



### 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 April 2022.

Supporting tables, visuals and data can be found at [www.uktradeinfo.com](http://www.uktradeinfo.com)

### In this publication

- Trade trends p.2
- Non-EU and EU trade p.3
- April 2022 Exports p.4

Country analysis

Country analysis – 3 months

Commodity analysis

Commodity analysis – 3 months

Combined analysis

- April 2022 Imports p.11

Country analysis

Country analysis – 3 months

Commodity analysis

Commodity analysis – 3 months

Combined analysis

- Methodology notes p.18



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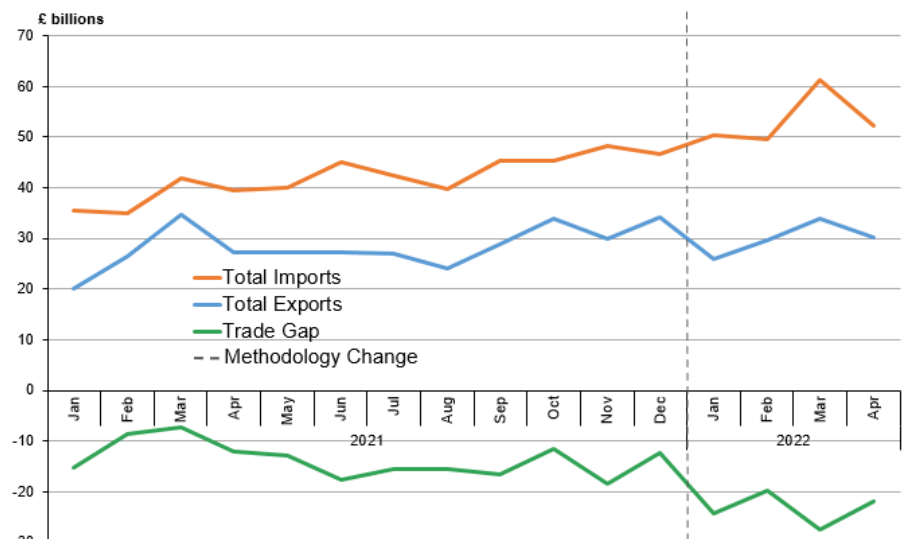
### Trade in Goods, April 2022

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 April 2022 were £30.2 billion. This was down £3.6 billion (11%) compared with last month, but up £3.0 billion (11%) compared with April 2021.
- Total **imports** of goods for April 2022 were £52.3 billion. This was down £8.9 billion (15%) compared with last month, but up £12.9 billion (33%) compared with April 2021.
- The UK was a net importer this month, with **imports** exceeding **exports** by £22.0 billion, narrowing by £5.3 billion on last month.

Figure 1: Total UK monthly Trade in Goods



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods and Statistics  
Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional

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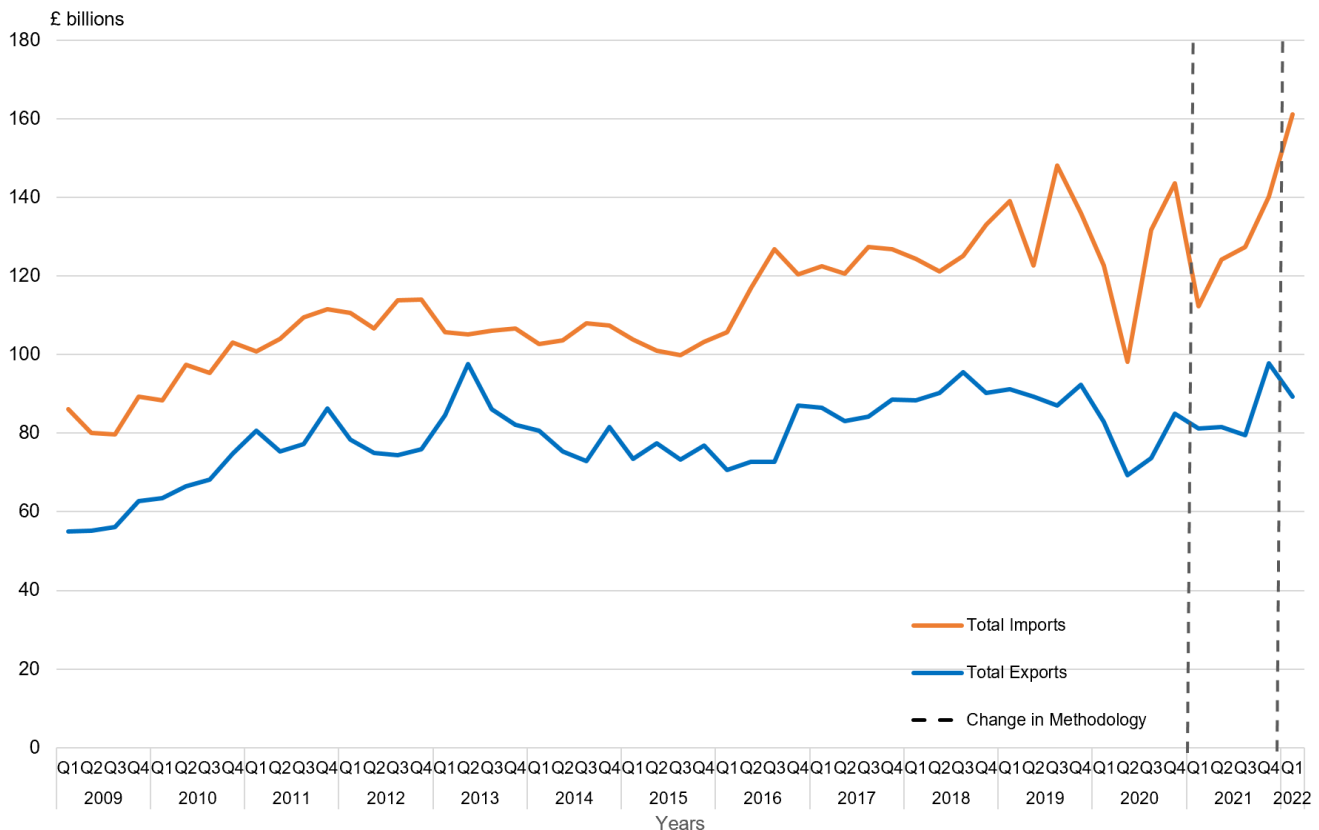
# Trade in Goods Trends

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

- The total **export** trade for Q1 of 2022 was £89.3 billion, which was an increase of 10% compared with £81.2 billion for Q1 of 2021.
- The total **import** trade for Q1 of 2022 was £161 billion, which was an increase of 43% compared with £112 billion for Q1 of 2021.
- There was a trade deficit of £71.7 billion for Q1 of 2022. This was a widening to more than double the value compared with £31.1 billion for Q1 of 2021.
- For many years Germany has been our largest trading import partner by value, with a recent peak from China, while the USA has been the dominant 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 10% on Q1 2021**
- ↑ **Imports up 43% on Q1 2021**
- ↑ **Trade deficit widened to more than double the value of Q1 2021**

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



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics  
 Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional

# Non-EU & EU Trade in Goods

## Non-EU Trade in Goods:

- **Non-EU exports** for April 2022 were £14.4 billion. This was a decrease of £1.6 billion (10%) on last month and a decrease of £0.4 billion (3.0%) compared with April 2021.
- **Non-EU imports** for April 2022 were £26.7 billion. This was a decrease of £5.4 billion (17%) on last month, but an increase of £4.9 billion (22%) compared with April 2021.
- For **non-EU trade** the UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £12.3 billion.

↑ **Non-EU imports up 22% on April 2021**

## EU Trade in Goods:

- **EU exports** for April 2022 were £15.8 billion. This was a decrease of £1.9 billion (11%) on last month, but an increase of £3.4 billion (27%) compared with April 2021.
- **EU imports** for April 2022 were £25.5 billion. This was a decrease of £3.5 billion (12%) on last month, but an increase of £8.0 billion (46%) compared with April 2021.
- For **EU trade** the UK was a net importer this month, with imports exceeding exports by £9.7 billion.

↑ **EU imports up 46% on April 2021**

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



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2022 data is provisional

# Exports: Country Analysis

- The USA remained the largest export partner country.
- Germany experienced the largest value decrease on last month, down £1,098 million (29%).
- Switzerland (ranked 12th) experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month and the largest value decrease on April 2021, down £966 million (62%) and £1,069 million (64%) respectively.
- The Netherlands experienced the 3rd largest value increase on last month and the largest value increase on April 2021, up £225 million (8.3%) and £1,009 million (53%) respectively.
- Hong Kong experienced the largest value increase on last month and the 2nd largest value increase on April 2021, up £557 million (88%) and £647 million (to more than double the value) respectively.
- Ireland experienced the 3rd largest value increase on April 2021, up £594 million (36%).

↓ Exports to Germany down 29% on last month

↑ Exports to the Netherlands up 53% on April 2021

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

Partner Country	April 2022		March 2022		April 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on March 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
USA	4,092	4,250	-3.7	3,786	8.1	
Netherlands	2,930	2,705	8.3	1,920	52.6	
Germany	2,733	3,831	-28.7	2,663	2.6	
Ireland	2,262	2,511	-9.9	1,668	35.6	
France	1,826	2,091	-12.7	1,494	22.2	
Belgium	1,438	1,627	-11.6	1,105	30.2	
Hong Kong	1,189	632	88.2	542	119.5	
China	989	1,257	-21.3	1,322	-25.2	
Spain	804	918	-12.4	639	25.9	
Italy	800	928	-13.7	729	9.8	
Others	11,156	13,022	-14.3	11,397	-2.1	
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>15,837</b>	<b>17,743</b>	<b>-10.7</b>	<b>12,442</b>	<b>27.3</b>	
<b>Total Non-EU</b>	<b>14,382</b>	<b>16,027</b>	<b>-10.3</b>	<b>14,822</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>30,219</b>	<b>33,770</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>27,265</b>	<b>10.8</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional

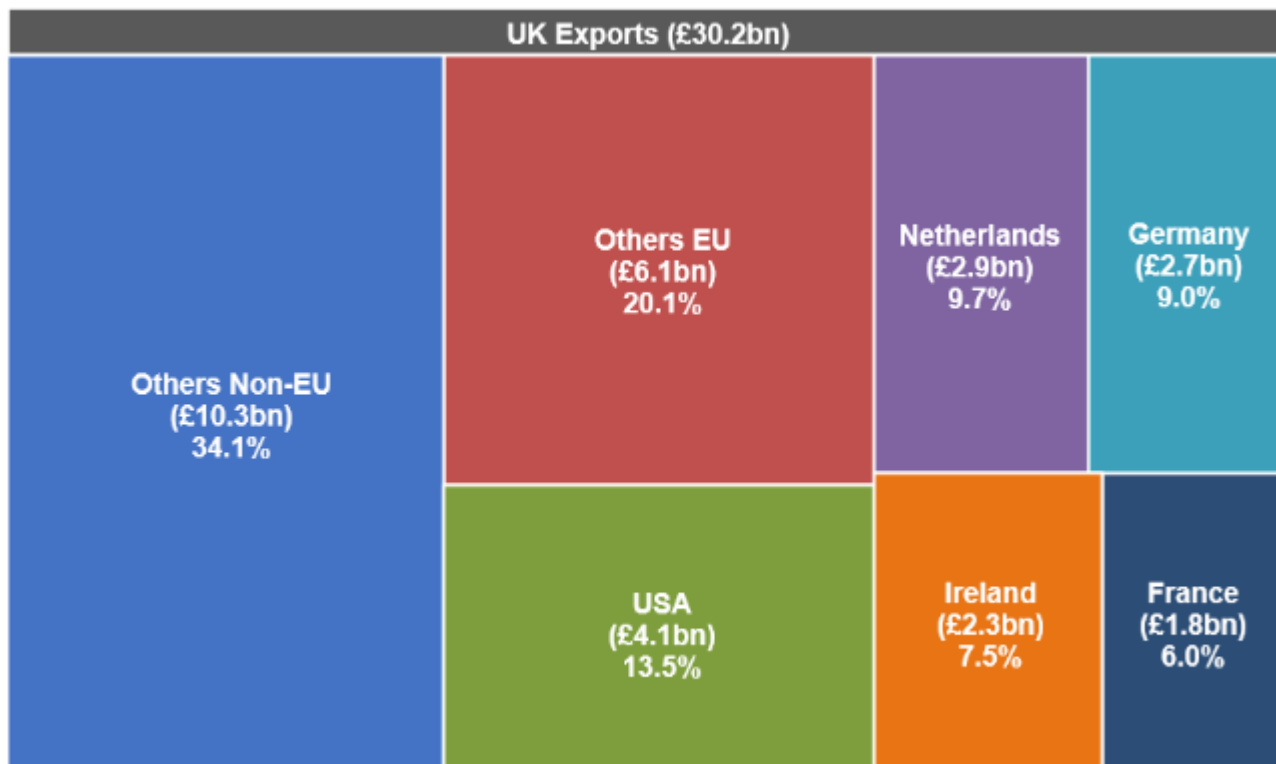
# Exports: Country Analysis

- The top 5 export partners accounted for 46% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 43% share in April 2021.
- The USA accounted for 14% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in April 2022. This was a decrease of less than 1 percentage point on April 2021.
- The Netherlands had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 9.7% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from an 7.0% share in April 2021.
- The top 10 export partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, the Netherlands rose to 2nd place from 3rd, while Germany fell to 3rd place from 2nd.
- The top 10 export partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with April 2021. Most notably, Hong Kong rose to 7th place from 12th, and Spain rose to 9th place from 11th, while Switzerland fell to 12th place from 5th.

↓ **The USA had a 14% share of total exports in April 2022**

↑ **The Netherlands had a 9.7% share of total exports in April 2022**

**Figure 4: Share of UK exports of goods to the top 5 countries, April 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 April 2022, the USA remained the largest export partner country.
- Among the top 10, Switzerland experienced the largest percentage decreases on the 3 months to January 2022 and on the 3 months to April 2021, down 54% and 63% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Ireland experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 50%.
- Among the top 10, the Netherlands experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 36%.
- Among the top 10, Germany experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022, up 32%.
- Among the top 10, Italy experienced the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022, up 31%.
- 8 of the top 10 export partners experienced an increase on the 3 months to January 2022 and on the 3 months to April 2021. Switzerland and China were the exceptions.

↓ Exports to the Switzerland down 54% on the 3 months to January 2022

↑ Exports to Ireland up 50% on the 3 months to April 2021

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

Partner Country	3 months to Apr 2022		3 months to Jan 2022		3 months to Apr 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on January 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
USA	11,758	10,688	10.0	11,344	3.6	
Germany	9,169	6,941	32.1	7,885	16.3	
Netherlands	7,971	7,195	10.8	5,880	35.5	
Ireland	7,209	6,368	13.2	4,790	50.5	
France	5,843	4,789	22.0	4,729	23.6	
Belgium	4,548	3,744	21.5	3,872	17.5	
Switzerland	3,904	8,516	-54.2	10,415	-62.5	
China	3,368	3,586	-6.1	3,960	-14.9	
Italy	2,530	1,925	31.4	2,335	8.3	
Spain	2,495	2,079	20.0	1,918	30.1	
Others	34,750	34,142	1.8	31,281	11.1	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>93,543</b>	<b>89,973</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>88,409</b>	<b>5.8</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional

## Exports: Commodity Analysis

- Mechanical appliances remained the largest export commodity. It experienced the 2nd largest value increase on April 2021, up £854 million (22%).
- Mineral fuels experienced the largest value decrease on last month, down £624 million (15%). In contrast, it experienced the largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,812 million (doubling in value).
- Precious metals experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on last month, and the largest value decrease on April 2021, down £540 million (15%) and £752 million (20%) respectively.
- Pharmaceutical products experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month, down £615 million (30%).
- Motor vehicles experienced the 4th largest value decrease on last month, and the 3rd largest value decrease on April 2021, down £485 million (17%) and £260 million (9.9%) respectively.
- Aircraft (ranked 13th) experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on April 2021, down £323 million (32%).
- Organic chemicals experienced the largest value increase on last month, up £264 million (29%).

↓ Exports of Pharmaceutical products down 30% on last month

↑ Exports of Mineral fuels up to double the value on April 2021

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

Commodity Description	April 2022	March 2022		April 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on March 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)
Mechanical appliances	4,674	4,977	-6.1	3,820	22.4
Mineral fuels	3,522	4,146	-15.0	1,710	105.9
Precious metals	3,060	3,601	-15.0	3,812	-19.7
Motor vehicles	2,377	2,862	-17.0	2,637	-9.9
Electronic equipment	1,758	1,856	-5.3	1,541	14.0
Pharmaceutical products	1,417	2,031	-30.3	1,357	4.4
Measuring devices and gauges	1,270	1,406	-9.7	1,222	3.9
Organic chemicals	1,166	902	29.3	958	21.7
Other products	971	996	-2.5	1,379	-29.6
Plastics and plastic products	907	1,018	-11.0	751	20.8
Others	9,097	9,974	-8.8	8,076	12.6
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>30,219</b>	<b>33,770</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>27,265</b>	<b>10.8</b>

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional

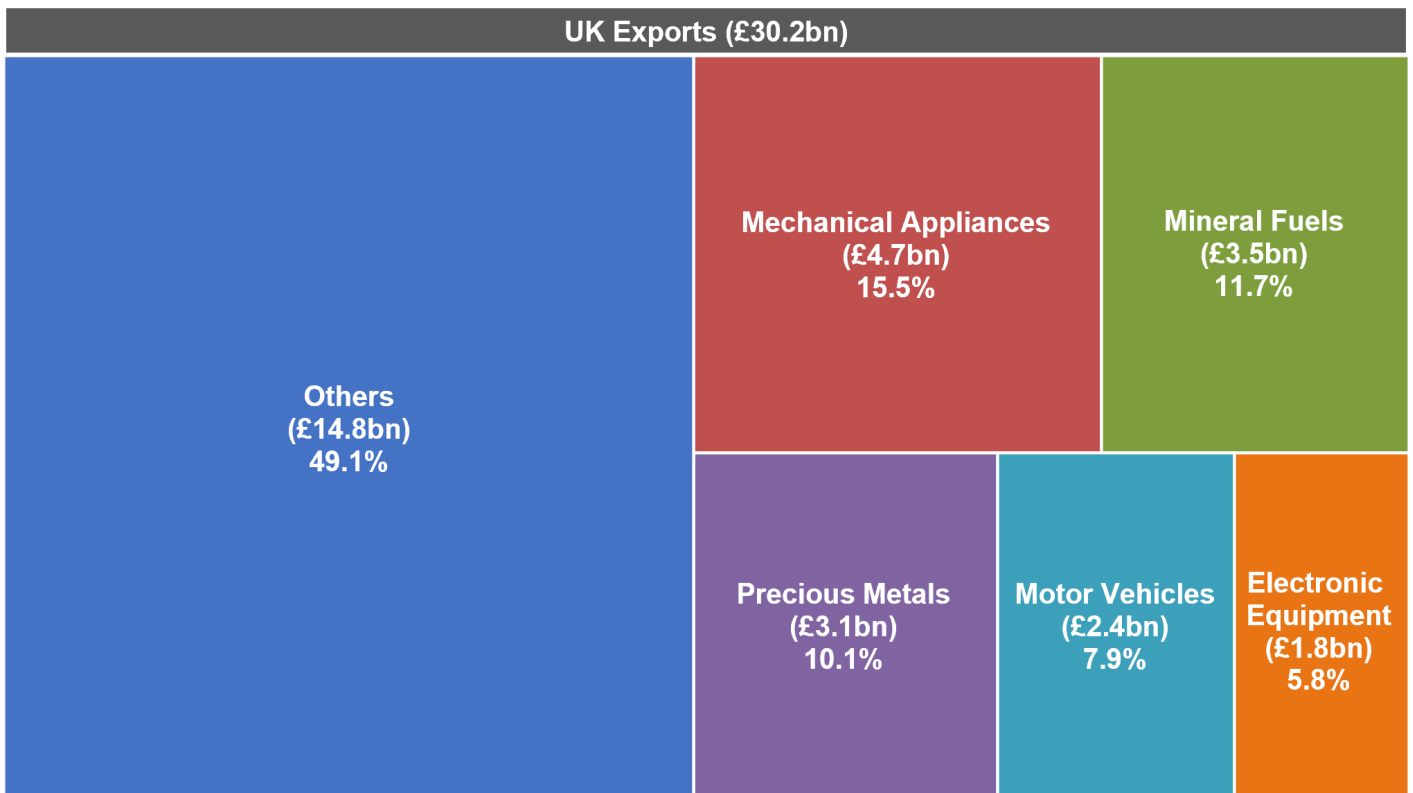
# Exports: Commodity Analysis

- The top 5 export commodities (ranked by value) accounted for 51% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 50% share in April 2021.
- Mechanical appliances accounted for 15% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 14% share in April 2021.
- Mineral fuels had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 12% of the total value of goods exported from the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 6.3% share in April 2021.
- The top 10 export commodities (ranked by value) changed order compared with last month. Most notably, Organic chemicals rose to 8th place from 10th, while Plastics & plastic products fell to 10th place from 8th.
- The top 10 export commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with April 2021. Most notably, Mineral fuels rose to 2nd place from 4th, while Aircraft fell to 13th place from 9th.

↑ **Mechanical appliances accounted for 15% of total exports in April 2022**

↑ **Mineral fuels accounted for 12% of total exports in April 2022**

**Figure 5: Share of UK exports by the top 5 commodities, April 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 April 2022, Mechanical appliances replaced Precious metals as the largest export commodity.
- Among the top 10, Mineral fuels experienced the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022 and the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 19% and 94% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Precious metals experienced the largest percentage decreases on the 3 months to January 2022 and on the 3 months to April 2021, down 26% and 37% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Plastics & plastic products experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022 and the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 26% and 23% respectively.
- 8 of the top 10 export commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to January 2022. The exceptions were Precious metals and Other products.
- 7 of the top 10 export commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to April 2021. The exceptions were Precious metals, Motor vehicles, and Other products.

↑ **Mineral fuels exports up 94% on the 3 months to April 2021**

↓ **Precious metals exports down 26% on the 3 months to January 2022**

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

Commodity Description	3 months to Apr 2022		3 months to Jan 2022		3 months to Apr 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on January 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
Mechanical appliances	14,077	13,378	5.2	11,873	18.6	
Mineral fuels	10,066	8,437	19.3	5,184	94.2	
Precious metals	9,968	13,417	-25.7	15,891	-37.3	
Motor vehicles	7,662	7,245	5.8	9,124	-16.0	
Electronic equipment	5,296	4,953	6.9	4,687	13.0	
Pharmaceutical products	5,175	4,754	8.8	4,612	12.2	
Measuring devices and gauges	3,966	3,673	8.0	3,775	5.1	
Other products	3,254	4,559	-28.6	4,152	-21.6	
Plastics and plastic products	2,869	2,276	26.0	2,332	23.0	
Organic chemicals	2,829	2,347	20.5	2,379	18.9	
Others	28,382	24,932	13.8	24,401	16.3	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>93,543</b>	<b>89,973</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>88,409</b>	<b>5.8</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics  
Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional

# Exports: Combined Commodity & Country Analysis

## Country to commodity:

- The decrease in exports to Germany on last month was led by Precious metals and Pharmaceutical products, down £445 million (59%) and £291 million (72%) respectively.
- The decreases in exports to Switzerland on last month and on April 2021 were dominated by Precious metals, down £921 million (77%) and £1,120 million (80%) respectively.
- The increase in exports to the Netherlands on last month and on April 2021 was driven by Mineral fuels, up £460 million (49%) and £896 million (to more than 2.5 times the value) respectively.
- The increase in exports to Hong Kong on last month and on April 2021 was dominated by Precious metals, up £530 million (to more than 3 times the value) and £561 million (to almost 4 times the value) respectively.

## Commodity to country

- The increase in exports of Mechanical appliances on April 2021 was led by the UAE and Japan, up £112 million (84%) and £97 million (to almost 4 times the value) respectively.
- The decrease in exports of Mineral fuels on last month was led by Nigeria and South Korea, down £193 million (86%) and £181 million (to £0.2 million) respectively.
- The decrease in exports of Motor vehicles on last month and on April 2021 was led by the USA, down £163 million (32%) and £110 million (24%) respectively.
- The increase in Organic chemicals on last month was dominated by the USA, up £301 million (to double the value).

↑ Exports of Mineral fuels to the Netherlands up to 2.5 times the value on April 2021

↓ Exports of Motor vehicles to the USA down 32% 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

- Germany remained the largest import partner country. It experienced the 3rd largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,865 million (42%).
- Norway experienced the largest value decrease on last month, down £2,047 million (40%). In contrast, it experienced the 4th largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,643 million (to more than double the value).
- The USA experienced the largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,940 million (54%).
- The Netherlands experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on last month, down £706 million (15%). In contrast, it experienced the 2nd largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,932 million (89%).
- China experienced the 2nd largest value decreases on last month and on April 2021, down £1,557 million (29%) and down £941 million (20%) respectively.
- Russia (ranked 38th) experienced the largest value decrease on April 2021, down £1,369 million (86%).

↓ Imports from Norway down 40% on last month.

↑ Imports from USA up 54% on April 2021.

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

Partner Country	April 2022		March 2022		April 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on March 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
Germany	6,325	6,773	-6.6	4,460	41.8	
USA	5,516	5,950	-7.3	3,576	54.3	
Netherlands	4,096	4,801	-14.7	2,163	89.3	
China	3,800	5,357	-29.1	4,741	-19.9	
Norway	3,045	5,092	-40.2	1,402	117.2	
France	2,597	3,093	-16.0	1,707	52.2	
Belgium	2,199	2,431	-9.5	1,786	23.1	
Italy	1,954	2,399	-18.6	1,510	29.4	
Ireland	1,718	1,738	-1.1	1,043	64.7	
Spain	1,497	1,993	-24.9	1,124	33.2	
Others	19,512	21,515	-9.3	15,824	23.3	
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>25,544</b>	<b>29,067</b>	<b>-12.1</b>	<b>17,516</b>	<b>45.8</b>	
<b>Total Non-EU</b>	<b>26,714</b>	<b>32,076</b>	<b>-16.7</b>	<b>21,819</b>	<b>22.4</b>	
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>52,258</b>	<b>61,143</b>	<b>-14.5</b>	<b>39,336</b>	<b>32.9</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2021 and 2022 data are provisional

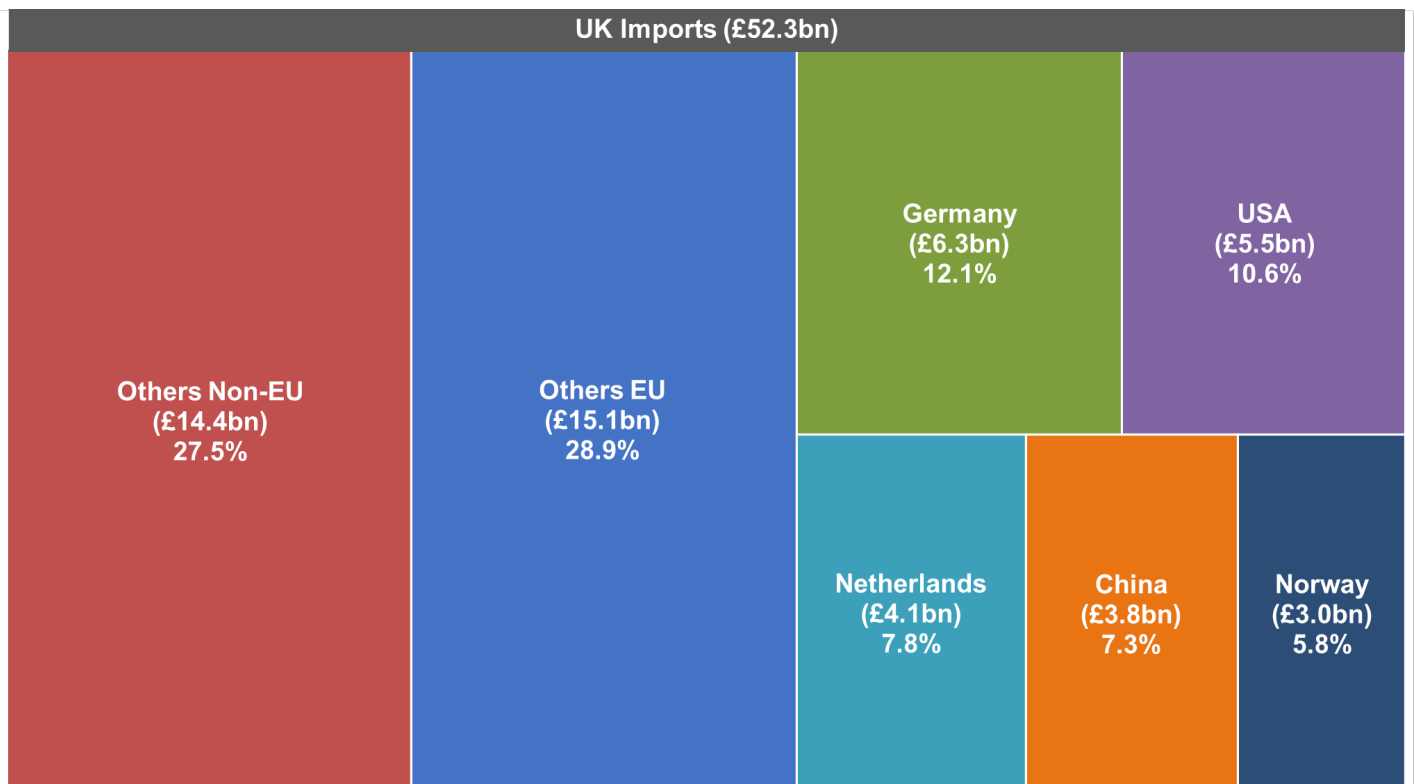
# Imports: Country Analysis

- The top 5 import partners accounted for 44% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 43% share in April 2021.
- Germany accounted for 12% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from an 11% share in April 2021.
- The USA had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 11% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 9.1% share in April 2021.
- The top 10 import partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, the Netherlands rose to 3rd place from 5th and Ireland rose to 9th from 11th, while Switzerland fell to 12th place from 10th.
- The top 10 import partner countries (ranked by value) changed compared with April 2021. Most notably, Germany rose to 1st place from 2nd and Norway rose to 5th place from 9th, while China fell to 4th place from 1st.

↑ **The top 5 partners accounted for 44% of total imports in April 2022**

↑ **Germany accounted for 12% of total imports in April 2022**

**Figure 7: Share of UK imports of goods from the top 5 countries, April 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 April 2022, Germany replaced China as the largest import partner country, experiencing the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022, up 34%.
- Among the top 10, Norway experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up to almost 3 times the value.
- Among the top 10, the Netherlands experienced the 2nd largest increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 82%.
- Among the top 10, France experienced the 2nd largest percentage increases on the 3 months to January 2022 and on the 3 months to April 2021, up 32% and 56% respectively.
- Among the top 10, the USA experienced the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 55%.
- 8 of the top 10 countries experienced an increase on the 3 months to January 2022. The exceptions were China and Norway.
- 9 of top 10 countries experienced an increase on the 3 months to April 2021. The exception was China.

↑ Imports from Germany up 34% on the 3 months to January 2022

↑ Imports from Norway up to almost 3 times the value on the 3 months to April 2021

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

Partner Country	3 months to Apr 2022		3 months to Jan 2022		3 months to Apr 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on January 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
Germany	18,934	14,122	34.1	14,331	32.1	
USA	16,031	13,267	20.8	10,315	55.4	
China	13,946	17,401	-19.9	15,170	-8.1	
Netherlands	12,563	9,871	27.3	6,910	81.8	
Norway	11,447	12,053	-5.0	3,989	187.0	
France	8,241	6,233	32.2	5,272	56.3	
Belgium	6,719	6,268	7.2	5,222	28.7	
Italy	6,098	4,710	29.5	4,490	35.8	
Spain	5,136	3,934	30.6	3,728	37.8	
Ireland	4,573	4,184	9.3	3,018	51.5	
Others	59,141	53,223	11.1	43,854	34.9	
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>162,831</b>	<b>145,265</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>116,298</b>	<b>40.0</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

## Imports: Commodity Analysis

- Mineral fuels remained the largest import commodity. It experienced the 3rd largest value decrease on last month, down £1,517 million (14%). In contrast, it experienced the largest value increase on April 2021, up £6,343 million (to more than 3 times the value).
- Precious metals experienced the largest value decreases on both last month and April 2021, down £1,790 million (36%) and down £1,527 million (32%) respectively.
- Motor vehicles experienced the 2nd largest value decrease on last month, down £1,552 million (23%). In contrast, it experienced the 2nd largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,350 million (36%).
- Pharmaceutical products experienced the 3rd largest value increase on April 2021, up £1,035 million (74%).
- Mechanical appliances experienced the 4th largest value decrease on last month, down £710 million (12%). In contrast, it experienced the 5th largest value increase on April 2021, up £503 million (10%).

↑ Imports of Precious metals down 36% on last month

↑ Imports of Mineral fuels up to more than 3 times the value on April 2021

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

Commodity Description	April 2022		March 2022		April 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on March 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
Mineral fuels	9,209	10,727	-14.1	2,867	221.3	
Mechanical appliances	5,462	6,172	-11.5	4,959	10.1	
Motor vehicles	5,122	6,674	-23.3	3,772	35.8	
Electronic equipment	4,108	4,523	-9.2	3,677	11.7	
Precious metals	3,209	4,999	-35.8	4,737	-32.2	
Pharmaceutical products	2,434	2,408	1.1	1,399	74.0	
Plastics and plastic products	1,520	1,692	-10.1	1,211	25.5	
Other products	1,428	1,601	-10.8	529	169.9	
Measuring devices and gauges	1,419	1,880	-24.5	1,061	33.8	
Organic chemicals	1,171	1,113	5.2	593	97.5	
Others	17,175	19,354	-11.3	14,530	18.2	
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>52,258</b>	<b>61,143</b>	<b>-14.5</b>	<b>39,336</b>	<b>32.9</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2021 and 2022 data are provisional

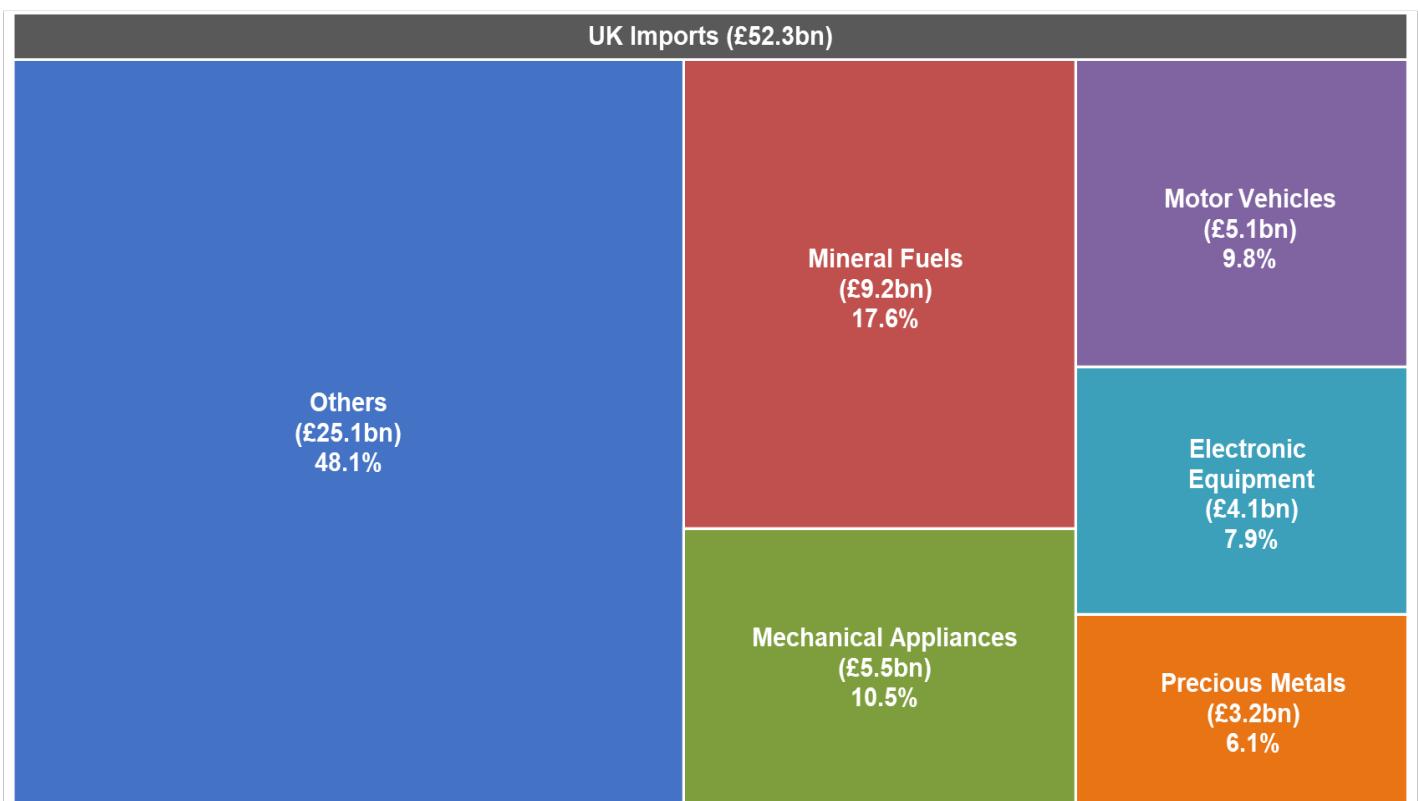
# Imports: Commodity Analysis

- The top 5 import commodities (ranked by value) accounted for 52% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from 51% in April 2021.
- Mineral fuels accounted for 18% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in April 2022. This was an increase from a 7.3% share in April 2021.
- Mechanical appliances had the 2nd largest proportion, accounting for 10% of the total value of goods imported to the UK in April 2022. This was a decrease from a 13% share in April 2021.
- The top 10 commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with last month. Most notably, Mechanical appliances rose to 2nd place from 3rd, while Measuring devices and gauges fell to 9th place from 7th.
- The top 10 commodities (ranked by value) changed compared with April 2021. Most notably, Mineral fuels rose to 1st place from 5th and Organic chemicals rose to 10th from 14th, while Precious metals fell to 5th place from 2nd.

↑ **The top 5 import commodities accounted for 52% of total imports in April 2022**

↑ **Mineral fuels accounted for 18% of total imports in April 2022**

**Figure 8: Share of UK imports for the top 5 commodities, April 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 April 2022, Mineral fuels remained the largest import commodity. Among the top 10, it experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up to 3.5 times the value respectively.
- Among the top 10, Pharmaceutical products experienced the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022 and the 2nd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 22% and 49% respectively.
- Among the top 10, Motor vehicles experienced the largest percentage increase on the 3 months to January 2022 and the 3rd largest percentage increase on the 3 months to April 2021, up 42% and up 46% respectively.
- 9 of the top 10 commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to January 2022. The exception was Electronic equipment.
- 9 of the top 10 commodities experienced an increase on the 3 months to April 2021. The exception was Precious metals.

↑ Imports of Motor vehicles up 42% on the 3 months to January 2022

↑ Imports of Mineral fuels up to 3.5 times the value on the 3 months to April 2021

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

Commodity Description	3 months to Apr 2022		3 months to Jan 2022		3 months to Apr 2021	
	Total (£ millions)	Total (£ millions)	Change on January 2022 (%)	Total (£ millions)	Change on April 2021 (%)	
Mineral fuels	27,621	24,972	10.6	7,789	254.6	
Motor vehicles	17,313	12,184	42.1	11,844	46.2	
Mechanical appliances	16,627	15,134	9.9	15,019	10.7	
Precious metals	12,399	11,741	5.6	12,697	-2.3	
Electronic equipment	12,219	12,394	-1.4	10,872	12.4	
Pharmaceutical products	6,770	5,566	21.6	4,552	48.7	
Measuring devices and gauges	4,671	3,709	25.9	3,414	36.8	
Plastics and plastic products	4,670	4,067	14.8	3,650	28.0	
Other products	4,445	2,880	54.4	1,515	193.4	
Furniture and light fittings	3,108	2,854	8.9	2,495	24.6	
Others	52,988	49,763	6.5	42,452	24.8	
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>162,831</b>	<b>145,265</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>116,298</b>	<b>40.0</b>	

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade in Goods Statistics

Note: 2021 and 2022 data is provisional



# Imports: Combined Commodity & Country Analysis

## Country to commodity:

- The decrease in imports from China on last month was led by Motor vehicles, down £357 million (70%). The decrease on April 2021 was driven by Mechanical appliances, Miscellaneous chemical products, and Electronic equipment, down £397 million (39%), £393 million (91%) and £338 million (35%) respectively.
- The increase in imports from the USA on April 2021 was dominated by Mineral fuels, up £1,609 million (to 5.5 times the value).
- The decrease in imports from the Netherlands on last month was driven by Pharmaceutical products and Mineral fuels, down £184 million (44%) and £154 million (27%) respectively. The increase on April 2021 was led by Mineral fuels and Mechanical appliances, up £299 million (to 3.5 times the value) and £272 million (to twice the value) respectively.

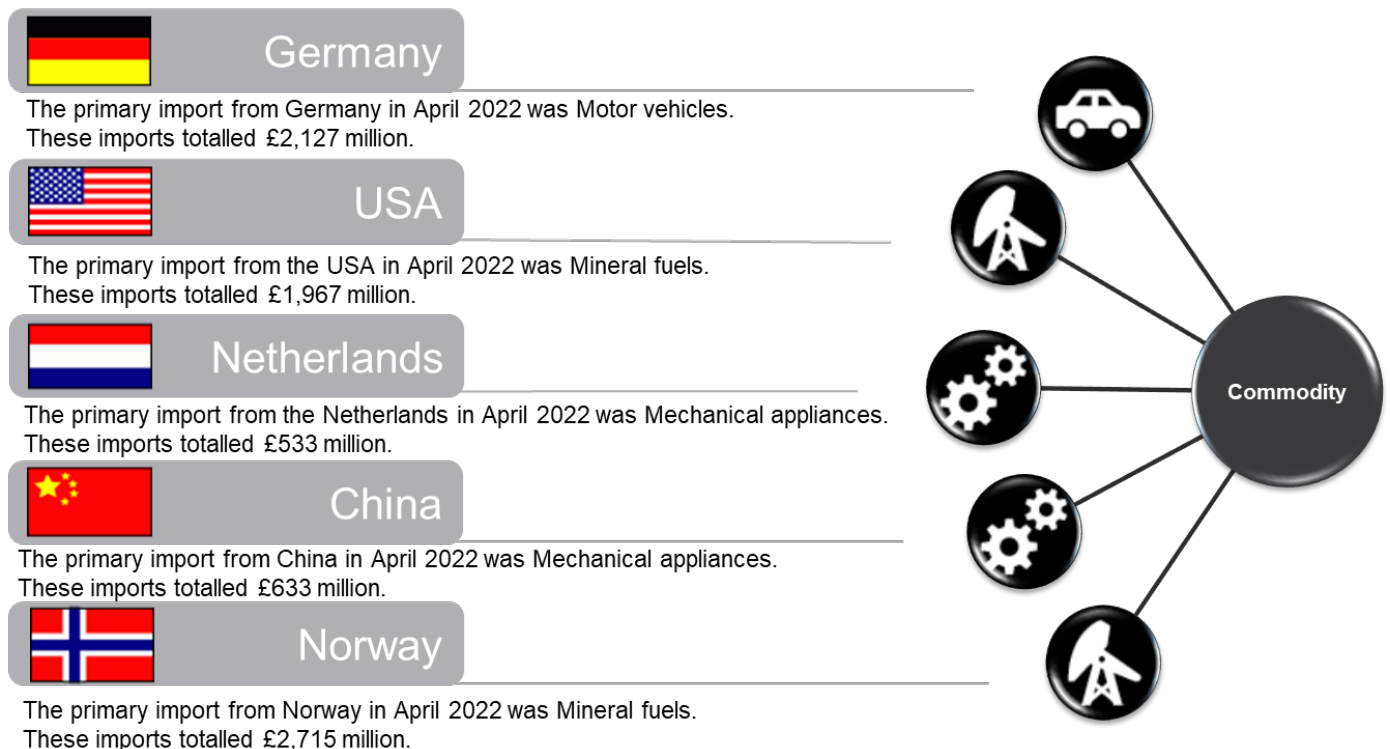
↑ Imports of Mineral fuels from the USA up £1,609 million (to 5.5 times the value) on April 2021

↓ Imports of Mineral fuels from Norway down 43% on last month

## Commodity to country:

- The decrease in imports of Precious metals on last month was driven by Switzerland, Kazakhstan, Canada and Japan, down £481 million (46%), £428 million (90%), £423 million (51%), and £322 million (76%) respectively. The decrease on April 2021 was dominated by Russia, down £1,105 million (99%).
- The decrease in imports of Motor vehicles on last month was driven by Germany, China and Italy, down £415 million (16%), £357 million (70%), and £318 million (56%) respectively. The increase on April 2021 was dominated by Germany, up £773 million (57%).
- The decrease in imports of Mineral fuels on last month was dominated by Norway, down £2,075 million (43%).

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

## 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 (March 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 13 June 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](http://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 April 2022. At the same time revisions for all previously published non-EU and EU data for 2021 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
May 2022	13 July 2022
June 2022	12 August 2022
July 2022	12 September 2022

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 standards.