

**Indians In The Middle East** 

Regional IACAC Conference | Oman, 2025

## Hello!

First Time In Oman

Admissions Vs. High School & Others

Geographies

Are Indians a sizable number of your app pool from the Middle East?

Which are the key geographies where you see Indian apps from in the region?

## **About Us**

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Indians In The Middle East

**Part A: Introduction** 

## **Indians In The Middle East:**

## The Geography

UAE

Qatar

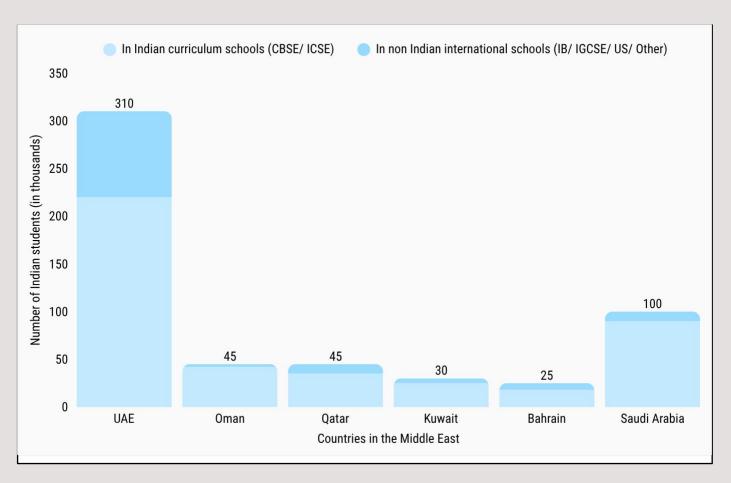
Oman

Saudi

Bahrain

Kuwait

### **Overview of the Indian student population in the Middle East**



## **Indians In The Middle East:**

## The History: The Waves of Migration

Ancient Times, Trading Routes

**Indian Partition** 

Work (Construction, Professionals, Healthcare)

**Business & Golden Visas** 

## **Indians In The Middle East:**

## The Schools

#### Indian Schools (CBSE, ICSE)

Middle Income Heavy, Cost Conscious, East Bound (Professional, Healthcare)

#### International Schools (British, American, IBDP)

High Net Worth Families, Double Income, West Bound (Business, Professionals)

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Part B: The Take Aways

# Indians In The Middle East Primed Study Abroad Population

90% - West Bound Vs. East Bound 10% - Local Colleges

## Learnings For School/IECs

#### Which destinations do your Indian students like to apply to?

- I. West Bound: US & UK (depends on the school), Europe Increasing (Dutch, Germany)
- 2. East Bound: Indian Curriculum > India (then PG in the West)
- 3. Medicine/Law —> India
- 4. Rare to look Far East

#### Most popular majors?

- 1. Engineering/CS
- Business/Economics
- Medicine/Law

#### Who makes decisions - parents/students/together?

- 1. Highly involved parents\* 80/20 (liberal vs. conservative?)
- 2. India Influence Strong (IEC, Tutoring, Profile Builders, Test Prep)

## **Emerging Trends**

#### **Policy and Business Shifts**

- 1. Golden Visas & Entrepreneurial Growth
- School Enrolment Pressure
- 3. Indian Institutions Expanding

#### The The 'Not-Quite-Home' Mindset

- 1. No Guaranteed Path to Citizenship
- Workforce Nationalization
- 3. Limited State Support
- 4. Education as a Launchpad

#### **Decision Drivers for Higher Education**

- 1. Global Rankings & ROI
- 2. Curriculum alignment
- 3. Visa & Post-Study Work Policies

## **Emerging Trends**

#### **Next Genius Scholarship Perspective**

- 1. ~5% of Indian School Grade 12 Apps
- 2. No one comes to talk to them about Study Abroad

Fun Fact: "Study Hard or we send you to India!?"

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Q&A