

Community organisations know their communities well and have great ideas about what will address the problems they're seeking to solve through funding opportunities such as Skilling Queenslanders for Work. Data takes your project proposal from “this sounds like a good idea” to “this is a compelling proposal and should be resourced”. Data is what bolsters your proposal and gives confidence to your funder.

Using relevant, current data strengthens your proposal because it:

- supports the solution you're putting forward
- shows the funder that you understand the specific issue you're trying to solve with the funding proposal, and that you have a good understanding of the group you're seeking to engage
- provides a baseline of information against which you can evaluate your project - particularly if you engage in similar work over multiple years
- ensures you don't keep doing the same thing year after year, when the problem may have changed. Skilling Queenslanders for Work project ideas that worked well five years ago may need some significant tweaking now.

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Here's how one Skilling Queenslanders for Work project idea is strengthened using data. Your project idea may need additional datasets to evidence specific aspects of your project, such as demographic detail.

Scenario: A community-based organisation who primarily delivers services to young people in Mackay has a good sense of what's going on for young people in their community and feel that delivering a Certificate I in Construction through the Work Skills Traineeships program would have value, aligning to local job opportunities.

Criteria Two for Skilling Queenslanders for Work is “servicing community and industry needs”. Part of what this criterion asks organisations to articulate is:

- what the level of need is for the particular project in the community
- how the project aligns to local labour market needs and employment trends – that is, participation rates, unemployment rates, industry growth.

To support this organisation's proposal, they will need to source data that evidences that there is a cohort of young people in the community who are not currently engaged in learning or employment. The proposal will need to make a case for this particular qualification being delivered to the demographic being targeted by providing evidence that there are local employment opportunities.

There are many freely available data sources that offer contemporary and relevant data to support your Skilling Queenslanders for Work proposal. We have included the sources that are likely to be most relevant below.

### ■ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

#### [ABS Maps](#)

This is an online interactive map that displays up to two ASGS (Australian Statistical Geography Standard) boundaries at a time. Zoom to and click on a particular area of interest to bring up the code and name. Alternatively, search for a region by code or name, or search for a street address. Maps quickly gives a sense of the size of each geography, allowing users to make informed comparisons between boundaries. This information will help you get specific about your community.

### ■ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

#### [2021 Census All persons QuickStats](#)

QuickStats provides high-level snapshots and summary tables of an area's key characteristics, such as family makeup, age demographics, engagement in education and cultural diversity. This may help you evidence the presence of the cohort you are looking to support in the community.

### ■ Jobs and Skills Australia

#### [Labour market maps and analytics dashboard](#) and [Internet Vacancy Index | Jobs and Skills Australia](#)

This interactive dashboard provides key labour market indicators such as unemployment and youth unemployment rates. Data in this dashboard is based on the monthly Australian Bureau of Statistics Labour Force Survey and the Jobs and Skills Australia quarterly Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) estimates. Data is available at the Statistical Area Level 2.

### ■ Torrens University Australia

#### [PHIDU](#)

Data workbooks presenting the latest Social Health Atlases of Australia are available for the whole of Australia by Population Health Area, Local Government Area, and Primary Health Network, and by Indigenous Area for the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander population. You could use this data to show how many people in a community are engaged in learning or employment.

### ■ Jobs Queensland

#### [Jobs Queensland Data portal & explorer](#)

You can use the Anticipating Future Skills (AFS) data portal and explorer to identify regional jobs growth projections. It helps you understand what Queensland's future labour market might look like, and what eligible Skilling Queenslanders for Work priority skills might be a good match for your community.

## Other sources of data that you may find helpful include:

### Queensland Treasury

- [Queensland Regional Profiles](#)

The Queensland Regional Profiles are informative statistical reports on a range of Queensland community types (e.g. Local Government Areas). These reports are generated automatically using the latest demographic, social and economic data available. Profiles include:

- Resident
- Workforce
- Women and Men
- Time Series
- Indigenous
- Snapshot

- [Know Your Community Profiles](#)

A community profiling tool that enables you to build a community profile containing data and key insights into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders and the communities they live in.

- [Queensland Housing Profiles](#)

Queensland Housing Profiles are generated automatically using the latest housing, demographic, social and economic data available.

- [Labour and employment: Regional | Queensland Government Statistician's Office \(qgso.qld.gov.au\)](#)

This source provides statistics related to the labour force of Queensland's labour force regions, including data on youth unemployment.

### Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

- [Search Census data | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

To view Census data, use the search options on the left of the page or select an area using the map. The data is accessed by links that will appear below the map. You can view summary statistics for the area as QuickStats for all persons, or for the Indigenous population specifically. To view more detailed statistics, you can download a Community Profile spreadsheet. For summary statistics on people born overseas, you can use the Country of birth search on the left.

- [2021 Census Community Profiles](#)

ABS community profiles provide a detailed statistical picture of an area in downloadable Excel spreadsheets. The data is based on place of usual residence (that is, where people usually live, rather than where they were counted on Census night).

- General Community Profile
- Time Series Profile
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People Profile
- Working Population Profile

- [ABS Table Builder](#)

This tool enables users to build and customise tables to their own specifications. You will need to register to create a free account to access this tool.



## Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services -

### [Child protection – Our Performance](#)

Through this source you can find child protection summary statistics and regional data.

## Workplace Gender Equality Agency - [Workplace Gender Equality Agency Data Explorer](#)

The Workplace Gender Equality Agency provides gender equality data by state and industry.

## Jobs and Skills Australia - [NERO dashboard | Jobs and Skills Australia](#)

This Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) dashboard provides experimental data on the current employment by occupation in each region, highlighting changes in comparison with historical levels, using an emerging technique known as nowcasting.

## Jobs Queensland - [Region profiles – Jobs Queensland](#)

Jobs Queensland has developed a series of regional employment projections available for download. Data includes projections for each region and employment industry to 2024-25.

## Commonwealth of Australia - [AEDC Community Profiles](#)

The AEDC Community Profile contains important information about early childhood development outcomes. It shows AEDC results at a community level as well as providing contextual information for the whole community.

## Department of Home Affairs - [Settlement Reports](#)

The data contained in the Excel datasets available through this source is drawn from the Settlement Database (SDB). This database contains records of people who have been granted a permanent or provisional visa going back to January 1991.

## QCOSS

### ■ [Queensland Social Housing Register](#)

The social housing register dashboards are interactive visualisations of the social housing register for Queensland. You can explore the timeseries data by clicking through the pages, filters and charts to review summary information for:

- all of Queensland
- First Nations communities
- Housing Service Centre regions
- Local Government Authority areas, and;
- state electorates.

### ■ <https://www.qcoss.org.au/data/community-profiles/>

Community Data Profiles provide an overview of selected indicators that align with the QCOSS policy focus areas of: Housing, Youth Justice, Living Affordability, Women's Equality, Children and Young People and Community Services. The data relates to communities involved in QCOSS Town Hall events held through from August-October 2023, and surrounding regions.

## Queensland Government - [Industry job trends and statistics | Employment and jobs | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)

Provides current industry and labour market trends and identifies national skills shortages in Queensland.

## Department of Social Services

- [JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance recipients](#)

The “JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance recipients – monthly profile” is a monthly report, covering the income support payments of JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance (otherThe report includes payment recipient numbers by demographics such as age, gender, state, earnings and Statistical Area Level 2.

- [DSS Payment Demographic Data](#)

The DSS Payment Demographic dataset helps build a more detailed picture of who your target group is, and what barriers they might face. When considering the group you’re looking to participate in your project, you will need to think about what wrap around support they might need. This data will show you what kind of income support people in your community receive.

## Department of Housing:

- [Allocations to Community Housing](#)

Data on allocations made to social housing delivered by registered community housing providers during the financial year. Details include housing program, property and household information.

- [National Rental Affordability Scheme \(NRAS\)](#)

NRAS provides data on number of new households assisted with the NRAS in Queensland. Information is broken down by household composition and Local Government Authority.

- [Government Managed Tenancies](#)

The Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC) data cubes are a subset of the SHSC dataset and contain data for 2011–12 to 2021–22, where available.

## Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

- [Specialist Homelessness Services Collection](#)

The Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC) data cubes are a subset of the SHSC dataset and contain data for 2011–12 to 2021–22, where available.

- [AIHW Housing Data Dashboard | Housing data](#)

Find the latest data on housing in Australia, from 33 key national datasets. Use the interactive displays to dig deeper into the data, and export or share your customised dashboard. Each data tile is a gateway to the data source, where detailed analysis, data quality information and additional data are presented.

## Partnership between National Shelter, Beyond Bank and Brotherhood St Laurence - [Rental Affordability Index](#)

The annual rental affordability index (RAI) report is an easy-to-understand indicator of rental affordability relative to household incomes. It is a crucial tool for policy makers to track rental affordability trends and inform evidence-based policy responses – highlighting nuances between places and the experiences of disadvantaged households.



## I've found a lot of data to support my project idea – how do I use it?

Your written response to selection criteria must be relevant and succinct. Use the best data you have to evidence your idea, and ensure you reference it throughout your writing. If you are working on a proposal using an idea from a previous round, ensure you update data when new data becomes available.

Some data sources will have specific ways they would like to be referenced, but in the paragraph you are writing it is acceptable to write the source in brackets after the statement you are evidencing, followed by the year the data published.

Example: *“There is need in Mackay region for young people, to be engaged in training and entry level jobs that will provide secure employment pathways in the years ahead. There are 20,946 young people aged 15-24 years in the Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday region, making up 11.6 percent of the region’s total population (ABS, 2021). While 80.1 percent of these young people are either in employment or engaging in education (PHIDU, 2021), 465 young people in the region receive youth allowance (DSS, 2023), indicating their disengagement in both learning and the workforce. Youth unemployment in this region has increased from 3.9 percent in May 2022 to 5.8 percent in May 2023 (Queensland Treasury, 2023).”*

Note: You will need to include evidence for local job outcomes in your response. This may include any local employment research including job vacancies, industry growth data, or refer to letters of support attached to the application that confirm potential job opportunities.

### Our top tips for using data in your SQW funding application

1. Be specific – use data that focuses on your target cohort and your community (or region).
2. Compare your community data to Queensland-level data to highlight community differences.
3. Access the source data dictionaries and notes to better understand the data you are using.
4. Use current data (and reference the date and the data source), ensuring you update data in funding proposals as new data becomes available.
5. Don't fear data!