

Non-oil exports increase by 12.0% in November 2020, while oil exports fall by 39.8%

Overall merchandise exports decreased by 28.1% in November 2020 compared to November 2019. The value of exports amounted to 58,152 million riyals in November 2020, down from 80,834 million riyals in November 2019. This decrease originated mainly from oil exports, which fell by 24,888 million riyals or 39.8% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports, therefore, decreased from 77.3% (November 2019) to 64.6% (November 2020). However, compared to the previous month (October 2020), total merchandise exports increased by 354 million riyals or 0.6%.

On the other hand, non-oil exports, increased by 12.0% year-on-year in November 2020, rising up to 20,576 million riyals from 18,370 million riyals in November 2019. Of the most important non-oil goods, 'Plastics and Rubber and Articles Thereof' (28.9% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 11.6% (616 million riyals) and 'Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries' (25.1% of non-oil merchandise exports) declined by 3.3% (-174 million riyals) from November 2019. Non-oil exports increased compared to the previous month (October 2020) by 1,689 million riyals or 8.9%.

Merchandise imports increased by 8.4% (3,721 million riyals) in November 2020. The value of imports amounted to 47,800 million riyals in November 2020 compared to 44,079 million riyals in November 2019. This increase was due to the increase in many sectors compared to November 2019, mainly 'Arms and Ammunition; Parts and Accessories Thereof' (1026.7%) and 'Mineral Products' (78.1%). Imports also increased compared to the previous month (October 2020), by 6,361 million riyals or 15.3%.

Ratio of Non-oil Exports to Imports increased to 43.0%

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 43.0% in November 2020 from 41.7% in November 2019, as a result of a higher increase in non-oil exports (12.0%) than in imports (8.4%) over that period.

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

In November 2020, exports to China amounted to 10,433 million riyals, making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. India and United Arab Emirates followed next with 6,146 million riyals and 5,627 million riyals, respectively. Japan, South Korea, U.S.A, Egypt, Bahrain, Netherlands, and Singapore were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to 40,705 million riyals, accounting for 70.0% of the total exports.

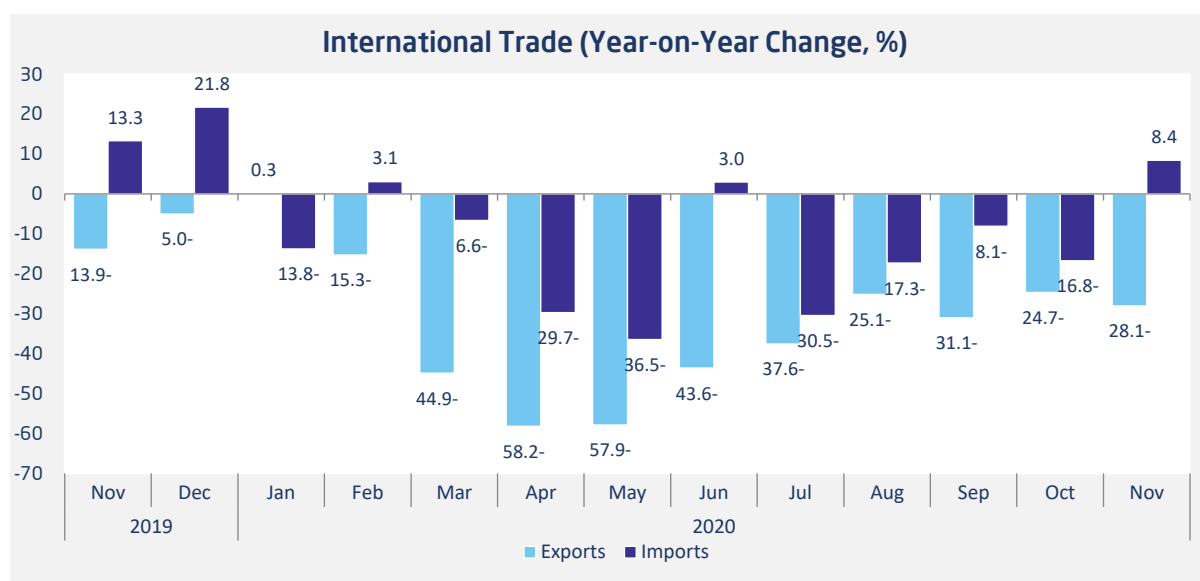
Imports from China amounted to 10,036 million riyals in November 2020, making this country the main origin for imports of Saudi Arabia. U.S.A and United Arab Emirates followed next with imports of 4,610 million riyals and 3,469 million riyals, respectively. United Kingdom, Germany, India, Japan, France, Italy and South Korea were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 countries for imports. Imports of Saudi Arabia from those 10 countries amounted to 30,758 million riyals, accounting for 64.3% of the total imports.

Top Five Customs Ports for Imports

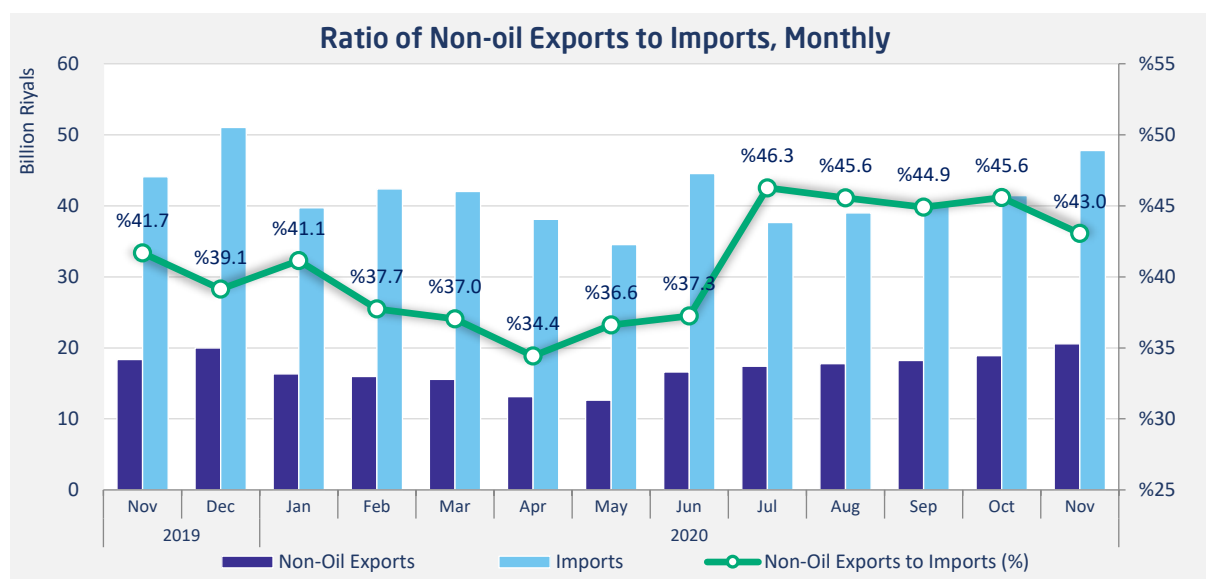
13,266 million riyals of imports, corresponding to 27.8% of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in November 2020. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Port (18.3%), King Khalid International Airport (15.8%), Bat'ha (6.1%), and King Fahad Airport (5.6%). Those five ports together accounted for 73.5% 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)
2019	November	80,834	44,079	124,913	36,755
	December	85,839	51,021	136,860	34,818
2020	January	83,040	39,732	122,772	43,308
	February	66,303	42,358	108,663	23,945
	March	48,500	42,009	90,509	6,491
	April	37,116	38,085	75,201	-970
	May	36,506	34,534	71,040	1,972
	June	43,490	44,521	88,011	-1,031
	July	51,138	37,661	88,800	13,477
	August	57,376	38,986	96,361	18,390
	September	53,317	40,547	93,863	12,770
	October	57,798	41,439	99,237	16,359
	November	58,152	47,800	105,952	10,352



International Trade by HS Section (Million Riyals)					
Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Nov 2019	Nov 2020	Nov 2019	Nov 2020
1	Live animals; animal products	553	440	1,314	1,558
2	Vegetable products	128	151	2,323	2,237
3	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	64	62	309	211
4	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	483	489	1,842	2,370
5	Mineral products	62,700	37,881	1,182	2,105
6	Products of the chemical or allied industries	5,348	5,174	4,158	4,022
7	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	5,322	5,939	1,454	1,611
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)	24	14	171	119
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	25	25	328	502
10	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	209	193	521	430
11	Textiles and textile articles	142	210	1,725	1,599
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	19	4	241	245
13	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	148	151	551	666
14	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	470	782	1,131	770
15	Base metals and articles of base metal	1,283	1,445	4,032	3,737
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	877	1,059	10,783	10,595
17	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	2,276	3,730	8,610	8,941
18	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	138	159	1,240	1,358
19	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	10	36	209	2,353
20	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	193	150	1,201	1,289
21	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	423	57	754	1,083
	Total	80,834	58,152	44,079	47,800

Links: [Tables](#) , [Methodology](#)