



## Non-oil and oil exports increased by 42.9% and 75.0%, respectively, in March 2021

Overall merchandise exports increased by 64.0% in March 2021 compared to March 2020. The value of exports amounted to 74.7 billion riyals in March 2021, up from 45.6 billion riyals in March 2020. This increase originated mainly from oil exports, which rose by 22.4 billion riyals or 75.0% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports, therefore, increased from 65.6% (March 2020) to 70.0% (March 2021). Compared to the previous month (February 2021), total merchandise exports increased by 8.9 billion riyals or 13.6%.

On the other hand, non-oil exports also increased by (42.9%) year-on-year in March 2021, rising to 22.4 billion riyals from 15.7 billion riyals in March 2020. Of the most important non-oil goods, 'Plastics and Rubber and Articles Thereof' (33.6% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 57.8% (2.8 billion riyals) and 'Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries' (27.9% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 28.5% (1.4 billion riyals) from March 2020. Non-oil exports increased compared to the previous month (February 2021) by 3.8 billion riyals or (20.2%).

Merchandise imports increased by 14.0% (6.1 billion riyals) in March 2021. The value of imports amounted to 49.4 billion riyals in March 2021 compared to 43.3 billion riyals in March 2020. This increase was due to the increase in many sectors compared to March 2020, mainly 'Vehicles and Associated Transport Equipment' (30.3%) and 'Pearls; Precious Stones; Imitation Jewelry' (354.9%). Imports also increased compared to the previous month (February 2021), by 9.0 billion riyals or (22.4%).

### Ratio of Non-oil Exports to Imports increased to 45.3%

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 45.3% in March 2021 from 36.1% in March 2020, as a result of a higher increase in non-oil exports (42.9%) than in imports (14.0%) over that period.

### China is Saudi Arabia's main trading partner for merchandise trade

In March 2021, exports to China amounted to 14.3 billion riyals, making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. Japan and India followed next with 7.1 billion riyals and 6.1 billion riyals, respectively. South Korea, United Arab Emirates, U.S.A, Egypt, the Netherlands, Bahrain, and Taiwan were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to 49.9 billion riyals, accounting for (66.7%) of the total exports.

Imports from China amounted to 9.4 billion riyals in March 2021, making this country the main origin for imports of Saudi Arabia. United Arab Emirates and U.S.A followed next with imports of 4.9 billion riyals and 4.6 billion riyals, respectively. India, Japan, Germany, Italy, France, United Kingdom and Egypt were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 countries for imports. Imports of Saudi Arabia from those 10 countries amounted to 31.8 billion riyals, accounting for (64.4%) of the total imports.

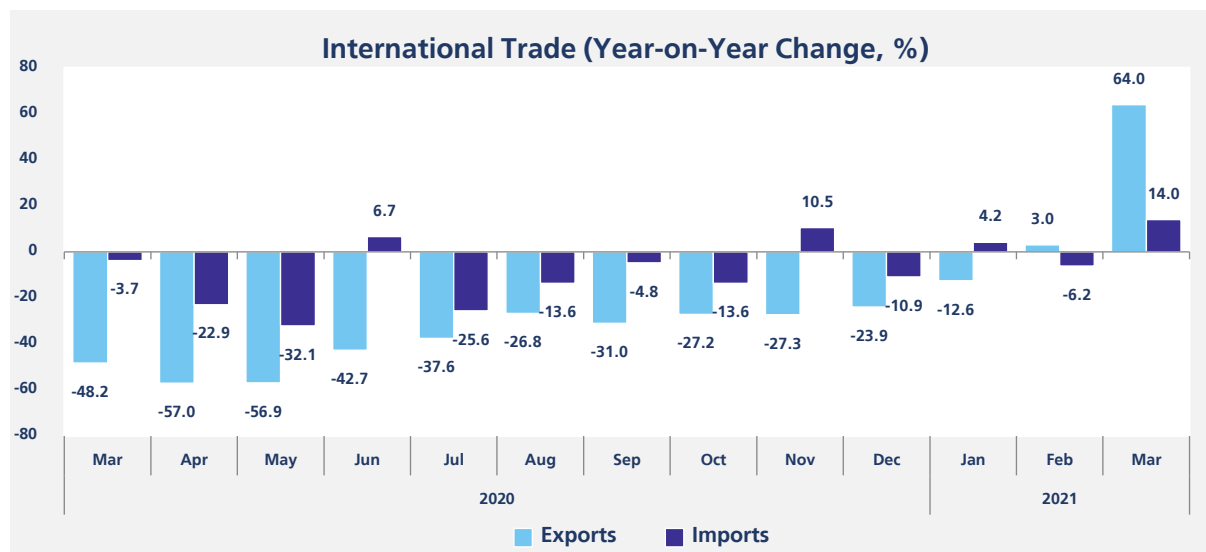
### Top Five Customs Ports for Imports

12.6 billion riyals of imports, corresponding to (25.5%) of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in March 2021. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Port (20.3%), King Khalid International Airport (12.0%), Bat'ha (7.4%), and King Fahad Airport (7.2%). Those five ports together accounted for (72.4%) of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.



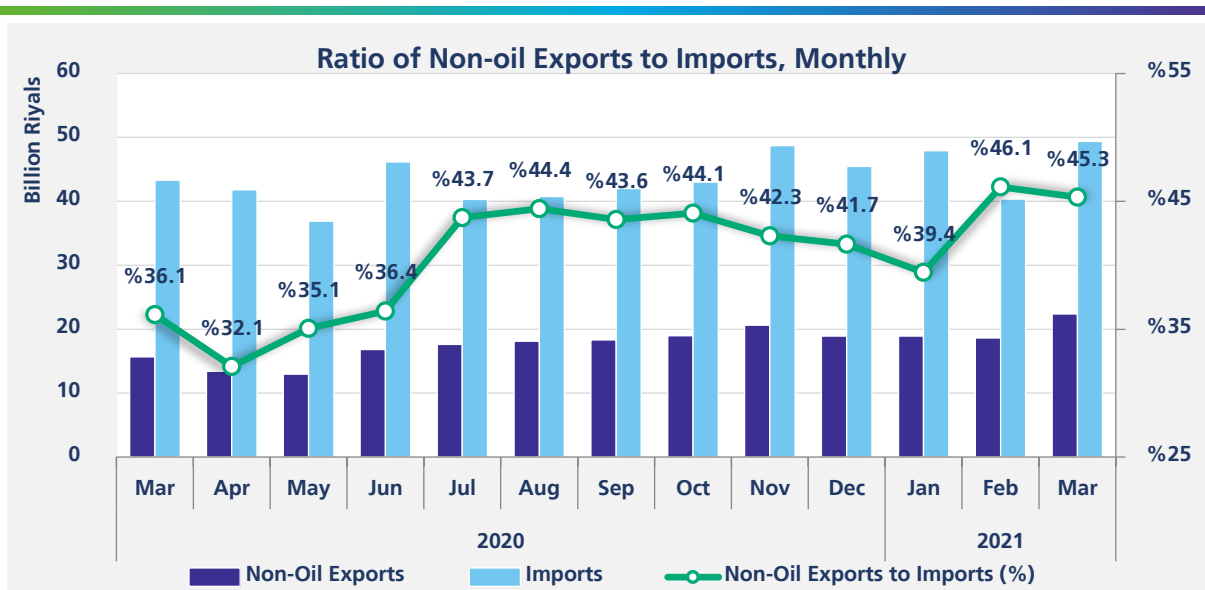
### Methodology

GASTAT's statistics on International trade are built on administrative records from Saudi Customs (non-oil) and the Ministry of Energy (oil). Saudi Arabia's merchandise exports and imports are classified according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding Systems (2017), also known as the Harmonized System (HS), which is maintained by the World Customs Organization (WCO). The HS allows countries to classify traded products in an internationally standardized system of product names and codes. Oil exports refer to exported goods classified in Chapter 27 (mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes) of the Harmonized System (HS). Non-oil exports refer to all other goods exported (including petrochemicals).



### Exports, Imports, Trade Volume, and Trade Balance (Monthly, Million Riyals)

Year	Month	Merchandise Exports (A)	Merchandise Imports (B)	Trade Volume (A+B)	Trade Balance (A-B)
2020	March	45,552	43,319	88,871	2,234
	April	38,139	41,790	79,928	-3,651
	May	37,335	36,916	74,251	419
	June	44,182	46,143	90,325	-1,961
	July	51,085	40,298	91,383	10,786
	August	56,120	40,739	96,859	15,380
	September	53,375	41,995	95,370	11,380
	October	55,902	43,035	98,937	12,867
	November	58,806	48,715	107,521	10,092
	December	65,335	45,479	110,814	19,857
2021	January	71,937	47,937	119,874	24,000
	February	65,777	40,371	106,147	25,406
	March	74,704	49,396	124,100	25,308



### International Trade by HS Section (Million Riyals)

Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Mar 2020	Mar 2021
1	Live animals; animal products	495	481	1,851	1,864
2	Vegetable products	268	312	3,677	3,017
3	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	87	138	490	319
4	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	605	639	2,539	2,574
5	Mineral products	30,178	52,674	1,251	1,618
6	Products of the chemical or allied industries	4,855	6,240	4,949	5,300
7	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	4,762	7,515	1,679	1,889
8	Raw hides and skins, leather, fur skins and articles thereof; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silk-worm gut)	18	20	112	151
9	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork; manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials; basket ware and wickerwork	19	39	427	429
10	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	239	254	566	494



Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Mar 2020	Mar 2021
11	Textiles and textile articles	173	223	1,623	2,091
12	Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof; prepared feathers and articles made therewith; artificial flowers; articles of human hair	3	7	318	398
13	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	135	182	707	720
14	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	371	479	473	2,150
15	Base metals and articles of base metal	1,436	1,924	5,094	4,062
16	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	1,186	1,429	8,181	9,565
17	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	466	1,584	6,810	8,874
18	Optical, cinematographic, photographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	98	354	1,146	1,467
19	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	7	23	179	729
20	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	129	158	858	1,107
21	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	22	30	390	581
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45,552</b>	<b>74,704</b>	<b>43,319</b>	<b>49,396</b>

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