

# EU Exit – Trade Analysis

NI ↔ Ireland (IE)

## Broad Economy Sales and Exports Statistics (BESES) 2019 (Goods & Services)

- NI total exports to IE ↑ by £404m (9.9%) over the year to **£4.5bn** during 2019.
- IE is NI's **single largest export market** in terms of individual countries. (NB sales to GB are not classified as exports - exports relate to sales outside of the UK).
- Exports to IE equate to **6%** of all sales by NI businesses.

## HMRC Regional Trade Statistics (RTS) 2020 (Goods only)

### Exports

- **£3.1bn** goods were exported from NI to IE
- Top 2 exports:
  1. **Food & Live Animals**  
31% (£938m)
  2. **Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material**  
19% (£577m)

### Imports

- **£2.1bn** goods were imported from IE to NI
- Top 2 imports:
  1. **Food & Live Animals**  
38% (£814m)
  2. **Chemicals & Related Products n.e.s.**  
19% (£397m)

## Cross-Border Supply Chain Survey 2015, 2016

- 758,000 export deliveries to IE worth £3.4bn in 2016.
- 410,000 import deliveries in 2015 from IE to NI businesses worth nearly £2.0bn.
- Majority of cross-border transactions made by **micro and small businesses** which dominate NI economy.
- **39%** of NI trade (exports and imports) in goods with IE is comprised of trade of “**intermediate**” goods i.e. a product used by a business in the production of their output.

NI ↔ Great Britain (GB)

## BESES 2019 (Sales of Goods & Services)

- NI sales to GB ↑ by £700m (6.6%) over the year to **£11.3bn** during 2019.
- GB remained the **most significant single market for external sales (i.e. sales outside NI)** from NI businesses, accounting for **15.7%** of total sales.

## BESES 2018 (Purchases of Goods & Services)

- Purchases of goods and services from GB were estimated to be worth **£13.4bn** ↑ by 1.4% (£0.2bn) and accounted for **29%** of total purchases.
- **63% (£6.5bn)** of goods purchased by NI businesses from GB businesses were aimed at the **NI Wholesale and Retail Sector**.
- **72% (£9,663m)** of purchases from GB were made by medium/large businesses (i.e. businesses with more than 50 employees); **825** medium/ large businesses (**6%**) of a total of **13,005** NI businesses purchasing from GB.

**NB No HMRC data available for NI:GB trade as HMRC only records trade activity outside of the UK**

NI ↔ Rest of EU (REU) / Rest of World (ROW)

## BESES 2018 (Goods & Services)

- NI exports to REU (excluding IE) ↓ over the year by £299m (-11.0%) to **£2.4bn** during 2019.
- NI exports to ROW ↓ by £60m (-1.2%) over the year to **£4.8bn**.

## HMRC RTS 2020 (Goods only)

### Exports to REU

- **£1.8bn** goods were exported to REU
- Top 2 exports:
  1. **Machinery & Transport Equipment**  
36% (£631m)
  2. **Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles**  
18% (£313m)

### Imports from REU

- **£2.4bn** goods were imported from REU
- Top 2 imports:
  1. **Machinery & Transport Equipment**  
24% (£589m)
  2. **Chemicals & Related Products n.e.s.**  
19% (£470m)

### Exports to ROW

- **£3.0bn** goods were exported to ROW
- Top 2 exports:
  1. **Machinery & Transport Equipment**  
51% (£1.5bn)
  2. **Chemicals & Related Products, n.e.s**  
17% (£521m)

### Imports from ROW

- **£2.2bn** goods were imported from ROW
- Top 2 imports:
  1. **Machinery & Transport Equipment**  
35% (£764m)
  2. **Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles**  
27% (£596m)

### NI's Top 5 Export Partners to ROW:

- |              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| 1. USA       | £992m |
| 2. Canada    | £414m |
| 3. Thailand  | £214m |
| 4. China     | £137m |
| 5. Australia | £118m |

Glossary of terms