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Abstract

Purpose: The goal of this study is to look at Dubai's history of innovation and excellence over the last 30 years and to investigate the impact of these characteristics on the city's economic progress. The study intends to answer a series of research questions about perceptions of Dubai's level of innovation and excellence, the most inventive industries and sectors, and the significance of these qualities for the city's future economic success.

Methodology: The research design involved a structured survey of 22 participants with diverse backgrounds and professional experiences in Dubai. The survey questions were designed to address the research questions, with responses analyzed using quantitative methods.

Findings: Dubai has been seen as exceptionally inventive during the last 30 years, with a strong focus on excellence contributing greatly to the region's economic progress. Technology was regarded as the most innovative sector in Dubai, with government policies and initiatives viewed as the most important driver of innovation and excellence. The primary limitation of this research is the small sample size, which may limit the generalizability of the findings. The research design needed to allow for a more detailed exploration of the specific factors driving innovation. The findings of this research have highlighted the importance of government policies and initiatives, infrastructure development, and education and research for promoting innovation and excellence.

Unique Contribution to Theory, Practice and Policy: This research contributes to the existing literature on innovation and excellence in rapidly developing cities, providing insights into the specific factors driving success in Dubai.

Keywords: *Innovation, Excellence, Dubai, Economic Growth, Government Policies, Technology*

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INTRODUCTION

Numerous industries, including tourism, banking, and real estate, rank Dubai as a global epicenter for innovation and quality. Dubai is currently widely regarded as one of the world's most vibrant and forward-thinking metropolitan areas as a direct result of the profound transformations that have occurred there over the past few decades (Waters, 2023). With so much change in Dubai since 1990, the city provides a fascinating case study of how innovation and quality can spur economic growth and development. The purpose of this study is to analyze how innovation and excellence in Dubai have developed since the year 1990, how they have contributed to economic success in the region, and what the future holds for them. The city of Dubai has gained economic significance due to its favorable business climate, central location, and considerable investment in various industries, including tourism, finance, and real estate. Dubai's government has seriously tried cultivating an environment that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship (Santos, 2022). Many world-class universities, research centers, and innovation hubs have set up shops in Dubai as a direct result of these efforts. There is still a need to examine the factors contributing to Dubai's success over the past few decades, notwithstanding the city's impressive expansion. Understanding how innovation and excellence in Dubai have developed since 1990, their impact on regional economic growth, and their potential trajectory are among the goals of this study.

Research Questions:

To achieve the research aims, the following questions will guide the study:

- a) In your opinion, how innovative has Dubai been in the past 30 years?
- b) How much has Dubai's focus on excellence contributed to the region's economic growth?
- c) Which industry or sector has been the most innovative in Dubai in the past 30 years?
- d) How important do you think innovation and excellence will be for Dubai's future economic success?

Research Design

A survey will be used to gather information from a statistically valid cross-section of the population of Dubai. In order to collect data that is amenable to statistical analysis, the survey will consist primarily of closed-ended questions. This research project aims to shed light on the development of innovation and excellence in Dubai since 1990 and their effects on regional economic growth and potential future ramifications. This research will add to what is already known about innovation and excellence in Dubai and show how such concepts might be promoted through regional policy and strategy.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Dubai has made great strides in recent decades, documented in the city's copious literature on innovation and excellence (Thomas et al., 2020). This literature survey will summarize what has been written about innovation and excellence in Dubai, drawing attention to the most important themes, current trends, and ongoing disputes. We will examine how Dubai's economy has developed since 1990, the impact of innovation and high standards on that development, and their long-term consequences.

Since 1990, Dubai has seen a dramatic economic transformation, shifting from an oil-based economy to a more diversified one (Akhavan & Akhavan, 2020). Strategic initiatives and investments in tourism, real estate, and banking have fueled this transition. The Dubai Statistics Center (DSC) estimates that between 1990 and 2020, the economy of Dubai expanded by 4.3% each year on average, with non-oil sectors contributing more than 70% of GDP.

The last few decades of Dubai's development have been marked by the city's dedication to cutting-edge practices and high standards (Singh et al., 2022). To encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, the government of Dubai has made tremendous strides (Warner & Fargher, 2019). With the help of these programs, Dubai has become home to several world-class universities, laboratories, and innovation hubs. Many sectors in Dubai have benefited from the city's drive toward innovation and excellence (El-Khatib et al., 2023). For instance, Dubai's innovative business practices have allowed the city's tourism industry to play a significant role in the city's GDP growth. According to a Dubai Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing report, Dubai saw over 16.7 million tourists in 2019, who spent over AED 150 billion (DTCM). The report claims that Dubai's tourism boom may be attributed to the emirate's dedication to novel ideas like creating first-rate tourist attractions and events (Stojanova, 2020).

Dubai has revolutionized the skyline of major cities with its forward-thinking real estate developments (Myrick, 2019). For example, Dubai is home to the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, symbolizing the city's forward-thinking character. The Dubai Land Department (DLD) projected that the real estate industry would generate an additional AED 105 billion in revenue by 2030 (Balasubramanian & Shukla, 2020). Similarly, Dubai's financial sector has been an essential driver of economic expansion thanks to its dedication to technological innovation and professional quality. The DIFC estimates that the financial sector in Dubai added AED 24.6 billion to the city's GDP in 2019 (Eshtrefi, 2021). The growth of Islamic finance as a significant contributor to Dubai's economy is only one example of the importance of innovation in the financial industry highlighted in the report (Hasan et al., 2020).

Dubai's success over the past few decades can be directly attributed to the city's dedication to innovation and quality (Zaidan & Abulibdeh, 2021). However, the region faces several obstacles that may stunt its economic development in the future. The worldwide economy has been hit hard by the COVID-19 epidemic, making it one of the biggest obstacles. Even Dubai's economy has felt the effects of the pandemic, with the DSC predicting a 6.1% drop in GDP for 2020. Dubai has taken several steps to lessen the effects of the pandemic, including creating the Dubai Economic Stimulus Package to aid pandemic-affected businesses. However, Dubai must maintain its commitment to innovation and excellence if it continues to prosper economically (Coulson, 2023). This is becoming increasingly vital as the global economy adapts to new technology and fashions.

Future initiatives in Dubai that want to innovate and succeed may prioritize environmental friendliness. Dubai has established the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050, which aspires to make Dubai a global leader in clean energy, and has made other substantial efforts toward sustainability (Pereseina & Williams, 2020). However, there is still much room for improvement, including creating environmentally friendly transportation networks. The creation of novel technology and economic sectors can also merit attention. Blockchain and artificial intelligence are only two developing technologies that have made Dubai a center for their development (Lai & Samers,

2021). However, ongoing investment in these sectors is required to keep Dubai at the cutting edge of innovation and quality.

METHODOLOGY

Methods for answering the study questions are outlined below, including the research design, data-gathering procedures, and analysis strategies. In order to better explain the process, it will be broken down into the following sections:

Research Questions

The research questions have been attached in the appendix of the work, together with the survey output after the analysis.

Research Design

For this study, we shall use a cross-sectional survey approach. Since data collection from a representative sample of participants across industries in Dubai can be accomplished in a single sitting, a cross-sectional design is an appropriate methodological choice for this study. This framework will help the researcher understand the evolution of Dubai's innovative and excellent sectors since 1990.

Sampling

The researchers will use a convenience sampling method (Stratton, 2021). All walks of life in Dubai's thriving economy, from the medical and academic communities to the hotel and tourism industries and the financial sector, will be represented among the attendees. Those eligible and willing to participate in the study will be chosen. The formula for a proportional stratified random sample will be used to estimate the sample size. With a 95% confidence interval, we will estimate a population size of 25, with a margin of error of 5%. The resulting sample size will be 22 people. The strata will be organized according to economic sectors, each with equal representatives.

Data Collection

A systematic questionnaire will be created to answer the questions posed by the study's investigators (akam et al., 2022). The relevance of innovation and excellence to the economy's future, the most innovative industry, and the level of innovation are just a few of the questions that will be included in the survey's questionnaire design. The survey will be distributed by email and social media. The survey will be voluntary for the participants, and their answers will be kept confidential.

Data Analysis

Descriptive statistics (i.e., percentages) will be used to analyze the data collected. Each question's responses will be examined independently to compile a comprehensive picture of how respondents feel innovation and excellence have been fostered in Dubai over the past three decades (Mishra et al., 2019). Tables, charts, and graphs will be used to lay out the information in a way that is easy to read and comprehend. We will dive into the findings in the following section.

Ethical Considerations

The study will adhere to ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects. The participants will be informed about the purpose of the study, their rights as participants, and the confidentiality of their responses. The participants will be asked to provide informed consent before participating in the study. The study will not involve any sensitive or personal information that could harm the participants in any way.

Limitations

The study has several limitations to be considered when interpreting the results. First, the study employs a convenience sampling technique, which may limit the generalizability of the findings to the broader population in Dubai (Bhardwaj, 2019). Second, the study relies on self-reported data, which may be subject to social desirability bias, where the participants may provide answers that they believe are socially acceptable. Third, the study captures a snapshot of the current state of innovation and excellence in Dubai, and the findings may need to reflect long-term trends.

In conclusion, the methodology adopted for this study involves a cross-sectional survey design, convenience sampling technique, structured questionnaire, and descriptive statistics for data analysis. The methodology adheres to ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects and addresses the study's limitations. The study's findings will provide insights into the role of innovation and excellence in Dubai's economic growth since 1990 and inform future policy decisions.

Findings

The study aimed to gauge people's reactions to Dubai's innovative and successful development over the past three decades. Twenty-two people completed the study, and 68.2 percent think Dubai has been highly inventive in the last 30 years. This demonstrates that the respondents are cognizant of Dubai's ambitions to become a center of innovation.

The survey findings suggest that most participants have a favorable impression of Dubai's track record of innovation and achievement over the previous three decades. 68.2% of people said Dubai is "very innovative," proving the city has effectively spurred creativity and development over the previous three decades. This result accords with the literature highlighting Dubai's recent initiatives to foster innovation and diversify its economy.

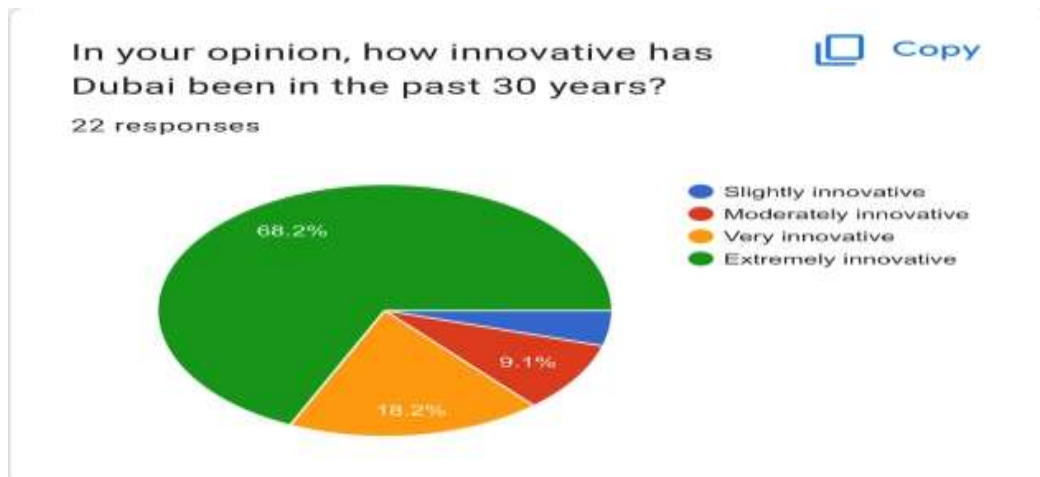


Figure 1: How Innovative Has Dubai Been in the Past 30 Years

Furthermore, 77.3 percent of respondents rated it as "very" important, suggesting that the focus on excellence has considerably contributed to the region's economic progress. These findings support the relevance of quality standards, customer satisfaction, and continual improvement to a company's bottom line. In order to attract both investors and tourists, Dubai has prioritized excellence across a wide range of businesses.

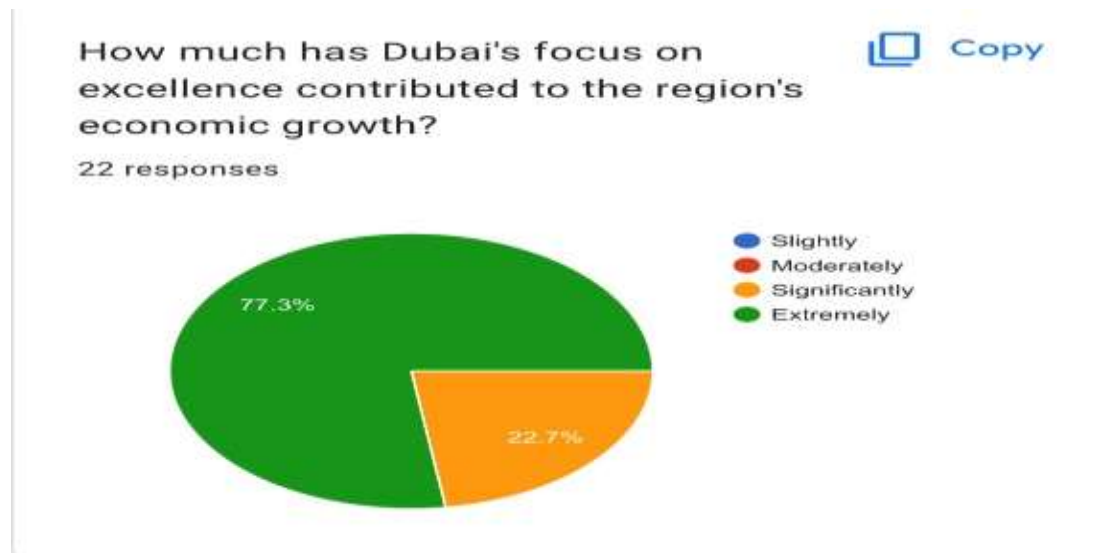


Figure 2: How Dubai's Focus on Excellence Contributed to the Region's Economic Growth

About 45.5% of people in Dubai said the technology industry was the most inventive during the past 30 years. This outcome is not shocking, given Dubai's recent investments in cutting-edge technology like blockchain and artificial intelligence. Among others, Dubai's healthcare, financial, and tourist industries have significantly benefited from the city's embrace of cutting-edge technology.

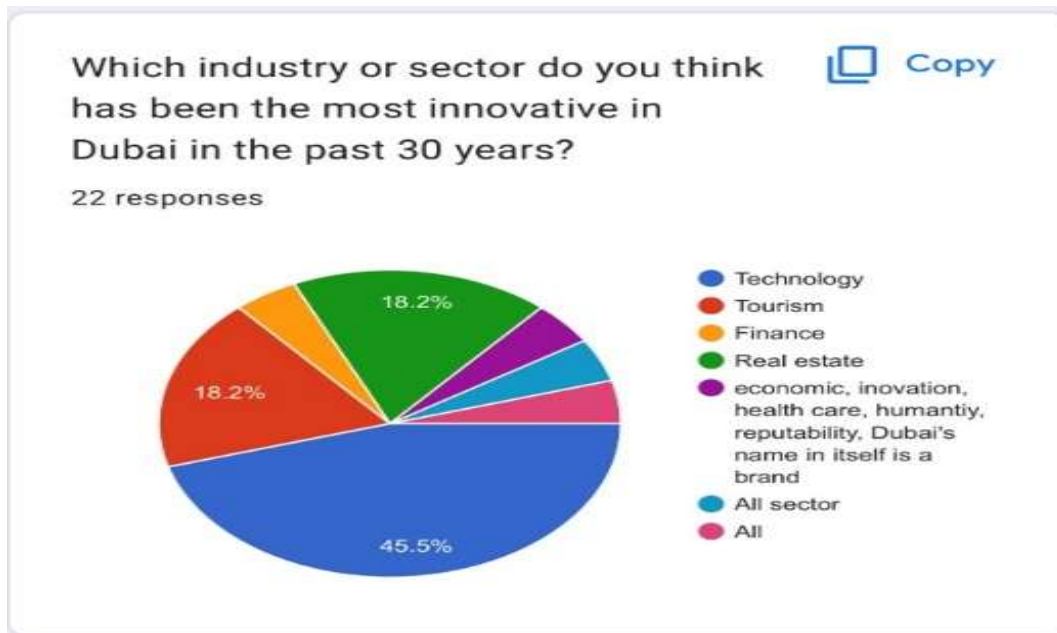


Figure 3: Industries/Sectors That Has Been Most Innovative in Dubai in the Past 30 Years

Eighty-one percent of respondents also rated "very significant" the importance of innovation and quality for dubai's future economic success. This discovery underlines the significance of innovation and excellence as a primary factor in the expansion and competitiveness of the world economy in the present day.

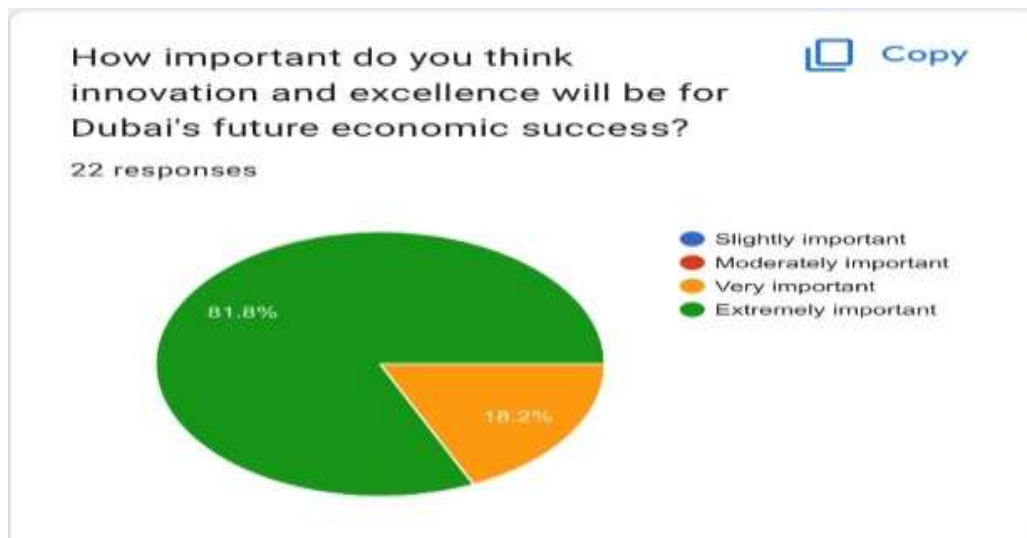


Figure 4: To what extent Innovation and Excellence will be for Dubai Future Economic Success

The city of Dubai is dedicated to innovation and excellence, and this dedication is reflected in its many policies and projects. In addition, 72.7% of respondents said they are "very likely" to invest

in a company or project based in Dubai because of the city's reputation for innovation and excellence, suggesting that this factor alone will attract investment. This discovery underlines the significance of a country's reputation in luring capital and fostering economic expansion.

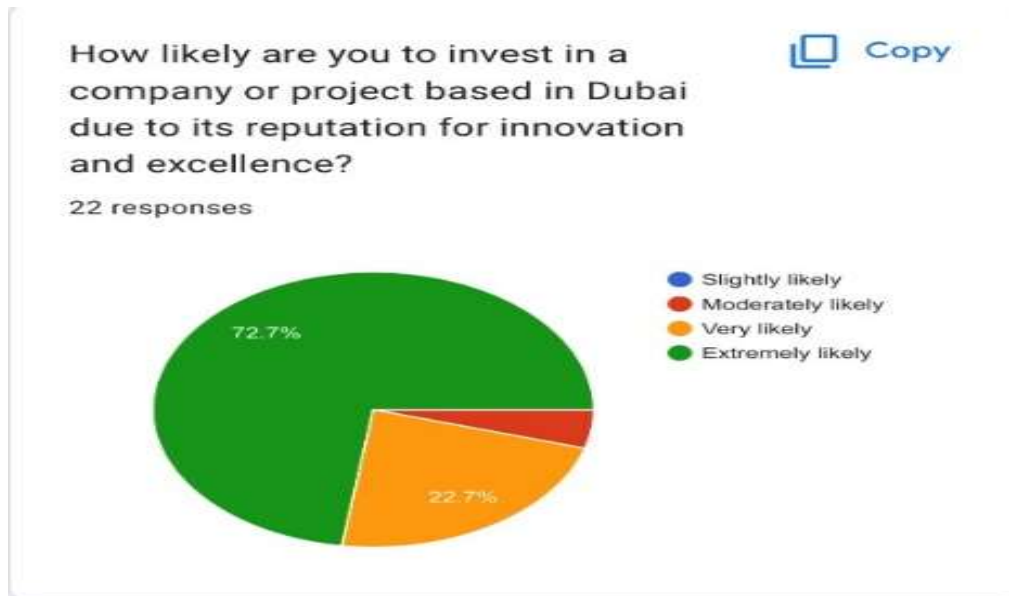


Figure 5: The extent to which Company/Project Based in Dubai Likely to be Invested due to Its Reputation for Innovation and Excellence

Over two-thirds of respondents (63.6%) cited government policies and initiatives as the primary factor in Dubai's rapid development into a global hub for innovation and excellence during the past three decades. This result shows that a government that encourages innovation and quality is essential (Fagerberg, Mowery, & Nelson, 2006). Several programs and policies, such as the Dubai Future Accelerators and the Dubai Innovation Index, have been put into place by the government of Dubai to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.

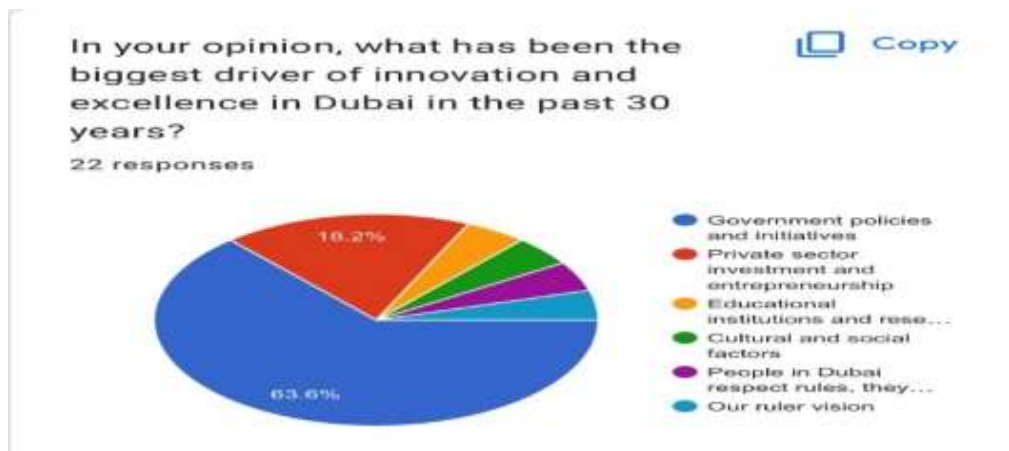


Figure 6: Biggest Drivers of Innovation and Excellence in Dubai in the past 30 years?

Ninety-nine-point-nine percent of respondents also indicated that they are "extremely content" with the current level of innovation and quality in Dubai, further supporting the survey's findings. This discovery exemplifies the optimistic outlook of Dubai's stakeholders and the city's future development prospects.

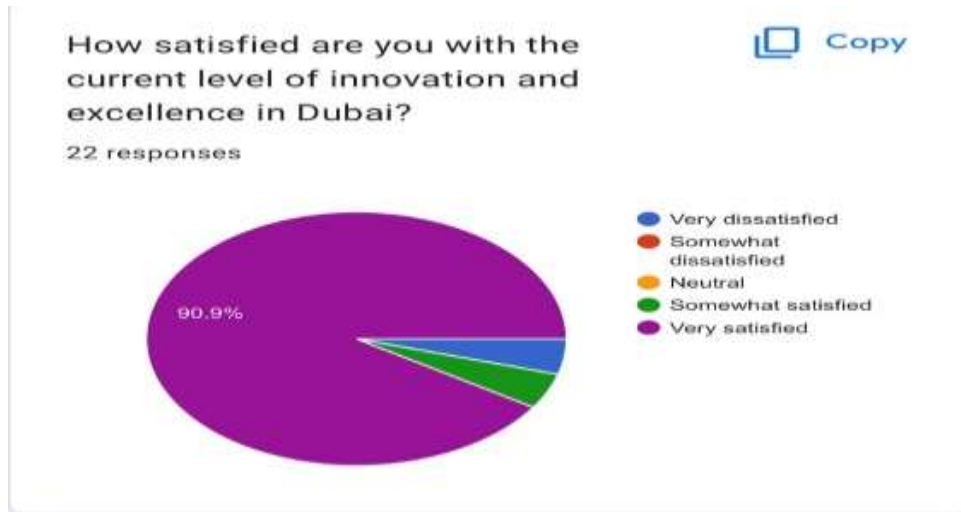


Figure 7: The level of Satisfaction in the Current Level of Innovation and Excellence in Dubai

Fifty percent of respondents to the study said they were "very familiar" with Dubai's history of innovation and excellence. This finding indicates the widespread interest and praise Dubai's pursuit of excellence and innovation has received. Because of its dedication to education and research, Singapore has the potential to rival Dubai as a significant competitor in innovation and excellence.

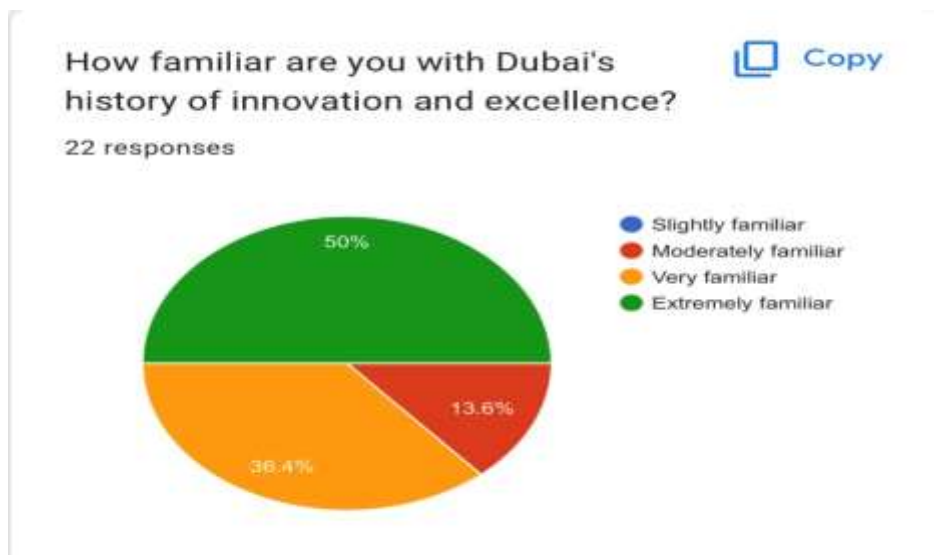


Figure 8: Extent of How Familiar they are with Dubai's History of Innovation and Excellence

Singapore has spent much money to create a first-rate education system and lure the best and brightest worldwide, especially in science and technology. The country boasts a robust R&D ecosystem because of its many research institutions and the close relationships between industry and academics. Respondents are optimistic about Dubai's future innovation and quality, despite the common belief that Singapore is Dubai's main competitor.

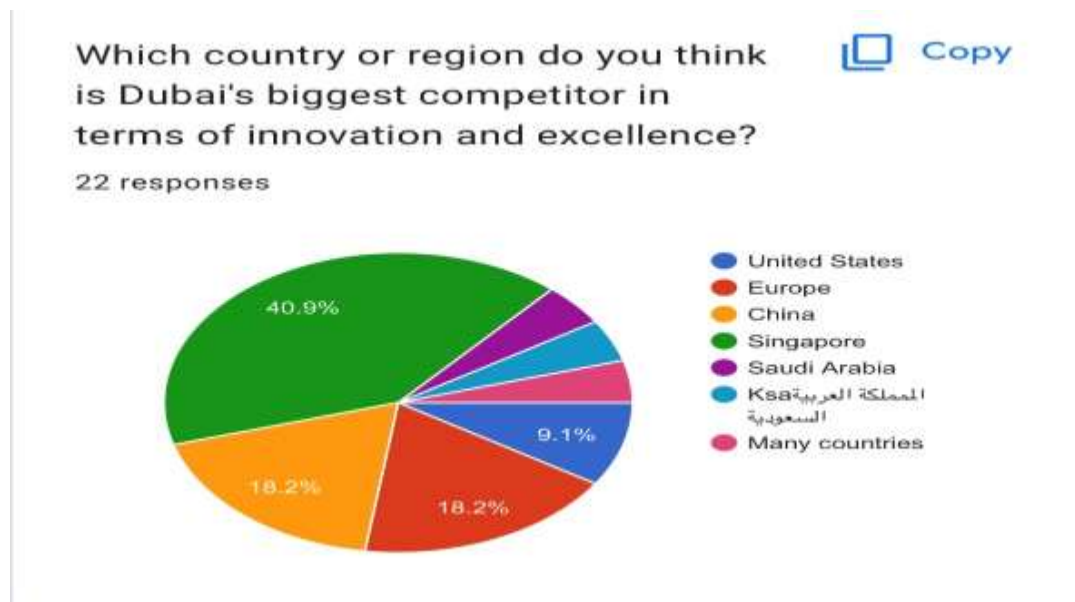


Figure 9: Dubai's Biggest Competitor in Terms of Innovation and Excellence

A whopping 86.4% of respondents expressed complete faith in Dubai's abilities. When it came to the question of how well acquainted, they were with Dubai's history of invention and achievement, fifty percent of those who responded indicated they were very well acquainted. This demonstrates that Dubai's achievements in this field are well-known and have the potential to be exploited to enhance the city's image as a leader in innovation and achievement on a global scale.

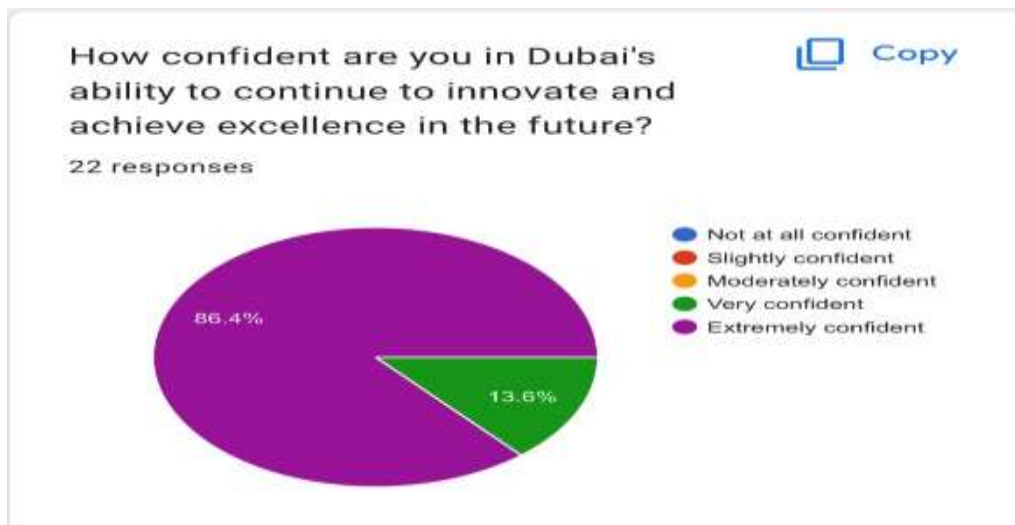


Figure 10: The Level of Confidence on Dubai's Ability to Continue to Innovate and Achieve Excellence in the Future

The poll shows that Dubai has been innovative for 30 years and that its quality focus has increased regional GDP. The technological sector, considered Dubai's most innovative, is driven by government regulations and initiatives. Dubai's creativity and quality were also well-received, and respondents agreed they would be crucial to the city's economic growth. Finally, respondents were confident in Dubai's ability to innovate and excel in the future, even if Singapore was considered Dubai's biggest competitor.

Conclusion

This study looked at 30 years' worth of Dubai's innovative and excellent practices to learn more about the city's successes in these areas and how they have contributed to its overall economic development. The literature review emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship and innovation and the role that government policies and efforts have played in Dubai's success. The study's questions were answered by surveying 22 people; the findings shed light on how people in Dubai and outsiders view the city's innovation and excellence, the most inventive industries and sectors, and the significance of these elements to the city's economic future.

Results from the study point to a widespread belief that Dubai has been a regional leader in innovation for the past three decades. The city's relentless pursuit of quality has significantly influenced the region's rapid economic development. It was determined that technology was the most inventive industry in Dubai, with government policies and initiatives being the primary factors in the city's success. Respondents spoke highly of the existing state of innovation and excellence in Dubai. They were unanimous in their conviction that these qualities would be vital to the city's continued economic growth. Although Singapore was named Dubai's main rival in innovation and excellence, respondents also showed high confidence in Dubai's potential to continue innovating and achieving excellence. This study demonstrates how originality and high standards are crucial to the development and growth of economies, especially in dynamic urban centers like Dubai. According to the results, if these cities want to foster innovation and greatness,

they must place a premium on government policies and initiatives, infrastructure development, education, and research. By maintaining its focus on these sectors, Dubai will be able to expand on its legacy of innovation and excellence, further cementing the emirate's standing as a global leader in the relevant spheres.

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