

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

PROPOSAL NO. 6 OF 2018

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SURVEY OF RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT, HIGHER EDUCATION ORGANISATIONS

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of providing data on Australia's research and experimental development effort.

The information will be collected:

- biennially from April 2019 on a calendar basis;
- from Australian higher education institutions performing research and experimental development activities;
- as a census of approximately 42 universities across Australia;
- by a survey instrument; and
- across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- type of expenditure (current and capital expenditure);
- source of funds;
- location of expenditure;
- type of activity;
- fields of research;
- socio-economic objective;
- human resources devoted to research and experimental development, by type of resource; and
- university characteristics such as university name, university address, university contact details and university financial information.

The information collected will be used by the ABS to produce the Research and Experimental Development, Higher Education Organisations publication (cat.no.8111.0) and in the compilation of National Accounts.

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

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

- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science;
- Department of Education and Training;
- Australian Research Council; and
- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The information will be used for: assessment of relevant government policy, funding and programs; determination of priorities for research and experimental development; and for international comparisons of research activity.

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;
- has consulted with the expected principal users of the information, listed above.

This collection was last conducted in 2016 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal 1 of 2015.

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