Ireland

Capital: Dublin

GEODATA

Area

70,280 km²

Population

3.98 million (2003)

Population growth

1.6% (2003)

Major languages

English, Irish (Gaelic)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Upper chamber: Senate

Lower chamber: Chamber of Deputies

Leaders

President Mary McAleese

Prime Minister (Taoiseach) Bertie Ahern

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Brian Cowen

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Enterprise,

Trade and Employment

Mary Harney

UN Human Development Index (2003)

Ireland ranks 12th among 175 countries

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$191.84 billion (2002)

Real GDP growth rate

6.9% (2002)

GDP per capita

\$48,975 (2002)

Inflation rate 3.5% (2003)

Unemployment rate

4.7% (2003)

Main exports

Organic chemicals, machinery and electrical products, pharmaceutical products, optics and medical instruments, cosmetics, chemical products, meat and dairy, food and beverages

Main imports

Electrical and machinery products, vehicles, organic chemicals, mineral fuel and oil, pharmaceutical products, aerospace products, plastics and paper products, iron and steel products, woven apparel, beverages

Canadian imports from Ireland

\$1.9 billion (2003), including pharmaceuticals, chemical products, computer parts, liqueurs, medical equipment, and beer

Canadian exports to Ireland

\$446.9 million (2003), including computer parts, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications equipment, pulp, lumber, newsprint, and aerospace parts

Canadian Representative

Mark Moher, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy in Ireland, 65 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland Phone: 353 (1) 417 4100, Fax: 353 (1) 417 4101, Web site: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/ireland