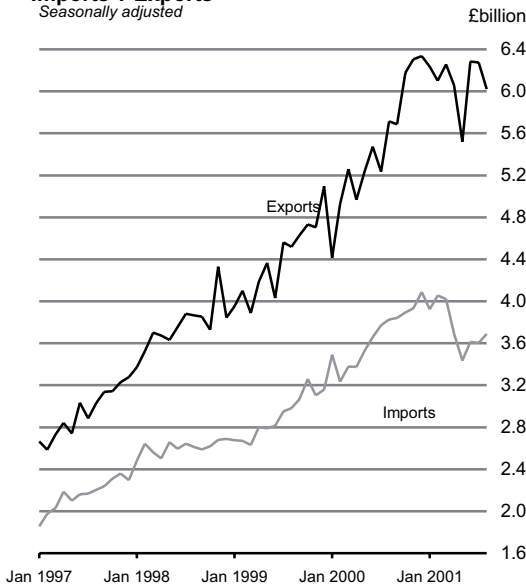




External Trade

August 2001 (Details), September 2001 (First estimate)

Imports v Exports
Seasonally adjusted



	Seasonally Adjusted		
	Imports	Exports	Surplus
June 2001	£3,613m	£6,284m	£2,671m
July 2001	£3,604m	£6,275m	£2,671m
August 2001	£3,690m	£6,022m	£2,332m
September 2001 (Preliminary)	£3,700m	£5,940m	£2,240m

Seasonally adjusted exports down

On a seasonally adjusted basis (see graph and Table 2), August exports of £6,022m were down from the July figure of £6,275m. Meanwhile, August imports increased slightly to £3,690m from £3,604m in July. The adjusted surplus for August was £2,332m, down almost 13% on the July figure.

The unadjusted exports (see Table 1) were valued at £5,430m in August 2001 (£6,071m in July) and imports were valued at £3,285m (£3,518m in July), giving a surplus of £2,145m. The corresponding surplus in August 2000 was £1,690m.

Initial indications for September 2001 show unadjusted exports at £6,340m, with imports of £3,450m resulting in a surplus of £2,890m. The corresponding seasonally adjusted figures are exports of £5,940m, imports of £3,700m with a surplus of £2,240m.

Surplus, as used here, differs from the Balance of International Payments concept of current account balance, which also includes transactions relating to invisibles.

Comparing the January-August 2001 figures with the same period in 2000 shows that (see Tables 3-4):

- ◆ Exports increased from £40,889m to £48,161m (+18%). Exports of Medical and pharmaceutical products increased from £2,564m to £4,678m (+82%), of Computer equipment from £9,278m to £11,163m (+20%) and of Electrical machinery and parts from £3,530m to £5,127m (+45%).
- ◆ Exports to Germany increased from £4,490m to £6,350m (+41%) and exports to Great Britain increased from £8,124m to £9,979m (+23%). Exports to France decreased from £3,172m to £3,003m (-5%).
- ◆ Imports increased from £27,956m to £29,810m (+7%). Imports of Electrical machinery and parts increased from £3,201m to £4,121m (+29%), of Computer equipment from £5,336m to £6,160m (+15%) and of Telecommunications and sound equipment from £1,354m to £1,655m (+22%). Road vehicle imports decreased from £2,224m to £1,787m (-20%).
- ◆ Imports from Great Britain increased from £7,994m to £9,290m (+16%) and imports from France increased from £1,311m to £1,511m (+15%). Imports declined from Singapore, South Korea and Japan.

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Table 1 Summary of trade

Period	Value			Volume Index		Price Index		Terms of Trade ¹
	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	34,910.4	52,732.3	17,821.9	236.5	336.5	118.0	109.5	92.8
2000 ²	43,927.6	65,945.1	22,017.6	274.5	400.6	128.0	115.0	89.9
1999 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	3,010.6	5,049.9	2,039.4	247.5	380.9	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	3,457.3	4,736.9	1,279.6	279.3	367.9	118.8	108.0	90.9
December	3,132.2	5,106.5	1,974.4	248.6	392.3	120.9	109.2	90.3
2000 ² January	3,375.0	4,085.2	710.2	254.0	303.3	122.5	112.3	91.7
February	3,212.6	4,749.9	1,537.3	249.9	357.1	123.0	111.4	90.6
March	3,720.0	5,834.9	2,114.9	284.7	421.1	125.4	116.2	92.7
April	3,298.6	4,765.5	1,466.9	254.9	339.3	124.2	117.8	94.8
May	3,757.6	5,177.7	1,420.1	283.4	365.3	127.2	118.9	93.4
June	3,612.2	6,027.1	2,414.9	267.2	437.5	129.7	115.5	89.1
July	3,548.0	5,129.5	1,581.5	264.8	374.7	128.6	114.8	89.3
August ³	3,431.5	5,121.2	1,689.6	252.6	372.7	128.9	114.5	88.8
September	3,680.9	6,172.6	2,491.6	270.4	447.9	130.6	115.6	88.5
October	4,119.0	6,161.9	2,042.9	299.5	447.2	132.0	115.5	87.6
November	4,313.1	6,502.7	2,189.6	309.8	485.0	133.6	112.4	84.2
December	3,859.1	6,217.0	2,357.9	285.2	452.0	129.9	115.3	88.8
2001 ² January	4,026.8	5,860.7	1,833.9	292.3	419.5	130.9	116.0	88.6
February ³	3,826.2	5,696.4	1,870.2	281.4	402.8	128.3	116.3	90.6
March	4,311.5	6,907.6	2,596.2	316.0	489.3	130.9	118.4	90.4
April	3,725.8	5,716.1	1,990.4	272.9	401.7	131.0	119.3	91.1
May	3,638.9	5,466.0	1,827.1	266.1	386.9	131.2	118.5	90.3
June	3,477.8	7,013.3	3,535.5	252.3	485.8	132.3	121.1	91.5
July	3,517.6	6,071.2	2,553.6	253.5	419.8	133.2	121.3	91.1
August	3,285.0	5,429.5	2,144.5	238.1	378.1	132.4	120.4	91.0
September ⁴	3,450.0	6,340.0	2,890.0

¹ Export Price Index divided by Import Price Index

² Provisional

³ Revised

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

.. Data not yet available

Table 2 Seasonally adjusted¹ Series

Period	Value			Volume Index	
	Imports £M	Exports £M	Trade Surplus £M	Base year 1990=100	
				Imports	Exports
1998					
January	2,482.6	3,371.6	889.0	204.6	259.1
February	2,643.1	3,524.9	881.8	224.6	273.5
March	2,560.5	3,702.5	1,142.0	215.5	281.7
April	2,504.0	3,672.3	1,168.4	209.6	278.2
May	2,656.7	3,629.6	973.0	224.2	281.2
June	2,593.2	3,752.6	1,159.4	216.2	286.1
July	2,642.1	3,882.4	1,240.4	218.6	294.8
August	2,613.0	3,866.3	1,253.3	219.0	295.8
September	2,588.8	3,853.3	1,264.5	210.3	293.4
October	2,619.2	3,728.3	1,109.1	224.1	291.7
November	2,680.5	4,329.1	1,648.6	227.5	338.3
December	2,689.8	3,845.5	1,155.7	226.0	300.8
1999					
January	2,675.9	3,950.5	1,274.6	220.0	302.6
February	2,670.3	4,101.0	1,430.8	222.3	309.5
March	2,631.2	3,888.1	1,256.9	216.4	309.4
April	2,801.9	4,185.1	1,383.1	230.5	329.6
May	2,788.2	4,366.4	1,578.2	229.8	336.1
June	2,812.9	4,030.1	1,217.1	228.9	300.9
July	2,952.2	4,561.7	1,609.5	241.6	359.7
August	2,981.4	4,519.3	1,537.9	238.9	339.5
September	3,067.5	4,628.0	1,560.5	247.6	353.9
October	3,259.5	4,732.3	1,472.8	264.7	350.9
November	3,103.6	4,704.9	1,601.3	247.3	356.4
December	3,157.3	5,095.0	1,937.8	250.0	391.0
2000					
January	3,491.4	4,414.1	922.7	262.7	328.5
February	3,234.3	4,927.6	1,693.3	251.0	372.2
March	3,377.5	5,260.1	1,882.5	259.4	385.4
April	3,373.8	4,967.4	1,593.6	263.5	349.5
May	3,530.6	5,241.3	1,710.7	267.6	371.5
June	3,657.4	5,471.6	1,814.2	274.9	396.8
July	3,770.3	5,235.4	1,465.1	284.2	388.8
August	3,827.0	5,713.6	1,886.6	282.6	418.0
September	3,841.9	5,685.2	1,843.3	278.3	415.7
October	3,892.6	6,176.3	2,283.7	279.5	441.3
November	3,932.4	6,305.8	2,373.5	277.8	459.7
December	4,089.3	6,334.7	2,245.5	301.5	458.5
2001					
January	3,924.9	6,234.7	2,309.8	284.3	446.8
February	4,053.6	6,100.0	2,046.4	299.2	433.8
March	4,020.5	6,256.5	2,236.0	294.2	450.5
April	3,692.1	6,057.2	2,365.0	276.1	420.9
May	3,435.4	5,521.2	2,085.7	250.1	394.3
June	3,612.9	6,284.4	2,671.5	266.5	432.0
July	3,604.0	6,274.8	2,670.8	261.8	441.4
August	3,690.4	6,022.5	2,332.1	271.6	420.9
September	3,700.0	5,940.0	2,240.0

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2000. 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			
	Aug 2000	Aug 2001	Jan-Aug 2000	Jan-Aug 2001	Aug 2000	Aug 2001	Jan-Aug 2000	Jan-Aug 2001
0 Food and live animals	178.9	199.5	1,387.8	1,501.6	386.1	373.1	3,051.1	2,912.6
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	12.1	15.4	62.3	64.9	28.6	8.3	185.7	62.3
01 Meat & meat preparations	21.3	25.1	148.0	197.4	107.3	105.7	894.1	748.7
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	15.5	17.6	154.6	131.1	85.9	96.0	620.7	584.7
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	6.9	7.6	51.1	52.9	21.0	19.5	159.1	212.1
04 Cereals & cereal preparations	29.1	32.1	245.9	243.9	16.5	20.4	151.0	152.1
05 Vegetables & fruit	34.1	35.8	259.7	290.7	11.3	16.6	86.9	114.1
06 Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	9.5	13.1	70.8	83.6	5.9	7.1	52.1	56.7
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices & manufactures thereof	14.1	14.5	113.4	125.5	12.8	13.6	132.5	136.6
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	23.3	23.0	178.1	188.9	6.6	8.2	61.5	65.2
09 Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	13.0	15.3	103.9	122.6	90.2	77.8	707.6	780.2
1 Beverages and tobacco	36.9	43.2	246.1	288.7	55.9	73.0	433.4	424.7
11 Beverages	32.0	37.6	207.9	244.4	48.7	65.8	383.9	361.8
12 Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	4.9	5.6	38.2	44.3	7.2	7.2	49.4	62.8
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	50.3	44.5	423.8	427.6	59.5	62.7	485.9	490.4
21 Hides, skins & furskins, raw	0.6	0.3	5.1	2.9	5.8	7.2	44.9	49.9
22 Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	1.4	1.3	6.3	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic & reclaimed)	1.9	1.2	14.3	11.1	5.1	0.1	5.6	1.0
24 Cork & wood	20.1	14.7	155.4	148.2	3.5	4.5	32.3	32.9
25 Pulp & waste paper	2.0	0.8	14.6	15.3	0.7	0.8	7.0	6.8
26 Textile fibres & their wastes	3.0	2.8	34.5	33.9	7.1	6.1	59.4	62.6
27 Crude fertilisers & minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	7.5	8.2	68.2	67.0	1.9	2.4	19.9	13.6
28 Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	9.1	9.7	77.6	88.4	31.5	31.3	270.1	270.0
29 Crude animal & vegetable materials nes	4.7	5.6	47.8	51.8	3.9	10.3	46.2	53.0
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	150.2	111.3	1,117.8	1,139.3	14.6	12.0	143.6	151.4
32 Coal, coke & briquettes	3.5	5.2	49.6	77.7	1.1	2.8	26.4	32.8
33 Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	136.2	86.3	936.7	883.2	13.3	8.8	115.9	116.8
34 Gas, natural & manufactured	10.3	19.3	129.9	177.1	0.2	0.4	1.3	1.8
35 Electric Current	0.3	0.5	1.6	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	8.1	7.5	64.6	63.0	1.5	1.6	14.0	10.8
41 Animal oils & fats	0.8	1.1	5.4	6.5	1.2	1.2	11.4	7.8
42 Fixed vegetable fats & oils	3.9	4.3	33.8	34.8	0.3	0.3	2.1	2.5
43 Animal or vegetable fats & oils, processed; waxes	3.4	2.1	25.4	21.7	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5
5 Chemicals and related products nes	371.8	380.7	3,273.2	3,339.4	1,822.5	2,071.4	13,575.4	17,241.4
51 Organic chemicals	81.4	70.6	928.3	819.8	1,284.4	985.9	8,327.8	9,168.2
52 Inorganic chemicals	15.1	13.8	143.1	147.5	23.8	12.4	168.9	141.2
53 Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	11.4	11.9	120.6	98.5	3.4	3.4	31.9	26.3
54 Medical & pharmaceutical products	119.0	140.7	792.9	969.9	218.5	695.3	2,563.7	4,678.2
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet & cleansing preparations	46.5	52.6	357.5	422.1	143.4	190.8	1,234.4	1,688.9
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	7.2	7.2	132.8	115.2	2.1	2.4	18.7	25.2
57 Plastics in primary forms	32.8	35.7	287.6	291.5	10.6	11.1	102.7	101.2
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	26.2	25.2	211.8	225.3	17.4	13.7	118.7	125.3
59 Chemical materials & products nes	32.1	23.0	298.7	249.7	118.8	156.4	1,008.7	1,287.0

Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity - continued

£ million

SITC (Rev 3)	Imports				Exports			
	Aug 2000	Aug 2001	Jan-Aug 2000	Jan-Aug 2001	Aug 2000	Aug 2001	Jan-Aug 2000	Jan-Aug 2001
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	273.6	265.4	2,244.1	2,305.8	114.4	116.3	1,013.5	1,050.9
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	0.8	0.6	6.7	5.9	5.4	5.1	36.7	38.1
62 Rubber manufactures nes	15.7	13.4	121.4	113.6	6.2	7.1	61.5	60.4
63 Cork & wood manufactures (excl furniture)	16.4	14.7	118.7	123.8	7.6	12.4	67.5	88.5
64 Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	52.8	55.7	428.1	431.1	13.6	11.3	95.8	102.5
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles & related products	33.7	31.8	310.2	316.6	18.7	20.1	254.0	254.7
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	38.8	33.1	293.7	284.0	22.5	27.5	177.7	182.6
67 Iron & steel	34.1	33.1	291.4	304.7	8.3	2.9	67.9	62.2
68 Non-ferrous metals	23.8	29.7	194.2	246.7	5.6	3.9	50.4	47.8
69 Manufactures of metals nes	57.5	53.3	479.7	479.3	26.6	26.0	202.0	214.0
7 Machinery and transport equipment	1,736.1	1,623.3	14,559.8	16,106.1	2,013.5	2,044.1	16,039.6	19,613.2
71 Power generating machinery & equipment	54.4	35.6	366.6	395.3	22.6	32.6	186.3	221.2
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	61.3	72.9	577.2	574.0	17.5	23.0	170.8	182.8
73 Metalworking machinery	12.2	8.2	112.9	81.8	3.1	3.2	34.3	28.4
74 General industrial machinery & equipment nes & parts nes	75.5	65.1	709.6	632.8	73.4	53.2	543.7	523.5
75 Office machines & automatic data processing machines	719.1	733.8	5,335.8	6,160.2	1,072.0	1,222.1	9,278.0	11,163.1
76 Telecommunications & sound equipment	179.7	169.5	1,354.0	1,655.4	217.6	200.3	1,807.6	1,883.8
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus & appliances nes & parts	461.8	416.8	3,201.0	4,121.3	558.2	462.5	3,530.1	5,127.3
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	127.7	108.0	2,223.6	1,786.5	35.6	41.0	322.5	365.6
79 Other transport equipment	44.4	13.5	679.0	698.8	13.3	6.3	166.2	117.5
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	409.8	419.8	2,918.0	3,133.8	421.4	458.0	4,338.6	4,583.0
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing & electrical fixtures & fittings	12.7	13.6	109.0	112.2	4.1	5.2	44.7	46.5
82 Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	22.0	19.9	164.6	170.2	4.9	6.7	57.0	55.4
83 Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	6.1	7.0	40.8	58.2	0.9	1.1	8.7	9.5
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	102.3	93.9	659.0	657.2	21.5	23.6	178.7	177.1
85 Footwear	21.1	19.7	147.3	140.0	2.6	2.1	17.8	17.7
87 Professional, scientific & controlling apparatus nes	87.6	56.8	584.6	535.3	88.1	105.5	848.8	955.0
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches & clocks	33.3	18.4	191.9	174.3	25.8	32.5	244.2	245.7
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	124.8	190.6	1,020.8	1,286.5	273.4	281.3	2,938.6	3,076.1
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	73.1	69.4	576.1	634.3	164.0	163.0	1,320.9	1,411.9
Unclassified estimates¹	142.8	120.3	1,144.1	869.9	67.9	54.3	472.9	270.5
Total	3,431.5	3,285.0	27,955.5	29,809.5	5,121.2	5,429.5	40,888.9	48,160.8

¹ Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available.

Table 4 Trade by Country

£ million

Country	Imports				Exports			
	Aug 2000	Aug 2001	Jan-Aug 2000	Jan-Aug 2001	Aug 2000	Aug 2001	Jan-Aug 2000	Jan-Aug 2001
Great Britain	948.1	1,174.8	7,994.3	9,289.9	1,040.7	1,248.3	8,123.9	9,979.2
Northern Ireland	82.3	78.6	618.2	636.3	116.9	115.9	949.6	868.3
Austria	7.8	7.1	73.1	82.5	22.5	21.3	251.4	209.7
Belgium	45.5	36.8	498.6	443.0	337.2	227.0	2,145.7	2,221.9
Luxembourg	0.4	0.8	4.5	5.4	1.2	4.5	13.0	58.4
Denmark	69.3	51.1	320.6	390.4	31.0	31.0	306.0	310.3
Finland	17.3	27.3	180.5	160.9	20.8	19.2	201.1	183.4
France	143.5	125.1	1,311.3	1,511.2	372.2	260.7	3,172.2	3,003.4
Germany	170.8	207.0	1,710.1	1,838.7	535.0	807.6	4,489.6	6,350.4
Greece	2.6	2.1	21.1	22.9	14.8	17.9	156.2	184.5
Italy	62.6	47.1	630.3	603.5	148.7	148.6	1,651.9	1,713.6
Netherlands	109.2	111.3	863.0	1,057.1	228.3	203.8	2,371.5	2,339.2
Portugal	9.8	8.1	68.3	79.4	14.1	15.4	123.5	142.8
Spain	27.9	24.7	393.1	361.0	90.2	117.2	1,005.8	1,199.9
Sweden	38.9	27.5	328.0	266.4	69.5	59.6	660.4	645.6
EU Country not specified	43.3	30.1	321.3	284.8	0.1	0.1	0.6	1.0
Total EU	1,779.5	1,959.6	15,336.1	17,033.1	3,043.3	3,298.1	25,622.4	29,411.5
Australia	5.2	7.4	38.8	45.4	54.5	58.9	268.0	363.5
Brazil	12.8	7.6	54.9	70.4	10.4	11.6	99.0	132.2
Canada	30.2	41.3	245.7	342.9	20.7	45.5	184.0	301.8
China	56.9	63.2	408.8	531.1	9.0	16.0	78.0	125.5
Czech Republic	4.8	6.3	54.1	64.8	13.9	18.3	182.4	141.0
Egypt	1.1	1.3	7.0	17.7	7.0	4.2	127.7	71.3
Hong Kong	44.5	37.5	331.4	280.9	34.3	40.4	283.9	352.8
Hungary	14.3	17.2	133.8	220.4	15.0	10.2	113.3	91.2
India	7.3	9.0	66.6	81.7	8.9	6.8	49.3	54.4
Israel	22.7	13.2	139.7	136.7	26.3	19.4	211.7	202.9
Japan	180.2	110.1	1,434.3	1,121.4	180.2	154.1	1,547.0	1,687.0
Malaysia	36.5	31.2	328.7	377.7	40.5	46.9	383.4	588.3
Mexico	11.3	18.6	61.2	120.8	18.1	40.6	120.0	305.6
Norway	77.6	26.4	532.5	498.1	33.8	30.0	303.9	323.4
Philippines	31.9	8.8	181.2	190.0	42.7	25.7	274.3	481.9
Poland	7.2	7.3	51.8	62.7	18.5	15.1	173.2	161.9
Russia	0.4	3.3	5.0	16.1	12.1	14.7	87.4	114.9
Saudi Arabia	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.3	27.7	31.6	197.3	222.7
Singapore	140.0	79.7	920.6	765.2	34.4	41.7	259.1	308.5
South Africa	14.8	6.1	58.5	54.3	27.1	20.6	199.4	216.4
South Korea	65.9	40.0	685.4	452.1	111.7	38.5	502.6	375.5
Switzerland	22.1	34.3	194.9	240.4	106.9	255.5	948.2	1,524.4
Taiwan	53.7	51.8	472.7	531.6	9.9	27.5	97.2	195.0
Thailand	15.0	16.3	108.5	166.0	10.0	7.1	67.0	71.2
Turkey	9.3	8.6	61.4	71.2	18.8	19.1	192.0	172.9
USA	615.7	511.2	4,696.2	4,892.1	995.6	928.7	6,754.0	8,400.9
Other countries ¹	69.6	80.5	542.6	626.4	111.0	121.0	988.0	1,097.5
Country unknown ²	6.2	12.1	46.3	61.4	26.9	26.2	165.1	225.9
Unclassified estimates ³	94.7	75.0	755.6	735.4	51.8	55.6	409.9	439.1
Total	3,431.5	3,285.0	27,955.5	29,809.5	5,121.2	5,429.5	40,888.9	48,160.8

¹ Other non-EU countries not listed individually.

² Trade for which the country of origin or country of final destination is unknown.

³ Estimates not allocated by country.

Table 5 Summary of trade (in Euro currency)

€ million¹

	Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted ²		
	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	44,327.1	66,956.2	22,629.1			
2000 ³	55,776.5	83,733.0	27,956.5			
2000 ³ January	4,285.4	5,187.1	901.8	4,433.2	5,604.8	1,171.6
February	4,079.2	6,031.1	1,952.0	4,106.7	6,256.8	2,150.0
March	4,723.4	7,408.8	2,685.4	4,288.5	6,678.9	2,390.3
April	4,188.4	6,050.9	1,862.6	4,283.8	6,307.3	2,023.5
May	4,771.2	6,574.3	1,803.2	4,482.9	6,655.1	2,172.1
June	4,586.5	7,652.8	3,066.3	4,643.9	6,947.5	2,303.6
July	4,505.0	6,513.1	2,008.1	4,787.3	6,647.6	1,860.3
August ⁴	4,357.1	6,502.6	2,145.3	4,859.3	7,254.8	2,395.5
September	4,673.8	7,837.6	3,163.7	4,878.2	7,218.7	2,340.5
October	5,230.1	7,824.0	2,593.9	4,942.6	7,842.3	2,899.7
November	5,476.5	8,256.7	2,780.2	4,993.1	8,006.7	3,013.7
December	4,900.0	7,894.0	2,993.9	5,192.3	8,043.4	2,851.2
2001 ³ January	5,113.0	7,441.6	2,328.6	4,983.6	7,916.4	2,932.8
February ⁴	4,858.3	7,232.9	2,374.7	5,147.0	7,745.4	2,598.4
March	5,474.5	8,770.8	3,296.5	5,105.0	7,944.1	2,839.1
April	4,730.8	7,257.9	2,527.3	4,688.0	7,691.1	3,002.9
May	4,620.4	6,940.4	2,319.9	4,362.1	7,010.5	2,648.3
June	4,415.9	8,905.1	4,489.2	4,587.4	7,979.5	3,392.1
July	4,466.4	7,708.8	3,242.4	4,576.1	7,967.4	3,391.2
August	4,171.1	6,894.0	2,723.0	4,685.8	7,647.0	2,961.2
September ⁵	4,380.0	8,050.0	3,670.0	4,700.0	7,540.0	2,840.0

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

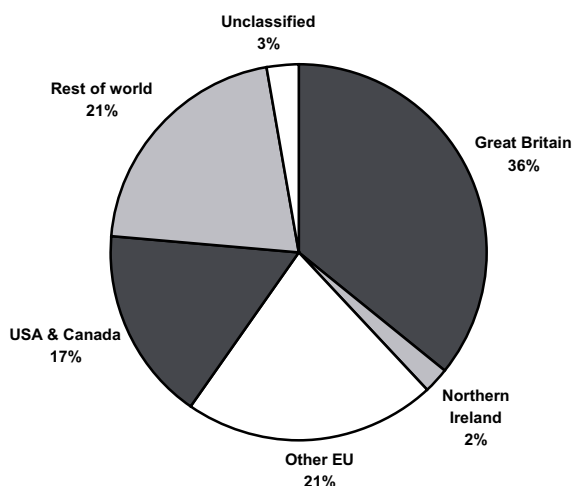
² Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2000

³ Provisional

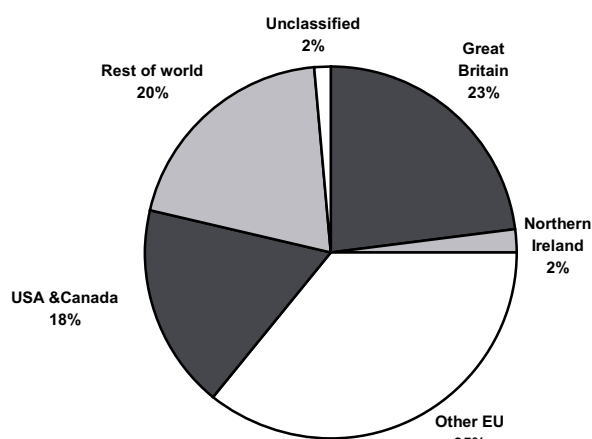
⁴ Revised

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

Imports, August 2001 (See Table 4)



Exports, August 2001 (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.

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 6,780 while about 1,980 must make an export return. The response rate in terms of number of traders in August 2001 was 83%, covering an estimated 97% 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.