

Non-EU Overseas Trade Statistics - December 2011

Coverage:
United Kingdom

Theme:
Business and Energy

Released:
9 February 2012

Next Release:
9 March 2012

Frequency of release:
Monthly

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Summary

- UK's Non EU imports have decreased by £2.1 billion (11.8 per cent) compared to November 2011, to £15.5 billion. Compared to December 2010, imports have decreased by £0.6 billion (3.7 per cent).
- UK's Non EU exports have increased by £0.2 billion (1.3 per cent) compared to November 2011, to £12.5 billion. Compared to December 2010 exports have increased by £1.0 billion (8.4 per cent).
- The UK remains a net importer (imports are greater than exports). The size of difference between imports and exports has decreased compared to November 2011 by 42.5 per cent and has decreased from December 2010 by 34.0 per cent.
- The first estimate of total exports for 2011 is £134.3 billion compared with £118.6 billion in 2010
- The first estimate of total imports from 2011 is £195.2 billion compared with £177.1 billion in 2010.



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.

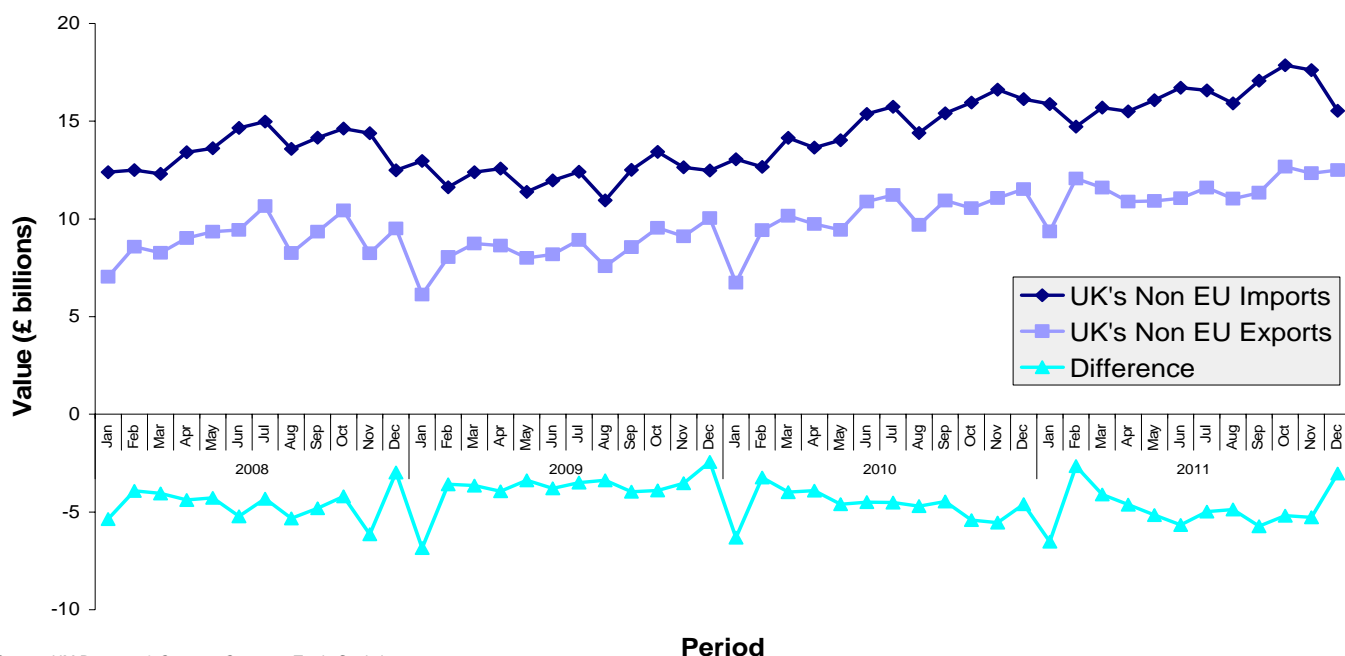
You can find details of how users interested in import and export markets for specific goods make use of the detailed OTS data in '[The Customer Story](#)'. You can also access the detailed data in our interactive database [here](#).

Key Points

For the month of December 2011:

The value of imports decreased in December 2011 after also falling in the previous month of November. December's was the largest monthly drop in imports since December 2007. The value of imports fell while the value of exports rose, decreasing the difference between Non EU imports and exports. This has led to the smallest difference between the imports and exports since December 2008¹.

Fig. 1: Total Monthly UK Trade with Non EU Countries



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics
 Note: 2011 data are provisional

¹ Although the difference between imports and exports was lower for February 2011 this is not directly comparable as it included the effect of the change to align non-EU exports reference periods with calendar months.

Exports

- UK's Non EU exports have increased by £0.2 billion (1.3 per cent) compared to November 2011, to £12.5 billion. Compared to December 2010, exports have increased by £1.0 billion (8.4 per cent).
- The top five commodities are the same as in the previous month although HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes), has risen from fifth to third largest exported commodity by value.
- The largest contributing commodity group remains HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof). It contributed £2.4 billion, 19.2 per cent of the total value of UK's Non EU export trade. The largest contribution to this chapter was £963.7 million from HS4 8411 (Turbo-jets, Turbo-propellers and other gas turbines).
- The largest value increase from the previous month, of £294.7 million, was in HS2 27 (mineral fuels and oils, as described above). This is one of the top five commodity types exported from the UK to non-EU countries. This is a 38.9 per cent increase compared to November 2011. This increase is driven by HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude) up £226.6 million, and HS4 2710 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals excluding crude) up £61.6 million in the month.
- The largest value decrease from the previous month, of £221.0 million, was in HS2 87, (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof), to £1.3 billion. This was led by HS4 8703 (Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, including station wagons and racing cars (excl. motor vehicles of heading no 8702), which saw a decrease of £212.6 million (down by 17.6 per cent) after increasing by £89.9 million in November.
- USA remains the Non EU country for which the value of UK exports is largest, accounting for 28.8 per cent of the total value of UK's Non EU export trade. The largest change in export trade was a £287.7 million increase in exports to South Korea, nearly two and a half times the figure for November. This is the highest value of exports to South Korea since June 2008 and makes them our fourth largest non EU partner for export trade. This increase is almost entirely within HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes), where exports rose by £259.9 million. The largest decrease in exports compared to November 2011 was to Hong Kong which decreased by £107.8 million, 20.5 per cent.
- The first estimate of total exports for 2011 is £134.3 billion². This is an increase of £15.7 billion compared with 2010. This continues the upward trend in the value of exports of goods from the UK in recent years only interrupted in 2009 during the period of recession.
- The total 2011 year to date value of UK's trade-in-goods exported to non EU countries excluding December 2011 was £124.9 billion, which has been downwardly revised by £0.4 million. This is a decrease of less than 0.1 per cent.

² The final figure for total exports for 2011 will be published in August when data is finalised in line with our revisions policy

Imports

- The value of the UK's Non EU imports has decreased by £2.1 billion (11.8 per cent) compared to November 2011, to £15.5 billion. Compared to December 2010 imports have decreased by £0.6 billion (3.7 per cent).
- The top five commodities remain similar to the previous month although there have been decreases compared to November 2011 in the value of imports for four of the top five commodity types. HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof) has increased to become one of the top five imported commodities in December. In November it was the sixth largest imported commodity by value.
- The largest contributing commodity group remains HS27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes), despite it showing the largest value decrease over the month, of £0.4 billion (10.6 per cent). This commodity type contributed £3.6 billion, 23.3 per cent of the total value of UK's Non EU import trade. Within this chapter, HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude) had the largest contribution of £2.3 billion but this HS4 also saw the largest decrease of £179.0 million, 7.2 per cent. HS4 2710 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals excluding crude) had the second largest decrease of £170.3 million, 25.3 per cent.
- The largest increases at HS2 level from the previous month were in HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof) with an increase of £56.5 million, and HS2 26 (Ores, slag and ash) with an increase of £57.0 million. Within HS2 88, the largest increase over the previous month was in HS4 8802 (Powered aircraft) with a rise of £53.5 million, up by 11.3 per cent. In HS2 26, the largest increase was in HS4 2601 (Iron ores and concentrates, incl. roasted iron pyrites) a rise of £52.2 million, up by 65.5 per cent.
- The top five Non EU countries from which the UK imports remain similar to the previous month. The value of imports has decreased for each of them, though USA had a smaller decrease than China, meaning it became the top non EU country from which the UK imports goods. The USA accounted for 16.1 per cent of the total value of UK's Non EU import trade, with a total value of £2,508.7 million, slightly ahead of China at £2,507.9 million. The total value of imports from China decreased by £312.7 million, down by 11.1 per cent compared to last month. This was the largest decrease in imports compared to November 2011. The largest increase in imports compared to November 2011 was from Russia which rose by £125.1 million, up by 30.1 per cent.
- The first estimate of total imports for 2011 is £195.2 billion³. This is an increase of £18.0 billion compared with 2010. This continues the upward trend in the value of imports of goods into the UK in recent years only interrupted in 2009 during the period of recession.
- The total 2011 year to date value of UK's trade-in-goods imported from non EU countries excluding December 2011 was £ 179.6 billion, which has been downwardly revised by £92.3 million. This is a decrease of less than 0.1 per cent.

³ The final figure for total imports for 2011 will be published in August when data is finalised in line with our revisions policy..

Further Analysis: Exports

Table 1 shows a comparison of the top five commodities exported to countries outside the EU for December 2010, November 2011 and December 2011.

HS 2	Description	December 2011 Total £ millions	% Change from November 2011	% Change from December 2010	% of Total December Trade	Rank November 2011	Rank December 2010
-	Total Exports	12,499.2	1.3	8.4	100.0	n/a	n/a
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	2,396.9	7.7	9.2	19.2	1	1
87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	1,313.9	-14.4	8.4	10.5	2	2
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	1,051.6	38.9	38.8	8.4	5	6
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	966.9	2.0	12.3	7.7	4	3
30	Pharmaceutical products	954.1	-6.2	17.2	7.6	3	4

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

The slight overall increase compared to November 2011 in exports reflects a mixture of increases and decreases in HS2 chapters. Three of the top five commodity types shown in the table above increased by £484.2 million, while the other two decreased by £283.8 million.

The largest change since last month is an increase of £294.7 million in HS2 27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes). The value of exports for December 2011 (£1.1 billion) is the highest value for export in this commodity type since April 2011. Within this chapter, the largest increase is in HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude) which has increased by £226.6 million to £439.0 million. This is over twice the value in November. Similar increases in value and volume of the commodity being exported suggest that more of the commodity is being exported rather than just an increase in prices. The change in HS2 2709 is driven by the increase in exports to South Korea, which had a value of £259.8 million in December, up from zero in

November. HS4 2710 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals excluding crude) also increased, by £61.6 million in the month, an increase of 12.9 per cent by value. Similar increases in value and volume of the commodity being exported suggest that more of the commodity is being exported rather than just increase in prices.

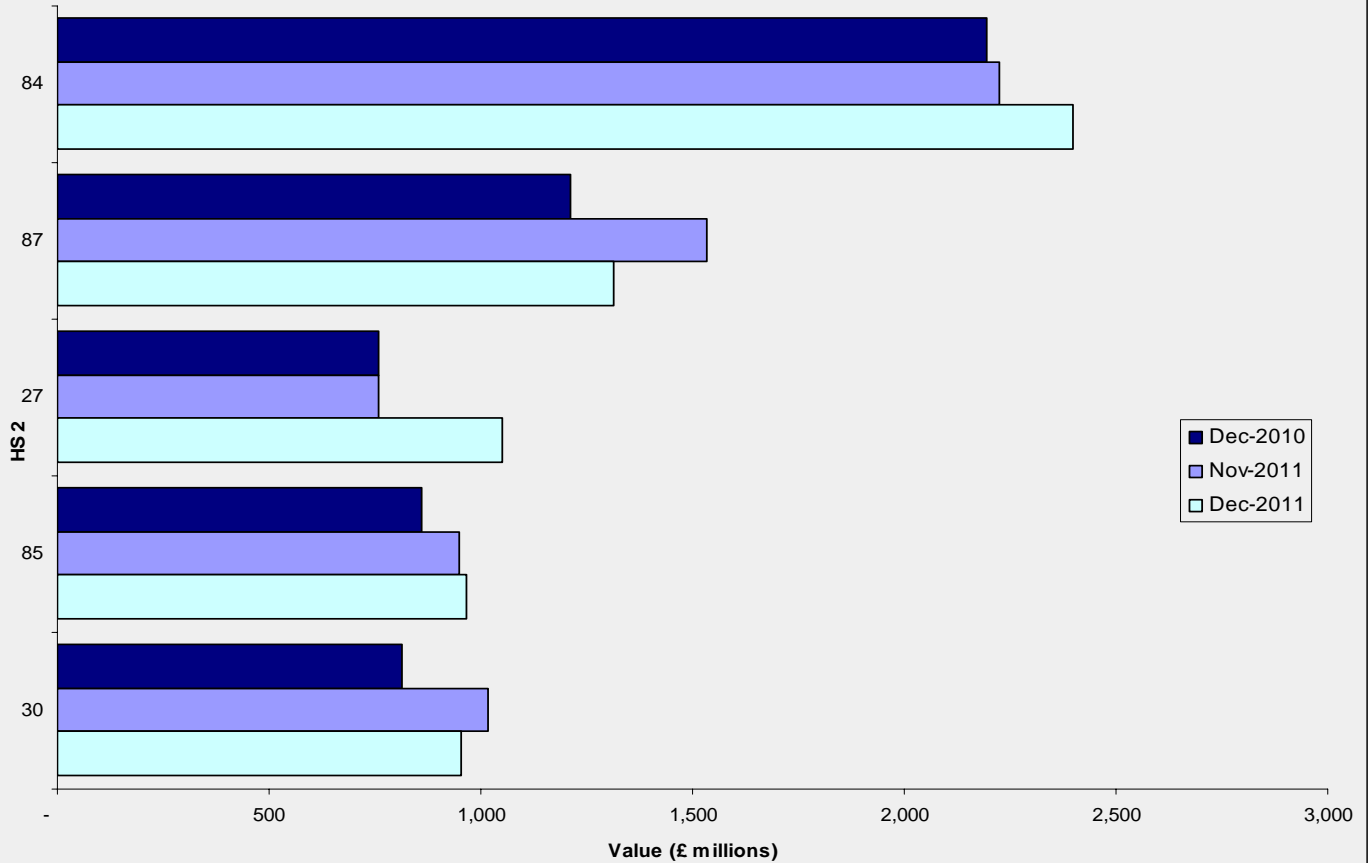
There was also a relatively large increase in another of the top five exported commodity types, HS2 84, up by £170.4 million to £2.4 billion compared to November 2011. There was a mixture of increases and decreases at the HS4 level within this commodity type. The largest change was an increase of £78.8 million in HS 8411 (Turbojets, turbopropellers and other gas turbines).

The largest decrease compared to November 2011 of £221.0 million was in HS2 87 (Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof). Within this chapter, the largest decrease is in HS4 8703 (Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, including station wagons and racing cars (excl. motor vehicles of heading no 8702)), which saw a decrease of £212.6 million (down by 17.6 per cent) after increasing by £89.9 million in November. The biggest decrease was for exports to America, which dropped by £118.7 million, or 47.0 per cent. December often sees a decrease in this kind of trade because of businesses closing down for the Christmas period.

In addition to the decreases in the top five commodity types mentioned above there was also a large decrease in HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), of £138.0 million, a decrease of 22.1 per cent. This is driven by a decrease of £197.1 million in HS4 8802 (Powered aircraft -e.g. helicopters and aeroplanes-; spacecraft -incl. Satellites- and spacecraft launch vehicles). This is a decrease of 67.4 per cent. The value of exports in November in hs4 8802 was the largest in 2011 for this commodity type. Because of the nature of the goods involved trade in this chapter is very volatile and just a few items of trade can have a major impact on the statistics.

The total export trade value has increased by 8.4 per cent compared to December 2010. All of the top five chapters have shown increases, as seen in the table above. Indeed the top five commodity types saw the biggest increases compared to December 2010. In particular HS 27 increased by £293.7 million and HS2 84 increased by £202.6 million. The largest decrease was in HS2 88 (Aircraft, Spacecraft and parts thereof), which decreased by £195.8 million. It should be noted that the December 2010 figure of £681.1 million is the largest value of exports for this commodity type in recent years.

Fig 2: Top 5 commodities for UK's Non EU exports Dec 2011 compared to Nov 2011 and Dec 2010



Note: 2011 data are provisional
 Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

Figure 2 above shows the top five commodities for UK's Non EU exports in December 2011, compared to November 2011 and December 2010. It shows the increase for all top five commodity types compared with December 2010 mentioned above.

Table 2 shows a comparison of the value of UK export trade with our top five Non EU export trading partners for December 2011, November 2011 and December 2010.

Country	Total December 2011 £ millions	% change from November 2011	% Change from December 2010	% of total December 2011 Non EU trade
Total Exports	12,499.2	1.3	8.4	100.0
USA	3,602.5	0.7	9.8	28.8
China	846.3	-2.9	28.8	6.8
Switzerland	519.2	14.1	-19.6	4.2
South Korea	479.7	149.9	184.5	3.8
Russia	473.2	4.0	33.6	3.8

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

The USA has been the largest export partner for the UK for a number of years, accounting for between a quarter and a third of the total exports. China remains in second place.

The largest change in value of export trade compared with November 2011 is the increase of £287.7 million to South Korea to £479.7 million in December. This increase is driven by an increase of £259.8 million in exports of HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude). This accounts for 59.2 per cent of the UK's total exports of this product in December. There was a similar level of value of exports to South Korea in June 2008, again in HS 27. However usually the value of exports to South Korea from the UK is about half that seen in December. This makes South Korea the fourth largest non EU trading partner for exports in December. In November it was seventeenth.

The largest decrease in value of exports was to Hong Kong, down by £107.8 million to £417.3 million, a drop of 20.5 per cent. This makes Hong Kong the eighth largest non EU trading partner for exports. In November it was third. This is almost entirely covered by a decrease of £105.7 million, (83.8 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) in particular a decrease of £75.9 million in HS4 7113 (articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal (excl. articles > 100 years old)) Because of the nature of the goods involved the value of trade can be volatile however this decrease is the biggest monthly drop in value in this commodity type in the past four years.

The increase in total export trade value compared to December 2010, noted above, was driven by increases in nine of the top ten countries, with only Switzerland showing a decrease. In particular there were increase in exports to the USA (up by £321.4 million) and South Korea (up by £311.0 million), although the latter is due to an unusually high value of exports this month. The largest decrease was for exports to Saudi Arabia down by £183.4 million to £251.4 million. For Saudi Arabia, the current month's export value is returning to the normal range, after a high figure in December 2010.

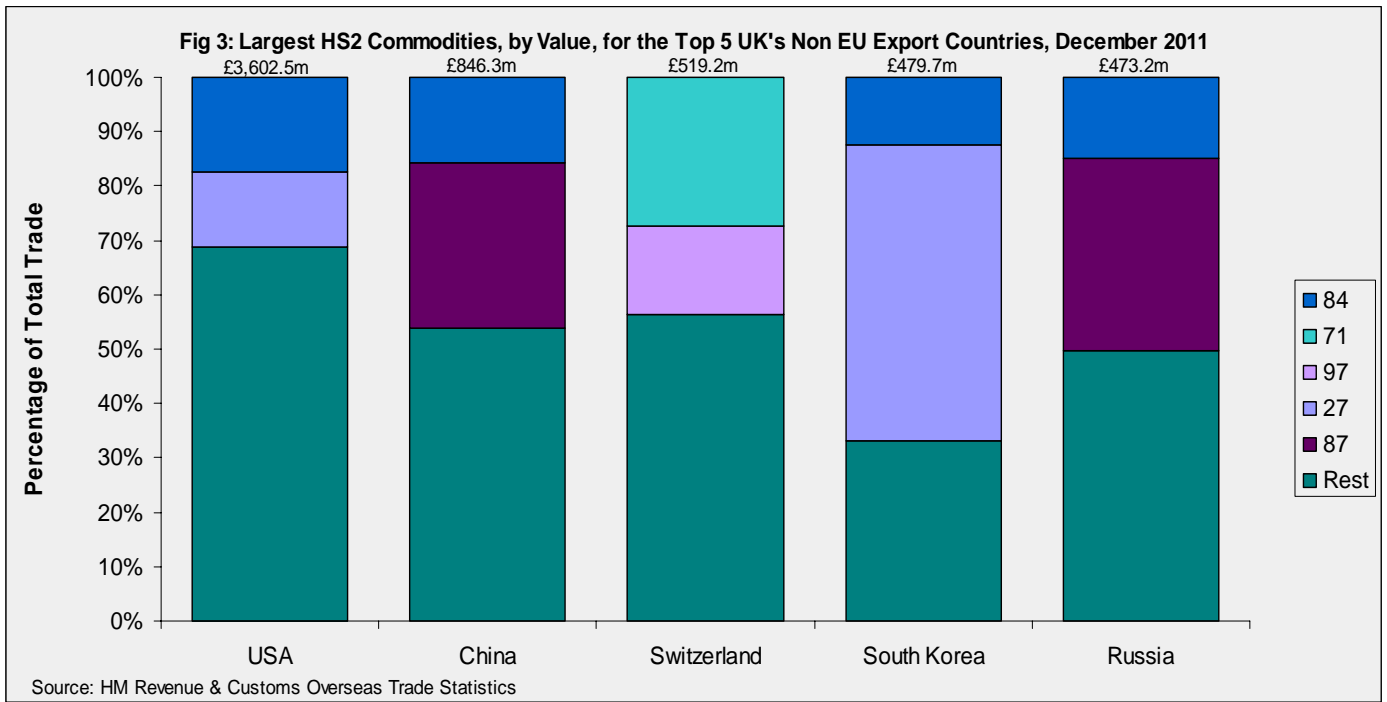
Table 3 shows the top five partner countries for non-EU exports in December 2010, November 2011 and December 2011.

Rank	December 2011	November 2011	December 2010
1	USA	USA	USA
2	China	China	China
3	Switzerland	Hong Kong	Switzerland
4	South Korea	Switzerland	Saudi Arabia
5	Russia	Russia	Canada

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

For all three periods, the United States was the UK's largest Non EU exporting partner country and China was the second largest.

Figure 3 below shows the largest commodities by value for the top five Non EU countries that the UK exports to. Four of the top five countries have HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof) in their top two largest commodities exported from the UK. The trade with these countries accounts for 37.3 per cent of the total value of UK Non EU export trade under this heading. Also the USA and South Korea together account for almost 71.4% of the total export trade under HS2 27 in December. For South Korea, this is 54.2 per cent of goods exported to it from the UK.



Further Analysis: Imports

Table 4 shows a comparison of the top five commodities imported from countries outside the EU for December 2010, November 2011 and December 2011.

HS 2	Description	December 2011 Total £ millions	% Change from November 2011	% Change from December 2010	% of Total December 2011 Trade	Rank November 2011	Rank December 2010
-	Total Imports	15,535.1	-11.8	-3.7	100.0	n/a	n/a
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	3,618.3	-10.6	3.9	23.3	1	1
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	1,849.8	-10.6	-0.4	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	1,578.7	-12.8	3.6	10.2	3	4
88	Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof	715.9	8.6	-60.0	4.6	6	3
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	702.4	-28.8	-0.9	4.5	4	5

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

The decrease of £2.1 billion in the value of imports compared to November 2011 is dominated by large decreases in four of the top five commodities imported accounting for a decrease of £1.2 billion. It was in the top five commodity types where the four largest decreases occurred, compared to last month.

The largest decrease was in HS2 27, with a fall of £427.1 million (10.6 per cent). The figure for November, £4.0 billion, is the largest value for imports of this commodity type in recent years. HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude) decreased by £179.0 million, 7.2 per cent, and HS4 2710 (Petroleum oils and

oils obtained from bituminous minerals excluding crude) decreased by £170.3 million, 25.3 per cent. For both of these commodities, similar decreases in value and volume of the commodity being imported suggest that less of the commodity is being imported rather than a decrease in prices.

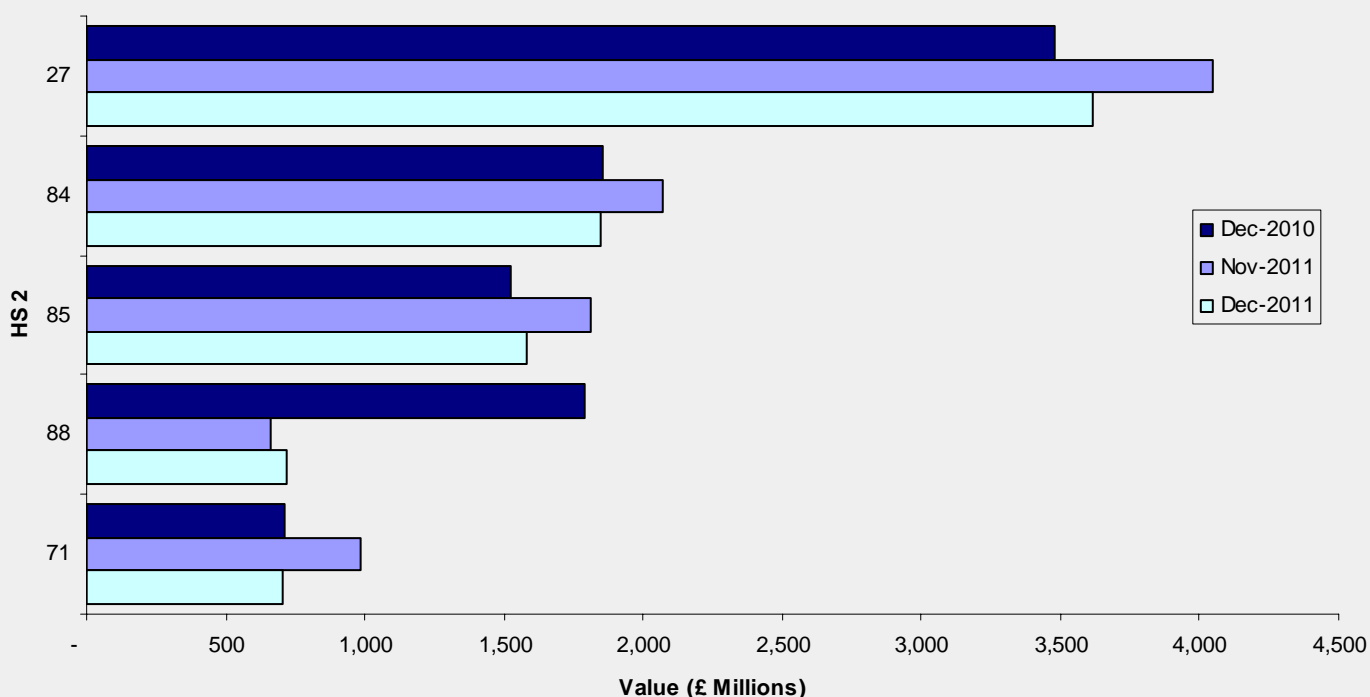
The other decreases in the top five imported commodities were HS2 71 (down £284.2 million), HS2 85 (down £232.1 million) and HS2 84 (down £219.5 million). There was also a relatively large decrease in HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products) down by £241.3 million to £463.3 million after November's high of £677.6 million.

By contrast the largest increases at HS2 level from the previous month was only £57.0 million in HS2 26 (Ores, slag and ash), the largest increase was in HS4 2601 (Iron ores and concentrates, incl. roasted iron pyrites) a rise of £52.2 million, up by 65.5 per cent. This was driven by an increase of £45.6 million imported from Brazil.

The second largest increase was for the only top five commodity that showed a rise in value of imports compared to November, HS2 88 (Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof), with an increase of £56.5 million. Within HS2 88, the largest increase over the previous month was in HS4 8802 (Powered aircraft) with a rise of £53.5 million, up by 11.3 per cent.

The much smaller decrease in total import trade value compared to December 2010, noted above was composed of a mixture of increases and decreases across all chapters. Within the top five chapters shown in fig 4 below, small changes in four of the chapters are overshadowed by a 60 per cent decrease in chapter 88. The value of imports in December was unusually high. The decrease, of £1.1 billion, dominates the change between the two periods in value of imports.

Fig 4: Top 5 Commodities for UK's Non EU import Dec 2011 compared to Nov 2011 and Dec 2010



Note: 2011 data are provisional

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade

Tables 5 and 6 show comparisons of the value of UK import trade with our top five Non EU import trading partners for December 2011, November 2011 and December 2010. Imports from all of the top five imports trading partners have fallen in December compared to the previous month.

China and the USA have been the largest import partners for the UK for a number of years accounting for between a quarter and a third of the total imports. The value of goods the UK imports from both have fallen in value in the last month, but China has decreased more than the USA, making the value of goods imported from the USA slightly higher than from China.

The largest change in value of import trade compared with November 2011 is the decrease of £312.7 million from China, a drop of 11.1 per cent. This follows a fall of £353.5 million in the previous month from the record high of October. The decrease is a result of large decreases in a small number of HS2 chapters compared to other changes. The largest decrease was in HS2 85 which fell by £82.4 million, accounting for over one third of the overall net decrease in imports of this commodity type. HS4 8517, which includes mobile phones, was down by £34.7 million, 16.7 per cent. The second biggest fall was in HS2 95 (Toys, games and sports requisites; parts and accessories thereof) which fell by £71.4 million, 35.2 per cent. This might be expected, after the increase in imports in November for Christmas.

There were also large decreases for Switzerland, (down by £249.3 million) and the USA (down by £202.4 million).

For Switzerland, this decrease is mostly due to a decrease in imports in HS2 30 (down by £101.2 million) and HS2 71 (down by £101.1 million). The decreases for the USA are spread among a number of HS2 commodity types.

The largest increase in value of imports was from Russia, increasing by £125.1 million or 30.8 per cent. This was driven by an increase in HS2 27, up by £133.0 million to £377.2 million, up by 54.5 per cent. HS4 2709 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous materials, crude) was up by £77.4 million (79.5 per cent) and HS4 2710 (Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous materials excluding crude) was up by £71.0 million (128.7 per cent). Similar increases in value and volume of the commodity being imported suggest that more of the commodity is being imported rather than an increase in prices.

Table 5: Top 5 Non EU import partner countries

Country	Total December 2011 £ millions	% change from November 2011	% Change from December 2010	% of total December 2011 Non EU trade
Total Imports	15,535.1	-11.8	-3.7	100.0
USA	2,508.7	-7.5	-12.3	16.1
China	2,507.9	-11.1	1.7	16.1
Norway	2,111.3	-0.4	-3.9	13.6
Japan	698.7	-14.0	10.1	4.5
Hong Kong	584.1	-6.2	-10.2	3.8

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

The decrease in total import trade value compared to December 2010 is driven by falls in imports from Switzerland (down by £369.2 million) and the USA (up by £351.7 million).

The net decrease in imports from both Switzerland and the USA are dominated by falls in the value of imports in HS2 88, £363.8 million and £315.1 million respectively. These decreases account for about 64 per cent of the overall decrease in the value of imports of goods in this chapter mentioned above.

The largest increase in value of imports was to Israel, up by £207.6 million to £279.1 million. This is as a result of both a relatively high value in December 2011 and a relatively low value in December 2010. The majority of this net increase is accounted for by a rise of £179.1 million in imports of goods in HS2 30 (Pharmaceutical products).

Table 6: Top 5 Non EU import partner countries in December 2010, November 2011 and December 2011			
Rank	December 2011	November 2011	December 2010
1	USA	China	USA
2	China	USA	China
3	Norway	Norway	Norway
4	Japan	Japan	Switzerland
5	Hong Kong	Switzerland	Hong Kong

Source: HM Revenue & Customs Overseas Trade Statistics

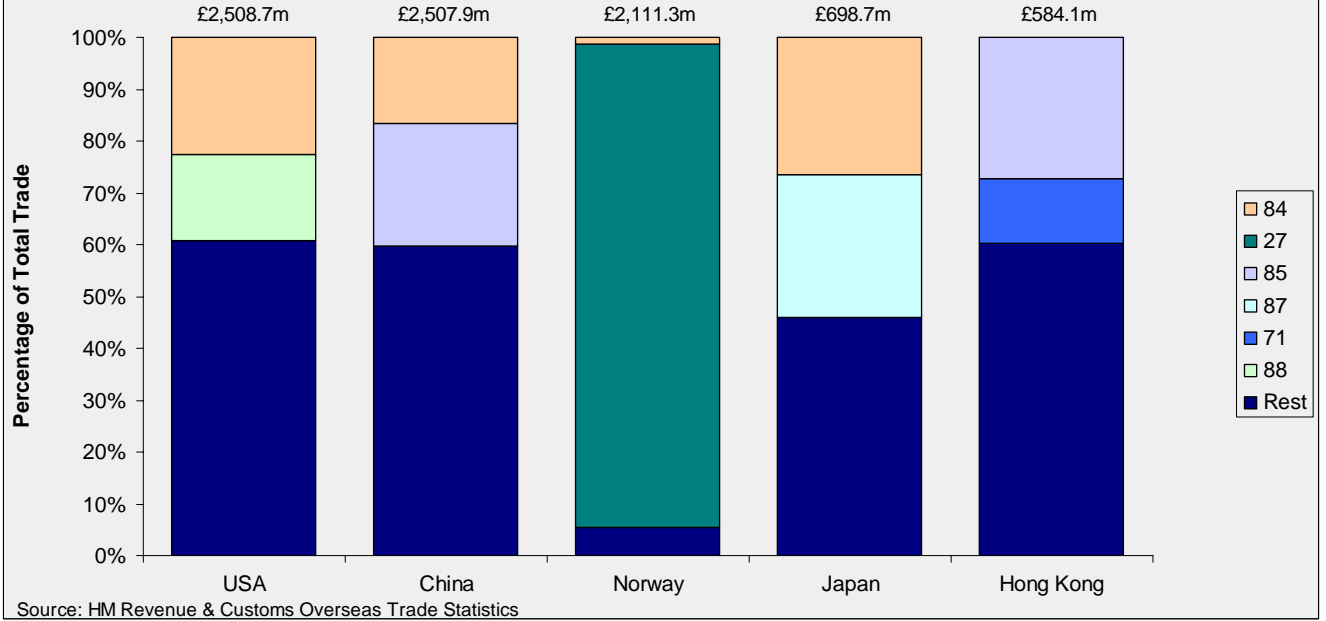
China and USA continue to be the UK's biggest import partners by value of trade.

The decrease in the value of imports from Switzerland mentioned above and the smaller decrease in imports from Hong Kong (down by £38.7 million) compared to last month has resulted in Hong Kong re-entering the top five import partners.

Figure 5 shows the largest commodities for the top five Non EU countries the UK imports from. Four of the top five non-EU import trading partners have HS2 84 (Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof) in their top two largest commodities exported to the UK. The trade with these countries accounts for 64.6 per cent of the total value of UK Non EU export trade under this commodity heading.

The trade in HS27 (Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) from Norway, specifically the Continental Shelf: Norwegian Sector, accounts for 93.4 per cent of the total imports from Norway, and 54.5 per cent of the total Non EU import trade under this heading.

Fig 5: Largest HS2 Commodities, by Value, for Top 5 UK's Non EU Import Countries, December 2011



Notes:

1. HM Revenue & Customs released these latest statistics on Overseas Trade with countries outside the European Union (EU) on 9 February 2012 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 December 2011. At the same time revisions for all previously published Non EU data for 2011 are also being released in line with the [Overseas Trade Statistics 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 accepted into [Inwards Processing Relief](#) (IPR).
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 recently 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>

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Next release: 9 March 2012 9:30am

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