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Counts of Australian businesses, including entries and exits, June 2010 to June 2014

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Abstract:

Over 95% of Australian businesses are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). Even so, information about where SMEs are located, industry overviews and survival rates is not always easy to come by. We look to present statistical insights into how SME counts have changed over the last four years. The Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits publication provides an extensive statistical overview of Australian businesses actively trading in the market sector. This presentation will use select information from the publication to paint a picture of small and medium enterprise representation in Australia. A key focus of the presentation will be to demonstrate how people can use the large amounts of data to research and generate data for their own business demographic needs. Through using data that is available to the public free of charge, we will provide some demonstrations of the type of research that people can undertake of their own.

Keywords: Statistics, survival rates, industry, research, data, market sector.

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INTRODUCTION: HOW BUSINESS STATISTICS CAN HELP SMES

The Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits (cat. no. 8165.0) is a statistical publication providing counts of businesses actively trading in the Australian market sector. The publication provides insights into business counts by business size, industry, state and territory, type of legal organisation and institutional sector. Additional data cubes are made available to the public so they may investigate their own areas of business demographic research, including at lower levels of geography. This presentation looks to provide an overview of business counts in Australia with a particular emphasis on small and medium businesses. In addition, the presentation will provide information about the types of data that is available and for their own data research needs.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND/OR RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND FINDINGS

The Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits (cat. no. 8165.0) is sourced through a combination of Australian Business Register and Australian Taxation Office data. The publication contains a wide range of business count data for the reference period June 2010 to June 2014 and can be located at the following website address:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/8165.0>

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits (cat. no. 8165.0) is used by Government departments and agencies to examine changes in the Australian market sector. Data about small and medium business enterprises are used by several departments with the objective of understanding and monitoring changes in small and medium business participation in the market sector, as well as understanding the sector in its entirety.

LENGTH OF PAPER (EXCLUDING COVER PAGE, REFERENCES, TABLES AND CHARTS)

The main publication is 50 pages of which around 4 pages are findings, around 17 pages are tables containing statistical information and the remainder include technical notes, glossary, explanatory notes and appendixes.