



## **National Survey of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People**

A national survey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will be conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from March to June 1994.

The survey is one of the government's responses to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody which identified a lack of nationally comparable statistical information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Meetings with more than 200 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations have resulted in positive support for the survey which will provide information that has not before been available.

### **Who will benefit from the survey ?**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will benefit, information gathered is to be used to better target services. It will also provide organisations with information on which to base funding submissions as well as training and employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who

Following consultations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Inlander organisations, it is proposed that the survey collect information on a range of issues.

### **Information will also be collected on -**

- families, including relationships in households and childcare services
- culture, including the use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, barriers to taking part in cultural activities and access to homelands
- employment, including problems getting a job, employment over the last year and problems meeting cultural obligations because of work
- education and training, including attitudes of parents to schools, problems that students have, and types of training undertaken
- law and justice, access to legal services, family violence and relations with the local police;
- housing including type of house and the amount or rent paid.

### **Will I see the result**

The ABS will make the results of the survey available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander organisations. Also the ABS will provide packages of information from the survey and from other sources such as the ABS's Population Census and ATSI's Housing and Community Infrastructure Needs Survey.

Will my personal information be confidential?

Yes it will. All information collected by the ABS is strictly confidential. No details about individual people in the survey will be given to any Organisation or person It will be used only to prepare the survey results.

The ABS will meet again soon with the reference groups and Survey Advisory Committee to finalise the questions to be asked in the survey and to get agreement. to the way the information should be collected.

In September and October the areas and communities to be included in the survey will be selected the communities will be chosen at random so that each Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person has the same chance of being selected.

ABS will consul with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to discuss how the survey can best be run, and will also be looking for good people to train and work on the survey

### **Video Production**

To help let people know about the survey a series of videos are being produced, These are being included in the video program "The *Indigenous Australians*" and released to more than 1500 organisations and communities as well as through BRAC..

Should your organisation want a copy of the latest video, call one of the numbers listed below.

### **Do you want to work on the Survey?**

ABS will soon be looking for people to work on the survey. This will involved talking to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and interviewing for the survey in for survey. People are needed who are good at organising and who will be able to explain the survey and why it is important.

It is also important to fill in the survey forms accurately and do some bookwork.

Survey training will be provided and some travel will be involved. If you are interested in working on the survey, please call one of the listed numbers.

### **Want to know more**

**For more information, you can make a reverse charge call to:**

**(06) 252 7084 or (06) 252 7058, Fax (06) 252 6326,**

**or write to**

**The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey Section  
Australian Bureau of statistics, Freepost 4, Belconnen, ACT, 2616.**

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