Part I. Main Indicators for Industrial Statistics

This part contains seven tables presenting some of the main indicators for industrial statistics in Arab countries for the period 2004-2010.

The concept of industry is restricted here to mining and quarrying as well as manufacturing industries as defined by the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC).

These indicators show the levels of output expressed as the per capita value added at constant prices, labor productivity expressed as the share of value added at constant prices per employee, the size of the contribution made by industry to gross domestic product (GDP) at producers’ prices, and the average wage of employees.

The indicators were prepared jointly by ESCWA and AIDMO by sending a joint questionnaire to Arab countries and with direct reference to official data electronic websites and national statistical publications issued by Arab countries. The Bulletin utilized the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) National Accounts databases, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Industrial database, the Organization for Petrol Exporting Countries (OPEC) published data, the United Nations Population Division database and the data from ministries of industry and the central banks in the Arab countries.

الجزء الأول: المؤشرات الرئيسية للإحصاءات الصناعية

يحتوي هذا الجزء على سبعة حوال لبعض المؤشرات الرئيسية للإحصاءات الصناعية في البلدان العربية خلال الفترة الزمنية 2004-2010.

وي**(مهم الصناعة هنا على الصناعات الاستخراجية والصناعات التحويلية حسب التصنيف الصناعي الموحد لجميع الأنشطة الاقتصادية. و**(غة المصادرات مستوى الإنتاج معرَّاة عند بحص الفرد من القيمة المضافة بالأسعار الثابتة، و إنتاجية الحالة العامة معرَّاة عند بحص العامل من القيمة المضافة بالأسعار الثابتة، و نسبة مساهمة الصناعة في الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بسعر المنتج، ومتوسط أجر العامل.

وقد أعدَّت هذه المؤشرات بالاشتراك بين الإسكوا وإيدمو استنادًا إلى البيانات الرسمية المباشرة من الاستبيانات الموحدة المرسلة إلى البلدان العربية، والموافقات الإلكترونية، والنشرات الإحصائية الوطنية الصادرة عن البلدان العربية، واستنادًا إلى قواعد بيانات الحسابات القومية الصادرة عن شعبة الإحصاءات في الأمم المتحدة وقاعدة بيانات الإحصاءات الصناعية لمنظمة الأمم المتحدة للتنمية الصناعية، والبيانات التي تصدرها منظمة دول المصدر للبترول، وقاعدة بيانات عدد السكان في الأمم المتحدة، وبيانات وزارات الصناعة والبنوك المركزية في البلدان العربية.
The Bulletin’s figures show a state of a proximate stability with minor fluctuations in the output level of mining and quarrying industries in the Arab countries during the period 2004-2010 due to the effects of the recent global financial and economic crises. Generally speaking, the output level increased modestly from US $1,357 per capita in 2004 to US $1,372 in 2010 in 2005 constant prices (Table I-1). In comparison, the level of output in ESCWA countries decreased slightly from US $1,536 in 2004 to about US $1,530 in 2010 due to the stronger correlation of the region’s oil-dominated mining industries with the global markets trends. The situation was comparatively better with the manufacturing industries as the level of output rose from US $335 per capita to US $387 (an average annual increase rate of 2.6%). Unlike the performance of the level of output in the mining sector, the manufacturing output level in the ESCWA region increased from US $378 to US $441 during the same period (Table I-2).

During the period 2004-2010, the share of total industry in the Arab countries, mining and manufacturing, of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ranged between 42% and almost 52%. It reached its minimum in 2009 and its peak in 2008 influenced by the extraordinary surge in oil prices. In ESCWA member countries, the size of that contribution varied between 43% and almost 53% during the same period. The contribution of the mining and quarrying industries in the Arab region is very significant. During the same period, their contribution to the Arab GDP ranged between 33% in 2004 and 36% in 2010 although it topped 43% in 2008. On the other hand, the share of the manufacturing industries of GDP in the Arab countries decreased from 10.4% in 2004 to 9.8% in 2010. This decrease was significant in the Arab countries outside the ESCWA region where the share of manufacturing industries of GDP decreased from 9.6% in 2004 to 8.2% in 2010 (Tables I-5 and I-6).

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Since the number of workers in the mining, quarrying and manufacturing industries is not available in several Arab countries, it was not possible to calculate the total industrial labor productivity at the aggregate level of the Arab countries or at the level of the ESCWA region. However, it was calculated for the countries where data were made available (Tables I-3 and I-4). As appears in the said tables, the level of labor productivity in mining and quarrying and manufacturing increased during the period 2004-2010 in ESCWA and non-oil Arab countries while recording retraction in oil-rich Arab countries especially in the GCC region. Once again, explanation could be easily found in the sharply fluctuating oil prices during the period in question knowing that oil is the main product in this particular region. Despite that, the data for 2009 show that the highest level of labor productivity in the mining and quarrying industries (US $919,000) was in Saudi Arabia, while the highest level of labor productivity in the manufacturing industries (US $70,000) was in Qatar in harmony with the same trends that prevailed earlier as the previous sixth issue of this Bulletin shows.

According to available data from Arab countries, wages of workers in manufacturing industries increased in most countries during 2009. The highest average wage occurred in Kuwait with US $18,034 followed by Qatar with a rate of US $13,614 and Oman with a rate of US $9,928. It is worth mentioning that average wages in the United Arab Emirates witnessed sustained increases during 2004-2008 amounting to US $12,732 in 2008, the second highest rate in Arab countries. Unfortunately, comparison with year 2009 was not possible due to the lack of data for the United Arab Emirates (Table I-7).

وفقاً للبيانات المتوفّرة في البلدان العربية، ارتفعت أجور العاملين في الصناعات التحويلية في معظم البلدان في عام 2009. وقد بلغت متوسط الأجور في الكويت بمعدل 18,034 دولارًا، بينما بلغت في قطر 13,614 دولارًا، وفي البحرين 9,928 دولارًا. وتجرد الإشارة إلى ارتفاع متوسط أجور العامل في الإمارات العربية المتحدة خلال الفترة 2004-2008 بمعدل 12,732 دولارًا. وهي ثاني أعلى مرتبة مقارنة مع سائر البلدان العربية، إلا أن البيانات لم تتوفّرة لعام 2009 للمقارنة (الجدول 7-1).
It is important to note that the percentage of women working in manufacturing and mining industries is still low in Arab countries. Moreover, the statistical units in these countries continue to overlook monitoring and covering this phenomenon; therefore, this Bulletin does not include the numbers or the percentages of women employed in the industrial sector. However, ESCWA and AIDMO will work together to encourage Arab countries to include the number of women working in the manufacturing and quarrying industries in order to include it in future issues of this Bulletin.