

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

PROPOSAL NO. 28 OF 2013

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CORRECTIVE SERVICES, AUSTRALIA – QUARTERLY COLLECTION

In June 2013, the Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to collect information from administrative records held by state and territory corrective services agencies. The collection will continue to be undertaken on a quarterly basis in the future.

Information is collected from administrative records held by corrective services agencies within each state and territory. Data is submitted to the Australian Bureau of Statistics electronically by secure means.

Information will be collected on the number and characteristics of prisoners serving custodial and community-based corrections orders in Australia including:

- prisoner characteristics (sex and Indigenous status);
- characteristics relating to the episode of imprisonment (legal status of prisoner, level of security);
- characteristics relating to the community-based corrections order (type of order); and
- federal sentenced prisoners (sex).

The principal users of the collection are:

- state and territory corrective services agencies;
- Commonwealth and state and territory Attorney-General's and justice departments;
- government crime and justice research institutes (such as the Australian Institute of Criminology); and
- crime and justice research centres within universities across Australia.

Statistics produced from the collection will be used to make meaningful comparisons of the number of custodial prisoners and prisoners serving community-based corrections orders across states and territories in Australia. This will allow policy makers to assess and evaluate corrective services related policy used throughout the states and territories and facilitate both researchers and policy makers to identify emerging trends in corrective services and respond accordingly.

Results from the collection are expected to be released on a quarterly basis from late 2013.

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