



Australian Government

## AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY FOR ECONOMY

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest. Australia has strong competitive advantages in its skills, research base, political and legal institutions and high standards of living.



**12th largest economy** in the world.

(IMF, *World Economic Outlook Update*, April 2022)



**9th highest GDP per capita** in the world and  
**3rd highest** among the **world's largest 20 economies**.

(IMF, *World Economic Outlook Update*, April 2022)



**3rd** in the OECD for **household income**,  
with the **9th highest average earnings** in the OECD.

(OECD, *Better Life Index*, 2022)



**6th largest pool of managed funds** and  
**9th largest stock market** in the world.

(Investment Company Institute, 2022; Standard & Poor's, 2021)



**2nd** top economy for **seizing opportunity from disruptive forces**  
and **5th** for **traditional drivers of development** (labour, investment  
and productivity).

(Bloomberg, *New Economy Drivers and Disrupters Report*, 2019)

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## AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest.

Australia's low tariffs and ready access to the fast-growing markets of our region make us a natural gateway for inward investment. This is supported by a network of 16 free trade agreements.



Largest producer of **lithium, zircon** and **titanium mineral sands**,  
**2**nd largest producer of **cobalt**, **4**th largest producer of **rare earths** and  
**7**th largest producer of **antimony**.

(Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, *2022 Critical Minerals Strategy*, 2022; Geoscience Australia, *Australia's Identified Minerals Resources*, 2020)



Largest global exporter of **liquefied natural gas (LNG)** by quantity.

(United Nations, *Comtrade Database*, 2020)



Largest producer of **bauxite, iron ore**, and **rutile** and  
one of the top **5** global producers of **gold, uranium** and **zinc**.

(Geoscience Australia, *Australia's Identified Minerals Resources*, 2020)



**14**th largest destination for **global direct investment**.

(Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, *International Investment Australia*, 2020)



**1**st for financial freedom and **2**nd for trade freedom.

(The Heritage Foundation, 2022)

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## AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY IN SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest.

With dynamic links between academia, industry and public services, Australia welcomes investment in its intellectual capital to help lay the groundwork for future discoveries.



Most attractive country for **tech company investment** and among the top scoring countries for **cyber security preparedness**.

(Economist Intelligence Unit, *Technological Readiness Ranking*, 2018)



Australia's **scientific institutions** consistently rank in the world's top 1 per cent in 15 **fields of research** including space science, physics, computer science and clinical medicine.

(CSIRO, *Annual Report 2020-21*)



Australia is one of the highest **spenders on research and development** - \$34 billion in 2018-19 – placing it alongside the UK, Singapore and France.

(Austrade, *Benchmark Report*, 2021)



**1st** in the world for **growth in government R&D allocation**.

(World Intellectual Property Organisation, *Global Innovation Index*, 2021)



**6th** in the world for **fintech** and **2nd** in the Asia-Pacific region.

(Findexable, *Global Fintech Rankings*, 2021)

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## AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY FOR DOING BUSINESS

Australia's pro-business environment attracts investment and encourages new businesses. Australia ranks highly in terms of competition legislation, number of days to start a business, judicial effectiveness and access to credit (Institute for Management Development, 2022). Australia is a magnet for ambitious, overseas talent, lured by generous government support and incentives for start-ups, entrepreneurs and innovators.



**5**th in the world for **digital government services** and capability and **4**th in the world for **digital consumption**.

(United Nations, *E-Government Index*, 2020; Euromonitor, *Digital Consumer Index*, 2021)



**1**st in the OECD for **attracting highly educated migrants** (those with master and doctoral degrees) and **7**th for attracting **foreign entrepreneurs**.

(OECD, *Indicators of Talent Attractiveness*, 2019)



**14**th in the world for **intellectual property protection**.

(Global Innovation Policy Center, *International IP Index*, 2021)



**4**th in the world for most attractive online **consumer market**.

(Euromonitor, *International Digital Landscape*, 2021)



**9**th for in the world for **market sophistication** (credit and investment, trade, competition and market scale).

(Global Innovation Index, 2021)

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## AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY IN EDUCATION

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest.

Australia's world-class universities are consistently ranked among the world's best and are a vast resource of research and innovation.



**2**nd in the OECD for **education and educational outcomes** and **7**th for **spending on education**.

(OECD, *Better Life Index*, 2021)



**3**rd in the world for the **proportion of the population with a tertiary education**.

(World Intellectual Property Organization, *Global Innovation Index*, 2021)



**3**rd top destination for **international students**.

(UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2020)



**5** universities in the world's top 50.

(QS World University Ranking, 2023)



**3** universities in the top 100 for **artificial intelligence** and global top **10** contributor to **life sciences research**

(Nature Index, *Artificial Intelligence*, 2020; Nature, *Life Science Index*, 2021)

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## AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY FOR HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest.

Australia is one of the most multicultural countries in the world and home to the world's oldest living culture.



The **most desirable working** location in the Asia-Pacific and **3rd most desirable work destination in the world.**

(Boston Consulting Group, *Decoding Global Talent*, 2021)



**8th** globally for **flexible work arrangements.**

(World Economic Forum, *Global Competitiveness Report*, 2020)



**2nd** in the OECD for **living conditions and quality of life**, **3rd** for **housing conditions** and 6th for **strong community networks.**

(OECD, *Better Life Index*, 2021)



**3rd** best **health care** in the world.

(Commonwealth Fund, *Healthcare in the US Compared to Other High-Income Countries*, 2021)

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# AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY FOR DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest.

Australia's economic prosperity is built on strong foundations: good governance, open markets and the rule of law.



**1**st in the OECD for **civic engagement**.

(OECD, *Better Life Index*, 2021)



**3**rd in the world for **workforce diversity** and  
the **2**nd highest proportion of **foreign-born citizens in the OECD**.

(World Economic Forum, *Global Competitiveness Report*, 2019;  
OECD, *International migration database*, 2022)



Equal **9**th (with Switzerland) on the **Democracy Index**.

(Economist Intelligence Unit, *Democracy Index*, 2021)



**11**th largest contributor to the **United Nations regular budget** and the  
**11**th largest financial contributor to the **United Nations peacekeeping budget**.

(United Nations, 2022)



**17** Australian universities are in the top 100 for having an **impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals**.

(The Times Higher Education, *Impact Rankings*, 2021)

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# AUSTRALIA IS A TOP 20 COUNTRY FOR FOR CLEAN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Australia consistently ranks highly in global indexes as a desirable destination to live, work, study and invest.

Australia is harnessing our plentiful natural attributes – abundant sunshine, vast windy plains, unabating waves and tidal rhythms, and hot dry rock geothermals – to power new energy solutions and low emissions technologies.



**1st** in our region for **environmental quality**.

(OECD, *Better Life Index*, 2021)



**1st** in the world for **installed solar capacity per capita**.

(International Energy Agency, *Trends in Photovoltaic Applications*, 2020)



**3rd** for attractiveness of **renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities**.

(EY, *Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index*, 2020)



**7th** for **innovation in clean energy** and **7th** for **policies and regulations** to support energy efficiency and renewable energy.

(IT and Innovation Foundation, *Global Energy Innovation Index*, 2021;  
World Bank, *Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy*, 2020)



Australian researchers have held the world record for **most efficient solar cells** converting sunlight into electricity for 30 of the last 37 years.

(Centre for Advanced Photovoltaics, University of New South Wales;  
Germany's Institute for Solar Energy Research, 2021)

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