

*France: Apparel Imports  
from India Decline  
Marginally*



*Source: Apparel India*

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France is a well developed mixed economy with a well established private as well as government sector. France's GDP in terms of PPP in 2009 were \$2.1 trillion. The country is ranked ninth in the world in terms of GDP volume. However, the recent economic crisis had effect on the French economy which led to the overall decline in the volume of GDP and increase in the unemployment ratio. Euro is an official currency of France.

### Key Economic Indicators

Details	Years	Figures
Population	2009	62.6 Million
Population Growth Rate	2010 est.	-3.8%
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) Current Prices in dollars	2009	2,094.0 Billion
GDP Growth	2009	-7.3
Annual Rate of Inflation	2009	0.1
GDP per capita	2009	US\$ 42,412.6
Industry	2009	19%
Ports and terminals	2009	Bordeaux, Calais, Dunkerque, Le Havre, Marseille, Nantes, Paris, Rouen, Strasbourg

France's global imports was to the tune of US\$ 486.7 billion in the year 2009 showing a decline of 29 per cent and India had a share of only 0.5 per cent as 31st supplier country. RMG constituted 3.6 per cent share in France's total imports and woven and knit apparel ranked as twelfth and fifteenth largest products imported by France.

The EU region constituted 22.1 per cent share in world RMG imports. As per UN, France appeared as the third largest importer of RMG in EU Group and sixth largest in World with 13.90 & 6.03 per cent share respectively.

The table below depicts share of Woven Apparel and Knit Apparel in RMG Imports of France during the last 3 years:

HS	Description	Value of Imports in million dollars			% Share			% Change
		2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2009/2008
	<b>RMG</b>	<b>21033.8</b>	<b>23107.6</b>	<b>18929.1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-18.0</b>
62	Woven Apparel	11310.9	12826.3	10214.8	53.8	55.5	54.0	-20.4
61	Knitted Apparel	9722.9	10281.3	8714.3	46.2	44.5	46.0	-15.2

Source: UN Comtrade

In the France's total import of apparel in 2009 India's share was 5.5 per cent which has increased by 0.3 per cent from the previous year, though the import growth from India had declined.

### Major Supplier Countries for Apparel

Rank in 2009	Partner Name	2007	2008	2009
	World	19863.4	22024.3	19789.4
1	China	5167.8	6429.5	6297.7
2	Italy	1942.9	2215.4	1918.9
3	Bangladesh	968.9	1185.9	1184.8
4	Tunisia	1351.3	1441.7	1172.5
5	Turkey	1180.7	1360.1	1163.3

The above table shows that China was the largest supplier country of RMG in 2009 leaving behind Italy followed by the Bangladesh, Tunisia and Turkey. China's share has improved significantly in the last 5 years, from 14.3 per cent in 2004 to 31.8 per cent in 2009.

India's rank kept fluctuating over the years and reached seventh position in 2009. India was the eighth major supplier country in 2004, increased to seventh position in 2009. Share of India has increased from 4.3 per cent in 2004 to 5.5 per cent in 2009, though, showing a decline in percentage growth terms.

Share and position of Bangladesh has also improved significantly among major suppliers from sixth largest supplier country in 2004 to third largest supplier country in 2009 with 6 per cent share.

### Imports from India at the 4 Digit HS Code level

Value in Million US\$							
Product Code	Product Name	2009	2009	% Change 2009/2008	RMG Imports from India, 2009	% Share	% Change 2009/2008
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19789.4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-10.1</b>	<b>1082.8</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>-6.2</b>
6204	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles	3150.0	15.9	-12.1	197.1	6.3	-2.3
6110	Jerseys, pullovers, knitted or crocheted	2855.5	14.4	-9.8	68.5	2.4	-3.4
6203	Men's or boys' suits,	2059.2	10.4	-14.2	58.2	2.8	-13.8
6109	T-shirts, singlets and other vests, knitted or crocheted	1923.5	9.7	-11.7	170.5	8.9	-12.8
6104	Women's or girls' suits	894.0	4.5	4.7	54.5	6.1	-2.2

Source: UN Comtrade



Above given five product groups in table constituted 55 per cent share in France's total RMG imports from India. India's share is only 5 per cent for these top 5 product groups.

There are 5 product groups in which imports from India grew by more than 10 per cent. Below is the detail of all 5 items where India registered more than 10 percent growth:

HS Code	Product Name	Import from India 2009	%age Share of RMG 2009	Import from RoW, 2009	India's Share in %	% Change 2009/2008
6212	Brassieres, girdles, corsets, braces,	2.5	3.1	265.8	0.9	357.5
6101	Men's or boys' overcoats, car coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks	2.5	0.3	61.3	4.1	243.4
6117	Other made up clothing accessories, knitted	4.1	0.5	100.9	4.1	19.4
6201	Men's or boys' overcoats, car-coats	7.3	2.7	529.5	1.4	17.7
6102	Women's or girls' overcoats, car-co	3.5	0.6	121.3	2.9	14.5

There are 11 commodities at HS 4 in which India's growth has declined in 2009. Import of products Men/Boy suits (HS Code 6103) has severely affected with a decrease of 39.5 per cent in 2009. Import of women or girls blouse items (HS Code 6106) decreased by 29.1 per cent with value amounted to US\$ 32.9 million. Import of products Women/Girl Blouses, Shirt, etc has maximum share of 10.1 per cent among the 11 products and saw a decline of 29.1 per cent in 2009.

Five Products (from 11 products) in which import from India declined:

S.No.	HS Code	Product Name	RMG Import from ROW2009	% Share in 2009	RMG Import from India2009	India's % Share in 2009	% Change India 2009/2008
1	6103	Men's or boys' suits, ensembles	138.0	0.7	4.7	3.4	-39.5
2	6106	Women's or girls' blouses, shirts a	323.4	1.6	32.9	10.2	-29.1
3	6112	Track suits, ski suits and swimwear	265.8	1.3	0.4	0.2	-47.2
4	6113	Garments, made up of knitted or cro	40.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	-56.5
5	6116	Gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted	143.9	0.7	3.6	2.5	-31.1

Source: UN Comtrade

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**Image Courtesy:** grooveeffect.com