

# 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

President MUHAMMAD BIN ZAYID Al Nuhayan

### Head of Government

Prime Minister and 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)

### Ambassador to US

Yousif Mana Saeed Ahmed AL OTAIBA

### US Ambassador

Ambassador Martina A. STRONG

## 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)** \$653.1 billion (2021 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$69,700 (2021 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, sheep milk

**Exports** \$335.2 billion (2020 est.)

crude and refined petroleum, gold, broadcasting equipment, diamonds, natural gas, jewelry, aluminum (2021)

**partners:** India 14%, Japan 8%, China 8%, Saudi Arabia 8%, Iraq 5% (2021)

**Imports** \$246.9 billion (2020 est.)

gold, broadcasting equipment, refined petroleum, diamonds, cars, jewelry, computers (2021)

**partners:** China 17%, India 9%, US 6%, Saudi Arabia 5%, Germany 3%

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

10.1 million (2023 est.)

### Population Growth

0.58% (2023 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 2020, immigrants make up about 88.1% of the total population, according to UN data