

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

**PROPOSAL NO. 6 OF 2019
BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY SURVEY

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information from Australian businesses/organisations for the purpose of producing estimates that report on the economic and financial performance of Australian industry.

The information will be collected:

- from August 2019 on an annual basis;
- from a sample of approximately 20,000 business/organisations across Australia; and
- by self-enumeration primarily using electronic forms.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- employment numbers, income, expenses and capital expenditure; and
- business name, address and contact details.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of the Australian National Accounts. Results from the survey will be used to assist in understanding the structure and nature of Australian industry, and will also be used to provide a time series view of Australian industry.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available in mid-2020.

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

- Federal and State Treasury departments;
- Reserve Bank of Australia; and
- Government research organisations.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS has:

- considered existing available information;
- consulted with industry bodies & businesses; and
- field tested to ensure data is readily available.

This collection was last conducted in respect to 2017-18 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 7 of 2016.

John Shepherd
General Manager
Industry Statistics Division

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