

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

PROPOSAL NO. 41 OF 2013

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

DEATHS COLLECTION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to collect information from administrative records held by state and territory registries of births, deaths and marriages and related information from the National Coronial Information Service for Deaths Collection for 2014 calendar year.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics expects that this collection will continue to be undertaken monthly on an ongoing basis. Data are submitted to the Australian Bureau of Statistics electronically by secure means.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- the death of a person;
- perinatal, infant and other deaths registered with the state and territory registries of births, deaths and marriages; and
- details about the death and the person who has died (e.g. name and address, date and place of birth and death, sex, marital status, occupation, cause of death, indigenous status, certifying doctors name, whether the death was referred to a coroner, funeral director details).

In addition, cause of death information relating to deaths which have been referred to one of the state and territory coroners for certification is obtained from the National Coronial Information Service. It may include details about open and closed coronial cases (e.g. coronial findings of cause of death for closed cases, interim findings for open cases, toxicology, autopsy and police reports).

The primary purpose of the collection is:

- to determine the number of seats in the House of Representatives for each state and territory;
- to produce mortality and life expectancy statistics which are critical for informing government policy related to health policy planning and service delivery;
- to underpin chronic disease monitoring and assist research;
- to support national and state/territory health performance reporting, including Council Of Australian Governments reporting, National Health Performance Authority-Performance and Accountability Framework, and the Closing the Gap initiative; and
- to provide summary information of the general health of the population.

The principal users of the collection will be:

- the Australian Government;
- Australian state and territory governments;
- United Nations;
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; and
- International Monetary Fund.

Results from the collection are expected to be released from late 2014.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

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