

# Cultural Funding by Government—2020–21

## New South Wales Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the New South Wales Government in 2020–21 for cultural activities was **$906.4m**. This represented an increase of 13% or $107.0m from 2019–20. This amount includes **$80.0m** of targeted COVID support funding for cultural and creative organisations and infrastructure, businesses, individuals, support programs and initiatives.

Table 1. New South Wales Government cultural expenditure, 2017–18 to 2020–21[[1]](#footnote-1)

| 2017–18 | 2019–20 | 2020–21[[2]](#footnote-2) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| $627.0m | $799.4m ↑27% | $906.4m ↑13% |

* Recurrent expenses accounted for 66% ($602.7m) of funded cultural expenditure.
* Capital expenditure was $303.7m, and the largest two categories were *Art museums* ($120.7m) and *Performing arts venues* ($113.0m).
* The estimate of per person funding was $110.97.

Funds for Total *Heritage* activities (recurrent and capital) rose 2% (or $6.9m) to $462.5m.

This rise was driven by increased expenditure on the categories of *Art museums* (↑$71.7m) and *Libraries* (↑$18.0m). Funds for *Other museums and cultural heritage* dropped $78.8m, due to completion of capital works.

Over one-third (38%) of *Heritage* funds were spent on *Art museums* ($177.0m), the majority (68% or $120.7m) being capital expenditure*.* Also, 34% of funds were spent on *Other museums and cultural heritage* ($157.4m).

Figure 1. New South Wales Government heritage expenditure

Figure 1. New South Wales Government heritage expenditure.
A column graph compares expenditure across the heritage categories of Art museums, Other museums and cultural heritage, Libraries and Archives between the financial years of 2017-18, 2019-20, and 2020-21 for New South Wales Government.
2017-18: Art museums $33.8m, Other museums & cultural heritage $212.1m, Libraries $88.4m, Archives $9.0m.
2019-20: Art museums $105.3m, Other museums & cultural heritage $236.2m, Libraries $95.9m, Archives $18.1m.
2020-21: Art museums $177.0m, Other museums & cultural heritage $157.4m, Libraries $113.9m, Archives $14.2m.


Funds for Total *Arts* activities (recurrent and capital) rose 29% (or $100.0m) to $443.9m.

The main contributors to this increase were *Arts education* ↑$39.4m, *Performing arts venues* ↑$37.3m*,* *Film and video production and distribution* ↑$17.9m, and *Theatre* ↑$9.3m. Expenditure on the activity of *Music* dropped$9.3m.

Figure 2. New South Wales Government arts expenditure, by selected categories

Figure 2. New South Wales Government arts expenditure, by selected categories.
A column graph compares expenditure across selected arts categories of Music, Theatre, Performing arts venues, Visual arts and crafts, Film and video production and distribution, Arts education and Arts administration between the financial years of 2017-18, 2019-20, and 2020-21 for New South Wales Government.
2017-18: Music $16.3m, Theatre $7.2m, Performing arts venues $144.3m, Visual arts & crafts $17.5m, Film & video production & distribution $14.7m, Arts education $8.7m, Arts administration $26.2m.
2019-20: Music $29.8m, Theatre $6.6m, Performing arts venues $153.5m, Visual arts & crafts $16.9m, Film & video production & distribution $31.6m, Arts education $22.9m, Arts administration $43.5m.
2020-21: Music $20.5m, Theatre $15.9m, Performing arts venues $190.8m, Visual arts & crafts $21.5m, Film & video production & distribution $49.5m, Arts education $62.3m, Arts administration $24.5m.

Over one-third (43%)of all funded expenditure by the New South Wales Government on *Arts* activities was spent on *Performing arts venues* ($190.8m), the majority (59% or $113.0m) being capital expenditure.

Other main categories of *Arts* activities funding were:

* *Arts education*—$62.3m
* *Film and video production and distribution*—$49.5m
* *Visual arts and crafts*—$21.5m
* *Music*—$20.5m.

Total recurrent expenditure increased 35% (or $155.1m) to $602.7m.

Table 2. New South Wales Government recurrent cultural expenditure, 2017–18 to 2020–21

| 2017–18 | 2019–20 | 2020–21[[3]](#footnote-3) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| $384.6m | $447.6m ↑16% | $602.7m ↑35% |

The largest recurrent expenditure was for *Other museums and cultural heritage*, $132.5m, followed by *Libraries* ($93.7m), *Performing arts venues* ($77.8m) and *Arts education* ($61.6m).

Figure 3. New South Wales Government recurrent cultural expenditure, by selected categories

Figure 3. New South Wales Government recurrent cultural expenditure, by selected categories.
A bar chart compares recurrent expenditure across selected categories of Art museums, Other museums and cultural heritage, Libraries, Music, Performing arts venues, Visual arts and crafts, Film and video production and distribution, Arts education and Arts administration between the financial years of 2017-18, 2019-20, and 2020-21 for New South Wales Government.
2017-18: Art museums $27.2m, Other museums & cultural heritage $133.7m, Libraries $71.8m, Music $16.2m, Performing arts venues $13.3m, Visual arts & crafts $17.2m, Film & video production & distribution $14.7m, Arts education $8.7m, Arts administration $26.1m. 
2019-20: Art museums $50.7m, Other museums & cultural heritage $134.5m, Libraries $81.2m, Music $22.8m, Performing arts venues $17.7m, Visual arts & crafts $15.7m, Film & video production & distribution $31.5m, Arts education $22.9m, Arts administration $16.1m. 
2020-21: Art museums $56.3m, Other museums & cultural heritage $132.5m, Libraries $93.7m, Music $18.4m, Performing arts venues $77.8m, Visual arts & crafts $19.5m, Film & video production & distribution $49.2m, Arts education $61.6m, Arts administration $16.0m. 

1. *Cultural Funding by Government* survey not conducted for 2018–19. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Includes $80.0m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Includes $80.0m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)