

2025 JOINT ANZRSAI/RSA CONFERENCE

POPULATION CHANGE AND REGIONAL RESILIENCE

48th Australian and New Zealand Regional Science Association International,
and the 6th Regional Studies Association Australasian Conference

1-2 December, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand

CALL FOR PAPERS

This conference is convened jointly by the Australia and New Zealand Regional Science Association International (ANZRSAI) and the Regional Studies Association (RSA). The two associations bring together researchers across academic and policy fields to explore the cutting edge of regional science and regional analysis in Australia, New Zealand and around the world. The event will be hosted by the University of Waikato on 1-2 December 2025.

The 2025 conference theme explores the evolving dynamics of population change and its interrelationship with the resilience of regions across Australasia and beyond. This theme embraces a broad spectrum of issues, including ageing populations, migration trends, urbanisation and rural depopulation, and their intersections with housing, infrastructure, employment, and regional and rural development. The theme invites discussions on how local and central government, Indigenous and local communities, and other stakeholders can adapt to these changes to foster social, economic, and environmental resilience, and ensure that regions are vibrant, inclusive, and future-ready.

Proposals for contributed papers, for themed panels, or for special sessions, will be welcomed on any topic related to the theme, or to regional science or regional studies more generally.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Regional Studies Association (RSA) and the Australia and New Zealand Regional Science Association International (ANZRSAI) Council invite contributions from academics, practitioners and policy advisors on any aspect of regional studies and regional science for presentation at the conference. We especially encourage submissions from Indigenous researchers and early career researchers. The programme will include *PowerPoint presentations*, *academic papers*, *themed panels* and *special sessions* on topics in regional science theory, regional development practice or regional planning policy. Presentations will be made in person, in two or three parallel sessions.

TIMETABLE

29 August	Final date for submission of proposals for themed panels or special sessions on particular topics.
19 September	Final date for submission of abstracts for papers.
3 October	Date for notification of acceptance of paper.
10 October	Date for publication of programme.
7 November	Final date for conference registration for paper presenters, for their paper to be confirmed in the programme.
7 November	Final date for submission of full paper by authors (full papers are only required for those wishing to be considered for the Best Paper Award).
30 November	Hamilton Gardens tour and informal welcome party (optional, time TBC)
1-2 December	Conference
1 December	Conference Dinner 7pm (venue TBC)

[Click here](#) to submit your abstract.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

This joint Regional Studies Association (RSA) and ANZRSAl conference will start with a walking tour of the visually spectacular Hamilton Gardens and informal welcome drinks at a venue to be confirmed in Hamilton East on the evening of Sunday 30 November 2025 (optional, and time TBC) and be followed by two days of stimulating plenary addresses, panels of expert speakers and parallel sessions of submitted papers.

This is an opportunity for Regional Studies Association members and ANZRSAl members and others interested in regional issues to share experiences and network with each other, to keep up-to-date with latest developments in regional research and to address important issues in regional planning.

Once the programme of plenary speakers is finalised, details will be published on the conference partners' websites.

Registration for the conference includes light lunch, morning and afternoon tea, as well as admission to all plenary and parallel sessions.

	Fees
Early Bird Standard Registration (paid before 31 October)	AU\$400.00
Standard Registration for full conference (paid after 31 October)	AU\$450.00
Student or Emeritus Registration for full conference	AU\$200.00
ANZRSAl Awards Dinner (Monday 1 December, 7pm)	AU\$125.00

Registration will open shortly.

Queries about the conference can be sent to the Chair of the Local Organising Committee:

Professor Michael Cameron
Waikato Management School
University of Waikato

mcam@waikato.ac.nz

Local Organising Committee:

Professor Michael Cameron (University of Waikato)

Professor Jacques Poot (University of Waikato)

Professor Matthew Roskrige (Massey University)

Professor Etienne Nel (University of Otago)

Ms Georgia McLellan (University of Auckland)