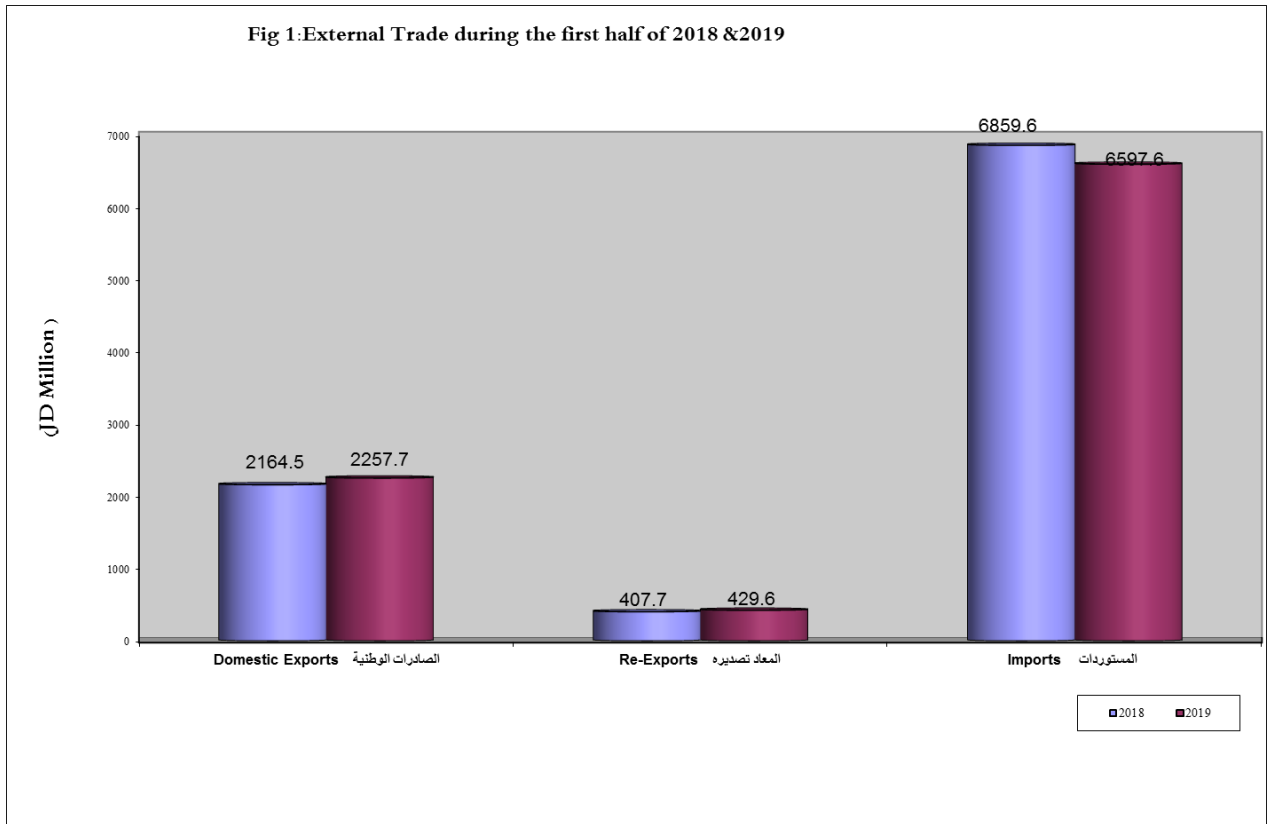


National exports increase by 4.3% and Imports decrease by 3.8% during the first half of 2019 compared with the same period of 2018

The monthly report issued by the Department of Statistics indicate that the value of total exports reached JD.2687.3 million during the first half of 2019 [i.e., an increase by 4.5% compared with the same period of 2018]. Meanwhile, the national exports value reached JD.2257.7 Million during the first half of 2019 [i.e. an increase by 4.3% compared with the same period of 2018]. The value of re-exports reached JD 429.6 million during the first half of 2019 which indicates an increase by 5.4% as compared with the same period of 2018. The imports value reached JD.6597.6 million during the first half of 2019, thus decreasing by 3.8% compared with the same period of 2018.

The deficit in the trade balance, which is calculated by deducting the value of imports from the value of total exports, has reached JD.3910.3 million therefore, the deficit has decreased during the first half of 2019 by 8.8% compared with the same period of 2018. The imports coverage by total exports has become 40.7% during the first half of 2019, while it was 37.5% for the same period of 2018, which means an increase by 3.2 percentage points.



As for commodities, the main exported items that witnessed an increase in their export value were export value of clothes and its related accessories by 5.2%, crude potash by 21.0% , fertilizers by 12.2% and non-organic chemical product by 33.8%. While there was a decrease in the pharmaceutical products by 2.7% and crude phosphate by 6.4%.

As for imports, there was an increase in the imports value of vehicles, motorcycle and their parts by 8.2%, machinery, electrical appliances and their parts by 7.1% and cereals by 14.1%. While there was a decrease in the imports value of crude oil and its products by 20.8% , machines and machinery tools and their parts by 0.1% and iron and its products by 18.7%.

Regarding trade with the main partners, there was an increase in the national exports to North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 4.1% part of which USA by 3.6% and the non-Arab Asian Countries by 14.4% part of which India by 1.5%, While there was a decrease in the exports value to the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 1.4% part of which KSA by 0.7% also there was a decrease in the exports value to the European Union countries by 1.9% part of which Italy by 18.9%.

As for the imports, there was a noticeable increase in the imports value from the Non-Arab Asian Countries by 5.0% part of which china by 7.0% ,while there was a decrease in the import value from the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 2.9% part of which UAE by 48.7%, the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 7.9% part of which USA by 12.1% and European Union countries by 4.6% part of which is Italy by 13.6%.

Regarding the value of imports from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, it has reached JD. 404.0 million representing 21.3% of the total imports during the first half of 2019, while the total exports to these countries have reached JD.552.5 million representing 20.6% of the total exports during the same period.

The main reasons behind the increasing value of national exports during June 2019 are attributed to the increase in the value of national exports of the following commodities compared with the same month of 2018:

- 1- Clothes and its related accessories from JD. 113.0 million to JD.121.5 million –an increase by 7.6%
- 2- Crude potash from JD.33.1 million to JD. 55.8 million – an increase by 68.8 %.
- 3- Azotic or chemical fertilizers from JD.20.6 million to JD.30.7 million –an increase by 48.9%.
- 4- Various non-organic chemical product from JD. 13.1 million to JD. 22.4 million- an increase by 71.7%.

There was also an increase in the crude phosphate, iron products, meat, cement, detergents, coffee and mills products.

The exports of the above mentioned items made up 64.0% of the total value of the national exports during June 2019 compared with 52.2% in the same month of 2018.

Clothes have occupied the first rank among the national exported commodities in June 2019; crude potash came second while pharmaceutical products and azotic or chemical fertilizers held the third and the Fourth ranks respectively.

The data show a decrease in the national exports value of fruits and vegetables by 25.9%, pharmaceutical products by 17.8%, livestock by 48.3% and Machinery, electrical appliances and their parts by 59.3%.

while the national exports value has decreased for vehicles and tractors and their parts, tobacco and its products, fuel oil, jewelry and ornaments ,meat products and Aluminum and its products in June 2019.

The most important exported and imported commodities during

The first half of 2018 and 2019

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Commodities	2018	2019	Growth Average %	Commodities	2018	2019	Growth Average %
Clothes and accessories	564.0	593.2	5.2	Crude Oil and its products	1428.7	1131.6	-20.8
Crude potash	182.8	221.1	21.0	machines, machinery and their part	571.0	570.2	-0.1
Pharmaceutical products	193.8	188.6	-2.7	Vehicles, Motorcycle and their parts	437.8	473.9	٨,٢
fertilizers	133.3	149.5	12.2	Machinery, electrical appliances and their parts	404.4	433.1	7.1
Crude phosphate	124.9	116.9	-6.4	Cereals	218.0	248.7	14.1
Non- organic chemical products	84.2	112.7	33.8	iron and its products	288.5	234.6	-18.7
Other items	881.5	875.7	-0.7	Other items	3511.2	3505.5	-0.2
National Exports	2164.5	2257.7	4.3	Total of Imports (2)	6859.6	6597.6	-3.8
Re-exports	407.7	429.6	5.4				
Sum of total Exports (1)	2572.2	2687.3	4.5	Trade Deficit (1)-(2)	-4287.4	-3910.3	-8.8

**Main Trade Partners and Economic Blocs during the first half of
2018 and 2019**

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Economic Cartels	2018	2019	Growth Average %	Economic Cartels	2018	2019	Growth Average %
Greater Arab Trade Zone countries	920.5	907.6	-1.4	Greater Arab Trade Zone Countries	1875.7	1821.4	-2.9
Of which Saudi Arabia	248.4	246.7	-0.7	Of which Saudi Arabia	1127.6	1130.9	0.3
North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	593.7	618.3	4.1	North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	715.0	658.7	-7.9
Of which USA	565.0	585.2	3.6	Of which USA	649.4	570.6	-12.1
Non-Arab Asian countries	447.8	512.5	14.4	Non-Arab Asian countries	2118.3	2223.3	5.0
Of which India	236.6	240.1	1.5	Of which China	940.5	1006.0	7.0
European Union Countries	74.2	72.8	-1.9	European Union Countries	1396.2	1332.4	-4.6
Of which Holland	14.7	14.7	0.0	Of which Germany	289.0	312.3	8.1
Other Economic Cartels	128.3	146.5	14.2	Other Economic Cartels	754.4	561.8	-25.5
Of which Free Zone	90.1	109.9	22.0	Of which Brazil	104.8	110.1	5.1

Fig 2:Exports,Imports and Trade Deficit (Jan 2018-June 2019)

