

Data Note

Subject Theatres
Project London's Cultural Spaces: 2018-2022
Date 13.01.2023

Theatres

Definition: Buildings with 30 public performances per year.

The number of theatres in London has remained relatively stable since 2019, with only a slight 2% decrease from 273 to 266 spaces due to 17 closed theatres replaced by only 10 new institutions. In relation to the performing arts sector generally, theatres experienced a lower rate of closures (6% vs 10%), and lower rate of openings (4% vs 6%).

Theatres remain heavily concentrated in the West End, with a secondary cluster along the South Bank. Some theatres such as Theatre N16 or the Bunker Theatre have closed their doors due to redevelopment. However, recent openings are scattered across the city. New theatres show a focus on community engagement such as the Big House, Bold Elephant and the Pen Theatre.

Theatres
Space closures and new openings, 2018 to 2022



