

Microsoft datacentres in Australia

As we build and operate datacentres, we aim to address local challenges and create benefits for communities.

Our commitment is reflected in three key areas: advancing community prosperity, contributing to a sustainable future, and being a good neighbour through responsible operations.

Published October 2025. This document shares information we have as of the publication date, and it includes estimated information and projections. The information is provided as is and may change without notice.

About

We operate three datacentres and are currently building three new ones in the greater Melbourne and Sydney areas.



Jobs

Our operational datacentres employ approximately 200 people. We anticipate it will take approximately 7.6 million work hours and 1,860 construction jobs to build the new datacentres.



Investments

Last year, Microsoft's community investments in Melbourne and Sydney supported locally identified programmes focused on digital skilling and sustainability.



Water

Our existing facilities in Australia are cooled using direct evaporative cooling. Direct evaporative cooling uses water for cooling less than 5% of the year.



Living near a datacentre

Our practices include noise and light reduction, ecological restoration, and ensuring suppliers comply with local laws and environmental regulations.



Learn more



Learn more about our datacentres by visiting aka.ms/insideadatacenter

Advancing community prosperity and well-being

Our datacentres increase local economic activity, create jobs, and boost tax revenue, benefiting residents and the community.

Watch our video to learn more about [Microsoft jobs in your community](#)



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Jobs

We partner with local suppliers and create well-paid construction and datacentre operations jobs.

Microsoft operates a datacentre and is currently building three new ones in the greater Melbourne and Sydney areas.

- As of 2025, these facilities currently employ approximately 200 people.
- We expect construction of the new datacentres to require approximately 7.6 million work hours and more than 1,860 jobs at peak activity.

Datacentre operations jobs

- Campus management
- People management
- Learning and development
- IT operations
- Mechanical engineers
- Electrical engineers
- Security contractors
- Building maintenance
- Critical environments

Construction jobs

- Electricians
- Plumbers and pipefitters
- Carpenters
- Structural iron and steel workers
- Concrete workers
- Earth movers



Advancing community prosperity and well-being

Our datacentres increase local economic activity, create jobs, and boost tax revenue, benefiting residents and the community.



Taxes and economic impact

Microsoft datacentres represent a capital-intensive investment and long-term commitment to the community.

Communities around the world can typically anticipate significant economic benefits in combined local output, employment income, and public revenue contributions—from a single large-scale datacentre.

- Local economies benefit through significant investments in land, construction, and infrastructure.
- Local businesses are supported through sourcing materials and services from nearby vendors and contractors.
- Operational activities—such as purchases from local businesses and utility usage—generate economic output and tax revenue.
- A datacentre presence can serve as a catalyst for technology sector growth, attracting startups, spurring innovation, and creating new job opportunities.



Community investments

Working with local partners, we invest in programmes that reflect community priorities and use our strengths as a technology company.

Last year, Microsoft's community investments supported 14 locally identified projects in Australia, including:

- Western Sydney Women High Tech Careers programme
- [Indigital for Schools Programme](#)
- Conservation along Skeleton Creek and Surrounds with Werribee River Association
- [Restoring the Blacktown Native Institution site with the Dharug Strategic Management Group and Society of Ecological Restoration](#)
- [Sydney Zoo Caring for Country K-8 Programme](#)
- [Supporting community programmes with Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation](#)

Datacentre Academy

Microsoft collaborated with TAFE NSW to open the Datacentre Academy, a workforce development programme to support pathways into Australia's surging datacentre industry. With a focus on two in-demand roles, students can either gain an understanding of datacentre operations or acquire the skills needed to safely maintain and manage critical environments. Training includes hands-on experience in a simulated datacentre lab, along with mentoring, industry sessions, and job-readiness support.

Learn more about [Microsoft and TAFE NSW's Datacentre Academy](#), preparing Australian workers for the cloud computing and AI boom.

Learn more about [Microsoft investments in Australia](#).



Contributing to a sustainable future

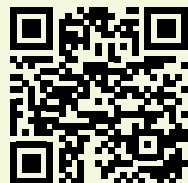
Our datacentres are designed for high efficiency, using less energy and water than traditional enterprise facilities.

Resources

[Learn more about datacentre sustainability](#)

[PUE & WUE for operational datacentres](#)

[Watch this video to understand water use at Microsoft datacentres](#)



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Energy

- We've committed to achieving 100% renewable energy coverage globally by 2025. In this region, we will fulfill that commitment through power purchase agreements with AGL, FRV, and Walla Walla.
- Our datacentres in Australia are designed for our backup generators to use a renewable biofuel that reduces net carbon emissions.
- Facilities in Australia are built to meet LEED Gold Certification standards, recognising excellence in environmental sustainability and energy efficiency.

Water

- Our existing facilities in Australia are cooled using direct evaporative cooling.
- These datacentres use water for cooling less than 5% of the year.
- In Australia, Microsoft purchases water from multiple water utilities. On warm days when the temperature exceeds 85°F (29.4°C), water flows into the facility and cycles through the cooling system between 2–5 times. A portion of the water evaporates, while the remainder is typically discharged back to the local wastewater treatment plant in compliance with local regulations.
- We work with local utilities to ensure the community has ample water resources. We have made financial investments in water infrastructure across the globe, replacing and extending decades-old facilities that benefit local residents. These investments also pave the way for community growth.
- To learn more, visit the [datacentre water consumption fact sheet](#).

Waste

- In 2020, as part of our goal to become zero waste by 2030, we set a target of reusing or recycling 90% of our end-of-life assets globally.
- We reached a 90.9% reuse and recycling rate in 2024. Microsoft Circular Centres—which process decommissioned servers and cloud hardware—were a key part of that success.
- To learn more, take a [virtual tour](#) of a Microsoft Circular Centre.

Operating responsibly as a good neighbour

Each datacentre has a unique design, where the environment, community, and safety are prioritised.

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Living near a datacentre

 Vegetative screening and building setbacks will be included where possible and in accordance with local ordinances.

 Microsoft has also collaborated with Indigital and the Traditional Custodians of the Dharug Nation to incorporate indigenous culture into the design of its Western Sydney datacentre. The initiative honoured cultural heritage and embedded traditions into the datacentre build—in an Australian first among hyperscale cloud providers.

 Unlike distribution warehouses, operational datacentres do not generate constant truck traffic. Deliveries are

infrequent. Each building typically supports around 50 employees working in shifts across 24 hours, resulting in minimal parking lot traffic. Employee arrivals and departures are also staggered to avoid large shift changes.

 The main sources of sound at datacentres include employee vehicles, occasional truck deliveries, backup generators, and HVAC equipment. Building setbacks help minimise the noise from backup generators and HVAC equipment.

 Exterior lighting will be strategically placed around buildings, parking lots,

roadways, sidewalks, and perimeter fencing. Fixtures are designed to direct light downward, ensuring security while minimising light pollution.

 During construction Microsoft's general contractors will comply with local noise ordinances and specifications outlined in the permitting process.

 The community will be informed of permitted work hours and other updates through the [Microsoft in your community](#) blog.

Staying connected



Visit the local.microsoft.com/australiaDC page →



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