DIAC - Overview

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CITY
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DIAC Universities

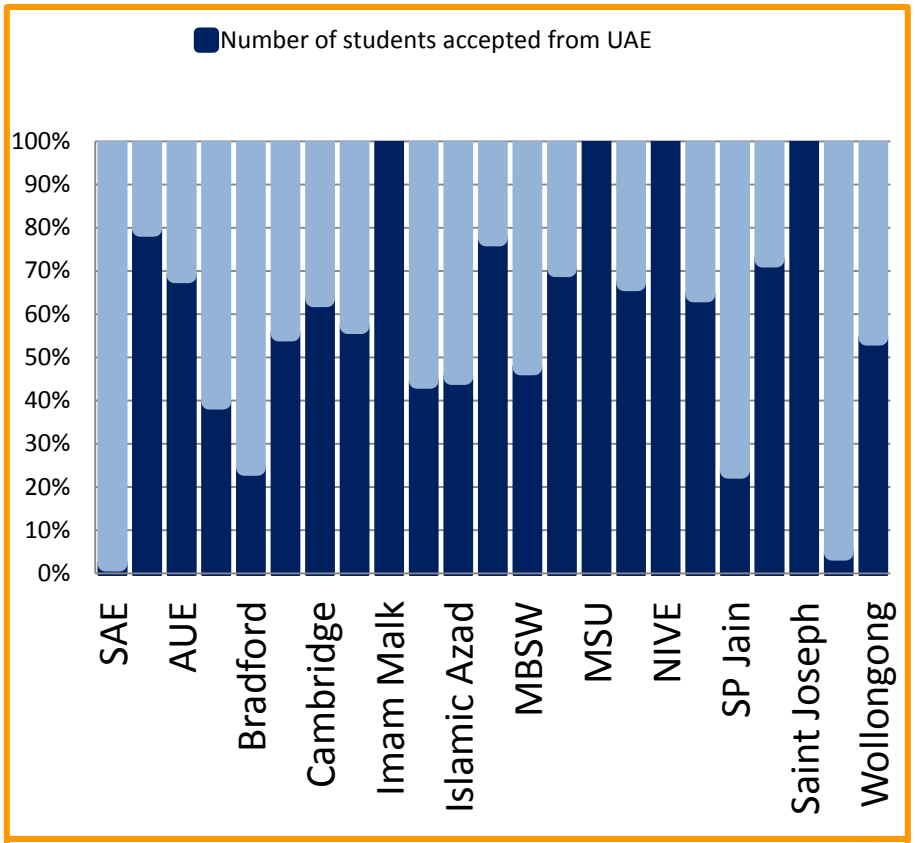
DIAC has world-class academic partners from multiple countries around the world including:

- University of Wollongong
- Amity University
- Middlesex University
- Michigan State University
- Hult International Business School
- Manipal University
- BITS Pilani
- Heriot Watt University
- Manchester Business School
- Murdoch University
- Institute of Management Technology

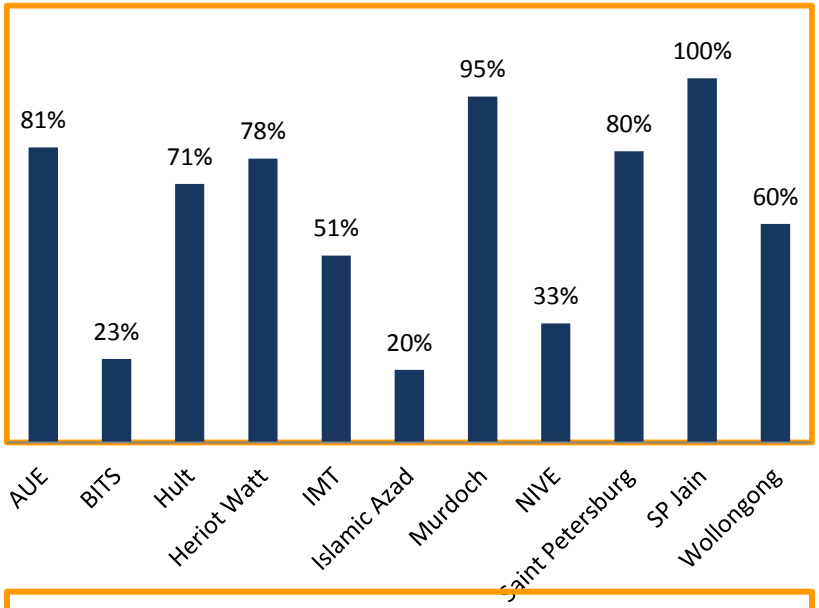
DIAC

- Launched in 2007 as the world's only free zone dedicated to higher education.
- Host to 21 International Branch Campuses (IBC's) Of the UAE's total 37 IBC's, from 11 countries.
- The largest academic zone in the UAE, with nearly 20,000 students in the 2011/12 academic year.
- Hosting 53% and 23.5% of the universities in the UAE and GCC, respectively (UNESCO Report).
- Ranked top 25 in the Middle East under "Best Overall" category according to 2010 Financial Times Rankings.
- Accredited with "Green" status and Silver LEED classification

Residential and Transnational Student Population/ Job Placement Rate

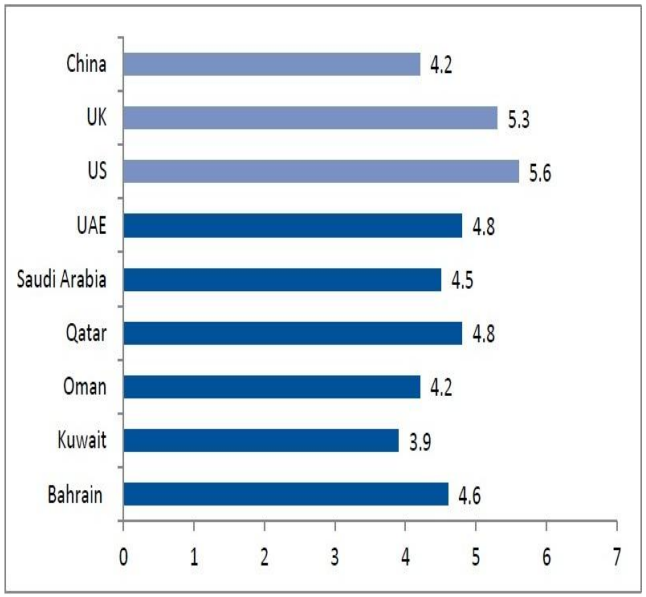


- **Residential: Residential and Emirati Students currently living in the UAE**
- **Transnational: Students who travel to the UAE**



- **20% of the total DIAC graduates return to their home country**
- **15% of the total DIAC graduates enter family owned businesses in the UAE and therefore do not seek employment**

Quality of Higher Education



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2010–2011, World Economic Forum

Note: On scale of 1 to 7. (1=Poor, 7=Excellent)

- The GCC member countries have shown significant progress in the primary and secondary segment
- Enrolment in tertiary education still lags behind the global average, primarily reflecting a mismatch between skills taught to the graduates and requirements of the labor market.
- The quality of higher education in the region is also not at par with that of the developed nations like the US and UK (see Exhibit 1 on Slide 13).
- To deal with this situation, most of the GCC member nations are inviting reputed foreign universities to open their campuses in their countries.
- Private colleges across the GCC are also looking to enter into partnership or become affiliated with foreign institutions to improve the quality of higher education.
- UAE has been chosen as the seat for INQAAHE. The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education. This was established in 1991 with only 8 members, it now has 250 members.

Leadership Potential by Region/ Reasons Why This is Happening

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Figure 1: Regional view: Leadership for today

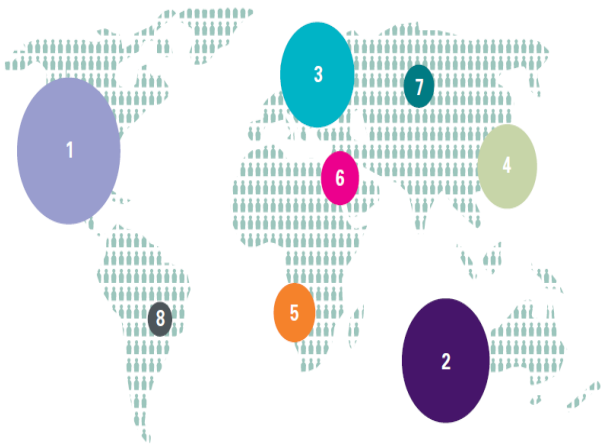

Figure 2: Regional view: Leadership for tomorrow

Region[9]
- North America
- Australia-New Zealand
- Western Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- Middle East
- Eastern Europe
- Latin America

The UAE is ranked **21** in the "Leaders of Today", however it is ranked **12** in the "Leaders of Tomorrow"

Driving Factors

- Rising education standards in the UAE
- Introduction of Education Hubs bringing in multi tiered universities from multiple nationalities, catering to the educational demands of the region.
- Rising levels of Entrepreneurship, particularly in the SME Sector.
- UAE has a large pipeline for future leaders which needs to be nurtured.
- This ranking signifies that the UAE is a globally competitive area for future growth of leaders in corporate environments.

SHL Talent Report UAE 2012

Why Transnational Students are Choosing Dubai as a Higher Education Destination?

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- Large number of varied higher degrees being offered.
- Large number of universities from multiple countries.
- Ease of Visa issuing and low restrictions.
- Close proximity to many international destinations.
- Safety and Security.
- UAE has a growing pipeline for future leaders.
- Lowers cost of living compared with UK/USA/Australia and European countries.
- Key industries looking to hire in the region across multiple sectors.
- Key education events being hosted in Dubai throughout the year.
- UAE has a growing economy with 3.3% GDP growth due to high oil prices, tourism boost following Arab spring, Dubai debt restructuring and weaknesses in other financial sectors.
- 400 of the top Fortune 500 companies have offices in Dubai.