

UK Trade, September 2011



Coverage: **UK**

Date: **09 November 2011**

Geographical Area: **UK and GB**

Theme: **Economy**

UK Trade, September 2011

- The UK's deficit on seasonally adjusted trade in goods and services was £3.9 billion in September compared with the deficit of £2.7 billion in August.
- The deficit on seasonally adjusted trade in goods was £9.8 billion in September, compared with the deficit of £8.6 billion in August.
- The surplus on seasonally adjusted trade in services was estimated at £5.9 billion in September, unchanged compared with August.
- Excluding oil and erratic items, the seasonally adjusted volume of exports was 1.6 per cent lower, but the volume of imports was 1.6 per cent higher in September, compared with August.
- Export prices of goods rose by 2.1 per cent and import prices of goods rose by 1.3 per cent, compared with August.

UK Trade in Goods Summary for September 2011

Balance of UK trade in goods and services, September 2011

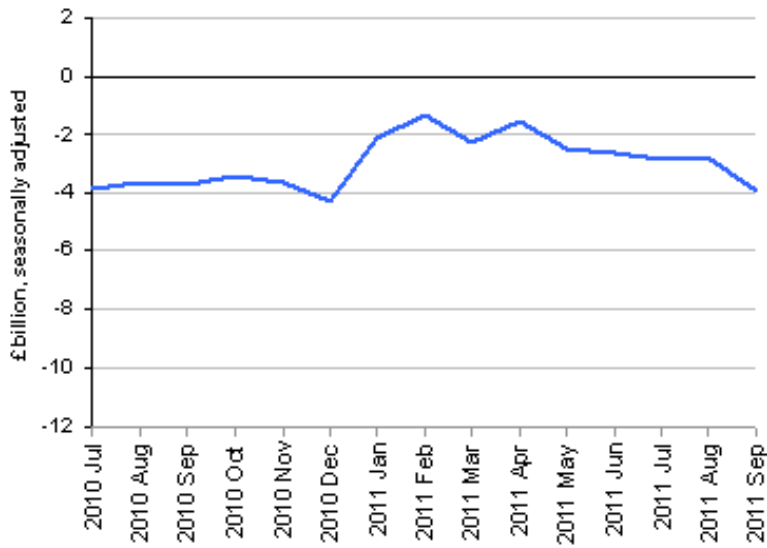
£ billion

		Balance of trade in goods			Balance of trade in services	Total trade balance
		EU	Non-EU	World		
2010	Sep	-4.2	-4.2	-8.4	4.7	-3.7
2011	Jul	-3.8	-5.0	-8.7	5.9	-2.9
	Aug	-3.5	-5.1	-8.6	5.9	-2.7
	Sep	-4.1	-5.7	-9.8	5.9	-3.9

Download table

XLS [XLS format](#)
(27 Kb)

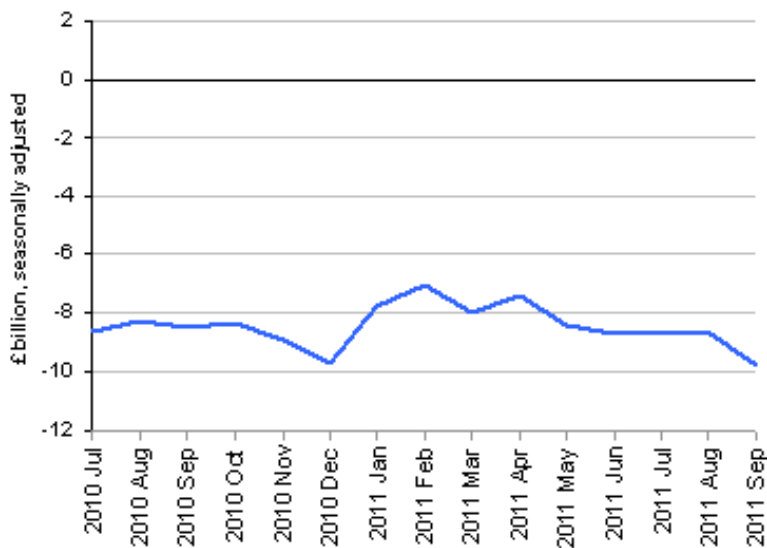
Balance of UK trade, August 2011



Download chart

XLS [XLS format](#)
(18 Kb)

Balance of UK trade in goods, September 2011



Download chart

XLS [XLS format](#)

(18 Kb)

Supplementary Analysis Page

Summary

The UK's deficit on seasonally adjusted trade in goods and services was £3.9 billion in September, compared with a deficit of £2.7 billion in August. The deficit on trade in goods was £9.8 billion, compared with a deficit of £8.6 billion in August. The surplus on trade in services was estimated at £5.9 billion, unchanged compared with August. The volume of seasonally adjusted exports of goods was 1.6 per cent lower, and the volume of imports was 1.6 per cent higher than in August. Export prices of goods rose by 2.1 per cent and import prices rose by 1.3 per cent compared with August.

Drivers

Total exports of goods rose by less than £ 0.1 billion (0.2 per cent) to £24.5 billion, and total imports of goods rose by £1.2 billion (3.8 per cent) to £34.3 billion. The rise in exports of goods was driven by higher exports of oil (up £0.3 billion), followed by higher exports of cars (up £0.3 billion), offset by lower exports of chemicals, intermediate goods and consumer goods other than cars (all down £0.1 billion). The increase in imports of goods was driven by higher imports of chemicals, oil and silver (all up £0.3 billion), offset by imports of semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals (down £0.3 billion).

Exports

The rise in exports of oil was to EU countries (up £0.3 billion) including the Netherlands and Germany. The increase in exports of cars was to non-EU countries (up £0.2 billion), and included exports of cars to China, the US and Russia.

The decline in the volume of exports was driven by consumer goods other than cars (down 5 per cent), followed by basic materials (down 4.9 per cent), offset by cars (up 16.3 per cent).

Imports

The increase in imports of chemicals was from non-EU countries (up £0.2 billion) including Singapore, and from EU countries (up £0.1 billion). The increase in imports of oil was from EU countries (up £0.2 billion) including Denmark and non-EU countries (up £0.1 billion), including Norway and Nigeria. The increase in imports of silver was from Taiwan and China. The decline in imports of semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals was from non-EU countries (down £0.2 billion) and from EU countries (down £0.1 billion).

The increase in the volume of imports was driven by chemicals (up 7.8 per cent), including organic, inorganic, pharmaceuticals and consumer goods other than cars (up 5.2 per cent), driven largely by

works of art (up 131 per cent). This was offset by basic materials (down 10.2 per cent) and semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals (down 9.5 per cent).

Notes for Supplementary Analysis Page

1. In accordance with National Accounts revision policy there are no revisions to previously published quarterly and annual data. Monthly data from 1998 has been revised to incorporate improved seasonal adjustment parameters and to remove low level inconsistencies in the data.
2. Care should be taken when using the month-on-month growth rates due to their volatility.

Value of UK trade in goods (seasonally adjusted)

In September, the UK's deficit on trade in goods widened by £1.2 billion to £9.8 billion, compared with the deficit of £8.6 billion in August.

Total exports rose by less than £0.1 billion (0.2 per cent) to £24.5 billion and total imports rose by £1.2 billion (3.8 per cent) to £34.3 billion. At the commodity level:

Change in key commodity value, September 2011 compared with August 2011

	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)
Oil (see section on trade in oil)	+341	+290
Cars	+274	+105
Consumer goods other than cars	-86	+218
Intermediate goods	-103	+192
Capital goods	+40	+44
Chemicals	-115	+309
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	-41	-284
<i>Silver</i>	:	+266
<i>Precious stones (see background notes - Interpreting the data)</i>	:	+227

Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(26.5 Kb)

In the third quarter of 2011, the deficit on trade in goods widened by £2.6 billion to £27.2 billion, compared with the deficit of £24.6 billion in the second quarter of 2011.

Total exports rose by £0.2 billion (0.3 per cent) to £74.0 billion and total imports rose by £2.8 billion (2.9 per cent) to £101.2 billion. At the commodity level:

Change in key commodity value, Q3 2011 compared with Q2 2011

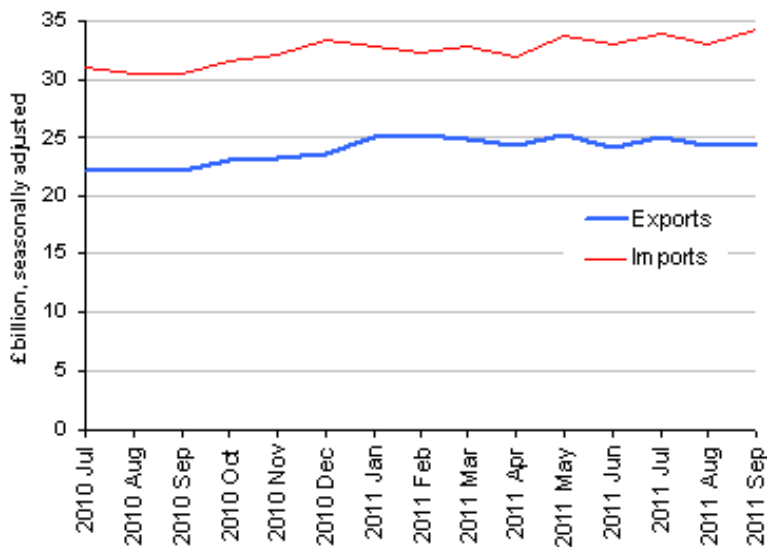
	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)
Oil (see section on trade in oil)	-1193	+165
Cars	-85	-269
Consumer goods other than cars	+186	-88
Intermediate goods	+33	+564
Capital goods	+530	+742
Chemicals	+238	+172
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	+190	+345

Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(26.5 Kb)

Value of UK trade in goods, September 2011

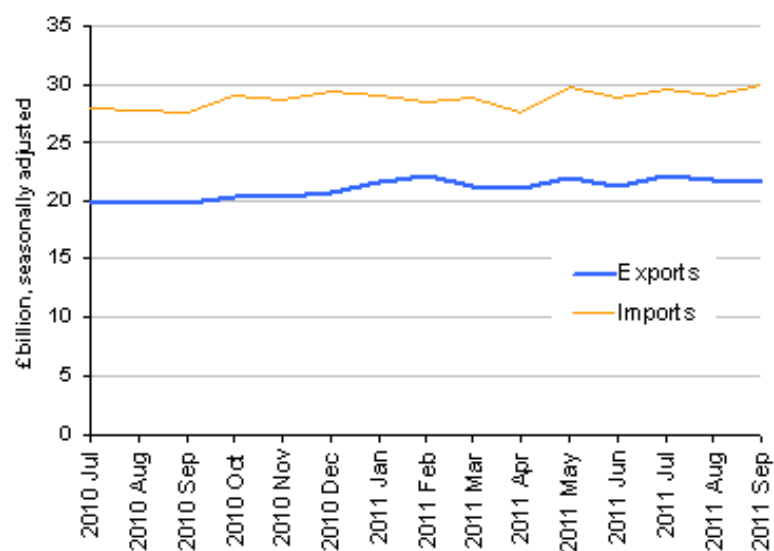


Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(18.5 Kb)

Value of UK trade in goods excluding oil, September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(18.5 Kb)

Trade in goods - EU analysis (seasonally adjusted)

In September, the deficit on trade in goods with EU countries widened by £0.6 billion to £4.1 billion, compared with the deficit of £3.5 billion in August. EU exports rose by less than £0.1 billion (0.5 per cent) to £13.2 billion and EU imports rose by £0.7 billion (4.1 per cent) to £17.3 billion. At the commodity level:

Change in key commodity value (EU), September 2011 compared with August 2011

	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)
Oil (see section on trade in oil)	+329	+212
Cars	+32	+59
Consumer goods other than cars	+7	-18
Intermediate goods	-85	+123
Capital goods	-7	+32
Chemicals	+8	+99
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	-25	-105

Download table**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(13.5 Kb)

In the third quarter of 2011, the deficit on trade in goods with EU countries rose by £2.1 billion to £11.3 billion, compared with the deficit of £9.2 billion in the second quarter of 2011.

EU exports fell by £0.6 billion (1.4 per cent) to £39.8 billion but EU imports rose by £1.6 billion (3.2 per cent) to £51.1 billion. At the commodity level:

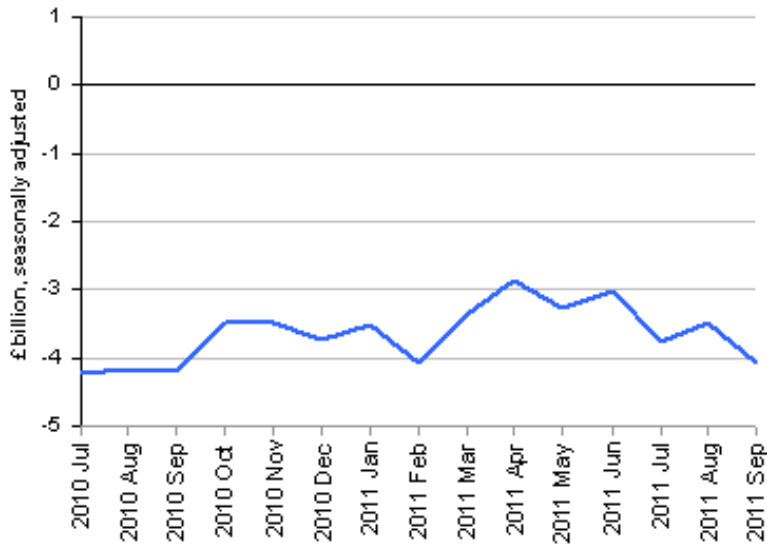
Change in key commodity value (EU), Q3 2011 compared with Q2 2011

	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)
Oil (<i>see section on trade in oil</i>)	-1,085	+131
Cars	+18	-363
Consumer goods other than cars	+36	-62
Intermediate goods	-128	+533
Capital goods	+190	+254
Chemicals	+320	+478
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	-48	+86

Download table**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(26 Kb)

Balance of trade in goods - EU countries, September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(31.5 Kb)

Trade in goods - non-EU analysis (seasonally adjusted)

In September, the deficit on trade in goods with non-EU countries increased by £0.6 billion to £5.7 billion, compared with the deficit of £5.1 billion in August.

Non-EU exports remained virtually unchanged at £11.2 billion (down 0.1 per cent) but non-EU imports rose by £0.6 billion to £17.0 billion (3.4 per cent). At the commodity level:

Change in key commodity value (non-EU), September 2011 compared with August 2011

	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)
Oil (see section on trade in oil)	+12	+78
Cars	+242	+46
Consumer goods other than cars	-93	+236
Intermediate goods	-18	+69
Capital goods	+47	+12
Chemicals	-123	+210
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	-16	-179
<i>Precious stones (see background notes - Interpreting the data)</i>	:	+204

Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(26.5 Kb)

In the third quarter of 2011, the deficit on trade in goods with non-EU countries widened by £0.5 billion to £15.8 billion, compared with the deficit of £15.4 billion in the second quarter of 2011.

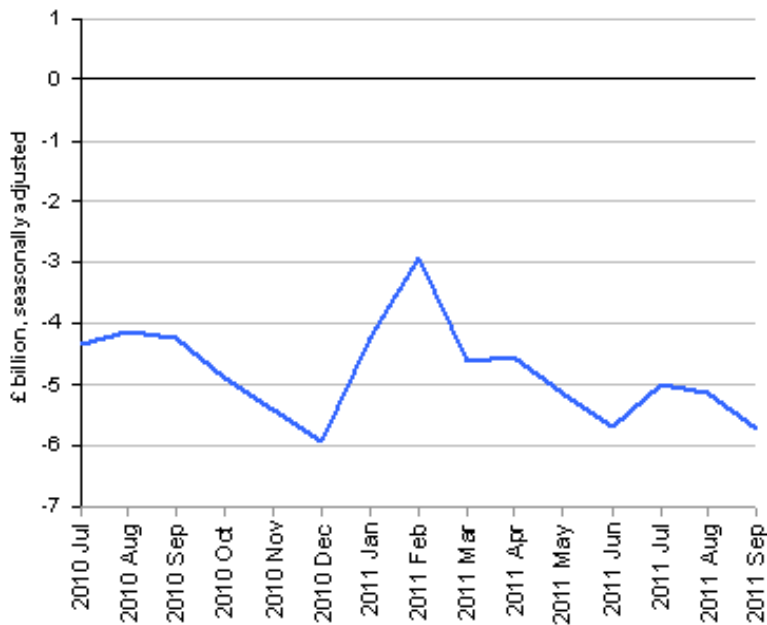
Non-EU exports rose by £0.8 billion (2.3 per cent) to £34.2 billion and non-EU imports rose by £1.2 billion (2.5 per cent) to £50.1 billion. At the commodity level:

Change in key commodity value (non-EU), Q3 2011 compared with Q2 2011

	Exports (£m)	Imports (£m)
Oil (see section on trade in oil)	-108	+34
Cars	-103	+94
Consumer goods other than cars	+150	-26
Intermediate goods	+161	+31
Capital goods	+340	+488
Chemicals	-82	-306
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	+238	+259

Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(26 Kb)

Balance of trade in goods - non-EU countries, September 2011**Download chart**
[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(18 Kb)

Trade in goods - one month geographical analysis (seasonally adjusted)**September 2011 compared with August 2011**

Within the EU countries, exports to the Netherlands rose by £0.3 billion. Among Non-EU countries, there were no export movements in excess of £0.2 billion. (See background notes, 'Interpreting the Data').

Within the EU countries, there were no import movements in excess of £0.2 billion (See background notes, 'Interpreting the Data'). Among Non-EU countries, imports from Norway and Singapore both rose by £0.2 billion, but imports from Russia fell by £0.2 billion.

Change in monthly trade with significant partner countries, September 2011 compared with August 2011

		Exports (£m)				Imports (£m)	
		Sep 2011 Value	1 month Change			Sep 2011 Value	1 month Change
1	USA	3,159	+26	1	Germany	4,365	+108
2	Germany	2,798	+103	2	China	2,840	+168
3	Netherlands	2,052	+294	3	USA	2,444	+4
4	France	1,671	-29	4	Netherlands	2,439	+118
5	Irish Republic	1,493	+36	5	Norway	2,250	+247
6	Belgium/Luxembourg	1,398	-191	6	France	1,959	+68
7	Spain	809	-90	7	Belgium/Luxembourg	1,671	+40
8	Italy	803	-159	8	Italy	1,195	+42
9	China	781	+28	9	Spain	1,084	+97
10	Sweden	501	+22	10	Irish Republic	967	-90

Table source: Office for National Statistics

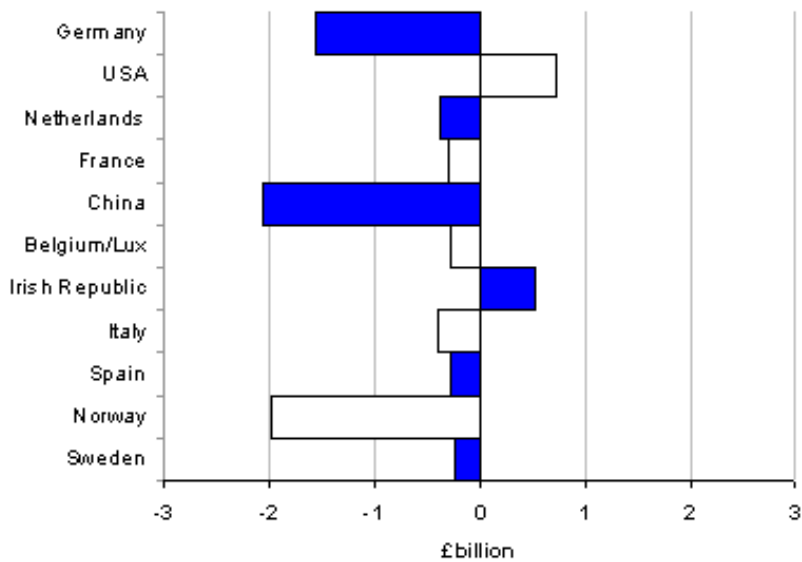
Table notes:

1. Significant trading partners defined as top 10 export markets & import sources 2010 (see Monthly Review of External Trade table G1).

Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(27.5 Kb)

Significant partner country 1 month balances, September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(44.5 Kb)

Trade in goods - quarterly geographical analysis (seasonally adjusted)

Third quarter of 2011 compared with the second quarter of 2011

Within the EU countries, exports to France fell by £0.6 billion. Among Non-EU countries, there were no export movements in excess of £0.4 billion (See background notes, 'Interpreting the Data').

Within the EU countries, imports from Germany rose by £0.4 billion. Among Non-EU countries, imports from China rose by £0.8 billion and imports from Nigeria rose by £0.4 billion. Imports from Russia fell by £0.5 billion.

Change in 3 monthly trade with significant partner countries, Q3 2011 compared with Q2 2011

		Exports (£m)				Imports (£m)	
		Q3 2011 Value	3 month Change			Q3 2011 Value	3 month Change
1	USA	9,482	-19	1	Germany	12,897	+412
2	Germany	8,280	+192	2	China	8,280	+814
3	Netherlands	5,768	-208	3	USA	7,192	+120
4	France	5,132	-631	4	Netherlands	7,162	+322
5	Irish Republic	4,456	-205	5	Norway	6,246	-29
6	Belgium/Luxembourg	4,380	+264	6	France	5,788	+222
7	Italy	2,658	+159	7	Belgium/Luxembourg	5,023	-252
8	Spain	2,499	+27	8	Italy	3,501	+55
9	China	2,375	+311	9	Irish Republic	3,194	+255
10	Sweden	1,516	-98	10	Spain	3,017	+136

Table source: Office for National Statistics

Table notes:

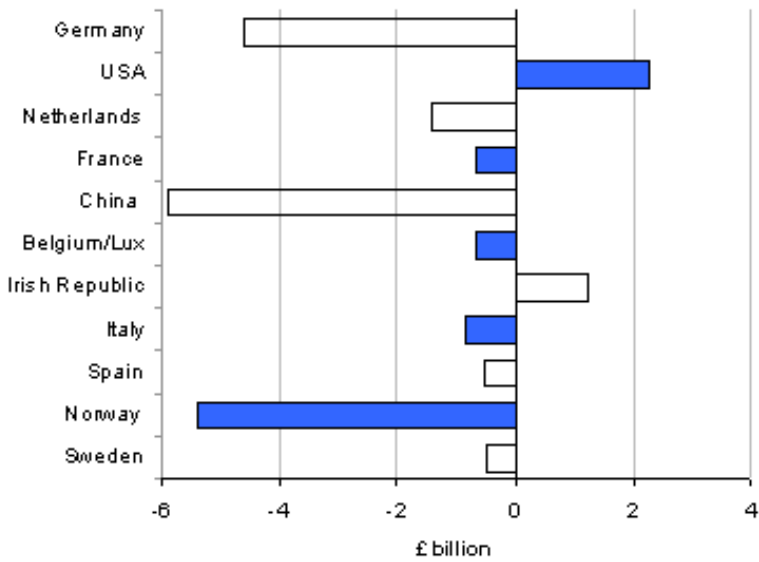
1. Significant trading partners defined as top 10 export markets & import sources 2010 (see Monthly Review of External Trade table G1).

Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(28 Kb)

Significant partner country 3 month balances, September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(17.5 Kb)

Volume of total trade in goods, excluding oil and erratics (seasonally adjusted)

In September, the volume of exports fell by 1.6 per cent but the volume of imports rose by 1.6 per cent, compared with August. At the commodity level:

Change in key commodity volume, September 2011 compared with August 2011

	Exports	Imports
	% change	% change
Food, beverages and tobacco	-3.5	-1.0
Basic materials	-4.9	-10.2
Semi manufactured goods; of which	-2.0	0.0
Chemicals	-1.9	+7.8
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	-1.1	-9.5
Finished manufactured goods; of which	0.0	+3.1
Cars	+16.3	+3.0
Consumer goods other than cars	-5.0	+5.2
Intermediate goods	-2.9	+4.1
Capital goods	0.0	+1.0

Download table

XLS [XLS format](#)
(27 Kb)

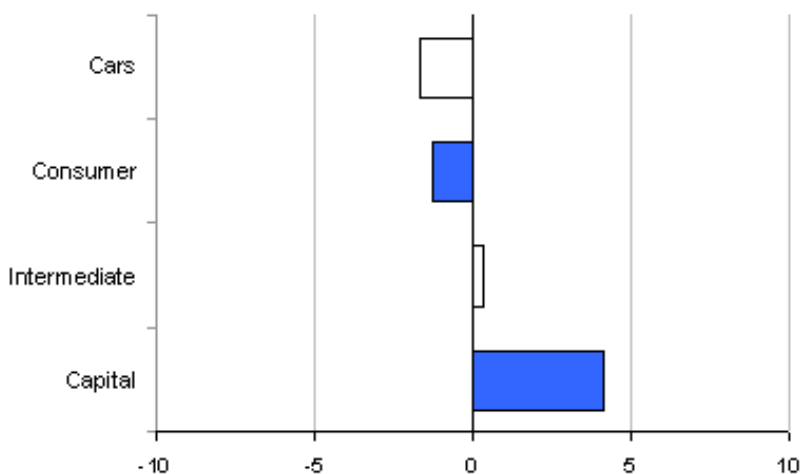
In the third quarter of 2011, the volume of exports rose by 1.2 per cent and the volume of imports rose by 0.5 per cent, compared with the second quarter of 2011. At the commodity level:

Change in commodity volume, Q3 2011 compared with Q2 2011

	Exports	Imports
	% change	% change
Food, beverages and tobacco	+2.1	+2.8
Basic materials	+1.0	+4.1
Semi manufactured goods; of which	+1.7	+0.3
Chemicals	+1.7	0.0
Semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals	+0.4	+1.9
Finished manufactured goods; of which	+0.3	-0.3
Cars	-1.7	-1.3
Consumer goods other than cars	+0.3	-8.9
Intermediate goods	-1.3	+2.0
Capital goods	+4.2	+7.2

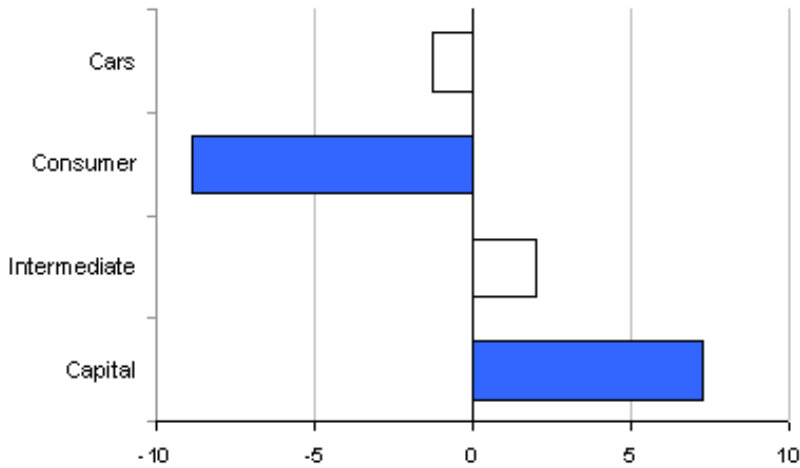
Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(27 Kb)

Volume of exports of goods (finished manufactures), September 2011

Download chart[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(29.5 Kb)

Volume of imports of goods (finished manufactures), September 2011**Download chart**[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

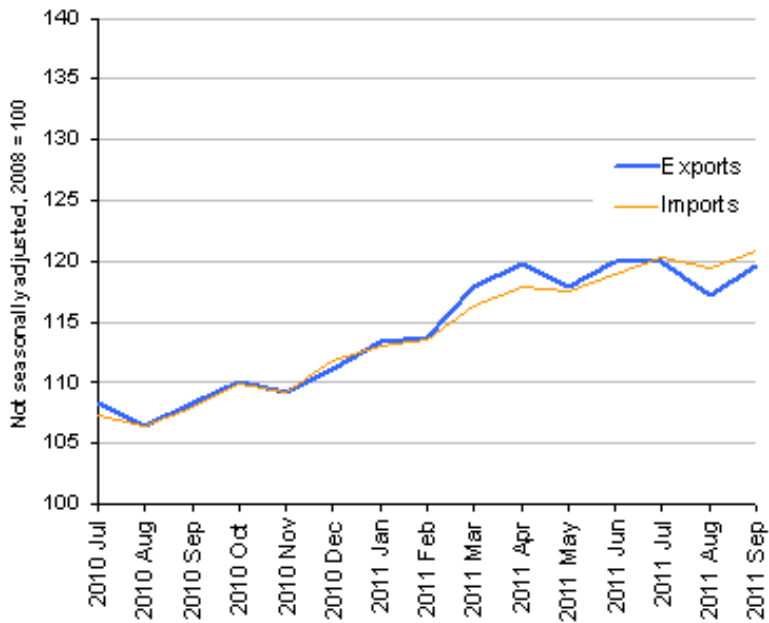
(16 Kb)

Export and import prices for trade in goods (not seasonally adjusted)

In September, export prices rose by 2.1 per cent and import prices rose by 1.3 per cent, compared with August. This led to an increase in the terms of trade. Excluding the oil price effect, export prices rose by 1.6 per cent and import prices rose by 0.8 per cent.

In the third quarter of 2011, export prices rose by 0.9 per cent and import prices rose by 1.3 per cent. This led to a decrease in the terms of trade. Excluding the oil price effect, export prices rose by 0.6 per cent and import prices rose by 2.6 per cent.

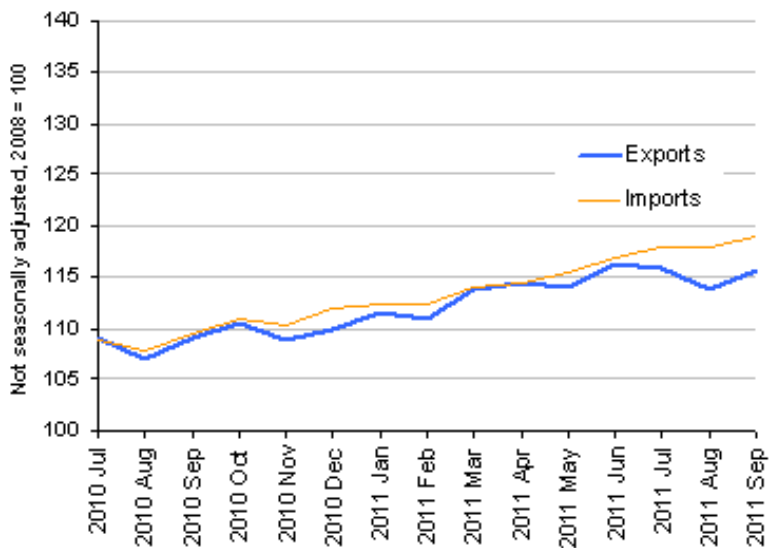
Export and import prices (goods), September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(18 Kb)

Export and import prices (goods) - excluding oil price effect, September 2011



Download chart

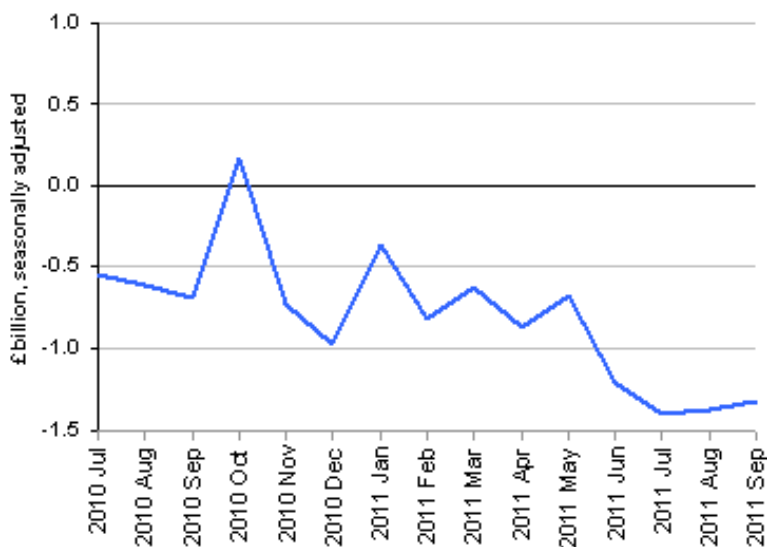
[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)
(18 Kb)

Trade in oil (seasonally adjusted)

In September, the balance on trade in oil was in deficit by £1.3 billion, compared with a deficit of £1.4 billion in August. Oil exports rose by £0.3 billion to £2.9 billion and oil imports rose by £0.3 billion to £4.2 billion.

In the third quarter of 2011, the balance on trade in oil was in deficit by £4.1 billion, compared with the deficit of £2.7 billion in the second quarter of 2011. Oil exports fell by £1.2 billion to £8.4 billion but oil imports rose by £0.2 billion to £12.5 billion.

Balance on trade in oil, September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(18 Kb)

Trade in services (seasonally adjusted)

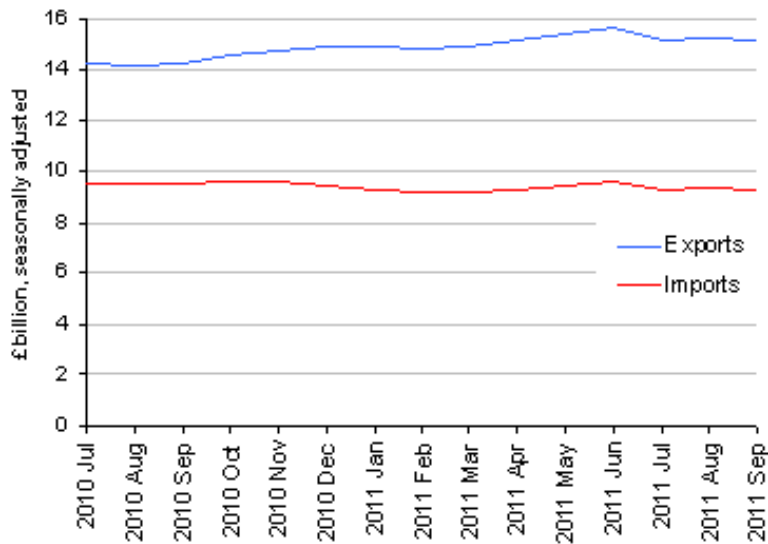
In September, the UK's estimated surplus on trade in services remained at £5.9 billion.

Exports fell by £0.1 billion (0.4 per cent) to £15.2 billion and imports fell by less than £0.1 billion (0.5 per cent) to £9.3 billion.

In the third quarter of 2011, the estimated surplus on trade in services narrowed by £0.1 billion to £17.6 billion, compared with the surplus of £17.8 billion in the second quarter of 2011.

Total exports fell by £0.5 billion (1.1 per cent) to £45.6 billion and total imports fell by £0.4 billion (1.3 per cent) to £27.9 billion.

Value of UK trade in services, September 2011



Download chart

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(19 Kb)

Records Sheet

[UK trade record information for September 2011.](#)

Background notes

1. Correction Notice

A production error was discovered in UK Trade Statistical Bulletin September 2011, originally published on 9 November 2011. The chart showing the value of UK Trade in services has the legend transposed specifically the 'exports' and 'imports' were incorrectly labelled. This error has now been corrected.

ONS apologises for any inconvenience caused.

2. What's new?

Revisions Policy

In accordance with National Accounts revision policy there are no revisions to previously published quarterly and annual data. Monthly data from 1998 has been revised to incorporate improved seasonal adjustment parameters and to remove low level inconsistencies in the data.

Other Changes to UK Trade

Non-seasonally adjusted volume indices, consistent with quarterly National Accounts (2nd Quarter 2011) and Blue Book 2011, are published for the first time this month. Detailed geographical (country level) data are also published.

Late revisions resulting from incorrect data declarations to source data from HMRC mean that lower level commodity data for August, lower level EU geographical data for August, and data on oil, have been subject to larger revisions than usual.

3. Code of Practice for Official 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 that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

4. Understanding the data

Short Guide to UK Trade

Ever since statistics on exports and imports of goods were first collected in 1697 UK trade has been one of the country's key economic indicators.

All [information](#) included in the monthly UK Trade Statistical Bulletin is on a Balance of Payments (BoP) basis and is seasonally adjusted. The release contains tables showing the total value of trade in goods together with index numbers of volume and price, figures analysed by broad commodity group (values and indices) and according to geographical area (values only). In addition the Trade statistical bulletin also includes early monthly estimates of the value of trade in services.

Data appearing in the UK Trade statistical bulletin are also used as a direct input into the quarterly Balance of Payments and National Accounts.

Interpreting the data

Monthly commodity movements for Food, beverages and tobacco, Basic materials, Fuels other than oil, and Erratics (Ships, Aircraft, Precious stones, and Silver) are only detailed in this Statistical Bulletin where they are equal to or exceed £200 million (£400 million for three monthly comparisons).

Monthly country movements are only detailed in this Statistical Bulletin where they are equal to or exceed £0.2 billion (£0.4 billion for three monthly comparisons).

VAT Missing Trader Intra Community (MTIC) fraud

Import figures for trade in goods include adjustments to allow for the impact of VAT MTIC fraud.

The adjustments to trade in goods relate only to part of the carousel version of VAT MTIC fraud. This fraud leads to under recording of imports as fraudsters import goods from the EU, which

they then sell on before disappearing without paying VAT on that sale. The goods are eventually exported. Such exports are declared and are therefore already reflected in the UK's trade in goods statistics.

Changes to the pattern of trading associated with MTIC fraud can make it difficult to analyse trade by commodity group and by country as changes in the impact of activity associated with this fraud affect both imports and exports. However, the MTIC trade adjustments are added to the EU import estimates derived from Intrastat returns as it is this part of the trading chain that is not generally recorded. In particular, adjustments affect trade in capital goods and intermediate goods - these categories include mobile phones and computer components, which are still the most widely affected goods.

International convention determines that the treatment of the impact is to adjust imports upwards by the relevant amounts of missing declarations (non-response). However, users may wish to interpret short term movements in imports excluding that part of the fraudulent activity that is not included in the import estimates, and for this purpose an analysis of the import figures with the VAT MTIC adjustments excluded is shown in Table 13.

Definitions and explanations

A glossary of terms is published in the [UK Balance of Payments \(Pink Book\)](#).

Use of the data

UK Trade is a key economic indicator due to the importance of international trade to the UK economy. It is also a very timely statistic, providing an early indicator of what is happening more generally in the economy.

In addition, it is a major component of two other key economic statistics – UK Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the UK Balance of Payments. This means that there is a threefold potential for UK Trade statistics to inform the Government's view of the UK economy, as well as the views of others, such as economists, City analysts, academics, the media, and international organisations.

Notes on tables – rounding:

The sum of constituent items in tables do not always agree exactly with the totals shown due to rounding.

Symbols

- .. Not applicable
- Nil or less than half the final digit shown.

5. Methods

- **Composition of the data**

Detailed methodological notes are published in the [UK Balance of Payments \(Pink Book\)](#). [\(3.33 Mb Pdf\)](#)

- **Seasonal adjustment**

Seasonal adjustment aims to remove effects associated with the time of the year or the arrangement of the calendar so that movements within a time series may be more easily interpreted.

- **Deflation**

It is common for the value of a group of financial transactions to be measured in several time periods. The values measured will include both the change in the volume sold and the effect of the change of prices over that year. Deflation is the process whereby the effect of price change is removed from a set of values.

Chain-linked indices (chained volume measures) which are indexed to form the volume series in this bulletin differ from fixed base indices in that the growth from one year to the next is estimated by weighting the components using the contribution to value of trade in the immediately preceding year (effectively re-basing every year). This series of annually re-weighted annual growths is then 'chain-linked' to produce a continuous series.

The implied price deflators derived by comparing current price data to chained volume measures data are not the same as the price indices published in this statistical bulletin because the former are current weighted while the latter are base (2008) weighted.

Changes in trade associated with VAT MTIC fraud mean that comparisons of volume and prices (both including and excluding trade associated with VAT MTIC fraud) should be treated with a great deal of caution.

A paper entitled Overseas Trade Statistics Methodology describing the basis on which trade in goods statistics are compiled is available on the [UK Trade Info website](#).

A further paper Statistics on Trade in Goods (GSS Methodological Series No. 36) describing the adjustments that need to be applied to conform to IMF definitions for Balance of Payments and the division of responsibility between ONS and HMRC is available on the [ONS website \(384.4 Kb Pdf\)](#).

The Overseas Trade Statistics (OTS) data used as inputs to this statistical bulletin are collected and published by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) on an International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) basis.

6. Quality

Basic quality information

Accuracy: Trade in goods figures for the most recent months are provisional and subject to revision in the light of (a) late trader data, revisions to trade prices and revised estimates of trading associated with VAT MTIC fraud, and (b) revisions to seasonal adjustment factors which are re-estimated every month.

Trade in services estimates have been derived from a number of monthly and quarterly sources. For components where no monthly data are available, estimates have been derived on the basis of recent trends. The results should be used with appropriate caution, as they are therefore likely to be less reliable than those for trade in goods. More details of the data sources, estimation methodology and reliability of the monthly estimates of trade in services were set out in Economic Trends (January 1996 and September 1997).

Reliability: Revisions to data provide one indication of the reliability of key indicators. The table below shows summary information on the size and direction of the revisions which have been made to the data covering a five year period. A statistical test has been applied to the average revision to find out if it is statistically significantly different from zero. An asterisk (*) shows that the test is significant. [An article explaining the past revisions performance for UK Trade statistics and what is being done to improve the first published estimates](#) was published on 9 May 2005 on the ONS website.

Revisions table, September 2011

£ million

	Value in latest period	Revisions between first publication and estimates twelve months later	
		Average over the last 5 years (mean revision)	Average over the last 5 years without regard to sign (average absolute revision)
Total trade exports (IKBH)	39,623	846	1,102
Total trade imports (IKBI)	43,563	687	1,044
Total trade balance (IKBJ)	-3,940	167	519

Download table

 [XLS format](#)
(14.5 Kb)

The table covers estimates of UK trade first published from May 2005 (for March 2005) to February 2011 (for December 2010). Spreadsheets giving these estimates and the calculations behind the averages in the table are available on the [ONS website](#).

[An article analysing past revisions to quarterly balance of payments current account data \(340.2 Kb Pdf\)](#) was published in the May 2007 edition of Economic & Labour Market Review.

[More information about revisions material in this Statistical Bulletin](#) can be found on the ONS website.

7. **Coherence** - EU enlargement and country coverage: Two more countries joined the EU from 1 January 2007. These countries were Bulgaria and Romania. In addition, the coverage of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) countries was extended to include Slovenia. In order to enable users to make long-run comparisons, data for the new definition EU and non-EU was produced from January 1998 onwards for value, and from January 1999 onwards for volume and price indices. At the same time data for the old definitions were no longer maintained. There are additional series for country groupings on the old definitions.

The coverage of EMU countries was extended to cover Cyprus and Malta from July 2008, Slovakia from January 2009, and Estonia from January 2011. Some EU and non-EU breakdowns of commodity data for Chained Volume Measures which are available from the Statbase® service may be less reliable than the current price data. Please consult Marilyn Thomas on +44 (0)1633 455708 if you are considering using them.

Data have been combined for the United States and Puerto Rico, and for Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Sharjah (the United Arab Emirates) from January 2009 onwards. Estimates are separately available for the United States and Dubai up till the end of 2008 on request.

8. Summary quality report

A [Summary Quality Report \(283.9 Kb Pdf\)](#) for this Statistical Bulletin and associated data can be found on the ONS website.

9. National Accounts revisions policy

[National Accounts revision policy \(41.6 Kb Pdf\)](#) can be found on the ONS website.

10. Revisions

Consistency with Quarterly National Accounts and the 2011 Blue Book

In accordance with National Accounts revision policy there are no revisions to previously published quarterly and annual data. Monthly data from 1998 has been revised to incorporate improved seasonal adjustment parameters and to remove low level inconsistencies in the data.

11. Publication policy

Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the Media Relations Office. Also available is a list of the organisations given [pre-publication access to the contents of this bulletin \(28.4 Kb Pdf\)](#).

12. Accessing data

Supplementary commodity data for this Statistical Bulletin (Monthly Review of External Trade Statistics); and quarterly data analysed by industry according to the Standard Industrial Classification (UK Trade in Goods Analysed in Terms of Industries) are also available free of charge as PDF files on the [ONS website](#).

The complete run of data in the tables of this Statistical Bulletin are also available to view and download in other electronic formats free of charge using the ONS Time Series Data website service. Users can download the complete Statistical Bulletin in a choice of zipped formats, or view and download their own selections of individual series. The [Time Series Data](#) service can be accessed via the ONS website.

13. Follow ONS on [Twitter](#) and receive up to date information about our statistical releases. Like ONS on [Facebook](#) to receive our updates in your newsfeed and to post comments on our page. Watch our videos at [YouTube](#).

14. **Copyright and reproduction**

© Crown copyright 2011

Under the terms of the [Open Government Licence](#) and UK Government Licensing Framework, anyone wishing to use or re-use ONS material, whether commercially or privately, may do so freely without a specific application for a licence, subject to the conditions of the OGL and the Framework.

For further information, contact the Office of Public Sector Information, Crown Copyright Licensing and Public Sector Information, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.

Tel: +44 (0)20 8876 3444

Email psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

15. Next publication: 9 December 2011

Issued by: Office for National Statistics, Government Buildings, Cardiff Road, Newport NP10 8XG

Media contact:

Luke Croydon 0845 6041858

Emergency on-call 07867 906553

Email media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Contact us:

Tel 0845 601 3034

Email info@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Website www.ons.gov.uk

16. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available by visiting www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html or from the Media Relations Office email: media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Copyright

© Crown copyright 2011

You may use or re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/ or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This document is also available on our website at www.ons.gov.uk.

Statistical contacts

Name	Phone	Department	Email
Marilyn Thomas	+44 (0)1633 455708	ELS	trade.in.goods@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Next Publication Date:

09 December 2011

Issuing Body:

Office for National Statistics

Media Contact Details:

Telephone: 0845 604 1858
(8.30am-5.30pm Weekdays)

Emergency out of hours (limited service): 07867 906553

Email:

media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk