

SAUDI ARABIA

Region: Arab States

Income group: High income

Summary: Saudi Arabia has reported 5 metadata sources, which collect information on international labour migration statistics. There are *Population Census*, *Labour Force Survey*, *Establishment Census*, and *Annual Establishment Survey* and estimation, all of which are carried out by the Central Department of Statistics and Information (CDSI).

Geographically all the sources cover whole country. The statistics on the following population groups are available:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country (covered by the Population Census, the Labour Force Survey, and the Estimation);*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country (covered by the Population Census, the Labour Force Survey, and the Estimation);*
- *Nationals (citizens) living abroad (covered by the Labour Force Survey);*
- *Nationals (citizens) living and working abroad (covered by the Population Census);*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Population Census, the Labour Force Survey, and the Estimation);*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Population Census, the Labour Force Survey, and the Estimation) and*
- *Refugees (covered by the Population Census and the Estimation)*

Periodicity of data collection varies depending on the type of sources. The *Population Census* was last processed in 2010; the *Labour Force Survey* has been carried out every six months from 1999; the *Establishment Census* was last processed in 2010 and has been held every ten years since 1968; the *Annual Establishment Survey* has been carried out every year from 1970; and the *Estimation* is held on yearly basis since 1974.

Age coverage also varies depending on the type of sources. In the *Labour Force Survey*, persons aged 15 years and older are examined. The *Estimation* is applied to persons of all ages.

The three essential demographic characteristics covered by all the sources except establishment census and survey are age, sex, and household size. Additionally, data on marital status and education attainment is examined in the Census and the Estimation. Data on household composition can be found in the Estimation.

International migration characteristic covered by all the sources except the Census is nationality. The question on country of citizenship is asked in the *Population Census* and the *Labour Force Survey*. Data on foreign workers in the country can be found in the *Labour Force Survey* and the *Estimation*. The *Estimation* also generates data on country of birth. Other international migration statistics found in the *Census* and *Labour Force Survey* include information of household members who left to live abroad. The *Census* also collects information on return migrants.

Labour related characteristics that can be found in the *Population Census* and the *Labour Force Survey*. The *Estimation* include employment status, occupation, and status in employment. Additionally, the *Census* measures data on disability; the *Labour Force Survey* collects data on industry/economic sector, individual earnings per month, and hours usually worked; and the *Estimation* generates industrial/economic sector and individual/household income. The *Annual Establishment Survey* asks questions on status in employment and wage rate.

Definitions of “*international migrant workers*”, “*short-term migrant workers*”, “*employment*”, and “*wages*” are applied in the sources. The definition of “*employment*” in the *Labour Force Survey* is the standard ILO definition.

The classifications used for occupation, industry, status in employment, and education in the sources are internationally and nationally adapted, except to the Estimation where the classifications are not applied.

Micro data files from the surveys are unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

Metadata sources:

Type of source	Name of the source	Agency Responsible	Periodicity of data collection	Year the source started	Year of the last source
Q1. Population Census	Population Census	Central Department of Statistics and Information	-	-	2010
Q2. Household Survey	Labour Force Survey	Central Department of Statistics and Information	Every six months	1999	-
Q4. Establishment Census	Establishment Census	Central Department of Statistics and Information	Every ten years	1968	2010
Q5. Establishment Survey	Annual Establishment Survey	Central Department of Statistics and Information	Annually	1970	-
Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country	Estimation	Central Department of Statistics and Information	Annually	1974	-

Findings:

The **Central Department of Statistics and Information** carries the **latest Population Census** in 2010 covering the whole country. There are six population groups examined in the Census:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living and working abroad,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Refugees.*

The Census obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size. The question raised in the assessment on the topic of international migration related characteristics is country of citizenship. The Census also contains questions, which help to collect information on immigrants and return migrants such as "Have you ever lived outside the country?" and "when did you arrive in this country?" In addition to the characteristics, the Census asks information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad, such as:

- Name,

- Sex,
- Marital status at present,
- Education at time of leaving,
- Education at present, and
- Employment status at present.

The **Population Census** covers labour related characteristics of all current household members, such as employment status, occupation, status in employment, and disability.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- National adaptation of ISCO
- ISIC rev 4
- ICSE-1993
- ISCED-1997

Micro data is not available for research and analysis outside the agency.

The **Labour Force Survey** commenced in 1999, and is held every six months by the Central Department of Statistics and Information. A completed sample size of the examination is 33,500 households. It geographically measures the whole country and amasses information on the following five population groups aged 15 years and over:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living abroad,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

The Survey obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of each person in a household, such as age, sex, and household size. Statistics on the international migration related characteristics are presented through the source, such as country of citizenship, nationality, and foreign workers in the country. In addition to the characteristics, the survey asks information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad for the last 6 months. For the population groups assessed in the **Labour Force Survey**, the data on labour related characteristics of all current household members aged 15 years and over is available, particularly for:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment,
- Individual earnings per month, and
- Hours usually worked.

In the **Labour Force Survey**, “**employment**” are those who aged 15 and over, during the reference period, were in one of the following actions: 1) worked for a period of at least one hour in exchange for pay or profit (cash or in kind) as employees or owners or self-employed; 2) with the help of others to have at least one hour free of charge in any kind of business or private in one of the members of the family farm. 3) worked for a period of at least one hour for others without pay or profit (cash or in kind) as volunteers. 4) temporarily absent from their work all week because of vacation or illness or for any other reason and will return to it again.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- Saudi classification based on ISCO-88 (where six digits are used to release the data)

- ISIC rev 4 (where four digits are used to release the data)
- ICSE-1993
- Saudi classification based on ISCED-1997

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The *Establishment Census* was last carried out in 2010 by the Central Department of Statistics. The statistics are collected every ten year starting from 1968, geographically covering the whole country. The Census appraises all establishments with at least one worker/employee and covers the following topics for the establishment:

- Industry/economic sector and
- Number of employees.

The question raised in the assessment on the topic of demographic and international migration related characteristics is nationality.

In the *Establishment Census*, "*international migrant workers*" refer to all non-Saudis (foreign) who work in the establishment regardless of full-time (part-time), permanent (temporary), males (female) or income. It includes also workers who have vacations with pay. "*Short-term migrant workers*" are the foreign workers who works part-time job without insurance, salary and be based on a certain percentage of production work regardless of their working time. "*Employment*" refers to all individuals Saudis and non-Saudis who actually work in the establishment in paid or unpaid regardless of full-time (part-time), permanent (temporary), males (female) or income. It includes establishment owners, their relatives, partners, members of the joint-stock companies, and heads of boards of directors and its members, workers who are on leave with pay.

To classify industry ISIC rev 4, where six digits are used to release the data, is applied.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The *Annual Establishment Survey* is carried out annually starting from 1970 by the Central Department of Statistics & Information with a completed sample size of 3%. The survey appraises all establishments with at least one workers/employees and whole country and covers the following topics for the establishment:

- Industry/economic sector,
- Number of employees, and
- Total sales revenue or gross receipts in most recent year available (201x).

The questions raised in the assessment on the topic of demographic and international migration related characteristics are sex and nationality. The survey covers labour related characteristics, such as status in employment and wage rate.

In the *Annual Establishment Survey*, the same definitions of "*international migrant workers*", "*short-term migrant workers*", and "*employment*" as the *Establishment Census* are applied. "*Wages*" refer to periodic cash payments paid by the establishment to employees in exchange for normal working hours including fixed bonuses. To classify industry, ISIC rev 4, where six digits are used to release the data, is applied.

Micro data is not available for research and analysis outside the agency.

The estimation of international migrant workers is made in the Estimation by the Central Department of Statistics & Information on yearly basis, starting from 1974. It geographically measures the whole country and amasses information on the following five population groups of all ages.

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, and*

- *Refugees.*

It accumulates data on demographic characteristics of people, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size, and household composition. The statistics on international migration related characteristics are also obtained, precisely on country of birth, nationality, and foreign workers in the country. Labour related characteristics covered in the estimation are:

- Employment status,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Individual income,
- Occupation,
- Status in employment, and
- Household income.

Q1. Population Census

SOURCE

Title of source: Population Census

Year of last census: 2010

Agency responsible: Central Department of Statistics and Information

COVERAGE

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living and working abroad, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living and working abroad, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of citizenship

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
 - **Country of citizenship:** All persons
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:** N.A.

Information about household members left to live abroad: Yes

- **Information refers to the last time the person left:** No
- **Limited to certain age or work status:** Yes (15 years old and over)
- **Limited to those who left the household abroad within the last X years and have not returned:** No
- **Characteristics of persons who left to live abroad:** Name, sex, marital status at present, education at time of leaving, education at present, employment status at present

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, status in employment, disability

- **Age coverage:** N.A.

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

Information on immigrants and return migrants: Yes

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National adaptation of ISCO

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: ISIC rev 4

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: ICSE-1993

Classification used for status in education: ISCED-1997

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: No

Dissemination of results: Printed publications <> electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.), Web site

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q2. Household Survey

SOURCE

Title of survey: Labour Force Survey

Agency responsible: Central Department of Statistics and Information

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Every six months

Year the survey first started: 1999

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living abroad, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living abroad, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

Age coverage: 15 years old and over

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, household size.

International migration related characteristics: Country of citizenship, nationality, foreign workers in the country

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
 - **Country of citizenship:** Not for all
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:**
 - **Exceptions for country of citizenship:** Only those in the labour force

Information about household members left to live abroad: Yes (For the Last 6 months)

- **Information refers to the last time the person left:** No
- **Limited to certain age or work status:** Yes
- **Limited to those who left the household abroad within the last X years and have not returned:** No
- **Characteristics of persons who left to live abroad:** N.A.

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, individual earnings per month, hours usually worked

Benefits received from the employer: N.A.

Remittances related characteristics: No

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

Information on persons who left to live or work abroad (recruitment, communication, assistance etc.): No

Information on persons who left to live or work abroad (recruitment, communication, assistance etc.): No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: No.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: It defined as those who aged 15 and over, during the reference period, were in one of the following actions: 1) worked for a period of at least one hour in exchange for pay or profit (cash or in kind) as employees or owners or self-employed; 2) with the help of others to have at least one hour free of charge in any kind of business or private in one of the members of the family farm. 3) worked for a period of at least one hour for others without pay or profit (cash or in kind) as volunteers. 4) temporarily absent from their work all week because of vacation or illness or for any other reason and will return to it again.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: Saudi classification based on ISCO-88

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 6

Classification used for industry: ISIC rev 4

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 4

Classification used for status in employment: ICSE-1993

Classification used for status in education: Saudi classification based on ISCED-1997

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face computer assisted interview by census enumerator (CAPI)

Compulsory participation of households: No

Dissemination of results: Printed publication (Central Department of Statistics and Information, labour force survey); Electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.); Web site (www.cdsi.gov.sa)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

SAMPLE DESIGN

Sample frame used: Population census, Area sample

Completed sample size: 33,500 households

Evaluation of the overall response rate or refusal rate: Yes

Q4. Establishment Census

SOURCE

Title of source: Establishment Census

Year of last one: 2010

Agency responsible: Central Department of Statistics and Information

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Every ten years

Year the census first started: 1968

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Establishment coverage (size and type): All establishments with at least one workers/employees

Industry coverage: All industry/economic sectors

DATA COLLECTED ON WORKERS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT CENSUS

Demographic and migration related characteristics: Nationality

Labour related characteristics: N.A.

Topics for the establishment: Industry/economic sector, number of employees

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: It refers to all non-Saudis (foreign) who work in the establishment regardless of full-time (part-time), permanent (temporary), males (female) or income. It includes also workers who have vacations with pay.

Definition of short-term migrant workers: It refers to foreign workers who works part-time job without insurance, salary and be based on a certain percentage of production work regardless of their working time.

Definition of employment: It refers to all individuals Saudis and non-Saudis who actually work in the establishment in paid or unpaid regardless of full-time (part-time), permanent (temporary), males (female) or income. It includes establishment owners, their relatives, partners, members of the joint-stock companies, and heads of boards of directors and its members, workers who are on leave with pay.

Definition of wages: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: ISIC rev 4

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 6

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI), face-to-face computer assisted interview by census enumerator (CAPI)

Compulsory participation of respondents: Yes

Official estimation of under-coverage: 1%

Dissemination of results: Printed publications, electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.), Web site (www.cdsi.gov.sa)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q5. Establishment Survey

SOURCE

Title of survey: Annual Establishment Survey

Agency responsible: Central Department of Statistics and Information

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Every year

Year the survey first started: 1970

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Establishment coverage (size and type): All establishments with at least one workers/employees

Sector/Industry coverage: All industry/economic sectors

DATA COLLECTED ON WORKERS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT SURVEY

Demographic and migration related characteristics: Sex, nationality

Labour related characteristics: Status in employment, wage rate

Topics for the establishment: Industry/economic sector, number of employees, total sales revenue or gross receipts in most recent year available (201x)

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: It refers to all non-Saudis (foreign) who work in the establishment regardless of full-time (part-time), permanent (temporary), males (female) or income. It includes also workers who have vacations with pay.

Definition of short-term migrant workers: It refers to foreign workers who works part-time job without insurance, salary and be based on a certain percentage of production work regardless of their working time.

Definition of employment: It refers to all individuals Saudis and non-Saudis who actually work in the establishment in paid or unpaid regardless of full-time (part-time), permanent (temporary), males (female) or income. It includes establishment owners, their relatives, partners, members of the joint-stock companies, and heads of boards of directors and its members, workers who are on leave with pay.

Definition of wages: It refers to periodic cash payments paid by the establishment to employees in exchange for normal working hours including fixed bonuses.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: ISIC rev 4

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI), face-to-face computer assisted interview by census enumerator (CAPI), self-administered online (web) census questionnaire /Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI), administrative sources

Compulsory participation of respondents: Yes

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (Paper publications); Electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.); Web site

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside responsible agency: No

SAMPLE DESIGN

Sample frame used: Establishment census

Completed sample size: 3%

Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country

SOURCE

Title of source: Estimation

Reference year: Population Census

Agency responsible: Central Department of Statistics and Information

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Every year

Year the source first started: 1974

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees

Age coverage: All ages

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size, household composition

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, nationality, foreign workers in the country

Labour related characteristics: Employment status, industry/economic sector, individual income, occupation, status in employment, household income

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of short-term migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of a national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: N.A.

Definition of household income: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Dissemination of results: No

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: N.A.