

Initial Findings

6TH IAU GLOBAL SURVEY ON INTERNATIONALIZATION

The Future of Internationalization
of Higher Education

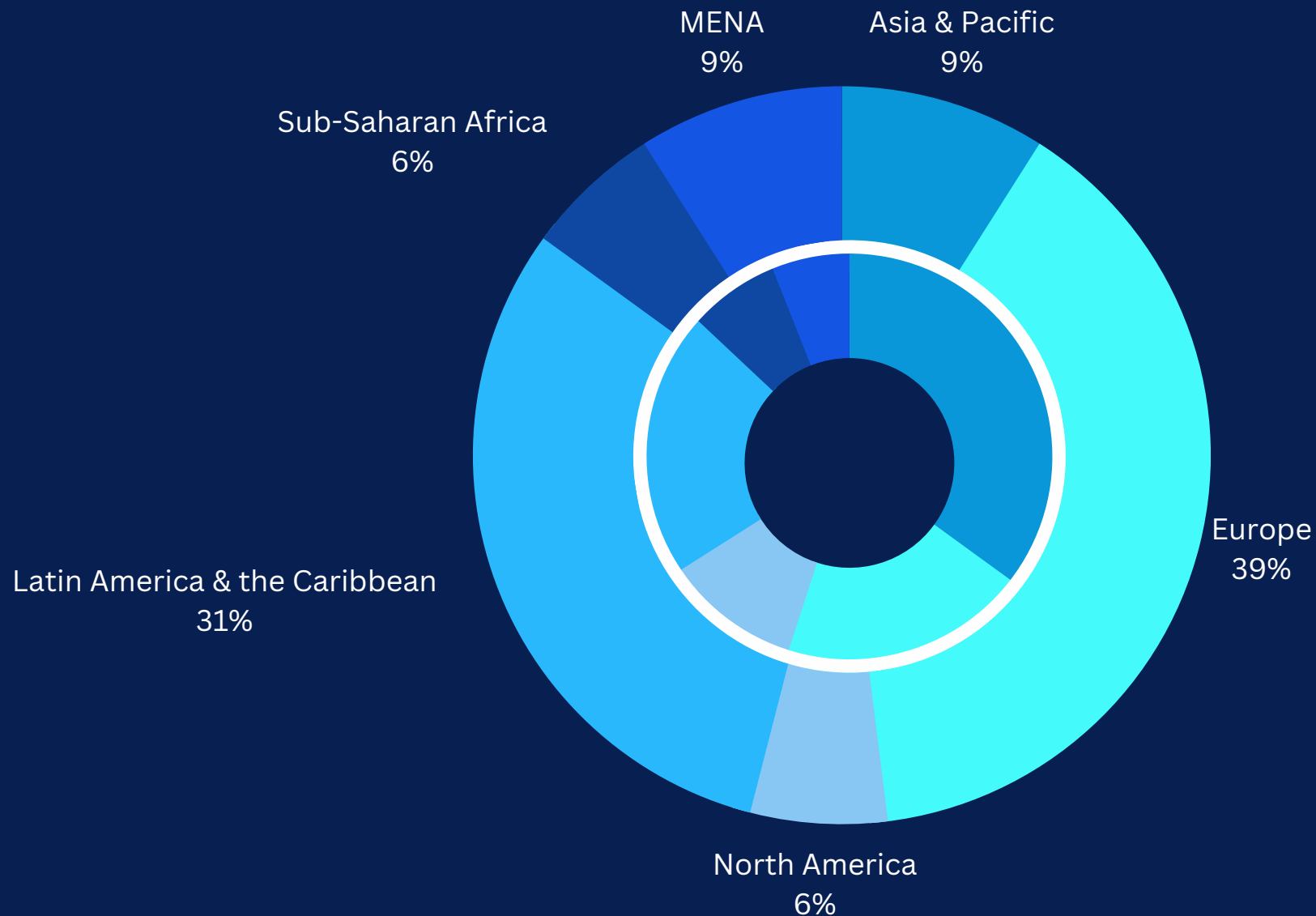


September 2023

HEI Respondents by Region

The IAU 6th Global Survey on Internationalization collected results from over 110 countries and territories. However, the 722 responses indicate a disproportionate distribution of responses across regions, relative to the number of institutions in each region according to the IAU WHED. This implies that some regions had a higher or lower response rate than expected, resulting in potential biases in the survey.

The internal circle shows global distribution of HEIs, and the external circle shows survey responses.



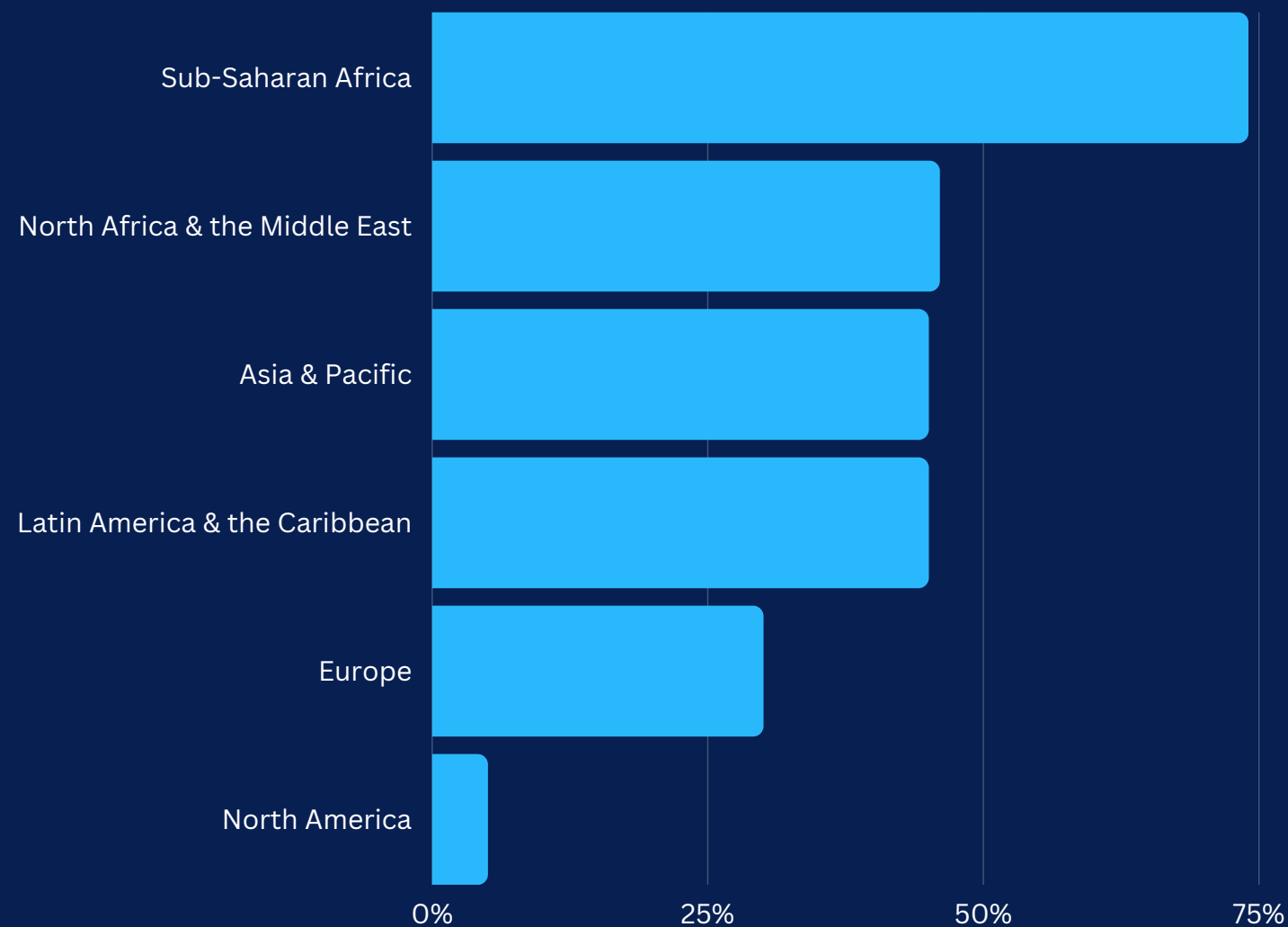
Significant potential benefits of internationalization



With 62% of respondents selecting it, “Enhanced international cooperation and capacity building” was cited globally as the most significant benefit of internationalization at the institutional level. “Increased global, international and intercultural knowledge, skills and competences for both students and staff,” closely followed and was selected as ‘very important’ by 51% of respondents.

Survey respondents were able to select up to three benefits.

Societal Risk of Brain Drain

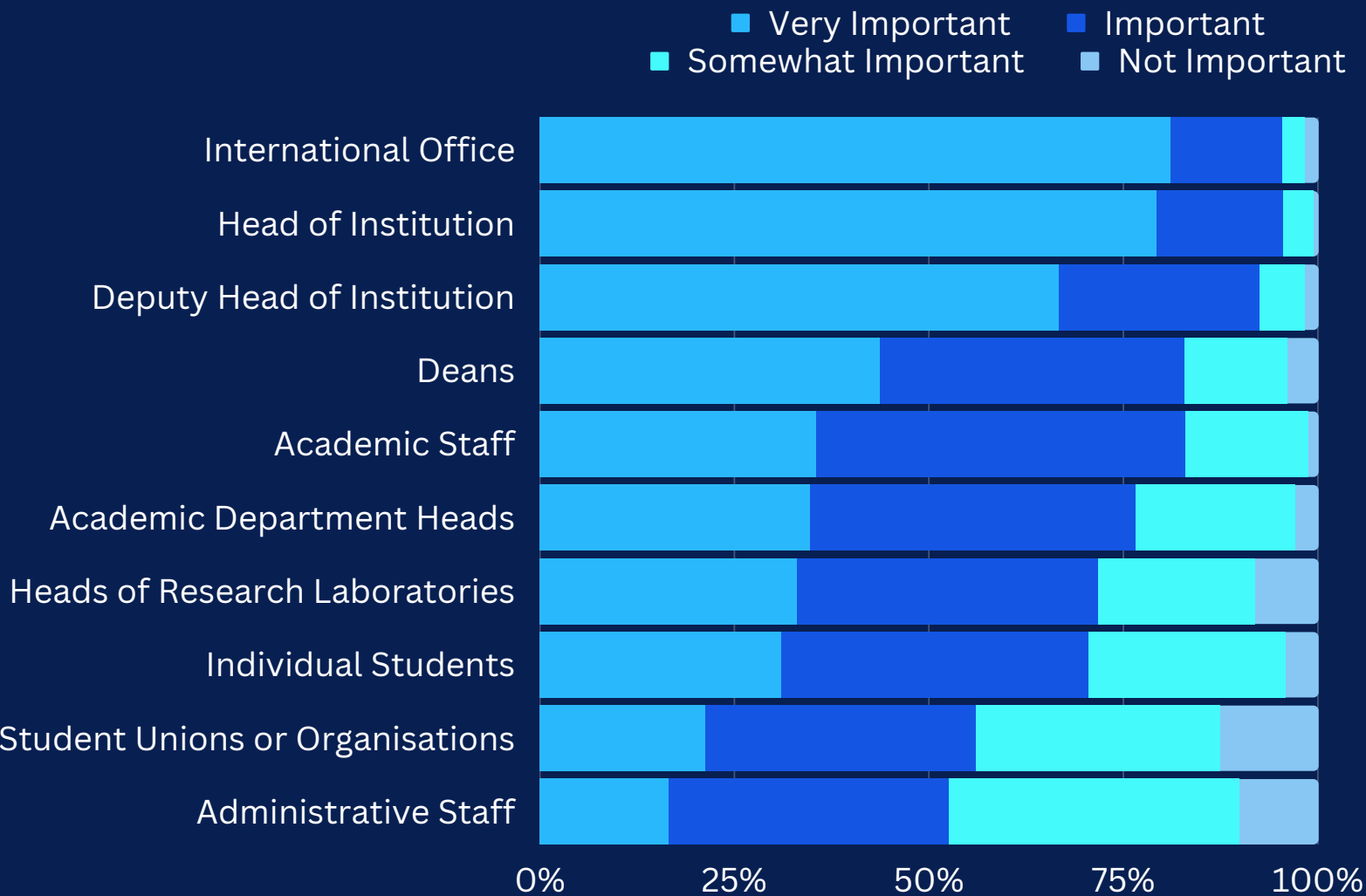


Survey responses showed brain drain to be one of the most significant potential societal risks associated with current trends in the internationalization of higher education. While there is no common societal risk associated with the internationalization of higher education, results do indicate that brain drain remains a relevant issue in some regions. This is particularly the case in Sub-Saharan Africa, where over 74% of respondents indicated brain drain to be a significant risk.

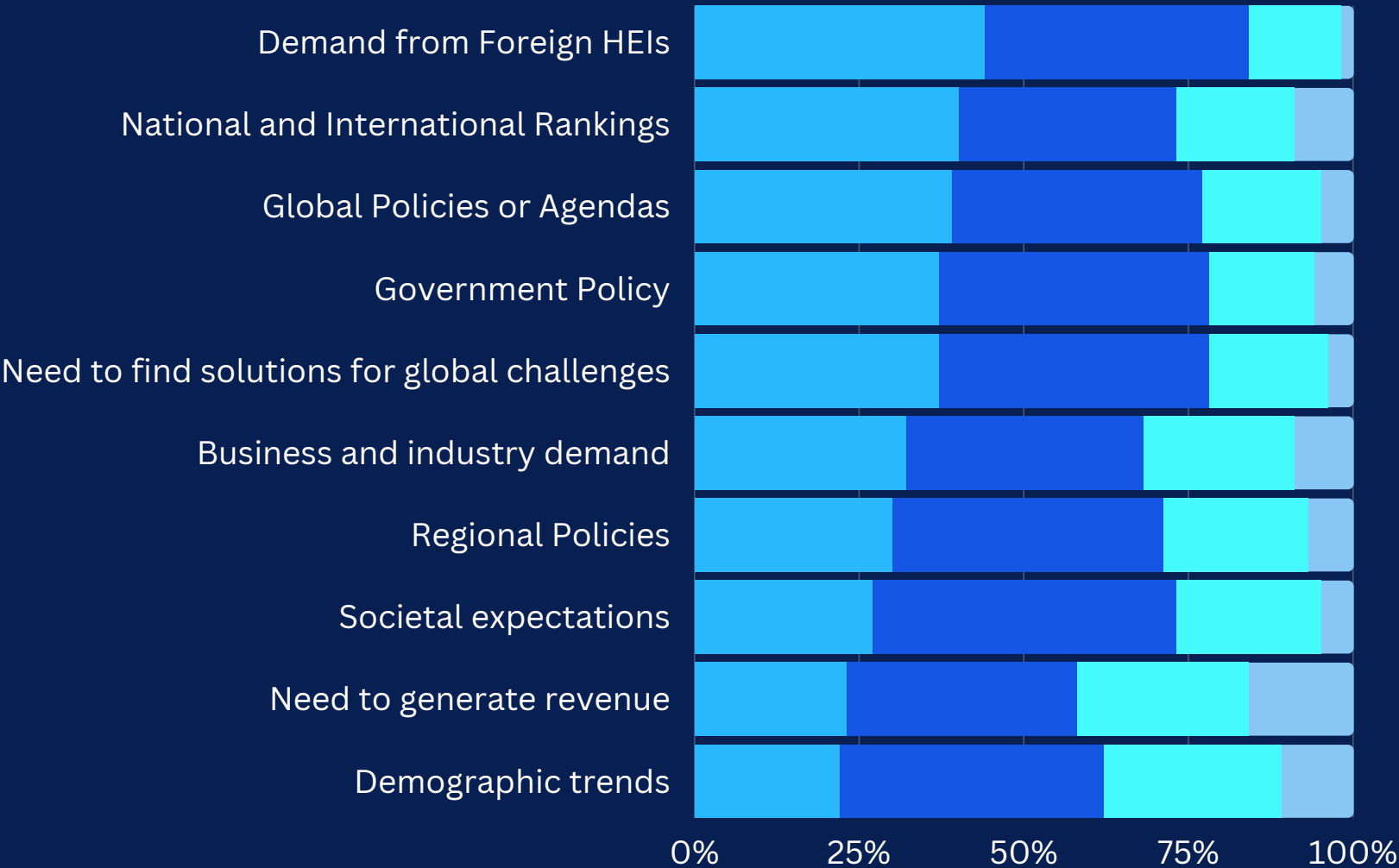
Importance of key internal drivers of internationalization

Survey respondents were asked to report on the significance and impact of various internal drivers' work on internationalization. Globally, International Offices and Heads of Institutions were recognised as the most critical players in driving the internationalization process across and throughout the institution.

Survey respondents were able to select up to three benefits.




Importance of key external drivers of internationalization



There are multiple external drivers of internationalization of similar importance at the global level, however there are interesting differences at regional level. Of note, “Demand from foreign higher education institutions” is particularly cited in responses from the Latin American & Caribbean and Sub-Saharan African regions. “National and international rankings” are particularly relevant in the MENA and Sub-Saharan African regions.

Survey respondents were able to select up to three benefits.

A stylized illustration of the Earth's curvature on the left side of the slide, set against a dark blue background filled with numerous small white dots, resembling a starry night sky. The Earth is depicted in shades of blue and white, with the white dots scattered across its surface and the surrounding space.

Final results of the Future of Internationalization of Higher Education Survey and the subsequent Survey Report will be published in early 2024.

To learn more about the International Association of Universities' Internationalization strategy and projects, please visit:

www.iau-aiu.net/internationalization

