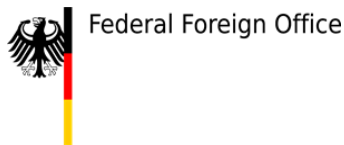




Kingdom of Bahrain

Visa Options for Bangladeshi Nationals

October, 2020



With the support of



Bahrain: Visa Options for Bangladeshi Nationals

Bahrain does not have a resident diplomatic mission in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Bahrain has introduced E-visa. However, 'ordinary' Bangladeshi passport holders are not eligible to apply for e-visa by themselves at this point of time. Applicant must have a sponsor who can apply for a visa on the applicant's behalf. Contact one of the following for assistance:

- A Bahrain company which is willing to sponsor/invite you.
- A Bahrain citizen who is willing to sponsor/invite you.
- Your airline.
- Your intended hotel in Bahrain.
- A Bahraini travel agent.

Bangladesh citizens need visa for traveling to Bahrain as tourist. The stay is usually short with a period of 30 days and visa expires in 90 days. Applicant is required to be present when applying for visa and a total of 6 documents are required.

Bahrain's major visa types for Bangladesh passport holders are:

- Visit Visa
- Businessmen Visa
- Student Visa
- Visit Visa Extension & Businessmen Visa

Issuance of Visit Visa

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/to-issue-a-visit-visa-for-family/>

Application form for Visa: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/Almg/temp/Dir48/newvisa.pdf>

Application through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

These visas are offered to families of residents living in Bahrain for one month, with option for renewal up to 3 months in total, this service is done in accordance to the rules and regulations under the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- A valid and a clear copy of the visitor's passport
- A clear copy of the resident's passport & residence.
- Attach copy of proof relation of visitor. A clear copy of the commercial register / in case of self sponsorship, a copy of the job owner or the guarantor's CPR is attached)
- A letter from the guarantor clarifying the reason of the visit.
- A copy of the submitter ID if different than guarantor ID.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Applying fees	B.D. 4/-
Issuing Visa fees	B.D.30/-

Issuance of Businessmen Visa

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/issue-a-business-visa>

Application form for Visa: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Application through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

This kind of visa is issued to businessmen and companies' representatives abroad to hold meetings and/or business transactions and the like, this service is done in accordance to the rules and regulations and the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- A clear copy of the valid passport of visitor.
- A clear copy of the valid commercial register.
- Formal letter from the company submitting the request to clarify the reason of the visit.
- A copy of the applicant's ID.
- In case of submitting the request for the 1st time, kindly attach proof of the profession of the business visitor.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Visa fees	B.D.25/-
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Issuance of visa to the Students at Universities and Institutes

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/to-issue-a-visa-enrollment-of-students-enrolled-in-universities-and-institutes/>

Application form for Visa: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Visas are issued to students enrolled in universities and institutes for one year, this service is done in accordance to the rules and regulations and the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.
- Applicant must be a full time student.

Required Documents:

- Service request form
- A clear copy of the student's (he-she) valid passport
- Official letter from his university or institute stating that the applicant is a full time student

- A copy of the applicant's ID or his legal representative

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Application Fees: 4 BD

Issuance Fees: 30 BD

Visit Visa Extension & Businessmen Visa

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/extension-of-visit-visa-family-the-banking-sector-tourism-business>

Application form for Visa: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

This service (extension) is offered for one month to visitors who are relatives to residents living in Bahrain, this service is done in accordance to the rules and regulations and the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- The original passport of the visitor.
- Service request form.
- A clear copy of the valid commercial register of the Guarantor Company or institution / in case of self sponsorship, the ID of the guarantor is attached.
- A copy of the applicant's ID.
- A letter stating the reason for extension.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Visa extension (family visit visa & business visa) one month (for the same period))	30 BD
visa extension (one week) for the same period	40 BD
visa extension (two weeks) for the 1st time and for the same period	25 BD
t visa extension (3 months) for the 1st time and for the same period	20 BD
Visit visa extension (72 hrs) for the 1st time and for the same period	40 BD

Application for E-Visa

(check first, if Bangladeshi nationals are allowed to apply for E-visa at that particular time)

- Visa Application Form: Complete application form for Bahrain
- Passport Photo: Photo must be no older than 6 months
- Passport Copy: A clear scan of the information pages of your signed, machine readable passport. Provide the pages of your current passport showing your photo, personal details and passport issue and expiry dates. Must be valid for six months beyond the expiry date of the visa.
- Bank Statement: Applicant's most recent monthly bank statement. The statement must clearly show the applicant's name as the account holder, the balances of the accounts, and the date of the statement. If statements are printed online then it has to be Authenticated (stamped) by the bank officials.
- Travel itinerary: Travel itinerary (travel reservation to and from the country/area in your name, not a ticket)

It is recommended not to purchase flight tickets until visa is approved.

- Hotel Bookings: Hotel reservation(s) for the duration of your visit.
It is recommended not to confirm hotel stay until visa is approved.

Other possible visa options are as below:

Issuance of visa to foreign wives of Bahraini citizens

Web link:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/to-issue-a-visa-to-spouse/>

Application form for visa: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Application through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Foreign wives of Bahraini citizen are issued visas for two years, this service is implemented in accordance to the rules and regulations stated under the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The husband or his legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- The marriage certificate should be issued from the Bahraini legal courts.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- A valid copy of the husband's CPR and kindly advises if the sponsorship is for the first time.
- The original copy of the marriage certificate issued from the legal courts of Bahrain along with a clear copy of it.
- A copy of the applicant's ID.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Free of charge.

Issuance of visa to children of Bahraini mothers married to foreigner

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/to-issue-a-visa-enrollment-children-of-bahraini-women-married-to-foreigners/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Residence permits are issued to children of Bahraini mothers married to foreigners for two years only. This service is done in accordance to the rules and regulations and the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The Bahraini mother must attend in person or through her legal representative to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents
- Sons and daughters must be of legal age.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- The original passport of son/daughter along with a clear copy of the passport.
- The original passport of the foreign husband along with a clear copy of his passport and residence permit.
- The original copy of the marriage certificate t issued from the legal courts of Bahrain along with a clear copy of the contract
- A clear copy of both parents ID.
- A copy of birth certificate issued from the Ministry of Health in Kingdom of Bahrain or equivalent.
- A copy of the applicant's CPR.

Note: In case of divorce, the official rule of custody issued from the legal courts of Bahrain must be attached.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Fees of new form	Free
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In case of other residence abroad	B.D.57/-
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Issuance of visa to truck drivers

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/issue-a-visa-for-truckers/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

This type of visa is a multiple-entry for truck drivers this service is done in accordance to the rules and regulations and the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Terms of Service:

- The legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- A clear and valid copy of the visitor's passport.
- A clear copy of the valid commercial registration.
- Formal letter from the company submitting the request .
- A copy of the applicant's ID.
- In case of submitting the request for the 1st time, kindly attach applicant's proof of profession documents.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Applying fees	B.D. 4/-
Issuing Visa fees	B.D.25/-

Issuance of Artist visa

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/visa-services/issue-artist-visa/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Application through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Service Description:

This kind of visa is issued for artistic teams and the like, per permission by the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority in accordance with governing standards and regulations.

The required terms to obtain the service:

- The legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- A clear copy of the valid passport of the artist.
- Official letter from the guarantor.
- Permission by the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority
- A copy of the Commercial Register of the guarantor.
- Copy of the ID of the applicant or the legal representative.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.
- Your application would be processed at the earliest.

Fees:

Application submission fee	4 BD
Visa fees	25 BD

Issuance of residence permits to the foreign wives of Bahrain citizens

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/residence-permit/issuance-of-the-establishment-of-admission-to-the-viscosity-of-the-bahraini-foreign/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Foreign wives of Bahraini citizen are issued a two years residence permit, According to the rules and regulations and according to the law.

Required Terms of Service:

- The husband or his legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- An ID must be issued for the foreign wife in case the wife is a resident in the Kingdom for the first time.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- Original passports of the husband and wife long with clear copies of the passports.
- The original copy of the marriage contract issued from the legal courts of Bahrain along with a clear copy of the contract.
- A valid copy of the husband's ID.
- A copy of the applicant's ID or his legal representative.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Free of charge

Renewal of residence permits to the foreign wives of Bahrain citizens

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/residence-permit/renewal-of-enrollment-for-the-establishment-of-the-bahraini-foreign-wife/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Foreign wives of Bahraini citizen are issued a residence renewal for two years According to the rules and regulations and according to the law.

Required Terms of Service:

- The husband or his legal representative must attend in person to implement the service.
- An ID must be issued for the foreign wife in case the wife is a resident in the Kingdom for the first time.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- Original passports of the husband and wife along with clear copies of the passports.
- The original copy of the marriage contract issued from the legal courts of Bahrain along with a clear copy of the contract.
- A valid copy of the husband's ID.
- A copy of the applicant's ID or his legal representative

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Free of charge

Issuance of residence permits to children of Bahraini mothers married to foreigner

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/residence-permit/issuance-of-the-establishment-of-admission-to-children-of-bahraini-women-married-to-foreigners/>

Application from: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/Almg/temp/Dir48/newvisa.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Issuing residence permits to children of Bahraini mothers married to foreigners for two years only renewal are subject to the rules and regulations according to the law.

Required Terms of Service:

- The Bahraini mother must attend in person or through her legal representative to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- The original passport of son/daughter along with a clear copy of the passport.
- The original valid ID of the guarantor's (The Bahraini mother) and a copy from the ID. .
- The original passport of the foreign husband along with a clear copy of his passport.
- The original copy of the marriage contract issued from the legal courts of Bahrain along with a clear copy of the contract
- Birth certificate issued from the Ministry of Health in the Kingdom of Bahrain or equivalent.
- A copy of the applicant's ID.

Note: In case of divorce, the official rule of custody issued from the legal courts of Bahrain must be attached.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Fees of new form	Free
In case of other residence abroad	57 BD

Renewal of residence permits to children of Bahraini mothers married to foreigner

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/residence-permit/renewal-of-the-establishment-of-admission-to-children-of-bahraini-women-married-to-foreigners/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

Renewal of residence permits to children of Bahraini mothers married to foreigners for two years only. Renewals are subject to the rules and regulations according to the law.

Required Terms of Service:

- A Bahraini mother must attend in person or her legal representative to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents
- Must be a permanent resident in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- The original passport of son/daughter along with a clear copy of the passport.
- The original valid ID of the Guarantor (The Bahraini mother) along with a clear copy of her ID.
- The original passport of the foreign husband along with a clear copy of his passport.
- The original copy of the marriage contract issued from the legal courts of Bahrain along with a clear copy of the contract
- Birth certificate issued from the Ministry of Health in Kingdom of Bahrain or equivalent.
- A copy of the applicant's ID.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Fees of new form	Free
In case of other residence abroad	57 BD

Extending the cancellation period of residence

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/residence-permit/extend-the-period-of/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply to communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Description of Service:

The extension made to the period of cancellation for residence is done to facilitate local transfer or in case of any delay that may occur by the resident before leaving the kingdom. The service is done according to the rules and regulations of the law.

Required Terms of Service:

- The guarantor or his legal representative must be present to implement the service.
- Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.

Required Documents:

- Service request form.
- The original passport and a clear copy of the worker's passport.
- A clear copy of the guarantor' ID
- A copy of the applicant's ID.

Notice:

1. In case the worker (He-She) left the Kingdom, the original ticket and a copy must be attached.
2. In the case of local transfer, an official letter from the new guarantor or the firm to be transferred must be attached.

Procedures:

- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait for your service number on the screen.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents and follow up number.
- Pay the fees and receive your receipt.

Fees:

Extending the Cancellation Period of Residence	15/- BD
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Self sponsorship residence permit

Weblink:

<https://www.npra.gov.bh/en/services/visa-and-residence-permit/residence-permit/self-sponsorship/>

Application form: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/mcms-store/pdf/VisaAndRpForm.pdf>

Apply through communication system: <https://www.npra.gov.bh/en-inquiries-and-proposals/>

Service Description:

Self Sponsorship Residence Permit is issued to the foreign retirees, foreign property owners and the foreign investor. Self Sponsorship is governed by rules and regulations according to the law.

The required terms to obtain the service:

1. Applicant must attend in person or through his legal representative to implement the service.
2. Applicant must not be working in governmental or private sectors of the Kingdom.
3. Applications must be separated in case of having more than one application and each request must have its own documents.
4. In case of residence cancellation, a grace period is to be given not to exceed three months from date of issuing.

Required Documents:**1. The retired foreigner:**

- Service request form.
- A clear copy of the passport.
- A clear copy of the ID.
- Certificate of good conduct & behavior.
- Copy of the tenancy agreement Or the electric bill.
- Retirement Certificate issued by employer weather in the kingdom or in only the GCC countries. And the period of work should not be less than 15 years(Age 55 years old or above) .
- A valid certificate of health insurance
- The applicant must have a source of income sufficient enough to support himself and his dependents.
- A copy of the applicant's ID or his legal representative.

2. The foreigner who is owner of a property in Bahrain:

- Service request form.
- A clear copy of passport.
- A clear copy of ID.
- Certificate of good conduct deed.
- A certified copy of the property stating that value of the property owned by the expat (in his name). The property value should not be less than 50.000 BD.
- A valid certificate of health insurance issued from the Kingdom of Bahrain
- The applicant must have a source of income sufficient enough to support himself and his dependents not to be less than five hundred Bahraini Dinars (500 BD) per month.
- A copy of the applicant's card or his legal representative
- Copy of the electric bill
- The owned residence property must be located in touristic zone. For example Al Juffair, Amwaj, Riff a Views, Busaiteen, Abraj Alleles, AlAreen, etc.

3. The Foreign Investor:

- Service request form.
- A clear copy of passport.
- A clear copy of ID.
- Certificate of good conduct & behavior.
- A copy of the tenancy agreement.
- A certified copy of the company's memorandum of association and his share must not be not less than one hundred thousand Bahraini Dinars 100.000 BD
- A valid certificate of health insurance issued from the Kingdom of Bahrain
- The applicant must have a source of income sufficient enough to support himself and his dependents not less than five hundred Bahraini Dinars (500 BD) per month.
- A copy of the applicant's card or his legal representative.

Procedures for all three categories:

- Submit the request of Self Sponsorship Residence Permit renewal before 6 month of its expiry.
- Go to Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs, make sure to provide the required documents and follow the submission procedures.
- Fill out the application form and wait to be summoned.
- Go to the concerned employee to submit the required documents.
- Pay the fees and receive the receipt.

Fees:

2 years	200 BD
5 years	400BD

10 years	600BD
Additional fee case transferring from visit	60BD
Application Fees (non refundable)	4BD

Refugee/Asylum Seekers in Bahrain:

Bahrain is neither a State Party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, nor to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

[please see: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetailsII.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsq_no=V-2&chapter=5&Temp=mtdsq2&clang=en]

[please see: <https://www.unhcr.org/protection/basic/3b73b0d63/states-parties-1951-convention-its-1967-protocol.html>]

[please see: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetailsII.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsq_no=V-3&chapter=5&Temp=mtdsq2&clang=en]

[please see: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsq_no=V-4&chapter=5]

As of 2019, the number of refugee population in Bahrain was 251.

[Source: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SM.POP.REFG?locations=BH>]

Demography, Migration, and the Labour Market in Bahrain:

[Source: http://gulfmigration.org/media/pubs/exno/GLMM_EN_2019_01.pdf]

In Mid-2017, Bahrain’s population was estimated at 1,501,116, of whom 823,610 (55 per cent) were foreign nationals. Most were from Asia (85 per cent) and especially from India (half of all foreign residents). The total number of Bangladeshi nationals was 128,390 in mid-2018 (20.2 % of the total foreign resident population of Bahrain). Seventy-four per cent of expatriates were employed in 2018. They accounted for 79 per cent of the employed population and 83 per cent of the private sector’s workforce. Asians were overwhelmingly involved in services and blue-collar occupations, while Arabs more often filled managerial posts. Immigration flows to the Kingdom expanded significantly over the 2000s, fuelled by high oil prices and the ensuing boom in the construction and services sectors. During the 2010s, the foreign resident population increased again. In order to accelerate the Bahrainisation of the workforce, while maximising economic productivity and flexibility of the labour market, a string of reforms were enacted starting 2004, among which were a partial loosening of the kafala system, measures to protect domestic workers and the introduction of a “flexi-permit” designed to incorporate some foreign workers in irregular situation in the labour market.