

From: s22
To: s22
Cc: s22
Subject: Summary of Health's 2021 Census submissions [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 11 October 2019 9:55:10 AM
Attachments: s22

Hi s22 ,

As discussed I summarised the submissions for 16 July meeting between ABS and Health Exec Board.

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- Health submitted four proposals to the 2021 Census topic consultation which closed 30 June 2018.
- Sex, Gender and Sexual orientation questions were proposed for collection in the Census to support policy-making and service planning that can meet the needs of people from Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) communities. For example, the Aged Care Diversity Framework identifies the requirement to provide care that meets a person's individual diverse needs. Lack of data about LGBTI people puts this cohort of Australians at a significant disadvantage in terms of enabling policy makers and service delivery agencies to accurately predict where resources including healthcare and aged care targeting the LGBTI population may be required.
- Smoking was proposed as a topic for the 2021 Census to provide reliable smoking rates for small geographic areas and small population groups. This would facilitate more targeted messaging and programs to assist Australians with smoking cessation, Collecting smoking status data along with other Census information such as demographic information, family structure, socioeconomic information and others will help identify target groups who would benefit from anti-smoking messages/campaigns/interventions.
- A chronic conditions topic was proposed to support estimates for local areas and small population groups. Combining chronic conditions data with other characteristics collected in the Census would aid in understanding the social determinants of health, and inform actions to address health inequalities.
- The Department also sought an additional question relating to the Nation/ Clan / Mob identification of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander respondents in order to improve the accuracy of counting of the Indigenous population. Improving our understanding of the diversity of nation/klan/mob identification, including by small area geography, would greatly assist in responding to the challenge of making the health system culturally safe for Indigenous Australians.

I'll dig out the submissions and send you links in a separate email.

Regards,

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