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|  | *xWH EU Exit Data Strategy* | | | | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  | **Title** | Mergers and acquisitions involving UK companies | | | |  |
|  |  | **Producer** | ONS | | | |  |
|  |  | **Category** | Mergers and acquisitions | | | |  |
|  | ***[***[***LINK TO SOURCE***](https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/changestobusiness/mergersandacquisitions/bulletins/mergersandacquisitionsinvolvingukcompanies/previousReleases)***]*** | |  | **Frequency** *(+lag)* | Quarterly (three months after the end of the reference period) | | | |  |
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|  | **Description** | | |  | |  | **Key Info** |  |  |
|  | * Transactions which result in a change of ultimate control of the target company and have a value of £1 million or more. * Information on the M&A transactions of UK companies abroad (outward), foreign companies in the UK (inward) and between UK companies (domestic). * Statistical tables are published with this bulletin. * Only transactions that are legally completed are included in these statistics (rather than when first announced). * The bulletin also includes details of the highest value M&A transactions that complete in a given quarter. * Statistics also report on the ultimate controlling parent company or ultimate host country. | | | | |  | Access | Open |  |
|  |  | Group | Inward, outward and domestic M&A, number and value |  |
|  |  | Aggregation | Acquisitions, mergers, joint ventures and disposals, geography and components |  |
|  |  | Classification | Compiled according to [OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment](https://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investmentstatisticsandanalysis/40193734.pdf) |  |
|  |  | Reporting Unit | £ million, current prices |  |
|  |  | Source | Bureau van Dijk’s Zephyr database with survey sent for deals above £100 million |  |
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|  | **Recommended Usage** | | |  |  |  | **Contacts** |  |  |
|  | * For understanding the changes in cross-border and domestic control of UK companies. * Includes further detail on some of the largest deals completed in any quarter. | | | | |  | Key department | ONS  ma@ons.gov.uk |  |
|  |  | Key individuals | **Gill Sanderson**  Gill.sanderson@ons.gov.uk  **Andrew Jowett**  Andrew.jowett@ons.gov.uk  **Lee Mallett**  Lee.mallett@ons.gov.uk |  |
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|  | **Quality Indicators** | | |  |  |  | **Related Datasets** |  |  |
|  | **Status** | National Statistics | | | |  | * The mergers and acquisitions [annual overview](https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/changestobusiness/mergersandacquisitions/articles/ukmergersandacquisitionsactivityincontext/previousReleases) series provides further details on some of the highest value M&A deals in specific years. * Also have some supporting analysis on the [industry](https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/changestobusiness/mergersandacquisitions/articles/ukmergersandacquisitionsincontextactivitybyindustry2015to2017/2018-10-30) of M&A activity between 2015 and 2017 and on the [impacts on M&A in FDI flows](https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/balanceofpayments/articles/ukforeigndirectinvestmenttrendsandanalysis/july2018) | |  |
|  | **Strengths +** | * Detailed information on M&A deals completed in the quarterly reference period. * Only includes completed deals in the quarter in which the deal was legally completed. * Provides information on one aspect of foreign direct investment statistics. * Detailed M&A granular data is collected * Data is continually revised as and when new transactions are identified. | | | |  |  |
|  | **Weaknesses -** | * The current method for compiling M&A statistics was introduced from 2018; there may be a structural break in the value and number of deals time series. * Values are not directly comparable with foreign direct investment statistics. | | | |  |  |
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