



Australian Government

Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

# GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIPS

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Barry Jones

Industry and Small Business Policy Division

[innovation.gov.au](http://innovation.gov.au)





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# The Department of Innovation

- Promotes small business interests within the Federal Government.
- Responsible for independent contractor policy, including the *Independent Contractors Act 2006*.
- Responsibilities reflect Government's policy that independent contracting relationships are commercial arrangements.





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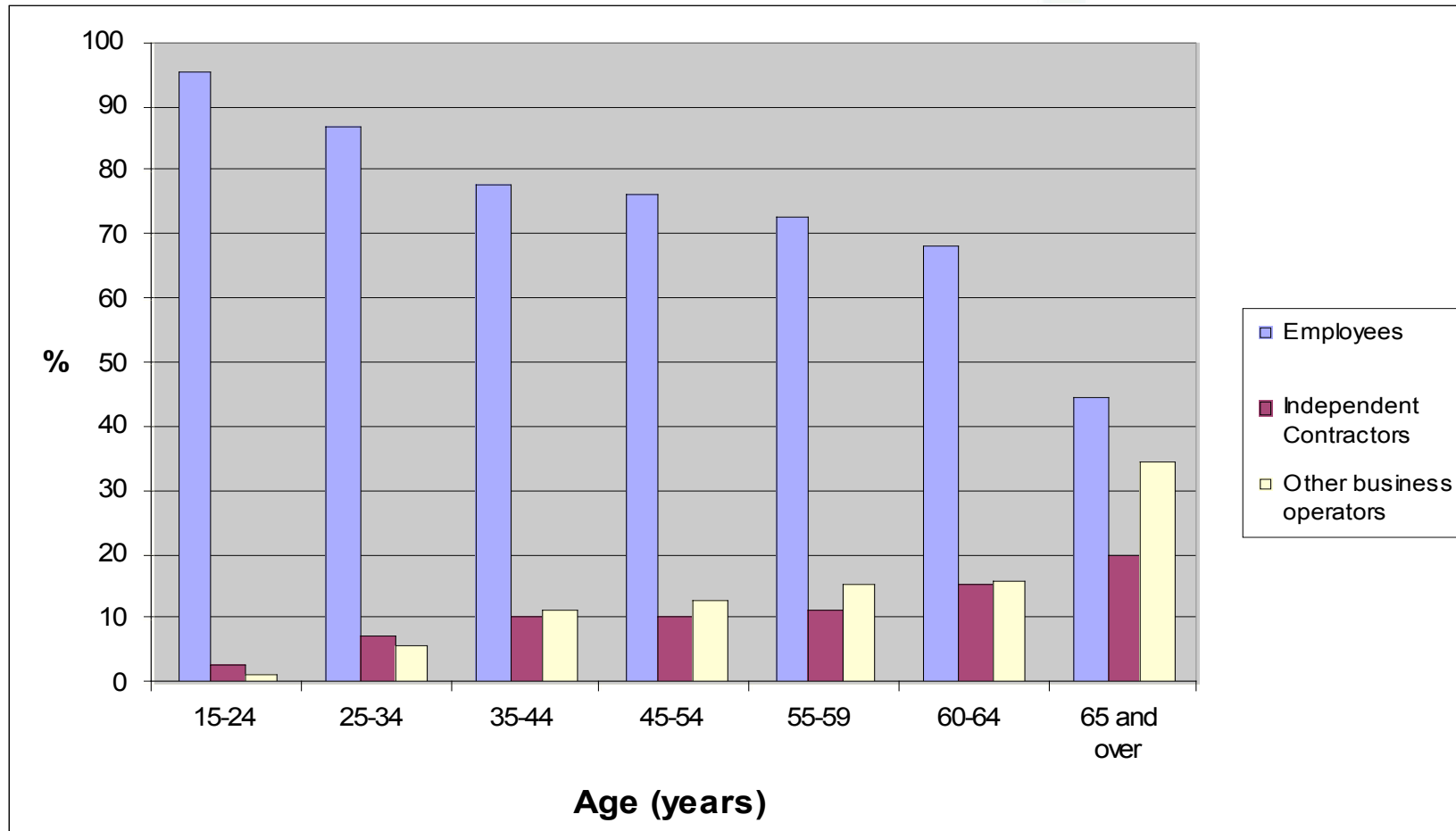
## ABS Statistics - 2008

- 967,100 independent contractors
- 1,064,400 non-employing small business operators
- 2,031,500 self employed or 19% of Australia's workforce





# Age and the self employed



Source: ABS





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# Government Procurement

- In 2007-08 the Federal Government entered into
  - 69,493 contracts with total value of \$26.3 billion
  - 55% of these contracts were with smaller firms
  - 37% of the total value of contracts were with smaller firms





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# Government Procurement

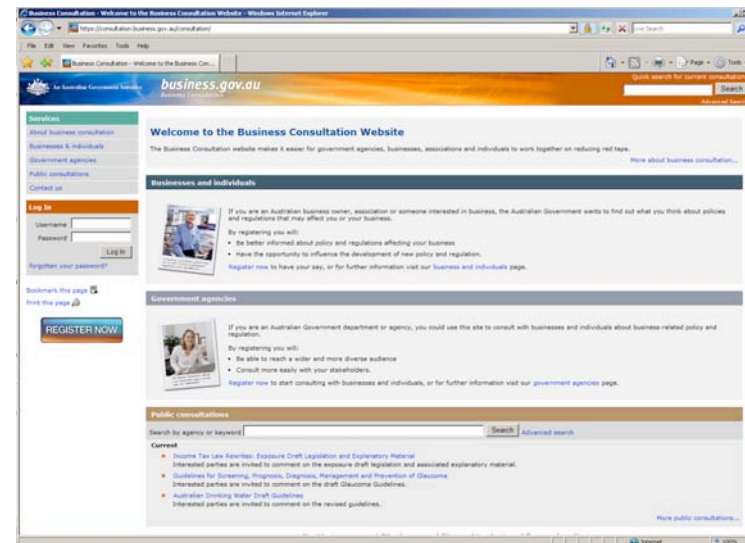
- The small business roundtable showed that small business is concerned with liability and risk transfer.
- Small business will benefit from a more consistent approach to these concerns and guidance material has been developed for government procurement officers.
- Small business will further benefit from access to the same guidance material.
- The guide will be released by the end of the year.





# Business Consultation website

- An avenue for consultation with business and the self employed.
- Allows the self employed to influence the development of new policy, regulation and initiatives.



<http://consultation.business.gov.au>





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# Independent Contractor Products

- Independent Contractors Handbook
- Contract basics
- Online contractor decision tool
- Dispute resolution publication



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## Government Initiatives

- \$46 million for small business advice and support
- 90 Small Business Advisory Services

[www.ausindustry.gov.au](http://www.ausindustry.gov.au)

- \$10 million Small Business Support Line

1800 777 275

- Business Loan Finder

[www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au)

- Small Business Credit Complaints Clearing House

[smallbusinesscredit@innovation.gov.au](mailto:smallbusinesscredit@innovation.gov.au)





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## Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

Industry House

10 Binara Street

Canberra City, ACT 2607, Australia

Telephone +61 2 6213 6000

[innovation.gov.au](http://innovation.gov.au)

