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Independent Contractors Australia

2 Million self-employed; their interests are our interest



Understanding Self-Employed People: Big Numbers

Hi

We recently posted an analysis of self-employed numbers in the USA which showed that some [40 million work as their own boss](#) (26% of the workforce). It's a huge number and it's staggering that in the debate over a US recovery that more attention hasn't been paid to this group.

We've just [updated the statistics on Australia's self-employed](#) (19% of the workforce). What's amazing is that up to 88% of the private-sector workforce work in the small business sector.

To understand how the economy works, you'd think that government would attach great significance on researching the individuals who run small business. They (we) are the economic 'elephant' in the room. But government understanding is poor.

The latest quality private-sector research we've seen comes from [Entity Solutions in their I Pro Index](#). This on-going study is supervised by Tui McKeown from Monash University and focuses on white-collar independent contractor professionals. The key finding is that 'contractors are possibly more engaged and satisfied with their work than permanent employees'.

This has significant implications for human resource professionals who tend to treat contractors as an afterthought in their workforce engagement processes. A bit like governments really!

Regards

Ken Phillips and the
Team at Independent Contractors Australia
www.contractworld.com.au

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