

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

KNOWLEDGE ★ REPRESENTATION ★ COMMUNITY

State Arts Agency Legislative Appropriations Preview Fiscal Year 2023

Published 09/15/2022

This report provides a forecast of state government funding for the arts in fiscal year 2023. Data presented were collected before most states began a new fiscal year on July 1, 2022.

As of September, 2022, all 50 states have enacted budgets for FY2023. 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 [Mohja Rhoads](#).

The Climate for Arts Funding

On average, governors' proposed state budgets for FY2023 include a 4.2% increase in general fund spending above FY2022 levels. This follows a state spending rise of 13.6% in FY2022 from FY2021, the highest annual increase in more than four decades, according to [National Association of State Budget Officers](#) (NASBO). In addition, incoming state revenue is forecast to increase by 1.4% after accounting for FY2023 estimated tax policy changes.

According to NASBO, 49 states reported that their FY2022 collections surpassed their initial predictions at the time of budget enactment. In FY2022, there were no net midyear budget cuts recorded by any states, while 22 states reported net midyear spending increases, including several states that had one-time expenditures from surplus funds. Only five states reported targeted budget cuts, while three states indicated extending hiring freezes and/or eliminating vacant positions beyond FY2023. Despite revenue increases, states continue to keep money in savings accounts to hedge against economic uncertainty and inflation. Balances in rainy-day funds climbed by 62%, reaching a new high in FY2022, with 41 states expecting gains.

This trend of robust state budgets is also reflected in most state arts agency appropriations. A majority (30) of state arts agencies anticipate budget increases for FY2023. The total projected SAA budget figure of \$763.3 million for FY2023 stays close to the all-time high reported in FY2022, fueled by pandemic relief for the arts and strong state budgets in general. Budgets have not been finalized and—given this environment—there is a chance for a net change in state arts agency appropriations in the upcoming months. This coming winter, NASAA will publish a comprehensive report detailing all state art agencies' enacted budgets.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Fueled by robust state budgets and temporary pandemic relief funding, **aggregate appropriations to state arts agencies (SAAs) continue to ride near their all-time high**, even though they are projected to decrease by 3.6% in FY2023 due to a recording imbalance from one state.
- **Total appropriations to SAAs are projected to total \$763.3 million for FY2023.**
- **Thirty SAAs reported projected increases** in total legislative appropriations. The median increase was 12.3%.
- **Eleven SAAs reported projected decreases**, with a median decrease of 16.8%.
- **Total per capita appropriations to SAAs are projected to be \$2.27** in FY2023, a decrease of 8 cents from FY2022.

State Arts Agency Appropriations Projections

Using current estimates, total legislative appropriations to state and jurisdictional arts agencies (SAAs) are projected to decline by 3.6% in FY2023. This aggregated decrease is due to a 28.4% reduction in line items (appropriations not controlled by SAAs but rather passed through SAA budgets to legislatively designated entities), while baseline appropriations (those given directly to SAAs) increased by 4.2%.

A \$113 million decrease expected in one state—California—also contributes to the decline in total SAA appropriations. This figure is attributable to a large allocation of funds for multiyear California Arts Council programs being enacted and categorized as FY2022 revenue. Apart from this accounting detail, the pattern of increasing appropriations is projected to remain, and some states are improving upon their high watermarks. The total state arts allocations projected for FY2023 of \$763.3 million is \$28 million less than the record-high figure for FY2022.

In FY2023:

- 30 states and jurisdictions expect their arts appropriation to increase;
- 11 expect their appropriation to decrease;
- 15 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

As a result of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, states and local governments received \$350 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to be spent over four years. According to the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#), ARP had provided states \$197.8 billion for COVID-19 relief by March 2022. Forty-eight states and jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, have appropriated 63% (\$125 billion) of this \$197.8 billion. States have until the end of 2024 to determine how they will employ their Fiscal Recovery Funds and until the end of 2026 to complete spending.

At the time of publication, 16 states have allocated \$236.7 million in supplemental relief funding to SAAs for FY2022 and 11 states have allocated \$126 million for FY2023 (in addition to federal supplemental relief from the NEA). These funds are a mixture of state funds (including transfers from other state agencies) and other federal funds, ranging from \$15,000 to \$65 million per state, with a median of \$866,300. 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

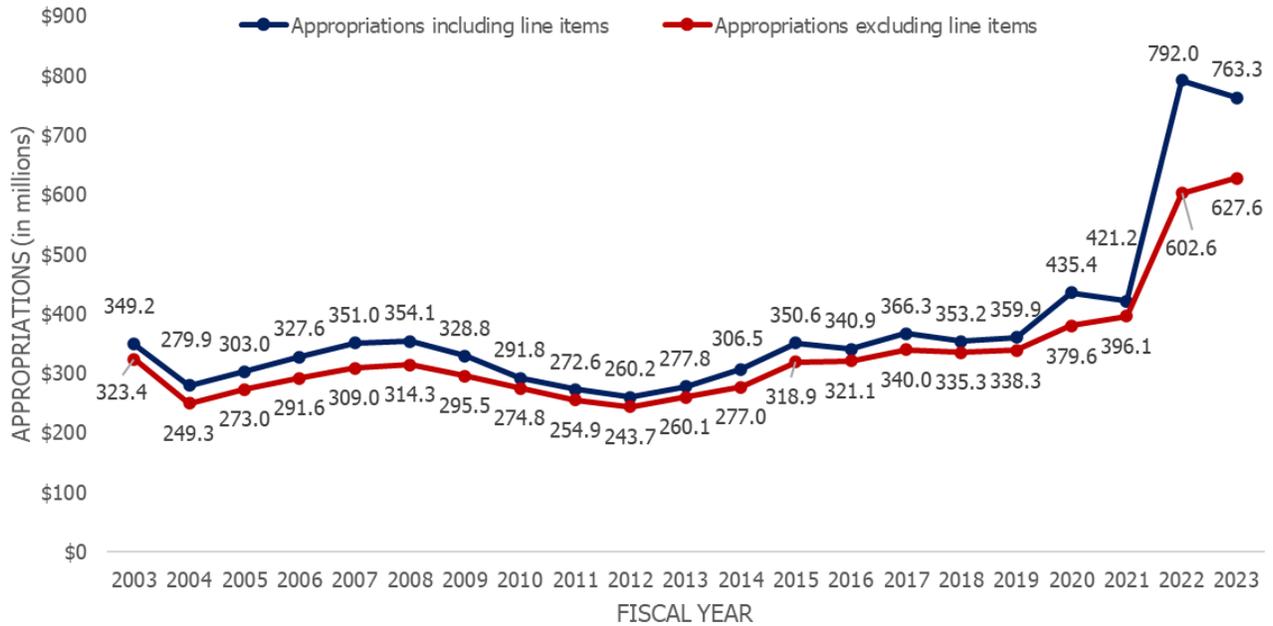
The majority of the projected 3.6% decrease in total appropriations to state arts agencies from FY2022 to FY2023 is due to line items, which historically are volatile.

Projected Changes in SAA Total Legislative Appropriations Fiscal Years 2022-2023

Increases	
Number of SAAs	30
Number of SAAs up 10% or more	16
Median percent increase	12.3%
Flat Funding*	
Number of SAAs	15
Decreases	
Number of SAAs	11
Number of SAAs down 10% or more	7
Median percent decrease	-16.8%
All States	
Aggregate percent change	-3.6%
Median percent change	2.3%

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

STATE ARTS AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEARS 2003-2023



Per Capita Funding

Projected appropriations to state arts agencies of \$763.3 million for the year ahead represent an aggregate investment of \$2.27 per capita. This is a decrease from \$2.36 in FY2022, and is 42.2% higher 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 2022, this preview contains information on the legislative appropriation that each state arts agency expects to receive for FY2023, which begins for most states on July 1, 2022. 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 FY2023 SAA budget statistics in the fall and will report those findings in winter. Background information on total SAA revenues for FY2022 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](#).

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License](#).



Preliminary Projections: State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Years 2022-2023

Total Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items

State or Special Jurisdiction	FY2022 Enacted	FY2023 Projected	Percent Change
Alabama*	\$ 7,048,047	\$ 7,630,969	8.3%
Alaska*	\$ 743,600	\$ 738,800	-0.6%
American Samoa	\$ 153,000	\$ 153,000	0.0%
¹ Arizona*•	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	-
Arkansas	\$ 949,967	\$ 2,105,004	121.6%
² California†	\$ 169,525,000	\$ 56,642,000	-66.6%
³ Colorado	\$ 2,023,000	\$ 2,023,000	0.0%
⁴ Connecticut*	\$ 34,288,942	\$ 28,541,156	-16.8%
Delaware	\$ 3,880,015	\$ 3,880,015	0.0%
⁵ District of Columbia	\$ 44,399,000	\$ 45,202,000	1.8%
⁶ Florida*	\$ 60,876,023	\$ 97,578,725	60.3%
Georgia	\$ 1,555,890	\$ 1,555,890	0.0%
Guam*	\$ 470,000	\$ 526,000	11.9%
⁷ Hawaii*•	\$ 7,827,364	\$ 28,236,390	260.7%
Idaho	\$ 883,400	\$ 905,700	2.5%
Illinois*	\$ 13,854,800	\$ 13,639,900	-1.6%
Indiana	\$ 3,559,769	\$ 3,559,769	0.0%
Iowa*	\$ 1,917,188	\$ 1,467,188	-23.5%
Kansas	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	0.0%
Kentucky	\$ 1,739,600	\$ 1,797,100	3.3%
Louisiana	\$ -	\$ 2,170,902	-
Maine*	\$ 1,019,604	\$ 1,028,993	0.9%
Maryland*	\$ 25,333,540	\$ 28,848,520	13.9%
⁸ Massachusetts*†	\$ 21,375,000	\$ 22,877,000	7.0%
Michigan†	\$ 9,850,000	\$ 9,850,000	0.0%
Minnesota	\$ 41,913,000	\$ 43,551,000	3.9%
⁹ Mississippi*	\$ 1,659,164	\$ 5,913,208	256.4%
¹⁰ Missouri*	\$ 7,078,930	\$ 18,616,670	163.0%
Montana	\$ 558,191	\$ 533,211	-4.5%
¹¹ Nebraska*	\$ 2,542,346	\$ 10,102,052	297.4%
Nevada•	\$ 1,953,818	\$ 2,101,634	7.6%
New Hampshire	\$ 822,161	\$ 838,584	2.0%
New Jersey*	\$ 61,455,000	\$ 35,030,000	-43.0%
New Mexico	\$ 1,418,000	\$ 1,655,600	16.8%
¹² New York*	\$ 106,622,000	\$ 142,801,000	33.9%
¹³ North Carolina*	\$ 8,146,169	\$ 9,146,169	12.3%
North Dakota*	\$ 831,383	\$ 831,383	0.0%
Northern Marianas	\$ 108,246	\$ 221,866	105.0%
Ohio	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	0.0%
Oklahoma	\$ 3,004,205	\$ 3,243,030	7.9%
Oregon*	\$ 2,034,761	\$ 11,189,378	449.9%
Pennsylvania†	\$ 10,542,000	\$ 10,542,000	0.0%
Puerto Rico*	\$ 14,825,000	\$ 17,018,000	14.8%
Rhode Island*	\$ 4,643,176	\$ 3,893,176	-16.2%
¹⁴ South Carolina	\$ 45,281,187	\$ 11,391,836	-74.8%
¹⁵ South Dakota	\$ 1,056,693	\$ 1,090,445	3.2%
Tennessee*	\$ 9,477,800	\$ 10,312,458	8.8%
Texas*	\$ 10,164,538	\$ 10,164,538	0.0%
Utah	\$ 11,356,400	\$ 9,447,400	-16.8%
¹⁶ Vermont	\$ 785,980	\$ 859,445	9.3%
Virgin Islands	\$ 375,000	\$ 375,000	0.0%
Virginia*	\$ 4,161,660	\$ 6,219,987	49.5%
¹⁷ Washington	\$ 2,745,000	\$ 7,070,960	157.6%
West Virginia	\$ 927,315	\$ 962,112	3.8%
Wisconsin	\$ 807,100	\$ 807,100	0.0%
Wyoming	\$ 929,217	\$ 877,526	-5.6%
Total	\$ 791,998,189	\$ 763,264,789	-3.6%

Notes

As state governments recalculate revenue projections to adjust to the rolling effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, many expect to revise enacted FY2023 budgets. Twenty-one 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 [Mohja Rhoads](#).

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

• Agency has indicated its budget is extremely likely to change.
 † At the time of publication, the state does not have an enacted FY2023 budget.

¹ **Arizona:** The state legislature granted the Arizona Commission on the Arts a \$5 million one-time appropriation for FY2023, the largest single-year investment in the arts in the state's history.

² **California:** The California Arts Council (CAC)'s FY2022 budget includes \$100 million in one-time funding to be spent over three years. In FY2023, the state legislature approved more than \$55 million in one-time funding for CAC, including \$30 million to expand and support the California Cultural Districts Program (with 1% of the funding to support the agency's administrative costs), and \$25 million for the California Cultural and Arts Installations in the Parks Program through the state Department of Parks and Recreation.

³ **Colorado:** In FY2022, the agency's legislative appropriations were sourced from the general fund. In FY2023, appropriations will come from gaming funds, as in previous years.

⁴ **Connecticut:** Of the FY2023 line items, \$21,206,686 is allocated from a carryforward fund, which is authorized for only the current fiscal year. Additionally, the state allocated a \$5,937,187 line item for the Tourism Fund.

⁵ **District of Columbia:** The budget of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is proportional to sales tax receipts and based on collections and revenue projections for the district.

⁶ **Florida:** The governor has approved a new FY2023 state budget for arts and culture in Florida of slightly more than \$59 million with over \$37 million line items. An appropriation of \$30,357,299 from ARPA funding allocated to the state as a whole and placed in general revenue. This sum will be coadministered by the SAA and the Division of Historical Resources through a grant program, but the amount to be administered by each agency has not yet been determined.

⁷ **Hawai'i:** FY2023 appropriations include line items of \$19.5 million. After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the state legislature has decided to resume awarding Grants-In-Aid (GIA) beginning with the 2022 legislative session. However, the budgeted amount for FY2023 (about \$1,781,700) has not yet been awarded to the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

⁸ **Massachusetts:** FY2023 budget deliberations are in conference committee: the house appropriation was \$22.5 million and the senate version was \$22 million, with a combined \$877,000 in earmarks. The appropriation could potentially be increased by \$500,000.

(notes continue on Per Capita table)

Preliminary Projections: Per Capita State Arts Agency Appropriations, Fiscal Year 2023

State or Special Jurisdiction	Legislative Appropriations Including Line Items	
	Per Capita Amount	Rank
Alabama*	\$ 1.51	19
Alaska*	\$ 1.01	26
1 Arizona*•	\$ 0.69	36
Arkansas	\$ 0.70	35
2 California	\$ 1.44	21
3 Colorado	\$ 0.35	46
4 Connecticut*	\$ 7.92	2
Delaware	\$ 3.87	8
6 Florida*	\$ 4.48	7
Georgia	\$ 0.14	49
7 Hawaii*•	\$ 19.59	1
Idaho	\$ 0.48	42
Illinois*	\$ 1.08	24
Indiana	\$ 0.52	40
Iowa*	\$ 0.46	44
Kansas	\$ 0.17	48
Kentucky	\$ 0.40	45
Louisiana	\$ 0.47	43
Maine*	\$ 0.75	33
Maryland*	\$ 4.68	6
8 Massachusetts*†	\$ 3.28	11
Michigan†	\$ 0.98	27
Minnesota	\$ 7.63	3
9 Mississippi*	\$ 2.00	16
10 Missouri*	\$ 3.02	12
Montana	\$ 0.48	41
11 Nebraska*	\$ 5.14	5
Nevada•	\$ 0.67	37
New Hampshire	\$ 0.60	38
New Jersey*	\$ 3.78	9
New Mexico	\$ 0.78	32
12 New York*	\$ 7.20	4
13 North Carolina*	\$ 0.87	29
North Dakota*	\$ 1.07	25
Ohio	\$ 1.70	17
Oklahoma	\$ 0.81	30
Oregon*	\$ 2.64	14
Pennsylvania†	\$ 0.81	31
Rhode Island*	\$ 3.55	10
14 South Carolina	\$ 2.19	15
15 South Dakota	\$ 1.22	23
Tennessee*	\$ 1.48	20
Texas*	\$ 0.34	47
Utah	\$ 2.83	13
16 Vermont	\$ 1.33	22
Virginia*	\$ 0.72	34
17 Washington	\$ 0.91	28
West Virginia	\$ 0.54	39
Wisconsin	\$ 0.14	50
Wyoming	\$ 1.52	18
American Samoa	\$ 3.30	15
District of Columbia	\$ 67.46	1
Guam*	\$ 3.12	17
Northern Marianas	\$ 4.29	10
Puerto Rico*	\$ 5.21	6
Virgin Islands	\$ 3.54	14
Total	\$2.27	

Notes

* The total FY2023 projected appropriation includes line item funds designated by the legislature to pass through the state arts agency to other entities.

• Agency has indicated its budget is extremely likely to change.

† At the time of publication, the state does not have an enacted FY2023 budget.

(continued from Appropriations table:)

⁹ **Mississippi:** In FY2023, the Mississippi Arts Commission is projected to receive \$1.04 million for the Mississippi Whole Schools Arts Education Program and \$3 million for the Building Fund for the Arts program to support the state's creative economy.

¹⁰ **Missouri:** The FY2023 state budget includes a 40% increase for the Missouri Arts Council from its FY2022 funding level. This includes more than \$11 million in line items that will pass through the agency's budget.

¹¹ **Nebraska:** The FY2023 appropriation includes one-time \$7.5 million line-item funding for the Museum of Nebraska Art.

¹² **New York:** New York State Council on the Arts is projected to receive a record \$140 million investment for arts and culture in FY2023. In addition to the agency's base grant-making budget of \$40 million, the budget allocates \$50 million for recovery funds and \$50 million for capital projects support.

¹³ **North Carolina:** The allocation for FY2023 was approved as part of the biennial budget last year and included a one-time boost of \$1 million for grassroots grants. In addition, some ARPA funding the agency received in FY2022 will begin to be allocated in FY2023.

¹⁴ **South Carolina:** At the time of data collection, the budget for FY2023 is under review by the state legislature. The total shown includes \$3.5 million in one-time, nonrecurring funds.

¹⁵ **South Dakota:** The total amount reported for FY2023 is based on the South Dakota Arts Council's legislatively approved spending authority. The amount is generated from best tourism promotion tax revenue forecasts and is subject to change based on actual tax revenues.

¹⁶ **Vermont:** In addition to the appropriation from the general assembly, the Vermont Arts Council is projected to receive \$300,000 for the Cultural Facilities grant and \$48,800 for the Art in State Buildings grant from the state's capital budget.

¹⁷ **Washington:** The total FY2023 appropriation includes \$2,048,000 ArtsWA received in the supplemental state budget. In addition, the agency's spending authority for private/local funds was enhanced by \$93,000.

Per capita amounts represent the total dollar figure for each agency's appropriation divided by the total population. The total per capita 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, 2021, population estimates in the [Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021](#) 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.