

SA-EMP 1.2 Saudi Arabia: Total employed population by occupation category (Q1 2021-Q1 2025)

	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025
Managers	230,763	N.A.	232,739	238,222	216,672	232,391	N.A.	297,015	315,833	314,524	330,625	340,109	354,622	362,158	369,811	382,145	388,795
Professionals	852,578	N.A.	891,661	973,569	894,147	931,590	N.A.	1,176,140	1,361,927	1,370,727	1,472,328	1,506,718	1,565,546	1,570,466	1,644,870	1,703,442	1,739,151
Technicians and associate professionals	972,261	N.A.	939,505	961,743	833,738	837,925	N.A.	886,222	960,587	962,944	977,733	984,187	1,007,469	1,066,730	1,078,664	1,123,100	1,130,800
Clerical support workers	529,855	N.A.	518,655	517,973	418,057	439,300	N.A.	573,178	585,074	579,425	578,982	587,713	590,766	610,111	608,927	615,842	618,575
Service and sales workers	565,568	N.A.	563,320	590,329	554,231	631,230	N.A.	716,250	819,939	820,944	861,702	867,736	902,905	911,696	925,609	940,798	954,097
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	40,459	N.A.	37,359	44,394	41,435	24,947	N.A.	26,305	33,705	32,538	31,426	30,815	27,642	34,188	35,319	35,405	35,136
Craft and related trades workers	1,045,838	N.A.	936,825	949,385	865,403	904,423	N.A.	973,587	1,157,565	1,160,916	1,275,983	1,270,230	1,300,515	1,306,698	1,296,351	1,298,303	1,304,189
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	770,741	N.A.	718,087	760,537	704,568	738,370	N.A.	814,398	1,029,608	1,038,723	1,071,391	1,077,348	1,157,003	1,189,256	1,228,552	1,271,655	1,304,554
Elementary occupations	3,313,262	N.A.	3,153,076	3,441,414	3,677,448	3,618,730	N.A.	4,311,761	4,022,345	4,066,062	4,075,973	4,050,778	4,367,373	4,580,064	4,748,348	5,018,900	5,274,705
Other Occupations	38,977	N.A.	39,350	53,742	890,780	1,182,716	N.A.	148,182	152,452	148,283	136,845	127,099	119,591	75,396	72,207	48,895	48,785
Not specified	30,933	N.A.	127,808	0	0	0	N.A.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8,391,235	N.A.	8,158,385	8,531,308	9,096,479	9,541,622	N.A.	9,923,038	10,439,035	10,495,086	10,812,988	10,842,733	11,393,432	11,706,763	12,008,658	12,438,485	12,798,787

Source: Register-based Labour Market Statistics, General Authority for Statistics (GStat)

1. Data collection methodology

LFS were first conducted in 2001 and became bi-annual after 2006. Data were collected through nationally representative household sample surveys, which sampling was based on most recent censuses.

Since 2016, Labour Force Surveys have been conducted and published on a quarterly basis, based on a household telephone survey conducted by GStat. Employment data extracted from administrative records were also introduced as a complement to the results of Labour Force Surveys in Labour Market Statistics' publications, starting on Q1 2017.

The present data is taken from administrative records.

Population of reference: workers subject to the rule of the General Organization of Social Insurance (GOSI):

- contributors on the job who are subject to social insurance laws and regulations in the private and government sector;
- new contributors, and contributors who terminated their contribution to social insurance during the quarter.

Figures of workers in Labor Market statistics which were derived from administrative records do not include the following categories:

1-Workers in the military and security sectors

2- Workers who are not registered in the civil service, social insurance (GOSI) and domestic workers' records, which include:

– Saudis working for their own businesses and are not subjected to the labor regulations, also, not registered in social insurance, such as those who work in delivery through electronic apps

- Saudi employers who work in establishments and not registered in the social insurance
- Non-Saudi staff working in foreign international, political or military missions

3- Non-Saudi employees who come to the Kingdom for work that normally takes less than three months to be completed.

Definitions and categories used by GStat in Labour Markets Statistics (employment; unemployment; occupation and activity sectors, etc.) are based on international standards: For LFS methodology and definitions, see metadata section in report, and: https://database.stats.gov.sa/Methodologies/En_Documents/03_Labor%20Market%20Bulletin%20Methodology,%20Fourth%20Quarter%202020%20_%20General%20Authority%20for%20Statistics.pdf
https://database.stats.gov.sa/Methodologies/En_Documents/03_Labor%20Market%20Bulletin%20Methodology,%20Fourth%20Quarter%202020%20_%20General%20Authority%20for%20Statistics.pdf

Classification of occupations: Saudi classification of occupations, based on ISCO-08.

<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/page/292>

This classification was adopted in Q1 2021.

2. Institution which provides data

General Authority for Statistics (GStat)

3. Data availability

Since 2021, GStat has been publishing separately the employment data taken from administrative records, and unemployment/inactivity data as well as general indicators, calculated from the results of the field interviews conducted by GStat (Labour Force Survey).

The time-series was built using the quarterly Register-based Labour Market Statistics for given quarters

2023-2025: available at:

<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/statistics-tabs/-/categories/417515?tab=436312&category=417515>

Before 2023: available in the “archived data”:

<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/statistics?index=1317550>

“social statistics”, and “labour force”

<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/statistics-tabs?tab=436312&category=1333429>

Last date of access: 26 June 2025.

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