



الهيئة العامة للإحصاء  
General Authority for Statistics

---

## Metadata Report for Hajj Statistics

---

V-2.1

Quality Management



# Table of Contents

<b>1. CONTACT .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1. CONTACT ORGANIZATION .....	4
1.2. CONTACT ORGANIZATION UNIT .....	4
1.3. CONTACT PERSON FUNCTION .....	4
1.4. CONTACT MAIL ADDRESS .....	4
1.5. CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS.....	4
1.6. CONTACT PHONE NUMBER.....	4
<b>2. METADATA UPDATE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1. METADATA LAST UPDATE .....	4
<b>3. STATISTICAL PRESENTATION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1. DATA DESCRIPTION .....	5
3.2. CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.....	5
3.3. SECTOR COVERAGE .....	5
3.4. STATISTICAL CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.....	6
3.5. STATISTICAL UNIT.....	6
3.6. STATISTICAL POPULATION .....	7
3.7. REFERENCE AREA .....	7
3.8. TIME COVERAGE .....	7
3.9. BASE PERIOD.....	7
<b>4. UNIT OF MEASURE.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5. REFERENCE PERIOD .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6. CONFIDENTIALITY .....</b>	<b>8</b>
6.1. CONFIDENTIALITY- POLICY .....	8
6.2. CONFIDENTIALITY- DATA TREATMENT .....	8
<b>7. RELEASE POLICY.....</b>	<b>8</b>
7.1. RELEASE CALENDAR .....	8
7.2. RELEASE CALENDAR ACCESSIBILITY .....	8
7.3. USER ACCESS .....	8
<b>8. FREQUENCY OF DISSEMINATION.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>9. ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY .....</b>	<b>9</b>
9.1. NEWS RELEASES .....	9
9.2. PUBLICATIONS.....	9
9.3. ON-LINE DATABASE .....	10
9.4. MICRODATA ACCESSIBILITY .....	10
9.5. OTHER.....	10
9.6. DOCUMENTATION ON METHODOLOGY .....	10
9.7. QUALITY DOCUMENTATION.....	10
<b>10. QUALITY MANAGEMENT .....</b>	<b>11</b>



10.1. QUALITY ASSURANCE .....	11
10.2. QUALITY ASSESSMENT.....	11
<b>11. RELEVANCE .....</b>	<b>11</b>
11.1. USER NEEDS.....	11
11.2. USER SATISFACTION.....	12
11.3. COMPLETENESS .....	12
<b>12. ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY .....</b>	<b>12</b>
12.1. OVERALL ACCURACY .....	12
<b>13. TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY .....</b>	<b>13</b>
13.1. TIMELINESS.....	13
13.2. PUNCTUALITY.....	13
<b>14. COHERENCE AND COMPARABILITY .....</b>	<b>13</b>
14.1. COMPARABILITY - GEOGRAPHICAL .....	13
14.2. COMPARABILITY - OVER TIME .....	13
14.3. COHERENCE- CROSS DOMAIN .....	14
14.3.1. Coherence- sub-annual and annual statistics .....	14
14.3.2. Coherence- National Accounts .....	14
14.4. COHERENCE- INTERNAL .....	14
<b>15. DATA REVISION.....</b>	<b>14</b>
15.1. DATA REVISION - POLICY.....	14
15.2. DATA REVISION- PRACTICE.....	14
<b>16. STATISTICAL PROCESSING.....</b>	<b>14</b>
16.1. SOURCE DATA .....	14
16.2. FREQUENCY AND DATA COLLECTION.....	15
16.3. DATA COLLECTION.....	15
16.4. DATA VALIDATION .....	15
16.5. DATA COMPILATION .....	16
16.6. ADJUSTMENT .....	16
<b>17. COMMENT .....</b>	<b>16</b>



## 1. Contact

1.1. Contact organization	General Authority for Statistics
1.2. Contact organization unit	Tourism, Hajj, and Umrah Statistics Department
1.3. Contact person function	Director of Tourism, Hajj, and Umrah Statistics Department
1.4. Contact mail address	P.O. Box: 3735 Riyadh, 11481 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
1.5. Contact email address	<a href="mailto:info@stats.gov.sa">info@stats.gov.sa</a>
1.6. Contact phone number	920020081

## 2. Metadata Update

2.1. Metadata last update	27/02/2024
---------------------------	------------



## 3. Statistical Presentation

### 3.1. Data description

The hajj statistics publication presents data on numbers of pilgrims and their detailed characteristics.

**Hajj statistics is a census made to collect data on the main characteristics as follows:**

- Pilgrims from within the Kingdom by sex and nationality.
- Pilgrims from abroad the kingdom by sex and nationality.
- The means of transport used for pilgrims from abroad according to the ports (air-land-sea).

**Data is also used to estimates:**

- Average length of stay of abroad pilgrims within Saudi Arabia.
- The relative distribution of the categories from abroad pilgrims according to the date of arrival and departure.

### 3.2. Classification system

The following classifications are applied in hajj statistics.

#### **National Code of Countries and Nationalities**

It is a standardized international classification, comprehensive of countries and their subdivisions, based on the ISO 3166 country codes. This classification assigns codes to countries and their subdivisions. Using these codes and numbers instead of country names is useful for statistical purposes, saving time and avoiding errors. The purpose of this classification is to categorize individuals by nationality into Saudis and non-Saudis.

The classifications are available on the GASTAT's website: [www.stats.gov.sa](http://www.stats.gov.sa)

### 3.3. Sector Coverage

Not applicable.



### 3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions

#### Terms and concepts of Hajj Statistics:

- Hajj:

It is one of the five pillars of Islam and is visited the holy sites during a special time to perform Hajj rituals.

- Internal pilgrims:

It is intended for pilgrims coming to perform Hajj rituals from residents within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

- Abroad pilgrims:

It is intended for pilgrims coming to perform Hajj rituals from outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- Holy places:

These are geographical places located in the vicinity of Makkah, including Mina, Muzdalifah and Arafat.

- Duration of residence:

It means the duration of the stay of a single pilgrim during the Hajj season.

- Makkah Road Initiative:

It is one of the initiatives of the Ministry of Interior, which falls under the programs of Saudi Vision 2030, and aims to facilitate the journey of pilgrims through the completion of passport and customs procedures and health requirements and sorting and coding of luggage at the airports of their countries and transfer them directly from their countries to their residence in the Kingdom.

### 3.5. Statistical unit

The statistical unit in Hajj statistics is the individual pilgrim.



### 3.6. Statistical population

The statistical community in Hajj statistics is all individuals coming to perform Hajj rituals from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or from abroad.

### 3.7. Reference area

Makkah.

### 3.8. Time coverage

The time series of Hajj statistics is available since 1972 until then and the data available on the website of the General Authority for Statistics for the last ten years of the time series.

### 3.9. Base period

Not applicable

## 4. Unit of measure

- Most results are measured by numbers (such as: Number of pilgrims).
- Some indicators are calculated as rates (such as: Percentage of pilgrims according to the means of arrival).
- Some indicators are calculated as averages (such as: Average length of stay).

## 5. Reference period

All data on Hajj statistics are based on the Hajj season for the Hijri year.



## 6. Confidentiality

### 6.1. Confidentiality- Policy

According to Royal Decree No. 23 dated 07/12/1397, data must always be kept confidential, and must be used by GASTAT for statistical purposes only.

Therefore, the data are protected in the data servers of GASTAT.

### 6.2. Confidentiality- Data treatment

Data were displayed in appropriate tables to facilitate its summarization, comprehension, and results extraction. Also, to compare data with other data and extract statistical meanings for the study community. As it is easily referenced in the form of tables without accessing sensitive or confidential data, thereby maintaining the principle of statistical data confidentiality.

## 7. Release policy

### 7.1. Release calendar

The hajj statistics publication is added to the statistical calendar.

### 7.2. Release calendar accessibility

The release calendar is available at: <https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/future-releases>

### 7.3. User access

One of GASTAT's objectives is to better meet its clients' needs, so it immediately provides them with the publication's results once the hajj statistics publication is published.





It also receives questions and inquiries of the clients about the Publication and its results through various communication channels, such as:

- GASTAT official website: [www.stats.gov.sa](http://www.stats.gov.sa)
- GASTAT official e-mail address: [info@stats.gov.sa](mailto:info@stats.gov.sa)
- Client support e-mail: [cs@stats.gov.sa](mailto:cs@stats.gov.sa)
- Official visits to GASTAT's official head office in Riyadh or one of its branches in Saudi Arabia.
- Official letters.
- Statistical telephone: (920020081).

## 8. Frequency of dissemination

Annual.

## 9. Accessibility and clarity

### 9.1. News releases

The announcements for each publication are available on the statistical calendar as mentioned in 7.2. The press releases can be viewed on the website of GASTAT on the link:

<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/news>

### 9.2. Publications

GASTAT issues hajj statistics publications and reports regularly within a pre-prepared dissemination plan and is published on GASTAT's website. GASTAT is keen to publish its publications in a way that serves all users of different types, including publications in different formats that contain (publication tables, data graphs, indicators, metadata, methodology, and questionnaires) in both English and Arabic.

**The results of Hajj statistics are available at the link:**



<https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/491-0>

### 9.3. On-line database

The data is published on the statistical database at the following link:

[GASTAT \(stats.gov.sa\)](https://www.stats.gov.sa)

### 9.4. Microdata accessibility

Not available.

### 9.5. Other

Not available.

### 9.6. Documentation on methodology

Workshops and meetings were held with the authorities concerned with Hajj statistics in the Kingdom and their needs were studied as well as taking into account the needs of the beneficiaries of this publication where the target indicators were identified and accordingly a measurement methodology was developed for these indicators, identifying potential data sources, requesting data and then calculating the indicators according to the available indicators sources.

### 9.7. Quality documentation

Quality documentation covers the documentation of methods and standards for evaluating, measuring, and controlling the quality of statistical processes and outputs, which are based on quality principles and standards **such as:** Relevance, accuracy, reliability, timeliness, punctuality, accessibility, clarity, comparability, and consistency.



## 10. Quality Management

### 10.1. Quality assurance

GASTAT takes the following principles into consideration: Impartiality, user-oriented, quality of processes and outputs, effectiveness of statistical processes, and reducing the workload of respondents.

The validity of data is verified through procedures and quality controls that are implemented during the process at different stages **such as:** (data entry, data collection, and other final controls).

### 10.2. Quality assessment

GASTAT performs all statistical activities according to a national model (Generic Statistical Business Process Model - GSBPM). According to the GSBPM, the final phase of statistical activities is overall evaluation using information gathered in each phase or sub-process. This information is used to prepare the evaluation report which outlines all the quality issues related to the specific statistical activity and serves as input for improvement actions.

## 11. Relevance

### 11.1. User needs

#### **Internal users in the GASTAT for hajj statistics data:**

Department of customer support.

#### **External users and major beneficiaries for the hajj statistics data, include:**

- Government entities.
- Regional and international organizations.
- Research institutions.
- Media.
- Individuals.



### The disseminated key variables that used by external users:

Ministry of Interior	All the variables.
Ministry of Hajj and Umrah	
Pilgrims Experience Program (PEP)	

### 11.2. User satisfaction

Not available.

### 11.3. Completeness

Hajj statistics data are based on two main sources in order to provide comprehensive information:

- Administrative data from the Ministry of Interior.
- Administrative data from the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

And the data is in a complete status.

## 12. Accuracy and reliability

### 12.1. Overall accuracy

- Data is checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in the data.
- The internal consistency of the data is checked before it is finalized.
- The links between variables are checked and coherence between different data series is confirmed.



## 13. Timeliness and punctuality

### 13.1. Timeliness

The General Authority for Statistics is committed to applying internationally recognized standards regarding the announcement, clarification of the time of publishing statistics on its official website, as outlined in the statistical calendar, as well as adhering to the announced time of publication. In the event of any delay, updates will be provided accordingly.

### 13.2. Punctuality

The publication is done according to the publication dates in the statistical calendar published for the hajj statistics on the website page of the General Authority for Statistics.

The data are available at the expected time, as scheduled in the statistical release calendar, If the publication is delayed, reasons shall be provided.

## 14. Coherence and comparability

### 14.1. Comparability - geographical

Not applicable, since the data of Hajj statistics relate to the Hajj season in one geographical region, Makkah, the data cannot be compared geographically.

### 14.2. Comparability - over time

**The statistics began in 1972 as a field census, and the following are the main changes that have taken place in recent years:**

- 1972-2019: A field census that includes the number of pilgrims and their characteristics as well as data on the arrival of pilgrims and the number of vehicles carrying pilgrims.
- 2020-2023: A census record that includes the number of pilgrims and their characteristics, the means of arrival and departure, and the periods of stay.



### 14.3. Coherence- cross domain

Not applicable.

#### 14.3.1. Coherence- sub-annual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

#### 14.3.2. Coherence- National Accounts

Not applicable.

### 14.4. Coherence- internal

Not applicable.

## 15. Data revision

### 15.1. Data revision - policy

Not applicable, only final results will be published.

### 15.2. data revision- practice

Not applicable, only final results will be published.

## 16. Statistical processing

### 16.1. Source data

The main source of Hajj statistics is the administrative records of:



- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

The data framework for Hajj statistics in Saudi Arabia is provided by data from the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

**The main published variables from the administrative data source are:**

- Number of pilgrims in 1444 A.H
- Average length of stay for pilgrims from outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## 16.2. Frequency and data collection

Annual.

## 16.3. Data collection

**Data collection from administrative records:**

In coordination with the Authority's departments concerned with data collection and management, the records of the Hajj Statistics publication are obtained from the Ministry of Interior, which includes data on the distribution of pilgrims from within and outside the kingdom according to sex, nationality, entry points, and means of transportation.

The data is stored in GASTAT's databases after undergoing auditing and review processes following approved statistical methods and recognized quality standards. If errors or discrepancies are detected, the data is cross-referenced with the data source for correction or clarification.

## 16.4. Data Validation

Data is reviewed and matched to ensure their accuracy and precision in a way that suits their nature with the aim of giving the presented statistics quality and accuracy.

The data of the current year publication are compared with the data of the previous year to ensure their integrity and consistency in preparation for processing data and extracting and reviewing results.



In addition to the data processing and tabulation to check their accuracy, all the outputs are stored and uploaded to the database after being calculated by GASTAT to be reviewed and processed by specialists in Tourism, Hajj and Umrah Statistics Department through modern technologies and software designed for this purpose.

### 16.5. Data compilation

#### **Data editing:**

Specialists of Tourism, Hajj and Umrah Statistics Department have processed and analyzed data in this stage, and this step was based on the following measures:

- Sorting and arranging data in groups or different categories in a serial order.
- Summarizing detailed data into key points or data.
- Combining many data segments and ensuring their interconnection.
- Processing incomplete or missing data.
- Processing illogical data.
- Converting data into statistically significant data.
- Arranging, presenting, and interpreting data.

### 16.6. Adjustment

Not applicable, only final results will be published.

## 17. Comment