

AUSTRALIA

Capital: Canberra

GEODATA

Area

7,686,850 km²

Major language

English

Major religious groups

Anglican (26%), Roman Catholic (26%), Protestant (25%)

Surrounding countries

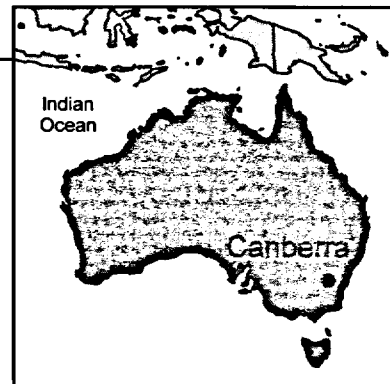
Indonesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea

Population

19.1 million (2000)

Population growth rate

1.02% (2000 est.)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Constitutional monarchy

National legislature

Upper chamber: Senate

Lower chamber: House of Representatives; multiparty

Leaders

Governor General Peter Hollingworth

Prime Minister John Howard

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Alexander Downer

Minister for Trade

Mark Vaile

UN Human Development Index (2001)

Australia ranks 2nd among 162 countries

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$395.9 billion US (2000)

GDP growth rate

3.4% (2000)

GDP per capita

\$16,240 US (2000)

Main exports

Wheat, barley, beef, lamb, dairy products, wool, coal, iron ore, machinery, transport equipment

Main imports

Fabricated materials, machinery and transport equipment, computers and office equipment, consumer goods, petroleum products

Main exports to Canada

\$1.55 billion (2000), including minerals (mainly alumina and uranium), beef, crude oil, wine

Main imports from Canada

\$1.18 million (2000), including aircraft and parts, telephone equipment, machinery, wood, paper, fertilizer

Canadian Representative

Jean Fournier, High Commissioner, The Canadian High Commission,
Commonwealth Avenue, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia

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