

PEKKA OESCH

Valtion tuki kulttuurille 2001

Opetusministeriön
hallinnonalan määrärahat

State support for culture in 2001
Cultural appropriations provided
by the Ministry of Education



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English Summary

These statistics give an overall picture of expenditure on the arts and culture by the Ministry of Education in Finland in 2001. The main purpose of the survey was to ascertain the amount of public expenditure on the arts and culture in the fields in which The Arts and Cultural Heritage Division and Culture and Media Division of the Ministry of Education hold the main administrative responsibility, and to determine to what extent total funds support the various forms of art. The survey covers 2001 but the results of the previous 1994 survey are also included. All tables and figures are in Finnish Marks (FIM)¹ and at 2001 values.

At the national level, the arts and culture are financed mainly by the Ministry of Education and the main targets for funding from the Ministry of Education are:

- museums
- cultural heritage
- public libraries
- basic education in the arts
- adult education
- municipal cultural activities
- music schools
- theatres
- orchestras
- international cooperation
- artists

1. Mmk = FIM million; FIM 1 = €0.1618

In 2001, the cultural sector received a total of FIM 2,980 million (€501.2 million) in state financing from the Ministry of Education. Two-fifths of the financing of the arts came from national lottery and football pool revenues, which totalled FIM 1,215.6 million (€201.2 million). This was made possible due to the growth in income from national lottery and football pool revenues. Since 1994, more and more state grants and aid for cultural activities have been financed by this form of revenue instead of state taxes. However, in 2001 these revenues remained lower than expected. (Table 1.)

The costs of adult education, public libraries and museums together amounted to 56 per cent of total cultural financing by the Ministry of Education. The share for the other main recipients was noticeably lower. The Finnish National Opera received more financing resources than any other single cultural institute and has therefore been examined separately, but in connection with other opera activities it has been included in the category of music. (see Tables 2 & 5 and Figure 14.)

Only one third of all cultural financing could be classified by forms of art, because the information available on adult and basic education in the arts and museums was not detailed enough. Public libraries and municipal cultural activities could not be classified in terms of forms of art either. Music, with FIM 354.7 million (€59.6 million), received the largest percentage of the support. It received 12 per cent of the total cultural financing and 36 per cent of the FIM 990.4 million (€166.6 million) total support classified according to different forms of art. Photography, which received FIM 9.6 million (€1.6 million), was the form of art least supported by state cultural financing. (Table 2, Figures 1–5.)

Nearly half (47 per cent) of cultural financing by the Ministry of Education went to national and other cultural institutes. The share for basic education in the arts was 36 per cent. Over half of the financing for national cultural institutions went to the Finnish National Opera, and the majority of financing for other cultural institutions was given to public libraries. (Table 3.)

Direct support for artists (artists' grants, project grants) amounted to 2.7 per cent of the cultural financing. Over two-thirds of the FIM 79.7 million (€13.4 million) in total support for artists went to literature, visual arts and music. Direct support for other forms of art was significantly lower. (Table 3.) State grants were the most important form of support for all forms of art except literature, where nearly two-thirds of the support came from library compensation grants.

Music, cinema and theatre accounted for the smallest share of the total financing of state working grants for artists, project grants for artists and other support for artists. In literature, 68 per cent of the total financing went directly to the artists. Nearly two-fifths of the total financing for photography and one-fifth of the total financing for dance went directly to the artists. (Figure 8.) The total financing for various forms of art is shown in Table 5 and in Figures 9–18.

Since 1994, the state budgetary lines concerning cultural financing have become more distinct and nowadays most of them can be found under one budgetary chapter of Arts and Culture. Adult education, music schools, basic education in the arts and international cooperation comprised the only significant cultural budgetary lines outside the budgetary chapter Arts and Culture.

At 2001 values, total cultural financing was nearly 5 per cent lower than in 1994. There is every likelihood that it could have been much lower without the favourable development of national lottery and football pool revenues. The most significant cuts in cultural financing have centered on statutory state grants for municipal cultural activities, public libraries and adult education. National art and cultural institutions, especially the National Art Gallery and the Finnish National Opera, however, received more financing. Exact figures for 1994 were not available for basic education in the arts; this could explain the noticeable increase. (Table 3.)

There has also been a 5 per cent growth in the total amount of support for artists since 1994, but no significant changes between the different forms of art were found. Most of the growth can be attributed to the visual arts and the category for non-classified arts. The act on compensation grants for visual artists came to effect in 1997 and this was the main reason for the increased support for artists in the visual arts. New forms of support and new forms of art increased the amount of support for the non-classified arts category.

The fields of theatre and particularly literature received less support for the artists than in 1994. The main reason for the decrease in support for literature was a smaller income from library compensation grants. The reduction was caused by a decrease in libraries' expenditure on book purchases, which is used as a basis for calculating the budget appropriation for library compensation grants. In the theatre category, artist support decreased most of all in state prizes, long-term artist grants and regional artist grants and prizes.

In all, compared to 1994, more cultural financing in 2001 was covered by national lottery and football pool revenues. More financing was also given to national art and cultural institutions. Otherwise, the main lines of cultural financing by the Ministry of Education were the same as in 1994. Despite small changes, the main structure of cultural financing has remained the same throughout the 1990s.