



# Making Art Work

Results from the Economic Study  
of Professional Artists in Australia



Easy English Summary

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Australian Government

Australia  
Council  
for the Arts 

**This book was written by Australia Council for the Arts**

When you see 'we' it means Australia Council for the Arts.

### **Hard words**

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- look at page 5 to read what the hard word means.

## What we did



- We asked Macquarie University to help us.



- People at Macquarie University spoke to 826 artists from all over Australia.



- Artists were asked about
  - their work
  - how they make money.
- We wanted to know how this had changed in Australia since 7 years ago.

## What we learnt

There are 48,000 artists in Australia.



Some people are less likely to be artists than other people.

People who are less likely to be artists are

- from a non-English speaking background
- people with a disability.



It is hard for artists to earn enough money from their **art**.

We learnt

- Artists still earn less than other Australians
- Female artists make less money than male artists
- Artists with disability make a lot less money than artists without disability
- Most artists need to have other jobs to help them earn money.

## What we learnt



Artists use **technology** a lot.

Artists use technology to

- create their art
- work with other people
- tell people about their art
- sell their art.

Artists can

- solve problems
- think differently
- have new ideas.

These are important skills for jobs in the future.



Artists need to be paid fairly for their work.

## Hard words



### Art

Art includes:

- theatre
- dance
- books
- music
- visual art.



### Technology

Technology is things like

- computers
- computer programs
- cameras.

Technology can help you work in new ways.

## More information



For more information go to  
[www.australiacouncil.gov.au/research/making-art-work/](http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/research/making-art-work/)