



Bwyd a Diod Cymru
Food & Drink Wales

Welsh Food and Drink Annual Export Bulletin 2020

Highlights





THE TOP DESTINATIONS FOR EXPORTS WERE

IRELAND, FRANCE AND THE NETHERLANDS



FOOD AND DRINK GOODS EXPORTS DECREASED BY

£20M  
BETWEEN 2019 AND 2020
A DECREASE OF **3.5%¹**

THE VALUE HAS INCREASED BY **£115 MILLION** SINCE 2016 

THE UK EXPORTED NEARLY

£21.7 BN

WORTH OF FOOD AND DRINK IN 2020

A **9.9%** DECREASE FROM 2019

THE VALUE HAS INCREASED BY **£1.4 BILLION** SINCE 2016 

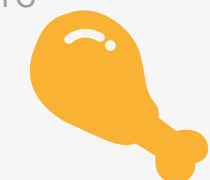


THE HIGHEST VALUE EXPORT CATEGORIES IN 2020 WERE MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

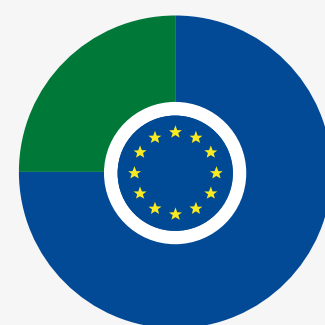
£199M

AND DAIRY PRODUCTS AND BIRDS' EGGS

£106M



75% OF THE VALUE OF WELSH FOOD AND DRINK GOODS EXPORTS WENT TO THE EU



1. Whilst coronavirus and Brexit will likely have had an impact on Welsh food and drink exports in 2020, the direct impact is difficult to quantify. Given this, it is worth bearing in mind that any year on year changes may have been impacted by these factors, however it cannot be stated for certain.

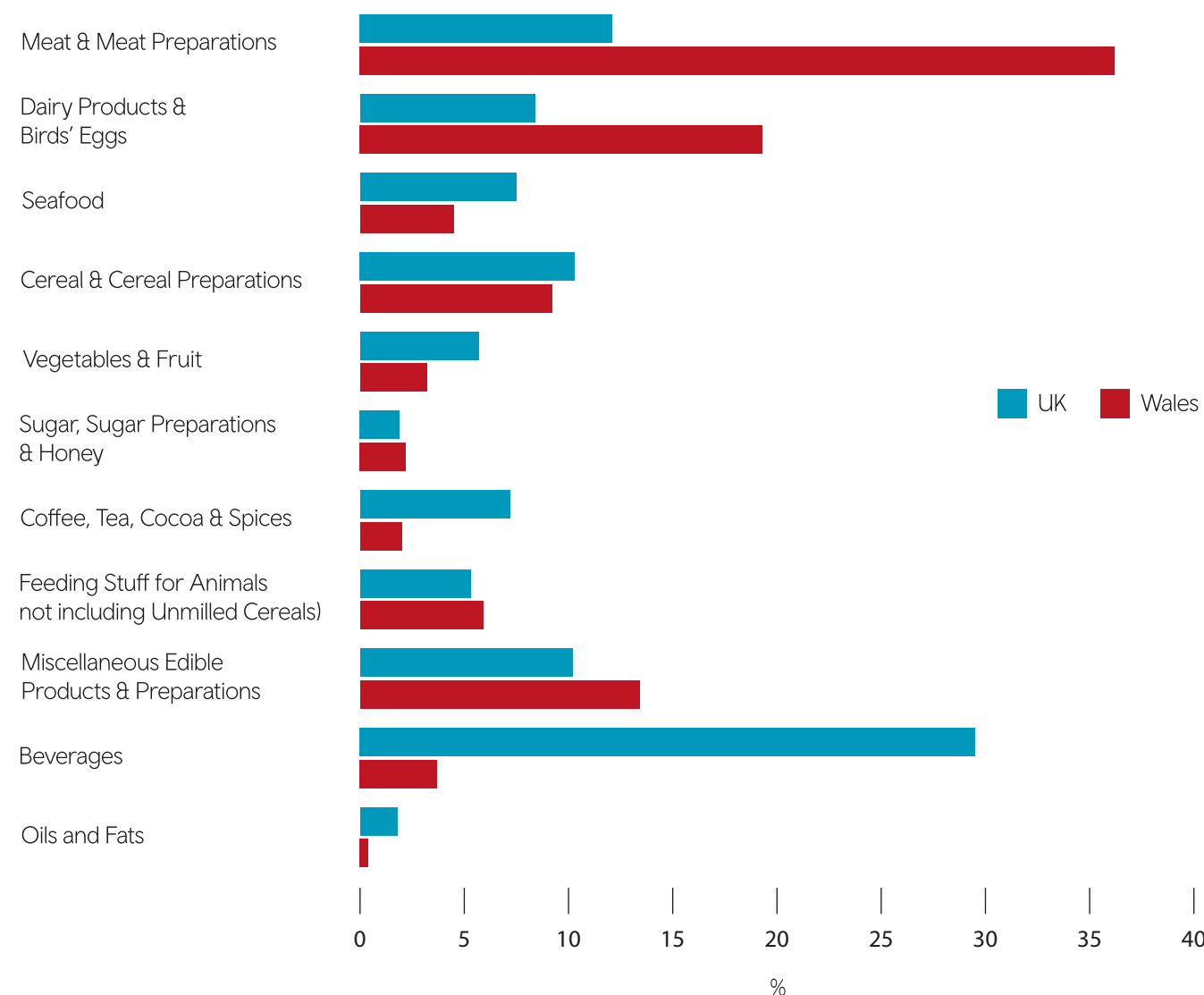
Product Category Analysis

The three most valuable export categories for Welsh food and drink in 2020 were Meat and Meat Products (£199m), Dairy Products and Birds Eggs (£106m) and Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations (£74m). The category with the largest percentage increase from 2019 was Sugar, Sugar Preparations and Honey, with an 82% increase from £7m to £12m. Beverages had the largest percentage decrease year on year, falling by 36% from £32m to £20m².

The composition of total food and drink exports varies between Wales and the UK, with particular sectors in Wales making up a

much greater share of total food and drink exports when compared to the UK. Meat and Meat Preparations is the largest category for Wales, making up 36% of the food and drink export value, followed by Dairy Products and Birds Eggs with a 19% share of all food and drink exports. For the UK Beverages is the category with the highest share at 30%, followed by Meat and Meat Preparations with 12%. The lowest categories for Wales are Oils and Fats (0.4%) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Spices & Manufactures Thereof at 2%. For the UK the lowest categories are Oils and Fats at 1.8%, and Sugar, Sugar Preparations and Honey at 1.9%.

Proportion of food and drink exports by category, 2020



2. All annual comparisons are comparing actual sales. Previous year's figures have not been inflation adjusted.

Destination Analysis

Eight of the top ten Welsh food and drink destinations are within the EU, with the two non-EU countries being USA (8th) and Turkey (10th).

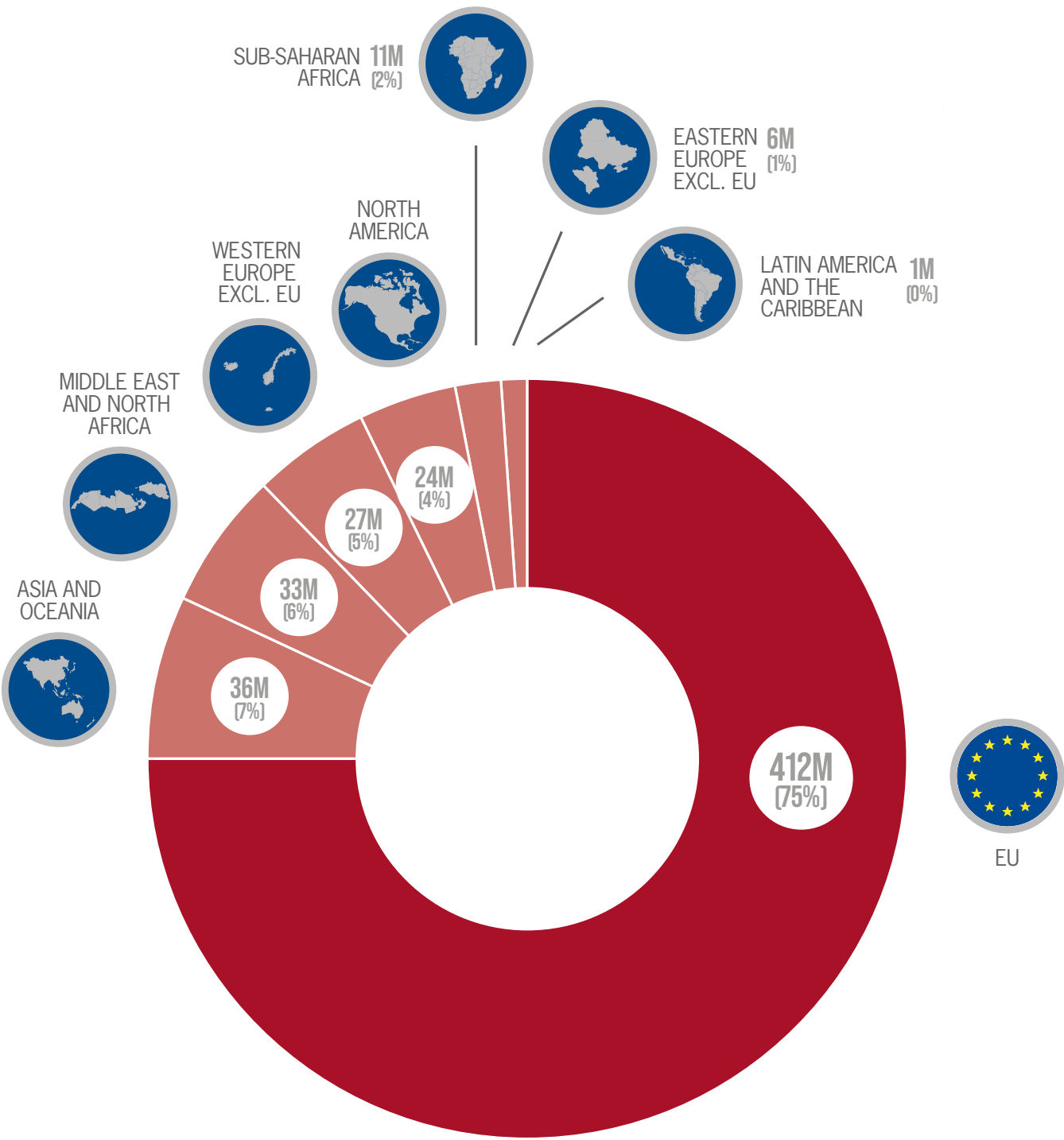
Top Ten countries by value of food and drink exports (£ millions), 2020

Rank	Country	Export Value	% of Total F & D Exports
1	Ireland	106	19%
2	France	72	13%
3	Netherlands	53	10%
4	Germany	51	9%
5	Italy	26	5%
6	Spain	25	5%
7	Belgium	21	4%
8	USA (including Puerto Rico)	20	4%
9	Poland	16	3%
10	Turkey	14	3%
Total Food and Drink Exports		550	

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Customs Regional Trade in Goods statistics

75% of Welsh food and drink exports are to countries within the EU, with the second and third highest value regions being Asia and Oceania (7%, £36 million) and the Middle East and North Africa (6%, £33 million) respectively.

Welsh Food and Drink Export Value by Region 2020 (£ millions and % of total)

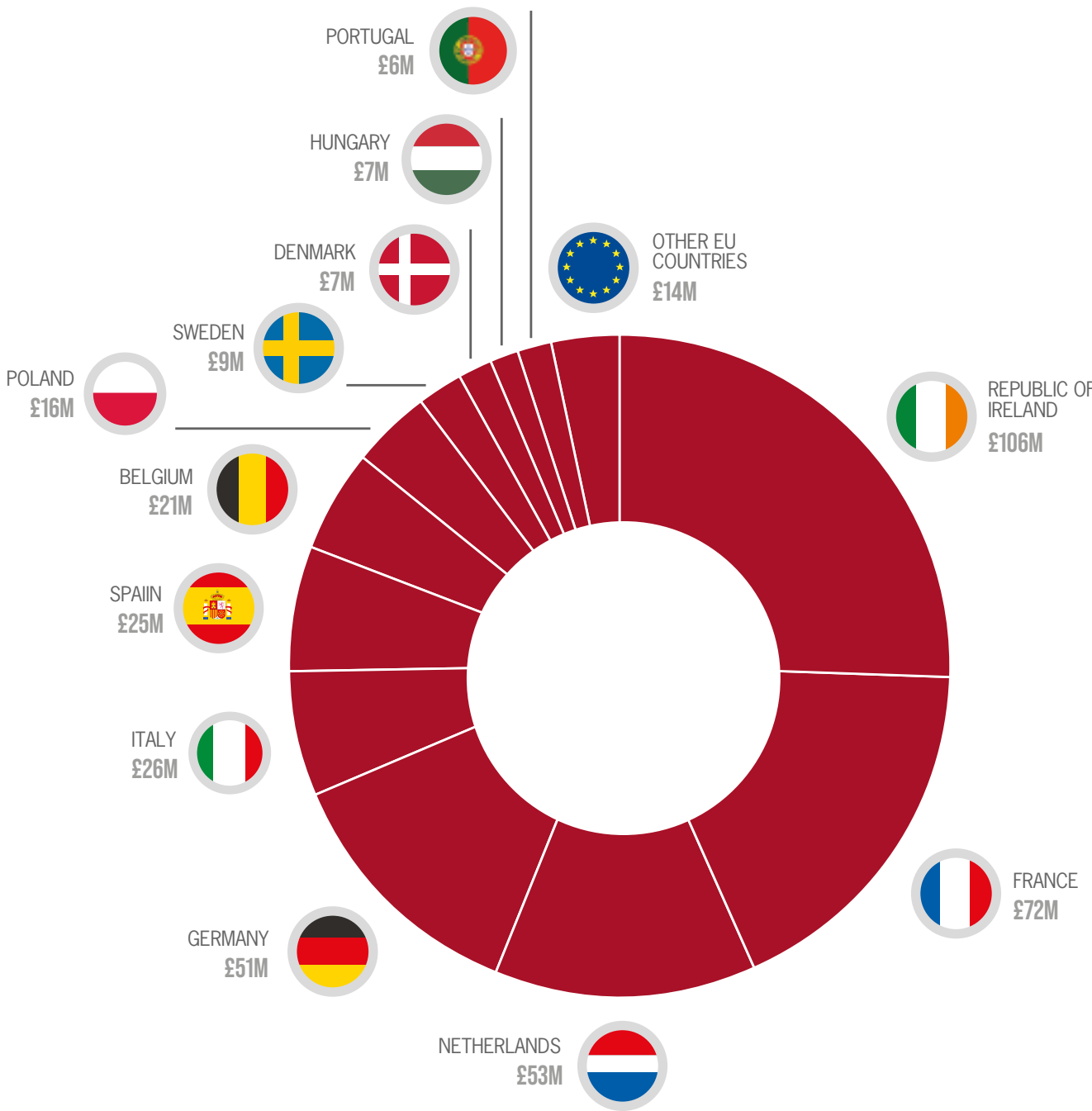


Export destinations in the EU

Welsh Food and Drink exports to the EU were worth £412m in 2020, a £19m decrease from 2019. This accounts for 75% of the total value of Welsh Food and Drink exports. The UK exports 61% of food and drink goods to the EU, highlighting Wales has a greater reliance on EU countries than the UK for food and drink exports.

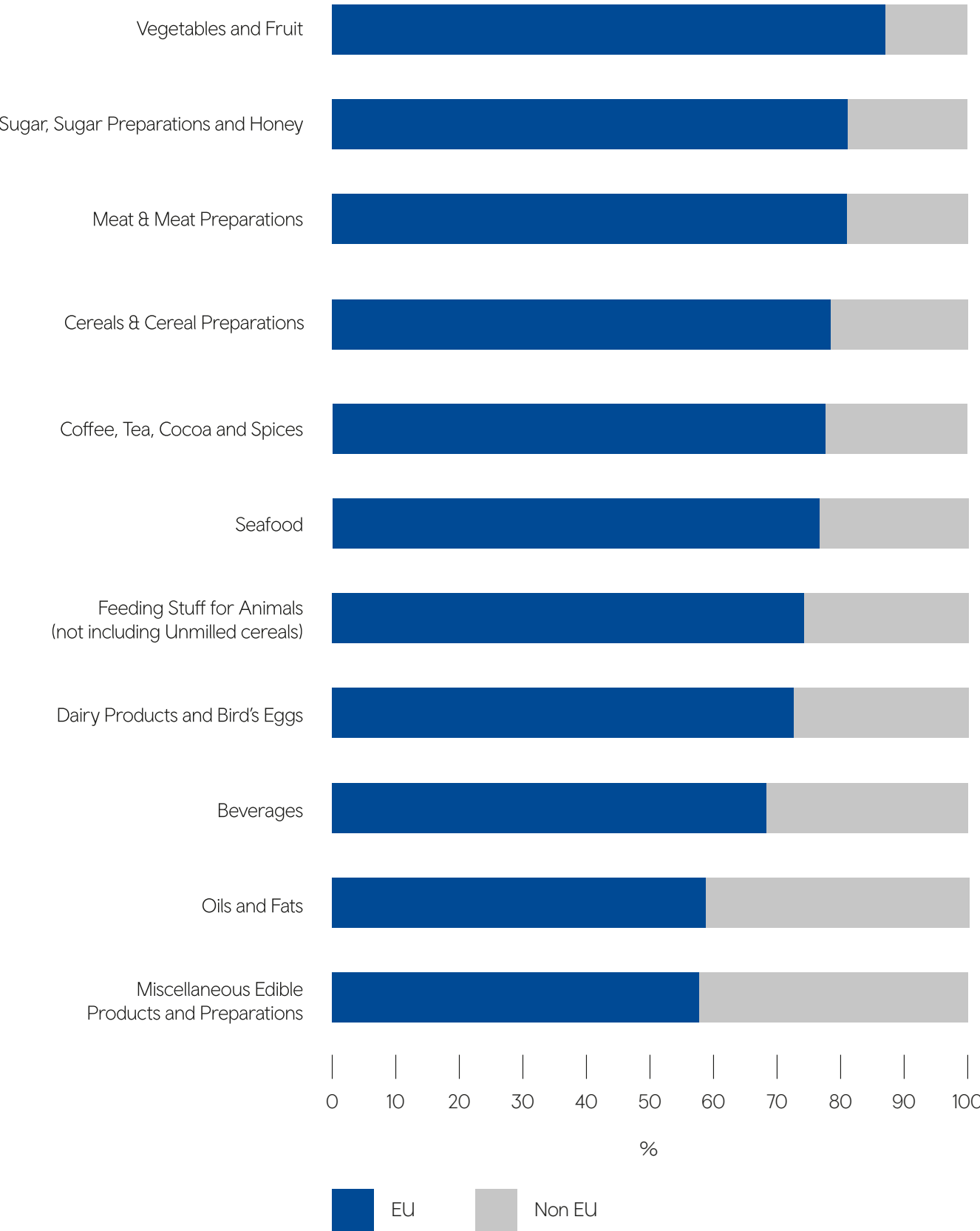
The republic of Ireland remained the highest value destination, with a value of £106m, accounting for 19% of all food and drink exports. The other top EU destinations included France (£72m), Netherlands (£53m), Germany (£51m) and Italy (£26m). These top 5 combined account for 56% of Welsh food and drink exports.

Welsh Food and Drink Exports to EU Countries (£ millions)



The highest value export categories to EU destinations in 2020 were Meat and Meat Products (£161 million), Dairy Products and Birds Eggs (£78 million), and Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations (£42 million).

Across all food categories, the majority of export destinations are within the EU. Vegetables and Fruit is the category most reliant on EU exports, with 87% of the value coming from EU countries. The least reliant category is Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations, with 58% of the export value being from EU countries.



Export destinations outside the EU

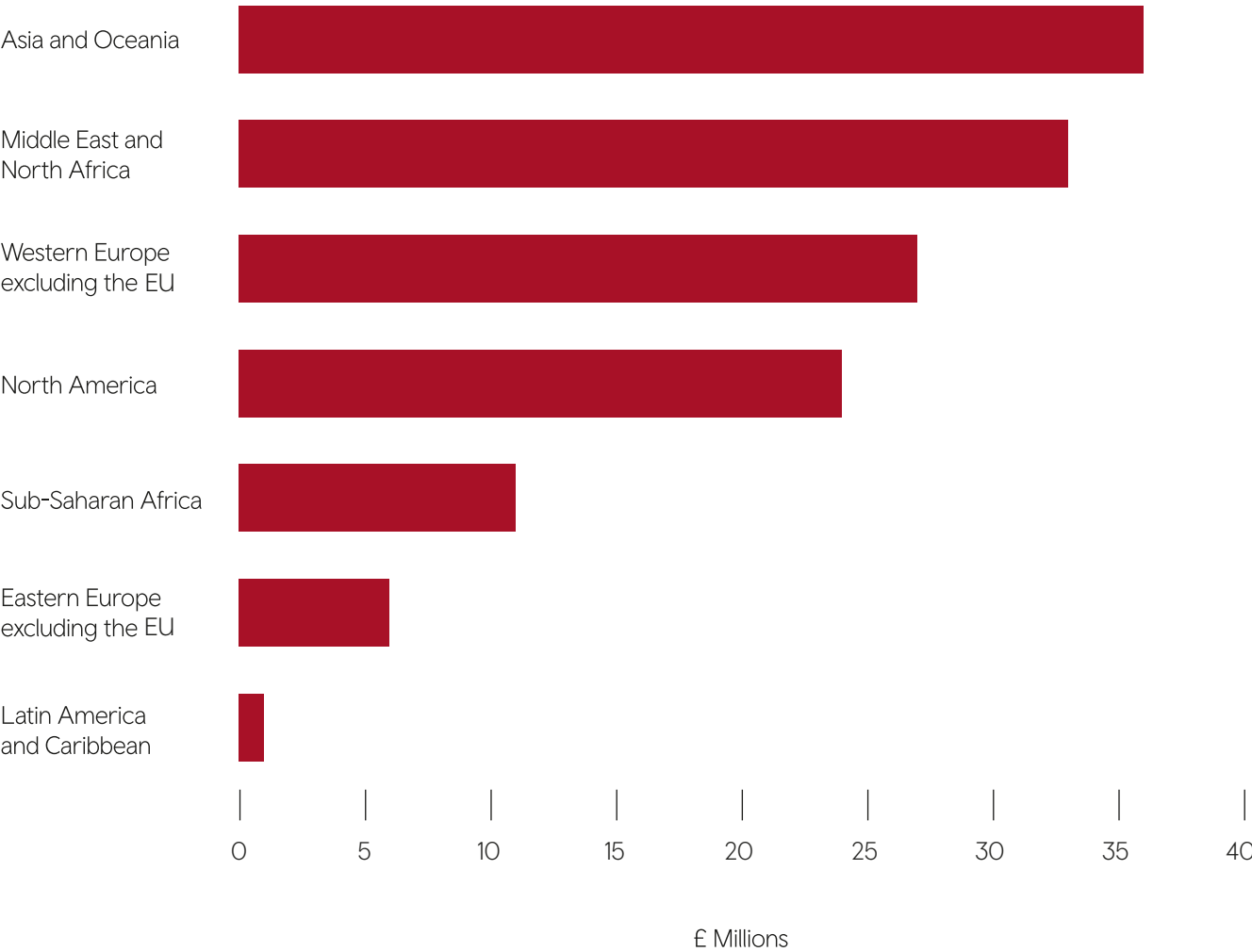
Welsh food and drink exports to Non-EU countries were worth £138m in 2020, a slight decrease from £140m in 2019. This is however a significant increase over the longer term, increasing by £62m since 2016.

The top destinations outside of the EU were the USA (£20m), Turkey (£14m), Australia (£10m), Saudi Arabia (£9m) and South Korea (£6m). These 5 countries make up 43% of all Non-EU Welsh food and drink exports, and 11% of the total value of Welsh food and drink exports.

The three highest value food and drink export categories to non-EU countries were Meat and Meat Preparations (£38m), Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations (£31m) and Dairy Products and Birds Eggs (£28m)

From 2014 to 2020 Welsh food and drink exports to Turkey had the largest change, increasing by £14m. This is followed by the USA (up £9m) and Saudi Arabia (up £8m). The largest increase from 2019 to 2020 is also Turkey (up £3m), followed by South Korea (up £2m) and Switzerland (up £2m).

Value of Welsh Food and Drink Exports to Non-EU Regions, 2020



Key markets outside of the EU

USA

Food and Drink exports to the USA were worth £20m in 2020, a slight decrease of £0.1m from 2019, however exports increased by £9m from 2014. Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations were the highest value category, at £11.5m. UK food and drink exports to the US were worth £1.9bn in 2020.



Australia

Exports to Australia were worth £10m in 2020, increasing by £1m from 2019, and £5m from 2014. Exports of Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations was the highest value category in 2020, at £6m, followed by Dairy Products and Birds Eggs at £2m. The UK exports £441m of food and drink goods to Australia.



Saudi Arabia

Welsh food and drink exports to Saudi Arabia were worth £9m in 2020, decreasing slightly by £0.1m from 2019, however increasing by £8m from 2014. The highest value export category is Meat and Meat Products at £5m. The UK exports £212m of food and drink goods to Saudi Arabia.



South Korea

Exports to South Korea were worth £6m in 2020, increasing by £2m from 2019, the second largest value increase of a country year on year. The highest value export category to South Korea is Fish products, at a value of £5m. The UK exports £161m of food and drink to South Korea.



Turkey

Food and drink exports to Turkey had a value of £14m in 2020, up by £3m from 2019, and £14m since 2014. The highest value category exported to Turkey is Dairy Products and Birds Eggs, with a value of £10.5m. The UK exports £136m of food and drink to Turkey.



Japan

Welsh food and drink exports to Japan were worth £3m in 2020, down by £0.3m from 2019, however increasing by £1.6m from 2014. The highest value category exported to Japan is Dairy Products and Birds Eggs, at £1.6m. The UK exports £284m of food and drink to Japan



Annex A. Data tables

Value of food & drink exports and total exports, Wales and the UK (£ millions), 2016–2020

Year	Wales			UK			Wales as a % of UK	
	Food & Drinks	All Exports	% of Wales Total	Food & Drinks	All Exports	% of UK Total	Food & Drinks	All Exports
2016	436	14,630	3	20,289	290,946	7%	2.1%	5%
2017	529	16,479	3.2	22,201	328,302	6.8%	2.4%	5%
2018	539	17,190	3.1	22,897	339,506	6.7%	2.4%	5.1%
2019	570	17,773	3.2	24,054	347,831	6.9%	2.4%	5.1%
2020	550	13,443	4.1	21,677	293,589	7.4%	2.5%	4.6%

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Customs Regional Trade in Goods statistics

Volume of food & drink exports and total exports, Wales and the UK (Tonnes), 2016–2020

Year	Wales			UK			Wales as a % of UK	
	Food & Drink	All Exports	% of Wales Total	Food & Drink	All Exports	% of UK Total	Food & Drink	All Exports
2016	203,000	7,846,600	2.6	15,668,200	154,477,400	10.1	1.3	5.1
2017	201,400	7,515,100	2.7	13,016,200	160,839,100	8.1	1.5	4.7
2018	228,300	8,309,900	2.7	13,393,300	160,337,600	8.4	1.7	5.2
2019	271,400	8,664,400	3.1	15,085,000	154,346,100	9.8	1.8	5.6
2020	224,300	7,828,900	2.9	13,076,200	145,994,600	9	1.7	5.4

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Customs Regional Trade in Goods statistics

Value of Welsh food & drink exports by destination (£ millions), 2016–2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 compared to:	
						2016 % change	2019 % change
EU	360	409	395	431	412	↑15%	↓4%
Asia and Oceania	20	25	33	34	36	↑82%	↑7%
Middle East and North Africa	14	35	46	36	33	↑127%	↓9%
Western Europe excluding the EU	8	19	19	21	27	↑228%	↑29%
North America	20	26	30	29	24	↑23%	↓15%
Sub-Saharan Africa	7	6	9	10	11	↑65%	↑5%
Eastern Europe excluding the EU	6	7	6	9	6	↑0%	↓25%
Latin America and Caribbean	1	1	2	1	1	↑74%	↓10%
Total	436	529	539	570	550	↑26	↓4












Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Customs Regional Trade in Goods Statistics

Percentage value of Welsh food & drink exports by destination, 2016–2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU	83%	77%	73%	76%	75%
Asia and Oceania	5%	5%	6%	6%	7%
Middle East and North Africa	3%	7%	9%	6%	6%
Western Europe excluding the EU	2%	4%	3%	4%	5%
North America	5%	5%	6%	5%	4%
Sub-Saharan Africa	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Eastern Europe excluding the EU	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Latin America and the Caribbean	–	–	–	–	–
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%












Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Customs Regional Trade in Goods Statistics

Value of Welsh food & drink exports by product (£ millions), 2016–2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 compared to:	
						2016 % change	2019 % change
Meat & Meat Products 	122	147	142	171	199	↑63%	↑17%
Dairy Products & Birds' Eggs 	89	120	110	133	106	↑19%	↓20%
Miscellaneous Edible Products & Preparations 	61	73	78	77	74	↑20%	↓4%
Cereals and Cereal Preparation 	56	67	82	60	51	↓9%	↓15%
Feeding Stuff for Animals 	21	28	32	29	32	↑55%	↑10%
Seafood 	27	32	31	33	25	↓10%	↓24%
Beverages 	32	29	26	32	20	↓36%	↓36%
Vegetables & Fruit 	7	8	16	18	17	↑139%	↓5%
Sugar, Sugar Preparations & Honey 	9	8	9	7	12	↑39%	↑82%
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Spices 	9	13	12	10	11	↑17%	↑11%
Oils & Fats 	2	2	3	2	2	↑44%	↑26%
Total	436	529	539	570	550	↑26%	↓4%












Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Custom Regional Trade Statistics

Percentage value of Welsh food & drink exports by product, 2016–2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Meat & Meat Products 	28%	28%	26%	30%	36%
Dairy Products & Birds' Eggs 	20%	23%	20%	23%	19%
Miscellaneous Edible Products & Preparations 	14%	14%	14%	14%	13%
Cereals and Cereal Preparation 	13%	13%	15%	10%	9%
Feeding Stuff for Animals (Excluding Unmilled Cereals) 	5%	5%	6%	5%	6%
Seafood 	6%	6%	6%	6%	4%
Beverages 	7%	6%	5%	6%	4%
Vegetables & Fruit 	2%	1%	3%	3%	3%
Sugar, Sugar Preparations & Honey 	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Spices 	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Oils & Fats 	–	–	–	–	–
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Custom Regional Trade Statistics

Volume of Welsh food & drink exports by product (tonnes) 2016–2020

							2020 compared to:	
Year		2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016 % change	2019 % change
Meat & Meat Products		39,700	40,600	43,500	50,400	67,700	↑70%	↑34%
Dairy Products & Birds' Eggs		41,400	37,100	35,600	57,600	35,600	↓14%	↓38%
Cereals and Cereal Preparation		20,500	25,200	43,700	61,300	34,900	↑70%	↓43%
Beverages		39,100	36,500	34,600	42,600	26,500	↓32%	↓38%
Feeding Stuff for Animals (Excluding Unmilled Cereals)		20,200	20,700	31,000	20,300	21,700	↑8%	↑7%
Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations		17,000	16,300	14,500	14,000	12,300	↓28%	↓12%
Vegetables & Fruit		3,900	3,900	6,700	8,300	8,300	↑113%	↑0%
Sugar, Sugar Preparations & Honey		10,800	8,200	9,900	6,700	8,200	↓25%	↑23%
Seafood		7,300	9,600	5,500	7,700	6,300	↓14%	↓19%
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Spices		1,800	2,300	2,400	1,900	2,000	↑10%	↑5%
Oils & Fats		1,200	1,000	900	700	900	↓25%	↑18%
Total		203,000	201,400	228,300	271,400	224,300	↑11%	↓17%

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Custom Regional Trade Statistics

Top 10 Countries by Value of Welsh food & drink exports (£ millions), 2016–2020

						2020 compared to:	
Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016 % change	2019 % change
Republic of Ireland	88	96	108	106	106	↑20%	0%
France	73	77	78	84	72	↓1%	↓14%
Netherlands	33	42	42	63	53	↑61%	↓16%
Germany	39	43	42	42	51	↑31%	↑21%
Italy	23	25	21	27	26	↑13%	↓4%
Spain	27	32	33	37	25	↓7%	↓32%
Belgium	33	38	14	18	21	↓36%	↑17%
USA (including Puerto Rico)	13	17	18	20	20	↑54%	0%
Poland	7	11	11	10	16	↑129%	↑60%
Turkey	3	11	10	11	14	↑367%	↑27%
Total	436	529	539	570	550	↑26	↓4

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Custom Regional Trade in Goods Statistics

Top 5 Welsh food & drink products by top 5 destinations (value in £ millions, volume in tonnes) 2016–2020

Meat & Meat Products	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
France	31	8,500	32	7,600	33	8,400	40	9,300	42	14,300
Germany	14	3,700	15	3,800	14	4,800	16	7,400	28	5,500
Ireland	25	10,300	25	9,600	24	8,700	24	9,600	21	10,000
Netherlands	9	4,500	13	8,400	12	10,900	14	10,100	21	18,600
Italy	7	1,400	9	1,500	8	1,200	12	2,100	15	2,900

Dairy Products and Birds' Eggs	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Republic of Ireland	18	8,600	20	7,700	25	10,400	25	20,300	24	10,900
Turkey	1	200	6	600	6	600	8	600	10	700
France	14	7,400	15	4,700	17	5,300	17	5,800	10	3,400
Netherlands	9	6,300	13	6,500	10	5,300	23	12,900	9	5,700
Belgium	21	7,600	24	5,800	5	1,500	6	2,400	7	3,200

Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
USA (including Puerto Rico)	7	400	8	200	12	300	11	300	12	300
Republic of Ireland	8	3,000	10	3,500	8	2,800	8	2,700	9	2,900
Germany	8	1,600	9	1,500	8	1,400	8	1,200	7	1,000
France	5	2,300	7	2,300	7	1,700	7	1,500	7	1,500
Australia	2	200	2	200	3	300	4	300	6	400

Cereals and Cereal Preparations	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Republic of Ireland	21	9,300	20	10,500	24	16,600	24	14,900	25	14,000
France	10	3,000	10	2,700	10	2,700	9	2,500	6	1,900
Netherlands	3	1,700	3	1,700	5	8,400	5	13,600	4	3,500
Canada	3	600	4	800	4	700	5	700	2	500
Australia	2	800	2	900	2	800	2	800	1	1,000

Feeding Stuff for Animals	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume
Republic of Ireland	6	6,800	10	10,300	12	15,100	10	9,300	10	9,300
Germany	6	2,300	6	1,700	5	1,300	5	1,200	5	500
Norway	–	300	1	600	2	1,200	2	1,000	3	1,400
Sweden	2	1,800	2	1,300	2	1,400	2	1,100	2	1,000
Netherlands	1	800	1	600	1	900	2	1,100	2	1,500

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Custom Regional Trade in Goods Statistics

Value of Welsh food & drink exports by UK country / English region (£ millions), 2016–2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 compared to:	
						2016 % change	2019 % change
Wales	436	529	539	570	550	↑ 26%	↓ 4%
Scotland	5,202	5,676	5,903	6,280	5,271	↑ 1%	↓ 16%
Northern Ireland	1,433	1,716	1,901	1,897	1,775	↑ 24%	↓ 6%
North East	241	245	244	257	238	↓ 1%	↓ 7%
North West	1,734	1,921	1,846	1,948	1,947	↑ 12%	↑ 0%
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,010	1,125	1,173	1,241	1,232	↑ 22%	↓ 1%
East Midlands	927	951	993	1,088	1,022	↑ 10%	↓ 6%
West Midlands	694	771	816	778	741	↑ 7%	↓ 5%
East	1,843	1,988	1,991	2,135	2,003	↑ 9%	↓ 6%
London	2,611	2,863	2,990	3,041	2,636	↑ 1%	↓ 13%
South East	1,488	1,610	1,529	1,634	1,406	↓ 6%	↓ 14%
South West	729	809	811	896	791	↑ 9%	↓ 12%
Total	20,289	22,201	22,897	24,054	21,677	↑ 7%	↓ 10%

Source: Welsh Government analysis of HM Revenue & Customs Regional Trade in Goods Statistics

Key Quality Information

Relevance

This bulletin contains analysis of **HMRC** (HM Revenue & Customs) Regional Trade in Goods Statistics (RTS). All figures are in British pounds at current prices, they have not been adjusted for inflation or currency exchange rates.

All data used in this briefing are for the calendar years from 1st January to 31st December. Please note that data for the most recent year are provisional and subject to revision.

The following eleven SITC rev.4 (Standard International Trade Classification) divisions were used to give the best approximation of the whole Food & Drink Exports sector:

00 Live animals other than animals of division 03 	01 Meat and meat preparations (Divisions 00 and 01 were merged in a super-division: "Meat and meat products") 	02 Dairy products and birds' eggs 	03 Seafood crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates and preparations thereof 
04 Cereals and cereal preparations 	05 Vegetables and fruit 	06 Sugars, sugar preparations and honey 	07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, and manufactures thereof 
08 Feeding stuff for animals (Excluding unmilled cereals) 	09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations 	11 Beverages 	41 Animals oils and fats 42 Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated (Divisions 41 and 42 were merged in a super-division: "Oils and fats") 

NB: division 43 ("Animal or vegetable fats and oils, processed; waxes of animal or vegetable origin; inedible mixtures or preparations of animal or vegetable fats or oils, n.e.s.") was not included because it contains inedible food.

From these 13 divisions, 11 products categories were defined, as divisions 00 and 01 were gathered together in one *Meat and meat products* category, while divisions 41 and 42 were clustered in one *Oils and fats* category.

"Non European Stores and Provisions" were included among the destination export areas to maintain consistency with what published by HMRC at national level (www.uktradeinfo.com).

Accuracy

The data in this bulletin are the Regional Trade Statistics (RTS) published by HMRC. These statistics refer to goods that have crossed UK frontier. This means that exports from Wales to other parts of the UK are not included and there is no element included for components produced in Wales when the final product is completed in and then exported from another part of the UK. HMRC do not receive information in respect of goods that move wholly within the UK.

If a business has branches in more than one region, that business' trade is allocated to each region based on

the proportion of their total employees in that region.

This is regardless of what is being exported.

Miscellaneous Edible Products and Preparations contains a mixture of sub-categories including Margarine and Shortening, and various edible food preparations such as cooked fruit preparations, composite food preparations, various sauce preparations, and food preparations for infant use. A full breakdown of the category can be seen in the **SITC Revision 4** https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM_34rev4E.pdf