

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

PROPOSAL NO. 2 OF 2013

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RECORDED CRIME – VICTIMS, AUSTRALIA

In February 2013, the Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to collect information from administrative records held by State and Territory police agencies for Recorded Crime – Victims, Australia for the 2012 calendar year. The ABS expects that the collection will continue to be undertaken annually in the future.

Statistics in this collection are derived from information on victimisation incidents collected by the ABS from administrative records held by police agencies within each state and territory. Data is submitted to the ABS electronically by secure means.

Information will be collected on the level and nature of recorded crime victimisation in Australia including:

- victim characteristics (age, sex and other personal characteristics);
- the nature of the incident (e.g. weapon use and location); and
- the outcome of police investigations at 30 days.

Where available, information about the relationship of the offender to the victim and the Indigenous status of the victim will also be collected.

The primary purpose of the collection will be to provide indicators of the level and nature of recorded crime victimisation in Australia and provide a basis for measuring change over time. This collection is the only national uniform data collection for police recorded victimisation in Australia.

The principal users of the collection will be:

- State and Territory police agencies;
- Commonwealth and State and Territory Attorney-Generals and justice departments;
- government crime and justice research institutes (such as the Australian Institute of Criminology);
- crime and justice research centres within universities across Australia; and
- the public.

Results from the survey will be used to make meaningful comparisons of the level and nature of recorded crime victimisation across jurisdictions in Australia. This will allow policy makers to assess and evaluate crime and justice related policy used throughout different jurisdictions and facilitate both researchers and policy makers to identify emerging trends in victimisation and respond accordingly.

This collection will be utilising administrative data already collected by State and Territory police agencies. The ABS will be working closely with State and Territory police agencies to facilitate the data collection process.

Results from the survey are expected to be released in June 2013. Subsequent iterations of this collection are expected to be conducted within similar time-frames.

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January 2013