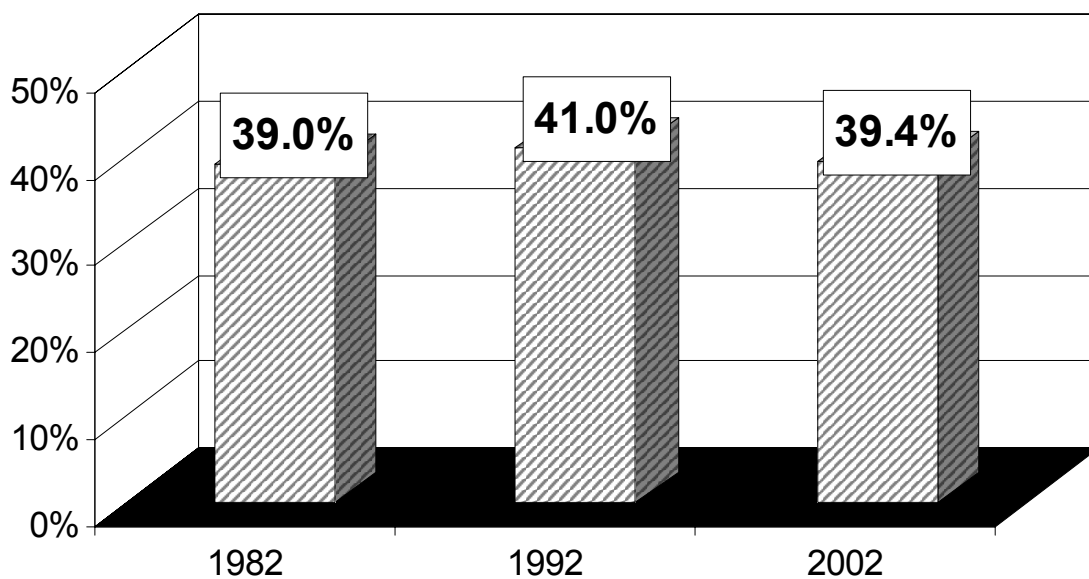




**Arts Facts . . . Public Rates of Attendance**  
The percentage of Americans attending live arts events has held relatively steady over the past 20 years at 40 percent.

## Percent of U.S. Adults Attending a Live Arts Event: 1982-2002



- In 2002, four-in-ten American adults (39.4 percent) attended at least one of seven “benchmark” arts activities: live jazz, classical music, opera, musical, play, ballet, or art museum (not including elementary or high school performances).
- Although the 2002 rate (39.4 percent) is slightly less than the 1992 rate (41.0 percent), this difference is not statistically significant.
- While the attendance rate dropped between 1992 and 2002, the U.S. population grew. Thus, there was actually an increase in the number of adults that attended at least one of the benchmark arts activities from 76 million to 81 million, during this same time period.

Source: *2002 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts* (Research Division Note #81), National Endowment for the Arts, 2003.