

# LESOTHO

Fact Sheet

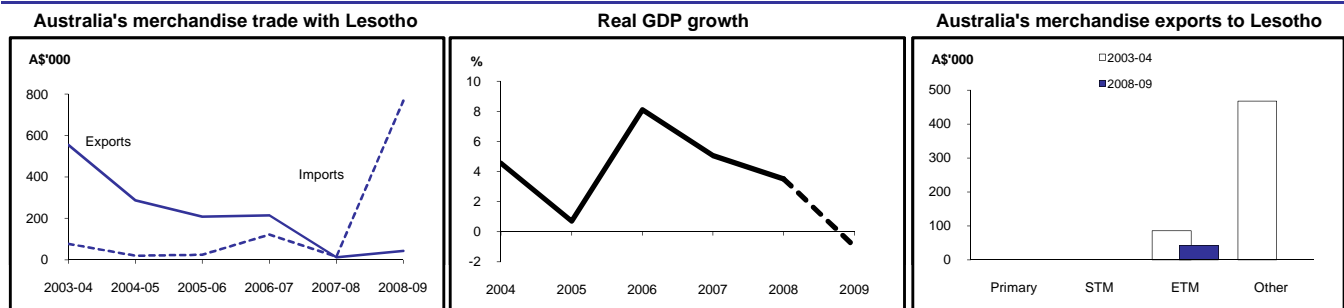
## General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

**Capital:** Maseru  
**Surface area:** 30 thousand sq km  
**Official languages:** Sesotho, English  
**Population:** 2.5 million (2009)  
**Exchange rate:** A\$1 = 6.6210 Loti (Aug 2009)

**Head of State:**  
 HM King Letsie III  
**Head of Government:**  
 Prime Minister HE The Right Hon  
 Bethuel Pakalitha Mosisili

<i>Recent economic indicators:</i>	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008(a)	2009(b)
<b>GDP (US\$m) (current prices) (c):</b>	1,290	1,376	1,517	1,672	1,618	1,624
<b>GDP PPP (US\$m) (d):</b>	2,448	2,507	2,799	3,025	3,198	3,215
<b>GDP per capita (US\$):</b>	566	593	642	694	660	651
<b>GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (d):</b>	1,074	1,080	1,184	1,256	1,305	1,288
<b>Real GDP growth (% change yoy) (c):</b>	4.6	0.7	8.1	5.1	3.5	-1.0
<b>Current account balance (US\$m):</b>	-74	-104	66	213	-65	-245
<b>Current account balance (% GDP):</b>	-5.7	-7.5	4.3	12.7	-4.0	-15.1
<b>Goods &amp; services exports (% GDP):</b>	60.4	51.0	49.6	52.7	na	na
<b>Inflation (% change yoy):</b>	5.0	3.4	6.1	8.0	10.7	7.7



## Australia's trade and investment relationship with Lesotho (e):

Australian merchandise trade with Lesotho, 2008-09:		Total share:	Rank:	Growth (yoy):
Exports to Lesotho (A\$'000):	42	0.0%	217th	281.8%
Imports from Lesotho (A\$'000):	767	0.0%	150th	nm
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$'000):	809	0.0%	198th	nm

Major Australian exports, 2008-09 (A\$'000):		Major Australian imports, 2008-09 (A\$'000):	
Measuring & analysing instruments	42	Clothing	762
		Computers	5

Australia's trade in services with Lesotho, 2008:		Total share:
Exports of services to Lesotho (A\$m):	na	na
Imports of services from Lesotho (A\$m):	na	na

Australia's investment relationship with Lesotho, 2008 (f):	Total:	FDI:
Australia's investment in Lesotho (A\$m):	na	na
Lesotho's investment in Australia (A\$m):	na	na

## Lesotho's global merchandise trade relationships:

Lesotho's principal export destinations, 2008:

Lesotho's principal import sources, 2008:

No trade data available.

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) Fiscal years beginning April 1; (d) PPP is purchasing power parity; (e) Total may not add due to rounding.

(f) Stock, as at 31 December. Released annually by the ABS. na Data not available. nm Data not meaningful.