyle and Bute.