

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)

PROPOSAL NO. 5 OF 2020

BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED SURVEY

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to conduct the Livestock Slaughtered Survey for the purpose of providing comprehensive statistics on livestock slaughtering and meat production.

The information will be collected:

- on a quarterly basis from the September 2020 quarter;
- from livestock slaughtering businesses, such as abattoirs and other related establishments;
- as a census of approximately 125 livestock slaughtering businesses;
- by self-enumeration using paper forms; and
- from businesses all across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- the number of livestock slaughtered (cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and deer);
- the weight of meat produced (dressed carcass weight);
- the value of meat produced (average value per head); and
- respondent contact details, including provider name, telephone number and email address, in the event the ABS need to contact the provider to resolve any queries.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of the publications:

- *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat no. 7215.0)
- *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia* (cat no. 7503.0), and
- *Australian System of National Accounts* (cat no. 5204.0).

The ABS expect to make statistical and related information from the collection available within six weeks after the close of the quarterly reference periods. Statistics from the Livestock Slaughtered Survey will be made available on the ABS website.

The principal users of the information the ABS produce will be:

- Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences - Department of Agriculture and Water Resources;
- Meat and Livestock Australia;
- Australian Pork Limited; and
- State agricultural departments and other key industry bodies.

Results from the survey will be used to monitor the livestock slaughtering industry, to assist in policy formulation and in forecasting future industry activity.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available;
- has consulted with Meat and Livestock Australia and Australian Pork Limited;
- has transitioned the survey from monthly to quarterly collection of data, thereby reducing reporting burden for abattoirs and other similar establishments; and
- has also minimised respondent burden to 60 minutes per quarterly collection, with an expected high level of respondent cooperation.

This survey was last conducted as a monthly survey in June 2020, and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 2 of 2019.

John Shepherd
General Manager
Industry Statistics Division

7 August 2020