Australia is a top 20 country

Economy
Australia has entered its 25th year of annual economic growth – (2015-16) (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Australia is estimated to have world’s 12th highest GDP and 7th highest GDP per capita (both in US dollar terms) – (2015) (International Monetary Fund)

Australia has the world’s 3rd largest pool of investment funds under management (US$1.624 trillion) – (2014) (Investment Company Institute)

The Australian dollar is the 5th most traded currency – (2013) (Bank of International Settlements)

The Australian Stock Exchange is the world’s 15th largest (by domestic market capitalisation) – (September 2015) (World Federation of Exchanges)

International Trade and Investment
Australia is the number one global exporter of coal, iron ore, aluminium ores, and zinc (by value) – (2014) (United Nations Comtrade database)

Australia is the largest global exporter of beef and chickpeas, the 2nd largest exporter of lentils and the 4th largest exporter of sugar (by value) – (2014) (United Nations Comtrade database)

Australia is the 12th largest exporter of dairy products (by value) – (2014) (United Nations Comtrade database)

Australia is the 3rd largest exporter of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and of copper (by value) – (2014) (United Nations Comtrade database)

Australia is the 7th largest exporter of silver, the 8th largest exporter of gold, and the 2nd largest exporter of zircon (by value) – (2014) (United Nations Comtrade database)

Australia is the 14th largest exporter of orthopaedic appliances and the 20th largest exporter of medicaments (by value) – (2014) (United Nations Comtrade database)

Australia receives the 12th largest international tourist spend from overseas visitors – (2013) (World Bank World Development Indicators)

Australia attracted the 13th largest amount of inward Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and Australian investors contributed the 17th highest amount of outward FDI globally (based on FDI stocks) – (2014) (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development – UNCTAD)

Doing business
Australia is ranked 1st on the Global Creativity Index – (2015) (Martin Prosperity)

Australia is ranked 3rd on the Global Dynamism Index – (2015) (Thornton Consulting)
Australia is ranked 3rd on entrepreneurship behind the United States and Canada – (2015) (The Global Entrepreneurship and Development Institute)

Australia is ranked 3rd on business environment for 2015-19 – (Economist Intelligence Unit)

Australia is ranked 4th for economic freedom – (2015) (Index of Economic Freedom)

Australia is ranked 4th on the number of new businesses – (2012) (World Bank Development Indicators)

Australia is ranked 5th on the financial development index – (2012) (World Economic Forum)


Australia is ranked 7th on the web participation index – (2013) (World Wide Web Foundation)

Australia is ranked 15th on the number of trademark applications filed by residents – (2013) (World Bank)

Australia is ranked 16th on the number of patent applications filed by residents – (2013) (World Bank)

Australia is ranked 17th on the global innovation index – (2015) (Cornell University, INSEAD and the World Intellectual Property Organisation)

Education and training

Australia is ranked 1st on secondary education enrolment rates – (2014-15) (World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Index)

Australia has the 3rd highest number of international students (tertiary) behind the United States and United Kingdom – (2013) (UNESCO)

Australia has the 5th highest number of universities in the world’s top 100 (University of Melbourne ranked 33rd, Australian National University 52nd, University of Sydney 56th, University of Queensland equal 60th, Monash University 73rd, University of New South Wales equal 82nd) – (2015-16) (Times Higher Education World University Rankings)

Australia is ranked 6th on internet access in schools – (2015-16) (World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Index)

Australia has the 6th highest proportion of 25-64 year olds with tertiary qualifications – (2012) (OECD Education at a Glance 2014)

An Australian team won the robot football world championships for the second consecutive year – (2015) (RoboCup)

Health and Lifestyle

The Canberra region is ranked 1st for well-being – (2014) (OECD Regional Well-being Report)

Australia has 4 cities in the world’s top 10 most liveable cities ranking (Melbourne 1st, Adelaide equal 5th, Sydney 7th and Perth 8th) – (August 2015) (Economist Intelligence Unit Global Liveability Ranking)

Australia is the most popular country on social media site Instagram (with 1.8 million followers of Tourism Australia’s @Australia account) – (2015) (Instagram)

Australia is ranked 7th globally on prosperity – (2014) (Legatum Institute)

Australia is ranked 6th on Lonely Planet’s Best in Travel list, drawing special mention for value for money, indigenous tourism and UNESCO World Heritage wilderness areas – (2015)

Australians have the 9th highest life expectancy – (2013) (World Bank World Development Indicators)

Governance and Human Development

Australia is ranked 2nd on the UN’s Human Development Index after Norway – (2013) (United Nations Development Program Human Development Index)

Australia is ranked equal 1st on customs transparency – (2014) (World Economic Forum Global Enabling Trade Report)

Australia is ranked equal 1st on judicial efficiency and impartiality in commercial disputes – (2014) (World Economic Forum Global Enabling Trade Report)
Australia is ranked 3rd for **human rights** – (August 2014) (International Human Rights Rank Indicator)
Australia is ranked 4th on **legal rights** – (2015-16) (World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Index)
Australia is ranked 11th on **transparency** (low incidence of corruption) – (2014) (Transparency International)

**Global citizenship**
Australia resettles the highest number of **refugees** per capita – (2013) (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)

Australians are the 6th most generous **private donors** in the world – (2014) (Charities Aid Foundation World Giving Index)

Australia is ranked 6th globally on **soft power diplomacy** – (2015) (Portland Communications)

Australia is the 9th largest **Official Development Assistance (ODA)** donor country – (2013) (OECD)

Australia is the 12th largest contributor to the **United Nations regular budget** and the 11th largest financial contributor to the **United Nations peacekeeping budget** – (2015) (United Nations)

**Geography and biodiversity**
Australia has the world’s 2nd largest **search and rescue** area, encompassing 54 million square kilometres – (2015) (Australian Maritime Safety Authority)

Australia has the world’s 3rd largest **marine jurisdiction** of 13.86 million square kilometres – (2015) (Department of Industry)

Australia has the 6th largest **land size** – (2014) (World Bank World Development Indicators)

Australia has a rich **biodiversity** comprising over 566,000 species (up to 10 per cent of all species on earth are present in Australia) – (2009) (Convention on Biological Diversity)