

Non-oil exports increase by 26.4% in July 2022

Overall merchandise exports increased by 58.8% in July 2022 compared to July 2021. The value of exports amounted to SAR 140.8 billion in July 2022, up from SAR 88.7 billion in July 2021. This increase originated mainly from oil exports, which rose by SAR 46.6 billion or 68.9% in the same period. The share of oil exports in total exports increased from 76.2% in July 2021 to 81.1% in July 2022, compared to June 2022, total merchandise exports decreased by SAR 7.6 billion or 5.1%.

Non-oil exports (including re-exports) increased by 26.4% year-on-year in July 2022, rising to SAR 26.7 billion from SAR 21.1 billion in July 2021. Non-oil exports decreased compared to June 2022 by SAR 4.0 billion or 13.1%.

Merchandise imports increased by 18.3% (SAR 8.5 billion) in July 2022. The value of imports amounted to SAR 55.1 billion in July 2022 compared to SAR 46.6 billion in July 2021. Imports also decreased compared to June 2022 by SAR 5.8 billion or 9.5%. The general trend of merchandise trade was positive during the reference period, which reflects solid demand for energy products across the world.

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

The most important non-oil export goods were 'Products of the chemical and allied industries' (35.9% of non-oil merchandise exports), which increased by 46.9% SAR 3.1 billion, and 'Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof' (28.2% of non-oil merchandise exports) which decreased by 3.8% SAR 0.3 billion from July 2021.

The most important imported merchandise goods were 'Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof' (17.8% of total merchandise imports), and 'Transport equipment and parts thereof' (13.0% of total merchandise imports).

Ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 48.3%

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports increased to 48.3% in July 2022 from 45.2% in July 2021, because of the bigger increase in non-oil exports (26.4%) than imports (18.3%) over that period.

China is Saudi Arabia's main merchandise trading partner

In July 2022, exports to China amounted to SAR 22.1 billion (15.7% of total exports), making this country the main destination for exports of Saudi Arabia. South Korea and India followed next with SAR 16.0 billion (11.4% of total exports) and SAR 14.0 billion (10.0% of total exports), respectively. Japan, U.S.A, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Malaysia, Poland, and France were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to SAR 94.5 billion, accounting for 67.1% of total exports.

Imports from China amounted to SAR 12.0 billion (21.8% of total imports) in July 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 4.2 billion (7.7% of total imports) and SAR 3.8 billion (6.9% of total imports), respectively. India, Germany, Switzerland, Sultanate of Oman, Egypt, Japan 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 34.9 billion, accounting for 63.4% of total imports.

Top five customs ports for imports

SAR 15.1 billion of imports, corresponding to 27.4% of the total, entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port in July 2022. Among the other major ports of entry for the imports were King Abdulaziz Sea Port in Dammam (19.0%), King Khalid Int Airport in Riyadh (10.3%), King Abdulaziz Int. Airport (6.9%), and King Fahad Int Airport in Dammam (6.3%). Those five ports together accounted for 69.9% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

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

Year	Month	Merchandise Exports	Merchandise Imports	Trade Volume (Merchandise Exports + Merchandise Imports)	Trade Balance (Merchandise Exports - Merchandise Imports)
2021	Jul	89	47	136	42
	Aug	90	51	141	39
	Sep	95	47	142	48
	Oct	106	46	152	60
	Nov	109	50	159	59
	Dec	107	53	160	54
2022	Jan	108	52	160	56
	Feb	116	49	165	67
	Mar	142	56	198	86
	Apr	138	56	194	82
	May	144	55	199	89
	Jun	148	61	209	87
	Jul	141	55	196	86

Source: Tables

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



Figure 2. Ratio of Non-Oil Exports to Imports, value SAR billion

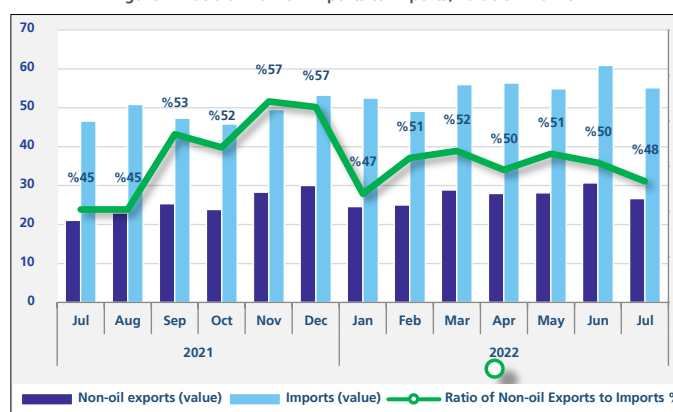


Figure 3. Trade Balance & Trade Volume, value SAR billion



Methodology

GASTAT's statistics on international trade is built on administrative records from Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (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](#)