



# Qatar and Florida Historic Ties



## BY THE NUMBERS

### Florida-Qatar Trade in 2024

**\$149.5M**

FLORIDA EXPORTS

**\$20.1M**

FLORIDA IMPORTS

### Florida employers with major Qatari partnerships include:

Siemens

General Electric

MetLife

Bank of America

AbbVie

Bristol Meyers Squibb

Qatar invests in many industries across the U.S., including several leading companies that create jobs in Florida.

#### DEFENSE

Qatar and Florida are partners in defense. Al Udeid Air Base in Doha, the largest U.S. military base in the Middle East, is host to CENTCOM. CENTCOM headquarters is MacDill Air Base outside of Tampa, Florida.

#### AVIATION

Miami, Florida is one of Qatar Airways' primary passenger and cargo hubs in the U.S. The carrier has purchased more than \$100 billion in aircraft from Boeing, which uses more than 400 Florida suppliers.

#### HOSPITALITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Qatar has invested more than \$500 million in a variety of sectors in Florida, including tech companies and hotels.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE AND MANUFACTURING

Florida is among Qatar's top makers of aerospace products and infrastructure technology, produced by Florida employers like General Electric, Siemens, and the state's robust network of aviation suppliers.

#### MANUFACTURING

Florida is among Qatar's leading providers of commercial and service industry machinery.



# Education City – American Universities in Qatar

Congressional hearings on antisemitism in 2024 included statements that inaccurately accused Qatar of influencing some of the protests on college campuses in the U.S.

- Qatar has not and will not support organizations that support antisemitism.
- Avril Haines, the Director of National Intelligence, when asked if there was any evidence that Qatar played a role in antisemitic protests on college campuses, said simply that there was none. The question and answer occurred during the Worldwide Threat Hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee on May 2, 2024.
- Qatar, in fact, does not influence anything that happens on university campuses in the U.S.
- Six prominent American universities operate branch campuses in Qatar: Cornell University (Weill Cornell Medical College), Texas A&M University, Carnegie Mellon University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Georgetown University, and Northwestern University.
- These excellent institutions – now in their third decade of operation in Qatar – award degrees to Qatari women and men, and to other students who wish to study in Qatar.
- The universities operate in Qatar with total independence. Their academic degree programs in Qatar are entirely governed by the administrators of their home campuses.
- The universities' academic freedom is guaranteed by contract between the universities and the funding provider, the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.
- Contrary to some media reports, Qatar is not the largest foreign donor to U.S. universities.
- As the U.S. Department of Education has reported, Qatar pays about \$500 million annually to the six U.S. universities.
- These payments are not donations. The money covers the operating and administrative costs of the branch campuses of American universities in Qatar. This includes faculty salaries and other expenses incurred in Qatar, not in the U.S.
- The universities' achievements are manifold and are a source of pride in Qatar. At Qatar's campus of Texas A&M, for example, the Class of 2024 included 73 women engineers out of 144 graduates, a majority.