Measuring the progress of a nation is one of the most important and challenging tasks a statistical office undertakes.

The ABS first published *Measures of Australia’s Progress* (MAP) in 2002. In 2011, we would like to hear from you - the community, governments, researchers and business - about whether MAP provides information on the issues Australians care about.

**What is our desired future?**

*Measures of Australia’s Progress* is about measuring whether life in Australia is getting better. If you were asked this question, what would you think about? Affordable housing? Health? The environment?

In 2011 the ABS will ask panels of community leaders and experts to provide guidance on national progress aspirations, and measures.

We are also seeking advice from organisations involved in program delivery and community consultation.

Individuals can also provide their views directly through the progress blog on the ABS website.

**Areas of progress**

We want to find out about the aspirations of Australians in four areas:

- social
- economic
- governance and
- environmental progress.

We also want to consider what outcomes and measures indicate we are moving towards these aspirations.

**What will we deliver?**

The feedback collected will assist in developing a statistical framework that will guide the process of measuring progress. This framework should reflect many different perspectives and allow gaps in measurement to be identified so new, targeted measures can be developed.
While Measures of Australia’s Progress is made up of around 80 indicators, this dashboard uses some broad headline indicators to summarise the nature of change in Australia over the last ten years. For more detail, see www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1370.0

If you would like to provide feedback on the future of measuring Australia’s progress, please go to: www.abs.gov.au/about/progress/blog

You can also contact the ABS through the Measures of Australia’s Progress team by phone (02) 6252 7995 or by email: measuringprogress@abs.gov.au

A more detailed paper on the development of this project can be found on the ABS website - www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1370.0

Use the Measures of Australia’s Progress link (on the left hand navigation bar) then follow the Future Directions link.