UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

INTRODUCTION
The Trucial States of the Persian Gulf coast granted the UK control of their defense and foreign affairs in 19th century treaties. In 1971, six of these states - Abu Dhabi, 'Ajman, Al Fujayrah, Ash Shariqah, Dubayy, and Umm al Qaywayn - merged to form the United Arab Emirates (UAE). They were joined in 1972 by Ra’s al Khaymah.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
Acting President MUHAMMAD BIN RASHID Al-Maktoum; note - President KHALIFA bin Zayid Al-Nuhayyan died on 13 May 2022
Head of Government
Prime Minister Vice President MUHAMMAD BIN RASHID Al-Maktum
Government Type
federation of monarchies
Capital
Abu Dhabi
Legislature
unicameral Federal National Council or Majlis al-Ittihad al-Watani (40 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 83,600 sq km
Land: 83,600 sq km
Water: 0 sq km
Climate
desert; cooler in eastern mountains
Natural Resources
petroleum, natural gas

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
historically oil-driven Middle Eastern economy; diversifying into a trade-oriented logistics and supply chain leader; weak domestic business growth; declining real estate sector; new Israeli technology trade improving resilience; key aid donor
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $655.8 billion (2019 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $67,120 (2019 est.)
Industries - petroleum and petrochemicals, fishing, aluminum, cement, fertilizer, commercial ship repair, construction materials
Agricultural products - dates, cucumbers, tomatoes, goat meat, eggs, milk, poultry, carrots/turnips, goat milk
Exports $308.5 billion (2017 est.)
crude and refined petroleum, gold, jewelry, broadcasting equipment (2019)
partners: India 11%, Japan 10%, Saudi Arabia 7%, Switzerland 6%, China 6%, Iraq 6% (2019)
Imports $229.2 billion (2017 est.)
gold, broadcasting equipment, jewelry, refined petroleum, diamonds (2019)
partners: China 15%, India 12%, US 7% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
9.9 million (July 2022 est.)
Population Growth
0.58% (2022 est.)
Ethnicity
Emirati 11.6%, South Asian 59.4% (includes Indian 38.2%, Bangladeshi 9.5%, Pakistani 9.4%, other 2.3%), Egyptian 10.2%, Filipino 6.1%, other 12.8% (2015 est.)
Language
Arabic (official), English, Hindi, Malayam, Urdu, Pashto, Tagalog, Persian
Religion
Muslim (official) 76%, Christian 9%, other (primarily Hindu and Buddhist) 15% (2005 est.)
note: data represent the total population; as of 2019, immigrants make up about 87.9% of the total population, according to UN data