



**TRANSPORT
SCOTLAND**
CÒMHDHAIL ALBA

Scottish Transport Statistics 2022

Road Freight

Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Main Points	3
Good Lifted and Distance	3
Originating in Scotland.....	3
Entering Scotland	4
Destination.....	4

I. Introduction

1.1 This chapter provides information about road freight lifted by UK-registered heavy goods vehicles (HGVs: over 3.5 tonnes gross weight), such as the weight of goods lifted in Scotland by origin and destination, the lengths of haul, the destinations within the UK and Europe, and the types of commodity lifted.

1.2 Following a methodology change from paper to online data collection, it has been concluded that road goods data before and after July to September 2021 (quarter 3) should not be compared. Data is presented as a 12 month figure for the period ending June 2022. For more details on the methodology change and results from an investigation, please see [Domestic road freight statistics: Methodology note - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-road-freight-statistics-methodology-note).

2. Main Points

Good Lifted and Distance

2.1 In the 12 month period ending June 2022, an estimated 138 million tonnes of goods were lifted within Scotland by UK HGVs and transported to destinations within Scotland. About 17 million tonnes of goods from Scotland were delivered to destinations elsewhere in the UK, and around 21 million tonnes were brought into Scotland from elsewhere in the UK. In comparison, the volume of international road freight by UK HGVs travelling to and from Scotland is very small: less than 1 million tonnes in 2021. (*Table 3.1a and 3.1b*)

2.2 Most road freight journeys are 100 kilometres or less in length: 17% of tonnes lifted by road in Scotland in 2021 were carried a distance of no more than 25 kilometres, and 25% travelled over 50 km but no more than 100 km. The average journey distance, which is calculated by dividing the total tonne-kilometres by the total tonnes lifted, was 112 km. (*Table 3.2*)

Originating in Scotland

2.3 Goods moved on journeys originating in Scotland with a destination in Scotland accounted for around 11.5 billion tonne-kilometres in 2021. The overall total, including journeys with destinations elsewhere in the UK and abroad, was around 17.7 billion tonne-kms. (*Table 3.3a*)

Entering Scotland

2.4 In 2021, 20.7 million tonnes of goods entered Scotland on UK HGVs from the rest of the UK. 98% of these came from England. Around 69 per cent of the goods entering came from the North West (35%), Yorkshire and Humber (20%) and North East (14%) regions of England. Fewer goods leave Scotland for other UK countries (17 million tonnes) than enter from them but the proportions going to and coming from different areas are similar (*Table 3.6*).

2.5 In 2021, 'food products including beverages and tobacco' was the largest single category of goods lifted in Scotland, which remained in Scotland, accounting for 17.4 million tonnes out of the total of 138.4 million tonnes. (*Table 3.4*)

Destination

2.6 In 2021, UK-registered HGVs carried an estimated 217 thousand tonnes of goods from Scotland to countries outwith the UK, and 127 thousand tonnes from foreign countries into Scotland. Of goods leaving Scotland for abroad, carried by UK road hauliers, 58% went to France and 11% to the Germany. (*Table 3.7*)

2.7 In 2021, around 5% of goods leaving the UK lifted by UK HGVs originated in Scotland. (*Table 3.5*)



**TRANSPORT
SCOTLAND**

CÒMHDHAIL ALBA

© Crown copyright 2023

You may re-use this information (excluding logos and images) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence> or e-mail: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

Further copies of this document are available, on request, in audio and visual formats and in community languages. Any enquiries regarding this document / publication should be sent to us at info@transport.gov.scot

This document is also available on the Transport Scotland website: www.transport.gov.scot

Published by Transport Scotland, March 2023

Follow us:

 [transcotland](https://www.facebook.com/transcotland)

 [@transcotland](https://twitter.com/transcotland)

transport.gov.scot