

Non-oil exports increase by 36.6% in April 2022

Overall merchandise exports increased by 98.0% in April 2022 compared to April 2021. The value of exports amounted to SAR137.1 billion in April 2022, up from SAR69.3 billion in April 2021. This increase originated mainly from oil exports, which rose by SAR60.5 billion or 123.0% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports increased from 71.1% in April 2021 to 80.0% in April 2022. Compared to March 2022, total merchandise exports decreased by SAR4.8 billion or 3.4%.

Non-oil exports (including re-exports) increased by 36.6% year-on-year in April 2022, rising to SAR27.4 billion from SAR20.0 billion in April 2021. Non-oil exports decreased by SAR1.5 billion or 5.3% compared to March 2022.

Merchandise imports increased by 11.2% (SAR5.6 billion) in April 2022. The value of imports amounted to SAR55.3 billion in April 2022 compared to SAR49.7 billion in April 2021. Imports also decreased by SAR0.6 billion or 1.0% compared to March 2022.

Ratio of non-oil exports to imports increases to 49.5% in April 2022

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 49.5% in April 2022 from 40.3% in April 2021, as a result of a higher increase in non-oil exports (36.6%) than in imports (11.2%) over that period.

Products of the chemical and allied industries most important non-oil export merchandise in April 2022

The most important non-oil goods were 'Products of the chemical and allied industries' (36.6% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 67.5% SAR4.0 billion and 'Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof' (27.8% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 15.9% SAR1.0 billion from April 2021.

And the most important imported merchandise were 'Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof' (18.9% of total merchandise imports), and 'Transport equipment and parts thereof' (14.8% of total merchandise imports).

China is Saudi Arabia's main trading partner for merchandise trade in April 2022

In April 2022, exports to China amounted to SAR23.4 billion (17.1% of total exports), making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. India and South Korea followed next with SAR14.5 billion (10.6% of total exports) and SAR12.0 billion (8.8% of total exports), respectively. Japan, U.S.A, United Arab Emirates, Taiwan, Egypt, Bahrain, and Belgium were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to SAR90.0 billion, accounting for 65.6% of total exports.

Imports from China amounted to SAR11.0 billion (19.8% of total imports) in April 2022, making this country the main origin for imports of Saudi Arabia. U.S.A and India followed next with imports of SAR5.4 billion (9.9% of total imports) and SAR3.8 billion (6.9% of total imports), respectively. United Arab Emirates, Japan, Germany, Egypt, Italy, France and Sultanate of Oman were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 countries for imports. Imports of Saudi Arabia from those 10 countries amounted to SAR35.2 billion, accounting for 63.6% of total imports.

Top five customs ports for imports in April 2022

SAR14.4 billion of imports, corresponding to 26.1% of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in April 2022. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Sea Port in Dammam (18.2%), King Khalid Int Airport in Riyadh (13.2%), King Abdulaziz Int. Airport (6.3%), and Al Bat'ha Port (6.2%). Those five ports together accounted for 70.0% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

Table1. Exports, Imports, Trade Volume & Trade Balance (Monthly, Million SAR)

Year	Month	Merchandise Exports	Merchandise Imports	Trade Volume (Merchandise Exports + Merchandise Imports)	Trade Balance (Merchandise Exports - Merchandise Imports)	
2021	April	69,252	49,703	118,955	19,549	
	May	78,583	44,214	122,797	34,369	
	June	84,343	46,507	130,850	37,836	
	July	88,674	46,600	135,274	42,074	
	August	89,714	50,830	140,544	38,884	
	September	95,205	47,327	142,532	47,878	
	October	106,009	45,852	151,861	60,157	
	November	108,814	49,559	158,373	59,255	
	December	107,044	53,203	160,247	53,841	
	2022	January	108,146	52,458	160,604	55,688
		February	115,781	49,132	164,913	66,649
		March	141,933	55,857	197,790	86,076
April		137,119	55,274	192,393	81,845	

Source: Tables

Figure 1. International Trade (Year-on-Year Change, %)

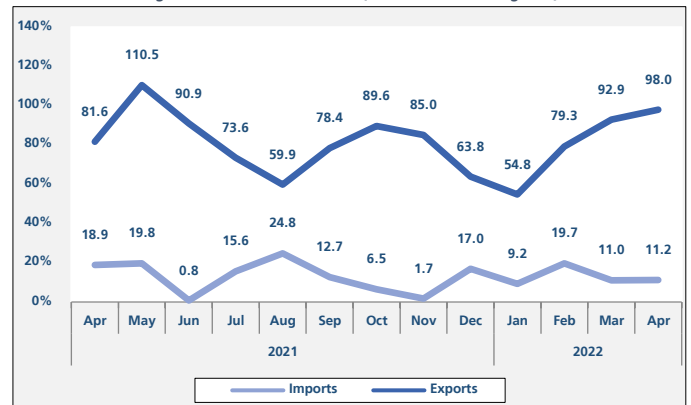


Figure 2. Ratio of Non-Oil Exports to Imports, Monthly

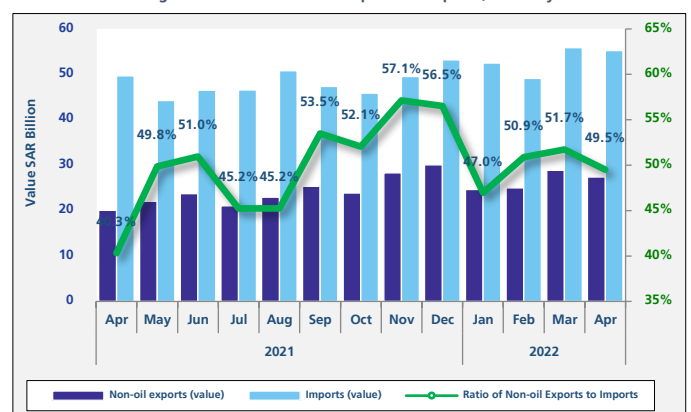
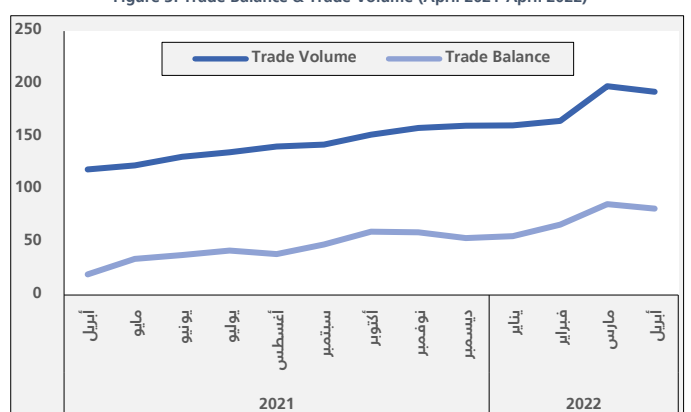


Figure 3. Trade Balance & Trade Volume (April 2021-April 2022)



Methodology

GASTAT's statistics on international trade is 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 waxes) of the Harmonized System (HS). Non-oil exports refer to all other goods exported (including petrochemicals). [Methodology](#)