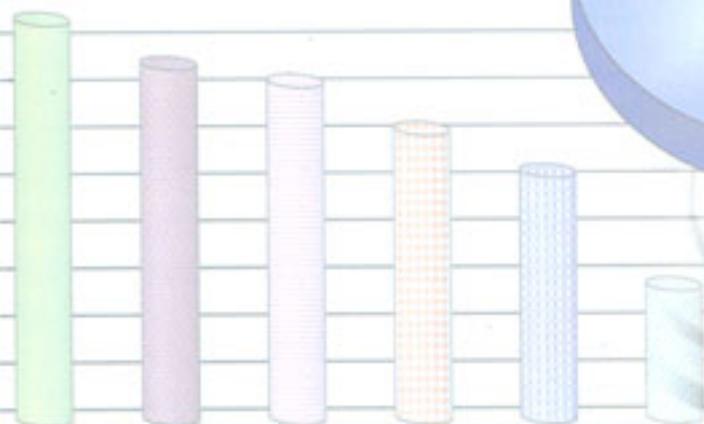




Secretariat General
Information Center

*The
GCC Common Market
Facts and Figures*



June 2009

**The Cooperation Council for the Arab
States of the Gulf
Secretariat General**



*The
GCC Common Market
Facts and Figures*

**Information Center – Statistical Department
June 2009**



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Introduction

The GCC process accomplished an advanced stage in economic integration when Their Majesties and Highnesses leaders of the GCC Member States adopted at the 28th session of the Supreme Council held in Doha (December, 2007) a resolution establishing the GCC Common Market. This resolution is considered a quality shift in the joint action process and a culmination of previous steps taken by the GCC in this context since established. GCC Member States developed the concept of "GCC Economic Citizenship" and expanded its practical applications based on a gradual and deliberate approach to cover broad areas which laid down the grounds for establishing the GCC Common Market. The Muscat Summit (December, 2001) adopted the concept of the GCC Common Market.

One year later, the Doha Summit (December, 2002) adopted a timeframe for completion of the Common Market requirements by 2007. Having completed these basic requirements outlined in the said timeframe, the GCC Supreme Council endorsed the "Doha Declaration on establishing the GCC Common Market (December, 2007)".

The GCC Common Market focuses on GCC economic citizenship based on a fundamental principle; that is GCC natural and legal citizens in any Member State shall be accorded same treatment and privileges accorded to its own citizens in all economic areas.



This publication outlines, in figures, some of the gains and tangible outputs that have been achieved for GCC citizens. The GCC resolutions have facilitated intra-GCC movement of GCC citizens , residence, equal treatment in government and private sectors, social insurance and pension, engagement in professions and crafts, engagement in economic, investment, and service activities, real estate ownership, stock ownership and formation of corporations, educational, health, and social services, as well as capital movement and tax treatment.

We hope that the reader will find in this statistical publication a true and clear picture of the consequences of the GCC resolutions related to the GCC Common Market, which have addressed the everyday life of GCC citizens and reflect the importance Their Majesties and Highnesses, leaders of GCC Member States, attach to GCC citizens in the context of the GCC joint action, where GCC citizens constitute the core and objective of the integration process.

Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al-Attiyah

Secretary General



Preface

The GCC Secretariat-General is pleased to introduce its publication "The GCC Common Market: Facts and Figures" which has been prepared to clarify, in documented statistics, the actual benefits derived from the GCC resolutions related to economic citizenship and the GCC Common Market.

Though this publication does not cover all areas of the Common Market, yet it gives an expressive and objective picture of the aspects of the new economic facts in the joint action embodied by the Doha Declaration on setting up the GCC Common Market as of 1st January 2008.

Statistics indicate that broad and various categories of GCC citizens have benefited from the resolutions on GCC citizenship taken by the GCC over the past years preceding the launch of the GCC Common Market in early 2008, upon completion of the key requirements of the Common Market. Indeed, by then the joint action process was ready to enter into an advanced institutional framework that best responded to the requirements of a new phase of integration; where equal treatment would be accorded to GCC citizens in all economic areas, which is the basic principle of the GCC Common Market.

Statistics in this publication indicate an increasing intra-GCC movement of GCC citizens. The joint action resolutions have

facilitated movement of GCC citizens and their residence in other Member States. Other Supreme Council's resolutions provide equal treatment in basic services related to education, healthcare, social welfare, equal treatment in the private sector and government jobs, and the extended insurance coverage through civil pension and social insurance.

Statistics also indicate an increasing number of GCC citizens engaged in economic activities and professions in other Member States, where the cumulative number of the licenses granted to GCC citizens engaged in different economic activities accounted for about 17000 licenses in 2007.

In regard to the number of GCC citizens who own real estates in other Member States, statistics indicate a continuously increasing number of GCC citizens who have benefited from the resolutions related to real estate ownership to reach about 6700 cases in 2007.

With respect to stock ownership, statistical indexes indicate significant interaction with the relevant resolution; the number of the GCC citizens holding shares in joint-stock companies in other Member States reached about 650000 shareholders by 2007.

We hope this publication will indicate in brief the new economic reality represented by setting up the GCC Common Market. Statistics brief many details of this significant achievement that put the GCC in the proper position it deserves in global economy.

Information Center

Dhu Al-Hijjah 1429 - December 2008



**Movement and Residence of
GCC Citizens**



Movement and Residence of GCC Citizens

GCC citizens are accorded equal treatment in terms of residence and movement between Member States using the Smart Card. GCC Member States have attached a special importance to the facilitation of intra-GCC movement of GCC citizens as it directly reflects the interests of GCC citizens and strengthens social cohesion between them. Besides, it is one of the basic requirements of the GCC Common Market.

Statistics indicate that the number of GCC citizens moving within Member States has multiplied from 4.5 million nationals in 1995 to over 14 million nationals in 2007. This movement reflects, in part, solidity of the new economic situation represented by the GCC. Resolutions and policies taken by the GCC have fostered mutual economic interests between GCC citizens. Movement of GCC citizens enhances GCC economic interconnection and the Common Market. At the same time, it is a natural result of such increasing interconnection and the Common Market that has become a key component of the GCC living reality.

Apart from movement, the Supreme Council's resolutions state that in the event GCC citizens choose to reside in other Member States, basic services, such as, education, healthcare, social welfare, and equal treatment in government and private jobs shall be provided to those GCC citizens, in addition to the insurance coverage provided to them through the civil pension and social insurance pursuant to the Insurance Protection Extension Law that was adopted by the resolution of the Supreme Council at the 25th session (Manama, December 2004) whereby implementation of the said Law was optional for one year effective 1st January 2005 and obligatory as of 1st January 2006.

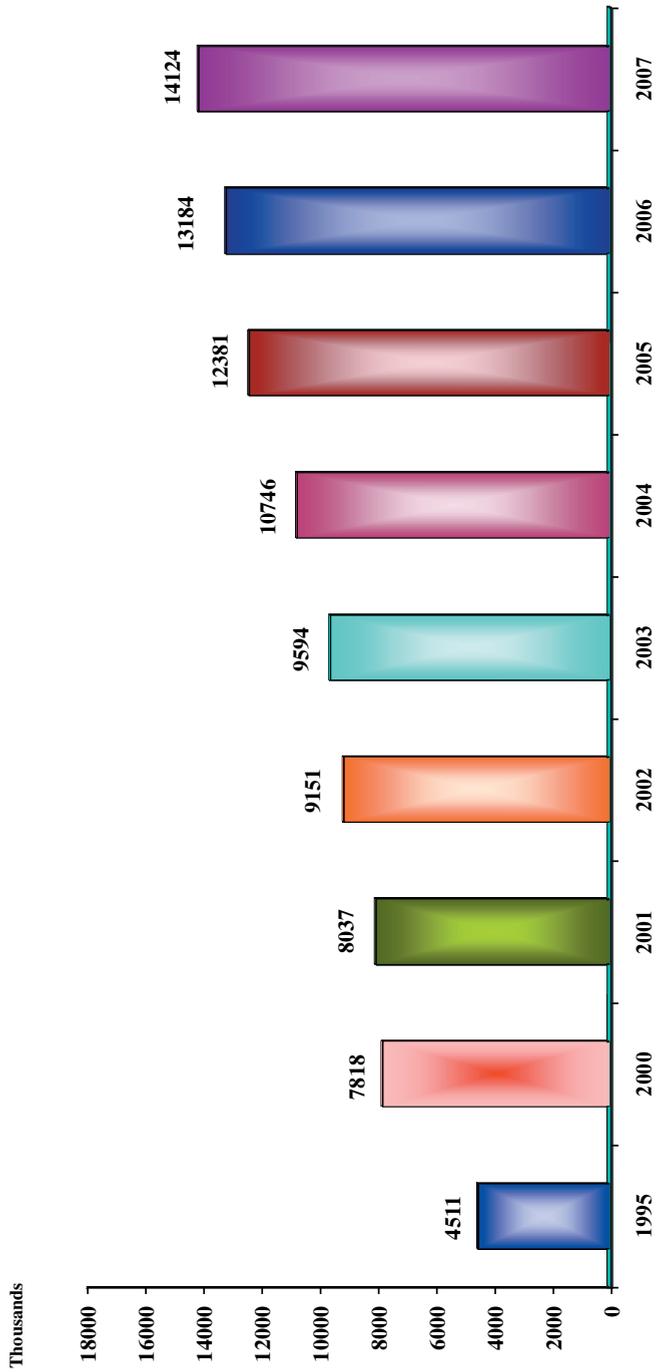
TABLE 1

INTRA-GCC MOVEMENT OF CITIZENS

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	-	*877959	*554955	1111878	1412012	1495625	1726566	1691959	**1691959
BAHRAIN	1700055	2925025	3259061	3402725	3293952	3803040	4476501	4768562	**4768562
K.S.A	2115718	3046906	3207341	3511519	3691618	4029912	4505979	4752756	5503397
OMAN	20011	26171	27766	32455	39779	76231	110188	123265	167101
QATAR	184741	210770	226378	247871	257988	317645	376514	526631	461267
KUWAIT	490610	730833	761429	844983	898781	1023308	1185704	1320989	1531700
TOTAL	4511135	7817664	8036930	9151431	9594130	10745761	12381452	13184162	14123986

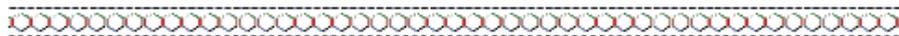


INTRA- GCC MOVEMENT OF CITIZENS





**Equal Treatment in the
Governmental Sector**



Equal Treatment in the Governmental Sector

Resolution of the Supreme Council at the 21st Session, (Manama, December 2000) accorded GCC citizens employed at the Civil Service in any Member State same treatment accorded to the citizens of the host Member State.

Resolution of the Supreme Council at the 23rd session (Doha, December 2002) also accorded full equal treatment to the GCC citizens in government jobs, social insurance and pension and elimination of the restrictions that may hinder implementation.

The Ministerial Committee of Civil Service adopted several resolutions to facilitate intra-GCC movement and employment of GCC citizens. The most significant resolutions are those related to extending GCC citizenship to civil service jobs, substitution of the non-GCC labor employed at Civil Service in Member States with the available GCC national labor, and continuing giving priority to GCC employees before contracting with non-GCC employees.

Statistics also indicate that the number of GCC citizens working in government jobs in other Member States increased from 9572 employees in 2004 to 10417 employees in 2005, and over 12000 employees in 2007.

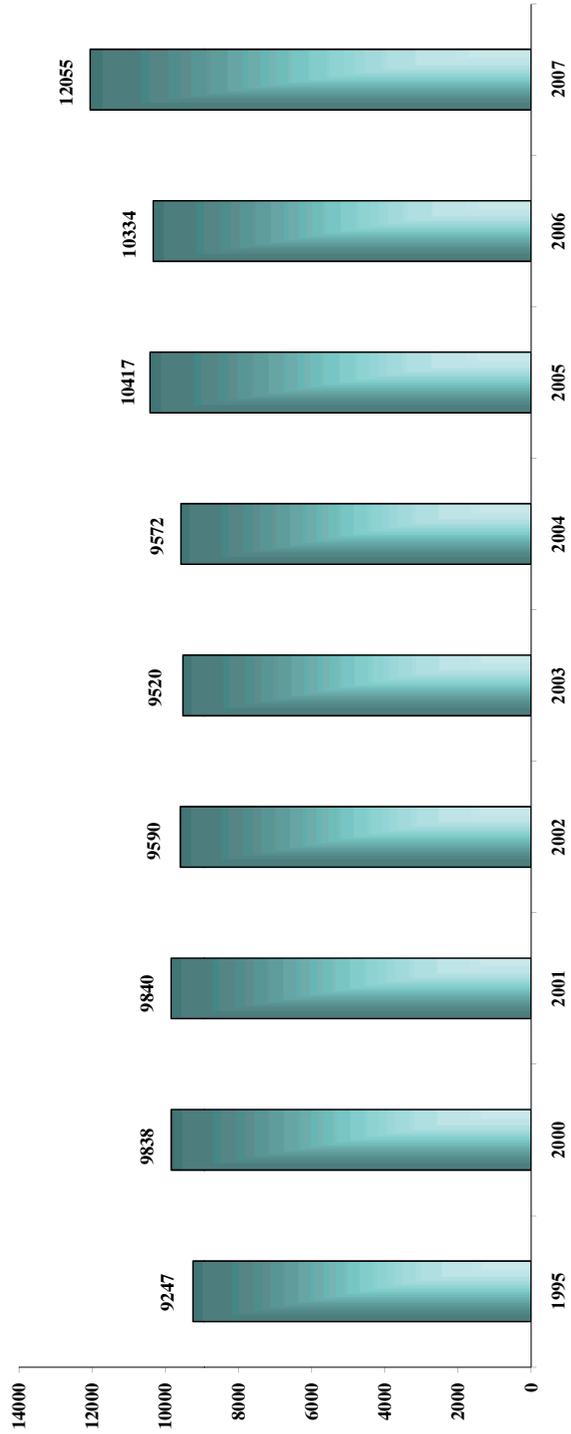
TABLE 2

**NO. OF GCC CITIZENS WORKING IN OTHER GCC STATES
(GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR)**

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1548
BAHRAIN	63	82	82	76	55	56	52	47	42
K.S.A	•	16	16	12	12	12	10	12	12
OMAN	•	17	18	27	25	35	38	37	40
QATAR	534	483	472	499	740	915	1039	1105	*1105
KUWAIT	8650	9240	9252	8976	8688	8554	9278	9133	9308
TOTAL	9247	9838	9840	9590	9520	9572	10417	10334	12055

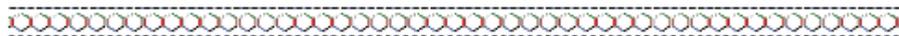
*2006

**NO. OF GCC CITIZENS WORKING IN OTHER GCC STATES
(GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR)**





**Equal Treatment in
Private Sector**



Equal Treatment in the Private Sector

Resolution of the Supreme Council at the 14th Session (Riyadh, December 1993) accorded the GCC citizens working in the Private Sector same treatment as the citizens of the host Member State, subject to the implementation controls approved at the same session.

Resolution of the Supreme Council at the 23rd Session (Doha, December 2002) reiterated that "full equal treatment" shall be accorded to the GCC citizens working in private jobs and that barriers hindering implementation shall be eliminated.

The Council of GCC Ministers of Labor and Social Affairs has also adopted work programs aiming at creating employment opportunities and facilitating intra-GCC movement of GCC workers in private sector.

Statistics also indicate a relative increase in the numbers of GCC citizens working in the Private Sector in other Member States. The number increased from approximately 6000 employees in 1995 to approximately 16000 employees in 2007.

TABLE 3

**NO. OF GCC CITIZENS WORKING IN OTHER GCC STATES
(PRIVATE SECTOR)**

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	261
BAHRAIN	562	430	425	418	442	498	527	582	593
K.S.A	39	2	5	7	4	3	3	539	39
OMAN	•	•	7	7	7	5	5	5	* 5
QATAR	•	•	•	•	•	443	•	•	•
KUWAIT	5642	10096	10647	11008	10755	11169	12998	13729	15068
TOTAL	6243	10528	11084	11440	11208	12118	13533	14855	15966

*2006

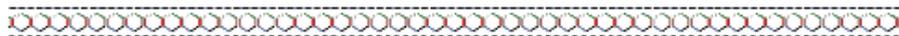


**NO. OF GCC CITIZENS WORKING IN OTHER GCC STATES
(PRIVATE SECTOR)**





Equal Treatment in Education



Equal Treatment in Education

The Supreme Council at the 6th Session (Muscat, November 1985) resolved that GCC students at various educational stages (primary, intermediate and secondary) should be accorded same treatment as the students of the host State. The Supreme Council also resolved that academic certificates issued by any Member State should be treated the same as those issued by the host Member State.

This resolution, which enhances GCC citizenship and serves its policies, is considered one of the major steps taken by the GCC, which aim at facilitating residence and intra- GCC movement of GCC citizens.

Statistics also demonstrate the great extent of benefit made from this resolution and other related resolutions, as the number of GCC students at government schools in other GCC Member States, in various educational stages, primary, intermediate and secondary, in 2007, accounted for 18003, 13459 and 7568 students respectively.

It should be noted that the Supreme Council resolutions accord GCC citizens the right to engage in all educational activities as the citizens of the host Member State.

TABLE 4

**TOTAL NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN GENERAL EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENTAL
SCHOOLS IN OTHER
MEMBER STATES
(PRIMARY LEVEL)**

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.									
Male	3282	4525	4475	3531	3379	3181	2859	2484	2379
Female	3159	4168	4218	3288	3170	3138	2877	2482	2446
BAHRAIN									
Male	382	347	322	274	284	264	279	240	* 240
Female	347	369	341	360	341	325	282	267	* 267
K.S.A									
Male	-	1189	1125	1248	1188	1258	1280	1665	1577
Female	-	993	1000	1075	928	1051	1105	1351	1429
OMAN									
Male	133	279	253	205	193	166	167	136	142
Female	147	301	247	221	167	146	115	123	112
QATAR									
Male	1046	1028	971	925	838	780	723	684	* 684
Female	994	994	937	945	898	816	754	728	* 728
KUWAIT									
Male	2682	3462	3569	3752	3810	4582	4326	4128	4000
Female	2622	3254	3425	3522	3768	4483	4194	4178	3999
TOTAL									
Male	7525	10830	10715	9935	9692	10231	9634	9337	9022
Female	7269	10079	10168	9411	9272	9959	9327	9129	8981
TOTAL	14794	20909	20883	19346	18964	20190	18961	18466	18003

*2006

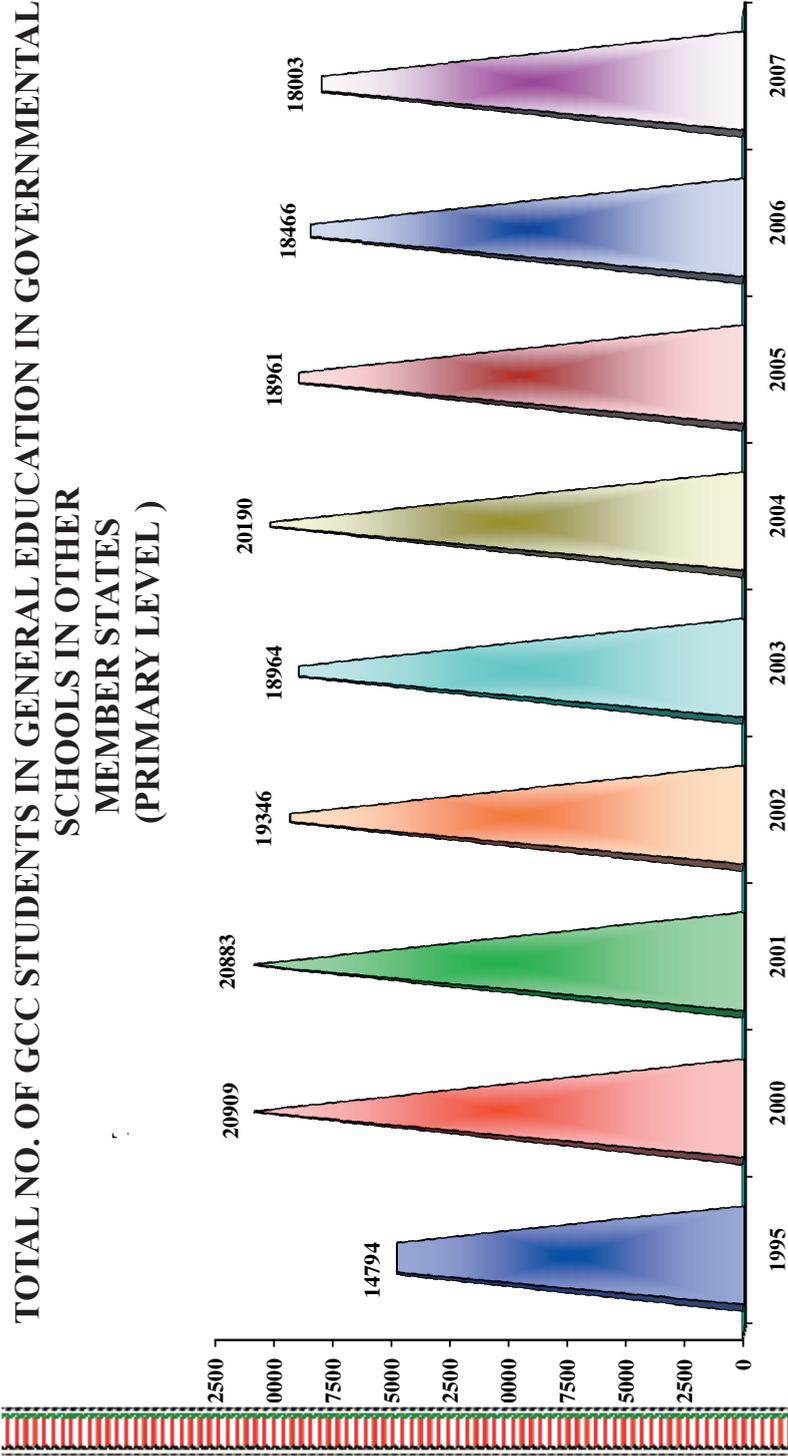


TABLE 5

**TOTAL NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN GENERAL EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENTAL
SCHOOLS IN OTHER
MEMBER STATES
(INTERMEDIATE LEVEL)**

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	Male	1450	2016	2028	2867	2618	2669	2552	2378
	Female	1325	1956	1970	2961	2471	2513	2340	2315
BAHRAIN	Male	136	169	126	120	107	125	114	* 114
	Female	144	163	143	155	150	128	141	* 141
K.S.A	Male	-	593	579	574	540	627	708	824
	Female	-	459	438	503	420	417	524	543
OMAN	Male	47	165	133	106	100	98	59	64
	Female	66	157	156	121	109	104	71	64
QATAR	Male	344	382	359	391	402	417	396	* 396
	Female	304	392	413	408	374	393	410	* 415
KUWAIT	Male	2665	3148	3281	3133	3181	3151	3157	3169
	Female	2600	2903	2937	2983	3117	2996	3198	3223
TOTAL	Male	4642	6473	6506	7191	6948	7000	6812	6844
	Female	4439	6030	6057	7131	6641	6551	5333	6664
TOTAL	9081	12503	12563	14322	13589	13551	10154	13476	13459

*2006

TOTAL NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN GENERAL EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENTAL SCHOOLS IN OTHER MEMBER STATES (INTERMEDIATE LEVEL)

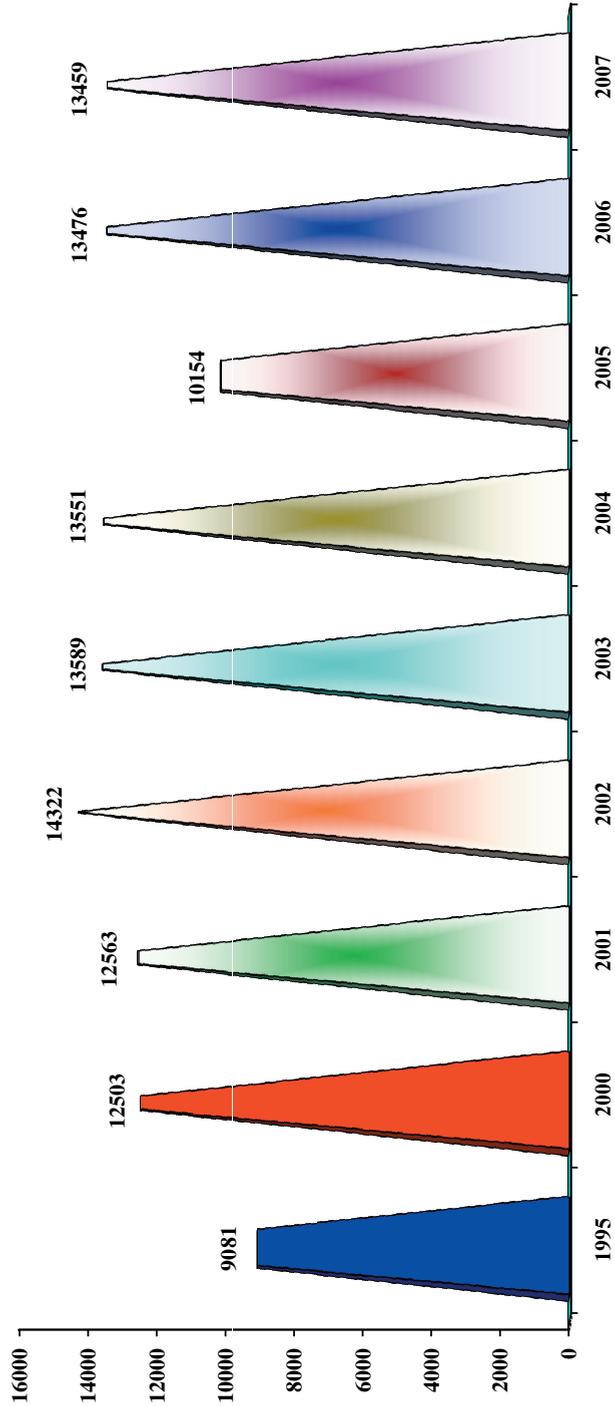


TABLE 6

**TOTAL NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN GENERAL EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENTAL
SCHOOLS IN OTHER
MEMBER STATES
(SECONDARY LEVEL)**

Particulars		1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	Male	549	1209	1251	1282	1292	1358	1346	1416	1279
	Female	713	1447	1488	1553	1540	1534	1478	1492	1444
BAHRAIN	Male	96	95	100	103	103	106	103	88	* 88
	Female	116	121	127	133	133	135	141	135	* 135
K.S.A	Male	•	495	583	589	483	624	576	633	708
	Female	•	343	346	415	350	397	376	465	478
OMAN	Male	17	74	81	80	52	55	42	50	49
	Female	31	143	136	123	115	79	68	69	71
QATAR	Male	156	250	262	279	288	309	315	300	* 300
	Female	185	294	310	330	349	359	356	346	* 346
KUWAIT	Male	1760	1900	1910	1980	2096	1425	1158	1045	969
	Female	1599	2370	2516	2421	2549	3056	1847	1621	1701
TOTAL	Male	2578	4023	4187	4313	4314	3877	3540	3532	3393
	Female	2644	4718	4923	4975	5036	5560	4266	4128	4175
TOTAL		5222	8741	9110	9288	9350	9437	7806	7660	7568

*2006

TOTAL NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN GENERAL EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENTAL SCHOOLS IN OTHER MEMBER STATES (SECONDARY LEVEL)

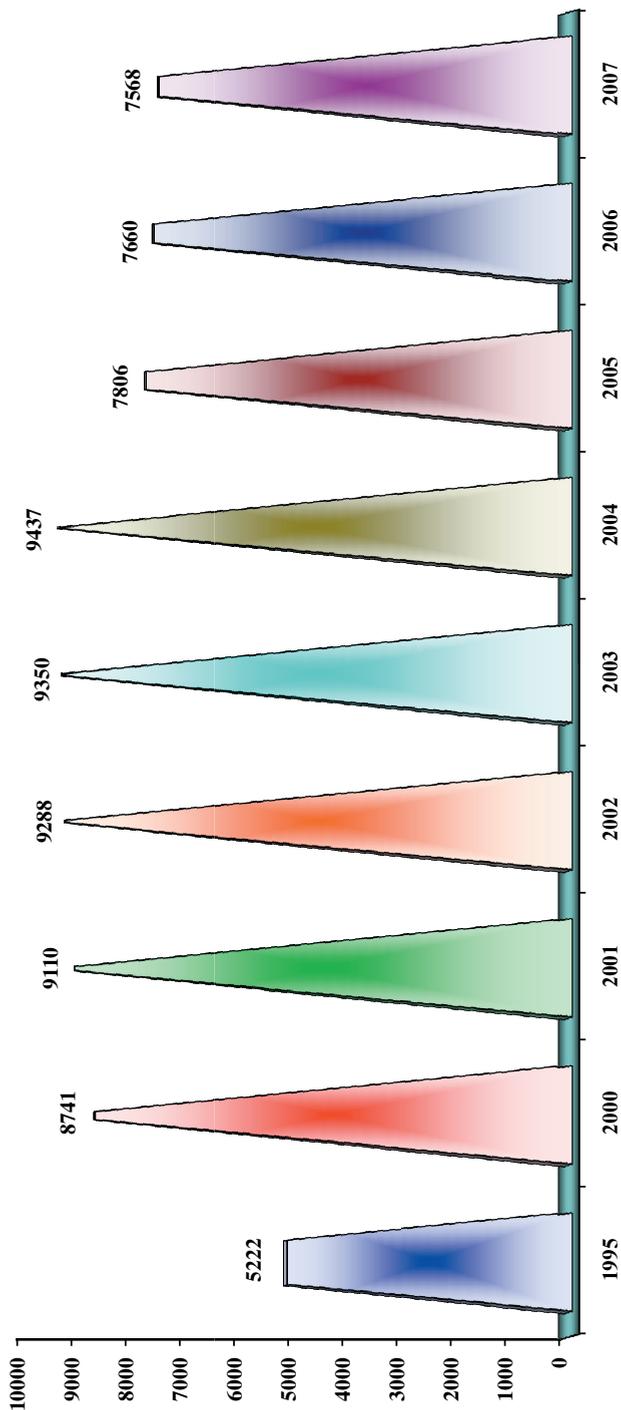


TABLE 7

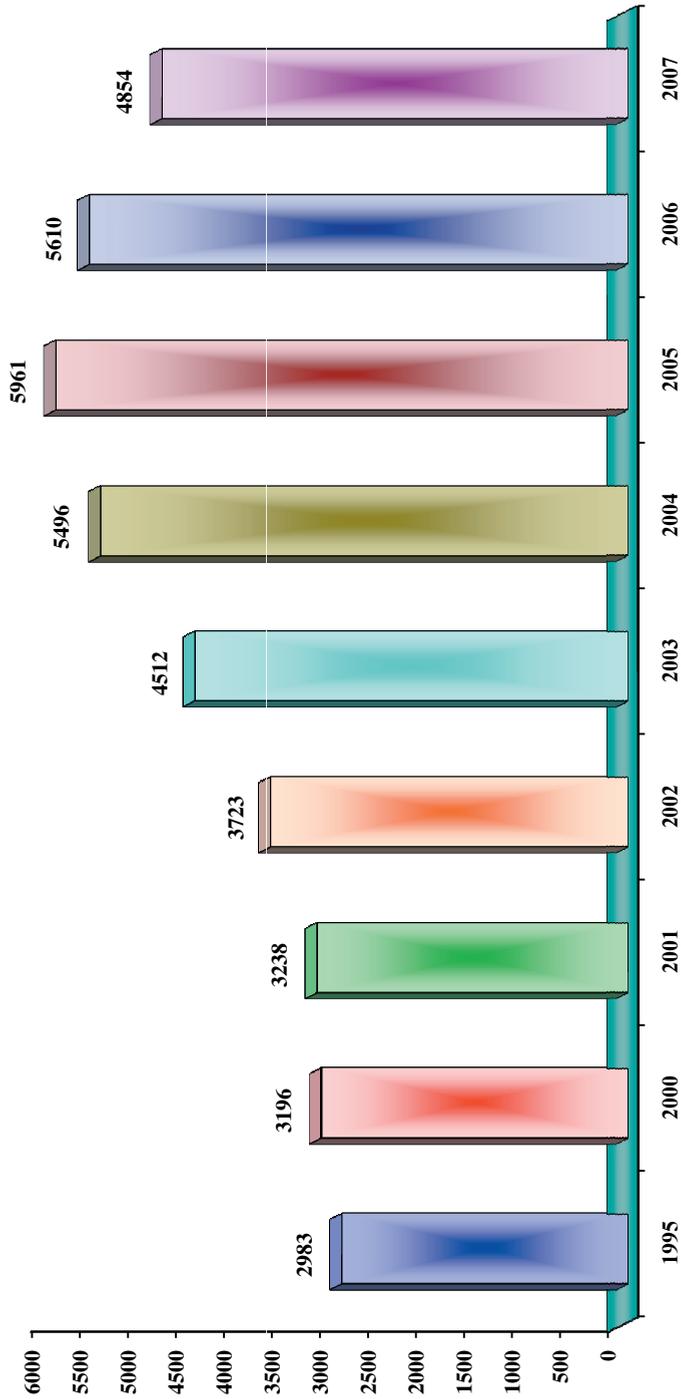
**TOTAL NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENTAL
INSTITUTIONS IN OTHER MEMBER STATES**

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	•	559	569	544	575	605	694	650	689
**BAHRAIN	376	335	506	906	1530	2229	2544	*2544	*2544
K.S.A	139	118	122	129	145	143	175	220	242
OMAN	•	49	50	50	52	61	59	51	50
QATAR	356	496	425	455	474	623	530	510	531
KUWAIT	2112	1639	1566	1639	1736	1835	1959	1635	798
TOTAL	2983	3196	3238	3723	4512	5496	5961	5610	4854

** Includes Alkhaleej University

*2005

NO. OF GCC STUDENTS IN GOVERNMENTAL HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN OTHER MEMBER STATES







Real Estate Ownership

Real estate ownership is one of the ten domains of the GCC Common Market set forth in the Economic Agreement (2001) wherein GCC natural and legal citizens are accorded same treatment without differentiation or discrimination as citizens of the host Member State.

Real estate ownership has gone through several stages; Article (8) of the Unified Economic Agreement (1981) and Article (3) of the Economic Agreement (2001) permitted GCC citizens to own real estate, and accorded them same treatment as the citizens of the host Member State, subject to certain restrictions which were gradually reduced. The latest regulation of real estate ownership, issued at the 23rd Session of the Supreme Council (Doha, December 2002), was void of most of these restrictions.

The attached statistics indicate an increase in the number of the GCC citizens who have benefited from the resolutions permitting them to own real estates in other Member States. Statistics indicate that 6716 GCC citizens owned real estate in 2007. Statistical data also indicate that the cumulative total number of real estate purchasing accounted for 39000 purchases by the end of 2007.

TABLE 8

**NO. OF GCC CITIZENS OWNING REAL ESTATE IN OTHER MEMBER STATES IN
2007**

Particulars	EMARATI	BAHRAINI	SAUDI	OMANI	QATARI	KUWAITI	TOTAL
*U.A.E.		287	704	123	144	855	2113
BAHRAIN	144		512	14	245	360	1275
K.S.A	9	39		0	29	283	360
OMAN	992	123	18		63	1517	2713
QATAR	52	35	48	8		39	182
KUWAIT	5	5	55	3	5		73
TOTAL	1202	489	1337	148	486	3054	6716

* 2005



**TOTAL NO. OF GCC CITIZENS OWNING REAL ESTATE
IN OTHER MEMBERS STATES DURING 2007**

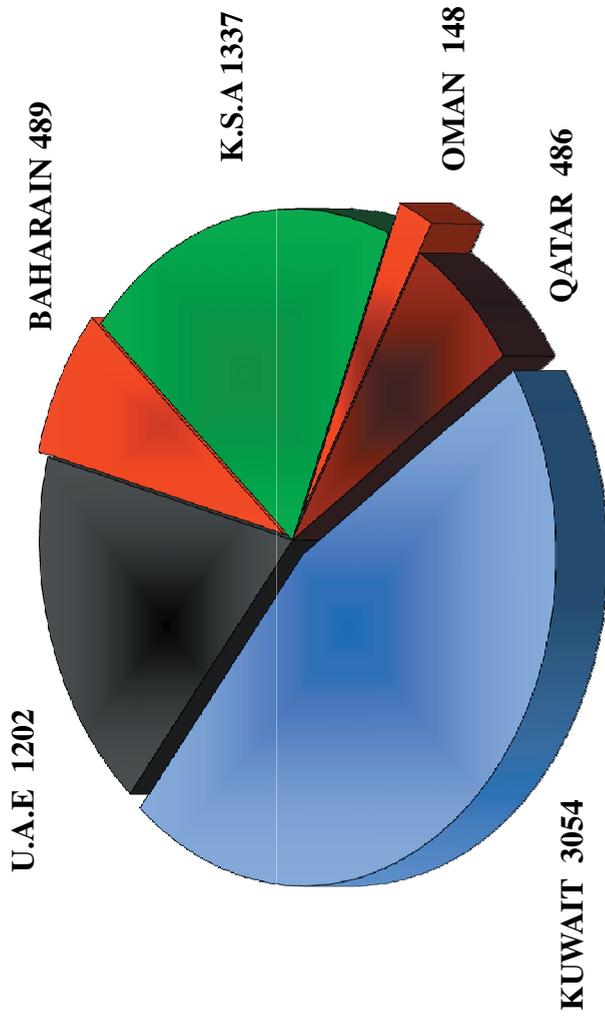


TABLE 9

**NO. OF G.C.C CITIZENS OWNING REAL ESTATE IN OTHER MEMBER STATES
DURING (1995-2007)**

Particulars	1995	2001	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	•	•	2113	* 2113	* 2113
BAHRAIN	582	2636	697	972	1275
K.S.A	196	186	147	256	360
OMAN	•	468	1707	2944	2713
QATAR	9	24	55	82	182
KUWAIT	97	131	143	217	73

NO. OF GCC CITIZENS OWNING REAL ESTATE IN OTHER MEMBERS STATES

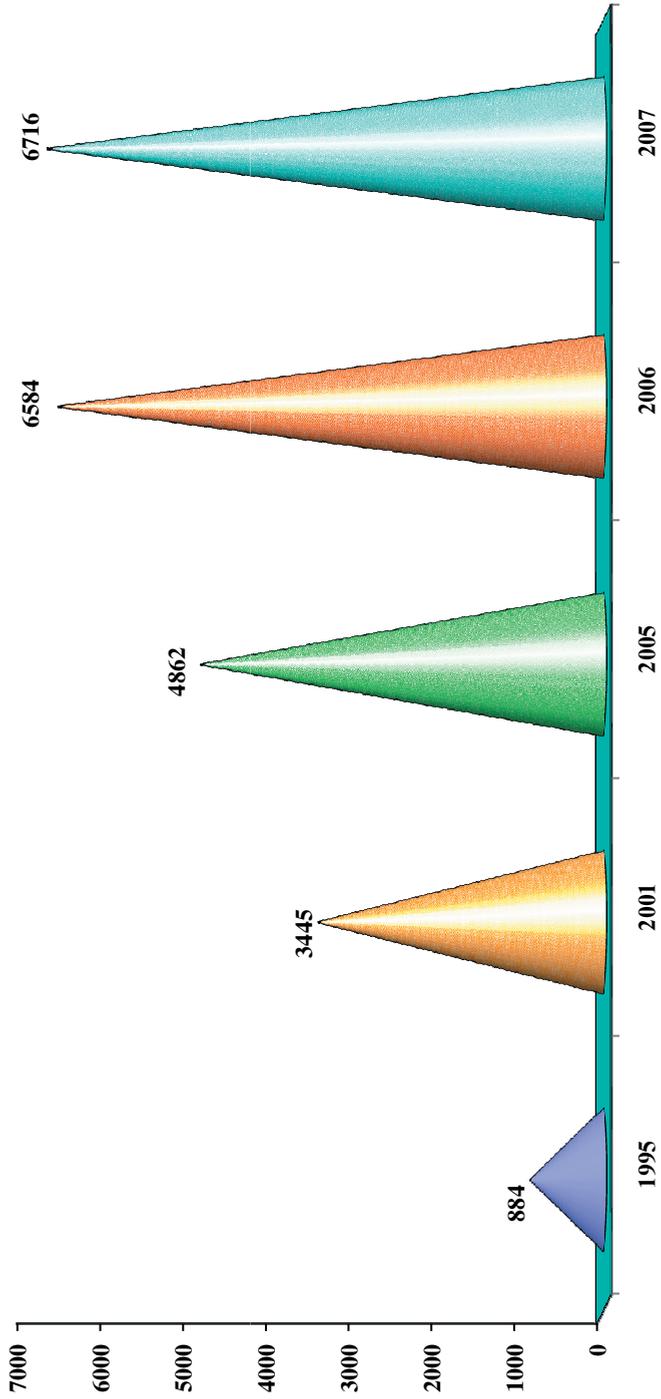
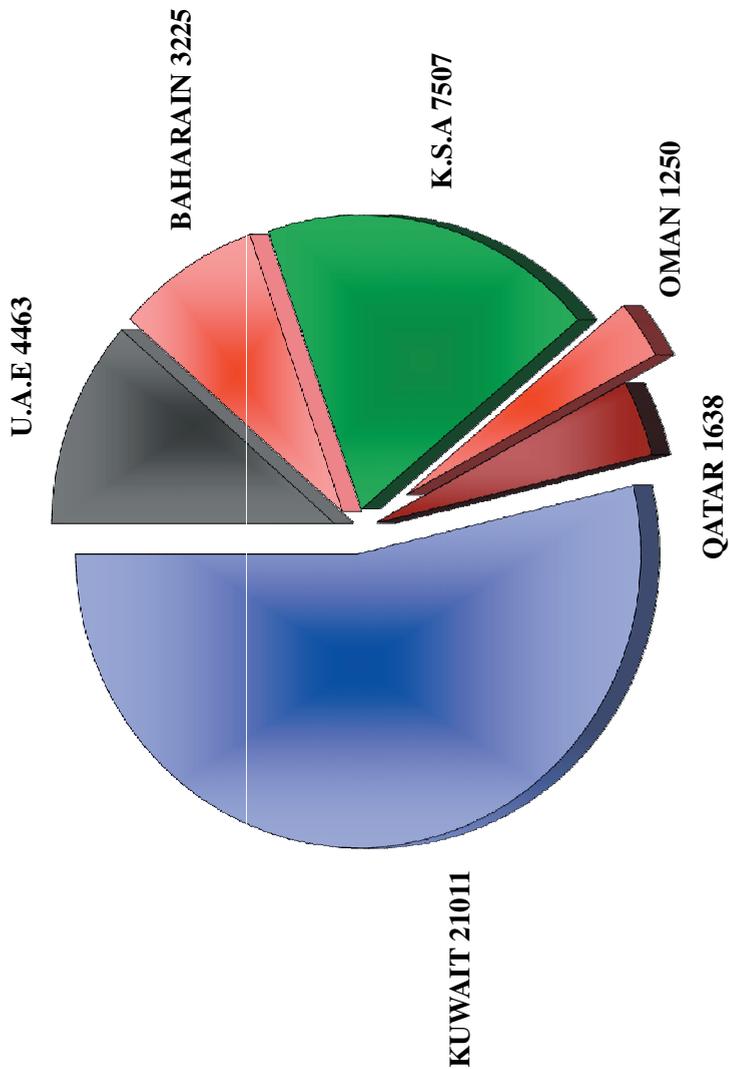


TABLE 10

**TOTAL NO. OF G.C.C CITIZENS OWNING REAL ESTATE IN OTHER MEMBER STATES UP TO 2007
(CUMULATIVE)**

Particulars	EMARATI	BAHRAINI	SAUDI	OMANI	QATARI	KUWAITI	TOTAL
U.A.E.		932	1357	1040	767	7703	11799
BAHRAIN	464		3390	126	535	5910	10425
K.S.A	75	172		31	108	3339	3725
OMAN	3749	1936	92		205	3998	9980
QATAR	103	123	91	35		61	413
KUWAIT	72	62	2577	18	23		2752
TOTAL	4463	3225	7507	1250	1638	21011	39094

**TOTAL NO. OF G.C.C. CITIZENS OWNING REAL ESTATE
IN OTHER MEMBERS STATES UP TO 2007**





**Engaging in Economic, Investment
and Service Activities**

Engaging in Economic, Investment and Service Activities

Effective from the 3rd Session of the Supreme Council's (Manama, November 1982), GCC natural and legal citizens were allowed to engage in several economic activities in other Member States. At the 7th session of the Supreme Council (Abu Dhabi, November 1986) GCC citizens were permitted to engage in retail and wholesale trade. At the 21st Session of the Supreme Council (Manama, December 2000), GCC citizens were also permitted to engage in all economic activities and professions, excluding 17 activities that were gradually reduced to 4 activities (Hajj and Umrah services, expatriates recruitment offices, newspapers, magazines, printing press and publishing houses, and commercial agencies).

The number of GCC citizens who have benefited from these resolutions has remarkably increased over the past years. The cumulative number of licenses granted to GCC citizens to engage in various economic activities reached about 17 thousand licenses in 2007.

The number of branches of the GCC commercial banks licensed to operate in other Member States has increased from 11 branches in 1995 to 22 branches in 2007.

Table No.14 shows the extent to which GCC citizens have benefited from the resolution of the Supreme Council at the 7th session, (Abu Dhabi, November 1986), which has permitted GCC investors to get loans from the GCC banks and Industrial Development Funds, according them same treatment as national investors, effective from the 1st of March 1987. The table indicates that these loans have accounted for \$1.1 bn.

TABLE 11

**TOOTAL NO. OF LICENCES GRANTED TO GCC CITIZENS TO PRACTICE
ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES
IN OTHER MEMBER STATES
(CUMUALTIVE)**

Particulars	1995	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	2744	4070	7384	8485	9784	* 9784	11083
BAHRAIN	150	260	770	991	1220	1406	1530
K.S.A	786	936	1160	1249	1323	* 1323	* 1323
OMAN	36	47	79	90	144	165	169
QATAR	34	62	148	198	199	241	239
KUWAIT	40	241	904	1246	1636	2158	2628
TOTAL	3790	5616	10445	12259	14306	15077	16972

*2005

NO. OF LICENCES GRANTED TO GCC CITIZENS TO PRACTICE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN OTHER MEMBER STATES (CUMULATIVE)

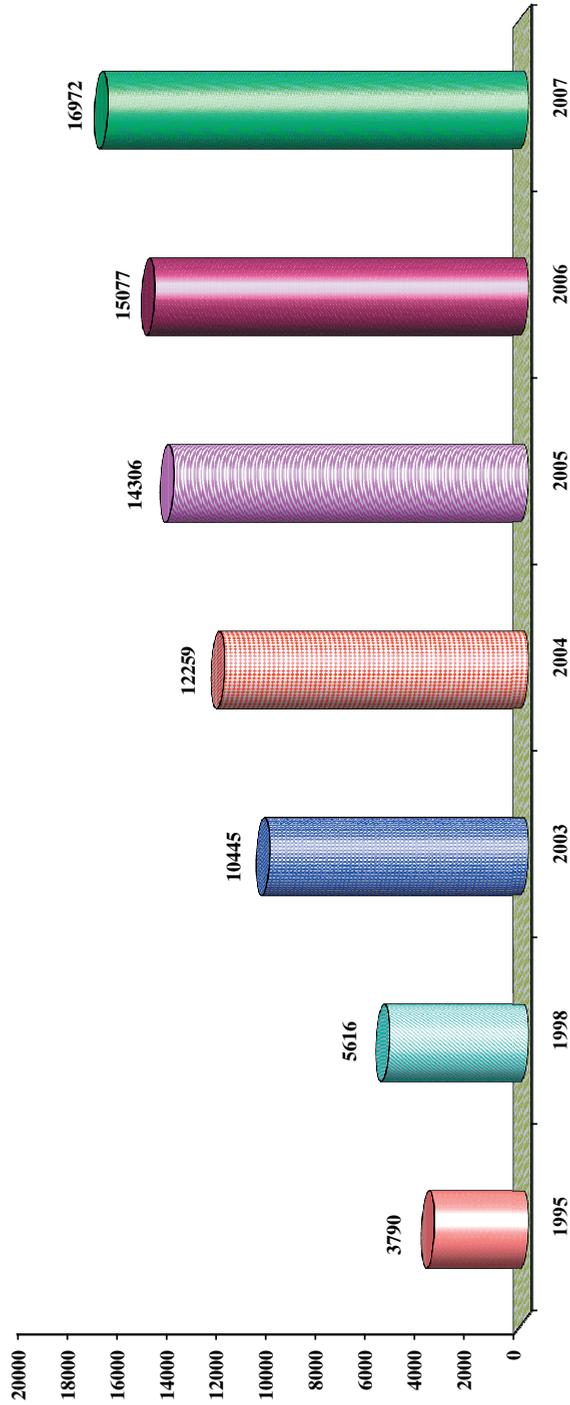


TABLE 12

NO. OF GCC BANK BRANCHES IN OTHER MEMBER STATES

Particulars	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
BAHRAIN	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	* 6
K.S.A	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	5
OMAN	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
QATAR	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
KUWAIT	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	* 2
TOTAL	11	12	12	14	14	16	18	19	22

*2006

NO. OF GCC BANK BRANCHES IN OTHER MEMBER STATES

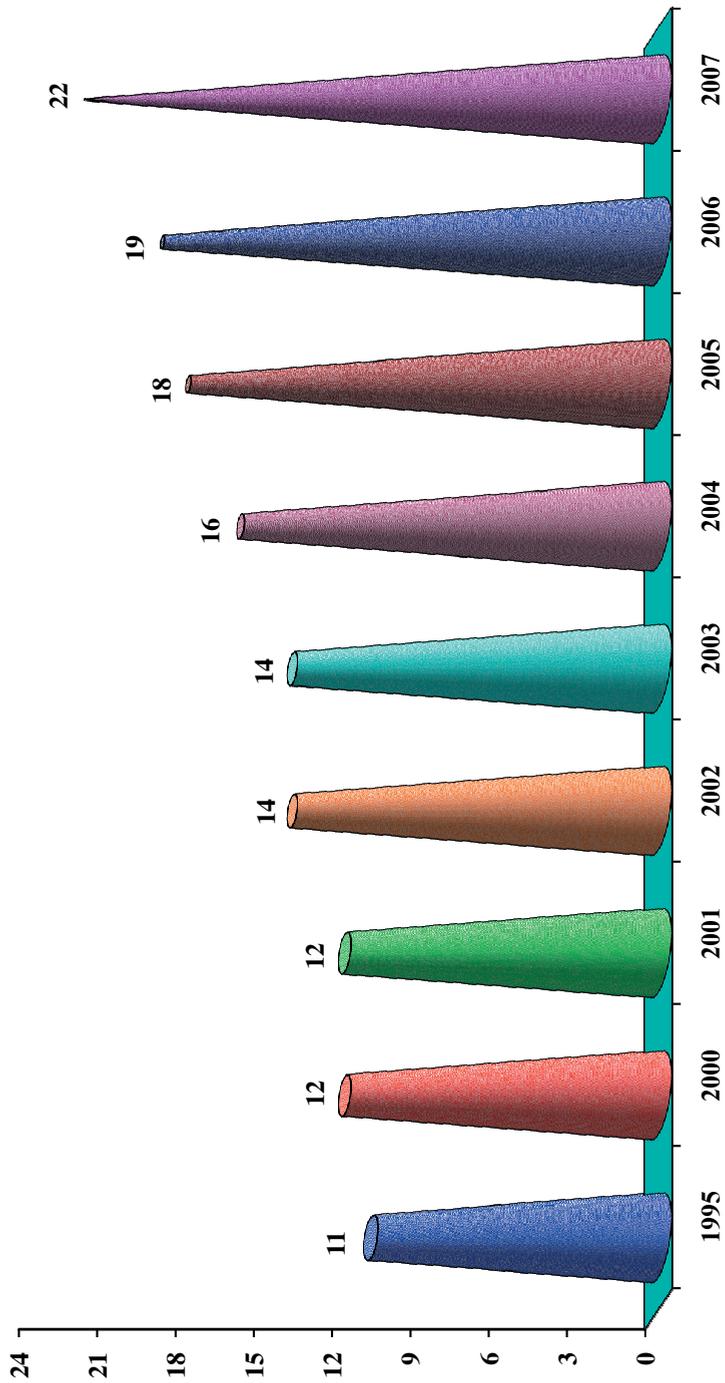


TABLE 13

**NO. & NATIONALITY OF GCC BANK BRANCHES IN OTHER MEMBER STATES
UP TO 2007**

Particulars	EMARATI	BAHRAINI	SAUDI	OMANI	QATARI	KUWAITI	TOTAL
U.A.E.		1	0	1	1	1	4
BAHRAIN	2		3	0	0	1	6
K.S.A	1	2		1	0	1	5
OMAN	1	0	0		0	0	1
QATAR	4	•	•	•		•	4
* KUWAIT	1	1	0	0	0		2
TOTAL	9	4	3	2	1	3	22

*2006

MILLION DOLLARS

TABLE 14

**LOANS GRANTED TO GCC CITIZENS FOR INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS IN OTHER
MEMBER STATES
UP TO 2007 ***

Particulars	NO. OF LOANS	LOAN VALUE
U.A.E. **	7	18.11
K.S.A	72	1017.2
OMAN **	6	19.50
QATAR	3	4.35
KUWAIT **	3	18.82
TOTAL	91	1077.98

* Government Loans
** 2004





Stock Ownership and Formation of Stock Companies

The Supreme Council at the 9th Session, (Manama, December 1988) permitted GCC citizens to own stocks in joint-stock companies and to transfer ownership of stocks in accordance with the rules attached to the resolution which included a number of controls and restrictions.

The Member States have gradually reduced these restrictions and exclusions. The Supreme Council at the 23rd Session (Doha, December 2002) adopted a resolution according GCC citizens equal treatment in respect to stock ownership and formation of stock companies, and elimination of relevant restrictions. By the end of 2005, all Member States have adopted resolutions according GCC citizens equal treatment in this respect.

Statistics indicate that the ratio of the stock companies permitted for GCC citizens to own stocks increased from 20% in 1985 to about 92% in 2007. Also, the number of companies permitted for GCC citizens to own stocks totaled 533 stock companies in 2007, with a total capital accounting for some \$150 bn. Likewise, the number of GCC shareholders in these companies accounted for about 650000 shareholders in 2007 compared to 730000 shareholders in 2006. This reflects the direct positive impact of the relevant resolutions of the Supreme Council.

TABLE 15

NO. OF STOCK COMPANIES

Particulars	1985	1995	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	•	•	39	47	80	86	99
BAHRAIN	23	35	43	43	44	46	48
K.S.A	43	70	70	73	77	86	111
OMAN	24	75	131	122	125	118	120
QATAR	10	29	29	30	32	36	40
KUWAIT	33	41	108	120	158	180	* 180
TOTAL	133	250	420	435	516	552	598

*2006

NO. OF STOCK COMPANIES PERMITTED FOR GCC CITIZENS TO TRADE AND OWN

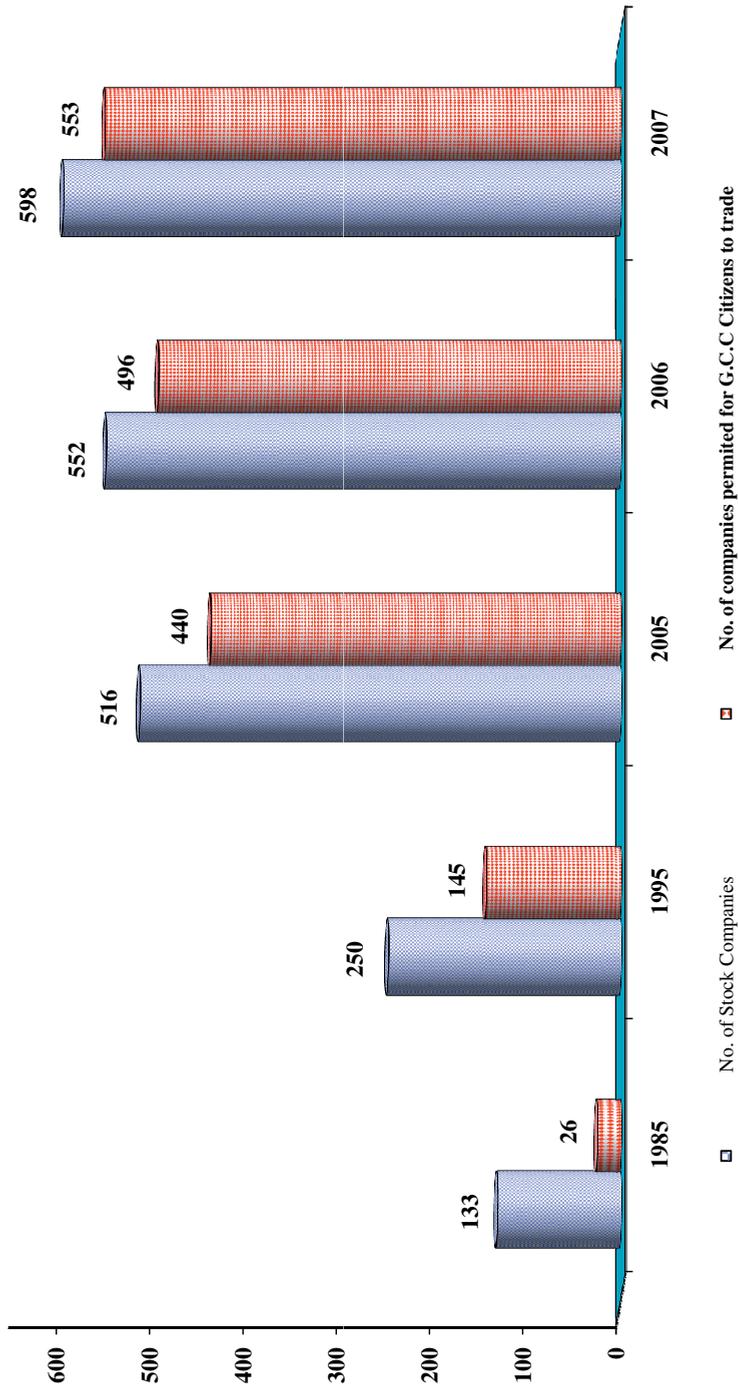


TABLE 16

**NO. OF STOCK COMPANIES PERMITTED FOR G.C.C. CITIZENS TO
TRADE AND OWN**

Particulars	1985	1995	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	-	-	11	20	37	48	61
BAHRAIN	16	35	43	43	44	46	48
K.S.A	3	-	60	63	66	75	111
OMAN	6	66	104	104	104	112	114
QATAR	-	3	10	10	31	35	39
KUWAIT	1	41	108	120	158	180	* 180
TOTAL	26	145	336	360	440	496	553

*2006

MILLION DOLLARS

TABLE 17

**CAPITAL OF STOCK COMPANIES PERMITTED FOR G.C.C. CITIZENS TO
TRADE AND OWN**

Particulars	1985	1995	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	-	-	1452.6	2609.4	11119.3	15004.6	23787.6
BAHRAIN	2059.7	2161.4	3616.1	4329.5	4425.9	6098.0	6309.1
K.S.A	-	-	5249.0	5857.0	6354.0	41246.0	81943.3
OMAN	61.2	480.0	2163.0	2163.0	2598.0	2456.0	3296.0
QATAR	-	27.5	1127.0	1154.4	5931.9	9843.6	13206.0
KUWAIT	100.0	5872.1	14252.0	16037.0	16759.0	20628.0	*20628.0
TOTAL	2220.9	8541.0	27859.7	32150.3	47188.0	95276.1	149170.0

*2006

MILLION DOLLARS

CAPITAL OF STOCK COMPANIES

Particulars	1985	1995	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
U.A.E.	-	-	5927.8	7390.5	17533.3	22349.1	29726.7
BAHRAIN	2417.53	2161.40	3616.09	4329.5	4425.9	6098.0	6309.1
K.S.A	-	-	31296.0	34722.7	39538.7	51541.3	81943.3
OMAN	521.10	676.0	2317.0	2238.0	4351.0	2844.0	3304.0
QATAR	197.0	1246.43	3428.7	3760.8	6015.3	9954.9	13289.0
KUWAIT	2722.11	5872.10	14252	16037	16759	20628	* 20628
TOTAL	5857.74	9955.9	60837.6	68478.4	88623.2	113415.2	155200.1

*2006

CAPITAL OF STOCK COMPANIES PERMITTED FOR GCC CITIZENS TO TRADE AND OWN

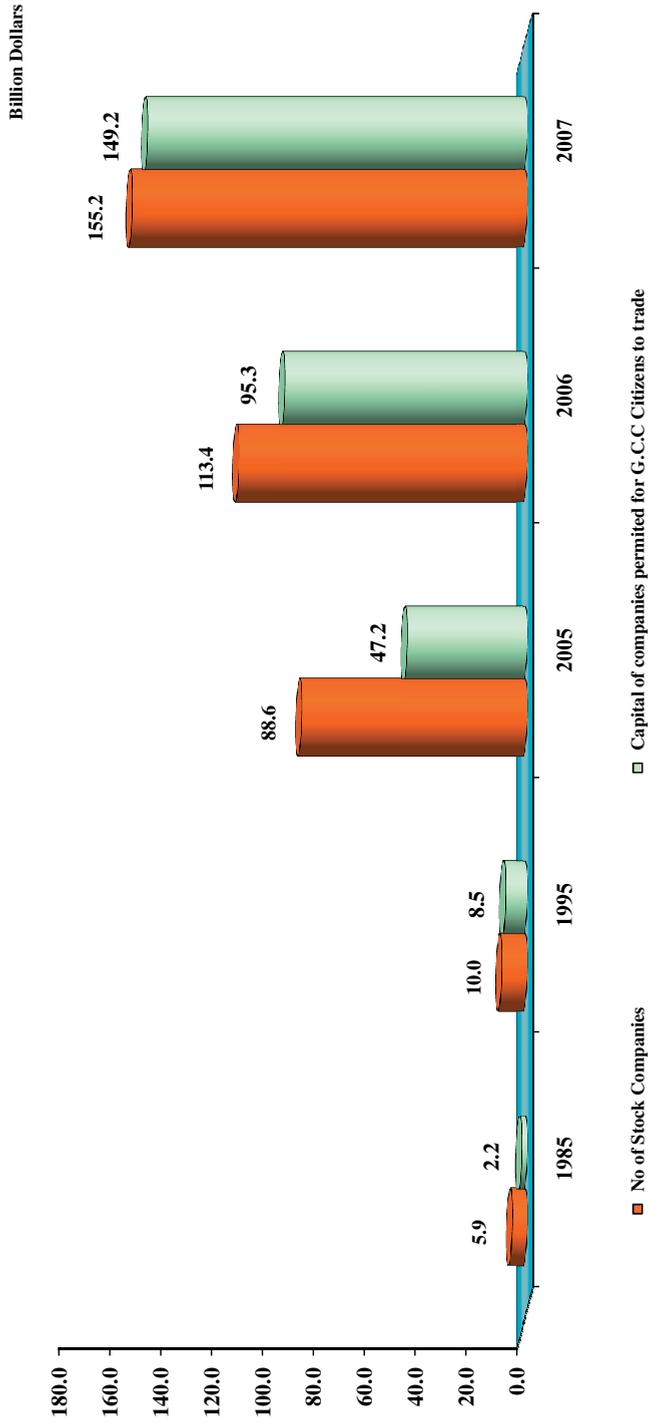


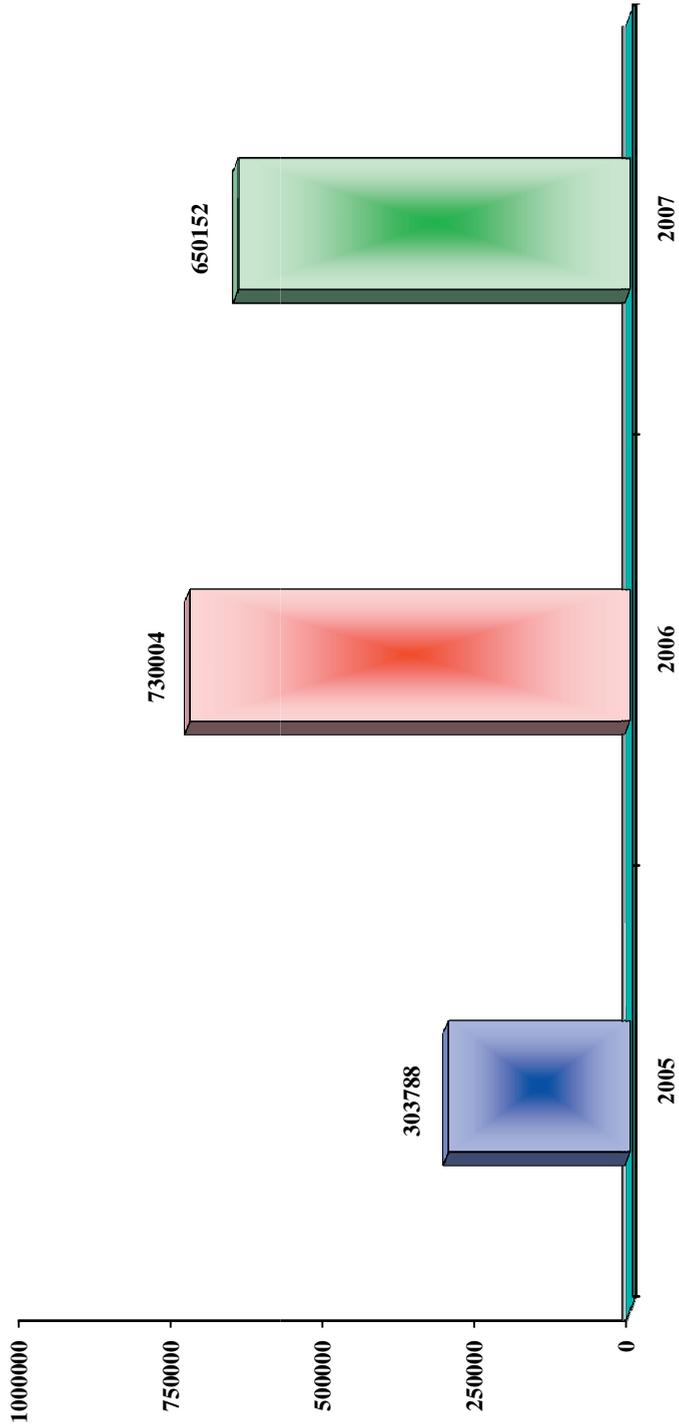
TABLE 19

**NO. OF GCC SHAREHOLDERS IN STOCK COMPANIES IN OTHER MEMBER
STATES PERMITTED FOR GCC CITIZENS TO TRADE & OWN**

Particulars	2005	2006	2007
.U.A.E	292689	320657	313937
* BAHRAIN	3634	24589	25753
K.S.A	1646	2605	3189
OMAN	•	•	17611
QATAR	5819	382153	289662
KUWAIT	•	•	•
TOTAL	303788	730004	650152

*Central Depository and Settlement

**NO. OF GCC SHAREHOLDERS IN STOCK COMPANIES IN OTHER MEMBER STATES
PERMITTED FOR GCC CITIZENS TO TRADE OWN**







Intra-GCC Trade

GCC Member States eliminated tariff barriers on GCC products. Member States exempted those products from custom duties and treated them as national goods. Member States also established a Free Trade Area in 1983, and a Custom Union in early 2003. In the meantime, Member States adopted many laws, regulations and policies that aimed to facilitate intra-GCC flow of goods and services and movement of means of transportation. Member States also encouraged national products and activated the role of private sector in promoting GCC exports. While the Custom Union enhances the benefits of the GCC Common Market (i.e. movement of GCC citizens, engagement in economic activities etc.), resolutions of the Common Market do also enhance Intra-GCC trade.

In the same context, Member States permitted GCC establishments and production plants to establish commercial representation offices in any Member State (Kuwait, December 1991) and intra-GCC movement of national products without the need for local agents. Other important resolutions such as the one establishing the GCC Standardization Organization (Doha, December 2002) and the resolution establishing the GCC Commercial Arbitration Center (Riyadh, December 1993) have also enhanced Intra-GCC trade.

As a result of the policies and measures taken by Member States that aimed to facilitate intra-GCC flow of goods, the volume of intra-GCC trade increased from about \$6 bn in 1983 to \$53 bn in 2007.

MILLION DOLLARS

INTRA- GCC TRADE (EXPORTS)

Particulars	1995	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
.U.A.E	1079.8	1189.9	2633.7	2397.1	4763.7	5021.47	6186.37
BAHRAIN	426.2	428.7	731.6	774.74	1045.7	1230.27	1560.8
K.S.A	3586.1	4270.2	6215.7	8203.7	12057	15624.5	18965.5
OMAN	660.4	1003.2	1062.1	1257.4	1718.6	2356.33	3296.11
QATAR	270.4	578.4	648.09	983.13	1526.9	1861.03	2014.77
KUWAIT	232.1	306.5	488.84	489.31	518.49	879.92	*879.92
TOTAL	6255.0	7776.9	11780.0	14105.4	21630.4	26973.5	32903.5

*2006

MILLION DOLLARS

INTRA-GCC TRADE (IMPORTS)

Particulars	1995	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
. U.A.E	1070.1	1236.6	2023.8	2546.8	2906.8	4797.95	4855.38
* BAHRAIN	316.5	377.7	578.7	696.5	737.95	976.2	1111.8
K.S.A	752.6	1078.6	1688	2276.5	2728.8	3269.05	3824.98
OMAN	1217.6	1673.0	1826.0	3010.8	2788.8	3342.13	4821.56
QATAR	346.7	483.4	730.9	1102.6	1408.0	2159.51	3121.12
KUWAIT	753.7	851.4	1257.8	1685.5	**1685.5	2467.3	***2467.3
TOTAL	4457.2	5700.7	8105.3	11318.7	12255.9	17012.1	20202.1

* Excluding oil

** 2004

*** 2006



TABLE 22

MILLION DOLLARS

INTRA - GCC TRADE (EXPORTS)

Year	Value
1984	2962.9
1985	3231.4
1986	2646.8
1987	3033.2
1988	3229.7
1989	3991.8
1990	4834.5
1991	4928.6
1992	5557.1
1993	6210.6
1994	5343.4
1995	6255.0
1996	7553.0
1997	8110.6
1998	6603.5
1999	7982.2
2000	7776.9
2001	6394.7
2002	7734.4
2003	11780.0
2004	14105.4
2005	21630.4
2006	26973.5
2007	32903.5



INTRA - GCC TRADE (EXPORTS)

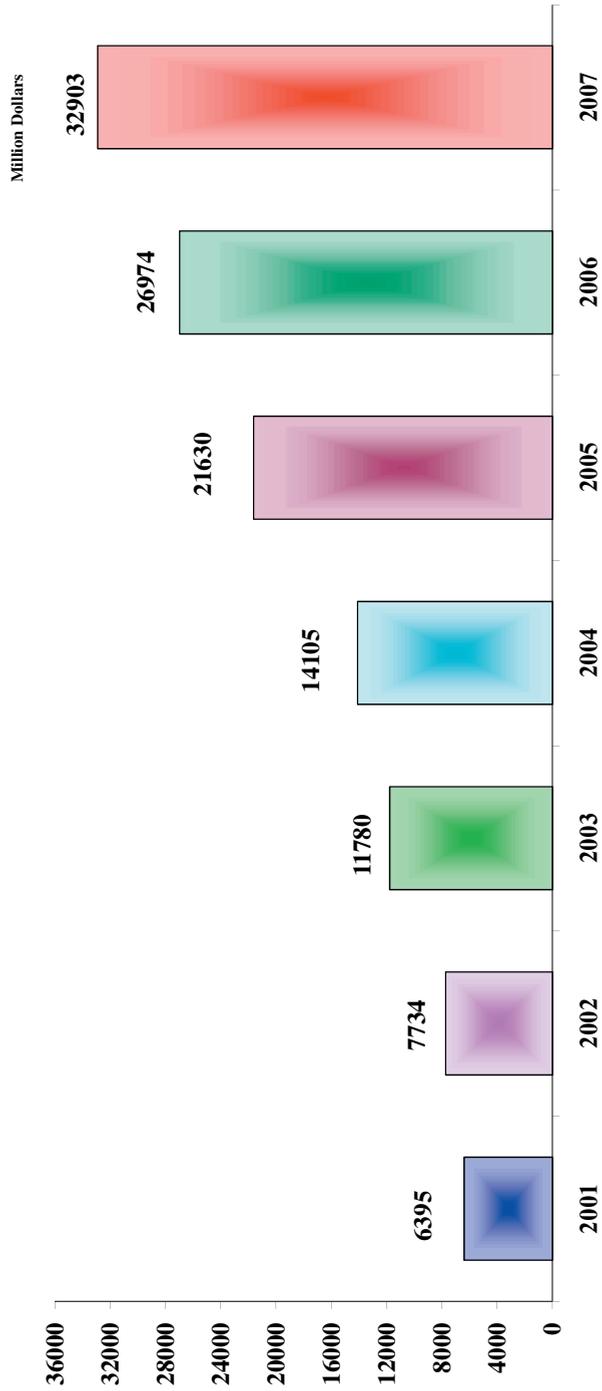




TABLE 23

MILLION DOLLARS

INTRA - GCC TRADE (IMPORTS)

Year	Value
1984	2962.9
1985	3238.7
1986	2598.4
1987	3008.6
1988	2265.9
1989	2634.6
1990	2703.8
1991	3735.6
1992	3478.8
1993	3891.7
1994	4036.7
1995	4457.2
1996	4709.9
1997	5612.0
1998	5158.5
1999	5531.7
2000	5700.7
2001	6351.6
2002	7402.7
2003	8105.3
2004	11318.7
2005	12255.9
2006	17012.1
2007	20202.1

INTRA - GCC TRADE (IMPORTS)

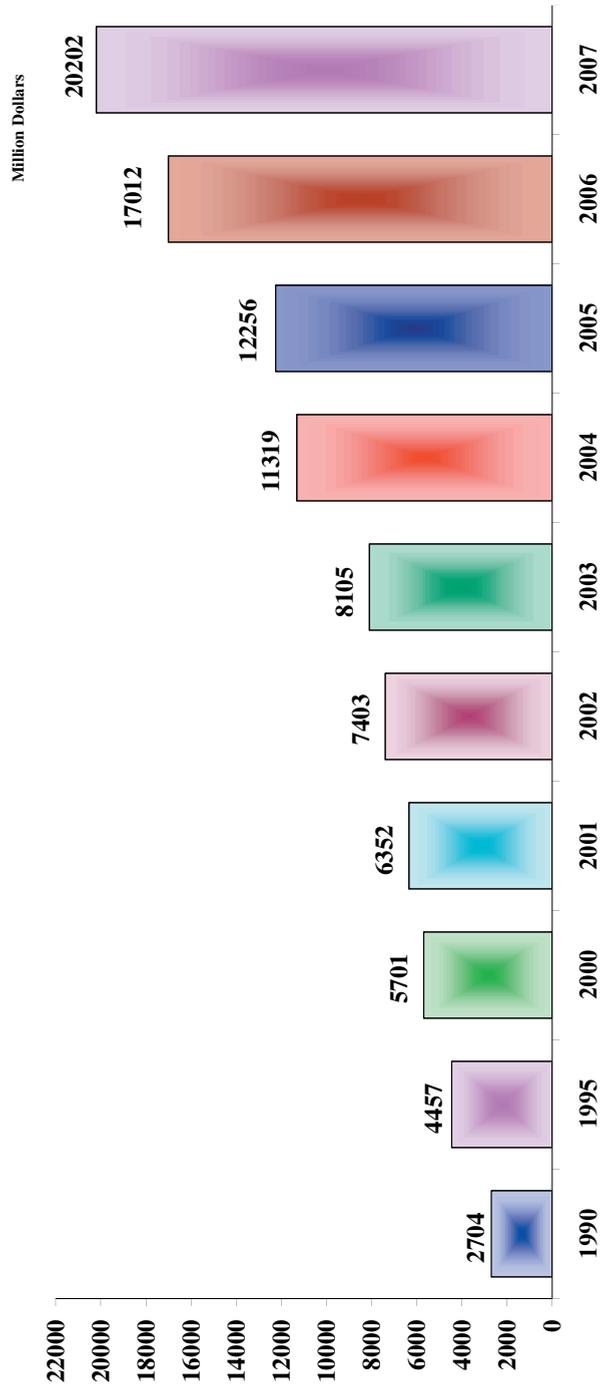




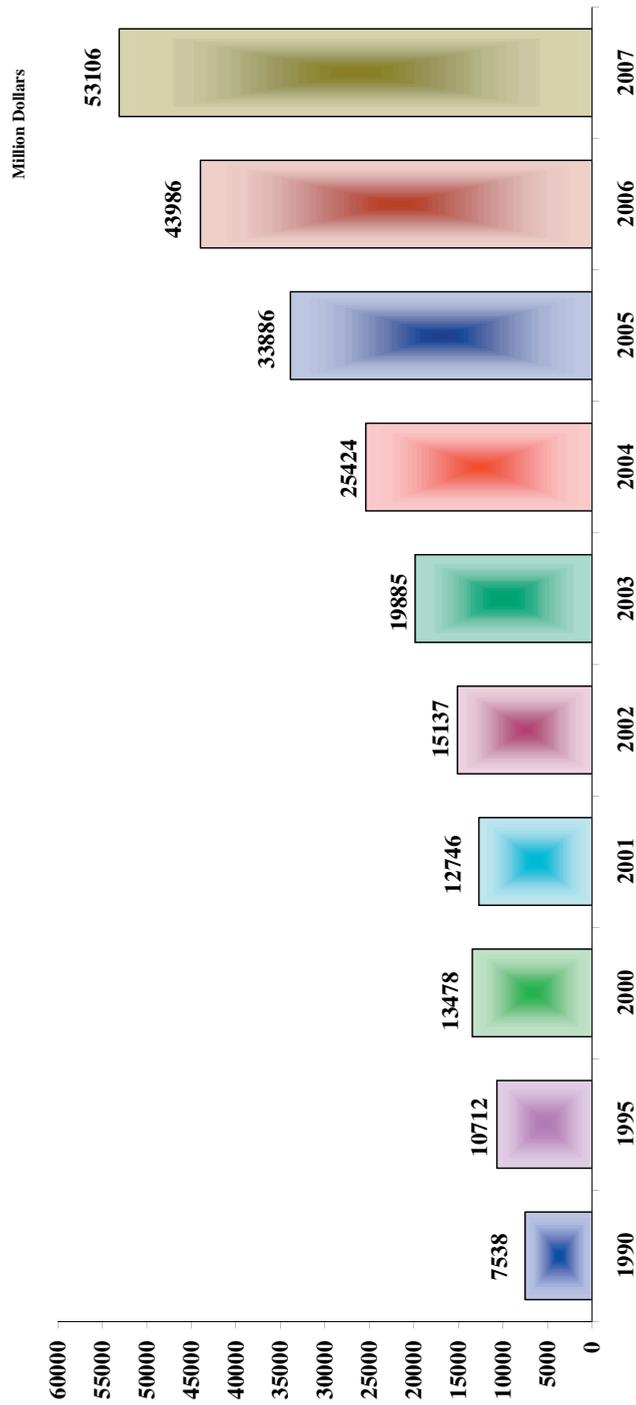
TABLE 24

MILLION DOLLARS

INTRA - GCC TRADE (IMPORTS & EXPORTS) TOTAL

Year	Value
1984	5925.8
1985	6470.1
1986	5245.2
1987	6041.8
1988	5495.6
1989	6626.4
1990	7538.3
1991	8664.2
1992	9035.9
1993	10102.3
1994	9380.1
1995	10712.2
1996	12262.9
1997	13269.1
1998	12215.5
1999	13513.9
2000	13477.6
2001	12746.3
2002	15137.1
2003	19885.3
2004	25424.1
2005	33886.3
2006	6..43985
2007	53105.6

INTRA - GCC TRADE (EXPORTS AND IMPORTS)







Unified GCC Standards for Goods and Products

The Economic Agreement (2001) stated that GCC Member States agreed to adopt unified standards and specifications for all goods. The Supreme Council at the 23rd Session, (Doha, December 2002) endorsed the establishment of GCC Standardization Organization.

The Organization aims to prepare, accredit and publish GCC common standards for goods and products, in a way that develops production and service sectors, enhances intra-GCC trade, protects consumers , environment and public health, encourages GCC industries and agricultural products, promotes GCC economy and reduces trade technical barriers in consistence with the objectives of the GCC Customs Union and the GCC Common Market.

From modest beginnings in 1984, when the number of GCC standards accounted for merely 48 standards, the number gradually increased to reach 5000 standards by the 4th quarter of 2008, as indicated in the respective statistical table.



TABLE 25

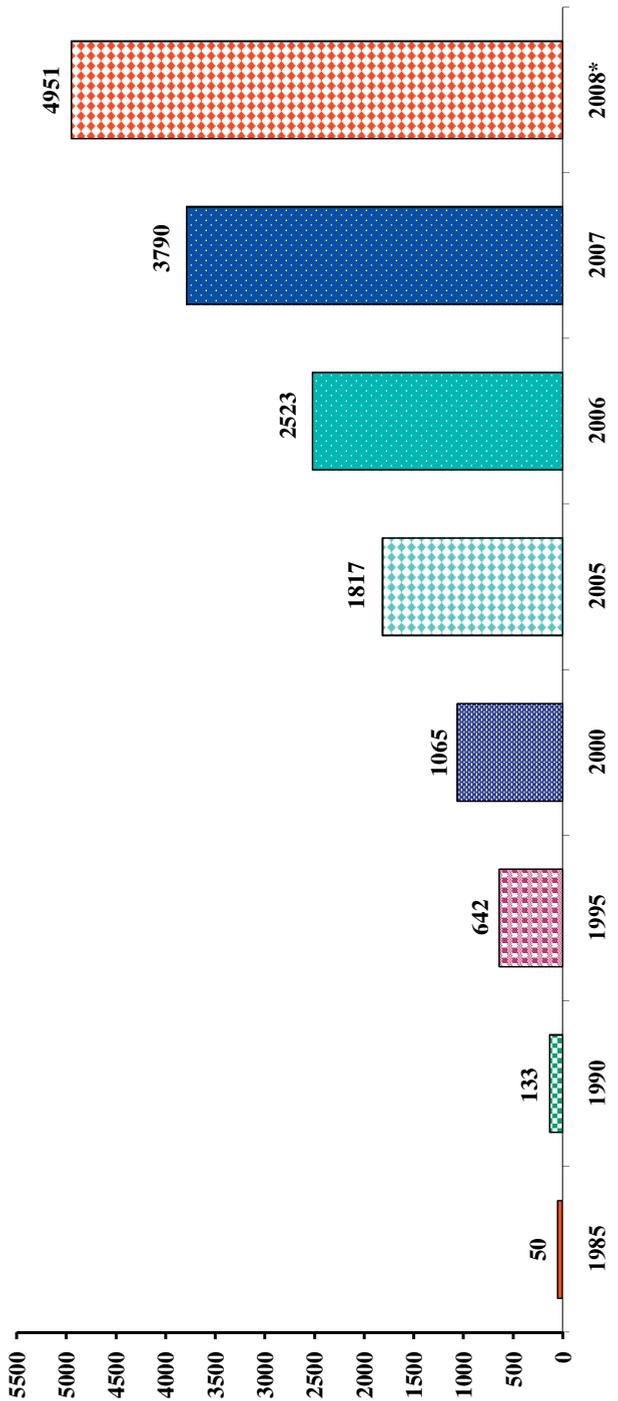
NO. OF GCC STANDARDS

YEAR	NO.
1984	48
1985	50
1986	53
1987	89
1988	103
1989	120
1990	133
1991	146
1992	158
1993	166
1994	580
1995	642
1996	660
1997	977
1998	1018
1999	1018
2000	1065
2001	1065
2002	1743
2003	1754
2004	1754
2005	1817
2006	2523
2007	3790
2008 *	4951

*Up to September 2008.



NO. OF G.C.C. STANDARDS



* Up to September 2008

gcc printing press