

Cultural Funding by Government—2020–21

Western Australian Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the Western Australian Government in 2020–21 for cultural activities was **\$294.9m**, representing a decrease of 21% or \$80.7m from 2019–20. This amount includes **\$12.1m** of targeted COVID support funding for cultural and creative organisations and infrastructure, businesses, individuals, support programs and initiatives.

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

2017–18	2019–20	2020–21 ²
\$296.8m	\$375.6m ↑27%	\$294.9m ↓21%

- Recurrent expenses accounted for 82% (\$242.8m) of funded cultural expenditure.
- Capital expenditure was \$52.1m, and the largest category was *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$45.1m).
- The estimate of per person funding was \$110.42.

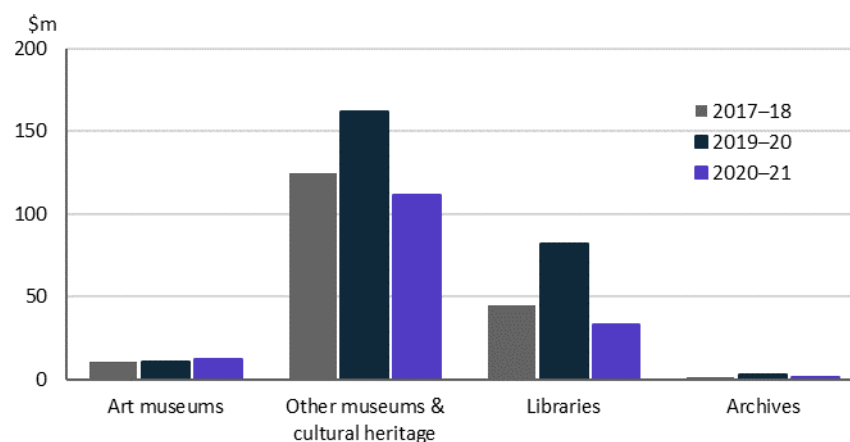
Funds for Total *Heritage* activities (recurrent and capital) dropped 39% (or \$99.7m) to \$157.6m. This decrease was driven by reduced expenditure on the categories of:

- *Other museums and cultural heritage* (↓\$50.5m) due to the completion of capital works including the WA Museum Boola Bardip.
- *Libraries* (↓\$49.1m) due to a funding model change and extraordinary grants for 2019–20.

Decreases were offset by an increase in *Arts museums* (↑\$1.7m).

Just over two-thirds (71%) of *Heritage* funds were spent on *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$111.5m) and 21% spent on *Libraries* (\$33.1m).

Figure 1. Western Australian Government heritage expenditure



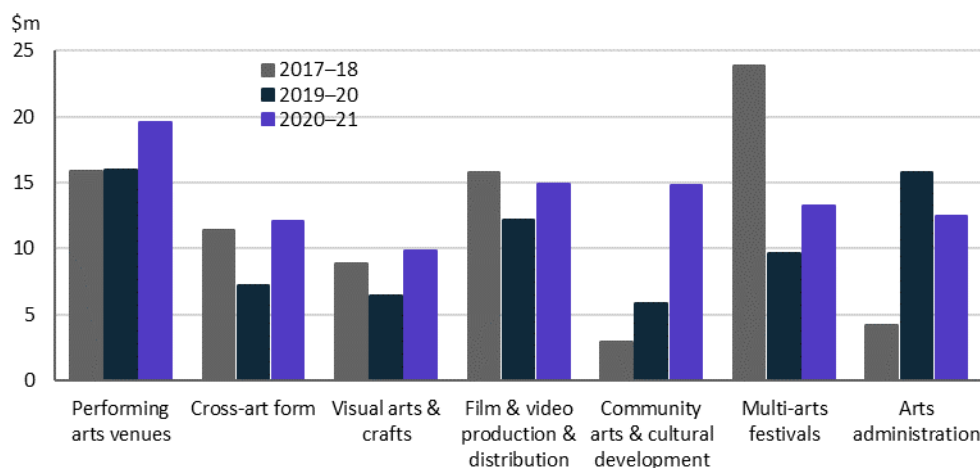
¹ Cultural Funding by Government survey not conducted for 2018–19.

² Includes \$12.1m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.

Funds for Total Arts activities (recurrent and capital) increased 16% (or \$19.0m) to \$137.3m.

The main contributors to this increase were *Community arts and cultural development* ↑\$8.9m, *Cross-art form* ↑\$4.9m, and *Performing arts venues* and *Multi-arts festivals* both ↑\$3.6m. Funding for *Dance* decreased by \$4.3m.

Figure 2. Western Australian Government arts expenditure, by selected categories



The main categories of Arts activities funding were:

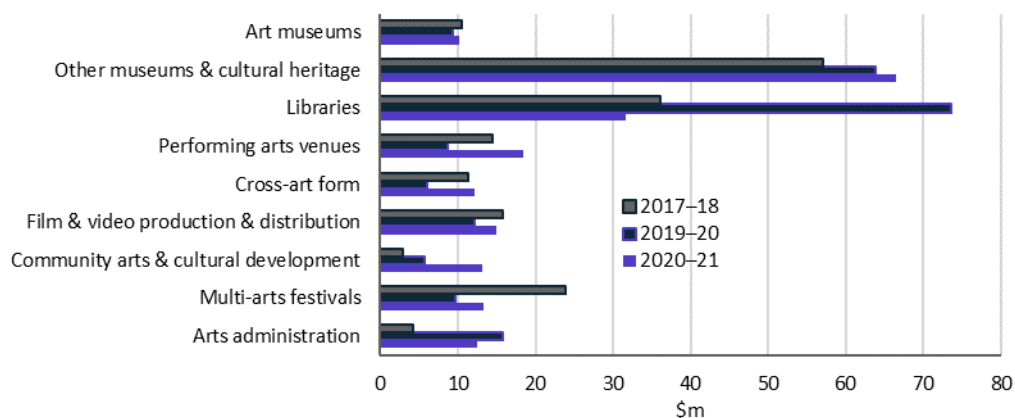
- *Performing arts venues*—\$19.6m
- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$14.9m
- *Community arts and cultural development*—\$14.8m
- *Multi-arts festivals*—\$13.3m.

Total recurrent expenditure decreased 6% (or \$16.0m) to \$242.8m.

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

2017-18	2019-20	2020-21 ³
\$218.3m	\$258.8m ↑19%	\$242.8m ↓6%

- The largest recurrent expenditure was for *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$66.4m) followed by *Libraries* (\$31.6m) and *Performing arts venues* (\$18.5m).



³ Includes \$12.1m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.