

Join us in Kent to power your logistics.

Kent and Medway is a fantastic location for business. With its proximity to London and the Channel Ports, it's no wonder the region is such a key centre for logistics and distribution – and it's growing.

This sector has expanded by **two-thirds in five years**, with a pipeline of **12 million square feet of space** primed to further strengthen the region's capability to get goods to where they need to be – and with a drive for greater sustainability there's more to come.

The districts of Gravesham, Dartford, Medway, Maidstone, and Swale are performing **above the national average** in terms of sector size, contributing to an industry that has seen a **48.1% increase** in GVA countywide since 2000. That figure, as of 2018, stood at an estimated **£2.3 billion per year**.

One of the **biggest drivers for this success** has been the rise of **e-commerce** and the continued shift towards online retail - and with prime locations in the sector's Golden Triangle along the M1 corridor in the East Midlands at saturation point, Kent and Medway is one of the areas benefitting as couriers and distributors look elsewhere.

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The Port of Dover is one of the main arrival points for frozen fish but rather than those shipments going up north to be processed many businesses choose to keep it here, saving on transport and cutting pollution.

With plans to decarbonise freight at the Port, including the creation of a green shipping corridor, Kent and Medway are championing the road to net zero – providing an opportunity to decarbonise logistics and distribution, from fuel systems to harnessing new technology and rethinking the final mile.

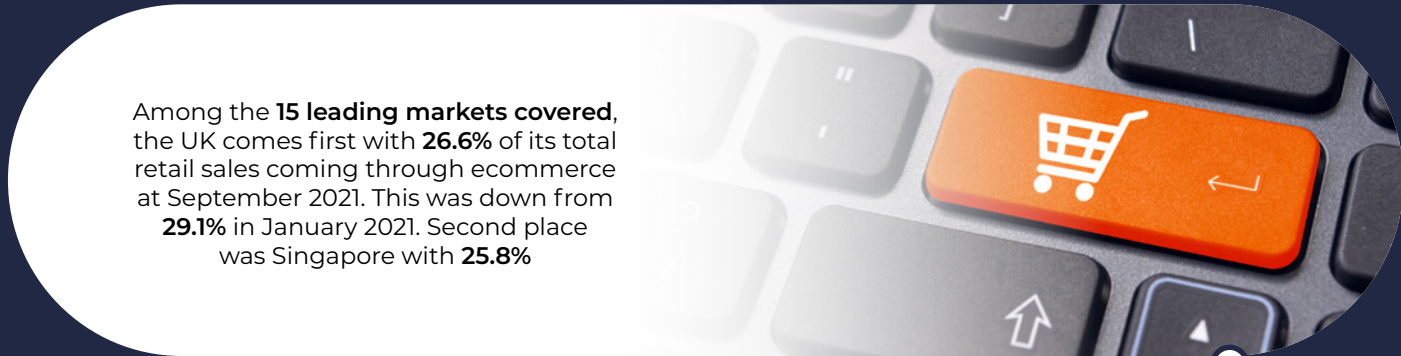


Kent is home to **22%** of the UK logistics and distribution businesses.

Gravesham, Dartford, Medway, Maidstone and Swale are **performing above the national average** in terms of sector size, contributing to an industry that has seen a **48.1% increase** in GVA countywide since 2000.



Among the **15 leading markets covered**, the UK comes first with **26.6%** of its total retail sales coming through ecommerce at September 2021. This was down from **29.1%** in January 2021. Second place was Singapore with **25.8%**



The number of business premises classified as “freight transport by road” and “postal and courier activities” increased by **114%** and **147%**, respectively, between 2011 and 2021. Together, they now account for **69% of all transport and storage business units**, up from 58% in 2011.

The logistics and distribution sector has seen a **4% growth** increase in the past two years.

Three major supermarkets have their distribution centres in Swale, including **920k Sq. Ft.** for Morrisons and Aldi **covering London and the whole of the South East** from their 600k Sq. Ft. facility.



There are **472 logistics business** with their headquarters in Kent and Medway.

Home to major distribution businesses such as **Amazon, Wincanton, Europa, DPD, DHL** and major supermarket groups.

Kent has **direct access to The River Thames**, the busiest inland waterway in the UK.

In 2021, the number of UK business premises classified as transport and storage was **88% higher** than in 2011 and **21% higher** than in 2019.

The logistics and distribution sector across the Kent and Medway region of the UK has grown by **60.6%** between 2016 and 2021, with **2,000 jobs created** over the same period and **3,600 businesses** now operating in the sector.



Major Logistics Sites with Availability



Since 1994, approximately **450 million tonnes** of freight have been transported through the Channel Tunnel.

The Port of Dover contributes to **33% of all UK – EU trade** and handles **2.4m trucks** and **30% of all ferry arrivals** into the UK. Port of Dover is also the **UK's second busiest cruise port** with over **25 cruise lines** and **200,000 guests**.



The Port of Dover is the **busiest ferry port in Europe** handling **£119 billion of trade** or **17% of UK trade** in goods, and with an annual turnover of **£58.5 million** in 2019.

[Q SOURCE](#)

Le Shuttle handle more than **£122 billion of trade** from across the English Channel each year.

Manston • Ramsgate **7**

The Eurotunnel in Kent sees **21.3 million tonnes** of freight and **10.6 million passengers** pass through it each year.

In Q4 2022, Ro-Ro non-freight units increased by **17% to 1.5 million** when compared with the same quarter in 2021. Dover had the largest increase of **155,000 units** when compared with Q4 2021, which accounted for **71%** of the total increase in Ro-Ro non-freight units.



Kent and Medway the right location

72%

cheaper
commercial
property*
*compared
to London

1.8 million
potential customers

68

infrastructure
& commercial
development sites



2 science parks



Gateway to
London and
Europe

33%

lower house
prices



17 minutes from
the capital by train

70,000 +

companies already here



4 motorways

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