

	<b>Quick Facts</b>	
	<b>Immigration detainees (2017)</b>	Not Available
	<b>Detained asylum seekers (2017)</b>	Not Available
	<b>Detained minors (2017)</b>	Not Available
	<b>Immigration detention capacity (2017)</b>	Not Available
	<b>Persons expelled (2017)</b>	Not Available
	<b>International migrants (2019)</b>	3,034,845
	<b>New asylum applications (2019)</b>	141
	<b>Number of immigration detainees on a given day (2017)</b>	Not Available

## NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/middle-east/kuwait>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

# STATISTICS

## Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2017	Number of immigration detainees on a given day	Not Available	2017
Top nationalities of detainees	India, Philippines, Ethiopia, Egypt, Sri Lanka	2018	Number of persons granted alternatives to immigration detention	Not Available	2017
Number of detained asylum seekers	Not Available	2017	Total number of detained minors	Not Available	2017
Number of detained unaccompanied minors	Not Available	2017	Number of detained accompanied minors	Not Available	2017
Number of detained stateless persons	Not Available	2017	Number of apprehensions of non-citizens	Not Available	2017
Immigration detainees as a percentage of total international migrant population	Not Available	2017	Estimated total immigration detention capacity	Not Available	2017
Number of dedicated long-term immigration detention centres	1	2015	Estimated capacity of dedicated long-term immigration detention centres	Not Available	2017
Number of dedicated medium-term immigration detention centres	Not Available	2017	Number of immigration offices	Not Available	2017
Number of transit facilities	Not Available	2017	Number of criminal facilities	2	2015
Number of ad hoc facilities	4	2015	Number of persons removed/returned (voluntary returns and deportations)	Not Available	2017
Number of deportations/forced returns only	13,000	2018	Percentage of persons removed in relation to total number of people placed in removal procedures	Not Available	2017
Criminal prison population	6,000	2018	Percentage of foreign prisoners	13.5	2003
	5,400	2016			
	4,045	2009			
	3,500	2005			
	2,946	2002			
	3,100	2000			
Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	157	2018			
	147	2016			

## Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
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<b>Population</b>	4,300,000	2020	<b>International migrants</b>	3,034,845	2019
	4,588,148	2018		3,202,000	2018
	3,892,000	2015		2,866,100	2015
<b>International migrants as a percentage of the population</b>	69.78	2018	<b>Estimated number of undocumented migrants</b>	99,823	2018
	73.6	2015			
<b>Refugees</b>	686	2019	<b>Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants</b>	0.23	2016
	673	2018		0.16	2014
	618	2017			
	930	2016			
	741	2015			
	614	2014			
<b>Total number of new asylum applications</b>	141	2019	<b>Refugee recognition rate</b>	93.3	2014
	164	2017			
	199	2016			
	110	2014			
<b>Stateless persons</b>	92,000	2018			
	93,000	2016			
	93,000	2015			

<b>DOMESTIC LAW</b>					
<b>LEGAL TRADITION</b>					
<b>Legal tradition</b>	<b>Name</b>			<b>Observation Date</b>	
	Muslim law				
	Civil law				
	Customary law				
<b>LAWS AND REGULATIONS</b>					
<b>Constitutional guarantees?</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Constitution and Articles</b>	<b>Year Adopted</b>	<b>Last Year Amended</b>	
	Yes	Constitution of Kuwait 1962	1962	1962	
<b>LAWS AND REGULATIONS</b>					
<b>Core pieces of national legislation</b>	<b>Name</b>			<b>Year Adopted</b>	<b>Last Year Amended</b>
	Amiri Decree No. 17 of 1959 issuing the Aliens Residence Law			1959	2011

LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Additional legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Ministerial Decision No. 2302 of 2016 Issuing the Implementing Regulations of Law No. 68 of 2015 on Domestic Workers		2016	
	Labour Law		2010	2013
	Law No. 91 of 2013 Combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants. Adopted on 17 March 2013		2013	
GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION				
Immigration-status-related grounds	Name		Observation Date	
	Detention of unauthorised persons by executive discretion		2017	
	Detention for unauthorised entry or stay		2017	
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Does the country provide specific criminal penalties for immigration-related violations?	Fines	Incarceration	Observation Date	
	Yes	Yes	2018	
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Grounds for criminal immigration-related detention/incarceration and maximum potential duration of incarceration	Grounds for Incarceration	Maximum Number of Days of Incarceration		Observation Date
	Unauthorized entry	180		2018
	Unauthorized exit	180		2018
	Unauthorized re-entry	365		2018
	Unauthorised stay	180		2018
VULNERABLE PERSONS				
Is the detention of vulnerable persons provided in law? Are they detained in practice?	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Pregnant women		Yes	2015
	Victims of trafficking	Not mentioned	Yes	2013
EXPEDITED REMOVAL AND RE-ENTRY BAN				
Re-entry ban	Name		Observation Date	
	Yes		2018	

## COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	<p>According to GDP partner Migrant-Rights.org, which has posted a dedicated page updating responses by all GCC countries to Covid-19 and its impact on migrant workers in the Gulf (see link below), the government of Kuwait has taken a series of measures that affect migrant workers in the country, including with respect to detention and deportation. In particular, according to Migrant-Rights.org: - The Interior Ministry has asked that all businesses stop employing “live-out” workers and has detained several such workers for medical examinations. - Since Kuwait shut down its airport, the recruitment of “live-in” domestic workers remains at a standstill. - The Interior Ministry has also announced that expats who do not comply with measures to contain COVID-19 could be deported and several have been arrested so far. - Officials have set up temporary accommodation for approximately 25,000 migrant workers who work for companies contracted with the Ministry of Health to ensure they do not interact with others. The country has reportedly sought to continue deportation flights despite the crisis, though several home countries initially refused to accept their nationals without medical tests. On 23 March, the Arab Times reported that both India and the Philippines have refused to accept deportees without a medical certificate: “Security sources revealed that the (Kuwaiti) Ministry of the Interior stopped completing the procedures for deporting 340 Filipino and Indian nationalities from the deportation prison after both the countries refused to receive the deportees. Both countries require a health certificate for every deportee that they are free from coronavirus which stopped the procedures after legal matters were completed. The sources stated that 3 flights were supposed to be carried out, 2 of them to India and the third one to the Philippine capital Manila, but all trips were canceled due to the request of the authorities of both countries for a health certificate stating the safety of everyone who is deported from diseases.” Kuwait is one of several Gulf countries to have asked Bangladesh to accept the return of its undocumented workers, who number in the tens of thousands. The Daily Star reported on 9 April: “According to an expatriates’ welfare ministry official, Kuwait asked several countries, including the Philippines, India, Sri Lanka, Egypt and Bangladesh, to take back the undocumented migrant workers. ‘The Philippines already started repatriation of its undocumented nationals in Kuwait. Egypt agreed to do so. India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh had observed that it would be better if the repatriation was done after the coronavirus pandemic was over,’ he said. Kuwait, however, warned that the countries that don’t take back their undocumented workers now, might not get priority when Kuwait starts fresh recruitment later, the official said preferring anonymity. Later, it was finalised, by Kuwait and Bangladesh, that 125 Bangladeshis, in deportation centres and waiting to return, and 190 others in prison for committing various crimes, would be deported between April 16 and 20, the official said.”</p>	2020

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

### Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Ratification Year
International treaties	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2013
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2006
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	2006
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	1996
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1996
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1996
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1994
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1991
	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1975
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1968
<b>Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified</b>		10/19

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
International treaty reservations	Name	Reservation Year	Observation Date
	CRPD Article 25	2013	2013
	ICCRP Article 2	1996	1996
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date	
	0/7		
	0/7		
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
	Committee against Torture	§26. The State party should enact specific legislation in order to protect "Bidun" people and recognize their legal status. The State party should adopt all adequate legal and practical measures to simplify and facilitate the regularization and integration of these persons and their children. It should ensure that these persons enjoy all human rights without discrimination of any kind. The State party should also adopt the necessary measures to guarantee that these persons are informed of their rights in a language they understand and have access to the fundamental legal safeguards from the moment they are deprived of their liberty, without any discrimination.	2011
	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women	§33 (d) Collect data on acts of trafficking and on victims who have been detained, prosecuted or deported since 2005 for acts such as prostitution or absconding.	2011
	Human Rights Committee	§20. The State party should ensure that persons awaiting deportation are detained only for a reasonable period of time, and that judicial remedies are available to review the lawfulness of their detention.	2011
Regional treaties, regulations, and directives			
Regional legal instruments	Name	Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)	
	AC, Arab Charter on Human Rights	2013	
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2010	2017
	No	2015	

## INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

Governing structures		
Federal or centralized governing system	Federal or centralized governing system	Observation Date
	Centralized system	2018

Governing structures					
Centralized or decentralized immigration authority	Centralized or decentralized immigration authority			Observation Date	
	Centralized immigration authority			2018	
Institutions responsible for immigration detention					
Custodial authority	Agency	Ministry	Ministry Typology	Observation Date	
	General Department of Residence Affairs (Formerly Directorate General of Immigration and Passports)	Ministry of Interior	Interior or Home Affairs	2015	
Institutions responsible for immigration detention					
Detention Facility Management	Entity Name		Entity Type	Observation Date	
	Directorate General of Prisons		Governmental	2015	
	Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour		Governmental	2014	
Detention monitoring institutions					
Authorized monitoring institutions	Institution	Institution Type		Observation Date	
	Kuwait Society For Human Rights	Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)		2017	
Detention monitoring institutions					
Do NGOs carry out visits?	Do NGOs regularly carry our visits?			Observation Date	
	Yes			2017	
Detention monitoring institutions					
NGO capacity to receive complaints?	NGO capacity to receive complaints?			Observation Date	
	Yes			2017	
Detention monitoring institutions					
Do NGOs publish reports on immigration detention?	Do NGOs publish reports on immigration detention?			Observation Date	
	No			2018	
Detention monitoring institutions					
Do parliamentary organs carry out visits?	Do parliamentary organs carry out visits?			Observation Date	
	Yes			2017	
Detention monitoring institutions					
Do parliamentary organs publicly report on their detention findings?	Do parliamentary organs publicly report on their detention findings?			Observation Date	
	Yes			2017	

More information about immigration detention in Kuwait is available at the website of the Global Detention Project ([www.globaldetentionproject.org](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org))