



This is a comprehensive overview of Egyptian Economy and trade. The report can be used as a short and concise guide to the current status of Egypt.

**Think Tank
Egypt - TTE**

EGYPT ECONOMIC PROFILE – TRADE STATISTICS

Comprehensive Report 2020-2021

September - 2021



THINK TANK EGYPT
— CONSULTING FIRM —

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Introduction

This report is one of 25 nation comprehensive overview reports made and designed by Think Tank Egypt.

A majority of these nations are in Africa and the rest are in Latin America and Europe. After the pandemic and the traumatic economic changes in the world arena, Think Tank Egypt designed this informative economic report to scrutinize nation's economic status.

This report showcases Egypt in a comprehensive overview. It will give the full picture of the nation from geographic, demographic profile, economic outlook, macroeconomic indicators, investment climate and policies, sector overview, infrastructure, mega projects, trade profile and trade statistics.

Egypt ranks third-most-populous country in Africa and the 14th worldwide, according to World Bank figures. As of 2021 the number of residents was estimated to have reached 104 m. Arabic is the official language and the only one widely understood across the entire country.

COVID-19 is dampening growth, undermining external income sources, disrupting fiscal consolidation and exacerbating long-standing challenges. Social hardship is aggravated by the ensuing job losses. Maintaining the recently achieved macro-economic gains is crucial for the economy's resilience against such a severe shock. This multi-faceted health and economic crisis underscores the urgency of advancing the human capital agenda and strengthening social protection, as well as adopting structural reforms to enhance private sector activity and job-creation.

Economic activity slowed down, notably since the implementation of social distancing measures and the temporary suspension of air traffic. Around 2.7 million jobs were lost during Q4-FY2020, pushing unemployment to 9.6% (from 7.7% in the previous quarter), with employment losses mainly reported in the retail and whole-sale trade, manufacturing, tourism, transport and construction sectors, especially among informal workers.

An emergency response package worth LE100 billion (1.7% of GDP) augmented health expenditures and social protection programs, including a one-off cash grant to irregular workers and extending the existing cash transfer programs. Forbearance measures were introduced in the form of delayed tax filing and loan repayments, in addition to subsidized credit to targeted sectors.

Government debt is projected to increase from 90.2% of GDP in end-FY2019 to 92.8% of GDP in end-FY2020, under the scenario that the pandemic will persist through early-2021, COVID-19 impact will be spread across two fiscal years, with the adverse effect expected to be more severe in FY2021. Thus, growth in Egypt is expected to have remained positive, but declined from 5.6% in FY2019 to 3.5% in FY2020, and then further to 2.3% in FY2021, before rebounding in FY2022.

Geography:

Location: Northern Africa, bordering the Mediterranean Sea, between Libya and the Gaza Strip, and the Red Sea north of Sudan, and includes the Asian Sinai.



Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, phosphates, manganese, limestone, gypsum, talc, asbestos, lead, rare earth elements, zinc

Land use:

Agricultural land: 3.8%
Arable land 2.8%;
permanent crops 0.8%; permanent pasture 0%

Demographic profile:



Egypt has a population of about 104 million people ranked as 14 worldwide. According to current projections, Egypt's population is expected to double by 2078. The population is currently growing at a rate of 1.94%, a rate that adds about 2 million people to the population every year.

Egypt's fertility rate is about 3.3 births per woman, well above the population replacement rate of 2.1 births per woman. Egypt has a relatively young population, where about 60% of the population is less than 30 years old.

Egypt Population Growth

Estimates made in 2012 predicted the population growth rate to be 1.922%, and a fertility rate of 2.94 children born per woman, the latter in line with South Asian and Middle Eastern averages. Besides these factors contributing to growth rate, there has been a general boom in population immigration and medical advances, although the recent political and military conflicts have caused a negative growth rate.

Egypt Population Projections

Egypt's population is generally rising at an extremely progressive rate, which is causing concern within the government, and an increase in expenditure on family planning policies. However, scholars are questioning this move of the government, as they believe that the high fertility rate and population growth are no longer serious concerns. This is true to the extent that, though the fertility rate is high, it has fallen in the previous years. This can be proved by statistics that show a decrease from 7.2 children per woman in the early 1960's to 3.4 children per woman in 1998. This rate has maintained itself even twenty years later, where it stands at 3.47 children per woman in 2018.

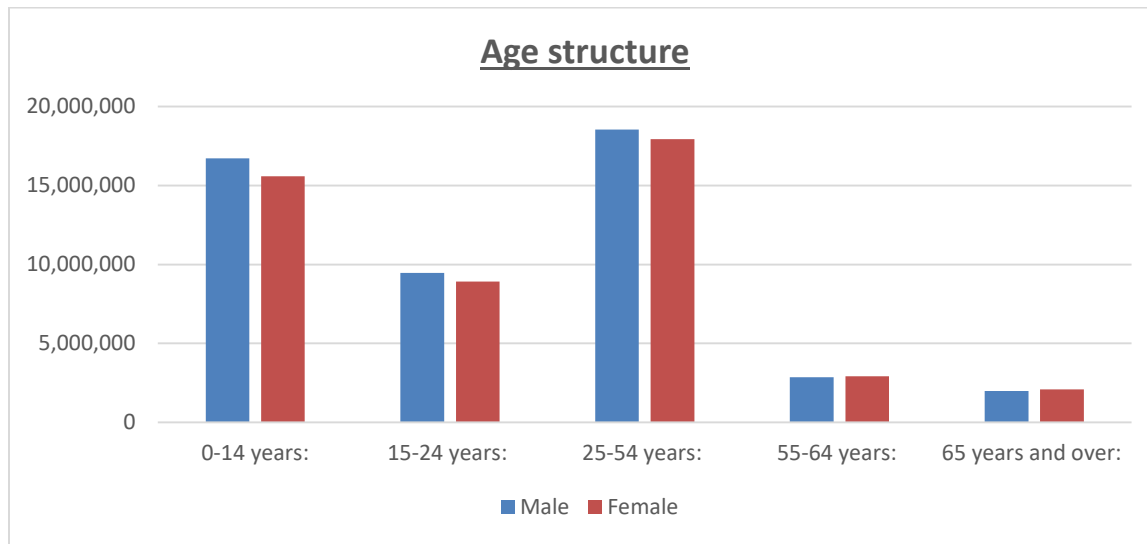
Egypt Area and Population Density

Cairo alone, which is the capital city of Egypt, has a population of around 10.902 million people (according to estimations made in 2009). The population density of Egypt as a whole is 84 people per square kilometer (218/square mile), with Cairo having the heaviest density at 46,349 per kilometer square. Overall, Egypt ranks 126th in the world in terms of population density.

Largest Cities in Egypt

Egypt is the most populated country on the African continent. A majority of the population lives near the banks of the Nile River, which amasses an area of 40,000 square kilometers. This area is the only arable land found in the country. The three largest cities of Egypt are Cairo, Alexandria, and Giza.

Age structure:



Population distribution:

Approximately 95% of the population lives within 20 km of the Nile River and its delta; vast areas of the country remain sparsely populated or uninhabited

Urbanization:

Urban population: 43.3% of total population.

Rate of urbanization: 1.8% annual rate of change.

Major urban areas - population:

CAIRO (capital) 21.322 M; Alexandria 5.381 M

Drinking water source:

Urban: 100% of population

Rural: 98% of population

Sanitation facility access:

Urban: 96.8% of population

Rural: 82.1% of population

Economy:



Overview:

Egypt's recent macroeconomic and structural reforms stabilized the economy and have allowed the country to enter the global COVID-19 crisis with improving fiscal and external accounts. However, the adverse repercussions of the pandemic have since undermined this recent progress, shedding light on longstanding challenges. These include sluggish private sector activity and job-creation, especially in the formal sector, underperforming non-oil exports and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), elevated government debt-to-GDP ratio (despite its significant reduction in recent years), below-potential revenue mobilization, and an unfavorable budget structure, with limited allocations to key sectors, such as health and education.

Real growth declined from 5.6% in FY2018/19 to 3.6% during FY2019/20, as the COVID-19 crisis caused a year-on-year contraction of 1.7% during April to June (Q4-FY2019/20). Growth inched upward in July to September and October to December (Q1- and Q2-FY2020/21), with the lifting of a nighttime curfew and easing of social distancing measures, albeit remaining low at 0.7% and 2%, respectively. Unemployment declined to 7.2% by Q2-FY2020/21 (after spiking at 9.6% six months earlier), as the initial drop in total employment at the outset of the COVID-19 crisis was reversed, and both labor force participation and employment rates rebounded from their large initial dip, though remaining below potential at 43.5% and 40.4% of the working-age population. Key sectors, such as tourism, manufacturing, the Suez Canal and oil and gas extractions continue to be severely impacted by restrictions on international travel, the slump in demand, and disruptions to supply chains and trade, both domestically and abroad.

At the outset of the COVID-19 crisis, the government devised an emergency response package worth LE100 billion (1.7% of FY2019/20 GDP). Key measures include an exceptional monetary grant to irregular workers and the expansion of existing cash transfer programs. Forbearance measures were introduced in the form of delayed tax filing and loan repayments, in addition to subsidized credit for targeted sectors. The Central Bank of Egypt slashed policy rates by 400 basis-points to ease liquidity and enable individuals to access credit at favorable terms.

This monetary expansion came against the backdrop of subdued inflation, registered at 5.7% in FY2019/20, which further declined to 4.5 percent during the H1-FY2020/21.

International reserves remain relatively ample, at US\$40.1 billion at end-January 2021, although still below their pre-crisis peak of US\$45.5 billion. External accounts were still bolstered by remittances, rebounding foreign portfolio inflows, and external financing, notably from the IMF, Euro-bond issuance, and an innovative Green-bond. Growth is forecast to decline from 3.57% in FY2019/20 to 2.47% in FY2020/21, in light of the ongoing effect of the pandemic, and especially the renewed surge in the COVID-19 cases since end-2020. The slowing of economic activity is expected to have adverse social implications.

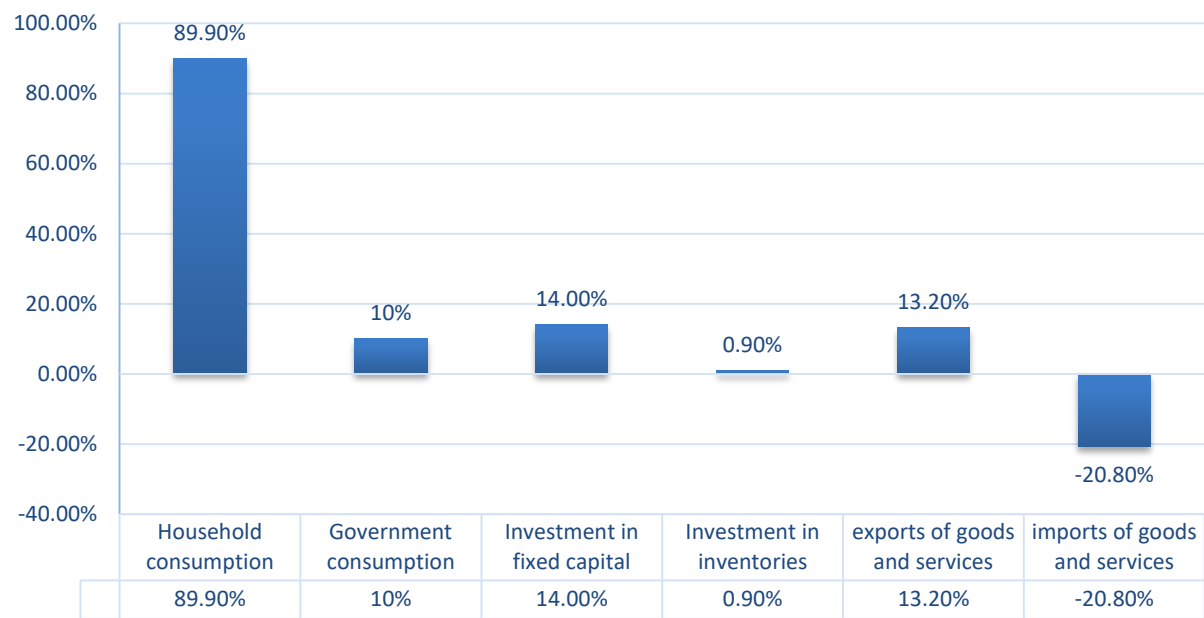
Under the scenario that the COVID-19 vaccine is steadily rolled out through 2021 and early-2022, Egypt is expected to slowly start regaining its pre-pandemic growth momentum by FY2021/22/23. A downside scenario for growth over the forecast horizon would happen if the vaccination process becomes more protracted or variants of the disease cause further disruption, with lock-downs repeatedly imposed.

The multi-dimensional health and economic crisis caused by the pandemic underscores the importance of advancing the human capital agenda, fast-tracking digital transformation, and strengthening social protection. A second wave of pending reforms, designed to unleash private sector activity and address Egypt's long-standing structural challenges, is crucial to create better employment opportunities and improve livelihoods.

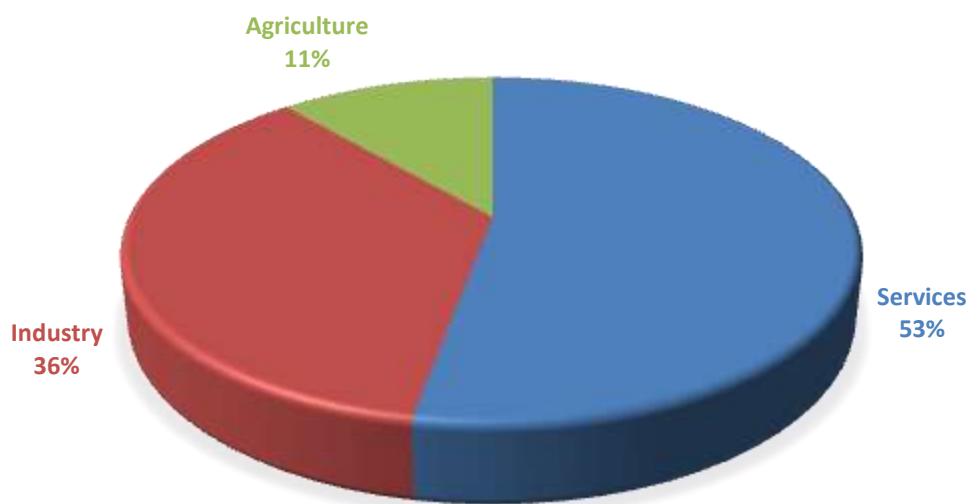
Economic indicators

Purchasing power in USD.	\$ 1.208 Trillion	2021
GDP in USD.	\$ 394.28 Billion	2021
Egypt GDP ranking	34	2020
Gold reserve in Tons	80.40	2021
Foreign exchange reserve	\$ 40.609 Billion	2021
Growth rate	3.57%- 2.47%- 5.66%	2020- 2021- 2022
Inflation rate	5.4%	2021
Labor force	29.8 Million	2021
Unemployment Rate	7.3%	2021
Budget deficit as percent of GDP	-7.4%	2021
External debt in USD.	\$ 134.841 Billion	2021
Gov. debt as a percent of GDP	90.2%	2020
FDI in USD.	\$ 5.5 Billion	2020
Tax	22.5%	2021
Personal income tax	22.5%	2021
Exports in USD.	\$ 26.815 Billion	2020
Imports in USD.	\$ 60.279 Billion	2020
Trade balance in USD.	\$ (-33.464) Billion	2020
Currency exchange	1 USD – 15.71 EGP	2021

GDP - composition, by end use



GDP - COMPOSITION, BY SECTOR



Agriculture – Livestock products:

Cotton, rice, corn, wheat, beans, fruits, vegetables, cattle, water buffalo, sheep, goats

Industries:

Textiles, food processing, tourism, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, hydrocarbons, construction, cement, metals, light manufactures

Industrial production growth rate:

3.9%

Labor force: 29.8 million

<i>Agriculture</i>	29.2%
<i>Industry</i>	23.5%
<i>Services</i>	47.3%

Unemployment rate:

7.40%

Population below poverty line:

29.3%

Budget:

<i>Revenues:</i>	EGP 1.288 B.
<i>Expenditures:</i>	EGP 1.700 B.
<i>Taxes and other</i>	19.3% of GDP
<i>Budget deficit:</i>	-7.4% of GDP
<i>Public debt:</i>	90.2% of GDP
<i>Inflation rate:</i>	5.4% (2021)

Trade:**Exports:**

\$26.815 B

Exports - commodities:

Mineral fuels, Natural pearls, Plastics, Electrical machinery, Edible fruits

Exports - partners:

UAE 10.67%, Saudi Arabia 6.35%, Turkey 6.23%, US 5.48%, Italy 5.2% (2020)

Imports:

\$60.279 B

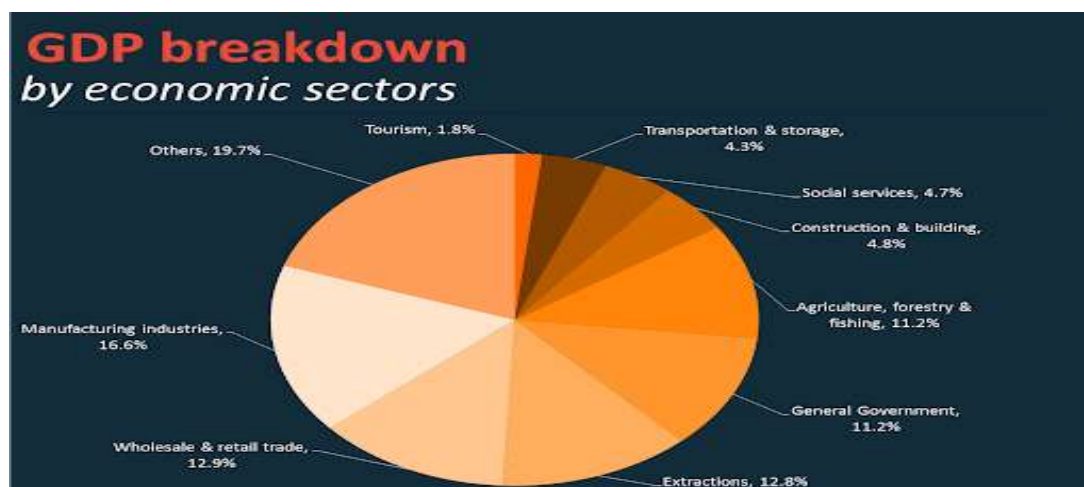
Imports - commodities:

Mineral fuels, Machinery, Cereals, Vehicles, Electrical machinery

Imports - partners:

China 15.1%, USA 6.6%, Saudi Arabia 6.3%, Germany 5.7%, Turkey 4.9% (2020)

Economic sectors:



Agriculture

Egypt has a Variety of weather conditions due to its position in the world (i.e. latitude and different land type).

Egypt has land mass of 3,893,400 hectare, and is projected to grow in the next 5 years to 1,470,000 hectares according to country plan, the development of infrastructure to facilitated export (roads, airports, Marine ports), to Egypt trade partners, incorporating the latest agriculture production technology to increase yield, plans to increase logistical services to ease export demands.

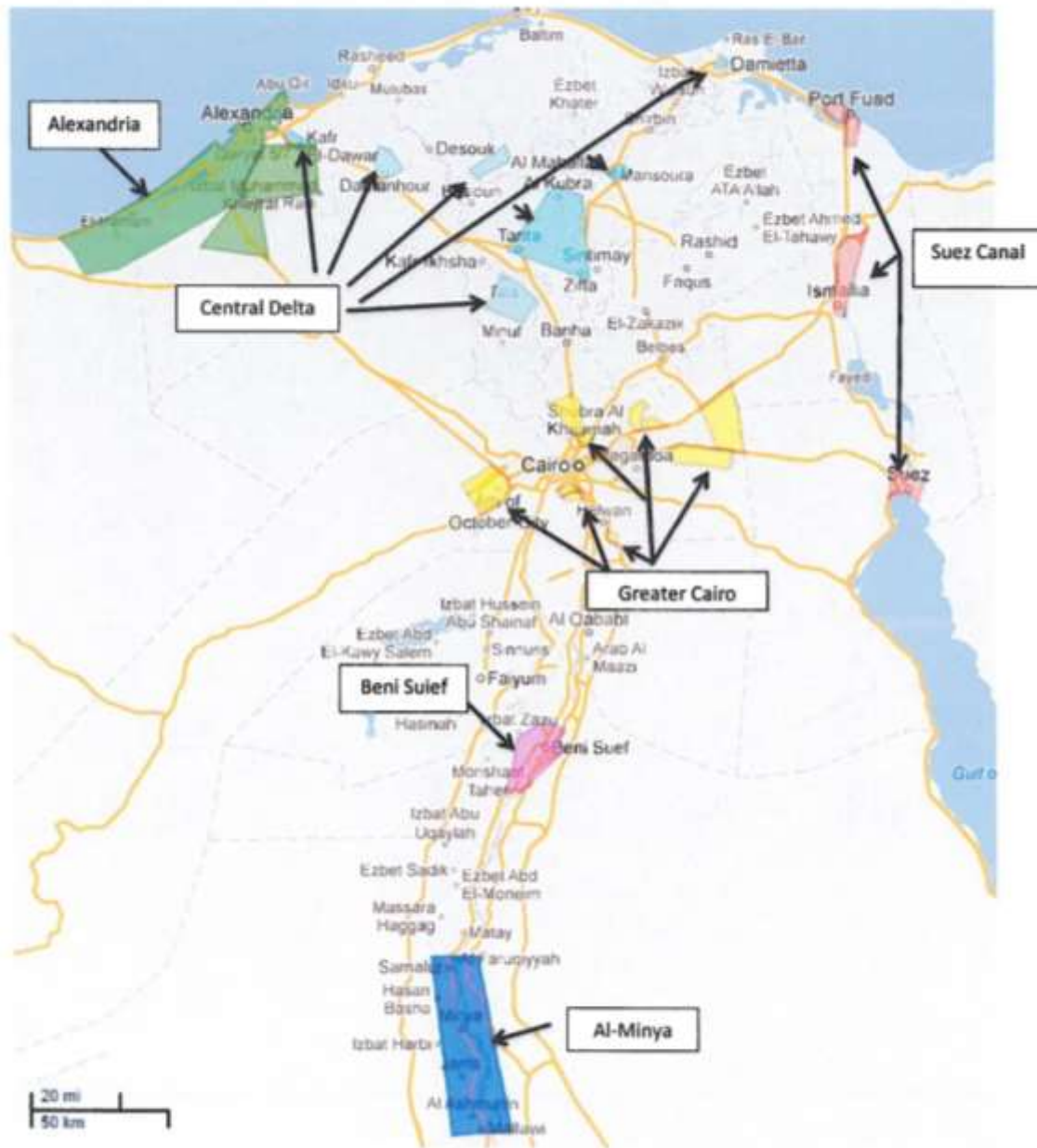
Total agriculture production of the nation is estimated at: 32 M. tons. Exports of Agriculture products stand at: 5.5 M. tons worldwide exports. Export projection in next 2 years is set at increase to: 6 M. tons.

Industry

With a market of 104 m consumers and growing, Egypt is a natural fit for manufacturing industries, industrial sector achieved growth 3.90% in 2020, The sector spans a diverse range of activities, largely led by the private sector, that range from building materials and downstream processing, to long-running textile factories, as well as competitive food and fast-moving consumer goods segments. Yet the government hopes to further expand, and its goals for the sector are ambitious. Manufacturing accounted for approximately 16.6% of the country's GDP in 2015, with medium-term plans to create 3m jobs and increase its share to 25% by 2020, in part through the development of new industrial zones. Egypt's industrial sector features substantial attractions for long-term investment, including a large consumer base, low labor costs and a potential gateway to the growing African middle class. Short-term obstacles remain, however, starting with the Egyptian pound's struggle to stabilize against major international currencies and continued instability in gas supply; yet the goal of long-term growth remains the key priority. Egypt's retail market is competitive and highly fragmented. The maturing formal retail sector features a range of shopping malls, supermarkets, hypermarkets and smaller franchised competitors, as well as the more informal options that have traditionally served

Egypt's shopping needs, such as souks, street vendors, independent high-street shops and neighborhood corner stores. On the Macro level Egypt is poised for a comparative advantage position due to its multiple bilateral agreements within Africa. This will allow for Egypt to become a gate way to Africa in terms of importing raw materials, and the export of manufactured goods to said nations

Egypt Qualifying Industrial Zones



Services:**Financial services:**

Banking.

Insurance.

Stock Market.

Treasury or Debt instruments.

Wealth Management.

Mutual Funds.

Tax consultants and audit firms.

Egypt has strong financial services that support other economy sectors. The new measures carried by the government will help alleviate any hurdles in the path of investment entrepreneurs. Reform measures would involve reducing issuance costs, deepening investor base and creating an issuer-friendly policy and regulatory environment. On lowering issuance costs, various legal reforms are needed, including improving legal procedures for securities issuance, completing the recently begun shift from a merit-based to a disclosure based system, increasing managerial efficiency of regulators and streamlining any increased disclosure requirements and procedures, as well as, increase government bond liquidity. Deepening the investor base could be attained by enhancing collective investment schemes regulations, developing retail programs for privatization initial public offering (IPO), and expediting the consolidation among brokers and promoting competition. Creating a more issuer-friendly regulatory framework could be achieved through various measures, including reinforcing the new Corporate Finance Division (CFD) at the Capital Market Authority (CMA) with competent staff to champion direct corporate financing through securities issuance; improving CMA statistical system to conform to the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) standards; strengthening its capacity in data and information dissemination; and improving information disclosure at CMA and the Cairo and Alexandria Stock Exchange (CASE) to enable investors obtain more information regarding corporate governance structure and important corporate actions.

Non-financial services:

Some agricultural services (including landscaping and horticulture)

Hotels and other places of lodging

Personal services (including dry cleaning, tax preparation, and hair cutting)

Business services (including temporary agencies and business software developers)

Automotive services

Miscellaneous repairs

Motion pictures

Amusements and recreation

Healthcare

Legal services

Private education

Social services

Museums, zoos, and botanical gardens

Membership organizations (including houses of worship and clubs)

Engineering and management services (including consulting)

In the Egyptian economy, jobs can be categorized into sectors, which can then be split into divisions, each of which include various industries. There are two major sectors in the Egyptian economy: the goods-producing sector and the service-producing sector. The goods-producing sector includes agriculture, forestry, and fishing; mining; construction; and manufacturing. The service-producing sector includes the divisions of (1) transportation, communications, and utilities; (2) wholesale trade; (3) retail trade; (4) finance, insurance, and real estate; (5) public administration; and (6) services.

Energy:*Electricity access*

<i>Electrification - total population</i>	99.6%
<i>Electrification - urban areas</i>	100%
<i>Electrification - rural areas</i>	99.3%
<i>Population without electricity</i>	300,000

Electricity Profile

<i>Electricity - production:</i>	184 B. KWH.
<i>Electricity - consumption:</i>	156 B. KWH.
<i>Electricity - installed generating capacity:</i>	47 M. KWH.
<i>Electricity - from fossil fuels:</i>	87.5%
<i>Electricity - from hydroelectric plants:</i>	9.5%.
<i>Electricity - from other renewable sources:</i>	3%.

Crude oil & Natural gas	
Crude oil - production:	572 bbl./day In April 2021
Crude oil - proved reserves:	4.4 B. bbl.
Refined petroleum products - production:	795000 bbl./day in 2020
Refined petroleum products - consumption:	900,000 bbl./day
Natural gas - production:	7.2 B. cu m. /day
Natural gas - consumption:	5.8 B. cu m. /day
Natural gas - proved reserves:	2.186 tri. cu m.

Transportation:

National air transport system:	
Registered air carriers:	14
Registered aircraft operated by air carriers:	101
Annual passenger traffic on registered air carriers:	32,159,464
Annual freight traffic on registered air carriers:	397,531,535
Airports:	91
Airports - with paved runways:	80
Airports - with unpaved runways:	11
Railways:	5,625 km
Roadways:	65.050 km
Waterways:	3,500 km
Ports & Carrier:	
Merchant marine:	Total: 67
Major seaport(s):	8
Port of call:	2626.
Carrier:	25.

Some of mega projects in Egypt:



- 1-Oil & Gas:
- Trending Oil & Gas projects:
- Assiut Oil refinery upgrade-Hydro genic cracking unit
- Enhanced methane recovery project – phase 2
- Twin pipeline from Egypt to Libya
- North El Salhiya (block1) and El Matariya (block3) in Nile delta
- Zohr gas field development

- **Major oil & gas projects in Egypt:**

- Egyptian petro – refinery project
- West Nile delta development- North Alexandria
- Kafr El Shikh refining and petrochemical complex
- Alexandria refinery
- Olefins plant in Suez

- **2-Industrial:**

- Trending industrial projects in Egypt:
- Mazut refining plant in Egypt
- Hydrogen peroxide production facility at Giza
- New administrative capital- industrial zone
- Russian industrial zone in Suez Canal

- Industrial city in the North of Fayoum
- **Major industrial projects in Egypt:**
- Russian industrial zone in Suez Canal
- Industrial city within Suez Canal
- New administrative capital – industrial zone
- Propylene and derivatives plant
- Damietta fertilizer plant expansion

- **3-Construction:**
- Trending construction projects in Egypt:
- The new capital
- AL- Alamein city
- Palm valley
- Mangroovy residence in El- Gouna
- Capital gardens

- **Major construction projects in Egypt:**
- New administrative capital – New industrial city
- New administrative capital city
- One million houses in Egypt
- Ayaat city
- Madinaty development

- **4-Power & water:**
- Trending power & water projects in Egypt:
- West Cairo steam power plant
- Three 50MW photovoltaic power plant in Benban
- West Cairo steam power plant – switchyard
- Tanks of the west Cairo and Assiut plants
- Keys yard operation in west Cairo.

- **Major power & water projects in Egypt:**
- Al Negila nuclear power plant
- 6000 MW coal – fired power plant
- El Dabaa nuclear power plant
- 6000 MW coal fired power plant
- Coal – fired power plant in Hamrawein

- **5- Infrastructure projects in Egypt:**
 - Trending infrastructure projects in Egypt:
 - West Cairo steam power plant- Water & wastewater treatment system
 - Third container terminal project – Alexandria port
 - Wastewater treatment plant in Jirzah
 - Greater Cairo metro – line 4 – phase 1 – civil package 2
 - Greater Cairo metro – line 4 – phase 1 – civil package 1
 - **Major infrastructure projects in Egypt:**
 - Alexandria – Aswan high speed rail line
 - New Suez Canal project
 - Cairo – Luxor high speed rail line
 - Luxor – Hurghada railway line
 - Cairo Sixth metro line
- **6- Agricultural & Aquaculture projects:**
 - Egypt established an aggressive expansion plan for agriculture sector by reclamation of 1.5 million acre of desert land, at a cost of EGP 33 Billion.
 - **1-One and half acre project:**
 - The land be reclaimed will span eight governorates, namely (Giza-Mina-Qena-Aswan – The New Valley – Sinai-Ismailia- Matrouh). Land reclamation is expected to increase Egypt's agriculture farmland by 20% and is set to be implemented over three phases.
 - About 500,000 acres are to be reclaimed in first phase, 490,000 acres in second phase, 510,000 acres to be reclaimed in the third phase.
 - **2- The Golden triangle project:**
 - Another promising national mega project, the golden triangle aims to create a new industrial capital in Upper Egypt through the establishment of industrial, agricultural, economic, trade and service centers located in Upper Egypt in cities of Qena- Safaga- Al-quseir) the project will cover 840,000 acres extending from Qena governorate in the west to the red sea governorate in the east, and from Safaga city in the north to Al-Quseir in the south.
 - Proposed projects for the triangle include (mining- agriculture- industrial projects).
 - **3- East Owainat project:**
 - The East Owainat project lies in the south west region of the western desert and it is a land reclamation project for agriculture use, the target area of reclamation of 230.000 acres.
 - **4- National project for aquaculture:**
 - Aquaculture project in the Suez Canal Corridor, about 5.714 acres will be used for aquaculture cultivation and includes 3.828 tubs, at investments of EGP 650 million.
 - Aquaculture project in Kafr El- Shikh over 118 Kilometers at a cost of EGP 1.7 billion.

Investment opportunities:



Egypt Vision 2030

The sustainable development strategy, "Egypt's Vision 2030", is a milestone in the comprehensive development path in Egypt, as well as a road map that aims at maximizing the benefit from its elements and competitive advantages.

The strategy adopted the concept of sustainable development as a general framework aiming to improve the quality of life in the present time, without prejudice to the rights of future generations to live a better life. The concept of development adopted by such strategy is based on several pillars as follows:

Vision 2030 pillars

Economic Development

By 2030, the Egyptian economy will be a disciplined market economy that is characterized by stable macroeconomic conditions and capability of achieving sustainable containment growth. Moreover, it will also be characterized by competitiveness, diversity, and dependent on knowledge. The Egyptian economy will be an active player in the global economy, capable of adapting to global variables, maximize the added value and provide job opportunities, as well as making the real GDP per capita reaches the ranks of upper middle-income countries.

Energy

By 2030, the energy sector will be able to meet all the requirements of sustainable national development of energy resources and maximize efficient utilization of its various sources leading to an effective contribution in promoting the economic growth, national

competitiveness and social justice as well as preserving the environment and showing leadership in the fields of renewable energy and rational sustainable management of resources. In addition, the energy sector will be characterized by the ability to innovate, predict and adapt to local, regional and international variables in the field of energy, within the framework of keeping pace with achieving the international goals of sustainable development.

Knowledge, Innovation and Scientific Research

By 2030, Egyptian society will be creative, innovative and productive in the fields of science, technology and knowledge, characterized by the existence of an integrated policy that includes the development value of innovation and knowledge, and will link knowledge and outputs of innovation to national goals and challenges.

Transparency and Efficiency of Government Institutions

By 2030, the administrative apparatus will be an efficient and effective apparatus, which improves the management of State resources. Besides, it will be characterized by transparency, fairness, and flexibility and it will be subject to accountability and it will work to increase citizens' satisfaction, and interacts with and responds to them.

Social Justice

By 2030, it is targeted to build a fair and adaptive society that is characterized by the equality of rights as well as economic, social and political opportunities with the highest degree of societal integration. Moreover, it is targeted to build a society capable of guaranteeing the citizen's right in participation and equitable distribution in light of the criteria of competency, accomplishment and sovereignty of law, stimulating social mobility opportunities based on capacities, providing mechanisms for protection against the dangers of life, working in parallel to support marginalized classes of society and protecting the most favored persons.

Health

By 2030, all Egyptians shall enjoy the right to a safe and healthy life, through the implementation of an integrated health policy characterized by its quality, non-discrimination and available for everyone. Such policy shall be able to improve health indicators by achieving a comprehensive preventive coverage, ensuring early intervention for all citizens including those who are financially in-need, and achieving the satisfaction of citizens and workers in the health sector to reach proper level of prosperity, welfare, happiness, and social and economic development. Such policy intended to make Egypt as a pioneer in the field of health, research and preventive services in the Arab and African countries.

Education and Training

By 2030, high quality education and training shall be made available to everyone without discrimination under an efficient, fair, sustainable and resilient institutional framework. Education and training shall concentrate on the recipient and trainee who is able to think and has technical and technological skills. Such education and training shall aim to build an integrated human personality and maximize its capabilities to build a citizen who is proud of himself/ herself, enlightened, creative, responsible, multicultural, respects difference, proud of the country's history and passionate toward shaping its future and able to deal competitively with regional and global entities.

Culture

By 2030, it is intended to set up positive cultural values in Egyptian society that respects diversity, differences and non-discrimination. The vision aims to enable the Egyptian citizen to access means of knowledge acquiring and open horizons to interact with contemporary global challenges, to realize the Egyptian history and cultural heritage, and to gain the ability to choose freely, and to secure his/ her right to practice and produce culture; while relying on the positive elements in culture as a source of strength for development, and an added value for the national economy, and a basis for Egypt's soft power regionally and globally.

Environment

By 2030, the environment pillar will be an essential one in all development and economic sectors in a manner that ensures security, efficient usage, optimal exploitation and investment of natural resources in order to secure the rights of future generations. Such pillar will focus, as well, on diversifying sources of production and economic activities, supporting competitiveness, providing new job opportunities, eradicating poverty, and achieving social justice while providing a clean, healthy and safe environment for all Egyptians.

Urban Development

By 2030, Egypt through its land, civilization and distinguished location will be able to accommodate its population as well as resources under a more balanced scheme that meets the aspirations of Egyptians and improves the quality of their lives.

Infrastructure

Roads Network

Egypt's road network spans 188247 km including paved and dusty roads during 2018. Egypt's road quality now ranks second in Africa and 28th place globally, rising 90 ranks since previous years, according to the "Global Competitiveness Reports".

The Egyptian government has spearheaded significant investment in the road system, as of end-2019 Egypt's National Roads Project – implemented in 2014 – had developed 4500 km of a pledged 7000 km of new roads in the country. An improved road network will support economic development, reduce traffic congestion and improve overall safety.

The government has made additional investments in the land transport segment following the creation of the National Roads Project, and in early 2020, the Ministry of Transport announced a budget of \$9.8bn for road development. In FY 2018/19 over 2000 road projects were carried out, and another 2000 were completed in FY 2019/20.

Despite lockdown measures implemented during the Covid-19 pandemic, construction activity continued on Cairo's new road projects. The projects are part of an \$895m government plan to reduce road congestion and build 40 new bridges. While the majority of the work is concentrated in East Cairo, construction is also being carried out elsewhere – including on the Ahmed Hamdy Tunnel 2 link, which will run under the Suez Canal and is slated for completion in mid-2021. An additional \$142m was spent building road infrastructure in New Alamein City, an urban development to the west of Alexandria on Egypt's north coast.

One significant road project is the recently completed suspension bridge that crosses the Nile River at Warraq Island to the north of Cairo and forms part of a link stretching from the Red Sea to the northwest extremity of Egypt's Mediterranean coast. It was inaugurated by President Abdel Fattah El Sisi in May 2019 and is the widest such bridge in the world.

According to the ministry of planning, the government allocated around 16.9 billion Egyptian pounds for the national road network "Investment plan 2020/2021".

Commercial Ports

The port extensions are expected to strengthen Egypt's position along one of the world's busiest trade routes and further enhance the strategic advantage of the Suez Canal, the country's strongest asset for international commerce.

- Alexandria Port, Total port Area 1.6 sq.km with a maximum Capacity 36.8 million ton/year.
- El-Dekheila Port, Total port Area 3500000 m2 with a maximum Capacity 22.1 million ton/year.
- Damietta Port, Total port Area 8500000 m2 with a maximum capacity 19.75 million tons/year.

- Red Sea Ports, includes 6 ports:
- Suez Port, Total port Area 2.3 km² with maximum Capacity 6.6 million tons (general cargo)/year.
- Nuwaiba Port, Total port area 9.8 km² with maximum capacity 1.9 million tons (general cargo)/year.
- Hurghada Port, Total port area 9913000 m² with maximum capacity 250 Thousand Passengers.
- Sharm El Sheikh Port, Total port area 88.3 km² with maximum capacity 100000 passengers.
- Safaga Port, Total Port Area 57 km² with maximum Capacity 6.37 million tons/year.

SCZONE ports include 6 ports:

- Port Said Port, Total port area 3 km² with maximum Capacity 12,175 million tons/year.
- Arish Port, Total port area 230.000 km² with maximum Capacity 1.2 million tons/year.
- Sokhna Port, Total port area 87.8 km² with maximum Capacity 8.5 million ton/year.
- East Port Said Port, Total port area 72.10 sq. km with maximum Capacity 6 million ton/year.
- Adabyia Port, Total port area 158.8 km² with maximum Capacity 7.93 Million tones/year.
- Al-Tour port, Total Port area 1.6 km² with maximum Capacity 0.38 million ton (General Cargo)/Year.

Water Supply

Nile River

The main water infrastructure in Egypt is on the Nile River, notably the Aswan High Dam, the Aswan Old Dam and a number of downstream barrages. The Aswan Old Dam has a storage volume of 5 BCM/year. The Aswan High Dam was built upstream of the Aswan Old Dam with a reservoir (Lake Nasser) of 162 BCM.

Canal System

Water in the Nile River is diverted to agricultural lands through a hierarchy of public canals that include main canals, secondary (or branch) canals and sub-branch canals. The branch canals deliver water into private canals that are called mesqas.

Drainage System

An intensive open drainage system was constructed along the Nile downstream of the Aswan High Dam to transfer excess irrigation water to the Mediterranean Sea and terminal lakes. At present, the system covers all the cultivated land in the Nile Valley and Delta. It is about 16,686 km in length, of which 67% is in the Delta region and the rest is in Upper and Middle Egypt.

Hydropower

Hydropower is generated at the Aswan High Dam, the Aswan Old Dam and the Esna and Nag Hammadi barrages. Hydropower makes up about 3% of Egypt's energy production.

Airports

Along with road and sea transport, Egypt's air segment has expanded over the years, led both country's geographic position as a regional air transfer point and by its fast-growing population.

Cairo International Airport, which currently has three terminals, is the continent's second-busiest airport after Johannesburg. The expansion of terminal 2 was completed in 2015 and increased the airport's handling annual capacity from 18m to 26m passengers.

International airports, there are 11 international airports including:

- Cairo International Airport
- Hurghada International Airport
- Sharm El sheikh International Airport
- Aswan International Airport
- Luxor International Airport
- Borg El Arab International Airport
- Alexandria International Airport
- Assuit International Airport
- Taba International Airport
- Marsa Matrouh International Airport
- Sohag International Airport

International – Internal Airports, there are 4 International/Internal airports including:

- El Arish International Airport
- Sharq El Owainat Airport
- St.Catherine International Airport
- Abu Simbel Airport

Internal Airports, there are 4 internal airports including:

- Port Said Airport
- Tur Sinai Airport
- El Dakhla Airport
- El Kharga Airport

BOT Airports, including:

- Marsa Alam international airport
- El Almain international airport

ICT

Egypt has a state-of-the-art IT infrastructure in place. Submarine fiber-optic cables link Egypt to Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Europe. All landlines have dial-up access. High-speed broadband and wireless networks are in place in major urban areas throughout the country.

Egypt has invested in developing world-class infrastructure facilities, including dedicated BPO/ITO parks; Smart Village and Cairo Technology Park in Maadi. With plans to build business technology zones nationwide, Egypt is gearing up to be a multicenter offshore location to make the most of the country BPO capabilities.

Oil & Gas

Egypt's location has made it geostrategically important transit point for the global trade of crude oil and natural gas. The 193.3-km Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean with the Red Sea, allowing for shipments between the Gulf, the EU, Russia and the US. Vessels that exceed the Canal's draft limitations are able to offload their cargo at the Red Sea port of Ain Sokhna, from which it can be transferred via the 320-km Suez – Mediterranean (SUMD) pipeline to the Sidi Kerir terminal on the Mediterranean coast.

Electricity

Egypt is the most populous country in MENA region, and is served by one of the most extensive generation, transmission and distribution networks in the region.

Hydro The high dam facility has an installed capacity of 2100 MW, while plants at Aswan, Esna and Naga Hamady bring Egypt's total hydro potential to 2800 MW.

Wind In July 2018, Egypt inaugurated one of the world's largest wind farms at Gabal El Zayt. The facility will utilize more than 300 turbines to ultimately produce up to 580 MW.

Solar The Benban solar project in the western desert is considered the world's largest solar installation; it is projected to reach a combined peak capacity of 752 MW.

According to the ministry of planning, the government allocated around 8.3 billion Egyptian pounds for projects of generating electrical energy from new and renewable source "Investment plan 2020/2021".

Railway

Egyptian Railways is considered the backbone of passenger transport in Egypt, where the volume of railway passengers and goods transport is about 500 million passengers annually (about 1.4 million passengers a day), Goods transport about 6 million tons annually. The total length of railway network is 9570 km, and the total number of stations is 70 major, sub and medium –stations.

The Ministry of Transport, in partnership with the private sector, has begun 12 railway projects, which will total to 424 kilometers of the new railway network to transport goods across Egypt.

The first of these projects will link the 10th of Ramadan dry port with the seaports and the Suez Canal economic zone. It will also connect the 6th of October dry port to the Abu Tartour-Saqqara line.

In addition, Egypt is building a railway line of 6,000 km in length to connect Upper Egypt with Sudan to facilitate the movement of Egyptian exports to Sudan then to central Africa.

According to the ministry of planning, the government allocated around 12.3 billion Egyptian pounds for the development and expansion of the subway network "Investment plan 2020/2021".

Investment schemes

Investment Zones

It is an investment regime aimed at implementing a mechanism that is simple and easy to issue all approvals, licenses and permits necessary for the establishment and operation of projects through the Board of Directors of the Investment Zone and the Executive Office (One Single Regulator), without dealing with the governmental institutions the State in accordance with the provisions of Chapter II of Part III of Law No. 72 of 2017.

Under this investment regime, the investor bears the cost and development work of all infrastructure, services and utilities implementation needed at the zone.

Companies established in investment zones are exempted from stamp and documentation taxes, for a period of five years, starting from the date of registering the company at the Commercial Register. Contracts for land registration are also exempted.

The board of directors of the General Authority for Investment Free Zones (GAFI) approved in November 2017 the establishment of an investment zone in Qalyubia, dedicated for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), over 36 acres, at Arab Oliqat, Al-Khanka. It also targets food and beverage manufacturing industries.

In September 2017, GAFI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Singapore Engineering and Contracting Group (SECC) from Singapore to develop investment zones in Qena, Kafr el-Sheikh and Qaliubya Governorates

The number of investment zones affiliated to the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones is three in the governorates of Giza - Qaliubiya - Dakahlia and coordination is underway to establish new areas according to an ambitious plan. The work in the investment zone system is characterized by the speed and ease of the procedures for allocating land, extracting licenses and providing payment facilities, as lands are allocated with the Usufructsystem.

Free Zones

Public free zones are investment regions dedicated for export markets only and are governed by an independent board.

The government holds nine public free zones and supplies them with infrastructure and utilities as well as an independent customs unit.

Egypt's public free zones attracted US\$ 2 billion in FDI in 2016. Total investment cost in 2016 reached US\$ 26 billion through a total of 1108 companies contributing with around US\$ 10 billion to Egypt's exports. The public free zones cover an array of sectors, most importantly: textiles; medical equipment; printing and storage. There are almost 183,000 people employed at Egypt's free zones today.

In 2017, the General Authority for Investment Free Zones announced a strategy of establishing public free zones in every governorate. Currently, there are 8 governorates with such a dedicated investment zone.

Additionally, Egypt's Investment Law allows for private free zone, In the event that the activity cannot be established in the public free zones, or there are no necessary spaces in the public free zones which are independent manufacturing facilities that exist outside a public free zone, but enjoys the same merits and abides by the same restrictions

Technological Zones

Upon a proposal by the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones(GAFI)'s Board of Directors and request by the CIT Minister, Technology Zones may be established by a decree issued by the Prime Minister in the field of communications and information technology industry, including the industrial activities, design and development of electronics, data centers, outsourcing activities, software development, technological education, and other associated or complementing activities, as indicated by the Executive Regulations of the Investment Law.

Investment Projects set up within Technological Zones shall enjoy the Special Incentives stipulated in new investment law, based on the sector within which such projects fall. CIT projects enjoy redemption of 30% from the tax base of total investment cost on designated projects Technological Zones, according to Investment Law No. (72/2017).

Technology areas foster the growth of areas related to information and communications technology at the local level, while providing multiple benefits to companies; these include access to common resources, such as uninterruptible power supplies, high-speed telecommunications network connections, security, management offices, conference facilities and parking lots Retail outlets, and recreational and sports facilities

All the tools, supplies, and machinery required to conduct the licensed activity by all kinds of the Projects established within the Technological Zones shall not be subject to the taxes and customs duties, in accordance with the conditions and procedures indicated by the Implementing Regulations.

Each Technological Zone shall have a board of directors. There are 7 Technological zones in Egypt, governorates, two in Alexandria and one in each of Assuit, Aswan, Beni Suef, Monufia, and Sharqia.

Market access:

We ease the way for global investors looking to harness opportunities presented by Egypt's fast-growing domestic economy and the nation's robust competitive advantages as an export hub for Europe, the Arab world and Africa

Egypt is access to 1.3 billion citizens in Africa with PPP reach 4.3 trillion USD.

Opportunities:

Egypt's investment map offers opportunities in an array of sectors and across various geographies, covered by strong incentives under Egypt's Investment Law.

During year 2021-2022 Egypt has 2796 investment opportunities in many sectors such as:

Main sectors:

- 24 investment opportunities in agricultural development
- 5 investment opportunities in agriculture and land reclamation
- 3 investment opportunities in animal production
- 23 investment opportunities in automotive
- 11 investment opportunities in building materials
- 351 investment opportunities in chemical industries
- 39 investment opportunities in communications and information technology
- 20 investment opportunities in construction
- 2 investment opportunities in convention center and fairs
- 36 investment opportunities in decoration building materials
- 16 investment opportunities in education
- 10 investment opportunities in energy
- 471 investment opportunities in engineering and electronics industries
- 19 investment opportunities in entertainment
- 6 investment opportunities in financial and insurance services

- 3 investment opportunities in fishery
- 325 investment opportunities in food processing
- 2 investment opportunities in glass and its products manufacturing
- 12 investment opportunities in healthcare
- 18 investment opportunities in hotels
- 4 investment opportunities in industrial developing
- 4 investment opportunities in infrastructure
- 46 investment opportunities in metallurgical industries
- 9 investment opportunities in oil and gas
- 9 investment opportunities in other agriculture projects
- 113 investment opportunities in in other industrial projects
- 112 investment opportunities in services sector
- 86 investment opportunities in tourism
- 6 investment opportunities in packing industries
- 3 investment opportunities in pharmaceutical and medical industries
- 219 investment opportunities in real estate
- 33 investment opportunities in retail
- 406 investment opportunities in textiles
- 104 investment opportunities in touristic villages
- 57 investment opportunities in transportation and logistics
- 16 investment opportunities in wooden industries and furniture
- 171 investment opportunities in plastic industries

Development projects:

- 29 investment opportunities in drinking water and sanitation projects
- 24 investment opportunities in electricity and renewable energy projects
- 11 investments opportunities in energy sector
- 7 investment opportunities in infrastructure
- 4 investment opportunities in oil and gas sector
- 2 investment opportunities in petrochemicals

Trade statistics:



Trade profile:

Egypt has gradually moved towards a more liberal trade regime. It became a member of the *World Trade Organization (WTO)* in 1995, and revamped its tariff regime in 2004 as agreed in its accession agreement. The changes in the tariff structure lowered the official tariff rate (weighted average) from 14.6% to 11.8%. According to the *WTO*, Egypt's MFN trade weighted average tariff was 11.8% in 2013. More than 88% of agricultural products and 86% of non-agricultural items on the tariff schedule are now charged at less than 15%

Trade indicators:

Egypt bilateral trade with 198 countries in 2020

Egypt is the 61 largest export economies in the world. In 2020, Egypt exported \$26.815B and imported \$60.279B; resulting in a negative trade balance of \$33.464B, in 2020 Egypt exports 85 committees to more than 172 countries.

In 2020 the GDP of Egypt was \$394B and its PPP was \$1.208 trillion.

Egypt imported \$60.279 B which making it the 45 largest importing country,

Egypt imports 95 committees out of 99 commodities from 170 countries over the world.

Egypt has 8 major ports, reach to 2626 port of call.

Product Range

Egypt exports 253 products with revealed comparative advantage (meaning that its share of global exports is larger than would be expected from the size of its export economy and from the size of a product's global market).

Trade with Egypt:

Egypt requires restrictive labeling for imports of food products. All food products should be packed in appropriate packages, which should be clean, intact, and odorless so as to preserve the products and not affect its characteristics. Imported products must be marked and labeled in Arabic. The language requirement is mandatory for all information, including the brand and type of the products, country of origin, and date of production, expiry date, and instructions on handling products. For imported tools, machines and equipment, a user manual in Arabic has to be attached, There are a total of ten free trade zones in Egypt – Cairo (Nasr City), Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, Ismailia, Damietta, Media, Shebin El-Kom, Qeft and Port Said East Port. Goods

exported from or imported into the free zones are not subject to normal import/export customs procedures, duties or other taxes and fees. Likewise all instruments, machinery, equipment, and transportation equipment necessary for establishments authorized within the free zones are exempt from customs and duties, The *EU-Egypt Association Agreement* entered into force in June 2004.

Trade agreements

Egypt situated in a strategic geopolitical location gives an ideal advantage of access to markets with various trade agreements incentives that operating in Egypt benefits from.

Egypt's multiple free trade agreements provides access to 1.5 billion consumers, of which 100 million consumers are in Egypt.

Furthermore, connecting investors with established and emerging markets with 8% of world trade passing through the Suez Canal, Shipping time and cost are lower from Egypt, 7 days less to the USA than from China and 50% cheaper compared to the UAE.

Trade Agreements

- Pan Arab Free Trade Agreement/ Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement (GAFTA)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Agadir Free Trade Agreement
- Egypt-EU Association Agreement
- Egypt-EFTA Free Trade Agreement
- Qualified Industrial Zones (QIZ)
- Egypt Turkey Free Trade Agreement
- Egypt-MERCOSUR Free Trade Agreement

Pan Arab Free Trade Agreement / Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement (GAFTA)

PAFTA was signed by 17 members of Arab League in 1981 and agreed upon its terms in 1997; aiming to facilitate and develop trade among Arab States. PAFTA members agreed to eliminate all non-tariff barriers (NTB's), including administrative, monetary, financial and technical barriers and reduce tariffs annually for ten years (10% annual reduction per year from 1998 to 2003 and by 20% in 2004 and 2005) till reaching a free trade zone in 2007. However, the Arab summit held in 2002 decided to reach zero tariff among Arab States in 2005 instead of 2007 and grant the least developed member states a preferential treatment.

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

The COMESA Agreement was initiated as a targeted preferential trade zone with the eventual aim of establishing a free trade area among member countries for it to develop into a customs union and later a common market. Egypt became a member of the Common Market for East

and Southern Africa (COMESA) in 1998, along with 20 other active member states. As a COMESA member, Egypt grants goods and products having COMESA certificates of origin full exemption from customs duties and any other duties and charges having the equivalent effect. Reference to the agreement rules of origin, customs exemptions on all imports of products originating in member country with a value-added amounting to 45%, shall be applicable. COMESA launched its customs union in June 2009; aiming to reduce and unify external tariffs linearly over a period of ten years starting from 2009 and ending in 2018. It is planned that a monetary union will be established by 2025.

Agadir Free Trade Agreement

Egypt had signed the Agadir Agreement in 2004 that came into force in 2006, to establish a free trade area between Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Advantages of the Agreement:

Applying the cumulative Rules of Origin will support and enhance the economic and trade cooperation among the parties.

Pursuit of establishing the Greater Arab Free Trade Area and the development thereof, and as a contribution to the efforts being exerted to establish a Common Arab Market

The Agadir Declaration has even more benefits of expanding the European Union markets after the accession of ten new member states.

The Agadir Declaration will enhance trade exchange between Egypt and the signatory Arab countries since the volume of inter-Arab trade does not exceed 10% of their total trade volume currently.

This Agreement deals with many important issues such as customs systems, rules of origin, government procurements, financial transactions, safeguard measures, new industries, subsidy and dumping, intellectual property, standards and specifications, and establishing a dispute settlement mechanism. Rules of origin constitute one of the most important articles stipulated in the Agadir Agreement since it will increase the prospective European Market Access for products of Party states, which consequently will encourage investments and increase inter-country regional cooperation.

All the industrial and agriculture products are exempted from the entire tariff and the non-tariff measures as soon as the agreement is into effect.

Egypt-EU Association Agreement

The EU-Egypt Association Agreement is in force since 2004. It creates a free-trade area between the EU and Egypt by removing tariffs on industrial products and making agricultural products

easier to trade. Another agreement on agriculture, processes agriculture and fisheries products entered into force in 2010. The free trade agreement focuses on increasing trade between both regions by reducing custom duties fee on trade gradually decreasing annually until completely eliminated for certain products. Since 2004, EU-Egypt bilateral trade has more than doubled from €11.8 billion in 2004 to €27.9 billion in 2017. The EU's main imports of goods from Egypt in 2017 were fuel and mining products (€3.2 billion), chemicals (€1.3 billion) and textiles and clothing (€8.6 billion). The EU's main exports to Egypt are machinery and transport equipment (€6.9 billion), chemicals (€3.1 billion), fuels and mining products (€2.6 billion) and agricultural products (€1.3 billion).

Egypt-EFTA Free Trade Agreement

The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) member states – including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland – signed and entered into force a free trade agreement with Egypt in 2007 in order to support and increase bilateral trade between Egypt and EFTA states and to promote the economic integration into the Euro Med Zone through the liberalization of trade in industrial and processed agricultural products. Accordingly, Egyptian exports of industrial products are liberalized and Egyptian customs tariffs on industrial imports from the EFTA States will be gradually reduced until January 2020 when custom duties on all industrial products will be completely eliminated.

Trade Advantages of the Agreement:

Canceling all customs duties and taxes on Egyptian industrial exports to EFTA

Swiss companies have been given an opportunity to set up export industries in Egypt to export their products to EFTA.

Providing advantages and customs exemptions for Egyptian exports to EFTA of agricultural commodities, especially those of importance to Egypt such as potatoes, oranges, tomatoes and flowers

Egypt's application of the Euro-Mediterranean rules of origin, which have been applied to the agreement on the Egyptian-European partnership.

Abolition of all tariffs on fish and other marine products within 14 years from the date of the agreement

Egypt has financial and technical assistance from the EFTA countries to develop the agricultural sector and fishery sector, as well as to contribute to several of project that aim to transfer their expertise in the fields of textiles and garments and pharmaceutical products.

The EFTA prepares a feasibility study in fishery on how to make the most of Lake Nasser.

Both parties adopted gradual liberalization and open markets for trade in services under the basic items for this kind of trade.

EFTA is obliged to promote its economic cooperation with Egypt; it will also provide technical assistance to facilitate the application of the agreement. This cooperation includes working to improve trade and investment opportunities and support the continuity of achievements in the field of economic and social development, Economic cooperation focuses on sectors that face challenges and growth and employment opportunities in Egypt, in addition to signing the Bilateral MoUs on cooperation projects between Egypt and Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland.

Establishing a joint committee to oversee the implementation of the agreement, and arbitration

Qualified Industrial Zones (QIZ)

Designated geographic areas, within Egypt, that enjoys a duty-free status with the United States. Companies located within such zones are granted duty free access to the US markets, provided that they satisfy the agreed upon pre-defined rules of origin. The benefits of Egypt's QIZ are various, ease of access to US markets being the most important, with open, unlimited quota as well as exemption of tariff and non-tariff barriers. Other benefits include, low factor costs as well as a huge supply of labor force. Enhanced by the added benefits of trade agreements with other markets, Egypt is ideally-suited to provide countless economic benefits to industries located within these zones. The positive economic impact of the QIZ to date has been such that foreign investors and Egyptian companies alike are continually seeking to locate and qualify their businesses within these zones in order to increase their competitiveness and profitability. The industrial zones under QIZ are in Alexandria, the Suez Canal, Greater Cairo, and Central Delta regions, Minya and Beni Suef are recent additions.

Egypt Turkey Free Trade Agreement

Egypt signed a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA) with Turkey in 2005 and entered into force in 2007 to create a free trade area between the two countries over a period of no more than 12 years from the date of ratification.

Trade Advantages of the Agreement:

Restrictions on trading in goods including agricultural products are to be removed creating favorable conditions for more investment providing fair competition in trade between the two countries facilitate access to EU markets and free trade agreements between Egypt and Africa like the COMESA facilitate access to Turkish Investors, Hence, Egyptian industrial exports to Turkey are immediately exempted from customs duties other fees and taxes of equivalent effect upon the entry into force of the agreement. However, deduction rates are applied to certain list of products that vary during operation years until reaching full exemption. The FTA not only provides Egyptian industrial exports with total and immediate free access to the large

Turkish market, but also facilitates access to the EU market. Egyptian exporters face stiff challenges in accessing that market even with the Egypt–EU Partnership Agreement. The Egypt–Turkey FTA is expected to help exporters meet the EU's strict regulations and standards by integrating Turkish and Egyptian industries and by enabling Egyptian exporters to benefit from Turkey's experience in the EU. Just as important, the FTA is expected to increase confidence in the Egyptian economy and further position it as a hub to other African, European, and Arab countries.

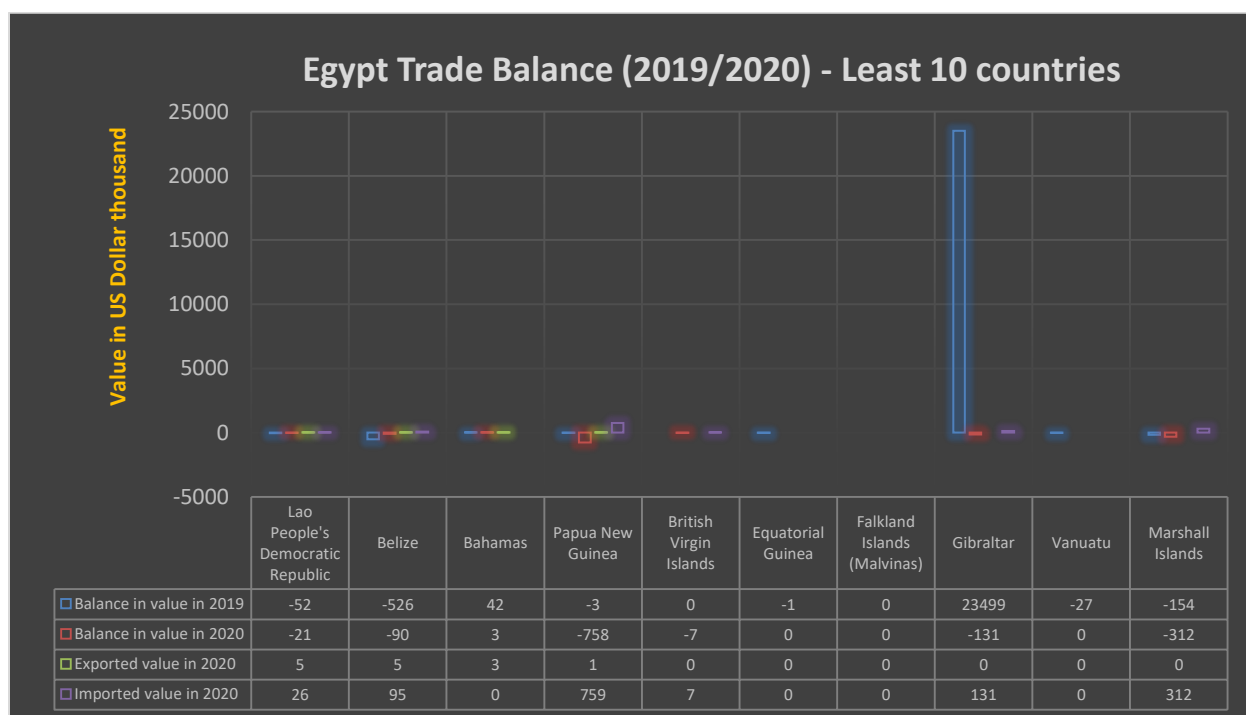
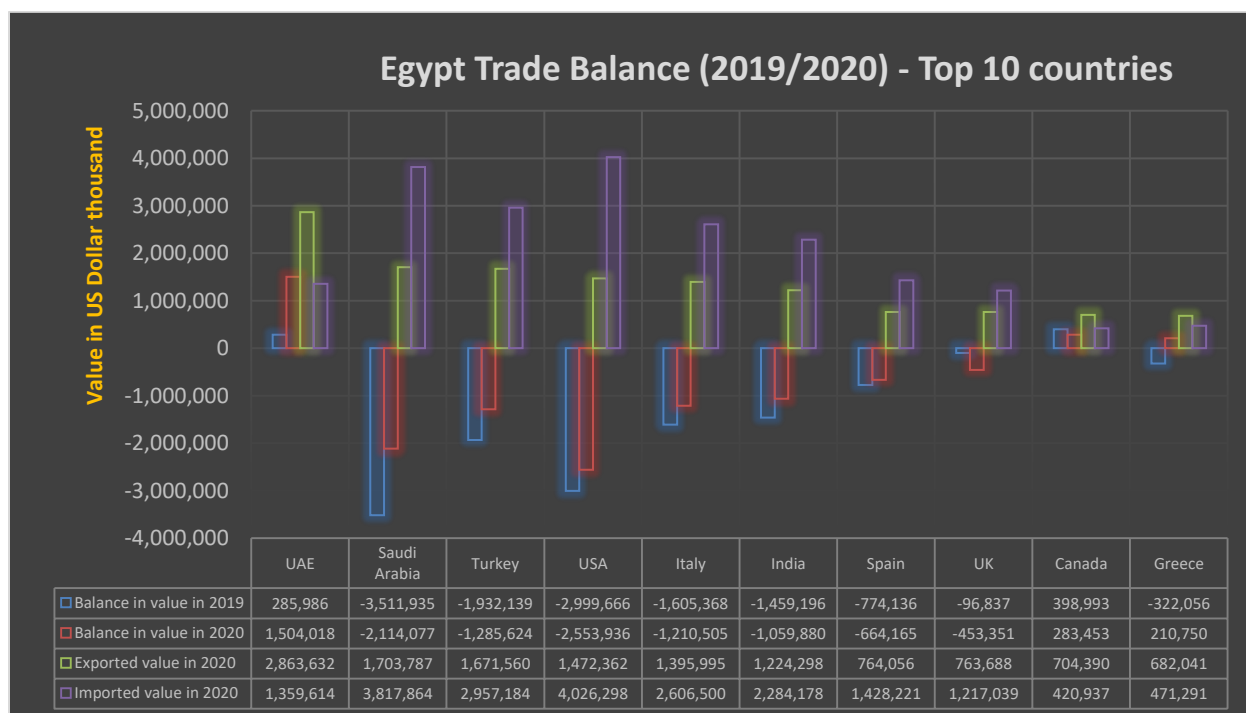
Egypt-MERCOSUR Free Trade Agreement:

In 2010 Egypt signed a preferential Free Trade Agreement with the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) , which allows preferential privileges for the Egyptian exports to enter the Latin American markets, and to reduce the cost of Egyptian imports from Latin American countries such as sugar, meat and soy oil.

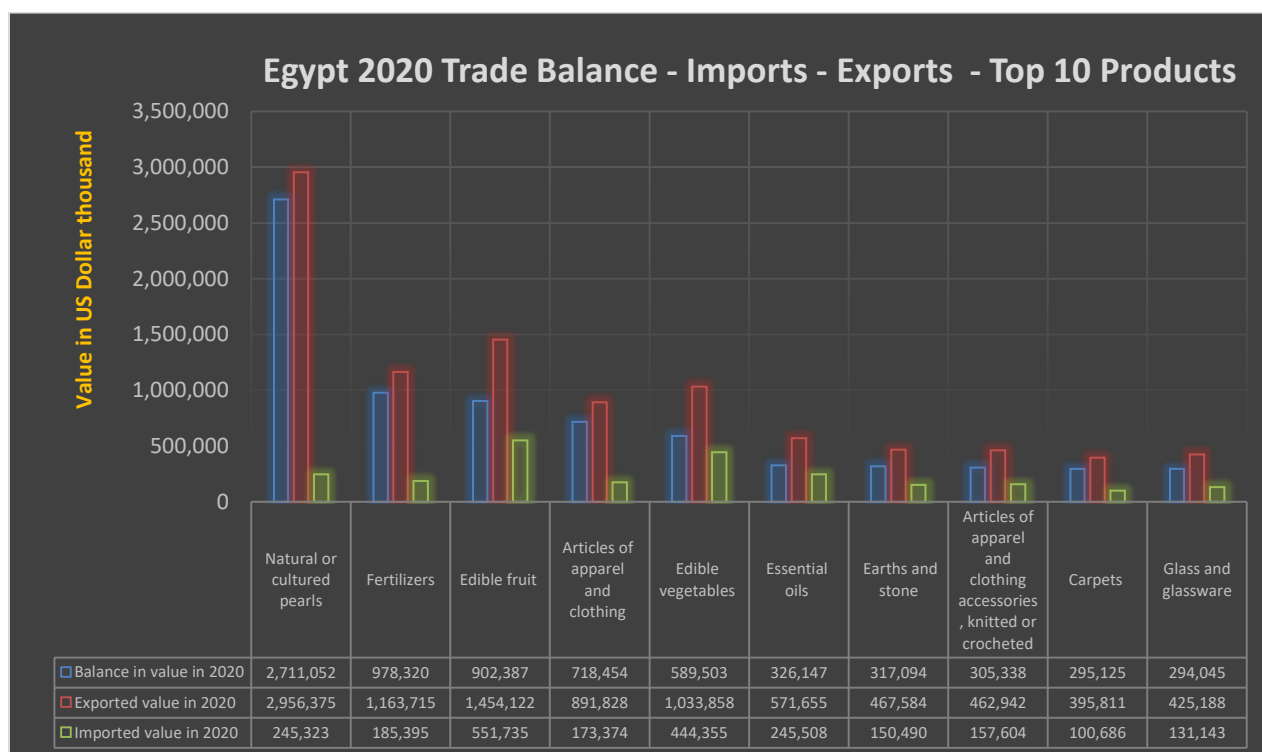
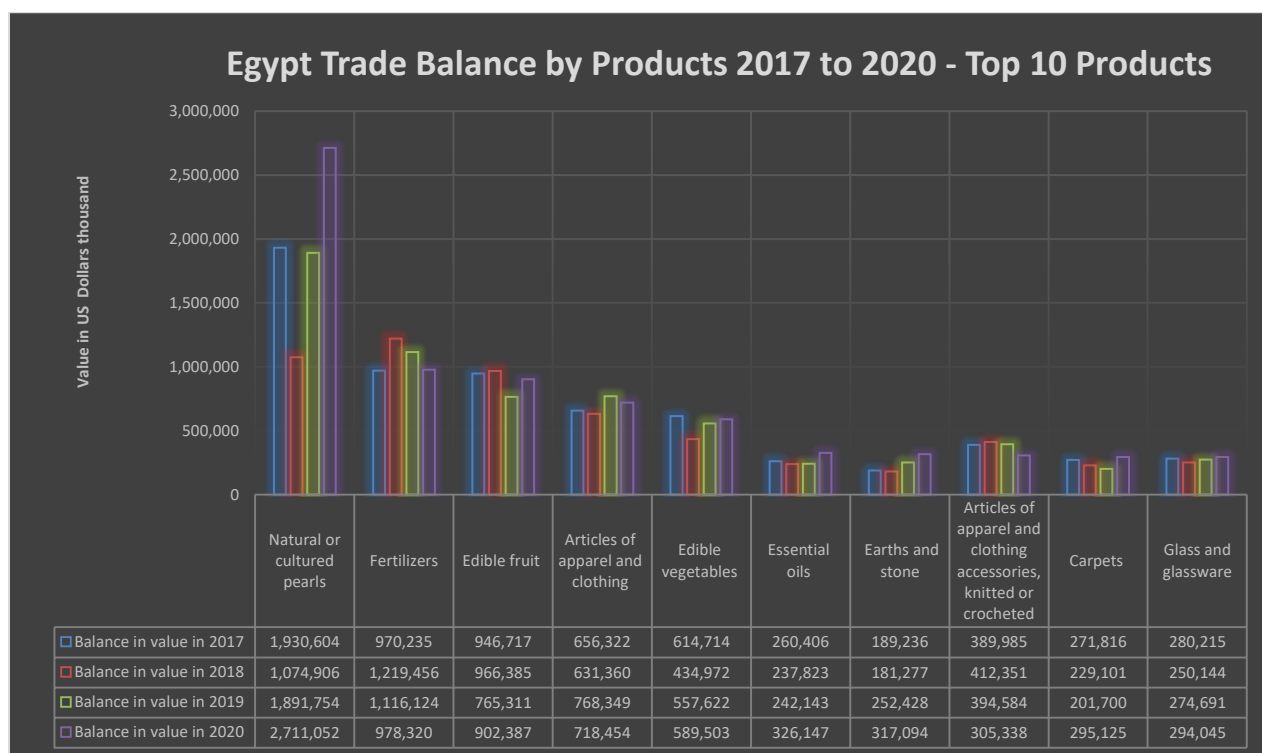
The FTA aims at cutting tariffs by more than 90% between Egypt and the Mercosur countries and cancelling customs duties on agricultural goods, along with finding solutions to the issues of the rules of origin and the preferential guarantees and promoting cooperation in the fields of investment, services and others.

Egypt trade balance with world: Egypt has bilateral trade with more than **198** countries over the world.

The below 2 graphs indicate to the top 10 countries that have a strong trade balance with Egypt and the least 10 countries that have a limited trade balance with Egypt.



Egypt trade balance by commodity: The below graphs indicate to the top and least 10 committees in Egyptian trade balance with the countries in the period 2016 to 2020.



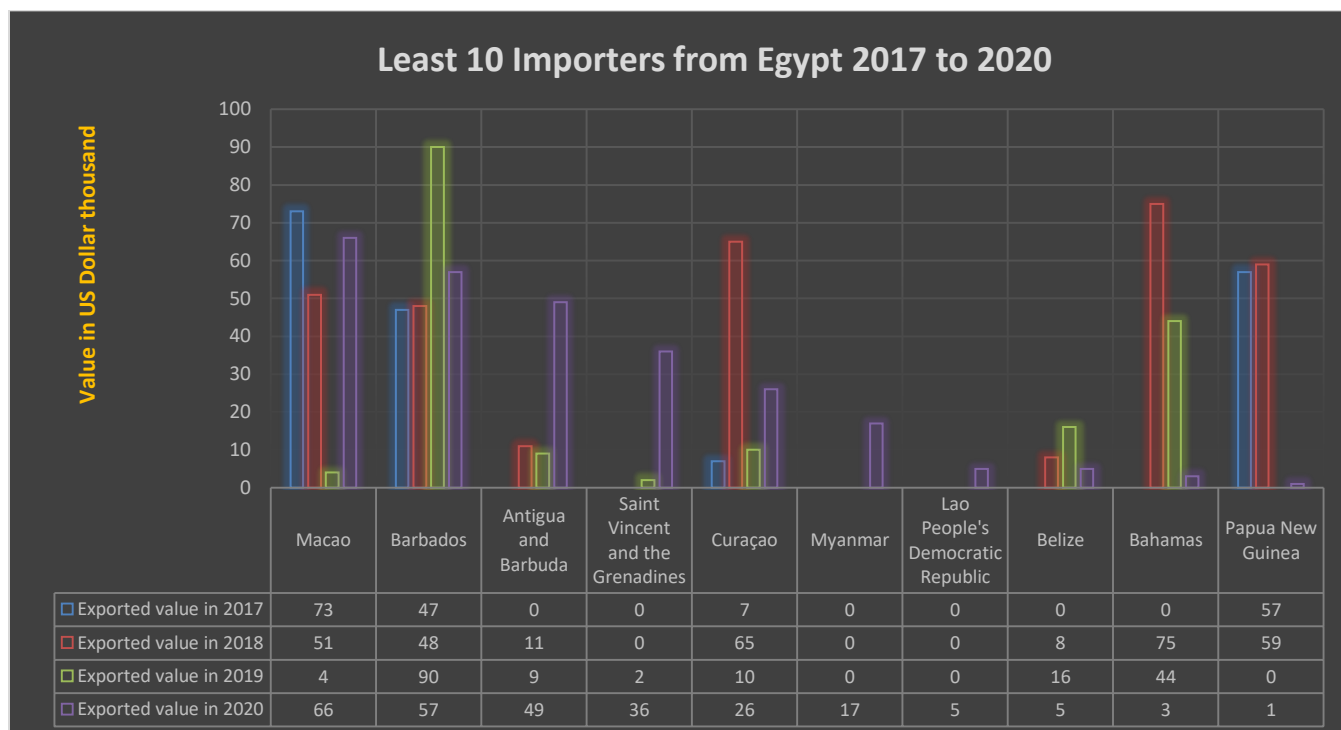
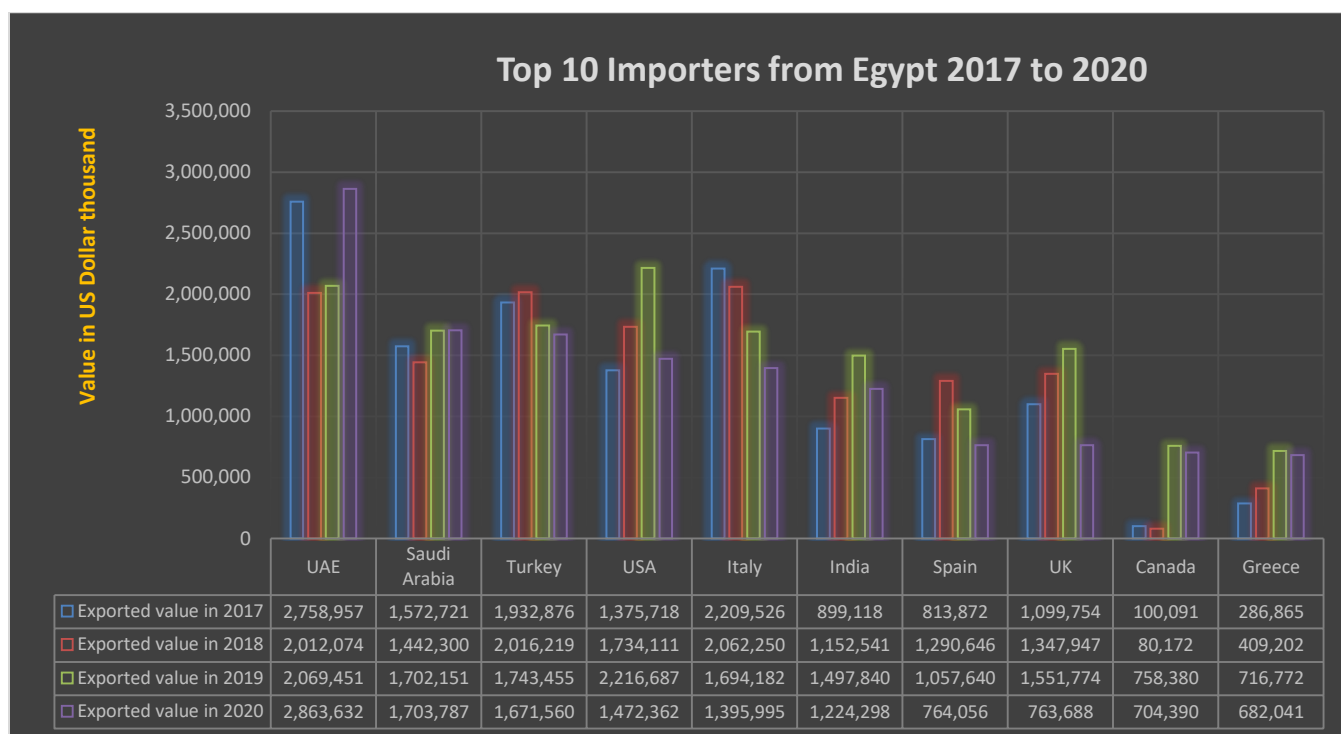
Egypt Trade Balance by Products 2017 to 2020 - Least 10 Products



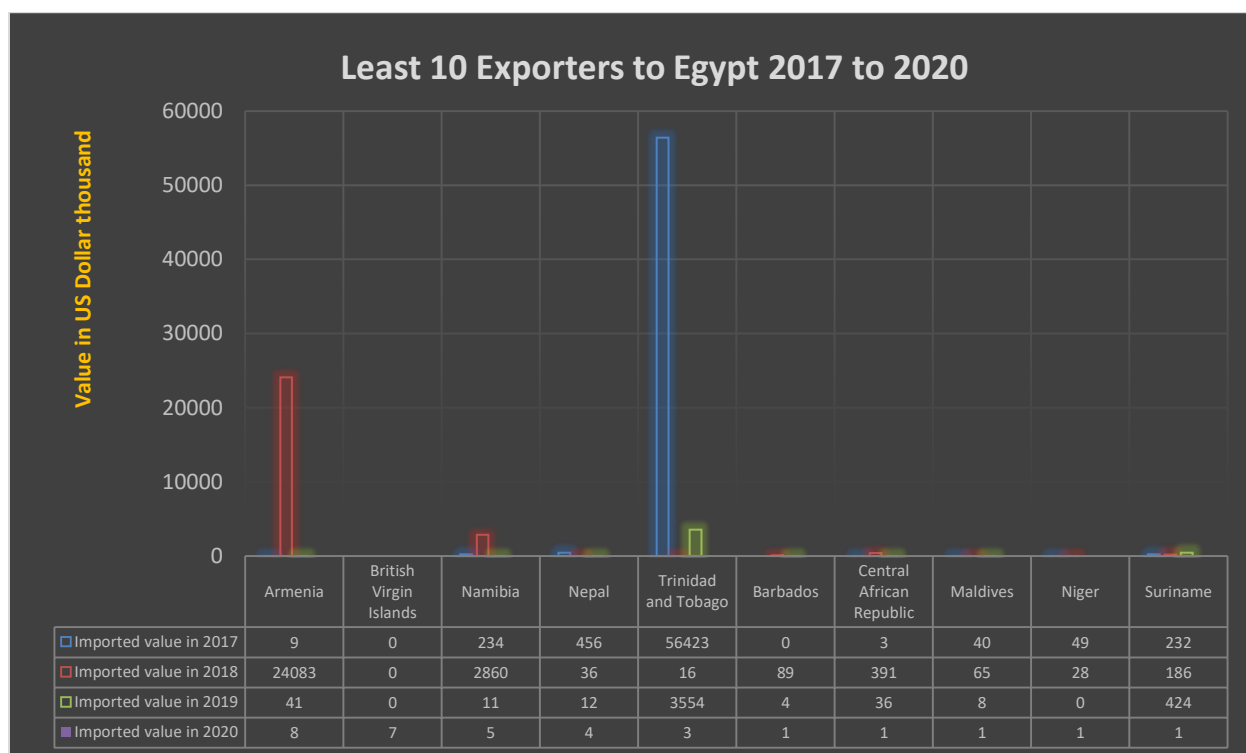
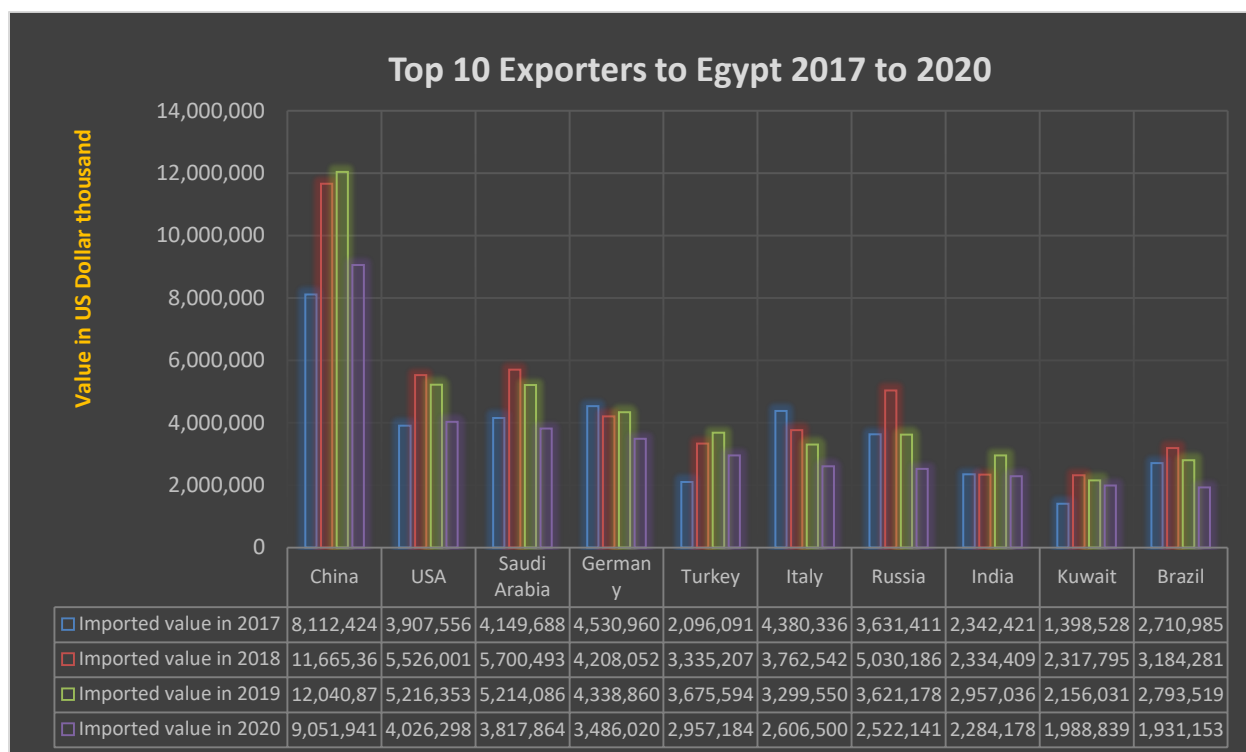
Egypt 2020 Trade Balance - Imports - Exports - Least 10 Products



Egypt export to: Egyptian products reach 185 countries, the below graphs indicate to the top and least 10 importer countries from Egypt in the period 2017 to 2020.

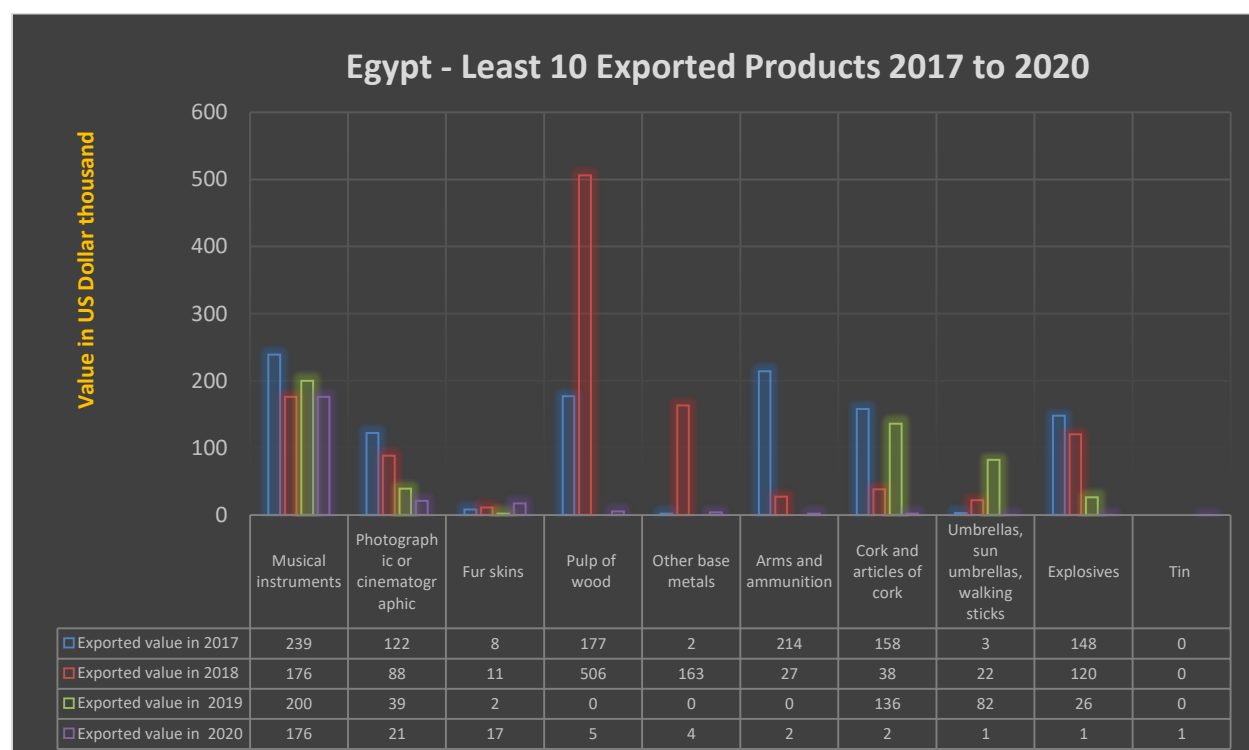
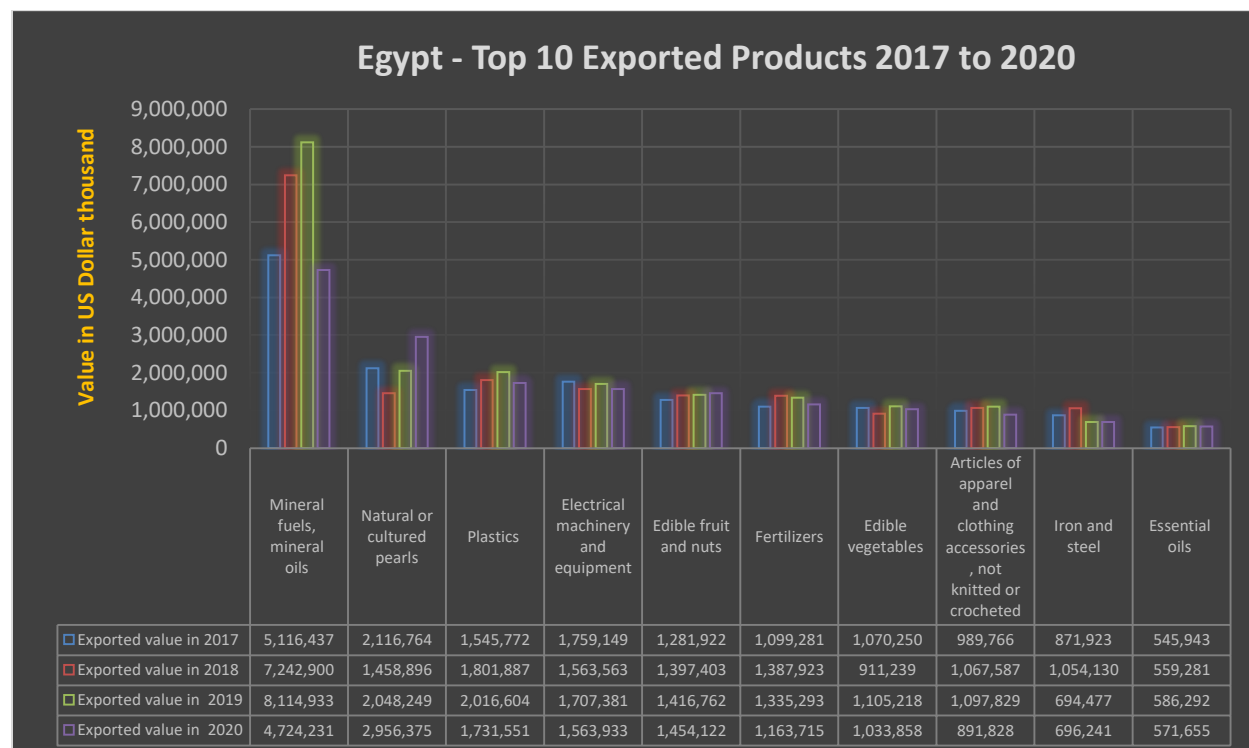


Egypt import from: Egypt is a market for products from 190 country, the below graphs indicate to the top and least 10 exporter countries to Egypt in the period 2017 to 2020.



Egypt exports:

The below graphs indicate to the top and least 10 exported products from Egypt to the world in the period 2016 to 2020.



Egypt imports:

The below graphs indicate to the top and least 10 exported products from the world to Egypt in the period 2016 to 2020.

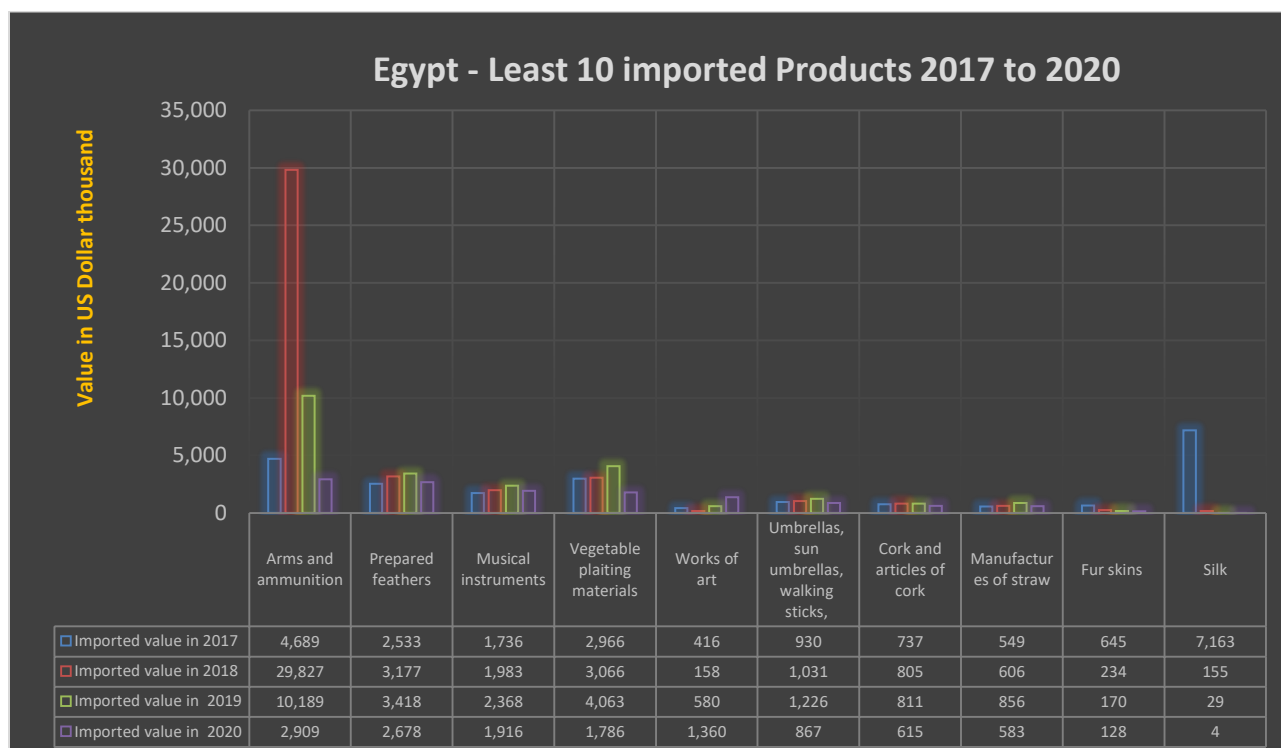
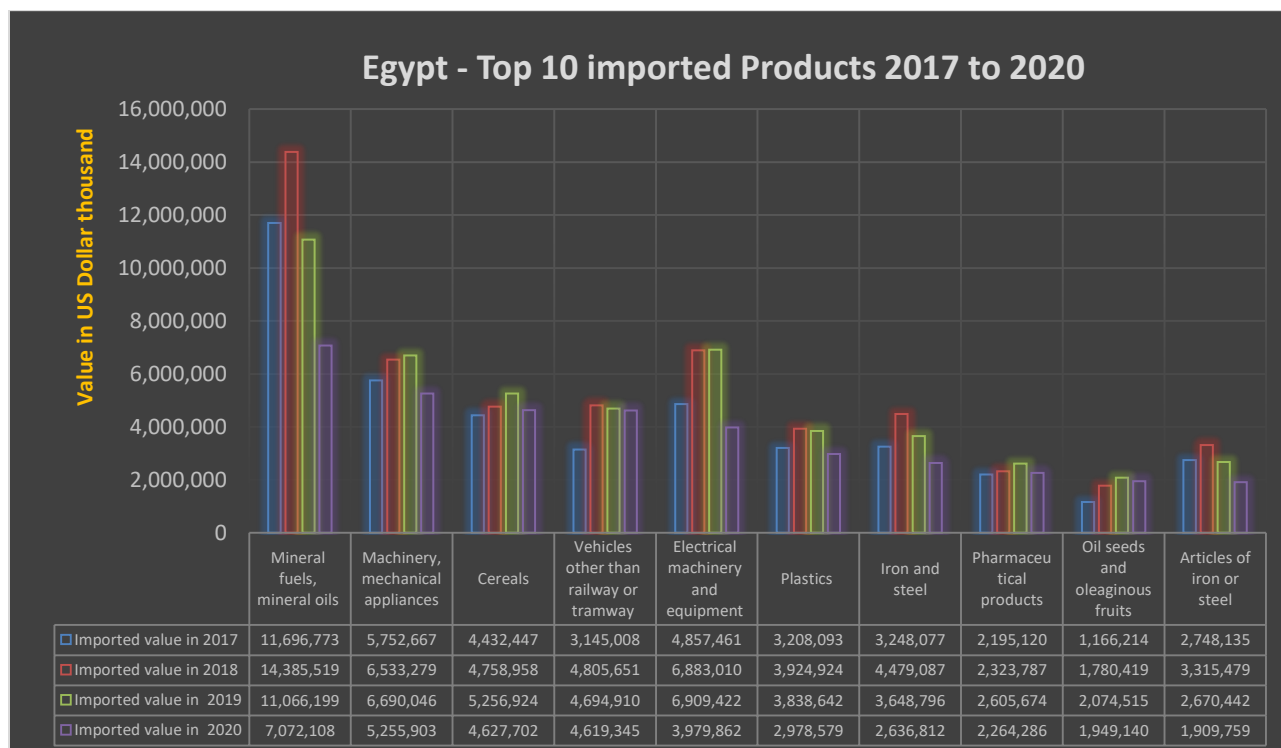


Table 1: Egypt trade balance with world in (Unit: US Dollar thousand).

<i>Partners</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
World	-47676089	-40329832	-52961472	-48024965	-33464409	26815145	60279554
UAE	1904444	1790109	626349	285986	1504018	2863632	1359614
Saudi Arabia	-1153029	-2576967	-4258193	-3511935	-2114077	1703787	3817864
Turkey	-1880373	-163215	-1318988	-1932139	-1285624	1671560	2957184
USA	-2657479	-2531838	-3791890	-2999666	-2553936	1472362	4026298
Italy	-1828922	-2170810	-1700292	-1605368	-1210505	1395995	2606500
India	-1543565	-1443303	-1181868	-1459196	-1059880	1224298	2284178
Spain	-1609058	-891346	-953355	-774136	-664165	764056	1428221
UK	-276528	-500761	-351133	-96837	-453351	763688	1217039
Canada	-219246	-127972	-260111	398993	283453	704390	420937
Greece	-877705	-224675	-608022	-322056	210750	682041	471291
China	-8497337	-7415985	-10624803	-11483949	-8448827	603114	9051941
Germany	-5514246	-3935392	-3539554	-3720169	-2909826	576194	3486020
Libya	504879	398720	573996	675472	537255	572846	35591
Jordan	440467	413878	483222	722252	453020	568028	115008
France	-1165188	-902417	-776623	-1100475	-890592	537329	1427921
Algeria	114672	26270	585758	62228	319544	490079	170535
Malta	-633956	96495	299398	880418	473914	489053	15139
Sudan	524443	352730	193352	260719	330580	474506	143926
Netherlands	-674654	-506426	-836604	-618292	-491516	459823	951339
Morocco	-57391	279939	338195	441721	301309	446143	144834
Iraq	-115094	-150163	-735781	271582	95823	421751	325928
Russia	-2637251	-3231618	-4623475	-3264561	-2116137	406004	2522141
Korea, Republic of	-2390869	-1785834	-1585144	-1600583	-671425	361885	1033310
Kenya	-18797	32355	67918	90324	153852	350697	196845
Yemen	200496	236577	248859	358024	269187	312875	43688
Lebanon	686595	583590	412865	298439	182654	299069	116415
Syria	48411	131596	239320	186311	216411	288657	72246
Tunisia	63809	378735	360414	632862	193068	259835	66767
Belgium	-539756	-657111	-795778	-680760	-707017	253567	960584
Australia	-317442	-363721	-419242	-412288	-81102	234891	315993
Kuwait	-1024978	-1049281	-2039813	-1879610	-1754289	234550	1988839
Pakistan	17548	53487	57199	137733	169861	216999	47138
Brazil	-2029983	-2593691	-2923598	-2609245	-1714897	216256	1931153
Slovakia	0	0	-158362	-9238	-79319	168792	248111
Oman	67521	-15999	-21305	-67026	-143849	166317	310166
Palestine	137355	149602	116272	152819	157342	157380	38
Japan	-1252570	-964702	-1115050	-1077074	-864357	153033	1017390

<i>Partners</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Slovenia	7274	5041	37814	44946	96663	148012	51349
Argentina	-2024638	-1446131	-982042	-996232	-774270	137083	911353
Bahrain	-45779	-24178	-274911	-312924	-78201	135127	213328
Switzerland	-252283	-326828	-786431	-910991	-612635	134192	746827
Singapore	-60149	-263197	-164114	-158516	-43806	132115	175921
Somalia	51592	89898	78823	68940	124204	129873	5669
Hungary	-234187	2596	-6921	-26385	-82241	121870	204111
Poland	-313059	-212168	-306972	-465774	-317047	120034	437081
Romania	-534181	-351076	-669408	-718902	-334994	117837	452831
Cyprus	-14775	80075	-74379	2811	102460	113089	10629
Indonesia	-867489	-986958	-1062484	-1048866	-938885	104937	1043822
Nigeria	-235813	-284106	58166	127339	98075	102262	4187
Bangladesh	36434	26915	36823	46406	43423	87990	44567
Ethiopia	88515	113830	159399	111055	79860	87747	7887
Bulgaria	-331831	-98456	-225656	-125822	-151193	82575	233768
Taipei	-396544	-319164	-562446	-431582	-205133	81717	286850
Eritrea	63053	106472	114947	115343	77846	78432	586
Ghana	57588	98677	101322	47118	65560	78162	12602
Malaysia	-350435	-389828	-322365	-460982	-262188	77219	339407
South Africa	88344	17516	-83405	-16747	17312	74326	57014
Uganda	39554	62462	75554	66233	61310	71099	9789
Hong Kong	-32187	-36369	-33089	-60749	48532	66445	17913
Kazakhstan	-45747	13360	40291	65748	64525	66161	1636
Israel	7104	-7567	-3829	-19414	12040	65813	53773
Senegal	44523	67272	36889	56502	63663	65635	1972
Ukraine	-2755020	-2283260	-2238567	-2304999	-1518540	64183	1582723
Djibouti	26606	30517	33741	38466	49430	54550	5120
Portugal	-30849	-20278	-47030	-332456	-131154	53107	184261
Côte d'Ivoire	30822	45641	59877	40402	45312	49419	4107
Ireland	-183034	-145829	-211081	-258933	-236769	48192	284961
Czech Republic	-542683	-301054	-386197	-339374	-315755	44715	360470
Cameroon	26659	25756	42180	37419	39867	41632	1765
Madagascar	0	0	0	0	37655	38753	1098
Rwanda	19448	18511	22676	25034	37603	38342	739
Viet Nam	-235068	-350367	-772278	-1007050	-481325	35028	516353
Tanzania	26357	26614	33169	15469	30869	33801	2932
Sri Lanka	-7608	1366	-4475	-11817	7509	30789	23280
Uruguay	-11036	-18939	-8771	-46160	-89809	30619	120428
Togo	20920	61852	9194	52956	29493	30021	528
Sweden	-694117	-735416	-771807	-707236	-664452	28272	692724

<i>Partners</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Thailand	-817620	-720077	-951351	-881423	-759549	25935	785484
Mauritius	18327	29496	30420	35829	23374	23579	205
Mexico	-12315	-76256	-150410	-105946	-113484	22433	135917
Burkina Faso	-18231	-15320	-13293	8681	18378	20052	1674
Finland	-444034	-420354	-530631	-500449	-450622	20041	470663
Mauritania	8233	19692	20744	25719	18339	19893	1554
Mozambique	8540	5661	9547	12661	16443	16597	154
Croatia	-71046	-73745	-75698	-86079	-58358	16370	74728
Zimbabwe	15756	9005	7892	-17076	-32630	16094	48724
Lithuania	-60714	-17352	-84643	-36323	-54386	15132	69518
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	9817	16258	-136704	-106288	-54095	14670	68765
Guinea	8491	-14686	7535	12132	14269	14432	163
Norway	-157096	-218663	-557963	-249255	-230436	13865	244301
Burundi	7858	8664	9057	8795	13121	13181	60
Austria	-238785	-258113	-311639	-290593	-232752	13143	245895
Dominican Republic	-351	3207	-53416	-33119	10555	13123	2568
Mali	18762	10546	12076	12780	12719	12857	138
Paraguay	-26391	-38172	-41105	-35041	-25353	11836	37189
Angola	15583	-52242	19867	16742	11505	11691	186
Belarus	-27814	-56612	-87984	-94276	-60674	11421	72095
Gabon	12804	12893	13301	12325	10705	11348	643
Guatemala	-41154	-4841	-11026	-11847	-28177	10784	38961
Albania	3722	1060	-3238	8826	10032	10761	729
New Zealand	-324243	-197320	-283267	-249647	-148927	10306	159233
Denmark	-203542	-145759	-182234	-182116	-194054	10186	204240
Chile	-8826	-1793	-10801	-28086	-17249	10026	27275
Benin	-6867	-12935	-37199	-25971	-8412	9014	17426
Colombia	-1865	-6903	-6902	-24844	-57570	8494	66064
Zambia	-114255	-158294	-254571	-226199	-151574	8176	159750
Gambia	1054	3496	3337	7288	7462	7462	0
Georgia	-6468	40188	73699	59294	6876	7039	163
Chad	5249	6518	19422	4789	2100	6559	4459
Serbia	-53015	-53311	-110268	-87022	-54396	6461	60857
Peru	-2445	-1653	-1333	-3403	-2465	6223	8688
Latvia	-56058	-80125	-71526	-53302	-34645	6164	40809
Liberia	2503	2907	3396	2263	-2547	6108	8655
Malawi	-4419	-1233	-23864	-85715	-6059	6032	12091
Philippines	-11267	270	19862	-14814	-19077	5946	25023
Ecuador	-12245	3548	1078	297	-1421	5763	7184
Sierra Leone	2237	2374	3305	5234	4887	5054	167

<i>Partners</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Venezuela	-26468	-37448	-6150	-8216	2339	4573	2234
Panama	4364	3718	-2228	13051	3164	4374	1210
Congo	16500	20111	3067	3439	4208	4325	117
Niger	7815	10799	6277	5843	4248	4249	1
Haiti	1886	2768	2985	2023	4041	4246	205
Brunei	14	785	3441	4732	3580	3955	375
Afghanistan	3630	6744	4085	2447	3206	3927	721
Eswatini	3929	3917	3712	1193	3365	3544	179
Cuba	90	294	8751	6447	3088	3455	367
Estonia	-19525	-25449	-34858	-28366	-17442	3341	20783
Seychelles	3755	4120	3833	3404	2836	2961	125
Azerbaijan	992	680	1456	-4628	2733	2898	165
Maldives	3275	3433	4010	3639	2856	2857	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-19060	-16967	-23901	-22604	-9216	2773	11989
Armenia	1316	1832	-22448	1885	2192	2200	8
Comoros	470	1167	857	1535	1541	1698	157
Jamaica	811	572	-11832	1317	1476	1645	169
Iran	-7638	-5746	-13755	-1851	-10297	1619	11916
Uzbekistan	-1023	-367	-3846	-13793	-16218	1503	17721
Capo Verde	1651	1460	1413	1602	1349	1349	0
Moldova	-4362	-1751	-165	-7039	-8795	1332	10127
Cambodia	-1606	-3584	-6151	-3227	-670	1273	1943
Costa Rica	366	-177	-3216	-4722	-2213	1271	3484
Qatar	-1303679	-1076688	-487231	-23516	-22924	1197	24121
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	-473	1018	1491
El Salvador	209	-19896	477	436	985	1004	19
Trinidad and Tobago	-183592	-55523	1100	-2163	957	960	3
Luxembourg	-8865	-5115	-14168	-14118	-9473	781	10254
Montserrat	171	534	684	624	772	772	0
Nepal	15613	24845	12753	425	716	720	4
Bolivia	-104	-166	1985	310	76	620	544
Honduras	17	-359	471	688	298	616	318
Iceland	-7941	-17133	-11311	-12812	-7410	455	7865
Turkmenistan	369	-67	417	105	186	404	218
Guinea-Bissau	295	45	84	-57	395	395	0
Sao Tome and Principe	-22	121	1643	221	378	378	0
South Sudan	0	0	0	0	-97	305	402
Macedonia, North	-202	-517	-3965	-3541	-475	268	743
Dominica	0	0	0	0	131	244	113
Tajikistan	62	-526	-347	32	-197	215	412

<i>Partners</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Suriname	-63	-82	-56	-152	212	213	1
Botswana	-69	-281	153	430	188	206	18
Namibia	-2406	2170	-2375	521	151	156	5
Nicaragua	-28	80	-49	27	97	156	59
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	-4669	53	76	0	133	133	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	0	0	0	132	132	0
Central African Republic	359	316	-317	39	93	94	1
Mongolia	-42	180	998	86	-11	71	82
Macao	100	29	-405	-132	66	66	0
Barbados	58	47	-41	86	56	57	1
Antigua and Barbuda	-3	-4	11	-96	49	49	0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-39	-974	-326	-951	16	36	20
Curaçao	27	7	65	2	26	26	0
Myanmar	0	0	0	0	17	17	0
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0	-1	-115	-52	-21	5	26
Belize	-1752	-1136	-328	-526	-90	5	95
Bahamas	0	0	71	42	3	3	0
Papua New Guinea	-33	57	50	-3	-758	1	759
British Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0	-7	0	7
Equatorial Guinea	-32357	0	-23718	-1	0	0	0
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	0	-78	-96	0	0	0	0
Gibraltar	-27	-22	-909	23499	-131	0	131
Vanuatu	0	-28	-3	-27	0	0	0
Marshall Islands	-7551	-597	-154	-154	-312	0	312
St. Pierre and Miquelon	-1	0	-4	-3	0	0	0
Andorra	18	0	-1	-14	0	0	0
Bermuda	7	10	-89	-71	0	0	0
Bhutan	0	-14	0	0	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	32	15	7	0	0	0
Grenada	6	133	66	-3	0	0	0
Lesotho	-8	-8	-1	27	0	0	0
Saint Lucia	14	13	0	17	0	0	0

Table 2: Egypt trade balance by product in (Unit: US Dollar thousand).

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
All products	-47676089	-40329832	-52961472	-48024965	-33464409	26815145	60279554
Natural or cultured pearls	2584045	1930604	1074906	1891754	2711052	2956375	245323
Fertilizers	723303	970235	1219456	1116124	978320	1163715	185395
Edible fruit	650525	946717	966385	765311	902387	1454122	551735
Articles of apparel and clothing	341439	656322	631360	768349	718454	891828	173374
Edible vegetables	349594	614714	434972	557622	589503	1033858	444355
Essential oils	147658	260406	237823	242143	326147	571655	245508
Earths and stone	191960	189236	181277	252428	317094	467584	150490
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	294619	389985	412351	394584	305338	462942	157604
Carpets	265602	271816	229101	201700	295125	395811	100686
Glass and glassware	192726	280215	250144	274691	294045	425188	131143
Preparations of vegetables, fruit	238692	344921	347636	324023	291262	373470	82208
Manufactured articles	133255	157942	139743	128829	142463	233172	90709
Products of the milling industry	52735	89836	154039	226320	135759	173837	38078
Articles of stone, plaster, cement	143194	108974	153445	143928	135712	215178	79466
Ceramic	116664	132493	97408	138534	130419	268931	138512
Printed books	-68768	-53849	-119737	-59948	114731	163095	48364
Other made-up textile articles; sets; worn	162452	180531	183516	167360	102827	186814	83987
Sugars	-189864	-465323	-306063	-148855	89904	227517	137613
Preparations of cereals	-35987	42077	35559	55524	73647	208113	134466
Raw hides and skins	110540	106874	88294	53163	40521	46799	6278
Works of art	-398	-353	-110	-543	28468	29828	1360
Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations	33377	77893	-31112	-14059	25675	230269	204594
Cocoa and cocoa preparations	-25351	269	-13209	15380	9646	142585	132939
Edible preparations	-58887	-29981	-69877	-78029	6757	269306	262549
Manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials	634	1698	1114	1248	1693	2276	583

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Vegetable plaiting materials	-511	-1257	-750	-1545	1334	3120	1786
Silk	635	-6065	354	1049	471	475	4
Fur skins	-634	-637	-223	-168	-111	17	128
Cork and articles of cork	-344	-579	-767	-675	-613	2	615
Umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking sticks, seat-sticks	-1100	-927	-1009	-1144	-866	1	867
Beverages, spirits and vinegar	-17685	7654	-15848	-51361	-1400	23655	25055
Musical instruments	-1837	-1497	-1807	-2168	-1740	176	1916
Aluminum	16079	122492	11277	-180366	-2066	565454	567520
Wool, fine or coarse animal hair	-6018	14230	-57182	-63587	-2086	36355	38441
Prepared feathers and down	-5108	-1950	-3154	-3417	-2678	0	2678
Other vegetable textile	-5687	-9364	5319	7683	-2851	21864	24715
Arms and ammunition	-3693	-4475	-29800	-10189	-2907	2	2909
Lead and articles	-15641	-12431	-7453	-7260	-3210	477	3687
Tin	-4067	-5264	-7317	-5436	-3650	1	3651
Headgear	-7540	-7541	-6814	-6623	-4722	752	5474
Live trees and other plants	73098	58644	45379	35017	-4817	7831	12648
Explosives	-9820	-4519	-21628	-11720	-6501	1	6502
Nickel	11325	11710	5801	-12372	-6527	974	7501
Wadding, felt and nonwovens	-118101	-61113	26843	-20654	-7900	113797	121697
Other base metals	-5701	-9850	-17089	-15516	-8217	4	8221
Products of animal origin	-7490	-11640	-30440	-31866	-15025	19003	34028
Lac; gums, resins	57228	2171	-3912	-20162	-17997	2399	20396
Clocks and watches	-19088	-20284	-27224	-29548	-23082	247	23329
Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics	-43394	-37872	-48484	-44190	-30490	1201	31691
Articles of leather	-61000	-45937	-64467	-51419	-31610	862	32472
Photographic or cinematographic	-44967	-34612	-39336	-42644	-32618	21	32639
Ships, boats	-1118027	-49839	-81216	-28708	-34510	2635	37145
Albuminoidal substances; glues; enzymes	-80471	-65708	-61862	-83269	-59081	69170	128251
Furniture	-3017	43179	17361	-84708	-62963	219969	282932

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Tools	-64581	-63345	-122786	-85688	-62992	41245	104237
Zinc a	-56222	-76825	-94500	-105601	-69992	2626	72618
Railway or tramway locomotives,	-130238	-18673	-34497	-67498	-88332	858	89190
Footwear	-121077	-95478	-130298	-123276	-89657	1928	91585
Toys, games	-77625	-61879	-104779	-123698	-93515	2105	95620
Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic	-122641	-118173	-117000	-269357	-97553	300235	397788
Cotton	-163442	-253688	-430425	-418443	-138991	403096	542087
Live animals	-139818	-116263	-193564	-153030	-163253	29740	192993
Preparations of meat, of fish or of crustaceans	-221877	-96362	-187720	-173815	-164612	10100	174712
Residues and waste from the food industries	-1160260	-775422	-511441	-229280	-208365	84519	292884
Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics	-20632	-73687	-168969	-227071	-208689	7355	216044
Miscellaneous articles of base metal	-211673	-192311	-249095	-256650	-214333	12273	226606
Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material	-190783	-236689	-292170	-254623	-244420	5	244425
Aircraft, spacecraft	-763	-310	-1380	-4294	-247573	14158	261731
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	-161346	-148711	-242196	-295754	-267205	32680	299885
Tobacco	-200401	-150278	-345823	-508997	-293842	89871	383713
Tanning or dyeing extracts	-404046	-416303	-472139	-433063	-337492	199420	536912
Dairy produce	-350352	-163971	-306998	-331451	-358616	255804	614420
Coffee, tea, spices	-478393	-464778	-526789	-495612	-425608	47157	472765
Copper	-597849	-467150	-740695	-752069	-426753	174983	601736
Man-made staple f	-456621	-643049	-729242	-698446	-428260	82469	510729
Rubber	-799269	-696970	-847272	-770780	-623312	118107	741419
Chemical products	-795795	-897892	-1025978	-1053917	-649146	194147	843293
Fish, crustacean	-435841	-530775	-694331	-796570	-656805	35813	692618
Man-made filaments	-774193	-848562	-1022336	-910487	-691153	173314	864467
Optical, photographic, measuring, checking	-916697	-843040	-915463	-945106	-719815	95505	815320
Ores, slag and ash	-429274	-859148	-1046979	-885792	-722413	19006	741419

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Balance in 2016</i>	<i>Balance in 2017</i>	<i>Balance in 2018</i>	<i>Balance in 2019</i>	<i>Balance in 2020</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Animal or vegetable fats and oils	-1303214	-1237345	-1252549	-1024184	-739439	238619	978058
Paper and paperboard	-972109	-871119	-1041267	-1069459	-849006	270882	1119888
Wood	-1413908	-1287586	-1547884	-1409580	-1142679	25972	1168651
Plastics	-1953975	-1662321	-2123037	-1822038	-1247028	1731551	2978579
Organic chemicals	-1406865	-1133250	-1322309	-1861015	-1447961	182278	1630239
Articles iron or steel	-2450382	-2467920	-3028300	-2389111	-1543789	365970	1909759
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	-589607	-863519	-1483712	-1764092	-1613899	335241	1949140
Meat and edible meat	-1668495	-1555288	-1679407	-2108202	-1676686	5105	1681791
Iron and steel	-3024419	-2376154	-3424957	-2954319	-1940571	696241	2636812
Pharmaceutical products	-1927429	-1915578	-2076486	-2333826	-1996368	267918	2264286
Mineral fuels, mineral oils	-7664531	-6580336	-7142619	-2951266	-2347877	4724231	7072108
Electrical machinery and equipment	-3419759	-3098312	-5319447	-5202041	-2415929	1563933	3979862
Vehicles other than railway or tramway	-5006631	-3010748	-4687167	-4606117	-4527911	91434	4619345
Cereals	-4114708	-4429507	-4751305	-5251501	-4623043	4659	4627702
Machinery, mechanical appliances	-6209525	-5602091	-6409143	-6558469	-5058091	197812	5255903

Table 3: Egypt export to other countries in (Unit: US Dollar thousand).

<i>Importers</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
World	22973369	26434038	29483042	30632553	26815145
UAE	2878682	2758957	2012074	2069451	2863632
Saudi Arabia	1794301	1572721	1442300	1702151	1703787
Turkey	1434547	1932876	2016219	1743455	1671560
USA	1145517	1375718	1734111	2216687	1472362
Italy	1494627	2209526	2062250	1694182	1395995
India	643619	899118	1152541	1497840	1224298
Spain	679645	813872	1290646	1057640	764056
UK	1055837	1099754	1347947	1551774	763688
Canada	55014	100091	80172	758380	704390
Greece	139969	286865	409202	716772	682041
China	497559	696439	1040566	556922	603114
Germany	542402	595568	668498	618691	576194
Libya	596314	440883	640549	830735	572846
Jordan	531408	517536	658384	890950	568028
France	498373	597647	884187	664635	537329
Algeria	432044	390431	986612	557070	490079
Malta	57300	291548	475920	899502	489053
Sudan	595883	456651	402144	467600	474506
Netherlands	327816	445221	524926	547205	459823
Morocco	340867	395049	504840	585558	446143
Iraq	406165	527073	482422	411438	421751
Russia	267978	399793	406711	356617	406004
Korea, Republic of	29002	51102	201386	121116	361885
Kenya	278363	295768	356900	348813	350697
Yemen	232327	263430	284218	390578	312875
Lebanon	791399	672213	531162	413787	299069
Syria	180230	242658	325806	280638	288657
Tunisia	176773	432181	501076	739357	259835
Belgium	281638	306792	332467	349694	253567
Australia	23670	34369	37377	30620	234891
Kuwait	386754	349247	277982	276421	234550
Pakistan	123959	135297	158794	250463	216999
Brazil	98078	117294	260683	184274	216256
Slovakia	0	0	58806	202696	168792
Oman	154228	176319	196198	193587	166317
Palestine	137360	149754	117216	153447	157380
Japan	49457	63757	132665	129177	153033

<i>Importers</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
Slovenia	45977	53097	104398	124630	148012
Argentina	7296	45564	38345	114005	137083
Bahrain	60328	59481	58806	63511	135127
Switzerland	493475	357023	212122	22548	134192
Singapore	126749	63078	59476	119991	132115
Somalia	53508	90814	80453	69393	129873
Hungary	30791	140607	136305	161181	121870
Poland	94931	96353	124501	133123	120034
Romania	114414	145788	142756	159501	117837
Cyprus	67192	200811	106845	49544	113089
Indonesia	66447	91482	117048	114165	104937
Nigeria	87243	103624	180266	133155	102262
Bangladesh	64969	76230	110162	102229	87990
Ethiopia	101386	120294	169793	139741	87747
Bulgaria	59203	73315	82983	82013	82575
Taipei	5448	10501	6689	48489	81717
Eritrea	66905	107857	116998	116667	78432
Ghana	74025	110565	116485	60834	78162
Malaysia	65097	73627	245345	113061	77219
South Africa	213573	173853	113253	85990	74326
Uganda	42456	63766	83458	75299	71099
Hong Kong	28850	24630	30657	29737	66445
Kazakhstan	4012	37819	48380	68684	66161
Israel	51442	53489	87882	63086	65813
Senegal	45638	67825	37523	57398	65635
Ukraine	28217	56250	50220	62709	64183
Djibouti	27895	34514	40885	45396	54550
Portugal	91974	108823	143048	61736	53107
Côte d'Ivoire	33500	47826	62272	46014	49419
Ireland	25821	46162	40693	41659	48192
Czech Republic	74989	88303	30629	35714	44715
Cameroon	28643	30510	43575	39177	41632
Madagascar	0	0	0	0	38753
Rwanda	19570	18637	23057	25366	38342
Viet Nam	24319	21813	33534	20775	35028
Tanzania	29731	28345	37912	29706	33801
Sri Lanka	25371	20995	19096	12590	30789
Uruguay	6983	20071	26372	13319	30619
Togo	20920	62114	11602	57526	30021
Sweden	24492	27925	29215	35571	28272

<i>Importers</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
Thailand	63034	68547	28978	75177	25935
Mauritius	21360	30854	31595	36563	23579
Mexico	52180	33091	31104	35504	22433
Burkina Faso	9752	13940	15507	13399	20052
Finland	14484	21097	26009	25977	20041
Mauritania	10317	20557	23109	28313	19893
Mozambique	10911	11856	9557	18541	16597
Croatia	14725	10389	13965	17665	16370
Zimbabwe	16009	11065	17907	11146	16094
Lithuania	10242	19051	25265	16775	15132
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	10579	18927	12549	16984	14670
Guinea	8507	8684	7832	12145	14432
Norway	10584	13442	11341	12673	13865
Burundi	7858	8688	9362	8811	13181
Austria	11959	11036	19496	16616	13143
Dominican Republic	3956	5710	9994	8543	13123
Mali	18787	10548	12076	12784	12857
Paraguay	714	697	1424	3328	11836
Angola	15701	25891	19889	16864	11691
Belarus	3683	5915	8969	11079	11421
Gabon	13380	13022	13647	12973	11348
Guatemala	7006	6140	7868	10197	10784
Albania	6106	8298	8818	10924	10761
New Zealand	4636	3023	4031	4105	10306
Denmark	11406	15895	14399	30032	10186
Chile	6150	9331	10343	7564	10026
Benin	7586	9840	5281	6432	9014
Colombia	7333	10846	8393	7319	8494
Zambia	12631	13250	13133	9643	8176
Gambia	2268	3593	3397	7328	7462
Georgia	4151	44264	88366	82727	7039
Chad	5554	6785	21468	5192	6559
Serbia	2682	5385	5225	3589	6461
Peru	4645	5708	8123	5116	6223
Latvia	4361	5175	4883	5052	6164
Liberia	2503	2907	3396	2263	6108
Malawi	3662	4946	5265	7376	6032
Philippines	6637	16728	33662	10561	5946
Ecuador	1398	6894	4986	4582	5763
Sierra Leone	2366	2937	3982	5893	5054

<i>Importers</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
Venezuela	659	1336	2442	2456	4573
Panama	4434	5966	4752	14492	4374
Congo	18815	20128	10313	4732	4325
Niger	7916	10848	6305	5843	4249
Haiti	1895	2775	2989	2025	4246
Brunei	898	1489	4579	7529	3955
Afghanistan	3958	7169	4458	3561	3927
Eswatini	4023	4037	3909	5044	3544
Cuba	201	407	8760	6519	3455
Estonia	3404	5140	6560	5057	3341
Seychelles	3773	4197	3912	3766	2961
Azerbaijan	1403	1134	1632	2647	2898
Maldives	3465	3473	4075	3647	2857
Bosnia and Herzegovina	709	1298	1336	1768	2773
Armenia	1316	1841	1635	1926	2200
Comoros	860	1350	1326	1685	1698
Jamaica	814	612	722	1332	1645
Iran	10336	13914	7505	6311	1619
Uzbekistan	295	684	657	1329	1503
capo Verde	1651	1460	1413	1625	1349
Moldova	1011	1317	1280	1178	1332
Cambodia	417	499	671	1570	1273
Costa Rica	1057	1548	1509	1139	1271
Qatar	285072	294827	7098	175	1197
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	1018
El Salvador	221	189	509	477	1004
Trinidad and Tobago	921	900	1116	1391	960
Luxembourg	169	1349	1512	1624	781
Montserrat	171	534	684	625	772
Nepal	15669	25301	12789	437	720
Bolivia	52	508	2324	933	620
Honduras	170	108	681	987	616
Iceland	1156	1307	2789	1384	455
Turkmenistan	2042	246	417	250	404
Guinea-Bissau	391	59	84	7	395
Sao Tome and Principe	0	121	1644	221	378
South Sudan	0	0	0	0	305
Macedonia	388	268	351	415	268
Dominica	0	0	0	0	244
Tajikistan	100	107	75	145	215

<i>Importers</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
Suriname	30	150	130	272	213
Botswana	22	37	154	432	206
Namibia	304	2404	485	532	156
Nicaragua	1	134	21	95	156
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	431	53	76	0	133
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	0	0	0	132
Central African Republic	411	319	74	75	94
Mongolia	73	214	1157	131	71
Macao	100	73	51	4	66
Barbados	58	47	48	90	57
Antigua and Barbuda	1	0	11	9	49
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0	0	0	2	36
Curaçao	27	7	65	10	26
Myanmar	0	0	0	0	17
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0	0	0	0	5
Belize	0	0	8	16	5
Bahamas	0	0	75	44	3
Papua New Guinea	15	57	59	0	1
Gibraltar	0	0	0	23524	0
Marshall Islands	0	0	0	3	0
Andorra	21	0	0	0	0
Bermuda	7	10	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	32	18	7	0
Grenada	59	145	68	0	0
Lesotho	0	0	0	27	0
Saint Lucia	14	13	0	17	0

Table 4: Exported countries to Egypt in (Unit: US Dollar thousand).

<i>Exporters</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
World	70649458	66763870	82444514	78657518	60279554
China	8994896	8112424	11665369	12040871	9051941
USA	3802996	3907556	5526001	5216353	4026298
Saudi Arabia	2947330	4149688	5700493	5214086	3817864
Germany	6056648	4530960	4208052	4338860	3486020
Turkey	3314920	2096091	3335207	3675594	2957184
Italy	3323549	4380336	3762542	3299550	2606500
Russia	2905229	3631411	5030186	3621178	2522141
India	2187184	2342421	2334409	2957036	2284178
Kuwait	1411732	1398528	2317795	2156031	1988839
Brazil	2128061	2710985	3184281	2793519	1931153
Ukraine	2783237	2339510	2288787	2367708	1582723
Spain	2288703	1705218	2244001	1831776	1428221
France	1663561	1500064	1660810	1765110	1427921
UAE	974238	968848	1385725	1783465	1359614
UK	1332365	1600515	1699080	1648611	1217039
Indonesia	933936	1078440	1179532	1163031	1043822
Korea, Republic of	2419871	1836936	1786530	1721699	1033310
Japan	1302027	1028459	1247715	1206251	1017390
Belgium	821394	963903	1128245	1030454	960584
Netherlands	1002470	951647	1361530	1165497	951339
Argentina	2031934	1491695	1020387	1110237	911353
Thailand	880654	788624	980329	956600	785484
Switzerland	745758	683851	998553	933539	746827
Sweden	718609	763341	801022	742807	692724
Viet Nam	259387	372180	805812	1027825	516353
Greece	1017674	511540	1017224	1038828	471291
Finland	458518	441451	556640	526426	470663
Romania	648595	496864	812164	878403	452831
Poland	407990	308521	431473	598897	437081
Canada	274260	228063	340283	359387	420937
Czech Republic	617672	389357	416826	375088	360470
Malaysia	415532	463455	567710	574043	339407
Iraq	521259	677236	1218203	139856	325928
Australia	341112	398090	456619	442908	315993
Oman	86707	192318	217503	260613	310166
Taipei	401992	329665	569135	480071	286850
Ireland	208855	191991	251774	300592	284961

<i>Exporters</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Slovakia	0	0	217168	211934	248111
Austria	250744	269149	331135	307209	245895
Norway	167680	232105	569304	261928	244301
Bulgaria	391034	171771	308639	207835	233768
Bahrain	106107	83659	333717	376435	213328
Denmark	214948	161654	196633	212148	204240
Hungary	264978	138011	143226	187566	204111
Kenya	297160	263413	288982	258489	196845
Portugal	122823	129101	190078	394192	184261
Singapore	186898	326275	223590	278507	175921
Algeria	317372	364161	400854	494842	170535
Zambia	126886	171544	267704	235842	159750
New Zealand	328879	200343	287298	253752	159233
Morocco	398258	115110	166645	143837	144834
Sudan	71440	103921	208792	206881	143926
Mexico	64495	109347	181514	141450	135917
Uruguay	18019	39010	35143	59479	120428
Lebanon	104804	88623	118297	115348	116415
Jordan	90941	103658	175162	168698	115008
Croatia	85771	84134	89663	103744	74728
Syria	131819	111062	86486	94327	72246
Belarus	31497	62527	96953	105355	72095
Lithuania	70956	36403	109908	53098	69518
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	762	2669	149253	123272	68765
Tunisia	112964	53446	140662	106495	66767
Colombia	9198	17749	15295	32163	66064
Serbia	55697	58696	115493	90611	60857
South Africa	125229	156337	196658	102737	57014
Israel	44338	61056	91711	82500	53773
Slovenia	38703	48056	66584	79684	51349
Zimbabwe	253	2060	10015	28222	48724
Pakistan	106411	81810	101595	112730	47138
Bangladesh	28535	49315	73339	55823	44567
Yemen	31831	26853	35359	32554	43688
Latvia	60419	85300	76409	58354	40809
Guatemala	48160	10981	18894	22044	38961
Paraguay	27105	38869	42529	38369	37189
Libya	91435	42163	66553	155263	35591
Chile	14976	11124	21144	35650	27275
Philippines	17904	16458	13800	25375	25023

<i>Exporters</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Qatar	1588751	1371515	494329	23691	24121
Sri Lanka	32979	19629	23571	24407	23280
Estonia	22929	30589	41418	33423	20783
Hong Kong	61037	60999	63746	90486	17913
Uzbekistan	1318	1051	4503	15122	17721
Benin	14453	22775	42480	32403	17426
Malta	691256	195053	176522	19084	15139
Ghana	16437	11888	15163	13716	12602
Malawi	8081	6179	29129	93091	12091
Bosnia and Herzegovina	19769	18265	25237	24372	11989
Iran	17974	19660	21260	8162	11916
Cyprus	81967	120736	181224	46733	10629
Luxembourg	9034	6464	15680	15742	10254
Moldova	5373	3068	1445	8217	10127
Uganda	2902	1304	7904	9066	9789
Peru	7090	7361	9456	8519	8688
Liberia	0	0	0	0	8655
Ethiopia	12871	6464	10394	28686	7887
Iceland	9097	18440	14100	14196	7865
Ecuador	13643	3346	3908	4285	7184
Somalia	1916	916	1630	453	5669
Djibouti	1289	3997	7144	6930	5120
Chad	305	267	2046	403	4459
Nigeria	323056	387730	122100	5816	4187
Côte d'Ivoire	2678	2185	2395	5612	4107
Costa Rica	691	1725	4725	5861	3484
Tanzania	3374	1731	4743	14237	2932
Dominican Republic	4307	2503	63410	41662	2568
Venezuela	27127	38784	8592	10672	2234
Senegal	1115	553	634	896	1972
Cambodia	2023	4083	6822	4797	1943
Cameroon	1984	4754	1395	1758	1765
Burkina Faso	27983	29260	28800	4718	1674
Kazakhstan	49759	24459	8089	2936	1636
Mauritania	2084	865	2365	2594	1554
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	1491
Panama	70	2248	6980	1441	1210
Madagascar	0	0	0	0	1098
Papua New Guinea	48	0	9	3	759
Macedonia	590	785	4316	3956	743

<i>Exporters</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Rwanda	122	126	381	332	739
Albania	2384	7238	12056	2098	729
Afghanistan	328	425	373	1114	721
Gabon	576	129	346	648	643
Eritrea	3852	1385	2051	1324	586
Bolivia	156	674	339	623	544
Togo	0	262	2408	4570	528
Tajikistan	38	633	422	113	412
South Sudan	0	0	0	0	402
Brunei	884	704	1138	2797	375
Cuba	111	113	9	72	367
Honduras	153	467	210	299	318
Marshall Islands	7551	597	154	157	312
Turkmenistan	1673	313	0	145	218
Haiti	9	7	4	2	205
Mauritius	3033	1358	1175	734	205
Angola	118	78133	22	122	186
Eswatini	94	120	197	3851	179
Jamaica	3	40	12554	15	169
Sierra Leone	129	563	677	659	167
Azerbaijan	411	454	176	7275	165
Georgia	10619	4076	14667	23433	163
Guinea	16	23370	297	13	163
Comoros	390	183	469	150	157
Mozambique	2371	6195	10	5880	154
Mali	25	2	0	4	138
Gibraltar	27	22	909	25	131
Seychelles	18	77	79	362	125
Congo	2315	17	7246	1293	117
Dominica	0	0	0	0	113
Belize	1752	1136	336	542	95
Mongolia	115	34	159	45	82
Burundi	0	24	305	16	60
Nicaragua	29	54	70	68	59
Palestine	5	152	944	628	38
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0	1	115	52	26
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	39	974	326	953	20
El Salvador	12	20085	32	41	19
Botswana	91	318	1	2	18
Armenia	0	9	24083	41	8

<i>Exporters</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
British Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0	7
Namibia	2710	234	2860	11	5
Nepal	56	456	36	12	4
Trinidad and Tobago	184513	56423	16	3554	3
Barbados	0	0	89	4	1
Central African Republic	52	3	391	36	1
Maldives	190	40	65	8	1
Niger	101	49	28	0	1
Suriname	93	232	186	424	1
Equatorial Guinea	32357	0	23718	1	0
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	0	78	96	0	0
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	5100	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	0	28	3	27	0
Guinea-Bissau	96	14	0	64	0
St. Pierre and Miquelon	1	0	4	3	0
Andorra	3	0	1	14	0
Antigua and Barbuda	4	4	0	105	0
Bahamas	0	0	4	2	0
Bermuda	0	0	89	71	0
Bhutan	0	14	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	3	0	0
Cabo Verde	0	0	0	23	0
Gambia	1214	97	60	40	0
Grenada	53	12	2	3	0
Lesotho	8	8	1	0	0
Macao	0	44	456	136	0

Table 5: Egypt exported products in (Unit: US Dollar thousand).

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
All products	22973369	26434038	29483042	30632553	26815145
Mineral fuels, mineral oils	3165085	5116437	7242900	8114933	4724231
Natural or cultured pearls	2672287	2116764	1458896	2048249	2956375
Plastics	1189579	1545772	1801887	2016604	1731551
Electrical machinery and equipment	1578168	1759149	1563563	1707381	1563933
Edible fruit and nuts	1209733	1281922	1397403	1416762	1454122
Fertilizers	844979	1099281	1387923	1335293	1163715
Edible vegetables	966615	1070250	911239	1105218	1033858
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	889989	989766	1067587	1097829	891828
Iron and steel	512398	871923	1054130	694477	696241
Essential oils	447338	545943	559281	586292	571655
Aluminum	405065	485102	674225	545070	565454
Earths and stone	353964	389925	445879	475692	467584
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	393502	471980	548231	605522	462942
Glass and glassware	335354	433661	466914	487867	425188
Cotton	468833	473075	482597	471631	403096
Carpets	307875	319390	317431	310089	395811
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts	381599	404043	425085	409167	373470
Articles of iron or steel	313690	280215	287179	281331	365970
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	327901	302695	296707	310423	335241
Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds	226270	377484	535187	399490	300235
Paper and paperboard	223787	287392	364755	297311	270882
Miscellaneous edible preparations	199573	189531	176723	210620	269306
Ceramic	254908	301951	316883	324485	268931
Pharmaceutical products	293271	279542	247301	271848	267918
Dairy produce	312113	311330	321239	311062	255804
Animal or vegetable fats and oils	161034	165986	121018	200056	238619
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	249198	260466	256738	253430	233172
Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations	287554	325371	303739	273478	230269
Sugars	508253	357125	314077	253746	227517
Furniture	380224	330834	315966	252353	219969
Articles of stone	235666	188946	240115	237942	215178
Preparations of cereals	140221	147021	172232	183839	208113
Tanning or dyeing	128090	137640	157873	193211	199420
Machinery, mechanical appliances	118577	150576	124136	131577	197812
Miscellaneous chemical products	148566	153778	269386	190989	194147
Other made-up textile articles	230023	232877	251438	230849	186814
Organic chemicals	129923	296767	431353	172052	182278

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
Copper	163394	240514	222647	181841	174983
Products of the milling industry	100725	126186	188644	261914	173837
Man-made filaments; strip and the like of man-made textile materials	72499	96972	137097	186698	173314
Printed books	17082	10564	15427	14279	163095
Cocoa and cocoa preparations	108297	102121	125175	175135	142585
Rubber	84656	85642	106891	129656	118107
Wadding	47890	96498	179705	114632	113797
Optical, photographic, measuring, checking, precision	66759	64169	83768	88771	95505
Vehicles other than railway or tramway	154347	134260	118484	88793	91434
Tobacco	140457	125853	113602	96966	89871
Residues and waste from the food industries	87834	89133	107961	134271	84519
Man-made staple	81441	86653	95902	110709	82469
Albuminoidal substances	41535	48539	66771	62997	69170
Coffee, tea, spices	46107	31842	39378	43063	47157
Raw hides and skins	120293	112884	100356	74933	46799
Tools	54173	55924	53219	49444	41245
Wool, fine or coarse animal hair	59339	65706	44447	46540	36355
Fish and crustaceans	43244	36563	33075	52604	35813
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	36457	44646	30443	29207	32680
Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	31	63	48	37	29828
Live animals	18044	21899	25977	27080	29740
Wood	44610	30321	33013	28777	25972
Beverages, spirits and vinegar	11899	37438	29190	33044	23655
Other vegetable textile fibres	19968	18948	31555	30799	21864
Ores, slag and ash	16993	14270	17903	22167	19006
Products of animal origin	22254	24939	16392	18576	19003
Aircraft, spacecraft	0	0	0	0	14158
Miscellaneous articles of base metal	9345	11633	12162	15203	12273
Preparations of meat, of fish	2346	8174	12981	7042	10100
Live trees	74833	60593	50964	53079	7831
Special woven fabrics	63852	23981	13809	8387	7355
Meat and edible meat	6954	5765	4342	3579	5105
Cereals	31763	2940	7653	5423	4659
Vegetable plaiting materials	2474	1709	2316	2518	3120
Ships, boats	784	901	795	913	2635
Zinc	1854	2332	1953	1945	2626
Lac; gums	80285	20867	16813	508	2399
Manufactures of straw	1355	2247	1720	2104	2276
Toys, games	1259	600	854	1610	2105
Footwear	5534	4836	4620	3631	1928
Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics	1150	248	234	106	1201

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Exported in 2016</i>	<i>Exported in 2017</i>	<i>Exported in 2018</i>	<i>Exported in 2019</i>	<i>Exported in 2020</i>
Nickel	17224	17733	15208	2548	974
Articles of leather	947	1352	813	785	862
Railway or tramway locomotives	102	58	66	20	858
Headgear	18	159	152	569	752
Lead and articles thereof	17729	10698	7554	9870	477
Silk	745	1098	509	1078	475
Clocks and watches	88	1	59	44	247
Musical instruments	226	239	176	200	176
Photographic or cinematographic	235	122	88	39	21
Fur skins	25	8	11	2	17
Pulp of wood	95	177	506	0	5
Other base metals	1	2	163	0	4
Arms and ammunition;	9	214	27	0	2
Cork and articles of cork	335	158	38	136	2
Umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking sticks	140	3	22	82	1
Explosives	130	148	120	26	1
Tin	1	0	0	0	1
Prepared feathers	2	583	23	1	0

Table 6: Egypt imported products in (Unit: US Dollar thousand).

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
All products	70649458	66763870	82444514	78657518	60279554
Mineral fuels, mineral oils	10829616	11696773	14385519	11066199	7072108
Machinery, mechanical appliances	6328102	5752667	6533279	6690046	5255903
Cereals	4146471	4432447	4758958	5256924	4627702
Vehicles other than railway or tramway	5160978	3145008	4805651	4694910	4619345
Electrical machinery and equipment	4997927	4857461	6883010	6909422	3979862
Plastics	3143554	3208093	3924924	3838642	2978579
Iron and steel	3536817	3248077	4479087	3648796	2636812
Pharmaceutical products	2220700	2195120	2323787	2605674	2264286
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	917508	1166214	1780419	2074515	1949140
Articles of iron or steel	2764072	2748135	3315479	2670442	1909759
Meat and edible meat	1675449	1561053	1683749	2111781	1681791
Organic chemicals	1536788	1430017	1753662	2033067	1630239
Wood	1458518	1317907	1580897	1438357	1168651
Paper and paperboard	1195896	1158511	1406022	1366770	1119888
Animal or vegetable fats and oils	1464248	1403331	1373567	1224240	978058
Man-made filaments	846692	945534	1159433	1097185	864467
Chemical products	944361	1051670	1295364	1244906	843293
Optical, photographic, measuring, checking, precision	983456	907209	999231	1033877	815320
Rubber	883925	782612	954163	900436	741419
Ores, slag and ash	446267	873418	1064882	907959	741419
Fish and crustaceans	479085	567338	727406	849174	692618
Dairy produce	662465	475301	628237	642513	614420
Copper	761243	707664	963342	933910	601736
Aluminum	388986	362610	662948	725436	567520
Edible fruit	559208	335205	431018	651451	551735
Cotton	632275	726763	913022	890074	542087
Tanning or dyeing	532136	553943	630012	626274	536912
Man-made staple	538062	729702	825144	809155	510729
Coffee, tea, spices	524500	496620	566167	538675	472765
Edible vegetables	617021	455536	476267	547596	444355
Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds	348911	495657	652187	668847	397788
Tobacco	340858	276131	459425	605963	383713
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	197803	193357	272639	324961	299885
Residues and waste from the food industries	1248094	864555	619402	363551	292884
Furniture	383241	287655	298605	337061	282932
Miscellaneous edible preparations	258460	219512	246600	288649	262549
Aircraft, spacecraft	763	310	1380	4294	261731

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Essential oils	299680	285537	321458	344149	245508
Natural or cultured pearls	88242	186160	383990	156495	245323
Pulp of wood	190878	236866	292676	254623	244425
Miscellaneous articles of base metal	221018	203944	261257	271853	226606
Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics	84484	97668	182778	235458	216044
Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations	254177	247478	334851	287537	204594
Live animals	157862	138162	219541	180110	192993
Fertilizers	121676	129046	168467	219169	185395
Preparations of meat, of fish	224223	104536	200701	180857	174712
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	548550	333444	436227	329480	173374
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	98883	81995	135880	210938	157604
Earths and stone	162004	200689	264602	223264	150490
Ceramic	138244	169458	219475	185951	138512
Sugars	698117	822448	620140	402601	137613
Preparations of cereals	176208	104944	136673	128315	134466
Cocoa and cocoa preparations	133648	101852	138384	159755	132939
Glass and glassware	142628	153446	216770	213176	131143
Albuminoidal substances	122006	114247	128633	146266	128251
Wadding	165991	157611	152862	135286	121697
Tools	118754	119269	176005	135132	104237
Carpets	42273	47574	88330	108389	100686
Toys, games	78884	62479	105633	125308	95620
Footwear	126611	100314	134918	126907	91585
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	115943	102524	116995	124601	90709
Railway or tramway locomotives,	130340	18731	34563	67518	89190
Other made-up textile articles	67571	52346	67922	63489	83987
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts	142907	59122	77449	85144	82208
Articles of stone	92472	79972	86670	94014	79466
Zinc	58076	79157	96453	107546	72618
Printed books	85850	64413	135164	74227	48364
Wool, fine or coarse animal hair	65357	51476	101629	110127	38441
Products of the milling industry	47990	36350	34605	35594	38078
Ships, boats	1118811	50740	82011	29621	37145
Products of animal origin	29744	36579	46832	50442	34028
Photographic or cinematographic	45202	34734	39424	42683	32639
Articles of leather	61947	47289	65280	52204	32472
Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics	44544	38120	48718	44296	31691
Beverages, spirits and vinegar	29584	29784	45038	84405	25055

<i>Product label</i>	<i>Imported in 2016</i>	<i>Imported in 2017</i>	<i>Imported in 2018</i>	<i>Imported in 2019</i>	<i>Imported in 2020</i>
Other vegetable textile fibres	25655	28312	26236	23116	24715
Clocks and watches	19176	20285	27283	29592	23329
Lac; gums	23057	18696	20725	20670	20396
Live trees	1735	1949	5585	18062	12648
Other base metals	5702	9852	17252	15516	8221
Nickel and articles thereof	5899	6023	9407	14920	7501
Explosives	9950	4667	21748	11746	6502
Raw hides and skins	9753	6010	12062	21770	6278
Headgear	7558	7700	6966	7192	5474
Lead and articles	33370	23129	15007	17130	3687
Tin	4068	5264	7317	5436	3651
Arms and ammunition	3702	4689	29827	10189	2909
Prepared feathers	5110	2533	3177	3418	2678
Musical instruments	2063	1736	1983	2368	1916
Vegetable plaiting materials	2985	2966	3066	4063	1786
Works of art	429	416	158	580	1360
Umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking sticks,	1240	930	1031	1226	867
Cork and articles of cork	679	737	805	811	615
Manufactures of straw	721	549	606	856	583
Fur skins	659	645	234	170	128
Silk	110	7163	155	29	4

Investment Climate and Policies



EGYPT Investment Climate at a glance

The Egyptian government continues to make progress on economic reforms, and while many challenges remain, Egypt's investment climate is improving. The country has undertaken a number of structural reforms since the flotation of the Egyptian Pound (EGP) in November 2016, and after successfully completing a set of difficult macroeconomic reforms as part of a three-year, \$12-billion International Monetary Fund (IMF) program, Egypt was one of the fastest-growing emerging markets prior to the COVID-19 outbreak. Egypt was also the only economy in the Middle East and North Africa to record positive economic growth in 2020, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Increased investor confidence and the reactivation of Egypt's inter-bank foreign exchange (FX) market have attracted foreign portfolio investment and increased foreign reserves. The Government of Egypt (GoE) increasingly understands that attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) is key to addressing many of its economic challenges and has stated its intention to create a more conducive environment for FDI. FDI inflows grew 11 percent between 2018 and 2019, from \$8.1 to \$9 billion, before falling 39 percent to \$5.5 billion in 2020 amid sharp global declines in FDI due to the pandemic, according to data from the Central Bank of Egypt and the United Nations Commission on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). UNCTAD ranked Egypt as the top FDI destination in Africa between 2016 and 2020, Egypt has passed a number of regulatory reform law, including a new investment law in 2017; the new companies' law and a bankruptcy law in 2018; and a new customs law in 2020. These law aims to improve Egypt's investment and business climate and help the economy realize its full potential. The 2017 Investment Law is designed to attract new investment and provides a framework for the government to offer investors more incentives, consolidate investment-related rules, and streamline procedures. The 2020 Customs Law is likewise meant to streamline aspects of import and export procedures, including through a single-window system, electronic payments, and expedited clearances for authorized companies. The GoE is still developing implementation rules for the Customs Law.

The government also hopes to attract investment in several “mega projects,” including the construction of a new national administrative capital, and to promote mineral extraction opportunities. Egypt intends to capitalize on its location bridging the Middle East, Africa, and Europe to become a regional trade and investment gateway and energy hub, and hopes to attract information and communications technology (ICT) sector investments for its digital transformation program. Egypt is a party to more than 100 bilateral investment treaties, including with the United States. It is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), and the Greater Arab Free Trade Area (GAFTA). In many sectors, there is no legal difference between foreign and domestic investors. Special requirements exist for foreign investment in certain sectors, such as upstream oil and gas as well as real estate, where joint ventures are required.

Policies towards Foreign Direct Investment

Egypt’s completion of the three-year, \$12-billion IMF Extended Fund Facility between 2016 and 2019, and its associated reform package, helped stabilize Egypt’s macro economy, introduced important subsidy and social spending reforms, and helped restore investor confidence in the Egyptian economy. The flotation of the Egyptian Pound (EGP) in November 2016 and the restart of Egypt’s inter-bank foreign exchange (FX) market as part of this program was the first major step in restoring investor confidence that immediately led to increased portfolio investment and should lead to increased FDI over the long term. Other important reforms have included a new investment law and an industrial licensing law in 2017, a new bankruptcy law in 2018, a new customs law in 2020, and other reforms aimed at reducing regulatory overhang and improving the ease of doing business. Egypt’s government has announced plans to improve its business climate further through investment promotion, facilitation, more efficient business services, and the implementation of investor-friendly policies.

With few exceptions, Egypt does not legally discriminate between Egyptian nationals and foreigners in the formation and operation of private companies. The 1997 Investment Incentives Law was designed to encourage domestic and foreign investment in targeted economic sectors and to promote decentralization of industry away from the Nile Valley. The law allows 100 percent foreign ownership of investment projects and guarantees the right to remit income earned in Egypt and to repatriate capital.

The Tenders Law (Law 89 of 1998) requires the government to consider both price and best value in awarding contracts and to issue an explanation for refusal of a bid. However, the law contains preferences for Egyptian domestic contractors, who are accorded priority if their bids do not exceed the lowest foreign bid by more than 15 percent.

The Capital Markets Law (Law 95 of 1992) and its amendments, including the most recent in February 2018, and relevant regulations govern Egypt’s capital markets. Foreign investors are able to buy shares on the Egyptian Stock Exchange on the same basis as local investors.

The General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI, <http://gafi.gov.eg>) is the principal government body that regulates and facilitates foreign investment in Egypt, and reports directly to the Prime Minister.

The Investor Service Center (ISC) is an administrative unit within GAFI that provides “one-stop-shop” services, easing the way for global investors looking for opportunities presented by Egypt’s domestic economy and the nation’s competitive advantages as an export hub for

Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. This is in addition to promoting Egypt's investment opportunities in various sectors.

The ISC provides a start-to-end service to the investor, including assistance related to company incorporation, establishment of company branches, approval of minutes of Board of Directors and General Assemblies, increases of capital, changes of activity, liquidation procedures, and other corporate-related matters. The Center also aims to issue licenses, approvals, and permits required for investment activities within 60 days from the date of request. Other services GAFI provides include: Advice and support to help in the evaluation of Egypt as a potential investment location

Identification of suitable locations and site selection options within Egypt

Assistance in identifying suitable Egyptian partners, aftercare and dispute settlement services

The ISC plans to establish branches in each of Egypt's Governorates by the end of 2021. Egypt maintains ongoing communication with investors through formal business round-tables, investment promotion events (conferences and seminars), and one-on-one investment meetings.

Limits on Foreign Control and Right to Private Ownership and Establishment

The Egyptian Companies Law does not set any limitation on the number of foreigners, neither as shareholders nor as managers/board members, except for Limited Liability Companies where the only restriction is that one of the managers must be an Egyptian national. In addition, companies are required to obtain a commercial and tax license, and pass a security clearance process. Companies are able to operate while undergoing the often lengthy security screening process. However, if the firm is rejected, it must cease operations and may undergo a lengthy appeals process. Businesses have cited instances where Egyptian clients were hesitant to conclude long-term business contracts with foreign businesses that have yet to receive a security clearance. They have also expressed concern about seemingly arbitrary refusals, a lack of explanation when a security clearance is not issued, and the lengthy appeals process. Although the Government of Egypt has made progress streamlining the business registration process at GAFI, inconsistent treatment by banks and other government officials has in some cases led to registration delays. Sector-specific limitations to investment include restrictions on foreign shareholding of companies owning lands in the Sinai Peninsula. Likewise, the Import-Export Law requires companies wishing to register in the Import Registry to be 51 percent owned and managed by Egyptians. Nevertheless, the new Investment Law does allow wholly foreign companies investing in Egypt to import goods and materials. In January 2021 the Egyptian government removed the 20-percent foreign ownership cap for international and private schools in Egypt.

The ownership of land by foreigners is complicated, in that it is governed by three law: Law 15 of 1963, Law 143 of 1981, and Law 230 of 1996. Land/Real Estate Law 15 of 1963 explicitly prohibits foreign individual or corporation ownership of agricultural land (defined as traditional agricultural land in the Nile Valley, Delta and Oases). Law 15/1963 stipulates that no foreigners, whether natural or juristic persons, may acquire agricultural land. Law 143/1981 governs the acquisition and ownership of desert land. Certain limits are placed on the number of feddans that may be owned by individuals, families, cooperatives, partnerships, and corporations regardless of nationality. Partnerships are permitted to own 10,000 feddans. Joint stock companies are permitted to own 50,000 feddans.

Under Law 230/1986, non-Egyptians are allowed to own real estate only under the following conditions:

Ownership is limited to two real estate properties in Egypt that serve as accommodation for the owner and his family (spouses and minors) in addition to the right to own real estate needed for activities licensed by the Egyptian Government.

The area of each real estate property does not exceed 4,000 m².

The real estate is not considered a historical site.

Exemption from the first and second conditions is subject to the approval of the Prime Minister.

Ownership in tourist areas and new communities is subject to conditions established by the Cabinet of Ministers. Non-Egyptians owning vacant real estate in Egypt must build within a period of five years from the date their ownership is registered by a notary public. Non-Egyptians cannot sell their real estate for five years after registration of ownership, unless the Prime Minister consents to an exemption. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) signed a declaration with Egypt on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises on July 11, 2007, at which time Egypt became the first Arab and African country to sign the OECD Declaration, marking a new stage in Egypt's drive to attract more foreign direct investment (FDI). On July 8, 2020, the OECD released an Investment Policy Review for Egypt that highlighted the government's progress implementing a proactive reform agenda to improve the business climate, attract more foreign and domestic investment, and reap the benefits of openness to FDI and participation in global value chains.

Was launched in February 2018 and provides start-to-end service to the investor, as described above. The Investment Law (Law 72 of 2017) also introduces "Ratification Offices" to facilitate obtaining necessary approvals, permits, and licenses within 10 days of issuing a Ratification Certificate.

Investors may fulfill the technical requirements of obtaining the required licenses through these Ratification Offices, directly through the concerned authority, or through its representatives at the Investment Window at GAFI. The Investor Service Center is required to issue licenses within 60 days from submission. Companies can also register online. GAFI has also launched e-establishment, e-signature, and e-payment services to facilitate establishing companies.

Outward Investment

Egypt promotes and incentives outward investment. According to the Egyptian government's FDI Markets database for the period from January 2003 to January 2021, outward investment featured the following:

Egyptian companies implemented 278 Egyptian FDI projects. The estimated total value of the projects, which employed about 49,000 workers, was \$24.26 billion.

The following countries respectively received the largest amount of Egyptian outward investment in terms of total project value: The United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Kenya, Jordan, Ethiopia, Germany, Libya, Morocco, and Nigeria.

The UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Algeria accounted for about 28 percent of the total amount.

Elsowedy Electric was the largest Egyptian company investing abroad, implementing 21 projects with a total investment estimated to be \$2.1 billion.

Egypt does not restrict domestic investors from investing abroad.

Egypt has a bilateral tax treaty with the United States. Egypt also has tax agreements with 59 other countries, including UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Mauritius, Bahrain, and Morocco.

The Egyptian Parliament passed and the government implemented a value added tax (VAT) in late 2016, which took the place of the General Sales Tax, as part of the IMF loan and economic reform program. However, the government decided in early 2017 to postpone the “Stock Market Capital Gains Tax” until the end of 2021. In 2020, there were a number of tax disputes between foreign investors and the government, but most of them were resolved through the Tax Department and the Economic Court.

Legal System and Judicial Independence

Egypt’s legal system is a civil codified law system based on the French model. If contractual disputes arise, claimants can sue for remedies through the court system or seek resolution through arbitration. Egypt has written commercial and contractual law. The country has a system of economic courts, specializing in private-sector disputes, which have jurisdiction over cases related to economic and commercial matters, including intellectual property disputes. The judiciary is set up as an independent branch of the government.

Regulations and enforcement actions can be appealed through Egypt’s courts, though appellants often complain about the lengthy judicial process, which can often take years. To enforce judgments of foreign courts in Egypt, the party seeking to enforce the judgment must obtain an exequatur (a legal document issued by governments allowing judgments to be enforced). To apply for an exequatur, the normal procedures for initiating a lawsuit in Egypt must be satisfied.

Moreover, several other conditions must be satisfied, including ensuring reciprocity between the Egyptian and foreign country’s courts, and verifying the competence of the court rendering the judgment.

Law and Regulations on Foreign Direct Investment

The 2017 Investment Law (Law 72 of 2017) as well as other FDI-related law and regulations, are published on GAFI’s.

In 2017 the Parliament also passed the Industrial Permits Act, which reduced the time it takes to license a new factory by mandating that the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) respond to a request for a license within 30 days of the request being filed. As of February 2020, new regulations allow IDA regional branch directors or their designates to grant conditional licenses to industrial investors until other registration requirements are complete.

In 2016, the Import-Export Law was revised to allow companies wishing to register in the Import Registry to be 51 percent owned and managed by Egyptians; formerly the law required 100 percent Egyptian ownership and management. In November 2016, the inter-ministerial Supreme Investment Council also announced seventeen presidential decrees designed to spur investment or resolve longstanding issues. These include:

- Forming a “National Payments Council” that will work to restrict the handling of FX outside the banking sector;

- Producers of agricultural crops that Egypt imports or exports will get tax exemptions;

- Five-year tax exemptions for manufacturers of “strategic” goods that Egypt imports or exports;

- Five-year tax exemptions for agriculture and industrial investments in Upper Egypt; and

Begin tendering land with utilities for industry in Upper Egypt for free as outlined by the Industrial Development Authority.

Competition and Anti-Trust Law

The Egyptian Competition Law (ECL), Law 3 of 2005, provides the framework for the government's competition rules and anti-trust policies. The ECL prohibits the abuse of dominant market positions, which it defines as a situation in which a company's market share exceeds 25 percent and in which the company is able to influence market prices or volumes regardless of competitors' actions. The ECL prohibits vertical agreements or contracts between purchasers and suppliers that are intended to restrict competition, and also forbids agreements among competitors such as price collusion, production-restriction agreements, market sharing, and anti-competitive arrangements in the tendering process. The ECL applies to all types of persons or enterprises carrying out economic activities, but includes exemptions for some government-controlled public utilities. In early 2019, the Egyptian Parliament endorsed a number of amendments to the ECL, including controls on price hikes and prices of essential products and higher penalties for violations.

In addition to the ECL, other law covers various aspects of competition policy. The Companies Law (Law 159/1981) contains provisions on mergers and acquisitions; the Law of Supplies and Commerce (Law 17 of 1999) forbids competition-reducing activities such as collusion and hoarding; and the Telecommunications Law (Law 10 of 2003), the Intellectual Property Law (Law 82 of 2002), and the Insurance Supervision and Control Law (Law 10 of 1981) also include provisions on competition.

The Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA) is responsible for protecting competition and prohibiting the monopolistic practices defined within the ECL. The ECA has the authority to receive and investigate complaints, initiate its own investigations, and take decisions and necessary steps to stop anti-competitive practices. The ECA's enforcement powers include conducting raids; using search warrants; requesting data and documentation; and imposing "cease and desist orders" on violators of the ECL. The ECA's enforcement activities against government entities are limited to requesting data and documentation, as well as advocacy.

Expropriation and Compensation

Egypt's Investment Incentives Law provides guarantees against nationalization or confiscation of investment projects under the law's domain. The law also provides guarantees against seizure, requisition, blocking, and placing of assets under custody or sequestration. It offers guarantees against full or partial expropriation of real estate and investment project property. The U.S.-Egypt Bilateral Investment Treaty also provides protection against expropriation. Private firms are able to take cases of alleged expropriation to court, but the judicial system can take several years to resolve a case.

Egypt acceded to the International Convention for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) in 1971 and is a member of the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, which provides a framework for the arbitration of investment disputes between the government and foreign investors from another member state, provided the parties agree to such arbitration. Without prejudice to Egyptian courts, the Investment Incentives Law recognizes the right of investors to settle disputes within the framework of bilateral agreements, the ICSID, or through

arbitration before the Regional Center for International Commercial Arbitration in Cairo, which applies the rules of the United Nations Commissions on International Trade Law.

Egypt adheres to the 1958 New York Convention on the Enforcement of Arbitral Awards; the 1965 Washington Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and the Nationals of Other States; and the 1974 Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between the Arab States and Nationals of Other States. An award issued pursuant to arbitration that took place outside Egypt may be enforced in Egypt if it is either covered by one of the international conventions to which Egypt is party or it satisfies the conditions set out in Egypt's Dispute Settlement Law 27 of 1994, which provides for the arbitration of domestic and international commercial disputes and limited challenges of arbitration awards in the Egyptian judicial system. The Dispute Settlement Law was amended in 1997 to include disputes between public enterprises and the private sector.

To enforce judgments of foreign courts in Egypt, the party seeking to enforce the judgment must obtain an exequatur. To apply for an exequatur, the normal procedures for initiating a lawsuit in Egypt and several other conditions must be satisfied, including ensuring reciprocity between the Egyptian and foreign country's courts and verifying the competence of the court rendering the judgment.

Egypt has a system of economic courts specializing in private-sector disputes that have jurisdiction over cases related to economic and commercial matters, including intellectual property disputes. Despite these provisions, business and investors in Egypt's renewable energy projects have reported significant problems resolving disputes with the Government of Egypt.

Bankruptcy Regulations

Egypt passed a Bankruptcy Law (Law 11 of 2018) in January 2018, which was designed to speed up the restructuring of troubled companies and settlement of their accounts. It also replaced the threat of imprisonment with fines in cases of bankruptcy. As of July 2020, the Egyptian government was considering but had not yet implemented amendments to the 2018 law that would allow debtors to file for bankruptcy protection, and would give creditors the ability to determine whether debtors could continue operating, be placed under administrative control, or be forced to liquidate their assets.

In practice, the paperwork involved in liquidating a business remains convoluted and protracted; starting a business is much easier than shutting one down. Bankruptcy is frowned upon in Egyptian culture, and many business people still believe they may be found criminally liable if they declare bankruptcy.

Investment Incentives

The Investment Law 72/2017 gives multiple incentives to investors as described below. In August 2019, President Sisi ratified amendments to the Investment Law that allow its incentive programs to apply to expansions of existing investment projects in addition to new investments.

General Incentives:

All investment projects subject to the provisions of the new law enjoy the general incentives provided by it.

Investors are exempted from the stamp tax, notary fees, registration of the Memorandum of Incorporation of the companies, credit facilities, and mortgage contracts associated with their

business for five years from the date of registration in the Commercial Registry, in addition to the registration contracts of the lands required for a company's establishment.

If the establishment is under the provisions of the new investment law, it will benefit from a two-percent unified custom tax over all imported machinery, equipment, and devices required for the set-up of such a company.

Special Incentive Programs:

Investment projects established within three years of the date of the issuance of the Investment Law (Law 72 of 2017) will enjoy a perpetual deduction from their net profit subject to the income tax;

50 percent deduction of depreciated investment costs from taxes, infrastructure fees, and cost of lands for projects in regions the government has identified as most in need of development, as well as designated projects in Suez Canal Special Economic Zone and the "Golden Triangle" along the Red Sea between the cities of Safaga, Qena, and El Quseer; or

30 percent deduction of depreciated investment costs from taxes, infrastructure fees, and land costs for projects elsewhere in Egypt; and

Provided that such deduction shall not exceed 80 percent of the paid-up capital of the company, the incentive could be utilized over a maximum of seven years.

Additional Incentive Program:

The Cabinet of Ministers may decide to grant additional incentives for investment projects in accordance with specific rules and regulations as follows:

The establishment of special customs ports for exports and imports of the investment projects.

The state may incur part of the costs of the technical training for workers.

Free allocation of land for a few strategic activities may apply.

The government may bear in full or in part the costs incurred by the investor to invest in utility connections for the investment project.

The government may refund half the price of the land allocated to industrial projects in the event of starting production within two years from receiving the land.

Other Incentives related to Free Zones according to Investment Law 72/2017:

Exemption from all taxes and customs duties

Exemption from all import/export regulations

The option to sell a certain percentage of production domestically if customs duties are paid

Limited exemptions from labor provisions

All equipment, machinery, and essential means of transport (excluding sedan cars) necessary for business operations are exempted from all customs, import duties, and sales taxes.

All licensing procedures are handled by GAFI. To remain eligible for benefits, investors operating inside the free zones must export more than 50 percent of their total production.

Manufacturing or assembly projects pay an annual charge of one percent of the total value of their products excluding all raw materials. Storage facilities are to pay one percent of the value of goods entering the free zones, while service projects pay one percent of total annual revenue.

Goods in transit to specific destinations are exempt from any charges.

Other Incentives related to the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone): 100 percent foreign ownership of companies allowed.

100 percent foreign ownership of companies allowed.

100 percent foreign control of import/export activities allowed.

Imports are exempted from customs duties and sales tax.

Customs duties on exports to Egypt imposed on imported components only, not the final product.

Fast-track visa services

A full service one-stop shop for registration and licensing

Allowing enterprises access to the domestic market; duties on sales to domestic market will be assessed on the value of imported inputs only.

The Tenders Law (Law 89/1998) requires the government to consider both price and best value in awarding contracts and to issue an explanation for refusal of a bid. However, the law contains preferences for Egyptian domestic contractors, who are accorded priority if their bids do not exceed the lowest foreign bid by more than 15 percent.

The Ministry of Industry & Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Finance's Decree No. 719/2007 provides incentives for industrial projects in the governorates of Upper Egypt (Upper Egypt refers to governorates in southern Egypt). The decree provides an incentive of 15,000 EGP (approx. \$940) for each job opportunity created by the project, on the condition that the investment costs of the project exceed 15 million EGP (approx. \$940,000). The decree can be implemented on both new and ongoing projects.

Foreign Trade Zones/Free Ports/Trade Facilitation

Public and private free-trade zones are authorized under GAFI's Investment Incentive Law No. 72 of 2017. Free zones are located within the national territory, but are considered to be outside Egypt's customs boundaries, granting firms doing business within them more freedom on transactions and exchanges. Companies producing largely for export (normally 80 percent or more of total production) may be established in free-trade zones and operate using foreign currency. Free-trade zones are open to investment by foreign or domestic investors. Companies operating in free-trade zones are exempted from sales taxes or taxes and fees on capital assets and intermediate goods. The Legislative Package for the Stimulation of Investment, issued in 2015, stipulated a one-percent duty paid on the value of commodities upon entry for storage projects and a one-percent duty upon exit for manufacturing and assembly projects.

There are currently nine public free trade zones in operation in the following locations: Alexandria; Damietta; Ismailia; Qeft; Media Production City; Nasr City; Port Said; Shebin el Kom; and Suez. Private free-trade zones may also be established with a decree by GAFI but are usually limited to a single project. Export-oriented industrial projects are given priority. There is no restriction on foreign ownership of capital in private free zones.

The Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Law 83/2002 allows establishment of special zones for industrial, agricultural, or service activities designed specifically with the export market in mind. The law allows firms operating in these zones to import capital equipment, raw materials, and intermediate goods duty free. Companies established in the SEZs are also exempt from sales and indirect taxes and can operate under more flexible labor regulations. The first SEZ was established in the northwest Gulf of Suez.

Investment Law 72 of 2017 authorized creation of investment zones with Prime Ministerial approval. The government regulates these zones through a board of directors, but the zones are established, built, and operated by the private sector. The government does not provide any infrastructure or utilities in these zones. Investment zones enjoy the same benefits as free zones in terms of facilitation of license-issuance, ease of dealing with other agencies, etc., but are not

granted the incentives and tax/custom exemptions enjoyed in free zones. Projects in investment zones pay the same tax/customs duties applied throughout Egypt. The aim of the law is to assist the private sector in diversifying its economic activities. There are currently five investment zones located in Cairo, Giza, and Ismailia, and in 2019 GAFI approved the development of an additional 12 investment zones in the Alexandria, Dakhalia, Damietta, Fayoum, Giza, Qalyubia, and Sharkia governorates.

The Suez Canal Economic Zone a major industrial and logistics services hub announced in 2014, includes upgrades and renovations to ports located along the Suez Canal corridor, including West and East Port Said, Ismailia, Suez, Adabiya, and Ain Sokhna. The Egyptian government has invited foreign investors to take part in the projects, which are expected to be built in several stages, the first of which was scheduled to be completed by mid-2020. Reported areas for investment include maritime services like ship repair services, bunkering, vessel scrapping and recycling; industrial projects, including pharmaceuticals, food processing, automotive production, consumer electronics, textiles, and petrochemicals; IT services such as research and development and software development; renewable energy; and mixed use, residential, logistics, and commercial developments.

Performance and Data Localization Requirements

Egypt has rules on national percentages of employment and difficult visa and work permit procedures. The government plans to phase out visas for unskilled workers, but as yet has not done so. For most other jobs, employers may hire foreign workers on a temporary six-month basis, but must also hire two Egyptians to be trained to do the job during that period. Only jobs where it is not possible for Egyptians to acquire the requisite skills will remain open to foreign workers. The application of these regulations is inconsistent. The Labor Law allows Ministers to set the maximum percentage of foreign workers that may work in companies in a given sector. There are no such sector-wide maximums for the oil and gas industry, but individual concession agreements may contain language establishing limits or procedures regarding the proportion of foreign and local employees.

No performance requirements are specified in the Investment Incentives Law, and the ability to fulfill local content requirements is not a prerequisite for approval to set up assembly projects. In many cases, however, assembly industries still must meet a minimum local content requirement in order to benefit from customs tariff reductions on imported industrial inputs.

Decree 184/2013 allows for the reduction of customs tariffs on intermediate goods if the final product has a certain percentage of input from local manufacturers, beginning at 30 percent local content. As the percentage of local content rises, so does the tariff reduction, reaching up to 90 percent if the amount of local input is 60 percent or above. Exporters receive additional subsidies if they use a greater portion of local raw materials. In certain cases, a minister can grant tariff reductions of up to 40 percent in advance.

Prime Minister issued Decision No. 3053 of 2019 regarding the formation of joint committees in the inspection yards at each customs port. These committees include representatives of the customs authority and the concerned authorities and bodies according to type of goods. The committees are responsible for completing inspection and control procedures for imported or exported goods

within a period not exceeding three working days from the date of the customs declaration was registered.

Manufacturers wishing to export under trade agreements between Egypt and other countries must complete certificates of origin and satisfy the local content requirements contained therein. Oil and gas exploration concessions, which do not fall under the Investment Incentives Law, have performance standards specified in each individual agreement, which generally include the drilling of a specific number of wells in each phase of the exploration period stipulated in the agreement. Egypt does not impose localization barriers on ICT firms. Egypt's Personal Data Protection Act (Law 151/2020), signed into law in July 2020, will require licenses for cross-border data transfers once the law's executive regulations are finalized, but it will not impose any data localization requirements. Similarly, Egypt does not make local production a requirement for market access, does not have local content requirements, and does not impose forced technology or intellectual property transfers as a condition of market access. But there are exceptions where the government has attempted to impose controls by requesting access to a company's servers located offshore, or requested servers to be located in Egypt and thus under the government's control.

Real Property

The Egyptian legal system provides protection for real and personal property. Law on real estate ownership are complex and titles to real property may be difficult to establish and trace. According to the World Bank's 2020 Doing Business Report, Egypt ranks 130 of 190 for ease of registering property.

The National Title Registration Program introduced by the Ministry of State for Administrative Development has been implemented in nine areas within Cairo. This program is intended to simplify property registration and facilitate easier mortgage financing. Real estate registration fees, long considered a major impediment to development of the real estate sector, are capped at no more than 2,000 EGP (\$120), irrespective of the property value.

Foreigners are limited to ownership of two residences in Egypt, and specific procedures are required for purchasing real estate in certain geographical areas.

The mortgage market is still undeveloped in Egypt, and in practice most purchases are still conducted in cash. Real Estate Finance Law 148/2001 authorized both banks and non-bank mortgage companies to issue mortgages. The law provides procedures for foreclosure on property of defaulting debtors, and amendments passed in 2004 allow for the issuance of mortgage-backed securities. According to the regulations, banks can offer financing in foreign currency of up to 80 percent of the value of a property.

Presidential Decree 17/2015 permitted the government to provide land free of charge, in certain regions only, to investors meeting certain technical and financial requirements. In order to take advantage of this provision companies must provide cash collateral for five years following commencement of either production (for industrial projects) or operation (for all other projects). The ownership of land by foreigners is governed by three law: Law 15/1963, Law 143/1981, and Law 230/1996. Law 15/1963 stipulates that no foreigners, whether natural or juristic persons, may acquire agricultural land. Law 143/1981 governs the acquisition and ownership of desert land. Certain limits are placed on the number of feddans (one feddan is approximately equal to one acre) that may be owned by individuals, families, cooperatives, partnerships and corporations.

Partnerships are permitted to own up to 10,000 feddans. Joint stock companies are permitted to own up to 50,000 feddans.

Partnerships and joint stock companies may own desert land within these limits, even if foreign partners or shareholders are involved, provided that at least 51 percent of the capital is owned by Egyptians. Upon liquidation of the company, however, the land must revert to Egyptian ownership. Law 143 defines desert land as the land lying two kilometers outside city borders. Furthermore, non-Egyptians owning non-improved real estate in Egypt must build within a period of five years from the date their ownership is registered by a notary public. Non-Egyptians may only sell their real estate five years after registration of ownership unless the Prime Minister consents to an exemption.

Intellectual Property Rights

Egypt remains on the Special 301 Watch List in 2021. Egypt's intellectual property rights (IPR) legislation generally meets international standards, and the government has made progress enforcing those laws, reducing patent application backlogs, and, in 2020, shut down a number of online illegal streaming websites. It has also made progress establishing protection against the unfair commercial use, as well as unauthorized disclosure, of undisclosed test or other data generated to obtain marketing approval for pharmaceutical products. Stakeholders note continued challenges with widespread counterfeiting, biotechnology patent-ability criteria, patent and trademark examination criteria, and pharmaceutical-related IP issues.

Multinational pharmaceutical companies in the past have complained that local generic drug-producing companies infringe on their patents. The government has not yet established a system linking pharmaceutical marketing applications with patent licenses, and as a result permits for the sale of pharmaceuticals are generally issued without first cross-checking patent filings.

Decree 251/2020, issued in January 2020, established a ministerial committee to review petitions for compulsory patent licenses. According to Egypt's 2002 IPR Law (Law 82 of 2002), which allows for compulsory patent licenses in some cases, the committee has the power to issue compulsory patent licenses according to a number of criteria set forth in the law; to determine financial remuneration for the original patent owners; and to approve the expropriation of the patents. Book, music, and entertainment software piracy is prevalent in Egypt, and a significant portion of the piracy takes place online. American film studios represented by the Motion Pictures Association of America are concerned about the illegal distribution of American movies on regional satellite channels.

Eight GoE ministries have the responsibility to oversee IPR concerns: Supply and Internal Trade for trademarks; Higher Education and Research for patents; Culture for copyrights; Agriculture for plants; Communications and Information Technology for copyright of computer programs; Interior for combating IPR violations; Customs for border enforcement; and Trade and Industry for standards and technical regulations. Article 69 of Egypt's 2014 Constitution mandates the establishment of a "specialized agency to uphold [IPR] rights and their legal protection." A National Committee on IPR was established to address IPR matters until a permanent body is established. All IPR stakeholders are represented in the committee, and members meet every two months to discuss issues. The National Committee on IPR is chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and reports directly to the Prime Minister.

The Egyptian Customs Authority (ECA) handles IPR enforcement at the national border and the Ministry of Interior's Department of Investigation handles domestic cases of illegal production. The ECA cannot act unless the trademark owner files a complaint. ECA's customs enforcement also tends to focus on protecting Egyptian goods and trademarks. The ECA is taking steps to adopt the World Customs Organization's (WCO) Interface Public-Members platform, which allows customs officers to detect counterfeit goods by scanning a product's bar-code and checking the WCO trademark database system.

Capital Markets and Portfolio Investment

To date, high returns on Egyptian government debt have crowded out Egyptian investment in productive capacity. Consistently positive and relatively high real interest rates have attracted large foreign capital inflows since 2017, most of which has been volatile portfolio capital. Returns on Egyptian government debt have begun to come down, which could presage investment by Egyptian capital in the real economy.

The Egyptian Stock Exchange (EGX) is Egypt's registered securities exchange. Some 240 companies were listed on the EGX, including Nilex, as of February 2021. There were more than 500,000 investors registered to trade on the exchange in 2019, and the Egyptian market attracted 28,240 new investors in 2020. Stock ownership is open to foreign and domestic individuals and entities. The Government of Egypt issues dollar-denominated and Egyptian Pound-denominated debt instruments, for which ownership is open to foreign and domestic individuals and entities. The government has developed a positive outlook toward foreign portfolio investment, recognizing the need to attract foreign capital to help develop the Egyptian economy. Foreign investors conducted 16 percent of sales on the EGX in 2020.

The Capital Market Law 95/1992, along with Banking Law 94 that President Sisi ratified in September 2020, constitutes the primary regulatory frameworks for the financial sector. The law grants foreigners full access to capital markets, and authorizes establishment of Egyptian and foreign companies to provide underwriting of subscriptions, brokerage services, securities and mutual funds management, clearance and settlement of security transactions, and venture capital activities. The law specifies mechanisms for arbitration and legal dispute resolution and prohibits unfair market practices. Law 10/2009 created the Egyptian Financial Supervisory Authority (EFSA) and brought the regulation of all non-banking financial services under its authority. In 2017, EFSA became the Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA).

Settlement of transactions takes one day for treasury bonds and two days for stocks. Although Egyptian law and regulations allow companies to adopt bylaw limiting or prohibiting foreign ownership of shares, virtually no listed stocks have such restrictions. A significant number of the companies listed on the exchange are family-owned or -dominated conglomerates, and free trading of shares in many of these ventures, while increasing, remains limited. Companies are DE-listed from the exchange if not traded for six months.

Prior to November 2020, foreign companies enlisting on the EGX had to possess minimum capital of \$100 million. With the FRA's passage of new rules, foreign companies joining the EGX must now meet lesser requirements matching those for Egyptian companies: \$6.4 million (100 million EGP) for large companies and between \$63,000 and \$6.4 million (1-100 million EGP) for smaller companies, depending on their size. Foreign businesses are only eligible for these lower minimum capital

requirements if the EGX is their first exchange and if they attribute more than 50 percent of their shareholders' equities, revenues, and assets to Egyptian subsidiary companies.

The Finance Ministry announced in May 2020 the suspension of stock market capital gains taxes for Egyptian tax residents until December 31, 2021, and made stock market capital gains permanently tax-exempt for non-tax residents and foreigners. The government also set the stamp tax on stock market transactions by non-tax residents at 0.125 percent and at 0.05 percent for tax residents. Foreign investors can access Egypt's banking system by opening accounts with local banks and buying and selling all marketable securities with brokerages. The government has repeatedly emphasized its commitment to maintaining the profit repatriation system to encourage foreign investment in Egypt, especially since the pound flotation and implementation of the IMF loan program in November 2016. The current system for profit repatriation by foreign firms requires sub-custodian banks to open foreign and local currency accounts for foreign investors (global custodians), which are exclusively maintained for stock exchange transactions. The two accounts serve as a channel through which foreign investors process their sales, purchases, dividend collections, and profit repatriation transactions using the bank's posted daily exchange rates. The system is designed to allow for settlement of transactions in fewer than two days, though in practice some firms have reported significant delays in repatriating profits due to problems with availability. Foreign firms and individuals continue to report delays in repatriating funds and problems accessing hard currency for the purpose of repatriating profits.

The Egyptian credit market, open to foreigners, is vibrant and active. Repatriation of investment profits has become much easier, as there is enough available hard currency to execute foreign exchange (FX) trades. Since the flotation of the Egyptian Pound in November 2016, FX trading is considered straightforward, given the re-establishment of the inter-bank foreign currency trading system.

EGX SMEs Markets

SMEs Market:

The Egyptian Exchange (EGX) has established in 2007 the first market for the small and medium enterprises in the Middle East and North Africa that facilitates the access to finance to SMEs. This market provides promising SMEs from various sectors the opportunity to access appropriate financing, allowing them to increase their competitiveness and grow their business.

Trading commenced in 2010 after the completion of the regulatory framework and the technological platform of this market as the well as the establishment of the nominated advisors registry which provides the technical assistance to the SMEs.

Fully committed to the continuous development and review of the regulatory framework and marketplace, the Egyptian Exchange has embarked on a restructure plan for the SMEs platform to ensure that it is poised to provide a conducive environment for SMEs to develop and access finance and help maximize their contribution to the economy.

SMEs are classified into the 2 lists; Tamayuz and Nile.

Nile List

It is the list that includes promising companies from all sectors that are still seeking to improve their commitment levels to the rules of governance and disclosure and seek to raise their operational capacity and to improve their growth rates.

Tamayus List

It is the list that comprises SMEs that has strong financial and operational performance, seeking further growth to qualify them to move to the main market. These companies as well as have distinguished investor relations departments and periodic research coverage of their shares.

EGX Trading Overview

The trading systems and mechanisms are considered among the most important factors for the development of securities markets globally, enhancing their effectiveness, which urged the Egyptian Exchange to develop its trading systems to:

1. Provide sophisticated trading mechanisms to ensure maximum transparency and fairness to all market participants.
2. Increase the capacity to attract more investments - whether domestic or foreign - that are always interested to enter sophisticated markets.
3. Meet the needs of market participants within the characteristics and mechanisms of trading.
4. Increase the ability to absorb as many investor orders as possible, thus increasing the number of transactions executed during the trading session.
5. Facilitate the work of financial intermediaries in securities market.

The most important features of the Egyptian Exchange is that it has adopted a distinctive approach that combines the needs of different investor groups; individuals and institutions, in a balanced framework of transparency and fairness.

Furthermore, it becomes clear that the idea of investing in the securities market is not limited to a particular category that has the financial ability and technical competence to enter the market. However, the Egyptian capital market has become attractive and competitive to many investment and savings pools due to the variety of financial instruments available for investment (such as stocks and bonds, closed-ended funds, ETFs and Egyptian Depositary Receipts). This in addition to having various trading mechanisms such as omnibus accounts, margin trading, intraday trading and short selling.

Worth mentioning that the framework through which the Egyptian capital market operates, is characterized by providing various investor's protection tools and mechanisms, the investor's decision to enter the Egyptian capital market (by making a code for each investor), the brokerage companies that are members of the Egyptian Exchange, which work according to specified rules supervised internally, through performing internal audit, and externally (in compliance with the regulations for the continuation of membership on the Egyptian exchange), and ended with the Settlement Guarantee Fund and the Investor Protection Fund against non-trading risks.

In light of the continuous technological development, EGX is keen to have a trading platform, which

is based on the concept of automatic acceptance of orders (the continuous auction system), designed in a way that enables brokerage firms to link the trading system to their back office systems, and hence allowing customers to use the software trading on the internet and smart phones, with varied timing of the trading sessions.

Money and Banking System

Benefiting from the nation's increasing economic stability over the past two years, Egypt's banks have enjoyed both ratings upgrades and continued profitability. Thanks to economic reforms, a new floating exchange system, and a new Investment Law (Law 72/2017) passed in 2017, the project finance pipeline is increasing after a period of lower activity. Banking competition is serving a largely untapped retail segment and the nation's challenging, but potentially rewarding, small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) segment.

The Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) requires that banks direct 25 percent of their lending to SMEs. In December 2019, the Central Bank launched a \$6.4 billion (100 billion EGP) initiative to spur domestic manufacturing through subsidized loans. Also, with only about a quarter of Egypt's adult population owning or sharing an account at a formal financial institution (according press and comments from contacts), the banking sector has potential for growth and higher inclusion, which the government and banks discuss frequently. A low median income plays a part in modest banking penetration.

The CBE has taken steps to work with banks and technology companies to expand financial inclusion. The employees of the government, one of the largest employers, must now have bank accounts because salary payment is through direct deposit. The CBE approved new procedures in October 2020 to allow deposits and the opening of new bank accounts with only a government-issued ID, rather than additional documents. The maximum limits for withdrawals and account balances also increased. In July 2020, President Sisi ratified a new Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development Law (Law 152 of 2020) that will provide incentives, tax breaks, and discounts for small, informal businesses willing to register their businesses and begin paying taxes.

As an attempt to keep pace with best practice and international norms, President Sisi ratified a new Banking Law, Law 94 of 2020, in September 2020. The law establishes a National Payment Council headed by the President to move Egypt away from cash and toward electronic payments; establishes a committee headed by the Prime Minister to resolve disputes between the CBE and the Ministry of Finance; establishes a CBE unit to handle complaints of monopolistic behaviors; requires banks to increase their cash holdings to \$320 million (5 billion EGP), up from the prior minimum of \$32 million (500 million EGP); and requires banks to report deficiencies in their own audits to the CBE.

Egypt's banking sector is generally regarded as healthy and well-capitalized, due in part to its deposit-based funding structure and ample liquidity, especially since the flotation and restoration of the inter-bank market. The CBE declared that 3.6 percent of the banking sector's loans were non-performing by December 2020. However, since 2011, a high level of exposure to government debt, accounting for over 40 percent of banking system assets, at the expense of private-sector lending, has reduced the diversity of bank balance sheets and crowded out domestic investment. Given the flotation of the Egyptian Pound and restart of the inter-bank trading system, Moody's and S&P have upgraded the outlook of Egypt's banking system to stable from negative to reflect improving

macroeconomic conditions and ongoing commitment to reform. In December 2020, Moody's affirmed Egypt's government issuer rating of B2 stable due to the government's relatively low issuance of foreign currency loans and relatively low external government debt.

Thirty-eight banks operate in Egypt, including several foreign banks. The CBE has not issued a new commercial banking license since 1979. The only way for a new commercial bank, whether foreign or domestic, to enter the market (except as a representative office) is to purchase an existing bank. To this end, in 2013, QNB Group acquired National Société Générale Bank Egypt (NSGB). That same year, Emirates NBD, Dubai's largest bank, bought the Egypt unit of BNP Paribas. In 2015, Citibank sold its retail banking division to CIB Bank. In 2017, Barclays Bank PLC transferred its entire shareholding to Attijariwafa Bank Group. In January 2021, Bahrain's bank ABC completed its purchase of the Egypt-based, Lebanon-owned BLOM bank, while First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) signed an agreement to acquire Bank Audi in Egypt. In 2016 and 2017, Egypt indicated desires to partially (less than 35 percent) privatize at least one state-owned bank and a total of 23 firms through either expanded or new listings on the Egypt Stock Exchange. As of April 2020 the only step towards implementing this privatization program was the offering of 4.5 percent of the shares of state-owned Eastern Tobacco Company on the stock market. The state-owned Banque du Caire postponed plans to offer some of its shares on the EGX due to the novel corona virus.

According to the CBE, banks operating in Egypt held nearly \$446 billion (7 trillion EGP) in total assets as of December 2020, with the five largest banks holding more than 69 percent, or \$309 billion (4.86 trillion EGP), of holdings by the end of 2020.

The chairman of the EGX recently stated that Egypt is exploring the use of block chain technologies across the banking community. The FRA will review the development and most likely regulate how the banking system adopts the fast-developing block chain systems into banks' back-end and customer-facing processing and transactions. Seminars and discussions are beginning around Cairo, including visitors from Silicon Valley. While not outright banning crypto currencies, authorities caution against speculation in unknown asset classes.

Alternative financial services in Egypt are extensive, given the large informal economy, estimated to account for between 30 and 50 percent of GDP. Informal lending is prevalent, but the total capitalization, number of loans, and types of terms in private finance is less well known.

Foreign Exchange and Remittances

There had been significant progress in accessing hard currency since the flotation of the pound and re-establishment of the interbank currency trading system in November 2016. While the immediate aftermath saw some lingering difficulty of accessing currency, as of 2017 most businesses operating in Egypt reported having little difficulty obtaining hard currency for business purposes, such as importing inputs and repatriating profits. There are no dollar deposit limits on households and firms importing priority goods such as food products, pharmaceuticals, and basic raw materials. With net foreign reserves of \$40.2 billion as of February 2021, Egypt's foreign reserves appear to be well capitalized, although recent inflows are in part due to assistance payments by international financial institutions such as the IMF.

Funds associated with investment can be freely converted into any world currency available on the local market. Some firms and individuals report the process is slow. But the interbank trading

system works in general, and currency is available as the foreign-exchange markets continue to react positively to the government's commitment to macroeconomic and structural reform. The value of the EGP generally fluctuates depending on market conditions, without direct market intervention by authorities. In general, the EGP has stabilized within an acceptable exchange rate range, which has increased the foreign exchange market's liquidity. Since the early days following the flotation, there has been very low exchange-rate volatility.

Remittance Policies

The Investment Incentives Law (Law 72 of 2017) (IIL) stipulates that non-Egyptian employees hired by projects established under the law are entitled to transfer their earnings abroad.

Conversion and transfer of royalty payments are permitted when a patent, trademark, or other licensing agreement has been approved under the IIL.

The Investment Incentives Law (Law 72 of 2017) (IIL) stipulates that non-Egyptian employees hired by projects established under the law are entitled to transfer their earnings abroad. Conversion and transfer of royalty payments are permitted when a patent, trademark, or other licensing agreement has been approved under the IIL. Banking Law 94 of 2020 regulates the repatriation of profits and capital. The current system for profit repatriation by foreign firms requires sub-custodian banks to open foreign and local currency accounts for foreign investors (global custodians), which are exclusively maintained for stock-exchange transactions. The two accounts serve as a channel through which foreign investors process their sales, purchases, dividend collections, and profit-repatriation transactions using the bank's posted daily exchange rates. The system is designed to allow for settlement of transactions in less than two days, though in practice some firms have reported short delays in repatriating profits due to the steps involved in processing.

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Sovereign Wealth Funds

Egypt's sovereign wealth fund (SWF), approved by the Cabinet and launched in late 2018, holds 200 billion EGP (\$12.5 billion) in authorized capital as of December 2020. The SWF aims to invest state funds locally and abroad across asset classes and manage underutilized government assets. The sovereign wealth fund focuses on sectors considered vital to the Egyptian economy, particularly industry, energy, and tourism, and has established four new sub-funds covering healthcare, financial services, tourism, real estate, and infrastructure. The SWF participates in the International Forum of Sovereign Wealth Funds. The government is currently in talks with regional and European institutions to take part in forming the fund's sector-specific units.

Conclusion:

Since 2016 Egypt has undergone a complete reform plan on multiple levels.

Economic reform was key to the changes Egypt is undergoing, add to it the aggressive fiscal and regulatory reform plus the infrastructure spending have all contributed Egypt's resilience in withstanding the post covid world. Needless to say the economy is still undergoing reforms and many problems which were raised along the path of full economic recovery are still being addressed.

Egypt as a nation is reforming and revamping itself to the point of being hailed as a pioneer experience in modern nation building by the world economic experts. Infrastructure spending has seen a huge increase compared to past decades; Egypt has overcome its power generation deficit in a few short years. Egypt is building 20 modern cities, revamping old harbors and making new ones, reopening old factories, new logistical areas, doubling the Suez Canal, reforming its health care system, and education. Having stated this, Egypt has taken a path towards being an effective economic player in the post covid world.

The most important challenges that Egypt is facing now are:

- 1- Lowering the external debts although it still is within safe boundaries.
- 2: Lowering the budget deficit
- 3: inclusion of the parallel economy into the formal economy of the nation.

Data and information sources:

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CAPMAS
Central Bank of Egypt
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Egyptian ministry of Investment
Egyptian Ministry of Industry and Trading
Egyptian ministry of electricity and renewable energy
Euro money
IMF
ITC
Think Tank Egypt- data bank
World Bank
Oxford Business group

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