The Metropolitan Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (Metro ARIA) provides six indices to comparatively evaluate metropolitan accessibility both within and across all Australian Capital Cities.

**OVERVIEW**

Metro ARIA is a geographic index which quantifies service accessibility within metropolitan areas. The index aims to reflect the ease or difficulty people face accessing basic services within metropolitan areas, derived from the measurement of road distances people travel to reach different services. Metro ARIA is a composite index which combines accessibility measures for five different service themes:

1. Education
2. Health
3. Shopping
4. Public Transport
5. Financial/Postal services

Each of the five service themes will be available for standalone analysis in addition to the final composite index. Metro ARIA and the five service theme indices produced will align to SA1 spatial unit boundaries. Each index will then be classified into five accessibility classes graded from low to high.

Metro ARIA is based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) methodology which focuses on quantifying remoteness in non-metropolitan areas. ARIA+ is widely accepted as Australia’s most authoritative geographic measure of remoteness, used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the Remoteness Area classification since 2001.

The ARIA methodology has been adapted and refined in Metro ARIA so that it is sensitive to the differences in access levels within a metropolitan context. Metro ARIA was also designed to be flexible and adaptable for different applications. For example, if access to health services was of primary interest, this service theme could be analysed as a standalone accessibility index.

As no standard metropolitan accessibility index is currently available for Australia, Metro ARIA will provide valuable information for urban researchers and service planners to assess metropolitan geographic access equity. The service themes and the composite index have the potential to provide new insight into
spatial differences between metropolitan areas, enhancing existing research projects and stimulating new research opportunities

PROJECT OUTPUT
Development of the six metropolitan accessibility indices:

1. Metro ARIA – a general purpose metropolitan accessibility index combining access to: Health, Shopping, Education, Public Transport, Financial/Postal. And sub-indices comprising:
2. Health: Hospitals and General Practitioners
3. Shopping: CBD, Major Shopping Centres, Supermarkets
4. Education: Primary and High Schools, TAFE colleges, Universities
5. Public Transport: Transit stops (Bus, Train, Tram)
6. Financial/Postal: Banks and Post Offices

PROJECT TEAM
The Australian Population and Migration Research Centre (APMRC) was established by Professor Graeme Hugo, and is located within the School of Social Sciences at the University of Adelaide. Research within APMRC has a strong focus on demographic, population and policy issues with a particular interest in international and internal migration related to Australia and the wider Asia-Pacific region. APMRC incorporates the National Centre for the Social Applications of GIS (GISCA) which has an established reputation in providing a wide range of spatial analysis, modelling and GIS contract research services.

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MORE INFORMATION
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