



Department for Transport

# Road Freight Statistics: United Kingdom October 2014 - September 2015

## About this release

This statistical release summarises the latest statistics on the domestic and international activity of UK-registered heavy goods vehicles (HGVs).

Domestic road freight data are derived from the Continuing Survey of Road Goods Transport Great Britain (CSRGT GB) which measures the domestic activity of GB-registered HGVs operating in the UK.

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## Definitions

**Goods lifted:** the weight of goods carried measured in tonnes.

**Goods moved:** a measure of activity taking into account the weight of the load and distance through which it is hauled. It is equal to the weight of goods multiplied by distance and is measured in tonne kilometres.

## Domestic road freight: main results

In the 12 months ending September 2015 there were ...

Compared to the 12 months ending September 2014

1.63  
billion tonnes



↑ 11 per cent

150  
billion tonne kilometres



↑ 11 per cent

18.2  
billion kilometres



↑ 9 per cent

- ▶ The amount of **goods lifted** in the UK by GB-registered heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) increased by 11 per cent to 1.63 billion tonnes compared with the previous year. This is 6 per cent lower than 10 years earlier and 21 per cent higher than the recessionary low of 2009.
- ▶ The amount of **goods moved** by HGVs increased by 11 per cent to 150 billion tonne kilometres compared with the previous year. This is 3 per cent lower than 10 years earlier and 20 per cent higher than the recessionary low of 2009.

[See [Table RFS0101](#) for detailed statistics]

The 12 months ending September 2015 in context ...

**GDP**

↑ 2.5  
per cent increase compared to the previous year



↑ 1.6  
per cent higher in September 2015 compared to September 2014

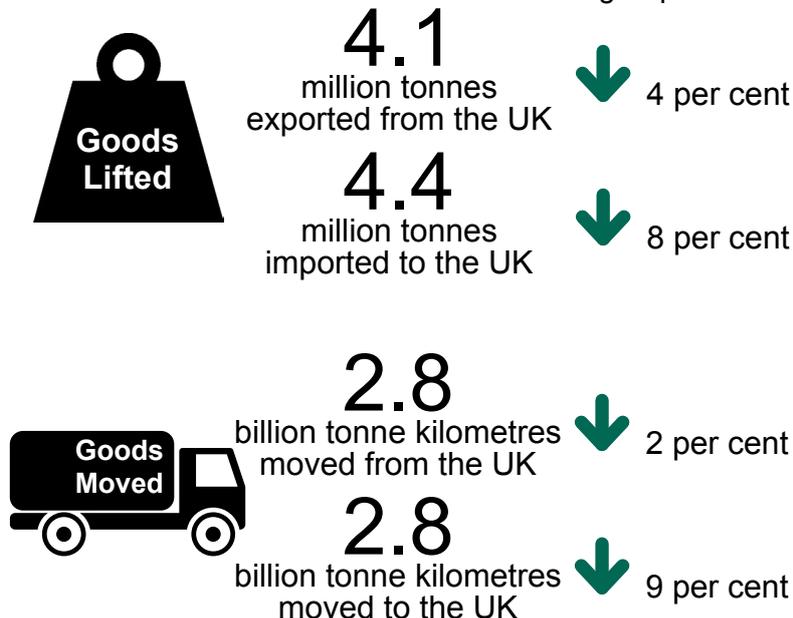
**Diesel**

↓ 17.1  
p/litre drop in average diesel prices compared to the previous year

## International road freight: main results

In the 12 months ending September 2015 there were ...

Compared to the 12 months ending September 2014



- ▶ UK-registered HGVs **lifted** a total of 8.5 million tonnes of goods to or from the UK in the 12 months ending September 2015, 6 per cent fewer than the 9.0 million tonnes carried in the previous 12 months. This is around 26 per cent lower than the same period 10 years earlier and 10 per cent lower than in 2009 during the recession.
- ▶ Over the same period, 5.6 billion tonne kilometres of **goods were moved** compared to 6.0 million tonnes kilometres in the 12 months ending September 2014 - a decrease of 6 per cent. This is around 35 per cent lower than the same period 10 years earlier and 16 per cent lower than in 2009 during the recession.

[See [Table RFS0201](#) for detailed statistics]

## About this release

International road freight data are derived from two surveys run by the Department for Transport:

the International Road Haulage Survey (IRHS) which measures the international activity of GB-registered HGVs; and

the Continuing Survey of Road Goods Transport Northern Ireland (CSRGT NI) which measures the domestic and international activity of NI-registered HGVs.

## Background notes

1. The figures in this release are derived from the Continuing Survey of Road Goods Transport Great Britain (CSRGT GB), the Continuing Survey of Road Goods Transport Northern Ireland (CSRGT NI) and the International Road Haulage Survey (IRHS) which collectively provide information on domestic and international road freight activity by UK-registered HGVs only so will exclude foreign-registered vehicles and vehicles 3.5 tonnes or less gross vehicle weight.
2. Guidance on the methods used to compile these statistics and further background information can be found in the [Road Freight Statistics notes and definitions](#). Users should note that these statistics have not been seasonally adjusted and quarterly figures are prone to fluctuation therefore quarterly percentage changes are not displayed. Comparisons between 12 month periods are likely to be more informative and have been presented for this reason.

3. Between 2011 and 2012, a number of changes were made to how the three DfT road freight surveys were processed. Caution should therefore be used for statistics based on the three freight surveys when making comparisons over time. See the [Road Freight Statistics methodology note](#) for more information.

4. Details of ministers and officials who receive pre-release access to these statistics up to 24 hours before release can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/road-freight-statistics-pre-release-access-list>.

## Acknowledgements

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