SELECTED INDICATORS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION 1995-2005











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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, BANGKOK OCTOBER 2006

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FOREWORD

This document is the twenty-third issue of the publication *Selected indicators of food and agricultural development in the Asia-Pacific region.* It presents data on selected items for the years 1995-2005, except some tables that provide information for the period 1994-2004. Most tables show two types of information: annual figures for 1995, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 and the average annual growth rate for the period 1995-2005. The indicators are grouped under the following headings: Agricultural land and population, Agricultural inputs, Production indices, Staple food crops, Edible oil crops, Horticultural crops, Fibre crops, Other crops, Livestock, Agricultural trade, Fisheries, Forestry, Nutrition and Other indicators including a table reporting the status of organic farming in the region. A section on country profiles precedes the tables.

Data for member countries in the region have been included in this year's publication. These countries are shown under two groups: "Developing countries/transition economies" and "Developed countries". Statistics obtained using data values from all of these countries are labeled as "Asia & Pacific*". For comparison purposes, figures relating to "Rest of world" and "World" are also presented. Please note that country data for Timor-Leste were reported as provincial data for Indonesia before 2000. The Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Palau did not report data before 1995.

For almost all commodity tables, data are retrieved from the FAO computerized data bases, especially FAOSTAT, or from the FAO Yearbooks. These data are based on information supplied by member countries. Other sources of data are cited.

To indicate the overall regional performance and also to highlight inter-country differences, growth rates shown in the present publication have been calculated using the least squares exponential growth method. Please note that data for all years in the range have been used in the calculation of the growth rates.

Various units of FAO including the Statistics Division and the Information Systems and Technology Division have cooperated with the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in the preparation of this publication, providing computer programs and data bases for the production of tables. This collaboration is duly acknowledged.

He Changchui Assistant Director-General and

FAO Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok, October 2006

SYMBOLS USED IN THE TABLES

Unofficial figure

F FAO estimate

P Partner data

T Trend calculation

Data not available

MT Metric ton

Ha Hectare

Kg Kilogram

kg/ha Kilogram per hectare

CUM Cubic meter

In most tables a blank space has the same meaning as the symbol (-) defined above.

For crop yields and all sub-regional totals no (F) or (*) symbol is used as these are derived data.

To divide decimals from whole numbers, a full stop (.) is used.

Please note that Asia-Pacific* refers to countries in the table.

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Islands

Fed. States of

Country Profiles



Guinea

Afghanistan China







Solomon Tonga Tuvalu Vanuatu Australia Japan New Zealand Islands

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES / TRANSITION ECONOMIES

(SOUTHEAST ASIA)







Land Use (2004)	Total area (17 652 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (21.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (14 482 000) Agricultural population (68.5%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$4 884 million) GNI per capita (US\$380 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (32.9%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$162.3 million) Exports (US\$55.2 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 060 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (33%)

Cambodia is located on mainland Southeast Asia between Thailand, Viet Nam and Lao PDR. Cambodia has a sea coast on the Gulf of Thailand. Natural resources are abundant in timber, gemstones, some iron ore, manganese and phosphate, and hydroelectric potential from the Mekong River. Agriculture dominates the Cambodian economy, contributing 32.9 percent GDP in 2004 and employing 68.5 percent of the workforce. The majority of farming households are engaged in rice production. Timber and rubber are important export commodities. Main agricultural products are rice, rubber, corn, meat, vegetables, dairy products, sugar and flour. Agricultural imports have lessened at an annual rate of 0.8 percent from 1994 to 2004. The main agricultural imports include cigarettes, milled paddy rice, palm oil and cotton lint. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 3.8 percent annually. Rubber is the major agricultural export followed by maize, soybeans, tobacco and milled paddy rice.

INDONESIA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (181 157 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (19.0%)
Population (2004)	Total population (222 611 000) Agricultural population (41.5%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$257 642 million) GNI per capita (US\$1 280 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (15.4%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$5 180.5 million) Exports (US\$9 400.9 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 880 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (6%)

Indonesia is the world's largest archipelago and is located between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. A large part of its land area is coastal lowlands; larger islands have interior mountains. The country has extensive natural resources, including abundant forest and oceanic resources, fertile land, and rich deposits of petroleum, natural gas, tin, nickel, timber, bauxite, copper, coal, gold and silver. Indonesia has a well-balanced economy in which all major sectors play an important role. Agriculture (including animal husbandry, fishing and forestry) is both an important source of export earnings and formal employment, and the means by which the majority of the Indonesian rural population subsists. About 46 percent of the workforce engages in agriculture. The agricultural sector contributed 15.4 percent of the total GDP in 2004. Main agricultural products are rice, cassava (tapioca), peanuts, rubber, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, copra, poultry, beef, pork and eggs. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 1.0 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include wheat, cotton lint, soybeans (including cakes), dry skim milk, feed supplements and maize. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 3.5 percent annually. Palm oil is the major agricultural export followed by rubber, oil palm kernels, cocoa beans, coffee and coconut oil.

LAO PDR





Land Use (2004)	Total area (23 080 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (4.5%)
Population (2004)	Total population (5 787 000) Agricultural population (75.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$2 452 million) GNI per capita (US\$440 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (46.8%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$119.9 million) Exports (US\$20.1 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 320 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (21%)

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is a mountainous, land-locked, small country heavily dependant economically on Thailand with an inadequate infrastructure and a largely unskilled workforce. The most valuable natural resources are forests and rivers which are useful for producing electricity; but some of the electricity produced is exported to Thailand and little is available outside of urban areas. Agriculture (including forestry and fishing) is the most important economic sector. Agriculture, mostly subsistence rice farming, employs an estimated 76 percent of the workforce and produces about 47 percent of GDP. Rice production dominates agriculture accounting for 78 percent of land under cultivation. Tobacco and coffee are the most important non-rice cash crops. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 1.6 percent from 1994 to 2004. The main agricultural imports include beverages, prepared food, milled paddy rice, dried fruit and sugar. Over the same period, agricultural exports have declined 7.2 percent annually. Coffee is the major agricultural export followed by maize, buffalo and cattle.

MALAYSIA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (32 855 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (23.1%)
Population (2004)	Total population (24 876 000) Agricultural population (15.0%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$118 318 million) GNI per capita (US\$4 960 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (9.5%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$5 842.0 million) Exports (US\$10 916.7 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 870 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (3%)

Malaysia consists of two separate parts divided by the South China Sea: Peninsular Malaysia on the Malay Peninsula; and East Malaysia, the northern part of the Island of Borneo. Both West and East Malaysia feature coastal plains rising to often densely forested hills and mountains. Natural resources are petroleum, liquefied natural gas (LNG), tin and minerals. The main agricultural products are palm oil, rubber, timber, cocoa, rice, tropical fruit, fish and coconut. Malaysia transformed itself from 1971 through the late 1990s from a producer of raw materials into an emerging multi-sector economy via the New Economic Plan (NEP). Manufacturing grew from 13.9 percent of GDP in 1970 to 30.4 percent in 2002, while agriculture and mining, which together had accounted for 42.7 percent of GDP in 1970, dropped to approximately 16 percent in 2002. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 3.1 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include oil palm, cocoa beans, maize, wheat, natural rubber, sugar and soybeans. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 1.9 percent annually. Palm oil is the major agricultural export followed by rubber, fatty acids oil, palm oil kernels and cocoa butter.

MYANMAR





Land Use (2004)	Total area (65 755 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (16.7%)
Population (2004)	Total population (50 101 000) Agricultural population (68.9%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (NA) GNI per capita (NA) Agricultural GDP (57.2%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$421.5 million) Exports (US\$379.4 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 900 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (5%)

Myanmar has borders on the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and is located between Bangladesh and Thailand. It has central lowlands ringed by steep, rugged highlands. Natural resources are petroleum, timber, tin, antimony, zinc, copper, tungsten, lead, coal, some marble, limestone, precious stones, natural gas and hydropower. Main agricultural products are rice, pulses, beans, sesame, groundnuts, sugar cane, hardwood, fish and fish products. According to official data, agriculture (including forestry and fishing) remains by far the biggest sector, accounting for 57.2 percent of current-price GDP in fiscal year 2001/02 (April-March), and employing close to 69 percent of the workforce in 2004. Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 1.0 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include palm oil, cigarettes, prepared food, tobacco products, wheat and beverages. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 1.2 percent annually. Dry beans are the major agricultural export followed by sesame seeds, milled paddy rice, rubber, cattle and maize.

PHILIPPINES





Land Use (2004)	Total area (29 817 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (35.9%)
Population (2004)	Total population (84 567 000) Agricultural population (36.9%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$80 574 million) GNI per capita (US\$1 300 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (13.7%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$3 132.2 million) Exports (US\$2 051.0 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 450 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (19%)

The Philippines is one of the world's largest archipelagos; with more than 7 100 islands, it extends 1 900 km north to south and 1 100 km east to west. The land is mostly mountainous with coastal lowlands. The Philippines has extensive fishing resources (both marine and inland) and large deposits of mineral and energy resources, such as petroleum, nickel, cobalt, silver and gold, and timber. Reflecting its varied resource endowments, physical and human, the economy is diversified. Rice and coconut production continue to dominate the agricultural sector. Other main agricultural commodities include corn, sugar cane, bananas, pineapples and mangoes. About 37 percent of the workforce engages in agriculture. The share of agriculture in total GDP has declined as the sector contributed only about 13.7 percent of the total GDP in 2004. Reflecting this trend, agricultural exports currently account for less than 5 percent of the country's foreign earnings. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 2.8 percent from 1994 to 2004. Wheat is the main agricultural import, followed by soybeans (including the cake of soybeans) and rice. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 0.8 percent. Coconut oil and bananas are the country's two major agricultural exports. The country also exports desiccated coconut, cigarettes and canned pineapples.

THAILAND



Land Use (2004)	Total area (51 089 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (34.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (63 465 000) Agricultural population (45.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$161 688 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 750 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (10.1%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$3 829.8 million) Exports (US\$11 926.3 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 410 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (21%)

Thailand consists of a densely populated central plain; northeastern plateau; mountain range in the west; and a southern isthmus that connects to Malaysia. Natural resources are tin, rubber, natural gas, tungsten, tantalum, timber, lead, fish, gypsum, lignite and fluorite. The Thai economy is export-dependent, with exports accounting for 60 percent of GDP. The agriculture sector accounted for 10.1 percent of GDP in 2004. Approximately 53 percent of Thailand's labour force is employed in agriculture. Rice, the dominant agricultural export crop, is irrigated in the Central Plains and in the basins of northern Thailand, but it is rain-fed elsewhere. Thailand remains one of the world's largest exporters of rice, and in 2004 sold over 8.6 million tonnes of milled paddy rice worth almost US\$2.4 billion. Other agricultural products are tapioca, rubber, corn, sugar cane, coconuts and soybeans. Other agricultural commodities produced in significant amounts include fish and fishery products. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 2.7 percent from 1994 to 2004. Cotton lint is the main agricultural import, followed by soybeans (including the cake of soybeans), dry skim milk and wheat. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at an annual rate of 2.2 percent. Natural rubber and paddy rice are the country's two major agricultural export items. The country also exports natural rubber, canned chicken, prepared foods and refined sugar.

TIMOR-LESTE





Land Use (2004)	Total area (1 487 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (12.8%)
Population (2004)	Total population (820 000) Agricultural population (81.2%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$339 million) GNI per capita (US\$750 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (31.6%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$9.8 million) Exports (US\$2.1 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 780 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (8%)

Timor-Leste is a small mountainous country that is classified among the poorest countries of the world and the poorest in Southeast Asia. The agricultural sector contributes about 32 percent to GDP. Approximately 42 percent of the population of 820 000 is considered to be below the national poverty line of 1.5 US\$ per day. GDP is expected to decline further, reflecting the continued effect of the reduced international presence and the adverse impact of a delayed rainy season on agricultural output. The agricultural economy is dominated by low input/output subsistence agriculture. Important products are maize, cassava, cowpeas, sweet potatoes and rice. Household food security is highly heterogeneous across districts and the country, although food insecurity is generally a more pronounced problem in rural upland areas. Main agricultural imports include dry skim milk, milled paddy rice, maize and macaroni. Coffee is the major agricultural export followed by copra, spices and cocoa beans.

VIET NAM





Land Use (2004)	Total area (32 549 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (27.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (82 481 000) Agricultural population (65.7%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$45 210 million) GNI per capita (US\$620 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (21.8%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$1 967.8 million) Exports (US\$3 312.3 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 580 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (17%)

The terrain of Viet Nam varies from mountainous to coastal delta. Natural resources are coal, crude oil, zinc, copper, silver, gold, manganese and iron. Main agricultural products are rice, maize, sweet potato, peanut, soybeans, cotton, coffee, and cashews. Measured by employment, Viet Nam is an agrarian society, with around 66 percent of the labour force working in agriculture. Since 1986, when the Sixth Party Congress approved a broad economic reform package called "Doi Moi" (renovation), Viet Nam became one of the fastest growing economies in the world, averaging around 8 percent annual GDP growth from 1990 to 1997. Simultaneously, agricultural production doubled, transforming Viet Nam from a net food importer to one of the world's largest exporters of rice and of commodities such as coffee, tea, rubber, pepper and fisheries products. However, agriculture's share of economic output declined, falling from 42 percent in 1989 to 21.8 percent in 2004 (as production in other sectors of the economy increased). Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 8.0 percent from 1994 to 2004. The main agricultural imports include soybean cake, cotton lint, cigarettes and wheat. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 5.9 percent annually. Milled paddy rice is the major agricultural export followed by coffee, natural rubber, cashew nuts, pepper and tea.

(SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST ASIA)

AFGHANISTAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (65 209 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (12.3%)
Population (2004)	Total population (24 926 000) Agricultural population (65.6%)
GDP/GNI (2004) (UNDP est.)	Total GDP (US\$5 761 billion) GNI per capita (NA) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (NA) Exports (NA)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Afghanistan is a country of rugged mountains and arid plains, which become deserts in the southwest. It has a wealth of natural resources, including extensive deposits of natural gas, petroleum, coal, copper, chromites, talc, barites, sulfur, lead, zinc, iron ore, salt, and precious and semiprecious stones. Agricultural production is constrained by an almost total dependence on erratic winter snows and spring rains for water; irrigation is primitive. The main agricultural products are wheat, corn, barley, rice, cotton, fruit, nuts, karakul pelts, wool and mutton. The economy has traditionally been dominated by agriculture, which accounted for 38 percent of the GDP at current prices and employed around 65 percent of the workforce in 2004. Relatively little use is made of machines, chemical fertilizers or pesticides. Years of fighting left former cultivated lands uncultivated and yields have almost dropped by 35 percent leading to persistent food shortages and an increase in food imports. Four consecutive years of drought from 1999 to 2002 brought a food crisis to Afghanistan. Official statistics have been non-existent since the fall of the Government in 1992. One of the largest sectors of the economy is opium poppy cultivation and processing. According to UNDCP, in 2002 crop year Afghanistan accounted for three-quarters of the world's heroine production. Fruit and nuts, wool, cotton, hides and pelts are also exported.

BANGLADESH





Land Use (2004)	Total area (13 017 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (64.7%)
Population (2004)	Total population (149 664 000) Agricultural population (51.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$56 585 million) GNI per capita (US\$470 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (21.0%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$1 984. million) Exports (US\$113.9 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 200 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (30%)

The land of Bangladesh is mostly flat, although there are some hilly areas in the northeastern and southeastern regions. Much of the land is intersected by the numerous waterways of the Ganges Delta and the Brahmaputra River. The annual flooding of the land provides rich alluvial soils. Natural resources are natural gas, fertile soil and water. Around 75 percent of the planted crop area is devoted to rice crops. Main agriculture products are rice, jute, tea, sugar and wheat. Because of Bangladesh's fertile soil and normally ample water supply, rice can be grown and harvested three times a year in many areas. Bangladesh's predominantly agricultural economy accounted for 21 percent of the total GDP in 2004, depending heavily on an erratic monsoonal cycle with periodic flooding and drought. Most Bangladeshis, 51.8 percent of the total workforce, earn their living from agriculture. Population pressure continues to place a severe burden on productive capacity, creating a food deficit, especially of wheat. Foreign assistance and commercial imports fill the gap. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 8.4 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include wheat, palm oil, milled paddy rice, refined sugar, cotton lint and soybean oil. Over the same period, agricultural exports have decreased 2.0 percent annually. Jute is the country's major agricultural export, followed by tobacco leaves, fresh vegetables, tea and sugar.

BHUTAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (4 700 000 ha)
	Arable & perm. crops (2.7%)
Population (2004)	Total population (2 325 000)
	Agricultural population (93.6%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$673 million)
	GNI per capita (US\$870 in 2005)
	Agricultural GDP (33.2% in 2003)
Agricultural Trade	Imports (US\$28.3 million)
(2004)	Exports (US\$10.2 million)
Nutrition	Per caput DES (NA)
(2001-2003)	Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Bhutan, one of the world's smallest and least developed countries, is mostly mountainous with some fertile valleys and savanna; 66 percent of the total land is forest. Natural resources are timber, hydropower, gypsum and calcium carbide. The economy is closely aligned with India through strong trade and monetary links and dependence on India's financial assistance. Although poor in terms of income per head, poverty is less evident than in most countries of similar income levels. The economy of Bhutan is based on agriculture and forestry, providing the main livelihood to almost 94 percent of the workforce and contributing 33.9 percent of GDP in 2003. Bhutan is largely an agrarian society; agriculture consists mainly of subsistence farming and animal husbandry. However, the main growth in the sector is a result of forestry and cash-crop production. Increasing self-sufficiency is a major target of the Government. Main agricultural products are rice, corn, root crops, citrus, milk and eggs. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 1.1 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include milled paddy rice, barley beer and mustard seed oil. Over the same period, agricultural exports have decreased 3.3 percent annually. Non-alcoholic beverages are the country's major agricultural export followed by oranges, orange juice and wheat flour.

INDIA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (297 319 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (57.1%)
Population (2004)	Total population (1 081 229 000) Agricultural population (51.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$691 163 million) GNI per capita (US\$720 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (21.1%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$5 108.2 million) Exports (US\$7 058.3 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 440 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (20%)

The terrain of India varies from the Himalayas to flat river valleys. Natural resources are coal, iron ore, manganese, mica, bauxite, chromite, thorium, limestone, barite, titanium ore, diamonds and crude oil. Two-thirds of India's labour force works in agriculture which, with forestry and fishing, accounts for around 21.1 percent of GDP. However, the majority of landholdings are farmed at subsistence level, and many farming families live below the poverty line. India has some of the lowest human development indicators in the world, particularly in rural areas. At the other end of the scale, India also has a large number of highly qualified professionals, as well as several internationally established industrial groups. Main agriculture products are wheat, rice, coarse grains, oilseeds, sugar, cotton, jute and tea. With the introduction of high-yield crop varieties and new fertilizing and irrigation techniques, the so-called Green Revolution, India has been self-sufficient in food since the mid-1970s. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 9.2 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include palm oil, soybean oil, cashew nuts, cotton lint, sugar and pulses. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 3.9 percent annually. Milled paddy rice is the major agricultural export followed by soybean cake, cashew nuts, tea and wheat.

IRAN (ISLAMIC REP. OF)



Land Use (2004)	Total area (163 620 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (11.2%)
Population (2004)	Total population (69 788 000) Agricultural population (24.6%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$163 445 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 770 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (10.8%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$3 054.9 million) Exports (US\$1 427.1 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (3 090 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (4%)

The terrain of Iran mostly consists of desert and mountains. Natural resources are petroleum, natural gas and some mineral deposits. Main agriculture products are wheat, rice, other grains, sugar beets, fruits, nuts, cotton, dairy products, wool and caviar. Historically an agricultural society, Iran achieved significant industrialization and economic modernization by the 1970s, but the pace of growth slowed dramatically until after the end of the war with Iraq. The oil sector's share of GDP declined from 30-40 percent in the 1970s to 10-20 percent, mainly as a result of war damage to production facilities; oil revenue still provides a substantial portion of export earnings. State investment, large-scale irrigation schemes and wider production of export-based agricultural items such as dates, flowers and pistachios made agriculture Iran's fastest growing sector over much of the 1990s. Production was reduced significantly by severe drought from 1999-2001, leading to heavy losses in livestock and cereal production. After a strong recovery Iran appears within reach of food self-sufficiency. Agriculture remains one of the largest employers, accounting for about 25 percent of all jobs and 11 percent of GDP. Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 0.4 percent from 1994 to 2004. Soybean oil is the main agricultural import, followed by maize, soybean cake, milled paddy rice and cigarettes. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased at 3.4 percent annually. Pistachios, raisins, spices and soybean oil are the main agricultural exports.

MALDIVES





Land Use (2004)	Total area (30 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (43.3%)
Population (2004)	Total population (328 000) Agricultural population (23.5%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$753 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 390 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$114.3 million) Exports (US\$1.0 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 560 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (11%)

The 1 190 islands of the Maldives are scattered over a vast area of the Indian Ocean (90 000 square kilometres), complicating transport, especially in rough seas, and making service delivery to the unevenly distributed and widely dispersed population living on 198 islands very expensive. Marine resources are the main natural endowment, with economic activities concentrated on fishing and tourism. There are no inland fisheries and no aquaculture in the Maldives. Fishing operations take place in off-shore, coastal and reef waters. A small internal market (many island communities depend on a single source of income (fishing)), scarcity of jobs and very limited agricultural opportunities add to the complexity of development challenges. Agricultural imports grew at an annual rate of 5.9 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main agricultural imports include milled paddy rice, cigarettes, dry whole milk and wheat flour. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 17.7 percent annually. Fish meal is the major agricultural export followed by alcoholic beverages.

NEPAL



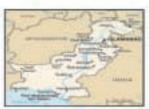


Land Use (2004)	Total area (14 300 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (17.4%)
Population (2004)	Total population (25 725 000) Agricultural population (92.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$6 707 million) GNI per capita (US\$270 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (40.3%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$187.1 million) Exports (US\$94.9 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 450 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (17%)

Nepal is located between China and India and has eight of the world's ten highest peaks. The mountains, hills and terai comprise 35 percent, 42 percent and 23 percent of the country's land area, respectively. Around 93 percent of the economically active population live in rural areas and depend on subsistence farming. Agriculture accounts for about 40 percent of the total GDP. Timber is one of Nepal's main natural resources, but the area under forest has declined over the past three decades due to overexploitation. The country's other natural resources include quartz, water, hydropower, lignite, copper, cobalt, and iron ore. The country's main agricultural production includes grains, mostly rice (57 percent of total cereal outputs in 2004/05), corn (21 percent), wheat (18 percent), sugar cane, root crops, milk and water buffalo meat. The country's industrial activity mainly involves the processing of agricultural produce including jute, sugar cane, tobacco, and grain. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 4.9 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main imported agricultural commodities include wool, tobacco and pulses. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 12.9 percent annually. Nepal's main exports include hydrogenated oils, non-alcoholic beverages and spices.

PAKISTAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (77 088 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (26.1%)
Population (2004)	Total population (157 315 000) Agricultural population (48.9%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$96 115 million) GNI per capita (US\$690 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (22.3%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$2 207.9 million) Exports (US\$1 254.3 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 340 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (23%)

Pakistan is located in southern Asia and is bordered by India in the east, China in the northeast, Afghanistan in the north and northwest, Iran in the southwest and the Arabian Sea to the south. The size of the annual cotton crop, the bulk of it grown in Punjab province, is a crucial barometer of the health of the overall economy since it accounts for 80 percent of export earnings. Natural resources are arable land, natural gas, limited petroleum, substantial hydropower potential, coal and iron ore. Main agriculture products are wheat, cotton, rice, sugar cane and tobacco. In 2004, agriculture accounted for 23.2 percent of GDP and provided employment to 45 percent of the labour force. It supplies most of the country's food, but is also the source of raw materials for major domestic industries, especially for cotton products. Two fundamental problems that trouble the agricultural sector are: an excessive dependence on a cotton crop highly susceptible to adverse weather conditions and pest damage; and the food import bill, which is rising rapidly despite a steady increase in crop, livestock and fruit production. Agricultural imports decreased at an annual rate of 0.6 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main imported agricultural commodities include palm oil, cotton lint, tea and rapeseed. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 2.8 percent annually. Milled paddy rice is the main export followed by hydrogenated oils, cotton lint and molasses.

SRI LANKA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (6 463 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (29.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (19 218 000) Agricultural population (45.1%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$20 055 million) GNI per capita (US\$1 160 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (17.8%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$925.8 million) Exports (US\$1 142.8 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 390 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (22%)

The terrain of Sri Lanka consists of coastal plains in the northern third of the country; with hills and mountains in south-central Sri Lanka which rise as high as 2 133 metres. Natural resources are limestone, graphite, mineral sands, gems and phosphate. Sri Lanka's economy is highly dependent on domestic trade. The main agriculture products are rice, tea, rubber, coconut and spices. The plantation sector produces the three main export crops – tea, rubber and coconut – of which only tea has the potential for any real increase in output. Sri Lanka is the world's leading tea exporter, and second only to the Philippines in the export of desiccated coconut and natural rubber. Paddy rice dominates the non-plantation agricultural sector and accounts for one-fifth of total agricultural output, rendering it an important determinant of agricultural growth. Although yields have improved continuously, high production costs are a drawback. Agriculture has lost its relative importance in the Sri Lankan economy in recent decades. It accounts for 17.1 percent of GDP and provides employment to 44.3 percent of the working population. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 4.4 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main imported agricultural commodities include wheat, dry whole milk, sugar, palm oil and soybean cake. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 6.9 percent annually. Tea is the main export followed by natural rubber, cinnamon and desiccated coconut.

(CENTRAL ASIA)





KAZAKHSTAN

Land Use (2004)	Total area (269 970 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (8.4%)
Population (2004)	Total population (15 403 000) Agricultural population (18.0%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$40 743 mil) GNI per capita (US\$2 930 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (8.4%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$933.5 million) Exports (US\$692.7 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 710 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (8%)

Kazakhstan borders many countries and has coastlines on the Aral Sea and the Caspian Sea. Its terrain extends east to west from the Caspian Sea to the Altay Mountains and north to south from the plains of Western Siberia to the oasis and desert of Central Asia. Oil, gas and mineral exports are key to its economic success and have attracted most of the over US\$18.4 billion in foreign investment since 1993. Kazakhstan has significant deposits of coal, iron, copper, zinc, uranium and gold. Kazakhstan is the sixth-largest producer of grain in the world; livestock is another important agricultural commodity. Agricultural land occupies more than 84.6 million hectares – 20.5 million hectares of arable land and 61.1 million hectares of pasture and hay land. Chief livestock products are dairy goods, leather, meat and wool. The country's major crops include wheat, barley, cotton and rice. Agriculture accounts for over 8 percent of the GDP and accomodates 16 percent of the whole workforce. Agricultural imports have increased at an annual rate of 3.5 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main imported agricultural commodities include sugar, prepared food chocolate products, pastry and tea. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 0.5 percent annually. Wheat exports are a major source of hard currency; other agricultural exports are cotton lint, barley and refined sugar.

6



KYRGYZSTAN

Land Use (2004)	Total area (19 180 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (7.1%)
Population (2004)	Total population (5 208 000) Agricultural population (23.4%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$2 205 billion) GNI per capita (US\$440 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (36.6%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$102.4 million) Exports (US\$113.3 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (3 050 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (4%)

Kyrgyzstan has incredible natural beauty and proud nomadic traditions. It borders China, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Annexed by Russia in 1864, it achieved independence in 1991. Climate varies from dry continental to polar (Tien Shan) to subtropical in the southwest (Fergana Valley) to temperate (northern foothills). Hydropower is abundant; Kyrgyzstan has significant deposits of gold and rare earth metals; there are coal, oil and natural gas with deposits of nepheline, mercury, bismuth, lead and zinc. Much of Kyrgyzstan's substantial water resources are directed to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in return for coal and gas. Industry accounts for under 15 percent of GDP, most attributable to gold mining. Agriculture suffered a sharp post-independence decline because of critical shortages of fertilizer and replacement parts for machinery, but contributed about 36.6 percent of GDP in 2004, accommodated 23.4 percent of the workforce and remains the bedrock of the economy. Subsistence agriculture is more common as workers laid off by the failing manufacturing sector return to farming. Much of the country consists of high-altitude steppe used mainly for livestock grazing, the most prevalent form of agricultural activity. Grain production (mainly wheat), concentrated in the lower valleys where soil is of better quality, accounts for nearly one-half of all agricultural output. The government has sown more grain to attain self-sufficiency in wheat. Agricultural imports (prepared foods, chocolate products, cigarettes, beer of barley and wheat) decreased at an annual rate of 3.4 percent from 1994 to 2004 and reached 102.4 million US\$ in 2004. Agricultural exports (cotton lint followed by sugar, tobacco leaves and cattle hides) fell at 3.7 percent annually and reached 113.3 million US\$ in 2004.

TAJIKISTAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (13 996 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (7.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (6 298 000) Agricultural population (31.1%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$2 073 million) GNI per capita (US\$330 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (24.2%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$110.5 million) Exports (US\$204.1 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (1 640 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (61%)

Tajikistan is a mountainous, landlocked country in the southeastern part of Central Asia that is bordered in the west and northwest by Uzbekistan, in the northeast by the Kyrgyz Republic, in the east by China and in the south by Afghanistan. Over 90 percent of Tajikistan is mountainous and over half lies above 3 000 metres. The north of the country covers part of the Fergana Valley, which is a major agricultural area in the region. Natural resources are hydropower, some petroleum, uranium, mercury, brown coal, lead, zinc, antimony, tungsten, silver and gold. The mineral resources are varied, but limited in amount. The civil war (1992-97) severely damaged the already weak economic infrastructure and caused a sharp decline in industrial and agricultural production. The cultivable area, about 11 percent of the total area of the country, is utilized in annual crops and permanent crops, of which more than half are vineyards. Agriculture employed 31.1 percent of the economically active population in 2004 and contributed some 24 percent of GDP in 2004. Tajikistan has the lowest per capita GDP among the 15 former Soviet Republics. Cotton, grain, fruits, grapes, vegetables, cattle, sheep and goats are the main agriculture products. Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 4.6 percent from 1994 to 2004. The main imported agricultural commodities include sugar, beef and veal, chocolate products, wheat and wheat flour. Over the same period, agricultural exports have grown at 0.5 percent annually. Cotton lint is the main export followed by cattle hides, dried fruit and onions.

TURKMENISTAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (46 993 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (4.8%)
Population (2004)	Total population (4 940 000) Agricultural population (31.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$6 167 billion) GNI per capita (NA in 2005) Agricultural GDP (21.0% in 2003)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$99.4 million) Exports (US\$86.4 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 750 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (8%)

Turkmenistan, situated between Iran and Kazakhstan and bordering on the Caspian Sea, was annexed by Russia between 1865 and 1885, became a Soviet Republic in 1924 and achieved its independence in 1991. It is landlocked; the eastern part is plateau and the western and central low-lying, desolate portions of the country make up the great Garagum (Kara-Kum) desert (over 80 percent of the country). Intensive agriculture exists in irrigated oases and there are large gas and oil resources near the Caspian Sea. Half of its irrigated land is planted with cotton, making it at one time the world's tenth-largest producer. The industrial sector dominates the economy, contributing an average of 50 percent of GDP annually over the past five years. The hydrocarbon industry is by far the most important subsector, accounting for about three-quarters of the export earnings and between one-half and two-thirds of GDP. The agriculture sector accounts for 21 percent of GDP and accommodates 31.8 percent of the workforce. Cotton and grains dominate agricultural production. The Government concentrated on achieving self-sufficiency in grain production and on raising hard-currency revenue from cotton exports. In 1995 collective and state farms were transformed into farmers associations; in 1997 procedures for transferring land into private ownership were introduced. Agricultural imports decreased at an annual rate of 6 percent from 1994 to 2004 and reached 99.4 million US\$ in 2004. Main agricultural imports include sugar, cigarettes and chocolate products. Over the same period, agricultural exports have also decreased at 15.5 percent annually to 86.4 million US\$ in 2004. Cotton lint is the main export followed by cotton seed and wool.

UZBEKISTAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (42 540 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (11.8%)
Population (2004)	Total population (26 479 000) Agricultural population (25.0%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$11 960 million) GNI per capita (US\$510 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (31.1%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$166.4 million) Exports (US\$834.7 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 270 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (26%)

The terrain of Uzbekistan consists of various regions: flat-to-rolling sandy desert with many dunes; broad, flat, intensely irrigated river valleys along Amu Darya and Syr Darya; a shrinking Aral Sea; and semiarid grasslands surrounded by mountainous Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan in the east. Uzbekistan was one of the poorest republics of the former Soviet Union. The economy is based primarily on agriculture and agricultural processing; much of its population is engaged in cotton farming in small rural communities. Uzbekistan is a major producer and exporter of cotton (roughly 45 percent of total exports). It is also a major producer of gold with the largest open-pit gold mine in the world and has substantial deposits of copper, strategic minerals, gas and oil. Real GDP growth in 2003 was estimated at 0.3 percent. Agriculture and the agro-industrial sector contribute more than 31 percent to Uzbekistan's GDP. Uzbekistan also produces significant amounts of silk, fruits and vegetables. Agricultural productivity is low, with many farmers focusing on producing fruits and vegetables on small plots of land. Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 17.8 percent from 1994 to 2004. Main imported agricultural commodities include milled paddy rice, sugar, tea and buttermilk. Over the same period, agricultural exports have also declined at 8.6 percent annually. Cotton lint is the main export followed by grapes, wheat and tomatoes.

(EAST ASIA)







Land Use (2004)	Total area (932 743 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (16.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (1 320 892 000) Agricultural population (64.3%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$1 931 710 million) GNI per capita (US\$1 740 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (13.1%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$41 688.4 million) Exports (US\$20 826.9 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 940 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (12%)

China is the world's fourth largest country; its terrain is mostly mountains, high plateaus and deserts in the west; and plains, deltas, and hills in the east. China is endowed with various natural resources including coal (the world's largest production volume), iron ore, petroleum, natural gas, mercury, tin, tungsten, antimony, manganese, molybdenum, vanadium, magnetite, aluminum, lead, zinc and uranium. In late 1978 the Chinese leadership began moving the economy from a sluggish, centrally planned economy to a more market-oriented system. In 2005, with its 1.3 billion people but a GDP of just US\$6 800 per capita, China stood as the second-largest economy in the world after the United States of America. Agriculture is the most important economic activity, providing a livelihood for over 64 percent of the labour force for the country with the world's largest population. Main agricultural products are rice, wheat, potatoes, sorghum, peanuts, tea, millet, barley, cotton and oilseed. The country also produces pork and fish. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 2.6 percent from 1994 to 2004. Soybeans are the main imported agricultural commodity, followed by cotton lint, palm oil, wheat and soybean oil. Over the same period, agricultural exports have declined by 0.4 percent annually. Prepared food, prepared fruit, prepared vegetables, chicken meat and tea are the main agricultural exports.

DPR KOREA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (12 041 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (24.1%)
Population (2004)	Total population (22 776 000) Agricultural population (27.2%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (NA) GNI per capita (NA) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$454.8 million) Exports (US\$22.2 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 150 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (35%)

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea occupies the northern half of the Korean Peninsula; it borders China and the Russian Federation to the north and the Republic of Korea across the demilitarized zone. Mountains, uplands and forests cover 75-80 percent of the total area, leaving barely 20 percent to cultivable plains and lowlands, mostly in the west, plus a strip along the eastern coast. DPR Korea is well endowed with a range of minerals: coal, lead, tungsten, zinc, graphite, magnesite, iron ore, copper, gold and pyrites. Agriculture cooperatives were created in the mid-1950s and with the use of modern technology doubled harvests between 1966 and 1984. Yields have since fallen. Only a few areas are suited to agriculture and the drive for food self-sufficiency in hilly terrain led to terracing and soil exhaustion. Since 1995, natural disasters have affected agriculture virtually every year with varying degrees of severity. Imports of much needed agricultural inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides, plastic sheeting, spare parts for machinery, tires for tractors and trucks, and fuel have been limited. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 2.8 percent from 1994 to 2004 while exports fell by 19 percent over the same period. Milled paddy rice is the main agricultural import, followed by soybean, wheat, soybean cake and maize. Mushrooms, straw, nuts and raw silk are the main agricultural exports.

MONGOLIA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (156 650 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (0.8%)
Population (2004)	Total population (2 630 000) Agricultural population (21.6%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$1 612 million) GNI per capita (US\$690 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (20.9%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$173.6 million) Exports (US\$62.7 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 250 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (28%)

Almost 90 percent of the land area is pasture or desert wasteland of varying usefulness; and 9 percent is forested. Of the arable land, 81 percent is designated as pasture land, where camels, horses, cattle, sheep and goats are raised. The severe continental climate restricts other agricultural activities. Water is scarce, and the growing season lasts no more than 100 days. Land quality is also adversely affected by desertification (which affects 30 percent of pasture), and by overgrazing (especially by goats). Mongolia is rich in minerals, with oil reserves and deposits of other ores such as coal, copper, molybdenum, iron, phosphates, tin, nickel, zinc, wolfram, fluorspar, gold and uranium. Rapid political changes in 1990-91 marked the beginning of efforts to develop a market economy, but these efforts were complicated and disrupted by the dissolution and continuing deterioration of the economy of the former Soviet Union. Mongolian agriculture, which traditionally relies on nomadic, livestock-based agriculture, accounts for 20.9 percent of 2004 GDP and sustains livelihood for about 22 percent of the workforce. GDP growth fell from 3.2 percent in 1999 to 1.3 percent in 2000 as a result of the loss of millions of livestock in bad weather and natural disasters in 2000. Main agriculture products are livestock and its byproducts: hay fodder and vegetables. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 12.8 percent from 1994 to 2004. Wheat flour, chocolate products and wheat are the main imported agricultural commodities, followed by prepared foods and cigarettes. Over the same period, agricultural exports increased by 4.7 percent annually. Fine goat hair, fine animal hair, combed hair, nuts and wool are the main agricultural exports.

REPUBLIC of KOREA



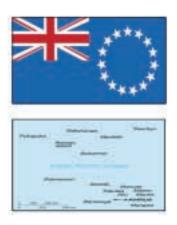


Land Use (2004)	Total area (9 873 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (18.7%)
Population (2004)	Total population (47 951 000) Agricultural population (6.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$679 674 million) GNI per capita (US\$15 830 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (3.7%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$10 615.6 million) Exports (US\$2 134.7 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (3 040 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (<2.5%)

Approximately 70 percent of the land area is mountainous and hilly with wide coastal plains in the west and south. Natural resources are limited and include coal, tungsten, iron ore, limestone, kaolinite and graphite. Main agriculture products are rice, vegetables and fruit. Until the late 1980s the manufacturing industry accounted for a rising share of GDP, for example, nearly one-third in 1988, compared with only one-quarter in 1973. There was a fall in the share of agriculture, forestry and fishing, from one-quarter to one-tenth, over the same 15-year period. Since 1988, the share of manufacturing in GDP has stabilized around 30 percent, whereas that of agriculture has continued to fall to nearly 3.7 percent in 2004. Agriculture employs 7.7 percent of the workforce and almost 57 percent of Korean farmers are engaged in rice cultivation. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 0.8 percent from 1994 to 2004. Maize is the main agricultural import, followed by wheat, soybeans, cotton lint, prepared food and cattle hides. Over the same period, agricultural exports increased by 2.3 percent annually. Prepared food, cigarettes, alcoholic beverages and vegetables are the main agricultural exports.

(PACIFIC ISLANDS)

COOK ISLANDS



Land Use (2004)	Total area (24 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (25.0%)
Population (2004)	Total population (18 000) Agricultural population (33.3%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (NA) GNI per capita (NA in 2005) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$19.1 million) Exports (US\$2.6 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

The Cook Islands consists of two groups of islands (13 inhabited and two uninhabited) extending over 2 million square kilometres, about half of the way from Hawaii to New Zealand. The North Cook Islands are atolls while the South Cook Islands are volcanic and comparatively fertile. The waters surrounding the Cook Islands are believed to contain substantial reserves of manganese, cobalt and other metals. The islands became a British protectorate in 1888. By 1900, administrative control was transferred to New Zealand; in 1965 residents chose self-government in free association with New Zealand. Economic development is hindered by the isolation of the country from foreign markets, the limited size of domestic markets, lack of natural resources, periodic devastation from natural disasters, and inadequate infrastructure. Key economic activities are tourism, pearl farming and the newly emerging fishing sector. Agriculture provides the economic base with major exports made up of copra and citrus fruit. Manufacturing activities are limited to fruit processing, clothing and handicrafts. The agriculture sector employed 28.6 percent of the workforce in 2002. Agricultural imports have increased at an annual rate of 3.3 percent from 1994 to 2004. Prepared food is the country's main agricultural import, followed by chicken meat and beef preparations. Over the same period, agricultural exports (mainly fruit juices) have increased 7.3 percent annually.

FIJI ISLANDS





Land Use (2004)	Total area (1 827 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (15.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (847 000) Agricultural population (38.0%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (2 627 million US\$) GNI per capita (US\$3 280 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (15.4% in 2002)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$187.0 million) Exports (US\$212.8 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 960 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (4%)

The Fiji Island group, located about two-thirds of the way from Hawaii to New Zealand, is an archipelago of 332 islands endowed with forest, mineral and fish resources. It is one of the most developed of the Pacific Island economies, but Fiji still has a large subsistence sector. Natural resources are timber, fish, gold, copper, offshore oil potential and hydropower. Sugar exports and a growing tourist industry (300 000 to 400 000 tourists annually) are the major sources of foreign exchange. Sugar processing makes up one-third of industrial activity. Agriculture (sugar cane, livestock, forestry and subsistence farming) and fishing remain important, accounting for about 20 percent of GDP in the 1990s, but declining to 15.4 percent by 2002. Sugar is still the most important crop, although its proportion of agricultural GDP fell from 46 percent in 1994 to 29.8 percent in 2001. Timber and fish (mainly tuna) have become increasingly important in recent years. Breakfast cereals, ginger and coconut oil are also exported. Other crops include bananas, vegetables, pineapples and other tropical fruits. Agricultural imports increased at an annual rate of 2.4 percent from 1994 to 2004 while agricultural exports decreased 2.4 percent annually. Wheat is the main agricultural import, followed by mutton and lamb, husked rice and dry whole milk. Sugar, water ice, taro and pastry are the main agricultural exports.

KIRIBATI





Land Use (2004)	Total area (73 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (50.7%)
Population (2004)	Total population (89 000) Agricultural population (25.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$62 million) GNI per capita (US\$1 390 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (14.2% in 2002)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$14.3 million) Exports (US\$1.8 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 840 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (6%)

Kiribati consists of three main island groups scattered over an expanse of ocean roughly halfway between Hawaii and Australia. The three main groupings are the Gilbert Islands, Phoenix Islands, and Line Islands. Kiribati has little or no soil, and rainfall is variable, giving only limited opportunities for agricultural development. The greatest development potential lies in the exploitation of marine resources within the 200-mile exclusive economic zone. Covering about 3 million square kilometres, it is one of the world's largest fishing zones. The per capita GNP of less than US\$1 400 makes it one of the poorest countries in the world. Phosphates had been profitably exported from Banaban Island since the turn of the century, but the deposits were exhausted in 1979. The economy now relies heavily on income from abroad, from the sale of fishing licenses, development assistance, worker remittances and tourism. Given its limited domestic resources, the country depends on imports for most of its basic food needs as well as manufactured goods. Most islanders engage in subsistence activities ranging from fishing to the growing of food crops like bananas, breadfruit and papaya. Kiribati's principal trading partner is Australia. Agricultural imports decreased at an annual rate of 0.3 percent from 1994 to 2004. Sugar is the main agricultural import, in addition to prepared beef, wheat flour and tobacco products. In the same period, agricultural exports decreased 11.9 percent annually. The leading export is copra, which accounts for about two-thirds of export revenue. Other exports include seaweed and fish.

MARSHALL ISLANDS





Land Use (2004)	Total area (18 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (55.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (54 000) Agricultural population (25.9%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$108 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 930 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (10.4% in 2001)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$0.0 million) Exports (US\$1.4 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

The Marshall Islands are comprised of 29 atolls and five major islands, which form two parallel groups – the "Ratak" (sunrise) chain and the "Ralik" (sunset) chain, containing 29 coral atolls, and a total of 1 152 islands and islets. Natural resources are marine resources, including mariculture and deep seabed minerals. The economy is heavily dependent on payments from the United States of America (more than 80 percent of government revenue) and foreign aid from a variety of sources. Income from the sale of fishery rights totaled around US\$3 million in fiscal year 2001. The main agriculture product is copra (dried coconut meat); taro and breadfruit are subsistence crops. Subsistence farming is the main economic activity. Soil quality is generally poor, but fruit and vegetables, coconuts, pandanus taro, and breadfruit are produced for local consumption. The country's export base is narrow, with copra and coconut accounting for 90 percent of exports. A wide variety of goods, including foodstuffs, machinery, petroleum products, beverages and tobacco are imported.

MICRONESIA, FED. STATES OF





Land Use (2004)	Total area (70 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (51.4%)
Population (2004)	Total population (110 000) Agricultural population (25.5%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$226 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 300 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (NA in 2004)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$18.0 million) Exports (US\$0.0 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) consists of 607 islands extending 1 800 miles across the archipelago of the Caroline Islands east of the Philippines. The four constituent island groups are Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae. The economy is heavily dependent on foreign aid with the United States of America providing around US\$2 billion in grants and services from 1986 to 2001. Total official development assistance from all sources was more than US\$100 million in 2001, with nearly 90 percent of that total coming from the United States of America. The fishing industry is highly important. Foreign commercial fishing fleets pay over US\$20 million annually for the right to operate in FSM territorial waters (nearly 30 percent of domestic budgetary revenue). The tourist industry is present but has been hampered by a lack of infrastructure. Farming is mainly subsistence, and its importance is declining. The principal crops are black pepper, tropical fruits and vegetables, coconuts, cassava, betel nuts and sweet potatoes. Fish, bananas and black pepper are the major exports. The main agriculture imports are chicken meat, milled paddy rice, prepared beef, barley beer and pig meat.

NAURU





Land Use (2004)	Total area (2 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (0.0%)
Population (2004)	Total population (13 000) Agricultural population (23.1%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (NA) GNI per capita (NA in 2005) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$1.51 million) Exports (NA)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Nauru is a small oval-shaped island in the western Pacific Ocean, located just 42 kilometres south of the Equator. It is one of three great phosphate rock islands in the Pacific Ocean and its economy depends almost entirely on declining phosphate deposits. The island is surrounded by a coral reef, exposed at low tide and dotted with pinnacles. The reef is bounded seaward by deep water, inside by a sandy beach. The only parts of the island suitable for agriculture are the narrow coastal strip and the area surrounding the inland Buada Lagoon. Coconut and pandanus palms grow around the lagoon. Nauru now lacks money to perform many of the basic functions of government. There is a small amount of agricultural production for domestic consumption but most food, like all other necessities, has to be imported. Owing to porous soil and uncertain rainfall, production is limited to small quantities grown by individuals for home consumption. A few food crops are grown on the inland plateau. Fishing is popular and provides a limited amount of food although commercial fishing is underdeveloped. The main agriculture imports are prepared beef, pig meat, sugar, wheat flour, barley beer, dry whole milk, mutton and lamb.

NIUE



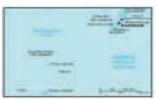


Land Use (2004)	Total area (26 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (26.9%)
Population (2004)	Total population (2 000) Agricultural population (50.0%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (NA) GNI per capita (NA in 2005) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$0.95 million) Exports (US\$0.4 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Niue is one of world's largest coral islands and is located in the South Pacific Ocean, east of Tonga. Its terrain is steep limestone cliffs along the coast and central plateau. Main natural resources are fish and arable land. Niue is self-governing in free association with New Zealand since 1974. The economy suffers from the typical island problems of geographic isolation, few resources, and a small population. The agricultural sector consists mainly of subsistence gardening, although some cash crops are grown for export. Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 0.1 percent from 1994 to 2004. Chicken meat and pastry are the main agricultural imports, followed by prepared beef and barley beer. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 2.8 percent annually. Coco yams, bananas and fruit juices are the agricultural exports.

PALAU





Land Use (2004)	Total area (46 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (13.0%)
Population (2004)	Total population (21 000) Agricultural population (23.8%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$127 million) GNI per capita (US\$7 630 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (1.1% in 2002)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (NA) Exports (NA)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Palau consists of eight principal islands and more than 250 smaller ones lying roughly 500 miles southeast of the Philippines. The islands of Palau constitute part of the Caroline Islands chain. About 70 percent of the Palauan population lives in the capital city of Koror on Koror Island. Its terrain varies from the mountainous main island to smaller, reef-rimmed coral islands. Palau has among the highest living standards in the Pacific, with GDP per capita standing at around US\$7 140 in 2002. However, rapid population growth and a stagnant economy have seen per capita incomes fall over the last five years and income disparities widen. Tourism and the service sectors are Palau's main industries contributing more than 80 percent of GDP and employing three-quarters of the workforce. Agriculture is mainly on a subsistence level employing 22.2 percent of the workforce and contributing only 1.1 percent to GDP in 2002. The principal crops are coconuts, root crops and bananas.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (45 286 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (1.9%)
Population (2004)	Total population (5 836 000) Agricultural population (75.2%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$3 909 million) GNI per capita (US\$660 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (29.0% in 2003)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$214.75 million) Exports (US\$401.2 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 498 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (13%)

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is a group of islands including the eastern half of the island of New Guinea. Its terrain is mostly mountainous, with coastal lowlands and rolling foothills; less than one-third of the total land area is suitable for cultivation. Forests and woodland cover more than 80 percent of PNG's land area. PNG has rich natural resources including gold, copper, silver, oil and natural gas. Mineral deposits, mostly copper and gold, account for 72 percent of export earnings. The country is endowed with abundant forest and fishery resources. Agriculture is the country's important economic activity, providing a livelihood for 72 percent of the population and accounting for about 29 percent of the total GDP. Main agricultural products include coffee, cocoa, coconuts, palm kernels, tea, rubber, sweet potatoes, fruits, vegetables, poultry and pork. Agricultural imports have decreased by 2.1 percent per annum from 1994 to 2004. The main agricultural imports include milled paddy rice, mutton and lamb, wheat and husked rice. Over the same period, agricultural exports have declined by 3.2 percent annually. Palm oil, coffee and cocoa beans are the country's three major agricultural exports.

SAMOA



Land Use (2004)	Total area (283 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (45.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (180 000) Agricultural population (31.1%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$375 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 090 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (13.6%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$40.6 million) Exports (US\$5.6 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 910 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (4%)

Samoa consists of the two large islands of Upolu and Savai'i and seven small islets and is located about halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand. Its terrain is mountainous with a narrow coastal plain. The economy is based on agriculture, with subsistence farming being the primary economic activity. The primary sector – agriculture, forestry and fishing – employs nearly two-thirds of the labour force and produces approximately 14 percent of GDP. A large percentage of the workforce engages in subsistence agriculture. The main food crops are coconuts, breadfruit, bananas, cocoa and taro. Tourism is also significant. The government is seeking to improve productivity in agriculture through improved farming systems and by planting species such as hybrid coconuts. There has been a substantial expansion of the fishing industry in recent years but there has been a recent decline of fish stocks in the area. Fresh fish accounted for 63 percent of total export earnings in 2002. Agricultural imports have increased at an annual rate of 30 percent from 1994 to 2004. Coffee is the country's main imported agricultural commodity, followed by chicken meat, prepared food, mutton and lamb, and wheat flour. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased 1.3 percent annually. Prepared fruit, prepared food, coconut oil and fruit juices are the country's main agricultural exports.

SOLOMON ISLANDS





Land Use (2004)	Total area (2 799 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (2.8%)
Population (2004)	Total population (491 000) Agricultural population (71.7%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$258 million) GNI per capita (US\$590 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (0.0%)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$9.96 million) Exports (US\$41.9 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 250 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (20%)

The Solomon Islands form an archipelago in the Southwest Pacific about 1 900 kilometres northeast of Australia. The terrain ranges from ruggedly mountainous islands to low-lying coral atolls. The Solomon Islands stretch for over 1 450 kilometres southeast from Papua New Guinea across the Coral Sea to Vanuatu. Natural resources are forests, fish, agricultural land, marine products and gold. Main agriculture products are copra, cocoa, palm oil, palm kernels and subsistence crops of yams, taro, bananas and pineapple. More than 72 percent of its labour force is engaged in subsistence farming and fishing. Forests and woodland cover 84.8 percent of the total land area, which explains why the logging industry is the dominant sector within the economy. Coconut products are traditionally the main agricultural output. Other important cash crops and exports include copra and palm oil. Tourism, particularly diving, is an important service industry for the Solomon Islands. Agricultural imports have declined at an annual rate of 1.4 percent from 1994 to 2004. Prepared food is the main agricultural exports have increased at 0.1 percent annually. Palm oil, copra, coconut oil and cocoa beans are the main agricultural exports.

TONGA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (72 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (36.1%)
Population (2004)	Total population (105 000) Agricultural population (31.4%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$213 million) GNI per capita (US\$2 190 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (28.9% in 2002)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$22.3 million) Exports (US\$14.3 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Tonga is an oceanic archipelago about two-thirds of the way from Hawaii to New Zealand. It has a small, open economy with a narrow export base in agricultural goods. Squash, coconuts, bananas and vanilla beans are the main crops, and agricultural exports make up two-thirds of total exports. The country must import a high proportion of its food, mainly from New Zealand. Tourism is the second largest source of hard currency earnings following remittances. The country remains dependent on external aid and remittances from Tongan communities overseas to offset its trade deficit. Agriculture accounted for around 29 percent of real GDP in fiscal year 2001/02 (July-June). Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 0.4 percent from 1994 to 2004. Mutton and lamb are the main agricultural imports, followed by wheat flour and chicken meat. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased at 3.3 percent annually. Pumpkin, squash and gourds and vanilla beans are the main agricultural exports.

TUVALU





Land Use (2004)	Total area (3 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (0%)
Population (2004)	Total population (11 000) Agricultural population (27.3%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP 2000 estimate (US\$12.2 million) GNI per capita (NA in 2005) Agricultural GDP (NA)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$2.3 million) Exports (US\$0.01 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (NA) Prevalence of undernourishment (NA)

Tuvalu consists of a densely populated, scattered group of nine coral atolls with poor soil, located about one-half of the way from Hawaii to Australia. The country has no known mineral resources and few exports. Subsistence farming and fishing are the primary economic activities. Less than 1 000 tourists, on average, visit Tuvalu annually. The cash economy depends largely on remittances from citizens working abroad (many as merchant seamen) and government spending. Government finances are supported by foreign aid and the Tuvalu Trust Fund, a publicly owned investment vehicle established in 1987, with capital mainly provided by Australia (about one-third), the United Kingdom and New Zealand, with contributions from Japan and the Republic of Korea. Chicken meat is the country's main agricultural import followed by pastry, rice and prepared beef. Copra and fish are the main agricultural exports.

VANUATU





Land Use (2004)	Total area (1 219 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (8.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (217 000) Agricultural population (34.1%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$316 million) GNI per capita (US\$1 600 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (14.1% in 2001)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$19.53 million) Exports (US\$22.1 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 590 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (12%)

Vanuatu is a 'Y' shaped archipelago that comprises 80 islands northeast of Sydney, Australia and southwest of Honolulu. The two largest islands, Espiritu Santo (or Santo) and Malakula, account for nearly one-half of the total land area. They are volcanic, with sharp mountain peaks, plateaus and narrow coastal plains. Natural resources are forests, agricultural land and marine resources. Main agriculture products are copra, cocoa, coffee, cattle and timber. The economy is dominated by subsistence agriculture and services, mostly those associated with tourism and Vanuatu's status as an offshore financial centre. More than 36 percent of the population depends on subsistence agriculture, with the agricultural sector as a whole accounting generally for around 20 percent of real GDP. The services sector normally accounts for around two-thirds of GDP. Over 34 percent of the workforce is engaged in agricultural activities that range from subsistence farming to smallholder farming of coconuts and other cash crops. Coconut oil is by far the most important cash crop (making up more than 50 percent of the country's exports), followed by timber, beef and cocoa. Kava root extract exports also have become important. Agricultural imports have decreased at an annual rate of 1.2 percent from 1994 to 2004. Milled paddy rice is the main agricultural import, followed by wheat flour, pastry, cigarettes and prepared foods. Over the same period, agricultural exports have decreased at 5.1 percent annually. Coconut oil, copra, beef and veal, and cocoa beans are the main agricultural exports.

(DEVELOPED COUNTRIES)

AUSTRALIA





Land Use (2004)	Total area (768 230 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (6.2%)
Population (2004)	Total population (19 913 000) Agricultural population (4.3%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$637 327 million) GNI per capita (US\$32 220 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (3.4% in 2003)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$4 470.1 million) Exports (US\$20 870.6 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (3 120 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (<2.5%)

Australia has an abundance of mineral resources and of land suitable for agriculture. Its terrain is varied, but generally low-lying. Urban centres occupy a relatively small proportion of the continent, and the population is concentrated in a narrow strip along the eastern seaboard. Around 61 percent of the arable land is used for agricultural purposes, and 5 percent is occupied by forests. Australia has substantial reserves of economically important minerals: lead, iron ore, bauxite, zinc, ilmenite, rutite and zircon, and uranium reserves. At the beginning of the 1950s agriculture accounted for about 25 percent of Australia's GDP, but in fiscal year 2001/02 (July-June) agriculture (including forestry and fishing) accounted for only 3.4 percent of GDP. Although mining and agriculture are small in terms of Australia's GDP, they account for a large share of exports. In 2002/03 rural and mineral exports (including processed goods) accounted for around two-thirds of total merchandise exports. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 5.8 percent from 1994 to 2004. Prepared food is the main agricultural import, followed by alcoholic beverages, pig meat and cheese. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased at 3.1 percent annually. Beef and veal, wheat, wine, wool, barley, mutton and lamb, and cotton lint are the main agricultural exports.

JAPAN





Land Use (2004)	Total area (36 450 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (13.0%)
Population (2004)	Total population (127 800 000) Agricultural population (3.0%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$4 622 771 million) GNI per capita (US\$39 980 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (1.3% in 2003)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$41 478.4 million) Exports (US\$1 873.5 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (2 770 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (<2.5%)

The Japanese archipelago, which includes some 7 000 islands, stretches for around 3 000 km from north to south through several climatic zones. Some 70 percent of Japan's landmass is mountainous terrain that is essentially uninhabitable, so the residual areas are used intensively. Japan has few natural resources and a negligible amount of mineral resources and fish. The main agriculture products are rice, vegetables, fruit, milk, meat and silk. Only 13 percent of Japan's land is suitable for cultivation. With per hectare crop yields among the highest in the world, Japan maintains an overall agricultural self-sufficiency rate of about 50 percent on fewer than 5.6 million cultivated hectares. Japan normally produces a slight surplus of rice but imports large quantities of wheat, sorghum and soybeans. Manufacturing has been the mainstay of Japan's economy since the 1960s and today accounts for just over 20 percent of GDP. Although in economic terms agriculture is becoming less important (accounting for 1.3 percent of GDP in 2003 and employing 3.2 percent of the workforce), it remains influential in politics due to the electoral system. Agricultural imports have declined at an annual rate of 0.7 percent from 1994 to 2004. Pork is the main agricultural import, followed by maize, cigarettes, beef and veal, soybeans and wheat. Over the same period, agricultural exports increased at 1.3 percent annually. Prepared food, cigarettes, fruit seeds, wheat flour and pastry are the main agricultural exports.

NEW ZEALAND





Land Use (2004)	Total area (26 799 000 ha) Arable & perm. crops (12.6%)
Population (2004)	Total population (3 904 000) Agricultural population (8.3%)
GDP/GNI (2004)	Total GDP (US\$98 944 million) GNI per capita (US\$25 960 in 2005) Agricultural GDP (9.5% in 2001)
Agricultural Trade (2004)	Imports (US\$1 789.6 million) Exports (US\$10 030.9 million)
Nutrition (2001-2003)	Per caput DES (3 200 kcal/day) Prevalence of undernourishment (<2.5%)

New Zealand is comprised of two main islands (the North and South Islands) and smaller outlying islands in the Southwest Pacific Ocean. New Zealand has a mild and temperate climate which is well suited to pastoral agriculture and horticulture (over half of the total land area), with an additional 27.4 percent covered by forest. Terrain is highly varied, from snowcapped mountains to lowland plains. Natural resources are timber, natural gas, iron, sand and coal. Agriculture products are meat, dairy products, and forestry products. New Zealand is heavily dependent on trade – particularly in agricultural products – to drive growth. The agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors employ nearly 6.6 percent of the workforce. Leading agricultural exports include meat, dairy products, forest products, fruits and vegetables, fish and wool. Grasslands farming is the basis of its agricultural system since around half of its total land area is used for pastoral farming. Wheat, barley and peas are the major arable crops and are grown mainly in the Canterbury region. Fishing is a major export industry and earned NZ\$1.2 billion, 4.2 percent of total exports, in 2002/03. Agricultural imports have grown at an annual rate of 5.4 percent from 1994 to 2004 and reached US\$1.1 billion in 2001. Prepared food is the main agricultural import, followed by wine, alcoholic beverages, pastry and wheat. Over the same period, agricultural exports have increased by 3.8 percent annually. Mutton and lamb, dry whole milk, beef and veal, butter and cheese are the main agricultural exports.