



The Manufacturers' Organisation

UK MANUFACTURING: THE ENGINE OF OUR ECONOMY

The Facts 2025



makeuk.org

UK MANUFACTURING FACTS

The UK manufacturing sector accounts for

£220 BILLION OF OUTPUT

Providing

2.6 MILLION JOBS

Paying average wages

8% HIGHER

than the whole economy



48% of UK R&D

17% of total business investment



**BACKING MANUFACTURING,
ENGINEERING THE FUTURE**

HOW IS MANUFACTURING SPREAD AROUND THE UK

Scotland

£ 18.2bn ■ 7% ▲ 107.5
 👤 195 ● 9.9% * 118%

North West

£ 31.7bn ■ 8% ▲ 109.0
 👤 335 ● 13.0% * 124%

West Midlands

£ 24.2bn ■ 9% ▲ 100.0
 👤 279 ● 13.9% * 111%

Wales

£ 12.7bn ■ 10% ▲ 105.9
 👤 138 ● 15.6% * 120%

South West

£ 20.0bn ■ 7% ▲ 97.4
 👤 236 ● 10.7% * 118%

Manufacturing Output (£bn) (2023) £

Number employed in manufacturing, 000s (2025) 👤

Manufacturing as a % of regional employment (2025) ■

Manufacturing productivity index 2024 (UK mfg=100) ▲

Manufacturing output as a % of regional output (2023) ●

Manufacturing salary as % of regional economy salary (2024) *

Source: ONS (2025)

North East

£ 9.7bn ■ 10% ▲ 92.4
 👤 121 ● 14.1% * 122%

Yorkshire & Humberside

£ 21.6bn ■ 10% ▲ 88.6
 👤 280 ● 13.2% * 114%

East Midlands

£ 20.8bn ■ 11% ▲ 91.4
 👤 261 ● 14.8% * 119%

East of England

£ 22.0bn ■ 7% ▲ 111.1
 👤 228 ● 10.7% * 121%

London

£ 11.0bn ■ 2% ▲ 91.1
 👤 137 ● 1.9% * 95%

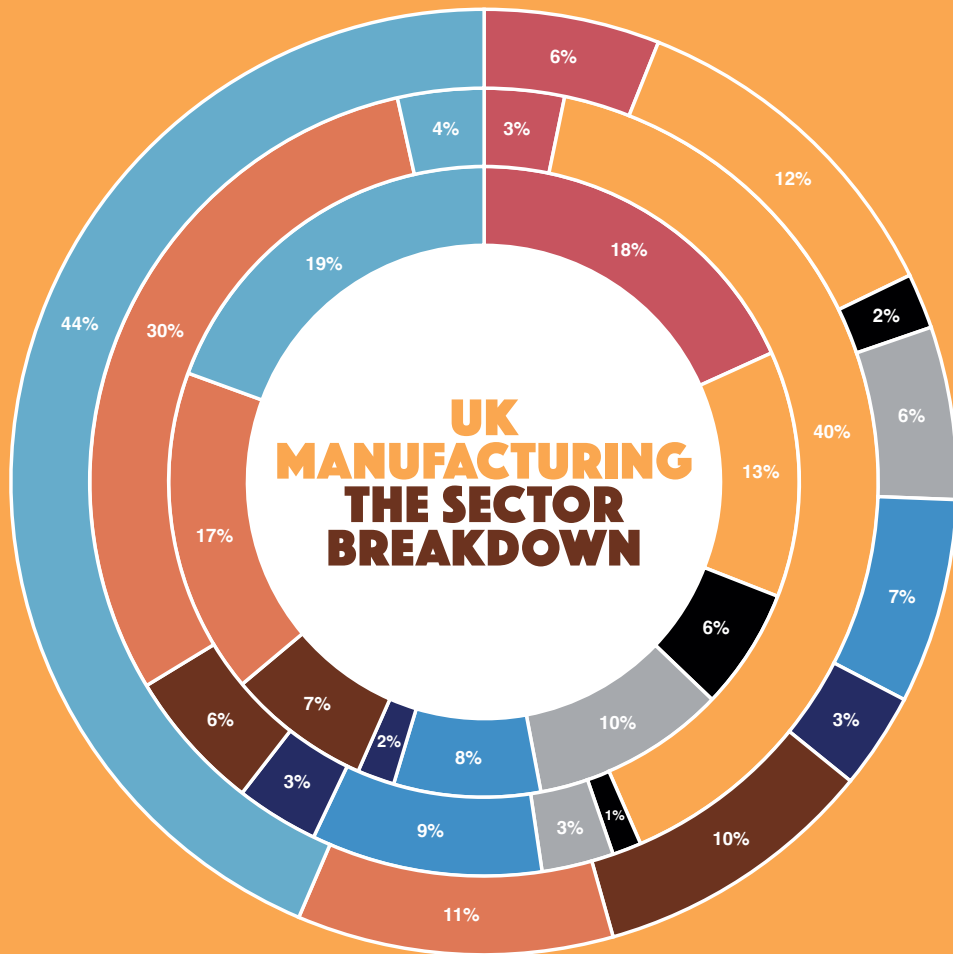
South East

£ 26.6bn ■ 6% ▲ 110.5
 👤 282 ● 7.5% * 122%



* Map colour coded according to value of manufacturing output

** Data for Northern Ireland not available



Outer Circle: Exports of manufactured goods (2024)

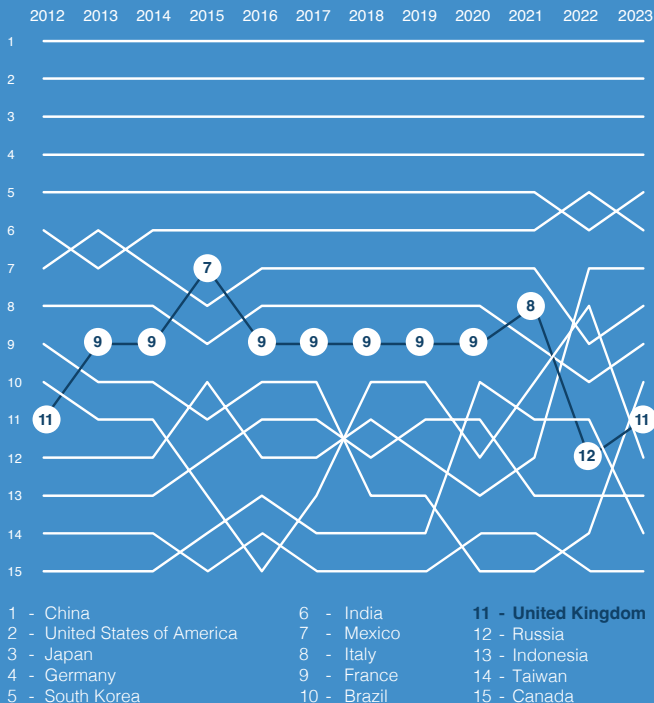
Centre Circle: R&D (2023)

Inner Circle: GVA (2025)

-  Food & Drink
-  Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals
-  Rubber, plastics & non-metallic minerals
-  Metals
-  Electronics
-  Electrical Equipment
-  Machinery
-  Transport
-  Other manufacturing*

TOP 15 WORLD RANKING

The UK is in the top 15
largest manufacturing economies



MANUFACTURING JOBS REMAIN BETTER PAID

Mean annual gross pay (£)



Manufacturing
£41,220



Services
£37,559



Whole economy
(all industries & services)
£38,224

Source: ONS - ASHE (2024)

WHICH SUBSECTORS GREW THE MOST IN EXPORT TERMS?

Export value growth 2023-2024

	Food & Drink	0.5%
	Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals	-14%
	Rubber, plastics & non-metallic minerals	-24%
	Metals	0.2%
	Electronics & Electrical equipment	2.4%
	Machinery	-3.4%
	Automotive	-5.1%
	Aerospace & Other Transport	6.6%

Source: UK Trade Info (2023-2024)

MANUFACTURING SECTORS THAT LEAD ON INVESTMENT

.....
Total investment 2024 (£ billion real terms)
.....

Manufacturing
£44.1BN

Food & Drink
£5.8BN

Chemicals &
man-made fibres
£7.8BN

Engineering
& vehicles
£19.5BN

Metals
£4.3BN

Other manufacturing*
£6.5BN

Textiles
£0.2BN

Source: ONS (2025)

*The sum of all sectors not included in the above

WHERE EXPORTS GO

UK's top 10 export and import destinations for manufactured goods (including food & beverage)

Exports value (2024, billion)



United States



Germany



Netherlands



Ireland



France



Belgium



China



Spain



Italy

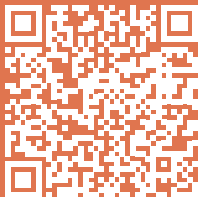


Hong Kong

HOW THE UK COMPARES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

- **UK 15th for export of goods**
2.1% share of total merchandise exports
- **UK 6th for import of goods**
3.2% share of total merchandise imports
- **UK 2nd for service trade**
7.0% share of total services exports
- **UK 6th for GDP 3.6trn US\$**
- **UK 30th for GDP per capita**
52,637 US\$, current prices

**SCAN HERE TO
GET MORE FACTS**



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
& FOLLOW US:**

makeuk.org

