

# ISRAEL

Fact Sheet

## General information:

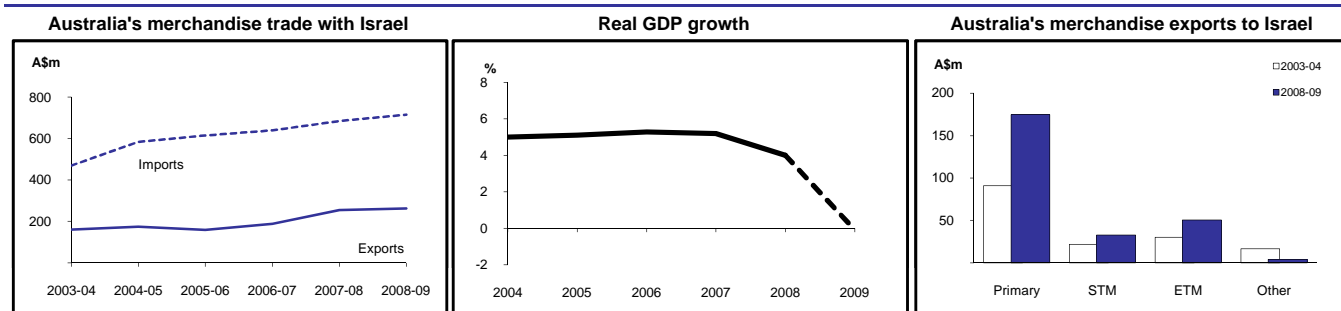
Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

**Surface area:** 22 thousand sq km  
**Official languages:** Hebrew, Arabic  
**Population:** 7.3 million (2009)  
**Exchange rate:** A\$1 = 3.1975 New Sheqalim (Aug 2009)

**Head of State:**  
 President HE Mr Shimon Peres

**Head of Government:**  
 Prime Minister Mr Benjamin Netanyahu

<i>Recent economic indicators:</i>	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008(a)	2009(b)
<b>GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):</b>	126.8	134.3	145.8	167.0	202.1	215.7
<b>GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):</b>	149.3	162.1	176.2	190.7	202.6	205.5
<b>GDP per capita (US\$):</b>	19,297	20,062	21,413	23,990	28,409	29,672
<b>GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):</b>	22,713	24,222	25,873	27,396	28,474	28,271
<b>Real GDP growth (% change yoy):</b>	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.2	4.0	-0.1
<b>Current account balance (US\$m):</b>	2,140	4,189	7,350	4,603	2,119	6,815
<b>Current account balance (% GDP):</b>	1.7	3.1	5.0	2.8	1.0	3.2
<b>Goods &amp; services exports (% GDP):</b>	34.1	14.3	42.9	42.6	39.8	34.3
<b>Inflation (% change yoy):</b>	-0.4	1.4	2.1	0.5	4.6	3.6



## Australia's trade and investment relationship with Israel (d):

Australian merchandise trade with Israel, 2008-09:		Total share:	Rank:	Growth (yoy):
Exports to Israel (A\$m):	262	0.1%	47th	3.2%
Imports from Israel (A\$m):	715	0.3%	35th	4.4%
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	977	0.2%	38th	4.1%

### Major Australian exports, 2008-09 (A\$m):

Coal	137
Pearls & gems	20
Medicaments (incl veterinary)	16
Live animals (excl seafood)	15

### Major Australian imports, 2008-09 (A\$m):

Fertilisers (excl crude)	110
Pearls & gems	82
Telecom equipment & parts	57
Manufactures of mineral materials	50

### Australia's trade in services with Israel, 2008-09:

		Total share:
Exports of services to Israel (A\$m):	na	na
Imports of services from Israel (A\$m):	na	na

### Australia's investment relationship with Israel, 2008 (e):

	Total:	FDI:
Australia's investment in Israel (A\$m):	356	np
Israel's investment in Australia (A\$m):	np	np

## Israel's global merchandise trade relationships:

### Israel's principal export destinations, 2008:

1	United States	32.6%
2	Belgium	7.5%
3	Hong Kong, SAR of China	6.8%
20	Australia	1.2%

### Israel's principal import sources, 2008:

1	United States	12.3%
2	Belgium	6.5%
3	China	6.5%
30	Australia	0.4%

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/EIU forecast; (c) PPP is purchasing power parity; (d) Total may not add due to rounding; (e) Stock, as at 31 December. Released annually by the ABS. na Data not available. np Data not published.