



COMPARING Governments

Social Spending

Country	Old age, invalidity, and death	Sickness and maternity	Work Injury	Unemployment	Family Allowances	Percent of total government spending, 1997
 Australia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	35.3
 Colombia	✓	✓	✓		✓	8.5
 Israel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	24.9
 Mexico	✓	✓	✓			18.1
 Thailand	✓	✓	✓			3.7
 United Kingdom	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	36.8
 United States	✓		✓	✓		28.8
 Zimbabwe	✓		✓			3.4 ⁽¹⁾

Source: Encyclopedia Britannica, 2001 Book of the Year (Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, 2001).

⁽¹⁾ 1989

Critical Thinking The large majority of governments around the world provide some kind of social benefits for their citizens. Which country provides the fewest number of programs?