

Middle East Tech Surge: AI, Fintech, and Smart Cities Lead 2025 Innovations

Technology · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which Middle Eastern country is significantly investing in AI, aiming to have 20% of its non-oil GDP from AI by 2031, in line with its National AI Strategy?

A) United Arab Emirates

B) Saudi Arabia

C) Qatar

D) Oman

2. What was the projected value of the Middle East fintech market in 2025, according to IMARC Group?

A) \$1.7 billion

B) \$3.9 billion

C) \$5.71 billion

D) \$1 billion

3. Which initiative is Qatar undertaking to harness technology and innovation, aiming to transform the country into a smart nation and foster private sector opportunities?

A) Qatar Digital Agenda 2030

B) Smart Qatar Program (TASMU)

C) National Skilling Program

D) Qatar Smart City Initiative

4. Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 includes a strong emphasis on digital transformation. What is the projected growth of its non-oil sector in 2025?

A) 3.1%

B) 5.8%

C) 7.5%

D) 10.2%

5. The UAE has solidified its position as a global digital infrastructure hub, recording a high utilization rate of artificial intelligence tools across government entities. What percentage was reported for 2025?

A) 85%

B) 92%

C) 97%

D) 99%

6. What is the projected annual growth rate for fintech net revenue in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region until 2028?

- A) 15%
- B) 20%
- C) 35%**
- D) 50%

7. Which Middle Eastern country was the first to deploy 5G and holds a near-perfect record for internet penetration?

- A) United Arab Emirates
- B) Saudi Arabia
- C) Qatar**
- D) Bahrain

8. In 2025, Information security spending by Middle East and North Africa (MENA) enterprises is projected to increase by what percentage from 2024, according to Gartner?

- A) 8%
- B) 11%
- C) 14%**
- D) 18%

9. Saudi Arabia is developing a significant amount of data center capacity. How much is planned by 2030?

- A) 3 GW**
- B) 4.5 GW
- C) 6.9 GW
- D) 10 GW

10. The UAE's AI ecosystem is marked by significant investments. Microsoft invested how much in G42 in April 2024 as part of these efforts?

- A) \$1 billion
- B) \$5 billion
- C) \$10 billion
- D) \$15 billion**

11. Which Middle Eastern city was recognized among the Top 10 Smart Cities in the 2024 Smart City Index, being the only city from the region on the list?

- A) Riyadh
- B) Dubai
- C) Abu Dhabi**
- D) Doha

12. Egypt's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) market is projected to reach a significant value by 2029. What is this projected value?

- A) \$15.2 billion
- B) \$25.8 billion
- C) \$45.18 billion**
- D) \$60.5 billion

13. What is the estimated total value of the Middle East cybersecurity market projected to reach by 2030?

- A) \$15 billion
- B) \$22 billion
- C) \$31 billion**
- D) \$45 billion

14. The UAE and Saudi Arabia are expected to invest a substantial amount in smart city projects by 2025, according to Frost & Sullivan. What is this estimated investment?

- A) \$25 billion
- B) \$35 billion
- C) \$50 billion**
- D) \$75 billion

15. What is the primary goal of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 concerning its economy?

- A) Increase oil production
- B) Diversify the economy and reduce oil dependency**
- C) Become a global leader in tourism
- D) Expand manufacturing capabilities