Merchandise exports increase by 14.2% in September 2026

Non-oil exports, including re-exports, recorded a decrease of 10.8% compared to September 2025, while national non-oil exports, excluding re-exports, decreased by 4.6%. The value of re-exported goods also decreased by 20.1% during the same period, driven by a decrease of 67.6% in "machinery, electrical equipment, and parts thereof" (accounting for 23.7% of total re-exports). Meanwhile, merchandise exports increased by 14.2% in September 2026 compared to September 2025, and oil exports increased by 25.6%. The percentage of oil exports out of total exports increased from 68.6% in September 2025 to 75.4% in September 2026. On the imports side, imports decreased by 4.3% in September 2026, while the surplus in the merchandise trade balance increased by 74.5% compared to September 2025.

Ratio of non-oil exports to imports decreases to 38.3 %

The ratio of non-oil exports, including re-exports, to imports decreased in September 2026, reaching 38.3% compared to 41.1% in September 2025. This decrease was driven by a decrease of 10.8% in non-oil exports, compared to a decrease of 4.3% 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 22.0% of total non-oil exports, and decreased by 3.8% compared to September 2025. This was followed by "chemical products and allied industries," which represented 19.6% of total non-oil exports and decreased by 23.3% compared with September 2025.

On the import side, the most important imported goods were "machinery, electrical equipment, and parts thereof," which accounted for 25.3% of total imports and decreased by 20.7% compared to September 2025, followed by "transportation equipment and parts," which accounted for 11.8% of total imports and decreased by 15.0% compared to the same period of the previous year.

Saudi Arabia key merchandise trading partners

South Korea was the main destination for Saudi Arabia's merchandise exports, accounting for 18.9% of total exports in September 2026, followed by India at 14.3% and China at 12.9%. United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Japan, Malaysia, U.S.A, Malta, and Kingdom of Bahrain were also among the top 10 export destinations, with total exports to these countries representing 76.2% of Saudi Arabia's overall merchandise exports during this month.

On the imports side, China ranked first as Saudi Arabia's merchandise source, accounting for 24.9% of total imports in September 2026, followed by U.S.A at 8.2% and Egypt at 6.2%. India, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Italy, United Arab Emirates, and France were also among the top 10 import sources, with total imports from these countries representing 65.7% of Saudi Arabia's overall merchandise imports during this month.

Key customs ports for imports and non-oil exports

Jeddah Islamic Port was the leading entry point for goods into Saudi Arabia, accounting for 42.4% of total imports in September 2026. It was followed by other major ports: King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh at 12.9%, King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah at 8.6%, King Fahad International Airport in Dammam at 5.8%, and King Abdullah Port in Rabigh at 5.7%. These five ports together handled 75.4% of Saudi Arabia's total merchandise imports.

For non-oil exports, Jeddah Islamic Port was the primary outlet in September 2026, accounting for 24.6% of total non-oil exports. It was followed by Al-Batha Port at 10.6%, Ras Tanura Port at 8.8%, King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah at 7.4%, and King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh at 5.8%. Collectively, these five ports accounted for 57.3% of Saudi Arabia's total non-oil merchandise exports.

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



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

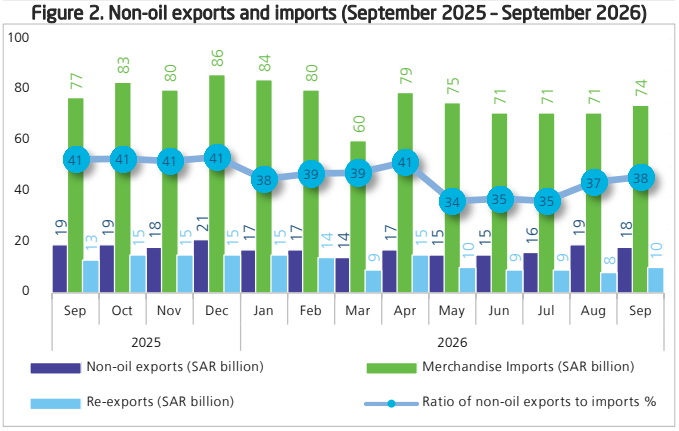


Figure 3. Most important non-oil goods exports (September 2026)

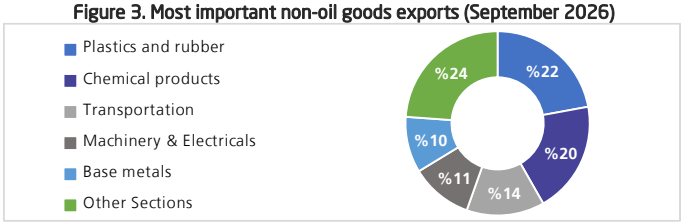
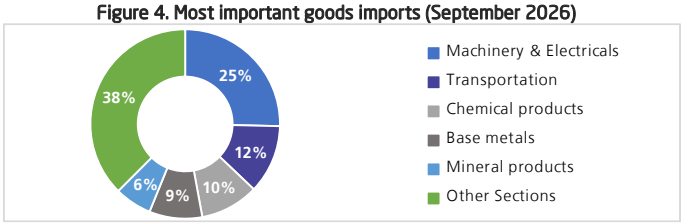


Figure 4. Most important goods imports (September 2026)



Methodology and quality

The General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT) prepares international merchandise trade 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