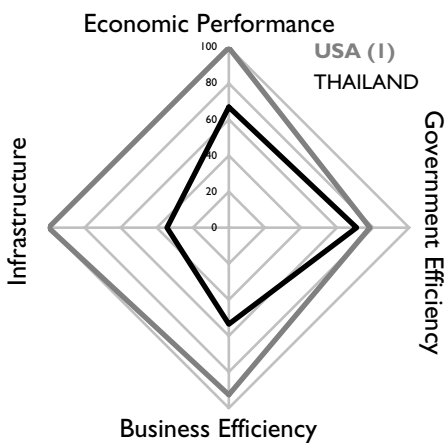
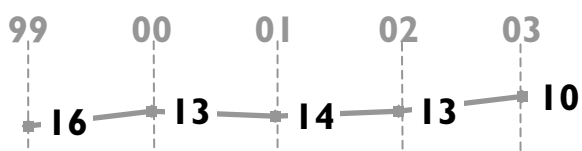


# THAILAND



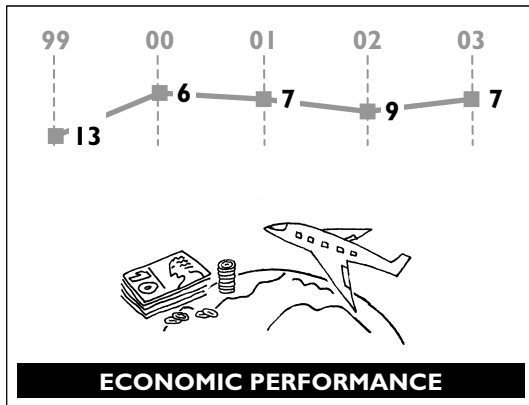
## OVERALL PERFORMANCE



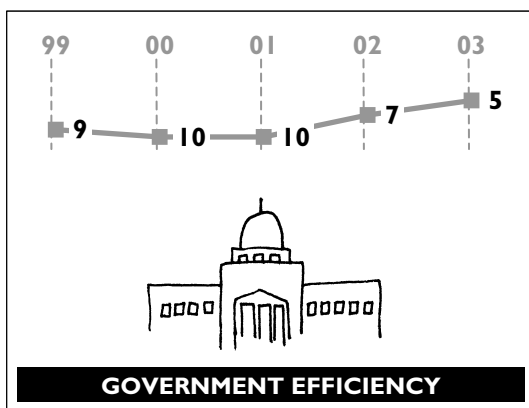
## BASIC FACTS

<b>Capital</b>	Bangkok
<b>Population (millions)</b>	63.4 (2002)
<b>Land area (km<sup>2</sup> '000)</b>	513.0 (2002)
<b>Exchange rate (per \$)</b>	42.96 (2002)
<b>GDP (\$ billions)</b>	124.0 (2002)
<b>GDP per capita (\$)</b>	1,955 (2002)
<b>Real GDP growth (%)</b>	5.2 (2002)
<b>Consumer Price Inflation (%)</b>	0.7 (2002)
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	2.24 (2002)
<b>Labor force (millions)</b>	34.25 (2002)
<b>Current Account Balance (\$ bn)</b>	7.6 (2002)
<b>Direct Investment</b>	
<b>Stocks Inward (\$ billions)</b>	28.23 (2001)
<b>Flows Inward (% of GDP)</b>	3.33 (2001)

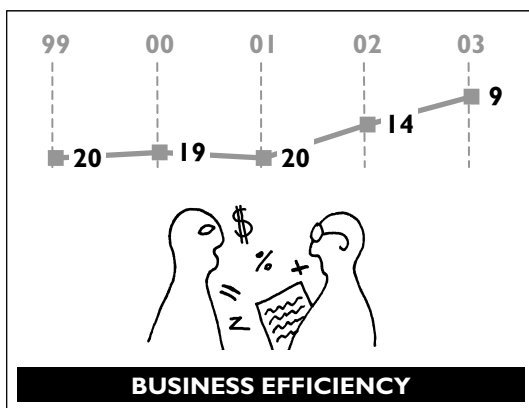
# THAILAND



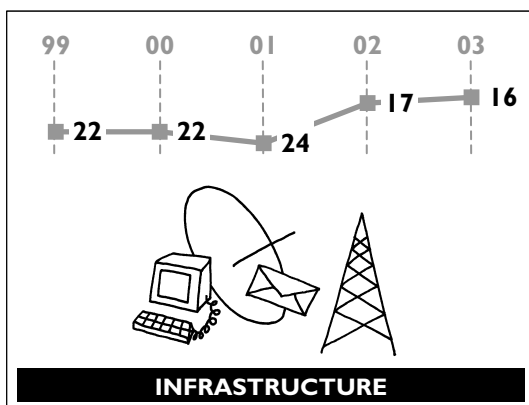
	2003
Domestic Economy	16
International Trade	4
International Investment	19
Employment	2
Prices	4



	2003
Public Finance	7
Fiscal Policy	3
Institutional Framework	5
Business Legislation	10
Societal Framework	8



	2003
Productivity	20
Labor Market	4
Finance	13
Management Practices	8
Attitudes and Values	11



	2003
Basic Infrastructure	14
Technological Infrastructure	20
Scientific Infrastructure	26
Health and Environment	18
Education	21

## THAILAND

These criteria are the 10 Strongest Criteria by Factor identified by taking the biggest value differences from the averages of the 30 economies.

	Rank
<b>I Economic Performance</b>	
1.4.08 <b>Youth unemployment</b> Percentage of labor force	1
1.4.07 <b>Unemployment rate</b> Percentage of labor force	1
1.2.18 <b>Trade to GDP ratio</b> (Exports + Imports) / (2 × GDP)	2
1.2.11 <b>Exports of commercial services</b> Percentage of GDP	2
1.2.08 <b>Exports of goods</b> Percentage of GDP	2
1.4.02 <b>Employment</b> Percentage of population	3
1.4.03 <b>Employment - growth</b> Estimates: percentage change	3
1.2.02 <b>Current account balance</b> Percentage of GDP	5
1.1.21 <b>Resilience of the economy to economic cycles</b> is strong (Survey)	5
1.5.01 <b>Consumer price inflation</b> Average annual rate	5
<b>2 Government Efficiency</b>	
2.3.12 <b>Government decisions</b> are effectively implemented (Survey)	1
2.3.13 <b>Political parties</b> do understand today's economic challenges (Survey)	1
2.3.11 <b>Government economic policies</b> adapt quickly to changes in the economy (Survey)	2
2.5.09 <b>Discrimination (race, gender, etc.)</b> does not pose a handicap in society (Survey)	2
2.4.15 <b>Labor regulations (hiring/firing practices, minimum wages, etc.)</b> are flexible enough (Survey)	3
2.4.25 <b>Investment incentives</b> are attractive to foreign investors (Survey)	3
2.3.02 <b>The cost of capital in your economy</b> encourages business development (Survey)	3
2.2.12 <b>Collected capital and property taxes</b> Percentage of GDP	3
2.5.12 <b>Gender income ratio</b> Ratio of estimated female to male earned income globally	3
2.3.08 <b>Consensus about policy direction inside the government is effective</b> (Survey)	4
<b>3 Business Efficiency</b>	
3.2.11 <b>Labor force</b> Percentage of population	3
3.5.06 <b>National culture is open to foreign ideas</b> (Survey)	4
3.3.15 <b>Stock market index</b> percentage change on index	5
3.4.06 <b>Customer satisfaction</b> is emphasized in your economy (Survey)	5
3.2.19 <b>International experience of senior managers is generally significant</b> (Survey)	5
3.2.18 <b>Foreign high-skilled people</b> are attracted by the business environment of your economy (Survey)	6
3.5.02 <b>Attitudes toward globalization are generally positive</b> in your economy (Survey)	6
3.5.05 <b>Image abroad of your economy/society</b> supports business development (Survey)	7
3.2.06 <b>Labor relations are generally productive</b> (Survey)	7
3.4.05 <b>Shareholder value</b> is efficiently managed (Survey)	7
<b>4 Infrastructure</b>	
4.2.19 <b>High-tech exports</b> Percentage of manufactured exports	3
4.2.05 <b>Mobile telephone costs</b> US\$ per 3 minutes in peak hours (local)	5
4.3.21 <b>Patent productivity</b> Patents granted to residents / R&D personnel in business ('000s)	5
4.1.14 <b>Maintenance and development of infrastructure</b> is adequately planned and financed (Survey)	6
4.1.07 <b>Dependency ratio</b> Population under 15 and over 64 years old, divided by active population (15 to 64 years)	6
4.4.14 <b>Sustainable development</b> is a priority in your economy (Survey)	8
4.1.15 <b>Energy infrastructure</b> is adequate and efficient in your economy (Survey)	10
4.4.06 <b>Health infrastructure</b> meets the needs of society (Survey)	10
4.1.13 <b>Water transportation (harbors, canals, etc.)</b> meets business requirements (Survey)	10
4.1.11 <b>Quality of air transportation</b> encourages business development in your economy (Survey)	11

These criteria are the 10 Weakest Criteria by Factor identified by taking the biggest value differences from the averages of the 30 economies.

	Rank
<b>I Economic Performance</b>	
1.3.10 <b>Portfolio investments liabilities</b> US\$ billions	26
1.2.19 <b>Terms of trade index</b> Unit value of exports over unit value of imports (1995 = 100)	25
1.1.22 <b>GDP per capita</b> US\$ per capita	24
1.2.12 <b>Exports of commercial services - real growth</b> Percentage change based on US\$ values	24
1.3.03 <b>Direct investment stocks abroad</b> US\$ billions	23
1.1.23 <b>GDP per capita (PPP)</b> Estimates; US\$ per capita at purchasing power parity	22
1.3.01 <b>Direct investment flows abroad</b> US\$ billions	22
1.3.07 <b>Direct investment stocks inward</b> US\$ billions	22
1.1.02 <b>GDP (PPP)</b> Estimates; US\$ billions at purchasing power parity	22
1.1.01 <b>Gross domestic product (GDP)</b> US\$ billions	22
<b>2 Government Efficiency</b>	
2.4.11 <b>Price controls</b> affect pricing of products in most industries (Survey)	25
2.4.21 <b>Foreign investors</b> are not free to acquire control in domestic companies (Survey)	25
2.4.13 <b>Foreign companies</b> are discriminated against by legislation (Survey)	24
2.5.10 <b>Females in parliament</b> Percentage of total seats in Parliament	23
2.4.23 <b>Access to local capital markets</b> is restricted for foreign companies (Survey)	21
2.1.07 <b>Central government total debt - real growth</b> Percentage change, based on national currency in constant prices	19
2.4.17 <b>Immigration laws</b> prevent your company from employing foreign labor (Survey)	19
2.3.04 <b>Country credit rating</b> Rating on a scale of 0-100 assessed by the Institutional Investor Magazine ranking	18
2.4.02 <b>Customs' authorities</b> do not facilitate the efficient transit of goods (Survey)	18
2.4.09 <b>Competition legislation in your economy</b> is not efficient in preventing unfair competition (Survey)	18
<b>3 Business Efficiency</b>	
3.5.01 <b>Globalization</b> is threatening to your economy (Survey)	28
3.1.01 <b>Overall productivity (PPP)</b> Estimates: GDP (PPP) per person employed, US\$	25
3.3.12 <b>Stock market capitalization</b> US\$ billions	24
3.3.04 <b>Number of credit cards issued</b> Per capita	22
3.3.20 <b>Factoring</b> Percentage of merchandise exports	19
3.5.03 <b>Relocation of production outside the country</b> is a threat to the future of your economy (Survey)	19
3.3.06 <b>Investment Risk</b> Euromoney country credit-worthiness scale from 0-100	18
3.5.04 <b>Relocation of R&amp;D facilities</b> is a threat to the future of your economy (Survey)	18
3.3.13 <b>Value traded on stock markets</b> US\$ per capita	17
3.2.16 <b>Finance skills</b> are not readily available (Survey)	17
<b>4 Infrastructure</b>	
4.4.05 <b>Medical assistance</b> Number of inhabitants per physician and per nurse	29
4.3.03 <b>Total expenditure on R&amp;D</b> Percentage of GDP	28
4.3.02 <b>Total expenditure on R&amp;D per capita</b> US\$ per capita	27
4.4.01 <b>Total health expenditure</b> Percentage of GDP	26
4.5.04 <b>Secondary school enrollment</b> Percentage of relevant age group receiving full-time education	26
4.2.14 <b>Information technology skills</b> are not readily available (Survey)	26
4.2.02 <b>Fixed telephone lines</b> Number of main lines per 1000 inhabitants	25
4.4.09 <b>Alcohol and drug abuse</b> pose problems at the work place (Survey)	25
4.5.03 <b>Pupil-teacher ratio (secondary education)</b> Ratio of students to teaching staff	25
4.2.01 <b>Investment in telecommunications</b> Percentage of GDP	24

# THAILAND

This section highlights the economy's 20 strongest criteria, that is those with the highest standardized values (STD values).\*

\* STD Values = [(economy's value) - (average of 30 economies)] / standard deviation

## 20 Strongest Criteria

Number	Name	Economy's Value	Economy's Rank	Average Value
<b>1.2.18</b>	<b>TRADE TO GDP RATIO</b> (Exports + Imports) / (2 x GDP)	<b>67.33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>30.55</b>
<b>1.2.11</b>	<b>EXPORTS OF COMMERCIAL SERVICES</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>11.26</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4.97</b>
<b>1.4.08</b>	<b>YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT</b> Percentage of labor force	<b>0.23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17.43</b>
<b>1.2.08</b>	<b>EXPORTS OF GOODS</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>55.32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25.92</b>
<b>3.3.15</b>	<b>STOCK MARKET INDEX</b> percentage change on index	<b>22.60</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-8.25</b>
<b>1.4.02</b>	<b>EMPLOYMENT</b> Percentage of population	<b>52.01</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>42.93</b>
<b>1.4.07</b>	<b>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE</b> Percentage of labor force	<b>2.24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9.60</b>
<b>1.2.02</b>	<b>CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>6.15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.99</b>
<b>3.2.11</b>	<b>LABOR FORCE</b> Percentage of population	<b>53.98</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>46.71</b>
<b>2.2.12</b>	<b>COLLECTED CAPITAL AND PROPERTY TAXES</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>0.26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.56</b>
<b>2.2.01</b>	<b>COLLECTED TOTAL TAX REVENUES</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>13.62</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24.69</b>
<b>2.5.12</b>	<b>GENDER INCOME RATIO</b> Ratio of estimated female to male earned income globally	<b>0.62</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.53</b>
<b>4.2.05</b>	<b>MOBILE TELEPHONE COSTS</b> US\$ per 3 minutes in peak hours (local)	<b>0.20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.57</b>
<b>2.3.12</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT DECISIONS</b> (Survey) Government decisions are effectively implemented	<b>7.08</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.09</b>
<b>2.3.13</b>	<b>POLITICAL PARTIES</b> (Survey) Political parties do understand today's economic challenges	<b>6.85</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.19</b>
<b>2.3.11</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICIES</b> (Survey) Government economic policies adapt quickly to changes in the economy	<b>6.78</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4.35</b>
<b>2.4.15</b>	<b>LABOR REGULATIONS</b> (Survey) Labor regulations (hiring/firing practices, minimum wages, etc.) are flexible enough	<b>6.72</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4.23</b>
<b>2.3.08</b>	<b>CONSENSUS ABOUT POLICY DIRECTION</b> (Survey) Consensus about policy direction inside the government is effective	<b>7.02</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4.53</b>
<b>2.4.04</b>	<b>PUBLIC SECTOR CONTRACTS</b> (Survey) Public sector contracts are sufficiently open to foreign bidders	<b>7.14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.83</b>
<b>2.4.25</b>	<b>INVESTMENT INCENTIVES</b> (Survey) Investment incentives are attractive to foreign investors	<b>7.34</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5.60</b>

# THAILAND

## What if ?

Competitiveness Simulations help policy makers focus on and prioritize the key competitiveness issues facing their economies. We replace the economy's 20 weakest values with the average values of the 30 economies to compute a simulated overall competitiveness ranking. However, this is a theoretical exercise and should not be perceived as policy advice. Consideration must be given to each economy's development level, political constraints and social value system.

### Simulated Ranking Changes

From **10** To **9**

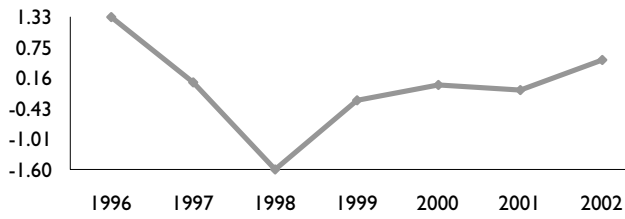
#### 20 Weakest Criteria

Number	Name	Economy's Value	Economy's Rank	Average Value
<b>4.4.05</b>	<b>MEDICAL ASSISTANCE</b> Number of inhabitants per physician and per nurse	-	<b>29</b>	-
<b>4.4.01</b>	<b>TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>3.7</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>4.5.04</b>	<b>SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT</b> Percentage of relevant age group receiving full-time education	<b>55.4</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>75.2</b>
<b>4.3.03</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON R&amp;D</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>0.267</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1.184</b>
<b>3.1.01</b>	<b>OVERALL PRODUCTIVITY (PPP)</b> Estimates: GDP (PPP) per person employed, US\$	<b>12,488</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31,453</b>
<b>4.3.07</b>	<b>TOTAL R&amp;D PERSONNEL NATIONWIDE PER CAPITA</b> Full-time work equivalent (FTE) per 1000 people	<b>0.326</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2.447</b>
<b>4.2.01</b>	<b>INVESTMENT IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b> Percentage of GDP	<b>0.373</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0.765</b>
<b>1.2.19</b>	<b>TERMS OF TRADE INDEX</b> Unit value of exports over unit value of imports (1995 = 100)	<b>76.7</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>106.3</b>
<b>4.3.09</b>	<b>TOTAL R&amp;D PERSONNEL IN BUSINESS PER CAPITA</b> Full-time work equivalent (FTE) per 1000 people	<b>0.111</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1.373</b>
<b>4.3.20</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PATENTS IN FORCE</b> Per 100,000 inhabitants	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>4.5.03</b>	<b>PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO (SECONDARY EDUCATION)</b> Ratio of students to teaching staff	<b>22.70</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18.12</b>
<b>1.1.23</b>	<b>GDP PER CAPITA (PPP)</b> Estimates; US\$ per capita at purchasing power parity	<b>6,495</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>13,483</b>
<b>4.2.09</b>	<b>COMPUTERS PER CAPITA</b> Number of computers per 1000 people / Source: Computer Industry Almanac	<b>43</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>208</b>
<b>3.5.01</b>	<b>GLOBALIZATION</b> (Survey) Globalization is threatening to your economy	<b>3.97</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5.17</b>
<b>4.2.14</b>	<b>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SKILLS</b> (Survey) Information technology skills are not readily available	<b>6.07</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7.09</b>
<b>4.4.09</b>	<b>ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE</b> (Survey) Alcohol and drug abuse pose problems at the work place	<b>4.85</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5.99</b>
<b>4.2.13</b>	<b>SUITABLE INTERNET ACCESS</b> (Survey) Suitable Internet access (availability, speed, cost) is not provided in your economy	<b>6.27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7.17</b>
<b>2.4.11</b>	<b>PRICE CONTROLS</b> (Survey) Price controls affect pricing of products in most industries	<b>5.48</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6.42</b>
<b>2.4.21</b>	<b>FOREIGN INVESTORS</b> (Survey) Foreign investors are not free to acquire control in domestic companies	<b>5.76</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6.64</b>
<b>2.4.13</b>	<b>FOREIGN COMPANIES</b> (Survey) Foreign companies are discriminated against by legislation	<b>7.03</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7.40</b>

# THAILAND

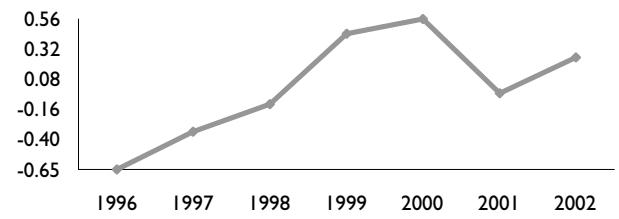
## DOMESTIC ECONOMY

Average STD value



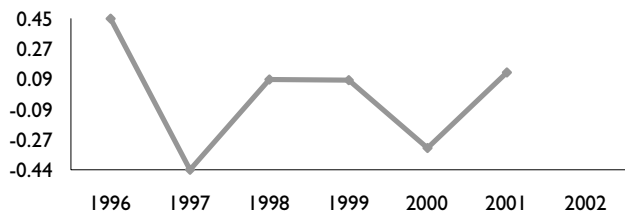
## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Average STD value



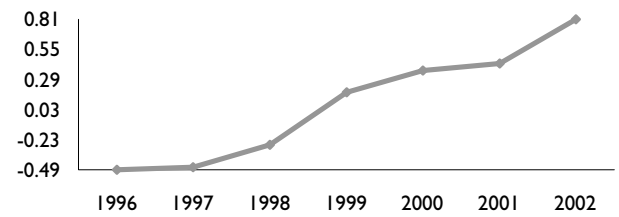
## INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT

Average STD value



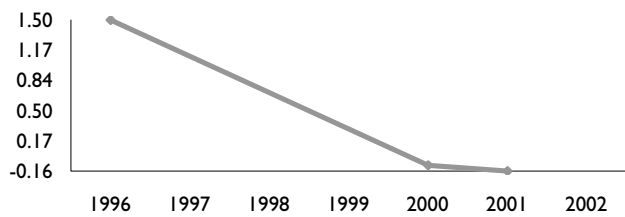
## PUBLIC FINANCE

Average STD value



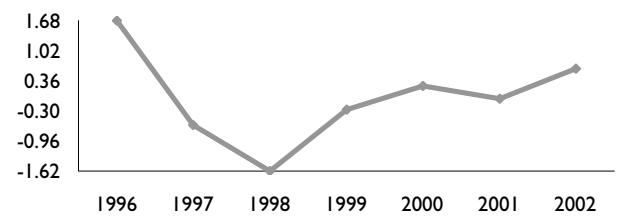
## FISCAL POLICY

Average STD value



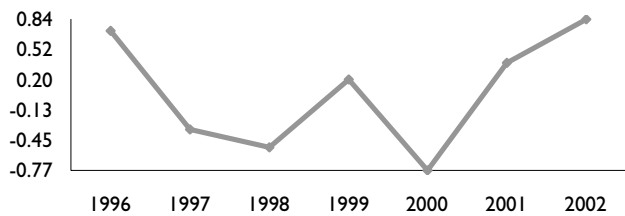
## PRODUCTIVITY

Average STD value



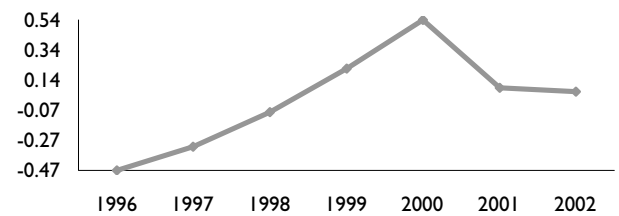
## FINANCE

Average STD value



## TECHNOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

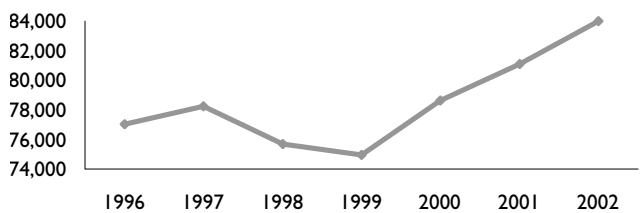
Average STD value



## MAJOR COMPETITIVENESS INDICATORS

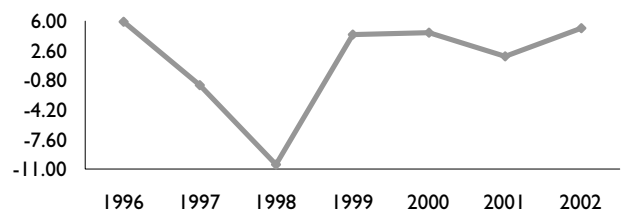
### GDP PER CAPITA

National currency per capita



### REAL GDP GROWTH

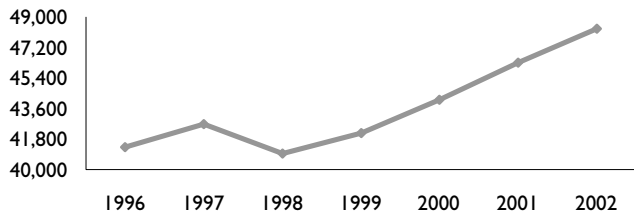
Percentage change, based on national currency in constant prices



# THAILAND

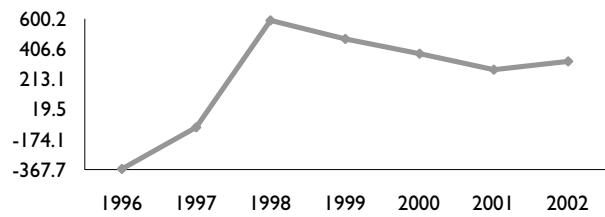
## PRIVATE FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE

National currency per capita



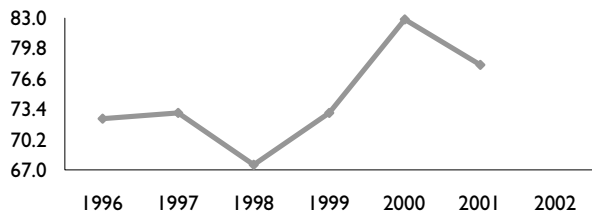
## CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE

National currency billions (minus sign = deficit)



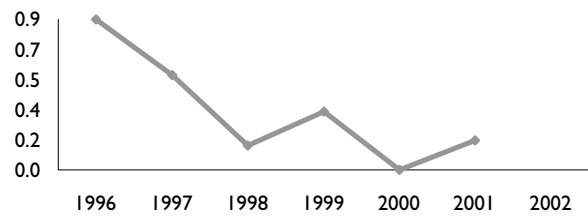
## EXPORTS OF GOODS AND OF COMMERCIAL SERVICES

US\$ billions



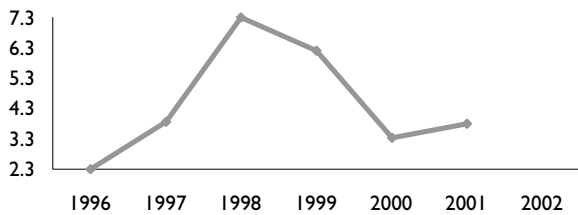
## DIRECT INVESTMENT FLOWS ABROAD

US\$ billions



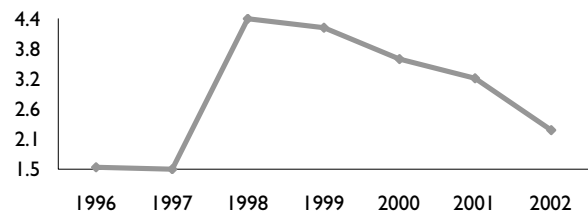
## DIRECT INVESTMENT FLOWS INWARD

US\$ billions



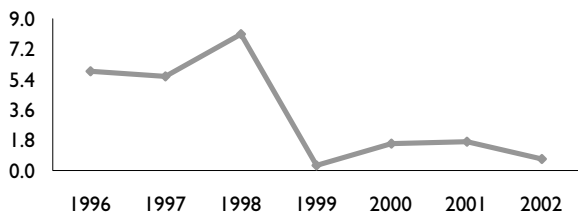
## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Percentage of labor force



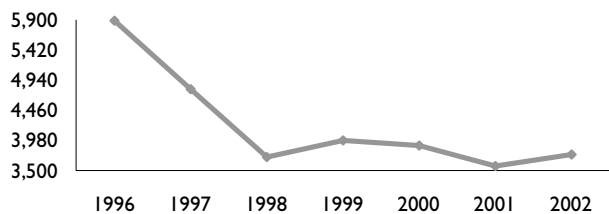
## CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION

Average annual rate



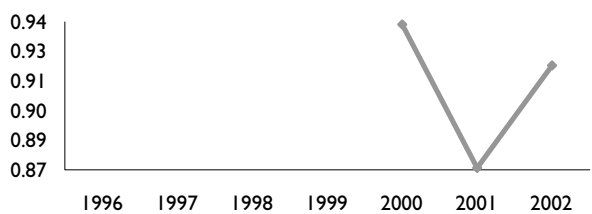
## OVERALL PRODUCTIVITY

GDP per person employed, US\$



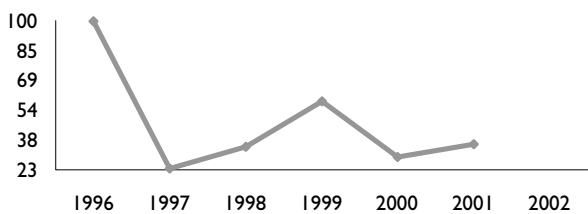
## COMPENSATION LEVELS

Estimates: Total hourly compensation for manufacturing workers, US\$



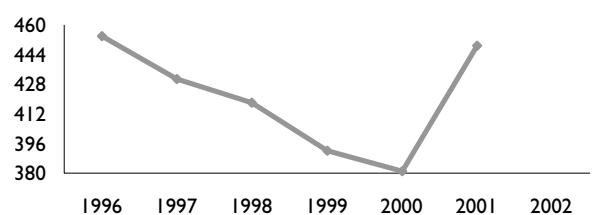
## STOCK MARKET CAPITALIZATION

US\$ billions



## LISTED DOMESTIC COMPANIES

Number of listed domestic companies



## COMPUTERS

Number of computers per 1000 people / Source: Computer Industry Almanac

