

Understanding Data

Metadata

What is metadata and why is it collected?

Metadata is the data collected alongside the data/report that provides context for that data/report.

For example, it is useful to know the temporal and spatial bounds of the collected data, as well as understanding what, where and who published the data, and any limitations on its republication or use.

For complex datasets, you can store additional metadata which makes your data/report easier to find, such as including technical jargon that is specific to your field. When datasets are available across multiple online data catalogues, such as this one, having common metadata fields makes your data/report even easier to search for and find.

How is metadata defined?

The MDBA conforms with the DCAT, and ANZLIC metadata standards outlined by data.gov.au, please view the [Australian Government's open data toolkit](#) for further information.

How do I see the metadata?

The metadata can be viewed when examining a specific dataset. To view the metadata for a resource, select 'export' for that resource and then 'more information'.

What metadata is collected for the MDBA Portal

The metadata collected aligns to a schema used to similar online data catalogues in Australia, and the corresponding metadata standards, so that information can be easily shared and discoverable.

In addition, specific work teams may request the collection of additional metadata fields to align with their program requirements.

To view the individual metadata fields, select any dataset and visually inspect the fields available.