



Department
for Transport



Transport Statistics Great Britain 2016

December 2016





Port freight [TSGB0501](#)

UK port freight tonnage: 2015

Total traffic: 497 million tonnes

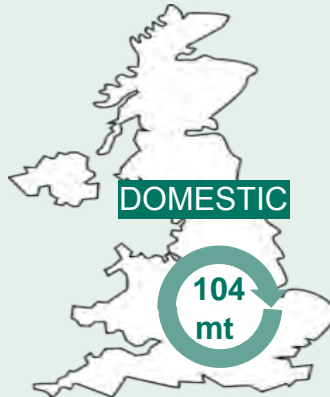
The UK imports twice as much as it exports

Imports

249mt

Exports

133mt



Import

tonnage has decreased by 6% since 2014.



Export

tonnage has remained stable since 2014.



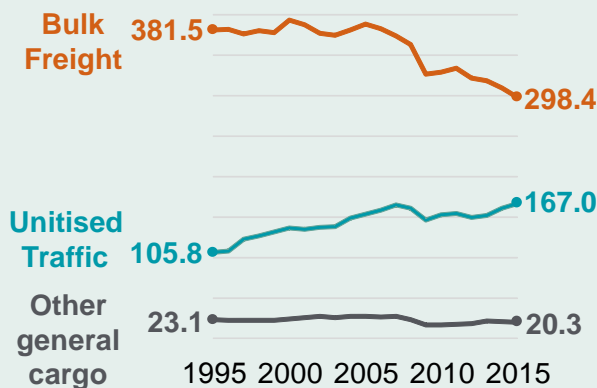
Domestic

tonnage has increased by 10% since 2014.



Port freight cargo types [TSGB0502](#)

UK major port traffic by cargo type: 1995 to 2015 (million tonnes)



98% of all port traffic was handled by major ports
2% is handled by minor ports.

Bulk freight

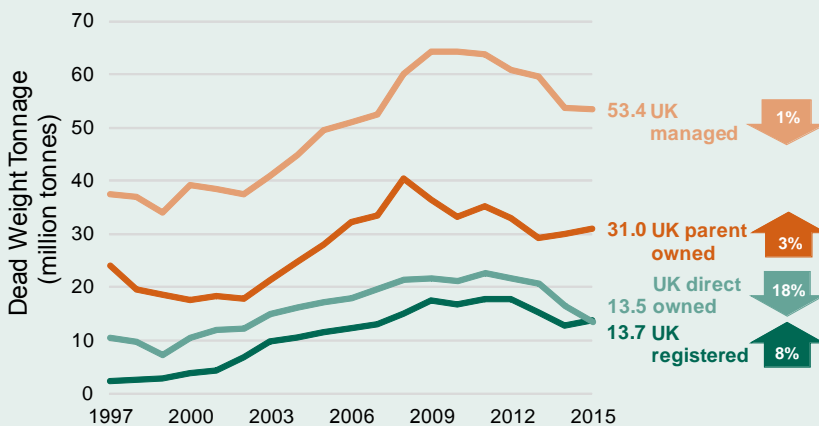
(liquid and dry bulk cargo categories) fell to its lowest level in 2015, due to large decreases in coal and ores imports and exports, reflecting changes in steel production and a lower dependency on food imports.

Unitised traffic

(Lo-Lo and Ro-Ro cargo categories) now accounts for one-third of all UK major port freight traffic. UK major ports have imported 1 million more trade vehicles in 2015 (2.9 million) than in 2000 (also exported 0.3 million more).

UK shipping fleet [TSGB0513-0515](#)

UK shipping (million deadweight tonnes): 1997 to 2015



At the end of 2015, the UK registered trading fleet grew for the first time in four years, and is still five times the size it was at the end of 1999.

The UK remained the 19th largest trading fleet in the world. Panama, Liberia, the Marshall Islands, Hong Kong and Singapore account for leading shares (just over half) in world ship registration.

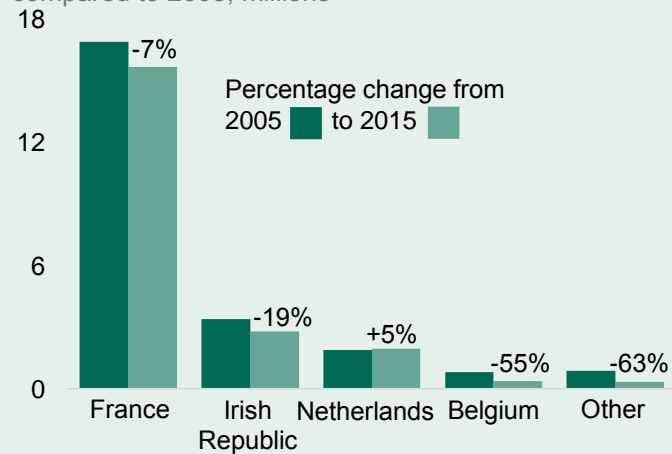
Further data are available on maritime and shipping, including:

- ▶ Port Freight: [TSGB0501-TSGB0510](#)
- ▶ UK Shipping fleet: [TSGB0513-TSGB0515](#)



Sea passengers [TSGB0511](#)

UK international short sea passenger journeys: 2015 compared to 2005, millions



In 2015, there were 21.0 million international short sea passenger journeys to and from the UK.

Journeys to and from France accounted for 3 out of every 4 of these.

The port of Dover handled 62% of all international short sea passengers.

In 2015, there were 41.7 million passengers travelling on domestic routes, Cairnryan - Belfast remained the most popular route with 1.1 million passengers.

Cruise passengers [TSGB0512](#)

UK cruise passengers



There were 9 times more UK cruise passengers in 2015 than 20 years ago.

In 2015, 4 out of every 5 UK cruise passengers began or ended their cruise at Southampton.

Civilian search and rescue helicopters [TSGB0518](#)

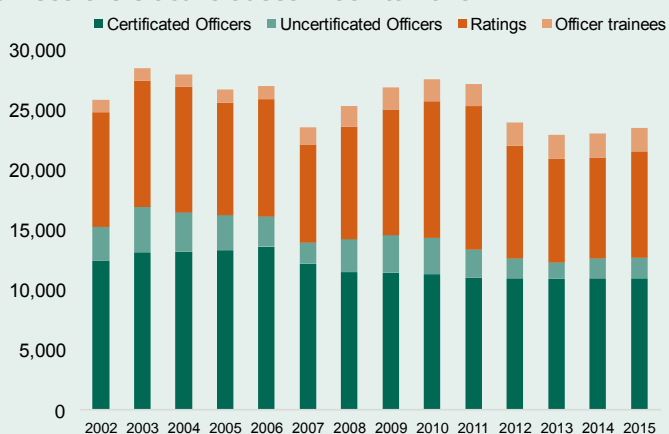


All eleven UK bases were fully operational after January 2016.

There were 1,680 civilian search and rescue helicopter taskings in the UK during the year to end March 2016.

Seafarers [TSGB0519](#)

UK seafarers active at sea: 2002 to 2015



In 2015, there were 23,380 UK seafarers active at sea - an increase of 2 per cent compared to 2014 (22,910).

There were 1,920 officer trainees active at sea in 2015 - a 90 per cent increase compared to 2002 (1,010).

Passenger Vehicles [TSGB0507](#)

Accompanied pass. vehicles: UK 2015



5.8 million cars were handled at UK ports in 2015 - 53% travelled to or from France.

Further data are available on Maritime and shipping, including:

- ▶ Sea Passengers: [TSGB0501-TSGB0510](#)
- ▶ Seafarers: [TSGB0513-TSGB0515](#)
- ▶ Accompanied Passenger Vehicles: [TSGB0506-TSGB0507](#)

Further information and detailed statistical tables: [Maritime statistics](#)

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