



Economic Development

Prospects for
the Eastern Province

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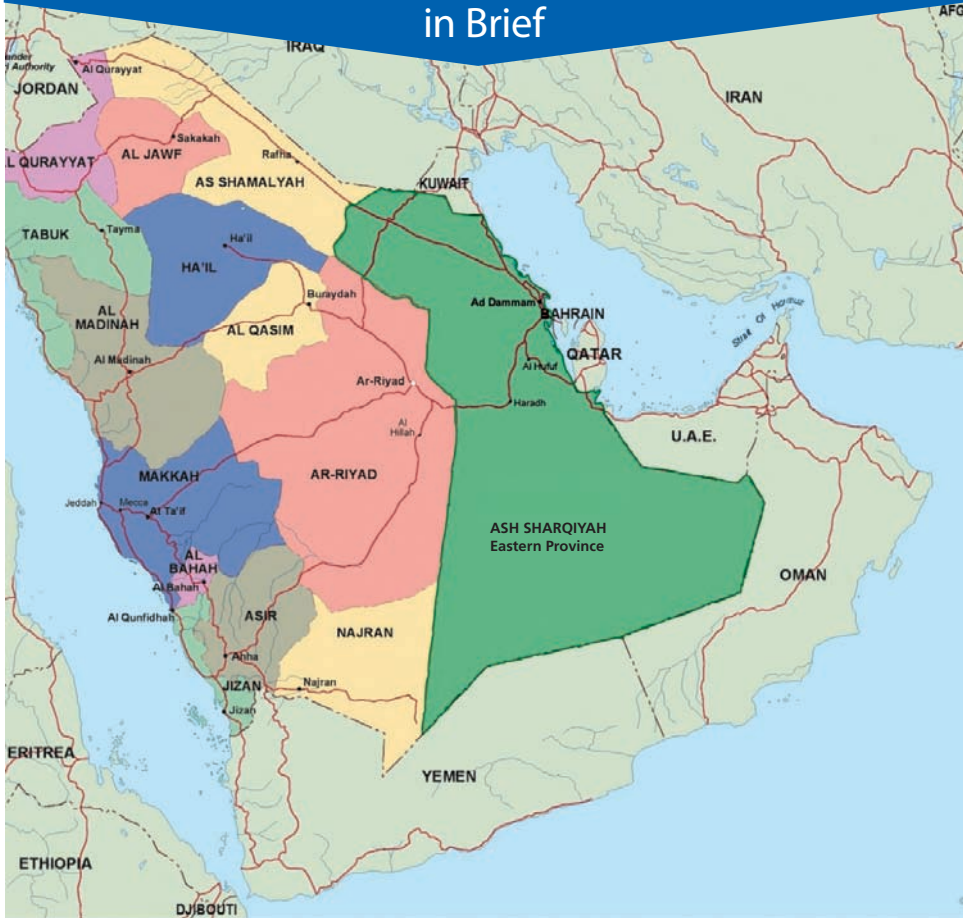
Prospects for
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Contents

Eastern Province in Brief	02
Section One: Eastern Province's Key Economic Development	04
Section Two: Industrial Activity in Eastern Province	06
Section Three: Infrastructure Development in Eastern Province	15
Section Four: Tourism Activity in Eastern Province	18
Section Five: Population in Eastern Province	22
Section Six: Work Force in Eastern Province	24
Section Seven: Housing Units in Eastern Province	26
Section Eight: Hospital & Beds in Eastern Province	28
Section Nine: Agriculture & Livestock Resources in Eastern Province	32
Section Ten: Water Production in Eastern Province	38
Conclusion and References	42-45

Eastern Province

in Brief



The Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia is the place where Kingdom's first oil was extracted in 1938 and subsequently this region has become the center of world-class oil, gas and petrochemical industries with the presence of global giants in these sectors. Today, the Eastern Province is dubbed "The Industrial Capital of the Entire Gulf" for its enormous industrial activities. And it is evident when this region has become the biggest recipient of industrial capital investments of the Kingdom.

With the support from the recently launched “Saudi Vision 2030”, the Eastern Province has taken a key role in the Kingdom’s drive to diversify its income away from oil. Most of the manufacturing industries such as petrochemicals, chemicals, steel, cement, aluminum and plastics are located in the region. These industries are mainly based in the Dammam-I, II and III industrial estates, Al Ahsa-I and II industrial estates, Hafr Al-Batin industrial estate and Jubail-I and II industrial cities.

The Eastern Province is the heart of Saudi Arabia’s oil industry and most importantly, it is home to Saudi Aramco, the world’s largest oil company in terms of its proven oil reserves, which constitute one-fourth of the total global stocks.

The Eastern Province is the largest province among the Kingdom’s 13 provinces, occupying an area of 778,500 sq km, which is 36 percent of the country’s land mass. This region boasts the world’s largest sand dune desert, the Rub’ Al-Khali and the world’s largest onshore and offshore oil fields Al Ghawar and Al Safaniyah respectively.

The Eastern Province has a strategic location for its close proximity to other Gulf countries. The region has common borders with Kuwait in the north, Qatar and Bahrain in the east, UAE and Oman at its south.

The major cities of the Eastern Province are Dammam, Dhahran, Al Khobar, Al Ahsa, Jubail, Qatif, Khafji, Abqaiq, Hafar Al Batin, Mubarratz, Al ‘Uyun, Rehima, Na’iriyah, Qatif, Seihat and Ras Tanura where the first Saudi refinery was built. The historically relevant places of Uqair and Tarout Island too are part of the Eastern Province.



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Eastern Province's Key Economic Development at a Glance

- The Eastern Province is the largest recipient of industrial investments among other provinces in the Kingdom. By 2018, a total of SR659.5 billion was invested in more than 1,728 industrial units.
- The Eastern Province is the second largest region in terms of generating employment opportunities for people after Riyadh region. In 2018, over 252,849 people were employed in the Eastern Province.
- The Eastern Province has attracted a large number of foreign companies to invest in the region. In 2018, a total of 240 joint ventures and 107 fully owned foreign entities were established in the region.
- In 2018, the total number of commercial registration in the Eastern Province stood at 179,598 while the total number of new licenses issued during the period reached 35,859.
- The Eastern Province has made unprecedented progress in its infrastructure development building well-set out road networks, railways, new international airport, utility services, healthcare and educational establishments and a number of world-class industrial cities and estates.
- These industrial cities include Jubail Industrial City One and Two, Dhahran Techno Valley, Ras Al Khair Mining City and the latest large-scale infrastructure facility-- the King Salman Industrial Park, in addition to Saudi Authority for Industrial Cities and Technology Zones (MODON)- developed a number of industrial estates like Dammam 1st, 2nd and 3rd industrial estates, Al Ahsa 1st and 2nd industrial estates and Hafr Al-Batin Industrial Estate.
- The Eastern Province has emerged as an attractive tourist spot with its panoramic coastline stretching over 700 kilometers. Its major tourist spots include Half-moon beach, King Fahd Causeway, King Fahd Park, Marjan Island, sandy beaches in Dammam, Khobar and Jubail, Jabal Qarah, Al-Asfar Lake, Ibrahim Palace and newly developed Al-Uqair tourist destination.
- The Eastern Province has 567 residential units used for tourism and recreation purposes and 102 hotels including 18 five star, 27 four star and 30 three star.
- The Eastern Province is the third largest populous region in the Kingdom after Makkah and Riyadh. In 2018, total population in the region reached 5.02

million including 3.2 million Saudis and 1.8 million non-Saudis while the total population in the Kingdom during the period stood at 33.4 million including 20.8 million Saudis and 12.6 million non-Saudis.

- Eastern Province's total work force accounted for nearly 2 million in 2018, including 0.57 million Saudis and 1.42 million non-Saudis while the total work force in the Kingdom during the period reached 12.54 million, including 3.1 million Saudis and 9.43 million non-Saudis.
- Kingdom's third largest number of housing units is located in the Eastern Province after Makkah and Riyadh regions. In 2018, Eastern Province's total housing units including apartments, houses, traditional houses and villas stood at 0.51 million.
- The Eastern Province is the Kingdom's third largest region in terms of providing healthcare facilities to its people with a total of 78 hospitals including some specialized hospitals.
- The Eastern Province has made significant development in the production of its agricultural commodities particularly farm products. In 2018, a total of 1.2 billion eggs, 38 million broiler chicken and 3,807kg of honey were produced in the region.
- The Eastern Province is the largest producer of desalinated water in the Kingdom. In 2018, total production of desalinated water in the region reached 1.02 billion cubic meters.





Industrial Activity in Eastern Province

The Eastern Province is not only the largest province of the Kingdom it is also the largest recipient of the industrial capital investments. According to the government statistics, the total investments in this region stood at SR659.5 billion in 2018. The chemicals and chemical products sector received the largest volume of industrial investments amounting to SR 472.1 billion, followed by coke and refined petroleum segment with SR55.9 billion and base metal sector with SR50.4 billion.

Sector-wise Industrial Capital Investments in Eastern Province: 2018

Sr. #	Sectors	Investments (SR million)
1	Chemicals & chemical products	472,115.1
2	Coke & refined petroleum products	55,783.7
3	Base metals	50,382.1
4	Non-metallic mineral products	22,807.6
5	Manufactured goods including ice production	15,942.5
6	Rubber & plastics products	11,754.0
7	Foodstuffs	7,866.3
8	Fabricated metal products	6,609.2
9	Machinery & equipment	4,253.4
10	Paper & paper products	3,001.3
11	Electrical equipment	2,511.6
12	Textiles	1,294.0
13	Motor vehicles, trailers & semi-trailers	1,146.7
14	Pharmaceuticals & their preparations	1,004.5
15	Wooden products except furniture	822.4
16	Printing & reproduction of recorded media	530.0
17	Furniture	464.1
18	Beverages	390.7
19	other manufactured goods	310.3
20	Other transport equipment	198.5
21	Leather & leather products	168.9
22	Wearing apparels	96.4
23	Computer, electronic & optical products	42.5
Total	23	659,495.8

A total of 1,728 industrial units have been set up so far in the Eastern Province and the largest number of 315 plants and factories has been established in the sector of non-metallic mineral products. Other sectors in which significant numbers of industrial units have been established included fabricated metal products 248, chemicals and chemical products 210 and rubber and plastics products 200.

Sector-wise Industrial Units in Eastern Province: 2018

Sr. #	Sectors	No. of units
1	Non-metallic mineral products	315
2	Fabricated metal products	248
3	Chemicals & chemical products	210
4	Rubber & plastics products	200
5	Foodstuffs	141
6	Base metals	128
7	Machinery & equipment	85
8	Electrical equipment	67
9	Paper & paper products	65
10	Furniture	43
11	Motor vehicles, trailers & semi-trailers	36
12	Wooden products except furniture	34
13	Beverages	25
14	Textiles	24
15	Some other manufactured products	18
16	Coke & refined petroleum products	18
17	Wearing apparels	16
18	Other manufactured products including ice production	14
19	Printing & reproduction of recorded media	12
20	Computer Electronic, optical products	10
21	Pharmaceuticals & their preparations	8
22	Leather & leather products	7
23	Transport equipment	4
Total	23	1,728



Total number of work force in the Eastern Province's industrial sector reached over 252,849 in 2018, of which, 47,672 were employed in the chemicals and chemical products sector, followed by 37,422 in the non-metallic mineral products and 33,989 in the base metal sector.

Sector-wise Work Force in Eastern Province: 2018

Sr. #	Sectors	No. of work force
1	Chemicals & chemical products	47,672
2	Non-metallic mineral products	37,422
3	Base metals	33,989
4	Fabricated metal products	32,428
5	Rubber & plastics products	20,965
6	Foodstuffs	20,411
7	Machinery & equipment	14,212
8	Paper & paper products	8,763
9	Electrical equipment	8,639
10	Motor vehicles, trailers & semi-trailers	4,509
11	Furniture	3,986
12	Coke & refined petroleum products	3,642
13	Wooden products except furniture	3,588
14	Textiles	2,177
15	Beverages	2141
16	Other manufactured goods	2,105
17	Wearing apparels	1,821
18	Other transport equipment	1,421
19	Printing & reproduction of recorded media	1,106
20	Pharmaceuticals & their preparations	1,101
21	Other manufactured goods including ice production	886
22	leather & leather products	540
23	computer, electronics, optical products	317
Total	23	253,849

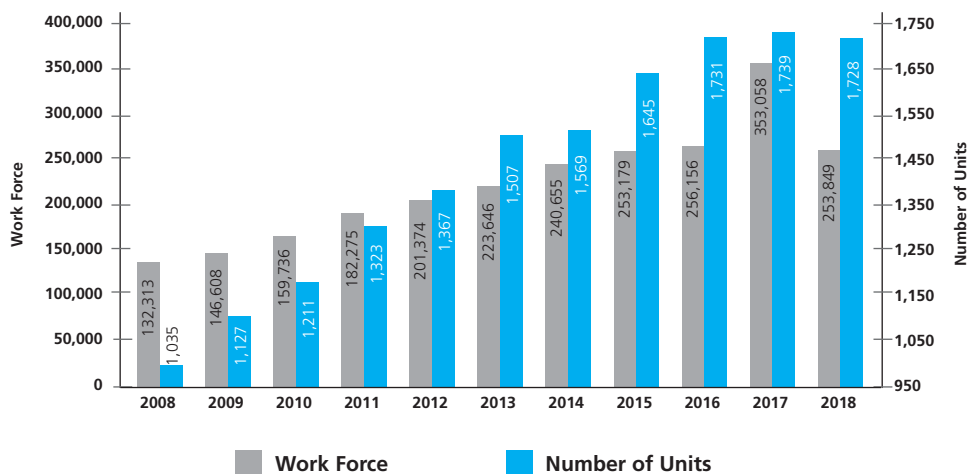


A look into the Eastern Province's industrial activity since 2008 has revealed that in 2008, there were only 1,035 industrial units in this region with a capital investment of SR 219.9 billion and a work force of 132,313. The industrial activity in the Eastern Province has grown gradually and by the end of 2018, the total number of industrial units rose to 1,728 with an investment of SR659.5 billion and a work force of 253,849.

Industrial Activity in Eastern Province: 2008-2018

Year	Number of units	Work force	Capital (SR million)
2008	1,035	132,313	219,986.2
2009	1,127	146,608	246,468.5
2010	1,211	159,736	252,845.0
2011	1,323	182,275	357,505.3
2012	1,367	201,374	532,104.6
2013	1,507	223,646	624,117.8
2014	1,569	240,655	623,197.3
2015	1,645	253,179	709,286.9
2016	1,731	256,156	660,116.6
2017	1,739	353,058	658,869.2
2018	1,728	253,849	659,495.8

Industrial Activity in Eastern Province: 2008-2018

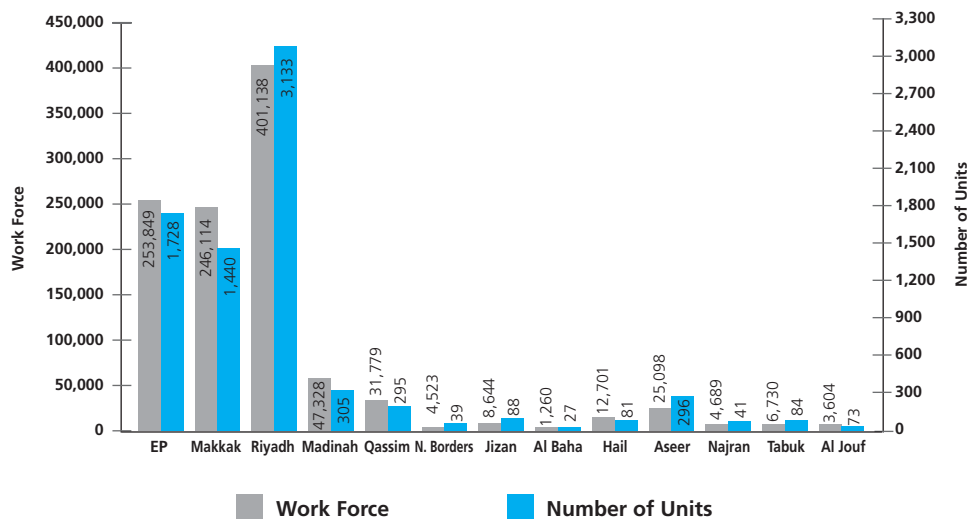


Region-wise, the Eastern Province is not only the largest recipient of the industrial capital investments this region is also the second largest area in terms of generating employment opportunities for people after Riyadh region.

Region-wise Industrial Activity in Saudi Arabia: 2018

Regions	Units	Work force	Capital (SR million)
Eastern Province	1,728	253,849	659,495.8
Makkah	1,440	246,114	147,101.7
Riyadh	3,133	401,138	128,950.0
Madinah	305	47,328	98,223.5
Qassim	295	31,779	14,212.5
Northern Borders	39	4,523	11,624.6
Jizan	88	8,644	11,453.0
Al Baha	27	1,260	10,896.3
Hail	81	12,701	6,232.2
Aseer	296	25,098	4,814.0
Najran	41	4,689	3,875.7
Tabuk	84	6,730	3,495.9
Al Jouf	73	3,604	1,153.3
Total	7,630	1,047,457	1,101,528.4

Region-wise Industrial Activity in Saudi Arabia: 2018



In terms of sector-wise industrial activity in the whole Kingdom, the largest number of 1,650 industrial units were established in the non-metallic mineral sector and the largest number of 200,702 people were employed in the same sector. In terms of investment, the largest volume of capital investment was in the chemicals and chemical products sector by the end of 2018.

Sector-wise Industrial Activity in Saudi Arabia

Sectors	Units	Work force	Capital (SR million)
Foodstuffs	791	159,768	60,735.2
Beverages	173	43,923	22,607.0
Textiles	94	17,009	5,785.5
Wearing apparels	102	12,971	1,100.9
Leather & leather products	28	2,370	538.2
Wooden products except furniture	119	9,161	1,760.1
Paper & paper products	266	36,937	13,911.1
Printing & reproduction of recorded media	64	8,684	3,339.8
Coke, refined petroleum products	87	13,304	76,151.1
Chemicals & chemical products	725	101,098	577,251.1
Pharmaceutical & their preparations	45	10,346	6,138.1
Rubber & plastics products	997	99,507	30,652.5
Non-metallic mineral products	1,650	200,702	104,571.6
Basic metals	378	77,568	79,508.4
Fabricated metal products	952	104,940	25,779.6
Computer, electronic, optical products	34	4,179	967.9
Electrical equipment	239	41,922	18,658.8
Machinery & equipment	272	40,376	20,092.9
Motor vehicles, trailers, semi-trailers	159	15,162	2,966.7
Other transport equipment	9	5,023	834.2
Furniture	299	24,490	2,615.3
Other manufacturing units	100	15,109	2,238.6
Manufacturing including ice production	47	2,908	43,323.8
Total	7,630	1,047,457	1,101,528.4

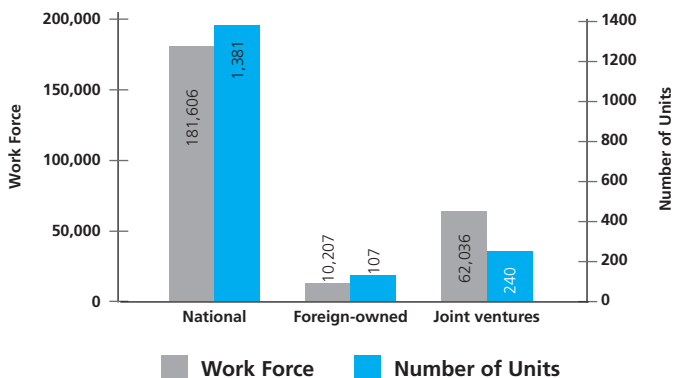


In the Eastern Province, there were 240 joint ventures and 107 fully foreign-owned entities and 1,381 national industrial units by the end of 2018. Capital investments reached SR283.7 billion in joint venture projects, SR2.3 billion in the 100% foreign-owned companies and SR373.5 billion in the national industrial plants and factories.

National, Joint Ventures & 100% Foreign-Owned Industrial Units in Eastern Province: 2018

Categories	Units	Work force	Capital (SR million)
National	1,381	181,606	373,512.6
Foreign-owned	107	10,207	2,281.8
Joint ventures	240	62,036	283,701.3
Total	1,728	253,849	659,495.8

National, Joint Ventures & 100% Foreign-Owned Industrial Units in Eastern Province: 2018



The total number of joint ventures in the Kingdom accounted for 657 in 2018 with a capital investment of SR424.1 billion while the total number of 100% foreign-owned entities during the period reached 616 with an investment of SR7.7 billion. Meanwhile, the number of total national industrial units during the period stood at 6,357 with a capital investment of SR669.8 billion.

National, Joint Ventures & 100% Foreign-Owned Industrial Units in Saudi Arabia: 2018

Categories	Units	Work force	Capital (SR million)
National	6,357	825,532	669,803.8
Foreign-owned	616	50,576	7,653.8
Joint ventures	657	171,349	424,071.8
Total	7,630	1,047,457	1,101,528.4



Commercial Registration in Eastern Province

The total number of commercial establishments registered in the Eastern Province reached 179,598 in 2018. A look into the past several years' activity showed that commercial registration in the region witnessed some peaks and troughs. In 2014, commercial registration reached 262,694 which went down to 194,066 in 2016 and further to 192,505 in 2017.

Commercial Registrations in Eastern Province by End of 2018

Year	Number
2014	262,694
2015	294,636
2016	194,066
2017	192,505
2018	179,598

In 2018, a total of 35,859 commercial licenses were issued in the Eastern Province. These licenses included 11,842 for the first time, 219 temporary and 23,799 licenses were renewed.

Commercial Licenses Issued in Eastern Province in 2018

Types of licenses	Number
First time	11,842
Renewed	23,799
Temporary	218
Total	35,859





Infrastructure Development in Eastern Province

The Eastern Province boasts twin world-class cities—Jubail Industrial City One and Jubail Industrial City Two, Dhahran Techno Valley, Ras Al Khair Mining City and the latest large-scale infrastructure facility-- the King Salman Industrial Park, in addition to Saudi Authority for Industrial Cities and Technology Zones (MODON)-developed a number of industrial estates like Dammam 1st, 2nd and 3rd industrial cities, Al Ahsa 1st and 2nd industrial cities and Hafr Al-Batin Industrial City.

The Dammam's 1st Industrial City was established in 1973 on an area of 2.5 million square meters while the Dammam 2nd Industrial City came into being in 1978. It was built on an area of 25 million square meters.

The Dammam 3rd Industrial City was set up in 2012 on an area of 48.5 million square meters.

Al Ahsa's 1st Industrial City was established in 1981 in the north of Al-Ahsa Governorate occupying an area of 1.5 million square meters while the Eastern region's largest industrial estate, the Al-Ahsa 2nd Industrial City was built in 2013 over an area of 300 million square meters. The Hafr Al-Batin Industrial City was built in 2012 on a total area of 100 million sq meters.

Royal Commission

The two industrial cities---Jubail Industrial City-I & II, have been developed under the the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu.



The Jubail Industrial City-I has been home to a group of major world-class industries engaged mainly in petrochemicals, chemicals fertilizers, industrial gases, steel, iron and oil related industries. Its industrial zone has around 19 basic industries, with 136 ancillary installations and produces steel, aluminum, plastics and fertilizers under the supervision of the Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC). This zone covers an area of 8,000 hectares.

Jubail Industrial City II was built to house over 22 new primary industries. The development of the city comprises two ports—industrial and commercial—located within a 17-square-mile (44-square-kilometer) artificial harbor protected by 11 miles (18 kilometers) of breakwater.

The King Salman Energy Park, known as SPARK, is a mega project designed to

position the Kingdom as a global energy hub. The 50-square-kilometer project will be constructed in the Eastern Province, the heart of the Saudi energy business. SPARK, due to be completed in 2035, is expected to support and increase the security of energy supplies.

Ras Al-Khair Mineral City has been mainly planned to exploit the mineral deposits of phosphate and bauxite. It is home to a large number of mining facilities, such as aluminum and bauxite factories, and other industries. A water desalination and a power generation plant have been built with a capacity of 1,025 million cubic meters of desalinated water and 2,600 megawatts of electrical output respectively. Its aluminum plant between the Saudi Arabian Mining Company (MA'ADEN) and Alcoa is a prominent project.



Major Industrial Cities in Eastern Province

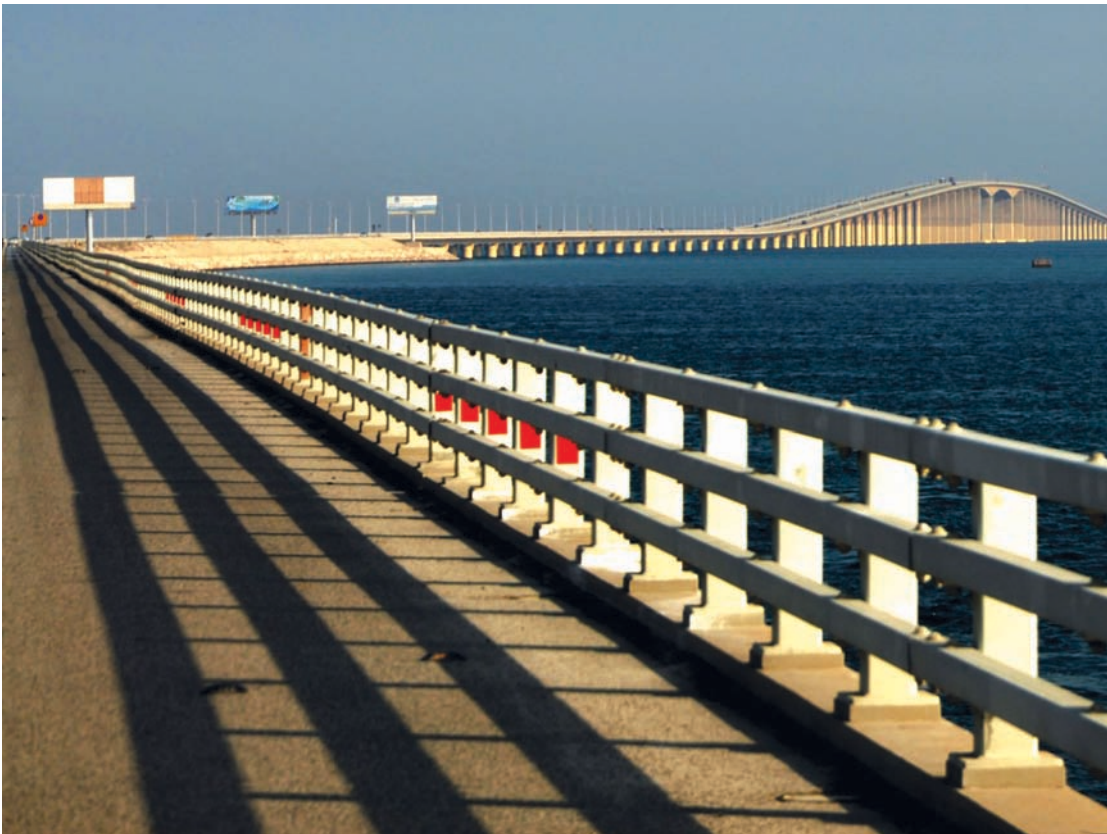
Name of city	Established Year	Location	Developed area
Dammam 1st	1873	Near Dammam Port	2.5 million sq meters
Dammam 2nd	1978	Dammam	25.0 million sq meters
Dammam 3rd	2012	Dhahran-Ahsa Rd.	48.5 sq meters
Al Ahsa 1st	1981	North Al Ahsa	1.5 million sq meters
Al Ahsa 2nd	2013	Near city center	4.0 sq meters
Hafr Al Batin	2012	Near city center	1.5 million sq meters
Jubail 1st	1975	Royal Commission	8,000 hectares
Jubail 2nd	--	Royal Commission	5508 hectares
Ras Al Khair	Renamed in 2011	Ras Al Khair area	90sq kilometers
King Salman Energy Park	2018	Dammam	50sq kilometers





Tourism in Eastern Province

Eastern Province's reputation as a tourist spot has been mainly attributed to a number of factors including its panoramic sandy coastline stretching over 700 kilometers, close proximity to other GCC countries and most importantly massive tourism infrastructure development ranging from building of dozens of modern shopping malls, entertainment centers, natural parks to the restoration of archeological sites undertaken over the past years.



Eastern Province's major tourist spots include Half-moon beach, King Fahd Causeway, King Fahd Park, Marjan Island, sandy beaches in Dammam, Khobar and Jubail, Jabal Qarah, Al-Asfar Lake, Ibrahim Palace and newly developed Al-Uqair tourist destination.

Half-moon beach: Located in Khobar city, the scenic crescent-shaped Half Moon beach has become a place of recreation for many people not only from the Kingdom, but also from other neighboring countries.

King Fahd Causeway: It's a 25-km long spectacular causeway connecting the Kingdom's Eastern Province with Bahrain. Starting at Al-Aziziyah, south of Al-Khobar and extends up to Al-Jasra, west of Manama in Bahrain, the causeway consists of two segments, a longer bridge from Khobar to Nasan Island in Bahrain and a shorter stretch from Nasan Island to the main island of Bahrain.

King Fahd Park: Situated near the downtown Dammam, King Fahd Park puts on a new look after the recent development of its facilities. It covers over 1,120 million square meters. For its vast areas, it claims to be the biggest park in the Kingdom. It has become a must-see tourist attraction for its natural beauty of hundreds of trees, bushes and other plants.



Jabal Qarah: It is an oldest popular tourist attraction in the Eastern Province located about 10 kilometer from Hufuf, 140km southwest of Dammam and 300km east of Riyadh. Jabal Qarah or Qarah hills are well known for its intricate natural caves. It is made of sedimentary rocks like sandstones and lime stone.

Al-Uqair: Under the Saudi national tourism development strategy, Al-Uqair has been approved as one of the key projects of high priority. The total area of the project is over 100 million square meters, including a coastline stretching over 24-km along the Arabian Gulf coast.



Hotels & Rented Residential Units in Eastern Province: 2018

Residential Units		Hotels	
Class	Number	Class	Number
First	0	Stars	10
Second	204	Two stars	17
Third	237	Three stars	30
Four	126	Four stars	27
Five	-	Five stars	18
Total	567	Total	102

The Eastern Province has a total of 102 hotels including 18 five star, 27 four star and 30 three star. The region has also 567 residential units used for tourism and recreation purposes.

Occupancy Rate of Hotels and Furnished Residential Units in Eastern Province: 2017-2018

Units	2017	2018
Furnished units	64.7%	67.0%
Hotels	61.3%	65.7%

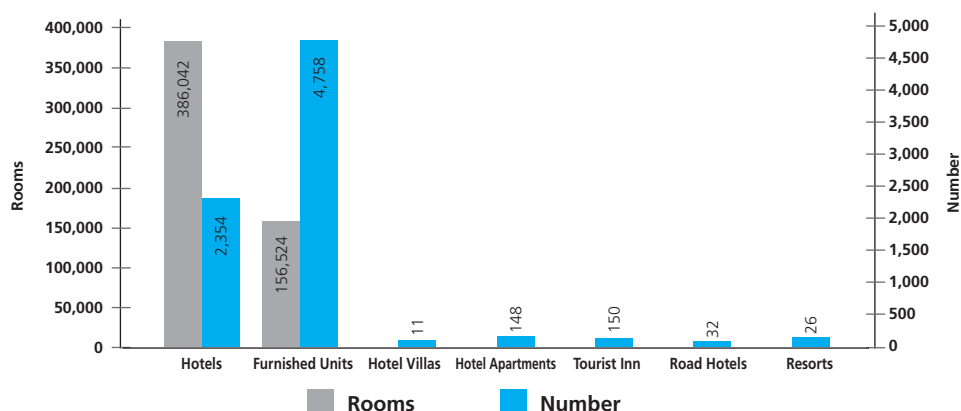
Occupancy rates of hotels and furnished apartments have been very high in the Eastern Province over the past years. In 2018, occupancy rate of hotels and furnished apartments was 65.7% and 67.0% respectively.

Total Accommodation for Tourists in Saudi Arabia: 2018

Types	Number	Rooms
Hotels	2,354	386,042
Furnished units	4,758	156,524
Hotel villas	11	--
Hotel apartments	148	--
Tourist Inn	150	--
Road hotels	32	--
Resorts	26	--
Total	7,479	542,566

In Saudi Arabia, the total number of accommodation units for tourists such as hotels, furnished apartments, hotel villas, hotel apartments, tourist Inn, road hotels and resorts reached 7,479 with a combined number of rooms of 542,566.

Total Accommodation for Tourists in Saudi Arabia: 2018





Eastern Province Population

The total population in the Eastern Province rose to 5.02 million by the end of 2018, including 3.2 million Saudis and 1.8 million non-Saudis. Among the Saudis, 1.7 million were males while 1.5 million were females. Male and female expatriates were 1.4 million and 0.4 million respectively.

Eastern Province Population: 2018

Total population	5.02 million	Males	3.02 million
		Females	2.0 million
Total Saudis	3.2 million	Males	1.7 million
		Females	1.5 million
Total non-Saudis	1.8 million	Males	1.4 million
		females	0.4 million

Total Saudi population reached 33.4 million by the end of 2018, including 20.8 million Saudis and 12.6 million non-Saudis. Among the total Saudi population, males were 10.6 million while females were 10.2 million. Meanwhile, there was 8.6 million expatriate male population and 4.0 million expatriate female population during the period.

Total Saudi Population: 2018

Total population	33.4 million	Males	19.2 million
		Females	14.2 million
Total Saudis	20.8 million	Males	10.6 million
		Females	10.2 million
Total non-Saudis	12.6 million	Males	8.6 million
		Females	4.0 million

The Eastern Province is the third largest populous region in the Kingdom after Makkah and Riyadh where total population reached 8.8 million and 8.4 million respectively by the end of 2018. Other major populous provinces are Aseer (2.3 million), Madinah (2.2 million) and Qassim (1.4 million).



Saudi Population Region-wise: 2018 (in million)

Regions	Males	Females	Saudis	Non-Saudis	Total
Riyadh	5.0	3.4	4.7	3.7	8.4
Makkah	5.0	3.8	4.6	4.2	8.8
Madinah	1.2	1.0	1.4	0.8	2.2
Qassim	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.4	1.4
Aseer	1.3	1.0	1.8	0.5	2.3
Tabuk	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.9
Hail	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.7
Northern Borders	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.4
Jazan	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.4	1.6
Najran	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.6
Albaha	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5
Al- Jouf	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5
Eastern Province	3.02	2.0	3.2	1.8	5.02
Grand Total	19.2	14.2	20.8	12.6	33.4



Eastern Province's Work Force

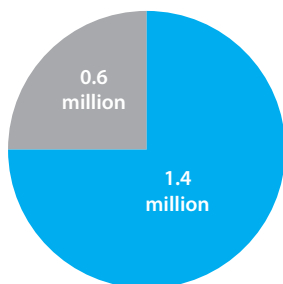
Total work force in the Eastern Province was nearly 2 million in 2018, including 0.57 million Saudis and 1.42 million non-Saudis. Among the total Saudi work force, males were 0.43 million while females were 0.15 million. Meanwhile, expatriate male workers were 1.4 million and expatriate female workers were 0.037 million.

Work force in Eastern Province: 2018 (thousands)

Total work fore	1992.3	Males	1809.6
		Females	182.7
Total Saudi work force	572.1	Males	426.8
		Females	145.3
Total non-Saudis work	1420.2	Males	1382.8
		Females	37.4

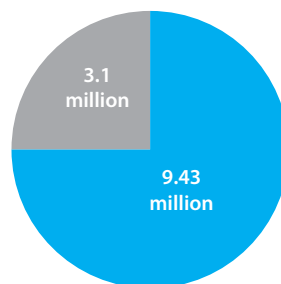
Data do not include domestic labor and security and military personnel

Work force in Eastern Province: 2018



Total Saudi Work Force
 Total non-Saudi Work Force

Total Saudi Work Force: 2018



Total Saudi Work Force
 Total non-Saudi Work Force

The total work force in the Kingdom in 2018 reached 12.54 million, including 3.1 million Saudis and 9.43 million non-Saudis. Among the Saudi work force, males were 2.04 million while females were 1.07 million. Total expatriate male workers in Saudi Arabia were 8.4 million while expatriate female workers were 1.1 million during the period.



Total Saudi Work Force: 2018

Total work force	12.54 million	Males	10.4 million
		Females	2.1 million
Total Saudi work force	3.1 million	Males	2.04 million
		Females	1.07 million
Total non-Saudi work force	9.43 million	Males	8.4 million
		Females	1.1 million

In terms of region-wise employment generation, Eastern Province is the third largest region in the Kingdom after Riyadh and Makkah. The total work force in Riyadh was 3.9 million in 2018, followed by the Makkah region with 2.2 million.

Saudi Work Force Region-wise: 2018 (in million)

Regions	Males	Females	Saudis	Non-Saudis	Total
Riyadh	3.33	0.55	1.21	2.66	3.9
Makkah	1.91	0.27	0.61	1.58	2.2
Madinah	0.33	0.07	0.13	0.26	0.4
Qassim	0.35	0.05	0.10	0.29	0.4
Aseer	0.33	0.07	0.15	0.24	0.4
Tabuk	0.11	0.02	0.054	0.081	0.2
Hail	0.12	0.02	0.049	0.097	0.2
Northern Borders	0.05	0.01	0.024	0.036	0.06
Jazan	0.14	0.04	0.074	0.11	0.18
Najran	0.13	0.02	0.046	0.11	0.15
Albaha	0.06	0.01	0.032	0.037	0.07
Al- Jouf	0.08	0.01	0.037	0.052	0.1
Eastern Province	1.8	0.2	0.57	1.42	2.0
Others	0.002	0.001	0.0029	0.001	0.003
Grand Total	8.76	1.32	3.11	6.97	10.09

Data do not include domestic labor and security and military personnel



Housing Units in Eastern Province

The total number of different types of housing units in the Eastern Province stood at 513,886 in 2018. Out of which, 247,548 were apartments, 10,570 floors in traditional houses, 30,158 floors in villas, 168,307 villas and 57,303 traditional houses.

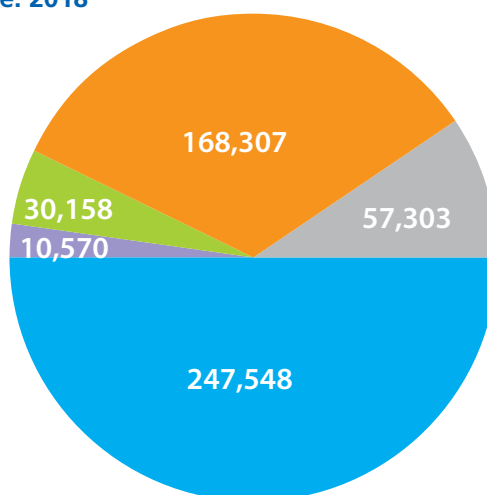
Housing Units in Eastern Province: 2018

Types of housing units	Number of units
Apartments	247,548
A floor in traditional houses	10,570
A floor in villas	30,158
Villas	168,307
Traditional houses	57,303
Total	513,886

Housing Units in Eastern Province: 2018

Types of housing units

- Apartments
- A floor in traditional houses
- A floor in villas
- Villas
- Traditional houses





Kingdom's third largest number of housing units is located in the Eastern Province after Makkah and Riyadh regions. In 2018, the total housing units built in the Eastern region were 0.51 million, followed by Makkah with 0.9 million and Riyadh with 0.85 million. Meanwhile, the total number of housing units in Saudi Arabia reached over 3.6 million by the end of 2018.

Housing Units in Saudi Arabia region-wise: 2018

Regions	Number of Units
Riyadh	850,419
Makkah	896,168
Madinah	248,601
Al Qassim	166,565
Eastern Province	513,886
Aseer	307,016
Tabuk	120,843
Hail	79,785
Northern Borders	37,288
Jazan	177,131
Najran	68,122
Al Baha	67,692
Al Jouf	57,582
Total	3,591,098



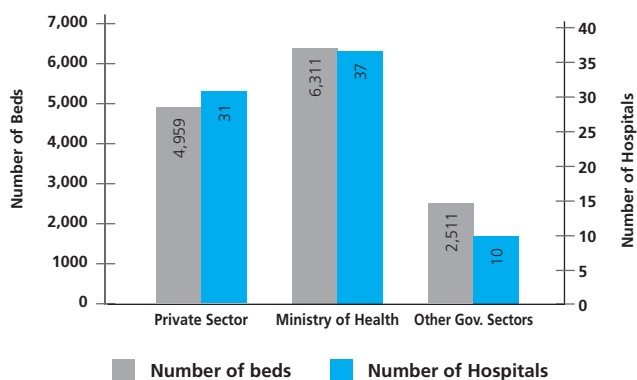
Hospitals & Beds in Eastern Province

The total number of hospitals in the Eastern Province stood at 78 in 2018 with 13,781 beds. Among them, 31 hospitals are in the private sector while 37 are in the possession of the Ministry of Health and 10 are supervised by other government sectors.

Hospitals & Beds in Eastern Province: 2018

Sectors	Number of Hospitals	Number of Beds
Private sector	31	4,959
Ministry of Health	37	6,311
Other government sectors	10	2,511
Total	78	13,781

Hospitals & Beds in Eastern Province: 2018



The Eastern Province is the Kingdom's third largest region in terms of providing healthcare facilities to its people. Riyadh has the largest number of hospitals when the total number of hospitals in the region reached 106, followed by the Makkah region with 105 hospitals.

Hospitals & Beds in Saudi Arabia Region-wise: 2018

Regions	Number of Hospitals	Number of Beds
Riyadh	106	19,077
Makkah	105	16,423
Madinah	34	4,553
Al Qassim	23	3,202
Eastern Region	78	13,781
Aseer	41	4,752
Tabuk	15	2,548
Hail	16	1,960
Northern Borders	10	1,360
Jazan	25	2,513
Najran	16	1,862
Al Baha	12	1,295
Al Jouf	13	1,820
Total	494	75,146

The number of Ministry of Health-managed and supervised specialized hospitals reached 37 in the Eastern Province in 2018, with total beds of 6,311. These specialized hospitals included Long- term Care 3, Psychiatric 3, Eye 2, OBS/Gyn & Pediatric 3 and General hospitals 26.

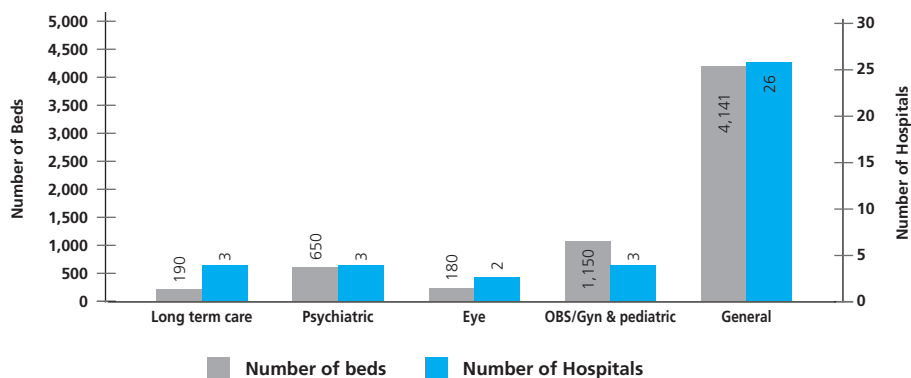




MoH Specialized Hospitals in Eastern Province: 2018

Specialization	Number of hospitals	Number of beds
Long term care	3	190
Psychiatric	3	650
Eye	2	180
OBS/Gyn & pediatric	3	1,150
General	26	4,141
Total	37	6,311

MoH Specialized Hospitals in Eastern Province: 2018



In the whole Kingdom, the number of Ministry of Health-managed and supervised specialized hospitals stood at 284 in 2018 with the total number of beds of 43,680. Riyadh region has the largest number of specialized hospitals accounting for 49, followed by Makkah region with 44.

MoH Specialized Hospitals in Saudi Arabia Region-wise: 2018

Regions	Number of hospitals	Number of beds
Riyadh	49	8,337
Makkah	44	8,825
Madinah	19	2,768
Al Qassim	19	2,859
Eastern Province	37	6,311
Aseer	27	3,100
Tabuk	12	1,820
Hail	13	1,790
Northern Borders	10	1,360
Jazan	21	2,225
Najran	10	1,300
Al Baha	10	1,165
Al Jouf	13	1,820
Total	284	43,680





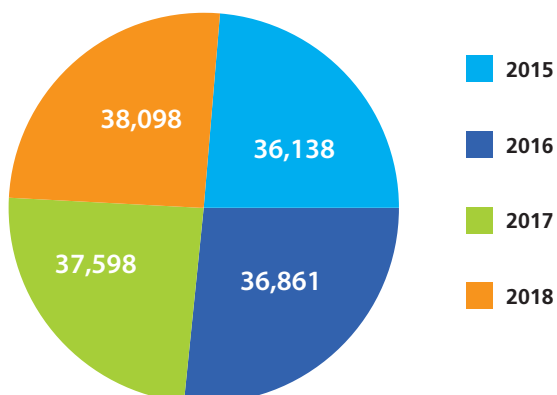
Agricultural Production in Eastern Province

Production of broiler chicken in the Eastern Province has continued to rise during the past several years. In 2018, the number of broiler chicken produced in the region was 38 million while in 2015 the number was 36 million followed by 36 million in 2016 and 37million in 2017.

Broiler Chicken Production in Eastern Province: 2015-2018 (thousand)

Year	Number of chickens
2015	36,138
2016	36,861
2017	37,598
2018	38,098

Broiler Chicken Production in Eastern Province: 2015-2018 (thousand)



In the Kingdom, the number of total broiler chicken production in 2018 reached 780 million in 2018. Al-Qassim region was the largest region in the production of broiler chicken during the period with 265 million followed by Makkah region with 118 million and Riyadh region with 113 million.

Broiler Chicken Production in Saudi Arabia: 2018 (thousand)

Regions	Number of chickens
Riyadh	113,195
Makkah	118,233
Madinah	32,993
Al Qassim	265,854
Eastern Province	38,098
Aseer	100,193
Tabuk	8,787
Hail	92,488
Northern Borders	0
Jazan	1,729
Najran	5,890
Al Baha	1,293
Al Jouf	1,961
Total	780,715

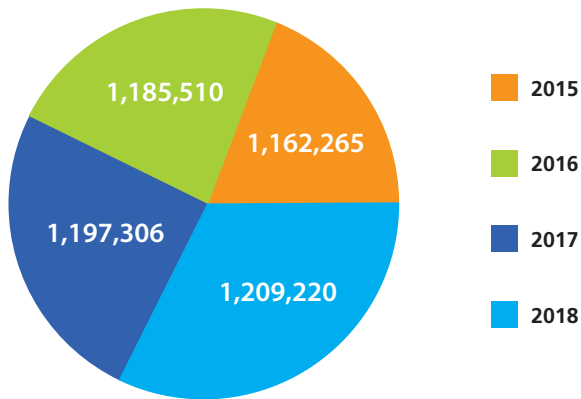


Egg production in the Eastern Province has increased significantly year-on-year during the last few years and as a result, this region has become the third largest producer of eggs. In 2018, production of egg in the region was 1.20 billion while in 2017 it was 1.19 billion and in 2016 there were 1.18 billion eggs produced in the Eastern Province.

Egg Production in Eastern Province: 2015-2018 (thousand)

Year	Number of eggs
2015	1,162,265
2016	1,185,510
2017	1,197,306
2018	1,209,220

Egg Production in Eastern Province: 2015-2018 (thousand)



Total egg production in the Kingdom in 2018 amounted to 5.2 billion in 2018. Makkah region was the largest producer of eggs during the period with 1.43 billion while Riyadh region became the second largest producer of eggs with the total number of 1.38 billion.

Egg Production in Saudi Arabia: 2018 (thousand)

Regions	Number of eggs
Riyadh	1,384,088
Makkah	1,436,951
Madinah	270,470
Al Qassim	387,501
Eastern Province	1,209,220
Aseer	256,504
Tabuk	103,001
Hail	96,549
Northern Borders	0
Jazan	0
Najran	35,717
Al Baha	16,126
Al Jouf	869
Total	5,196,996





Honey production in the Eastern Province in 2018 was 3,807 kilograms. This volume was a little bit higher than the previous year's production of 3,764 kg. Meanwhile, honey production in the region reached its peak in 2016 when total production of honey reached 6,100 kg.

Honey Production in Eastern Province: 2015-2018

Year	Honey production in KG
2015	0
2016	6,100
2017	3,764
2018	3,807

In 2018, Makkah was the largest region in the production of honey when total production reached 0.89 million kg. Aseer and Jazan were two significant regions where honey production during the period stood at 0.68 million kg and 0.33 million kg respectively.

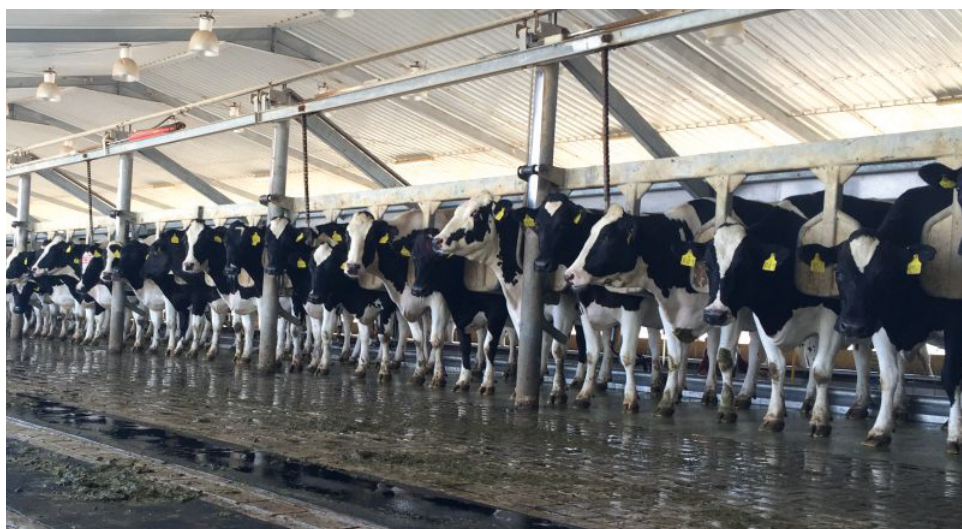
Honey Production in Saudi Arabia: 2018

Regions	Honey production in kg
Riyadh	10,707
Makkah	890,937
Madinah	28,247
Al Qassim	22,718
Eastern Province	3,807
Aseer	681,735
Tabuk	212,843
Hail	113,091
Northern Borders	0
Jazan	328,951
Najran	165,573
Al Baha	74,026
Al Jouf	3,465
Total	2,536,100

In 2018, the number of total livestock slaughtered in the Eastern Province was 1.5 million including 1.2 million local and 0.32 million imported livestock. Among the slaughtered livestock, 0.21 million were goats, 1.2 million were sheep, 0.06 million were cows and 0.06 million were camels.

Livestock Slaughtered in Eastern Province: 2018

Livestock	Local	Import	Total
Goat	181,786	23,915	205,701
Sheep	914,510	238,581	1,153,091
Cow	8,909	46,180	55,089
Camel	47,792	9,243	57,035
Total	1,152,997	317,919	1,470,916





Water Production in Eastern Province

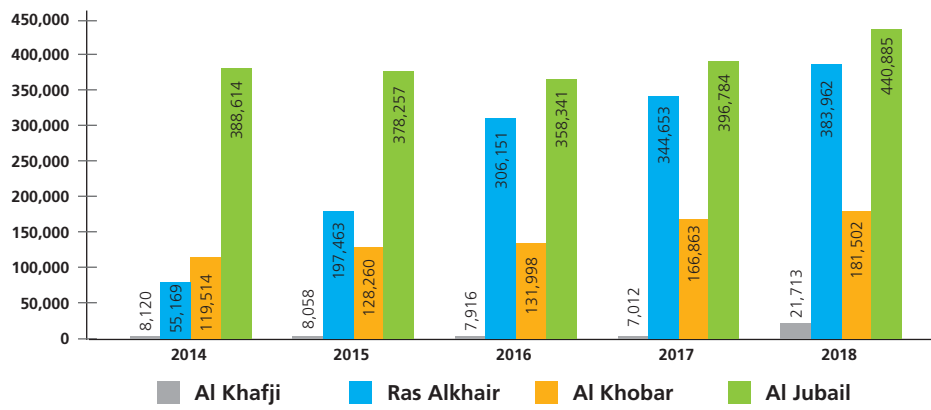
The Eastern Province is the largest producer of desalinated water in the Kingdom. In 2018, total production of desalinated water in the region reached 1.02 billion cubic meters while the total production of desalinated water in the Kingdom during the period reached 1.8 billion cubic meters.

Water Produced by Desalination Plants in Eastern Province: 2014-2018
(in thousand of cubic meters)

Year	Al Khafji	Ras Alkhair	Al Khobar	Al Jubail	Total in Eastern Province	Total in Saudi Arabia
2014	8,120	55,169	119,514	388,614	571,417	1,139,964
2015	8,058	197,463	128,260	378,257	712,039	1,292,165
2016	7,916	306,151	131,998	358,341	804,406	1,377,064
2017	7,012	344,653	166,863	396,784	915,312	1,552,915
2018	21,713	383,962	181,502	440,885	1,028,062	1,803,100



Water Produced by Desalination Plants in Eastern Province: 2014-2018
(in thousand of cubic meters)



Consumption of drinking water in the Eastern Province stood at 682 million cubic meters in 2018 while it was the same volume of drinking water consumed in the region in the previous year. In 2016, drinking water consumption in the region was 659 million cubic meters. The number of subscribers of drinking water reached 340,373 in the region in 2018.

Drinking Water Consumption in Eastern Province: 2014-2018 (million cubic meters)

Year	Consumption quantity	Number of subscribers
2014	613	118,208
2015	633	310,276
2016	659	332,977
2017	682	337,796
2018	682	340,373





In the Kingdom, the total consumption of drinking water amounted to 3,427 million cubic meters in 2018. Riyadh region is the largest consumer of drinking water during the period with 1,078 million cubic meters, followed by Makkah region with 784 million cubic meters. Eastern Province is the third largest consumer of drinking water with 682 million cubic meters.

Total Drinking Water Consumption in Saudi Arabia: 2018 (million cubic meters)

Regions	Consumption Quantity	Number of subscribers
Riyadh	1,078	629,659
Makkah	784	343,074
Madinah	239	114,271
Al Qassim	167	154,109
Eastern Province	682	340,373
Aseer	104	47,974
Tabuk	70	47,926
Hail	64	53,971
Northern Borders	39	22,555
Jazan	87	88,308
Najran	32	51,599
Al Baha	33	39,172
Al Jouf	48	21,512
Total	3,427	1,954,503



Conclusion

Eastern Province's strategic location, well developed infrastructure and utility facilities, road networks, international airport and sea ports, world-class education and healthcare facilities, fascinating tourist spots are major advantages that have made the region the most attractive place for both local and foreign investors to establish their manufacturing bases.

As a result, a total of 1,381 national industrial units, 240 joint ventures and 107 fully foreign-owned entities were set up in the region by the end of 2018 with capital investments of SR 373.5 billion, SR283.7 billion and SR2.3 billion respectively. The number of joint ventures established in the Eastern Province account for more than one-third of the total joint venture companies in the Kingdom.

A new phenomenon in the Eastern Province is the surge of its mining activity after the establishment of the Ras Al Khair mining city which is expected to contribute significantly toward the Kingdom's non-oil gross domestic product. The multi-billion dollar minerals hub has mining giant Maaden's (Saudi Arabian Mining Company) integrated aluminum and phosphate operations. It is a joint venture between Maaden and Alcoa, an American industrial corporation. Maaden's facility consists of an alumina refinery, smelter, rolling mill and one of the largest recycling facilities for beverage cans in the Middle East and North Africa region.

The Eastern Province has been famously known worldwide as the base of the world's largest oil company in terms of proven oil reserves, Saudi Aramco and home to many of the Saudi Arabia's flagship petrochemical conglomerate, SABIC's (Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation) entities.

SABIC currently has 17 manufacturing facilities including 14 JVs with world giants like Japan's Mitsubishi, Shell Oil Co (US), Hoechst-Celanese Duke & Energy (US), ExxonMobil (US), Ecofuel (Italy) and Taiwan's fertilizer Company. SABIC has become a global market leader in key products such as ethylene, ethylene glycol, methanol, MTBE and polyethylene. It is the world's largest producer of mono-ethylene glycol, MTBE, granular urea, polyphenylene and polyether imide and the world's fourth-largest producer of polyolefins, world's third-largest producer of polyethylene and the fourth-largest producer of polypropylene. Saudi Arabia currently accounts for 7% of global supplies of basic and intermediary products and SABIC is expected to reach its total production capacity of over 130 million metric tons (mmt) by 2020.

The Eastern Province has taken advantages of Saudi Arabia's on-going economic reforms and changes designed to make a favorable investment climate in the Kingdom for both local and foreign investors. According to the latest World Bank's "2019 Ease of Doing Business" annual report, Saudi Arabia was ranked among the top 20 of the 190 countries and the second best among the G-20 nations in terms of its economic reforms and changes. In the overall ranking of "Ease of doing business, the Kingdom's rank improved to 92 from 94 out of 190 countries.

After the launch of the Saudi Vision 2030, there have been conspicuous social and economic transformations witnessed in the Kingdom mostly in the areas of opening up of tourism and entertainment industry, development of women's work force, building of new economic cities, massive government investments in water, electricity and infrastructure development and





formulation of new arbitration laws and most importantly the ease and speed of getting a business visa by the foreign businessmen.

Asharqia Chamber has been playing a key role in the development of trade and business in the Eastern Province. It has been working to acquaint local and foreign companies with enormous trade and investment opportunities generated in all the economic sectors in the region. Scores of foreign trade delegations, investment seminars, conferences, symposiums, catalogue exhibitions and workshops have been organized by the Chamber throughout the year to help establish trade contacts between foreign and local companies.

Chamber also has an engagement in the establishment of the regulatory framework for the private sector's participation in the country's economic transformations and plays a link between private sector companies and various government trade related agencies. Today, the Chamber serves over 90,000 business entities as its members.

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