About this release
This release includes the 1st provisional estimates of trade-in-goods between the UK and both countries of the EU and those outside the EU for November 2020. Supporting tables, visuals and data can be found at www.uktradeinfo.com

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Trade in Goods, November 2020
• Total exports of goods for November 2020 were £29.2 billion. This was an increase of £0.6 billion (1.9%) compared with last month, but a decrease of £0.6 billion (1.9%) compared with November 2019.
• Total imports of goods for November 2020 were £48.7 billion. This was a decrease of £0.7 billion (1.4%) compared with last month, but an increase of £4.6 billion (10%) compared with November 2019.
• The UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £19.4 billion, narrowing by £1.2 billion on last month.

Figure 1: Total UK monthly Trade in Goods
Trade in Goods Trends

Following the global economic crisis, UK trade in goods dropped in 2009. Both imports and exports then steadily increased until 2012. From the start of 2013, imports remained relatively flat until a very sharp increase in Q3 of 2016. It has experienced large quarterly fluctuations since Q1 of 2019 and Q2 of 2020 saw the lowest quarterly imports value since Q3 of 2010. Exports peaked in Q2 of 2013, with a steady rise from Q2 of 2017 to Q3 of 2018. Q2 of 2020 also saw the lowest quarterly exports value since Q3 of 2010. Imports have shown a recovery in Q3, while exports have remained low.

- The total export trade for Q3 of 2020 was £74.4 billion, which was a decrease of 17% compared with £89.1 billion for Q3 of 2019.
- The total import trade for Q3 of 2020 was £131 billion, which was a decrease of 11% compared with £148 billion for Q3 of 2019.
- There was a trade deficit of £56.8 billion for Q3 of 2020. This was a narrowing of 3.5% compared with £58.9 billion for Q3 2019.
- For many years Germany has been our largest trading import partner by value. The USA has been the dominant trading partner for exports for many years.
- Mechanical appliances and Motor vehicles have generally been the largest import commodities by value. For exports, Mechanical appliances has also predominantly been the largest valued commodity, with occasional peaks for Precious metals.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, trade in Q2 2020 saw abnormally low values, affecting our largest trade partners and commodity groups at differing magnitudes.

Figure 2: Quarterly UK Trade in Goods, 2009 – 2020

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
Non-EU & EU Trade in Goods

Non-EU Trade in Goods:

- **Non-EU exports** for November 2020 were £14.3 billion. This was a decrease of £0.4 billion (2.5%) on last month, and a decrease of £2.5 billion (15%) compared with November 2019.
- **Non-EU imports** for November 2020 were £25.2 billion. This was a decrease of £1.8 billion (6.8%) on last month, but an increase of £2.3 billion (10%) compared with November 2019.
- For **non-EU trade** the UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £10.9 billion.

EU Trade in Goods:

- **EU exports** for November 2020 were £14.9 billion. This was an increase of £0.9 billion (6.6%) on last month, and an increase of £1.9 billion (15%) compared with November 2019.
- **EU imports** for November 2020 were £23.4 billion. This was an increase of £1.1 billion (5.1%) on last month, and an increase of £2.3 billion (11%) compared with November 2019.
- For **EU trade** the UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £8.5 billion.

**Figure 3: Total UK Trade in Goods, with EU and Non-EU, November 2020**

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non EU</td>
<td>£25.2bn</td>
<td>£14.3bn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>£23.4bn</td>
<td>£14.9bn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£48.7bn</td>
<td>£29.2bn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2020 data is provisional
Exports: Country Analysis

- The USA remained as the largest export partner country. It experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on November 2019, down £487 million (10%).
- Switzerland (in 12th place) experienced the largest value decrease on last month, and the 2nd largest decrease on November 2019, down £722 million (59%) and £648 million (56%) respectively.
- China showed the largest value decrease on November 2019, down £965 million (40%).
- The Netherlands experienced the largest value increase on last month, and the 2nd largest increase on November 2019, up £494 million (29%) and £418 million (23%) respectively.
- Saudi Arabia (13th place) experienced the 2nd largest value increase on last month, up £260 million (more than double the value).
- Republic of Ireland experienced the 3rd largest value increase on last month, and the largest value increase on November 2019, up £250 million (11%) and £855 million (48%) respectively.

Table 1: UK exports of goods to the top 10 countries, November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4,184</td>
<td>3,991</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4,671</td>
<td>-10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3,265</td>
<td>3,115</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>2,951</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Ireland</td>
<td>2,626</td>
<td>2,376</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>1,771</td>
<td>48.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2,202</td>
<td>1,708</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>1,784</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1,578</td>
<td>1,809</td>
<td>-12.8</td>
<td>1,869</td>
<td>-15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1,458</td>
<td>1,332</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>2,422</td>
<td>-39.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1,003</td>
<td>1,087</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>-4.9</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>-2.6</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>10,494</td>
<td>10,879</td>
<td>-3.5</td>
<td>11,216</td>
<td>-6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total EU</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,948</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,022</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,032</strong></td>
<td><strong>14.7</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-EU</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,292</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,663</strong></td>
<td><strong>-2.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,772</strong></td>
<td><strong>-14.8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Exports</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,240</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,685</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,803</strong></td>
<td><strong>-1.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
Exports: Country Analysis

- The top 5 export partners accounted for 47% of total exports in goods in November 2020. This was an increase from a 46% share in November 2019.

- The USA accounted for 14% of the total value of exports from the UK. This was a decrease from a 16% share in November 2019.

- Germany had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 11%. This was an increase from a 9.9% share in November 2019.

- The top 10 export partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, Spain rose to 8th place from 10th while Switzerland fell to 12th place from 7th.

- The top 10 export partner countries (ranked by value) changed order compared with November 2019. Most notably, the Republic of Ireland rose to 3rd place from 6th, while China fell to 6th place from 3rd.

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Figure 4: Share of UK exports of goods to the top 5 countries, November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Value (£bn)</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep. of Ireland</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others EU</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others Non-EU</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
Exports: Country Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to November 2020, the USA remained the largest export partner country. Among the top 10, it experienced the 3rd largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 27%.

- Among the top 10, Republic of Ireland experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to August 2020, and the only increase on November 2019, up 41% and 20% respectively.

- Among the top 10, the Netherlands experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to August 2020, up 28%.

- Among the top 10, Switzerland experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to August 2020, down 24%. It experienced the 2nd largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 28%.

- Among the top 10, China experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 42%.

- 8 of the top 10 export partners experienced increases on the 3 months to August 2020. Spain and Switzerland were the exceptions.

Table 2: UK exports of goods to the top 10 countries, 3 months to November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Country</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2020</th>
<th>3 months to Aug 2020</th>
<th>Change on August 2020 (%)</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2019</th>
<th>Change on November 2019 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>11,455</td>
<td>10,405</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>15,668</td>
<td>-26.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>8,999</td>
<td>7,574</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>9,345</td>
<td>-3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Republic</td>
<td>6,904</td>
<td>4,882</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>5,744</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>5,463</td>
<td>4,278</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>5,910</td>
<td>-7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>5,098</td>
<td>4,602</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>6,154</td>
<td>-17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4,043</td>
<td>3,527</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>6,981</td>
<td>-42.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>3,040</td>
<td>2,546</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>3,229</td>
<td>-5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>2,509</td>
<td>2,125</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>2,593</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2,363</td>
<td>2,371</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>2,935</td>
<td>-19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>2,263</td>
<td>2,987</td>
<td>-24.3</td>
<td>3,147</td>
<td>-28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>31,714</td>
<td>27,575</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>33,542</td>
<td>-5.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Exports 83,851 72,873 15.1 95,250 -12.0

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2020 data is provisional
Table 3: UK exports of goods for the top 10 commodities, November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity Description</th>
<th>November 2020 (£ millions)</th>
<th>October 2020 (£ millions)</th>
<th>Change from October 2020 (%)</th>
<th>November 2019 (£ millions)</th>
<th>Change from November 2019 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical appliances</td>
<td>4,166</td>
<td>4,179</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>4,658</td>
<td>-10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>3,281</td>
<td>3,386</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
<td>3,388</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral fuels</td>
<td>2,478</td>
<td>1,544</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precious metals</td>
<td>2,297</td>
<td>2,494</td>
<td>-7.9</td>
<td>2,975</td>
<td>-22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic equipment</td>
<td>1,858</td>
<td>1,835</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1,870</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical products</td>
<td>1,724</td>
<td>1,789</td>
<td>-3.6</td>
<td>1,644</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measuring devices and gauges</td>
<td>1,269</td>
<td>1,246</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>-3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other products</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>825</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft</td>
<td>804</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>-8.0</td>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>-34.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics and plastic products</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>-1.5</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>9,762</td>
<td>9,770</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>8,893</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Exports</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,240</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,685</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,803</strong></td>
<td><strong>-1.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2020 data is provisional

- Mechanical appliances remained as the largest export commodity. It experienced the 2nd largest decrease on November 2019, down £491 million (11%).
- Mineral fuels experienced the largest value increase on last month, up £934 million (61%).
- Arms and ammunition (20th place) experienced the 2nd largest value increase on last month, and the largest on November 2019, up £215 million (4.5 times the value) and £197 million (3.5 times the value) respectively.
- Precious metals experienced the largest value decrease on last month, and on November 2019, down £197 million (7.9%) and £678 million (23%) respectively.
- Miscellaneous chemical products (13th place) experienced the 2nd largest value increase on November 2019, up £141 million (34%).
- Aircraft experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on November 2019, down £415 million (34%).
Exports: Commodity Analysis

- The top 5 export commodities (ranked by value) accounted for 48% of exports in November 2020, this was a decrease from a 51% share in November 2019.

- Mechanical appliances had the largest proportion, accounting for 14% of total exports. This was a decrease from a 16% share in November 2019.

- Motor vehicles had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 11% of total exports. This was a decrease of less than 1 percentage point on November 2019.

- The top 10 export commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, Mineral fuels rose to 3rd place from 6th.

- The top 10 export commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with November 2019. Most notably, Plastic and plastic products rose to 10th place from 12th.

Figure 5: Share of UK exports by the top 5 commodities, November 2020

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
**Exports: Commodity Analysis – 3 Months**

- In the 3 months to November 2020, Mechanical appliances remained the largest export commodity, experiencing an increase on the 3 months to August 2020, up 8.5%.
- Among the top 10, Motor vehicles experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to August 2020, up 59%.
- Among the top 10, Precious metals experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to August 2020, down 4.9%.
- Among the top 10, Aircraft experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 30%.
- Among the top 10, Mineral fuels experienced the 2nd largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 28%.
- Among the top 10, Other products experienced the only percentage increase on the 3 months to November 2019, up 2.8%.
- 8 of the top 10 commodities experienced increases on the 3 months to August 2020. Precious metals and Other products were the exceptions.

### Table 4: UK exports of goods for the top 10 commodities, 3 months to November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity Description</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2020</th>
<th>3 months to Aug 2020</th>
<th>Change on August 2020 (%)</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2019</th>
<th>Change on November 2019 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Change (%), (Change)</td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Change (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical appliances</td>
<td>12,138</td>
<td>11,184</td>
<td>8.5, 8.5</td>
<td>14,916</td>
<td>-18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>9,502</td>
<td>5,959</td>
<td>59.5, 59%</td>
<td>10,935</td>
<td>-13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precious metals</td>
<td>6,734</td>
<td>7,078</td>
<td>-4.9, -4.9</td>
<td>7,945</td>
<td>-15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral fuels</td>
<td>5,437</td>
<td>4,626</td>
<td>17.5, 17.5</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>-27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic equipment</td>
<td>5,403</td>
<td>4,816</td>
<td>12.2, 12.2</td>
<td>5,834</td>
<td>-7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical products</td>
<td>4,946</td>
<td>4,746</td>
<td>4.2, 4.2</td>
<td>5,688</td>
<td>-13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measuring devices and gauges</td>
<td>3,688</td>
<td>3,357</td>
<td>9.8, 9.8</td>
<td>4,096</td>
<td>-10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft</td>
<td>2,584</td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>15.9, 15.9</td>
<td>3,706</td>
<td>-30.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other products</td>
<td>2,407</td>
<td>2,461</td>
<td>-2.2, -2.2</td>
<td>2,342</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics and plastic products</td>
<td>2,204</td>
<td>2,017</td>
<td>9.3, 9.3</td>
<td>2,327</td>
<td>-5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>28,808</td>
<td>24,400</td>
<td>18.1, 18.1</td>
<td>29,959</td>
<td>-3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Exports</strong></td>
<td><strong>83,851</strong></td>
<td><strong>72,873</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>95,250</strong></td>
<td><strong>-12.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics  
Note: 2020 data is provisional
Country to commodity:

- The increase in exports to Republic of Ireland on last month was led by Mechanical appliances, up £218 million (83%). The increase on November 2019 was led by Mechanical appliances and Pharmaceutical products, up £278 million (more than double the value) and £277 million (6 times the value) respectively.
- The increase in exports to the Netherlands on last month and on November 2019 was led by Mineral fuels, up £301 million (48%) and £311 million (50%) respectively.
- The decrease in exports to the USA compared with November 2019 was led by Mechanical appliances, down £254 million (30%).

Commodity to country

- The decrease in exports of Precious metals on last month was dominated by Switzerland, down £501 million (79%). The decrease on November 2019 was led by China and Switzerland, down £693 million (82%) and £586 million (81%) respectively.
- The increase in exports of Arms and ammunition on last month and on November 2019 was led by Saudi Arabia, up £219 million (from £2.9 million) and £222 million (from less than £1.0 million) respectively.
- The decrease in exports of Aircraft on November 2019 was led by France and Germany, down £226 million (67%), and £140 million (43%) respectively.
- The increase in exports of Miscellaneous chemical products on November 2019 was led by Germany and France, up £45.1 million (double the value) and £20.3 million (63%) respectively.

Figure 6: The UK’s top commodity exports to the top 5 countries

- USA: The primary export to the USA in November 2020 was Motor vehicles. These exports totalled £718 million.
- Germany: The primary export to Germany in November 2020 was Mechanical appliances. These exports totalled £379 million.
- Rep. of Ireland: The primary export to the Rep. of Ireland in November 2020 was Mechanical appliances. These exports totalled £402 million.
- Netherlands: The primary export to the Netherlands in November 2020 was Mineral fuels. These exports totalled £334 million.
- France: The primary export to France in November 2020 was Mechanical appliances. These exports totalled £243 million.

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
## Imports: Country Analysis

- China remained the largest import partner, despite experiencing the 3rd largest decrease on last month, down £348 million (5.3%). In contrast, it experienced the largest value increase on November 2019, up £2,245 million (56%).

- Canada experienced the largest value increase on last month, up £501 million (46%).

- Hong Kong (14th place) experienced the largest value decrease on last month, down £859 million (44%).

- Switzerland experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month and the largest value decrease on November 2019, down £579 million (50%) and £459 million (44%) respectively.

- Russia experienced the 2nd largest value increase on November 2019, up £671 million (48%).

- Germany experienced the 3rd largest value increase on November 2019, up £581 million (11%).

### Table 5: UK imports of goods from the top 10 countries, November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Country</th>
<th>November 2020</th>
<th>October 2020</th>
<th>Change on October 2020 (%)</th>
<th>November 2019</th>
<th>Change on November 2019 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>6,237 (£ millions)</td>
<td>6,585 (£ millions)</td>
<td>-5.3</td>
<td>3,992 (£ millions)</td>
<td>56.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>5,767 (£ millions)</td>
<td>5,671 (£ millions)</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>5,186 (£ millions)</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4,103 (£ millions)</td>
<td>3,931 (£ millions)</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4,300 (£ millions)</td>
<td>-4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>3,597 (£ millions)</td>
<td>3,259 (£ millions)</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>3,406 (£ millions)</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>2,336 (£ millions)</td>
<td>2,159 (£ millions)</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>1,793 (£ millions)</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>2,250 (£ millions)</td>
<td>2,290 (£ millions)</td>
<td>-1.7</td>
<td>2,303 (£ millions)</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2,062 (£ millions)</td>
<td>2,233 (£ millions)</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
<td>1,391 (£ millions)</td>
<td>48.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1,762 (£ millions)</td>
<td>1,719 (£ millions)</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1,664 (£ millions)</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1,585 (£ millions)</td>
<td>1,083 (£ millions)</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td>1,270 (£ millions)</td>
<td>24.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep. of Ireland</td>
<td>1,546 (£ millions)</td>
<td>1,286 (£ millions)</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>1,100 (£ millions)</td>
<td>40.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>17,411 (£ millions)</td>
<td>19,131 (£ millions)</td>
<td>-9.0</td>
<td>17,651 (£ millions)</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total EU</strong></td>
<td><strong>23,443 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,304 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,180 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.7</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-EU</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,213 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,041 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>-6.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,877 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Imports</strong></td>
<td><strong>48,656 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>49,345 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>-1.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>44,057 (£ millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2020 data is provisional
Imports: Country Analysis

- The top 5 import partners accounted for 45% of the total value of goods imported in November 2020. This is an increase from 44% in November 2019.

- China accounted for 13% of the total value of goods imported to the UK. This was an increase from a 9.1% share in November 2019.

- Germany had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 12%. This was an increase of less than one percentage point from November 2019.

- The top 10 import partner countries (ranked by value) have changed compared with last month. Most notably, Belgium rose to 5th place from 7th and Canada rose to 9th place from 16th.

- The top 10 import partner countries (ranked by value) have changed compared with November 2019. Most notably, China rose to 1st place from 3rd, Canada rose to 9th place from 11th, and the Republic of Ireland rose to 10th place from 12th.
Imports: Country Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to November 2020, China replaced Germany as the largest import partner country. Among the top 10, it experienced the 3rd largest percentage increases on the 3 months to August 2020 and the 3 months to November 2019, up 42% and 40% respectively.

- Among the top 10, Russia experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to August 2020 and the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to November 2019, up 60% and 95% respectively.

- Among the top 10, Hong Kong experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to November 2019, more than doubling in value.

- Among the top 10, Switzerland experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to August 2020, up 58%. Conversely, it experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 34%.

- All of the top 10 countries experienced an increase on the 3 months to August 2020.

- 6 of the top 10 countries experienced a decrease on the 3 months to November 2019. The exceptions were China, Russia, Belgium, and Hong Kong.

Table 6: UK imports of goods from the top 10 countries, 3 months to November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Country</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2020</th>
<th>3 months to Aug 2020</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Change on November 2019 (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>18,703</td>
<td>13,200</td>
<td>41.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>17,158</td>
<td>13,546</td>
<td>26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>11,909</td>
<td>9,530</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>9,849</td>
<td>8,341</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>7,373</td>
<td>4,599</td>
<td>60.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>6,725</td>
<td>5,081</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>6,718</td>
<td>4,900</td>
<td>37.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>5,932</td>
<td>5,842</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>5,061</td>
<td>4,250</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>4,607</td>
<td>2,907</td>
<td>58.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>53,779</td>
<td>47,617</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Imports</strong></td>
<td><strong>147,814</strong></td>
<td><strong>119,814</strong></td>
<td><strong>23.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
Imports: Commodity Analysis

- Precious metals remained the largest import commodity despite experiencing the largest value decrease on last month, down £1,914 million (21%). Conversely, it experienced the largest value increase on November 2019, up £1,272 million (21%).

- Electronic equipment experienced the largest value increase on last month and the 2nd largest value increase on November 2019, up £1,081 million (26%) and £785 million (18%) respectively.

- Mineral fuels experienced the largest value decrease on November 2019, down £1,250 (36%).

- Clothes (not knitted) (11th place) experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month, down £766 million (48%).

- Mechanical appliances experienced the 2nd largest value increase on last month, up £677 million (14%).

- Motor vehicles experienced the 3rd largest value increase on November 2019, up £649 million (15%).

Table 7: UK imports of goods for the top 10 commodities, November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity Description</th>
<th>November 2020 Total (£ millions)</th>
<th>October 2020 Total (£ millions)</th>
<th>Change on October 2020 (%)</th>
<th>November 2019 Total (£ millions)</th>
<th>Change on November 2019 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Precious metals</td>
<td>7,263</td>
<td>9,176</td>
<td>-20.9</td>
<td>5,991</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical appliances</td>
<td>5,441</td>
<td>4,764</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>5,434</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic equipment</td>
<td>5,190</td>
<td>4,109</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>4,405</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>4,949</td>
<td>4,992</td>
<td>-0.9</td>
<td>4,299</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral fuels</td>
<td>2,213</td>
<td>2,077</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>3,463</td>
<td>-36.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical products</td>
<td>2,109</td>
<td>1,926</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>1,604</td>
<td>31.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measuring devices and gauges</td>
<td>1,467</td>
<td>1,529</td>
<td>-4.1</td>
<td>1,183</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics and plastic products</td>
<td>1,372</td>
<td>1,409</td>
<td>-2.6</td>
<td>1,131</td>
<td>21.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knitwear</td>
<td>879</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>-20.6</td>
<td>936</td>
<td>-6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic chemicals</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>62.1</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>64.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>16,908</td>
<td>17,722</td>
<td>-4.6</td>
<td>15,083</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Imports</strong></td>
<td><strong>48,656</strong></td>
<td><strong>49,345</strong></td>
<td><strong>-1.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>44,057</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional
**Imports: Commodity Analysis**

- The top 5 import commodities (ranked by value) accounted for 51% of the total value of goods imported in November 2020. This was a decrease from a 54% share in November 2019.

- Precious metals accounted for 15% of the total value of goods imported to the UK. This was an increase from a 14% share in November 2019.

- Mechanical appliances had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for an 11% share. This is a decrease from a 12% share in November 2019.

- The top 10 commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, Motor vehicles fell to 4th place from 2nd and Organic chemicals rose to 10th place from 19th.

- The top 10 commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with November 2019. The top 9 were unchanged but Organic chemicals rose to 10th place from 16th.

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**Figure 8: Share of UK imports for the top 5 commodities, November 2020**

![Bar chart showing the contribution of the top 5 commodities to UK imports.](chart)

*Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics*

*Note: 2020 data is provisional*
Imports: Commodity Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to November 2020, Precious metals remained the largest import commodity. Among the top 10, it experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to November 2019, up 21%.

- Among the top 10, Clothes (not knitted) experienced the largest percentage increases on the 3 months to August 2020 and the 3 months to November 2019, up 66% and 46% respectively.

- Among the top 10, Mineral fuels experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to November 2019, down 41%.

- Among the top 10, Knitwear experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to August 2020, up 48%.

- All of the top 10 commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to August 2020.

- 5 of the top 10 commodities experienced increases on the 3 months to November 2019, and 5 experienced decreases.

Table 8: UK imports of goods for the top 10 commodities, 3 months to November 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity Description</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 2020</th>
<th>3 months to Aug 2020</th>
<th>3 months to Nov 199</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Total (£ millions)</td>
<td>Change on August 2020 (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precious metals</td>
<td>28,445</td>
<td>25,186</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical appliances</td>
<td>14,729</td>
<td>12,642</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>14,614</td>
<td>10,045</td>
<td>45.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic equipment</td>
<td>13,186</td>
<td>10,183</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral fuels</td>
<td>6,327</td>
<td>4,815</td>
<td>31.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical products</td>
<td>5,641</td>
<td>4,615</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measuring devices and gauges</td>
<td>4,378</td>
<td>3,476</td>
<td>25.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics and plastic products</td>
<td>4,258</td>
<td>3,513</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothes, not knitted</td>
<td>3,579</td>
<td>2,155</td>
<td>66.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knitwear</td>
<td>2,956</td>
<td>2,003</td>
<td>47.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>49,672</td>
<td>41,180</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Imports</strong></td>
<td><strong>147,814</strong></td>
<td><strong>119,814</strong></td>
<td><strong>23.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2020 data is provisional
Imports: Combined Commodity & Country Analysis

Country to commodity:
- The increase in imports from China on November 2019 was driven by Electronic equipment, up £718 million (70%).
- The increase in imports from Canada on last month was driven by Precious metals, up £488 million (61%).
- The increase in imports from Germany on November 2019 was driven by Motor vehicles, up £129 million (8.0%).

Commodity to country:
- The increase in imports of Precious metals on last month was dominated by Hong Kong and Switzerland, down £698 million (58%) and £640 million (84%). The increase on November 2019 was driven by Russia and Hong Kong, up £859 million (97%) and £402 million (more than 4.5 times the value) respectively.
- The decrease in imports of Mineral fuels on November 2019 was driven by the USA, down £258 million (55%).
- The decrease in imports of Clothes (not knitted) on last month was dominated by China, down £528 million (63%).
- The increase in imports of Mechanical appliances on last month was driven by China and the USA, up £268 million (32%) and £241 million (39%) respectively.

Figure 9: The UK’s top commodity imports from the top 5 countries

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2020 data is provisional.
Metadata
Data behind this bulletin is available through our uktradeinfo web site:

- Detailed Trade Statistics data at 8-digit commodity code level is available in our interactive database.
- Aggregate OTS data is available in pre-prepared Excel tables.

Data sources
The EU figures provided in this publication of the November 2020 Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics are collected from the Intrastat survey. They include:

- Estimates for businesses who have yet to submit detailed data on the trade they had with other EU Member States this month.
- Estimates for businesses who do not have to submit detailed data on the trade they have with other EU Member States.
- An adjustment for trade associated with Missing Trader Intra Community fraud. More details of this can be found in the OTS methodology paper here.

Estimates are included in all high-level totals including commodity (HS2) and country totals.

The Non-EU figures provided in this publication of the November 2020 Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics are presented by customs declarations and collected by the CHIEF (Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight) system.

These data sources remain unchanged as trade conducted in November 2020 was within the Transition Period.

Detailed trade information is presented according to the Harmonised System (HS) nomenclature.

Methodology
This methodology paper covers all aspects of the Overseas Trade Statistics methodology – data sources, classifications and definitions, quality assurance, publications and governance. It is a useful companion to the trade data, providing the definitions and methodologies on which the data are based. The Overseas Trade Statistics Methodology paper (October 2019) is available here.

From the May 2016 month of account, there was a methodological change to the way our trade-in-goods statistics are compiled. Following a change in legislation, trade-in-goods statistics switched from the 'general trade' system of compilation to the 'special trade' system. More information can be found in the OTS methodology paper here.

Non-Monetary Gold (NMG) can form a substantial part of the non-EU Overseas Trade Statistics (OTS). For further information, see Inclusion of Non-Monetary Gold in OTS. Data relating to monthly non-EU and EU import and export totals for January 2008 onwards with a breakdown of non-monetary gold and other trade is available in an OTS time series spreadsheet.

Relationship with other statistical publications
The aggregate estimates here will differ slightly from those that are published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) as part of the Balance of Payments (BoP), as the 2 sets of data are compiled to different sets of rules. The ONS web site provides an overview of BoP, where you can find their detailed monthly UK Trade Releases. The BoP publication shows a high-level picture of UK trade-in-goods, whereas the OTS publication shows a detailed picture of the UK’s trade-in-goods by commodity and partner country.
The aggregate estimates here will differ from the Eurostat publication Euro area external trade. The OTS was published up until the May 2016 month of account as ‘general trade’ based upon goods recorded as they enter or leave the UK. This will include goods imported into and exported from a freezone or customs warehouse, regardless of their future use. The Eurostat EU external trade data are published as ‘special trade’ where goods are recorded as trade only when they enter free circulation or are declared to specific Customs regimes such as Inward Processing (IP) or Processing under Customs Control (PCC). Imports from a free zone or customs warehouse are similarly recorded in ‘special trade’.

**National Statistics Publication**

HM Revenue & Customs released these latest statistics on Overseas Trade with countries on 15 January 2021 under arrangements set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The 1st release is published on HMRC’s trade data website www.uktradeinfo.com.

This release includes the 1st provisional estimates of trade-in-goods between the UK and both countries of the EU and those outside the EU for November 2020. At the same time revisions for all previously published non-EU and EU data for 2020 are also being released in line with the HM Revenue & Customs Policy on Revisions.

The next three publications are due for release on the following days:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month of account</th>
<th>First release date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2020</td>
<td>12 February 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2021</td>
<td>12 March 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2021</td>
<td>13 April 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The OTS has been reviewed as part of an assessment made of Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics by the UK Statistics Authority. The report of that assessment can be found here.

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- Are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

As the UK leaves the EU, it is important that our statistics continue to be of high quality and are internationally comparable. During the transition period, those UK statistics that align with EU practice and rules will continue to do so in the same way as before 31 January 2020. After the transition period, we will continue to produce statistics in line with the UK Statistics Authority’s Code of Practice for Statistics and in accordance with internationally agreed statistical guidance and standards. As this release relates to November 2020 UK trade in goods, which is before the end of Transition Period, 31 December 2020, these statistics have been compiled in line with EU practices and rules.