



Cultural Funding by Government—2019–20

Australian Capital Territory Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government in 2019–20 for cultural activities was **\$89.4m**, representing an increase of 12% or \$9.9m from 2017–18¹. This amount included **\$3.1m** of COVID support funding for eligible organisations, businesses, and individuals in creative and cultural industries.²

Table 1. ACT Government cultural expenditure, 2016–17 to 2019–20

2016–17	2017–18	2019–20
\$64.9m	\$79.5m ↑22%	\$89.4m ↑12%

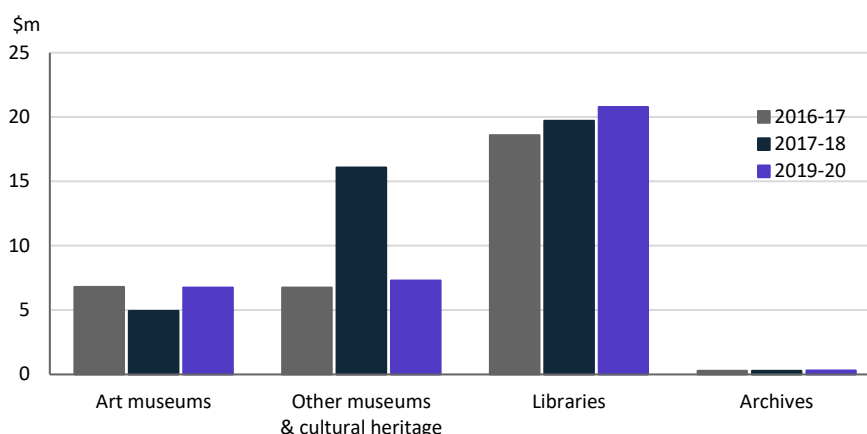
- Recurrent expenses accounted for 82% (\$73.0m) of funded cultural expenditure.
- Capital expenditure was \$16.4m, and the largest two categories were *Performing arts venues* (\$11.7m) and *Libraries* (\$3.1m).
- The estimate of per person funding with COVID support was \$208.86, and without was \$201.54.

Funds on *Heritage* activities fell 14% (or \$5.9m) to \$35.1m.

This decrease was driven by lower expenditure on *Other museums and cultural heritage* (↓\$8.8m), however expenditure on *Art museums* (↑\$1.8m) and *Libraries* (↑\$1.1m) both increased.

The largest categories of *Heritage* expenditure were *Libraries* with \$20.8m, followed by *Other museums and cultural heritage* with \$7.3m. Expenditure on *Libraries* was over half (59%) the heritage expenditure by the ACT Government.³

Figure 1. ACT Government heritage expenditure



¹ *Cultural Funding by Government* survey not conducted in 2018–19, as it changed to a biennial collection.

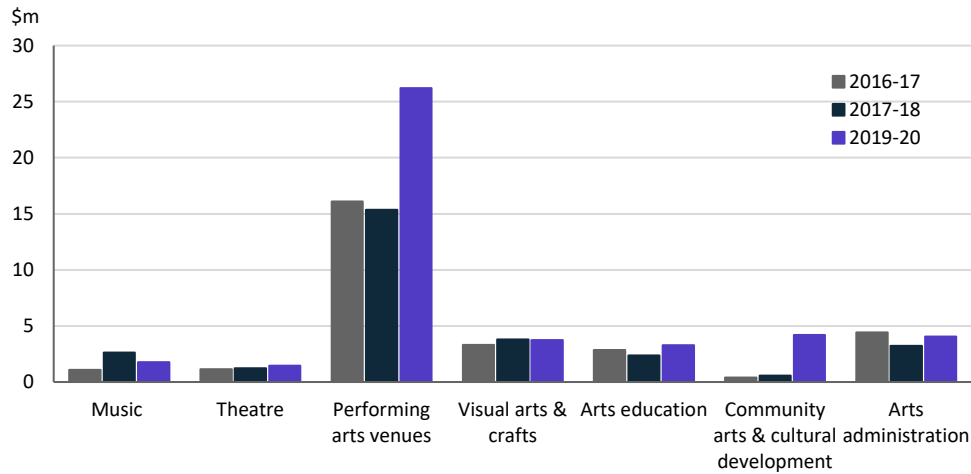
² COVID support funding included in Total recurrent and Total figures only. COVID funding not reported by category.

³ Australian Capital Territory does not have a tier of local government with libraries funded by the ACT Government.

Funds for *Arts* activities rose 33% (or \$12.7m) to \$51.2m.

This increase was largely attributable to increases in expenditure on *Performing arts venues and Community arts and cultural development* (↑\$10.8m, ↑\$3.6m respectively).

Figure 2. ACT Government arts expenditure, by selected categories



Performing arts venues (\$26.2m), accounted for over half (51%) of all funded expenditure on *Arts* activities.

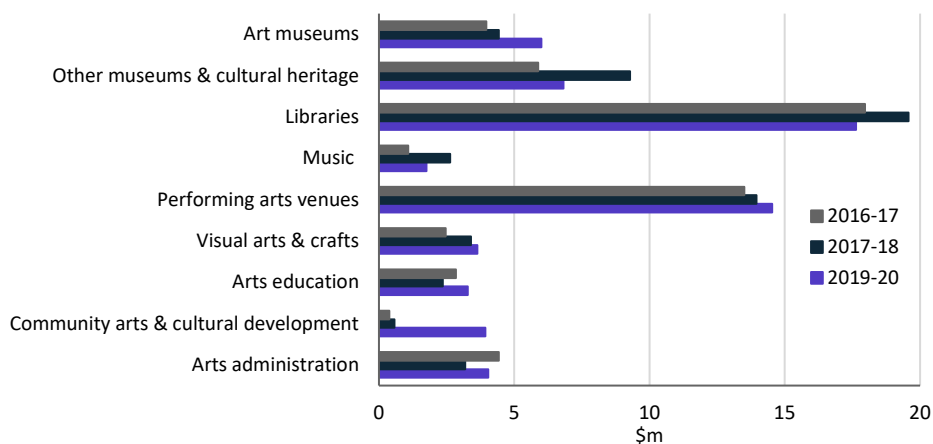
Other main categories of *Arts* activities funding were:

- *Community arts and cultural development*—\$4.2m
- *Visual arts and crafts*—\$3.7m
- *Arts education*—\$3.3m
- *Music*—\$1.8m.

Total recurrent expenditure rose 4% (or \$3.0m) to \$73.0m (including \$3.1m for COVID support funding).⁴

The largest recurrent expenditure was for *Libraries*, \$17.6m, followed by *Performing arts venues* (\$14.5m). The largest dollar increase was for *Community arts and cultural development* ↑\$3.3m.

Figure 3. ACT Government recurrent cultural expenditure, by selected categories



⁴ COVID support funding included in Total recurrent and Total figures only. COVID funding not reported by category.