

Free public database for information and insight into ageing populations

26 July 2016: A new national population database launched today will provide free public access to information about Australia’s ageing population.

RADAR - The Regional Australia Database for Ageing Research – has been developed by the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR) using the most recent national data from the ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing.

It is a user-friendly interactive tool for accessing a wide range of demographic and economic indices relevant to population and ageing research from national through to regional levels.

Professor Peter McDonald, Chief Investigator, CEPAR, developed the database with colleagues Dr Meimanat Hosseini Chavoshi and Dr Jeromey Temple.

“As Australia’s population ages and more questions emerge about where and when impacts may occur, we wanted to provide a resource that anyone can access for information about populations from the national through to the regional level, delivering information about the characteristics of local populations at the time of the Census, and also into the future.

“Current knowledge and future projections can assist policy makers, planners, researchers, students and others interested in gaining insight into geographic populations, and contribute to developing and delivering resources to meet the needs of these populations as they change over time,” said Professor McDonald.

Information is presented in four modules:

- Labour Force
- Health
- Living Arrangements
- Population Futures - users can view projections of the underlying population at the national, states and capital cities/balance of states levels.

RADAR was written in Excel with Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) and presents data in table and graph form, which can be easily exported into another application to work with the information in more detail.

RADAR is freely available on the CEPAR website: <http://www.cepar.edu.au/radar>

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