The United Arab Emirates

Facts and Figures\(^1\)

**Population:** 2,602,713

**Age Structure:**
- 0-14 years: 24.9% (male 331,012/female 317,643)
- 15-64 years: 71.2% (male 1,125,286/female 726,689)
- 65 years and over: 3.9% (male 74,700/female 27,383)

*note:* 73.9% of the population in the 15-64 age group is non-national.

**Population growth rate:** 1.52%

**Birth rate:** 18.96 births/1,000 population

**Death rate:** 4.4 deaths/1,000 population

**Net migration rate:** 0.66 migrant(s)/1,000 population

**Sex ratio:**
- at birth: 1.05 male(s)/female
- under 15 years: 1.04 male(s)/female
- 15-64 years: 1.55 male(s)/female
- 65 years and over: 2.73 male(s)/female
- total population: 1.43 male(s)/female

**Infant mortality rate:**
- total: 14.09 deaths/1,000 live births
- male: 16.57 deaths/1,000 live births
- female: 11.48 deaths/1,000 live births

**Life Expectancy at Birth:**
- total population: 75.44 years
  - male: 72.92 years
  - female: 78.08 years

**Total fertility rate:** 2.88 children born/woman

**Nationality:**
- noun: Emirati(s); adjective: Emirati

**Ethnic groups:**
- Emirati 19%, other Arab and Iranian 23%, South Asian 50%, other expatriates (includes Westerners and East Asians) 8%
- *note:* less than 20% are UAE citizens

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\(^1\)Information in the Facts and Figures section is courtesy of 2006 CIA World Factbook. All figures are July 2006 estimates unless otherwise stated.
Religions: Muslim 96% (Shi’a 16%), Christian, Hindu, and other 4%

Languages: Arabic (official), Persian, English, Hindi, Urdu

Literacy: definition: age 15 and over can read and write
total population: 77.9%
males: 76.1%
females: 81.7% (2003 est.)

Country Name: United Arab Emirates (UAE), formerly: Trucial Oman, Trucial States

Government type: The country is actually a federation with specified powers delegated to the UAE federal government and other powers reserved to member emirates.

Capital: Abu Dhabi

National holiday: 2 December, also independence day (1971)

Constitution: 2 December 1971; made permanent in 1996.

Legal System: A federal court system was introduced in 1971. This applies to all emirates except Dubai and Ras Al-Khaimah, which are not fully integrated into the federal judicial system. All emirates have secular courts to adjudicate criminal, civil, and commercial matters and Islamic courts to review family and religious disputes.

Suffrage: none

Executive Branch:
Chief of state: Khalifa bin Zayid Al-Nuhayyan has been President since 3 November 2004 and ruler of Abu Dhabi since 4 November 2004.
Head of government: Muhammed bin Rashid Al-Makhtoum has been Vice-President and Prime Minister since 5 January 2006.

Cabinet: There is a Council of Ministers that is appointed by the president. Note: There is also a Federal Supreme Council (FSC) that is composed of the seven emirate rulers. This FSC, which meets 4 times a year, is the highest constitutional authority in the UAE and it establishes general policies and sanctions federal legislation. The rulers of Abu Dhabi and Dubai have effective veto power.

Elections: The president and vice president are elected by the FSC for five-year terms (no term limits). The next election is to be held in 2009.

Legislative Branch: The unicameral Federal National Council (FNC) or Majlis Al-Ittihad Al-Watani consists of 40 seats and members are appointed by the rulers of the constituent states to serve two-year terms. note: The FNC reviews legislation, but cannot change or veto it.
**Judicial Branch:** There is a Union Supreme Court with judges appointed by the President to indefinite terms.

**Political Parties:** none

**Currency:** Dirham

**International Organization Participation:**
Among the international organizations to which the UAE belongs are the following: ABEDA (Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, AFESD (Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization), G-77 (United Nations Group of 77), GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council), IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency), IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), ICC (International Code Council), ILO (International Labor Organization), IMF (International Monetary Fund, Interpol, IOC (International Olympic Committee), OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference), OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), UN (United Nations, all agencies), WHO (World Health Organization), WTO (World Trade Organization).

**Military:** Army, Navy (includes Marines and Coast Guard), Air and Air Defense Force, paramilitary forces (includes Federal Police).