

8. RECREATION AND CULTURE

NATURE OF OUTLAYS

Funding for broadcasting represents the majority of recreation and culture outlays (see Chart 1).

Other activities in this function involving outlays include:

- managing Australia's cultural heritage through national collection institutions;
- direct financial assistance for the arts and other cultural activities including the film and television industries;
- assistance to sport and recreation activities;
- the operations of statutory authorities to manage and protect, amongst other places, the world heritage areas of Uluru-Kata Tjuta and Kakadu National Parks and the
- Great Barrier Reef; and
- joint management and funding arrangements for other world heritage areas in Tasmania and Queensland.

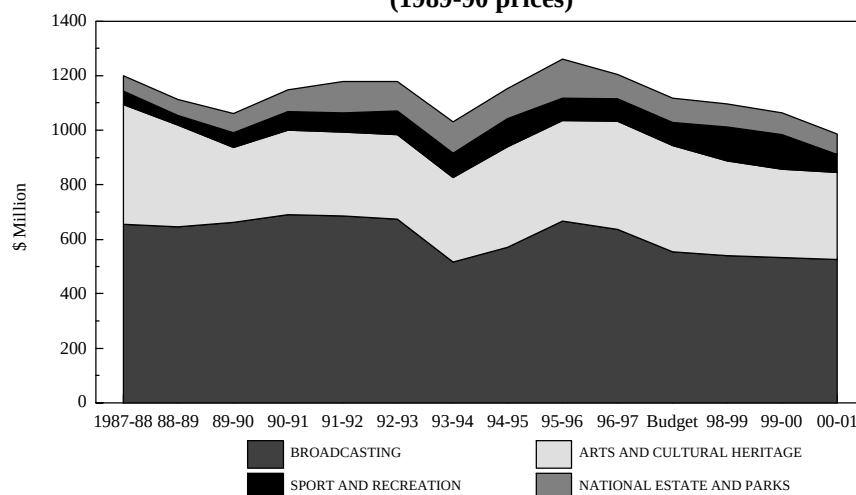
This function includes outlays for major parts of the following portfolios:

- Communications and the Arts; and
- Environment, Sport and Territories,

in addition to minor components of several other portfolios.

Outlays for this function mainly arise from direct outlays by Commonwealth agencies. Other avenues of support include grants programmes, payments to the States (shown in *Budget Paper No. 3*) and taxation expenditures such as concessions on investments in new films under Division 10BA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*.

Chart 1. Overview of Commonwealth Outlays on Recreation and Culture (1989-90 prices)



TRENDS IN RECREATION AND CULTURE OUTLAYS

Over the period since 1987-88, trends in outlays have been primarily influenced by:

- a peak in Arts and Cultural Heritage outlays in 1987-88, due to increased outlays on Arts and Heritage for the Bicentennial;
- higher outlays since 1990-91 on the National Estate and Parks; and
- the effect of one-off receipts in 1993-94 from the sale of satellite subscription television licences (\$199 million), and receipts in 1994-95 from the sale of the Multipoint Distribution Service Licences (\$100 million), which were partially offset by expenditure relating to the *Creative Nation* policy statement.

1997-98 AND FORWARD ESTIMATES

		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
		Estimate	Budget	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
8.1	Broadcasting	\$m 735.9	653.6	652.4	661.4	669.3
	%		-11.2	-0.2	1.4	1.2
8.2	Arts and Cultural Heritage	\$m 459.6	462.2	422.4	402.4	405.7
	%		0.6	-8.6	-4.7	0.8
8.3	Sport and Recreation	\$m 96.1	98.1	151.1	155.0	83.2
	%		2.1	54.0	2.6	-46.3
8.4	National Estate and Parks	\$m 102.5	104.7	101.7	101.8	96.4
	%		2.1	-2.9	0.1	-5.3
	TOTAL	\$m 1394.0	1318.6	1327.6	1320.7	1254.6
	%		-5.4	0.7	-0.5	-5.0

8.1 BROADCASTING

		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
		Estimate	Budget	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	Australian Broadcasting Corporation	\$m 531.2	468.5	471.7	477.7	487.8
	%		-11.8	0.7	1.3	2.1
	Special Broadcasting Service	\$m 88.1	83.0	79.2	79.9	81.0
	%		-5.8	-4.6	0.9	1.4
	National Transmitting Facilities	\$m 97.7	83.2	83.6	87.3	83.9
	%		-14.8	0.5	4.4	-3.9
	Planning and Regulation	\$m 19.0	18.8	18.0	16.6	16.5
	%		-1.1	-4.3	-7.8	-0.6
	Sale of Broadcasting Rights	\$m -0.1	-	-	-	-
	%		-100.0	na	na	na
	TOTAL	\$m 735.9	653.6	652.4	661.4	669.3
	%		-11.2	-0.2	1.4	1.2

The majority of outlays on broadcasting are to fund the operating and capital needs of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) and national transmitting facilities.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

The ABC's activities include domestic radio services, a national television network, and overseas broadcasting services. ABC Orchestras are to be transferred to an ABC subsidiary, Symphony Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, and their funding is now reflected

under the Arts and Heritage classification. This also reduces the ABC's funding from 1997-98 by the amount being transferred to Symphony Australia (see *Budget Paper No. 2* for more details).

Special Broadcasting Service

The SBS operates a multilingual radio network and a multicultural television service.

National Transmitting Facilities

The National Transmission Agency operates and maintains the transmitting facilities used for the delivery of ABC and SBS radio and television services and some regional commercial services.

Planning and Regulation

The Australian Broadcasting Authority issues radio and television broadcast licences, and formulates and monitors broadcast standards.

8.2 ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

		1996-97 Estimate	1997-98 Budget	1998-99 Estimate	1999-00 Estimate	2000-01 Estimate
National Collections	\$m	108.0	116.5	107.3	103.5	104.2
	%		7.9	-7.9	-3.5	0.7
Assistance to the Film, TV and Multimedia Industries	\$m	97.8	84.2	70.2	63.8	64.0
	%		-13.9	-16.6	-9.1	0.3
Arts and Heritage	\$m	158.9	164.5	154.3	144.1	145.6
	%		3.5	-6.2	-6.6	1.0
Administration	\$m	94.8	97.0	90.7	91.1	91.8
	%		2.3	-6.5	0.4	0.8
TOTAL	\$m	459.6	462.2	422.4	402.4	405.7
	%		0.6	-8.6	-4.7	0.8

National Collections

Outlays include funding for the operating and capital costs of collecting institutions such as the National Library of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, the Australian National Maritime Museum and the Australian War Memorial.

Assistance to the Film, Television and Multimedia Industries

Financial assistance is provided through the Australian Film Finance Corporation Limited, the Australian Film Commission and Film Australia Pty Limited.

Arts and Heritage

Outlays are dominated by funding to the Australia Council and to Symphony Australia Holdings Pty Ltd. Other outlays include funding for the Australian National Opera, Orchestras and the Office of Australian War Graves.

Administration

These outlays fund administrative support for recreation and cultural activities, mainly through the Departments of Communications and the Arts, and Environment, Sport and Territories.

8.3 SPORT AND RECREATION

The Commonwealth provides financial assistance to encourage community interest and participation in sport and recreational activities and to facilitate preparation for the Olympic Games by Australian athletes. The Australian Sports Commission, which incorporates the Australian Institute of Sport, promotes and facilitates the pursuit of excellence in sport, sports development and participation. Outlays increase substantially from 1998-99 due to assistance to be paid to the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (refer to *Budget Paper No. 2* for more detail).

8.4 NATIONAL ESTATE AND PARKS

The Commonwealth is involved in the identification and protection of Australia's natural environment through arrangements such as the Register of the National Estate, management of national parks and world heritage listings. The Commonwealth discharges many of its management responsibilities through various statutory authorities and arrangements with the States.

Additional funding for the conservation, sustainable use and repair of Australia's natural environment will be provided through the Natural Heritage Trust which also relates to 7.4 *Environment Protection* and 10.7 *Natural Resources Development and Management*.