



Construction Equipment Association

UK IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

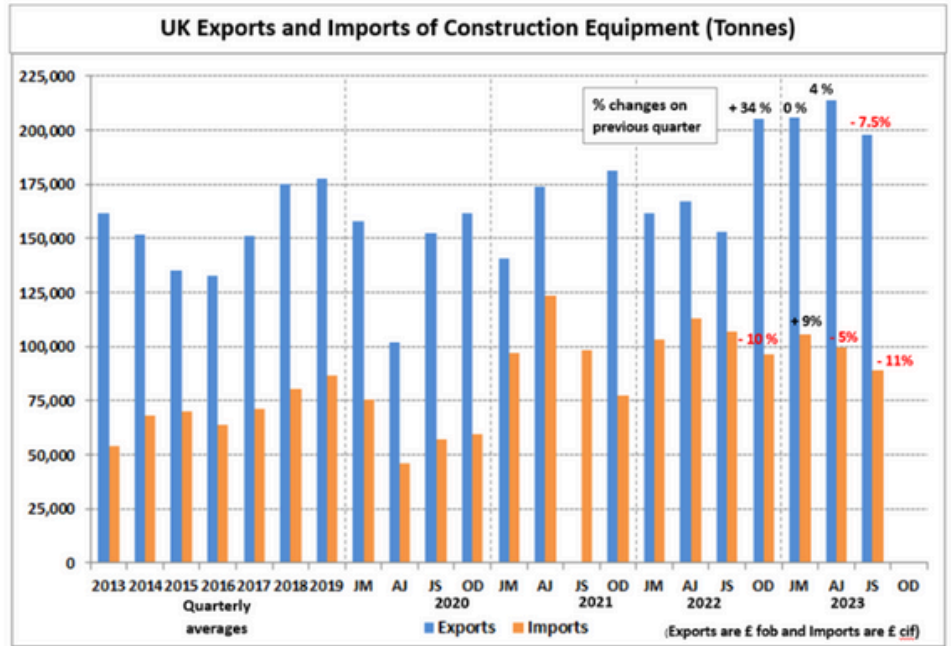
construction and earthmoving
equipment Q3 2023



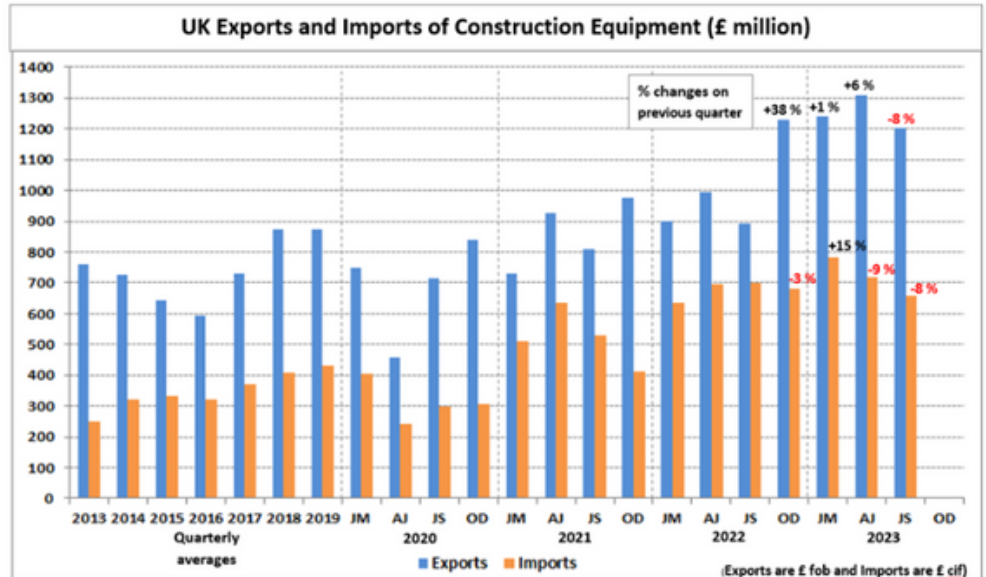
Summary

UK trade in construction and earthmoving equipment showed a modest reduction in Q3 but still remained at high levels. Exports remained the strongest, while not matching the record levels seen in the previous three quarters since trade has been monitored from 2013, they remain higher than earlier years. Imports dipped below 2022 levels in the third quarter, but were still high compared with earlier years.

Graph 1: UK trade by machine weight shipped



Graph 2: UK trade by £ value



Imports

Imports of equipment in Q3 showed a further reduction compared with levels in the first half of the year but remain at similar levels to 2022. In £ value terms, imports were £656 million in Q3, 8% lower than Q2 levels. Imports of tonnage shipped in Q3 showed a similar pattern but were 11% below Q2 levels at 89 k tonnes. In the first three quarters of the year, imports of tonnage shipped were 9% below last years' levels at 294 k tonnes. However, in terms of £ value, imports this year are 6% above last years' level in the first three quarters at £2,157 million. The EU share of total imports is shown in the table below. Q3 levels matched Q2 at 70% and maintained higher levels than last year. This has taken the share in the first three quarters of the year to 68%, 11% above last years' level.

Exports

Exports of equipment in Q3 were £1,201 million which was 7.5% lower than Q2 levels. However, Q2 was a record high, so exports remained at exceptional levels overall. Similarly, tonnage of exports shipped was 8% lower than Q2, at 197 K tonnes, but remained well above the levels seen in previous years, as shown in the graphs below. To make the point of how strong exports have been this year, the total shipped in the first three quarters of the year, at 617 k tonnes, is 28% higher than the same period last year. The share of export trade to EU markets is shown in the table below and indicates the continuation of a downward trend. The EU share of total exports has fallen to 40% in the first three quarters of 2023 from 44% in 2022. The UK has remained a net exporter of construction and earthmoving equipment in the first three quarters of 2023 with exports (£3,750 million) 74% higher than imports (£2,157 million). This is a bigger margin than 2022, when exports were 48% higher than the level of imports for the full year.

Table 1: EU share of UK trade

	2018	2019	2020	2021	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2022	Q1	Q2	Q3	2023
Imports from EU (£ Million)	989	1,104	863	1,310	385	407	357	386	1,536	512	501	457	1,470
% share of total Imports	61	64	69	63	61	58	51	57	57	65	70	70	68
Exports to EU (£ Million)	1,545	1,606	1,379	1,605	389	475	412	481	1,757	517	510	463	1,491
% share of total Exports	44.5	46	50	47	43	48	46	39	44	42	39	39	40

Exports of equipment by country of destination

In the first three quarters of 2023, UK exports of equipment were shipped to just under 170 different countries. The table below shows rankings for the Top 20 countries based on weight of machines shipped (tonnes) during 2022 and the first three quarters of this year. In the first nine months of 2023, the Top 20 countries accounted for between 80% to 85% of total exports on both a value and tonnage shipped basis.

The USA remained the top destination for UK exports in the first three quarters of 2023 and maintained its share of total exports at 32% on a £ value basis. On a tonnage shipped basis, the USA share was just under 27% in the first nine months. As a result, the USA remains as the dominant destination for UK equipment by a significant margin. Exports to the Irish Republic have also remained strong this year and it has maintained its position in second place in the destination country rankings, also by quite a margin compared with other countries. Exports to Poland have been high in recent quarters and as a result, it has moved up into third place in the rankings ahead of the Netherlands and Belgium.

Table 2: Top 20 countries exports of equipment

		Jan Mar		Apr Jun		Jul Sep		Oct Dec		2022				Jan Mar		Apr Jun		Jul Sep		2023 Q1-Q3	
2022 Rank	COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob	2023 Rank	COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob	Tonnes	£ M fob
1	U.S.A.	39,040	256.6	38,041	250.8	37,282	252.4	59,218	421.0	173,581	1180.8	1	U.S.A.	51,153	367.8	59,579	445.6	55,108	400.6	165,840	1214.0
2	IRISH REPUBLIC	14,901	59.0	14,910	68.1	13,537	63.0	15,563	70.5	58,910	260.6	2	IRISH REPUBLIC	17,793	86.4	19,100	89.9	19,197	88.5	56,090	264.8
3	NETHERLANDS	9,881	40.6	10,469	36.9	10,377	35.6	11,126	37.4	41,854	150.4	3	POLAND	10,323	37.6	12,243	45.4	11,148	40.7	33,714	123.6
4	POLAND	9,999	38.9	9,930	44.6	9,159	39.9	10,370	38.8	39,458	162.1	4	NETHERLANDS	11,709	39.7	12,198	37.5	9,721	30.2	33,628	107.4
5	GERMANY	6,922	41.4	12,994	78.2	7,662	56.0	7,730	54.2	35,309	229.8	5	BELGIUM	13,671	71.6	11,152	59.0	8,114	55.7	32,937	186.3
6	FRANCE	6,600	47.3	7,639	51.8	7,407	58.6	7,222	54.8	28,869	212.5	6	AUSTRALIA	9,836	76.4	9,220	70.4	10,244	75.5	29,301	222.4
7	AUSTRALIA	6,151	40.1	6,959	45.9	6,549	49.4	7,737	57.7	27,395	193.1	7	GERMANY	9,552	69.3	9,070	68.7	7,678	54.9	26,300	192.9
8	BELGIUM	3,974	21.6	4,205	27.6	4,940	29.4	10,861	58.1	23,979	136.7	8	TURKEY	6,477	42.6	6,741	43.8	4,425	25.0	17,643	111.4
9	SPAIN	3,985	20.9	4,335	23.5	3,930	19.6	5,412	26.0	17,663	90.0	9	FRANCE	6,860	50.9	5,027	39.5	4,916	43.6	16,802	133.9
10	ITALY	3,997	24.5	3,379	21.7	2,799	18.5	4,192	29.1	14,367	93.7	10	SPAIN	4,885	23.8	5,631	30.8	5,296	27.1	15,813	81.7
11	TURKEY	1,511	8.5	3,145	15.1	3,526	13.8	5,400	28.7	13,581	66.1	11	ROMANIA	3,150	12.6	3,965	15.1	3,322	13.1	10,436	40.9
12	ROMANIA	1,917	6.5	2,575	10.4	2,366	9.7	3,166	12.5	10,024	39.1	12	ITALY	3,648	23.7	3,846	25.0	2,853	20.0	10,346	68.7
13	AUSTRIA	2,648	16.6	3,654	25.7	1,922	12.6	1,490	11.2	9,714	66.1	13	JAPAN	2,485	20.2	3,266	26.2	3,070	24.7	8,820	71.1
14	ISRAEL	3,539	20.4	1,799	9.8	1,395	7.2	2,795	16.1	9,529	53.5	14	SOUTH AFRICA	2,094	15.0	3,443	25.3	2,800	23.0	8,337	63.3
15	JAPAN	1,038	6.9	2,071	13.7	2,142	14.5	2,776	20.2	8,026	55.4	15	UTD ARAB EMIRATES	2,572	16.8	2,853	13.4	2,901	17.8	8,326	48.0
16	FINLAND	2,007	9.8	1,558	7.7	2,085	10.2	2,344	13.3	7,994	41.0	16	CANADA	1,850	13.8	3,579	26.6	2,595	18.1	8,024	58.6
17	CANADA	1,651	8.9	2,262	16.6	2,042	12.9	1,844	14.4	7,800	52.7	17	INDONESIA	2,655	20.5	987	7.1	2,288	17.2	5,930	44.9
18	SWEDEN	1,468	9.0	2,077	13.5	1,751	11.7	2,113	14.1	7,409	48.4	18	ISRAEL	3,234	16.4	1,507	9.5	1,121	6.1	5,862	31.9
19	SOUTH AFRICA	2,416	16.1	1,274	9.1	1,206	8.7	2,512	18.5	7,408	52.4	19	AUSTRIA	1,499	11.6	1,979	14.4	2,179	16.8	5,657	42.9
20	RUSSIA	6,748	40.8	384	3.1	262	3.7	0	0.0	7,394	47.7	20	SWEDEN	2,223	15.1	2,170	14.5	1,225	10.2	5,618	39.8
	OTHERS	31,383	165.6	33,541	219.2	30,495	164.1	41,274	231.3	136,693	780.2		OTHERS	37,903	207.2	36,124	202.2	37,386	192.4	111,412	601.9
	TOTAL	161,778	899.8	167,201	992.9	152,833	891.6	205,146	1,227.9	686,958	4,012.2		TOTAL	205,569	1,239.1	213,682	1,309.9	197,586	1,201.2	616,836	3,750.2

Imports of equipment by country of origin

In Q1 to Q3 2023, UK imports of construction and earthmoving equipment arrived from 65 different countries. Table 3 shows rankings for the Top 20 importing countries based on weight shipped (tonnes) during 2022 and the first three quarters of 2023. During the first nine months of the year, the Top 20 countries accounted for close to 97% of total imports in both weight and value terms. The Netherlands maintained its position as the leading source country on a tonnage shipped basis in Q3. However, Germany is the leading source on a £ value basis this year, as it was in 2022. Previously, Japan was the leading source on a tonnage shipped basis, but has now slipped back into 2nd place. China had moved up the rankings in the first half of the year to achieve second place based on tonnage shipped. However, imports in Q3 were at lower levels and is has slipped down to 4th place in the rankings for the year now.

Table 3: Top 20 countries imports of equipment

		Jan Mar		Apr Jun		Jul Sep		Oct Dec		2022				Jan Mar		Apr Jun		Jul Sep		2023 Q1-Q3	
2022	COUNTRY OF DESPATCH	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Rank	COUNTRY OF DESPATCH	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif	Tonnes	£ Mill cif
1	JAPAN	16,344	80.5	14,575	76.7	14,755	81.5	12,905	75.0	58,580	313.8	1	NETHERLANDS	17,199	115.3	13,215	97.3	12,375	78.1	42,790	290.7
2	GERMANY	15,079	111.6	15,846	122.0	10,140	89.4	11,115	98.6	52,180	421.7	2	JAPAN	10,895	70.5	11,033	64.0	13,139	84.0	35,066	218.5
3	NETHERLANDS	9,276	55.5	9,562	60.7	14,163	87.3	9,522	59.8	42,523	263.2	3	GERMANY	11,650	107.5	9,465	97.6	10,094	103.6	31,210	308.7
4	FRANCE	8,669	56.3	10,848	60.9	9,575	60.4	12,380	82.3	41,472	260.0	4	CHINA	11,091	54.7	11,726	64.0	6,893	37.6	29,710	156.3
5	CHINA	8,154	41.2	10,240	56.7	7,096	42.1	7,714	41.4	33,205	181.3	5	FRANCE	10,459	67.0	9,855	62.0	7,452	46.6	27,767	175.6
6	BELGIUM	10,375	66.6	10,090	71.8	7,102	52.2	5,626	45.2	33,194	235.7	6	BELGIUM	7,311	56.7	8,642	68.1	8,267	69.8	24,219	194.7
7	SOUTH KOREA	4,270	18.9	7,168	31.1	11,390	49.0	4,416	21.2	27,244	120.1	7	SWEDEN	5,564	54.7	7,476	59.2	4,147	37.2	17,187	151.2
8	SWEDEN	5,351	42.4	5,390	41.8	5,385	43.9	5,288	49.0	21,413	177.2	8	SOUTH KOREA	6,080	30.9	5,890	30.3	4,620	23.9	16,590	85.0
9	CZECH REPUBLIC	5,056	29.6	4,518	28.5	4,766	32.3	3,993	29.8	18,333	120.2	9	ITALY	2,821	24.4	3,083	26.8	4,513	34.7	10,417	85.9
10	ITALY	2,740	21.2	3,014	20.6	3,248	22.7	3,415	26.0	12,417	90.6	10	CZECH REPUBLIC	3,691	28.4	2,595	31.2	2,774	23.2	9,059	82.8
11	IRISH REPUBLIC	3,260	12.4	3,311	18.2	3,050	14.1	2,291	11.6	11,912	56.4	11	IRISH REPUBLIC	2,469	10.4	2,528	11.2	2,632	15.2	7,630	36.9
12	AUSTRIA	3,141	21.1	2,074	17.1	2,089	16.9	2,063	18.6	9,366	73.8	12	AUSTRIA	2,425	23.0	2,532	25.3	1,614	16.5	6,571	64.8
13	HONG KONG	1,559	5.6	3,247	6.5	2,003	7.0	2,473	9.2	9,283	28.3	13	INDIA	1,327	5.6	1,331	5.8	1,165	6.5	3,823	17.9
14	BRAZIL	441	4.9	1,546	14.8	1,586	14.8	4,124	39.6	7,697	74.0	14	BRAZIL	2,573	64.8	869	8.5	258	2.4	3,700	75.8
15	SWITZERLAND	1,746	12.6	1,467	9.6	2,106	26.1	1,584	16.8	6,903	65.2	15	U.S.A.	1,026	11.3	1,542	18.0	1,080	14.2	3,648	43.5
16	SPAIN	1,402	6.2	1,649	8.0	1,728	8.4	1,283	7.4	6,061	30.0	16	FINLAND	1,055	9.3	1,307	10.9	1,182	10.7	3,544	30.9
17	U.S.A.	1,623	15.5	1,450	14.6	887	11.0	876	11.8	4,835	52.9	17	SWITZERLAND	446	3.7	950	7.8	1,863	15.5	3,259	26.9
18	INDIA	1,293	5.6	1,510	6.0	1,139	5.9	846	3.9	4,789	21.5	18	SPAIN	1,425	8.8	618	3.5	972	14.8	3,016	27.1
19	FINLAND	1,025	8.8	678	6.3	760	8.6	1,569	13.4	4,032	37.2	19	THAILAND	1,953	9.4	134	0.7	433	2.1	2,520	12.2
20	TURKEY	197	0.9	1,003	4.0	394	1.9	309	1.6	1,902	8.5	20	SEYCHELLES	444	0.7	1,425	2.2	580	0.9	2,448	3.7
	OTHERS	2,275	16.9	3,643	21.2	3,474	25.4	2,761	20.2	12,152	83.7		OTHERS	3,645	26.5	3,510	22.2	2,996	19.0	10,151	67.7
	TOTAL	105,274	634.5	112,831	697.2	106,856	701.4	96,551	682.3	419,492	2,715.5		TOTAL	105,347	783.7	99,727	716.7	89,050	656.5	294,324	2,156.8

Definition of equipment included in analysis of import and export statistics

The data used in this report is taken from HMRC official trade statistics, covering construction and earthmoving equipment (excluding separate trade data for components and parts). Trade data has been used from nine different HS codes, consisting of the following at the four digit level:

- 8413 - concrete pumps
- 8426 - cranes
- 8474 - crushing and screening equipment, and concrete, mortar and other types of mixers
- 8479 - machinery for public works
- 8701 - track-laying tractors
- 8704 - dump trucks for off-highway use
- 8705 - concrete mixer lorries and pumping vehicles
- 8429 - construction and earthmoving equipment including bulldozers, graders, scrapers, loaders, excavators, shovels, tamping machines and road rollers
- 8430 - pile driving and pile extracting equipment, tamping and compacting machinery.



**For more information,
please contact:**

 paul.lyons@thecea.org.uk

 07938 664943

thecea.org.uk

