

s22

From: s22

Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 11:27 AM

To: EDWARDS, Caroline <Caroline.Edwards@health.gov.au>

Subject: Passage of Census Regulations [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Caroline

The *Census and Statistics Amendment (Statistical Information) Regulations 2020* (the Regulations) was tabled in Parliament on 16 June 2020. This means that the process for determining what information can be collected in the 2021 Census has been completed.

The Regulations allow the Census to collect new data on long-term health conditions, service with the Australian Defence Force and remove the internet access question. These are the first significant changes to the information collected in the Census since 2006.

Through the Census, the ABS will collect high level information on **long-term health conditions**. This includes arthritis, asthma, cancer, dementia, diabetes, stroke, heart disease, kidney disease, lung conditions and mental health conditions.

Information on long-term health conditions will inform preventive health programs and funding for local services, and assist decision making for health authorities, researchers, policy makers, communicators and educators.

The inclusion of the **Australian Defence Force service** topic will provide a better understanding of the circumstances of Australia's veteran community. Veterans have specific health and disability needs and the data collected will inform where and how to target services and support for this group.

Privacy of all data is critical to the success of the Census. Under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, no identifiable information can be released. This will apply to all new data collected on health conditions and defence force participation.

I can also confirm that Census night will be 10 August 2021.

We appreciate your support throughout this process. If you require any additional information regarding the 2021 Census, please contact census.content@abs.gov.au.

Kind regards

David

Sent by **s22** on behalf of

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