

AHRC Economic Impact Reporting Framework



This is the fourth annual Economic Impact Reporting Framework published by the AHRC. The framework contains data on selected aspects of AHRC performance relevant to the Government's objectives for the UK science base.

1. Overall economic impacts
2. Knowledge generation (stock of publicly available knowledge)
3. Knowledge generation (human capital)
4. Investment in the research base and innovation
5. Framework conditions (public engagement)
6. Framework conditions (financial sustainability)
7. Knowledge exchange efficiency

The framework shows, where possible, the data for 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09.

The Council's economic impact reporting framework should be read in conjunction with its 2008 -2011 Delivery Plan Report and Annual Report, found at <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/newsevents/publications/> , which provide a comprehensive summary of achievements over the period.

Highlights:

- Case studies exploring the impact of AHRC investment have been undertaken to demonstrate the benefits of arts and humanities research to the UK economy. The outcomes of these case studies suggest that economic impact is delivered through a variety of formats, from influencing policy makers, to public exhibitions contributing towards cultural regeneration.
- The quality of UK arts and humanities research is noteworthy. The UK research community generates a substantial proportion of research articles in high quality, internationally significant journals. Our sample indicates that the UK is a close second to the US despite the huge difference between the two countries in the size of the research base.
- The AHRC is continually increasing its involvement in collaborative programmes with other Research Councils. The stronger input and increased funding from the AHRC to these programmes, demonstrates the importance of arts and humanities contributions to priority issues. Projects funded by our Strategic Programmes have had a range of economic impacts, addressing key policy concerns relating to crime, social cohesion and quality of life. Our support for five Language Based Area Studies Centres - in

partnership with ESRC, HEFCE and SFC – sustain and encourage research into area studies and related languages that are felt to be strategically important. These Centres are building capacity in these areas by providing funding for postgraduate students, and they are also having strong economic impacts through their knowledge transfer activities with business, international partnerships and policy influences.

- The AHRC is supporting and developing a wide range of activities that promote knowledge exchange, commercialisation and enterprise within the arts and humanities research sector. The AHRC is continuing to achieve a step change in knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer activities within the arts and humanities. For example, we have developed a ground-breaking strategic relationship with the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) to stimulate innovation in the knowledge economy and within the arts and humanities community. In 2007/08 we provided expert advice to the TSB in scoping and developing their first Collaborative R&D Competition for the Creative Industries, 'Application of Digital Technologies', and a Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN). By co-funding a number of successful collaborative projects from this activity with TSB, the AHRC has achieved a major step change in engaging with an organisation that has a fundamental focus on technological innovation.
- The funding provided for knowledge transfer awards has increased dramatically since the awards were first made in 2006/07. The number of partner organisations involved has also grown considerably, strengthening the partnerships and influence of arts and humanities research in the business, public and charity sectors.

Overall Economic Impacts

Research in the arts and humanities has a diverse range of economic impacts, including direct financial impacts from income generated by the attraction of exhibitions, through to providing guidance on international relations and policy. AHRC-funded research can also build social capital through shared and individual experiences resulting from research outputs, such as exhibitions, or community based projects. Arts and humanities research also makes a valuable and unique contribution to our understanding of important social issues, and has the capacity to bring about significant contributions in understanding of public policy in key areas such as amnesties in violent society and local community cohesion.

Since 2004 the AHRC has made significant progress in the assessment of the economic impact of its research, developing a sound understanding of the main mechanisms by which impact is generated. The AHRC set up an 'Impact Task Force' in January 2008, to highlight the impacts of world class research in the arts and humanities on UK quality of life and the national innovation system. As part of the study the AHRC commissioned 34 senior researchers, representing a large cross-section of disciplines, to write on the value of an area of arts and humanities research of their choosing. Their work helped to generate a model that illustrates 'economic impact' by embracing economic capital and civic capital and their place in UK. The resulting report, entitled 'Leading the World – The Economic Impact of Arts and Humanities Research' was launched on 17 June 2009. The report claims that the UK is leading the world in the impact of its publicly-funded arts and humanities research and summarises why the £110 million that the UK Government allocates annually to the AHRC represents an excellent investment for the nation. It will also greatly assist all arts and humanities researchers who are now developing the impact dimensions of their research activities. The report is available at: <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/documents/publications/leading-the-world/>

The AHRC's work on economic impact assessment follows the approaches set out in HMT Green Book. The methods presented in the Green Book provide a basic toolkit for the assessment of the economic impact of publicly-funded research in the arts and humanities. The case studies provided below demonstrate the diversity of research impacts and significant economic returns from arts and humanities research funded by the AHRC.

The Longstones Project

This AHRC funded collaboration involving the Universities of Leicester, Bristol and Southampton, unlocked some of the secrets of a significant group of major Neolithic and Early Bronze Age ceremonial monuments at Avebury. This large scale archaeological research project involved a substantial team of non-academics, providing an excellent opportunity to develop their knowledge and practical experience of excavation and interpretation of heritage

sites. The project attracted more visitors to Avebury, and so created financial benefits for the site and the local area. It also developed cultural and social benefits for visitors.

The project has generated publicity and media interest for Avebury, while research findings fed into the educational value of the site. The results of the project are published in *Landscape of the Megaliths: excavation and fieldwork on the Avebury monuments, 1997-2003* (Oxbow Books, 2008) by Mark Gillings, Joshua Pollard, David Wheatley and Rick Peterson. Further details on this project can be found at

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/research/casestudies/aveburyandthelongstonesproject/>

In Search of a Hidden Landscape

David Walker Barker, University of Leeds, undertook practice-led research to produce an exhibition entitled *In search of a Hidden Landscape* at Killhope Museum in Upper Weardale, County Durham. The exhibition included symbolic artworks that interpreted the history of the North Pennines, and its lead and fluorspar mining communities.

When the mines closed social and economic depression affected the area. More recently, as the ex-miners are aging, there has been a desire to remember and record the stories of the area before they are forgotten. The exhibition was developed in collaboration with the museum and involved interviews with ex-miners. It formed a record of a significant aspect of the community's history and encouraged the local community to consider its past, take pride in its mining heritage, and reflect on links between local culture and personal identity. This benefitted community cohesion by encouraging visitors to value local links and connections.

The increased number of visitors to the museum and to the local area led to financial benefits for the museum and for the local economy, contributing to the cultural regeneration of the area.

Further details can be found at <http://www.land2.uwe.ac.uk/essay13.htm>

Amnesties, Transition and Conflict Transformation

This AHRC Research Grant aimed to develop a 'thicker' understanding of the relationship between amnesties and the ways in which societies moving out of conflict deal with a violent past. The project aimed to move the debate on amnesties 'beyond legalism' to consider the phenomenon within the wider political context in which amnesties occur. The fieldwork

undertaken in South Africa, Uganda, Argentina, Uruguay and Bosnia was shared with civil society groups, politicians, victim organisations, international NGOs, academics and civil servants. The findings of this project fed directly into the 'Consultative Group on the Past', set up by the UK government to consult with the people of Northern Ireland on how to address the legacy of the Troubles. A report was produced incorporating many of the researchers' submissions drawn from their international fieldwork, and practical suggestions such as using 'guarantees of non-prosecution' - a technical measure designed to facilitate the uncovering of truth. The 'Consultative Group on the Past' presented its report to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Prime Minister Gordon Brown in January 2009. The submission was also shared with key stakeholders working in this field, such as the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, Amnesty International and the Northern Ireland Victims Commission.

Knowledge Generation (Stock of Publicly Available Knowledge)

Quality

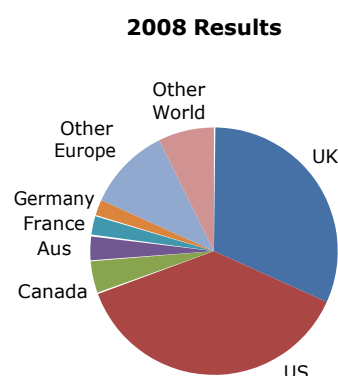
Journal citations do not provide a suitable metric for the quality and international standing of arts and humanities research. Instead, the AHRC has developed a journals list from which a metric has been derived assessing the proportion of UK scholarly articles compared with the proportion of articles from other parts of the world.

Since early 2005 the AHRC has been working with the European Science Foundation (ESF) to develop their European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH), an open access list of categorised and ranked international journals to serve the research community as a simple benchmarking tool and constitute the basis for the later development of a fully-fledged reference index. This project has involved extensive consultations with the academic community across Europe and initial lists in all subject areas were published last year followed by revised final lists in some areas. Category 'A'-rated journals (those deemed to be of international significance) from these lists have been cross-referenced with Thomson ISI Web of Knowledge listings to provide a sample of high quality peer-reviewed journals for analysis.

The results for the previous three years show that the UK had the second largest proportion of articles in the sample of high quality arts and humanities journals, only just behind the US.

Table 1: Proportion of UK arts and humanities journal articles published in sample of peer-reviewed quality journals in 2006, 2007 and 2008 (Jan-Dec)

Location of article authors' HEI	Proportion of sampled articles (%)		
	2006	2007	2008
UK	32.1	34.3	31.7
US	38.4	34.8	37.6
Canada	5.0	5.6	4.3
Australia	3.6	3.9	3.2
France	2.1	2.1	2.7
Germany	2.7	2.4	2.2
Other Europe	10.3	11.0	10.9
Other World	5.9	5.9	7.3



This is the fourth year that it has been possible to provide this journals-based metric. The sample had to be revised as in previous years journals were selected on the basis of their ratings from the ERIH lists. The list has been revised and finalised for this year, resulting in some journals being downgraded. Figures for 2006 and 2007 have been updated to reflect this sample. The sample framework will be reviewed again in the future and, if necessary, changes will be made accordingly.

Scale

The scale of knowledge generation arising from AHRC-funded research can be illustrated by the number of outputs recorded in final reports submitted by award-holders. The range and nature of outputs will vary depending on the nature and size of projects in question in any one year and can be categorized under the following headings:

- *Paper based* – book (both authored and edited) or book chapter; critical edition; journal article (in both refereed and non-refereed journals); conference paper; and catalogue for exhibition or other event
- *Performance and visual media* – exhibition or other presentation; performance, recording, film or broadcast; artefact or work of art; design; composition of score, choreography or creative writing
- *Electronic* – software development; database, dataset or digital archive; website; other electronic output
- *Conference and seminar* – facilitator or organiser for conference or seminar
- *Other* – other output from research

Results will vary according to the schemes run and awards made in any given year. Also, numbers will increase as more final reports are submitted and outputs quantified.

Table 2: Number of outputs recorded on final reports for Research awards ending in 2006-08

Type of output	2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
Paper based	2,249	57.0	2,185	49.6	2,479	47.3
Performance and visual media	259	6.6	427	9.7	454	8.7
Electronic	306	7.8	356	8.1	482	9.2
Conference and seminar	1,036	26.3	1,348	30.6	1,684	32.1
Other	95	2.4	90	2.0	145	2.8
Total	3,945	-	4,406	-	5,244	-
Number of awards	542	-	511	-	437	-

The AHRC has identified issues of intellectual and wider cultural, social or economic urgency that it considers to be best supported by concentrated and coherent funding initiatives. Awards made through certain strategic initiatives (included in the figures above) are now beginning to end and so outputs data is available.

Table 3: Number of outputs recorded on final reports for Research awards in the Strategic Initiatives ending in 2006-8

Type of output	2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
Paper based	136	44.2	193	42.1	275	41.6
Performance and visual media	45	14.6	35	7.6	68	10.3
Electronic	57	18.5	62	13.5	83	12.6
Conference and seminar	66	21.4	156	34.1	193	29.2
Other	4	1.3	12	2.6	42	6.4
Total	308	-	458	-	661	-
Number of awards	34	-	38	-	38	-

Efficiency

Measures of the efficiency of knowledge generation are based on the number of recorded outputs arising from AHRC investment. Again, results will vary according to the schemes run and awards made in any given year.

Table 4: Spend per output

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Number of outputs recorded on final reports for research awards ending in financial year	3,945	4,406	5,244
Amount awarded for the above	£23,213,432	£28,220,633	£32,395,354
AHRC spend per output	£5,884	£6,405	£6,178
Number of outputs per £1m of AHRC spend	170	156	162

Knowledge Generation (Human Capital)

Career Tracking

The 2009 Vitae report 'What do Researchers do? First Destinations of Doctoral Graduates by Subject', provides in depth analysis of the employment destinations of Doctoral researchers, using the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DHLE) surveys data. Among other information, this report identified the sector in which graduates from 2003- 2007 were employed. The proportion of arts and humanities doctoral graduates employed in the UK averaged 76% from 2003 to 2007. The majority of these were in the education sector (67%). In terms of occupation, 48% were employed as 'education and teaching professionals', 27% of these gained Higher Education Lectureship positions. The second largest percentage of occupations were Researchers (University or unspecified) with 14%, and 'Other professionals, associate professional and technical occupations' with 13%. This demonstrates the high proportion of arts and humanities doctorates that develop careers within the higher education sector and, to a lesser extent, public and private sector businesses. The average unemployment rate was 4%, lower than that for arts and humanities first degree graduates (6.8%) and Masters graduates (4.4%).

Table 5: Sector of currently employed former arts and humanities PhD students in VITAE career tracking report

Sector of employment	%
Education	67.4
Finance, business and IT	3.4
Health and social work	2.5
Manufacturing	4.4
Public Administration	6.7
Other Sectors	14.4

The Vitae report corresponds to the career tracking survey undertaken by the AHRC in September 2006. Among other information this survey identified the sector in which the former students were employed. The data demonstrated that the majority of former AHRB funded PhD students develop careers within the higher education sector. A longitudinal follow-up to this study is planned.

Scale: Completion Rates

The HESA student record captures the number of PhD qualifications obtained each year and from this a figure can be derived for the total number of PhDs completed in the arts and humanities and in other disciplines. The data shows that, although the number of PhDs completed in the arts and humanities has slightly decreased from 2006/07 to 2007/08, the proportion of arts and humanities PhDs compared to all other subjects has remained the same.

Table 6: Number of PhD qualifications obtained from the HESA student record

Subject domain	PhDs completed in 2005/06 academic year	PhDs completed in 2006/07 academic year	PhDs completed in 2007/08 academic year
Arts and humanities	2,600	2,885	2,805
All other	13,620	14,335	13,665
Total	16,220	17,220	16,470
Arts and humanities %	16	17	17

The annual AHRC submission survey records the submission and completion of AHRC-funded PhDs. From this data it is possible to calculate the number and rate of AHRC-funded PhDs submitted on time each year. The submission rate for AHRC-funded PhDs was maintained at 85% in the latest survey, an improvement on the previous two years submission rates.

Table 7: AHRC-funded PhD submission figures from annual submission survey

Subject domain	2005 survey	2006 survey	2007 survey	2008 survey
Number of PhDs due	634	611	566	593
Number of submissions	481	486	449	502
Submission rate	76%	80%	79%	85%
Overall submission rate (including late submissions from previous two years)	75%	83%	78%	82%

Diversity

The annual AHRC postgraduate competition provides funding awards for students wishing to undertake study at doctoral or masters level. Data collected each year on the age, gender and ethnicity of students accepting AHRC doctoral awards provides demographic information.

Table 8: Number of doctoral awards accepted by age and gender in the AHRC postgraduate competition

Age Group	2005 competition		2006 competition		2007 competition		2008 competition	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Under 25	173	156	157	157	195	172	126	116
25 to 34	123	96	128	120	126	123	89	81
35 to 44	28	25	36	31	44	38	18	21
45-54	13	13	21	12	20	5	10	14
55 and over	2	3	7	4	7	3	5	4

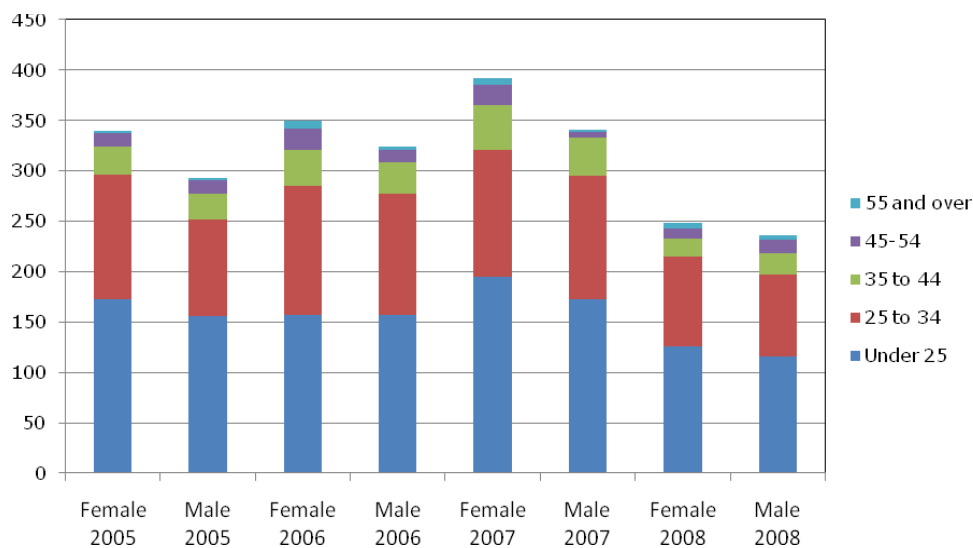


Table 9: Number of doctoral awards accepted by ethnicity in the AHRC postgraduate competition

Ethnicity	2005 competition	2006 competition	2007 competition	2008 competition
None specified	17	1	0	0
White	490	554	570	381
Mixed background	12	14	10	11
Asian or Asian British	9	6	6	1
Black or Black British	4	2	0	1
Chinese	0	0	4	0

Any other	1	5	1	0
-----------	---	---	---	---

Strategic Programmes

The level of postgraduate support for AHRC strategic priority areas is indicated by the number of awards made in the following schemes.

Collaborative Doctoral Awards: Awards supported through this scheme encourage and develop collaboration between Higher Education Institutions and non-academic bodies, largely in the public sector and creative industries. They enhance the employment related skills and training gained by students during the course of their award. They also act as a key knowledge transfer and knowledge exchange mechanism (see table 10).

Table 10: Number of CDA awards made in AHRC strategic programmes

Strategic Programme	2006 competition	2007 competition	2008 competition
Landscape and Environment	5	-	-
Religion and Society	-	8	5
Beyond Text	-	-	6
Science and Heritage	-	-	10

The AHRC has collaborated with the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC) to jointly fund five Language Based Area Studies Centres, to provide additional support for our core support of Language study. These Centres were established by networks of Institutions to form partnerships which sustain and encourage research into area studies and related languages that are felt to be strategically important. Five Language Based Area Studies Centres (LBAS) were funded for five years to enhance understanding of the following areas:

- The Arabic speaking world
- China
- Japan
- Eastern Europe, including areas of the former Soviet Union.

The Centres are provided funding for postgraduate students, undertaking both Masters and Doctoral Study. Not all Centres have begun funding Studentships yet, figures for those who have are provided in Table 11.

Table 11: Number of Postgraduate Studentships made in Language Based Area Studies Centres

LBAS Centre	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab Speaking World (CASAW)	3	18	9
British Inter-University China Centre (BICC)	6	7	8
White Rose East Asia Centre (WREAC)	4	5	6
Centre for East European Language Based Area Studies (CEELBAS)	16	22	14

In their mid-term review, the Centres have reported strong economic impacts in addition to their capacity-building activities. They have established close links and policy influence with UK Government departments, as well as with ambassadors and governments of the regions and countries studied. For example, the Centres have provided evidence and expertise to the UK Government in areas such as Global and Energy Security; have helped shape regional approaches towards migrant communities; and have worked with Government Communications Headquarters to provide textbooks and courses in International Security.

The Centres attract many requests from these quarters, and from private sector businesses, for trained people in these fields. They also provide valuable expertise in knowledge exchange activities with public and private sector companies: for example, they have worked with local government in their regions to establish Business Forums; provided consultancy to Shell International on future political scenarios; worked with the Ministry of Defence; and engaged in local business outreach activities with banking groups, media and professional organisations.

Efficiency

The annual AHRC postgraduate spend is produced below, taking into account all ongoing and new awards over the 2008/09 financial year. By dividing the annual AHRC postgraduate spend by the number of all postgraduate awards funded during the 2008/09 financial year, a notional figure for the efficiency of human capital is produced.

Table 12: Spend per postgraduate award

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total postgraduate spend	£37.06m	£40.73m	£41.32m
Number of new postgraduate awards	1,490	1,472	985
All postgraduate awards funded	3,000	4,400	4,223
Spend per postgraduate award	12,353	9,257	9,785

The AHRC and Postgraduate Committee have been working to review the mechanisms for funding postgraduates since 2007. Following their recommendations, two new schemes were launched for the 2009/10 cohort of postgraduate students. These are:

- Block Grant Partnerships (BGP) – the BGP competition provides an allocation of funding for 5 year cohorts of students. To be eligible to apply, Institutions must have been offered an average of 8 or more awards per annum in the 2003-2007 postgraduate open funding competitions. They will allocate their studentships as they see fit, rather than previous AHRC assessment of applications in the open competition.
- Studentship Competition – This competition will enable students who are studying at an Institution ineligible for a BGP to apply for funding. Individual bids for funding are made, and applications will be assessed similarly to the previous open competition.

The aims of these two schemes is to enable organisations who receive large numbers of AHRC awards to work strategically and enable long term planning, whilst also allowing smaller pockets of excellence to receive funding via the Studentship competition, to build capacity within organisations who traditionally received a small number of awards.

Throughout 2008 the AHRC has been in consultation with the academic community to discuss capacity building support for early career researchers. As an outcome of these consultations, a new Fellowship scheme will be launched in 2009. This scheme will require Institutions to provide mentoring support for early career applicants

Scale

The scale of the overall arts and humanities research landscape is illustrated by the number of research active staff identified in the RAE 2008.

Table 13: Arts and humanities UoAs in RAE 2008

Unit of Assessment	Total Research Active Staff
Architecture and the Build Environment	631
Archaeology	510
Library and Information Management	297
Law	1,671
American Studies and Anglophone Area Studies	87
Middle Eastern and African Studies	132
Asian Studies	150
European Studies	456
Russian, Slavonic and East European Languages	118
French	386
German, Dutch and Scandinavian Languages	223
Italian	99
Iberian and Latin American Languages	236
Celtic Studies	104
English Language and Literature	1,851
Linguistics	307
Classics, Ancient History, Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies	415
Philosophy	573
Theology, Divinity and Religious Studies	470
History	1,761
Art and Design	1,701
History of Art, Architecture and Design	333
Drama Dance and Performing Arts	433
Communication, Cultural and Media Studies	548
Music	570
Total	14,060
Arts and Humanities as % of all UoAs	27%

Research Careers and Diversity Unit

The research councils, through the RCUK Research Careers and Diversity Unit (RCDU) have collaborated with the Equality Challenge Unit on a mapping study of equality data in higher education. Jointly with HESA and the funding councils, we are now working to fill the gaps and improve the data on which the research councils can draw in the future.

The Research Councils are also working together to obtain better information on the career paths followed by those who have completed research studies, to contribute to the evidence of outcomes from investments in research training and the impact of research graduates. Data will be gathered through an enhancement of HESA's survey of the destinations of leavers of higher education (DLHE), seeking responses from all the research graduates who responded to the 2005 DLHE survey, (shortly after their graduation). This will build a picture of their career path roughly 3 ½ years after graduation. The first results have not been made available, but are expected in late 2009, so will be drawn on in next year's Reporting Framework. The analysis will also inform future phases of the study as it follows doctoral graduates' career paths over a number of years.

Investment in the Research Base and Innovation

Total AHRC expenditure is shown along with the proportion spent on Research and Postgraduate awards.

Table 14: AHRC expenditure

	2005/06 (£000)	2006/07 (£000)	2007/08 (£000)	2008/09 (£000)
Total AHRC expenditure	83,702	98,592*	117,845**	122,523***
Research awards	35,521 (42%)	45,365 (46%)	59,902 (51%)	63,513 (52%)
Postgraduate awards	33,511 (40%)	37,060 (38%)	40,726 (36%)	41,317 (34%)

*£90,256,000 of which is Departmental Expenditure Limit (DEL), the remainder coming from HEFCE and other sources

**£104,343,000 of which is DEL, the remainder coming from HEFCE and other sources

*** £107,548,000 of which is DEL, the remainder coming from HEFCE and other sources

The AHRC has identified issues of intellectual and wider cultural, social or economic urgency that it considers to be best supported by concentrated and coherent funding initiatives. Expenditure on these initiatives is shown below. The significant rise in expenditure in the last two financial years demonstrates increased commitment to strategic and cross-council funding.

Table 15: Expenditure on AHRC strategic initiatives

Programme	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
	£	% of total	£	% of total	£	% of total	£	% of total
Cultures of Consumption	200,000	12.1	200,000	7.8	200,000	2.6	-	-
Designing for the 21 st Century	40,488	2.5	192,019	7.5	1,665,319	21.6	679,693	8.7
Diasporas, Migration and Identities Programme	337,061	20.5	636,769	24.9	2,314,262	30.1	2,053,785	26.2
Landscape and Environment Programme	59,752	3.6	491,629	19.2	1,915,472	24.9	1,895,611	24.2
Museums and Galleries Research Programme	-	-	112,060	4.4	167,476	2.2	533,066	6.8
Religion and Society	-	-	6,061	0.2	473,866	6.2	1,276,692	16.3
Beyond Text	-	-	-	-	131,470	1.7	596,873	7.6
Science and Heritage Programme	-	-	-	-	182,350	2.4	295,380	3.8
ICT in the Arts and Humanities	1,010,488	-	922,145	36.0	638,938	8.3	514,065	6.6
Total	1,647,749	-	2,560,683	-	7,689,153	-	7,845,165	-

The AHRC is involved with several cross council programmes which are run and funded in collaboration with other Research Councils, and in some cases, national Funding Councils. The AHRC's increased involvement in cross-council programmes demonstrates the important contribution that the arts and humanities can bring to key issues identified for research funding.

Table 16: Expenditure on cross council programmes

Programme	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
	£	AHRC %	£	AHRC %	£	AHRC %	£	AHRC %
Cultures of Consumption (ESRC)	200,000	20	200,000	20	200,000	20	-	-
Nature of Creativity (ESRC/DTI)	-	-	120,769	68	-	-	-	-
Religion and Society (ESRC)	-	-	6,061	23	473,866	66	1,276,692	66
Designing for the 21 st Century (EPSRC)	40,488	46	192,019	40	1,665,319	51	679,693	44
Science and Heritage Programme (EPSRC)	-	-	-	-	182,350	78	295,380	62
Countering Terrorism Ideas Factory (EPSRC, ESRC, NSAC)	-	-	-	-	40,191	20	268,326	20
Language Based Area Studies (ESRC, HEFCE, SFC)	-	-	330,494	23	908,500	23	1,082,200	23
New Dynamics of Ageing (BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC)	-	-	-	-	40,000	5	40,000	5
New Security Challenges (ESRC, FCO)	-	-	-	-	200,000	16	-	-
ICT in the Arts and Humanities Programme (EPSRC, JISC)*	-	-	-	-	149,782	30	344,598	38
Library of Congress Congress Scholarships (ESRC)	18,000	77	29,563	72	67,250	73	63,000	80

*ESRC and JISC are only co-funding the e-science Research Grants scheme within this programme

Framework Conditions (Public Engagement)

Performance-based and Visual Media Outputs

AHRC awards ending in 2008/09 led to 454 performance-based or visual media outputs. These outputs include public performances and exhibitions, bringing the outcomes of AHRC-funded arts and humanities research to a public audience.

An example of this type of public engagement is highlighted in an AHRC case study of 'In Search of a Hidden Landscape.' This practice-led research led to an exhibition at Killhope Museum, which explored and interpreted the history of the mining communities in the North Pennines. The exhibition formed a record of this significant part of the community's history and encouraged visitors to take pride in their heritage and value local links and connections.

Strategic Programmes Public Engagement

Awards made in AHRC strategic programmes represent unique opportunities for public engagement. This is particularly demonstrated in the Diasporas, Migration and Identity programme, details of which can be found at www.diasporas.ac.uk

Many projects within the Diasporas, Migration and Identity programme have developed innovative collaborations with the communities that are the subject of their research. Some examples are below:

- *Tate Encounters: British and Asian Identities, Britishness and Visual Culture* – Engagement with fifty undergraduate students who were the first of their generation to attend higher education from families who migrated to the UK over the past three generations. Case studies were produced on how the students and their families encountered Tate Britain and the National Collection of British Art over a two year period. The project is hoping to develop knowledge of how notions of 'Britishness' in curatorial settings are valued by migrant and diasporic family groups.
- *Home and Away: experiences and representations of transnational South Asian children* – This project will involve collaborations with South Asian children in East London to explore how these children experience 'trans-national' lives and form their cultural identity. Local community groups, arts groups and forums will be involved to ensure all participants voices are heard
- *Memory, identity and change: A case study of Palestinian refugee women in Lebanon* – This research directly engaged with Palestinian refugee women in Lebanon to provide an oral history archive of their experiences. Connections were formed with refugee

groups and organisations in Lebanon, enabling the project leader to act as a broker for their engagement with policy makers.

As the Diasporas, Migration and Identity programme is nearing completion, it is suitably advanced to report impact. Similar results are expected from other strategic programmes as they mature, and some projects that have completed are already demonstrating impact. Some examples are provided below:

- The Religion and Society programme (co-funded with ESRC) has supported a collaborative research project between the University of Leeds and the Bradford Educational and Cultural Association of Sikhs, an organisation that oversees the educational interests of Sikh children and young people. The project is examining the modern identity and contemporary influences of young Sikh men, conducting interviews about their experience of the transmission of traditional practice. The project is bringing benefits to the University of Leeds by helping the development of local and national outreach in association with its Community Religion Project.
- Another Religion and Society project at the University of Birmingham is looking at the use of partnership work with Muslim groups, including those deemed as 'radicals', in 'soft' policing methods. The research has found that the increased trust that comes from these approaches and the access to community-based expertise is helping to prevent extremist propaganda and acts of violence. The research findings were disseminated in full at a Parliamentary seminar in May 2009. Delegates included MPs and Parliamentarians, representatives from police bodies, as well as think tanks, community and religious groups and academic experts.

RCUK Projects

Public Engagement with Research

The Research Councils together funded £2.4 million of public engagement initiatives through the RCUK Public Engagement with Research (PER) team (formerly the RCUK Science in Society team) in 2008/09. Our vision is to enable society to value and have confidence in research processes and outputs and to lead a broad spectrum of public engagement activity that has research and researchers at its heart.

Finding out what people think

RCUK PER team has ensured public engagement adds benefit and impact to the cross-Council priority theme programme plans. Information on what people think has contributed toward

Research Council policy and research strategy development within these themes. Two cross-Council themes have received RCUK funding for public engagement in 2008/09.

Reaching young people - support and encourage young people to engage with contemporary research and follow R&D careers

We fund a range of initiatives which support both the 5-19 DCSF STEM programme objectives and researchers who wish to carry out public engagement with young people and the schools sector. The major schemes we run to achieve this are as follows:

- Researchers in Residence scheme – a placement and training scheme for Researchers wishing to work with schools. RCUK researchers were funded for placements in 153 secondary schools in 2008.
- Contemporary Science in the Classroom – a teacher CPD (Continuing Professional Development) initiative which supports researchers and teachers working together to overcome barriers to teaching the curriculum. It is anticipated that by March 2011 that at least 1200 teachers will have received CPD. RCUK also provides teacher resources through Schoolscience.co.uk which received over 80,000 hits in 2008
- BA CREST – RCUK part funds this nationally recognised accreditation scheme for science and technology projects. Over 18,000 prizes were awarded in 2008
- Nuffield Bursaries – support for students to carry out projects in research environments working alongside practising scientists. 100 young people were funded directly by RCUK in 2008.

Our policy focus in this area has developed significantly in the last year, and is now changing from providing unique support and opportunity for teachers and young people to additionally ensuring support to our researchers in terms of their own skills development. A resource for the research community will be the first major output of this policy development in 2009.

Encourage researchers to engage with the public

The Research Councils also continue to invest significantly in encouraging researchers to engage with the public through the Beacons for Public Engagement initiative (£9.2m over four years with the funding councils and the Wellcome Trust). The scheme has established six university-based collaborative centres and a National Coordinating Centre to support, recognise, reward and build capacity for public engagement within HEIs. RCUK along with other funders are now considering the legacy of this pilot programme and ways of further embedding public engagement in the HE sector.

RCUK has also been compiling an evidence base which demonstrates the benefits that undertaking public engagement can have for researchers and their research. A publication aimed at the research community will be published in 2009.

Keep people informed and up to date about RC-funded research

RCUK PER team has also led on joint activity at a science and art festivals in the UK (e.g. Cheltenham Science Festival). The RCUK PER funded Darwin Today exhibition, led by BBSRC, is currently touring the UK and will have been to over 30 venues (such as science festivals, cathedrals, schools and museums) by the end of Darwin Year 2009 (potentially reaching over 60,000 people). RCUK PER has also contributed funding to the BIS Science: [So What? So everything] campaign.

Framework Conditions (Financial Sustainability)

Value for Money (VFM) Efficiency Savings

The AHRC contributed to the Research Councils' overall target to deliver £170 million in efficiency savings across four categories by 2008/09.

Table 17: AHRC VFM savings

	2005/06 (£000)	2006/07 (£000)	2007/08 (£000)	2008/09 (£000)
Reducing the proportion of Research Council Expenditure Attributable to Administration Costs	59	45	87	17
Demonstrating the Effective Reprioritisation of Programme Spend	1,769	3,167	9,117	5,851
Increasing the Efficiency of Research Council Institutes	-	-	-	-
Growing the Level of Co-Funding of research	-	9	576	580
Total Cumulative Savings	1,828	3,221	9,780	6,448

Resource Enhancement Scheme

The ongoing review of schemes allows us to identify those that provide the most added value. We can therefore take appropriate action to control spending on schemes that are not providing value for money. One example is the evaluation review of the AHRC's Resource Enhancement scheme. This was conducted in 2005 with Council approving the following major recommendations:

- a new directed mode programme should be established for the enhancement of research resources of strategic value
- reprioritisation: the existing responsive-mode Resource Enhancement scheme should be phased out, as demonstrated in the reduced expenditure over time.

Table 18: AHRC expenditure on Resource Enhancement scheme

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Expenditure on Resource Enhancement	£6,567,000	£7,208,000	£5,927,000	£4,385,000

Knowledge Exchange Efficiency

Commercialisation of Research

The AHRC runs, supports or is involved with several schemes promoting knowledge exchange, commercialisation and enterprise. Most of these schemes have only recently begun and, although monitoring is in place, it is too early for outcomes to be assessed.

- *Knowledge Transfer Partnerships* - the AHRC sponsors the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships scheme, designed to harness academic expertise to solve business problems. The scheme sponsors partnerships between research organisations, businesses and recent graduates who are employed to work on a specific aspect of a business.
- *Knowledge Catalyst Scheme* - supports partnerships between universities and non-academic partners, such as businesses, charities, not-for-profit organisations and some publicly funded bodies. The scheme aims to exploit the research base in the arts and humanities for commercial and/or cultural gain.
- *Knowledge Transfer Fellowships* - supports academics to undertake a programme of knowledge transfer activity. The project should be planned around an existing piece of arts or humanities research with potential to make a significant difference beyond academia.
- *AHRC/BBC Knowledge Exchange Partnership* - intended to support individual or teams of arts and humanities researchers and BBC Future Media and Technology staff to work together on collaborative research and knowledge exchange projects.
- *Collaborative Doctoral Awards* - supports collaborations between Higher Education Institution departments and non-academic bodies, and enhances the employment related skills research students gain during the course of their award.
- *Professional Preparation Masters Scheme* - provides funding for full and part-time study on Master's or Postgraduate Diploma courses that focus on developing skills and competencies for professional practice.

As a follow up to the extremely successful AHRC/BBC Knowledge Exchange Partnership, new Knowledge Infusion funding has been announced with the BBC. Awards of up to £80,000 joint-funding will provide opportunities to support proposals which infuse co-produced knowledge and outcomes from projects funded under the Knowledge Exchange Programme (KEP) into both academia and the BBC. Activities under this initiative

should specifically embed the research findings of individual KEP projects in a way which spreads their impact beyond that initially envisaged at the project outset.

We have also developed a ground-breaking strategic relationship with the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) to stimulate innovation in the knowledge economy and within the arts and humanities community. In 2007/08 we provided expert advice to the TSB in scoping and developing their first Collaborative R&D Competition for the Creative Industries, 'Application of Digital Technologies', and a Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN). By co-funding a number of successful collaborative projects from this activity with TSB, the AHRC has achieved a major step change in engaging with an organisation that has a fundamental focus on technological innovation.

The increase in the number of awards made in these schemes, the number of external partnership organisations involved and the expenditure on these programmes demonstrates the AHRC's commitment to a step-change in Knowledge Transfer activities in the arts and humanities.

Table 19: Awards and expenditure in AHRC schemes to promote commercialisation and enterprise (A – number of awards made, PO – number of partnership organisations, £ – AHRC expenditure)

Scheme	2005/06			2006/07			2007/08			2008/09		
	A	PO	£	A	PO	£	A	PO	£	A	PO	£
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships	4	4	†	11	11	25,196	5	5	203,406	11	11	789,011
Knowledge Catalyst Scheme	-	-	-	2	2	†	13	13	89,171	9	9	151,025
Knowledge Transfer Fellowships	-	-	-	8*	-	-	7	-	575,779	6	10	1,033,356
AHRC/BBC Knowledge Exchange Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8‡	145,281††	-	-	-
Collaborative Doctoral Awards	41	32	318,996	54**	43	1,143,680	66**	53	2,289,456	81**	81	3,301,580
Professional Preparation Masters Scheme	348	-	3,516,345	349	-	3,516,101	327	-	3,888,172	214	-	3,736,605
Total	393	36	3,835,341	424	56	4,684,977	426	79	7,191,256	321	111	9,011,577

*the AHRC made 8 awards in this scheme during 2006/07 which commenced in 2007/08

**including 5 awards in the Landscape and Environment programme (2006/07), 8 awards (2007/08) and 5 awards (2008/09) in the Religion and Society programme, 6 awards in the Beyond Text programme (2008/09) and 10 awards in the Science and Heritage programme (2008/09)

†awards were made in the stated year with funding starting in the next year

††this funding is matched by the BBC

‡these were 8 different partners within the BBC

Some awards made through the AHRC's Knowledge Transfer Catalyst scheme ended in 2007/08 so outputs data is now available for the past two years.

Table 20: Number of outputs recorded on final reports for KT Catalyst awards

Type of output	2007/08		2008/09	
	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
Paper based	4	30.8	14	23
Performance and visual media	4	30.8	8	13.1
Electronic	4	30.8	7	11.5
Conference and seminar	1	7.7	15	24.6
Other	0	0.0	17	28
Total	13	-	61	-
Number of awards	3	-	10	-

The representation of external members on AHRC Committees provides further links for knowledge exchange and a valuable input to the development of AHRC strategy in this area. Twenty eight per cent of members are from business, charity or public sectors.

Table 21: Representation of external members (non-academic or Research Council members) on all AHRC Committees

Committee	Members	External members
AHRC Council	14	(36%) 5
Postgraduate Committee	9	-
Research Committee	9	-
Knowledge and Evaluation Committee	10	(60%) 6
Museums and Galleries Committee	8	(63%) 5
Audit Committee	5	(60%) 3
Nominating Committee	9	-
Remuneration Committee	4	-
Total	68	(28%) 19

Scale: Collaborative Research

The volume of collaborative research funded by the AHRC is indicated by the proportion of AHRC Research awards reporting interactions with a non-academic individual or organisation. The proportion of collaborative research projects shows a steady increase from 2005/06 to date.

Table 22: Proportion of AHRC Research awards reporting non-academic collaborations

	Awards ending in 2005/06	Awards ending in 2006/07	Awards ending in 2007/08	Awards ending in 2008/09
Percentage of Research awards reporting non-academic collaborations	33.5	35.4	37.3	44.8

Another marker for collaborative activity is the amount of income received from external organisations, such as the Arts Council and other Research Councils, to co-fund collaborative research schemes and programmes. Although the contribution of income from Research Councils has decreased in the past year, the AHRC has received a higher proportion of funding from other sources.

Table 23: Co-funding income received for collaborative research programmes

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Arts Councils	£160,120	£210,160	-	£15,647
BBC	-	-	£145,281	£176,416
Research Councils	£52,080	£349,216	£2,139,233	£2,067,054
Government (other)	-	£28,398	£149,783	£257,054
Total	£212,200	£587,774	£2,434,297	£2,516,381

The Research Leave and Research Centres schemes also require co-funding from the individual HEIs where these awards are held.

Table 24: AHRC expenditure on Research Centres and Research Leave schemes

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Research Centres	2,487,000	£1,391,000	£532,000	£349,000
Research Leave	5,211,000	£7,106,000	£6,509,000	£4,481,000
Total	£7,698,000	£8,497,000	£7,041,000	£4,830,000

User Focus

The AHRC now provides dedicated funding for museums, galleries, libraries and archives, through granting Independent Research Organisation (IRO) status to a range of these institutions. This allows these organisations to apply directly for funding across a range of schemes. Through their status as either an award holder or project partner, these IROs are able to build their research capacity and enhance public engagement with research outcomes. JD Hill, Research Manager at The British Museum, reports that: *'IRO status has totally transformed the research culture of the Museum. It is now a far more focussed and serious research institution, and it is now thinking more seriously about knowledge transfer; in particular, how to translate academic research into other, wider outcomes.'* He also comments that IRO status, and the funding it brings, has led to the Museum 'raising twice as much other external funding from private beneficiaries and charities.'

Through this IRO support, the AHRC enables arts and humanities research to underpin some of the most important and vibrant sectors of the economy, who offer unique cultural heritage and assets, and tap into the populations creativity. Since the AHRC began its funding of IROs in 2005/06, 98 applications have been made with a total of 27 successful awards. A total of 13 awards were made in 2007/08 from 33 applications with an IRO as the lead institution or project partner.

As the Knowledge Catalyst awards are beginning to end, information of outcomes is now available. These collaborations between universities and non-academic partners have delivered key benefits to project partners in two key areas:

- *Increased turnover* – for example the 'Naughtone: design and marketing processes' involving collaboration between Kingston University and the furniture designers 'Naughtone'. This award aimed to develop the innovative design and manufacturing processes in order to develop a strategy for the company's commercial growth. The project led to increased efficiency of production, generated new clients, and increased overall sales and contracts.
- *New knowledge and approaches* – for example the 'Phoenix Rising: Online New Media Centre development', a collaboration between De Montfort University and the Phoenix Arts Centre, to design and implement an online new media centre and develop a series of online classes/workshops to help embed a culture of using online media within the Arts Centre staff. This created new knowledge of website design, new media and its applications and increased skills development for all staff.

First Destinations

HESA is responsible for the DLHE survey, carried out each year approximately six months after students leave higher education, which provides information on the type of work a leaver has entered or what sort of further study they are engaged in.

AHRC funded students are identified within this population through a data matching exercise using the AHRC record of leavers. This provides data for an adequate but low proportion (approx. 50-60%) of AHRC-funded students within the data, a situation which should improve with the introduction of a Research Council identification field in the 2007/08 student record.

A wider cohort of leaving students was identified within the 2005/06 survey giving more representative figures. The 2006/07 figures show a continued trend in the high proportion of AHRC-funded PhD students who enter the higher education sector as their first destination.

Table 25: First Destinations of AHRC-funded PhD students in the HESA DLHE survey

First destination	Students completing in 2005/06 academic year (%)	Students completing in 2006/07 academic year (%)
Engaged in study	4.7	2.1
Government and Public Sector - not research related	8.2	5.8
Government and Public Sector - research related	0.6	1.7
Higher Education - academic (teaching & research)	34.8	28.2
Higher Education - mainly research	11.3	22.3
Higher Education - other	2.2	4.8
Industry & Commerce – not research related	9.1	3.4
Industry & Commerce – research related	0.6	0.7
Not employed	7.2	8.2
Not known or not reported	5.3	3.1
Other employment	6.0	6.2
Research & Development (sector unknown)	0.9	1.4
School (Education other)	1.9	1.7
School Teaching or teacher training	7.2	10.3

AHRC user focus towards the Science and Engineering Base (SEB) can be illustrated by the proportion of AHRC-funded PhD students who go on to be employed within the SEB. This information can be determined from the annual HESA DLHE survey and the AHRC career tracking survey.

Table 26: First Destinations of AHRC-funded PhD students in the HESA DLHE survey

First destination	Students completing in 2005/06 academic year (%)	Students completing in 2006/07 academic year (%)
Overall employed in SEB	48.3	55.3
Higher education – academic (teaching and research)	72.1	50.9
Higher education – mainly research	23.4	40.4
Higher education – other	4.5	8.7

Table 27: Currently employed former AHRB-funded PhD students employed in the SEB in AHRC career tracking survey

Type of employment	%
Overall employed in the SEB	73.9
Senior academic post (permanent)	10
Lecturer (permanent)	48
Other permanent academic post	1
Research fellow	6
Post-doc	7
Other fixed-term academic post	20
Non-academic post	7
Not specified	1

An indicator for the user focus of the AHRC towards business and public services is the proportion of AHRC-funded PhD students who go on to be employed in these sectors. This information can be determined from the annual HESA DLHE survey and the AHRC career tracking survey.

Table 28: First Destinations of AHRC-funded PhD students in the HESA DLHE survey

First destination	Students completing in 2005/06 academic year (%)	Students completing in 2006/07 academic year (%)
Overall employed in business and public service	33.5	29.9
Government and Public Sector - not research related	24.3	19.5
Government and Public Sector - research related	1.9	5.7
Industry & Commerce - not research related	27.1	11.5
Industry & Commerce - research related	1.9	2.3
Other employment	17.8	20.7
School (Education other)	5.6	5.7
School Teaching or teacher training	21.5	34.5

Table 29: Currently employed former AHRB-funded PhD students employed in the public / independent and private sectors in AHRC career tracking survey

Public / independent sector employment	%
Overall employed in public / independent sector	18.7
Independent organisation	31
Government organisation	19
Local Authority	7
School	21
FE College	4
Museum / cultural organisation	11
Other	7

Private sector employment	%
Overall employed in private sector	7.4
Creative industries	37
Business services	33
Other	30