

# Museums in Singapore: Visitor Insights

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# Agenda



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R Shiny Demo



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# Introduction

“Our national museums and heritage institutions are cornerstones of the preservation and celebration of our heritage... This is why it is vital for our museums and institutions to continue being **accessible** to all, for all. Our shared goal is to make the Singapore museum experience **enjoyable** and **inclusive**... Ultimately, this ensures that our heritage remains a source of reflection and inspiration for us all.”

-National Heritage Board (NHB), Singapore

# Objective

- Conduct exploratory data analysis on NHB museum visitors over the past 4 years
- Examine the extent to which museum visits have been
  - (i) accessible
  - (ii) enjoyable
  - (iii) inclusive
- Evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on museum visitorship.





# Data Sources

- Provided by the NHB
- Comprises of data from 2017 to 2020
  - Includes 6 national institutions
- Excludes tourists and foreign visitors.
- Includes visitor demographics info and details of their visits

Data field	Description	How it will be used
MDAS ID	Unique identifier for each visitor	To identify repeat visitors
Date	Date of visit (dd/mm/YY)	To project peak/non-peak periods within a day, and throughout the year
Time	Time of visit	To project peak/non-peak periods within a day
Museum	Name of museum	To examine different visitorship and demographic patterns for each museum
Age	Age of visitor	For demographic analysis
Gender	Gender of visitor	For demographic analysis
Race	Race of visitor	For demographic analysis
Marital Status	Marital status of visitor	For demographic analysis
Region, Planning Area, Subzone	Residential location of visitor	To examine distribution of visitors' residential location (origin)

National Museum of Singapore (**NMS**)



Asian Civilisations Museum (**ACM**)



The Peranakan Museum (**TPM**)



Malay Heritage Centre (**MHC**)



The Indian Heritage Centre (**IHC**)



Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall (**SYS**)

# Data Preparation

- Missing Data
  - Rows with missing demographics data and visit time were dropped
- Additional derived variables to facilitate analysis
  - Repeat visitors were derived from MDAS ID unique identifier field
  - Visitors' age was calculated from their year of birth and visit date
  - Museums' location were derived based on latitude and longitude data
  - Visitor Date, Time fields were transformed into datetime objects in R using lubridate library
- Additional dataset:
  - National population statistics from [data.gov.sg](http://data.gov.sg) were used to analyse the demographic patterns of museum visitors against national averages



## Museums in Singapore: Visitor Insights

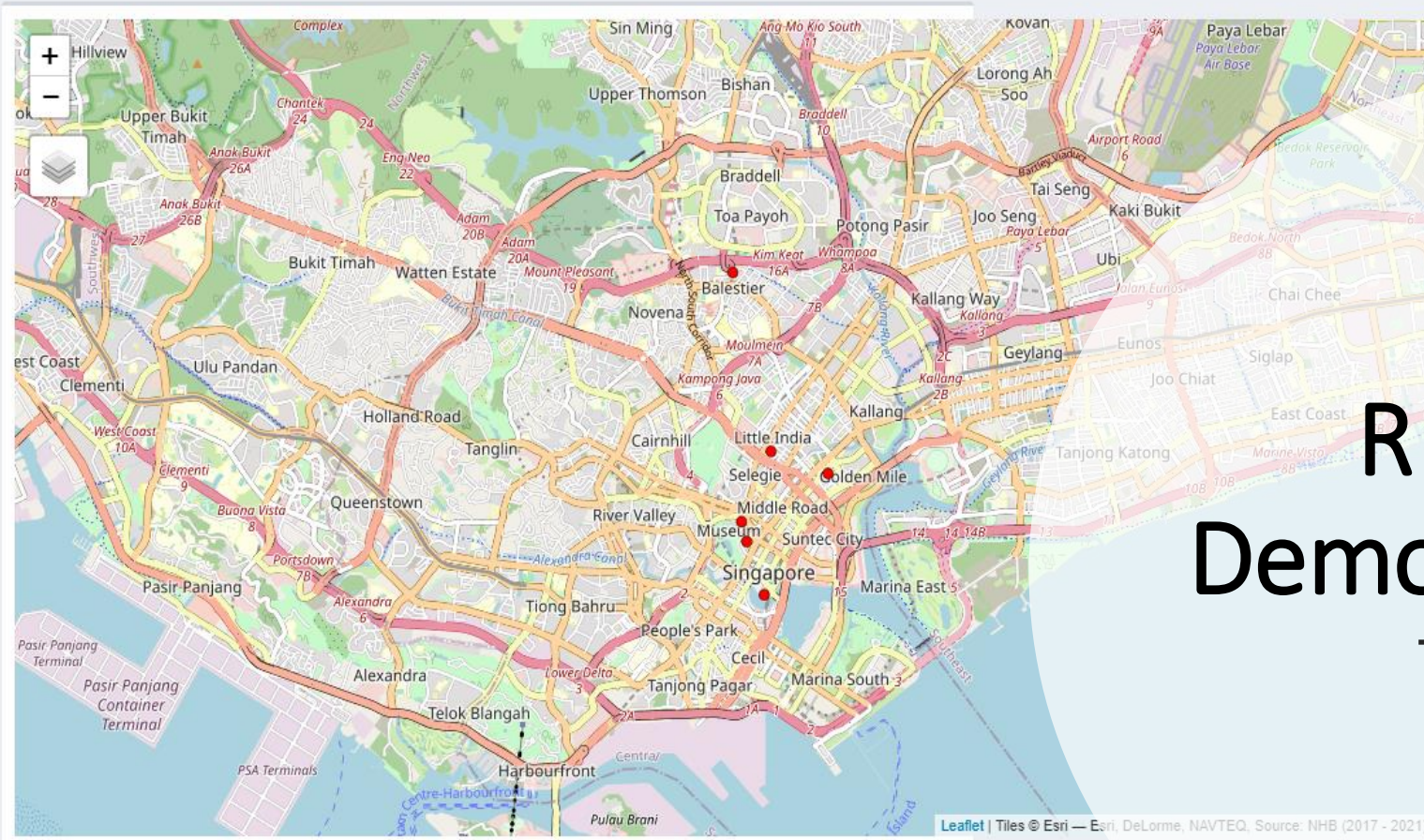
“Our national museums and heritage institutions are cornerstones of the preservation and celebration of our heritage...

This is why it is vital for our museums and institutions to continue being accessible to all, for all.

- National Heritage Board (NHB), Singapore

*Use this app to find out more about the visitor patterns and profile at each museum.*

*Should you wish to visit, check out the peak timings to avoid. Enjoy your visit.*

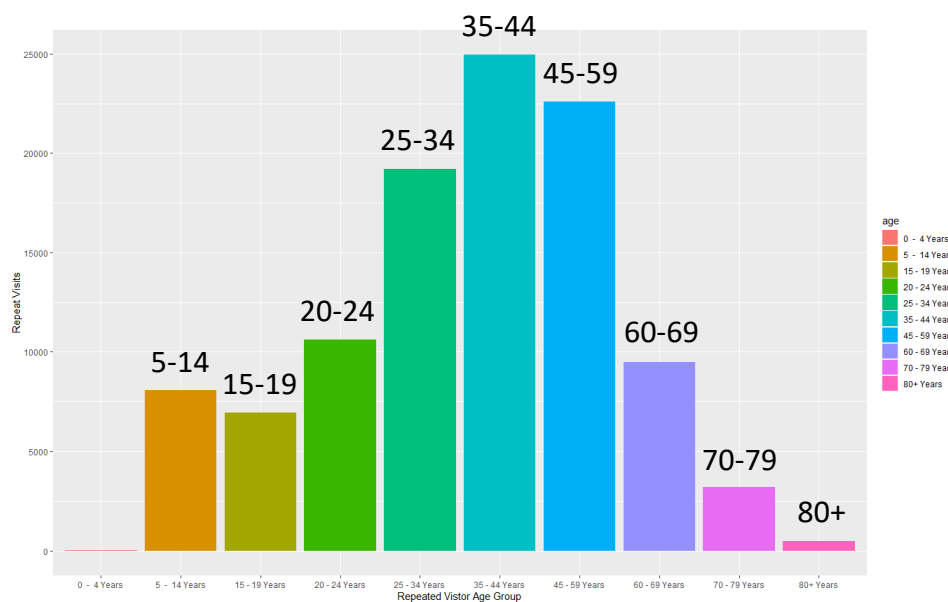


# R Shiny Demonstration

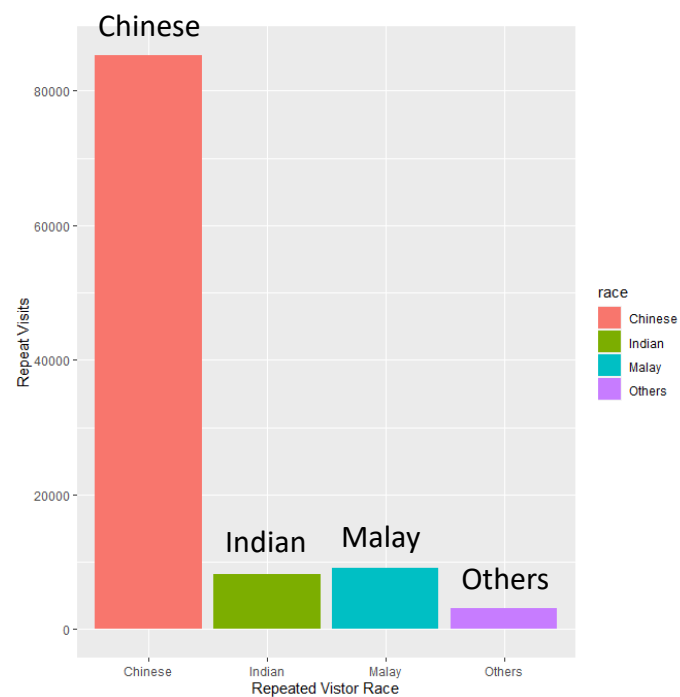
# Methodology-Descriptive Statistics

## Repeat Visitors

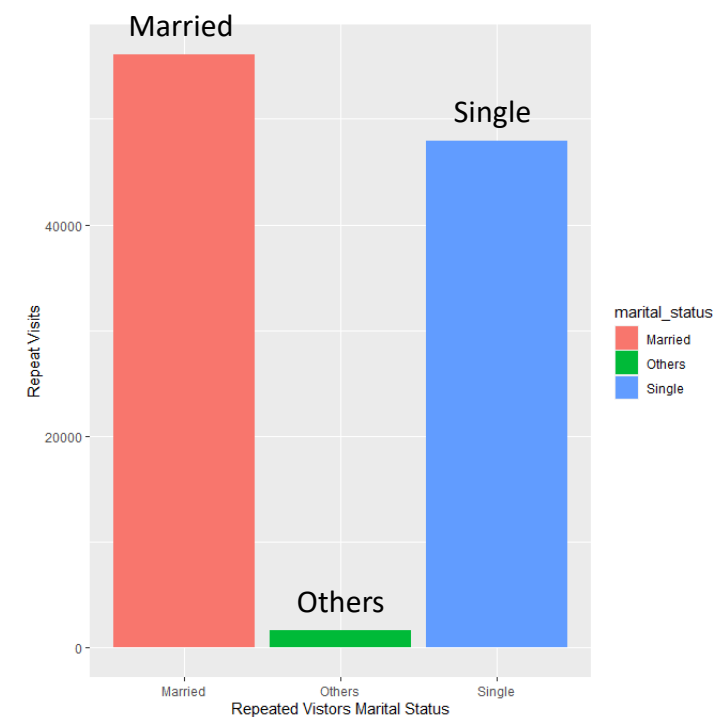
Age Group



Ethnicity



Marital Status





# Methodology-Inferential

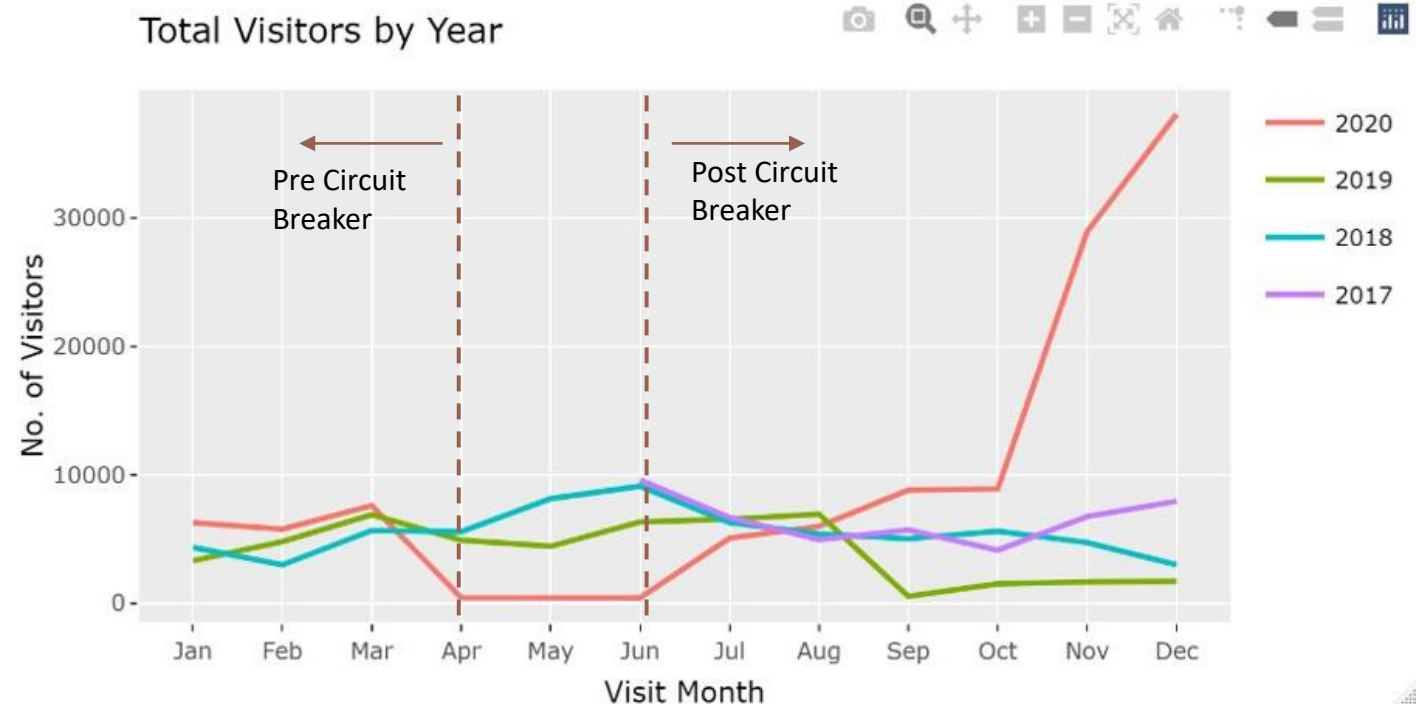
## Change in Visitorship due to Covid-19

**H<sub>0</sub>: Average Visitors Pre Circuit Breaker is greater than or equal to Average Visitors before COVID-19**

**H<sub>1</sub>: Average Visitors Post Circuit Breaker is greater than Average Visitors before Circuit Breaker**

Result: p-value = 0.9736.

**Insufficient evidence to reject the null hypothesis at 90% CI**  
i.e. H<sub>1</sub> is statistically significant



```
> t.test(mu_x, mu_y,  
+       alternative = "less",  
+       mu = 0, paired = FALSE, var.equal = FALSE,  
+       conf.level = 0.90)  
  
Welch Two Sample t-test  
  
data: mu_x and mu_y  
t = 2.4801, df = 5.2111, p-value = 0.9731  
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is less than 0  
90 percent confidence interval:  
-Inf 2768.145  
sample estimates:  
mean of x mean of y  
6545.667 4806.333
```

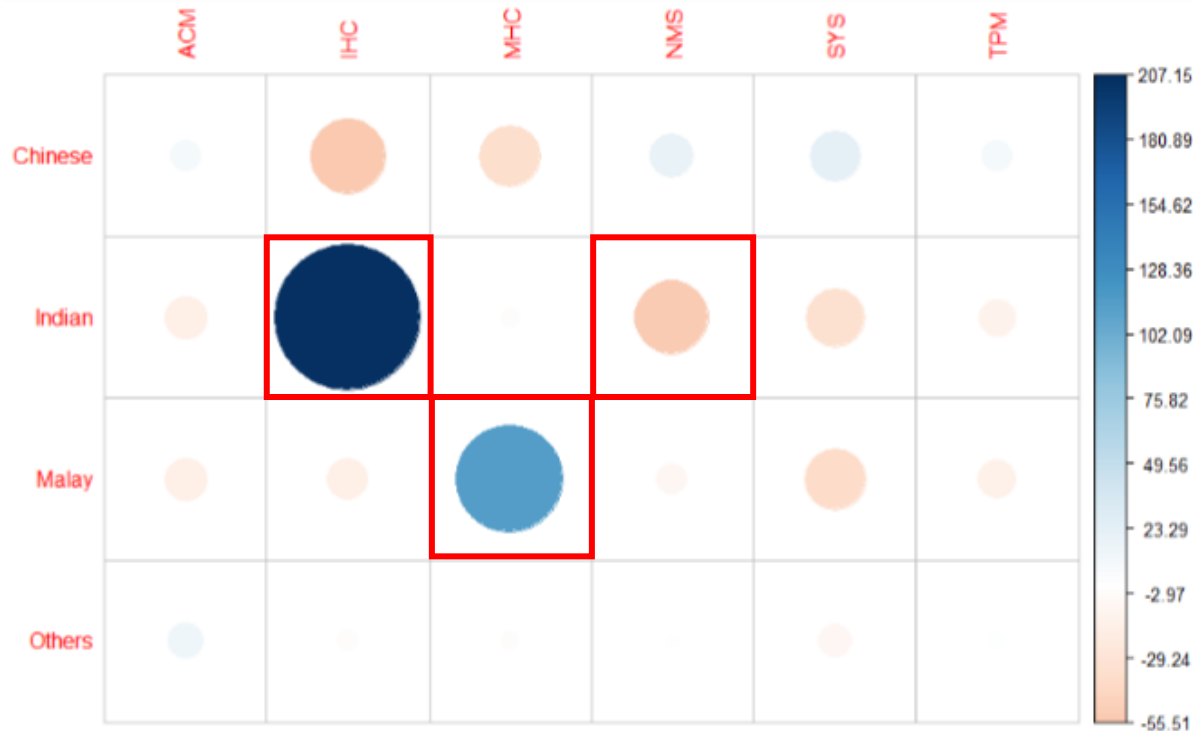
# Methodology-Inferential

## Chi-Square Test for Demographics Across Different Museum

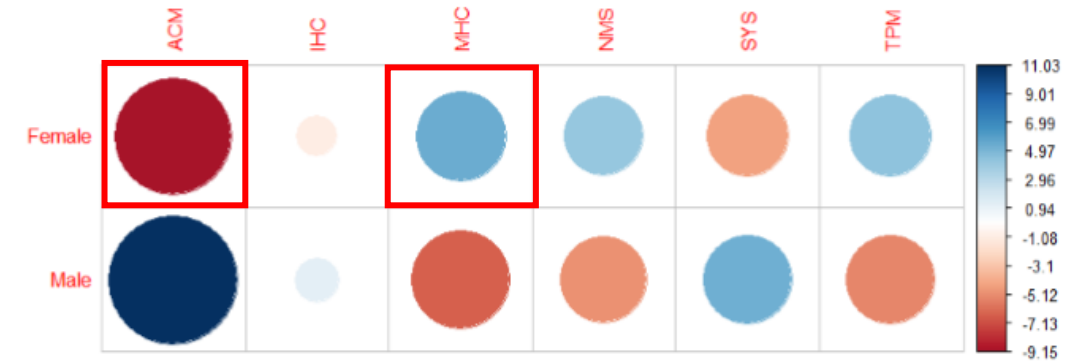
$H_0$ : No association exists between demographics and museum visited

$H_1$ : **Association exists between demographics and museum visited**

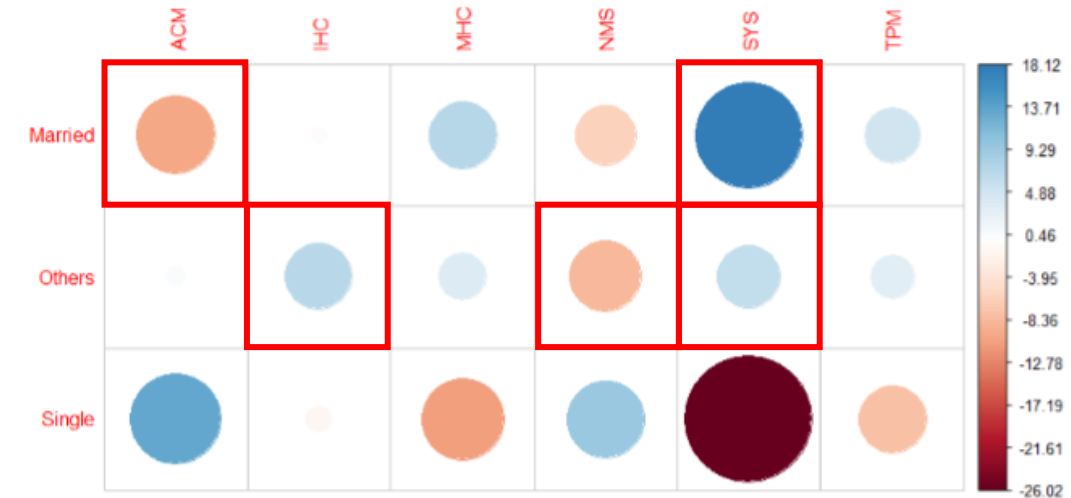
Race



Gender



Marital Status



# Methodology-Inferential

## Kruskal-Wallis Test for Mean Age

$H_0$ : There is no difference in mean age across museums

$H_1$ : There is a difference in mean age across museums

```
> leveneTest(Age ~ Museum, data = df_age_anova)
Levene's Test for Homogeneity of Variance (center = median)
      Df F value    Pr(>F)
group  5  542.86 < 2.2e-16 ***
277345
```

Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test

data: Age by Museum

Kruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 14618, df = 5, p-value < 2.2e-16

Pairwise Wilcoxon test:

	ACM	IHC	MHC	NMS	SYS
IHC	<2e-16	-	-	-	-
MHC	0.26	<2e-16	-	-	-
NMS	<2e-16	<2e-16	<2e-16	-	-
SYS	<2e-16	<2e-16	<2e-16	<2e-16	-
TPM	<2e-16	<2e-16	<2e-16	<2e-16	<2e-16

P value adjustment method: BH

## Repeat Visitorship Factor via Multi-Linear Regression

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t	value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	1.74911	0.43508	4.020	5.83e-05	***
age5 - 14 Years	0.33941	0.43508	0.780	0.43533	
age15 - 19 Years	0.41716	0.43534	0.958	0.33794	
age20 - 24 Years	0.55842	0.43490	1.284	0.19914	
age25 - 34 Years	0.69947	0.43474	1.609	0.10763	
age35 - 44 Years	0.87700	0.43496	2.016	0.04378	*
age45 - 59 Years	0.97137	0.43493	2.233	0.02553	*
age60 - 69 Years	1.05222	0.43563	2.415	0.01572	*
age70 - 79 Years	0.96234	0.43775	2.198	0.02793	*
age80+ Years	0.89532	0.45500	1.968	0.04911	*
genderMale	0.11721	0.01881	6.232	4.66e-10	***
raceIndian	0.03481	0.03391	1.026	0.30473	
raceMalay	-0.01307	0.03263	-0.401	0.68873	
raceOthers	0.12849	0.05460	2.353	0.01862	*
marital_statusOthers	-0.01964	0.07435	-0.264	0.79163	
marital_statusSingle	0.16800	0.02451	6.854	7.28e-12	***
region_nameEast Region	-0.05730	0.02757	-2.078	0.03772	*
region_nameNorth-East Region	-0.04542	0.02511	-1.809	0.07047	.
region_nameNorth Region	-0.04889	0.03162	-1.546	0.12203	
region_nameWest Region	-0.06664	0.02580	-2.583	0.00981	**

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 1.

Multiple R-squared: 0.0112

F-statistic: 24.32 on 19 an

Adjusted R-squared: 0.01082





# Summary: Conclusions

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- Inclusivity measured by demographics:
  - Age /Gender/Marital Status/Race
- Accessibility measured by location
- Enjoyability measured by repeat visits



# Summary: Recommendations

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- Crowd Management in an endemic 'New Normal'
- Capitalising on local tourism
- Marketing Recommendations
- Accessibility Constraints





# Future Work

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Understanding Group Visitors



Including other variables for regression model



Using a more relevant benchmark year to assess post-COVID-19 norms



The image shows the interior of a grand, historic building, likely a museum. The architecture is characterized by a massive, vaulted ceiling made of glass and iron, with a complex network of dark metal trusses supporting the structure. The walls are constructed from light-colored stone or brick, featuring numerous arched windows and doorways. In the center, a wide staircase with ornate railings leads down to a lower level. The overall atmosphere is one of grandeur and historical significance.

Thank you!