

Jurisdictional profiles

Australian Capital Territory

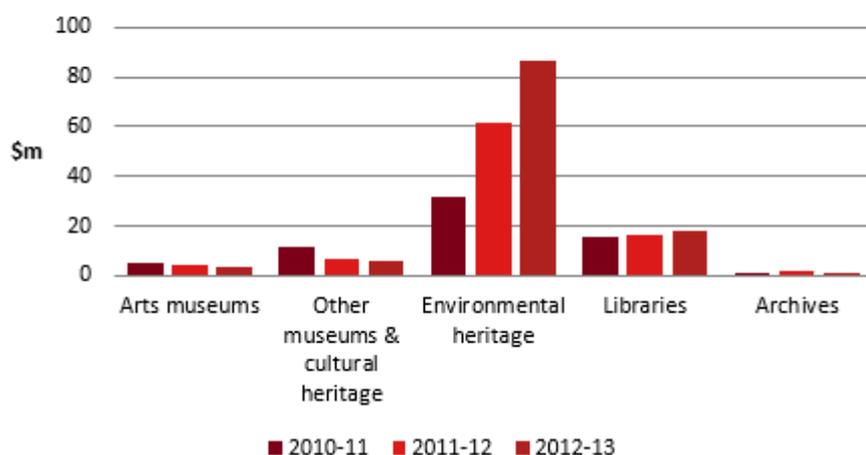
Please note updates to the data presented in this profile are available in the data tables at [Cultural Data Online](#).

Cultural Funding by Government, 2012-13

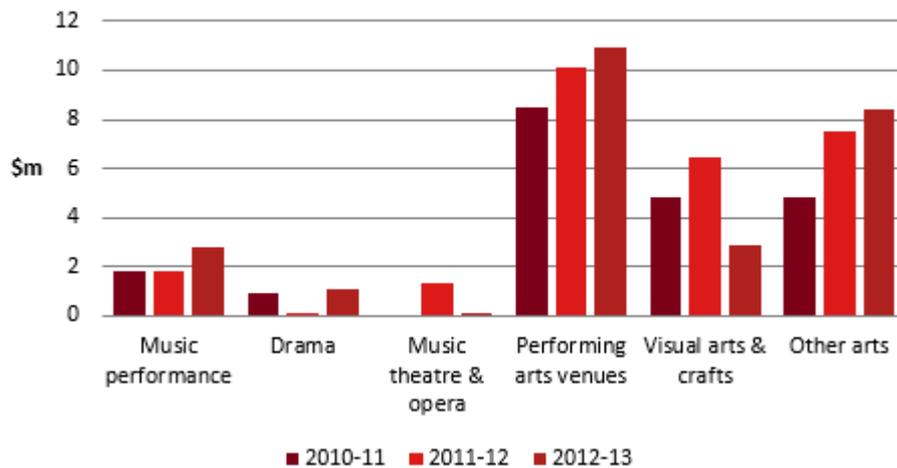
The below commentary presents an overview of expenditure on cultural activities funded by Government based on results from the Cultural Funding by Government, Australia, 2012-13 collection conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) ([cat. no. 4183.0](#)). Please refer to **Table 1.1** in spreadsheets.

- The 2012-13 total cultural expenditure by the ACT government was \$147.3m which represents 4% of all state and territory government funding.
- Total cultural expenditure has generally been increasing over the six years to 2012-13, with the exception of a 3.8% fall in 2010-11. The 2012-13 estimate of \$147.3m is 20% above that of the previous years.
- Recurrent expenses accounted for over two thirds (68%) of cultural expenditure.
- The 2012-13 per person expenditure estimate was \$389.80.
- Expenditure on Heritage activities has risen considerably over the previous two financial years, up 38% to \$90.7m in 2011-12 and up 28% to \$116.3m in 2012-13. The current increase was driven primarily by greater expenditure in Environmental heritage up \$25.5m (42% increase) coupled with a smaller increase of \$1.9m for Libraries. Expenditure for the remaining three categories fell slightly over this period. Refer to **Graph 1** below.
- 2012-13 expenditure for Arts activities fell marginally to \$31.1m from \$32.1m. The distribution of expenditure across the categories was similar to the previous financial year, with the largest shift being a reduction in Visual arts and craft expenditure of \$3.6m from \$6.5m down to \$2.9m. Refer to **Graph 2** below.

**Graph 1 - Australian Capital Territory
Government heritage expenditure**



**Graph 2 - Australian Capital Territory
Government arts expenditure, By selected categories**



Participation in Cultural Activities by Children, 2012

This commentary outlines data from the 2012 Survey of Children’s Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities (cat. no. 4901.0) conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to present an overview of children aged 5-14 years and their interaction with the cultural sector. Please refer to **Tables 2.1 – 2.7** in spreadsheets.

- In the 12 months to April 2012, 40% (17,100) of children aged 5-14 years in the Australian Capital Territory participated in at least one of five organised cultural activities outside of school hours.
- Playing a musical instrument was the most popular organised activity with 21% of children in the Australian Capital Territory involved. By comparison, 17% were involved in dancing, 10% in singing and organised art and craft and 4% were involved in drama.
- When compared with the national participation rates, children in the Australian Capital Territory had higher rates of participation for the majority of organised activities.
- More than half of all girls (52%) in the Australian Capital Territory participated in at least one organised cultural activity compared with just over a quarter of boys (27%).
- The most popular activities for girls were dancing and playing a musical instrument with 5,900 (28%) and 5,400 (26%) participants respectively. Of the children who danced, 94% had taken lessons in the 12 months prior to interview.
- For boys the most popular activity was playing a musical instrument, attracting 3,800 (17%) participants. The majority of children who played a musical instrument undertook formal instruction (81%).
- Children aged 12-14 years played musical instruments at a participation rate more than twice that of those in the 5-8 years age group (32% and 14% respectively). Survey results show varying rates of participation across the age groups for all other activities however, there is not enough evidence to conclude that these differences are statistically significant.
- Reported estimates indicate that children from couple families (42%) were more likely to have participated in at least one of the organised cultural activities than those from single parent families (30%). However, there is not enough evidence to conclude that this difference is statistically significant.

Participation in Cultural Activities by Adults, 2013-14

This commentary uses data from the Cultural Participation survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics ([cat. no. 4921.0](#)) to present an overview of people aged 15 years and over and their interaction with the cultural sector via participation in a selection of cultural activities. Please refer to **Tables 3.1 – 3.3** in spreadsheets.

- In 2013-14, more than a third (39% or 115,100 people) of the population aged 15 years and over living in the ACT participated in at least one cultural activity in the 12 months prior to interview. This was considerably higher than the national participation rate of 27%.
- Nearly half of participants (52,500 people or 46%) participated in one activity, a quarter (29,000 people or 25%) participated in two activities and just under a sixth (17,200 or 15%) participated in three activities.
- With a participation rate of 15%, jewellery making, textile, paper or wood crafts was the most popular cultural activity in the ACT attracting 43,700 participants. By comparison, 8% participated in photography, film-making or editing (apart from recording personal events).
- Six percent (6%) of people in the ACT participated in designing websites, computer games or interactive software compared to 4% who participated in fashion, interior or graphic design.
- Rates of participation in the ACT were higher across the majority of cultural activity types than the national rates.

Employment in Cultural Occupations and Industries, 2011 Census

This commentary presents ABS data on employed persons 15 years and over from the Employment in Culture publication ([cat. no. 6273.0](#)) on selected cultural occupations and industries from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. The selection of 'cultural' occupations and industries in this instance were aligned with the occupation and industry classification of the Australian Culture and Leisure Classification (ACLC - Second edition [cat. no. 4902.0](#)). Please refer to **Tables 4.1 – 4.13** in spreadsheets.

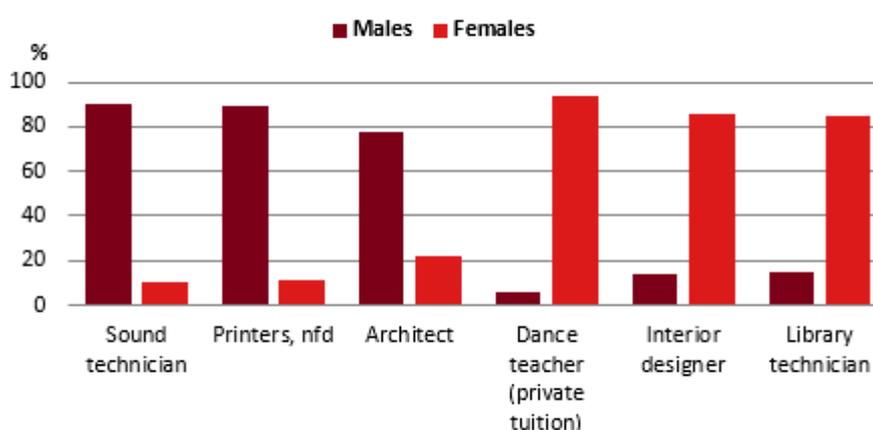
Cultural Employment over time – 2006 and 2011

- In the 2011 Census there were 6,937 persons employed in a cultural occupation in their main job in the Australian Capital Territory, a decrease of 3% from the 7,154 persons reported in the 2006 Census. Decreases were recorded for both the heritage and arts occupation groups, however slight growth was experienced in the other cultural occupations group (38 persons or 6%).
- While there was a decline in the number of persons employed in arts occupations overall, there were some occupations that experienced growth. In particular, design workers (encompassing graphic designers and web developers), and architects and urban planners grew by 7% (87 persons) and 13% (74 persons) respectively.
- The largest decline between the 2006 and 2011 Census' was in persons employed as printing workers (which incorporates occupations such as printing machinists, graphic pre-press trade workers and printers' assistants). This group experienced a fall of 37% (down 151 persons). The number of persons employed as performing artists and music composers also decreased by 56 persons, down 21%.
- In the 2011 Census there were 7,129 persons employed in a cultural industry in the Australian Capital Territory, a decrease of 1% or 59 persons from the 7,188 persons reported in 2006.
- At the broad level, increases were recorded in the heritage industry group (1%) and other culture industry group (11%), however a decrease of 3% occurred in the arts industry group.
- The industry with the largest increase was radio broadcasting with 78 (90%) more persons employed in the industry at the 2011 Census, compared with the 2006 Census. Increases in the advertising services industry (66 persons or 27%) and arts education industry (65 persons or 16%) were also recorded.

Cultural Occupations by Sex and Age

- Of persons employed in cultural occupations in the Australian Capital Territory, 3,384 (49%) were male and 3,551 (51%) were female. Conversely, more males than females were employed in cultural occupations nationally.
- Cultural occupations with high proportions of males were sound technician (90%), printers, nfd (89%), architect (78%), architectural draftsman and web developer (both 77%). Cultural occupations with high proportions of females were dance teacher (private tuition) (94%), interior designer (86%), library technician (85%), librarian (84%) and library assistant (82%). Refer to **Graph 3** below.
- Persons aged 55 years and over accounted for 21% of those employed in cultural occupations in the Australian Capital Territory, which was higher than the national average of 18%. Of those cultural occupations with more than 50 workers, the cultural occupations with the largest proportions of persons aged 55 years and over were author (45%), translator (44%) and historian (43%).
- The cultural occupations with the smallest proportions of persons aged 55 years and over were web developer and media producer (excluding video) (both 5%) and graphic designer (4%). There was also a low proportion of web developers aged 55 years and over nationally.

Graph 3 - Persons employed in selected cultural occupations^{(a)(b)}, Australian Capital Territory, 2011



(a) In their main job in the week prior to Census night.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Cultural Occupations by Other Demographic Characteristics

- The cultural occupations with the largest number of employed persons born overseas were librarian (188), graphic designer (102), web developer (102) and minister of religion (101).
- Of all persons born overseas employed in cultural occupations in the Australian Capital Territory, 61% were employed in arts occupations. In comparison, 66% of all persons employed in cultural occupations in the Australian Capital Territory were employed in arts occupations.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples made up 1% (64) of all persons employed in cultural occupations for their main job. The cultural occupation group employing the largest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was arts occupations.
- Of all persons employed in cultural occupations as their main job in the Australian Capital Territory, 55% (3,826) received a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week. In comparison, 43% of all persons employed in cultural occupations nationally received a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week.
- Some 12% (826) of those employed in cultural occupations in the Australian Capital Territory received a gross weekly income between \$800 and \$999, another 11% (790) received between \$600 and \$799, 8% (567) received between \$400 and \$599.

- Almost one fifth of dance teachers (private tuition) (19%) received a gross weekly income of less than \$200 per week. In comparison, the majority of environmental managers (95%) and urban and regional planners (92%) received a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week.
- The cultural occupation with the largest number of persons in the Australian Capital Territory receiving a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week was librarian (399).
- In 2011, 62% (4,325) of persons employed in cultural occupations as their main job in the Australian Capital Territory were working at least 35 hours per week, while 12% (818) reported that they worked between 1 and 15 hours, and 10% (723) between 25 and 34 hours per week.

Cultural Industries by Sex and Age

- More females (3,659) than males (3,470) were employed in cultural industries in the Australian Capital Territory, whereas more males than females were employed in cultural industries nationally.
- Persons aged 15 to 24 years accounted for 19% of all persons employed in cultural industries in the Australian Capital Territory. Cultural industries with the largest number of persons aged 15 to 24 years were newspaper and book retailing (186) and motion picture exhibition (161). Both of these cultural industries also employed the largest number of persons aged 15 to 24 years nationally.
- The cultural industries with the largest number of persons aged 55 years and over were libraries and archives (196), museum operation (188) and religious services (173). In comparison, religious services had the largest number of employed persons aged 55 years and over nationally.

Cultural Industries by Other Demographic Characteristics

- Of the 7,125 persons employed in cultural industries in the Australian Capital Territory, 1,596 (22%) were born overseas. More than half (58%) of these were from a non-main English speaking country (927).
- The cultural industries with the most number of employed persons born overseas were libraries and archives (250), museum operation (179), religious services (150) and architectural services (145).
- The libraries and archives industry employed 16% of all persons born overseas employed in cultural industries, compared with 13% of all persons employed in cultural industries.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples made up 1% (51) of all persons employed in cultural industries in the Australian Capital Territory. The cultural industry employing the largest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was museum operation (21).
- Of all persons employed in cultural industries as their main job in the Australian Capital Territory, 46% received a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week. In comparison, 39% of all persons employed in cultural industries nationally received a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week.
- The cultural industries with the largest number of persons receiving a gross weekly income of \$1,000 or more per week were libraries and archives (637), followed by museum operation (604). The newspaper and book retailing industry had the largest number of persons receiving a gross weekly income of less than \$200 per week (106).
- Approximately 59% (4,191) of those employed in cultural industries as their main job in the Australian Capital Territory reported that they worked at least 35 hours per week, 16% (1,145) worked 1 to 15 hours per week, 10% (712) between 25 and 34 hours and 9% (669) worked between 16 and 24 hours.
- In the week prior to the 2011 Census, 35% of those employed in cultural industries worked part-time (between 1 and 34 hours per week).

Cultural and Creative Industry Business Counts, 2014-15

The cultural and creative industry business counts were drawn from the ABS Counts of Australian Businesses ([cat. no. 8165.0](#)) comprised of actively trading businesses in the Australian economy. The cultural and creative industry component was selected on the basis of the industry coverage and classification used in the ABS Cultural and Creative Activity Satellite Accounts, 2008-09, ([cat. no. 5271.0](#)), which includes 43 ANZSIC codes. Please refer to **Tables 5.1 – 5.2** in spreadsheets.

- At June 2015, the number of actively trading ACT cultural and creative businesses remained relatively stable falling by only 2 to 2,777 from the June 2014 total of 2,779. This was in contrast to the 1% fall seen at the national level.
- At June 2015, Computer system design and related services was the most common cultural and creative industry class with 1,424 businesses in the ACT. Just over a third (35%) of these were non-employing with the majority (902 or 63%) employing 1-19 employees. The remainder employed 20-199 employees.
- Architectural services and Creative artists, musicians, writers and performers were the next most common cultural and creative businesses in the ACT with 206 and 174 businesses in the ACT respectively.

Cultural Attendance, 2013-14

This commentary uses data from the Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, Australia, 2013-14 survey ([cat. no. 4114.0](#)) conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics which provides estimates of people aged 15 years and over who attended a range of cultural venues and events in the 12 months prior to interview. Please refer to **Table 6.1** in spreadsheets.

- In 2013-14, ninety four percent of people in the ACT attended at least one cultural venue or event. Nationally, the attendance rate was 86%.
- Eight out of ten people in the ACT (80%) attended a Cinema in 2013-14. In comparison, around half attended Art galleries (53%) and Museums (47%), and over a third (37%) attended Libraries.
- In respect to cultural events, over one third (36%) of people in the ACT attended Popular music concerts, one quarter attended Theatre performances (26%) and one fifth (21%) attended Other performing arts. Attendance rates for cultural events in the ACT trended slightly higher than the national rates.

Cultural Attendance and Disadvantage, 2014

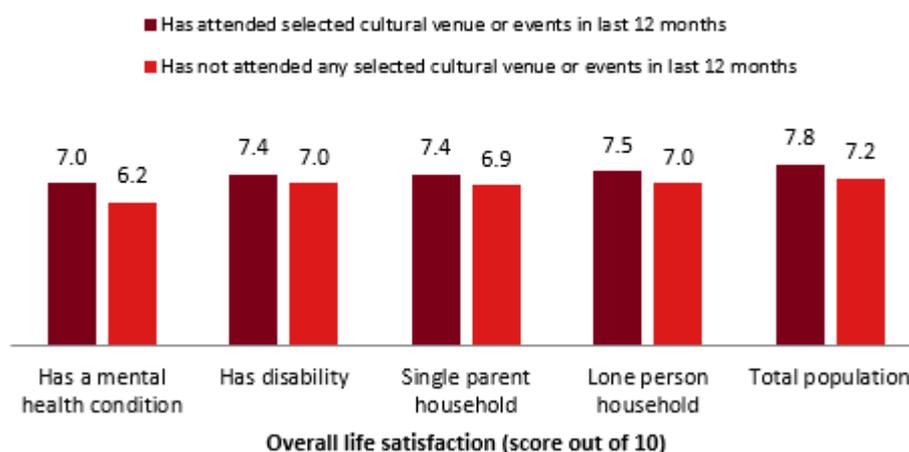
This commentary was produced based on data collected from the 2014 General Social Survey ([cat. no. 4159.0](#)), conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The purpose of the collection is to provide an understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of relative advantage and disadvantage across populations. Key factors influencing an individual's social inclusion were collected, including cultural attendance data. Data was collected from persons aged 15 years and over. Please refer to **Tables 7.1 – 7.5** in spreadsheets.

- In 2014, ninety three percent (93%) of people in the ACT aged 15 years and over attended a selected cultural venue or event in the last 12 months, above than the national attendance rate of 87%.
- Attendance rates were similar across all persons living in various family household compositions in the ACT, with around nine out of ten attending a selected cultural venue or event in the last 12 months.
- Ninety eight percent (98%) of people in the ACT aged 15 years and over with a highest non-school qualification of a Bachelor degree or higher attended a cultural venue or event compared to 89% for Certificate level or diploma.
- The mean overall life satisfaction for people in the ACT aged 15 years and over was higher across all selected characteristics for those who had attended a selected cultural venue or event

compared in the last 12 months to those who had not. This was particularly true for those with a mental illness (7.0 compared to 6.2), lone person households (7.5 compared to 7.0) and persons in single-parent household (7.4 compared to 6.9). Refer to **Graph 4** below.

- Of those who did not attend selected cultural venues or events in the last 12 months, the main reason was a lack of interest or need. The next most common barriers to attendance were no time.

Graph 4 - Overall mean life satisfaction, Australian Capital Territory, By selected characteristics, 2014



Cultural Attendance and Disability, 2012

This commentary was based on data collected in the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 2012 ([cat. no. 4430.0](#)), designed to measure the prevalence of disability in Australia and provide a profile of those with disability, their carer's and older people. Please refer to **Tables 8.1 – 8.2** in spreadsheets.

- In 2012, for those in the ACT aged 5-64 years with disability, almost three quarters (74%) had visited a movie, concert, theatre or performing arts event in the last 12 months, compared with a little over a third who had visited a museum or art gallery and public library (40% and 37% respectively).
- For those in the ACT aged 65 years and over with disability, nearly half (49%) had visited a movie, concert, theatre or performing arts event in the last 12 months.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Involvement in Cultural Activities, 2014-15

Commentary below details relevant results of the 2014-15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey ([cat. no. 4714.0](#)). The purpose of this survey is to bring together a wide range of information to link across areas of social concern including cultural involvement. The population of reference are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons aged 15 years and over. Please refer to **Table 9.1** in spreadsheets.

- In 2014-15, over two thirds (69%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT were involved in selected cultural events, ceremonies or organisations in the last 12 months. This was similar to the national figure of 63%.
- Almost half (44%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were involved with NAIDOC week activities, twice as many as Sports carnivals (20%). Just over one in ten (13%) were involved with Ceremonies.