

Research Data Storage Initiative (RDSI)

The RDSI project is building a national network of nodes (distributed data stores) for easy access, analysis and re-use of research data.

The RDSI project will allow researchers and institutions to more effectively preserve, manage, share and use much larger amounts of research data. It will support a national data environment at a scale that will enable new questions to be asked on topics and at scales not previously possible.

Key facts

- State: Australia wide
- Lead institute: University of Queensland
- Project status: In progress
- Australian Government contribution:
 - \$50 million under the Super Science Initiative
 - \$10 million under National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy 2013 program
- Key funding partners: host institutions, state governments, universities, research agencies, and eResearch service providers in the location of each node

Project deliverables

The project will establish six primary and two additional data storage nodes around Australia.

The storage capacity provided to the research sector by the RDSI project is expected to grow to 100 Petabytes over the life of the project. This is the equivalent of over 901,232.64 kilometres of books in shelves, stretching 23 times around the world.

Access

A key principle of Australian research infrastructure is that the facilities funded by the Australian Government are accessible to all researchers at a low cost and on the basis of merit. Reasonable commercial rates are charged to industry users, of which there is a significant and growing number.

Access to infrastructure created by the RDSI project will be open to all Australian universities, research institutions and individual researchers.

Data stewards will have the opportunity to have their data collections hosted at an RDSI node via a merit allocation process.

Participating organisations

Primary Nodes are operated by:

- Queensland Cyber Infrastructure Foundation (QCIF) – Brisbane
- Intersect – Sydney

- Australian National University (ANU) – Canberra
- VicNode – Melbourne
- eResearch South Australia (eRSA) – Adelaide
- iVEC – Perth

Additional Nodes are operated by:

- QCIF – Townsville
- Tasmanian Partnership for Advanced Computing (TPAC) – Hobart

These eight Nodes represent more than 50 organisations or collections of organisations, including 37 universities, CSIRO, Bureau of Meteorology, Geoscience Australia, Ergon Energy, TERN, NICTA, Australian Antarctic Division (AAD), QCIF, National Computational Infrastructure (NCI), Intersect, TPAC, iVEC, eRSA, Queensland, Tasmanian and South Australian State Government organisations.

More information

To learn more, go to the [Research Data Storage Initiative Project website](#).