

MEDIA RELEASE

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

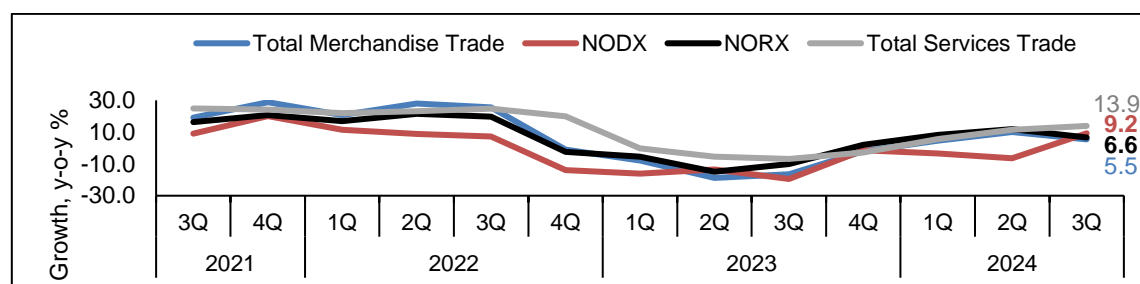
Review of 3Q 2024 Trade Performance^{1,2}

IMPORTANT: Unless otherwise stated, use of any information in this news release must be attributed to Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG).

MR No : 054/24

Singapore, Friday, 22 November 2024

Highlights



Total Merchandise Trade

- Grew by 5.5% in 3Q 2024, following the 10.0% expansion in 2Q 2024.
- Non-oil trade rose by 8.0%; oil trade declined by 4.9% amid lower oil prices a year ago.
- Both non-oil domestic exports (**NODX**: +9.2%) and re-exports (**NORX**: +6.6%) grew.

2024 & 2025 Forecasts

- **2024**: Narrowed to “around +5.0%” for total merchandise trade and downgraded to “around +1.0%” for NODX – mainly as 3Q 2024 NODX performed weaker-than-expected due to volatile pharmaceuticals and ships & boats segments.
- **2025³**: NODX is expected to grow by “+1.0% to +3.0%”, in sync with the World Trade Organisation (WTO)’s projections of faster global merchandise trade growth in 2025 than in 2024.

Total Services Trade

- Grew by 13.9% to reach S\$235 billion in 3Q 2024, following the 11.4% rise in 2Q 2024.

¹ All top products/economies which are stated to have contributed towards the changes in trade figures are ranked by absolute change in level and not change in percentage.

² In tandem with the use of a new set of tariff codes for the classification of all goods traded within and outside ASEAN, data has been updated to ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) 2022 version.

³ The forecast for 2025 total merchandise trade is discontinued, following a review of the publication of trade statistics. This took into account public feedback that the NODX forecast provides an indication of the global demand for the goods produced in Singapore and is closely tied to the economic outlook.

EnterpriseSG is the government agency championing enterprise development. Our vision for Singapore is a vibrant economy with globally competitive Singapore enterprises.

The data in the media release is provided on an “as is” basis and is subject to updates, as well as revisions, to ensure consistency with international compilation and reporting standards. While every effort is made to ensure that the data is accurate, it is provided by EnterpriseSG without any representation or warranty. EnterpriseSG shall not be held responsible for any consequence arising from your reliance on any information provided by us.

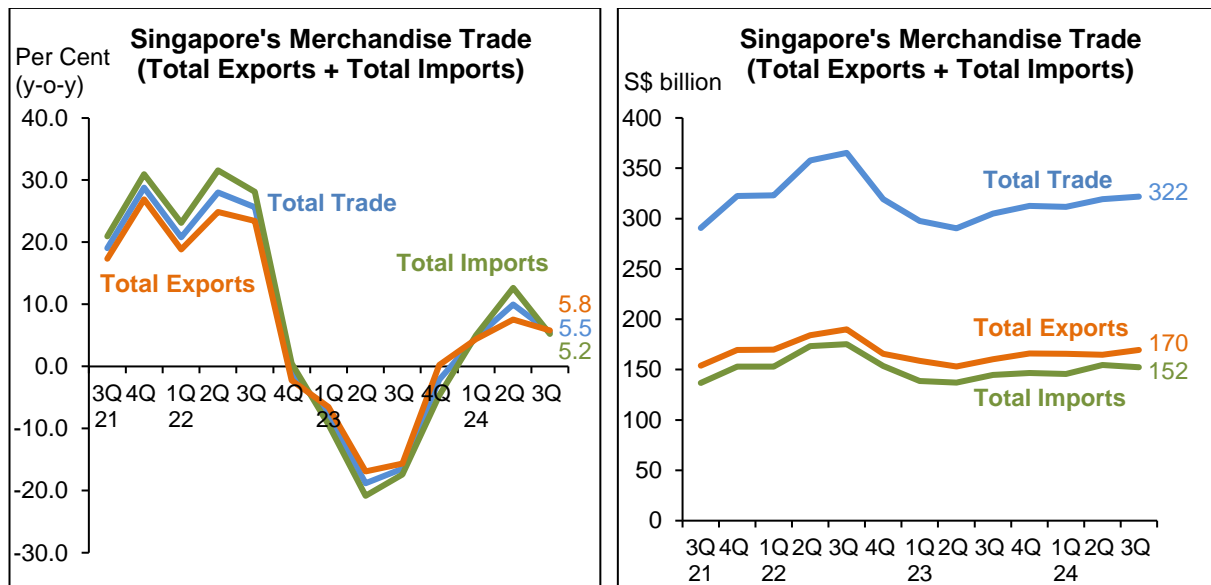
Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

Performance by Key Trade Components

Total Merchandise Trade

Total merchandise trade grew by 5.5% in 3Q 2024; non-oil trade grew for the third consecutive quarter

- On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, Singapore's total merchandise trade grew by 5.5% in 3Q 2024, following the 10.0% expansion in 2Q 2024
 - Oil trade declined by 4.9% in 3Q 2024, after the 16.9% expansion in 2Q 2024⁴.
 - Non-oil trade rose by 8.0% in 3Q 2024, following the previous quarter's 8.4% growth⁵.



- On a quarter-on-quarter (q-o-q) seasonally adjusted (SA) basis, total merchandise trade decreased by 2.5% in 3Q 2024, after the previous quarter's 2.0% growth. Oil and non-oil trade declined by 12.5% and 0.1% respectively in 3Q 2024. Details on the performance of major merchandise trade components and key trading markets can be found in Annexes A, B and C.

Non-oil Exports (NOX)

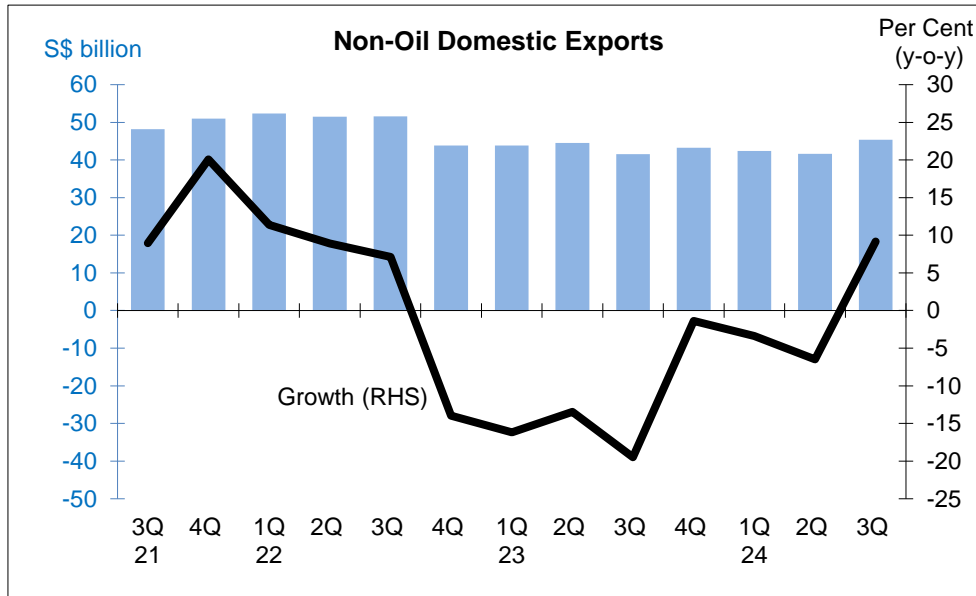
- Non-oil exports (NOX), which include both NODX and NORX, rose y-o-y by 7.4% in 3Q 2024, following the preceding quarter's 5.4% growth. On a q-o-q SA basis, NOX grew by 2.0% in 3Q 2024, after the 0.8% decrease in the previous quarter.

⁴ Oil trade formed 17% of total merchandise trade in 3Q 2024. Oil prices averaged US\$80/barrel in 3Q 2024, lower than the US\$87/barrel in 3Q 2023. Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA).

⁵ Non-oil trade formed 83% of total merchandise trade in 3Q 2024, of which electronics trade accounted for 43%.

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.**Non-oil Domestic Exports (NODX)*****NODX grew in 3Q 2024, supported by electronics***

4. On a y-o-y basis, NODX grew by 9.2% in 3Q 2024⁶, after the 6.5% decrease in the previous quarter. Electronics grew faster in 3Q 2024, marking the second consecutive quarter of growth, while non-electronics rebounded after two quarters of declines.

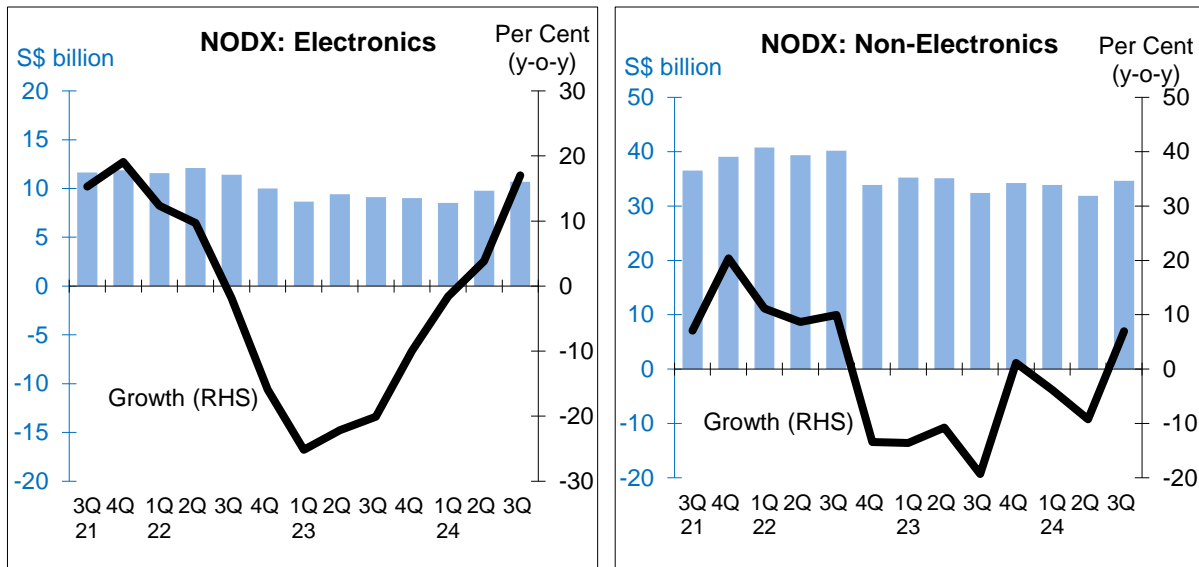


5. **Electronic products.** On a y-o-y basis, domestic exports of electronic products rose by 17.0% in 3Q 2024, following the 3.8% increase in the previous quarter. ICs, disk media products and PCs grew by 23.7%, 117.0% and 52.1% respectively⁷, contributing the most to the growth in electronic NODX (see Annex E).
6. **Non-electronic products.** Domestic exports of non-electronic products grew by 7.0% in 3Q 2024, after the 9.2% decline in the previous quarter. The largest contributors to the growth in non-electronic NODX were specialised machinery (+18.8%), non-monetary gold (+43.9%) and food preparations (+20.6%)⁸.

⁶ This was the first increase following seven consecutive quarters of y-o-y declines.

⁷ The growth in electronic NODX was driven by ICs (+S\$1.0 billion), disk media products (+S\$0.8 billion) and PCs (+S\$0.4 billion).

⁸ The rise in non-electronic NODX was driven by specialised machinery (+S\$0.9 billion), non-monetary gold (+S\$0.6 billion) and food preparations (+S\$0.4 billion).

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

NODX to the top markets as a whole rose in 3Q 2024, mainly due to growth to Malaysia, China and the US

7. **Top Markets.** NODX to the top markets rose in 3Q 2024. The biggest contributors to the NODX growth were Malaysia (+30.7%), China (+12.7%) and the US (+6.0%). Details on the performance of key NODX markets can be found in Annex D.

NODX increased sequentially over the quarter; both electronics and non-electronics grew

8. On a q-o-q SA basis, NODX increased by 7.9% in 3Q 2024, after the 1.3% decrease in the previous quarter. In 3Q 2024, on a q-o-q SA basis:
- Electronic NODX rose by 7.3%, following the previous quarter's 9.5% growth.
 - Non-electronic NODX grew by 8.1%, after the 4.2% decline in 2Q 2024.

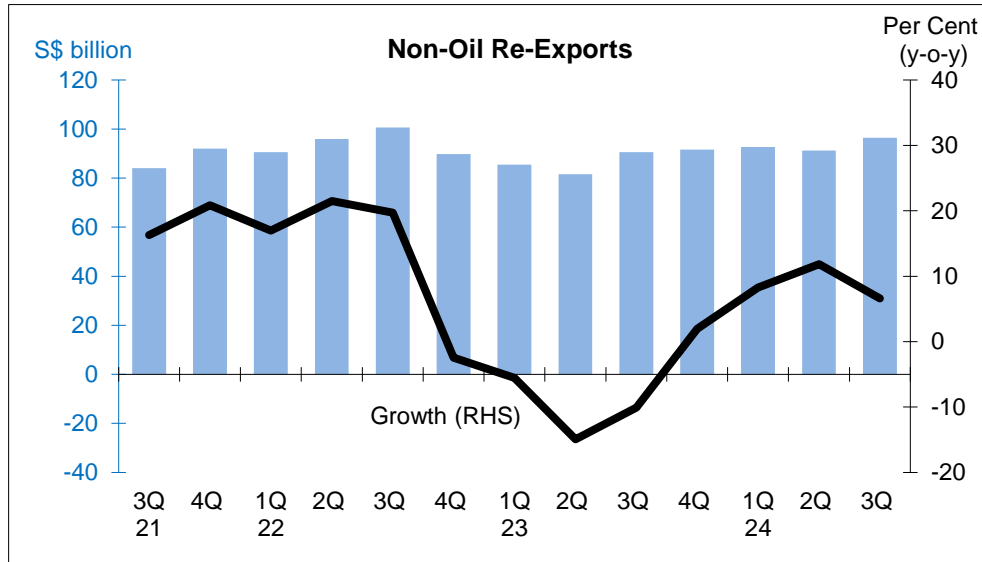
Non-oil Re-exports (NORX)

NORX grew in 3Q 2024; both electronics and non-electronics increased

9. On a y-o-y basis, NORX rose by 6.6% in 3Q 2024, extending the 11.8% expansion in the previous quarter. The growth in NORX can be attributed to higher shipments of both electronic and non-electronic re-exports.
10. **Electronic products.** Electronic NORX expanded by 12.4% in 3Q 2024, following the 20.6% growth in 2Q 2024. The rise in electronic NORX was due to higher re-exports of PCs (+154.1%), other computer peripherals (+186.6%) and ICs (+4.0%).

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

11. **Non-electronic products.** Non-electronic NORX grew by 0.2% in 3Q 2024, following the 3.0% increase in 2Q 2024. The growth in non-electronic NORX was due to higher re-exports of medical apparatus (+88.3%), specialised machinery (+6.7%) and pumps (+35.9%).

***NORX to the top markets as a whole grew in 3Q 2024***

12. **Top Markets.** NORX to the top markets as a whole grew in 3Q 2024. The biggest contributors to the NORX increase were Malaysia (+33.8%), Indonesia (+21.9%) and the US (+10.8%). Details on the performance of key NORX markets can be found in Annex F.

NORX decreased sequentially over the quarter in 3Q 2024; non-electronics declined while electronics increased

13. On a q-o-q SA basis, NORX decreased by 0.6% in 3Q 2024, after the 0.6% decline in the previous quarter. In 3Q 2024, on a q-o-q SA basis:
- Electronic re-exports grew by 0.8%, following the 0.5% increase in 2Q 2024.
 - Non-electronic re-exports declined by 2.3%, extending the 1.8% decrease in 2Q 2024.

Oil Domestic Exports***Oil domestic exports declined in nominal terms in 3Q 2024***

14. On a y-o-y basis, oil domestic exports declined by 0.2% in 3Q 2024, after the 19.0% expansion in the previous quarter.
- In volume terms, oil domestic exports grew by 15.9% in 3Q 2024, following the 7.1% rise in the previous quarter.

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

- On a q-o-q SA basis, oil domestic exports declined by 12.3% in 3Q 2024, after the 3.6% growth in the previous quarter.

Oil Re-exports***Oil re-exports contracted in 3Q 2024***

15. On a y-o-y basis, oil re-exports contracted by 41.3% in 3Q 2024, following the 15.4% decline in 2Q 2024.
 - In volume terms, oil re-exports contracted by 38.5% in 3Q 2024, following the 23.0% decline in 2Q 2024.
 - On a q-o-q SA basis, oil re-exports declined by 22.3% in 3Q 2024, following the 1.2% decrease in the previous quarter.

Outlook for 2024 and 2025***Weaker-than-expected NODX performance for 2024 to-date due to volatile pharmaceuticals and ships & boats; modest growth in 2025 in sync with the outlook on global trade***

16. In the first three quarters of 2024, total merchandise trade grew by 6.7% y-o-y, driven by an increase in both non-oil trade and oil trade. Notwithstanding, the slightly lower projected oil price in 2024⁹ could weigh on oil trade in nominal terms and in turn total trade.
17. At the last update, it was highlighted that downside risks, including a weaker-than-expected recovery in 2H 2024, could potentially lead NODX growth for the year to come in below the forecast range. Since then, the weakness has materialised, as NODX performed weaker-than-expected, primarily due to the volatile segments such as pharmaceuticals and ships & boats, which could continue to weigh on 4Q 2024 performance. A net weighted balance of 8% of firms in the pharmaceuticals segment forecast new export orders for 4Q 2024, down from the net weighted balance of 56% in the previous quarter¹⁰. Meanwhile, electronic NODX performance had also moderated in September (-0.7% y-o-y) and October (+2.6% y-o-y), compared to the double-digit growth in July (+16.7%) and August (+35.1%).
18. For 2025, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected that global economic activity will grow by 3.2%. Most of Singapore's key trade partners, including China, the US, the EU 27 and ASEAN-5 are projected to grow. Similarly, on the trade front, the WTO expects global merchandise trade to grow by 3.0% in 2025, faster than the 2.7% in 2024, although

⁹ The U.S. Energy Information Administration projected oil prices to average US\$81/barrel in 2024, lower than the US\$82/barrel for 2023, based on the latest Nov 2024 release.

¹⁰ Based on EDB's Business Expectations of the Manufacturing Sector released on 30 October 2024.

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

rising geopolitical tensions and economic policy uncertainty pose downside risks to its forecast¹¹.

19. Taking the above into consideration, the 2024 growth forecasts are narrowed to “around +5.0%” for total merchandise trade and downgraded to “around +1.0%” for NODX. For 2025, NODX is expected to grow by “+1.0% to +3.0%”. While the external environment is generally supportive of growth, uncertainties in the global economy such as a more challenging and competitive trade environment could weigh on global trade and growth.

TOTAL SERVICES TRADE¹²

Total services trade grew in 3Q 2024

20. On a y-o-y basis, Singapore's total services trade grew by 13.9% in 3Q 2024, after the increase of 11.4% in the previous quarter. Services exports and imports rose by 14.6% and 13.2% in 3Q 2024 respectively (see Annex H).

Services Exports

Exports of services rose in 3Q 2024

21. Services exports rose by 14.6% in 3Q 2024, after the 13.7% increase in the previous quarter. The growth in services exports¹³ was mainly due to higher receipts from transport services (+36.8%), other business services (+5.6%) and financial services (+6.5%).

¹¹ Based on WTO's latest release in Oct 2024.

¹² The latest annual and quarterly estimates on services trade are compiled based on the best available data at the time of first release and subject to revisions.

¹³ For further information and detailed descriptions of all various major services categories, please refer to the latest publication on Singapore's International Trade in Services, available on the Statistics Singapore website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg>).

Embargoed until 22 November 2024, 8.00 a.m.

Get your story leads from EnterpriseSG's [Facebook](#) (@enterpriseSG), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).

For media enquiries and/or photos, please contact:

Mr Desmond Chua, Business Partner, Corporate Communications, EnterpriseSG
Tel: +65 8157 3812 Email: Desmond_CHUA@enterprisesg.gov.sg

Editors kindly note:

Merchandise trade statistics released by EnterpriseSG are proprietary data and therefore copyright belongs to EnterpriseSG. Any use of the information provided herein must therefore be attributed to EnterpriseSG.

Trade in services statistics are compiled by the Singapore Department of Statistics. Please accredit the Singapore Department of Statistics as the source for any use of the data.

Statlink

Online reports listing 5-year data (values & volumes) on Singapore's trade in terms of countries and commodities

<https://statlink.enterprisesg.gov.sg/>

About Enterprise Singapore

Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) is the government agency championing enterprise development. We work with committed companies to build capabilities, innovate and internationalise.

We also support the growth of Singapore as a hub for global trading and startups, and build trust in Singapore's products and services through quality and standards.

Visit www.enterprisesg.gov.sg for more information.