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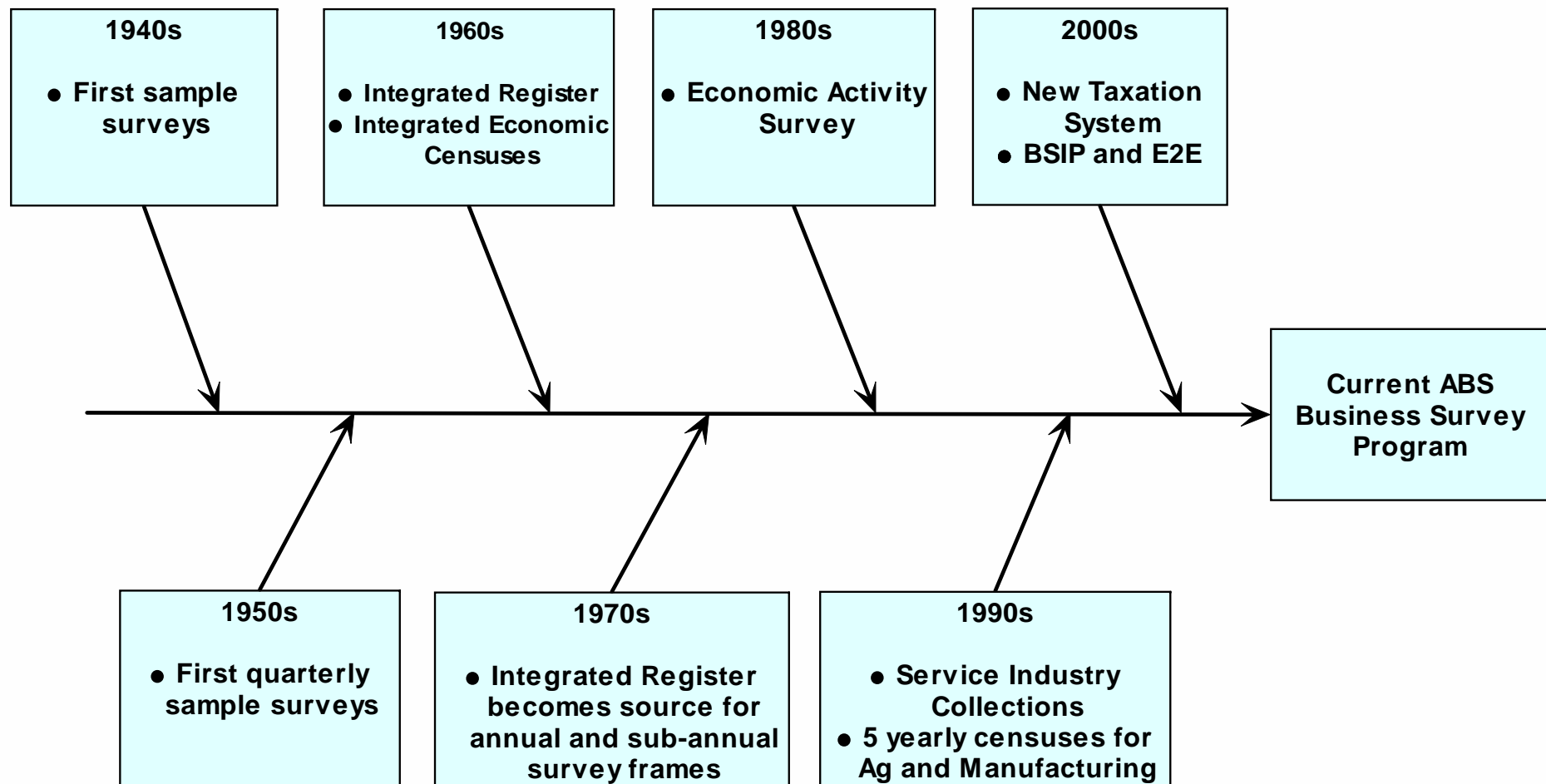
Economic Censuses and Surveys **Australia**

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Economic Censuses and Surveys in Australia

- Evolution of ABS Business Surveys
- Underpinning principles
- Use of Administrative Data sources
- Business Survey frames
- Relationship management
- Challenges
- Positioning for the Future

Evolution of ABS Business Surveys



Current ABS Business Survey Program (examples)

Economic Statistics Area	Examples of key collections	Survey Type	Sample Size	Frequency
International & Financial Accounts	International Investment Survey	partial census	1,000	quarterly
Price Indexes	Labour Price Index	sample survey	3,500	quarterly
	Producer Price Index (PPI)	purposive sample	2,500	quarterly
Sub-annual Economic Activity	Retail Business Survey	sample survey	1,400	monthly
	Business Indicators Survey	sample survey	15,800	quarterly
	New Capital expenditure	sample survey	8,000	quarterly
Innovation & Business Demographics	Business Characteristics Survey	sample survey	14,300	annual
Industry	Economic Activity Survey (Industry wide)	sample survey	15,000	annual
Environment & Agriculture	Agriculture Commodities and Resource Management	sample survey	30,000	annual
	Agriculture Census	census	150,000	5 yearly
Labour	Average weekly Earnings	sample survey	6,000	quarterly

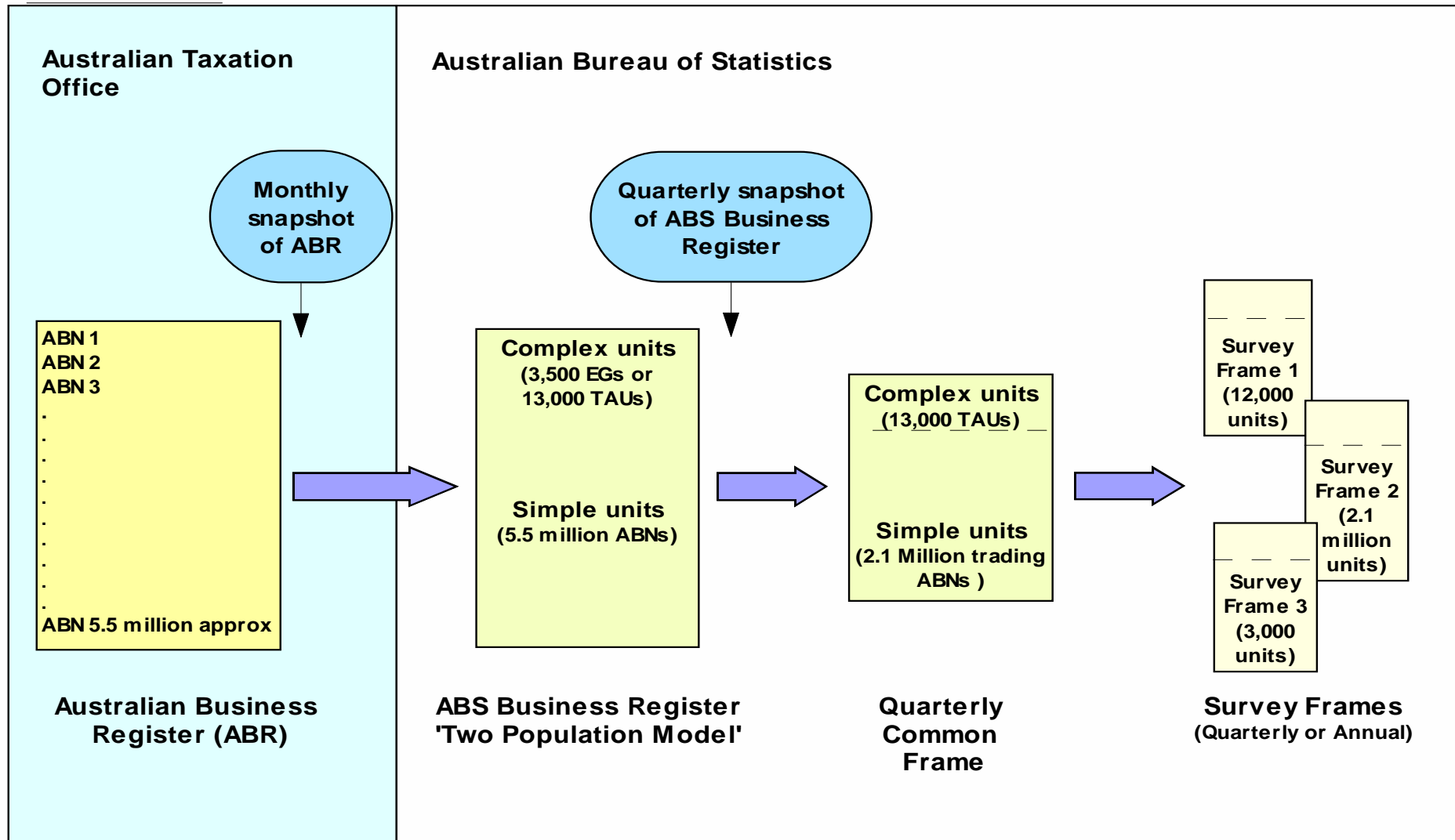
Underpinning principles

- Information is collected only where a clear user need is established
- Use administrative data wherever possible to reduce provider burden and program costs
- Quality of information must continue to be 'fit for purpose'
- Frameworks and standards
 - SNA, BPM, ANZSIC
- ABS Business Register
 - 'two-population' model
 - based on Australian Business Register

Administrative Data Sources

- Taxation data
- Customs data
- Regulation of Finance and Insurance industries
- Government financial accounts
- Motor vehicle registrations
- Building approvals

Creation of ABS Business Survey Frames



Relationship Management

- Strong engagement is a key aspect in ensuring quality and supply of administrative data
- Memoranda of Understanding
- Maintenance of both strategic and operational relationships at many levels
- Promotion and support for statistical standards and methods
 - e.g. implementation of ANZSIC 2006 an important joint undertaking between ABS and ATO

Challenges

- Delivering more with less
 - demand for new and innovative statistics
 - reduced budgets
- Further integration and linkage to administrative data
 - meeting unmet and emerging client needs
 - environment and regional data
- Readiness for significant external changes
 - eg. Standard Business Reporting

Positioning for the future

Ensure organization remains flexible and adaptable

- Restructuring along functional lines
 - Business Statistics Innovation Program (BSIP)
 - Reducing survey operation costs

- End to end re-engineering
 - transforming processes, technologies and methodologies
 - removing collection area 'stove pipes'

- Continued process improvement
 - eg. developing and reviewing data validation and editing strategies

Positioning for the future

- Taking a top-down view
 - ensuring most important client needs are met as a first priority
 - collection vehicles should be optimal
 - e.g. the Annual Integrated Collection (AIC) has integrated the designs, methods and processes for all annual industry collections
- Learning from the past
 - ensuring 'proof of concept'
 - e.g. innovations involving complex designs need to be understood and proven
- Maintain underpinning principles and infrastructure

Questions?