



International
Labour
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► ASSESSMENT OF LABOUR MIGRATION STATISTICS

UAE

Country Profile

To be read with Tables 1, 2 and 3
9 March 2022



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The total population of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) was estimated to number 9,282,410 in mid-2020, down from an estimated 9,503,738 residents a year earlier.¹ The UAE statistics authorities only release aggregated population figures. Therefore, the number and characteristics of international migrants in the country are unavailable to the public. However, estimates calculated on the basis of past disaggregated population figures² suggest that international migrants were numbering around 8.3 million in mid-2019. International migrants would thus make up around 87 percent of the total UAE population before the onset of the COVID-19 health and economic crises. The UAE are, therefore, a major destination for international migrants.

I. The UAE statistical apparatus and major sources of immigration data

In the UAE, population statistics are particularly sensitive, due to the small native population. However, the UAE have a relatively long statistical history. The first population census was conducted in 1968 by the Council of Developing Trucial States. After Independence in 1971, a population census was conducted that same year in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The first general population and establishments census in the UAE was conducted in 1975. It was the first census in the region following scientific standards and international recommendations. The other federal censuses were conducted in 1980, 1985, 1995 and 2005. Yet, so far, no census has been conducted at the federal level since 2005. The 2010-round federal census was eventually cancelled, and censuses conducted during the 2010s in Abu Dhabi and several emirates have not been disclosed to the public, or only partially. The 2020 census round in the country is based on administrative records, and officially started in 2019, at the federal level³ and in each emirate.⁴

The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC) is a government centre affiliated with the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs in the UAE. The FCSC is “engaged in building an integrated national statistical system, raising the UAE’s competitiveness across various sectors”. It is thus UAE’s main producer and disseminator of statistical data.⁵ It compiles administrative data on population from the population registry and from other emirates’ Establishment surveys, and implements Labour Force and other surveys.

The UAE Open Data Portal (open data section of the website) allows to search among a wealth of public data, mostly in the form of raw datasets, produced by governmental federal and emirate-level bodies, but metadata are often unclear.

Since 2005, some population projections by nationality (Emirati/non-Emirati populations) were produced for the period 2006-2010, based on the census.⁶ Since 2010, in the absence of a census at the federal level that would reflect the rapid changes of the UAE population, population figures were estimated on the basis of the population registry supervised by the Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship (ICA) (see below), and not broken down by nationality. The only disaggregated data publicly available from the FCSC’s website are vital statistics (births and deaths), published annually. When disaggregated, Labour Force surveys’ results are presented in percentages, for each population and sex separately (nationals (males/females)/ non-nationals (males/females)).

The FCSC and its counterparts at the emirate level, the **Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi (SCAD)**, **Dubai Statistics Centre (DSC)**, and the statistical institutes of Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al-Quwain, Fujairah, and Ras Al-Khaimah have distinct statistical productions and policies. The DSC and the SCAD, for example, are the only official source for the collection, analysis and publication of statistical information and data in the two emirates. They are tasked with applying harmonized methodological international standards in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of statistical data. They conduct population censuses, and economic and social statistical surveys either by total size or through sampling on a periodic basis, in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Planning.⁷ Abu Dhabi conducted a census in 2011,⁸ along with the Emirate of Fujairah. Sharjah Emirate followed in 2015 and Ajman in 2017. No census results have been made available to the public for Abu Dhabi so far; only basic population figures for Sharjah and Fujairah were released.⁹

1 <https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Statistics/Statistics-by-Subject.aspx#/%3Fyear=&folder=Demography%20and%20Social/Population/Population&subject=Demography%20and%20Social?>

2 The methodology and sources are presented in section III of this report.

3 <https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Press-Release/02-07-2019.aspx>.

4 <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/government/abu-dhabi-launches-census-project-1.885435>; <https://www.constructionweekonline.com/business/260590-sheikh-humaid-al-nu-aimi-launches-ajman-census-2020-project>.

5 As of March 2022 <https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/About-Us/About-FCSA.aspx>

6 <http://original.fcsa.gov.ae/EnglishHome/ReportDetailsEnglish/tabid/121/Default.aspx?ItemId=1914&PTID=104&MenuId=1>

7 <https://www.dsc.gov.ae/en-us/About-Us/Pages/default.aspx>; <https://www.scad.gov.ae/>

8 <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/docs/ARE-Advancement-Census-2005-2011.pdf>.

9 <https://gulfmigration.grc.net/uae-population-estimates-by-nationality-emirati-non-emirati-and-sex-last-available-estimates-as-of-march-2018/>.

The Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MoHRE) focuses on preparing the ground for fostering a knowledge-based economy and making the UAE labour market attractive for Emiratis. The MoHRE regulates employment in the private and domestic work sectors, monitors work contracts, and issues work permits to private sector and domestic workers. The Labour Market Information Department compiles and publishes information on the MoHRE website. Some labour-related raw datasets are available in the “open data” section of the Ministry’s website (stocks and flows), while the Labour Market Information System releases distributions of workers in the private sector by basic disaggregation variables (sex, age group, activity, occupation, etc.). None of the data issued by MoHRE is broken down by nationality, and no data are available on domestic workers from the Ministry’s releases.¹⁰

The Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship (ICA), formerly the Emirates Identity Authority (EIDA), is a federal government authority with legal personality and an independent budget. The ICA is tasked to “establishing the Population Register and Emirates Identity Card Programme,” set up in the mid-2000s. This programme includes collecting and maintaining an electronic database of personal and vital data for all residents, in coordination with the competent authorities. The ICA also issues the Emirates ID Card for each resident, whether they are national or expatriate. The card is electronic and its unique number serves to confirm the holder’s identity before all federal and local government authorities and any other entity. Since 2017, the ICA’s tasks have been extended to incorporate nationality affairs, passports, entry and residence, and deportation of foreigners in the State.¹¹ The ICA does not publish data on the UAE population broken down by nationality.

The ICA branch in the Dubai Emirate is the **General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA)**, a branch of the Ministry of Interior.¹² GDRFA issues employment and other entry visas and residence permits, which allow the prospective workers to enter Dubai. It also cancels residence upon departure. The GDRFA will also communicate the cancellation decision to the ICA for the individual’s ID to be cancelled as well. Together, the GDRFA and ICA are likely to hold comprehensive information on all foreign residents, be they workers, employers, or family dependents, regardless of where they were born. Other emirates also have GDRFA delegations.

Table 1 and 2 highlight the main features of UAE population and labour data, at the federal level especially (i.e., the country as a whole). These are:

- ▶ The lack of data (no census conducted at the federal level between 2005 and 2020; emirate-level censuses results and results of census 2020 not disclosed as of March 2022);
- ▶ The lack of data disaggregated by nationality;
- ▶ In case data are disaggregated, the lack of data in a numerical format, as statistical indicators are usually presented as percentages and rates for each nationality. This underlines the need for improvement in the data of the UAE’s population and other statistics, which was pointed out by some international agencies.¹³

Consequently, as seen in Table 3, the core indicators¹⁴ on migrants’ stocks cannot be calculated, when they are not provided directly by Labour Force Surveys. Some interesting flow data are available from the MoHRE (recruitment of workers from abroad), which can be taken as a proxy for the inflow of “for work” international migrant workers’ inflow. Unfortunately, this figure only covers private sector workers.

II. Methodologies, classifications, and definitions: compliance with ICLS Guidelines, and limitations

Methodologies

Population projections and estimates in the UAE must be taken with caution.

- ▶ First, the number of workers in an irregular situation cannot be overlooked, given the speed of population growth in the country, and especially in Dubai, partly due to the dependence of UAE’s economy on labour-intensive sectors such as the construction sector. Moreover, migrant workers can enter Dubai on visitor’s visas and then convert to an employment status. Consequently, a significant proportion of entrants could neglect or fail to convert their visas, and would thus fall into an irregular administrative situation.
- ▶ Second, the methodology used to project population figures since 2010 should be questioned. Population projection methodologies indeed gave rise to extraordinary rates of demographic growth, for example in Ras Al-Khaimah Emirate, where the population was said to have jumped from 267,000

10 Some estimates are available for 2016 (Abu Dhabi and Dubai only) <https://population.un.org/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/ayah>, M.-J. and Assaf, H. The Future of Domestic Work in the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, <https://population.un.org/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/>, 2018 (http://www.abudhabidialogue.org.ae/library?date_from=&date_to=&page=1), and in ILO. Making decent work a reality for domestic workers: Progress and prospects ten years after the adoption of the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), International Labour Office – Geneva: ILO, 2021. https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_802551/lang--en/index.htm.

11 <https://ica.gov.ae/en/about-ica/>.

12 <https://www.gdrfad.gov.ae/en>.

13 <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2014/cr14187.pdf>, 14 (\$29).

14 ILO, 2018, \$40 and 41.

inhabitants in 2009 to 413,000 in 2010.¹⁵ The methodology used by UAE statistical apparatuses until 2010 was the component method, which projects the various components of population growth (fertility, mortality, migration) separately by sex, age group, etc., based on the 2005 census results. The UN has stated that the UAE civil registration system ensures a good coverage of events.¹⁶ However, administrative records pertaining to migration movements and to events affecting migrants may not be as accurate, due to erratic year-on-year growth rates.¹⁷ In a second phase, after 2010, the methodology for calculating population figures switched to an exponential growth model,¹⁸ whereby population is assumed to grow at a constant, geometric rate. Given the speed of demographic changes in the UAE, the assumption of a constant rate of growth is hard to confirm. Moreover, the small size of each of the emirates’ population may amplify the errors.

► Third, the figure of 8,064,270 residents in the UAE in late 2010, on which further estimates are based, could be overestimated. Total population figures by emirate published after 2010, at the level of each emirate, do not add up to the figure of 8.3 million but to a significantly lower figure of 5.6 million. Sources for each of these estimates are as follows:

Emirate	Est. total population (2010)	Federal and emirate-level sources of estimates
Abu Dhabi	1,967,659	Statistical Yearbook 2011
Dubai	1,905,476	https://government.ae/en/about-the-uae/the-seven-emirates/dubai
Sharjah	829,730	Statistical Yearbook 2012
Ras Al-Kh.	413,000	Statistical Yearbook 2013
Ajman	262,186	Ajman in Figures 2011
Al Fujairah	163,751	Statistical Yearbook 2011
Umm Al-Q.	65,000	https://government.ae/en/about-the-uae/the-seven-emirates/umm-al-quwain
Total	5,606,802	
NBS estimate	8.3 million	http://fcsa.gov.ae/_layouts/download.aspx?SourceUrl=%2Fenus%2FLists%2FD_StatisticsSubject%2FAttachments%2F68%2FPopulation%20Estimates%202006%20-%202010.pdf

The UN population database uses the figure of 8.3 million as a base for further estimates.¹⁹ The CIA World Factbook²⁰ selected lower estimates, close to the sum of emirate-level population estimates. No methodological indications were available as to how these were calculated. To date, it is impossible to figure out if the emirate-level population figures were underestimated, or if the federal-level figures were overestimated. Therefore, this paper uses the estimate provided by the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC), formerly the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

► Fourth, the most recent estimates are based on the number of residents officially registered with the ICA and emirate-level GDRFA. Yet, Emirates ID cards may not cover 100 per cent of Emiratis and expatriates. Some foreign residents whose situation is not fully regular, especially, may fear to be deported if they approach official services. Besides, estimates do not include foreign residents in an irregular administrative situation. Consequently, the population figures for the UAE at every geographic level should be considered with caution.

The 2020 census round, which started being implemented at the federal level and in each emirate, should help to reset estimates of the actual numbers of international migrants in the UAE. However, it is unclear if field surveys were conducted, in parallel to the compilation of administrative sources to constitute census thematic data baskets. The existence and type of connection between the federal and the seven emirate-level censuses are equally unknown. No information is available, for instance, on the data collected and their harmonisation at the emirate and federal levels. The Abu Dhabi SCAD, for example, constituted specialised data registers: a population register, an employees’ register, an unemployed register, an education register, and people

15 <http://www.thenational.ae/business/industry-insights/economics/standard-poors-warns-on-rak-rating-as-it-questions-population-data>.

16 <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/vitalstatkb/Attachment206.aspx>.

17 <https://gulfmigration.grc.net/uae-estimates-of-total-population-by-sex-sex-ratios-and-annual-demographic-growth-rates-1970-2010/>.

18 Source will be provided in the final version

19 United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019). World Population Prospects 2019, Online Edition. Rev. 1. (<https://population.un.org/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/>).

20 <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ae.html>.

with disabilities register. The SCAD had already completed two pilot surveys in 2017 and 2019, ahead of the implementation of the register-based census in 2020.²¹ No data is available, at the time of writing, about the completion stage of the censuses, and about methodologies used to harmonise results.

The Abu Dhabi census, and presumably the other administrative-based censuses, settled for the following definition of residents to be included in the census: “the individuals who are usual residents of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, whether UAE nationals or non-UAE nationals. The definition covers citizens, who are usual residents of the Emirate, as well as those who are from outside of the Emirate or the United Arab Emirates and usually live in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. It also covers all non-UAE nationals who intend to permanently and continuously reside in the Emirate, or for at least six months, regardless of visa status, or spent six consecutive months in the Emirate prior to the census benchmark”.²² The focus of the administrative census on the de jure population (i.e., residing in the UAE for 6 months or more during the year, and implicitly, holding residence permits),²³ will result in leaving aside the undocumented population and those with expired residence permits. It also conceals information on temporary residents, whose country of labour attachment is outside the UAE.

Classifications

The FCSC and emirate-level statistical organisations (SCAD and DSC, especially) use international and ILO classifications of activities and occupations, as indicated in Table 1, col. K. Census 2020 will also rely on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2013) and on the International Standard Classification of Occupations 2008 (ISCO-08).²⁴ However, the MoHRE prioritises information on skill levels. Therefore, it created its own classifications of professions and corresponding scale of skill levels. The classification underwent a simplification in 2019, whereby the job titles available to register migrant workers went down from 3,000 to 725, organised in 9 professional levels (occupation categories) and 5 skill levels.²⁵

Definitions

In the UAE like elsewhere in the Gulf and Mashreq countries, the definition of international migrant is citizenship-based. As with the other countries in the region, immigration is mostly linked to employment, and foreigners’ sojourn, in principle, is not meant to exceed the duration of their employment contract, i.e., be permanent or even long-term. No definition actually exists of an international migrant in UAE’s institutional websites. International migrants are labelled “guests”,²⁶ and referred to as foreigners/non- nationals (non-Emirati, non-UAE national) among the “residents”.

The UAE is less formally opposed to immigration than other Gulf countries. Migrant workers can sponsor their families, as long as they meet the criteria of a monthly salary of AED 4,000 (US\$ 1,089) or AED 3,000 (US\$ 817) plus accommodation. The condition of the profession and skill level was lifted in 2019.²⁷ Nonetheless, family reunion is inaccessible to most workers.²⁸ The UAE also recently opened some schemes for long-term stay, retirement, and even naturalisation. However, these are very selective and only target migrants with exceptional skills, useful to the country’s development process, or wealthy investors.²⁹ It can thus be said that the very notion of immigration/ immigrant is still rejected in the country.

This has several implications, as regards the consistency of concepts and definitions used in the UAE with those of the ILO:

- ▶ First, the category of “non-national” is not consistent with the concept of international migrant as defined in the ICLS Guidelines 2018 (§13), which “include[s] all those residents of a given country who have ever changed their country of usual residence”. The birth right for citizenship does not apply in the UAE, and maternal transmission of citizenship is not automatic.³⁰ Consequently, a share of the foreign residents, born in these countries but not naturalised, are not “migrants” according to the ILO/ UN definition, which takes as a criterion the change of usual residence, and would unduly be counted as migrants (non-nationals).
- ▶ The UAE and other Gulf States’ rejection of the very notion of international migration and the subsequent representation of (most) migrants and migrant workers as “temporary sojourners” may create confusions between international bodies and Gulf states, over the concept of “temporary migrant workers”, singled out in the ICLS Guidelines 2018 (§ 34 and 35) within “For-work international migrants” or “international migrant workers” categories. According to ICLS Guidelines, the two categories may be split between categories 14a and 14b (“usual resident migrant workers”

21 Turki, A., Abu Qudeiri, S., Al-Shehhi, B. and Alrashdi, Th. “Preparations with a pilot census for the 2020 register-based census of Abu Dhabi”, Statistical Journal of the IAOS 36, 2020, pp. 137–141
DOI 10.3233/SJI-190606.

22 Turki, et.al., p. 138.

23 Turki et al. indeed emphasize the use of residence permits records and their large number of variables, as the reference source on the number and characteristics of non-Emirati residents (p. 40).

24 Turki et al., p. 140.

25 <https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/tax/documents/2019/uae-immigration-update-intro-new-ccupational-classification-scheme.pdf>.

26 The Arabic term used to designate foreign residents in these countries is wafed, pl. wafidîn, which designates foreigners who arrived, and is generally used for students and workers.

27 <https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/visa-and-emirates-id/residence-visa/sponsoring-family-residency-visa-by-expatriates>.

28 In 2017, 49 per cent of foreign workers earned a monthly income below 2,500 AED (US\$ 681) and 68 per cent earned below 5,000 AED (US\$ 1,361) (<https://gulfmigration.org/uae-du-bai-percentage-distribution-of-employed-population-15-years-and-above-by-nationality-emiratis-non-emirati-sex-and-monthly-wage-group-2017>).

29 <https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/visa-and-emirates-id/residence-visa/long-term-residence-visas-in-the-uae>; <https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/passports-and-traveling/uae-nationality>; <https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395302905586>.

30 <https://stepfeed.com/thousands-of-emirati-women-granted-right-to-give-nationality-to-children-1170>.

and “non-usual resident migrant workers”). Specific durations and types of work permits should be identified for reaching a common ground in pinpointing the specific subset of migrants, in agreement with international definitions.

III. Discrepancies and complementarity between sources of data: estimating the number of non-Emiratis

As discussed in this report, the sources of data available on international migration and international work migration are too few and not comprehensive enough (concerning only private sector workers, for instance) to permit any comparisons of indicators between sources.

However, two sets of published sources may be combined, to estimate the number of non-nationals residing in the UAE, which is undisclosed in published statistics (Table A). This country profile uses the figures of Emiratis because their demographic growth is presumably due to natural increase (births-deaths) only. International migration and naturalisations are presumed to be only a few.

► Table A. Calculation of the numbers of Emiratis and non-Emiratis (2010-2019)

	End-of-year data		Mid-year data				
	Emirati births	Emirati deaths	Emirati births	Emirati deaths	Emirati population	Total population	Non-Emiratis
	(given)	(given)	(calculated)	(calculated)	(2010 given then calculated)	(given)	(2010 given then calculated)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2009	30,951	2,401					
2010	32,303	2,342	31,627	2,372	962,348	8,264,070	7,301,722
2011	33,466	2,327	32,885	2,335	992,898	8,394,019	7,401,121
2012	34,040	2,342	33,753	2,335	1,024,316	8,526,425	7,502,109
2013	33,965	2,340	34,003	2,341	1,055,978	8,661,345	7,605,367
2014	34,618	2,471	34,292	2,406	1,087,864	8,798,841	7,710,977
2015	34,794	2,648	34,706	2,560	1,120,010	8,938,974	7,818,964
2016	34,553	2,606	34,674	2,627	1,152,057	9,121,167	7,969,110
2017	32,659	2,547	33,606	2,577	1,183,086	9,304,277	8,121,191
2018	33,700	2,397	33,180	2,472	1,213,794	9,366,828	8,153,034
2019	32,801	2,416	33,251	2,407	1,244,638	9,503,738	8,259,100
2020						9,282,410	

Source: FCSC. UAE vital statistics (births and deaths, 2009-2019); FCSC. UAE Population (2010-2019).

- Based on projections from census 2005, disaggregated estimates of Emirati and non-Emirati populations were last published for 2010 (mid-year).³¹
- Disaggregated figures of births and deaths for the Emirati population (end-of-year figures), are published for the years 2009 to 2019 (columns 1 and 2).³² Using 2009 data, the report calculates the figures of Emirati births and deaths for the middle of each year (columns 3 and 4).
- The report calculates the number of Emiratis for mid- years 2011 to 2019 (column 5):
E. population midyear n = (E. population midyear n-1) + (E. births mid-year n) - (E. deaths midyear n).
- The estimates of Emiratis are deducted from the given total population figures (column 6) to estimate the number of non-Emiratis.

However, reservations expressed in the “Methodology” section regarding the quality of data used, should apply. The accuracy of such estimates cannot be assessed, as they are based on given data which cannot be verified, such as the projections of census 2005 population data for 2010.

31 <http://original.fcsa.gov.ae/EnglishHome/ReportDetailsEnglish/tabid/121/Default.aspx?ItemId=1914&PTID=104&MenuId=1>.

32 <https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Statistics/Statistics-by-Subject.aspx#/%3Fyear=&folder=Demography%20and%20Social/Vital%20Statistics/Births%20and%20Deaths&subject=Demography%20and%20Social>. 2020 vital statistics not available as of 22/11/2021.

IV. Suggestions for improvement of the data and indicators

For researchers to understand the dynamics of international migration and international work migration to and from the UAE, UAE authorities should:

- ▶ Disclose more data to the public, especially administrative data on work permits and residency permits, for international migrants and migrant workers in all sectors of employment including the domestic work sector; figures of inflows of workers (recruitment from the country/ from abroad) are a very interesting source of data, which should be completed by equivalent datasets on workers' outflows, possibly by outcome of the movement (transfer of occupation/ activity, exit from the UAE, retirement, etc.);
- ▶ Publish data disaggregated by nationality (nationals/non-nationals) as a minimum, and possibly, by migrants' origin (Arab countries, Asia, etc.), and countries of citizenship;
- ▶ Release data in a numerical format instead of percentages. Labour Force Surveys are a rich source of information, as they cover active, as well as inactive populations, and collect a lot of disaggregation variables which cannot be used as percentages. A basic indicator such as the share of women in the labour force, for instance, is unavailable in UAE labour force surveys' publications, because data are presented for each nationality (Emiratis/ non-Emiratis), and each sex (males/females).

► Table 1: UAE. Sources of statistical data on migration and work migration to UAE and their characteristics (as of 30/09/2021)

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	Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)
Stocks	Federal Authority For Identity and Citizenship	Population statistics	Extraction/ processing from administrative records	As inferred from documents required to receive residency: sex, age, nationality, place of birth, address, sponsor's details (which includes if ID card holder is sponsored by employer/by expatriate worker= is family dependent), occupation, activity, sector, work status (https://ica.gov.ae/en/service/issuing-residence-permits/).	continuous	administrative records	FAIC
	Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC)	Populations statistics	Extraction from administrative records	not available	continuous	administrative records	FCSC
		Labour Force Survey	field survey	relation to labor force (employed; unemployed but previously employed in the U.A.E; unemployed and outside labour force in the U.A.E; full time housewife; full time student; not willing to work; unable to work; and 65 or over and not working). For the employed: main occupation, sector, main economic activity (industry) of the worker's establishment, employment status (employer, self-employed, employee, or unpaid worker), place of work (Emirate), wages and salaries, work hours.	Annual	interviews	
		Employment statistics (Federal and local government departments)	Synthesis from administrative records	Employees of Ministries and Federal institutions: sex, Emirate, nationality (Emirati/ non-Emirati), employer, education level	continuous	administrative records	Federal and local institutions' human resources departments
				Employees of Local Government Departments: sex, Emirate, nationality (Emirati/ non-Emirati), region of origin (Arab countries, non-Arab Asian countries, ..)employer, education level			
		Sectoral statistics: Manufacturing	Synthesis from administrative records	Characteristics of establishments in sectors	continuous	administrative records	Economic surveys, local statistics centers (Emirate level)
		Sectoral statistics: Transports and Storage					
		Sectoral statistics: Construction					
		Sectoral statistics: Banking sector					Central Bank
		Sectoral statistics: Insurance sector					Local statistics centers (Emirate level)

Data collection					
	Data-producing body	Source	statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts)
Stocks	Federal Authority For Identity and Citizenship	Population statistics	Number of residents registered in the Population Register who hold an ID card during the reference period	not available	no definition of international migrant. De facto: non-Emirati
	Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC)	Populations statistics	All persons living within the boundaries of the country at a specific time with their demographic characteristics from the official administrative records of the country.	not available	no definition of international migrant. De facto: non-Emirati
		Labour Force Survey	Nationally-representative sample of persons aged 15 and more, living in conventional dwellings, and in labour camps. Sample size amounts approximately to 12,000 households in the whole country (https://dsbb.imf.org/egdds/dqaf-base/country/ARE/category/EMP00).	International Standard of Occupation ISCO 08. International Standard of Economic Activities ISIC04. International Standard of Education ISCED13.	No definition of international migrant worker. De facto: non-Emirati worker. Employment: LFS follow the ILO statistical guidelines in terms of scope and classification
		Employment statistics (Federal and local government departments)	All employees of Federal and local governmental institutions	own classification of education levels	classification of educational status (from "illiterate" to "post-graduate") does nor refer to ISCED classifications
		Sectoral statistics: Manufacturing	establishments in sector (no details available)	International Industrial Classification of Economic Activities(ISIC4)	Compliance with ILO concepts and classifications
		Sectoral statistics: Transports and Storage			
		Sectoral statistics: Construction	Banks and financial establishments (no details available)	International Industrial Classification of Economic Activities(ISIC4)	Compliance with ILO concepts and classifications
		Sectoral statistics: Banking sector			
		Sectoral statistics: Insurance sector	establishments in sector (no details available)	International Industrial Classification of Economic Activities(ISIC4)	Compliance with ILO concepts and classifications

	Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)
Stocks	Ministry of Finance	statistics of GCC nationals' employment in the UAE	Synthesis from administrative records	country of citizenship, sector of employment, skill level of GCC countries' nationals employed in UAE (no more details available)	continuous	administrative records	Federal level: Federal Authority for Government, Human Resources Department; Local level: Human Resources Department, Rulers' Court, Executive Councils and department of statistics; Private sector: Records of the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE)
	Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE) - Labour Market Information Department (LMID)	Private sector employment statistics (stocks)	Extraction from administrative records	Sex, age group, emirate and city of residence, occupation, activity, skill level of employees in private sector.	continuous	administrative records	Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE)
	Dubai statistics Center (DSC)	Population estimates	processing from administrative records		continuous	administrative records	DSC
		Governmental employment statistics	administrative records		continuous	administrative records	Dubai Government Human Resources Department (Government Resources Planning System -GRP); Federal Authority for Government Human Resources; Direct coordination with some independent local and federal entities
		Labour Force Survey	field survey	1. Introductory Data. 2. Characteristics of household individuals: • Demographic characteristics • Educational and social characteristics • Training • Willingness to work 3. The economic activity status of individuals +15 years old, which includes: • Employed persons • Unemployed persons • Inactive persons	Annual	interviews	
		Statistical surveys of economic activities/ Economic surveys	Field survey	Number of workers and their remuneration in various economic activities, as well as the allocation of the workers according to nationality and gender.	Annual	Interviews	

Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Survey unit	statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts)
Stocks	Ministry of Finance	statistics of GCC nationals' employment in the UAE	Individuals	All non-Emirati GCC nationals formally employed (receiving regular remuneration in wages, salary, commission, tips or payment in kind) in the Federal and Local government sector, and in the private sector.	Skill level: UAE own (https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/tax/documents/2019/uae-immigration-update-intro-new-ccupational-classification-scheme.pdf)	definition of skill level differs from ISCO 88 and 08 (see "classification used")
	Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE) - Labour Market Information Department (LMID)	Private sector employment statistics (stocks)	Individuals	Employees in the private sector, who are registered with MoHRE (excluding the Free zones, outside UAE's labour law and which issue labour permits to their workers)	Occupations: major group of the International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO-08; Skill level: UAE own (https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/tax/documents/2019/uae-immigration-update-intro-new-ccupational-classification-scheme.pdf)	definition of skill level differs from ISCO 88 and 08 (see "classification used"); Definitions and classifications of occupations and activities comply with ILO's.
	Dubai statistics Center (DSC)	Population estimates	Individuals	Usual Resident Population: all individuals usually residing in Dubai, whether they are Emiratis or non-Emiratis, based on the periodic population census or on population projections.		
		Governmental employment statistics	Individuals	Employees: total of Emirati and non-Emirati individuals aged 18 and above working in the various local and federal government departments and institutions located in the Emirate of Dubai regardless of individual's place of residence. Includes workers at all occupation levels.	ISCO 08	
		Labour Force Survey	Households (private +collective)	Population 15 and above. The survey covers a random sample of Emirati and non-Emirati private households and collective households. Interviewees reside permanently in Dubai (definition includes those who are outside the emirate or the country but usually reside in Dubai, all individuals who intend to reside permanently and continuously in Dubai, or for at least six months - regardless of the visa state - or spent in the Emirate six months before the night of the time reference), regardless of the place of work, the place of issuance of the family book (Kulasat Alkaid)/ passport for Emiratis, and the place of issuance of residence permit for non-Emiratis. The sample size was a total of (3,000 Households) distributed as follows: (1,500) Emirati Households and (1,500) non-Emirati households, in addition to a sample of (1,000) from labour camps. (https://www.dsc.gov.ae/en-us/Programs-Statistical-Surveys/Pages/Statistical-Project-details.aspx?ProjectId=21#DSC_Tab1).	Classification of Countries and Nationalities (UN 2014) • International Standard Classification of Education Fields of Education and Training, (ISCED-F 2013) • International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO 08) • The International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Rev. 4 (ISIC 4.0)	LFS definitions follow most recent recommendations of ILO (https://www.dsc.gov.ae/Methodologies/Labour%20Force%20Survey%20in%20Dubai%20%202019.pdf)
		Statistical surveys of economic activities/ Economic surveys	All establishments resident and licensed in the Emirate of Dubai from various licensing bodies	Establishments operating in economic sectors defined according to ISIC Rev. 4 (ISIC4), excluding the financial sector. Includes one Free Zone. Sampling:• All establishments with a workforce of 100 or more. • All responding establishments, which employ less than four. • 40% of the 4-10 respondents were covered. • 33% of the remaining establishments in each activity if the sample is drawn in each activity randomly. • Excluding the financial services, agriculture, extractive, hotels, restaurants and all free zones except TECOM (for explanations see: https://www.dsc.gov.ae/Methodologies/ESD.ESS.TP01%20EN%20v3.0%202018-01_%20Economic%20Survey%20Methodology%202018.docx).	ISIC Rev. 4	Compliance with ILO concepts and classifications

	Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)
Stocks	Statistics Center Abu Dhabi (SCAD)	Mid-year population estimates	Processing from administrative records		continuous	administrative records	Census 2005
		census 2011		no information	ad hoc	no information	
		Labour Force Survey	field survey	Size and distribution of the workforce in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi according to demographic, family, social and economic characteristics, including the related metadata. · Defining the characteristics of employed and unemployed individuals. · Identifying the methods used by the unemployed individuals to look for work. · Identifying the factors that prevented some individuals from looking for work.	Annual	Private HH: 1. interviews, 2. phone interview with HH, 3. electronic questionnaires; Labour camps: Individual interviews were conducted with randomly selected workers from each camp, or: Data collection from the company organizing the camp will conduct an interview with the representative of individual workers.	
		Household Income and Expenditure survey	field survey	Basic Household Information · Variables of the form of housing and services characteristics · Household members' variables data · Labor force variables · Definitions and concepts of income · Definitions and concepts of capital operations · Definitions and concepts of expenditure. See: https://apps.scad.ae/hies/downloads/HIES-Questionnaire-en.pdf	every 5 years- 2013-2014; 2019	interviews	
	UAE Free Zones' visa departments	Statistics of employees in the Free Zones	administrative recording	n.a.	continuous	administrative records	administrative records of each Free Zone' authorities (no centralisation of data)

	Data collection					
	Data-producing body	Source	Survey unit	statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts)
Stocks	Statistics Center Abu Dhabi (SCAD)	Mid-year population estimates	Individuals	all usual residents, and those temporary absent from Abu Dhabi; Abu Dhabi Emirati citizens away from the Emirate.		
		census 2011	no information			
		Labour Force Survey	Households (private +collective)	Working-age population in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and adults aged 15 or more who usually reside in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The survey community will include the following categories: · Population residing in private housing units: 1. Private citizen families 2. Private non-citizen families 3. Group / joint families · The population residing in Labour accommodation. 1. Labour accommodation with restricted entry, for example, ADNOC 2. General Labour accommodation average annual sample size: 4,144 Emirati and non-Emirati private households; 90 labour camps (1,350 individuals). https://www.scad.gov.ae/MethodologyDocumentLib/Labor%20Force%20Survey%20Methodology.pdf	Economic Activity: International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC 4) Occupation: International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO 2008) Specialization: Classifications of education, fields of education, and training according to (ISCED 2015)	Compliance with ILO concepts and classifications
		Household Income and Expenditure survey	Housing units; households; individuals	Representative sample of individuals permanently residing in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi during 2019 . The survey covers all population centers and islands in the three regions of Abu Dhabi Emirate: Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, and Al Dhafra, and the various categories of the population, both citizens and residents. · Citizen households. · Non-citizen households. · Shared households. · Labour camps: their characteristics, expenditure and income are collected within the camps where they reside.	The International Standard Classification of Occupations (2 digits level). The international classification of economic activities – ISIC (International Standard Industrial Classification) (1 digit level). The Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose - COICOP.	Compliance with ILO concepts and classifications
	UAE Free Zones' visa departments	Statistics of employees in the Free Zones	individuals	Employees in Free Zones	n.a.	n.a.

Data dissemination										Remarks
Name of publication/ dataset		Available data	disaggregation vari-ables	Frequency of dissemi-nation	Last issue(s) published as of 30/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path		
Stocks	1	UAE Total Population Estimates by Age Groups and Gender	Total population (not disaggre-gated by nationality)	sex, age group	annual	2019	English/ Arabic	Bayanat.ae (UAE Open data portal)	https://bayanat.ae/en/data?themeid=17	
	1	Population of UAE	Total population (not disaggre-gated by nationality)	sex	annual	2020	English/ Arabic	FCSC	https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Statistics/Statistics-by-Subject.aspx#/%3Ffolder=Demography%20and%20Social/Population/Population&subject=Demography%20and%20Social	
	1	Labour Force Survey	Percentage distribution of foreign labour force (15 years and more) (males, females, total)	age group, marital status, educational level	Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	FCSC	https://fcsa.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Statistics/Statistics-by-Subject.aspx#/%3Ffolder=Demography%20and%20Social/Population/Population&subject=Demography%20and%20Social	
			Percentage distribution of employed foreigners (15 years and more)(males, females, total)	age group, marital status, educational level, main occupation group, activity, sector, wage category, employment status						
			Percentage distribution of foreigners (15 years and more) out of the labour force (males, females, total)	age group, marital status, education level, reason for not working						
			Foreigners' labour force participation rate (15 years and more) (males, females, total)	age group, marital status; education level.						
	1	Statistical Yearbook, "Labour" section (LFS 2017)	Percentage distribution of foreign labour force (15 years and more) (males, females, total)	age group, marital status, educational level	Annual	2018 (2017 data)	English/ Arabic	FCSC	https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Statistics/Statistics-by-Subject.aspx#/%3Fyear=&folder=Demog-raphy%20and%20Social/Vital%20Statistics/Births%20and%20Deaths&subject=Demography%20and%20Social	
			Percentage distribution of employed foreigners (15 years and more)(males, females, total)	age group, marital status, educational level, main occupation group, activity, sector, wage category, work hours, employment status, desire to change job						
			Percentage distribution of foreigners (15 years and more) out of the labour force (males, females, total)	age group, marital status, education level, reason for not working						
			Foreigners' labour force participation rate (15 years and more) (males, females, total)	age group, marital status; education level.						
Not publicly accessible										

Data dissemination											Remarks
Name of publica- tion/ dataset		Available data	disaggregation variables	Frequency of dissemina- tion	Last issue(s) published as of 05/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path			
Stocks	1	Business activities	Total number of employees in manufacturing sector, 2012-2018	activity	Annual	2018	English/ Arabic	FCSC	https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/Statistics/Statistics.aspx		
			Total number of employees in construction sector (2013-2018)								
			Total number of employees in Transportation and Storage Sector (2013 - 2018)								
	1	Banking	Foreign employees in the banking sector (2011-2018)	none	Annual	2018	English/ Arabic				
	1	Insurance	Foreign employees in the insurance sector (1979-2018)	sex, group of countries of origin (Arabs/ GCC/ Others), function	Annual	2018	English/ Arabic				
	1	The Annual Statistical Report on Gulf Joint Economic Integration	Numbers of GCC nationals in the Federal and local public sectors; in private sector	GCC country of citizenship; skill level (private sector only)	ad hoc	2016 (2010-2015 data)	English/ Arabic	Ministry of Finance	https://www.mof.gov.ae/En/opendata/Pages/details.aspx?sid=5		
	1	Employment by occupation in Private sector 2011-2019 (raw dataset)	Total number of employees in the private sector (no disaggregation by nationality)	sex, age, Emirate and city of residence, skill level, occupation, activity	Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	MoHRE	https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/data-library/statistical-report.aspx	No data available on domestic workers, handled by Tadbeer centers under MoHRE's umbrella	
	2	Knowledge Workers in Private Sector 2011-2019 (raw dataset)	Total number of high-ly-skilled employees in the private sector (3 upper categories of ISCO-08) (no disaggregation by nationality)	sex, age, Emirate and city of residence, occupation (3 categories), activity	Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	MoHRE	https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/data-library/statistical-report.aspx		
	3	Labour Market Information System (2011-2019)	Total number of employees in the private sector (no disaggregation by nationality)	sex, age, skill level, occupa- tion, activity	Annual	2020	English/ Arabic	MoHRE	https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/data-library/statistical-report.aspx		
	1	Yearly Population Estimates- Emirate of Dubai	Foreign population	none	Annual	2020 (end of year)	English/ Arabic	DSC	https://www.dsc.gov.ae/en-us/Publications/Pages/default.aspx		
1	Employees at Government Entities by Nationality, Gender and Sector (dataset)	Foreign employees at government entities	sex, sector	Annual	2020	English/ Arabic	DSC	https://www.dsc.gov.ae/en-us/Publications/Pages/default.aspx			

	Data dissemination								Remarks														
	Name of publication/ dataset	Available data	disaggregation vari- ables	Frequency of dissemi- nation	Last issue(s) published as of 05/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path															
Stocks	1	Bulletin of Labor Force Survey Results 2019	Percentage distribution of foreign population 15 years and over	sex, economic activity status	Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	DSC	https://www.dsc.gov.ae/en-us/Publications/Pages/default.aspx														
			Percentage distribution of employed foreign persons 15 years and above	nationality group, sex, age, marital status, education level, occupation, activity, employment status, workplace, average usual working hours per week																			
			Percentage distribution of unemployed foreign persons 15 years and over	sex, age, marital status, education level, unemploy- ment status																			
			Percentage distribution of population outside labor force 15 years and over	sex																			
			Crude Economic Participation Rate for foreign individuals 15+	sex																			
			Economic Dependency Rate for foreigners	sex																			
			Refined Economic Participation Rate for foreign individuals 15+	sex																			
			Foreigners' unemploy- ment rate	sex																			
	1	Economic Indicators of X sector activities	Number of workers; compensation of workers		Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	DSC	https://www.dsc.gov.ae/en-us/Programs-Statistical-Surveys/Pages/Statistical-Project-details.aspx?ProjectId=40#DSC_Tab2														
	2	Economic Indicators of X sector activities, by economic activity	Number of workers; compensation of workers								1	Statistical Yearbook, population and vital statistics section	Foreign population	sex, age group, region	Annual	2020 (2016 data)	English/ Arabic	SCAD	https://www.scad.gov.ae/en/pages/generalpublications.aspx?release-id=11340&publication-id=122&topicid=24				
1	Statistical Yearbook, population and vital statistics section	Foreign population	sex, age group, region	Annual	2020 (2016 data)	English/ Arabic	SCAD	https://www.scad.gov.ae/en/pages/generalpublications.aspx?release-id=11340&publication-id=122&topicid=24															

		Data dissemination							Remarks	
Name of publication/ dataset		Available data	disaggregation variables	Frequency of dissemi- nation	Last issue(s) published as of 05/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path		
	1	Statistical Yearbook, Labour Force section	Estimated percentage distribution of foreign labour force	sex, age group, region	Annual	2020 (2019 data)	English/ Arabic	SCAD	https://www.scad.gov.ae/en/ pages/GeneralPublications. aspx?pubid=79&themeid=7	
			Estimated percentage distribution of foreign employed population (15 Years and Over)	sex, age group, educational attainment, region, work status, main occupation, activity, sector, marital status, actual weekly working hours						
			Estimated percentage distribution of foreign population out of the labour force (15 Years and Over)	sex, age group,						
			Refined Economic Participation Rate for foreign individuals 15+	sex, age group, region						
			Non-citizens' economic dependency ratio	region, sex						
			2	Labour force publication						
	Not publicly accessible							https://www.scad.gov.ae/ MethodologyDocumentLib/ Household%20Income%20 and%20Expenditure%20 Survey%20Methodology.pdf	Employees in Free Zones are sponsored by Free Zones' authorities, who issue their labour permits (<a href="https://u.ae/en/informaa
tion-and-services/
business/recruiting/
recruiting-in-free-zones">https://u.ae/en/informaa tion-and-services/ business/recruiting/ recruiting-in-free-zones)	
							https://u.ae/en/informa- tion-and-services/business/ starting-a-busi- ness-in-a-free-zone#authori- ties-regulating-free-zone-activi- ties			

	Data collection										
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)	Survey unit	Statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts)
FLOWS	Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE) - Labour Market Information Department (LMID)	Labour permits statistics (private sector, inflows)	extraction from administrative records	New work permits issued to employees in UAE during a year in the private sector; sex, age, Emirate, city, skill level, occupation, activity of holder of new permit	continuous	administrative records	Records of the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE)	Individuals	New work permits issued to employees inside and outside the UAE during a year in the private sector (excluding the Free zones, outside the UAE Labour Law and which issue permits to their workers)	education and skill level: as per UAE labour law (own classification); occupation: major groups, International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO-08; economic activity: section level, International Standard Industries Classification version 3.1 (ISIC 3.1)	definition of skill level differs from ISCO 88 and 08 (see "classification used"); Definitions and classifications of occupations and activities comply with ILO's.
				New work permits issued to employees fom outside the UAE during a year in the private sector; sex, age, Emirate, city, skill level, occupation, activity of holder of new permit							
	Ministry of Finance	Inflows of employed GCC nationals to the UAE	Synthesis from administrative records	GCC country of citizenship, sector of employment, skill level (no more details available)	continuous	administrative records	Federal level: Federal Authority for Government, Human Resources Department; Local level: Human Resources Department, Rulers' Courts, Executive Councils and department of statistics; Private sector: Records of the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE)	Individuals	All non-Emirati GCC nationals newly employed (receiving regular remuneration in wages, salary, commission, tips or payment in kind) during the year in the Federal and Local government sectors, and in the private sector.	Skill level: UAE own (https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/tax/documents/2019/uae-immigration-update-intro-new-occupational-classification-scheme.pdf)	definition of skill level differs from ISCO 88 and 08 (see "classification used")
	General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA) (Dubai)	residency visas/ permits statistics	extraction from administrative records	number of new and renewed residency permits issued to foreign residents in the Emirate of Dubai	continuous	administrative records	GRDFA/ FAIC records	individuals	newly issued and renewed residency permits		

	Data dissemination							
	Name of publication/ dataset	Available data	disaggregation variables	Frequency of dissemination/ update	Last issue(s) published as of 30/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path
FLOWS	1 Labour Recruitment from UAE labour market 2011-2019 (raw dataset)	New work permits issued to employees in UAE during a year in the private sector (excluding the Free zone)	sex, age, Emirate, city, skill level, occupation, activity	Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	MoHRE	https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/data-library/statistical-report.aspx
	2 Labour Recruitment from abroad 2011-2019 (raw dataset)	New work permits issued to employees from abroad during a year in the private sector (excluding the Free zone)	sex, age, Emirate, city, skill level, occupation, activity	Annual	2019	English/ Arabic	MoHRE	https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/data-library/statistical-report.aspx
	1 The Annual Statistical Report on Gulf Joint Economic Integration	Numbers of GCC nationals newly employed in the Federal and local public sectors; in private sector	GCC country of citizenship	ad hoc	2016 (2010-2015 data)	English/ Arabic	Ministry of Finance	https://www.mof.gov.ae/En/opendata/Pages/details.aspx?sid=5
	1 GRDFA Open data-Residency transactions	Number of new and renewed residencies issued (total number of residence permit transactions after 2019)	none	Annual	2020	English/ Arabic	GDRFA	https://www.gdrfad.gov.ae/en/open-data

► Table 2: UAE. International migrants' characteristics by source and availability (last available date for each source)

Source	STOCKS					
	Population statistics		Labour Force Survey		Private sector Employment statistics (MoHRE)	
	collected/deductible	published	collected	published	collected	published
(a) main socio-demographic characteristics (international migrants (IM), international migrant workers (IMW))	IM	Total population	IM aged 15 and above		Employed IMW aged 15+	
sex	Yes	Yes	Yes	- (data presented as % of total for each sex and nationality)	Yes	Yes
age in single years or date of birth	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-
age group	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	Yes
relation to head of household	?	-	-	Yes (%)	-	-
marital status (15 and above)	?	-	Yes	Yes (%)	-	-
level of education attained (15 years and above) (broad classification based on ISCED)	?	-	Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	-
place of residence (administrative region, municipality, ..)	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
type of living quarters (private household, collective or institutional reason household, other type of living quarters, non-residential accommodation)	(can be inferred from address)	-	Yes (part of sampling)	-	Yes	-
nationality (national/ non-national)	Yes	Total population	Yes		Total population	
group of countries of origin (Arab states, non-Arab Asian countries, etc...)	(inferred from nationality of ID holders)	-	(can be inferred from worker's citizenship)	-	(can be inferred from worker's citizenship)	-
country of birth	(on passport of holder)	-	-	-	-	-
country of citizenship	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-
country of usual residence	UAE					
(b) main migration characteristics (international migrants (IM), international migrant workers (IMW))	IM				IMW	
purpose of migration (declared or documented reason for first entry into the country, specifically the country of actual or intended labour attachment)	can be inferred from records	-	-	-	-	-
type of visa, residence permit, work permit	ID goes with residence	-	-	-	work permits	
permanent, temporary or circular nature of migration	ID card for 1 year minimum	-	-	-	?	-
duration of stay: date of first entry into the country of labour attachment	can be inferred from records	-	-	-	-	-
(c) main work characteristics (resident and non-resident international migrant workers - IMW) (15 years and above)	IM; IMW		IM; IMW		IMW	
labour force status (employed, unemployed, outside the labour force)	(can be inferred from records)	-	Yes	Yes (%)	Employed workers	
sector of activity (governmental, private, domestic, other)	(mentioned on worker's labour card)	-	Yes	Yes (%)	private sector	
branch of economic activity			Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	Yes
current occupation			Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	Yes
previous occupation	-	-	-	-	can be inferred from records?	-
reasons for leaving previous employment	-	-	-	-	-	-
reasons for unemployment		-	-	-	-	-
status in employment	(mentioned in worker's labour file)	-	Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	Yes
stability of employment (permanent/ temporary)	-	-	?	-	Yes	-
working time, including hours usually worked, contractual hours of work	-	-	Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	-
duration of employment in years	-	-	?	-	can be inferred from records?	-
duration of unemployment/ job search	-	-	?	-	-	-
employment-related income	Mentioned in worker's record (necessary to define duration of residency)	-	Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	-

	FLOWS			
Source	Private sector labour permits statistics- recruitments from abroad (MoHRE)		Residence permits statistics	
	collected	published	collected	published (Dubai only)-figures
(a) main socio-demographic characteristics (international migrants (IM), international migrant workers (IMW))	Employed IMW aged 15+		IM	
sex	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
age in single years or date of birth	Yes	-	Yes	-
age group	Yes	Yes	-	-
relation to head of household	-	-	-	-
marital status (15 and above)	-	-	Yes	-
level of education attained (15 years and above) (broad classification based on ISCED)	Yes	-	Yes	-
place of residence (administrative region, municipality, ..)	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
type of living quarters (private household, collective or institutional reason household, other type of living quarters, non-residential accommodation)	Yes	-	(can be inferred from address)	-
nationality (national/ non-national)	Presumably non-nationals (recruitments from abroad)		Yes	
group of countries of origin (Arab states, non-Arab Asian countries, etc...)	(can be inferred from worker's citizenship)	-	(can be inferred from worker's citizenship)	-
country of birth	-	-	(on passport of holder)	-
country of citizenship	Yes	-	Yes	-
country of usual residence	UAE			
(b) main migration characteristics (international migrants (IM), international migrant workers (IMW))	IMW		IM	
purpose of migration (declared or documented reason for first entry into the country, specifically the country of actual or intended labour attachment)	(work-recruitment from abroad)		Yes	-
type of visa, residence permit, work permit	work permits		Yes	-
permanent, temporary or circular nature of migration	?		Yes	-
duration of stay: date of first entry into the country of labour attachment	since year of reference		(can be inferred from first residency)	-
(c) main work characteristics (resident and non-resident international migrant workers - IMW) (15 years and above)	IMW		IM; IMW	
labour force status (employed, unemployed, outside the labour force)	Employed workers		Yes	-
sector of activity (governmental, private, domestic, other)	private sector		-	-
branch of economic activity	Yes	Yes	-	-
current occupation	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
previous occupation	new recruitments+can be inferred from files	-	-	-
reasons for leaving previous employment		-	-	-
reasons for unemployment	n.a.	-	-	-
status in employment	Yes	-	-	-
stability of employment (permanent/ temporary)		-	-	-
working time, including hours usually worked, contractual hours of work	(in work contract)	-	-	-
duration of employment in years	new recruitments+can be inferred from files	-	-	-
duration of unemployment/ job search	na.	-	-	-
employment-related income	(in work contract)	-	-	-

Yes: collected/ published. -: Not collected/Not published Suggested additions to list of items in ICLS 2018 n.a.: not applicable

► **Table 3. UAE. Core statistics of stocks and flows and indicators**
pertaining to international migrant workers available in UAE published
sources (most recent relevant/comparable source as of 15/10/2021)

	statistics and indicators	indicator items and calculation	Remarks	STOCKS			Discrepancy (%)	FLOWS		
				(Author's estimate)	Labour Force Survey 2019	MoHRE LMIS (2019 data)		recruitments from abroad	recruitment from UAE	
				2019						
A	stock of international migrants at mid point of the reference period (13b)	Observed (survey), or stock of residency permit holders	Author's estimate, using 1. Figures of total (non-disaggregated) population for mid-years 2010 to 2019, published by FCSC; 2. Intercensal estimates of disaggregated Emirati and non-Emirati populations (end of 2006-mid-2010), last published in 2010 by FCSC; 3. Disaggregated figures of births and deaths (end of year figures), for the years 2009 to 2019 (2020 vital statistics not available as of 22/11/2021). Annual estimates of Emirati population are calculated for the years 2011 to 2019, using Emirati populations' natural increase only (births-deaths). Emirati citizens' net migration, and possible naturalisations, are assumed to be only a few. Estimates of non-Emirati residents are obtained by subtracting estimates of Emirati citizens from figures of total population.	8 259 100						
	Stock of international migrants of working age (16a)	Observed (survey), or stock of residency permit holders	Age distribution of foreign populations only available for non-nationals aged 15 and above- no disaggregated figures or percentage distribution of total foreign populations by age group at federal level. At Emirate level: only available for Abu Dhabi. No indication whether Abu Dhabi foreign population's age structure can be extrapolated to other Emirates. Therefore, there is no possibility to calculate estimates of IM of working age.							
B	stock of international migrant workers (labour force) (14) (16b)	Observed (survey), or stock of holders of residency permits for the purpose of working; or stocks of work permits holders	Private sector only, data not disaggregated by nationality. However, LFS 2019 indicates that only 8% of Emirati employed workers are employed in the private sector, as compared to 74% of non-Emiratis. LFS 2019: Rates for each sex and nationality (nationals/non-nationals) only indication available+no figures of work permits available.			5 095 000				
	usual residents (14a)									
	non-residents (14b)	observed (survey), or holders of temporary work permits for non-residents								
C	inflow of international migrants	new residency permits issued to newcomers	No data on residence permits available							
D	inflow of for-work international migrants	new residency permits issued to newcomers for the purpose of working								

	statistics and indicators	indicator items and calculation	Remarks	STOCKS			Discrepancy (%)	FLOWS	
				(Author's estimate)	Labour Force Survey 2019	MoHRE LMIS (2019 data)		recruitments from abroad	recruitment from UAE
				2019					
E	inflow of international migrant workers	(a) number of international migrants already present in the country of measurement before the beginning of the specified reference period, who were outside the labour force at the beginning of the reference period but entered the labour force of the country of measurement during the reference period;	Non-disaggregated figures of new recruitments for the <u>private sector</u> only. Recruitments from inside UAE are 1. Emirati nationals' first employment (from outside the labour force to inside the LF) or transfer from previous employment (within private sector or from another to private sector); 2. Foreign nationals' first employment (from outside the labour force to inside the LF) or transfer from previous employment (within private sector or from another to private sector)						369 642
		(b) inflow of international migrants who entered the country of measurement during the reference period – whether as for-work international migrants or for whatever other reason – and entered the labour force of the country of measurement during the reference period;	Non-disaggregated figures of new recruitments for the <u>private sector</u> only. Recruitments from abroad are presumably recruitments of non-nationals exclusively.					1 137 392	
		(c) non-residents of the country of measurement who became non-resident international migrant workers in the country during the reference period.	no data available						
		(a+b+c)	Total recruitments to private sector (nationals+non-nationals) during 2019					1 507 034	
F	outflow of international migrant workers	(a) number of international migrant workers who left the country of measurement (or died) during the specified reference period; and non-resident international migrant workers in the country of measurement whose labour attachment in that country terminated during the reference period, for whatever reason	no data on work permits' or employments' terminations						
		(b) number of international migrant workers who remained in the country of measurement but left the labour force of the country during the reference period							
		(c) non-resident international migrant workers in the country of measurement whose labour attachment in that country terminated during the reference period, for whatever reason							
		(a+b+c)							
G	change in the stock of international migrant workers	(E-F)							
H	labour force participation (activity) rate	(a) IMW 14a, 16b	As given in LFS 2019						
		(b) IM of working age 16a							
		a/b*100 (%)			83,3				

	statistics and indicators	indicator items and calculation	Remarks	STOCKS			Discrepancy (%)	FLOWS	
				(Author's estimate)	Labour Force Survey 2019	MoHRE LMIS (2019 data)		recruitments from abroad	recruitment from UAE
				2019					
I	employment-to-population ratio	(a) Employed IMW 14a, 16c	No possibility to calculate indicator						
		(b) IM of working age 16a							
		a/b*100 (%)							
J	Unemployment rate of international migrants	(a) Unemployed IMW 14a, 16d	No data on IMW's unemployment						
		(b) IMW 14a, 16b							
		a/b*100 (%)							
K	share of inflow of for-work international migrants in the total inflow of international migrants during the reference period	D/C							
L	Share of women in migrant labour force	(a) females IMW 14a, 16b	No possibility to calculate indicator						
		(b) IMW 14a, 16b							
		a/b*100 (%)							
M	Migrant youth participation rate (15-29)	(a) IMW aged 15-29 14a, 16b	No possibility to calculate indicator						
		(b) IM aged 15-29 16a							
		a/b*100 (%)							
N	Share of highly-skilled workers in foreign labour force	(a) IMW in the 3 upper categories of occupation (ISCO and Unified Arab Gulf Directory for Occupational Classification)	As given in LFS 2019						
		(b) IMW 14a, 16b							
		a/b*100 (%)			35,4				

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