

M DATA DISPATCH 5: STUDIO

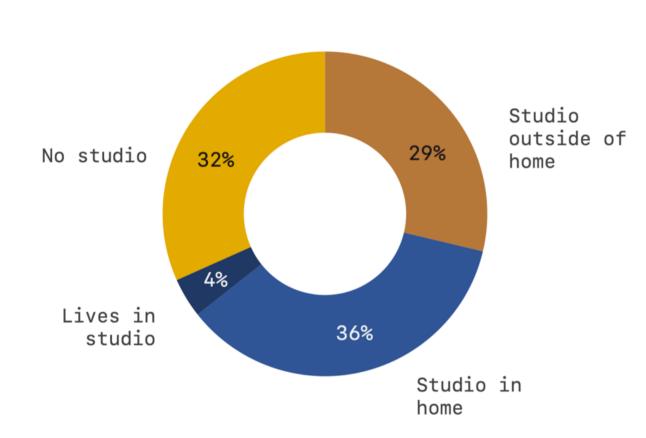
"If [artists] know they are reassured long term, affordable workspace, artists can plan for the future, establishing roots in a community." *

How much do local artists spend on their studios? What types of studios do they have? How does their income compare to their studio cost? In this Data Dispatch we share information about Los Angeles artists' studios.

Like previous Data Dispatches, the data in this report reflects what local artists were experiencing prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize that due to the pandemic artists situations have likely changed.

As always, artists: send us your feedback, thoughts, and questions!

L.A. ARTISTS' STUDIO STATUS



NATISTS' STUDIO STATUS

Nearly one third of respondents reported having a studio outside of their home (29%). One third of respondents reported not having a studio (32%). The remaining respondents had studios in their homes or lived in their studios (40% together), indicating that **the most common workspace for artists is where they live.**

The experience of working at home is often different from working in a dedicated workspace outside of the home. One way in which these experiences are different is reflected in a quote from a <u>previous series of interviews</u> we conducted with LAAC survey respondents, in May 2021:

"I had my desk in the living room and this is when my daughter was really young. The living room also had the play kitchen and the little gated-in play yard and a whole bunch of toys. And the dining space wasn't separated, so we also had the dining table there. So it was really hard to carve out anything like time, psychological-, or emotional-space."

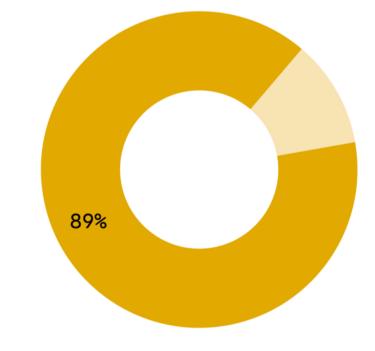
\$623.70

was the <u>average</u> monthly studio payment for L.A. County visual artists, at the beginning of 2020.

∰ STUDIO COST x INCOME

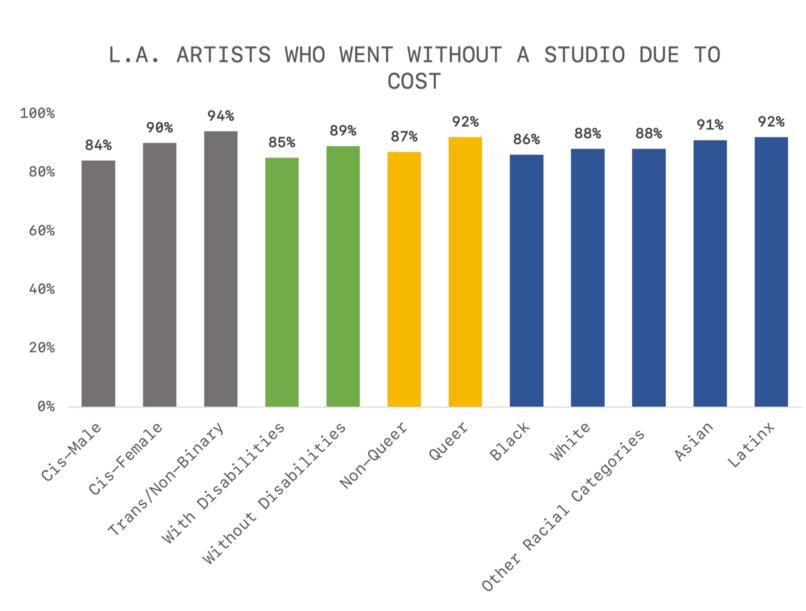
We <u>previously found</u> that three quarters (72%) of respondents earned under \$5,000 from their art practice in 2019. With the average monthly studio payment being \$623.70, which is nearly \$7,500 annually, this indicates that <u>the majority of respondents are unable to sustain the cost associated with their workspace based solely on their art practice income</u>, which is substantially lower than this cost. Furthermore, this highlights that many artists may depend on other income to fund their working space, which poses a barrier for artists with less access to such funds.

NO STUDIO DUE TO COST



ARTISTS WITHOUT STUDIOS

The vast majority of respondents who <u>did not have a studio reported the reason was</u> <u>related to cost (89%).</u> This finding is consistent with prior research showing that 90% of artists living in Los Angeles found studio affordability to be "a very serious concern".*



ARTISTS WITHOUT STUDIOS x DEMOGRAPHICS

Allison Agsten, published by Arts for LA, November 2019.

The percentage of respondents who did not have a studio for reasons related to cost was similar across all demographic categories. Overall, slightly higher percentages were recorded among Trans and Non-Binary (94%), Queer (92%), Latinx (92%), Asian (91%), and Female (90%) respondents.

The largest gap among demographic categories is between Trans/Non Binary respondents and Cis-Male respondents, with a 10% difference.

* (Re)Inventing the Dream: Policies and Practices for Keeping Artists in Los Angeles by