



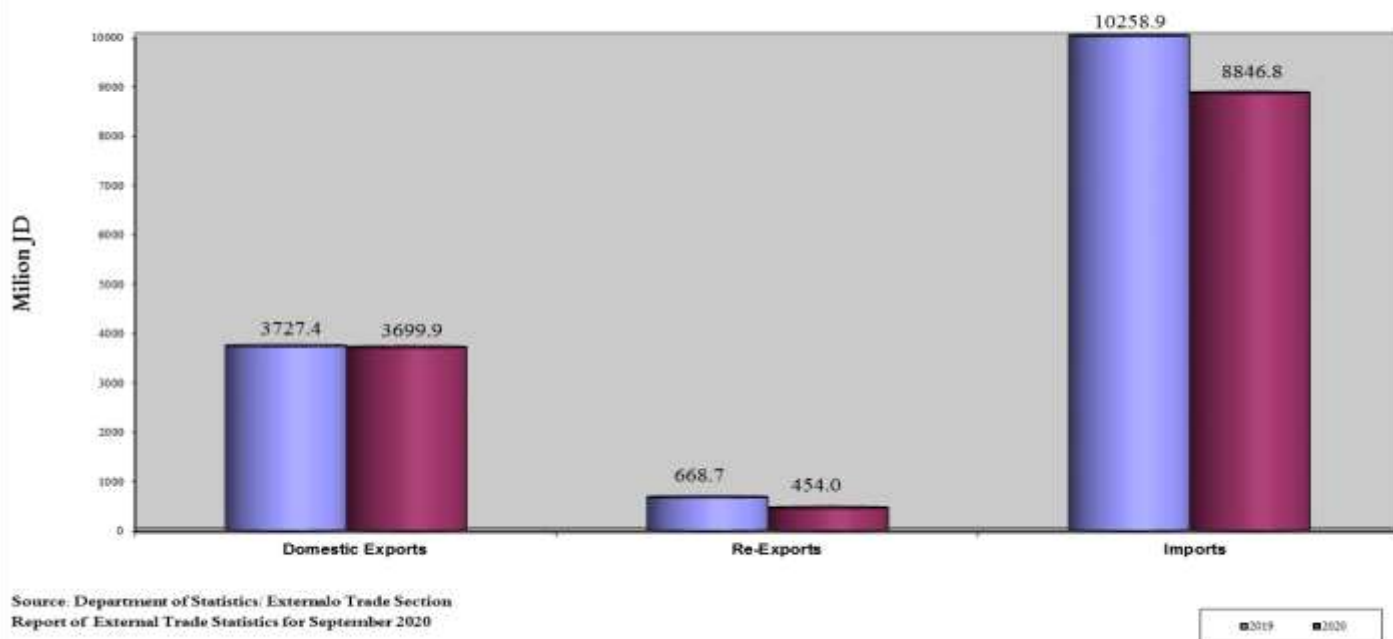
المملكة العربية السورية

The deficit in the trade balance has decreased by 20.0% during the first nine months of 2020 compared with the same period of 2019

The monthly report of the external trade issued by the Department of Statistics indicates that the value of total exports has reached 4153.9 million JDs during the first nine months of 2020 with a decrease by 5.5% compared with the same period of 2019. Meanwhile, the national exports value reached 3699.9 million JDs during the first nine months of 2020 with a decrease by 0.7% compared with the same period of 2019. The value of re-exports reached 454.0 million JDs during the first nine months of 2020 with a decrease by 32.1% compared with the same period of 2019. The imports value reached 8846.8 million JD during the first nine months of 2020, thus decreasing by 13.8% compared with the same period of 2019.

The deficit in the trade balance, which is calculated by deducting the value of imports from the value of total exports, has reached 4692.9 million JD, therefore, the deficit has decreased during the first nine months of 2020 by 20.0% compared with the same period of 2019. The imports coverage by total exports has become 47.0% during the first nine months of 2020, while the coverage percentage has reached 42.9% compared with the same period of 2019 with an increase by 4.1 percentage point.

Figure 1: External Trade during the first nine months of 2019 & 2020



As for commodities, the main national exported items that witnessed an increase in their export value were Fertilizers by 22.8%, and Jewelry and precious metals by 218.4%, while the value of some national exports has decreased such as clothes and its related accessories by 14.4%, crude potash by 6.6%, pharmaceutical products by 4.7% and chemical products by 5.5%. As for imports, there was an increase in the imports value of cereals by 1.5%, while the value of some imports has decreased such as crude oil and its products by 50.5%, machines and machinery tools and their parts by 31.0%, machinery and electrical appliances and their parts by 25.7%, vehicles, motorcycle and their parts by 9.1% and Iron manufacturers by 14.4%.

Regarding trade with the main partners, there was an increase in the national exports to the non-Arab Asian Countries by 0.2% part of which India by 4.1%. Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the value of national exports to the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 3.8% part of which UAE by 2.1%, North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 12.1% part of which USA by 11.2%, and the European Union countries by 1.9% part of which Italy by 61.4%. As for Imports, there was a decrease in the value of imports from The Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 23.2% part of which KSA by 36.7%, North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 21.0% part of which

USA by 22.4%, non-Arab Asian Countries by 12.3% part of which China by 15.0% and the European Union countries by 14.2% part of which Germany by 21.4%.

On a monthly level the value of national exports has reached 467.8 million JD during September 2020 against 491.3 million JD during the same month of 2019 representing a decrease by 4.8%. The main reason behind this decrease is attributed to the decrease of the value of national exports of the following commodities during September 2020 compared with same month of 2019:

1. Clothes from 142.9 million JD to 115.3 million JD – a decrease by 19.3%.
2. Pharmaceutical products from 52.1 million JD to 36.2 million JD – a decrease by 30.5%.
3. Crude Phosphates from 28.1 million JD to 20.7 million JD – a decrease by 26.4%.
4. Fruits and Vegetables from 29.8 million JD to 25.4 million JD – a decrease by 14.8%.

In addition, there was a decrease in the value of national exports of fuel oil, livestock, plastic, paper manufacturers and pure Iron.

The exports of the above mentioned items constituted 49.6% of the total value of the national exports during September 2020 compared with 60.6% during the same month of 2019.

During September 2020, Data indicate an increase in the national exports value of precious metals by 17.3%, nitrogenous or chemical fertilizers by 53.2%, crude potash by 38.6%, Machinery, electrical appliances and their parts by 49.4%, in addition to Eggs, Coffee Beans and Spices, Chemical Products, Detergents and Aluminum manufacturers.

**Table 1: The most important exported and imported commodities during
The first nine months of 2019 and 2020**

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Commodities	2019	2020	Growth Average %	Commodities	2019	2020	Growth Average %
Clothes and accessories	1050.8	899.1	14.4-	Crude Oil and its products	1880.0	931.1	50.5-
Crude potash	320.3	299.1	6.6-	machines, machinery and their part	892.4	616.0	31.0-
pharmaceutical products	304.5	290.1	4.7-	Vehicles, Motorcycle and their parts	697.8	634.1	9.1-
fertilizers	228.3	280.4	22.8	Machinery, electrical appliances and their parts	712.5	529.6	25.7-
Jewelry and precious metals	84.2	268.1	218.4	Cereals	385.1	390.8	1.5
chemical products	184.4	174.3	5.5-	Iron manufacturers	385.9	330.3	14.4-
Other items	1554.9	1488.8	4.3-	Other items	5305.2	5414.9	2.1
National Exports	3727.4	3699.9	0.7-	Total of Imports (2)	10258.9	8846.8	13.8-
Re-exports	668.7	454.0	32.1-				
Sum of total Exports (1)	4396.1	4153.9	5.5-	Trade Deficit (1)-(2)	5862.8-	4692.9-	20.0-

Source: Department of Statistics / External Trade Section/ External Trade Statistics Report of September 2020

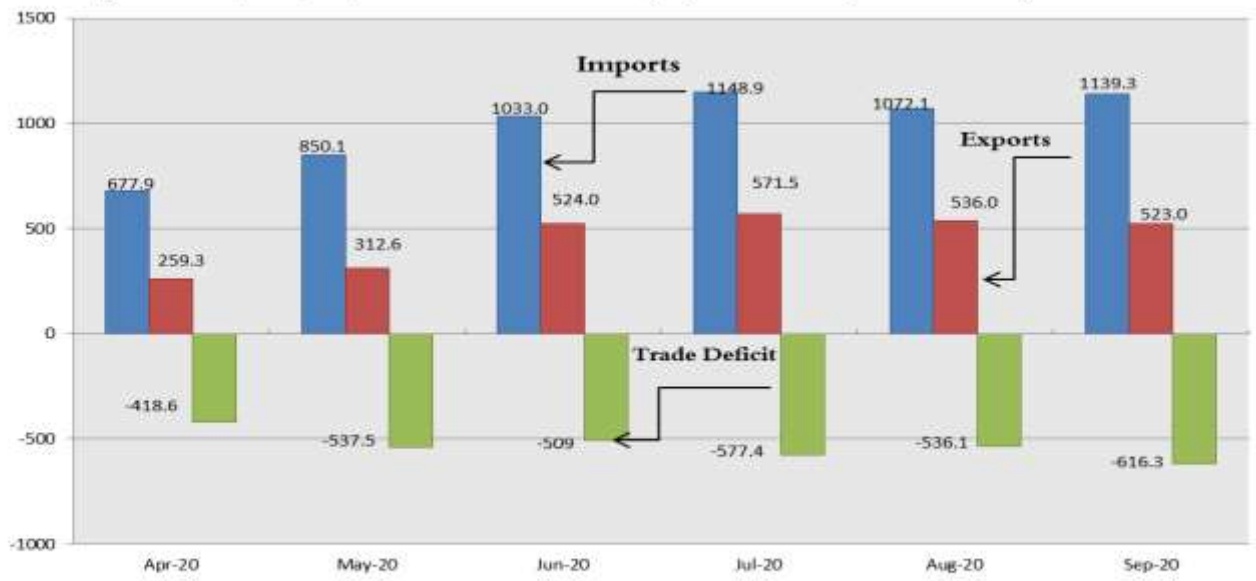
Table 2: Main Trade Partners and Economic Cartels during the first nine months of 2019 and 2020

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Economic Cartels	2019	2020	Growth Average %	Economic Cartels	2018	2019	Growth Average %
Greater Arab Trade Zone countries	1531.1	1473.0	3.8-	Greater Arab Trade Zone Countries	2750.7	2113.4	23.2-
Of which UAE	135.3	132.4	2.1-	Of which Saudi Arabia	1780.9	1126.7	36.7-
North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	1101.6	968.8	12.1-	North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	1030.3	813.9	21.0-
Of which USA	1049.0	932.0	11.2-	Of which USA	903.8	701.1	22.4-
Non-Arab Asian countries	722.2	723.3	0.2	Non-Arab Asian countries	3487.3	3058.6	12.3-
Of which India	348.5	362.8	4.1	Of which China	1650.2	1403.4	15.0-
European Union Countries	111.3	109.2	1.9-	European Union Countries	2093.3	1796.7	14.2-
Of which Italy	15.3	5.9	61.4-	Of which Germany	463.0	363.8	21.4-
Other Economic Cartels	261.2	425.6	62.9	Other Economic Cartels	897.3	1064.2	18.6
Of which Free zone	172.3	183.0	6.2	Of which Free zone	60.2	156.5	160.0

Source: Department of Statistics / External Trade Section/ External Trade Statistics Report of September 2020

Figure 2: Exports, Imports and Trade Deficit (April 2020 - September 2020) - Million



Source: Department of Statistics/ External Trade Section
Report of External Trade Statistics for September 2020

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