



Communications Programs Mapping Tool

Visual Guide

October 2025

Contents

Contents	1
Introduction	2
Information Layers	3
Instructions for use	5
Map navigation widgets	5
How do I search for my location?	6
How do I view data?	6
Layers widget	7
Table widget	8
Map Selection widget	9
Filters in program specific pre-set maps	10
Elevation Profile widget	10
How can I share map views?	11
GLOSSARY	12
Document Control	13

Introduction

The Communications Programs Mapping Tool (the tool) is designed to help users visualise and explore information about the Australian Government's communications grants programs through an interactive map. It enables users to see information about each program, including funded projects, completion status and eligibility areas, as well as other relevant information such as mobile network operators' public coverage data, and various administrative boundaries.

The tool includes information related to projects funded under the following communications programs:

- **Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP)**
 - The Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP) is an Australian Government initiative that invests in telecommunications infrastructure to improve mobile coverage and competition across Australia.
- **Mobile Network Hardening Program (MNHP)**
 - The Mobile Network Hardening Program (MNHP) is an Australian Government initiative funding upgrades to improve the resilience of Australia's mobile network telecommunications infrastructure in regional, remote and peri-urban Australia.
- **Peri-Urban Mobile Program (PUMP)**
 - The Peri-Urban Mobile Program (PUMP) provides funding to improve mobile connectivity in bushfire and other natural disaster-prone areas along the edges of Australia's major cities.
- **Regional Connectivity Program (RCP)**
 - The Regional Connectivity Program (RCP) provides funding for the delivery of 'place-based' telecommunications infrastructure projects to improve digital connectivity across regional, rural and remote Australia. The RCP is supported by co-contributions from state, territory and local governments, as well as grantees and other third parties.
- **Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND)**
 - The STAND program supports the operation of NBN Co Sky Muster satellite community Wi-Fi services at nominated emergency coordination points and evacuation centres across Australia.

This Visual Guide describes how to use the overarching Communications Programs Mapping Tool Page. The functions in the program specific pre-set map sub-pages (see Map Selection widget section below) are the same from an interface perspective, however the available layers in each program specific map have been tailored to the relevant program.

Information Layers

The tool contains the following sets of information layers. The metadata for each layer, including the data source, is provided in the mapping tool. An explanation of how to access this information is provided in the Layers widget section below.

- **Funded Projects**

The following layers provide information about the projects funded through each program, including location and completion status.

- Mobile Black Spot Program
- Mobile Network Hardening Program
- Peri-Urban Mobile Program
- Regional Connectivity Program
- Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND)

- **Program Eligibility Areas**

The following layers provide information on the areas that were eligible for funding by program and round, as appropriate.

- MBSP Round 7 and 8 Ineligible Areas
- MBSP Round 4, 5 and 5A Ineligible Areas
- MBSP Round 1 and 2 Ineligible Areas
- MNHP Round 3 Eligibility Areas
- MNHP Round 2 Eligibility Areas
- PUMP Round 2 Eligible Areas
- PUMP Round 1 Eligible Areas

- **Mobile Sites – as published by ACCC (Jan 2024)**

The following layers provide information about the location of all mobile base stations in Australia and the services offered from these base stations. The information is collected and published by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commissions (ACCC) under its Audit of Telecommunications Infrastructure Assets – Record Keeping Rules (Infrastructure RKR)¹.

- Mobile Sites - All Mobile Network (ACCC) Jan 2024
- Optus' Mobile Sites (ACCC) Jan 2024
- Telstra's Mobile Sites (ACCC) Jan 2024
- TPG's Mobile Sites (ACCC) Jan 2024

- **Mobile Operators' Claimed Network Coverage – as published by ACCC (Jan 2024)**

The following layers display the mobile network operators' claimed mobile network coverage. This is collected and published under the ACCC's Infrastructure RKR.

- All mobile networks – combined
 - 4G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage claimed by all mobile networks (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - 5G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage claimed by all mobile networks (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Total 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage claimed by all mobile networks (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - 4G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage claimed by all mobile networks (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - 5G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage claimed by all mobile networks (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Total 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage claimed by all mobile networks (ACCC) Jan 2024

¹ www.accc.gov.au/by-industry/telecommunications-and-internet/mobile-services-regulation/mobile-infrastructure-report/mobile-infrastructure-report-2024

- Optus network
 - Optus' claimed 4G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Optus' claimed 5G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Optus' claimed total 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Optus' claimed 4G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Optus' claimed 5G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Optus' claimed total 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
- Telstra network
 - Telstra's claimed 4G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Telstra's claimed 5G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Telstra's claimed total 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Telstra's claimed 4G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - Telstra's claimed total 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
- TPG network
 - TPG's claimed 4G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - TPG's claimed 5G 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - TPG's claimed total 'Outdoor' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - TPG's claimed 4G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - TPG's claimed 5G 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
 - TPG's claimed total 'External Antenna' Mobile Coverage (ACCC) Jan 2024
- **Administrative Boundaries**

The following layers display a range of geographic and administrative boundaries published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (DITRDCA).






- Remoteness Areas (ABS 2021)
- States (ABS 2021)
- Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (ABS 2021)
- Regional Development Australia Areas (DITRDCA 2024)
- Federal Electorates (AEC 2025)
- State Electorates (ABS 2024)
- Local Government Areas (ABS 2024)
- Urban Centres and Localities (ABS 2021)
- Post Codes (ABS 2021)
- Suburbs (ABS 2021)

Instructions for use

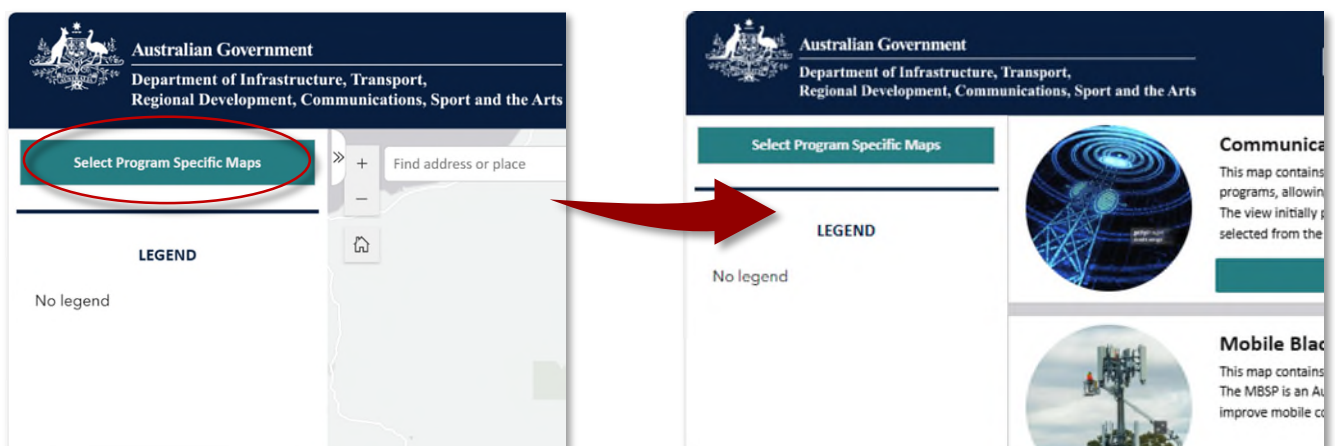
The tool can be used to display a variety of relevant geospatial information, and search and zoom to areas of interest. Layers can be switched on and off, and the transparency of layers can be adjusted to easily see information relevant to you.

Map navigation widgets

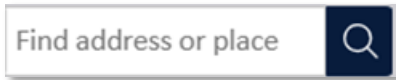
The following map navigation widgets are available within the map window to assist users to navigate the map:

	Search	Find locations based on address or coordinates
	Basemap	Display a gallery of 'basemaps' to select from, including satellite or street-map style imagery. You can swap the basemap at any time, but your selection will not carry over to the next time you view the map.
	Measure	Includes measurement tools for measuring area and distance
	Zoom	Zoom in and out on the map
	Map reset	Reset the map to the initial default map position, zoom level (extent) and layer selection.

In addition to the overarching Communications Programs Mapping Tool page, a range of program specific pre-set maps are also available. You can navigate to these maps, and then back to the main Communications Programs Mapping Tool page by clicking on the 'Select Program Specific Maps' button at the top left, and choosing the map you would like to view from the menu that opens.



How do I search for my location?



Using the search tool located on the top left of the map window, enter an address, location, or coordinates and make a selection from the displayed results. The map will automatically zoom to that location.

OR



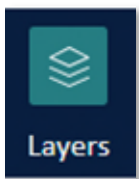
Use your mouse buttons and the zoom buttons, or your mouse scroll wheel to zoom to your desired location.



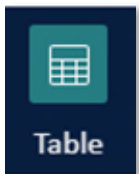
To reset the map to the default view and layer selection, use the map reset button located with the zoom tools on the top left of the map window.

How do I view data?

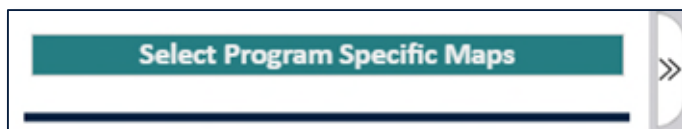
The data in the overarching Communication Programs Mapping Tool page is defaulted to 'off' to enable the map to load quickly. You can view the data contained in the tool by selecting any of the Layers, Table or Program Specific Maps widgets:



The Layers widget allows the user to select from the data layers available in the tool, and switch them on or off as required.

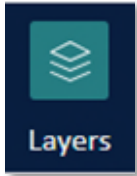


The Table widget allows the user to view all of the available data for the funded projects displayed in the map.

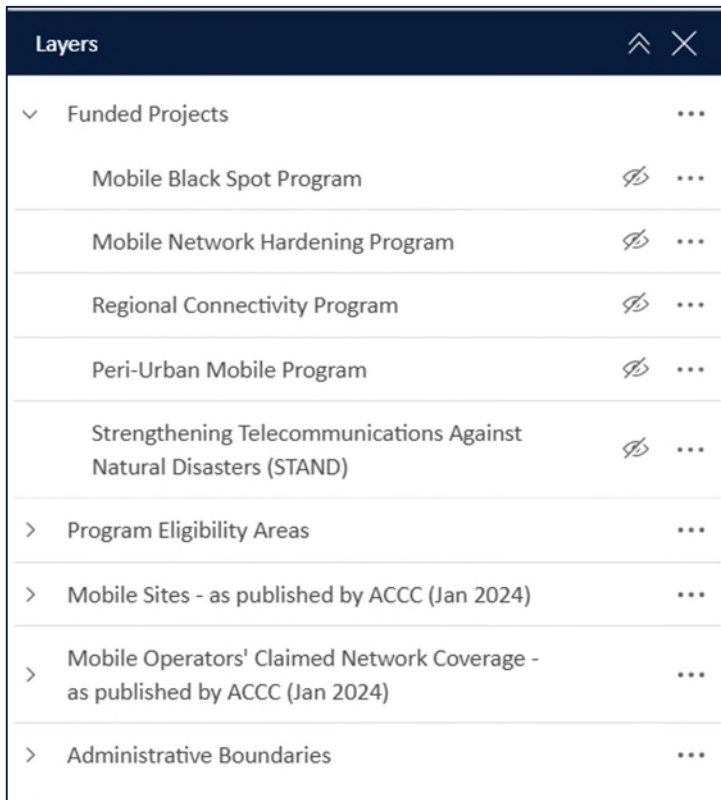


The Select Program Specific Maps widget expands the list of program specific pre-set maps that are available for view.

Layers widget



To view the data in the map, click on the Layers widget to display the layers pop-up to see the available layers and select layers to view on the map.



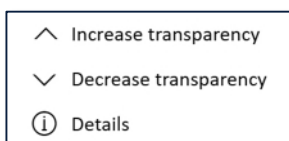
Categories: The layers available in the tool are grouped into categories. The arrow button to the left of each category can be toggled to expand and collapse each category in order to view the sub-layers in that category. Layers will display on the map in the hierarchy of the layers menu.



Visibility: To view layers on the map, you can toggle individual layers on and off using the eye button to the righthand side in the map layers list. The eye button will display with a line through it when the layer is not visible. When the layer is visible, the eye button will be invisible.



Options: The three dots to the far right of each layer allow the user to increase or decrease the transparency of the layer displayed on the map. This can allow users to see other layers displayed underneath.



Details: The Options button's (above) menu will also allow users to click on the Details button to display the metadata, including data source associated with that dataset. Clicking on the Details button will open the metadata in a new tab.

Note: turning multiple layers on at the same time will affect how much can be seen in the map at any one time. Drawing time of the map is also determined by the number of layers turned on and the extent at which you are viewing. For faster drawing time, zoom into your location of interest before turning the coverage layers on.

Table widget



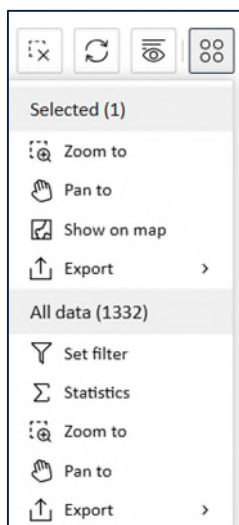
The Table widget allows the user to view all of the available data for the funded projects displayed in the map. Users can use the box on the top left to select the Program data to be viewed.

Round	MBSP Identifier	Location	Grantee
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-030	Verona Sands	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-007	Eggs And Bacon Bay	Telstra
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-005	Buckland	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-011	Hamilton	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-020	Okehampton Beach	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-031	Whitefoord	Telstra
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-003	Bothwell	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-015	Wayatinah	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-029	Little Swanport	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-028	Tarraleah	TPG Telecom
Round 1	MBSP-TAS-012	Steppes	TPG Telecom

Table actions:



The 'Actions' button, with four circles in the square, is located at the top right of the Table pop-up. Selecting this widget will open the Actions menu.



The Actions menu allows a user to perform table actions based on:

- a selected project in the dataset displayed in the table, or
- all the data in the dataset displayed in the table.

If one or more projects in the table is selected, the first group of Actions (under the heading "Selected") in the menu will relate to the actions that can be performed for the selected project/s, and will allow the user to zoom to the area of the project/s on the map, or export the data related to selected projects. If a project has not been selected (clicked on) in the Table prior to opening the Actions menu, this top section of the menu will not be displayed.

The second group of Actions in the menu (under the heading "All data") relate to the actions that can be performed on the whole dataset for the program displayed in the Table. Users can filter the data, or export the data in various formats.

Map Selection widget



The Select Program Specific Maps widget expands the list of program specific pre-set maps that are available for view. These pre-set maps have been curated to show information relating to each program, with key program data switched on by default.

You can select a program specific map by clicking the 'Open Map' button for a program in the list to view the data related to that program.

Communications Programs Mapping Tool

This map contains available mapping information related to the Australian Government's communications programs, allowing users to view information related to these programs. The view initially provides a blank map. A variety of program related and other information layers can be selected from the layers menu.

Return to Communications Programs Mapping Tool

Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP)

This map contains all available data related to projects funded under the MBSP. The MBSP is an Australian Government initiative that invests in telecommunications infrastructure to improve mobile coverage and competition across Australia.

Open Map

Mobile Network Hardening Program (MNHP)

This map contains all available data related to projects funded under the MNHP. The MNHP is an Australian Government initiative funding upgrades to improve the resilience of Australia's mobile network telecommunications infrastructure in regional and peri-urban Australia.

Open Map

Peri-Urban Mobile Program (PUMP)

This map contains all available data related to projects funded under the PUMP. The PUMP is a grants program that provides funding to improve mobile connectivity in bushfire and other natural disaster-prone areas along the edges of Australia's major cities.

Open Map

Regional Connectivity Program (RCP)

This map contains all available data related to projects funded under the RCP. The RCP is a grants program funding the delivery of 'place-based' telecommunications infrastructure projects to improve digital connectivity across regional, rural and remote Australia. The RCP is supported by co-contributions from state, territory and local governments, as well as grantees and other third parties.

Open Map

Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND)

This map contains all available data related to funded locations under the STAND program. The STAND program supports the operation of NBN Co Sky Muster satellite community Wi-Fi services at nominated emergency coordination points and evacuation centres across Australia.

Open Map

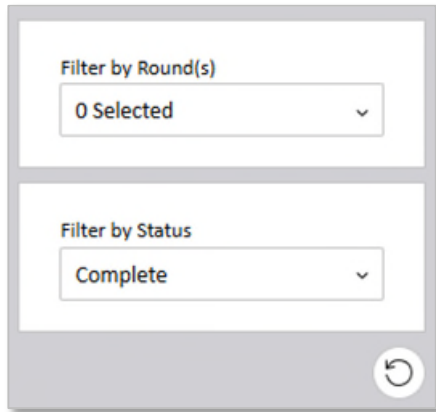


To collapse the program specific map menu without selecting a map, click on the arrow button at the top right of the program specific map pop-out list

Filters in program specific pre-set maps

Where relevant, each program specific pre-set map includes filter widgets on the right-hand side of the map window.

As the filters are linked to individual program data, filters are not available in the overarching Communications Programs Mapping Tool map view.

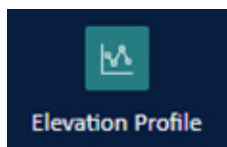


Filters: The filters allow the funded program data in each program specific map to be filtered. The filters available will be appropriate to each program and may vary for each pre-set map, e.g. filters may include:

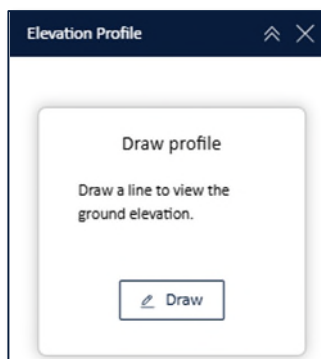
- Funding round (Round 1, Round 2, ... etc.)
- Project status (Complete or In Progress)

Reset: the circle arrow beneath the filters will clear the filter selection in all filters and reset all the filters to their original state.

Elevation Profile widget



The Elevation Profile is a tool that allows users to draw a line to generate a profile of the elevation (topography) of the land along a line.



To use the tool, click on the widget icon to open the tool, and then click the 'draw' button.

Then, to generate an elevation profile between two places, click on the map in the place you want the profile to start. You can then click on the map in one or more additional places to draw a line.

To end the line you are drawing, double click on the final place you would like the line to end. The profile will not be created until you double click to end the line.



Once your line is drawn, you will see a graph of the elevation changes across the distance.

You can click the 'New Profile' button at the bottom of the window to create a new elevation profile.

When you are finished, click the 'Reset' button to reset and turn off the elevation profile function.

Simply closing the widget will not turn off the elevation profile function.

How can I share map views?

The tool allows for sharing of a specific view you navigate to. As you turn layers on or off, or zoom to an area of interest, the URL address incrementally builds to represent your exact view.

If you want to share a particular view within the tool, first navigate to the area you want to share, turn on the combination of layers that are of interest, and find the appropriate zoom level. Once you have created the view that you want to share, copy the URL address from the address bar in your browser window and share it.

GLOSSARY

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACCC	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
LGA	Local Government Area (ABS) Local Government Areas are an ABS Mesh Block approximation of gazetted local government boundaries as defined by each state and territory. ABS approximations of administrative boundaries do not match official legal boundaries and should only be used for statistical purposes. There are 566 Local Government Areas covering the whole of Australia, including unincorporated areas, without gaps or overlaps.
MBSP	Mobile Black Spot Program. The MBSP is an Australian Government initiative that invests in telecommunications infrastructure to improve mobile coverage and competition across Australia.
MNHP	Mobile Network Hardening Program. The MNHP is an Australian Government initiative funding upgrades to improve the resilience of Australia's mobile network telecommunications infrastructure in regional and peri-urban Australia.
Peri-Urban	The Peri-Urban fringe of the major capital and regional cities as used by PUMP. This area as defined for each round can be viewed on the relevant PUMP Eligibility Areas layer.
PUMP	Peri-Urban Mobile Program. The PUMP provides funding to improve mobile connectivity in bushfire and other natural disaster-prone areas along the edges of Australia's major cities.
RCP	Regional Connectivity Program. The RCP is a grants program funding the delivery of 'place-based' telecommunications infrastructure projects to improve digital connectivity across regional, rural and remote Australia. The RCP is supported by co-contributions from state, territory and local governments, as well as grantees and other third parties.
Remoteness Area	Remoteness Area (ABS) Remoteness Areas are derived from the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia Plus (ARIA+) produced by the University of Adelaide. Remoteness Areas divide Australia into five classes of remoteness on the basis of a measure of relative access to services. The five remoteness classes are: Major Cities, Inner Regional, Outer Regional, Remote and Very Remote.

Document Control

Refer to the following table for the approver and latest version of this document.

Version	Release date	Approver	Reason for update
1.0	Oct 2025		Initial release of document.