

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

PROPOSAL NO. 30 OF 2013

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RECORDED CRIME – OFFENDERS, AUSTRALIA

In July 2013, the Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to collect information annually from administrative records held by state and territory police agencies on the number and characteristics of alleged offenders who were proceeded against by police.

Information will be collected from administrative records held by police 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 alleged offenders who are proceeded against by police in Australia including:

- offender characteristics (age and sex); and
- the nature of the offence (principal offence type).

Where available, information about the Indigenous status of alleged offenders and the number of times proceeded against by police will also be collected.

The principal users of the collection are:

- state and territory police 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 level and nature of offending behaviour across states and territories in Australia. This will allow policy makers to assess and evaluate crime and justice related policy used throughout the states and territories and facilitate both researchers and policy makers to identify emerging trends in offending behaviour and respond accordingly.

Results from the collection are expected to be released on an annual basis from early 2014.

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