

Cultural Funding by Government—2023–24

Local government

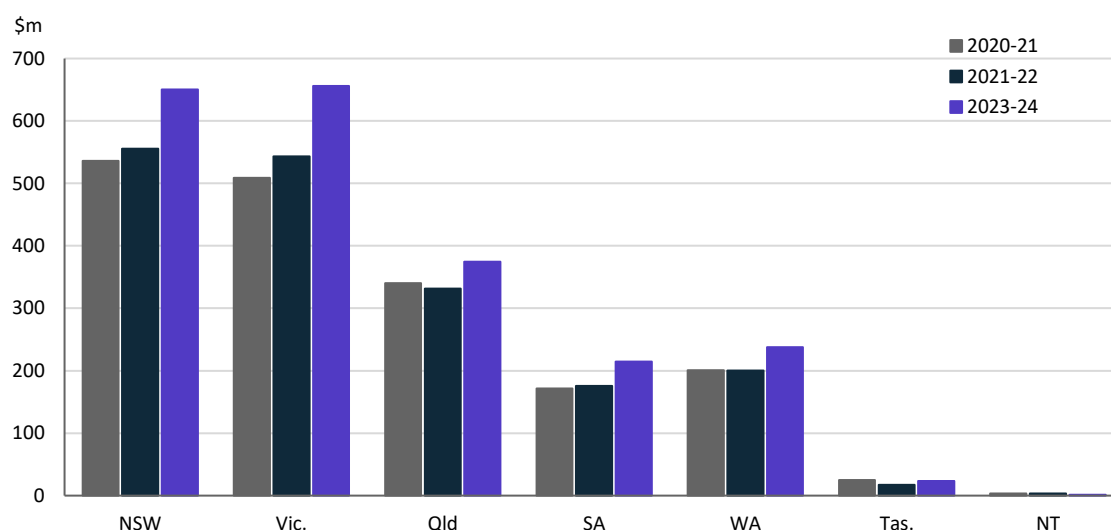
The estimate of expenditure funded by Local government in 2023–24 for cultural activities was **\$2,157.8m**. This represented **25%** of the total government funded expenditure on cultural activities.

Table 1. Local government cultural expenditure, 2020–21 to 2023–24¹

2020–21	2021–22	2023–24
\$1,785.8m	\$1,826.7m ↑2%	\$2,157.8m ↑18%

- Local government cultural expenditure increased 18% (or \$331.1m) between 2021–22 and 2023–24.
- Expenditure on cultural activities generally reflected the size of the population (New South Wales—\$650.5m, Victoria—\$656.0m and Queensland—\$374.4m).

Figure 1. Local government cultural expenditure (recurrent and capital), by state and territory(a)(b)



- (a) Care should be taken when comparing expenditure between states and territories due to different administrative arrangements and responsibilities.
- (b) Australian Capital Territory does not have local governments.

Total recurrent expenses increased 15% (or \$236.9m) to \$1,828.2m.

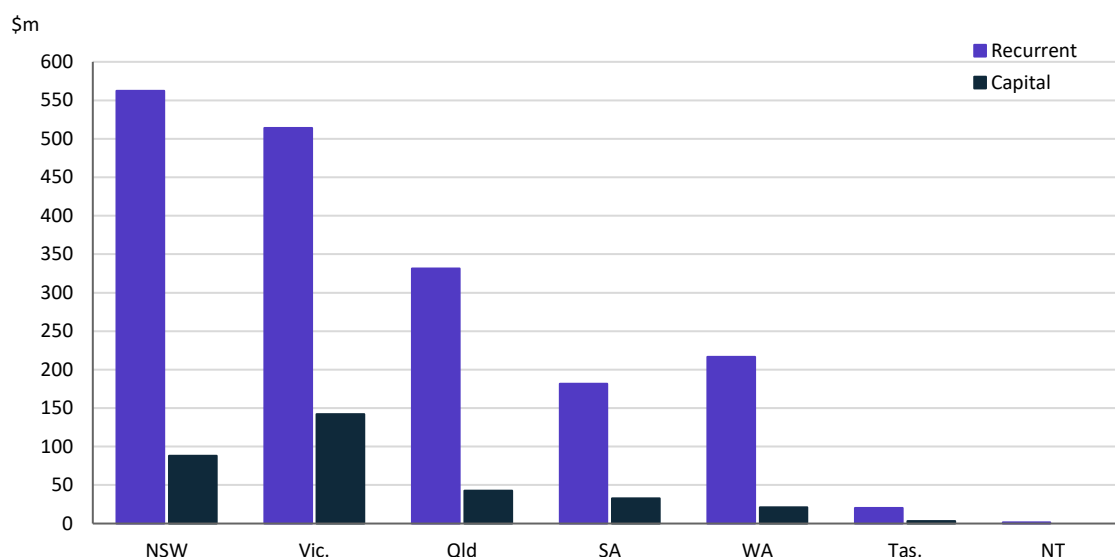
- Recurrent expenses accounted for 85% of funded cultural expenditure. New South Wales had the largest amount of recurrent expenditure at \$562.4m, followed by Victoria (\$514.0m) and Queensland (\$331.5m).

¹ No survey was conducted for 2022–23 due to the move to a biennial collection cycle.

Total Local government capital expenditure was \$329.6m.

- Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland spent the largest amounts of capital (\$142.1m, \$88.1m, and \$42.9m respectively).

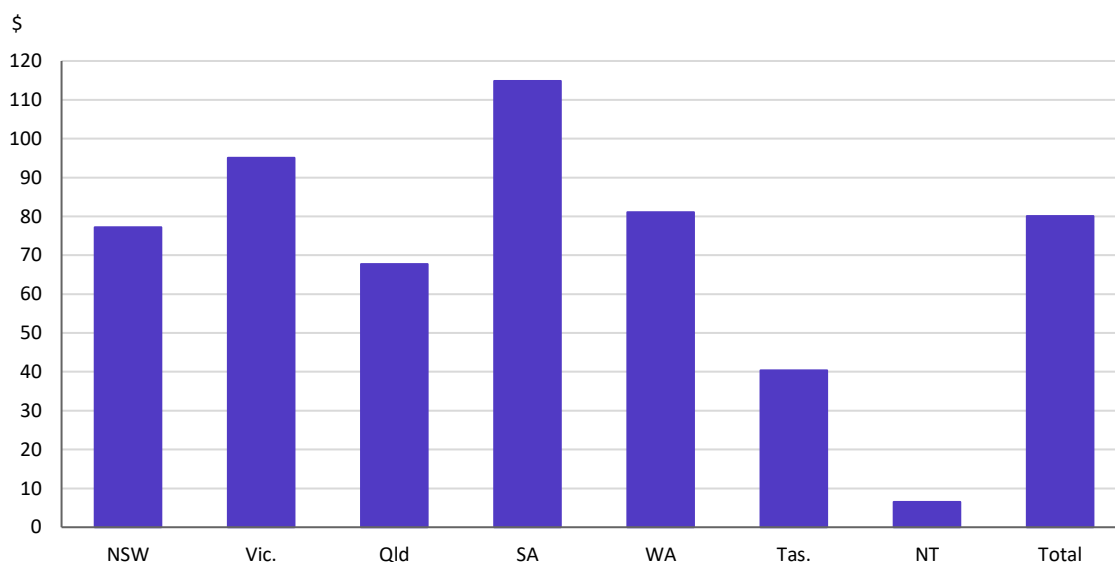
Figure 2. Local government cultural expenditure, recurrent and capital, by state and territory(a)(b) —2023–24



- (a) Care should be taken when comparing expenditure between states and territories due to different administrative arrangements and responsibilities.
- (b) Australian Capital Territory does not have local governments.

The estimate of total Local government per person cultural funding was \$80.07.

Figure 3. Local government cultural expenditure per person, by state and territory(a)(b) —2023–24



- (a) Care should be taken when comparing expenditure between states and territories due to different administrative arrangements and responsibilities.
- (b) Australian Capital Territory does not have local governments.

- South Australia had the highest per person expenditure of \$114.89 followed by Victoria (\$95.07) and Western Australian (\$81.10).