

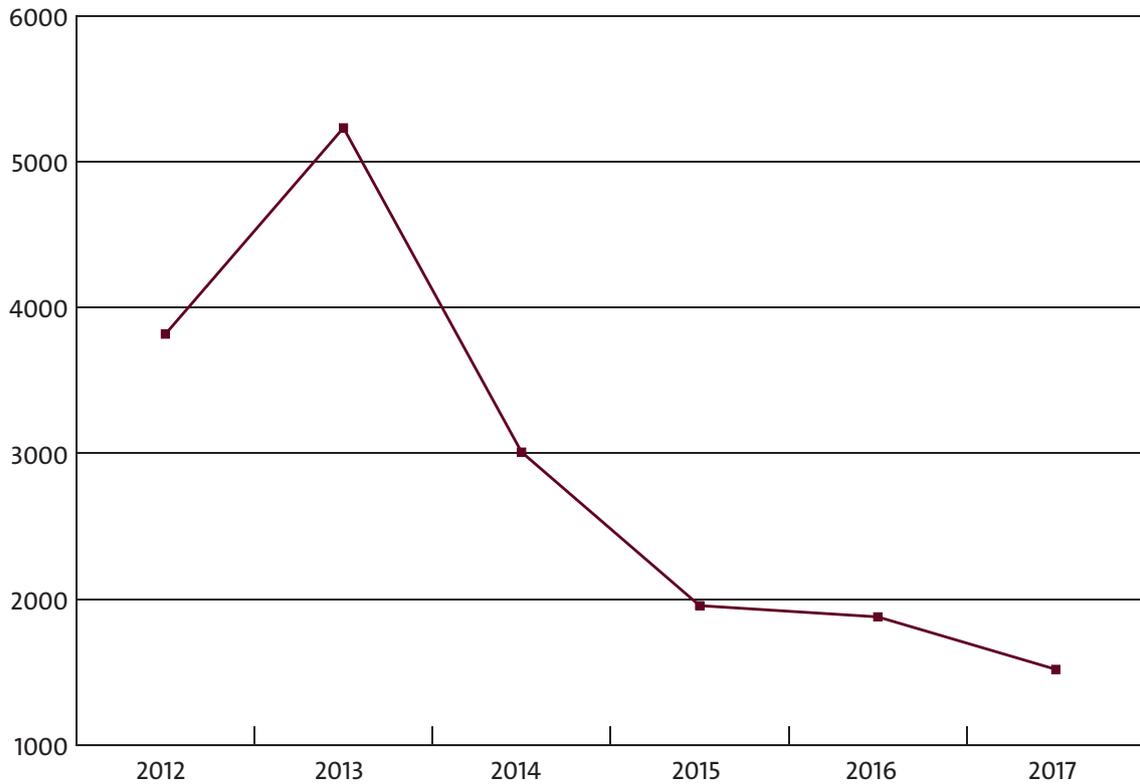


## Fact Sheet:

# Economic, Social & Labor Protests in 2017

In ,2017 the total number of economic ,social and labor protests amounted to .1518 The social protests topped the list with a total of 976 ones ;about 64% of total protests .The labor protests came in the second place with a total of 450 ones throughout the year 30% ;of total protests .Lastly ,the economic protests came in the third place with 92 protests in ,2017 only 6% of the total number.

The families came first as the most protesting group that demanded services ;such as health ,housing ,education ,water, roads and sanitation .They also protested against the rising prices ,especially rising food prices along with rising living costs .The second place in the most protesting group was for the labor protests .The workers staged 251 protests16.5% ; of the total number of protests .The students came in third place with 7% of the protests) a total of 100 protests .(These protests were staged in all regions ,but Cairo and Giza were in the forefront of all governorates with a total of 243 and158 protests respectively .As for the reasons and demands of those protests ,the demands of having infrastructure and services, especially water ,sanitation ,energy and roads ,took the lion's share of 2017 protests with a total of ;434 more than .28% In the second place came the various demands of workers ,which were related to financial compensation ,wages ,incentives, leave and the right to association ;representing about a quarter of the protests in ,2017 almost 365 24% protests.

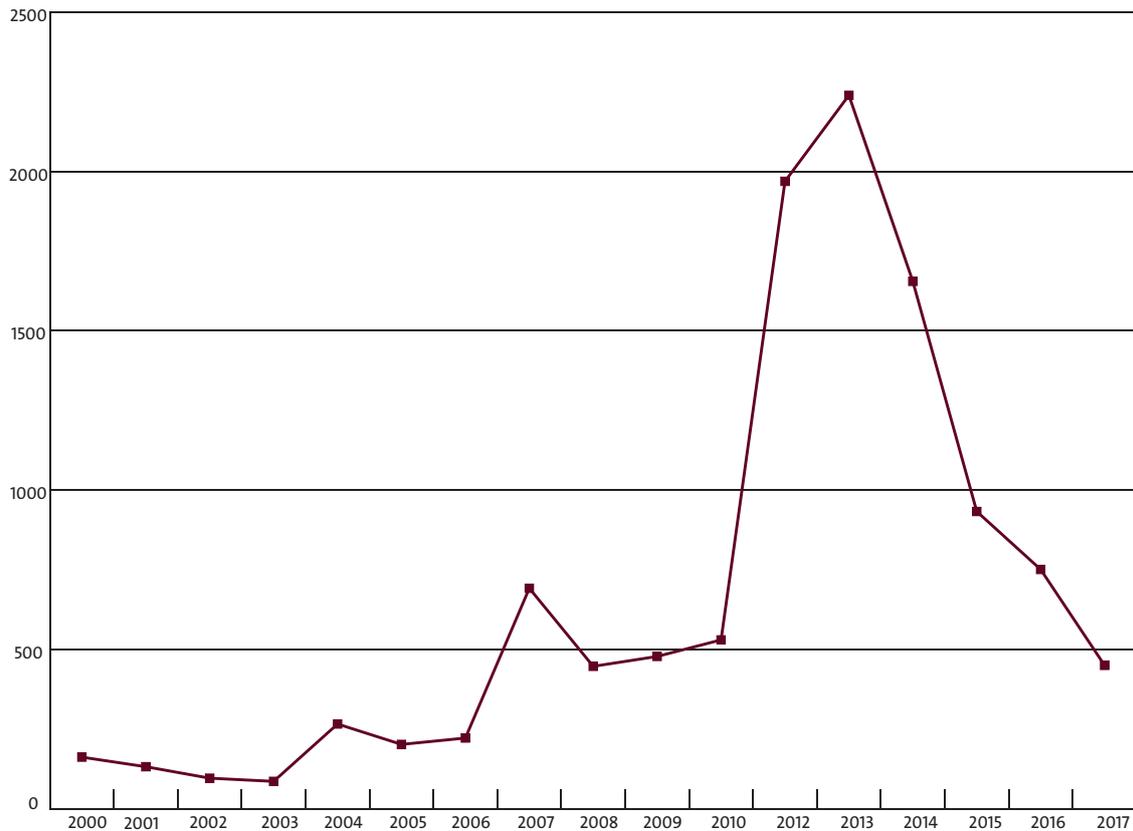
**Graph 1****Protests from 2012 to 2017**

## Protests since 2012

Economic, social and labor protests have varied since 2012, the year after the 25 Jan Revolution that witnessed an unprecedented number of popular and collective protests reflecting the demands of citizens after the revolution, their hopes and desires. In spite of the magnitude of political protests in 2012, the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights (ECESR) has been focusing most its attention on social, economic and labor protests since that year to accentuate the act of protesting as a legitimate right for all citizens, not just political groups and parties. Perhaps, the continuation of protests, despite the lack of public space and the clampdown on political freedom in Egypt, establishes the importance of highlighting the daily protests of citizens, which demand a decent life, provision of services, jobs and livelihoods. In previous years, these protests reflected the effects of economic, social and labor policies that led to a rise in the prices of food and services; the reduction of subsidies on some important items for citizens; the liberalization of the exchange rate that wasted half the savings of citizens and reduced the real value of their wages; the imposition of consumption tax

)VAT (that pushed the prices up ;the crackdown on trade unions activities and the practice of labor and regulatory rights ,particularly the right to strike ;and other regressive policies that have betrayed the citizens and dashed their hopes to obtain social justice and a decent life.

Notwithstanding the steady decline in the total number of protests since,2013 when the protests as well as the transition period reached their peak as the regime changed from the Muslim Brotherhood era in the first half of the year to the term of President Adli Mansour under the supervision of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces ;protests continue to this day .Despite the growing restrictions on the right to the freedom of association ,the masses of citizens, workers ,students ,professionals ,farmers ,villagers and neighborhoods have not ceased to express themselves ,demanding fair social justice and a better life from the government .The total number of protests in Egypt during 2014 was decreased to ,3008 compared to the previous years ;whereas the protests in 2012 amounted to ,3,387 and 5232 ones in .2013 The total number of protests ,however ,continued to decline .In ,2015 there were 1955 protests ,while 1878 ones were held in.2016 Lastly 1,518 ,protests were staged in.2017

**Graph 2****Protests from 2000 to 2017**

## Labor Protests since 2000

In spite of the ongoing decline in the overall number of protests ;the labor protests that have statistics since 2000 tell a more optimistic story illustrating the role of the revolution in rising labor demands .Even though the number of labor protests in 2017 declined 450 -protests) only 30% of the total protests that year ,(the post-revolution labor protests have been doubled than those were staged before the revolution .We can see the evolution clearly ,particularly since 2007 in which the strike of workers of Misr Spinning and Weaving Company) aka Gazl El Mahalla( was staged in September .2007 <sup>1</sup>This year witnessed a total of 692 labor protests; while this figure reached 1969 ones in 2012 and 2239 in ,2013 and then decreased to 1655 in 933 ,2014 protests in ,2015 and 751 in.2016

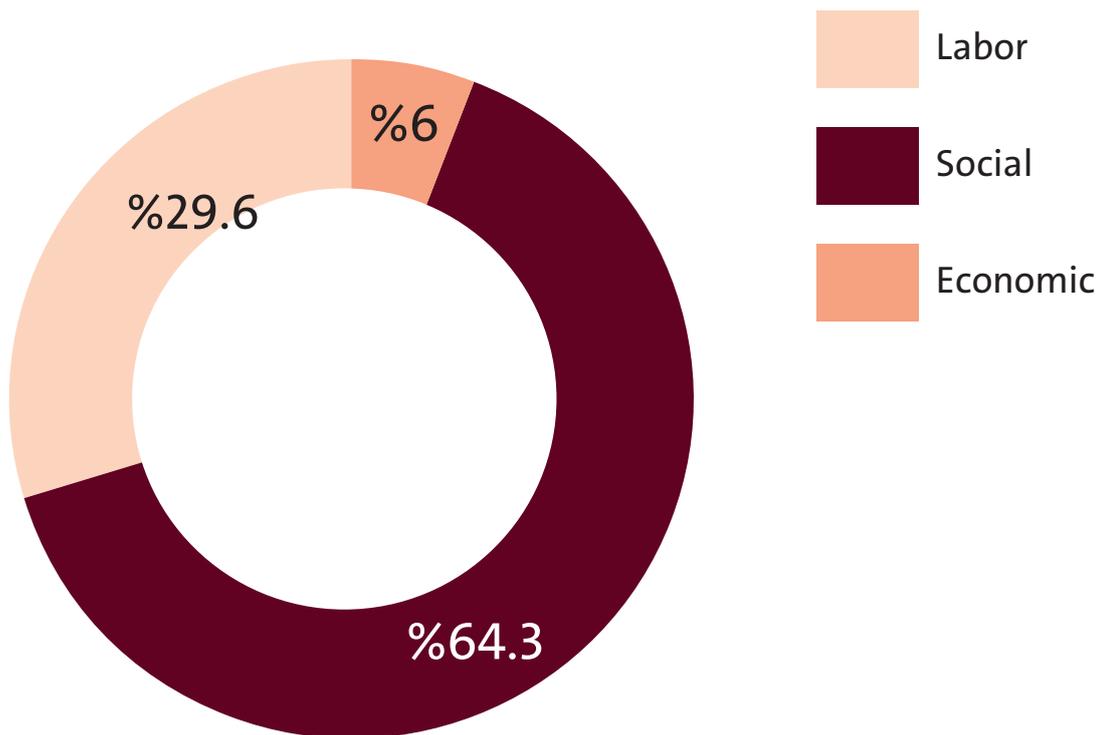
1 <http://carnegie-mec.org/28/06/2012/ar-pub48864->

# General Indicators of the Protests in 2017

Protestation is the direct means to express and demand rights around the world. The types of protests differ in terms of degrees of escalation and confrontation, filing complaints, the organization of silent protests, the participation in marches, the strike and blocking roads. They, ultimately, are methods to grab the attention of officials to the needs of citizens who defend their livelihood, work, housing, food and drink, and other essential needs of any citizen.

Despite the growing restrictions on the practice of various methods of protest; the increasing arbitrariness against trade unionists <sup>2</sup> and the criminalization of all marches; demonstrations and means of expression since the ratification of the Protest Law No 107 .of) 2013 [http://:ecesar.org/?/p ;\(768847=the](http://:ecesar.org/?/p ;(768847=the) citizens have not ceased claiming their rights.

**Graph 3** Social, Economic & Labor Protests



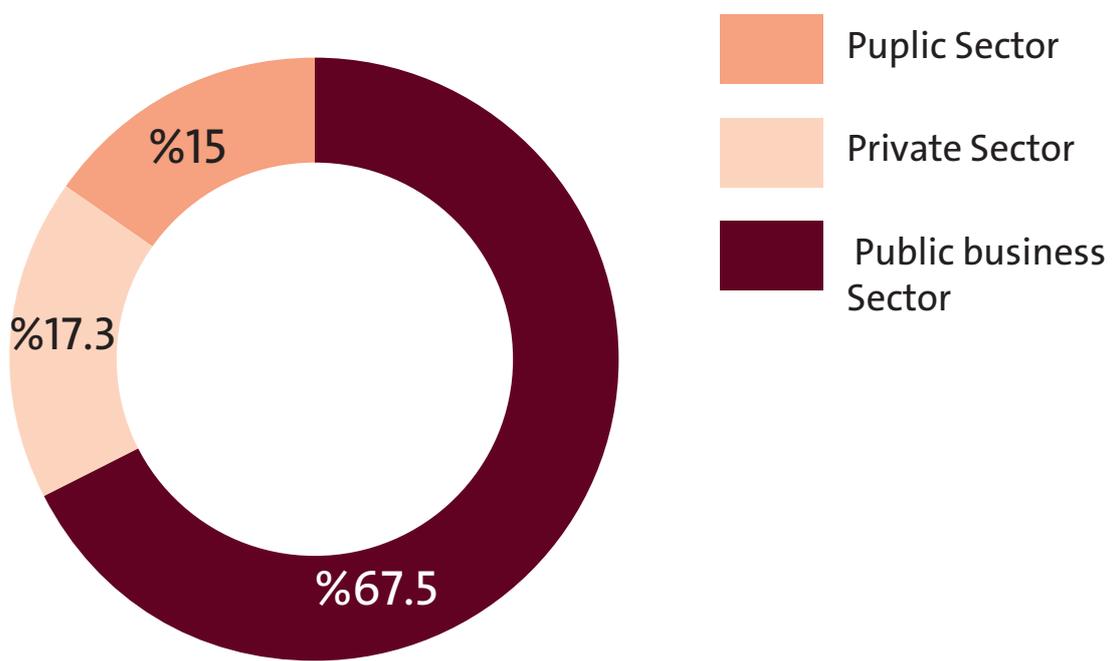
<sup>2</sup> <http://:www.ctuws.com/content/%D981%D98%A-D8%A7%D984%D986%D981%D9-82%D8%A7%D984%D980%D985%D8%B9%D8AA%D9-85%D8AA%D982%D8%B1%D98%A%D8%B1-D8AD%D988%D9-84%D8%A7%D986%D8AA%D987%D8%A7%D983%D8%A7%D8AA-D8%A7%D984%D8AD%D8%B1%D98%A%D8%A7%D8AA-D8%A7%D984%D986%D982%D8%A7%D8A8%D98%A%D8A9-D985%D9-86%D98%A%D986%D8%A7%D98%A%D8%B1-D8AD%D8AA%D9-89%D98%A%D988%D986%D98%A%D92017-88%E28%80%E>

# Definition :Labor Protests

The reasons for” labor protests “varied .Nonetheless ,they are mostly concerned with delaying the payment of salaries or incentives or demanding wage increases owing to rising prices .Regardless of the type of the protesting sector -private, government ,public ,or public business -there are other reasons for the protests, such as the demand for signing temporary contracts or as a daily employment, after many years of working ,ranging in some locations between nine and seventeen years .Also ,there were many protests by employees in the government sector to demand the issuance of the10% social allowance law ,which is allocated to those only stipulated in the Civil Service Law.

In general ,the government sector dominated the largest percentage of labor protests by 68% of the total labor protests ,followed by the private sector,(17%) and then both sectors) public and public business (by.15%

**Graph 4** Labor Protests



## Definition :Economic Protests

”Economic protests “are related to the labor as well as the working conditions for the official establishments ‘non-employees or other ones ,such as private taxi drivers ,street vendors ,farmers ,or even graduates and unemployed people who are demanding job creation .These protests are mostly linked to government policies and their effects on the economic interests of different groups of small business owners ,artisans and professionals .The two years 2016) and(2017 witnessed a series of economic policies that put pressure on citizens and workers, including inflationary measures ,such as the expansion of consumption tax through the Value Added Tax Act ,which aroused the ire of lawyers as an example; the liberalization of the exchange rate and raising the price of energy and fuel that angered drivers and farmers for example.

Therefore ,the economic protests are related to entire sectors ,whose economic interests and their sources of livelihood are affected because of the government’s decisions .These protests are distributed on the governorates of Delta ,Upper Egypt and the Mediterranean coasts .Some examples are the fishermen protests against their prevention from fishing in Damietta ;the drivers protests because of the transfer of parking or raising the value of” tariff “in different governorates; the protests of Badr Center farmers against Beheira Governorate’s decision to turn agricultural land in the governorate to quarries of rock and sand ;the protests of residents and farmers of Akhmim in Sohag against razing five hundred acres and damaging the crops so as to convert them to the new city of Akhmim ;and the protests of the White Taxi drivers after allowing Uber and Careem Companies to operate in Egypt .All of these protests represent collective economic interests, concern the livelihood ,and work outside the framework of labor ,which is :the presence of a worker and an employer.

The protests of professionals ,also ,varied between the calls for expanding the period of applying to the one-year internship for doctors of” Class March ,“2017 or the demands of implementing the court ruling related to the cancellation of the new registration conditions of the Egyptian Association Bar ,which hinders many lawyers to renew their membership IDs and practice their profession.

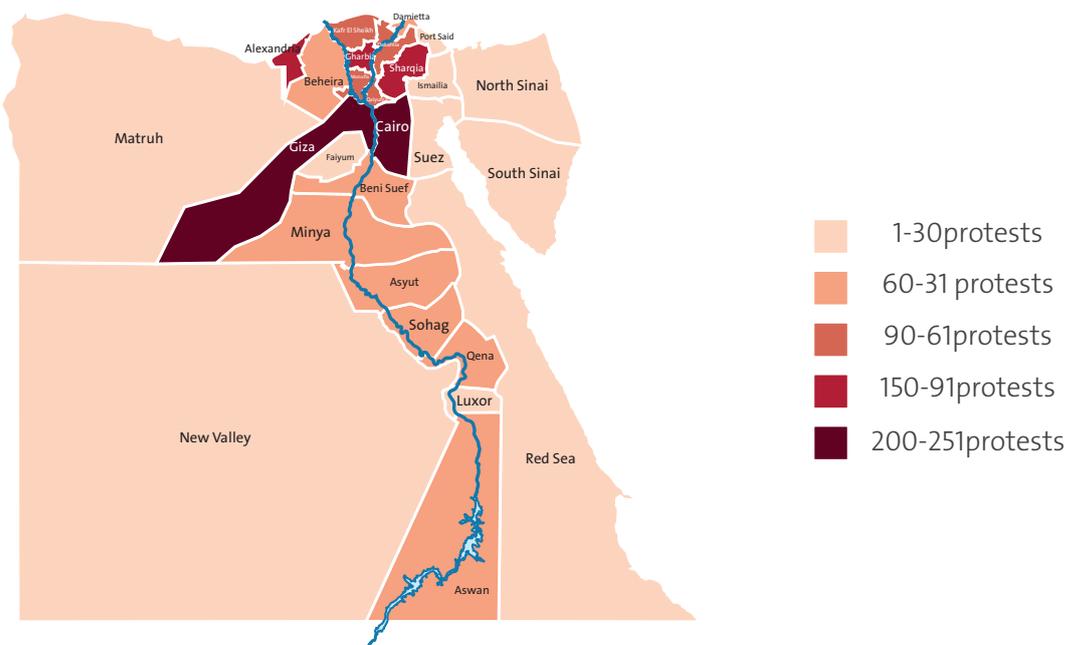
# Definition :Social Protests

The” social protests “reflect the general deterioration in the services provided to citizens ,which are relating to the sectors of health ,education ,utilities ,housing and security .Unquestionably ,the protests against the deteriorating utilities intermingled with the pollution conditions ,including cutting off potable water, canals ‘polluted water,dumping factories ‘wastes into the Nile,and canals clogged with piles of garbage ,came at the forefront .The protests are often outside Cairo, such as farmers ‘protests against mass deaths of their livestock ,the spread of a particular disease -foot-and-mouth disease as an example -or fishermen’s protests against the fishing rules and dates .All of these protests are not linked by time or geography ,but staged without prior organization by citizens.

## The Geographical Distribution:

The protests were staged in all the governorates .Cairo and Giza were in the forefront with a total of 243 and 158 protests respectively ,followed by the governorates of Sharqia ,(102) Alexandria (95) and Gharbia ,(91) while the protests in the northern ,central and southern governorates of Upper Egypt amounted to 308protests 20% ;of the nationwide protests in.2017

**Graph 5** Protests in Governorates

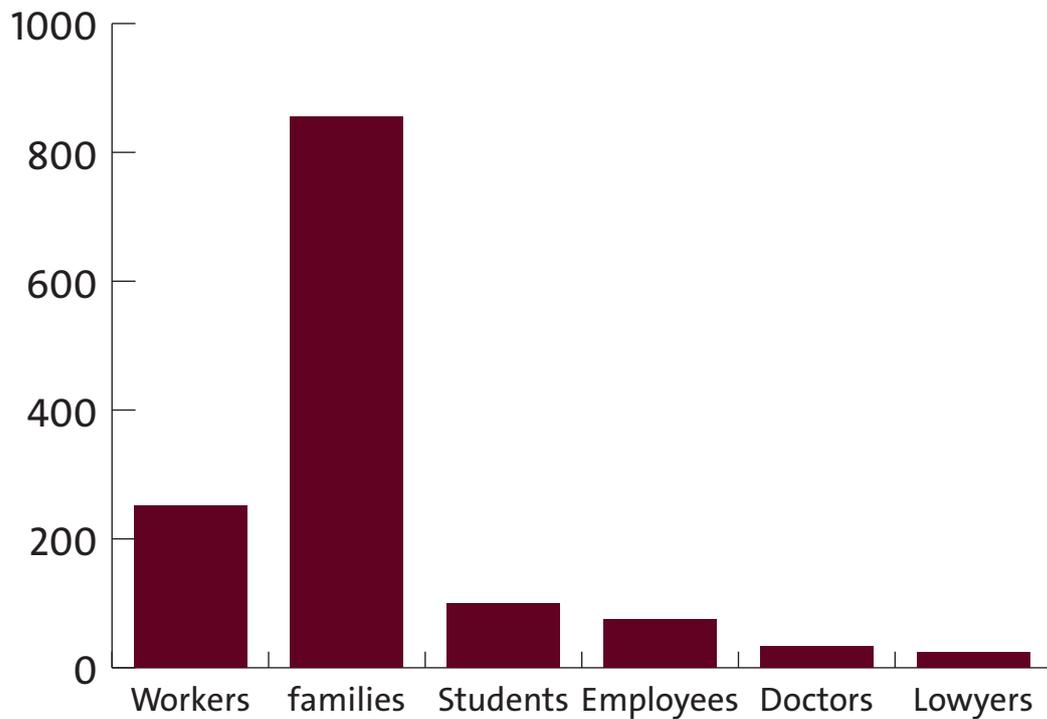


# Protesting Groups

The protesting groups in 2017 varied between families, workers, farmers, students, professionals, organized groups, street vendors, shopkeepers and other groups. The first group was the most protesting in 2017 with a total of 855 protests, or about 56% of total protests. The workers came in second place with about 251 protests 16.5% of total protests. The students came in third place with 7% of the protests about 100 ones. The group of professionals also hit a high rate of protests, including doctors 33 protests (and lawyers 24) protests. (Finally, employees in the government sector came in fourth place hitting 5% of the total protests; about 75 ones.

Graph 6

Protesting Groups

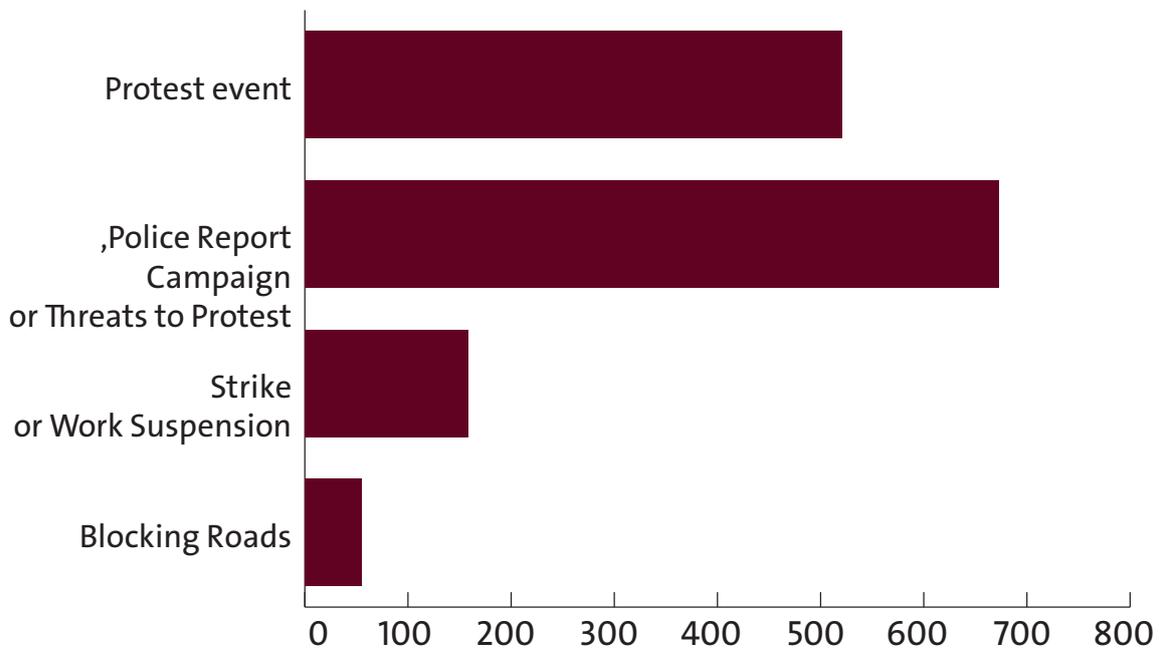


# Forms of Protest

The forms of protestation varied according to the type of protest. The police reports and campaigns came in first place, especially in the social protests, with a number of 673 protest cases; while the vigils and demonstrations came in second place with a total of 521 protests in 2017. As for strikes and work suspension, they came in third place; especially among the labor protests that witnessed 133 out of a total of 158 strikes, the rest of which was related to the economic protests.

Finally, the means of roadblocks continued; particularly among the social protests of families, who blocked the roads 55 times, including 35 cases of social protests and 19 economic protests by drivers and farmers in particular.

**Graph 7** Forms of Protests



# Reasons for Protests in:2017

The reasons and demands of protests varied in ,2017 but there were some patterns that reflected the popular demands among the masses of citizens ;particularly the right to infrastructure and services ,such as water ,sanitation ,energy and roads .Some demands took the largest share of protests in ,2017 by 434 protests, or more than 28% of total protests .Nonetheless ,the various demands of workers, which included the right to financial compensation ,wages ,incentives and leave as well as the right to freedom of association ,represented about a quarter of the protests in 2017 by ,24% about 365 protests .The right to education topped the social protests after the right to infrastructure and public services ,which represented more than 10% of the protests.

There were high rates of students ,parents and teachers protesting for the quality of education and the lack of denial of school enrollment and other demands concerned with education at all stages ,especially before university .Finally ,the protests claimed the right to health and access to health services represented 78) 5%protests ;(in addition to the protests demanding adequate housing and slamming the removal and encroachment on the right to safe housing by4.3% of the total protests) about .(65 As for the protests from all sectors demanding compensation and administrative justice hit about 59) 4% protests .(Finally, the protests of graduates ,workers in the informal sector and with temporary contracts continued to guarantee the right to work ,amounting to ;137 over.9%

**Graph 8**

**Reasons for Protests**

