



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 October 2022.

Supporting tables, visuals and data can be found at www.uktradeinfo.com

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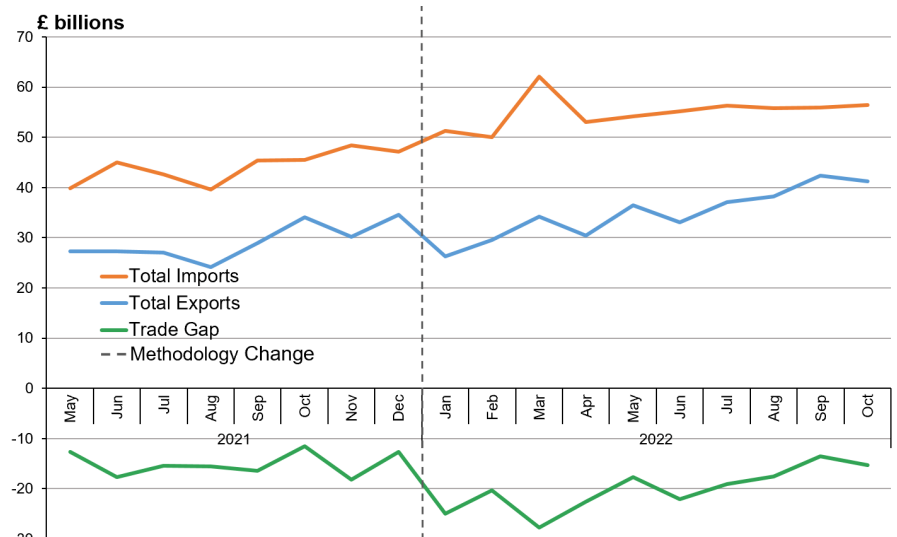
Trade in Goods, October 2022

From January 2022, the UK from EU import dataset incorporates both the GB from EU customs import declaration data and NI Intrastat import (arrival) data. This creates a break in the time series, users should take care when making comparisons with months and years prior to 2022.

A full explanation of data sources used throughout this release can be found on page 18.

- Total **exports** of goods for October 2022 were £41.2 billion. This was down £1.2 billion (2.7%) compared with last month, but up £7.1 billion (21%) compared with October 2021.
- Total **imports** of goods for October 2022 were £56.4 billion. This was up £0.6 billion (1.0%) compared with last month, and up £10.9 billion (24%) compared with October 2021.
- The UK was a net importer this month, with **imports** exceeding **exports** by £15.3 billion, widening by £1.7 billion on last month.

Figure 1: Total UK monthly Trade in Goods



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

Note: 2022 data is provisional

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Website: <https://www.uktradeinfo.com>

Email: uktradeinfo@hmrc.gov.uk

Statistical contact: K Bragg

Media contact: HMRC Press Office news.desk@hmrc.gov.uk

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. Imports have experienced large quarterly fluctuations since Q1 of 2019, peaking in Q3 of 2022. Exports peaked in Q2 of 2013, in Q4 of 2021, and again in Q3 of 2022, with a steady rise from Q3 of 2017 to Q3 of 2018. Q2 of 2020 saw the lowest quarterly exports value since Q3 of 2010.

Users should note that data sources have changed for both imports and exports (see page 18 for full details), and should therefore apply caution to making comparisons across methodologies.

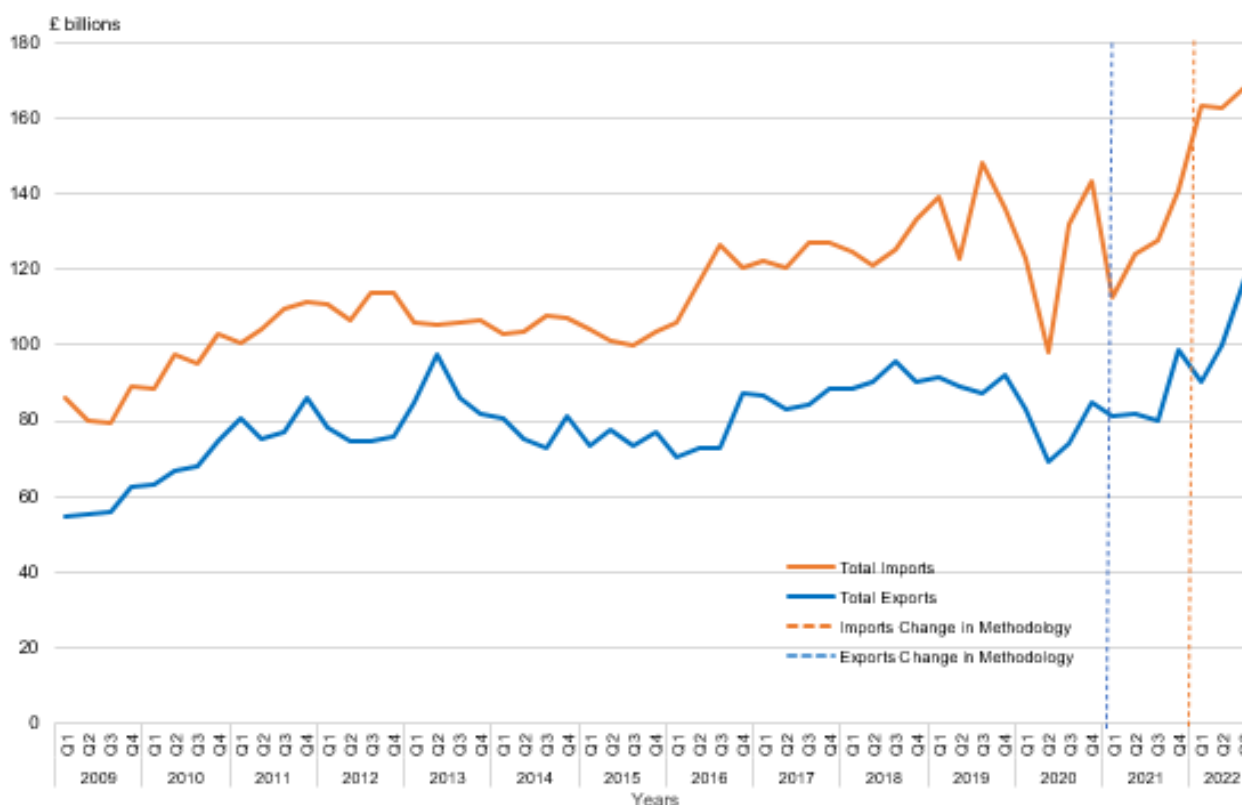
- The total **export** trade for Q3 of 2022 was £118 billion, which was an increase of 47% compared with £80.1 billion for Q3 of 2021.
- The total **import** trade for Q3 of 2022 was £168 billion, which was an increase of 32% compared with £128 billion for Q3 of 2021.
- There was a trade deficit of £50.3 billion for Q3 of 2022. This was a widening of 5.9% compared with £47.5 billion for Q3 of 2021.
- For many years Germany has been our largest trading import partner by value, with recent peaks from China and USA, while the USA has been the largest trading export partner, with occasional peaks for Switzerland.
- Mechanical appliances and Motor vehicles have generally been the largest **import** commodities by value, recently surpassed by Mineral fuels. For **exports**, Mechanical appliances has generally been the largest commodity by value, with occasional peaks for Precious metals.

↑ Exports up 47% on Q3 2021

↑ Imports up 32% on Q3 2021

↑ Trade deficit widened by 5.9% on Q3 2021

Figure 2: Quarterly UK Trade in Goods, 2009 – 2022



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
 Note: 2022 data is provisional

Non-EU & EU Trade in Goods

Non-EU Trade in Goods:

- **Non-EU exports** for October 2022 were £24.1 billion. This was a decrease of £0.5 billion (2.0%) on last month, but an increase of £4.7 billion (24%) compared with October 2021.
- **Non-EU imports** for October 2022 were £29.7 billion. This was a decrease of £1.6 billion (5.2%) on last month, but an increase of £3.7 billion (14%) compared with October 2021.
- For **non-EU trade** the UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £5.6 billion.

↑ **Non-EU exports up 24% on October 2021**

EU Trade in Goods:

- **EU exports** for October 2022 were £17.0 billion. This was a decrease of £0.7 billion (3.8%) on last month, but an increase of £2.5 billion (17%) compared with October 2021.
- **EU imports** for October 2022 were £26.7 billion. This was an increase of £2.2 billion (8.9%) on last month, and an increase of £7.2 billion (37%) compared with October 2021.
- For **EU trade** the UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £9.7 billion.

↑ **EU imports up 37% on October 2021**

Figure 3: Total UK Trade in Goods with EU and Non-EU, October 2022



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

Exports: Country Analysis

- China became the largest export partner country, replacing the USA. It experienced the largest value increases on both last month and October 2021, up £1,339 million (37%) and up £3,662 million (to 4 times the value) respectively.
- The UAE experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on last month, down £373 million (20%). In contrast, it experienced the 2nd largest value increase on October 2021, up £995 million (to 3 times the value).
- The USA experienced the 3rd largest value increase on October 2021, up £810 million (20%).
- Switzerland experienced the largest value decreases on last month and on October 2021, down £534 million (12%) and down £693 million (15%) respectively.
- Ireland experienced the 2nd largest value increase on last month, and the 4th largest value increase on October 2021, up £180 million (7.1%) and up £623 million (30%) respectively.
- India experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month, down £489 million (42%).

↑ **Exports to China up to 4 times the value on October 2021**

↓ **Exports to Switzerland down 12% on last month**

Table 1: UK exports of goods to the top 10 countries, October 2022

Partner Country	October 2022		September 2022		October 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on September 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)	
China	4,912	3,574	37.5	1,251	292.8	
USA	4,763	4,925	-3.3	3,953	20.5	
Switzerland	3,990	4,524	-11.8	4,682	-14.8	
Netherlands	2,923	3,295	-11.3	2,910	0.4	
Germany	2,869	3,188	-10.0	2,545	12.7	
Ireland	2,720	2,540	7.1	2,097	29.7	
France	2,136	2,357	-9.4	1,654	29.2	
UAE	1,505	1,878	-19.9	510	194.9	
Belgium	1,461	1,572	-7.0	1,341	9.0	
Spain	911	929	-1.9	693	31.4	
Others	12,978	13,543	-4.2	12,400	4.7	
Total EU	17,029	17,703	-3.8	14,572	16.9	
Total Non-EU	24,140	24,623	-2.0	19,465	24.0	
Total Exports	41,168	42,325	-2.7	34,036	21.0	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

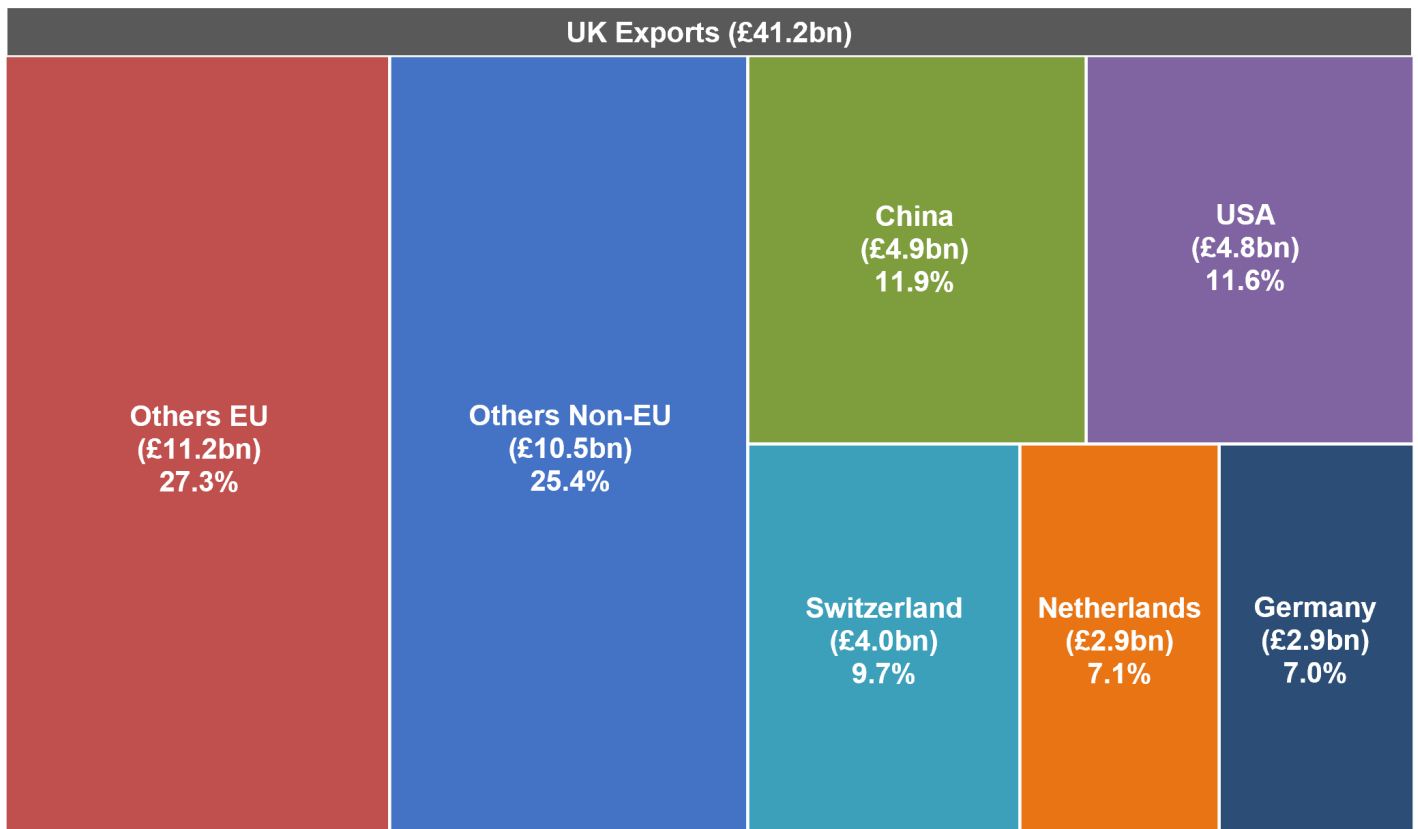
Exports: Country Analysis

- The top 5 export partners accounted for 47% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in October 2022. This was a decrease from 48% in October 2021.
- China accounted for 12% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in October 2022. This was an increase from a 3.7% share in October 2021.
- The USA had the 2nd largest proportion, also accounting for 12% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in October 2022. This was a decrease of less than 1.0 percentage point on October 2021.
- The top 10 export partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, China rose to 1st place from 3rd, and Spain rose to 10th place from 13th, while the USA fell to 2nd place from 1st, and India fell to 13th place from 10th.
- The top 10 export partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with October 2021. Most notably, China rose to 1st place from 8th, and the UAE rose to 8th place from 15th, while Switzerland fell to 3rd place from 1st, and Singapore fell to 16th place from 10th.

↑ **China had a 12% share of total exports in October 2022**

↓ **The USA had a 12% share of total exports in October 2022**

Figure 4: Share of UK exports of goods to the top 5 countries, October 2022



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
 Note: 2022 data is provisional

Exports: Country Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to October 2022, the USA remained the largest export partner country.
- Among the top 10, China experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022, more than doubling in value, and the largest percentage increase on October 2021, up to more than 3 times the value.
- Among the top 10, Switzerland experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022, more than doubling in value.
- Among the top 10, the UAE experienced the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022, up 68%, and the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up to more than 2.5 times the value.
- Among the top 10, Hong Kong experienced the largest percentage decrease on the 3 months to July 2022, down 27%. In contrast, it had the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, doubling in value.
- 7 of the top 10 export partners experienced increases on the 3 months to July 2022. The Netherlands, France, and Hong Kong were the exceptions.
- All of the top 10 export partners experienced increases on the 3 months to October 2021.

↑ Exports to China up to more than 3 times the value on the 3 months to October 2021

↑ Exports to Switzerland more than double in value on the 3 months to July 2022

Table 2: UK exports of goods to the top 10 countries, 3 months to October 2022

Partner Country	3 months to Oct 2022		3 months to Jul 2022		3 months to Oct 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on July 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)	
USA	14,295	12,687	12.7	10,498	36.2	
China	11,823	5,326	122.0	3,734	216.6	
Switzerland	11,022	4,931	123.5	8,102	36.0	
Netherlands	9,198	9,773	-5.9	7,514	22.4	
Germany	8,721	8,418	3.6	7,114	22.6	
Ireland	8,001	7,567	5.7	5,535	44.5	
France	6,559	6,943	-5.5	4,655	40.9	
Belgium	4,711	4,495	4.8	3,707	27.1	
UAE	4,244	2,528	67.9	1,584	167.8	
Hong Kong	3,831	5,249	-27.0	1,828	109.6	
Others	39,251	38,798	1.2	32,793	19.7	
Total Exports	121,655	106,713	14.0	87,064	39.7	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

Exports: Commodity Analysis

- Precious metals remained the largest export commodity, despite experiencing the largest value decrease on last month, down £1,244 million (11%). In contrast, it experienced the largest value increase on October 2021, up £3,549 million (55%).
- Mineral fuels experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month, down £743 million (15%). In contrast, it experienced the 2nd largest value increase on October 2021, up £916 million (29%).
- Motor vehicles experienced the largest value increase on last month, and the 3rd largest value increase on October 2021, up £268 million (9.4%) and up £810 million (35%) respectively.
- Mechanical appliances experienced the 4th largest value increase on October 2021, up £780 million (16%).
- Electronic equipment experienced the 5th largest value increase on October 2021, up £299 million (17%).
- Inorganic chemicals (ranked 20th) experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on last month, down £239 million (50%).

↑ **Exports of Precious metals up 55% on October 2021**

↓ **Exports of Mineral fuels down 15% on last month**

Table 3: UK exports of goods for the top 10 commodities, October 2022

Commodity Description	October 2022	September 2022		October 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on September 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)
Precious metals	9,982	11,227	-11.1	6,433	55.2
Mechanical appliances	5,534	5,512	0.4	4,754	16.4
Mineral fuels	4,105	4,849	-15.3	3,190	28.7
Motor vehicles	3,124	2,856	9.4	2,314	35.0
Electronic equipment	2,093	2,010	4.1	1,794	16.7
Pharmaceutical products	1,925	2,034	-5.4	1,722	11.8
Measuring devices and gauges	1,491	1,404	6.2	1,329	12.1
Other products	1,016	920	10.5	1,857	-45.3
Organic chemicals	933	742	25.8	826	13.0
Beverages	922	893	3.3	705	30.8
Others	10,043	9,879	1.7	9,111	10.2
Total Exports	41,168	42,325	-2.7	34,036	21.0

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

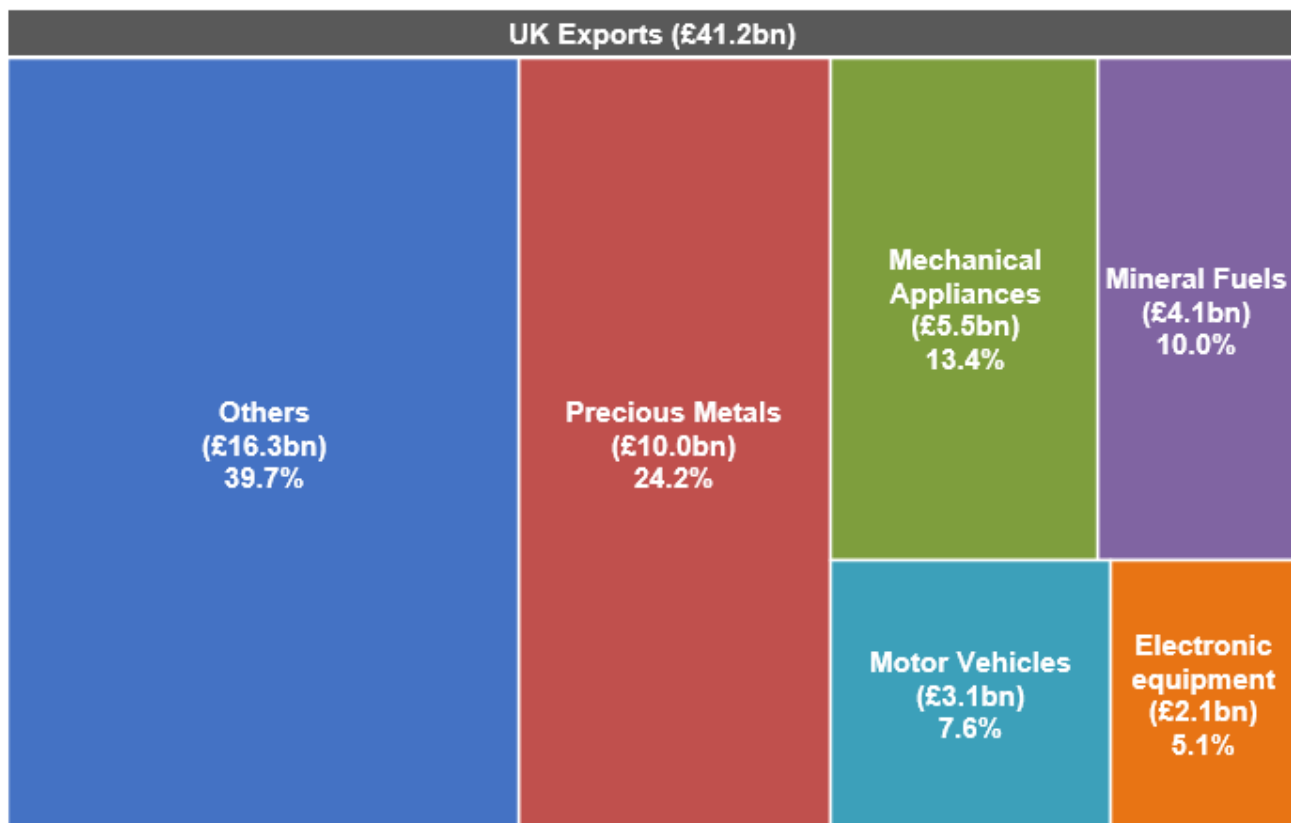
Exports: Commodity Analysis

- The top 5 export commodities (ranked by value) accounted for 60% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in October 2022. This was an increase from a 54% share in October 2021.
- Precious metals accounted for 24% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in October 2022. This was an increase from a 19% share in October 2021.
- Mechanical appliances had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 13% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in October 2022. This was a decrease from a 14% share in October 2021.
- The top 10 export commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with last month, although the top 4 were unchanged. Most notably, Organic chemicals rose to 9th place from 12th.
- The top 10 export commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with October 2021. Most notably, Beverages rose to 10th place from 12th, while Plastics and plastic products fell to 11th place from 9th.

↑ **Precious metals accounted for 24% of total exports in October 2022**

↓ **Mechanical appliances accounted for 13% of total exports in October 2022**

Figure 5: Share of UK exports by the top 5 commodities, October 2022



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
 Note: 2022 data is provisional

Exports: Commodity Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to October 2022, Precious Metals remained as the largest export commodity. It experienced the largest percentage increases on the 3 months to July 2022 and on the 3 months to October 2021, up 68% and up to almost 2.5 times the value respectively.
- Among the top 10, Mineral fuels experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 75%.
- Among the top 10, Motor vehicles experienced 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 38%.
- Among the top 10, Beverages experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022, and the 4th largest percentage increase on October 2021, up 19% and up 36% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Mechanical appliances experienced 5th largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 28%.
- All of the top 10 export commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to July 2022.
- 9 of the top 10 export commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to October 2021. The exception was Other products .

↑ Exports of Precious metals up 68% on the 3 months to July 2022

↑ Exports of Mineral fuels up 75% on the 3 months to October 2021

Table 4: UK exports of goods for the top 10 commodities, 3 months to October 2022

Commodity Description	3 months to Oct 2022		3 months to Jul 2022		3 months to Oct 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on July 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)	
Precious metals	29,220	17,434	67.6	12,631	131.3	
Mechanical appliances	16,252	15,318	6.1	12,685	28.1	
Mineral fuels	13,915	13,438	3.5	7,965	74.7	
Motor vehicles	8,580	7,824	9.7	6,203	38.3	
Pharmaceutical products	6,079	5,863	3.7	4,849	25.4	
Electronic equipment	5,977	5,599	6.8	5,043	18.5	
Measuring devices and gauges	4,258	4,120	3.3	3,784	12.5	
Other products	2,769	2,677	3.4	4,465	-38.0	
Beverages	2,728	2,285	19.4	2,012	35.6	
Aircraft	2,684	2,407	11.5	2,182	23.0	
Others	29,194	29,747	-1.9	25,245	15.6	
Total Exports	121,655	106,713	14.0	87,064	39.7	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2022 data is provisional

Exports: Combined Commodity & Country Analysis

Country to commodity:

- The increase in exports to China on last month was led by Precious metals, up £1,067 million (44%).
- The increase in exports to the USA on October 2021 was led by Pharmaceutical products, up £285 million (doubling in value).
- The decrease in exports to Switzerland on October 2021 was led by Precious metals, down £607 million (14%).
- The increases in exports to Ireland on last month and on October 2021 were both led by Organic chemicals, up £359 million (to 3.5 times the value) and up £490 million (from £8.6 million) respectively.

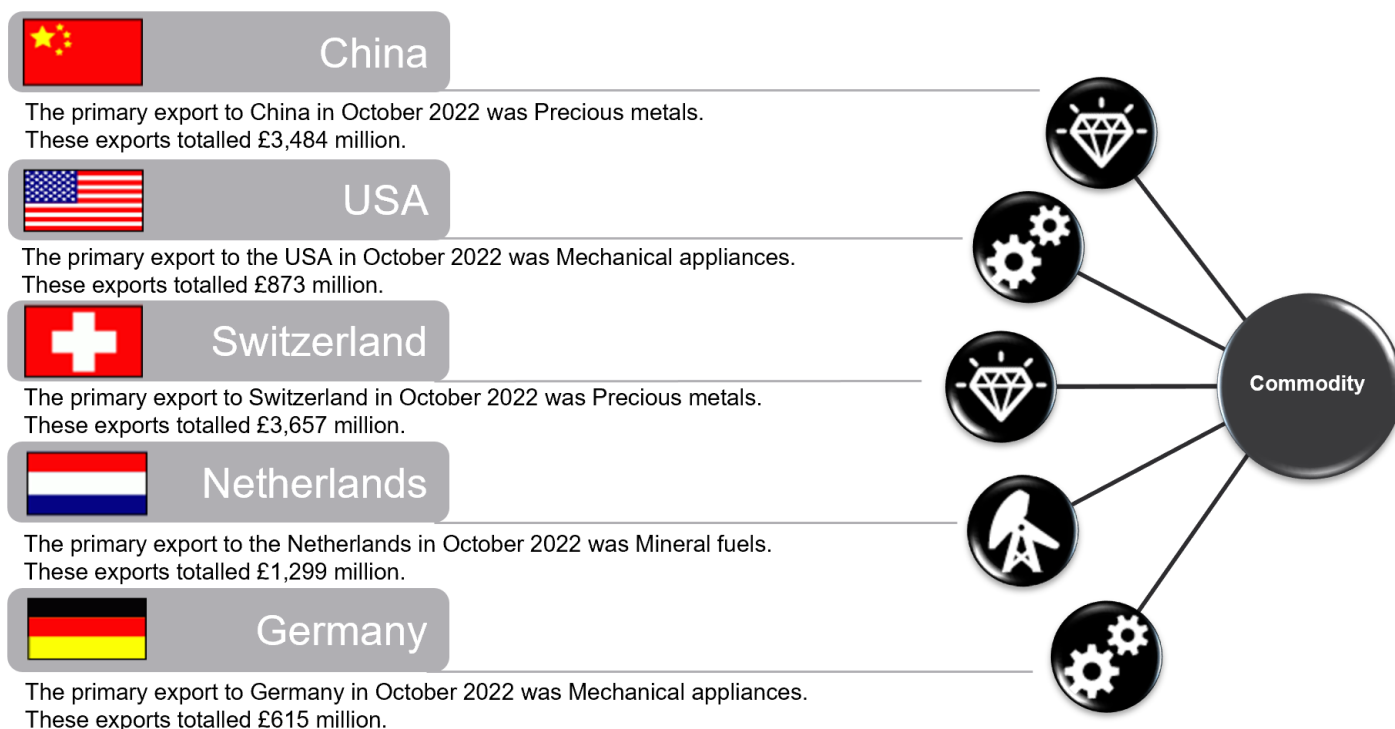
↑ Exports of Precious metals to China up 44% on last month

Commodity to country:

- The decrease in exports of Precious metals on last month was led by Switzerland, India, and the UAE, down £535 million (13%), £425 million (63%) and £415 million (31%) respectively. The increase on October 2021 was led by China and the UAE, up £3,424 million (from £59 million), and up £825 million (to almost 8.5 times the value) respectively.
- The decrease in exports of Mineral fuels on last month was driven by the Netherlands and France, down £294 million (18%) and down £278 million (48%) respectively. The increase on October 2021 was driven by China and Poland, up £197 million (to more than 2.5 times the value) and up £196 million (from £4.4 million) respectively.
- The increase in exports of Motor vehicles on October 2021 was led by the USA, up £163 million (34%).
- The increase in exports of Mechanical appliances on October 2021 was led by Germany and Singapore, up £230 million (60%) and up £124 million (72%) respectively.

↓ Exports of Mineral fuels to France down 48% on last month

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



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
 Note: 2022 data is provisional

Imports: Country Analysis

- China remained the largest import partner country despite experiencing the 3rd largest value decrease on last month, down £631 million (9.4%).
- The Netherlands experienced the 2nd largest value increase on last month, and the largest value increase on October 2021, up £594 million (13%) and £2,230 million (79%) respectively.
- The USA experienced the 2nd largest value increase on October 2021, up £2,195 million (58%).
- Russia (ranked 80th) experienced the largest value decrease on October 2021, down £1,812 million (to £16 million).
- The Philippines experienced the largest value increase on last month, and the 3rd largest value increase on October 2021, up £1,175 million (to 5 times the value) and up £1,373 million (from £89 million) respectively.
- Germany experienced the 3rd largest value increase on last month and the 4th largest value increase on October 2021, up £520 million (9.5%) and £1,247 million (26%) respectively.

↑ Imports from the Netherlands up 79% on October 2021

↑ Imports from the Philippines up to 5 times the value on last month

Table 5: UK imports of goods from the top 10 countries, October 2022

Partner Country	October 2022		September 2022		October 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on September 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)	
China	6,101	6,732	-9.4	5,368	13.6	
Germany	5,990	5,470	9.5	4,743	26.3	
USA	5,989	6,006	-0.3	3,794	57.9	
Netherlands	5,063	4,469	13.3	2,833	78.7	
Norway	2,888	3,200	-9.8	3,678	-21.5	
France	2,807	2,540	10.5	2,018	39.1	
Belgium	2,502	2,460	1.7	2,121	18.0	
Italy	1,871	1,684	11.1	1,599	17.0	
Ireland	1,681	1,273	32.0	1,076	56.2	
Philippines	1,462	287	409.4	89	1536.6	
Others	20,084	21,747	-7.6	18,206	10.3	
Total EU	26,713	24,524	8.9	19,516	36.9	
Total Non-EU	29,724	31,346	-5.2	26,009	14.3	
Total Imports	56,437	55,870	1.0	45,525	24.0	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

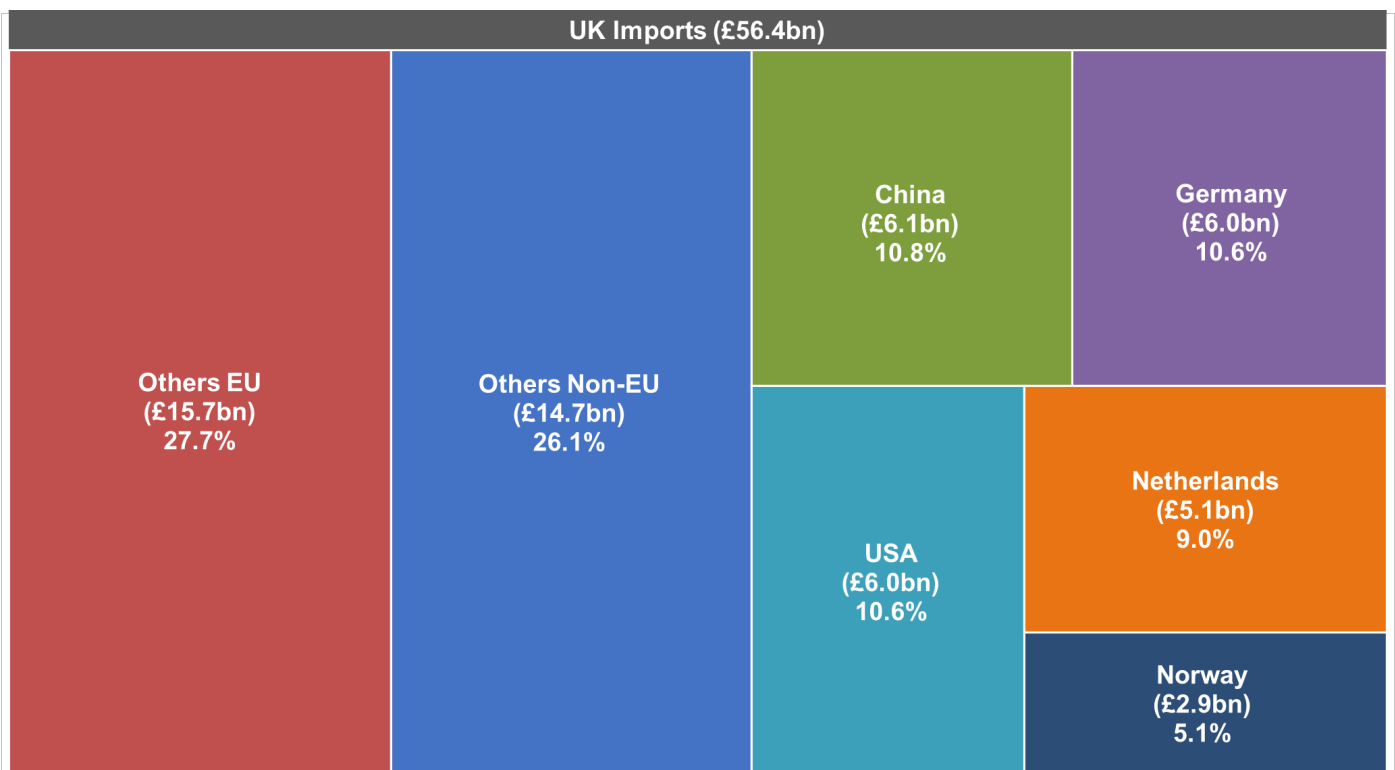
Imports: Country Analysis

- The top 5 import partners accounted for 46% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in October 2022. This was an increase from a 45% share in October 2021.
- China accounted for 11% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in October 2022. This was a decrease from a 12% share in October 2021.
- Germany had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 11% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in October 2022. This was an increase from a 10% share in October 2021.
- The top 10 import partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, Germany rose to 2nd place from 3rd, and the Philippines rose to 10th place from 33rd, while Spain fell to 11th place from 9th.
- The top 10 import partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with October 2021. Most notably, the Netherlands rose to 4th place from 5th, and Ireland rose to 9th place from 12th, while Turkey fell to 14th place from 10th.

↑ **The top 5 partners accounted for 46% of total imports in October 2022**

↓ **China accounted for 11% of total imports in October 2022**

Figure 7: Share of UK imports of goods from the top 5 countries, October 2022



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
 Note: 2022 data is provisional

Imports: Country Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to October 2022, China replaced Germany as the largest import partner country.
- Among the top 10, the Netherlands experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 79%.
- Among the top 10, the USA experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022, and the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 23% and 51% respectively.
- Among the top 10, France experienced the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 43%.
- Among the top 10, Ireland experienced the 4th largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 38%.
- Among the top 10, Norway experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022 and the 5th largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 18% and 37% respectively.
- 5 of the top 10 countries experienced an increase on the 3 months to July 2022, and 5 experienced a decrease.
- All of the top 10 countries experienced an increase on the 3 months to October 2021.

↑ Imports from the Netherlands up 79% on the 3 months to October 2021

↑ Imports from the USA up 23% on the 3 months to July 2022

Table 6: UK imports of goods from the top 10 countries, 3 months to October 2022

Partner Country	3 months to Oct 2022		3 months to Jul 2022		3 months to Oct 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on July 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)	
China	18,686	15,922	17.4	16,656	12.2	
Germany	16,765	17,463	-4.0	13,566	23.6	
USA	16,721	13,639	22.6	11,082	50.9	
Netherlands	14,353	13,821	3.8	8,014	79.1	
Norway	11,119	9,455	17.6	8,120	36.9	
France	8,330	9,725	-14.3	5,830	42.9	
Belgium	7,256	7,936	-8.6	6,122	18.5	
Italy	5,250	6,272	-16.3	4,528	15.9	
Ireland	4,622	4,566	1.2	3,356	37.7	
Spain	3,970	4,918	-19.3	3,524	12.6	
Others	61,017	61,988	-1.6	49,740	22.7	
Total Imports	168,088	165,706	1.4	130,539	28.8	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

Imports: Commodity Analysis

- Mineral fuels remained the largest import commodity. This is despite it experiencing the largest value decrease on last month, down £1,016 million (10%). In contrast, it experienced the largest value increase on October 2021, up £2,506 million (40%).
- Mechanical appliances experienced the 2nd largest value increase on October 2021, up £1,356 million (27%).
- Electronic equipment experienced the 3rd largest value increase on October 2021, up £1,264 million (31%).
- Motor vehicles experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month, down £647 million (13%).
- Precious metals experienced the largest value increase on last month, up £622 million (17%).
- Knitwear experienced the 3rd largest value increase on last month, and the 4th largest value increase on October 2021, up £257 million (23%) and £469 million (52%) respectively.
- Organic chemicals (ranked 11th) experienced the 2nd largest value increase on last month, and the 5th largest value increase on October 2021, up £270 million (41%) and £365 million (64%) respectively.

↑ Imports of Mineral fuels up 40% on October 2021

↑ Imports of Precious metals up 17% on last month

Table 7: UK imports of goods for the top 10 commodities, October 2022

Commodity Description	October 2022	September 2022		October 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on September 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)
Mineral fuels	8,766	9,783	-10.4	6,260	40.0
Mechanical appliances	6,449	6,529	-1.2	5,093	26.6
Electronic equipment	5,310	5,385	-1.4	4,047	31.2
Precious metals	4,274	3,652	17.0	4,225	1.2
Motor vehicles	4,180	4,827	-13.4	4,179	0.0
Pharmaceutical products	2,069	2,207	-6.2	1,828	13.2
Other products	1,686	1,494	12.8	613	175.2
Plastics and plastic products	1,527	1,508	1.2	1,343	13.7
Measuring devices and gauges	1,399	1,383	1.2	1,094	27.9
Knitwear	1,368	1,111	23.1	898	52.2
Others	19,410	17,992	7.9	15,945	21.7
Total Imports	56,437	55,870	1.0	45,525	24.0

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data are provisional

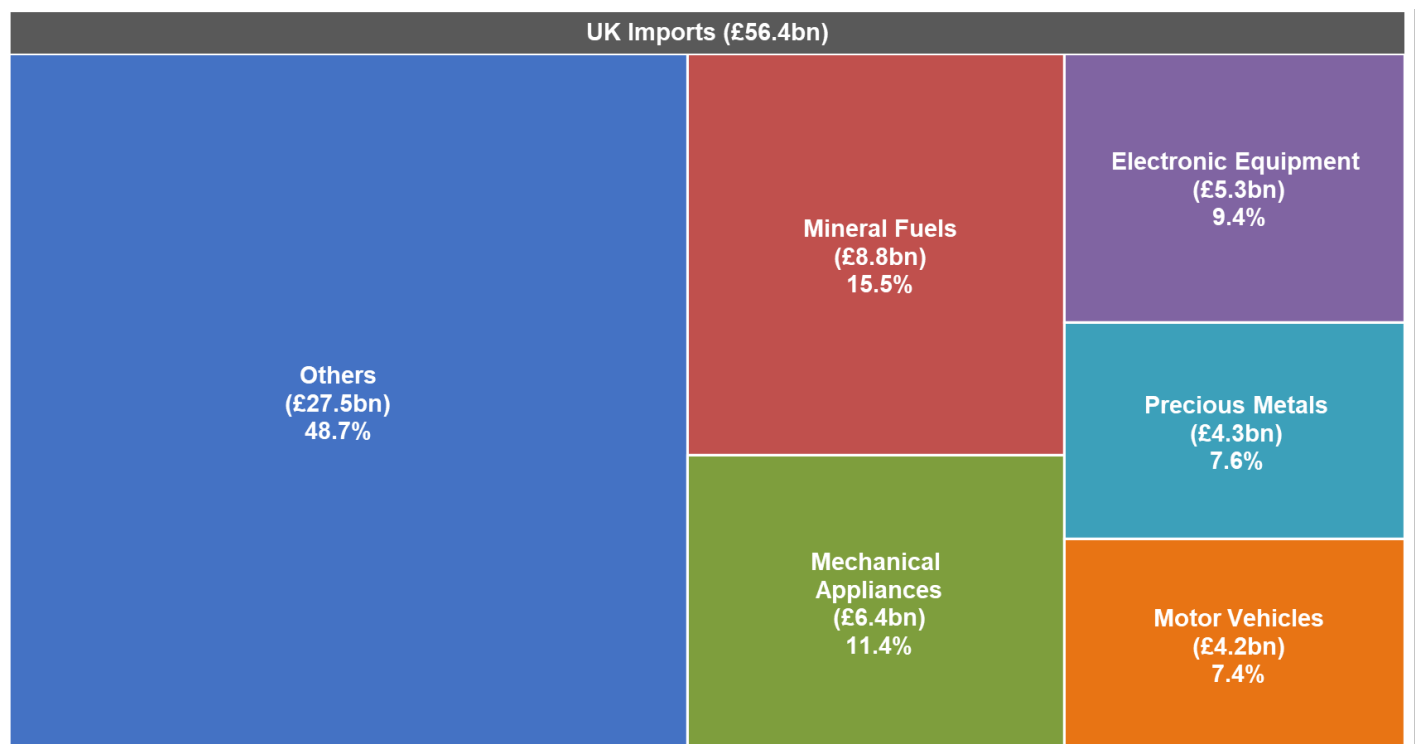
Imports: Commodity Analysis

- The top 5 import commodities (ranked by value) accounted for 51% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in October 2022. This was a decrease from a 52% share in October 2021.
- Mineral fuels accounted for 16% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in October 2022. This was an increase from a 14% share in October 2021.
- Mechanical appliances had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 11% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in October 2022. This was an increase of less than 1 percentage point on October 2021.
- The top 10 commodities (ranked by value) changed order compared with last month. Most notably, Precious metals rose to 4th place from 5th, while Motor vehicles fell to 5th place from 4th, and Plastics and plastic products fell to 8th place from 7th.
- The top 10 commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with October 2021. Most notably, Electronic equipment rose to 3rd place from 5th, while Furniture and light fittings fell to 12th place from 10th.

↓ **The top 5 import commodities accounted for 51% of total imports in October 2022**

↑ **Mineral fuels accounted for 16% of total imports in October 2022**

Figure 8: Share of UK imports for the top 5 commodities, October 2022



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
 Note: 2022 data is provisional

Imports: Commodity Analysis – 3 Months

- In the 3 months to October 2022, Mineral fuels remained the largest import commodity. Among the top 10, it experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022 and the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 18% and to double the value respectively.
- Among the top 10, Knitwear experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to July 2022 and the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 36% and 35% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Electronic equipment experienced the 3rd largest percentage increases on the 3 months to July 2022 and on the 3 months to October 2021, up 12% and 34% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Mechanical appliances experienced the 4th largest percentage increase on the 3 months to October 2021, up 31%.
- 6 of the top 10 commodities experienced a decrease on the 3 months to July 2022. The exceptions were Mineral fuels, Mechanical appliances, Electronic equipment, and Knitwear.
- 9 of the top 10 commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to October 2021. The exception was Precious metals.

↑ Imports of Mineral fuels up to double the value on the 3 months to October 2021

↑ Imports of Knitwear up 36% on the 3 months to July 2022

Table 8: UK imports of goods for the top 10 commodities, 3 months to October 2022

Commodity Description	3 months to Oct 2022		3 months to Jul 2022		3 months to Oct 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on July 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on October 2021 (%)	
Mineral fuels	28,937	24,468	18.3	14,762	96.0	
Mechanical appliances	19,181	19,148	0.2	14,661	30.8	
Electronic equipment	15,549	13,930	11.6	11,636	33.6	
Motor vehicles	13,035	14,303	-8.9	11,447	13.9	
Precious metals	12,565	13,770	-8.8	14,249	-11.8	
Pharmaceutical products	6,603	6,779	-2.6	5,443	21.3	
Plastics and plastic products	4,545	4,891	-7.1	4,093	11.0	
Other products	4,483	4,714	-4.9	1,688	165.6	
Measuring devices and gauges	4,264	4,415	-3.4	3,384	26.0	
Knitwear	3,432	2,530	35.6	2,533	35.5	
Others	55,493	56,757	-2.2	46,643	19.0	
Total Imports	168,088	165,706	1.4	130,539	28.8	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

Imports: Combined Commodity & Country Analysis

Country to commodity:

- The increases in imports from the Netherlands on last month and on October 2021 were led by Mineral fuels and Electronic equipment, up on last month by £385 million (62%) and £105 million (19%) respectively, and up on October 2021 by £575 million (to almost 2.5 times the value) and £333 million (to double the value) respectively.
- The decrease in imports from Russia on October 2021 was dominated by Precious metals, down £1,369 million (to zero).
- The increases in imports from the Philippines on last month and on October 2021 were dominated by Precious metals, up £1,183 million (to over 6 times the value), and £1,408 million (from £0.2 million) respectively.
- The increase in imports from Germany on last month was led by Knitwear and Footwear, up £186 million (to almost 7 times the value) and £115 million (to 6 times the value) respectively.

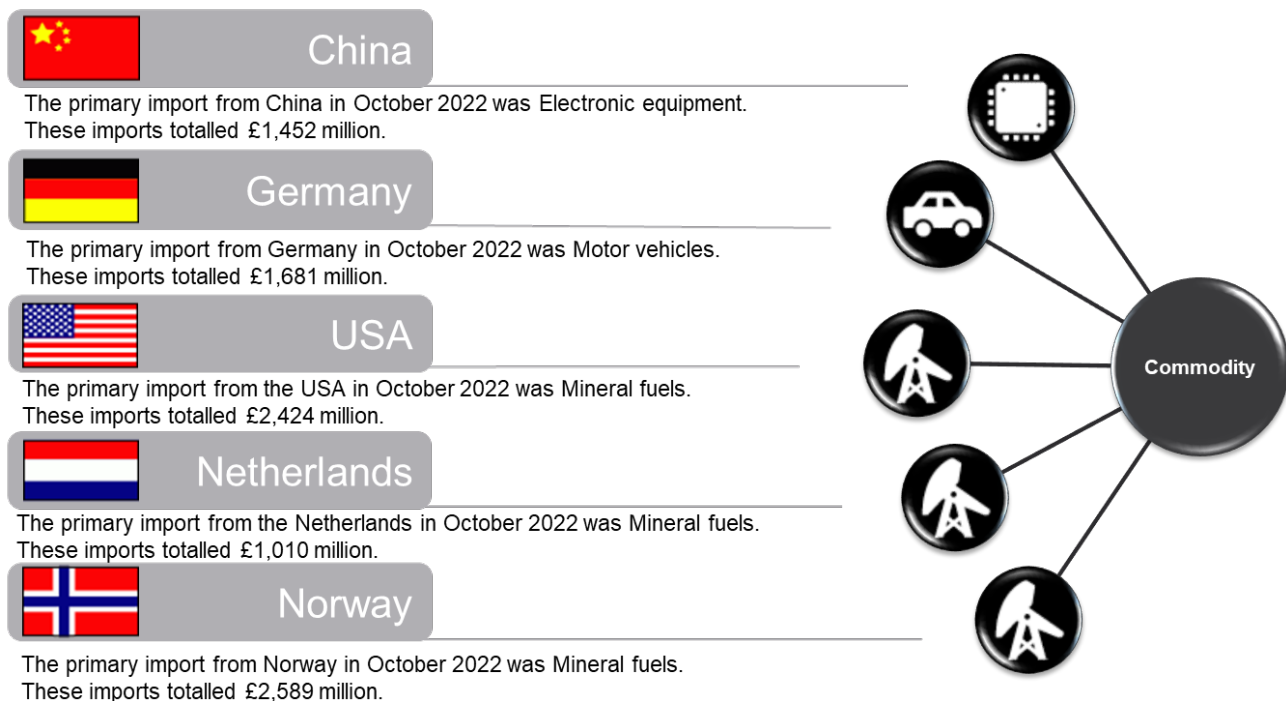
↑ Imports of Mineral fuels from the Netherlands up to over double the value on October 2021

Commodity to country:

- The decrease in imports of Mineral fuels on last month was led by Qatar and Norway, down £620 million (55%) and £373 million (13%) respectively. The increase on October 2021 was led by the USA, up £1,867 million (to almost 4.5 times the value).
- The increase in imports of Mechanical appliances on October 2021 was led by the Netherlands and the USA, up £295 million (to double the value) and £155 million (23%) respectively.
- The decrease in imports of Motor vehicles on last month was driven by Germany, down £307 million (15%).
- The increase in imports of Organic chemicals on last month and on October 2021 was dominated by Ireland, up £311 million (from £21 million) and up £298 million (from £34 million) respectively.

↑ Imports of Precious metals from the Philippines up to over 6 times the value on last month.

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



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics
Note: 2022 data is provisional

Methodology Notes

On 14 November 2022, HMRC announced corrections to the OTS which affected UK imports from January 2021 to September 2022. The issue was found during regular quality assurance checks of Customs declaration data, where certain import Customs declarations for goods removed from Customs warehouses into UK free circulation, were excluded from the OTS. These corrections are now included in the October 2022 OTS.

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

From 31 December 2020, the free movement of people and goods and services between the UK and the European Union (EU) ended. This meant the way HMRC had been collecting trade in goods statistics was revised.

UK to EU exports

For goods moving from 1 January 2021, GB to EU export statistics have been compiled directly from customs export declarations made according to the requirements of the Taxation (Cross Border Trade) Act. Intrastat survey returns, however, continued to be collected for goods exported from Northern Ireland to the EU, under the terms of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

Both the GB to EU customs export declaration data and NI Intrastat export (dispatch) data were incorporated into the overall UK to EU export dataset.

As a result of the changes and differences outlined above, there was a break in the timeseries for published UK to EU export statistics from January 2021.

UK imports from EU

UK imports from EU statistics were not impacted by any change in 2021. The Intrastat survey continued to operate for all UK (GB and NI) imports (arrivals) from the EU, to mitigate the effects of staging customs controls, and to comply with the Northern Ireland Protocol.

However, from 1 January 2022, Intrastat only applied for movements of goods between Northern Ireland and the EU. Statistics on movements to GB from the EU have been compiled directly from customs import declarations.

Both the EU to GB customs import declaration data and NI Intrastat import (arrivals) data were incorporated into the overall EU to UK import dataset.

As a result of the changes and differences outlined above, there was a break in the timeseries for published EU to UK import statistics from January 2022.

Northern Ireland Trade

Figures derived from Intrastat include the following:

- 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.

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

Non-EU trade

Non-EU trade are compiled from customs declarations collected by the CHIEF (Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight) system. Declarations collected via the Customs Declarations Service (CDS) are included: for imports from August 2020 month of account; and for exports from December 2020 month of account onwards.

Detailed trade information is presented according to the [Harmonised System \(HS\)](#) nomenclature.

Methodology

The Overseas Trade Statistics Methodology paper (November 2022) is available [here](#). It 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 most recent changes in the OTS methodology are covered in this paper.

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 website 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.

National Statistics Publication

HM Revenue & Customs released these latest statistics on Overseas Trade with countries on 12 December 2022 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 October 2022. At the same time revisions for all previously published non-EU and EU data for 2022 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:

Month of account	First release date
November 2022	13 January 2023
December 2022	10 February 2023
January 2023	10 March 2023

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.

Now that the UK has left the EU, it is important that our statistics continue to be of high quality and are internationally comparable. All releases continue to be produced in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Statistics as well as internationally agreed statistical guidance and stand