



The UAE's Social Infrastructure: An Intelligence Briefing on Education & Healthcare

A 2025 Market Assessment

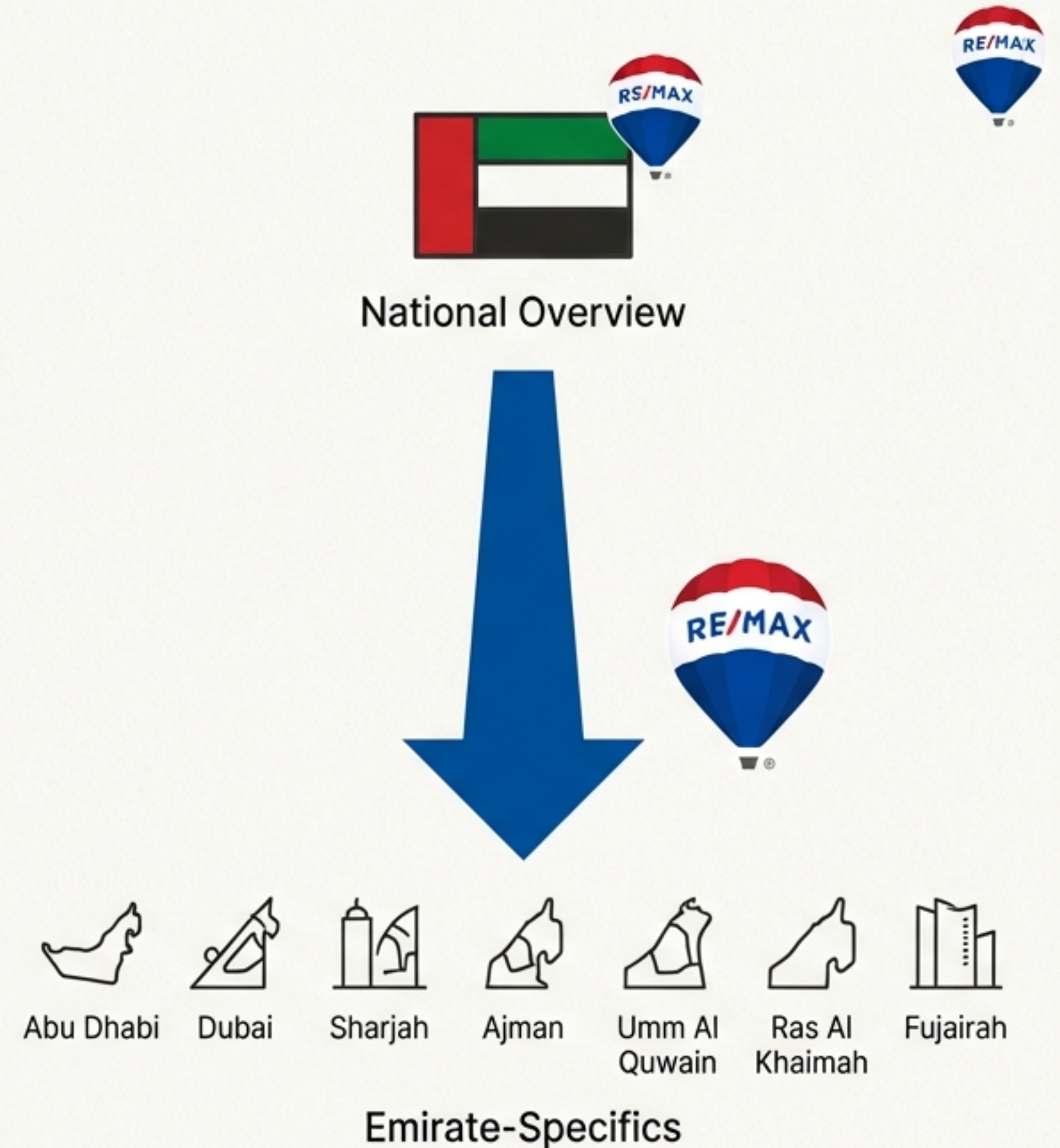
A Strategic Overview: From National Vision to Local Excellence

Part I: The National Landscape

A comprehensive look at the UAE's world-class education and healthcare systems at a federal level. We will explore the scale of infrastructure, the diversity of offerings, and key national policies shaping the future.

Part II: The Emirate-by-Emirate Deep Dive

A detailed analysis of each emirate's unique ecosystem. We will identify the anchor institutions and market dynamics that define the opportunities in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, and the Northern Emirates.



The K-12 Education Market: A Snapshot of Diversity and Growth

6.1

227

Private Schools in Dubai

387,441

Students in Dubai

+6%

Year-over-Year Enrolment Growth in Dubai

Unparalleled Curricular Choice

The UAE offers a vast array of international curricula, catering to a global population. Major systems include:

- British (IGCSE/A-Levels)
- American (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Indian (CBSE/ICSE)
- UAE Ministry of Education (MoE) curriculum.
 - Specialized offerings include French, German, Japanese, Filipino, Canadian, and Pakistani systems.

Market Scale by Emirate (2024/25 Data)

Dubai: 227 schools, 387,441 students, 17 curricula offered. (Source: KHDA)

Abu Dhabi: Approximately 219 private schools across Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, and Al Dhafra. (Source: ADEK)

Sharjah: Approximately 134 schools, with sector quality rising under SPEA's 'Itqan' evaluation cycle. (Source: SPEA)

Premier Operators and Proactive Policy

Examples of Brand Operators	System Enhancements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldar Education (Cranleigh Abu Dhabi, Al Muna, Pearl) • GEMS Education (Wellington, Jumeirah College) • Nord Anglia Education • Brighton College (Abu Dhabi & Al Ain) • Repton (Dubai & Abu Dhabi) • Jumeirah English Speaking School (JESS) • King's College (Dubai; Abu Dhabi campus announced for Fahid Island, subject to approvals) 	<p>Student Voice Dubai's KHDA launched the Dubai Student Council to integrate student perspectives into policymaking.</p> <p>Arabic Proficiency Abu Dhabi's ADEK mandated 4 hours of Arabic language per week in early years, effective from the 2025/26 academic year.</p>



Higher Education: Homegrown Excellence and Global Partnerships

6.2

Abu Dhabi: Research & Leadership Focus

- **Khalifa University (KU):** Top 200 globally (QS 2026 #177), a leader in STEM and health.
- **Global Leaders:** New York University (NYU) Abu Dhabi, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.
- **Future-Focused:** Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI), the world's first graduate-level, research-based AI university.



Dubai: The Transnational Campus Hub

Home to numerous international branch campuses in Dubai International Academic City (DIAC) and Dubai Knowledge Park.

Examples: University of Birmingham Dubai, Heriot-Watt Dubai, Middlesex Dubai, RIT Dubai, Canadian University Dubai.

Sharjah, RAK, & Ajman: Rising Regional Powerhouses

- **University of Sharjah (UoS):** Strong performance (THE 2026: 301–350), ranked #1 in UAE by U.S. News 2025.
- **American University of Sharjah (AUS):** A top regional private university.
- **American University of Ras Al Khaimah (AURAK):** Rising profile, QS Top-500 in 2025.
- **Ajman University (AU):** QS 2026 #440, noted as top in UAE for international student ratio.

National Healthcare Infrastructure: A System of Scale



A robust natural network of 173 hospitals and nearly 18,500 beds ensures extensive healthcare coverage.

Federal Provider Footprint

The federal Emirates Health Services (EHS) operates a significant portion of the public system, with 17 public hospitals, 64 primary healthcare centers, and 10 public health centers as of October 2025.

Source: MoHAP Statistical Annual Health Sector Report 2023 (latest national figures available in 2025).

Regulation, Access, and Human Capital Foundations

Regulatory Framework

Key Regulators

- DoH–Abu Dhabi
- Dubai Health (formerly DHA)
- MoHAP (Federal Ministry)

A unified digital healthcare licensing platform is planned by 2026 to streamline professional licensing across all regulators.

Mandatory Health Insurance

Ensuring Access

Dubai

Employers must insure employees; sponsors are responsible for dependents. Flexible plan tiers are available.

Abu Dhabi

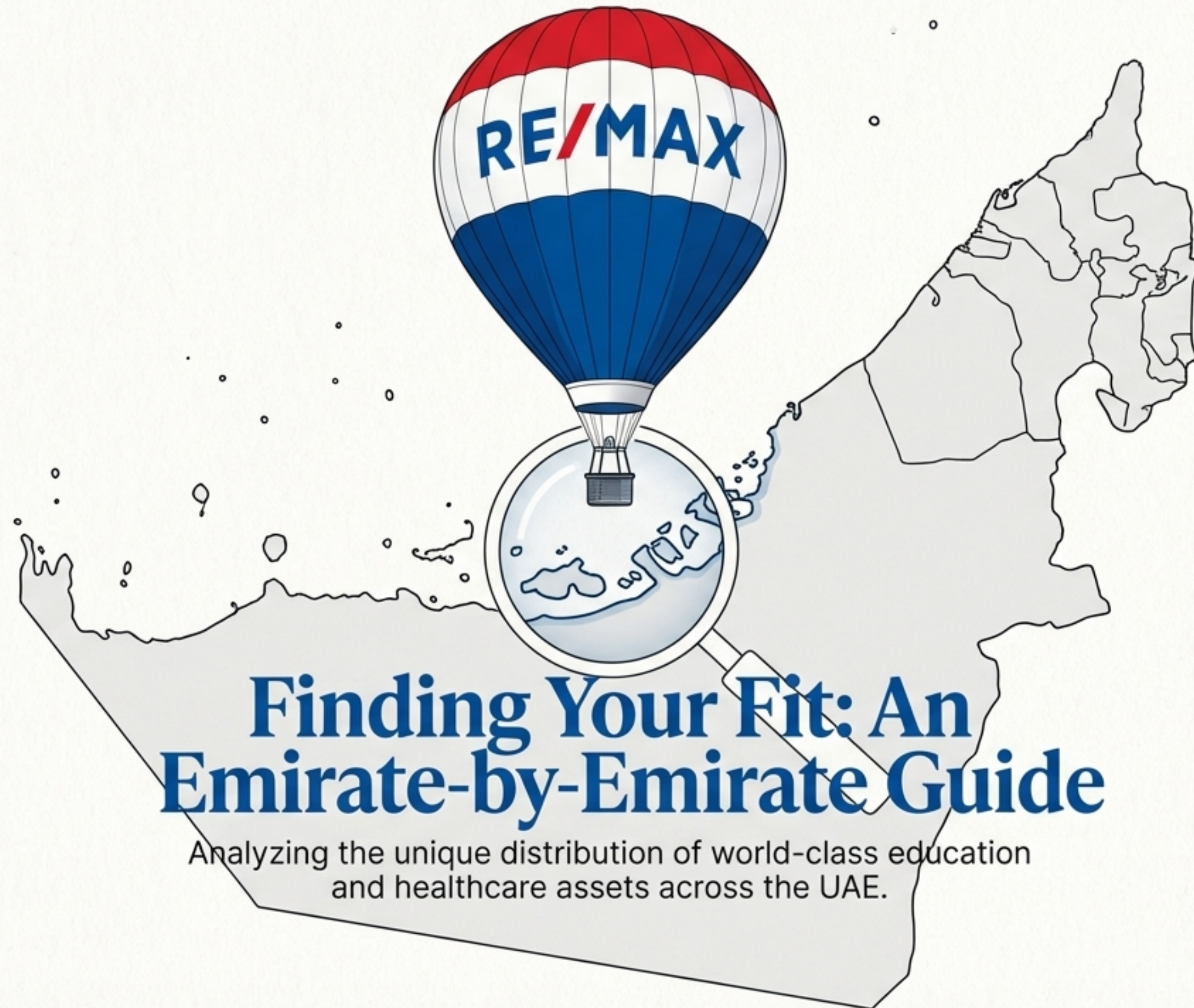
Employer-mandated coverage, with dependents covered by the employee or sponsor per DoH rules.

National Human Capital

A Highly Literate Society

≈ 98%

Adult literacy rate, a cornerstone of a knowledge-based economy. (Source: World Bank/UNESCO, latest available datapoint).



Finding Your Fit: An Emirate-by-Emirate Guide

Analyzing the unique distribution of world-class education and healthcare assets across the UAE.

Abu Dhabi: A Concentration of Tier-One Institutions

Schools

Cranleigh Abu Dhabi, Brighton College, Repton Abu Dhabi, and the extensive Aldar Education portfolio.

Universities

Khalifa University (KU), NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD), Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI).

Healthcare

Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi (CCAD), Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC) in partnership with Mayo Clinic, the comprehensive SEHA network, and major private groups like Burjeel and Mediclinic.

Why it matters:

The high concentration of top-tier hospitals and globally-ranked universities supports HNW relocation and executive families seeking premium social infrastructure.

Dubai: The Dynamic International Hub

Schools

GEMS Wellington, Jumeirah College, Nord Anglia, Repton, JESS, King's College.

Universities

A hub for transnational education, featuring University of Birmingham Dubai, Heriot-Watt Dubai, Middlesex Dubai, RIT Dubai, Canadian University Dubai (CUD), and Emirates Aviation University (EAU).

Healthcare

A mix of leading public and private facilities including Rashid Hospital, American Hospital Dubai, Mediclinic City Hospital, and networks like Aster and Al Zahra. Several are listed in Newsweek's World's Best Hospitals 2025.

Why it matters:

The UAE's largest private K-12 market (227 schools) offers unmatched curricular diversity. It is a major transnational higher education hub with internationally ranked hospitals.

Sharjah & Ajman: The Academic and Value Corridor

Sharjah: The Cultural & Academic Capital

- **Schools:** Quality is rising under the SPEA-regulated 'Itqan' cycle.
- **Universities:** University of Sharjah (UoS), American University of Sharjah (AUS).
- **Healthcare:** EHS network and the University Hospital Sharjah academic cluster.

Why it matters: An established 'academic city' reputation and cultural capital status drive steady demand at more affordable price points than Dubai/AD.

Ajman: Value-Driven with Health-Ed Anchors

- **Schools:** A mix of CBSE, UK, and US curricula, serving local residents and commuters.
- **Universities:** Ajman University, Gulf Medical University.
- **Healthcare:** Anchored by Thumbay University Hospital (350 beds) and Thumbay Hospital Ajman (250 beds).

Why it matters: Combines value-driven housing with a strong, integrated health and education ecosystem.

The Northern Emirates: Lifestyle, Growth, and Specialization

Ras Al Khaimah (RAK)

Assets: RAK Academy (IB/UK), AURAK (QS Top-500), RAK Hospital. A new 209-bed greenfield hospital project was announced in 2025.

Why it matters: A growing destination resort and education pairing, building a niche in medical tourism.

Fujairah

Assets: Mix of MoE/UK/CBSE schools. Fujairah Hospital (EHS) is JCI-edited and was the first UAE public hospital to achieve 'Patient Safety Friendly' accreditation.

Why it matters: The UAE's East-coast gateway, with significant ongoing upgrades to infrastructure and health quality.

Umm Al Quwain (UAQ)

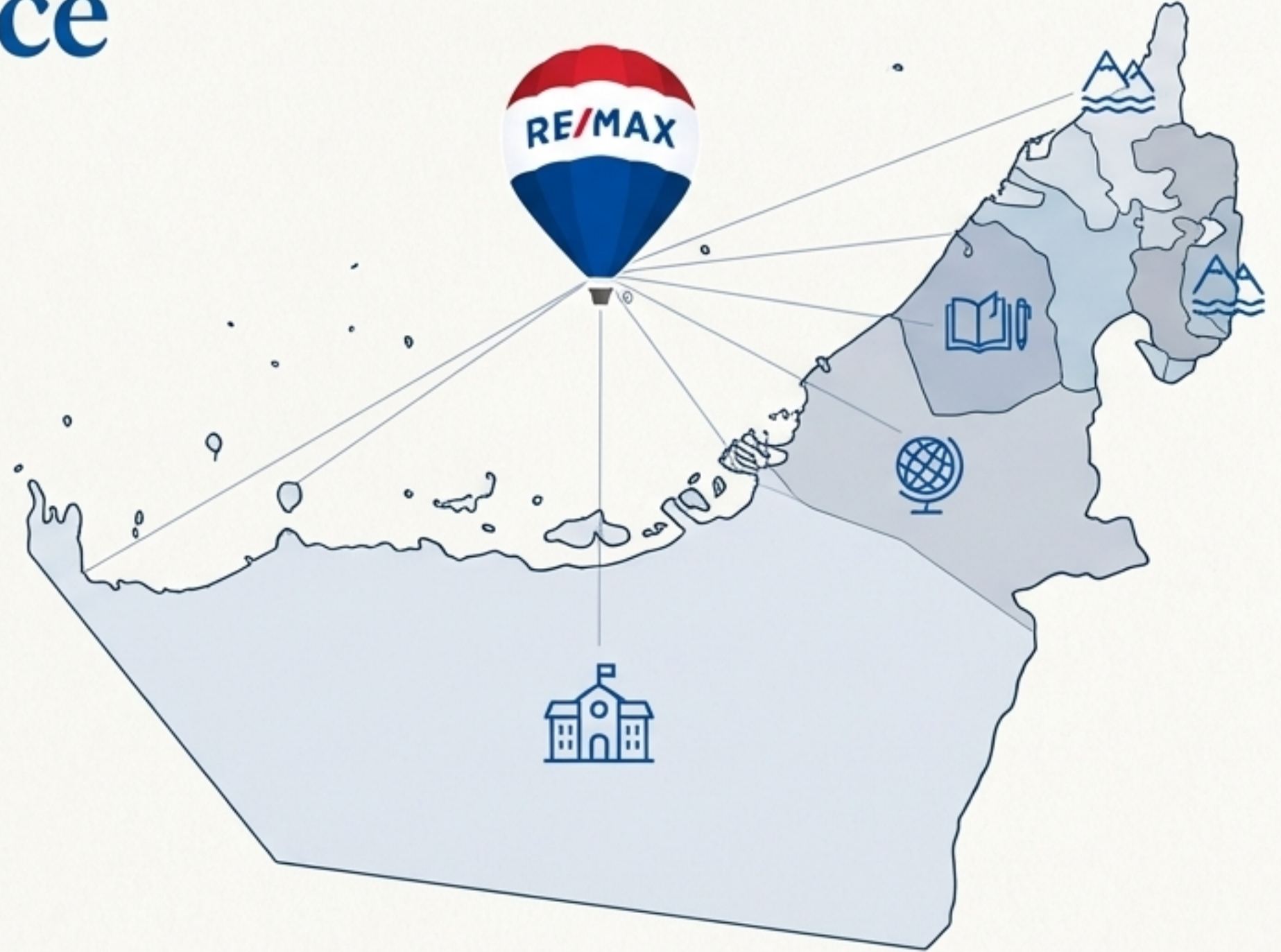
Assets: Smaller school market. Healthcare provided by UAQ Hospital (EHS) and primary health centers (PHCs).

Why it matters: Offers a quiet coastal lifestyle with improving access to federal healthcare services.

A Unified Vision, A Spectrum of Choice

The UAE's national commitment to excellence in education and healthcare translates into a diverse and sophisticated landscape of opportunities. From the global research hubs of Abu Dhabi and the dynamic international markets of Dubai to the academic corridors of Sharjah and the growing lifestyle destinations of the Northern Emirates, the nation provides a world-class solution for every personal and professional need.

Navigating this spectrum of choice requires precise, human-led intelligence.



References & Data Sources

Government & Regulatory Bodies

KHDA (Gov Dubai) - Dubai private school landscape 2024-2025

ADEK (Gov Abu Dhabi) - Private schools ecosystem pages

SPEA (Gov Sharjah) - School directory & Itqan cycle data

MoHAP Statistical Annual Health Sector Report 2023

EHS (Federal provider) - Facility and service data

CAA (Ministry of Education) - Licensed HEI registry

International & Third-Party

Newsweek - World's Best Hospitals 2025 (UAE)

World Bank / UNESCO UIS - Adult literacy data

Institutional & Media

WAM, Times of India, EdArabia, and data from individual institutions (e.g., RAK Hospital, Thumbay University Hospital).



RE/MAX SMART CONCEPT

Human-led intelligence supported by AI precision.