

Why Sensors?

The purpose of a Sensor is to wait for an event.

That can be useful for many different use cases, such as:

- Processing files from an S3 bucket as they arrive while waiting for them.
- Running different tasks at different times but within the same DAG.
- Triggering a data pipeline when another one completes.
- Ensuring an API is available to make requests.
- Transforming data as soon as data are present in a SQL table.

Airflow provides numerous Sensors that cover a wide variety of use cases.

If you want to wait for an event before doing something, go to the [Astronomer Registry](#), search for the service you interact with, and look for the sensors.

The screenshot shows the Astronomer Registry interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: Explore, Search, BROWSE, DAGs (72), Providers (97), and Modules (1375). A 'Publish' button is at the bottom of the sidebar. The main content area is titled 'aws Amazon' and shows search results for 'sensor'. The search bar contains the text 'sensor' and is highlighted with a red arrow. Below the search bar, there are 5 modules listed:

- DmsTaskBaseSensor**: Contains general sensor behavior for DMS task. (Airflow Community, Sensors)
- EcsBaseSensor**: Contains general sensor behavior for Elastic Container Service. (Airflow Community, Sensors)
- EmrBaseSensor**: Contains general sensor behavior for EMR. (Airflow Community, Sensors)
- GlacierJobOperationSensor**: Glacier sensor for checking job state. (Airflow Community, Sensors)
- SageMakerBaseSensor**: Contains general sensor behavior for SageMaker. (Airflow Community, Sensors)

At the bottom of the results, it says '1-5 of 5 Modules'.

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