

# Q2 2019

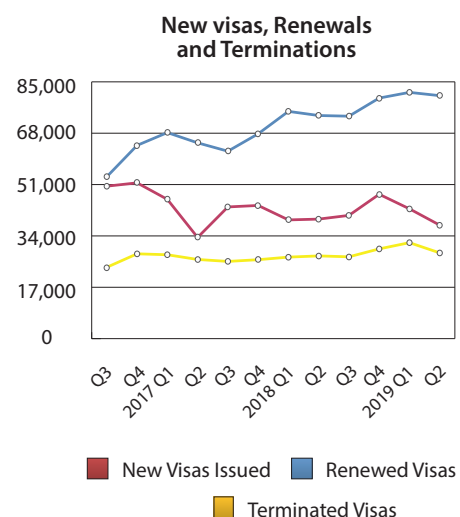
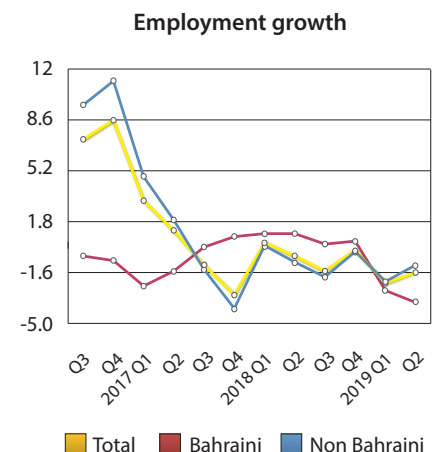
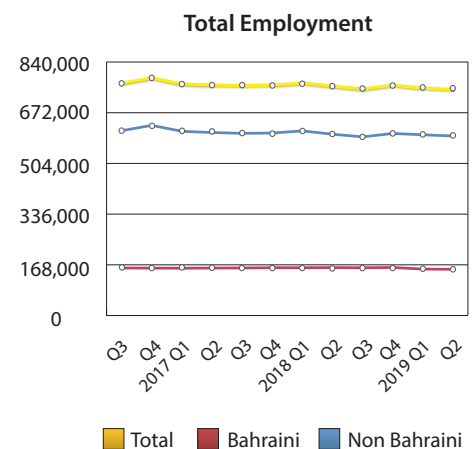
## Bahrain Labour Market Indicators

Issue 46/ Second Quarter 2019

### Employment reaches 748,047 workers by end of second quarter of 2019

- Foreign workers employment reached 594,944 workers by the end of the second quarter of 2019. Non-Bahraini employment decreased by 1.1% annually compared to 601,461 workers in the same quarter of last year.
- Bahraini employment reached 153,103 by the end of the second quarter decreasing at an annual rate of 3.6% compared to 158,814 workers in the second quarter of 2018. The decrease was due to the second phase of the voluntary retirement scheme which took effect during the second quarter of 2019.
- The number of new employment type work permits issued by LMRA during second quarter of this year was 37,570 representing a decrease at an annual rate of 5.0%.
- The share of small organizations, employing less than 10 workers, of employment work permits was 50.5% of total work permits issued during the second quarter of 2019.
- Median monthly wages for Bahrainis reached BD 532 this quarter. The Median wage was BD 538 in the same quarter a year before showing an annual rate of -1.1% this quarter.

Employment	Value	Change
<b>Total employment <sup>1</sup></b>	748,047	-1.6%
- Bahrainis	153,103	-3.6%
- Non-Bahrainis	594,944	-1.1%
Work Visas <sup>2</sup>	Value	Change
<b>New work visas</b>	37,570	-5.0%
<b>Renewals</b>	80,430	8.9%
<b>Terminations</b>	28,383	3.6%
<b>Local transfer</b>	16,479	-8.8%
Domestic Visas	Value	Change
<b>New Domestic Visas</b>	7,235	-25.2%
<b>Renewals</b>	5,991	2.4%
New Entrance to Labour Market (Private Sector)	Value	Change *
<b>New Bahraini Entrance <sup>3</sup></b>	1,543	4.0%
- With ≤ BD 250 monthly <sup>3</sup>	61	-12.9%
Enterprise Development <sup>4</sup> (4Q moving average)	Value	Change *
<b>New enterprises (CR branch)</b>	2,207	-4.0%
Wages	Value	Change
<b>Labour cost gap <sup>5</sup> (in target sectors)</b>	336 BD	9 BD
<b>Median monthly wages (Bahrainis)</b>	532 BD	-1.1%
- Public Sector	696 BD	-1.7%
- Private Sector	431 BD	3.6%
<b>Consumer Price Index (CPI) 2006=100</b>	132.9	1.2%



All percentage growth rates or differences of levels shown in the dashboard represent the change from the same quarter a year before except for the indicators marked with (\*) as it represents percentage growth rates compared to previous quarter.

## Work permits

- The total number of permits issued by LMRA during the second quarter of 2019 was 46,162 permits. 37,570 permits were employment work permits (including flexible employment permits), 1,095 for investors, and 7,497 for dependents. The total number of permits issued decreased compared to 47,938 permits issued in the same quarter of 2018.
- The number of permit renewal transactions processed at LMRA during the second quarter was 95,992 of which 80,430 were for employment permits, 1,123 for investors, and 14,439 for dependents. The total number of renewals increased compared to 89,751 in the second quarter of 2018.
- The total number of permit termination transactions completed by LMRA based on employer request during second quarter was 33,570, of which 28,383 were for employment work permits, 203 for investors, and 4,984 for dependents.
- The economic sector with the highest number of new work permits for regular workers continued to be Construction sector with a share of 26.7% of total regular work permits issued, followed by Wholesale and retail trade sector with a share of 19.3%, then Accommodation and food service activities sector at 14.6%.

## Transfer

- The number of transfer transactions of foreign worker that were processed by LMRA during the second quarter was 16,479. The number includes local transfer of workers after termination or expiry of work permit even if they do not apply for intention to transfer in LMRA within 5 days from termination. The share of transfer transactions after termination or expiry of work permit was 65.2%. Transfer with consent of previous employer was 34.4% of total transfer transactions, and transfer without consent of previous employer nearly 0.4%.
- Accommodation and food service activities remain the sector with the highest number of transfer transactions followed by Wholesale and retail trade, then Transportation and storage sector. Nearly 59.2% of transfer transactions in this quarter were made by small economic units, employing less than 10 workers.

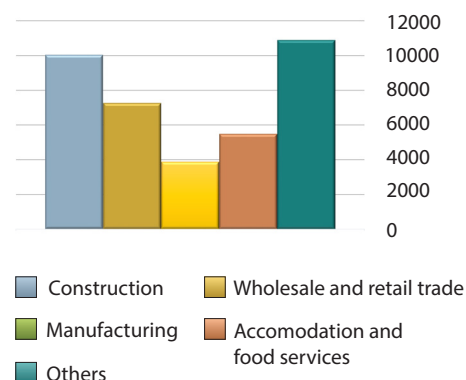
## Wages and labour cost gap

- The median wage of Bahraini employees by end of the second quarter of 2019 was BD 532 compared to BD 538 in the same quarter of 2018 representing a drop at an annual rate of 1.1%. The median wage of Bahraini workers in the private sector was BD 431 with an annual growth of 3.6%, while the median wage of Bahraini workers in the public sector was BD 696 representing an annual rate of -1.7%.
- The labour cost gap between Bahraini and non-Bahraini workers in the target sectors (Construction, Trade, Hotels and Restaurants and small-scale Manufacturing) was BD 336 this quarter increasing by BD 9 compared to the second quarter of 2018.

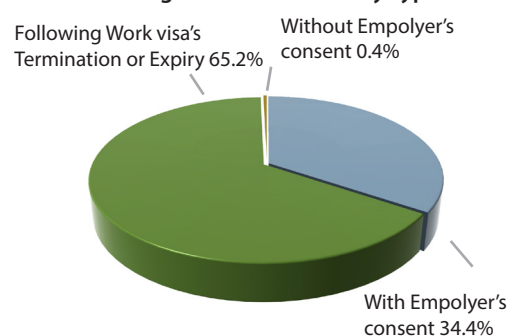
### Notes:

- Includes all civilian employed persons in the private and public sectors (insured, uninsured and self-employed) and domestic workers.
- Excluding visas for domestic workers, investors and temporary workers.
- Newly registered workers at GOSI.
- Four quarters moving average.
- Target sectors are limited to four branches of economic activity: Construction; Wholesale, retail trade and repairs; Hotels and restaurants; and Manufacturing (small scale).

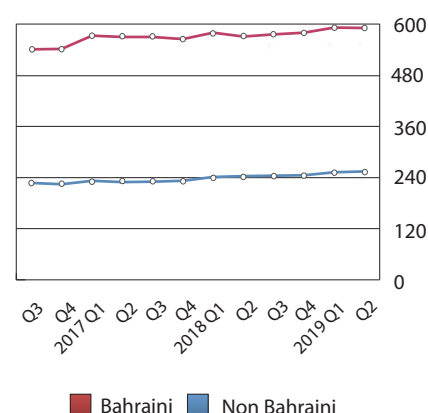
## New visas by sector



## Foreign Worker Transfer by Type



## Labour cost gap (target sectors)



## Employment Permits Issued in Q2 2019 by Worker Age

