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Enhancing the Population Census: Developing a Longitudinal View

Please submit your views on the Discussion Paper, *2006 Census of Population and Housing: Enhancing the Population Census : Developing a Longitudinal View* (ABS cat. no. 2060.0) using this questionnaire. Read the Discussion Paper and familiarise yourself with the ABS proposals before completing the questionnaire.

You can also read the Discussion Paper and complete this questionnaire at our web site <www.abs.gov.au>.

Due date

Return your completed questionnaire to Rosalie Butler, Census Field Organisation, Locked Bag 10, Belconnen ACT, 2616 by **10 June 2005**.

Help available

If you have any problems completing this questionnaire, contact Rosalie Butler on (02) 6252 6294 or email rosalie.butler@abs.gov.au

Contact details

Please provide your contact details in case we need to contact you if any queries arise regarding your submission.

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Authorisation

The ABS may need to make public reference to the information provided in your submission. If you agree to this, please sign the Authorisation to Release below.

By signing here, I agree that the ABS can release or publicly refer to the information provided in this submission as a statement of your or your organisation's, requirements or views on the relevant issues.

Signature of person giving authorisation:

Preliminary information

Q1. In which state or territory are you, or your organisation, based?

Note: For organisations with offices at more than one location please tick the state or territory where your head office is located.

Please tick		Please tick	
ACT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>
NSW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tasmania	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victoria	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Territory	<input type="checkbox"/>
Queensland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Overseas (please specify _____)	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Q2. Are you completing this questionnaire as a private individual or as a representative of an organisation or government department?

Private individual – not representing any organisation
 Representative of an organisation or government department

Please tick

→ Go to Q4

Q3. Which sector best describes your organisation?

Government Sector – Federal
 Government Sector – State
 Government Sector – Local
 Private sector (fewer than 20 employees)
 Private sector (20 or more employees)
 Other (please specify):

Please tick

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Views on the proposal to enhance the 2006 Population Census

Proposal 1

The ABS is proposing to create the Statistical Longitudinal Census Dataset (SLCD) by:

- o combining data from the 2006 Census with data from future censuses; and
- o combining data from the 2001 Census with data from the 2006 Census.

Data would be brought together without using name and address, using statistical techniques. Name and address would be destroyed after census processing. The SLCD would be for statistical use only and no identifiable data would be released from the ABS. The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 2.

Q4. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 1 if 2006 Census data are combined with data from future censuses?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q5. What are your reasons?

SUCH DATA WOULD BE VALUABLE TO:

<p>1) PROVIDE UNDERSTANDING OF HOW PEOPLE MOVE THROUGH LIFE CYCLE AND LIFE EVENT TRANSITIONS AND THE FACTORS THAT MIGHT INFLUENCE THESE FOR POLICY PURPOSES</p> <p>2) EXAMINE THE IMPACT ON AN AREA OF HOW CURRENT RESTRUCTURING SUCH AS GLOBALISATION MIGHT AFFECT:</p> <p>(a) PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT INTO AND OUT OF AN AREA, AND</p> <p>(b) THE CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE WHO REMAIN IN AN AREA</p>

Q6. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 1 if 2001 Census data are combined with data from the 2006 Census?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Unsure/Don't know

Q7. What are your reasons?

<p>WHILST THE EXTENT OF SUCH DATA MAY BE CONSTRAINED BY CHANGES TO CENSUS QUESTION COVERAGE, THE DATA SET WOULD STILL BE VALUABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE ISSUES OUTLINED IN Q6 ABOVE, PARTICULARLY FOR AN AREA SUCH AS THE CITY OF SYDNEY WHICH WAS, AND IS, GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF RAPID GROWTH AND ECONOMIC/DEMOGRAPHIC RESTRUCTURING.</p>

Proposal 2

The ABS is proposing to make the SLCD available for use in conjunction with other ABS statistical collections, such as ABS household surveys, using statistical techniques. Use would be for statistical purposes only, with no identifiable data released outside the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 3.

Q8. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 2?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q9. What are your reasons?

LINKING SUCH DATA SETS IN A 'SLCD' WOULD DEEPEN UNDERSTANDING OF THE DYNAMICS OF HOW SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT MAY IMPACT ON A BROADER RANGE OF CRITICAL OUTCOME VARIABLES, SUCH AS CURRENT HEALTH OR DISABILITY. THIS WOULD ENHANCE THE PLANNING OF SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PATTERNS OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION.

Proposal 3

The ABS is proposing to make the SLCD available for use in conjunction with selected non-ABS datasets. These datasets are birth and death register data, long-term immigration data and national disease registers. This would involve using statistical techniques to bring the datasets together. Use would be for statistical purposes only, and no identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 4.

Q10. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 3?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q11. What are your reasons?

IN PRINCIPLE, THIS WOULD BE SUPPORTED FOR THE REASONS OUTLINED ABOVE FOR Q.9. HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE PROBLEMS OF COMPATIBILITY OF DEFINITIONS AND AREAL BASES, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ATTENTION.

Proposal 4

(a) The ABS is proposing to use name and address information available at the time of census processing to bring together 2006 Population Census data with the ABS' 2006 Agricultural Census.

Name and address information used in combining the data would be destroyed on completion of census processing. The dataset would be used for statistical purposes only, and no identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Chapter 5.

Q12. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 4(a) if the ABS used 2006 Population Census data with 2006 Agricultural Census data?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q13. What are your reasons?

AGAIN, IN GENERAL, WE WOULD SUPPORT THE BENEFITS TO BE GAINED FROM SUCH INTEGRATION, ALTHOUGH, OF COURSE, THERE IS UNLIKELY TO BE ANY BENEFIT DIRECTLY TO OUR INNER-CITY ORGANISATION WITH RESPECT TO THE 2006 AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

(b) For quality studies and other specific statistical studies, the ABS proposes to consider the use of name and address information available at the time of census processing to bring together 2006 Population Census data with other selected datasets namely, ABS household surveys, birth and death register data, long-term immigration data and national disease registers.

Any datasets created for these statistical studies would be kept for a limited time and destroyed after completion of each project. Census name and address information would be destroyed on completion of census processing. No identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 5.

Q14. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 4(b) if the ABS used 2006 Population Census data with these additional datasets?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q15. What are your reasons?

GIVEN THE LARGE NUMBER OF TEMPORARY VISITORS IN THE CITY OF SYDNEY, HIGH AND VARIABLE NON-RESPONSE RATES CAN BE A SOURCE OF UNCERTAINTY IN ASCERTAINING TRENDS AMONG RESIDENTS, USE OF HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS MAY ENABLE IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS TO REDUCE NON-RESPONSE BIAS.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The ABS abides by a range of privacy and confidentiality provisions. These are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 6.

Q16. Are there any additional procedures and protocols you would like the ABS to consider?

THE OVERRIDING PRINCIPLE OF RESPECT FOR THE PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALS AND PROTECTION OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THEIR DATA SHOULD REMAIN THE TOUCHSTONE IN EVALUATING PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS.

Statistical user requirements

Q17. If the ABS adopted any of these proposals, would you, or your organisation, be likely to apply to use the SLCD, either in its own right or in conjunction with one of the other datasets specified in this Discussion Paper?

Please tick

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q18. If yes:

- for what types of projects would you use the datasets,
- why would you need the SLCD (or a combination of the SLCD and other datasets), and
- if known, which data items would you need?

If there is insufficient space, please attach a separate sheet.

SPECIFIC PROJECTS WOULD BE DEVELOPED TO BETTER ANALYSE AND UNDERSTAND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS ASSOCIATED WITH RAPID EXPANSION IN THE LEA REGION AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE GLOBALISATION PROCESS

THESE WOULD INCLUDE AN EXAMINATION OF THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES OF LONGER-TERM RESIDENTS IN ADDITION TO EXAMINATION OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BOTH IN- AND OUT-MIGRATORS.

LINKS TO OTHER OUTCOMES SUCH AS HEALTH, BIRTHS AND DEATHS WOULD IMPROVE COMMUNITY SERVICE DELIVERY AND THE PLANNING OF FACILITIES.

AT A MORE TECHNICAL LEVEL, A PROJECT WHICH IMPROVED THE QUALITY OF REVEALED DATA TRENDS BY EXAMINING NON-RESPONSE BIAS AND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE PEOPLE, MAY TOO, BE UNDERTAKEN.

General comments

Q19. Have you any other comments on the proposals to enhance the population census dataset?

If there is insufficient space, please attach a separate sheet.

IN PRINCIPLE, THE CITY OF SYDNEY WOULD BE STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF ABS ATTEMPTS TO INTRODUCE A LONGITUDINAL ELEMENT TO THE POPULATION CENSUS DATASET. SUCH WOULD ENABLE AN IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF THE DYNAMICS LINKING ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES OBSERVED IN THE CITY. IN PARTICULAR, AT A TIME WHEN THE CITY IS ONE OF THE MOST RAPIDLY CHANGING LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN AUSTRALIA, AN IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF DYNAMICS OF GLOBALISATION AND LOCAL IMPACT CAN ONLY HELP THE CITY IN ITS STRATEGIC POLICY, PLANNING AND MONITORING PROCESSES

What next?

Information from this submission will be used to inform the Australian Statistician about the reaction from the Australian public, census data users and other interested people, to the proposals being considered. An 'in principle' decision on whether to proceed with any part of these proposals will be made by June 2005. A final decision will depend on community support and the legislative process. You will be notified of the decision.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE