



Non-oil exports increase by 38.2% in September 2021

Overall merchandise exports increased by 77.4% in September 2021 compared to September 2020, when international trade was impacted by Covid-related lockdowns and travel bans in numerous countries. The value of exports amounted to 94.7 billion riyals in September 2021, up from 53.4 billion riyals in September 2020. This increase originated mainly from oil exports, which rose by 34.3 billion riyals or 97.8% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports increased from 65.7% (September 2020) to 73.3% (September 2021). Compared to the previous month (August 2021), total merchandise exports increased by 5.5 billion riyals or 6.1%.

Non-oil exports increased by 38.2% year-on-year in September 2021, rising to 25.3 billion riyals from 18.3 billion riyals in September 2020. Of the most important non-oil goods, 'Plastics and Rubber and Articles Thereof' (31.4% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 42.8% 2.4 billion riyals and 'Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries' (28.5% of non-oil merchandise exports) increased by 31.4% 1.7 billion riyals from September 2020. Non-oil exports increased compared to the previous month (August 2021) by 2.3 billion riyals or 10.1%.

Merchandise imports increased by 9.2% (3.8 billion riyals) in September 2021. The value of imports amounted to 45.8 billion riyals in September 2021 compared to 42.0 billion riyals in September 2020. This increase was due to the increase in many sectors, mainly 'Machinery and Mechanical Appliances; Electrical Equipment' (15.9%), and 'Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries' (17.9%), Imports, however, decreased compared to the previous month (August 2021) by -5.7 billion riyals or 11.0%.

Ratio of Non-oil Exports to Imports increase to 55.2% in September 2021

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 55.2% in September 2021 from 43.6% in September 2020, as a result of a higher increase in non-oil exports (38.2%) than in imports (9.2%) over that period.

China is Saudi Arabia's main trading partner for merchandise trade in September 2021

In September 2021, exports to China amounted to 15.9 billion riyals (16.8% of total exports), making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. India and Japan followed next with 9.8 billion riyals (10.3% of total exports) and 9.7 billion riyals (10.2% of total exports), respectively. South Korea, U.S.A, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Bahrain, Kenya, and Taiwan were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to 65.0 billion riyals, accounting for 68.7% of total exports.

Imports from China amounted to 9.7 billion riyals (21.2% of total imports) in September 2021, making this country the main origin for imports of Saudi Arabia. U.S.A and United Arab Emirates followed next with imports of 4.1 billion riyals (9.0% of total imports) and 3.1 billion riyals (6.8% of total imports), respectively. India, Germany, Egypt, Japan, South Korea, Italy and France were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 countries for imports. Imports of Saudi Arabia from those 10 countries amounted to 29.0 billion riyals, accounting for 63.3% of total imports.

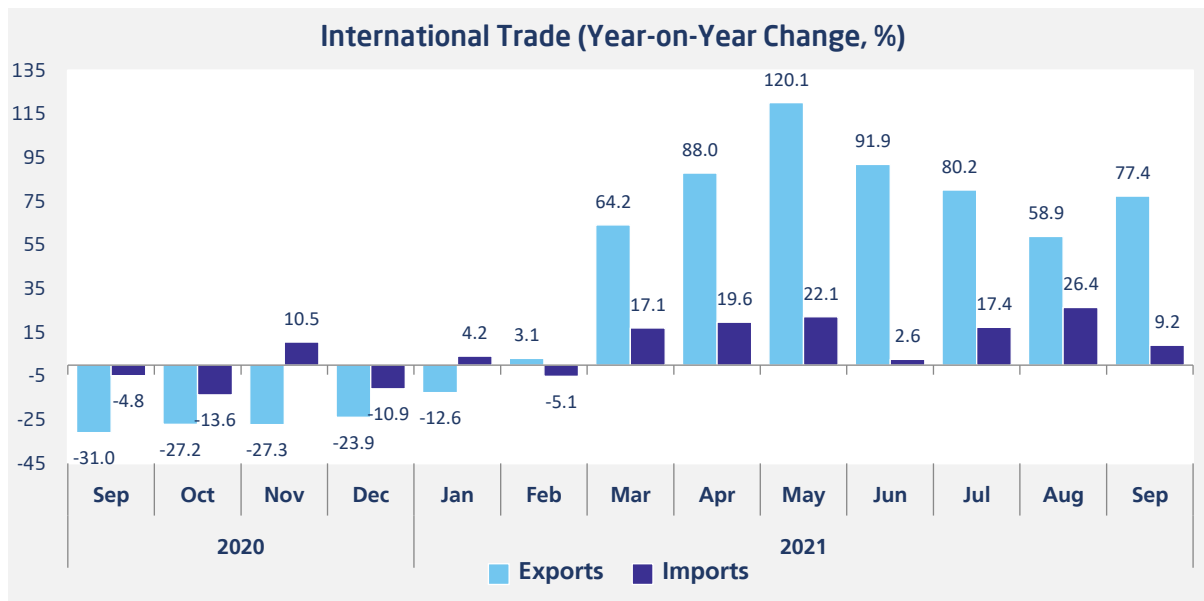
Top Five Customs Ports for Imports in September 2021

10.8 billion riyals of imports, corresponding to 23.5% of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in September 2021. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Port (20.6%), King Khalid International Airport (12.1%), Bat'ha (6.8%), and King Abdulaziz International Airport (6.3%). Those five ports together accounted for 69.3% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

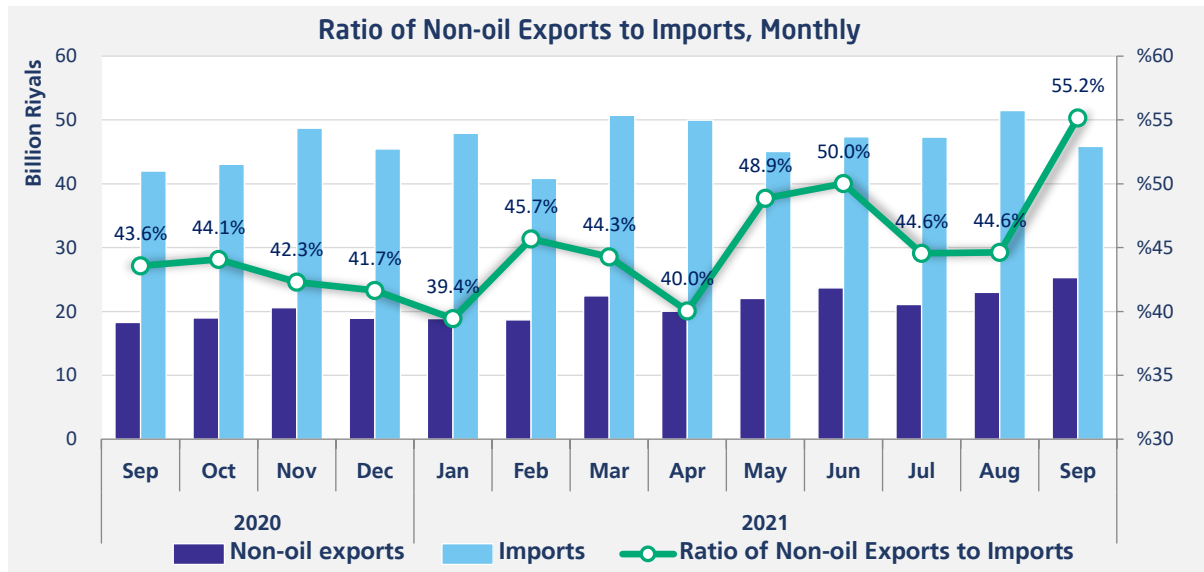


Methodology

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).



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	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	10,091
	December	65,335	45,479	110,814	19,856
2021	January	71,937	47,937	119,874	24,000
	February	65,814	40,842	106,656	24,972
	March	74,776	50,723	125,499	24,053
	April	71,710	49,988	121,698	21,722
	May	82,192	45,076	127,268	37,116
	June	84,795	47,351	132,146	37,444
	July	92,072	47,303	139,375	44,769
	August	89,195	51,499	140,694	37,696
	September	94,667	45,842	140,509	48,825



International Trade by HS Section (Million Riyals)					
Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Sep 2020	Sep 2021	Sep 2020	Sep 2021
1	Live animals; animal products	456	470	1,562	1,442
2	Vegetable products	112	127	3,038	2,594
3	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	90	133	222	241
4	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	533	599	2,361	2,473
5	Mineral products	35,475	69,719	2,703	3,430
6	Products of the chemical or allied industries	5,476	7,196	4,119	4,858
7	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	5,553	7,929	1,625	1,960
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)	13	17	124	137
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	23	34	435	480
10	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	174	211	492	599



Section	Description	Exports		Imports	
		Sep 2020	Sep 2021	Sep 2020	Sep 2021
11	Textiles and textile articles	168	204	1,682	1,948
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	5	12	244	350
13	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	167	177	699	545
14	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	1,367	302	432	1,413
15	Base metals and articles of base metal	1,461	1,828	4,058	4,326
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	1,039	1,415	8,356	9,688
17	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	886	3,265	5,908	6,037
18	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	167	183	1,376	1,245
19	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	37	10	892	165
20	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	133	802	1,136	1,264
21	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	40	35	532	647
	Total	53,375	94,667	41,995	45,842

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