



Non-oil and oil exports increase by 52.1% and 126.1% in Q2 2021

Overall merchandise exports increased by 99.4% in Q2 2021 compared to Q2 2020, when international trade was impacted by Covid-related lockdowns and travel bans in numerous countries. The value of exports amounted to 238.6 billion riyals in Q2 2021, up from 119.7 billion riyals in Q2 2020. This increase originated mainly from oil exports, which rose by 96.5 billion riyals or 126.1% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports increased from 63.9% (Q2 2020) to 72.5% (Q2 2021). Compared to the previous quarter (Q1 2021), total merchandise exports increased by 26.1 billion riyals or 12.3%.

Non-oil exports increased by 52.1% year-on-year in Q2 2021, rising to 65.7 billion riyals from 43.2 billion riyals in Q2 2020. Of the most important non-oil goods, 'Plastics and Rubber and Articles Thereof' (34.3% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 63.9% (8.8 billion riyals) and 'Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries' (31.0% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 61.9% (7.8 billion riyals) from Q2 2020. Non-oil exports increased compared to the previous quarter (Q1 2021) by 5.6 billion riyals or 9.4%.

Merchandise imports increased by 12.9% (16.1 billion riyals) in Q2 2021. The value of imports amounted to 140.9 billion riyals in Q2 2021 compared to 124.8 billion riyals in Q2 2020. This increase was due to the increase in many sectors compared to Q2 2020, mainly 'Vehicles and Associated Transport Equipment' (26.8%) and 'Pearls; Precious Stones; Imitation Jewellery' (452.2%). Imports also increased compared to the previous quarter (Q1 2021), by 1.4 billion riyals or 1.0%.

Ratio of Non-oil Exports to Imports increased to (+46.6%)

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 46.6% in Q2 2021 from 34.6% in Q2 2020 as a result of a higher increase in non-oil exports (52.1%) than in imports (12.9%) over that period.

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

In Q2 2021, exports to China amounted to 46.4 billion riyals (19.4% of total exports), making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. India and Japan followed next with 21.7 billion riyals (9.1% of total exports) and 20.7 billion riyals (8.7% of total exports), respectively. South Korea, U.S.A, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Netherlands, Singapore, and Taiwan were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to 160.3 billion riyals, accounting for 67.2% of total exports.

Imports from China amounted to 25.7 billion riyals in (18.2% of total imports) Q2 2021, making this country the main origin for imports of Saudi Arabia. United Arab Emirates and U.S.A followed next with imports of 13.5 billion riyals (9.6% of total imports) and 13.1 billion riyals (9.3% of total imports), respectively. Germany, India, Japan, Italy, Egypt, France and Canada were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 countries for imports. Imports of Saudi Arabia from those 10 countries amounted to 87.9 billion riyals, accounting for 62.3% of total imports.



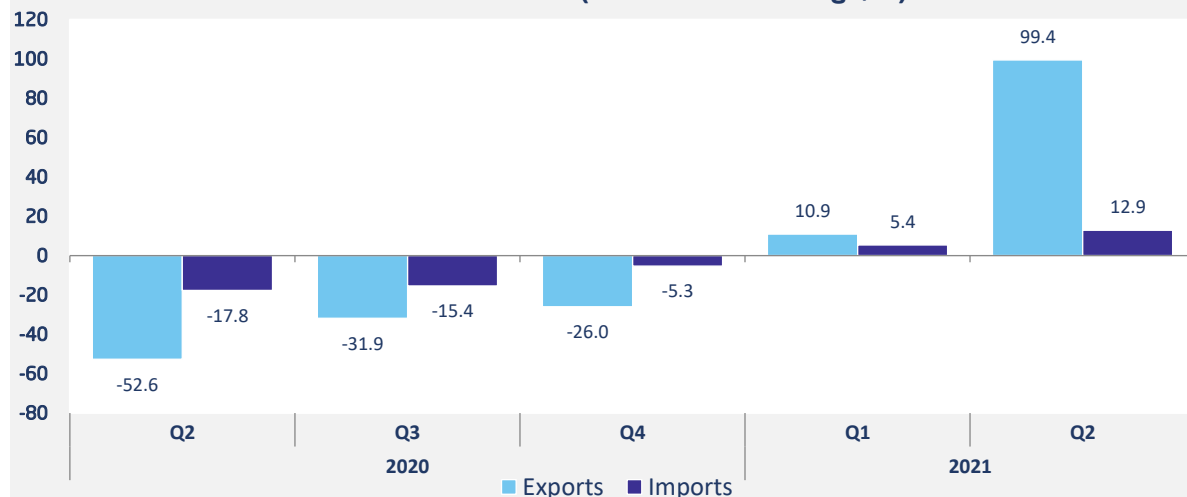
Top Five Customs Ports for Imports

36.6 billion riyals of imports, corresponding to 26.0% of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in Q2 2021. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Port (19.4%), King Khalid International Airport (12.4%), King Fahad Airport (7.0%), and Bat'ha (6.4%). Those five ports together accounted for 71.1% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

Methodology

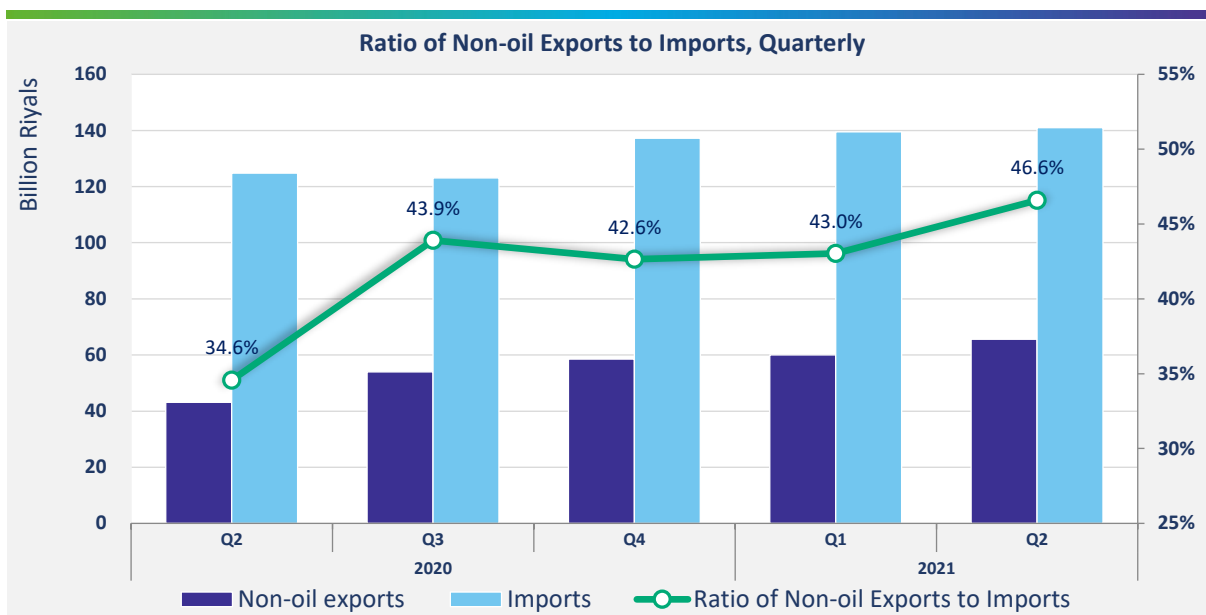
GASTAT's statistics on International trade are built on administrative records from Saudi Customs (non-oil) and the Ministry of Energy (oil). Saudi Arabia's merchandise exports and imports are classified according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding Systems (2017), also known as the Harmonized 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).

International Trade (Year-on-Year Change, %)



Exports, Imports, Trade Volume, and Trade Balance (Quarterly, Million Riyals)

Year	Month	Merchandise Exports (A)	Merchandise Imports (B)	Trade Volume (A+B)	Trade Balance (A-B)
2020	Q2	119,656	124,849	244,505	-5,193
	Q3	160,579	123,033	283,612	37,547
	Q4	180,044	137,228	317,272	42,815
2021	Q1	212,527	139,502	352,029	73,025
	Q2	238,623	140,944	379,565	97,678



International Trade by HS Section (Million Riyals)

Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Q2 2020	Q2 2021	Q2 2020	Q2 2021
1	Live animals; animal products	1,307	1,246	4,832	4,645
2	Vegetable products	331	314	8,995	8,412
3	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	199	371	738	1,015
4	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	1,324	1,528	7,108	7,147
5	Mineral products	77,089	174,107	3,707	7,311
6	Products of the chemical or allied industries	12,585	20,380	14,293	15,888
7	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	13,723	22,491	5,055	5,604
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)	22	56	342	409
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	37	66	1,267	1,411
10	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	561	651	1,737	1,747
11	Textiles and textile articles	436	665	4,385	4,911



Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Q2 2020	Q2 2021	Q2 2020	Q2 2021
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	8	16	509	906
13	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	308	935	1,708	1,764
14	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	1,074	1,661	919	5,073
15	Base metals and articles of base metal	3,049	5,827	12,150	12,541
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	1,944	3,564	26,188	26,583
17	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	4,928	3,709	19,508	24,740
18	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	349	459	4,161	3,807
19	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	31	72	2,118	1,220
20	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	310	427	2,827	3,383
21	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	41	77	2,305	2,428
Total		119,656	238,623	124,849	140,944

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