

Overview of Northern Ireland Trade

4th April 2023

Outline

- The following slides provide an analysis of Northern Ireland's current trade with:

- Great Britain (GB)
- Ireland (IE)
- The Rest of the European Union (REU)
- The Rest of the World (RoW)



See Appendix for data sources related to NI trade

Trade in Goods and Services

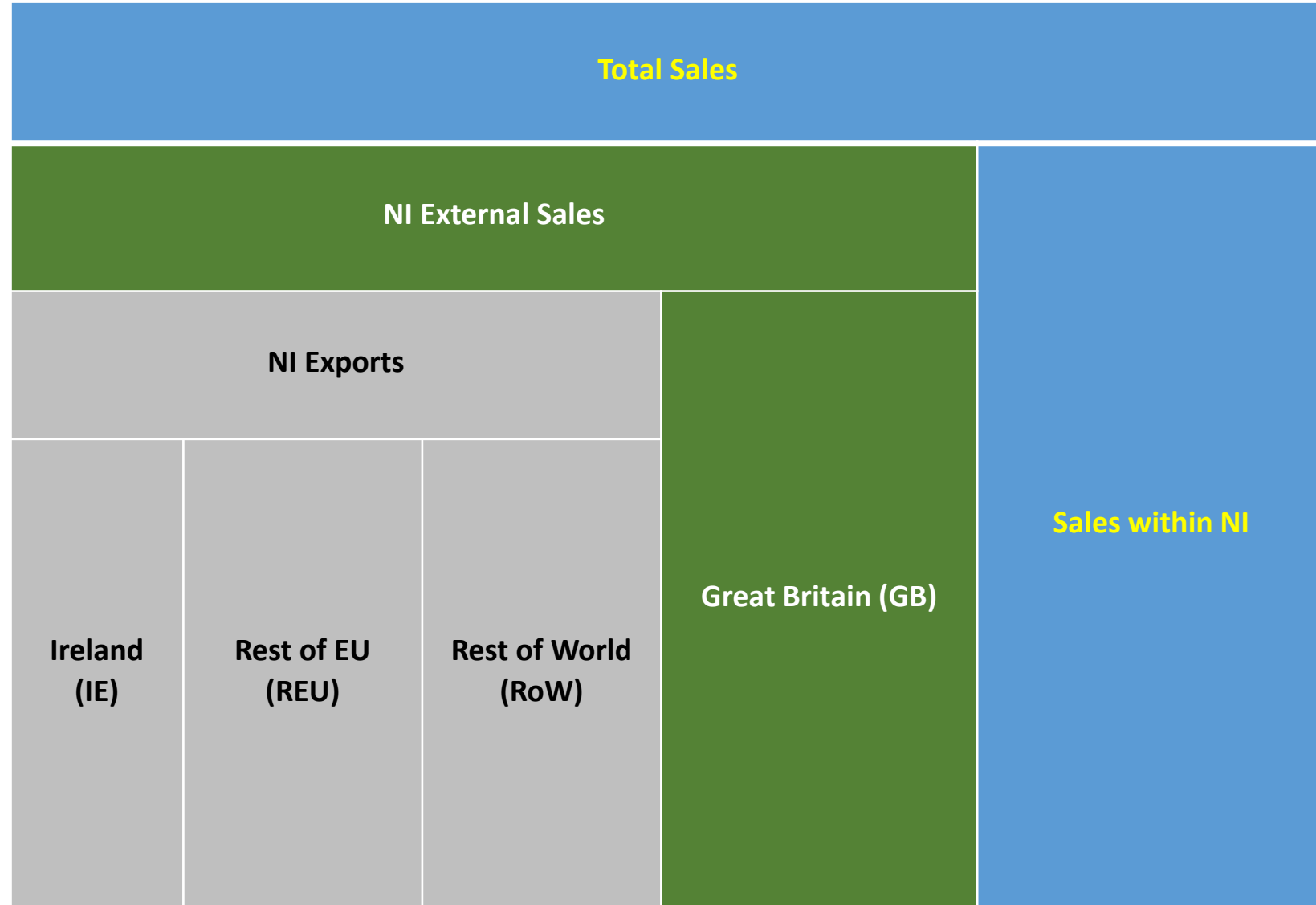
User Note

- The following slides provide an analysis of NI trade in **both goods and services** as measured by [NISRA's Northern Ireland Economic Trade Statistics \(NIETS\)](#) (formerly named the Broad Economy Sales and Exports Statistics).

Definitions	
Sales within NI	Sales made by NI businesses within NI
External sales	Sales made outside NI (sales to GB, IE, REU and RoW)
Exports	All sales made outside the UK (sales to IE, REU and RoW)
Total sales	Sales made by NI businesses within NI + external sales
Purchases within NI	Purchases made by NI businesses within NI
External purchases	Purchases made outside NI (purchases from GB, IE, REU and RoW)
Imports	All purchases made outside the UK (purchases from IE, REU and RoW)
Total purchases	Purchases made by NI businesses within NI + external purchases

- Estimates quoted throughout this report may not sum due to rounding.***

Exports / External sales



Total Value of NI Sales and Exports by Destination 2020-2021 (£billion)

Destination	Total Sales ¹ by NI Businesses							
	NI External Sales ² to						Sales Within NI	Total Sales (NI + External Sales)
	NI Exports ³ to				Great Britain (GB)	Total External Sales (GB+Exports)		
Ireland (IE)	Rest of EU (REU)	Rest of World (RoW)	Total Exports (IE+REU+RoW)					
2020 £bn	4.2	2.2	4.1	10.5	11.3	21.8	46.1	67.8
2021 £bn	5.2	2.6	4.4	12.2	12.8	24.9	52.1	77.1
Annual Change (%)	23.0	16.8	8.3	16.0	13.1	14.5	13.2	13.6

¹Total sales represents sales within NI + total external sales

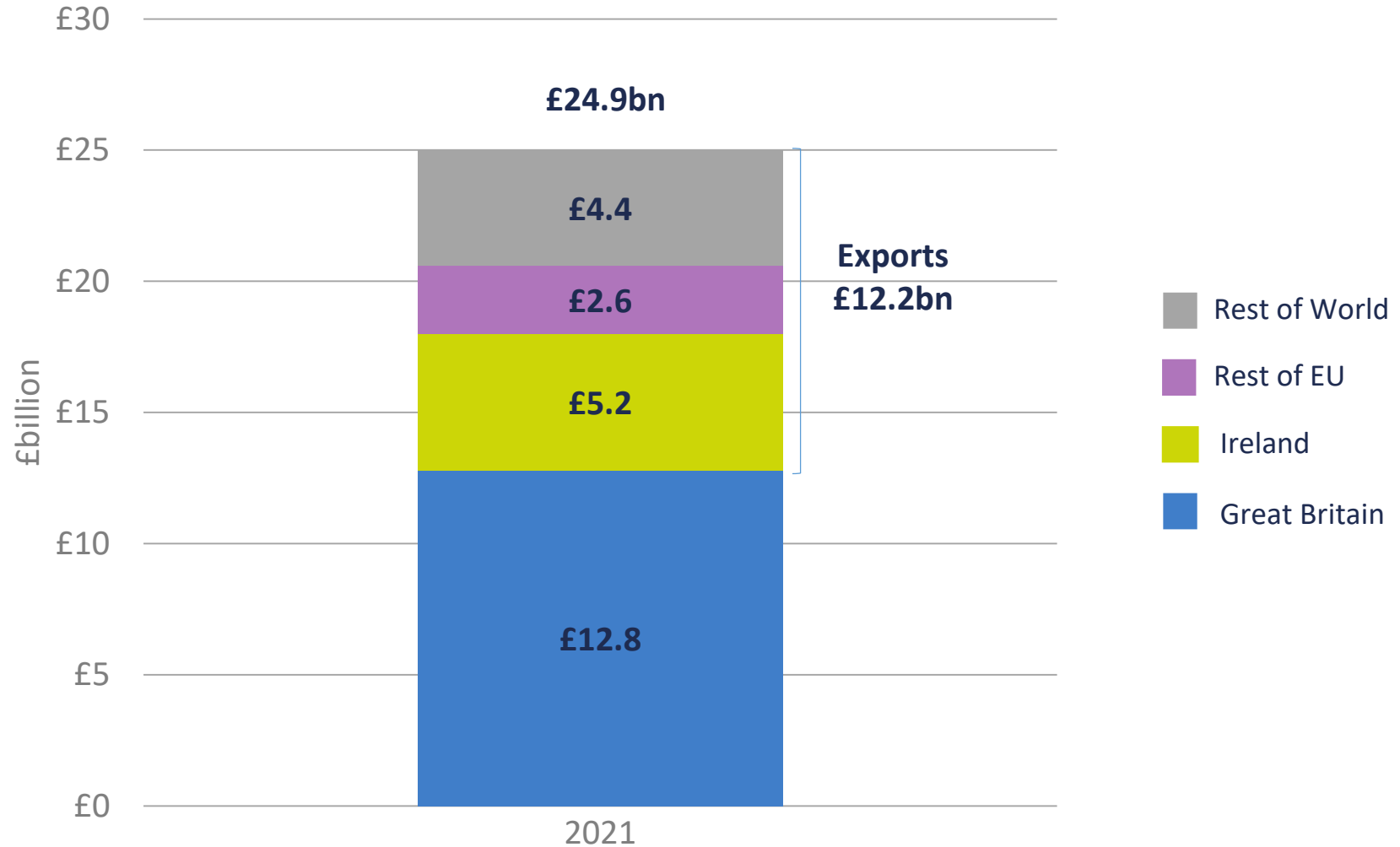
²External sales represents sales made outside NI (sales to GB, IE, REU and RoW)

³Exports represent all sales made outside the UK (sales to IE, REU and RoW)

NI External Sales & Exports by Destination (£billion), 2021

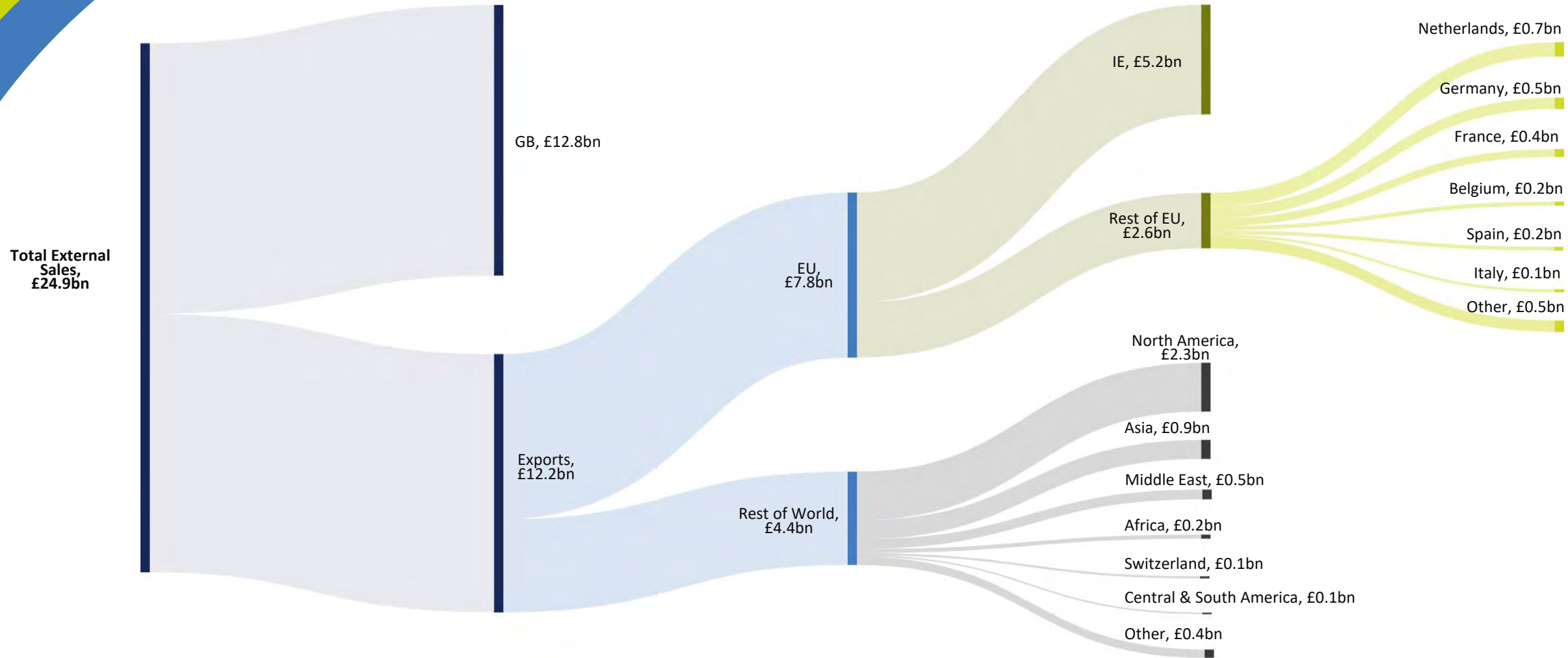
In 2021:

- NI sales to GB were worth 2.5 times more than NI exports to Ireland;
- Total export sales are the highest in the time series (since 2011);
- IE remains NI's single largest export market

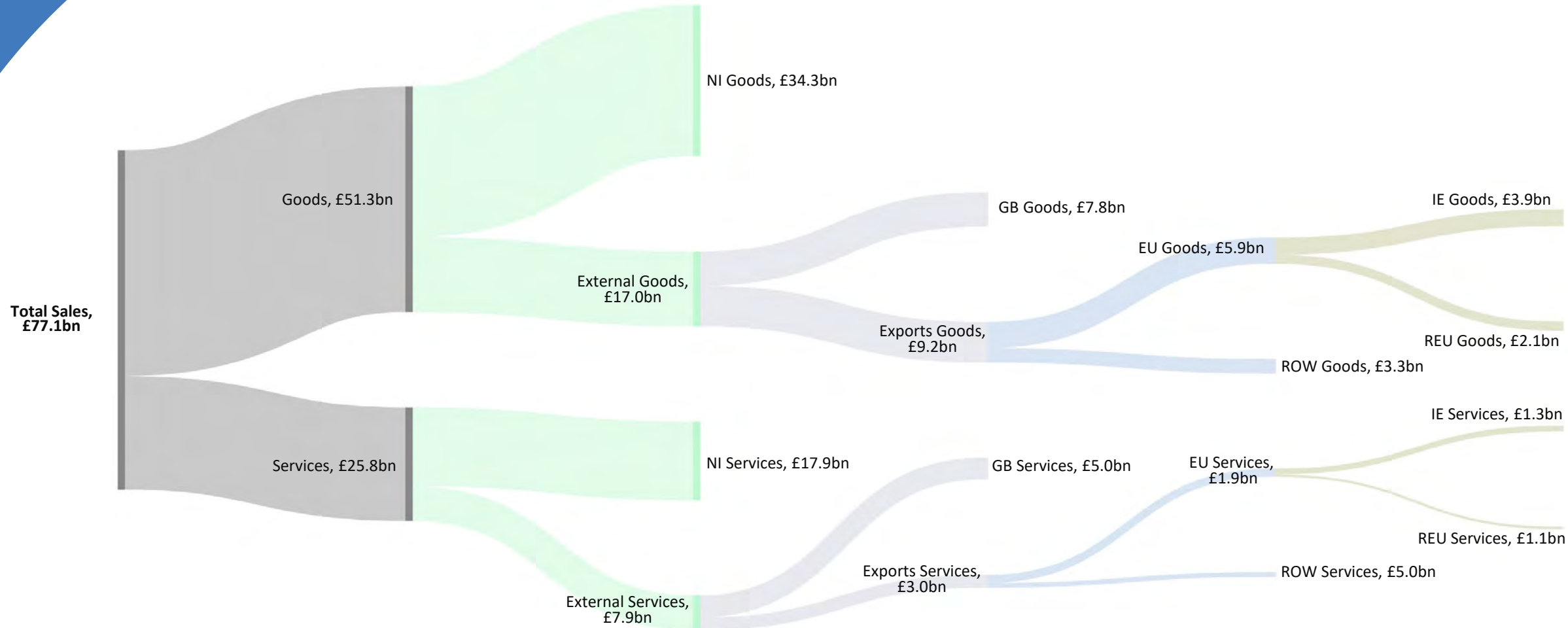


¹Sales to GB are not “exports”, which are defined as sales outside the UK

Total NI Sales by Broad Destination (£billion), 2021



Sales of Goods and Services by Broad Destination (£billion), 2021*

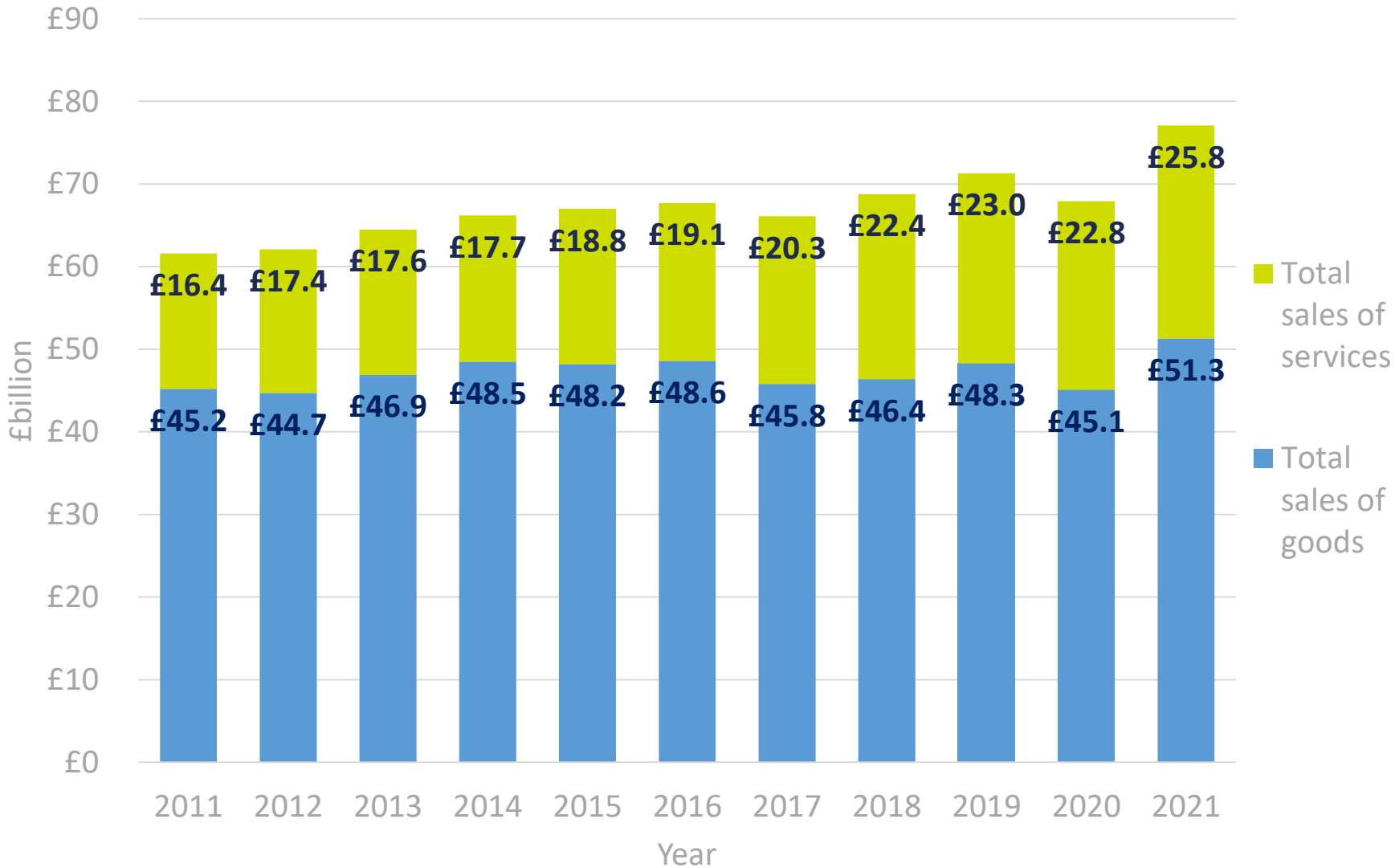


*Numbers may not sum due to rounding

Total Sales of Goods and Services, 2011 – 2021 (£billion)

In 2021:

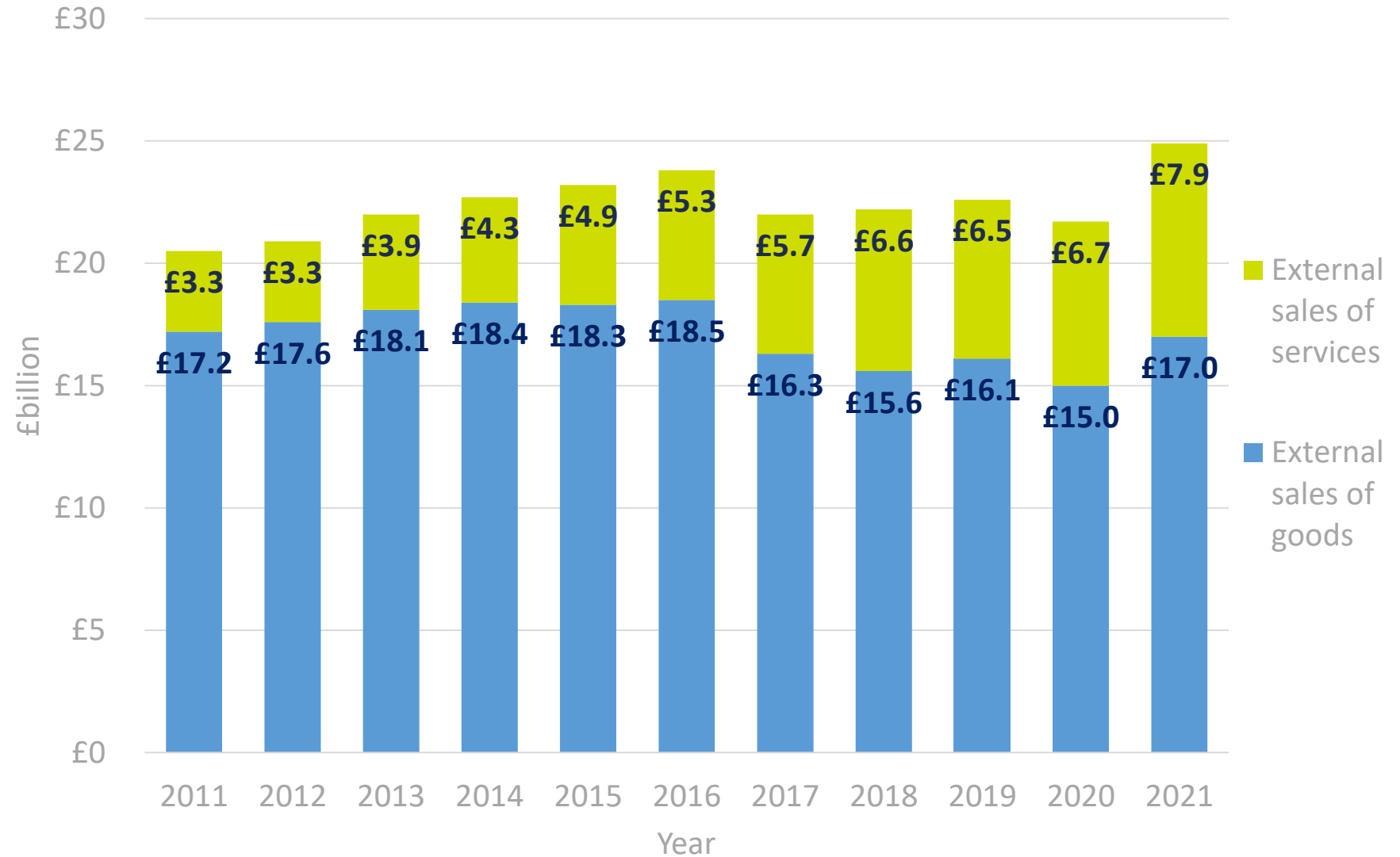
- Total sales were worth £77.1bn
- **Goods** accounted for 67% of total sales
- **Services** accounted for 33% of total sales



External Sales of Goods and Services, 2011 – 2021 (£billion)

In 2021:

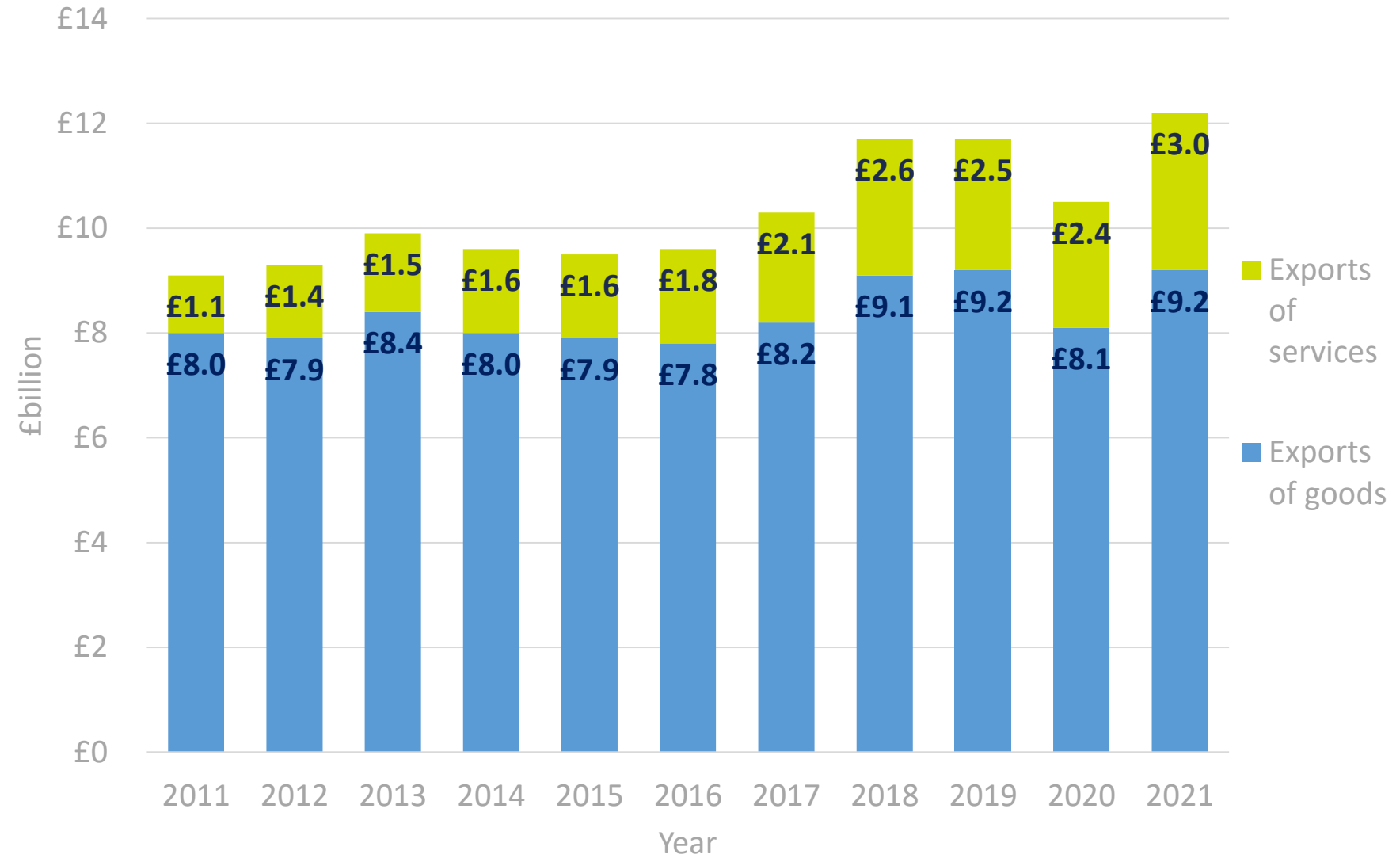
- Total external sales were worth £24.9bn
- **Goods** accounted for 68% of external sales
- **Services** accounted for 32% of external sales



Exports of Goods and Services, 2011 – 2021 (£billion)

In 2021:

- Total exports were worth £12.2bn
- **Goods** accounted for 76% of exports
- **Services** accounted for 24% of exports



Sales by NI businesses within NI accounted for 68% of total sales

2021 Summary	Value (£billion)	Share of Total Sales (%)
Sales to IE	5.2	7%
Sales to REU	2.6	3%
Sales to RoW	4.4	6%
Total Exports¹	12.2	16%
Sales to GB	12.8	17%
Total External Sales²	24.9	32%
Sales within NI	52.1	68%
Total Sales³	77.1	100%

¹Exports represent all sales made outside the UK (sales to IE, REU and RoW)

²External sales represents sales made outside NI (sales to GB, IE, REU and RoW)

³Total sales represents sales within NI + total external sales

NI sales to GB accounted for 51% of total external sales and 17% of total sales

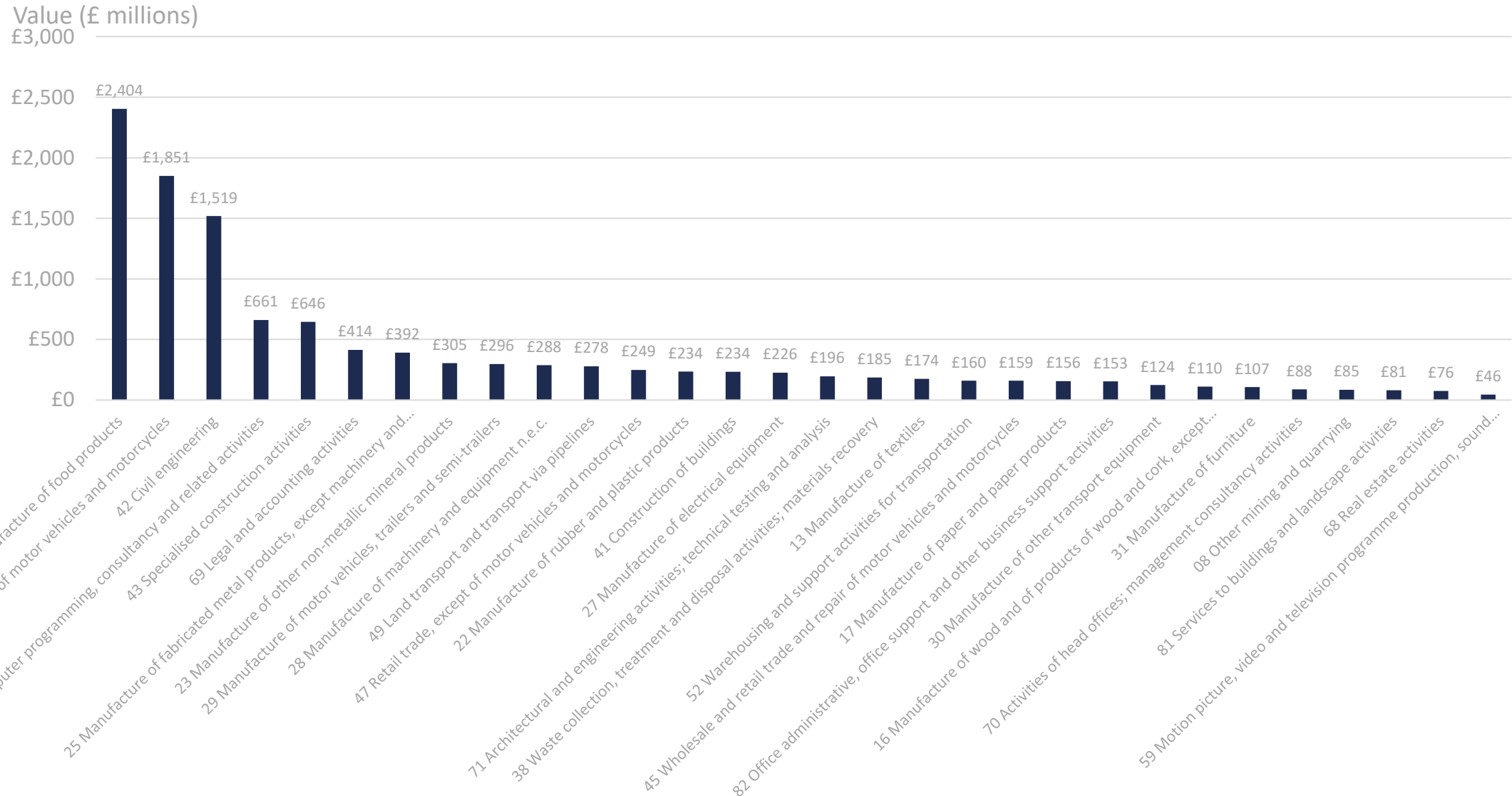
2021 Summary	Value (£billion)	Share (%)
Sales to GB	12.8	51%
Total External Sales¹	24.9	100%
Sales to GB	12.8	17%
Total Sales²	77.1	100%

¹External sales represents sales made outside NI (sales to GB, IE, REU and RoW)

²Total sales represents sales within NI + total external sales

Top 30 NI Industries Selling Goods & Services to GB by Value (£million), 2021¹

Total goods and services sold to GB: £12.8 billion



¹Disclosive cells have been excluded

NI sales to IE were 42% of total exports, 21% of total external sales and 7% of total sales

2021 Summary	Value (£billion)	Share (%)
Sales to IE	5.2	42%
Sales to REU	2.6	21%
Sales to RoW	4.4	36%
Total Exports¹	12.2	100%
Sales to IE	5.2	21%
Total External Sales²	24.9	100%
Sales to IE	5.2	7%
Total Sales³	77.1	100%

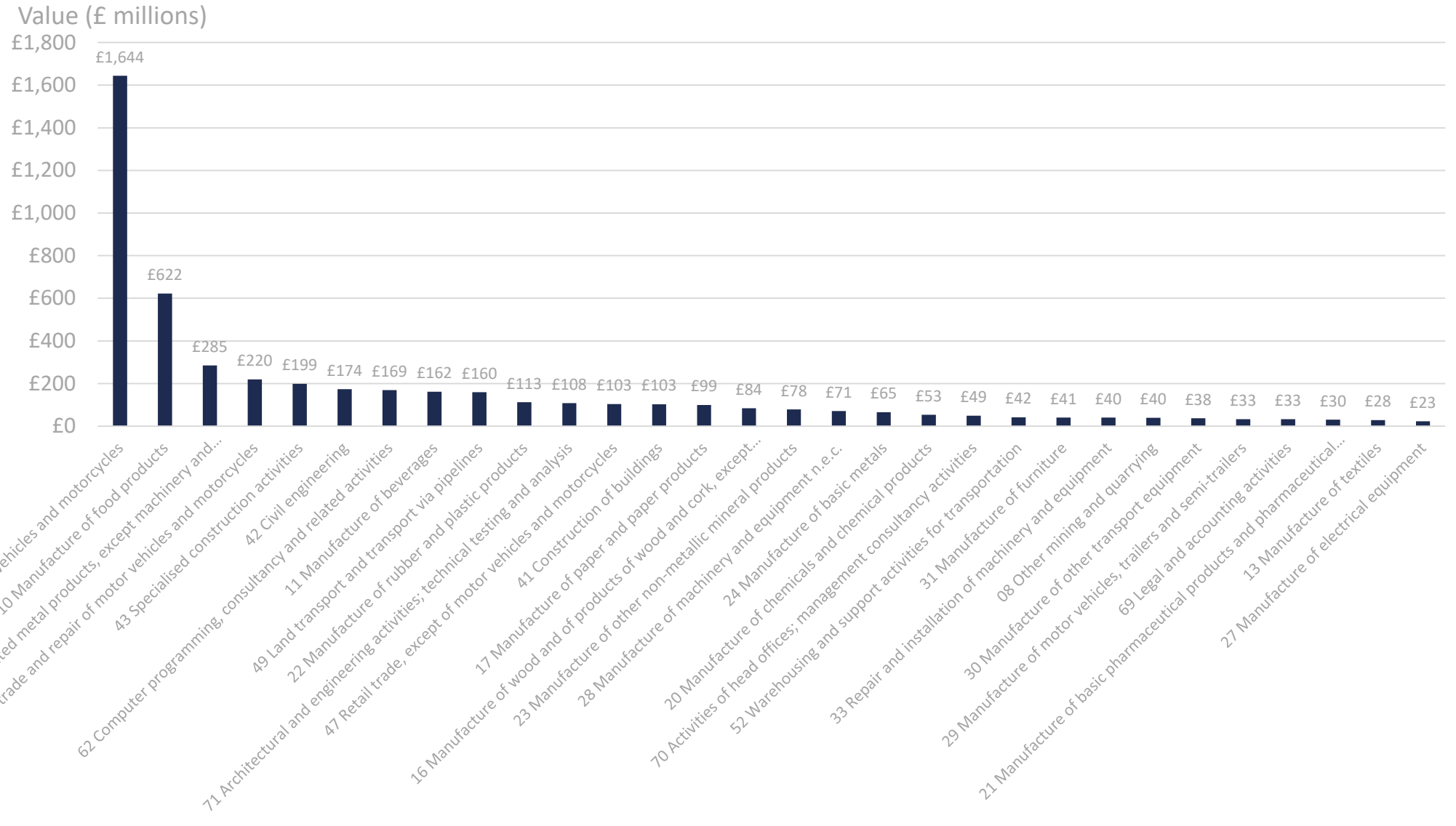
¹Export sales represents all sales made outside the UK (sales to IE, REU and RoW)

²External sales represents sales made outside NI (sales to GB, IE, REU and RoW)

³Total sales represents sales within NI + total external sales

Top 30 NI Industries Selling Goods & Services to Ireland by Value (£million), 2021¹

Total goods and services sold to Ireland: £5.2 billion



¹Disclosive cells have been excluded

Value of sales/exports of goods and services by business size and destination, 2021 (£million)

Business size		NI Sales (£m)			GB Sales (£m)			IE Exports (£m)			REU Exports (£m)			ROW Exports (£m)		
Category	No. of employees	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services
Micro	0-9	11,586	7,592	3,994	1,290	840	450	988	797	191	143	124	19	252	196	56
Small	10-49	15,028	10,021	5,006	2,751	1,805	946	1,777	1,229	547	440	215	226	646	424	222
Medium	50-249	11,741	6,801	4,940	2,800	1,740	1,061	1,205	979	226	545	480	65	677	380	298
Large	250+	13,772	9,849	3,923	5,917	3,413	2,504	1,203	859	344	1,479	1,247	233	2,824	2,297	527
	Total	52,126	34,264	17,863	12,759	7,799	4,960	5,173	3,864	1,309	2,608	2,066	542	4,399	3,296	1,103

Number of sellers/exporters of goods and services by business size and destination*, 2021

Business size		NI Sellers			GB Sellers			IE Exporters			REU Exporters			ROW Exporters		
Category	No. of employees	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services
Micro	0-9	36,725	20,024	25,858	8,941	6,012	5,794	9,302	7,128	6,471	4,328	3,321	2,224	2,921	1,619	1,498
Small	10-49	13,216	7,683	8,694	4,887	2,683	3,147	5,457	3,302	3,373	1,824	1,133	960	1,875	992	1,118
Medium	50-249	1,206	709	798	513	325	299	492	352	254	256	171	110	240	141	118
Large	250+	244	147	152	117	82	59	110	81	55	75	56	36	65	48	28
	Total	51,391	28,563	35,502	14,457	9,102	9,299	15,360	10,862	10,153	6,483	4,682	3,330	5,101	2,800	2,763

*Importer/exporter counts with trading partners are not mutually exclusive as a business can trade to multiple destinations. Businesses can also buy and sell to the same partner.

Summary

NISRA's Northern Ireland Economic Trade Statistics estimate that during 2021:

- Total sales were estimated to be worth £77.1 billion, an increase of 13.6% (£9.2 billion).
- Sales within NI increased by £6.1 billion to £52.1 billion, up 13.2% over the year.
- Sales to GB increased by 13.1% (£1.5 billion) to £12.8 billion.
- External sales (sales to all markets outside NI) increased by £3.2 billion (14.5%) to £24.9 billion, and accounted for almost a third (32.4%) of total sales.
- Exports (sales outside the UK) increased by £1.7 billion (16.0%) to £12.2 billion.
- Exports to IE increased by £968 million (23.0%) to £5.2 billion.
- Exports to the REU (excluding IE) increased by £374 million (16.8%) to £2.6 billion.
- Exports to the RoW increased by £336 million (8.3%) to £4.4 billion.

Imports / External purchases

Total Value of NI Purchases and Imports by Origin 2020-2021 (£ billion)

Destination	Total Purchases ¹ by NI Businesses									
	NI External Purchases ² from									
	NI Imports ³ from									
	Ireland (IE)	Rest of EU (REU)	Rest of World (RoW)	Total Imports (IE+REU+RoW)		Great Britain (GB)	Total External Purchases (GB+Exports)		Purchases Within NI	Total Purchases (NI + External Purchases)
2020 £bn	2.5	2.1	2.2	6.8		13.4	20.3		23.8	44.1
2021 £bn	3.1	2.5	2.1	7.7		14.4	22.2		26.5	48.7
Annual Change (%)	22.5	18.2	-3.3	12.9		7.6	9.4		11.4	10.5

¹Total purchases represents purchases within NI + total external purchases

²External purchases represents purchases made outside NI (purchases from GB, IE, REU and RoW)

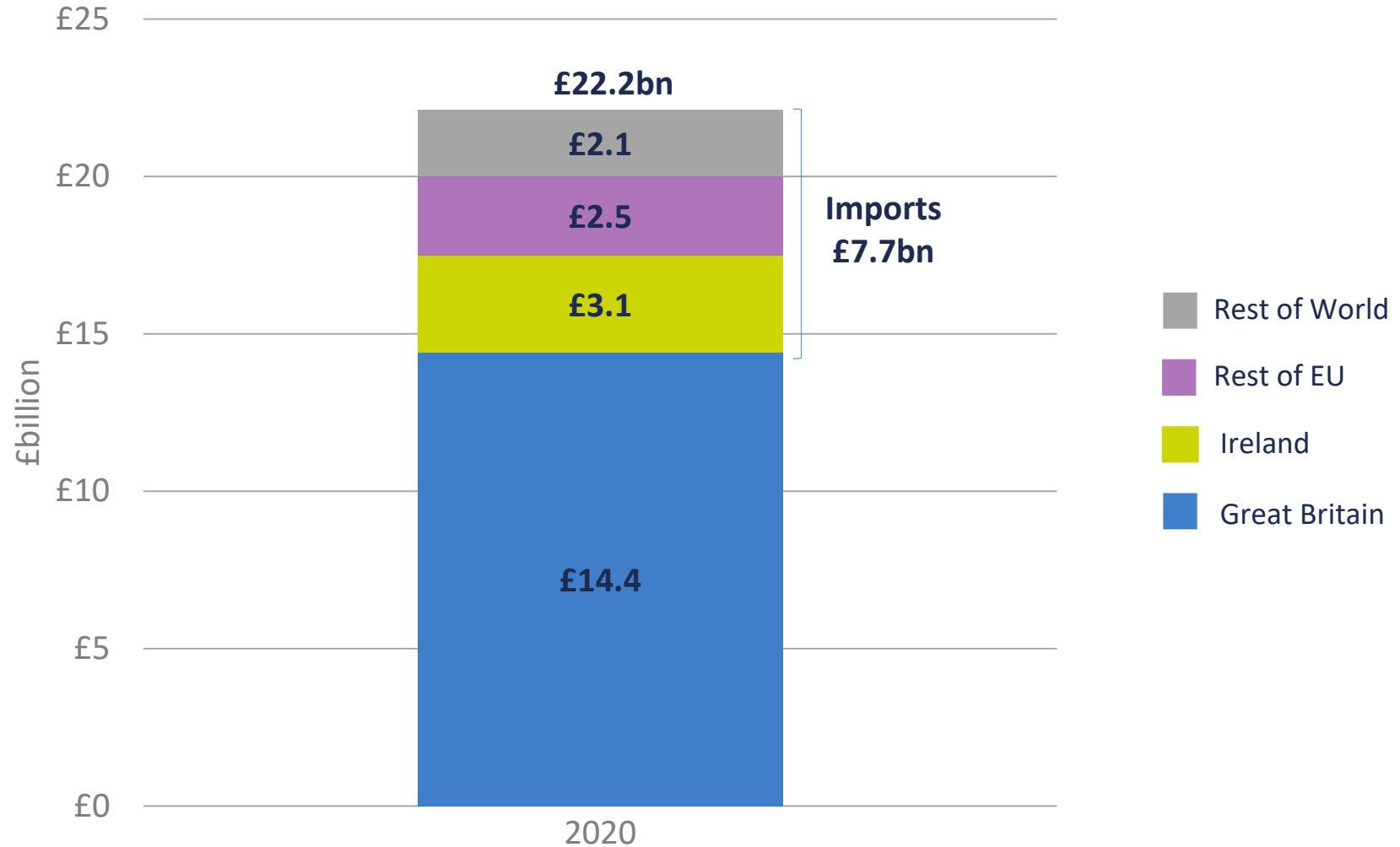
³Imports represent all purchases made outside the UK (purchases from IE, REU and RoW)

NI External Purchases & Imports by Destination (£billion), 2021

In 2021, NI purchases from GB were worth:

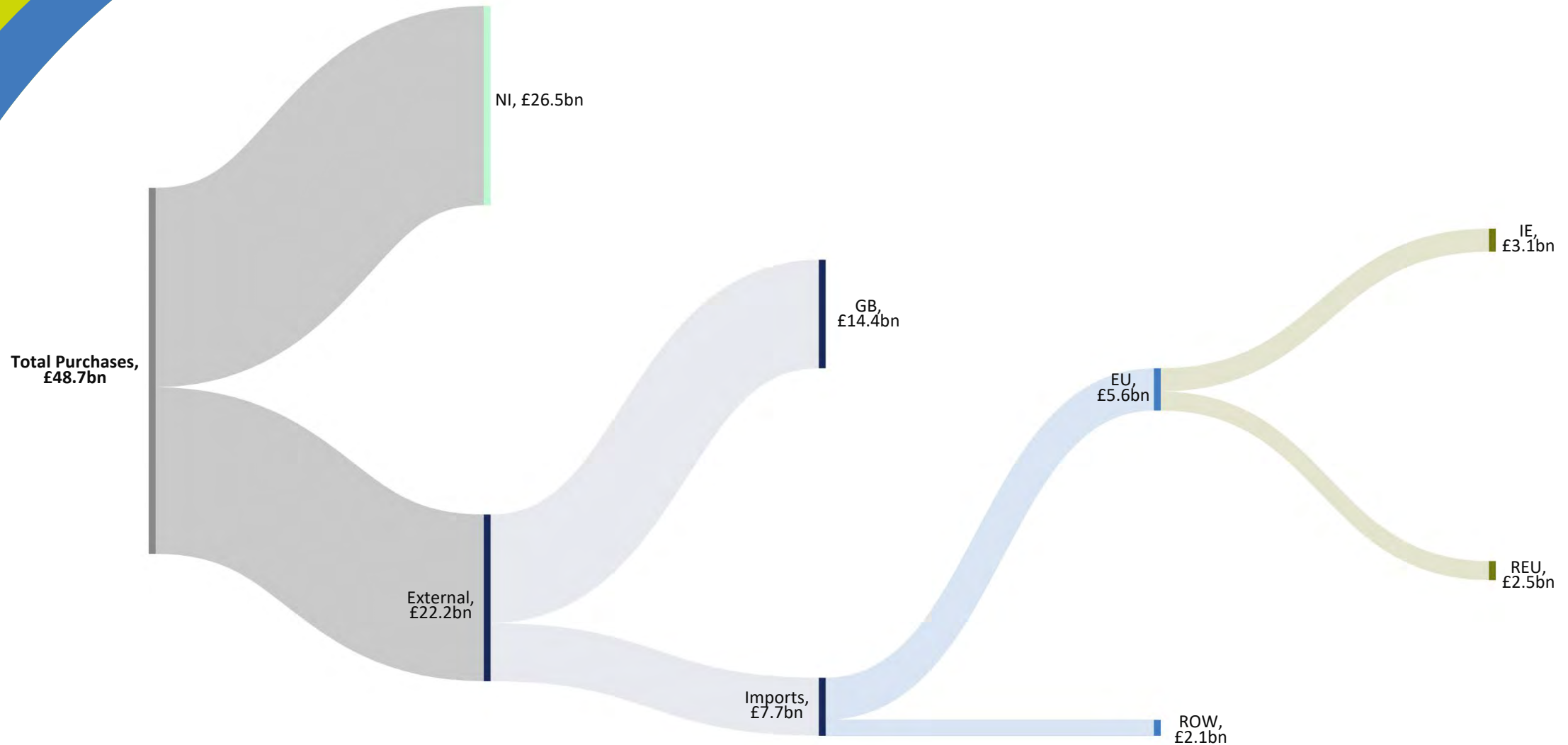
- 1.9 times more than all imports¹; and
- 4.7 times more than NI imports from Ireland

IE remains NI's single largest import¹ market



¹ Purchases from GB are not "imports", which are defined as purchases from outside the UK

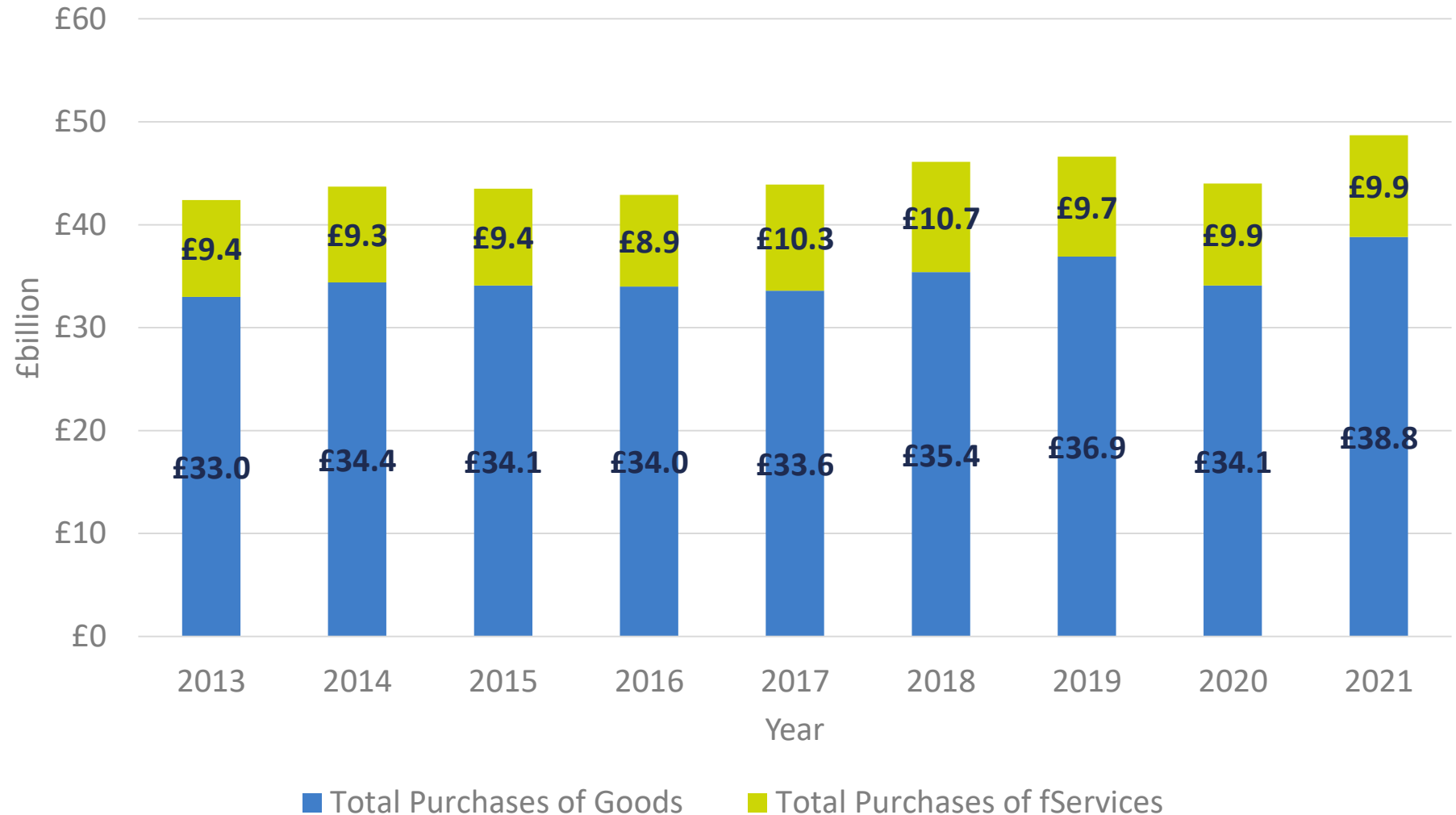
Purchases of Goods and Services by Broad Destination (£billion), 2021



Total Purchases of Goods and Services, 2013 – 2021 (£billion)¹

In 2021:

- Total purchases were worth £48.7bn
- **Goods** accounted for 80% of total purchases
- **Services** accounted for 20% of total purchases

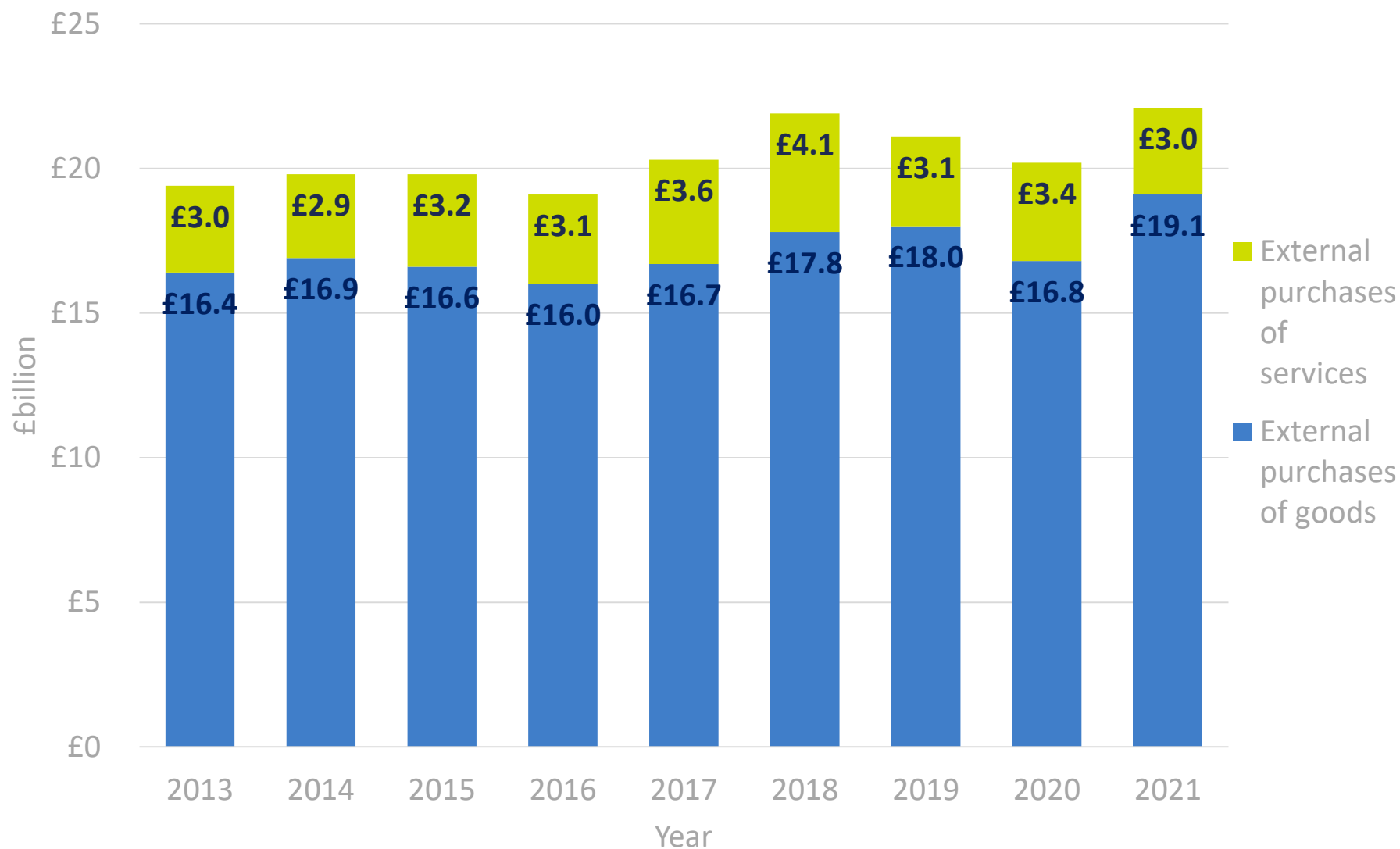


¹ Data only available from 2013 onwards

External Purchases of Goods and Services, 2013 – 2021 (£billion)

In 2021:

- Total external purchases were worth £22.2bn
- **Goods** accounted for 86% of external purchases
- **Services** accounted for 14% of external purchases

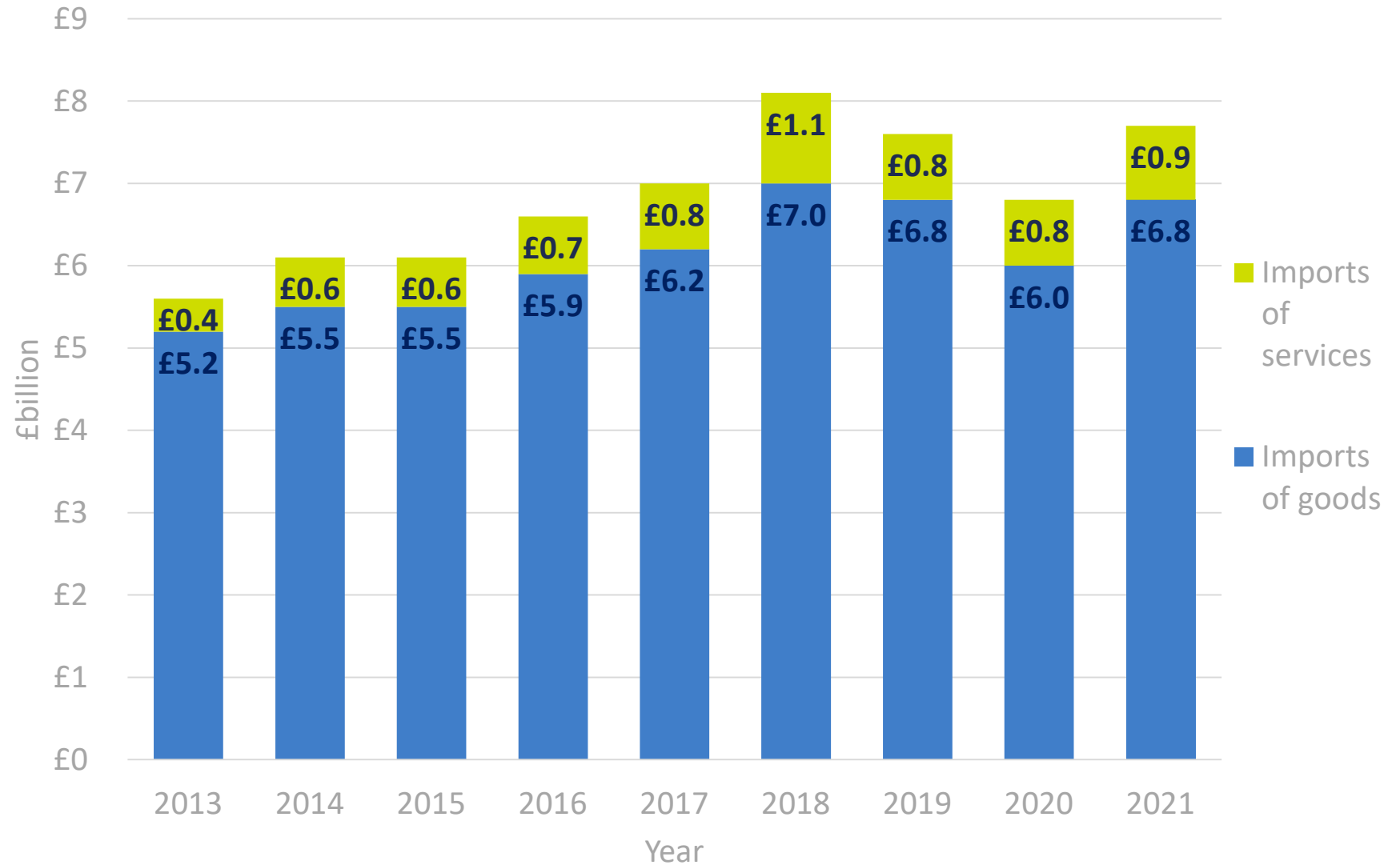


¹ Data only available from 2013 onwards

Imports of Goods and Services, 2011 – 2021 (£billion)

In 2021:

- Total imports were worth £7.7bn
- **Goods** accounted for 88% of imports
- **Services** accounted for 12% of imports



Purchases by NI businesses within NI accounted for 54% of total purchases

2021 Summary	Value (£billion)	Share of Total Sales (%)
Imports from IE	3.1	6%
Imports from REU	2.5	5%
Imports from RoW	2.1	4%
Total Imports¹	7.7	16%
Purchases from GB	14.4	30%
Total External Purchases²	22.2	46%
Purchases within NI	26.5	54%
Total Purchases³	48.7	100%

¹Imports represent all purchases made outside the UK (purchases from IE, REU and RoW)

²External purchases represents purchases made outside NI (purchases from GB, IE, REU and RoW)

³Total purchases represents purchases within NI + total external purchases

NI purchases from GB accounted for 65% of total external purchases and 30% of total purchases

2021 Summary	Value (£billion)	Share (%)
Purchases from GB	14.4	65%
Total External Purchases¹	22.2	100%
Purchases from GB	14.4	30%
Total Purchases²	48.7	100%

¹External purchases represent purchases made outside NI (purchases from GB, IE, REU and RoW)

²Total purchases represents purchases within NI + total external purchases

Top 30 NI Industries Purchasing Goods from GB by Value (£million), 2021¹

Total goods purchased from GB
£12.3 billion



¹ Disclosive cells have been excluded

NI imports from IE were 40% of total imports, 14% of total external purchases and 6% of total purchases

2021 Summary	Value (£billion)	Share (%)
Imports from IE	3.1	40%
Imports from REU	2.5	33%
Imports from RoW	2.1	27%
Total Imports¹	7.7	100%
Imports from IE	3.1	14%
Total External Purchases²	22.2	100%
Imports from IE	3.1	6%
Total Purchases³	48.7	100%

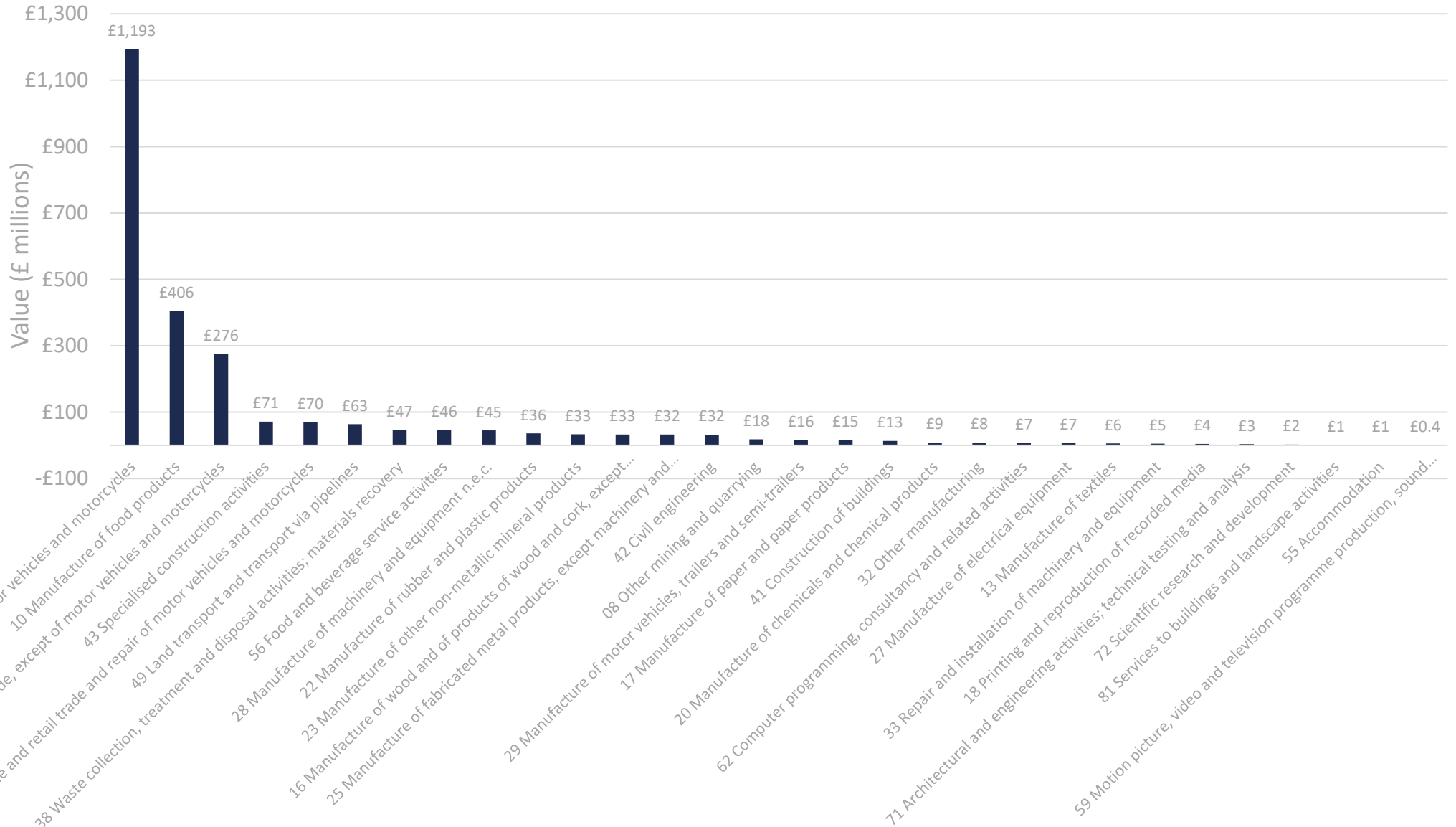
¹Imports represent all purchases made outside the UK (purchases from IE, REU and RoW)

²External purchases represents purchases made outside NI (purchases from GB, IE, REU and RoW)

³Total purchases represents purchases within NI + total external purchases

Top 30 NI Industries Purchasing Goods from Ireland by Value (£million), 2021¹

Total goods purchased from Ireland: £2.8 billion



¹Disclosive cells have been excluded

Value of Purchases/Imports of Goods and Services by Business size and Destination, 2021 (£million)

Business size		NI Purchases (£m)			GB Purchases (£m)			IE Imports (£m)			REU Imports (£m)			ROW Imports (£m)		
Category	No. of employees	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services
Micro	0-9	6,009	4,544	1,465	2,476	2,254	223	777	725	52	281	245	36	203	169	34
Small	10-49	7,446	5,601	1,845	3,413	3,039	374	709	593	116	749	574	175	636	584	52
Medium	50-249	5,464	3,598	1,866	3,369	2,820	549	874	791	83	515	455	60	336	271	65
Large	250+	7,603	5,877	1,726	5,192	4,237	955	717	654	63	991	928	62	937	797	139
	Total	26,522	19,620	6,902	14,450	12,349	2,100	3,078	2,764	313	2,536	2,202	334	2,111	1,821	290

Number of Purchasers/Importers of Goods and Services by Business size and Destination*, 2021

Business size		NI Purchasers			GB Purchasers			IE Importers			REU Importers			ROW Importers		
Category	No. of employees	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services	Total	Goods	Services
Micro	0-9	37,631	32,278	32,659	11,688	10,377	7,652	7,567	7,051	3,691	4,098	3,885	2,038	2,965	2,676	1,172
Small	10-49	14,085	12,227	12,681	6,507	5,217	4,320	3,855	3,155	2,231	2,449	1,866	1,127	2,091	1,384	1,001
Medium	50-249	1,243	1,148	1,151	742	650	571	513	444	318	340	282	165	261	195	126
Large	250+	261	241	252	155	144	117	110	96	70	88	77	54	67	51	42
	Total	53,220	45,895	46,743	19,093	16,388	12,660	12,045	10,746	6,310	6,975	6,110	3,385	5,383	4,307	2,342

*Importer/exporter counts with trading partners are not mutually exclusive as a business can trade to multiple destinations. Businesses can also buy and sell to the same partner.

Summary

NISRA's Northern Ireland Economic Trade Statistics estimate that during 2021:

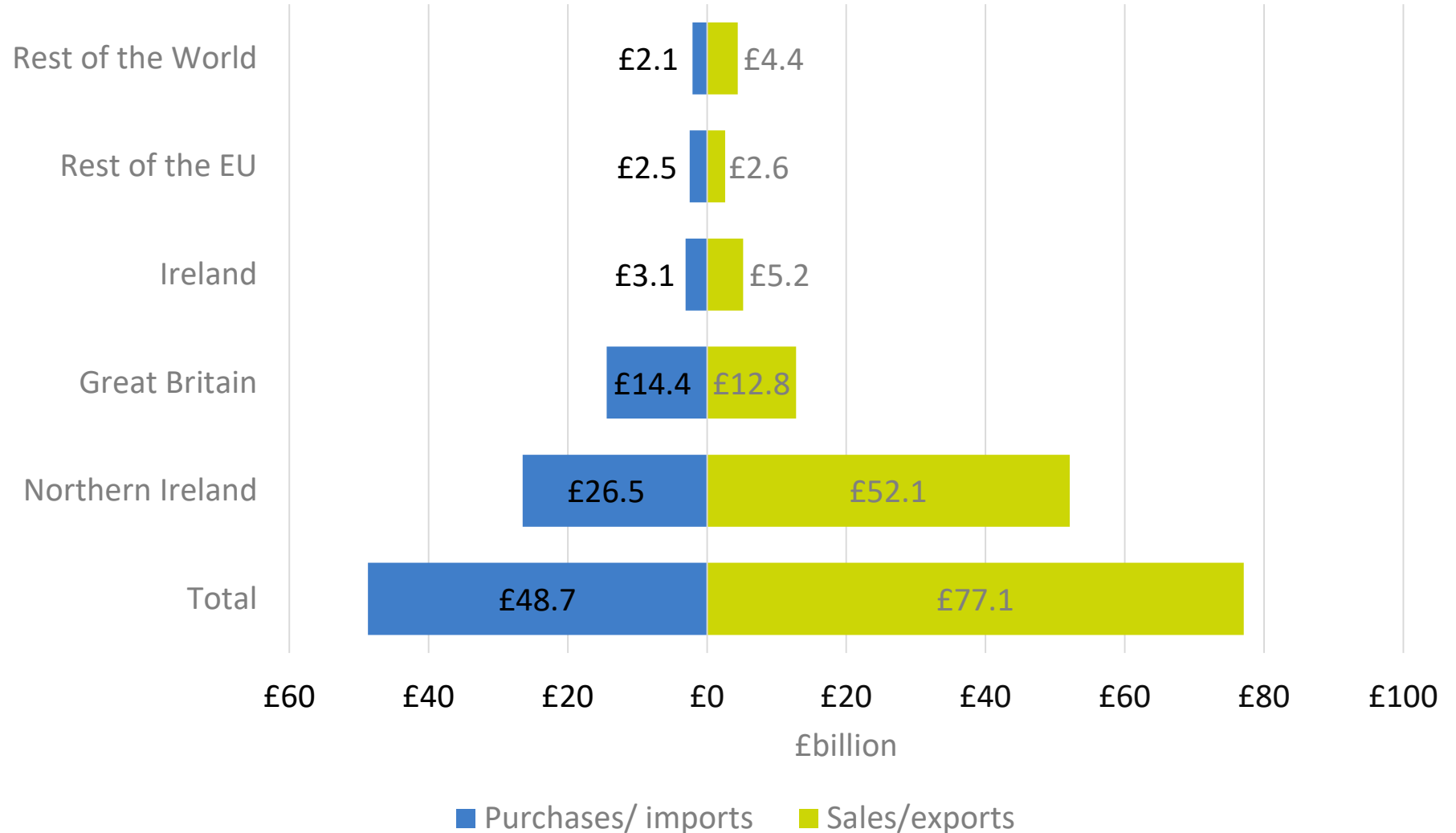
- Total purchases by companies in NI were estimated to be worth £48.7 billion, an increase of 10.5% (£4.6 billion) over the year.
- Imports were estimated to be worth £7.7 billion, an increase of 12.9% (£0.9 billion).
- Imports from IE were estimated to be worth £3.1 billion, an increase of 22.5% (£0.6 billion).
- Imports from REU were estimated to be worth £2.5 billion, an increase of 18.2% (£0.4 billion).
- Imports from ROW were estimated to be worth £2.1 billion, a decrease of 3.3% (£0.1 billion).
- External purchases were estimated to be worth £22.2 billion, an increase of 9.4% (£1.9 billion).
- Purchases from GB were estimated to be worth £14.4 billion, an increase of 7.6% (£1.0 billion).

Northern Ireland Trade Balances

NI Trade Balance by Destination, 2021 (£billion)

In 2020 NI showed a:

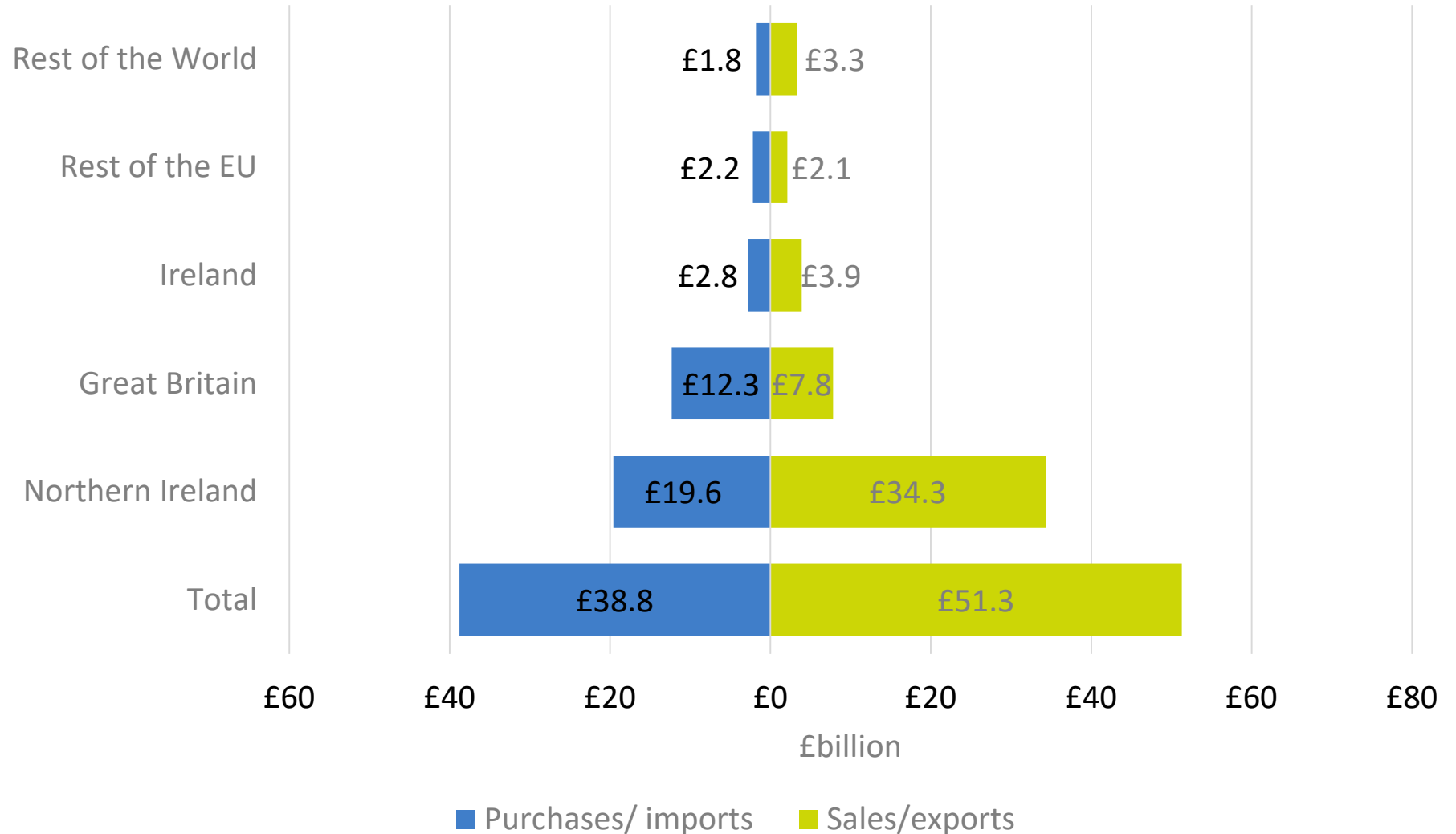
- **Surplus** in trade with IE (£2.1bn), REU (£0.1) and the ROW (£2.3bn)
- **Deficit** in trade with GB (£1.6bn)



NI Trade in Goods Balance by Destination, 2021 (£billion)

In 2021 NI showed a:

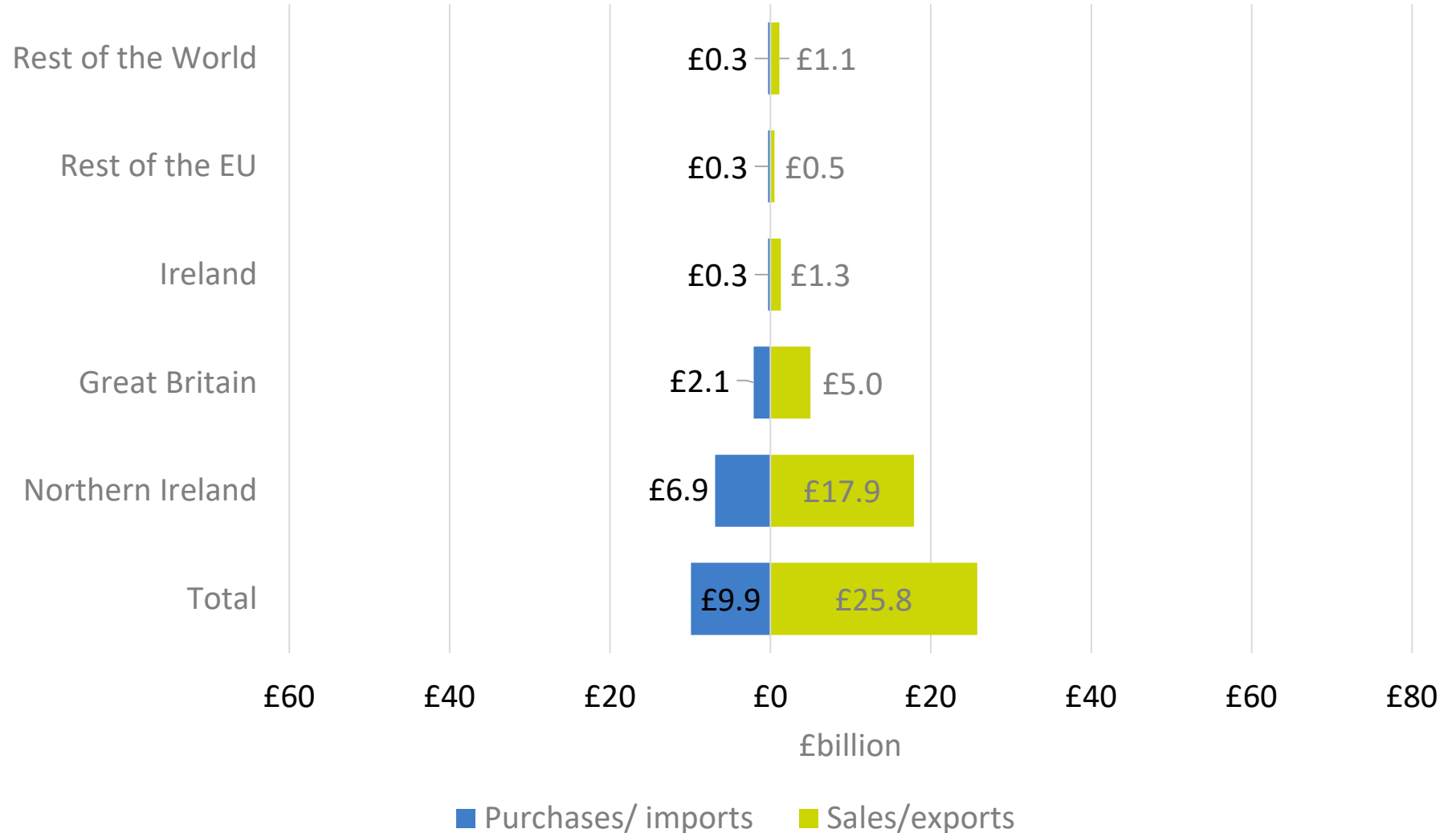
- **Surplus** in goods trade with IE (£1.1bn) and the ROW (£1.5bn)
- **Deficit** in goods trade with GB (£4.5bn) and the REU (£0.1bn)



NI Trade in Services Balance by Destination, 2021 (£billion)

In 2021 NI showed a:

- **Surplus** in services trade with all four regions:
 - GB (£2.9bn)
 - IE (£1.0bn)
 - REU (£0.2bn)
 - ROW (£0.8bn)

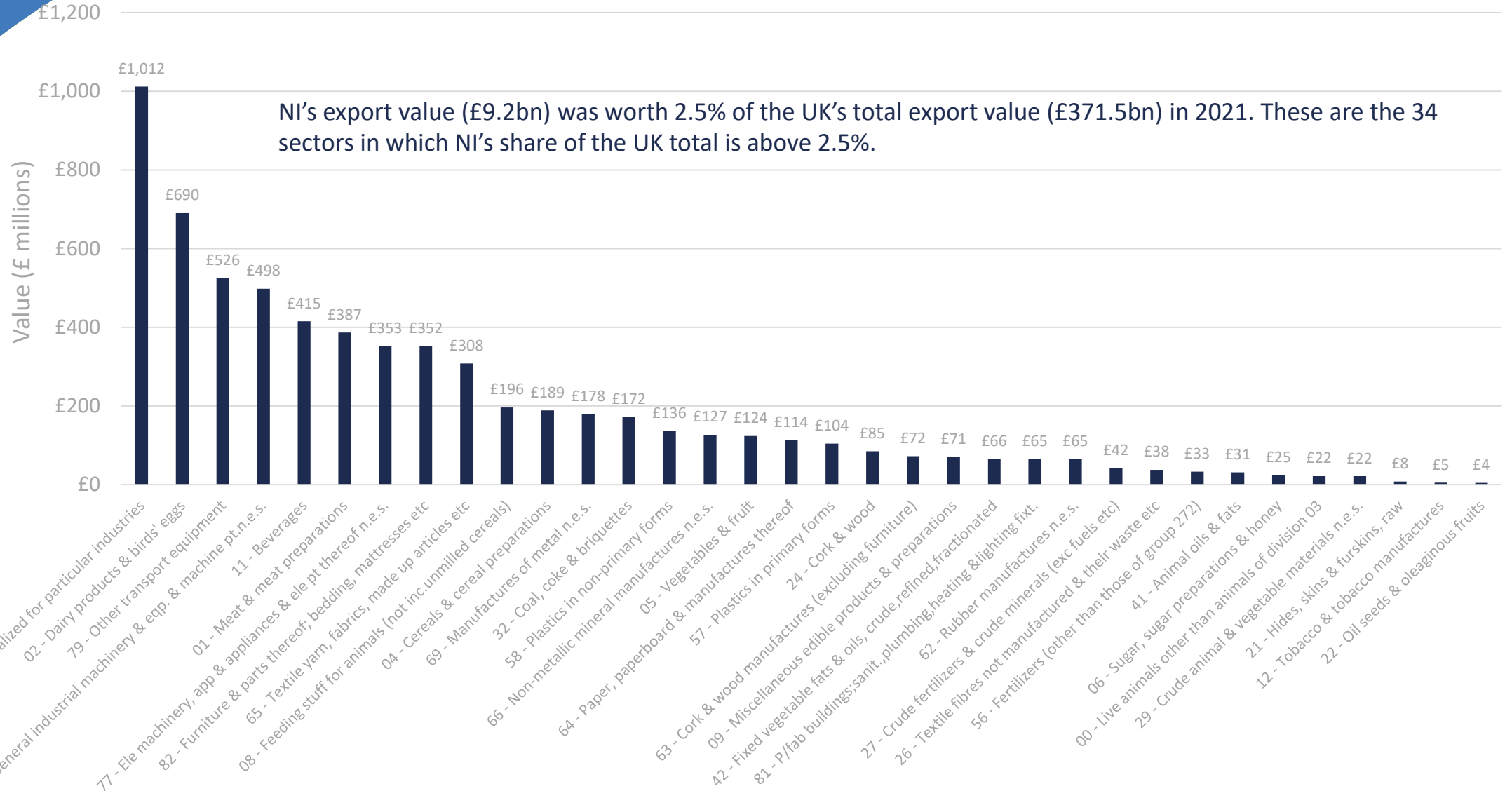


Trade in Goods

User Note

- The following slides provide an analysis of NI trade in **goods only** using [HMRC's Regional Trade Statistics](#).
- Note that HMRC's RTS does not collect UK inter-regional data. Therefore, no HMRC data is available for trade between NI and GB. The only source for this data is NISRA's NIETS.
- HMRC's RTS assign goods according to the [Standard International Trade Classification \(SITC\)](#) – a United Nations commodity classification system based on a five digit numeric code representing five different levels.
- The following analysis presents goods at levels 1 (Section) and 2 (Division).
- In September 2022, HMRC published the [Summary of movements of goods into Northern Ireland from Great Britain 2021](#). The release details the number of full declarations cleared by HMRC in 2021 for movements of goods into NI from GB.

Products¹ where NI's share of exports exceeds contribution to total UK exports (£million), 2022



¹Split by SITC2 - Division

NI Trade in Goods with IE

£3.7 bn of goods exported from NI to IE in 2022

Top 3 goods¹ that NI exported to IE during 2022:

1. ***'Food and Live Animals'*** was worth 33% (£1.2bn) of total NI exports to IE.
 - Within this the dominant product divisions² were 'Dairy Products and Birds' Eggs' (40% or £492m) and 'Meat & Meat Preparations' (14% or £178m), which together accounted for 54% of 'Food and Live Animals' exports to IE.
2. ***'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material'*** was worth 15% (£551m) of NI exports to IE.
 - This was predominantly made up of 'Manufactures of Metal n.e.s'³ (23% or £126m) and 'Non-Metallic Mineral Manufactures n.e.s' (20% or £108m).
3. ***'Machinery and Transport Equipment'*** accounted for 14% (£534m) of NI exports to IE.
 - The dominant divisions were 'Road Vehicles (including Air Cushion Vehicles)' (35% or £187m) and 'Machinery Specialized for Particular Industries' (31% or £168m).

Combined, the three products above accounted for £2.3bn (62%) of all exports from NI to IE in 2022.

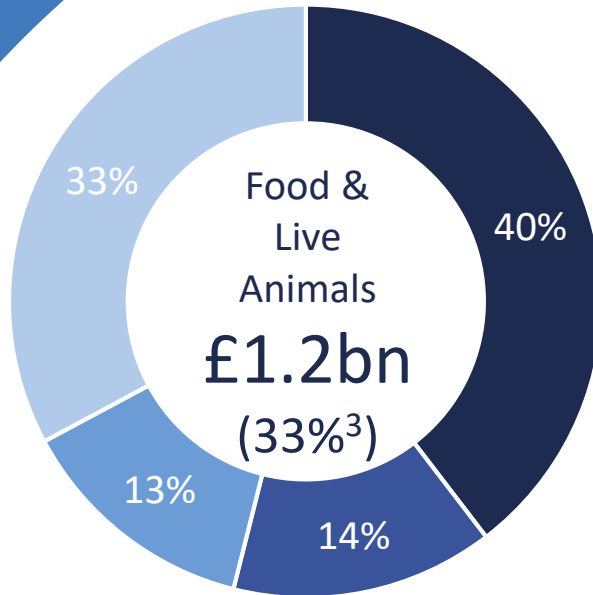
¹ SITC 1 – Section

² SITC 2 – Division

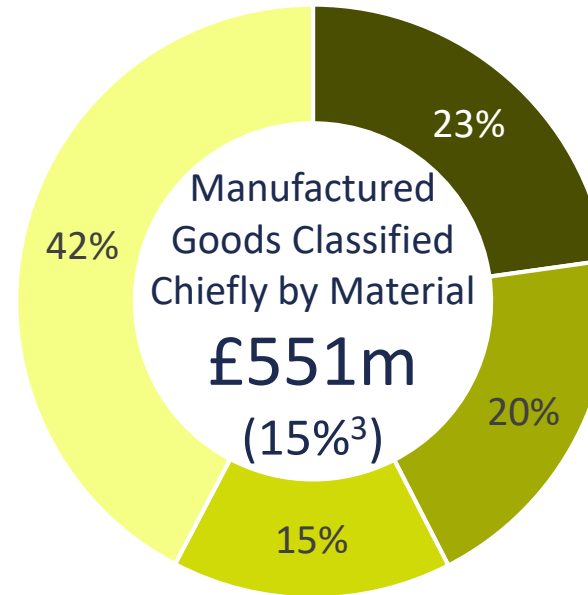
³ n.e.s = not elsewhere specified

Top 3 Goods¹ that NI Exported to IE in 2022

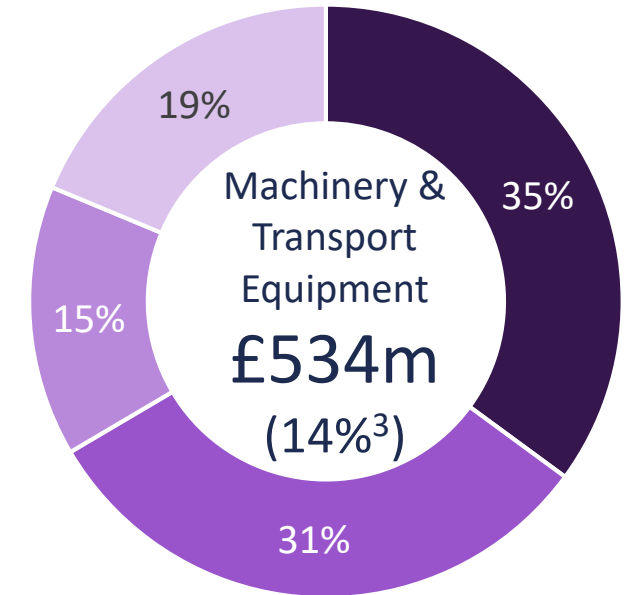
(Split by Division²)



- 02 - Dairy products & birds' eggs
- 01 - Meat & meat preparations
- 04 - Cereals & cereal preparations



- 69 - Manufactures of metal n.e.s.
- 66 - Non-metallic mineral manufactures n.e.s.
- 64 - Paper, paperboard & manufactures thereof
- OTHER



- 78 - Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)
- 72 - Machinery specialized for particular industries
- 74 - General industrial machinery & eqp. & machine pt.n.e.s.
- OTHER

Overall, £3.7bn goods exported from NI to IE in 2022

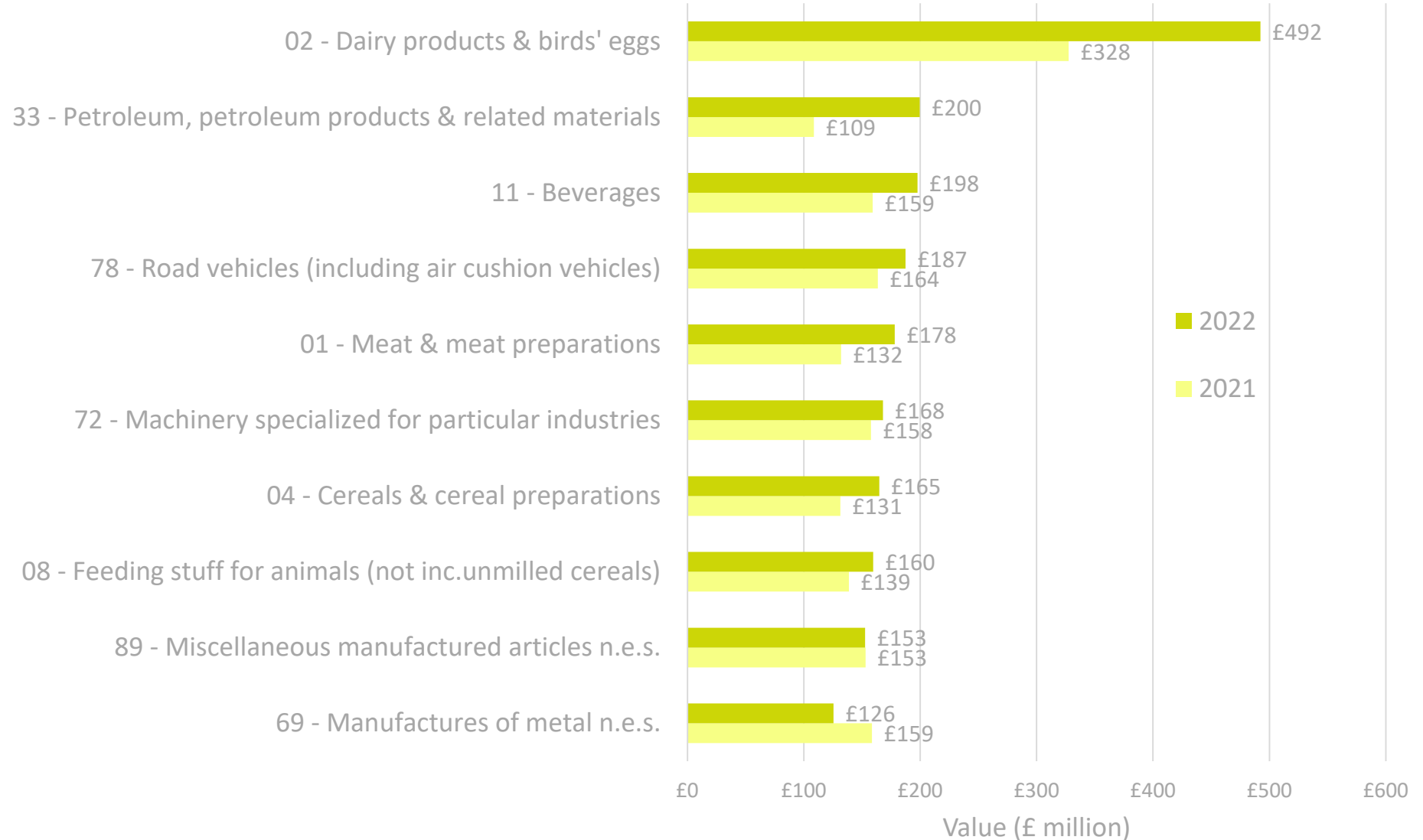
¹ SITC 1 - Section

² SITC 2 – Division

³ As a proportion of total exports of goods from NI to IE

HMRC Top Ten Export Goods from NI to IE by Value (£million) and Product¹, 2022

- HMRC Regional Trade Statistics estimate a value of £3.7bn goods were exported from NI to IE in 2022.
- The top ten products (by SITC2 - Division) accounted for £2.0bn, 54% of all exported goods to IE in 2022.



¹Split by SITC 2 - Division

£3.4 bn of goods imported from IE to NI in 2022

Top 3 goods that NI imported from IE during 2022:

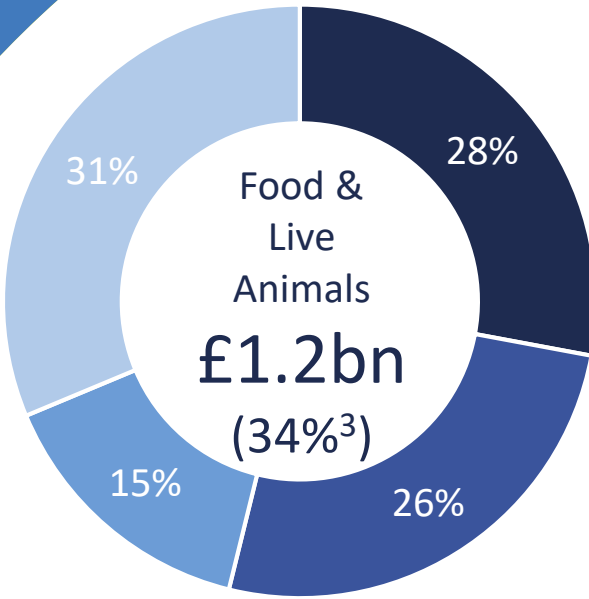
1. ***'Food and Live Animals'*** was worth 34% (£1.2bn) of total NI imports from IE.
 - Within this the dominant product divisions were 'Meat and Meat Preparations' (28% or £330m) and 'Dairy Products & Birds' Eggs' (26% or £306m), which together accounted for 54% of 'Food and Live Animals' imports from IE.
2. ***'Chemicals & related products, n.e.s¹'*** was worth 22% (£750m) of NI imports from IE.
 - The dominant divisions were 'Medicinal & pharmaceutical products' (59% or £439m) and 'Essential oils & perfume materials; toilet preps etc.' (11% or £79m).
3. ***'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material'*** accounted for 13% (£456m) of NI imports from IE.
 - This was predominantly made up of 'Non-metallic mineral manufactures n.e.s.' (37% or £168m) and 'Manufactures of metal n.e.s.' (17% or £79m).

Combined, the three products above accounted for £2.4bn (70%) of all imports from IE to NI in 2022.

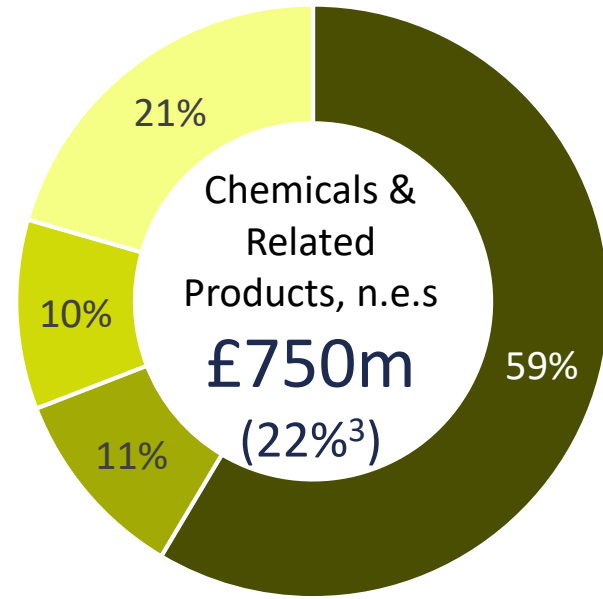
¹ n.e.s = not elsewhere specified

Top 3 Goods¹ that NI Imported from IE in 2021

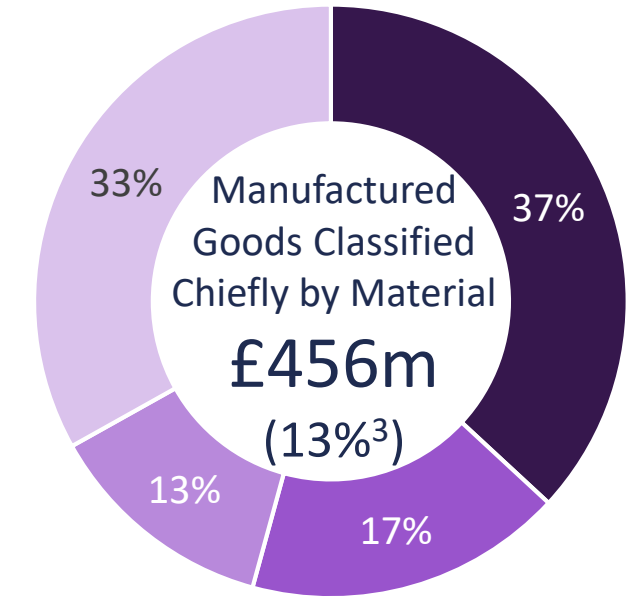
(Split by Division²)



- 01 - Meat & meat preparations
- 02 - Dairy products & birds' eggs
- 05 - Vegetables & fruit
- OTHER



- 54 - Medicinal & pharmaceutical products
- 55 - Essential oils & perfume materials; toilet preps etc
- 58 - Plastics in non-primary forms
- OTHER

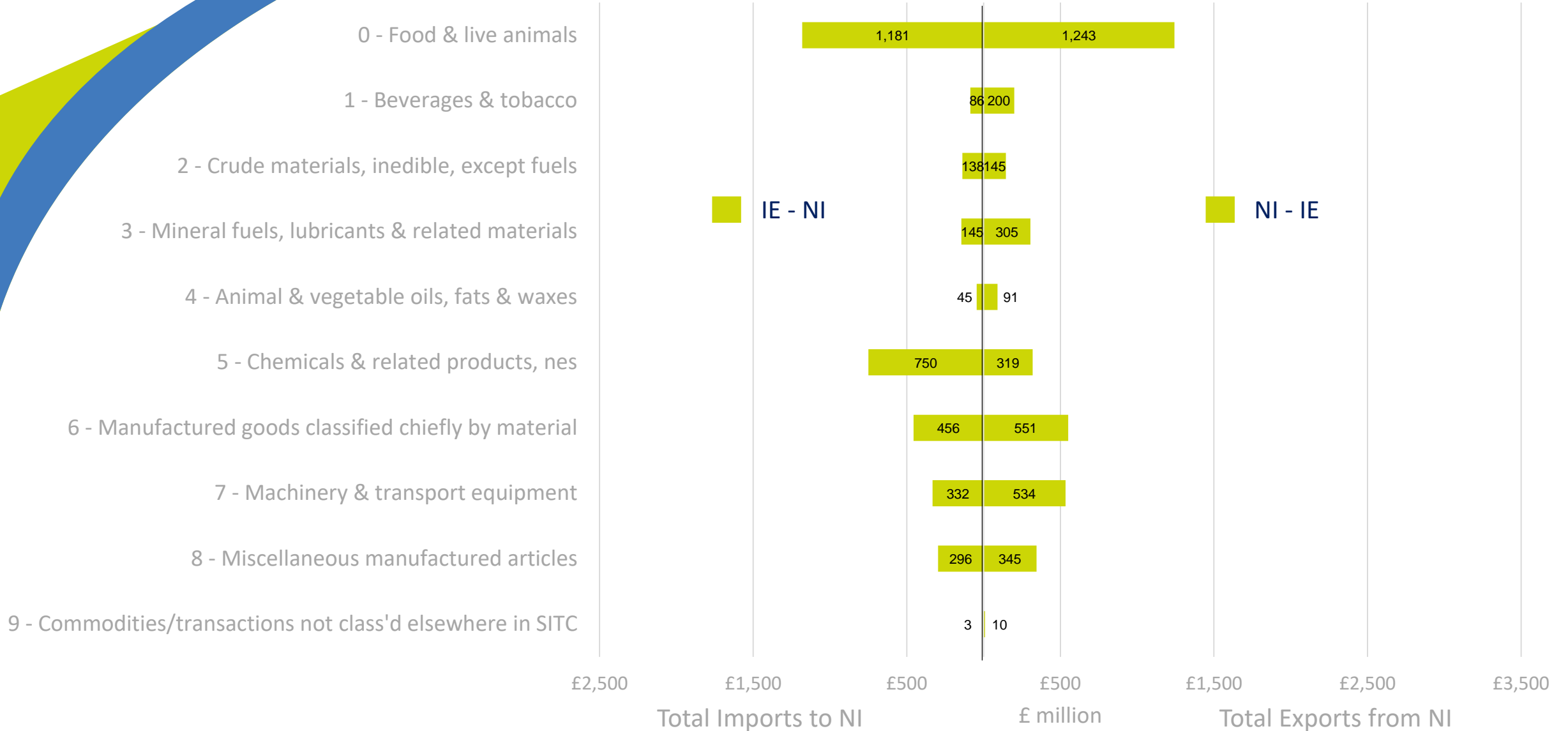


- 66 - Non-metallic mineral manufactures n.e.s.
- 69 - Manufactures of metal n.e.s.
- 67 - Iron & steel
- OTHER

Overall, £3.4bn goods imported from IE to NI in 2022

¹ SITC 1 - Section
² SITC 2 – Division
³ As a proportion of total imports of goods from IE to NI

HMRC Value of Goods (£million): Imports and Exports by Origin, Broad Destination and Product, 2022



NI Trade in Goods with the REU

£2.2bn of goods exported from NI to the REU in 2022

Top 3 goods that NI exported to the REU during 2022:

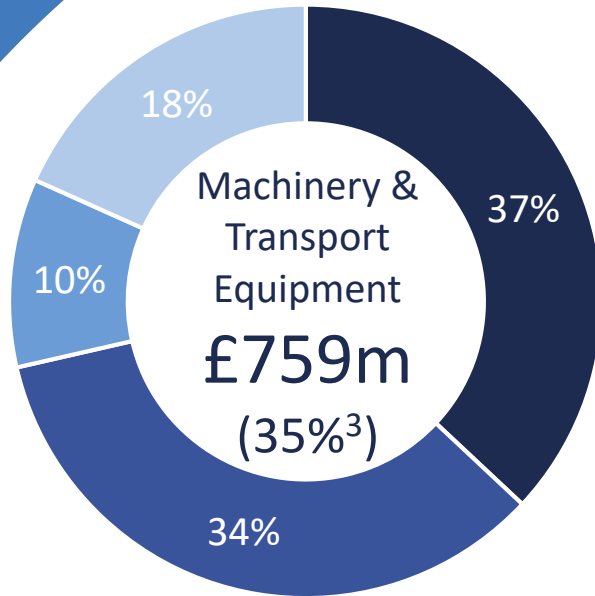
1. ***'Machinery and Transport Equipment'*** was worth 35% (£759m) of total NI exports from NI to the REU.
 - Within this sector the dominant product divisions were 'Machinery Specialized for Particular Industries' (37% or £281m) and 'General Industrial Machinery and Equipment and Machine Parts n.e.s.¹' (34% or £261m) which together accounted for 71% of 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' exports to the REU.
2. ***'Food and Live Animals'*** which was worth 17% (£362m) of NI exports to the REU.
 - This was predominantly made up of 'Meat and Meat Preparations' (44% or £158m) and 'Dairy Products and Birds' Eggs' (38% or £137m).
3. ***'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'*** accounted for 14% (£307m) of NI exports to the REU.
 - The dominant divisions were 'Professional, Scientific and Controlling Instruments and Apparatus n.e.s.' (37% or £114m) and 'Furniture and Parts Thereof; Bedding, Mattresses etc.' (34% or £103m).

Combined, the three products above accounted for £1.4bn (66%) of all exports from NI to the REU in 2022.

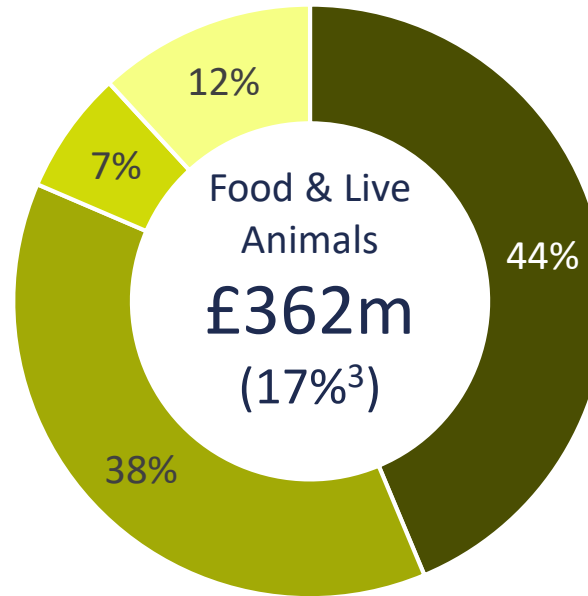
¹ n.e.s = not elsewhere specified

Top 3 Goods¹ that NI Exported to REU in 2022

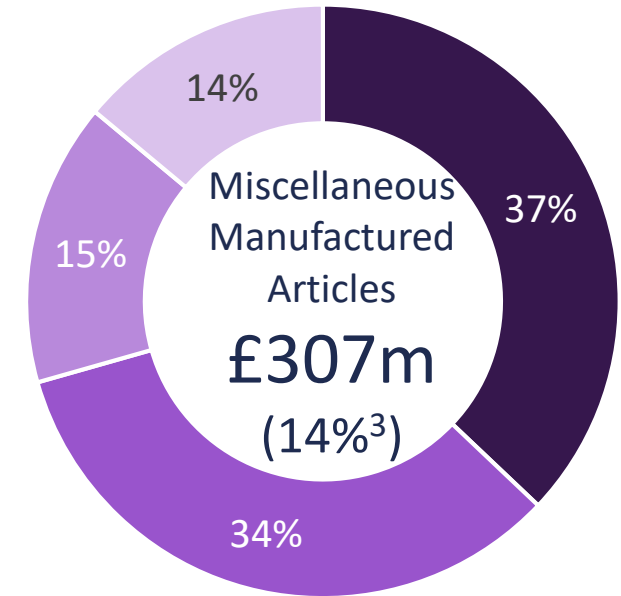
(Split by Division²)



- 72 - Machinery specialized for particular industries
- 74 - General industrial machinery & eqp. & machine pt.n.e.s.
- 79 - Other transport equipment
- OTHER



- 01 - Meat & meat preparations
- 02 - Dairy products & birds' eggs
- 03 - Fish, crustaceans, molluscs & aq.inverts & preps thereof
- OTHER



- 87 - Professional, scientific & controlling ins & app n.e.s.
- 82 - Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses etc
- 89 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles n.e.s.
- OTHER

Overall, £2.2bn goods exported from NI to REU in 2022

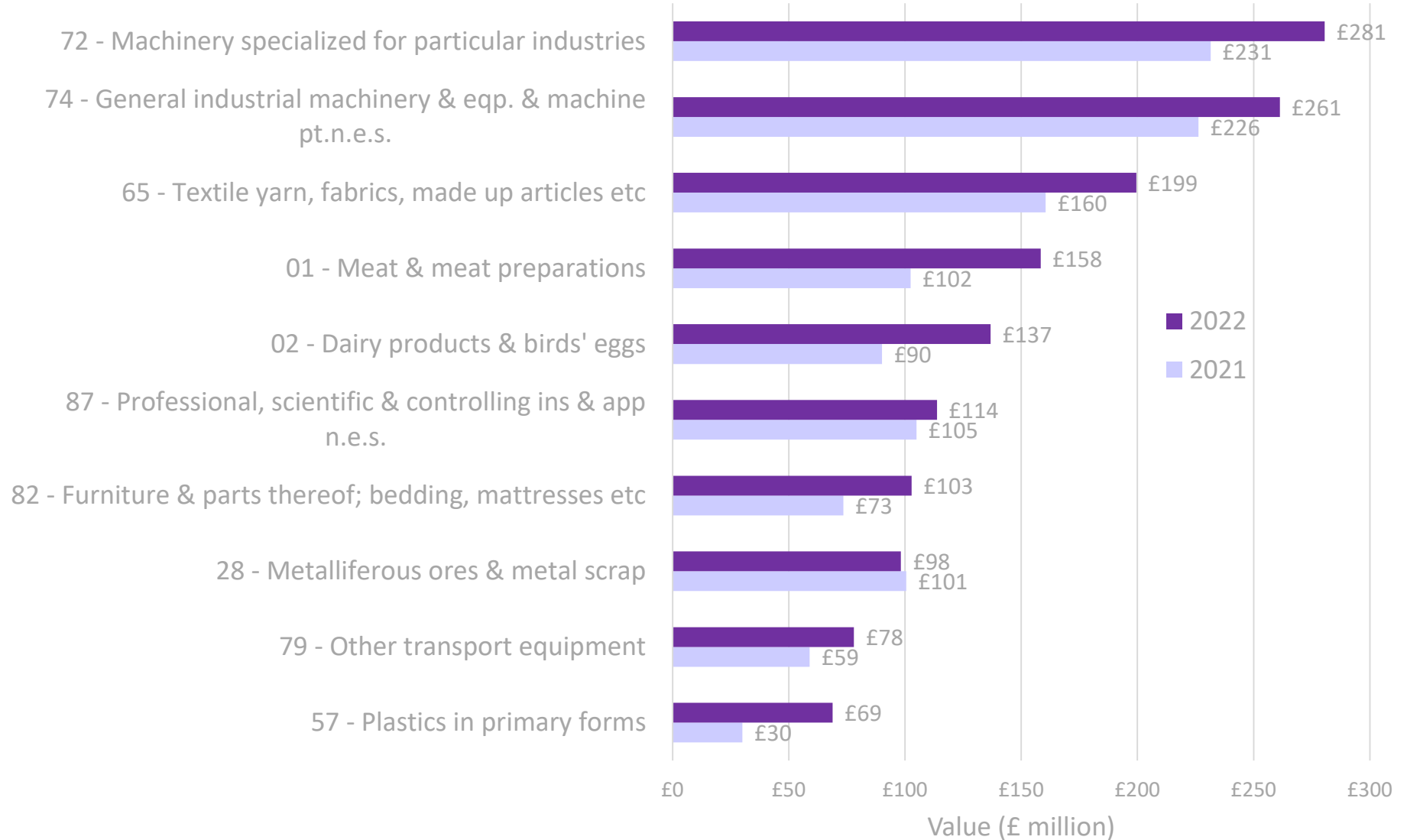
¹ SITC 1 - Section

² SITC 2 – Division

³ As a proportion of total exports of goods from NI to REU

HMRC Top Ten Export Goods from NI to REU by Value (£million) and Product¹, 2022

- HMRC Regional Trade Statistics estimate a value of £2.2bn goods were exported from NI to REU in 2022.
- The top ten products (by SITC2 - Division) accounted for £1.5bn, 69% of all exported goods to REU.



¹Split by SITC 2 - Division

£3.1bn of goods were imported from the REU to NI in 2022

Top 3 goods that NI imported from the REU during 2022:

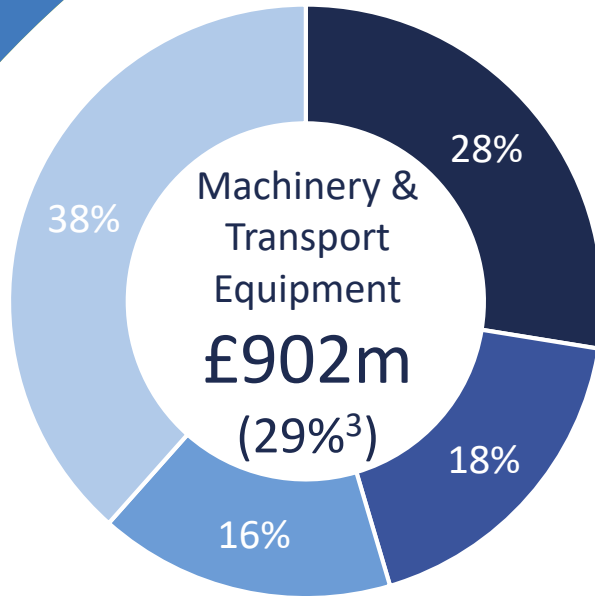
1. ***'Machinery and Transport Equipment'*** was worth 29% (£902m) of total NI imports from the REU to NI.
 - Within this the dominant product divisions were 'Road Vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)' (28% or £248m) and 'Other transport equipment' (18% or £161m), which together accounted for 45% of 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' imports from the REU.
2. ***'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material'*** was worth 20% (£610m) of NI imports from the REU to NI.
 - The dominant divisions were 'Paper, paperboard & manufactures thereof' (19% or £117m) and 'Manufactures of metal n.e.s.' (17% or £104m).
3. ***'Chemicals & Related Products, n.e.s'¹*** accounted for 15% (£470m) of NI imports from the REU to NI.
 - This was predominantly made up from 'Plastics in Primary Forms' (26% or £121m) and 'Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Products' (18% or £86m).

Combined, the three products above accounted for £2.0bn (65%) of all imports from the REU to NI in 2021.

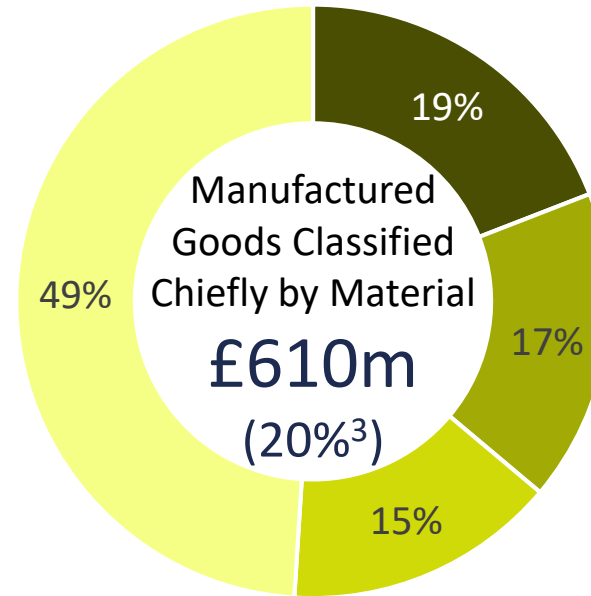
¹ n.e.s = not elsewhere specified

Top 3 Goods¹ that NI Imported from REU in 2021

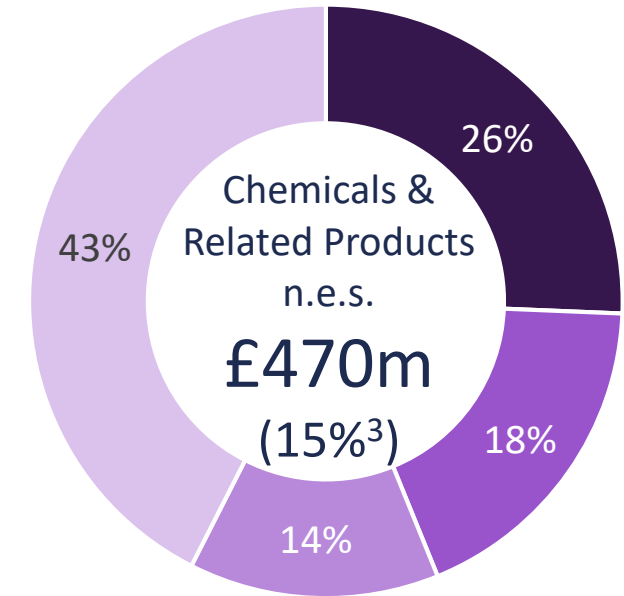
(Split by Division²)



- 78 - Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)
- 79 - Other transport equipment
- 74 - General industrial machinery & eqp. & machine pt.n.e.s.
- OTHER



- 64 - Paper, paperboard & manufactures thereof
- 69 - Manufactures of metal n.e.s.
- 65 - Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles etc
- OTHER



- 57 - Plastics in primary forms
- 54 - Medicinal & pharmaceutical products
- 59 - Chemical materials & products n.e.s.
- OTHER

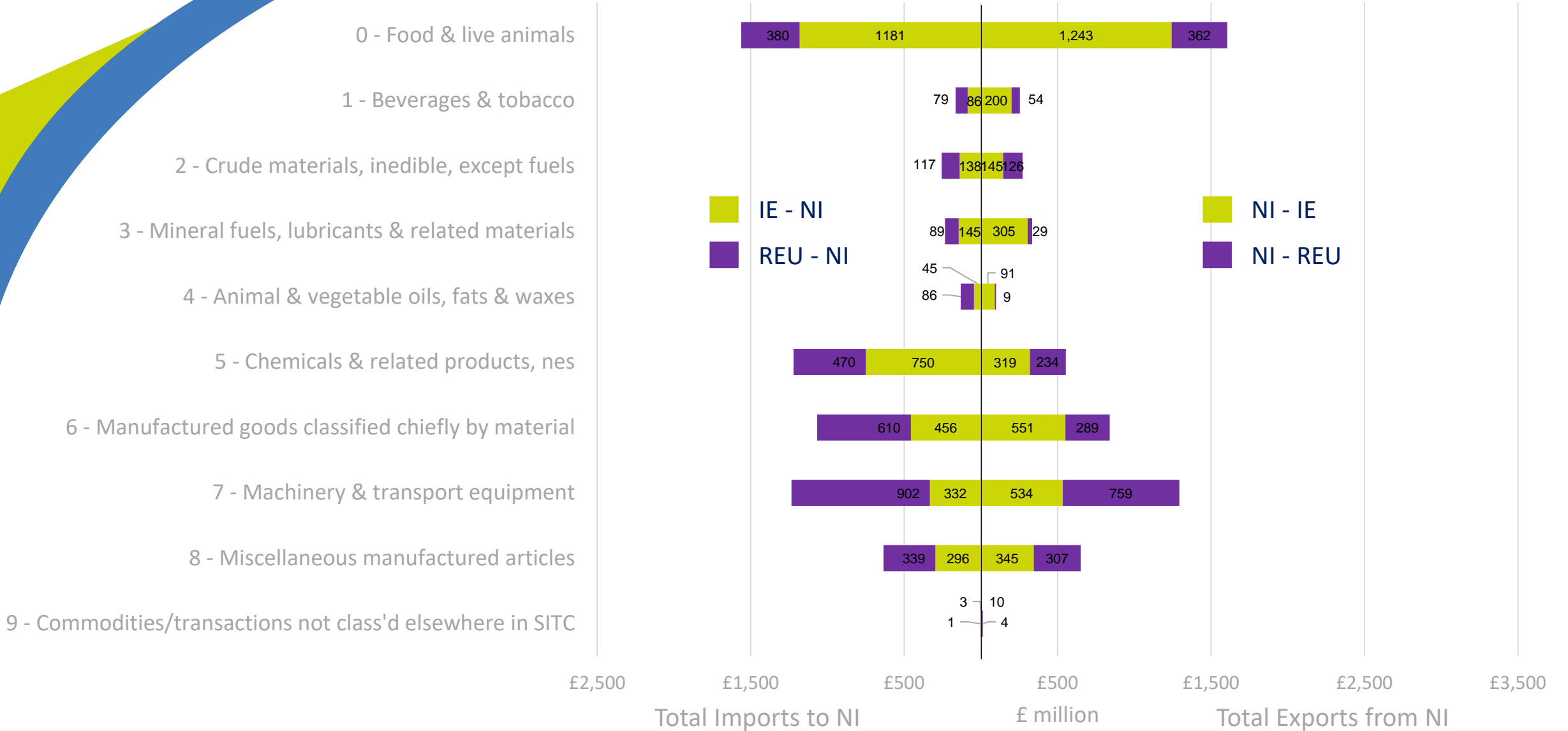
Overall, £3.1bn goods imported from REU to NI in 2021

¹ SITC 1 - Section

² SITC 2 – Division

³ As a proportion of total imports of goods from REU to NI

HMRC Value of Goods (£million): Imports and Exports by Origin, Broad Destination and Product, 2022



NI Trade in Goods with the RoW

£3.3bn of goods were exported from NI to the RoW in 2022

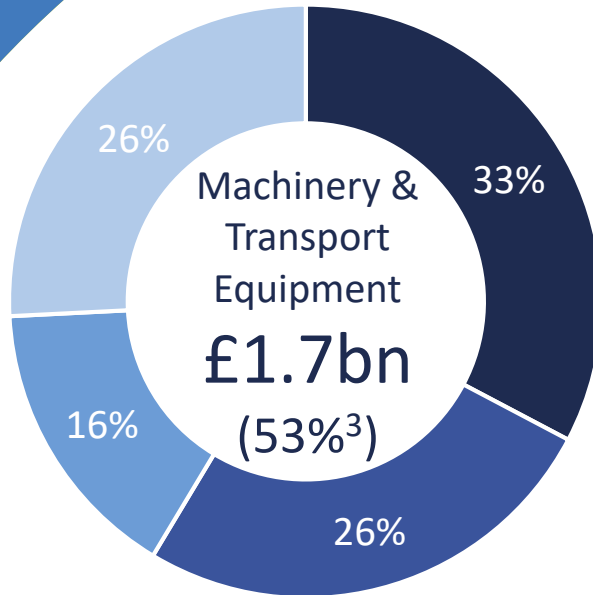
Top 3 goods that NI exported to the RoW during 2022:

1. **'Machinery and Transport Equipment'** – 53% (£1.7bn) of total NI exports to the RoW.
 - Within this the dominant product divisions were 'Machinery Specialized for Particular Industries' (33% or £563m) and 'Other Transport Equipment' (26% or £446m), which together accounted for 59% of 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' exports to the RoW.
2. **'Chemicals & related products, nes'** which was worth 17% (£548m) of NI exports to the RoW.
 - The dominant division was 'Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Products' which was worth £388m (71%) of 'Chemicals and Related Products, n.e.s' exports to the RoW.
3. **'Miscellaneous manufactured articles'** accounted for 12% (£397m) of NI exports to the RoW.
 - This was predominately made from 'Furniture and Parts Thereof; Bedding, Mattresses etc.' (46% or £184m) and 'Professional, Scientific and Controlling Instruments and Apparatus n.e.s' (38% or £1150m).

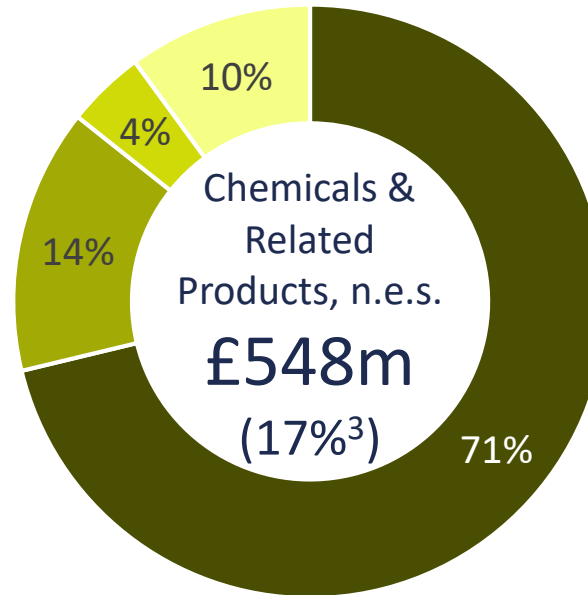
Combined, the three products above accounted for £2.7bn (81%) of all exports from NI to the RoW in 2022.

Top 3 Goods¹ that NI Exported to ROW in 2022

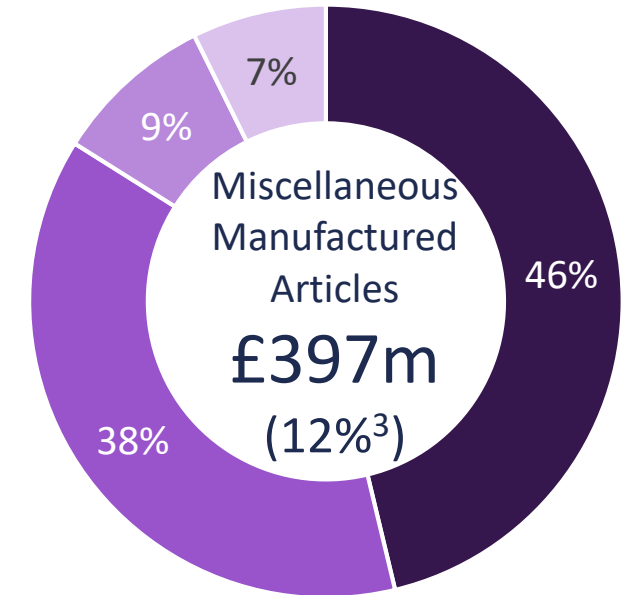
(Split by Division²)



- 72 - Machinery specialized for particular industries
- 79 - Other transport equipment
- 77 - Ele machinery, app & appliances & ele pt thereof n.e.s.
- OTHER



- 54 - Medicinal & pharmaceutical products
- 59 - Chemical materials & products n.e.s.
- 57 - Plastics in primary forms
- OTHER



- 82 - Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses etc
- 87 - Professional, scientific & controlling ins & app n.e.s.
- 89 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles n.e.s.
- OTHER

Overall, £3.3bn goods exported from NI to ROW in 2022

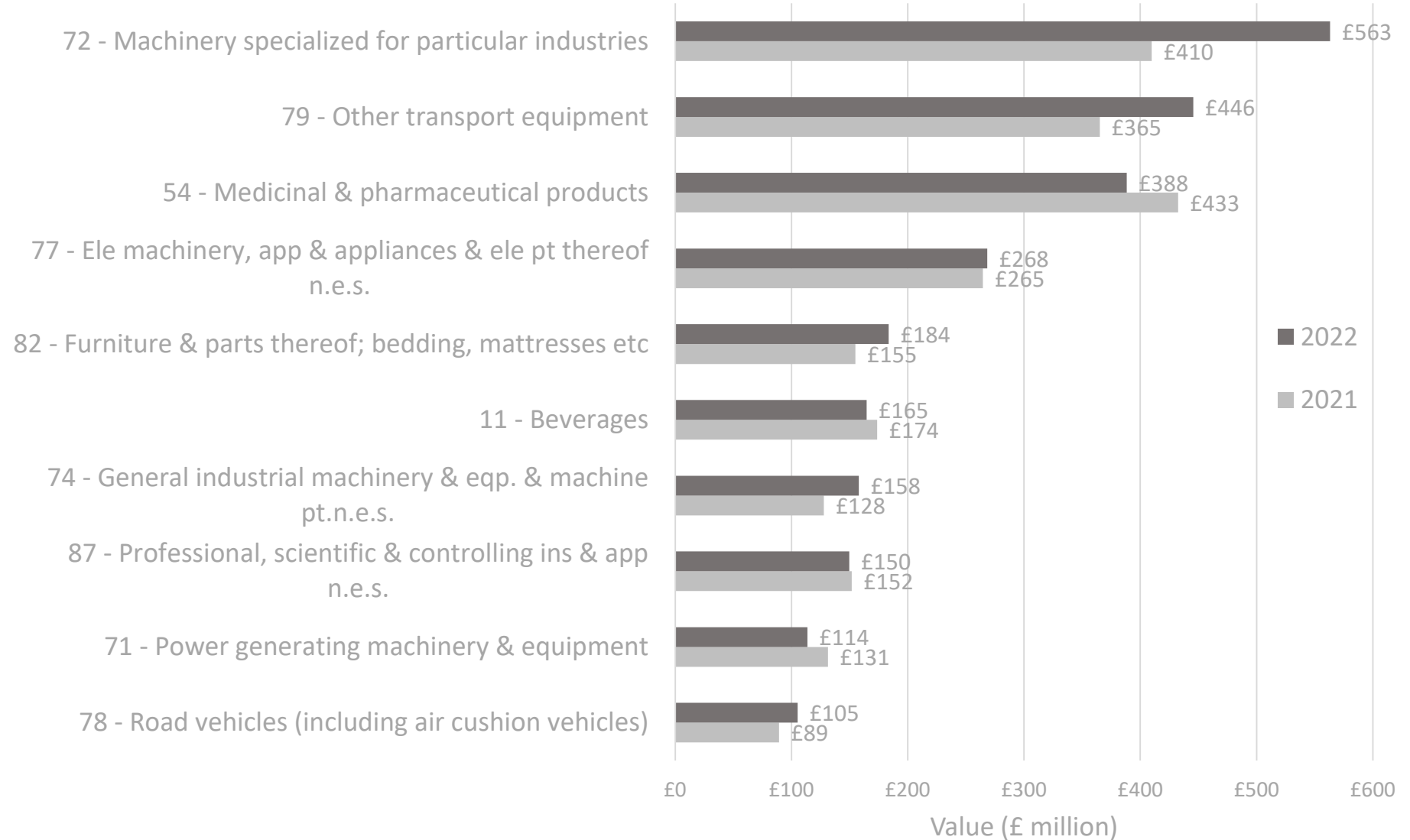
¹ SITC 1 - Section

² SITC 2 – Division

³ As a proportion of total exports of goods from NI to ROW

HMRC Top Ten Export Goods from NI to ROW by Value (£million) and Product¹, 2022

- HMRC Regional Trade Statistics estimate a value of £3.3bn goods were exported from NI to ROW in 2022.
- The top ten products (by SITC2 - Division) accounted for £2.5bn, 78% of all exported goods to ROW.



¹Split by SITC 2 - Division

£3.0bn of goods were imported from the RoW to NI in 2022

Top 3 goods that NI imported from the RoW to NI during 2022:

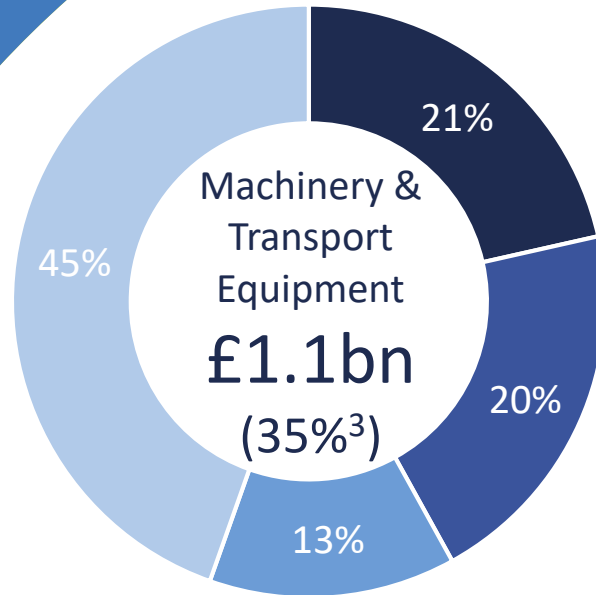
1. ***'Machinery and Transport Equipment'*** was worth 35% (£1.1bn) of total NI imports from the RoW.
 - Within this the dominant product divisions were 'Ele Machinery, App & Appliances & ele pt Thereof n.e.s.¹' (21% or £226m) and 'Road Vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)' (20% or £216m), which together accounted for 41% of 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' imports from the RoW.
2. ***'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'*** was worth 25% (£755m) of total NI imports from the RoW.
 - The dominant divisions were 'Articles of Apparel & Clothing Accessories' (38% or £283m) and 'Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses etc.' (23% or £174m).
3. ***'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material'*** accounted for 17% (£501m) of total NI imports from the RoW.
 - This was predominantly made up from 'Manufactures of Metal n.e.s.' (28% or £143m) and 'Textile Yarn, Fabrics, Made Up Articles etc.' (22% or £111m).

Combined, the three products above accounted for £2.3bn (76%) of all imports from the RoW to NI in 2022.

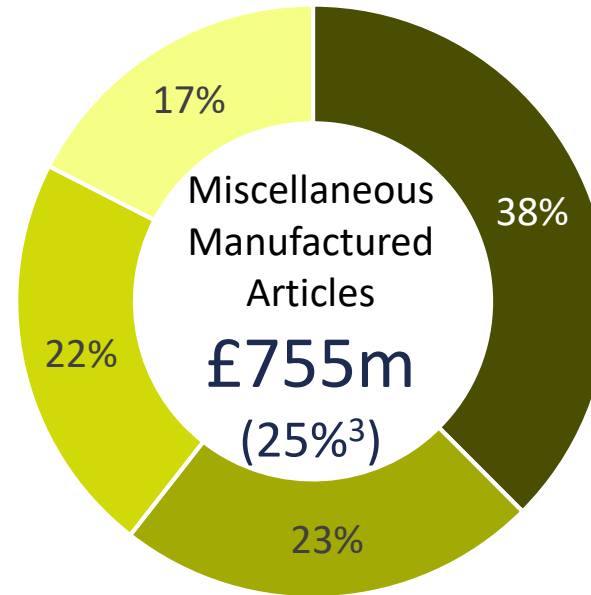
¹Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s. (not elsewhere specified), and electrical parts thereof (including non-electrical counterparts, n.e.s., of electrical household-type equipment)

Top 3 Goods¹ that NI Imported from ROW in 2022

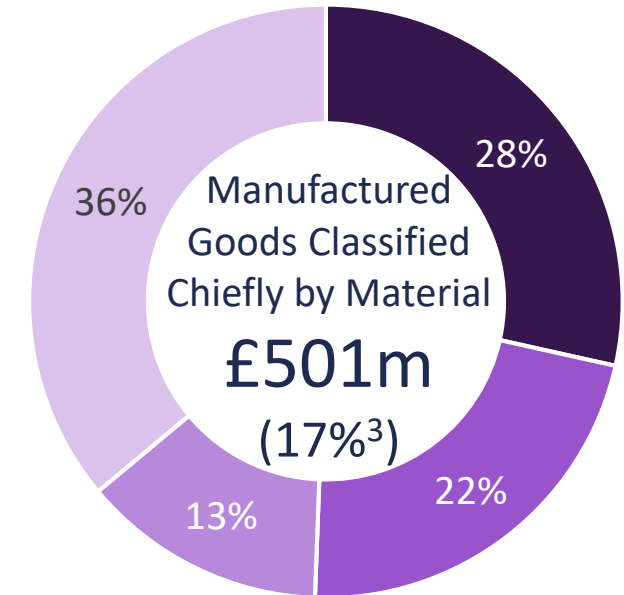
(Split by Division²)



- 77 - Ele machinery, app & appliances & ele pt thereof n.e.s.
- 78 - Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)
- 71 - Power generating machinery & equipment
- OTHER



- 84 - Articles of apparel & clothing accessories
- 82 - Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses etc
- 89 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles n.e.s.
- OTHER



- 69 - Manufactures of metal n.e.s.
- 65 - Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles etc
- 66 - Non-metallic mineral manufactures n.e.s.
- OTHER

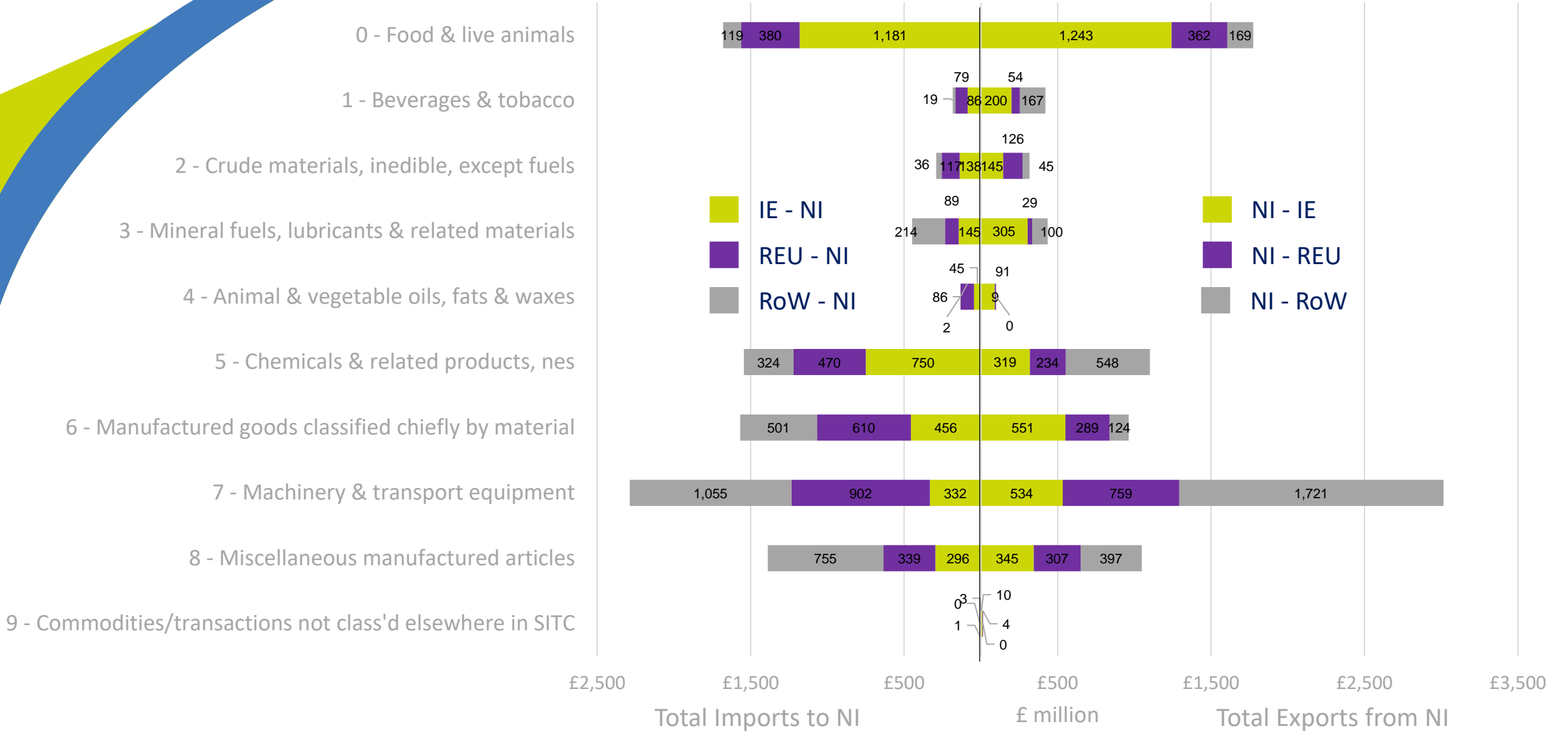
Overall, £3.0bn goods imported from ROW to NI in 2022

¹ SITC 1 - Section

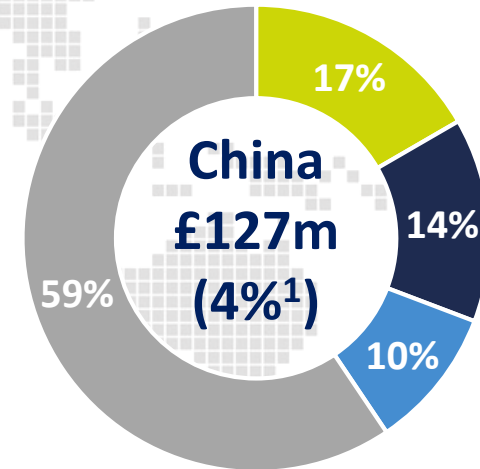
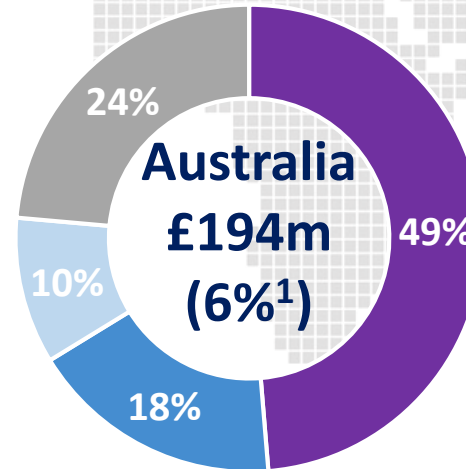
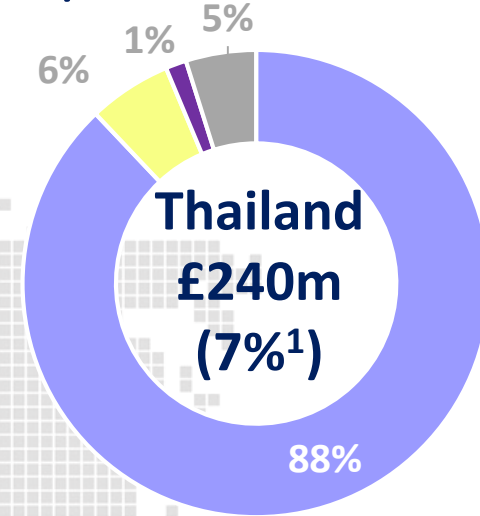
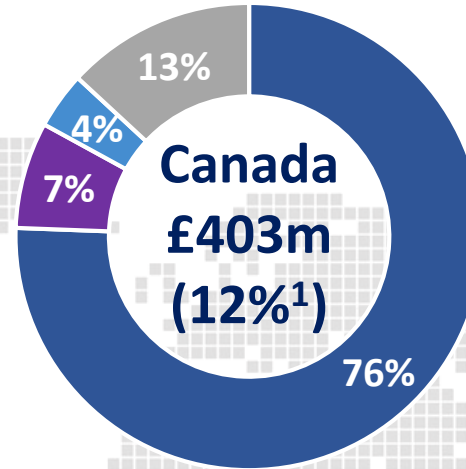
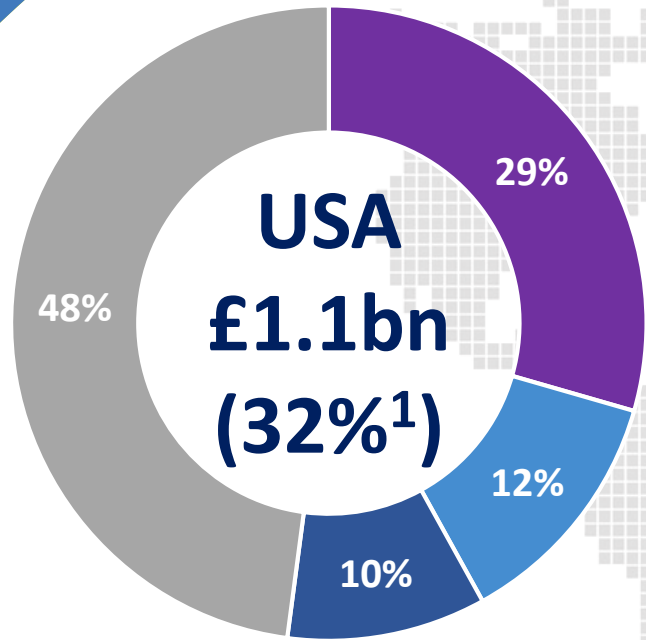
² SITC 2 – Division

³ As a proportion of total imports of goods from ROW to NI










HMRC Value of Goods (£million): Imports and Exports by Origin, Broad Destination and Product, 2022



NI's Top 5 RoW Export Partners by Value and Product, 2022

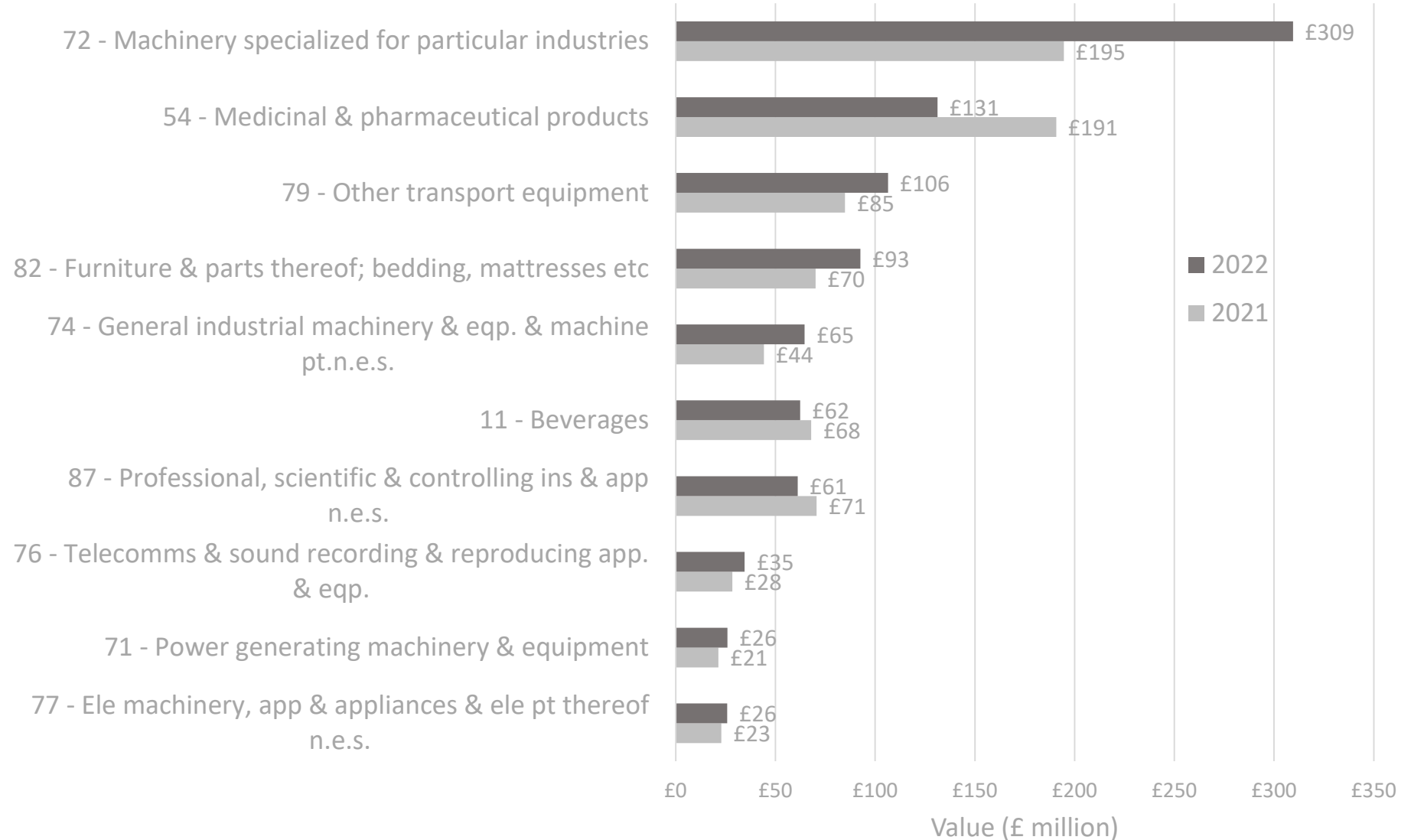


¹As a proportion of total exports of goods from NI to the RoW (£2.9bn)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | 54 - Medicinal & pharmaceutical products |  | 78 - Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles) |
|  | 72 - Machinery specialized for particular industries |  | 79 - Other transport equipment |
|  | 74 - General industrial machinery & eq. & machine pt.n.e.s. |  | 82 - Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses etc |
|  | 77 - Ele machinery, app & appliances & ele pt thereof n.e.s. |  | 87 - Professional, scientific & controlling ins & app n.e.s. |
| | |  | OTHER |

HMRC Top Ten Export Goods from NI to USA by Value (£million) and Product, 2022

- HMRC Regional Trade Statistics estimate a value of £1.1bn goods were exported from NI to the USA in 2021 (32% of total RoW exported goods).
- The top ten products (by SITC2) accounted for £914m, 87% of all exported goods to USA.



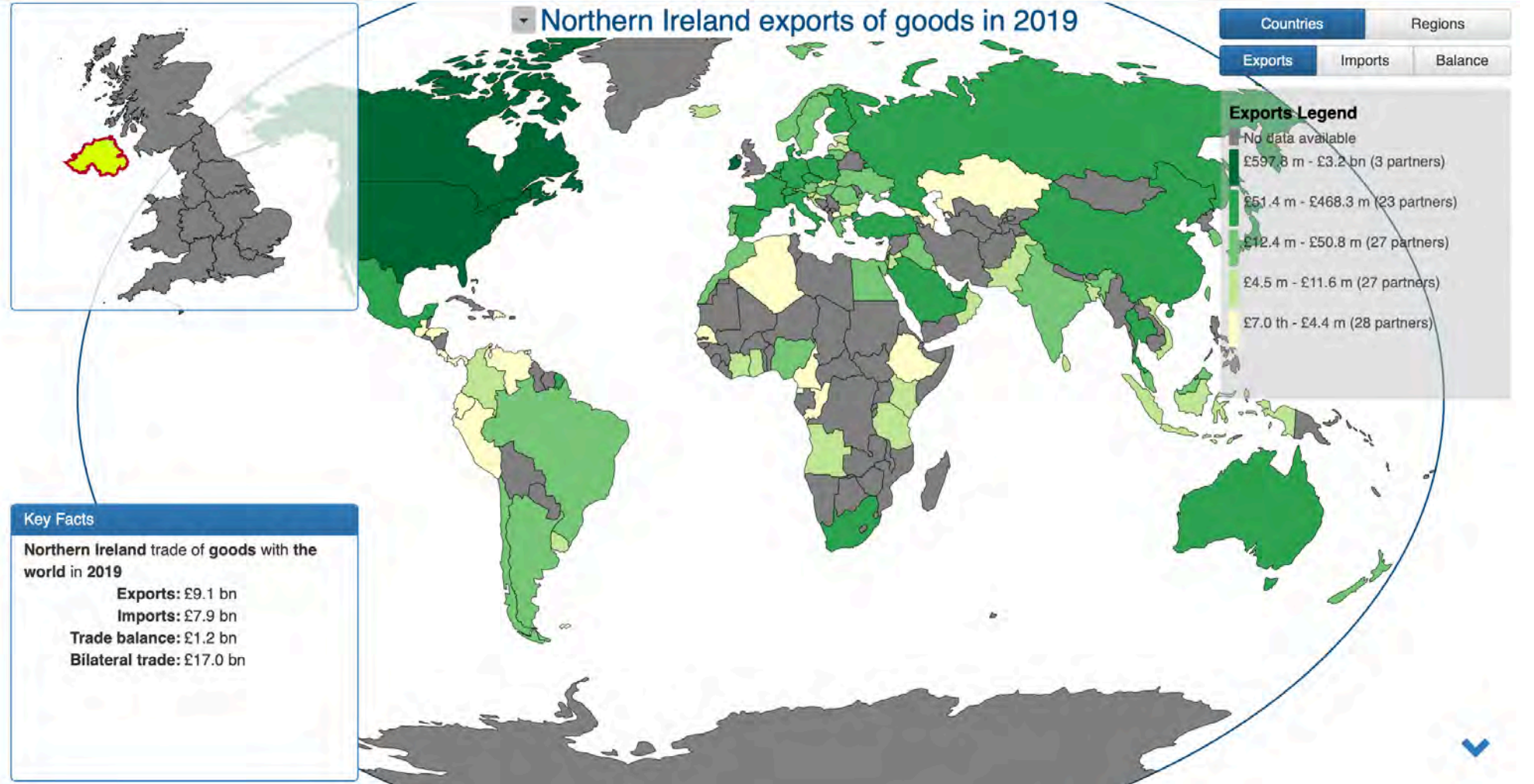
For more information on UK trade in goods by country and product [click here](#)

UK Regions Imports and Exports of Goods by Country and World Region

This prototype was developed by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

About ▾ Share

Reporter: Northern Ireland ▾ Partner: Select a partner ▾ Commodity: Select a commodity ▾ 2019 ▾ ✖ Clear all



Northern Ireland Supply Chain Activity

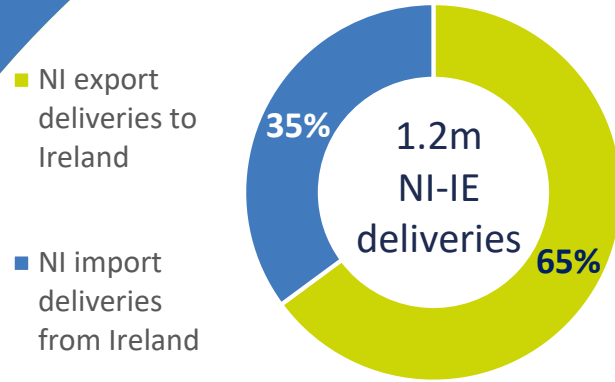
Cross-Border Supply Chain Report (2015,2016)

– Key Findings

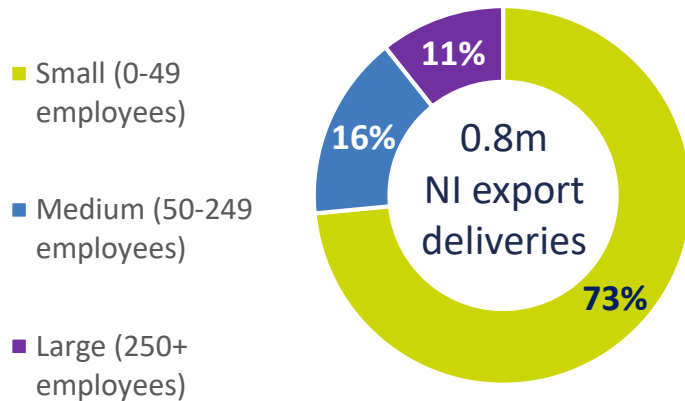
Supply Chain Survey/BESES data	Supply Chain Survey/HMRC data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NI businesses made some 758,000 cross-border export deliveries to IE, estimated to be worth some £3.4bn to the local economy in 2016. In addition there were approximately 410,000 import deliveries in 2015 from IE to NI businesses worth nearly £2.0bn in the sectors covered by the survey. The sectors not covered include some farming sectors (including live animals), financial, pension services and the public sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of HMRC trade data indicated that 39% of NI trade with IE was comprised of trade in “intermediate” goods i.e. goods that are used to produce other goods, which may be considered as evidence of supply chain activity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of those cross-border transactions were made by micro and small businesses, which dominate the NI economy, with approximately 74% of export deliveries involving NI businesses with fewer than 50 employees and 33% carried out by businesses with fewer than 10 employees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When exports and imports of agri-food products (Meat & Fish Products, Foodstuffs, Dairy Products and Beverages) are also included, two-thirds of goods traded with IE can be considered to be part of such supply chain activity. This wider definition of supply chain activity reflects agri-food products that were intensively traded across the border and were frequently time sensitive.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NI businesses exporting to IE made on average nearly 100 deliveries valued at approximately £4,500 per trip in 2016. Most businesses tended to make low value deliveries but these accounted for just less than one fifth of the total value of exports. Conversely, just over 20% of businesses made deliveries worth more than £4,500 per trip and these accounted for most (82%) of the total value of NI exports to IE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a small open economy NI trade is also integrated into trade with the REU and the RoW. 62% of trade with the REU met this wider definition of Supply Chain activity as did 53% of NI’s trade with the RoW.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exports to IE accounted for more than 15% of businesses’ (within NI + IE) sales for five of NI’s District Council Areas (DCAs) with most border DCAs showing a greater propensity for trade with IE, than DCA’s not adjoining the border. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade in capital goods (i.e. inputs to the production process that are not used in the course of production during the accounting period) can also be considered as a further type of input to the production process. NI was much more likely to trade in capital goods with the REU (21% of above threshold trade) and the RoW (23%) than with IE (7%). This is in addition to the wider definition of Supply Chain activity described above and provides further evidence of NI’s integration into markets beyond these islands.

Cross-Border Supply Chain Report (2015, 2016)

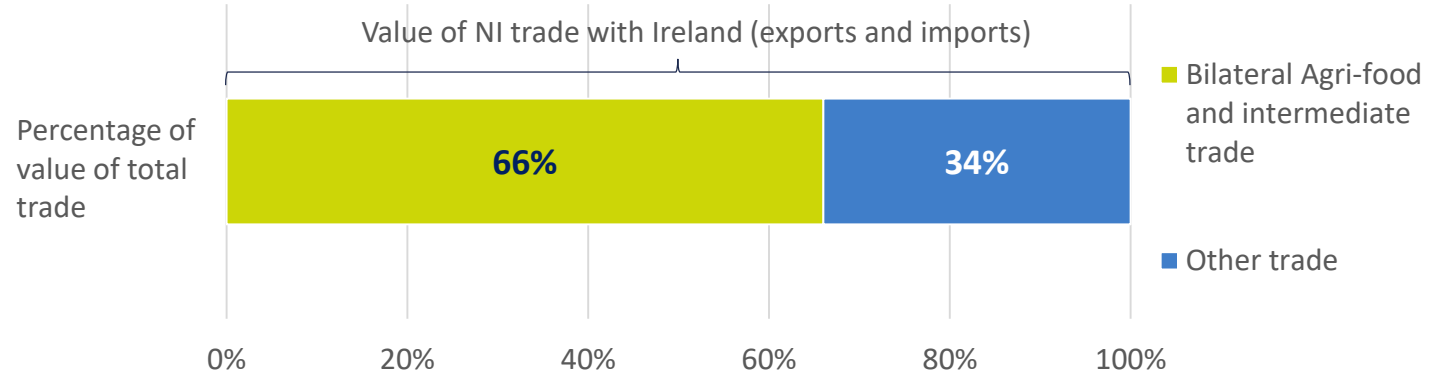
Over 1 million cross-border deliveries per annum...



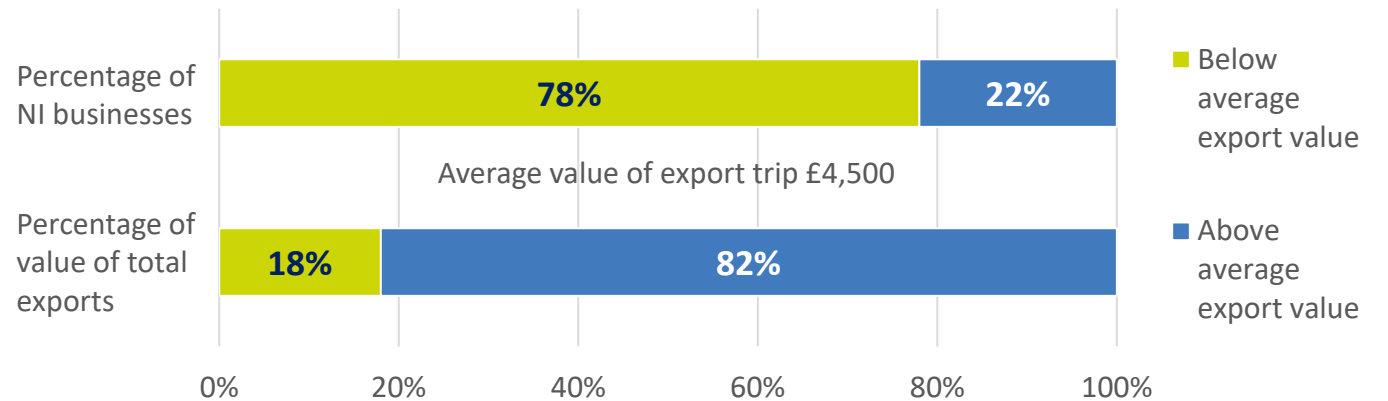
Nearly three quarters of export deliveries made by small businesses...



Two thirds of cross-border trade involves supply chain activity...



Most NI businesses make low value export deliveries...



Appendix

Data Sources

HMRC Regional Trade Statistics (RTS)

- RTS source data is collected from the EU-wide Intrastat survey and from Customs import and export entries, both administered by HMRC.
- These record the movement - for trade purposes - of goods only between the UK and both EU and non-EU countries. There is a legal requirement for all VAT-registered businesses to supply this data, although for trade with the EU this only applies to businesses trading above the Intrastat threshold.
- The RTS methodology allocates trade to a region based on the location of the business exporting or importing the goods. For multi-branch businesses, it allocates trade to a region based on the proportional distribution of employees of that business across the regions of the UK.

NISRA Northern Ireland Economic Trade Statistics (NIETS)

- The NIETS is an experimental measure, based on an annual survey of local businesses' sales to markets outside Northern Ireland (NI). NIETS data is gathered through the NI Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) and has been running since 2011.
- The ABI surveys all businesses with 50 or more employees; all multi-site businesses with 20-49 employees; all manufacturing businesses with more than 5 employees; and a representative sample of other smaller businesses. In all, the ABI samples about 20% of the eligible business population each year.
- The NIETS provides estimates of the value of both goods and services.
- NIETS data is now available via the new [NISRA data portal](#).

Central Statistics Office (CSO) Goods Exports and Imports

- The Central Statistics Office (CSO) Goods Exports and Imports statistics provide estimates on the movement of goods between Ireland and other countries including Northern Ireland and Great Britain.
- The collection of trade data is the responsibility of VIMA (a branch of Revenue) and the CSO is responsible for processing and disseminating the data.
- The statistics use a combination of Customs-based non-EU trade statistics and data from the Intrastat Survey of Irish traders involved in trade with other EU member states.

Due to methodological differences, NISRA's BESES, HMRC's RTS and CSO's Goods Exports and Imports statistics are not directly comparable.

DFE and NISRA Cross-Border Supply Chain Survey (SCS)

- The (SCS) was issued as a one-off survey in mid-July 2017 to all businesses who indicated that they traded with Ireland in the 2015 ABI (c. 2,300 businesses).
- The survey gathered information on what businesses export to or import from IE and the number, nature, transport method and value of export and import transactions.
- Results from the SCS were supplemented with data from the HMRC RTS and from the BESES where appropriate.

Data Sources

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)

- Provides statistics on the destinations and values of Northern Ireland food and drinks processing subsector sales.
- The data is presented in the Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture which is published annually.
- Data is sourced from farm surveys, including the Agricultural Census and the Farm Business Survey, as well as surveys of food processors and agricultural input supply firms.

Financial Services

- Only source available is the [ONS Regionalised Estimates of UK Service Exports](#) – NI figures are modelled.

NI Supply-Use Tables (SUTs)

- The NI SUTs draw upon the above data sources to estimate an overall NI economy level estimate of imports and exports split by products and destination/origin.
- Experimental tables are available for 2012-2016.

NI Monthly Trade in Goods Dashboard

- Trade in goods data updated monthly here: [EU Exit - Trade Analysis | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#)
- As part of the Northern Ireland Protocol the UK is bound to collect and send trade data that corresponds to the movement of goods in and out of NI to the Statistical Office of the European Commission (Eurostat). The Northern Ireland trade in goods data is compiled by HMRC following similar concepts to those for the published Overseas Trade Statistics. The dashboard has been created using monthly extracts of the data published on Eurostat.
- Goods are classified according to the Harmonized System, a multipurpose international product nomenclature.
- The dashboard covers international trade in goods, and therefore does not include data about NI-Gb trade.
- All values are provided in Euros.

HMRC RTS and NIETS comparison

	HMRC	NIETS
UK COVERAGE	Consistent data across all UK regions	Provides NI estimates only
UK INTER-REGIONAL TRADE	No inter-regional trade	NI trade with GB provided
DATA SOURCE	Administrative data source – it is a legal requirement for all VAT registered businesses to supply this data	Survey-based data source – associated drawbacks include respondent bias, error, gaps in survey coverage, sampling error etc.
THRESHOLDS	Businesses included must have EU exports and imports above the Intrastat threshold (exports >£250k, imports > £500k). Detailed information on smaller traders is not available	Businesses surveyed must have turnover above the VAT threshold (£85k in 2017/18). Information on smaller businesses is therefore available from NIETS.
GOODS AND SERVICES DATA COLLECTED	Trade in goods only	Trade in goods and services
CLASSIFICATION OF DATA COLLECTED	Estimates provided at product level using the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) and so only broadly comparable with NIETS.	Estimates provided at industry level using the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC 2007) and so only broadly comparable with HMRC
TIMELINESS	New up-to-date data published quarterly	Previous year data published annually. 2022 data published in December 2023.

Other Data Sources

UK Trade in Services by Subnational Areas of the UK (Office for National Statistics)

- Provides experimental estimated value of exports and imports of services for 2018 for NUTS1, NUTS2, NUTS3 and 15 city regions, including industry and non-EU and EU split.
- Use the International Trade in Services Survey (ITIS) alongside UK Balance of Payments information and apportion trade value to the level of the local unit of a business from the level of the reporting unit.

UK Trade in Services by Business Characteristics (Office for National Statistics)

- This publication gives information about the value of trade in services by business characteristics, namely business size and ownership status.
- It is a combination of trade data from the ITIS survey and business characteristics taken from the IDBR.

Trade and Investment Core Statistics Book (UK level only) (Department for International Trade)

- The most up to date snapshot of the UK's trade and investment position, summarising trade statistics produced by ONS, HMRC, DIT and others.

DfE Secondary Analysis of the Broad Economy Sales and Exports Statistics (Department for the Economy)

- The Department for the Economy in NI has published reports and research projects based on secondary analysis of NISRA's Broad Economy Sales and Exports Statistics; these include:
 - [Northern Ireland businesses: trade flows, surplus and deficit](#)
 - [External selling of goods and services: rewards and risks](#)
 - [Trade patterns and business characteristics](#)

Contacts

For further information please contact:

Patrick O’Kane (Patrick.okane@nisra.gov.uk / 028 9025 5161)

End