

Non-oil exports increase by 22.8% in September 2024

Non-oil exports, including re-exports, recorded an increase of 22.8% compared to September 2023, while national non-oil exports, excluding re-exports, increased by 11.6%. Moreover, the value of re-exported goods increased by 65.4% during the same period.

Meanwhile, merchandise exports decreased by 14.9% in September 2024 compared to September 2023, as a result of a 24.5% decrease in oil exports. Consequently, the percentage of oil exports out of total exports decreased from 79.7% in September 2023 to 70.7% in September 2024.

On the other hand, imports increased by 15.0% in September 2024, and surplus of the merchandise trade balance decreased by 56.9% compared to September 2023.

Ratio of non-oil merchandise exports to imports increases to 37.1%.

Ratio of non-oil exports (including re-exports) to imports increased to 37.1% in September 2024 from 34.8% in September 2023. This was due to a 22.8% increase in non-oil exports and a 15.0% increase in imports over that period.

Plastics, rubber, and their products most important non-oil export merchandise

Among the most important non-oil exports are "plastics, rubber, and their products". These products constituted 25.7% of the total non-oil exports, recording a 19.5% increase compared to September 2023. Followed by "chemical products" which represented 25.3% of total non-oil exports, with a 4.4% increase compared to September 2023.

However, the most important imported goods were "machinery, electrical equipment and parts", which constituted 27.5% of total imports, rising by 47.3% compared to September 2023. Followed by "transportation equipment and parts", which represented 16.2% of total imports, with a 22.2% increase compared to September 2023.

China is Saudi Arabia main merchandise trading partner.

In September 2024, exports to China amounted to 15.7% of total exports, making this country the main destination for the Kingdom's exports. Followed next by Japan (9.0% of total exports) and United Arab Emirates (8.5% of total exports), respectively. India, South Korea, U.S.A, Egypt, Singapore, Kingdom of Bahrain, and Poland were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of the Kingdom to those 10 countries accounting for 64.5% of total exports.

Similarly, China held the first position for the Kingdom's imports, constituting 25.8% of total imports in September 2024, followed next by U.S.A (7.7% of total imports) and Germany (4.9% of total imports). United Arab Emirates, India, Italy, Japan, Indonesia, Egypt and Russian Federation were among the top 10 countries from which imports were made, with the total value of imports from these ten countries accounting for 63.2% of total imports.

Top five customs ports for imports

King Abdulaziz Sea Port in Dammam is one of the most important ports through which goods crossed into the Kingdom accounting for 28.1% of total imports in September 2024. Among the other major ports of entry for imports were Jeddah Islamic Sea Port 17.9%, King Khalid Int Airport in Riyadh 13.1%, Ras Tanura Sea Port 6.9%, and King Abdulaziz Int. Airport 6.8%. Those five ports together accounted for 72.8% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

Figure1. International trade (September 2023 - September 2024)

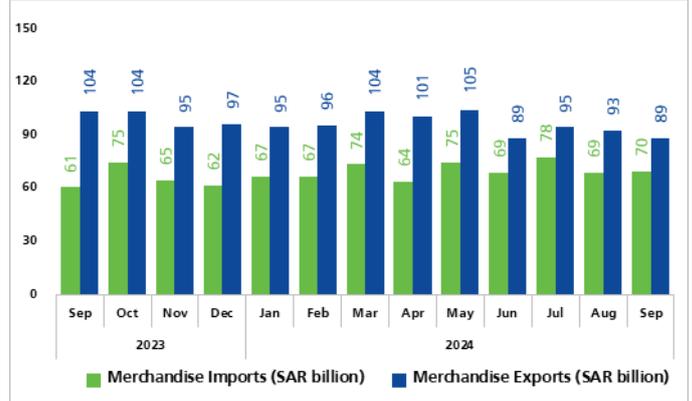


Figure2. Non-oil exports and imports (September 2023 - September 2024)

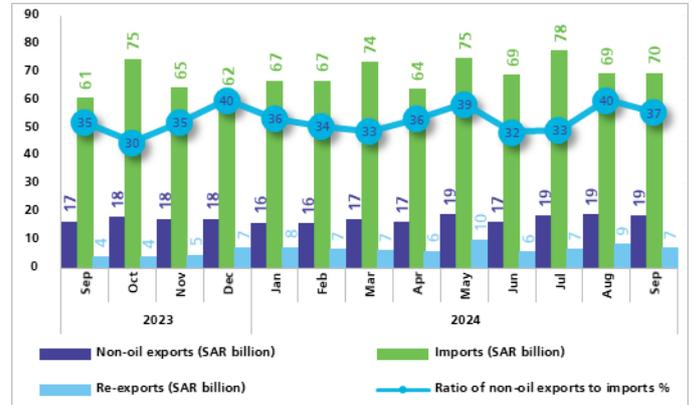
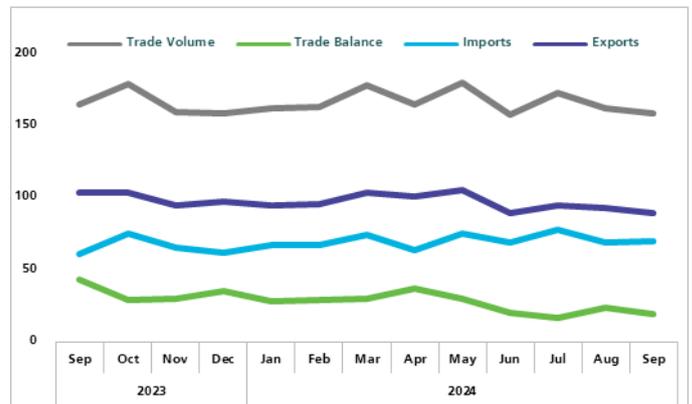


Figure3. Trade balance & trade volume, value SAR billion



Methodology and quality

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). 2024 data is preliminary.

For more information: [Methodology and quality](#)