



## Non-oil exports increase by 13.1%

Overall merchandise exports increased by 46.1% in Q3 2022 compared to Q3 2021. The value of exports amounted to SAR 399.7 billion in Q3 2022, up from SAR 273.6 billion in Q3 2021. This increase originated mainly from oil exports, which rose by SAR 117.1 billion or 57.3% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports increased from 74.6% in Q3 2021 to 80.4% in Q3 2022. Compared to Q2 2022, total merchandise exports decreased by SAR 30.8 billion or 7.1%.

Non-oil exports (including re-exports) increased by 13.1% , rising to SAR 78.4 billion from SAR 69.4 billion in Q3 2021. Non-oil exports decreased compared to Q2 2022 by SAR 8.4 billion or 9.6%.

Merchandise imports increased by 25.1% (SAR 36.4 billion) in Q3 2022. The value of imports amounted to SAR 181.1 billion in Q3 2022 compared to SAR 144.8 billion in Q3 2021. Imports also increased compared to Q2 2022 by SAR 8.3 billion or 4.8%.

### Products of chemical and allied industries most important non-oil export merchandise

The most important non-oil export goods were "Products of the chemical and allied industries" (36.8% of non-oil merchandise exports), which increased by 35.1% SAR 7.5 billion, and "Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof" (28.5% of non-oil merchandise exports) which decreased by 7.1% SAR 1.7 billion from Q3 2021.

The most important imported merchandise goods were "Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof" (18.7% of total merchandise imports), and "Transport equipment and parts thereof" (13.0% of total merchandise imports).

### Ratio of non-oil exports to imports decreases to 43.3%

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports decreased to 43.3% in Q3 2022 from 47.9% in Q3 2021, as a result of a higher increase in imports (25.1%) than in non-oil exports (13.1%) over that period.

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

In Q3 2022, exports to China amounted to SAR 65.6 billion (16.4% of total exports), making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. South Korea and Japan followed next with SAR 40.0 billion (10.0% of total exports) and SAR 39.6 billion (9.9% of total exports), respectively. India, U.S.A, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Egypt, Taiwan, and France were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to SAR 263.6 billion, accounting for 65.9% of total exports.

Imports from China amounted to SAR 37.4 billion (20.7% of total imports) in Q3 2022, making this country the main origin for imports of Saudi Arabia. U.S.A and United Arab Emirates followed next with imports of SAR 15.9 billion (8.8% of total imports) and SAR 12.3 billion (6.8% of total imports), respectively. India, Germany, Japan, Egypt, Switzerland, South Korea and Italy were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 countries for imports. Imports of Saudi Arabia from those 10 countries amounted to SAR 110.2 billion, accounting for 60.8% of total imports.

### Top five customs ports for imports

Jeddah Islamic Port is one of the most important ports through which goods crossed into Saudi Arabia at a value of SAR 50.0 billion of imports, corresponding to 27.6% of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in Q3 2022. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Sea Port in Dammam (19.8%), King Khalid Int Airport in Riyadh (10.3%), King Abdulaziz Int. Airport (6.2%), and King Fahad Int Airport in Dammam (6.0%). Those five ports together accounted for 69.9% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

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

Year	Quarter	Merchandise Exports	Merchandise Imports	Trade Volume (Merchandise Exports + Merchandise Imports)	Trade Balance (Merchandise Exports - Merchandise Imports)
2021	Q3	274	145	419	129
	Q4	322	149	471	173
2022	Q1	366	158	524	208
	Q2	430	173	603	257
	Q3	400	181	581	219

Source: Tables

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

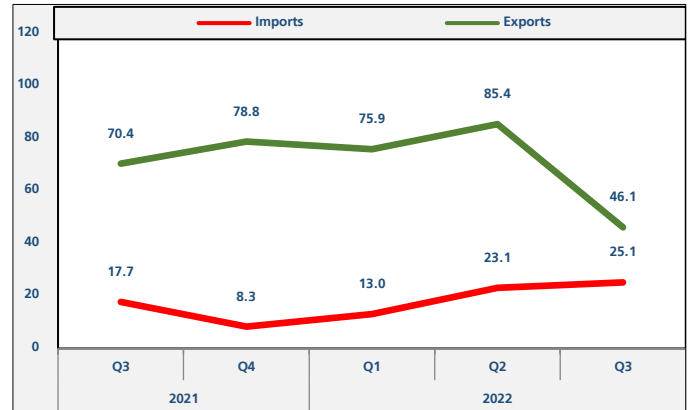


Figure 2. Ratio of Non-Oil Exports to Imports, quarterly

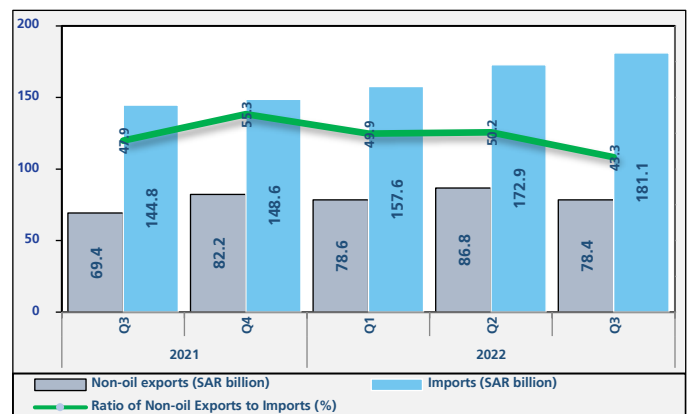
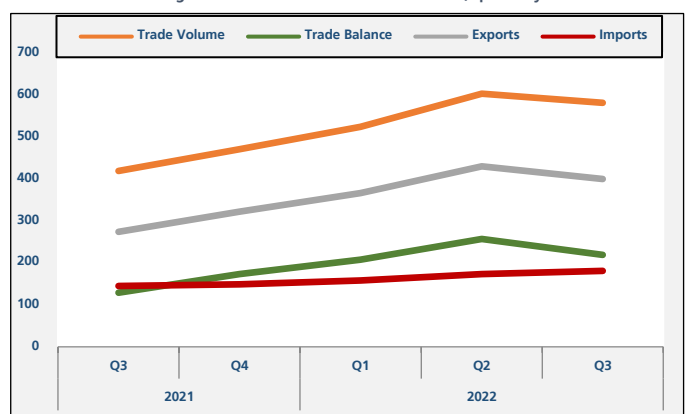


Figure 3. Trade Balance & Trade Volume, quarterly



## 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 2022, 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](#)