

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

PROPOSAL NO. 7 OF 2015

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SURVEY OF RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of providing comprehensive data on Australia's research and experimental development effort.

The information will be collected:

- biennially from July 2015 on a financial year basis;
- from Australian government and private non-profit organisations performing research and experimental development activities;
- as a census of approximately 286 government organisations and 156 private non-profit organisations;
- by electronic form; and
- across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- type of expenditure (current and capital expenditure);
- source of funds;
- location of expenditure;
- type of activity;
- fields of research;
- socio-economic objectives;
- human resources devoted to research and experimental development, by type of resource; and
- organisational characteristics such as name, address, contact details and financial information.

The information collected will also be used by the ABS in the compilation of gross expenditure on research and experimental development, for incorporation in the National Accounts.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available in July 2016.

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

- Department of Industry and Science;
- Department of Education and Training; and
- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The information will be used for assessment of relevant government policy, funding and programs, and determination of priorities for research and experimental development, as well as for international comparisons of research activity.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available;
- has consulted with key stakeholders including the Department of Industry and Science, Department of Education and Training and the OECD; and
- will clear the Private Non-Profit collection through the Statistical Clearing House, as provisional approval number 00226-05.

This collection was last conducted in 2013 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 15 of 2013.

Ian Ewing
Deputy Australian Statistician
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