

Statistical bulletin

Mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies: Oct to Dec 2016

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



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1 . Main points

- During Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016, the estimates for the total number of successful domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) involving UK companies remained relatively flat when compared with both Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016 and also with the same quarter of the previous year (Quarter 4 2015).
- During 2016 (Jan to Dec), the number of successful inward and domestic M&A involving UK companies saw notable increases, showing the highest levels of M&A activity since 2008 and 2011; in comparison, the number of outward M&A involving UK companies declined.
- In 2016, there were 227 successful inward M&A worth £187.4 billion making it the highest annual number since 2011 and with the highest annual value since we first published M&A data (1969).
- During 2016, a total of 400 domestic M&A totalling £23.9 billion were successful, the highest number and value since 2008.
- A short article has been published alongside this release to provide [additional context for the large value of inward M&A during 2016](#).

2 . Your views matter

We are constantly aiming to improve this release and its associated commentary. We would welcome any feedback you might have and would be particularly interested in knowing how you make use of these data to inform our work. Please contact us via email: ma@ons.gsi.gov.uk or telephone Sami Hamroush on +44 (0)1633 455087.

3 . Uses of Mergers and Acquisitions data

The estimates produced for mergers and acquisitions (M&A) are important components of foreign direct investment flows data (inward and outward), which is used to calculate the UK Balance of Payments published in the Pink Book and Blue Book.

4 . Things you need to know about this release

This release covers mergers and acquisitions (M&A) transactions that have been successfully completed, result in a change of ultimate control of the target company and have a value of £1 million or more. Information on the number and value of transactions are reported, in addition to whether transactions are acquisitions or disposals.

Figures relating to mergers are included within acquisitions and those relating to demergers are contained within disposals. These statistics are presented on a current price basis, which relates to prices as they were at the time of measurement and they are therefore not adjusted for inflation.

The quarterly numbers and value of M&A activity are prone to large quarter-on-quarter movements, as these data relate to specific “one-off” only transactions. For example, one quarter can be heavily impacted by one large transaction. Therefore it can be more appropriate to analyse trends over time.

5 . Summary

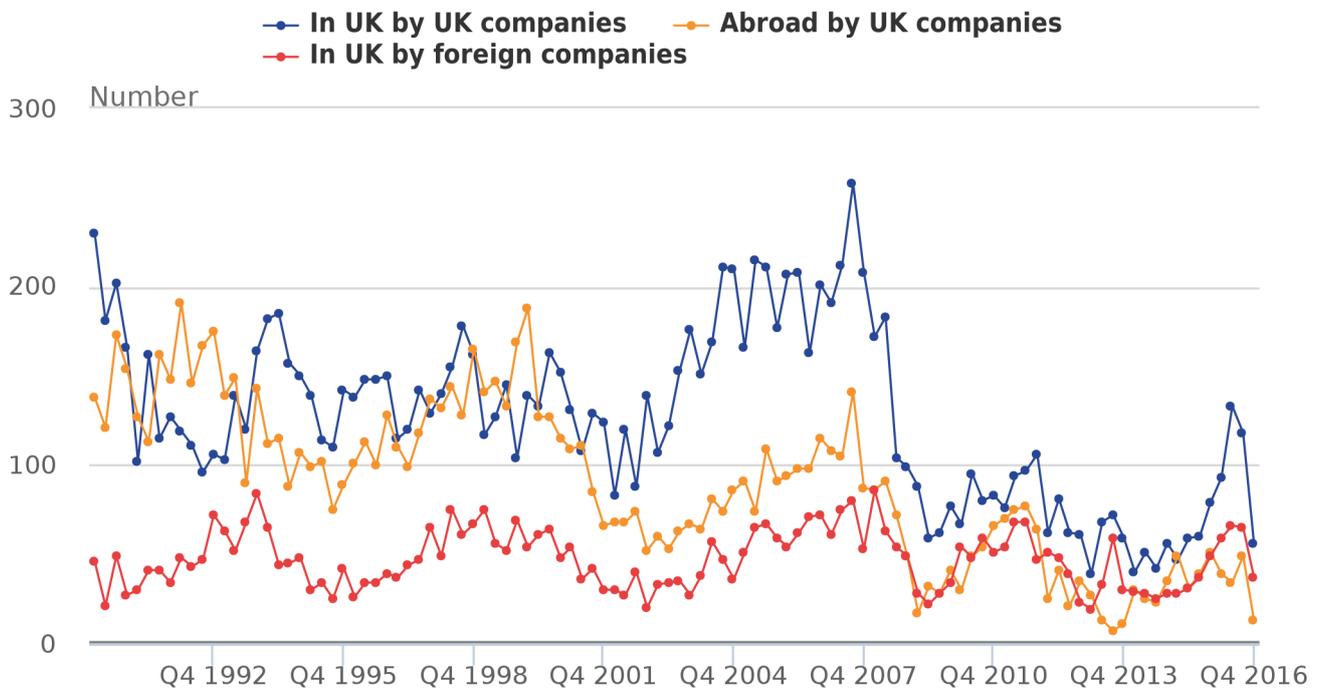
During Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016, the total number of successful domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) involving UK saw a decrease when compared with Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016 and also with the same quarter of the previous year (Quarter 4 2015). In contrast, the overall total value of successful M&A involving UK companies reported in Quarter 4 2016 saw a notable increase.

Overall in 2016 (Jan to Dec), the number of outward M&A activities involving UK companies remained at lower levels than observed during the 2008 to 2009 economic downturn (Figure 1).

In contrast, the number of inward and domestic M&A saw a notable increase in activity during 2016 when compared with 2015, representing year-on-year increases of 57% and 63% respectively.

The average quarterly value per M&A transaction since 2012 was above the long run quarterly average since 1997.

Figure 1: Number of acquisitions involving UK companies, Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 1990 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. Please click on image to enlarge

Recent M&A statistics can be put into context by comparing the M&A activity involving UK companies over consecutive 5-year intervals since 1997 (Table 1A).

Average outward M&A

On average, 128 acquisitions were completed each quarter during the 1997 to 2001 period (5-year interval), with an average value of £160 million per transaction. The average number of outward acquisitions continued to see a decline during the following 10 years (2002 to 2011), falling to 73 outward acquisitions with an average value of £101 million. For the period Quarter 1 (Jan to March) 2012 to Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016, the average number of outward acquisitions fell further to reach 31. While the average quarterly number in this last period was the lowest on the 5-year intervals considered, the average value per transaction of £147 million was the highest recorded since the 1997 to 2001 period.

The average value per transaction in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016 is much higher than the average quarterly value between Quarter 1 2012 and Quarter 3 2016.

Average inward M&A

During the 5-year period 1997 to 2001, the average number of inward acquisitions was reported as 54 per quarter with an average value of £182 million. The following 10 years (2002 to 2011) experienced relatively stable levels of M&A activity before reaching an average number of 39 inward acquisitions with an average value per transaction of £270 million during Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2012 to Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016. The average value per transaction has increased over each of the 5-year intervals.

Average domestic M&A

The average number of domestic acquisitions per has seen a decline since the 2002 to 2006 period. The average number of domestic M&A for 2002 to 2006 was 164 with an average value of £39 million per transaction before falling to 67 transactions with an average of value of £38 million in 2012 to 2016 Quarter 3 (July to Sept) period.

Table 1: The average number and value of mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies, grouped into 5 year intervals, 1997 to 2016

	Abroad by UK companies			Overseas companies in the UK			Between UK companies		
	Number	Value	Average value	Number	Value	Average value	Number	Value	Average value
1997 to 2014 Q4	80	10,440	130	49	9,481	193	126	6,426	51
1997 to 2001	128	20,402	160	54	9,900	182	136	10,921	81
2002 to 2006	79	6,812	86	46	9,203	199	164	6,448	39
2007 to 2011	67	8,014	119	54	11,813	218	121	4,807	40
2012 to 2016 Q3	31	4,538	147	39	10,617	270	67	2,531	38
Q4 2016	13	3,092	238	37	83,325	2,252	56	1,859	33

Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. At Quarter 1 2010, the deal identification threshold was raised for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated in the table.

2. Average value per transaction.

3. Quarter 1 is January to March, Quarter 2 April to June, Quarter 3 July to September and Quarter 4 is October to December.

4. At Quarter 4 2016, the actual number of completed deals is used to calculate the average value per transaction.

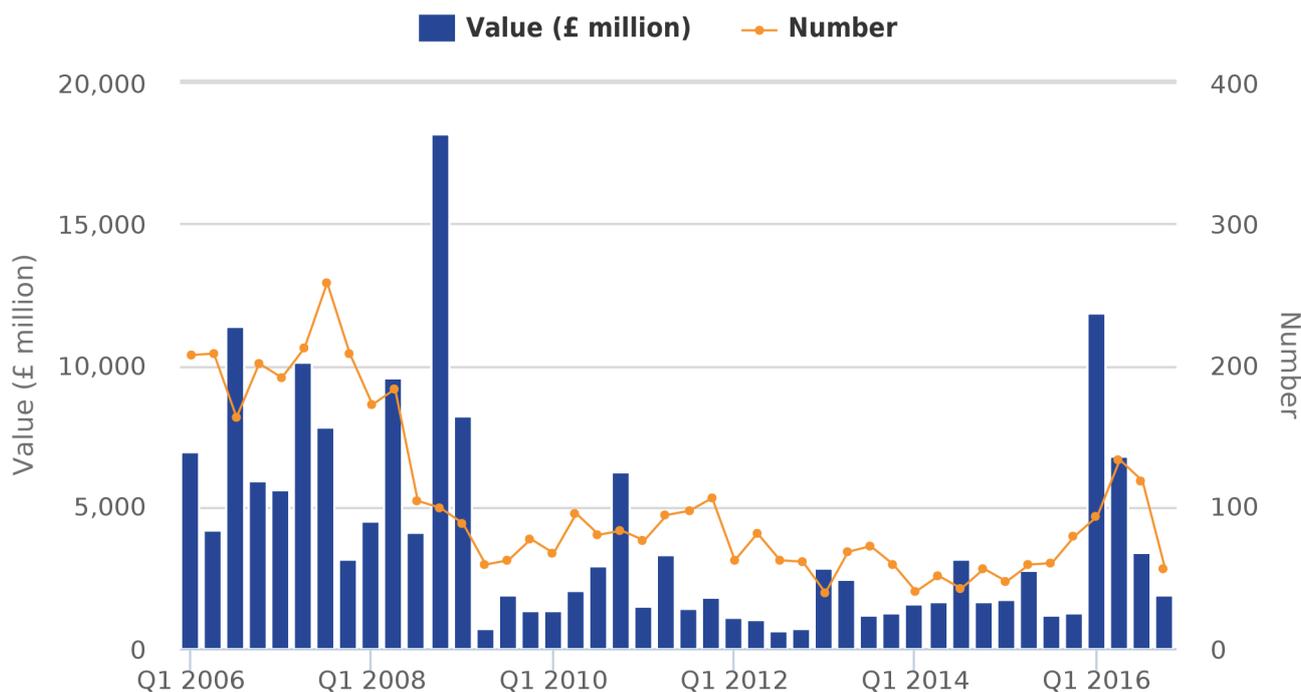
6 . Transactions in the UK by other UK companies (Quarter 4 Oct to Dec 2016)

The number and value of domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A) fell during Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016.

There were 56 successful acquisitions of UK companies by other UK companies in Quarter 4 2016 involving a change of majority share ownership, a 53% fall on the number of successful domestic M&A reported for Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016 (118 acquisitions) and the same number as recorded 2 years previous in Quarter 4 2014 (Figure 2).

During Quarter 4 2016, the value of successful domestic M&A was £1.9 billion compared with £3.4 billion reported in the previous quarter (July to Sept) reflecting a quarter-on-quarter decrease of £1.6 billion (47%).

Figure 2: Quarterly value and number of acquisitions of UK companies by other UK companies, Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2006 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. At Quarter 1 2010, the deal identification threshold for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1.0 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated in the figure.
2. All values are at current prices (See Background notes for definition).

Notable domestic acquisitions, valued at £100 million or more, that took place during Quarter 4 2016:

[Pentland Group Plc \(JD Sports Fashion\) of the UK acquired Go Outdoors Topco Ltd of the UK.](#)

[Daisy Group Holdings Ltd of the UK acquired Alternative Networks Plc of the UK](#)

[Phoenix Life Holdings Ltd of the UK acquired Abbey Life Assurance Company of the UK](#)

7 . Transactions in the UK by other UK companies (Jan to Dec 2016)

Domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity saw a notable rise of 63% during 2016 (400 acquisitions), a considerable increase on the low number previously recorded in 2015 (245 acquisitions) although continuing to remain at lower levels reported during the years before the 2008 to 2009 economic downturn (Figure 2A).

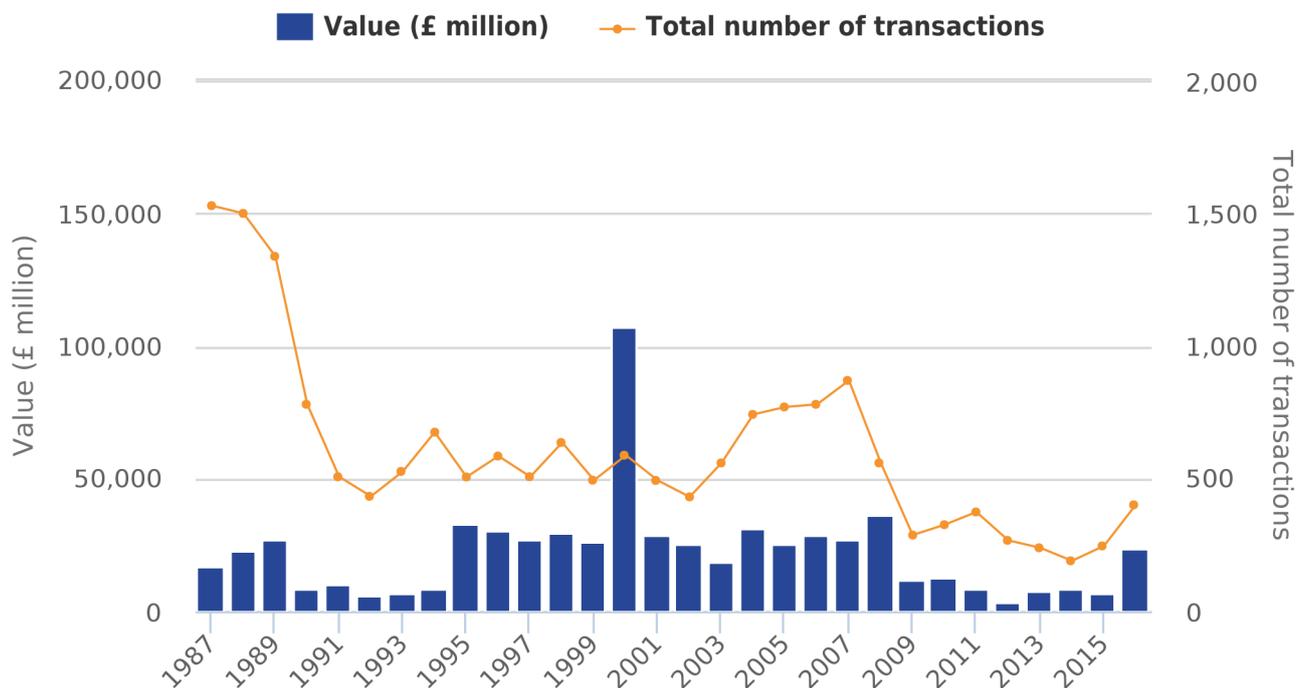
Of the total 400 successful domestic acquisitions, 359 (90%) involved independently-controlled UK companies, while 41 (10%) were for acquisitions of subsidiaries that were part of larger companies.

During 2016, it was notable that Quarter 2 (Apr to June) (133 deals) and Quarter 3 (July to Sept) (118 deals) saw the highest levels of domestic M&A activity, with a combined total of 251 domestic acquisitions, 63% of the total number reported in 2016. In comparison, the number of domestic acquisitions in both Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) reported a combined total of 149, reflecting a difference of 102 acquisitions and 37% of the total number of domestic M&A in 2016.

The total value of domestic acquisitions for 2016 was £23.9 billion, with £18.6 billion being reported between Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) and Quarter 2 (Apr to June). The majority of this expenditure (56%) involved issues of ordinary shares, while acquisitions involving cash accounted for 42%, with the remaining 2% represented by issues of fixed-interest securities (Table 9).

The highest quarterly value of domestic M&A was seen in Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2016, at £11.9 billion; a small number of successful acquisitions with values over £100 million accounted for the majority of this.

Figure 2A: Value and number of acquisitions of UK companies by other UK companies, 1987 to 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

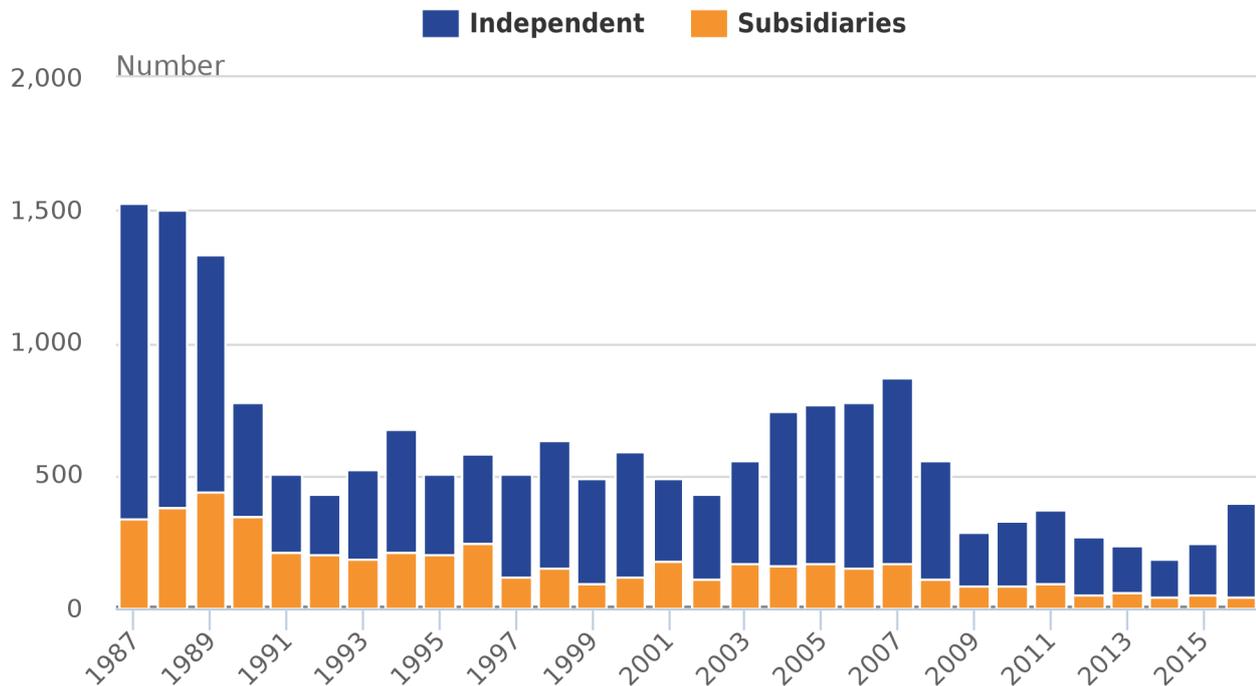
1. At Quarter 1 2010 the deal identification threshold for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1.0 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated above.
2. All values are at current prices (see Background Notes for definition).

It is possible to split out the number of domestic M&A into those made by independently-controlled companies and those that are by subsidiaries. The acquisition of an independent company means the purchase of a company in its entirety, whereas the acquisition of a subsidiary means the purchase of only a part of a company, between 50.1% and 100%.

During 2016, there were 359 acquisitions of UK independently-controlled companies worth £10.5 billion, compared with 194 acquisitions valued at £4.6 billion reported in 2015 (Figure 3A).

The number of acquisitions for domestic subsidiaries in 2016 decreased slightly by 10 transactions reporting 41 successful acquisitions, compared with 51 reported in 2015. In comparison the value for acquisitions of domestic subsidiaries saw an increase, reporting £13.4 billion worth of M&A compared with £2.3 billion previously reported during 2015.

Figure 3A: Summary of mergers and acquisitions in the UK by UK companies, 1987 to 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Other notable domestic acquisitions, valued at £100 million or more, that took place during 2016:

Quarter 1 2016

[BT Group Plc of the UK acquired EE Ltd of the UK](#)

[ITV Plc of the UK acquired UTV Ltd of the UK](#)

Quarter 2 2016

[Liberty Global Plc of the UK acquired Cable and Wireless Communications Plc of the UK](#)

[Just Retirement Group Plc of the UK acquired Partnership Assurance Group Plc of the UK](#)

[Ventura Group Plc of the UK acquired Skyepharma Plc of the UK](#)

[Non Standard Finance Plc of the UK acquired Everyday Loans Group of the UK](#)

[Centrica Plc of the UK acquired ENER-G Cogen International Ltd of the UK](#)

Quarter 3 2016

[J Sainsbury Plc of the UK's acquired Home Retail Group Plc of the UK](#)

[RPC Group Plc of the UK acquired British Polythene Industries Plc of the UK](#)

[Midlothian Capital Partners and Hattington Capital LLP of the UK acquired Dobbies Garden Centres Ltd of the UK](#)

[BCA Marketplace Plc of the UK acquired Paragon Automotive Ltd of the UK](#)

[Spectris Plc of the UK acquired Millbrook Group Ltd of the UK](#)

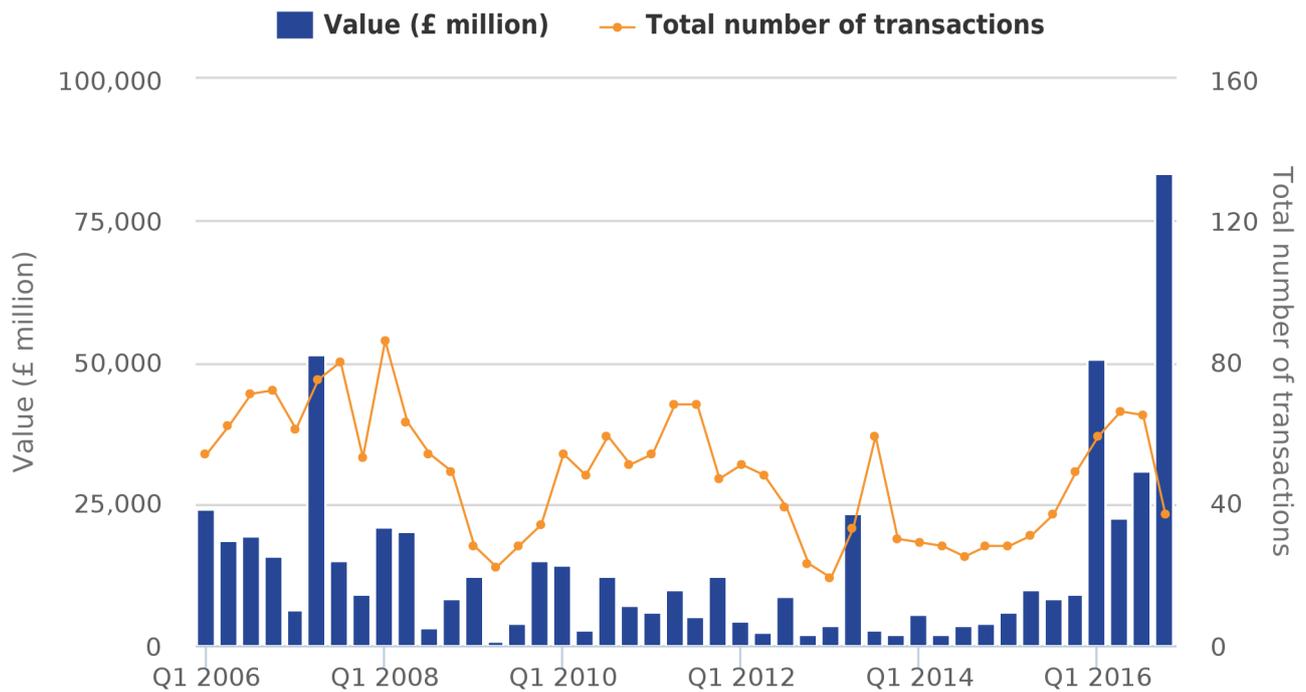
8 . Transactions in the UK by foreign companies (Quarter 4 Oct to Dec 2016)

Inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity saw a notable increase in the value of successful transactions during Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016.

During Quarter 4 2016, the estimates for the number of successful inward M&A involving a change of majority ownership (37 deals) saw a 43% fall in the number when compared with the previous number reported in Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016 (65 deals). However, the value of completed M&A during Quarter 4 2016 reached a record high of £83.3 billion (Figure 4).

One large publically reported majority share transaction that completed during Quarter 4 2016 was the [takeover of SABMiller Plc of the UK](#), which was acquired by Anheuser-Busch InBev of Belgium. This large transaction accounted for 95% of the total value of inward M&A (£83.3 billion) reported in Quarter 4 2016.

Figure 4: Value and number of acquisitions in the UK by foreign companies, Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2006 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. At Quarter 1 2010, the deal identification threshold for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1.0 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated in the figure.
2. All values are at current prices (See Background notes).

The following inward transactions, valued at £100 million or more, took place during Quarter 4 2016:

[PW Real Estate Fund 111 LP of Jersey acquired Pinewood Group Plc of the UK](#)

[GAM Holding AG of Switzerland acquired Cantab Partners LLP of the UK](#)

[EQT Services \(UK\) Ltd of the Netherlands acquired GB Railfreight Ltd of the UK](#)

[Warburg-Storagemart Partners LP of the USA acquired BBSC Ton Ltd of the UK](#)

[Deutsche Post AG of Germany acquired UK Mail Group plc of the UK](#)

[Deutsche Bank AG of Germany disposed of Abbey Life Assurance Company Ltd of the UK](#)

[Avnet Inc of the USA acquired Premier Farnell PLC of the UK](#)

[Coty Inc. of the USA acquired GHD Group Holdings Ltd of the UK](#)

[Famous Brands Ltd of South Africa acquired Gourmet Burger Kitchen Restaurants Ltd of the UK](#)

[Hydra Industries Acquisition Corp of the USA acquired DMWSL 633 Ltd of the UK](#)

[Phoenix Life Holdings of Cayman Islands acquired AXA Sunlife Business and Wealth](#)

[Groupe Eurotunnel SAS of France sold GB Railfreight Ltd of the UK](#)

[AXA SA of France sold Sunlife Business and AXA Wealth of the UK](#)

There were 7 completed inward disposals worth £2.6 billion during Quarter 4 2016, which was similar to the number and value reported in Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2015 (10 disposals valued at £2.4 billion).

9 . Transactions in the UK by foreign companies (Jan to Dec 2016)

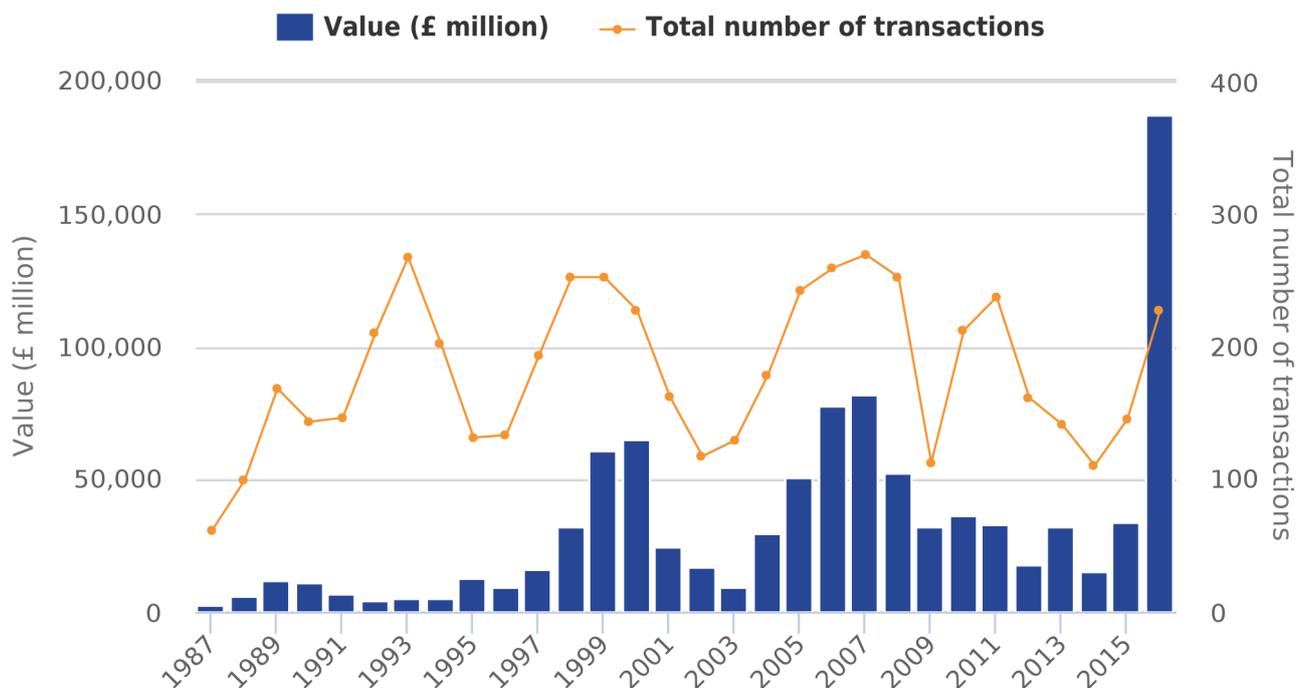
The number and value of successful acquisitions of UK companies by foreign companies (inward mergers and acquisitions (M&A)) saw a considerable increase in both levels and value of M&A activity during 2016.

The comparison of annual trends for inward M&A shows that the estimate for the number of completed UK acquisitions in 2016 (227) was similar to that seen during 2010 and 2011 when the numbers of acquisitions were 212 and 237 respectively. Since 1988, inward M&A activity increased steadily until reaching a peak in 1993 before seeing a flat trend developing even though the amount of activity has been cyclical (Figure 4A).

The reported value of inward M&A increased notably in 2016, reaching a total of £187.4 billion – the highest since our records first began in 1969. While M&A figures have historically been volatile, the 2016 value was substantially larger than the previous high recorded in 2007 (£82.1 billion) and the value recorded in 2015 (£33.3 billion).

During 2016, the number of disposals of UK companies by foreign companies involving a change in majority ownership, saw a 17% decrease of activity when compared with 2015, totalling 29 disposals valued at £4.8 billion.

Figure 4A: Value and number of acquisitions in the UK by foreign companies, 1987 to 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. At Quarter 1 2010 the deal identification threshold for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1.0 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated above.
2. All values are at current prices (see Background Notes for definition).

Other inward notable transactions, valued at £100 million, which took place during 2016:

Quarter 1 2016

[Royal Dutch Shell of the Netherlands acquired BG Group Plc of the UK](#)

[Paddy Power Plc of Ireland acquired Betfair Group Plc of the UK](#)

[Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Company Ltd of Japan acquired Amlin Plc of the UK](#)

[Equinix Inc of the USA acquired Telecity Group Plc of the UK](#)

[Nippon Koei Co Ltd of Japan acquired BDP Holdings Ltd of the UK](#)

[Arris International Plc of the USA acquired Pace Plc of the UK](#)

[Acadia Healthcare Company Inc of the USA acquired Priory Group No 1 Ltd of the UK](#)

[Wesfarmers Ltd of Australia acquired the Homebase business of Home Retail Group Plc of the UK](#)

[Regent Pacific Group Ltd of the Cayman Islands acquired Plethora Solutions Holdings Plc of the UK](#)

[Adecco SA of Switzerland acquired Penna Consulting Plc of the UK](#)

[Advent International GPE VI Limited Partnership of the Cayman Islands sold Priory Group No 1 Ltd of the UK](#)

Quarter 2 2016

[Ball Corporation of the USA acquired Rexam Plc of the UK](#)

[CSC Computer Science International Holdings Ltd of the USA acquired Xchanging Plc of the UK](#)

[Jahwa Group Co Ltd of China acquired Mayborn Group Plc](#)

[Yokogawa Electric Corporation of Japan acquired KBC Advanced Technologies Plc of the UK](#)

[Accor SA of France acquired Onefinestay](#)

[Addeco S.A of Switzerland acquired Penna Consulting Plc of the UK](#)

Quarter 3 2016

[SoftBank Group Corp of Japan acquired ARM Holdings Plc of the UK](#)

[Groupe Fnac SA of France acquired Darty Plc of the UK](#)

[Steinhoff International Holdings NV of the Netherlands acquired Poundland Group Plc of the UK](#)

[Jones Laing LaSalle Inc of the USA acquired Integral UK Holdings Ltd of the UK](#)

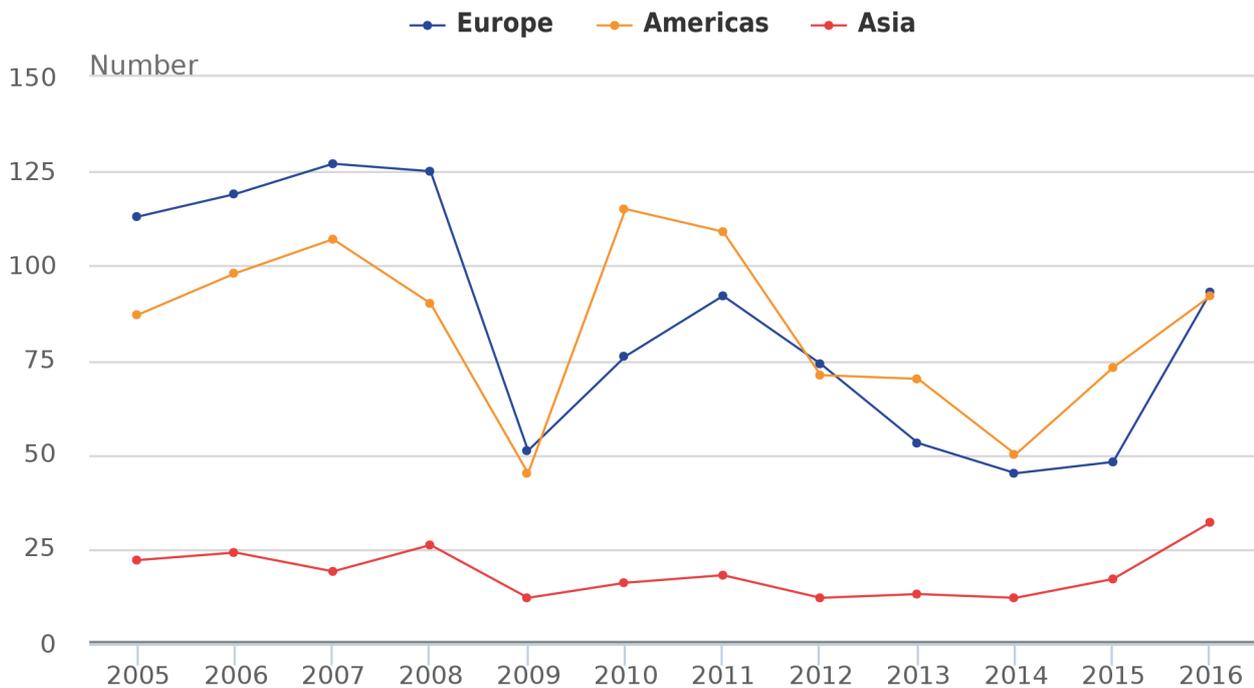
[Invest Corp of Bahrain disposed of Crisps Topco \(Tyrells\) of the UK](#)

[Amplify Snack Brand Inc of the USA acquired Crisps Topco \(Tyrells\) of the UK](#)

[News Corporation of the USA acquired Wireless Plc of the UK](#)

During 2016, the number of successful inward M&A acquisitions (227) reported was broadly in line with the number reported in 2011 (237); the Americas (92) and Europe (93) were just 2 continents that showed increases year-on-year, of 26% and 94% respectively (Figure 5). The value of inward acquisitions saw a considerable increase between 2015 and 2016 of £154.1 million; the majority of this increase was seen in Europe with £126.0 billion reported during 2016 compared with £7.8 billion in 2015.

Figure 5: Area analysis of acquisitions in the UK by foreign companies, 2005 to 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

10 . Transactions abroad by UK companies (Quarter 4 Oct to Dec 2016)

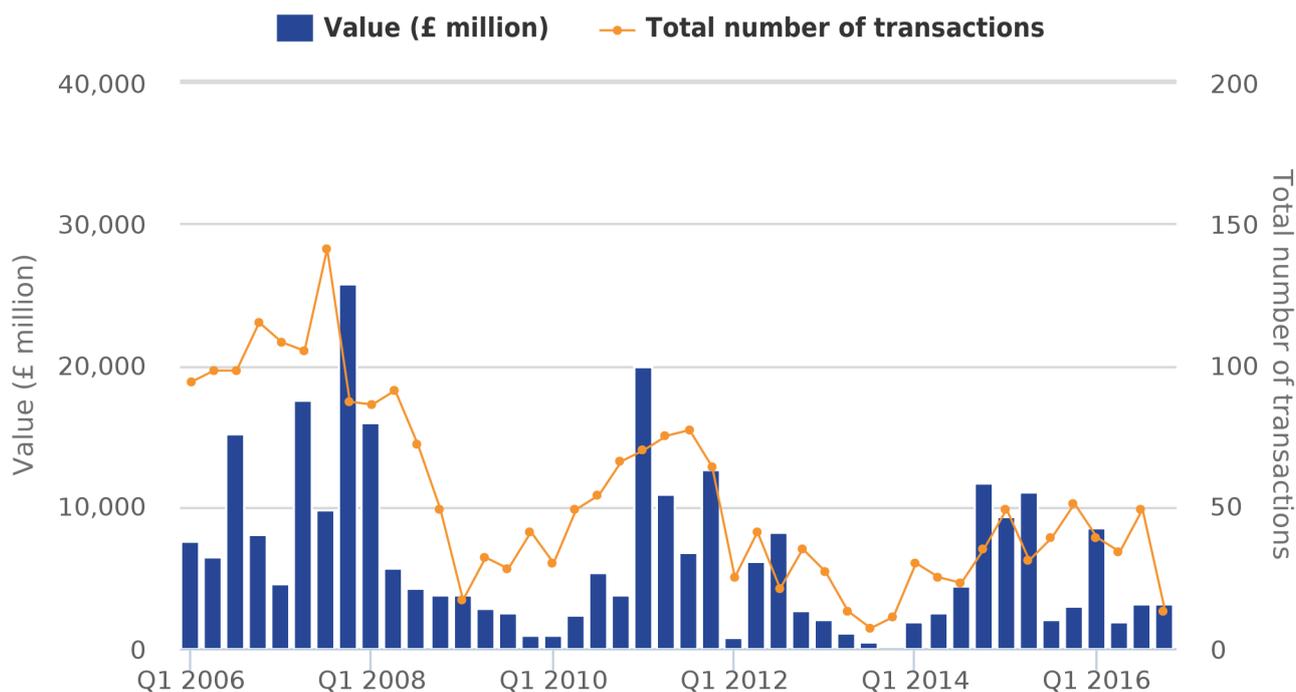
The number and value of outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) fell during the fourth quarter (Oct to Dec) 2016.

The number of completed acquisitions abroad by UK companies stayed consistent between Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2016 and Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016, continuing to show relatively low levels of outward M&A activity.

In Quarter 4 2016, there was a 73% fall in the number of acquisitions abroad (13) made by UK companies, compared with Quarter 3 2016 (49). The number of successful outward M&A reported in Quarter 4 2016 is similar to the levels of outward M&A activity previously seen in Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2013 (13) and Quarter 4 2013 (11) (Figure 6).

During the fourth quarter of 2016, UK companies spent £3.1 billion on acquisitions of foreign companies abroad, a similar value as reported in Quarter 3 2016 (£3.1 billion), but 64% lower than the value previously reported in Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2016 (£8.6 billion).

Figure 6: Value and number of acquisitions abroad by UK companies, Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2006 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. At Quarter 1 2010, the deal identification threshold for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1.0 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated in the figure.
2. All values are at current prices (See Background notes).
3. .. Denotes disclosive figures.

The following outward notable transactions, valued at £100 million or more, took place during Quarter 4 2016:

[Centrica Plc of the UK acquired Neas Energy A/S of Denmark](#)

[Unilever PLC of the UK acquires Seventh Generation Inc of the USA.](#)

[Ladbrokes Plc of the UK acquired Gala Coral Group Limited of Jersey](#)

[Informa PLC of the UK acquired Penton Information Services of the USA](#)

[Management Consulting Group Plc disposed of KMCG US Holdings Inc of the USA](#)

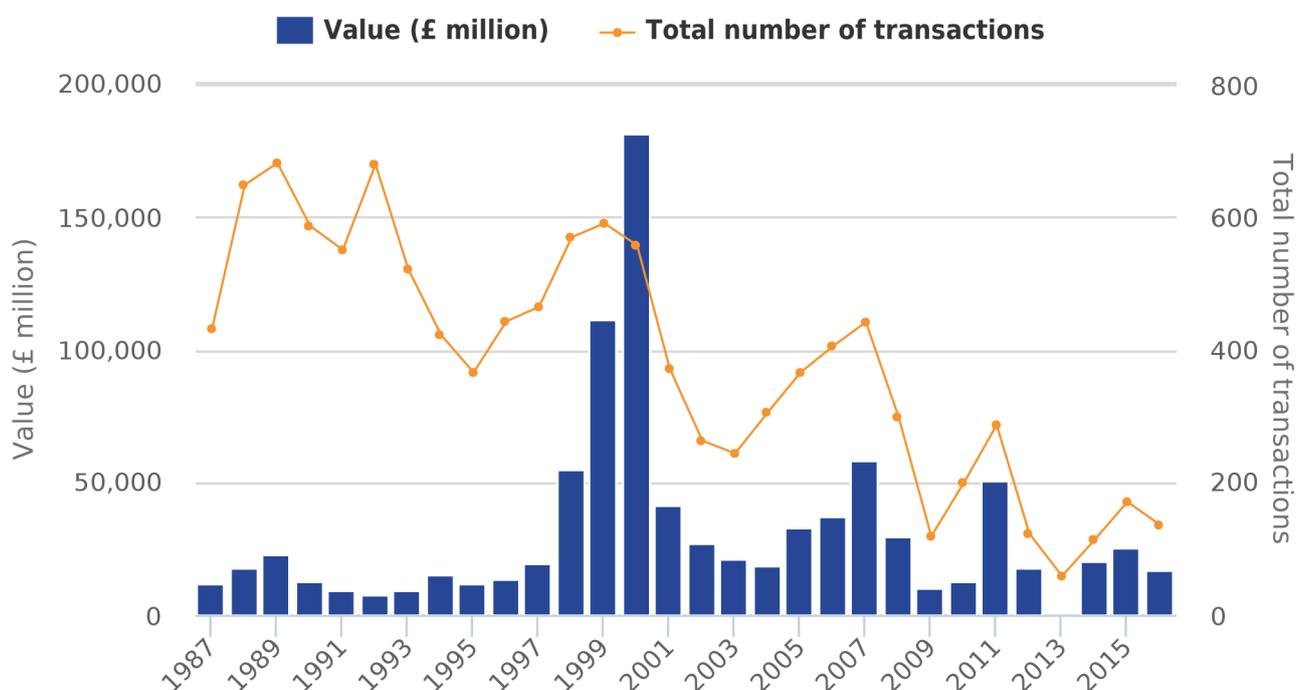
11 . Transactions abroad by UK companies (Jan to Dec 2016)

Successful outward mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity experienced a notable downturn during 2016 for both the number and value of acquisitions involving a change of majority share ownership.

There were 135 successful outward M&A for the whole of 2016. This shows a decrease of 35 compared with the 170 acquisitions recorded in 2015; a year-on-year fall of 21%. With the exception of 2015, the levels of outward M&A activity have continued to fall since 2011 when 286 completed outward acquisitions were reported (Figure 6A).

The total value of completed acquisitions made abroad by UK companies for the whole of 2016 was £16.7 billion, similar to the value of £17.9 billion reported for 2012. The highest recorded outward M&A value of £181.0 billion was in 2000. The subsequent years saw a decrease in the value of outward M&A to £10.1 billion in 2009. In 2010, there was a slight increase in the value of outward acquisitions to £12.4 billion and a larger increase to £50.2 billion in 2011. Year-on-year comparison shows that the value of completed outward M&A between 2015 (£25.6 billion) and 2016 (£16.7 billion) has fallen by 35%.

Figure 6A: Value and number of acquisitions abroad by UK companies, 1987 to 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. At Quarter 1 2010 the deal identification threshold for the mergers and acquisitions surveys was raised from £0.1 million to £1.0 million. There is therefore a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported as illustrated above.
2. All values are at current prices (see Background Notes for definition).
3. .. Denotes disclosive figures.

Other outward M&A notable transactions, valued at £100 million, which took place during 2016:

Quarter 1 2016

[Astra Zenca Plc of the UK acquired majority stake in Acerta Pharma of the Netherlands](#)

[BBA Aviation Plc of the UK acquired Landmark Aviation of the USA](#)

[Hikma Pharmaceuticals Plc of the UK acquired Roxane Laboratories Inc and Boehringer Ingelheim Roxane Inc of the USA](#)

[NMC Health Plc of the UK acquired majority stake in Fakh IVF Group of the United Arab Emirates](#)

[RPC Group Plc of the UK acquired Global Closure Systems of France](#)

[Smith and Nephew of the UK acquired Bluebelt Holdings Inc of the USA](#)

[Premier Farnell Plc of the UK disposed of Akron Brass Holding Corp of the USA](#)

[Diageo Plc of the UK disposed of Diageo Chateau and Estate Wines Company of the USA](#)

Quarter 2 2016

[Dechra Pharmaceuticals Plc of the UK acquired Putney Inc of the USA](#)

[W S Atkins Plc of the UK acquired Projects Products and Technology Division of Energy Solutions of the USA](#)

[Micro Focus International Plc acquired Spartacus Acquisition Holding Corp of the USA](#)

[Bridgepoint and Summit Partners of the UK acquired Calypso Technology Inc of the USA](#)

Quarter 3 2016

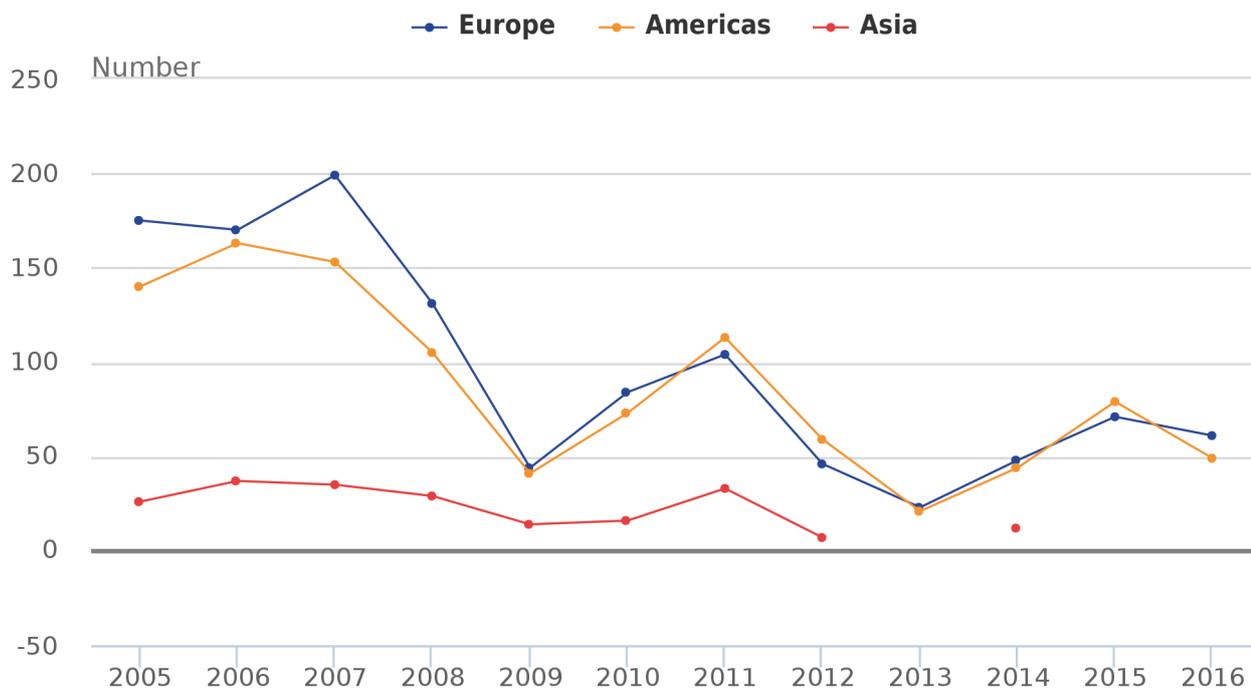
[Melrose Industries Plc of the UK which acquired Nortek Inc of the USA](#)

[Unilever Plc of the UK acquired Dollar Shave Club Inc of the USA](#)

[3i Group Plc of the UK acquired Schlemmer Gmbh of Germany and SIB Immobiliere of France](#)

The quarterly estimates for the number and value of disposals of foreign companies made by UK companies abroad (outward disposals) during Quarter 3 (July to Sept) and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016 have been suppressed in this bulletin to avoid any potential disclosure in this type of M&A activity.

Figure 7: Area Analysis of acquisitions abroad by UK companies, 2005 to 2016



Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. .. denotes disclosive data

Between 2015 and 2016, successful outward M&A saw a year-on-year fall in the number of acquisitions in both Europe (61 acquisitions valued at £3.2 billion) and the Americas (49 acquisitions valued at £13 billion). The number of outward M&A in 2016 continues to remain at much lower levels than those previously reported for both continents in 2011, when Europe saw 104 acquisitions (£23.4 billion) and the Americas saw 113 acquisitions (£11.8 billion) (Figure 7).

12 . Additional information

The mergers and acquisitions (M&A) data and information published in this release only includes data for acquisitions, mergers and disposals that are successfully completed. As part of the production process we also identify announced and agreed M&A transactions. The following notable M&A will feature in future releases:

[AXA of France sold Bluefin Insurance Group Ltd of the UK](#)

[Marsh and McLennan Company Inc of the USA acquired Bluefin Insurance Group of the UK](#)

[British United Provident Association of the UK acquires Oasis Dental Care](#)

[RPC Group PLC of the UK acquired Letica Group of the USA](#)

13 . How our statistics compare with external evidence

Our estimates for domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, during Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016 and for 2016 as a whole, appear to be in line with the views of some external commentators.

Global merger, acquisitions and disposals activity can be driven by the availability of credit. Therefore, when credit conditions deteriorate, as happened in the 2008 to 2009 economic downturn, mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity declines. M&A activity can also be interpreted by the economic outlook and company profits, in addition to a range of other economic factors. The process of completing an M&A transaction takes time and sometimes there may be a lag between improving economic conditions and any increase in M&A activity.

The [Bank of England \(BoE\) Credit Conditions Review – Quarter 4 2016](#) reported that the overall demand for corporate lending from small and medium-sized businesses decreased significantly in Quarter 4 2016. Significant reductions in capital investment and commercial real estate were reported to be the main factors contributing to the changes in corporate lending demand in Quarter 4 2016, while mergers and acquisitions activity had pushed up on demand.

The [Bank of England Agents Summary of business conditions – Quarter 4 2016](#) stated that professional services contacts had reported that mergers and acquisitions and foreign direct investment activity had picked up. However, both remained weaker than before the referendum.

Deloitte's [US/UK Deal Monitor, 2H 2016 publication](#) reported that the UK remains highly attractive for US dealmakers as the rate of US deal making in the UK has been strong in the second half of 2016. However, some UK dealmakers have put M&A on hold.

14 . Quality and methodology

The [Mergers and acquisitions Quality and Methodology Information document](#) contains important information on:

- the strengths and limitations of the data and how it compares with related data
- users and uses of the data
- how the output was created
- the quality of the output including the accuracy of the data

15. Background notes

1. Overview of mergers and acquisitions

The mergers and acquisitions (M&A) estimates are analysed and produced to measure investment data for:

- investment in the UK by UK companies (domestic investment)
- investment or disinvestment in the UK by foreign companies (inward investment or disinvestment)
- investment or disinvestment in foreign companies by UK companies (outward investment or disinvestment)

M&A data are essential for producing the UK National Accounts. The survey results form important components of the UK Balance of Payments and Financial Accounts and are vital in the measurement of the financial and non-financial business sector accounts. M&A data is used in the compilation of the

estimates for foreign direct investment and additionally used by other government departments when preparing ministerial briefings. For example, HM Treasury, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, UK Trade and Investment and HM Revenue and Customs. The M&A data estimates are also used by foreign embassies, economists and academics for research purposes and for periodic statistical comparisons.

2. Relevance to users

The degree to which the statistical outputs meet users' needs.

The mergers and acquisitions data are considered to be essential for producing the UK National Accounts. The survey results form important components of the UK Balance of Payments and Financial Accounts and are vital in the measurement of the financial and non-financial business sector accounts.

The Cross-Borders Acquisitions and Mergers Survey (M&A) data are used in the compilation of the estimates of foreign direct investment (FDI). These data meet the needs of FDI by collecting data on all acquisitions which lead to a holding in excess of 10% of the issued share capital. These estimates then feed into the UK Balance of Payments and the "Rest of the World" sector of the financial accounts in the national accounts, for which there is an EU legal requirement. Individual transaction information is also used to estimate the counterpart in "portfolio" investment flows for monthly balance of payments.

The data collected are also used in updating business structures and country of ownership codes on the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR). The IDBR is a comprehensive list of UK businesses that is used by government for statistical purposes.

Elsewhere in government, examples of departments who use the data include:

- HM Treasury, Economic Analysis Division, where the data are used in preparing briefing and forecasting
- Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, where direct investment data are required for ministerial briefing, parliamentary questions and in formulating trade policy
- UK Trade and Investment, where the information is used for briefing on the extent to which the UK is successful in attracting inward investment
- HM Revenue and Customs, where the data are used to help in forecasting company taxation

Non-government users include:

- private companies which are interested in analysing country and industry data for trends by foreign firms in the UK and by UK companies abroad and also for researching corporate finance activity and for the purpose of investment banking
- UK embassies in foreign countries, who are interested in information on specific countries and companies making acquisitions
- private sector economists, journalists and academics who are interested in information on particular industries and particular countries for research purposes and who use the data for periodic statistical comparisons

Feedback from users has indicated that the information received from the M&A survey has a high degree of relevance across the above user groups, meets the vast majority of user needs, and all information currently collected and published is used.

Source of data

The information collected is based on reports in the financial press, specialist magazines, company and financial websites supplemented by special surveys to businesses to determine the form, value and timing of each transaction.

If the information is not yet in the public domain, such transactions may not be reflected in the analysis. Where full information has not yet been received on the details of the acquisition or disposal, the value of the transaction indicated in the public domain is used as an interim estimate.

The data shown in this release relate solely to mergers and acquisitions undertaken by companies: acquisitions by individuals are not included.

This publication contains data relating mergers, demergers, acquisitions and disposals. Figures relating to mergers are included within acquisitions and those relating to demergers are contained within disposals.

We make every effort to provide informative commentary on the data in this release. As part of the quality assurance process, individual businesses are contacted in an attempt to capture reasons for large period-on-period data movements. It can prove difficult to gather detailed reasons from some businesses to help inform the commentary. Frequently, reasons given for data movements refer to a “change in market conditions” or a “restructure of the company”. Consequently, it’s not possible for all data movements to be fully explained.

We are aware that a number of users make use of these data for modelling or forecasting purposes. In doing so, it is important that users make note of our revisions policy and that all time series are on a “current price” basis, which means that the values are as they were at the time of measurement and not adjusted for inflation. Acquisitions and disposal activity can be affected by UK and global economic and political issues and therefore quarterly estimates can be volatile.

One question often asked of the M&A release is “why is there a time delay between the announcement of M&A transactions in the press and the inclusion of these transactions within ONS M&A figures?” The difference is that our figures record when a transaction legally completes as opposed to when the transaction has been announced in the press. The complexities surrounding the acquisitions or disposals taking place often incurs a time lag, which can vary between quarters.

3. Significant transactions

Significant transactions tables show the reported figures for a selection of significant transactions which occurred in the quarter, where “significance” is defined as the absolute value of the deal.

The information shown is taken from each relevant company’s press release, which is available within the public domain. A direct link to each press release is provided. Should a company request that details of the transaction be kept confidential then the deal is excluded. However, the values are included in the aggregate tables. Occasionally, therefore, a large deal may be missing (suppressed) from the lists so it is best to regard these tables as an indication of the ranking of deals rather than a completely exhaustive listing.

Press-reported figures for M&A transactions often differ to some extent from those supplied by companies to us and it is the latter that are used in compiling statistical aggregates in Tables 1 to 10. Included in the prices quoted in the tables of significant transactions is the total published price paid for the company excluding any assumed debt where known. Deferred payments are included in the reported price even if the payment is made in a different quarter.

4. Types of transactions covered

Mergers are acquisitions in which all or part of the payment is made in shares, such that the shareholders of the 2 companies become shareholders of a new, combined company group.

Demergers are disposals where a company group divides into 2 or more separate companies, in such a way that the shareholders of the restructured companies remain the same, or retain the equivalent value shareholding in one of the newly independent companies. Demergers are included in the statistics within disposals.

Acquisitions are transactions that involve one company purchasing the ordinary shares of a second company ("target company"). A target company is usually of a smaller size than the company undertaking the purchase.

Disposal is a term used to describe the action when a company or organisation sells or liquidates the ordinary shares of a second company ("target company").

Cross-border acquisitions denote transactions where a company in one country acquires, either directly or indirectly, a controlling interest in a company in another country.

Direct transactions are those where a company acquires a controlling interest in another company.

Indirect transactions are those where a company uses an existing foreign subsidiary to acquire a controlling interest in a company resident in another country. The acquiring foreign intermediate company may be located in the same country in which the acquisition is being made or in a different country.

Acquisitions within the UK by other UK companies denote mergers and acquisitions involving only UK registered companies.

Where the acquired company was a subsidiary of another company the transaction is classified as a sale between company groups.

The phrase "acquisitions in the UK by UK companies" refers to deals where the ultimate ownership remains in the UK. This heading does not cover the total number or value of deals where a UK company is the acquirer. When a foreign company acquires a UK company through one of its existing UK subsidiaries or a UK registered special purpose vehicle that deal is shown as part of the data under "acquisitions in the UK by foreign companies".

Acquisition of independent companies

The acquisition of an independent company means the purchase of a company in its entirety – the company itself and all of its subsidiaries.

Acquisition of subsidiary companies

The acquisition of a subsidiary company means the purchase of part of a company.

5. Financing

This statistical bulletin provides details of the application of funds to effect mergers and acquisitions and the proceeds raised from disinvestments and demergers.

For indirect foreign transactions there is the added complication of considering the movements of funds either as capital injection or in the form of loans between parent companies and their foreign subsidiaries making the acquisition. Occasionally, the foreign subsidiary obtains the funds required partly or entirely outside the UK from sources such as:

- own resources
- borrowing from banks and other local sources
- share, bond and other capital or notes issued abroad

Also, a transaction may be funded by more than one method.

6. Definitions of geographic and economic areas

Table 2: Definition of geographic and economic areas

Europe

EU	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia
	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia
	Finland	France	Germany	Greece
	Hungary	Irish Republic	Italy	Latvia
	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta	Netherlands
	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Slovakia
	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	
	Other European Countries	Albania	Andorra	Belarus	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Faroe Islands		Gibraltar	Iceland	Kosov
Liechtenstein		Macedonia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of	Moldova	Montenegro
Norway		Russian Federation	San Marino	Serbia
Switzerland		Turkey	Ukraine	UK Offshore Islands (Guernsey, Jersey, other Channel Islands & Isle of Man)
Vatican City State				

The Americas

Anguilla	Antigua & Barbuda	Argentina	Aruba	Bahamas
Barbados	Belize	Bermuda	Bolivia	Bonaire, Sint Eustatius & Saba
Brazil	British Virgin Islands	Canada	Cayman Islands	Chile
Colombia	Costa Rica	Cuba	Curacao	Dominica
Dominican Republic	Ecuador	El Salvador	Falkland Islands	Greenland
Grenada	Guatemala	Guyana	Haiti	Honduras
Jamaica	Mexico	Montserrat	Nicaragua	Panama
Paraguay	Peru	St Kitts & Nevis	Saint Lucia	Sint Maarten
St Vincent & the Grenadines	Suriname	Trinidad & Tobago	Turks & Caicos Islands	Uruguay
US Virgin Islands	USA	Venezuela		

Asia

Afghanistan	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Bahrain	Bangladesh
Bhutan	Brunei Darussalam	Burma/Myanmar	Cambodia	China

Georgia	Hong Kong	India	Indonesia	Iran
Iraq	Israel	Japan	Jordan	Kazakhstan
Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan	Laos	Lebanon	Macao
Malaysia	Maldives	Mongolia	Nepal	North Korea
Oman	Pakistan	Palestinian Territory	Philippines	Qatar
Saudi Arabia	Singapore	South Korea	Sri Lanka	Syria
Taiwan	Tajikistan	Thailand	Timor - Leste	Turkmenistan
United Arab Emirates	Uzbekistan	Viet Nam	Yemen	
Australasia & Oceania				
American Samoa	Antarctica	Australia	Bouvet Island	Christmas Island
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Cook Islands	French Polynesia	French Southern & Antarctic Lands	Fiji
Guam	Heard Island & Macdonald Islands	Kiribati	Marshall Islands	Micronesia, Federated States of
Nauru	New Caledonia	New Zealand	Niue	Norfolk Island
Northern Mariana Islands	Palau	Papua New Guinea	Pitcairn	Samoa
Solomon Islands	South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands	Tokelau	Tonga	Tuvalu
US Minor Outlying Islands	Vanuatu	Wallis & Futuna		
Africa				
Algeria	Angola	Benin	Botswana	British Indian Ocean Territory
Burkina Faso	Burundi	Cameroon	Cape Verde	Central African Republic
Chad	Comoros	Congo	Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire)	Djibouti
Egypt	Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Gabon
Gambia	Ghana	Guinea	Guinea Bissau	Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire)
Kenya	Lesotho	Liberia	Libya	Madagascar
Malawi	Mali	Mauritania	Mauritius	Morocco
Mozambique	Namibia	Niger	Nigeria	Rwanda
Sao Tome & Principe	Senegal	Seychelles	Sierra Leone	Somalia

South Africa	South Sudan	St Helena, Ascension & Tristan da Cunha	Sudan	Swaziland
Tanzania	Togo	Tunisia	Uganda	Zambia
Zimbabwe				

Source: Office for National Statistics

7. Revisions

Data for the first, second and third quarters of 2016 has been revised in the light of new information, and so revisions to the data for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2016, Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2016 and Quarter 3 (July to Sept) have been published in this statistical bulletin. No further revisions to data prior to Quarter 1 2016 have been made. Therefore time series data for all quarters of 2015 and any previous historic quarterly periods remain unchanged.

Annual data tables for 2016 are produced in conjunction with the Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016 and Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2017 data outputs. Revisions to the 2016 quarterly and annual figures will be recalculated at Quarter 1 2017 only. Therefore no revisions to annual data prior to 2016 have been made and subsequently time series data for previous historic annual periods remains unchanged.

Revisions to the aggregates used in M&A principally occur for the following reasons.

Completion of transactions

On announcement of a proposed transaction an expected completion date is usually given. The publicly reported values will be allocated to the quarter of expected completion. If the transaction is ultimately completed in an earlier or later quarter, the recorded values will be reallocated to the new quarter.

Publicly reported values

Publicly reported values are initially used to compile the aggregates. These can vary considerably from the values ultimately supplied by the respondents, frequently because the assumption of debt has been included in the publicly reported value. A nominal value is applied if no publicly reported value is available. The final values used to create the aggregates are those supplied by the respondent.

Non-completion of transactions

On announcement of a proposed transaction the publicly reported value of the transaction is recorded. If the transaction does not subsequently take place the recorded value will be deleted.

Non-share transactions

On announcement of a proposed transaction it may appear that there will be transactions in the share capital of the companies involved and the publicly reported values will be recorded. If subsequent information contradicts this the recorded values will be amended or deleted.

Control

On announcement of a proposed transaction it may appear that the transaction will give the purchasing company control of the purchased company, that is, a share ownership of greater than 50%. If subsequent information contradicts this the recorded values will be amended or deleted.

Revisions from respondents

Very occasionally respondents revise the values that they have previously supplied to us. The revised values are those used to create the aggregates.

Table 3: Average revisions by number, Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016

	First Published Value (Quarter 3 2016)	Number in Latest Revised Period (Quarter 4 2016)	Average Revision (Quarter 3 2015 to Quarter 3 2016)
Number of Outward Acquisitions	27	49	19
Number of Outward Disposals	"	"	7
Number of Inward Acquisitions	41	65	22
Number of Inward Disposals	"	6	4
Number of Domestic Acquisitions	72	118	47

Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. Quarter 3 is Jul to Sep 2016, Quarter 4 is Oct to Dec 2016
2. * Significant Revision
3. " Suppressed

Table 4: Average revisions by value, Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016

	First Published Value (Quarter 3 2016)	Value in Latest Revised Period (Quarter 4 2016)	Average Revision (Quarter 3 2015 to Quarter 3 2016)	Average without Regard to Sign (Quarter 3 2015 to Quarter 3 2016)
Value of Outward Acquisitions	2,441	3,140	924	924
Value of Outward Disposals	"	"	1,395	1,395
Value of Inward Acquisitions	28,386	30,998	-406	2,320
Value of Inward Disposals	"	937	326	326
Value of Domestic Acquisitions	3,203	3,414	361	361

Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. Quarter 3 is Jul to Sep 2016, Quarter 4 is Oct to Dec 2016
2. " Suppressed
3. * Significant Revision

Analysing average revisions between provisional and final estimates can provide an indication of reliability in an initial statistic. Provisional statistics may be based on less information than is available for final statistics as they have been processed more quickly to meet the demand of customers. By looking at these average revisions it can help us determine whether revisions are being made consistently in one direction, that is, if early estimates are consistently under or overestimating the later figures. A test is subsequently performed on these average revisions to determine if they are statistically different from zero. Revisions that are not statistically significant imply that an average revision might be non-zero simply through random effects.

8. Response rates

Table 5: Response rates for Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2016 and Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016

Cross-Border Mergers and Acquisitions (CBAM) Outwards

Statistics of Sample Size – Latest Survey Conducted:

Reference Period	Quarter 3 2016	Quarter 4 2016
Response Rate (%)	90%	88%

Cross-Border Mergers and Acquisitions (CBAM) Inwards

Statistics of Sample Size – Latest Survey Conducted:

Reference Period	Quarter 3 2016	Quarter 4 2016
Response Rate (%)	83%	75%

Domestic Mergers and Acquisitions (DAM)

Statistics of Sample Size – Latest Survey Conducted:

Reference Period	Quarter 3 2016	Quarter 4 2016
Response Rate (%)	82%	80%

Source: Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. Previous quarter has been revised, latest quarter is provisional.
2. Quarter 3 is Jul to Sep 2016. Quarter 4 is Oct to Dec 2016.

9. Notes to tables

The deal identification threshold was increased at Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2010 to a value of £1.0 million from a previous value of £0.1 million. As a consequence there is a discontinuity in the value and number of deals reported from Quarter 1 2010 onwards compared with previous periods.

Symbols used in the tables are:

- .. Figure suppressed to avoid disclosure of information relating to individual enterprises.
- Nil or less than half the final digit shown.

The sum of constituent items in tables may not always agree exactly with the totals shown due to rounding.

10. Disclosure

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

11. Discussing ONS Business Statistics online

There is a [Business and Trade Statistics](#) community on the [StatsUserNet](#) website. StatsUserNet is the Royal Statistical Society's interactive site for users of official statistics. The community objectives are to promote dialogue and share information between users and producers of official business and trade statistics about the structure, content and performance of businesses within the UK. Anyone can join the discussions by registering via either of the links.

1 Summary of cross-border mergers, acquisitions and disposals

£million

	Transactions abroad by UK companies				Transactions in the UK by foreign companies ¹			
	Acquisitions		Disposals		Acquisitions		Disposals	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	CBAQ	CBBI	CBAS	CBBT	CBAU	CBCQ	CBAW	CBDB
2007	441	57 814	104	10 221	269	82 121	66	7 524
2008	298	29 670	71	12 062	252	52 552	49	5 139
2009	118	10 148	37	5 101	112	31 984	38	7 820
2010	199	12 414	73	11 411	212	36 643	58	9 891
2011	286	50 234	80	14 111	237	32 967	69	11 748
2012	122	17 933	40	..	161	17 414	27	..
2013	58	..	..	..	141	31 839	26	1 913
2014	113	20 647	36	5 288	110	15 041	23	2 794
2015	170	25 561	42	16 852	145	33 335	35	7 451
2016	135	16 665	43	15 898	227	187 418	29	4 807
2013 Q1	27	1 977	10	5 546	19	3 528	4	89
Q2	13	1 045	13	3 572	33	23 506	8	710
Q3	7	474	5	439	59	2 783	8	623
Q4	11	..	..	..	30	2 022	6	491
2014 Q1	30	1 944	..	..	29	5 569	..	..
Q2	25	2 481	20	2 422	28	1 864	..	..
Q3	23	4 470	..	..	25	3 668	9	1 280
Q4	35	11 752	4	1 323	28	3 940	6	601
2015 Q1	49	9 391	..	..	28	6 047	7	802
Q2	31	11 058	..	..	31	9 797	10	2 402
Q3	39	2 103	9	1 113	37	8 315	9	3 502
Q4	51	3 009	16	8 606	49	9 176	9	745
2016 Q1	39 [†]	8 550 [†]	15 [†]	965	59 [†]	50 418 [†]
Q2	34	1 883	11	1 651	66	22 677	..	..
Q3	49	3 140	..	..	65	30 998	6	937
Q4	13	3 092	..	..	37	83 325	7	2 620

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

£million

	Total ³		Direct transactions ⁴		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
2007	441	57 814	289	34 880	105	14 814	66	8 120
2008	298	29 670	196	17 972	75	6 688	44	5 010
2009	118	10 148	97	7 456	17	2 530	11	162
2010	199	12 414	149	10 507	38	1 166	26	741
2011	286	50 234	223	36 912	47	4 999	35	8 323
2012	122	17 933	83	9 523	29	8 094	19	316
2013	58	..	44	2 935	11	..	4	..
2014	113	20 647	79	6 888	35	7 641	77	6 118
2015	170	25 561	155	21 604	30	1 323	83	2 641
2016	135	16 665	135	9 242	22	3 978	50	3 712

[†] 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 has been increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and as a consequence 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.

3 Disposals abroad by UK companies: funds realised

£million

	Total ¹		Direct transactions ²		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	CBCC	CBCD	CBCE	CBCF
2007	104	10 221	87	7 650	8	1 393	20	1 178
2008	71	12 062	54	7 384	9	1 021	15	3 657
2009	37	5 101	33	4 198	2	..	3	..
2010	73	11 411	59	8 423	4	71	15	2 917
2011	80	14 111	66	12 533	6	598	13	980
2012	40	..	30	5 817	3	..	11	..
2013	..	..	28	5 682	2	..	..	..
2014	36	5 288	28	4 610	7	323	11	355
2015	42	16 852	44	16 617	–	–	8	1 222
2016	43	15 898	44	15 775	..	..	..	..

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

£million

	Total ¹		Direct transactions ²		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
2007	269	82 121	200	62 475	52	6 941	63	12 705
2008	252	52 552	179	36 101	50	8 739	53	7 712
2009	112	31 984	87	21 091	20	..	10	..
2010	212	36 643	161	33 540	36	1 687	34	1 416
2011	237	32 967	158	17 112	50	12 598	49	3 257
2012	161	17 414	103	11 659	48	4 217	35	1 538
2013	141	31 839	94	8 391	39	..	25	..
2014	110	15 041	78	10 404	27	2 702	61	1 934
2015	145	33 335	150	29 009	14	707	39	3 620
2016	227	187 418	236	182 400	24	2 460	80	2 558

5 Disposals in the UK by foreign companies: funds realised

£million

	Total ¹		Direct transactions ²		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
2007	66	7 524	49	4 038	10	226	25	3 260
2008	49	5 139	29	1 485	9	682	15	2 972
2009	38	7 820	32	6 572	–	–	7	1 248
2010	58	9 891	43	4 961	5	928	15	4 002
2011	69	11 748	49	8 589	9	1 190	22	1 969
2012	27	..	23	5 821	..	..	6	96
2013	26	1 913	19	1 541	3	..	9	..
2014	23	2 794	17	2 415	..	..	..	..
2015	35	7 451	38	7 006	..	..	..	..
2016	29	4 807	33	4 762	..	..	..	..

[†] 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

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
2007	441	57 814	170	7 397	29	1 062	199	8 459	115	21 676
2008	298	29 670	102	13 613	29	1 720	131	15 333	88	7 244
2009	118	10 148	36	1 800	8	169	44	1 969	34	3 250
2010	199	12 414	66	2 979	18	471	84	3 450	53	6 223
2011	286	50 234	75	20 666	29	2 760	104	23 426	83	9 342
2012	122	17 933	34	7 932	12	842	46	8 774	41	5 384
2013	58	..	16	6 216	7	376	23	6 592	8	600
2014	113	20 647	33	11 404	15	2 279	48	13 683	27	4 987
2015	170	25 561	55	7 712	16	7 715	71	15 427	61	6 136
2016	135	16 665	48	1 785	13	1 441	61	3 226	35	12 566

	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
2007	38	25 040	153	46 716	35	422	28	1 306	26	911
2008	17	394	105	7 638	29	809	22	5 224	11	666
2009	7	1 746	41	4 996	14	964	13	609	6	1 610
2010	20	918	73	7 141	16	630	19	667	7	526
2011	30	2 410	113	11 752	33	6 807	16	7 666	19	583
2012	18	2 640	59	8 024	7	458	5	..	5	..
2013	13	323	21	923	..	..	..	..	..	..
2014	17	1 135	44	6 122	12	637	..	..	..	..
2015	18	2 381	79	8 517	..	..	9	859	..	..
2016	14	485	49	13 051	..	..	13	95	..	..

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
2007	104	10 221	44	3 583	6	1 032	50	4 615	28	4 654
2008	71	12 062	30	3 598	2	..	32	..	22	6 197
2009	37	5 101	15	2 134	3	64	18	2 198	7	1 277
2010	73	11 411	27	1 529	5	263	32	1 792	15	7 465
2011	80	14 111	32	4 857	4	57	36	4 914	18	4 715
2012	40	..	..	..	..	..	17	2 764	7	1 038
2013	..	..	12	1 589	3	128	15	1 717	9	3 691
2014	36	5 288	..	..	..	..	18	2 887	..	..
2015	42	16 852	18	6 270	4	541	22	6 811	..	..
2016	43	15 898	..	..	..	..	19	835	11	9 020

	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
2007	10	195	38	4 849	8	195	3	533	5	29
2008	6	1 033	28	7 230	7	388	2	234	2	..
2009	2	536	9	1 813	3	..	3	1 002	4	..
2010	4	897	19	8 362	11	117	5	609	6	531
2011	9	1 559	27	6 274	10	..	5	..	2	..
2012	6	2 189	13	3 227	2	1 220	3	..	6	46
2013	..	..	9	3 691	..	..	4	..	..	..
2014	..	..	14	2 228	..	..	..	..	..	..
2015	..	..	10	2 828	..	..	..	..	4	73
2016	10	5 606	21	14 626	..	..	..	..	..	..

† Indicates earliest revision, if any.

Disclosive data indicated by ..

1 From 1 January 2007, figures for the European Union include Bulgaria and Romania. Croatia joined the EU in July 2013.

2 The deal identification threshold has been increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0 and as a consequence there may be a discontinuity in the number and value of transactions reported

-indicates data is zero or less than £0.5m

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	CBCH	HCJ7	HCJ8	HCI7	HCI8	CBCI	CBCJ
2007	269	82 121	94	27 489	33	12 407	127	39 896	79	14 270
2008	252	52 552	85	17 918	40	11 063	125	28 981	74	8 269
2009	112	31 984	32	15 277	19	3 939	51	19 216	31	11 594
2010	212	36 643	47	3 856	29	4 079	76	7 935	85	19 124
2011	237	32 967	69	6 238	23	1 395	92	7 633	87	21 489
2012	161	17 414	53	3 533	21	1 094	74	4 627	50	6 217
2013	141	31 839	35	..	18	..	53	24 172	54	3 408
2014	110	15 041	31	4 681	14	700	45	5 381	42	6 318
2015	145	33 335	34	5 816	14	2 004	48	7 820	48	11 083
2016	227	187 418	72	124 881	21	1 121	93	126 002	75	29 001

	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
2007	28	5 245	107	19 515	19	15 490	13	6 900	3	320
2008	16	9 307	90	17 576	26	4 839	7	..	4	..
2009	14	886	45	12 480	12	199	4	89	..	..
2010	30	5 156	115	24 280	16	4 210	3	14	2	204
2011	22	1 690	109	23 179	18	1 367	14	762	4	26
2012	21	4 256	71	10 473	12	2 277	1	..	3	..
2013	16	1 529	70	4 937	13	..	2	..	3	..
2014	8	1 317	50	7 635	12	1 932	..	..	..	..
2015	25	9 052	73	20 137	17	4 680	..	..	..	..
2016	17	1 472	92	30 473	32	30 249	..	..	..	..

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	HCI2	CBCT	CBCU
2007	66	7 524	12	2 851	4	..	16	..	31	3 063
2008	49	5 139	18	2 628	9	447	27	3 075	12	1 359
2009	38	7 820	12	1 370	6	..	18	..	10	4 648
2010	58	9 891	19	6 722	10	271	29	6 993	15	1 216
2011	69	11 748	26	6 539	9	394	35	6 933	18	2 993
2012	27	..	11	1 054	7	..	18	..	4	..
2013	26	1 913	9	862	3	36	12	898	8	..
2014	23	2 794	..	..	..	..	13	1 949	..	..
2015	35	7 451	10	1 117	10	3 399	20	4 516	..	..
2016	29	4 807	..	..	..	..	16	3 418	..	..

	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
2007	13	701	44	3 764	5	..	1	..	..	..
2008	4	..	16	..	3	..	1	..	2	93
2009	4	42	14	4 690	2	..	1	..	3	..
2010	8	642	23	1 858	3	1 033	3	7	..	..
2011	6	687	24	3 680	8	..	2	..	..	..
2012	3	..	7	3 601	..	..	..	..	..	..
2013	2	..	10	611	3	328	1	..	..	..
2014	..	..	8	809	..	..	..	..	..	..
2015	..	..	13	2 911	..	..	..	..	..	..
2016	..	..	11	1 146	2	242	..	..	..	..

† Indicates earliest revision, if any

Disclosive data indicated by ..

-indicates data is zero or less than £0.5m

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

£million

	Total all mergers and acquisitions		Mergers and acquisitions of independent companies		Sales of subsidiaries between company groups	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
	AIHA	DUCM	DWVH	HIKB	DWVL	HIKC
2007	869	26 778	698	19 779	171	6 999
2008	558	36 469	445	33 469	113	3 000
2009	286	12 195	198	11 455	88	740
2010	325	12 605	243	7 775	82	4 830
2011	373	8 089	276	5 265	97	2 824
2012	266	3 413	216	2 536	50	877
2013	238	7 665	175	4 135	63	3 530
2014	189	8 032	150	5 968	39	2 063
2015	245	6 920	194	4 640	51	2 280
2016	400	23 909	359	10 506	41	13 404
2013 Q1	39	2 825	23	593	16	2 232
Q2	68	2 438	53	2 104	15	334
Q3	72	1 166	55	829	17	337
Q4	59	1 236	44	609	15	627
2014 Q1	40	1 613	32	1 491	8	122
Q2	51	1 625	37	490	14	1 136
Q3	42	3 152	32	2 487	10	664
Q4	56	1 642	49	1 500	7	141
2015 Q1	47	1 755	36	1 368	11	387
Q2	59	2 739	43	1 687	16	1 052
Q3	60	1 195	50	727	10	468
Q4	79	1 231	65	858	14	373
2016 Q1	93	11 871 [†]
Q2	133 [†]	6 765	122 [†]	6 276 [†]	11 [†]	489
Q3	118	3 414	100	2 599	18	815 [†]
Q4	56	1 859	..	..	..	..

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

£million

	Expenditure					Percentage of expenditure		
	Total	Cash		Issues of ordinary shares ²	Issues of fixed interest securities ²	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities
		Independent companies	Subsidiaries					
	DUCM	DWVW	DWVX	AIHD	AIHE	DWVY	DWVZ	DWWA
2007	26 778	13 671	6 507	4 909	1 691	76	18	6
2008	36 469	31 333	2 851	1 910	375	94	5	1
2009	12 195	2 937	709	8 435	114	30	69	1
2010	12 605	6 175	4 520	1 560	350	85	12	3
2011	8 089	4 432	2 667	719	271	87	10	4
2012	3 413	1 937	789	419	268	82	10	8
2013	7 665	3 690	3 475	353	147	92	6	2
2014	8 032	3 249	1 947	2 782	51	65	35	-
2015	6 920	3 365	1 871	1 418	265	74	22	4
2016	23 909	5 012	5 062	13 456	380	42	56	2
2013 Q1	2 825	567	2 216	26	16	98	1	1
Q2	2 438	1 992	316	80	50	95	3	2
Q3	1 166	587	332	230	17	79	20	1
Q4	1 236	544	611	17	64	94	1	5
2014 Q1	1 613	896	103	612	2	62	38	-
Q2	1 625	478	1 051	50	45	94	3	3
Q3	3 152	476	656	2 019	-	36	64	-
Q4	1 642	1 399	137	101	4	94	6	-
2015 Q1	1 755	1 075	314	281	84	79	16	5
Q2	2 739	854	789	1 019	77	60	37	3
Q3	1 195	666	464	64	2	95	5	-
Q4	1 231	770	304	54	102	88	4	8
2016 Q1	11 871 [†]	637 [†]	3 603 [†]	7 610 [†]	22 [†]	36	64	-
Q2	6 765	1 968	388	4 237	172	35 [†]	62 [†]	3 [†]
Q3	3 414	1 593	798	875	148	70	26	4
Q4	1 859	814	273	734	38	58	39	3

[†] Indicates earliest revision, if any
Disclosive data are indicated with ..

1 The deal identification threshold has been increased from q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and as a consequence there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

2 Issued to the vendor company as payment.
-indicates data is zero or less than £0.5m

10 Summary of net cross-border acquisitions and disposals

£million

	Net transactions abroad by UK companies		Net transactions in the UK by foreign companies ¹		Net cross-border transactions involving UK companies	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
2007	337	47 593	203	74 597	134	-27 004
2008	227	17 608	203	47 413	24	-29 805
2009	81	5 047	74	24 164	7	-19 117
2010	126	1 003	154	26 752	-28	-25 749
2011	206	36 123	168	21 219	38	14 904
2012	82	..	134	..	-52	..
2013	..	..	115	29 926	..	..
2014	77	15 359	87	12 247	-10	3 112
2015	128	8 709	110	25 884	18	-17 175
2016	92	767	198	182 611	-106	-181 844
2013 Q1	17	-3 569	15	3 439	2	-7 008
Q2	-	-2 527	25	22 796	-25	-25 323
Q3	2	35	51	2 160	-49	-2 125
Q4	..	..	24	1 531	..	..
2014 Q1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Q2	5	59	..	..	..	..
Q3	..	..	16	2 388	..	..
Q4	31	10 429	22	3 339	9	7 090
2015 Q1	..	..	21	5 245	..	..
Q2	..	..	21	7 395	..	..
Q3	30	990	28	4 813	2	-3 823
Q4	35	-5 597	40	8 431	-5	-14 028
2016 Q1	24 [†]	7 585 [†]
Q2	23	232	..	..	..	..
Q3	..	..	59	30 061	..	..
Q4	..	..	30	80 705	..	..

[†] 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 has been increased at Q1 2010 from £0.1m to £1.0m and as a consequence there is a discontinuity in the number of transactions reported.

R1 REVISIONS ANALYSIS

Revisions since last mergers and acquisitions publication

£ million

		2016	2016	2016	2016
			Q1	Q2	Q3
Cross-border mergers, acquisitions and disposals					
Transactions abroad by UK companies					
Value of acquisitions	CBBI	..	-234	181	699
Value of disposals	CBBT	..	-	-	30
Transactions in the UK by foreign companies					
Value of acquisitions	CBCQ	..	54	699	2 612
Value of disposals	CBDB	..	4	65	500
Mergers and acquisitions in the UK by UK companies					
Summary of transactions					
Value of all acquisitions and mergers	DUCM	..	12	-451	211
Value of acquisitions of independent companies	HIKB	..	9	-451	-251
Value of sales of subsidiary companies	HIKC	..	4	-	462
Category of expenditure					
Cash paid for independent companies	DWVW	..	6	-487	-346
Cash paid for subsidiary companies	DWVX	..	4	-	445
Issue of ordinary shares	AIHD	..	1	14	32
Issue of fixed interest securities	AIHE	..	2	22	80