



# Water Data Online

Timely access to water monitoring data is essential to understand Australia's water resources. Water Data Online provides a single access point to data from thousands of water monitoring stations across Australia.

## What is Water Data Online?

Water Data Online provides free access to nationally consistent, current and historical water information. It allows you to view and download standardised data and reports.

You can find standardised watercourse level and watercourse discharge time series data from approximately 3500 water monitoring stations across Australia.

The time period over which data is available varies according to how long the stations have been operating. The period of record for some locations starts in the late 19th century.

Over time, more stations and additional parameters will become available on Water Data Online.

## Where is the data from and when it is updated?

Water Data Online displays information supplied by lead water agencies from each State and Territory. These data collection organisations are the custodians and licensees of the data.

Each time series dataset is a combination of validated data (which has passed the data owner's quality assurance procedures) and provisional data (recent raw data that has not been quality checked).

Most data is supplied daily and the Bureau updates Water Data Online as soon as new data has been processed. The Bureau receives data at different frequencies, depending on the organisation, the data category and the measurement method used at the station where data is collected.

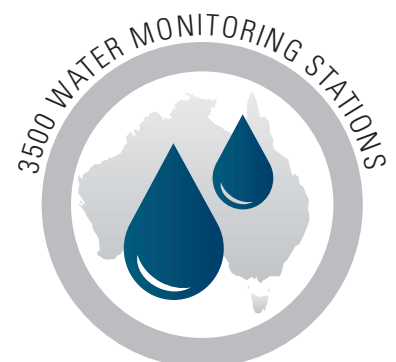
Water Data Online does not display real time data. Near real time data and flood forecasting and warning information are available from the Bureau's [Australia Rainfall and River Conditions](#) webpage.

Water Data Online also contains historical data from some stations that are no longer being operated. Such data can provide valuable insight into environmental changes and help build a more comprehensive national picture of our water resources.

## What are the benefits of Water Data Online?

For the first time current and historical water monitoring data from across Australia is available from a single website. This comprehensive set of records will support better decision-making by Australia's water managers.

Water monitoring data is a critical input into analysis, reporting, modelling and forecasting tools used by water managers, policymakers, researchers and industry professionals. Information about watercourse levels and discharge are used to monitor water use and environmental conditions over time, improving understanding and management of our valuable water resources.



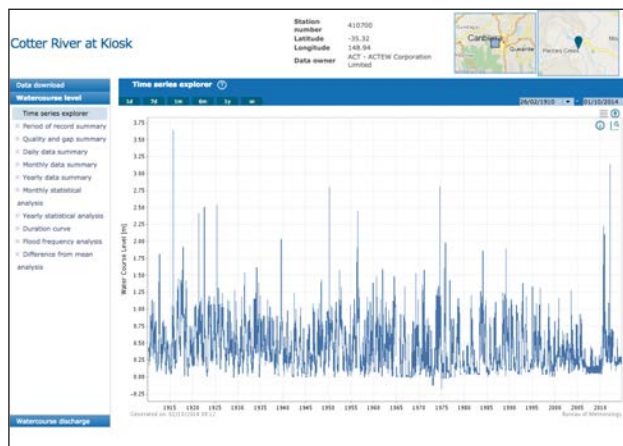


### Who can use Water Data Online?

Anyone can use Water Data Online—government agencies, policymakers, researchers, industry and the general public. Most owners provide data under a Creative Commons Attribution Licence meaning information can be used with acknowledgement. Before using data please refer to [Copyright](#) for the licence preferences of the supplying organisations and contact data owners as appropriate.

### Why is the Bureau involved?

The Bureau’s Improving Water Information Programme is building a comprehensive and reliable picture of Australia’s water resources to support policy and planning. It collates and manages information that is collected by the Bureau through its responsibilities under the *Water Act 2007*.



**Watercourse level data for Cotter River at Kiosk, ACT (1910–2014)**

**Water Data Online homepage**

**FIND OUT MORE**

To access Water Data Online and further information about the Bureau’s water information role, visit [www.bom.gov.au/waterdata](http://www.bom.gov.au/waterdata) or contact [waterdata@bom.gov.au](mailto:waterdata@bom.gov.au). Subscribe to our newsletters and product notices to receive regular updates at [www.bom.is/enviro-news](http://www.bom.is/enviro-news)

