

**CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT 1905- section 13**

**PROPOSAL NO. 7 OF 2018  
BY  
AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**RELEASE OF BUSINESS SIZE INDICATOR FOR BUSINESSES PARTICIPATING IN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

In accordance with the provisions of Clause 6 of the *Statistics Determination 1983* made under Section 13 of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, the ABS intends to disclose to the Department of Finance a business size indicator for a list of approximately 10,000 businesses participating in Australian Government procurement.

The lists will be used by the Department of Finance and ABS to undertake quality assurance activities related to aggregate statistics on Australian Government Procurement Contracts published annually by Department of Finance.

Department of Finance provides the ABS a list of businesses participating in Australian Government Procurement. The dataset provided to the ABS by Finance includes the following variables:

- AgencyUUID – Unique ID given to Government Departments who has contracted services
- ContractID – Unique ID assigned to each AusTender contract.
- Value – Value of each contract
- UNSPSCCode – United National Standard Products and Services Code
- ParentUNSPSCCode – Higher level of UNSPSC
- ProcurementMethod – Procurement Method used to approach the market
- PanelArrangement - Indicates that the procurement was from a panel
- ConsultancyFlag – Indicates that the procurement was for a consultancy
- SupplierPostcode – Supplier postcode listed on a contract
- SupplierCountry – Supplier country listed on a contract
- SupplierABNExempt – Indicates that the supplier is ABN Exempt
- ABN – The Australian Business Number of the contracted supplier.

ABS proposes to append the following variable to the list provided by the Department of Finance and return it to Department of Finance:

- a measure of size defined by employee counts in ranges; 0-19, 20-199 and other

The ‘Other’ category includes businesses with employees over 200 and any other entities where employee counts cannot be determined.

Department of Finance has provided the ABS with a written undertaking they will:

1. Use the list specified in the Schedule to this undertaking only for the purpose of conducting quality assurance work on the method for the AusTender consultancy, which does not involve the enforcing of any obligation or liability applicable under any enactment.
2. Not release the list or any part of the list, either directly or indirectly, to another person outside of Department of Finance, other than to a contractor who may require access to the list for the purposes of providing services to the Department.
3. Appoint a contact officer who will manage the processes for individuals within the Department of Finance to request access to the list release; and will circulate information to individuals within the Department of Finance who are granted approval by the ABS to access the list.
4. Maintain a register of all officers of Department of Finance who have access to the list and provide a copy of that register to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) on request and on return of the list to the ABS.
5. If it is necessary for a contractor to have access to the list for the purpose of providing services to Department of Finance the Department will ensure that the contractor and every person employed by the contractor who has access to the list provide the Statistician with a relevant undertaking prior to accessing the list.
6. Not discuss the content of the list or any part of the list, either directly or indirectly, to any person outside of Department of Finance, other than to a contractor who may require access to the list for the purposes of providing services to the Department.
7. Provide a copy of any information relevant to the maintenance of ABS registers if so requested by the ABS.
8. For the purpose of conducting a compliance audit concerning observance of the terms and conditions under which the list is disclosed allow ABS officers access to necessary documents and information.
9. Return or destroy all copies of the list to the ABS as soon as the consultancy has been completed.

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