

# Media Release

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[Previous Press Release on Foreign Trade appeared on December 13, 2021](#)

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## Israel's Foreign Trade in Goods - 2021

### 2021 compared with 2020

- The **trade deficit**<sup>1</sup> (goods only) increased by 45.4%.
- **Exports** of goods (excluding ships, aircraft and diamonds) increased by 11.3%.
- **Exports of high technology industries** increased by 17.2%.
- **Exports of medium-low technology industries** decreased by 3.9%.
- **Imports** of goods (excluding ships, aircraft, diamonds and fuels) increased by 21.8%.
- **Imports of consumer goods** increased by 22.3%
- **Imports of raw materials** (excluding diamonds and fuels) increased by 17.3%.
- **Imports of fuels** decreased by 52.7%.

### Trend data<sup>2</sup> October-December 2021 (annual rates)

- **Exports of high technology industries** increased by 10.5%.
- **Imports of goods** decreased by 3.3%.
- **Imports of investment goods** decreased by 24.5%.

[Presentation 2021 - USD](#); [Presentation 2021 - NIS](#)

<sup>1</sup> Data on exports and imports of goods are temporary data on all goods that were cleared by the Customs Authority. Final data for 2021 will be published in April 2022. The data do not include trade between Israel and the Palestinian Authority or exports and imports of services (including software). Data on all exports and imports of goods and services are published quarterly as part of the Balance of Payments.

<sup>2</sup>The seasonally adjusted data are calculated by adjusting the original data for the influence of seasonality and festival and trading day effects. Trend data are estimated by removing the irregular influences (noise) from the seasonally adjusted data.

The seasonally adjusted data and the trend are subject to revisions as they are calculated anew, each month or quarter, on the basis of original data that include an additional observation (concurrent season adjustment).

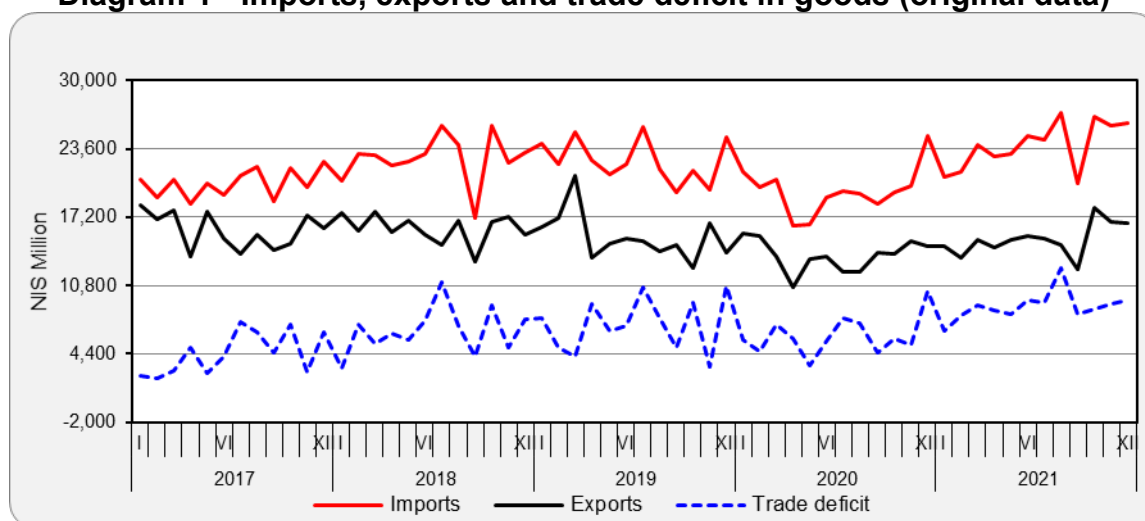
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For explanations and clarifications regarding the contents of this Press Release,  
contact Statistics Information Center 02-6592666

	December 2021	December 2020	January - December 2021	January - December 2020
*Billion NIS				
<b>Exports*</b>	16.6	14.5	181.6	163.2
<b>Imports*</b>	26.0	24.8	287.6	236.1
<b>Trade Balance*</b>	-9.4	-10.3	105.9	72.9
<b>Export as % of Import</b>	63.8%	58.5%	58.7%	66.9%

The trade deficit<sup>3</sup> (goods only) in 2021 totaled NIS 105.9 billion. **Exports of goods** in 2021 totaled NIS 181.6 billion, an increase of 11.3% compared with 2020. **Exports of goods excluding ships, aircraft and diamonds** totaled NIS 162.0 billion, an increase of 6.9% compared with 2020. **Imports of goods** totaled NIS 287.6 billion, an increase of 21.8% compared with 2020.

**Diagram 1 - Imports, exports and trade deficit in goods (original data)**



**Industrial, mining and quarrying exports<sup>4</sup>** (excluding diamonds) in 2021 totaled NIS 161.9 billion, an increase of 7.9% compared with 2020. **Agricultural, forestry and fishing exports** increased by 1.6% in comparison with 2020, and totaled NIS 3.7 billion. **Exports of diamonds** (raw and polished) totaled NIS 17.2 billion, an increase of 62.3% compared with 2020.

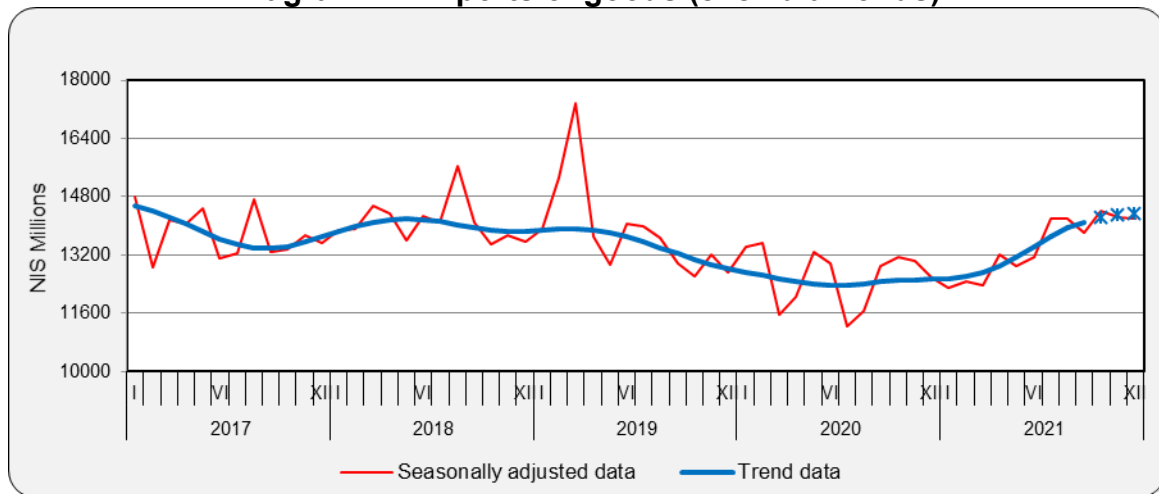
**A breakdown of industrial exports by technological intensity** points to: an increase of 17.2% in **exports of high technology industries**, a decrease of 3.9% in **exports of medium-high**

<sup>3</sup> In 2021, the Israeli Shekel strengthened in comparison with most currencies used in Israeli foreign trade. The Israeli Shekel strengthened by 6.6% in comparison with the **USA Dollar**, by 2.6% in comparison with the **Euro**, by 9.4% in comparison with the **Japanese Yen**, by 6.6% in comparison with the **Jordanian Dinar** and by 3.7% in comparison to the **Swiss Franc**. In contrast, the Israeli Shekel weakened by 0.7% in comparison with the **Pound Sterling** and by 0.5% in comparison with the **Canadian Dollar**.

<sup>4</sup> Exports are classified according to Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities 2011.

**technology industries**, an increase of 16.3% in **exports of medium-low technology industries**, and an increase of 11.7% in **exports of low technology industries**.

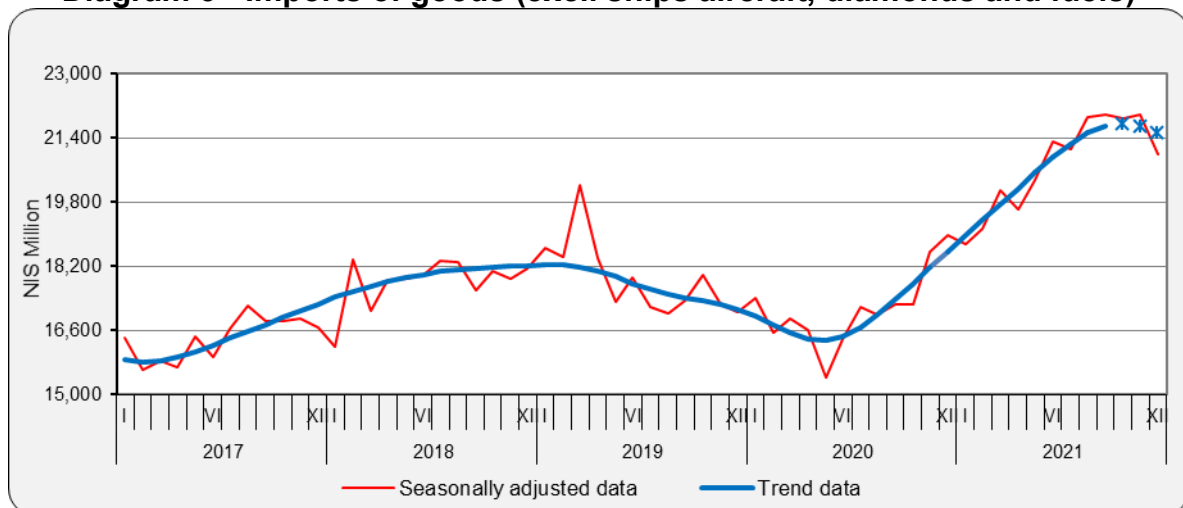
**Diagram 2 - Exports of goods (excl. diamonds)**



\* The last points are subject to substantial revisions

Detailed data of **imports by economic use** show that **imports of fuels** increased by 52.7%, **imports of diamonds** (raw and polished) increased by 32.7%, **imports of consumer goods** increased by 22.3%, **imports of investment goods** (including vehicles for investments) increased by 20.8% and **imports of raw materials** (excluding diamonds and fuels) increased by 17.3%. In contrast, **imports of ships and aircraft** decreased by 46.1%.

**Diagram 3 - Imports of goods (excl. ships aircraft, diamonds and fuels)**



\* The last points are subject to substantial revisions

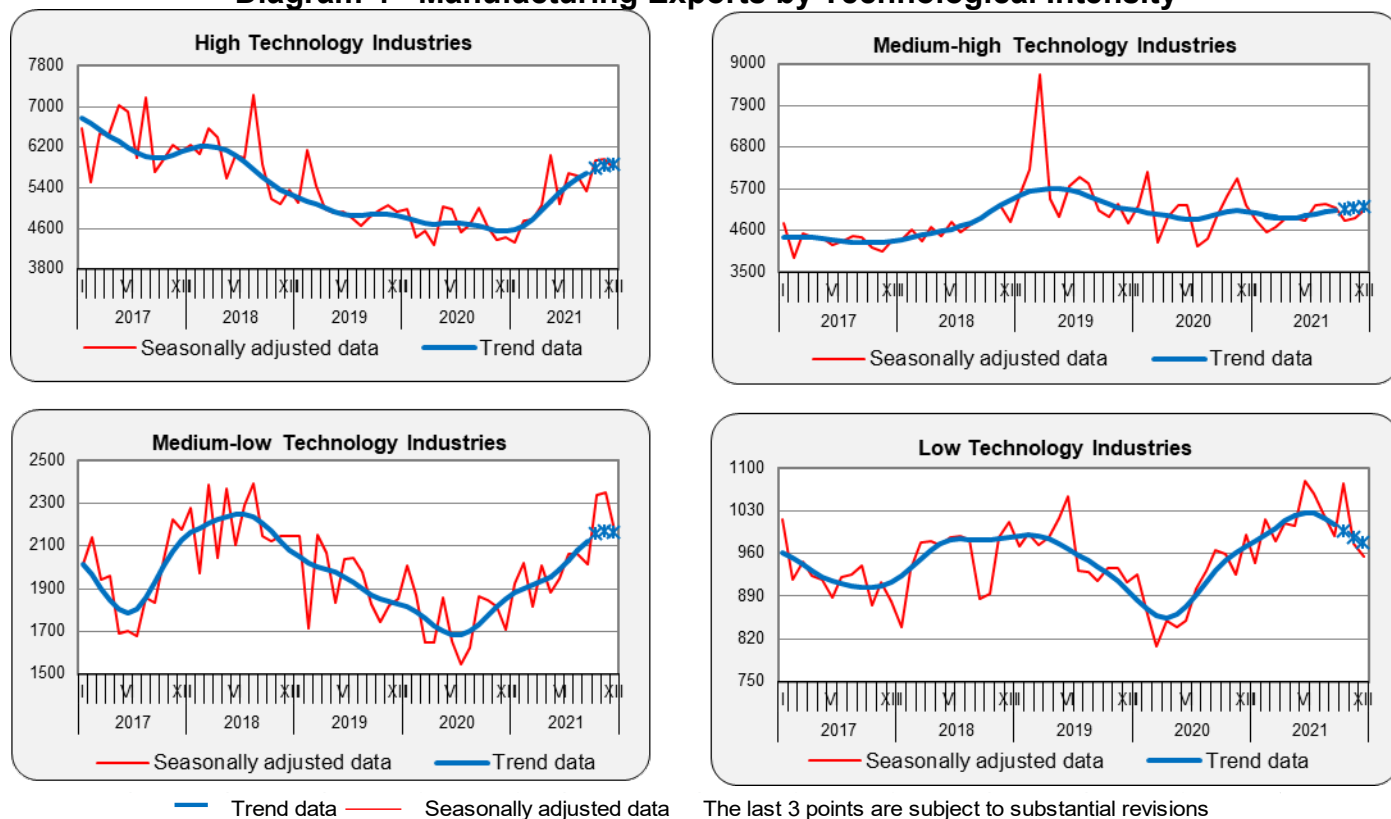
## Main Findings

### Exports of goods

In 2021, **manufacturing, mining and quarrying exports** (excluding diamonds) constituted 89% of all exports of goods, **exports of diamonds** constituted 9% and the remaining 2% were **agriculture, forestry and fishing exports**.

A breakdown of **industrial exports by technological intensity** shows that the proportion of **exports of high technology industries** increased, reaching 40% of industrial exports (excluding diamonds). In absolute terms, **exports of high technology industries** increased by NIS 9.6 billion (17.2%) in 2021. A breakdown by economic activity points to an increase in the exports of the **manufacture of pharmaceutical products industry** of 35.0% (NIS 2.2 billion) and an increase of 17.2% in the exports of the **manufacture of computers and electronic and optical products industry** in comparison with 2020.

**Diagram 4 - Manufacturing Exports by Technological Intensity**



**Exports of medium-high technology industries** (37% of industrial exports) decreased by 3.9%, from NIS 61.8 billion in 2020 to NIS 59.4 billion in 2021. Most of this decrease was in exports of the **manufacture of chemicals and chemical products industry** which decreased by NIS 4.8 billion (12.2%).

**Exports of medium-low technology industries** (15% of industrial exports) increased in 2021 by 16.3% and totaled NIS 24.7 billion, compared with NIS 21.2 billion in 2020. Exports of the **manufacture of basic metals industry** increased by 41.2% (NIS 0.9 billion).

**Exports of low technology industries** (8% of industrial exports) increased in 2021 by 11.7% compared with 2020 and totaled NIS 12.2 billion. Exports of the **manufacture of food products industry** increased by 9.5% compared with 2020.

**Exports of diamonds** (net, raw and polished) in 2021 totaled NIS 17.2 billion, an increase of 62.3% compared with 2020.

**Agriculture, forestry and fishing exports** increased by 1.6%, from NIS 3.6 billion in 2020 to NIS 3.7 billion in 2021. Exports of the **growing of flowers industry** increased by 30.4% and exports

of the **growing of non-perennial crops industry** increased by 13.6%. In contrast, exports of the **growing of citrus fruit industry** decreased by 13.9%.

### Imports of goods

A breakdown of the imports in 2021 by economic use shows that 44% of imports were imports of **raw materials** (excluding diamonds and fuels), 26% were imports of **consumer goods**, 16% were imports of **machinery, equipment and land transport equipment for investments**, 10% were imports of **fuels** and the remaining 4% were imports of **ships, aircraft and diamonds**.

In 2021, **imports of raw materials** (excluding diamonds and fuels) totaled NIS 126.7 billion, a 17.3% increase compared with 2020. A further breakdown by groups shows increases in **imports of precious metals** (88.7%), in **imports of wood and its products** (40.2%) and in **imports of iron and steel** (37.8%).

In 2021, **imports of investment goods** (excluding ships and aircraft) increased by 20.8% and totaled NIS 44.8 billion. **Imports of transport equipment** (including passenger cars for business purposes) increased by 21.5% and **imports of machinery and equipment** increased by 15.9%.

**Imports of consumer goods** increased in 2021 by 22.3% and totaled NIS 75.4 billion. **Imports of non-durable goods** increased by 22.8%, mostly due to an increase in **imports of clothing and footwear** (34.2%). **Imports of durable goods** increased by 21.6%, mostly due to an increase of 23.2% in **imports of furniture and electrical equipment**.

**Imports of diamonds** (net, rough and polished) totaled NIS 11.0 billion in 2021 compared with NIS 8.3 billion in 2020, an increase of 32.7%.

**Imports of fuels** (crude oil, distillates and coal) totaled NIS 29.0 billion in 2021, a 52.7% increase compared with 2020.

### Development of the trade in goods - December 2021

In December 2021, **exports** of goods totaled NIS 16.6 billion, **imports** of goods totaled NIS 26.0 billion and the **trade deficit**<sup>5</sup> totaled NIS 9.4 billion.

### Exports

Trend data, after seasonal adjustments, point to an increase of 6.0%, at an annual rate, in **exports of goods** (excluding ships, aircraft and diamonds) in the last three months of 2021, following an increase of 21.9% in July-September 2021 (1.7% monthly average).

Trend data of **manufacturing, mining and quarrying exports** point to an increase of 8.2%, at an annual rate, in the last three months of 2021, following an increase of 22.9% in July-September 2021 (1.7% monthly average).

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<sup>5</sup> Trade in goods in December 2021 was influenced by changes in the value of the **NIS** relative to the value of other currencies in which import and export transactions were conducted. In December 2021, the **Israeli Shekel** weakened by 0.4% in comparison with the **USA Dollar**, by 0.5% in comparison with the **Japanese Yen** and by 0.5% in comparison with the **Swiss Franc**. In contrast, the **Israeli Shekel** strengthened: by 0.6% in comparison with the **Euro**, by 1.5% in comparison with the **Canadian Dollar** and by 0.7% in comparison with the **Pound Sterling**.

### **Trend data of manufacture exports, by technological intensity**

Trend data of **exports by high technology industries** point to an increase of 10.5%, at an annual rate, in October-December 2021, following an increase of 33.8% in July-September 2021 (2.4% monthly average). A breakdown by economic activity shows that exports by the **manufacture of pharmaceutical products industry** increased by 55.7% (3.7% monthly average).

Trend data of **exports by medium-high technology industries** point to an increase of 5.9%, at an annual rate, in the last three months of 2021, following an increase of 12.7% in July-September 2021. A breakdown by economic activity shows that exports by the **manufacture of motor vehicles and other transport equipment industry** increased by 35.2% (2.5% monthly average).

According to the trend data, **exports by medium-low technology industries** increased by 8.1% in the last three months of 2021, following an increase of 29.5% in July-September 2021 (2.2% monthly average). A breakdown by economic activity shows that exports of the **manufacture of basic metals industry** significantly increased in these months.

Trend data of **exports by low technology industries** point to a decrease of 11.3%, at an annual rate, in the last three months of 2021, following a decrease of 7.5% in July-September 2021. A breakdown by economic activity points to a decrease in the exports of the **manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products industry** in these months.

### **Imports**

According to trend data, **imports of goods** (excluding ships, aircraft, diamonds and fuels) decreased by 3.3% at an annual rate in October-December 2021, following an increase of 15.9% in July-September 2021.

Trend data of **imports of raw materials** (excluding diamonds and fuels) point to an increase of 8.5%, in the last three months of 2021, at an annual rate, following an increase of 32.0% in July-September 2021 (2.3% monthly average).

Trend data of **imports of investment goods** (excluding ships and aircraft) point to a decrease of 24.5%, at an annual rate, in the last three months of 2021 (2.3% monthly average), following a decrease of 17.0% in July-September 2021.

According to trend data, **imports of consumer goods** decreased by 5.7%, at an annual rate in October-December 2021, following an increase of 7.2% in July-September.

Next Press Release on Israel's Foreign Trade in Goods will appear on February 13, 2022.