



Western Cape Trade and Investments with Uzbekistan

11 February 2026

1 KEY POINTS

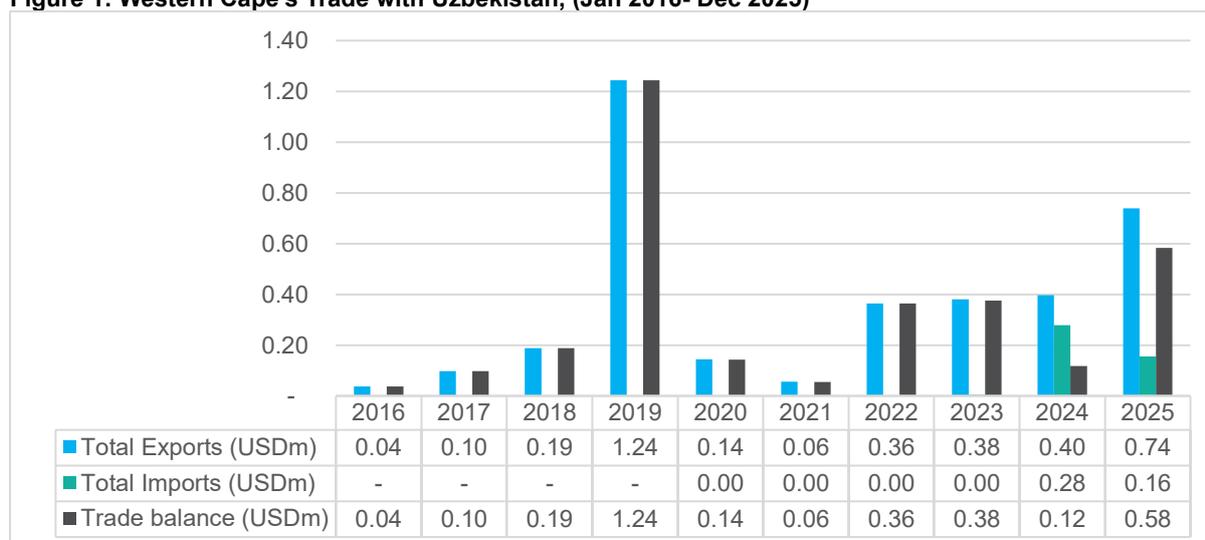
This report aims to present a snapshot overview of trade, Investment and tourism flows between the Western Cape and Uzbekistan.

1. Western Cape Trade with Uzbekistan

The Western Cape's trade relationship with Uzbekistan remains modest in scale, though it has recorded notable growth in recent years. In 2025, the province's export receipts from trade with Uzbekistan totalled USD0.74m, representing an increase of 86.32% y-o-y from a value of USD0.40m earned in 2024. This can be observed in Figure 1. In turn, the province's imports from Uzbekistan cost a total of USD0.16m in 2025, a decline of 43.93% y-o-y relative to the cost of USD0.28m recorded in 2024. It is noteworthy that export earnings associated with trade with Uzbekistan have grown substantially over the decade 2016-2025, rising from a negligible USD0.04m to USD0.74m, an approximately 18.92% increase over the period. Imports from Uzbekistan were entirely absent prior to 2020 and have remained marginal throughout the period under consideration, only first registering a measurable value of USD0.28m in 2024.

The province has maintained a positive trade balance with Uzbekistan throughout the full decade under review. Most recently, this trade surplus totalled USD0.58m in 2025, the highest recorded since a notable spike of USD1.24m in 2019, the latter having been driven entirely by export activity in the absence of any recorded imports during that year.

Figure 1: Western Cape's Trade with Uzbekistan, (Jan 2016- Dec 2025)



Source: Quantec (2026)

Looking at the province's top ten export markets, the Netherlands was the leading destination market for the Western Cape's exports in 2025, as shown in Table 1. Valued at USD1.31bn, these exports accounted for 12.70% of the province's global export earnings in 2025. The United Kingdom placed second: the province's exports to this country were valued at USD0.95bn in 2025. The United States was in third place, having received goods to the value of USD0.86bn from the Western Cape. In 2025, Uzbekistan was the Western Cape's 142nd largest export market, with export receipts valued at USD0.74m.

On the import front, China was the leading source market for goods imported by the province, with imports from this country having cost USD3.59bn in 2025. India ranked second with total imports valued at USD1.59bn. Oman was in third place, with imports having reached a total value of USD1.16bn in 2025. Uzbekistan was the Western Cape's 121st largest import source market in 2025, with goods from that country having cost the province USD0.16m.

Table 1: Western Cape's top 10 export and import markets, 2025.

TOP 10 COUNTRIES FOR WC EXPORTS, 2025				TOP 10 COUNTRIES FOR WC IMPORTS, 2025			
RANK	COUNTRY	VALUE 2025 (USDbn)	% AVE GROWTH, 2021-2025	RANK	COUNTRY	VALUE 2025 (USDbn)	% AVE GROWTH, 2021-2025
1	Netherlands	1.31	12.70%	1	China	3.59	10.54%
2	United Kingdom	0.95	5.58%	2	India	1.59	36.64%
3	United States	0.86	7.56%	3	Oman	1.16	38.71%
4	Namibia	0.84	6.66%	4	United Arab Emirates	1.15	24.08%
5	China	0.64	10.81%	5	United States	1.09	24.31%
6	United Arab Emirates	0.52	17.18%	6	Saudi Arabia	0.83	7.17%
7	Botswana	0.34	-0.99%	7	Angola	0.81	416.50%
8	Russian Federation	0.33	10.80%	8	Nigeria	0.77	39.79%
9	Germany	0.33	0.94%	9	Italy	0.65	24.11%
10	Zimbabwe	0.30	20.69%	10	Germany	0.60	6.77%
142	Uzbekistan	0.00	117.45%	121	Uzbekistan	0.00	1,576.35%
Total exports		12.33	8.54%	Total imports		18.97	12.11%

Source: Quantec (2026)

As reflected in Table 2, the Western Cape's leading export product to Uzbekistan in 2025 were instruments and apparatus for physical or chemical analysis. At a value of USD447,652.59, this was equivalent to 60.60% of the value of the province's total exports to the country in that year. Citrus fruit, fresh or dried placed second, with exports of this product valued at USD284,676.40. In third place was the export category of pumps for liquids, whether or not fitted with a measuring device, at a value of USD4,769.35. The export product of citrus fruit, fresh or dried was the fastest-growing export category, having recorded a five-year average growth rate of 122.67% from 2021 to 2025.

The Western Cape's top imported product from Uzbekistan in 2025 was radar apparatus, radio navigational aid apparatus and radio remote control apparatus, which is also shown in Table 2. At a value of USD154,382.57, this was equivalent to 98.92% of the cost of the province's total imports from Uzbekistan in that year. Pumps for liquids, whether or not fitted with a measuring device was the second-largest import category, having cost the province USD1,523.93; while machines and mechanical appliances having individual functions, placed third at a value of USD129.31. The fastest-growing import category during the period 2021–2025 were radar apparatus, radio navigational aid apparatus and radio remote control apparatus; pumps for liquids, whether or not fitted with a measuring device; machines and mechanical appliances having individual functions; footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of textile materials, and babies' garments and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted, which all had a five-year annual average growth rate of 20.00%.

Table 2: Western Cape's top 10 traded products with Uzbekistan, 2024

WESTERN CAPE'S TOP 10 EXPORTS TO UZBEKISTAN, 2021 - 2025				WESTERN CAPE'S TOP 10 IMPORTS FROM UZBEKISTAN, 2021 - 2025			
RANK	PRODUCT	VALUE (USD'000'), 2025	AVE GROWTH %, 2021-2025	RANK	PRODUCT	VALUE (USD'000'), 2025	AVE GROWTH %, 2021-2025
1	Instruments and apparatus for physical or chemical analysis	447 652.59	20.00%	1	Radar apparatus, radio navigational aid apparatus, and radio remote control apparatus	154 382.57	20.00%
2	Citrus fruit, fresh or dried	284 676.40	122.67%	2	Pumps for liquids, whether or not fitted with a	1 523.93	20.00%

					measuring device		
3	Pumps for liquids, whether or not fitted with a measuring device	4 769.35	20.00%	3	Machines and mechanical appliances having individual functions,	129.31	20.00%
4	Gaskets and similar joints of metal sheeting combined with other material or of two or more layers of metal	1 438.90	20.00%	4	Footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of textile materials	21.44	20.00%
5	Articles of apparel, clothing accessories and other articles of fur skin	210.80	20.00%	5	Babies' garments and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	5.39	20.00%
6	Other live animals	11.22	20.00%	6	Wheat and meslin	0.00	0.00%
7	Live poultry, that is to say, fowls of the species Gallus domesticus	-	0.00%	7	Sunflower seeds, whether or not broken	0.00	0.00%
8	Live fish	-	0.00%	8	Seeds, fruit and spores, of a kind used for sowing	0.00	0.00%
9	Locust beans, seaweeds and other algae, sugar beet and sugar cane	-	-20.00%	9	Fruit, dried, other than that of headings 08.01 to 08.06	0.00	0.00%
10	Birds' eggs, in shell, fresh, preserved or cooked	-	0.00%	10	Registers, account books, note books, order books, receipt books	0.00	0.00%
Total exports		738 759.27	117.45%	Total imports		156 062.63	1576.35%

Source: Quantec (2026)

2. Foreign Direct Investment

This section analyses FDI flows between Uzbekistan and the Western Cape over the period 2016-2025. As reported by FDI Markets, from January 2016 to December 2025, there was no FDI recorded either from Uzbekistan to South Africa and the Western Cape or from the Western Cape or South Africa to the Uzbekistan over the period analysed.

Disclaimer

Wesgro has taken every effort to ensure that the information in this publication is accurate. We provide said information without representation or warranty whatsoever, whether expressed or implied. It is the responsibility of users of this publication to satisfy themselves of the accuracy of information contained herein. Wesgro cannot be held responsible for the contents of the publication in any way.

© Wesgro, 2026