

United Arab Emirates

Ethnicity in United Arab Emirates

Group selection

The population in the UAE is composed of Emirati Arabs - who make up only 18% of the total population - and foreigners from South Asia (60%), Egyptians (10.2%), Filipinos (6.1%), and others including many expats from western countries (12.8%)⁵³⁹⁹. Since non-citizens are not relevant for this dataset, the only group are the **Emirati Arabs**.

⁵³⁹⁹ [Central Intelligence Agency, 2017]

Power relations

1971-2021

The United Arab Emirates is a federation of seven semi-autonomous emirates. Each emirate is ruled by a dynasty descending from tribes that immigrated mainly from central Arabia. Power is divided among the rulers of the seven emirates in the Federal Supreme Council, the country's highest legislative and executive body. As there are no formal political parties or political groupings, the political power remains in the hands of the ruling Emirati Arab elites. Ethnicity is not considered a defining factor for political power distribution. It should be mentioned, however, that the large share of foreigners are excluded from political life and are not organized politically^{5400, 5401}.

⁵⁴⁰⁰ [US Department of State, 2016]

⁵⁴⁰¹ [US Department of State, 2019]

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Political status of ethnic groups in United Arab Emirates

From 1971 until 2021

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Emirati Arabs	0.12	IRRELEVANT

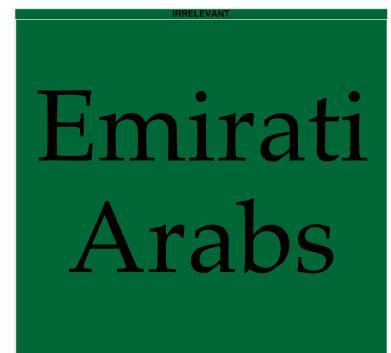


Figure 1081: Political status of ethnic groups in United Arab Emirates during 1971-2021.