

STATISTICS DIGEST FOR THE UK FURNITURE INDUSTRY

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Executive Summary

The UK furniture and furnishings industry is among the most significant contributors to the national economy, supporting employment, manufacturing capability, and a broad value chain spanning production, wholesale, retail, and international trade. This spring 2026 edition of the Statistics Digest for the UK Furniture Industry brings together the latest available official data to provide decision-makers and stakeholders with a clear, evidence-based overview of recent performance and underlying structural trends. The digest draws on authoritative sources including the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), and covers the period from 2019 to 2025.

New and updated data in this edition includes 2025 statistics for both consumer spending and trade flows, including the latest figures showing furniture imports and exports both in and out of the UK last year.

Manufacturing data by product, sourced from the ONS Prodcum series, is available to 2024, while data by business activity is available to 2023. Finalised 2024 activity-based data is scheduled to be released in late spring/early summer 2026 following the release of the Annual Business Survey, and will be covered in the next update.

This report uses a dual classification framework, combining the UK Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system for domestic business activity with the internationally recognised Harmonised System (HS) for trade, enabling consistent analysis of production, business structure, and global trade flows.

Consumer Spending Trends

UK household final consumption expenditure reached £1.78 trillion in 2025, an increase of 34 percent compared with 2021, and of 4.5 percent over the previous year (2024). In contrast, consumer expenditure on furnishings and household equipment has moderated since its post-pandemic peak. After reaching an upwards-revised £80.6 billion in 2022, spending declined to £76 billion in 2025, with expenditure on furniture, furnishings and flooring combined falling over the same period, albeit returning to modest growth in the most recent year. This trend diverges from growth in categories such as housing, recreation and culture, and hospitality, reflecting a degree of rebalancing in discretionary consumer behaviour.

In 2025, furniture and furnishings spend was more resilient than carpet and other floorcoverings. The former grew 3.2 percent year-on-year to £20.15 billion, while flooring spend fell 5.9 percent to £5.28 billion according to the new ONS figures.

While home furnishings have some way to go before surpassing 2022 levels, some areas of household-related spending are already there, including goods and services for routine household maintenance, with spending up in each of the past five reported years.

UK Furniture Manufacturing: Activity and Business Structure

Output and Employment

The UK furniture manufacturing sector (SIC Division 31) comprised 6,705 enterprises, supporting an estimated 72,000 jobs, turning over £10.4 billion in 2023 (by activity, not product), according to the latest Annual Business Survey, published in April 2025. 2024 data will be available late spring/early summer 2026, and will be covered in the next update of this document. While turnover has grown since 2020, employment has declined over the same period, underscoring structural shifts towards automation, productivity gains, or consolidation. Sub-sector activity shows diverse performance patterns:

- Kitchen furniture (SIC 31.02): The largest segment by turnover at £3.28 billion.
- Other furniture (SIC 31.09): Most populous sub-sector by enterprise count (4,036 businesses).
- Office and shop furniture (SIC 31.01): Turnover rose to £2.44 billion, recovering from pandemic lows.
- Mattresses (SIC 31.03): Turnover contracted to £858 million in 2023, despite maintaining enterprise and employment levels, the latter increasing in 2024.

Business Structure and Scale

Across manufacturing, the industry is characterised by a large base of small and medium-sized businesses alongside a material number of higher-turnover manufacturers. This business structure underpins regional employment and supports a wide range of specialist capabilities across the UK, with concentrations of activity evident in regions such as the South East, Yorkshire and The Humber, and Northern Ireland, depending on product category.

UK Furniture Manufacturing by Product

Total Manufacturer Sales

Measured by product, total UK manufacturer sales across furniture categories reached £10.8 billion in 2024, remaining above pre-pandemic levels despite easing from the 2022 peak. Kitchen furniture continues to be the leading domestic product category, while upholstered seating, mattresses, and bedroom furniture all recorded

lower sales in 2024, reflecting softer demand conditions in parts of the consumer market.

Breakdowns by product type include:

- Kitchen furniture: Leading product category, with product sales reaching £2.34 billion. Note that kitchen manufacturers' sales, by activity, are higher still.
- Upholstered wooden seating: Proxy for sofas, and the largest single category of domestic seating, with sales of £784 million in 2024 — the lowest since the Covid period, and down 17 percent compared with 2023.
- Mattresses: Coil and pocket sprung mattresses remained dominant at £531.7 million, with mattresses of other construction, including foam, at £79.8 million.
- Bedroom furniture: Wooden bedroom furniture remained a top-selling cabinet category at £515.4 million, though that represents a nine-year low.

The manufacturing of office and shop furniture, plastic furniture, and component parts (wood/metal) also contribute significantly to the domestic production landscape.

The Wider Furniture and Furnishings Sector

When viewed across the full supply chain, the scale of the furniture and furnishings sector is more pronounced. Manufacturing, wholesale, retail, and related services together generated more than £39 billion in turnover in 2023 and employed over 235,000 people. Furniture manufacturing accounted for approximately three-quarters of furnishings-related manufacturing turnover, with retail representing the largest employment segment. 2024 data will be updated when the next Annual Business Survey is available.

International Trade

In 2025, the UK imported £10.45 billion of furniture and related products while exporting £3.4 billion. While imports were up 1.5 percent year-on-year, exports climbed at a faster 4.7 percent, but that still left a trade deficit north of £7 billion. Imports continue to be dominated by cabinet furniture and parts, along with seating, while mattress imports are more modest, but growing. China is the largest single source, representing 40 percent of imports across all types of furniture. The United States remains the largest export market for UK-made furniture.

Taken together, the data presented in this digest illustrates a sector of considerable economic importance, with a broad and diverse industrial base spanning domestic manufacturing, extensive retail activity, and deep integration into global trade networks. While consumer demand and production patterns have adjusted since the post-pandemic peak, the furniture and furnishings industry continues to play a central role in employment, and makes a substantial contribution to the national economy.

1. Introduction

This Statistics Digest for the UK Furniture Industry presents a comprehensive compilation of published data and market intelligence drawn from official sources, including the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and HM Revenue and Customs. Assembled by the Furniture Industry Research Association, the report offers an authoritative reference point for understanding recent trends and structural developments within the UK furniture market.

The digest is designed to support decision-makers, including manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers, policymakers, and affiliated stakeholders, by providing a factual basis upon which to assess performance, identify opportunities, and inform strategic planning. The scope of the report spans the period from 2019 through 2024, with available data for 2024 encompassing trade flows, manufacturing (by product), and consumer spending. Manufacturing data by activity is available to 2023.

The UK furniture industry is multifaceted, encompassing businesses engaged in the production and sale of both domestic and contract furniture. This includes a wide spectrum of products, from fitted kitchens and wardrobes to standalone items such as sofas, beds, chairs, mattresses, and occasional furniture. For completeness, the digest also includes relevant data on associated sectors, including seats used in cars and aircraft.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the statistics presented. Standard data sets have been used wherever possible, and methodological consistency has been prioritised. However, users are reminded that all statistics are subject to limitations inherent in the original data. Where discrepancies exist, the best available figures have been applied.

A summary of the analyses included in this digest can be found on the Contents page.

2. Furniture Source Data

Economic and trade data is structured using internationally recognised classification systems to enable consistent reporting, analysis and comparison. For this market report, two such systems form the basis of the underlying data: the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) for business activities and the Harmonised System (HS) for traded goods. Each provides a framework for organising complex economic information into a standardised format suitable for policymaking, market analysis and commercial planning.

The SIC system categorises businesses according to the type of work they perform. It is widely used in the UK by agencies such as Companies House and the Office for National Statistics to organise data on manufacturing, distribution, retail and service-based activities. The UK version — UK SIC 2007 — is based on the EU's NACE classification and provides a common language for describing business activity across official filings and national statistics. For example, SIC codes allow us to distinguish between different sectors of the furniture industry, from office and shop furniture production to furniture retail, providing insights into structural trends, employment and output within the wider economy.

The HS system, maintained by the World Customs Organization, classifies physical goods using a six-digit code and is the global standard for customs and trade statistics. It is used in over 200 countries and underpins import and export reporting, making it essential for understanding cross-border flows of goods such as furniture, mattresses, and fittings. HS codes allow for direct comparison of product-level data across national boundaries, supporting analysis of trade volumes, patterns and competitiveness.

Within the European Union, the Combined Nomenclature (CN) builds on the HS by adding two additional digits for EU-specific requirements. While not the primary basis of this report, CN codes are important for understanding how goods are treated for customs and tariff purposes within the EU and are particularly relevant to businesses trading with or within the Single Market. CN codes help refine analysis when examining detailed trade flows, particularly where different product subtypes attract varying duties or are subject to specific regulatory provisions.

In summary, this report draws on SIC and HS classifications to structure the analysis of the UK furniture industry by both economic activity and traded goods. These systems enable clarity and consistency in the presentation of statistical information, while references to the CN system provide additional context where EU-specific classifications may affect interpretation of trade data. Understanding these coding

systems is essential for readers seeking to draw meaningful conclusions from industry metrics and market trends.

2.1 SIC code system

31 Manufacture of furniture

This division includes the manufacture of furniture and related products of any material except stone, concrete and ceramic. The processes used in the manufacture of furniture are standard methods of forming materials and assembling components, including cutting, moulding and laminating. The design of the article, for both aesthetic and functional qualities, is an important aspect of the production process. The division is subdivided into the following categories and sub-categories:

31.01 Manufacture of office and shop furniture

This class includes the manufacture of furniture of any kind (other than domestic), of any material (except stone, concrete or ceramic) for any place and for various purposes.

This class includes:

- manufacture of chairs and seats for offices, workrooms, hotels, restaurants and public premises
- manufacture of chairs and seats for theatres, cinemas and the like
- manufacture of special furniture for shops: counters, display cases, shelves etc.
- manufacture of office furniture
- manufacture of laboratory benches, stools, and other laboratory seating, laboratory furniture (e.g. cabinets and tables)
- manufacture of furniture for churches, schools, restaurants

This class excludes: blackboards, manufacture of car seats, manufacture of railway car seats, manufacture of aircraft seats, manufacture of medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, modular furniture attachment and installation, partition installation, laboratory equipment furniture installation.

31.02 Manufacture of kitchen furniture

This class includes:

- manufacture of kitchen furniture

31.03 Manufacture of mattresses

This class comprises the manufacture of mattresses, including:

- mattresses fitted with springs or stuffed or internally fitted with a supporting material
- uncovered cellular rubber or plastic mattresses

This class excludes inflatable rubber mattresses and rubber waterbed mattresses.

31.09 Manufacture of other furniture

This class includes:

- manufacture of sofas, sofa beds and sofa sets
- manufacture of garden chairs and seats
- manufacture of furniture for bedrooms, living rooms, gardens, etc
- manufacture of cabinets for sewing machines, televisions, etc

This class also includes:

- finishing such as upholstery of chairs and seats
- finishing of furniture such as spraying, painting, French polishing and upholstering

This class excludes: manufacture of pillows, pouffes, cushions, quilts and eiderdowns, manufacture of furniture of ceramics, concrete and stone, manufacture of lighting fittings or lamps, manufacture of car seats, manufacture of railway car seats, manufacture of aircraft seats, reupholstering and restoring of furniture.

2.2 HS code system

94 Furniture/Bedding/Lighting

This class includes subclasses:

- 9401: Seats, whether or not convertible into beds, and parts thereof
- 9402: Medical, surgical, dental, or veterinary furniture
- 9403: Furniture and parts thereof
- 9404: Mattress supports; Mattresses; Bedding
- 9405: Luminaires and lighting fittings
- 9406: Prefabricated buildings

The above classes are further broken down into subclasses, with more detailed category information detailed in the international trade data section of this report.

3. Consumer Spending

3.1 Household final consumption expenditure summary

UK household final consumption expenditure reached £1.78 trillion in 2025, up 34 percent from £1.33 trillion in 2021. The growth was driven almost entirely by domestic spending, which rose by £437 billion over the period. The biggest growth in 2025 came from housing (+6.8%), education (+8.7%) and hospitality, with restaurant and hotel spending up 5.9 percent last year. The data reflects a strong post-pandemic recovery in overall consumer demand.

Spending on furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance rose sharply in the immediate post-pandemic period, to a peak of £80.6 billion in 2022, revised upwards since the last data release by the ONS. However, it then declined for two consecutive years before recovering in 2025, reaching £76 billion. This contrasts with consistent upward trends seen in housing, transport, and recreation and culture, which all recorded uninterrupted growth from 2021 to 2025.

Home spending was aided by stronger figures across furniture and furnishings, up 3.2 percent to £20.15 billion in 2025. That compares with a contraction in carpet and floorcoverings spending, down 5.9 percent to £5.28 billion last year.

(£ millions)

Series Name	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Food and drink	116,446	128,806	139,909	142,180	147,956
Alcohol, tobacco and narcotics	50,880	49,607	50,348	51,114	51,954
Clothing and footwear	62,940	75,905	79,913	78,932	82,165
Housing	367,526	402,079	431,667	455,746	486,715
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	75,693	80,614	77,105	75,986	76,032
Health	27,724	30,836	31,659	33,152	35,458
Transport	145,110	195,946	210,930	216,368	224,407
Communication	28,924	29,351	29,321	31,683	31,622
Recreation and culture	133,574	153,207	156,163	164,047	171,276
Education	32,075	35,833	39,455	42,334	46,028
Restaurants and hotels	123,080	164,068	175,197	182,105	192,872
Miscellaneous goods and services	161,823	191,748	208,630	212,042	216,078
Total domestic expenditure	1,325,795	1,538,000	1,630,297	1,685,689	1,762,563
Net tourism	-617	11,599	21,984	14,442	14,322
Total expenditure	1,325,178	1,549,599	1,652,281	1,700,131	1,776,885

Source: Source: Office for National Statistics [<https://www.ons.gov.uk>] Consumer Trends, Table 0a: UK national and domestic household final consumption expenditure, £ millions; Published 31 March 2026.

Note: Current Prices, not seasonally-adjusted

3.2 Consumer expenditure on furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house

Consumer expenditure on furnishings, household equipment and maintenance peaked in 2022 at an upwards revised £80.6 billion before declining slightly in each of the two subsequent years. In 2025, it recovered to £76 billion. The combined category of furniture, carpets and floor coverings peaked at an also-revised £30.9 billion in 2022 but also then saw successive declines. It too returned to growth last year, inching forward to £25.5 billion in 2025. That was driven primarily by an increase in furniture and furnishings, which more than offset a fall in spending on carpet and floor coverings.

Spending on household appliances, including both major and small electric appliances, grew continuously between 2019–2024, peaking at £15.7 billion. However, that growth came to an end in 2025, falling 3.7 percent to £15.1 billion.

Tools and equipment for the home and garden followed a similar trend, albeit with an earlier peak in 2022, with spending dropping 2.7 percent to £8.1 billion in 2025.

Routine maintenance and everyday household items continued to receive strong consumer investment. Though modest, growth in spending on non-durable goods has been consistent in recent years, rising slightly £8.23 billion last year. Overall goods and services for household maintenance reached £13.05 billion in 2025 — an all-time high total.

£ millions

Series Name	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Furniture and furnishings	23,862	25,259	21,739	19,533	20,149
Carpets and other floor coverings	4,983	5,551	5,451	5,605	5,275
Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	36	42	65	118	95
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	28,881	30,852	27,255	25,256	25,519
Major appliances whether electrical or not	9,981	11,516	12,551	12,124	11,931
Small electric household appliances	2,094	1,837	2,090	2,831	2,437
Repair of household appliances	542	890	788	738	748
Household appliances	12,617	14,243	15,429	15,693	15,116
Major tools and equipment	1,361	1,386	1,093	1,446	1,398
Small tools and equipment	7,426	7,503	7,304	6,890	6,714
Tools and equipment for house and garden	8,787	8,889	8,397	8,336	8,112
Non-durable household goods	7,059	7,251	7,673	8,223	8,229
Domestic and household services	3,561	3,585	4,010	4,726	4,825
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	10,620	10,836	11,683	12,949	13,054
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	7,058	8,845	7,423	7,251	7,598
Household textiles	7,730	6,949	6,918	6,501	6,633
Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	75,693	80,614	77,105	75,986	76,032

Source: Office for National Statistics (www.ons.gov.uk), Consumer Trends, Table 05CN Household final consumption expenditure published 31 March 2026

Note: Current Prices, not seasonally-adjusted

4. UK furniture manufacturing by activity

The data in this section is derived from the Annual Business Survey (ABS), and examines the production of furniture by activity, including the number of enterprises carrying out that activity, their turnover, how many people they employ, and some of their costs. In section 5, UK furniture manufacturing output is measured by product, looking at the individual categories themselves, rather than the enterprises manufacturing them. That data is from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Prodcom series, for which data is available to 2024.

In 2023, the latest year in which data by activity was available from the ABS, there were 6,705 enterprises operating across furniture manufacturing sector in its entirety, down on the previous year but still 350 more than in the last full year before the pandemic. Their combined turnover in 2023 was just under £10.4 billion. The manufacturing of furniture is further broken down by sub-sectors (at 4-digit SIC code level), in sections 4.2 though 4.5.

The release of the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) in November 2025 confirmed that 2024 total employment remained unchanged from the previous year, at 72,000. However, there were changes within the sub-segments. Total employment in the manufacture of office and shop furniture declined by 1,000 to 13,000, but was balanced by an increase of the same amount to 20,000 in the manufacture of kitchen furniture. Similarly, employment in mattress production increased by 1,000 to 8,000 in 2024, while headcount in the manufacture of other furniture decreased by 1,000 to a total of 31,000.

4.1 Manufacture of furniture (SIC Code 31)

Manufacture of furniture	Units	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of enterprises	Number	6,355	6,504	6,857	6,961	6,705
Total turnover	£ millions	8,994	8,065	9,434	10,347	10,376
Approximate gross value added at basic prices	£ millions	3,714	3,406	3,906	4,247	4,228
Total purchases of goods, materials and services	£ millions	5,317	4,900	5,718	6,183	6,133
Total employment - point in time	Number	88,000	75,000	89,000	80,000	72,000
Total employment costs	£ millions	2,267	2,168	2,485	2,653	2,642

Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Business Survey. Section C. Manufacturing, April 2025

Note: Total employment number data is for Great Britain, and sourced from Nomisweb.co.uk (Official Census/Labour Market Statistics) from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES), November 2025

The Annual Business Survey further segregates furniture manufacturing into the following sub-sectors:

- 31.01 Manufacture of office and shop furniture
- 31.02 Manufacture of kitchen furniture
- 31.03 Manufacture of mattresses
- 31.09 Manufacture of other furniture

4.2 Manufacture of office and shop furniture (SIC Code 31.01)

Manufacture of office and shop furniture	Units	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of enterprises	Number	895	876	882	909	826
Total turnover	£ millions	2,201	1,793	2,082	2,236	2,438
Approximate gross value added at basic prices	£ millions	936	756	877	976	1,022
Total purchases of goods, materials, and services	£ millions	1,276	1,074	1,243	1,287	1,400
Total employment - point in time	Number	19,000	15,000	17,000	15,000	14,000
Total employment costs	£ millions	572	512	492	604	622

4.3 Manufacture of kitchen furniture (SIC Code 31.02)

Manufacture of kitchen furniture	Units	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of enterprises	Number	1,445	1,490	1,592	1,614	1,599
Total turnover	£ millions	2,692	2,578	2,974	3,428	3,281
Approximate gross value added at basic prices	£ millions	1,029	1,058	1,201	1,394	1,330
Total purchases of goods, materials and services	£ millions	1,679	1,581	1,821	2,065	1,951
Total employment - point in time	Number	20,000	19,000	23,000	22,000	19,000
Total employment costs	£ millions	614	644	805	808	783

4.4 Manufacture of mattresses (SIC Code 31.03)

Manufacture of mattresses	Units	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of enterprises	Number	191	218	230	252	244
Total turnover	£ millions	776	752	905	926	858
Approximate gross value added at basic prices	£ millions	298	298	348	389	375
Total purchases of goods, materials and services	£ millions	481	468	573	542	488
Total employment - point in time	Number	7,000	7,000	8,000	7,000	7,000
Total employment costs	£ millions	201	178	197	219	224

4.5 Manufacture of other furniture (SIC Code 31.09)

Manufacture of other furniture	Units	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of enterprises	Number	3,824	3,920	4,153	4,186	4,036
Total turnover	£ millions	3,324	2,941	3,474	3,756	3,800
Approximate gross value added at basic prices	£ millions	1,451	1,293	1,480	1,488	1,502
Total purchases of goods, materials and services	£ millions	1,880	1,776	2,081	2,289	2,293
Total employment - point in time	Number	41,000	34,000	40,000	36,000	32,000
Total employment costs	£ millions	879	834	991	1,022	1,013

5. UK furniture manufacturing by product

The broad sub-sector classifications outlined in the previous section can be further refined into specific product categories using data from the Prodcom report published annually by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). It is important to note that differences exist between UK production figures sourced from the Annual Business Survey (ABS), reported in Section 4.1, and those presented in the Prodcom reports referenced here.

These discrepancies arise from several key factors. While Prodcom is structured around products, the ABS focuses on business activities. The datasets also differ in terms of the company samples used, with each survey drawing from distinct reporting populations. Furthermore, the timing of data collection varies: the ABS is based on financial year-end data, whereas Prodcom is aligned with the calendar year. Additionally, Prodcom may include or exclude income from non-manufacturing activities, depending on its classification criteria. A comprehensive explanation of the methodologies and distinctions can be found on the ONS website.

5.1 Manufacture of furniture

Total sales of businesses classified to the manufacturing of furniture (Division 31) declined for the second straight year, to £10.8 billion in 2024. Of the total, £7.2 billion was total UK manufacturer sales of products in this product group, with the remainder made up of merchanted goods, work done, waste products, non-production income, and net carry in/carry out.

5.1.1 Manufacture of furniture (31)

31: Manufacture of Furniture	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total UK manufacturer sales of products in this product group (£ millions)	6,437	7,879	8,186	7,907	7,246
Total sales of businesses classified to this industry (£ millions)	8,939	10,350	11,427	11,044	10,787

The following four tables show the sub-classes within Division 31 at 4-digit SIC code level, namely the manufacture of office and shop furniture, manufacture of kitchen furniture, manufacture of mattresses, and manufacture of other furniture.

5.1.2 Manufacture of office and shop furniture (31.01)

31.01: Manufacture of office and shop furniture	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total UK manufacturer sales of products in this product group (£ millions)	962	1,223	1,271	1,244	1,140
Total sales of businesses classified to this industry (£ millions)	1,699	1,944	2,286	2,324	2,549

5.1.3 Manufacture of kitchen furniture (31.02)

31.02: Manufacture of kitchen furniture	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total UK manufacturer sales of products in this product group (£ millions)	1,967	2,206	2,446	2,494	2,338
Total sales of businesses classified to this industry (£ millions)	2,898	3,522	3,829	3,732	3,584

5.1.4 Manufacture of mattresses (31.03)

31.03: Manufacture of mattresses	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total UK manufacturer sales of products in this product group (£ millions)	730	889	833	872	808
Total sales of businesses classified to this industry (£ millions)	749	893	871	1,009	887

5.1.4 Manufacture of other furniture (31.09)

31.09: Manufacture of other furniture	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total UK manufacturer sales of products in this product group (£ millions)	2,778	3,662	3,635	3,297	2,959
Total sales of businesses classified to this industry (£ millions)	3,593	3,992	4,442	3,979	3,767

Source: Source: Office for National Statistics (Prodcom), July 22, 2025

Note: Total sales of businesses classified to this industry is the sum of total UK manufacturer sales of products in Division 31, plus merchanted goods, work done, waste products, non-production income, and net carry in/carry out; Division 31 does not include plane and car seats, or medical, veterinary or surgical furniture. UK manufactured sales of these are provided in sections 5.2 and 5.4.

5.2 Seating

Upholstered seats with wooden frames — widely regarded within the industry as a proxy for sofas — represent the largest sub-segment of the mainstream seating category. In 2024, sales totalled £784 million, marking the lowest annual figure since the first Covid-affected period.

For context and completeness, the figures below also include sales of car seats and aircraft seats, which, while not part of Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code 31 (manufacture of furniture), are captured under Harmonised System (HS) Chapter 94 — the broad international classification for traded furniture products. These sectors generated £1.26 billion and £1.03 billion respectively in 2024, underscoring their significance within the wider furniture landscape.

£ '000

SIC Code	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
31001150	Swivel seats with variable height adjustments	147,983	202,345	210,999	258,156	217,082
31001170	Upholstered seats with metal frames	94,336	149,774	150,420	147,794	147,915
31001190	Non-upholstered seats with metal frames	24,952	44,603	25,587	19,059	16,039
31001210	Seats convertible into beds	5,902	6,211	11,784	10,860	12,704
31001250	Upholstered seats with wooden frames, including three-piece suites	717,405	968,526	1,027,157	944,992	784,009
31001290	Non-upholstered seats with wooden frames	9,042	38,403	32,490	28,080	27,553
31001300	Other seats, including plastic garden seats, camping seats	20,164	16,792	39,101	16,209	14,630
31001400	Parts for seats	180,051	234,939	169,791	154,109	[a]
29321000	Seats for motor vehicles	1,029,173	953,219	1,034,873	1,308,298	1,257,831
30305010	Seats for aircraft; parts thereof	1,032,843	655,373	724,069	925,077	1,025,748

Source: Office for National Statistics (Prodcom), July 22, 2025; **Note:** [a] = data is disclosive and is aggregated within the UK Manufacturer Sales of other products

Full SIC Code Descriptions

31001150: Swivel seats with variable height adjustments, EXCLUDING: medical, surgical, dental or veterinary seats, barbers or similar chairs

31001170: Upholstered seats with metal frames, EXCLUDING: swivel seats with variable height adjustment, medical, surgical, dental or veterinary seats, barbers' or similar chairs, for motor vehicles, for aircraft

31001190: Non-upholstered seats with metal frames, EXCLUDING: medical, surgical, dental or veterinary seats, barbers' or similar chairs, swivel seats with variable height adjustment

31001210: Seats convertible into beds, EXCLUDING: garden seats or camping equipment

31001250: Upholstered seats with wooden frames, INCLUDING: three-piece suites, EXCLUDING: swivel seats with variable height adjustment

31001290: Non-upholstered seats with wooden frames, EXCLUDING: swivel seats with variable height adjustment

31001300: Other seats, INCLUDING: plastic garden seats, camping seats, EXCLUDING: for aircraft, for motor vehicles, swivel seats with variable height adjustment, seats convertible into beds, seats of cane, osier, bamboo or similar, seats with wooden or metal frames, medical, surgical, dental/veterinary seats, barbers' or similar chairs

31001400: Parts for seats, EXCLUDING: for medical, surgical dental or veterinary seats, for barbers' and similar chairs, of a kind used for aircraft

29321000: Seats for motor vehicles

30305010: Seats for aircraft; parts thereof, EXCLUDING: separately presented cushions and mattresses

5.3 Mattresses & Bedroom Furniture

Mattresses of coil and pocket sprung construction remain the dominant category within the beds segment, despite falling to £531.7 million in 2024.

£ '000

SIC Code	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
31031100	Mattress supports, including frames, upholstered bases and divans	177,549	209,336	198,991	211,363	192,325
31031230	Mattresses of cellular rubber	17,820	23,317	16,772	16,923	17,002*
31031250	Mattresses of cellular plastics	19,454	27,568	27,656	[a]	28,612
31031270	Mattresses with spring interiors	443,584	564,278	510,978	552,956	531,738
31031290	Mattresses, excluding with spring interiors, of cellular rubber or plastics	69,793	62,524	75,626	44,696	34,204
31091230	Wooden furniture for the bedroom, including headboards	541,370	664,029	572,420	584,265	515,355

Source: Office for National Statistics (Prodcorn), July 22, 2025; Note: * = data has low response, and therefore a high level of estimation, which may impact on the quality of the estimate; [a] = data is disclosive and is aggregated within the UK Manufacturer Sales of other products

Full SIC Code Descriptions

31031100: Mattress supports, INCLUDING: wooden or metal frames fitted with springs or steel wire mesh, upholstered mattress bases, with wooden slats, divans

31031230: Mattresses of cellular rubber, INCLUDING: with a metal frame, EXCLUDING: water-mattresses, pneumatic mattresses

31031250: Mattresses of cellular plastics, INCLUDING: with a metal frame, EXCLUDING: water-mattresses, pneumatic mattresses

31031270: Mattresses with spring interiors, EXCLUDING: of cellular rubber or plastics

31031290: Mattresses, EXCLUDING: with spring interiors, of cellular rubber or plastics

31091230: Wooden furniture for the bedroom, INCLUDING: headboards, EXCLUDING: builders' fittings for cupboards to be built into walls, mattress supports, lamps and lighting fittings, floor standing mirrors, seats

5.4 Other Furniture

Other furniture includes cabinets made up of wood, metal, plastics, and other materials, as well as component parts used in the production of furniture. At £2.28 billion and just under £471 million respectively in 2024, wooden kitchen furniture and metal domestic and contract furniture are the largest categories within the overarching segment.

£ '000

SIC Code	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
31002030	Parts of furniture, of metal	40,211	51,167	32,691	47,930	56,688
31002050	Parts of furniture, of wood	147,106	222,592	151,215	145,110	116,939
31002090	Parts of furniture not elsewhere specified	22,682	23,675	31,018	28,633	31,687
31011100	Metal furniture for offices	194,607	211,255	239,121	235,788	197,225
31011200	Wooden furniture of a type used in offices	403,675	412,994	500,990	486,038	466,054
31011300	Wooden furniture for shops	177,125	229,211	269,627	200,787	207,059
31021000	Wooden kitchen furniture including wooden units for fitted kitchens	1,946,862	2,154,021	2,377,908	2,430,406	2,281,796
31091100	Metal furniture for domestic and contract use	406,872	522,607	676,209	494,276	470,957
31091250	Wooden furniture for the dining room and living room	93,086	197,454	90,986	87,075	74,605
31091300	Wooden furniture for domestic and contract use	363,267	444,618	526,954	507,135	380,964
31091430	Plastic furniture	25,911	21,620	34,368	32,043	26,961
31091450	Furniture of materials other than metal, wood or plastic	3,406	2,085	2,952	2,368	6,644
32503050	Medical, surgical or veterinary furniture, and parts thereof	178,024	180,370	200,905	215,610	187,116

Source: Office for National Statistics (Prodcom), July 22, 2025

Full SIC Code Descriptions

31002030: Parts of furniture, of metal, EXCLUDING: for seats, medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, for specially designed furniture for hi-fi systems, videos or televisions

31002050: Parts of furniture, of wood, EXCLUDING: for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, for seats

31002090: Parts of furniture not elsewhere specified, EXCLUDING: of metal or wood, for seats, for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture

31011100: Metal furniture for offices, INCLUDING: tables and desks, cupboards and cabinets, display units and bookcases, EXCLUDING: seats, armoured or reinforced safes

31011200: Wooden furniture of a type used in offices, INCLUDING: fixed pedestals, moveable pedestals, desks and tables, cupboards, cabinets and bookcases, shelves, racking, screens and panels, EXCLUDING: seats

31011300: Wooden furniture for shops, EXCLUDING: seats

31021000: Wooden kitchen furniture INCLUDING: wooden units for fitted kitchens, EXCLUDING: seats

31091100: Metal furniture for domestic use and for banks, bars, churches, cinemas, hotels, laboratories, libraries, museums, pubs, restaurants, schools, shops, workshops, EXCLUDING: medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, seats

31091250: Wooden furniture for the dining-room and living-room, EXCLUDING: floor standing mirrors, seats

31091300: Wooden furniture for domestic use and for banks, bars, churches, cinemas, hotels, laboratories, libraries, museums, pubs, restaurants, schools, workshops, EXCLUDING: shop, medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, for bedroom, dining-room, living-room or kitchen, seats

31091430: Plastic furniture, INCLUDING: headboards, EXCLUDING: medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, seats.

31091450: Furniture of materials other than metal, wood or plastic, INCLUDING: headboards, EXCLUDING: seats.

32503050: Medical, surgical or veterinary furniture, and parts thereof, EXCLUDING: tables and seats specialised for X-ray purposes

6. The wider furniture and furnishings sector

The Annual Business Survey also includes businesses directly involved in the furniture industry supply chain aside from manufacturing, including agents, wholesalers, and retailers, as well as companies in adjacent sectors, including soft furnishings and floorcoverings.

6.1 Manufacturing

The manufacturing of furniture — at £10.4 billion — represents almost 75 percent of the total value of manufacturing across furnishings products, and more than ten times the value of carpet and rug production. Apart from Total Employment, the data below is from the Annual Business Survey, whereas the previous section was from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) annual Prodcom report, for which 2024 data is available. Refer to Section 5 for the explanation of other discrepancies between the two datasets.

SIC Code	Activity	Number of Enterprises	Total Turnover	Total Employment
1392	Manufacture of made-up textile articles, except apparel	2,126	£2,588m	21,000
1393	Manufacture of carpets and rugs	118	£997m	3,000
3100	Manufacture of furniture	6,705	£10,376m	72,000
	Total Manufacturing	8,949	£13,961m	96,000

6.2 Wholesalers and Agents

The wholesale of furniture and flooring was worth nearly £5.4 billion in 2023, making it a substantial sub-segment of the overall UK furniture supply chain, in addition to up and downstream sources such as manufacturing and retail.

SIC Code	Activity	Number of Enterprises	Total Turnover	Total Employment
4615	Agents involved in the sale of furniture, household goods, hardware and ironmongery	1,248	£753m	3,000
4647	Wholesale of furniture, carpets and lighting equipment	2,296	£5,386m	19,000
4665	Wholesale of office furniture	433	£1,214m	3,500
	Total Wholesale and Agents	3,977	£7,353m	25,500

6.3 Retail

There are multiple sources of data for ascertaining the value of furniture retail sales in the UK. Earlier in this report (Section 3.2), consumer spending on furniture and furnishings is detailed at £21.5 billion, based on the quarterly Consumer Trends survey. The below figure of £15.45 billion is for the retail sale of furniture and lighting and is from the Annual Business Survey (ABS), focusing on turnover by business activity, rather than total spending by product (see section 5 for a broader explanation).

SIC Code	Activity	Number of Enterprises	Total Turnover	Total Employment
4753	Retail sale of carpets, rugs, wall and floor coverings in specialised stores	4,122	£2,258m	19,000
4759	Retail sale of furniture, lighting equipment and other household articles in specialised stores	9,483	£15,451m	78,000
	Total Retail	13,605	£17,709m	97,000

6.4 Rent and Repair of furnishings

Though smaller than other segments of the industry, the renting and leasing of personal and household goods, at £1.76 billion, still represents a significant part of the market.

SIC Code	Activity	Number of Enterprises	Total Turnover	Total Employment
7729	Renting and leasing of other personal and household goods	1,454	£1,759m	14,000
9524	Repair of furniture and home furnishings	940	£220m	3,000

Sources: Annual Business Survey (number of enterprises and total turnover), and Business Register and Employment Survey (total employment). The latest ABS data, published April 2025, is for 2023, while the latest BRES data, published November 2025, is for 2024.

6.5 UK furniture manufacturing breakdown by turnover, number of employees and by region

6.5.1 Data sources

The data in this section differs slightly from that reported in Section 5 because it has been collated from a different source: the UK Business Activity, Size and Location report, published annually by the Office for National Statistics. The information from this source provides a breakdown of the comparative sizes and locations of businesses within the furniture sector by turnover band, by employment size band, and by regional location.

When analysing these data sets it is important to recognise that the lowest common denominator is 5, which will impact on the significance of results from some of the categories that display lower totals. For example, a total of one or two may be rounded down to zero, and it may also mean that some totals in one table differ slightly from those in other tables.

6.5.2 Number of furniture manufacturers by turnover band

The UK furniture manufacturing sector remains heavily fragmented, with 6,600 businesses operating across various subcategories. More than half (3,685) of these firms report annual turnover below £250,000, highlighting the industry's dependence on small enterprises and underscoring a relatively low level of consolidation. The largest proportion of businesses — 2,050 in total — fall within the £100,000–£249,000 turnover range, with manufacture of other furniture (SIC 3109) accounting for the majority in this band and across the board, totalling 3,925 firms overall.

By segment, kitchen furniture manufacturers (SIC 3102) make up the next largest group with 1,595 companies, followed by office and shop furniture (SIC 3101) with 825, and mattress producers (SIC 3103) at 255. Only a small number of manufacturers operate at scale: just 20 businesses report turnover exceeding £50 million. This suggests limited consolidation at the top end of the market, with most of the industry's economic activity likely concentrated among numerous micro and small-sized enterprises.

	Manufacture of office and shop furniture (31.01)	Manufacture of kitchen furniture (31.02)	Manufacture of mattresses (31.03)	Manufacture of other furniture (31.09)	Total
£0-49k	80	90	10	305	485
£50-99k	75	250	35	790	1,150
£100-249k	190	455	60	1,345	2,050
£250-499k	100	290	30	540	960
£500-999k	95	245	25	400	765
£1-1.99m	95	135	25	225	480
£2-4.99m	100	80	30	185	395
£5-9.99m	45	25	20	65	155
£10-49.99m	35	20	20	65	140
£50m+	10	5	0	5	20
Total	825	1,595	255	3,925	6,600

Source: ONS. UK Business Activity, Size and Location. September 2025. Table 9

Note: As per Section 6.5.1, the lowest common denominator from the UK Business Activity report is 5, meaning where one or two companies are present, the total has been rounded down to zero. Similar, in cases where there are three or four, the figure has been rounded up.

6.5.3 Number of furniture manufacturers by employment size band

Over 80 percent of furniture manufacturing enterprises employ fewer than ten people. Of the 6,600 businesses operating under the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code 31, 4,375 companies report staff counts of between one and four, and a further 995 have between five and nine employees. This pattern further underscores the highly fragmented and localised nature of the industry, where smaller-scale operations form the foundation of furniture production activity.

While the sector does include some medium-sized and larger manufacturers, such as the 25 enterprises employing over 250 people, their presence is limited. This data reinforces the structural characteristic of the UK furniture manufacturing base: its reliance on numerous small enterprises in addition to a handful of large-scale industrial players.

	Manufacture of office and shop furniture (31.01)	Manufacture of kitchen furniture (31.02)	Manufacture of mattresses (31.03)	Manufacture of other furniture (31.09)	Manufacture of furniture (31)
1-4	450	1,075	120	2,730	4,375
5-9	120	250	35	590	995
10-19	90	150	30	310	580
20-49	95	70	30	185	380
50-99	45	25	25	65	160
100-249	20	15	10	40	85
250+	5	10	5	5	25
Total	825	1,595	255	3,925	6,600

Source: ONS. UK Business Activity, Size and Location. September 2025. Table 4

6.5.4 Regional distribution of furniture manufacturers

The UK's 6,600 furniture manufacturers are geographically concentrated in a handful of key regions, with the South East (875 firms), Yorkshire and The Humber (865), and London (730) the most active centres. Yorkshire and The Humber stands out as a major hub for mattress production, accounting for 165 of the UK's 255 such businesses — almost 65 percent of the national total. Meanwhile, Northern Ireland, despite having relatively few furniture manufacturers overall (340), has the highest number of kitchen furniture makers. By contrast, areas such as Wales and the North East have limited representation across all furniture categories, underscoring a broader regional imbalance in furniture manufacturing.

	Manufacture of office and shop furniture (31.01)	Manufacture of kitchen furniture (31.02)	Manufacture of mattresses (31.03)	Manufacture of other furniture (31.09)	Total
North East	20	50	0	115	185
North West	100	175	20	405	700
Yorkshire and The Humber	90	135	165	475	865
East Midlands	90	135	10	330	565
West Midlands	75	145	10	355	585
East	120	155	5	405	685
London	85	170	10	465	730
South East	115	185	10	565	875
South West	60	165	10	405	640
Wales	20	30	5	125	180
Scotland	30	55	5	160	250
Northern Ireland	20	195	5	120	340
United Kingdom	825	1,595	255	3,925	6,600

Source: ONS. UK Business Activity, Size and Location. September 2025. Table 2

7. International Trade

7.1 Introduction

Furniture trade data is sourced from HM Revenue & Customs and is based on the Harmonised System (HS) Code classification outlined in section 2.2. These categories broadly align with the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system, allowing for cross-referencing to help determine market size.

Trade data is released monthly with a two-month lag. It is subject to routine revision, and the figures referenced in the following sections are drawn from the dataset published in March 2026.

7.2 Trade data by product categories

7.2.1 Furniture/Bedding/Lighting (HS 94 combined)

The UK imported £10.45 billion worth of goods under Chapter 94 of the Harmonised System in 2025, while exports totalled £3.4 billion, highlighting a significant trade deficit in furniture and related categories of £7.05 billion.

The largest import segment was furniture and parts thereof (HS 9403) at £4.42 billion, followed by seats (9401) at £3.21 billion, and luminaires and lighting fittings (9405) at £1.45 billion. These three categories alone accounted for more than 85 percent of all imports.

Seats (9401) are by some distance the most important export category, with £1.4 billion in outbound trade last year, followed by furniture and parts thereof (9403) at £998 million, and lighting (9405) at £532 million.

HS Code(s)	Description	Imports	Exports
9401	Seats, whether or not convertible into beds, and parts thereof	£3,210.46m	£1,397.44m
9402	Medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture	£195.79m	£104.63m
9403	Furniture and parts thereof	£4,417.42m	£998.04m
9404	Mattress supports; Mattresses; Bedding	£686.83m	£116.31m
9405	Luminaires and lighting fittings	£1,451.57m	£532.42m
9406	Prefabricated buildings	£465.38m	£233.43m
94	Other (Non Response Estimates; Below Threshold)	£22.19m	£18.69m
94	Total	£10,449.64m	£3,400.96m

HS Code Descriptions

94 Furniture; medical and surgical furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings, not elsewhere specified; illuminated signs, illuminated nameplates and the like; prefabricated buildings, whether or not complete or ready assembled.

Chapter 94 is further broken down:

9401 Seats, whether or not convertible into beds, and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified (excl. medical, surgical, dental or veterinary of heading 9402)

9402 Medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture, e.g. operating tables, examination tables, hospital beds with mechanical fittings and dentists' chairs; barbers' chairs and similar chairs having rotating as well as both reclining and elevating movement, and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified

9403 Furniture and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified (excl. seats and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture)

9404 Mattress supports (excl. spring interiors for seats); articles of bedding and similar furnishing, e.g. mattresses, quilts, eiderdowns, cushions, pouffes and pillows, fitted with springs or stuffed or internally filled with any material or of cellular rubber or plastics

9405 Luminaires and lighting fittings, incl. searchlights and spotlights, and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified; illuminated signs, illuminated nameplates and the like having a permanently fixed light source, and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified

9406 Prefabricated buildings, whether complete or already assembled

94 Non-Response Estimates; HS2 Below Threshold Trade

7.2.2 Seating (HS 9401)

The UK again imported over £3.2 billion worth of seats and seat components across various categories, according to HMRC trade data for 2025. The largest import categories were upholstered seats with wooden frames (£1.12 billion) and parts of seats (£945.4 million). The former, often taken as a proxy for sofas, particularly for home consumption, represented growth of 6.5 percent year-on-year, while seat parts were down 7.3 percent.

Exports totalled almost £1.4 billion, with seat parts (£517.44 million) growing by more than a quarter (+27%) in 2025 compared with the previous year.

Sales to overseas markets are comparatively low across most categories except for seat parts and aircraft seating, where the UK is a big net exporter. By contrast, the value of exports of upholstered seats with wooden frames is well under 10 percent of the value of imports in the same category.

HS Code(s)	Description	Imports	Exports
940131/940139	Swivel seats with variable height adjustments	£191.12m	£76.87m
940171	Upholstered seats with metal frames	£289.38m	£37.13m
940179	Seats, with metal frames	£192.39m	£34.46m
940141/940149	Seats convertible into beds	£77.06m	£1.90m
940161	Upholstered seats with wooden frames	£1,122.61m	£84.86m
940169	Seats, with wooden frames (excl. upholstered)	£98.76m	£10.24m
940180	Seats, n.e.s.	£190.79m	£26.40m
940191/940199	Parts of seats	£945.41m	£517.44m
940152/940153/940159	Seats of bamboo, rattan, cane, osier & similar	£5.42m	£0.80m
940110	Seats for Aircraft	£36.05m	£549.84m
940120	Seats for motor vehicles	£61.48m	£57.50m

Notes: This section includes everything within HS Code 9401: Seats, whether or not convertible into beds, and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified (excl. medical, surgical, dental or veterinary of heading 9402)

940131 Swivel seats with variable height adjustments, of wood (excl. medical, surgical, dental or veterinary, and barbers' chairs); 940139 Swivel seats with variable height adjustments (excl. of wood, and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary, and barbers' chairs)

940171 Upholstered seats, with metal frames (excl. seats for aircraft or motor vehicles, swivel seats with variable height adjustments and medical, dental or surgical furniture)

940179 Seats, with metal frames (excl. upholstered, swivel seats with variable height adjustments and medical, dental or surgical furniture)

940141 Seats, convertible into beds, of wood (excl. garden seats and camping equipment, and medical, dental or surgical furniture); 940149 Seats, convertible into beds (excl. of wood, and garden seats and camping equipment, and medical, dental or surgical furniture)

940161 Upholstered seats, with wooden frames (excl. convertible into beds)

940169 Seats, with wooden frames (excl. upholstered)

940180 Seats, not elsewhere specified

940191 Parts of seats, of wood, not elsewhere specified; 940199 Parts of seats, not of wood, not elsewhere specified

940152 Seats of bamboo; 940153 Seats of rattan; 940159 Seats of cane, osier or similar materials (excl. of bamboo or rattan)

940110 Seats for aircraft

940120 Seats for motor vehicles

7.2.3 Furniture and Parts Thereof (HS Code 9403)

UK trade in non-seating furniture and associated parts totalled over £4.4 billion in imports and nearly £1 billion in exports, according to 2025 data grouped by Harmonised System (HS) Codes. The largest import category was metal furniture excluding offices (HS 940320), with shipments worth £905.9 million last year, up 3.8 percent on 2024. That was followed by other wooden furniture (£840.1 million) and parts of furniture excluding for seats (£791.7 million), which grew at 9.8 percent year-on-year.

The most valuable outbound category was also metal furniture excluding offices, at £380.9 million. That represented an increase of 11.7 percent compared with 2024, and is more than three times higher than the next largest export category; metal furniture for offices (HS 940310).

Wooden furniture remains a significant component of UK trade. Combined imports of kitchen, bedroom, dining, and other wooden furniture again exceeded £2.3 billion. Exports remain more modest by comparison, at under £310 million combined.

The balance of trade remained in deficit across all sub-segments of the Furniture and Parts Thereof (HS 9403) category, underlining the UK's reliance on imported cabinet furniture and components.

HS Code(s)	Description	Imports	Exports
940310	Metal furniture for offices	£150.98m	£114.38m
940320	Metal furniture (exc. offices)	£905.94m	£380.92m
940330	Wooden furniture for offices	£115.34m	£42.48m
940340	Wooden furniture for kitchens	£269.47m	£49.15m
940350	Wooden furniture for bedrooms	£582.14m	£37.33m
94036010	Wooden furniture for dining rooms and living rooms	£468.95m	£76.17m
94036030	Wooden furniture for shops	£74.69m	£15.57m
94036090	Wooden furniture (other)	£840.13m	£86.60m
940370	Furniture of plastics	£141.58m	£30.18m
940382/940383/ 940389	Furniture of bamboo, rattan, cane and other materials	£76.52m	£24.74m
940391/940399	Parts of furniture (exc for seats)	£791.68m	£140.53m

Notes: This section contains HS Code 9403 Furniture and parts thereof, not elsewhere specified (excl. seats and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture) and all sub-codes

940310 Metal furniture for offices (excl. seats)

940320 Metal furniture (excl. for offices, seats and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture)

940330 Wooden furniture for offices (excl. seats)

940340 Wooden furniture for kitchens (excl. seats)

940350 Wooden furniture for bedrooms (excl. seats)

94036010 Wooden furniture for dining rooms and living rooms (excl. seats)

94036030 Wooden furniture for shops (excl. seats)

94036090 Wooden furniture (excl. for offices or shops, kitchens, dining rooms, living rooms and bedrooms, and seats)

940370 Furniture of plastics (excl. medical, dental, surgical or veterinary, and seats)

940382 Furniture of bamboo (excl. seats and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture); 940383 Furniture of rattan (excl. seats and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture); 940389 Furniture of other materials, including cane, osier or similar materials (excl. of bamboo, rattan, metal, wood and plastics, and seats and medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture)

940391 Parts of furniture, of wood, not elsewhere specified (excl. of seats or medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture); 940399 Parts of furniture, not of wood, not elsewhere specified (excl. of seats or medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture)

7.2.4 Mattresses and bedding (HS Code 9404)

The UK's trade in mattresses and bedding-related products reveals a pronounced import dependency across all categories, with particularly high import values for sprung mattresses and miscellaneous bedding articles. However, it is important to consider that while there is a large trade deficit, imports remain a small proportion of the overall UK market, with domestic production still high.

Sprung mattresses (HS 940429) again totalled higher than products made primarily of foam, with imports of £135.8 million and exports of £43.8 million. That was up 11.5 percent and 10 percent respectively year-on-year. Imports of miscellaneous bedding and furnishings not elsewhere classified (HS 940490) reached £349.3 million, up 2.5 percent compared with 2024.

Mattresses made from cellular rubber or plastics (HS 940421), a proxy for foam mattresses, recorded imports of £93.3 million against exports of only £9.3 million, up 2.7 percent and 2.5 percent respectively.

HS Code(s)	Description	Imports	Exports
940410	Mattress supports for bed frames	£43.57m	£10.48m
940421	Mattresses of cellular rubber or plastics	£93.29m	£9.30m
940429	Mattresses, fitted with springs	£135.75m	£43.76m
940430	Sleeping bags	£21.55m	£4.17m
940440	Quilts, bedspreads, eiderdowns and duvets	£43.33m	£2.75m
940490	Articles of bedding and similar furnishing (exc all above)	£349.33m	£45.85m

Notes: This section contains everything within HS Code 9404 Mattress supports (excl. spring interiors for seats); articles of bedding and similar furnishing, e.g. mattresses, quilts, eiderdowns, cushions, pouffes and pillows, fitted with springs or stuffed or internally filled with any material or of cellular

940410 Mattress supports for bed frames (excl. spring interiors for seats)

940421 Mattresses of cellular rubber or plastics, whether or not covered

940429 Mattresses, fitted with springs or stuffed or internally filled with any material (excl. cellular rubber or plastics, pneumatic or water mattresses and pillows)

940430 Sleeping bags, whether or non-electrically heated

940440 Quilts, bedspreads, eiderdowns and duvets "comforters"

940490 Articles of bedding and similar furnishing, fitted with springs or stuffed or internally filled with any material or of cellular rubber or plastics (excl. mattress supports, mattresses, sleeping bags, pneumatic or water mattresses, blankets, covers)

7.3 Trade data by country

7.3.1 Introduction

Sections 7.3.2 and 7.3.3 present a country-level analysis of international trade in furniture, bedding, and lighting. Rather than breaking down data by individual product lines, these sections consolidate the total value of imports and exports by country over the two most recent reporting years. The figures represent aggregated trade activity under Chapter 94 of the Harmonised System (HS) classification — a broad and comprehensive category encompassing all goods related to furniture, mattresses and mattress supports, bedding items, and lighting products.

This approach provides a clearer view of the geographical distribution of trade partners and highlights key international markets driving activity within the UK's furniture and furnishings sector. It also offers valuable insight into the balance of trade in this industry segment, informing both commercial strategy and policy decisions.

7.3.2 Imports

UK imports of furniture and related products under HS Code 94 rose by 1.5 percent to £10.45 billion in 2025, with China remaining by far the largest origin.

It increased its furniture exports to the UK by 3.2 percent to £4.19 billion, accounting for 40 percent of total UK imports in the category. Despite this growth, several other leading countries saw reduced shipments to the UK over the same period.

Italian furniture imports recovered by 3.6 percent to £920.4 million, having fallen 7.0 percent in 2024. That compared with declines in each of the next four largest source nations; Poland, Germany, France and the United States, each seeing mid single-digit percentage declines in 2025.

Vietnam enjoyed the strongest percentage increase compared with 2024, with its shipments to the UK rising 16.2 percent to £266.8 million last year. Though Italy had a stronger year, the broader pattern remains one of increased sourcing from the Far East.

	2024	2025	y/y
Grand Total	£10,295.08m	£10,449.64m	1.5%
China	£4,057.31m	£4,186.98m	3.2%
Italy	£888.20m	£920.37m	3.6%
Poland	£838.40m	£792.00m	-5.5%
Germany	£766.81m	£740.89m	-3.4%
France	£409.93m	£395.27m	-3.6%
United States	£290.00m	£276.07m	-4.8%
Netherlands	£256.90m	£274.35m	6.8%
Vietnam	£229.52m	£266.75m	16.2%
Lithuania	£233.58m	£239.64m	2.6%
Denmark	£174.44m	£180.66m	3.6%
Ireland	£154.67m	£161.92m	4.7%
Spain	£151.48m	£151.72m	0.2%
Turkey	£152.25m	£139.63m	-8.3%
Morocco	£131.26m	£132.05m	0.6%
Sweden	£117.13m	£121.44m	3.7%

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HS Code 94 inc.)

7.3.3 Exports

UK exports under HS Code 94 increased at a faster pace year-on-year in 2025, rising 4.7 percent to £3.4 billion. That accelerated from 2.4 percent in 2024, and was driven largely by solid export growth with the United States, and exponential growth with Singapore.

The United States remained the UK's largest export destination, with exports rising 5.8 percent to £784.5 million. Ireland is the next most important market, but exports there fell 7.1 percent to £438.6 million.

Sales of furniture to the Far East grew at a fast pace, with exports to Singapore more than doubling to £85.6 million (+162.5%), and shipments to China up by 91.6 percent to £84.5 million. Saudi Arabia, Canada and Australia were also strong growth markets.

	2024	2025	y/y
Grand Total	£3,247.23m	£3,400.96m	4.7%
United States	£741.49m	£784.53m	5.8%
Ireland	£471.94m	£438.59m	-7.1%
France	£394.77m	£387.50m	-1.8%
Germany	£258.83m	£255.78m	-1.2%
Netherlands	£160.28m	£152.88m	-4.6%
UAE	£135.75m	£110.99m	-18.2%
Singapore	£32.61m	£85.62m	162.5%
China	£44.08m	£84.47m	91.6%
Belgium	£56.70m	£61.89m	9.1%
Austria	£42.61m	£58.49m	37.3%
Italy	£57.63m	£56.45m	-2.0%
Canada	£42.36m	£53.84m	27.1%
Spain	£60.08m	£50.09m	-16.6%
Australia	£43.43m	£47.76m	10.0%
Saudi Arabia	£38.70m	£45.50m	17.6%

Source: HM Revenue & Customs (HS Code 94 inc.)



Furniture Industry Research Association

Furniture Industry Research Association
Unit 3 Cockerell Close
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 2NB
UK

Tel +44(0)1438 777 700

Email: info@fira.co.uk

Website: www.fira.co.uk

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