

Kuwait: Residency permits issued for the first time, by type/purpose of permit (2011-2024)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Section (14) Temporary residence	140,008	112,907	81,811	119,868	127,938	21,714	26,109	29,771	29,910	12,078	19,158	33,315	18,635	19,319
Section (17) Employment government sector	1,170	560	458	534	970	1,016	819	1,136	1,488	1,110	2,561	1,270	1,083	1,068
Section (18) Employment private sector	67,774	69,289	58,114	57,769	54,840	16,184	16,332	20,650	20,072	3,391	1,323	22,258	15,489	15,023
Section (19) Freelancing	33	29	14	29	21	9	15	37	22	7	16	12	6	13
Section (20) Employment domestic sector	26,775	25,474	24,393	24,439	24,873	16,625	15,942	26,341	25,665	5,994	8,156	42,820	30,493	32,431
Section (22) Family reunion	8,758	9,215	15,122	9,668	11,563	14,092	16,946	18,718	17,705	7,815	12,414	23,416	18,817	24,105
Section (23) Studying	32	30	9	9	16	81	28	23	33	24	9	49	18	7
Section (24) Self-sponsorship	136	143	133	108	95	246	310	253	236	169	232	219	434	303
Total	244,686	217,647	180,054	212,424	220,316	69,967	76,501	96,929	95,131	30,588	43,869	123,359	84,975	92,269

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

ANNEXED NOTE

1. Definitions

Processing by CSB of 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 present figures include permits delivered for all purposes of stay in Kuwait:

- 1- Labour in all sectors: governmental (n°17); private sector (n°18); business (n°19) and domestic (n°20) sectors
- 2- Residence: temporary residence (n°14); as family dependent (permit n°22); for the purpose of studying (n°23) and for self-sponsorship (n°24).

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.

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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Date of access: 01 July 2026

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Keywords: Kuwait, Foreign Population, Employment, Legal Document, Residence Conditions