



HM Revenue
& Customs

Meliza Sestito

By email: request-545545-9a45e801@whatdotheyknow.com

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Date: 05 February 2019
Our ref: FOI2019/00165

Dear Meliza Sestito

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request, which was received on 17 January, for the following information:

“I am requesting the figures for how many commercial shipping containers enter the UK's ports either each day, month or year, whichever frequency you have.”

Under section 21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you.

Some of the information you seek is available in an aggregated form and is published on the website www.uktradeinfo.com. This can be accessed from the data downloads at the link here: <https://www.uktradeinfo.com/Statistics/Pages/DataDownloads.aspx>.

HMRC collects and publishes the UK's Overseas Trade Statistics for the import and export of goods physically moving across the UK border. This data is broken down by commodity at Combined Nomenclature 8-digit commodity code level, and for time periods 1996-2018 for trade with both EU and Non-EU countries. For Non-EU data, container information is provided on the customs declaration where it is identified that goods have been 'transported by container'. This is provided as a yes/no answer in the data downloads link above.

Following a review of our records, I have established that HMRC does not hold the information you requested for commercial shipping containers. This data is not collected nor provided on the customs declaration.

The Department for Transport publishes the UK's Port Freight Statistics at the link here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/port-freight-statistics-2017-final-figures>. This provides statistics on freight traffic at UK sea ports including breakdowns by cargo type such as 'Lo-Lo containers' – shipping containers that are lifted on or off ships. This data may provide further information on your request.

If you are not satisfied with this reply you may request a review within two months by emailing foi.review@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk, or by writing to the address at the top right-hand side of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review you can [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).

Information is available in large print, audio and Braille formats.
Text Relay service prefix number – 18001



Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team