



## Non-oil exports decrease by 13.7% in 2023

Non-oil exports, including re-exports, recorded a decrease of 13.7% compared to 2022, while national non-oil exports, excluding re-exports, decreased by 21.3%. However, the value of re-exported goods increased by 26.7% during the same period.

Merchandise exports fell by 22.2% in 2023 compared to 2022, due to a decrease in oil exports by 24.3%. Consequently, the percentage of oil exports out of total exports decreased from 79.5% in 2022 to 77.3% in 2023.

Meanwhile, imports rose by 9.0% in 2023, and surplus of the merchandise trade balance declined by 48.9% compared to 2022.

### Ratio of non-oil exports to imports decreases to 35.1%.

Ratio of non-oil exports, including re-exports, to imports decreased in 2023, reaching 35.1% compared to 44.3% in 2022. This decrease is attributed to the increase in imports, which stood at 9.0% compared to the decrease in non-oil exports, which was 13.7% during this period. (Figure2)

### Chemical products are among the most important non-oil exports.

Among the most important non-oil exports are "Chemical products". These products constituted 29.7% of the total non-oil exports, recording a 28.5% decrease compared to 2022. Following are "Plastics, rubber, and their products" which represented 24.9% of the total non-oil exports, with a 24.2% decrease compared to 2022.

On the other hand, the most important imported goods were "Machinery, electrical equipment and parts", which constituted 22.2% of total imports, rising by 24.3% compared to 2022. Followed by "Transportation equipment and parts", which represented 15.3% of total imports, with a 15.2% increase compared to 2022.

### China is Saudi Arabia's main merchandise trading partner.

In 2023, exports to China amounted to 16.6% of total exports, making this country the main destination for the Kingdom's exports. Followed next Japan (10.2% of total exports) and India (9.4% of total exports). South Korea, United Arab Emirates, U.S.A, Bahrain, Taiwan, Malaysia and Singapore were also among the top 10 export destinations, with exports to these ten countries totaling 65.3% of total exports.

Similarly, China held the first position for the Kingdom's imports, constituting 20.9% of the total imports in 2023, followed by USA (9.1% of total imports) and United Arab Emirates (6.4% of total imports). India, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, South Korea, Italy and Egypt were among the top 10 countries from which imports were made, with the total value of imports from these ten countries accounting for 62.0% of the total imports.

### Top five customs ports for imports

Jeddah Islamic Sea Port is one of the most important ports through which goods crossed into the Kingdom accounting for 29.3% of total imports in 2023. Among the other major ports of entry for imports were King Abdul-Aziz Sea Port in Dammam (20.3%), King Khalid Int Airport in Riyadh (12.2%), King Abdul-Aziz Int. Airport (6.6%), and King Fahad Int Airport in Dammam (6.2%). Those five ports together accounted for 74.6% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

Figure1. International trade (2014- 2023)



Figure2. Non-oil exports and imports (2014 - 2023)

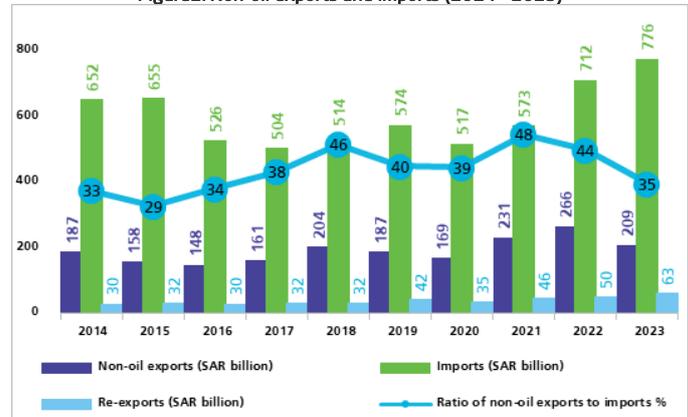
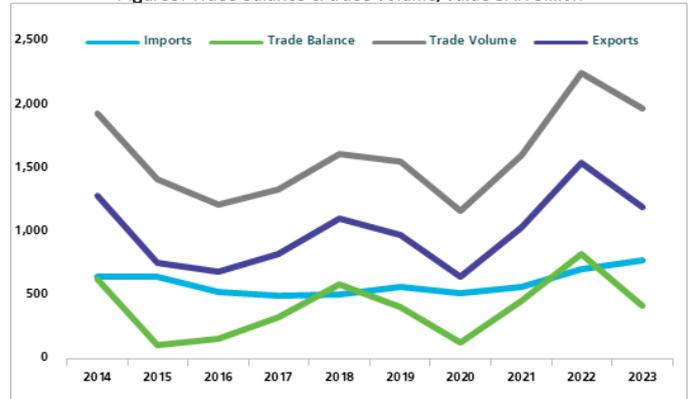


Figure3. Trade balance & trade volume, value SAR billion



### Metadata

The International Trade Statistics are 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 2022, 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). For more information: [Metadata](#)