

Issue 6 June 2005

2006 Census Output Strategic Directions.

Welcome to the CDATA User Group 'Newspoint'.

The proposed 2006 Census Output program will see an expanded range of products and services disseminated via the ABS web site and a reduction of products on CD-ROM and printed publications.

It is proposed to discontinue CDATA as a standalone CD-ROM product and produce a simple web based product. The proposal is that a 'CDATA 2001 - Full-GIS' type of product will not be available from the ABS for the 2006 Census. Users who wish to access ABS Census data using GIS software will have two options. They will be able to purchase data from the ABS for input into their existing GIS software. Alternatively they will be able to purchase an integrated solution from an ABS authorized secondary provider.

It is proposed that the range of new Internet products be developed to better cater for the varying levels of sophistication and experience amongst census data users. Novice users will be able to easily access basic data for their local area, while more experienced users will have greater flexibility in creating tables of data that better meet their needs.

Previously on 18 October 2004, the ABS released an *Information Paper: 2006 Census of Population and Housing: ABS Views on Census Output Strategy* (cat. no. 2009.0), which was aimed to inform census data users of the proposed strategies for developing 2006 Census products and services. Users' views on these strategies were sought through a questionnaire titled *User Views on 2006 Census Output Strategies* and through face-to-face seminars.

We have now collated the replies received via the Information Paper (cat. no. 2009.0) and also from our face-to-face seminars. The majority of respondents (65.3%) supported the proposed Internet strategy, 8.6% disagreed, and 26.0% stated they were unsure.

Although respondents were generally supportive of the proposals for the 2006 Census products and services, the survey did reveal a number of key concerns from users, which we are hoping to address.

We will be conducting further face-to-face seminars with census users in October 2005, to find out the actual topics and table content users want included in the 2006 output.

You can be kept up to date with developments in the '2006 Census Program' by sending an email to census.users@abs.gov.au You will then receive a free email newsletter.

Michael Beahan Director Census Products & Services

Contact Us

Census Technical Helpline **1800 676 646** Email: census.software@abs.gov.au (for help with CDATA 2001, SEIFA 2001 and CLIB2001)

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Product of the Month Year Book Australia 2005.

The ABS has numerous statistics, which may assist you in making the correct decisions.

The product of the month for May 2005 was the Year Book of Australia for 2005.



The Year Book Australia 2005 provides a comprehensive and definitive source of information about Australia. Over 900 pages long, the Year Book spans topics which cover Australia's economic position and social conditions, as well as articles about our community and environment.

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Using CDATA 2001 - Full GIS with MapInfo Professional V8.0

MapInfo Australia Pty Ltd will be releasing MapInfo Professional Version 8.0 towards the end of June 2005. Details on the functionality of MapInfo Professional V8.0 can be obtained from the MapInfo website, www.mapinfo.com

The ABS is currently undertaking software compliance testing of CDATA 2001 with MapInfo Professional Version 8.0 to ensure that it works well with this new version, and that there are no major operating conflicts encountered.

The compliance testing is being conducted on the following operating systems Windows 98 Second Edition, Windows 2000, Windows NT 4.0 & Windows XP.

If you are thinking about upgrading to MapInfo Professional Version 8.0, please contact the Census Technical Helpline on 1800 676 646 for further advice on the progress of the testing.