Introduction

In 1991, the General Statistics Authority at that time - the Department of Foreign Trade Statistics applied and used the Harmonized System for Classification and Classification of Goods (HS) at the same time that the Customs Authority applied this system in classifying imported or exported goods, and the Harmonized System includes more than (7000) commodities. Commodities are added or modified every period, whether locally or internationally, in coordination with the Customs Authority and the World Customs Organization (WCO), and in light of this the administration has issued independent statistical bulletins for each of the imports and exports of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia showing the movement of the goods between the Kingdom and different countries of the world according to different international classifications.
**Trade System**
The system used for collecting trade data in Saudi Arabia is The **General Trade System**. According to the General Statistics Law in Saudi Arabia, The General Authority for Statistics (GaStat) has assigned the tasks of data collection, and one of these tasks is collecting foreign trade statistics so it includes the kingdom’s exports and imports of all commodities and goods to cover local needs.

**Legal Source of Information**
The custom declarations of Exports and imports provided by the Saudi Customs represents the only and basic source of the statistics included in the Kingdom’s exports and import statistics.

All commodities, the data of which shown in these declarations are recorded by the GaStat. Regular meetings and continuous consultations are always held between the concerned divisions in both the GaStat and the Saudi Customs with aim at improving the flow of data from the customs to the Foreign Trade Division in the GaStat.
**Data source**

1. **Saudi Customs**
   - Imports data
   - Non-Oil Exports data
   - Re-Export data

   It is registered by the importer, exporter or customs broker at customs ports

2. **Ministry of Energy**
   - Oil Exports data
     - Monthly (Preliminary)
     - Yearly (Final)

Of which:
- Port of entry
- Means of transportation
- The origin country of the imported goods
- The final destination country of the exported goods
- Commodity type
- Value
- Weight
- Quantity
- And other data
Disaggregation of data

Raw data of commodity International trade were disaggregated based on classification and coding inputs that were created while collecting the data, which were classified according to WCO harmonized system of commodity classification (H.S.2017).
Data were presented in suitable tables to facilitate their summarization and results extraction, also to ease the process of their comparison with other data.

Number of steps were made in this stage, most importantly:

First: Data logicality and comprehensiveness:

To ensure quality and accuracy of data, all the data are reviewed and matched to check their correctness and accuracy in a way that fits the nature of such data.

Data of the current period are matched with the data of the previous period to ensure their validity and logicality before processing, extracting, and reviewing the results in the next stages of data disaggregation.
(Continue…) Disaggregation of data

Second: Data Confidentiality:

Data shall be kept confidential at GASTAT and shall be used for statistical purposes only. Collected statistical tables for a number of variables related to Saudi Arabia’s on the International trade are the data to be published.
Revision

First: Data Outputs Validation:
In addition to the revision process applied to the collected data of this period, and data of administrative records in the collection stage to check their accuracy, all outputs were stored and uploaded to the database after being calculated by GASTAT to be reviewed and processed by specialists in the international trade statistics through modern technologies and software designed for this purpose.

Second: Dealing with confidential data:
According to the Royal Decree No. 23 dated 07-12-1397, data must always be kept confidential, and must be used by GASTAT only for statistical purposes. Therefore, the data are protected in the data servers of the Authority.
The Kingdom uses the Harmonized System (H.S.), on the basis of which commodities are classified and are linked with other international classifications such as:

- Standard International Trade Classification (S.I.T.C) Revision 4
- Broad Economic Categories (B.E.C) Revision 4
- International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (I.S.I.C)
- Central Product Classification (C.P.C)

* A guide to country codes and a guide to customs centers and currencies.
Publications

- Import Statistics Bulletin (Annual)
- Exports Statistics Bulletin (Annual)
- Trade between the Kingdom and major partner Bulletin (Annual)
- Periodic reports (Monthly, Quarterly)
Includes multiple tables showing the Kingdom's imports of visible goods from different countries of the world during the year.

First: Overall tables
- Table (1): Kingdom Imports For 10 years
- Table (2): Imports By Utilization Of Items.
- Table (3): Imports By Nature Of Items.
- Table (4): Imports By Major Customs Ports.
- Table (5): Imports By Type Of Transportation.

Second: Commodity tables and commodity groups
- Table (6): Top 50 Import Commodities By Value With 3 Major Countries.
- Table (7): Imports By Standard International Trade Classification (Rev4).
- Table (8): Imports By Broad Economic Categories.
- Table (9): Imports By Standard International Industrial Classification (Rev4).
- Table (10): Imports by Sections and Chapters.

Third: Countries and groups of countries Tables
- Table (11): Top 15 Trading Countries By Value Of Imports With 3 Major Commodities.
- Table (12): National And Foreign Import From G.C.C.
- Table (13): Values of Imports By Countries Group and Countries.
- Table (14): Imports Countries and Major Commodities.
Includes multiple tables showing the Kingdom's exports of the visible goods to different countries of the world during the year.

First: Overall tables
- Table (1): Kingdom Exports For 10 years
- Table (2): Exports By Utilization Of Items.
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Second: Commodity tables and commodity groups
- Table (4): Exports By Standard International Trade Classification (Rev4).
- Table (5): Exports By Broad Economic Categories.
- Table (6): Exports By International Standard Industrial Classification (Rev4).
- Table (7): Exports By Sections And Chapters.

Third: Groups of countries Tables
- Table (9): Kingdom Exports to the G.C.C.
- Table (10): Exports By Countries Groups and Countries.
- Table (11): Exports By Countries Groups and Major Countries.
The Trade Exchange Bulletin includes tables of trade exchanges with the most important major trading partners during the past ten years.

Explained in it:
* The values of exports and imports and their proportions to the general total and the ranking of each country.
* The top five exported and imported goods for each country.
* The volume of exchange and the trade balance with a graph of the values of exports and imports.
Thank you,