



Department
for Transport

Statistical Notice

Amendment to maritime statistics publications

Aim

To alert users to the decision to end the production of the “Port Freight Statistics: Provisional Figures”.

Summary

Maritime Statistics currently publishes “Port Freight Statistics: Final Figures” at the end of September. This publication holds data for all UK ports as detailed in the table below.

In addition to this we publish:

- “Port Freight Statistics: Quarter 4”. This publication provides an indication to the direction of the trend and is published in March.
- “Port Freight Statistics: Provisional Figures”. This provides summary details for all ports published at the end of June. The information in this publication is mostly already covered in the quarterly release.

Current system of publications

Publication	Month Available	Tonnage	Units	Direction	Major Ports	Minor Ports	Overall cargo	Cargo by port	Destination
Quarterly	March	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Provisional	June	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Annual	September	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Maritime Statistics has decided to cease the production of the port freight provisional figures. By pulling the provisional publication we would be delaying the publication of the minor ports data and therefore delay the total tonnage results. However, we believe this loss is offset in the quarterly publication as it provides an accurate estimate for the tonnage through UK major ports. Major port traffic accounts for 98 per cent of the total tonnage and therefore the quarterly publication provides a strong indication to the direction of the trend.

Comparison of reported major port tonnage

	Million tonnes			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Q4	493.9	498.9	506.1	489.6
Provisional	497.2	496.8	507.0	489.8
Final	489.6	498.5	507.0	489.5

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