

# ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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## What is Arab American Heritage Month?

April marks National Arab American Heritage Month (NAAHM), a period dedicated to honoring the rich history, vibrant culture, and significant contributions of Arab Americans. This celebration, which began in Washington, D.C. in April 2017, gained national recognition in 2022 when President Biden officially proclaimed April as Arab American Heritage Month. This acknowledgment underscores the profound impact of Arab Americans on the nation's fabric, with notable advancements in fields ranging from diplomacy and science to technology, art, and culture.

Sources | [Smithsonian](#) | [Insight Into Diversity](#) | [ADC](#)

## Language Update

Arab identity is rooted in language and shared cultural history, not race. This population exhibits a wide range of physical characteristics. Most Arabs are Muslims but there are also millions of Christian Arabs and thousands of Jewish Arabs, just as there are Muslim, Christian, and Jewish Americans.

## Resources

[Click here](#) to see a library full of resources & book lists to use in your teaching space.

## What is the Arab World?

The Arab World consists of 22 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, and East Africa: Algeria, Bahrain, the Comoros Islands, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. Iran and Turkey are not Arab countries and their primary languages are Farsi and Turkish respectively. Arab countries have a rich diversity of ethnic, linguistic, and religious communities. These include Kurds, Armenians, Berbers and others. There are over 300 million Arabs.

### Links

[Equity Framework](#)

[Social Media - Instagram](#)

[Social Media - X](#)

[ODEI Canvas Community Page](#)

[Cultural and Religious Observances](#)

