



CULTURAL FUNDING

AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Theo Neumann on Adelaide 08 8237 7449, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication contains estimates of public funding of cultural activities in 1997–98 and the preceding two years for the three levels of government in Australia. The estimates have been compiled from data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from State and Territory arts authorities, the Australia Council and local government authorities. Funding by Commonwealth authorities (other than the Australia Council) and other State and Territory public sector authorities was determined by examining output from various budget papers and annual reports.



ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
GPC Government Purpose Classification
nec not elsewhere classified

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

MAIN FEATURES

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Total government funding for culture was \$3,531.0m in 1997–98, an increase of \$83.5m (2.4%) from 1996–97 (see table 1). Further details include:

- Funding increased for Cultural facilities and services (up \$192.5m or 12.3%) which offset falls in Broadcasting and film, and Culture nec (see table 2);
- Of the total government funding for culture, the Commonwealth government accounted for \$1,252.9m (or 35.5%), State and Territory governments \$1,502.9m (42.6%) and local governments \$775.2m (22.0%) (see table 1);
- The Commonwealth and local government contributions dropped from 1996–97 in both absolute and proportional terms, whereas there was an increase in contributions by the State and Territory governments;
- At the Commonwealth government level, radio and television broadcasting accounted for the largest share of funding for culture (\$686.4m or 54.8%) (see table 4);
- At the State and Territory government level, national parks and wildlife services accounted for the largest share (\$539.0m or 35.9%) (see table 4);
- For local government, libraries and archives received the largest share (\$422.2m or 54.5%) (see table 4).

FUNDING PER HEAD

Cultural funding was equivalent to \$189.6 per head of population in 1997–98 (see table 3). This compares with \$187.1 one year earlier.

RECURRENT/CAPITAL FUNDING

Most cultural funding was of a recurrent nature (\$3,019.8m or 85.5%). Capital funding (\$511.2m or 14.5%) was mostly undertaken by State and Territory governments (\$317.9m) and local governments (\$146.0m) (see table 5).

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CULTURAL FUNDING, By Level of Government

Level of government	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
	Amount	Proportion of total	Amount	Proportion of total	Amount	Proportion of total
	\$m	%	\$m	%	\$m	%
Commonwealth	1 372.2	42.0	1 288.2	37.4	1 252.9	35.5
State and Territory	1 217.6	37.2	1 368.5	39.7	1 502.9	42.6
Local	679.5	20.8	790.7	22.9	775.2	22.0
Total	3 269.3	100.0	3 447.5	100.0	3 531.0	100.0

2

CULTURAL FUNDING, By Major Group

Major group	1995-96		1996-97 . . .		1997-98	
	Amount	Amount	Change	Amount	Change	
	\$m	\$m	%	\$m	%	
Cultural facilities and services	1 425.2	1 568.1	10.0	1 760.6	12.3	
Broadcasting and film	914.5	911.1	-0.4	816.0	-10.4	
Culture nec	929.6	968.3	4.2	954.5	-1.4	
Total	3 269.3	3 447.5	5.5	3 531.0	2.4	

3

CULTURAL FUNDING, Per Head of Population

	1996-97(a)	1997-98(b)
<i>Major group</i>	\$	\$
.....		
Cultural facilities and services	85.1	94.5
Broadcasting and film	49.5	43.8
Culture nec	52.6	51.3
Total	187.1	189.6

- (a) Resident population estimate at 31 December 1996, 18,422,695, from *Australian Demographic Statistics, December 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0).
- (b) Resident population estimate at 31 December 1997, 18,623,034, from *Australian Demographic Statistics, December 1998* (Cat. no. 3101.0).

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CULTURAL FUNDING, By Category—1997-98

<i>Category</i>	LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT . . .			
	<i>Commonwealth</i>	<i>State and Territory</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
.....				
Cultural facilities and services				
Zoological and botanic gardens	1.7	67.5	23.1	92.3
Libraries and archives	52.4	254.1	422.2	728.6
Literature and publishing	10.2	3.8	2.9	16.8
Museums	63.4	246.0	8.1	317.5
Art galleries	18.4	75.3	28.1	121.8
Visual arts/crafts and photography	15.5	9.6	4.5	29.6
Cultural venues	—	104.2	56.6	160.8
Music (excluding opera)	50.8	12.3	1.8	64.9
Other performing arts	36.7	50.1	5.5	92.3
Cultural heritage	71.8	49.5	14.7	135.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>321.0</i>	<i>872.2</i>	<i>567.4</i>	<i>1 760.6</i>
Broadcasting and film				
Radio and television broadcasting	686.4	0.3	0.6	687.3
Film and video	79.2	38.8	3.2	121.2
Multimedia	6.2	1.2	0.1	7.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>771.9</i>	<i>40.3</i>	<i>3.8</i>	<i>816.0</i>
Culture n.e.c.				
Administration of culture	31.8	29.3	12.8	73.8
Community cultural activities	34.2	10.7	12.6	57.6
Public hall and civic centres	—	1.0	161.3	162.3
National parks and wildlife services	77.5	539.0	6.9	623.4
Other culture nec	16.6	10.4	10.4	37.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>160.1</i>	<i>590.4</i>	<i>203.9</i>	<i>954.5</i>
Total	1 252.9	1 502.9	775.2	3 531.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

RECURRENT AND CAPITAL FUNDING, 1997-98

<i>Major group</i>	<i>Recurrent</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Cultural facilities and services	1 410.8	349.8	1 760.6
Broadcasting and film	788.2	27.8	816.0
Culture nec	820.8	133.6	954.5
Total	3 019.8	511.2	3 531.0
Of which			
Commonwealth	1 205.5	47.4	1 252.9
State and Territory	1 185.0	317.9	1 502.9
Local	629.2	146.0	775.2

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COVERAGE

- 1** This publication contains estimates of public funding for cultural activities for the three levels of government in Australia in 1997–98 and the preceding two years.
- 2** Statistics for the Commonwealth Government and State and Territory Governments relate mainly to funding from Commonwealth–State budgets, thus excluding for some 'off-budget' agencies any expenditure financed from sources other than the annual appropriation from the budget.
- 3** Agencies classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as public trading enterprises (e.g. most performing arts venues) are not included except to the extent of any subsidies (or capital funding) paid to them from the budget.
- 4** Specific purpose grants received from other levels of government have been netted out of the expenditure for the receiving government.
- 5** Funding for sport, fitness and recreation is not considered to be cultural funding and therefore is excluded from these statistics. Funding for cultural education has also been excluded as it is not possible to readily identify the cultural component of funding to education institutions. Similarly, funding for special libraries and libraries in higher education institutions is excluded. Funding for cultural units (such as police and military bands) that represent only part of a larger entity are also excluded as separate data are not readily available.

CLASSIFICATION

- 6** In this publication, cultural funding is classified into three major groups. These are Cultural facilities and services, Broadcasting and film, and Culture nec. The first two groups correspond with subgroups of the Government Purpose Classification (GPC) used by the ABS in compiling Government Financial Estimates, while Culture nec presents only the culture component of the two other subgroups in the GPC grouping Recreation and Culture. The major groups presented in this publication have been further subdivided to accord with categories specified in the Cultural Ministers Council's National Culture-Leisure Industry Statistical Framework (see table 4).

SOURCES AND METHODS

- 7** Estimates of funding by Commonwealth authorities (other than the Australia Council) were compiled from data extracted from the Department of Finance Budget Management System sorted according to class code (equivalent to the GPC); supplementary information was obtained from the annual reports of the Australia Council and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.
- 8** Arts authorities in each State and Territory supplied details of their current and capital expenditure. For other State and Territory public sector authorities, data were extracted from budget papers. Details of funding provided by health promotion foundations major events organisations, Tourism NSW, Ethnic Affairs Commission of NSW and by the WA Lotteries Commission were collected.
- 9** Estimates of local government funding of cultural activities were based on the Local Government Finance Statistics collection undertaken by the ABS and results from a survey of local government authorities in all States and the Northern Territory.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- 10** More details of cultural funding in Australia are published by the Cultural Ministers Council's Statistics Working Group.
- 11** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

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POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au



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