Vilnius University Museum

In 2024, the most significant event for the Vilnius University Museum was securing funding for the renovation project 'Adomo Mickevičiaus muziejaus Vilniuje remontas' ('Repair Works at the Adam Mickiewicz Museum in Vilnius'). The project received EUR 86,353.06 from the budget of the Republic of Poland through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with Jan Olszewski Aid to Poles in the East Foundation acting as an intermediary. A comparable amount of funding is expected in 2025. The contribution of Vilnius University, together with the funds provided by the Republic of Poland, enabled the complete refurbishment of the Museum and the adaptation of the premises to meet modern requirements for exhibitions, educational activities, and events. The repair work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025.

The temporary closure of the Adam Mickiewicz Museum for refurbishment led to a decline in visitor numbers and revenue. However, the overall attendance of the Museum still increased by 4.6 per cent compared to 2023, with 66,797 people visiting the Museum in 2024. The number of participants in educational activities increased in particular: in 2023, 454 people participated, rising to 1,371 in 2024, although the number of activities remained similar. The growth resulted from successful engagement with target audiences – Lithuanian schoolchildren and teachers – leading to significantly larger educational groups.

The Museum staff's promotion of science, educational, and research activities are becoming increasingly visible in Lithuania and abroad. The Vilnius City History Research Scholarship, which Vilnius City Municipality awarded to Museum staff Agnė Poškienė and Julija Jonušaitė, enabled the employees to carry out a scientific study 'Stepono Batoro universiteto astronomijos observatorijos komplekso kūrimo raida 1919–1939 m.' ('Development of the Astronomical Observatory Complex at Stephen Bathory University in 1919–1939'). In September 2024, at the international conference of ICOM-UMAC and the European Network of Academic Heritage UNIVERSEUM held in Dresden, Germany, the Museum staff submitted five proposals and delivered four presentations in different formats on the heritage of Vilnius University and the Museum's activities. In 2024, partnerships were developed with Polish academic heritage institutions and literature museums.

The Museum has been actively working on researching and digitising items from its collections. Given the geopolitical circumstances, the focus was on identifying Vilnius University's most significant cultural assets, improving their preservation, and digitising collection descriptions. Work continued on the development of an emergency management and evacuation plan. In 2024, 236 valuable objects from the Museum's holdings were digitised and made publicly available via the LIMIS system. Moreover, the activities of the University's 'Recovering Memory' initiative were also continued – background research was conducted on 73 potential nominees for their suitability, with 41 being issued a symbolic 'Memory Diploma'.

Monika Ramonaitė-Stankovičė, Director

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Objectives of the Museum

The Museum supervises the architectural ensemble of Vilnius University and St Johns' Church, the Adam Mickiewicz Museum, and the Observatory of Ideas

To collect, preserve, and study the valuables of the University's academic, cultural, and scientific heritage
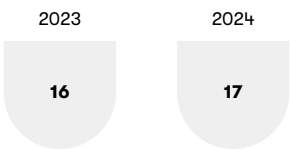
To cooperate with other units of the University, museums, cultural and scientific organisations in Lithuania and abroad

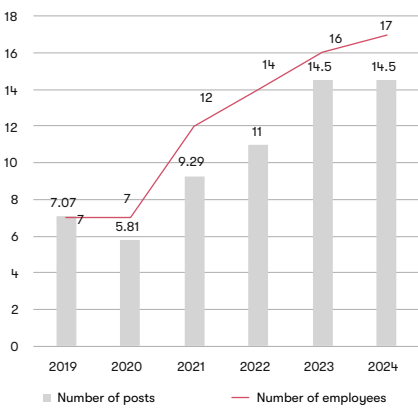The Museum keeps **7,748** museum valuables

To present them to the University community, the Lithuanian public, and foreign visitors, to promote, in various ways, the University's rich and diverse history, its cultural and scientific heritage

Number of employees and posts in 2019–2024

Number of employees who have developed their qualifications at least once a year in 2023–2024

2023	2024
16	**17**

Data of 31 December

Number of posts / Number of employees

Data of 31 December

Change in the number of employees in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

51.8 %

Change in the number of posts in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

52.15 %

Characteristics of museum valuables, 2019–2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of museum valuables kept in the Museum's collections	7467	7490	7589	7661	7711	7748
Number of museum valuables purchased	62	23	99	72	50	37
Number of inventoried museum valuables in total	7474	7490	7589	7661	7711	7465
Number of museum valuables inventoried during the reference year	81	19	99	72	50	37
Total number of digitised and digital cultural heritage objects	776	1070	1248	1360	1642	1567
Total number of digitised and digital cultural heritage objects available to the public	N/A	593	649	649	805	999
Number of digitised cultural heritage objects	201	294	187	89	282	236
Number of museum valuables kept in the Museum's collections that were re-estimated at fair value*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of museum valuables kept in the Museum's collections that need preservation and restoration**	4	4	4	2	3	4
Number of museum valuables kept in the Museum's collections that were restored and preserved during the reference year***	0	2	0	0	0	1

* Starting from 2025, the aim is to increase this rate by at least five per year.

** Starting from 2025, the aim is to draw up a precise list.

*** Starting from 2025, the aim is to restore at least one valuable per year.

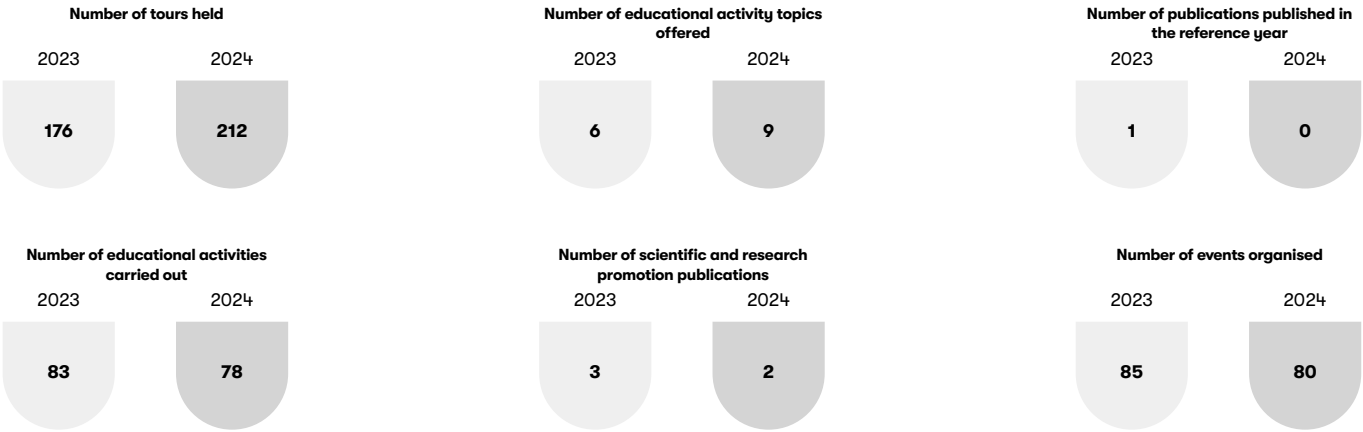N/A – not available

Permanent and temporary exhibitions, publishing activities, 2019–2024

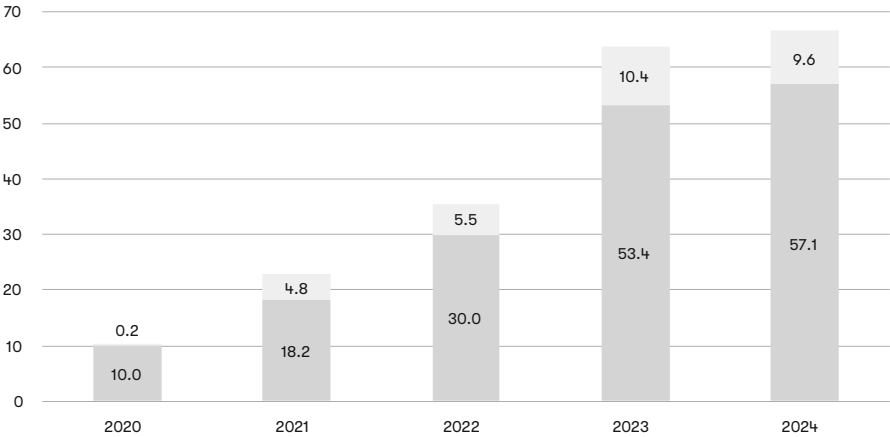|	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of museum valuables kept in the Museum's collections that were exhibited	84	84	115	118	82	88
Number of cultural assets lent to exhibitions of other institutions or University units	2	2	0	3	23	6
Number of cultural assets borrowed per year	0	0	0	0	18	0
Number of museum exhibitions renewed	1	0	0	0	0	0
Number of organised exhibitions	3	1	4	2	3	3
Number of international exhibitions held in Lithuania and abroad	1	0	0	1	0	0
Number of virtual exhibitions	0	0	0	0	0	0

Change in the number of museum valuables exhibited and kept in the Museum's collections in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

-8.90 %

Research promotion, educational and other cultural activities, 2023–2024

Number of tours held

2023	2024
176	212

Number of educational activity topics offered

2023	2024
6	9

Number of publications published in the reference year

2023	2024
1	0

Number of educational activities carried out

2023	2024
83	78

Number of scientific and research promotion publications

2023	2024
3	2

Number of events organised

2023	2024
85	80

Number of visitors in 2020–2024, in thousands

Year	Free (thousands)	Paid (thousands)
2020	0.2	10.0
2021	4.8	18.2
2022	5.5	30.0
2023	10.4	53.4
2024	9.6	57.1

Change in the number of total visitors in 2024 compared to the average of 2020–2023

104.83 %

Change in the number of visitors who visited the Museum for free in 2024 compared to the average from 2020–2023

84.36 %

Number of visitors to the Museum who visited the museum for free, in thousands
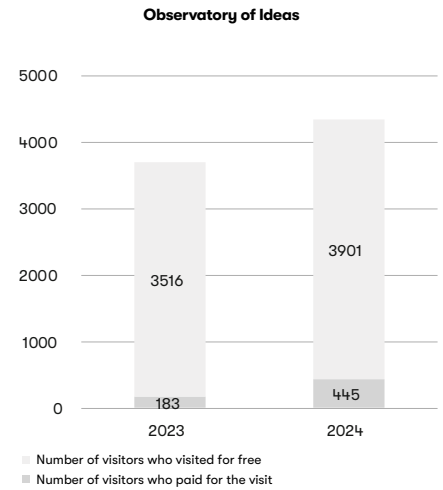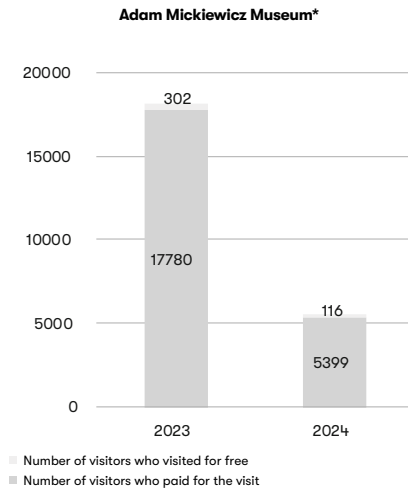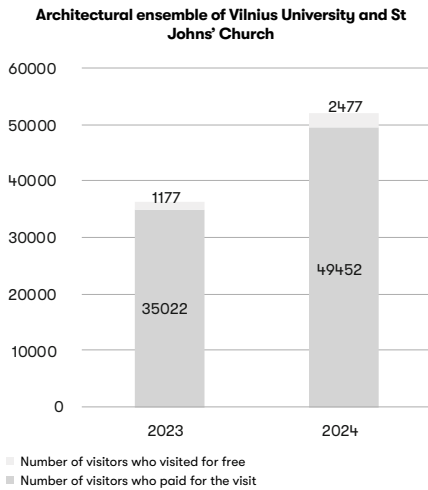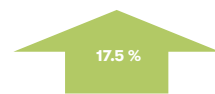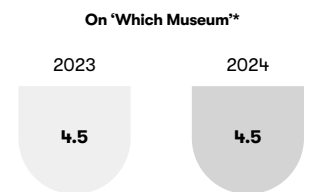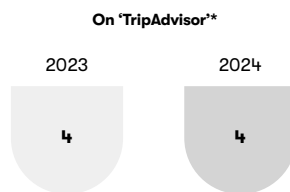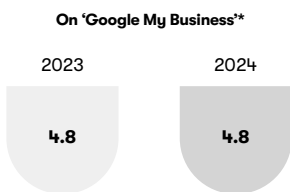Number of visitors to the Museum who paid for their visit, in thousands

Number of Museum visitors at the units, 2023–2024

Architectural ensemble of Vilnius University and St Johns' Church

	2023	2024
Number of visitors who visited for free	1177	2477
Number of visitors who paid for the visit	35022	49452

- Number of visitors who visited for free
- Number of visitors who paid for the visit

Adam Mickiewicz Museum*

	2023	2024
Number of visitors who visited for free	302	116
Number of visitors who paid for the visit	17780	5399

- Number of visitors who visited for free
- Number of visitors who paid for the visit

Observatory of Ideas

	2023	2024
Number of visitors who visited for free	3516	3901
Number of visitors who paid for the visit	183	445

- Number of visitors who visited for free
- Number of visitors who paid for the visit
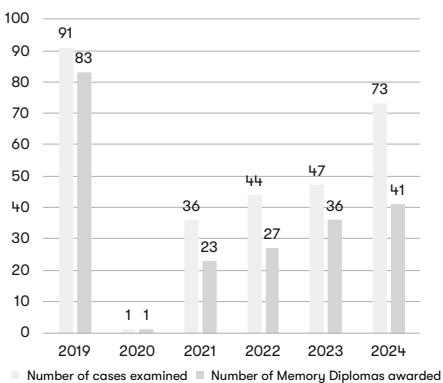
Annual change in the number of visitors

43.45 % | -69.5 % | 17.5 %

* In 2024, the number of visitors decreased due to the repair works at the Museum.

Visitor rating, 2023–2024

On 'Google My Business'*

2023	2024
4.8	4.8

On 'TripAdvisor'*

2023	2024
4	4

On 'Which Museum'*

2023	2024
4.5	4.5

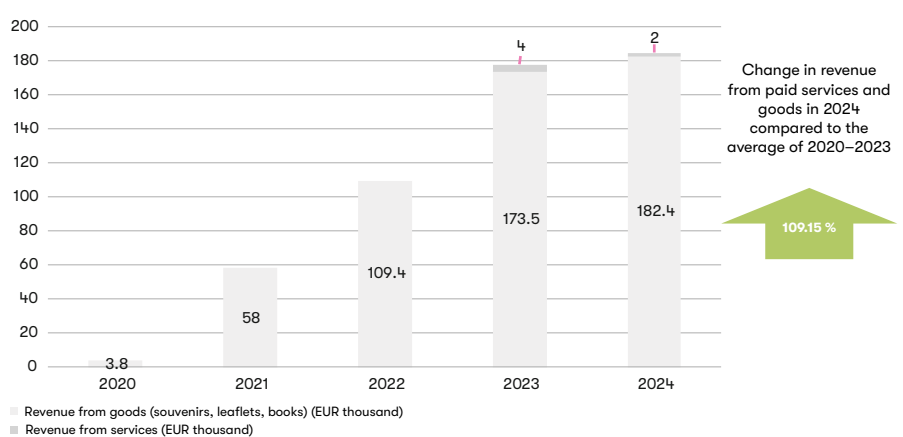* Rated on a five-point scale.

Results of the 'Recovering Memory' initiative implemented by the University, 2019–2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of cases examined	91	1	36	44	47	73
Number of Memory Diplomas awarded	83	1	23	27	36	41

- Number of cases examined
- Number of Memory Diplomas awarded

The total number of cases examined during the period of 2019–2024 was **292** and the number of diplomas awarded was **211**

Revenue from paid services and goods, 2020–2024 (EUR thousand)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue from goods	3.8			4	2
Revenue from services		58	109.4	173.5	182.4

- Revenue from goods (souvenirs, leaflets, books) (EUR thousand)
- Revenue from services (EUR thousand)

Change in revenue from paid services and goods in 2024 compared to the average of 2020–2023

109.15 %

Projects in 2024

Stepono Batoro universiteto astronomijos observatorijos komplekso kūrimo raida 1919–1939 m. (Development of the Astronomical Observatory Complex at Stephen Bathory University in 1919–1939)
The value of the project amounts to EUR 4,200. The project is funded by the Vilnius City History Research Scholarship, organiser – Vilnius City Municipality. Project manager – Agnė Poškienė.

Adomo Mickevičiaus muziejaus Vilniuje remontas / Remont Muzeum Adama Mickiewicza w Wilnie (Repair Works at the Adam Mickiewicz Museum in Vilnius)
The value of the project amounts to EUR 86,353.06. The project is funded from the budget of the Republic of Poland through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, with the help of Jan Olszewski's foundation 'Aid to Poles in the East'. Project manager – Monika Ramonaitė-Stankovičė.