

# **VIII. Macro- and Structural Changes in the European Economy, 1500 - 1750**

**B. Money and Monetary Movements in Early-  
Modern Europe: during the eras of the Price  
Revolution and General Crisis of the 17<sup>th</sup>  
century**

**revised 19 January 2012**

14. **18 January 2012**

**Brady**, ch. 5 (Munro, esp. pp. 172-75);

**Davis**, chs. 3-6, 9-11;

**Cipolla**, ch. 10 (pp. 234-59)

**de Vries**, ch. 1;

**ET 7**

**15**

**MONETARY CHANGES:**

**South German and American Silver:** the Price Revolution (1520-1640) era;

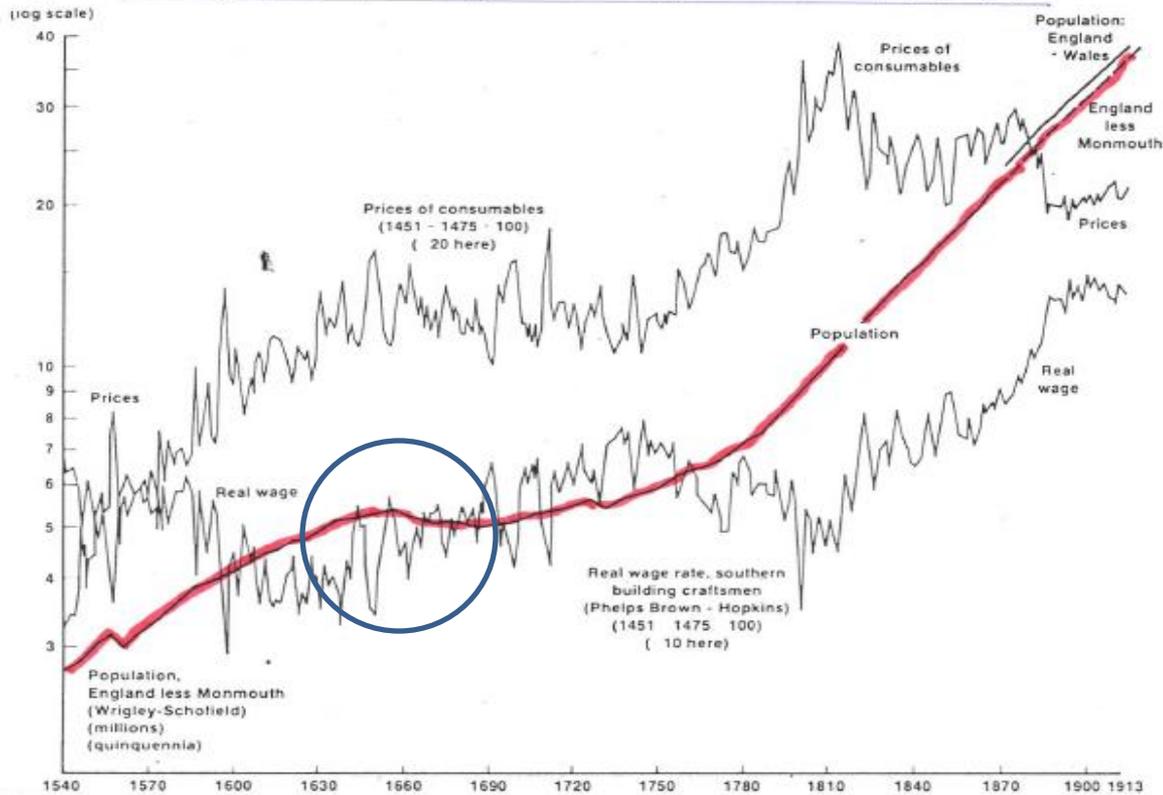
**The era of the ‘General Crisis’:** Decline of American Silver Imports; Bullion Outflows to Asia and the Baltic (1640-1750);

**Brazilian gold mining from late 17th century;** revival of Mexican and Peruvian silver mining in the 18th century

# Population and Money in the early-modern European economy 1

- Population and money in the Price Revolution era (1520-1640) and General Crisis era (1620-1740):
- - last day (in the demography lecture) we considered (again) the famous **Lindert graph**, which suggests:
- - **a positive correlation between population movements and prices**: during the inflationary Price Revolution and deflationary General Crisis era
- - **a negative correlation between population movements and real wages**: a vindication of the Malthusian model?
- - especially in that **English population and prices reached their peak together in the 1640s**,
- - and with falling real wages, until population ceased to grow, in the 1650s

Fig. 1 Real Wages, Prices, and Population in England and Wales, 1541-1913



$$RWI = NWI/CPI$$

The Real Wage Index = Nominal Wage Index divided by the Consumer Price Index

Peter Lindert, 'English Population, Wages, and Prices: 1541 - 1913', *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 15 (Spring 1985), 614.

# Population & Money in the early-modern European economy 2

- **what role did monetary changes play in these changes?**
- **- Theme of this and the next lecture: 'money matters' - always, without exceptions**
- **- While real (demographic) factors can never be neglected, neither can monetary factors**
- **- neglecting monetary factors is a sign of economic illiteracy!**

# Monetary Changes in early modern Europe, 1500 – 1640

- (1) **The Age of Gold, ca. 1460- ca. 1520**
- (a) **so-called, because gold coinages had predominated in western Europe (over silver)**
- (2) **The Age of Silver, ca. 1520 – ca. 1660**
- (3) **The Age of Copper and return to Gold: ca. 1660 – ca. 1730**
- (4) **The role of banking and paper credit instruments: esp. from 1520s, but especially from the 1660s: later topic**

**ENGLAND: SILVER AND GOLD COINAGE OUTPUTS:**

**in kg. fine metal and in £ sterling values  
in quinquennial means: 1426-30 to 1596-1600**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>SILVER<br/>Total<br/>kilograms</b> | <b>SILVER<br/>Value<br/>£ sterling</b> | <b>GOLD<br/>Total<br/>kilograms</b> | <b>GOLD<br/>Value<br/>£ sterling</b> | <b>TOTAL<br/>VALUES<br/>in £ sterling</b> | <b>Percent<br/>Silver</b> | <b>Percent<br/>Gold</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1426-30     | 6,858.608                             | 31,785.107                             | 599.478                             | 28,703.069                           | 60,488.176                                | <b>52.55%</b>             | <b>47.45%</b>           |
| 1431-35     | 8,059.545                             | 37,350.656                             | 220.785                             | 10,571.183                           | 47,921.839                                | <b>77.94%</b>             | <b>22.06%</b>           |
| 1436-40     | 977.025                               | 4,527.863                              | 132.274                             | 6,333.298                            | 10,861.161                                | <b>41.69%</b>             | <b>58.31%</b>           |
| 1441-45     | 130.700                               | 605.707                                | 90.778                              | 4,346.467                            | 4,952.174                                 | <b>12.23%</b>             | <b>87.77%</b>           |
| 1446-50     | 517.373                               | 2,397.681                              | 64.336                              | 3,080.422                            | 5,478.103                                 | <b>43.77%</b>             | <b>56.23%</b>           |
| 1451-55     | 1,460.637                             | 6,769.085                              | 63.526                              | 3,041.629                            | 9,810.714                                 | <b>69.00%</b>             | <b>31.00%</b>           |
| 1456-60     | 1,415.094                             | 6,558.024                              | 26.719                              | 1,279.288                            | 7,837.312                                 | <b>83.68%</b>             | <b>16.32%</b>           |
| 1461-65     | 3,432.915                             | 18,067.349                             | 488.118                             | 29,731.331                           | 47,798.679                                | <b>37.80%</b>             | <b>62.20%</b>           |
| 1466-70     | 5,168.090                             | 29,938.348                             | 1,288.157                           | 83,263.992                           | 113,202.339                               | <b>26.45%</b>             | <b>73.55%</b>           |
| 1471-75     | 2,422.654                             | 14,034.247                             | 538.669                             | 34,818.552                           | 48,852.799                                | <b>28.73%</b>             | <b>71.27%</b>           |
| 1476-80     | 834.683                               | 4,835.252                              | 404.477                             | 26,144.624                           | 30,979.875                                | <b>15.61%</b>             | <b>84.39%</b>           |
| 1481-85     | 995.231                               | 5,765.296                              | 219.449                             | 14,184.753                           | 19,950.049                                | <b>28.90%</b>             | <b>71.10%</b>           |
| 1486-90     | 926.785                               | 5,368.794                              | 129.749                             | 8,386.730                            | 13,755.524                                | <b>39.03%</b>             | <b>60.97%</b>           |
| 1491-95     | 1,270.840                             | 7,361.876                              | 268.983                             | 17,386.525                           | 24,748.402                                | <b>29.75%</b>             | <b>70.25%</b>           |
| 1496-00     | 2,490.940                             | 14,429.823                             | 278.926                             | 18,029.238                           | 32,459.060                                | <b>44.46%</b>             | <b>55.54%</b>           |
| 1501-05     | 4,313.544                             | 24,988.026                             | 516.604                             | 33,392.271                           | 58,380.297                                | <b>42.80%</b>             | <b>57.20%</b>           |
| 1506-10     | 3,633.212                             | 21,046.916                             | 1,523.115                           | 98,451.267                           | 119,498.183                               | <b>17.61%</b>             | <b>82.39%</b>           |
| 1511-15     | 1,089.012                             | 6,308.562                              | 694.599                             | 44,897.564                           | 51,206.126                                | <b>12.32%</b>             | <b>87.68%</b>           |
| 1516-20     | 79.145                                | 458.481                                | 743.656                             | 48,068.530                           | 48,527.011                                | <b>0.94%</b>              | <b>99.06%</b>           |
| 1521-25     | 3,148.207                             | 18,237.317                             | 442.136                             | 28,578.780                           | 46,816.096                                | <b>38.96%</b>             | <b>61.04%</b>           |

# Gold crown of Henry VIII: from 1526



# Portugal and the Age of Gold - 1

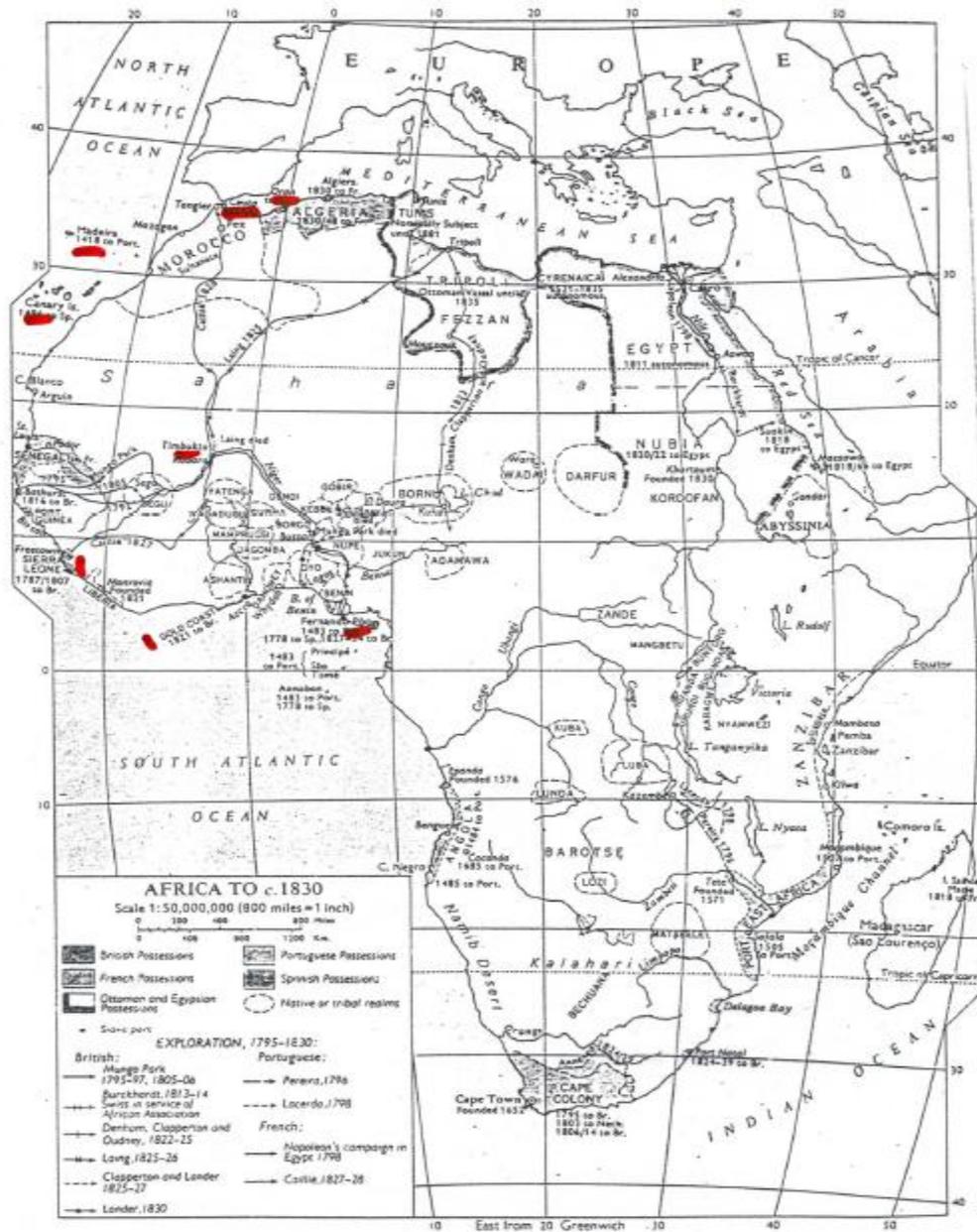
- 1) **Gold may have become relatively scarcer than silver:** by the 1450s
- -(a) **Why?** because bimetallic gold:silver ratio had risen from 9.5:1 in late 14<sup>th</sup> century, to 10:1 ca. 1400 to 11:5 (or even 12:1) by the 1450s.
- -(b) → **incentives to find new sources of gold:**
- -(c) **Portugal:** first to pursue these objectives -- in West Africa, from 1440s: as seen last semester

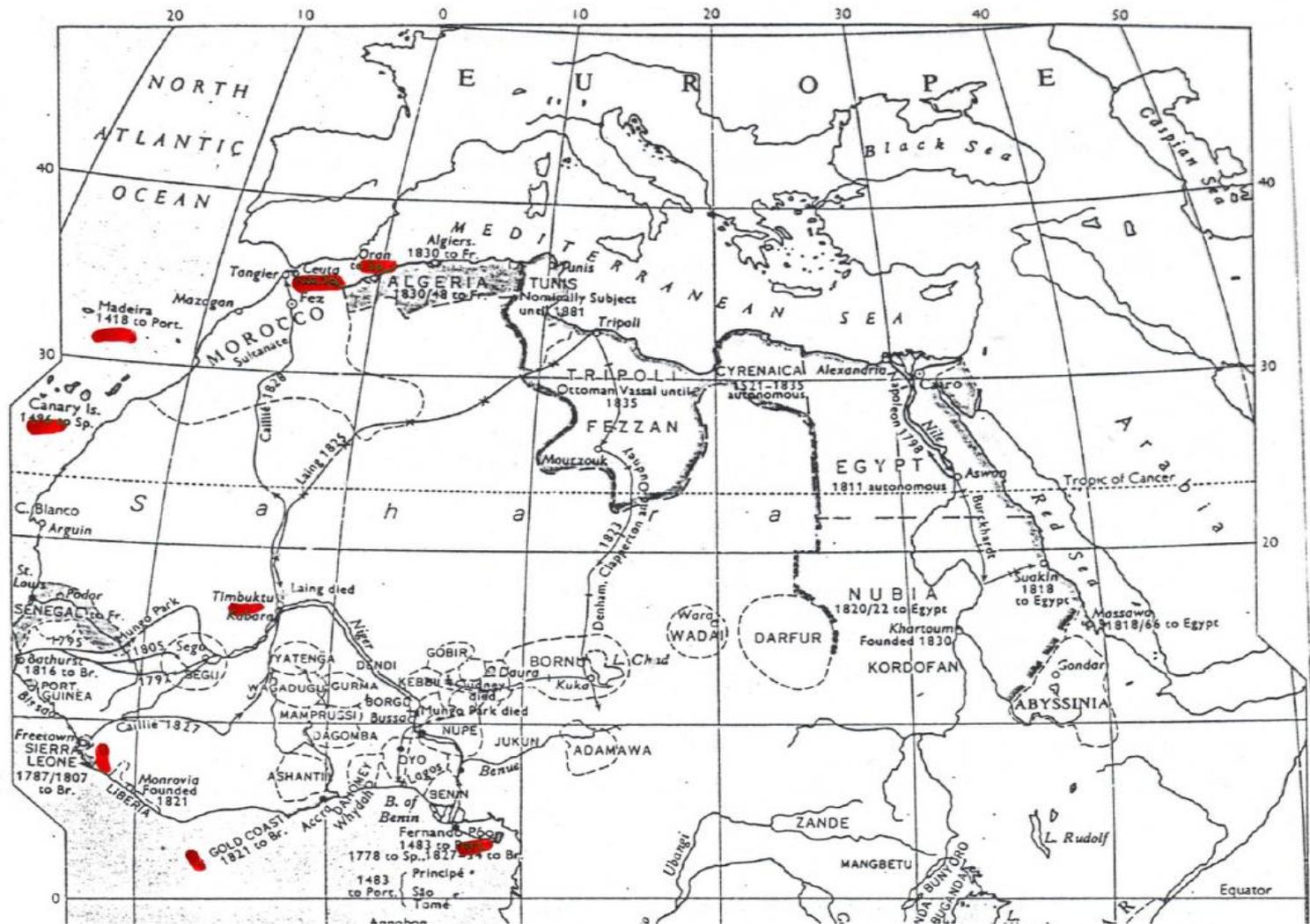
# Portugal and the Age of Gold - 2

- 2) **Portugal and West Africa:**
- a) **Portugal's role in inaugurating European overseas explorations, colonization, and imperialism: last term**
- - **initial, principal object:** to re-establish links with the West African gold trade, doing so now by sea (not overland)
- b) **The former, trans-Saharan gold supplies had become seriously diminished, if not totally cut off from 1360s,** after the collapse of the once mighty Mali Empire'
- c) **the successor Songhai Empire was too weak and chaotic** to protect the gold-trade routes across Sahara to North African ports (for trade with the Italians and Spanish)

# Portugal and the Age of Gold - 3

- d) **by 1440s, Portuguese reached bulge of West Africa:** Senegal, Gambia, and Guinea, acquiring their first African gold supplies
- -e) **1460s & 1470s: established trading posts along Gold Coast** (modern-day Ghana, Nigeria)
- - f) **1479: Treaty of Alcaçovas with Spain:** giving Portugal monopoly on African trade
- -g) **1481-82: fortress of San Jorge da Mina** on Gold Coast







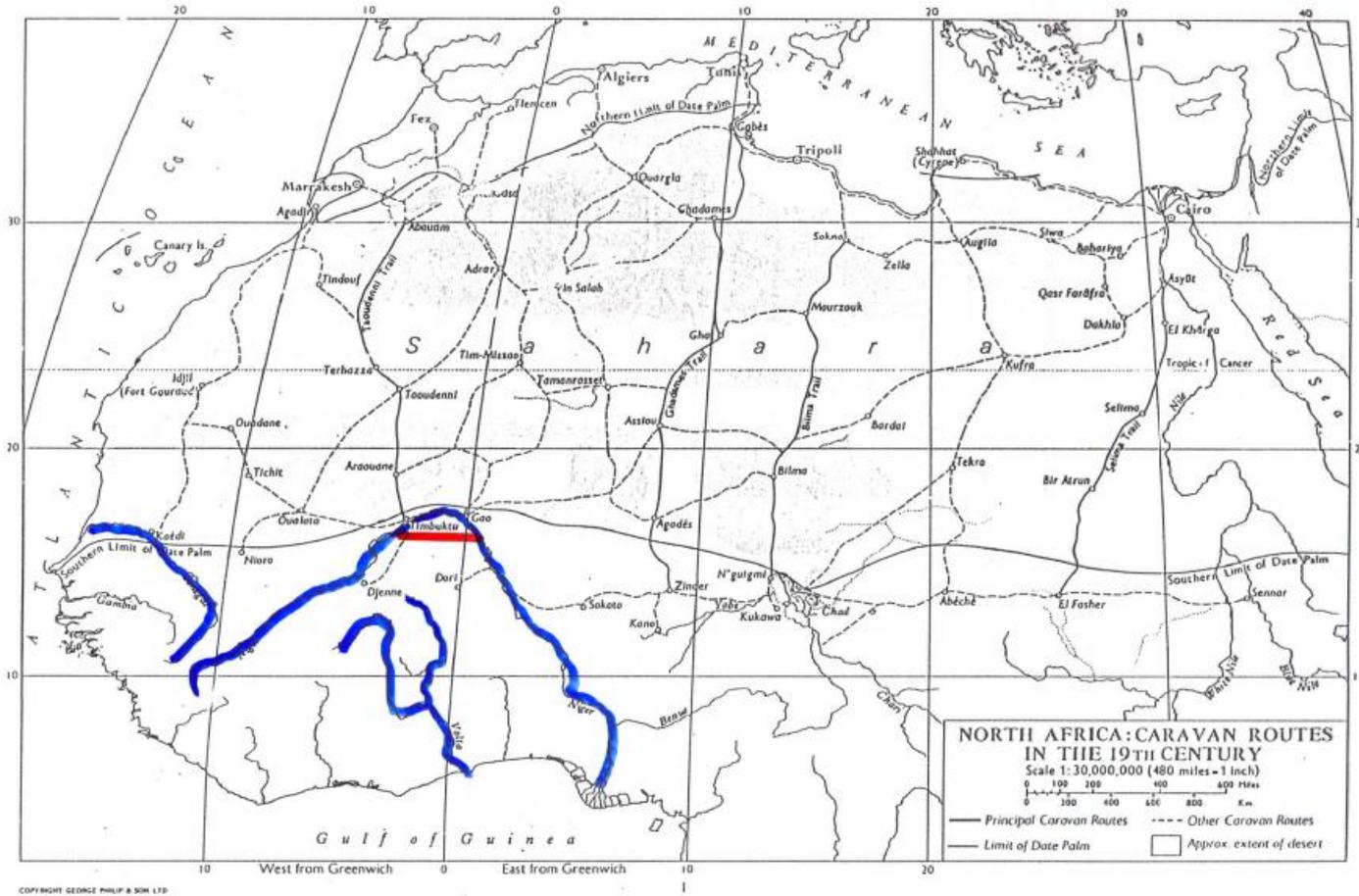
# Portugal and the Age of Gold - 4

- 3) **Economics of the Portuguese Gold Trade with Africa**
- a) **Portugal succeeded in restoring the African gold supplies to Europe,**
- b) **Major sources of West African gold:**
  - - **Bambuk:** on Upper Senegal River
  - - **Mali:** on Upper Niger River
  - - **Lobi:** on Upper Volta

# Portugal and the Age of Gold - 5

- c) **Portuguese forced to trade with West African states:** which denied Europeans any direct access to gold mines
  - - **Jolofs and Mandinga:** in Senegambia
  - - **Ardra and Yoruba:** in Lower Guinea
  - - **Benin and Warri:** in Niger river delta
- d) **West Africans kept an advantage in bargaining for the gold trade:**
  - -keeping a balance between traditional Arab traders (to Mamluk Egypt) and Portuguese:
- e) **but by end of 15<sup>th</sup> century, barter terms of trade turned against Portuguese-**
  - - **1470 to 1500: Portuguese exported 17 metric tonnes of gold;**
  - - **1500 to 1550:** exported another 19 tonnes (less per year on average)

# Gold Mines in West Africa: Senegal, Niger, Volta Rivers



# The Portuguese Gold Trade in West Africa (the Gold Coast)

in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries



## Portuguese Gold Exports from West Africa, 1480 – 1560

### From Sao Jorge da Mina: Official Gold Exports

WANGARA, AKAH, AND PORTUGUESE IN THE FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH CENTURIES

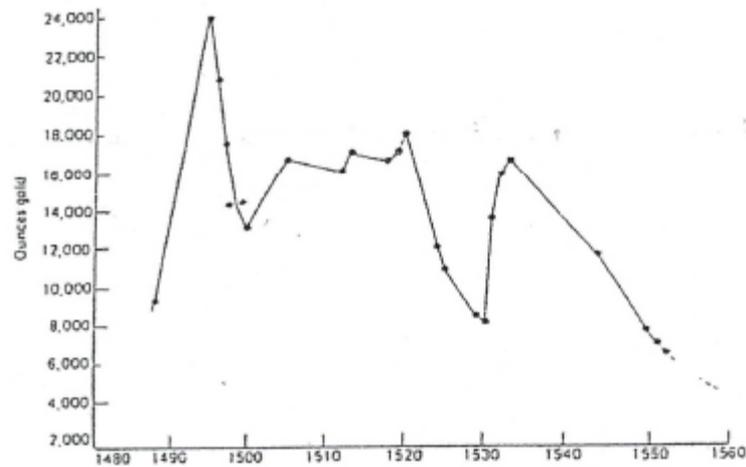


FIGURE 1: SÃO JORGE DA MINA: OFFICIAL GOLD EXPORTS, 1480-1560

# Portugal and the Age of Gold - 6

- 4) **Portugal: new sources of gold after 1530**
- - **Southern Africa:** Angola (west) and Mozambique (east)
- - **South America:** Brazil
- - **note: Papal treaty of Tordesillas 1494:** carving up the non-European world between Spain and Portugal: dividing line gave Brazil to Portugal (rest of the Americas to Spain)
- - **Brazil would come to be chief source of gold** for European economy from 1690s to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century

# Gold and Silver in the Early Modern Economy

- 1) **Gold Problem and Its Importance:**
- a) **If SILVER was major monetary metal for domestic trade and the basis for almost all money-of-account pricing systems**, what impact did increased gold supplies have?
- b) **More gold meant less silver had to be used in foreign trade (especially within Europe itself):** i.e.,  $\Delta$  gold liberated more silver to be used in the domestic economy
- **→** inflationary effects of  $\Delta$  gold were indirect and secondary
- 2) **For global expansion of European trade** – with Asia, Levant, Baltic & Russia – **silver and not gold was the major metal** exported (to resolve balance of payments)
- 3) **Hence importance of following AGE OF SILVER:**

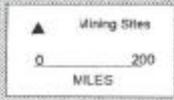
# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 1

- (1) **The Central European Mining Boom: Origins**
- a) **as previously seen: deflation (low prices) of 1450s**, raising purchasing power of silver → thus providing the key incentives for:
- b) **technological changes in mining & smelting**
- (i) **In mechanical engineering: - drainage pumps** (water- and horse-powered) to permit much deeper mining shafts and drainage adits
- (ii) **In chemical engineering: the Saigerhütten process to separate silver from copper in argentiferous-cupric ores: using lead** in smelting the ores (lead combines with silver): with water-powered blast furnaces

# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 2

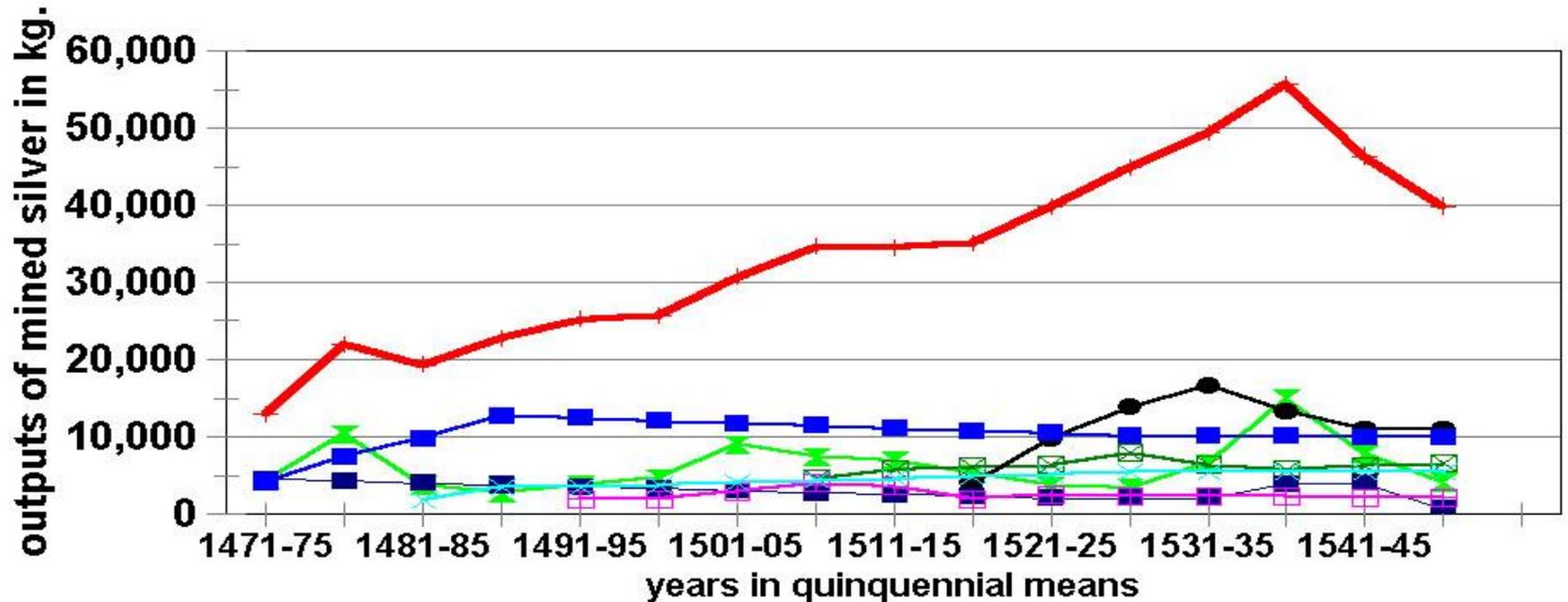
- (2) **Central European Mining Boom: Expansion to Peak**
- a) **These ores were always the main source of silver in South Germany, and Central Europe:**
- but there had been no known means of separating the two metals, nor of reaching deeper ores
- b) **Increased output of European mined silver five-fold** from the 1460s to the 1540s: to a peak output of almost 56,000 kg in late 1530s.
- c) **Importance:** this mining boom was, in my view, the initial monetary cause of the ensuing inflationary **Price Revolution** from 1520s – but not the only cause

Trading, Tourism,  
and Silver-mining Centers  
of Late Medieval Western Europe



# German-Central European Silver Mining

## silver outputs in kg: 1471/5 - 1546/50



—◆— Saxony

—◇— Thuringia

—●— Bohemia: Joachimsthal

—□— Slovakia: Fuggers

—×— Hungary

—■— Tyrol: Schwaz

—+— Total Silver Outputs in kg (est)

| <b>Silver Outputs from the Major South German-Central European Mines<br/>in kilograms of fine metal, in quinquennial means: 1471-75 to 1546-50</b> |                              |                                 |                                 |   |  |   |                                     |                                       |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Years</b>   | <b>SAXONY<br/>Est. Total</b> | <b>THURINGIA<br/>Est. Total</b> | <b>BOHEMIA<br/>Joachimsthal</b> | <b>BOHEMIA<br/>Kutna Hora<br/>Kasperska Hora<br/>in kg.</b> | <b>SLOVAKIA<br/>Fugger-<br/>Thurzo kg<br/>in kg.</b> | <b>HUNGARY<br/>Nagybanya<br/>Körmöcbanya<br/>in kg.</b> | <b>TYROL:<br/>Schwaz<br/>in kg.</b> | <b>TOTAL<br/>Estimated<br/>in kg.</b> |
| <b>1471-75</b>   | 4,360.94                     |                                 |                                 | 4,500.0   |  |   | 4,112.50                            | <b>12,973.44</b>                      |
| <b>1476-80</b>   | 10,317.46                    |                                 |                                 | 4,250.0   |  |   | 7,354.00                            | <b>21,921.46</b>                      |
| <b>1481-85</b>   | 3,743.30                     |                                 |                                 | 4,000.0   |  | 1,800.0   | 9,745.80                            | <b>19,289.10</b>                      |
| <b>1486-90</b>   | 2,770.04                     |                                 |                                 | 3,750.0   |  | 3,523.0   | 12,751.00                           | <b>22,794.04</b>                      |
| <b>1491-95</b>   | 3,757.33                     |                                 |                                 | 3,500.0   | 1,957.12   | 3,523.0   | 12,422.75                           | <b>25,160.21</b>                      |
| <b>1496-1500</b>   | 4,641.69                     |                                 |                                 | 3,250.0   | 1,957.12   | 3,795.9   | 12,094.50                           | <b>25,739.17</b>                      |
| <b>1501-05</b>   | 8,979.23                     |                                 |                                 | 3,000.0   | 2,870.47   | 4,068.7   | 11,766.25                           | <b>30,684.65</b>                      |
| <b>1506-10</b>   | 7,416.41                     | 4,626.19                        |                                 | 2,750.0   | 3,990.76   | 4,341.6   | 11,438.00                           | <b>34,562.92</b>                      |
| <b>1511-15</b>   | 6,925.10                     | 5,713.42                        |                                 | 2,500.0   | 3,632.11   | 4,614.4   | 11,109.75                           | <b>34,494.81</b>                      |
| <b>1516-20</b>   | 5,189.14                     | 6,079.43                        | 3,970.00                        | 2,250.0   | 1,983.07   | 4,887.3   | 10,781.50                           | <b>35,140.43</b>                      |
| <b>1521-25</b>   | 3,701.18                     | 6,301.73                        | 9,703.24                        | 2,000.0   | 2,486.46   | 5,160.1   | 10,453.25                           | <b>39,806.00</b>                      |
| <b>1526-30</b>   | 3,425.12                     | 7,889.16                        | 13,795.32                       | 2,000.0   | 2,269.15   | 5,433.0   | 10,125.00                           | <b>44,936.74</b>                      |
| <b>1531-35</b>   | 6,663.07                     | 6,300.90                        | 16,554.81                       | 2,000.0   | 2,269.15   | 5,433.0   | 10,125.00                           | <b>49,345.92</b>                      |
| <b>1536-40</b>   | 14,973.18                    | 5,734.07                        | 13,248.01                       | 3,947.0   | 2,243.58   | 5,433.0   | 10,125.00                           | <b>55,703.84</b>                      |
| <b>1541-45</b>   | 7,739.26                     | 6,144.00                        | 10,936.85                       | 3,997.0   | 2,141.55   | 5,433.0   | 9,963.49                            | <b>46,355.16</b>                      |
| <b>1546-50</b>   | 4,131.66                     | 6,576.20                        | 10,936.85                       | 700.0   | 2,141.55   | 5,433.0   | 9,963.49                            | <b>39,882.76</b>                      |

**Estimates of Aggregate Silver Production from Central  
European Mines in the Sixteenth Century  
Annual Estimates in Kilograms of Fine Silver**

| <b>Years</b>                         | <b>Germany</b> | <b>Austria-<br/>Hungary</b> | <b>TOTAL</b>         |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>According to Soetbeer (1879):</b> |                |                             |                      |
| <b>1493 - 1520</b>                   | 11,000 kg.     | 24,000 kg.                  | 35,000 kg.           |
| <b>1521 - 1544</b>                   | 15,000 kg.     | 32,000 kg.                  | 47,000 kg.           |
| <b>1545 - 1560</b>                   | 19,400 kg.     | 30,000 kg.                  | 49,400 kg.           |
| <b>1561 - 1580</b>                   | 15,000 kg.     | 23,500 kg.                  | 38,500 kg.           |
| <b>According to Nef (1941)</b>       |                |                             |                      |
| <b>1526-1535</b>                     | 35,100 kg.     | 49,100 kg.                  | 84,200 kg. (minimum) |
|                                      |                | 56,100 kg.                  | 91,200 kg. (maximum) |

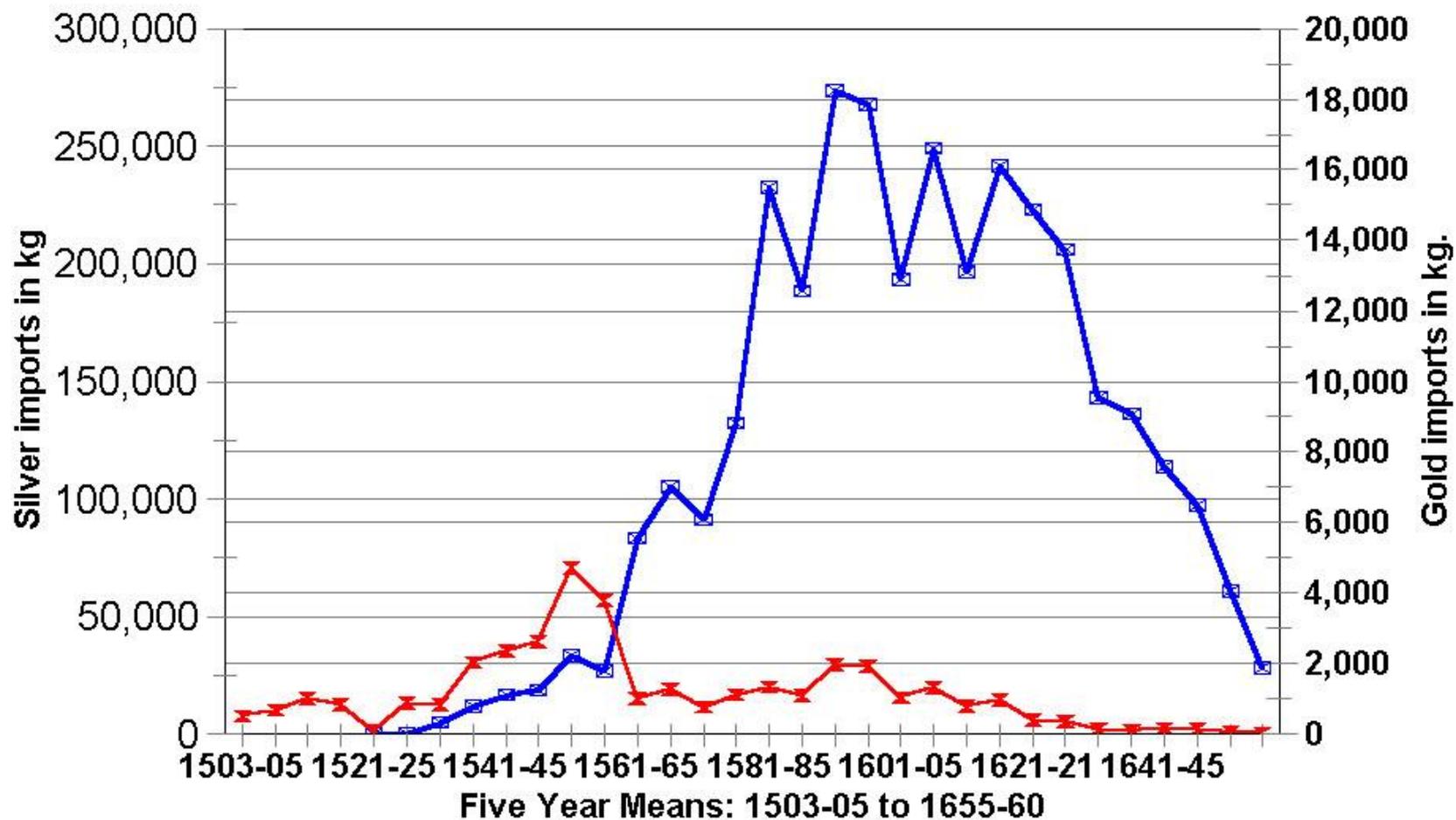
# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 3

- - 3) **Central European Mining Boom: Peak and Decline**
- a) **by 1530s, the mining boom had reached its peak,**
- - also: much less silver was being diverted via Venice to the Levant and Asia – though some was exported from Antwerp, in Portuguese ships: going to Asia for the spice trades
- b) **Rapid decline of mining boom from 1540s**
- - **victim of depletion,** diminishing returns (rising costs)
- - **civil wars in South Germany:** Catholics vs Protestants
- - **most important reason: cheaper supplies of silver** were now arriving from the Spanish Americas

# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 4

- - 4) **Silver from the Spanish Americas: 1520 – 1660**
- a) **Portuguese in Brazil**: found important new sources of gold here; but no silver
- b) **Spanish in Peru (Bolivia) and Mexico**
- - **initially found only gold, but then far more silver**, in both Central and South America
- - **but Spanish silver imports did not surpass those of Central European mines until the 1560s:**
  - see graph and tables

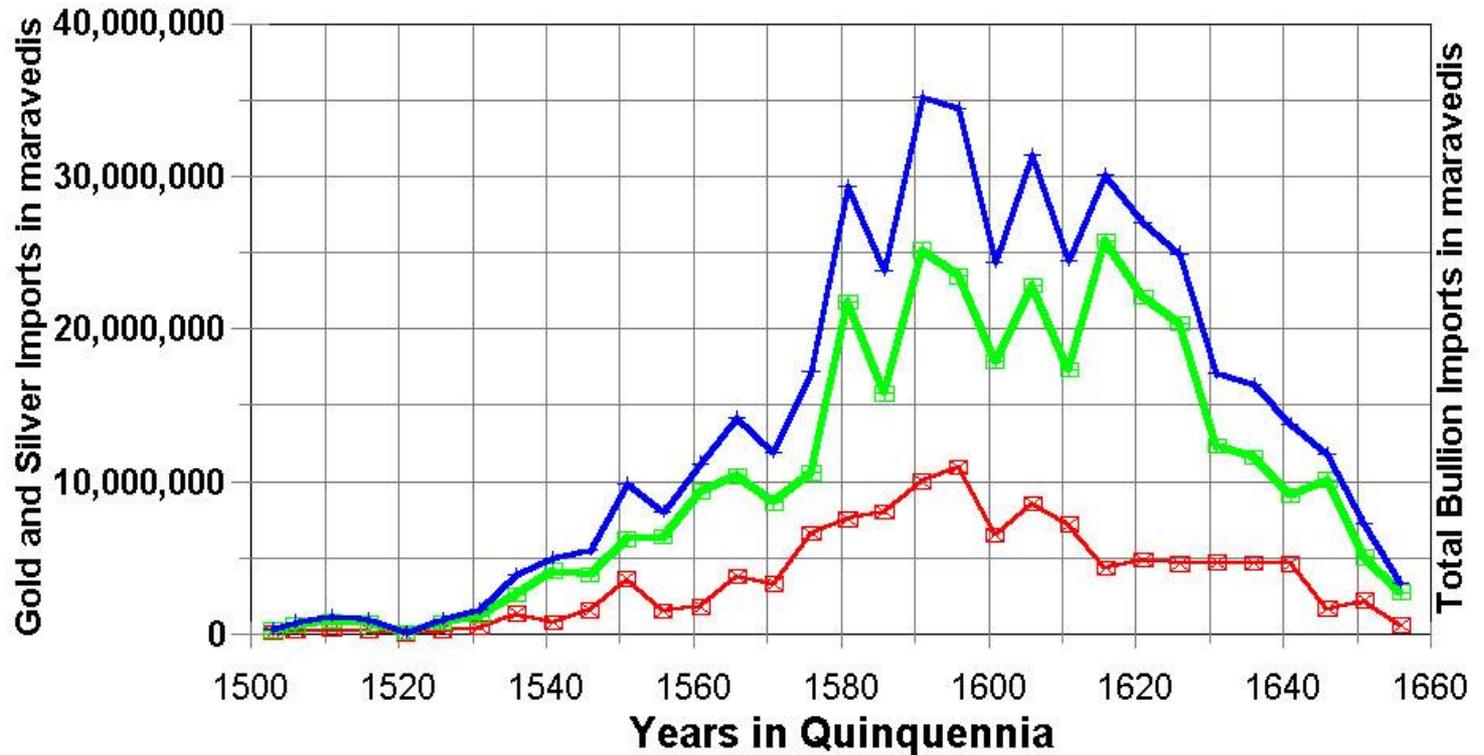
# American Bullion Imports into Seville Gold & Silver in kg: 1503-5 to 1655-60



—■— Silver imports in kg. —x— Gold Imports in kg

# Spanish American Bullion Imports

Values in 5 yr means, 1503 - 1661



Value of Gold Imports

Value of Silver Imports

Total Value of Bullion Imports:

**Table 1. Imports into Seville of Spanish American Gold and Silver Bullion in pesos of 450 maravedis and in kilograms of fine metals: in quinquennial means, 1501-05 to 1656-61**

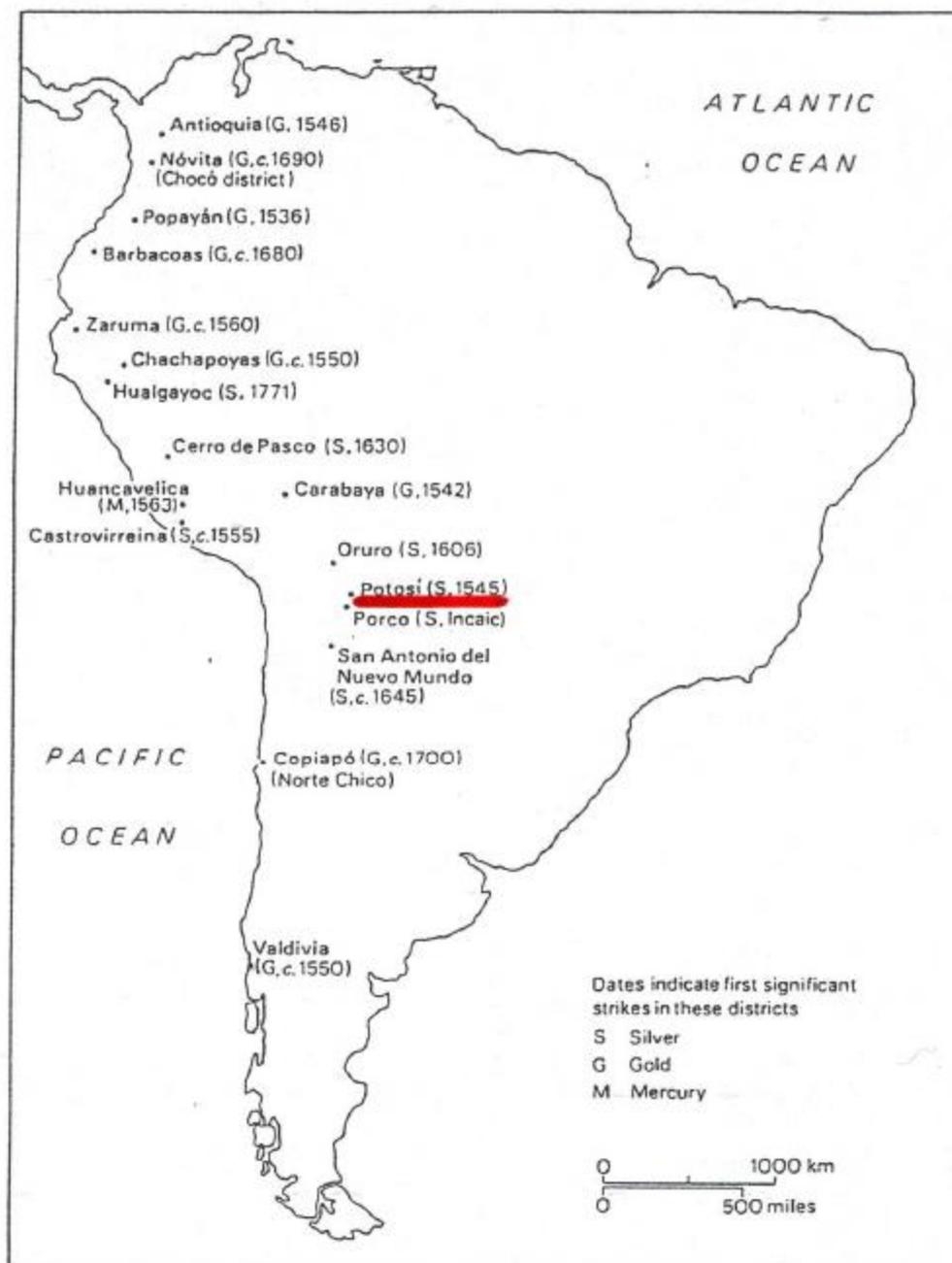
| <b>Year:<br/>Begin</b> | <b>Year:<br/>End</b> | <b>Public Bullion:<br/>Means in pesos<br/>of 450 maravedis</b> | <b>Private Bullion:<br/>Means in pesos<br/>of 450 maravedis</b> | <b>TOTAL Bullion:<br/>Means in pesos<br/>of 450 maravedis</b> | <b>Mean<br/>Silver Imports<br/>in kg</b> | <b>Mean<br/>Gold Imports<br/>in kg</b> |
|------------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| 1503                   | 1505                 | 32,405.50  | 91,279.60   | 123,685.10  |  | 517.24                                 |
| 1506                   | 1510                 | 42,770.80  | 120,476.50  | 163,247.30  |  | 682.69                                 |
| 1511                   | 1515                 | 62,647.00  | 176,463.70  | 239,110.70  |  | 999.95                                 |
| 1516                   | 1520                 | 52,043.50  | 146,595.80  | 198,639.30  |  | 830.70                                 |
| 1521                   | 1525                 | 7,030.50   | 19,803.50   | 26,834.00   | 3.40                                     | 111.88                                 |
| 1526                   | 1530                 | 54,414.10  | 153,273.30  | 207,687.40  | 26.34                                    | 865.93                                 |
| 1531                   | 1535                 | 86,472.10  | 243,574.10  | 330,046.20  | 5,090.79                                 | 854.41                                 |
| 1536                   | 1540                 | 270,177.00   | 517,401.40  | 787,578.40  | 12,147.99                                | 2,038.86                               |
| 1541                   | 1545                 | 151,557.70   | 839,243.30  | 990,801.00  | 16,815.87                                | 2,363.40                               |
| 1546                   | 1550                 | 318,534.30   | 783,207.90  | 1,101,742.20  | 18,698.76                                | 2,628.03                               |
| 1551                   | 1555                 | 725,701.30   | 1,247,404.90  | 1,973,106.20  | 33,479.21                                | 4,707.31                               |
| 1556                   | 1560                 | 313,699.10   | 1,286,100.60  | 1,599,799.70  | 27,145.03                                | 3,816.70                               |
| 1561                   | 1565                 | 363,906.60   | 1,877,600.50  | 2,241,507.10  | 83,373.92                                | 1,019.64                               |
| 1566                   | 1570                 | 756,948.60   | 2,071,294.50  | 2,828,243.10  | 105,197.84                               | 1,286.54                               |
| 1571                   | 1575                 | 659,732.10   | 1,721,589.70  | 2,381,321.80  | 91,353.22                                | 770.06                                 |
| 1576                   | 1580                 | 1,329,935.70   | 2,120,452.50  | 3,450,388.20  | 132,365.17                               | 1,115.77                               |
| 1581                   | 1585                 | 1,510,120.80   | 4,364,801.60  | 5,874,922.40  | 232,207.57                               | 1,336.21                               |
| 1586                   | 1590                 | 1,608,642.50   | 3,157,883.60  | 4,766,526.10  | 188,397.97                               | 1,084.12                               |
| 1591                   | 1595                 | 2,004,669.70   | 5,032,302.80  | 7,036,972.50  | 273,704.54                               | 1,966.28                               |
| 1596                   | 1600                 | 2,194,863.60   | 4,690,836.50  | 6,885,700.10  | 267,820.77                               | 1,924.01                               |
| 1601                   | 1605                 | 1,303,977.10   | 3,576,688.50  | 4,880,665.60  | 193,590.35                               | 1,028.81                               |
| 1606                   | 1610                 | 1,709,935.80   | 4,571,105.60  | 6,281,041.40  | 249,135.90                               | 1,324.00                               |

# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 5

- 5 ) **Spanish Mining & Technological Innovations:**
- a) **Mercury Amalgamation Process:** major technological innovation
  - - **possibly devised in Germany:** late 15<sup>th</sup> century
  - - **Liquid mercury (from Spain & Americas)** added to the crushed silver ores: combined with silver to separate from ores
  - - **mercury (low melting point) boiled off** → leaving pure silver as residue
  - - large savings on both fuel and labour
- b) **permitted major break-through in Spanish-American mining:** especially from the 1570s

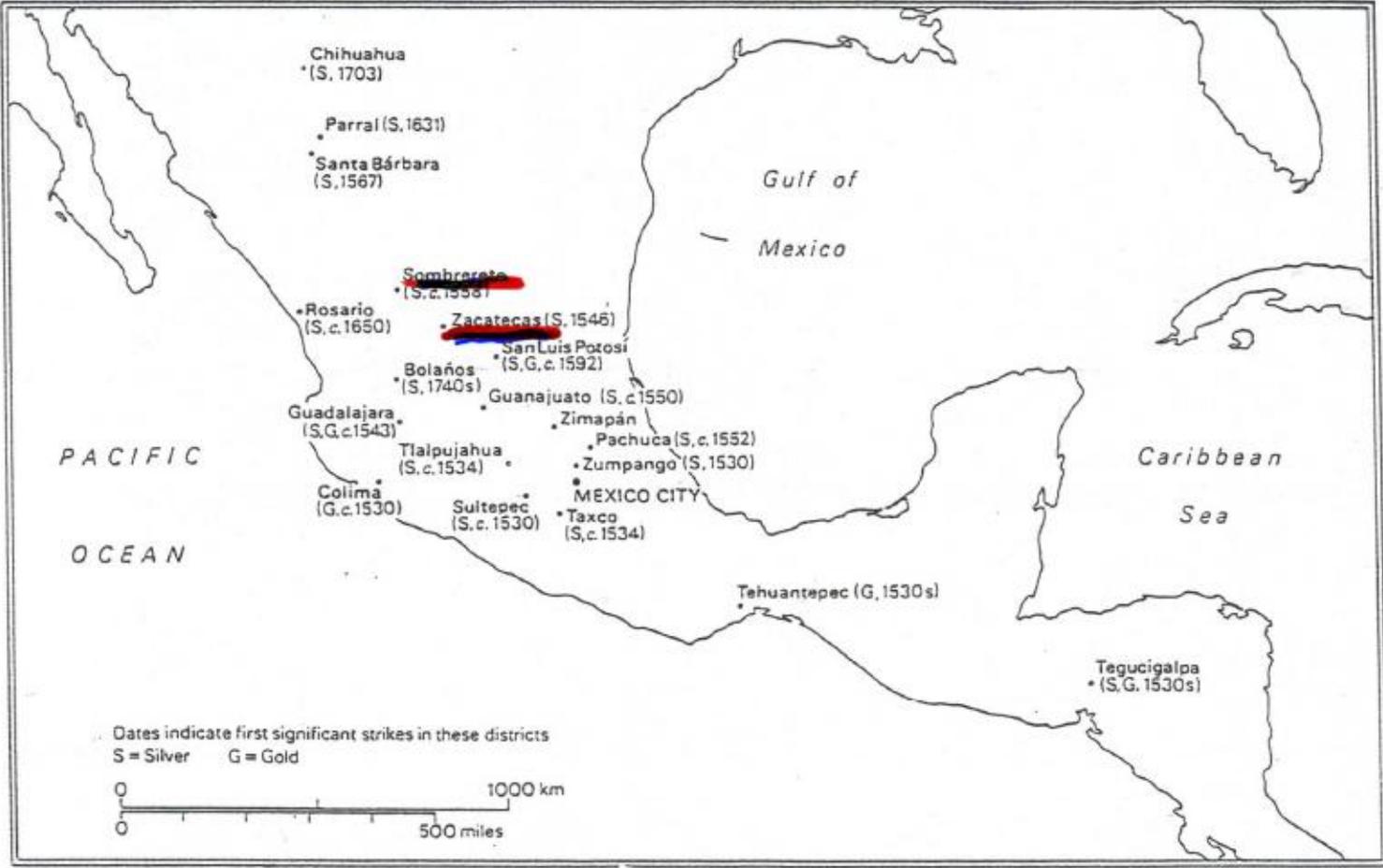
# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 5

- c) **New mines opened in Americas:**
- (1) **1545: Potosi in Spanish Generality of 'Peru'** (modern day Bolivia): most important
- (2) **1546: Zacatecas in New Spain (Mexico):** – much smaller (but peaked later)
- (3) **1680: Sombrerete in Mexico** (well after peak of mining boom)
- d) **Peak Outputs in Spanish American silver mining:**
- - **Potosi (Peru-Bolivia):** output peaked in 1590s, coinciding with peak silver imports
- - **Zacatecas (Mexico):** output peaked in 1620s: followed by slump, and new peak in 1670s



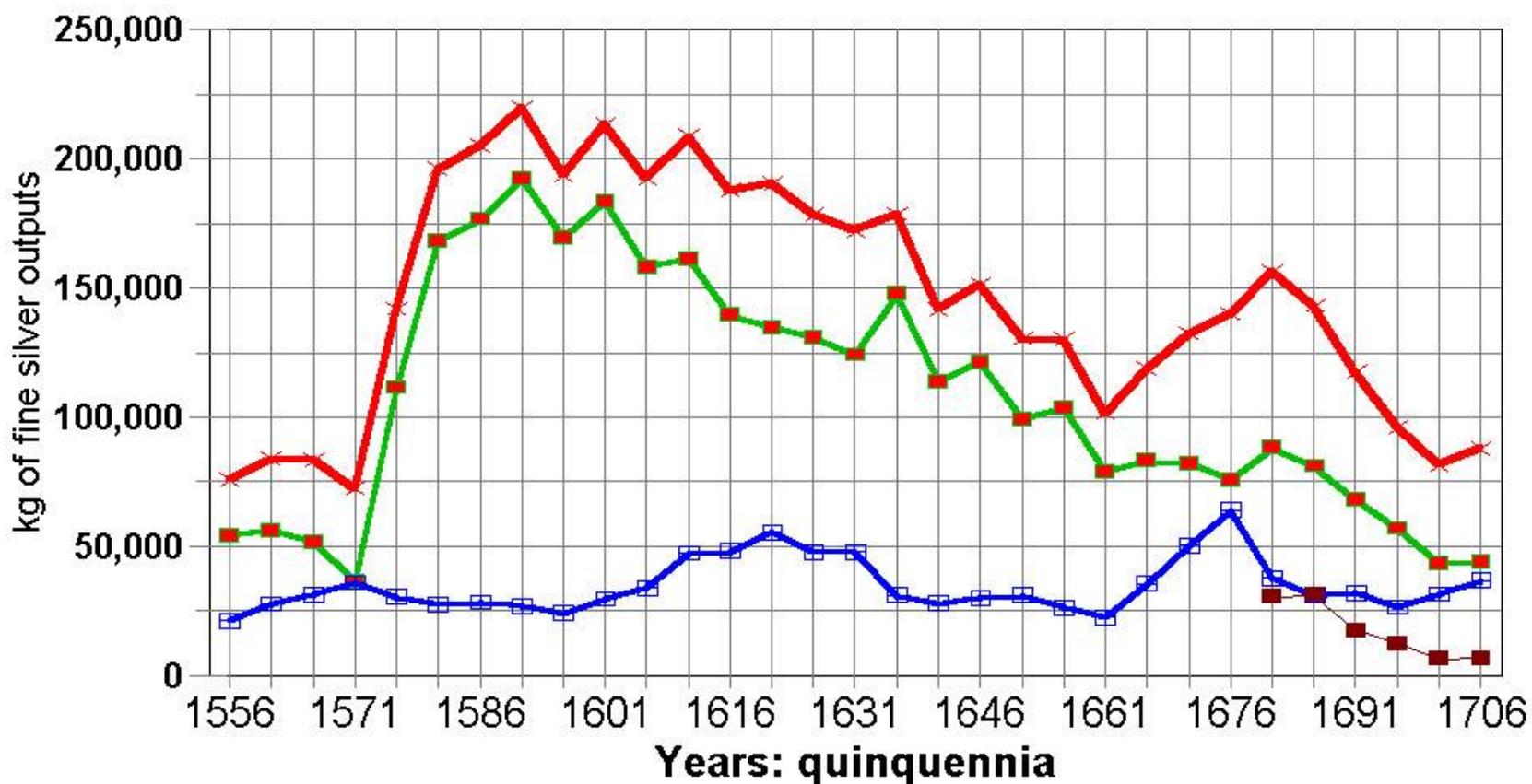
Centres of major mining districts in Spanish South America

# Silver Mining in New Spain (Mexico)



# Spanish-American Silver Mining Outputs

kg fine silver - 5 yr means: 1556-1711



- Potosi
- Zacatecas
- Sombrerete
- ×— Total Known Outputs

**Mined Outputs of Gold and Silver from Spanish America;  
and Exports of Gold and Silver Bullion from Spanish America to Seville  
in quinquennial means, 1501-1505 to 1656-61**

| Year    | Potosi:<br>Silver<br>Outputs<br>in kg. | Zacatecas:<br>Silver<br>Outputs<br>in kg. | Sombrerete<br>Silver<br>Outputs<br>in kg. | Total Known<br>Silver Mining<br>Outputs in kg | Mean Value<br>of<br>Bullion Imports<br>in 450 maravedis | Mean<br>Gold<br>Imports<br>in kg | Mean Silver<br>Imports<br>in kg | Index<br>of<br>Mined<br>Imports: Outputs<br>1591- 1591-<br>1600=100 1600=100 |
|---------|--|---|---|---|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1501-05 |  |   |   |   | 123,685.10  | 517.24                           | 0.00                            | 0.00   |
| 1506-10 |  |   |   |   | 163,247.30  | 682.69                           | 0.00                            | 0.00   |
| 1511-15 |  |   |   |   | 239,110.70  | 999.95                           | 0.00                            | 0.00   |
| 1516-20 |  |   |   |   | 198,639.30  | 830.70                           | 0.00                            | 0.00   |
| 1521-25 |  |   |   |   | 26,834.00   | 111.88                           | 3.40                            | 0.00   |
| 1526-30 |  |   |   |   | 207,687.40  | 865.93                           | 26.34                           | 0.01   |
| 1531-35 |  |   |   |   | 330,046.20  | 854.41                           | 5,090.79                        | 1.88   |
| 1536-40 |  |   |   |   | 787,578.40  | 2,038.86                         | 12,147.99                       | 4.49   |
| 1541-45 |  |   |   |   | 990,801.00  | 2,363.40                         | 16,815.87                       | 6.21   |
| 1546-50 |  |   |   |   | 1,101,742.20  | 2,628.03                         | 18,698.76                       | 6.91   |
| 1551-55 | 64,848.88                              |   |   | <b>64,848.88</b>                              | 1,973,106.20  | 4,707.31                         | 33,479.21                       | 12.36 31.39  |
| 1556-60 | 54,335.74                              | 21,294.68                                 |   | <b>75,630.42</b>                              | 1,599,799.70  | 3,816.70                         | 27,145.03                       | 10.03 36.61  |
| 1561-65 | 56,080.38                              | 27,761.40                                 |   | <b>83,841.77</b>                              | 2,241,507.10  | 1,019.64                         | 83,373.92                       | 30.79 40.59  |
| 1566-70 | 51,717.86                              | 31,498.08                                 |   | <b>83,215.94</b>                              | 2,828,243.10  | 1,286.54                         | 105,197.84                      | 38.85 40.29  |
| 1571-75 | 36,439.01                              | 35,925.21                                 |   | <b>72,364.22</b>                              | 2,381,321.80  | 770.06                           | 91,353.22                       | 33.74 35.03  |
| 1576-80 | 111,607.53                             | 30,389.38                                 |   | <b>141,996.90</b>                             | 3,450,388.20  | 1,115.77                         | 132,365.17                      | 48.89 68.74  |
| 1581-85 | 168,398.46                             | 27,613.05                                 |   | <b>196,011.51</b>                             | 5,874,922.40  | 1,336.21                         | 232,207.57                      | 85.76 94.89  |
| 1586-90 | 176,839.51                             | 28,413.40                                 |   | <b>205,252.91</b>                             | 4,766,526.10  | 1,084.12                         | 188,397.97                      | 69.58 99.36  |

# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 6

- 6) **Distribution of Spanish Silver in Europe**
- -\* **Note: by government monopoly, all Spanish-American silver** – public & private – had to be shipped to and imported via Seville
- - records cease in 1660: because the silver-import tax had ended
- (a) **By Warfare and Spanish military expenditures:**
- - **Spanish domains in Europe: were vast & farflung**
- - **subject to both foreign invasions** (French) and civil wars (Low Countries, Portugal)
- - **military expenditures (pay, munitions, food, etc) usually outran silver supplies** → borrowing from Germans and Italians, on security of bullion deliveries

# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 7

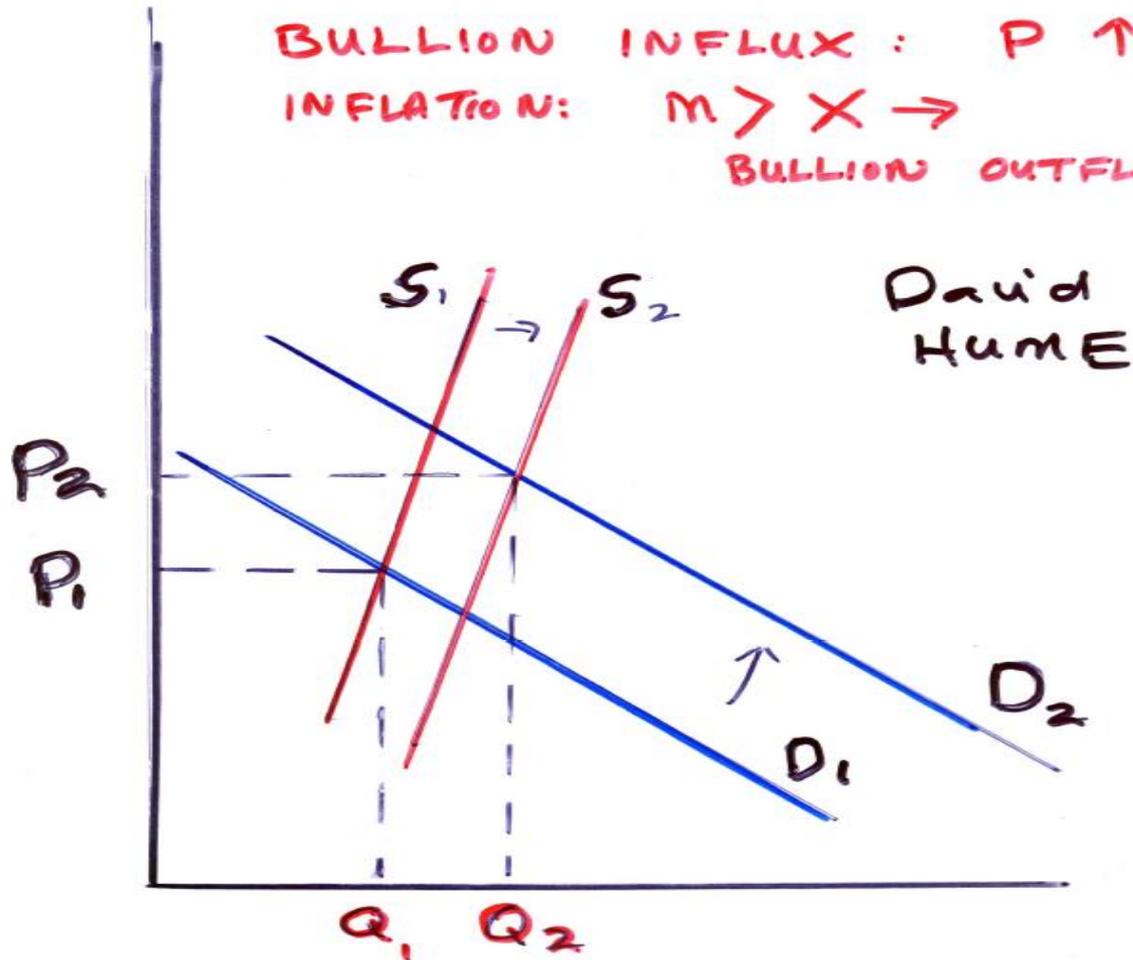
- 6) **Distribution of Spanish Silver in Europe:**
- (b) **Imports: and Hume Price-Specie Flow theorem**
- - **influx of silver into Spain (German & American) led to internal inflation** (with primitive industries & inelastic supplies of goods)
- ➔ increasing imports of relatively cheaper foreign goods → silver outflows to countries exporting goods to Spain –
- - **Problem: ‘Monetary approach to balance of payments’ theorem:** read lecture notes

# PRICE → SPECIE FLOW MECHANISM

BULLION INFLOW:  $P \uparrow$

INFLATION:  $M > X \rightarrow$

BULLION OUTFLOW



# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 8

- 6) **Distribution of Spanish Silver in Europe:**
- (c) **illegal direct trade with Spanish colonies:** in Caribbean and Americas: French, Dutch, English merchants in particular
- (d) **Piracy:** hijacking Spanish treasure fleets
- (e) **Bimetallic flows:** silver flowed from regions where it was undervalued to those where it was higher valued – in relation to gold & goods: from A: with 12:1 to B: with 11:1

# Monetary Changes: Age of Silver 9

- 7) **Did Spanish silver reach England?:**
- a) **published views that it did not are nonsense:** see table
- b) **Rise in bimetallic ratio in England:**
- from 11.5:1 in 1460s to 15:1 in the 1660s:
- proof of greater relative abundance of silver –
- despite the increases in silver shipments to Asia (next topic)

## The Role of Spanish Silver in English Silver Mint Outputs:

From the Tower Mint's 'Melting Books', in Troy Pounds Weight.

| Period Covered<br>Tower Mint's<br>Melting Books |  | Spanish Silver<br>Coins: in<br>Troy lb.* | Percent<br>of Total<br>Bullion | Total Silver<br>Bullion<br>in Troy lb.* |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Oct. 1561 to Dec. 1562                          |  | 60,993.8                                 | 75.0%                          | 81,325.0                                |
| Sept 1569 to Feb. 1570                          |  | 21,321.1                                 | 81.4 %                         | 26,193.0                                |
| Feb. 1583 to Nov. 1583                          |  | 40,469.2                                 | 78.1 %                         | 51,817.2                                |
| June 1584 to Feb. 1585                          |  | 40,905.8                                 | 86.3%                          | 47,394.0                                |
| Feb. 1598 to Jan. 1599                          |  | 6,726.4                                  | 62.0%                          | 10,849.0                                |
|   |  |  |                                |   |

\* 1 Troy pound = 12 Troy ounces = 373.242 grams.

### Source:

Christopher Challis, 'Spanish Bullion and Monetary Inflation in England in the Later Sixteenth Century', *Journal of European Economic History*, 4 (1975), 381-92.

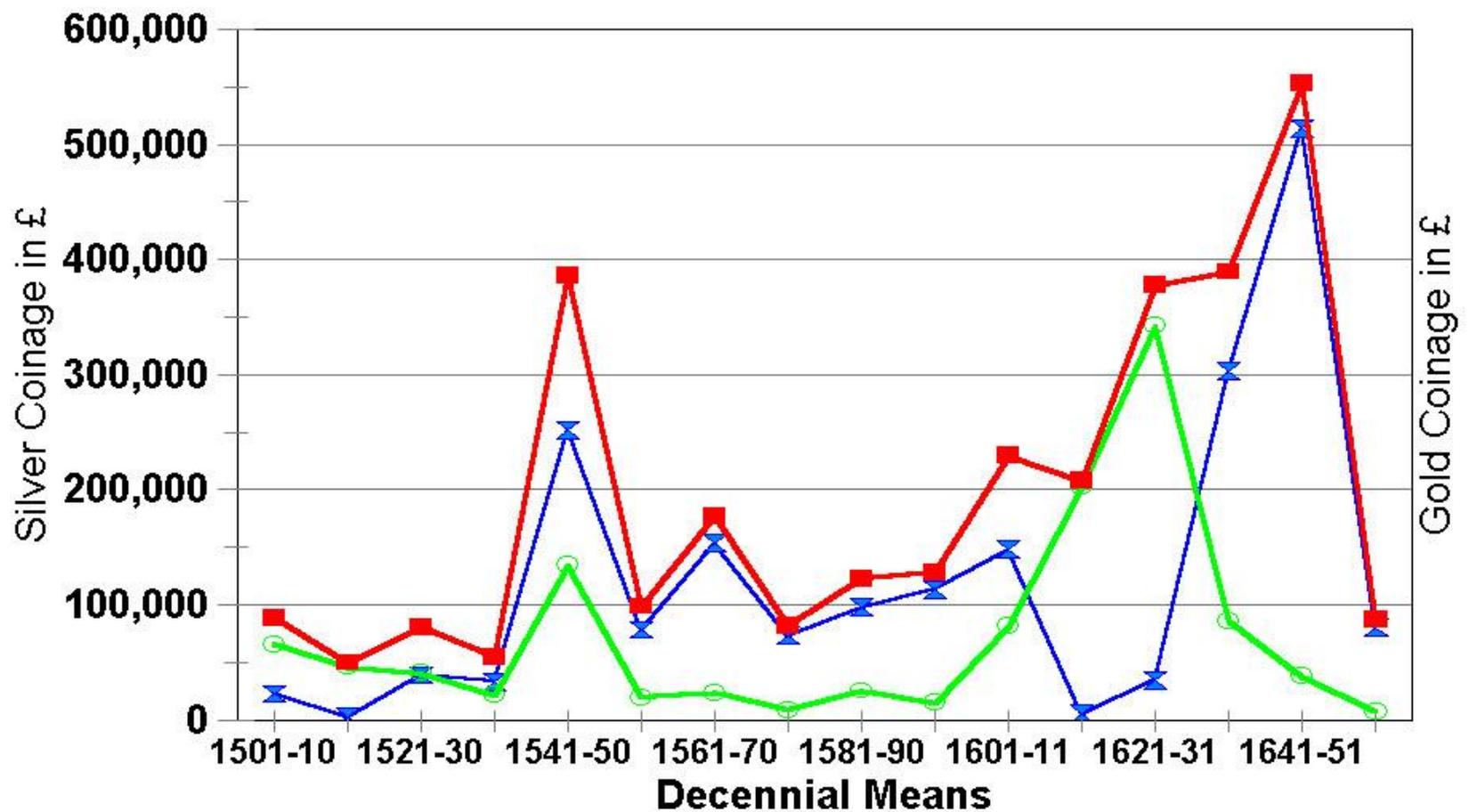
**ENGLAND: SILVER AND GOLD COINAGE OUTPUTS:**

**in kg. fine metal and in £ sterling values  
in quinquennial means: 1501-05 to 1596-1600**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>SILVER<br/>Total<br/>kilograms</b> | <b>SILVER<br/>Value<br/>£ sterling</b> | <b>GOLD<br/>Total<br/>kilograms</b> | <b>GOLD<br/>Value<br/>£ sterling</b> | <b>TOTAL<br/>VALUES<br/>in £ sterling</b> | <b>Percent<br/>Silver</b> | <b>Percent<br/>Gold</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1501-05     | 4,313.544                             | 24,988.026                             | 516.604                             | 33,392.271                           | 58,380.297                                | <b>42.80%</b>             | <b>57.20%</b>           |
| 1506-10     | 3,633.212                             | 21,046.916                             | 1,523.115                           | 98,451.267                           | 119,498.183                               | <b>17.61%</b>             | <b>82.39%</b>           |
| 1511-15     | 1,089.012                             | 6,308.562                              | 694.599                             | 44,897.564                           | 51,206.126                                | <b>12.32%</b>             | <b>87.68%</b>           |
| 1516-20     | 79.145                                | 458.481                                | 743.656                             | 48,068.530                           | 48,527.011                                | <b>0.94%</b>              | <b>99.06%</b>           |
| 1521-25     | 3,148.207                             | 18,237.317                             | 442.136                             | 28,578.780                           | 46,816.096                                | <b>38.96%</b>             | <b>61.04%</b>           |
| 1526-30     | 9,244.701                             | 60,248.025                             | 736.422                             | 54,079.255                           | 114,327.280                               | <b>52.70%</b>             | <b>47.30%</b>           |
| 1531-35     | 4,616.832                             | 30,088.071                             | 189.160                             | 13,890.972                           | 43,979.043                                | <b>68.41%</b>             | <b>31.59%</b>           |
| 1536-40     | 5,684.094                             | 37,043.459                             | 406.719                             | 29,826.052                           | 66,869.511                                | <b>55.40%</b>             | <b>44.60%</b>           |
| 1541-45     | 5,707.032                             | 100,776.324                            | 963.792                             | 79,997.508                           | 180,773.832                               | <b>55.75%</b>             | <b>44.25%</b>           |
| 1546-50     | 22,029.731                            | 402,892.436                            | 1,992.083                           | 188,860.922                          | 591,753.358                               | <b>68.08%</b>             | <b>31.92%</b>           |
| 1551-55     | 9,428.855                             | 121,874.569                            | 136.583                             | 16,023.336                           | 137,897.905                               | <b>88.38%</b>             | <b>11.62%</b>           |
| 1556-60     | 4,152.477                             | 36,023.662                             | 137.533                             | 23,955.867                           | 59,979.529                                | <b>60.06%</b>             | <b>39.94%</b>           |
| 1561-65     | 24,263.303                            | 210,873.247                            | 255.828                             | 24,682.712                           | 235,555.960                               | <b>89.52%</b>             | <b>10.48%</b>           |
| 1566-70     | 11,097.432                            | 96,429.852                             | 236.160                             | 22,790.897                           | 119,220.749                               | <b>80.88%</b>             | <b>19.12%</b>           |
| 1571-75     | 8,806.166                             | 76,520.164                             | 102.633                             | 9,934.572                            | 86,454.736                                | <b>88.51%</b>             | <b>11.49%</b>           |
| 1576-80     | 8,071.535                             | 70,489.334                             | 76.197                              | 7,416.226                            | 77,905.560                                | <b>90.48%</b>             | <b>9.52%</b>            |
| 1581-85     | 16,056.314                            | 139,852.039                            | 337.318                             | 32,770.995                           | 172,623.034                               | <b>81.02%</b>             | <b>18.98%</b>           |
| 1586-90     | 6,405.349                             | 55,658.544                             | 185.206                             | 17,957.031                           | 73,615.575                                | <b>75.61%</b>             | <b>24.39%</b>           |
| 1591-95     | 18,653.363                            | 162,086.240                            | 178.498                             | 17,306.684                           | 179,392.924                               | <b>90.35%</b>             | <b>9.65%</b>            |
| 1596-00     | 7,461.690                             | 64,837.491                             | 131.637                             | 12,736.568                           | 77,574.058                                | <b>83.58%</b>             | <b>16.42%</b>           |

# English Mint Outputs in £ sterling

## Silver and Gold: 1500 - 1650



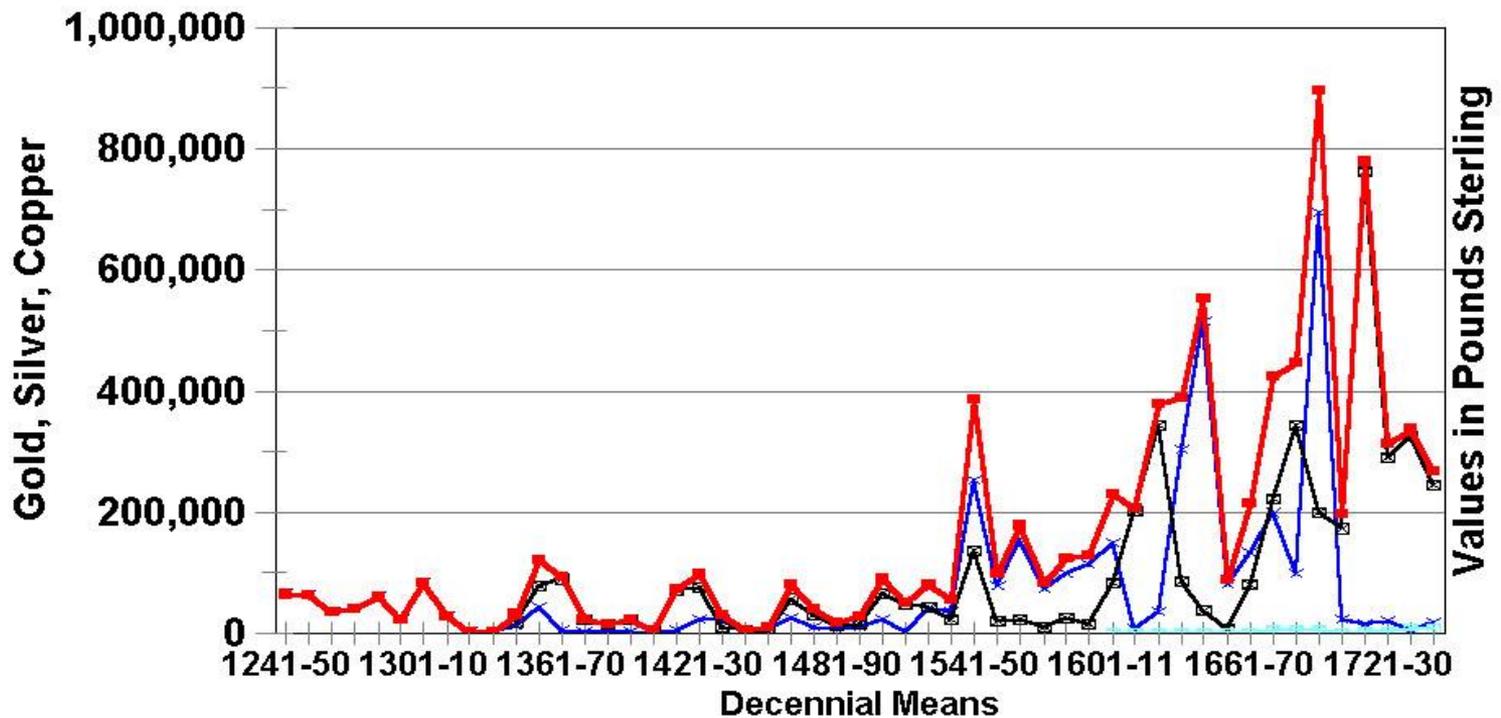
—x— Silver Coinage in £

—o— Gold coinage in £

—■— Total Value in £ sterling

# English Mint Outputs in £ Sterling

## Gold, Silver, Copper, 1240-1750



—x— Silver Coinage in £    —□— Gold Coinage in £  
—□— Copper Coinage in £    —□— Total Outputs in £

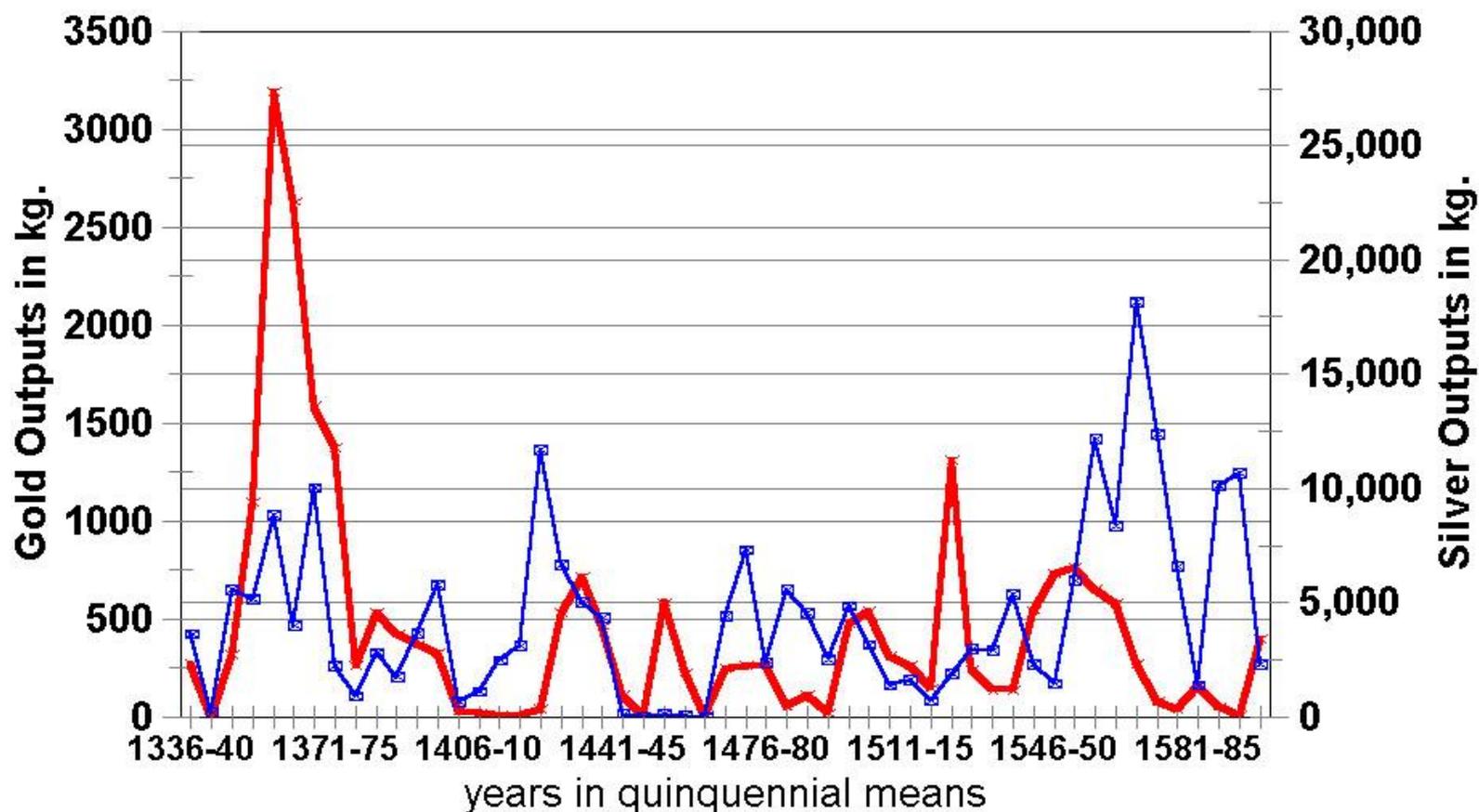
**Mayhew's Estimates of Money Supplies, Velocity, Prices, and National Income  
in England, 1300 - 1670**

| <b>Date</b>   | <b>1300</b> | <b>1470</b> | <b>1526</b> | <b>1546</b> | <b>1561</b> | <b>1600</b> | <b>1643</b> | <b>1670</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Money Supply<br/>in millions of £<br/>sterling</b> | 0.900       | 0.900       | 1.400       | 1.450       | 1.450       | 3.500       | 10.000      | 12.000      |
| <b>Velocity<br/>(Income V)</b>                        | 5.178       | 3.889       | 3.571       | 5.517       | 9.310       | 6.286       | 3.500       | 3.407       |
| <b>Price Level:<br/>PBH Index</b>                     | 104.800     | 104.600     | 135.100     | 172.300     | 289.300     | 478.300     | 597.800     | 635.700     |
| <b>National<br/>Income Y in<br/>millions £ st.</b>    | 4.660       | 3.500       | 5.000       | 8.000       | 13.500      | 22.000      | 35.000      | 40.880      |
| <b>Population in<br/>millions</b>                     | 6.000       | 2.300       | 2.300       | 2.900       | 3.000       | 4.100       | 5.100       | 5.000       |

Source: Nicholas J. Mayhew, 'Population, Money Supply, and the Velocity of Circulation in England, 1300-1700', *Economic History Review*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ser. 48:2 (May 1995), p. 244.

# Mint Outputs of Flanders & Brabant

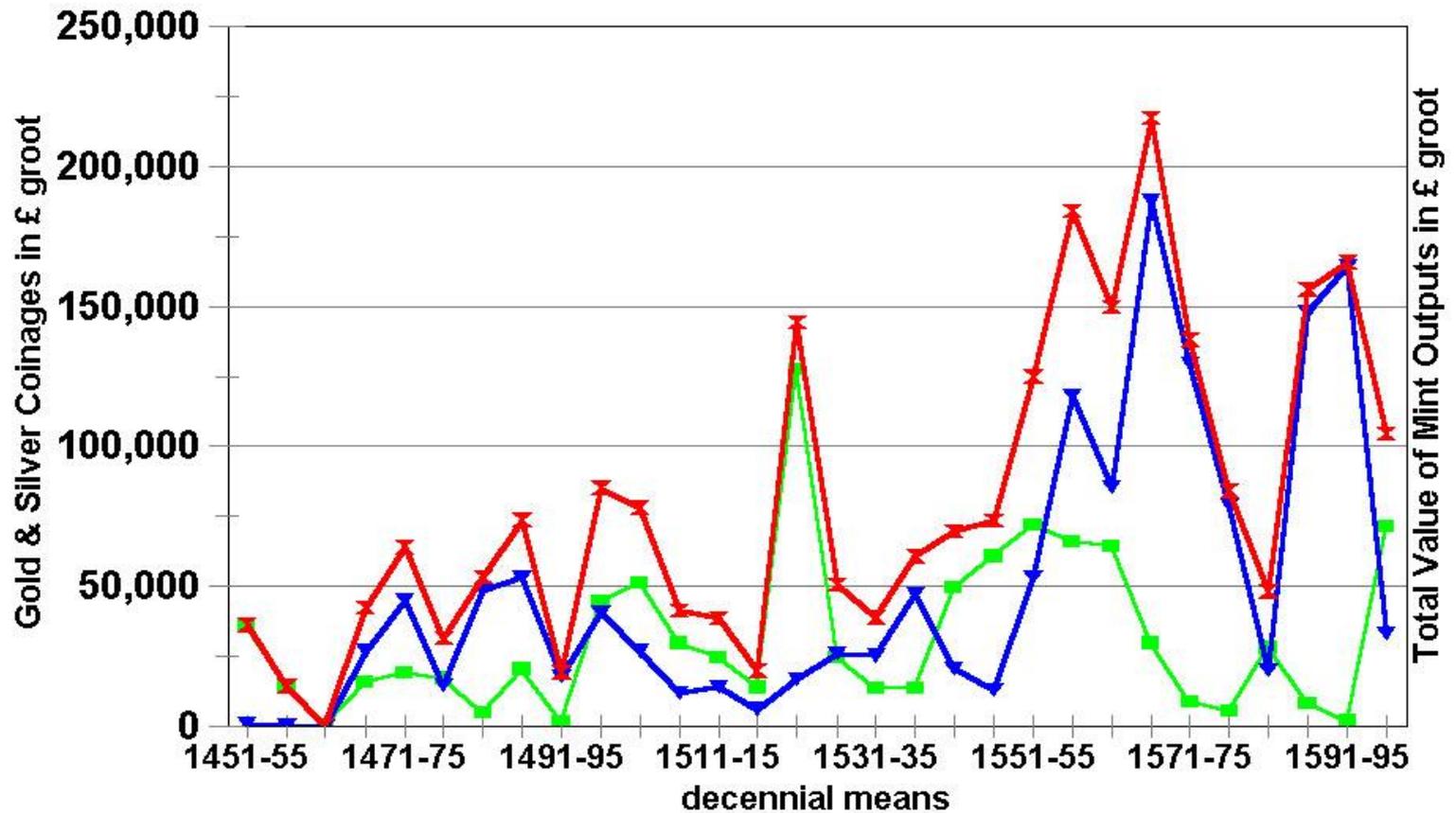
in kg of pure gold & silver: 1336-1600



— Gold in kg: Flanders only to 1420    —□— Silver in kg.: Flanders only to 1420

# Flanders & Brabant: Mint Outputs

## Means in £ groot, 1451 - 1600



■ Gold Coinage in £ gr

▼ Silver Coinage in £ gr

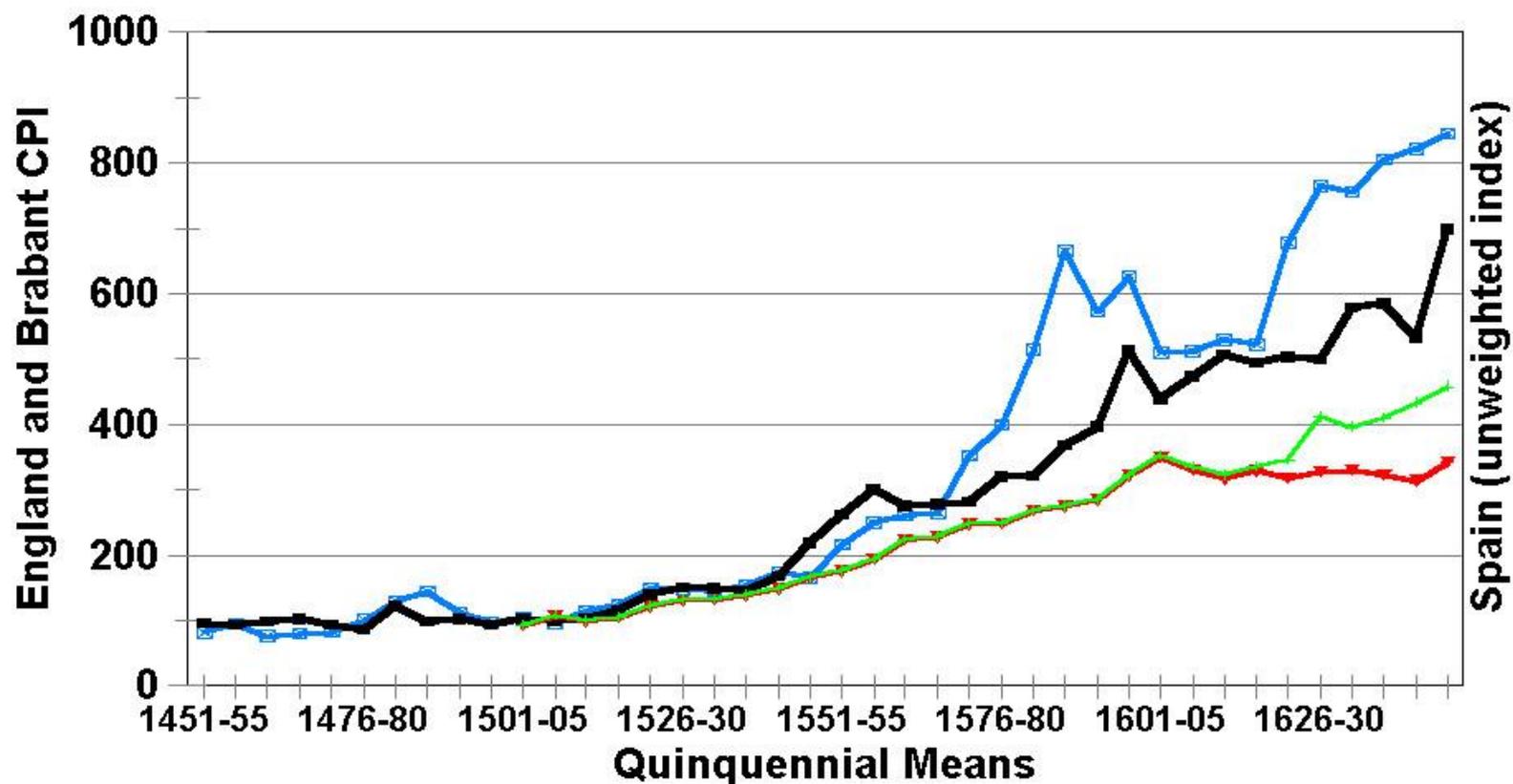
✕ Total Mint Outputs in £ gr

# Monetary Expansion in Europe, 1520 to ca. 1640: Other Sources 1

- 1) **Coinage debasements:**
- a) **the Bodin-Malestroit debate of 1566-68** on causes of inflation
  - - **Bodin**: correct that primary cause of **current inflation** was influx of Spanish silver (but not previous inflations)
  - - **Malestroit**: partly correct in insisting on relative importance of coinage debasements (but far less important than in 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries):
- b) **Spain experienced no coinage debasements** in Price Revolution era, and **had lowest level of inflation**, compared to England and Low Countries
- -c) **Habsburg Low Countries**: **had highest level of inflation** with more extensive coinage debasements

# Price Indexes: England, Brabant, Spain

## 1451 - 1650: 5 yr means (1501-10 = 100)



— Spain Price Index: Silver

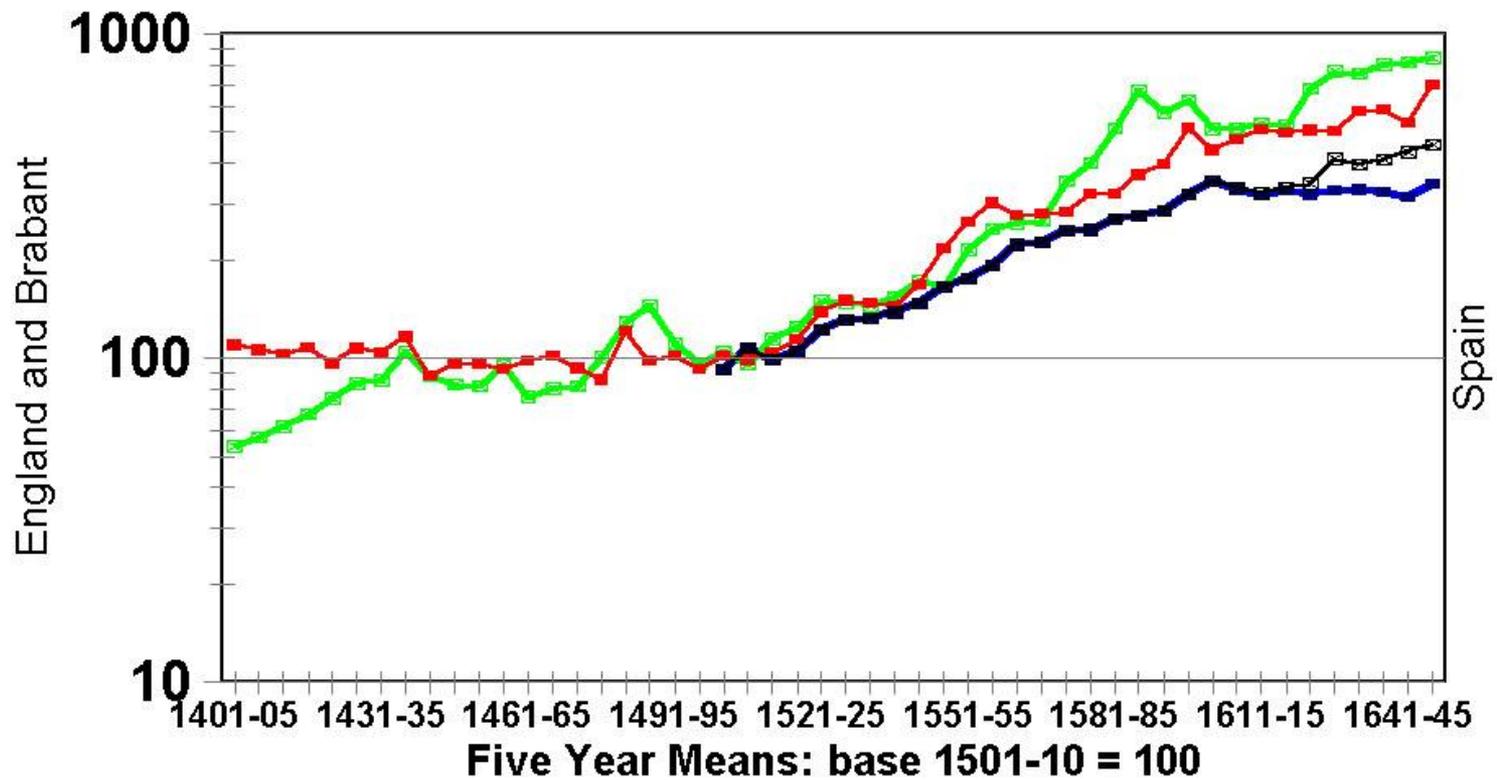
— Brabant Composite Price Index

— England Composite Price Index

— Spain Price Index (Vellon from 1598)

# Price Indices: England, Brabant, Spain

5 yr means: 1401- 1650 (1501-10 = 100)



—■— Spanish Index (silver)

—■— Brabant Index

—■— English Index

—■— Spanish Index (Vellon from 1598)

## The London Tower Mint under the Tudors

### Average Annual Outputs of Silver and of Total Gold and Silver Coinage in Pounds Sterling Values for Various Periods, 1485 to 1603

| Period of the Annual Mean | Silver Coin in £ sterling | Total Coinage in £ sterling | Silver as % of Total |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1485 - 1525               | 9,633.0                   | 40,657.1                    | 23.7 %               |
| 1526 <sup>a</sup> - 1543  | 33,521.2                  | 53,534.7                    | 62.6 %               |
| 1544 <sup>b</sup> - 1550* | 389,211.3                 | 576,952.4                   | 67.5 %               |
| 1551 <sup>c</sup> - 1560  | 22,850.0                  | 31,670.1                    | 72.2 %               |
| 1561 <sup>d</sup> -1603   | 106,840.2                 | 124,735.6                   | 85.7 %               |

<sup>a</sup> Minor debasement of Nov. 1526.

<sup>b</sup> Henry VIII's drastic debasements, 1544-49.

<sup>c</sup> 1551: Coinage revaluation.

<sup>d</sup> 1561: Recoinage.

## Changes in the English Silver Penny During Henry VIII's Great Debasement

| Date       | Fineness:<br>percentage | No. of Pence to<br>the Troy Pound<br>373.242 grams<br>5760 Troy grains | Grams of<br>Pure Silver<br>in penny | Grams of<br>Pure Silver<br>in the pound<br>sterling<br>(240d) | Nominal Value<br>of a Tower lb<br>of Silver<br>0.925 fine<br>£ sterling | Nominal<br>Value of kg.<br>Pure Silver<br>in £ sterling | Index:<br>1351=<br>100 | Percentage<br>change<br>in silver<br>content of<br>penny |
|------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------|--|
| 1526 Nov   | 92.500%                 | 540.00   | 0.639                               | 153.444   | 2.2500  | 6.517   | 177.00                 |  |
| 1542 May   | 75.833%                 | 576.00   | 0.491                               | 117.934   | 2.9275  | 8.479   | 230.29                 | -23.14%  |
| 1544 May   | 75.000%                 | 576.00   | 0.486                               | 116.638   | 2.9600  | 8.574   | 232.85                 | -1.10%   |
| 1545 March | 50.000%                 | 576.00   | 0.324                               | 77.759  | 4.4400  | 12.860  | 349.27                 | -33.33%  |
| 1546 Apr   | 33.333%                 | 576.00   | 0.216                               | 51.839  | 6.6600  | 19.290  | 523.91                 | -33.33%  |
| 1549 Jan   | 66.667%                 | 1152.00  | 0.216                               | 51.839  | 6.6600  | 19.290  | 523.91                 | 0.00%  |
| 1549 Apr   | 50.000%                 | 864.00   | 0.216                               | 51.839  | 6.6600  | 19.290  | 523.91                 | 0.00%  |
| 1551 Apr   | 25.000%                 | 864.00   | 0.108                               | 25.920  | 13.3200   | 38.581  | 1047.82                | -50.00%  |
| 1551 Oct   | 92.083%                 | 720.00   | 0.477                               | 114.565   | 3.0136  | 8.729   | 237.06                 | 342.00%  |
| 1551 Dec   | 33.333%                 | 576.00   | 0.216                               | 51.839  | 6.6600  | 19.290  | 523.91                 | -54.75%  |
| 1553 June  | 33.333%                 | 480.00   | 0.259                               | 62.207  | 5.5500  | 16.075  | 436.59                 | 20.00%   |
| 1553 Aug   | 91.667%                 | 720.00   | 0.475                               | 114.046   | 3.0273  | 8.768   | 238.14                 | 120.00%  |
| 1557 June  | 91.667%                 | 720.00   | 0.475                               | 114.046   | 3.0273  | 8.768   | 238.14                 | 0.00%  |
| 1560 Nov   | 92.500%                 | 720.00   | 0.480                               | 115.083   | 3.0000  | 8.689   | 236.00                 | 0.91%  |

# Monetary Expansion in Europe, 1520 to ca. 1640: Other Sources 2

- 2) **Dishoarding:**
  - - melting down old, hoarded coin, plate, goblets, jewelry → converting them into new coin:
  - from fiscal pressures of **war-induced taxation**
- 3) **expansion in use of paper credit:**
  - a) **especially a financial revolution: with full negotiability and discounting:** from 1520s:
  - b) **to be discussed in later topic on Banking & Finance:** but with major changes from 1660s

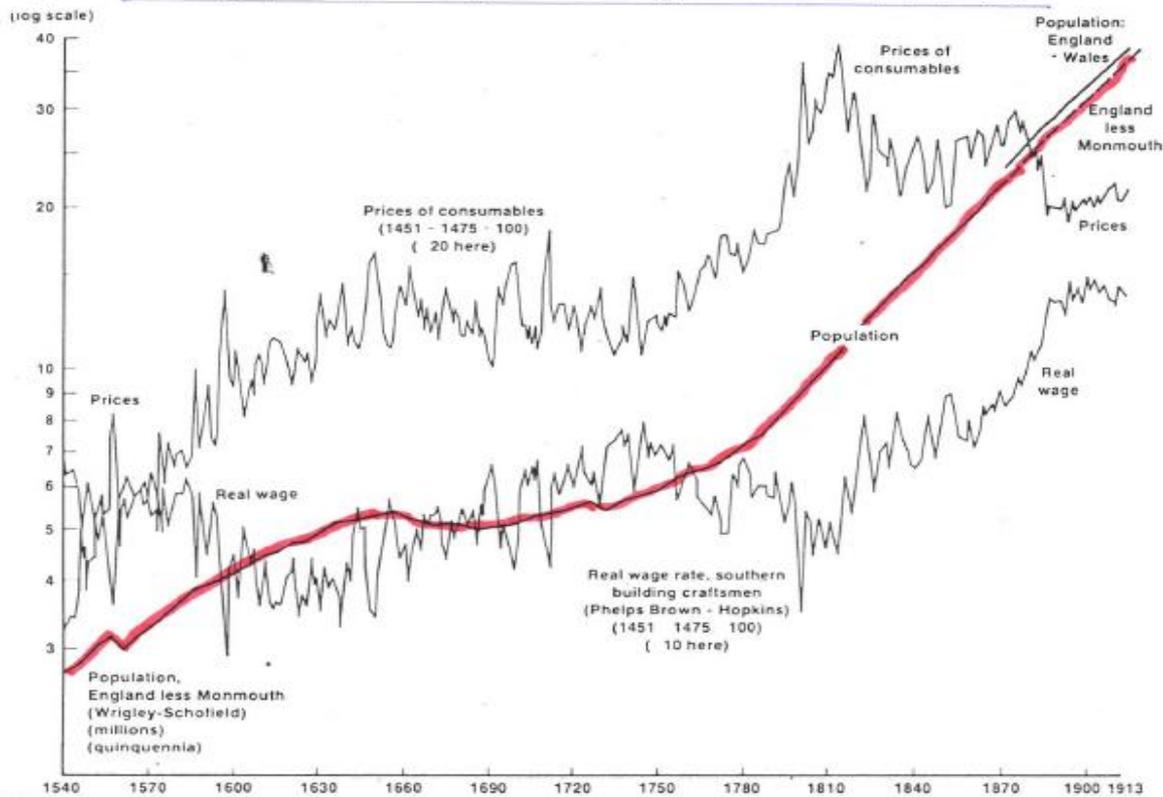
# Monetary Expansion in Europe, 1520 to ca. 1640: Other Sources 2

- 4) **innovations in and expansion in public credit instruments:** *rentes* or annuities: see last term
- - **establishment of the Antwerp Bourse 1531:**  
also to be analysed later in section on Banking & Finance:
- - **e.g. Spain: increase in public annuities (*juros*):**  
from 5 million ducats in 1515 to 83 million ducats in 1600 (money-of-account: 375 marevedis per ducat: see lecture notes): a 16.6 fold increase!
- 5) **the inflationary role of credit expansion:**  
never given its proper due in Price Revolution

# Monetary Changes, 1640 – 1740: monetary contractions 1

- (1) **Era of the ‘General Crisis’**: following the **Price Revolution era**
- - a) **demographic expansion, monetary expansion, and inflation** had come to an end, after 120 years, by the 1640s
- -b) **following century: the obverse combination of: demographic stagnation or contraction, monetary contraction, and deflation** (except in times of major wars: always inflationary)-
- c) **causes? Some combination of real and monetary forces**: endogenous or exogenous?

Fig. 1 Real Wages, Prices, and Population in England and Wales, 1541-1913



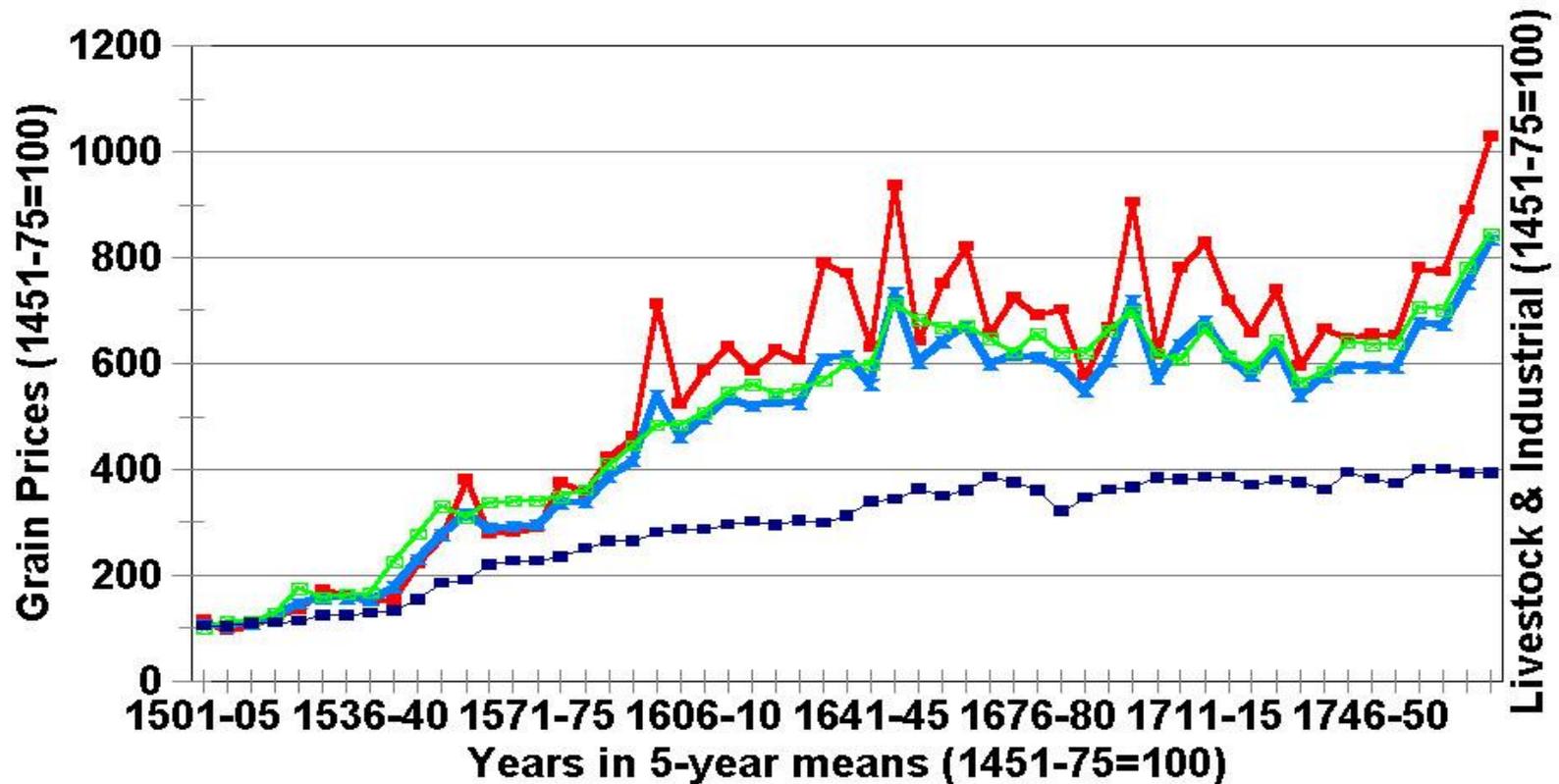
$$RWI = NWI/CPI$$

The Real Wage Index = Nominal Wage Index divided by the Consumer Price Index

Peter Lindert, 'English Population, Wages, and Prices: 1541 - 1913', *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 15 (Spring 1985), 614.

# English Prices 1501-1770 (1451-75=100)

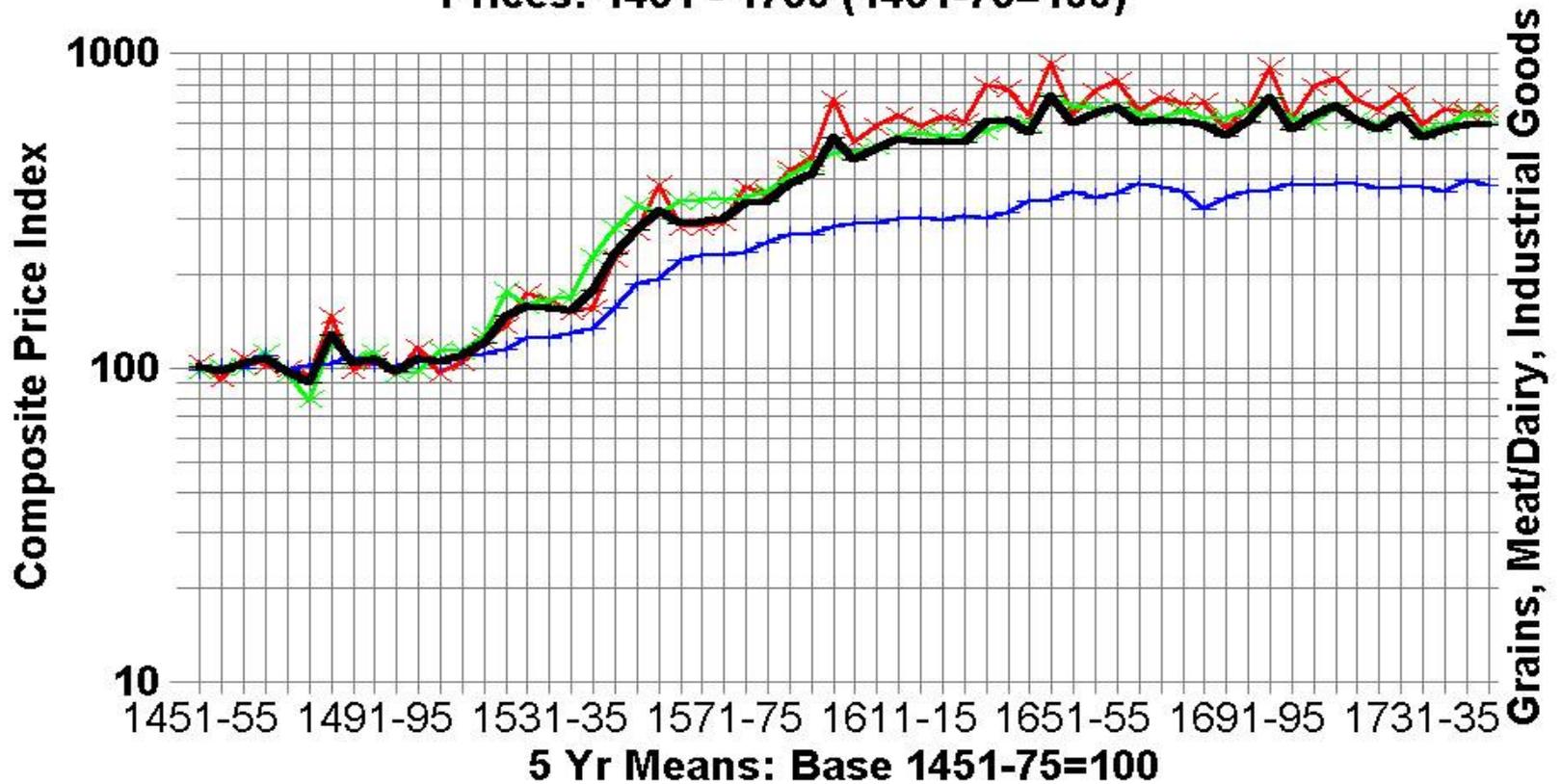
## Grain, Livestock, Industrial Prices



- Grain Prices
- Livestock Prices
- ▲ Composite Price Index
- Industrial Prices

# England: Phelps Browns & Hopkins Index

Prices: 1451 - 1750 (1451-75=100)



—x— Farinaceous & Drink 1451-75=100

—x— Meat, Fish, Dairy 1451-75=100

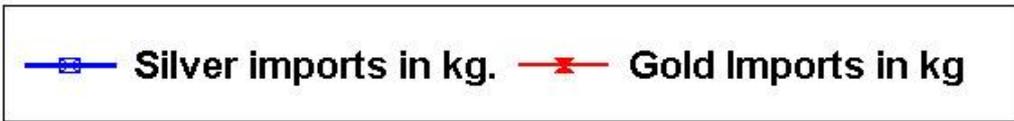
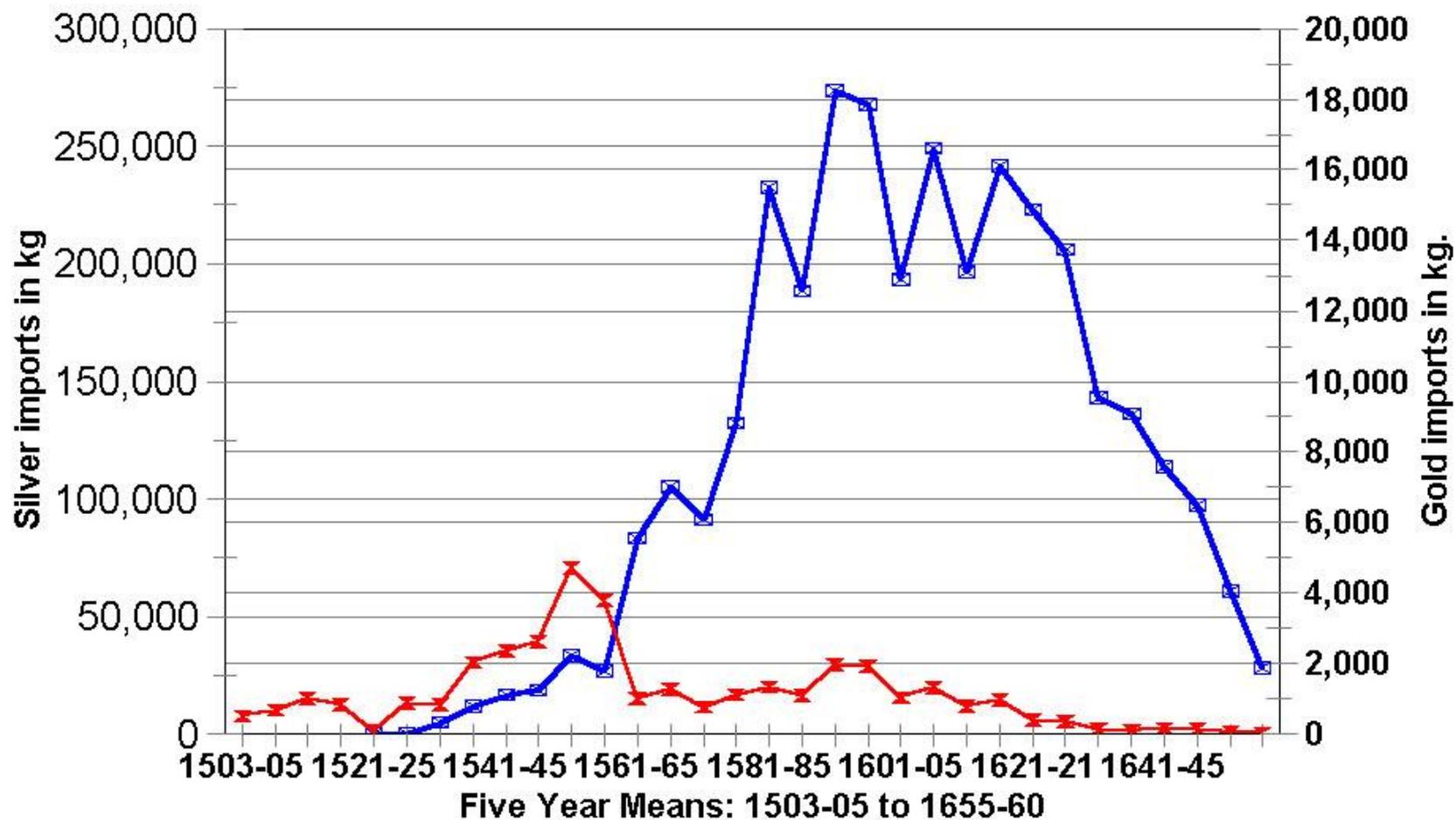
—+— Industrial Prices 1451-75=100

— Composite Price Index 1451-75=100

# Monetary Changes, 1640 – 1740: monetary contractions 1

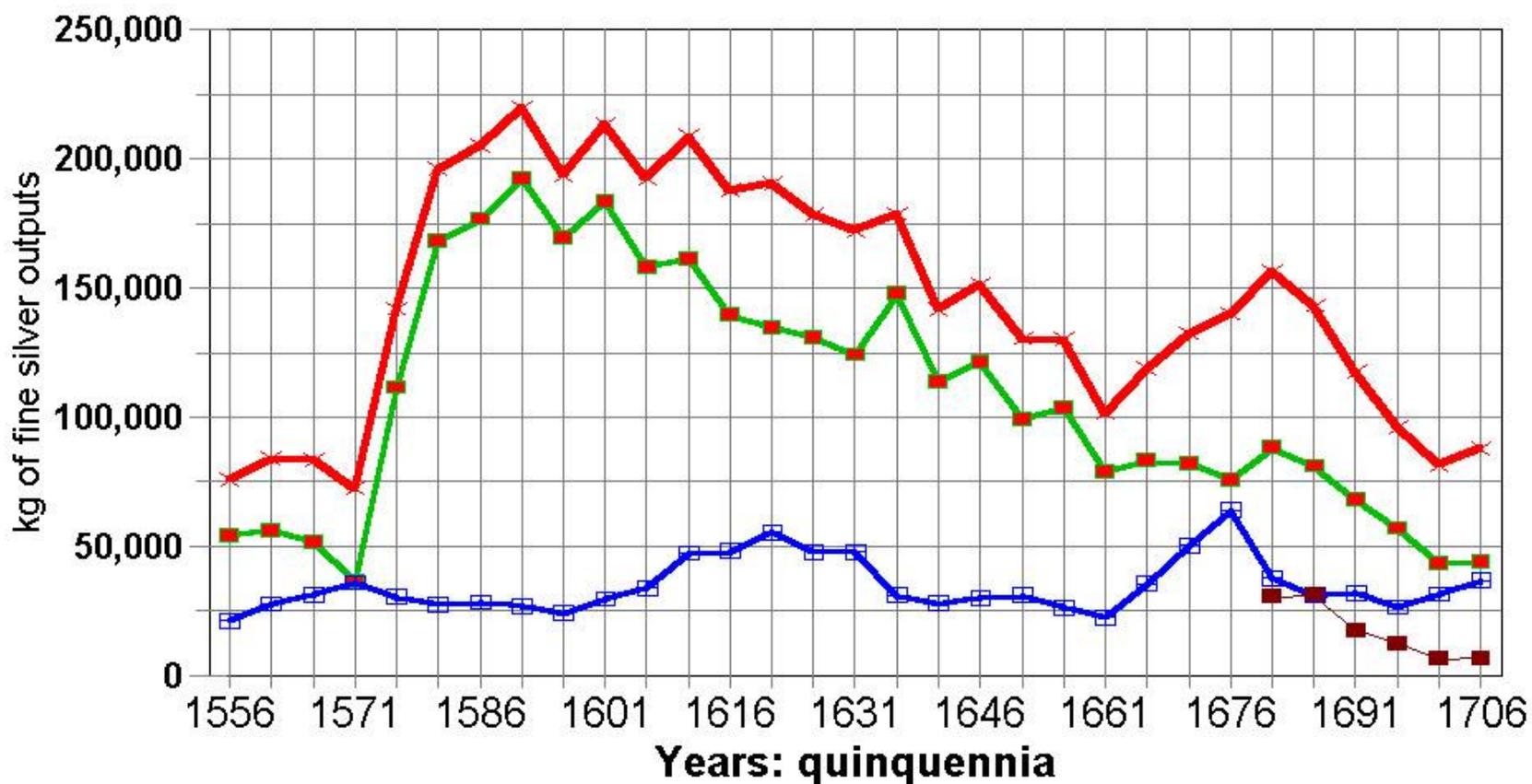
- (2) **Possible causes of monetary contraction:**
- a) **reduction in Spanish-American silver imports into Europe:** for several reasons:
  - i) **reduction in Spanish silver mined outputs**
  - ii) **greater retention of silver supplies for Spanish colonial economic development:**
    - - **in Peru:** 90% retained by 1660s: **in Mexico:** 75% retained by the 1680s
  - iii) **increased Pacific exports of silver from Mexico:** to Philippines and China (silk trade)

# American Bullion Imports into Seville Gold & Silver in kg: 1503-5 to 1655-60



# Spanish-American Silver Mining Outputs

kg fine silver - 5 yr means: 1556-1711



- Potosi
- Zacatecas
- Sombrerete
- Total Known Outputs

**Disposition of Public Revenues from the Viceroyalty of Peru and Mexico in equivalent kilograms of fine silver, in decennial means, 1581-90 to 1791-1800**

| Decade  | Peru:<br>Total<br>Revenues<br>in Lima<br>Treasury<br>in kg.<br>Decennial<br>Means | Peru:<br>Share<br>Retained | Peru:<br>Remittances<br>to Castile<br>in equiv.<br>kgs of<br>fine silver<br>Decennial<br>Means | Peru:<br>Percent<br>of Total<br>to<br>Castile | Mexico:<br>Remittances<br>to Castile in<br>equiv. kgs.<br>of fine silver<br>Decennial<br>Means | Mexico:<br>Percent<br>of Total<br>to Castile | TOTAL to<br>Castile from<br>Peru/Mexico<br>in kg. silver<br>Decennial Mean | Mexico to<br>Philippines<br>in kg. fine<br>silver:<br>Decen.<br>Means | Percent of<br>Mexican<br>Total to<br>Phillipines | Mexico:<br>Total<br>Remittances<br>in kg silver<br>Decennial Mean |
|---------|---|----------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| 1581-90 |   |                            |  |   | 23,107.5   |  |  | 3,219.8   | 12.2%  | 26,327.3  |
| 1591-00 | 86,097.9  | 40.8%                      | 51,013.3   | 68.1%   | 23,856.3   | 31.9%  | 74,869.6   | 1,191.2   | 4.8%   | 25,047.5  |
| 1601-10 | 97,147.4  | 54.6%                      | 44,091.2   | 61.7%   | 27,379.3   | 38.3%  | 71,470.5   | 3,003.0   | 9.9%   | 30,382.3  |
| 1611-20 | 88,604.9  | 66.2%                      | 29,936.2   | 65.7%   | 15,604.2   | 34.3%  | 45,540.4   | 6,496.7   | 29.4%  | 22,100.9  |
| 1621-30 | 85,168.7  | 65.3%                      | 29,531.5   | 63.6%   | 16,887.3   | 36.4%  | 46,418.8   | 9,254.5   | 35.4%  | 26,141.8  |
| 1631-40 | 96,329.6  | 53.6%                      | 44,692.7   | 66.7%   | 22,321.1   | 33.3%  | 67,013.8   | 9,388.2   | 29.6%  | 31,709.3  |
| 1641-50 | 112,884.8   | 66.1%                      | 38,230.2   | 83.4%   | 7,620.8  | 16.6%  | 45,851.0   | 5,640.8   | 42.5%  | 13,261.6  |
| 1651-60 | 81,994.4  | 73.2%                      | 21,970.6   | 66.6%   | 11,035.0   | 33.4%  | 33,005.6   | 3,855.6   | 25.9%  | 14,890.6  |
| 1661-70 | 78,358.0  | 88.4%                      | 9,121.4  | 47.2%   | 10,202.0   | 52.8%  | 19,323.4   | 3,526.2   | 25.7%  | 13,728.2  |
| 1671-80 | 69,653.4  | 92.3%                      | 5,340.0  | 17.3%   | 25,477.0   | 82.7%  | 30,817.0   | 4,162.5   | 14.0%  | 29,639.5  |
| 1681-90 | 69,439.6  | 98.9%                      | 785.7  | 6.1%  | 12,195.1   | 93.9%  | 12,980.8   | 4,990.0   | 29.0%  | 17,185.1  |
| 1691-00 | 50,117.4  | 95.7%                      | 2,152.5  | 24.6%   | 6,595.8  | 75.4%  | 8,748.3  | 4,246.7   | 39.2%  | 10,842.5  |
| 1701-10 | 44,318.4  | 90.4%                      | 4,238.1  | 24.0%   | 13,395.1   | 76.0%  | 17,633.2   | 3,192.2   | 19.2%  | 16,587.3  |
| 1711-20 | 24,447.0  | 99.2%                      | 197.8  | 1.1%  | 18,370.0   | 98.9%  | 18,567.8   | 2,583.9   | 12.3%  | 20,953.9  |

# Monetary Changes, 1640 – 1740: monetary contractions 3

- (2) **Possible causes of monetary contraction, cont'd**
  - (b) **Increased Outflows of Bullion to Asia:**
    - i) **chief economic importance of Spanish-American silver was to finance Europe's** vastly increased global trade: especially to Asia:
    - ii) **but from 1660s, bullion outflows to Asia surpassed influx of bullion from Americas:**
      - - outflows to finance trade with Asia: the Levant (Med), Persia, India & South Asia, China, East Indies
    - iii) **Europeans unable to sell sufficient merchandise in buying goods from these eastern regions:** thus had to make up the difference in bullion shipments (silver)

# Monetary Changes, 1640 – 1740: monetary contractions 4

- iv) **Trade with Asia: WHY a European deficit (balance of payments)?**
- - **Asians had little demand for western goods:** except arms, munitions, copper and brass goods
- - **but had high demand for silver:** whose relative value greater (in terms of gold and goods) than in Europe
- - **high costs of shipping merchandise** over 10,000 – 15,000 km of dangerous seas

# Monetary Changes, 1640 – 1740: monetary contractions 5

- c) **Increased Outflows of Bullion to the Baltic & Russia**
- **WHY it created a balance of payments deficit for West**
- -i) **Scandinavia & Russia**: sparsely settled regions, with inadequate aggregate demand for western goods
- -ii) **East Elbia (Prussia, Poland, Lithuania)**: ‘Second Serfdom’ and urban decline: removed a greater share of population from the market economy
- -iii) **Western Europe’s growing and voracious demand, from 1640s**: for Baltic grain, lumber, naval stores, iron, copper > eastern demand for western goods
- iv) **later 17<sup>th</sup> century: total value of Baltic trade**: 70% imports, 30% exports

**Exports of 'Treasure' and Merchandise to India  
By the English East India Company, in Pounds Sterling,  
Decennial Means, 1660-69 to 1710-19**

| <b>Decade</b>  | <b>Treasure: in<br/>Gold &amp; Silver</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Merchandise</b> | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Total in £<br/>sterling</b> |
|----------------|---|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>1660-69</b> | 74,022.4                                  | 64.3%          | 41,085.2           | 35.7%          | 115,107.6                      |
| <b>1670-79</b> | 234,091.4                                 | 72.2%          | 89,990.8           | 27.8%          | 324,082.2                      |
| <b>1680-89</b> | 383,707.7                                 | 87.2%          | 56,170.2           | 12.8%          | 439,877.9                      |
| <b>1690-99</b> | 166,561.4                                 | 69.8%          | 72,065.2           | 30.2%          | 238,626.6                      |
| <b>1700-09</b> | 337,008.9                                 | 84.7%          | 60,876.5           | 15.3%          | 397,885.4                      |
| <b>1710-19</b> | 371,418.1                                 | 79.2%          | 97,771.3           | 20.8%          | 469,189.4                      |
|                |   |                |                    |                |                                |

**Source:** Calculated from K. N. Chaudhuri, 'Treasure and Trade Balances: the East India Company's Export Trade, 1660-1720', *Economic History Review*, 2nd ser. 21 (Dec. 1968), Table 1, pp. 497-98.

**Exports of Gold and Silver to India by the English East India Company: Decennial Means in Kilograms of Pure Metal and Pounds Sterling Values, 1660-69 to 1710-19**

| <b>Decade</b>  | <b>Total Treasure in £ sterling</b> | <b>SILVER kg.</b> | <b>Percent by Value in £ st.</b> | <b>GOLD kg.</b> | <b>Percent by Value in £ st.</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>1660-69</b> | 74,022.40                           | 5,729.60          | 69.5%                            | 175.14          | 30.5%                            |
| <b>1670-79</b> | 234,091.40                          | 11,364.00         | 43.6%                            | 1,015.30        | 56.4%                            |
| <b>1680-89</b> | 383,707.70                          | 29,276.00         | 68.5%                            | 929.07          | 31.5%                            |
| <b>1690-99</b> | 166,561.40                          | 18,179.00         | 98.0%                            | 24.69           | 2.0%                             |
| <b>1700-09</b> | 337,008.90                          | 36,294.30         | 96.7%                            | 79.54           | 3.3%                             |
| <b>1710-19</b> | 371,418.10                          | 41,133.60         | 99.4%                            | 14.97           | 0.6%                             |
|                |                                     |                   |                                  |                 |                                  |

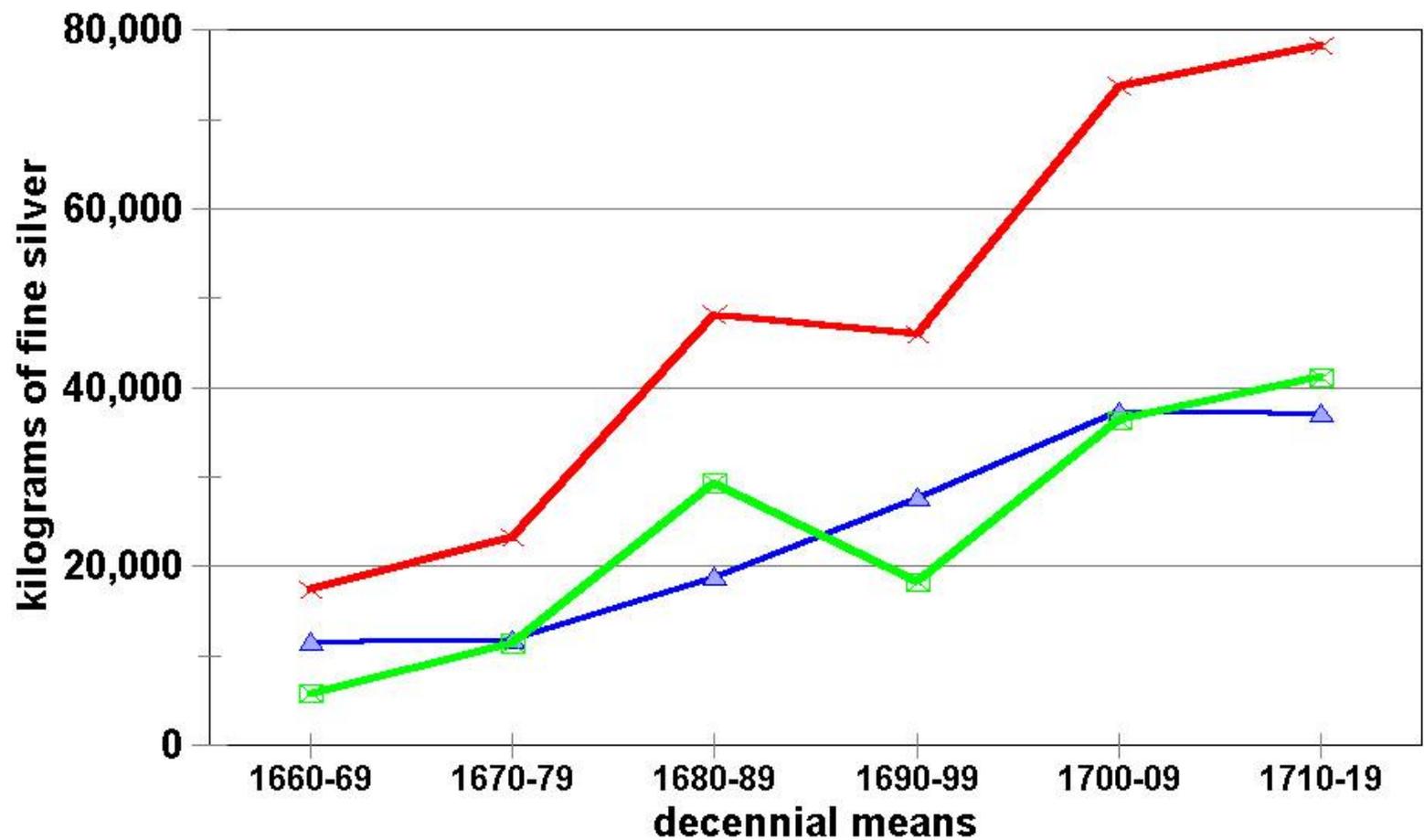
**Source:**

Calculated from K. N. Chaudhuri, 'Treasure and Trade Balances: the East India Company's Export Trade, 1660-1720', *Economic History Review*, 2nd ser. 21 (Dec. 1968), Table 1, pp. 497-98.

**Exports of Silver to India and East Asia  
by the Dutch and English East India Companies,  
in kilograms of pure metal  
Decennial Means, 1660-9 to 1710-19**

| <b>Decade</b>  | <b>By the Dutch<br/>East India Co.</b> | <b>By the English<br/>East India Co.</b> | <b>Total Silver<br/>Shipments in kg.</b> |
|----------------|--|--|--|
|                |  |  |  |
| <b>1660-69</b> | 11,563.10                              | 5,729.60                                 | 17,292.70                                |
| <b>1670-79</b> | 11,854.60                              | 11,364.00                                | 23,218.60                                |
| <b>1680-89</b> | 18,847.00                              | 29,276.00                                | 48,123.00                                |
| <b>1690-99</b> | 27,720.90                              | 18,179.00                                | 45,899.90                                |
| <b>1700-09</b> | 37,392.90                              | 36,294.30                                | 73,687.20                                |
| <b>1710-19</b> | 37,108.10                              | 41,133.60                                | 78,241.70                                |
|                |  |  |  |

# Dutch & English Silver Exports to Asia 1660-9 to 1710-9 in kilograms



—▲— Dutch East India Co.    —■— English East India Co.    —×— Total Silver Exports

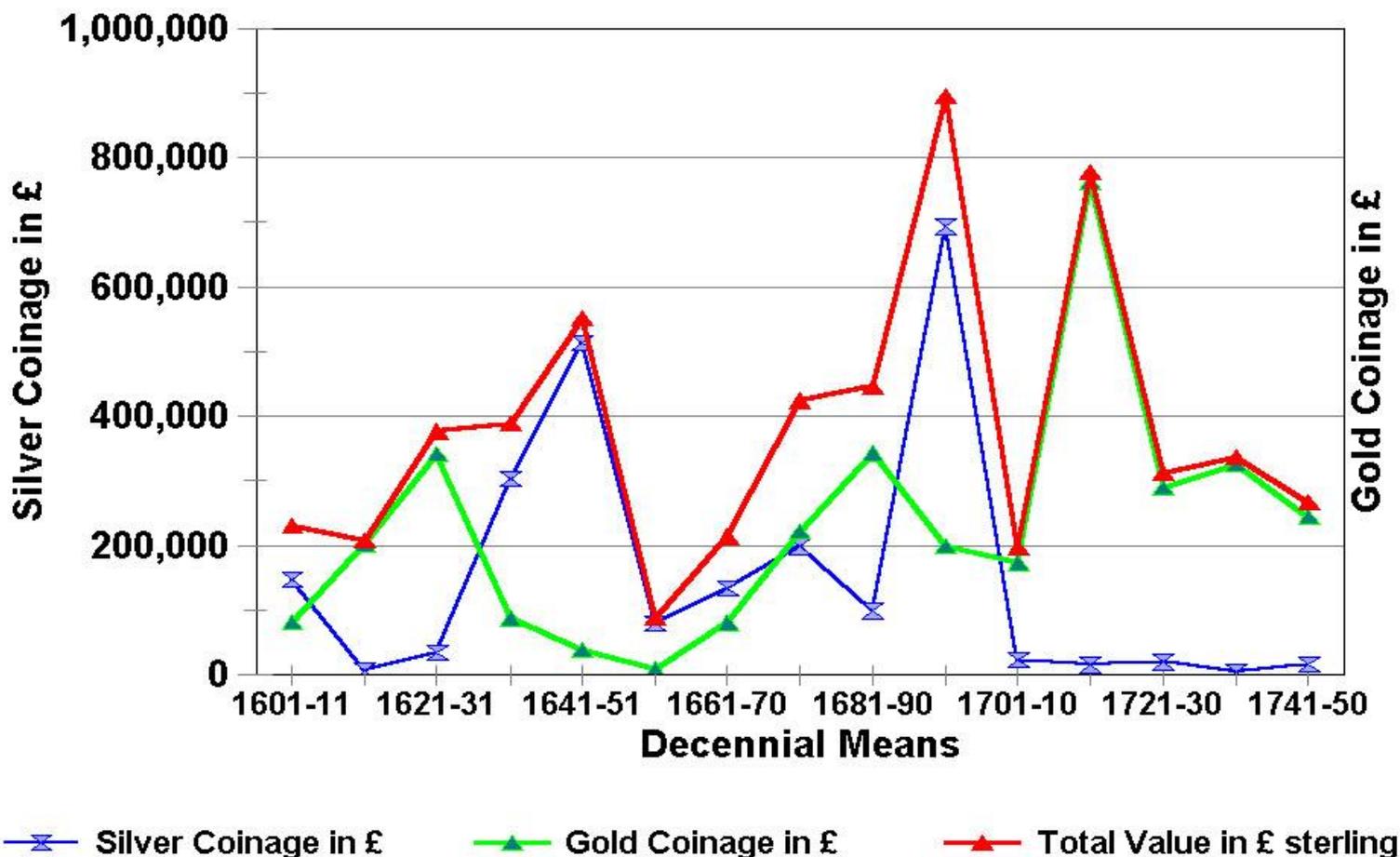
## Western Merchandise entering Smyrna (Izmir), Turkey

in 1686 - 87

| Merchandise            | Value in Turkish Piastres | percent total textiles | percent total merchandise | percent total value of trade |
|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Woollens               | 1,576,610                 | 94.32%                 | 74.22%                    | 49.56%                       |
| Silk Fabrics           | 74,600                    | 4.46%                  | 3.51%                     | 2.34%                        |
| Bonnets                | 20,266                    | 1.21%                  | 0.95%                     | 0.64%                        |
| Total Textiles         | 1,671,476                 | 100.00%                | 78.68%                    | 52.54%                       |
| Other Industrial Goods | 185,055                   |                        | 8.71%                     | 5.82%                        |
| Raw materials          | 10,740                    |                        | 0.51%                     | 0.34%                        |
| Colonial Products      | 257,070                   |                        | 12.10%                    | 8.08%                        |
| Total Merchandise      | 2,124,341                 |                        | 100.00%                   | 66.78%                       |
| Coin and Bullion       | 1,057,000                 |                        |                           | 33.22%                       |
| Total Value of Trade   | 3,181,341                 |                        |                           | 100.00%                      |

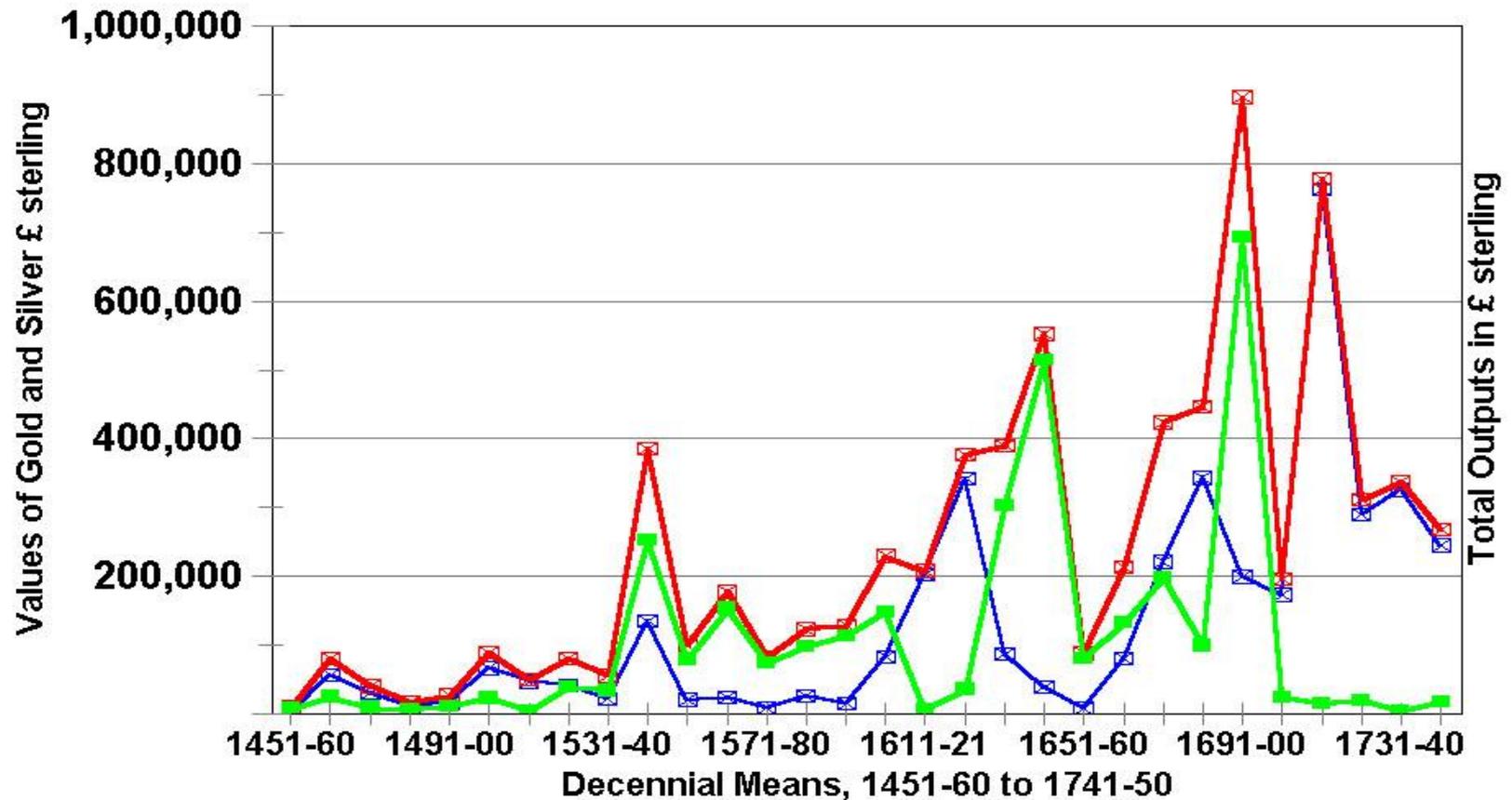
# English Mint Outputs in £ Sterling

## Silver and Gold: 1600 - 1750



# English Mint Outputs, 1451-1750

## Gold & Silver Coinages in £ sterling

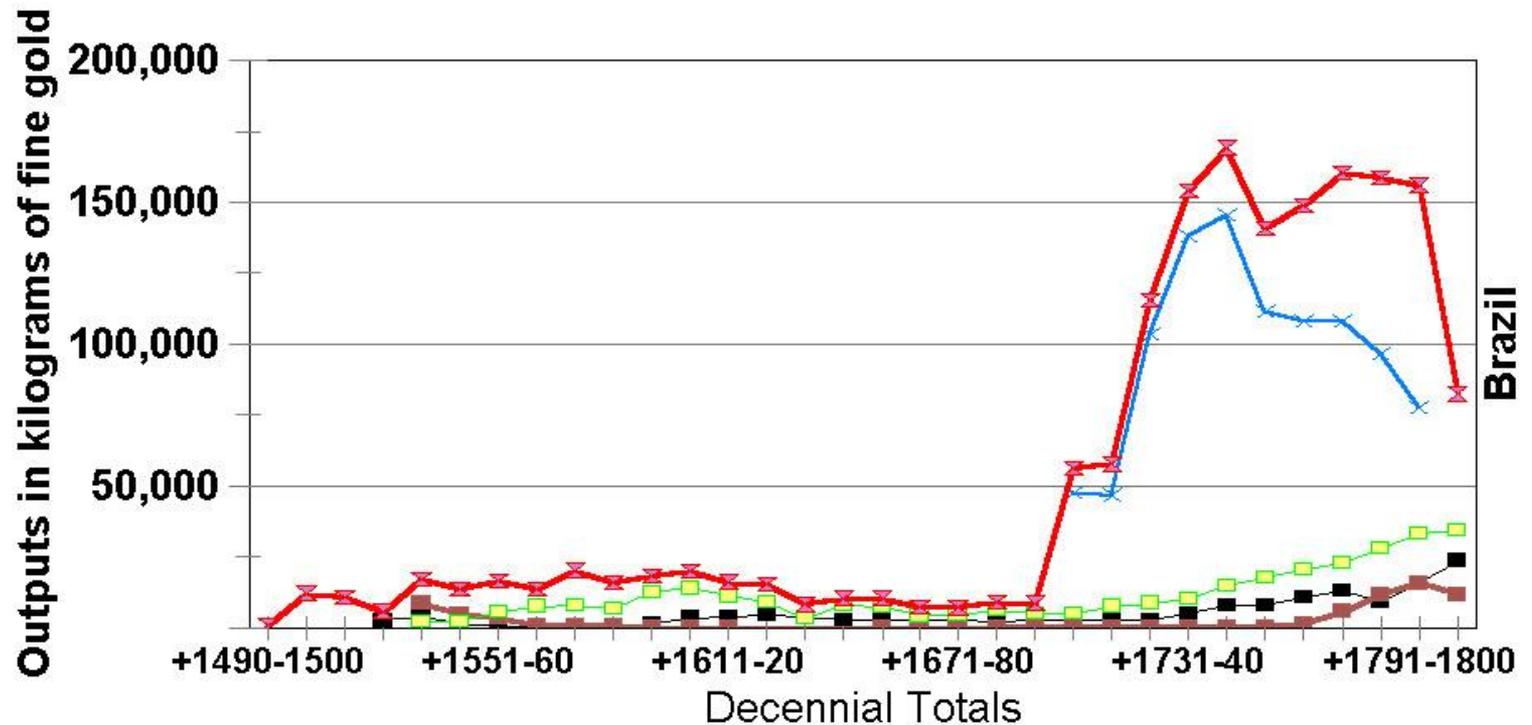


■ Gold Coinages in £ st     
 ■ Total Mint Outputs in £ st     
 ■ Silver Coinages in £ st

# Monetary Changes, 1640 – 1740: remedies for monetary scarcities

- 1) **much greater use of copper: ‘Age of Copper’**: from **German and then Swedish copper mines**
- - **1543: Habsburg Netherlands**: first to issue purely copper coins:
- - **1577: France** issues first all-copper coins
- - **1599: Spain** issues pure copper *vellon* coins
- - **1672: England** issues first copper pennies
- 2) **increased use of gold** → leading to **Gold Standard in England by the 1720s**
- - see the graph on Brazilian gold exports
- 3) **Credit: innovations in banking, finance, credit**:
- - especially issue of paper banknotes, from the 1660s

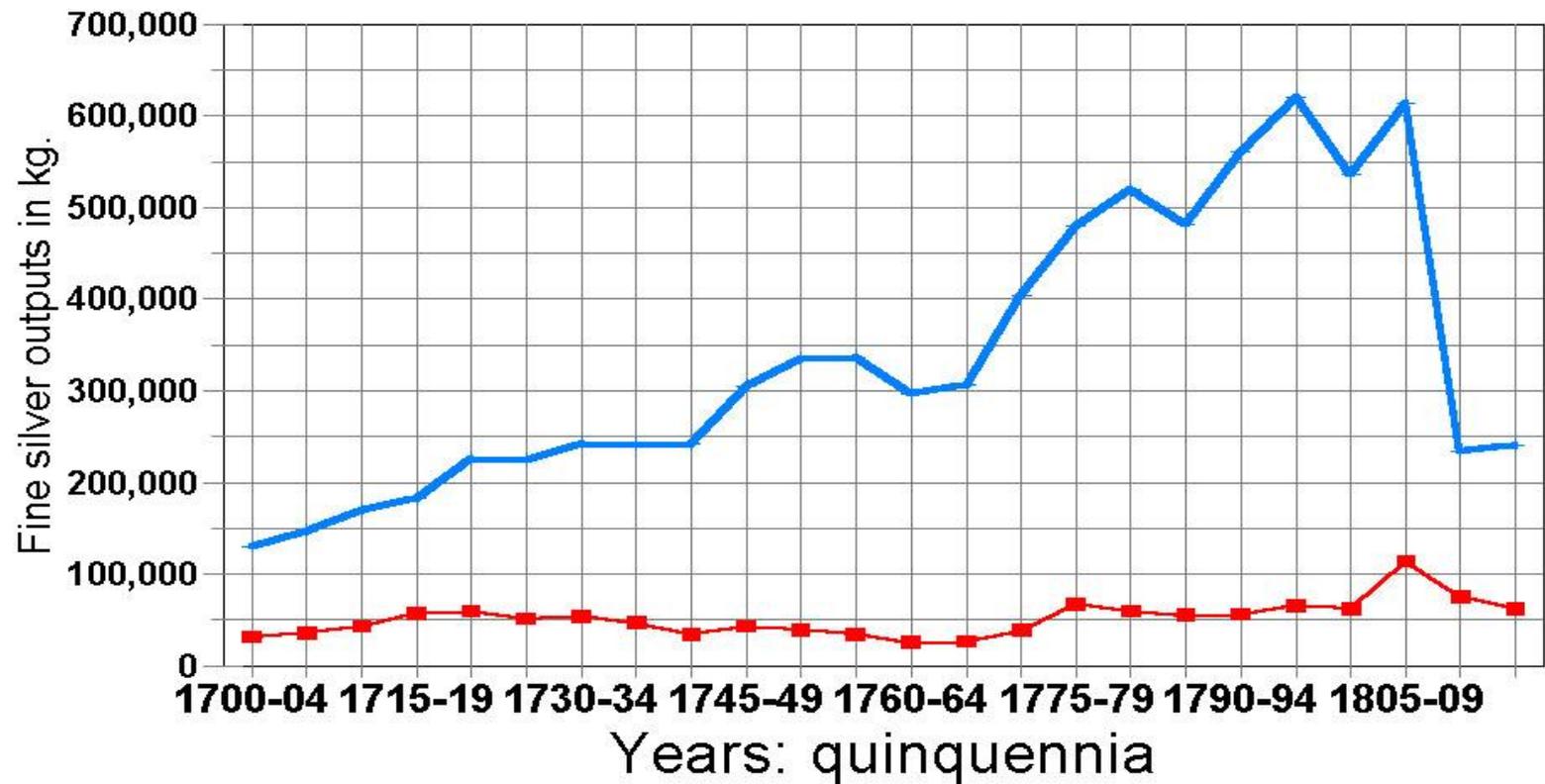
# Latin American Gold Production 1501-10 to 1801-10, in kilograms



- Mexico
- Peru
- New Granada
- × Brazil
- × Total Latin American Gold Outputs

# Mexican Silver Production 1700 - 1810

outputs in kg. fine silver: 5 yr means



■ Zacatecas

— Total Mexican Silver Output (Est)

# World Outputs of Gold and Silver 1501-20 to 1901-10 in kilograms

