

Cultural Funding by Government—2020–21

Victorian Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the Victorian Government in 2020–21 for cultural activities was **\$771.9m**. This represented an increase of 40% or \$219.7m from 2019–20. This amount includes **\$122.0m** of targeted COVID support funding for cultural and creative organisations and infrastructure, businesses, individuals, support programs and initiatives.

In 2020–21, the Victorian Government also contributed an additional **\$177.0m** to eligible businesses and individuals in cultural and creative industries through its general COVID business support programs. This wider economy COVID support funding is not included in the analysis below.

Table 1. Victorian Government cultural expenditure, 2017–18 to 2020–21¹

2017–18	2019–20 ²	2020–21 ³
\$547.1m	\$552.2m ↑1%	\$771.9m ↑40%

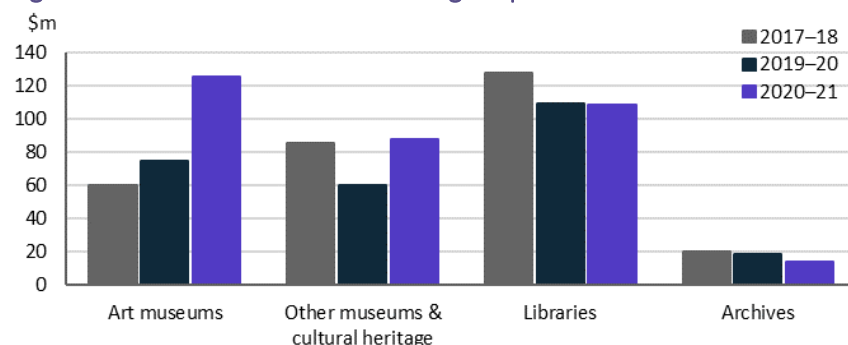
- Recurrent expenses accounted for 78% (\$603.8m) of funded cultural expenditure.
- Capital expenditure was \$168.0m, and the largest three categories were *Film and video production and distribution* (\$41.6m), *Performing arts venues* (\$41.4m), and *Art museums* (\$30.9m).
- The estimate of per person funding was \$115.93.

Funds on Total *Heritage* activities (recurrent and capital) increased 28% (or \$72.6m) to \$335.4m.

This increase was driven by expenditure on the categories of *Art museums* (↑\$50.5m) and *Other museums and cultural heritage* (↑\$27.2m).

Over a third (37%) of *Heritage* funds were spent on *Art museums* (\$125.2m), 32% on *Libraries* (\$108.6m), 26% on *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$87.4m) and 4% on *Archives* (\$14.3m).

Figure 1. Victorian Government heritage expenditure



¹ *Cultural Funding by Government* survey not conducted for 2018–19.

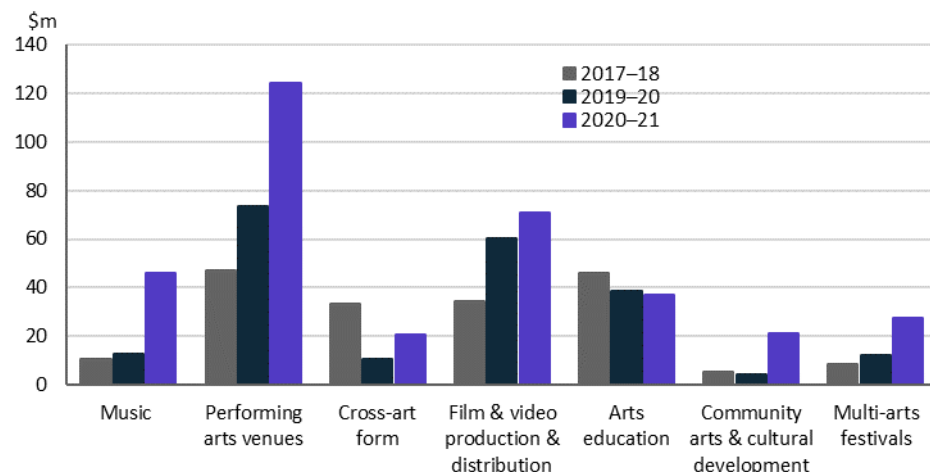
² Includes \$23.5m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding. Data has been revised.

³ Includes \$122.0m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding.

Funds for Total Arts activities (recurrent and capital) rose 51% (or \$147.0m) to \$436.4m.

Three main contributors to this increase were *Performing arts venues* (↑\$50.4m), *Music* (↑\$33.2m) and *Community arts and cultural development* (↑\$16.9m).

Figure 2. Victorian Government arts expenditure, by selected categories



The main categories of Arts activities funding were:

- *Performing arts venues*—\$123.9m
- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$71.0m
- *Music*—\$46.2m.

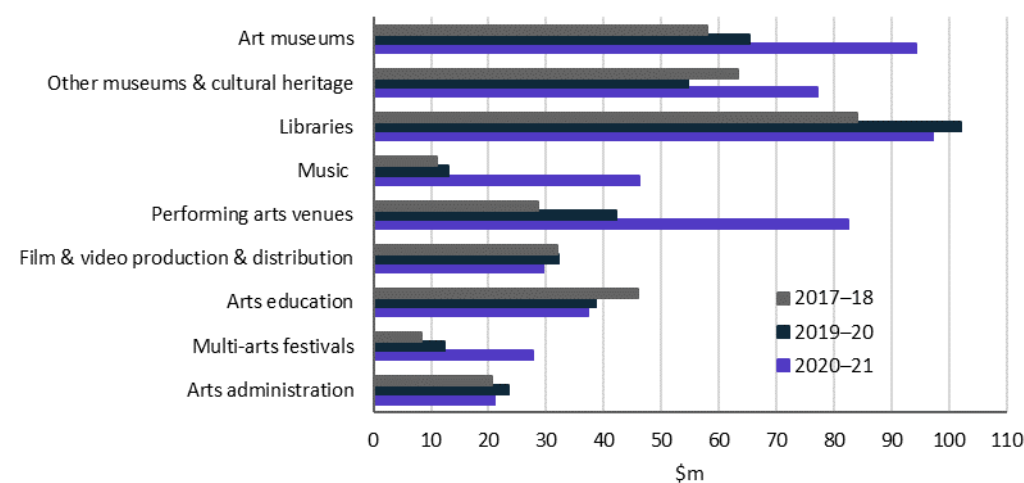
Total recurrent expenditure (including COVID support funding) increased 29% (or \$135.2m) to \$603.8m.

Table 2. Victorian Government recurrent cultural expenditure, 2017-18 to 2020-21

2017-18	2019-20 ⁴	2020-21 ⁵
\$447.6m	\$468.6m ↑5%	\$603.8m ↑29%

The largest recurrent expenditure was for *Libraries*, \$97.0m, followed by *Art museums* \$94.3m.

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



⁴ Includes \$23.5m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding. Data has been revised.

⁵ Includes \$122.0m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding.