![Australian Bureau of Statistics logo]

2026 Census topic consultation - Phase two

Response 423841520

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☐ Include unanswered questions

Contact details

Organisation name (if applicable)

Aleph Melbourne

Select the category that best describes you or the organisation you represent:

Please select one item

○ Individual

○ Academia/educational institution

○ Australian government

◯ Business

✔ Community organisation

◯ Industry body/association

◯ Local government

◯ Non-government organisation

◯ State/territory government

◯ Other (please specify)

Has this submission been prepared in collaboration with any other individual(s) or organisation(s)?

Please select one item

◯ Yes (provide details below)

✔ No (select the Continue button at the bottom of the page)

Potential removal - Number of children ever born

Do you currently use Number of children ever born data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

◯ Yes

✔ No

Potential removal - Number of motor vehicles

Do you currently use Number of motor vehicles data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

◯ Yes

✔ No

Potential removal - Unpaid work - domestic activities

Do you currently use Unpaid work - domestic activities data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

◯ Yes

✔ No

Potential removal and potential changes - Work topics

Do you currently use Incorporation status (owner manager) data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

◯ Yes

✔ No

Potential changes - Ancestry and Ethnic identity

Do you currently use Ancestry data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

( ) Yes

(✔) No

Potential changes - Language

Do you currently use Language used at home data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

( ) Yes

(✔) No

Potential changes - Religious affiliation

Do you currently use Religious affiliation data from the Census? (Select one)

Please select one item

(✔) Yes

( ) No

To what extent does this data currently meet your needs? (Select one)

Please select one item

✓ Fully

◯ Partially

◯ Not at all

◯ Do not have a need for the data

Please provide a detailed explanation why the data does or does not meet your needs.

I only ever look for Jewish religious affiliation and what I find in the data is satisfactory to my requirements.

Describe the expected impact for you or your organisation if the Census collected Religious affiliation through a two-part question.

Please consider both the positives and negatives, if applicable, when responding to this question.

I see no problem in asking if a person has a religious affiliation first, then if they do, asking what it is. To my thinking that is a more logical and efficient way to gather the data.

I do see the question as fraught though. Taking the Jewish community as an example, many Jews identify on a cultural or ethnic basis as Jewish, but not on a religious basis. So if you were to only ask a non-religious Jew if they had a religious affiliation and they responded honestly, that would mean they don't get the opportunity to identify their Jewish cultural affiliation, assuming

there was no other place to provide feedback on their cultural/ethnic community affiliation.

Additional feedback

Would you like to provide any feedback on the other proposed new topics for the 2026 Census? (Select all that apply)

Please select all that apply

- [ ] Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural identity
- [ ] Additional measure of disability
- [ ] Dwelling occupancy status
- [x] Gender
- [ ] Household energy use
- [ ] Impact of natural disasters
- [ ] Journey to education (Mode of travel to educational institution and Name and address of educational institution)
- [ ] Main reason for moving in last 12 months
- [x] Sexual orientation
- [ ] Shared care of children
- [x] Variations of sex characteristics

You do not need to provide information that has already been included in a submission during phase one.

I support asking about Gender, Sexual orientation and variations of sex characteristics. These provide important information about the population. My one concern is that some people might not feel comfortable providing these details honestly if the mechanism to provide them was viewable by

other people. Ideally the questions would have a mechanism to make the response not viewable by other participants of the census form.

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