

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)**

**PROPOSAL NO. 9 OF 2021  
BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**SURVEY OF FOREIGN CURRENCY EXPOSURE**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of determining Australia's foreign currency exposure as at 31 March 2022. The survey data will inform the extent to which Australian resident entities manage foreign exchange risk, and the methods by which they hedge the risk.

The Survey of Foreign Currency Exposure is conducted on behalf of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), and since 2005, has been conducted every 4 years. The current iteration of the survey was delayed from March 2021 to March 2022 due to COVID-19.

The data will be collected:

- commencing March 2022;
- from organisations with financial interest in foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities;
- as a selection of approximately 1,500 organisations with substantial foreign currency exposure;
- by partial coverage survey.

Data will be collected on a range of indicators including:

- foreign equity assets;
- foreign currency denominated financial debt assets and liabilities;
- foreign currency denominated receipts and payments from trade in goods and services expected in the future;
- the notional and market value of outstanding derivative contracts with a foreign currency component;
- the policies enterprises adopt when hedging foreign currency exposure.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of *Foreign Currency Exposure, Australia, March Quarter 2022*.

The ABS expect to make statistical and related information from the collection available from October 2022. The data collected from this survey will assist the RBA to meet Australia's international obligations to the International Monetary Fund and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. The data informs the evaluation of Australia's economic resilience to international financial shocks.

The survey has been co-developed with the RBA. The data will be utilised by the RBA, other Commonwealth Government agencies, research organisations and industry to assess the extent of risk associated with foreign currency exposure faced by Australian enterprises.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection, and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available;
- has consulted with the RBA and survey respondents; and
- implemented changes to the survey, based on consultations.

The survey was last conducted in 2017, tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 1 of 2017.

Jacqui Jones  
General Manager  
Macroeconomic Statistics Division

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