



## ***News Release***

For the attention of **News Desks**

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# **Latest UK Regional Trade Estimates**

UK Regional Trade in Goods estimates are released today, for the second quarter 2011.

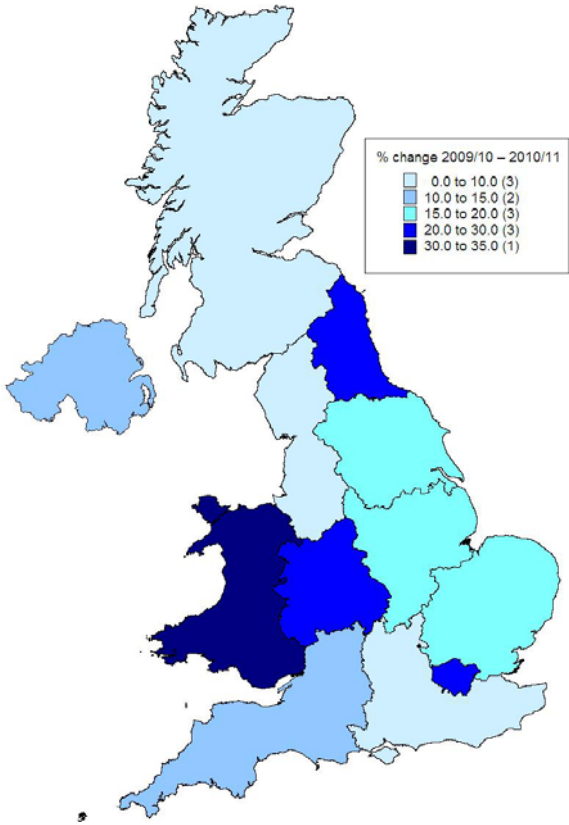
### ***Exports***

- The total value of UK exports for the 12 months ending June 2011 was £280,343m, an increase of £36,540m (15.0 per cent) compared to the 12 months ending June 2010.
- During the same period the total value of exports for England rose by 14.9 per cent to £201,587m. Exports from Wales rose by 31.4 per cent to £13,046m, exports from Scotland rose by 6.6 per cent to £15,979m, and exports from Northern Ireland rose by 11.5 per cent to £5,603m. However, the value of exports unable to be allocated to a region rose by 15.0 per cent to £44,129m (see note 5). This accounts for 15.7 per cent of the total UK export trade.
- Within England, the South East had the largest total value of exports of £43,371m for the 12 months ending June 2011. The South West had the smallest total value of exports of £11,723m.
- The largest percentage change in the English regions for this period was for the London region which increased by 24.9 per cent to £31,291m. The North West region had the smallest change, with an increase in exports of 6.4 per cent to £25,804m. All regions in the UK saw an increase in exports.
- The number of exporters in the UK for Quarter 2 2011, compared with the same quarter last year, decreased by 3.3 per cent to 48,240. Wales had the largest percentage change with a decrease of 4.8 per cent to 1,281. All other regions or countries also showed a decrease in the number of exporters, ranging from a decrease of 0.5 per cent in Northern Ireland to a decrease of 4.8 per cent in the London region.

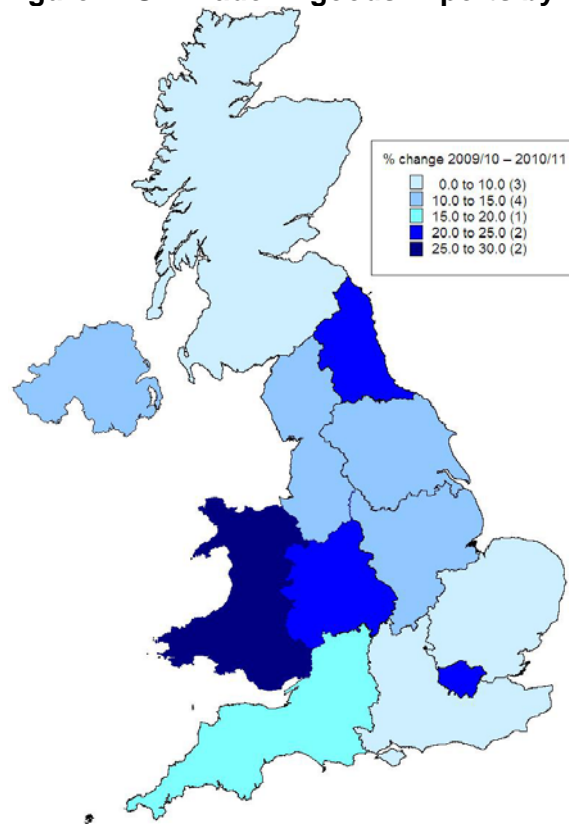
## ***Imports***

- The total value of UK imports for the 12 months ending June 2011 was £379,387m, an increase of £48,879m (14.8 per cent) compared to the 12 months ending June 2010.
- During the same period the total value of imports for England rose by 14.4 per cent to £302,398m. Imports to Wales rose by 26.8 per cent to £7,327m, imports to Scotland rose by 6.6 per cent to £11,833m and imports to Northern Ireland rose by 11.6 per cent to £5,412m. However, the value of imports unable to be allocated to a region rose by 18.0 per cent to £52,418m (see note 5). This accounts for 13.8 per cent of the total UK import trade.
- Within England, the South East has the largest total value of imports of £79,122m. The smallest total value for imports is in the North East of £10,104m.
- The largest percentage change for the English regions this period was for the North East region which increased by 26.0 per cent to £10,104m. The smallest change was for the South East region which saw an increase of 8.1 per cent in imports to £79,122m. All regions in the UK saw an increase in imports.
- The number of importers in the UK for Quarter 2 2011 compared with the same quarter last year, decreased by 4.5 per cent to 66,854. The South West had the largest percentage decrease of 6.9 per cent to 4,827. All other regions or countries also showed a decrease in the number of importers, ranging from a decrease of 2.6 per cent in the Yorkshire and Humber region to a decrease of 6.6 per cent in the Northern Ireland.

**Figure 1: UK Trade-in-goods exports by region<sup>1</sup>**



**Figure 2: UK Trade-in-goods imports by region<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Figures refer to the percentage change between the rolling years 2009 Q3 to 2010 Q2 and 2010 Q3 to 2011 Q2  
Source: Regional Trade Statistics, HM Revenue & Customs

## Notes for editors

1. The latest statistics on Regional Trade were released on 8 September 2011 by HM Revenue & Customs under arrangements set out in the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#). This release includes the first provisional estimates of trade-in-goods for Quarter 2 2011. At the same time revisions for all previously published regional data for 2010 are also being released. In line with the revisions policy these are the final Regional Trade Statistics for all quarters in 2010. As advised in the RTS publication for Quarter 1 2011, HMRC are also releasing revisions to regional data for 2009. This is a result of the revisions made to Overseas Trade Statistics which were announced [here](#).
2. Data is taken primarily from Customs systems (for non-EU trade) and the Intrastat survey (for EU trade). HMRC does not receive information in respect of goods that move wholly within the UK, nor in intangibles and services such as banking or tourism. Trade is mainly allocated to a region by the postcode associated with a company's VAT registration.
3. Some adjustments have been necessary in the production of export statistics by region to ensure manufacturing that takes place at branch premises is properly allocated to the region where the branch is situated. These adjustments have been updated in Quarter 2 2011 and applied to 2010 and 2011 data. However, adjustments are not made to import statistics and therefore, in some cases, trade has been allocated to the region where the head office is situated.
4. Not all trade can be assigned to one of the 9 English Government Office Regions, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. This is referred to in the tables as the 'Unknown region' and includes:
  - Trade carried out by persons or entities which cannot be matched to a region.
  - Low Value Trade and estimates made for EU trade below the Intrastat threshold.
  - Goods within classification codes that have changed since the previous year are not assigned to a region but are included within Unknown region for completeness.
  - Data relating to Natural Gas and Electricity direct from pipeline and grid operators.

More information can be found in the OTS and RTS methodology document.

<https://www.uktradeinfo.com/pagecontent/documents/GSSMethodspaperv4.pdf>

<https://www.uktradeinfo.com/pagecontent/RTSdocuments/rtsMethodsrevision2007v3.pdf>

5. The RTS does not include estimates for non-response or estimates for the missing EU Imports associated with Missing Trader Intra-Community VAT Fraud (MTIC Fraud).
6. In 2009 a change took place to the Customs administrative data source used in the compilation of the RTS. More detail on this can be found at [https://www.uktradeinfo.com/pagecontent/downloads/RTS\\_EORI\\_web.pdf](https://www.uktradeinfo.com/pagecontent/downloads/RTS_EORI_web.pdf)  
The impact of the change is being monitored and reviewed by the Trade Statistics Unit.
7. Aggregated tables are produced to allow time series analysis; these tables are provided in a separate document released in conjunction with this News Release.
8. The Regional Trade in Goods figures are National Statistics. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure they meet customer needs. The recent Trade Statistics Quality report can be found here [https://www.uktradeinfo.com/pagecontent/documents/Quality\\_Report\\_2010.pdf](https://www.uktradeinfo.com/pagecontent/documents/Quality_Report_2010.pdf) They are produced free from any political interference.
9. The RTS has recently been reviewed as part of an assessment made of Overseas Trade Statistics by the [UK Statistics Authority](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-93---uk-trade-in-goods.pdf). 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>
10. The next release will be published on 8 December 2011. This will include revised data 2011 plus a set of new regional trade statistics figures for the third quarter 2011. In response to the UK Statistics Authority assessment the next release will be in a new format including increased commentary on Regional Trade Statistics.

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