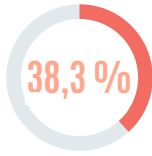


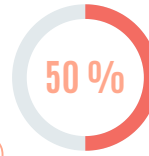
WOMEN IN THE GCC

EGIC INFOGRAPHIC



women represent **38.3%** of the total GCC population (**58.7 million**)

(largely due to the high number of male expat workers)



but in many GCC countries they represent around **50%** of the nationals



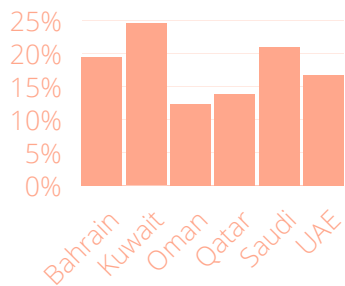
(UN, 2020)

In **Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman** twice more women than men enrol in **tertiary education**, the difference is **eightfold** in **Qatar**. In the **UAE and Saudi Arabia** it is **almost equal**.



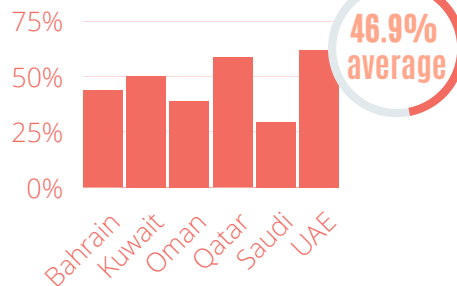
43-56% of women in the GCC countries are **under 30** (World Bank, 2020)

% of total labour force



(World Bank, 2020)

participation in labour force 15+



(World Bank, 2020)

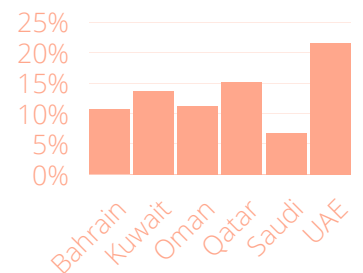
46.9% average

Female unemployment remains high.

Saudi Arabia's women labour participation rate increased from **20.9%** in 2017 to **35.9%** in 2021.



in managerial positions



(UN Women, 2021)

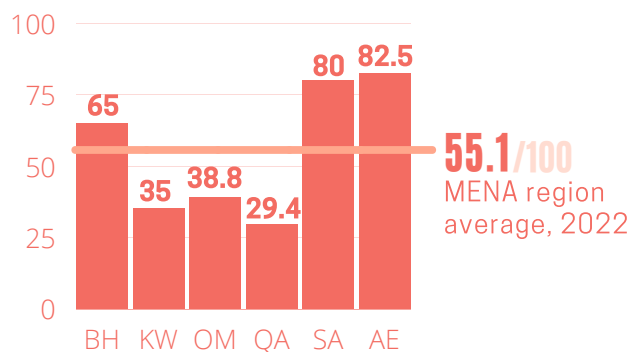
How much could GCC economies grow if women's participation would be equal to men's?*



*GDP GROWTH BY 2025 WITH GENDER PARITY IN THE WORKFORCE, Council on Foreign Relations. Data unavailable for Bahrain.

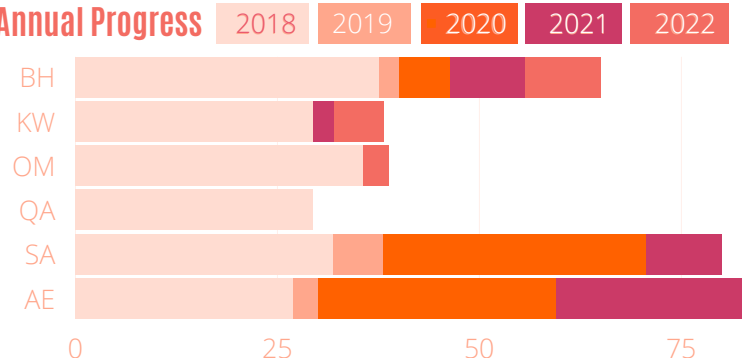
Women, Business and the Law Index

(World Bank, 2022)



(World Bank's project measuring the legal differences on access to economic opportunities between men and women in 190 economies.)

Annual Progress



Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the UAE surpass the regional average and they **made the biggest progress in legal reforms to advance women's economic empowerment** of all GCC countries since 2018.

Qatar is the only GCC country that **did not make any legal progress toward gender equality** since 2018.

WOMEN IN THE GCC

EGIC INFOGRAPHIC



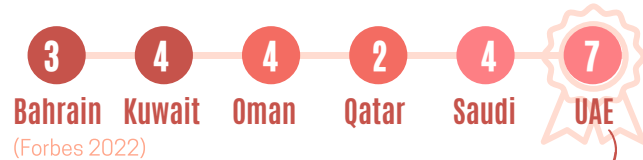
In 2019, women represented 39% of all entrepreneurs in Saudi Arabia.

The number of Saudi women-owned companies grew by 60% between 2019-2021.



Women business-owners account for 10% of the UAE's total private sector.

Number of women among the top 50 Most Powerful Businesswomen in the Middle East:



Two of them belong to the world's 100 most powerful women. (Forbes 2021)

72/156

The UAE has the lowest gender gap index in the GCC

Since 2021, companies in the UAE must have at least one woman on their board of directors.

Saudi Arabia was the first of the GCC to register female inventors (2001).

In Oman and Saudi Arabia, more women than men (18-64 y) are currently nascent entrepreneurs or own a new business.

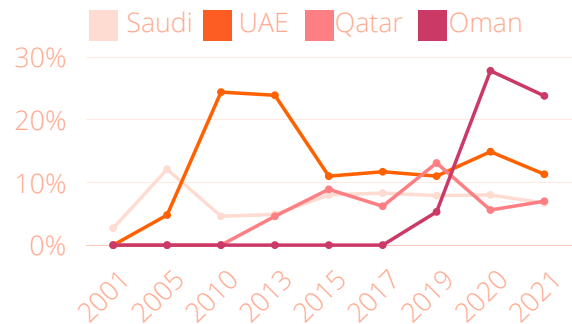
(Global Entrepreneurship Research Association, 2021)

Most GCC countries' new female entrepreneurs (62% average) operate in **wholesale/retail**.



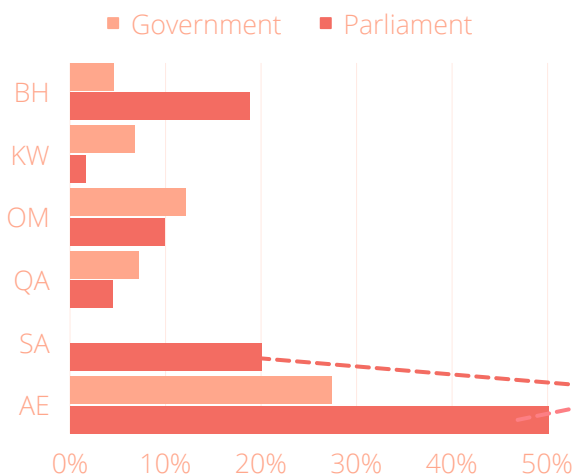
inventors (% of total)

(WIPO, 2022)



The # of UAE female inventors peaked in 2010 and 2013 at 24%. Only Oman had more female inventors—two years in a row (2020, 2021).

Women in government and parliament positions (%)



(Source: UN Women, Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2022)

The UAE has the highest % of women in top political jobs in the GCC and one of the world's highest proportion of women MPs.

Kuwait, Oman and Qatar have some of the world's lowest % of women parliamentarians.



Bahrain is currently the only MENA country with a woman speaker of a chamber.

The UAE and Saudi Arabia introduced quota on women.

More women politicians are appointed than elected.

Kuwait appointed the GCC's first woman Ambassador (1993), Bahrain the second (2000).

Qatar appointed the first woman as Minister in the GCC in 2003.

The UAE currently has 7 women Ambassadors, the most among the GCC countries.