

# UK Wood Production and Trade

## 2012 Provisional Figures

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**Coverage:** United Kingdom

**Geographical breakdown:** some statistics are available by country and English region in the additional online tables at:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aql5b](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7aql5b)

**Issued by:** Economics & Statistics, Forestry Commission,  
231 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh, EH12 7AT

**Enquiries:** Jackie Watson 0131 314 6171  
statistics@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

**Statistician:** Jeremy Darot 0131 314 6218

**Website:** [www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics)





## Introduction

This publication contains provisional statistics for 2012 on UK wood production and trade. They are based on surveys of the forest sector, administrative records from the Forestry Commission and the Forest Service of Northern Ireland, and 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 Relevance section of the *Quality Report: UK Wood Production and Trade* at:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/ukwptqrpt.pdf/\\$FILE/ukwptqrpt.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/ukwptqrpt.pdf/$FILE/ukwptqrpt.pdf)

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

## Key findings

The provisional figures for 2012 indicate (with percentage changes from 2011):

- **Removals** (harvesting) of UK roundwood:
  - 10.1 million green tonnes of softwood (+1%);
  - 0.5 million green tonnes of hardwood (-1%).
- **Deliveries** of UK roundwood to wood processors and others:
  - Total: 10.4 million green tonnes of roundwood (softwood and hardwood) (+1%), of which:
    - Sawmills: 6.1 million green tonnes (+3%);
    - Wood-based panels: 1.3 million green tonnes (-10%);
    - Integrated pulp and paper mills: 0.5 million green tonnes (+2%);
    - Other uses, including round fencing, wood fuel, shavings and exports of roundwood: 2.5 million green tonnes (+1%).
- **Production** of wood products in the UK included:
  - 3.4 million cubic metres of sawnwood (+4%);
  - 3.0 million cubic metres of wood-based panels (-11%);
  - 4.4 million tonnes of paper and paperboard (+2%).

- **UK imports:**

- 5.1 million cubic metres of sawnwood (+4%);
- 2.7 million cubic metres of wood-based panels (-6%);
- 7.3 million tonnes of pulp and paper (-10%).
- The total value of wood product imports was £6.4 billion (-6%), of which £4.3 billion was pulp and paper (-9%).

- **UK exports:**

- The total value of wood product exports was £1.8 billion (-3%), of which £1.6 billion was pulp and paper (-4%).

## 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 10.6 million green tonnes of roundwood was removed from UK woodlands in 2012 (Table 1). This represented a 1% increase from the 2011 figure of 10.5 million green tonnes.

Softwood accounted for most (95%) removals from UK woodland and totalled 10.1 million green tonnes in 2012. This represented a 1% increase on the previous year's figure. Hardwood removals totalled 0.5 million green tonnes in 2012, a 1% decrease from 2011.

**Table 1: Removals of UK Roundwood**

Year	Thousand green tonnes						UK Total
	Softwood			Hardwood			
	FC/FS <sup>1</sup>	Non-FC/FS	Total Softwood	FC/FS	Non-FC/FS	Total Hardwood	
2008	4,415	3,823	8,238	43	388	431	8,669
2009	5,126	3,266	8,392	87	449	536	8,928
2010	4,625	4,598	9,224	70	465	535	9,759
2011	4,870	5,129	9,999	75	465	541	10,540
2012	4,836	5,248	10,084	55	482	536	10,621

Note:

(1) FC: Forestry Commission (Great Britain), FS: Forest Service (Northern Ireland).

(2) 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 Annex).

Sources:

Forestry Commission & Forest Service: Administrative records (FC/FS removals),  
Private Sector Softwood Removals Survey (non-FC/FS softwood removals)

Hardwood deliveries as Table 3

In addition to the 10.6 million green tonnes of UK roundwood reported in Table 1 above, around 40 thousand green tonnes of brash (mainly softwood) were also removed from UK woodlands in 2012.

## 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 2012, deliveries of UK roundwood (softwood and hardwood) totalled 10.4 million green tonnes, a 1% increase from the previous year.

Most UK roundwood deliveries (95%) were softwood and totalled 9.8 million green tonnes in 2012 (Table 2). 6.1 million green tonnes (62% of UK softwood deliveries) were used by sawmills, a 3% increase from the previous year. A further 1.3 million green tonnes were used to produce wood-based panels (a 10% decrease), 0.5 million green tonnes by integrated pulp and paper mills (a 2% increase), and 2.5 million green tonnes (a 1% increase) for other uses, including round fencing, wood fuel, shavings and exports of roundwood.

The increase in softwood deliveries for wood fuel between 2008 and 2012 reflects an increase in wood use for heating and energy production (see the Annex for further information).

**Table 2: UK Softwood Deliveries**

Thousand green tonnes								
Year	Sawmills	Pulp mills	Wood-based panels	Fencing	Wood fuel <sup>1</sup>	Other <sup>2</sup>	Softwood exports	Total
2008	4,933	515	1,219	359	300	128	733	8,187
2009	5,133	511	1,135	367	650	160	347	8,304
2010	5,616	428	1,375	349	1,050	135	467	9,419
2011	5,859	453	1,417	363	900	145	585	9,722
2012	6,066	461	1,269	338	1,000	154	535	9,823

Note:

- (1) Wood fuel 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 wood fuel 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.

Sources:

Forestry Commission & Forest Service: Sawmill Survey,  
 Survey of Round Fencing Manufacturers  
 Private Sector Softwood Removals Survey (wood fuel)  
 UK Forest Products Association (pulp mills)  
 Wood Panel Industries Federation (wood-based panels)

## UK Wood Production and Trade: 2012 provisional figures

There was a total of 0.5 million green tonnes of UK hardwood deliveries in 2012 (Table 3). The majority of UK hardwood deliveries (75% in 2012) were used for wood fuel.

**Table 3: UK Hardwood Deliveries**

Year	Thousand green tonnes					Total
	Sawmills	Pulp mills	Wood-based panels	Wood fuel <sup>1</sup>	Other <sup>2</sup>	
2008	66	0	2	300	63	431
2009	76	0	1	400	59	536
2010	75	0	1	400	59	535
2011	81	0	1	400	59	541
2012	75	0	2	400	59	536

Note:

- (1) Wood fuel derived from stemwood, includes estimated roundwood use for biomass energy. The figures are estimated by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics. Wood fuel includes wood for charcoal; charcoal production in UK is estimated to be about 5,000 tonnes, with about 7 green tonnes of wood required to make one tonne of charcoal.
- (2) Includes round fencing and roundwood exports. Quantities for hardwood fencing and some other uses are estimates by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics.

Sources:

Forestry Commission & Forest Service: Sawmill Survey  
UK Forest Products Association (pulp mills)  
Wood Panel Industries Federation (wood-based panels)

## Sawmills

In 2012, the 180 active sawmills in the UK consumed a total of 6.2 million green tonnes of softwood, a 3% increase from 2011 (Table 4). A further 0.1 million green tonnes of hardwood were consumed by UK sawmills in 2012. Most of the logs, 6.1 million green tonnes softwood and 0.1 million green tonnes hardwood, were UK-grown.

**Table 4: Consumption of Roundwood by Sawmills**

Year	Softwood			Hardwood		
	UK-grown	Imported	Total	UK-grown	Imported	Total
2008	4,933	174	5,107	66	20	86
2009	5,133	158	5,291	76	19	95
2010	5,616	103	5,719	75	19	94
2011	5,859	125	5,984	81	20	100
2012	6,066	124	6,190	75	16	91

Source:

Forestry Commission & Forest Service: Sawmill Survey

Table 5 provides statistics for the sawnwood output of UK sawmills, including sawnwood produced at these mills from imported logs. A total of 3.4 million cubic metres of sawnwood was produced in the UK in 2012, a 4% increase from 2011.

Roundwood consumption by sawmills and sawnwood production has increased each year since 2008. This compares with an overall decrease in sawnwood imports over the same period (see Table 11).

**Table 5: Production of Sawnwood**

Year	Thousand cubic metres sawnwood		
	Softwood	Hardwood	Total
2008	2,755	44	2,799
2009	2,809	48	2,856
2010	3,053	48	3,101
2011	3,227	52	3,279
2012	3,357	47	3,404

Source:

Forestry Commission & Forest Service: Sawmill Survey

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



## Wood-based Panel Mills

Table 6 shows the inputs to the 7 UK mills that produced wood-based panels in 2012. The wood-based panel mills used a total of 4.0 million tonnes of material in 2012, a 3% decrease from 2011. The inputs in 2012 comprised 1.3 million tonnes of roundwood (32%), 1.9 million tonnes of sawmill products (46%) and 0.9 million tonnes of recycled wood fibre (23%).

**Table 6: Inputs to Wood-based Panel Mills**

Year	Thousand green tonnes							Recycled wood fibre <sup>3</sup>	Total
	UK roundwood <sup>1</sup>		Sawmill products		Imports <sup>2</sup>				
	Softwood	Hardwood	Softwood	Hardwood	Softwood	Hardwood			
2008	1,219	2	1,591	0	0	0	1,119	3,932	
2009	1,135	1	1,435	0	0	0	1,065	3,636	
2010	1,375	1	1,631	0	7	1	1,120	4,135	
2011	1,417	1	1,779	0	0	0	952	4,149	
2012	1,269	2	1,851	0	0	0	909	4,031	

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. Quantities are as delivered.

Source:

Wood Panel Industries Federation

Table 7 shows the output of UK mills that produced wood-based panels. Total production of wood-based panels in 2012 was 3.0 million cubic metres, an 11% decrease from 2011, and similar to the level in 2009. This decrease largely results from the closure of a panel mill in 2012.

**Table 7: Production of Wood-based Panels**

Year	Thousand cubic metres		
	Particleboard <sup>1</sup>	Fibreboard (MDF)	Total wood-based panels
2008	2,431	709	3,140
2009	2,370	660	3,030
2010	2,594	776	3,370
2011	2,625	759	3,384
2012	2,215	788	3,003

Note:

(1) Includes Oriented Strand Board (OSB).

Source:

Wood Panel Industries Federation

## Pulp & Paper Industry

Table 8 shows the inputs to the 2 integrated pulp and paper mills in the UK. These mills used a total of 0.5 million tonnes of material (all softwood) in 2012, a 2% decrease from the 2011 total.

**Table 8: Inputs to Integrated Pulp & Paper Mills<sup>1,2</sup>**

Year	Thousand green tonnes		
	UK roundwood <sup>3</sup>	Sawmill products	Total
2008	515	152	667
2009	511	120	631
2010	428	98	526
2011	453	99	552
2012	461	79	540

Note:

(1) All wood inputs to integrated pulp & paper mills are softwood for the years shown.

(2) This table excludes inputs of recycled paper and cardboard.

(3) UK roundwood derived from stemwood.

Source:

UK Forest Products Association

Most UK paper production uses recovered waste paper or imported pulp. The figures shown in Table 9 cover production by all mills in the UK, not just the integrated pulp and paper mills. A total of 4.4 million tonnes of paper and paperboard were produced in the UK in 2012, an increase of 2% from the previous year. Packaging materials accounted for 39% of the total UK paper production, graphic papers (including newsprint) for 37%, and sanitary and household papers for 18%.

**Table 9: Production of Paper**

Year	Thousand tonnes				Total
	Graphic papers (inc newsprint)	Sanitary & household papers	Packaging materials	Other	
2008	2,063	783	1,838	299	4,983
2009	1,609	736	1,702	246	4,293
2010	1,637	729	1,640	294	4,300
2011	1,669	766	1,600	307	4,342
2012	1,616	786	1,734	280	4,416

Source:

Confederation of Paper Industries.

## 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 wood fuel, but pellets may also be used for other purposes (such as horse bedding or cat litter).

A total of 279 thousand tonnes of wood pellets and briquettes are estimated to have been made in the UK in 2012 (Table 10). This represents an increase of 14% from the 2011 production level.

**Table 10: Wood Pellets and Briquettes Production**

Thousand tonnes

Year	Wood pellets and briquettes production
2009	118
2010	197
2011	244
2012	279

Source:

Forestry Commission: Survey of UK Pellet and Briquette Production

## Imports and Exports

Statistics on imports and exports are compiled by HM Revenue & Customs from trade declarations and Intrastat reporting for intra-EU trade. Tables 11 to 14 are based on the published UK overseas trade statistics. A total of 6.1 million tonnes of paper was imported into the UK in 2012 (Table 11), a decrease of 11% from 2011. Over the same period, imports of sawnwood increased by 4% to 5.1 million m<sup>3</sup> and imports of wood-based panels decreased by 6% to 2.7 million m<sup>3</sup>.

**Table 11: UK Import Quantities<sup>1</sup>**

Year	Thousand m <sup>3</sup>			Thousand tonnes			
	Sawnwood	Wood-based panels	Other wood <sup>2</sup>	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total Pulp & Paper
2008	5,886	3,389	1,921	7,403	1,344	74	8,821
2009	5,240	2,500	887	7,018	940	94	8,052
2010	5,699	2,701	1,886	7,254	1,094	115	8,462
2011	4,925	2,827	2,629	6,887	1,009	177	8,073
2012	5,121	2,667	3,254	6,119	1,021	160	7,300

Note:

- (1) There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Annex).  
 (2) Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and wood pellets.

Source:

HM Revenue & Customs: UK overseas trade statistics  
 Estimates by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics

A total of 5.6 million tonnes of pulp and paper (including recovered paper) was exported by the UK in 2012 (Table 12). This represented an increase of 3% from 2011; wood exports increased by 18% over the same period, largely as a result of an increase in the estimates for wood fuel exports, as reported by HM Revenue & Customs.

**Table 12: UK Export Quantities<sup>1</sup>**

Year	Thousand m <sup>3</sup>			Thousand tonnes			
	Sawnwood	Wood-based panels	Other wood <sup>2</sup>	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total Pulp & Paper
2008	222	520	1,289	1,031	10	4,891	5,932
2009	203	451	674	896	22	4,444	5,361
2010	195	509	1,118	926	35	4,388	5,349
2011	162	546	1,483	974	32	4,479	5,485
2012	141	599	1,853	1,143	36	4,447	5,626

Note:

- (1) There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Annex).  
 (2) Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and wood pellets.

Source:

HM Revenue & Customs: UK overseas trade statistics  
 Estimates by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics

## UK Wood Production and Trade: 2012 provisional figures

Table 13 shows the value of wood product imports into the UK. Wood product imports in 2012 were valued at a total of £6.4 billion, a decrease of 6% from the 2011 total. This comprised 67% pulp and paper (mainly paper), 17% sawnwood, 12% wood-based panels and 4% other wood.

**Table 13: UK Import Values<sup>1</sup>**

Year	Wood			Pulp and Paper				Total
	Sawnwood	Wood-based panels	Other wood <sup>2</sup>	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total Pulp & Paper	
2008	1,085	873	158	3,655	608	10	4,273	6,389
2009	953	677	111	3,635	425	11	4,071	5,812
2010	1,199	781	179	3,997	593	17	4,607	6,765
2011	1,083	838	223	4,049	613	34	4,696	6,839
2012	1,086	774	271	3,727	519	21	4,266	6,398

Note:

- (1) There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Annex).  
 (2) Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and wood pellets.

Source:

HM Revenue & Customs: UK overseas trade statistics  
 Estimates by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics

Table 14 shows the value of wood product exports from the UK. Wood product exports were valued at a total of £1.8 billion in 2012, a decrease of 3% from the previous year, mostly due to a drop in value of recovered paper exports. The total wood product exports of £1.8 billion in 2012 comprised 88% pulp and paper (mainly paper), 7% wood-based panels, 2% sawnwood and 3% other wood.

**Table 14: UK Export Values<sup>1</sup>**

Year	Wood			Pulp and Paper				Total
	Sawnwood	Wood-based panels	Other wood <sup>2</sup>	Paper	Pulp	Recovered paper	Total Pulp & Paper	
2008	50	104	48	1,114	3	472	1,590	1,792
2009	41	104	21	1,010	10	342	1,362	1,530
2010	47	113	42	1,068	18	524	1,610	1,812
2011	41	128	53	1,044	11	595	1,650	1,872
2012	34	129	54	1,048	10	531	1,589	1,807

Note:

- (1) There are reliability concerns for some of these figures, particularly for individual products (see Annex).  
 (2) Includes roundwood, wood charcoal, chips, particles, residues and wood pellets.

Source:

HM Revenue & Customs: UK overseas trade statistics  
 Estimates by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics

## Annex

### 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.

### 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.

**Deliveries** The quantities of UK-grown roundwood that is delivered to processors (mills) or for other uses (such as wood fuel 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.

**Forestry Commission (FC)** The government department responsible for forestry matters in England, Scotland and (until March 2013) Wales. The Forestry Commission's functions in Wales transferred to a new organisation, Natural Resources Wales, on 1 April 2013. The responsibility for forestry is devolved.

**Forest Service (FS)** An agency of the Northern Ireland Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

**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.

**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.

**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).

**Sawnwood** Sawn timber - timber that has been cut into planks or boards from logs.

**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 to be burned for heat or energy.

## Data Sources and Methodology

### Administrative sources

Administrative records are used to compile the roundwood removals figures from woodland owned or managed by the Forestry Commission (in Great Britain) or the Forest Service (in Northern Ireland). Further information on administrative sources can be found at:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-832ey5](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-832ey5)

### Industry surveys

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

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

Details on each survey and methodology can be found in the Sources section of *Forestry Statistics 2012*:

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forstats2012.nsf/LUContents/72B3822856ACF7638025731E00478A1E>

Other sources of industry data include:

- The Wood Panel Industries Federation (for wood-based panels);
- The UK Forest Products Association (for integrated pulp and paper mills);
- The Confederation of Paper Industries (for paper production).

Estimates are also provided by the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-5rabj3](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-5rabj3)

### 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 and available at [www.uktradeinfo.com](http://www.uktradeinfo.com). 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 *Forestry Statistics 2012* section 11.2.11:

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forstats2012.nsf/LUContents/8B4784E90B2A535480257361005015C6>



The figures may also be adjusted where an apparent inconsistency in the UK trade figures cannot be resolved before the international return is required.

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 is obtained through a survey of businesses which trade above a particular value threshold. Businesses which trade below this threshold are only required to report the total value of their imports and exports. Therefore the trade data reported in this publication for individual products is based on a potentially biased survey. More information on HMRC statistics can be found at [www.uktradeinfo.com](http://www.uktradeinfo.com).

Wood pellets form have been separately identifiable in trade statistics since 2009. A total of 1,487 thousand tonnes of wood pellets were imported into the UK in 2012 at a value of £185 million. Exports totalled 54 thousand tonnes, with a value of £4 million in 2012. These figures are included within the "other wood" category in Tables 11 to 14 of this publication.

More details on trade statistics sources can be found in the Sources section of *Forestry Statistics 2012*:

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forstats2012.nsf/LUContents/3855777FDD3D911C80257360004D43B8>

Statistics on international trade flows (by country of source and country of destination) are available from the FAOSTAT website (<http://faostat3.fao.org/home/index.html>).

### Softwood removals methodology change

A review of the methodology used to estimate the quantity of UK softwood removals from woodland that is not owned or managed by the Forestry Commission (in Great Britain) or the Forest Service (in Northern Ireland) was undertaken in 2011-2012.

The *Methodology Review of Softwood Removals from Non-FC/ FS Woodland* paper presents the results from this review and the implications of the change in methodology. It can be found at: [www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/rem\\_methodology\\_rev2011-12.pdf/\\$FILE/rem\\_methodology\\_rev2011-12.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/rem_methodology_rev2011-12.pdf/$FILE/rem_methodology_rev2011-12.pdf)

The new methodology was first used in *UK Wood Production and Trade: 2011 provisional results*. It results in a reduction of non-FC/FS softwood removals figures from 2002, as presented in Table 1.

## Quality

The figures in this publication are provisional. Final figures will be published in *Forestry Statistics 2013*, with a summary in *Forestry Facts and Figures 2013*.

Detailed information on the quality of the statistics presented in this publication is available in the *Quality Report: UK Wood Production and Trade* at:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/ukwptqrpt.pdf/\\$FILE/ukwptqrpt.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/ukwptqrpt.pdf/$FILE/ukwptqrpt.pdf)

Further quality information on FC Official Statistics, including separate reports for each of the industry surveys used in this release, is available at:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7zhk85](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7zhk85)

## Revisions

Figures for 2012 are published for the first time in this release.

Figures shown for 2011 and earlier years have been previously published. They are, however, subject to revisions from those published in *Forestry Statistics 2012* and previous publications, to reflect late updates to administrative or survey data.

The 2010 and 2011 non-FC/FS softwood removals figures in Table 1 have been revised with the availability of improved data. The 2011 figure was revised upwards by 94 thousand green tonnes (a 2% revision). The 2010 was revised downwards by 50 thousand green tonnes (a 1% revision).

The 2011 sawmill deliveries (Table 2) and UK-grown softwood consumption (Table 4) figures were revised downwards very slightly (by 1 thousand green tonnes, a revision of less than 0.1%).

The 2011 sanitary & household papers production figure (Table 9) was revised upwards very slightly (by 1 thousand tonnes, a revision of 0.1%).

Other figures for 2011 and earlier years are unchanged from those provided in *Forestry Statistics 2012*.

The Forestry Commission's revisions policy sets out how revisions and errors to these statistics are dealt with, and can be found at:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/FCrevisions.pdf/\\$FILE/FCrevisions.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/FCrevisions.pdf/$FILE/FCrevisions.pdf).

## 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. These returns are published as Official Statistics on the FC website; provisional figures in May and final figures in September. The statistics are used by Eurostat Forestry Statistics, UNECE Timber Bulletins, and UN/FAO Forest Product Statistics and are published on the FAOSTAT database (<http://faostat3.fao.org/home/index.html>).

The definitions used in this release are consistent with the international definitions, as given in Eurostat's *Forestry in the EU and the World 2011*:

[epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_OFFPUB/KS-31-11-137/EN/KS-31-11-137-EN.PDF](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-31-11-137/EN/KS-31-11-137-EN.PDF)

Most of the statistics in this release and in the international returns 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, available at [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-7aq15b](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-7aq15b), provide longer time series data for wood production (roundwood removals), UK roundwood deliveries, sawmills and round fencing manufacturers, showing additional breakdowns where possible.

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

Figures in tables have been independently rounded, so may not add to the totals shown.

Figures for UK production and trade of sawn softwood are used alongside data from other sources to assess consumption of sawn softwood in the main end-user markets in the UK. Reports are available at [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-7fgkh4](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-7fgkh4).

The Department of Energy and Climate Change publishes an annual *Digest of UK Energy Statistics* (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-energy-climate-change/series/digest-of-uk-energy-statistics-dukes>). Chapter 7 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.

## Release schedule

Final figures for 2012 will be released in *Forestry Statistics 2013* and *Forestry Facts and Figures 2013* on 26 September 2013.

Provisional figures for 2013 will be released in *UK Wood Production and Trade: 2013 provisional figures* on 15 May 2013.

## National Statistics

This is a National Statistics publication. For more information about National Statistics and the UK Statistics Authority visit [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk).