

## 114 Leather goods

This Report on the Leather Goods Industry relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in manufacturing trunks, suitcases, handbags, pocket books, belts, straps, harness, saddlery and other goods (except clothing) of leather or leather substitutes (including plastics and fibreglass).

This industry corresponds to minimum list heading 432 in the Standard Industrial Classification (Revised 1968) which has been used for the first time as a basis of classification in the 1968 Census.

The industry corresponds to the Leather Goods Industry (Part 91) in the Reports on the last detailed Census of Production for 1963, except that small cases of all kinds of plastics and fibreglass formerly included in the Plastics Moulding and Fabricating Industry (Part 124) are now included in this industry.

Throughout this Report, the figures given for 1963 have been reclassified, as far as possible, according to the Standard Industrial Classification (Revised 1968) so that data for 1963 and 1968 are on the same industrial basis. However the reclassification of small firms, which provided limited information only, has been arbitrary.

In this industry, where small establishments account for a relatively large proportion of employment and output, establishments employing fewer than 25 persons were asked to complete a simplified version of the full census form for 1968. For 1963 a sample of small firms was asked to complete the simplified census form, the remainder being required only to give information on employment and description of business.

In interpreting the data in the tables it is essential to bear in mind the notes and definitions which appear on pages (i) to (iv).

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TABLE 1 Industry summary, 1963 and 1968  
United Kingdom

	Unit	All establishments (a)		Small establishments (b)		
		1963	1968	1963	1968	
Number of enterprises	No.	662	589	509	446	
Number of establishments	"	689	630	516	454	
Gross output	£'000	34,204	43,758	8,816	11,265	
Net output	"	15,599	20,736	4,052	5,183	
Net output per head	£	833	1,103	843	1,141	
Sales and work done	{ goods produced and work done (c)	£'000	31,106	40,514	8,076	10,081
	{ merchanted goods and canteen takings	"	3,167	3,094	810	1,170
Purchases	{ materials for use in production and packaging and fuel	"	15,491	20,071	4,541	4,877
	{ goods for merchenting and canteen purchases	"	2,575	2,438		
Payments to other organisations	{ for work done on materials given out for transport	"	323	509	189	276
	{ by road	"	379	315	65	65
	{ by rail and other means excluding postal services	"				
Stocks and work in progress						
Total stocks and work in progress	{ change during year	"	+ 92	+ 625	- 40	+ 57
	{ at end of year	"	5,790	7,784	1,185	1,687
Goods on hand for sale	{ change during year	"	- 111	+ 115	- 83	+ 4
	{ at end of year	"	1,787	2,591	292	512
Work in progress	{ change during year	"	+ 41	+ 35	+ 13	+ 10
	{ at end of year	"	679	946	109	174
Materials, stores and fuel	{ change during year	"	+ 162	+ 476	+ 30	+ 42
	{ at end of year	"	3,325	4,247	783	1,000
Number employed on average during the year	{ total, including working proprietors	Th.	18.7	18.8	4.8	4.5
	{ operatives	"	15.3	15.5	3.5	3.5
	{ other employees (d)	"	2.6	2.5	0.6	0.4
Wages and salaries	{ of operatives	£'000	6,783	9,258	1,567	2,209
	{ of other employees (d)	"	2,096	2,837	484	418
Capital expenditure (e)						
Total	"	569	417	117	137	
New building work	"	159	166	29	18	
Land and existing buildings (f)	"	22	- 260	- 16	- 1	
Plant and machinery (f)	"	254	325	51	53	
Vehicles (f)	"	134	187	54	67	

(a) For 1968 estimates are based on returns covering 88 per cent. of the employment shown. For 1963, where only a sample of small establishments was asked to supply the full range of information, the figures, except for employment, were estimated on the basis of the full returns made which accounted for 76 per cent. of the employment shown.

(b) For 1968 estimates are based on returns covering 58 per cent. of the employment shown. For 1963, where only a sample of small establishments was asked to supply the full range of information, the corresponding figure was 20 per cent.

(c) Including services rendered to other organisations (amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery or other goods, for providing transport, or for technical or other services rendered).

(d) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

(e) Excluding expenditure for establishments not yet in production.

(f) Acquisitions less disposals.

TABLE 2 Analysis by size of establishment within the industry, 1968

(i) Output and employment

All establishments: United Kingdom

Number employed on average during the year by the establishment (a)	Estab-lish-ments	Enter-prises (b)	Total number employed on average during the year (a)	Gross output	Net output	Net output per head
	Number	Number	Number	£'000	£'000	£
1-5	163	163	465	11,265 (c)	5,183 (c)	1,141 (c)
6-10	105	104	832			
11-24	186	184	3,247			
25-49	75	73	2,669	6,886	3,006	1,126
50-99	52	50	3,383	7,397	3,434	1,015
100-199	24	23	3,221	6,390	3,360	1,043
200-399	12	12	3,196	7,333	3,643	1,140
400 and over	3	3	1,386	3,465	1,669	1,204
Unsatisfactory returns	10	10	405	922 (d)	441 (d)	1,088 (d)
Total	630	589	18,804	43,758	20,736	1,103

(ii) Employees, wages and salaries

All establishments: United Kingdom

Number employed on average during the year by the establishment (a)	Employees		Wages and salaries		Wages and salaries per head	
	Oper-atives	Others (e)	Oper-atives	Others (e)	Oper-atives	Others (e)
	Number	Number	£'000	£'000	£	£
1-5	3,547 (c)	434 (c)	2,209 (c)	418 (c)	623 (c)	963 (c)
6-10						
11-24						
25-49	2,253	344	1,440	428	639	1,243
50-99	2,866	465	1,652	526	576	1,132
100-199	2,759	445	1,499	527	543	1,184
200-399	2,677	513	1,619	551	605	1,074
400 and over	1,099	283	640	319	583	1,126
Unsatisfactory returns	341 (d)	59 (d)	200 (d)	69 (d)	586 (d)	1,147 (d)
Total	15,542	2,543	9,258	2,837	596	1,116

(a) Including working proprietors.

(b) The sum of the figures for the size groups exceeds the total for the industry to the extent that enterprises made returns for establishments in more than one size group.

(c) Estimates for all small establishments based upon returns received.

(d) Estimates for unsatisfactory returns in respect of larger establishments based upon returns received.

(e) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

TABLE 3 Percentage analysis of employees, by age and sex, 1969 (a)

All establishments: United Kingdom

Ages	Males	Females	All employees
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Under 18	4	6	10
18 and over	35	55	90
All ages	39	61	100

Source: Department of Employment

(a) The percentages relate to the numbers employed (excluding working proprietors) at June 1969, the earliest date for which the information is available on the basis of the Standard Industrial Classification, (Revised 1968).

## Footnotes to Table 4.

- (a) Some establishments employing fewer than 25 persons were included in returns for larger establishments. These amounted to 9 establishments in 1968 and 6 in 1963.
- (b) The method of classifying returns to sub-divisions of the industry is explained in the notes; the characteristic products of each sub-division are identified in Table 5(ii).
- (c) The sum of the figures for the sub-divisions exceeds the total for the industry to the extent that enterprises made returns for more than one sub-division.
- (d) Including services rendered to other organisations (amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery or other goods, for providing transport, or for technical or other services rendered).
- (e) Direct sales of goods (excluding canteen takings) made to, and work done for, the general public by larger establishments are included. These amounted to £14,000 in 1968. Similar information is not available for 1963.
- (f) Characteristic products relate only to sub-divisions of the industry.
- (g) For sub-divisions of the industry, this is the ratio of sales of characteristic products to total sales of goods produced and work done. For the industry as a whole, this is the ratio of total sales of principal products by the industry to total sales of goods produced and work done.
- (h) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.
- (i) Excluding expenditure for establishments not yet in production.
- (j) Acquisitions less disposals.

TABLE 4 Analysis of larger establishments, 1963 and 1968

Establishments employing 25 or more persons: Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom (a)

	Unit	Sub-divisions of the industry (b)				Sub-divisions of the industry (b)		Total		
		Travel goods other than those of metal or wicker		Ladies handbags, pochettes and sling bags of all materials other than wicker		All other goods of leather and leather substitutes				
		01		02		03				
		1963	1968	1963	1968	1963	1968	1963	1968	
Number of enterprises (c)	No.	31	38	37	32	83	78	147	143	
Number of establishments	"	36	45	43	39	88	91	167	175	
Gross output	£'000	7,777	12,016	6,177	7,556	10,333	12,213	24,286	31,784	
Net output	"	3,590	5,621	2,626	3,441	4,831	6,138	11,046	15,200	
Net output per head	£	915	1,137	872	1,234	757	984	829	1,088	
Sales and work done	{ goods produced and work done (d) (e)	£'000	7,524	11,708	5,963	7,029	8,546	11,026	22,033	29,764
	{ merchanted goods and canteen takings	"	211	312	265	464	1,779	1,114	2,254	1,889
Sales of characteristic products	"	6,761	9,157	5,714	6,496	6,919	9,969	(f)	(f)	
Index of specialisation (g)	Per cent.	90	78	96	92	81	90	96	94	
Purchases	{ materials for use in production and packaging, and fuel	£'000	3,894	6,103	3,227	3,588	3,971	5,176	11,093	14,867
	{ goods for merchenting and canteen purchases	"	160	270	208	410	1,476	860	1,844	1,540
	{ for work done on materials given out for transport	"	31	84	54	120	44	26	129	231
Payments to other organisations	{ by road	"	155	119	61	50	84	76	300	244
	{ by rail and other means excluding postal services	"		88				18		18
Stocks and work in progress										
Goods on hand for sale	{ change during year	"	+ 42	+ 20	- 59	+ 30	- 10	+ 58	- 27	+ 108
	{ at end of year	"	709	1,124	167	296	552	608	1,427	2,028
Work in progress	{ change during year	"	-	- 24	+ 8	+ 33	+ 18	+ 15	+ 27	+ 24
	{ at end of year	"	139	295	142	188	262	270	544	753
Materials, stores and fuel	{ change during year	"	+ 53	+ 270	-	+ 72	+ 73	+ 80	+ 126	+ 422
	{ at end of year	"	989	1,535	406	546	1,036	1,091	2,430	3,172
Number employed on average during the year	{ total including working proprietors	No.	3,923	4,943	3,010	2,789	6,385	6,236	13,318	13,968
	{ operatives	"	3,364	4,083	2,538	2,336	5,382	5,334	11,284	11,753
	{ other employees (h)	"	527	827	430	410	941	825	1,898	2,062
Wages and salaries	{ of operatives	£'000	1,616	2,573	1,215	1,533	2,152	2,785	4,983	6,891
	{ of other employees (h)	"	417	921	357	509	768	934	1,542	2,364
Wages and salaries per head	{ operatives	£	480	630	479	656	400	522	442	586
	{ other employees (h)	"	792	1,114	829	1,241	816	1,133	812	1,147
Capital expenditure (i)										
New building work	£'000	40	61	52	46	33	37	124	144	
Land and existing buildings	{ acquisitions	"	64(j)	22	43(j)	265	57(j)	8(j)	37(j)	38
	{ disposals	"		17						
Plant and machinery	{ acquisitions	"	71	119	35	53	100	111	206	283
	{ disposals	"	7	10	1	2	3	6	11	19
Vehicles	{ acquisitions	"	40	72	36	48	66	81	142	201
	{ disposals	"	17	34	17	21	30	29	64	83

For notes to this table - see page 114/5.

TABLE 5(i) Estimates of total sales of principal products of the industry, 1963 and 1968 (a)

All establishments: United Kingdom

	All establishments (b)		Small establishments in the industry (c)	
	1963	1968	1963	1968
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Travel goods of all materials other than metal or wicker, including sample cases and bags, shopping bags, tool bags and special containers for specific articles such as radios and typewriters, school satchels, music cases and document cases, but excluding sports goods carriers	11,667	13,468	1,496	2,077
Ladies' handbags, pochettes and sling bags of all materials other than wicker	8,615	9,186	2,274	2,164
Wallets, note-cases, purses, pocket books and the like; small cases of all kinds, of leather or leather substitute (including those of plastics and fibreglass); fancy goods, of leather, leather substitute (ie leathercloth including decorative plastic sheeting) or textile materials, and other products of leather (d)	10,798	15,713	3,559	4,956
Saddlery and harness	1,163	1,395	517	507
Work done	207	341	135	181
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,451</b>	<b>40,105</b>	<b>7,980</b>	<b>9,884</b>

(a) Including estimates for establishments not making satisfactory returns.

(b) Including sales of principal products of the industry by larger establishments, but not by small establishments, classified to other industries. For a detailed analysis of sales by larger establishments see Table 5(ii).

(c) Excluding small establishments included in returns made by larger establishments.

(d) Including any sales by small establishments of goods other than principal products of the industry but excluding merchant goods, canteen takings and the value of services rendered to other organisations.

TABLE 5(ii) Sales of principal products of the industry by larger establishments, including sales by establishments classified to other industries, 1963 and 1968

Establishments employing 25 or more persons:  
Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

Industry sub-division (a)	1963		1968		Enterprises	Entries
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value		
01	Thousands	£'000	Thousands	£'000	Number	Number
Travel goods of all materials other than metal or wicker						
Trunks of all kinds (eg wardrobe, steamer, cabin and sample trunks)	..	107	3.8	13	5	5
Hand luggage (eg travelling cases and bags of all types including sample cases and bags, shopping bags, tool bags and special containers for specific articles such as radios and typewriters) but excluding document cases, school satchels, music cases, sports goods carriers, rucksacks, haversacks and typewriter covers, etc (b)	7,852	7,060	3,053	6,181	58	62
	..	1,704	..	3,447		
03	Document cases of all types	255	445	704	40	43
	..	249	..	274		
03	School satchels and music cases	238	322	307	27	29
	..	62	..	93		
02	Ladies' handbags, pochettes and sling bags of all materials other than wicker	5,916	4,614	5,059	48	51
	..	1,428	..	1,270		
03	Wallets, note-cases, purses, pocket books and the like	..	1,985	..	46	49
03	Small cases of all kinds (eg beauty and manicure cases, spectacle cases and cases for cutlery, scientific and surgical instruments and the like) of leather or leather substitutes (including those of plastics and fibreglass)	..	1,842	..	76	78
03	Fancy goods of leather, leather substitute (ie leathercloth, including decorative plastic sheeting) or textile materials	..	507	..	19	19
03	Saddlery and harness	..	617	..	13	14
03	Braces, dog collars and harness, leads and whips	..	314	..	12	12
03	Straps and belts of all kinds other than machinery belting	..	1,352	..	45	45
03	Motor and cycle accessories (eg cycle bags, radiator muffs, etc)	..	234	..	13	13
	Other products	..	687	..	20	20
	Waste products	..	11	..	30	31
	Work done	..	69	..	14	14
	<b>Total</b>		<b>23,422</b>		<b>29,409</b>	<b>..</b>
	Sales in other industries (see Table 6)		2,266		1,392	..
	Principal products of this industry sold by establishments in the industry		21,157		28,017	143
						156(c)

(a) The number given is that of the sub-division of which the item is a characteristic product. The sales shown are total sales by larger establishments, not merely sales by establishments classified to the sub-division.

(b) Sports goods carriers, rucksacks and haversacks are included in the report on the Toys, Games, Children's Carriages and Sports Equipment Industry (Part 147) and recorded as sales of sports goods carriers (ie bags for cricket, tennis, golf and other sports) valued at £686,000 for 1968 and £567,000 for 1963.

(c) This figure represents the total number of returns made for larger establishments in this industry which is less than the total number of establishments shown in Table 4 on account of combined returns covering more than one establishment.

TABLE 6 Sales of principal products of the industry by larger establishments classified to other industries, 1963 and 1968

Establishments employing 25 or more persons:  
Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

	1963	1968		
	Value	Value	Entries	Principal industries in which produced (a)
Travel goods of all materials other than metal or wicker	£'000	£'000	Number	
Hand luggage (eg travelling cases and bags of all types including sample cases and bags, shopping bags, tool bags and special containers for specific articles such as radios and typewriters) but excluding document cases, school satchels, music cases, sports goods carriers, rucksacks, haversacks and typewriter covers etc	1,493	107	*	83,109,123
Wallets, note-cases, purses, pocket books and the like	303	197	5	140,143,149,150
Small cases of all kinds (eg beauty and manicure cases, spectacle cases and cases for cutlery, scientific and surgical instruments and the like) of leather or leather substitutes, including those of plastics and fibreglass	30	835	43	(b)
Saddlery and harness and straps and belts of all kinds other than machinery belting	138	101	6	68,97,115
Motor and cycle accessories (eg cycle bags, radiator muffs, etc)		109	*	123,133
School satchels, music cases and other leather products	301	43	*	113,149
Total	2,266	1,392		

(a) The references given are to the list of industries at the front of this report.

(b) Production is widely distributed.

TABLE 7 Sales of other than principal products by larger establishments in the industry, 1963 and 1968

Establishments employing 25 or more persons:  
Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

	1963	1968
	Value	Value
	£'000	£'000
Webbing, tapes and made-up industrial safety harness and equipment	125	268
Toys and sports requisites	141	231
Plastic goods	212	181
Small cases of all kinds (other than of leather or leather substitutes, including those of plastics and fibreglass)	381	158
Clothing and footwear		401
Other products		502
Services rendered to other organisations (a)	17	5
Total value of goods sold without having been subjected to any manufacturing process (merchanted or factored)	2,216	1,850
Canteen takings	38	39
Total	3,130	3,636

(a) Amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery or other goods, for providing transport, or for technical or other services rendered to other organisations.

TABLE 8 Production of certain principal products of the industry by larger establishments, 1963 and 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.

TABLE 9 Purchases by larger establishments of selected principal products of the industry, 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.

TABLE 10 Purchases by larger establishments in the industry, 1963 and 1968  
Establishments employing 25 or more persons: Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

	1963		1968	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
Materials for use in production		£'000		£'000
Dressed leather				
Hide leather of all kinds	..	1,642	..	2,610
Other sorts of dressed leather	..	1,098	..	1,277
Paper and board in all forms other than for use as packaging materials (including pulp board, tip board and vulcanised fibreboard)	..	830	..	1,038
Finished components and fittings wholly or mainly of plastics	..	489	..	488
Metal components				
Frames for handbags, purses, etc	..	1,023	..	769
Slide fasteners	..	259	..	363
Other metal components	..	1,062	..	1,825
Synthetic resins and plastics materials (excluding leathercloth and reinforced plastics)				
	Th.cwt.		Th.cwt.	
Polyethylene sheeting	{ 0.4	20	{ ..	237
	..	49		
Polyvinyl chloride (including copolymers) plasticised and unplasticised sheet	{ 13.1	218	{ 25.5	377
	..	923	..	731
Thermosetting polyesters including epoxide resins (the net resin content excluding filler) and resin glass fibre mixtures	..	23	..	18
Leathercloth	..	851	..	1,645
Woven piece goods (other than narrow fabrics) wholly or mainly of				
	Th.sq.yds.		Th.sq.yds.	
Cotton	{ 146	36	{ 1,057	183
	..	109	..	92
Synthetic fibres (nylon, etc)	{ 351	58	{ 195	33
	..	82	..	132
Other man-made fibres (rayon, etc)	{ 1,619	278	{ 2,365	369
	..	206	..	106
Replacement parts for firms' own machinery, plant and vehicles, and accessories and consumable tools bought as replacement				
Tyres and other spare parts for firms' own road goods vehicles	..	(a)	..	17
Other	..	(a)	..	94
All other materials for use in production	..	1,245	..	1,618
Packaging materials	..	384	..	552
Fuel and electricity (b)				
	Th.tons		Th.tons	
Coal	{ 0.7	4	{ 0.5	4
	..	1	..	1
Coke (including screenings) and manufactured fuel	..	18	{ 0.9	7
			..	4
	Th.gal.		Th.gal.	
Derv fuel and motor spirit for use in road vehicles	{ 109	24	{ 159	46
	..	15	..	17
Other liquid fuels (including creosote/pitch mixtures, etc and liquefied petroleum gases)	{ 271	14	{ 409	23
	..	20	..	7

TABLE 10 (continued)

	1963		1968	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
Fuel and electricity (b) (continued)	Th.therms	£'000	Th.therms	£'000
Gas	{ 124	11	{ 197	18
	..	9	..	9
Electricity	{ Th.kWh		{ Th.kWh	
	5,100	42	9,876	91
	..	50	..	45
All other fuels	..	(a)	..	21
Total cost of materials and fuel		11,093		14,867
Goods purchased for merchanting		1,799		1,492
Canteen purchases		45		48
Total cost of purchases		12,936		16,407

(a) Not recorded separately for 1963.

(b) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms the total quantity of electricity generated in firms' own establishments in 1968 cannot be given. None was recorded for 1963.

TABLE 11 Transport costs and employment of larger establishments, 1963 and 1968

Establishments employing 25 or more persons:  
Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

	Unit	1963	1968
Average number mainly employed on transport	No.	100	116
Transport costs			
Wages and salaries	£'000	66	116
Derv fuel and motor spirit	"	39	63
Tyres and other spare parts for road goods vehicles	"	..	17
Payments to other organisations for transport	"	{ 300	{ 244
			{ 124
Costs of operating road goods vehicles			
Insurance	"	10	11
Vehicle licences	"	4	12
Depreciation	"	33	52
Payments to other organisations for repairs and maintenance	"	21	30
Total	"	472(a)	668

(a) Excluding tyres and other spare parts for road goods vehicles, not collected separately for 1963.

TABLE 12 Payments for certain services, etc by larger establishments, 1963 and 1968 (a)

Establishments employing 25 or more persons:  
Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

	Amounts payable	
	1963	1968
Repairs and maintenance to	£'000	£'000
Buildings	53	84
Road goods vehicles	21	30
Plant, machinery and other capital equipment	112	143
Insurance, licensing and depreciation of road goods vehicles (b)	46	75
Rates, excluding water rates	164	240
Hire of plant and machinery	34	49
Postage, telephone, telegrams, cables and telex (c)	125	186
<b>Total</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>807</b>

(a) No deduction is made for these payments to arrive at the figures of net output given in this report.

(b) For details see Table 11.

(c) Excluding telex for 1963.

TABLE 13 Percentage analysis of twelve-month periods covered by returns from larger establishments, 1968

Establishments employing 25 or more persons:  
Analysis of returns received, United Kingdom

Year ended	Percentage of total returns received	Percentage of total number employed
1968	Per cent.	Per cent.
April (a)	3.8	2.0
May	3.2	1.8
June	2.6	1.5
July	1.9	2.8
August	1.9	0.9
September	1.9	5.5
October	2.6	2.7
November	2.6	1.7
December	44.9	52.6
1969		
January	5.8	3.5
February	0.0	0.0
March	24.4	22.6
April (b)	4.5	2.5
	100	100

(a) From 6 April.

(b) To 5 April.