

PART I

ALL AGENCIES ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE PART I.

If you cannot answer a question, please indicate whether the question is **NOT APPLICABLE** or if **INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE**.

Section 1: Contact details

1.1	Agency	AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS				
1.2	Reporting and financial arrangements are governed by: (Please indicate with a 'X' whether one or more of the following Acts apply)					
	<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">YES</td><td style="text-align: center;">NO</td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center;">x</td><td></td></tr></table>	YES	NO	x	
YES	NO					
x						
	<i>Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997</i>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">YES</td><td style="text-align: center;">NO</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	YES	NO		
YES	NO					
	Other					
1.3	Contact Officer	Judith Miller				
	Position	Director, Business Office				
	Phone	02 6252 7265				
	Fax	02 6252 8008				
	Email	Judith.Miller@abs.gov.au				
	Address	PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT, 2616				

This section asks about your agency's total revenues, charges and expenses. All agencies should complete this section, whether or not you consider you undertake cost recovery.

Section 2: Agency revenues, charges and expenses

(Please indicate with a 'X' which response applies)

2.1	Has your agency charged any cost recovery fees, levies or other charges in the last five financial years?	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">YES</td><td style="text-align: center;">NO</td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center;">x</td><td></td></tr></table>	YES	NO	x	
YES	NO					
x						

Relevant charges include any fees, levies, taxes (including some customs and excise duties earmarked for specific purposes) or other charges which arise from the services, programs or business activities of your agency, and which are collected by your agency or by another agency on your behalf. For example, application fees, processing charges, consultancy fees, publication sales, special industry duties, excises or levies other than general taxation.

2.2 Were any of the appropriations allocated to your agency in the last five financial years linked (hypothecated) to revenue collected from fees, levies or charges (for example, levies paid to the Consolidated Revenue Fund but earmarked for allocation to your portfolio)? (Whether the revenue was collected by your agency or by another agency on your behalf).

YES	NO
x	

2.3 Has your agency considered introducing any cost recovery arrangements in the past that were not implemented?
(Please attach any relevant reviews, analysis or other information.)

YES	NO
	x

2.4 Is your agency considering introducing any cost recovery arrangements in the future?
(Please attach any relevant reviews, analysis or other information.)

YES	NO
	x

If you answered NO to questions 2.1 and 2.2, you need not answer any further questions. Thank you for your cooperation. Please return the questionnaire to the Commission (see front sheet for instructions).

If you answered YES to EITHER question 2.1 OR question 2.2 OR both, please complete section 3 below, and Part II on the following worksheet.

Section 3: Agency revenues and expenses

3.1 Does your agency classify revenues and expenses as agency and administered?

YES	NO
x	

Agency revenues and expenses are those controlled by the department/agency (for example, employee and administrative expenses). Administered revenues and expenses are those which are controlled by Government and managed or oversighted by the department/agency on behalf of the Government (for example, social security payments).

If your agency classifies revenues and expenses as 'agency' and 'administered' then please fill in both tables below. If your agency does not classify revenues and expenses as 'agency' and 'administered' then please put all revenues and expenses in the 'agency' table below.

**AGENCY
revenues and**

1995-96 1996-97 1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000

Agency revenue from cost recovery (a)						
3.2	Cost recovery revenue retained by your agency					
3.3	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF and appropriated to your agency (or another agency for a specific purpose (ie. annotated, hypothecated or earmarked revenues)					
		25,134	23,132	31,027	22,702	21,468
3.4	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF and not specifically appropriated to your agency (or another agency)					
3.5	Total agency revenue from cost recovery	25134	23132	31027	22702	21468
Agency revenue from other sources						
3.6	Other appropriations	242,293	299778	220409	204433	241936
3.7	Other sources (eg. asset sales, dividends, interest, funding from other government agencies)					
		347	465	726	444	1620
3.8	Total agency revenue from other sources	242640	300243	221135	204877	243556
3.9	Total agency revenue	267774	323375	252162	227579	265024
3.10	Total agency expenses	256648	326930	240329	227875	255525

CRF Consolidated Revenue Fund

(a) Include all revenue from fees, levies, excises and other charges which arise from the services or activities of your agency and which is paid to your agency to another agency or to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

ADMINISTERED revenues and

1995-96 1996-97 1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000

Administered revenue from cost recovery (a)						
3.11	Cost recovery revenue retained by your agency					
3.12	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF and appropriated to your agency (or another agency for a specific purpose (ie. annotated, hypothecated or earmarked revenues)					
3.13	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF and not specifically appropriated to your agency (or another agency)	56	60	38	1447	1014
3.14	Total administered revenue from cost recovery	56	60	38	1447	1014

Administered revenue from other sources

3.15	Other appropriations					
3.16	Other sources (eg. asset sales, dividends, interest, funding from other government agencies)					
3.17	Total administered revenue from other sources	0	0	0	0	0
3.18	Total administered revenue	56	60	38	1447	1014
3.19	Total administered expenses	0	0	0	0	0

CRF Consolidated Revenue Fund

(a) Include all revenue from fees, levies, excises and other charges which arise from the services or activities of your agency and which is paid to your agency to another agency or to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

End of Part I. Please complete Part II, which is on a separate worksheet.

PART II

If your agency operated any cost recovery arrangements in 1999-2000, please complete this part.

Please fill out a separate form for each sub-unit, cost recovery program or activity, or output or outcome for which you are reporting. Similar cost recovery arrangements should be reported in groups.

PART II(a)

Name of sub-unit, agency, program or activity, output or outcome

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Section 4: Cost recovery arrangements in 1999-2000

	Descriptive material	
4.1	Nature of cost recovery arrangement (eg. licence fee, service charge, hypothecated excise tax or levy)	Revenues from the sales of goods and services are paid and all revenues returned to ABS as 'annotated'
4.2	Basic description of arrangements: (Please attach any relevant documents.)	Revenues are returned under Section 31 of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 in accordance with agreement
4.3	Who pays the cost recovery charges?	Client who purchases the statistical products
4.4	Who benefits from the program or activity, output or outcome?	Clients benefit in that statistical products are available for business objectives. Taxpayers benefit as the cost of required for a private benefit is moved from the taxpayer to private benefit. The ABS benefits as it enables the data services to be used as a reliable indicator of how ABS is performing and encourages users to address their real needs
4.5	Do you attempt to measure these benefits? If YES, how?	The ABS measure client satisfaction on a regular basis. The costs have been recovered in accordance with the agreement

4.6	Are there alternate providers or substitutes for this program or activity, output or outcome? (Please describe)	The ABS is Australia's national statistical agency. While providing statistical and data services none is comparable in depth of information. ABS licences, for a fee, a range of users provide ABS data, often combined in packages with
4.7	When was this cost recovery arrangement introduced?	1988

PART II(b)

Name of sub-unit, agency, program or activity, output or outcome

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Program or activity, output or outcome cost recovery arrangements in 1999-2000 (continued)

(Please use \$'000)

Program or activity, output or outcome revenues

4.8	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF earmarked for appropriation to same agency	\$
4.9	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF earmarked for appropriation to a third party	\$
4.10	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF and not earmarked for particular appropriation	\$
4.11	Cost recovery revenue paid to CRF (subtotal)	\$
4.12	Cost recovery not paid into CRF	
4.13	Total cost recovery revenue	
4.14	Appropriations not related to cost recovery	
4.15	Other sources (please specify)	
4.16	Total program or activity, output or outcome revenues	

Program or activity, output or outcome expenses

4.17	Direct expenses	\$
4.18	Indirect expenses (including corporate overheads)	\$
4.19	Third party expenses (a)	\$
4.20	Total program or activity, output or outcome expenses	\$

Administration costs

These costs are included in the total expenses and cannot be separately identified.

4.21	What costs are associated with administering the cost recovery arrangements?	\$
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CRF Consolidated Revenue Fund. Direct costs are those directly related to a particular program. Indirect costs include indirect agency overheads and general running costs.
 (a) Include third party costs where third parties are involved in a program or activity and their costs are being recovered as part of the cost recovery arrangements.

PART II(c)

Name of sub-unit, agency, program or activity, output or outcome

Applies to all cost recovery programs listed for the ABS

Section 5: Institutional arrangements

<p>5.1 What was the rationale for introducing these cost recovery arrangements? (Please attach sources, eg. legislative objects clauses, press releases, second reading speeches.)</p>	<p>The ABS cost recovery arrangements were introduced in 1988 in line with Com The objectives of cost recovery were threefold. (a) to enable demand for ABS as a more reliable indicator of how ABS resources should be used; (b) to encourage needs for ABS products; and (c) to relieve the general taxpayer of those elements of service which had a specific and identifiable value to spend.</p>
<p>5.2 What was the legal basis for establishing these cost recovery arrangements: (Please name and attach relevant documents.)</p> <p>Legislation (eg. s.31 of the Financial Management and Accountability Act, tax or levy acts) Subordinate legislation (eg. regulations, standards)</p> <p>Co-regulation or quasi-regulation</p> <p>Commonwealth/State/Territory agreement</p> <p>Voluntary arrangements (eg. codes of practice)</p> <p>Other</p>	<p>The initial arrangements with the Department of Finance were put in place under the Audit Act 1901. With the replacement of the Audit Act 1901 by the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997, the arrangements are formalised under Section 31 of the F</p>

5.3	Who was consulted about introducing these cost recovery arrangements? (Please name relevant bodies and describe the consultation arrangements.)	
	Commonwealth government (DOFA etc)	Cabinet, Department of Finance, other Com
	Other governments (state, territory, local)	State Governme
	Industry	
	Consumers	
	Other	Australian Statistics Advis
5.4	What guidelines were consulted when establishing these cost recovery arrangements? (Please attach source of information, guidelines etc.)	DoF guidelines on pricing (May, 1988)
5.5	Which agency is responsible for the following activities? (Please name relevant agency)	
	Policy setting	ABS
	Price setting	ABS
	Administration	ABS
	Revenue collection	ABS
5.6	Is there any ongoing consultation about these cost recovery arrangements? With whom? (Please name relevant bodies.)	
	Commonwealth government (DOFA etc)	Under Section 31 of the FIMA Act agreements are still made between DoFA an one year.
	Other governments (state, territory, local)	
	Industry	

Consumers

Other

Other statistical age

5.7

Please describe these consultation arrangements.

Discussions are held, from time to time, with other international statistical age and policies applying for pricing statistical produc

5.8

Have the cost recovery arrangements been formally reviewed? What was the outcome? (Please attach copy of review)

No external review has been conducted. However, an internal review was und of the costs and revenue outcomes are undertaken and prices are then reviewe

PART II(d)

Name of sub-unit, agency, program or activity, output or outcome

Australian Bureau of Statist

Section 6: Price setting arrangements

6.1

How are these cost recovery charges determined? (Please attach any relevant documents)

- (i) How are charges set? (eg. by formula in legislation or based on 'market prices')
- (ii) Are charges directly related to the costs of particular activities, outcomes or outputs, or charged on some other basis? (eg. levies on users' turnover, profits or assets)

Based on cost recovery. See

Most relate to the costs of particular activities to cover a small part of the costs of servicin infrastructure and oth

6.2

If charges are directly related to the costs of particular activities, outputs or outcomes:

- (i) What costs do charges aim to recover? (eg. only direct costs or indirect costs such as overheads)
- (ii) What proportion of these costs do charges aim to recover? (%)
- (iii) Does the charging regime require assets to be valued? (eg. to allow the calculation of user cost of capital or return on assets)
- (iv) If 'YES' to (iii), on what basis are assets valued? (eg. historic, replacement, deprivation or replacement cost)
- (v) Do charges include a user cost of capital?

Some lines of products and services recove and some just direct costs as outlined in t ABS prices aim to recover 100% of cost

In some instances

Historic

No

(vi) If 'YES' to (iv), how is it calculated?	
(vii) Do charges include return on assets? (eg. profit)	No, but in a few instances, an allowance
(viii) If 'YES' to (vii), on what basis?	
(ix) Do charges discriminate between types of users?	No
(x) If 'YES' to (ix), on what basis?	
(xi) Do charges allow for access and equity considerations (eg. waivers, discounts)?	Yes
(xii) If 'YES' to (xi), on what basis?	The ABS has a very extensive Community Service program. See accompanying
(xiii) Other (Please describe other significant features)	

6.3	How are indirect costs allocated for cost recovery arrangements? (eg. activity based costing, according to share of direct costs or other rule.)	For most of its cost recovery history, the ABS for the allocation of overheads over direct lab recording was used plus a reduced allocation model.
6.4	Are there any price controls on these charges?	No.
6.5	How often is the level of charges changed?	Prices are reviewed annually. Changes are made as needed however.
6.6	What happens if revenue recovered is greater than costs incurred?	Cost recovery is a basis for ABS to set price revenue is greater than costs incurred in any year accrues to the ABS. Prices are revised each year. In 1999, total revenue was \$21.5 million

End of Part II. Thank you for your cooperation. Please return the questionnaire and attachments to the Commission (see front sheet for instructions)

arrangements may be reported

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into consolidated revenue with
d' appropriations.

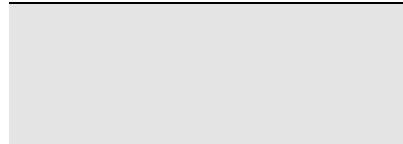
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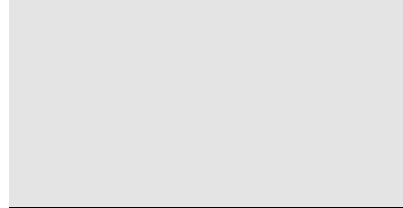
or progressing community and
delivering statistical products
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mand for ABS products and
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The other measure is whether
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le to ABS in terms of breadth or
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h other data and software.



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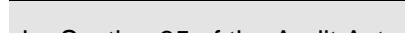
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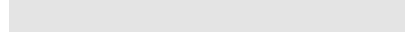
Not Available



Commonwealth Government Policy.
products and services to used
range users to address their real
needs of the cost of the statistical
information users.



Under Section 35 of the Audit Act
and Accountability Act 1997,
MA Act.



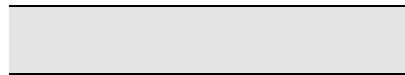
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ncies regarding developments
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rtaken in 1994. Annual reviews
d in the light of review findings.

ics

attached table.

. Licence fees and royalties aim
g the licence holder, including
er costs

r both direct and indirect costs
he notes accompanying this
s defined to be recovered.

, yes

e for 'risk' is incorporated

vice Obligation policy in place.
notes.

S has used the DoF guidelines
our costs. In 1999/2000, activity
n of overheads as per the DoF

e not always made each year

s and in the unlikely event that
one year then the revenue still
year to avoid that situation. In
le costs were \$21.6m

structions)
