



UK-India trade statistics

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This short note looks at UK/India trade statistics.

Contents

1	UK trade with India	2
1.1	Trade in goods	2
1.2	Trade in goods and services	2
1.3	UK sector (goods) trade with India	3
1.4	UK sector (services) trade with India	4
2	India's trade with the World	4
2.1	Main trading partners	4
2.2	Trade in goods and services	5
3	Further information:	6

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1 UK trade with India

1.1 Trade in goods

The appended table 1 shows the UK's trade in goods with India in value terms and as a percentage of the UK's total trade in goods since 1948.



The chart above shows the UK's trade in goods with India as a percentage of the UK's total trade in goods from 1855. Over the period, India has become a relatively less important goods trading partner for the UK.¹

1.2 Trade in goods and services

From the (67) countries that can be identified from the *Pink Book*, in 2011, India was the 11th most important destination for UK goods (£5.7 billion or 1.9% of all UK goods exports) and the 20th most important destination for UK services (£2.6 billion or 1.4% of all UK services exports).

India was the 19th most important source of goods for the UK (£6.1 billion or 1.5% of all UK goods imports) and the 10th most important source of services (£2.45 billion or 2.1% of all UK services imports).

The UK had a trade deficit of £0.4 billion in goods with India and a trade surplus of £0.2 billion in services.²

Tables 2a and 2b below show that, between 2001 and 2011, UK goods and services imports from India rose by just over 220% while exports to India rose by 240%:

¹ Source: IMF, DOTS via ESDS 19 October 2012

² ONS, *The Pink Book* 2012, 2012

Table 2a
UK trade with India

£millions

	Exports			Imports			Balance	
	2001	2011	% change 2001 to 2011	2001	2011	% change 2001 to 2011	2001	2011
	Goods	1,761	5,695	223%	1,816	6,094	236%	-55
Services	686	2,637	284%	827	2,450	196%	-141	187
Goods and services	2,447	8,332	240%	2,643	8,544	223%	-196	-212

Table 2b
UK trade with India

% of total UK trade

	Exports			Imports		
	2001	2011	Percentage point change 2001 to 2011	2001	2011	Percentage point change 2001 to 2011
	Goods	0.9%	1.9%	1.0%	0.8%	1.5%
Services	0.8%	1.4%	0.6%	1.2%	2.1%	0.9%
Goods and services	0.9%	1.7%	0.8%	0.9%	1.7%	0.8%

Source: NS, *The Pink Book 2012*, 2012

Over the period, India has become a relatively more important trading partner for the UK:

- UK exports of goods and services to India in 2011 accounted for 0.8 of a percentage point more of total UK exports of goods and services than in 2001;
- UK imports of goods and services from India in 2011 also accounted for 0.8 of a percentage point more of total UK imports of goods and services than in 2001

1.3 UK sector (goods) trade with India

Estimates of the UK's trade in goods by sector are available from HMRC's uktradeinfo.com from 1999. Not all data is identifiable as some data is suppressed:³

HMRC aim to publish as much of the collected, detailed trade data as possible. However, we are obliged to protect sensitive business and national interests through preventing disclosure where there is a clear requirement to do so. Consequently some sensitive information is suppressed in OTS publications, predominantly at the request of businesses with the majority of trade.

Data is available at an 8-digit commodity code level but it is not yet possible for us to download the entire 8-digit data set from uktradeinfo.com for a single country - only at a 4-digit level.

The appended tables 3a and 3b show the largest trade sectors (4-digit level) by value, of goods between the UK and India in 2011. The largest sector of UK goods exports, by value, to India in 2011 was "silver" (£1.4 billion or 26% of all UK exports of goods to India in 2011). The largest sector of imports by value from India was "petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (excluding crude)" (£0.4 billion or 6% of all UK goods imports from India).⁴

³ uktradeinfo.com

⁴ uktradeinfo.com

1.4 UK sector (services) trade with India

Tables 3c and 3d below show the UK's trade in services with India, by value, broken down by sector in 2011. The largest sector of UK services exports by value from India in 2011 was "travel" (£0.6 billion or 27% of all UK exports of services to India in 2011). The largest sector of imports by value from India was also "travel" (£0.7 billion or 28% of all UK goods imports from India):⁵

Table 3c

Trade in services with India, Exports 2011

	£ million	as % of all UK services exports to India
Transportation	442	20.7%
Travel	582	27.3%
Communications	41	1.9%
Construction	4	0.2%
Insurance	77	3.6%
Financial	222	10.4%
Computer and information	66	3.1%
Royalties and license fees	27	1.3%
Other business services	573	26.9%
Personal, cultural and recreational	7	0.3%
Government	93	4.4%
Total services	2,134	

Table 3d

Trade in services with India, Imports 2011

	£ million	as % of all UK services imports from India
Transportation	405	16.4%
Travel	702	28.4%
Communications	60	2.4%
Construction	10	0.4%
Insurance	18	0.7%
Financial	66	2.7%
Computer and information	585	23.6%
Royalties and license fees	3	0.1%
Other business services	612	24.7%
Personal, cultural and recreational	7	0.3%
Government	8	0.3%
Total services	2,476	

Source: ONS, *The Pink Book 2012*, 2012

2 India's trade with the World

2.1 Main trading partners

Table 4a below shows that in 2001, India's main trading partner for the export of goods was the US (accounting for 19% of India's total exports) and for the import of goods was Switzerland (accounting for 7% of India's total imports):

Table 4a

India, main goods trading partners, Exports, 2001

\$million at current prices

		As % total exports
1 United States	8,319	19%
2 United Arab Emirates	2,551	6%
3 China, P.R.: Hong Kong	2,408	6%
4 United Kingdom	2,166	5%
5 Germany	1,758	4%
6 Japan	1,532	4%
7 Belgium	1,383	3%
8 Italy	1,254	3%
9 Bangladesh	1,001	2%
10 France	982	2%
World	43,316	

India, main goods trading partners, Imports, 2001

\$million at current prices

		As % total imports
1 Switzerland	3,420	7%
2 United States	3,059	6%
3 United Kingdom	2,733	5%
4 Belgium	2,481	5%
5 Germany	1,885	4%
6 China, P.R.: Mainland	1,809	4%
7 Japan	1,756	4%
8 South Africa	1,397	3%
9 Singapore	1,334	3%
10 Australia	1,218	2%
World	50,143	

Source: IMF, *Direction of Trade Statistics*, via ESDS

The UK was the 4th most important destination for India's goods exports and the 3rd most important source of goods imports.

Between 2001 and 2011 the UK has become a relatively less important source, and less important market, for Indian goods:

⁵ ONS, *The Pink Book 2012*, 2012, Table 9.11

Table 4b

India, main goods trading partners, Exports, 2011*\$million at current prices*

		As % total exports
1 United Arab Emirates	38,824	13%
2 United States	33,170	11%
3 China	19,113	6%
4 Singapore	16,134	5%
5 Hong Kong	12,643	4%
6 Netherlands	9,733	3%
7 United Kingdom	8,771	3%
8 Germany	8,248	3%
9 Belgium	7,781	3%
10 Indonesia	6,860	2%
World	306,748	

Source: IMF, *Direction of Trade Statistics*, via ESDS**India, main goods trading partners, Imports, 2011***\$million at current prices*

		As % total imports
1 China	55,298	12%
2 United Arab Emirates	35,656	8%
3 Switzerland	31,528	7%
4 Saudi Arabia	28,341	6%
5 United States	22,564	5%
6 Iraq	17,525	4%
7 Germany	14,895	3%
8 Kuwait	14,647	3%
9 Indonesia	13,967	3%
10 Nigeria	13,750	3%
World	463,015	

Table 4b shows that in 2011, India's main trading partner for the export of goods was the UAE (accounting for 13% of India's total exports). China was India's main source of goods imports (accounting for 12% of India's total imports). The UK is now the 7th most important destination for Indian goods exports and the 21st most important source of goods imports.

The data also shows that while the value of UK goods imports into India increased by just over 170% between 2001 and 2011, India's total imports of goods increased by just over 800%.

2.2 Trade in goods and services

Tables 5a and 5b below show that "manufactures" were India's main goods exports in 2011, particularly "machinery and transport equipment" accounting for 41% and 17% of all India's goods exports respectively. "Manufactures" and "fuels and mining products" (in particular "fuels") were India's main goods imports in 2011 accounting for 62% and 24% of its goods imports respectively:

Table 5a

India, goods exports, 2011*\$million at current prices*

Agricultural products	34,323
Food	27,100
Fuels and mining products	72,096
Fuels	56,554
Manufactures	187,812
Iron and steel	13,346
Chemicals	31,220
Pharmaceuticals	9,366
Machinery and transport equipment	44,164
Office and telecom equipment	6,274
Electronic data processing and office equipment	711
Telecommunications equipment	5,103
Integrated circuits and electronic components	460
Automotive products	9,490
Textiles	15,016
Clothing	14,365
Total	304,585

Source: WTO statistics database

Table 5b

India, goods imports, 2011*\$million at current prices*

Agricultural products	22,564
Food	15,279
Fuels and mining products	183,329
Fuels	157,735
Manufactures	191,448
Iron and steel	11,237
Chemicals	41,980
Pharmaceuticals	2,729
Machinery and transport equipment	76,400
Office and telecom equipment	25,576
Electronic data processing and office equipment	6,807
Telecommunications equipment	14,650
Integrated circuits and electronic components	4,120
Automotive products	5,658
Textiles	3,395
Clothing	361
Total	462,633

Source: WTO statistics database

Tables 6a and 6b below show India's services imports and exports by sector for 2011:

Table 6a

India, commercial services exports, 2011*\$million at current prices*

Commercial services (Services excl. government services)	136,553
Transportation	17,486
Travel	17,520
Other commercial services (Commercial services - Travel & Transport)	101,548
Communications services	1,601
Insurance services	2,575
Financial services	6,414
Computer and information services	-
Computer services	1,621
Royalties and license fees	868
Government services, not included elsewhere	596
Services	137,149

Source: WTO statistics database

Table 6b

India, commercial services imports, 2011*\$million at current prices*

Commercial services (Services excl. government services)	123,723
Transportation	56,860
Travel	13,827
Other commercial services (Commercial services - Travel & Transport)	53,036
Communications services	1,394
Insurance services	6,078
Financial services	8,210
Computer and information services	1,457
Computer services	1,252
Royalties and license fees	-
Government services, not included elsewhere	843
Services	124,566

Source: WTO statistics database

3 Further information:

The WTO examined India's trade policy in September 2011 by carrying out a "Trade Policy Review" The full report is available for downloading on the WTO website:

www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/s249_e.zip

The Indian Government's response is also available at:

www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/g249_e.doc

More information on trade with India is available on UKTI's website:

www.ukti.gov.uk/export/countries/asiapacific/southasia/india.html

The BIS Trade policy pages: www.bis.gov.uk/policies/trade-policy-unit

The EC "trade with India" website: <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/creating-opportunities/bilateral-relations/countries/india/>

Government of India Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce is responsible for the regulation, development and promotion of India's international trade and commerce: <http://commerce.nic.in/index.asp>

Table 1

UK trade in goods with India*Smillion*

	Imports	Exports	Balance	As % of UK total		Imports	Exports	Balance	As % of UK total		
				Imports	Exports				Imports	Exports	
1948	388	389	0	4.8%	6.1%	1980	734	1,229	495	0.6%	1.1%
1949	362	450	88	4.4%	6.9%	1981	590	1,288	698	0.6%	1.3%
1950	275	272	-3	3.9%	4.5%	1982	672	1,416	744	0.7%	1.5%
1951	427	325	-103	4.1%	4.5%	1983	555	1,216	661	0.6%	1.3%
1952	321	317	-4	3.4%	4.4%	1984	767	1,043	276	0.7%	1.1%
1953	318	322	5	3.5%	4.5%	1985	554	1,159	605	0.5%	1.1%
1954	416	323	-93	4.6%	4.4%	1986	650	1,386	736	0.5%	1.3%
1955	445	367	-78	4.4%	4.6%	1987	883	1,782	899	0.6%	1.4%
1956	396	475	80	3.9%	5.5%	1988	1,007	1,979	972	0.5%	1.4%
1957	441	497	56	4.1%	5.5%	1989	1,148	2,264	1,116	0.6%	1.5%
1958	391	450	59	3.8%	4.9%	1990	1,427	2,237	810	0.6%	1.2%
1959	401	487	86	3.6%	5.0%	1991	1,374	1,805	431	0.7%	1.0%
1960	420	429	9	3.3%	4.1%	1992	1,513	1,668	155	0.7%	0.9%
1961	408	433	25	3.3%	4.0%	1993	1,635	1,695	60	0.8%	0.9%
1962	383	336	-46	3.1%	3.0%	1994	1,974	2,009	35	0.9%	1.0%
1963	397	391	-6	2.9%	3.3%	1995	2,266	2,655	389	0.9%	1.1%
1964	396	365	-31	2.5%	2.9%	1996	2,514	2,659	145	0.9%	1.0%
1965	360	326	-34	2.3%	2.4%	1997	2,660	2,584	-76	0.9%	0.9%
1966	335	271	-64	2.0%	1.9%	1998	2,408	2,080	-328	0.8%	0.8%
1967	346	231	-115	2.0%	1.6%	1999	2,405	2,350	-55	0.7%	0.9%
1968	325	175	-150	1.7%	1.1%	2000	2,594	3,110	516	0.8%	1.1%
1969	257	160	-97	1.3%	0.9%	2001	2,714	2,568	-146	0.8%	1.0%
1970	255	175	-80	1.2%	0.9%	2002	2,809	2,648	-160	0.8%	1.0%
1971	271	337	66	1.1%	1.5%	2003	3,509	3,741	232	0.9%	1.2%
1972	281	353	72	1.0%	1.4%	2004	4,284	4,121	-164	0.9%	1.2%
1973	365	326	-39	0.9%	1.1%	2005	5,051	5,084	34	1.0%	1.3%
1974	478	298	-179	0.9%	0.8%	2006	5,624	4,775	-849	0.9%	1.1%
1975	522	364	-159	1.0%	0.8%	2007	7,295	5,502	-1,793	1.1%	1.2%
1976	639	375	-265	1.1%	0.8%	2008	7,686	7,083	-603	1.2%	1.5%
1977	670	485	-185	1.1%	0.9%	2009	6,368	4,338	-2,030	1.2%	1.2%
1978	619	673	54	0.8%	1.0%	2010	7,157	5,444	-1,713	1.3%	1.4%
1979	778	969	191	0.8%	1.1%	2011	8,347	7,850	-497	1.3%	1.7%

Sources: IMF, DOTS via ESDS

Table 3a

Trade in goods with India, Exports 2011

Ten largest sectors

	£	as % of all UK goods exports to India		£	as % of all UK goods imports from India
7106 - Silver, incl. silver plated with gold or platinum, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form	1,397,577,873	25.8%	2710 - Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (excl. crude); preparations containing >= 70% by weight of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituents etc	359,855,978	6.1%
7102 - Diamonds, whether or not worked, but not mounted or set (excl. unmounted stones for pick-up styluses, worked stones, suitable for use as parts of meters, measuring instruments or other articles of chapter 90)	925,971,041	17.1%	8703 - Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, incl. station wagons and racing cars (excl. motor vehicles of heading 8702)	297,021,060	5.1%
7204 - Ferrous waste and scrap; remelting scrap ingots of iron or steel (excl. slag, scale and other waste from the production of iron or steel; radioactive waste and scrap; fragments of pigs, blocks or other primary forms etc	361,082,729	6.7%	6204 - Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (excl. knitted or crocheted, wind-jackets and similar articles, slips, etc	255,290,591	4.3%
8411 - Turbojets, turbopropellers and other gas turbines	248,007,958	4.6%	3004 - Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses "incl. those in the form of transdermal administration" or in forms or packings for retail sale etc	227,385,074	3.9%
7404 - Waste and scrap, of copper (excl. ingots or other similar unwrought shapes, of remelted copper waste and scrap, ashes and residues containing copper, and waste and scrap of primary cells, primary batteries etc	122,561,996	2.3%	6403 - Footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of leather (excl. orthopaedic footwear, skating boots with ice or roller skates attached, and toy footwear)	225,902,453	3.8%
7602 - Waste and scrap, of aluminium (excl. slags, scale and the like from iron and steel production, containing recoverable aluminium in the form of silicates, ingots or other similar unwrought shapes, of remelted waste etc	86,344,563	1.6%	7113 - Articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal (excl. articles > 100 years old)	176,620,948	3.0%
8703 - Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, incl. station wagons and racing cars (excl. motor vehicles of heading 8702)	77,072,175	1.4%	6206 - Women's or girls' blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses (excl. knitted or crocheted and vests)	159,996,903	2.7%
7110 - Platinum, incl. palladium, rhodium, iridium, osmium and ruthenium, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form	75,129,359	1.4%	8411 - Turbojets, turbopropellers and other gas turbines	152,385,668	2.6%
2208 - Undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength of < 80%; spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages (excl. compound alcoholic preparations of a kind used for the manufacture of beverages)	54,163,310	1.0%	6109 - T-shirts, singlets and other vests, knitted or crocheted	137,520,832	2.3%
7802 - Lead waste and scrap (excl. ashes and residues from lead production "heading No 2620", and ingots or other similar unwrought shapes, of remelted waste and scrap, of lead "heading No 7801" etc	46,056,639	0.9%	7102 - Diamonds, whether or not worked, but not mounted or set (excl. unmounted stones for pick-up styluses, worked stones, suitable for use as parts of meters, measuring instruments or other articles of chapter 90)	126,021,815	2.1%
Total	5,410,581,663		Total	5,868,749,453	

Source: uktradeinfo.com

Table 3b

Trade in goods with India, Imports 2011

Ten largest sectors

	£	as % of all UK goods exports to India		£	as % of all UK goods imports from India
7106 - Silver, incl. silver plated with gold or platinum, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form	1,397,577,873	25.8%	2710 - Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (excl. crude); preparations containing >= 70% by weight of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituents etc	359,855,978	6.1%
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7204 - Ferrous waste and scrap; remelting scrap ingots of iron or steel (excl. slag, scale and other waste from the production of iron or steel; radioactive waste and scrap; fragments of pigs, blocks or other primary forms etc	361,082,729	6.7%	6204 - Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (excl. knitted or crocheted, wind-jackets and similar articles, slips, etc	255,290,591	4.3%
8411 - Turbojets, turbopropellers and other gas turbines	248,007,958	4.6%	3004 - Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses "incl. those in the form of transdermal administration" or in forms or packings for retail sale etc	227,385,074	3.9%
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7602 - Waste and scrap, of aluminium (excl. slags, scale and the like from iron and steel production, containing recoverable aluminium in the form of silicates, ingots or other similar unwrought shapes, of remelted waste etc	86,344,563	1.6%	7113 - Articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal (excl. articles > 100 years old)	176,620,948	3.0%
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2208 - Undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength of < 80%; spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages (excl. compound alcoholic preparations of a kind used for the manufacture of beverages)	54,163,310	1.0%	6109 - T-shirts, singlets and other vests, knitted or crocheted	137,520,832	2.3%
7802 - Lead waste and scrap (excl. ashes and residues from lead production "heading No 2620", and ingots or other similar unwrought shapes, of remelted waste and scrap, of lead "heading No 7801" etc	46,056,639	0.9%	7102 - Diamonds, whether or not worked, but not mounted or set (excl. unmounted stones for pick-up styluses, worked stones, suitable for use as parts of meters, measuring instruments or other articles of chapter 90)	126,021,815	2.1%
Total	5,410,581,663		Total	5,868,749,453	

Source: uktradeinfo.com