

BHUTAN

At a Glance 2005

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AGRICULTURE

	1990	1995
Area under agriculture	1990	1995
Wet land	68.1	95.8
Dryland	218.3	241.0
Tseri Pangzhing	237.9	218.2
Orchard and plantation	36.5	14.1
Mixed plantation	..	207.6
Kitchen garden	3.6	..
Total	564.4	776.6
Cereal Production (mill.kg)	2002	2003
Paddy	37.9	44.9
Wheat	4.6	4.8
Maize	41.7	49.7
Landuse (in percent)	1995	
Forest	72.5	
Pasture	3.9	
Agriculture	7.7	
Others	15.9	
Protected areas	26.2	

INDUSTRIES

	2000	2002	2004
Industrial establishments (in numbers)	2000	2002	2004
Production & manufacturing	523	586	874
Services	3,281	4,272	5,468
Contracts	5,212	9,050	9,212
All sectors	9,016	13,908	15,554

BALANCE OF PAYMENT

Trade .	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
(million Nu)	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Value of exports	4,994.8	5,405.9	7157.5
Value of imports	-8,990.2	-9,086.9	-11123.5
Balance of trade	-3995.5	-3,681.0	-3966
Money reserves (mill. US \$)	315.3	373.3	383.3
Exchange rate (Nu. per US \$)	2002	2003	2004
Calendar year	48.6	46.6	45.3
Fiscal year	48.2	47.9	45.4

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

million ngultrum	2002	2003	2004
GDP at current market price	26,220	29,181	33,104
GNP at market price	22,892	26,004	32,185
Agriculture share to GDP	26.6	25.5	25
GDP real growth (%)	7.1	6.8	7.5
Final consumption	14,293.6	15,226.6	18414

PUBLIC FINANCE

million ngultrum	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Revenue	4,785.3	5,214.8	6,066.1
Tax	2,928.3	3,350.3	3,382.4
Non tax	1,857.0	1,864.4	2,683.7
Grants	2,269.1	4,456.2	n.a
Total expenditure	9,945.3	11,901.2	n.a

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

	2002	2003	2004
Annual average inflation rate	2.48	2.6	4.43
Purchasing power of Ngultrum (PPN), 2003=Nu.1	1.02	1.00	0.94

INTRODUCTION

Bhutan is one of the Asia's smallest nations, landlocked between the extensive borders of the two great populous nations of China and India. Only 38,394 square kilometers in extent, the kingdom's longest east-west dimension, stretches around 300 kilometers and measures 170 kilometers at its maximum north-south dimension. It is bounded on the north-west and north by Tibet (China), while rest of the country is surrounded by India.

Hidden deep in the folds of the great Himalayan mountains for years, Bhutan developed its own civilization. The population of about 752,700 people, living in close harmony with nature, evolved a unique identity, derived largely from a rich religious and cultural heritage. Today, the world is seeing many exotic aspects of this kingdom. Bhutan is becoming increasingly known for its pure practice of Mahayana Buddhism in the Tantric form, its untouched culture, its pristine ecology and wildlife, and the unparalleled scenic beauty of its majestic peaks and lush valleys. It is still, in many ways, a magical kingdom of the past.

Bhutan is administratively divided into 20 Dzongkhags (districts) and is governed by a district Administrator known as Dzongdag. The Dzongkhag is further broken down into 201 Gewogs (blocks). Thimphu is the capital city of Bhutan and can be reached in little less than two hours from Paro International Airport and in about six hours from the border town of Phuentsholing.

Dzongkha is its national language, while Ngultrum which is pegged to Indian currency is the monetary unit of the kingdom. (1 US \$=Nu.45.3 in 2004)

Bhutan has enjoyed strong economic performance with GDP growth averaging 6% a year over the past two decades. Sustained growth has increased Gross National Income per capita to US \$ 948.2 in 2004. Its major exports included electricity, timber, cement agricultural products, handicrafts etc

POPULATION*

	1995	2000	2004
Total population	582000	677934	752700
Male	296819	342324	380090
Female	285181	335610	372610
By age			
0-14	228260	285076	316510
15-64	328015	364014	404160
65+	25725	28844	32030
People per household	..	5.5	..
Population density	12.5	14.6	19.6
Vital Statistics	1984	1994	2000
Crude birth rate	39.1	39.9	34.1
Crude death rate	19.3	9.0	8.6
Natural rate of increase	2.0	3.1	2.5
Total fertility rate	5.9	5.6	4.7
Life expectancy at birth	47.5	66.1	..
Male	45.8	66.0	..
Female	49.1	66.2	..

*Based on 1996 estimates of 600,000 and growth rate of 2..5% derived from the National Health Survey, 2000

HEALTH

(in numbers)	1995	2000	2004
Hospitals	26	29	29
BHUs	84	160	176
Indigenous hospitals	1	18	1
Doctors	112	109	144
Nurses	..	443	501
Health coverage(%)	90	90	90

EDUCATION

	1985	1995	2005
Schools (in numbers)			
Community schools	..	102	221
Primary Schools	145	143	92
Lower Secondary Schools	22	18	78
Middle Secondary School	8	8	29
Higher Secondary Schools	..	..	19
Institutions	8	8	18
Private Schools	..	7	19
Non Formal Centres	..	..	623
Day Care Centres	..	..	5
Total enrolment	51,835	77,276	1,62,545
Schools	49,175	75,483	1,41,388
Institutes	2,660	1,793	4,429
Non Formal Centres	..	..	16,642
Day Care Centres	..	..	86
Teachers	..	2,423	5,772
Schools	1,668	2,223	4,604
Institutes	..	200	566
Non Formal Centres	..	..	583
Day Care Centres	..	..	19

LABOUR

(in percent)	1998	2003	2004
Total Labour force	..	40.5	37.4
Male	..	46.0	45.6
Female	..	35.2	29.8
Unemployment rate	1.4	1.8	2.5
Rural	..	1.5	2.6
Urban	..	2.5	2.0
Labour force participation rate	58.9	62.9	54.4

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

(in numbers)	2002	2003	2004
All roads	3,920	4,007	4,152.9
Bridges	383	209	222
Registered vehicles	24,430	25,003	26,760
DrukAir passengers	40,859	47,712	63,186
Telephone connections	20,618	23,657	30,285
Mobile subscribers	..	7,736	18,995
Postal infrastructure	109	109	110

ENERGY

	2000	2002	2004
Electricity generation (MU)	2,130.9	2,170.4	2,492.9
Electricity consumption(MKWh)	446	402	575.9
Towns electrified (numbers)	40	40	42
Villages electrified (numbers)	552	690	1,064
Consumers ('000)	36	36	51

TOURISM

Tourist arrivals by region (numbers)	2002	2003	2004
America	2,142	2,025	3,601
Asia and Pacific	1,332	1,411	1,685
Europe	2,015	2,671	3,819
Africa	17	14	14
Others	93	140	130
All regions	5,599	6,261	9,249
Revenue earning (Mill.US \$)	7.9	8.3	13