



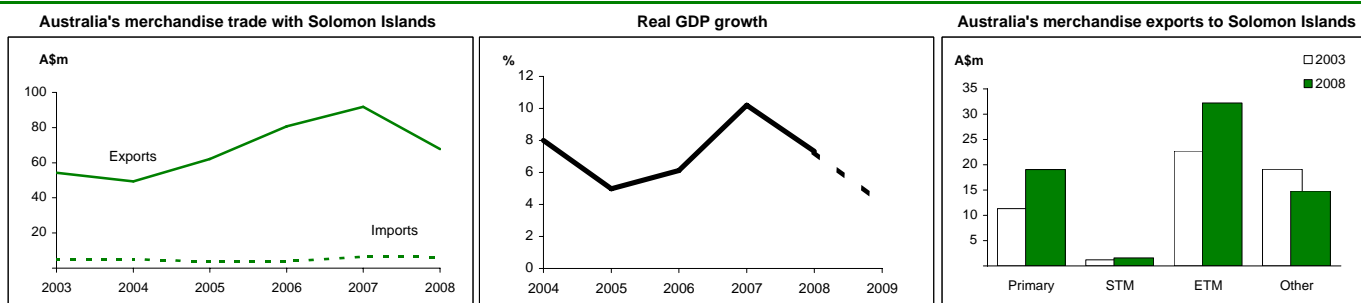
SOLOMON ISLANDS *Fact Sheet*

General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; May and September

Capital:	Honiara	Head of State:	HM Queen Elizabeth II, represented by
Surface area:	28.9 thousand sq km		Governor-General HE Sir Nathaniel Waena
Official language:	English	Head of Government:	Prime Minister The Hon Dr Derek Sikua
Population:	523,000 (2008)		
Exchange rate:	A\$1 = SI\$5.3580 (Dec 2008)		

<i>Recent economic indicators:</i>	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008(a)	2009(b)
GDP (US\$m) (current prices):	262	293	334	388	473	519
GDP PPP (US\$m) (c):	731	787	862	976	1,070	1,123
GDP per capita (US\$):	560	609	676	764	905	966
GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):	1,561	1,636	1,743	1,919	2,047	2,090
Real GDP growth (% change yoy):	8.0	5.0	6.1	10.2	7.3	4.0
Current account balance (US\$m):	61	-29	-19	-11	-32	-50
Current account balance (% GDP):	23.5	-9.8	-5.6	-2.8	-6.8	-9.6
Goods & services exports (% GDP):	47.9	46.5	51.7	55.6	61.9	na
Inflation (% change yoy):	6.9	7.1	11.1	7.7	18.2	10.5



Australia's trade relationship with Solomon Islands (d):

Australian merchandise trade with Solomon Islands, 2008:		<u>Total share:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>	<u>Growth (yoy):</u>
Exports to Solomon Islands (A\$m):	68	0.0%	68th	-26.2%
Imports from Solomon Islands (A\$m):	6	0.0%	109th	-5.1%
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	74	0.0%	79th	-24.8%

Major Australian exports, 2008* (A\$m):

Wheat	5
Refined petroleum	3
Tobacco, manufactured	3
Measuring & analysing instruments	2

*Includes A\$14m of special transactions, 21% of total exports.

Major Australian imports, 2008 (A\$m):

Wood, simply worked	4
Gold	1

Australia's trade in services with Solomon Islands, 2008:

		<u>Total share:</u>
Exports of services to Solomon Islands (A\$m):	na	na
Imports of services from Solomon Islands (A\$m):	na	na

Solomon Islands' global merchandise trade relationships:

Solomon Islands' principal export destinations, 2007:

1	China	50.8%
2	Republic of Korea	7.0%
3	Thailand	6.8%
9	Australia	2.1%

Solomon Islands' principal import sources, 2007:

1	Singapore	28.2%
2	Australia	25.4%
3	Japan	4.6%

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 forecast; (c) PPP is purchasing power parity. (d) Total may not add due to rounding.

na Data not available.