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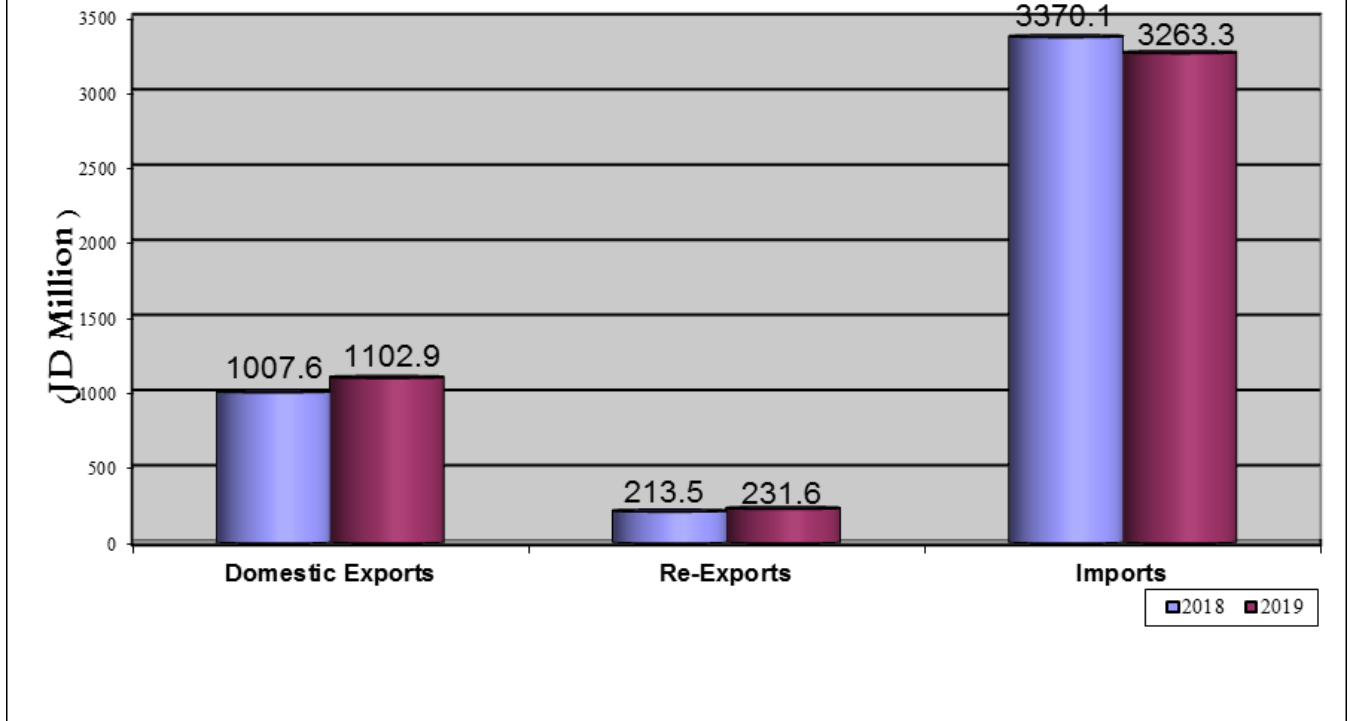
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

National exports increase by 9.5% and Imports decrease by 3.2% during the first quarter of 2019 compared with the same period of 2018

The statistical data issued by the Department of Statistics indicate that the value of total exports reached JD.1334.5 million during the first quarter of 2019 [i.e., an increase by 9.3% compared with the same period of 2018]. Meanwhile, the national exports value reached JD.1102.9 Million during the first quarter of 2019 [i.e. an increase by 9.5% compared with the same period of 2018]. The value of re-exports reached JD 231.6 million during the first quarter of 2019 which indicates an increase by 8.5% as compared with the same period of 2018. The imports value reached JD.3263.3 million during the first quarter of 2019, thus decreasing by 3.2% 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.1928.8 million therefore; the deficit has decreased during the first quarter of 2019 by 10.2% compared with the same period of 2018. The imports coverage by total exports has become 40.9% during the first quarter of 2019 while it was 36.2% for the same period of 2018, which means an increase by 4.7 percentage points.

Fig 1: XT during the first Quarter of 2018 & 2019



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 6.0%, crude potash by 26.0% , pharmaceutical products by 6.1%, fertilizers 23.8%, non-organic chemical products 32.9%. While there was a decrease in the crude phosphate by 4.4%.

As for imports, there was an increase in the imports value of machinery, electrical appliances and their parts by 14.4% and vehicles and motorcycles and their parts by 0.2% .While there was a decrease in the imports value of crude oil and its products by 15.0%, machines, machinery and their part by 8.8% and iron and its products by 16.8% and plastic and its products by 10.8%.

Regarding trade with the main partners, there was an increase in the national exports to the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 9.4% part of which KSA by 13.4% , North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 4.9% part of which USA by 5.3% and the Non-Arab Asian Countries by 16.0% part of which India by 7.3%, While there was a decrease in the exports value to the European Union countries by 1.9% part of which Netherlands by 21.5%.

As for the imports, there was a noticeable increase in the imports value from the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 12.5% part of which KSA by 3.4% and the Non-Arab Asian Countries by 1.9% part of which china by 5.7% ,while there was a decrease in the import value from the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 10.8 part of which USA by 15.9% and European Union countries by 17.0% part of which is Italy by 19.6%.

Regarding the value of imports from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, it has reached JD.747.2 million representing 22.9% of the total imports during the first quarter of 2019, while the total exports to these countries have reached JD.269.0 million representing 20.2% of the total exports during the same period.

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

- 1- Crude potash from JD.21.5 million to JD. 40.2 million – an increase by 7.0 %.
- 2- Pharmaceutical products from JD.36.3 million to JD.41.3 million – an increase by 13.8%.
- 3- Soap and wash products from JD.7.4 million to JD.10.0 million- an increase by 35.1%.
- 4- Food products of vegetables & fruits from JD 2.6 million to JD 5.1 million – an increase by 96.2%.

There was also an increase in the fuel oil, copper, machines, machinery and their part.

The exports of the above mentioned items made up 32.2% of the total value of the national exports during March 2019 compared with 21.3% in the same month of 2018.

Clothes have occupied the first rank among the national exported commodities in March 2019; pharmaceutical products came second while crude potash and fertilizers held the third and the Fourth ranks respectively. The data show a decrease in the national exports value of clothes by 11.3%, jewelries, precious metal by 62.5%, aluminum 48.9%, apparatus, electrical appliances and its parts by 42.9%. while the national exports value has decreased for crude phosphate and fruits.

The most important exported and imported commodities during

The first quarter of 2018 and 2019

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Commodities	2018	2019	Growth Average %	Commodities	2018	2019	Growth Average %
Clothes and accessories	274.7	291.2	6.0	Crude Oil and its products	650.7	552.9	-15.0
Crude potash	88.1	111.0	26.0	machines, machinery and their part	311.8	284.3	-8.8
Pharmaceutical products	79.3	84.1	6.1	Vehicles, Motorcycle and their parts	252.7	253.1	0.2
fertilizers	66.0	81.7	23.8	Machinery, electrical appliances and their parts	205.4	235.0	14.4
Non-organic chemical products	43.8	58.2	32.9	iron and its products	143.1	119.0	-16.8
Crude phosphate	60.7	58.0	-4.4	Plastic and its products	128.3	114.5	-10.8
Other items	395.0	418.7	6.0	Other items	1678.1	1704.5	1.6
National Exports	1007.6	1102.9	9.5	Total of Imports (2)	3370.1	3263.3	-3.2
Re-exports	213.5	231.6	8.5				
Sum of total Exports (1)	1221.1	1334.5	9.3	Trade Deficit (1)-(2)	-2149.0	-1928.8	-10.2

**Main Trade Partners and Economic Blocs during the first quarter 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	394.3	431.2	9.4	Greater Arab Trade Zone Countries	884.4	995.2	12.5
Of which Saudi Arabia	105.0	119.1	13.4	Of which Saudi Arabia	589.8	609.8	3.4
North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	295.0	309.5	4.9	North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	347.3	309.7	-10.8
Of which USA	280.9	295.7	5.3	Of which USA	305.2	256.6	-15.9
Non-Arab Asian countries	218.8	253.7	16.0	Non-Arab Asian countries	1061.8	1081.8	1.9
Of which India	117.7	126.3	7.3	Of which China	473.7	500.9	5.7
European Union Countries	37.8	37.1	-1.9	European Union Countries	723.0	600.2	-17.0
Of which Italy	5.5	6.5	18.2	Of which Germany	141.8	157.1	10.8
Other Economic Cartels	61.7	71.4	15.7	Other Economic Cartels	353.6	276.4	-21.8
Of which Free Zone	48.5	58.1	19.8	Of which Brazil	50.6	58.1	14.8

Fig 2: Exports, Imports and Trade Deficit (Oct 2018- Mar 2019)

