Country Profile

Sultanate of OMAN

ICDT 2022

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General data

General

- Capital: Muscat - Type of state: Monarchy
- Location: Middle East
- Area: 309,550 km2
- Time zone: GMT + 4

Demography

- Population: 5,223,376 - 2021
- Natural increase: 2.3% - 2021
- Official and business language: Arabic

Currency

- Omani Rial (OMR)
- 1 USD = 0.39 OMR – September 2022

macro economy

- GDP: 85.87 MM USD Growth: -3.2% - 2021
- GDP per capita: 16,439.3 USD - 2021
- Employment rate of 15 years and over: 66 %

International trade

- Imports - 2021: USD 18.96 MM
- Exports - 2021: USD 56.50 MM

FDI

- FDI stocks in 2020: 35.42 MM USD
- Inward FDI flows in 2020: USD 4.09 MM

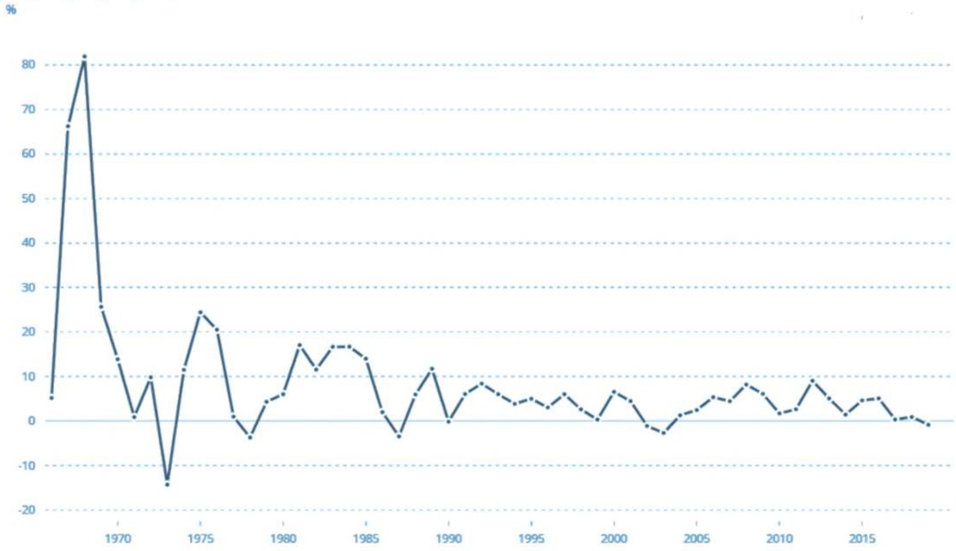
Strong facts

Strategic location, strong commercial links.

A balanced standard of living, stable relations with regional powers.

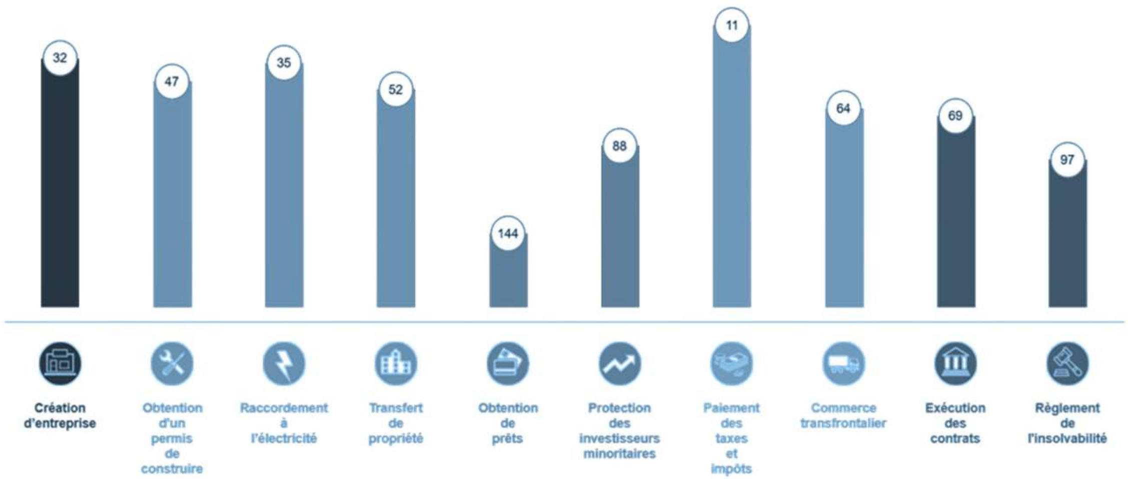
Oil and gas resources.

GDP growth (annual %)



Oman’s economy has contracted by 4.3% due to the pandemic. Its GDP is now expected to recover by 1.8% in 2021, mainly supported by the oil industry. Oman has a relatively healthy economic and financial situation. Over the past few decades, it has demonstrated a firm desire to modernize its economy through openness, regional and global integration (GCC; WTO)

Rankings of Doing Business 2020 by Domain



The country ranks 68th in the Doing Business 2020 ranking ,an evolution of 10 places since 2018.

Start a business	Oman	MENA
Procedures (number)	4	6.28
Time (days)	4.3	19.51

Oman has has improved its investment climate by investing in prepaid electricity meters, property registration, and reduced the time it takes to issue deeds and improving its land administration system.

Main sectors of activity

2.4 %	Share of agriculture in GDP It employs 4% of the population
53.7 %	Share of industry in GDP It employs 32% of the population
48.1 %	Share of services in GDP They employ 64% of the population

Sector Strategies

The government is working on several implementation programs related to the four pillars of Oman Vision 2040. At this stage, the Implementation Monitoring Unit is focusing on the Economy and Development pillar by launching national accelerated programs, mainly :

- The National Program for Financial Viability: Introduces initiatives that develop and promote the role of the banking sector and financing solutions as well as the role of the capital market in finance and investment.
- The National Investment and Export Development Program (Nazdaher)
- The National Employment Scheme (Tashgheel): manages the record of job seekers with the aim of creating sustainable employment solutions and opportunities for Omanis.
- Government digital transformation program: improves the efficiency of government entities and discover effective, transparent and creative innovative solutions.

Infrastructure

Maritime

The large majority of freight in the Sultanate of Oman depicts the key role of the country's three major industrial ports: Sohar with traffic of 825,000 TEUs , Duqm and Salalah .

Road

Oman's road network reaches a length of about 60,000 kilometers. Almost all cities in the country, even the smallest ones, are now connected.

Airport

The Sultanate of Oman has two international airports, in Muscat, the capital, and Salalah . They register 12 million passengers pass through each year.

Railway

Railway project aimed at transporting the production of the mines to the port of Duqm and CCEAG project for the interconnection of the GCC countries, to link Muscat to Kuwait.

Energy & Telecom

Omantel is the country's leading telephone operator. The Omani government owns 70%. In 2019, it introduced its first 5G coverage.

Energy consumption in Oman reached 381 TWh in 2020, almost double the consumption in 2010.

Promising Sectors

01 **Health:** The health infrastructure has about 67 modern hospitals with nearly 6,000 beds and 242 health centers and more or less 1,000 private clinics

02 **Oil and Gas:** Proven Oil and Gas reserves amounted to 5.3 billion barrels and 700 billion m3. The government is investing in liquefied natural gas .

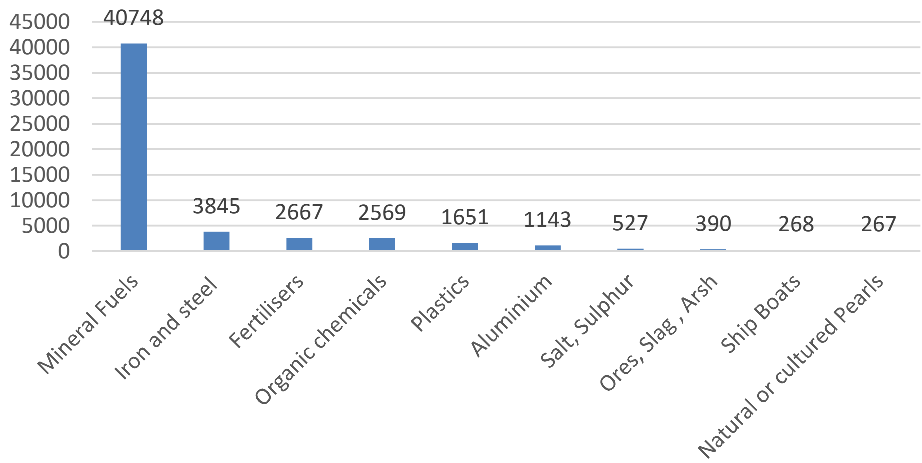
03 **Industry :** Automotive field, sugar refinery, Liwa Plastics Industries complex At the mining level, the vast mineral resources are still untapped

04 **Renewable energies:** solar and wind. The regulator's goal is to achieve 10% renewable energy in 2025 with 320 days of sunshine/year.

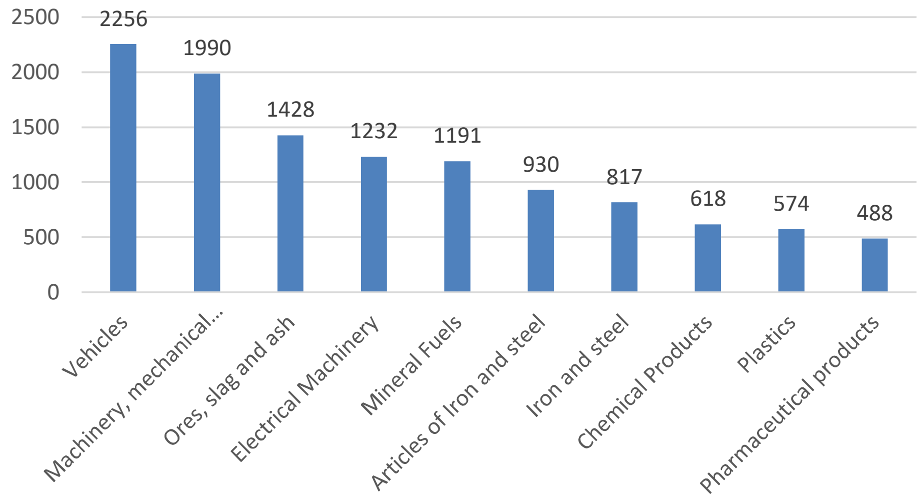
05 **Water and waste management:** Water and wastewater treatment, desalination equipment, waste treatment and recycling, advanced irrigation equipment.

International trade

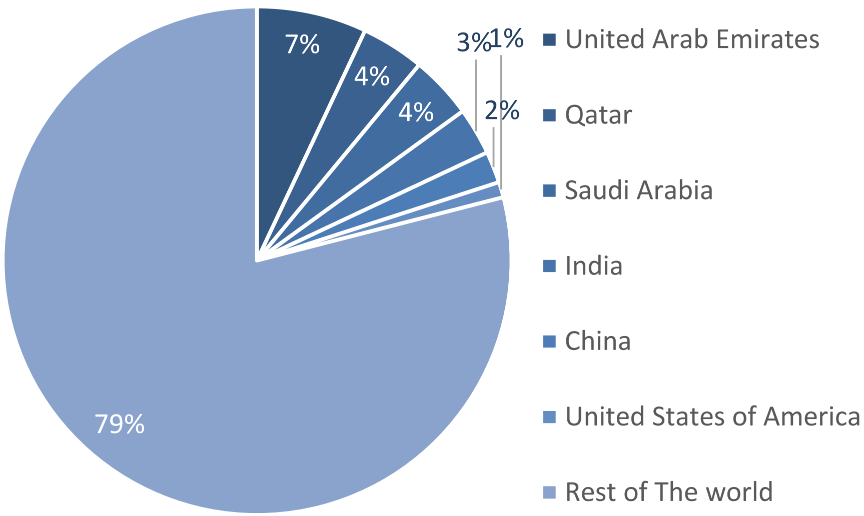
Main exported products by Oman in 2021 - MUSD



Main Imported products by Oman in 2021 - MUSD



Main customers of Oman in 2018



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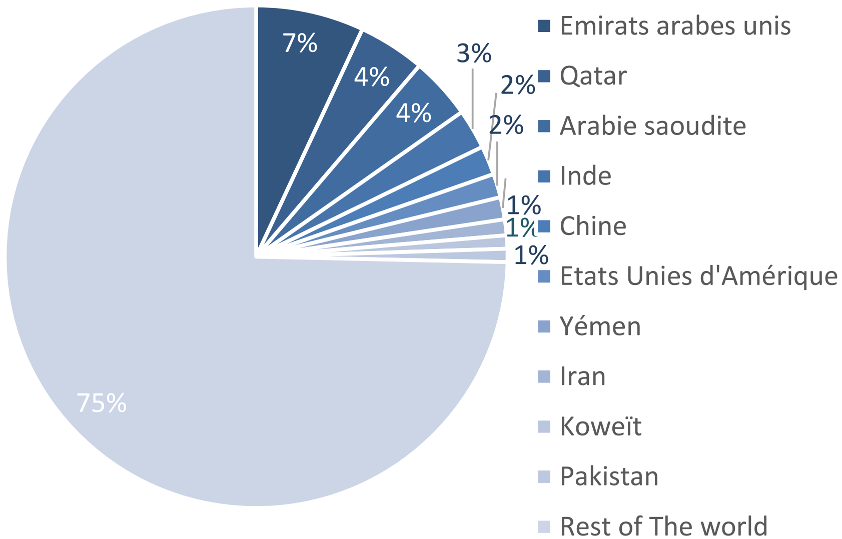
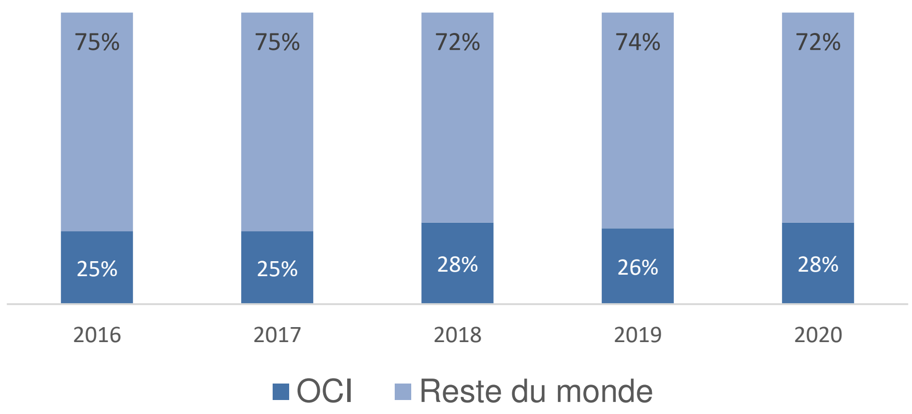
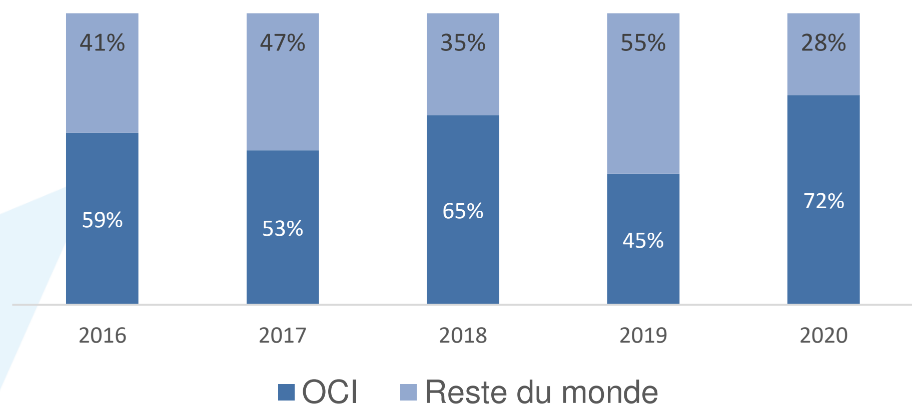


Intra-OIC Trade

Share of OIC in Oman's Exports



Share of OIC in Oman Imports



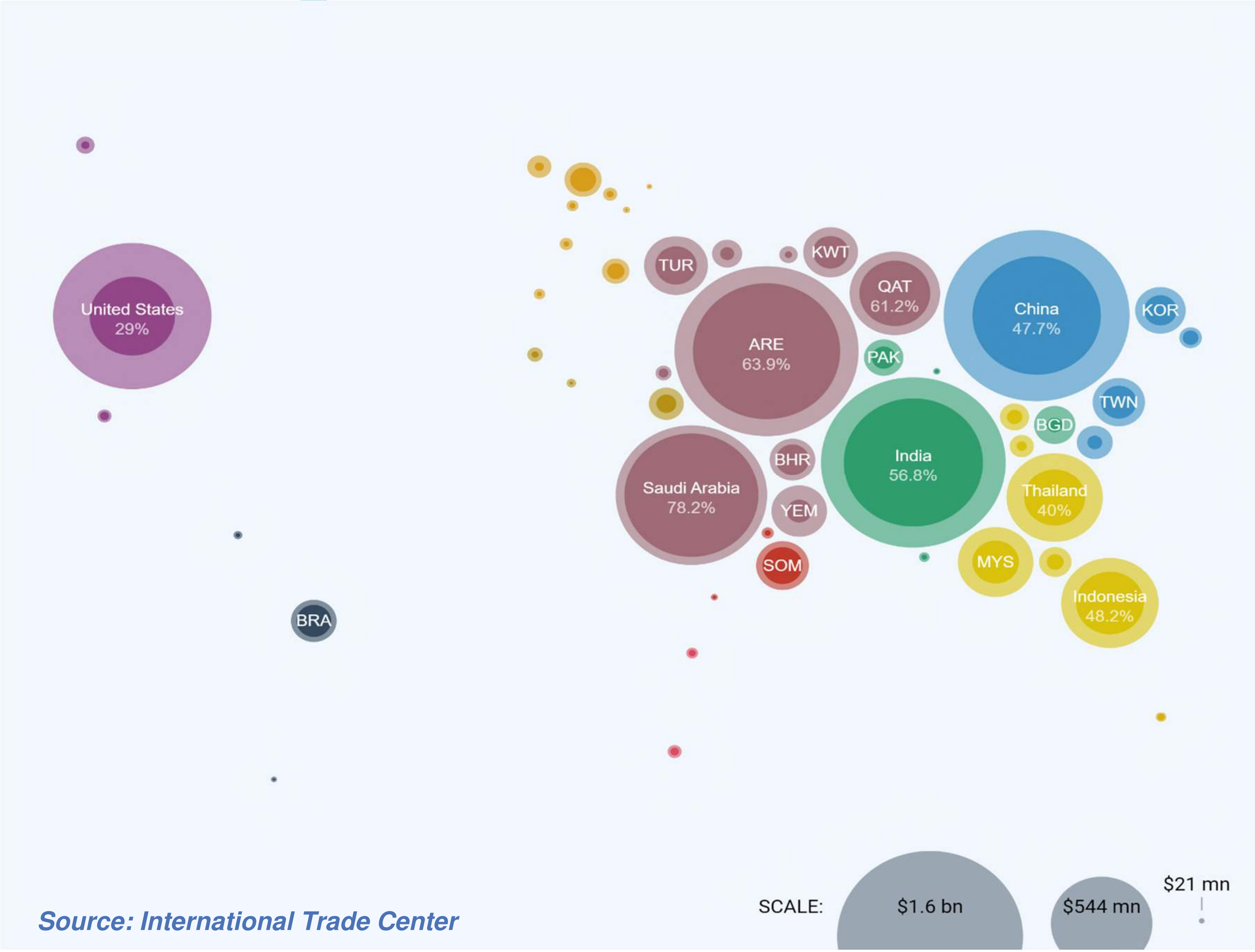
Top 10 Customers, OIC Members in 2020

1. United Arab Emirates
2. Qatar
3. Saudi Arabia
4. Yemen
5. Iran
6. Kuwait
7. Pakistan
8. Iraq
9. Somalia
10. Malaysia

Top 10 Suppliers, OIC Members in 2020

1. United Arab Emirates
2. Qatar
3. Saudi Arabia
4. Iran
5. Bahrain
6. Iraq
7. Malaysia
8. Pakistan
9. Yemen
10. Somalia

Export potential of Oman by country of destination



Source: International Trade Center

Markets with potential for Oman's exports

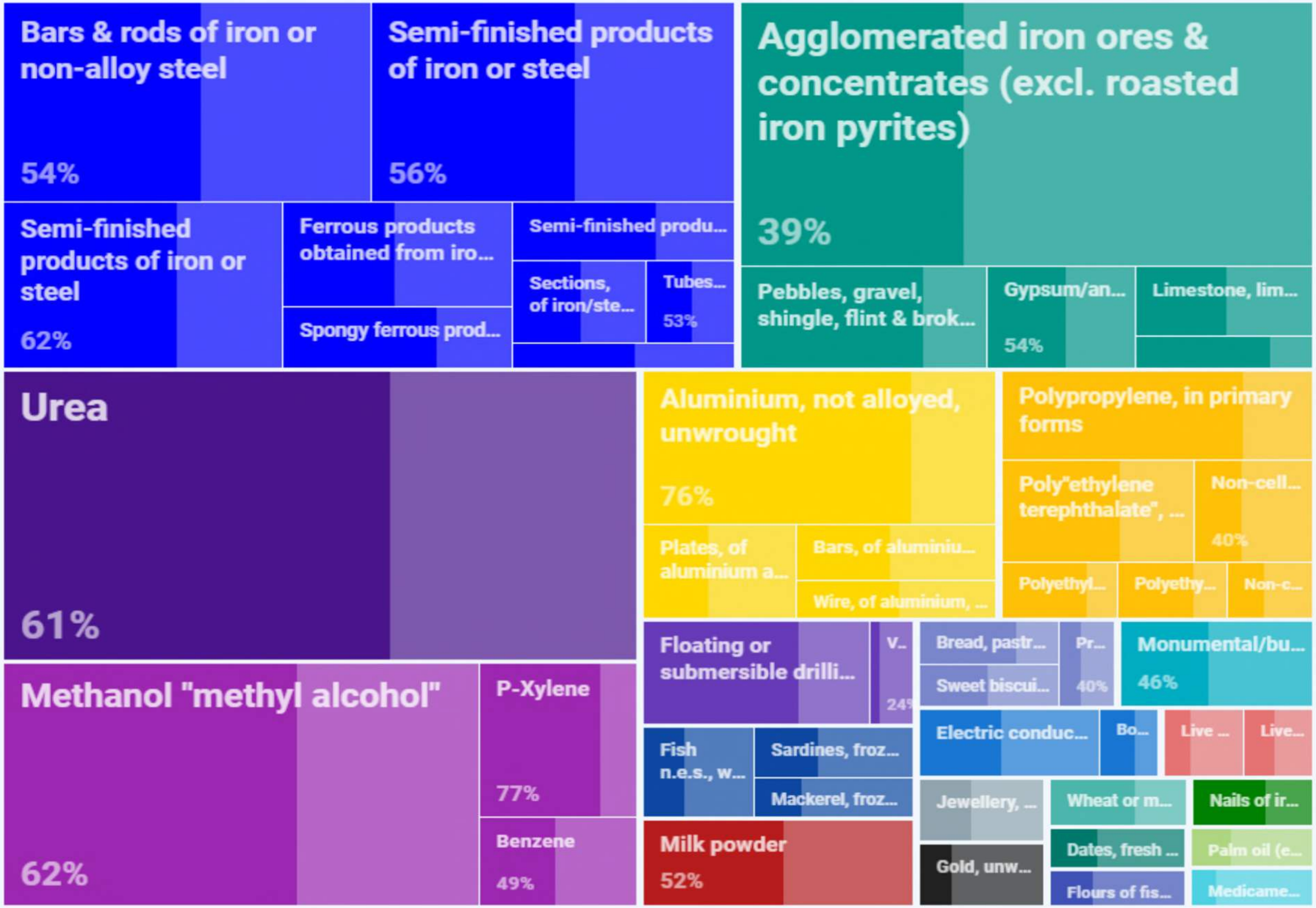
Legend

- Export potential
- Tapped potential

- Middle East
- East Asia
- South Asia
- Southeast Asia
- North America
- EU & West Europe
- Eastern Africa
- South & Central America
- Northern Africa
- Southern Africa
- Pacific

Within the OIC region, the markets with the highest export potential are located in the Middle East, South East Asia and Türkiye.

Export potential of Oman by product



Oman's products with potential

Legend

- Export potential
- Realized potential

- Ferrous metals
- Mineral resources
- Fertilisers
- Chemicals
- Metals (except ferrous & precious)
- Plastics & rubber
- Boats & parts
- Fish & shellfish
- Dairy products
- Food products n.e.s. (processed or preserved)
- Mineral products
- Machinery, electricity
- Live animals (except poultry)
- Jewellery & precious metal articles
- Precious metals
- Cereals (processed)
- Metal products
- Fruits
- Vegetal residues & animal feed
- Vegetable oils & fats

The products with the greatest export potential are ferrous products, urea , methanol, aluminum and jewellery.

Source: International Trade Center

Market Access

Customs Duties and Taxes

Average rate: 14%
Average rate of agricultural products: 28%
Average rate of non-agricultural products: 11.7%

Non-Tariff Measures

In Oman, all mandatory standards apply equally to locally produced and imported products. Non-food products are automatically admitted into the country on the basis of a manufacturer's declaration or a certificate of conformity assessment. Mutual recognition agreement with Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Türkiye and Yemen.

Trade agreements

Member of the World Trade Organization.
Member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (CCG);
Member of the Greater Arab Free Trade Area (GAFTA),
Free Trade Agreement: Oman – United States.

Fairs and Exhibitions

For more information, visit the website:
https://www.eventseye.com/fairs/c0_salons_oman.html

Investing in Oman

Why Oman

Strategic geographical position at the junction between European and Asian markets, complete repatriation of capital, net profits and royalties.

Special Economic Zones

Duqm , Sohar , Salalah and Al Mazunah (on the Yemeni border). Oman offers very advantageous incentives (100% foreign shareholding, low Omanization quota , very low taxation).

Implemented Measures

Interest-free loans to the private sector in the fields of agriculture, fishing, industry, mining and quarrying.
low-interest loans for industry from the Oman Development Bank. Imports of equipment and raw materials are exempt from customs duties and tax exemption for 5 years.

Public markets

Calls for tenders are published on the Tender Board (TB). https://extending.tenderboard.gov.om/

Contacts

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