

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)**MONTHLY POPULATION SURVEY**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to continue to collect information for the purpose of producing estimates from the Labour Force Survey and supplementary outputs, provisioned through the Monthly Population Survey.

The information will be collected:

- on a monthly basis;
- from a sample of approximately 24,000 dwellings, with respondents in the survey for up to 9 months;
- by a combination of face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews and self-complete online forms;
- across all states and territories.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- employment and unemployment;
- occupation and industry;
- hours worked;
- labour mobility;
- job search experience;
- employment arrangements;
- trade union membership;
- earnings;
- marginal attachment to the labour force.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of the *Labour Force, Australia* publication and supplementary publications. It will also be used to assist the analysis, evaluation, and monitoring of the economy and the Australian labour market, including the unemployment rate and composition of employment change. Additionally, the data will be used in a wide range of government policies and programs relating to labour force participation and in formulating economic policy.

The information collected is at a level suitable for the economic analysis of states and territories. The information is also used in compiling the Australian Labour Accounts and National Accounts.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available at various frequencies determined by the statistical quality of the estimates. The headline estimates of employment, unemployment and persons not in the labour force are published on a monthly basis to provide timely economic indicators. Other topics are published on a less frequent basis to provide more insights into the Australian labour market.

The principal users of the information produced are:

- Commonwealth and state and territory government bodies (including the Reserve Bank of Australia and The Treasury);
- economists;
- academics; and
- financial institutions.

The ABS is improving its collection methods for the Monthly Population Survey and will undertake a compulsory field test to quality assure the new collection method. The proposed compulsory field test will be collecting the above mentioned information from approximately 2,000 dwellings in October and November 2025 using a modernised collection method designed to deliver high quality data while minimising the provider burden.

The Monthly Population Survey may also be used at times for other testing purposes, in order to help the ABS continue to improve and effectively manage and operate surveys.

This collection was last tabled in Parliament on 19 September 2019 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 19 of 2019.

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