

Online Self-Service Products

Data Guide for Customers

Effective 21 November 2022

Classification: Please choose a classification



Australia Post acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate, live and gather as employees, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

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1 Contact Us

The Data Solutions Customer Service team can assist with any questions relating to data available online via the Access data and insights web pages. The data available online currently includes multiple Postcode Data files and Movers Statistics that are available via our self-service website.

We operate during business hours (Australian Eastern Standard Time), Monday to Friday, excluding designated Victorian Public Holidays and the period between Christmas and New Year.

Contact Us:

- Email: apdata.help@auspost.com.au
- Mail: Data Solutions Team
Australia Post HQ
Level 4, 111 Bourke Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000
- Website: <https://auspost.com.au/business/marketing-and-communications/access-data-and-insights>

2 Using the Data Guide

The Data Guide is designed to provide technical information about the data available from Australia Post through the online Self Service portal. This Guide outlines the structure, formats, conventions, and examples for the data provided.

Data and Insights Online Data

Information about available online data is provided in this section, including an explanation of each of the available files.

Data Cycle

This section explains the availability and general timing of the available files.

General Information

This section contains information on the permitted and prohibited use of the available files and other general information pertaining to the online data.

Postcode File Definitions

This section provides general information specific to the 4 available postcode files as well as detailed information on each of the files, including data definitions and business rules.

Movers Statistics File Definitions

This section provides general information specific to the 2 available movers statistics files as well as detailed information on each of the files, including data definitions and business rules.

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3 Data and Insights Online Data

Data and Insights Online Data currently includes the following files:

Postcode Data Files:

- Standard Postcode
- Sortplan Postcode
- Bordering Postcode
- Geographic Postcode

Postcode PDF (Free):

- Standard Postcode

Movers Statistics Files:

- Movers Statistics
- Enhanced Movers Statistics

The online **Postcode Data Files** are designed for business and commercial use. They are in csv (comma separated values) format for importing the data into your own applications and is updated monthly. The Standard Postcode PDF is designed more for personal use and is in PDF file format and is updated bi-annually. The files are available for purchase. The PDF standard postcode document is free. All files are available at the following link:

<https://auspost.com.au/business/marketing-and-communications/access-data-and-insights/address-data/postcode-data>

Further definition of the Postcode files is provided below in Section 5.

The **Postcode PDF (Free)** file is updated twice yearly in March and September. This free PDF enables you to look up postcodes at your convenience and is for non-commercial use only. No further definition of this file is provided in this document as it is not a data file. The file is available at the following URL.

URL: https://postcode.auspost.com.au/free_display.html?id=1

Please take note of all Terms and Conditions on the website, including those provided below.

The Postcode Booklet may only be printed and used in the format provided by Australia Post and must not be reformatted, reproduced, extracted, altered, copied, modified, reverse engineered or disassembled.

The user must not use the Postcode Booklet for the following purposes:

- To use the Postcode Booklet for the benefit of any third party, for reward or to commercialise in any way;
- To create a Product or other derivative works from Postcode Booklet. Product means anything produced by the user which consists of, incorporates or is created using the information from Postcode Booklet or any part of the Postcode Booklet and which may be produced in any form, including any device, solution, software or database and which may be in written form or produced electronically;
- To sub-license, sell, lend, rent, transfer, lease or grant any rights for the Postcode Booklet to any person, company, organisation, agency, or business entity;
- To combine, embed, alter or modify the Postcode Booklet with or in other products, software or systems;
- To reverse engineer or disassemble the Postcode Booklet; or
- To make any use of the Postcode Booklet in a way which directly or indirectly causes Australia Post financial loss (including, without limitation, consequential damages with existing clients and / or loss of commercial opportunities with existing clients and / or potential future clients).

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The **Movers Statistics files** contain de-identified view of at least the last 5 years of data captured by the Australia Post Mail Redirection Service. Each record represents a single household move. Enhanced Movers Statistics contains additional statistical information for a household move.

<https://auspost.com.au/business/marketing-and-communications/access-data-and-insights/movers-statistics>

Further definition of the Movers files is provided below in Section 6.

3.1 Acknowledgements

The data records supplied in the Asset Data files are compiled from Australia Post's internal operations and processes.

3.2 File Naming Conventions

All the files available online through the Data and Insights data solutions follow similar but not identical naming conventions.

File Naming Conventions

Data File	File Name Format	File Name Description
Standard Postcode	Postcode_Standard_YYMMDD.csv	Monthly File YYMMDD = Year, Month and Day of file production
Sort Plan Postcode	Postcode_Sortplan_YYMMDD.csv	Monthly File YYMMDD = Year, Month and Day of file production
Geocoded Postcode	PcodeGeocode_YYMMDD.csv	Monthly File YYMMDD = Year, Month and Day of file production
Bordering Locality Postcode	Bordering_Postcode_YYMMDD.csv	Monthly File YYMMDD = Year, Month and Day of file production
Mover Statistics	MoverStats_YYMMFD-YYMMLD_YYMMDD.csv	Monthly File YYMMFD = Year, Month and First Day of data extract YYMMLD = Year, Month and Last Day of data extract YYMMDD = Year, Month and Day of file production
Enhanced Mover Statistics	Enhanced_Movers_Statistics_YYMMDD_HHMISS.csv	Monthly File YYMMDD = Year, Month and Day of data extract / file build. HHMISS = Hour, Minute and Second of data extract / file build

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3.3 File Record Formats

All Postcode and Movers files use the comma separated value format (CSV) for all records in all files.

The data contained within the files is as specifically defined within the relevant data definition.

- Postcode file field values are contained in double quotes
- Movers field file values are not contained in double quotes

Postcodes are to be output as a 4-digit text field to ensure the leading 0 is retained.

3.4 General File Information

The following conventions apply to all files listed in the tables within this document:

- Files contain header information
- Field column provides the name of the related field within the file
- Description column provides information relating to the data contained within the field
- Size column provides the data type and length of the field based on the following parameters
- Sample column provides an example of the data that may be contained in the field
- The Conditions column provides field content as Mandatory or Optional
- X indicates alphanumeric character
- 9 indicates numeric digit only (0 – 9)
- The length of each field is specified as an integer within parentheses in the Size column
- All character fields are left aligned
- All numeric fields are right aligned
- The one exception is the postcode field where both rules apply, ie. left aligned. It will always contain a 4-digit postcode number, eg. “3001”, “0832”, plus 8 blanks.

3.5 File Use Terms and Conditions

The following provides generic permitted and prohibited file use terms and conditions for the files defined in this document.

Permitted Use

- Assist with providing products and services to customers
- Embedded online validation
- Validating internal information that may be provided to other parties required under law, regulation, or industry code

Prohibited Use

- Use for the benefit of a third party
- Create derivative works to provide to others
- Sub-licence, rent or transfer
- Copy, reproduce, publish
- Reverse engineer or disassemble
- Use which causes loss to Australia Post

Refer the full file Terms and Conditions accessible from the relevant files online web page

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4 Data Cycle

The data cycle for the Postcode data files and Movers data files are similar. New Postcode files and Movers files will generally be available for download within the first week of each month. Data is generally current as at the 26th day of the previous month. Geographic Coordinates and Bordering Locality data associated with the Postcode files may be up to 3 months in arrears due to source system update timings.

The Standard Postcode PDF file is produced twice per year only. It is produced in March and September based on the prior months Postcode data file. For up-to-date standard postcode data, the data file should be used.

5 Postcode File Definitions

File Definitions are provided below for the following Postcode files that are available for download from the Australia Post website:

- **Standard Postcode File**
- **Sortplan Postcode File**
- **Bordering Postcode File**
- **Geocode Postcode file**

5.1 Standard Postcode File

The standard postcode data file contains a list of localities and postcodes with associated postal type category. The file is provided in Comma Separated Values (CSV) format.

URL: https://postcode.uspost.com.au/product_display.html?id=1

Please refer to the webs site and the **Sample Data** on the web site for more detail.

Standard Postcode File Field Definition

Field Name	Description	Size	Sample	Conditions
PCode	Unique 4-digit numeric identifier assigned and used by Australia Post to efficiently sort and deliver mail. The numbers are in the range 0000 – 9999. Preceding zeroes must be applied and therefore the field is assigned as alphanumeric (X) .	X(4)	0873	Mandatory
Locality	Geographic or Non-Geographic. Geographic Localities are generally gazetted bounded localities and are assigned by government agencies. Non-Geographic Localities or Postal Localities are assigned by Australia Post.	X(50)	HEAVITREE GAP CPA	Mandatory
State	Generally, the State that the Locality is physically located in.	A(3)	NT	Mandatory
Comments	Additional Information relating to the Locality. Primarily used for Postal Localities.	X(50)	PO BOXES	Optional
Category	Postcode Category Description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Area – Street Addressed, may also include PO Boxes • Post Office Boxes - Internal • LVR – Internal Use Large Volume Receiver 	X(25)	DELIVERY AREA	Mandatory

Notes:

- The category field value is related to the entire Postcode and not just the Locality. For example, if the Postcode has 10 Localities, and nine of those Localities are non-Geographic and one Locality has a street delivery, the Category for all Localities will be Delivery Area despite 9 Localities being PO Boxes.
- The Comments section will indicate the status if the Locality is PO Boxes only.

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5.2 Sortplan Postcode File

The Sortplan postcode data file contains a list of localities and postcodes with associated categories and related sortplan information. The file is provided in Comma Separated Values (CSV) format.

URL: https://postcode.auspost.com.au/product_display.html?id=2

Please refer to the webs site and the **Sample Data** on the web site for more detail.

Sortplan Postcode File Definition

Field Name	Description	Size	Sample	Conditions
PCode	Unique 4-digit numeric identifier assigned and used by Australia Post to efficiently sort and deliver mail. The numbers are in the range 0000 – 9999. Preceding zeroes must be applied and therefore the field is assigned as alphanumeric (X).	X(4)	0873	Mandatory
Locality	Geographic or Non-Geographic. Geographic Localities are generally gazetted bounded localities and are assigned by government agencies. Non-Geographic Localities or Postal Localities are assigned by Australia Post.	X(50)	HEAVITREE GAP CPA	Mandatory
State	Generally, the State that the Locality is physically located in.	A(3)	NT	Mandatory
Comments	Additional Information relating to the Locality. Primarily used for Postal Localities.	X(50)	PO BOXES	Optional
DeliveryOffice	Australia Post Facility from where delivery to addresses is performed	X(30)	ALICE SPRINGS DC	Mandatory
PreSortInd	Presort code used for Print Post and Impact mail lodgements	X(3)	087	Mandatory
ParcelZone	Parcel Zone used to determine pricing for sending parcels	X(3)	NT1	Mandatory
BSPnumber	Barcode Sortplan Number used for Presort and Acquisition Mail lodgements	X(3)	045	Mandatory
BSPname	Barcode Sortplan Name for sortplan area	X(16)	SA CITY SUBS	Mandatory
Category	Postcode Category Description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Area – Street Addressed, may also include PO Boxes • Post Office Boxes - Internal • LVR – Internal Use Large Volume Receiver 	X(25)	Delivery Area	Mandatory

Notes:

- The category field value is related to the entire Postcode and not just the Locality. For example, if the Postcode has 10 Localities, and nine of those Localities are non-Geographic and one Locality has a street delivery, the Category for all Localities will be Delivery Area despite 9 Localities being PO Boxes.
- The Comments section will indicate the status if the Locality is PO Boxes only. The sample Postcode / Locality above is an example of this.

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5.3 Bordering Postcode File

The bordering postcode data file contains a list of localities and postcodes contained in the standard postcode file along with the identified bordering localities. The file is provided in Comma Separated Values (CSV) format.

URL: https://postcode.auspost.com.au/product_display.html?id=3

Please refer to the website and **Sample Data** on the website for more detail.

Bordering Postcode File Definition

Field Name	Description	Size	Sample	Conditions
PCode	Unique 4-digit numeric identifier assigned and used by Australia Post to efficiently sort and deliver mail. The numbers are in the range 0000 – 9999. Preceding zeroes must be applied and therefore the field is assigned as alphanumeric (X).	X(4)	0873	Mandatory
Locality	Geographic or Non-Geographic. Geographic Localities are generally gazetted bounded localities and are assigned by government agencies. Non-Geographic Localities or Postal Localities are assigned by Australia Post.	X(50)	ROSS	Mandatory
State	Generally, the State that the Locality is physically located in.	A(3)	NT	Mandatory
Comments	Additional Information relating to the Locality. Primarily used for Postal Localities.	X(50)		Optional
Category	Postcode Category Description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery Area – Street Addressed, may also include PO Boxes Post Office Boxes - Internal LVR – Internal Use Large Volume Receiver 	X(25)	DELIVERY AREA	Mandatory
Border PCode	Postcode of the associated bordering locality	X(4)	0872	Optional
Border Locality	Locality name bordering the given locality in the locality column	X(50)	HALE	Optional
Border State	Associated state code of the bordering locality	A(3)	NT	Optional

Notes:

- The file will only contain the individual bordering locality combinations that have been verified as correct.
- Bordering Localities may include some non-physical bordering localities that are included for mail and parcel delivery efficiencies.
- This dataset may contain some LVR information, however, should not be used if you specifically require LVR postcodes. For LVR specific postcodes, please refer to the Standard or Sortplan data files.

Classification: Please choose a classification

5.4 Geocoded Postcode File

The Geocoded Postcode data file contains a list of localities and postcodes with associated longitude and latitude as well as categories. The file is provided in Comma Separated Values (CSV) format.

URL: https://postcode.auspost.com.au/product_display.html?id=4

Please refer to the website and **Sample Data** on the website for more detail.

Geocoded Postcode File Definition

Field Name	Description	Size	Sample	Conditions
PCode	Unique 4-digit numeric identifier assigned and used by Australia Post to efficiently sort and deliver mail. The numbers are in the range 0000 – 9999. Preceding zeroes must be applied and therefore the field is assigned as alphanumeric (X).	X(4)	0873	Mandatory
Locality	Geographic or Non-Geographic. Geographic Localities are generally gazetted bounded localities and are assigned by government agencies. Non-Geographic Localities or Postal Localities are assigned by Australia Post.	X(50)	ROSS	Mandatory
State	Generally, the State that the Locality is physically located in.	A(3)	NT	Mandatory
Comments	Additional Information relating to the Locality. Primarily used for Postal Localities.	X(50)		Optional
Category	Postcode Category Description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery Area – Street Addressed, may also include PO Boxes Post Office Boxes - Internal LVR – Internal Use Large Volume Receiver 	X(25)	DELIVERY AREA	Mandatory
Longitude	The geographic coordinate specifying the east-west position of a point on the Earth's surface from the Prime Meridian (Greenwich UK)	X(11)	133.9082	Optional
Latitude	The angle ranging from 0° at the Equator to 90° (North or South) at the poles	X(11)	-23.7462	Optional

Notes:

- These Geocoded records will only contain the longitude and latitude where a valid physical location is identified. Some coordinates may be an approximation based on the information available. A valid physical location is a gazetted locality which contains official published boundaries of suburbs.
- All Geographic coordinated are based on the coordinate reference system 'Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994' (GDA94).
- This dataset may contain some LVR information, however, should not be used if you specifically require LVR postcodes. For LVR specific postcodes, please refer to the Standard or Sortplan data files.

Classification: Please choose a classification

6 Movers Statistics File Definitions

File Definitions are provided below for the following Movers Statistics files:

- **Movers Statistics File**
- **Enhanced Movers Statistics File**

The files are available for download from the Australia Post website.

The following important notes applies to both Movers files:

- Data is generated at the beginning of the month; however, it may not include all mail redirections we process at the end of the month due to cut over times.
- For technical users, we recommend Powershell on Windows or Terminal on Mac. Otherwise, we recommend importing the Movers data into SQL or Microsoft Access.
- For non-technical users, we recommend opening the file in a more advanced text editor such as Notepad++ or TextWrangler. This file is not suitable to be opened in Microsoft Excel.
- If you are planning to incorporate the Movers Statistics file in a solution that is used by external parties, please contact our apdata.help@auspost.com.au for further information as this Self-Service product may not be suitable for your business purpose.
- The following moves (mail redirections) are excluded from the count
 - (i) Business moves
 - (ii) Extension to an existing mail redirection
 - (iii) Deceased estates
 - (iv) Mail redirection to a PO Box
 - (v) Moves outside of Australia
- The files are provided in Comma Separated Values (CSV) format.

6.1 Movers Statistics File

The Movers Statistics file contains de-identified and aggregated view of the past moves captured by the Australia Post Mail Redirection Service (MRS). The dataset extends back to the last 5 years of moves and capture approximately 84% of the 1.14M of Australians that move house each year*. We collect and anonymise the data. Our file can be used to help identify trends and develop data driven strategies to give you the competitive edge for your business.

Each record represents a single household move and includes the number of addressee's participating in the move. Data can be extracted at National, State or Postcode level via the self service website

URL: <https://auspost.com.au/business/marketing-and-communications/access-data-and-insights/movers-statistics>

Please refer to the webs site and the **Sample Data** on the web site for more detail.

Movers Statistics File Definition

Field Name	Description	Size	Sample	Conditions
Month	Month and Year the move occurred	X(7)	2022-07	Mandatory
FromLocalityId	Locality_Id for the origin of the move	X(8)	00000021	Mandatory
From_Suburb	Locality (Suburb) name for the origin of the move	A(255)	COOMBS	Mandatory
From_Postcode	Postcode number for the origin of the move with leading zero where applicable	X(4)	2611	Mandatory
From_State	State abbreviation for the origin of the move	A(3)	ACT	Mandatory
ToLocalityId	Locality ID	X(8)	00002718	Mandatory
To_Suburb	Locality (Suburb) name for the destination of the move	A(255)	ANNANDALE	Mandatory
To_Postcode	Postcode number for the destination of the move with leading zero where applicable	X(4)	4814	Mandatory
To_State	State abbreviation for the destination of the move	A(3)	QLD	Mandatory
Number_of_addressees	Number of people registered for the move	9(1)	3	Mandatory

Notes:

- **Number of addressees** represents the number of people registered for a single household move and may not fully represent a complete household.
- ***Data as of September 2022**

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6.2 Enhanced Movers Statistics File

The Enhanced Movers Statistics file contains de-identified and aggregated view of the past moves captured by the Australia Post Mail Redirection Service (MRS). It contains additional statistical data to the Movers Statistics File. The dataset extends back to the last 5 years of moves and capture approximately 84% of the 1.14M of Australians that move house each year*. We collect and anonymise the data. Our file can be used to help identify trends and develop data driven strategies to give you the competitive edge for your business.

Each record represents a single household move. Data can be extracted at National, State or Postcode level.

A 12-month sample file, with date range 01 July 2017 – 30 June 2018 is downloadable via the self service website. If you are interested and would like to find out more about this dataset in full, please contact apdata.help@auspost.com.au

URL: https://postcode.auspost.com.au/product_display.html?id=6

Enhanced Movers Statistics File Definition

Field	Description	Size	Sample	Conditions
move_month	Month and Year the move occurred	X(7)	2022-07	Mandatory
from_locality_id	Locality_Id for the origin of the move	X(8)	00000021	Mandatory
from_suburb	Locality (Suburb) name for the origin of the move	A(255)	COOMBS	Mandatory
from_postcode	Postcode number for the origin of the move with leading zero where applicable	X(4)	2611	Mandatory
from_state	State abbreviation for the origin of the move	A(3)	ACT	Mandatory
from_suburb_density_score	decile area density score of the area they have moved from	9(2)	9	Mandatory
from_sa1	SA1 number of the area they moved from	9(11)	80110113509	Mandatory
from_type	The type of the property moved from	A(9)	res_unit	Mandatory
to_locality_id	Locality ID	X(8)	00002718	Mandatory
to_suburb	Locality (Suburb) name for the destination of the move	A(255)	ANNANDALE	Mandatory
to_postcode	Postcode number for the destination of the move with leading zero where applicable	X(4)	4814	Mandatory
to_state	State abbreviation for the destination of the move	A(3)	QLD	Mandatory
to_suburb_density_score	Decile area density score of the area they have moved to	9(2)	1	Mandatory
to_sa1	SA1 number of the area they moved to	9(11)	31802146813	Mandatory
to_type	The type of the property moved from	A(9)	res_house	Mandatory
move_change_flag	Move is upsized to a house or downsized from a house	A(9)	upsized	Mandatory
no_of_addressees	Number of registered participants involved in the move	9(1)	3	Mandatory
temp_perm	The move is either temporary or permanent	A(4)	perm	Mandatory

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Notes:

- **Density Score:** We have developed a scoring system which allocates a score between 1 and 10 (1 = not dense, 10 = extremely dense). We split the states in to metro and non-metro regions and decile the SA1s by DPID count within each of these regions.
- **SA1 Location:** We have mapped each move DPID to an SA1 location. SA1's (Statistical Area Level 1) is provided by Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and are graphic areas built from whole Mesh Blocks. They are based on an average population of 400 people. Refer the ABS website for further information on SA1.
- **Property Type:** We have determined the property type based on an internal algorithm that is an estimate of the property type only.
- **Move Change Flag:** We have determined the Move Change Flag based on From and To property type.
- **Number of addressees** represents the number of people registered for a single household move and may not fully represent a complete household.

*Data as of September 2022

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