



Music and Performing Arts
at Major Venues in
Capital Cities
1992

Catalogue No. 4171.0

NOTE: The data presented in this publication should be treated with care. The survey only covered selected venues. This should be taken into account when comparing data between the capital cities.

MAIN FEATURES

In 1992, at major venues in capital cities where music and performing arts events were staged:

- almost 12 million patrons attended 21,750 music and performing arts performances at major venues;
- the number of patrons increased by 4 per cent from 1991 and the number of performances increased by 6 per cent. Most of this increase can be attributed to an increase in performances and attendances in Melbourne in 1992;
- popular music attracted over 3.6 million patrons (about 0.5 million more than in 1991) to 1,520 concerts;
- symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups staged 1,770 performances for 1.4 million patrons; an increase of 22 per cent for performances and 15 per cent for attendances from 1991;
- dance attracted over 800,000 patrons to 1,450 performances;
- the number of performances of opera and music theatre in 1992 fell by 16 per cent from the 1991 level while attendances fell by 15 per cent to 2.5 million patrons;
- live theatre staged the most performances (nearly 12,600). It played to much smaller audiences than the other events but attracted 2.7 million patrons.

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INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of culture/leisure statistics contact Roger Mableson on Adelaide (08)237 7449.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State Office.

Table 1 – Performances and Attendances at Music and Performing Arts Events Held in Major Venues Capital Cities, 1991 and 1992 (a)

Location	1991 (b)		1992	
	Number of performance	Total attendance	Number of performances	Total attendance
	No.	'000	No.	'000
Sydney	7,040	3,701	7,020	3,693
Melbourne	5,040	3,581	6,460	3,959
Brisbane	2,010	1,242	1,950	1,335
Adelaide	2,430	1,414	2,620	1,407
Perth	2,280	1,011	2,080	1,022
Hobart	680	219	560	198
Darwin	230	79	230	101
Canberra	770	240	830	289
Total all capital cities	20,490	11,488	21,750	11,945

(a) Excludes free performances.

(b) See Explanatory Notes 8 and 9 regarding these figures.

Table 2 – Performances and Attendances by Type of Music and Performing Arts Event Held in Major Venues Total Eight Capital Cities, 1991 and 1992 (a)

Event	1991 (b)		1992	
	Number of performances	Total attendance	Number of performances	Total attendance
	No.	'000	No.	'000
Popular music performance	1,540	3,108	1,520	3,639
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	1,460	1,213	1,770	1,401
Dance	1,340	810	1,450	828
Opera and music theatre	3,380	2,975	2,840	2,522
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	11,390	2,685	12,560	2,709
Other performing arts	1,380	697	1,610	865
Total	20,490	11,488	21,750	11,945

(a) Excludes free performances.

(b) See Explanatory Notes 8 and 9 regarding these figures.

Table 3 – Number of Venues and Seating Capacity Capital Cities, 1992

Capital city	1992	
	No. of venues (a)	Total seating capacity (b)
Sydney	28	48,610
Melbourne	18	51,092
Brisbane	13	29,618
Adelaide	13	22,318
Perth	14	22,224
Hobart	12	13,846
Darwin	8	5,370
Canberra	8	11,496
Total all capital cities	114	205,574

(a) If a performing arts complex has more than one venue, the complex is only recorded once as a venue.

(b) Please note that the seating capacity of large outdoor venues holding irregular music and performing arts performances are not included.

Table 4 – Performances and Attendances at Music and Performing Arts Events Held in Major Venues Capital Cities, 1991 and 1992 (a)

Event	1991 (b)		1992	
	Number of performances	Total attendance	Number of performances	Total attendance
	No.	'000	No.	'000
SYDNEY				
Popular music performance	390	907	400	1,190
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	410	441	460	466
Dance	480	316	470	293
Opera and music theatre	1,140	932	730	523
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	4,510	982	4,640	988
Other performing arts	110	123	320	233
Total	7,040	3,701	7,020	3,693
MELBOURNE				
Popular music performance	560	1,032	390	1,132
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	250	239	440	397
Dance	280	236	290	228
Opera and music theatre	1,050	1,135	1,120	1,145
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	2,350	659	3,590	802
Other performing arts	550	280	630	255
Total	5,040	3,581	6,460	3,959
BRISBANE				
Popular music performance	120	308	130	468
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	260	159	290	177
Dance	140	88	140	58
Opera and music theatre	490	391	160	211
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	960	258	1,060	262
Other performing arts	40	38	170	159
Total	2,010	1,242	1,950	1,335
ADELAIDE				
Popular music performance	230	508	270	393
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	190	124	220	137
Dance	140	65	150	82
Opera and music theatre	390	345	400	375
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	1,060	246	1,290	267
Other performing arts	420	126	290	153
Total	2,430	1,414	2,620	1,407

Table 4 – Performances and Attendances at Music and Performing Arts Events Held in Major Venues Capital Cities, 1991 and 1992 (a) – continued

Event	1991 (b)		1992	
	Number of performances	Total attendance	Number of performances	Total attendance
	No.	'000	No.	'000
PERTH				
Popular music performance	150	205	150	305
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	170	136	190	123
Dance	200	73	260	115
Opera and music theatre	180	129	300	208
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	1,520	408	1,060	239
Other performing arts	60	60	120	32
Total	2,280	1,011	2,080	1,022
HOBART				
Popular music performance	30	67	70	52
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	110	53	100	46
Dance	30	8	40	16
Opera and music theatre	30	5	50	21
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	370	44	250	47
Other performing arts	110	42	50	16
Total	680	219	560	198
DARWIN				
Popular music performance	30	31	50	52
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	10	8	10	6
Dance and Opera and music theatre	10	4	40	16
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	110	14	100	18
Other performing arts	70	22	30	9
Total	230	79	230	101
CANBERRA				
Popular music performance	30	49	60	45
Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups	70	54	70	50
Dance and Opera and music theatre	150	58	130	60
Theatre (excluding opera and music theatre)	510	72	550	86
Other performing arts	10	7	20	9
Total	770	240	830	250

(a) Excludes free performances.

(b) See Explanatory Notes 8 and 9 regarding these figures.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This publication presents the results from a survey of major venues staging music and performing events in capital cities in Australia during the calendar year 1992. The survey was conducted by the ABS with funding provided by the Cultural Ministers Council.

Scope and coverage

2. There is no comprehensive database of music and performing arts venues in Australia. A list of venues was compiled from Ozarts (Australia Council Publication), *Australasian Music Industry Directory 1993*, *Australian and New Zealand Theatre Record* and newspaper advertisements.

3. Data was collected from venues in capital cities only where regular performances took place on a commercial basis or in the case of irregular performances where the size of the venue suggested that attendances would be significant e.g. large rock/pop concerts at outdoor venues. Some of the venues included would normally be regarded as sports grounds/stadiums etc. but because of their size they attract concerts aimed at large audiences.

4. Because only 'selected venues' in each capital city were included in the collection, the results do not purport to provide the total number of performances and total attendances but rather they represent minimum numbers for those capital cities. Similarly, the total for all capital cities represents a minimum. Because of the process of selecting the venues in the survey and, in some cases, the nature of the venues themselves, care should be taken in making comparisons between capital cities.

5. Performances in cabaret rooms in hotels, clubs, etc. were excluded as a majority of their admissions are 'free', 'admission fees' being included in the cost of the meal, drinks, etc. However, some casinos, convention centres etc. operate showrooms where a separate admission charge is made and these were included.

Venues included in the survey

6. The scope of this survey is restricted to 'major' venues in capital cities. In order to facilitate interpretation of the results, the consent of survey participants was sought to the publication of the name of their venue in a list of venues included in the survey. The venues of consenting participants are shown below. It should be noted, however, that data shown in this publication is not restricted to this list and includes a small number of venues not listed below.

SYDNEY

Her Majesty's Theatre
Seymour Theatre Centre
Sydney Entertainment Centre
Sydney Opera House (Concert Hall, Opera Theatre, Drama Theatre, Playhouse, Reception Hall)
Sydney Town Hall
Theatre Royal
Belvoir St Theatre
Ensemble Theatre
Marian Street Theatre
Nida Theatre
Parramatta Riverside Theatres
Sutherland Entertainment Centre
The Wharf Theatre and Studio
Enmore Theatre

Horner Pavilion
Parramatta Stadium
Selina's Nightclub
State Sports Centre
State Theatre
Eugene Goossens Hall
University of New South Wales (Clancy Auditorium, Fig Tree Theatre, Science Theatre)
Sydney Conservatorium of Music
Sydney Cricket Ground
Crossroads Theatre
Glen Street Theatre
The Performance Space
Bondi Pavilion Theatre

MELBOURNE

Comedy Theatre
Her Majesty's Theatre
Melbourne Town Hall
Princess Theatre
Victorian Arts Centre (State Theatre, Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Melbourne Concert Hall, George Fairfax Studio, Playhouse)
Monash University (Manton Room, George Jenkins Theatre, Robert Blackwood Hall, Alexander Theatres I and II)
Dallas Brooks Hall
Flinders Park National Tennis Centre
Melbourne Sports and Entertainment Centre
Festival Hall
Russell St Theatre
Universal Theatres
National Theatre
The C.U.B. Malthouse
La Mama Theatre
Athenaeum Theatres I and II
Gasworks Theatre
The Comedy Club

BRISBANE

Brisbane City Hall
Brisbane Entertainment Centre
Queensland Performing Arts Centre (Lyric Theatre, Concert Hall, Cremorne Theatre)
Suncorp Theatre
Rialto Theatre
La Boite Theatre
Queensland Conservatorium of Music
University of Queensland (Nickson Room, Mayne Hall)
Festival Hall
Arts Theatre
Queensland Cultural Centre
Twelfth Night Theatre

ADELAIDE

Adelaide Festival Centre (Festival Theatre, Playhouse, Space Theatre, Her Majesty's Theatre)
Adelaide Town Hall Function Centre
Elder Hall
Thebarton Theatre
Elizabeth Civic Theatres
Scott Theatre
Adelaide Entertainment Centre
Theatre 62
Lion Theatre and Bar

Odeon Theatre
Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Red Shed Theatre

PERTH

Perth Entertainment Centre
Perth Theatre Trust (Playhouse, Perth Concert Hall, His Majesty's Theatre, Studio Theatre - Subiaco, The Quarry Amphitheatre, Hole in the Wall Theatre)
Perth Town Hall
Burswood Resort Showroom
Perth's Superdome
University of WA (Octagon Theatre, Winthrop Hall)
Curtin University - Hayman Theatre
Spare Parts Puppet Theatre
The Effie Crump Theatre
SWY Theatre
Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts
Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts

HOBART

Derwent Entertainment Centre
Hobart City Hall
Hobart Town Hall
ADEL Odeon Theatre
Peacock Theatre
The Playhouse Theatre
Theatre Royal
West Point Entertainment Centre
Salamanca Arts Centre
Tasmanian Arts Union

DARWIN

Gardens Amphitheatre
Browns Mart Theatre
Darwin Performing Arts Centre
Diamond Beach Hotel Casino
Marrara Indoor Stadium
Northern Territory University
Sound Shell
Old Palmerston Town Hall Ruins
Football Park Darwin

CANBERRA

Bruce Indoor Stadium
Canberra Theatre Centre
The Arts Centre - A.N.U.
Theatre 3
Royal Theatre
Llewellyn Hall
Bruce Outdoor Stadium
Gorman House Arts Centre

Interpretation of results

7. Figures relating to 1991 in this publication have been revised from those produced in the 1991 publication (Catalogue No. 4171.0) released in February 1993, to enable consistency between selected venues for 1991 and 1992. As such, the same venues are included in each year, and differences in coverage of venues only occur due to those venues staging irregular performances or from new venues starting in 1992 (see note 3 above).

8. Care should be taken when comparing 1991 figures with 1992 figures. Figures which show that a type of activity has increased or decreased in a particular capital city may not necessarily reflect the true situation as the activity may have moved from smaller venues (not in the collection) to larger venues (in the collection) or vice versa.

Definitions

9. A performance is defined as a single session/show/gig/appearance by one performer, a group of performers or a single collection of independent performers brought together for a specific production. Free performances were excluded. Performances in foyers, studios, etc. were included if a separate fee to attend was charged.

10. The performance type categories used are those from the National Culture-Leisure Industry Statistical Framework (Fourth Edition) published by the Cultural Ministers Council Statistical Advisory Group and were set out on the collection form as follows:

- ♦ **Popular music performance** – Rock, jazz, pop, folk, country and western, ethnic and multicultural music by musicians and/or vocalists.
- ♦ **Symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups** – Performances of oratorio, classical and contemporary music by choirs/orchestras, performers, singers, vocal ensembles and instrumental groups.
- ♦ **Dance** – Classical, contemporary and modern dance, ballet, dance theatre, dance revue, ethnic and folk dancing etc.
- ♦ **Opera and music theatre** – Lyric opera, operetta and musical comedy. Performances should consist entirely or in major part of song and music, not the spoken word.
- ♦ **Theatre** – Drama, classical, comedy, mime, youth and community theatre, young peoples theatre, puppet theatre etc.
- ♦ **Other performing arts** – Variety, revue, comedians, magicians, ventriloquists, circuses, trick/stunt cyclists, buskers, reciters, poetry readers and oral history performers etc.

Related Publications

11. Other publications which can be ordered from ABS Bookshops:

Household Expenditure Survey, Australia, 1988-89 (6335.0)

Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues, Australia, June 1991 (4114.0)

Music and Performing Arts, Australia, 1991 (4116.0).

Employment in Culture/Leisure, Australia (6273.0) to be released soon.

Work in Selected Culture/Leisure Activities, Australia (6281.0).

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