

# Cultural Funding by Government—2023–24

## Australian Capital Territory Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government in 2023–24 for cultural activities was **$98.5m**, representing an increase of 20% or $16.4m from 2021–22.

Table 1. ACT Government cultural expenditure, 2020–21 to 2023–24[[1]](#footnote-1)

| 2020–21[[2]](#footnote-2) | 2021–22[[3]](#footnote-3) | 2023–24 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| $74.4m | $82.1m ↑10% | $98.5m ↑20% |

* Recurrent expenses accounted for 87% ($85.6m) of funded cultural expenditure.
* Capital expenditure was $12.9m, and the largest two categories were *Other museums and cultural heritage* ($5.2m) and *Libraries* ($2.4m).
* The estimate of per person funding was $209.62.

Funds for Total ***Heritage*** activities (recurrent and capital) rose by 11% (or $4.8m) to $47.4m.

The largest categories of *Heritage* expenditure were *Other museums and cultural heritage* with $20.2m and *Libraries*[[4]](#footnote-4) with $17.6m.

Funds for *Archives* increased by $4.1m. This is due to the establishment of the Territory Records Office, which has enabled a valuation for archival storage in 2023–24. This was not previously able to be separated from commercial operations.

Figure 1. ACT Government heritage expenditure (recurrent and capital)

Funds for Total ***Arts*** activities (recurrent and capital) increased by 29% (or $11.6m) to $51.1m.

This increase was largely attributable to increases in expenditure on *Community arts and cultural development* (↑$4.4m) and *Performing arts venues* (↑$3.0m).

Figure 2. ACT Government arts expenditure (recurrent and capital), by selected categories

*Performing arts venues* ($20.4m) accounted for the largest proportion (40%) of total expenditure on *Arts* activities.

Other main categories of *Arts* activities funding were:

* *Community arts and cultural development*—$6.5m
* *Visual arts and crafts*—$3.2m
* *Arts administration*—$3.2m
* *Multi-arts festivals*—$3.0m
* *Design*—$2.5m

Total heritage and arts **recurrent** expenditure increased by 15% (or $11.3m) to $85.6m.

The largest recurrent expenditure was for *Performing arts venues* ($19.3m) followed by *Libraries* ($15.2m) and *Other museums and cultural heritage* ($15.0m).

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

1. No survey was conducted for 2022–23 due to the move to a biennial collection cycle. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Includes $7.5m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Includes $3.5m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Australian Capital Territory does not have a tier of local government with libraries funded by the ACT Government. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)