

Merchandise exports decrease by 11.5% in August 2026

Non-oil exports, including re-exports, recorded a decrease of 9.1% compared to August 2025, while national non-oil exports, excluding re-exports, increased by 8.5%. Moreover, the value of re-exported goods decreased by 34.0% during the same period, driven by a 63.6% decrease in "machinery, electrical equipment, and parts thereof," which represented 31.7% of total re-exports. Meanwhile, merchandise exports decreased by 11.5% in August 2026 compared to August 2025, while oil exports decreased by 12.5%. The percentage of oil exports in total exports also decreased from 70.8% in August 2025 to 70.0% in August 2026. On the imports side, imports decreased by 9.1% in August 2026, while the surplus in the merchandise trade balance decreased by 21.0% compared to August 2025.

Ratio of non-oil exports to imports increases to 36.51%

The ratio of non-oil exports, including re-exports, to imports increased in August 2026, reaching 36.51% compared to 36.48% in August 2025. This increase was driven by a 9.1% decrease in non-oil exports, compared to a 9.1% decrease in imports over the same period.

Plastic, rubber and their articles are among most important non-oil export merchandise

"Plastic, rubber, and their articles" were among the most important non-oil export goods, accounting for 22.6% of total non-oil exports and increasing by 7.5% compared to August 2025. This was followed by "chemical products and allied industries," which represented 20.9% of total non-oil exports and decreased by 17.7% compared to August 2025.

On the import side, the most important imported goods were "machinery, electrical equipment, and parts thereof," which accounted for 26.2% of total imports and decreased by 19.8% compared to August 2025, followed by "chemical products and allied industries," which accounted for 9.6% of total imports and increased by 2.7% compared to the same period of the previous year.

Saudi Arabia's key merchandise trading partners

United Arab Emirates is the main destination for Saudi Arabia's merchandise exports, accounting for 11.4% of total exports in August 2026, followed by South Korea at 11.2% and India at 8.4%. China, Japan, Egypt, Poland, U.S.A., Oman, and Malta were also among the top 10 export destinations, with total exports to these 10 countries representing 64.5% of Saudi Arabia's total exports.

On the imports side, China ranked first as Saudi Arabia's merchandise source, accounting for 21.9% of total imports in August 2026, followed by U.S.A. at 8.4% and Egypt at 5.8%. Germany, Switzerland, Italy, India, Japan, United Arab Emirates, and France were also among the top 10 import sources, with total imports from these 10 countries representing 61.2% of Saudi Arabia's total imports.

Key customs ports for imports and non-oil exports

Jeddah Islamic Port was the leading entry point for goods into Saudi Arabia, accounting for 46.7% of total imports in August 2026. It was followed by other major ports: King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh at 14.6%, King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah at 8.4%, King Fahad International Airport in Dammam at 6.8%, Al-Batha Port at 3.9%. These five ports together handled 80.4% of Saudi Arabia's total merchandise imports.

For non-oil exports, Jeddah Islamic Sea Port was the primary outlet in August 2026, accounting for 27.5% of total non-oil exports. It was followed by King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah at 10.4%, Al-Batha Port at 9.7%, King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh at 6.8%, and Rub' Al-Khali Port at 4.8%. Collectively, these five ports accounted for 59.2% of Saudi Arabia's total non-oil merchandise exports.

Figure 1. International trade in goods (August 2025 - August 2026)

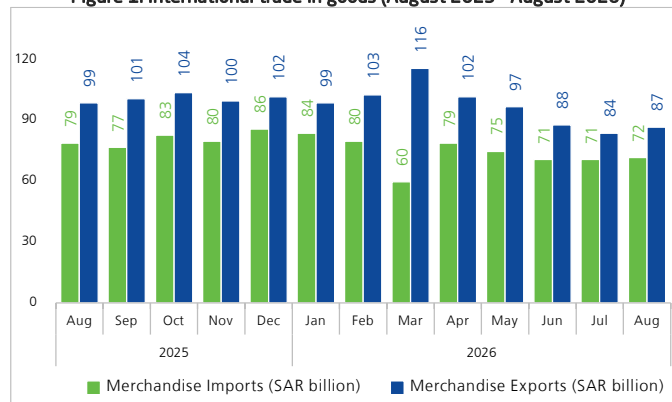


Figure 2. Non-oil exports and imports (August 2025 - August 2026)

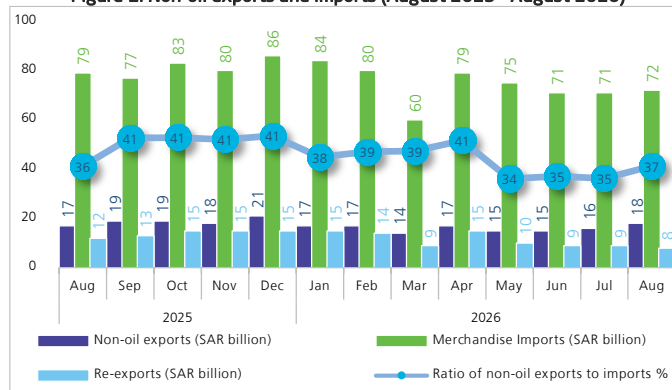


Figure 3. Most important non-oil goods exports (August 2026)

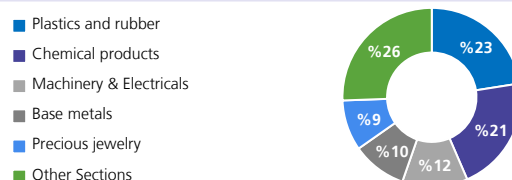
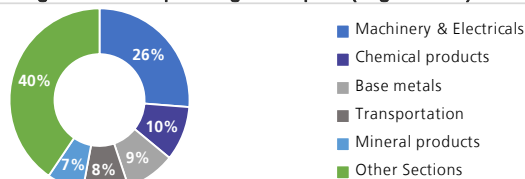


Figure 4. Most important goods imports (August 2026)



Methodology and quality

The General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT) prepares the 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.

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.

For more details, please refer to the: [Methodology and quality](#) , [table](#)