



# AUSTRALIA

Fact Sheet

## General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; May and September

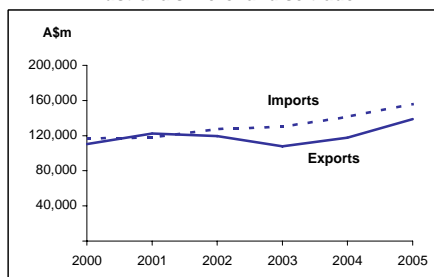
**Capital:** Canberra  
**Surface area:** 7,692 thousand sq km  
**Official language:** English  
**Population:** 20.3 million (Jun 2005)  
**Exchange rate:** A\$1 = US\$ 0.7491 (Jan 2006)

**Head of State:**  
H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, represented by the Governor-General Major-General Michael Jeffery  
**Head of Government:**  
Prime Minister The Hon. John Winston Howard

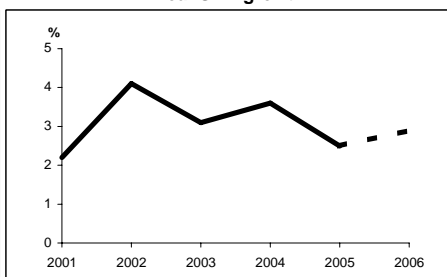
## Recent economic indicators:

|  | 2001   | 2002    | 2003    | 2004    | 2005(a) | 2006(b) |
|--|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):</b>        | 368.6  | 413.6   | 527.0   | 637.5   | 708.0   | 729.2   |
| <b>GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):</b>                 | 508.8  | 538.5   | 567.7   | 601.5   | 630.1   | 663.4   |
| <b>GDP per capita (US\$):</b>                | 18,955 | 21,023  | 26,475  | 31,647  | 34,714  | 35,311  |
| <b>GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):</b>        | 26,167 | 27,372  | 28,519  | 29,859  | 30,897  | 32,127  |
| <b>Real GDP growth (% change YOY):</b>       | 2.2    | 4.1     | 3.1     | 3.6     | 2.5     | 2.9     |
| <b>Current account balance (US\$m):</b>      | -7,758 | -16,235 | -29,541 | -40,235 | -42,241 | -40,783 |
| <b>Current account balance (% GDP):</b>      | -2.1   | -3.9    | -5.6    | -6.3    | -6.0    | -5.6    |
| <b>Goods &amp; services exports (% GDP):</b> | 22.0   | 20.2    | 17.6    | 17.8    | 19.0    | 20.7    |
| <b>Inflation (% change YOY):</b>             | 4.4    | 3.0     | 2.8     | 2.3     | 2.7     | 2.8     |

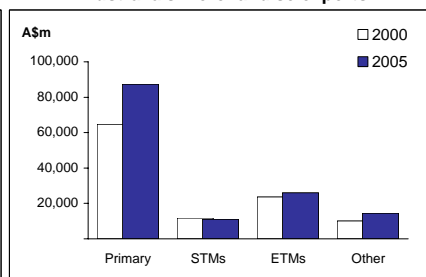
Australia's merchandise trade



Real GDP growth



Australia's merchandise exports



## Australia's trade and investment relationships:

### Major Australian exports, 2005 (A\$m):

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Coal              | 21,827 |
| Iron ore          | 11,017 |
| Crude petroleum   | 6,281  |
| Non-monetary gold | 5,822  |
| Bovine meat       | 4,670  |

### Major Australian imports, 2005 (A\$m):

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Passenger motor vehicles       | 12,152 |
| Crude petroleum                | 10,521 |
| Refined petroleum              | 6,180  |
| Medicaments (incl. veterinary) | 5,960  |
| Computers                      | 5,930  |

### Australian merchandise trade, 2005:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Exports (A\$m):                         | 138,781 |
| Imports (A\$m):                         | 155,808 |
| Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m): | 294,589 |
| Merchandise trade deficit (A\$m):       | 17,026  |

### Australia's main merchandise export destinations, 2005:

|   |                   |       |
|---|-------------------|-------|
| 1 | Japan             | 20.4% |
| 2 | China             | 11.6% |
| 3 | Republic of Korea | 7.9%  |
| 4 | United States     | 6.7%  |
| 5 | New Zealand       | 6.5%  |

### Australia's main merchandise import sources, 2005:

|   |               |       |
|---|---------------|-------|
| 1 | United States | 13.7% |
| 2 | China         | 13.7% |
| 3 | Japan         | 11.0% |
| 4 | Germany       | 5.6%  |
| 5 | Singapore     | 5.6%  |

### Australia's trade in services, 2005:

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Exports of services (A\$m):    | 37,121 |
| Imports of services (A\$m):    | 38,639 |
| Services trade deficit (A\$m): | 1,518  |

### Australia's investment links, Dec 2005:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Level of Australian investment abroad (A\$m):    | 653,840   |
| Level of foreign investment in Australia (A\$m): | 1,214,011 |

Compiled by the Market Information and Analysis Section, DFAT, using the latest data from the ABS, the IMF and various international sources.

(a) all recent data subject to revision; (b) IMF/EIU forecast; (c) PPP is purchasing power parity.