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Role of Business Registers

ABS Registers Transformation Program

Abstract

ABS has embarked on an organisational transformation program that includes redeveloping the role of registers. In the post transformed ABS, registers will play two distinct roles, providing frames for sample surveys, and providing the mechanism for linking unit level datasets that will enable better unit level analysis, including enabling greater micro-economic analysis than has been possible to date. The same approach will be applied to the two main registers maintained by the ABS, the Business Register and the Address Register. The first section of the paper describes the role of registers as a frame source, including work that the ABS is undertaking to migrate all of its business surveys to the ABS business register. The second section of the paper will describe the role of registers as a data linking key, that will enable the ABS to better integrate and link of the micro level datasets held, enabling more analysis than has been possible to date. The third section of the paper outlines the conceptual model that will under pin the redeveloped ABS Business Register, with a key feature being a narrower Business Register spine comprised of legal entity identifiers that will be used to link and integrate other datasets.