

Saudi Arabia: Number of allied health professionals by nationality (Saudi/non-Saudi) and sector of employment (2017-2024)

		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Ministry of Health	Saudis	55,471	65,515	67,949	68,859	70,937	76,963	83,652	95,862
	Non-Saudis	4,175	4,015	3,335	2,979	2,748	2,674	2,613	2,463
	Total	59,646	69,530	71,284	71,838	73,685	79,637	86,265	98,325
Other Government Sector	Saudis	22,147	23,628	19,616	20,549	20,965	20,389	24,890	32,890
	Non-Saudis	8,067	7,229	6,416	6,492	5,654	4,123	4,419	3,539
	Total	30,214	30,857	26,032	27,041	26,619	24,512	29,309	36,429
Private Sector	Saudis	5,940	7,800	8,575	10,364	14,838	17,875	21,072	65,624
	Non-Saudis	16,061	16,125	17,728	14,730	15,861	16,338	17,042	21,682
	Total	22,001	23,925	26,303	25,094	30,699	34,213	38,114	87,306
Total	Saudis	83,558	96,943	96,140	99,772	106,740	115,227	129,614	194,376
	Non-Saudis	28,303	27,369	27,479	24,201	24,263	23,135	24,074	27,684
	Total	111,861	124,312	123,619	123,973	131,003	138,362	153,688	222,060

Source: Ministry of Health, Statistical Yearbooks, given years

1. Characteristics of data

These data are employment counts of health personnel working in various sectors (MoH, other governmental, private) as recorded in administrative workforce data.

Data on healthcare establishments and workforce are based on administrative records from multiple official sources, including:

Ministry of Health (MoH); Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCFHS- the official regulatory/licensing body responsible for accrediting and licensing health professionals to practice in Saudi Arabia); Other governmental entities (e.g., Ministry of Defense, National Guard, Ministry of Interior).

In Saudi Arabia, the regulatory framework recognizes a broad group of health practitioners (excluding physicians, dentists and nurses) as allied health professionals,

such as technicians and clinical specialists who provide services in areas like laboratory science, imaging, physiotherapy, rehabilitation, nutrition, and other applied health sciences.

These practitioners are licensed and classified by SCFHS to practice in the Kingdom.

2. Institution which provides data

Ministry of Health

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/pages/default.aspx>

3. Data availability

MoH's Annual Statistical Yearbooks are available in the Ministry's website Open Data Portal, in PDF and Excel formats

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/OpenData/Pages/default.aspx>

Open Data Library:

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/ministry/opendata/pages/open-data-library.aspx>

Annual Statistical Yearbooks:

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/ministry/statistics/book/pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/ministry/statistics/book/pages/default.aspx>

Data on health personnels are published in the "Health Resources" chapter

A processing of the Ministry of Health data is published annually by GStat since 2023:

("social statistics", then "Health Statistics", then "Healthcare Establishments and Workforce Statistics")

<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/statistics-tabs?tab=436312&category=2968800>

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