

# Cultural Funding by Government—2023–24

## New South Wales Government

The estimate of expenditure funded by the New South Wales Government in 2023–24 for cultural activities was **\$1,010.5m**. This represented a decrease of 13% or \$149.1m from 2021–22. This decrease is mainly attributable to specific COVID support expenditure for cultural and creative activities that was part of the collections in 2020–21 and 2021–22 but had ceased prior to the 2023–24 collection.

Table 1. NSW Government cultural expenditure, 2020–21 to 2023–24<sup>1</sup>

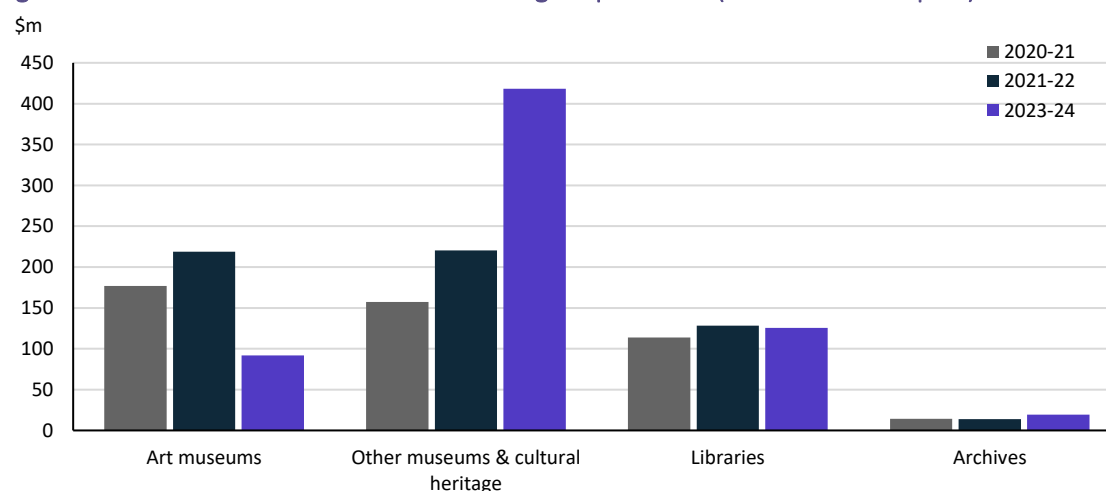
2020–21 <sup>2</sup>	2021–22 <sup>3</sup>	2023–24
\$906.4m	\$1,159.6m ↑28%	\$1,010.5m ↓13%

- Recurrent expenses accounted for 62% (\$629.3m) of funded cultural expenditure.
- Capital expenditure was \$381.2m, and the largest two categories were *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$296.7m) and *Art museums* (\$22.3m).
- The estimate of per person funding was \$119.98.

Funds for Total **Heritage** activities (recurrent and capital) rose 13% (or \$73.1m) to \$654.9m.

The two largest categories of *Heritage* expenditure were *Other museums and cultural heritage* (\$418.2m) and *Libraries* (\$125.6m).

Figure 1. New South Wales Government heritage expenditure (recurrent and capital)



Funds for Total **Arts** activities (recurrent and capital) decreased by 38% (or \$216.3m) to \$355.6m.

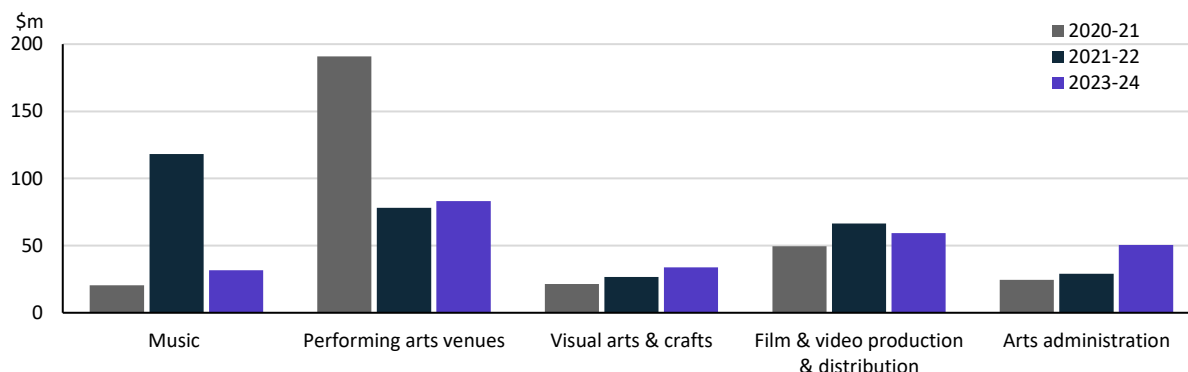
<sup>1</sup> No survey was conducted for 2022–23 due to the move to a biennial collection cycle.

<sup>2</sup> Includes \$80.0m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.

<sup>3</sup> Includes \$267.4m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. \$5.9m of this expenditure is included in the totals only.

The main contributors to this were *Music* ↓\$86.5m and *Music theatre and opera* ↓\$55.7m. This is because COVID support packages - *Performing Arts COVID Relaunch package* and *Event Saver* present during 2021–22 were not present in the 2023–24 financial year.

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



The largest proportion (23%) of total expenditure on Arts activities by the New South Wales Government was for *Performing arts venues* (\$83.1m).

Other main categories of Arts activities funding were:

- *Film and video production and distribution*—\$59.4m
- *Arts administration*—\$50.4m
- *Visual arts and craft*—\$33.9m
- *Music*—\$31.6m.

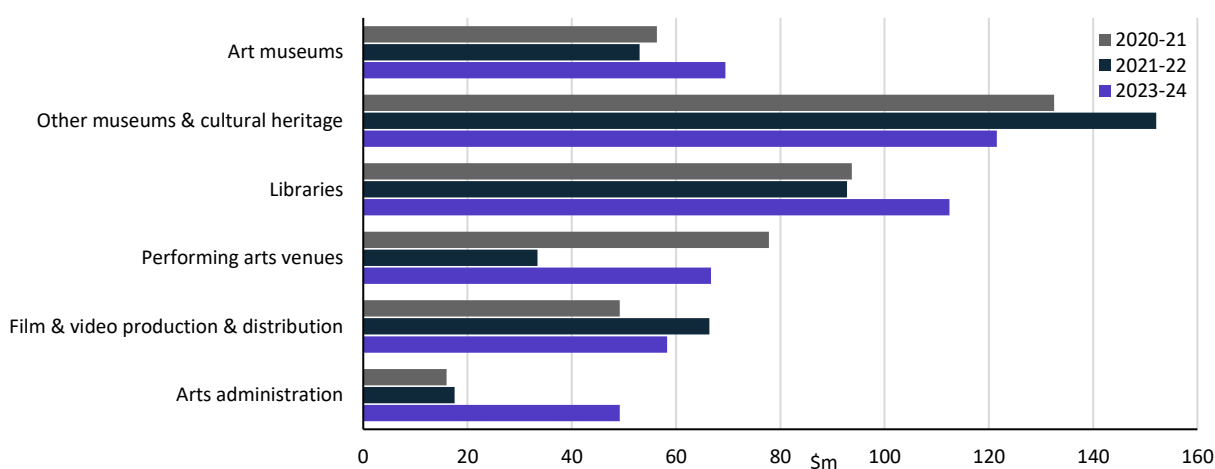
Total heritage and arts **recurrent** expenditure decreased 23% (or \$186.4m) to \$629.3m.

Table 2. New South Wales Government recurrent cultural expenditure, 2020–21 to 2023–24

2020–21 <sup>4</sup>	2021–22 <sup>5</sup>	2023–24
\$602.7m	\$815.7m ↑35%	\$629.3m ↓23%

The largest recurrent expenditure was for *Other museums and cultural heritage*, \$121.5m, followed by *Libraries* (\$112.5m), and *Art museums* (\$69.5m).

Figure 3. New South Wales Government recurrent cultural expenditure, by selected categories



<sup>4</sup> Includes \$80.0m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.

<sup>5</sup> Includes \$267.4m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. \$5.9m of this expenditure is included in the totals only.