

Program expenditure information July 2018 – June 2019

Aggregated data for commercial television

MAY 2020

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Definition of terms and abbreviations

Term/abbreviation	Definition
ACS	Broadcasting Services (Australian Content) Standard 2016.
Australian adult drama	An 'Australian drama program' as defined in section 6 of the ACS.
Australian children's drama	An 'Australian C Drama' as defined in CTS 17(1) of the Children's Television Standards 2009 (CTS).
Australian children's other	An 'Australian children's other' program that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. satisfies the meaning of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS 2. satisfies the meaning of 'C program' in CTS 5 3. does not satisfy the meaning of 'Australian C drama' in CTS 5.
Australian documentaries	A 'documentary program' as defined in section 6 of the ACS, which is an 'Australian program' contained in section 7 of the ACS.
Australian light entertainment—other	All 'Light entertainment' programs that meet the description as set out in the Documentary Guidelines and that are not characterised as 'Light entertainment—variety'. For 'Light entertainment—other' programs to be considered 'Australian', they must satisfy the definition of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS.
Australian light entertainment—variety	An 'Australian light entertainment—variety' program as described in the Documentary Guidelines. For a 'Light entertainment—variety' program to be considered 'Australian', it must satisfy the definition of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS.
Australian news and current affairs	'Current affairs' programs as defined in clause 8 of the Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice 2015. 'News' programs as defined in the Documentary Guidelines. For a 'news' or 'current affairs' program to be considered 'Australian', it must satisfy the meaning of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS.
Australian other programming	All programs that satisfy the definition of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS and that do not fit into any of the other 'Australian' program categories listed.
Australian program	An 'Australian program' as defined in section 7 of the ACS.
Australian sports	'Sports coverage' as described in the Documentary Guidelines. For a sports program to be considered 'Australian', it must satisfy the definition of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS.
BSA	Broadcasting Services Act 1992
Capital cities	Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney.
Commercial television broadcasting licence	A commercial television broadcasting licence, as defined in section 6 of the BSA.

Term/abbreviation	Definition
CTS	Children's Television Standards 2009
Number of stations	The quantity of commercial broadcasting licences held by broadcasters during the return period.
Overseas drama	A program that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. does not satisfy the definition of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS, and 2. would otherwise satisfy the definition of 'Australian drama program' in section 6 of the ACS except for the requirement for it to be an 'Australian program'.
Overseas other	A program that does not satisfy: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the definition of 'Australian program' in section 7 of the ACS, and 2. the definition of 'Overseas drama'.
Overseas programs	Programs other than Australian programs.
Program expenditure	Total program usage plus program amortisation.
Regional Australia	Commercial licence areas that are not metropolitan licence areas, in accordance with section 41CA of the BSA.
Total programs	The total Australian and overseas program expenditure as reported in the ACMA approved form.

Television—Australia

Television—Australia—Total

	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Number of stations	69	69	69
Program expenditure			
Australian adult drama	126,286,202	92,397,985	95,706,338
Australian children’s drama	5,741,662	10,589,565	11,659,436
Australian children’s other	12,158,518	15,036,763	13,209,991
Australian news and current affairs	377,598,853	363,708,169	362,420,373
Australian documentaries	14,118,470	10,437,675	9,612,059
Australian sport	602,939,117	634,258,029	526,866,730
Australian light entertainment—variety	217,748,923	1,172,365	3,653,337
Australian light entertainment—other	210,005,957	485,579,570	530,624,500
Australian other programming	41,248,922	12,780,150	12,767,942
Total Australian programs	1,607,846,624	1,625,960,271	1,566,520,706
Overseas drama	277,168,342	242,904,660	230,803,648
Overseas other	90,266,879	56,229,895	52,613,294
Total overseas programs	367,435,221	299,134,555	283,416,942
Total programs	1,975,281,845	1,925,094,826	1,849,937,648

Television—Australia—Capital cities

	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Number of stations	15	15	15
Program expenditure			
Australian adult drama	126,286,202	92,397,985	95,706,338
Australian children’s drama	5,741,662	10,589,565	11,659,436
Australian children’s other	12,158,518	15,036,763	13,209,991
Australian news and current affairs	341,128,220	328,198,757	326,793,194
Australian documentaries	14,118,470	10,437,675	9,612,059
Australian sport	602,925,317	634,258,029	526,866,730
Australian light entertainment—variety	217,748,923	1,172,365	3,653,337
Australian light entertainment—other	209,450,695	485,579,570	530,624,500
Australian other programming	41,248,922	12,337,289	12,424,133
Total Australian programs	1,570,806,929	1,590,007,998	1,530,549,718
Overseas drama	277,168,342	242,904,660	230,803,648
Overseas other	90,266,879	55,074,284	52,326,441
Total overseas programs	367,435,221	297,978,944	283,130,089
Total programs	1,938,242,150	1,887,986,942	1,813,679,807

Television—Australia—Regional

	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Number of stations	54	54	54
Program expenditure			
Australian adult drama	0	0	0
Australian children’s drama	0	0	0
Australian children’s other	0	0	0
Australian news and current affairs	36,470,633	35,509,412	35,627,179
Australian documentaries	0	0	0
Australian sport	13,800	0	0
Australian light entertainment—variety	0	0	0
Australian light entertainment—other	555,262	0	0
Australian other programming	0	442,861	343,809
Total Australian programs	37,039,695	35,952,273	35,970,988
Overseas drama	0	0	0
Overseas other	0	1,155,611	286,853
Total overseas programs	0	1,155,611	286,853
Total programs	37,039,695	37,107,884	36,257,841