

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

**PROPOSAL NO. 2 OF 2023**

**BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**RETAIL AND WHOLESALE INDUSTRY SURVEY**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of improving our understanding and measurement of the financial performance and production activity of Australian businesses primarily engaged in Retail and Wholesale trade operations.

The information will be collected:

- in relation to the 2022-23 reference period
- from August 2023
- via the Economic Activity Survey and a supplementary Retail and Wholesale product survey
- from approximately 5,000 businesses/organisations for the supplementary survey and
- by direct collection via an online platform.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- main business activity
- additional income detail, e.g. retail and wholesale split, online sales, service income and
- sales and cost of goods sold for specific products.

The information collected will be released in *Australian Industry* and used in the compilation of the Australian National Accounts in relation to the supply of products, trade margins and household final consumption expenditure. This data will support industry performance analysis and economic planning.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available from mid-2024.

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

- Government departments and
- industry groups and industry representative bodies.

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 industry businesses
- conducted concept and forms testing to ensure data is readily available and
- implemented best practice survey design advice from collection methodology experts within the ABS.

This collection was last conducted in August 2013 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 16 of 2013.

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11 April 2023