

## Statistical Press Release NI Manufacturing Sales and Exports 2014



9.30am – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015

NI Manufacturing Sales and Exports Statistics for 2014 were published today by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). The bulletin can be accessed via: <https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/overview-mses>

### Main results

#### **Total manufacturing sales up 1.7% in current prices and up 2.5% in real terms.**

- Total sales by manufacturing companies in Northern Ireland (NI) were estimated to be worth £18.1 billion in 2014. This represents an increase of 1.7% over the year in current prices and growth of 2.5% in real terms. This compared to a current price rise last year of 5.9%.
- Total sales are comprised of:
  - i. Sales to Northern Ireland (domestic sales)
  - ii. Sales to GB
  - iii. Exports (sales to the Republic of Ireland, the Rest of Europe and the Rest of the World)
- Sales within Northern Ireland fell in current prices by £50 million to £3.8 billion – down 1.3% over the year and remaining below peak levels last reported in 2007/08.
- Sales to Great Britain (GB) increased in current prices by £438 million to £8.3 billion – up 5.6% over the year. These are the highest level of sales to GB on record in current prices, and represent an increase of 5.6% in real terms.
- Exports decreased by £89 million (1.5%) over the year, to just over £6.0 billion in current prices, a fall which was largely driven by a decline in sales to the Rest of the World. However, after adjusting for price changes over the year, this represented an

increase of 1.0% in real terms, and follows growth of 6.3% in real terms in the previous period (2013).

### **Rise in the Republic of Ireland (ROI) exports; fall in sales to Rest of EU and Rest of the World**

- Exports to the ROI increased in 2014 by £5 million or 0.3% in current prices; and by 2.9% in real terms. This is the fourth consecutive year of increasing sales to ROI, following three consecutive years of falling sales. The ROI remains our single largest export market.
- Exports to the rest of the EU (excluding ROI) fell over the year by £29 million (1.9%) to £1.5 billion in current prices. However, in real terms this represented an increase of 0.6%.
- Exports to the Rest of the World fell by £65 million (2.1%) over the year, to £3.1 billion in current prices but a 0.4% rise in real terms.
- External sales to markets outside Northern Ireland are comprised of sales to GB plus the value of exports combined. These increased by £348 million to £14.3 billion in current prices, and accounted for almost four fifths of total sales in 2014 (79%). This figure exceeds the previously recorded peak in 2013 (£14.0 billion), and external sales are therefore at their highest on record.
- Separate deflators are used for the UK and non-UK sales to convert current prices to real prices. For NI and GB these are reducing the scale of the current price increases (reflecting local inflation). In contrast, the exports deflator is offsetting the scale of the current price decline in exports and producing a real terms increase reflecting real exports growth. This is consistent with falls in export prices reported by the Office for National Statistics. It is not possible to separate out the relative contribution of price changes and exchange rates by individual markets. However, the results suggest that the strength of sterling in 2014 has been outweighed by the fall in export prices, compared to previous years.

**Notes to editors:**

1. This bulletin provides information on the value of sales and exports generated by businesses classified within the manufacturing industry in Northern Ireland. Figures for 2014 are provisional and may be subject to revision.
2. NISRA has undertaken significant redevelopment of its exports surveys in recent years and will publish experimental statistics for the wider economy including most of the Services Sector in February 2016 (for reference years 2011-2014). Readers should note that the Manufacturing Sales and Exports Survey has been replaced by the Broad Economy Exports approach (to which the current results refer) as part of the development of NI export statistics. However, this has not affected the annual results reported here.
3. More detailed statistical information including data tables and definitions of the methodology used is available on the DETI website <https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/overview-mses>
4. For media enquiries, please contact DETI Press Office on (028) 9052 9604 or email [pressoffice@detini.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@detini.gov.uk)
5. General information can be obtained from Damian Buchanan, Economic & Labour Market Statistics Branch, on Tel: (028) 9052 9648.