

Cultural Funding by Government—2021–22

Overview

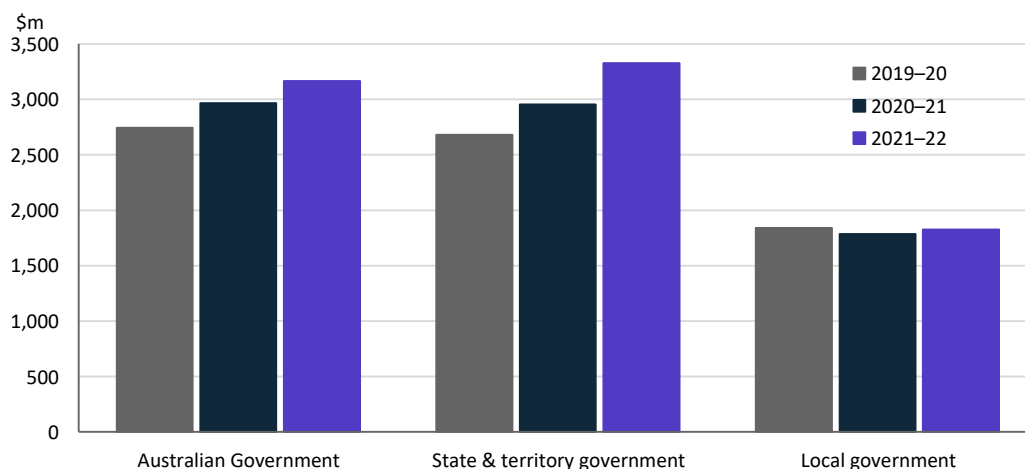
In 2021–22, the estimate of total expenditure on cultural activities, funded by the three tiers of government, was **\$8,317.5m**. This amount includes **\$646.4m** of targeted COVID support funding for cultural and creative organisations and infrastructure, businesses, individuals, support programs and initiatives. The COVID funding includes **\$26.5m** that could not be reported by individual category and is included in the totals only.

The Australian Government targeted COVID support funding was \$210.1m, and State and territory government targeted COVID support funding was \$436.3m.

The \$8,317.5m in funding for cultural activities from the three tiers of government comprised:

- \$3,165.2m (38% of total) from the Australian Government
- \$3,325.6m (40%) from state and territory governments
- \$1,826.7m (22%) from local governments.

Figure 1. Cultural expenditure (recurrent and capital), by level of government



Total expenditure rose 8% (or \$609.5m) from 2020–21. Expenditure increased for Australian Government, State and territory government and Local government (↑7%, ↑13% and ↑2% respectively).

Table 1. Total Government cultural expenditure, 2019–20 to 2021–22

2019–20 ¹	2020–21 ²	2021–22 ³
\$7,265.7m	\$7,708.0m ↑6%	\$8,317.5 ↑8%

¹ Includes \$76.9m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported in Total only. Data has been revised.

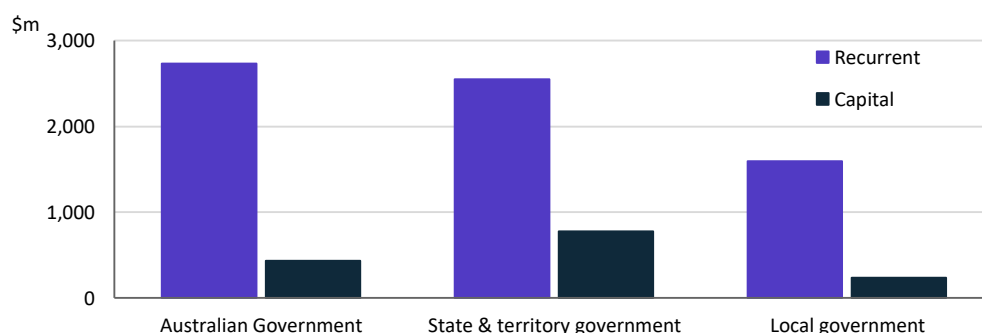
² Includes \$514.4m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals.

³ Includes \$646.4m targeted cultural and creative sector COVID support funding, reported across categories and totals. \$26.5m is included in the totals only.

Total recurrent expenditure rose 6% (or \$386.7m) to \$6,875.4m and accounted for 83% of total funded cultural expenditure. Australian Government recurrent expenditure was \$2,732.8m, the highest dollar amount of the three levels of government and represented 40% of total recurrent expenditure. Total capital expenditure by all levels of government was \$1,442.1m in 2021–22, an increase of 18% (or \$222.8m) from 2020–21.

- Most capital expenditure was funded by State and territory government with \$774.3m (54% of total capital expenditure).

Figure 2. Cultural expenditure, recurrent and capital, by level of government—2021-22



The Australian Government allocated more than double the funding to *Arts* activities, compared to *Heritage* activities (71% and 29% respectively). The five categories with the highest expenditure by the Australian Government in 2021–22 was:

1. *Radio and television services*—\$1,440.1m
2. *Other museums and cultural heritage*—\$528.9m
3. *Film and video production and distribution*—\$185.2m
4. *Music*—\$158.4m
5. *Archives*—\$150.5m.

The five categories with the highest expenditure by State and territory government in 2021–22 was:

1. *Other museums and cultural heritage* —\$629.1m
2. *Libraries*—\$462.6m
3. *Performing arts venues*—\$454.9m
4. *Art museums*—\$444.5m
5. *Music*—\$197.8m.

The jurisdiction with the highest expenditure by Local government in 2021–22 was New South Wales (\$555.4m), followed by Victoria (\$543.2m), and the highest per person funding by Local government was South Australia (\$97.32).

The estimate of per person cultural funding by the three tiers of government was \$322.72 with:

- Australian Government—\$122.81
- State and territory government—\$129.03
- Local government—\$70.87.

Table 2. Per Person cultural expenditure, by level of government

	Australian	State & territory	Local
Heritage	\$35.97	\$61.92	NA
Arts	\$86.67	\$66.26	NA
Total	\$122.81	\$129.03	\$70.87