Qatar’s Labour Force

Trends and Patterns

Social and Human Development Profile No. 1
In 2007, only 6% of males in the labour force were Qataris, compared with 12% in 2001: for females the corresponding figures are 22% and 27%.

In 2007, ratio of Qataris to non-Qataris in the labour force was 1:12, compared with 1:6 in 2001.

In 2007, two thirds of employed Qatari women had higher education, compared with just 31 per cent of Qatari men.

• Qatari female labour force participation rose to 35% in 2007 compared with 27% in 2001
• Qatari males start to leave the labor force at an early age, approximately 20 years before retirement age (60 years)

As Human Development Increases so too does Female Labour Force Participation

Note: Size of the bubble indicate Female Tertiary Enrolment Rates
Source of data: QSA, LFS, 2001 and 2007
In 2007, 64% of employed Qatari males in public administration, compared with 30% among Qatari females.

Majority of non-Qatari females in domestic services

Source of data: QSA, LFS, 2001 and 2007
Growth of Qatari Male Employment Greatest in Oil and Gas: for Females in Health and Social Work

Growth of Non-Qatari Male Employment Greatest in Construction: for Females in Health and Social Work

Source of data: QSA, LFS, 2001 and 2007
Low Qatari Unemployment in 2007 Contrasts with High Levels in 2001

- Qatari unemployment rate just 3.2% in 2007; compared with 11.6% in 2001 - a trend reflecting the country’s high economic growth

Among Unemployed Qatari in 2007, Over Half Concentrated at Ages 20-29

Source of data: QSA, LFS, 2001 and 2007
• In 2007; 89% of employed Qataris in the government sector, and just 6% in the private sector

• In 2007; 88% employed Non-Qataris in the private sector, and just 9% in the government sector

Source of data: QSA, LFS, 2007
Positive Effects of Qatarisation: Rising Share of Qatari Males in Professional and Managerial Work

Source of data: QSA, LFS, 2001 and 2007

Care is required in interpretation as the data are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Further, the grossed-up estimates of numbers of non-Qataris are also affected by methodological constraints.