



| Quick Facts | |
|---|---------------|
| Immigration detainees (2017) | 27,837 |
| Detained asylum seekers (2018) | Not Available |
| Detained minors (2018) | Not Available |
| Immigration detention capacity (2017) | Not Available |
| Persons expelled (2015) | 14,254 |
| International migrants (2019) | 2,286,226 |
| New asylum applications (2017) | 399 |
| Number of immigration detainees on a given day (2017) | 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/oman>
- "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 | 27,837 | 2017 | Number of immigration detainees on a given day | Not Available | 2017 |
| | 10,000 | 2006 | | | |
| Top nationalities of detainees | Bangladesh, Pakistan, India | 2017 | Number of persons granted alternatives to immigration detention | Not Available | 2017 |
| | | | | | |
| Number of detained asylum seekers | Not Available | 2018 | Total number of detained minors | Not Available | 2018 |
| | | | | | |
| Number of detained unaccompanied minors | Not Available | 2018 | Number of detained accompanied minors | Not Available | |
| | | | | | |
| Number of detained stateless persons | Not Available | 2018 | Number of apprehensions of non-citizens | 10,000 | 2006 |
| | | | | | |
| 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 | 2 | 2006 | 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 | Not Available | 2017 |
| | | | | | |
| Number of ad hoc facilities | Not Available | 2017 | Number of persons removed/returned (voluntary returns and deportations) | 14,254 | 2015 |
| | | | | 10,000 | 2006 |
| Number of deportations/forced returns only | Not Available | 2017 | Percentage of persons removed in relation to total number of people placed in removal procedures | Not Available | 2017 |
| | | | | | |
| Criminal prison population | 1,300 | 2013 | Percentage of foreign prisoners | 30.3 | 2002 |
| | | | | | |
| Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population) | 36 | 2013 | | | |
| | | | | | |

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

| | | Observation Date | | | Observation Date |
|--|-----------|------------------|---|-----------|------------------|
| Population | 5,100,000 | 2020 | International migrants | 2,286,226 | 2019 |
| | 4,800,000 | 2018 | | 2,054,458 | 2018 |
| | 4,491,000 | 2015 | | 1,845,000 | 2015 |
| International migrants as a percentage of the population | 44.2 | 2018 | Estimated number of undocumented migrants | 50,000 | 2015 |
| | 41.1 | 2015 | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|------|--|---------------|------|
| Refugees | 308 | 2019 | Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants | 0.07 | 2016 |
| | 308 | 2018 | | 0.04 | 2014 |
| | 309 | 2017 | | | |
| | 316 | 2016 | | | |
| | 245 | 2015 | | | |
| | 151 | 2014 | | | |
| Total number of new asylum applications | 399 | 2017 | Refugee recognition rate | Not Available | 2017 |
| | 266 | 2016 | | | |
| | 163 | 2014 | | | |

| DOMESTIC LAW | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| LEGAL TRADITION | | | | |
| Legal tradition | Name | | Observation Date | |
| | Muslim law | | | |
| | Customary law | | | |
| | Civil law | | | |
| LAWS AND REGULATIONS | | | | |
| Constitutional guarantees? | Yes/No | Constitution and Articles | Year Adopted | Last Year Amended |
| | Yes | The Basic Statute of Oman | 1999 | 2011 |
| LAWS AND REGULATIONS | | | | |
| Core pieces of national legislation | Name | | Year Adopted | Last Year Amended |
| | The Foreign Residency Law No. 16 of 1995 | | 1995 | 2018 |
| LAWS AND REGULATIONS | | | | |
| Additional legislation | Name | | Year Adopted | Last Year Amended |
| | Royal Decree No. 126/ 2008 Issuing the Anti-Trafficking Law | | 2008 | |
| GROUND FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION | | | | |
| Immigration-status-related grounds | Name | | Observation Date | |
| | Detention for unauthorised entry or stay | | 2018 | |
| | Detention for unauthorised exit | | 2018 | |
| | Detention to prevent unauthorised entry at the border | | 2018 | |
| 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 |
| | | Unauthorised stay | 90 |
| LENGTH OF DETENTION | | | |
| Average length of detention | Number of Days | | Observation Date |
| | 30 | | 2014 |
| COVID-19 UPDATES | | | |
| Latest Update | Update Status | | Observation Date |
| | <p>There has been a concerted civil society campaign urging authorities in Oman to assist migrant labourers, who form a critical backbone to the economy of Oman as in other Gulf countries. In Gulf countries, workers must be sponsored by an employer to enter the country, under the kafala systems. The employer has then the authority to renew residence permits, which not only makes migrant workers dependent on their employers for their legal status, but also makes them fear deportation. On 10 April, a coalition of 16 NGO's called the authorities to ensure that migrant workers receive adequate protection during the Covid-19 pandemic. Previously, in early April, HRW released a statement arguing that in light of the pandemic, people in immigration detention in Gulf countries pending deportation should be given "alternatives to detention." On 30 April, Amnesty International raised concerns about "the impact of the pandemic on protection of migrant workers in the Gulf, where common issues like overcrowded accommodation now present a public health risk." According to Migrant-Rights.org, "The Omani government provides free testing and treatment to all residents, including those without insurance. However, treatment for nationals and migrants differs; according to sources, while nationals who test positive for Covid19 are immediately brought into isolation, workers are told to quarantine at home until or unless their conditions worsen." In mid-April, the government called on private firms to ask non-Omani employees "to leave permanently", and later advocated for the replacement of foreign workers in government sectors by nationals. Omani Health Minister Ahmed Bin Mohammed Al-Saidi reportedly stated in a radio interview, earlier in April, that "our biggest challenge is among expatriate workers." On 5 May 2020, the number of confirmed cases was at 2,735. Out of the 98 new cases in the last 24 hours, 56 affected non-Omanis.</p> | | 2020 |

| INTERNATIONAL LAW | | |
|--|--|-------------------|
| Relevant international treaties and date of ratification | | |
| International treaties | Name | Ratification Year |
| | ICPED, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance | 2020 |
| | CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities | 2009 |
| | CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women | 2006 |
| | CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime | 2005 |
| | CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children | 2005 |
| | ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination | 2003 |
| | CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child | 1996 |
| | VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations | 1974 |
| Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified | 8/19 | |

| Relevant international treaties and date of ratification | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------------------|
| Ratio of complaints procedures accepted | Number | Observation Date | |
| | 0/4 | | |
| | 0/4 | | |
| Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms | | | |
| Visits by special procedures of the Human Rights Council | Name | Year of Visit | Observation Date |
| | Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children | 2006 | 2015 |
| Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms | | | |
| Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review | Recomendation Issued | Year Issued | Observation Date |
| | Yes | 2017 | 2017 |
| | No | 2011 | |

| INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Governing structures | | | | |
| Federal or centralized governing system | Federal or centralized governing system | | | Observation Date |
| | | Centralized system | | |
| Governing structures | | | | |
| Centralized or decentralized immigration authority | Centralized or decentralized immigration authority | | | Observation Date |
| | | Centralized immigration authority | | |
| Institutions responsible for immigration detention | | | | |
| Custodial authority | Agency | Ministry | Ministry Typology | Observation Date |
| | Royal Oman Police | Royal Oman Police | Internal or Public Security | 2015 |
| | Ministry of Manpower | Ministry of Manpower | Labour | 2006 |
| | Royal Oman Police | Royal Oman Police | Internal or Public Security | 2006 |
| Institutions responsible for immigration detention | | | | |
| Apprehending authorities | Name | Agency | Ministry | Observation Date |
| | Royal Oman Police | Police | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 2017 |
| Institutions responsible for immigration detention | | | | |
| Detention Facility Management | Entity Name | Entity Type | Observation Date | |
| | Royal OmanPolice | Governmental | 2015 | |
| | Royal Oman Police | Governmental | 2015 | |

| Detention monitoring institutions | | | |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| Authorized monitoring institutions | Institution | Institution Type | Observation Date |
| | Oman Human Rights Commission | National Human Rights Institution (or Ombudsperson) (NHRI) | 2017 |
| Detention monitoring institutions | | | |
| Is the national human rights institution (NHRI) recognized as independent? | Is the NHRI recognized as independent by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions? | | Observation Date |
| | No | | 2018 |
| Detention monitoring institutions | | | |
| Does NHRI carry out visits? | Does NHRI carry out visits in practice? | Observation Date | |
| | Yes | 2017 | |
| Detention monitoring institutions | | | |
| Does NHRI have capacity to receive complaints? | Does NHRI have capacity to receive complaints? | Observation Date | |
| | Yes | 2017 | |
| Detention monitoring institutions | | | |
| Does NHRI publicly release reports on immigration detention? | Does NHRI publicly release reports on immigration detention? | Observation Date | |
| | No | 2017 | |

More information about immigration detention in Oman is available at the website of the Global Detention Project (www.globaldetentionproject.org)