

## Hem line economics

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Amongst the many things I do not claim to be is a fashion aficionado. If style is your thing then this is probably not the place to be. However, I have been aware since being a teenager that there are some who suggest that the national economic mood can be assessed by the mean skirt length of those who choose to wear them. The shorter the length, the more optimistic the mood is the unsurprising theory.

Sitting in the Eurostar departure area this morning with a sample of hundreds to observe I could not help but notice how much closer to the ankle many hem lengths are when compared to those of recent years. There were exceptions, of course, and I accept the sample is biased. But the portent is not good if the theory holds true.