



State Arts Agency Legislative Appropriations Preview Fiscal Year 2019

This report provides a forecast of state government funding for the arts in the fiscal year ahead, as states enact budgets for FY2019 and national funding trends emerge. Please note that this is *preliminary* information, as the data was collected before 46 states began a new fiscal year on July 1, 2018. Thirty-three states went through the budgeting process this year, and 17 states will enter into the second year of a budget biennium, though many will have supplemental or revised budgets for the second fiscal year. Another three states will authorize a new two-year budget. As of July 6, 2018, 49 states have enacted budgets for FY2019. 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, contact [Patricia Mullaney-Loss](#).

KEY FINDINGS

- **Total appropriations to state arts agencies are projected to remain flat** between fiscal years 2018 and 2019.
- **Twenty-seven SAAs reported projected increases** in total legislative appropriations and, among those, the median increase was 6.2%.
- **Ten SAAs reported decreases**, with a median decrease of 4.2%.
- **Total per capita appropriations to SAAs remain at \$1.08** in FY2019.
- State revenue projections for FY2018 overall are showing growth compared to the past two fiscal years. **State general-fund spending is expected to increase by 3.2% in FY2019.**

The Climate for Arts Funding

State budgets on the whole are displaying signs of moderate growth following years of weak revenue and spending growth. According to the National Association of State Budget Officers, 39 states are expecting revenues to come in at or over FY2018 projections. While projections for FY2018 were cautious due to years of substantial fiscal uncertainty, the uptick in revenue growth has resulted in fewer midyear budget rescissions (only 9 states reported making cuts in FY2018, as opposed to 23 states in FY2017). Looking to FY2019, states project modest revenue growth to continue, with a median rate of 2.8%. According to governors' budget recommendations and enacted budgets, general-fund spending is projected to increase on average by 3.2%, with 42 states expecting to see spending increases. However, taking a longer view, 27 states are still seeing lower spending amounts than they did a decade ago in FY2008. Additionally, in response to new federal tax law, certain changes to proceeds from taxes and fees are expected in FY2019.

State Arts Agency Appropriations Projections

Entering FY2019, legislative appropriations to state arts agencies (SAAs) are expected to remain flat. A minimal increase of just 0.1% brings total appropriations to SAAs to \$355.2 million. This comes at a time when states, on the aggregate, are showing modest but stable revenue and spending growth. In FY2019:

- 27 states and jurisdictions expect their arts appropriation to increase;
- 10 expect their appropriation to decrease;
- 19 expect their appropriation to remain unchanged.

Projected increases and decreases for FY2019 are not concentrated in any single region or budget grouping. The Arizona Commission on the Arts, which did not receive an appropriation in FY2016, is slated to receive \$2 million from the interest on the state's rainy-day fund, a \$500,000 increase from the last two years. The California Arts Council expects an increase of 45.7% in FY2019. Florida has received a 73.6% decrease in total appropriations (an 85.6% decrease not including line items), accounting for more than \$22 million in lost funding. This decrease comprises the largest cut to any SAA in more than 10 years. Without Florida's loss, aggregate funding to state arts agencies would have increased by 6.6% between FY2018 and FY2019. For more state-by-state details, see the tables and notes on [page 4](#) and [page 5](#) of this report.

Projected Changes in SAA Total Legislative Appropriations Fiscal Years 2018-2019

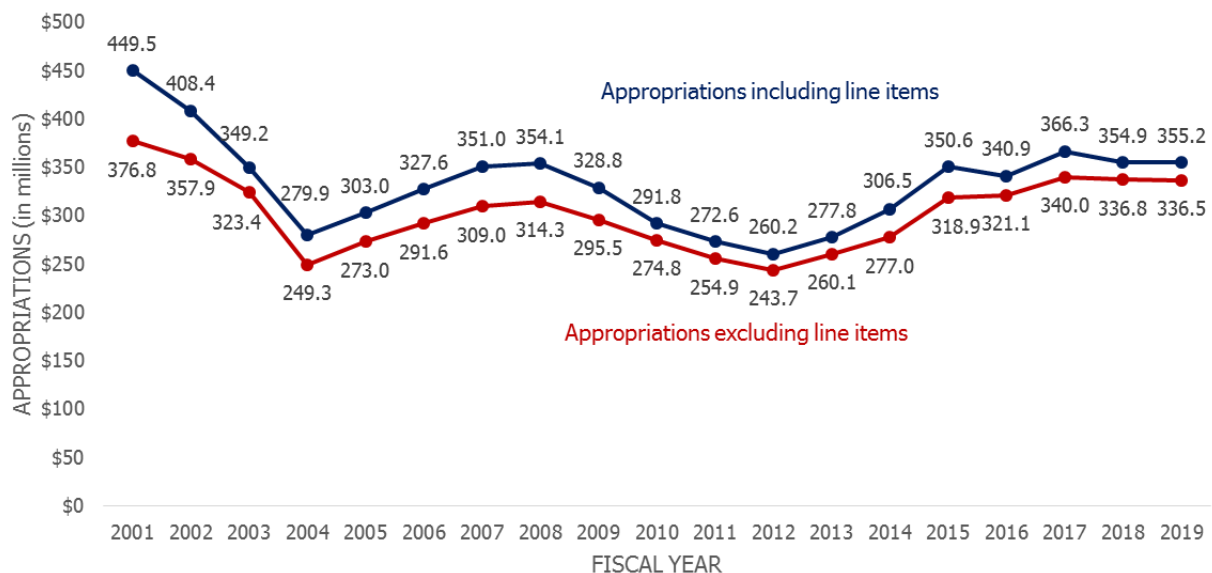
Increases	
Number of SAAs	27
Number of SAAs up 10% or more	9
Median percent increase	6.2%
Flat Funding*	
Number of SAAs	19
Decreases	
Number of SAAs	10
Number of SAAs down 10% or more	4
Median percent decrease	4.2%
All States	
Aggregate percent change	0.1%
Median percent change	0.1%

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

Historic Trends

Total appropriations to state arts agencies in FY2019 are projected to remain close to prerecession levels in nominal terms, though they have remained relatively flat for the past five years. Appropriations excluding line items (appropriations not controlled by SAAs but passed through SAA budgets to legislatively designated entities) are expected to remain slightly above prerecession levels. However, almost 10 years later, the recovery has not been equally shared among all SAAs: only 22 agencies expect to have larger appropriations in FY2019 than in FY2008, with the other 34 SAAs still below prerecession funding levels. Total projected SAA appropriations for FY2019 are still 21.0% below the historic peak set in FY2001, not accounting for inflation.

STATE ARTS AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEARS 2001-2019



Per Capita Funding

Projected appropriations to state arts agencies of \$355.2 million for the year ahead represent an aggregate investment of \$1.08 per capita. This is the same per capita funding level as FY2018, which remains 32.7% lower than the nominal 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 2018, this preview contains information on the legislative appropriation that each state arts agency expects to receive for FY2019, which begins for most states on July 1, 2018. 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 FY2019 SAA budget statistics in the fall and will report those findings in early winter. Background information on total SAA revenues for FY2018 is available in the [Funding](#) section of the NASAA website, including a suite of data visualizations detailing appropriations and revenue over time, regional comparisons and per capita rank estimations.

All references to historic trend data in this forecast are presented in nominal terms—i.e., they are not adjusted for inflation. Detailed discussion of inflation's effects (and accompanying constant-dollar adjustments) are included in NASAA's in-depth reports published each winter. Trend charts including inflation adjustments are available through our [appropriations and revenue explorers](#).

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State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Years 2018-2019
Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	FY2018 Enacted	FY2019 Projected	Percent Change FY18 to FY19
Alabama	\$ 4,809,496	\$5,459,496	13.5%
Alaska	\$ 692,800	\$ 692,800	0.0%
American Samoa	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	0.0%
¹ Arizona	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 2,000,000	33.3%
Arkansas	\$ 1,491,744	\$ 1,520,000	1.9%
California	\$ 18,369,000	\$ 26,765,000	45.7%
Colorado	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,367,000	18.4%
² Connecticut*	\$ 4,410,664	\$ 4,318,706	-2.1%
Delaware	\$ 3,338,786	\$ 3,246,500	-2.8%
District of Columbia	\$ 29,136,438	\$ 30,932,082	6.2%
³ Florida*	\$ 30,025,083	\$ 7,937,196	-73.6%
⁴ Georgia	\$ 1,261,501	\$ 1,211,310	-4.0%
Guam*	\$ 510,553	\$ 510,553	0.0%
Hawaii*	\$ 6,027,111	\$ 6,027,111	0.0%
Idaho	\$ 810,500	\$ 841,000	3.8%
Illinois*	\$ 9,471,730	\$ 9,471,800	0.0%
Indiana	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 4,000,000	0.0%
⁵ Iowa*	\$ 1,192,188	\$ 1,217,188	2.1%
Kansas	\$ 188,604	\$ 188,841	0.1%
Kentucky	\$ 2,628,100	\$ 1,708,700	-35.0%
Louisiana	\$ 1,915,000	\$ 1,915,000	0.0%
Maine	\$ 918,203	\$ 946,750	3.1%
Maryland	\$ 20,085,885	\$ 22,047,233	9.8%
Massachusetts*†	\$ 13,950,699	\$ 16,050,000	15.0%
Michigan	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	0.0%
Minnesota*	\$ 33,904,000	\$ 39,275,000	15.8%
Mississippi	\$ 1,594,718	\$ 1,635,294	2.5%
Missouri*	\$ 6,450,500	\$ 6,451,429	0.0%
Montana	\$ 456,400	\$ 464,608	1.8%
Nebraska	\$ 1,538,470	\$ 1,477,145	-4.0%
Nevada	\$ 1,807,040	\$ 1,825,861	1.0%
New Hampshire	\$ 405,780	\$ 401,585	-1.0%
New Jersey	\$ 16,405,000	\$ 16,500,000	0.6%
New Mexico	\$ 1,315,300	\$ 1,332,000	1.3%
New York*	\$ 40,795,000	\$ 40,795,000	0.0%
North Carolina*	\$ 8,257,787	\$ 9,152,787	10.8%
North Dakota*	\$ 782,438	\$ 782,438	0.0%
Northern Marianas	\$ 586,463	\$ 586,395	0.0%
Ohio	\$ 14,653,879	\$ 14,653,879	0.0%
Oklahoma	\$ 2,795,181	\$ 2,799,266	0.1%
Oregon*	\$ 2,708,643	\$ 2,708,644	0.0%
Pennsylvania	\$ 10,429,000	\$ 10,429,000	0.0%
Puerto Rico*	\$ 10,943,000	\$ 10,943,000	0.0%
Rhode Island*	\$ 1,963,360	\$ 1,989,693	1.3%
South Carolina*	\$ 3,365,938	\$ 4,215,938	25.3%
South Dakota	\$ 909,877	\$ 950,876	4.5%
Tennessee*	\$ 7,140,900	\$ 7,149,600	0.1%
Texas*	\$ 5,038,066	\$ 5,208,066	3.4%
⁶ Utah	\$ 3,170,700	\$ 3,027,900	-4.5%
Vermont	\$ 675,307	\$ 717,735	6.3%
Virgin Islands	\$ 299,360	\$ 235,000	-21.5%
Virginia	\$ 3,492,929	\$ 3,704,210	6.0%
Washington	\$ 1,497,000	\$ 1,596,000	6.6%
West Virginia	\$ 698,190	\$ 883,860	26.6%
Wisconsin	\$ 916,800	\$ 763,000	-16.8%
Wyoming	\$ 1,038,987	\$ 1,108,438	6.7%
Total	\$354,855,098	\$355,222,913	0.1%

Notes

* The total FY2019 projected 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 does not have an enacted FY2019 budget.

¹ **Arizona:** Since FY2012, the legislature has not appropriated funding to the state arts agency from the general fund. The SAA's FY2018 and FY2019 appropriations were drawn from interest on the state's rainy-day fund and were nonrecurring.

² **Connecticut:** The total appropriation does not include funding going through the agency's budget for line items to non-arts organizations.

³ **Florida:** Funding for the division suffered a 73.6% reduction for FY2019 due to the state legislature's decision to not fund a large portion of designated grants for organizations.

⁴ **Georgia:** The Georgia Council for the Arts received additional one-time funding of \$150K in FY2018 and \$100K in FY2019.

⁵ **Iowa:** In FY2017, the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs sustained a complete elimination of the \$6.1 million Iowa Cultural Trust, as a result of efforts by the Iowa legislature and governor to address a projected state budget shortfall. In FY2018, a new \$25,000 Cultural Trust Grants line item was added to address the loss of the Iowa Cultural Trust and it was increased to \$75,000 in FY2019.

⁶ **Utah:** The agency's appropriation does not include state support for the Fine Arts Outreach POPS program and the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program, which are administered by agencies other than the SAA.

Per Capita State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Year 2019
 Projected Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items	
	Per Capita	
	Amount	Rank
Alabama	\$1.12	13
Alaska	\$0.94	20
Arizona	\$0.29	45
Arkansas	\$0.51	34
California	\$0.68	28
Colorado	\$0.42	39
Connecticut*	\$1.20	11
Delaware	\$3.37	4
Florida*	\$0.38	43
Georgia	\$0.12	49
Hawaii*	\$4.22	2
Idaho	\$0.49	35
Illinois*	\$0.74	25
Indiana	\$0.60	32
Iowa*	\$0.39	41
Kansas	\$0.06	50
Kentucky	\$0.38	42
Louisiana	\$0.41	40
Maine	\$0.71	27
Maryland	\$3.64	3
Massachusetts*†	\$2.34	5
Michigan	\$1.00	18
Minnesota*	\$7.04	1
Mississippi	\$0.55	33
Missouri*	\$1.06	16
Montana	\$0.44	37
Nebraska	\$0.77	24
Nevada	\$0.61	31
New Hampshire	\$0.30	44
New Jersey	\$1.83	9
New Mexico	\$0.64	30
New York*	\$2.06	6
North Carolina*	\$0.89	21
North Dakota*	\$1.04	17
Ohio	\$1.26	10
Oklahoma	\$0.71	26
Oregon*	\$0.65	29
Pennsylvania	\$0.81	23
Rhode Island*	\$1.88	8
South Carolina*	\$0.84	22
South Dakota	\$1.09	14
Tennessee*	\$1.06	15
Texas*	\$0.18	47
Utah	\$0.98	19
Vermont	\$1.15	12
Virginia	\$0.44	38
Washington	\$0.22	46
West Virginia	\$0.49	36
Wisconsin	\$0.13	48
Wyoming	\$1.91	7
American Samoa	\$1.65	14
District of Columbia	\$44.57	1
Guam*	\$3.05	8
Northern Marianas	\$11.22	2
Puerto Rico*	\$3.28	7
Virgin Islands	\$0.62	36
Total	\$1.08	

Notes

* The total FY2019 projected 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 does not have an enacted FY2019 budget.

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 56 states and jurisdictions. States are ranked out of 50; jurisdictions are ranked out of 56.

Per capita spending calculations for the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are based on the July 1, 2017, 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, 2017](#) 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.