

2016 Census of Population and Housing: Submission Form for Content or Procedures, 2016

Before completing this form

Pre-submission reading: Before making a submission, please read the following information paper [Census of Population and Housing: Consultation on Content and Procedures, 2016 \(cat. no. 2007.0\)](#). This paper sets out initial proposals from the ABS on content and procedures for the 2016 Census and invites comment from the public.

Preparing your submission: Submissions for the inclusion of a new topic or the modification of an existing topic require detailed justification against the following criteria to facilitate assessment:

- The topic is of current national importance.
- There is a current need for data on the topic for small population groups and/or at the small area level.
- There are no other suitable alternative data sources available for the topic.
- The topic is suitable for inclusion in the Census.
- There is likely to be a continuing need for data on the topic in the following Census.

If you wish to make a submission on any aspect of the Census, you will need to complete the following form. **A separate submission will be required for each topic or aspect** of the Census you wish to address.

We advise that you look at the questions being asked and prepare your submission before starting your form. **The on-line submission form does not have a save function.** Therefore once you start you will need to complete it, or start over if you exit out of the form, unless you have saved your content in another location.

Lodging submissions

Please lodge your submission for the 2016 Census content or procedures using either this submission form or the online version at <https://secure.abs.gov.au/census/submissions.NSF>

Please return the completed form to 2016census@abs.gov.au (if completed electronically). If you are submitting a paper version of this form, please return it to:

2016 Census Submissions
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616

Due Date

The submission period is open from 6 November 2012 - 31 May 2013.

Help

If you have any queries about the submission process please visit www.abs.gov.au/census, email 2016census@abs.gov.au or telephone 1300 135 070.

Contact details

Q1. Please provide contact details of the person to contact regarding this submission.

Note: These details must be completed as anonymous submissions will not be considered. * Denotes mandatory fields

Name: Submitted by economic Security4Women (eS4W) on behalf of the Gender Statistics Advisory Group (GSAG)

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, etc): Ms

First name*: Dalma

Surname*: Jacobs

Postal address*:

PO Box/Apartment, Flat or Unit No (if any): PO BOX 591

Street No.:

Street Name:

Suburb: NORTH SYDNEY

State/Territory: NSW

Postcode: 2059

Country, if not in Australia:

Phone number: 07 3720 2500

Mobile number:

Email address*: dalma@dalmajacobs.com

Q2. Do you agree to allow the ABS to publicly refer to the information provided in this submission as a statement of your, or your organisation's, views on the relevant topics or procedures?*

Note: The ABS may make public the views put forward in this submission. However, the ABS will not publish the names of persons or organisations making submissions unless you have given permission to do so.

Please select a response below:

Yes, I agree

No, I do not agree

Preliminary information

Q3. Are you are completing this submission as a*:

Please select a response below:

- Private individual not representing any organisation? ▶ **Go to Q7**
- Representative of an organisation or government department? ▶ **Go to next question**

Q4. What is the name and address of your organisation?*

Note: For organisations with offices at more than one location please indicate the address where your head office is located.

Name of organisation: Economic Security4Women (eS4W) submitting on behalf of the ABS Gender Statistics Advisory Group (GSAG)

Address of organisation*:

PO Box/Apartment, Flat or Unit No (if any): PO BOX 591

Street No.:

Street Name:

Suburb: NORTH SYDNEY

State/Territory: NSW

Postcode: 2959

Country, if not in Australia:

Q5. What is your position in the organisation?

Position Title: Australian Federation of Graduate Women (AFGW) Representative

Designation/Level/Role: eS4W Council Member and Member of GSAG

Q6. Which sector best describes your organisation?

Please select a response below:



Census
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- X Government Sector / Australian Government (GSAG)
- Government Sector / State / Territory
- Government Sector / Local
- Private sector (fewer than 20 employees)
- Private sector (20 or more employees)
- X Other (please specify): (eS4W) and (AFGW)
Non Government Organisation (fewer than 20 employees)

Submission for the 2016 Census of Population and Housing

Please answer, in as much detail as possible, the following questions:

Q7. Does this submission relate to*:

Please select a response below:

- A new topic? ▶ **Go to next question**
- Change to an existing topic? ▶ **Go to next question**
- The exclusion of a topic? ▶ **Go to Q16**
- Some other aspect of the Census? ▶ **Go to Q19**

Q8. What is the name of the topic?*

Note: Please use the topic names listed in *Census of Population and Housing: Consultation on Content and Procedures, 2016* (cat. no. 2007.0), if appropriate. Please specify other topics.

Second Residence/Ownership of Other Dwelling

Q9. Please define the topic and/or describe modifications you are proposing to this topic for the 2016 Census.*

Second Residence/ Ownership of Another Dwelling (new)

GSAG supports the ABS' suggestion of the inclusion of a new topic on second residence/ ownership of another dwelling as this will provide valuable information from an employment perspective. For instance, it will provide valuable information on the number of people who work away from home and live in another residence for this purpose. If this information were gender disaggregated, it would show the proportion of parents (most likely fathers) who travel for work purposes. This will help with the development of future policy on provision of services and infrastructure

In addition, this item will also provide information on children living in multiple dwellings, due to circumstances such as shared custody arrangements. This information would be particularly useful in considering policies for jobless families as the child may live in a jobless household only some of the time.

Inclusion of this topic would potentially enable greater analyses of information on families who may purchase/own a separate dwelling due to their geographic isolation and the impacts of this on schooling choice for their children.

Q10. Criteria 1: The topic is of current national importance.*

Note: What specific purposes will the data be used for? Please consider the following when addressing this criteria:

- Uses in policy-making, long-term planning, social and economic applications.
- What benefits will flow from this data.
- The consequences if this topic was not included in the 2016 Census.
- In particular, please consider what activities could not take place or would be significantly reduced or degraded in quality.

Second Residence/ Ownership of Another Dwelling

The addition of a topic providing information on second residences is very valuable to Government policy in a number of areas. These include:

- Families policy – the proportion of children growing up in multiple dwellings with different work patterns, including jobless families
- Employment policy – the proportion of workers who need to travel for work purposes, if they have families, and their median level of income
- Gender and its relationship to workplace participation – the proportion of men and women that work away from home, their family and relationship status, and median level of income
- Geographical areas – the number of geographical areas with transient working populations and the types of industries this affects.

Q11. Criteria 2: There is a current need for data on the topic for small population groups and/or at the small area level.*

Note: Please consider when addressing this criteria:

- At what geographic level will data from the topic be required?
- For which population groups will the data from the topic be required?

Please specify why the data would be useful at this level.

Second Residence/ Ownership of a Second Dwelling

Specific geographical locations will be particularly useful for this question as it will determine policy based on the circumstances of each community and allow for better targeted industry based policy. In addition, it will also determine the relationship between geographic location, multiple dwellings, and jobless families.

By examining the information on second residence for children, this data will provide valuable insights into the number of children under shared-care/ custody arrangements who may have a parent that works yet lives in a separate dwelling (for instance, due to divorce, separation, Fly in Fly Out (FIFO) families or where one parent is away for extended periods).

Q12. Criteria 3: There are no suitable alternative data sources available for the topic.*

Are there any alternative data sources available for the topic? If yes, please specify and consider the following in relation to these data sources when addressing this criteria.

- Why are these data sources not appropriate for the purposes indicated in the first criteria?
- Will these data sources provide high quality data for the entire population, and/or for small population groups and/or at the small area level?
- Name of alternative data source and organisation responsible if known.

Second Residence/ Ownership of a Second Dwelling

To the best of our knowledge, there are no other sources of information that can provide the level of detail comparable to the Census.

Q13. Criteria 4: The topic is suitable for inclusion in the Census.*

Note: Please consider when addressing this criteria that Census topics should not:

- Upset people by invading their privacy to an unacceptable degree. The information you will get from such a topic would be subject to bias and will affect other data used and collected in conjunction with it.
- Be subjective (i.e. likely to have varying interpretations for individuals, such as "How would you rate your overall health status").
- Seek information which may not be generally known such as "where was your maternal grandmother born".
- Be complex to code or difficult to process. You should consider the way answers would need to be classified.
- Require people to remember things they are unlikely to be able to, for example "What was your income five years ago".
- Seek opinions or attitudes.
- Require more than one or two questions to obtain the required information.
- Require an overlong explanation or instructions to ensure an accurate answer. If the type of question needed cannot be understood with minimum of explanation, it is not suitable or appropriate for inclusion in the Census.

Second Residence/ Ownership of a Second Dwelling

The addition of a question on a second residence is in keeping with other similar questions in the Census, for instance, those away from home on Census night that typically live in the same dwelling. For this reason, it is unlikely to be viewed as an invasion of privacy to an unacceptable degree.

The question on a second residence/ ownership of a second dwelling will seek factual information and therefore is not subjective, nor open to interpretation. The question could be relatively straightforward, eliminating the need for complex questioning or instructions.

Q14. Criteria 5: There is likely to be a continuing need for data on the topic in the following Census.*

Note: Please consider the following when addressing this criteria:

- Will there still be a need for data on this topic at the time of next Census in 2021, and into the future?

Second Residence/ Ownership of a Second Dwelling

Information of this nature is likely to be required on an ongoing basis, particularly with the evolving nature of Australian family composition. With the movement away from the typical nuclear family, living situations may increase in complexity and Governments need to understand this information in order to inform timely, evidence-based policy making.

It will also provide a good indication of the risk-taking behaviour of citizens (for instance, investing in property), and thus will also indicate levels of trust in the economy

Q15. Please also consider the following points in relation to the topic and include in your submission*:

- What data output items will be required for the topic? (Please provide details of the output categories required and, if appropriate, ranges/descriptions for each category.)
- What cross-classifications will be needed with other Census topics?
- Could this topic be included on a 10-yearly cycle rather than a 5-yearly cycle?

Second Residence/ Ownership of a Second Dwelling

A question on second residence may take the following form:

Do you or your child/ren, live in or own a second residence?

Answers may take the following form:

- No
- Yes, I have one or more investment properties other than my place of residence
- Yes, my child/ren live with their other parent some of the time
- Yes, I live in other accommodation for work and/or study purposes

What is the location of your second residence (if any)?

Manual write in e.g. Sydney

Data outputs would be similar to questions with multiple choice selections, however some manual input is required for some respondents.

Q16. Is there any topic which you consider should be excluded from the 2016 Census?

Please select a response below :

No ▶ **Go to question 19**

Yes ▶ **Go to next question**

Q17. What is the name of the topic which you consider should be excluded from the 2016 Census?

Note: Please use the topic names listed in *Census of Population and Housing: Consultation on Content and Procedures, 2016* (cat. no. 2007.0, if appropriate. Please specify other topics.

Q18. Why do you think that this topic should be excluded from the 2016 Census?

Q19. Would you like to provide any further comments on the proposals for the 2016 Census?

No

Q20. Would you like to attach a file to support your submission?

- Yes, I would like to attach a file
- No, I would not like to attach a file

Acknowledgement

Once the ABS has received your submission, we will send you or your organisation a letter of acknowledgement, either by post or email.

What happens after submissions close?

Following assessment of submissions, final recommendations on the nature and content of the 2016 Census will be discussed with the Australian Statistics Advisory Council (ASAC) in late 2013. The ABS will then make a submission to the Government, including recommendations on the nature and content of the 2016 Census. A decision on the content of the 2016 Census is expected to be known by the end of 2014. People who have provided submissions will be advised of the outcome.

Thank you for your interest in the 2016 Census