



**MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM
IN AUSTRALIA:
From Measures of a Nation's Progress
to Measures of a People's Progress**

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Measures of Australia's Progress

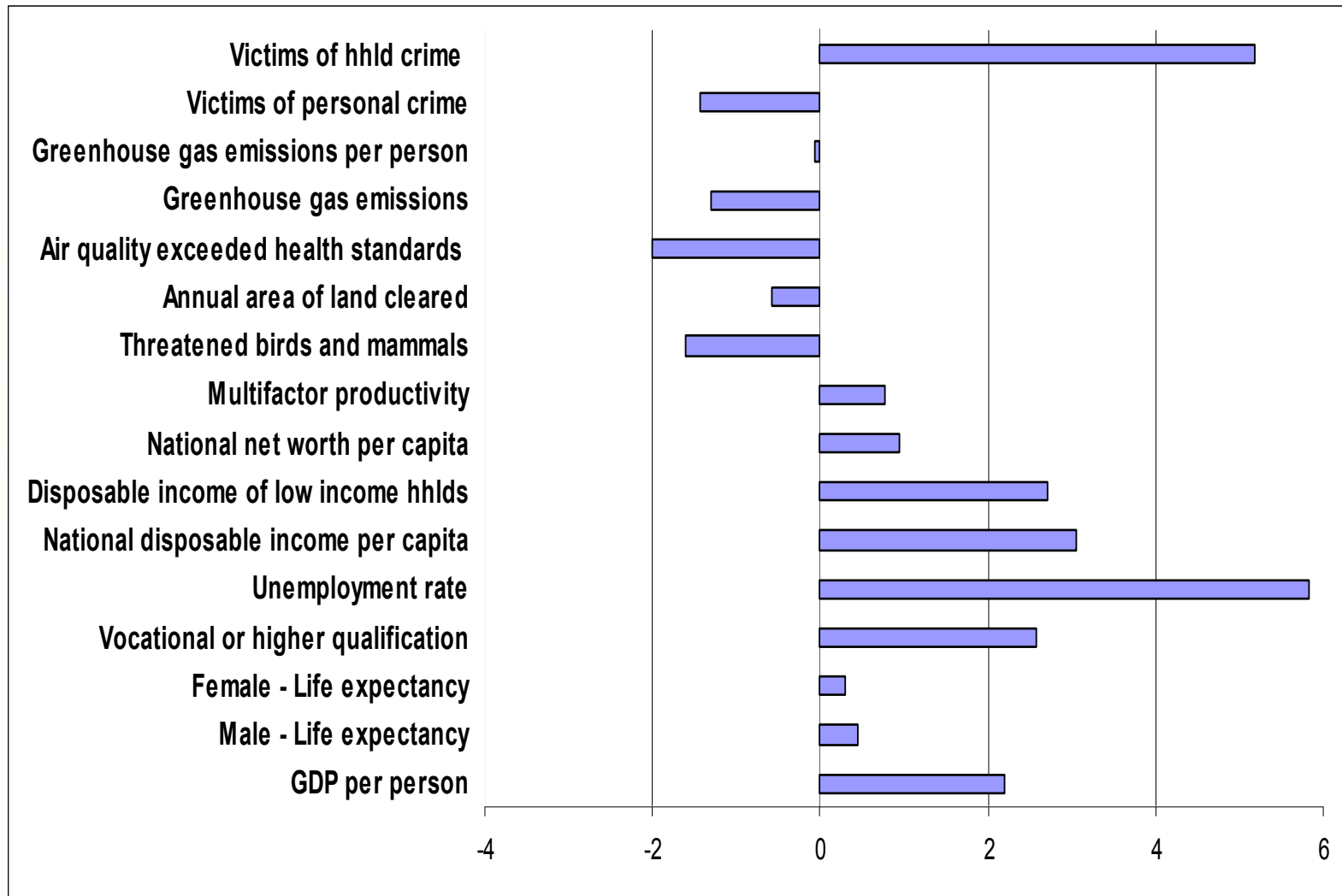
Is life in Australia getting better?

- Major reports 2002, 2004, 2006
- Provided set of statistical measures that show aspects of progress
- Development of initial report was guided by an expert group
- A new expert group has been convened to guide the initial thinking on the next stage this work

Dimensions of MAP

- Health
- Education and Training
- Work
- Culture and Leisure
- Family, community and social cohesion
- Crime
- Democracy, governance and citizenship
- Communication
- Transport
- National Income
- Economic Hardship
- National Wealth
- Housing
- Productivity
- Competitiveness and Openness
- Inflation
- The natural landscape
- The air and atmosphere
- Oceans and Estuaries

Latest results: 10 year change in headline indicators & GDP



Maintaining the momentum

- Recognise MAP needs to evolve to remain relevant (Stiglitz and Beyond GDP provide further impetus)
- Indicators generally are becoming increasingly important for policy evaluation

BUT

- Number of challenges going forward

1. Maintaining an ongoing role for MAP

- Need for a Conceptual rather than Presentational Framework
- Relevance to government(s) issues
- Aligning community interests
- Adapting to new priorities and new/improved data
- Information accessible in a clear and simple way

2. The nature of MAP

- What do Australians relate to and what interests government(s)?
 - How the country as a whole is progressing
 - How people are progressing?
 - Do people share in progress equally?
 - At what level should progress be measured?

3. Framework to incorporate sustainability

- Link between progress and sustainability
- Changes in stock of 4 types of capital (Social, Human, Financial & produced, and Natural)
- Essay to complement next release of MAP to explore some of these issues

4. Finding the Right Indicators

- Must clearly be able to show progress or regress
- Some dimensions may not have a single indicator that could adequately represent progress
- Role of composite indicators

5. Role of Subjective Indicators

- Emerging areas of government and broader community interest
- Review of MAP 2006 users again raised the need to include both objective and subjective measures
- Subjectivity and time

Building stronger networks

- Conferences
 - Community Indicators Summit
Declaration: *'guide the development of a national community indicators strategy for Australia in the 21st century'*
 - NatStats 2010

THE FUTURE OF MAP?

Watch this
Space!