



## Non-oil exports and imports decline by 15.0% and 12.5%, respectively, in January 2020

Non-oil merchandise exports in January 2020 recorded a decrease of 15.0%, corresponding to 2,883 million riyals, from January 2019, as they amounted to 16,349 million riyals in January 2020 compared to 19,232 million riyals in January 2019. This decrease was mainly due to the decrease in the most important goods, "Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries" and "Plastics and Rubber and Articles Thereof", which constituted 30.8% and 30.1%, respectively, of non-oil merchandise exports in January 2020. These goods recorded a decrease of 21.7%, valued at 2,754 million riyals, from January 2019. Non-oil exports also decreased compared to the previous month (December 2019), by 14.5% or 2,770 million riyals.

Merchandise imports in January 2020 recorded a decrease of 12.5%, corresponding to 5,697 million riyals, from January 2019, as they amounted to 39,732 million riyals in January 2020 compared to 45,429 in January 2019. This decrease was due to the decrease in all sections, mainly "Vegetable Products" and "Prepared Foodstuffs; Beverages and Vinegar; Tobacco" which together recorded a decrease of 29.3%, valued at 1,513 million riyals, from January 2019. Imports also decreased compared to the previous month (December 2019), by 19.9% or 9,854 million riyals.

## Ratio of Non-oil Exports to Imports at 41.1%

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports decreased to 41.1% in January 2020 compared to 42.3% in January 2019 due to the decrease in non-oil exports by 15.0% and the decrease in imports by 12.5% during this period.

## China is Saudi Arabia's main trading partner for non-oil merchandise trade

In January 2020, non-oil merchandise exports to China amounted to 2,550 million riyals, rendering the country the main destination for non-oil exports of Saudi Arabia. United Arab Emirates and India followed next with 2,320 million riyals and 948 million riyals, respectively. Singapore, U.S.A, Bahrain, Kuwait, Turkey, Egypt, and Belgium were the other countries that ranked in the top 10 destinations. Exports of Saudi Arabia to those 10 countries amounted to 10,010 million riyals, accounting for 61.2% of the total non-oil merchandise exports.

Merchandise imports from China amounted to 8,140 million riyals in January 2020, rendering the country the main origin of imports of Saudi Arabia. U.S.A and United Arab Emirates followed next with 4,909 million riyals and 2,580 million riyals, respectively. Japan, India, Germany, France, South Korea, Canada, 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 26,993 million riyals, accounting for 67.9% of the total imports.

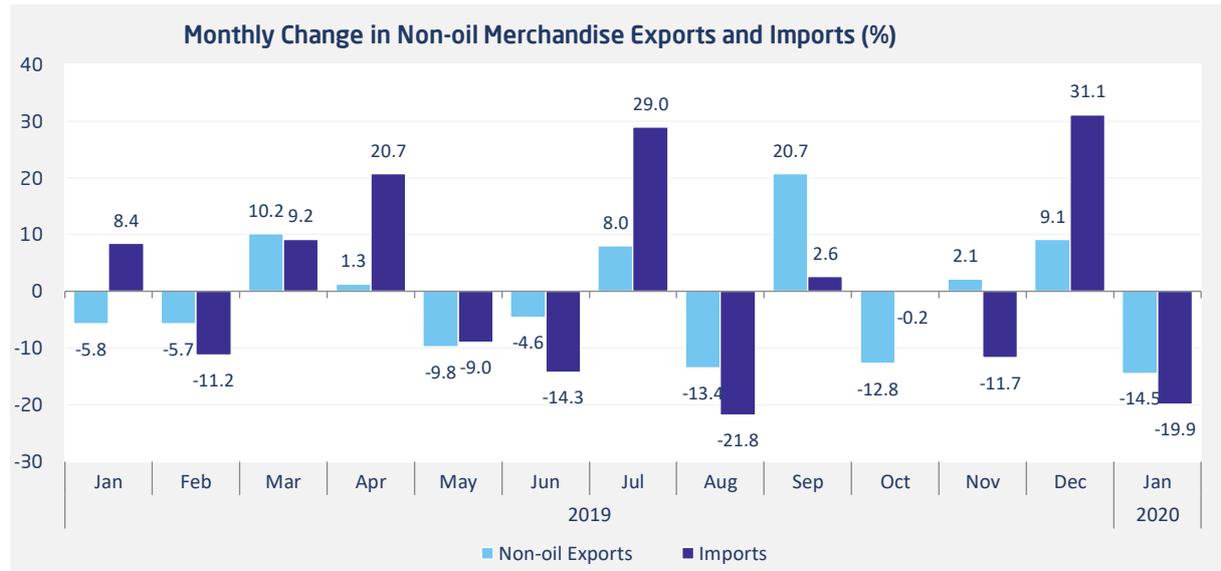
## Top Five Customs Ports for Imports

28.3% (value of 11,233 million riyals) of total merchandise imports of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in January 2020 entered the Kingdom from Jeddah Islamic Sea Port. Among the other major ports of entry were King Abdul-Aziz Port (22.5%), King Khalid International Airport (13.7%), Bat'ha (8.2%), and King Abdul-Aziz International Airport (6.1%). Those five ports together accounted for 78.8% of the total merchandise imports of the Kingdom.

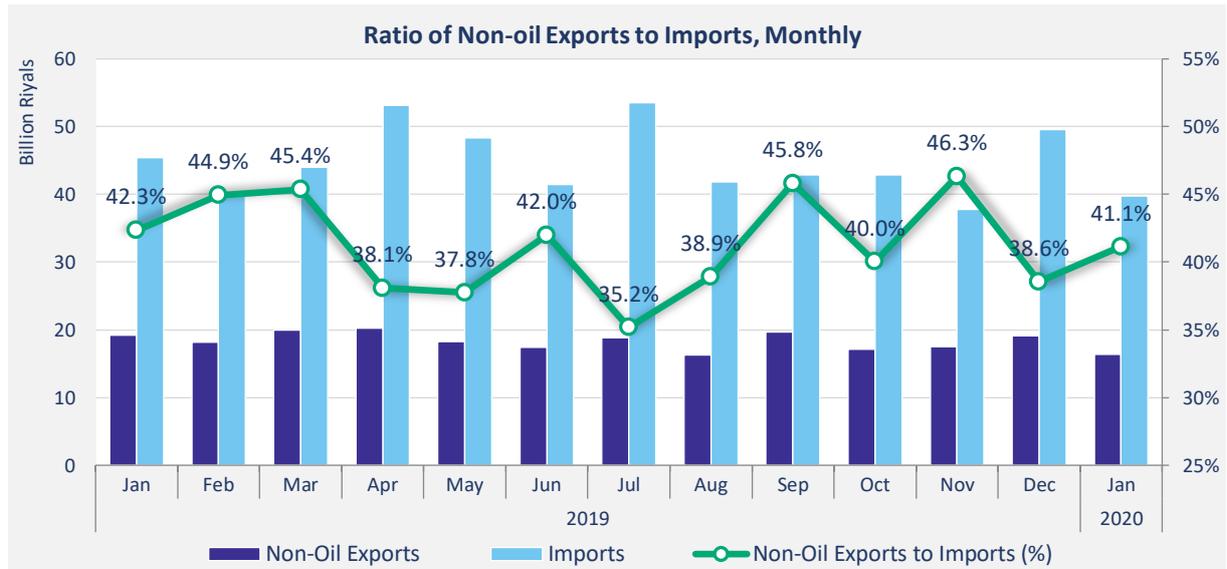


### Methodology

GaStat's statistics on merchandise exports and imports are built on administrative records from Saudi Customs (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.



Year	Month	Non-oil Merchandise Exports		Merchandise Imports		Ratio of Non-oil Exports to Imports (%)
		(Million Riyals)	Annual Change (%)	(Million Riyals)	Annual Change (%)	
2019	January	19,232	6.6	45,429	7.6	42.3
	February	18,127	-0.9	40,345	-4.0	44.9
	March	19,977	-1.4	44,045	5.4	45.4
	April	20,237	-3.0	53,155	12.6	38.1
	May	18,260	-17.0	48,360	-0.3	37.8
	June	17,414	-2.6	41,466	11.3	42.0
	July	18,815	-12.7	53,480	10.6	35.2
	August	16,286	-2.1	41,835	12.3	38.9
	September	19,660	1.8	42,910	1.2	45.8
	October	17,152	-14.3	42,833	-7.1	40.0
	November	17,518	-13.2	37,813	-2.8	46.3
	December	19,119	-6.3	49,586	18.3	38.6
2020	January	16,349	-15.0	39,732	-12.5	41.1



**Non-oil Merchandise Exports and Imports by HS Section (Million Riyals)**

Section	Description	Non-oil exports		Imports	
		Jan 2019	Jan 2020	Jan 2019	Jan 2020
1	Live animals; animal products	469.2	478.6	1,720.5	1,195.0
2	Vegetable products	130.8	133.5	2,719.4	1,848.6
3	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	58.5	72.5	289.8	204.8
4	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	469.5	410.8	2,436.9	1,794.6
5	Mineral products	373.7	154.9	1,423.6	570.4
6	Products of the chemical or allied industries	6,021.7	5,042.5	4,558.5	4,298.9
7	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	6,692.3	4,917.9	1,533.1	1,369.4
8	Raw hides and skins, leather, fur skins and articles thereof; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silk-worm gut)	23.7	22.1	161.3	149.3
9	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork; manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials; basket ware and wickerwork	33.3	25.8	398.0	352.5
10	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	198.7	174.5	593.2	485.8
11	Textiles and textile articles	157.5	136.2	1,770.7	1,476.8
12	Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof; prepared feathers and articles made therewith; artificial flowers; articles of human hair	3.1	4.2	331.9	342.2
13	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	185.0	152.5	637.9	641.9
14	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	376.9	391.7	1,132.8	1,055.4
15	Base metals and articles of base metal	1,585.7	1,387.0	3,932.6	3,420.4
16	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	1,185.1	938.2	9,575.0	8,899.6
17	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	1,000.9	1,589.1	8,558.6	8,325.2
18	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	91.3	128.6	1,285.4	1,035.3
19	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	24.3	2.9	843.7	776.8
20	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	124.9	153.8	1,147.9	1,028.0
21	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	25.8	31.7	377.8	460.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>19,231.9</b>	<b>16,349.3</b>	<b>45,428.7</b>	<b>39,732.0</b>

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