

## 5A: Produced and financial capital data tables

### 5A.1 Housing

Table 5A.1. 1: Housing status by country of birth (2001)

	<i>Owner/purchaser</i>	<i>Tenant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Americas	58	39	3
China (Excl. Taiwan)	69	29	2
England	76	22	2
Germany	79	19	2
Greece	90	8	2
Italy	93	6	1
NE Asia (Excl. China)	61	36	3
New Zealand	50	48	2
Africa & Middle East	63	34	3
NW Europe	77	21	2
Oceania	51	47	2
Philippines	67	31	2
SE Asia	65	32	3
South and Central Asia	62	36	2
S & SE Europe	78	20	2
Sub- Saharan Africa	60	38	2
UK (Excl. England)	60	38	2
Vietnam	68	26	6

Source: 2001 Census (1% CURF)

**Table 5A.1. 2: Proportion of birthplace groups in owner-occupied dwellings (per cent)**

<b>ACT</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>QLD</b>
<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>
Chile (46.4)	Cook Islands (12.9)	USA (24.4)	El Salvador (21.7)
Papua New Guinea (49.1)	Western Samoa (14.3)	Vietnam (38.1)	Western Samoa (26.1)
Bosnia-Herzegovina (51.6)	El Salvador (14.3)	New Zealand (42.8)	Bosnia-Herzegovina (31.1)
Indonesia (43.4)	Afghanistan (17.2)	Philippines (44.5)	Tonga (39.8)
Korea (52.2)	Tonga (21.6)	Papua New Guinea (44.7)	Turkey (40.2)
<b>Highest</b>	<b>Highest</b>	<b>Highest</b>	<b>Highest</b>
Spain (81.8)	Cyprus (87)	Germany (58.9)	Malta (82.4)
Malta (83.7)	Greece (87.3)	Malaysia (59.5)	Cyprus (83.9)
Greece (83.8)	Macedonia (88.6)	China (64.6)	Latvia (84)
Croatia (84.8)	Malta (89.8)	Sri Lanka (65.1)	Ukraine (86.8)
Italy (88.5)	Italy (90.7)	Italy (67.4)	Italy (88.2)
<b>Australia-born 69.3</b>	<b>71.7</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>67.6</b>
<b>Overseas-born 68.6</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>66.6</b>

<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>WA</b>
<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Lowest</b>
El Salvador (19.1)	Malaysia (46.5)	Somalia (3.9)	Iraq (16.1)
Bosnia-Herzegovina (27.1)	Singapore (54.5)	Iraq (18.3)	El Salvador (23.5)
Iran (40.9)	Fiji (60)	Afghanistan (19.7)	Bosnia-Herzegovina (31)
Japan (51.5)	Papua New Guinea (63.3)	Western Samoa (20.2)	Cambodia (45.6)
Chile (53)	New Zealand (64)	El Salvador (21.7)	Japan (49.3)
<b>Highest</b>	<b>Highest</b>	<b>Highest</b>	<b>Highest</b>
Slovenia (85)	Germany (84.8)	Slovenia (89.8)	CROATIA (81.7)
Malta (85.8)	Austria (84.9)	Greece (90)	Macedonia (83)
Cyprus (86.8)	Poland (85.2)	Macedonia (90.1)	Ukraine (83.7)
Greece (88.5)	Netherlands (85.3)	Malta (91.9)	Greece (86.5)
Italy (91.6)	Italy (90.2)	Italy (93.6)	Italy (90.7)
<b>Australia-born 72.2</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>70.4</b>
<b>Overseas-born 73.8</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>72.3</b>

Source: *Atlas of the Australian People* (1999). The figures include purchasing as well as outright ownership.

**Table 5A.1. 3: Sources of accommodation assistance, refugees and TPV holders**

	<i>First accommodation</i>		<i>Second accommodation</i>		<i>Third accommodation</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>
Government Department	116	26.7	34	7.8	15	3.5
Refugee organization	69	15.9	54	12.4	14	3.2
Friend	58	13.4	108	24.9	69	15.9
Family member	57	13.1	47	10.8	12	2.8
Sponsor	26	6.0	14	3.2	1	0.2
Religious group	24	5.5	13	3.0	6	1.4
No one assisted	18	4.1	60	13.8	67	15.4
Community group	16	3.7	29	6.7	24	5.5
On arrival accommodation	4	0.9	1	0.2	1	0.2
Other agency	4	0.9	5	1.2	1	0.2
Ethnic organization	3	0.7	14	3.2	6	1.4
Real estate agent	1	0.2	2	0.5	1	0.2
No movement	12	2.8	36	8.1	191	44.0
Not stated	26	6.0	17	3.9	26	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Beer &amp; Foley 2003:29

## 12A: Migration Futures Tables

Table 12A.1. 1: Key Ingredients for scenario construction

Item Number	Major Category	Item	A Four Key Questions	
			What are the driving forces?	What do you feel is uncertain?
1	Macro-Economic	Demand	Australia has, for the last two or more decades, pursued a course of market reform, which has greatly improved the nation's competitiveness, productivity, workforce participation, and wealth. This is unfinished business, with further gains possible from tax reform, reduced economic distortions, more efficient and competitive input markets (incl. labour, infrastructure and capital), conservative budgetary settings, increasing efficiency of public management (low compliance costs), and increasing support for, and the culture of, research and development. However, Australia faces an increasingly competitive world, in which other nations strive for advantage.	Government ability to further necessary reforms; political pressures for pork barrelling; failure to restrict monopoly tendencies in a small national market; low domestic savings and therefore tight supply of investment capital; improved governance in competitor nations raises Australia's performance hurdle; possible rising subsidies / protection in other nations dents Australia's competitive ability; Australia's ability to raise educational and skill attainment to meet domestic needs; labour supply difficulties (global competition for scarce skills; spatial mismatch of workforce and employers); climate change effects.
2		Supply		
3		Tax Rates		
4		Tax Distortions		
5		Budget Outcome		
6		Subsidies / Distortions		
7		Investment Level		
8		Savings Rate		
9		Interest Rates		
10		Debt Servicing as Share of Income		
11		Returns to Capital		
12		Relative GDP Shares: Wages-Capital		
13		Labour Market Flexibility		
14		Labour Force Participation Rates		
15		Efficiency of Capital Markets		
16		Economic Openness - Public Sector Control		
17		Infrastructure Supply, Cost and Quality		
18		Business Compliance Costs		
19		R & D Share GDP		
20		Regional / National Comparative Advantage		
21		Regional / National Competitive Advantage		

Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 2/12)

A Four Key Questions		B Elements of Plots	
What is inevitable?	How about this or that scenario? Which is most likely?	Who wins and loses? Or are win-win situations possible?	What are the challenges and responses? [challenges = tests]
<p>Rising global competition in most aspects of the Australian economy; peripheral location and small economic size places Australia at risk relative to economic cores BUT these criteria generate effective response mechanisms in the form of currency revaluation, corporate aggressiveness, and work ethic; pressures for further macro-economic reform will likely bear fruit; rapid technological development, innovation, and product development with many potential new industries arising. The increasing globalisation of labour markets, with rising short, medium and long-term movements as already skilled workers seek better career paths or early career personnel seek wider experience. This trend is likely to have as significant effects as the post WW2 rise in traded goods and services.</p>	<p>Australia could lift its relative economic game and remain a beacon of stability and probity in the Asia-Pacific region. This prognosis is quite possible and is substantially in Australia's hands. However, a small trading nation could be hostage to adverse trends among principal trading partners, especially Japan, China, Korea and the United States. Australia is not a homogeneous economy. Separate industry sectors will perform differently under alternative scenarios (e.g. the Gregory Thesis in which a prosperous mining sector harms both agriculture and manufacturing); a weak global economy could topple commodity prices, reduce mining production, and throttle back investment.</p>	<p>Individually, the winners will be those with required knowledge and skills, the capacity to raise capital, ability to innovate, and with strong leadership and entrepreneurial credentials. Such people should be able to adapt seamlessly to rapidly changing social and economic circumstances. At the opposite end of the spectrum, people without these capacities will struggle, and those in between could experience considerable personal pressure depending on circumstance. Similar conclusions apply to particular regions. The win-win side comes where rising national wealth enables a more thorough social safety net. Skilled immigration contributes positively to outcomes.</p>	<p>The challenges lie with (a) governments having the necessary reforming zeal, (b) society at large acquiring a larger appetite for risk, and (c) both showing capacity for leadership and commercial or social entrepreneurship. Immigrants often contribute positively to all three dimensions.</p>

**Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 3/12)**

<b>B Elements of Plots</b>				
<b>How are things evolving? At what speed? [note that technologies tend to be evolutionary]</b>	<b>What revolutions may occur? [e.g. war and conquest, famine and pestilence, political collapse, political revolution (including, for example, the Anglo world's embrace of market principles from 1980 to 2006), or economic depression (revolutions equate with Drucker's discontinuities)]</b>	<b>What events occur in cycles? [examples include the business cycle and patterns of spatial decay and rejuvenation]</b>	<b>Are there conditions of infinite possibility? [infinite possibility = boundless optimism (for example, the rise of the internet, the mining sector or bio-technology)]</b>	<b>Are there any lone rangers? [for example, Margaret Thatcher, David and Goliath, Apple computer]</b>
Australia has had an excellent track record in these regards during the last 20 years and there is reason to expect a continuation of the reform process.	The world's economic locomotives - such as the US, China, and India could falter for their own internal and different reasons. The Pacific arc of instability could divert Australia's effort into regional peace-keeping. Indonesia might disintegrate into several parts. The Middle East might dissolve into anarchy along with large parts of Africa. Most of these could be handled through the automatic stabiliser of downward currency revaluation, as occurred in the 1997 Asian meltdown. More serious is the prospect of disrupted energy supplies.	Major cycles of recession and depression have abated in recent years, probably because of improved understanding of how economies work, international (or domestic) competition, and pressures on governments to adopt high fiscal standards. Australia experiences periodic drought, but agriculture's declining share of national production has greatly reduced this threat. There is little reason to suppose that the current drought will not end as usual.	Australia is resource rich, environmentally attractive, has good infrastructure, has a well managed economy, world-class capital markets, energetic labour and business leaders. All these are strong grounds for optimism. They are attractive to would-be migrants, improve Australia's immigration needs, and raise our capacity to absorb them.	see Micro-Economy analysis below. Australia's lone rangers appear more in the private sector.

Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 4/12)

B Elements of Plots		C Knowledge Base			
Is generational conflict important? [different age cohorts tend to espouse different values and cultures]	How adaptable are people and their institutions? [in a world of growing complexity and speed of change, adaptive capacity is a crucial determinant of system stability]	Knowledge of current economy, society, polity, demography, or environment (including recent trends)	Sets of assumptions about key driving forces and the way they may behave	Lateral thinking about extreme or unusual events and their impact on established patterns or norms	Probability analysis or assessment of likely events.
There is some latent conflict, particularly in the arenas of housing affordability, potential problems in financing earlier generations' retirement plans (with tax implications), low fertility rates.	Australians overall appear highly innovative and adaptable to changing circumstances as testified by the relatively easy transition over the last 20 years of great structural reform. However, political leadership is crucial to maintaining this adaptability.	There is a wealth of knowledge on most areas involved and many generally agreed positions.	Projection of future states and the understanding of driving forces are relatively well-known in the economic arena. However, there may be a problem is merging macro- / micro-economic, political, social and environmental issues in a single calculus, where difficult to quantify trade-offs occur.	The major future hazards are (a) the mismanagement of driver economies, forcing them into recession with knock-on effects to the rest of the world, (b) major resource shortfalls - particularly energy, and possibly (c) environmental change - especially climate. On the upside, emerging biological, materials, information, energy, transport, medical, and financial technologies promise a cornucopia of development opportunities. Political and social instability in some nations or regions could trigger widespread conflict, although without necessarily destabilising the industrialised world.	The probability of improved economic management appears high, aided and abetted by a stream of new and improved technologies, leading to rising per capita output. The largest single economic cloud is industrial countries' over-reliance on oil supplies from an unstable part of the world where a probable cut in supplies could damage output at some medium-term date.

**Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 5/12)**

Item Number	Major Category	Item	What are the driving forces?	What do you feel is uncertain?
22	<b>Micro-Economic</b>	Entrepreneurship	Competition, competition, competition. Schumpeter was right about gales of creative destruction. Australia's innovatory and entrepreneurial talents are substantial, ironically enhanced by peripheral location and the economy's relatively small size. These are especially evident in such 'new economy' realms as media and finance, and such 'old economy' sectors as mining and agriculture. By global standards, Australia is a highly open economy and market pressures are important for innovation and entrepreneurship, and for avoiding (in fair measure) problems arising from monopoly and oligopoly. Over 20 years of economic success have led to much incomes and low unemployment, both also essential for economic and social adaptability. The jury is out on whether research and development effort is adequate and soundly administered. The adequacy of national productive and social infrastructure is adequate - physically and regulatory. As of early 2007, there is a substantial shortage of skilled labour in selected occupations, industries or regions.	Surprisingly little. The driving forces appear entrenched. Principal external uncertainties for Australian industry lie in (a) global competitive pressures, and (b) the potential for recession or depression affected by economic mismanagement in such big league players as China, the US, India, Japan, and European Union. Key international issues include large public debts, skills shortages, the rising proportion of dependent populations (by virtue of ageing and extended education), trade imbalances, latent inflationary forces, energy and commodity price spikes. Middle East instability does NOT look like an important source of uncertainty. An important private sector / regulatory concern is (c) a large financial stumble arising from misjudged private equity or hedge fund investment. Domestically, such concerns as (d) inflation, (e) skills shortages, (f) insufficient infrastructure, and (g) environmental change loom as production and investment constraints.
23		Ease of Market Entry		
24		Level of Competition		
25		Extent of Market Power / Domination		
26		Effort - Dedication		
27		Industry R & D Effort		
28		Innovation Capacity		
29		Adaptive Capacity		
30		Access to and Cost of, Capital		
31		Access to, and Cost of, Business Inputs		
32		Labour Market Cost / Knowledge / Skills		
33		Cost and Quality of Infrastructure		
34		Cost and Quality of Business Premises		
35		Company Profitability		
36	<b>Political</b>	International Trade Settings (freedom of trade)	There is a realisation within Australia and major partner nations that trade is beneficial and that domestic subsidies are expensive and damaging to national competitiveness and aggregate wealth. This extends to recognition that the quality domestic public management plays a major role in economic prosperity and social cohesion. Australia is a world leader in minimising subsidies to clamouring interest groups. This tempered by the need of governments to be elected in democratic societies and the fact that change causes economic and social dislocation and loss of support. It appears that a small, <i>new</i> , and prosperous nation, lying at the global periphery and having to run hard to maintain its position, has more latitude in avoiding special pleading.	Moves to global free trade are hampered by protectionist sentiment and multi-lateral gains appear increasingly rare, fuelling increasing numbers of bi-lateral relationships. Only a few such treaties address labour market issues to any degree, notably CER (New Zealand) and the FTA with the US. Energy cartels, rigged by participating and often capricious governments, have worrying power in their hands. The uncertain commitment of all Australian governments to vigorous pursuit of efficient administration of private business and their services.
37		International Trade Settings (bi- or multi-lateral)		
38		Free Trade - Protectionism Balance		
39		International Cartels		
40		State of International Relations		
41		Incidence of Failed States		
42		Defence Effort		
43		Effectiveness of International Regulatory Agencies		
44		Efficiency in Inter-State Resource Allocation		
45		Efficiency in Service Delivery		
46		Efficiency in Resource Allocation		
47	[across all tiers of government]			

Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 6/12)

What is inevitable?	How about this or that scenario? Which is most likely?	Who wins and loses? Or are win-win situations possible?	What are the challenges and responses?
<p>Ever greater pressures on business performance and swifter penalties for those under-performing. Continued research, development, innovation, and product development; and accelerating velocity in the circulation of capital and/or levels or business profitability. Financial mechanisms include private equity seeking competitive advantage from streamlined and longer term planning horizons by privatising joint stock companies. The western world, at least, is witnessing major strides in improved business management and corporate governance.</p>	<p>Three scenarios for the Australian economy suggest themselves. <b>First</b>, we could witness a continuation (with minor fluctuations) of the mounting strength of the last 15 years based on bi- and multi-lateral global engagement and domestic market oriented reforms. <b>Second</b>, the adverse uncertainties previously mentioned could cut in, reducing overseas markets and collateral employment and investment. Their impact depends on the effectiveness of such automatic stabilisers as currency depreciation, the magnitude of global shock, and the speed with which the contributing factors is rectified. Last, there is considerable upside potential through reforms already nominated, business improvements, and a succession of other nations climbing on the growth escalator - the economic arrival of Brazil and Argentina; an outbreak of peace in the Middle East; or a large slab of sub-Saharan Africa abandoning kleptocracy. Current trends appear the most likely event.</p>	<p>Improved business performance and market operation should be a win-win situation for all parties, especially in tight labour markets.</p>	<p>A principal challenge is to regulate the corporate sector to protect simultaneously public interests and corporate freedom to innovate and invest. A second issue is to encourage a high level of commercially viable and profitable research and development without large public subsidy. Thirdly, society has a vested interest in encouraging business to innovate and a role to play in that through education and skills training.</p>
<p>Slow improvements to international trade and domestic public management as the general public becomes more demanding in many countries. The rising incidence of failed states, especially in Africa, the Pacific, and west Asia - failed in that they cannot delivery social freedoms and economic growth expected in most countries often because of lack of resources (widely construed) or tribalism.</p>	<p>The only likely short-term scenario for Australia is (a) the slow improvement in the efficiency of domestic management and (b) the slow diffusion of freer trade (or movement in workers and education). It is difficult to see any reversion from this trend for developed economies. In the longer term (beyond 2020), one might anticipate rising international retirement or recreation migration comparable to movements of people within the EU from north to south (especially France, Spain and Italy), with Australia an attractive destination. The numbers of failed states are increasing, particularly in the western Pacific region. This does not appear dangerous for Australia, with a likely remedy the greater integration of Pacific economies into CER arrangements.</p>	<p>Global production and trade, competitive markets, emphases on education and invention, and now emerging global labour markets have benefited hundreds of millions, if not billions, of people. The losers are mainly those trapped in tribal / feudal societies.</p>	<p>The challenge for society's political apparatus is to run stable economic settings that favour profitable investment, ensure competition, obviate market failure where possible, arrange for a social safety net to catch those harmed by change and unable to help themselves adequately, ensure an adequately skilled workforce, maintain national defence capability, etc.</p>

**Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 7/12)**

How are things evolving? At what speed?	What revolutions may occur?	What events occur in cycles?	Are there conditions of infinite possibility?	Are there any lone rangers?
Improvements in all these directions are occurring, but capable of beneficial acceleration.	The emergence of highly competitive and large companies in China, India and other leading developing nations. New ideas in capital provision.	Product life cycles are increasingly rapid, and the fast cycle of new technologies often limits the value of patent protection. There appears to be an emerging cycle of international business competition as large domestic companies in NICs develop. The classic 6 yearly business cycle has been greatly reduced by great improvements to national economic management and the appearance of substantial counter-cyclical elements in business investment occasioned perhaps by a flood of new technologies.	A seemingly endless array of major new technologies.	These are extremely numerous, especially with the flood of new technologies. Australia is not, apparently, short of entrepreneurs willing to run with them.
Such a strategy, while always capable of improvement, has been pursued effectively for several decades.	Short of more thorough economic and political integration with Asia, it is difficult to see a discontinuity of the kind Drucker envisages. Not even the recolonisation of Pacific Island states would constitute a major discontinuity; nor perhaps reform fatigue setting in within the Australian body politic.	Perception of the role of immigrants is often contingent on the health of the economy, business profitability, the pace of domestic change, and the extent to which Australia is a closed society. Such conditions sometimes ebb and flow, although the last 15 years or more of continuous growth has unsurprisingly been accompanied with strong immigration.	Global engagement comes close.	Not currently in Australia

Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 8/12)

Is generational conflict important?	How adaptable are people and their institutions?	Knowledge of current economy, society, polity, demography, or environment (including recent trends)	Sets of assumptions about key driving forces and the way they may behave	Lateral thinking about extreme or unusual events and their impact on established patterns or norms	Probability analysis or assessment of likely events.
Generational conflict in the business world seems endemic and potentially valuable provided that past lessons are heeded.	Business is highly adaptable. Maladaptive firms cease trading or are taken over by predators with better management skills.	Enormous amount of information is available on trends in the business world.	That generally market economies are effective and that competition is beneficial, with regulation necessary to enable markets to operate effectively. That invention and innovation are central to business prosperity and survival.	The arrival of private equity buyouts has taken Australia by storm and is likely to improve business performance, as did the role of Westfield, Macquarie Bank and Babcock and Brown previously in developing specialist service and infrastructure funds. Changes in business cost structures arising from the removal of subsidies (e.g. for water, transport, energy, and other infrastructure). Opening domestic markets to further international competition.	Improvements to business management likely in almost all respects.
Not noticeably so.	Australian democracy is robust and generates fast learners.	Australia's politicians and bureaucrats are for the most part exceedingly well informed	Australian political life is heavily influenced by a raft of assumptions. These include the need for full employment (about 4%), a fair go, a fair day's pay for a day's work, disregard for pretension, the need for a social safety net, and so on.	Nothing springs to mind.	Australian political life is very stable and appears unlikely to shift from current trajectories, except at the margins, irrespective of what party is in power.

**Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 9/12)**

Item Number	Major Category	Item	What are the driving forces?	What do you feel is uncertain?
48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57	<b>Social</b>	Attitude to Risk Future Orientation Adaptive Capacity Adherence to Tradition Institutional Depth Institutional Effectiveness Interest Group Power Interest Group Membership Social Diversity Social Harmony	Rising social and economic adaptive capacity. This stems from: (a) growing education, knowledge, wealth, and social diversity; (b) the enactment of more tailored social security and structural adjustment processes; and (c) the deepening of civil society providing more reliable and wider information and advice. Australia appears to heed Mancur Olsen's warning about the excessive accretion of conservative institutions (Olson, 1982, <i>The Rise and Decline of Nations</i> , Yale University Press). It is easier to adapt, assume risk and adopt a future orientation when informed, knowledgeable and financially secure. These conditions also underpin social diversity and tolerance, which in a circular and cumulative way contribute to rising economic prosperity.	This delicate edifice relies on Australia's continued economic prosperity and confidence that this will occur. Ironically immigrant societies are much less amenable to conservative capture and more optimistic about future events. The pull of future prospects drives much international migration. Nevertheless a major domestic recession could rapidly shift national sentiment against high immigration levels.
58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65	<b>Environ-ment</b>	Climatic Conditions Incidence of Severe Events Effectiveness in Resource Discovery Effectiveness in Resource Conservation Efficiency in Resource Allocation Efficiency in Resource Extraction Level of Resource Depletion Level of Resource Enhancement	Resource sustainability for future generations in the light of apparently rapid climate change, ecological damage (from climate change or otherwise human induced), resource depletion or exhaustion, insufficient capital investment in infrastructure (for water supply or renewable energy or delivering resources to market). All these affect Australia's industry structure, economic output, lifestyles and long-term population optimum. There are many trade-offs behind these matters, which could affect immigration policies and their application.	Just about everything: the level of resources; their sustainable consumption; infrastructure needs; and ideal trade-offs between competing ends (economic, social or environmental).

Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 10/12)

What is inevitable?	How about this or that scenario? Which is most likely?	Who wins and loses? Or are win-win situations possible?	What are the challenges and responses?
<p>Overall, the trends noted two panels earlier. Social and institutional deepening have progressed steadily for the last 800 years. The need for immigrant skills will rise with economic growth, the transition to a creative society, and declining workforce participation rates (consequent on falling birth rates in advanced nations and longer life expectancy notwithstanding longer working lives).</p>	<p>The overwhelmingly most likely scenario in the short to medium term is the continuation of social and institutional deepening aided by immigration. Australia has enjoyed the benefits of ethnic and cultural diversification especially during the last 60 years, not least in rising external orientation, which is commercially beneficial in a globalising world. Several events might upset current trends, at least for a while. On the negative side Australia could encounter a surplus of migrants relative to demand through (a) a major global economic down-turn, (b) rising refugees from some disastrous environmental or military event, or (c) political strife in a failed state, thereby testing social deepening and institutional structures. On the positive side, for immigration, could be a rapidly rising tide of financially self-supporting lifestyle, rather than economic, immigrants. The emerging problem here would be competition for residential property and services!</p>	<p>At times of strong economic and employment growth, permanent immigration is largely a win-win situation for all segments of society, provided that it observes due process. It counterbalances out migration, which is usually beneficial for those involved. Short to medium length immigration appears to be not a problem.</p>	<p>The main social challenge in Australia is to maintain an economically and socially adaptable, risk taking, and future oriented community the accepts and encourages diversity and creativity, whilst accepting a set of core values or norms. For the most part immigration actively contributes to this outcome, which a strong economy also facilitates.</p>
<p>The depletion of many finite resources; sustainable limits on the use of others; rising technologies to create sustainable and renewable resources (e.g. energy and water); the substitution of resources (through economics or technology); international conflict over access to strategic resources</p>	<p>Many scenarios are possible, but not so much within our forecast period. However, fears over environment and resources will colour debates about such issues as Australia's population carrying capacity; use of resources (e.g. uranium and coal, farming practices); responsibilities to future generations and the international community; national economic development; and responsibilities to the planet's flora and fauna generally. Two scenarios stand out: alarmist - precautionary and optimistic, with shades in between. The former emphasise what might go wrong, and in the extreme wish to limit human <i>footprints</i> on the globe. The latter emphasise the capacity of technology - existing or emergent - to maintain or expand resource production and consumption AND retain valued ecosystems.</p>	<p>The incidence of winners and losers from environmental and resource management is frequently complex, with winners and losers living within one region or inter-regionally. Wins and losses occur across generations, and losses at first sight may generate highly beneficial responses subsequently (or even vice versa). Environmental change (including climate) might also distribute highly variable wins and losses. Win-win situations are sometimes possible - for example realistic water pricing can save waterway ecologies AND raise the value of production.</p>	<p>The environmental challenge is primarily two-fold. One task is to manage environment and resources efficiently, effectively and as far as possible in a sustainable way. The second is to evade extreme events that can severely damage economy and society. This affects migration especially though the notion of population carrying capacity.</p>

**Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 11/12)**

<b>How are things evolving? At what speed?</b>	<b>What revolutions may occur?</b>	<b>What events occur in cycles?</b>	<b>Are there conditions of infinite possibility?</b>	<b>Are there any lone rangers?</b>
<p>This challenge is being met. Some other changes under way relevant to immigration include longer working lives, the adoption of partial retirement among Australia's professionals as an alternative to clean break retirement.</p>	<p>As already flagged, the nature of immigration is changing quickly. Although net permanent migration is raised to a high level, medium to short temporary arrivals are rising fast as a concomitant to globalisation and temporary domestic labour shortages. The tide of back-packers also helps in some, often agricultural and service, sectors. We might anticipate a flood of cashed up wealthy Asian retirees; if Australian can buy up villas in Tuscany, why not the other way around? Unless, Australia's birth rate gains altitude, we might eventually see guest workers from Pacific islands as the only realistic option for their sustained development.</p>	<p>Immigration levels are irregularly cyclical in direct proportion to the strength of the domestic economy</p>	<p>The current phase of Australia's economic development appears so solidly grounded, and so exposed to a large array of international and technological opportunity, that the present long boom looks set to occur and with it shortages of skilled labour that have to be met somehow.</p>	<p>Australia's current crop of opinion leaders does not appear to have the strength to move public outlooks compared with the captains of industry - or the environmental lobby for that matter.</p>
<p>This is a matter of opinion, depending on one's assessment of the depth of environmental problems and the best ways of tackling them. Agreement on this question between pessimists and optimists appears unlikely.</p>	<p>Lots. Dramatic climate events from accelerated warming through to cooling. Sound scientific understanding of the relative impacts of solar factors through to human agency and the ability of planetary self stabilisation thought to the merits of technologies to remove greenhouse gasses.</p>	<p>Many cycles are involved, but none that affect the purpose of the exercise.</p>	<p>Strong optimism resides with those foreseeing major technological advances to handle environmental problems. If so, Australia's optimal population could be as much as 50-60 million rather than the lowest estimate of just 6 million.</p>	<p>The environmental running is taken by the likes of Tim Flannery, David Suzuki, and Jared Diamond, backed by strident and noisy organisations of varying credibility. Many governments also nail their colours to the environmental mast. Dissenting positions tend to be much more widespread and disorganised.</p>

Table 12A.1.1 : Key Ingredients for scenario construction (Page 12/12)

Is generational conflict important?	How adaptable are people and their institutions?	Knowledge of current economy, society, polity, demography, or environment (including recent trends)	Sets of assumptions about key driving forces and the way they may behave	Lateral thinking about extreme or unusual events and their impact on established patterns or norms	Probability analysis or assessment of likely events.
<p>Generational conflict is strong. Forget Baby Boomers and Generation X or Y for the moment. Younger people tend to be better educated, more knowledgeable, less risk adverse and more accepting of change than older people. They also look set to pay heavily to support older people in their retirement</p>	<p>Adaptability does not appear to be a problem for many parts of Australian society. However, it is spatially more pronounced in some regions, especially rural areas with their narrowly based economies and older populations subject to some of the largest adjustment pressures nationally.</p>	<p>Knowledge of social processes appears sketchier than for the economy which is closely diagnosed. It is also more prone to careless statistics, information and analysis than the economy, where pronouncements often carry high prudential restraints.</p>	<p>The sets of assumptions on which policy and action may be based are correspondingly less well developed</p>	<p>it seems that social thinking is prone to slow adjustment. By analogy, 6 years of Neo-Con ascendancy under George Bush's Presidency has barely shifted US social thinking. It seems unlikely that Australia will substantially shift its social outlooks in the forecast period.</p>	<p>Australians support orderly migration, especially when the economy is growing strongly as now. On balance, this looks set to continue, along with corollary of relatively easy social adaptation. This has considerable downside risk if the economy goes into even a mild recession. The upside potential for higher immigration and rate of social adaptation looks more constrained.</p>
<p>Environmental and resource concerns have a strong generational base.</p>	<p>Individual and institutional environmental concerns and strategies appear capable of rapid transformation in the light of good evidence.</p>	<p>Environmental and resource forecasting are hazardous fields as is the development of effective management strategies. Both problems are fed by considerable scientific uncertainties and tension between precautionary philosophies and technocratic analyses. The attachment of probabilities to specific events is difficult, which it suggests policy precaution, but current economic strength and technological prowess instil optimism and confidence.</p>			

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