



## Services of maritime transport of goods and their contribution to the achievement of economic growth in Algeria

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Abstract ;	Article info
<p><i>The role of the maritime transportation sector in the economic and social development of every country cannot be overlooked or underestimated. The growth and prosperity achieved in this sector have a ripple effect on all other sectors. Thus, there is a strong correlation between the growth of this sector and the overall economic activity of the country. This is reflected in the significant contribution that this sector makes to the gross domestic product (GDP) and in increasing the financial returns to the state, whether directly or indirectly.</i></p>	<p>Received 12/06/2023</p>
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## **1. Introduction**

Economic advancement and recession are one of the most important features of the development or deterioration of countries, where some countries, whether leading or developing, usually resort to diversifying their economies in various fields and sectors of trade in order to diversify their sources of revenue, which makes them a haven from natural crises or resulting from behaviors that may plague them in the international market, and, rail transport or sea transport The latter, according to the latest studies, accounts for 80% of the volume of international trade, as it exceeds other areas of transport due to the adoption of marketing services within its methods, maritime transport makes it the best means of trade exchange desirable for various economic operators in all countries in order to diversify revenues and achieve significant growth in the economy.

Like the rest of the world, Algeria continues maritime transport services by harnessing resources for this purpose, especially in light of international agreements concluded with partners and customers or between friendly and brotherly countries in order to achieve desired gains, especially in the economic field, given the increasing demand to become the first space for trade exchange and a desirable alternative for various dealers to export or import various goods and services, and since it allows the provision of flexible services that encourage exchange Thanks to the success of marketing services and the preference of maritime transport over other means, the process inevitably leads to the creation of more job positions that are employed in order to achieve greater revenues during future business operations by increasing the volume of exchanges and creating a larger commercial traffic that necessarily leads to a larger movement of capital to achieve better

Diversification of the economy what it would not be without marketing. And so we are in front of the next problem:

### **Problematic:**

To what extent do maritime cargo transportation services contribute to achieving economic growth in Algeria?

### **Importance of study:**

The topic of maritime transport is of great importance in the economy in general, both in the world and at the level of Algeria in particular, and this is highlighted by our article in determining the importance of maritime transport services in strengthening the national economy, achieving economic growth due to Algeria's important location that enables it to activate foreign trade (movement of goods and maritime navigation), and to show the extent of the contribution of Algerian port services to the transfer of this trade.

### **Study objectives:**

This study is aimed at achieving the following goals:

- Familiarization with the conceptual framework of maritime cargo transportation services ;
- Highlighting the extent to which maritime cargo transportation services contribute to achieving economic growth in Algeria.

### **The first axis: the general framework of maritime transport services**

Maritime transport plays an active role in the economies of developed and developing countries, especially those that have natural and economic components to practice this activity, through the services it provides in the field of cargo transportation by sea.

#### **2-what is maritime transport**

**2.1 definition of transportation** : although the issue of Transportation is clear at first glance in terms of its significance, but its definitions varied and differed by specialists and several definitions were given to it: (in Javanese, 2021-2022, page 28)

Transport can be expressed as that economic activity, which, through its various means, reduces the temporal and spatial dimensions of individuals and goods in order to create, increase or develop benefits ;

Transport is defined as a service that produces a benefit in time and space that ensures the movement of people and goods on a vehicle designed for this purpose and for an acceptable distance ;

It serves as a system of movement of individuals and goods using the necessary facilities and means in order to achieve and facilitate their movement from one place to another.

**2.2 maritime transport:** There are many definitions of the term maritime transport in the economic literature, most of which agree that transportation is an integrated process that includes the movement of goods and production elements such as labor and capital.

He defined maritime transport as the movement of people and things from one place to another and explained that it represents one of the important activities at each stage of the development of civilization, as defined by Bonavia, he explained that it represents a part of the general structure of economic phenomena and its main function is to create spatial utility by transporting goods and services from its marginal utility is weak in other areas where its marginal utility is relatively high (Al-Amin, 2016 )

Maritime transport is defined as an economic industry based on a precise technological system in which the level of the industry of transport products and the level of operation of these products determine how to manage them to achieve the greatest benefit for other sectors of the economy; (ASSONGBA, 2014, p. 18)

Maritime transport can be defined through the main axes that contribute to the provision of maritime transport services, including the ship and its construction yards, brokers who work in the field of providing maritime transport services, as well as ports, shipping and unloading companies and related activities of transportation and storage, in addition to marine insurance companies, the definition of maritime transport can be expanded to include all shipping directly or indirectly; (Khadidja, 2017, p. 14)

**3. the importance of maritime transport:** Maritime transport is an important means of transport in general and international transport in particular, as it has many features that have gained it great economic importance. besides its contribution to the flow of the movement of goods and passengers, we find it plays a fundamental role in achieving the economic development of countries that have the availability of the necessary natural and economic components to practice maritime transport activity, and maritime transport is closely related to the movement of foreign trade because it represents the main pillar of the basic and infrastructure base for the development and development of exports and imports between different countries of the world, therefore, the more the means of transportation and ports of loading and unloading are developed and improved, the more traffic It is also considered a complement to other sectors by contributing to the achievement of revenues and determining the value of goods and services on both the supply and demand sides .maritime transport also contributes to improving capital formation and the balance of payments. (Curator, 2016, Page 27).

#### **4. Maritime cargo transportation service**

**4.1 service concept:** service is defined as "that intangible activity that is provided to the user and aims to satisfy his needs and desires.

It is also defined as "an activity, achievement or benefit provided by one party to another party that is essentially intangible and does not result in any ownership, and its production or provision may or may not be related to a tangible physical product"; (obediently, 2014-2015, P. 3)

"This process may be related to a physical product, but it is of a transitional nature, often intangible, and is not a result of owning one of the means of production," she also defined. (Obediently, 2014 - 2015)

#### **4.2 components of the maritime transport service**

the maritime transport activity consists of several elements that contribute to the success of providing transport service for goods and passengers on regular and irregular liner.

**marine vessels:** the vessel is the main axis around which the elements of maritime transport and related services revolve, and it is also considered the main customer of seaports, and the following are the most important types of vessels that maritime navigation has known in recent years: (Rahman, 2019, page 63)

Tanker ships are specialized in transporting a single commodity such as oil and its derivatives or natural gas, and these ships have several expandable tanks and tanks, in order to counteract the expansion of the liquid during high temperature.

**Custom cargo ships casting javnavires pour Vrac Sec :** They are ships that are intended for the transportation of bulk cargo such as grain, coal and sand, and these ships consist of docks not exceeding ten in number.

**Porte Conteneurs container ships:** are specialized vessels designed for vertical unloading, and their use has spread because of the safety and speed features they carry in handling goods, the use of a container leads to ensuring the transported goods from damage, and reduces breakage accidents transported by sea.

**Navires Ro-Ro ou Rouliers :** these ships are for horizontal unloading operations, and this is indicated by the name of these ships in English Roll on – roll off, that is, the goods are shipped by towing or rolling, and in the same way the unloading process takes place, and the loading and unloading of goods is carried out directly through wide, multiple doors connected by transit bridges, and one of the most important uses of these ships over short distances is the transportation of passengers and their cars .

**the Seaport :** It is a place that provides facilities and preparations for transferring goods and passengers to and from ships on a regular basis .it is also a place on the shore equipped with equipment for transferring goods to and from ships. it can be defined as an assembly and distribution center. it is also a production unit that serves maritime navigation and international trade by providing them with services and facilities and providing

the necessary capabilities and equipment for cargo handling. it also helps travelers by enabling them to board and land from and to ships. (Al-Serafi, 2020, page 13)

**auxiliary activities:** in order for the activity of ships and the port to be completed, additional activities must be provided that are directly related to the maritime transport process., 2016, Page 41)

For charging and discharging: charging et Décharging

The word cargo means the set of operations aimed at transporting goods from the berth and arranging them in the holds of the ship, while the word unloading means the set of operations aimed at loading goods by transferring them from the ship to the berth .

Le storage operations: goods are usually subject to temporary storage at the port, until completion

All customs, administrative procedures, and waiting warehouses are located directly on the pier, as they contain many wide doors, and it is advisable to determine their places after a thorough study

that requires knowledge of the unloading and shipping methods to which the goods of that pier are exposed, in addition to the characteristics of the moored ship<sup>6</sup>

The role of transit agents de Transit: it has become necessary to rely on transportation services carried out through specialized brokers and companies, which allows completing export and import procedures, customs procedures, inspections and packaging of goods in the fastest time and at the lowest costs.

## **The second axis: the contribution of maritime cargo transportation services to achieving economic growth in Algeria**

### **First: the activities of the Algerian ports**

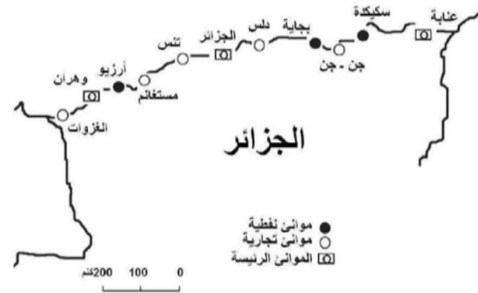
#### **1.presentation about the Algerian ports service**

Maritime transport is the oldest means of navigation used in the history of mankind, from boats and sailing ships to steamships and fleets .For the latter, Algeria pays special attention to the development of the maritime transport service, as this sector is classified as one of the sectors supporting the economy and due to its direct link with trade and international trade, the Algerian state, in its policy to promote the national economy, is working to develop the sector.

Algeria has a coastal strip with a total length of 1,200 km, overlooking 11 commercial ports, namely the port of Algiers /dels, the port of Annaba, the port of arzio, the port of Bejaia, the port of Djen Djen, the port of ghazouat, the port of Mostaganem, the port of Oran, the port of Skikda, and the port of tennis . There are three ports specialized in oil (Arzew, Skikda and Bejaia), the rest of the ports are multifunctional.

They are distributed on the northern Strip overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, which makes it a pioneer in the field of trade exchanges, which makes ports through their various public activities and maritime transport in particular one of the pillars of the national economy away from hydrocarbons, and marine fishing is one of the advantages of the coast where steamers and private and public vessels are used in navigation, fishing and transportation, in addition, Algerian ports can receive tons and establish berthing areas for ships and intervene in case of need by sea transport, in reference to the diversity of maritime transport services.

Figure .1. represents the map of commercial ports in Algeria



Source: Fatima Zahra Mohamed Cherif, Fawzia rumini, Algerian ports a difficult transformation in their management, Journal of North African Economics - seventh issue, P .167.

## 2. port shipping, unloading and insurance services:

### 2.1 loading and unloading in Algerian ports

In order to carry out the sea transportation process, the cargo needs to be shipped, stacked and unloaded in a good way, so the sea carrier urgently needs the services of specialized people in this, especially in the face of the increase in tonnage in our time, the good implementation of loading and unloading operations reduces the long wait at the pier, which leads to an increase in expenses and ‘

According to the national shipping companies, it is possible to read the sea freight (sea transport) in Algeria, the number of ships in ports waiting for docking, the size of the costs of fines for delays (ports and containers) and the status of Algerian ports, which is characterized by its age and lack of modern handling equipment (conventional cranes) and the unsuitability of the port infrastructure with large-sized container ships, shipping with containers and direct sea line. (Madani, 2021, page 560)

Table 1. movement of Algerian ports (sea transport) years 2018-2019-2020

2020	2019	2018	The years
15.21	15.21	15.21	Transport traffic at container ports

Source:

<https://data.albankaldawli.org/indicator/IS.SHP.GOOD.TU?end=2020&locations=DZ&start=2000&view=chart>

Comment about the table: the previous table represents the movement of Algerian ports of shipped and unloaded goods, as well as hydrocarbons, noting that from 2018 the value of goods amounted to an estimated surplus of 1032,000 million, to decrease in 2019 to 688.500 million, but in 2020 it reached 724.991 million, and this decrease in 2019 is due to the outbreak of the corona pandemic in the country.

**Fig.2. traffic at container ports in Algeria**



**Source:**

<https://data.albankaldawli.org/indicator/IS.SHP.GOOD.TU?end=2020&locations=DZ&start=2000&view=chart>

It is noted that maritime transport has undergone significant transformations in recent years, especially in the field of containerized cargo transportation, where two container terminals will receive international standards and with an additional processing capacity estimated at four million units equivalent to twenty feet, and the container terminals of “Gen Gen” and”Oran” will ensure a submersible of up to 18 meters soon for Gen Gen and 14 meters for the container terminal overlooking the Mediterranean Sea as Malta, Barcelona, Marseille..Mr. jaloul said that these two terminals will inevitably significantly reduce the cost of shipping exports And imports.

A new iron and Steel Pier has also been completed at the port of Arzew and has been put into operation, he added that this pier currently allows for the first time to process cargo ships with 170 thousand tons at a rate of 40 thousand tons per day, i.e. with an efficiency equivalent to the most efficient ports in the world, he said.

This infrastructure provides economic operators, especially in the steel industry, with comparative advantages that make them more competitive on the international market, all in order to reach the ceiling of one billion dollars of exports by the end of 2022.

In addition, the port services complex launched the acquisition of five cranes for the amount of 16 million euros in order to increase exports of construction materials, especially cement, at each of the four ports of Jinn, Annaba, Skikda and Oran.



The Algerian port quality system “APCs” has also been put into operation by directly digitizing the process of cargo transit through the ports and reducing the duration of their stay, as the docking period of ships has moved from 4 days to 5 hours.

## 2.2 insurance in Algerian ports

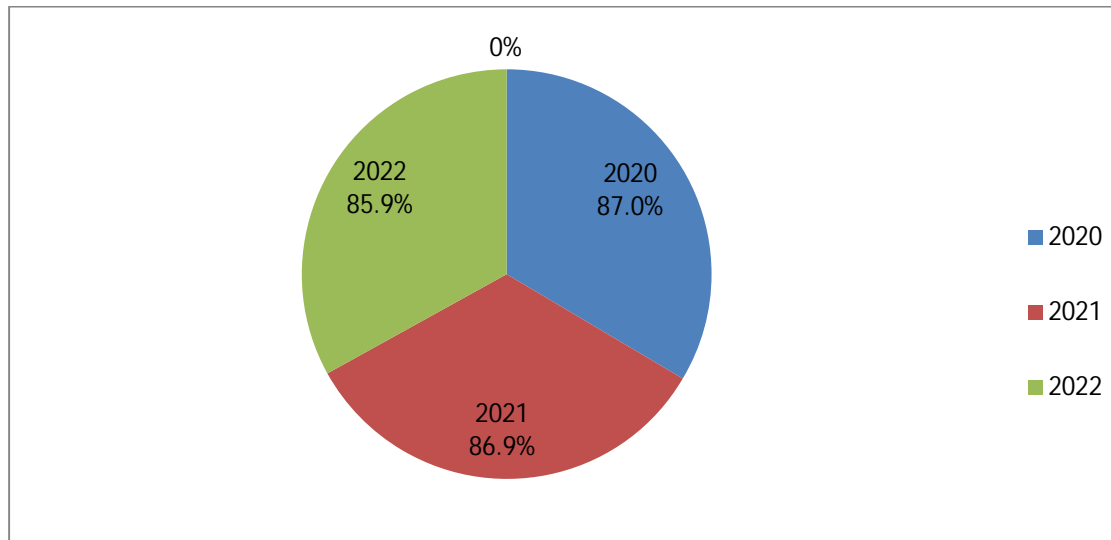
Based on the principle of insurance, it can be defined as " an economic means by which a large potential loss can be replaced by a small one, Algerian ports may resort to imposing restrictions on insurance of their economy in general and insurance in Algerian ports in particular, although marine insurance on products has economic benefits through increasing production, preserving exploited wealth, combating inflation, balancing the balance of payments, securing a means of capital formation, in addition to securing a means of credit, and there is no doubt that export or import insurance operations, in particular, have a positive aspect that contributes to covering the calculated and other calculated Especially since marine cargo insurance plays a vital and important role in economic development, which leads to the achievement of the desired ambitions, and until the role of the maritime transport sector is activated, therefore, it is necessary to allocate assistants assigned to conclude insurance contracts from importers, to raise the turnover of the maritime transport branch and the insurance sector in general and not to drain hard currency, through which the importer has the right to claim compensation in case of danger, in return, he has the right to receive insurance premiums. (Al-Zahraa, 2020, pages 21-22)

**Table 2. maritime transport insurance in Algeria 2020-2021 -2022.**

2022				2021				2020				Year
4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	<b>Transport insurance rates %</b>
7	5	6	7	5	6	7	6	5	4	5	5	
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
8	6	7	0	2	2	0	9	7	5	8	9	

**Source :** LE SECTEUR ALGERIEN DES ASSURANCES Notes Statistiques, conseil national des assurances, LE MARCHE ALGERIEN DES ASSURANCES EN 2020-2021-2022.

**Figure. 3. represents the transport insurance ratios for the 4th tranche during the years 2020-2021-2022.**



### **3. strategies and mechanisms of Algeria in the service of the maritime transport sector**

Algeria has adopted a plan to support economic growth since 2004 to the present day, and has turned in particular to the maritime transport sector (both port infrastructure and the maritime fleet) because of its key role in the development of foreign trade and diversification

According to the Ministry of transport, the percentage of Algerian exports transported through ports has been set at 93% of total exports (including hydrocarbons and others), which is estimated at more than 97% of Algerian exports, and among the most important strategies adopted, we mention:

The aim is to improve the relationship with foreign partners: by providing the national ports sector with a new maritime safety management system as well as information exchange, With the aim of encouraging national dealers and foreign partners with legal mooring of ships without Discriminatory practices and the flow of their goods safely and at lower costs.

The problem of introducing human resources management in Algerian ports: port research has highlighted the importance of technological progress in improving its performance, however, we should mention a large part of the inefficiency of ports is the result of poor human resources management, such as an increase in the number of employees, their incompetence and lack of skills, due to their failure to subject them to appropriate training and training policies, and this is what Algeria is working to remedy.

Development of the Algerian ports network: this port network requires the inclusion of a maritime system aimed at developing and modernizing the transport infrastructure and communication between ports and inland cities (railways)in addition to the development of internal roads and terminals, especially those concerned with the movement and shipping routes of containers.

These areas can also provide many necessary services to improve the chain of port activities, near the completion of a new commercial port between the cities of dellys (boumerdes) and tennies (Chlef). these areas can also provide many necessary services to improve the chain of port activities, near the completion of a new commercial port between the cities of dellys (boumerdes) and tennies (Chlef).

The aim of this modernization is to rid Algeria of its dependence on neighboring ports for its commercial supplies, and among the most important international companies interested in this partnership: the French company CMA-CGM Portuguese, Spanish and Chinese. As an actual step, the Ministry of Transport has approved the opening of the Oran port administration to foreign operators.

Within the strategy set by the higher authorities of the country to provide the maritime transport sector with 28 steamers and ships in the horizons of 2030, maritime transport will be supported by 7 new steamers, including a passenger steamer( China intervenor industry )before the end of 2020, along with 2 new cargo and container ships.

## **Second: the economic importance of maritime transport services**

To achieve economic growth, especially in developing countries, it is necessary to pay attention to transport services through various economic variables that form the general framework necessary to raise the rates of economic performance of the state.

Which we mention:

- The foreign trade sector.
- Improvement of the balance of payments position.
- The phenomena of specialization and division of Labor.

## **4. the relationship between maritime transport services and foreign trade:**

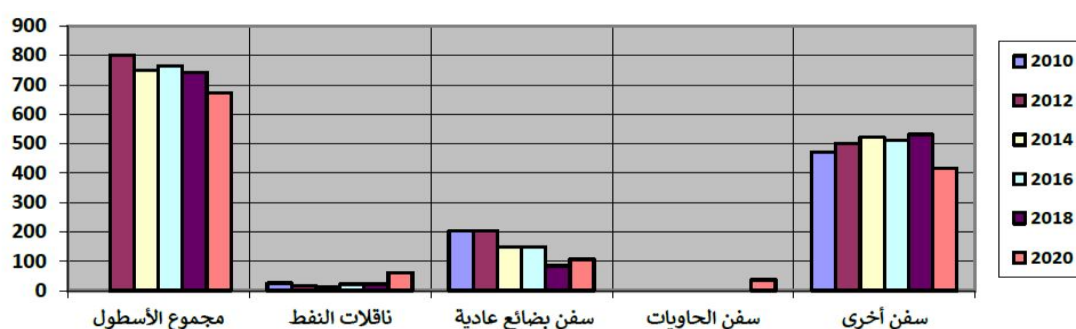
Good control of maritime transport services is one of the most important conditions to facilitate the movement of foreign trade of the state, whether by its exports or imports, as the presence of state-owned vessels on a certain shipping line works to encourage and develop its exports, export activity does not depend on providing a good product only, but goes beyond it to its abundance and an acceptable price, in addition, it is considered a link between Algeria and the outside world, and like other developing countries, Algeria has sought to follow independent development policies to strengthen. Its foreign trade

Table 3. maritime transport sector in Algeria (ship disappearance) for the period 2010-2020

Years	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020
Total fleet	764.563	801.588	748,732	763,373	742,63	673,4
Oil tankers	25,105	17,156	12.157	22.15	22.55	62.1
Ordinary cargo ships	204.253	204.28	149,594	149,594	84,896	105,7
Container ships	/	/	/	/	/	36,5
Other ships	470,16	500,446	521,175	511,852	531,157	415,7

**Source:** Sharifi Fatiha, mukhfi Amin, logistics and raising the performance of the international maritime cargo transportation services sector the case of Algeria period (2010-2020), Journal of Economics and environment, Vol .05, No. 02, October 2022, P. 495.

Figure. 3. transport by ship types in Algeria



**Source:** Sharifi Fatiha, mukhfi Amin, logistics and raising the performance of the international maritime cargo transportation services sector the case of Algeria period (2010-2020), Journal of Economics and environment, Vol .05, No. 02, October 2022, P. 495.

**Comment:** commercial ports are the main gateway for the preparation of maritime transport in Algeria, so there are ports dedicated to the export of hydrocarbons such as the port of Arzew, Bejaia and Skikda, while the ports of Algiers, Oran and Annaba are considered ports of multiple activities, including the transportation of passengers by sea to France and Spain. the maritime fleet includes 47 sea vessels, including 17 oil tankers and 13 liquid gas tankers, 11 of which for the transportation of chemicals and petroleum, and 6 for the transportation of passengers to and from Algeria and Europe

as well as the transportation of goods. While river transport is non-existent due to the lack of navigable waterways.

#### 4.2 the relationship of shipping services to the balance of payments

The relationship between the maritime transport service and the balance of payments is expressed through the influence of the navigational balance on the balance of current transactions . the more the country expands its naval fleet, the more it is in favor of its balance of payments, and thereby works to bring foreign currency or abundance in the use of foreign currency, as it works to transfer National foreign trade with its fleet and thus works to save the currencies that it would have paid if this transfer was carried out via foreign ships on the one hand, and on the other hand brings foreign currency when transported to other trade by its national maritime fleet; (Saida, 2015, p.82).

According to the Algerian news agency, the total balance of the balance of payments in Algeria during the first nine months of 2022 recorded a "significant" surplus of 11,830 billion dollars against a deficit of 2,477 billion dollars at the end of September 2021, and the trade balance during the first nine months of 2022 recorded a surplus of 18,06 billion dollars against a deficit of 790 million dollars in the same period of 2021;

Exports of hydrocarbons at the end of September 2022 recorded a significant increase by USD 18.48 billion compared to the same period in 2021, moving from USD 24.10 billion to USD 42.58 billion;

Imports of goods recorded a slight increase of USD 898 million (3.21+ %) during the first nine months of 2022, compared to the same period of the previous year, moving from USD 27.97 billion to USD 28.87 billion at the end of September 2022. (Algerian news agency)

**Table 4. evolution of the balance of payments in Algeria 2020- 2021- 2022**

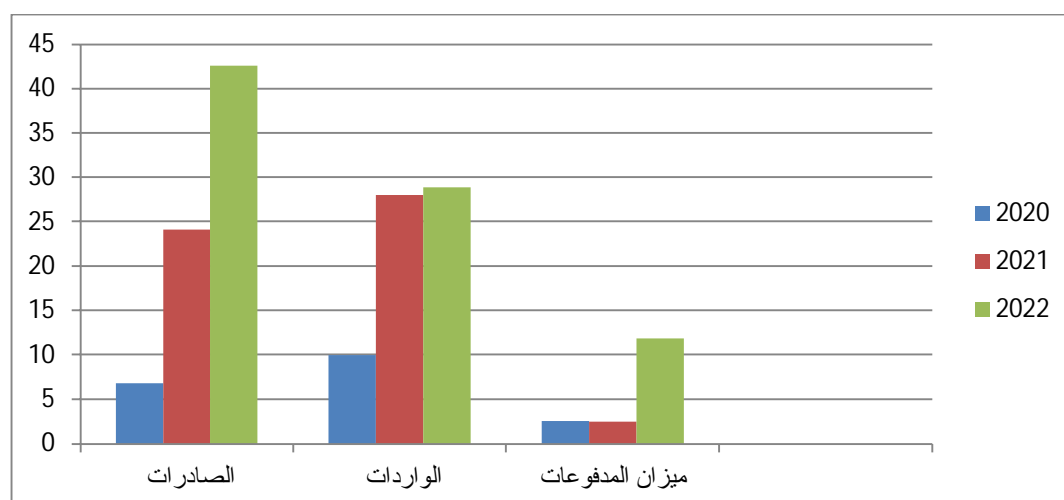
Unit: one billion dollars

2022	2021	2020	
42.58	24.10	6.755	Exports
28.87	27.97	9.958	Imports
11.830	2.477	2.5	Balance of payments

**Source:** Algerie presse service ((Algerian Press Agency

<https://www.aps.dz/ar/economie/88092-57>

Figure. 4. represents the development of the trade balance during the years 2020-2021-2022



**Comment:** we note from the table and the figure that in 2022 we achieved a surplus in the balance of payments and in the rate of exports and imports, and this increase is due to the improvement of the country's situation significantly, as stated by the central bank, without concealing to us the increase in the rate of exports due to the significant rise in oil and gas prices.

- As for the balance of payments deficit that the country has been hit by, the results of the National Bank highlighted that due to the coronavirus health crisis and the collapse of oil prices, according to the bank, the necessary measures for quarantine and social distancing by freezing some activities, especially commercial services, will have a definite impact on the expected annual growth, however, he considered that the resilience of the national economy is enhanced by the monetary and budgetary measures seized by the public authorities.

#### **4.3 the relationship of maritime transport services between the level of employment and labor diversification.**

The maritime transport sector in Algeria contributes to the creation of job opportunities, both at the level of ships and at the level of activities complementary to the maritime transport activity, such as loading and unloading..This sector is characterized as a sector that creates jobs without requiring the establishment of a national commercial fleet, as the labor market in the maritime transport sector employs maritime labor in the country on foreign ships, and therefore this activity enables the public and Algeria in particular to: (Ali, 2014, p. 78)

The aim is to increase employment opportunities and create new entry-level positions that exert their influence on supply and demand'

The possibility of hiring such workers if a national commercial fleet is established after gaining the necessary experience and skill in this field, which leads to raising the efficiency of the services provided by the established fleet.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Through this article related to maritime transport services in Algeria, we have concluded that the maritime transport service is the main axis of trade in transported goods with the type and size of the ship and the efficiency of ports, in addition to salt and commercial services organizations, as it has a very important role in promoting foreign trade and economic growth, it affects production and distribution, and this is due to the geographical location enjoyed by Algerian ports, as the bulk of these international trade exchanges are through the maritime transport sector by more than 80%, and for Algeria, compared to the importance of the maritime transport sector and services in promoting and diversifying the country's foreign trade, and this sector occupies More than 90% in the completion and completion of the details of exports and imports, it contributes to the achievement of the principle of division of Labor .

#### **Results:**

International maritime transport occupies an important and effective role in the prosperity and development of international trade.

The excellent service, good construction and management of Algerian ports revitalize its economy.

Maritime transport services are the foundation of the global economy and are the strategic corridor for achieving Comprehensive and sustainable development.

Interest in maritime transport is increasing as a result of trade liberalization, and seaports are one of the main determinants in the maritime transport chain, their role remains a pioneer in activating the country's Foreign Trade, if their services are improved, and ensure access to the optimal use of available capabilities.

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