

# Western Australian creative industries: COVID-19 impacts Creative artists

## Respondent profile

**584**

creative artists who are mainly engaged in making original work, shared their experiences on how COVID-19 has impacted their work.

### Respondent type

**76%** Sole traders  
**15%** Freelancers  
**9%** Other

### Industry sub-category (top responses)

**38%** Visual artists or sculptors  
**20%** Musicians or composers  
**12%** Writers, poets, playwrights or screenwriters  
**7%** Actors  
**4%** Dancers or choreographers  
**4%** Circus performers

The following findings are based on respondents' reported impacts from 1 April to 30 June 2020.

## Number of jobs

 **↓ 77%**

**Jobs for creative artists fell 77%.** This was based on expected versus actual number of employees reported by partnerships, companies and not-for-profits operating in the creative artists sector.

**There were significant decreases in freelance and contract jobs (down 94%) and casual jobs (down 73%).**

## Actual versus expected revenue



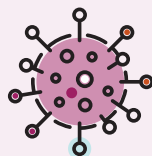
% of expected revenue earned  
**BEFORE COVID-19 support**

**30%**

% of expected revenue earned  
**AFTER COVID-19 support**

**53%**

## COVID-19 support



Received COVID-19 support

**23%**

Average value of support

**\$4,537**

## JobKeeper - % of business entities that received JobKeeper assistance for employees



Freelancer

**N/A**

Sole trader

**31%**

Partnership

**23%**

Company

**42%**

Not-for-profit

**30%**

## Alternative revenue sources

% of business entities that needed to draw on alternative revenue sources to cover lost revenue

| Revenue Sources   | Freelancer | Sole trader | Partnership | Company    | Not-for-profit |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|----------------|
| Multiple responses allowed (sum may be greater than 100%) | <b>80%</b> | <b>80%</b>  | <b>69%</b>  | <b>83%</b> | <b>40%</b>     |
| Business reserves   | -          | -           | <b>38%</b>  | <b>56%</b> | <b>30%</b>     |
| Personal savings  | <b>64%</b> | <b>67%</b>  | <b>38%</b>  | <b>50%</b> | 10%            |
| Family and friends  | 20%        | 13%         | 15%         | 11%        | 0%             |
| Credit cards  | 17%        | 18%         | 0%          | 6%         | 0%             |
| Superannuation  | 14%        | 11%         | 15%         | 11%        | 0%             |
| Bank loan   | 2%         | 1%          | 8%          | 6%         | 0%             |
| Other   | 13%        | 11%         | 8%          | 6%         | 0%             |
| Did not need  | 20%        | 20%         | 31%         | 17%        | <b>60%</b>     |