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# HM Revenue and Customs

## Customs Trade Statistics

# EU Overseas Trade Statistics July 2013

### Summary

- The UK's EU exports for July 2013 have increased by £0.3 billion (2.7 per cent) compared to June 2013, to £12.9 billion. Compared to July 2012, exports have increased by £0.5 billion (4.4 per cent).
- The UK's EU imports for July 2013 have increased by £1.4 billion (7.8 per cent) compared to June 2013, to £19.2 billion. This is the second highest EU import figure seen in recent years exceeded only by the import total in March 2012. Compared to July 2012, imports have increased by £1.8 billion (10.1 per cent).
- The UK remains a net importer (imports are greater than exports). The size of the difference between imports and exports has increased by £1.0 billion (19.7 per cent) compared to June 2013 to £6.3 billion. This is the highest figure seen in recent years.
- This is the first month to include Croatia in the EU Overseas Trade Statistics since it joined the EU on 1 July 2013. Its presence in these figures contributes an increase of £13.8 million to exports and £6.5 million to imports compared to June 2013. This accounts for 4.1 per cent and 0.5 percent of the overall increase for exports and imports respectively.



HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) are responsible for collecting the UK's international trade in goods data, which are published as two National Statistics series - the 'Overseas Trade Statistics (OTS)' and the 'Regional Trade Statistics (RTS)'. The OTS are published monthly, providing detailed data for over 9,000 commodities and 200 partner countries. The RTS are published quarterly showing trade at summary product and country level, split by UK regions.

You can find details of how users interested in import and export markets for specific goods make use of the detailed OTS data in '[The Customer Story](#)'. You can also access the detailed data in our interactive database [here](#).

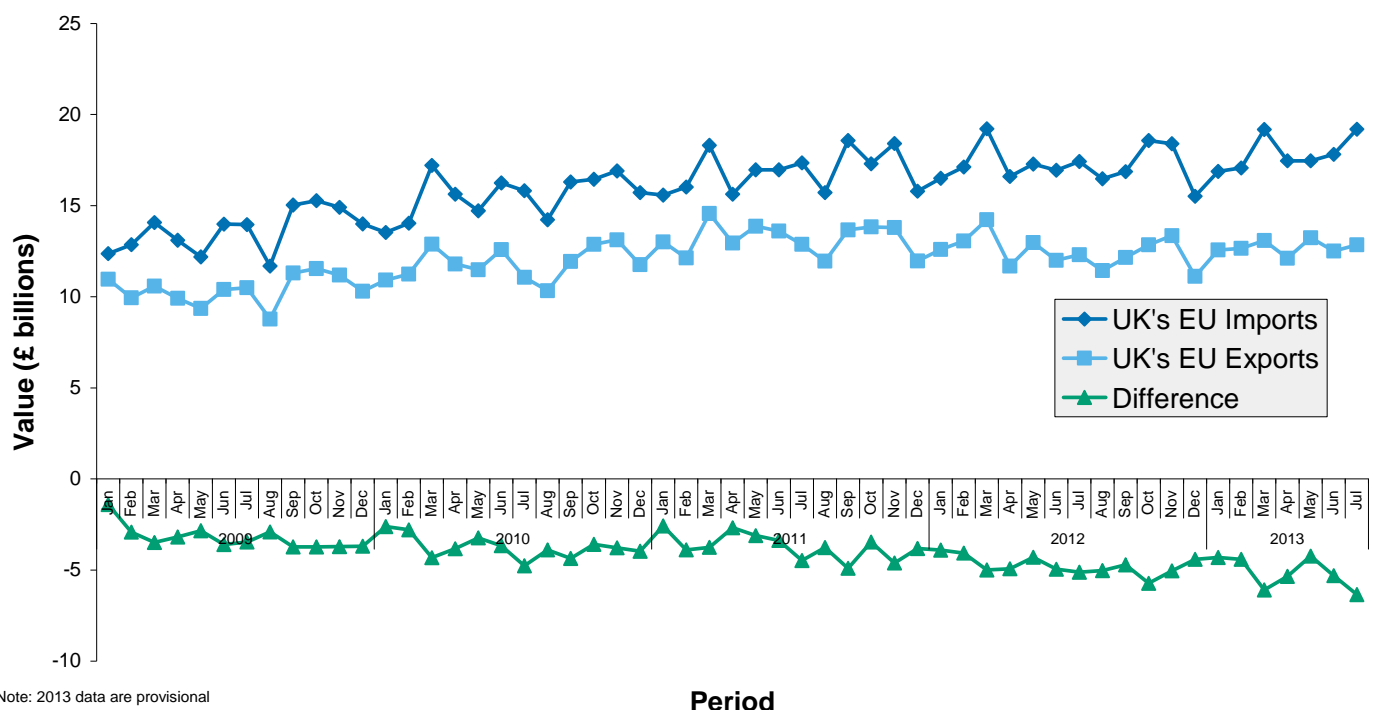
## Key Points

For the month of July 2013:

The value of UK trade increased for both EU imports and exports, with imports rising by £1.4 billion, and exports by £0.3 billion against June 2013 totals. Furthermore, there were even greater increases for both flows compared to July 2012,

There is an increase of 19.7 per cent in the trade gap, the difference between UK imports from the EU and exports to the EU. This difference is now £6.3 billion. This is the largest trade gap seen in recent years.

**Fig. 1: Total Monthly UK Trade with EU Member States**



## Exports

- The value of the UK's EU exports has increased by £0.3 billion (2.7 per cent) compared to June 2013 to £12.9 billion. Compared with July 2012, the value of exports rose by £0.5 billion (4.4 per cent).
- The top five commodities are virtually unchanged from the previous month. HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) remains the top commodity exported by value. In July it contributed £2.6 billion, 16.3 per cent of the total value of the UK's EU export trade. HS2 27 also experienced the largest value increase from the previous month of £0.4 billion (16.3 per cent). This increase was greater than the overall increase in EU exports.
- The largest value decrease from the previous month was in the commodity with the eighth largest export value, HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof) down £91.9 million (18.9 per cent).
- The top five EU export partner countries are unchanged from the previous month. Germany remains the UK's largest EU export partner country, accounting for 19.4 per cent of the total exports.
- The largest increase in exports from the UK compared to June 2013 was a rise of £280.4 million (14.0 per cent) to the UK's second largest export partner country, the Netherlands. Exports to Spain had the largest decrease, of £79.6 million (9.8 per cent).
- The total 2013 year to date value of UK's trade-in-goods exported to EU Member States excluding July is £76.2 billion, which has been upwardly revised by £261.4 million. This is an increase of 0.3 per cent.

## Imports

- The value of the UK's EU imports has increased by £1.4 billion (7.8 per cent) compared to June 2013, to £19.2 billion. Compared with July 2012, the value of imports rose by £1.8 billion (10.1 per cent)
- The top five commodities are the same as last month. The largest contributing commodity group is HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof). This contributed £3.5 billion, 18.2 per cent of the total value of UK's EU import trade. The chapter also experienced the largest value increase from the previous month up £483.4 million (16.0 per cent).
- The largest value decrease from the previous month was in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) down £109.2 million (10.4 per cent). This is the second successive monthly decrease in this chapter and is the lowest monthly figure since August 2011.
- The top five EU import partner countries are unchanged from June 2013. Germany is still the EU Member State from which the UK imports most goods by value, accounting for 26.6 per cent of total imports. This country also saw the largest increase compared to June 2013 up by £500.1 million (10.8 per cent). The Netherlands remains the UK's second largest EU import partner country with a 14.1 per cent share of total trade. The largest decrease was a fall of £80.8 million in imports from Denmark, a decrease of 16.7 per cent.
- The total 2013 year to date value of UK's trade-in-goods imported from EU Member States excluding July is £105.9 billion, which has been upwardly revised by £111.2 million. This is an increase of 0.1 per cent.

## Further Analysis: Exports

**Table 1: Top 5 commodities in UK's EU exports in July 2013 compared to June 2013 and July 2012**

HS 2	Description	July 2013 Total £ millions	% Change from June 2013	% Change from July 2012	% of Total July 2013 Exports	Rank June 2013	Rank July 2012
-	Total Exports	12,852.0	2.7	4.4	100.0	n/a	n/a
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	2,639.6	16.3	-7.2	20.5	1	1
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	1,317.1	-0.4	11.4	10.2	2	2
87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	1,133.1	0.4	15.5	8.8	3	3
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	869.6	3.3	8.3	6.8	5	5
30	Pharmaceutical products	825.8	-9.8	-12.6	6.4	4	4

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics  
Note: 2013 data are provisional

### Commodity Analysis: comparison with previous month

The increase in export value of £0.3 billion (2.7 per cent) **compared to June 2013** is composed of decreases in 54 per cent of all HS2 chapters. However one very large increase has given rise to a modest overall increase. Furthermore, this was the only chapter to experience either a rise or fall in excess of £100 million. This large increase was a £370.5 million (16.3 per cent) rise for the top chapter, HS2 27, from last month's export value of £2.3 billion to £2.6 billion this month. This increase was driven by rises of £223.4 million (22.7 per cent) in exports to the Netherlands, and £202.7 million (89.3 per cent) to France. The next largest increase was for HS2 64 (Footwear, gaiters and the like; parts of such articles), which rose by £50.5 million (84.6 per cent).

There were no decreases over £100 million although there were two just below this level. The largest decrease was £91.9 million (18.9 per cent) for HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof). This was closely followed by HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products), which fell by £89.8 million (9.8 per cent).

### Commodity Analysis: Comparison against the same month in the previous year

**Compared to July 2012**, the overall export trade to EU Member States increased by £0.5 billion, 4.4 per cent. This overall rise is a reflection of over 70 per cent of all HS2 chapters increasing in export trade, although this overall increase was moderated by a very large decrease in one chapter. There were two increases and two decreases over £100 million.

The largest increase was for HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof), which rose by £152.1 million (15.5 per cent). This was spread over several export partners, led by an increase in exports to Belgium of £66.5 million (44.3 per cent).

The second largest increase was £134.9 million (11.4 per cent) for HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof). This was driven by increases to exports to Germany up £61.1 million (18.0 per cent) and the Irish Republic up £29.3 million (33.3 per cent).

The largest decrease was in the top chapter HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes), down £206.0 million (7.2 per cent). As with the comparison with last month, the magnitude of this change for this chapter has again had an influential effect on the overall change in EU import trade. This was driven by a decrease in exports to Germany of £237.0 million (56.5 per cent). Trade within this chapter is very volatile which explain the large fluctuations.

The second largest decrease was for HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products) down £119.6 million (12.6 per cent). This was driven by falls in exports to France down £69.7 million (47.8 per cent) and Spain down £38.4 million (27.0 per cent). There were no other decreases over £100 million.

Figure 2 shows the top five commodities for the UK's EU exports in July 2013, compared to June 2013 and July 2012. It clearly shows that the value changes in HS2 27 are significantly greater than those of all the other chapters.

**Fig 2: Top 5 commodities for UK's EU exports in July 2013 compared to June 2013 and July 2012**

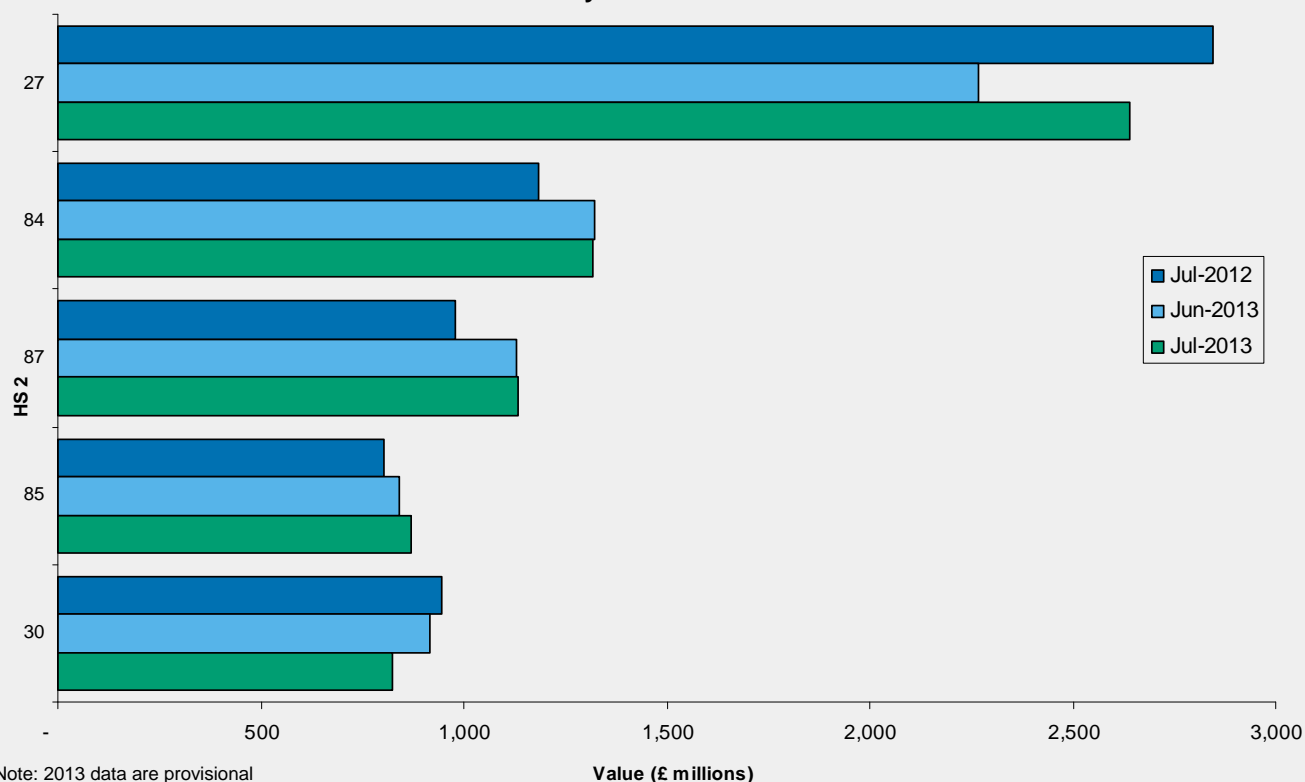


Table 2 shows comparisons of the value of UK export trade with our top five EU export trading partners for July 2013, June 2013 and July 2012.

<b>Table 2: Top 5 EU export partner Member States in July 2013 compared to June 2013 and July 2012</b>						
<b>Country</b>	<b>Total July 2013 £ millions</b>	<b>% Change from June 2013</b>	<b>% Change from July 2012</b>	<b>% of total EU exports</b>	<b>Rank June 2013</b>	<b>Rank July 2012</b>
Total Exports	12,852.0	2.7	4.4	100.0	n/a	n/a
Germany	2,495.2	1.0	-2.2	19.4	1	1
Netherlands	2,285.8	14.0	5.5	17.8	2	2
France	1,904.8	5.3	3.5	14.8	3	3
Ireland	1,445.9	3.6	9.5	11.3	4	4
Belgium	1,318.9	7.1	5.9	10.3	5	5
Note: 2013 data are provisional Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics						

### Country Analysis: comparison with previous month

The top five EU export partner Member States remain unchanged **compared with June 2013**. Germany has been the UK's largest export partner in the EU for a number of years, currently accounting for 19.4 per cent of the total value of exports. This was led by exports of £401.4 million in HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof), with six other chapters with exports of over £100 million.

The increase in value of total export trade compared to June 2013 reflects increases in exactly half 13 of the other 26 Member States in the EU. This excludes Croatia as although it joined the EU on 1 July, it was not a member previously. There was one increase over £100 million and no decreases over this level. Furthermore, all top five countries experienced increases in export trade.

The largest increase in the value of exports from the UK was to the Netherlands up £280.4 million (14.0 per cent). This increase was dominated by a rise in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) of £223.4 million (22.7 per cent). As seen in the commodity analysis, the substantial increase in exports of HS2 27 to the Netherlands had an influential impact on the overall change in exports from last month. The rise in exports of HS2 27 to the Netherlands represented 79.7 per cent of the overall increase of exports to this country. Furthermore, the increase in exports to the Netherlands accounted for 82.8 per cent of the overall net increase.

This was the only increase over £100 million, but just below this level, the second largest increase was for France up £95.7 million (5.3 per cent). As seen in the commodity analysis, a substantial increase of £202.7 million (89.3 per cent) in HS2 27 had a major influence in the overall rise in exports to France, although this increase was counterbalanced by a large number of small decreases in other chapters. The third largest increase was for Belgium up £87.5 million (7.1 per cent). This was driven by a rise of £70.8 million (47.8 per cent) in HS2 71 (Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin).

There were no decreases over £100 million. The largest decrease was for Spain down £79.6 million (9.8 per cent). This fall follows a substantial rise last month which took exports to Spain up to £812.4 million, their highest level since June 2011 (£871.0

million). The decrease this month was driven by a fall in HS2 27 of £45.8 million (34.7 per cent).

### **Country Analysis: comparison against the same month in the previous year**

The increase in total export trade value **compared to July 2012** was due to there being only six decreases in the UK's 26 EU export partner Member States (excluding Croatia). There were two increases over £100 million and no decrease above this value. Four of the top five export partner countries experienced increases in export trade.

The largest increase was for the Irish Republic, up £126.0 million (9.5 per cent). This rise was led by increases in HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof) up £29.3 million (33.3 per cent) and HS2 27 up £25.9 million (9.7 per cent).

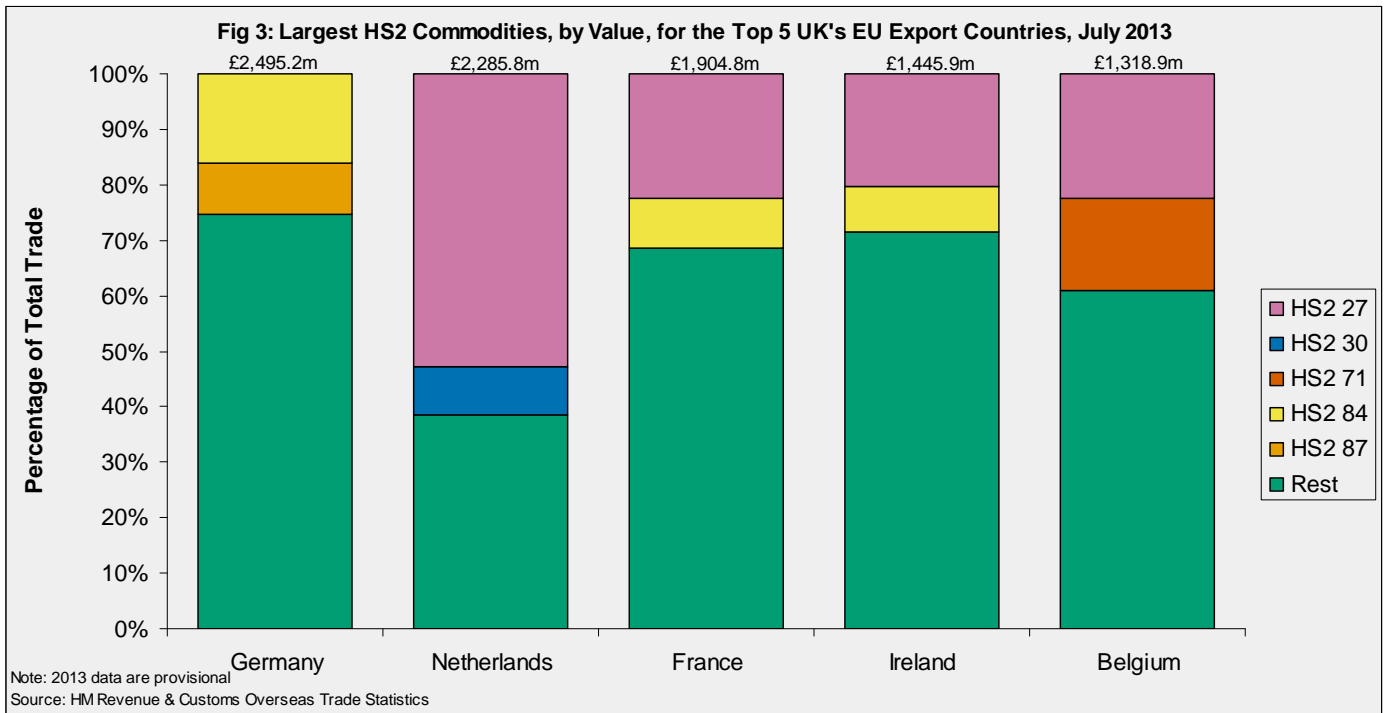
The second largest increase was for exports to the Netherlands, up £119.1 million (5.5 per cent). This increase was driven by a rise in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation) of £74.3 million (6.6 per cent).

There were no other increases over £100 million. The next largest increase was a £73.2 million (5.9 per cent) rise to Belgium.

There were no decreases over £100 million. The largest decrease was for the top country, Germany, down by £55.3 million (2.2 per cent). This was driven by a substantial decrease of £237.0 million (56.5 per cent) in HS2 27, which had a major influence in the overall fall in exports to Germany. However this decrease was counterbalanced by a large number of small increases in other chapters.

Figure 3 shows the two largest commodities by value exported from the UK to each of the UK's top five EU export trading partners. Four of the top five Member States have HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) as one of their two largest commodities exported from the UK by value. The trade with these four Member States accounts for 84.4 per cent of the total value of UK EU export trade under this chapter. Furthermore, HS2 27 accounts for 52.8 per cent of the total UK export trade to the Netherlands.

Three of the top five Member States (Germany, France and Ireland) had HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof) as one of their two largest commodities exported from the UK by value, accounting for 52.0 per cent of the total value of UK EU export trade under this chapter.





## Further Analysis: Imports

**Table 3: Top 5 commodities in UK's EU imports in July 2013 compared to June 2013 and July 2012**

HS 2	Description	July 2013 Total £ millions	% Change from June 2013	% Change from July 2012	% of Total July 2013 Imports	Rank June 2013	Rank July 2012
-	Total Imports	19,198.9	7.8	10.1	100.0	n/a	n/a
87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	3,497.8	16.0	22.3	18.2	1	1
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	2,291.5	9.5	8.6	11.9	2	2
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	1,604.6	2.8	8.6	8.4	3	3
30	Pharmaceutical products	1,211.7	1.1	27.4	6.3	4	5
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	938.6	-10.4	-15.8	4.9	5	4

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics  
Note: 2013 data are provisional

### Commodity Analysis: comparison with previous month

The increase in imports **compared to June 2013** is made up of increases in 75 per cent of all HS2 chapters. There were three increases over £100 million and one decrease above this level. Four of the top five commodities increased in import value. Both the largest increase and decrease were in the top five chapters.

The largest increase in value of imports was for the biggest commodity by value, HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof). This rose by £483.4 million (16.0 per cent) to £3.5 billion. This is the highest import value on record for this chapter, 9.1 per cent above the previous record high value of £3.2 billion in March 2012. The increase in this chapter was driven by an increase of £276.4 million (19.7 per cent) from Germany.

The next biggest increase was HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof), which rose by £199.5 million (9.5 per cent) to £2.3 billion. This is the highest import value since March 2012 (£232.1 million), and the rise is spread across several countries.

The third largest increase was outside the top five, as the tenth biggest chapter by value, HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof) rose by £174.2 million (77.1 per cent) to £400.1 million. This is also the biggest import value on record for this chapter, 25.2 per cent higher than the previous record of £319.5 million from April 2012. This is

led by an increase of £176.2 million (an eightfold rise) from France, offset slightly by a decrease of £73.0 million (96.2 per cent) from Spain.

There were no other increases over £100 million, the next largest being £60.4 million for HS2 39 (Plastics and plastic products).

The largest decrease in the value of imports was for the fifth biggest commodity by value, HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes). This fell by £109.2 million (10.4 per cent) to £938.6 million. This is the lowest import value for this chapter since August 2011 (£909.2 million). The decrease in HS2 27 was led by a fall of £74.7 million (16.2 per cent) from the Netherlands.

There were no other decreases over £100 million.

### **Commodity Analysis: comparison with the same month in the previous year**

**Compared with July 2012**, there was an increase of £1.8 billion (10.1 per cent) in the value of imports as a result of 77 per cent of all chapters rising in value. There were six chapters with increases of over £100 million, and two decreases above this level. The largest four increases and the largest decrease were all within the top five products.

The largest increase was in the biggest import commodity by value, HS2 87, which rose by £638.7 million (22.3 per cent). This was driven by an increase in imports from Germany of £400.6 million (31.4 per cent). The second largest increase was in the fourth largest chapter, as HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products) rose by £260.9 million (27.4 per cent). This was led by increases in imports from Germany of £158.1 million offset by a decrease of £96.2 million in import trade from the Netherlands. The third largest increase was for HS2 84, the second biggest chapter, up £181.9 million (8.6 per cent). There were also increases over £100 million for HS2 85, up £127.5 million (8.6 per cent); HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), up 118.8 million (42.2 per cent); and HS2 39 (plastics), up £104.0 million (15.7 per cent).

The chapter with the largest decrease in comparison with July 2012 was the fifth biggest import by value, HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes). This fell by £176.6 million (15.8 per cent) to £0.9 billion. This decrease was dominated by a fall £128.9 million (43.7 per cent) of imports from Sweden. The second largest decrease was for HS2 71 (Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin), down £121.1 million (39.8 per cent) to £183.1 million. This is the lowest value since April 2011 (£173.5 million), and was led by a fall of £44.1 million (63.8 per cent) from Germany.

Figure 4 shows the top five HS2 commodity groups for the UK's EU imports in July 2013, compared to June 2013 and July 2012. The graph shows that the top four chapters, HS2 87, 84, 85 and 30, had increases over both previous periods. In contrast, HS2 27 decreased against both periods.

**Fig 4: Top 5 Commodities for UK's EU imports in July 2013 compared to June 2013 and July 2012**

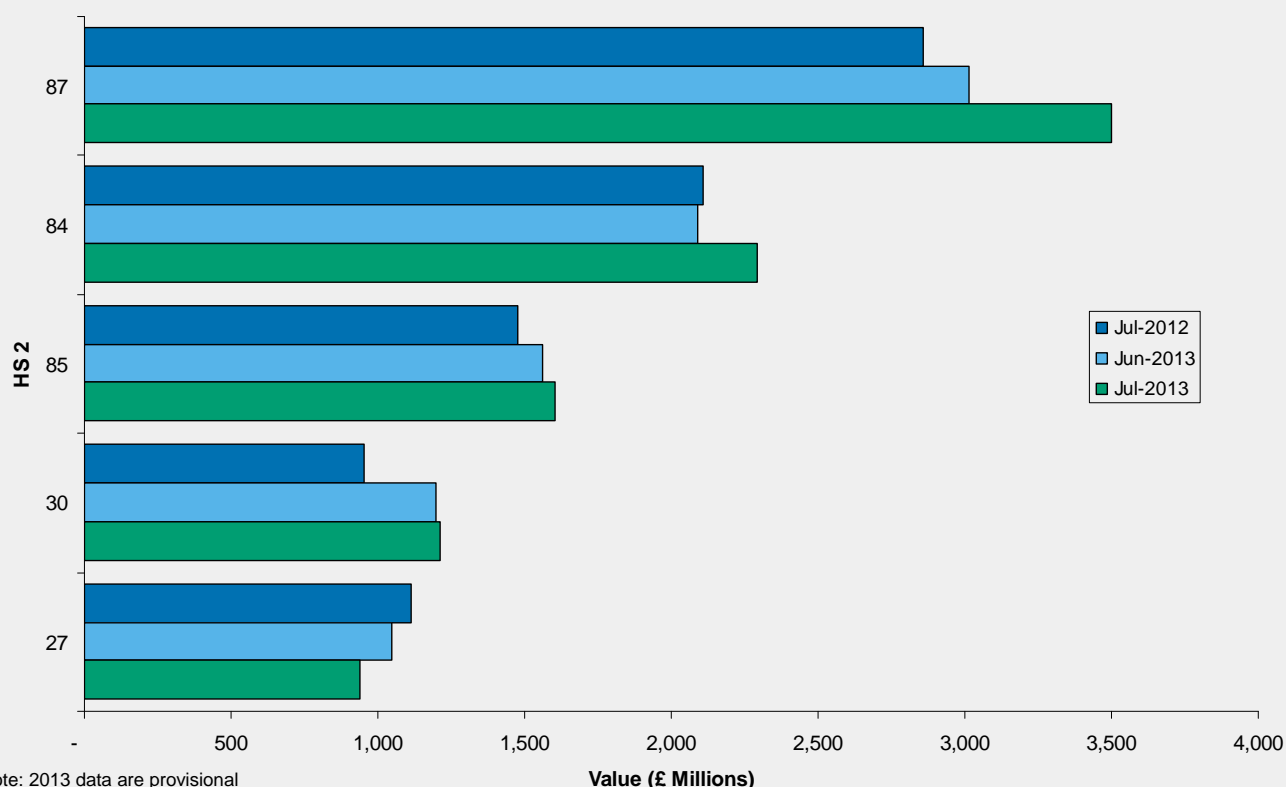


Table 4 shows comparisons of the value of UK import trade with our top five EU import trading partners for July 2013, June 2013 and July 2012.

**Table 4: Top 5 EU import partner Member States in July 2013 compared to June 2013 and July 2012**

Country	July 2013 Total £ millions	% change from June 2013	% Change from July 2012	% of total July 2013 Imports	Rank June 2013	Rank July 2012
Total Imports	19,198.9	7.8	10.1	100.0	n/a	n/a
Germany	5,116.0	10.8	17.5	26.6	1	1
Netherlands	2,707.2	0.3	5.2	14.1	2	2
France	2,436.2	18.4	10.0	12.7	3	3
Belgium	1,619.0	6.2	14.8	8.4	4	4
Italy	1,470.5	12.2	7.6	7.7	5	5

Note: 2013 data are provisional  
Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

The UK imports most goods from Germany, which account for 26.6 per cent of the total imports to the UK from the EU. This is led by imports of £1.7 billion in HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof), accounting for 32.8 percent of the total imports from Germany. The next largest chapter is HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof), with £0.7 billion (14.1 per cent) of the UK's imports from Germany.

The value of total import trade into the UK increased for 21 of the other 26 Member States (excluding Croatia), and decreased for five compared with June 2013. Imports for four member states increased by over £100 million while there were no decreases above this level.

### **Country Analysis: comparison with previous month**

The largest increase in value of import trade **compared with June 2013** was a rise of £500.1 million (10.8 per cent) from Germany, to £5.1 billion. This is the highest value on record for imports from Germany. The increase is driven by a rise in chapter HS2 87 (motor vehicles and parts thereof) of £276.4 million (19.7 per cent).

The second largest increase was from France, up £379.3 million (18.4 per cent). This is also a new high. The increase is led by a rise in HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof) up £176.2 million to £199.4 million from £23.2 million last month.

The third largest increase was from Italy, up £160.3 million (12.2 per cent). This increase is spread across several chapters, with the majority of chapters increasing in value.

The final increase of over £100 million was outside the top five, as Poland increased by £101.2 million (17.0 per cent). This increase is led by a rise of £45.6 million (41.8 per cent) in HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof).

These were the only increases over £100 million although just below this level was a rise of £94.6 million (6.2 per cent) in imports from the fourth biggest import partner country, Belgium.

The largest decrease was for imports from Denmark, which fell by £80.8 million (16.7 per cent). This was led by a fall of £53.7 million (33.8 per cent) in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes).

### **Country Analysis: comparison with the same month in the previous year**

There was an increase of £1.8 billion (10.1 per cent) in total import trade value **compared to July 2012**, which is composed of 20 increases and 6 decreases from the other 26 Member States in the EU (excluding Croatia). All of the top five member states increased. There were six increases over £100 million and no decreases over this amount.

The largest increase was £761.4 million (17.5 per cent) from the top country Germany. This is led by a rise of £400.6 million (31.4 per cent) in HS2 87 (road vehicles).

The second largest increase was for France, up £222.2 million (10.0 per cent). This is spread over a number of chapters.

The third largest increase was for Belgium, up £209.2 million (14.8 per cent). This was driven by changes in two chapters. HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof) rose by £78.8 million (26.1 per cent) and HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products) increased by £77.7 million (55.8 per cent).

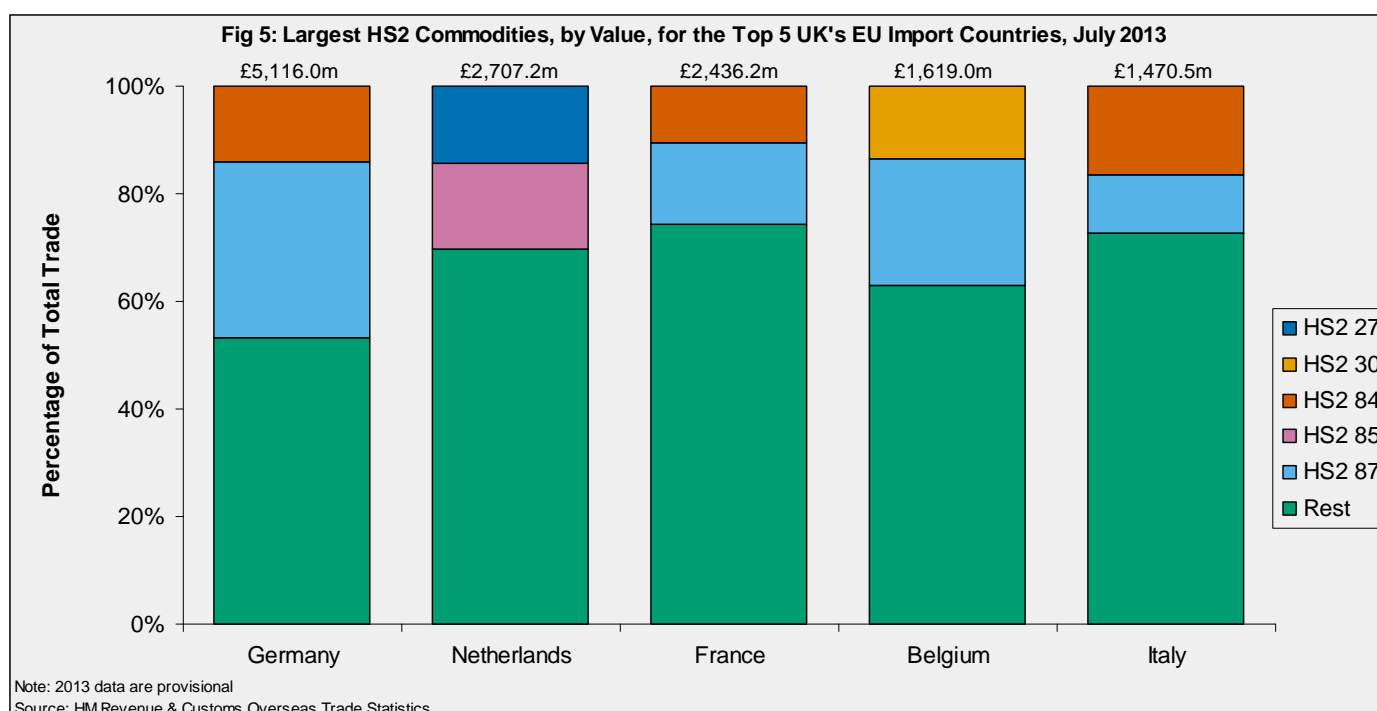
The fourth largest increase was from Spain, which rose by £205.2 million (22.2 per cent). This was led by increases of £47.2 million (14.8 per cent) in HS2 87 (motor vehicles) and £40.2 million (70.4 per cent) in HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof).

The other two increases over £100 million were for the Netherlands up £134.9 million (5.2 per cent) and Italy up £103.9 million (7.6 per cent).

There were no decreases over £100 million. The largest decrease in imports was for Sweden, which fell £94.4 million (13.0 per cent). This decrease was dominated by a fall of £128.9 million (43.7 per cent) in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes).

Figure 5 shows the two largest commodities imported into the UK by value from each of the UK's top five import partner EU Member States. Apart from the Netherlands, all of the top five Member States have HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof) in their top two largest commodities. The trade in HS2 87 from these Member States accounts for 74.0 per cent of the total import trade to the UK under this chapter. It also makes up 32.8 per cent of the UK's total imports from Germany.

Three Member States (Germany, France and Italy) have HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof) in their top two largest commodities imported by the UK, accounting for 53.2 per cent of the total UK import value in these commodities. Imports from the Netherlands within HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) account for 41.1 per cent of the UK's imports from the EU in this chapter.



Notes:

1. HM Revenue & Customs released these latest statistics on Overseas Trade with Member States of the European Union (EU) on 17 September 2013 under arrangements set out in the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).
2. This release includes the first provisional estimates of trade-in-goods between the UK and Member States of the EU for July 2013. At the same time revisions for all previously published EU data for 2013 are also being released in line with the [HM Revenue & Customs Policy on Revisions](#).
3. The figures provided in this publication of the July 2013 EU Overseas Trade Statistics will include
  - a. Estimates for businesses who have yet to submit detailed data on the trade they had with other EU Member States in July.
  - b. Estimates for businesses who do not have to submit detailed data on the trade they have with other EU Member States
  - c. An adjustment for trade associated with Missing Trader Intra Community fraud. More detail of this can be found [here](#).
4. Estimates are included in all high level totals including HS2 and country totals but not for aggregated totals below this level.
5. Detailed trade information is presented according to the [Harmonised System \(HS\)](#) nomenclature.
6. On 1st July Croatia joined the EU and contributed to these figures. For this month Croatia contributed £6.5 million imports and £13.8 million exports to the EU OTS. For further information, see [this summary paper - Croatia Joining the EU: its impact on UK Trade Statistics](#).
7. 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 two sets of data are compiled to different sets of rules. The ONS web site provides an overview of BoP at the [Guide to UK Trade](#) as well as the 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. More detail about the differences between the BoP and OTS publications can be found [here](#).
8. The aggregate estimates here will differ from the Eurostat publication [Euro area external trade](#). The OTS is published 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'.
9. Information to help support users of the EU Overseas Trade Statistics can be found [here](#). This includes links to our policies on revision and suppression of data, descriptions of the methodology used to compile the Overseas Trade Statistics and information on the quality of the data published.
10. The OTS has been reviewed as part of an assessment made of Overseas Trade Statistics by the [UK Statistics Authority](#). The report of that assessment can be found at <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-93---uk-trade-in-goods.pdf>

11. 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.

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

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To access the detailed 8-digit data in our interactive database please log in [here](#).

Please note: there may be a delay between the availability of this release and the detailed data in our interactive database. This is because of the time required to upload such a large dataset. Subscribers to our email [Alert Service](#) will be sent an alert when the interactive database has been updated. The OTS non EU publication occurs one week prior to the publication of the OTS EU equivalent, to allow for additional processing of the Intrastat survey.

Next release: 15 October 2013 9:30am

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