

# IRELAND

Fact Sheet

## General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; May and September

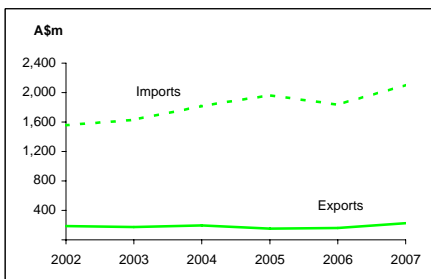
<b>Capital:</b>	Dublin
<b>Surface area:</b>	70 thousand sq km
<b>Official languages:</b>	Irish, English
<b>Population:</b>	4.3 million (2007)
<b>Exchange rate:</b>	A\$1 = 0.6192 Euros (Feb 2008)

**Head of State:**  
President HE Ms Mary McAleese

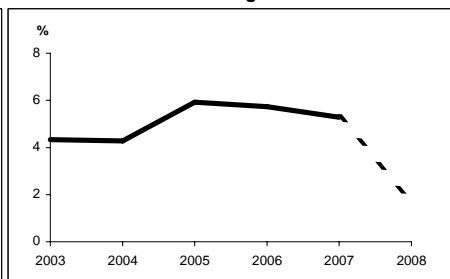
**Head of Government:**  
An Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Mr Brian Cowen TD

<i>Recent economic indicators:</i>	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007(a)	2008(b)
<b>GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):</b>	157.7	184.6	201.2	219.4	258.6	290.7
<b>GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):</b>	136.5	145.9	157.9	172.2	186.2	193.2
<b>GDP per capita (US\$):</b>	39,622	45,658	48,705	51,800	59,924	66,815
<b>GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):</b>	34,300	36,089	38,226	40,669	43,144	44,415
<b>Real GDP growth (% change YOY):</b>	4.3	4.3	5.9	5.7	5.3	1.8
<b>Current account balance (US\$m):</b>	-2	-1,078	-7,088	-9,136	-11,685	-9,398
<b>Current account balance (% GDP):</b>	0.0	-0.6	-3.5	-4.2	-4.5	-3.2
<b>Goods &amp; services exports (% GDP):</b>	82.9	82.8	80.9	79.3	81.0	83.7
<b>Inflation (% change YOY):</b>	4.0	2.3	2.2	2.7	3.0	3.2

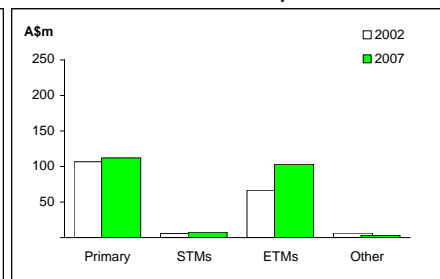
Australia's merchandise trade with Ireland



Real GDP growth



Australia's merchandise exports to Ireland



## Australia's trade relationship with Ireland (d):

### Australian merchandise trade with Ireland, 2007:

Exports to Ireland (A\$m):	226
Imports from Ireland (A\$m):	2,106
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	2,333

<u>Total share:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>	<u>Growth (yoy):</u>
0.1%	41st	41.5%
1.1%	19th	14.7%
0.7%	28th	16.9%

### Major Australian exports, 2007 (A\$m):

Alcoholic beverages	73
Medicaments (incl veterinary)	46
Coal	35
Medical instruments	9

### Major Australian imports, 2007 (A\$m):

Medicaments (incl veterinary)	683
Food preparations	490
Organo-inorganic compounds	164
Orthopaedic appliances	154

### Australia's trade in services with Ireland, 2007:

Exports of services to Ireland (A\$m):	382
Imports of services from Ireland (A\$m):	223

<u>Total share:</u>
0.8%
0.5%

### Major Australian service exports, 2007 (A\$m):

Personal travel excl education	226
Other business services	59

### Major Australian service imports, 2007 (A\$m):

Personal travel excl education	158
Business-related travel	14

## Ireland's global merchandise trade relationships:

### Ireland's principal export destinations, 2007:

1	United Kingdom	18.7%
2	United States	17.8%
3	Belgium	14.3%
13	Australia	0.9%

### Ireland's principal import sources, 2007:

1	United Kingdom	32.2%
2	United States	11.3%
3	Germany	8.7%
32	Australia	0.3%

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; (d) Total may not add due to rounding.