

The UAE Becomes the Top Choice for Global Capital

The UAE continues to strengthen its position as one of the world's most attractive destinations for global capital. Over the past year, the UAE set a new all-time record by attracting USD 45.6 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI), a 49% year-on-year increase (according to the UAE Ministry of Investment's latest [report](#)). Capital inflows are primarily driven by investors from the United Kingdom, United States, India, China, Saudi Arabia, and other major economies.

The country ranks among the top 10 globally in terms of total investment inflows, reflecting strong confidence from international investors and growing interest from leading global corporations. One of the most notable examples is Veon, the Nasdaq-listed telecommunications giant, which [relocated](#) its global headquarters from the Netherlands to Dubai, making it one of the largest multinationals now based in the UAE.

International Companies Choose the UAE to Start New Business

Firms from around the world are flocking to the UAE to establish new operations from the ground up. Fueled by this form of capital flow - greenfield investment - the country has emerged as one of the world's most attractive destinations, ranking just behind the United States.

In the past year alone, USD 14.5 billion worth of greenfield projects were launched in the UAE, acting as a powerful engine for economic growth, job creation, and real estate development. More than 44,000 jobs are expected to be created by these projects.

\$14.5 billion

Greenfield investments in the UAE - Ranked #2 Globally

The UAE also remains a leading start-up hub in the MENA region, attracting nearly half of the region's venture capital. Its ecosystem is particularly strong in FinTech, PropTech, and Web3, cementing the country's role as a hub for next-generation industries.



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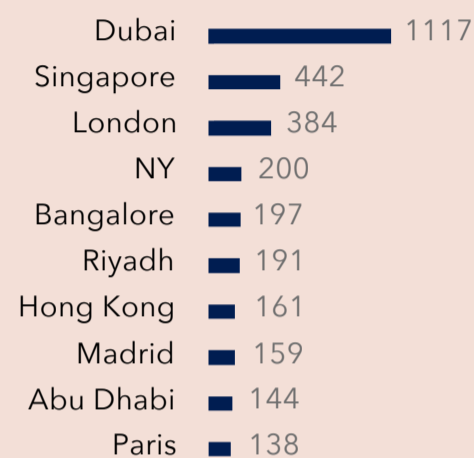


Dubai is N°1 in the World for Greenfield Investment Projects

Dubai stands out as the undisputed leader. For the fourth consecutive year, the city ranked No. 1 globally for greenfield FDI. In 2025, Dubai attracted a record 1,117 projects – the highest in its history. Regionally, its dominance is unmatched, accounting for 55% of all greenfield FDI projects across the Middle East. This surge in investment creates indirect yet significant demand for commercial infrastructure, while the steady influx of global professionals and entrepreneurs continues to fuel appetite for high-quality residential properties.

Top destinations for Greenfield Investment Projects

by number of projects in 2024



Source: Dubai FDI Monitor

Real Estate at the Forefront

Real estate and construction attracted over 23% of total FDI inflows into the UAE, making the sector the second-largest contributor after energy. This highlights not only the resilience of the UAE property market but also its pivotal role in the country's economic diversification. The arrival of international businesses fuels population growth, which in turn sustains strong demand for housing – boosting both rental and sales markets and offering promising opportunities for investors.

With a current **population** of 11.4 million, the UAE has added 1.9 million over the past five years, reflecting its strong appeal to businesses, skilled professionals, and high-net-worth individuals. The migration of millionaires highlights the UAE's ability to attract global wealth. According to the latest **Henley & Partners data**, the country is projected to welcome 9,800 high-net-worth individuals in 2025.

Unlocking New Horizons for Investors and Business

The UAE is set for its next wave of investment expansion. **The National Investment Strategy 2031** aims to double annual capital inflows to USD 65 billion and expand total FDI stock to USD 600 billion, supported by strong balances, structural reforms, and pro-investment policies. This robust framework ensures a stable foundation for continued investment growth, offering confidence and opportunities for investors.

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