

Cultural Funding by Government—2020–21

Australian Government

In 2020–21 the estimate of expenditure on cultural activities, funded by the Australian Government, was **\$2,967.0m** representing a rise of 8% or **\$223.2m** from 2019–20. This amount includes **\$232.6m** targeted COVID support funding for cultural and creative organisations and infrastructure, businesses, individuals support programs and initiatives¹.

Table 1. Australian Government cultural expenditure, 2017–18 to 2020–21²

2017–18	2019–20 ³	2020–21 ⁴
\$2,674.9m	\$2,743.8m ↑3%	\$2,967.0m ↑8%

The estimate of per person cultural funding was \$115.52.

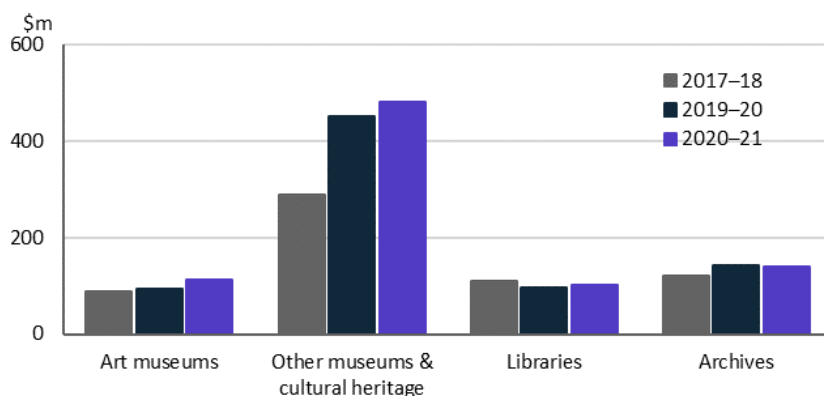
Heritage

Funds for Total *Heritage* activities (recurrent and capital) increased 6% (or \$49.6m) to \$836.0m, including \$63.7m targeted COVID support funding.

Expenditure on the categories of *Other museums and cultural heritage* and *Art museums* increased \$30.1m and \$17.9m respectively. Funding for *Archives* dropped \$3.2m.

The categories with the highest levels of *Heritage* expenditure were *Other museums and cultural heritage* with \$482.9m, followed by *Archives* with \$140.7m.

Figure 1. Australian Government heritage expenditure



¹ In 2020–21 the Australian Government also provided wider economy COVID support funding of \$7,456.9m (\$5,732.1m JobKeeper payments, and \$1,724.8m Boosting Cash Flow for Employers) for eligible businesses and individuals in cultural and creative industries.

² *Cultural Funding by Government* survey not conducted in 2018–19.

³ Includes \$38.4m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported in Total figures only. Data has been revised.

⁴ Includes \$232.6m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.

Arts

The Australian Government allocated more than double the funding to *Arts* activities, compared to *Heritage* activities (72% and 28% respectively).

Funds for Total *Arts* activities (recurrent and capital) increased 11% (or \$211.9m) to \$2,131.0m, including \$169.0m targeted COVID support funding.

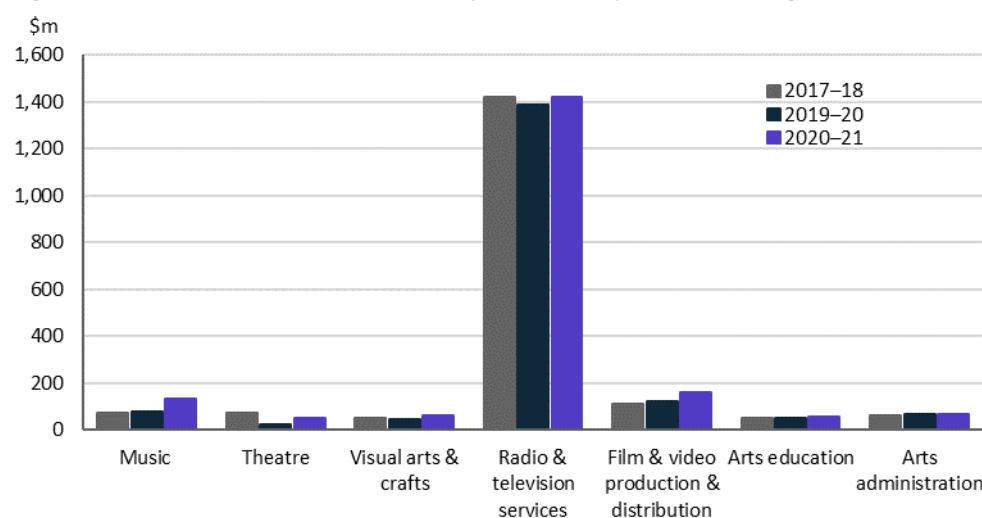
The main contributors to this increase were *Music* (↑\$53.8m), *Film and video production and distribution* (↑\$40.3m), *Radio and television services* (↑\$33.8m), and *Theatre* (↑\$25.8m).

Funding for *Radio and television services* (\$1,418.1m) accounted for two-thirds (or 67%) of all expenditure by the Australian Government on *Arts* activities.

Other main categories of *Arts* funding were:

- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$159.8m
- *Music*—\$132.4m
- *Arts administration*—\$68.4m
- *Visual arts and crafts*—\$60.0m
- *Arts education*—\$54.5m
- *Theatre*—\$51.2m.

Figure 2. Australian Government arts expenditure, by selected categories



Recurrent expenditure

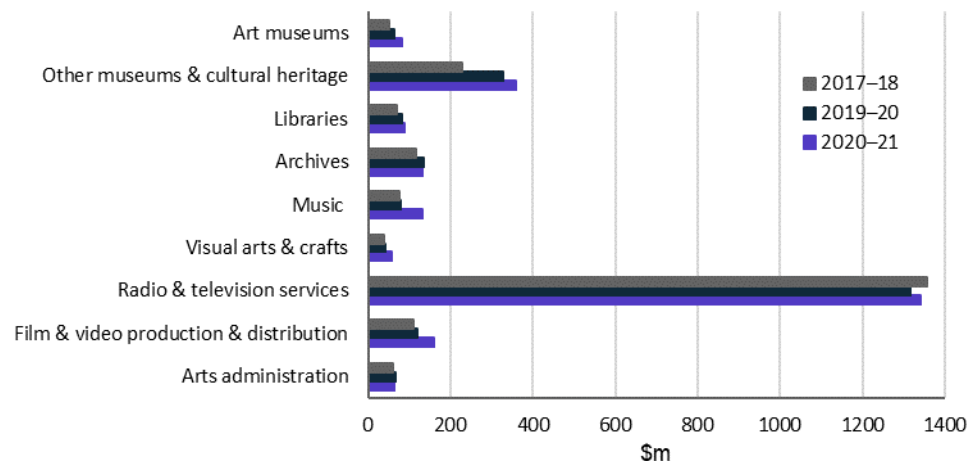
Total recurrent expenditure rose 9% (or \$227.2m) to \$2,709.5m and accounted for 91% of total funded cultural expenditure.

The highest recurrent expenditure was for *Radio and television services* (\$1,342.5m), followed by *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$359.7m).

Other main categories of recurrent expenditure were:

- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$159.8m
- *Music*—\$132.2m
- *Archives*—\$130.9m
- *Libraries*—\$89.0m
- *Art museums*—\$82.8m
- *Arts administration*—\$64.4m
- *Visual arts and crafts*—\$57.9m.

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



Capital expenditure

Total capital expenditure decreased 2% (or \$4.1m) to \$257.5m in 2020–21 and accounted for 9% of Australian Government cultural spending.

The highest capital expenditure was for *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$123.2m), followed by *Radio and television services* (\$75.6m).

Other main categories of capital investment were:

- *Art museums*—\$29.0m
- *Libraries*—\$11.6m
- *Archives*—\$9.8m.

Figure 4. Australian Government capital cultural expenditure, by selected categories

