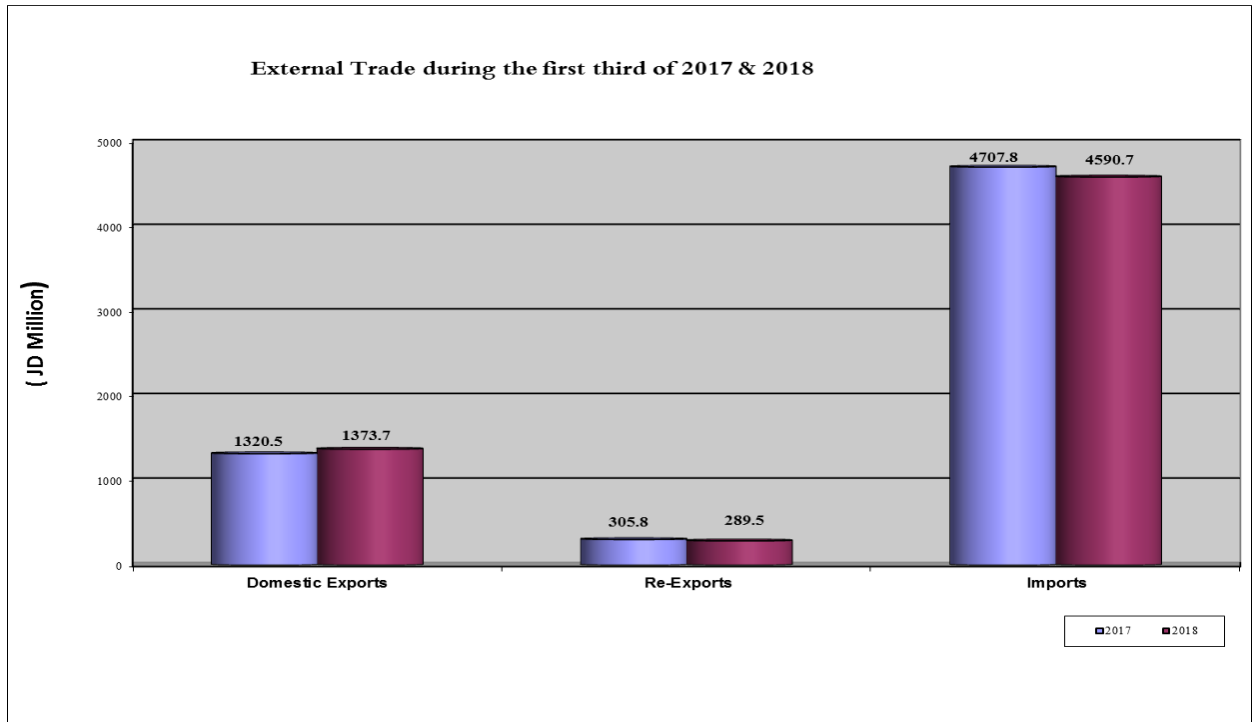


National exports increase by 4.0% and Imports decrease by (2.5%) during the first third of 2018 compared with the same period of 2017

The statistical data issued by the Department of Statistics indicate that the value of total exports reached JD.1663.2 million during the first third 2018 [i.e., an increase by 2.3% compared with the same period of 2017]. Meanwhile, the national exports value reached JD.1373.7 Million during the first third of 2018 [i.e. an increase by 4.0% compared with the same period of 2017]. The value of re-exports reached JD 289.5 million during the first third of 2018 which indicates a decrease by (5.3%) as compared with the same period of 2017. The imports value reached JD.4590.7 million during the first third of 2018, thus decreasing by (2.5%) compared with the same period of 2017.

The deficit in the trade balance, which is calculated by deducting the value of imports from the value of total exports, has reached JD.2927.5 million therefore; the deficit has decreased during the first third of 2018 by (5.0%) compared with the same period of 2017. The imports coverage by total exports has become 36.2% during the first third of 2018 while it was 34.5% for the same period of 2017, which means an increase by 1.7 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 21.2%, crude potash by 16.7%, fertilizers 20.5% and Non- organic Chemical products by 16.4%, while there was a decrease in the pharmaceutical products by (5.9%), crude phosphate by (20.8%).

As for imports, there was an increase in the imports value of crude oil and its products by 30.1%, electrical appliances and machines and their related parts vehicles and motorcycles and their parts by 5.8%, iron and its products by 12.9%, plastic and its products by 8.7%, while there was a decrease in the imports value of machines, machinery and their part by (27.7%) and vehicles and motorcycles and their parts by (23.8%).

Regarding trade with the main partners, there was an increase in the national exports to North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by 19.9% part of which USA by 19.2%, and Non-Arab Asian Countries by 9.8% part of which India by 28.9% and the European Union countries by 38.6% part of which is Netherland by 31.1%, While there was a decrease in the exports value to the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by (7.3%) part of which KSA by (16.8%).

As for the imports, there was a noticeable increase in the imports value from the Greater Arab Trade Zone countries by 10.1% part of which KSA by 37.6%, while there was a decrease in the import value from the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by (27.0%) part of which USA by (27.9%) and the Non-Arab Asian Countries by (1.0%) part of which china by (1.0%) and European Union countries by (3.4%) part of which is Italy by (0.5%).

Regarding the value of imports from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, it has reached JD.1014.5 million representing 22.1% of the total imports during the first third of 2018, while the total exports to these countries have reached JD.299.8 million representing 18.0% of the total exports during the same period.

The main reasons behind the increasing value of national exports during April 2018 are attributed to an increase in the value of national exports of the following commodities compared with the same month of 2017:

- 1- Clothes and its knitted accessories from JD 63.2 million to JD 87.1 million – an increase by 37.8%.
- 2- Fertilizers from JD.9.9 million to JD.23.4 million – an increase by 136.4%.
- 3- Crude potash from JD.24.2 million to JD.33.2 million – an increase by 37.2%.
- 4- Pharmaceutical products from JD. 33.0 million to JD.38.1 million – an increase by 15.5%.

There was also an increase in the national exports of fodder and electrical power, soap, wash products and varied chemical products. Jewelries and precious metal, iron and aluminum and its products.

The exports of the above mentioned items made up 60.1% of the total value of the national exports during April 2018 compared with 48.9% in the same month of 2017.

Clothes have occupied the first rank among the national exported commodities in April 2018; 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 vegetables by (48.4%), crude phosphate by (28.6%), products from stone or gypsum or cement by (27.9%) and machines and machinery tools and their related parts by (20.4%).

**The most important exported and imported commodities during
the first third of 2017 and 2018**

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Commodities	2017	2018	Growth Average %	Commodities	2017	2018	Growth Average %
Clothes and accessories	298.6	361.8	21.2	Crude Oil	692.5	901.0	30.1
Crude potash	103.9	121.3	16.7	machines, machinery and their part	572.5	413.9	-27.7
Pharmaceutical products	124.8	117.4	-5.9	Vehicles, Motorcycle and their parts	419.8	319.8	-23.8
fertilizers	74.2	89.4	20.5	Machinery, electrical appliances and their parts	258.9	274.0	5.8
Crude Phosphates	97.6	77.3	-20.8	iron and its products	180.3	203.6	12.9
Non-organic chemical products	53.2	61.9	16.4	Plastic and its products	160.5	174.5	8.7
Other items	568.2	544.6	-4.2	Other items	2423.3	2303.9	-4.9
National Exports	1320.5	1373.7	4.0	Total of Imports (2)	4707.8	4590.7	-2.5
Re-exports	305.8	289.5	-5.3				
Sum of total Exports (1)	1626.3	1663.2	2.3	Trade Deficit (1)-(2)	-3081.5	-2927.5	-5.0

**Main Trade Partners and Economic Blocs during the first third
2017 and 2018**

Value in (JD Million)

National Exports				Imports			
Economic Cartels	2017	2018	Growth Average %	Economic Cartels	2017	2018	Growth Average %
Greater Arab Trade Zone countries	597.9	554.4	-7.3	Greater Arab Trade Zone Countries	1121.9	1234.9	10.1
Of which Saudi Arabia	169.4	141.0	-16.8	Of which Saudi Arabia	557.5	767.0	37.6
North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	324.3	388.7	19.9	North American Free Trade Agreement Countries	623.8	455.6	-27.0
Of which USA	310.1	369.7	19.2	Of which USA	559.4	403.5	-27.9
Non-Arab Asian countries	263.0	288.7	9.8	Non-Arab Asian countries	1438.3	1424.1	-1.0
Of which India	115.6	149.0	28.9	Of which China	611.7	605.3	-1.0
European Union Countries	36.0	49.9	38.6	European Union Countries	1003.0	969.2	-3.4
Of which Netherlands	7.4	9.7	31.1	Of which Germany	196.2	196.8	0.3
Other Economic Cartels	99.3	92.0	-7.4	Other Economic Cartels	520.8	506.9	-2.7
Of which Free Zone	71.9	67.7	-5.8	Of which Nigeria	61.7	92.3	49.6

Exports, Imports and Trade Deficit (Nov 2017- April 2018)

