



Re: Crikey media enquiry 

09/08/2016 09:59 AM

to: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

[redacted]

cheers [redacted]

[redacted] --09/08/2016 08:38:47 AM---Hi [redacted] Josh Taylor from Crikey has sent these questions for a story he's doing on Crikey? His dead

From: [redacted] Staff/ABS
To: [redacted] Staff/ABS@ABS,
Cc: [redacted] Staff/ABS@ABS, [redacted] Staff/ABS@ABS, [redacted] Staff/ABS@ABS
Date: 09/08/2016 08:38 AM
Subject: Crikey media enquiry

H [redacted]

Josh Taylor from Crikey has sent these questions for a story he's doing on Crikey? His deadline is 11.30am. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Can you please let me know if these are questions you could answer?

- Has ABS used DOB, sex, and age to match data in the past? Why is keeping names and addresses more effective than this method?

Not my area to advise on. However...

[redacted]
[redacted]

The destruction of names and addresses after 18 months have meant that any projects undertaken after this point were of significantly lower quality and less valuable to research. See the below research paper for further details
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1351.0.55.045>

- What does the ABS' Data Quality and Assurance team do during Census processing?

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- Are staff in this section able to view Census forms?

[REDACTED] but the names will have been stripped off. All people within the section have signed the oath of Fidelity and Secrecy and are very aware of their legal obligations and responsibilities. All staff are bound by the legislation for life whether or not they continue to work for the ABS. Failure to comply with the legislation [REDACTED] result in heavy fines and/or imprisonment.

- What security protections are in place to ensure that the data these officers are viewing is secure (are mobile phones banned?)

All of our Census processes, practices and infrastructure have been designed with security in mind. There are a range of personnel, physical and IT security protections put in place across our ABS locations that have responsibility for capturing, processing and quality assuring Census data. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Is the data de-identified when they view it?

[REDACTED]

At the end of Census processing data is de-identified and names and addresses are removed from Census data. The ABS as an accredited Integrating Authority then ensures these identifying variables (name/address) are separated from content variables and information is stored on separate servers, with clear functional separation between staff who can see the identifying information and staff with access to see content data. Further details are available on the ABS website:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Statistical+Data+Integration+-+ABS+Integrating+Authority+information>

- How long has the Census Data Enhancement team been in existence?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(P) [REDACTED] (M) [REDACTED]

(E) [REDACTED] (W) www.abs.gov.au

[REDACTED] --09/08/2016 09:37:29 AM---Hi [REDACTED] Some comments below in blue

From: [REDACTED] Staff/ABS
To: [REDACTED] ABS@ABS,
Cc: [REDACTED] Staff/ABS@ABS, [REDACTED] Staff/ABS@ABS, [REDACTED] Staff/ABS@ABS, [REDACTED]
/Staff/ABS@ABS
Date: 09/08/2016 09:37 AM
Subject: Re: Crikey media enquiry

Hi [REDACTED]

Some comments below in blue

Director

Technology Applications | Census 2016 | **Australian Bureau of Statistics**

(P) [REDACTED] (M) [REDACTED]

(E) [REDACTED] (W) www.abs.gov.au

[REDACTED] --09/08/2016 08:38:47 AM---Hi [REDACTED] Josh Taylor from Crikey has sent these questions for a story he's doing on Crikey? His dead

From: [REDACTED] Staff/ABS
To: [REDACTED] /Staff/ABS@ABS,
Cc: [REDACTED] Staff/ABS@ABS, [REDACTED] Staff/ABS@ABS, [REDACTED] Staff/ABS@ABS
Date: 09/08/2016 08:38 AM
Subject: Crikey media enquiry

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Media and PR Officer

Census Communications | Communications and Dissemination Branch | **Australian Bureau of Statistics**

(P) [REDACTED] (E) [REDACTED] (W) www.abs.gov.au

Contact the Census Media team on 02 6252 6617 or census.media@abs.gov.au