

# Northern Ireland Economy is NOT outperforming the UK Economy

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## Northern Ireland Economy is NOT outperforming the UK Economy

**“The Northern Ireland Protocol has now become the subject of a campaign of economic disinformation” according to Harry Western for Briefings for Britain.**

Contrary to Remainer claims that the protocol was ‘shielding’ the Northern Ireland economy from the ‘downsides’ of Brexit, the evidence largely points in the opposite direction.

### ***Protocol is hindering not helping NI Economy***

CIBUK along with its affiliate [Briefings for Britain](#) – highlights the underperformance of the Northern Ireland economy in relation to the rest of the UK as a result of the Protocol.

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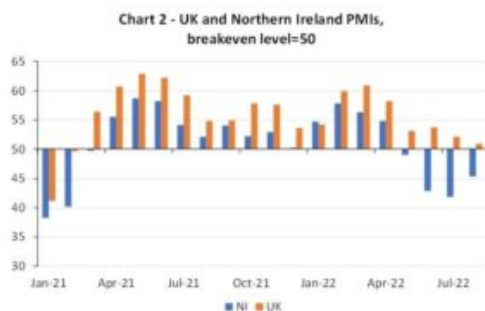
# Summary

1. **Gross Value Added (GVA):** the difference between a nation's gross output and its net output.

**2021 Q4 – 2022 – Q2:**

- Northern Ireland: **5%**
- United Kingdom: **5%**

2. **PMI (Purchasing Managers' Indices)**



**Source: Markit, Ulster Bank**

- Northern Ireland private sector consistently underperforming that in the UK as a whole since the start of 2021, when the protocol came into force.

3. **GB & NI Exports to the EU**

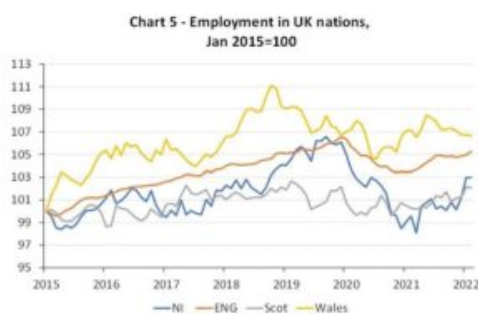
- In the four quarters to June 2022, GB exports to the EU were **23% higher** than in the four quarters to December 2020 (i.e. the period just before the protocol and TCA came

in).

- GB exports to the EU **up 14%** from Q4 2020 to Q2 2022
- NI exports to the EU up just **8%** for the same period

**Source: ONS**

#### 4. Employment in UK nations



**Source: ONS labour force survey**

- Up to the end of 2019, NI generated jobs at about the same rate as England or Wales and faster than Scotland.
- In the protocol period since the start of 2021, employment remains 4% below its 2019 peak unlike GB where employment is closer to full recovery.

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## ***OBSERVATIONS***

What makes matters worse is the administrative burden associated with the Protocol. According to the Financial Secretary to the Treasury over ten thousand traders have completed a million customs declarations thus far.

In addition, recent research has estimated that a fully-

implemented protocol would in the long run increase the cost of GB imports in NI by 8% (a figure similar to estimates collected from individual businesses involved in NI trade) and lead to diversion of trade away from GB goods to more expensive ones sourced elsewhere.

## **According to the author, the overall effect of the Protocol**

“is an unambiguous net economic negative for NI with the costs likely to rise steadily in the years ahead. As a result, it would be a huge error for the UK government to agree a deal with the EU on the protocol that leaves it substantially in place – as they now seem minded to do.”

A link to the full article can be found [here](#)