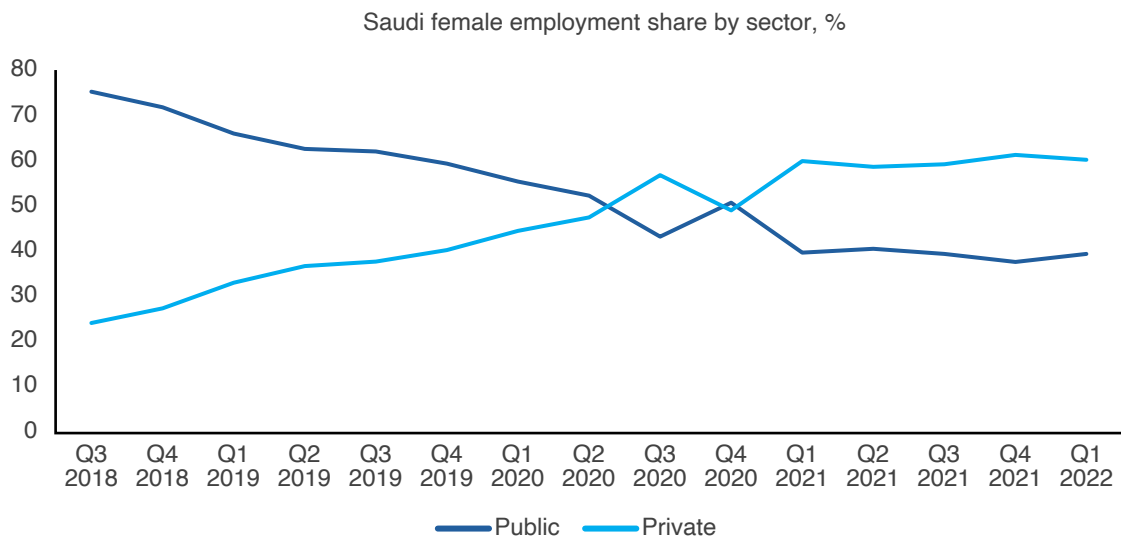
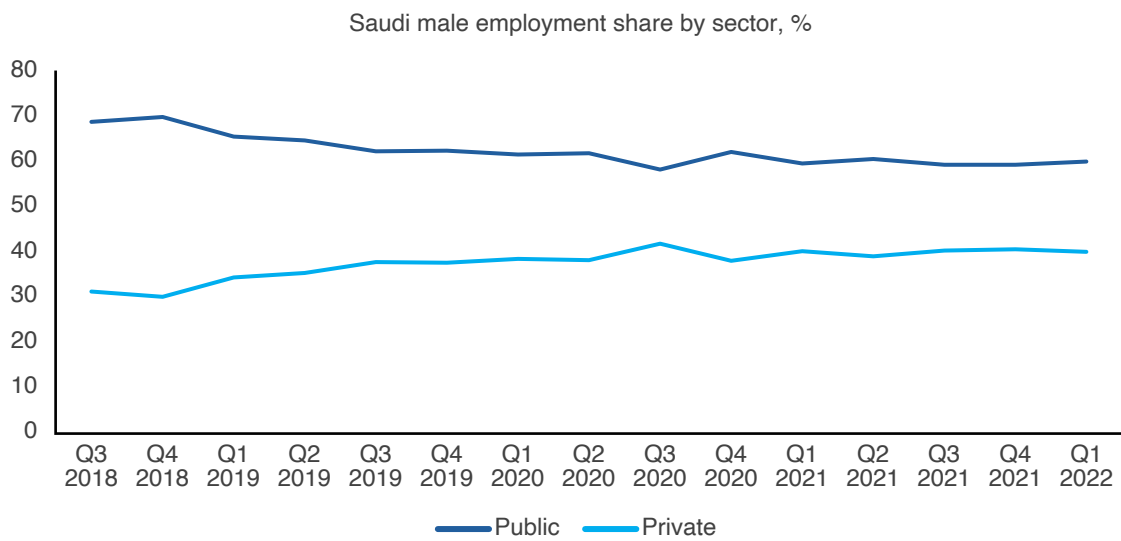


Data Insight

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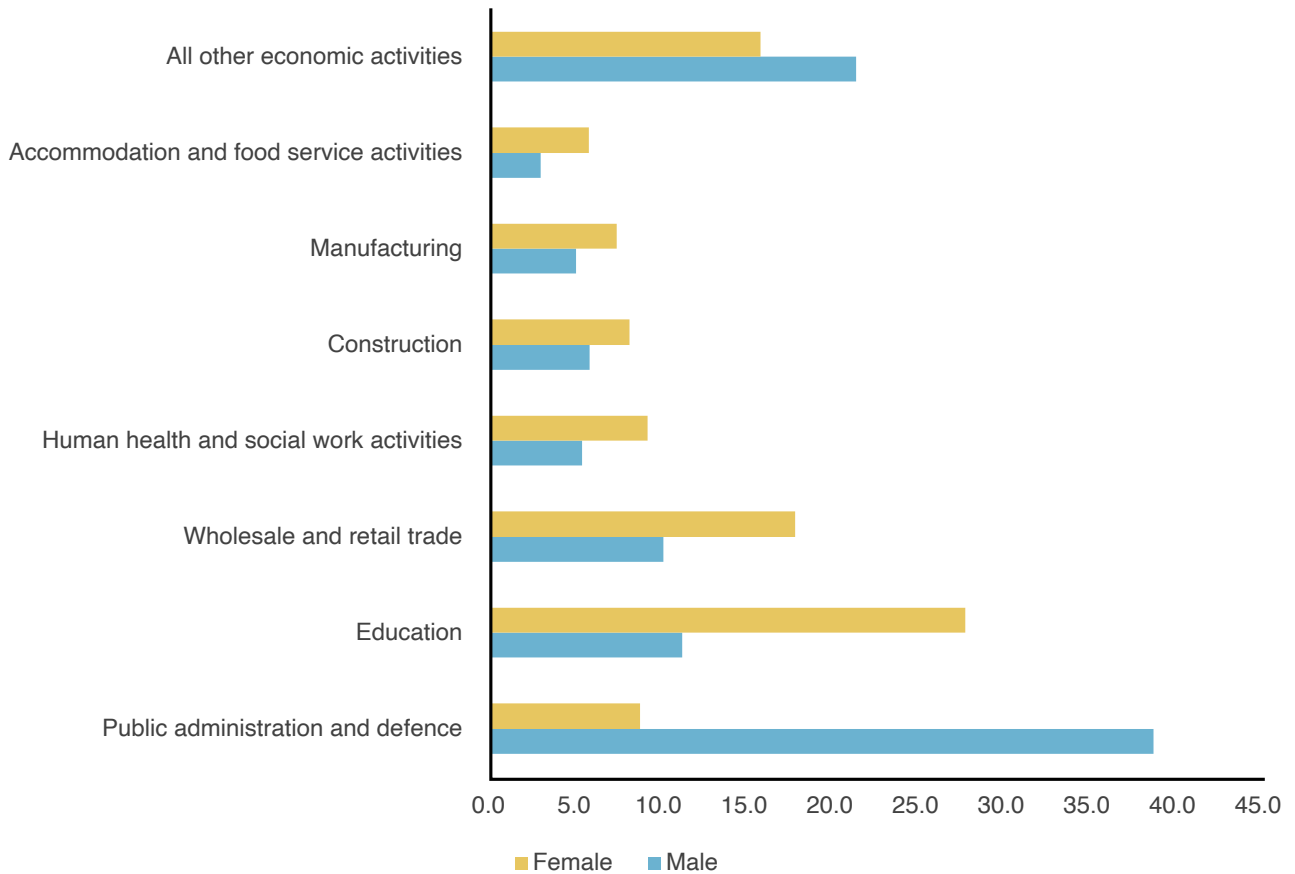
Saudis in the Private Sector: Women Leading the Way



Source: General Authority for Statistics (GaStat).

- In Q3 2018, 30% of Saudi employment was in the private sector, and by Q1 2022 this had increased to 46%. A major driver of this increase was the comparative outperformance of Saudi women, of whom over 60% now work in the private sector, compared with 40% of Saudi men.
- At the beginning of the series in Q3 2018, over 75% of employed Saudi women worked in the public sector (Figure 2). However, in the same period Saudi female labor force participation increased from under 20% to 34% - fulfilling a major policy objective of Saudi Vision 2030.

Saudi employees Q1 2022, by gender and main economic activity



Source: General Authority for Statistics (GaStat).

- In Q1 2022, almost 28% of employed Saudi women worked in the education sector, followed by 18% in wholesale and retail trade. This latter statistic would imply the success of various Saudization policies in recent years that reserved retail positions generally for Saudis, and also some for women in particular.¹

¹ One of the earliest professions targeted for complete Saudization was “women’s clothes and accessory shops.” In 2014 it was announced that these positions must be 100% filled by Saudi females within three years: <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/71221/100-Saudization-in-womens-shops>.

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