

# Cultural Funding by Government—2020–21

## Australian Capital Territory Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government in 2020–21 for cultural activities was **\$74.4m**, representing a decrease of 17% or \$15.0m from 2019–20. This amount includes **\$7.5m** of targeted COVID support funding for cultural and creative organisations and infrastructure, businesses, individuals, support programs and initiatives.

Table 1. ACT Government cultural expenditure, 2017–18 to 2020–21<sup>1</sup>

2017–18	2019–20 <sup>2</sup>	2020–21 <sup>3</sup>
\$79.5m	\$89.4m ↑12%	\$74.4m ↓17%

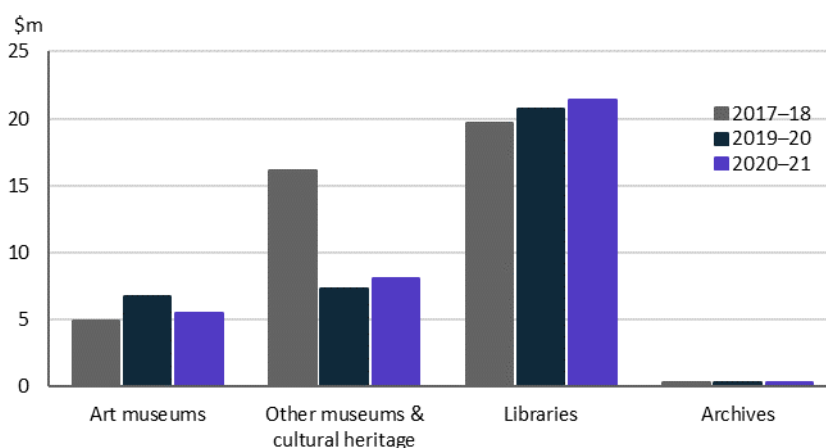
- Recurrent expenses accounted for 88% (\$65.5m) of funded cultural expenditure.
- Capital expenditure was \$8.9m, and the largest two categories were *Libraries* (\$4.0m) and *Performing arts venues* (\$2.4m).
- The estimate of per person funding was \$172.76.

Funds for Total *Heritage* activities (recurrent and capital) remained steady (↑1%) at \$35.3m.

Increases in funding for the categories of *Other museums and cultural heritage* (↑\$0.8m), and *Libraries* (↑\$0.6m), were offset by a decrease for *Art museums* (↓\$1.2m).

The largest categories of *Heritage* expenditure were *Libraries* with \$21.4, followed by *Other museums and cultural heritage* with \$8.1m. Expenditure on *Libraries* was over half (61%) the heritage expenditure by the ACT Government.<sup>4</sup>

Figure 1. ACT Government heritage expenditure



<sup>1</sup> Cultural Funding by Government survey not conducted for 2018–19.

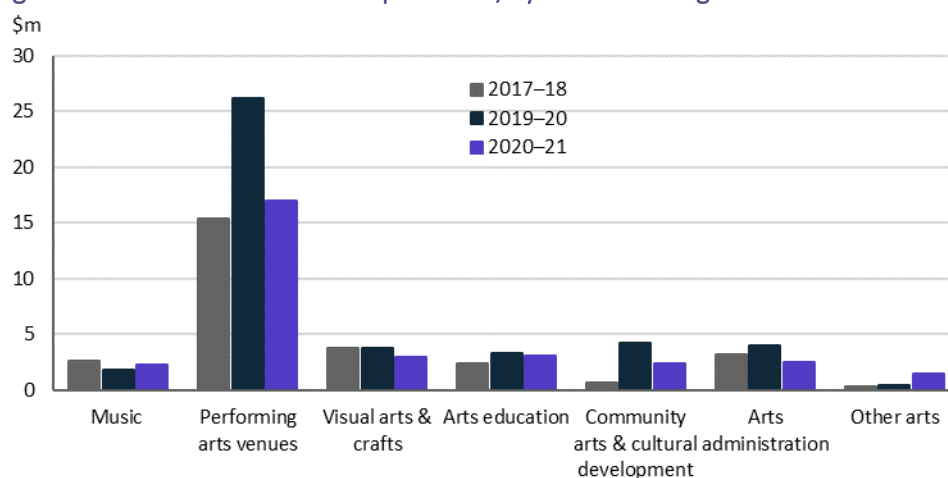
<sup>2</sup> Includes \$3.1m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported in Total figures only.

<sup>3</sup> Includes \$7.5m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.

<sup>4</sup> Australian Capital Territory does not have a tier of local government with libraries funded by the ACT Government.

Funds for Total Arts activities (recurrent and capital) decreased 26% (or \$13.4m) to \$37.8m, mostly due to completion of capital works for *Performing arts venues* (↓\$9.2m). Expenditure for *Community arts and cultural development* also dropped by \$1.8m.

Figure 2. ACT Government arts expenditure, by selected categories



*Performing arts venues* (\$17.0m) accounted for nearly half (45%) of total expenditure on Arts activities.

Other main categories of Arts activities funding were:

- *Arts education*—\$3.1m
- *Visual arts and crafts*—\$3.0m
- *Community arts and cultural development*—\$2.4m
- *Music*—\$2.3m.

Total recurrent expenditure dropped 10% (or \$7.5m) to \$65.5m.

The decrease was across several categories including *Community arts and cultural development* (↓\$1.5m), offset by increases in *Music* and *Design* (both ↑\$0.5m).

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

