

40.8

Billion Dollars  
of Egypt's  
Non-Petroleum  
Exports with an  
increase up  
14%

# قفزة في الصادرات السلعية بأكثر من 5 مليارات دولار في 2024



## اليوم السابع

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### A surge in commodity exports by more than \$5 billion in 2024

Egypt's non-petroleum exports reached \$40.8 billion with an increase up 14% for the first time. Saudi Arabia tops the list of countries receiving Egyptian products with \$3.2 billion. Exports to the UAE see a 44% growth in 2024. For the first time in history, engineering exports surged to more than \$1 billion, and construction materials exports increased by \$1.7 billion.

Written by - Islam Saeed

Egypt's non-petroleum exports achieved a boom in 2024, rising by more than \$5 billion. This comes as part of a strategy to increase industrial exports that focuses on added value and targets the growth of non-petroleum productive sectors. Exports jumped to \$40.835 billion in 2024, compared to \$35.773 billion in 2023, an increase of \$5.062 billion, representing a 14% increase, according to data from the General Organization for Export and Import Control (GOEIC).

#### Saudi Arabia is the largest importer of goods from Egypt.

Data from the Egyptian Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade revealed that Saudi Arabia topped the list of the largest importing markets for Egyptian products in 2024. Five countries—Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Turkey, Italy, and the US—imported Egyptian products worth \$14.051 billion, an increase of \$490 million over the previous year, representing a growth rate of 18%.

Exports to Saudi Arabia reached \$3.2 billion, compared to \$2.7 billion, an 18% growth rate, with a value of \$490 million. Exports to the UAE reached \$3.1 billion, compared to \$2.2 billion, a growth rate of 44%. Turkey ranked third with \$3.1 billion, compared to \$2.8 billion, a 10% increase. Italy ranked fourth with a 6% increase, achieving exports of \$2.2 billion, compared to \$2.1 billion. The United States ranked fifth with a 17% growth rate, achieving \$2.2 billion, compared to \$2.01 billion.

Engineering exports reached \$5.768 billion, compared to \$4.604 billion in 2023, marking an increase of \$1.165 billion, representing a growth rate of 25%.

Engineer Sherif El-Sayyad, Chairman of the Engineering Export Council of Egypt (EECE), confirmed that the record figures for Egyptian engineering exports achieved in 2024 carry important indicators, perhaps most notably that they confirm the tremendous capabilities of Egypt's engineering industries. They also point to the need to attract new investments and companies focused on local manufacturing and targeting global markets.

The council chairman emphasized the great success of the export-increasing plans adopted by the Engineering Export Council, in cooperation with the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade, noting that achieving sustainable export growth contributes to implementing the state's strategy to promote commodity exports and achieve Egyptian exports to a target of \$145 billion by 2030.

Al-Sayyad explained that the Engineering Sector is one of the most important and promising export sectors, contributing significantly to job creation and increasing the added value of local manufacturing. It also enjoys a distinguished reputation in international markets and is a major contributor to supporting the state's strategy to increase exports to the required levels. It is also a sector witnessing sustainable industrial and export growth.

#### A jump in agricultural exports

The Agricultural Export Council announced a significant increase in non-petroleum sector exports in 2024, reaching \$4.635 billion, compared to \$3.952 billion in 2023, a 17% increase.

The council explained in its report—a copy of which was obtained by Youm7—that this increase reflects the efforts made by Egyptian exporters to open new markets and increase the competitiveness of Egyptian agricultural products in global markets.



Agricultural exports have witnessed significant growth in various markets, particularly in Arab and European countries, where Egyptian products have achieved a distinguished position thanks to their high quality and diversity. The Agricultural Export Council has affirmed its continued support for Egyptian exporters and its provision of all necessary facilities to develop agricultural exports and increase their contribution to the national economy.

#### 21% growth in food industry exports

Mahmoud Bazan, Chairman of the Food Export Council, revealed that the Egyptian food industries sector achieved an unprecedented accomplishment in 2024, with exports exceeding \$6.1 billion, registering a 21% growth compared to 2023, representing an increase of \$1.059 billion. This figure is the highest in the history of the sector's exports, confirming the competitiveness of Egyptian food products in global markets, supported by the state's efforts to boost non-oil exports.

The year 2024 witnessed a significant expansion in export markets, with exports to Arab, European, and American markets growing, along with deepening trade relations with African countries. The Export Council also strengthened its efforts to support exporting companies through developing training, marketing analysis, participation in international exhibitions, and implementing development and strategic projects to enable exporters to achieve new breakthroughs in global markets.

#### Chemicals generate \$8.4 billion

Chemical sector exports reached \$8.436 billion, compared to \$8.016 billion in 2023, an increase of \$420 million and a growth rate of 5%, according to data from the Ministry of Investment and Trade. Chemical products and fertilizers contributed significantly to this increase, which comes within the framework of the Egyptian government's strategy to increase exports and achieve sustainable economic growth.

Khaled Abu El-Makarem, Head of the Export Council, revealed that his council is targeting a 10% export growth rate by 2025, driven by plans to expand Egyptian factories' exports in 2025, the increased global demand

for fertilizer and petrochemical products, improved domestic production, and government policy support for exporters.

He pointed out that fertilizer and petrochemical exports account for between 21 and 22 percent of the total value of Egyptian non-petroleum exports, which has boosted foreign currency inflows. He explained that the council seeks to create strategic opportunities for member companies to export to new markets and demonstrate the ability of Egyptian products to compete in major markets.

#### \$1.7 billion increase in building materials exports

Building materials exports reached \$10.635 billion in 2024, compared to \$8.902 billion in 2023, according to data from the Export Council for Building Materials, Refractories, and Metal Industries. The building materials sector saw a significant increase in exports, rising by 19% to \$1.733 billion.

#### Increase in exports of 3 main sectors

All ready-made garment sectors saw a significant increase in exports of 18%, reaching \$2.84 billion in 2024, compared to \$2.41 billion in 2023. Yarn exports reached \$1.131 billion, compared to \$1.111 billion in 2023, an increase of \$19 million and a growth rate of 2%.

The packaging and printing sector is one of the vital sectors that contributes significantly to boosting Egyptian exports to global markets. Egyptian products enjoy great consumer confidence in these markets, contributing to a 7% increase in the sector's exports, reaching \$950.9 million in 2024, compared to \$890.7 million in 2023.