

IRELAND

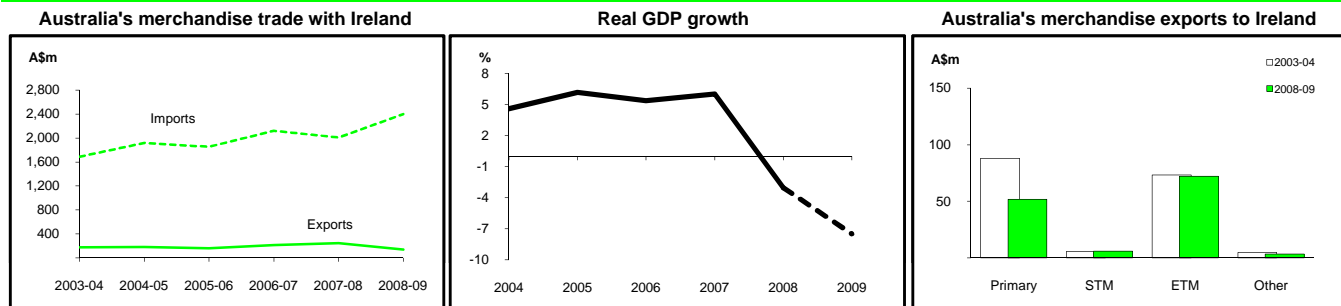
Fact Sheet

General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

Capital:	Dublin	Head of State:	
Surface area:	70 thousand sq km	President HE Ms Mary McAleese	
Official languages:	Irish, English	Head of Government:	
Population:	4.4 million (2009)	An Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Mr Brian Cowen	
Exchange rate:	A\$1 = 0.5848 Euros (Aug 2009)		

Recent economic indicators:	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008(a)	2009(b)
GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):	185.4	201.9	221.9	260.1	267.6	226.8
GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):	146.5	158.5	172.4	188.0	186.2	174.9
GDP per capita (US\$):	45,826	48,847	52,349	59,940	60,510	51,128
GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):	36,222	38,338	40,664	43,334	42,110	39,441
Real GDP growth (% change yoy):	4.6	6.2	5.4	6.0	-3.0	-7.5
Current account balance (US\$m):	-1,078	-7,088	-7,916	-13,876	-13,886	-3,925
Current account balance (% GDP):	-0.6	-3.5	-3.6	-5.3	-5.2	-1.7
Goods & services exports (% GDP):	82.4	80.6	78.3	78.6	81.8	86.8
Inflation (% change yoy):	2.3	2.2	2.7	2.9	3.1	-1.6



Australia's trade and investment relationship with Ireland (d):

Australian merchandise trade with Ireland, 2008-09:		Total share:	Rank:	Growth (yoy):
Exports to Ireland (A\$m):	134	0.1%	56th	-44.6%
Imports from Ireland (A\$m):	2,399	1.1%	20th	19.6%
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	2,532	0.6%	27th	12.7%

Major Australian exports, 2008-09 (A\$m):		Major Australian imports, 2008-09 (A\$m):	
Alcoholic beverages	46	Medicaments (incl veterinary)	900
Medicaments (incl veterinary)	33	Food preparations	497
Medical instruments (incl veterinary)	10	Computers	228
Organic chemical products	4	Orthopaedic appliances	143

Australia's trade in services with Ireland, 2008-09:		Total share:
Exports of services to Ireland (A\$m):	482	0.9%
Imports of services from Ireland (A\$m):	520	0.9%

Major Australian service exports, 2008-09 (A\$m):		Major Australian service imports, 2008-09 (A\$m):	
Personal travel excl education	212	Royalties & license fees	261
Business & professional	82	Personal travel excl education	197

Australia's investment relationship with Ireland, 2008 (e):		Total:	FDI:
Australia's investment in Ireland (A\$m):		3,351	1,115
Ireland's investment in Australia (A\$m):		1,934	553

Ireland's global merchandise trade relationships:

Ireland's principal export destinations, 2008:		Ireland's principal import sources, 2008:	
1 United States	19.3%	1 United Kingdom	33.6%
2 United Kingdom	18.4%	2 United States	11.7%
3 Belgium	14.1%	3 Germany	8.1%
15 Australia	0.9%	36 Australia	0.2%

Compiled by the Market Information and Research 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; (e) Stock, as at 31 December. Released annually by the ABS.