The Trove API is changing: v2

Trove has upgraded the Trove API to version 2.0. It is faster and more stable with new content, new functionality, and some changes in the way you make calls. This document is a brief guide to what we’ve changed and why.

Key changes to the way you interact with the API:

- **Added**: HTTPS
  The Trove API v2 has moved to Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) which is the secure version of the HTTP protocol. This means the base URL for accessing the Trove API has changed to having an ‘S’ at the end of ‘HTTP’

- **Added**: Versioning of the API
  The Trove API v2 has moved to include versioning so you can better rely on the calls you’re making and the data returned while we make iterative improvements. This means the base URL for accessing version 2 of the Trove API has an additional ‘v2’ at the end

- **Added**: ‘Government Gazettes’ zone
  In 2016, Trove launched a new ‘Government Gazettes’ zone. The Trove API v2 now includes a new ‘zone=gazette’ query parameter to enable you to limit your API query to return results from the ‘Government Gazettes’ zone i.e.
  [https://api.trove.nla.gov.au/v2/result?q=jetty&key=<YOUR KEY>&zone=gazette&n=100&s=*&reclevel=full](https://api.trove.nla.gov.au/v2/result?q=jetty&key=<YOUR KEY>&zone=gazette&n=100&s=*&reclevel=full)

- **Added**: State facet
  The Trove API v2 now has an additional ‘l-state’ facet to enable you to limit your API query to return results by state from the ‘Digitised newspapers and more’ and ‘Government Gazettes’ zone i.e.

- **Added**: Bulk harvest
  The Trove API v2 now has an extra parameter named 'bulkHarvest' that accepts true/false. Include this parameter if you intend to harvest a set of records for further processing in your own system. The results will be sorted by identifier, rather than relevance. This will prevent your results set order changing while you harvest, and ensure you obtain every record once.
  If the value is ‘true’, article/work identifier is used to sort. If the value is ‘false’ relevance score is used to sort.

- **Changed**: Pagination of results
  An underlying technology change means the ‘s’ parameter is no long number based. To obtain the first page of results supply the ‘s’ value as an asterisk (*). To obtain subsequent pages of results you will need to capture the token supplied in the ‘nextStart’ attribute, URL encode that value, and supply it as the ‘s’ value in your next request. i.e.
To get the first page of results:
https://api.trove.nla.gov.au/v2/result?q=kangaroo&key=<YOUR KEY>&zone=newspaper&s=* &n=100

To get the next page of results:
https://api.trove.nla.gov.au/v2/result?q=kangaroo&key=<YOUR KEY>&zone=newspaper&s=AollQM4c1ikyNdc2NTUzNzM%3D&n=100

Please note: the 's' parameter must be URL encoded.

- **Changed**: Results from a single zone only
  The underlying technology changes also means the API supplies results from multiple zones for the first call, but no subsequent calls. Subsequent API calls to get the next page of results needs to specify a single Trove zone to return results i.e.
  https://api.trove.nla.gov.au/v2/result?q=kangaroo&key=<YOUR KEY>&zone=newspaper&s=AollQM4c1ikyNdc2NTUzNzM%3D&n=100

For detailed specifications please refer to our [Trove API v2 Technical Guide](#).

### Why all the changes?

Trove’s existing API infrastructure – the hardware and software which underpins the original API is ageing. The Trove API was first made available in April 2012 and it hasn’t had any significant changes since that time. In 2017 we began a process of consultation with our Trove API user community via our [API survey](#) to help inform our redevelopment of the Trove API. By far the biggest issue reported by API users were concerns regarding the declining performance of the API in regards to stability, speed, errors and time-outs.

We’ve now transitioned the Trove API to an updated version - v2 - onto new infrastructure – including an upgrade from Solr3 to SolrCloud. This means the Trove API is more stable and has quicker response times with fewer error messages. It also means the Trove API v2 is now using the same index as the Trove UI – so any updates or changes to Trove will be immediately visible in the Trove API v2.
**What Trove’s API changes mean for you?**

If you have created any apps, tools, interfaces or visualisations using the existing Trove API you will need to update your code to work with the new Trove API v2. You’ll have plenty of time to do this as we’ll continue to provide access to the existing Trove API for at least the next 6 months (to January 2019). Access to the original API will cease sometime after that, we don’t have an exact date yet.

**Future changes**

We plan to continue making changes to improve the API in the future, moving to v3 and beyond base don your API survey responses and any other information you provide.

**Feedback**

As always, we’d love to hear your feedback on the changes we’ve made to the Trove API v2 or any suggestions you might have for any new changes you’d like to see in the Trove API v3. Contact us at Trove Support to send a message to Trove.