

Kuwait: Female holders of article 18 (Non-governmental labour) residence permits by nationality group (2019-2024)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Arab countries	38,013	36,901	37,858	41,810	46,319	50,506
Non-Arab Asian countries	87,032	81,173	75,635	89,858	103,491	114,702
Non-Arab African countries	2,507	2,258	2,140	2,840	3,848	5,589
Europe	2,194	1,873	1,871	2,041	2,149	2,165
North America	2,198	1,903	1,807	1,960	2,100	2,140
South and Central America	211	208	203	248	287	317
Australia and Pacific	150	126	125	134	133	134
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	132,305	124,442	119,639	138,891	158,327	175,553

Source: Central Statistical Bureau, Migration Statistics Bulletin, given years.

ANNEXED NOTE

1. Definitions

Data taken from Ministry of Interior's (Directorate of Migration's) annual records of residency permits granted to foreign residents by type/ purpose of permit, sex and regional origin of holder.

The data presented in the table are stock data: all the non-national residents holding a residence permit to work in the private sector, valid and/or effective until the issuance of the Bulletin, on December 31st of the given year,

Residency procedures do not apply to GCC nationals and to Bidouns (stateless residents of Kuwait).

The table thus excludes the Bidouns, the non-Kuwaiti GCC citizens and those in irregular situation.

Dependent permit: spouse, children or elderly dependent relatives can join visa holder (sponsor) in Kuwait, if the expatriate has obtained a residency and meets the salary requirements.

A working wife cannot sponsor her husband as a dependent. Sons over the age of 21 years cannot be sponsored as dependents, though adult daughters and parents may be permitted. Dependent family members are not allowed to work on a Dependent Visa.

Every foreign resident including new born babies must hold a residency permit.

Self residence permit: Expatriates may sponsor themselves under article 24 of the regulations and obtain a residence for two

to five years under several conditions, among which: being aged 60 and more, having worked no less than 25 years in Kuwait, owning a capital of 10,000 KD at least; holding a certificate of good conduct, effectively reside in Kuwait, etc. This form of residence can be renewed upon expiry. Self-sponsored expatriates may sponsor their wives and children. **Permits 17, 18, 19 and 20** are only granted after Ministry of Labour issues a work permit.

2. Institution which provides data

Central Statistical Bureau (CSB), Ministry of Planning.

3. Period of data coverage

December 31st, given years.

4. Data availability

The present data is taken from the "Migration Statistics" reports, published annually by the CSB.

The report (in Arabic and English, PDF format with Excel tables) is available on CSB's website (Population Statistics, then Migration Statistics)

https://www.csb.gov.kw/Pages/Statistics_en?ID=56&ParentCatID=1

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