

UK Wood Production and Trade

2024 Provisional Figures

Release Date:

22 May 2025

Coverage:

United Kingdom

Geographical breakdown:

Some statistics are available by country and English region on the [Time Series page](#)

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The Research Agency of the
Forestry Commission

Forest Research is the Research Agency of the Forestry Commission and is the leading UK organisation engaged in forestry and tree related research.

The Agency aims to support and enhance forestry and its role in sustainable development by providing innovative, high quality scientific research, data, technical support and consultancy services.

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Accredited Official Statistics

Accredited Official Statistics are called National Statistics in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. An explanation can be found on the [Office for Statistics Regulation website](#).

Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics that all producers of official statistics should adhere to.

These accredited official statistics were assessed by the Office for Statistics Regulation in 2012. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and should be labelled 'accredited official statistics'.

You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards by emailing us at statistics@forestresearch.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing regulation@statistics.gov.uk or via the OSR website.

Since the latest review by the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics, and have made the following improvements:

- Introducing a quality assurance of administrative data report to provide further details on the data sources used in this release.
- Enhancing trustworthiness by reducing pre-release access.
- Including last update/review dates in supporting documents and indicating expected dates of next updates/review, to provide reassurance to users that documents remain relevant.

Introduction

This publication contains provisional statistics for 2024 on UK wood production and trade. They are based on:

- surveys of the forest sector
- administrative records from Forestry England, Forestry and Land Scotland, Natural Resources Wales and the Forest Service Northern Ireland
- trade data from HM Revenue & Customs.

These statistics are used primarily to monitor the state of the UK timber industry, and for reporting to international organisations. For more details, please refer to the relevant section of the [Quality Report: UK Wood Production and Trade](#).

These provisional statistics will be superseded on 25 September 2025 with the publication of final and more detailed results in [Forestry Statistics 2025](#).

Most of the statistics in this release are only available as UK totals, but some statistics can also be broken down by country (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). [Accompanying tables to this release](#) provide longer time series data for wood production (roundwood removals), UK roundwood deliveries, sawmills and round fencing manufacturers, showing additional breakdowns where possible.

Please refer to Section 8.7. in the Annex for a glossary of terms used in this release.

Figures in tables have been independently rounded, so may not add to the totals shown. Percentage changes quoted in this release are based on unrounded figures.

Key findings

The provisional figures for 2024 indicate (with percentage changes from 2023):

- Removals (harvesting) of UK roundwood:
 - 9.9 million green tonnes of softwood (9%)
 - 0.8 million green tonnes of hardwood (0%)
- Deliveries of UK roundwood to wood processors and others:
 - Total: 10.1 million green tonnes of roundwood (softwood and hardwood) (3%), of which:
 - Sawmills: 5.4 million green tonnes (9%)
 - Wood-based panels: 1.3 million green tonnes (-8%)
 - Integrated pulp and paper mills: 0.4 million green tonnes (-15%)
 - Other uses, including round fencing, woodfuel, shavings and exports of roundwood: 3.1 million green tonnes (-1%)
- Production of wood products in the UK included:
 - 3.2 million cubic metres of sawnwood (10%)
 - 2.9 million cubic metres of wood-based panels (-2%)
 - 3.3 million tonnes of paper and paperboard (2%)
 - 0.3 million tonnes of wood pellets and briquettes (5%)
- UK imports:
 - 6.7 million cubic metres of sawnwood (7%)
 - 3.1 million cubic metres of wood-based panels (-3%)
 - 9.3 million tonnes of wood pellets (46%)
 - 5.2 million tonnes of pulp and paper (8%)
 - The total value of wood product imports was £9.4 billion (4%)

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- UK exports:
 - The total value of wood product exports was 1.8 billion (2%)
- Apparent consumption of wood products in the UK included:
 - 9.7 million cubic metres of sawnwood (8%)
 - 5.6 million cubic metres of wood-based panels (-3%)
 - 9.6 million tonnes of wood pellets (44%)
 - 6.6 million tonnes of paper (3%)

1. Removals of roundwood

Removals refers to the harvesting of roundwood (trunk and branch wood) from coniferous (softwood) and non-coniferous (hardwood) trees. The figures on removals of UK roundwood are used to monitor trends in the UK forest sector. The data is also used alongside figures for standing volume (the volume of standing trees) and increment (the growth rate of standing trees) to compile natural capital accounts for inclusion in the UK Environmental Accounts.

It is estimated that a total of 10.7 million green tonnes of roundwood was removed from UK woodlands in 2024 (Table 1b), an 8% increase from the level in 2023. There was a large increase in public sector softwood removals for 2024, to a level that was last seen in 2020 (Table 1a).

Softwood accounted for the majority (92%) of removals from UK woodland and totalled 9.9 million green tonnes in 2024, a 9% increase from 2023. Hardwood removals totalled 0.8 million green tonnes in 2024, no change from 2023.

Table 1a Removals of roundwood, UK, 2020 to 2024

Year	thousand green tonnes			
	Softwood - public sector ¹	Softwood - private sector ²	Hardwood - public sector ¹	Hardwood - private sector ²
2020	4,626	5,437	87	742
2021	4,019	6,407	96	727
2022	3,709	5,484	90	745
2023	3,972	5,104	86	730
2024	4,613	5,249	69	745

Table 1b Total removals of roundwood, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	Total softwood	Total Hardwood	UK total
2020	10,062	829	10,891
2021	10,426	823	11,249
2022	9,193	834	10,027
2023	9,076	816	9,892
2024	9,862	814	10,676

Source (Tables 1a and 1b): Forestry England, Forest and Land Scotland, Natural Resources Wales, Forest Service Northern Ireland, industry surveys (Forest Research) and industry associations.

Note:

1. Public sector consists of Forestry England, Forestry and Land Scotland, Natural Resource Wales and Forest Service Northern Ireland.
2. Private sector: removals from all other woodland (including some publicly owned woodland).
3. Most hardwood production in the UK comes from private sector woodland; the figures are estimates based on reported deliveries to wood processing industries and others.
4. The difference between reported softwood removals and deliveries (Table 2) can be caused by variations in the level of stocks between harvesting and delivery to the wood processor, and/or by the differences in data sources and methodologies used to compile removals and deliveries statistics (see Chapter 10: Sources and Methodology of [Forestry Statistics 2024](#)).

2. Deliveries of roundwood

Figures for deliveries relate to the quantity of UK-grown roundwood that is delivered to wood processors and other users. Statistics on roundwood deliveries are used to monitor trends in the supply of, and demand for, UK-grown wood.

In 2024, deliveries of UK roundwood totalled 10.1 million green tonnes (Tables 2 and 3), a 3% increase from the previous year. Most roundwood deliveries (92%) were softwood.

Softwood deliveries totalled 9.2 million green tonnes in 2024 (Table 2). Sawmills used a total of 5.3 million green tonnes (57%) of UK softwood deliveries. A further 1.7 million green tonnes were used for woodfuel, 1.3 million green tonnes to produce wood-based panels, 0.4 million green tonnes by integrated pulp and paper mills, and 0.6 million green tonnes for all other uses (including round fencing, shavings and softwood exports).

Figure 1 provides the longer-term trend in softwood deliveries.

Table 2 Softwood Deliveries, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	Sawmills	Pulp mills	Wood-based panels	Fencing	Woodfuel ¹	Other ²	Softwood exports	Total
2020	5,837	383	1,248	258	1,850	188	140	9,903
2021	6,264	399	1,508	247	1,600	176	168	10,362
2022	5,452	403	1,229	232	1,600	176	132	9,224
2023	4,845	413	1,389	224	1,700	209	207	8,986
2024	5,299	350	1,282	224	1,700	209	184	9,247

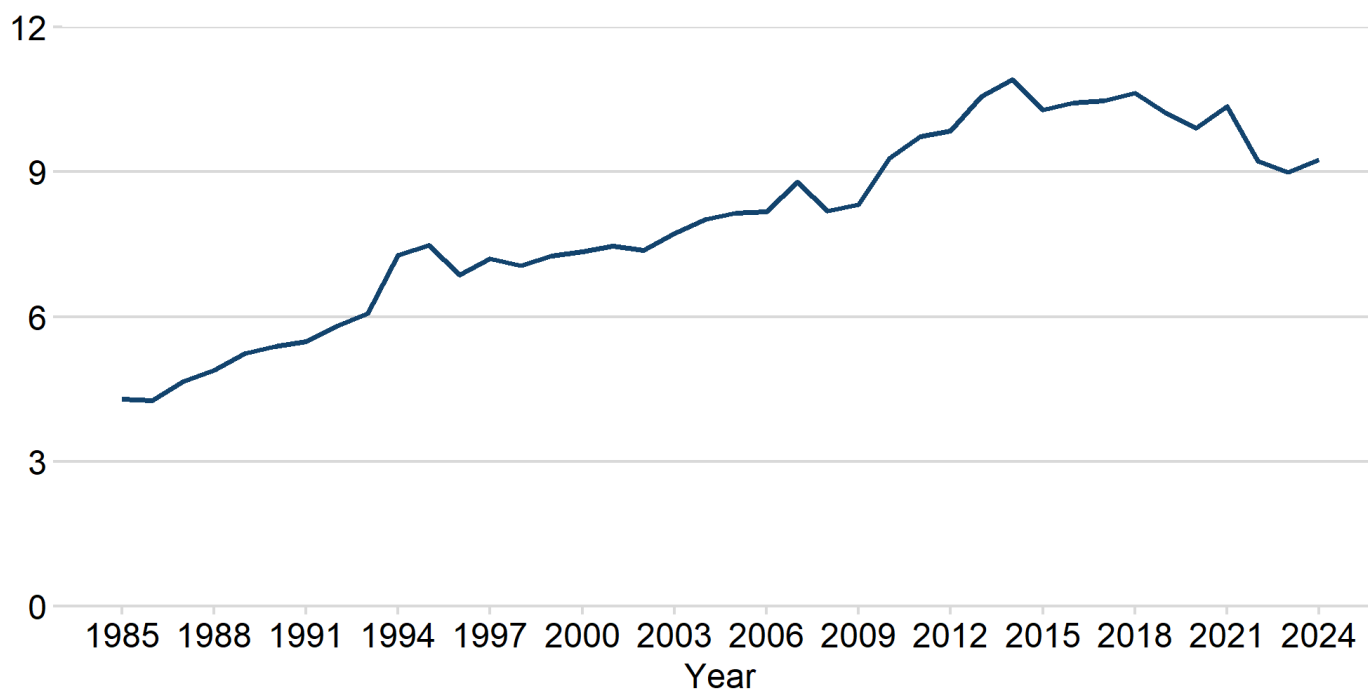
Source: Industry surveys (Forest Research) and industry associations.

Note:

1. Woodfuel derived from stemwood. Includes estimates of roundwood use for biomass energy. The figures are estimated by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics and make use of woodfuel data reported in the Private Sector Softwood Removals Survey.
2. Includes shavings and poles. Quantities for some uses are estimates by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics.

Figure 1 Softwood deliveries, UK, 1985 to 2024

millions of green tonnes



Source: Industry surveys (Forest Research) and industry associations.

There was a total of 0.8 million green tonnes of UK hardwood deliveries in 2024 (Table 3), no change from 2023. The majority of UK hardwood deliveries (86%) were used for woodfuel in 2024.

Figure 2 provides the longer-term trend in hardwood deliveries.

Table 3 Hardwood deliveries¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	Sawmills	Wood-based panels	Woodfuel ²	Other ³	Total
2020	62	2	700	66	829
2021	60	3	700	60	823
2022	59	5	700	70	834
2023	53	0	700	63	816
2024	59	0	700	55	814

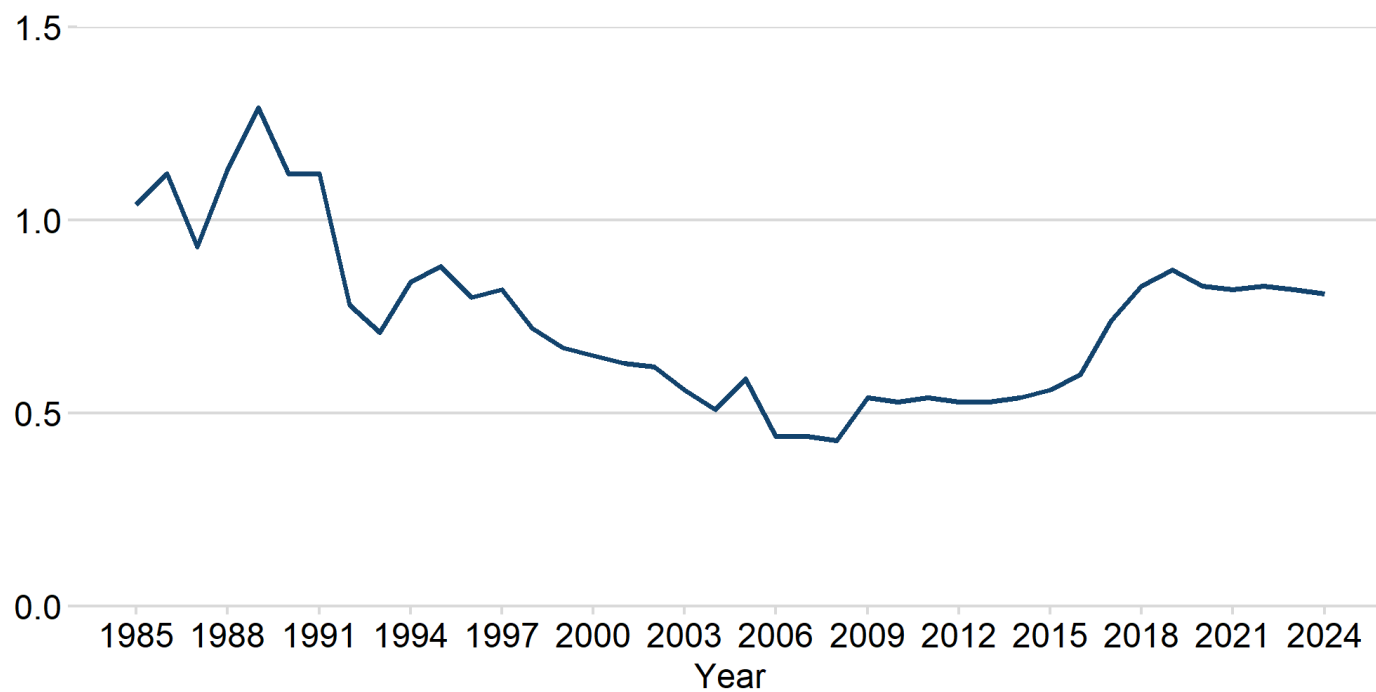
Source: Industry surveys (Forest Research) and industry associations.

Note:

1. Figures are based on processing industries' purchases of hardwood grown in the UK and estimates for woodfuel and other uses.
2. Woodfuel reported here is derived from stemwood and includes estimated roundwood use for biomass energy.
3. Other includes round fencing and roundwood exports.

Figure 2 Hardwood deliveries, UK, 1985 to 2024

millions of green tonnes



Source: Industry surveys (Forest Research) and industry associations.

3. Sawmills

In 2024, the 138 active sawmills in the UK consumed a total of 5.7 million green tonnes of softwood, an 11% increase from 2023 (Table 4a). A further 0.1 million green tonnes of hardwood were consumed by UK sawmills in 2024 (Table 4b). Most of the logs, 5.3 million green tonnes softwood and 0.1 million green tonnes hardwood, were UK-grown. The increase in softwood consumption by sawmills for 2024 sees it returning to a similar level seen in the years before 2023.

Table 4a Consumption of softwood by sawmills, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	UK-grown	Imported	Total
2020	5,837	263	6,100
2021	6,264	321	6,585
2022	5,452	285	5,737
2023	4,845	266	5,110
2024	5,299	351	5,650

Table 4b Consumption of hardwood by sawmills, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	UK-grown	Imported	Total
2020	62	12	73
2021	60	12	72
2022	59	12	71
2023	53	12	65
2024	59	12	71

Source (Tables 4a and 4b): Sawmill Survey (Forest Research).

Table 5 provides statistics for the sawnwood output of UK sawmills, including sawnwood produced at these mills from imported logs. A total of 3.2 million cubic metres of sawnwood was produced in the UK in 2024, a 10% increase from 2023 (Table 5).

Table 5 Production of sawnwood, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand cubic metres			
Year	Softwood	Hardwood	Total
2020	3,311	37	3,348
2021	3,574	37	3,611
2022	3,108	37	3,145
2023	2,873	35	2,908
2024	3,161	39	3,200

Source: Sawmill Survey (Forest Research).

In addition to producing sawnwood, sawmills also generate other products, including chips and sawdust, which are mainly used by wood processors and for woodfuel.

4. Wood-based panel mills

Six UK wood-based panel mills were operating in 2024. These wood-based panel mills used a total of 3.4 million tonnes of material in 2024 (Table 6c). The inputs in 2024 comprised 1.3 million green tonnes of roundwood (38%), 1.1 million green tonnes of sawmill products (32%), 0.9 million tonnes of recycled wood fibre (27%) and 0.1 million green tonnes of imported wood and wood products (3%).

Table 6a Softwood inputs to wood-based panel mills, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	UK roundwood ¹	Sawmill products	Imports ²
2020	1,248	1,535	22
2021	1,508	1,516	33
2022	1,229	1,198	93
2023	1,389	1,097	65
2024	1,282	1,107	68

Table 6b Hardwood inputs to wood-based panel mills, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	UK roundwood ¹	Sawmill products	Imports ²
2020	2	0	39
2021	3	0	0
2022	5	0	0
2023	0	0	0
2024	0	0	38

Table 6c Total inputs to wood-based panel mills, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes, except thousand tonnes for 'Recycled wood fibre'

Year	Softwood	Hardwood	Recycled wood fibre^{3,4}	Total
2020	2,805	41	982	3,828
2021	3,057	3	1,085	4,145
2022	2,520	5	1,041	3,566
2023	2,551	0	965	3,516
2024	2,457	38	920	3,415

Source (Tables 6a, 6b and 6c): Wood Panel Industries Federation.

Note:

1. UK roundwood derived from stemwood.
2. Imports include roundwood, wood products and products from imported wood.
3. Recycled wood fibre is wood fibre recovered from pre- and post-consumer wood waste for use in wood-based panel production.
4. Quantities are as delivered, with an assumed average moisture content of 25%. To convert to green tonnes (assuming moisture content of 52%), multiply by 1.56.

Total production of wood-based panels in 2024 was 2.9 million cubic metres, a 2% decrease from 2023 (Table 7). This comprised a 2% decrease in production of particleboard and a 5% decrease in production of fibreboard.

Table 7 Production of wood-based panels, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand cubic metres

Year	Particleboard¹	Fibreboard²	Total wood-based panels
2020	2,296	656	2,952
2021	2,688	798	3,486
2022	2,459	651	3,110
2023	2,378	606	2,984
2024	2,338	575	2,913

Source: Wood Panel Industries Federation.

Note:

1. Includes Oriented Strand Board (OSB).
2. Includes Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF).
3. Changes in the mix of materials used and type of product produced can result in apparent discrepancies between the trends for inputs (Table 6) and production.

5. Pulp and paper industry

Table 8 shows the inputs to the two integrated pulp and paper mills in the UK. These mills used a total of 0.5 million tonnes of material (all softwood) in 2024, an 8% decrease from the 2023 total.

Table 8 Inputs to integrated pulp and paper mills^{1,2}, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand green tonnes

Year	UK roundwood ³	Sawmill products	Total
2020	383	87	470
2021	399	83	482
2022	403	70	473
2023	413	95	508
2024	350	119	469

Source: Confor.

Note:

1. All wood inputs to integrated pulp and paper mills are softwood for the years shown.
2. This table excludes inputs of recycled paper and cardboard.
3. UK roundwood derived from stemwood.

Most UK paper production uses recovered wastepaper or imported pulp. The figures shown in Table 9, include production by all mills in the UK, not just the integrated pulp and paper mills.

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A total of 3.3 million tonnes of paper and paperboard were produced in the UK in 2024, representing a 2% increase compared to 2023. In 2024, packaging materials accounted for 54% of the total UK paper production, sanitary and household papers for 22% and other (including graphic papers) for 24%.

Table 9 Production of paper, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand tonnes

Year	Sanitary and household papers	Packaging materials	Other (including graphic papers)	Total paper and paperboard
2020	742	1,917	972	3,631
2021	690	1,898	1,054	3,642
2022	737	1,842	877	3,456
2023	734	1,721	768	3,223
2024	714	1,786	787	3,287

Source: Confederation of Paper Industries.

6. Wood pellets and briquettes

Wood pellets and briquettes are processed wood products that can be made from roundwood, sawmill products and/or recycled wood. Some of the wood used to make wood pellets and briquettes will be accounted for elsewhere in this release. Wood pellets and briquettes are often used for woodfuel, but pellets may also be used for other purposes (such as horse bedding or cat litter).

A total of 327 thousand tonnes of wood pellets and briquettes are estimated to have been made in the UK in 2024 (Table 10). This represents a 5% increase from the 2023 production level.

Table 10 Wood pellets and briquettes production, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand tonnes

Year	Wood pellets and briquettes production
2020	298
2021	304
2022	327
2023	312
2024	327

Source: Survey of UK Pellet and Briquette Production.

7. Imports and exports

Statistics on imports and exports are compiled by HM Revenue & Customs from trade declarations and Intrastat reporting for intra-EU trade. The figures below (Tables 11 to 14) are based on the published UK overseas trade statistics.

7.1. Imports

5.2 million tonnes of pulp and paper were imported into the UK in 2024 (Table 11), an 8% increase from 2023. Over the same period, imports of sawnwood increased by 7% to 6.7 million cubic metres, imports of wood-based panels decreased by 3% to 3.1 million cubic metres and imports of wood pellets increased by 46% to 9.3 million tonnes. The increase in wood pellets between 2023 and 2024 is large but the figure has returned to a similar level to the 2020 and 2021 figures. Sawnwood, other wood and pulp and paper also returned to levels seen in previous years.

Table 11a Import quantities¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand cubic metres, except thousand tonnes for 'Wood pellets' and 'Pulp and paper'

Year	Sawn wood ²	Wood-based panels ³	Other wood ⁴	Wood pellets	Pulp and paper
2020	7,218	3,267	2,136	9,078	5,329
2021	8,159	3,794	1,602	9,128	5,114
2022	6,294	3,230	1,790	7,516	5,452
2023	6,210	3,134	1,705	6,364	4,784
2024	6,674	3,054	1,947	9,317	5,171

Table 11b Pulp and paper import quantities¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand tonnes

Year	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total pulp and paper
2020	4,555	644	130	5,329
2021	4,206	778	130	5,114
2022	4,423	861	168	5,452
2023	3,903	785	96	4,784
2024	4,272	785	114	5,171

Source (Tables 11a and 11b): UK overseas trade statistics (HM Revenue & Customs), industry associations.

Note:

1. There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Section 8.2.4. in the Annex).
2. Sawnwood includes sleepers.
3. Includes veneer sheets.
4. Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and recovered wood.

Wood product imports in 2024 were valued at a total of £9.4 billion, a 4% increase from the 2023 total (Table 12). This increase was mostly due to the increase in the value for wood pellets.

Table 12a Import values¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

£ million

Year	Sawn wood ²	Wood-based panels ³	Other wood ⁴	Wood pellets	Pulp and paper	Total
2020	1,587	970	198	1,339	3,388	7,482
2021	2,668	1,313	173	1,295	3,088	8,538
2022	2,247	1,583	286	1,323	5,209	10,647
2023	1,820	1,373	273	1,233	4,322	9,022
2024	1,830	1,348	266	1,654	4,256	9,354

Table 12b Pulp and paper import values¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

£ million

Year	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total pulp and paper
2020	2,903	451	35	3,388
2021	2,666	396	26	3,088
2022	4,574	596	39	5,209
2023	3,839	464	19	4,322
2024	3,750	484	22	4,256

Source (Tables 12a and 12b): UK overseas trade statistics (HM Revenue & Customs), industry associations.

Note:

1. There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Section 8.2.4. in the Annex).
2. Sawnwood includes sleepers.
3. Includes veneer sheets.

4. Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and recovered wood.

7.2. Exports

A total of 4.7 million tonnes of pulp and paper (including recovered paper) was exported by the UK in 2024 (Table 13), a 2% increase from the level in 2023.

Table 13a Export quantities¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand cubic metres, except thousand tonnes for 'Wood pellets' and 'Pulp and paper'

Year	Sawn wood²	Wood-based panels³	Other wood⁴	Wood pellets	Pulp and paper
2020	231	389	301	4	4,617
2021	277	321	302	2	5,352
2022	183	370	304	23	4,861
2023	189	311	604	11	4,666
2024	205	331	871	14	4,738

Table 13b Pulp and paper export quantities¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

thousand tonnes

Year	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total pulp and paper
2020	749	26	3,842	4,617
2021	1,048	5	4,299	5,352
2022	774	5	4,082	4,861
2023	681	30	3,955	4,666
2024	923	29	3,786	4,738

Source (Tables 13a and 13b): UK overseas trade statistics (HM Revenue & Customs), industry associations.

Note:

1. There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Section 8.2.4. in the Annex).
2. Sawnwood includes sleepers.
3. Includes veneer sheets.
4. Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and recovered wood.

Wood product exports were valued at a total of £1.8 billion in 2024, a 2% increase from the previous year (Table 14). The total value of wood product exports in 2024 comprised 83% pulp and paper (mainly paper), 8% wood-based panels, 5% sawnwood, 4% other wood and a small amount of wood pellets.

Table 14a Export values¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

£ million

Year	Sawn wood ²	Wood-based panels ³	Other wood ⁴	Wood pellets	Pulp and paper	Total
2020	63	114	36	1	1,336	1,549
2021	96	158	44	0	1,674	1,972
2022	85	172	47	12	1,923	2,238
2023	83	138	59	5	1,460	1,745
2024	96	138	63	4	1,470	1,772

Table 14b Pulp and paper export values¹, UK, 2020 to 2024

£ million

Year	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total pulp and paper
2020	931	11	394	1,336
2021	940	3	731	1,674
2022	1,171	4	749	1,923
2023	931	8	521	1,460
2024	864	6	601	1,470

Source (Tables 14a and 14b): UK overseas trade statistics (HM Revenue & Customs), industry associations.

Note:

1. There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Section 8.2.4. in the Annex).
2. Sawnwood includes sleepers.
3. Includes veneer sheets.

4. Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and recovered wood.

7.3. Consumption of wood products

Apparent consumption is the amount of timber used as wood and wood products by people and industries in the UK. It is calculated as total UK production plus imports, minus exports. Apparent consumption differs from actual consumption by the extent of changes in the level of stocks. It is not practical to collect information on actual consumption.

Table 15 presents estimates of apparent consumption for sawnwood, wood-based panels, wood pellets and paper in the last 5 years, derived from the production figures in Tables 5, 7, 9 and 10, data on imports (Table 11) and data on exports (Table 13).

A total of 9.7 million cubic metres of sawnwood (an 8% increase compared to the previous year), 5.6 million cubic metres of wood-based panels (a 3% decrease), 9.6 million tonnes of wood pellets (a 44% increase) and 6.6 million tonnes of paper (a 3% increase) were consumed in the UK in 2024. The increase in wood pellets between 2023 and 2024 is large but the figure has returned to a similar level to the 2020 and 2021 figures.

Table 15 Apparent consumption, UK, 2020 to 2024

Year	Sawnwood (thousand cubic metres)	Wood-based panels (thousand cubic metres)	Wood pellets (thousand tonnes)	Paper (thousand tonnes)
2020	10,335	5,830	9,371	7,437
2021	11,493	6,959	9,431	6,800
2022	9,256	5,970	7,819	7,105
2023	8,929	5,806	6,665	6,444
2024	9,669	5,636	9,631	6,636

Source: Industry surveys (Forest Research), industry associations and HM Revenue & Customs.

Note:

1. Apparent consumption is calculated as total domestic production plus imports, minus exports.

8. Annex

8.1. Introduction

This annex provides background information on the UK wood production and trade statistics presented in this publication. It covers the data sources and methodology used to produce the statistics, information on quality measures and on any revisions to historic data and links to further information.

8.2. Data sources and methodology

8.2.1. Administrative sources

Administrative records are used to compile the roundwood removals figures from woodland owned or managed by Forestry England, Forestry and Land Scotland, Natural Resources Wales, or the Forest Service Northern Ireland. Each organisation records their timber sales through a separate system:

- Sales Recording Package (Forestry England)
- Timber Sales System (Natural Resources Wales)
- Sales Recording Package (Forestry and Land Scotland)
- Timber Permit Management System (Northern Ireland Forest Service).

A quality assurance of administrative data report for the timber sales data sources was last published in May 2021, and is available on the [Administrative Sources - Forest Research page](#). This was carried out in accordance with the [Office for Statistics Regulation's Quality Assurance of Administrative Data \(QAAD\) toolkit](#).

8.2.2. Forest Research industry surveys

Data for softwood removals from other woodland and for wood processing are collected through several Forest Research industry surveys:

- Private Sector Softwood Removals Survey
- Sawmill Survey
- Survey of Round Fencing Manufacturers
- Pellet and Briquette Production Survey

Details on each survey and methodology can be found at the [About Our Statistics: Timber Surveys page](#).

Other sources of industry data include:

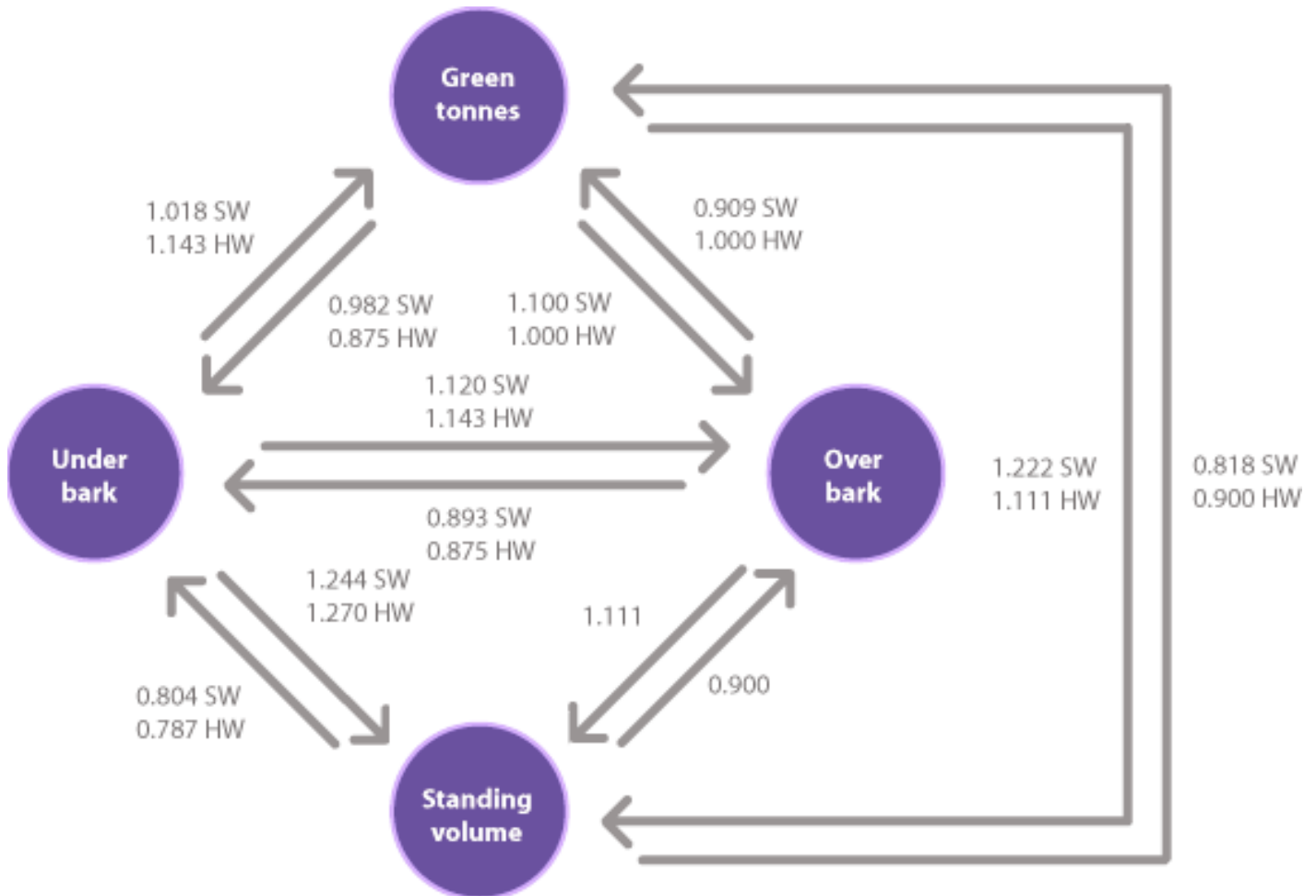
- Wood Panel Industries Federation (for wood-based panels)
- Confor, Confederation of Forest Industries (for integrated pulp and paper mills)
- Confederation of Paper Industries (for paper production)

Estimates are also provided by the [Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics](#).

8.2.3. Conversion factors

The following factors have been used in this release to convert between cubic metres (m³) and green tonnes:

HW = Hardwood, SW = Softwood



The diagram above shows separate conversion factors to use when converting softwood (SW) and hardwood (HW) with arrows to indicate the direction of conversion. For example, to convert 1,000 green tonnes of softwood into an underbark volume, the 1,000 green tonnes should be multiplied by the conversion factor of 0.982 to give 982 cubic metres underbark. There is no difference between

the softwood and hardwood conversion factors for converting between standing volume and overbark volumes.

Further information on conversion factors is available in Chapter 10: Sources and Methodology of [Forestry Statistics 2024](#).

8.2.4. Trade statistics

Statistics on imports and exports are based on the [published overseas trade statistics for intra-EU trade and extra-EU trade produced by HM Revenue & Customs](#). Where the reporting units for quantity differ from those shown in this release, figures are adjusted using standard FAO/ECE conversion factors, which are listed in Chapter 10: Sources and Methodology of [Forestry Statistics 2024](#).

Historically, HM Revenue & Customs wood trade figures have often necessitated adjustments, following liaison with practitioners in the trade. This is partly because detailed intra-EU wood trade data was obtained through a survey of businesses which trade above a particular value threshold until 2022. Therefore, the trade data reported in this publication for individual products in years prior to 2022 was based on a potentially biased survey. More information on HMRC statistics can be found at the [UK Trade Info website](#).

More details on trade statistics sources can be found in Chapter 10: Sources and Methodology of [Forestry Statistics 2024](#).

Statistics on international trade flows (by country of source and country of destination) are available from the [FAOSTAT website](#).

8.3. Quality

The figures in this publication are provisional. Final figures will be published in Forestry Statistics 2025, with a summary in Forestry Facts and Figures 2025.

Detailed information on the quality of the statistics presented in this publication is available in the [UK Wood Production and Trade quality report](#).

Further quality information for each of the Forest Research industry surveys used in this release are provided as [separate quality reports](#).

8.4. Revisions

Figures for 2024 are published for the first time in this release.

Figures shown for 2023 and earlier years have been previously published. They are, however, subject to revisions from those published in Forestry Statistics 2024 and previous publications, to reflect late updates to administrative or survey data.

The following revisions have been made to the data for 2020 to 2023 since they were previously published (in Forestry Statistics 2024):

- Table 9: Paper production – for 2023 there has been a small downward revision of two thousand tonnes applied to other (including graphic) papers.
- Table 11: UK Import Quantities - Other wood, which includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles and residues, has been revised up by 18 thousand cubic metres for 2022 and 52 thousand cubic metres for 2023.
- Table 12: UK Import Values - Estimated values for 2022 and 2023 UK imports of other wood have both been revised up by £4 million.
- Table 13: UK Export Quantities - Estimated quantity for UK exports of other wood has been revised up by 19 thousand cubic metres for 2022 and 57 thousand cubic metres for 2023.
- Table 14: UK Export Values - Estimated values for 2022 and UK exports of other wood have been revised up by £1 million and £2 million respectively.

Our [Revisions Policy](#) sets out how revisions and errors to these statistics are dealt with.

8.5. Further information

Most of these statistics are used to compile data that are sent to international organisations in the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaires (JQ1 and JQ2), in some cases giving more detail than in this release. The statistics are used by UNECE Timber Bulletins, and UN/FAO Forest Product Statistics and are published on the [FAOSTAT database](#). These returns will be published as Official Statistics on the Forest Research website; provisional figures in May 2025 and final figures in October 2025. These will be the last releases of Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire data by Forest Research. Forest Research will continue to provide this return to the UNECE so future (and past) copies of the UK data can be found at the FAO website. If you have any concerns about this please contact us at statistics@forestresearch.gov.uk.

The definitions used in this release are consistent with the [FAO International Definitions](#).

Additional analyses are available on request (subject to disclosure constraints).

Figures for UK production and trade of sawn softwood have previously been used alongside data from other sources to assess consumption of sawn softwood in the main end-user markets in the UK. You can find more information on this on our [Timber and Trade page](#).

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) publishes [an annual Digest of UK Energy Statistics](#). Chapter 6 of this digest covers renewable sources of energy including wood. Figures for wood use in renewable energy statistics take into account wood from all sources (including processed wood, recycled wood and imports), not just UK-grown roundwood.

8.6. Release schedule

Final figures for 2024 will be released in Forestry Statistics 2025 and Forestry Facts and Figures 2025 on 25 September 2025.

Provisional figures for 2025 will be released in UK Wood Production and Trade: 2025 provisional figures on 21 May 2026.

8.7. Glossary

Brash

Branch wood and leaf material that is generally too small in diameter to be considered part of the timber product from a harvesting site.

Briquettes

Similar to wood pellets (see below) but larger, briquettes are made from compressed wood fibres and used for heating.

Confor

Confederation of Forest Industries.

Deliveries

The quantities of UK-grown roundwood that is delivered to processors (mills) or for other uses (such as woodfuel and exports). Note that for sawmills and round fencing mills, the deliveries figure reported is actually the quantity of roundwood consumed by the mill, which may differ from the true deliveries figure if the levels of input stocks vary.

Fibreboard

Panel material with thickness equal to or greater than 1.5 mm, manufactured from lignocellulosic fibres with application of heat and/or pressure. The bond is derived

either from the felting of the fibres and their inherent adhesive properties or from a synthetic binder added to the fibres.

Forest Service (FS) Northern Ireland

An executive agency of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). Forest Service fulfils DAERA's legal obligations for forestry in Northern Ireland.

Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS)

The Scottish Government agency responsible for managing the national forests and lands in Scotland, created on 1 April 2019.

Forestry Commission (FC)

The government department responsible for forestry matters in England. The Forestry Commission's functions in Wales transferred to the Welsh Government and to Natural Resources Wales on 1 April 2013. The Forestry Commission's functions in Scotland transferred to Scottish Forestry and to Forestry and Land Scotland on 1 April 2019. The Forestry Commission is supported by two agencies; Forestry England and Forest Research.

Forestry England (FE)

The Forestry Commission agency responsible for managing the nation's forests in England.

Great Britain (GB)

England, Wales and Scotland.

Green tonne

The weight measurement of timber freshly felled before any natural or artificial drying has occurred.

Hardwood

The wood of broadleaved trees, such as oak, birch and beech; a term sometimes used for the broadleaved trees themselves.

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

The UK's tax, payments and customs authority.

Increment

The growth rate of standing trees.

Medium-density fibreboard (MDF)

Wood fibreboard made by a dry process in which the primary bond is derived from a bonding agent, and having a density usually exceeding 600 kg per cubic metre.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Natural Resources Wales is a Welsh government sponsored body that manages and protects Wales' natural resources and environment with a core duty of sustainable management of natural resources, created on 1 April 2013.

Particleboard

Panel material manufactured under pressure and heat from particles of wood (wood and chipboard flakes, chips, shavings, sawdust), with the addition of an adhesive.

Pulp

Fibrous material produced by mechanically or chemically reducing wood into its component parts from which pulp, paper and paperboard sheets are formed after proper slushing and treatment or used for dissolving purposes (dissolving pulp or chemical cellulose) to make rayon, plastics, and other synthetic products. Sometimes called wood pulp.

Roundwood

Trunk or branch wood, generally with a top diameter of 7 cm or more. Can be in the form of logs (14 cm top diameter or more) or small roundwood (7 to 14 cm).

Sawlogs

Material of at least 14 cm top diameter that is destined to be sawn into planks or boards.

Softwood

The wood of coniferous trees, such as spruce, pine and larch; a term sometimes used for the coniferous trees themselves.

Standing volume

Measurement of quantity before trees are felled. Usually expressed as cubic metres overbark standing.

Stemwood

Wood from the stem and main branches of a tree, excluding the stump and small branches.

Stump

The above-ground base part of a tree that would usually remain after felling.

Wood pellets

Sawdust or wood shavings compressed into uniform diameter pellets. They are often burned for heat or energy, but may also be used for other purposes (such as horse bedding or cat litter).

UK Wood Production and Trade: 2024 Provisional Figures

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