



# Cultural Funding by Government—2019–20

## Australian Government

In 2019–20 the estimate of expenditure on cultural activities, funded by the Australian Government, was **\$7,025.7m** representing a rise of 163% or **\$4,350.8m** from 2017–18<sup>1</sup>. This amount included **\$4,272.1m** in COVID support funding (\$3,065.3m *JobKeeper* payments, \$1,168.4m *Boosting Cash Flow for Employers*, \$38.4m *Arts portfolio grants*) for eligible organisations, businesses, and individuals in creative and cultural industries.

The estimate of expenditure on cultural activities excluding COVID support funding was **\$2,753.6m**, an increase of 3% or \$78.7m from 2017–18.

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

2016–17	2017–18	2019–20	2019–20 Without COVID support funding
\$2,383.8m	\$2,674.9m ↑12%	\$7,025.7m ↑163%	\$2,753.6m ↑3%

The estimate of per person cultural funding including COVID support funding was \$274.87, and without was \$107.73.

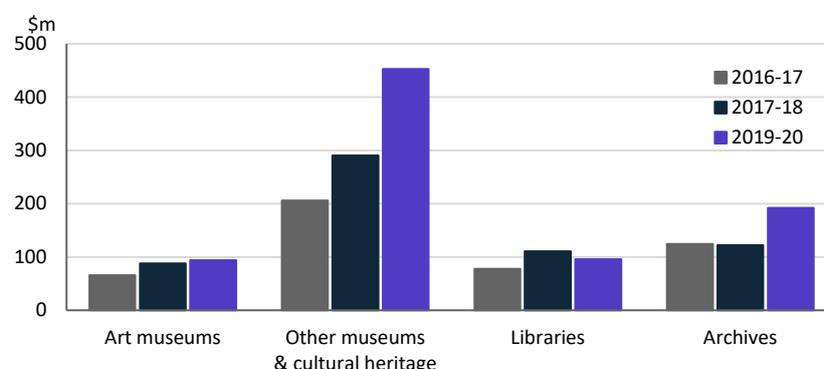
## Heritage

Funds on *Heritage* activities rose 37% (or \$223.2m) to \$834.5m.

This increase was driven by expenditure on the categories of *Other museums and cultural heritage* (↑\$162.5m), *Archives* (↑\$69.9m) and *Art museums* (↑\$5.9m). Conversely, funding for *Libraries* dropped \$15.0m.

The categories with the highest levels of *Heritage* expenditure were *Other museums and cultural heritage* with \$452.8m, followed by *Archives* with \$192.0m.

Figure 1. Australian Government heritage expenditure



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

## Arts

The Australian Government allocated double the funding to *Arts* activities, compared to *Heritage* activities (27% and 12% respectively).

Funds for *Arts* activities decreased 7% (or \$144.5m) to \$1,919.1m.

The main contributors to this movement were *Community arts and cultural development* (↓\$60.8m), *Theatre* (↓\$44.9m), *Radio and television services* (↓\$34.2m) and *Performing arts venues* (↓\$20.7m).

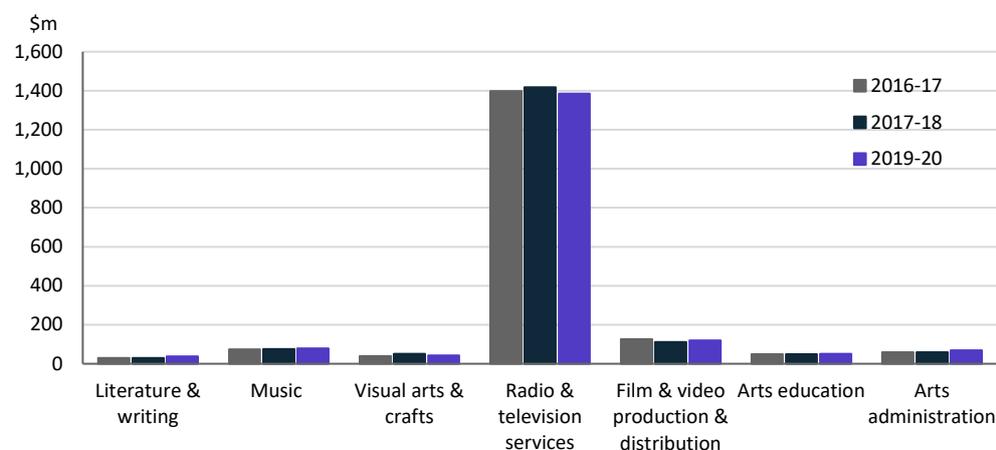
Conversely, funding for the categories of *Film and video production and distribution* and *Literature and writing* both increased by \$8.6m.

Funding for *Radio and television services* (\$1,384.3m), accounted for almost three quarters (or 72%) of all expenditure by the Australian Government on *Arts* activities.

Other main categories of *Arts* activities funding were:

- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$119.5m
- *Music*—\$78.6m
- *Arts administration*—\$68.1m
- *Arts education*—\$50.7m
- *Visual arts and crafts*—\$42.9m
- *Literature and writing*—\$38.2m.

Figure 2. Australian Government highest arts expenditure categories for 2019–20



## COVID support

The Australian Government spent \$4,272.1m in COVID support funding for eligible organisations, businesses, and individuals in creative and cultural industries, including:

- \$3,065.3m—*JobKeeper*
- \$1,168.4m—*Boosting Cash Flow for Employers*
- \$38.4m—*Arts portfolio grants*.

Table 2. Components of Australian Government cultural expenditure—2019–20

Heritage	Arts	COVID support	Total
\$834.5m 12%	\$1,919.1m 27%	\$4,272.1m 61%	\$7,025.7m 100%

## Recurrent expenditure

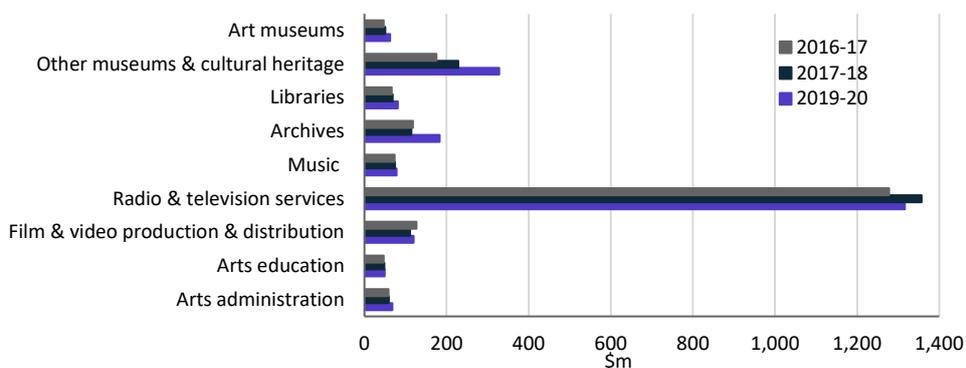
Total recurrent expenditure rose 193% (or \$4,456.5m) to \$6,764.1m and accounted for 96% of total funded cultural expenditure. This included \$4,272.1m in COVID support funding.<sup>2</sup>

The highest recurrent expenditure was for *Radio and television services* (\$1,315.8m), followed by *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$328.3m).

Other main categories of recurrent expenditure were:

- *Archives*—\$182.8m
- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$119.4m
- *Libraries*—\$81.1m
- *Music*—\$77.9m
- *Arts administration*—\$67.8m
- *Art museums*—\$62.4m
- *Arts education*—\$49.0m.

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

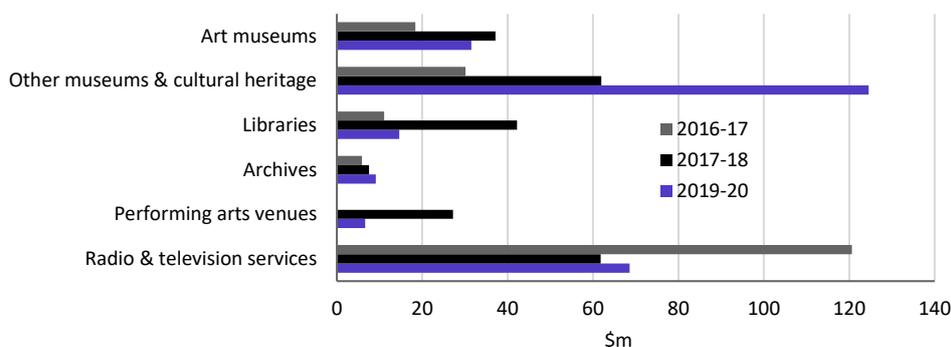


## Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure decreased 29% (or \$105.6m) to \$261.6m in 2019–20 and accounted for 4% of Australian Government cultural spending.

The highest capital expenditure was for *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$124.5m), followed by *Radio and television services* (\$68.6m). Other main categories of capital investment were *Art museums* (\$31.5m), *Libraries* (\$14.6m), *Archives* (\$9.1m) and *Performing arts venues* (\$6.7m).

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



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