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Non-EU Overseas Trade Statistics September 2013

Summary

- The UK's non-EU exports for September 2013 are £11.9 billion. This is an increase of £0.3 billion (2.6 per cent) compared to August 2013. It is also an increase of £0.2 billion (1.5 per cent) compared to September 2012.
- The UK's non-EU imports for September 2013 are £16.5 billion. This is virtually unchanged compared to August 2013. However it is a decrease of £0.1 billion (0.6 per cent) compared to September 2012.
- The UK remains a net importer (imports are greater than exports). The size of the difference between imports and exports is £4.6 billion. This is a decrease of £0.3 billion (6.0 per cent) compared to August 2013. It is also a decrease of £0.3 billion (5.7 per cent) compared to September 2012.



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.

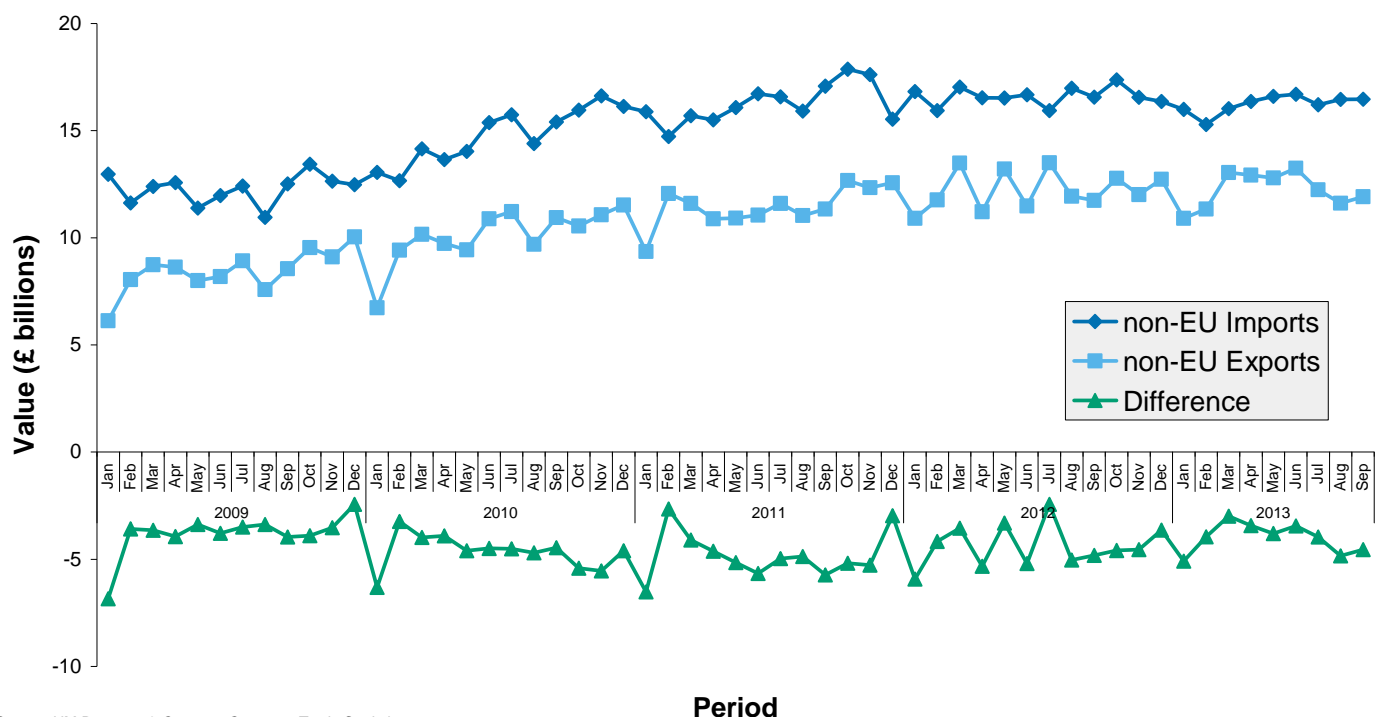
You can find details of how users interested in import and export markets for specific goods make use of the detailed OTS data in ['The User Story'](#). You can also access the detailed data in our interactive database [here](#).

Key Points

For the month of September 2013:

The value of exports increased while imports remained stationary in September 2013 compared with the previous month. Consequently the difference between non-EU imports and exports (the trade gap) has decreased by 6.0 per cent.

Fig. 1: Total Monthly UK Trade with non-EU Countries



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

Exports

- The UK's non-EU exports for September 2013 are £11.9 billion. This is an increase of £0.3 billion (2.6 per cent) compared to August 2013. It is also an increase of £0.2 billion (1.5 per cent) compared to September 2012.
- The top five commodities are unchanged since last month, although their order has changed. HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) has risen to third place, from fifth.
- The largest contributing commodity group remains HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof). In September it contributed £2.5 billion, 20.7 per cent of the total value of UK's non-EU export trade. The largest contribution to this chapter was £1.0 billion from HS4 8411 (Turbo-jets, Turbo-propellers and other gas turbines).
- There were increases in 41 per cent of all chapters, but dominated by two major increases within the top five. The largest increase was in the second biggest chapter by value, HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof), up £431.5 million (37.6 per cent), while the third biggest chapter, HS2 27 (Mineral fuels), rose by £311.6 million (49.8 per cent).
- The largest value decrease from the previous month was in the 41st biggest export chapter (down from 14th), HS2 89 (Ships, boats and floating structures), which fell by £197.1 million (88.6 per cent) to £25.3 million.
- The USA remains the UK's largest non-EU export partner country, accounting for 26.5 per cent of the total value of UK's non-EU export trade. China remains in second place, with an 8.9 per cent share of exports, and Saudi Arabia has risen to third place, from 16th, after increasing by £304.6 million (more than double).
- The largest decrease in exports was to the 36th placed country, Oman, down from 19th. The fall of £113.6 million (74.5 per cent) follows a record high for exports to this country, to return to more usual levels.
- The total 2013 year to date value of UK's goods exported to non-EU countries excluding September 2013 is £98.1 billion, which has been downwardly revised by £1.4 million. This is a decrease of less than 0.1 per cent.

Imports

- The UK's non-EU imports for September 2013 are £16.5 billion. This is an increase of just £11.8 million (less than 0.1 per cent) compared to August 2013. However it is a decrease of £0.1 billion (0.6 per cent) compared to September 2012.
- The top five commodities are unchanged compared to the previous month. Compared to last year, HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof) has risen to fifth place from ninth.
- The largest commodity group remains HS2 27 (Mineral fuels), despite having the largest decrease in value since last month. In September 2013 it contributed £3.1 billion, 19.1 per cent of the total value of non-EU imports to the UK. This is down £486.5 million (13.4 per cent) from August 2013. The largest contribution to this chapter was £2.0 billion from HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude).
- The largest value increase from last month was for the fourth biggest import chapter, HS2 71 (Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin), up £200.1 million (25.2 per cent).

- China remains the UK's largest non-EU import partner country in September 2013 with a total import trade of £3.1 billion, accounting for 18.7 per cent of the total value of UK's import trade. The USA now accounts for 16.1 per cent of the total value of imports.
- The largest value increase in imports compared to August 2013 was from Switzerland, which rose by £232.6 million (38.3 per cent), to climb to fourth place from sixth. The largest decrease in imports into the UK compared to August 2013 was from Nigeria which fell by £285.0 million (55.7 per cent) from £511.7 million to £226.7 million.
- The total 2013 year to date value of UK's goods imported from non EU countries excluding September 2013 is £129.6 billion, which has been upwardly revised by £39.0 million. This is an increase of less than 0.1 per cent.

Further Analysis: Exports

Table 1 shows a comparison of the top five commodities by value exported to countries outside the EU for September 2013, August 2013 and September 2012.

Table 1: Top 5 commodities in UK's non-EU exports in September 2013 compared to August 2013 and September 2012

HS 2	Description	September 2013 Total £ millions	% Change from August 2013	% Change from September 2012	% of Total September 2013 Exports	Rank August 2013	Rank September 2012
-	Total Exports	11,919.8	2.6	1.5	100.0	n/a	n/a
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	2,472.1	-0.3	9.6	20.7	1	1
87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	1,577.9	37.6	21.2	13.2	2	2
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	937.9	49.8	43.1	7.9	5	5
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	803.5	-3.4	-6.4	6.7	3	4
30	Pharmaceutical products	718.7	0.0	-22.6	6.0	4	3

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

Note: 2013 data are provisional

Commodity Analysis: comparison with previous month

The overall rise in exports **compared to August 2013** is composed of increases in only 41 per cent of HS2 chapters, but driven by two increases which were both greater than the overall increase. The total export trade value has increased by £0.3 billion (2.6 per cent). Two of the top five commodity types increased in value. There were four chapters with increases of over £100 million, and two decreases of this magnitude.

The largest increase was £431.5 million in the second chapter in the top five, HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof), up by 37.6 per cent. This was driven by a rise of £431.7 million (48.8 per cent) in HS4 8703 (Motor vehicles for the transport of <10 persons). This was led by an increase of £183.1 million (87.5 per cent) in exports to China, reversing large decreases in the previous month.

The second largest increase was £311.6 million (49.8 per cent) in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels). This was driven by an increase in exports of £275.8 million (173.5 per cent) in crude oil in HS4 2709. This increase takes HS2 27 up to third place from fifth place last month, and is led by large increases to the USA and China.

The third largest increase since last month was in the eighth largest chapter, HS2 22 (Beverages, spirits and vinegar), up by £105.0 million, (31.1 per cent). This was

dominated by a rise of £102.6 million (35.2 per cent) in exports of whisky in HS4 2208, led by exports to the USA.

The fourth largest increase since last month was in HS2 93 (Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof), up by £100.6 million, a five-fold increase.

These were the only increases over £100 million. The next largest was below £50 million.

The largest value decrease was in HS2 89 (Ships, boats and floating structures), down by £197.1 million (88.6 per cent) to £25.3 million. This was driven by a fall in exports in HS4 8906 (Vessels, incl. warships and lifeboats), down by £161.1 million (99.5 per cent), led by falls in exports to Oman and Brazil, of £120.0 million and £40.3 million respectively.

The second largest decrease was in HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), down by £172.3 million (32.0 per cent) to £366.8 million. The decrease is driven by a fall of £147.9 million (69.3 per cent) in exports of powered aircraft in HS4 8802, with exports to Russia falling from £104.7 million to less than £1 million.

There were no other decreases above £100 million. The next largest decrease was for HS2 97 (Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques), down by £59.3 million, (18.0 per cent).

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

Compared to September 2012, the total export trade value increased by £0.2 billion (1.5 per cent), with 48 per cent of all HS2 chapters showing increases and 52 per cent showing decreases. However, these increases were generally greater in magnitude than the decreases. The top three chapters all had increases of over £200 million, and these were the only increases of over £100 million, whereas the remaining two chapters in the top five, in positions four and five, experienced decreases. There were three decreases of over £100 million.

The largest value increase took HS2 27 (Mineral fuels) from fifth to third place. This was an increase of £282.4 million (43.1 per cent) compared to September 2012, and is driven by a rise of £399.3 million (a twelve-fold rise) in crude oil (HS4 2709), offset slightly by a fall of £119.7 million (20.5 per cent) in refined oil in HS4 2710.

The second biggest increase was in the second biggest chapter, HS2 87, which rose by £275.6 million (21.2 per cent). This was dominated by a rise of £415.6 million (46.2 per cent) in HS4 8703 (motor vehicles for <10 people), offset by falls of £63.4 million (52.1 per cent) in HS4 8704 (Goods vehicles) and £60.7 million (33.7 per cent) in parts and accessories in HS4 8708.

The third largest increase was in the top chapter, HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof), up by £217.2 million (9.6 per cent), with HS4 8411 (Turbojets, turbopropellers and other gas turbines) rising by £93.2 million (10.5 per cent).

There were no other increases over £100 million. The next biggest rise was £61.0 million.

The largest decrease was for the fifth largest chapter, HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products), down by £209.7 million, (22.6 per cent). This was led by falls of £48.0 million (82.4 per cent) in exports to South Korea, and £32.3 million (65.7 per cent) to Russia.

The second largest decrease was for HS2 29 (Organic chemicals), down £168.7 million (43.4 per cent). This was led by a fall in exports to the USA, of £146.7 million (60.8 per cent).

The third largest decrease was in HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof) which fell by £127.7 million (25.8 per cent). As with the comparison with August 2013, the decrease is driven by fall in exports of powered aircraft in HS4 8802, of £99.1

million (60.2 per cent). There were no other decreases over £100 million, with the next biggest decrease being £55.2 million.

Figure 2 below shows the top five commodities for the UK's non-EU exports in September 2013, compared to August 2013 and September 2012. It shows how the increases in chapters 87 and 27 when compared to August 2013 dominated all the other changes, leading to the total rise in exports for August 2013. Compared to September 2012, the top three chapters had large increases, while chapter 30 had a large decrease.

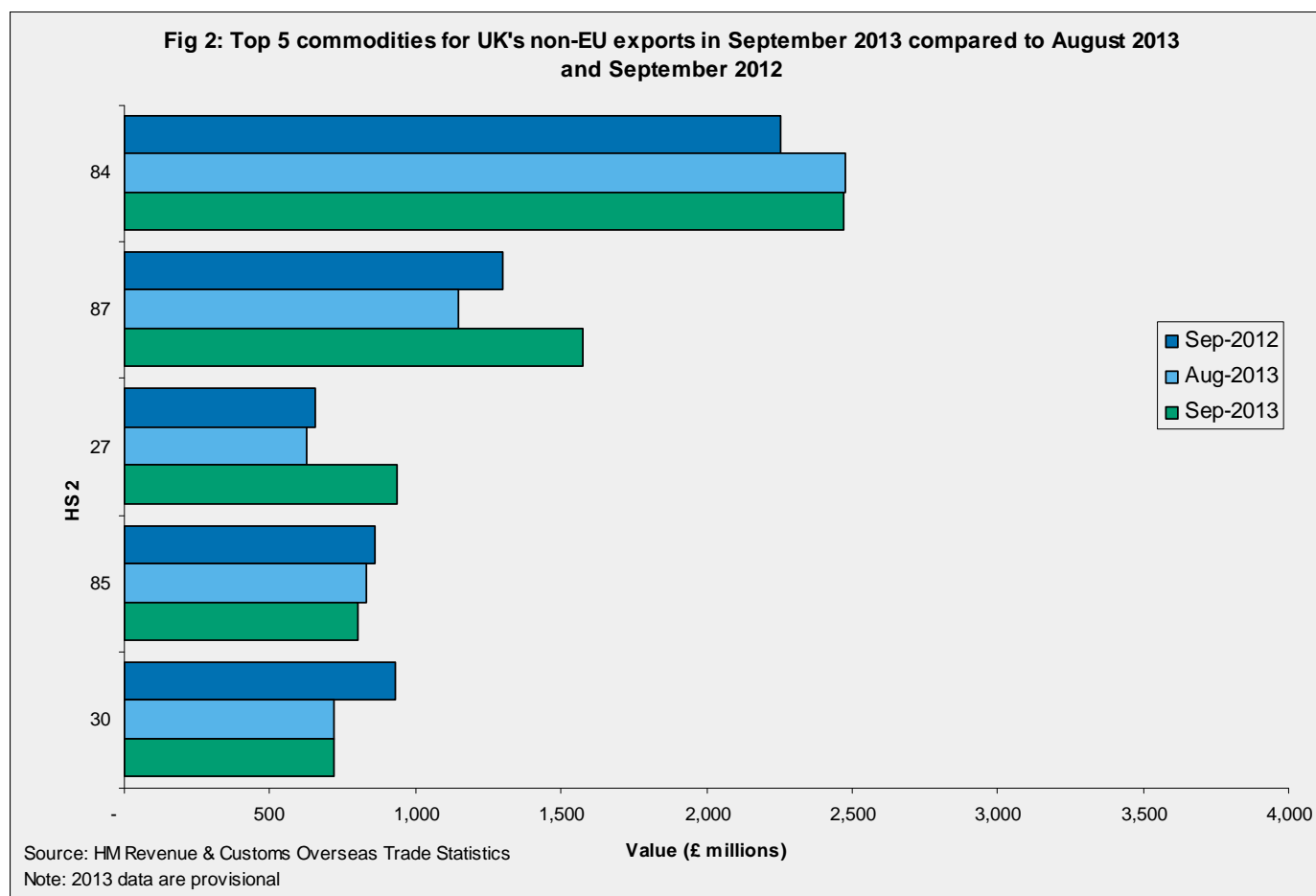


Table 2 shows a comparison of the value of UK non-EU export trade with our top five export trading partners for September 2013, August 2013 and September 2012.

Table 2: Top 5 non-EU export countries in September 2013 compared to August 2013 and September 2012

Country	September 2013 Total £ millions	% change from August 2013	% Change from September 2012	% of total September 2013 Exports	Rank August 2013	Rank September 2012
Total Exports	11,919.8	2.6	1.5	100.0	n/a	n/a
USA	3,153.3	2.2	-5.7	26.5	1	1
China	1,062.6	35.7	52.0	8.9	2	2
Saudi Arabia	527.2	136.8	17.9	4.4	16	5
United Arab Emirates	489.2	8.3	14.3	4.1	4	7
Hong Kong	474.3	13.1	4.1	4.0	5	4

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

For all three periods the USA was the UK's largest non-EU export partner country, with China second. This month has seen Russia fall from third to sixth place, while Saudi Arabia has climbed from 16th to third place. Compared to last month there were increased exports to all of the top five partner countries, while compared to September 2012, only the USA decreased in export value.

Country Analysis: comparison with previous month

Compared to August 2013, there was increased trade to 51 per cent of our export partners. There were two countries to which exports rose by £100 million or more, and two decreases above this level.

The largest two increases in exports were to the second and third largest export partners, as China and Saudi Arabia both experienced rises of over £200 million. Exports to Saudi Arabia climbed by £304.6 million (more than double) to reach £527.2 million. This is the second highest export value on record, just behind the record high of £560.6 million in April 2013. This month's rise was driven by increases of £104.1 million (a threefold rise) in exports for HS2 84 (Mechanical appliances) and £102.9 million in HS2 93 (Arms and ammunition), from £1.5 million.

The second largest increase was in exports to China, up by £279.5 million (35.7 per cent). This was driven by a rises of £179.1 million (77.9 per cent) in exports of HS2 87 (Motor vehicles), and £142.2 million in mineral fuels, from less than £1 million. This is the highest export value on record for this chapter, and is driven by an export of £139.5 million in crude oil.

These were the only increases over £100 million, but just outside this level, the third largest increase was in exports to South Africa, up by £90.4 million (46.8 per cent) to £283.7 million.

The largest decrease in exports was to Oman, which fell by £113.6 million (74.5 per cent) to £38.8 million. This decrease was driven by a reduction of £120.2 million in ships and boats in HS2 89, following an exceptionally high export last month.

The second largest decrease was for Canada, down by £110.3 million (28.0 per cent) to £283.2 million. This takes Canada to 13th place, from sixth. This is spread over several chapters, led by a fall of £46.0 million (77.3 per cent) in mineral fuels in HS2 27.

These were the only decreases over £100 million. The third biggest decrease was to Brazil, down by £88.9 million (31.7 per cent).

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

Compared to August 2012, there was an increase of £0.2 billion (1.5 per cent) in total exports. Just over half (53 per cent) of the UK's export partner countries experienced increases in export value. There was one increase in excess of £100 million, and one decrease above this level.

The largest increase was for China, which rose by £363.3 million (52.0 per cent). As with the comparison with last month, this was driven by increases of £219.9 million (more than double) in cars (HS2 87), and £142.6 million in mineral fuels (HS2 27), from less than £1 million.

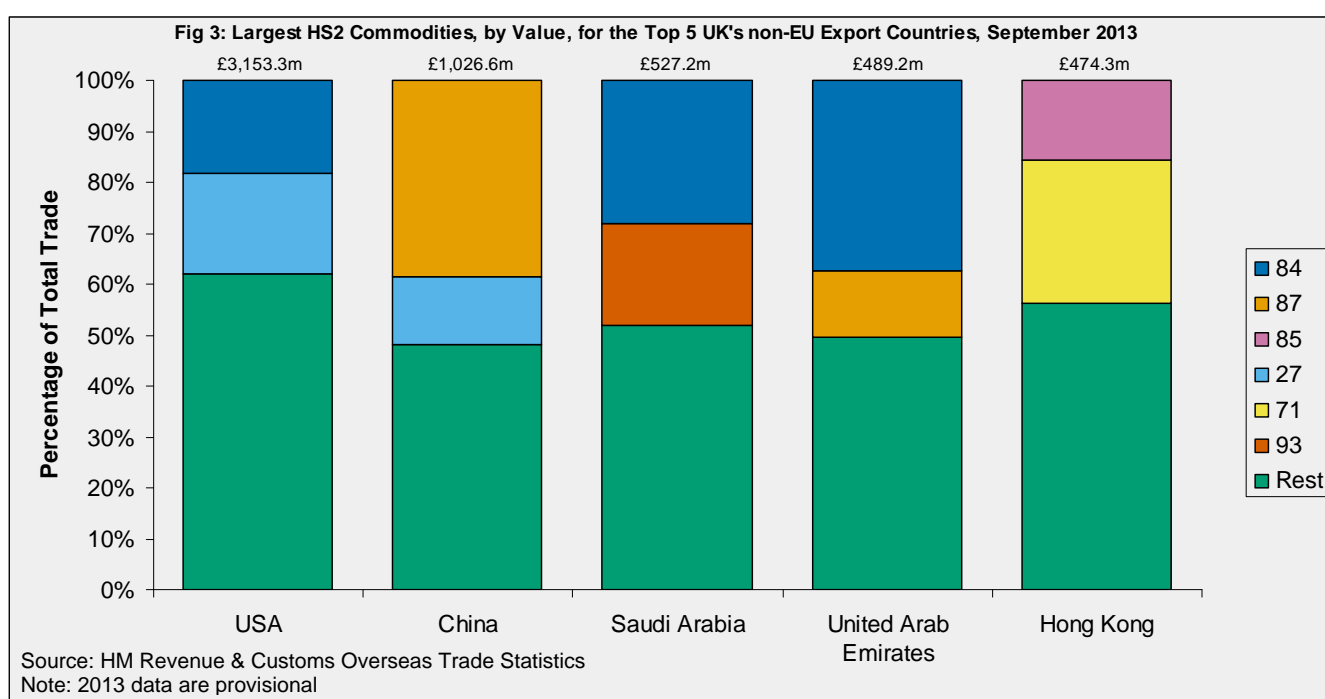
Just below the £100 million level, the next largest increase was for Saudi Arabia, which rose by £80.0 million (17.9 per cent), driven by a twofold rise of £77.3 million in mechanical appliances (HS2 84).

The largest decrease was for exports to the USA, down £191.9 million (5.7 per cent). This was composed of decreases of £146.7 million (60.8 per cent) in HS2 29 (Organic chemicals), and £63.5 million (36.3 per cent) in HS2 88 (Aircraft), partially offset by an increase of £217.1 million (53.8 per cent) in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels).

The second largest decrease in total export trade value was to Canada, down by £93.0 million (24.7 per cent). This was spread over a number of chapters, led by a fall of £22.2 million (27.2 per cent) in mechanical appliances (HS2 84).

Figure 3 shows the two largest commodities by value exported from the UK to each of its top five non-EU export partner countries. This month, three of the top five countries had HS2 84 (Mechanical appliances) in their top two chapters, accounting for 36.7 per cent of the total value of UK non-EU export trade for this chapter.

Two of the top five countries had HS2 27 (Mineral fuels) as one of the top two largest exported commodities accounting for 81.4 per cent of the UK's total exports in this chapter. Also, two of the top five countries had HS2 87 (Motor vehicles) as one of the top two largest exported commodities accounting for 29.9 per cent of the UK's total exports in this chapter.



Further Analysis: Imports

Table 3 shows a comparison of the top five commodities imported from countries outside the EU for September 2013, August 2013 and September 2012.

Table 3: Top 5 commodities in UK's non-EU imports in September 2013 compared to August 2013 and September 2012

HS 2	Description	September 2013 Total £ millions	% Change from August 2013	% Change from September 2012	% of Total September 2013 Imports	Rank August 2013	Rank September 2012
-	Total Imports	16,471.6	0.1	-0.6	100.0	n/a	n/a
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	3,138.8	-13.4	-11.1	19.1	1	1
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	2,158.0	0.0	11.3	13.1	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	1,667.6	13.3	6.3	10.1	3	3
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	993.0	25.2	-7.2	6.0	4	4
88	Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof	765.2	13.8	61.5	4.6	5	9

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

Note: 2013 data are provisional

Commodity Analysis: comparison with previous month

The value of imports increased by just £11.8 million (0.1 per cent) **compared to August 2013**. There were increases in half of the HS2 commodity chapters and decreases in half. There were two increases over £100 million and two decreases over £100 million. Three of the top five import chapters increased on last month.

The largest value increase from the previous month was £200.1 million (25.2 per cent) for HS2 71 (Precious stones, metals, pearls and jewellery). This was more than covered by a rise of £271.6 million (nearly fourfold) in imports of platinum group metals in HS4 7110, with a £298.3 million increase from Switzerland.

The second biggest increase was for the third biggest chapter HS2 85 (Electronic equipment), up £195.4 million (13.3 per cent). The increase was driven by a rise of £128.1 million (30.6 per cent) in imports of HS4 8517 (telephone equipment). This is led by increases in imports from China and Hong Kong.

These were the only increases over £100 million. The next largest was for HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), up £92.6 million (13.8 per cent). This increase was driven by a rise of £85.2 million (17.7 per cent) in imports of HS4 8802, (powered aircraft). This is led by an increase of £247.3 million (95.5 per cent) in imports from the USA, offset by a fall of £98.3 million (97.2 per cent) in imports from Switzerland.

The largest decrease was in the top chapter, HS2 27, which fell by £486.5 million (13.4 per cent). Crude oil (HS4 2709) fell by £361.5 million (15.5 per cent); and refined oil (HS4 2710) fell by £93.0 million (11.1 per cent). The fall in crude oil is driven by falls from Nigeria, Norway, and Saudi Arabia, of £294.8 million (58.1 per cent), £253.3 million (24.5 per cent) and £148.9 million (64.4 per cent) respectively. This was partially offset by a rise of £122.0 million (81.9 per cent) from Algeria. The fall in refined oil was led by a fall of £88.9 million (31.0 per cent) from Russia.

The next largest decrease was outside the top five, as HS2 87 (Motor vehicles) fell by £153.8 million (24.2 per cent), to fall from seventh to eighth place. The decrease was driven by a fall of £117.1 million (44.1 per cent) in imports of HS4 8703 (motor cars for less than 10 people). This is led by falls in imports from South Korea, India, and Japan.

These were the only decreases over £100 million in September 2013. The next largest decrease was for HS2 62 (Clothing, not knitted or crocheted) which fell by £36.7 million (6.4 per cent).

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

When **compared to September 2012**, total import value decreased by £93.7 million (0.6 per cent). Only 33 per cent of the HS2 commodity chapters decreased in value, but these decreases were generally greater in magnitude than the increases. There were three chapters with decreases of over £100 million and two with increases over this value.

The biggest decrease was a fall of £393.5 million (11.1 per cent) in the top import chapter, HS2 27. This was driven by decreases of £289.4 million (12.8 per cent) in HS4 2709 (Crude oil), and £115.0 million (13.4 per cent) in refined oil (HS4 2710).

The decrease in crude oil was composed of falls from Nigeria (£238.5 million), Norway (£235.1 million), Libya (£169.6 million) and Azerbaijan (£137.4 million), offset by increases in imports from Algeria (£229.3 million) and Equatorial Guinea (£103.9 million). The decrease in refined oil (HS4 2710) was composed of decreases from the United Arab Emirates (£95.5 million) and the USA (£94.4 million), offset by an increase of £95.7 million from Saudi Arabia.

The second biggest decrease was £314.8 million (51.3 per cent) for HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products). This was driven by falls of £138.5 million (98.2 per cent) from Israel, and £101.0 million (60.4 per cent) from the USA.

The third biggest decrease was a fall of £196.8 million (52.7 per cent) in HS2 97 (Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques). This was led by falls of £120.0 million (50.9 per cent) in paintings and drawings (HS4 9701), and £66.8 million (83.5 per cent) in sculptures (HS4 9703), mainly from the USA.

These were the only decreases over £100 million. The next biggest decrease was £76.9 million for HS2 71 (Precious stones, metals, pearls and jewellery).

The largest value increase from September 2012 was for HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), up £291.4 million (61.5 per cent). As with the comparison with August 2013, the increase was driven by a rise of £288.8 million (more than double) in imports of HS4 8802, (powered aircraft), more than covered by an increase of £461.0 million in imports from the USA, a tenfold rise.

The second biggest increase was a rise of £218.9 million (11.3 per cent) in the second biggest import chapter, HS2 84 (Mechanical appliances). This was led by an increase

of £121.4 million (17.8 per cent) in HS4 8411 (Turbojets, turbopropellers and other gas turbines), with large increases in imports from Brazil and the United Arab Emirates.

These were the only increases over £100 million, but just outside this level, the next biggest increase was £98.7 million (6.3 per cent) for the third biggest import chapter, HS2 85 (Electronic equipment and parts thereof).

Figure 4 below shows the top five commodities for the UK's non-EU imports in September 2013, compared to August 2013 and September 2012. It shows how the decrease in chapter 27 offset the three increases when compared to August 2013. When compared to last year there were three increases and two decreases, but the drop in HS2 27 was by far the most substantial change.

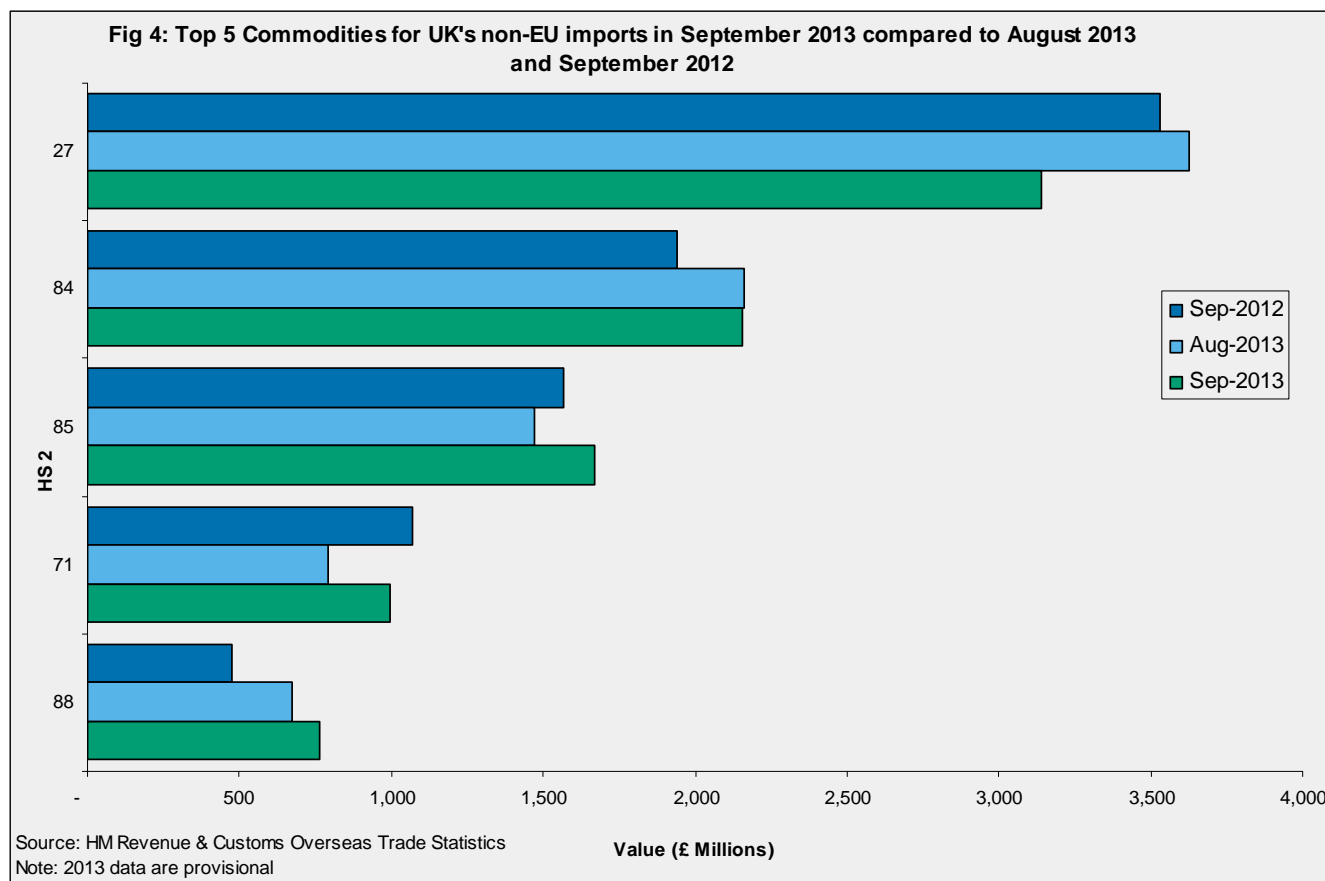


Table 4 shows comparisons of the value of UK non-EU import trade from our top five import trading partners for September 2013, August 2013, and September 2012. Imports from four of the top five trading partners have increased in September 2013 compared to the previous month, with just Norway falling. Norway, along with Hong Kong, also experienced a decrease when compared to September 2012.

Table 4: Top 5 Non-EU import partner countries in September 2013 compared to August 2013 and September 2012

Country	September 2013 Total £ millions	% change from August 2013	% Change from September 2012	% of Total September 2013 Imports	Rank August 2013	Rank September 2012
Total Imports	16,471.6	0.1	-0.6	100.0	n/a	n/a
China	3,078.7	6.1	12.0	18.7	1	1
USA	2,646.4	5.6	3.7	16.1	2	2
Norway	1,188.9	-13.6	-11.4	7.2	3	3
Switzerland	839.5	38.3	14.2	5.1	6	4
Hong Kong	655.3	7.8	-7.5	4.0	5	5

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

Note: 2013 data are provisional

The top three countries are unchanged from last month, with China remaining ahead of the USA for a third month. Switzerland rose to fourth from sixth place, while Russia dropped from fourth to seventh. China, the USA, and Norway have been the UK's largest import partners for a number of years, collectively accounting for 42.0 per cent of the UK's import trade.

Country Analysis: comparison with previous month

Compared to August 2013, the small increase in the value of imports is composed of increases in just over half (50.5 per cent) of the UK's import partner countries. Four countries had increases of over £100 million, while four had decreases of this magnitude.

The biggest increase in the value of imports was from Switzerland, up £232.6 million (38.3 per cent) to £839.5 million. The increase is dominated by an increase of £327.9 million (a six-fold rise) in HS2 71 (Precious stones, metals, pearls and jewellery), driven by a rise of £298.3 million in platinum (HS4 7110). This has brought Switzerland back into the top five, from sixth to fourth place.

The second biggest increase in the value of imports was from the top import country, China, up £176.7 million (6.1 per cent) to £3.1 billion. The increase is spread over several chapters, with the largest increases being in electronic equipment in HS2 85 (up £87.4 million, 18.8 per cent) and toys, games, and video consoles (HS2 95) up £71.4 million (40.5 per cent).

The third biggest increase was from the second biggest import country, the USA, up £139.5 million (5.6 per cent) to £2.6 billion. The increase is dominated by an increase of £252.1 million (69.3 per cent) in HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof).

The next two largest increases were driven by changes in HS2 27. The fourth largest increase in the value of imports was from Algeria, up by £114.8 million (71.4 per cent) to £275.5 million this month. This increase is led by a rise of £122.0 million (81.9 per cent) in crude oil (HS4 2709).

Just outside the £100 million level, the fifth largest increase in the value of imports was from Canada, up by £99.5 million (25.6 per cent). This was driven by an eightfold rise in chapter 27, with £45.3 million in crude oil and £39.8 million in refined oil (HS4 2710).

Similarly, most of the large decreases were also driven by changes in HS2 27. The biggest decrease in the value of imports was from Nigeria, down £285.0 million (55.7 per cent) to £226.7 million. The decrease is dominated by a fall of £294.8 million (58.1 per cent) in crude oil.

The second biggest decrease in the value of imports was from Norway, down £187.8 million (13.6 per cent), with a fall of £269.4 million (22.6 per cent) in HS2 27. This was led by a fall of £253.3 million (24.5 per cent) in crude oil.

The third biggest decrease in the value of imports was from Saudi Arabia, down £106.9 million (29.5 per cent) to £255.1 million, with a £148.9 million (64.4 per cent) decrease in crude oil, partly offset by a £76.4 million (five-fold) increase in refined oil.

The fourth biggest decrease in the value of imports was from Qatar, down £100.5 million (42.8 per cent), with falls of £55.2 million (69.5 per cent) in refined oil, and £40.6 million (36.5 per cent) in petroleum gas (HS4 2711).

Just outside the £100 million level, the fifth largest fall was from South Africa, down by £89.0 million (35.1 per cent). In contrast to the other large falls, this was led by a decrease of £38.8 million in HS2 71 (precious stones, metals, pearls and jewellery), with a £30.1 million decrease in platinum group metals.

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

Compared to September 2012 there was a decrease of £93.7 million (0.6 per cent) in the total value of imports. This was composed of 47 per cent of the UK's import partner countries decreasing in value, but the decreases being generally larger in value than the increases. There were six increases and seven decreases in excess of £100 million. Three of the UK's top five import trading partners for September 2013 have increased when compared to September 2012, and two have decreased.

The largest decrease in the value of imports was from South Africa, down by £267.5 million (61.9 per cent). As with the comparison with last month, this was led by decreases in HS2 71, down by £231.6 million (80.7 per cent), but this time led by a fall of £222.7 million (99.4 per cent) in diamonds (HS4 7102).

The next three largest decreases were all driven by falls in imports of crude oil (HS4 2709). Total trade with Nigeria, Libya, and Norway decreased by £236.5 million (51.1 per cent), £169.5 million (78.8 per cent), and £152.3 million (11.4 per cent); with falls of £238.5 million (52.8 per cent), £169.6 million (78.9 per cent), and £235.1 million (23.1 per cent) in crude oil respectively.

The fifth largest decrease was from Israel, which fell by £150.6 million (67.2 per cent), dominated by a £138.5 million (98.2 per cent) fall in pharmaceutical products (HS2 30).

The sixth and seventh biggest falls were also in HS2 27. Imports from Azerbaijan fell by £140.8 million (99.3 per cent), with a decrease of £137.4 million (100 per cent) in crude oil, and Russia fell by £108.6 million (16.2 per cent), with £46.3 million (22.7 per cent) in crude oil, and £42.5 million (17.7 per cent) in refined oil (HS4 2710).

The largest increase in the value of imports was from China, up by £329.0 million (12.0 per cent). This was led by a rise of £147.0 million (36.2 per cent) in electronic equipment in HS2 85. This in turn was led by a twofold increase of £103.7 million in HS4 8517, which includes mobile phones.

The next three largest increases were driven by imports of crude and refined oil (HS4 2709 and 2710). These were Algeria, up £230.4 million (a six-fold rise); Saudi Arabia, up by £149.1 million (a twofold rise); and Equatorial Guinea, up by £108.0 million from £1.3 million. These were driven by rises of £229.3 million (six-fold) in crude oil for Algeria; £95.7 million (from less than £1 million) in refined oil for Saudi Arabia; and £103.9 million (from zero) in crude oil for Equatorial Guinea.

The fifth biggest increase was for Switzerland, which rose by £104.5 million (14.2 per cent). This is dominated by a rise of £298.8 million (from less than £1 million) in HS4 7110 (Platinum group metals), partially offset by falls of £82.1 million (32.1 per cent) in pharmaceutical products (HS2 30) and £74.4 million (64.4 per cent) in art and sculptures (HS2 97).

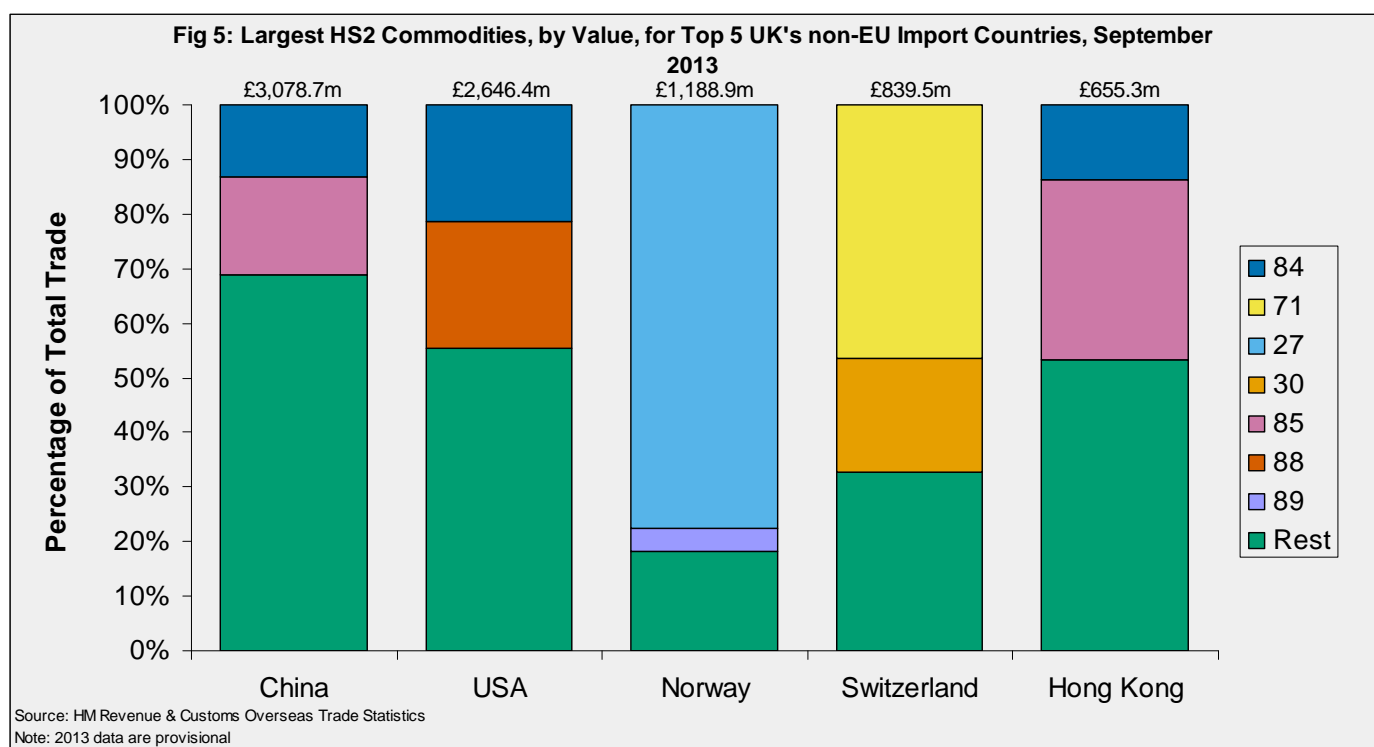
The last increase over £100 million was from Botswana, up by £101.3 million (64.0 per cent), almost totally due to a £98.6 million increase in diamonds (HS4 7102).

Just outside this level, the USA increased by £93.7 million (3.7 per cent), with a £450.4 million rise in aircraft (HS2 88), offset by falls of £137.3 million (62.3 per cent) in art and sculpture (HS2 97), and £101.0 million (60.4 per cent) in pharmaceutical products (HS2 30).

Figure 5 shows the two largest commodities by value imported from each of the top five non-EU import partner countries. This month, HS2 84 (Mechanical appliances) is in the top two chapters of three of the top five importing countries, with the trade with China, the USA and Hong Kong accounting for 49.2 per cent of the total import value in this chapter. The biggest import commodity from the USA is HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), accounting for 80.5 per cent of the UK's import value for this chapter.

Two countries, China and Hong Kong, both have HS2 85 (Electronic equipment) in their top two largest imported commodities, accounting for 46.1 per cent of the total import value for this chapter.

The trade in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels) accounts for 77.5 per cent of the total imports from Norway, specifically the Norwegian Continental Shelf. This month, the second biggest import from Norway is HS2 89 (Ships, boats and floating structures), accounting for 93.1 per cent of the total import value for this chapter.



Notes:

1. HM Revenue & Customs released these latest statistics on Overseas Trade with countries outside the European Union (EU) on 08 November 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 countries outside the EU for September 2013. At the same time revisions for all previously published non-EU data for 2013 are also being released in line with the [HM Revenue & Customs Policy on Revisions](#).
3. Detailed trade information is presented according to the [Harmonised System \(HS\)](#) nomenclature.
4. 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](#).
5. 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'.
6. Information to help support users of the non-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.
7. 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>
8. 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.

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

Please note: there may be a delay between the availability of the aggregated data tables downloadable here 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: 10 December 2013 9:30am

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