Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components

Commentary, June 2022

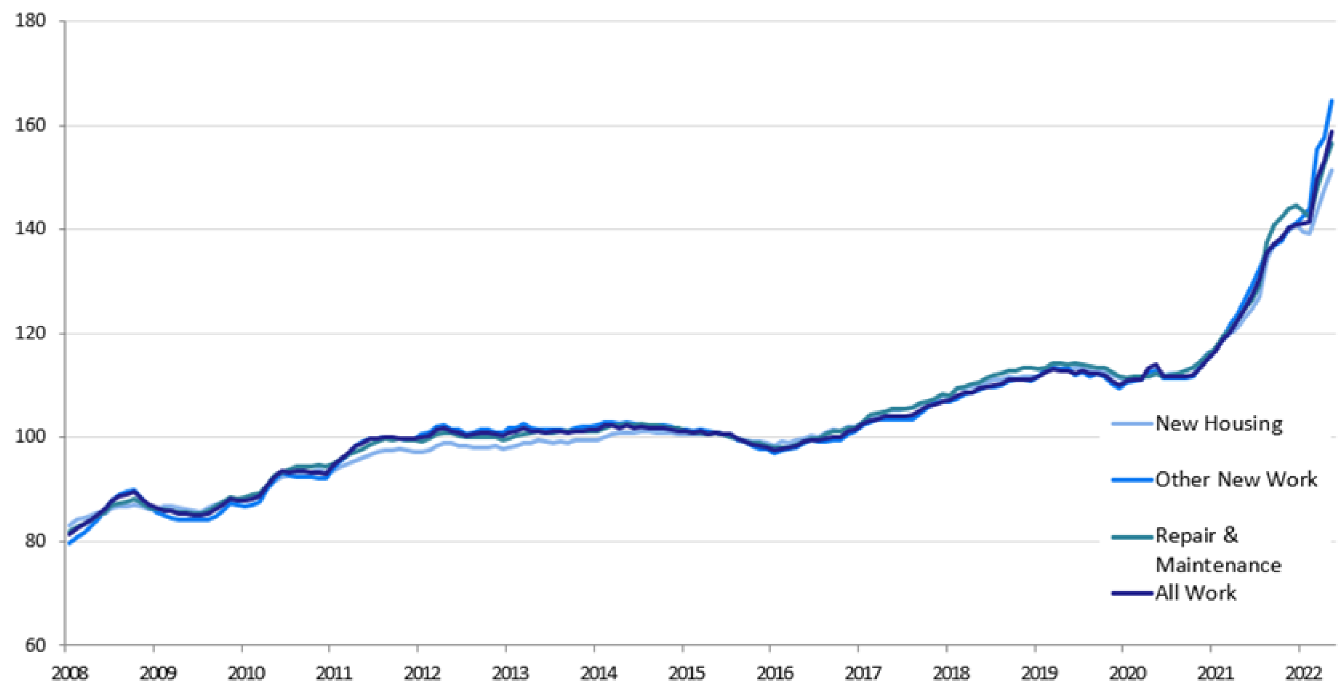
Coverage: UK and Great Britain
Geographical Area: Country, region and county

6 July 2022 **National Statistics**

Headline Findings

- The material price index for **'All Work' increased by 27.2%** in May 2022 compared to the same month the previous year.
- There was a **1.8% increase** in seasonally adjusted brick deliveries in May 2022 compared to the same month the previous year.
- There was a **1.3% increase** in seasonally adjusted block deliveries in May 2022 compared to the same month the previous year.

Chart 1: Construction Material Price Indices, UK
Index, 2015 = 100



Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 1

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Next publication: 3 August 2022

Contents

Introduction

This commentary accompanies the latest Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components data tables, published on the BEIS building materials web page on 6th July 2022. It provides an overview of recent trends in the data presented in the tables.

The data tables present the latest detailed information on selected building materials and components. They cover the following building materials statistics:

- Construction material price indices (monthly, UK)
- Sand and gravel sales (quarterly, GB*)
- Slate production, deliveries and stocks (quarterly, GB)
- Cement and clinker production, deliveries and stocks (annual, GB)
- Bricks production, deliveries and stocks (monthly, GB*)
- Concrete building blocks production, deliveries and stocks (monthly, GB*)
- Concrete roofing tiles production, deliveries and stocks (quarterly, GB)
- Ready-mixed concrete deliveries (quarterly, UK)
- Values of overseas imports and exports trades for selected materials and components for use in construction (quarterly, UK)
- Value of EU and Non-EU Trade for selected materials and components for use in construction (annual, UK)

Note: * Regional figures available

These statistics support analysis of the construction materials market and business planning. They are regularly reported in the construction press and are used for a variety of purposes, including policy development and evaluation concerning the construction products industry, as well as monitoring market trends. Further detail is available in this document under Uses of these statistics.

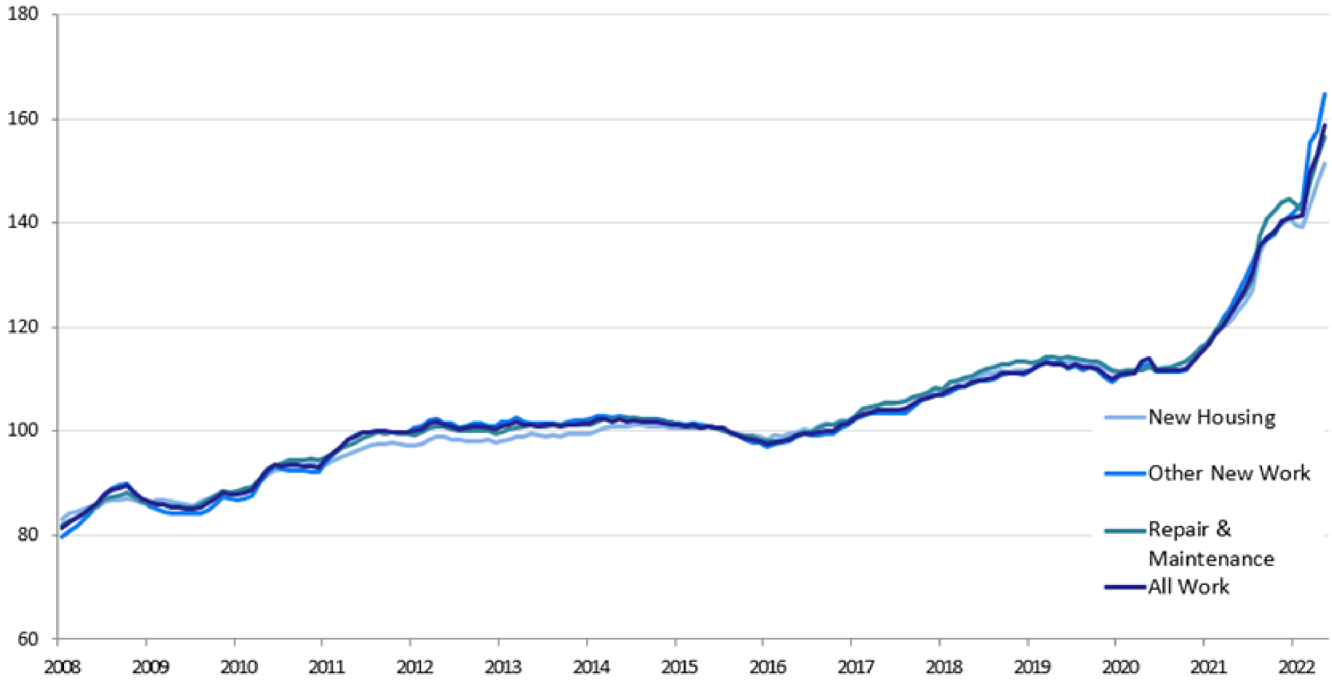
Seasonal Adjustment Review

Seasonally adjusted series for deliveries of bricks, concrete blocks, ready-mixed concrete and sales of sand and gravel are published in the data tables. The purpose of correcting the reported series is to allow for seasonal factors such as winter weather (including the reduction in hours of daylight, and frost and rain) and other seasonal events such as Christmas and Easter. Thus, seasonally adjusted figures show the underlying trend more clearly. Further information can be found in this document under Technical Information.

Summary of Results

Material Price Indices

Chart 2: Construction Material Price Indices, UK
Index, 2015 = 100



Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 1

Year-on-year change (May 2021 to May 2022)

New Housing	23.0%
Other New Work	30.1%
Repair & Maintenance	25.5%
All Work	27.2%

Month-on-month change (April 2022 to May 2022)

New Housing	2.5%
Other New Work	4.4%
Repair & Maintenance	2.5%
All Work	3.7%

- Looking at the longer-term change, the material price index for **'All Work' increased by 27.2%** in May 2022 compared to the same month the previous year.
- From 1st April 2022 most users of red diesel have been taxed at the standard rate for diesel, following the removal of the entitlement to use red diesel and rebated biodiesel from most sectors. This will result in a small step change in the material price indices values. The Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) have published information describing the changes and their impacts on price indices.

Table 1: Construction materials experiencing the greatest price increases and decreases in the 12 months to May 2022, UK

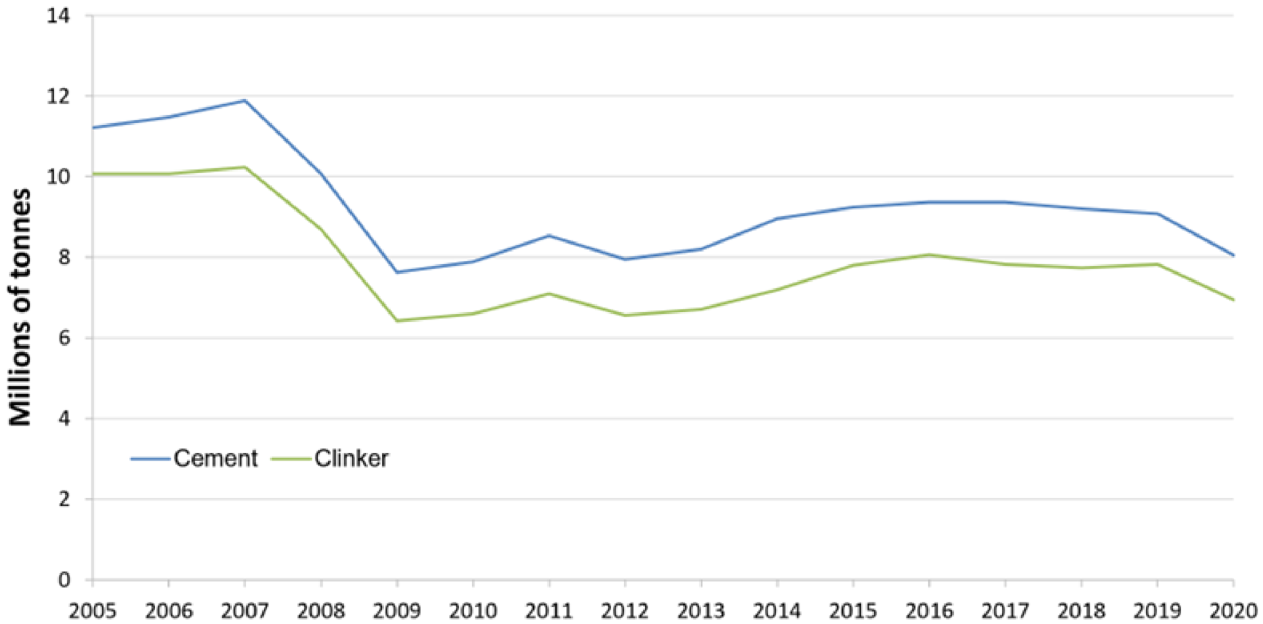
Construction Materials	Year-on-year % change
Greatest price increases	
Concrete reinforcing bars	64.9
Fabricated structural steel	52.7
Particle Board	30.2
Greatest price decreases	
There were no decreases.	

Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 2

The aggregated construction material price index hides larger price movements for some specific products and materials. The three largest increases are presented here. There were no decreases in the 12 months to May 2022.

Cement and Clinker

Chart 3: Production of Cement and Clinker, GB
Weight of cement & clinker

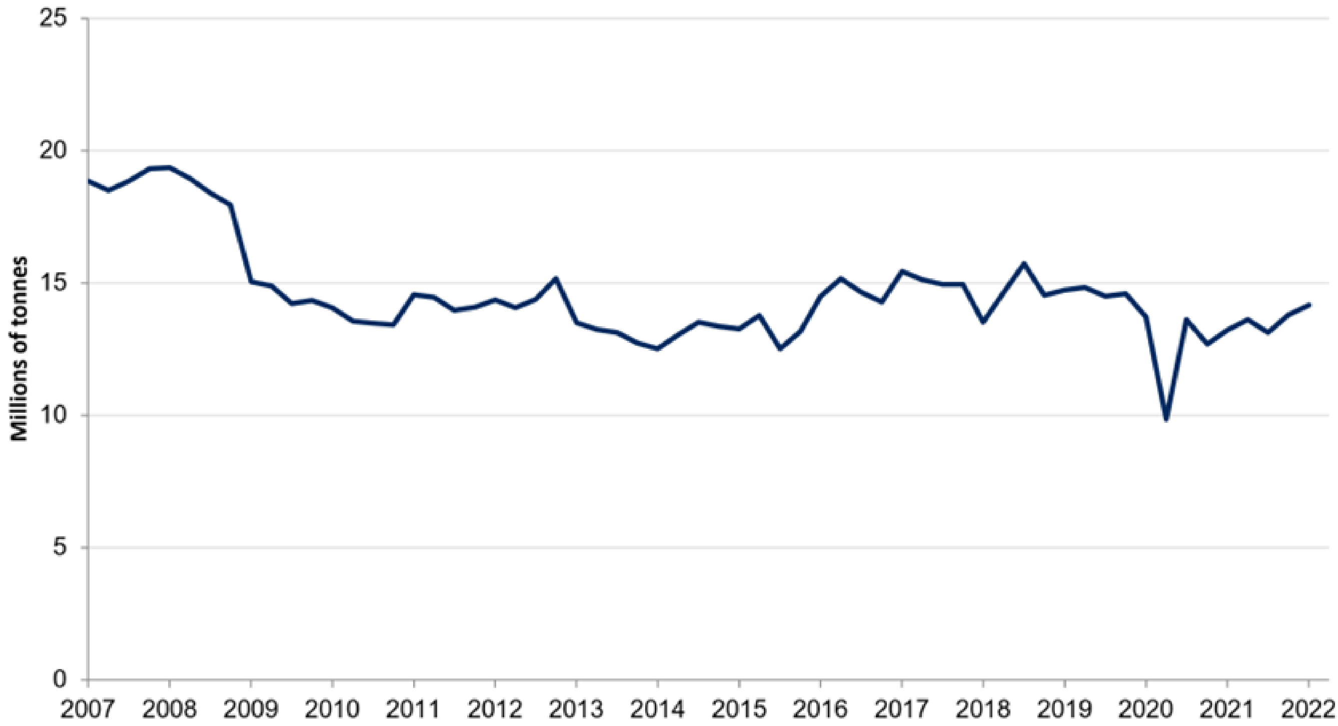


Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 8

- Cement production fell by 11.4% to 8.0 million tonnes in 2020, compared to 9.1 million tonnes the previous year. This follows a fall of 1.3% in 2019. Pre-recession production peaked in 2007 at 11.9 million tonnes.
- Production of clinker fell by 11.4% to 6.9 million tonnes in 2020, compared to 7.8 million tonnes the previous year. This follows a rise of 1.2% in 2019. Pre-recession production stood at 10.2 million tonnes in 2007.

Sand & Gravel

Chart 4: Seasonally Adjusted Sales of Sand & Gravel, GB
Weight of sand & gravel

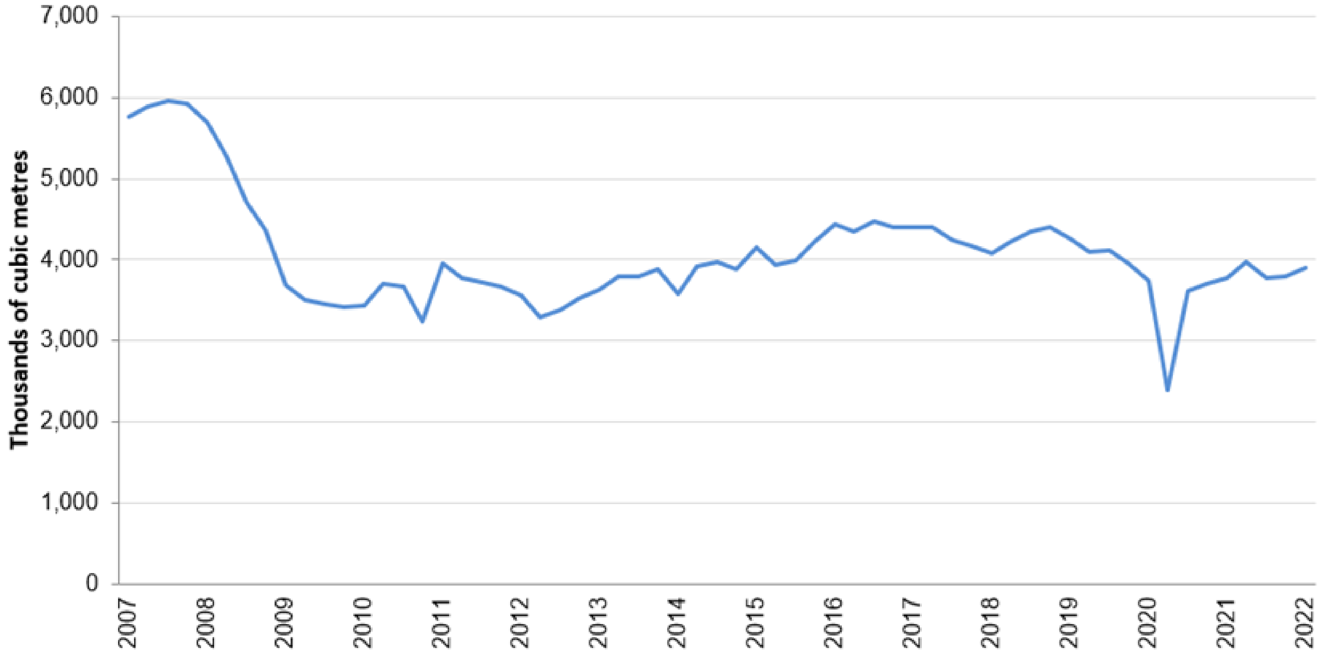


Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 4

- Sales of sand & gravel **increased** by **2.6%** in Quarter 1 2022 compared to Quarter 4 2021, according to the seasonally adjusted data.
- This followed an increase of 5.1% in Quarter 4 2021.
- Comparing Quarter 1 2022 to Quarter 1 2021, sales have **increased** by **7.0%**.
- Seasonally adjusted sales of sand & gravel have consistently remained below levels typically seen before the recession of 2008 to 2009 and have dropped recently due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- From Quarter 1 2019, sand and gravel data reported in this publication includes recycled material.

Concrete

Chart 5: Seasonally Adjusted Sales of Ready-Mixed Concrete, GB
Volume of concrete

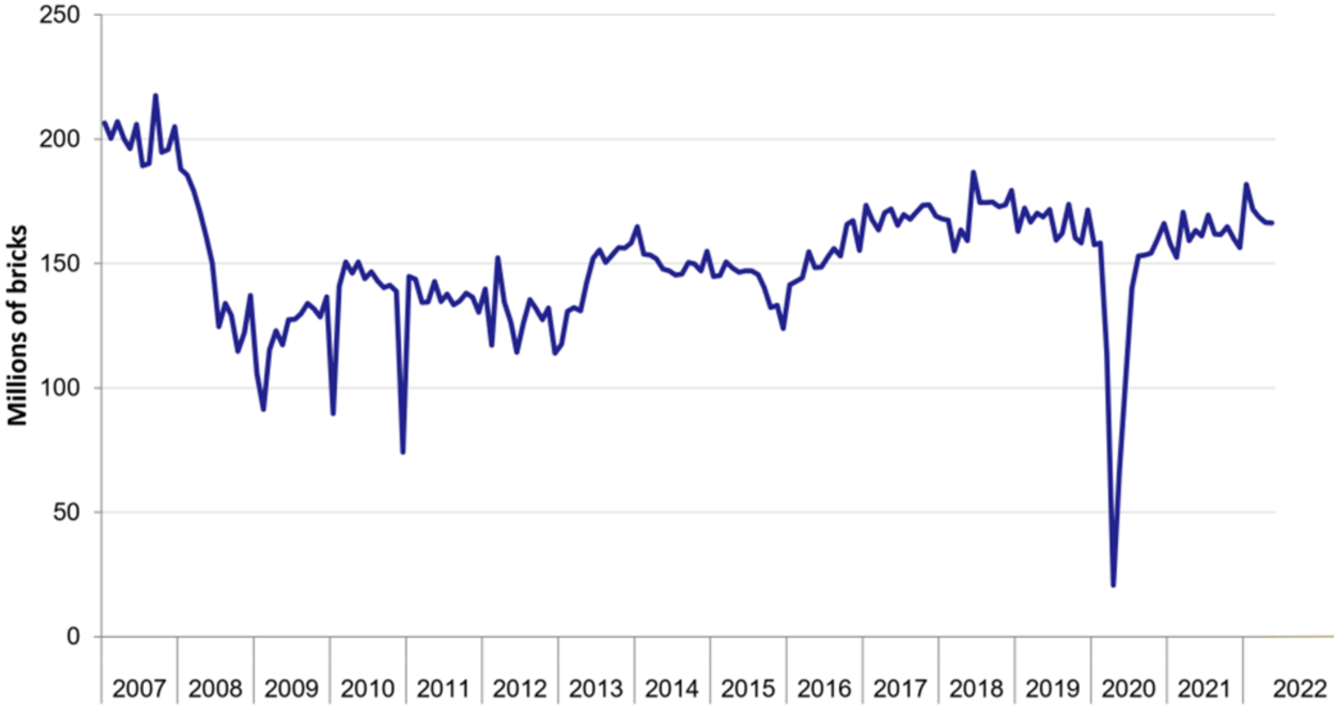


Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 13

- Ready-mixed concrete sales **increased** by **2.9%** in Quarter 1 2022 compared to Quarter 4 2021, according to the seasonally adjusted data.
- This followed a 0.2% increase in Quarter 4 2021.
- Sales in Quarter 1 2022 **increased** by **3.2%** compared to Quarter 1 2021.
- After the 2008 to 2009 recession, seasonally adjusted sales of ready-mixed concrete had been recovering steadily since Q2 2012, until the recent drop due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Bricks

Chart 6: Seasonally Adjusted Deliveries of Bricks, GB
Number of bricks

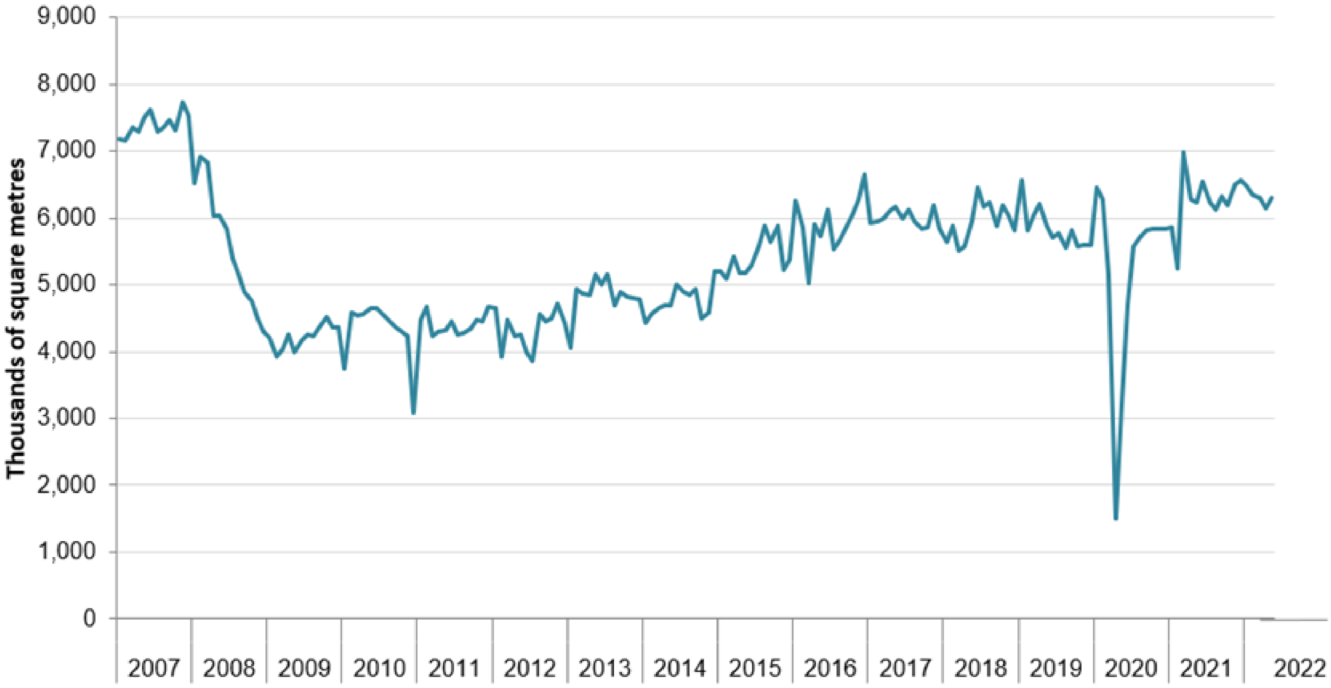


Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 9

- There was a **1.8% increase** in brick deliveries in May 2022 compared to May 2021, according to the seasonally adjusted figures.
- This followed a 4.5% increase in April 2022, compared to April 2021.
- The month-on-month change shows a **0.1% decrease** in May 2022.
- This followed a 1.3% decrease in April 2022, on the same basis.
- Deliveries of bricks declined during the recession of 2008 to 2009. They have recovered slowly since 2013, until the drop due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Blocks

Chart 7: Seasonally Adjusted Deliveries of Concrete Blocks, GB
Area of concrete blocks

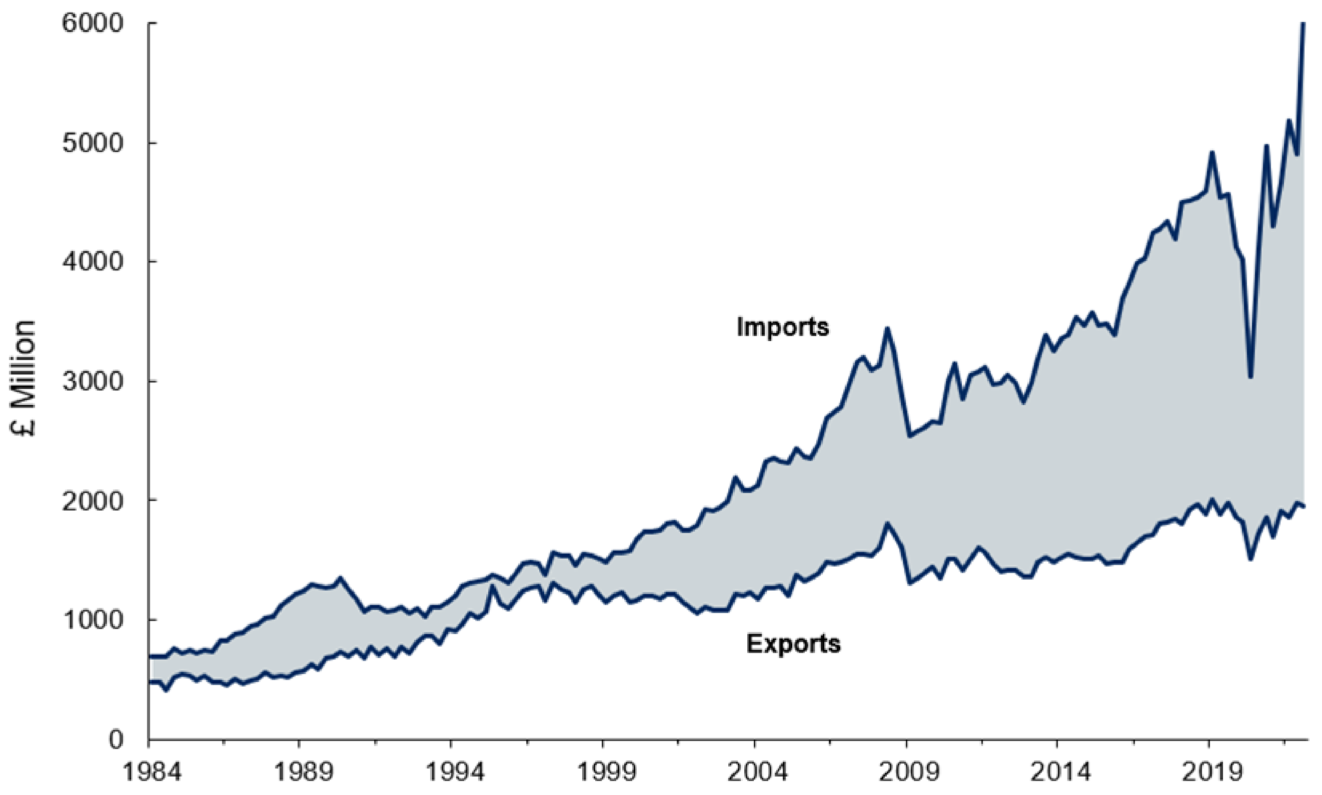


Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 11

- There was a **1.3% increase** in concrete block deliveries in May 2022 compared to May 2021, according to the seasonally adjusted figures.
- This followed a 2.1% decrease in April 2022, compared to April 2021.
- The month-on-month change shows a **2.8% increase** in May 2022.
- This followed a 2.5% decrease in April 2022, on the same basis.
- Concrete block deliveries declined during the recession of 2008 to 2009. The general trend has been one of growth since 2013, interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Imports and Exports of Construction Materials

Chart 8: Quarterly Exports and Imports of Construction Materials, UK
Value in pounds sterling



Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 14

- **Imports** of construction materials **increased** by £1,165 million in Q1 2022 compared to the previous quarter, **an increase** of 23.8%.
- **Exports** of construction materials **decreased** by £30 million in Q1 2022 compared to the previous quarter, **a decrease** of 1.5%.
- As a result, between Q4 2021 and Q1 2022, the **quarterly trade deficit widened** by £1,196 million to £4,117 million, **an increase** of 40.9%.
- Over the whole of 2021, **imports** of construction materials **increased** by **17.9%** compared to 2020, from £16,144 million to £19,036 million.
- In the same period **exports increased** by **7.6%**, from £6,916 million to £7,439 million.
- In 2021, the **annual trade deficit widened** by £2,369 million to £11,597 million, **an increase** of 25.7%.
- Over the period from Quarter 1 1984 to Quarter 1 2022, construction materials imports have increased, on average (per quarter), by 5.4%. Over the same period, exports increased by an average of 2.1% per quarter.
- The trade deficit was historically at its smallest throughout the 1990s, with a mean of £309 million over this period. This trade deficit was 24% of the value of imports. As of Quarter 1 2022, the trade deficit is £4,117 million, 68% of the value of imports.

- As of January 2022, goods imports from EU to GB are being collected using custom declarations (as with UK imports from rest of the world) rather than using the Intrastat survey. We advise caution when interpreting 2022 EU imports compared with earlier periods. The change marks an improvement in coverage, as trade below the Intrastat value threshold (estimated at around 7% of trade by value) is now included (previously estimated). Additionally, customs declarations include trade by non-VAT-registered businesses, private individuals, and parcel post, which was not previously captured. Goods imports from EU to Northern Ireland continue to be collected using the Intrastat survey.
- For more information on the 2022 changes to data collection methods, see the following three pages: i) release from HMRC, ii) article from ONS, iii) blog post from ONS.

Table 2: Top-5 Exported and Imported Construction Materials in 2021

Top-5 Exported Materials	*£ million*	Top-5 Imported Materials	*£ million*
Electrical Wires	906	Electrical Wires	2,267
Paints & Varnishes	768	Sawn Wood> 6mm thick	1,463
Air Conditioning Equipment	390	Lamps & Fittings	1,041
Plastic Pipes	346	Air Conditioning Equipment	693
Lamps & Fittings	317	Linoleum floors and coverings	634

Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 14

The top five exported materials in 2021 accounted for 37% of total construction material exports.

The top five imported construction materials in 2021 accounted for 32% of total construction material imports.

Table 3: UK Trade of Construction Materials with EU and Non-EU Countries, 2021

£ million (% of total trade in italics)	EU	Non-EU
Imports	9,828	9,208
	52%	*48%*
Exports	4,295	3,144
	58%	*42%*

Source: Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, Table 15

Compared to pre-recession levels in 2007, the share of total UK construction material exports going to the EU has declined from 70% to 58%.

Table 4: Top 5 UK Export and Import Markets for Construction Materials in 2021

Top-5 Export Markets	*£ million*	Top-5 Import Markets	*£ million*
Republic of Ireland	1,215	China	4,295
USA	731	Germany	1,990
Germany	648	Turkey	1,095
Netherlands	644	Italy	975
France	572	Spain	823

Source: HMRC Overseas Trade Statistics

The 'Rotterdam Effect' (also known as the 'Antwerp Effect') may affect trade figures. This is explained in detail by HM Revenue & Customs.

The top five export markets comprised 51% of total construction materials exports in 2021. The Republic of Ireland remains the largest market, despite having shrunk from a pre-recession peak of 27% of total exports in 2007, to 16% in 2021.

The top five import markets comprised 48% of total construction materials imports in 2021. Around 23% of all imports are from China.

Economic Background

Business Insights

The **Office for National Statistics** published further information from their fortnightly Business insights and impact on the UK economy publication on 30 June 2022, which was live for the period from 13 June 2022 to 26 June 2022.

Key points:

- Weighted by count, 62.4% of construction firms who had not permanently stopped trading reported that the price of goods or services bought in May 2022 had increased compared to the previous calendar month. The corresponding all-industry average was 48.5%.
- Weighted by count, 51.3% of construction firms who had not permanently stopped trading reported that raw material prices were a factor causing them to consider raising prices in July 2022. On the same basis, 36.0% of construction firms reported energy prices as a factor. The corresponding all-industry averages were 28.7% of all businesses reporting raw material prices and 41.5% reporting energy prices as factors causing them to consider raising prices.
- Weighted by count, 13.4% of construction firms reported that their business's overall performance had increased in May 2022 compared to the same month the previous year, 58.1% reported their performance stayed the same and 11.8% reported that their performance decreased. The corresponding all-industry averages were 17.4% of all businesses reporting increased performance, 53.0% reporting no change and 17.2% reporting decreased performance.

Construction Output

The **Office for National Statistics** published estimates of construction output for April 2022 on 13 June 2022:

Key points:

- Monthly construction output decreased by 0.4% in volume terms in April 2022; this is the first monthly decline seen since October 2021.
- The decrease in monthly construction output in April 2022 came from a fall in repair and maintenance (2.4%), which was offset slightly by a rise in new work (0.9%); the fall is partly a by-product of the growth (3.0%) in March 2022, because of the demand caused by the repair work resulting from storms in February 2022.
- At the sector level, the main contributors to the decline in April 2022 were private housing repair and maintenance, and private commercial new work, which decreased by 6.5% and 3.8%, respectively.
- Despite the monthly fall, the level of construction output in April 2022 was 3.3% (£481 million) above the February 2020 pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) level; new work was 0.7% (£68 million) below, while repair and maintenance work was 11.0% (£549 million) above.
- The recovery to date, since the falls at the start of the coronavirus pandemic, is mixed at a sector level, with infrastructure 35.6% (£669 million) above and private commercial 27.2% (£676 million) below their respective February 2020 levels in April 2022.
- Despite the monthly decrease, construction output increased 2.9% in the three months to April 2022; this is the sixth consecutive growth in the three-month on three-month series, with increases seen in both new work and repair and maintenance (2.2% and 4.0%, respectively).

Bank of England Summary of Business Conditions

The **Bank of England** published its most recent update to the Agents' Summary of Business Conditions on 16 June 2022, covering intelligence gathered mostly between mid-April and late May 2021.

Key points:

- Construction output growth weakened modestly as rising materials costs and labour shortages caused projects to be delayed or cancelled.
- Delays and cancellations were most commonly reported for commercial projects; contacts said housebuilding activity was also held back by planning delays.
- By contrast, construction of public and private infrastructure, and health and education projects had been less impacted. Demand for the construction or refurbishment of office space also remained robust, supported by demand for premises that meet environmental requirements and are suitable for hybrid working. Construction of warehousing and data centres also remained strong.
- Contacts expected the pipeline of construction projects to slow as cost increases result in more projects being put on hold. And many expected rising costs and squeezed household budgets to weigh on demand for new homes and home improvements this year and next.

Gross Domestic Product Estimate

The **Office for National Statistics** published estimates of GDP for April 2022 on 13 June 2022.

Key points:

- Gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 0.3% in April 2022, after a decline of 0.1% in March 2022; UK GDP increased by 0.2% in the three months to April 2022.
- Services fell by 0.3% in April 2022 and these were the main contributors to April's fall in GDP, reflecting a large decrease (5.6%) in human health and social work, where there was a significant reduction in NHS Test and Trace activity.
- Production fell by 0.6% in April 2022, driven by a fall in manufacturing of 1.0% on the month, as businesses continue to report the impact of price increases and supply chain shortages.
- Construction also fell by 0.4% in April 2022, following strong growth in March 2022 when there was significant repair and maintenance activity following the storms experienced in the latter half of February 2022.
- This is the first time that all main sectors have contributed negatively to a monthly GDP estimate since January 2021.

Gross Domestic Product Forecast

The latest monthly **Consensus Economics** forecast survey (which uses an average of private sector forecasts) results were published in June 2022.

Key points:

- The mean GDP forecast for 2022 is 3.5% growth, down from 3.8% in the previous month's survey.
- The mean GDP growth forecast for 2023 is 0.8%, down from 1.0% in the previous month's survey.

The **Office for Budget Responsibility** published a new Economic and Fiscal Outlook on 23rd March 2022.

- GDP is expected to grow by 3.8% in 2022 (down from 6.0% in the previous forecast) and by 1.8% in 2023 (down from 2.1% in the previous forecast).

Construction Output Forecasts

Experian published their Spring 2022 forecasts for the construction sector in May 2022.

Key points:

- Total construction output in 2021 reached £169.6bn (2019 prices), a close to 13% increase on the previous year, regaining most of the ground lost during the worst of the pandemic. The industry started 2022 well, with output up 8% in real terms in the first two months compared with the same period of 2021. Growth will slow, but the prognosis is one of expansion over the forecast period, averaging 3.7% a year. This would take output to £189.4bn in 2024, over 7% above its pre-pandemic level in 2019.

- All the major construction sectors are projected to experience growth over the 2022 to 2024 period, but a handful are likely to remain smaller in 2024 than in 2019 – generally the public sectors, but also the private commercial one.
- The top-level forecast for all construction work is for growth of 4.3% in 2022, down from 12.9% in 2021, and for growth of 3.8% and 3.1% in 2023 and 2024.
- Growth in new work is forecast at 4.4% in 2022 and 3.6% in 2023, down from 11% growth in 2021. The housing sector is forecast to grow by 4.8% in 2022 and 3.9% the following year. Growth in the non-residential building sector is forecast to be 3.3% in 2022 and 4.5% in 2023. The private commercial sub-sector is expected to grow by 4% and 5% over the same period.
- Repair and maintenance (R&M) is forecast to grow by to be 4.2 in both 2022 and 2023, down from 16% last year.

The **Construction Products Association** published their Construction industry forecasts for Spring 2022 in May 2022.

- The CPA forecasts that output in the industry will grow by 2.8% in 2022, down from the 4.3% growth forecast three months ago. The downward revision stems from concern around a host of price pressures arising from both local and global issues.
- Demand remains strong across the industry in Q2, and the current project pipeline suggests that this will support activity levels until at least 2022 Q3.
- Prior to the conflict in Ukraine, UK construction was already facing labour and product availability issues and the impact of reverse charge VAT and IR35. Rising energy costs were driving near-record price increases in construction products and the continued conflict exacerbates this issue. The impact of these pressures, and of more general rising costs, on demand will vary considerably by sector. The broad picture is one of positive market conditions in the short term with anticipation of tougher times ahead.
- Private housing repair, maintenance and improvement, SMEs report that demand remains high, but this is the sector arguably most exposed to current price inflation, falls in consumer confidence and pressures on household incomes. Overall, output is expected to fall by 3% in 2022 and 4% next year from current all-time highs.
- Private housing, the largest construction sector, remains strong, with housebuilders reporting resilient demand. Longer-term, are questions over consumer confidence, but output in this sector is forecast to rise by 1% in both 2022 and 2023. This contrasts with the 3% per year growth forecast three months ago.
- The fastest growth is expected in the industrial sector, in which output is forecast to rise by 9.8% in 2022 and 9.3% in 2023, due to a strong pipeline of warehouse projects, resulting from a long-term shift towards online shopping.
- Infrastructure, traditionally less affected by immediate economic conditions, remains positive, with forecast growth of 8.8% in 2022 and 4.6% in 2023.
- On the supply side, the main immediate impact of the war in Ukraine for construction products will be the knock-on from rising energy prices and commodity shortages. Soaring energy costs will have to be passed on and lead to sharp rises in the cost of energy-intensive products. This will affect both imported products such as aluminium and steel and locally sourced products such as bricks and cement. Contractors are likely to feel the pressure first, particularly those working to fixed-price contracts. For future projects, contractors will be forced to re-price, add fluctuation costs and introduce risk-sharing arrangements to deal with the uncertainty over potential cost inflation.

Manufacturing

The latest **Index of Production** data for April 2022 were published on 13 June 2022 by the Office for National Statistics.

Key points for the SIC 23.1-4/7-9 *industry* (includes the manufacture of bricks, tiles and other construction products)*:*

- When comparing April 2022 with April 2021, **output increased by 2.8%**
- When comparing April 2022 with March 2022, **output decreased by 1.4%**

Key points for the SIC 23.5-6 *industry* (includes the manufacture of concrete, cement and other products for construction purposes)*:*

- When comparing April 2022 with April 2021, **output increased by 2.9%**
- When comparing April 2022 with March 2022, **output decreased by 7.1%**

Accompanying tables

The most recently published data tables (available in Excel and ODS format) can be found on BEIS' *Building Materials and Components* website. The list of tables is as follows:

1 Construction Material Price Indices

2 Price Indices of Construction Materials – monthly

3 Price Indices of Construction Materials – annual averages

4 Sales of Sand and Gravel in Great Britain (including seasonally adjusted sales)

5 Sales of Sand and Gravel by English Regions, Wales and Scotland

6 Sales of Sand and Gravel by English and Welsh Counties and Scottish Region

7 Slate: Production, Deliveries and Stocks

8 Cement and Clinker: Production, Deliveries and Stocks

9 Bricks: Production, Deliveries and Stocks for Great Britain (including seasonally adjusted deliveries)

10 Bricks: Production, Deliveries and Stocks by English Regions, Wales and Scotland (including seasonally adjusted deliveries)

11 Concrete Building Blocks: Production, Deliveries and Stocks for Great Britain

12 Concrete Building Blocks: Production, Deliveries and Stocks by English Regions, Wales and Scotland

13 Concrete Roofing Tiles and Ready-Mixed Concrete (including seasonally adjusted sales of ready-mixed concrete)

14 Value of Overseas Trade in Selected Materials and Components for Constructional Use: Imports (CIF) and Exports (FOB)

15 Value of EU and Non-EU Trade in Selected Materials and Components for Constructional Use: Imports (CIF) and Exports (FOB)

Past editions of the statistics from 2005 to 2010, 2011 and 2012 onwards can be found at the National Archives website.

Requests for older data should be sent to MaterialStats@beis.gov.uk.

Technical information

1. The Office of National Statistics (ONS) replaced the following price indices for construction materials from the November 2020 release of this publication (published on 4th December 2020) onwards; Sand & Gravel excluding/including levy, Crushed rock excluding/including levy, and Bituminous materials. This affects Tables 1, 2 and 3 in the bulletin and Table 1 in the commentary. Further information is provided in the footnotes of each table. A back series of both the previous and replacement indices was published alongside the November 2020 release of this publication.

2. In work done for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) on improving the quality of statistics published in the Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components, the Office for National Statistics' Methodology Advisory Service (MAS) recommended that BIS should start seasonally adjusting key data series (see ONS/MAS review of building materials statistics: final report for more detail). Seasonal adjustment is widely used in official statistics and aids data interpretation by removing effects associated with the time of the year or arrangement of the calendar. Seasonal effects often obscure features of interest in data, such as long-term trends and effects of unusual occurrences. By removing seasonal effects, users can more readily identify the features of interest.

   Following advice from the MAS, and the results of a consultation (see the results of the BIS consultation on seasonal adjustment for more detail), BIS agreed to publish seasonally adjusted data for the following series:
   - Sand and gravel, total sales
   - Concrete blocks, all types deliveries
   - Bricks, all types deliveries
   - Ready-mixed concrete, deliveries

   For initial publication of seasonally adjusted data, data from 1983 onwards was seasonally adjusted. Subsequently, for each monthly publication, data up to 12 months or 4 quarters prior to the new data point is revised. Upon the completion of each year's data series, data for the previous 12 years is revised. BEIS publishes both non-seasonally adjusted and seasonally adjusted data in the tables of this publication. From the June 2015 edition this publication has used seasonally adjusted data in the commentary for these series. The most recent annual review of seasonal adjustment was carried out in June 2021.

3. Quality issues related to the *Building Materials and Components* outputs are discussed in the review of the Building Material statistics that was carried out in 2010 by BIS's construction team. The review aimed to ascertain user needs, examine whether existing data collection methodologies are fit for purpose, estimate compliance costs, assess compliance with the Code of Practice and identify options for change.

   The full report can be found on the BEIS *Building Materials and Components* webpage.

   Detailed information on data suppliers, coverage and data collection methodology can be found in sections 2.1-2.10. Quality issues (coverage and accuracy of sample panels, response rates, survey results processing, disclosure etc.) and potential measures that could be employed to improve the quality of the statistics are discussed in section 2.11 of the review. Users' views on the quality of the *Building Materials and Components* statistics are given in section 3.3.4. These are derived from a user survey carried out in early 2010, as part of the review (see section 3 for details).

4. Following the review, BIS acted on the recommendations including commissioning the Office for National Statistics Methodology Advisory Service (ONS/MAS) to address some of the recommendations from the 2010 review. In July 2011, MAS published their interim report. In July 2012, MAS published their final report.

5. HM Revenue and Customs use administrative sources to produce Overseas Trade Statistics. A Statement of Administrative Sources used to compile construction material trade statistics is available on the BEIS *Building Materials and Components* webpage. Separately, HM Revenue and Customs also have a Statement of Administrative Sources which covers Overseas Trade Statistics.

6. The pre-announcement of any major changes to samples or methodology also details some methodological changes to the collection of data.

7. The following table gives a summary of response rates related to some of the latest survey results. Where the response rate is less than 100%, estimates are made for missing values.

For latest data used	**Bulletin table number**	**Response rate**
Quarterly Sand and Gravel	4, 5 & 6	77%
Quarterly Sand and Gravel – Land Won	4, 5 & 6	96%
Quarterly Sand and Gravel – Marine Dredged	4, 5 & 6	80%
Quarterly Slate	7	100%
Quarterly Concrete Roofing Tiles	13	57%
Monthly Bricks Provisional data	9	98%
Monthly Bricks Final data	9 & 10	100%
Monthly Concrete Blocks	11 & 12	85%

Definitions

Production	Products completed and ready for dispatch
Deliveries	Sold products which have left the premises
Stocks	Manufacturer's stocks
CIF	Cost, insurance and freight (for more information on shipping terms, visit the HMRC website)
FOB	Free on-board (for more information on shipping terms, visit the HMRC website)
Sand and gravel - land won	Sand and gravel from pits and quarries, including that derived from beaches and rivers
Sand and gravel - marine dredged	Sand and gravel derived from seas and estuaries

Further information

Future updates to these statistics

The next publication in this series will be on 3rd August 2022.

Related statistics

1. Construction Statistics: Sources and Outputs lists the known sources of information available on the construction industry and their outputs. These include information on employees, employment, enterprises, output and new orders in the construction industry as well as the contribution of the industry to the economy. Related information, for example housing, is also included.

2. The Construction Statistics Annual brings together a wide range of statistics currently available on the construction industry from a variety of sources and provides a broad perspective on statistical trends in the construction industry, with some international comparisons.

3. In its monthly **Index of Production (IoP)** publication, the Office for National Statistics publishes Gross Value Added (seasonally adjusted, UK) data for the following two industries:

    - SIC 23.1-4/7-9 industry, which includes the manufacture of bricks, tiles and other construction products.
    - SIC 23.5-6 industry, which includes the manufacture of concrete, cement and other products for construction purposes.

These data are not directly comparable with the data in this bulletin, due to differences in coverage and methodology. They are nevertheless useful in illustrating the latest output trends of related construction materials as measured by the Office for National Statistics.

Revisions policy

1. Our revisions policy can be found on the BEIS Building Materials webpage.

2. The pre-announcement of any major changes to samples or methodology and Summary of Revisions give further information on revisions and other changes to data and can also be found on the BEIS Building Materials webpage.

Uses of these statistics

The *Building Materials and Components* statistics are used for a variety of purposes, including policy development and evaluation concerning the construction products industry, as well as monitoring market trends. In a wider context, the figures are regularly reported in the construction press to facilitate market analysis and business planning for its wide range of readers. The statistics are also increasingly used by financial institutions for assessing market information and industry trends. For more information on the uses of the Building Materials statistics, their usefulness to users and users' views on the quality of these statistics, see Section 3 of the *Building Materials and Components* review.

User engagement

Users are encouraged to provide comments and feedback on how these statistics are used and how well they meet user needs. Comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and should be sent to: materialstats@beis.gov.uk

The Consultative Committee on Construction Industry Statistics (CCCIS) meets twice a year, chaired by BEIS, to discuss issues relating to the collection and dissemination of UK construction statistics. The CCCIS has a wide membership representing government, the construction industry and independent analysts. Minutes of previous CCCIS meetings are available from the BEIS building materials web page.

The BEIS statement on statistical public engagement and data standards sets out the department's commitments on public engagement and data standards as outlined by the Code of Practice for Statistics.

National Statistics designation

National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

The statistics last underwent a full assessment against the Code of Practice for Statistics in 2011.

Since the latest review by the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics, and have made the following improvements:

- carried out a public consultation and introduced publication of seasonally adjusted data on deliveries of sand and gravel, concrete blocks, bricks, and ready-mixed concrete
- in response to the cessation of DLUHC's (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, formerly MHCLG) Annual Minerals Raised Inquiry, which previously supplied the sampling frame for the land-won sand and gravel survey, we have:
    - changed the survey from sample survey to a census, increasing the panel from 200 sites to around 500 sites
    - refreshed the panel of sites annually using information from the British Geological Survey
    - made the survey statutory under the Statistics of Trade Act 1947, bringing it into line with the marine-dredged sand and gravel survey
- improved the design of the blocks survey, making it fully monthly instead of a mixture of monthly and quarterly data collection
- introduced the publication of the tables in an OpenDocument (ODS) spreadsheet, in addition to Microsoft Excel
- rebased all price indices series to 2015=100 in the November 2020 publication

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This publication is available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/building-materials-and-components-monthly-statistics-2012

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