**Local** government arts funding continues to grow steadily after a four-year decline during the Great Recession. The 2013 figures showed a modest increase, and 2014 continues the trend, with an estimated $777 million in 2014—up 7 percent from $727 million in 2013. 2008 was a high-water mark for local government arts funding, reaching $858 million before a recession-driven decline. The Local number is very conservative, as the top 60 US Cities by population alone received $478 million from their local governments.*

($777 million = $2.45 per capita)

**State** legislative arts appropriations also continued their solid increase—rising from $279 million in 2013 to $307 million in 2014 (10 percent increase). State arts funding, which tracks closely with the economy, had record growth in the late 1990s—reaching a high of $451 million in 2001. That was followed by a precipitous drop to $281 million by 2004 (38 percent decrease).**

($307 million = 97 cents per capita)

**Federal** appropriations to the National Endowment for the Arts have remained stable at $146 million since 2012, when there was a 6 percent decrease from $155 million in 2011. The NEA’s 2013 budget was $138 million after sequestration, but appropriations have remained at the $146 million level.

($146 million = 46 cents per capita)

*Estimated; **Includes line item appropriations; *** In FY 2013, this total was reduced to $138.4 million through sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act as amended by PL 112-240.

Sources: Americans for the Arts, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2014.
NEA Appropriations History
Fiscal Years 1966 to 2014

*2013 budget figure is listed at the pre-sequestration appropriations level approved by Congress. In FY 2013, this total was reduced to $138.4 million through sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act as amended by PL 112-240.

Source: National Endowment for the Arts, U.S. Census Bureau, 2013
If the NEA had simply maintained its 1983 percentage of discretionary funding (0.111 percent, or 11 cents per $100 of spending), its 2014 budget would be $576.9 million.

### NEA Budget Loses Share of (Non-Defense) Discretionary Federal Spending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Appropriated Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>$143.9 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>$99.5 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$146 Million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the NEA’s 1992 budget remained constant and was only adjusted for inflation, it would be $289 million in 2013, instead of $146 million. Raising the NEA budget to $200 million would bring it to 70 percent of its 1992 inflation-adjusted level.

### NEA Funding Fails to Keep Pace with Inflation: 1992-2013