

Western Australian Space Snapshot

- Over 140 international and Australian organisations operating space and space-related services.
- Home to world-class space mission operations services.
- Home to the only commercial optical communications ground network in the Southern Hemisphere with world-leading phase stabilisation and self-guiding optical technology.
- Commercial satellite assembly facility opened in 2026.
- Sub-orbital launch and returns facility being established at Forrest Airport.
- Location of Australia's only Satellite Park designated by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, and the largest radio quiet zone in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Home to the largest planetary research group in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Hosts significant space infrastructure for both civil and defence applications, including facilities for five international space agencies and two of ESA's four deep space ground stations.
- Co-host of the \$3 billion Square Kilometre Array – the largest radio telescope in the world.
- Home to the most powerful public and commercial supercomputers in the Southern Hemisphere, which also actively support space activities.
- A diverse and strong economy with significant demand for space technology and data across mining, agriculture, defence, energy, and maritime industry sectors.
- Host of the Indo-Pacific Space and Earth Conference.

Western Australia has significant capabilities in the space industry sector with the following advantages and opportunities:

- **Location**

- » Southern Hemisphere location and longitude ideal for launch and returns, space tracking and global coverage of space assets.
- » Ideal environmental conditions: geologically stable with clear skies, large arid areas with minimal radio interference and radio-quiet zones.

- **Technology and infrastructure**

- » Substantial capabilities in space mission operations; space communications; space tracking; space systems and hardware; space enabled services and data analytics; technology transfer; astronomy; and planetary science.
- » Substantial local capability in ground infrastructure establishment, operations and maintenance.
- » Strong economy with a significant demand for space data, satellite services, and technology transfer with Western Australia's key industries (mining, energy, agriculture, defence, maritime).

- **Expertise network**

- » Partnerships and extensive activity with international space agencies and private space companies.
- » Vibrant R&D ecosystem: home to five universities and various research institutions with established expertise in space sciences and related fields.
- » Diverse and highly skilled workforce, with a pipeline of skilled workers in space and space-related fields.



Discover more about the Western Australian space sector. You can also explore the Capability Directory and Strategy here.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WA Space Summary

An Indo-Pacific space hub

Western Australia has played a significant role in the global space industry for over 60 years, most notably with Western Australian ground stations providing vital support to NASA's Mercury, Gemini, Apollo-Soyuz and Apollo lunar missions from 1961 to 1975. Today, Western Australia is home to more than 140 international and Australian space organisations and provides space mission, communication and situational awareness services; deep space and planetary insights; end-to-end Earth observation and space data analytics solutions; and technology transfer across space and terrestrial industry sectors.

We are heavily involved in a wide range of space activities – from providing critical support for NASA, ESA and private sector space missions, building the world's largest radio telescope to explore the universe and transferring our world-leading remote operations capability and technology to space. Building on Western Australia's significant space infrastructure, leading space science and research, vibrant space ecosystem and geographical advantages for the global coverage of space assets, Western Australia is becoming a key Indo-Pacific space hub.



Western Australia Space Infrastructure



Western Australia Optical Ground Station, The University of Western Australia



Binari Space Program, Curtin University



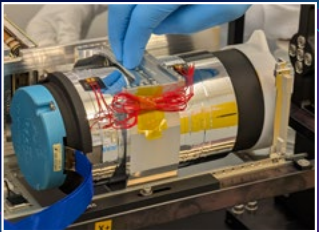
LeoLabs West Australia Space Radar near Collie

Key

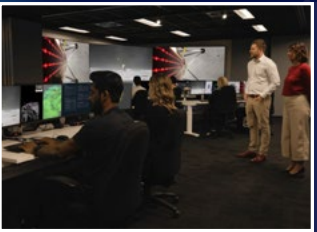
- Defence
- Education and public outreach
- Facilities, organisations, precincts
- Ground Stations
- Launch and returns
- Radio astronomy telescopes, research centres and supporting infrastructure
- Regional calibration sites
- Research centres
- Start-up and SME innovation hubs
- Supporting HPC infrastructure and cyber security
- Telescopes; Position, Navigation and Timing (PNT); and space situational awareness (SSA)

*Under development;
**Proposed

- Christmas Island - Australis Spaceport**
- Cocos and Keeling Islands Indian Space Research Organisation*
- Across WA Geoscience Australia Continuously Operating Reference Stations (PNT)
- Distributed nationally Desert Fireball Network, Curtin University



LC60 AI satellite assembly facility



Australian Space Automation, AI and Robotics Control Complex, operated by Fugro

