

أهلاً بالعالم

WELCOME TO SAUDI 34



ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT MONITOR, SAUDI ARABIA

Q4 2024



"My primary goal is to be an exemplary and leading nation in all aspects, and I will work with you in achieving this endeavor."

-Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques,
King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud



"Our nation holds strong investment capabilities, which we will harness to stimulate our economy and diversify our revenues."

-HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister
Mohammed Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz

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Abbreviation List

Bn	Billion
Capex	Capital Expenditures
CPI	Consumer Price Index
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GASTAT	General Authority for Statistics
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFCF	Gross Fixed Capital Formation
ICT	Information Communications Technology
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPI	Industrial Production Index
LLC	Limited Liability Companies
MISA	Ministry of Investment of Saudi Arabia
Mn	Million
MoF	Ministry of Finance
NIS	National Investment Strategy
NOMU	Parallel Market Index
OECD	The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPEC	The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPEC+	A group of OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing states
PMI	Purchasing Managers' Index
PoS	Points of Sale
REPI	Real Estate Price Index
SADAD	National Electronic Bill Presentment and Payment
SAIBOR	Saudi Arabian Interbank Offered Rate
SAMA	Saudi Central Bank
SAR	Saudi Riyals
SMLLC	Single-member Limited Liability Company
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
Tadawul	The Saudi Stock Exchange
TASI	Tadawul All Share Index
WEO	World Economic Outlook
WB	World Bank
WPI	Wholesale Price Index

Executive Summary (1/2)

- **The International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, in the World Economic Outlook (WEO) January 2025, projects **global growth** at 3.2% in 2024 and 3.3% in 2025.
- **The OECD's** latest data indicate in January 2025 that the **global FDI inflows** to increase by 42.9% in Q3 2024 compared to the same period of previous year.
- **The Global Manufacturing PMI** increased to average 49.7 points, up by 1.4% in Q4 2024 compared to 49.0 points in the same quarter in the previous year, up by 0.7 points for the same period.
- **Oil prices** witnessed a decline in Q4 2024, as the average price of **Brent crude** decrease by 10.5% YoY, reaching an average of \$74/barrel, compared to an average of \$82.7/barrel, for the same period in the previous year.
- **Natural gas prices** declined in the United States gas market by 7% YoY and decreased in the European gas market by 0.4% YoY in Q4 2024.
- The IMF projects **the Saudi economy's GDP** to grow at 3.3% and 4.1% in 2025 and 2026 respectively.
- According to the GASTAT flash estimates, **Real GDP** increased by 1.3% in 2024, due to an increase in non-oil activities by 4.3%, and the government activities by 2.6%.
- In Q3 2024, the **Saudi Unemployment Rate** reached 7.8%, a decrease of 1.0 percentage points compared to Q3 2023.
- **Points of Sale (PoS)** transactions and **SADAD payments** grew by 8.6% YoY and 12.1% YoY, respectively, in Q4 2024. Cash withdrawals also grew by 0.4% YoY.
- **Money Supply** grew by 8.8% YoY in Q4 2024, driven by an increase in time and savings deposits by 9.9% for the same period.
- **Reserve assets** recorded an increase of 0.1% YoY in Q4 2024, due to an increase in investments in securities by 3.1% during the same period.
- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** average recorded 1.9% in Q4 2024, compared to 1.6% in the same quarter of the previous year.

Executive Summary (2/2)

- **Tadawul All Share Index (TASI)** increased by 0.6% by the end of 2024. Similarly, the Parallel Market Index (NOMU) increased by 28.3% in the same period.
- **Non-oil exports** increased by 16.8% in Q3 2024, reaching SAR 79.5 billion, compared to SAR 68.1 billion in the same quarter in 2023. In November 2024, non-oil exports increased by 19.7% YoY.
- **The nominal gross fixed capital formation (GFCF)** recorded SAR 280 billion in Q3 2024; a growth about 7.4% YoY.
- In 2023, **FDI inflows** amounted to SAR 96 billion, exceeding the NIS target of SAR 83 billion by 16% (actual performance vs. NIS target)
- **The FDI stock** recorded SAR 897 billion in 2023; a growth of 13.4% compared to 2022, reflecting the outcomes of recent reforms aimed at improving the investment ecosystem in the Kingdom.
- Saudi Arabia has achieved advanced positions in several **global indicators**, as it ranked **1st** in Ease of Starting a Business Index, the Cybersecurity Index, and the Government Strategy for Artificial Intelligence Index, and ranked **2nd** the Venture Capital Index and the Development of Industrial Clusters Index
- MISA seeks to promote local investment and attract foreign investment. It also organizes and participates in a variety of events. In Q4 2024, MISA took part and organized in **19 local and international events** in different fields.
- Chapter Four focuses on **Saudi Arabia's hosting of the FIFA World Cup 2034** as a unique and exceptional experience. It also highlights the Kingdom's efforts in preparation for the event, with a focus on key sectors supporting the hosting of the tournament. Additionally, the chapter explores the expected economic impacts of the World Cup and showcases prominent investment opportunities associated with the World Cup.

*Non-oil exports include re-export



01

GLOBAL ECONOMY

One: Global Economy

I: Economic Growth

i. Global Economy Outlook

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in the World Economic Outlook (WEO) January 2025, projects **global growth** at 3.2% in 2024. As for 2025, projected indicate that global growth will continue at the same pace reaching 3.3%, with a slight increase of 0.1 percentage points than the WEO October 2024. This slowdown is due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war, and geopolitical tensions in general.

The Fund revised up the projection for advanced economies for 2025 by 0.1 percentage points to reach 1.9%, and remained the projection for emerging market and developing economies to 4.2% for 2025.

Regarding Saudi Arabia, the IMF projected that the Kingdom's GDP will grow by 3.3% in 2025, revised down by 1.3 points compared to projection (WEO) October 2024. As for 2026, the IMF also revised down its projections to reach 4.1%.

Growth Rate (Real GDP, Annual Percent Change, %)	2023	2024*	2025**	2026**
Global Economy	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3
Advanced Economies	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.8
Emerging Markets and Developed Economies	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.3
Saudi Arabia	-0.8	1.4	3.3	4.1
United States	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.1
China	5.2	4.8	4.6	4.5
Japan	1.5	0.2-	1.1	0.8
India	8.2	6.5	6.5	6.5
Euro Area	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.4

Source: IMF (WEO January 2025)

*Estimate

**Projections

ii. Inflation

The IMF, in the WEO January 2025, projects a decline in **global inflation** from 5.7% in 2024 to 4.2% in 2025, and 3.5% in 2026. The IMF projects inflation for advanced economies to decline from 2.6% in 2024 to 2.1% in 2025, returning to the pre-pandemic average (2017-2019), as inflation in advanced economies is projected at 2.0% in 2026, driven by tightening monetary policy and the decline in energy and commodity prices.

Inflation rate (%)	2023	2024*	2025**	2026**
Global Economies	6.7	5.7	4.2	3.5
Advanced Economies	4.6	2.6	2.1	2.0
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	8.1	7.8	5.6	4.5

Source: IMF (WEO , January 2025)

*Projections

iii. Global Investment

According to the IMF's investment data, in WEO October 2024, the global investments expected to reach 26.2% (as % of GDP) in 2024, lower than the WEO 2023 April at 26.5% for the same year. However, the global investments decline in 2024 compared to 2023 due to a decline in global investments contribution to the GDP in advanced economies, the G7, emerging market and developing economies and the Euro Zone. The fund expects a return to growth in the proportion of global investment to global GDP in 2025 to reach 26.4%.

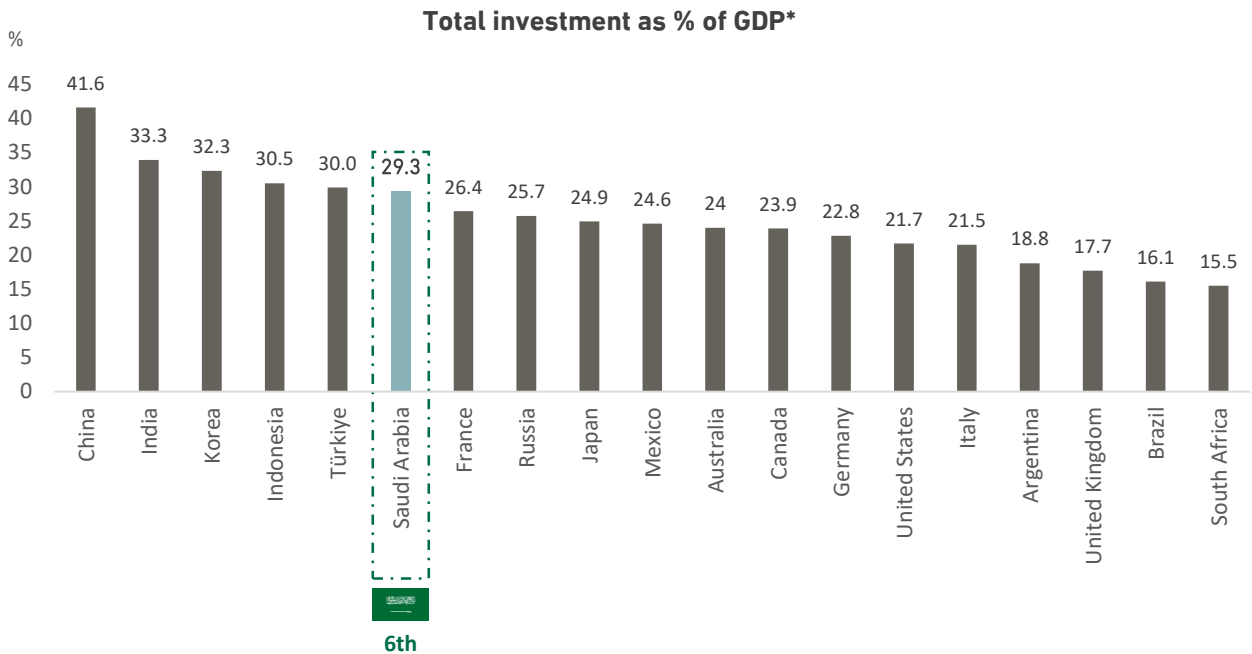
Investment (% of GDP)	2022	2023	2024*	2025*
Global Economy	27.4	26.4	26.2	26.4
Advanced Economies	23.4	22.6	22.2	22.3
The Group of Seven (G7)	22.8	22.1	21.9	21.9
Emerging market and developing economies	33.1	32.0	32.0	32.2
Euro Zone	23.5	21.9	20.6	20.6

Source: IMF (WEO, October 2024)

*Estimate

**Projections

According to the IMF, Saudi Arabia ranked **6th** among the G20 countries in terms of total investment as % of GDP in 2023.



Source: IMF (WEO, October 2024)

* Includes total investments as a percentage of nominal GDP (total value of GFCF and changes in inventories)

3.1 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows

The OECD's latest data indicate in January 2025 that the global FDI inflows to increase by 42.9% in Q3 2024 compared to the same period of previous year. For the G20 countries, the FDI inflows rose by 24.0% in Q3 2024. and the FDI inflows into the OECD countries have increased by 28.2% for the same period.

According to the UNCTAD World Investment Trends Monitor report issued in January 2025, global FDI is expected to decline by 8% in 2024. While FDI may grow moderately in 2025, this is due to improved financing conditions and a rise in mergers and acquisitions, despite ongoing risks an persistent investor uncertainty.

FDI Inflows (%) - on an annual basis	2021 Q3	2022 Q3	2023 Q3	2024 Q3
Global FDI	98.2	-13.2	-18.6	42.9
OECD countries	222.7	97.4	-15.1	28.2
G20	86.2	-13.0	-53.8	24.0

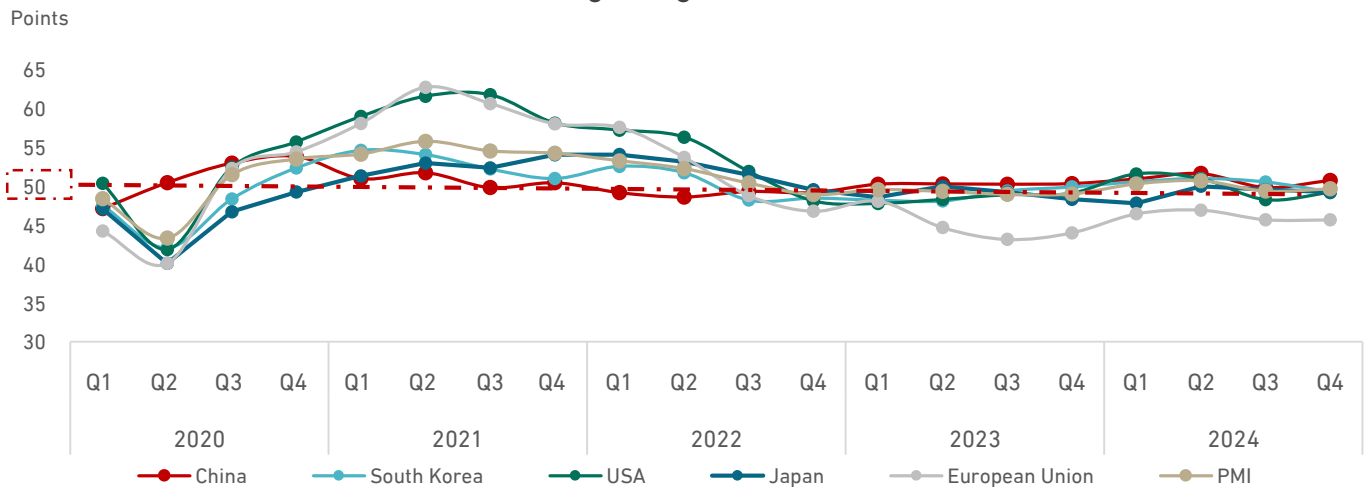
Source: OECD, January 2025

iv. Global Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)

The **Global Manufacturing PMI** increased to average 49.7 points, up by 1.4% YoY in Q4 2024 compared to 49.0 points in the same quarter of the previous year, up by 0.7 points for the same period. The PMI of the European Union, Japan, China and United States increased by 3.9%, 2.1%, 1.0% and 0.2%, respectively in Q4 2024 compared to the same period in the previous year. However, The PMI of the South Korea decreased by 1.2% for the same period.

It is worth noting that all selected countries, except China, have PMI values below 50. Also, there was a noticeable decline in index values for the global index and all selected countries during Q4 2024 compared to the previous quarter. Additionally, among the selected countries, the European Union's PMI hit the lowest point at 45.7 in the fourth quarter of 2024. This decrease can be linked to diminished industrial activity within the region and weak production, responding to the demand that has been shrinking since the end of 2022.

Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)

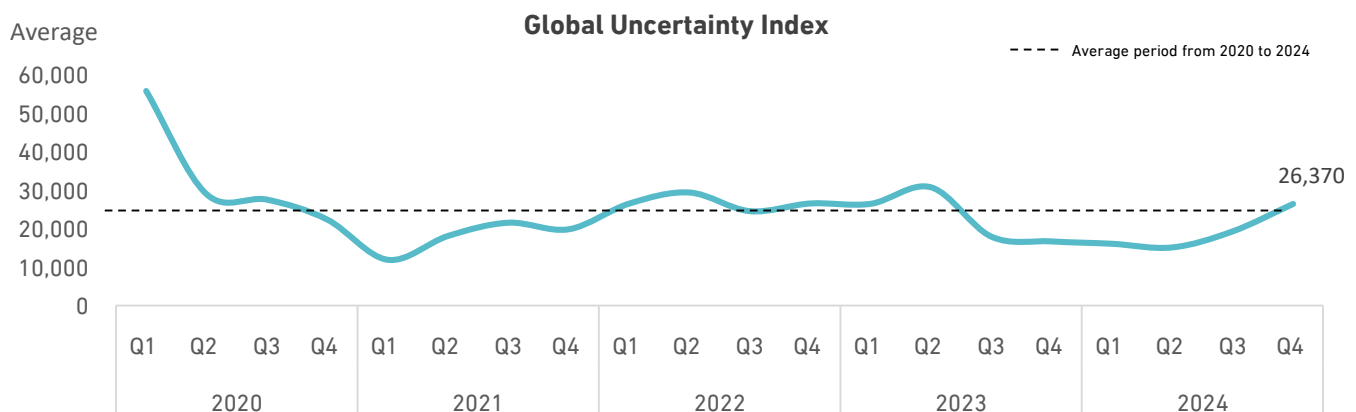


Source: IHS Markit

*Global Manufacturing PMI shows the economic trends in the industry, taking into account recent demands, employment, production output, suppliers to delivery time and inventory of purchases, If the index is above 50.0 signal an improvement since previous month

V. Global Uncertainty Index

The Global Uncertainty Index* has reached unprecedented levels, compared to the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Looking at Q4 2024 data, the index has seen an upward trend, reflecting significant challenges impacting the global economy, including economic pressures, rising energy prices, shifts in technical policies, energy crises, and geopolitical tensions.



* The global uncertainty index significantly affects the global economy, policies, and other systems across 143 countries.

Source: World Uncertainty Index

II: Energy Markets

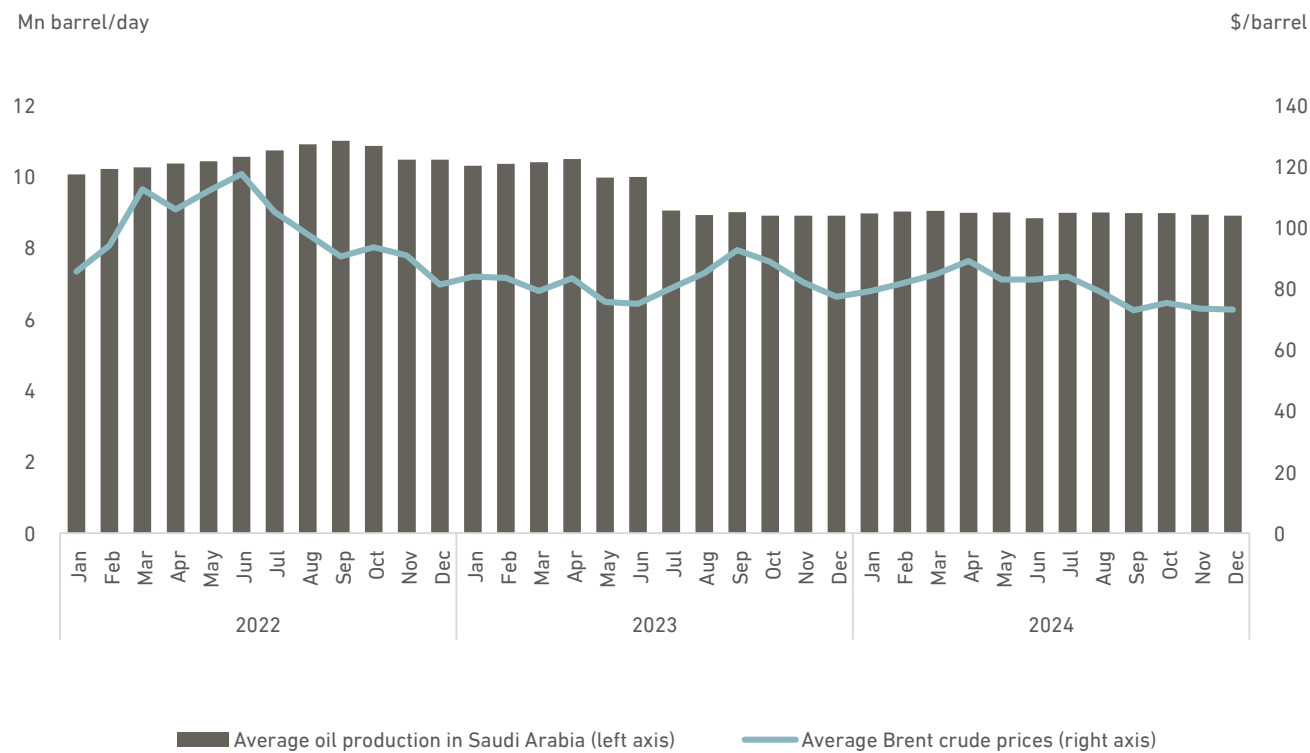
i. Oil

The **Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** report indicates a decline in global oil prices in Q4 2024, as the average price of **Brent crude** shrink by 10.5% YoY to reach an average of \$74/barrel, compared to an average of \$82.7/barrel in the same quarter of the previous year. A sharp decline in oil prices is witnessed in December 2024 compared to the same month of the previous year, a decrease of 5.4% YoY.

The average oil production in Saudi Arabia remained stable during Q4 2024, averaging 8.9 million barrels/day, consistent with the same quarter last year. This was a result of the OPEC+ decision in mid-2024 to extend oil production cuts until the end of 2025 to support price stability and oil market balance.

The **OPEC**, in January 2025 report, keep its projection for global oil demand unchanged for 2025 at 1.4 million barrels/day, and also continue its projection for global oil demand growth for 2026 at 1.4 million barrels /day YoY.

Average Brent prices and Saudi Arabia Oil Production



Source: OPEC

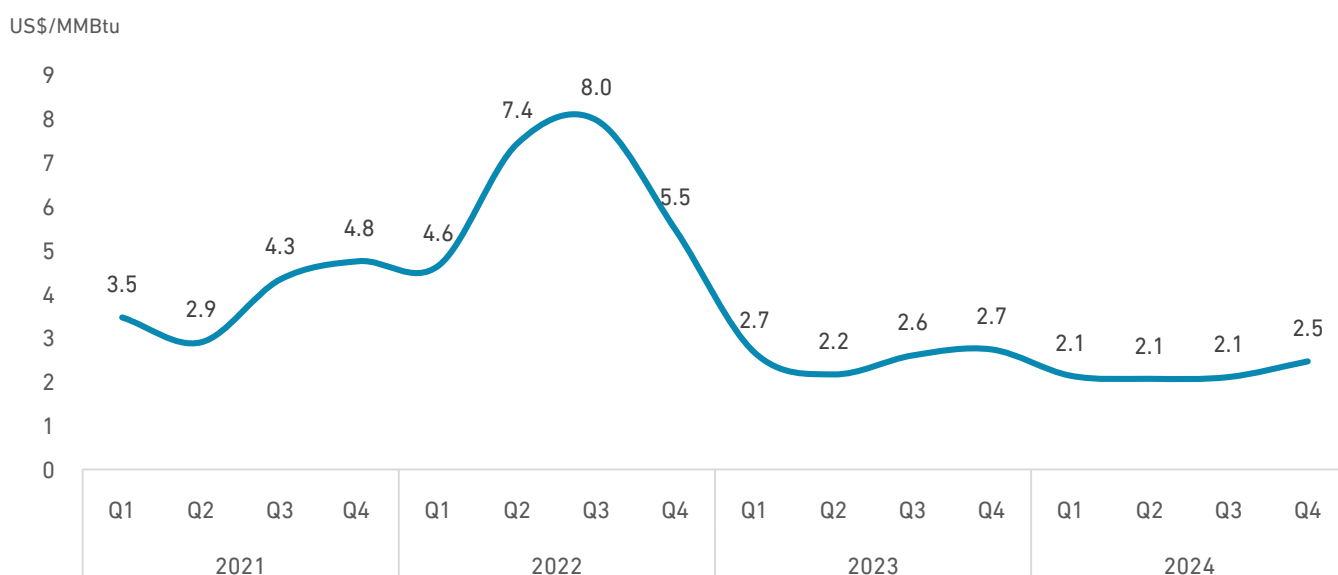
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ii. Natural Gas Market

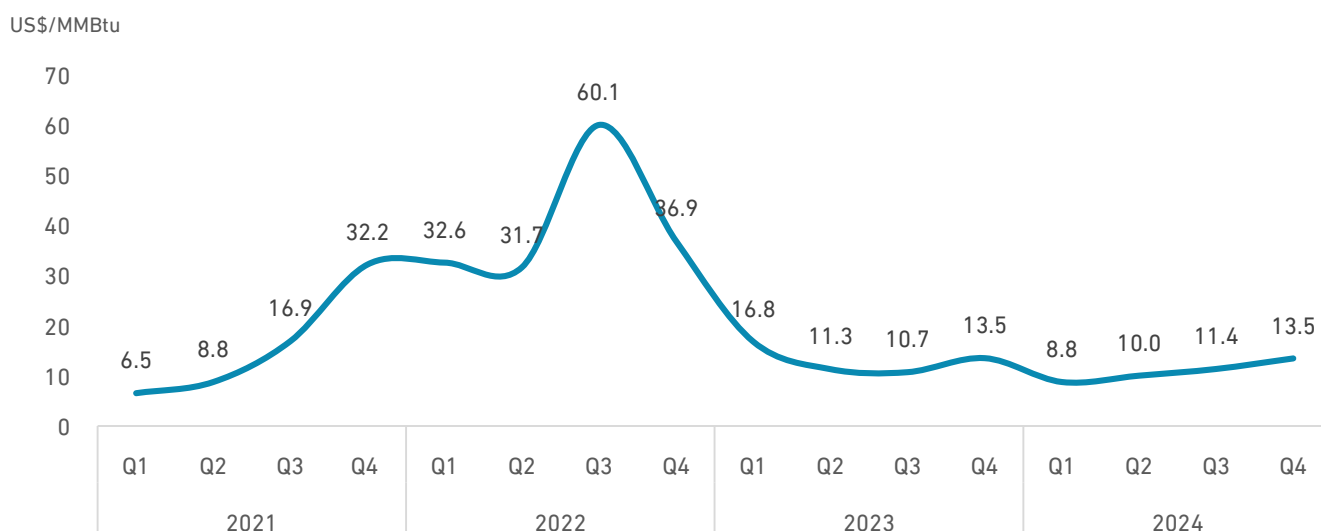
The **OPEC** data shows a decrease in the average spot price of **natural gas** in the **United States market** by 7% YoY in Q4 2024, reaching an average of \$2.5/MBtu, compared to an average of \$2.7/MBtu, in the same quarter of the previous year.

In Europe, gas prices also decrease in Q4 2024, as the average price of **natural gas** in the **European market** reached an average of \$13.48/MBtu, down by 0.4%, compared to an average of \$13.53/MBtu in the same quarter of the previous year.

Natural Gas Quarterly Average Price - USA



Natural Gas Quarterly Average Price - Europe



Source: OPEC



02

SAUDI ECONOMY

Two: Saudi Economy

I: Saudi economy robustness, and local and international outlook

Saudi Arabia's economy has witnessed a profound positive transformation over the past years, due to the economic reforms that began since the launch of **Saudi Vision 2030** that has helped to improve the performance of many economic, financial and investment indicators, which underpinning the Kingdom's goal to be among the top 15 economies worldwide by 2030.

The **IMF** projections, in the WEO Jan 2025, indicate a 3.3% growth in Saudi Arabia's GDP for 2025, 1.3 percentage points lower than the WEO Oct 2024, and It also lowered its projection for GDP growth in 2026 from 4.4% to 4.1%. due to the extension of the OPEC+ agreement to reduce production.

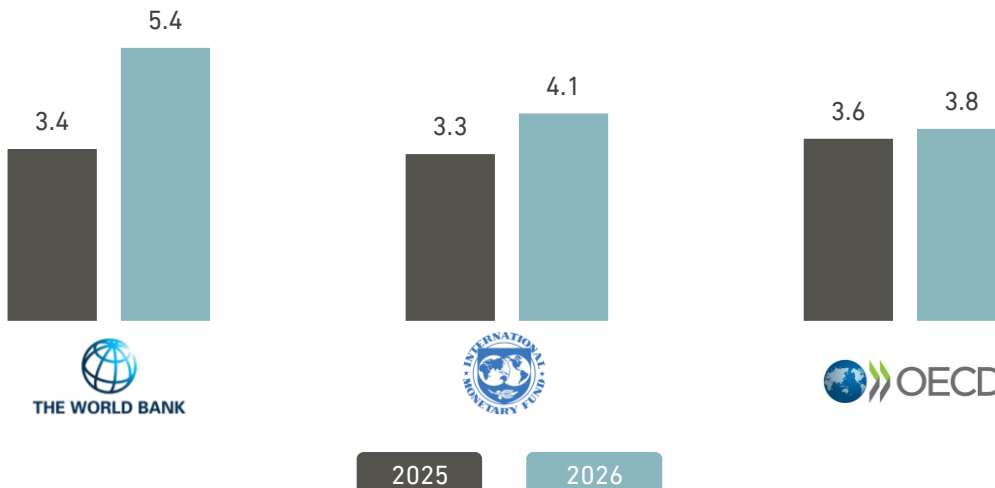
The **Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**, Dec 2024, projects Saudi real GDP to grow by 3.6% in 2025 and 3.8% in 2026.

The **World Bank**, in Jan 2025 report, projects Saudi real GDP rise by 3.4% in 2025 and 5.4% in 2026.

The **2025 Budget Statement issued by the Ministry of Finance (MoF)** projects growth in Saudi real GDP by 0.8% in 2024 driven by non-oil activities growth and 4.6% in 2025. These positive projections reflect the Kingdom's commitment to ambitious strategies and sustainable development, boosting investor confidence and strengthening Saudi Arabia's economic position regionally and globally.

Standard & Poor's (S&P) confirms Saudi Arabia's rating at "A/A-1" with a positive outlook, in its Sep 2024 report. The agency indicates that this rating is a result of the continuation of the Kingdom's reform agenda in recent years that will improve the Kingdom's economic efforts in comprehensive reforms, which will contribute to supporting the development of the non-oil sector and the sustainability of public finances. **Fitch** affirms Saudi Arabia's rating at "A+" with a stable outlook, in its February 2025 report. The agency also highlighted that the fiscal reforms, which increase the budget's resilience to oil price volatility.

Saudi Arabia GDP Growth Projections (%)



Source: IMF Report (WEO, Jan 2025), World Bank Report (Global Economic Prospects Jan 2025), OECD (The OECD Economic Outlook Dec 2024), MOF (Budget Statement 2025)

II: Saudi Economy Actual Performance

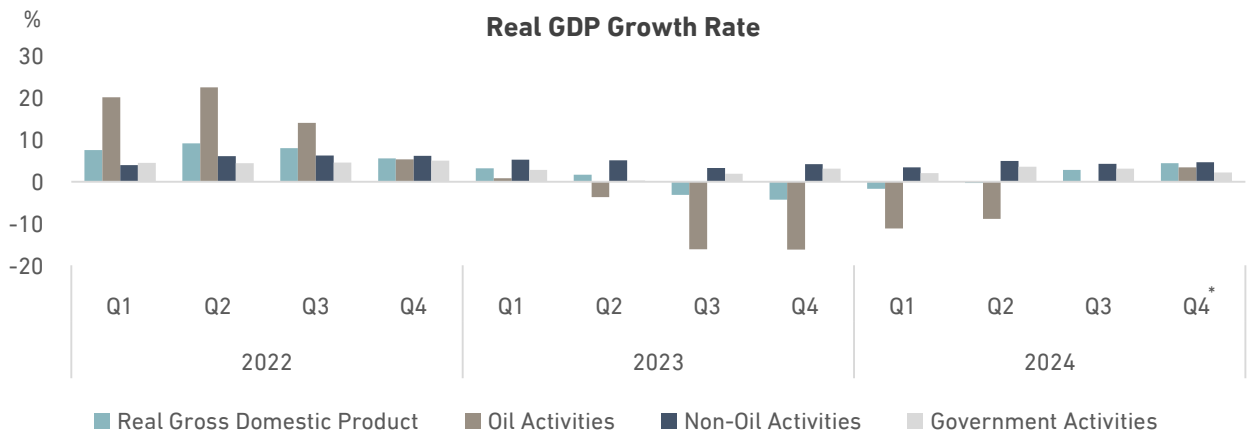
i. Real Sector

According to the GASTAT flash estimates, Real GDP increased by 4.4% in Q4 2024 compared to the same quarter in the previous year, due to the increase of non-oil activities by 4.6% and the increase of oil activities and the government activities by 3.4% and 2.2% respectively.

For 2024, GDP increased by 1.3%, due to an increase in non-oil activities by 4.3%, and the government activities by 2.6%.

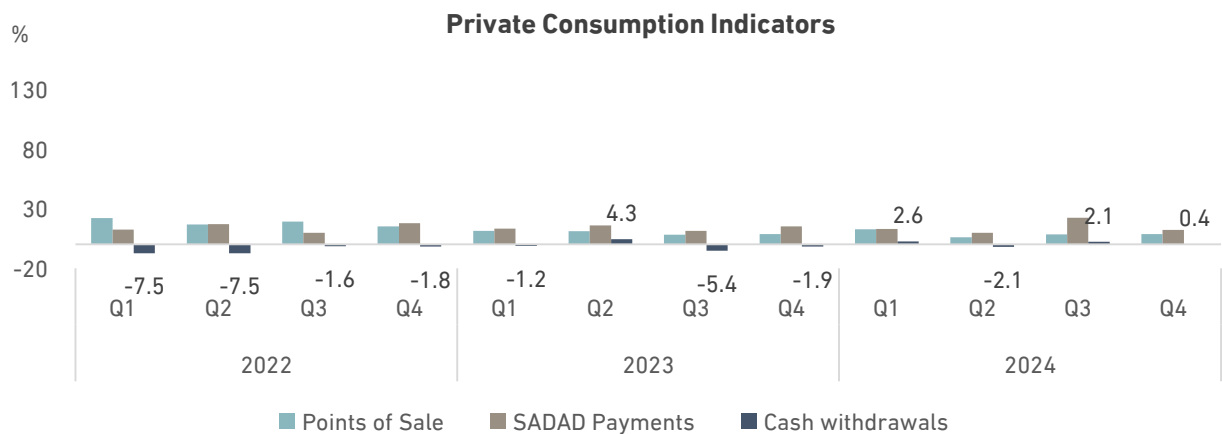
According to the Saudi Central Bank's (SAMA) latest data for Dec 2024, the main consumption indicators grew remarkably in Q4 2024 as the **PoS transactions** and **SADAD payments** increased by 8.6% YoY, and 12.1% YoY respectively.

The increase in **PoS** transactions is attributed to the rise in the jewelry, communications sectors and other services by 34.6%, 18.6% and 16.7% respectively in Q4 2024. The number of **PoS transactions** in these sectors increased by 6.4%, 117.2% and 19.4%, respectively for the same period. **Cash withdrawals**, also increased by 0.4% YoY.



Source: GASTAT

*Flash estimates



Source: SAMA

Looking at the private investment indicators, the **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** increased by 0.5% in Q4 2024, reaching 58.1 points compared to 57.8 points in Q4 2024. Moreover, in January 2025, (PMI) reached the highest level in the last ten years at 60.5 points, up by 9.2% YoY.

Cement sales increased by 12.3% YoY in Q4 2024, to reach 14.9 million tons.

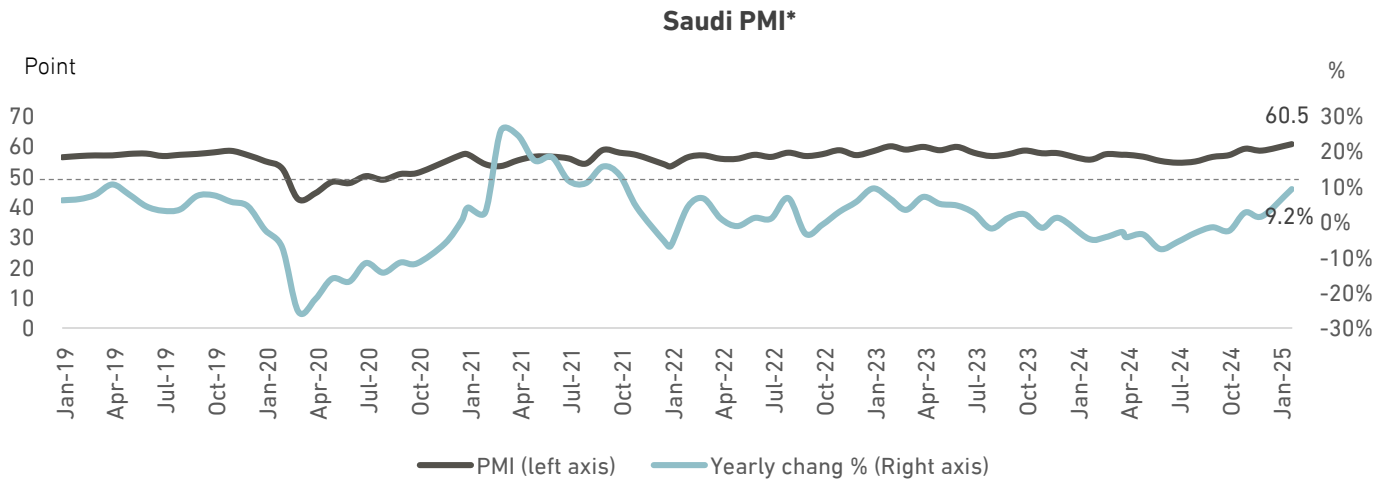
The Real Estate Price Index (REPI) in Q4 2024 grew by 3.6% YoY; due to the increase in residential sector real estate prices by 3.1%, increase in commercial sector real estate price by 5.0%, and increase in agricultural sector price by 2.8%.

1.1 Labor Market

According to GASTAT Labor Force Survey the **unemployment rate** for Saudis reached 7.8% in Q3, recording a decrease of 1.0 percentage points compared to Q3 2023.

The total unemployment rate reached 3.7% in Q3 2024, recording a decrease of 0.5 percentage points compared to Q3 2023.

Regarding unemployment rate for non-Saudis, it reached 1.4% in Q3 2024, recording a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from the same period in the previous year.



*When the PMI index is above 50 signal an improvement since previous month.

Source: Riyadh bank, (S&P).



Source: GASTAT

ii. Monetary Sector

2.1 Money Supply and Reserve Assets

According to SAMA data, the **money supply** increased by 8.8% YoY in Q4 2024, driven by a rise in time and savings deposits of 9.9% (rise in companies and individuals time and savings deposits by 25.1% and decrease in government time and savings deposits by 5.9%).

Reserve assets rose by 0.1% YoY in Q4 2024, due to an increase in investments in securities by 3.1% during the same period.

2.2 Interest Rates

The average Interbank Offered Rate (SAIBOR) recorded 5.6% in Q4 2024, declined by 0.75 basis points compared to Q4 2023. The rate of Repurchase Agreement (Repo) also decreased to reach 5.0% and the rate of Reverse Repurchase Agreement (Reverse Repo) decreased to reach 4.5%.

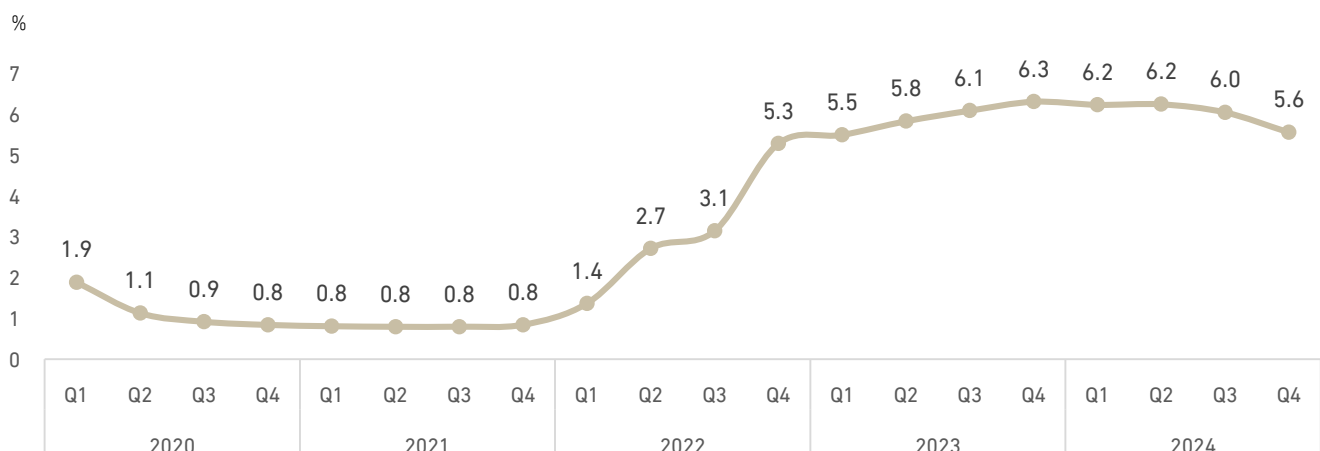
The volume of lending in Saudi Arabia remains high, as bank claims on the public sector increased by 15.7% YoY in Q4 2024. The credit to the private sector also increased by 12.9% YoY. The real estate loans by banks, also, grew by 13.3% YoY in Q3 2024.

2.3 Inflation

According to GASTAT data, the **inflation average, Consumer Price Index (CPI)**, recorded 1.9% in Q4 2024 compared to 1.6% in the same quarter of the previous year, due to higher prices of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels by 9.2% and Miscellaneous personal goods and services by 2.4%.

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) increased by 1.6% YoY in Q4 2024, due to higher prices of other transportable goods — except metal products, machinery and equipment by 3.5% (33.7% of the index weight).

Average Interest Rate Three Months (SAIBOR) Rate



Source: SAMA

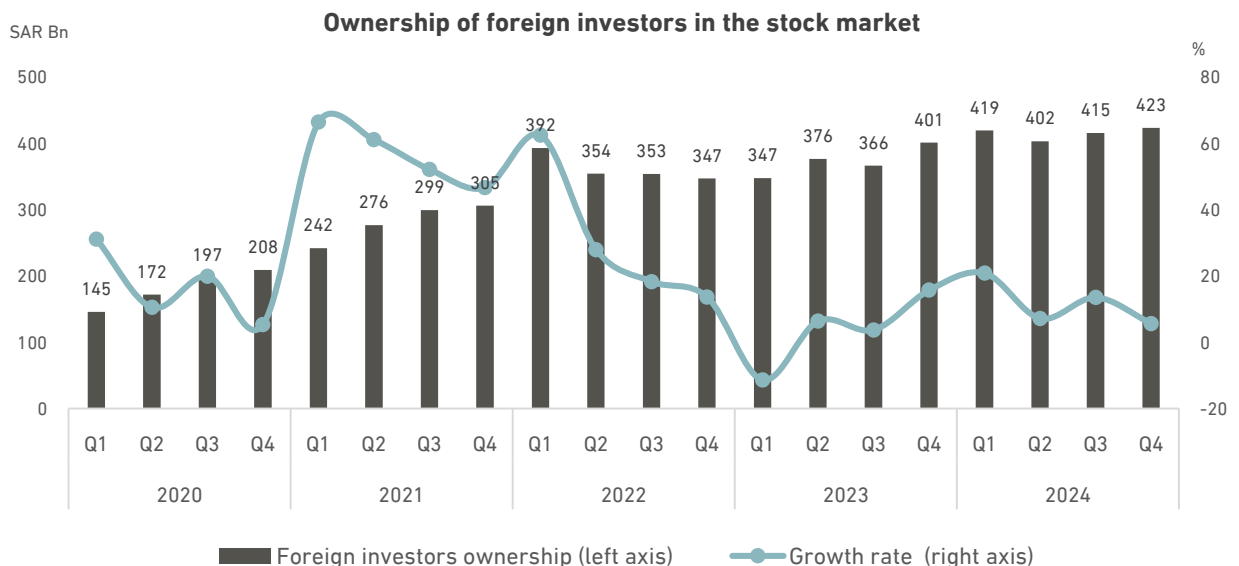
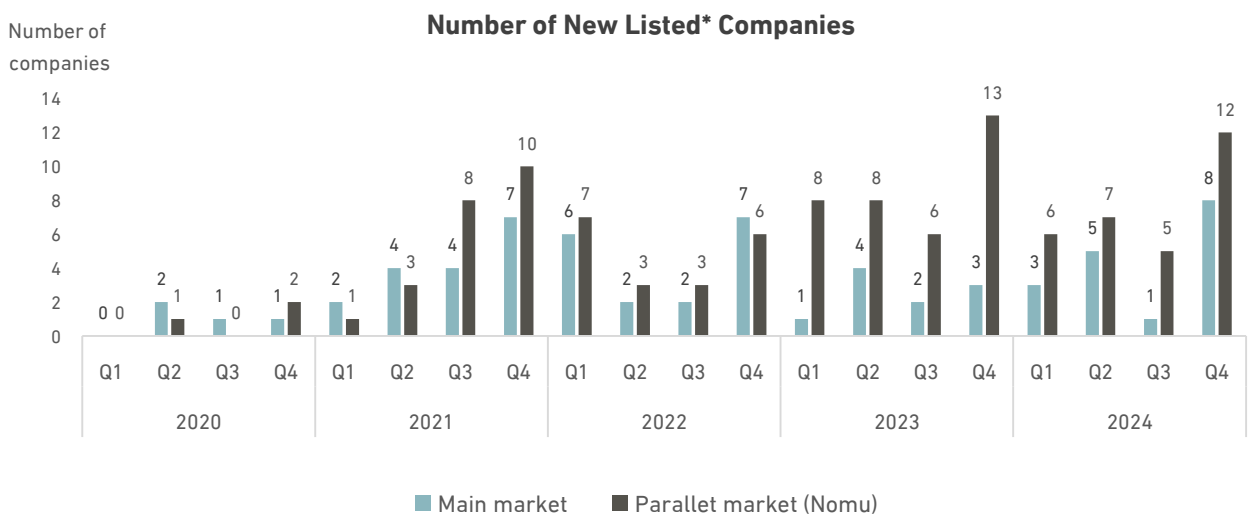
iii. Capital Market

Tadawul All Share Index (TASI) closed at 12,037 points by the end of 2024, up by 0.6% compared to the previous year. **The total market capitalization** recorded SAR 10.2 trillion by the end of 2024, decreasing by 9.4% YoY.

The Parallel Market Index (NOMU) rose by 28.3% YoY by the end of 2024, closing at 31,476 points. **The market capitalization of NOMU** reached SAR 58.9 billion, up by 21.9% for the same period.

The total number of new listed companies in Q4 2024 reached (20) companies, with 8 company listed in TASI and 12 companies listed in NOMU.

The value of the GCC and foreign investors' ownership increased by 7.7% YoY and 5.5% YoY, respectively in Q4 2024.



Source: Saudi Exchange (Tadawul)

* Number of new companies listed on the capital market includes companies listed on the main market and the parallel market (Nomu). Also, including direct listing in the parallel market.

iv. External Sector (Balance of Payments)

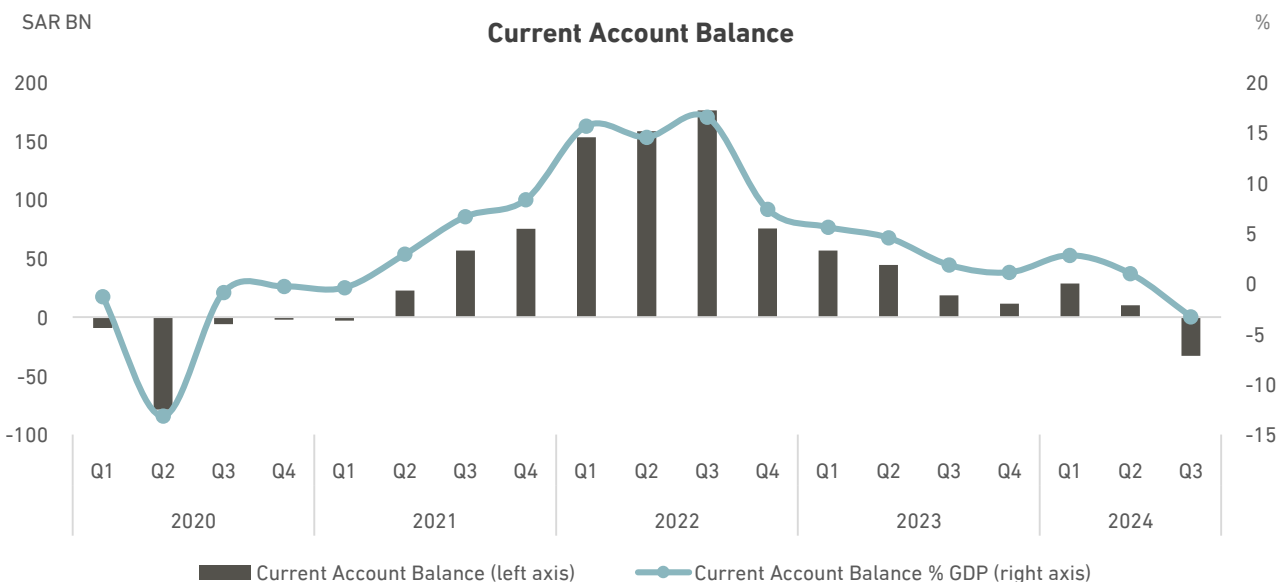
According to SAMA data for the balance of payments in Q3 2024, **the current account** recorded a deficit of SAR 33.0 billion, or 3.3% of nominal GDP, compared to a surplus of SAR 18.6 billion for the same quarter in the previous year.

Looking at **international trade**, and according to the GASTAT data in Q3 2024, the **trade balance** recorded a surplus of SAR 59.2 billion, a decline of 43.4% compared to a surplus of SAR 104.6 billion in the same quarter of the previous year. **Merchandise exports** decreased by 7.7% YoY, reaching SAR 276.5 billion compared to SAR 299.6 billion for the same period, driven by a decline in oil exports by 14.9% reaching SAR 197.0 billion in Q3 2024 compared to SAR 231.5 billion in the same quarter of the previous year. While **Non-oil exports*** increased by 16.8% reaching SAR 79.5 billion compared to SAR 68.1 billion for the same period in 2023.

Imports increased by 11.4%, reaching SAR 217.3 billion in Q3 2024 from SAR 195.0 billion in the same quarter of the previous year. The share of non-oil exports to imports was 36.6% for the same period.

In November 2024, the trade balance recorded a surplus of SAR 16.9 billion, a decline of 44.3%, compared to a surplus of SAR 30.3 billion in the same month of the previous year, as merchandise exports decreased by 4.7%, driven by a decline in oil exports by 12.3% YoY, while a non-oil exports* increased by 19.7% YoY.

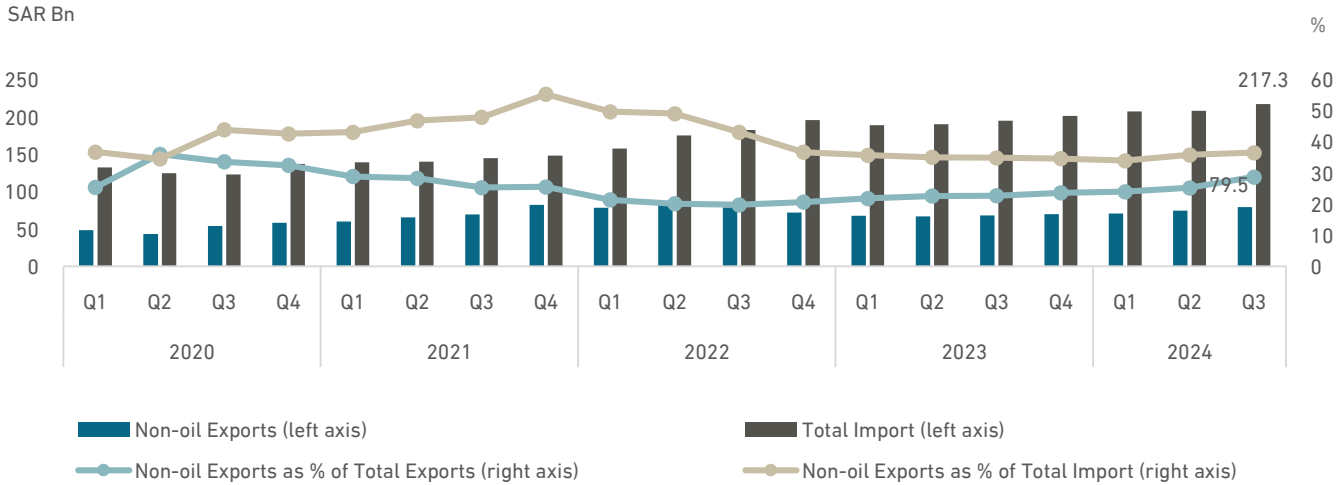
Imports increased by 13.9% YoY, reaching SAR 73.7 billion in November 2024.



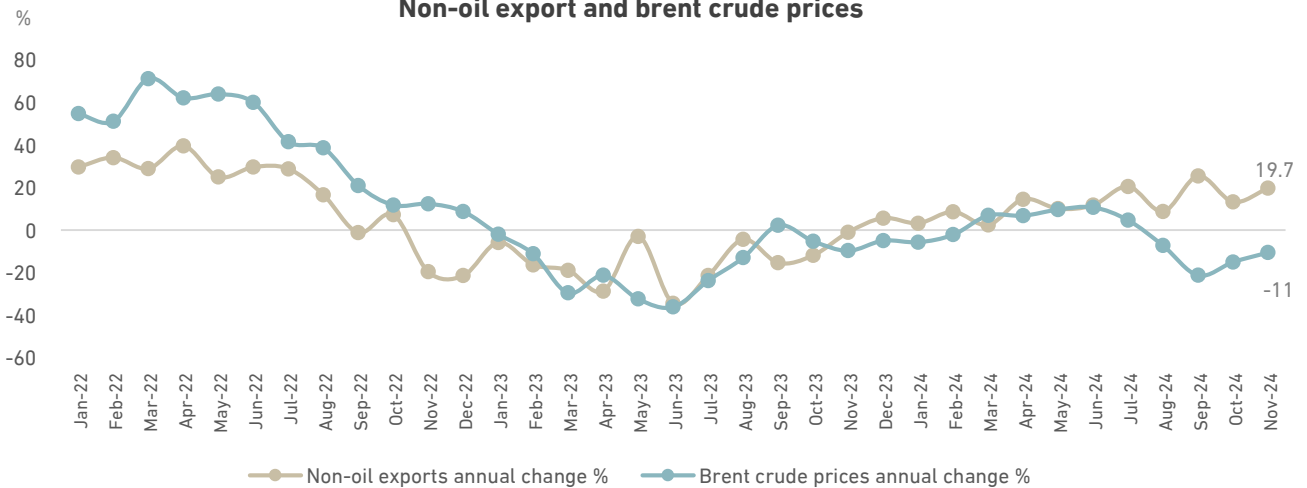
Source: SAMA, GASTAT

*Non-oil exports include re-exports

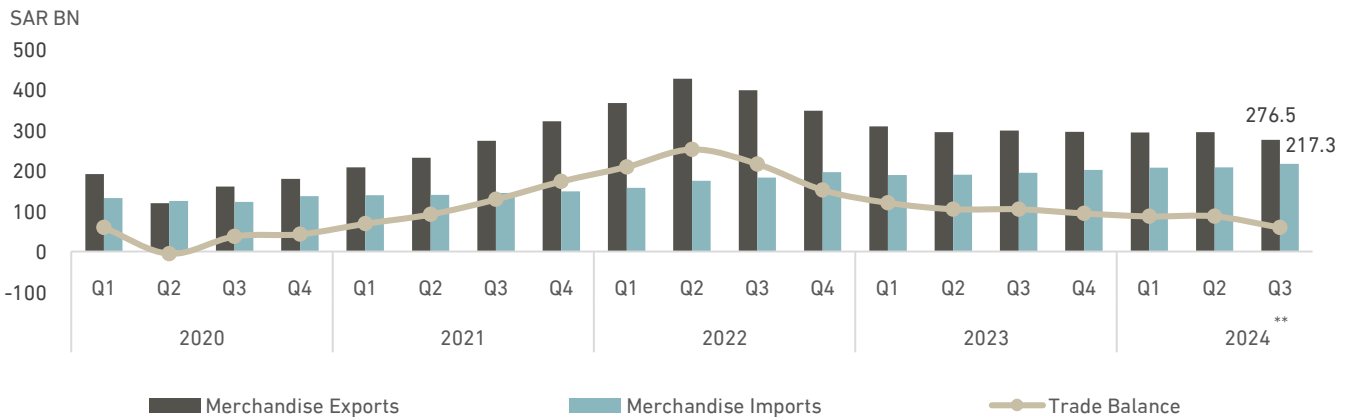
Saudi Arabia Non-oil Exports* vs Imports



Non-oil export and brent crude prices



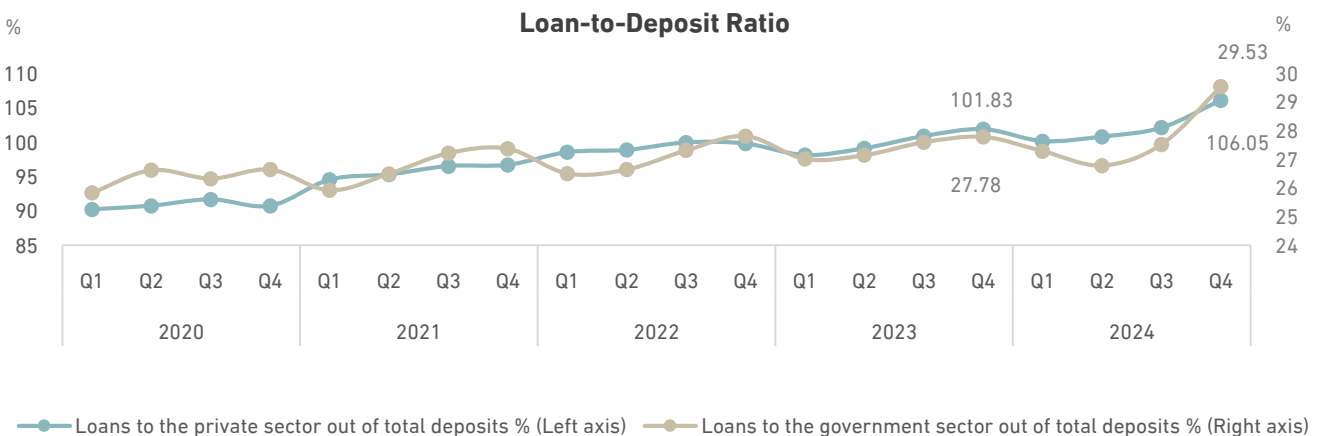
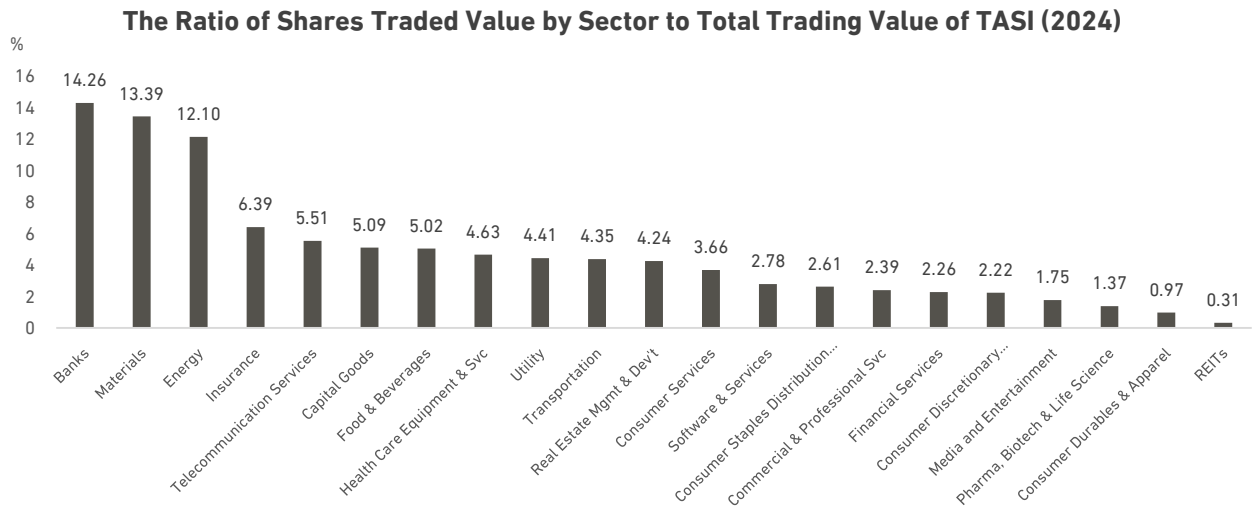
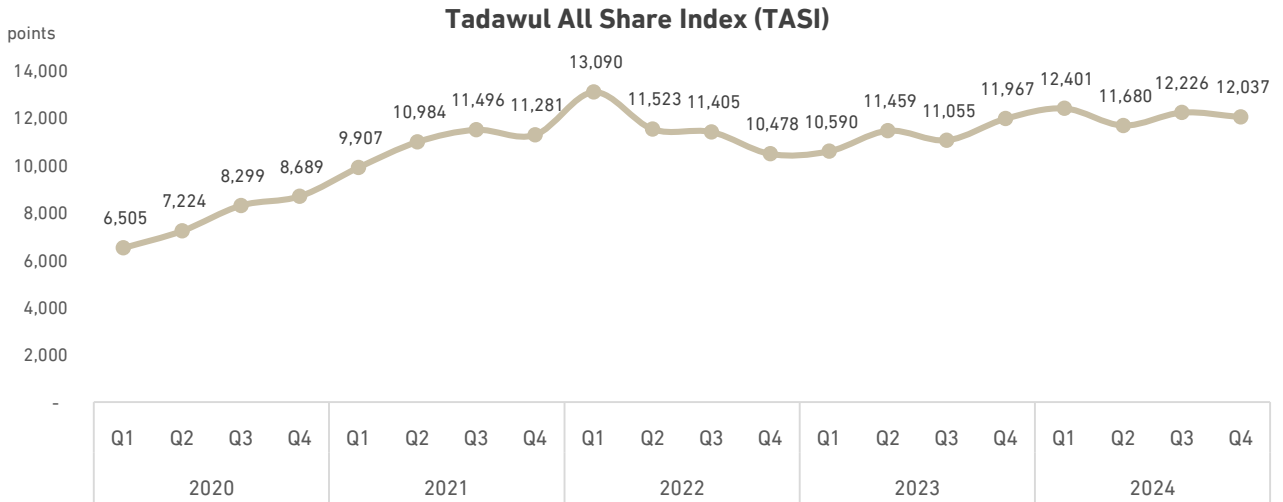
Trade Balance



*Non-oil exports include re-exports.

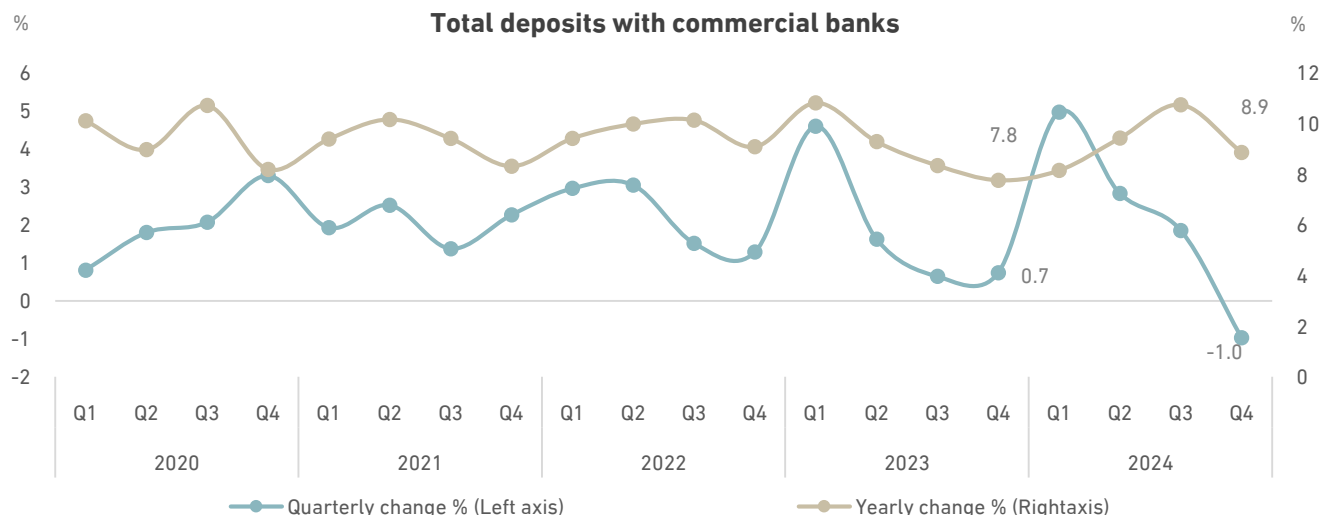
Source: GASTAT

** Flash estimate

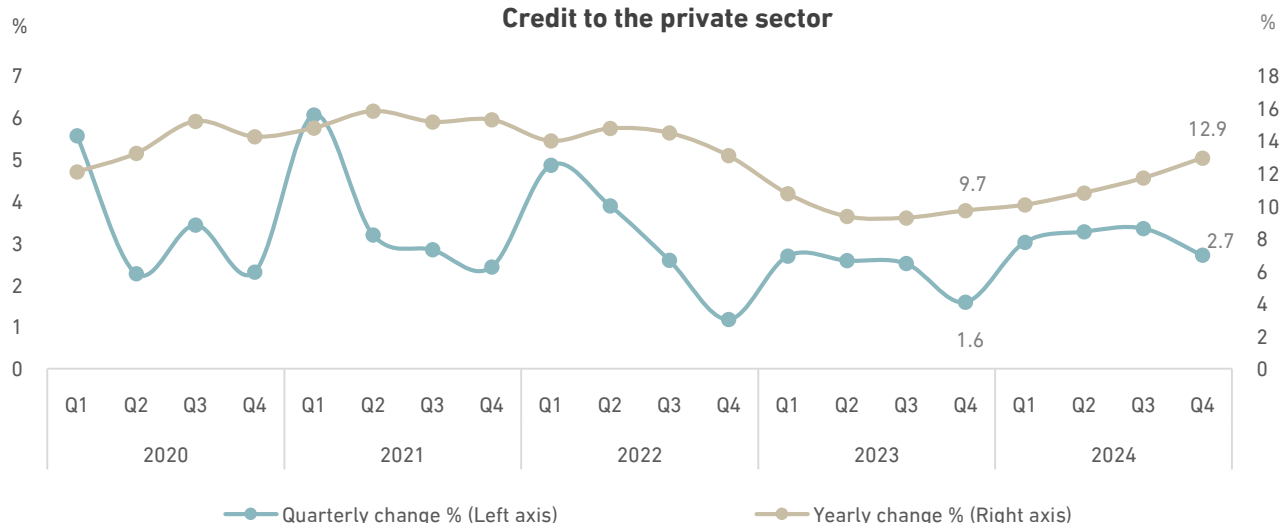


Source: Saudi Exchange (Tadawul), SAMA

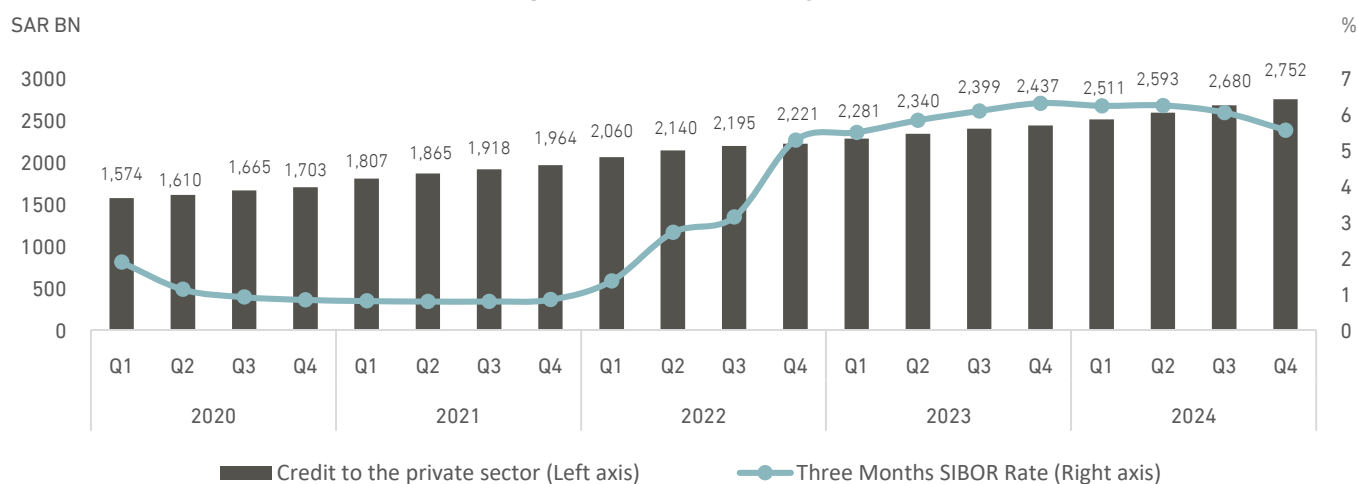
Total deposits with commercial banks



Credit to the private sector

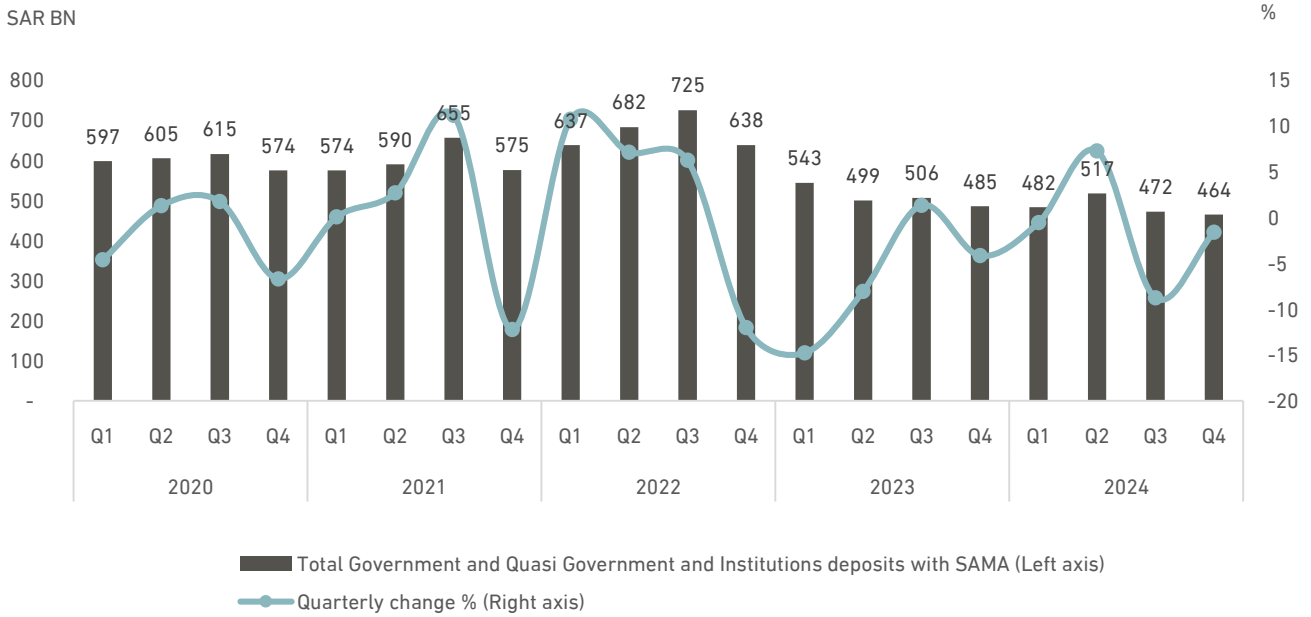


Credit to the private sector & Average Interest Rate



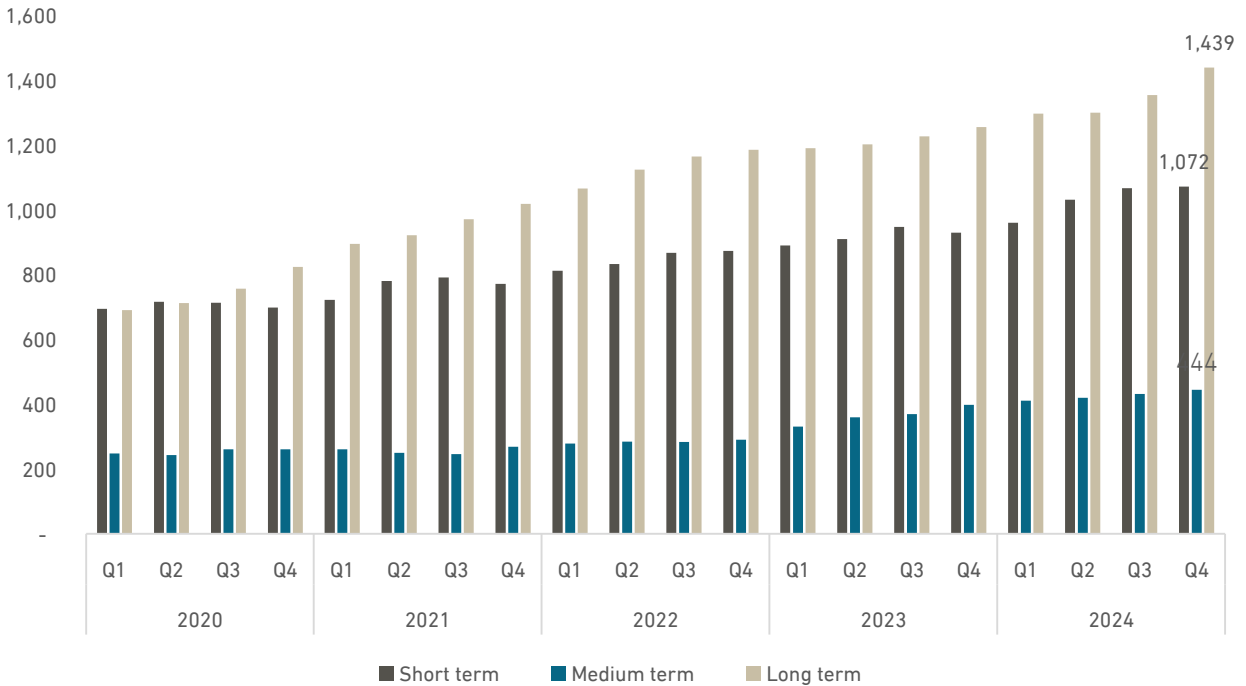
Source: SAMA

Total Government and Semi-Government Deposits with SAMA



SAR BN





Bank Credit Classified by Maturity



Source: SAMA

5. Key indicators of tourism sector in the kingdom

- The **total number of employees** in tourism activities amounted to 959,175 employees in Q2 2024, increasing by 5.1% compared to the same quarter of 2023.
- Moreover, the **number of Saudi employees** reached 245,905 employees, with a participation rate of 25.6%, while the **number of non-Saudi employees** recorded 713,270 employees, with a participation rate of 74.4%.
- In Q2 2024, the **percentage of employees in tourism activities** reached 5.7% of the total number of employees in the economy, Furthermore, the percentage of employees in tourism activities reached 8.6% of the total number of employees in the private sector.

Q2 2023		Q2 2024
912,197 Employees	 Total employees in tourism activities	959,175 Employees
9.1%	 Share of tourism activities employees out of the total employees in private sector	8.6%
50.9%	 Rooms occupancy rate of serviced apartments and other hospitality facilities	52.4%
54.9%	 Rooms occupancy rate of hotels	55.4%

Source: GASTAT



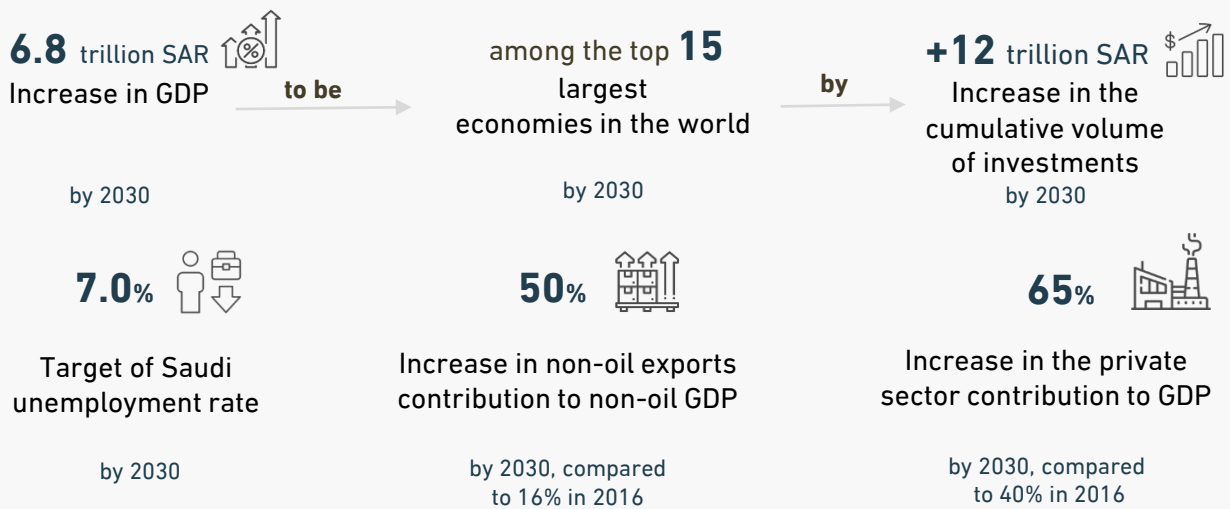
03

ENABLING INVESTMENT AND ENHANCING THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF ITS ENVIRONMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA

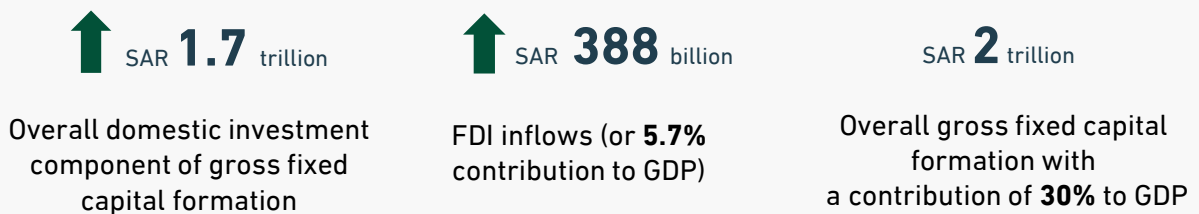
Three: Enabling Investment and Enhancing the Attractiveness of Its Environment in Saudi Arabia

I: Saudi Arabia's Targets Related to Investment Indicators

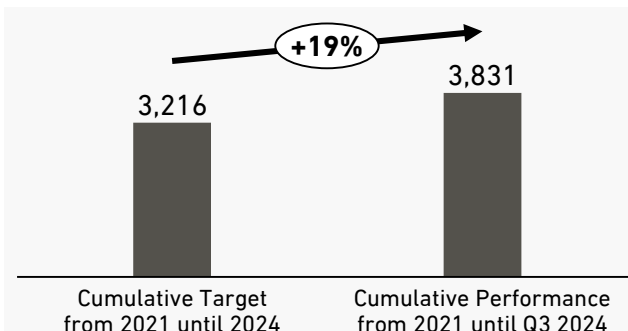
The National Investment Strategy (NIS) is one of the enablers to achieve the targets of Saudi Vision 2030, through:



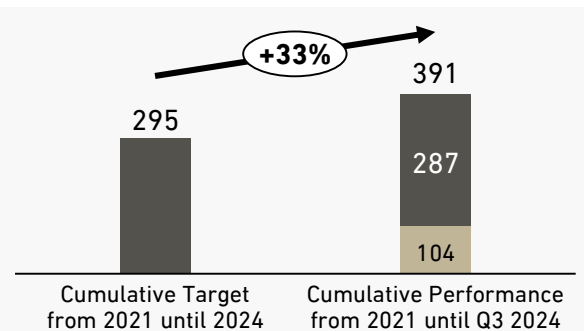
The NIS Investment Targets by 2030



GFCF Performance vs. Targets (Bn SAR)



FDI Performance vs. Targets (Bn SAR)



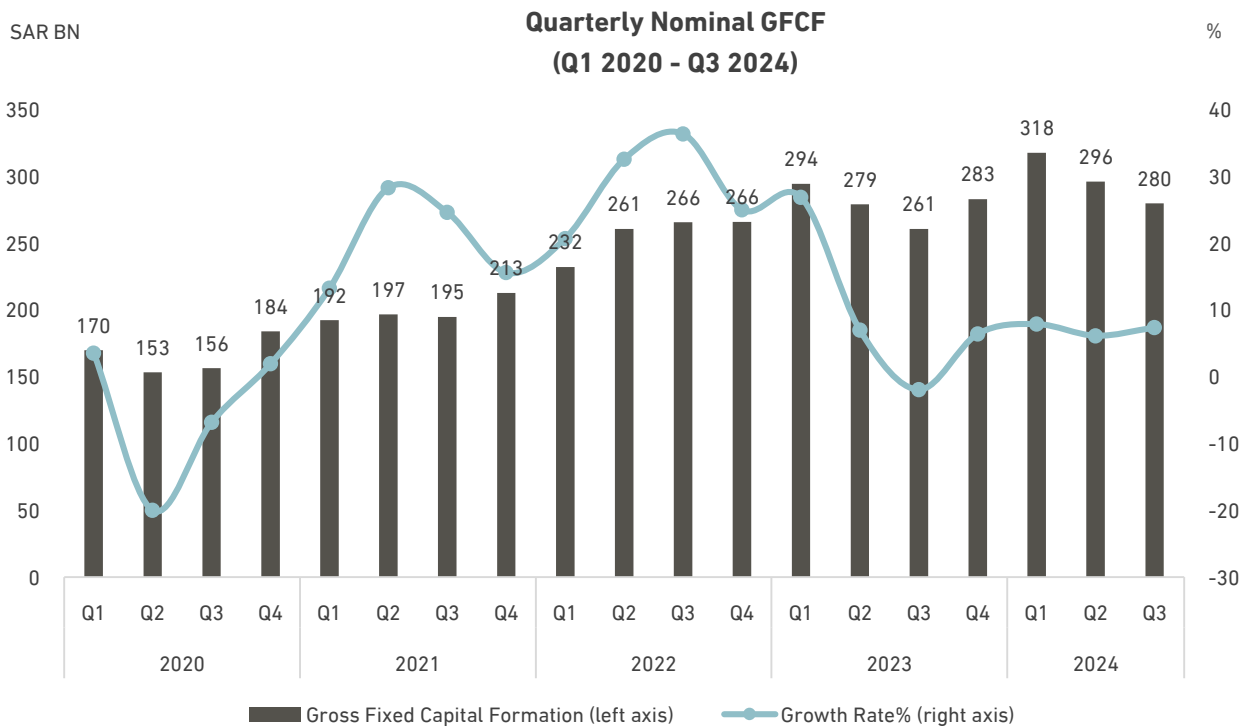
Source: National Investment Strategy (NIS), GASTAT

Aramco Deal

II: Investment in Saudi Arabia

i. Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF)

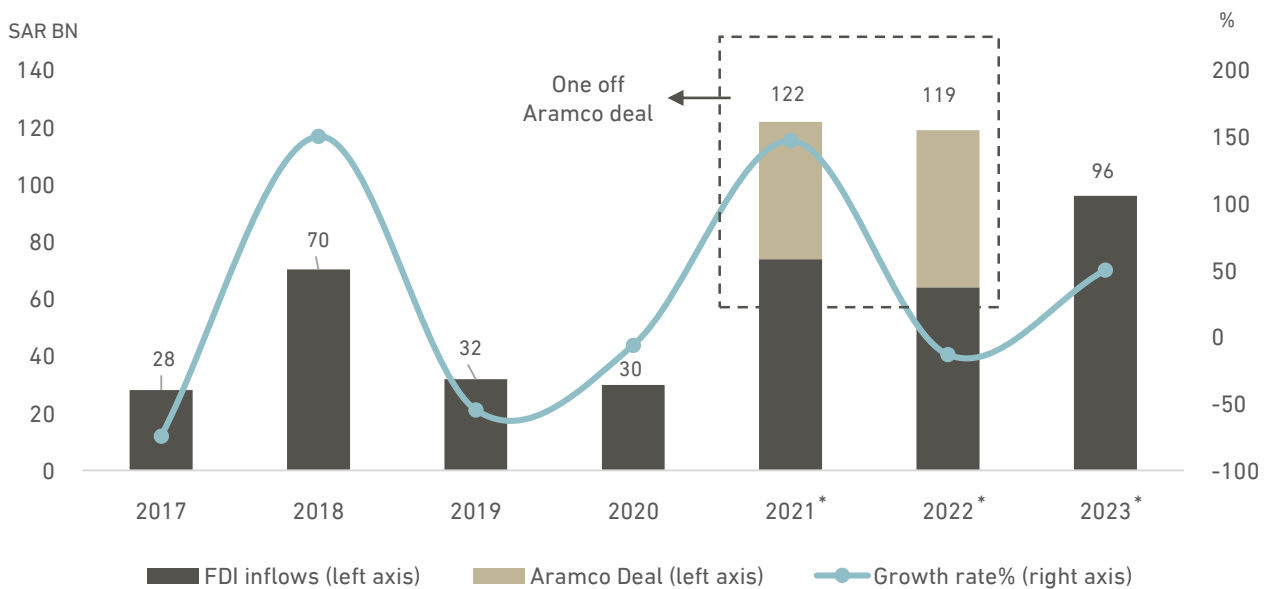
The nominal GFCF has reached SAR 280 billion in Q3 2024; a growth about 7.4% YoY driven by a rise in the fixed capital formation of the non-government sector by 8.3%, and the government sector by 2.3% in the same period. In addition, an increase in the **contribution of the fixed capital formation to the nominal GDP** hit 28% compared to 26% in the same quarter of the previous year.



2.2 FDI Stock

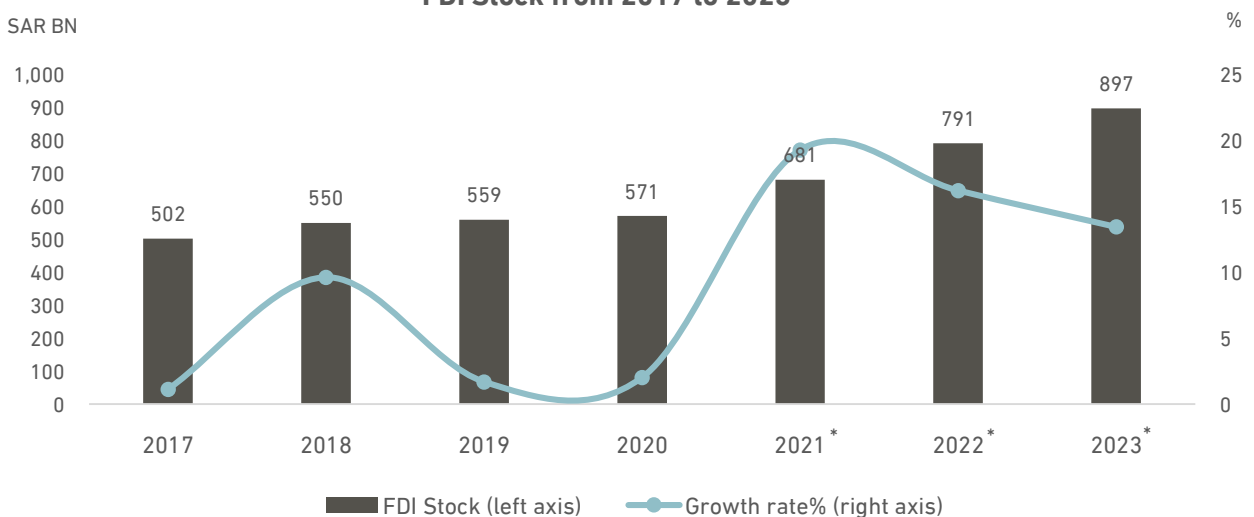
In 2023, **FDI inflow** amounted to SAR 96 billion, exceeding the NIS target of SAR 83 billion by 16% (actual performance vs. NIS target). The FDI inflows as a percentage of nominal GDP reached 2.4% in 2023, thereby achieving also this NIS target.

FDI Inflow from 2017 to 2023



FDI stock increased by 13.4% in 2023 compared to 2022, reaching SAR 897 billion (by the end of 2023). Moreover, FDI stock as % of GDP reached 22.5% in 2023.

FDI Stock from 2017 to 2023

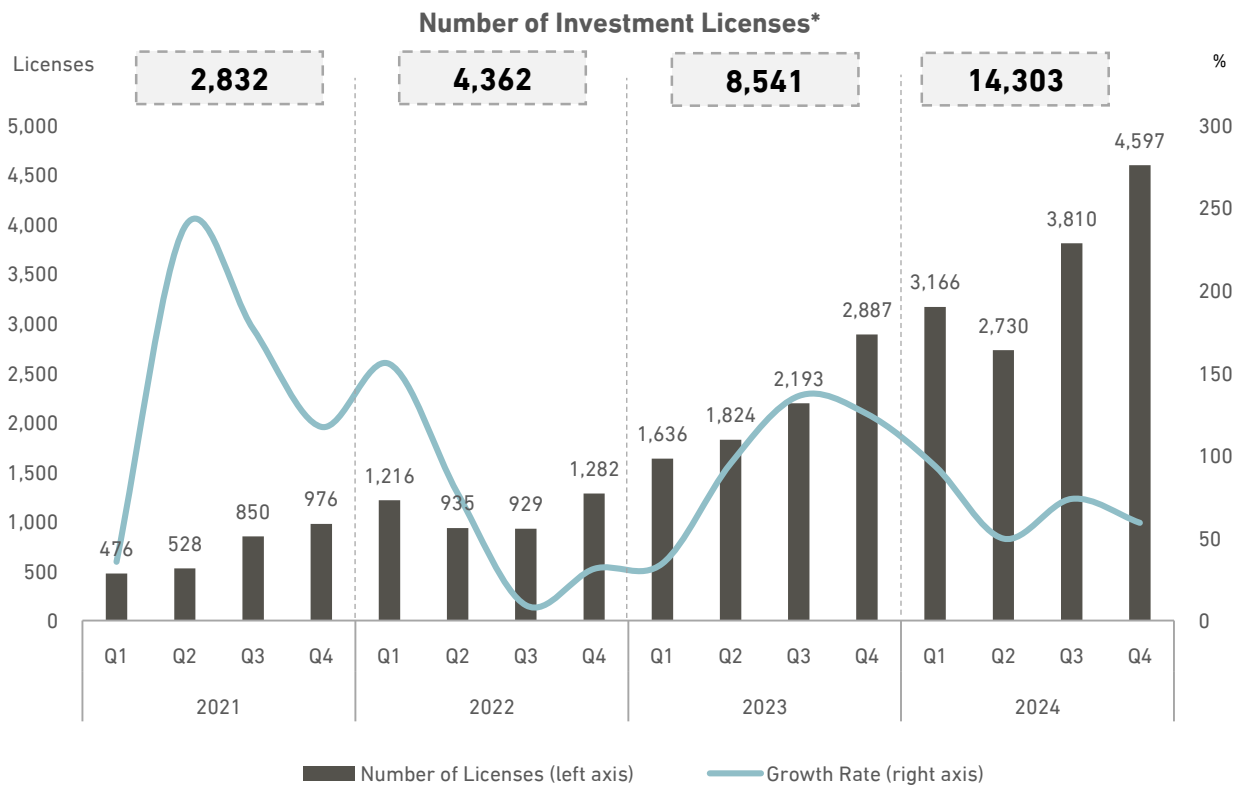


Source: MISA

*Updated data, based on the Annual Foreign Direct Investment Bulletin 2023

iii. Investment Licenses in Q4 2024

The total **number of investment licenses** issued in Q4 2024 reached 4,597, up by 59.2%, compared to 2,887 in the same quarter of the previous year (excluding licenses issued as part of the anti-concealment law enforcement). The total number of new investment licenses for Q4 2024 reached 4,633 licenses.



Source: MISA

*Figures exclude investment licenses issued as part of the anti-concealment law enforcement

Historical figures of investment licenses are subject to update according to data dynamics

In Q4 2024, several investment licenses were issued in the following activities: **construction, manufacturing, Wholesale and retail trade, Accommodation and food service, and Information and communication** representing **56%** of total investment licenses.

Moreover, **Other service** recorded the highest growth in investment licenses in Q4 2024 by **278%** YoY, followed by Wholesale and retail trade and Mining and quarrying by 188% and 105%, respectively.

Activity*	2023 Q4	2024 Q4	Growth Rate %
Construction	855	1,358	59
Manufacturing	487	676	39
Wholesale and retail trade	183	527	188
Accommodation and food service	197	390	98
Information and communication	245	390	59
Professional, scientific and technical activities	359	364	1
Administrative and support service	130	201	55
Transportation and storage	104	185	78
Other service	27	102	278
Real estate	58	96	66
Education	51	56	10
Human health and social work activities	40	49	23
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	28	45	61
Financial and insurance services	20	41	105
Arts, entertainment and recreation	44	38	-14
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	28	35	25
Mining and quarrying	15	29	93
Water supply; sewerage, waste management	15	15	0
Public administration and defense	1	-	-
Total	2,887	4,597	59

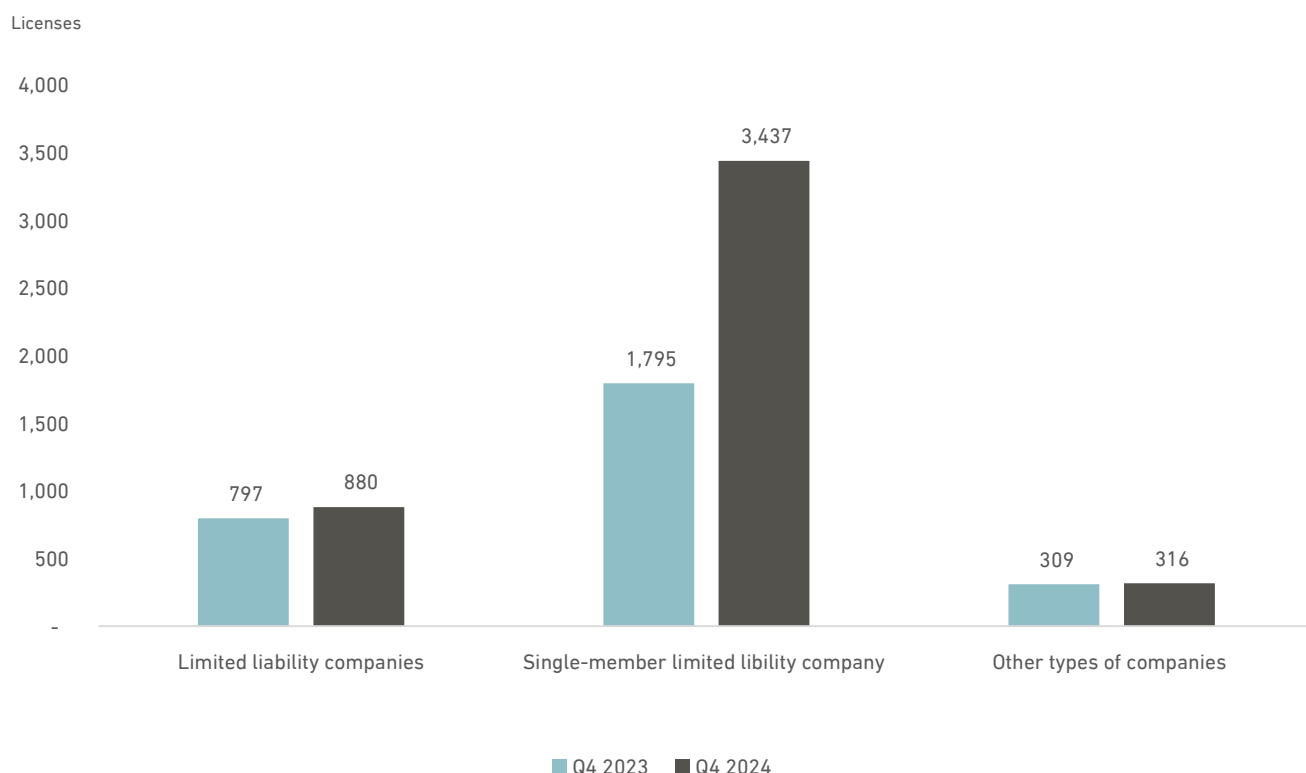
Source: MISA

*Figures exclude investment licenses issued as part of the anti-concealment law enforcement

Historical figures of investment licenses are subject to update according to data dynamics

Looking at the **company's legal status**, the licenses issued for single-member limited liability company (SMLLC) reached **3,437 licenses** in Q4 2024. The limited liability companies (LLC) recorded **880 licenses**. The rest of the licenses were distributed among other types of companies with **316 licenses**.

Number of Licenses by Legal Status of Company*



Source: MISA

*Figures include investment licenses issued as part of the anti-concealment law enforcement

Historical figures of investment licenses are subject to update according to data dynamics

III: Saudi Arabia's Performance in Global Indicators



Saudi Arabia's ranking among the G20

<p>Population growth rate</p> <p>1</p> <p>Source: World Bank, 2023</p>	<p>E-Government Development Index</p> <p>2</p> <p>Source: United Nations, 2024</p>	<p>Online Service Index</p> <p>2</p> <p>Source: United Nations, 2024</p>
<p>Telecommunication Infrastructure Index</p> <p>2</p> <p>Source: United Nations, 2024</p>	<p>Volume of imports of goods and services for 2023</p> <p>2</p> <p>Source: IMF, October 2024</p>	<p>ICT Development Index</p> <p>2</p> <p>Source: ITU, 2024</p>
<p>GovTech Maturity Index</p> <p>3</p> <p>Source: World Bank, 2022</p>	<p>World Competitiveness Ranking (Overall)</p> <p>4</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>	<p>E-Participation Index</p> <p>5</p> <p>Source: United Nations, 2024</p>
<p>Total Investment % of GDP for 2023</p> <p>6</p> <p>Source: IMF, October 2024</p>	<p>Current account balance for 2023</p> <p>6</p> <p>Source: IMF, October 2024</p>	<p>Total reserves</p> <p>7</p> <p>Source: World Bank, 2023</p>
<p>Human Capital Index</p> <p>8</p> <p>Source: United Nations, 2024</p>	<p>Global Happiness Index</p> <p>8</p> <p>Source: WHR, 2024</p>	<p>Global Talent Index</p> <p>8</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>
<p>World Digital Competitiveness</p> <p>9</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>	<p>Human Development Index</p> <p>9</p> <p>Source: United Nations, 2024</p>	<p>Intellectual Property Rights Index</p> <p>10</p> <p>Source: International Institute for Management Development, 2024</p>

III: Saudi Arabia's Performance in Global Indicators



Saudi Arabia's ranking globally

<p>Saudi Arabia Credit Rating (Standard & Poor's)</p> <p>A/A-1 S&P</p> <p>with positive outlook</p> <p>Source: S&P, September 2024</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia Credit Rating (Fitch)</p> <p>A+ Fitch Ratings</p> <p>with stable outlook</p> <p>Source: Fitch, February 2025</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia Credit Rating (Moody's)</p> <p>Aa3 Moody's</p> <p>with stable outlook</p> <p>Source: Moody's, November 2024</p>
<p>Total Value of Venture Investment</p> <p>1st SVC</p> <p>among the MENA region and North Africa</p> <p>Source: SVC, 2024</p>	<p>ICT Access</p> <p>1 WIPO</p> <p>out of 133</p> <p>Source: WIPO, 2024</p>	<p>Internet users</p> <p>1 IMD</p> <p>out of 67</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>
<p>AI Government Strategy Index</p> <p>1 Tortoise Media</p> <p>out of 83</p> <p>Source: Tortoise Media 2024</p>	<p>Easy to start a business</p> <p>1 GEM</p> <p>out of 46</p> <p>Source: GEM, 2024</p>	<p>Cyber security</p> <p>1 IMD</p> <p>out of 67</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>
<p>Venture capital</p> <p>2 IMD</p> <p>out of 67</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>	<p>State of cluster development</p> <p>2 WIPO</p> <p>out of 133</p> <p>Source: WIPO, 2024</p>	<p>Development & application of technology</p> <p>2 IMD</p> <p>out of 67</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>
<p>GovTech Maturity Index</p> <p>3 Edelman</p> <p>out of 198</p> <p>Source: Edelman, 2024</p>	<p>Online Service Index</p> <p>4 UN</p> <p>out of 193</p> <p>Source: UN, 2024</p>	<p>Foreign highly skilled</p> <p>4 IMD</p> <p>out of 67</p> <p>Source: IMD, 2024</p>
<p>Entrepreneurship Policies and Culture</p> <p>5 WIPO</p> <p>out of 133</p> <p>Source: WIPO, 2024</p>	<p>E-Government Development Index</p> <p>6 UN</p> <p>out of 193</p> <p>Source: UN, 2024</p>	<p>Financing and scaling up of startups</p> <p>6 WIPO</p> <p>out of 133</p> <p>Source: WIPO, 2024</p>

IV: Efforts to Support Investment Environment in Saudi Arabia

Key operational achievements of MISA

As part of MISA's ongoing efforts to enhance the Saudi investment ecosystem and improve the investor experience, **MISA has achieved several milestones during Q4 2024, including:**

- Issuing **46** licenses for regional headquarters.
- Addressing **26** investors challenge.
- Providing more than **43,000** services via outreach centers.
- Providing more than **48,000** services through the One Stop Service Center, recording a growth of 34% compared to the previous quarter.

▪ E-services provided to investors via the website



1.2 MISA Events in Q4 2024

MISA, seeks to promote local investment and attract foreign investment. It also organizes and participates in variety of events. In Q4 2024, MISA took part and organized in **19 local and international events in different fields.**

Moreover, MISA also participated in investment forums between Saudi Arabia and several countries, aiming at enhancing the investment ecosystem in the Kingdom, develop investment opportunities, promote local investment, and attract foreign investment by highlighting Saudi Arabia's major opportunities.

EXPOREAL Focus area: Real Estate

7 October 2024
Munich, Germany

Invest Saudi opens new horizons for international cooperation at EXPOREAL. Saudi entities showcased investment opportunities in the real estate sector and led discussions, with a commitment to achieving Saudi Vision 2030 goals and positioning the Kingdom as a global investment destination.



Saudi Film Confex Focus area: Investment

9 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Film Confex 2024 serves as a gathering point for filmmakers, producers, distributors, and investors from Saudi Arabia and the world.





Global Logistics Conference Focus area: Logistics

12 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

The Inaugural Global Logistics Forum 2024, hosted by Ministry of Transport and Logistic Services, envisions a groundbreaking new global map of trade and supply chains. This forum aims to spur efficiency, resilience, sustainability, and profitability, ultimately boosting prosperity for all in an Increasingly globalized world.



Global Health Exhibition Focus area: Healthcare

21 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Global Health, is the largest healthcare exhibition in Saudi Arabia, bringing together top-tier healthcare professionals, industry experts, and leading organizations from around the world.



Future Investment Initiative Focus area: Investment

28 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Under Invest Saudi, the conference featured strategic initiatives and MOUs aiming to boost investment potential, drive economic and social transformation, and strengthen investor relations by exploring investment fields and available opportunities in light of Saudi Vision 2030.





Saudi-US Roundtable Meeting Focus area: Investment

28 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

MISA hosted a roundtable with U.S. CEOs, featuring HE Khalid AlFalih. The conversation centered on the future of economic relations between the USA and Saudi Arabia, focusing on strengthening economic partnerships and exploring opportunities for diversification and growth.



Saudi-UK Roundtable Meeting Focus area: Investment

30 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

MISA hosted a roundtable with UK CEO'S The conversation centered on the future of economic relations between the UK and Saudi Arabia, focusing on strengthening economic partnerships and exploring opportunities for diversification and growth.



Invest Saudi X Golf Focus area: Sport

31 October 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Invest Saudi sponsored Aramco Team Series presented by PIF as an impact partner, enhancing the Kingdom's position on the global sports scene.





Gateway Gulf 2024 Focus area: Investment

3 November 2024
Manama, Bahrain

Gateway Gulf hosted by the Bahrain Economic Development Board with the support of senior officials across the Kingdom's finance, investment and industry portfolio, in which private and public sector cooperation is championed to create an innovative and attractive investment environment for businesses to succeed.



World Urban Forum 2024 Focus area: Sustainable Urbanization

4 November 2024
Cairo, Egypt

MISA participated in The World Urban Forum (WUF) which was established in 2001 by the United Nations to address one of the most pressing issues facing the world today: rapid urbanization and its impact on communities, cities, economies, climate change and policies.



Biban 24 Focus area: Entrepreneurship

4 November 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

MISA participated in Biban24 Forum which is considered globally prominent in the entrepreneurship sector, focusing on empowering the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Kingdom for local and international entrepreneurs through 9 doors under the theme Global Destination for Opportunities.



RIYADH GLOBAL
MEDICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
SUMMIT 2024
قمة الرياض العالمية للتكنولوجيا الحيوية

RGMBS Focus area: Biotechnology

10 November 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

RGMBS serves as a springboard for biotechnology startups and entrepreneurs to transform innovative concepts into successful businesses by providing essential resources, networking, and funding opportunities.



استثمر في السعودية
INVEST SAUDI

Air Show China Focus area: Defense

12 November 2024
Zhuhai, China

MISA participated in the Saudi pavilion in the Air show China2024, alongside partners from both the public and private sectors. The exhibition fosters knowledge exchange and highlights investment opportunities within the defense industries sector.



World Investment Conference (WIC) Focus area: Investment

25 November 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

MISA participated the World Investment Conference to discuss investment policies and trends, knowledge sharing, and partnership building.





Saudi Qatari Coordination Council Focus area: Investment

28 November 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

A meeting of the Saudi-Qatari Committee for Investment, Energy and Infrastructure, emanating from the Saudi-Qatari Coordination Council, was held on the 28th of November 2024 where the initiatives and objectives of the committee and the development of its work were reviewed.



Saudi France Investment Forum Focus area: Investment

3 December 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

The Saudi French Investment Forum, brings together esteemed ministers, officials, and leaders from the private sector of both nations. The forum aims to explore and discuss strategies to strengthen investment and economic collaboration across various sectors between Saudi Arabia and France.



Saudi UK Business Roundtable Focus area: Investment

9 December 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

In the presence of UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, a Saudi-British roundtable was held, opened by H.E. Khalid AlFalih, with key dignitaries and leading Saudi companies. The meeting aimed to strengthen economic ties and cooperation in sectors of mutual interest.





Saudi-Turkish Construction and Infrastructure Roundtable Focus area: Investment

17 December 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Saudi-Turkish roundtable meeting regarding construction and infrastructure discussions was held with the participation of representatives from the public and private sectors. The spotlight was put on investment opportunities in the sector.



Saudi-Qatari Roundtable Focus area: Investment

29 December 2024
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

As part of the Saudi-Qatari Investment, Energy and Infrastructure Committee of the Saudi-Qatari Coordination Council, a Saudi-Qatari roundtable meeting was held in Riyadh.



V: Key Legislation Related to Investment

MISA aims to provide a safe and competitive investment environment, as well as developing investment laws and procedures with its partners from government entities, to complement the legislative and regulatory structure. Investment legislation plays a crucial role in enhancing the investment environment and attracting capital to Saudi Arabia.

■ Highlights of MISA's journey



Modifying a number of articles of the regulation of the Communications, Space and Technology Authority (1442 H) 1446H

The modification aims to further develop the services provided to citizens, residents, and visitors, improve the quality of life, increase the ease of doing business, enable competitiveness, and improve to advanced rankings in international indicators

Implementation of Phase 18 to link tax e-invoicing systems with Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority systems 1446H

Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority has indicated that the second phase of e-invoicing comes as an extension of the economic renaissance and digital transformation witnessed by the Kingdom, and a continuation of a success story that began with the first phase of e-invoicing implementation

Extension of the initiative to cancel fines and exempt taxpayers from financial penalties for 6 months 1446H

The extension of the initiative aims to enable taxpayers who meet the conditions to benefit from the initiative and achieve its goals and objectives, the most prominent of which is to mitigate the economic effects on businesses due to COVID-19.

Entertainment Facilities Requirements for 1446H

The requirements aim to develop and improve the work environment, control the construction process according to the requirements and requirements of the building code, help those wishing to invest in this field, and contribute to improving the quality of life.

Executive Regulations for Law Practitioners Framework 1446H

This will contribute to the development of the regulatory framework for training registered with law firms and accredited training centers, ensuring quality and efficiency in training, raising the quality of outputs, empowering trainees, increasing training opportunities, and organizing the registration mechanism.

GCC Tourism Strategy for 1446 AH

The objectives include increasing the global competitiveness of the GCC region, promoting sustainable tourism, increasing investment in digital infrastructure, and employing innovative technologies to enhance the visitor experience

VI: Key Saudi Initiatives to Support Investment Environment in Q4 2024

1. Future Investment Initiative Conference (8th Edition)

The Future Investment Initiative (FII) Conference embodies the endless possibilities of investing and shaping the future, with a focus on long-term sustainable investments that address global challenges, foster innovation and provide lasting impact, prioritizing sectors that are driving transformation, from next-generation technologies and healthcare innovations to engaging youth in sports. This edition of the conference witnessed several launches, including the launch of a global initiative to enable artificial intelligence in emerging markets to utilize this cutting-edge technology to serve local communities, the launch of Wave's Ocean Central platform, and the announcement of several investment initiatives aimed at supporting innovative projects in various fields, such as renewable energy, healthcare, and technology.

2. Saudi Green Initiative (Fourth Edition)

The Saudi Green Initiative aims to address the repercussions of climate change, improve the quality of life, and protect the environment for the benefit of future generations. By achieving three main goals: Reducing carbon emissions by 278 million tons per year by 2030, afforesting the Kingdom by planting 10 billion trees, and protecting 30% of the total area of land and marine areas in the Kingdom. This edition of the Kingdom's leading climate event brings together policymakers, business leaders, and climate and environmental experts from around the world to strengthen collaboration and accelerate action to build a more sustainable future.

3. Publishing Entrepreneurship Initiative

The Publishing House Leadership Initiative aims to support local and international publishers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by enhancing the capabilities of publishing houses and enabling their competitiveness locally and internationally, and to create an attractive investment environment and the growth of participating publishing houses by supporting them, providing training and developing their skills, as the initiative includes three projects: International Training for Publishers, Publishing Business Accelerator, and Printing Support.



04

**Saudi Arabia to host FIFA
World Cup 2034
“A unique experience”**

A statement by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz - May Allah protect him – regarding the Kingdom's Bid to Host the FIFA World Cup 2034

“ **The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia believes in the importance of sports**, its positive impact on every individual, and its active role in strengthening ties between nations, enhancing communication between different cultures, and building bridges between communities worldwide.

Through Saudi Vision 2030, which places great emphasis on investment in the sports sector, the Kingdom is pleased to present its bid to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup. We will work with the international community to host this important sporting event that contributes to the development of football globally.

By the grace of God, the Kingdom has succeeded in establishing its position as one of the leading global sports destinations, thanks to the determination and enthusiasm of its people. We are confident that the capabilities and resources the Kingdom will provide, along with the efforts and cooperation of the international community, will help achieve our shared goals and create a bright and impressive future for football, leaving a positive legacy that will extend beyond 2034. ”



A statement by HRH Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz - May Allah protect him – regarding the Kingdom's Bid to Host the FIFA World Cup 2034

“ Our bid carries the slogan 'Growing Together,' which embodies the steady growth and development of Saudi football. The bid is a valuable opportunity for us to collaborate with FIFA to develop the future of football in the Kingdom, the Middle East, and the world. We are determined and resolute in our goal to inspire the world and open new horizons for global football.”

We are determined and resolute in our goal to inspire the world and open new horizons for global football. ”



Saudi Arabia's bid file to host World Cup 2034 **highest rating** in history



**HOST NATION
SAUDI ARABIA**

FIFA announced that Saudi Arabia's bid to host World Cup 2034 received the **highest technical rating** in the history of World Cup hosting bids, and was granted by **130** football federations from around the world.



416.8

The evaluation score of the joint bid for Spain, Portugal, and Morocco to host the World Cup in 2030



402

The evaluation score of the joint bid for The United States, Canada, and Mexico to host the World Cup in 2026



419.8

The evaluation score of Saudi Arabia to host the World Cup in 2034



Hosting FIFA World Cup 2034.. WELCOME TO SAUDI

Saudi Arabia's successful bid to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup marks a milestone that reflects its global position in organizing major sports and cultural events. This achievement is set to drive a transformative impact on football at both the regional and international levels, as the Kingdom prepares to host the largest-ever edition of the FIFA World Cup held in a single country.

This milestone aligns with the goals of Saudi Vision 2030, which focuses on diversifying the economy and establishing the Kingdom as a global hub for investment and tourism. Hosting the World Cup is anticipated to accelerate growth in the non-oil sector, attract foreign direct investments, boost the tourism industry, generate new job opportunities, and foster entrepreneurship across industries linked to the event.



I: The Journey to Hosting FIFA World Cup 2034

Saudi Arabia's journey to winning the bid to host FIFA World Cup 2034 represents a historic milestone in sports and development endeavors. **The path to this achievement involved several key stages:**



October, 2023

The Kingdom announced its intention to bid for hosting FIFA World Cup 2034, initiating efforts to meet all FIFA requirements including stadiums and facilities, backed by the support of 130 football federations globally.



March, 2024

The Saudi Football Federation launched the official identity with a slogan "**Growing. Together**", where the visual identity and verbal logo were revealed, along with the official website



July, 2024

The Kingdom submitted its bid file with an official delegation during a ceremony in Paris, after 10 months of extensive work and preparation.



December, 2024

Saudi Arabia has officially announced the bid winning to host FIFA World Cup 2034



World Cup 2034 – Logo

The visual identity of World Cup 2034 logo embodies the essence of the Kingdom's rich cultural heritage. The logo features intertwined rows of multi-colored ribbons, each adorned with iconic football and cultural symbols. These ribbons gracefully come together to form '34', symbolizing the year Saudi Arabia aspires to welcome the world for the 25th edition of the FIFA World Cup.

This artistic representation not only celebrates the spirit of football but also subtly mirrors the geographical contours of Saudi Arabia, with five colors reflecting the diversity of the nation.



Desert Amber: A symbol of warmth and generosity



Oasis Green: Representing valleys and mountains



Radiance Red: Drawing inspiration from the Red Sea coral reefs



Rich Lavender: Celebrating the blossoming wildflowers



Sunrise Yellow: Marking an exciting new dawn for the nation

The plans for the FIFA World Cup 2034 in Saudi Arabia are captured in the slogan: 'Growing. Together.'

It is supported by the following three pillars:



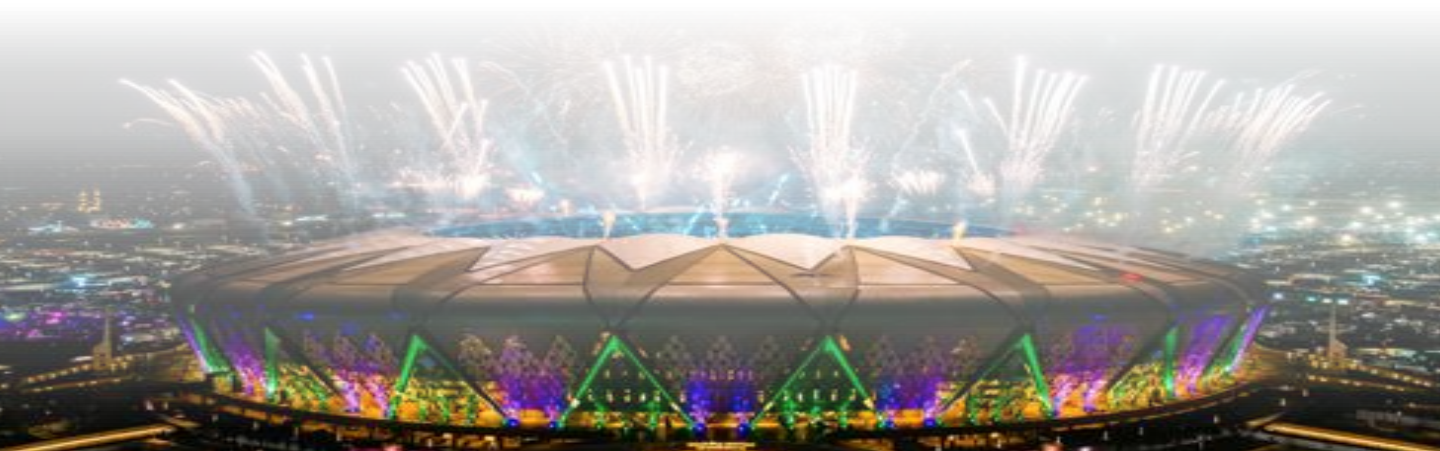
Growing People. Together.



Growing Football. Together.



Growing Connections. Together.





Saudi Arabia's bid to host World Cup 2034 in numbers:



10 other host locations



5 host cities



48 teams



15 proposed stadiums



134 training sites



230K+ room keys
across host cities



16 international
airports



Source: the official website for Saudi Arabia's bid to host the World Cup 2034



II: The Kingdom's efforts for the World Cup 2034



World cup Hosting Higher Authority

الهيئة العليا لاستضافة
كأس العالم 2034
Hosting Higher Authority



As directed by HRH the crown prince, a World Cup 2034 Hosting Higher Authority has been established to oversee the hosting of World Cup 2034 following FIFA's announcement of KSA's successful bid. The Authority is responsible for the planning, execution, and follow-up for hosting the event, coordinating with relevant authorities. It aligns all related efforts with national strategies.

World cup Hosting Higher Authority Goals

1

Supervision

On planning and implementing hosting works.

2

Enhancement

Integrated financial planning for all hosting activities.

3

Follow-up

Enabling the execution of plans for initiatives and projects related to hosting.

4

Optimization

Maximizing legacy and economic impact while leveraging, infrastructure, facilities, and human capital.

5

Promotion

Showcasing the Kingdom's efforts in hosting and highlighting its achievements.

6

Assurance

Ensuring the application of sustainability standards in all hosting activities.



Main cities set to host FIFA World cup 2034 matches

The selection of the five host cities was strategically planned to provide fans and visitors with an unparalleled travel experience

Riyadh

Riyadh is preparing to offer more than **127,000** hotel units by 2034. Additionally, the capacity of King Salman International Airport is expected to reach **100 million** passengers annually, with an increase of 170% compared to 2023. The Riyadh Metro is one of the world's largest driverless train networks, with an anticipated total capacity of over **3.6 million** passengers by 2034.



Jeddah

Jeddah is home to one of the world's fastest trains, the Haramain High-Speed Railway, which reaches speeds of up to **300 kilometers** per hour, connecting the city with the airport and surrounding areas. Additionally, plans are underway to provide more than **40,000** hotel units catering to various budgets. The capacity of King Abdulaziz International Airport is expected to reach **90 million** passengers annually by 2034.



Al-Khobar

Al-Khobar is planning to establish an extensive and diverse transportation network, including a "water taxi" service, to offer fans an exceptional experience along the coast. The expansion of King Fahd International Airport is expected to increase its capacity to **20 million** passengers by 2034. Additionally, the city aims to provide approximately **17,500 hotel units** to accommodate visitors. Al-Khobar is also witnessing the development of several projects covering an area exceeding **one million** square kilometers.



NEOM

NEOM represents one of the most innovative development projects in the world. It is expected to welcome 12 million local and international visitors by 2034 and provide an extensive transportation network connecting all cities across the Kingdom. The project will feature over **24,000** hotel units with diverse accommodation options, including hotels planned within 'The Line' city. Additionally, NEOM aims to establish a fully renewable energy system powered by **100%** sustainable sources.



Abha

Abha is undergoing a significant transformation with the implementation of various entertainment and comprehensive transportation development projects. Khalid International Airport is expected to reach **10 million** passengers by 2034. The number of hotel units will reach about **19,600 units**.





Stadiums set to host World Cup matches

The Kingdom is committed to providing an exceptional and unprecedented experience by hosting World Cup matches in 15 stadiums, across five host cities.

Riyadh



South Riyadh Stadium



New Murabba Stadium



King Fahad Sports City Stadium



King Salman International Stadium



Prince Faisal bin Fahad Sports City Stadium



ROSHN Stadium



King Saud University Stadium



Prince Mohammed bin Salman Stadium

Jedda



King Abdullah Sports City Stadium



Jeddah Central Development Stadium



Qiddiya Coast Stadium



King Abdullah Economic City Stadium

Abha



King Khalid University Stadium

NEOM



NEOM Stadium

Al Khobar



Aramco Stadium

Source: FIFA World Cup 2034 - Bid Evaluation Report



Key sectors supporting in the Kingdom's hosting of FIFA World Cup 2034

Saudi Arabia is gearing up to host FIFA World Cup by leveraging its facilities and resources, integrating various sectors to deliver unparalleled experiences for players and fans from around the world.



Transport and Infrastructure

Saudi Arabia has allocated a substantial budget to develop infrastructure in preparation for hosting this global event. The country's transport network offers a wide range of international travel options and local transportation services, including roads, railways, and public buses. The average travel time between the five host cities is less than two hours, enabling fast and efficient movement between different regions.



Culture & Entertainment

Saudi Arabia is renowned for its rich cultural heritage and diverse natural landscapes, featuring eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In line with Saudi Vision 2030, the Kingdom is set to introduce innovative and exceptional experiences through its ambitious mega-projects, including Qiddiya, NEOM, and the Red Sea. Furthermore, 10 distinct locations will be designated for fan festivals across the host cities.



IT&T

The Kingdom is leading a range of ICT development projects, including the establishment of new data centers, the implementation of advanced cloud technologies, and the expansion of international communication cables. These upgrades, among other advancements, will be incorporated into the infrastructure of all proposed stadiums for the tournament. By 2034, 5G coverage is expected to reach 99% of the population.



Accommodation

By 2034, Saudi Arabia will provide a diverse selection of accommodation options, totaling over 230,000 hotel units at varying price ranges. These accommodations, spanning from budget-friendly choices to luxury stays, will be strategically located in the host cities to serve VIPs, FIFA delegations, participating teams, media representatives, and fans as well.

III: The expected economic impact of hosting of the World Cup 2034

Saudi Arabia's hosting of the World Cup marks a significant milestone in the nation's economic development. Its impact goes beyond the sports sector, influencing a wide range of sectors, driving economic growth, and enhancing the Kingdom's position as a leading economic, investment, sports, and tourism destination. This influence is felt both directly and indirectly across various sectors and dimensions:

1. **Job Creation:** the World Cup presents significant employment opportunities across diverse sectors, with a focus on hospitality, dining, tourism, and infrastructure. These opportunities arise before, during, and after the event, driving growth in multiple industries.
2. **Boosting Tourism:** Hosting the World Cup will draw global attention to Saudi Arabia, attracting an increased number of tourists to the Kingdom. This will contribute to the growth of tourism activities and higher tourism revenues, particularly in sectors such as hotels, restaurants, and rental services.
3. **Real Estate Growth:** the World Cup will open vast investment opportunities in the real estate sector, fueled by the large-scale development of hotels, hospitality venues, stadiums, and supporting infrastructure.
4. **Boost in the Wholesale and Retail Sector:** the World Cup is expected to bring a surge of tourists and fans from across the globe, driving heightened demand for goods and services. This will result in flourishing daily sales, expanded investment opportunities for international brands, and a notable rise in sales tax revenues.
5. **Enhancing Cultural Interaction:** the World Cup presents an opportunity to showcase Saudi culture to the world through accompanying cultural events that highlight the Kingdom's hospitality and unique identity. These efforts will significantly contribute to enhancing international relations and encouraging cultural exchange.



IV: investment opportunities related to Saudi Arabia's hosting of the World Cup



"FIFA requires the host country of the World Cup to have at least 71 training facilities for the participating teams. Investors can **explore opportunities to invest in training facilities** in Saudi Arabia in light of the tournament's hosting.



The hosting of a major event like the FIFA World Cup will drive increased demand for sports apparel and equipment, prompting local and international companies to **invest in local manufacturing**.



Since 2016, Saudi Arabia has hosted over 100 global sporting events across more than 50 different sports. **This presents a significant opportunity for investment in tournaments organization, sports sponsorships,** and attracting more international championships to be hosted in the Kingdom.



Investment in sports academies across different disciplines, either by attracting international clubs to expand into Saudi Arabia and establish their own academies or by strengthening local clubs to enhance the efficiency of their sports academies and nurture athletic talent.



"The sports sector at MISA has initiated projects focused on sports medicine, throw establishment and enhancement of rehabilitation clinics in partnership with local investors. the sector still in its early stages and a limited number of specialized sports medicine clinics, **significant investment opportunities now exist in this field (sports medicine).**"



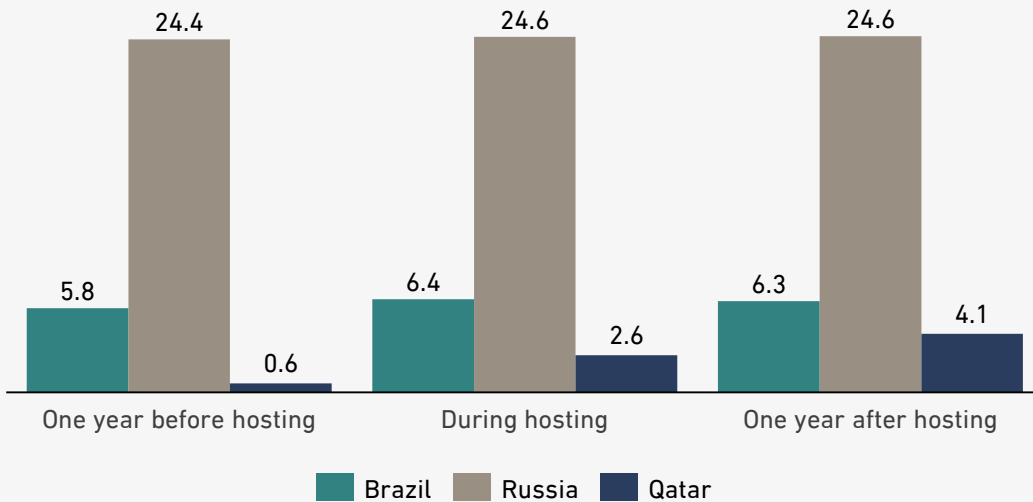
Since the number of countries broadcasting the Saudi Pro League has grown from 10 in 2015 to 130 in 2023, a valuable **investment opportunity has emerged in broadcasting and sports media rights.**

V: Performance of the World Cup Host countries

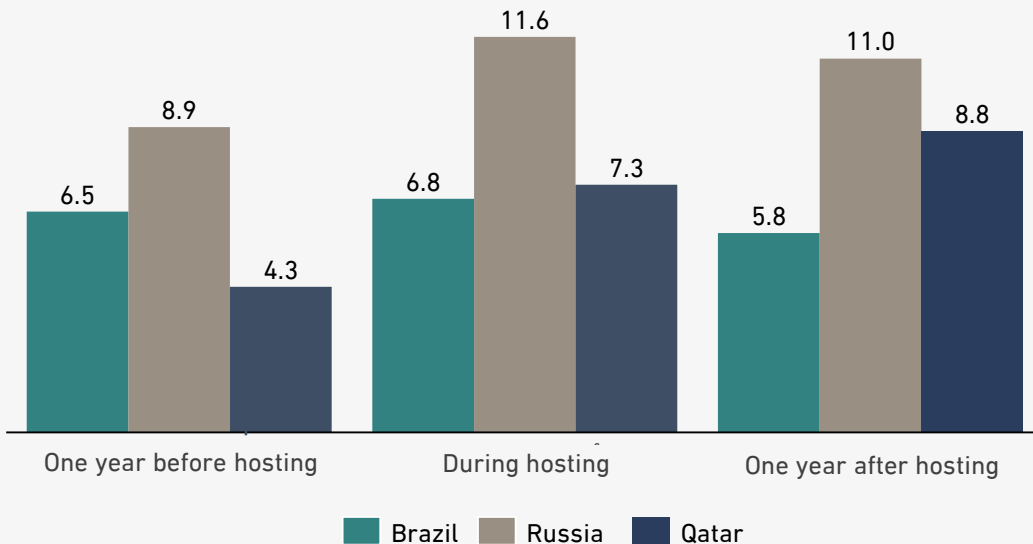
Hosting the World Cup offers an exceptional opportunity for countries to enhance their tourism sector. During their respective hosting periods, Brazil, Russia, and Qatar recorded approximately 6.4 million, 24.6 million, and 2.6 million **tourists** respectively, representing increases of 11%, 1%, and 319% respectively, compared to the previous year.

Additionally, **tourism revenues** experienced significant growth, reaching \$6.8 billion in Brazil, \$11.6 billion in Russia, and \$7.3 billion in Qatar, with growth rates of 6%, 30%, and 70%, respectively, compared to the previous year.

Number of tourists (in Millions)



Tourism revenues (\$Billion)



Source: World Tourism Organization

*The host countries of the World Cup: Qatar in 2022, Russia in 2018 and Brazil in 2014.

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For information:

Postal address:

Ministry of Investment
Economic Affairs and Investment Studies Deputyship
P.O. Box 3966, Riyadh 12382
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telephone: +966 (0) 11 506 5777

E-mail: eaiss@misa.gov.sa

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