



AUSTRALIA



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II; represented by Governor Gen. Sir Peter COSGROVE

Head of Government

Prime Minister Scott MORRISON

Government Type

parliamentary democracy (Federal Parliament) under a constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm

Capital

Canberra

Legislature

bicameral Federal Parliament consists of Senate (76 seats) and House of Representatives (150 seats)

Judiciary

High Court of Australia (consists of 7 justices, including the chief justice)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Joseph Benedict HOCKEY

US Ambassador

Ambassador Arthur B. CULVAHOUSE

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 7,741,220 sq km
Land: 7,682,300 sq km
Water: 58,920 sq km

Climate

generally arid to semiarid; temperate in south and east; tropical in north

Natural Resources

alumina, coal, iron ore, copper, tin, gold, silver, uranium, nickel, tungsten, rare earth elements, mineral sands, lead, zinc, diamonds, natural gas, petroleum; note - Australia is the world's largest net exporter of coal accounting for 29% of global coal exports

as of February 2019

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$1.248 trillion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$50,400 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$231.6 billion (2017 est.)

partners: China 33.5%, Japan 14.6%, South Korea 6.6%, India 5%, Hong Kong 4% (2017)

Imports

\$221 billion (2017 est.)

partners: China 22.9%, US 10.8%, Japan 7.5%, Thailand 5.1%, Germany 4.9%, South Korea 4.5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

23.5 million (July 2018 est.)

Population Growth

1.01% (2018 est.)

Ethnicity

English 25.9%, Australian 25.4%, Irish 7.5%, Scottish 6.4%, Italian 3.3%, German 3.2%, Chinese 3.1%, Indian 1.4%, Greek 1.4%, Dutch 1.2%, other 15.8% (includes Australian aboriginal .5%), unspecified 5.4% (2011 est.)

Language

English 72.7%, Mandarin 2.5%, Arabic 1.4%, Cantonese 1.2%, Vietnamese 1.2%, Italian 1.2%, Greek 1%, other 14.8%, unspecified 6.5% (2016 est.)

Religion

Protestant 23.1%, Roman Catholic 22.6%, other Christian 4.2%, Muslim 2.6%, Buddhist 2.4%, Orthodox 2.3%, Hindu 1.9%, other 1.3%, none 30.1%, unspecified 9.6% (2016 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 86% of total population (2018)

rate of urbanization: 1.43% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

