

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

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State Arts Agency Legislative Appropriations Preview Fiscal Year 2022

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This report provides a forecast of state government funding for the arts in fiscal year 2022. Data presented in this report were collected before most states began a new fiscal year on July 1. Forty-eight states went through the budgeting process this year, and 17 states will enact a biennial budget. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, several states are changing their budget processes, whether that be passing a single-year instead of a biennial budget or making substantial adjustments in the second year of a biennial budget.

As of July 19, 2021, 47 states have enacted full-year budgets for FY2022. In addition, 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 [Ryan Stubbs](#).

COVID-19 and State Budgets: The Climate for Arts Funding

While COVID-19's effect on state budgets was not as grave as first expected, states experienced lower revenues and expenditures than was anticipated before the pandemic. The [Center for Budget and Policy Priorities](#) now estimates a total state and locality budget shortfall of \$225 billion between FY2020 and FY2022, down from an estimated \$555 billion last year. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 passed in March 2021 provides fiscal assistance to address the budgetary shortfalls. However, ARP funds are likely to be short-term lifts to state and local government budgets. Given the considerable uncertainty surrounding the future economic outlook and continued demand on state budgets to address a range of ongoing concerns, such as health and human services, education, infrastructure, and climate change, state budgets will be further tested after these relief funds are allocated.

State general fund expenditures are expected to grow by 5.0% in FY2022, with 39 governors' budgets proposing spending increases, according to the [National Association of State Budget Officers](#). This expenditure growth is below pre-pandemic forecasts, and the majority of states are also seeing declines in revenue projections. States have seen uneven impacts of COVID-19, especially those with outsized tourism and leisure industries. To mitigate revenue declines, states employed a variety of strategies and tools to manage their budgets, including spending reductions, personnel actions, and use of one-time measures such as rainy-day funds, fund transfers and prior-year balances. Of the states that recommended FY2022 spending reductions in executive budgets, 17 reported targeted spending cuts and 3 reported across-the-board cuts as strategies to keep budgets under control and address shortfalls.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- **Total appropriations to state arts agencies (SAAs) are projected to increase by 49.3%** between fiscal years 2021 and 2022, totaling \$628.9 million in FY2022.
- **Thirty SAAs reported projected increases** in total legislative appropriations; among these, the median increase was 13.8%.
- **Eight SAAs reported decreases**, with a median decrease of 4.9%.
- **Total per capita appropriations to SAAs are projected to be \$1.89** in FY2022, an increase of 51 cents from FY2021.
- Overall state revenue projections for FY2021 are showing growth. **State general-fund spending is expected to increase by 5% in FY2022, with 39 states proposing spending increases.**

State Arts Agency Appropriations Projections

Appropriations to state arts agencies (SAAs) are rebounding after a 17.9% decline from FY2020 to FY2021. Appropriations for FY2022 total \$628.9 million, a 49.3% increase over FY2021.

In FY2022:

- 30 states and jurisdictions expect their arts appropriation to increase;
- 8 expect their appropriation to decrease;
- 18 expect their appropriation to remain unchanged.

Budgets will change throughout the summer and fall, as state legislatures reconvene to assess changing revenue estimates. For more state-by-state details, see the tables and notes on [page 4](#) and [page 5](#) of this report.

Supplemental Funding during COVID-19

Federal support through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan Act has been an important part of the toolkit that state government and SAAs are using to address losses caused by COVID-19. The CARES and ARP acts included \$75 million and \$135 million in funds, respectively, distributed through the National Endowment for the Arts. By law, 40% of those dollars were allocated to state arts agencies and regional arts organizations, which are regranteeing them through state level arts relief programs in FY2020 through FY2022. Apart from these Arts Endowment funds, the federal packages also included aid to states and localities. Many states have elected to use these federal funds or other state dollars for grants or loans to mitigate economic harm caused by the pandemic. At the time of publication, 24 states have allocated \$272 million in supplemental funding for arts and culture, coming from either state or federal funds, ranging from \$60,000 to \$94 million per state, with a median of \$1.25 million. The list of states allocating supplemental funding to arts and culture will evolve over the coming months as states further allocate ARP Act funds.

Historic Trends

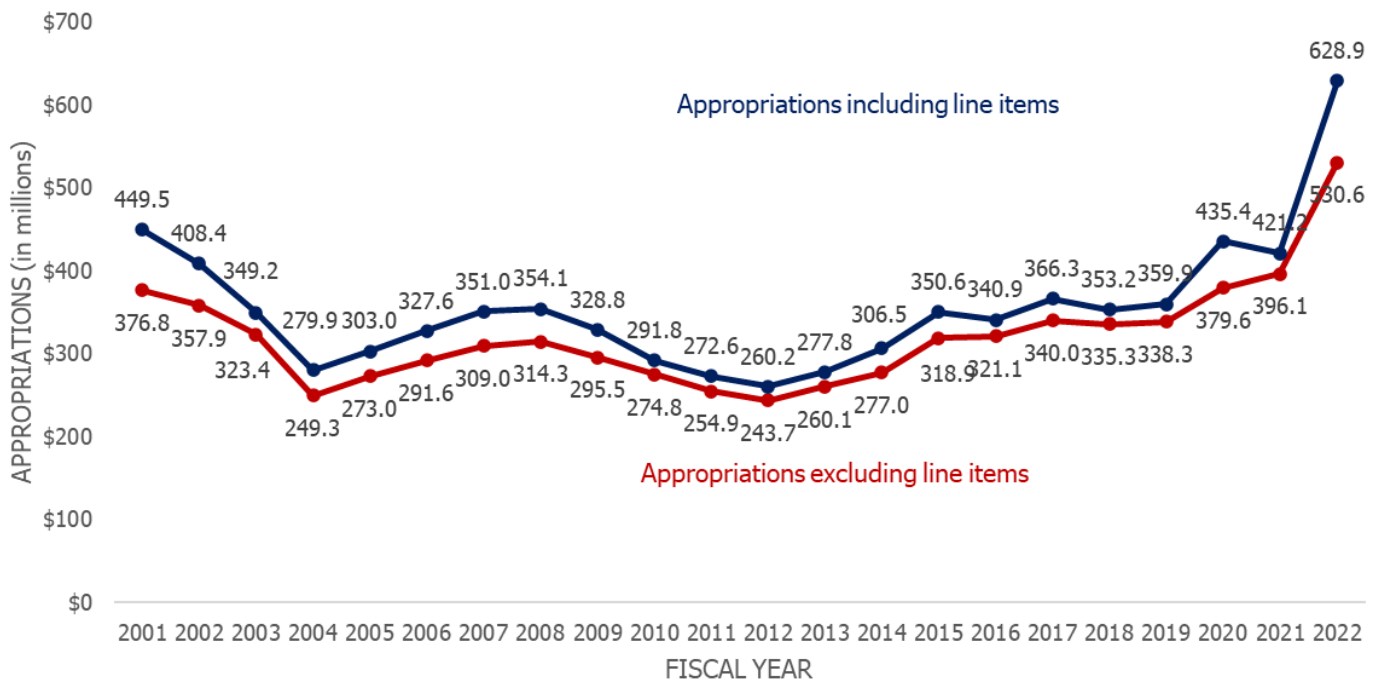
Total appropriations to state arts agencies in FY2022 increased 44% from FY2020, representing a new high-water mark for aggregate state arts funding. (The previous nominal high was set in FY2001.) The majority of the increase in FY2022 is due to line items, which are historically volatile. (Line items are appropriations not controlled by SAAs but rather passed through SAA budgets to legislatively designated entities.) Still, appropriations excluding line items are expected to surpass FY2001 levels, not adjusting for inflation.

Projected Changes in SAA Total Legislative Appropriations Fiscal Years 2021-2022

Increases	
Number of SAAs	30
Number of SAAs up 10% or more	20
Median percent increase	13.8%
Flat Funding*	
Number of SAAs	18
Decreases	
Number of SAAs	8
Number of SAAs down 10% or more	2
Median percent decrease	-4.9%
All States	
Aggregate percent change	49.3%
Median percent change	1.0%

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

STATE ARTS AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEARS 2001-2022



Per Capita Funding

Projected appropriations to state arts agencies of \$628.9 million for the year ahead represent an aggregate investment of \$1.89 per capita. This is an increase from \$1.38 in FY2021, and is 18% higher than the nominal all-time per capita high of \$1.60 reached in FY2001. Although aggregate appropriations projected for FY2022 exceed the FY2001 level, the population and inflation have continued to grow and the same amount of funding will not support the same level of programs and services for all residents.

About These Data

Based on survey data reported to the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) in May and July 2021, this preview contains information on the legislative appropriation that each state arts agency expects to receive for FY2022, which begins for most states on July 1, 2021. 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 FY2022 SAA budget statistics in the fall and will report those findings in winter. Background information on total SAA revenues for FY2021 is available in the [Funding](#) section of the NASAA website, which includes 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 State Arts Agency Revenues report published each winter. Trend charts including inflation adjustments are available through our [appropriations and revenue explorers](#).

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Preliminary Projections: State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Years 2021-2022
 Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	FY2021 Enacted	FY2022 Projected	Percent Change
¹ Alabama*	\$ 6,421,322	\$ 7,048,047	9.8%
Alaska	\$ 686,200	\$ 696,000	1.4%
American Samoa	\$ 114,000	\$ 153,500	34.6%
² Arizona*	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	-
Arkansas	\$ 1,501,853	\$ 1,750,000	16.5%
³ California	\$ 32,781,000	\$ 124,300,000	279.2%
⁴ Colorado	\$ 1,226,000	\$ 2,023,000	65.0%
⁵ Connecticut*	\$ 5,424,552	\$ 34,458,198	535.2%
Delaware	\$ 3,866,700	\$ 3,866,900	0.0%
District of Columbia†	\$ 33,250,000	\$ 37,523,000	12.9%
Florida*	\$ 30,740,635	\$ 30,740,635	0.0%
Georgia	\$ 1,502,217	\$ 1,502,217	0.0%
Guam†	\$ 233,859	\$ 449,590	92.2%
Hawaii	\$ 6,530,067	\$ 6,411,189	-1.8%
Idaho	\$ 874,800	\$ 883,400	1.0%
Illinois*	\$ 13,271,800	\$ 13,271,800	0.0%
Indiana	\$ 3,920,491	\$ 3,632,417	-7.3%
Iowa	\$ 1,467,188	\$ 1,017,188	-30.7%
Kansas	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	0.0%
Kentucky	\$ 1,537,900	\$ 1,739,600	13.1%
Louisiana	\$ 2,180,683	\$ 2,151,655	-1.3%
Maine	\$ 1,019,208	\$ 1,019,208	0.0%
Maryland	\$ 23,410,253	\$ 26,317,737	12.4%
Massachusetts†	\$ 18,180,000	\$ 21,375,000	17.6%
Michigan†	\$ 8,350,000	\$ 8,350,000	0.0%
Minnesota*	\$ 40,691,000	\$ 46,560,000	14.4%
Mississippi	\$ 1,659,164	\$ 1,659,164	0.0%
Missouri*	\$ 6,630,106	\$ 6,302,931	-4.9%
Montana*	\$ 528,036	\$ 527,748	-0.1%
Nebraska	\$ 1,530,353	\$ 2,542,346	66.1%
⁶ Nevada•	\$ 1,189,269	\$ 1,954,934	64.4%
New Hampshire	\$ 816,615	\$ 822,161	0.7%
New Jersey	\$ 20,263,000	\$ 31,900,000	57.4%
New Mexico	\$ 1,482,600	\$ 1,418,000	-4.4%
⁷ New York*	\$ 45,174,000	\$ 46,126,000	2.1%
North Carolina*†	\$ 8,277,787	\$ 8,277,787	0.0%
North Dakota*	\$ 809,342	\$ 831,383	2.7%
Northern Marianas	\$ 125,221	\$ 125,221	0.0%
Ohio	\$ 16,015,913	\$ 20,000,000	24.9%
Okahoma	\$ 2,796,030	\$ 3,004,205	7.4%
Oregon*†	\$ 4,534,885	\$ 9,044,746	99.4%
Pennsylvania	\$ 10,457,000	\$ 10,457,000	0.0%
Puerto Rico*†	\$ 12,997,000	\$ 14,873,000	14.4%
Rhode Island*	\$ 2,487,857	\$ 1,640,202	-34.1%
⁸ South Carolina	\$ 4,366,187	\$ 45,781,187	948.5%
South Dakota	\$ 1,082,628	\$ 1,082,628	0.0%
Tennessee*	\$ 7,431,800	\$ 9,466,800	27.4%
Texas*	\$ 10,214,538	\$ 11,504,338	12.6%
Utah	\$ 10,377,100	\$ 9,356,400	-9.8%
Vermont	\$ 718,589	\$ 722,859	0.6%
Virgin Islands†	\$ 375,000	\$ 375,000	0.0%
Virginia	\$ 3,981,248	\$ 3,992,248	0.3%
Washington	\$ 2,467,000	\$ 2,554,000	3.5%
West Virginia	\$ 954,314	\$ 954,314	0.0%
Wisconsin†	\$ 813,097	\$ 887,100	9.1%
Wyoming	\$ 929,217	\$ 929,217	0.0%
Total	\$ 421,166,624	\$ 628,853,200	49.3%

Notes

As state governments recalculate revenue projections to adjust to the rolling effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, many expect to revise enacted budgets. Twenty-nine state arts agencies (SAAs) indicated that these preliminary numbers were either "likely" or "extremely likely" to change for this reason. For the latest information on SAA appropriations, contact [Ryan Stubbs](#).

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

• Denotes agency that has indicated its budget is "extremely likely" to change.

† At the time of publication, the state does not have an enacted FY2022 budget.

¹ **Alabama:** The legislature allowed the Alabama State Council on the Arts to reappropriate unexpended funds. Accordingly, the Council reappropriated \$442,794 from FY2020 into FY2021.

² **Arizona:** The Arizona Commission on the Arts did not receive an appropriation in FY2021 but did receive other state funds, in the form of business filing fees.

³ **California:** Figures include a budget allocation to support the California Arts Council's Creative Youth Development and Creative Corps economic and workforce recovery pilot programs to be spent over three years. Figures do not include \$8 million in state investment in the Arts in Corrections program or \$1.7 million investment in a National LGBTQ Center for the Arts.

⁴ **Colorado:** Figures do not include \$15.5 million in state funds for the Colorado Artist Relief Program and \$65 million in funding for creative construction projects across the state through the Community Revitalization Grant Program.

⁵ **Connecticut:** FY2022 appropriations include \$32,960,900 in total line items designated for the arts and humanities.

⁶ **Nevada:** In FY2021, the Nevada Arts Council experienced a reduction of \$69,936 in its general fund and a reduction of \$590,861 in funds transferred from tourism.

⁷ **New York:** Total appropriation does not include \$40,000,000 in state recovery funds, \$196,000 in small capital grants funds, \$20,000,000 in other capital funds and \$1,413,000 in federal relief funding.

⁸ **South Carolina:** The FY2022 legislative appropriation includes line items of \$15 million for Sumter Opera House and \$19 million for Greenville Cultural and Arts Center.

Per Capita State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Year 2022
 Projected Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items	
	Per Capita Amount	Rank
Alabama*	\$ 1.43	16
Alaska	\$ 0.95	25
Arizona*	\$ 0.27	48
Arkansas	\$ 0.58	34
California	\$ 3.16	8
Colorado	\$ 0.35	44
Connecticut*	\$ 9.69	1
Delaware	\$ 3.92	6
Florida*	\$ 1.41	17
Georgia	\$ 0.14	50
Hawaii	\$ 4.56	4
Idaho	\$ 0.48	39
Illinois*	\$ 1.05	23
Indiana	\$ 0.54	36
Iowa	\$ 0.32	46
Kansas	\$ 0.17	49
Kentucky	\$ 0.39	43
Louisiana	\$ 0.46	41
Maine	\$ 0.75	29
Maryland	\$ 4.35	5
Massachusetts†	\$ 3.10	9
Michigan†	\$ 0.84	26
Minnesota*	\$ 8.23	3
Mississippi	\$ 0.56	35
Missouri*	\$ 1.02	24
Montana*	\$ 0.49	38
Nebraska	\$ 1.31	19
Nevada•	\$ 0.62	32
New Hampshire	\$ 0.60	33
New Jersey	\$ 3.59	7
New Mexico	\$ 0.67	31
New York*	\$ 2.39	11
North Carolina*†	\$ 0.78	28
North Dakota*	\$ 1.09	22
Ohio	\$ 1.71	13
Oklahoma	\$ 0.75	30
Oregon*†	\$ 2.13	12
Pennsylvania	\$ 0.82	27
Rhode Island*	\$ 1.55	15
South Carolina	\$ 8.77	2
South Dakota	\$ 1.21	20
Tennessee*	\$ 1.37	18
Texas*	\$ 0.39	42
Utah	\$ 2.88	10
Vermont	\$ 1.16	21
Virginia	\$ 0.46	40
Washington	\$ 0.33	45
West Virginia	\$ 0.53	37
Wisconsin†	\$ 0.15	47
Wyoming	\$ 1.60	14
American Samoa	\$ 3.24	11
District of Columbia†	\$ 52.64	1
Guam†	\$ 2.67	15
Northern Marianas	\$ 2.42	16
Puerto Rico*†	\$ 4.59	5
Virgin Islands†	\$ 3.53	10
Total	\$ 1.89	

Notes

* The total FY2022 projected appropriation includes line item funds designated by the legislature to pass through the state arts agency to other entities.

• Denotes agency that has indicated its budget is "extremely likely" to change.

† At the time of publication, the state does not have an enacted FY2022 budget.

Per capita amounts represent the total dollar figure for each agency's appropriation divided by the total population. The total per capita dollar figure in the bottom row is 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, 2020, population estimates in the [Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2020](#) 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.