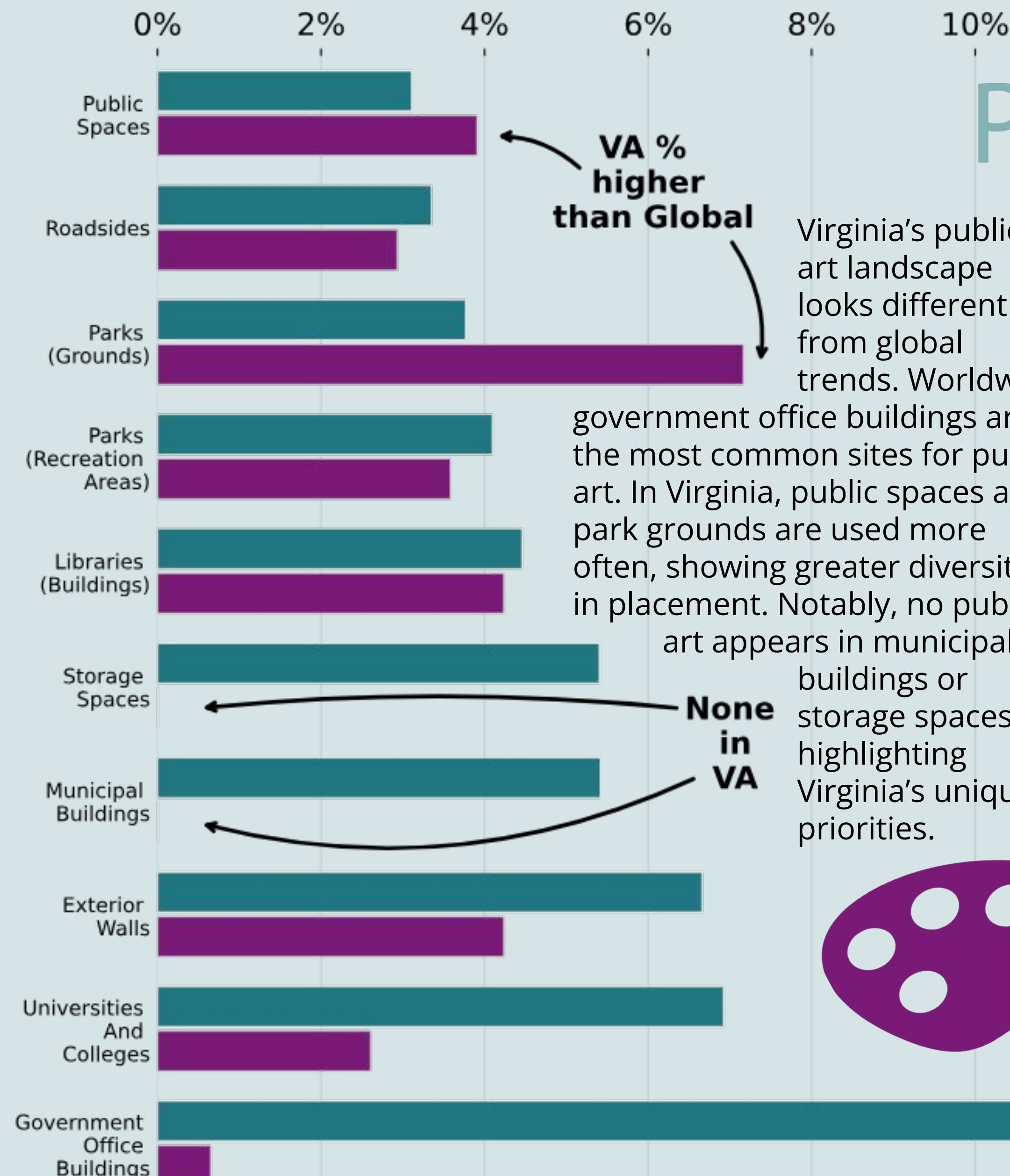


# PUBLIC ART ARCHIVE™

December 2025  
Mackenzie Kleczynski

[publicartarchive.org](http://publicartarchive.org)



## Public Art Placement Distribution

### Virginia vs Global Comparison

Bars show relative proportions, not total numbers, comparing Virginia to global patterns by placement type.



A comprehensive digital database documenting publicly accessible artworks across the United States. It preserves information about artworks, making cultural heritage searchable and accessible to researchers, artists, community members and more.<sup>1</sup>

### SOURCES

1. "Public Art Archive." Public Art Archive - Make Public Art More Public, [publicartarchive.org](http://publicartarchive.org)
2. Kennedy, Irene. "The Progression of Public Art: Highlights throughout History." The RiseUP Group, Inc., The RiseUP Group, Inc., 13 Mar. 2023, <https://www.theriseupgroup.org/post/the-progression-of-public-art-highlights-throughout-history>



### The National Endowment for the Arts

In 1965 congress creates the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), helping public art grow nationwide and funding arts programs across the country.<sup>2</sup>

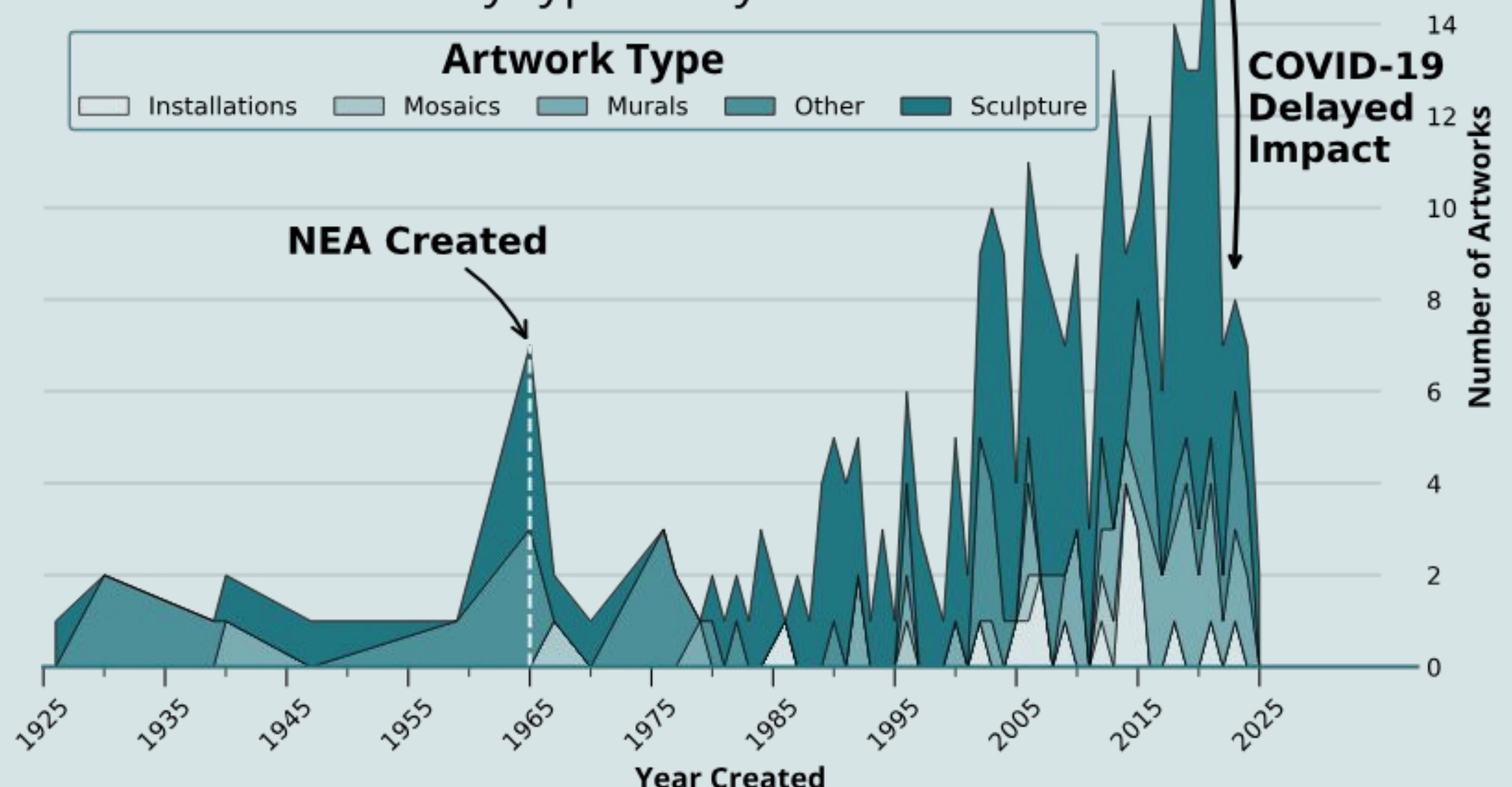
The 1965 spike in Virginia's data may reflect this federal investment in communities.

### COVID-19 and Public Art Delays

Many public artworks rely on government agencies and nonprofit organizations for funding, planning, and installation. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these organizations faced funding cuts, revenue losses, and staff shortages, which may have delayed new projects. Because many public art projects can take years to complete, disruptions in 2020 and 2021 may have contributed to the drop in completed public artworks seen in Virginia in 2022.

## Virginia's Public Art Over Time

Artwork count by type and year created



## Virginia's Public Art by City

Top 5 cities labeled

### Number of Artworks



### Northern Virginia Concentration

Over half of Virginia's documented public art is located in Northern Virginia, making it the state's main hub for public art.



Arlington (68)

Reston (48)

Alexandria (92)

Radford (23)

Newport News (23)