

MALAYSIA'S TRADE PERFORMANCE, FEBRUARY 2022

Malaysia's total trade in February 2022 increased by 17.5 per cent, reaching RM184.8 billion as compared to RM157.3 billion in February 2021. Exports increased by 16.8 per cent to RM102.3 billion in February 2022. Imports amounted at RM82.5 billion rose by 18.4 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y). The trade balance remained in surplus at RM19.8 billion with an increase of 10.7 per cent compared with last year.

In comparison to January 2022, total trade, exports and imports decreased by 9.2 per cent, 7.9 per cent and 10.8 per cent, respectively. In contrary, trade surplus recorded a positive growth of 6.6 per cent.

For the period of January to February 2022, the performance of total trade, exports, imports and trade surplus remained resilient with double-digit growth. The total trade went up by 21.4 per cent supported by the expansion in exports (+20.4%) as well as imports (+22.6%). Consequently, trade surplus recorded a higher value of RM38.3 billion.

A. EXPORTS

Export Performance Remained Strong in February 2022, Grew by 16.8 per cent y-o-y

1. Performance of Exports

Malaysia's exports was recorded at RM102.3 billion, increased by 16.8 per cent as compared to February 2021. The increase was driven by both domestic exports and re-exports. Domestic exports stood at RM84.2 billion and contributed 82.4 per cent to total exports, grew by 17.9 per cent. On the same note, re-exports with a value of RM18.0 billion, grew by 11.7 per cent y-o-y. Meanwhile, for monthly comparison, exports fell by 7.9 per cent or RM8.8 billion. Analysis of the seasonally adjusted terms m-o-m, exports increased by 5.2 per cent or RM5.7 billion to RM115.2 billion.

Chart 1 Domestic Exports, Re-Exports (RM billion) and Annual Change (%)

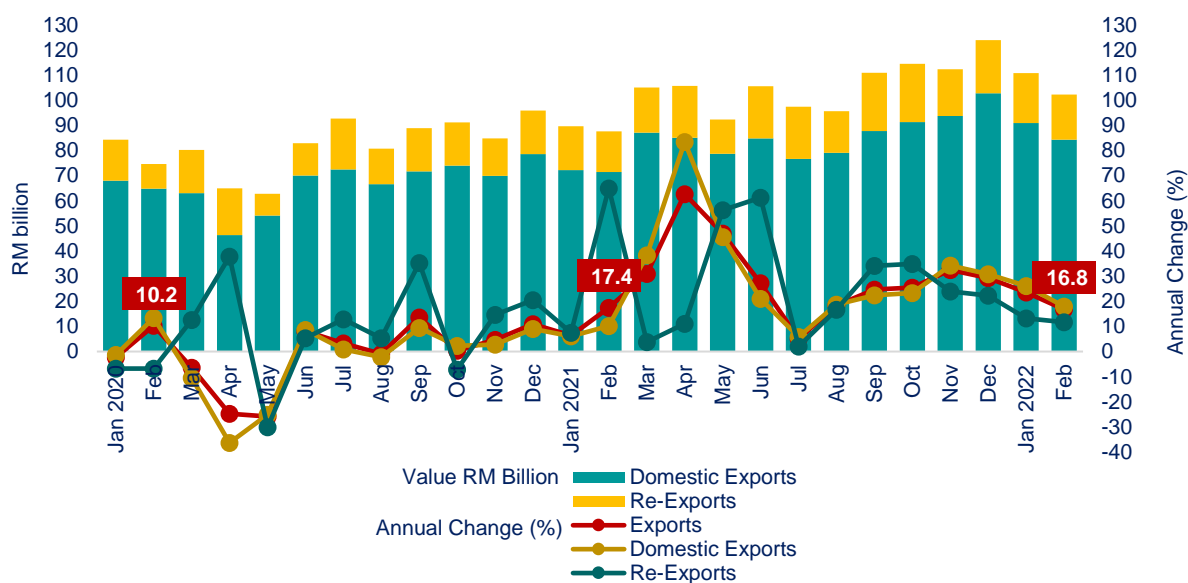
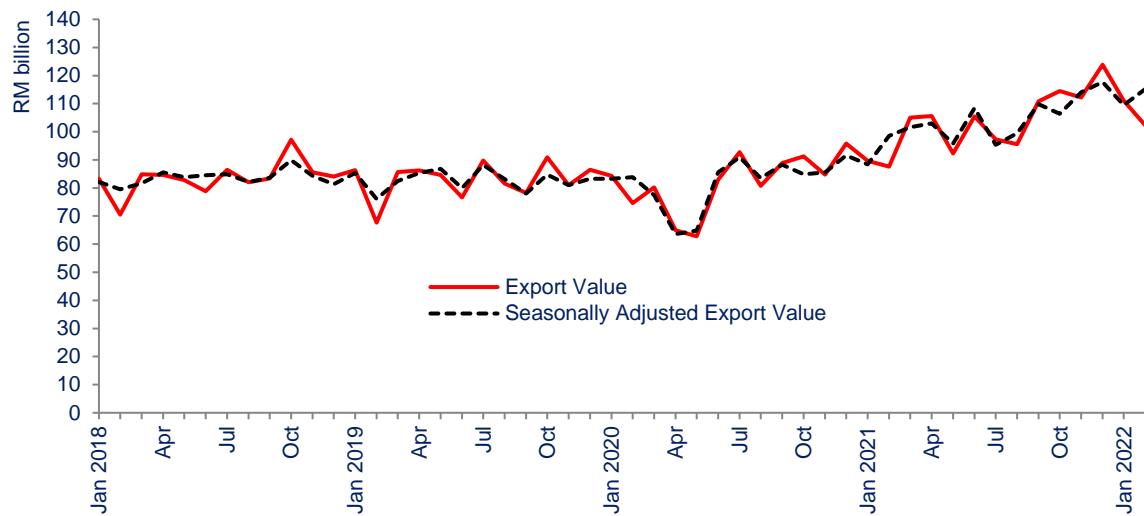


Chart 2 Actual Export Value and Seasonally Adjusted Export Value, RM billion

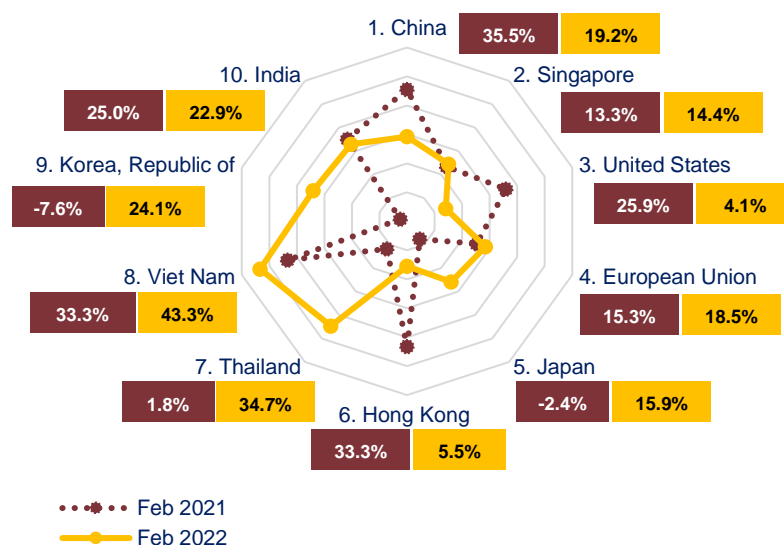
2. Export Performance for Major Country of Destination

China and Singapore were the major country of destinations in February 2022 with a total contribution of 29.1 per cent to Malaysia's exports.

Exports to China with a value of RM15.3 billion, represented 14.9 per cent of total exports, registering an increase of 19.2 per cent or RM2.5 billion, y-o-y. The growth was supported mainly by higher exports in electrical & electronic products (E&E) (+RM1.7 billion, +46.5%) and chemical & chemical products (+RM457.6 million, +34.5%).

Singapore was the second top country of destination in February 2022 with a value of RM14.5 billion and accounted for 14.2 per cent of Malaysia's total exports, grew by 14.4 per cent or RM1.8 billion y-o-y. The expansion was boosted by higher exports of E&E products (+RM1.1 billion, +17.8%); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM275.8 million, +34.0%) and transport equipment (+RM174.9 million, +167.5%).

Out of ten major country of destinations, annual change for eight countries performed double-digit growth.

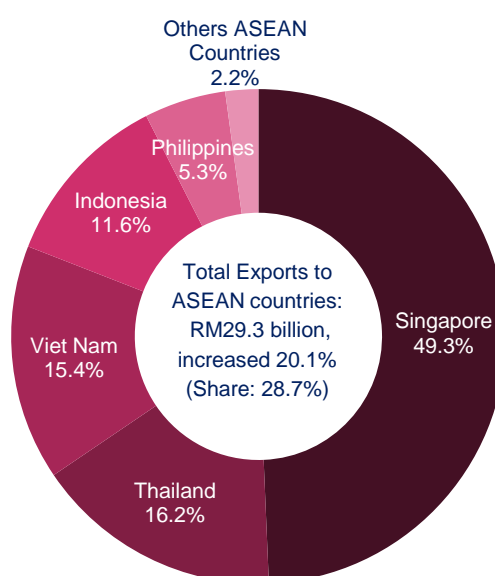
Chart 3 Annual Change of Exports by Major Country of Destination, February 2021 and February 2022

3. Exports to ASEAN Countries

Exports to ASEAN countries in February 2022 represented 28.7 per cent of Malaysia's total exports, expanded by 20.1 per cent y-o-y from RM24.4 billion to RM29.3 billion. This increment was contributed mainly from E&E products as it widened by 25.6 per cent or RM2.3 billion, followed by petroleum products (+RM940.9 million, +26.2%); crude petroleum (+RM456.3 million, +140.9%); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM313.5 million, +20.6%); chemical & chemical products (+RM300.9 million, +14.5%) and palm oil & palm oil-based agriculture products (+RM243.0 million, +69.0%).

Among ASEAN countries, Singapore dominated as country of destination for exports, with a contribution of 49.3 per cent or RM14.5 billion, expanded by 14.4 per cent over the previous year.

Chart 4 Percentage Share of Exports, February 2022

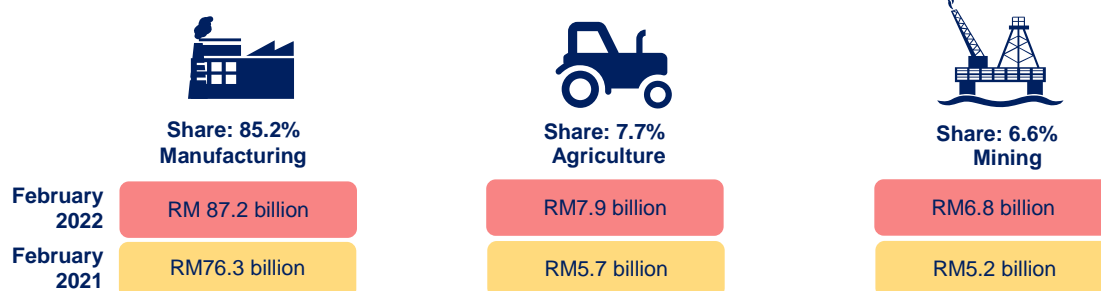


4. Export Performance for Economic Sectors

Exports of manufactured products in February 2022, comprised of 85.2 per cent of total exports, expanded by 14.2 per cent or RM10.8 billion y-o-y to RM87.2 billion. The main contributor to the expansion was E&E products (+RM8.1 billion, +25.8%) followed by chemical & chemical products (+RM1.5 billion, +28.2%); manufacture of metal (+RM1.2 billion, +31.8%) and palm oil & palm oil-based agriculture products (+RM1.2 billion; +56.4%).

Exports of agriculture products, contributed 7.7 per cent of total exports increased by 38.7 per cent from RM5.7 billion in February 2021 to RM7.9 billion. The increase was in accordance with higher exports of palm oil & palm oil-based agriculture products, grew by 58.9 per cent from RM3.9 billion to RM6.3 billion. However, exports of seafood, fresh, chilled or frozen declined RM69.4 million or 33.9 per cent from RM205.0 million.

Meanwhile, exports of mining products which represented 6.6 per cent of total exports recorded a positive growth of 30.7 per cent from RM5.2 billion in previous year to RM6.8 billion. This was supported by higher exports of LNG (+RM1.3 billion, +45.7%) and crude petroleum (+RM234.5 million, +18.4%).

Exhibit 1 Exports by Sector, February 2021 and February 2022**5. Exports of Selected Major Products**








A better annual export performance in February 2022 has been seen in the positive growth of the following products:

- E&E products (38.8% of total exports), expanded by 25.8 per cent (+RM8.1 billion) to RM39.7 billion;
- Palm oil & palm oil-based products (9.2% of total exports) grew by RM3.5 billion (+58.0%) to RM9.5 billion. Exports of palm oil, the major commodity in this group of products rose by RM1.9 billion or 56.8 per cent along with the rise of average unit value (+45.9%) and export volume (+7.5%);
- LNG, accounting for 4.0 per cent of total exports, increased RM1.3 billion or 45.7 per cent consistent with the growth in average unit value (+72.4%). In contrary, export volume of LNG posted a decline of 15.5 per cent;
- Refined petroleum products, which accounted for 6.4 per cent of total exports, rose by RM496.5 million or 8.2 per cent to RM6.6 billion in line with the increase in average unit value (+76.3%). On the other hand, export volume registered a negative growth of 38.7 per cent; and
- Crude petroleum, which constituted 1.5 per cent to total exports grew by RM234.5 million or 18.4 per cent to RM1.5 billion in tandem with the increase in average unit value (+64.4%), while export volume showed a decline (-27.9%).

Nevertheless, exports of the following products decreased:

- Timber and timber-based products, which contributed 1.7 per cent to total exports declined by 7.3 per cent or RM135.9 million to RM1.7 billion; and
- Natural rubber (0.3% of total exports) shrank by RM0.6 million or 0.2 per cent as a result of the decline in export volume (-12.7%). In contrary, average unit value increased by 14.4 per cent.

Exhibit 2 Exports by Selected Major Product, February 2021 and February 2022

Share	 38.8%		 9.2%		 6.4%		 4.0%		 1.7%		 1.5%		 0.3%	
	Electrical and Electronic Products		Palm Oil and Palm Oil-based Products		Refined Petroleum Products		Liquified Natural Gas		Timber and Timber-based Products		Crude Petroleum		Natural Rubber	
	RM billion	y-o-y (%)	RM billion	y-o-y (%)	RM billion	y-o-y (%)	RM billion	y-o-y (%)	RM billion	y-o-y (%)	RM billion	y-o-y (%)	RM billion	y-o-y (%)
February 2022	39.7	+25.8	9.5	+58.0	6.6	+8.2	4.1	+45.7	1.7	-7.3	1.5	+18.4	0.4	-0.2
February 2021	31.5	+25.5	6.0	+10.3	6.1	+37.7	2.8	-19.7	1.9	-5.2	1.3	-24.3	0.4	+14.5

B. IMPORTS

Imports Continued to Expand by 18.4 per cent, Reaching RM82.5 billion in February 2022

1. Performance of Imports

Malaysia's imports in February totaled RM82.5 billion, continued to register a growth of 18.4 per cent or RM12.8 billion. On a m-o-m basis, imports dropped by 10.8 per cent or RM10.0 billion. Analysis of the seasonally adjusted terms m-o-m, imports rose by 0.9 per cent to reach RM92.3 billion.

Imports by end use for three main categories namely intermediate goods, consumption goods and capital goods stood at RM61.6 billion, an increase of 18.9 per cent.

Chart 5 Imports, Value (RM billion) and Annual Change (%)

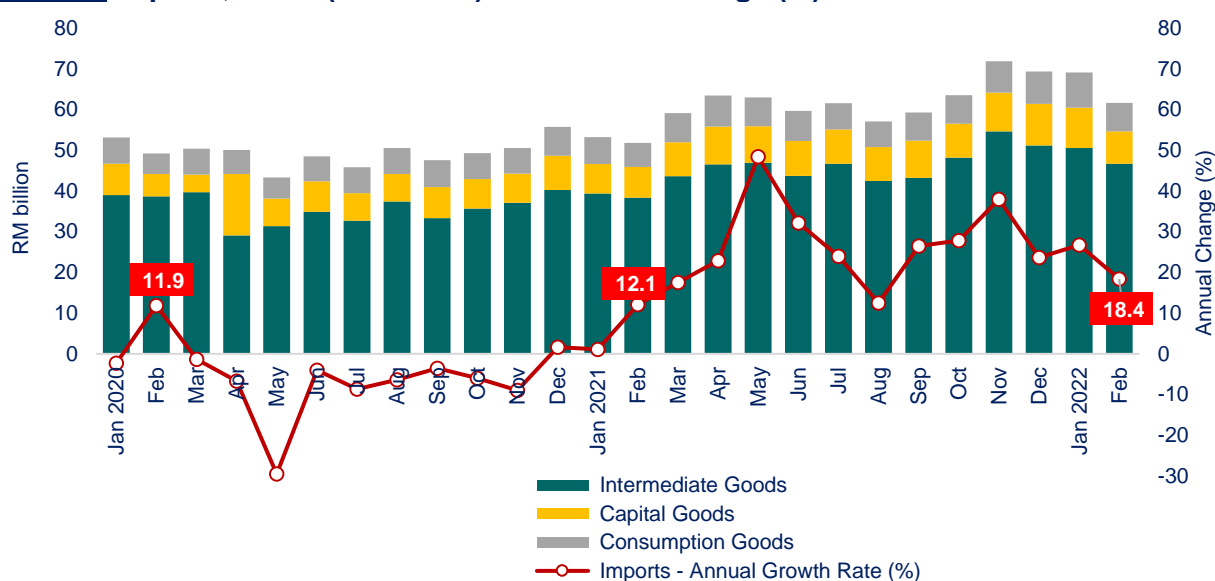
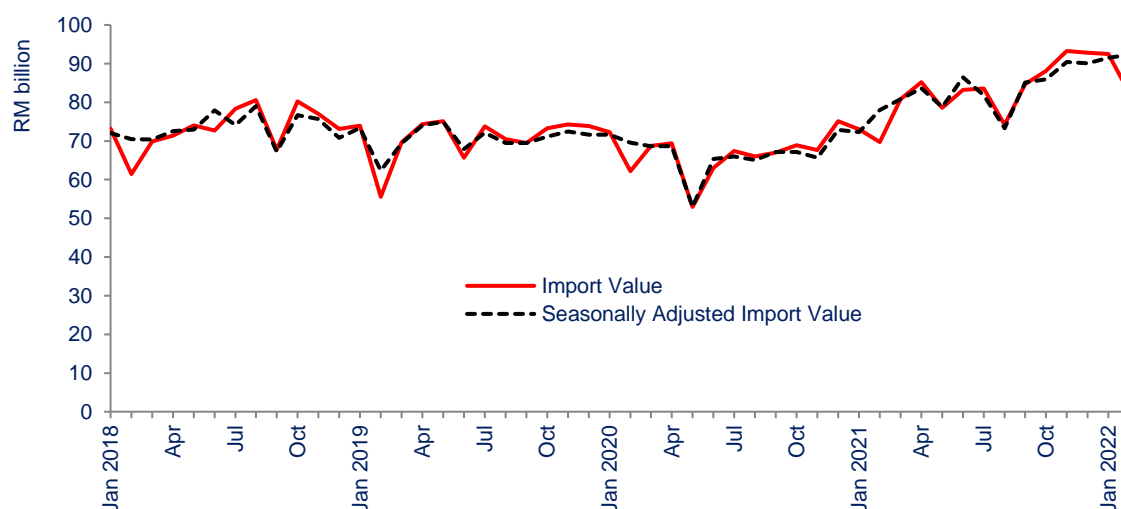


Chart 6 Actual Import Value and Seasonally Adjusted Imports Value, RM billion



2. Import Performance for Major Country of Origin

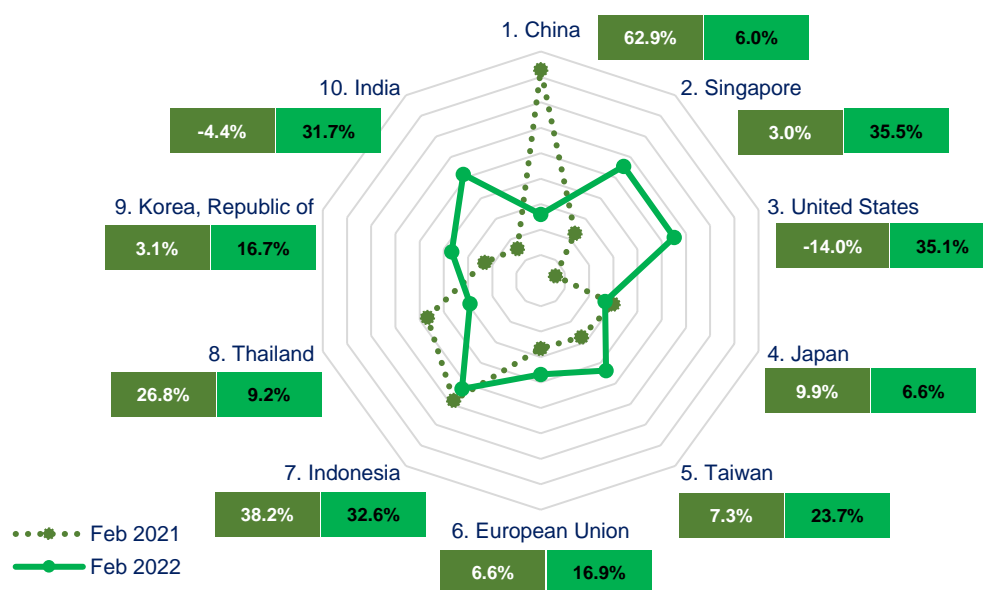
China and Singapore were the two main countries of origin for Malaysia's imports in February 2022, contributed 31.0 per cent to total imports.

Imports from China which represented 20.5 per cent of Malaysia's imports, grew by 6.0 per cent or RM957.5 million to RM16.9 billion. This was contributed mainly by significant growth in imports of E&E products, increased by 13.3 per cent or RM766.6 million, machinery, equipment & parts (+RM549.7 million, +29.8%) and chemical & chemical products (+RM531.8 million, +42.6%).

Imports from Singapore was valued at RM8.7 billion, made up 10.5 per cent of Malaysia's imports, increased by 35.5 per cent or RM2.3 billion y-o-y. The growth was mainly attributed from higher imports of petroleum products (+RM1.3 billion, +96.4%) and E&E products (+RM956.5 million, +49.6%).

Annual change of imports from seven major country of origins recorded double-digit growth. On top of that, China, Japan and Thailand also registered an increase with a small changed.

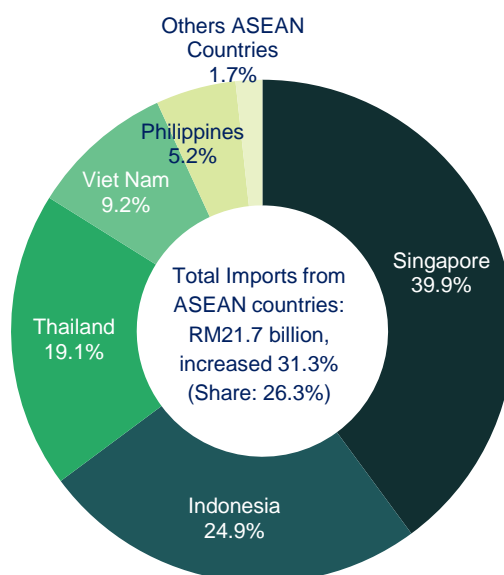
Chart 7 Annual Change of Imports by Major Country of Origin, February 2021 and February 2022



3. Imports from ASEAN Countries

Imports from ASEAN countries in February 2022 were higher by 31.3 per cent, y-o-y to reach RM21.7 billion with a share of 26.3 per cent to total imports. The growth was mainly attributed from higher imports of E&E products (+RM1.2 billion, +31.4%); petroleum products (+RM1.2 billion, +48.5%); palm oil & palm oil-based agriculture products (+RM752.0 million, +116.7%); chemical & chemical products (+RM413.5 million, +31.7%) and metalliferous ores & metal scrap (+RM296.3 million, +358.6%).

Among ASEAN countries of origin, 39.9 per cent of Malaysia's imports was from Singapore, expanded by 35.5 per cent or RM2.3 billion as compared to the previous year.

Chart 8 Percentage Share of Imports, February 2022

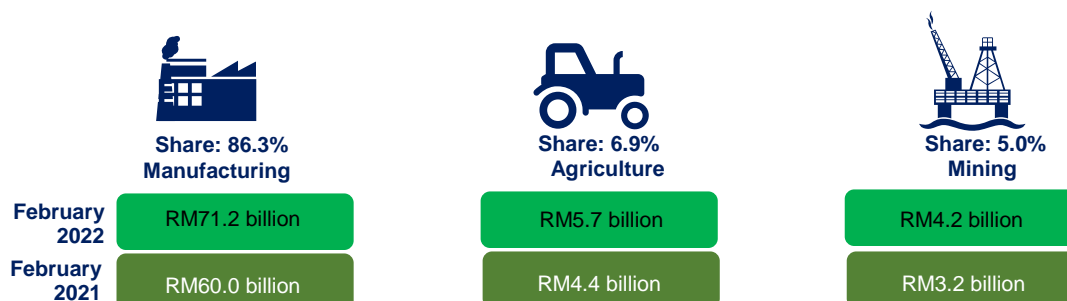
4. Import Performance for Economic Sectors

Expansion in imports was led by higher imports of all main sectors in February 2022.

Manufactured products which constituted 86.3 per cent of total imports, increased by 18.7 per cent from RM60.0 billion to RM71.2 billion y-o-y. This was supported by higher imports of E&E products (+RM4.6 billion, +21.5%); chemical & chemical products (+RM2.0 billion, +30.0%); petroleum products (+RM1.8 billion, +27.9%) and machinery, equipment & parts (+RM1.1 billion, +22.3%).

Imports of agriculture products (6.9% of total imports) expanded by 29.7 per cent or RM1.3 billion y-o-y to RM5.7 billion, underpinned by higher imports of palm oil & palm oil-based agriculture products (+RM771.7 million, +112.1%) and other vegetable oils (+RM244.1 million, +76.6%).

Imports of mining products amounted to RM4.2 billion, increased by 31.3 per cent compared with February 2021 and accounting for 5.0 per cent of Malaysia's total imports. It was supported by higher import of coal, expanded by 78.7 per cent or RM698.5 million.

Exhibit 3 Imports by Sector, February 2021 and February 2022

5. Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification

Total imports in February 2022 was valued at RM82.5 billion, rose by 18.4 per cent y-o-y. The three main categories of imports by End Use which accounted for 74.7 per cent of total imports were:

Intermediate goods, was valued at RM46.7 billion or 56.6 per cent of total imports, increased by 21.8 per cent on account of higher imports of parts & accessories of capital goods (except transport equipment) (+RM3.7 billion, +31.3%); industrial supplies, processed (+RM1.6 billion, +9.8%); food & beverages, processed, mainly for industries (+RM947.7 million, +77.5%); parts & accessories of transport equipment (+RM672.5 million, +31.0%) and fuel & lubricants, primary (+RM647.0 million, +38.9%);

Consumption goods, amounted to RM7.0 billion (8.5% of total imports), recorded an increase of 18.3 per cent, resulting from higher imports of food & beverages, processed, mainly for household consumption (+RM556.8 million, +34.0%); non-durables goods (+RM379.7 million, +28.0%) and semi-durables goods (+RM254.4 million, +28.3%); and

Capital goods, stood at RM7.9 billion (9.6% of total imports) grew by 4.4 per cent, attributable to the higher imports of capital goods (except transport equipment) (+RM350.1 million, +5.0%). In contrast, transport equipment, industrial was declined by RM18.8 million or 3.5 per cent.