

Bhutan

Imports: CIF, by origin

Exports: FOB, by last known destination

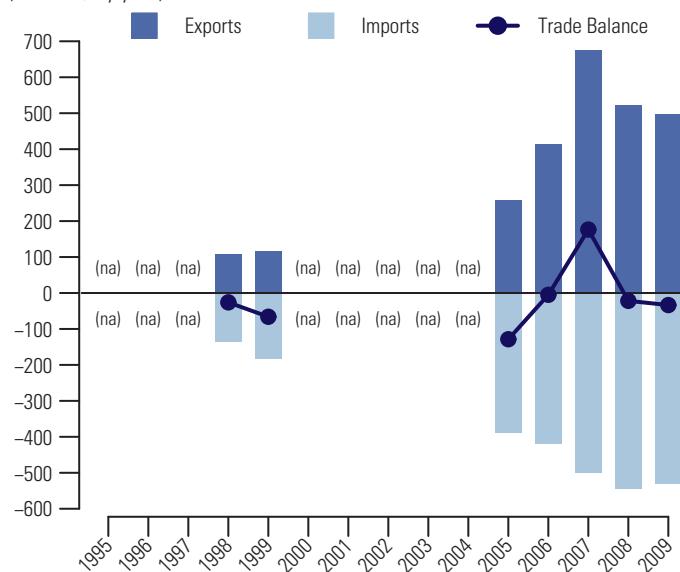
Trade System: General

Overview:

After two years of continuous growth marked by a peak of 674.5 mln US\$ in 2007, the value of Bhutan's exports dropped in 2008 and 2009 to reach 495.8 mln US\$ (see table 1 and graph 1). Imports recorded a peak of 543.3 mln US\$ in 2008 before dropping by 2.6 percent in 2009 to 529.4 mln US\$ (see table 2 and graph 1). The trade balance recorded a deficit of 33.6 mln US\$ in 2009 (see graph 1) with Developed Europe accounting for the majority of the deficit (see graph 2). Trade was also in deficit with South-eastern Asia (-31.6 mln US\$) and Developed Asia-Pacific (-12.0 mln US\$). A trade surplus of 58.9 mln US\$ was recorded with Southern Asia. Trade was concentrated among a few partners: in 2009, 1 major partner accounted for 80 percent of exports compared to 2 major partners for imports (see graph 3).

Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance

(Mln US\$ by year)



Exports Profile:

In 2009, Bhutan's exports were composed largely of mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (SITC section 3) and manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (SITC section 6) (see table 1). They represented, respectively, 42.5 and 37.1 percent of total exports. India was the destination of 93.5 percent of Bhutan's exports (see table 4). In addition to India, other major markets for exports included Bangladesh and China, Hong Kong SAR (see table 4). From 2007 to 2009, top exported commodities were electrical energy (HS code 2716), ginger, saffron, turmeric (curcuma), thyme and other spices (HS code 0910) and ferro-alloys (HS code 7202) (see table 3).

Table 1: Exports by SITC sections

(Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2009	Avg. Growth rates (%)		2009 share
		2005-2009	2008-2009	
Total	495.8	17.7	-4.9	100.0
0+1	30.1	7.7	-88.0	6.1
2+4	29.0	12.4	319.8	5.8
3	210.6	27.4	-17.4	42.5
5	27.9	6.3	76250.4	5.6
6	184.2	18.0	2619.4	37.1
7	0.2	-49.3	1179.3	0.0
8	13.8	-6.7	1902.7	2.8
9	0.0	-4.0	-44.8	0.0

Table 2: Imports by SITC sections

(Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

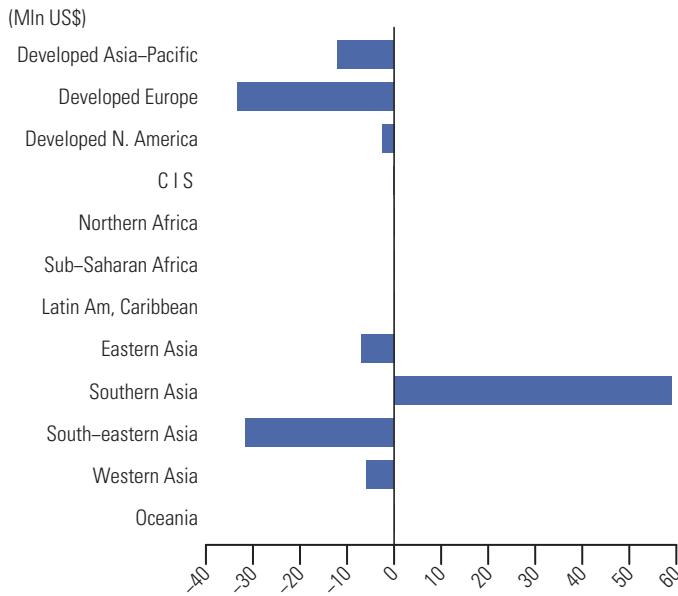
SITC	2009	Avg. Growth rates (%)		2009 share
		2005-2009	2008-2009	
Total	529.4	8.1	-2.6	100.0
0+1	68.1	8.8	4.1	12.9
2+4	46.0	37.1	-30.9	8.7
3	92.8	12.7	-2.1	17.5
5	27.4	2.0	-10.0	5.2
6	107.7	-0.6	-1.2	20.3
7	160.1	9.4	6.1	30.2
8	24.9	5.4	-1.3	4.7
9	2.5	64.6	142.5	0.5

Table 3: Top 10 export commodities 2007 to 2009

(Value in million US\$)

HS code	4-digit heading of Harmonized System 2007	Value (million US\$)			Unit value			SITC code
		2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	
All Commodities.....		674.5	521.4	495.8				
2716 Electrical energy.....		243.0	254.6	208.5	45.2	49.9	38.6	US\$/MWh 351
0910 Ginger, saffron, turmeric (curcuma), thyme, bay leaves, curry and other spices.....		0.3	236.1	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	US\$/kg 075
7202 Ferro-alloys.....		36.3	2.1	90.3	0.9	2.0	1.0	US\$/kg 671
8523 Prepared unrecorded media for sound recording.....		107.8	0.0	12.8	1.2	0.0	1.4 thsd US\$/unit	898
7408 Copper wire.....		79.3	...	20.1	8.0	4.0	US\$/kg	682
2523 Portland cement, aluminous cement, slag cement.....		26.5	0.1	29.5	0.1	0.1	US\$/kg	661
2849 Carbides, whether or not chemically defined.....		18.1	...	21.0	0.7	0.7	US\$/kg	524
1516 Animal or vegetable fats and oils.....		29.7	...	...	1.0		US\$/kg	431
2518 Dolomite, whether or not calcined or sintered.....		9.3	2.7	11.8	0.0	0.0	US\$/kg	278
7214 Other bars and rods of iron or non-alloy steel.....		0.5	0.0	18.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	US\$/kg 676

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2009



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2009

(Cumulative share by ranked partners)

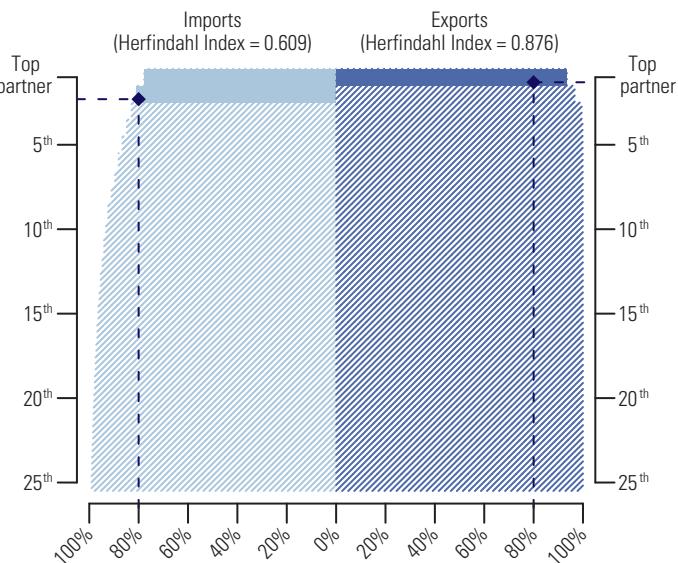


Table 4: Exports by principal countries and SITC sections in 2009

(Value in million US\$, percentages of country total)

Country	Total	Shares by SITC sections (%)									
		0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5	6	7	8	9	Total	
World.....	495.8	6.1	5.8	42.5	5.6	37.1	0.0	2.8	0.0	100	
India.....	463.6	4.1	4.9	45.2	6.0	39.4	0.0	0.2	...	100	
Bangladesh.....	15.7	57.8	36.1	...	...	6.1	...	...	...	100
China, Hong Kong SAR....	14.0	8.6	0.0	...	0.0	0.0	0.0	91.4	...	100	
Nepal.....	1.8	5.7	21.0	44.8	0.0	28.4	...	0.0	0.0	100	
USA.....	0.2	76.0	6.3	...	1.4	6.8	0.5	6.1	2.9	100	
Singapore.....	0.2	99.9	0.0	...	0.1	0.0	...	...	...	100
United Kingdom.....	0.1	0.0	0.0	...	0.2	93.1	...	2.8	3.8	100	
Japan.....	0.1	98.0	0.0	...	0.8	0.7	...	0.5	...	100	
Malaysia.....	0.0	93.3	0.0	...	1.0	0.3	...	5.2	0.3	100	
Belgium.....	0.0	0.0	100.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	100

Imports Profile:

In 2009, imports of machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7) represented 30.2 percent of imported goods (see table 2). Other major commodity groups included manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (SITC section 6) and mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (SITC section 3) respectively with 20.3 and 17.5 percent of imports. From 2007 to 2009, top imported products were petroleum oils, other than crude (HS code 2710), motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport (HS code 8703) and copper wire (HS code 7408) (see table 5).

Table 5: Top 10 import commodities 2007 to 2009

(Value in million US\$)

HS code	4-digit heading of Harmonized System 2007	Value (million US\$)			Unit value			SITC code
		2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	
All Commodities.....		498.1	543.3	529.4				
2710 Petroleum oils, other than crude.....		62.4	64.8	62.4	1.0	1.0	US\$/kg	334
8703 Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport.....		16.1	35.8	24.7	8.2	9.4	6.8 thsd US\$/unit	781
7408 Copper wire.....		31.2	8.4	12.2	4.0	3.4	3.4 US\$/kg	682
1511 Palm oil and its fractions.....		35.0	11.9	0.1	0.7	0.8	US\$/kg	422
1006 Rice.....		13.2	16.1	14.9	0.3	0.3	US\$/kg	042
7203 Ferrous products obtained by direct reduction of iron ore.....		5.6	15.7	20.6	0.4	0.3	US\$/kg	671
7204 Ferrous waste and scrap; remelting scrap ingots of iron or steel.....		9.2	12.2	10.7	0.5	0.3	US\$/kg	282
8429 Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levellers, scrapers.....		6.6	10.0	15.2	8.3	25.0	10.8 thsd US\$/unit	723
8517 Electrical apparatus for line telephony or line telegraphy.....		11.9	8.7	7.7				764
8704 Motor vehicles for the transport of goods.....		8.9	6.3	12.8	18.9	17.8	thsd US\$/unit	782