

AUSTRALIA

Capital: Canberra

GEODATA

Area

7,686,850 km²

Major language

English

Major religious groups

Anglican (26%), Roman Catholic (26%), other Christian (24%)

Surrounding countries

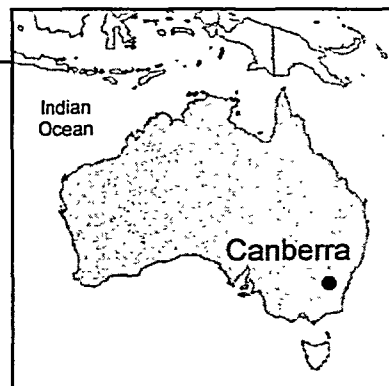
Indonesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea

Population

19.4 million (2001 est.)

Population growth rate

1% (2001 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 (2002)

Australia ranks 5th among 173 countries

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$366.2 billion US (2001)

GDP growth rate

2.4% (2001)

GDP per capita

\$25,780 US (2001, PPP)

Main exports

Minerals, grains, meat, petroleum, wool, machinery

Main imports

Passenger vehicles, computers, machinery, electrical equipment

Canadian imports from Australia

\$1.6 billion (2001), including alumina, meat, petroleum products, sugar, wine

Canadian exports to Australia

\$1.1 billion (2001), including aircraft and parts, automobiles, engines and parts, telecom equipment, wood, fertilizer

Inflation rate

4.4% (2001)

Unemployment rate

6.7% (2001)

Canadian Representative

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

Phone: (011-61-2) 6273-3844, Fax: (011-61-2) 6270-4069. Web site: www.dfait-maeci-gc.ca/australia