

THE HAT AND CAP TRADE

INTRODUCTORY

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of hats and caps, and of hatters' wares. Millinery making is not dealt with in this report but in that on the Tailoring, Dressmaking, Millinery, etc., Trades (*see* page 402).

Table I A.—General summary

Particulars	1935	1934	1933	1930*	1924*
Value of products (Gross output)...	£'000 10,719	£'000 10,558	£'000 10,295	£'000 12,291	£'000 13,294
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used	5,714	5,843	5,640	7,240	8,022
Amount paid for work given out...	43	22	41	57	98
Net output	4,962 No.	4,693 No.	4,614 No.	4,994 No.	5,174 No.
Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers) ...	30,088	30,016	30,097	30,628	29,946
Net output per person employed (excluding outworkers) ...	£ 165 No.	£ 156	£ 153	£ 163 No.	£ 173 No.
Number of returns	370	} †	† {	397	429
Number of establishments...	383			420	†

* The figures relate to Great Britain only, particulars of the small production in Northern Ireland not being available.

† Not available.

Table I B.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

Particulars	1935	1930	1924
Number of returns received	No. 297	No. 351	No. 272
Average number of persons employed :—			
Males... ..	694	751	586
Females	1,225	1,380	678
Total	1,919	2,131	1,264
Number of firms not making returns	10	54	175

In 1924 the value of the gross output of the small firms making returns was 3.7 per cent. of the total, the principal products affected being hats, caps and other headgear of straw (8.5 per cent.) and of other materials (except felt and cloth) (6.9 per cent.) and work done for the trade or on commission (11.9 per cent.).

Table II.—Size of establishments in 1935

Size of establishment (average number employed)	Number of establishments	Gross output	Net output	Number of persons employed (excluding out-workers)	Net output per person employed
11-24	No. 116	£'000 752	£'000 332	No. 1,987	£ 167
25-49	106	1,503	638	3,713	172
50-99	79	2,050	859	5,429	158
100-199... ..	53	2,524	1,132	7,361	154
200-299... ..	10	771	356	2,394	149
300-399... ..	7	711	356	2,429	147
400-499... ..	6	919	515	2,574	200
500 and over	6	1,489	774	4,201	184
TOTAL	383	10,719	4,962	30,088	165

Table III.—Particulars of output, etc., in each of the principal areas of the United Kingdom

Area*	Number of establishments†	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed (excluding out-workers)	Net output per person employed	
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£	
1	{ 1935 1930	73 81	1,479 1,875	708 766	4,514 4,612	157 166
2	{ 1935 1930	78 82	3,678 4,193	1,953 1,800	11,569 12,099	169 149
5	{ 1935 1930	10 10	617 543	321 260	1,929 1,507	167 172
3	1935	6	81	34	256	131
8	1935	194	4,468	1,789	10,483	171
10	1935	5	126	40	336	120
Other areas in England and Wales ...	1935	8	117	60	417	144
Total	{ 1935 1930	213 214	4,792 5,572	1,923 2,120	11,492 12,038	167 176
14	{ 1935 1930	9 10	153 108	57 48	584 372	98 129
TOTAL	{ 1935 1930	383 397	10,719 12,291	4,962 4,994	30,088 30,628	165 163

* For particulars *see* page xviii.

† Number of returns for 1930.

Table IV.—Sub-divisions of the industry in 1935*

Group	Number of establishments	Gross output	Value of characteristic products	Net output	Average number of persons employed (excluding out-workers)	Net output per person employed
					No.	£
Manufacturing :—	No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	No.	£
Hats and hoods:—						
Of straw ...	78	1,470	822	641	4,075	157
Of wool felt... ..	109	3,532	2,537	1,550	8,918	174
Of fur felt ...	61	3,486	2,886	1,798	10,356	174
Of cloth ...	63	1,056	956	450	3,398	133
Of other materials ...	17	308	223	152	894	170
Hatters' fur ...	16	399	379	154	1,082	142
Other goods ...	21	313	...	117	823	142
Work done for the trade ...	18	155	151	100	542	184
TOTAL ...	383	10,719	...	4,962	30,088	165

* Similar particulars for 1930 are not available.

PRODUCTION

Table V A.—Output of principal products

Kind of output	1935			1934	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed :—	Th. doz.	£'000	No.	Th. doz.	£'000
Of straw	788	1,555	183	937	1,924
Of wool felt (including capelines)	1,576	2,365	196	1,462	2,204
Of fur felt (including capelines)	850	3,085	149	725	2,872
Of cloth... ..	1,412	1,204	121	1,257	1,098
Of other materials	265	390	59	309	366
TOTAL—Hats, caps, etc. ...	...	8,599	...	...	8,464
Hoods :—					
Of wool felt	1,191	641	20	951	538
Of fur felt... ..	348	523	25	341	483
Of straw	4	9	6	...	...
Of other materials	5	4	3	11*	13*
Hatters' fur	10.0	379	14	9.7	348
Hat linings	268	168	25	192	132
Other hatters' wares, trimmings, etc....	...	108	22	...	62
Work done for the trade or on commission :—					
Bleaching and dyeing of straw plait, chip braids and hats...	...	129†	21	...	131†
Other work done ... ..	...	87†	29	...	116†
TOTAL—PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS	...	10,647	...	...	10,287

* Described as "of straw and the like."

† Amount received.

For 1935, the figures shown in the preceding table include the following output recorded by firms whose returns were made on schedules for other trades (almost entirely the Tailoring, etc., Trades) and are not, therefore, included in Table I A. The Tailoring, etc., Trades were not covered by the 1934 Inquiry and no principal products of the Hat and Cap Trade were recorded in that year by firms whose returns were made on schedules for other trades.

Kind of output	1935		
	Quantity	Value	Entries
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed :—	Th. doz.	£'000	No.
Of fur felt (including capelines)	1	2	2
Of cloth	98	110	34
Of other materials*	9	26	5
Total ... ..	...	138	...

* Including hoods.

Table V B.—Output of certain principal products, 1924-1935

Kind of goods	1924	1930	1933	1934	1935
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed (including hoods) :—					
Of straw	Th. doz. 833	1,109	973*	948*	792
Of wool felt (including capelines)	£'000 2,434	2,560	1,963*	1,937*	1,564
Of fur felt (including capelines)	Th. doz. 1,309	1,716	2,226	2,413	2,767
Of cloth	£'000 2,634	3,049	2,604	2,742	3,006
Of other materials	Th. doz. 524	818	1,001	1,066	1,198
Of unclassified materials	£'000 3,100	3,395	3,273	3,355	3,608
All other principal products and work done	Th. doz. 1,764	1,649	1,148	1,257	1,412
TOTAL — PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS	£'000 12,977	12,033	10,096	10,287	10,647

* Including hoods described as "of straw and the like."

Table VI.—Average values of goods produced, exported and imported

Kind of goods	Production (at factory)			Exports (f.o.b.)		Imports (c.i.f.)	
	Average value		1935 as a percentage of 1934	Average value		Average value	
	1935	1934		1935	1934	1935	1934
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed, except hoods:—	£	£	Per cent.	£	£	£	£
Of straw* ...	per doz.	per doz.		per doz.	per doz.	per doz.	per doz.
Of wool felt ...	1.97	2.05	96.7	1.38	1.50	0.65	0.56
Of fur felt ...	1.50	1.51	99.5	1.47	1.47	0.41	0.39
Of cloth ...	3.63	3.96	91.6	4.19	4.36	1.72	1.87
Of other materials ...	0.85	0.87	97.6	0.64	0.61	0.30	0.35
Hoods†:—							
Of wool felt ...	0.54	0.57	95.2	1.07	1.20	0.72	0.76
Of fur felt ...	1.50	1.42	106.2	3.09	3.02	1.49	1.50
Hatters' fur ...	per cwt.	per cwt.	105.5	per cwt.	per cwt.	per cwt.	per cwt.
	£	£		£	£	£	£
	37.74	35.77		46.56	49.40	25.42	24.23
Hat linings ...	per gross	per gross	91.5	†	†	†	†
	0.63	0.69					

* Including hoods.

† Described for oversea trade figures as loosely felt hat forms and cone-shaped felt hat bodies.

‡ Not recorded separately.

Table VII.—Volume of Production, 1924-1935

Kind of output	Total production			Production index (1935 = 100)			
	1935 as returned	1934		1924	1930	1933	1934
		As returned	At 1935 average values				
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed (including hoods):—	£'000	£'000	£'000	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Of straw ...	1,564	1,933	1,860	105	140	123	119
Of wool felt ...	3,006	2,742	2,621	47	62	80	87
Of fur felt ...	3,608	3,355	3,211	44	68	84	89
Of cloth ...	1,204	1,098	1,072	116	109	87*	95*
Of other materials ...	394	370	456	86	52	82*	119*
Hatters' fur ...	379	348	367	102	101	96	97
Hat linings ...	168	132	121		111	68	72
Other hatters' wares, trimmings, etc. ...	108	62	60	} 25 {		23	49
Work done for the trade	216	247	244	134	123	107	113
TOTAL ...	10,647	10,287	10,012	66	83	89*	94*

* The 1935 base figure has been adjusted in calculating this index, see Table V A.

Table VIII.—Production in relation to Exports and Imports

Kind of goods	Production	Exports	Proportion of production exported	Retained imports	Avail-	Share
					able for use in the United Kingdom	of home market held by British goods
	Th. doz.	Th. doz.	Per cent.	Th. doz.	Th. doz.	Per cent.
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed (including hoods):—						
Of straw ...	{ 1935 792	150	19.0	16	658	97.5
	{ 1934 942	138	14.6	28	833	96.6
Of wool felt:—						
Hoods* ...	{ 1935 1,191	4	0.3	13	1,200	98.9
	{ 1934 951	7	0.7	25	969	97.4
Other ...	{ 1935 1,576	194	12.3	617	1,999	69.1
	{ 1934 1,462	172	11.8	772	2,062	62.6
Of fur felt:—						
Hoods* ...	{ 1935 348	2	0.6	43	389	89.0
	{ 1934 341	3	0.9	28	366	92.3
Other ...	{ 1935 874	134	15.3	121	861	85.9
	{ 1934 725	122	16.8	136	739	81.6
Of cloth ...	{ 1935 1,393	131	9.4	670	1,932	65.3
	{ 1934 1,257	109	8.7	422	1,570	73.1
Of other materials†	{ 1935 269	128	47.6	822	963	14.6
	{ 1934 320	111	34.6	1,022	1,231	17.0
Hatters' fur ...	{ 1935 10.0	3.5	34.4	11.4	17.9	36.7
	{ 1934 9.7	3.5	35.8	7.5	13.7	45.5

* Described for oversea trade figures as loosely felt hat forms and cone shaped felt hat bodies.

Table IX.—Other output of the Hat and Cap Trade

The value of the gross output of the firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Hat and Cap Trade was £10,719,000 in 1935 and £10,558,000 in 1934 of which £10,509,000 in 1935 and £10,287,000 in 1934 consisted of products included in Table V A. Particulars of the remaining items are shown below.

Kind of output	1935	1934
Textile manufactures ...	£'000 81	£'000 95
Neckties ...	51	} 154
Other goods made ...	53	
Waste sold ...	25	22
TOTAL ...	210	271

MATERIALS AND FUEL

Table X A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used

Kind of materials, etc.	1935		1934	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
	Th. lbs.	£'000	Th. lbs.	£'000
Wool	4,027	373	3,248	303
Fur... ..	1,958	534	1,667	444
Straw and the like ... ..	...	243	...	254
Hoods of :—	Th. doz.		Th. doz.	
Wool felt	1,329	744	1,263	672
Fur felt	427	712	384	673
Straw	465	428	599	596
Cloth	18	12		
Other materials	15	13		
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes :—	Th. tons			
Coal	79.7	80		
Coke	11.1	18		
Heavy fuel oil	21	1		2,901
Purchased electricity	12,332	54		
All other purchased materials and fuel ... ..	...	2,502		
	Th. galls.			
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)			
TOTAL ... ..	...	5,714	...	5,843

Table X B.—Consumption of coal, coke and electricity in 1935 and 1930

Kind of fuel	1935	1930*
	Th. tons	Th. tons
Coal	79.7	76.9
Coke	11.1	9.8
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Electricity :—		
Generated in same works... ..	751	856
Purchased	12,332	8,257
Total electricity consumed	13,083	9,113

* Great Britain only.

EMPLOYMENT

Table XI A.—Average numbers employed in 1935 and 1934

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
Operatives (average for the year)	1,825	10,694	3,225	16,689	5,050	27,383
Administrative, technical and clerical staff*	1,541	10,567	2,752	16,609	4,293	27,176
	93	1,675	182	1,030	275	2,705
	133	1,781	192	1,059	325	2,840
TOTAL	1,918	12,369	3,407	17,719	5,325	30,088
	1,674	12,348	2,944	17,668	4,618	30,016
Average number of out-workers... ..	19		519		538	
	20		525		545	

* As at 12th October, 1935, and 13th October, 1934.

Table XI B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1934 and 1935 by firms furnishing returns in respect of the twelve months ended December

Mid week of*	Operatives employed		Monthly index†		
	1934	1935	1933	1934	1935
January	11,965	14,564	90.8	93.2	95.5
February	12,949	15,281	96.6	100.8	100.2
March	13,426	15,477	100.2	104.5	101.5
April	13,498	15,636	105.3	105.1	102.5
May	13,625	16,196	108.2	106.1	106.2
June	13,312	15,421	104.6	103.7	101.1
July	12,831	15,118	100.2	99.9	99.1
August	12,627	15,191	98.4	98.3	99.6
September	12,940	15,870	102.7	100.8	104.0
October	12,799	15,978	101.4	99.7	104.7
November	11,864	14,267	93.3	92.4	93.5
December	11,192	14,051	88.3	87.2	92.1
Average for the twelve months... ..	12,752	15,254	99.2	99.3	100.0
Proportion of total operatives represented	46.9	55.7	...	...	...

* For the ending date of each week see page xiv.

† Based on the estimated average for the year 1935.

Table XI C.—Average numbers employed, 1924-1935

Year	Operatives	Administrative, technical and clerical staff	Total (excluding outworkers)
1924*	27,293	2,653	29,946
1930*	27,726	2,902	30,628
1933	27,158	2,939	30,097
1934	27,176	2,840	30,016
1935	27,383	2,705	30,088

* Great Britain only.

WAGES

Table XII.—Wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages in 1935 and 1930

The aggregate amount of wages paid by firms furnishing returns of wages was £1,888,000 in 1935 representing 57.6 per cent. of the net output of these firms, the corresponding figures for 1930 being £1,853,000 and 56.4 per cent. The figures for these firms given below indicate the size of the sample and the extent to which it is representative.

Firms furnishing returns of wages	1935		1930	
	Aggregate	Proportion of trade	Aggregate	Proportion of trade
	£'000	Per cent.	£'000	Per cent.
Gross output... ..	7,137	66.6	7,988	65.0
Net output	3,276	66.0	3,285	65.8
Operative staff employed :—	No.		No.	
During mid-week of October :—				
Males	7,971	72.5	*	*
Females... ..	10,905	63.6		
Total	18,876	67.1	17,740	64.3
Average for the year	18,145	66.3	17,872	64.5
Administrative, technical and clerical staff	1,628	60.2	*	*
Number of establishments	232	60.6	...	...

* Not recorded separately.

COUNTRY TABLES (1935)

Note.—The figures given in the following tables relate only to firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Hat and Cap Trade. No output was recorded by firms in Northern Ireland.

Table I.—General summary

Particulars	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Value of products (Gross output) ...	£'000	10,566	153	10,719
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used	"	5,618	96	5,714
Amount paid for work given out ...	"	43	—	43
Net output	"	4,905	57	4,962
Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers)	No.	29,504	584	30,088
Net output per person employed (excluding outworkers)	£	166	98	165
Number of returns	No.	361	9	370
Number of establishments	"	374	9	383

Table II.—Output

Kind of output	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Hats, caps and other headgear, trimmed and untrimmed :—				
Of straw	Th. doz.	788	—	788
	£'000	1,555	—	1,555
Of wool felt (including capelines)	Th. doz.	1,576	—	1,576
	£'000	2,365	—	2,365
Of fur felt (including capelines)... ..	Th. doz.	849	—	849
	£'000	3,083	—	3,083
Of cloth	Th. doz.	1,186	128	1,314
	£'000	967	127	1,094
Of other materials	Th. doz.	257	—	257
	£'000	365	—	365
Hoods :—				
Of wool felt	Th. doz.	1,191	—	1,191
	£'000	641	—	641
Of fur felt	Th. doz.	348	—	348
	£'000	523	—	523
Of straw	Th. doz.	4	—	4
	£'000	9	—	9
Of other materials	Th. doz.	4	—	4
	£'000	3	—	3
Hatters' fur	Th. cwts.	*	*	10.0
	£'000	*	*	379
Hat linings	Th. gross	268	—	268
	£'000	168	—	168
Other hatters' wares, trimmings, etc.	£'000	108	—	108
Textile manufactures	£'000	81	—	81
Neckties	£'000	51	—	51
Other goods made	£'000	*	*	53
Waste sold	£'000	24	1	25
Work done for the trade or on commission :—				
Bleaching and dyeing of straw plait, chip braids and hats	£'000	129†	—	129†
Other work done	£'000	79†	8†	87†
TOTAL	£'000	10,566	153	10,719

* Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars cannot be given.

† Amount received.

Table III A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used

Kind of material, etc.	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Wool	Th. lbs.	4,027	—	4,027
	£'000	373	—	373
Fur	Th. lbs.	1,958	—	1,958
	£'000	534	—	534
Straw and the like	£'000	243	—	243
Hoods :—				
Of wool felt	Th. doz.	1,329	—	1,329
	£'000	744	—	744
Of fur felt	Th. doz.	427	—	427
	£'000	712	—	712
Of straw	Th. doz.	465	—	465
	£'000	428	—	428
Of cloth	Th. doz.	18	—	18
	£'000	12	—	12
Of other materials	Th. doz.	15	—	15
	£'000	13	—	13
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes :—				
Coal	Th. tons	79.4	0.3	79.7
	£'000	80	*	80
Coke	Th. tons	11.1	—	11.1
	£'000	18	—	18
Heavy fuel oil	Th. galls.	21	—	21
	£'000	1	—	1
Purchased electricity	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	12,233	99	12,332
	£'000	53	1	54
All other purchased materials and fuel	£'000	2,407	95	2,502
TOTAL	£'000	5,618	96	5,714

* Less than £500.

Table III B.—Consumption of electricity

Electricity consumed	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Generated in same works	751	—	751
Purchased	12,233	99	12,332
Total	12,984	99	13,083

Table IV A.—Numbers employed in week ended 12th October, 1935

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
England and Wales :—						
Operatives	1,850	10,905	3,121	16,700	4,971	27,605
Administrative, etc.*... ..	91	1,643	178	1,013	269	2,656
Total	1,941	12,548	3,299	17,713	5,240	30,261
Scotland :—						
Operatives	25	82	192	446	217	528
Administrative, etc.*... ..	2	32	4	17	6	49
Total	27	114	196	463	223	577
Great Britain :—						
Operatives	1,875	10,987	3,313	17,146	5,188	28,133
Administrative, etc.*... ..	93	1,675	182	1,030	275	2,705
TOTAL	1,968	12,662	3,495	18,176	5,463	30,838

* Administrative, technical and clerical staff.

Table IV B.—Operatives employed in one week in each month of 1935

Week ended	Males and females		
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
January 19	26,078	508	26,586
February 16... ..	27,215	519	27,734
March 16	27,471	525	27,996
April 13	27,729	539	28,268
May 18	28,484	531	29,015
June 15	27,016	562	27,578
July 13	26,541	562	27,103
August 17	26,402	563	26,965
September 14	27,583	559	28,142
October 12	27,605	528	28,133
November 16	25,218	526	25,744
December 14	24,834	496	25,330
Average for the twelve months	26,848	535	27,383

Table IV C.—Numbers of outworkers at two specified periods in 1935

Country	January			July		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
England and Wales	23	571	594	14	467	481

No outworkers were recorded for Scotland.

Table V.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

Particulars	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Number of returns received	No. 279	No. 9	No. 288
Average number of persons employed :—			
Males... ..	670	9	679
Females	1,171	28	1,199
Total	1,841	37	1,878