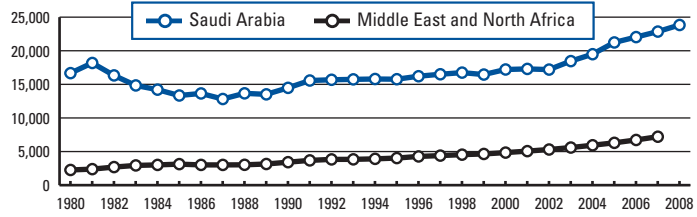


# Saudi Arabia

## Key indicators

Population (millions), 2008.....	25.3
GDP (US\$ billions), 2008.....	481.6
GDP per capita (US\$), 2008.....	19,345.3
GDP (PPP) as share (%) of world total, 2008.....	0.87

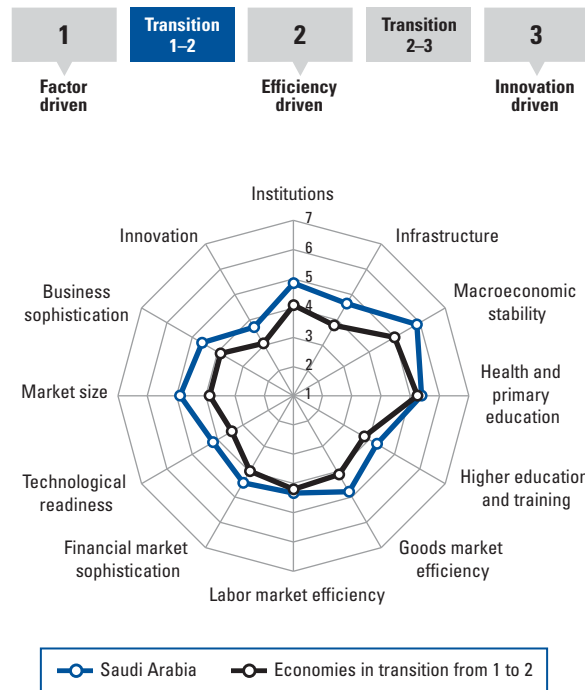
GDP (PPP int'l \$) per capita, 1980–2008



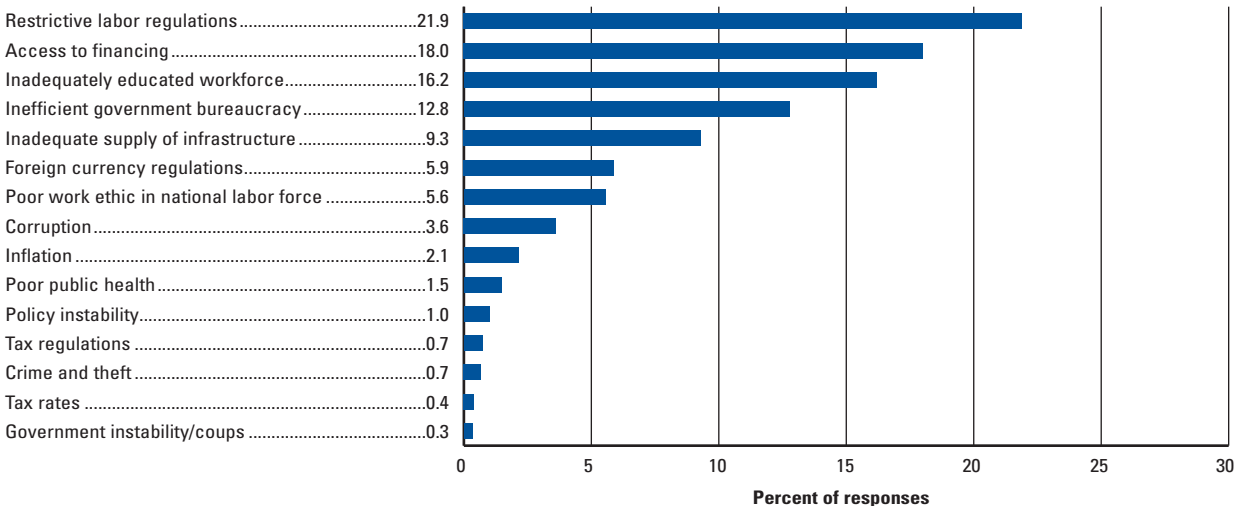
## Global Competitiveness Index

	Rank (out of 133)	Score (1–7)
<b>GCI 2009–2010</b> .....	<b>28</b>	<b>4.7</b>
GCI 2008–2009 (out of 134).....	27	4.7
GCI 2007–2008 (out of 131).....	35	4.5
<b>Basic requirements</b> .....	<b>30</b>	<b>5.2</b>
1st pillar: Institutions.....	32	4.8
2nd pillar: Infrastructure.....	36	4.6
3rd pillar: Macroeconomic stability.....	9	5.9
4th pillar: Health and primary education.....	71	5.4
<b>Efficiency enhancers</b> .....	<b>38</b>	<b>4.5</b>
5th pillar: Higher education and training.....	53	4.3
6th pillar: Goods market efficiency.....	29	4.8
7th pillar: Labor market efficiency.....	71	4.3
8th pillar: Financial market sophistication.....	53	4.4
9th pillar: Technological readiness.....	44	4.2
10th pillar: Market size.....	22	4.9
<b>Innovation and sophistication factors</b> .....	<b>33</b>	<b>4.2</b>
11th pillar: Business sophistication.....	35	4.6
12th pillar: Innovation.....	32	3.7

## Stage of development



## The most problematic factors for doing business



Note: From a list of 15 factors, respondents were asked to select the five most problematic for doing business in their country/economy and to rank them between 1 (most problematic) and 5. The bars in the figure show the responses weighted according to their rankings.

## The Global Competitiveness Index in detail

■ Competitive Advantage ■ Competitive Disadvantage

INDICATOR	RANK/133	INDICATOR	RANK/133
<b>1st pillar: Institutions</b>		<b>6th pillar: Goods market efficiency</b>	
1.01 Property rights .....	37 ■	6.01 Intensity of local competition .....	37 ■
1.02 Intellectual property protection .....	31 ■	6.02 Extent of market dominance .....	37 ■
1.03 Diversion of public funds .....	33 ■	6.03 Effectiveness of anti-monopoly policy .....	41 ■
1.04 Public trust of politicians .....	13 ■	6.04 Extent and effect of taxation .....	8 ■
1.05 Judicial independence .....	34 ■	6.05 Total tax rate* .....	4 ■
1.06 Favoritism in decisions of government officials .....	19 ■	6.06 No. of procedures required to start a business* .....	46 ■
1.07 Wastefulness of government spending .....	13 ■	6.07 Time required to start a business* .....	31 ■
1.08 Burden of government regulation .....	20 ■	6.08 Agricultural policy costs .....	28 ■
1.09 Efficiency of legal framework in settling disputes .....	58 ■	6.09 Prevalence of trade barriers .....	37 ■
1.10 Efficiency of legal framework in challenging regs .....	44 ■	6.10 Tariff barriers* .....	67 ■
1.11 Transparency of government policymaking .....	44 ■	6.11 Prevalence of foreign ownership .....	106 ■
1.12 Business costs of terrorism .....	103 ■	6.12 Business impact of rules on FDI .....	76 ■
1.13 Business costs of crime and violence .....	55 ■	6.13 Burden of customs procedures .....	30 ■
1.14 Organized crime .....	38 ■	6.14 Degree of customer orientation .....	37 ■
1.15 Reliability of police services .....	36 ■	6.15 Buyer sophistication .....	36 ■
1.16 Ethical behavior of firms .....	35 ■	<b>7th pillar: Labor market efficiency</b>	
1.17 Strength of auditing and reporting standards .....	53 ■	7.01 Cooperation in labor-employer relations .....	32 ■
1.18 Efficacy of corporate boards .....	67 ■	7.02 Flexibility of wage determination .....	43 ■
1.19 Protection of minority shareholders' interests .....	46 ■	7.03 Rigidity of employment* .....	16 ■
<b>2nd pillar: Infrastructure</b>		7.04 Hiring and firing practices .....	57 ■
2.01 Quality of overall infrastructure .....	32 ■	7.05 Firing costs* .....	98 ■
2.02 Quality of roads .....	38 ■	7.06 Pay and productivity .....	31 ■
2.03 Quality of railroad infrastructure .....	53 ■	7.07 Reliance on professional management .....	69 ■
2.04 Quality of port infrastructure .....	46 ■	7.08 Brain drain .....	17 ■
2.05 Quality of air transport infrastructure .....	51 ■	7.09 Female participation in labor force* .....	132 ■
2.06 Available seat kilometers* .....	27 ■	<b>8th pillar: Financial market sophistication</b>	
2.07 Quality of electricity supply .....	33 ■	8.01 Financial market sophistication .....	50 ■
2.08 Telephone lines* .....	71 ■	8.02 Financing through local equity market .....	21 ■
<b>3rd pillar: Macroeconomic stability</b>		8.03 Ease of access to loans .....	18 ■
3.01 Government surplus/deficit* .....	3 ■	8.04 Venture capital availability .....	27 ■
3.02 National savings rate* .....	9 ■	8.05 Restriction on capital flows .....	72 ■
3.03 Inflation* .....	81 ■	8.06 Strength of investor protection* .....	24 ■
3.04 Interest rate spread* .....	42 ■	8.07 Soundness of banks .....	33 ■
3.05 Government debt* .....	24 ■	8.08 Regulation of securities exchanges .....	64 ■
<b>4th pillar: Health and primary education</b>		8.09 Legal rights index* .....	83 ■
4.01 Business impact of malaria .....	84 ■	<b>9th pillar: Technological readiness</b>	
4.02 Malaria incidence* .....	76 ■	9.01 Availability of latest technologies .....	43 ■
4.03 Business impact of tuberculosis .....	74 ■	9.02 Firm-level technology absorption .....	40 ■
4.04 Tuberculosis incidence* .....	63 ■	9.03 Laws relating to ICT .....	45 ■
4.05 Business impact of HIV/AIDS .....	74 ■	9.04 FDI and technology transfer .....	13 ■
4.06 HIV prevalence* .....	40 ■	9.05 Mobile telephone subscriptions* .....	9 ■
4.07 Infant mortality* .....	75 ■	9.06 Internet users* .....	59 ■
4.08 Life expectancy* .....	80 ■	9.07 Personal computers* .....	53 ■
4.09 Quality of primary education .....	71 ■	9.08 Broadband Internet subscribers* .....	60 ■
4.10 Primary enrollment* .....	109 ■	<b>10th pillar: Market size</b>	
4.11 Education expenditure* .....	7 ■	10.01 Domestic market size index* .....	27 ■
<b>5th pillar: Higher education and training</b>		10.02 Foreign market size index* .....	17 ■
5.01 Secondary enrollment* .....	45 ■	<b>11th pillar: Business sophistication</b>	
5.02 Tertiary enrollment* .....	72 ■	11.01 Local supplier quantity .....	21 ■
5.03 Quality of the educational system .....	60 ■	11.02 Local supplier quality .....	43 ■
5.04 Quality of math and science education .....	76 ■	11.03 State of cluster development .....	40 ■
5.05 Quality of management schools .....	79 ■	11.04 Nature of competitive advantage .....	39 ■
5.06 Internet access in schools .....	69 ■	11.05 Value chain breadth .....	29 ■
5.07 Local availability of research and training services .....	42 ■	11.06 Control of international distribution .....	9 ■
5.08 Extent of staff training .....	45 ■	11.07 Production process sophistication .....	30 ■
		11.08 Extent of marketing .....	38 ■
		11.09 Willingness to delegate authority .....	33 ■
		<b>12th pillar: Innovation</b>	
		12.01 Capacity for innovation .....	31 ■
		12.02 Quality of scientific research institutions .....	37 ■
		12.03 Company spending on R&D .....	34 ■
		12.04 University-industry collaboration in R&D .....	37 ■
		12.05 Gov't procurement of advanced tech products .....	22 ■
		12.06 Availability of scientists and engineers .....	47 ■
		12.07 Utility patents* .....	45 ■

\* Hard data

Note: For further details and explanation, please refer to the section "How to Read the Country/Economy Profiles" at the beginning of this chapter.