



Australian Government

Department of Communications

High-Level Panel on Digital Economy for our Future

Nerida O'Loughlin
Deputy Secretary

Bangkok 8 July 2015

Australia in the Digital Economy

> **Australians have embraced technologies at a rapid pace**

- Over 31 million active mobile subscriptions (for a population of 23 million)
- 76% of adult Australians access the internet on their mobile phones
- Globally, Australia is ranked 4th out of 138 countries on mobile internet penetration.
- 94% of Australian premises have access to fixed wireless and fixed line broadband.

Australia in the Digital Economy

> **Deep structural shifts as a result**

- Agriculture and manufacturing no longer 'bedrocks' of the Australian economy

> **Risks**

- Significant workforce transition

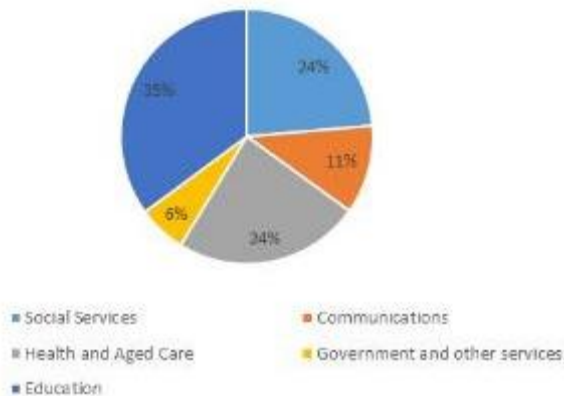
> **Opportunities**

- Increased economic activity
- Industry growth.
- Improved productivity

Australia's Digital Economy Strategy

- > **The Australian Government moved early to set a framework for growth**
- > **DES released in 2011, updated 2013, further update due soon**
 - Whole-of-government effort (health, environment, infrastructure, education),
 - Department programs for households, small business and not-for-profits.
 - Also programs to trial high speed broadband applications for telehealth and education.

ADVANCING AUSTRALIA AS A DIGITAL ECONOMY: INITIATIVES



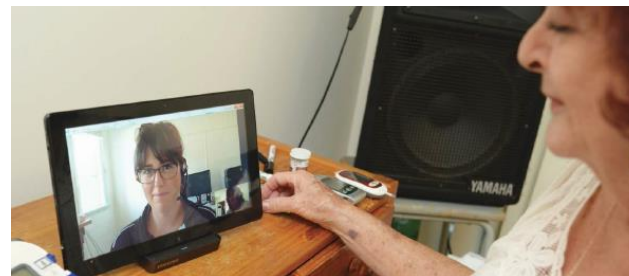
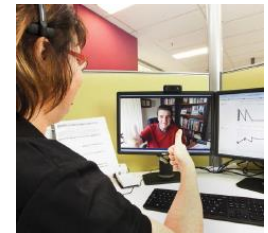
- Digital Hubs
- Digital Enterprise
- Digital Business Kits
- Digital Careers
- CSIRO 3D Education
- Telehealth services

NDES HEALTH PILOTS

Nine pilots programmes
\$36.1 million

Key findings

- Participants are willing and able to engage with the technology
- Preference for face to face consultation if it is accessible
- Improved health outcomes
- Potential cost savings
- Health care providers can be reluctant to embrace the new approach
- Sustainability & integration



Digital Transformation Agenda

> **Announced in 2015-16 Budget**

– Goal: Transform the way public services are designed and delivered

- Connect people with services
- Make it easier for business
- Improve access to information
- Transform face-to face and telephony services
- Strong Leadership across government

> **\$254.7m over four years for Stage 1**

Digital Transformation Office

> **Priorities for 2015-16**

- Head of Office appointed
- Develop digital service standard
 - Consistent digital-by-design approach
- Trusted digital identity framework
 - Easier access by using digital identities
- Better services
 - Digital mailbox, 'tell us once', voice authentication
- Better grants administration
 - Streamline and simplify grants across 12 agencies

Future skills and fostering innovation

> **ICT Skills and STEM**

- Restoring the focus on science and mathematics in primary and secondary school
 - Including introducing computer coding across the curriculum

> **Fostering innovation**

- Tax benefits, employee share schemes, crowd source funding and venture capital

> **Government Data**

- Data.gov.au and the National Map



THANK YOU.