

## State Arts Agency Legislative Appropriations Preview Fiscal Year 2017

Updated August 1, 2016

This report provides a forecast of state government funding for the arts in the year ahead, as budgets for fiscal year 2017 are being enacted and national funding trends are beginning to emerge. Please note that this is *preliminary* information. Thirty-three states went through the budgeting process this year, while 17 enter the second year of a budget biennium. However, three states started their new fiscal year without a complete budget in place: Massachusetts operated under a temporary budget until a permanent budget was passed on July 9; Illinois enacted a partial, temporary budget that funds some state operations through the end of 2016; and in Pennsylvania, the governor let the budget become law on July 11 without his signature over revenue concerns. Also, many states will revisit enacted budgets in the coming months to adjust for shifting revenue and expense conditions. For the latest information on state arts agency funding fluctuations, please [contact NASAA](#).

### The Climate for Arts Funding

State budgets on the whole have entered a period of slow but stable growth following the Great Recession of 2007-2009. According to the National Association of State Budget Officers, 43 states projected higher general-fund spending levels in their FY2017, with aggregate general fund spending expected to grow at 2.5%. However, weak tax collections in the spring months in many states, as well as low oil, gas and coal prices, caused many states to readjust revenue projections downward for FY2017 as budgets were being crafted. Many state arts agencies noted that they expect midyear adjustments due to weakened state revenues.

### State Arts Agency Appropriations Projections

Entering FY2017, legislative appropriations to state arts agencies (SAAs) are expected to increase modestly, growing by 2.6%. The projected increase of \$9.3 million from FY2016 to FY2017 will bring total appropriations to SAAs to \$362.2 million. Among SAAs in the nation's 56 states and jurisdictions:

- 21 expect their appropriation to increase for FY2017;
- 18 expect their appropriation to decrease;
- 17 expect their appropriation to remain unchanged.

Projected increases and decreases for FY2017 are not concentrated in any single region or budget grouping. However, agencies in states that rely heavily on natural resource extraction taxes for revenue are projecting revenue declines.

After receiving no appropriation last year, the Arizona Commission on the Arts will receive \$1.5 million from the interest on the state's rainy day fund. The agency received an appropriation from this source in fiscal years 2014 and 2015. In Massachusetts, the governor vetoed more than half of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's appropriation, giving the legislature until the end of July to potentially override the veto. Due to the ongoing budget difficulties in Illinois, no projection is available for the Illinois Arts Council Agency. For more state-by-state details, see the tables and notes on [pages 3 and 4](#) of this report.

### Projected Changes in SAA Total Legislative Appropriations Fiscal Years 2016-2017

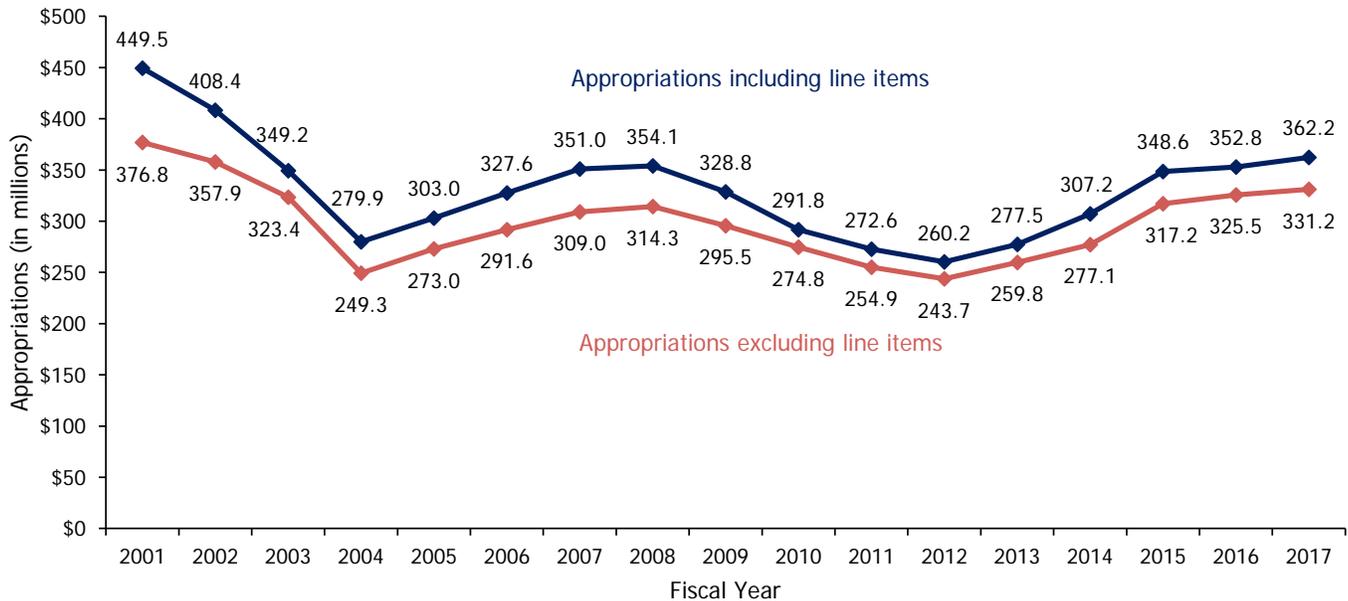
Increases	
Number of SAAs	21
Number of SAAs up 10% or more	7
Median percent increase	4.6%
Flat Funding*	
Number of SAAs	17
Decreases	
Number of SAAs	18
Number of SAAs down 10% or more	4
Median percent decrease	5.3%
All States	
Aggregate percent change	2.6%
Median percent change	0.0%

\*Flat funding includes changes of less than 0.5% in magnitude.

## Historic Trends

Total appropriations to SAAs in FY2017 are projected to remain close to prerecession levels. Appropriations excluding line items (appropriations not controlled by SAAs but passed through SAA budgets to legislatively designated entities) are expected to remain higher than prerecession levels. However, the recovery has not been equally shared among all SAAs: only 22 agencies expect to have larger appropriations in FY2017 than in FY2008, with the other 34 SAAs still below prerecession funding levels. Although this recovery is a positive sign, total SAA appropriations are still 19.4% off the historic peak set in FY2001.

State Arts Agency Appropriations  
Fiscal Years 2001-2017



## Per Capita Funding

Appropriations to SAAs of \$362.2 million for the year ahead represent an aggregate investment of \$1.11 per capita. This is slightly more than the \$1.08 per capita funding level in FY2016, and remains 30% lower than the all-time per capita high of \$1.60 reached in FY2001.

## About These Data

Based on survey data reported to the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) in May and June 2016, this preview contains information on the legislative appropriations that each state arts agency expects to receive for FY2017, which begins for most states on July 1, 2016. This report does not include information on other sources of funding (federal money, state transfer funds or other revenue sources) that SAAs may receive. NASAA will collect comprehensive FY2017 SAA budget statistics in the fall and will report those findings in early winter. Background information on total SAA revenues for FY2016 is available in the [Funding](#) section of the NASAA website.

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**State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Years 2016-2017**  
Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	FY2016 Enacted	FY2017 Projected	Percent Change FY16 to FY17
Alabama	\$ 4,734,496	\$4,734,496	0.0%
Alaska	\$ 729,600	\$ 698,000	-4.3%
American Samoa	\$ 75,000	\$ 135,000	80.0%
Arkansas	\$ 1,680,333	\$ 1,616,366	-3.8%
Arizona	\$ 0	\$ 1,500,000	N/A
<sup>1</sup> California	\$ 14,600,500	\$ 15,121,000	3.6%
Colorado	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	0.0%
<sup>2</sup> Connecticut*	\$ 5,671,400	\$ 5,546,533	-2.2%
Delaware	\$ 3,318,400	\$ 3,306,723	-0.4%
District of Columbia	\$ 15,955,248	\$ 15,534,436	-2.6%
Florida*	\$ 39,958,772	\$ 43,655,475	9.3%
Georgia	\$ 903,360	\$ 1,016,499	12.5%
Guam	\$ 451,064	\$ 411,064	-8.9%
Hawaii*	\$ 5,519,619	\$ 5,669,629	2.7%
Idaho	\$ 759,400	\$ 782,900	3.1%
<sup>3</sup> Illinois†	N/A	N/A	N/A
Indiana	\$ 3,323,048	\$ 3,289,138	-1.0%
<sup>4</sup> Iowa*	\$ 1,233,764	\$ 1,233,764	0.0%
Kansas	\$ 190,000	\$ 188,604	-0.7%
Kentucky	\$ 2,796,200	\$ 2,625,700	-6.1%
Louisiana	\$ 2,084,658	\$ 2,148,493	3.1%
Maine	\$ 974,629	\$ 894,266	-8.2%
Maryland	\$ 17,463,432	\$ 19,440,721	11.3%
<sup>5</sup> Massachusetts*	\$ 14,160,000	\$ 14,160,000	0.0%
Michigan	\$ 9,000,000	\$ 9,000,000	0.0%
Minnesota	\$ 34,341,000	\$ 38,841,200	13.1%
Mississippi*	\$ 2,029,629	\$ 1,811,735	-10.7%
Missouri*	\$ 6,832,000	\$ 7,620,000	11.5%
Montana	\$ 550,545	\$ 511,911	-7.0%
Nebraska	\$ 1,540,070	\$ 1,561,484	1.4%
Nevada	\$ 1,640,416	\$ 1,686,252	2.8%
New Hampshire	\$ 291,489	\$ 308,950	6.0%
New Jersey	\$ 16,405,000	\$ 16,405,000	0.0%
New Mexico	\$ 1,457,700	\$ 1,391,800	-4.5%
New York*	\$ 45,174,000	\$ 45,174,000	0.0%
North Carolina*	\$ 7,648,977	\$ 7,898,977	3.3%
North Dakota*	\$ 837,031	\$ 837,032	0.0%
Northern Marianas	\$ 359,038	\$ 359,083	0.0%
Ohio	\$ 14,222,050	\$ 14,722,050	3.5%
Oklahoma	\$ 3,264,767	\$ 2,938,293	-10.0%
Oregon	\$ 2,052,340	\$ 2,052,340	0.0%
Pennsylvania	\$ 10,482,004	\$ 10,539,300	0.5%
<sup>6</sup> Puerto Rico*	\$ 19,274,000	\$ 16,616,000	-13.8%
Rhode Island*	\$ 2,906,054	\$ 1,951,884	-32.8%
South Carolina*	\$ 3,093,873	\$ 3,493,873	12.9%
South Dakota	\$ 835,817	\$ 880,874	5.4%
Tennessee*	\$ 6,998,800	\$ 6,998,800	0.0%
Texas	\$ 7,770,714	\$ 7,770,714	0.0%
<sup>7</sup> Utah*	\$ 6,761,800	\$ 6,761,800	0.0%
Vermont	\$ 645,307	\$ 675,307	4.6%
Virgin Islands	\$ 328,508	\$ 324,000	-1.4%
Virginia	\$ 3,636,846	\$ 3,636,846	0.0%
Washington	\$ 1,118,000	\$ 1,148,000	2.7%
West Virginia	\$ 726,000	\$ 726,000	0.0%
Wisconsin	\$ 795,700	\$ 781,900	-1.7%
Wyoming	\$ 1,237,782	\$ 1,050,670	-15.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 352,840,180</b>	<b>\$ 362,184,882</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

**Notes**

\* The total FY2017 appropriation includes line item funds designated by the legislature to pass through the state arts agency to other entities.

† At the time of publication, the state was operating on a temporary budget while deliberation over a permanent FY2017 budget continued.

<sup>1</sup> **California:** The agency's appropriation does not include state support of \$6,000,000 for the Arts in Corrections program, or revenue generated by arts license plates. The appropriation does include \$6.8 million in one-time funds for arts programs in underserved communities.

<sup>2</sup> **Connecticut:** Total appropriation does not include funding going through the agency's budget for line items to non-arts organizations.

<sup>3</sup> **Illinois:** The state has operated without a full and permanent budget since July 1, 2015. No state funds have been appropriated to the agency since then.

<sup>4</sup> **Iowa:** \$300,000 of both the FY2015 and FY2016 appropriation is designated for Produce Iowa: State Office of Media Production, another division within the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

<sup>5</sup> **Massachusetts:** The governor vetoed \$7,700,000 of the agency's FY2017 budget on July 11. The Massachusetts legislature voted to override the veto on July 31.

<sup>6</sup> **Puerto Rico:** Figures were taken from the governor's proposed budget documents. The commonwealth's budget remains in significant distress due to uncertainty about long-term debt.

<sup>7</sup> **Utah:** The agency's appropriation does not include state support of \$3,871,000 for the Fine Arts Outreach POPS program and \$8,000,000 for the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program.

## Per Capita State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Year 2017

### Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items	
	Per Capita Amount	Rank
Alabama	\$0.97	19
Alaska	\$0.95	20
Arizona	\$0.22	45
Arkansas	\$0.54	32
California	\$0.39	41
Colorado	\$0.37	42
Connecticut*	\$1.54	12
Delaware	\$3.50	3
Florida*	\$2.15	7
Georgia	\$0.10	48
Hawaii*	\$3.96	2
Idaho	\$0.47	36
Illinois†	N/A	N/A
Indiana	\$0.50	34
Iowa*	\$0.39	39
Kansas	\$0.06	49
Kentucky	\$0.59	30
Louisiana	\$0.46	37
Maine	\$0.67	27
Maryland	\$3.24	4
Massachusetts*	\$2.08	8
Michigan	\$0.91	21
Minnesota	\$7.08	1
*Mississippi	\$0.61	29
Missouri*	\$1.25	14
Montana	\$0.50	35
Nebraska	\$0.82	22
Nevada	\$0.58	31
New Hampshire	\$0.23	44
New Jersey	\$1.83	10
New Mexico	\$0.67	28
New York*	\$2.28	5
North Carolina*	\$0.79	24
North Dakota*	\$1.11	15
Ohio	\$1.27	13
Oklahoma	\$0.75	25
Oregon	\$0.51	33
Pennsylvania	\$0.82	23
Rhode Island*	\$1.85	9
South Carolina*	\$0.71	26
South Dakota	\$1.03	18
Tennessee*	\$1.06	17
Texas	\$0.28	43
Utah*	\$2.26	6
Vermont	\$1.08	16
Virginia	\$0.43	38
Washington	\$0.16	46
West Virginia	\$0.39	40
Wisconsin	\$0.14	47
Wyoming	\$1.79	11
District of Columbia	\$23.11	1
American Samoa	\$2.48	10
Puerto Rico*	\$4.78	4
Guam	\$2.54	9
Northern Marianas	\$6.86	3
Virgin Islands	\$3.13	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.11</b>	

#### Notes

\* The total FY2017 appropriation includes line item funds designated by the legislature to pass through the state arts agency to other entities.

† At the time of publication, the state was operating on a temporary budget while deliberation over a permanent FY2017 budget continued.

Per capita amounts represent the total dollar figure for each agency's appropriation divided by the total population. Total per capita dollar figures listed in the bottom row are based on the aggregate population for 55 states and jurisdictions. States are ranked out of 49 (Illinois is omitted from the rankings); jurisdictions are ranked out of 55.

Per capita spending calculations for the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are based on the July 1, 2015, population estimates in the [Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015](#) table from the U.S. Census Bureau. Population figures for American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands are from the [International Data Base](#) of the U.S. Census Bureau.