

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

**PROPOSAL NO. 2 OF 2018**

**BY**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**2018-19 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH SURVEY**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information about the health status of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, the role of health professionals, lifestyle behaviours, and risk factors which affect health, as part of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey. The last cycle was run in 2012-13 as a part of the 2011-13 Australian Health Survey (AHS) and this is its third cycle.

The information will be collected:

- from July 2018 to March 2019
- as a sample of about 11,700 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults and children across 3,900 non-remote and 2,600 remote private dwellings, in community and non-community settings
- by conducting face to face interviews with randomly selected persons in households using random selection methodology
- across all States and Territories in Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- general health and wellbeing
- long-term conditions and disability, including mental health
- use of medications and medical services
- smoking and alcohol consumption
- physical activity
- diet
- employment, education and income
- experiences of violence
- experiences of discrimination
- substance use (voluntary)
- hearing test (voluntary)
- physical measurements (voluntary).

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the analysis of the health and wellbeing of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, with a focus on potentially disadvantaged groups. It will assist in the planning of services and support arrangements.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey* (Catalogue Number: 4715.0) and will also be released as microdata.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available from December 2019. The data will be used in updating the Closing the Gap report in 2020.


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

- Department of Health
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Productivity Commission
- The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Other State and Territory government agencies
- Council of Australian Governments (COAG)
- Peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations (e.g. National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), Aboriginal Medical Services)
- Health industry and professional organisations (e.g. The Heart Foundation, Cancer Councils)
- Key academic users including universities and health research agencies
- Consumer and community groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Non-government service providers
- Academia and special interest groups.

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 what existing information is available
- consulted with Government, Academia, special interests groups, other not-for-profit organisations, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives to determine the level of need for this data
- conducted cognitive testing and field tested the survey to ensure the required data are readily available.

This collection was last conducted in 2012-13 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal <No. 14 of 2012>



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