



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research

Regional Data Hub: supporting delivery in our regions

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Data plays a critical role in helping community and government decision makers to make informed decisions that improve the welfare of their communities.

The Regional Data Hub will be a new central source of data for regional Australia. It will improve outcomes for regional Australia by strengthening the evidence base on which future decisions are made.

Why do we need the Regional Data Hub?

High quality data and research are critical in making strong evidence based decisions. The Hub will provide an enduring source of information that helps regional communities, local leaders, industry and all levels of government. The Regional Data Hub will address the need for coordinated, comprehensive and accessible data on issues affecting regional Australia.

The Hub is intended to improve access to regional data, and not replace existing sources.

The Australian Government committed \$13.7 million to the *Better Data Use to Support Delivery for Regional Australians program* over 4 years from 2020-21, which will provide users with easier access to relevant data.

What data will be available?

The design and content of the Hub will put user needs first. The types of data collated will be based on user consultation and proposes to focus on economic, demographic and socio-economic data.

It will:

- enable easier access to data that exists
- improve data that is available, and
- address data gaps.

The Regional Data Hub will be publicly accessible and searchable by location.

The mutual benefits of sharing and collaborating with data will also be explored.

Who will use the Regional Data Hub?

The Regional Data Hub is being designed for the needs of data and information users across Australia, including:

- those living and working in regional Australia
- community leaders and their organisations
- business owners and operators
- peak bodies with regional interests
- researchers and consultants
- Commonwealth, state and territory and local governments.

Regional Data Hub in practice

In 2020-21, the Australian Government has funded more than 350 packages and measures which are aimed at strengthening Australia's regions. These initiatives are focused on creating jobs, driving economic growth and building stronger regional communities. The Regional Data Hub will help underpin policy and program design for current and future initiatives such as these.

What are the next steps?

We are continuing consultations with regional data users and providers to inform the development of the Regional Data Hub. We expect to launch the Hub late 2021 or early 2022 with data identified during our consultation.

How can I have my say?

If you use data or have data needs that will benefit your community, we want to hear from you.

Find out more:

- Search for [Regional Data Hub Australia](#)
- Email: regionaldatahub@infrastructure.gov.au

About us

We are the Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research. We provide data and analysis on communications, arts and regional issues.