



# 2026 NRI Roadmap

## Survey preview

This document provides a preview of the survey for information purposes only. All submissions must be made through the survey link available on the [Department of Education website](#).

## The purpose of this survey

As a first consultation step in the preparation of the 2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap (the 2026 Roadmap), this survey aims to gather input on research trends over a 5-10 year horizon and associated research infrastructure requirements as perceived by a diverse range of stakeholders across disciplines, sectors, and roles. The survey is divided into four parts:

1. Demographics
2. Research themes
3. Industry perspectives
4. Other comments.

With the exception of contact details and demographic information, all other answers are optional.

# Privacy statement

Your personal information is protected by law, including the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (the Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identifiable individual. Personal information includes an individual's name and contact details.

The following survey may collect personal information about you, including your name, contact details, employment details, opinions, feedback and any other personal information you volunteer about yourself in the free-text fields. Please do not provide any personal information about other people in your responses unless you have their consent.

## Collection of your information

Your personal information may be collected by:

- the department and/or
- the department's contracted service providers, including its online survey provider, Qualtrics.

## Purpose of collecting your information

Your personal information is collected by the department and its contracted service providers for the purposes of:

- informing the development of the 2026 Roadmap and any related products.
- inviting you to participate in future consultation processes related to the 2026 Roadmap, including contacting you in relation to your submission or setting up and conducting future consultations with you where you have agreed.
- communicating with you about the development of the 2026 Roadmap.
- analysing and reporting on your feedback and insights from the survey and any additional consultations processes you agree to take part in.
- understanding the demographics and distribution of respondents participating in the consultations on the 2026 Roadmap. This information may be used for reporting purposes but will be de-identified prior to being published.
- publishing your submission on the department's website where you have agreed.

The department may use technology provided by Converlens Pty Ltd (Converlens) in the future, including its artificial intelligence (AI) systems to assist the department to analyse and summarise your submissions, which may include processing your personal information. All potential outputs by Converlens' AI systems will be subject to review by departmental staff. Converlens complies with the Privacy Act and stores data securely in Australia.

If you do not provide some or all of the personal information requested, the department may not be able to attribute your submission to you and cannot inform you about future consultation opportunities or activities relating to the development of the 2026 Roadmap.



## Disclosure of your personal information

Your submission (including any personal information you include in your submission) may be disclosed to the following parties. However, if you do not consent to your response being attributed to you, your submission will be deidentified before it is provided to the following:

- the National Research Infrastructure Advisory Group
- The Department of Industry, Science and Resources
- Converlens

Your personal information may also be disclosed to other parties where you have agreed, or where it is otherwise permitted under the Privacy Act.

## Overseas disclosure of personal information

Where you have agreed, your submission (including any personal information you include in your submission, but not your email address), may be published on the department's website, which by its nature may involve disclosure to overseas recipients.

If you consent to your submission being published and attributed to you, you are consenting to your personal information being accessible overseas and acknowledge that an overseas recipient is not likely to be subject to the Privacy Act and the department will not have an obligation to take reasonable steps to ensure that they do not breach the Australian Privacy Principles in relation to the published information.

## Privacy Policy

The department's [Privacy Policy](#) contains more information about how the department will manage your personal information, including information about how to make a complaint and seek access to and correction of your personal information. Further information on how the department manages your submission can also be found on the [Terms and Conditions for public submissions](#) page.

You can read more about how Qualtrics and Converlens handle personal information in their privacy policies here:

- [Qualtrics](#)
- [Converlens](#)

To contact the department about your personal information, email [privacy@education.gov.au](mailto:privacy@education.gov.au).

To contact the department about the 2026 Roadmap, email [researchInfrastructure@education.gov.au](mailto:researchInfrastructure@education.gov.au).

## Consent

I confirm that I understand and agree to the handling of my personal information in accordance with this privacy statement.

- Yes, I agree



I confirm that to the extent I have provided personal information about another individual, I have obtained that individual's consent to provide their personal information and for their personal information to be handled in accordance with this privacy statement.

- Yes, I confirm



## Contact Details

1. Title
2. First Name
3. Last Name
4. Email address

## Responding Capacity

In what capacity are you responding? I am responding as:

- An individual
- A representative of an organisation or group.


Please provide the name of your organisation or group.

## Publication of submissions

Once the analysis of this survey is finalised, your submission will be made publicly available on the department's website, unless otherwise stipulated. Do you agree for your submission to be published on the department's website?

- I agree for my submission to be published and attributed to me or my organisation or group.
- I agree for my submission to be published but would like to remain anonymous.
- I do not agree for my submission to be published.

The department may wish to contact you regarding your submission to seek your further views in relation to the 2026 Roadmap. This may be in the form of future surveys, targeted workshops, or through other avenues.

- Do you agree to the department contacting you for this reason?
  - Yes, I agree to the department contacting me to seek my further views regarding the 2026 Roadmap.
  - No, I do not agree to the department contacting me to seek my further views regarding the 2026 Roadmap.
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# Part 1 Demographics

1. What best describes your occupational category?
  - Researcher
  - Research support staff or technical staff
  - Senior management in a research organisation
  - Industry professional
  - Other (please specify)
  
2. Which of the below best describes your employment sector?
  - Government
  - Independent research organisation
  - NCRIS capability
  - Publicly Funded Research Agency
  - University
  - Private Enterprise
  - Not for profit
  - Other (please specify)
  
3. If you are a researcher or directly involved in research support, please indicate your area(s) of research expertise or the area(s) you most commonly work in (as categorised by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification Fields of Research codes):
  - Agricultural, Veterinary and Food Sciences
  - Biological Sciences
  - Biomedical and Clinical Sciences
  - Built Environment and Design
  - Chemical Sciences
  - Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services
  - Creative Arts and Writing
  - Earth Sciences
  - Economics
  - Education
  - Engineering
  - Environmental Sciences
  - Health Sciences
  - History, Heritage and Archaeology
  - Human Society
  - Indigenous Studies
  - Information and Computing Sciences
  - Language, Communication and Culture
  - Law and Legal Studies
  - Mathematical Sciences
  - Philosophy and Religious Studies
  - Physical Sciences
  - Psychology



The Australian Government supports NRI across a wide range of scales and schemes, including the Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) scheme, through facilities made available by Australia's publicly funded research agencies (PFRAs), and separate landmark investments in national and international projects. A key pillar of Australia's NRI has been the government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) program. The next two items relate specifically to NCRIS. Commentary on other aspects of Australia's NRI are invited in other items.

4. Overall, how would you describe your (or your organisation's) familiarity with NCRIS?
  - Very familiar
  - Somewhat familiar
  - Not familiar
  
5. If you or your organisation has used an NCRIS capability in the period since 2021, please select those capabilities:
  - Astronomy Australia (AAL)
  - Atlas of Living Australia (ALA)
  - AuScope
  - Australian Access Federation (AAF)
  - Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP)
  - Australian Community Climate and Earth System Simulator NRI (ACCESS-NRI)
  - Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF)
  - Australian Plant Phenomics Network (APPN)
  - Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)
  - Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN)
  - Bioplatforms Australia (BPA)
  - European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)
  - Heavy Ion Accelerators (HIA)
  - Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)
  - Marine National Facility (MNF)
  - Microscopy Australia
  - National Computational Infrastructure (NCI)
  - National Deuteration Facility (NDF)
  - National Imaging Facility (NIF)
  - National Sea Simulator (SeaSim)
  - Nuclear Science Facilities - The Australian Centre for Neutron Scattering (ACNS) and the Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS)
  - Pawsey Supercomputing Centre
  - Phenomics Australia (PA)
  - Population Health Research Network (PHRN)
  - Southern Coastal Research Vessel Fleet (SCRVF)
  - Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN)
  - Therapeutic Innovation Australia (TIA)



## Part 2: Research themes

NRI comprises the assets, facilities and associated expertise to support leading-edge research and innovation in Australia and is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally. We are seeking your input on possible directions for future national-level investment - i.e., where the requirements are of such scale and importance that national-level collaboration and coordination are essential.

The [2021 Roadmap](#) used a challenge framework to support NRI planning and investment. With this in mind, consider likely future research trends in the next 5 - 10 years, and with respect to one or more of the 8 challenge areas identified in the 2021 Roadmap as listed below:

- describe emerging research directions and the associated critical research infrastructure requirements that are either not currently available at all, or not at sufficient scale and
- describe current national infrastructure requirements that you anticipate will no longer fit the definition of NRI in 5-10 years.

Do not limit your commentary to NCRIS funded capabilities.

1. Resources Technology and Critical Minerals Processing
2. Food and Beverage
3. Medical Products
4. Defence
5. Recycling and Clean Energy
6. Space
7. Environment and Climate
8. Frontier Technologies and Modern Manufacturing





## Research Priorities

The 2024 statement of [National Science and Research Priorities](#) (NSRPs) includes outcomes linked to each priority to assist in identifying critical research needed in the next 5 to 10 years. Consider the priority statements and, with respect to one or more of the 5 priority areas as listed below:

- describe emerging research directions and the associated critical research infrastructure requirements that are either not currently available at all, or not at sufficient scale and
- describe current national infrastructure requirements that you anticipate will no longer fit the definition of NRI in 5-10 years.

Do not limit your commentary to NCRIS funded capabilities, and where relevant, refer to the underpinning outcomes and research identified in the NSRPs document.

1. Transitioning to a net zero future
2. Supporting healthy and thriving communities
3. Elevating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders knowledge systems
4. Protecting and restoring Australia's environment
5. Building a secure and resilient nation

## New Capability

The case for a new NRI capability, or enhancements to existing capabilities, typically emerges through advocacy from research communities clustering around rigorously identified needs and goals. Such a concept could respond to a requirement for novel or expanded capacity within a domain, or across domains, and must be such that it could only be made available with national-level investment.

If you have identified such a requirement, briefly describe the need, the proposed infrastructure capability, the medium-term goals, impacted research communities, and the timeframe over which you advocate its establishment. Your response can include links to relevant existing reports.



## Part 3: Industry perspectives

**This section is seeking input specifically from industry-based respondents. Other respondents can skip this section.**

Recommendation 6 of the 2021 Roadmap related to improvements in industry engagement with NRI. To complement work on this topic that has occurred since then, we are seeking additional advice on NRI requirements as perceived by current or potential industry-based users.

1. Have you (or your organisation) interacted with or used Australia's **NRI**?
  - Yes
  - No
2. If so, please briefly outline the NRI capabilities you (or your organisation) have interacted with or used. Do not limit your response to NCRIS capabilities.
3. Please indicate your (one or more) primary reasons for interacting with NRI:
  - For expertise or advice
  - Access to research resources or products
  - Access to equipment for research
  - Access to equipment for operational reasons
  - Help in translating research
  - Access to data
  - Support for clinical trials
  - Other (please specify)
4. If you answered no, please indicate your (one or more) primary reasons:
  - I did not know about it
  - Other facilities suit my needs better
  - I would like to, but cannot get access due to geographical location
  - I would like to, but believed that access was only available to academic researchers
  - I am not aware of any capability that meets my needs
  - Other (please specify)



## Part 4: Other comments

Please elaborate on any of your above responses or add any other comments relevant to the development of the 2026 Roadmap. Your response can include reference or links to existing reports that you recommend be considered during the 2026 Roadmap development process.

