

Saudi-Arabia: Population estimates by nationality (Saudi / non-Saudi) and sex (mid-year estimates, 1974-2015)

year	Saudis			Non-Saudis			Total		
	males	females	total	males	females	total	males	females	total
1974	3,166,013	2,997,792	6,163,805	517,178	257,219	774,397	3,683,191	3,255,011	6,938,202
1975	3,299,247	3,129,932	6,429,179	574,639	283,192	857,831	3,873,886	3,413,124	7,287,010
1976	3,436,784	3,266,657	6,703,441	638,241	311,670	949,911	4,075,025	3,578,327	7,653,352
1977	3,578,634	3,408,002	6,986,636	708,602	342,876	1,051,478	4,287,236	3,750,878	8,038,114
1978	3,724,791	3,553,986	7,278,777	786,393	377,049	1,163,442	4,511,184	3,931,035	8,442,219
1979	3,875,233	3,704,613	7,579,846	872,345	414,448	1,286,793	4,747,578	4,119,061	8,866,639
1980	4,029,922	3,859,872	7,889,794	967,252	455,350	1,422,602	4,997,174	4,315,222	9,312,396
1981	4,188,801	4,019,733	8,208,534	1,071,977	500,051	1,572,028	5,260,778	4,519,784	9,780,562
1982	4,351,793	4,184,148	8,535,941	1,187,454	548,870	1,736,324	5,539,247	4,733,018	10,272,265
1983	4,518,803	4,353,048	8,871,851	1,314,694	602,145	1,916,839	5,833,497	4,955,193	10,788,690
1984	4,689,709	4,526,340	9,216,049	1,454,788	660,237	2,115,025	6,144,497	5,186,577	11,331,074
1985	4,864,370	4,703,911	9,568,281	1,608,915	723,531	2,332,446	6,473,285	5,427,442	11,900,727
1986	5,042,619	4,885,623	9,928,242	1,778,342	792,434	2,570,776	6,820,961	5,678,057	12,499,018
1987	5,224,266	5,071,312	10,295,578	1,964,432	867,378	2,831,810	7,188,698	5,938,690	13,127,388
1988	5,409,093	5,260,787	10,669,880	2,168,647	948,820	3,117,467	7,577,740	6,209,607	13,787,347
1989	5,596,859	5,453,833	11,050,692	2,392,552	1,037,242	3,429,794	7,989,411	6,491,075	14,480,486
1990	5,787,294	5,650,206	11,437,500	2,637,820	1,133,151	3,770,971	8,425,114	6,783,357	15,208,471
1991	5,980,104	5,849,635	11,829,739	2,906,237	1,237,079	4,143,316	8,886,341	7,086,714	15,973,055
1992	6,170,757	6,047,443	12,218,200	3,193,111	1,347,068	4,540,179	9,363,868	7,394,511	16,758,379
1993	6,334,907	6,216,789	12,551,696	3,322,551	1,402,925	4,725,476	9,657,458	7,619,714	17,277,172
1994	6,488,628	6,375,082	12,863,710	3,397,772	1,440,127	4,837,899	9,886,400	7,815,209	17,701,609
1995	6,646,071	6,537,398	13,183,469	3,474,692	1,478,314	4,953,006	10,120,763	8,015,712	18,136,475
1996	6,807,325	6,703,837	13,511,162	3,553,349	1,517,511	5,070,860	10,360,674	8,221,348	18,582,022
1997	6,972,483	6,874,505	13,846,988	3,633,782	1,557,746	5,191,528	10,606,265	8,432,251	19,038,516
1998	7,141,639	7,049,510	14,191,149	3,716,031	1,599,045	5,315,076	10,857,670	8,648,555	19,506,225
1999	7,314,889	7,228,960	14,543,849	3,800,137	1,641,438	5,441,575	11,115,026	8,870,398	19,985,424
2000	7,492,332	7,412,968	14,905,300	3,886,141	1,684,952	5,571,093	11,378,473	9,097,920	20,476,393
2001	7,674,070	7,601,651	15,275,721	3,974,087	1,729,617	5,703,704	11,648,157	9,331,268	20,979,425
2002	7,860,206	7,795,126	15,655,332	4,064,017	1,775,464	5,839,481	11,924,223	9,570,590	21,494,813
2003	8,050,847	7,993,515	16,044,362	4,155,978	1,822,524	5,978,502	12,206,825	9,816,039	22,022,864
2004	8,245,575	8,198,412	16,443,987	4,248,335	1,871,564	6,119,899	12,493,910	10,069,976	22,563,886
2005	8,453,097	8,401,060	16,854,157	4,506,528	1,968,899	6,475,427	12,959,625	10,369,959	23,329,584
2006	8,663,597	8,606,584	17,270,181	4,780,413	2,071,296	6,851,709	13,444,010	10,677,880	24,121,890
2007	8,876,666	8,814,670	17,691,336	5,070,944	2,179,018	7,249,962	13,947,610	10,993,688	24,941,298
2008	9,091,249	9,024,301	18,115,550	5,379,132	2,292,343	7,671,475	14,470,381	11,316,644	25,787,025
2009	9,307,550	9,235,696	18,543,246	5,706,050	2,411,561	8,117,611	15,013,600	11,647,257	26,660,857
2010*	9,525,178	9,448,437	18,973,615	6,052,837	2,536,980	8,589,817	15,578,015	11,985,417	27,563,432
2011**	9,743,626	9,662,059	19,405,685	6,297,735	2,672,935	8,970,670	16,041,361	12,334,994	28,376,355
2012**	9,962,431	9,876,017	19,838,448	6,591,296	2,766,151	9,357,447	16,553,727	12,642,168	29,195,895
2013**	10,181,018	10,090,040	20,271,058	6,643,278	3,079,936	9,723,214	16,824,296	13,169,976	29,994,272
2014**	10,398,993	10,303,543	20,702,536	6,867,332	3,200,507	10,067,839	17,266,325	13,504,050	30,770,375
2015**	10,614,813	10,515,147	21,129,960	7,076,815	3,314,643	10,391,458	17,691,628	13,829,790	31,521,418

Source: Population estimates based on the results of population censuses (1974; 1992; 2004; 2010 preliminary results), Central Department for Statistics and Information (CDSI)/ General Authority for Statistics (GaStat)

* preliminary results

**** estimates from census 2010' preliminary figures**

ANNEXED NOTE

1. Technical Notes and Definitions

Reference periods: middle of given years

Population of reference: all individuals (nationals and non-nationals) present within the Kingdom's borders during time of reference, be they permanent or temporary residents.

Implementation method: the Censuses are carried out according to de facto methodology, i.e. counting persons where they are during time of reference, be they usual residents of the place or temporary residents.

Estimates are based upon censuses' results.

The first Saudi census was launched in 1962. It is usually not used, as it did not cover the whole of the resident population. 1974 census is the first comprehensive one in Saudi history. However, its rate of coverage and accuracy of data are considered weak.

1992 census' population figures, along with ensuing estimates of Saudi population and rates of demographic growth for the following years, were shown to be inflated (see Winckler, O. "The Surprising Results of the Saudi Arabian 2004 Demographic Census", IJMES, n°40, 2008, pp. 12-15).

Between 2004 and 2010 censuses, Saudi population figures seem consistent with natural increase figures. As non-national population is concerned, it is probably underestimated in official counts. Irregular workers and sojourners are also many (non-official, hence unverifiable estimates range between 1 and 2 millions).

Regarding mid-year estimates, it has to be noted that after each census CDSI has readjusted past figures for Saudi and non-Saudi populations, intercensal data as well as data for census years. Therefore, present data differ significantly from available census figures.

2. Institution which provides data

Central Department of Statistics and Information (CDSI), Ministry and Economy and Planning/ General Authority for Statistics (GaStat)

3. Data availability

Results of censuses conducted in 1992 and 2004 are available on the website of the General Authority for Statistics (<http://www.stats.gov.sa/en>), previously CDSI (<http://www.cdsi.gov.sa/>), in downloadable PDF format.

<http://www.stats.gov.sa/en/73>

<http://www.stats.gov.sa/ar/73>

Final results of 2010' census have been released in May 2016. However, figures of population published by GaStat for 2015 in the Annual Yearbook (<http://www.stats.gov.sa/en/46>) are calculated on the basis of the preliminary results of census 2010.

Mid-year estimates of population in Saudi Arabia since 1974 are available in Saudi Arabia Monetary Agency (SAMA) Annual Reports and Yearly Statistics: <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/EconomicReports/Pages/YearlyStatistics.aspx>

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