

Australian Public Galleries Snapshot



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About this report

The *Australian Public Galleries Snapshot* is a research initiative prepared by Museums & Galleries Queensland and Public Galleries Association of Victoria on behalf of the National Public Galleries Alliance. The Alliance is a network of Australian state and territory public gallery peak body and industry organisations working collaboratively to advance the sector.

This report represents the first major Snapshot of Australia's public gallery sector. It has been informed by the best available, nationally consistent information collected over a twelve-month period in 2017 and 2018.

This Snapshot forms a benchmark from which the Alliance will develop a standardised methodology to capture and longitudinally report the 'complete picture' of our country's dynamic public gallery sector.

What is a public gallery?

Australia's public galleries are an intrinsic part of our social fabric, engaging audiences with art, ideas and culture. They stimulate learning, debate and critical thinking; encourage creative expression; and enrich the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of our country's metropolitan, regional and remote communities.

For the purpose of this Snapshot, a public gallery is defined as a not-for-profit, non-commercial gallery. This encompasses metropolitan, regional and remote public galleries, contemporary art spaces, contemporary craft and design spaces and art museums, including those operated by local government and universities. This Snapshot captures data from 48% of our sector. Unless specified, this report does not include state, territory and national public gallery institutions.

Acknowledgement of Country

The National Public Galleries Alliance acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters, culture and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Disclaimer

The authors of this report have used data obtained from state and territory peak and industry bodies and other authoritative sources. For the purposes of this report, data has been presented in aggregate form so that individual organisations cannot be identified.

When reading the Snapshot, please refer to the notes at the rear of this report.

Report published: June 2020



Observations



CAPTURED DATA

48% of 408 Australian public galleries are captured in this Snapshot.



STAFF

Public galleries employ a total of 898 full-time equivalent staff.

This equates to an average of 4.5 full-time equivalent staff per public gallery.



GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT

46% Local Government;
13% State Government;
1% Australia Council for the Arts;
>1% Federal Government.



VOLUNTEERS

5,101 volunteers donate their time and expertise to public galleries each year.

69% of these volunteers work in regional galleries.

Overall, there are 6 times more volunteer staff than paid staff.



VISITATION

Annually, 16.5 million people visit public galleries and state, territory & national public gallery institutions.

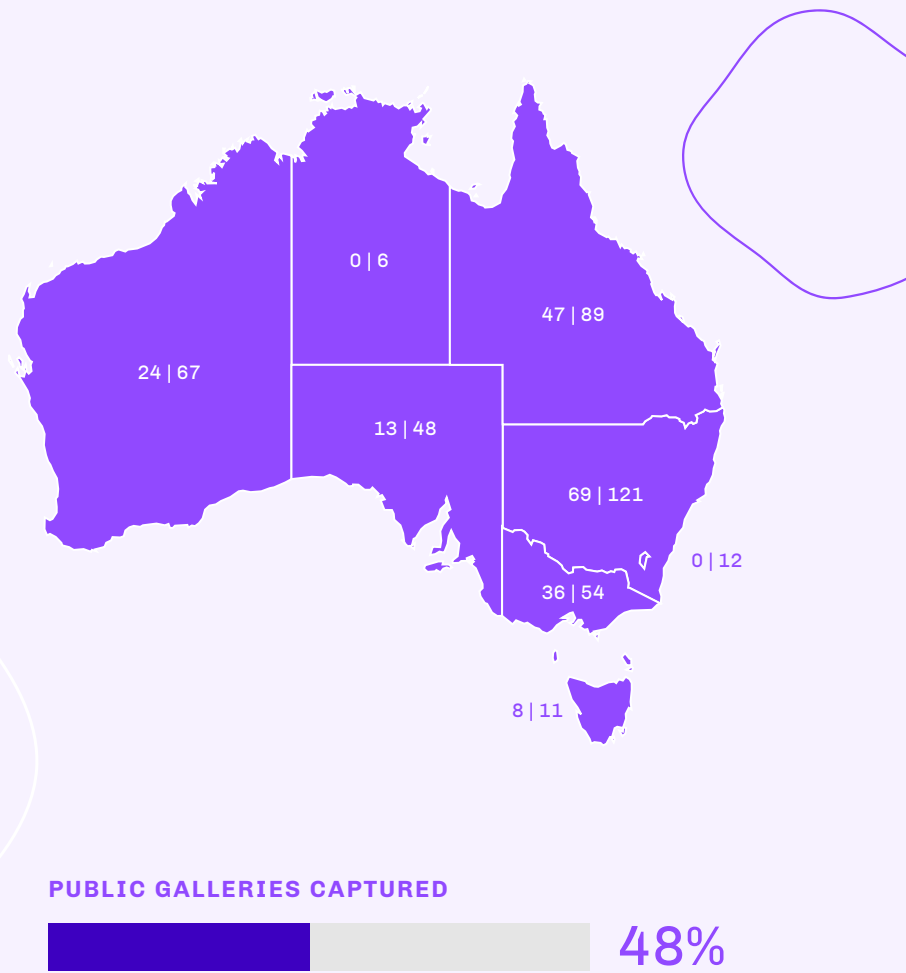
45% of these are public gallery visitors.



Overview

Public galleries in Australia

STATE	CAPTURED GALLERIES	ESTIMATED GALLERIES
ACT	0	12
NSW	69	121
NT	0	6
QLD	47	89
SA	13	48
TAS	8	11
VIC	36	54
WA	24	67





Public Gallery Summary

Public gallery summary



197

of 408 public
galleries captured



7.4m

total visitation



2,961

total exhibitions
displayed



318,362

total items in
collections



\$1.2b

value of collection
items



898

total full-time
equivalent staff



382,688

total volunteer
hours donated



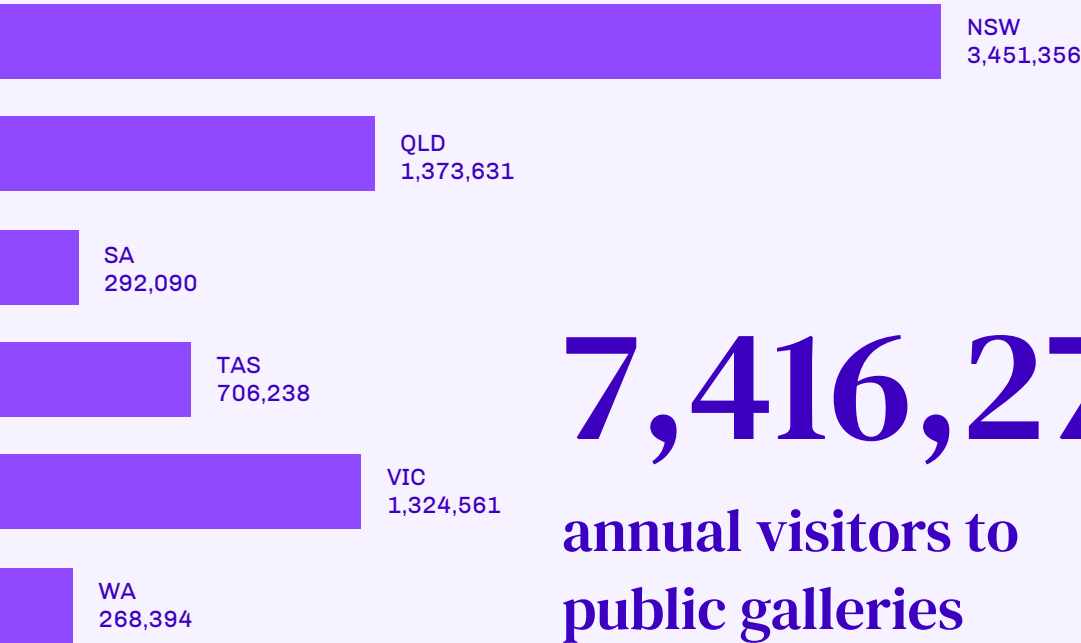
\$15.9m

value of volunteer
hours



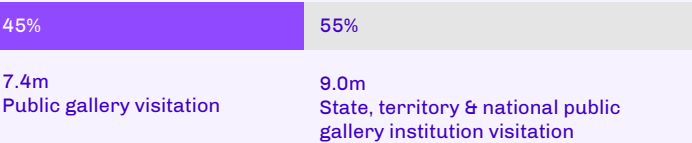
Audience Engagement

Audience Engagement



7,416,270
annual visitors to
public galleries

TOTAL NATIONAL VISITATION 16.4m



2,961

total exhibitions
displayed

NSW
1,273

QLD
681

VIC
573

WA
193

SA
93

TAS
148



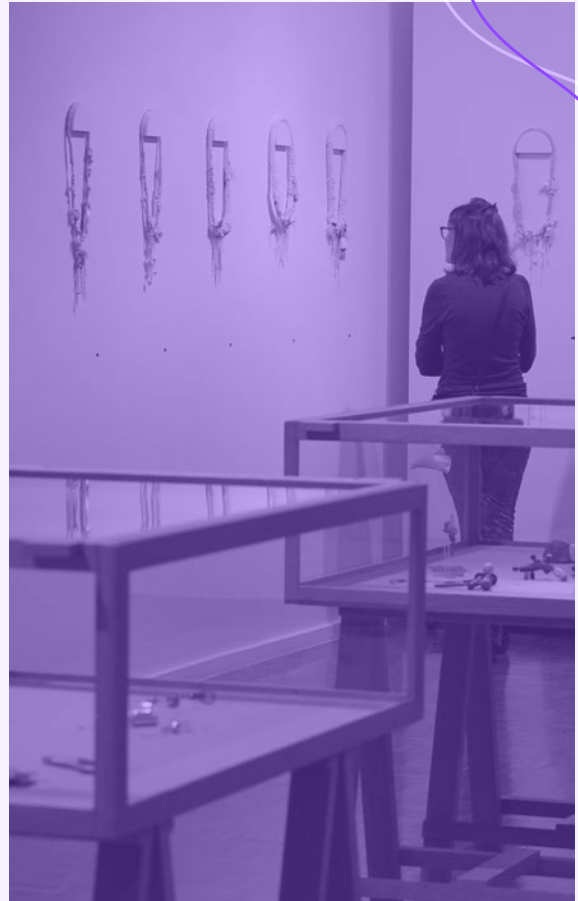
Collections

318,362

items in collections

valued at

\$1.2b





Staffing

898

total
full-time
equivalent
staff

POSITIONS INCLUDE:

Director/Gallery Manager
Deputy Director
Business Development
Senior Curator
Curator
Assistant Curator
Registration
Collections
Conservation
Public Programs
Education

Gallery Technician
Gallery Assistant
Fundraising
Marketing
Communications
Retail Manager
Administration
Reception
Visitor Services
Customer Service
Front of House



Volunteers



5,101

total volunteers



382,688

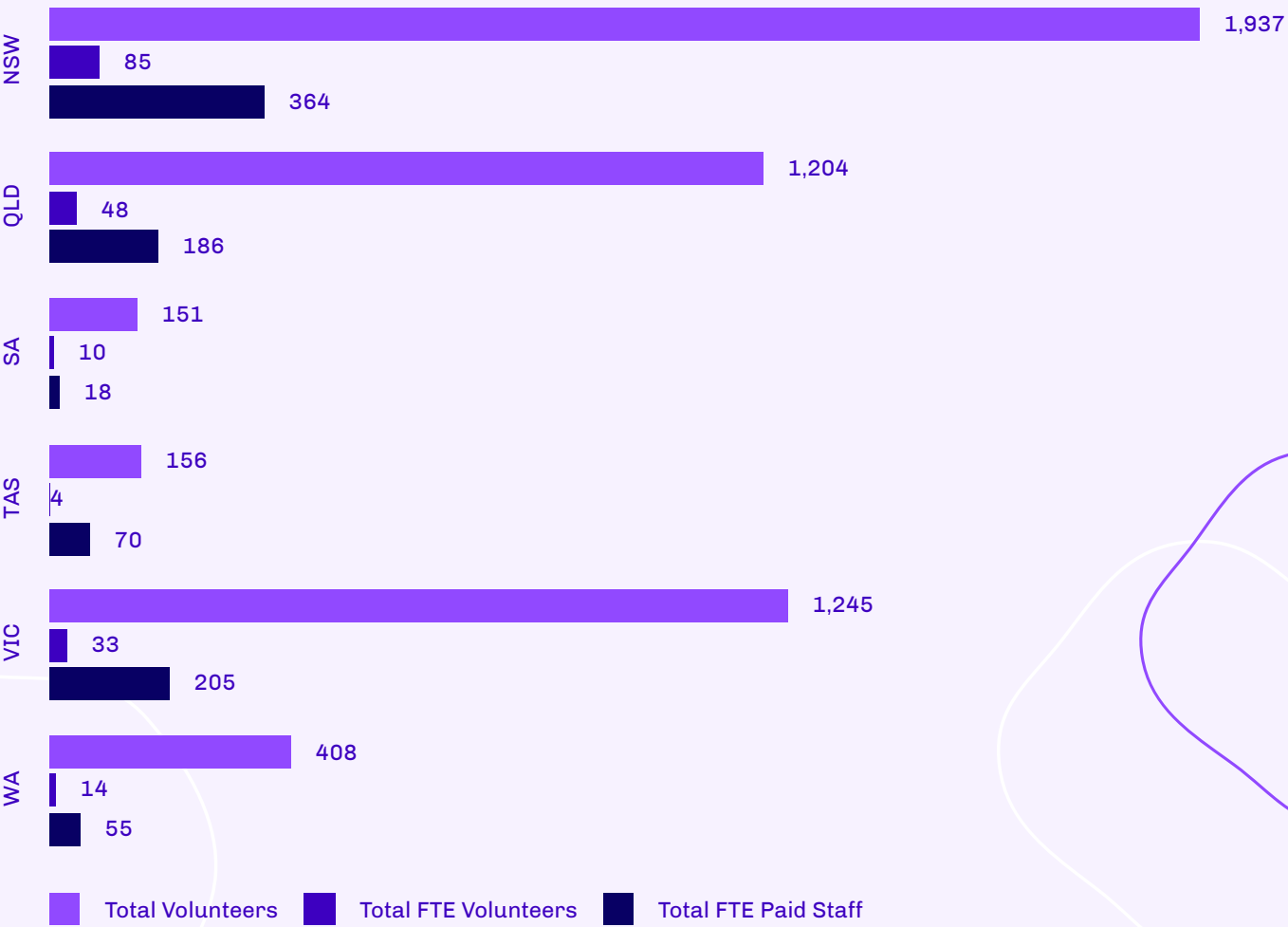
**total hours of unpaid
work contributed**

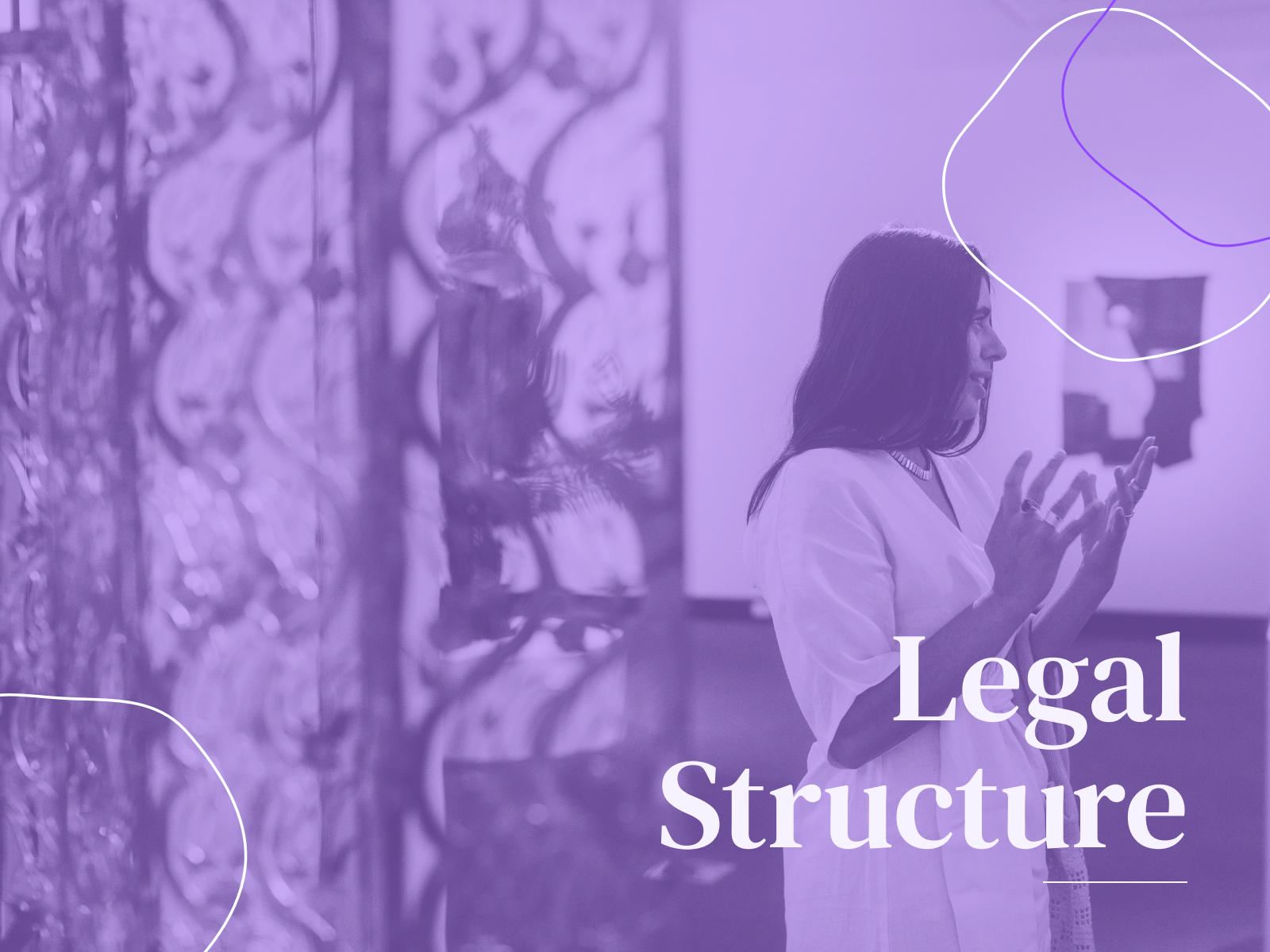


\$15.9m

total value

Volunteers and paid staff (FTE)



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white dress and a necklace, stands in profile, gesturing with her hands as if presenting or explaining something. She is in a gallery or museum setting, with a large, ornate, dark-colored sculpture or wall panel visible in the background. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. In the top right corner, there are two overlapping, irregular white outlines. In the bottom left corner, there is a single white outline. The text "Legal Structure" is written in a large, white, serif font in the bottom right area, with a thin white horizontal line underneath it.

Legal Structure

51%

**LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

28%

**INCORPORATED
ASSOCIATION**

6%

**COMPANY LTD BY
GUARANTEE**

13%

UNIVERSITY

2%

OTHER

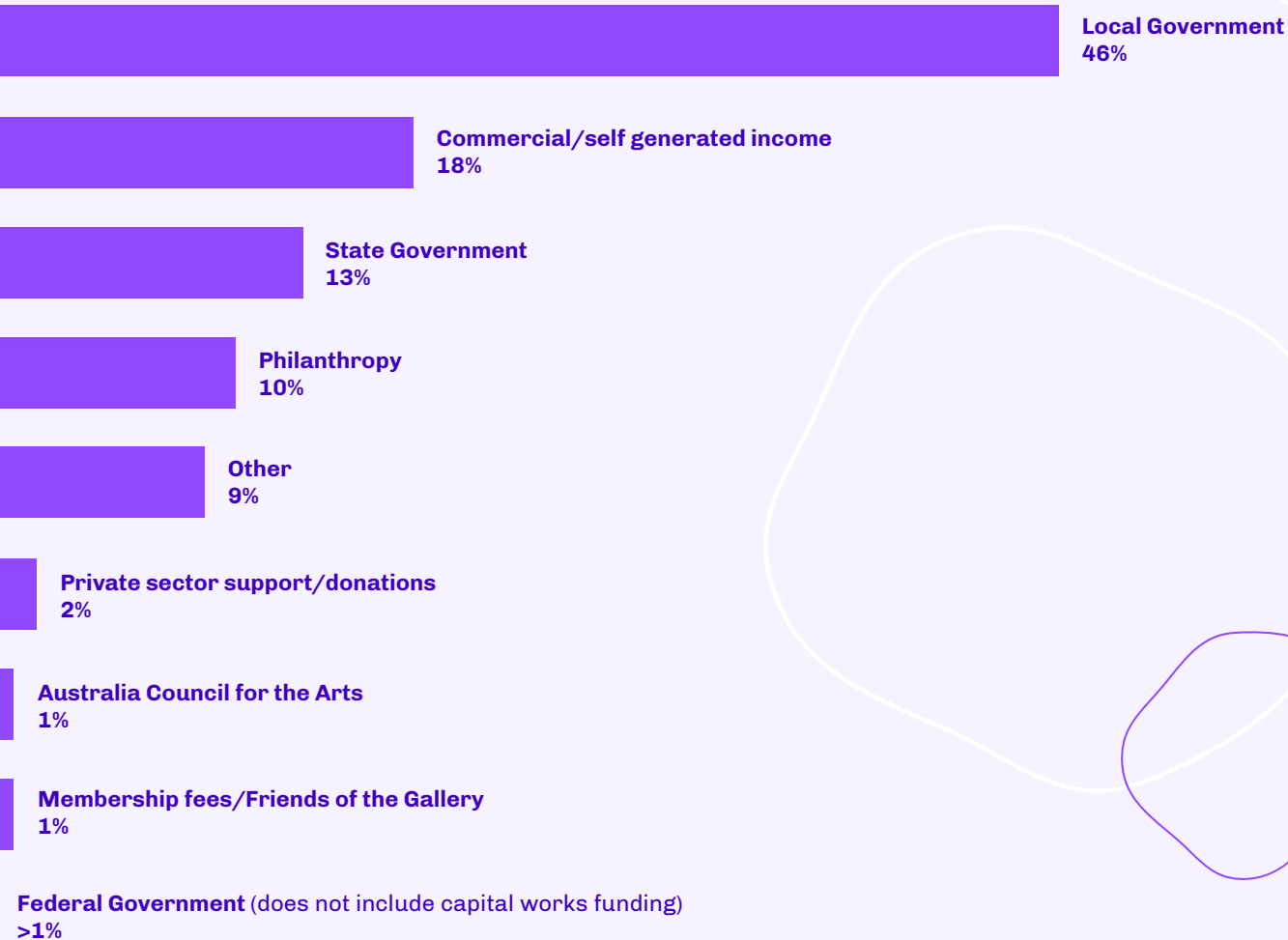
0%

TRUST



Income Sources

Income Sources





Metro and Regional



58

4.0m

VISITATION

56% of visitation to public galleries is in metro areas.

925

EXHIBITIONS

34% of exhibitions are displayed in metro areas.

377

FTE STAFF

Average of 7 staff per public gallery.

1,469

VOLUNTEERS

Contributing 131,250 hours of unpaid work valued at \$5,475,750.



121

3.2m

VISITATION

44% of visitation to public galleries is in regional areas.

1,761

EXHIBITIONS

66% of exhibitions are displayed in regional areas.

454

FTE STAFF

Average of 4 staff per public gallery.

3,524

VOLUNTEERS

Contributing 236,849 hours of unpaid work valued at \$9,881,340.



State, Territory & National Public Gallery Institutions

State, territory & national public gallery institutions



9.0m

total visitation



797,893

total educational
visitors



210

total exhibitions
displayed



189,170

total items in
collections



\$12.5b

value of collection
items



1,263

total full-time
equivalent staff



Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

PARTNERS

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) and Public Galleries Association of Victoria (PGAV) thank the following state peak and industry bodies for working with us to compile this report: ART ON THE MOVE & Galleries West; Contemporary Art Tasmania; Museums & Galleries of NSW (MGNSW); Regional Galleries Association of South Australia (RGASA); University Art Museums Australia (UAMA).

STATE, TERRITORY & NATIONAL PUBLIC GALLERY INSTITUTIONS (STATUTORY BODIES)

Art Gallery of New South Wales (AGNSW); Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA); Art Gallery of Western Australia (AGWA); Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT); National Gallery of Australia (NGA); National Gallery of Victoria (NGV); National Portrait Gallery (NPG); Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA); Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG).

NOTES TO REPORT

Sources of data:

ART ON THE MOVE: Regional Exhibition Touring Boost – Regional Galleries Mapping and Needs Analysis Project 2020.

Contemporary Art Tasmania: Individual figures gathered from organisations 2020.

Museums & Galleries Queensland – Annual Statistics Survey 2018 and local government websites.

Museums & Galleries of NSW – 2018 NSW Museum & Gallery Sector Census.

Public Galleries Association of Victoria: PGAV Benchmarking Survey 2017.

Regional Galleries Association of South Australia: Regional Galleries Association of SA Inc. 2019 Gallery Census.

University Art Museums Australia: UAMA Survey 2018.

Overall, data was not captured for Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

New South Wales data may include Artist-run Initiatives.

University Art Museums Australia's data represents 21 university art museums.

South Australia and Western Australia have only captured regional data.

Pages 9, 18 & 25: Value of volunteer hours based on Australian Bureau of Statistics valuation of \$41.72 per hour.

Page 12: Exhibition figures include self-generated and touring exhibitions.

Page 14: Not all Queensland galleries are represented in the total collection items and value. Tasmania figures not included.

Page 19: Volunteer FTE based on 38 hours of volunteering per week.

Acknowledgements

NOTES TO REPORT

Page 21: Legal structure figures do not include New South Wales.

Page 23: Income sources data does not include New South Wales, Tasmania, Queensland or University Art Museums.

Page 25: Metro and regional areas based on Australian Government, Department of Health – Health Workforce Locator. Not all galleries were able to be identified as 'metro' or 'regional'. These have not been included in metro and regional data.

Page 27: Statutory bodies data collected from 2017–2018 annual reports. Not all annual reports have published data for number of exhibitions, number of items in collections, value of collection and full-time equivalent staff.

IMAGE CREDITS

Page 6: *Manggan – gather, gathers, gathering* at Hervey Bay Regional Gallery, QLD. Photo: Pixel Bug. Courtesy of Giringgun Aboriginal Art Centre and Fraser Coast Regional Council.

Page 8: Martine Perret, *Ngala Wongga (Big Talk)*, Goldfields Art Centre, Kalgoorlie, WA. Courtesy of ART ON THE MOVE.

Page 10: *ZOONOSSES*, 2019 at Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, QLD. Photo: Simon Woods. Courtesy of Moreton Bay Regional Council and Nicola Hooper.

Page 13: *Voice in Action*, 2018 at Museum of Brisbane, QLD. Image: David Kelly. Courtesy of Museum of Brisbane.

Page 14: *USE*, 2019 at Noosa Regional Gallery, QLD. Photo: Andrea Higgins. Courtesy of Museums & Galleries Queensland and the Jewellers and Metalsmiths Group of Australia (Queensland Chapter).

Page 15: *Dissonant Rhythms*, 2019 at Caloundra Regional Gallery, QLD. Photo: Ben Vos Productions. Courtesy of Caloundra Regional Gallery and Institute of Modern Art.

Page 17: Photo: Austin Kehmeier. Source: unsplash.com

Page 20: *15 Artists*, 2019 at Redcliffe Art Gallery, QLD. Photo: Katie Bennett. Courtesy of Moreton Bay Regional Council.

Page 22: *Between the Moon and the Stars*, 22 March 2019 – 22 March 2020, installation view at Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory. Mark Virgil Puatjimi, *Tapara (Japarra)*, 2001. Earthenware with polychrome underglazes. Photo: Merinda Campbell. Courtesy of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Page 24: Art Conversation series at Gippsland Art Gallery, VIC. Local artist Matthew Thomas discusses his exhibition *On Edge*, February 2019. Courtesy of Gippsland Art Gallery.

Page 26: Installation view of the Australian Collection at Queensland Art Gallery. Courtesy of the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art.

Page 28: *ART ON THE MOVE Hello Fremantle Open Day* at Beach Street Gallery, Fremantle, WA. Courtesy of ART ON THE MOVE.

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MUSEUM
AND ART
GALLERY
NORTHERN
TERRITORY

Museums
& Galleries
of NSW



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