

The Editor of RAWSEP after watching the Trump visit to Qatar Saudi Arabia and the country named the United Arab Emirates UAE wondered whether those three Middle Eastern countries had Social Security Systems like the United States has **One of the main aims of the Trump United States Budget being written in 2025 by Republicans is to cut social programs which benefit the poor and middle class in the United States in order to fund tax breaks for the rich in the United States** Do the three countries in the Middle East have existing Social Security Programs which they could cut to provide tax breaks for the rich? Or do these three countries already not even have existing programs equivalent to the United States Social Security program? The editor of RAWSEP found that Qatar has no Social Security Program to cut Saudi Arabia does not have a social security system like the United States but it does have a social insurance system primarily for Saudi citizens that provides some similar benefits The **UAE resident population is only 11 percent citizens** or what are alternately called UAE nationals and that country has 89 percent UAE expatriates UAE expatriates do not have Social Security The UAE national social program even for UAE citizens is limited in comparison to United States Social Security **The Trump visit to Qatar Saudi Arabia and the UAE probably did not provide Trump with insight on how those countries could cut could their Social Security Programs to provide more tax breaks for the rich in those countries** Also **Qatar nationals or citizens** compromise only **11 point 6 percent** of the Qatar population **Saudi Arabian nationals or citizens** compromise only **55 point 6 percent** of the Saudi Arabian population In contrast a ChatGPT estimate is that **United States citizens** compromise approximately **93 percent** of the United States population ChatGPT stated that Focusing specifically on non citizens estimates indicate that around 7% of the U S population are residents without U S citizenship This group includes lawful permanent residents green card holders individuals on temporary visas such as students and workers refugees and asylees and unauthorized immigrants For instance in 2022 unauthorized immigrants alone constituted about 3 point 3% of the total U S population It is important to note that these figures are estimates as the U S Census Bureau does not collect detailed citizenship data on every resident However these numbers provide a general understanding of the proportion of non citizens within the U S population



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Does Qatar have a social security system like the United States?

ChatGPT said

Qatar does not have a social security system that is equivalent to the United States Social Security system which provides retirement disability and survivor benefits funded by payroll taxes from both employees and employers

Key Differences

U S Social Security System Covers retirement disability and survivor benefits Funded by mandatory payroll taxes under FICA Federal Insurance Contributions Act Applies to virtually all U S workers Provides monthly income based on lifetime earnings and contributions

The Qatar System

There is no universal social security system like the U S model Social insurance in Qatar is primarily available to Qatari citizens working in the public and certain private sector roles Expatriates who make up the majority of the population are not covered by this system The General Retirement & Social Insurance Authority GRSIA oversees pension and social insurance for Qataris Benefits include pensions for retirement disability and death but again only for Qatari nationals in covered employment For Expatriates in Qatar Employers are required to provide end of service gratuity a lump sum payment rather than social security No payroll taxes are collected for social security Expats often rely on private savings employer provided benefits or home country pension systems What percentage of the Qatar population are expatriates? **ChatGPT said:** As of 2025 expatriates constitute approximately **88 point 4%** of Qatar's total population which is around 3 point 1 million people This means that only about **11 point 6%** of the population are Qatari nationals

Summary

The Qatar system is more limited nationality based and does not include the kind of broad mandatory earnings based social security structure seen in the U S



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Does Saudi Arabia have a social security system like the United States?

ChatGPT said

Saudi Arabia does not have a social security system like the United States but it does have a social insurance system primarily for Saudi citizens that provides some similar benefits

Comparison U S vs Saudi Arabia

United States Social Security Universal for all eligible workers Covers retirement disability survivor and Medicare benefits Funded by payroll taxes FICA Applies to all legal residents who work and pay into the system

The Saudi Arabia Social Insurance System

Administered by the General Organization for Social Insurance GOSI Covers Saudi nationals working in the public and private sectors Funded by mandatory contributions from both employees and employers

Employee Saudi citizen approximately 9% of salary Employer approximately 9% additional contributions for occupational hazards Provides Pensions retirement disability death benefits Work injury benefits

Unemployment insurance SANED for Saudi nationals Expatriates Only covered under occupational hazard insurance not pension or unemployment benefits Employers must still provide end of service gratuity lump sum for expat workers Expats do not receive long term social insurance benefits like U S Social Security what percentage of the Saudi Arabian population are expatriates? ChatGPT said As of 2024 expatriates comprise approximately **44 point 4%** of Saudi Arabia's total population



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Does the United Arab Emirates UAE have a social security system like the United States?

ChatGPT said

The United Arab Emirates UAE does not have a social security system like that of the United States. However, it does have a social insurance system that offers certain benefits to UAE nationals only.

United States Social Security Covers all legal workers regardless of nationality. Provides retirement, disability, survivors, and Medicare benefits. Funded by payroll taxes (FICA) approximately 12% (4% split between employer and employee). Benefits are portable and based on lifetime earnings.

The UAE Social Insurance System

Managed by General Pension and Social Security Authority (GPSSA) for most emirates. Abu Dhabi Pension Fund for workers in Abu Dhabi. Applies only to UAE citizens working in the public and private sectors. Funded by mandatory contributions: Employee UAE national 5%, Employer 12% (5% in Abu Dhabi). Government subsidy 2% (5% in Abu Dhabi). Provides pensions, retirement, disability, and death benefits. End of service benefits. No unemployment insurance currently. No coverage for expatriates. Expats who make up the majority of the UAE workforce are not covered by the UAE social insurance system. Instead, they are entitled to end of service gratuity, a lump sum paid after contract ends. Employers may offer private health insurance and retirement plans, but these are not mandatory beyond gratuity. A mandatory private sector savings scheme called the Savings Scheme is being phased in, but it is still limited and not equivalent to Social Security.

Summary of Key Differences: Universal Coverage in the UAE? No. UAE citizens only.

Unemployment Benefits in the UAE? No. Bottom Line: The UAE system is citizens only, contribution based, and limited compared to the U.S. model. Expatriates who make up approximately 89% of the population do not receive social security style benefits, only gratuity and possibly private employer-provided perks.



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