

PAF NEWS 2026.4

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1 Introduction

Welcome to the PAF News for release 2026.4. This document contains statistics and information relating to this release of the PAF. For more detailed information about the PAF, please visit the Australia Post website:

<https://auspost.com.au/business-solutions/data-marketing-services/improve-your-data/address-data>

1.1 About the PAF

The Postal Address File (PAF) is one of the most comprehensive address reference files in Australia. It contains addresses Australia Post recognises through its letter and parcel delivery networks. The PAF is the source of the Delivery Point Identifier (DPID) a unique number assigned to each address. The DPID provides a valuable link to join different datasets.

The PAF contains physical addresses such as houses and units, multi storey buildings including levels and suites as well as postal addresses such as Post Office Boxes and Locked Bags. For more information please refer to the Data Guide.

<https://auspost.com.au/business-solutions/data-marketing-services/supporting-our-data-partners/address-data>

1.2 What's new?

New PAF File Naming

Some file names are being updated for consistency between monthly and quarterly releases. Whilst the names themselves won't change, the changes will result in some names going from upper to lower case and vice versa. The changes are occurring in part due to the PAF is now being created on a new platform. This will be as of the PAF V2026.1.

All file extension changed to lower case and file names changed to all upper case. For all PAF Releases, Monthly ICF has the word Monthly abbreviated to MTLY in uppercase. The file name is now consistent for Quarterly and Monthly PAF. For Quarterly PAF Release only, the ICF file has QTLY added to the ICF file name.

Refer to the table below for examples of the new PAF file naming:

Old	New
PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_ICF_Monthly.dat	PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_ICF_MTLY.dat
PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_ICF.dat	PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_ICF_QTLY.dat
PAF_VYYYY-N_GROUP_PDF_Monthly.dat	PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_GROUP_PDF_MTLY.dat
PAF_VYYYY-N_GROUP_PDF.dat	PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_GROUP_PDF_QTLY.dat
PAF_VYYYY-N_LOCALITY_PDF_Monthly.dat	PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_LOCALITY_PDF_MTLY.dat
PAF_VYYYY-N_LOCALITY_PDF.dat	PAF_YYYY-N(-1)_YYYY-N_LOCALITY_PDF_QTLY.dat
PAF_VYYYY-N_POINT_PDF_Monthly.dat	PAF_VYYYY-N_POINT_PDF_MTLY.dat
PAF_VYYYY-N_POINT_PDF.dat	PAF_VYYYY-N_POINT_PDF_QTLY.dat
STF_YYYY-N_Beta.dat	STF_ATF_YYYY-N_Beta.dat

GEOPAF Centroid

A refresh of the data in the GEOPAF Feature Centroid file is currently being worked on to increase the accuracy of the geocoordinates provided in the file. There will be no change to the format of the file only a larger update of the coordinates. We will continue to do regular updates and maintenance.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact apdata.help@auspost.com.au.

1.3 Generic table of PAF Issue and Expiry dates

All information about the PAF (including the following table) is available via the Australia Post website:

<https://auspost.com.au/business-solutions/data-marketing-services/supporting-our-data-partners/resources-and-key-dates>

Lodging mail through the PreSort Letters Service requires that only DPIDs that are valid against the current PAF be used in mail barcodes. The table below shows the appropriate PAF version to use:

PAF Version	PAF Issue	PAF Expiry
YYYY.1	15 November	31 March
YYYY.11	1 December	30 April
YYYY.12	1 January	31 May
YYYY.2	28 February	30 June
YYYY.21	31 March	31 July
YYYY.22	30 April	31 August
YYYY.3	31 May	30 September
YYYY.31	30 June	31 October
YYYY.32	31 July	30 November
YYYY.4	31 August	31 December
YYYY.41	30 September	31 January

PAF Version: Means the year of release and the release number

PAF Issue: Date the version is made available from supplier

PAF Expiry: The final date the PAF version may be used for appending DPIDs.

1.4 Sample new addresses to PAF

The following addresses are new records added to the latest PAF. They may be used by customers to verify that the latest PAF has loaded successfully with their AMAS software.

New PAF Address
SHED 2/851 IRYMPLE AVE IRYMPLE VIC 3498
DUP 1/15 HART ST LAWNTON QLD 4501
29A MITCHELL ST MORNINGTON VIC 3931
705A FREEMANS DR COORANBONG NSW 2265
SHOP 93/400 STAFFORD RD STAFFORD QLD 4053

2 PAF Crunching

PAF Snapshot	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
Points (DPIDs)	15,795,284	15,811,882	15,828,722	15,835,387	6,665
• Street DPIDs	13,789,354	13,806,578	13,825,549	13,837,235	11,686
• Postal Delivery type DPIDs	2,005,930	2,005,304	2,003,173	1,998,152	-5,021
Postcode	2,941	2,941	2,940	2,940	0
Locality	16,431	16,430	16,428	16,426	-2
Synonym	5,166	5,163	5,159	5,154	-5
Bordering Locality	84,877	84,877	84,883	84,883	0
Delivery Point Group (i.e. Thoroughfare and Postal Delivery Types)	518,054	518,541	518,979	519,192	213
Street Alternate	3,543	3,556	3,569	3,578	9
Code	641	641	641	641	0

Postcode by State	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
ACT	31	31	31	31	0
NSW	718	718	717	716	-1
NT	52	52	52	52	0
QLD	450	450	450	450	0
SA	348	349	349	349	0
TAS	120	120	120	120	0
VIC	737	737	737	737	0
WA	485	484	484	485	1
Total	2,941	2,941	2,940	2,940	0

Locality by State	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
ACT	147	147	147	147	0
NSW	4,798	4,798	4,797	4,796	-1
NT	343	343	343	343	0
QLD	3,398	3,398	3,398	3,398	0
SA	1,949	1,950	1,950	1,950	0
TAS	782	782	782	782	0
VIC	3,175	3,175	3,173	3,171	-2
WA	1,839	1,837	1,838	1,839	1
Total	16,431	16,430	16,428	16,426	-2

Streets and their DPIDs	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
Standard addresses, e.g. 10 Smith Street?	12,954,147	12,970,624	12,988,584	13,001,708	13,124
Ranged addresses, e.g. 10-12 Smith Street?	762,042	762,790	764,062	764,232	170
Lot number addresses	73,165	73,164	72,903	71,295	-1,608
Primary point addresses	9,347,961	9,357,443	9,368,371	9,375,557	7,186
Secondary point addresses	4,368,228	4,375,971	4,384,275	4,390,383	6,108
Flat and Unit addresses	3,775,895	3,781,977	3,788,576	3,793,243	4,667
Floors and Level addresses	110,832	110,931	110,917	110,854	-63
Addresses with Building/Property Name	145,173	141,716	141,593	134,970	-6,623

Major Street Types	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
ST (Street)	135,174	135,292	135,401	135,474	73
RD (Road)	132,865	132,991	133,061	133,041	-20
CT (Court)	47,521	47,538	47,557	47,573	16
AVE (Avenue)	32,051	32,071	32,093	32,102	9
PL (Place)	31,587	31,606	31,623	31,631	8
DR (Drive)	24,363	24,385	24,416	24,444	28
CL (Close)	17,365	17,381	17,401	17,410	9
CRES (Crescent)	15,234	15,249	15,267	15,284	17
No Street Type (Blank)	2,511	2,511	2,514	2,512	-2
Other Street Types	69,866	70,010	70,160	70,259	99
Total	508,537	509,034	509,493	509,730	237

Address of Major Street Types	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
ST (Street)	5,096,265	5,102,082	5,107,807	5,110,959	3,152
RD (Road)	2,918,300	2,921,678	2,925,215	2,926,676	1,461
CT (Court)	597,488	597,854	598,331	598,748	417
AVE (Avenue)	1,233,956	1,235,336	1,236,799	1,238,104	1,305
PL (Place)	449,214	449,754	450,153	450,380	227
DR (Drive)	960,811	961,976	963,536	965,053	1,517
CL (Close)	230,033	230,281	230,680	230,836	156
CRES (Crescent)	532,954	533,817	534,598	535,217	619
No Street Type (Blank)	103,690	103,676	103,729	103,875	146
Other Street Types	1,666,643	1,670,124	1,674,701	1,677,387	2,686
Total	13,789,354	13,806,578	13,825,549	13,837,235	11,686

Postal Delivery Types	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
PO Box (Post Office Box)	1,938,176	1,937,561	1,935,444	1,930,461	-4,983
GPO Box (General Post Office Box)	32,276	32,276	32,276	32,280	4
Locked Bag	18,559	18,557	18,557	18,536	-21
Private Bag	9,715	9,710	9,709	9,695	-14
CARE PO (Care Post Office)	3,771	3,767	3,754	3,747	-7
RMB (Roadside Mail Bag/Box)	1,247	1,247	1,247	1,247	0
RSD (Roadside Delivery)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
MS (Mail Service)	626	626	626	626	0
CMB (Community Mail Bag)	558	558	558	558	0
Roadside Mail Service	2	2	2	2	0
CMA (Community Mail Agent)	0	0	0	0	0
CPA (Community Postal Agent)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,005,930	2,005,304	2,003,173	1,998,152	-5,021

Street Addresses by State	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
ACT	236,780	237,091	237,301	237,704	403
NSW	4,278,885	4,283,809	4,289,518	4,292,803	3,285
NT	95,171	95,242	95,247	95,267	20
QLD	2,815,253	2,819,865	2,824,398	2,826,767	2,369
SA	987,501	988,460	990,474	991,805	1,331
TAS	333,769	334,118	334,354	334,368	14
VIC	3,625,194	3,629,242	3,632,851	3,635,272	2,421
WA	1,416,801	1,418,751	1,421,406	1,423,249	1,843
Total	13,789,354	13,806,578	13,825,549	13,837,235	11,686

PD Type Addresses by State	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	Latest Difference
ACT	36,630	36,630	36,630	36,630	0
NSW	618,382	618,338	617,345	617,050	-295
NT	45,941	45,941	45,941	46,249	308
QLD	451,099	451,110	451,076	450,495	-581
SA	177,696	177,744	178,003	178,003	0
TAS	53,039	52,837	52,793	52,678	-115
VIC	411,899	411,929	410,586	406,352	-4,234
WA	211,244	210,775	210,799	210,695	-104
Total	2,005,930	2,005,304	2,003,173	1,998,152	-5,021

Incremental Changes File	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4
D - Address no longer contained in new PAF	3,751	2,104	4,230	10,385
G - Group DID where new Points added to Group	559	874	774	729
L - Locality DID where new Points or Groups added to Locality	366	525	552	414
M - Address changed since previous version of PAF	10,284	7,897	6,120	10,803
P - Primary Point DPID with new or modified Secondary Points	1,151	1,177	1,321	1,177
S - New Street added with a similar name to the PAF	99	69	67	54

3 PAF Data Packages

Permission and Delivery Package	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	% of Records
Permission and Delivery File	15,799,032	15,813,981	15,832,946	15,845,661	
• Inactive addresses (Delete)	3,748	2,099	4,224	10,274	0.06 %
• Active addresses (Insert, Modify, No Change)	15,795,284	15,811,882	15,828,722	15,835,387	99.94 %
o Insert	16,828	18,697	21,064	16,939	0.11 %
o Modify	45,976	127,524	41,242	42,156	0.27 %
o No change	15,732,480	15,665,661	15,766,416	15,776,292	99.56 %
Receive Mail Delivery	12,835,415	12,767,161	12,798,240	12,822,961	80.92 %
Non Delivery	2,959,869	3,044,721	3,030,482	3,012,426	19.01 %
Accept Advertising mail	9,376,939	9,358,108	9,374,031	9,389,430	59.26 %
Residential Only	14,323,028	14,339,344	14,357,487	14,366,287	90.66 %
Non Residential Only	1,431,845	1,432,194	1,430,451	1,428,341	9.01 %
Both Residential & Non Residential	40,411	40,344	40,784	40,759	0.26 %

Suppression Packages

	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	% of Records
Moved Suppression File	7,088,847	7,093,960	7,095,722	7,095,494	
• Inactive addresses (Delete)	678	674	1,315	0	0.00 %
• Active addresses (Insert, Modify, No Change)	7,088,169	7,093,286	7,094,407	7,095,494	100.00 %
o Insert	4,839	5,791	2,436	7,095,494	100.00 %
o Modify	7,684	10,055	4,198	0	0.00 %
o No change	7,075,646	7,077,440	7,087,773	0	0.00 %

	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	% of Records
Deceased Suppression File	175,862	176,923	177,372	177,987	
• Inactive addresses (Delete)	16	18	30	53	0.03 %
• Active addresses (Insert, Modify, No Change)	175,846	176,905	177,342	177,934	99.97 %
o Insert	745	1,077	467	645	0.36 %
o Modify	66	77	38	47	0.03 %
o No change	175,035	175,751	176,837	177,242	99.61 %

Geocoded PAF

	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	% of Records
Letterbox – Feature File	1,100,463	1,100,399	1,100,276	1,100,083	%
• Inactive addresses(Delete)	64	132	196	306	0.03 %
• Active addresses(Insert, Modify, No Change)	1,100,399	1,100,267	1,100,080	1,099,777	99.97 %
○ Insert	1	0	9	3	0.00 %
○ Modify	0	0	0	0	0.00 %
○ No Change	1,100,398	1,100,267	1,100,071	1,099,774	99.97 %

	2026.3	2026.31	2026.32	2026.4	% of Records
Centroid – Feature File	13,687,470	13,684,757	13,683,670	13,683,688	%
• Inactive addresses(Delete)	2,998	1,200	1,665	4,140	0.03 %
• Active addresses(Insert, Modify, No Change)	13,684,472	13,683,557	13,682,005	13,679,548	99.97 %
○ Insert	27	285	113	1,683	0.01 %
○ Modify	0	0	0	2,778	0.02 %
○ No Change	13,684,445	13,683,272	13,681,892	13,675,087	99.94 %

4 Appendix

Term / Abbreviation	Description
<i>Accept Advertising Mail</i>	Address has signage stating they do want to receive advertising mail
<i>Active Address</i>	Address is currently in Postal Address File (PAF)
<i>Address Matching Software</i>	Software that can match and correct addresses and has the capability of appending the correct Delivery Point Identifier (DPID) to each address record.
<i>AMAS</i>	Australia Post's Address Matching Approval System (AMAS as documented in the AMAS Handbook) which is a system that evaluates and approves software based on the software's ability to validate, match and append the correct DPID.
<i>ATLAS</i>	Australia Post's core addressing database
<i>Barcode</i>	A series of vertical lines of specific variety of lengths, used to represent numerical and alphabetical characters. The 4-state barcode is used in Australia Post for mail sorting.
<i>Centroid</i>	The centre of a land parcel
<i>Deceased Suppression</i>	Provide non personalised information that may be used as an indication of when someone has passed away at the related address
<i>Delivery Point Identifier (DPID)</i>	An eight-digit code developed by Australia Post that enables each delivery point in Australia to be uniquely identified
<i>Flat Unit Type</i>	The term used to generically describe Flats, Units, Apartments, Suites, Shops, and Offices
<i>Inactive Address</i>	Address is no longer in PAF or no longer in data packages
<i>Letterbox</i>	The delivery point where mail is delivered.
<i>Level Type</i>	Descriptions used to identify the floor or level of a multi-storey building or complex
<i>Lot</i>	Lot/section reference allocated to a property, recorded by the appropriate Government Department, during the sub-division of a particular parcel of land
<i>Moved Suppression</i>	Provide non personalised information that may be used as an indication of when someone has moved from the related address
<i>PAF Incremental Changes File (ICF)</i>	The file created by the AMAS Program containing DPIDs, action codes and indicators to indicate deleted addresses and changed address information for those DPIDs that have had some address components modified since the previous PAF.
<i>PAF Update</i>	The next issue of a PAF or an updated version of the PAF including deletions, additions and modifications of the addresses and the DPIDs incorporated within it and any other structural changes that Australia Post may make to the PAF.
<i>Permission and Delivery</i>	Provide information relating to the permissions and deliverability of the associated address
<i>Postal Address File (PAF)</i>	The database created by Australia Post containing Australian addresses in a correct address format, with their corresponding DPIDs.
<i>Postal Delivery Types</i>	Identification of a specific postal address, and the service number, if applicable. E.g. PO Box, Mail Service, RSD
<i>Postcode</i>	A four digit numeric code for a postal delivery area, usually aligned with placename, suburb or locality and in some circumstances a unique Postal Delivery Type
<i>Primary Point Address</i>	An address without secondary information such as a unit number, Level number or street number suffix. Real Primary Points relate to existing physical addresses that can receive mail, Phantom Primary Points are virtual addresses that cannot receive mail but have potential value in matching records with non-matching secondary points.
<i>Ranged Address</i>	Signifies an address that includes a number range e.g.317-321
<i>Receive Mail Delivery</i>	Address receives a physical delivery.
<i>Secondary Point Address</i>	An address with secondary information such as a unit number, Level number or street number suffix.