

Statistical bulletin

# Mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies: October to December 2025

Transactions that result in a change of ultimate control of the target company and have a value of £1 million or more.

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Release date:  
3 March 2026

Next release:  
2 June 2026

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# 1 . Main points

- The total estimated value of inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) saw a notable increase in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025, the highest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2021, while the values of domestic and outward M&A decreased.
- The value of inward M&A (foreign companies acquiring UK companies) during Quarter 4 2025 was £27.4 billion, £19.8 billion more than in Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2025 (£7.6 billion); this was largely because of an increase in the number of deals over £1 billion.
- The value of domestic M&A (UK companies acquiring other UK companies) was £1.8 billion during Quarter 4 2025, which was £5.3 billion lower than in Quarter 3 2025 (£7.1 billion).
- The value of outward M&A (UK companies acquiring foreign companies) was £1.7 billion in Quarter 4 2025, which was £1.7 billion lower than in the previous quarter (£3.4 billion).
- The provisional combined number of M&A involving a change in majority share ownership was 444 in Quarter 4 2025; this was a fall of 53 compared with the previous year.
- There were an estimated 165 acquisitions involving a change in majority share ownership in October 2025, followed by a fall to 153 in November and further fall to 126 in December 2025.
- We have produced domestic and cross-border M&A datasets by industry for the years 2019 to 2025; these are available in the datasets accompanying this bulletin.

These numbers are provisional and may be subject to revisions, so we advise caution when comparing results for Quarter 1 (January to March), Quarter 2 (April to June), Quarter 3 (July to September) and Quarter 4 (October to December) 2025 with earlier periods. Revisions can be in either direction but are more often upwards than downwards.

## 2 . Monthly mergers and acquisitions

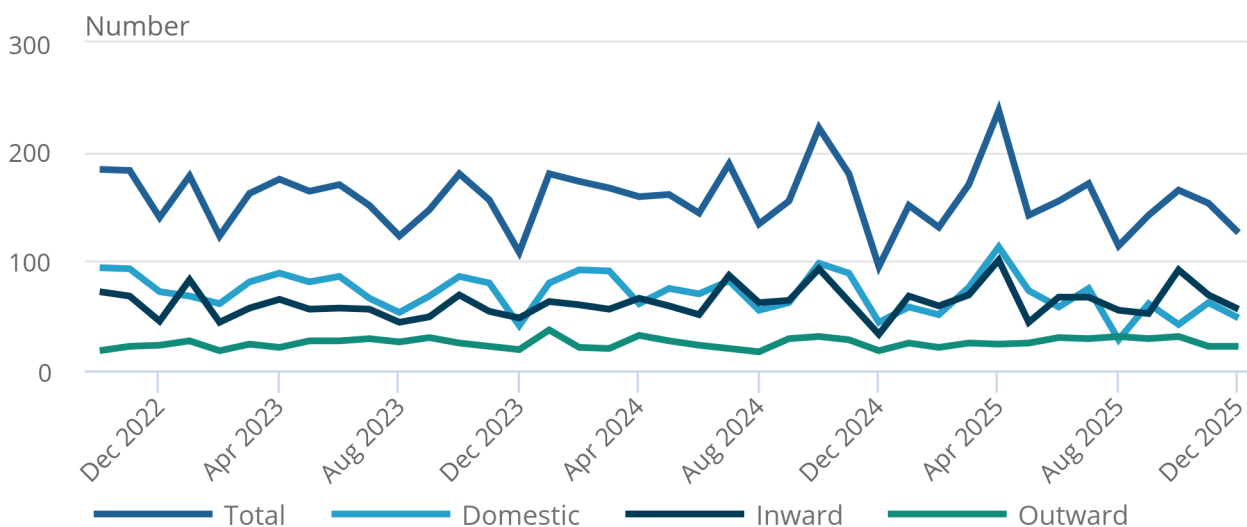
The provisional total combined number of monthly domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) in October 2025 was 165. The number fell to 153 in November before falling further during December 2025 (126).

**Figure 1: There was a decline in the number of domestic and cross-border M&A involving UK companies in December 2025, in line with previous years**

The total combined number of monthly domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) involving UK companies, from October 2022 to December 2025 ranged from 95 to 238

Figure 1: There was a decline in the number of domestic and cross-border M&A involving UK companies in December 2025, in line with previous years

The total combined number of monthly domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) involving UK companies, from October 2022 to December 2025 ranged from 95 to 238



**Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics**

**Notes:**

1. Estimates for January to December 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.

Domestic monthly M&A recorded 42 transactions in October 2025, increasing to 62 during November before decreasing to 48 in December.

Outward monthly M&A recorded 31 transactions in October 2025, falling slightly to 22 in November and remaining at 22 in December.

Inward monthly M&A saw 92 acquisitions in October 2025, decreasing to 69 during November and 56 in December.

[The Bank of England's Agent's summary of business conditions – December 2025](#) reported that:

"The cost of investment, whether finance or the actual capital investment itself, is mentioned much less now as a deterrent to investment intentions – uncertainty seems to be the dominant consideration".

This same report stated that "Mergers and acquisitions activity remains subdued, with deals taking longer due to increased due diligence and regulatory uncertainty".

### **3 . Inward mergers and acquisitions**

The provisional value of inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A), foreign companies acquiring UK companies in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 was £27.4 billion. This included a few large acquisitions, which were valued at more than £1 billion. This was £19.8 billion more than the value reported for the previous quarter (£7.6 billion), and £23.4 billion more than Quarter 4 2024 (£4.0 billion).

A notable inward M&A transaction that completed in Quarter 4 2025 was:

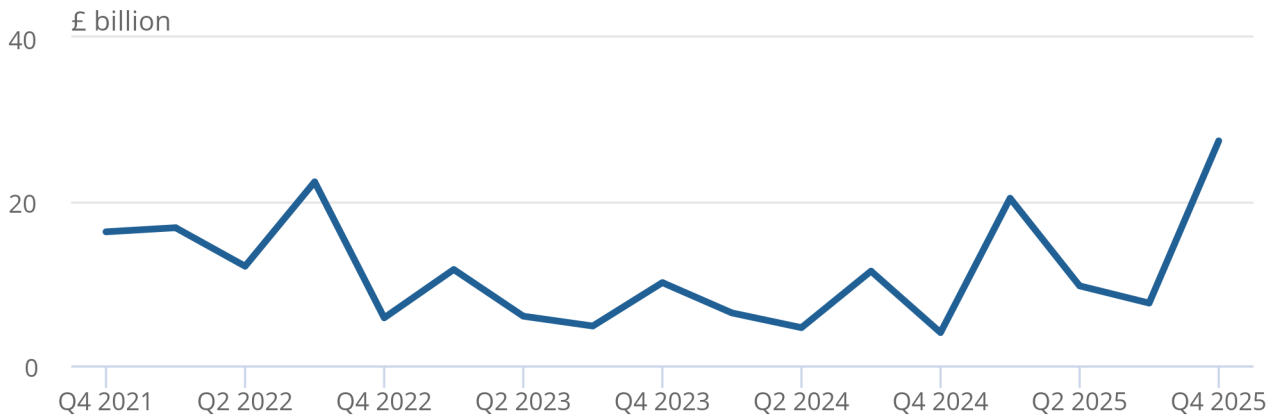
- Deliveroo Plc of the UK, which was acquired by [Doordash INC](#) of the USA

**Figure 2: The value of inward M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 increased to £27.4 billion, the highest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2021**

The value of inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from £4.0 billion to £27.4 billion

Figure 2: The value of inward M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 increased to £27.4 billion, the highest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2021

The value of inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from £4.0 billion to £27.4 billion



**Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics**

**Notes:**

1. Estimates for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar), Quarter 2 (Apr to June), Quarter 3 (July to Sept) and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.
2. The value of deals is in current prices and consequently does not account for the effects of inflation over time.
3. The high total values of inward M&A at Quarter 3 2022, Quarter 1 2025, and Quarter 4 2025 included a few large acquisitions which were valued at more than £1 billion.

## Number of quarterly inward mergers and acquisitions transactions involving UK companies

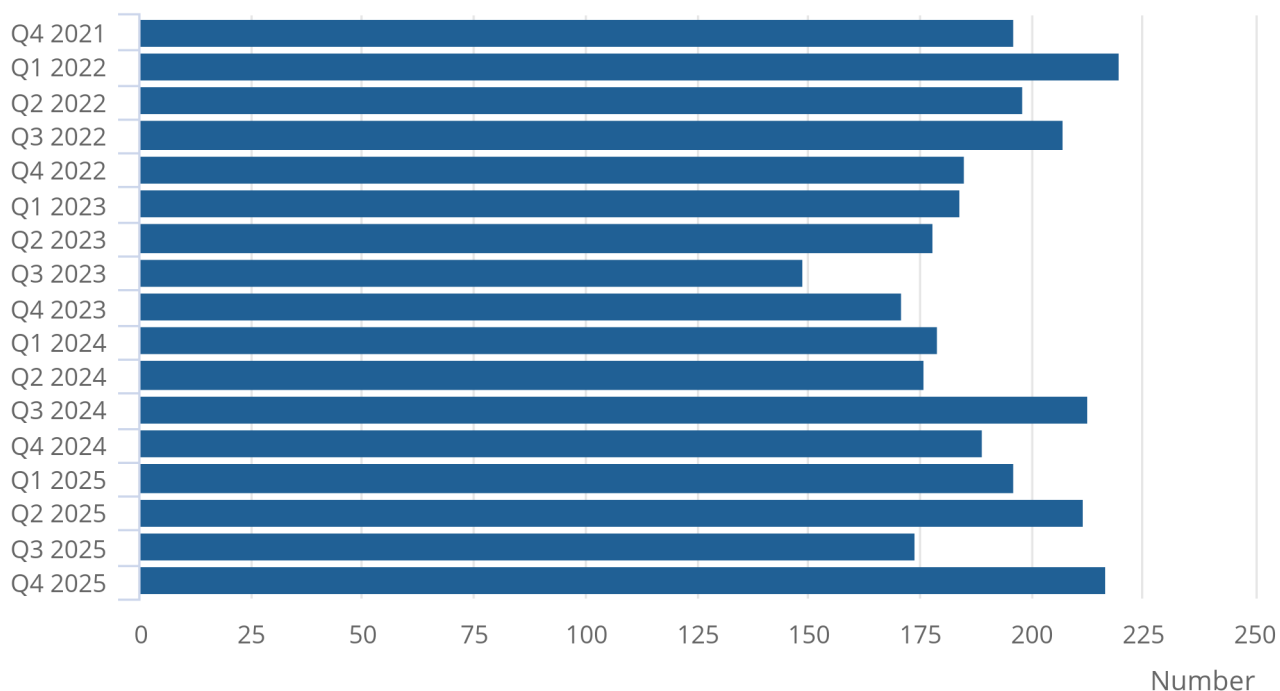
There were an estimated 217 completed inward M&A transactions involving a change in majority share ownership in Quarter 4 2025. This was 43 more than in the previous quarter (174) and 28 more than Quarter 4 2024 (189).

### Figure 3: The number of completed inward M&A increased during Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025

The total number of inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from 149 to 220

### Figure 3: The number of completed inward M&A increased during Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025

The total number of inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from 149 to 220



Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics

#### Notes:

1. Estimates for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar), Quarter 2 (Apr to June), Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2025, and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.

## 4 . Domestic mergers and acquisitions

The provisional value of domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A), UK companies acquiring other UK companies during Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025, was £1.8 billion. This was £5.3 billion lower than Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2025 (£7.1 billion), and £4.6 billion lower than Quarter 4 2024 (£6.4 billion).

A notable domestic acquisition that was completed in Quarter 4 2025 was:

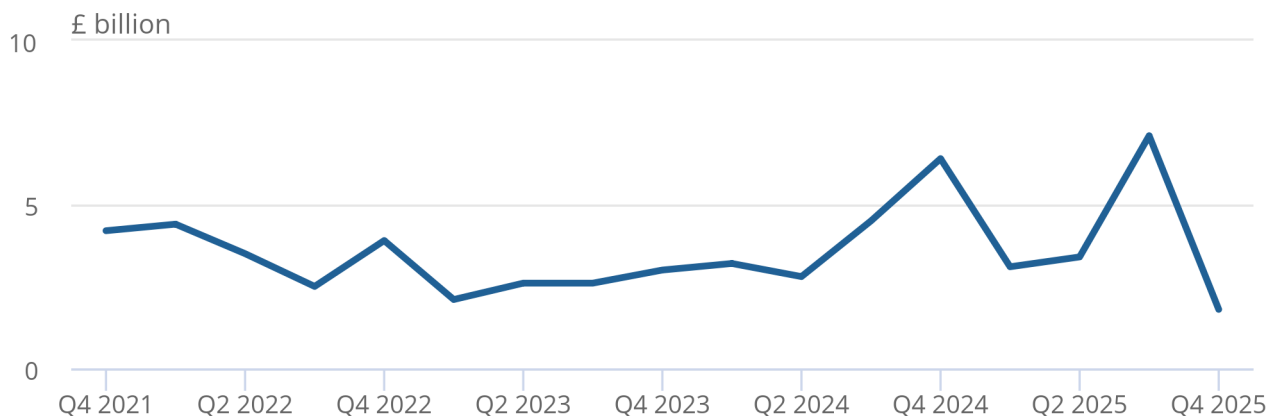
- E2SGroup Ltd of the UK, which was acquired by [Halma Plc](#), also of the UK

**Figure 4: The value of domestic M&A involving UK companies was £1.8 billion in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025, the lowest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2020**

The value of domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from £1.8 billion to £7.1 billion

Figure 4: The value of domestic M&A involving UK companies was £1.8 billion in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025, the lowest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2020

The value of domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from £1.8 billion to £7.1 billion



**Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics**

**Notes:**

1. Estimates for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar), Quarter 2 (Apr to June), Quarter 3 (Jul to Sept) and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.
2. The value of deals is in current prices and consequently does not account for the effects of inflation over time.
3. The high total values of domestic M&A in Quarter 4 2024 and Quarter 3 2025 included a few large acquisitions which were valued at more than £1 billion.

## Number of quarterly domestic mergers and acquisitions transactions involving UK companies

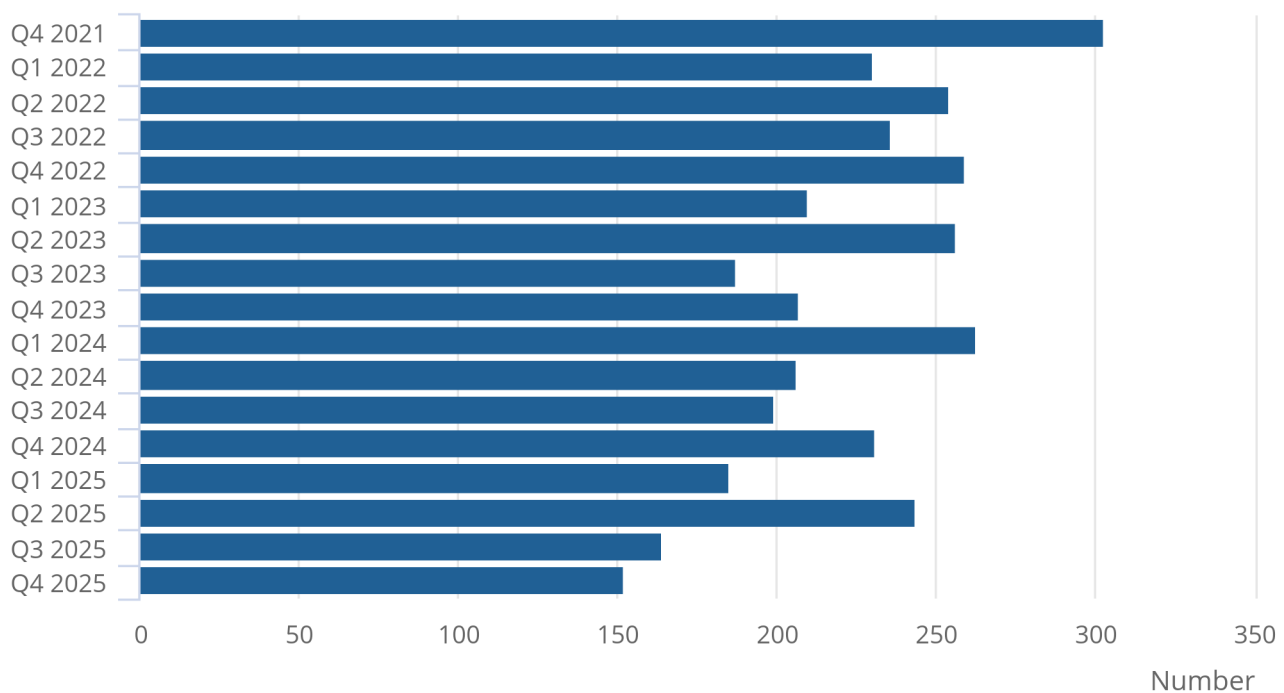
There were an estimated 152 domestic M&A transactions involving a change in majority share ownership in Quarter 4 2025. This was 12 fewer than Quarter 3 (164), and 79 fewer than Quarter 4 2024 (231).

### Figure 5: The number of domestic M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 fell to 152 transactions

The total number of domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from 152 to 303 transactions

### Figure 5: The number of domestic M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 fell to 152 transactions

The total number of domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from 152 to 303 transactions



Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics

#### Notes:

1. Estimates for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar), Quarter 2 (Apr to June), Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2025 and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.

## 5 . Outward mergers and acquisitions

The provisional estimated value of outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A), UK companies acquiring foreign companies in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025, was £1.7 billion. This was £1.7 billion lower than the value for the previous quarter (£3.4 billion), and £0.1 billion lower than Quarter 4 2024 (£1.8 billion).

A notable outward acquisition in Quarter 4 2025 was:

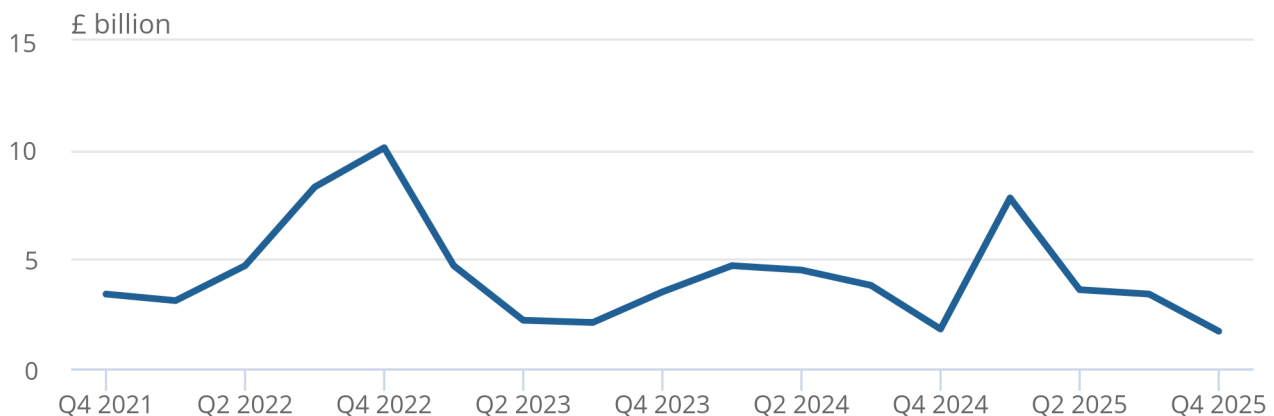
- [Coats Group Plc](#) of the UK, which acquired Ortholite Holdings LLC of the USA

### Figure 6: The value of outward M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 fell to £1.7 billion, the lowest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2019

The value of outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from £1.7 billion to £10.1 billion

Figure 6: The value of outward M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 fell to £1.7 billion, the lowest since Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2019

The value of outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from £1.7 billion to £10.1 billion



Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics

#### Notes:

1. Estimates for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar), Quarter 2 (Apr to June), Quarter 3 (July to Sept) and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.
2. The value of deals is in current prices and consequently does not account for the effects of inflation over time.
3. The high total value of outward M&A in Quarter 4 2022 and Quarter 1 2025 included a few large acquisitions which were valued at more than £1 billion.

## Number of quarterly outward mergers and acquisitions transactions involving UK companies

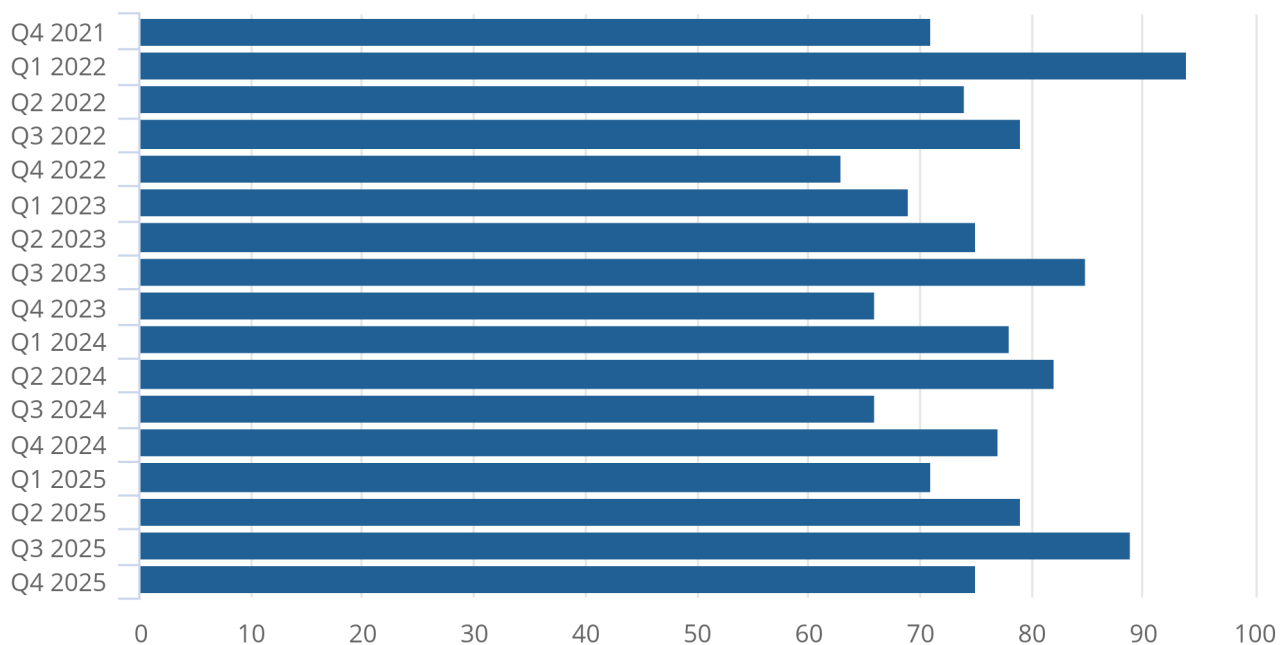
There were an estimated 75 outward M&A deals during Quarter 4 2025. This was 14 fewer than the previous quarter (89), and two less than Quarter 4 2024 (77).

### Figure 7: The estimated number of outward M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 decreased by 14 transactions compared with the previous quarter

The total number of outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from 63 to 94 Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics

### Figure 7: The estimated number of outward M&A in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 decreased by 14 transactions compared with the previous quarter

The total number of outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) between Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 and Quarter 4 2025 ranged from 63 to 94 Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics



Source: Mergers and Acquisitions Survey from the Office for National Statistics

#### Notes:

1. Estimates for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar), Quarter 2 (Apr to June), Quarter 3 (July to Sept) and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 are provisional and subject to revision.

## 6 . Data for mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies

[Mergers and acquisitions \(M&A\) involving UK companies](#) Dataset | Released 3 March 2026 Quarterly estimates of the value and number of mergers, acquisitions and disposals involving UK companies worth £1 million or more.

[Mergers and acquisitions \(M&A\) involving UK companies time series](#) Dataset | Released 3 March 2026 Quarterly data on the value and number of mergers, acquisitions and disposals involving UK companies worth £1 million or more.

[Quarterly domestic mergers and acquisitions \(M&A\) revisions triangle](#) Dataset | Released 3 March 2026 Comparison of quarterly domestic M&A first published estimates of values and numbers against revised estimates published later.

[Quarterly inward mergers and acquisitions \(M&A\) revisions triangle](#) Dataset | Released 3 March 2026 Comparison of quarterly inward M&A first published estimates of values and numbers against revised estimates published later.

[Quarterly outward mergers and acquisitions \(M&A\) revisions triangle](#) Dataset | Released 3 March 2026 Comparison of quarterly outward M&A first published estimates of values and numbers against revised estimates published later.

[Mergers and acquisitions industry tables](#) Dataset | Released 3 March 2026 Estimates of the value and number of mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies worth £1 million or more, by main industry of economic activity.

## 7 . Glossary

### Domestic mergers and acquisitions

Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) of UK resident companies acquiring other UK resident companies.

### Inward mergers and acquisitions

Mergers, acquisitions and disposals of UK resident companies by foreign companies.

### Outward mergers and acquisitions

Mergers, acquisitions and disposals of foreign companies abroad by UK resident companies.

### Mergers and acquisitions transactions

M&As occur when one company takes control of another company. The internationally agreed definition of an M&A deal is when one company gains more than 50% of the ordinary shares (or voting rights) of the acquired company.

### Disinvestments (disposal transactions)

Disinvestment, or disposal transactions, refers to a disposal of the ordinary share ownership of a subsidiary company.

## 8 . Data sources and quality

Since Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2018, mergers and acquisitions (M&A) statistics fully incorporate the Bureau van Dijk (BVD) M&A, which has been renamed Moody's Orbis M&A, data source and methods. The introduction of this new data source increased the coverage of smaller M&A transactions and, therefore, resulted in a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported. Therefore, users are advised to take care when comparing recent estimates with the number of transactions reported for quarters before 2018.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine began on 24 February 2022. In response, the UK government has imposed a range of economic sanctions on Russia from late February and early March 2022, as described in the [Russia sanctions: guidance on GOV.UK](#). We will continue to monitor the potential impact of the conflict and resulting sanctions in future quarterly releases.

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in our [Mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies \(M&A\) Quality and Methodology Information \(QMI\)](#).

### About Office for National Statistics datasets

The datasets for mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies have recently been reviewed to ensure that they meet the accessibility standards outlined in the [Government Statistical Service \(GSS\) guidance](#) on releasing statistics in spreadsheets. This is to ensure that all GSS outputs meet [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](#), a legal requirement set out in [The Public Sector Bodies \(Websites and Mobile Applications\) Accessibility Regulations 2018](#).

We welcome any feedback on these changes. Please share your feedback by emailing [MA@ons.gov.uk](mailto:MA@ons.gov.uk).

### Accredited official statistics

These accredited official statistics were independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation in June 2013. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in [the Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and should be labelled "accredited official statistics".

### Strengths and limitations

We produce statistics on the number and value of M&A transactions. This information is presented in the following way:

- transactions are only recorded in our statistics once the deal has been legally completed, with a value of at least £1 million
- the transactions result in a change of ultimate control of the target company
- all values are in current prices, and therefore have not been adjusted for the effects of inflation

These are among the main reasons our M&A statistics can differ from those reported in other sources. There can be a substantial time gap between the point at which a deal is announced and when it is legally completed. In addition, in some cases, announced M&A deals do not take place.

Our statistics on disposals (or de-mergers) are also included in our accompanying datasets. These are typically fewer in number per quarter, which can lead to greater suppression of statistics to mitigate disclosure. The focus of this bulletin is on acquisitions, although some of the more complex deals can include the disposal of some part of the newly created corporate structure.

It is sometimes necessary to suppress figures for certain items to avoid disclosing information about an individual business. Further information on why statistics are suppressed is available in our [Disclosure Control Policy](#).

It is not uncommon for the value of M&A transactions to vary considerably from one quarter to the next. This mainly reflects the nature of M&A activity in that these capture one-off deals. Therefore, if a particularly high-value M&A deal completes in a given quarter, it can make that quarter seem out of line with those that precede and follow it.

The volatility of M&A transactions also makes it difficult to link M&A statistics with other economic indicators, such as gross domestic product, or global events because of the time it can take between announcing and completing a M&A deal. Therefore, it can be more informative to look at longer-term trends within M&A statistics rather than focusing on quarterly movements.

Details of any notable M&A deals that were completed in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2025 can be found in Sections 3, 4 and 5 of this statistical bulletin. Lists of notable completed M&As valued above £100 million and which took place in earlier quarters, can also be found in previously published Mergers and acquisitions quarterly bulletins.

## 9 . Related links

[Foreign direct investment involving UK companies: 2024](#) Bulletin | Released 26 January 2026 Investment of UK companies abroad (outward) and foreign companies into the UK (inward), including investment flows, positions and earnings, by country, component and industry.

## 10 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 3 March 2026, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies: October to December 2025](#)

# 1 Summary of cross-border mergers, acquisitions and disposals

£million

	Transactions abroad by UK companies <sup>5</sup>				Transactions in the UK by foreign companies <sup>5</sup>			
	Acquisitions		Disposals		Acquisitions		Disposals	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAQ	CBBI	CBAS	CBBT	CBAU	CBCQ	CBAW	CBDB
2016	141	17 292	42	15 420	262	189 968	35	..
2017	155	77 525	56	10 480	259	35 227	55	13 216
2018	301	23 808	48	12 101	603	78 787	71	16 932
2019	261	21 888	68	12 631	609	55 556	146	12 542
2020	209	15 484	41	27 539	492	19 160	112	3 669
2021	311	45 890	35	12 844	789	76 681	158	31 240
2022	310	26 212	45	5 813	810	57 050	167	16 346
2023	295	12 501	23	3 424	682	32 592	165	6 016
2024	303	14 888	39	21 086	757	26 349	161	7 708
2025	314	16 523	50	6 127	799	65 043	175	19 807
2022 Q1	94	3 062	14	341	220	16 761	52	6 661
Q2	74	4 706	15	3 637	198	12 067	31	5 064
Q3	79	8 304	8	1 183	207	22 400	35	2 128
Q4	63	10 140	8	652	185	5 822	49	2 493
2023 Q1	69	4 735	6	1 853	184	11 711	35	1 079
Q2	75	2 161	..	..	178	5 977	44	2 108
Q3	85	2 139	..	..	149	4 775	43	1 545
Q4	66	3 466	6	936	171	10 129	43	1 284
2024 Q1	78	4 711	7	11 796	179	6 363	54	1 324
Q2	82	4 543	6	1 447	176	4 577	42	1 990
Q3	66	3 802	14	443	213	11 457	36	2 873
Q4	77	1 832	12	7 400	189	3 952	29	1 521
2025 Q1	71 <sup>†</sup>	7 849 <sup>†</sup>	..	..	196 <sup>†</sup>	20 357 <sup>†</sup>	45	2 263 <sup>†</sup>
Q2	79	3 628	..	..	212	9 723	43	9 081
Q3	89	3 388	20 <sup>†</sup>	875 <sup>†</sup>	174	7 522	36 <sup>†</sup>	3 931
Q4	75	1 658	12	2 475	217	27 391	51	4 532

## 2 Mergers and acquisitions abroad by UK companies: source of funding

£million

	Total <sup>3</sup>		Direct transactions <sup>4</sup>		Indirect transactions of which:			
	Number	Value	Funds paid directly by UK parent		Funded by loan from UK parent		Funds raised locally abroad	
			Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAQ	CBBI	CBBU	CBBV	CBBW	CBBX	CBBY	CBBZ
2016	141	17 292	142	9 838	23	3 978	58	3 859
2017	155	77 525	148	74 230	37	2 191	74	1 104
2018	301	23 808	244	18 553	..	..	..	..
2019	261	21 888	68	21 440	..	..	..	..
2020	209	15 484	75	14 557	..	..	..	..
2021	311	45 890	73	41 796	..	..	..	..
2022	310	26 212	80	23 205	..	..	..	..
2023	295	12 501	42	9 966	..	..	..	..
2024	303	14 888	48	10 265	..	..	..	..
2025	314	16 523	39	14 884	..	..	..	..

<sup>†</sup> Indicates earliest revision, if any.

Disclosive data indicated by ..

1 Includes acquisitions by foreign companies routed through their UK subsidiary companies

2 The deal identification threshold was increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and at that point there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

3 Where a transaction is funded in more than one way, it is included in 'Number' in each method but only once in 'Total'. Therefore numbers may not sum exactly across the columns.

4 Transactions for which details about financing have not been confirmed are included amongst direct transactions. The figures are subsequently revised when details become available.

5 A new method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from Q1 2018, consequently the estimates for 2018 onward are not directly comparable with those for previous years.

6 Improved methodology to identify the number and value of disposal transactions was introduced from Q1 2019.

### 3 Disposals abroad by UK companies: funds realised

£million

	Total <sup>1</sup>		Direct transactions <sup>2</sup>		Indirect transactions of which:			
	Number	Value	Funds paid directly to UK parent		Repayment of loan made by UK parent		Funds retained abroad	
			Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAS	CBBT	CBCA	CBCB	CBCD	CBCD	CBCE	CBCF
2016	42	15 420	43	15 297	..	..	..	..
2017	56	10 480	60	10 078	4	85	11	315
2018	48	12 101	40	11 829	..	..	..	..
2019	68	12 631	35	12 481	..	..	..	..
2020	41	27 539	27	26 313	..	..	..	..
2021	35	12 844	24	12 790	..	..	..	..
2022	45	5 813	21	5 215	..	..	..	..
2023	23	3 424	13	3 235	..	..	..	..
2024	39	21 086	17	21 055	..	..	..	..
2025	50	6 127	20	5 973	..	..	..	..

### 4 Mergers and acquisitions in the UK by foreign companies: source of funding

£million

	Total <sup>1</sup>		Direct transactions <sup>2</sup>		Indirect transactions of which:			
	Number	Value	Funds paid directly to UK by foreign company		Funded by loan from foreign company		Funds raised in the UK	
			Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAU	CBCQ	CBDC	CBDD	CBHZ	CBIA	CBIB	CBIC
2016	262	189 968	274	184 656	29	2 495	97	2 817
2017	259	35 227	257	31 567	26	1 582	94	2 078
2018	603	78 787	123	71 323	5	111	17	7 354
2019	609	55 556	100	48 475	..	..	..	..
2020	492	19 160	87	18 527	..	..	..	..
2021	789	76 681	118	66 089	..	..	..	..
2022	810	57 050	110	53 249	4	920	18	2 881
2023	682	32 592	64	30 763	..	..	..	..
2024	757	26 349	71	22 675	..	..	..	..
2025	799	65 043	85	59 564	..	..	..	..

### 5 Disposals in the UK by foreign companies: funds realised

£million

	Total <sup>1</sup>		Direct transactions <sup>2</sup>		Indirect transactions of which:			
	Number	Value	Funds paid directly to foreign parent		Repayment of loan to foreign parent		Funds retained in the UK	
			Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAW	CBDB	CBID	CBIE	CBIF	CBIG	CBIH	CBII
2016	35	..	40	6 095	..	..	..	..
2017	55	13 216	58	13 015	..	..	..	..
2018	71	16 932	56	10 542	..	..	..	..
2019	146	12 542	51	10 648	..	..	..	..
2020	112	3 669	38	3 609	..	..	..	..
2021	158	31 240	71	31 135	..	..	..	..
2022	167	16 346	79	14 465	..	..	..	..
2023	165	6 016	56	5 942	..	..	..	..
2024	161	7 708	63	7 106	..	..	..	..
2025	175	19 807	56	18 566	..	..	..	..

<sup>†</sup> Indicates earliest revision, if any.

Disclosive data indicated by ..

1 Where a transaction is funded in more than one way, it is included in 'Number' in each method but only once in 'Total'. Therefore numbers may not sum exactly across the columns.

2 Transactions for which details about financing have not been confirmed are included amongst direct transactions. The figures are subsequently revised when details become available.

-indicates data is zero or less than £0.5m

3 The deal identification threshold was increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and at that point there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

4 A new method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from Q1 2018, consequently the estimates for 2018 onward are not directly comparable with those for previous years.

5 Improved methodology to identify the number and value of disposal transactions was introduced from Q1 2019.

# 6A Area analysis of acquisitions abroad by UK companies

£million

	World Total		EU		Other Europe		Europe Total		USA	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAQ	CBBI	CBAY	CBAZ	HCK3	HCK4	HCJ3	HCJ4	CBBA	CBBB
2016	141	17 292	49	2 112	13	1 494	62	3 606	36	12 542
2017	155	77 525	62	2 394	10	484	72	2 878	55	71 678
2018	301	23 808	149	4 348	14	2 036	163	6 385	73	15 663
2019	261	21 888	99	9 412	13	1 724	112	11 136	86	8 902
2020	209	15 484	93	2 488	8	1 368	101	3 856	66	6 221
2021	311	45 890	121	2 382	10	147	131	2 529	123	36 172
2022	310	26 212	..	..	..	..	135	4 661	105	16 766
2023	295	12 501	..	..	..	..	163	6 647	64	3 636
2024	303	14 888	..	..	..	..	133	4 316	..	..
2025	314	16 523	..	..	..	..	151	7 939	85	5 549

	Other Americas		Americas Total		Asia		Australasia & Oceania		Africa	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	HCL3	HCL4	HCM3	HCM4	HCN3	HCN4	HCO3	HCO4	HCP3	HCP4
2016	18	745	54	13 287	10	293	..	..	..	..
2017	10	392	65	72 068	..	..	..	..	..	..
2018	25	812	98	16 476	19	636	18	234	3	77
2019	20	775	106	9 677	14	390	23	599	6	86
2020	8	86	74	6 308	..	..	17	198	..	..
2021	13	584	136	36 756	17	735	..	..	..	..
2022	26	2 305	131	19 073	17	1 543	..	..	..	..
2023	21	336	85	3 972	14	1 563	28	282	5	38
2024	..	..	107	9 279	22	728	36	491	5	72
2025	20	237	105	5 786	..	..	34	2 084	..	..

# 6D Area analysis of disposals abroad by UK companies

£million

	World Total		EU		Other Europe		Europe Total		USA	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAS	CBBT	CBBJ	CBBK	HCK5	HCK6	HCJ5	HCJ6	CBBL	CBBM
2016	42	15 420	..	..	..	..	19	916	10	8 859
2017	56	10 480	..	..	..	..	23	2 486	..	..
2018	48	12 101	..	..	..	..	24	6 254	..	..
2019	68	12 631	..	..	..	..	32	9 708	..	..
2020	41	27 539	..	..	..	..	18	6 533	..	..
2021	35	12 844	..	..	..	..	20	9 182	9	3 462
2022	45	5 813	16	887	..	..	16	887	..	..
2023	23	3 424	..	..	..	..	18	2 717	4	285
2024	39	21 086	..	..	..	..	21	10 796	..	..
2025	50	6 127	17	2 424	4	129	21	2 553	..	..

	Other Americas		Americas Total		Asia		Australasia & Oceania		Africa	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	HCL5	HCL6	HCM5	HCM6	HCN5	HCN6	HCO5	HCO6	HCP5	HCP6
2016	11	5 621	21	14 478	..	..	..	..	..	..
2017	..	..	21	5 170	8	295	..	..	..	..
2018	..	..	9	2 043	..	..	5	400	..	..
2019	..	..	11	407	19	510	..	..	..	..
2020	..	..	10	6 120	8	14 788	..	..	..	..
2021	..	..	9	3 462	..	..	..	..	..	..
2022	..	..	17	4 087	7	232	..	..	..	..
2023	..	..	4	285	..	..	..	..	..	..
2024	..	..	9	9 894	..	..	..	..	3	70
2025	..	..	8	345	14	1 023	..	..	..	..

† Indicates earliest revision, if any.

Disclosive data indicated by ..

-indicates data is zero or less than £0.5m

1 The deal identification threshold was increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and at that point there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

2 A new method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from Q1 2018, consequently the estimates for 2018 onward are not directly comparable with those for previous years.

3 Improved methodology to identify the number and value of disposal transactions was introduced from Q1 2019.

# 7A Area analysis of acquisitions in the UK by foreign companies

£million

	World Total		EU		Other Europe		Europe Total		USA	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAU	CBCQ	CBCG	CBCB	HCJ7	HCJ8	HCI7	HCI8	CBCI	CBCJ
2016	262	189 968	84	125 172	23	1 370	107	126 541	89	30 313
2017	259	35 227	80	9 224	21	5 894	101	15 120	84	8 232
2018	603	78 787	190	5 649	64	12 168	254	17 817	231	52 678
2019	609	55 556	172	11 320	81	1 773	253	13 092	222	30 223
2020	492	19 160	127	7 288	78	1 802	205	9 089	176	4 632
2021	789	76 681	204	15 742	122	8 865	326	24 606	313	32 533
2022	810	57 050	245	6 423	132	7 030	377	13 404	273	33 480
2023	682	32 592	180	7 055	134	4 927	314	11 981	226	11 561
2024	757	26 349	234	5 828	136	3 454	370	9 283	265	11 035
2025	799	65 043	251	18 180	130	2 252	381	20 432	269	36 913

	Other Americas		Americas Total		Asia		Australasia & Oceania		Africa	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	HCK7	HCK8	HCL7	HCL8	HCM7	HCM8	HCN7	HCN8	HCO7	HCO8
2016	21	2 471	110	32 784	35	29 946	..	..	..	..
2017	34	6 653	118	14 885	26	2 856	9	2 260	5	105
2018	36	4 351	267	57 028	55	1 698	17	925	10	1 319
2019	61	4 716	283	34 938	46	6 139	15	664	12	722
2020	45	3 714	221	8 347	37	709	..	..	..	..
2021	71	12 443	384	44 975	47	6 408	23	522	9	169
2022	80	4 274	353	37 755	63	3 385	10	2 382	7	124
2023	78	7 403	304	18 964	35	934	22	513	7	199
2024	49	2 769	314	13 804	59	2 916	7	242	7	102
2025	69	3 147	338	40 061	58	3 093	16	1 376	6	81

# 7D Area analysis of disposals in the UK by foreign companies

£million

	World Total		EU		Other Europe		Europe Total		USA	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAW	CBDB	CBCR	CBCS	HCJ9	HCK2	HCI9	HCJ2	CBCT	CBCU
2016	35	..	13	3 322	8	1 336	21	4 658	..	..
2017	55	13 216	18	3 698	11	1 151	29	4 846	10	5 123
2018	71	16 932	20	3 195	8	3 464	28	6 659	20	1 766
2019	146	12 542	50	1 178	22	487	72	1 664	42	7 635
2020	112	3 669	41	1 694	18	161	59	1 855	21	858
2021	158	31 240	45	9 559	23	253	68	9 808	53	19 518
2022	167	16 346	52	5 059	24	1 480	76	6 540	46	7 845
2023	165	6 016	54	1 406	24	777	78	2 183	44	2 320
2024	161	7 708	35	268	34	1 466	69	1 734	55	2 276
2025	175	19 807	50	1 629	31	2 369	81	3 998	..	..

	Other Americas		Americas Total		Asia		Australasia & Oceania		Africa	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	HCK9	HCL2	HCL9	HCM2	HCM9	HCN2	HCN9	HCO2	HCO9	HCP2
2016	..	..	12	1 245	..	..	..	..	..	..
2017	7	1 108	17	6 230	6	1 562	..	..	..	..
2018	10	1 748	30	3 514	..	..	..	..	..	..
2019	20	1 256	62	8 890	..	..	..	..	..	..
2020	16	254	37	1 112	14	682	..	..	..	..
2021	16	1 172	69	20 690	16	711	..	..	..	..
2022	17	633	63	8 478	22	1 226	..	..	..	..
2023	20	969	64	3 288	14	398	..	..	..	..
2024	14	507	69	2 783	..	..	4	48	..	..
2025	..	..	68	11 717	20	3 188	..	..	..	..

† Indicates earliest revision, if any

Disclosive data indicated by ..

-indicates data is zero or less than £0.5m

1 The deal identification threshold was increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and at that point there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

2 A new method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from Q1 2018, consequently the estimates for 2018 onward are not directly comparable with those for previous years.

3 Improved methodology to identify the number and value of disposal transactions was introduced from Q1 2019.

## 8 Summary of mergers and acquisitions in the UK by UK companies

£million

	Total all mergers and acquisitions <sup>2</sup>		Mergers and acquisitions of independent companies <sup>2</sup>		Sales of subsidiaries between company groups <sup>2</sup>	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	AIHA	DUCM	DWVH	HIKB	DWVL	HIKC
2016	428	24 688	383	11 038	45	13 650
2017	364	18 783	323	15 451	41	3 332
2018	960	27 732	541	19 046	419	8 685
2019	911	9 040	480	5 705	431	3 336
2020	817	17 651	433	8 617	384	9 034
2021	1 198	30 402	674	7 095	524	23 309
2022	979	14 251	466	7 489	513	6 762
2023	860	10 260	484	4 438	376	5 823
2024	899	16 917	619	12 666	280	4 251
2025	745	15 491	643	13 843	102	1 648
2022 Q1	230	4 419	113	2 277	117	2 142
Q2	254	3 474	130	2 093	124	1 381
Q3	236	2 476	114	769	122	1 707
Q4	259	3 882	109	2 350	150	1 532
2023 Q1	210	2 072	115	899	95	1 173
Q2	256	2 581	150	1 234	106	1 347
Q3	187	2 620	101	778	86	1 842
Q4	207	2 987	118	1 527	89	1 461
2024 Q1	263	3 244	157	2 702	106	541
Q2	206	2 830	124	839	82	1 992
Q3	199	4 470	142	3 829	57	641
Q4	231	6 373	196	5 296	35	1 077
2025 Q1	185 <sup>†</sup>	3 137 <sup>†</sup>	165 <sup>†</sup>	2 795 <sup>†</sup>	20	342 <sup>†</sup>
Q2	244	3 389	210	2 834	34	555
Q3	164	7 121	141	6 902	23 <sup>†</sup>	219
Q4	152	1 844	127	1 312	25	532

## 9 Mergers and acquisitions in the UK by UK companies: category of expenditure

£million

	Expenditure <sup>2</sup>					Percentage of expenditure <sup>2</sup>		
	Total	Cash		Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities
		Independent companies	Subsidiaries					
	DUCM	DWVW	DWVX	AIHD	AIHE	DWVY	DWVZ	DWWA
2016	24 688	5 493	5 308	13 471	418	43	55	2
2017	18 783	8 036	3 097	7 286	364	59	39	2
2018	27 732	7 633	8 487	11 551	63	58	42	–
2019	9 040	3 605	3 104	2 331	–	74	26	–
2020	17 651	3 391	6 835	..	..	58	..	..
2021	30 402	6 870	15 627	..	..	74	..	..
2022	14 251	6 431	6 282	..	..	89	..	..
2023	10 260	4 364	4 584	..	..	86	..	..
2024	16 917	8 201	4 061	..	..	73	..	..
2025	15 491	9 461	1 635	..	..	71	..	..
2022 Q1	4 419	2 196	2 115	..	..	98	..	..
Q2	3 474	1 905	1 071	..	..	86	..	..
Q3	2 476	758	1 666	..	..	98	..	..
Q4	3 882	1 572	1 430	..	..	77	..	..
2023 Q1	2 072	895	904	..	..	87	..	..
Q2	2 581	1 232	1 347	..	..	100	..	..
Q3	2 620	756	874	..	..	62	..	..
Q4	2 987	1 481	1 459	..	..	98	..	..
2024 Q1	3 244	803	541	..	..	41	..	..
Q2	2 830	818	1 888	..	..	96	..	..
Q3	4 470	1 296	635	..	..	43	..	..
Q4	6 373	5 284	997	..	..	98	..	..
2025 Q1	3 137 <sup>†</sup>	2 684 <sup>†</sup>	342 <sup>†</sup>	..	..	96	..	..
Q2	3 389	2 263	543	..	..	82 <sup>†</sup>	..	..
Q3	7 121	3 284	218	..	..	49	..	..
Q4	1 844	1 230	532	..	..	95	..	..

<sup>†</sup> Indicates earliest revision, if any  
Disclosive data are indicated with ..

1 The deal identification threshold was increased from Q1 2010 from £0.1 to £1.0m and at that point there is a discontinuity in the number and value of transactions reported.

2 A new method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from Q1 2018,

consequently the estimates for 2018 onward are not directly comparable with those for previous years.

# 10 Summary of net cross-border acquisitions and disposals

£million

	Net transactions abroad by UK companies <sup>3</sup>		Net transactions in the UK by foreign companies <sup>3</sup>		Net cross-border transactions involving UK companies <sup>3</sup>	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
2016	99	1 872	227	..	-128	..
2017	99	67 045	204	22 011	-105	45 034
2018	253	11 707	532	61 855	-279	-50 148
2019	193	9 257	463	43 014	-270	-33 757
2020	168	-12 055	380	15 491	-212	-27 546
2021	276	33 046	631	45 441	-355	-12 395
2022	265	20 399	643	40 704	-378	-20 305
2023	272	9 077	517	26 576	-245	-17 499
2024	264	-6 198	596	18 641	-332	-24 839
2025	264	10 396	624	45 236	-360	-34 840
2022 Q1	80	2 721	168	10 100	-88	-7 379
Q2	59	1 069	167	7 003	-108	-5 934
Q3	71	7 121	172	20 272	-101	-13 151
Q4	55	9 488	136	3 329	-81	6 159
2023 Q1	63	2 882	149	10 632	-86	-7 750
Q2	..	..	134	3 869	..	..
Q3	..	..	106	3 230	..	..
Q4	60	2 530	128	8 845	-68	-6 315
2024 Q1	71	-7 085	125	5 039	-54	-12 124
Q2	76	3 096	134	2 587	-58	509
Q3	52	3 359	177	8 584	-125	-5 225
Q4	65	-5 568	160	2 431	-95	-7 999
2025 Q1	..	..	151 <sup>†</sup>	18 094 <sup>†</sup>	..	..
Q2	..	..	169	642	..	..
Q3	69 <sup>†</sup>	2 513 <sup>†</sup>	138	3 641	-69 <sup>†</sup>	-1 128 <sup>†</sup>
Q4	63	-817	166	22 859	-103	-23 676

<sup>†</sup> Indicates earliest revision, if any.

Disclosive data indicated by ..

1 Includes acquisitions by foreign companies routed through their UK subsidiary companies.

2 The deal identification threshold was increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and at that point there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

3 A new method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from Q1 2018, consequently the estimates for 2018 onward are not directly comparable with those for previous years.

4 Improved methodology to identify the number and value of disposal transactions was introduced from Q1 2019.

# R1 REVISIONS ANALYSIS

## Revisions since last mergers and acquisitions publication

£ million

		2025	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3
<b>Cross-border mergers, acquisitions and disposals</b>					
Transactions abroad by UK companies					
Value of acquisitions	CBBI	..	-9	389	-33
Value of disposals	CBBT	..	-163	1	107
Transactions in the UK by foreign companies					
Value of acquisitions	CBCQ	..	-527	37	-297
Value of disposals	CBDB	..	-507	250	107
<b>Mergers and acquisitions in the UK by UK companies</b>					
Summary of transactions					
Value of all acquisitions and mergers	DUCM	..	332	-	1 782
Value of acquisitions of independent companies	HIKB	..	244	-7	1 771
Value of sales of subsidiary companies	HIKC	..	88	7	11
Category of expenditure					
Cash paid for independent companies	DWVW	..	245	-7	600
Cash paid for subsidiary companies	DWVX	..	88	7	12
Issue of ordinary shares	AIHD	..	..	..	..
Issue of fixed interest securities	AIHE	..	..	..	..