



# Explore Abu Dhabi Through Statistics

2013

مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE





## مركز الإحصاء STATISTICS CENTRE

Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD) is the official source of statistical data in Abu Dhabi Emirate. It was established on the 28th of April 2008 in accordance with Law No. (7) of 2008 promulgated under a decree by HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, entrusting SCAD with the task of developing and organizing statistical work in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the production, analysis and dissemination of all the official statistics of Abu Dhabi Emirate.

The Centre is also responsible for the integration and harmonization of statistics produced by other local departments and entities, in regard to the standardization of statistical concepts and definitions. Being the main official body concerned with the collection of statistical data in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, SCAD assumes the functions of preparing the statistical business plans that serve the emirate's development programmes, conducting statistical surveys all over the emirate, without prejudice to the interest of national statistical work. SCAD is also responsible for the collection, classification, storage, analysis and dissemination of official statistics and the release of the results of social, demographic, economic, environmental and cultural, surveys.

# Explore Abu Dhabi Through Statistics

2013



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adstatistics

# Abu Dhabi Demography MAP



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His Highness Sheikh  
**Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan**  
President of the United Arab Emirates



His Highness Sheikh

**Mohammad bin Zayed Al Nahyan**

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme  
Commander of the UAE Armed Forces

# M e s s a g e

from the **Director General**



Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi is pleased to publish: *“Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics, 2013”*. This new publication presents economic, social, demographic, cultural and environmental statistics about the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in a concise and reader-friendly layout. It is intended to serve as a simple and quick reference about the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

This new release introduces the reader to Abu Dhabi by reflecting the significant development the Emirate has experienced in all walks of life under the wise leadership of HH Sheik Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nayan, President of the United Arab Emirates, Ruler of Abu Dhabi, and the enlightened directives of HH General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, Chairman of the Executive Council of Abu Dhabi.

Those interested in learning more about the Abu Dhabi will find a wealth of further information in the various publications of the Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi. These publications are easily accessible on the Centre’s website as well as through SCAD’s customer service unit.

I would like to commend the cooperation of our strategic partners in the local government departments, who provided a considerable part of the data used in this book.

**Butti Ahmed Mohammed Bin Butti Al Qubaisi**  
Director General

December 2013

Chapter

# 1



**2013**  
Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics

## 1/1 The Emirate of Abu Dhabi

The United Arab Emirates is made up of seven emirates, namely: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman, Umm al-Quwain, and Fujairah. The emirates united on December 2, 1971, with the city of Abu Dhabi as the federal capital of the new state. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is the largest of these emirates, forming about 87% of the UAE's land area, with its population constituting around 34% of the country's total population.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi contributes more than 60% of the UAE's total GDP and over 90% of the total oil production of the UAE. Abu Dhabi ranks sixth in the world in terms of proven oil reserves. Its production also constitutes more than 8% of the total production of the Oil Producing and Exporting Countries Organization (OPEC), while the Emirate comes seventh globally in terms of natural gas resources, sitting atop approximately 5% of the world's total gas reserves. Abu Dhabi boasts the world's highest per capita GDP and the highest percentage of the world's rich, who constitute more than 8.8% of its total citizen population.

Abu Dhabi's future vision focuses on transforming the Emirate into a dynamic tourist destination through developing unique projects that can take full advantage of the diverse natural scenery and landscape, extending southwards to the famous Liwa Oasis, where some of the world's largest sand dunes lie, and east to the green city of "Al Ain" or the "City of Oases". The emirate's pristine natural environment offers an immense potential for the development of the tourism sector in Abu Dhabi.



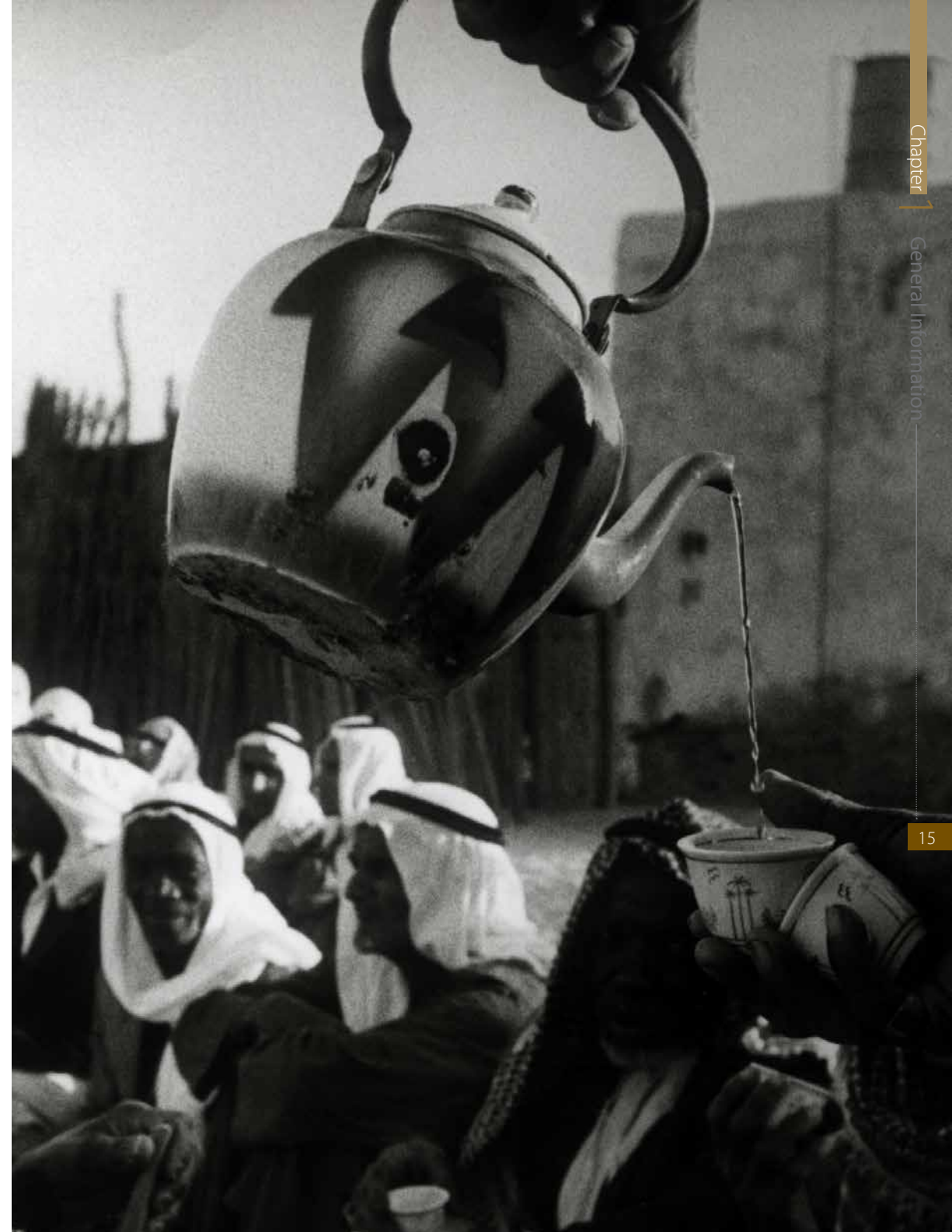


## 1/2 A Historical Overview

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is characterised by a legacy of deeply rooted traditions, rich ancient history, virgin natural environments with diverse forms of animal and plant wildlife, in addition to the emirate's literary heritage of prose, poetry, folk culture, handicrafts, etc. Archaeological excavations proved that it had a thriving civilization, dating back thousands of years once flourished here. Historically speaking, evidence of the earliest people to settle in what is now the Emirate of Abu Dhabi dates back to 5500 BC, i.e. more than 7500 years ago. Archaeological discoveries proved that the early inhabitants of the emirate arrived in the first Stone Age, and there is evidence of mass graves dating back to 3000-2500 B.C. on the slopes of Jebel Hafet in Al Ain. Over time, the Emirate witnessed the use of iron and the start of the use of the Arabic alphabet, as well as evidence of a close relationship with the Assyrian and Persian empires.

The modern history of the emirate of Abu Dhabi starts in the early seventeenth century, when the Bani Yas tribe settled in the Dhafra area. They controlled the areas stretching from Sabkha Matti in the north to the Empty Quarter in the south. In 1761 water was discovered on the Island of Abu Dhabi, some members of the Bani Yas Tribe lived there by fishing and diving and "Maleeh" flourished to become the first coastal settlement of the Bani Yas. In those times, life in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was one of epic heroism, courage and patience in the face of the desert's cruelty and water scarcity. The old residents of Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Liwa oases, and Al Dhafra, worked in camel herding, date palms farming, fishing and pearl diving, and moved to where there was water and pasturelands.

Oil exploration began in the 1930s. Oil was discovered in Abu Dhabi for the first time in 1958, and in 1962 the first oil shipment was exported from the Umm Shaif offshore field, making Abu Dhabi the first oil-exporting emirate. This historic milestone was followed by major developments in various fields. The late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan employed oil revenues in the best interest of the emirate, using them in the improvement of his people's living standard and the development of the infrastructure. His reign witnessed unprecedented developments, through which Abu Dhabi was transformed from a semi-nomadic society to a developed emirate with a thriving economy and a promising future.



## 1/3 Local Time

The local time in the United Arab Emirates is four hours ahead of the UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) and it does not observe daylight saving time. Accordingly, when it is 12:00 noon in Abu Dhabi, it is 3:00 am in New York, 8:00 am in London, 10:00 am in Johannesburg, 1:30 pm in New Delhi, and 6:00 pm in Sydney (observed outside daylight saving time in these countries).

## 1/4 Language

Arabic is the national official language of the United Arab Emirates. The use of English is widespread in Abu Dhabi, therefore, most street signs, shop fascias and restaurant menus are in both languages. The use of written and spoken Arabic in streets and fascias becomes more prominent the further you move from the city.

## 1/5 Religion

Islam is the official and widely practiced religion of the United Arab Emirates. Friday is the weekly holiday in Islam, which is entered into by pronouncing "shahada": "I bear witness that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah". Muslims pray five times a day, with timings varying according to the position of the sun. Adhan (the call for prayer) can be heard calling for prayer at unified times through loudspeakers from the minarets of mosques. The Emirates also guarantees freedom to practice other religions, with the Emirati Constitution guaranteeing religious freedoms in line with the traditions of the Emirati society. Abu Dhabi shows great tolerance and respect for other religions, as it guarantees the freedom of exercising religious practices throughout the Emirate of Abu Dhabi where many followers of other religions live.

The UAE has a cohesive society where family, religious, social and moral values play a central role in daily life. In adherence to the teachings of Islam, there is deep compassion across the Emirati society with the various segments of the community that stand in need of care and support, such as the needy, the disabled and people with special needs.



## 1/6 Currency

The Emirati Dirham is the official currency of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates. It is officially abbreviated (AED) but the forms Dhs and DH are also used. The lesser unit of the Dirham is known as the "Fils", with one Dirham equal to 100 fils. The Emirati Dirham is pegged to the US Dollar at an almost fixed exchange rate, with one US Dollars equal to 3.671 Emirati Dirhams.

## 1/7 Official Holidays

- Friday and Saturday of every week.
- The National Day of the United Arab Emirates (December 2).
- Eid Al-Adha and Eid Al-Fitr (dates vary according to the hijri calendar).
- Hijri New Year.
- Al-Israa Wal Mie'raj Anniversary (date variess according to the hijri calendar).
- Birthday of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).
- New Year Day 1<sup>st</sup> of January.

## 1/8 Location and Area

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is located in the extreme west and south west of the United Arab Emirates and the Arabian Gulf between latitudes 22°40' and 25° north, and longitudes 51 and 55 degrees east. It has common borders with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman. The Emirate has a total land area of 67340 square kilometres, constituting around 86.7% of the total area of the State. In 2010, the population density in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was 29.2 people/square kilometre, which indicates that the Emirate is still an area of low population density.

The coastal waters of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi embrace around 200 islands, including Das Island which lies 170 km North West of the Abu Dhabi City, Mebrez Island, and Seer Bani Yas Island which lies 180 km west of the Capital. The coastline of the emirate extends for more than 700 km.

The Area of the United Arab Emirates



## 1/9 Climate

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is located in the tropical dry region. The Tropic of Cancer runs through the southern part of the Emirate, giving its climate an arid nature characterised by high temperatures throughout the year, especially in summer time. Abu Dhabi has warm winters with occasional low temperatures; the minimum temperature ranges between 21 to 27 degrees celsius in summer and between 9 to 15 degrees in winter. The air temperatures show variations between the coastal strip, the desert interior and areas of higher elevation, which in total make up the topography of the Emirate. The Emirate enjoys sunny blue skies throughout the year, with scanty rainfall, averaging 100 mm annually. Inner areas may unexpectedly receive some summer showers.

## 1/10 Discover the Capital

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi comprises three regions: 1- Abu Dhabi region, which lies for the most part on coast of the Arabian Gulf and includes the nation's capital Abu Dhabi City; 2- The Eastern region, where Al Ain City lies, and 3- Al Gharbia region, which is home to 52 towns and villages, the most important of which is Beda Zayed, or Zayed City. This vast region sits atop the bulk of the emirate's oil and gas reserves.

Abu Dhabi City is the federal capital and seat of the United Arab Emirates Government. It houses the Council of Ministers and the embassies accredited by the UAE, besides being an important centre of business nationally and regionally. Established in 1761 as a port for pearl trading, Abu Dhabi has developed with time and today it is a modern global city. The architectural design of the buildings in modern Abu Dhabi City is considered the most impressive in the Middle East. The city is also characterised by the cleanliness and breadth of its streets, its numerous quiet parks, modern buildings, breathtaking cornice, thriving markets, and beautiful beaches.

The most important part of Abu Dhabi City is Abu Dhabi Island which is linked to the mainland by three bridges. Despite their short span, these bridges accentuate Abu Dhabi as a separate island, surrounded by water from all directions, and with many beaches and parks overlooking the sea. All modern utilities and facilities are available in the amazing, sunny island city where green areas extend to connect with the city's numerous parks and the wide tree-lined avenues.

[www.abudhabi.ae](http://www.abudhabi.ae)

## 1/11 Discover Al Ain

In the past, Al Ain was a key oasis on the caravan road extending from the territories now constituting the United Arab Emirates to the Sultanate of Oman, a matter which reveals the history of the "City of Oases" as the heritage centre of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, and home to one of the oldest human settlements in the region. There are a number of historic castles in Al Ain as well as Al Ain National Museum. The graveyards in the Hili Castle date back to more than four thousand years ago.

There are many other tourist attraction sites in Al Ain, including Al Ain Oasis, Al Ain Wild Life Park and Resort, the Camel Market, which is one of the oldest remaining markets, Al-Wadi Adventures, which are man-made slopes for raft riding, at the slope of Hafeet Mountain. In addition to Al Ain Carting Race Arena, that is the most advanced in the world for speed lovers. Families also have their share of fun, as they can head to Hili Fun City, one of the oldest amusement parks in the Arabian Gulf area.

[www.explorealain.com](http://www.explorealain.com)

## 1/12 Discover Al-Gharbia

Al Gharbia region, where the sea meets the desert, makes up over two thirds of the land area of Abu Dhabi emirate. Along its hundreds of kilometres of coastline are stunning beaches and islands, and magnificent natural scenery, dotted with ancient archeological sites and a number of historical forts scattered across the region. The historical Liwa Oasis lies at the entrance the legendary Al Rub' Al Khali (the Empty Quarter) desert, the world's largest uninterrupted sand mass. In Liwa, massive expanses of sand areas form beautiful shapes as the oasis enjoys the largest dunes in that part of the desert.

For a closer look at Al Gharbia's authentic heritage, visit one of the many events and festivals held there throughout the year such as Tel Moreeb Festival in January, the pinnacle hill climb event for desert driving enthusiasts, and Al Dhafrah Camel Festival, which includes the world's only camel beauty contest, April's Al Gharbia Water sports Festival, a 10-day event that attracts adventure and excitement lovers from across the world to compete in everything from dragon boating and kite surfing to dhow racing and swimming and July's Liwa Date Festival, a showcase for this valued desert fruit.

Chapter

# 2

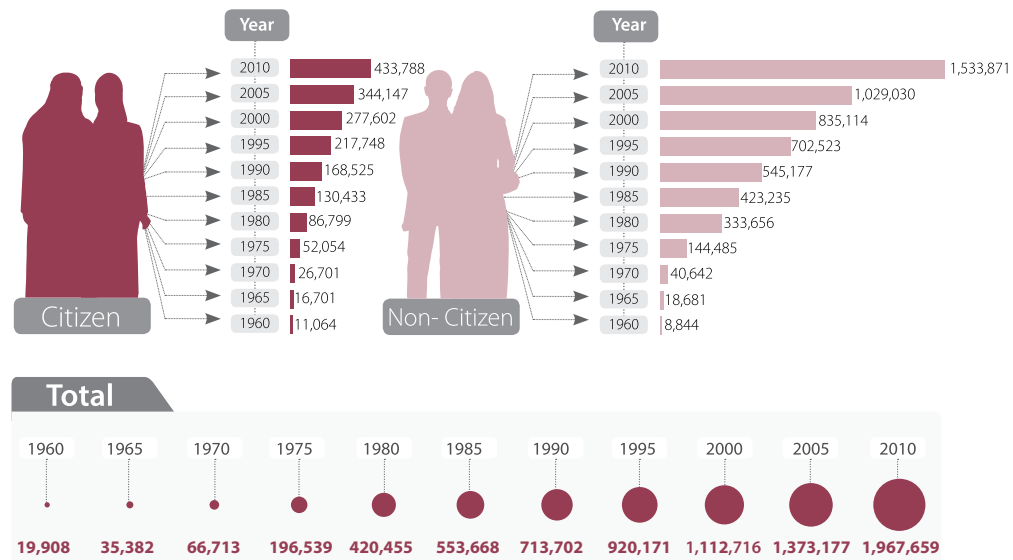


## 2/1 Size and Geographic Distribution

In mid 2012, the estimated population of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was 2,334,563 people including 1,662,051 males, 672,512 females and 476,722 citizens (20.4% of the total population of Abu Dhabi). A total of 253,740 (53.2%) of the citizen population lived in Abu Dhabi region, 194,158 (40.7%) in Al Ain region and 28,824 people (6.0%) in Al Gharbia. The non-citizen population numbered 1,857,841 people, representing 79.6% of the total population of the Emirate( 1,164,462). Approximately 62.7% of the non-citizen population lived in Abu Dhabi region.

From 1960 to 2010, average annual population growth in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi hovered around 9.6%, one of the highest population growth rates in the world. During that period (1960 - 2010), the total population multiplied 99 times, with the number of citizens doubling 39 times and non-citizens 173 times. The reason behind the growth of citizens was the increase in the rates of fertility and naturalization, while foreign immigration represented the main factor underlying the overall increase in the population.

**Figure 2/1:** Population in Abu Dhabi by Nationality



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

A review of the demographic data of Abu Dhabi Emirate reveals major changes in the emirate's population over the past five decades, brought about chiefly by the discovery of oil and the emergence of related industries and services, which expedited the process of development, influencing demographic change and modifying the geographic distribution of the population. In respect of the rural/urban distribution of the population, for instance, the percentage of urban population decreased from 78% of the total population in 1968 to 65.5% in 2010. This is due to the development in the infrastructure, services, means of transport and the establishment of some major projects in rural areas that have become points of attraction to a large segment of citizens. Rural areas adjacent to major urban centres also attracted waves of migration due to the low cost of living and rent in those areas.

Population data also show a gender structure where males made up 71.2% of the population, compared to 28.8% for females in 2012, i.e. the ratio of males to females was 2.47:1. This distribution is attributable to the selective nature of incoming migration, since migrants being predominantly male. However, there are no clear indicators that the national structure has been socially affected by this disparity, as the original society is still a balanced one with respect to the gender ratio, with males and females constituting 50.2% and 49.8% of the total citizens population, respectively.

The population pyramid indicates that the gender ratio between the total population has reached 235 males per 100 females in 2010, and that the population in the age group 15-64 years make up 78.1% of the total population, while those in the age group 0-14 and 65+ years make up 21.9%. The age characteristics of the population reflect an unusually large proportion of expatriate workers, with the percentage of the population in the middle age category making up more than three-quarters of the population, while the proportions of the population in the category for young people, as well as the age group for the elderly decrease, producing a population pyramid with a narrow base, widening in the middle. This confirms the phenomenon of selective expatriate migration. In the same context, the age composition of the population of citizens shows a gradual decrease in the proportion of children and youngsters (people under 15 years) and a rise in the proportion of the elderly (60 years and above). In 2010, children and youngsters (under 15 years) constituted 40.2% of the citizen population, while the elderly (60 years and over) represented 2.2% only.

## 2/2 Births and Deaths

The number of registered live births in the Emirate increased by 40.3% over the last decade, from 24,300 births in 2002 to 34,103 births in 2012. Crude birth rate reached 20.2 in 2002 (per 1000 population) and decreased to 14.6 births (per 1000 population) in 2012. Crude birth rate for citizens was 35.4 in 2002 and 31.5 in 2012, while the crude birth rate for non-citizens was 15.1 in 2002 and 10.2 in 2012.

The number of deaths climbed from 2,612 cases in 2002 to 2,923 cases in 2012. The crude death rate in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi decreased from 2.2 per 1000 population in 2002 to 1.3 per 1000 population in 2012. As for citizens, the crude death rate fell from 2.1 in 2002 to 2.0 in 2012. The crude death rate for non-citizens decreased from 1.9 per 1000 population in 2002 to 1.0 per 1000 population in 2012.

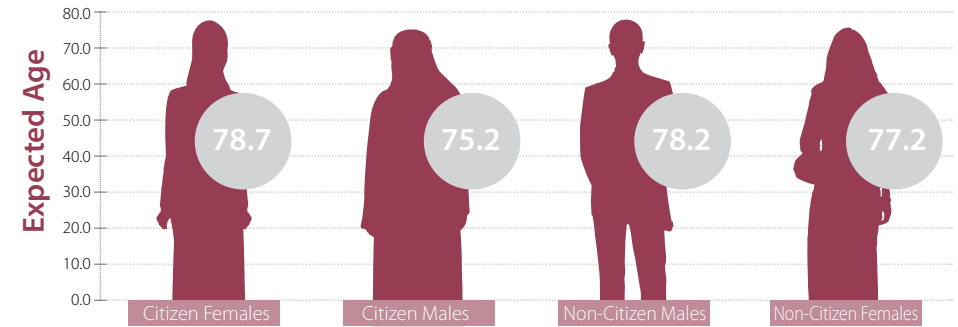
## 2/3 Life Expectancy at Birth

Average life expectancy at birth increased by close to three years for the overall population of Emirate of Abu Dhabi in the period between 2008 and 2011, and increased by 2.4 for males and 2.1 for females in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi during the same period.

Life expectancy at birth varies with nationality, gender and region. Average life expectancy at birth for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi reached 77.6 years in 2011, with males at 77.1 years and females at 78.2 years. Detailed by region, the rate was 77.5 years in Abu Dhabi, 77.9 years in Al Ain and 79.5 years in Al Gharbia.

Overall average life expectancy for citizens was 76.5 years, 75.6 years for males and 77.5 years for females, indicating that female citizens are expected to live two years longer than male citizens on average. The average life expectancy for citizens in Abu Dhabi region was 77.1 years for males and 76.7 years for females. In Al Ain, the life expectancy reached 77.8 years for males and 79.2 years for females, which indicates that, on average, Al Ain residents are expected to live a year longer than Abu Dhabi residents.

**Figure 2/2:** Average life expectancy at birth by Nationality and gender, Emirate of Abu Dhabi - 2012

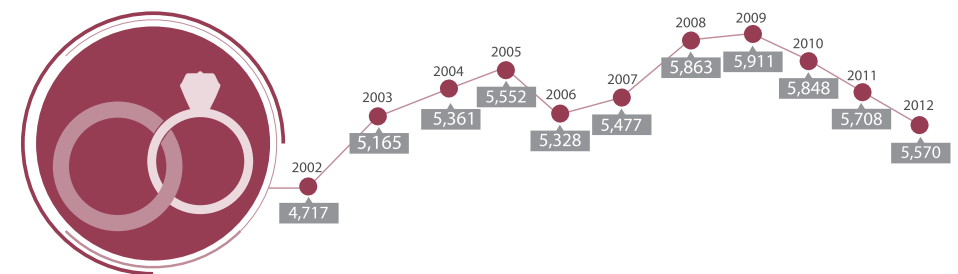


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 2/4 Registered Marriages

The number of registered marriages in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi increased considerably from about 4,714 in 2002, to 5,328 and 5,708 marriage contracts in 2006 and 2011 respectively. In 2012, the number of marriage contracts was 5,570.

**Figure 2/3:** Registered marriages, Emirate of Abu Dhabi



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi, Emirate of Abu Dhabi - Judicial Department.

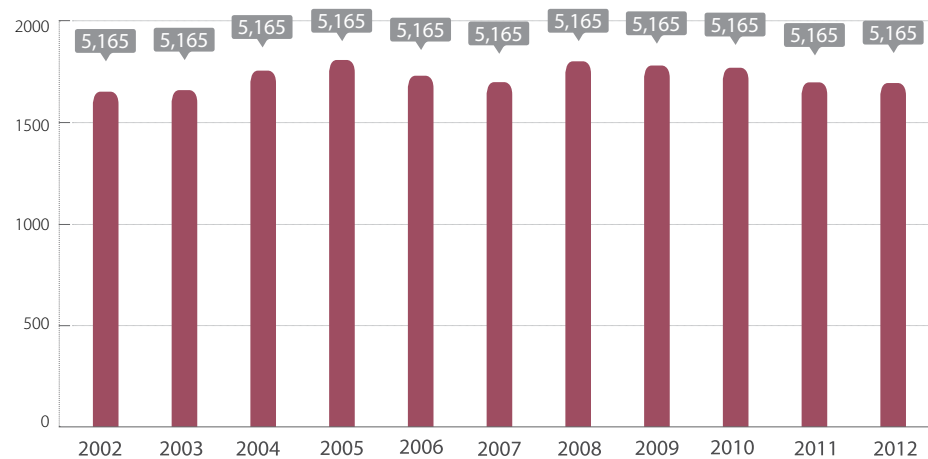
## 2/5 Median Age at First Marriage for Citizens

Median age at first marriage in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in 2012 was about 27.9 years for males and 26.8 years for females. The median age increased significantly between 2001 and 2012; for male citizens, the average age increased from 25.9 years in 2001 to 26.8 years in 2012 while the average age of first marriage for female citizens also increased from 24.6 to 25.9 years during the same period.

## 2/6 Registered Divorces

The number of registered divorces increased from 1661 cases in 2002 to 1733 cases in 2006, but decreased from 1803 cases in 2011 to 1700 cases in 2012.

**Figure 2/4:** Registered Divorces, Emirate of Abu Dhabi



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi, Emirate of Abu Dhabi - Judicial Department.

## 2/7 Crude Divorce Rate

The crude divorce rate has shown a consistent downward trend, falling from 1.4 per 1000 population in 2002 to 1.2 per 1000 population in 2006 and from 0.9 per 1000 population in 2011 to 0.7 per 1000 population respectively.

**Figure 2/5:** Crude divorce rate (per 1000 population)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.



Chapter

# 3



2013

Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics

In the past decades, the local labour market in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi witnessed profound changes in size and characteristics, reflecting demand for foreign workers during the economic booms experienced by the Emirate. The process of demographic transition, in addition to the large waves of migration to the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, reflected in doubling of the size of the labour force from 124,274 people in 1975 to 815,311 people in 2005, and then to 1,628,712 people in 2012, of which citizens constitute 8.7%, compared to 10% in 1975.

It can be seen that the increase in the numbers of employed citizens follows the same trend of the total labour force, with the number of citizen labour force increasing from 85,838 people in 2005 to 142,171 people in 2012, at an increase rate of 7.47%.

The labour force includes the employed and unemployed aged 15 years and above. At the regional level, the highest percentage of labour force was concentrated in Abu Dhabi, followed by Al Ain and then Al Gharbia, with 56.9%, 27.5% and 15.5% respectively. With respect to the age structure of the labour force in 2012, the data indicates that the age group (25 - 29 years) contributed most to the total labour force, accounting for 24.5%.

**Table 3/1:** Total estimated labour force by nationality and gender

Year	Nationality and Gender								
	Citizens			Non-citizens			Total		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2005	68,551	17,287	<b>85,838</b>	628,993	100,480	<b>729,473</b>	697,544	117,767	<b>815,311</b>
2011	96,697	38,408	<b>135,105</b>	1,145,101	183,297	<b>1,328,398</b>	1,241,798	221,705	<b>1,463,503</b>
2012	97,154	45,017	<b>142,171</b>	1,271,431	215,110	<b>1,486,541</b>	1,368,586	260,126	<b>1,628,712</b>
<b>Change</b>	5.1%	14.6%	<b>7.4%</b>	10.5%	11.4%	<b>10.7%</b>	10.1%	11.9%	<b>10.3%</b>

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

### 3/1 The Employed Population

Total employment increased from 786,738 in 2005 to 1,577,013 in 2012, marking an increase rate of 10.44%, while the number of citizen employees rose from 75,518 in 2005 to 122,915 in 2012, with an increase of 7.21%. The highest percentage of employees was in Abu Dhabi region 57.1% of the total employed. The total number of male employees was 1,344,424, while the total number of female employees was 232,589. Looking at the distribution of the employed by employment status, it is noted that the majority of the employed population in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi are paid employees (97.0%), whereas 1.3% are employers.

With respect to the educational structure of the employed, the data indicates that the largest sector are those with a primary education contributing 20.2%, followed by those with lower secondary education with 20.2%. The highest percentage of employed citizens was among the holders of higher secondary education with 30.9%. The indicators of employed population by main occupation showed that crafts and related trades had the largest share of employees 26.1%, followed by the employees of elementary occupations with 23.2%, and finally by other occupations. As for citizens, the data indicated that professional occupations constituted the largest share of the employed with 23.5%, while non-citizens focused more on crafts and related trades, and elementary occupations with 27.7% and 24.6% respectively.

Data shows that workers in the construction activity constituted the largest proportion (30.1%) of the employed population, followed by employees in the household activity (11.4%), while workers in extraterritorial organisations and bodies accounted for the tiniest (only 0.1%) proportion of the employed population. It is observed that the activities of public administration, defense and compulsory social security account for the highest share of employed citizens with 65.5%, while non-citizen employees are more focused in the construction activity with 32.5%.

The private sector has the highest percentage of employees, accounting for 65.1% of the total employed population, followed by the government sector 15.2%, with the percentage of citizens employed in the government sector reaching around 86.4%, compared with 5.7% in the private sector.

**Table 3/2:** The employed population (15 years and above) by nationality and gender

Year	Nationality and Gender								
	Male citizen			Male non-citizen			Total		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2005	60,911	14,607	<b>75,518</b>	617,039	94,181	<b>711,220</b>	677,950	108,788	<b>786,738</b>
2011	89,707	29349	<b>119,056</b>	1,132,731	170547	<b>1,303,278</b>	1,222,438	199,896	<b>1,422,334</b>
2012	90,043	32,872	<b>122,915</b>	1,254,381	199,717	<b>1,454,098</b>	1,344,424	232,589	<b>1,577,013</b>
Rate of change	5.7%	12.2%	<b>7.2%</b>	10.6%	11.3%	<b>10.7%</b>	10.2%	11.4%	<b>10.4%</b>

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

### 3/2 Youth Unemployment Rate

The youth category (15-25 years) is the driving force of development and progress. Therefore, governments and decision makers pay special attention to this category, as it constitutes a high percentage of the population in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, ranging between 16.6% and 17%. The relatively high unemployment rates of that category of the population may give rise to questions related to whether these persons or some of them are still studying, the answer is quite simple: the persons whose responses indicated that they are full-time students are not included in the calculation of the unemployment rate. Thus, those included are those looking for work, waiting to start work, and willing to work.

Compared to the total population, unemployment rates among youth have decreased from 9.3% in 2005 to 6.4% in 2011, then increased to 8% in 2012. If gender differences are considered, the unemployment rates among females are higher than among males. With regard to the total population, the unemployment rate for males is lower than that for females for all years. The unemployment rate has been on the rise among female youths, but has been consistently dropping among their male counterparts. The unemployment rates of the total male population was 7.3%, 4.1% and 5.5% for the years 2005, 2011 and 2012 respectively, whereas for females, the corresponding rates were 15.6%, 16.5% and 18% .

**Table 3/3:** Economic dependency ratio % by nationality

Year	Citizens	Non-citizens	Total
2005	308.1	43.8	<b>71.7</b>
2011	236.8	28.5	<b>47.7</b>
2012	240.3	30.7	<b>49.0</b>

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

Chapter

# 4

**2013**

Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics



Throughout the past decades, interest in social and human development has remained in the forefront of the priorities of the supreme leadership in Abu Dhabi, a matter that directly reflected on the development of education, health, housing, basic infrastructure and social care sectors as well as the other requirements crucial to enhance the social welfare and prosperity for all members of the community

One of the most important reasons for the success of comprehensive development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi over the past decades was the focus on people, above all else, as the means and beneficiaries of development. Thus, development is predominantly dedicated to the issues of social and human development, and has managed, through concerted effort in these fields to achieve qualitative leaps forward, the likes of which can rarely be found anywhere in the world in the fields of education, health, and other fields of human and social development, in addition to the major achievements at the level of infrastructure.

Throughout the Emirate, literacy rates have increased, infant mortality rates have fallen, with a higher life expectancy for the people. The development drive in Abu Dhabi has gone beyond meeting the basic needs of the individual to steadily and qualitatively promoting education, healthcare, social protection, employment, and expanding the frameworks of his/her participation in the development.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi's pays special attention to social welfare through the provision of various public services to maintain an advanced level of social and economic stability. This includes infrastructure and municipal services, as well as educational and health services at the highest international standards.

Here we can point to some brief statistics on human development over the past four decades (1970 - 2010) that place the Emirate of Abu Dhabi considerably ahead of other countries of the region:

## 4/1 Education

Traditional education in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi dates back centuries to the time of the ancient civilizations that once flourished in the area, the evidence of which has been found in several historical sites. In later years, different methods of traditional education emerged, including education through Quranic schools and sholarly classes, followed by a semi-formal education system. The first school in Abu Dhabi was founded in 1930. However, formal education began effectively in the academic year 1960/1961, when three schools were opened and 81 male students enrolled in them and were taught by 6 teachers. The first girls' school was opened in the Emirate in 1963/64, and the first kindergarten in 1968.

The illiteracy rate among citizens (10 years and above) dropped from 80.12% in 1970 to 6.13% in 2010, and from 89.85% in 1970 to 8.77% in 2010 among female citizens. The number of students multiplied 42 times, from 6972 in 1969/1970 to 291512 in 2009/2010, with the number of schools multiplying 20 times, from 25 in 1969/1970 to 489 in 2009/2010.

The Government of Abu Dhabi seeks to achieve sustainable development in the Emirate in various fields, with educational services regarded as central in achieving the aspirations of the Emirate, which spared no effort in its endeavour to provide high level educational infrastructure to both government and private sectors. Education experienced major quantitative and qualitative leaps forward, covering all parts of the Emirate in a short period of time, and including males and females receiving their education in government schools for free. Private education appeared in 1973/74, to complement the efforts of the public sector and provide education for more than 56.0% of students studying in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in 2010.

The total number of schools in the academic year 2011-2012 in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was 451, of which 268 were government schools and 183 were private schools. The number of students enrolled in all educational levels increased from 228,433 in the academic year 2001-2002 to 310,620 in the academic year 2011-2012 with a 36.0% increase, and a rate of 23.0 students per classroom, 14.0 students per teacher, and 1.6 teachers per classroom. In the past years, the percentage of students enrolled in private education increased from 39.9% in the academic year 2001-2002 to 59.8% in 2011-2012.

The number of students enrolled in higher education institutions increased from 26,851 in 2007-2008 to 41,921 students in 2011-2012 with an increase of 56.1% during that period. The academic year 2011-2012 saw the graduation of 7,249 students from higher education, 3,332 students of whom graduated from government universities and institutions and 3,917 from private universities and institutions. The number of higher education graduates increased significantly from the year 2007-2008 to 2011-2012 making an increase of 168.8%.

**Table 4/1:** General Education Indicators in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi

Item	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
<b>Total:</b>							
Schools	495	496	479	474	489	480	451
Classrooms	11,328	11,580	11,657	11,750	12,038	13,528	13,501
Students	250,909	257,472	258,005	275,758	291,512	306,497	310,620
Teachers	18,712	19,007	19,408	20,239	20,372	22,218	22,184
<b>Public education:</b>							
Schools	322	315	305	301	305	299	268
Classrooms	5,492	5,409	5,253	5,285	5,272	5,618	5,448
Students	127,136	125,729	119,965	118,066	126,492	125,949	124,997
Teachers	10,436	10,269	10,245	10,518	10,854	11,384	10,451
<b>Private education:</b>							
Schools	173	181	174	173	184	181	183
Classrooms	5,836	6,171	6,404	6,465	6,766	7,910	8,053
Students	123,773	131,743	138,040	157,692	165,020	180,548	185,623
Teachers	8,276	8,738	9,163	9,721	9,518	10,834	11,733
<b>General rates:</b>							
Student per classroom	22.1	22.2	22.1	23.5	24.2	22.7	23.0
Student per teacher	13.4	13.5	13.3	13.6	14.3	13.8	14.0
Teacher per classroom	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6
Students in private education to total students (%)	49.3	51.2	53.5	57.2	56.6	58.9	59.8

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Education Council.

**Table 4/2:** Higher education indicators in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi

Years	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
<b>High Education Institutions</b>					
Universities	-	9	9	9	8
Colleges	-	12	13	15	15
Institutes	-	4	7	7	5
<b>Students</b>					
Government	17,235	17,998	19,221	21,710	22,431
Private	9,616	11,253	15,323	19,213	19,490
<b>Graduates</b>					
Government	3,251	3,268	3,588	3,200	3,332
Private	1,457	2,178	2,919	3,177	3,917

Source: Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, United Arab Emirates University, Zayed University, Higher Colleges of Technology

## 4/2 Health

Over the past few years, there have been major developments in both the public and private segments of Abu Dhabi's health sector. With respect to the government health sector, primary healthcare services have developed and expanded to cover the whole emirate. Health centres provide primary health care, dentistry, and health education. As for preventive health, the umbrella of preventive medical services covers the monitoring and control of communicable diseases through vaccination/immunisation, disinfection, monitoring those exposed to disease, early detection of disease, and health awareness and education programmes in cooperation with all the competent authorities in the Emirate.

It is worth noting that the infrastructure for health services was represented in only two hospitals with around 600 beds in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain cities in 1975. However, in 2010, the number of government hospitals was 12, which have 2582 beds, in addition to two military hospitals, and 429 health centres (public and private). The number of doctors at state hospitals increased to 2026 in 2010. Specialised services also experienced a major development reflected in the levels of performance in all departments. The private sector is also growing, especially with the improvement of the health insurance system that took the load off the government. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi currently has 19 private hospitals and 239 clinics.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has been able, over the past forty years, to lay the foundations of a healthcare network that covered all nationals across the Emirate, accompanied by an improvement in all health indicators. Crude mortality rate decreased to less than 1.5 per thousand population compared to around 4.5 in 1975. All this contributed to the rise in life expectancy at birth for citizens to 77.6 years in 2011 (among the highest in the world) compared to around 49.3 years in 1970.

Following the reclassification of the one day surgery hospitals in the category of health centres, the number of hospitals decreased from 37 in 2008 to 35 in 2011. However, the number of beds in hospitals increased from 2,132 in 2006 to 3,659 in 2011. Also, the number of health centres increased from 389 in 2007 to 494 in 2011, while the number of clinics increased from 188 in 2007 to 265 in 2011.

The public health care system in Abu Dhabi witnessed a steady increase in the number of doctors, dentists and nurses, as the number of doctors increased from 1,563 in 2002 to 1,966 in 2011. The percentage of doctors per 1000 population remained similar in the years from 2002 to 2011, which indicates a steady increase based on the needs of the population. The number of nurses and medical assistants increased from 2,878 in 2002 to 5,328 in 2011 marking an increase of 85.1%. With respect to the medical cadre, the rate of doctors to population was 231 doctors per 100,000 population in 2011, while for dentists; the rate was 41 dentists per 100,000 population in the same year. The ratio for nurses was 495 nurses per 100,000 population in 2011.

**Table 4/3:** Summary of health statistics in the Emirate in the government and private sectors

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Hospitals	33	37	39	33	35
Hospital beds	n/a	3,546	3,621	3,579	3,659
Health centres	389	386	365	429	494
Clinics	188	196	207	239	265
Pharmacies	358	369	405	408	427
Doctors	1,662	2,786	1,822	2,026	1,966
Nurses	4,976	4,976	5,846	5,222	5,328
Doctors (per 100,000 population)	n/a	312	237	242	231
Dentists (per 100,000 population)	n/a	49	45	45	41
Nurses (per 100,000 population)	n/a	406	446	418	495
Beds (per 100,000 population)	n/a	209	198	182	173

Source: Health Authority- Abu Dhabi

**Table 4/4 :** Government health statistics

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Hospitals	12	12	12	12	12
Beds	2,439	2,596	2,652	2,582	2,610
Beds per thousand population	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2
Doctors	1,662	2,786	1,822	2,026	1,966
Doctors per thousand population	1.1	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
Nurses and assistants	4,976	4,976	5,846	5,222	5,328
Nurses and assistants per thousand capita	3.2	2.9	3.2	2.7	2.7

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi, Health Authority - Abu Dhabi.

## 4/3 Social Welfare

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi pays particular attention to social welfare through the provision of various public services to maintain a high level of social and economic stability. This includes infrastructure and municipal services, in addition to educational and health services that conform to the highest international standards. Arising out of the importance which the United Arab Emirates places on social development, social development centres were established in all of its cities and villages for a number of purposes, such as giving social assistance to eligible categories, raising awareness, social guidance, social education and the creation of institutions catering to the needs of the family, children, etc. The state has developed social insurance system that helps to maintain cohesion and achieve social security within the community, through improving the people's livelihoods and supporting the needy. The government issued Federal Law No. 13 in 1972 as the first Social Security law, which aimed to provide financial assistance to members of the community who were unable to secure a good livelihood for themselves. The law defined the categories entitled to social assistance as well as the value of assistance.

This law was followed by a number of laws and by-laws in the field of social welfare. The Pensions and Social Security Law was issued in 1999, representing a milestone in the endeavour to achieve higher social stability for the present and future generations.

The state social assistance system is based on a philosophy derived from the need to take care of individuals and families during their crises, and to encourage them to return to being productive members of society when they can. Social welfare is manifest in various ways, including social assistance, internal and external aid, care for the disabled and juveniles, kindergartens and nursing homes, non-governmental organisations, cooperatives, and social development centres founded on religious, moral, and national values that guarantee stability for everyone in the nation. On the other hand, each establishment is regarded as a social unit established intentionally to achieve specific objectives, adopting an architectural style that suits the achievement of these objectives.

Social welfare policies in Abu Dhabi aim to ensure decent living for the targeted categories among the emirate's citizens and residents. In this regard, the number of welfare beneficiaries rose from 9,105 in 2002 to 12,563 in 2012, increasing by 38.0% in that period.

The number of kindergartens under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs increased from 31 in 2005 to 83 in 2011. The number of children joining kindergartens increased from 2,275 in 2005 to 7,058 in 2011, at the rate of 85.0 child per kindergarten.

**Table 4/5:** Beneficiaries of social aid offered to citizens by case type

Case Type	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,208</b>	<b>8,404</b>	<b>9,761</b>	<b>10,421</b>	<b>10,861</b>	<b>11,814</b>	<b>11,748</b>	<b>12,563</b>
Old age	2,486	2,687	2,881	2,988	3,077	3,249	3,112	3,609
Orphanhood	351	364	381	378	364	386	359	317
Handicapped	796	843	1,025	1,200	1,244	1,181	679	1,418
Illegitimate	32	21	19	18	16	14	13	23
Health disability	953	877	915	949	1,005	1,131	673	1,180
Limited income	230	459	461	484	569	698	1,070	291
Widowhood	584	503	485	506	560	687	720	767
Abandonment	45	39	29	22	19	18	19	6
Divorce	1,352	2,134	2,298	2,422	2,440	2,781	3,379	3,026
Never married	86	238	504	477	438	386	351	381
Female married to a foreigner	92	160	644	875	1,037	1,177	1,231	1,332
Prisoners' Families	61	67	84	79	79	93	100	106
Married students	52	-	19	9	0	0	0	0
Exceptions	88	12	16	14	13	13	24	58
Unemployed for reasons beyond their will	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	49

**Source:** Ministry of Social Affairs

Housing development represents a main indicator in the development of the people, being one of the requirements for stability in the lives of the people and their communities. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates in general paid great attention to providing suitable housing to all its inhabitants as one of the factors of stability and development, with housing coming into play as a key driver in the development of the construction industry, which is one of the largest and most active employment sectors. To that end, the Sheikh Zayed Housing Programme was established for the purpose of providing suitable housing for eligible Emirati families, by providing accommodation services through both grants and loans, with several options offered: (building, buying, maintaining, or expanding houses) according to approved policies and standards.

Another milestone was the foundation of the Marriage Fund in accordance with Federal Law No. (47) for the year 1992 to serve the objectives of the nation's social policy. The Fund aims to provide financial assistance and awareness to couples before marriage, contributing to the consolidation of the Emirati family.



## 4/4 Charity Work

Social solidarity is one of the time-honoured qualities of the Emirati society. Associations, institutions and social and charitable centres for public welfare in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in particular and the UAE in general have experienced a remarkable and broad development, covering all segments of society and reaching right across the nation to all cities, villages and into the countryside. In addition to the Sheikh Zayed Housing Fund, the Marriage Fund, and the Zayed Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation, the Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation for Acts of Humanity, the Red Crescent, the Zayed Higher Organization for Humanitarian Care, Special Needs and Minors Affairs, there are also non-profit associations, including 120 Societies with 68 branches within the State, in addition to a large number of cooperative societies and social development centres throughout the state.

One of the key social institutions in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi is the Zayed Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation, which was established on August 1992, aiming to strengthen its role in charitable and humanitarian work in order to improve the standard of living of those targeted by its services. The Zayed Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation contributes to humanitarian and charitable projects in the United Arab Emirates, encouraging establishments, research and study centres in various fields to push development forward and provide welfare, prosperity, and encourage progress by protecting Islamic teachings and values, and the heritage, as well as providing assistance that will help ease the suffering of people, contribute to their advance and improve their social, cultural, and health circumstances.

Another major institution in charitable and humanitarian work is the Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation for Humanitarian Work that was established in 2007. Its strategy focuses on the fields of health and education, locally, regionally, and globally. Its educational strategy includes supporting vocational education projects in the countries of the region. It also addresses health issues pertaining to malnutrition, the protection and care for children, in addition to providing safe water around the world, in addition to supporting poor and needy communities in providing basic infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and others facilities.

There are several other organisations in the field of charitable, humanitarian and social work that operate locally and overseas, prominent among which is the Red Crescent Organization in the United Arab Emirates, established in 1983. From this date onward, the Organization has played an important role in humanitarian and charitable work locally and internationally to meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

## 4/5 People with Special Needs

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi accords special importance to integrating people with special needs in the development of society, providing them with decent livelihood and equal opportunities with others. There are numerous centres across the emirate that provide care and rehabilitation to people with special needs, implementing programmes and initiatives to enable this segment to develop their capacities and reach their full potential in various fields of life.

In the context of caring for the disabled, the Council of Ministers Decision No. 96 was issued in 1981, establishing centres for the care and support of the disabled in the UAE by providing medical, social and psychological care to the disabled, along with educational opportunities, vocational training and social integration. In 2004/2005, the two centres for the disabled in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain became affiliated to the Supreme Zayed Foundation for Humanitarian Care, Special Needs, and Minors Affairs.

## 4/6 Human Rights

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates in general pay great attention to the rights of both citizens and residents of all nationalities, races and religions, and are committed to issuing federal and local laws and legislations that protect and preserve the dignity of the people. All government agencies in addition to providing the services and information needed by citizens and residents in their daily lives also provide protection when necessary. The United Arab Emirates takes into consideration and regards with interest and respect the concept of human rights in Islamic legislations as the main source of legislation in the State, guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December 1948. The State constitution stipulates that all persons are equal before the law, without discrimination with on the basis of race, nationality, religious belief or social status.

## 4/7 Judicial System

The judicial system in the United Arab Emirates works within a bilateral framework that includes the local judiciary and the federal judiciary; every Emirate undertakes the task of setting its local laws that guarantee the management of the lives of its inhabitants and protection of their rights. The constitutional articles from article 94 to 109 organise the relationship between these two systems, as they explain the comprehensive bases of the said relationship, while leaving the explanation of the details to the local judiciary without prejudice to the overall principles set out in the Constitution.

## 4/8 Culture and Heritage

Archeological finds dating back to various ancient eras indicate the presence of an honourable cultural past in what is now the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, which, since prehistoric ages, has been a meeting point for various cultures as a result of the migration of tribes, and trade caravans. This led to a rich cultural heritage, the traces of which remain visible in various forms of today's local customs and traditions. Cultural life in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi is rooted in a long history of literature, camel and horse riding, falconry, traditional artwork, and the cultural exchange resulting from trade. However, over the centuries this culture has experienced radical changes with the development of modern lifestyles, but has been able to successfully reconcile tradition and modernity. Yet the values of Bedouin heritage and traditional culture still thrive today, despite the modernity of the landscape, its infrastructure and facilities, and the varied and evolving lifestyles present within it.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is characterised by a legacy of tradition, from its ancient history to the diversity of natural environments and animal and plant wildlife, to the human heritage of prose, poetry and handicrafts. In the past, it was an important strategic part, resource-rich, with a multi-faceted culture. Archaeological excavations proved that it had a thriving civilization, dating back thousands of years that flourished alongside other ancient civilizations.

After oil was discovered, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi witnessed an unprecedented transformation in all aspects of life. The economic leap forward led to mass inflows of foreigners from all parts of the world to live and work in the Emirate, a trend that highly influenced local culture. However, the highest levels of government in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi quickly realised the importance of protecting the unique heritage of the Emirate in the face of these changes, transferring them to the new generations, thus contributing to protecting that great cultural heritage. Several plans and ambitious

initiatives were announced to provide for, protect, and manage cultural resources, such as the strategy for managing the heritage of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, the formation of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, the development of Saadiyat Island as a cultural centre for the Emirate and other initiatives. Abu Dhabi is proud today of its rich cultural mosaic that includes poetry, novels, popular beliefs, handicrafts, weaving, dancing, and traditional sports.

The Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage was established in October 2005 at a time when the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was experiencing unprecedented development and prosperity. Since its inception, the authority has made a broad and concerted effort to protect and enhance the heritage and culture of Abu Dhabi. The local scene has witnessed several projects for the development and diversification of cultural infrastructure, including the development of museums and fostering their role in this cultural advance within the framework of a future vision that makes the Emirate a cultural destination between the west and east. Today, the cultural scene today is a central issue in a nation's vision for the future, in a world that includes many anonymities, new developments and concepts, and technologies that have direct effects on culture. There is only room today for those who have a strong cultural capacity to protect identity. In that regard, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi is moving along a twin-track cultural path that combines the preservation and revival of local cultural heritage and the importing of modern international creativity, so that Abu Dhabi may become a unique cultural centre in the region.

In the midst of comprehensive development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, the cultural aspect is acquiring a growing importance, receiving great attention at the highest levels, in the form of supporting the efforts of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, which has been able during the short period following its inception, to launch many important heritage and cultural projects, not on the regional level alone, but all over the world. Within the framework of its constant endeavour to increase public awareness of these valuable cultural resources, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi exerts massive efforts, through a diverse and coordinated group of events and cultural programmes held annually throughout the Emirate. These programmes focus on appreciation and interest in the thriving cultural heritage of the Emirate, as well as its pride of in its culture and heritage sources.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is currently developing Saadiyat Island as the primary cultural centre in the Emirate. The island is the site of huge projects under construction valued at AED 100 billion. Many of these projects have a major cultural value, such as the Marine Museum, the Sheikh Zayed National Museum, the Guggenheim Museum for Modern Art, Louvre Abu Dhabi for Classic Arts, the Performance Arts Centre, New York University - Abu Dhabi Branch, and the Equestrian Centre. Perhaps all this, in addition to Abu Dhabi International Book Fair, the Sheikh Zayed Book Award (the largest international award), the Abu Dhabi Art Exhibition, the Abu Dhabi Classical

Music Festival, the Abu Dhabi Film Festival, the Emirates Film Competition, the Abu Dhabi International Hunting and Equestrian Fair, Al-Dhafra Camel Mazayna Festival, the Mazayna Al-Rotab (Dates Mazayna) Festival, and other activities and events led by Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, all give a clear indicator to the level of cultural aspiration in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

The number of books available at the National Library increased from 181,796 in 2002 to 409,256 in 2011. The number of cultural lectures organised by Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority amounted to 62 lectures in 2012. The number of museums doubled in 2009 to four museums. The total number of the visitors of the Emirate museums was 163,584 visitors in 2012, indicating an increase in the number of visitors to all museums in 2012.

**Table 4/6:** Cases and beneficiaries of social aid offered to citizens by case type

Book Topics	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>240,220</b>	<b>308,750</b>	<b>330,102</b>	<b>340,681</b>	<b>366,758</b>	<b>375,923</b>	<b>393,587</b>	<b>409,256</b>
Religious	35,500	50,300	51,200	52,500	57,116	58,112	60,911	61,980
Historical	34,200	42,200	43,832	44,600	48,350	49,830	51,125	52,816
Literature	41,800	48,900	49,650	50,980	52,012	53,814	56,590	57,620
Politics	38,000	51,400	52,100	52,260	52,623	52,840	53,490	54,988
Economics	9,700	12,200	13,600	14,229	19,600	19,960	21,316	22,752
Law	7,800	11,140	12,220	13,100	13,230	13,818	14,703	15,813
Arts	7,000	9,200	10,500	11,200	11,712	12,314	12,690	12,918
Pure science	17,300	24,250	25,600	26,400	26,400	28,265	29,916	31,922
Applied science	18,000	21,360	22,300	24,800	32,432	33,162	35,906	37,585
Children's books	15,200	22,000	22,800	23,612	23,661	23,890	25,600	26,965
General information	15,720	15,800	26,300	27,000	29,622	29,918	31,340	33,897

Source: Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority.

**Table 4/7:** Cultural Season's Lectures by Subject

Lecture Topic	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>62</b>
Scientific	26	32	22	8	9	9	8	12
Ideological/Intellectual	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Religious	10	13	8	10	14	8	7	5
Literature	6	16	21	14	18	20	15	14
Politics&Economics	13	14	6	11	12	12	14	12
Arts	17	6	8	8	9	9	10	9

Source: Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority.

**Table 4/8:** Visitors of the zoo, museums and public parks.

Item	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,670,443</b>	<b>3,178,865</b>	<b>2,718,175</b>	<b>2,713,982</b>	<b>3,375,656</b>
Zoo	728,691	761,715	955,930	930,086	971,338
Hili Fun City	263,711	205,942	338,073	318,995	303,751
Public Parks	2,545,267	2,075,024	1,295,057	1,318,791	1,936,983
Al Ain Museum	56,693	38,195	38,634	39,670	45,661
Al Ain Palace Museum	72,281	82,776	77,119	84,041	98,621
Dalma Museum	3,800	1,804	1,918	1,650	2,231
Al-Jahili Fort Museum *	-	13,409	11,444	20,749	17,071

\*Opened in 2009.

Source: Abu Dhabi Municipality, Al Gharbia Region Municipality, Al Ain Wildlife Park, Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority.

Chapter

# 5

2013

Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics





Development and economic reform in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi have been a crucial concern to the political leadership in its aspiration for progress and development in order to catch-up with the developed world. As a result of this concern, development in the Emirate has advanced immensely, and the national economy has developed to global comparability, being competitive with various economies regionally and globally.

Given the strong political commitment to success and the economic advancement in all directions, the wise economic policies and due to the business environment, the financial surpluses, the advanced infrastructure, and the political stability and security the Emirate enjoys, the economy of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has come to occupy a unique position and expanding space in the region. This is especially so given the strategic transformations and major reforms which the economy experienced during the last decade, beginning with the restructuring of local government and limiting its role in the economy to economic policies aiming to diversify sources of income. The Emirate is moving steadily towards the future to bring about a radical transformation in the structure of local economy.

The local economy has achieved a leading position in all performance indicators, as well as a highly unique investment environment, the result of the wise policies of the senior leadership, which has contributed to creating an attractive environment for global investments, and is capable of attracting companies of all kinds from various parts of the world.

## 5/1 Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is one of the most important indicators of the economic performance of any country. It represents the sum of gross value added by all resident producers in the economy plus any product taxes, minus any subsidies not included in the value of the products. It is calculated without making deductions for depreciation of fabricated assets or for depletion and degradation of natural resources. Over the past years, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has consistently contributed around 60% of the GDP of the United Arab Emirates.

The economy of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi maintained strong growth rates in the decade ending in 2012, through which it witnessed a major development movement that contributed to increasing the Gross Domestic Product of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi from AED 195,356 million in 2002 to AED 911,591 million in 2012, with an average annual growth rate of 18%.

During the decade ending in 2012, various non-oil economic activities witnessed major growth, with the added value of non-oil activities at current prices increasing from AED 109,631 million in 2002 to AED 396,744 million in 2012. In 2012, the construction activity is the main non-oil GDP contributor (at current prices), followed by the manufacturing activity (13.4%) and the real estate (10.1%). The value added of the oil sector at current prices increased 5 fold during the decade ending in 2012 from AED 85,725 million to AED 514,847 million in 2012 due to an increase in production accompanied with a major increase in oil and gas prices.

Gross Domestic Product at constant prices refers to the size of the produced goods and services measured at constant prices. The Gross Domestic Product at fixed prices increased by 83.1% from AED 370,252 million in 2002 to AED 678,049 million in 2012. As a result of Abu Dhabi Emirate's development efforts, the share of non-oil activities in the Gross Domestic Product at constant prices increased from 40.5% in 2002 to 48.0% in 2012.

**Table 5/1: Gross domestic product at current prices by economic activity**

Million AED

Economic Activity	2002	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
<b>Total</b>	<b>195,356</b>	<b>705,159</b>	<b>535,311</b>	<b>639,952</b>	<b>846,684</b>	<b>911,591</b>
Total non-oil sector	109,631	292,386	296,305	322,715	361,947	396,744
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	5,023	4,539	4,698	4,556	5,136	5,316
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	85,725	412,774	239,006	317,237	484,737	514,847
Manufacturing	17,897	39,118	29,990	35,813	47,967	53,359
Electricity, gas, water supply and waste management	3,886	14,064	14,678	16,536	18,996	20,905
Construction	16,215	65,655	79,310	82,781	83,516	87,692
Wholesale and retail trade, and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	14,731	32,282	28,084	28,524	28,086	32,153
Transport and storage	4,582	16,737	15,401	21,236	29,238	33,156
Accommodation and food services	2,412	6,762	6,283	7,548	8,477	9,451
Information and communication	7,220	23,261	24,022	19,038	19,337	19,822
Financial and insurance	11,984	29,575	30,154	29,332	32,885	34,735
Real estate	6,673	21,350	23,830	27,555	34,693	39,897
Professional, scientific and technical	5,949	18,113	17,385	18,032	19,160	22,001
Administrative and support services	3,955	8,249	9,695	7,935	9,643	11,076
Public administration and defense, Compulsory social security	9,464	18,653	20,559	30,662	33,506	34,846
Education	3,730	7,229	7,499	6,986	9,058	10,416
Human health and social security	1,501	3,717	3,722	3,670	5,644	6,260
Arts, recreation and other services	869	1,589	2,068	3,414	2,483	2,684
Activities of households as employers	801	1,309	1,503	1,572	1,787	2,019
Imputed bank services	-7,262	-19,815	-22,575	-22,475	-27,665	-29,043

\*Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 5/2 Per capita GDP

Abu Dhabi's vigorous economic performance over the past years tells the story of the emirate's success in harnessing natural resources to serve a sustainable development, in order to secure a high living standard for its citizens. Over the years, various economic sectors in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi experienced sustained growth that reflected directly as an increase in the per capita GDP at current prices, which advanced during the last decade by 152% from AED 155 thousand in 2002 to AED 390.5 thousand in 2012, allowing the emirate's citizen population to enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world.

**Table 5/2: Per capita GDP by sector (oil - non-oil) at current prices**

Year	Per capita GDP (thousand AED)	Per capita Oil GDP (thousand AED)	Per Capita Non-oil GDP (thousand AED)
<b>2002</b>	155.0	64.1	90.9
<b>2003</b>	176.3	79.7	96.6
<b>2004</b>	221.4	112.3	109.1
<b>2005</b>	279.0	156.8	122.2
<b>2006</b>	336.8	199.4	137.4
<b>2007</b>	346.4	195.3	151.1
<b>2008</b>	415.8	243.4	172.4
<b>2009</b>	293.1	130.8	162.2
<b>2010</b>	325.2	161.2	164.0
<b>2011</b>	391.7	224.2	167.4
<b>2012*</b>	390.5	220.5	169.9

\*Preliminary Estimates

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

This achievement can be attributed to the package of economic policies adopted by the emirate, which aims to diversify the sources of income by diversifying the economic base. Non-oil sectors have now come to contribute the biggest share of this figure. The impressive economic growth witnessed by the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in recent years has been characterised by a rapid growth in the non-oil economy, meaning that the rate of shifting away from dependence on oil was the fastest in the region.

## 5/3 Fixed Capital Formation

Economic development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has been characterized by huge investment in commercial and service activities, thus diversifying national income sources and establishing a broad productive base. The Government of Abu Dhabi has also succeeded in expanding the participation of the public sector in productive development, providing services that contribute to the growth of the economic activity and promoting the private sector through conducive policies and incentives. Moreover, the plans recently adopted by the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, especially Abu Dhabi Vision 2030, include an increasing role for local and foreign investment in future development in projects of various sizes and types.

Within this framework, a number of important initiatives have been launched, focusing on economic development and supporting local and foreign private investment. The most important features of the Abu Dhabi Vision 2030 are increasing the effectiveness of economic performance through the optimal utilization of the financial resources available to achieve structural balance and diversity in the local economy, increasing production, the development of services and their quality, improving performance in institutional, legal and executive bodies regulating the economy to support openness and transparency, encouraging the private sector, enabling it to participate in all economic activities, and the encouragement of partnerships between the local and foreign private sectors.

The effect of all these developments is evident in the increase of gross fixed capital from AED 36,024 million in 2002 to AED 172,707 million at current prices in 2012. The percentage of fixed capital formation for non-oil activities compared to the value added at current prices increased from 27.3% to 37.1% in the same period. Real Estate and education activities achieved a major growth of 5,193% and 2,666% respectively during the a foresaid period.

**Table 5/3:** Gross fixed capital formation by economic activity at current prices Million AED

Economic Activity	2002	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,024</b>	<b>104,426</b>	<b>155,505</b>	<b>142,852</b>	<b>164,033</b>	<b>172,707</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	526	482	501	486	548	570
Mining and Quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	6,055	18,562	33,930	33,716	24,673	25,578
Manufacturing	5,842	18,923	25,609	28,740	28,278	30,774
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Management	4,061	15,968	16,253	12,634	12,674	13,941
Construction	1,520	4,871	4,713	4,541	3,998	4,292
Wholesale and retail trade, and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	844	1,496	1,591	1,205	1,606	1,747
Transport and storage	4,256	9,557	10,448	11,253	18,911	22,083
Accommodation and Food Services	2,254	346	1,456	505	320	347
Information and Communication	675	707	1,724	1,979	6,360	6,560
Financial and Insurance	332	1,366	3,603	5,687	3,477	3,668
Real Estate	437	2,774	12,776	9,446	20,093	23,107
Professional, Scientific and Technical	250	576	1,293	309	247	284
Administrative and Support Services	712	2,944	2,009	416	1,094	1,176
Public Administration and Defense, Compulsory Social Security	7,314	21,366	37,215	26,842	31,440	26,724
Education	349	1,242	997	3,181	8,329	9,662
Human Health and Social Security	582	3,154	1,279	1,592	1,764	1,957
Arts, Recreation and Other Services	15	93	108	317	221	235

\*Preliminary Estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 5/4 Business Environment

The existing business environment represents one of the main factors behind the progress and prosperity enjoyed by Abu Dhabi Emirate and is contributing to building a broad and diverse economic base.

The government of Abu Dhabi has designed several plans and programmes to set the conditions that would enhance the confidence of the investors in the economy, and shape investors' view of the business opportunities in Abu Dhabi. There are many factors that make the investment climate in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi an ideal one, including: the strategic geographical location; modern infrastructure; well-qualified labour; several bilateral, regional, and international agreements that facilitate the flow of capital and goods between Abu Dhabi and those countries; free zones and industrial cities encouraging foreign and local investment; very low taxes; cheap sources of energy, with oil the main engine for economic growth; optimal utilization of financial surpluses resulting from oil sales; a modern network of financial establishments necessary to facilitate capital flows and service citizen and foreign investors.

The Government of Abu Dhabi is committed to providing full and continued support to the business environment in order to set up an attractive investment climate. Building an open, efficient, effective and globally integrated business environment is a top priority for the seven economic policy themes of Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030. The Emirate's economy is run in accordance with thoughtfully planned policies, and enjoys a competitive business environment, is resilient enough to overcome any obstacles it might face. Moreover, the government is implementing procedures and reforms aiming to improve the business environment and enhance investments, in order to face social and economic challenges and move towards the set goals of development.

الرمز Symbol	التغير Change	الفتحات Trade	القيمة Value	الرمز Symbol	الرمز Symbol	الرمز Symbol
7.95	0	0	0	JEEMA		شركة الجيما
7.00	0	0	0	JULPHAR		شركة الجولف
1.00	0	0	0	OCEM		شركة أو سي إم
5.70	-0.48	8	20349	RAKGG	2	شركة رأس الخيمة
5.00	0	0	0	RAKGE		شركة رأس الخيمة
7.00	0	0	0	RAJMG		شركة رأس الخيمة
				RAPCO		شركة رأس الخيمة
				SGDC		شركة رأس الخيمة
				UGC		شركة رأس الخيمة

Total Volume: 331,366,357.45

27 - 0.34 (15000) AMLAK 7.05 - 0.01 (15000) BIL

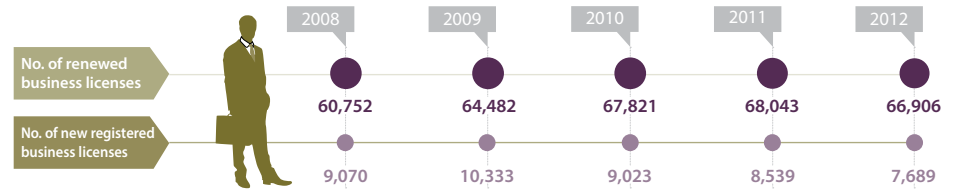


**Table 5/4:** General indicators of the business environment

Indicators	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of registered new business licenses	9,070	10,333	9,023	8,539	7,689
Number of renewed business licenses	60,752	64,482	67,821	68,043	66,906
Number of cancelled business licenses	1,854	1,583	2,268	2,550	2,477

Source: Department of Economic Development .

**Figure 5/1:** General indicators of the business environment



Source: Department of Economic Development



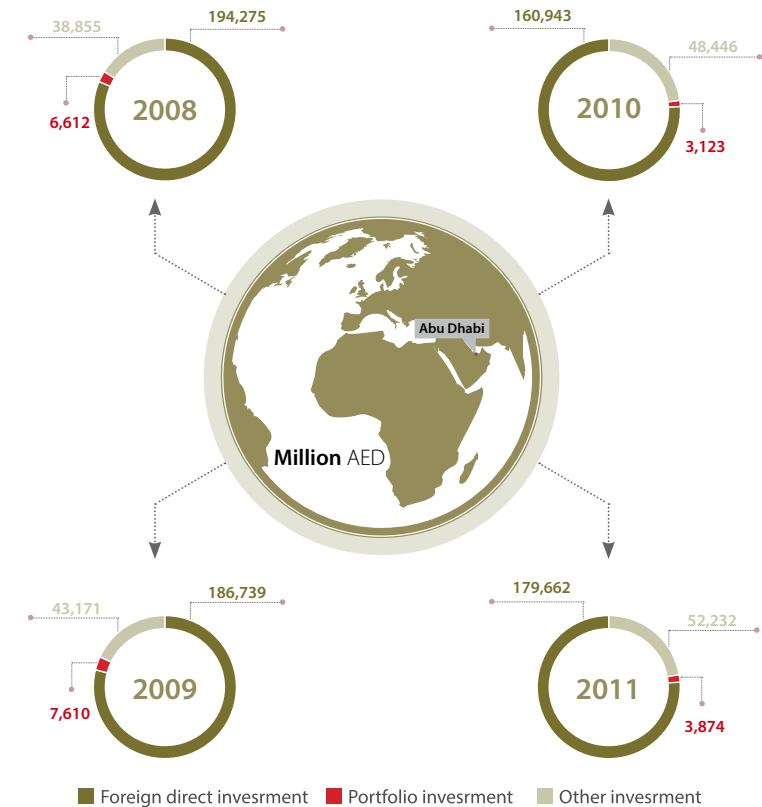
## 5/5 Foreign Investment

Investment, both local and foreign, is the key driver of economic growth. During the past years, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has charted out several plans and programmes to encourage investment in various sectors, has urged savers to invest in the utilization of national resources and wealth, worked on establishing the infrastructure necessary to facilitate economic activity in general and to encourage businessmen and investors to enter into fields of investment that contribute to development, diversification, production quality enhancement and global competitiveness.

Given the major structural and geographic transformation in global economy in past years, and given increased international interdependence economically (including the movement of capital, energy resources and the openness of various markets), the Emirate has decisively headed in the direction of economic reform, restructuring, increasing the effectiveness of the private sector, and making governmental institutions more advanced and transparent.

Direct foreign investments increased from AED 38,855 million at the end of 2008 to AED 52,232 million at the end of 2011. This increase is largely attributed to the “real estate and business services” (including real estate sales to non-residents), which attracted direct foreign investments worth AED 22,057 million at the end of 2011, compared to AED (12,620) million at the end of 2008. “Manufacturing industries” accounted for the second largest share of the investment at 17.6% by the end of 2011.

**Figure 5/2:** Total direct foreign investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

Investments from Arab countries (excluding GCC countries) totalled AED 4,822 million or 9.2% of the total direct foreign investment at the end of 2011, compared with AED 2,690 million or 6.9% at the end of 2008. European countries accounted for the largest proportion of the total direct foreign investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, increasing from AED 9,459 million at the end of 2008 to AED 13,664 million at the end of 2011, or 44.5%.

**Table 5/5:** Direct foreign investment by economic activity as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product at current prices

Economic Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,855</b>	<b>43,171</b>	<b>48,446</b>	<b>52,232</b>
Mining and quarrying	3,296	3,436	2,643	1,886
Manufacturing	3,533	4,692	7,259	9,180
Electricity, gas and water	5,182	5,886	6,140	6,423
Construction	1,087	1,886	3,000	3,958
Wholesale and Retail Trade and Repair Services	282	392	140	148
Restaurants and Hotels	4	4	7	9
Transport, Storage, and Communication	3,218	3,419	1,872	2,195
Financial institutions and insurance	9,568	6,422	8,336	6,134
Real Estate and Business Services*	12,620	16,965	18,964	22,057
Education	7	22	19	19
Health	26	29	28	193
Social and personal services	32	19	38	30

**Note:** Figures may not sum up to totals due to rounding.

\* Includes real estate sales to non-residents.

**Source:** Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

**Table 5/6:** Direct foreign investment by source region

Million AED

Region/Country grouping	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,855</b>	<b>43,171</b>	<b>48,446</b>	<b>52,232</b>
GCC countries	5,736	3,786	1,768	2,240
Other Arab countries	2,690	2,900	6,614	4,822
Other Asian countries	986	6,241	4,144	4,156
Other African countries	81	224	1	1
European countries	9,459	9,877	13,030	13,664
North America	1,517	2,059	1,128	1,251
Latin America	227	226	14	422
Other regions*	18,158	17,859	21,746	25,675

\*Includes real estate sales to non-residents.

**Source:** Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 5/6 Foreign Trade

Foreign trade facilitates optimal use and efficient allocation of economic resources through directing local labour and capital towards economic activities that enjoy a relative competitive advantage. In addition to enabling the Emirate of Abu Dhabi to acquire bigger quantities of various types of imports in return for the goods and services it exports, foreign trade also encourages local and foreign investment, and applies modern methods to the production of exports, which, in the final analysis, leads to a stronger economic base as well as substantial and sustained growth. Data on the foreign trade of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi reveals the emirate's orientation towards opening up to the outside world, especially with the emirate's trade balance, a key indicator of financial standing, consistently in the surplus.

The merchandise trade of Abu Dhabi Emirate plays a main role in balancing supply and demand through exchanging the surplus in local commodities (especially oil) for a basket of commodities needed by the Emirate. As the economy of Abu Dhabi has been characterised for a long time by a lack of diversity in its commodity production, as dependence was mainly on oil revenues, demand for foreign commodities is very diverse, as the Emirate is dependent on importing from overseas. Imports play an important role in the economy of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, as the economic and demographic conditions in the Emirate and the efforts made towards comprehensive development therein have been reflected in the major growth in the rates of imports of consumer goods and productive commodities needed by the various economic sectors for the development processes.

Total non-oil foreign trade for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi grew to AED 149.1 billion in 2012, up 513.8% from AED 24.3 billion in 2002. During the aforesaid period, exports increased by AED 14.5 billion or 1539.5%, re-exports by 1203.1% and imports by 435.3%.

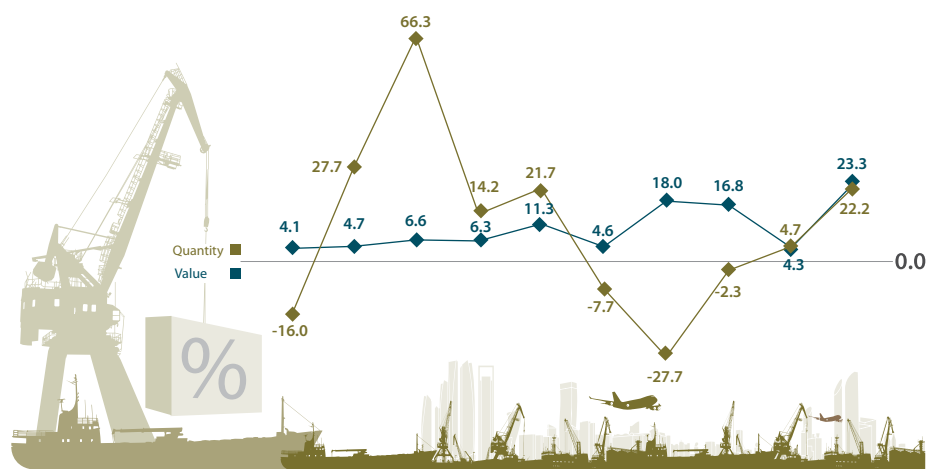
**Table 5/7:** Imports through the ports of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi  
2002-2012 (Value in million AED and quantity in thousand tons)

Year	Value	Quantity	Change in value	Change in Quantity	Value %	Quantity %
<b>Total change</b>			<b>14471.6</b>	<b>2966.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>2002</b>	940	500	0.0	0.0		
<b>2003</b>	1,832	724	892.3	223.7	6.2	7.5
<b>2004</b>	2,651	837	819.1	112.9	5.7	3.8
<b>2005</b>	3,186	872	535.0	35.0	3.7	1.2
<b>2006</b>	4,587	870	1400.3	-2.0	9.7	-0.1
<b>2007</b>	5,805	1,256	1218.7	386.2	8.4	13.0
<b>2008</b>	6,252	1,377	446.7	120.3	3.1	4.1
<b>2009</b>	9,501	1,267	3248.8	-109.7	22.4	-3.7
<b>2010</b>	11,611	1,404	2110.0	137.4	14.6	4.6
<b>2011</b>	11,478	1,531	-132.8	127.0	-0.9	4.3
<b>2012</b>	15,412	3,467	3933.6	1395.8	27.2	65.3

**Source:** Department of Finance – Customs Administration

Abu Dhabi non-oil exports grew by an impressive AED 14472 million between 2002 and 2012. The largest increase was AED 3933.6 million, recorded in 2012, constituting 27.2% of the total increase observed between 2002 and 2012. It was accompanied by a corresponding rise of 1935.8 thousand tons (65%) in the quantity of non-oil exports, which grew to 2966.7 thousand tons in 2012.

**Figure 5/3:** Non-oil merchandise re-exports through the ports of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

The graph also shows the movement of re-exports through the customs ports of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi during the past ten years, with the increase in the value of re-exports reaching AED 13613.4 million. The largest increase in the value of re-exports, recorded in 2012, was AED 3177.9 million, constituting 23.3% of the value of increase during the same ten. The corresponding increase in quantity, recorded in 2005, was 43.8 thousand tons, or 66.3% of the total increase in quantity during the aforesaid period.

**Table 5/8:** Imports through the ports of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi 2002-2012

Value in million AED and quantity in thousand tons

Year	Value	Quantity	Change in value	Change in Quantity	Value %	Quantity %
<b>Total change</b>			<b>96945.6</b>	<b>12776.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>2002</b>	22,226	4,414				
<b>2003</b>	26,673	4,912	497.6	497.6	4.6	3.9
<b>2004</b>	33,115	5,725	813.0	813.0	6.7	6.4
<b>2005</b>	35,214	6,147	422.4	422.4	2.2	3.3
<b>2006</b>	45,698	7,518	1371.4	1371.4	10.8	10.7
<b>2007</b>	63,341	8,880	1361.9	1361.9	18.2	10.7
<b>2008</b>	90,227	11,407	2527.0	2527	27.8	19.8
<b>2009</b>	93,872	12,016	608.2	608.2	3.7	4.8
<b>2010</b>	86,574	12,763	747.1	747.1	-7.5	5.8
<b>2011</b>	116,374	16,236	3473.7	3473.7	30.8	27.2
<b>2012</b>	118,972	17,191	954.5	954.5	2.7	7.5

Source: Department of Finance – Customs Administration

Exports increased in value by AED 96745.6 million, distributed over the past ten years at various percentages, the largest being in 2011 at AED 29800.3 million, representing 30.8% of the total increase in the ten years. This was also met by the highest percentage of export quantities amounting to 27.2%. Imports also ranked second at a value of AED 26936.1 million in 2008, at 27.8% of the total value of increase in the mentioned period, and was met by an increase in quantity at the rate of 19.8% of the total increase in quantity for the same period. Those following the increase or decrease movement of value and volume, would sense the strong impact the price changes on these two variables (value and volume).

## 5/7 Financial Statistics

Abu Dhabi's robust financial sector is at the heart of the economic development in the the Emirate. The increase in the GDP of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi contributed to the rise in demand for the services of the financial institutions sector, especially the provision of financial resources for projects and investments in other economic activities. Financial intermediation mainly practiced by the banks registered in Abu Dhabi, in addition to the other non-banking financial institutions such as holding companies and financing and credit companies. The banks registered in Abu Dhabi are mostly subsidiary companies or branches of foreign banks. The number of such banks in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi on December 31, 2012 was 51 banks, while seven other banks have their headquarters in Abu Dhabi.

The value added of the financial institutions sector increased from AED 11,984 million in 2002 to AED 34,735 million in 2012, posting an average annual growth of 11.6%. As a result of the major increase in the added value of the non-financial sector, the contribution of the financial institutions sector to the added value of non-oil economic activities decreased to a certain extent during the reference period.

**Table 5/9:** Gross Domestic Product at current prices, broken down by financial and non-financial sectors

Million AED

Year	Total	Non-financial sector institutions	Financial sector institutions	Public Administration and Defense	Household services	Less: Imputed Banking Services
2002	195,356	180,368	11,984	9,464	801	7,262
2003	228,220	212,634	13,222	9,762	843	8,241
2004	291,135	274,006	15,292	10,045	880	9,088
2005	383,430	365,641	17,988	10,324	913	11,436
2006	492,249	473,188	21,119	10,675	922	13,654
2007	545,367	521,724	27,294	11,571	1,011	16,233
2008	705,159	675,438	29,575	18,653	1,309	19,815
2009	535,311	505,671	30,154	20,559	1,503	22,575
2010	639,952	600,861	29,332	30,662	1,572	22,475
2011	846,684	806,170	32,885	33,506	1,787	27,665
2012*	911,591	869,034	34,735	34,846	2,019	29,043

\*Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.



**Table 5/10:** Annual growth rates of Gross Domestic Product distributed by financial and non-financial sectors at current prices

%

Year	Total	Non-financial sector institutions	Financial sector institutions	Public Administration and Defense	Household services	Minus: Imputed Bank Services
2002	5.2	5.5	12.6	3.6	5.1	23.6
2003	16.8	17.9	10.3	3.1	5.2	13.5
2004	27.6	28.9	15.7	2.9	4.4	10.3
2005	31.7	33.4	17.6	2.8	3.7	25.8
2006	28.4	29.4	17.4	3.4	1.0	19.4
2007	10.8	10.3	29.2	8.4	9.7	18.9
2008	29.3	29.5	8.4	61.2	29.4	22.1
2009	-24.1	-25.1	2.0	10.2	14.8	13.9
2010	19.5	18.8	-2.7	49.1	4.6	-0.4
2011	32.3	34.2	12.1	9.3	13.7	23.1
2012*	7.7	7.8	5.6	4.0	13.0	5.0

\* Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

**Table 5/11:** Distribution of Gross Domestic Product distributed by financial and non-financial sectors at current prices

%

Year	Total	Non-financial sector institutions	Financial sector institutions	Public Administration and Defense	Household services	Minus: Imputed Bank Services
2002	100	92.3	6.1	4.8	0.4	3.7
2003	100	93.2	5.8	4.3	0.4	3.6
2004	100	94.1	5.3	3.5	0.3	3.1
2005	100	95.4	4.7	2.7	0.2	3.0
2006	100	96.1	4.3	2.2	0.2	2.8
2007	100	95.7	5.0	2.1	0.2	3.0
2008	100	95.8	4.2	2.6	0.2	2.8
2009	100	94.5	5.6	3.8	0.3	4.2
2010	100	93.9	4.6	4.8	0.2	3.5
2011	100	95.2	3.9	4.0	0.2	3.3
2012*	100	95.3	3.8	3.8	0.2	3.2

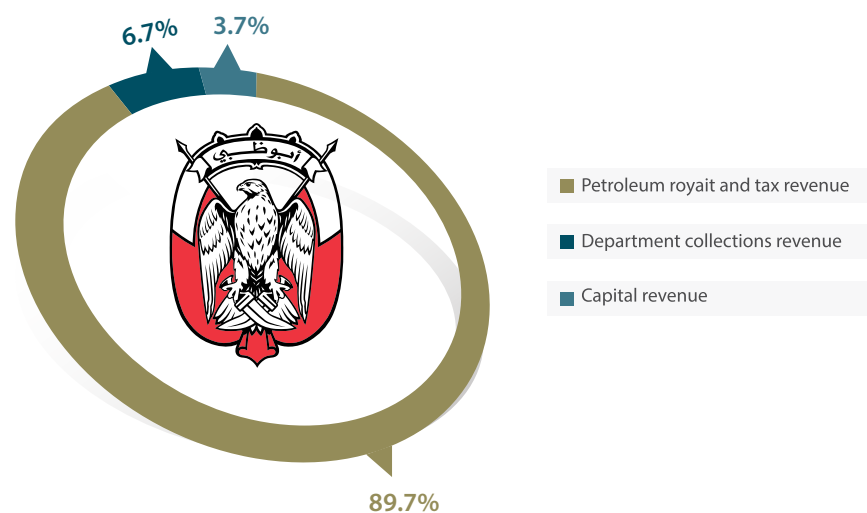
\*Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 5/8 Government Finance

The revenues of the Government of Abu Dhabi have increased by 167.3% in 2012 compared to 2005, due to the growth in the revenues of the petroleum royalties, tax revenue, capital income, and department collections revenue by 179.1%, 285.9% and 54.3% respectively. The government expanded the participation of the public sector in production development by greatly increasing capital expenditure since 2005. The share of capital expenditure share as a percentage of the total public expenditure increased from 22.4% in 2005 to 48.5% in 2012. Secondary items such as capital transfers, capital expenditure on goods and services, and development expenditure over government projects contributed 25.1%, 17.0% and 6.4% of the total expenses in 2012. During the same period, current expenditure as a percentage of public spending dropped from 77.6% in 2005 to 51.5% in 2012, as the government substituted that type of spending and started to spend on establishing a modern infrastructure in the Emirate. Secondary items such as current transfers, salaries and wages, and goods and services contributed 32.2%, 10.3% and 9.0% of the total current expenditure in 2012, compared to 47.0%, 15.4% and 15.2% in 2005.

**Figure 5/4:** Distribution of the revenues of Abu Dhabi Government



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

**Table 5/12:** Distribution of the revenues of Abu Dhabi Government  
%

Item	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Petroleum royalties and tax revenue	85.9	92.3	91.6	92.0	89.2	82.6	90.6	89.7
Department collections revenue	11.6	5.8	6.5	6.4	8.1	7.3	6.5	6.7
Capital revenue	2.5	1.9	1.9	1.6	2.7	10.1	2.9	3.7

\*Preliminary Estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

**Table 5/13:** Distribution of public expenditures of Abu Dhabi Government  
%

Item	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Current expenses	77.6	80.8	76.2	64.3	60.8	48.5	49.1	51.5
Salaries and wages	15.4	14.1	13.4	11.4	9.8	11.3	10.8	10.3
Goods and services	15.2	14.2	12.5	10.8	11.2	9.6	11.4	9.0
Current transfers	47.0	52.5	50.3	42.1	39.8	27.6	26.8	32.2
Capital Expenditure	22.4	19.2	23.8	35.7	39.2	51.5	50.9	48.5
expenditure on government projects	12.8	8.7	4.8	7.2	10.9	9.1	9.7	6.4
Capital expenditure on goods and services	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.4	17.7	17.8	17.0
Capital transfers	8.6	10.1	18.3	28.3	27.9	24.8	23.4	25.1

\*Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

**Table 5/14:** Relative distribution of public expenditures of the Government of Abu Dhabi by type

%

Item	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Recurrent department expenditure	23.7	25.0	31.9	26.3	27.6	25.4	26.8	25.0
Development expenditure	11.8	7.7	4.0	6.9	10.8	9.1	9.7	6.4
Contribution to federal government	42.4	40.0	35.8	31.8	27.5	32.2	30.9	30.3
Aid and loans	18.2	21.0	21.2	28.0	24.7	23.0	25.7	32.2
Capital payments	3.9	6.3	7.1	7.0	9.3	10.3	6.9	6.1

\*Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 5/9 Salaries and Compensations

The total value of employees' compensations at current prices increased from AED 35,050 million in 2002 to AED 164,128 million in 2012, at an average annual growth of 16.9%. The highest growth rate (31.7%) was recorded during that period in 2008, then in 2010 at 28.8%. The main economic activities contributing to the growth of employees' compensations during the ten years ending in 2012 were human health and social security, real estate, and transport and storage, with an average annual increase of 33.9%, 28% and 25.9% respectively.

**Table 5/15:** Compensation of employees by economic activity at current prices

(Million Dirham)

Economic Activity	2002	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,050</b>	<b>95,068</b>	<b>107,618</b>	<b>138,576</b>	<b>150,427</b>	<b>164,128</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,526	1,379	1,437	1,394	1,571	1,637
Mining and Quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	2,187	7,154	7,991	8,265	9,293	10,800
Manufacturing	2,719	7,572	10,220	11,044	12,086	13,548
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Management	725	1,193	1,878	2,176	2,157	2,286
Construction	4,286	14,924	16,169	23,638	25,493	27,729
Wholesale and retail trade, and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	3,158	8,953	6,603	8,281	8,874	9,930
Transport and storage	944	4,879	5,106	6,934	7,361	7,946
Accommodation and Food Services	613	1,993	2,038	3,172	3,425	3,699
Information and Communication	652	2,849	4,185	4,740	4,924	5,234
Financial and Insurance	1,825	4,877	5,525	7,743	7,998	8,319
Real Estate	255	1,088	1,965	1,692	1,895	2,122
Professional, Scientific and Technical	1,907	7,101	5,963	9,449	9,943	11,245
Administrative Services and Support Services Activities	889	2,407	3,764	3,388	4,043	4,385
Public Administration and Defense, Compulsory Social Security	9,464	18,653	20,559	30,662	33,506	34,846
Education	2,080	5,428	6,043	6,334	7,695	8,855
Human Health and Social Service	728	2,373	5,638	6,883	7,220	8,304
Arts, Recreation and Other Services	290	935	1,033	1,210	1,155	1,223
Activities of Households as Employers	801	1,309	1,503	1,572	1,787	2,019

\*Preliminary estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.



## 5/10 Prices

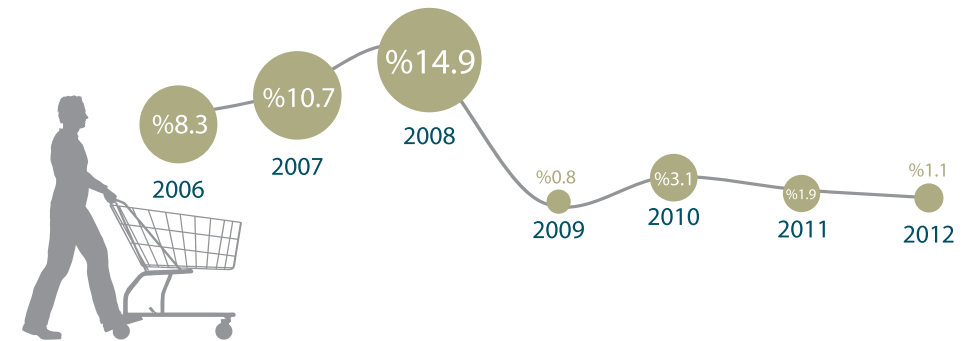
Price statistics in general and the consumer price index in particular are considered some of the most important indicators used in measuring economic development and changes. The consumer price index is used to compare the prices of a basket of goods and services between two different time periods. The period for which we wish to find out the change in prices is called the comparison period, and the period we compare to is called the base period. Through consumer price index, we can calculate annual inflation in consumer prices. The annual inflation of a specific year is defined as the rate of increase in the general level of consumer prices in that year compared to the prices of the preceding year.

Inflation is the excessive and persistent increase in the prices of goods and services, as inflation rates which exceeds 5% present a direct risk to economic and social conditions. The government of Abu Dhabi continued to monitor consumer price indices and inflation rates on an annual basis since 1977, while Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi started the compilation and publication of these indicators on a monthly basis since 2008.

The Income and Prices section at Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi calculates the consumer price index for various expenditure groups based on household welfare level and household type. It is worth noting that SCAD adopts international best practices and recommendations in compiling the consumer price index.



**Figure 5/5:** Annual inflation rates in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi



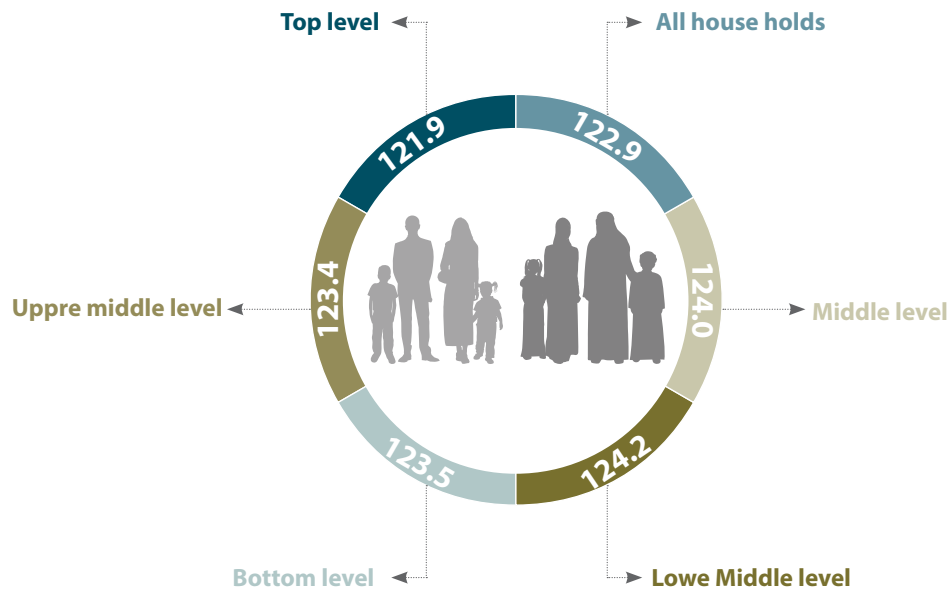
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has experienced relative stability in prices over the past three decades, punctuated by jumps in inflation rates in a few years, particularly the early eighties due to the first Gulf War, and in 2007 and 2008 when the strong economic growth witnessed in the Emirate during these two years led to an accompanying rise in domestic demand for goods and services, and increased government spending. Such price rises are an inevitable phenomenon in fast-growing economies when supply fails to keep up with demand, especially with respect to the real estate sector in which rentals accounted for the largest source of increase in prices during these two years, leading to increased costs to businesses across all economic sectors.

The consumer price index is compiled according to the household welfare level by the Income and Prices section in Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi to show the effect of price changes on the various segments of society. For the welfare level approach, the population is divided into five segments (quintiles), which represent five standard of living levels based on average annual expenditure per capita. Each of these segments (quintiles) represents the expenditure pattern of the households included in it. The first segment is the bottom household welfare level, the second is the bottom-middle household welfare level, the third is the middle household welfare level, the fourth is the top-middle household welfare level and the fifth is the top household welfare level.

The importance of this index lies in showing the exact impact of the price changes of a specific commodity/services or a group of goods and services on each of the welfare segments through calculating the inflation impacting each segment. Meaning that the index enables us to target specific segments when considering raising the prices of specific commodities without affecting/slightly affecting the other segments.

**Figure 5/6:** Consumer prices indices by household welfare level 2012 (100=2007)



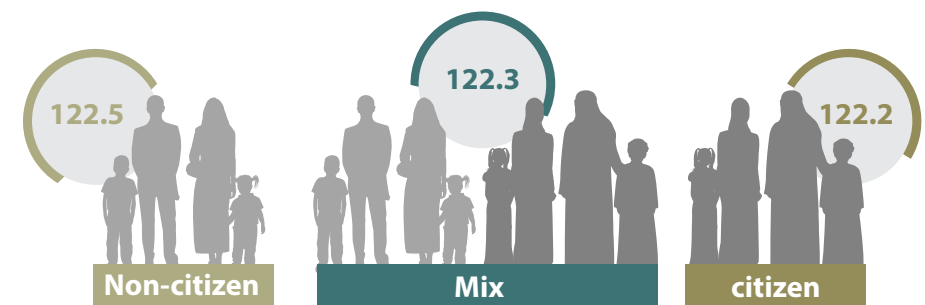
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

**Table 5/16:** Monthly consumer price indices by household type 2012 (100=2007)

Month	Household Type			
	Citizens	Non-Citizens	Share	All Households
January	121.6	122.5	121.7	<b>122.0</b>
February	121.6	122.3	121.3	<b>121.9</b>
March	122.0	122.7	121.5	<b>122.2</b>
April	122.1	123.0	122.5	<b>122.5</b>
May	122.3	123.3	123.0	<b>122.8</b>
June	122.5	123.5	123.8	<b>123.0</b>
July	122.8	123.9	124.3	<b>123.4</b>
August	122.6	123.8	124.4	<b>123.3</b>
September	123.1	124.2	124.4	<b>123.7</b>
October	123.1	124.3	124.6	<b>123.7</b>
November	123.0	124.1	124.5	<b>123.6</b>
December	122.7	123.8	123.7	<b>123.3</b>
Amended	122.5	123.5	123.3	<b>122.9</b>

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

**Figure 5/7:** Consumer price indices by household type 2012 (100=2007)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

Chapter

# 6



**2013**

Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics

## 6/1 Oil and Gas

The first attempt at oil exploration in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi took place on January 11th, 1939. Shortly thereafter came the events leading up to World War II and exploration slowed down during the war years. Exploration in the Emirate resumed in 1947, showing no economic feasibility due to the high cost of drilling and low price of oil at that time. This situation lasted until 1959, when oil was discovered in commercial quantities in the Marban field. The first oil shipment sailed from Das Island in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in late July 1962, marking the beginning of the major, comprehensive development the emirate has by the Emirate from that point and up till now. During the past five decades, economic performance in the Emirate has continued to directly reflect on the crude oil sector, not only because oil sales constitute the main source of national income, but also because oil, through the financial resources it provides, represents the main catalyst driving economic activity in the non-oil sector.

From that date onward, the oil sector in the Emirate has continued to represent the main pillar of local economy and the main source of national income, and will continue to do so for many years to come, given that Abu Dhabi is sixth in the world in terms of the global reserves, with reserves estimated currently at around 92 billion barrels, equivalent to 7% of the total confirmed global reserves, while its current production constitutes more than 8% of total OPEC production. Thus, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi could continue its oil production for more than 100 years from now at current rates. Despite all this, the most important role in the course of development is not the oil itself, but the wise leadership that has managed and utilized the oil for the benefit and welfare of the people.

The oil and gas share in gross GDP was 56.1% in 2012 compared to 56.9% in 2011. The Government of Abu Dhabi has adopted a long-term policy that aims to diversify the economic base and increase the contribution of the non-oil sector in economic growth. This diversity is considered an absolute necessity to guarantee the balanced growth of the emirate's economy in the future.

Natural gas is of no less importance than crude oil as a source of energy and as a raw material required for many industries. Production of natural gas from the main fields in Abu Dhabi has increased significantly. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi produces gas from all oil producing fields, both onshore and offshore. Natural gas is hydrocarbon material in its gaseous form, while oil represents its liquid form and they are both often found in the same place. Natural gas may also be present in areas independent of oil fields: so-called non-associated gas. In order to benefit from this national natural resource, a number of projects for gas processing have been carried out in Das Island and Al-Rowais. Natural gas is currently used in two forms: some is liquefied and exported, and some directed towards the petrochemical industries, when gas is

transformed into dry ammonia and then to urea to be used as fertilizer. The results of exploiting this wealth of natural resource is evident in the local economy, in addition to its local use as energy and raw material for a number of industries.

Growing demand to meet the need for power production and petrochemical feedstocks has pushed up production, bringing local consumption to 91% of the total gas production in the last decade, compared to only 16% in the 1970s. The development of natural gas fields has also led to increased production and export of condensates, which do not fall under the OPEC quota, making gas exports a more stable source of income compared to oil, as the quantity is fixed on the basis of a contractual period, while its prices are less volatile.

**Table 6/1:** Production of crude oil and natural gas

Year	Crude oil (thousand barrels)*		Natural gas (million cubic feet)	
	Annual production	Daily average	Annual production	Daily average
2002	633,275	1,735	2,092,582	5,733
2003	717,955	1,967	2,165,545	5,933
2004	794,220	2,170	2,289,696	6,256
2005	818,330	2,242	2,069,550	5,670
2006	838,770	2,298	2,016,863	5,526
2007	863,225	2,365	1,915,758	5,249
2008	928,000	2,536	1,678,043	4,585
2009	795,991	2,181	1,777,720	4,870
2010	825,291	2,261	2,174,057	5,956
2011	913,191	2,502	2,305,798	6,317
2012	948,200	2,591	2,791,815	7,628

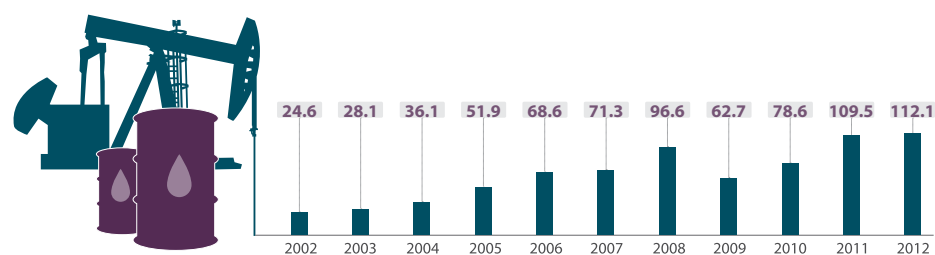
\*Production does not include condensers.

Source: Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)

The average daily production of the Emirate of crude oil increased from 1.7 million barrels a day in 2002 to 2.6 million barrels a day in 2012, with an annual growth of 4.9%. During the same period, the average daily production of the Emirate of natural gas increased from 5,733 million cubic feet daily to 7,628 million cubic feet daily, with an annual growth of 3.3%.

Abu Dhabi has about 212 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, ranking it seventh globally with regard to confirmed reserves. Khuff natural gas reservoirs beneath the Umm Shaif and Abu Al Bukhush oil fields are believed to be the largest gas reserves in the world.

**Figure 6/1:** Average crude oil prices the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (\$/barrel)



Source: Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The prices of crude oil have significantly increased in the years from 2002 to 2012. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has the best types of crude oil, the most important of which are: Murban, Umm Al-Shaif, Upper Zakum, and Lower Zakum. The average price of the Emirate crude oil increased from 24.6 dollars per barrel in 2002 to 112.1 dollars per barrel in 2012, with an annual increase of 35.6%.

The average daily production of the Emirate refined petroleum products increased from 49.4 thousand metric tons daily in 2005 to 56.4 thousand metric tons daily in 2012, with an annual growth of 2%. During the same period, the average daily local sales of refined petroleum products increased from 9.5 thousand metric tons daily to 28.4 thousand metric tons daily, with an average annual growth of 28.4%, while the quantity of daily exports of refined petroleum products dropped from 30.2 thousand metric tons daily in 2005 to 27.3 thousand metric tons daily in 2012, with an annual decrease of 1.4%.

## 6/2 Manufacturing Industry

Abu Dhabi's drive towards establishing major high-tech and capital industrial complexes of in cooperation with major industrial countries comes within the context of industry being a policy priority for Abu Dhabi. The last years witnessed the execution by the competent bodies of programmes pertaining to major expansion in industrial activity through establishing several developed industries in various industrial activities. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has been able to establish a solid foundation for major industrial expansion, thus increasing the profile of this vital sector in the Emirate's economy, especially given the serious commitment of the state leadership to support and encouragement for these sectors. This is accomplished through the issuance of legislations supportive of and encouraging to industrial development, in addition to the increasing interest in the quality of industrial products. The aluminum, iron, steel, glass, metals, plastic and petrochemical industries are only some of the heavy industries capable of oiling the wheels of growth in the industrial sector.

Industry plays an important role in the economy of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. It is one of the main pivots upon which it turns, and with which most branches of production are linked. It is also the most important source of income diversification, due to its numerous fields of activity and high level natural and human resources of various specialisations. Therefore, the drive towards establishing a modern industrial movement is a top priority of development plans and programmes.

Thanks to great efforts exerted in previous years to develop and improve the manufacturing sector as the backbone of the plan to diversify the economy, the value added by this sector amounted to AED 53,359 million in 2012 with an increase of 11.2% and 26% compared to 2011 and 2009 respectively. While total production reached AED 194,358 million in 2012 with a 9.5% and 32.5% increase compared to 2011 and 2009 respectively.

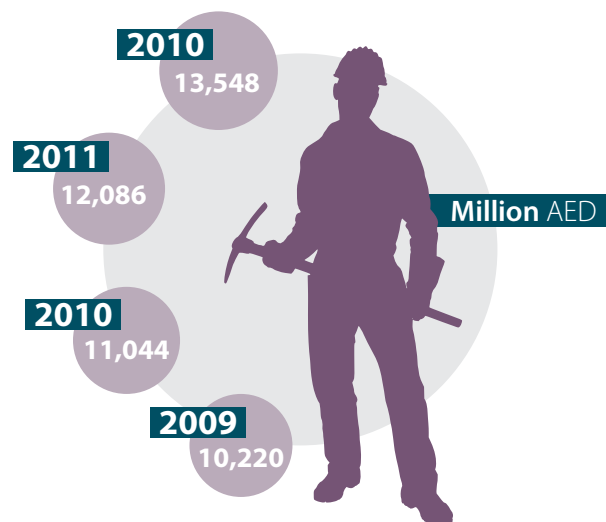
**Table 6/2: Key statistics of manufacturing industries**

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012*
Share in GDP at Current Prices (%)	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.9
Share in non-oil GDP at current prices (%)	10.1	11.1	13.3	13.4
Gross output (% of GDP at current prices)	18.4	20.6	21.0	21.3
Capital formation (% of GDP at Current Prices)	4.8	4.5	3.3	3.4
Compensations of employees (Million AED)	10,220	11,044	12,086	13,548

\*Preliminary Estimates.

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

The share of the manufacturing industries in the non-oil GDP increased from 10.1% in 2009 to 13.4% in 2012. The survey results showed an increase in the value of employees' compensations in the manufacturing industries activities from AED 10,220 million in 2009 to AED 13,548 million in 2012 with an annual growth of 10.9%.

**Figure 6/2: Employees compensations for the manufacturing industries activity**

\*Preliminary estimates.

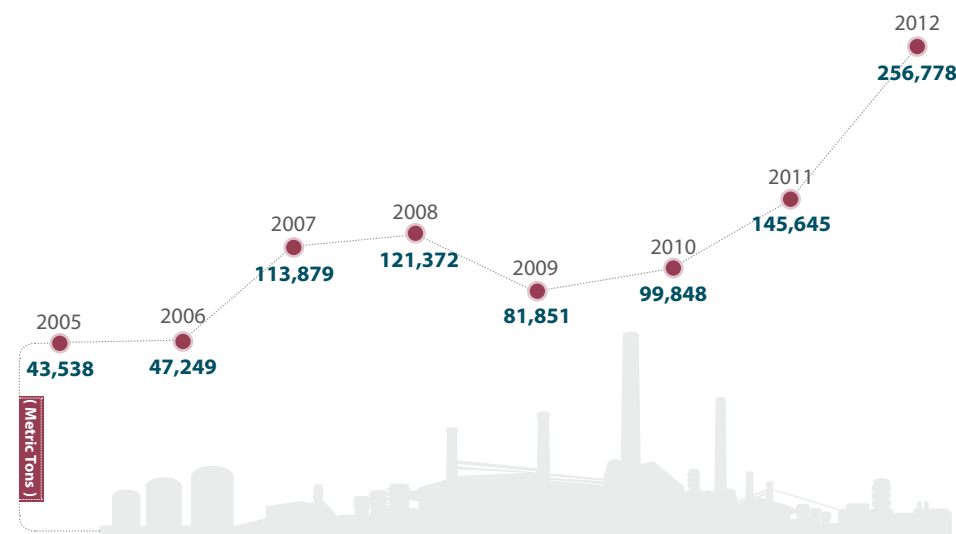
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

## 6/3 Petrochemicals

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is a leading producer of basic petrochemical that supply the manufacturing industries locally and overseas with high-. The petrochemicals industry is considered one of the important sectors in the future plan to diversify the economy of the Emirate.

Data indicates an increase in the total production of petrochemicals from 2,053,799 metric tons in 2005 to 2,780,681 metric tons in 2012, with an average annual growth of 5%. At the same time, the annual increase in the exports of these products reached 32.3%, from 650,800 metric tons in 2005 to 2,124,668 metric tons in 2012.

A key petrochemical products for which the Emirate is renowned is the ammonia and urea fertilizers, polyethylene and polypropylene. Polyethylene was one of the most important petrochemical exports during the years from 2005 to 2012, with an annual growth rate of around 10.1%. It is worth noting that a new product was developed i.e. polypropylene, now one of the sector's key products because of the high quality technology and high production capability it requires, as well as for its increasing global demand. Its first production was in 2010, at 137,812 metric tons, and increased to reach 636,729 metric tons in 2012, with its exports reaching 532,500 metric tons for the same year.

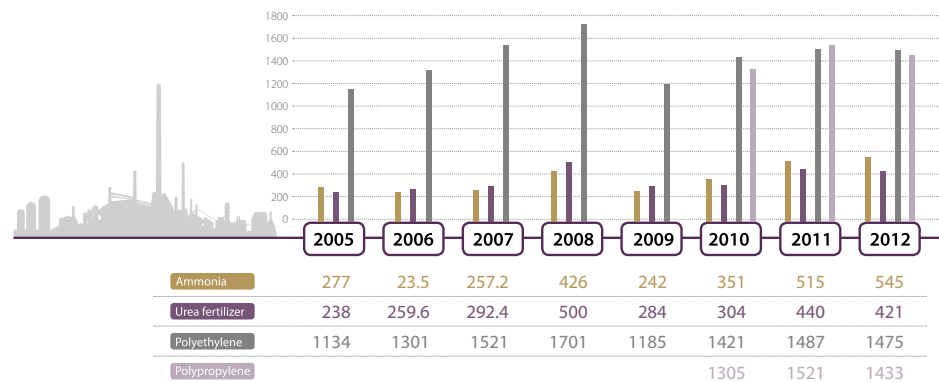
**Figure 6/3: Production Petrochemicals Products 2012**  
(Metric Tons)

Source: Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The petrochemical industry in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi achieved an increase in local sales of petrochemical products from 43,538 metric tons in 2005 to 256,778 metric tons in 2012, at an annual growth of 70%.

The prices of petrochemical exports were on the rise from 2005 and up to 2012. Polyethylene topped the list of exports at the value of 1,134 dollars per metric ton in 2005, and continued to increase till it reached its highest price of 1,701 dollars per metric ton in 2008, before declining in 2009. It recovered after that and continued to increase to 1,475 dollars per metric ton in 2012. It is worth noting that polypropylene is considered one of the most expensive petrochemical exports as well, as the price of its first exports was at 1,305 dollars per metric tons in 2010, and increased to reach 1,433 dollars per metric ton in 2012.

**Figure 6/4:** Prices of petrochemicals exports



\*Polyethylene includes ethylene in the years (2005-2006).

Source: Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

## 6/4 Electricity and Water

The water and electricity activity provides important services to the domestic sector as well as to the various other economic activities. Abu Dhabi lays special emphasis on the development of this utility, which has started to witness significant development following the issuance of the law establishing the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority in March 1998, as the higher supervisory body that regulates and develops the water and electricity activity and implements the related government policies

**Table 6/3:** The quantities available and the consumption of electricity and desalinated water

Item	2005	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Electricity (GW/h)</b>						
Available quantities	25,424	34,452	39,402	41,859	46,367	50,381
Consumption	25,424	31,481	34,716	39,173	43,251	47,117
<b>Desalinated water (million Imperial gallon)</b>						
Available quantities	163,241	198,648	211,448	211,793	219,788	238,605
Consumption	146,727	170,202	173,781	192,028	211,510	232,999

**Note:** Consumption includes the internal consumption of stations, in addition to what is lost through the network.

Source: Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Company

In 2012, total electricity production was power in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was 50,381.2 gigwatt/hour compared to (25,423.9) gigwatt/hour in 2005, with an annual growth of 14.0%. The electricity consumption in 2012 reached 47,116.8 gigwatt/hour at an annual growth rate of 2.9% in 2005.

The quantity of available desalinated water was 238,605 million Imperial gallons in 2012, growing at an annual rate of 6.6% over the period from 2005 to 2012. The consumption of desalinated water reached 232,999 million Imperial gallons in 2012, compared to (146,727) million Imperial gallons in 2005, with an annual growth of 8.4%.

The table below shows that the electricity and water production depends of various types of fuel, including natural gas, crude oil, gas oil, and fuel oil, with a total fuel consumption of 574,709 billion British thermal units in 2012, compared to (372,818) billion British thermal units in 2005, with an annual growth of 7.7%.

It is worth noting that natural gas represents the highest percentage of the total fuel used for electricity generation, whereas the consumption of natural gas reached 574,499 billion British thermal units in 2012, compared to (370,973) billion British thermal units in 2005, at an annual growth rate of 7.8%.

**Table 6/4:** Fuel consumption in the electricity and water activity

(Billion British thermal unit)

Item	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>372,818</b>	<b>404,741</b>	<b>430,237</b>	<b>439,811</b>	<b>483,597</b>	<b>502,487</b>	<b>543,643</b>	<b>574,709</b>
Natural Gas	370,973	360,039	414,062	438,757	469,726	467,126	528,114	574,499
Crude oil	1,287	26,721	10,737	78	7,783	21,918	6,062	0
Gas oil	557	11,841	3,003	894	5,239	13,439	9,467	210
Fuel oil	1	6,140	2,435	82	849	4	0	0

Source: Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Company

## 6/5 Construction

The construction activity in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has experienced robust growth in recent years as a result of several factors that have left their clear effect on it, including the growing population needs and the major investments in the activity.

construction statistics also indicate a 17.0% annual growth rate in the number of building permits issued the number of building permits issued which reached 19,058 permits in 2012.

Consequently the number of building completions increased from 6,183 in 2011 to 9,057 in 2012, increasing by 46.5%.

From following the values of the gross output of the construction activity for the years 2007 - 2011, it can be seen that the rate of annual growth for the construction activity reached 28.5%, while the gross output reached AED 167.5 billion in 2011. The building activity is considered one of the key activities in economy at the level of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, contributing 23.1% to non-oil GDP for 2011.

**Table 6/5:** Number of building permits issued by region

Year	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Gharbia	Total
<b>2009</b>	8,819	2,949	855	<b>12,623</b>
<b>2010</b>	7,268	3,377	887	<b>11,532</b>
<b>2011</b>	11,293	3,439	1,001	<b>15,733</b>
<b>2012</b>	14,096	4,100	862	<b>19,058</b>

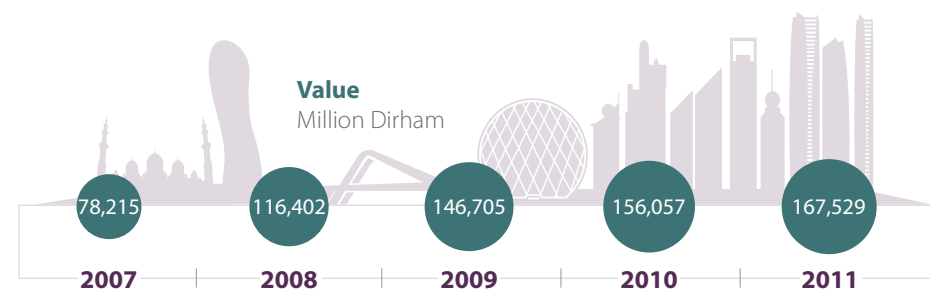
Source: Municipality Affairs Department - Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Gharbia Municipalities.



**Table 6/6:** Number of completed buildings by type and region

Year	2011				2012			
	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Gharbia	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Gharbia	Total
Residential	3,055	1,040	98	<b>4,193</b>	5,582	1,513	410	<b>7,505</b>
Residential commercial	1,233	65	0	<b>1,298</b>	754	0	0	<b>754</b>
Industrial	257	17	49	<b>323</b>	167	23	24	<b>214</b>
Public utilities	117	13	25	<b>155</b>	98	50	22	<b>170</b>
Commercial	93	73	1	<b>167</b>	59	98	4	<b>161</b>
Agricultural	11	0	2	<b>13</b>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Other	6	25	3	<b>34</b>	1	12	240	<b>253</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4772</b>	<b>1233</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>6183</b>	<b>6661</b>	<b>1696</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>9057</b>

Source: Municipality Affairs Department - Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Gharbia Municipalities.

**Figure 6/5:** Gross output of the construction activity

Source: Municipality Affairs Department - Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Gharbia Municipalities.



## 6/6 Basic Infrastructure

As result of the relentless commitment of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi to develop and modernizd its infrastructure. Abu Dhabi Government managed, in less than three decades, to complete a highly-developed network of roads, bridges, tunnels, highways, airports, seaports that have placed it among developed nations. The Emirate’s residents and visitors enjoy esay access to modern CIT servises in landlines, mobile telephony, high-speed Internet, and other advanced infrastructure facilities.

Through the vision of its senior leadership and the philosophy of excellence , the Emirate has been able to develop an ambitious urban strategy, namely «Abu Dhabi Plan 2030”, which is intended to empower urban planners to respond to the demands of current and future development. The main feature of this plan is the concept of a sustainable city built around thriving suburbs. This concept focuses on growth, upgrading transport services, building multi-purpose roads that are pedestrian friendly, maintaining a more sustainable and less costly infrastructure, while protecting and enhancing the surrounding environment. Abu Dhabi has developed a clearly defined framework for the long-term sustainable growth of the city. It is the embodiment of a new vision to build and expand the city that puts culture and community before abstract business goals. The main objective of the plan is to ensure that the future shape of the city of Abu Dhabi is a reflection of its heritage, preserving its identity, to make the city a model for contemporary Arab cities. The Government of Abu Dhabi has spent generously on the establishment of modern infrastructure.

## 6/7 Transport

Transport plays a key role in development and constitutes the most important element in the infrastructure of the economy. The market is expanded through movement of people and commodities and thus transport contributes to the optimal utilization of human and material resources. Therefore, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi pays considerable attention to roads, considering them the arteries that feed all parts of the Emirate with their needs from goods and services, and that stimulate production and trade.

Roads are the arteries of modern life, and the progress of nations is measured by the extent of their networks of modern roads. It was natural with the social and economic development witnessed in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi for the transportation sector to develop rapidly and progressively in order to facilitate communication between all parts of the Emirate and to link them as well to neighbouring countries.

The Emirate has focused on linking cities together through a network of modern roads with multiple lanes in addition to a network of roads within the major cities and villages, covering all parts of the Emirate.

In the context of the Emirate’s strategy, plans have been developed to establish a distinctive overland network (to include railways) that are in the process of being implemented. In the years 2005 to 2011, the number of licensed vehicles in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi increased by 190.9%.

**Table 6/7:** Number of licensed vehicles by region

Region	2005	2008	2009	2010	2011
Emirate of Abu Dhabi	269,920	561,748	675,026	743,049	785,076
Abu Dhabi	172,291	386,853	471,502	521,270	554,196
Al Ain	85,721	154,110	180,032	194,821	201,687
Al Gharbia	11,908	20,785	23,492	26,958	29,193

Source: Ministry of Interior

In the field of air transport, the airports in the Emirate have managed to attract considerable air traffic, with more than 35 international airlines operating regular flights to over 150 destinations worldwide land at Abu Dhabi International Airport. Etihad is the national carrier for the United Arab Emirates, with regular flights with Abu Dhabi International Airport as its base. The Emirate's seaports have also grown into busy hubs of foreign trade. Abu Dhabi has three airports which are as follows: Abu Dhabi International Airport, Al Ain International Airport, and Al Bateen Airport, which is for the landing and reception of VIP's. The total aircraft movement was around 155.2 thousand trips in 2012, with an increase of 95.8% compared with 2005, while the number of travellers through the Emirate airports reached 15 million travellers in 2012, with an increase of 166.7% compared to 2005.

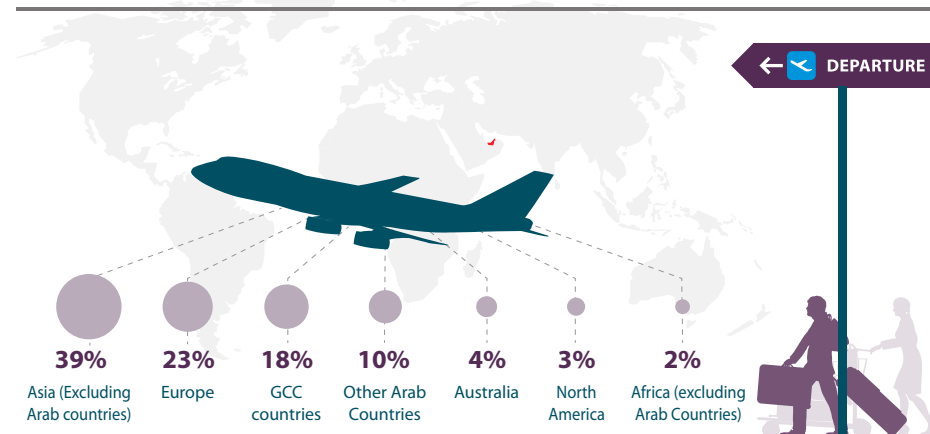
**Table 6/8:** Air transport, passengers and freights

Item	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Aircraft Movement	79,269	85,497	95,949	105,392	138,846	145,183	155,189
<b>Passengers</b>							
Arrival	2,517,133	3,363,617	4,494,980	4,758,659	5,458,716	6,210,403	7,355,912
Departure	2,501,320	3,281,827	4,265,255	4,684,131	5,387,127	6,121,919	7,348,030
Transit	587,076	464,340	407,947	321,924	281,218	305,546	247,011
<b>Freight (tons)</b>							
In	113,178	165,763	187,741	204,778	229,428	254,664	306,354
Out	101,941	154,125	169,067	176,608	210,144	227,377	263,109
<b>Mail (in tons)</b>							
In	807	699	1,066	1,860	2,113	2,158.00	2,411.00
Out	776	1,189	1,096	1,923	2,411	3,241.00	3,637.00

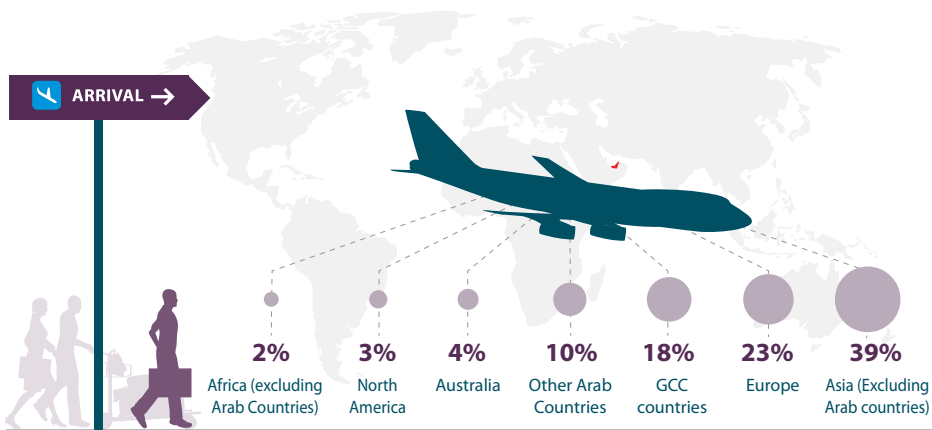
Source: Abu Dhabi Airports Company.



**Figure 6/6:** Air passengers arrivals by region of embarkation, 2012



Source: Abu Dhabi Airports Company.

**Figure 6/7:** Air passengers departures by region of embarkation, 2012

Source: Abu Dhabi Airports Company.

Abu Dhabi's main seaports, Mina Zayed Port and Khalifa port, are world-class facilities, operated with the latest equipment and advanced technical devices for the reception of large vessels. Khalifa Port represents a major milestone in the development of infrastructure in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. It provides its services to around 17 international shipping lines and more than 18 direct services, connecting with more than 40 regional and global ports. This port is also considered the first semi-automatic port in the Middle East. and is therefore capable of catering for increasing movement of containers from and to the Emirate.

**Table 6/9:** Key statistical indicators for goods vessels movement

Item	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of vessels	16,391	20,154	39,526	38,291
Containers (TEUs)*				
<b>Total</b>	<b>530,271</b>	<b>521,156</b>	<b>767,713</b>	<b>787,048</b>
Discharged	263,648	257,302	384,394	391,267
Loaded	266,623	263,854	383,319	395,781
General cargo (metric tons)				
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,914,168</b>	<b>6,046,722</b>	<b>8,638,766</b>	<b>9,393,265</b>
Discharged	4,801,450	5,962,276	8,190,376	9,153,595
Loaded	112,718	84,446	178,390	239,670
Vehicle unit				
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,951</b>	<b>62,352</b>	<b>56,510</b>	<b>79,906</b>
Discharged	37,078	61,910	56,318	79,184
Loaded	873	442	192	722

\*Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU)

Source: Abu Dhabi Terminals.

## 6/8 Information and Communication Technology

The Government of Abu Dhabi has kept pace with the technical revolution of the previous years, translating an ambitious national strategy for the development of communication and information technology and encouraging local and foreign investment in the knowledge and advanced technology sector. In this regard the number of fixed broadband subscribers in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi increased from 8 subscribers per 100 people in 2009 to 11 subscribers per 100 people in 2012. This section presents the key indicators of the information and communication technology in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The number of subscribers to the mobile phone service increased by 18.9% between 2009 and 2012.

**Table 6/10:** Key statistics of communication and information technology

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012*
Share in GDP at current prices (%)	4.5	3.0	2.3	2.2
Share in non-oil GDP at current prices (%)	8.1	5.9	5.3	5.0
Gross output (% of GDP at current prices)	5.2	3.9	3.1	3.0
Capital formation (% of GDP at current prices)	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.7
Compensations of Employees (million AED)	4,185	4,740	4,924	5,234

\*Preliminary Estimates

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

Such statistics confirm the steady progress Abu Dhabi making in the drive to transform itself into an excellent government providing high quality services for both citizens and residents through shifting to the concept of e-government.

**Table 6/11:** Key statistics of communication and information technology

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012
Fixed broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants	8	11	11	11
Fixed telephone subscribers per 100 inhabitants	13	14	11	17
Mobile cellular subscribers per 100 inhabitants	159	161	168	189
Percentage of population covered by mobile network	100	100	100	100

Source: Communications Regulation Authority.

**Table 6/12 :** Communication services fees  
(Dirham/month)

Type of service	Tariff			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Fixed high speed broadband service fees for individuals (256 kb/sec)	149	149	149	149
Fixed high speed broadband service fees for establishments (512 kb/sec)	775	775	775	775
<b>Fixed telephone fees</b>				
Residential	15	15	15	15
Establishments	50	50	50	50
Mobile phone - prepaid service (100 min/month)	30	30	29	29

Source: Communications Regulation Authority.

## 6/9 Tourism and Hotels

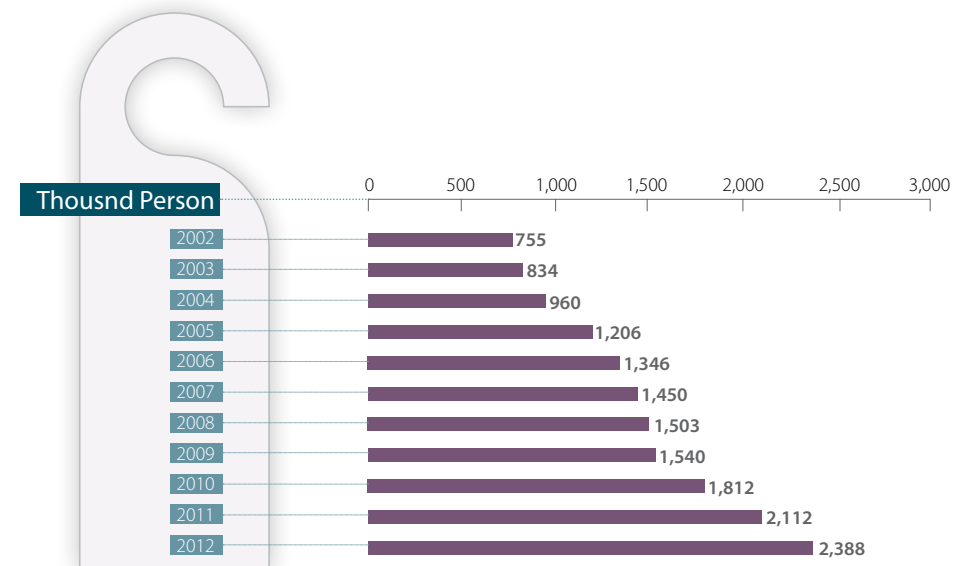
The considerable developments in the tourism sector of Abu Dhabi Emirate over the past few years have turned the emirate into a distinctive tourist destination. The emirate's tourism industry is now highly competitive and realises increasing, especially since the returns establishment of Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority in 2004, which has come to play a key role in promoting Abu Dhabi's tourism, developing infrastructure and boosting the tourism product of the Emirate.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is moving towards the development of the tourism sector as one of the key pillars of economic development, within the framework of the Emirate's integrated plan to diversify the economic base through a strategic vision aimed at promoting the growth of tourism activity and increase its contribution to GDP. At present, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi is witnessing an extensive tourist boom that aims to put the Emirate on the world map, given the importance of this sector in supporting and diversifying the economy, driving growth, and encouraging other areas. The contours of this tourism boom have started to become manifest, with the emergence of several tourism projects launched by the Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority. These make the most of many aspects of the Emirate, such as the beautiful vistas along 400 km of pristine coastline, 200 natural islands, warm and clean seas rich in marine life, ancient oases, vast deserts, deep rooted traditions that still retain their originality and authenticity, and a capital characterised by its globally-renowned architectural character.

This major tourist boom is being led by Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority through its high-profile activities locally, regional and international events. Its job is also the marketing of Abu Dhabi as a tourist destination and the gradual development of various tourism products are within an integrated institutional framework that has already begun to bear fruit. The Authority today plays a major role in the concerted efforts to promote Abu Dhabi internationally through direct co-ordination with hotels, tour operators, airlines and related entities from the public and private sectors. Over its short existence, the Authority has become an effective institution and a global leader, with a strong presence in a number of the most famous international travel fairs and exhibitions, which are important forums and markets and attract travel agents and specialist companies from around the world.

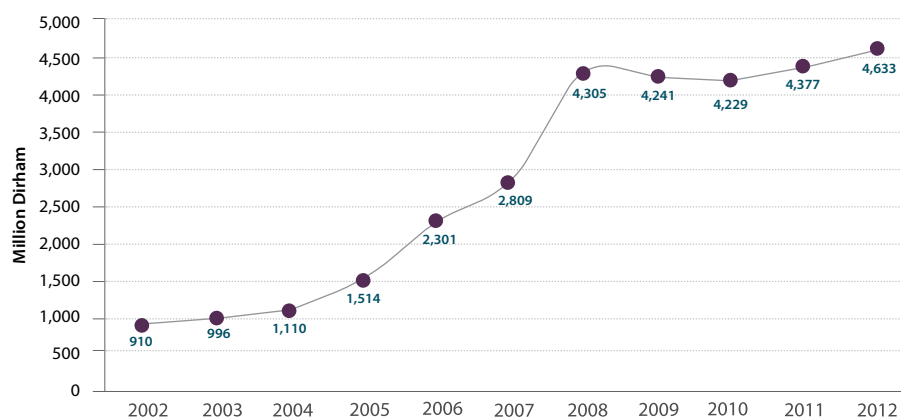
At the present time, the emirate is witnessing an unprecedented boom in the number of hotels, recreational parks, entertainment venues, shopping malls, residential complexes and luxury waterfront housing, sport and entertainment facilities, art galleries and museums that all attract more tourists to the Emirate. The number of hotels reached 130 in 2012, with the number of hotel rooms increasing by 3.5%. Also the number of hotel establishments ment guest increased by 13.1% in 2012 compared to 2011.

**Figure 6/7:** Number of hotel establishments guests by year



**Source:** Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority.

Tourism statistics indicates an increase in the number of guests from all nationalities. The largest increase was in the percentage of guests from non-Arab African countries, with an increase of 32.6% compared with 2011. Data also reveal an increase in the number of guest nights by 11.6% for the total nights for various nationalities. Guest nights decreased by 6% for guests from North and South America. There was also shows a slight drop in the average stay from 2.97 nights in 2011 to 2.93 nights in 2012.

**Figure 6/8:** Annual revenues of hotel establishments

Source: Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority.

The total revenues of hotels and hotel apartments increased by 5.8% in 2012 compared with the previous year. The revenues generated by food and beverages increased by 12.4%, while room revenues increased by 1.1%, constituting the largest proportion of revenues ( 52.9% and 50.6%) in 2011 and 2012 respectively, followed by food and beverages revenues, with a corresponding contribution of 36.7% and 38.9%.

**Table 6/13:** Key indicators of hotel establishments

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of hotels establishments	77	97	115	116	129	130
Number of rooms	10,192	12,727	17,424	18,844	21,254	21,997
Number of guests	1,449,625	1,502,954	1,540,258	1,812,011	2,111,611	2,388,023
Number of guest nights	4,275,063	4,673,494	4,318,504	5,132,323	6,269,682	6,996,724
Number of hotel rooms	3,385,944	3,766,822	3,389,335	3,943,006	4,728,983	5,158,206
Average stay (night)	2.95	3.11	2.80	2.83	2.97	2.93
Number of available hotel rooms	3,313,952	3,433,982	4,593,832	6,184,263	6,864,194	7,933,070
Number of occupied hotel rooms	2,698,951	2,871,192	3,315,477	3,999,674	4,728,940	5,172,765
Occupancy rate (%)	81.4	83.6	72.2	64.7	68.9	65.2
Revenues of rooms (thousand AED)	1,610,552	2,660,413	2,472,846	2,269,007	2,316,881	2,342,734
Food and beverages revenues (thousand AED)	851,704	1,311,305	1,298,560	1,507,411	1,605,115	1,803,404
Other revenues (thousand AED)	347,041	333,153	469,223	452,102	455,060	486,937
Total revenues (thousand AED)	2,809,297	4,304,871	4,240,629	4,228,520	4,377,057	4,633,075
ARR: Average revenue of hotel rooms (AED)	-	-	745.8	567.3	489.9	452.9
Rev PAR: Average revenue of available rooms (AED)	-	-	538.3	366.9	337.5	295.31

Source: Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority.

Chapter

# 7

**2013**

Explore Abu Dhabi through Statistics





## 7/1 Agriculture

Anyone who visited the Emirate of Abu Dhabi back in the 1960's and once again recently would be astonished by the miracle that has taken place in this land. How could the sand dunes that extended to the horizon have been turned into parks, gardens, and greenery? The terrain of the emirate was barren deserts, with the exception of some desert vegetation such as ghaf and samur trees and palms in scattered oases. The unbearable heat, salinity of the soil, and the absence of natural water sources like rain and rivers surely defied any notion of ever planting or rehabilitating the land.

Despite these challenges to the agricultural sector in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, agricultural development has defied the odds and made tangible gains via ambitious plans and policies to achieve sustainable, long-term agricultural development. Indeed the agricultural sector represents one of the brightest prospects for cultural and economic progress in the Emirate.

The leadership in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi paid attention to the agricultural sector due to the role it plays in diversifying the sources of income and enhancing the concept of food security. As this sector is the main source providing necessary supplies and for many food industries, much attention was directed towards caring to increase production and encourage the use of non-traditional agricultural method aiming to reduce water consumption. The area of cultivated land amounted to 752,839 Dunam, with total number of plots reaching 24,394 in 2012.

**Table 7/1:** Number and area of plant holdings

Year	Number of holdings	Area of holdings
2002	22,250	708,815
2003	22,795	718,644
2004	22,840	719,109
2005	23,704	739,686
2006	23,648	720,651
2007	23,198	703,748
2008	24,015	731,512
2009	24,097	737,957
2010	24,290	747,679
2011	24,394	752,839
2012	24,394	752,839

Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

## 7/2 Livestock

Livestock represents one of the key resources of economic development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, especially as it is considered a source of income for the residents of rural and urban areas. Therefore that sector received serious interest through approved plans, programmes and policies. Livestock in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has witnessed a great expansion in recent years, due to tangible improvements in the quality and efficiency of the veterinary services provided by the Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority, via fixed and mobile clinics, which spread across the Emirate and supported by a number of veterinary laboratories with numerous areas of responsibility, including the treatment and vaccination of animals and birds against diseases and epidemics.

As a result of the interest received by this sector and the adequate of financial resources made available to develop it, the size of the livestock herd reached 2,921,698 million heads in 2012.

**Table 7/2:** Livestock populations

Year	Total	Sheep and goats	Cattle	Camels
2002	1,752,519	1,454,290	14,624	283,605
2003	1,686,716	1,401,964	15,392	269,360
2004	2,134,822	1,827,419	20,425	286,978
2005	2,078,608	1,761,713	30,630	286,265
2006	2,215,552	1,876,054	33,430	306,068
2007	2,519,841	2,127,604	38,900	353,337
2008	2,377,777	1,998,280	42,596	336,901
2009	2,726,671	2,305,603	42,992	378,076
2010	2,357,065	2,041,902	39,778	275,385
2011	2,397,892	2,080,623	39,692	277,577
2012	2,921,698	2,551,432	40,046	330,220

Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

The completion of the animal health infrastructure in the Emirate and the highly professional veterinary facilities provided have had a great effect on attracting many investors into production projects, especially in the field of dairy and poultry farms. In the context of the increasing interest in the overall agricultural sector, the poultry and dairy industry in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has achieved remarkable development in recent years, turning into an important and influential industry in the national economy and playing a key role in obtaining animal protein, as a result of targeted investment in agricultural development. This includes the development of the livestock sector, particularly poultry, to enhance food provision; with the establishment of many dairy farms milk as well as modern poultry farms, a matter which had a positive impact upon the advancement of the milk, eggs and poultry meat production and contributed to improving the food situation in the Emirate. Moreover, it helped to meet the demand for high quality animal protein. In 2012 there were 13 poultry farms producing 17101 tons of meat and 203 million eggs in 2012. The Emirate's 13 dairy farms that produced around 80540 tons of fresh milk in 2012.



## 7/3 Fisheries

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has a coast exceeding 500 km in length that is rich in fish and other forms of marine life. There are more than 200 islands of various sizes, environment profiles and historical and economic importance scattered in its waters. The geographic location of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has made fishing a key economic activity, the main source for meeting the needs of the people for fish, and the main element in the diet of coastal inhabitants. Fishing is also one of the most important renewable resources and a vital source of national income. Therefore, the economic policy in the Emirate has placed great importance on fishing and has supported fishermen by providing in-kind loans related to the requirements of fish production, as well as the free services to repair and maintain marine engines, training and provide guidance and directions in modernising techniques to increase production, as well as raising their living standards to encourage them to keep to the professions of the forefathers. The Emirate is also keen to study the marine environment in which the fisherman works, conducting surveys to determine the species and quantities of fish, as well as the sites of and seasons for reproduction to determine the periods and place in which it should ban fishing. There are also surveys conducted on the migration patterns of fish, the protection of fisheries, and the prevention of over-exploitation.

As the fishing sector is considered the second branch of food production in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, it receives sufficient support and attention. The Emirate is now self-sufficient in fresh and frozen fish, with the total fish production reaching 4,399 tons in 2012 estimated in value at about AED 80.8 million.

**Table 7/3:** Quantity and value of annual fish catch

Quantity: Ton, value: Million AED

Year	Quantity	Value
2002	8,184	47.5
2003	9,042	74.4
2004	6,658	48.9
2005	6,942	49.5
2006	5,831	60.7
2007	5,337	63.2
2008	5,363	74.6
2009	5,977	104.8
2010	6,333	124.4
2011	3,922	69.4
2012	4,399	80.8

Source: Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi

## 7/4 Environmental Protection

The supreme leadership had deep and early awareness of the importance of protecting the environment as a basic requirement to achieve sustainable, balanced and comprehensive growth. This is quite manifest in the vast areas of forest, plantation, gardens, and the millions of trees and plants of all types that are increasingly evident in the midst of desert terrain, and which stand today as witness to an enormous achievement whereby vegetation now covers more than 6% of the total area of Abu Dhabi.

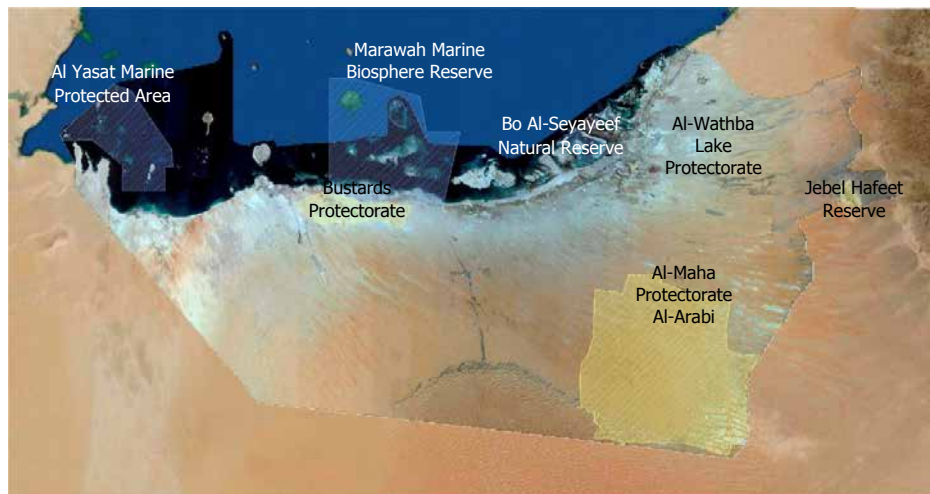
Despite being one of the major oil exporters in the world, Abu Dhabi is still a pioneer in adopting renewable sources of energy, leading global efforts to move over to the use of clean energy. The Emirate has also taken an important step in defense of the environment when it launched an ambitious initiative in the field of renewable energy - namely the Masdar Initiative - through which it is seeking to decrease dependence on the traditional sources of energy that are primarily responsible for increasing carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere, the greenhouse effect and climate changes.

## 7/5 Biodiversity

The special attention Abu Dhabi pays to environmental issues has won wide acclaim internationally, especially in the fields of conserving nature, combating desertification, developing wildlife and developing nature reserves. It also involves encouraging and supporting global research for the preservation of endangered species such as Al-Maha deer, the Arabian leopard, dugongs, green turtles and advanced programmes for the breeding of wild birds, including falcons and bustards, using advanced technologies.

Abu Dhabi is committed to protecting biodiversity and save the species facing extinction through sound policies and improved environmental protection practices. The Emirate has three officially declared reserves with a total area of 6,306 square kilometres in addition to several other proposed reserves that are still awaiting official announcement. The three reserves represent around 5% of the total area of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, while the total area of declared reserves and proposed reser is 15,357 square kilometres, around 13.2% of the total area of Abu Dhabi.

**Figure 1/7:** Locations of proposed and declared land marine protectorates, 2012



**Source:** Abu Dhabi Geospatial Portal, Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.

There are 793 recorded species of living organisms (terrestrial and marine) in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, excluding invertebrates (arthropods) according to the last update in mid 2012. Studies indicate the presence of more than 2000 registered species of wild arthropods, of which insects constitute the absolute majority at 96%, while 414 types of vascular plants were recorded in the Emirate.

**Table 4/7:** Total number of known and threatened species (a), 2012

Sect	Total number of known species	Total number of threatened species
Fish	247	10
Birds <sup>(b)</sup>	420	15
Reptiles <sup>(b)</sup>	70	5
Amphibians	2	0
Mammals <sup>(b)</sup>	54	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>46</b>
Arthropods (terrestrial)	>2000	-
Vascular Plants <sup>(b)</sup>	414	9

(a) Include species classified under global and/or local red list threatened criteria.

(b) Includes terrestrial and marine species.

**Source:** Environmental Authority - Abu Dhabi, Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi.





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