



Australian Government

Digital Economy Strategy

Delivering a modern and digital economy to drive Australia's future prosperity



Our Strategy

Australia's place in the world will be defined by how we adapt to digital technologies and modernise our economy. The next 10 years will determine whether we lead or fall behind.

We are well placed to be a leading digital economy and have strong foundations, but many countries are investing heavily in their digital futures.

COVID-19 accelerated the take up of digital technology and highlighted how it can enhance business and government operations. Australia needs to maintain this momentum to secure our future prosperity and protect our interests.

The Digital Economy Strategy maps the pathways to achieve this, drawing on the Government's previous investments and new actions to meet our ambition.

Overarching Vision *For Australia to be a leading digital economy and society by 2030*

Sub-goals

- All businesses are digital businesses
- All Australians have access to digital skills and technology
- Frictionless government service delivery
- Smart regulation that builds trust
- Integrated data and technologies makes life easier

We will invest in the settings, infrastructure and incentives to grow Australia's digital economy



Right foundations to grow the Digital Economy

Putting in place the foundations that enable economic growth and prosperity.

- **Digital infrastructure:** including the \$4.5 billion NBN upgrade plan, spectrum allocations, regional connectivity and investments in 5G
- **Cyber security, safety and trust:** including the \$1.67 billion Cyber Security Strategy and world-first e-safety Commissioner
- **Skills and inclusion** – including the \$1 billion JobTrainer Fund, Digital Skills Organisation and Job-ready Graduates
- **Systems and regulation** – including Digital Identity, the Consumer Data Right, Single Touch Payroll, e-Invoicing and Modernising Business Registers
- **Trade and international engagement**– including digital trade agreements, international rule setting and the Services Exports Action Plan



Building capabilities in emerging technologies

Building our capabilities in the emerging technologies we know today and preparing for others we cannot imagine now, including:

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** A collection of technologies that can be used to solve problems and perform tasks autonomously, in some cases without explicit human guidance
- **Internet of Things:** A network of physical objects that are able to connect to the Internet and each other, with the potential to transform industrial production
- **Data Analytics:** The analysis and integration of raw datasets to deliver insights and support decision making
- **Blockchain:** a software solution that allows transactions to be recorded, verified and stored across a network of computers, reducing costs and enabling the automated execution of agreements
- **Quantum computing:** delivering a leap forward in computing processing power to solve science and technology problems we cannot tackle with existing supercomputers



Lifting our ambition- Digital Growth Priorities

Identifying the key areas for collaboration and strategic investment across the economy to support digital growth, jobs and investment.

1. **Digital SMEs** – Lifting digital capability and adoption across small to medium businesses to support new ways to work and grow, increasing profitability and saving time
2. **Modern industry sectors** – Supporting globally competitive export sectors operating at the digital frontier including manufacturing, mining, agriculture and construction
3. **Dynamic and emerging tech sector** – Building emerging technology capability and accelerating the growth of tech start-ups, such as fintech, regtech and digital games, to drive an uplift in the rest of the economy
4. **Digital government and services** – Delivering simple, secure and trusted essential services for frictionless interactions

2021-22 Budget

Key initiatives

- **AI investments** to drive greater AI adoption across the economy
- **Emerging Aviation Technology** reforms and industry partnerships to enable the use of drones and other aviation technologies
- **Tax incentives** to grow the digital games sector and encourage business investment in digital technologies
- **Accelerating the rollout of the Consumer Data Right** giving Australians greater access to and control over their data
- Unlocking the value of data with an **Australian Data Strategy**
- Building skills for a modern economy with **Digital Skills Cadetship Trial** and **Next Generation AI and Emerging Technology Graduates**
- **Enhancing myGov** to deliver better services to Australians
- Enabling **Next-wave My Health Record** for world-leading healthcare
- Expanding the use of the **Digital Identity System** for secure and simple access to services from government and across the economy
- **Expansion of Digital Solutions - Australian Small Business Advisory Services** to build SME digital capability
- **Improving internet and mobile connectivity** in peri-urban areas
- **Driving the uptake of e-invoicing** by businesses
- Working with industry to secure Australia's **mobile networks (5G and future 6G networks) and data centre infrastructure**
- **Digital Atlas** to support emergency response, environmental management, virtual construction design and business investment

Measures of success

100% of Australian Government services available online

95% of SMEs will be using e-Commerce tools

All new businesses are 'born' digital

Digitally intensive industries will employ more than 10% of the Australian workforce

Tertiary advanced digitally skilled graduates will increase to more than 15,000 per year

All Australian businesses continue to improve cyber security practices

2030