



Saudi Arabia & United States Trade Relations



Gulf Research Center
Knowledge for All

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General information about the United States

▪ Capital	Washington D.C.
▪ Official language	English
▪ Population 2023	334.91 million
▪ Population density	36 people per sq km
▪ GDP 2023	US\$27,720.71B
▪ GDP per capita 2023	US\$82,769.4
▪ Currency	United States Dollar



Located in North America, the United States of America is a federal republic made up of 50 states. 48 of these states make up the continental landmass between Mexico and Canada with coastlines on the Atlantic Ocean in the east and Pacific Ocean in the west, while Alaska is separated from the U.S. by Canada, and Hawaii is an island located in the mid-Pacific. The landscape varies across the country from tropical beaches in Florida to peaks in the Rocky Mountains, from rolling prairie lands and barren deserts in the West to dense wilderness areas in the Northeast and Northwest. Interspersed throughout are the Great Lakes, the Grand Canyon, the majestic Yosemite Valley, and the mighty Mississippi River.

The United States is a highly developed/advanced mixed economy

The U.S. economy remains the largest in the world. It is a highly industrialised country with high levels of productivity and use of modern technologies.

The industrial sector contributes to 17.9% of the GDP and employs 19% of the workforce. The U.S. is also a world leader in the aerospace and pharmaceutical industries. Thanks to its abundant natural resources, it has become a leader in the production of several minerals and has been able to maintain diversified production. The country is the world's largest producer of liquified natural gas, aluminium, electricity, and nuclear energy. It is the world's third-largest oil producer and, for several years, has also been extracting shale gas on a large scale. In terms of value-added, the U.S. is the second-largest manufacturing nation in the world behind China. The American agricultural sector is undoubtedly one of the world's largest. Nevertheless, agriculture only accounts for 1% of the GDP and employs just 2% of the workforce.

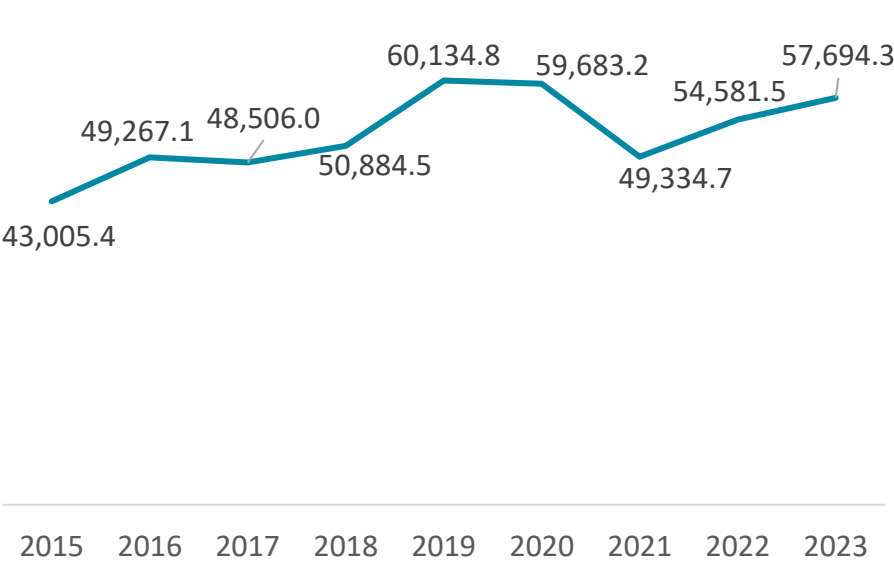
The American economy is essentially based on services: the tertiary sector accounts for more than three-fourths of the GDP (77.6%) and employs 79% of the country's workforce. A large portion of the GDP is composed of the finance, insurance, real estate, rental, and leasing sectors.



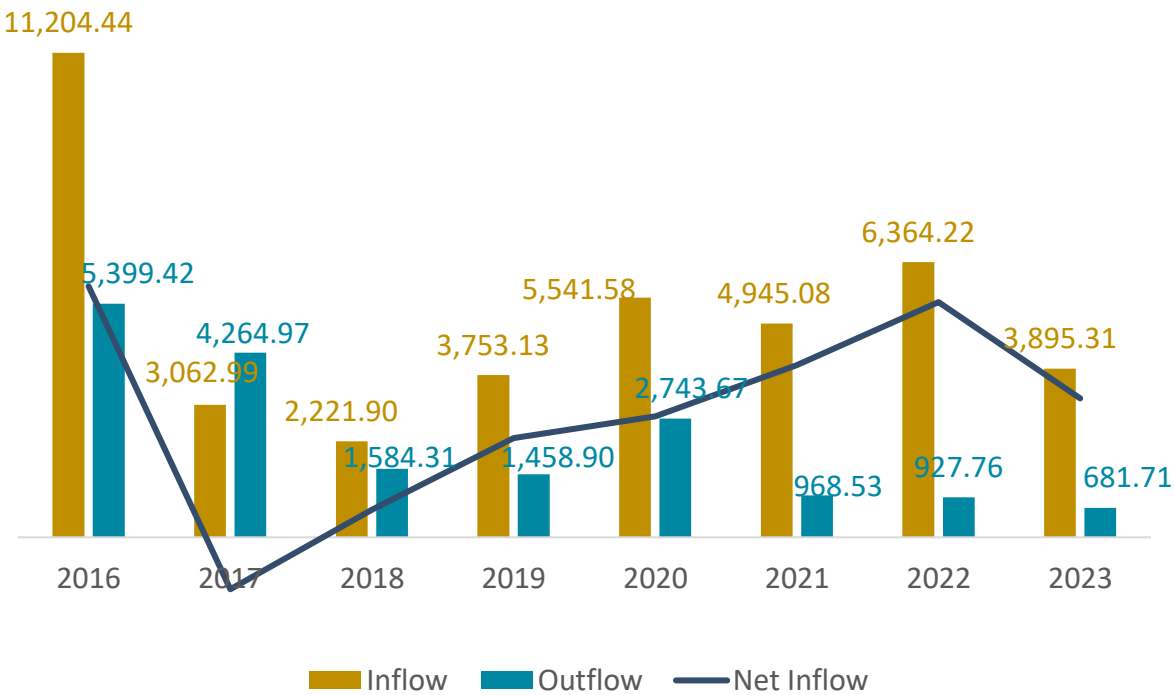
Foreign direct investment

- In 2023, SAR 57.69 billion in FDI stock was recorded (from United States in Saudi Arabia) being higher by 5.7% compared to the previous year.
- In 2023, the value of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflow was SAR 3.90 billion, while the FDI Outflow reached a value of SAR 681.71 million. These amounts resulted in an FDI net inflow of SAR 3.21 billion, lower by 40.9% than the previous year.

Annual Evolution of FDI Stock, in Million SAR



Annual Evolution of FDI Inflow and Outflow, in Million SAR





United States Trade With Saudi Arabia

USA trade with Saudi Arabia over the last 10 years

386.73 Billion USD

Total trade between the USA &
KSA over the last 10 years

161.61 Billion USD

USA export to KSA over the last
10 years

225.11 Billion USD

USA import from KSA over the
last 10 years

▼ **-61** %

USA trade decline rate with KSA
over the last 10 years

▼ **-30** %

USA export decline rate over the
last 10 years

▼ **-73** %

USA import decline rate over the
last 10 years

Vehicles, Railway

The top category that the USA
exports to KSA

Mineral Fuels

The top category that the USA
imports from KSA

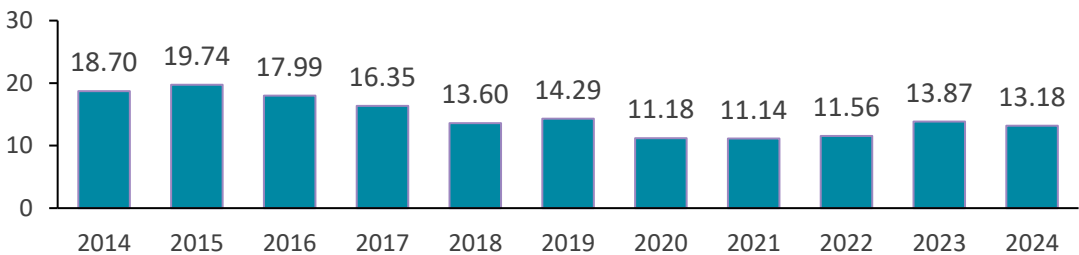
Saudi Arabia makes up 34.12% of GCC total trade with USA

In 2024, the United States’s export value to Saudi Arabia was US\$ 13.18B, which represents 50.0% of the total trade with Saudi Arabia. The main export categories have been machinery and mechanical appliances, vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock, electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof, pharmaceutical products, and optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, medical products, etc.

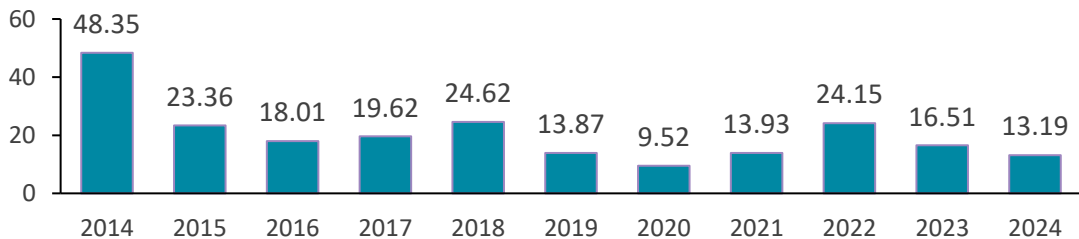
The value of total imports from Saudi Arabia was US\$ 13.19B, which represents 50.0% of the total trade with Saudi Arabia. The main categories were mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation, organic chemicals, fertilizers, commodities not specified according to kind, and metals; n.e.c., cermets and articles thereof.

The United States’s negative trade balance with Saudi Arabia was US\$ 10.11M in 2024. The total trade value between the United States and Saudi Arabia in 2024 was equal to US\$ 26.36B.

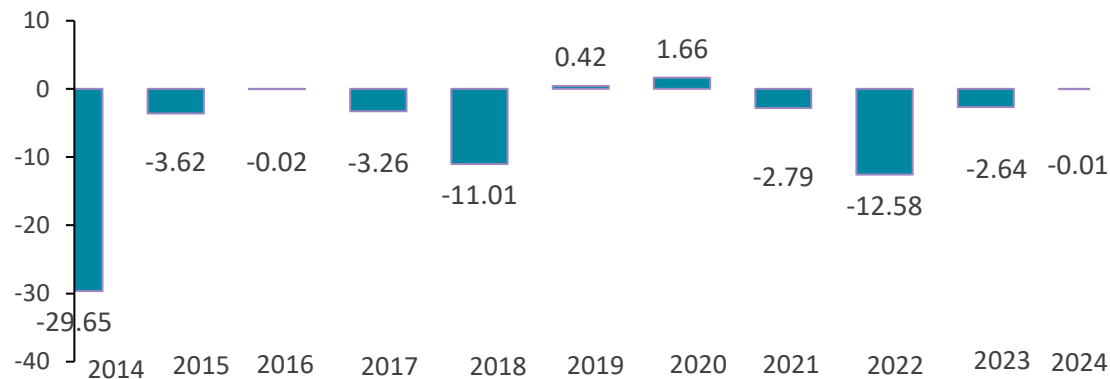
United States's Exports to Saudi Arabia, in Billion US\$



United States's Imports from Saudi Arabia, in Billion US\$



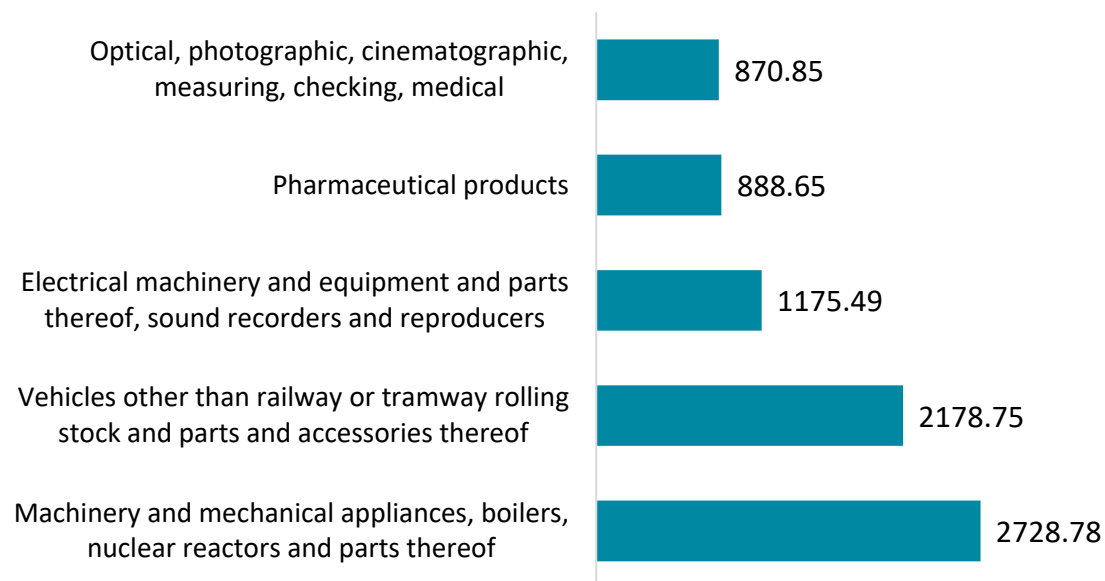
Trade Balance, in Billion US\$



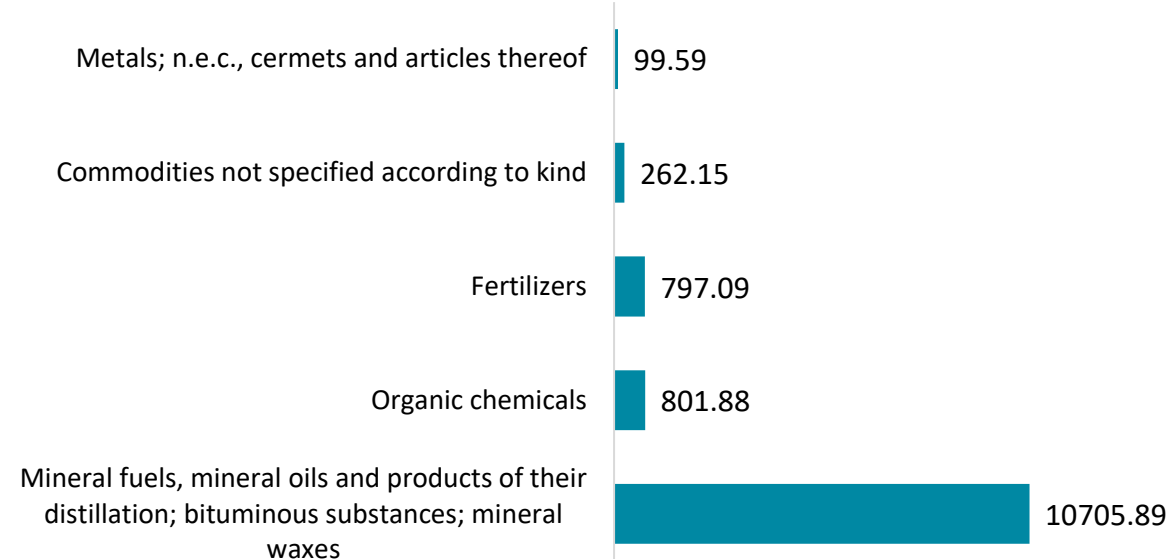
Top trade categories between the United States & Saudi Arabia

- In 2024, 59.5% of the United States's exports to Saudi Arabia were concentrated in five categories. The main export categories were machinery and mechanical appliances (20.7%) and vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock (16.5%).
- In 2024, 96.1% of the United States's imports from Saudi Arabia were concentrated in five categories. The main categories were mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation (81.2%), and organic chemicals (6.1%).

Top Categories for Export to Saudi Arabia in 2024, in Million US\$



Top Categories for Import from Saudi Arabia in 2024, in Million US\$



Top trade products between the United States and Saudi Arabia

- In 2024, 41.1% of the United States's exports to Saudi Arabia were concentrated in ten products. The main export products have been motor cars and other motor vehicles, commodities not specified according to kind, and medicaments.
- In 2024, 96.6% of the United States's imports from Saudi Arabia were concentrated in ten products. The main import products have been petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, and cyclic hydrocarbons.

Top Products for Export to Saudi Arabia in 2024	Code	Value (MUS\$)
Motor cars and other motor vehicles	8703	1762.50
Commodities not specified according to kind	9999	817.52
Medicaments (not goods of heading no. 3002, 3005 or 3006)	3004	630.86
Turbo-jets, turbo-propellers, and other gas turbines	8411	400.42
Machinery parts	8431	352.10
Bombs, grenades, torpedoes, mines, missiles	9306	344.59
Reaction initiators, reaction accelerators, and catalytic preparations n.e.c.	3815	313.70
Medical instruments and appliances	9018	288.51
Taps, cocks, valves and similar appliances for pipes	8481	265.14
Maize (corn)	1005	242.89

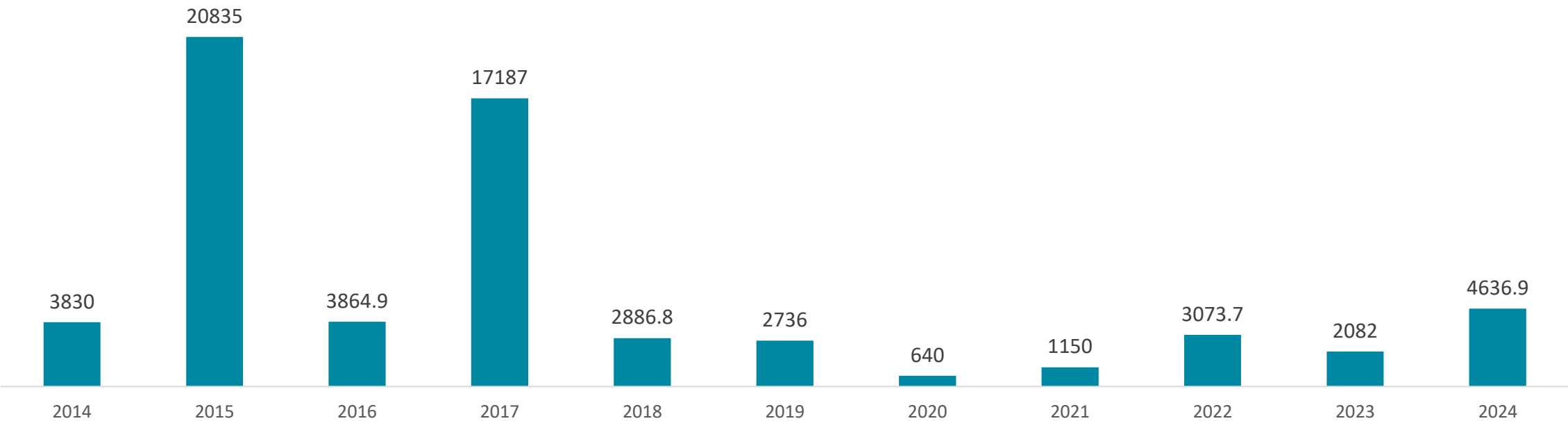
Top Products for Import from Saudi Arabia in 2024	Code	Value (MUS\$)
Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude	2709	8353.72
Petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, not crude	2710	2352.17
Cyclic hydrocarbons	2902	682.97
Fertilizers, mineral or chemical	3105	635.97
Commodities not specified according to kind	9999	262.15
Fertilizers, mineral or chemical, nitrogenous	3102	161.12
Titanium and articles thereof, including waste and scrap	8108	99.58
Aluminium plates, sheets and strip, thickness exceeding 0.2mm	7606	75.49
Oxygen-function amino-compounds	2922	72.47
Nonwovens, whether or not impregnated, coated, covered or laminated	5603	38.50

Source: UN Comtrade/Note: Data of 2024 is initial

USA military sales to Saudi Arabia

- US military sales to Saudi Arabia in the first quarter of 2025 amounted to approximately \$178.5 million.
- Between 2014 and 2024, U.S. military sales to Saudi Arabia demonstrated significant volatility, with total sales reaching approximately \$62.92 billion and an average annual value of around \$5.72 billion. The data highlights two peak years—2015 (\$20.8 billion) and 2017 (\$17.2 billion). Conversely, sales sharply declined in 2020, reaching a low of \$640 million.

USA Military Sales to Saudi Arabia (2014-2024) in Million USD



Source: Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA)

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