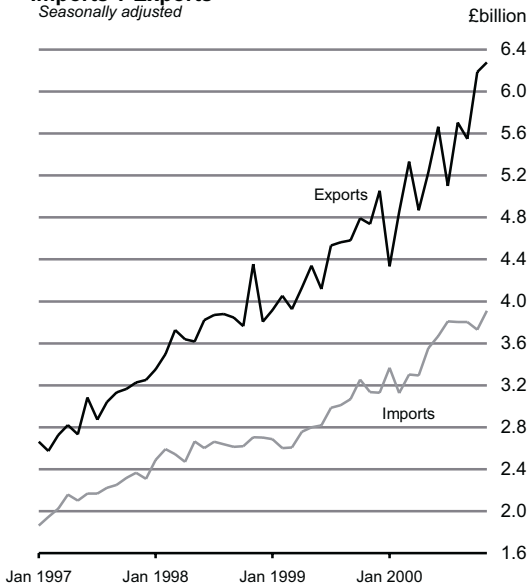




## External Trade

### November 2000 (Details), December 2000 (First estimate)

**Imports v Exports**  
*Seasonally adjusted*



	Imports	Exports	Surplus
<b>Jan-Nov 1999</b>	£31,750m	£47,590m	£15,840m
<b>Jan-Nov 2000</b>	£39,496m	£59,318m	£19,823m
<b>% change</b>	+24%	+25%	+25%
<b>November 2000</b>	£4,240m	£6,407m	£2,167m
<b>December 2000</b> <i>(preliminary)</i>	£3,850m	£6,260m	£2,410m

### Imports over £4 billion in November

Ireland's imports were valued at £4,240m in November 2000 and exports were valued at £6,407m giving a surplus of £2,167m. The corresponding surplus in November 1999 was £1,280m.

On a seasonally adjusted basis (*see graph*), the value of exports was £6,277m and the value of imports was £3,909m giving an adjusted surplus of £2,368m.

Preliminary figures for December 2000 value exports at £6,260m and imports at £3,850m giving an unadjusted surplus of £2,410m.

Comparing the January-November 2000 figures with the same period in 1999 shows that (*see Tables 3-4*):

- ◆ Exports increased from £47,590m to £59,318m (+25%). Exports of Organic chemicals increased from £8,184m to £12,394m (+51%). Exports of Computer equipment increased from £10,285m to £13,469m (+31%) and exports of Electrical machinery increased from £3,685m to £5,372m (+46%).
- ◆ Exports to the USA increased from £7,617m to £10,420m (+37%) while exports to Great Britain increased from £9,399m to £11,724m (+25%). There were also increases for Germany (+20%) and Italy (+31%).
- ◆ Imports increased from £31,750m to £39,496m (+24%). Imports of Computer equipment increased from £5,933m to £8,019m (+35%). Electrical machinery imports increased from £3,696m to £4,827m (+31%). Petroleum products showed an increase of 87%.
- ◆ Imports from Great Britain increased from £9,632m to £11,496m (+19%) while USA imports increased from £5,355m to £6,583m (+23%). Increases were also recorded for France (+45%), the Netherlands (+31%) and Germany (+14%).

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**Table 1 Summary of trade**

Period	Value			Volume Index		Price Index		Terms of Trade <sup>1</sup>
	Imports	Exports	Trade Surplus	Base year 1990=100				
				Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	
£M	£M	£M						
1981	6,578.4	4,777.6	-1,800.8	63.7	43.0	82.8	77.4	93.5
1982	6,816.2	5,691.4	-1,124.7	61.5	46.1	88.9	86.0	96.8
1983	7,366.8	6,943.8	-422.9	63.5	51.7	93.1	93.6	100.6
1984	8,912.2	8,897.5	-14.6	70.0	61.2	102.1	101.5	99.3
1985	9,428.2	9,743.0	314.8	72.3	65.2	104.5	104.3	99.8
1986	8,621.3	9,374.3	753.0	74.4	67.6	92.9	96.7	104.0
1987	9,155.2	10,723.5	1,568.3	79.1	77.4	92.8	96.6	104.1
1988	10,214.8	12,304.8	2,090.1	82.8	82.9	98.9	103.6	104.7
1989	12,284.3	14,597.0	2,312.8	93.6	92.2	105.3	110.5	104.9
1990	12,468.8	14,336.7	1,867.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1991	12,850.8	15,018.9	2,168.1	100.8	105.6	102.3	99.3	97.0
1992	13,194.8	16,743.8	3,549.1	105.6	121.1	100.2	96.6	96.4
1993	14,884.7	19,829.7	4,945.0	113.0	133.4	105.4	103.9	98.6
1994	17,283.4	22,753.4	5,470.1	127.9	153.2	108.1	103.8	96.0
1995	20,619.1	27,824.7	7,205.6	146.3	184.0	112.7	105.7	93.7
1996	22,429.4	30,407.0	7,977.7	160.9	202.2	111.4	105.1	94.3
1997	25,882.1	35,336.4	9,454.3	184.8	232.4	112.0	106.3	94.9
1998	31,278.1	45,144.6	13,866.4	218.3	289.2	114.6	109.1	95.2
1999 <sup>2</sup>	34,820.4	52,702.7	17,882.3	235.9	336.3	118.0	109.5	92.8
1998 January	2,455.9	3,202.3	746.4	203.2	246.0	116.0	109.2	94.1
February	2,514.5	3,313.1	798.6	212.7	254.7	113.4	109.1	96.2
March	2,810.6	3,922.0	1,111.5	235.5	295.4	114.5	111.4	97.2
April	2,585.6	3,607.9	1,022.3	213.9	272.9	116.0	110.9	95.6
May	2,636.1	3,569.1	933.0	220.7	276.3	114.6	108.3	94.5
June	2,604.3	4,079.6	1,475.4	215.3	310.5	116.1	110.2	94.9
July	2,572.5	3,867.7	1,295.2	211.1	290.8	116.9	111.5	95.4
August	2,221.4	3,362.7	1,141.3	184.0	256.2	115.8	110.1	95.0
September	2,566.4	4,200.0	1,633.6	212.4	318.1	115.9	110.7	95.5
October	2,740.7	3,858.1	1,117.4	237.2	306.3	110.9	105.6	95.3
November	2,881.9	4,308.4	1,426.4	246.7	343.9	112.1	105.1	93.7
December	2,688.2	3,853.7	1,165.4	228.9	301.7	112.7	107.1	95.1
1999 <sup>2</sup> January	2,576.7	3,685.9	1,109.2	212.0	283.2	116.6	109.1	93.6
February	2,528.2	3,841.1	1,312.9	209.5	287.8	115.8	111.9	96.6
March	2,947.1	4,268.7	1,321.6	241.7	335.7	117.0	106.6	91.2
April	2,890.8	4,030.9	1,140.1	233.9	319.1	118.6	105.9	89.3
May	2,787.5	4,247.8	1,460.3	228.1	325.2	117.3	109.5	93.4
June	2,810.2	4,499.9	1,689.6	227.2	337.7	118.7	111.7	94.2
July	2,824.2	4,535.7	1,711.5	230.0	352.0	117.8	108.1	91.7
August	2,622.2	3,905.5	1,283.3	207.7	292.7	121.1	111.9	92.4
September	2,974.5	5,014.5	2,040.0	244.6	378.2	116.7	111.2	95.3
October	3,323.5	4,823.5	1,500.0	272.2	364.5	117.1	111.0	94.7
November <sup>3</sup>	3,457.3	4,736.9	1,279.6	279.3	367.9	118.8	108.0	90.9
December	3,070.5	5,112.4	2,041.9	243.7	392.7	120.9	109.2	90.3
2000 <sup>2</sup> January	3,242.1	4,062.4	820.3	249.3	308.8	124.8	110.3	88.4
February	3,204.1	4,743.6	1,539.5	245.3	356.9	125.3	111.5	88.9
March	3,676.0	5,820.7	2,144.7	270.8	427.6	130.3	114.1	87.6
April	3,283.4	4,766.8	1,483.4	248.9	345.5	126.6	115.7	91.4
May <sup>3</sup>	3,758.3	5,181.0	1,422.6	276.6	372.1	130.4	116.8	89.5
June	3,623.3	6,093.1	2,469.8	263.1	445.4	132.1	114.7	86.8
July	3,532.8	5,030.5	1,497.7	261.3	374.0	129.8	112.8	86.9
August	3,378.6	5,058.2	1,679.6	249.3	391.1	130.0	108.5	83.4
September	3,589.4	6,070.6	2,481.1	261.4	442.4	131.8	115.1	87.3
October	3,967.9	6,084.5	2,116.6	281.5	451.3	135.3	113.0	83.6
November	4,239.7	6,407.2	2,167.5	298.8	476.8	136.1	112.7	82.8
December <sup>4</sup>	3,850.0	6,260.0	2,410.0	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Export Price Index divided by Import Price Index

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> Revised

<sup>4</sup> Based on current Intrastat response levels. Figures rounded to the nearest £10 million.

.. Data not yet available

**Table 2 Seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> Series**

Period	Value			Volume Index	
	Imports £M	Exports £M	Trade Surplus £M	Base year 1990=100	
				Imports	Exports
1997					
January	1,861.9	2,662.4	800.5	163.7	215.3
February	1,945.5	2,572.6	627.1	169.8	206.9
March	2,024.3	2,727.3	703.0	174.5	219.1
April	2,158.9	2,821.1	662.2	191.3	229.0
May	2,100.8	2,732.7	631.9	179.3	212.7
June	2,167.1	3,082.8	915.8	187.0	240.5
July	2,168.4	2,873.8	705.4	183.0	229.7
August	2,223.8	3,039.7	815.8	187.1	238.4
September	2,249.6	3,132.8	883.1	191.1	245.6
October	2,316.0	3,165.1	849.0	194.4	249.8
November	2,367.2	3,228.0	860.8	198.2	247.3
December	2,308.7	3,252.3	943.6	197.8	249.0
1998					
January	2,488.2	3,352.7	864.5	205.8	257.7
February	2,591.1	3,496.9	905.8	220.1	273.7
March	2,543.1	3,726.3	1,183.2	215.1	282.6
April	2,470.6	3,638.6	1,168.0	208.3	277.5
May	2,665.8	3,617.5	951.7	224.9	279.2
June	2,599.5	3,822.2	1,222.7	216.2	288.0
July	2,662.4	3,870.4	1,208.0	220.1	293.5
August	2,638.2	3,880.5	1,242.2	220.6	297.3
September	2,613.5	3,847.0	1,233.5	211.7	293.2
October	2,618.7	3,762.1	1,143.4	222.8	294.3
November	2,705.8	4,356.6	1,650.8	228.9	342.5
December	2,702.8	3,806.7	1,103.8	227.0	296.7
1999					
January	2,685.0	3,914.7	1,229.6	221.7	300.0
February	2,600.2	4,054.3	1,454.2	216.2	309.8
March	2,607.9	3,926.3	1,318.4	216.0	310.8
April	2,755.1	4,130.4	1,375.3	228.1	328.3
May	2,800.4	4,340.4	1,540.0	231.1	331.7
June	2,818.2	4,116.5	1,298.3	228.2	304.4
July	2,986.2	4,533.7	1,547.5	244.5	356.0
August	3,008.9	4,563.8	1,554.9	240.5	344.5
September	3,068.6	4,582.0	1,513.4	247.2	349.7
October	3,254.9	4,792.4	1,537.5	262.4	354.8
November	3,136.4	4,738.2	1,601.8	248.9	362.9
December	3,127.7	5,054.6	1,926.9	247.1	385.4
2000					
January	3,367.1	4,332.8	965.7	260.4	329.8
February	3,125.9	4,851.6	1,725.8	238.8	372.5
March	3,302.3	5,331.6	2,029.3	245.9	395.2
April	3,292.7	4,868.4	1,575.7	254.4	353.0
May	3,553.7	5,228.3	1,674.6	262.9	374.5
June	3,670.4	5,665.9	1,995.4	268.8	408.6
July	3,810.8	5,099.3	1,288.6	284.9	383.1
August	3,802.1	5,704.0	1,901.8	281.3	446.6
September	3,804.5	5,549.7	1,745.3	272.2	406.4
October	3,730.0	6,186.3	2,456.3	259.8	450.8
November	3,909.0	6,277.0	2,368.0	270.0	462.7
December	4,130.0	6,290.0	2,160.0	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Based on seasonal patterns up to December 1999. All values in this table are subject to revision

.. Data not yet available

**Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity**

£ million

SITC (Rev 3)	Imports				Exports			
	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	Jan-Nov 1999	Jan-Nov 2000	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	Jan-Nov 1999	Jan-Nov 2000
<b>0 Food and live animals</b>	<b>199.2</b>	<b>213.3</b>	<b>1,825.2</b>	<b>2,012.3</b>	<b>429.2</b>	<b>426.6</b>	<b>3,922.2</b>	<b>4,303.5</b>
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	18.4	17.6	95.9	154.9	34.4	43.3	214.1	291.3
01 Meat & meat preparations	17.2	22.0	171.5	210.1	130.3	126.8	1,250.4	1,287.1
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	22.8	16.1	201.6	198.3	98.3	75.5	730.6	849.8
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	6.5	6.0	64.6	69.5	23.6	27.7	209.3	229.6
04 Cereals & cereal preparations	31.0	32.1	311.6	341.3	17.2	21.1	190.6	207.4
05 Vegetables & fruit	29.7	33.0	340.4	360.5	11.1	13.0	123.2	122.9
06 Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	9.7	13.4	93.0	104.0	8.3	7.7	71.7	71.0
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices & manufactures thereof	18.9	22.4	160.0	167.9	17.3	16.8	172.0	184.4
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	31.0	34.7	244.1	255.4	9.1	9.1	80.9	87.4
09 Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	13.9	16.0	142.6	150.3	79.5	85.6	879.5	972.8
<b>1 Beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>356.4</b>	<b>368.0</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>572.3</b>	<b>666.8</b>
11 Beverages	39.2	33.2	304.6	314.8	76.1	61.3	530.9	594.4
12 Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	5.7	5.6	51.9	53.2	5.5	6.5	41.3	72.4
<b>2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>482.9</b>	<b>597.9</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>575.2</b>	<b>682.9</b>
21 Hides, skins & furskins, raw	0.3	0.6	4.6	6.7	5.8	8.3	53.8	68.8
22 Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	0.6	0.3	8.1	7.5	0.0	0.1	1.3	0.6
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic & reclaimed)	1.0	1.3	10.2	20.5	4.5	4.9	5.7	5.9
24 Cork & wood	18.7	20.1	167.6	213.1	4.4	4.0	37.9	44.2
25 Pulp & waste paper	1.7	1.2	17.1	19.6	1.0	1.0	5.6	10.2
26 Textile fibres & their wastes	4.3	4.6	45.9	50.2	7.3	8.6	90.7	85.6
27 Crude fertilisers & minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	7.0	10.3	81.4	95.0	3.6	1.9	48.3	24.4
28 Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	12.3	14.0	88.7	114.8	29.3	38.1	262.2	374.3
29 Crude animal & vegetable materials nes	7.0	9.6	59.3	70.5	5.6	8.6	69.7	69.0
<b>3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials</b>	<b>103.1</b>	<b>166.8</b>	<b>895.7</b>	<b>1,561.4</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>125.0</b>	<b>206.7</b>
32 Coal, coke & briquettes	6.8	11.1	70.9	74.9	2.2	1.7	37.1	30.8
33 Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	83.4	126.4	691.9	1,296.7	8.9	23.5	86.2	174.1
34 Gas, natural & manufactured	12.9	28.5	124.3	185.6	0.2	0.2	1.7	1.8
35 Electric Current	0.0	0.8	8.6	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
<b>4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>19.5</b>
41 Animal oils & fats	1.8	0.7	7.2	7.5	2.1	1.5	15.1	15.6
42 Fixed vegetable fats & oils	4.7	4.1	50.7	46.2	0.3	0.3	3.1	2.8
43 Animal or vegetable fats & oils, processed; waxes	3.3	4.1	42.3	37.4	0.1	0.4	2.4	1.1
<b>5 Chemicals and related products nes</b>	<b>387.2</b>	<b>481.4</b>	<b>3,575.8</b>	<b>4,456.8</b>	<b>1,519.2</b>	<b>2,242.9</b>	<b>15,255.1</b>	<b>19,910.6</b>
51 Organic chemicals	133.7	144.9	1,075.9	1,229.5	863.4	1,462.2	8,184.2	12,393.8
52 Inorganic chemicals	13.3	16.7	141.0	195.6	15.8	24.3	152.1	243.9
53 Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	11.9	13.4	146.1	156.6	3.2	4.5	37.9	43.1
54 Medical & pharmaceutical products	82.2	135.6	806.2	1,118.5	309.0	417.6	3,501.3	3,752.4
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet & cleansing preparations	46.1	54.1	408.7	508.4	152.3	169.1	1,768.5	1,729.8
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	9.7	14.4	128.3	156.3	1.3	2.2	26.8	26.1
57 Plastics in primary forms	35.6	37.6	311.0	399.1	13.2	13.3	115.2	143.3
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	24.6	26.9	239.7	289.2	11.1	11.6	136.1	148.8
59 Chemical materials & products nes	30.2	37.8	318.9	403.7	149.8	138.1	1,333.0	1,429.4

**Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity - continued**

£ million

SITC (Rev 3)	Imports				Exports			
	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	Jan-Nov 1999	Jan-Nov 2000	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	Jan-Nov 1999	Jan-Nov 2000
<b>6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material</b>	<b>280.9</b>	<b>314.2</b>	<b>2,764.7</b>	<b>3,106.4</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>140.5</b>	<b>1,291.1</b>	<b>1,424.2</b>
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	0.8	0.7	7.8	8.9	6.0	6.2	41.7	53.6
62 Rubber manufactures nes	14.9	14.8	145.0	169.6	5.3	6.5	62.1	77.3
63 Cork & wood manufactures (excl furniture)	14.4	18.9	125.1	167.9	7.6	8.0	83.9	91.9
64 Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	52.9	59.8	553.0	575.2	12.0	14.9	110.1	131.1
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles & related products	43.3	45.3	404.4	435.8	23.4	36.1	295.4	363.1
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	37.0	39.3	341.7	410.2	27.0	27.5	283.0	257.5
67 Iron & steel	34.1	40.7	353.3	397.6	3.5	8.9	77.9	98.8
68 Non-ferrous metals	25.0	25.1	240.9	267.0	6.9	5.9	63.7	67.6
69 Manufactures of metals nes	58.5	69.6	593.4	674.2	23.8	26.8	273.2	283.3
<b>7 Machinery and transport equipment</b>	<b>1,822.1</b>	<b>2,318.9</b>	<b>16,263.9</b>	<b>20,802.3</b>	<b>1,778.8</b>	<b>2,582.3</b>	<b>18,194.0</b>	<b>23,280.2</b>
71 Power generating machinery & equipment	33.8	43.1	368.0	520.4	20.9	33.0	248.5	269.5
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	56.8	67.7	737.5	771.9	18.4	19.5	200.6	231.1
73 Metalworking machinery	7.9	13.5	97.2	152.6	2.7	3.6	49.6	45.4
74 General industrial machinery & equipment nes & parts nes	94.0	86.8	814.1	965.1	67.6	71.4	647.0	719.8
75 Office machines & automatic data processing machines	668.9	959.7	5,932.7	8,019.2	946.7	1,368.8	10,285.1	13,469.3
76 Telecommunications & sound equipment	188.3	239.0	1,472.2	1,886.1	286.4	334.8	2,556.1	2,588.4
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus & appliances nes & parts	453.8	599.3	3,696.1	4,827.1	392.2	675.7	3,684.6	5,371.7
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	245.4	291.5	2,058.6	2,860.4	31.5	31.0	331.1	405.1
79 Other transport equipment	73.3	18.3	1,087.5	799.6	12.5	44.5	191.5	179.9
<b>8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles</b>	<b>356.7</b>	<b>452.2</b>	<b>3,525.0</b>	<b>4,183.3</b>	<b>547.4</b>	<b>619.0</b>	<b>5,232.7</b>	<b>6,237.3</b>
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing & electrical fixtures & fittings	13.3	16.3	138.5	154.0	4.9	5.4	53.8	62.2
82 Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	20.8	24.8	188.3	232.4	7.3	7.3	77.5	77.4
83 Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	3.9	8.9	37.2	63.3	0.7	1.0	7.3	12.4
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	84.8	101.6	799.1	949.1	21.7	24.7	273.8	259.7
85 Footwear	13.7	21.3	174.7	203.7	1.2	2.1	21.2	23.9
87 Professional, scientific & controlling apparatus nes	66.5	80.8	555.4	843.1	89.5	126.9	990.1	1,220.6
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches & clocks	17.5	20.7	205.7	255.7	34.5	26.3	327.9	332.4
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	136.2	177.8	1,426.2	1,482.1	387.6	425.2	3,481.3	4,248.8
<b>9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>651.1</b>	<b>825.4</b>	<b>131.8</b>	<b>200.2</b>	<b>1,916.1</b>	<b>1,955.7</b>
<b>Unclassified estimates<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>147.2</b>	<b>106.6</b>	<b>1,309.0</b>	<b>1,490.6</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>485.9</b>	<b>631.1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,457.3</b>	<b>4,239.7</b>	<b>31,749.9</b>	<b>39,495.6</b>	<b>4,736.9</b>	<b>6,407.2</b>	<b>47,590.3</b>	<b>59,318.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available.

**Table 4 Trade by Country**

£ million

Country	Imports				Exports			
	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	Jan-Nov 1999	Jan-Nov 2000	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	Jan-Nov 1999	Jan-Nov 2000
Great Britain	1,107.9	1,269.9	9,632.2	11,495.8	975.9	1,276.8	9,399.2	11,723.6
Northern Ireland	75.2	82.9	822.8	854.3	109.0	95.2	1,083.7	1,228.1
Austria	5.9	6.8	77.5	96.1	25.7	24.5	291.2	335.0
Belgium	42.0	45.2	417.8	620.0	234.8	266.6	2,486.3	2,968.1
Luxembourg	0.5	0.6	6.7	6.0	1.3	3.2	40.3	19.4
Denmark	25.5	97.2	243.0	456.1	38.8	43.8	432.4	429.9
Finland	20.8	21.8	207.7	246.8	24.0	30.0	379.6	284.8
France	133.6	217.2	1,291.3	1,872.8	365.1	403.5	3,965.7	4,492.8
Germany	236.7	236.6	1,992.2	2,274.2	477.9	718.6	5,429.4	6,498.7
Greece	2.5	3.0	22.8	28.6	23.3	22.5	169.2	213.7
Italy	73.7	83.5	659.8	888.4	214.3	253.6	1,802.6	2,367.9
Netherlands	102.5	148.2	959.1	1,256.8	268.4	333.5	2,927.0	3,274.9
Portugal	10.6	10.4	83.4	93.2	17.4	15.6	174.9	178.8
Spain	46.0	64.3	380.3	514.6	134.3	176.4	1,302.1	1,433.1
Sweden	38.9	36.8	320.1	439.8	78.7	88.2	768.2	949.8
EU Country not specified	73.7	33.0	270.9	440.8	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.9
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>1,996.1</b>	<b>2,357.3</b>	<b>17,387.7</b>	<b>21,584.4</b>	<b>2,988.9</b>	<b>3,752.1</b>	<b>30,652.5</b>	<b>36,399.5</b>
Australia	9.8	4.8	46.3	54.4	17.8	40.4	413.8	422.5
Brazil	8.5	10.0	59.4	86.7	7.5	20.5	100.5	148.3
Canada	21.2	43.5	273.1	366.9	24.5	46.0	246.8	275.9
China	53.6	84.6	461.4	637.2	8.8	11.3	84.1	114.8
Czech Republic	6.4	7.5	44.6	76.2	19.9	32.5	142.3	251.7
Egypt	0.8	1.2	7.1	9.9	24.7	25.6	156.9	182.7
Hong Kong	58.6	56.4	319.2	472.0	21.3	45.0	237.5	417.3
Hungary	19.2	31.3	171.4	202.7	13.0	16.0	114.3	165.1
India	12.0	11.9	77.6	97.8	3.0	3.7	56.9	77.6
Israel	22.9	20.8	199.8	219.1	18.3	30.9	196.9	295.8
Japan	182.8	173.6	1,823.2	1,910.0	138.3	218.1	1,372.1	2,227.1
Malaysia	43.2	51.1	417.0	473.5	60.0	47.3	600.8	523.7
Mexico	6.1	11.9	47.5	96.0	8.6	18.5	122.6	189.0
Norway	43.0	40.8	378.2	669.0	48.6	47.2	414.8	440.5
Philippines	18.2	18.8	176.6	191.8	28.7	68.9	296.7	451.0
Poland	6.9	8.4	61.6	73.7	21.1	23.4	176.4	249.6
Russia	0.3	2.5	21.3	9.0	45.8	17.0	192.5	127.6
Saudi Arabia	0.5	0.1	6.9	1.9	21.5	30.3	248.7	263.7
Singapore	124.3	206.5	1,238.4	1,460.0	34.6	37.3	348.6	368.5
South Africa	6.6	5.7	50.5	76.9	32.6	28.8	272.8	287.0
South Korea	61.0	79.0	564.5	933.1	26.9	97.2	252.0	780.3
Switzerland	24.0	25.4	206.6	277.2	102.6	139.2	1,107.6	1,405.7
Taiwan	71.4	92.0	656.0	710.4	9.9	14.2	121.4	139.7
Thailand	10.7	19.5	108.9	169.2	8.1	10.6	70.2	98.4
Turkey	9.0	10.2	66.4	89.7	17.4	26.0	147.3	273.1
USA	464.2	658.2	5,355.1	6,582.5	815.0	1,335.8	7,616.9	10,419.7
Other countries <sup>1</sup>	77.5	86.8	566.0	736.3	91.7	142.3	1,052.2	1,389.7
Country unknown <sup>2</sup>	4.2	6.5	43.1	68.7	26.7	25.7	283.5	241.0
Unclassified estimates <sup>3</sup>	94.4	113.5	914.8	1,159.4	51.3	55.7	490.8	691.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,457.3</b>	<b>4,239.7</b>	<b>31,749.9</b>	<b>39,495.6</b>	<b>4,736.9</b>	<b>6,407.2</b>	<b>47,590.3</b>	<b>59,318.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Other non-EU countries not listed individually.

<sup>2</sup> Trade for which the country of origin or country of final destination is unknown.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates not allocated by country.

**Table 5 Summary of trade (in Euro currency)**

EUR million<sup>1</sup>

	Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted <sup>2</sup>		
	Imports	Exports	Trade Surplus	Imports	Exports	Trade Surplus
1990	15,832.1	18,203.9	2,371.7			
1991	16,317.2	19,070.1	2,752.9			
1992	16,753.9	21,260.2	4,506.3			
1993	18,899.7	25,178.5	6,278.9			
1994	21,945.4	28,890.9	6,945.5			
1995	26,180.9	35,330.1	9,149.2			
1996	28,479.5	38,608.9	10,129.5			
1997	32,863.5	44,868.0	12,004.5			
1998	39,715.0	57,321.8	17,606.8			
1999 <sup>3</sup>	44,212.8	66,918.6	22,705.8			
1999 <sup>3</sup> January	3,271.7	4,680.1	1,408.4	3,409.2	4,970.6	1,561.3
February	3,210.2	4,877.2	1,667.0	3,301.6	5,147.9	1,846.5
March	3,742.0	5,420.1	1,678.1	3,311.3	4,985.4	1,674.0
April	3,670.6	5,118.2	1,447.6	3,498.3	5,244.5	1,746.3
May	3,539.4	5,393.6	1,854.2	3,555.8	5,511.2	1,955.4
June	3,568.2	5,713.7	2,145.3	3,578.4	5,226.9	1,648.5
July	3,586.0	5,759.2	2,173.2	3,791.7	5,756.6	1,964.9
August	3,329.5	4,959.0	1,629.5	3,820.5	5,794.8	1,974.3
September	3,776.8	6,367.1	2,590.3	3,896.3	5,817.9	1,921.6
October	4,220.0	6,124.6	1,904.6	4,132.9	6,085.1	1,952.2
November <sup>4</sup>	4,389.9	6,014.6	1,624.8	3,982.4	6,016.3	2,033.9
December	3,898.7	6,491.4	2,592.7	3,971.4	6,418.0	2,446.7
2000 <sup>3</sup> January	4,116.6	5,158.2	1,041.6	4,275.3	5,501.5	1,226.2
February	4,068.4	6,023.1	1,954.8	3,969.1	6,160.3	2,191.3
March	4,667.6	7,390.8	2,723.2	4,193.1	6,769.7	2,576.7
April	4,169.1	6,052.6	1,883.5	4,180.9	6,181.6	2,000.7
May <sup>4</sup>	4,772.1	6,578.5	1,806.3	4,512.3	6,638.6	2,126.3
June	4,600.6	7,736.6	3,136.0	4,660.4	7,194.2	2,533.6
July	4,485.7	6,387.4	1,901.7	4,838.7	6,474.8	1,636.2
August	4,289.9	6,422.6	2,132.7	4,827.7	7,242.6	2,414.8
September	4,557.6	7,708.1	3,150.3	4,830.7	7,046.7	2,216.1
October	5,038.2	7,725.7	2,687.5	4,736.1	7,855.0	3,118.9
November	5,383.3	8,135.5	2,752.2	4,963.4	7,970.1	3,006.7
December <sup>5</sup>	4,890.0	7,950.0	3,060.0	5,240.0	7,990.0	2,750.0

<sup>1</sup> Converted at the EU official Exchange rate conversion factor, fixed at 0.787564, effective from 1 January 1999

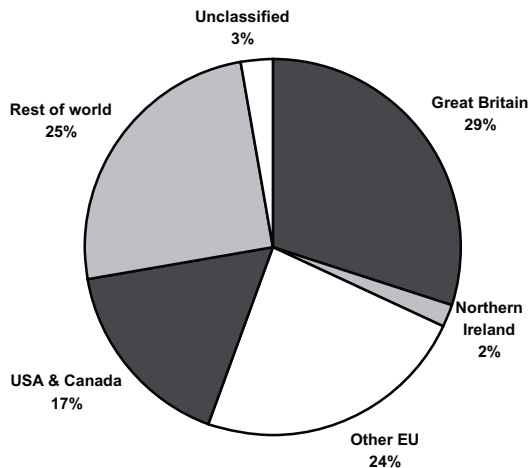
<sup>2</sup> Based on seasonal patterns up to December 1999

<sup>3</sup> Provisional

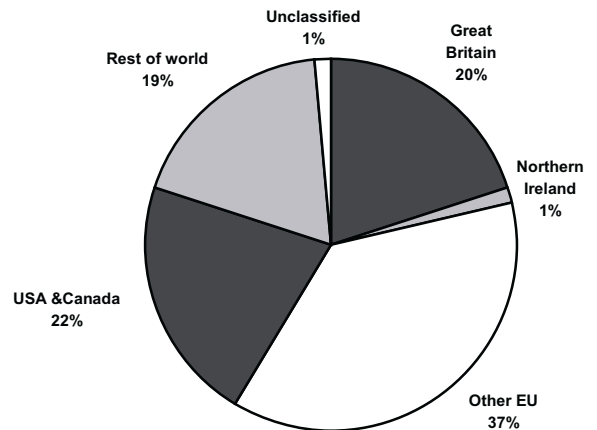
<sup>4</sup> Revised

<sup>5</sup> Based on current Intrastat response levels. Figures rounded to the nearest EUR 10 million

**Imports, November 2000 (See Table 4)**



**Exports, November 2000 (See Table 4)**





## Background Notes

**Introduction** The statistics are a combination of Customs-based non-EU trade statistics and estimates from the Intrastat Survey of Irish traders involved in trade with other EU member states. Details of non-EU trade have already been published in a separate Statistical Release.

**Revisions** All figures are estimates. They are subject to revision on the incorporation of late Intrastat and VAT returns and corrections made by traders to Intrastat returns already submitted.

When the results for a particular month are published, the results for the same month in the previous year are revised for the last time and may be considered final. However, further revisions are possible in very exceptional cases.

From July 1996, sales of some software licences previously included in export returns have been excluded. It is estimated that this has reduced exports by about £50m a month. These sales are now captured in the Balance of Payments as an adjustment to merchandise exports.

**Intrastat System** The Intrastat system has two components. Firstly, the Intrastat survey itself (conducted by the Revenue Commissioners), in which the larger traders make detailed monthly returns giving information on the quantity and value of all exports to or imports from EU countries.

The total number of traders required to make an import return is about 6,730 while about 1,940 must make an export return. The response rate in terms of number of traders in November 2000 was 79%, covering an estimated 94% of the total value of intra-EU trade.

The second component of the Intrastat system is the regular VAT return, on which all traders are required to record the *total* value of goods imported from and exported to other EU member states. This information provides the basis for determining total EU trade for those traders below the Intrastat survey thresholds. It is also used to maintain the register of EU traders.

**Estimation** The figures in this release include estimates for traders above the Intrastat thresholds who did not make detailed returns for the period and for traders below the thresholds who did not provide aggregate intra-EU trade figures on their VAT returns.

Estimates for Intrastat non-respondents are apportioned to individual commodities and countries whenever previous Intrastat returns are available. Estimates for traders below the Intrastat thresholds are assigned to partner country where possible, but not to commodity.

The estimate of imports incorporates an upward adjustment equivalent to about 1.75% of total imports, which is included in 'Unclassified estimates'. This special adjustment arises from the difficulty of comprehensively covering all EU imports through the Intrastat survey system.

The unclassified category also includes certain miscellaneous adjustments.

**Price and Volume Indices** The monthly price (unit value) index measures monthly price trends relative to the annual levels in the preceding year using value weights relating to that year's trade (Laspeyres index).

The annual index is compiled using value weights for both the current and previous year (Fisher index) to allow for change in the structure of external trade.

The monthly index series should be regarded as interim measures suitable for month-to-month comparisons within a given year. However, when the annual price index is compiled, the monthly price indices are rescaled to make their average equal to the annual index.