

LAOS

Fact Sheet

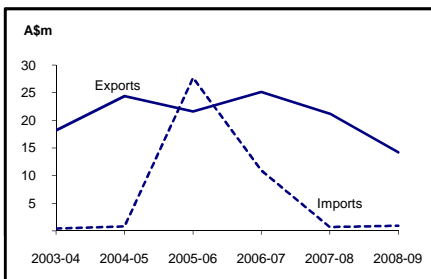
General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

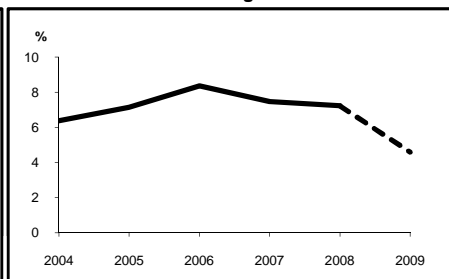
Capital:	Vientiane	Head of State:	
Surface area:	237 thousand sq km	President HE Mr Choummaly Sayasone	
Official language:	Lao	Head of Government:	
Population:	6.4 million (2009)	Prime Minister HE Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh	
Exchange rate:	A\$1 = 5,521.13 Kip (Feb 2009)		

<i>Recent economic indicators:</i>	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008(a)	2009(b)
GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):	2.5	2.8	3.6	4.3	5.4	5.7
GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):	9.3	9.8	11.0	12.2	13.3	14.1
GDP per capita (US\$):	433	467	594	696	859	897
GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):	1,608	1,664	1,825	1,979	2,127	2,217
Real GDP growth (% change yoy):	6.4	7.1	8.4	7.5	7.2	4.6
Current account balance (US\$m):	-424	-492	-367	-660	-887	-884
Current account balance (% GDP):	-16.9	-17.8	-10.3	-15.4	-16.5	-15.4
Goods & services exports (% GDP):	21.6	27.4	30.9	28.1	na	na
Inflation (% change yoy):	10.5	7.2	6.8	4.5	7.6	0.2

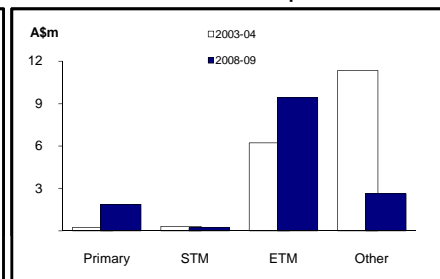
Australia's merchandise trade with Laos



Real GDP growth



Australia's merchandise exports to Laos



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

Australian merchandise trade with Laos, 2008-09:		Total share:	Rank:	Growth (yoy):
Exports to Laos (A\$m):	14	0.0%	113th	-33.3%
Imports from Laos (A\$m):	1	0.0%	146th	37.1%
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	15	0.0%	132nd	-31.1%

Major Australian exports, 2008-09* (A\$'000):

Specialised machinery & parts	5,912
Cereal preparations	813
Alcoholic beverages	788
Special yarns & fabrics	761

Major Australian imports, 2008-09 (A\$'000):

Clothing	283
Wood, simply worked	264
Artwork & antiques	145
Measuring & analysing instruments	76

*Includes A\$2.6m of confidential items and special transactions, 17% of total exports.

Australia's trade in services with Laos, 2008-09:

		Total share:
Exports of services to Laos (A\$m):	na	na
Imports of services from Laos (A\$m):	na	na

Australia's investment relationship with Laos, 2008 (e):

	Total:	FDI:
Australia's investment in Laos (A\$m):	np	np
Laos' investment in Australia (A\$m):	np	na

Laos' global merchandise trade relationships:

Laos' principal export destinations, 2008:

1	Thailand	34.7%
2	Vietnam	13.2%
3	China	8.6%
31	Australia	0.0%

Laos' principal import sources, 2008:

1	Thailand	68.6%
2	China	11.3%
3	Vietnam	4.7%
12	Australia	0.5%

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 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. np Data not published. na Data not available.