

Overview of the GCC DRONE MARKET



GCC Drone Market Share, By Countries



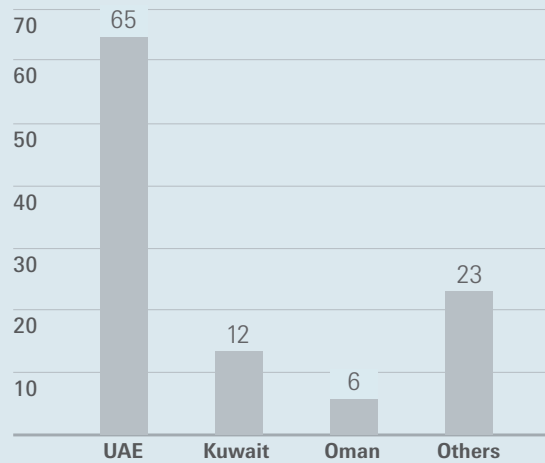
In the GCC drone market, the UAE accounted for a majority share due to favorable government regulations and the rising adoption of drones by hobbyists. The market is dominated by consumer applications followed by professional, and industrial verticals.

In 2016, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Bahrain registered lower volumes owing to stringent government regulations toward the implementation of drones across consumer and professional end user applications.

Overall GCC Market in 2016 ▶ 6.9 Thousand Units

Overall GCC Market in 2016

(all figures in %)



Source: 6Wresearch

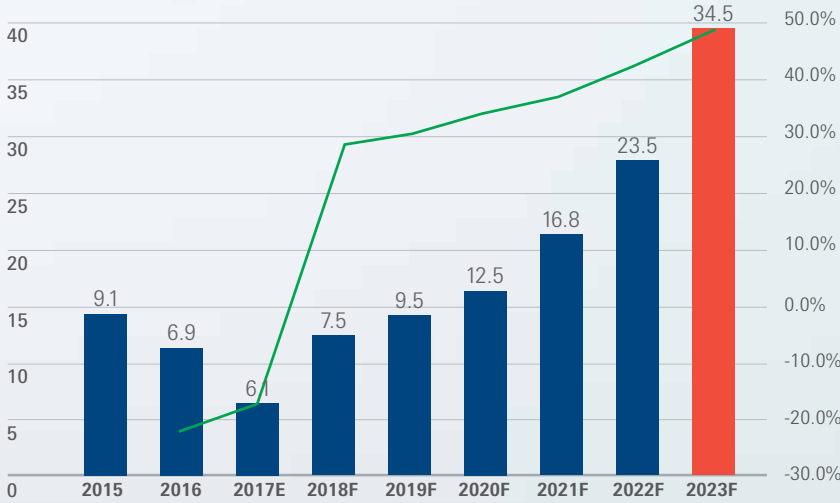


GCC Drone Market Volume 2015-2023F

CAGR (2017E-2023F) ▶ 33.5%

CAGR (2017E-23F)

Volume (all figures in Thousand Units), Growth rate (all figures in %)



■ Volume ■ Growth Rate

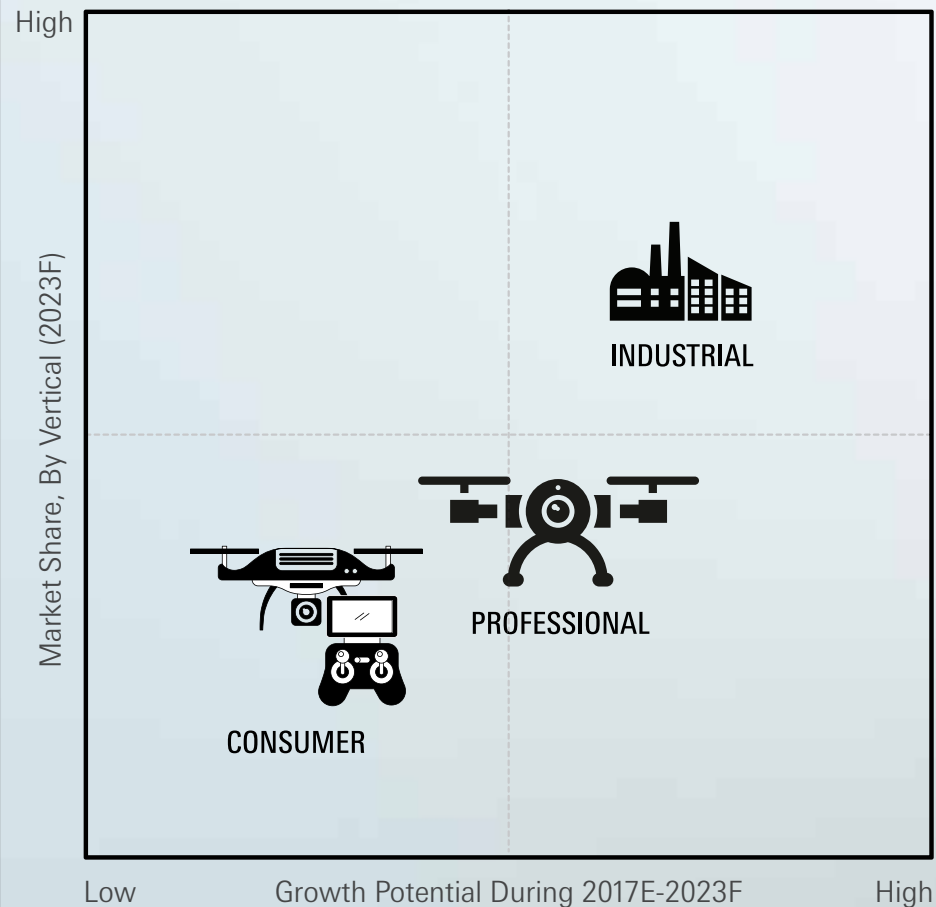
Note: (A) "E" is for Estimates and "F" is for Forecast
(B) The market includes commercial drones volume

Source: 6Wresearch

GCC drone market volume is projected to grow at a CAGR of over 33% from 2017 to 2023

- Over the last few years, the GCC drone market recorded higher adoption for drone solutions across various end user applications, particularly in the UAE. However, since 2015, the market has registered lower growth owing to stringent regulations imposed by the government.
- Post 2018, the market is anticipated to register higher growth due to rising demand across industrial and professional drone applications.

Overall GCC Drone Market



GCC Drone Market in 2023F

34.5 Thousand Units

// Industrial applications are expected to register the highest growth rates and market share over the coming years, owing to higher adoption and acceptance of drone powered solutions //

GCC Drone Market Trends

Commercial Drones for Energy Sector

Drone usage in the energy and utility sector is emerging as an upcoming trend in the GCC. In 2016, the UAE drone maker “Abu Dhabi Autonomous Systems Investments” (ADASI) came up with a vision of commercial drones application in the energy sector. Additionally, the company proposed sales of drones to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and Dubai Electricity and Water Authority in the same year.

Drones can be used to monitor pipelines carrying fluids and can detect and alert any pipeline leakages. ADASI and the Emirates Defence Industries Company currently manufacture unmanned systems for air, land, and sea applications.

Thermal Drones

In 2015, Technometer, a Romanian company in Abu Dhabi, came up with drone technology equipped with thermal camera which can detect changes in the temperature.

On October 2017, Dubai Civil Defence (DCD) introduced fire monitoring and response drones, capable of providing live image data to DCD headquarters. The thermal sensors associated with the drone is capable of detecting fire-prone locations.



GCC Drone Market Trends

Military & Commercial Applications

The UAE government finds drones critical for smart government initiatives including delivery of government documents, and government-to-government drone services for their better collaboration.

Attributed to advanced combat capabilities, drones are widely used in military operations across the world. These modern aerial vehicles are also gaining acceptance in the commercial application segment. Various companies including Amazon and Google are using drones for delivery activities. With expected government amendments and regulations, military and commercial applications are likely to further propel GCC drone market growth over the coming years.

Integration of Augmented and Virtual Reality

Over the past few years, higher demand for advanced drones including superior camera capability and high altitude competencies have been witnessed, especially across precision agriculture and surveillance-related applications. Integration of Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) into drones is likely to create huge opportunity towards drone market growth over the coming years.

