

Merchandise exports increase by 3.9% in May 2026

Non-oil exports, including re-exports, recorded a decrease of 26.1% compared to May 2025, while national non-oil exports, excluding re-exports, decreased by 27.3%. Moreover, the value of re-exported goods decreased by 24.4% during the same period, driven by a 32.4% decrease in "machinery, electrical equipment and parts," which represented 46.2% of total re-exports. Meanwhile, merchandise exports increased by 3.9% in May 2026 compared to May 2025, and oil exports increased by 19.5%. The percentage of oil exports out of total exports increased from 65.7% in May 2025 to 75.6% in May 2026. On the imports side, imports decreased by 19.5% in May 2026. As for the merchandise trade balance, the surplus increased by 328.8% compared to May 2025.

Ratio of non-oil exports to imports decreases to 33.8%

The ratio of non-oil exports (including re-exports) to imports decreased in May 2026, reaching 33.8% compared with 36.8% in May 2025. This decrease was driven by a 26.1% decrease in non-oil exports, alongside a 19.5% decrease in imports over the same period.

Machinery, electrical equipment and parts are among most important non-oil export merchandise

"Machinery, electrical equipment and parts" were among the most important non-oil export goods, accounting for 22.0% of the total non-oil exports, and decreasing by 31.6% compared with May 2025. This was followed by "plastic, rubber and their articles", which represented 17.6% of total non-oil exports and decreased by 28.2% compared with May 2025.

On the import side, the most important imported goods were "machinery, electrical equipment and parts" which accounted for 26.4% of total imports and decreased by 28.0% compared with May 2025, followed by "mineral products", which accounted for 11.9% of total imports and increased by 65.7% compared with the same period of the previous year.

China is Saudi Arabia main merchandise trading partner

China is the main destination for Saudi Arabia's merchandise exports, accounting for 12.3% of total exports in May 2026, followed by South Korea at 9.6% and United Arab Emirates at 7.5%. India, Japan, Egypt, Malta, Singapore, Poland, and Taiwan were also among the top ten export destinations, with total exports to these ten countries representing 63.3% of Saudi Arabia's overall exports.

On the imports side, China ranked first as Saudi Arabia's merchandise source, accounting for 22.0% of total imports in May 2026, followed by U.S.A at 10.7% and Egypt at 8.4%. United Arab Emirates, India, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, and Russian Federation were also among the top ten import sources, with total imports from these ten countries representing 69.0% of Saudi Arabia's overall imports.

Key customs ports for imports and non-oil exports

Jeddah Islamic Sea Port was the leading entry point for goods into Saudi Arabia, accounting for 35.7% of total imports in May 2026. It was followed by other major ports: King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh at 15.9%, King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah at 11.8%, King Fahad International Airport in Dammam at 5.6%, and Al-Batha Port at 4.8%. These five ports together handled 73.8% of Saudi Arabia's total merchandise imports.

For non-oil exports, Jeddah Islamic Sea Port was the primary outlet in May 2026, accounting for 24.4% of total non-oil exports. It was followed by King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh at 13.7%, King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah at 12.7%, Al-Batha Port at 9.7%, and Yanbu Commercial Port at 4.7%. Collectively, these five ports accounted for 65.2% of Saudi Arabia's total non-oil merchandise exports.

Figure 1. International trade in goods (May 2025 – May 2026)

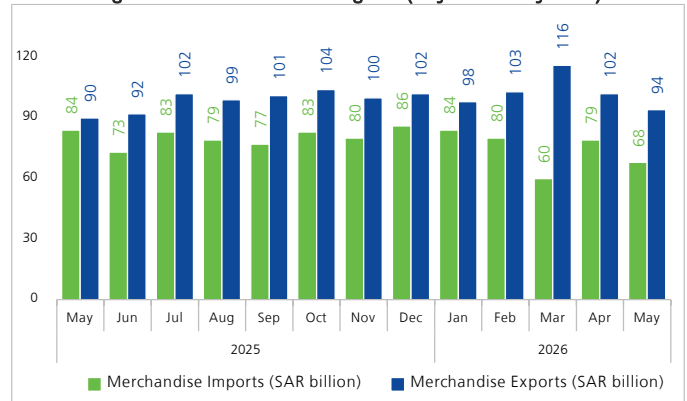


Figure 2. Non-oil exports and imports (May 2025 – May 2026)

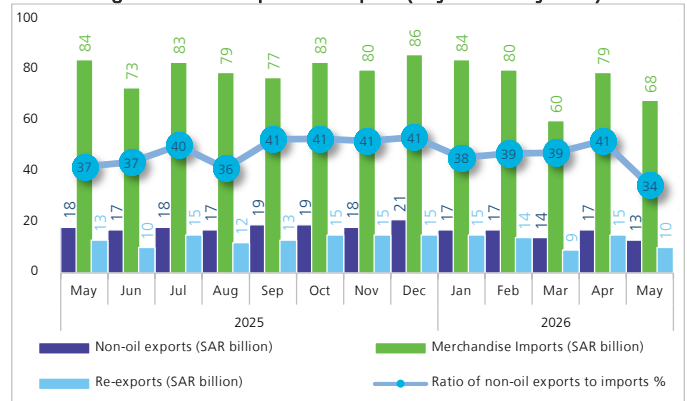


Figure 3. Most important non-oil goods exports (May 2026)

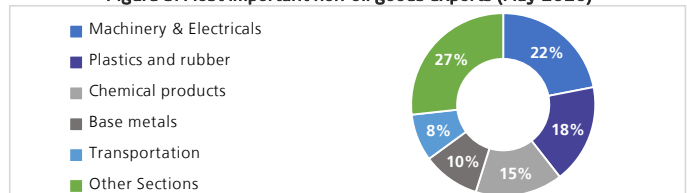
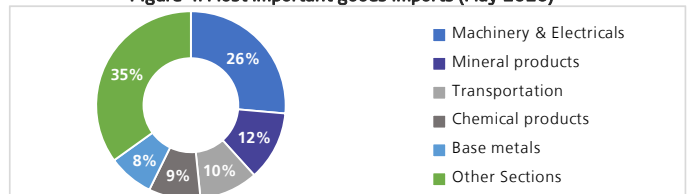


Figure 4. Most important goods imports (May 2026)



Methodology and quality

The General Authority for Statistics prepares International Trade in Goods Statistics based on administrative records received from the relevant authorities, namely the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority for non-oil data and the Ministry of Energy for oil-related data. These records undergo statistical processing and validation in accordance with the methodologies adopted by GASTAT to ensure data quality and accuracy prior to publication.

Saudi Arabia's merchandise exports and imports are classified according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) 2022, maintained by the World Customs Organization (WCO). This system enables countries to classify traded products within a unified international framework of product names and codes. Oil exports fall under Chapter 27 of the HS classification: "Mineral Fuels, Oils and Waxes," while non-oil exports include all other merchandise exports, including petrochemical products. Data for 2026 are preliminary. [Methodology and quality, table](#)