

Bahrain: Issuances of work visas by type and status (new, renewed) (Q3 2008 – Q2 2018)

		Regular labourers			Investors			Temporary labourers		
		New Visas	Renewals	Total	New Visas	Renewals	Total	New Visas	Renewals	Total
2008	Q3	9,014	5,630	14,644	31	5	36	455	3	458
	Q4	27,238	5,640	32,878	78	23	101	1,793	24	1,817
2009	Q1	34,458	8,298	42,756	93	55	148	2,340	86	2,426
	Q2	27,693	29,431	57,124	105	128	233	1,013	620	1,633
	Q3	24,234	25,948	50,182	91	65	156	538	406	944
2010	Q4	25,648	32,258	57,906	97	69	166	832	582	1,414
	Q1	24,992	39,256	64,248	139	86	225	1,653	277	1,930
	Q2	24,229	31,852	56,081	186	111	297	524	330	854
	Q3	25,208	27,477	52,685	139	115	254	445	476	921
2011	Q4	25,266	27,382	52,648	141	177	318	632	346	978
	Q1	22,929	28,220	51,149	117	193	310	1,300	214	1,514
	Q2	22,070	27,210	49,280	153	187	340	561	378	939
	Q3	29,075	22,966	52,041	128	137	265	593	178	771
2012	Q4	28,407	28,141	56,548	121	143	264	650	358	1,008
	Q1	30,517	32,925	63,442	172	238	410	863	377	1,240
	Q2	30,485	28,613	59,098	222	244	466	1,194	437	1,631
	Q3	31,083	26,381	57,464	236	213	449	956	395	1,351
2013	Q4	28,814	27,357	56,171	210	252	462	1,547	449	1,996
	Q1	32,200	28,589	60,789	264	302	566	1,242	364	1,606
	Q2	32,181	28,210	60,391	260	278	538	386	210	596
	Q3	28,841	27,855	56,696	214	218	432	420	310	730
2014	Q4	24,649	31,480	56,129	253	269	522	475	257	732
	Q1	27,176	37,012	64,188	320	348	668	864	238	1,102
	Q2	31,134	34,138	65,272	382	378	760	265	132	397
	Q3	34,611	31,253	65,864	291	316	607	443	118	561
2015	Q4	32,233	35,040	67,273	271	385	656	565	142	707
	Q1	33,870	40,211	74,081	292	475	767	541	243	784
	Q2	38,635	42,933	81,568	259	417	676	379	169	548
	Q3	33,325	41,495	74,820	190	362	552	486	170	656
2016	Q4	38,696	50,969	89,665	282	427	709	513	195	708
	Q1	50,160	60,179	110,339	509	656	1,165	623	134	757
	Q2	49,538	61,643	111,181	444	554	998	246	129	375
	Q3	50,466	53,606	104,072	329	443	772	179	143	322
	Q4	51,567	63,969	115,536	553	523	1,076	2	160	162

	Q1	47,355	67,064	114,419	937	595	1,532	52	52
2017	Q2	36,736	64,512	101,248	1,035	498	1,533	5	5
	Q3	42,793	62,045	104,838	980	482	1,462		0
	Q4	44,087	67,794	111,881	934	585	1,519		0
	Q1	39,302	75,225	114,527	939	865	1,804		0
2018	Q2	39,566	73,856	113,422	1,061	861	1,922		0

Source: Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), Expatriate Management System (EMS)

ANNEXED NOTE

1. Technical Notes and Definitions

Within the scope of Law No. 19/2006 on regulating the labour market, the LMRA Expatriate Management System (EMS)

issues regular, temporary and investor work visas for foreign workers in the private, governmental and non-commercial, non-government sectors, as well as records and issues residency visas to their family dependents. The system tracks visa applications, renewals, mobility of workers between employers and from one occupation to another.

Domestic workers are registered separately and are not included in the present figures.

The system is updated continuously and linked with other labour-related databases of the Kingdom, including CIO, GDNPR, GOSI, PFC, CSB, Ministry of Labour (MoL), and Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC).

The Expat Management System (EMS) distinguishes four types of visas for operational purposes: regular work visas for workers with 24-month validity; temporary work visas issued for workers with 6-month validity; investor work visas issued for investors investing up to BD 100,000; and dependent visas issued for family members of eligible foreign workers.

A Regular worker is engaged to work in an enterprise for a long period of time, i.e. for more than six months and usually two years with possibility of renewal.

An Investor is a person who invests up to 100,000 Bahraini dinars.

A Temporary worker is engaged to work in an enterprise for a short period of time, i.e. for less than two years and usually six months.

Four major categories of workers in terms of their status in employment are employees, employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers.

The definitions that the LMRA adopts for its data can be found in the Glossary section: (http://blmi.lmra.bh/mi_glossary.xml)

2. Institution which provides data

Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA).

3. Data availability

The LMRA publishes these data under its Bahrain Labour Market Indicators (<http://www.lmra.bh/blmi>), data section (http://blmi.lmra.bh/2018/06/mi_data.xml), table 33. Figures and results are often reported in tables in both PDF and Excel formats.

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