

# Introduction

We are pleased to share our Educational Services Industry Multiples Valuation Update for Q4 2024.

At Seale & Associates, we are committed to providing process-driven solutions designed to optimize value and achieve our client's strategic objectives in a range of transactions, including Mergers, Acquisitions, Divestitures and Carve-Outs, Business Sales, Recapitalizations, and Joint Ventures, among other corporate finance and strategy consulting services.

Over the course of 25+ years, we have successfully served clients all over the world, and we are delighted to continue providing investment banking advisory services to our clients who are looking to grow through acquisitions or optimize their portfolios through strategic divestitures.

Seale has extensive experience advising leading multinational companies, private equity firms, and family-owned businesses across a wide range of industries.



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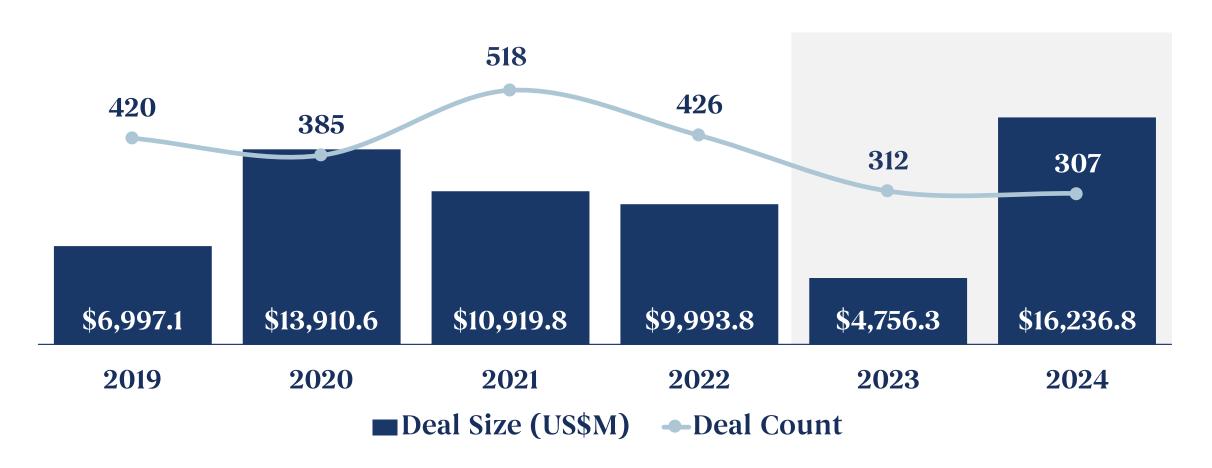


### Educational Services Industry Overview, M&A Trends and Market Intelligence

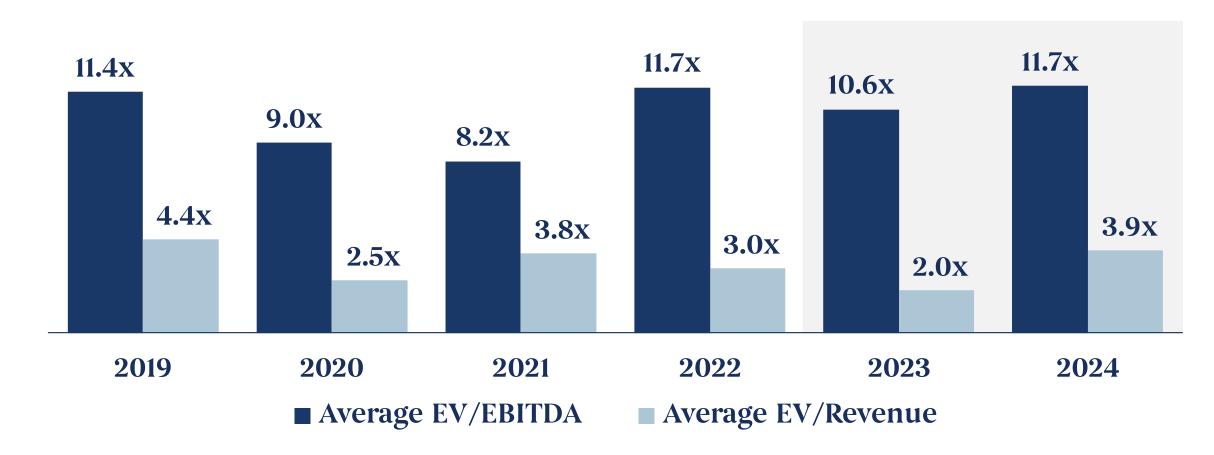
#### **Educational Services Overview**

- The global educational services market was US\$1,441.9 billion in 2023 and market is projected to touch US\$2,395.1 billion by 2032, at a CAGR of 5.8% during the forecast period
- Online education is witnessing a surge in demand, driven by factors such as convenience, changing skills requirements, and talent shortages. The integration of AI promises to revolutionize the education landscape with personalized and efficient learning experiences, set to propel the global education market to new heights, with estimates predicting a global increase of approximately US\$21.0 billion by 2028.
- Despite a slow start **valuations** for small, mid and large online education companies are back to their **pre-COVID** levels, with the average small and medium companies being valued at **2.0x** to **3.0x** TTM revenue.
- Amidst unpredictable economic forecasts, investors favored midsize transactions. This pivot toward midsize deals reflects the industry's cautious optimism, opting for safer, more distributed capital deployment, and signals future consolidation opportunities as smaller companies prove their mettle post-integration.
- As the global economy becomes more knowledge-based, there is a growing demand for workers with higher levels of education and training.

#### **Education Services Industry M&A Deal Size and Volume**



#### Education Services Industry M&A Average EV/EBITDA and EV/Revenue



# Educational Institutions Global Comparable Public Companies

|                                 |                                      |         | Market<br>Cap.<br>US\$M | Enterprise<br>Value<br>US\$M | Revenue<br>US\$M | EBITDA<br>Margin | Annual Average<br>EV/EBITDA |       | Fourth Quarter<br>Dec. 31, 2024 |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Company                         |                                      | Country |                         |                              |                  |                  | 2022                        | 2023  | EV/<br>EBITDA                   | EV/<br>Revenue |
| AcadeMedia AB (publ)            | AcadeMedia                           | SWE     | \$619                   | \$1,760                      | \$1,657          | 20.6%            | 5.3x                        | 5.0x  | 5.2x                            | 1.1x           |
| Adtalem Global Education Inc.   | ADT LEM GLOBAL EDUCATION             | USA     | \$3,406                 | \$3,985                      | \$1,688          | 23.4%            | 7.7x                        | 6.8x  | 10.1x                           | 2.4x           |
| American Public Education, Inc. | apei AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION, INC. | USA     | \$382                   | \$490                        | \$613            | 11.8%            | 6.7x                        | 4.4x  | 6.8x                            | 0.8x           |
| Ânima Holding S.A.              | ănıma                                | BRA     | \$96                    | \$816                        | \$616            | 33.6%            | 7.8x                        | 6.3x  | 3.9x                            | 1.3x           |
| Grand Canyon Education, Inc.    | G/C/E GRAND CANYON EDUCATION         | USA     | \$4,708                 | \$4,551                      | \$1,019          | 31.9%            | 9.2x                        | 12.1x | 14.0x                           | 4.5×           |
| Laureate Education, Inc.        | LAUREATE EDUCATION INC.              | USA     | \$2,756                 | \$3,121                      | \$1,553          | 33.0%            | 5.4x                        | 5.9x  | 6.1x                            | 2.0x           |
| Perdoceo Education Corporation  | PERDOCEO EDUCATION CORPORATION       | USA     | \$1,740                 | \$1,040                      | \$653            | 27.8%            | 1.9x                        | 2.7x  | 5.7x                            | 1.6x           |
| Ser Educacional S.A.            | ser educacional                      | BRA     | \$92                    | \$319                        | \$314            | 22.2%            | 4.7x                        | 5.3x  | 4.6x                            | 1.0x           |
| Strategic Education, Inc.       |                                      | USA     | \$2,272                 | \$2,189                      | \$1,211          | 20.0%            | 7.1×                        | 13.1x | 9.0x                            | 1.8x           |
| Yduqs Participações S.A.        | YDUQS                                | BRA     | \$394                   | \$1,095                      | \$859            | 28.2%            | 6.8x                        | 6.3x  | 4.5x                            | 1.3x           |
| Excluded from mean and median   |                                      |         |                         |                              |                  | Mean             | 6.5x                        | 5.7x  | 6.5x                            | 1.5x           |
|                                 |                                      |         |                         |                              |                  | Median           | 6.8x                        | 6.1x  | 5.9x                            | 1.5x           |

# Tutoring and Exam Preparation Global Comparable Public Companies

|                               | Cour                     |         | arket            | Enterprise<br>Value<br>US\$M | Revenue<br>US\$M | EBITDA<br>Margin | Annual Average<br>EV/EBITDA |       | Fourth Quarter<br>Dec. 31, 2024 |                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Company                       | Cou                      |         | :ар.<br>S\$M<br> |                              |                  |                  | 2022                        | 2023  | EV/<br>EBITDA                   | EV/<br>Revenue |
| Digital Daesung Co., Ltd.     | DIGIT@L<br>DESUNG        | OR \$   | 5122             | \$199                        | \$145            | 17.7%            | 5.1x                        | 4.0x  | 7.8x                            | 1.4x           |
| Graham Holdings Company       | GH<br>GRAHAM<br>HOLDINGS | SA \$3  | 3,779            | \$4,271                      | \$4,712          | 13.5%            | 6.0x                        | 5.2x  | 6.7x                            | 0.9x           |
| Pearson plc                   | Pearson GE               | BR \$10 | 0,648            | \$12,330                     | \$4,443          | 18.7%            | 12.8x                       | 12.7x | 14.8x                           | 2.8x           |
| Riso Kyoiku Co., Ltd.         | ♣リソー教育グリレープ              | PN \$   | 328              | \$263                        | \$211            | 10.7%            | 14.0x                       | 13.1x | 11.6x                           | 1.2x           |
| Stride, Inc.                  | Stride US                | SA \$4  | 4,455            | \$4,475                      | \$2,193          | 16.0%            | 8.6x                        | 8.4x  | 12.8x                           | 2.0x           |
| Vasta Platform Limited        | VASTA BE                 | RA \$   | 160              | \$307                        | \$247            | 23.7%            | 24.7x                       | 8.7x  | 5.2x                            | 1.2x           |
| Excluded from mean and median |                          |         |                  |                              |                  | Mean             | 9.3x                        | 7.4x  | 8.8x                            | 1.5x           |
|                               |                          |         |                  |                              |                  | Median           | 10.7x                       | 8.5x  | 9.7x                            | 1.3x           |

# Online Courses Global Comparable Public Companies

|                               |              | Market<br>Cap.<br>US\$M | Enterprise<br>Value<br>US\$M | Revenue<br>US\$M | EBITDA<br>Margin | Annual Average<br>EV/EBITDA |      | Fourth Quarter<br>Dec. 31, 2024 |                |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Company                       | Country      |                         |                              |                  |                  | 2022                        | 2023 | EV/<br>EBITDA                   | EV/<br>Revenue |
| Coursera, Inc.                | coursera USA | \$1,346                 | \$631                        | \$695            | NM               | NM                          | NM   | NM                              | 0.9x           |
| Duolingo, Inc.                | duolingo USA | \$14,261                | \$13,438                     | \$689            | 10.7%            | NM                          | NM   | 182.3x                          | 19.5x          |
| Udemy, Inc.                   | ûdemy USA    | \$1,201                 | \$856                        | \$776            | NM               | NM                          | NM   | NM                              | 1.1×           |
| Excluded from mean and median |              |                         |                              |                  | Mean             | NM                          | NM   | NM                              | 1.0x           |
|                               |              |                         |                              |                  | Median           | NM                          | NM   | NM                              | 1.1x           |

### **Educational Services- Global Transactions**

| Date    | Target  | Country | Description   | Buyer                                   | Seller             | % Acquired | Size<br>US\$M | EV/<br>EBITDA | EV/<br>Revenue |
|---------|---|---------|---|---|--------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Dec-24  | BERGAMO<br>MONTESSORI SCHOOLS                                   | USA     | <b>Endeavor Schools</b> , a leading operator of private schools across the U.S., acquired <b>Bergamo Montessori Schools</b> , a group of Montessori-based early childhood education centers   | ENDEAVOR<br>S C H O O L S               | -                  | 100.0%     | -             | -             | -              |
| Dec-24* | STATE ARTS OF   | USA     | <b>Seattle University</b> , a private Jesuit university in Washington, acquired <b>Cornish College of the Arts</b> , a institution specializing in visual and performing arts education, to expand its academic offerings and strengthen its presence in arts education | Tagara Tagara                           | -                  | 100.0%     | -             | -             | -              |
| Dec-24  | Kindred Inspiring Nurseries and Pre-Schools                     | GBR     | <b>Livingbridge</b> , a private equity firm focused on growth investments, acquired <b>Kindred Education</b> , a UK-based provider of early childhood education, to support its expansion and enhance its portfolio in the education sector                             | Livingbridge                            | <b>UNI</b> GESTION | <50.0%     | -             | -             | -              |
| Nov-24* | Business of the<br>Computing Technology<br>Industry Association | USA     | H.I.G. Capital, and Thoma Bravo, private equity firms, acquired the training business and products of the Computing Technology Industry Association to expand their presence in IT certification and professional training solutions                                    | H. I. G. & THOMABRAVO                   | CompTIA.           | 100.0%     | -             | -             | -              |
| Nov-24  | EMPOWER Learning  | USA     | <b>Five Star Technology Solutions</b> , a provider of educational technology solutions, acquired <b>Empower Learning</b> , a developer of learning management and instructional software, to enhance its digital learning offerings and expand its edtech capabilities  | FIVESTAR                                | -                  | Merger     | -             | -             | -              |
| Oct-24* | NORD<br>ANGLIA<br>EDUCATION                                     | GBR     | Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, EQT Private Capital Asia, Neuberger Berman Group, and Baring Private Equity Asia Fund VIII, private equity investors, acquired Nord Anglia Education, a leading provider of premium international schools                         | INVESTMENT                              | -                  | 100.0%     | \$14,500.0    | -             | -              |
| Oct-24  | ST. GEORGE ISOM THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF CATALUNYA                 | ESP     | International Schools Partnership, a global network of private schools, acquired St.  George ISOM Barcelona, a prestigious international school, to strengthen its presence in Spain  | International<br>Schools<br>Partnership | -                  | 100.0%     | -             | -             | -              |

<sup>\*</sup>Announced transactions pending approval and other customary closing conditions

# ANNE SULLIVAN

**TARGET**Anne Sullivan

**TRANSACTION TYPE**Divestiture advisory

**INDUSTRIES**Education

**GEOGRAPHY**Mexico City, Mexico

#### **SITUATION**

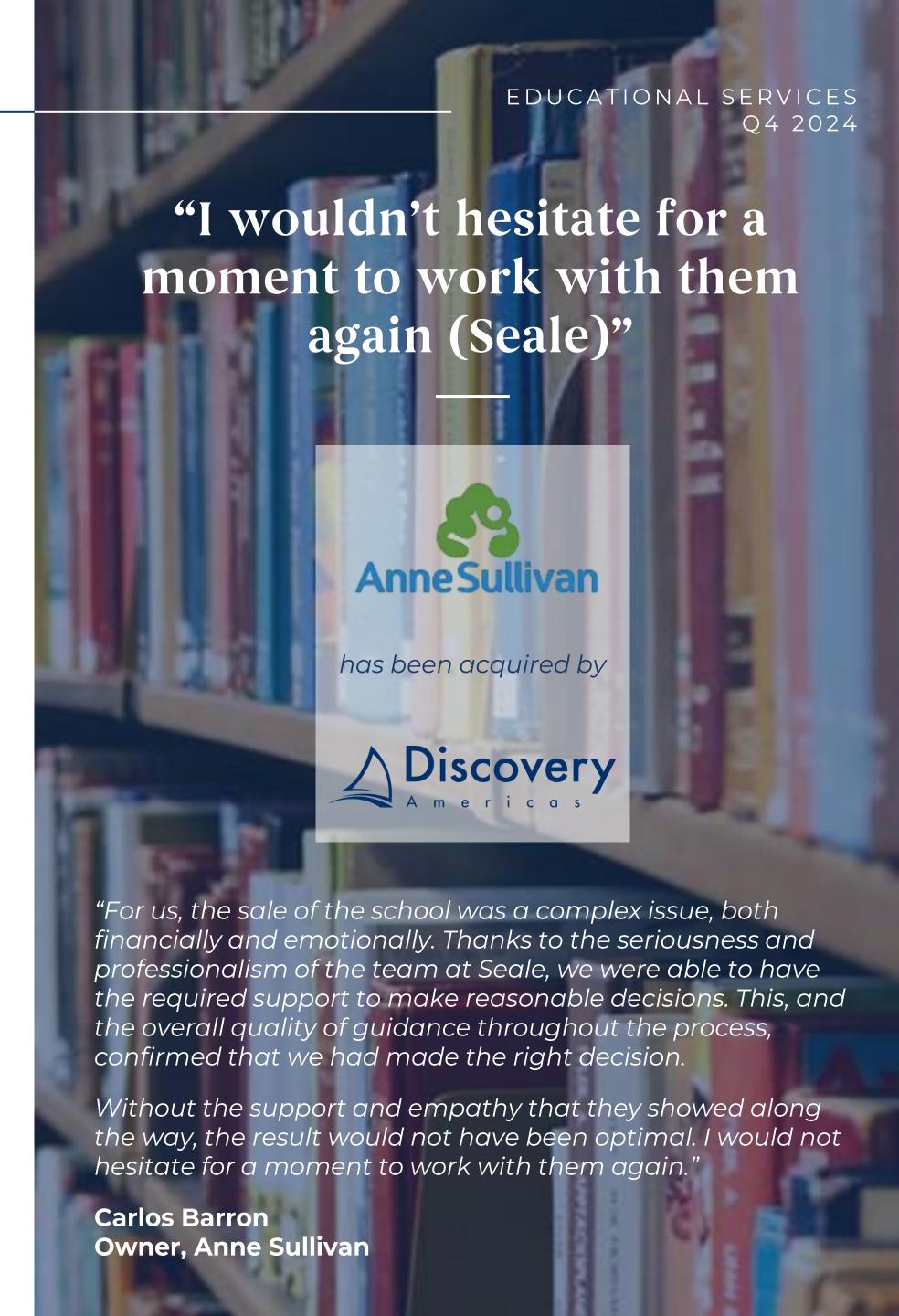
Seale & Associates acted as exclusive financial advisor to the shareholders of Anne Sullivan in the divestiture of its business to Discovery Americas through its educational platform Merited, which invests in schools throughout the Mexican Republic.

#### **SEALE & ASSOCIATES' APPROACH**

Seale managed a competitive auction process with potential strategic and financial buyers for Anne Sullivan. Seale's disciplined approach allowed our client to maintain momentum and negotiating leverage throughout the process and ensure closing at a premium value and more favorable terms.

#### **OUTCOME**

The process resulted in a partnership and a few years later turned out to be a successful acquisition of Anne Sullivan by Discovery Americas, which is a leading Mexican private equity fund than invests in education, health financial services, transport and logistics sectors.



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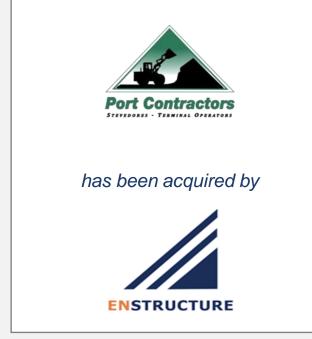


**HOLDINGS** 

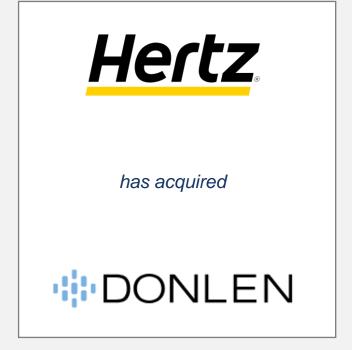












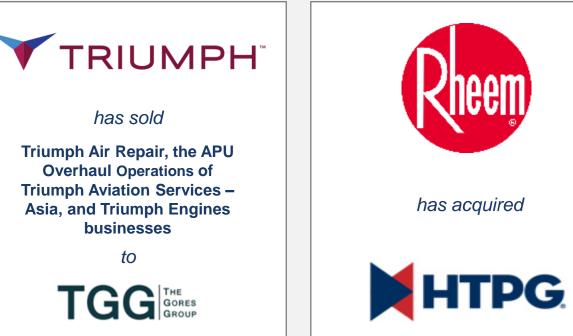


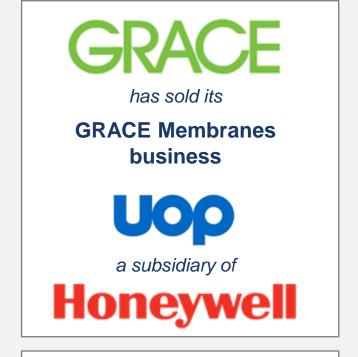








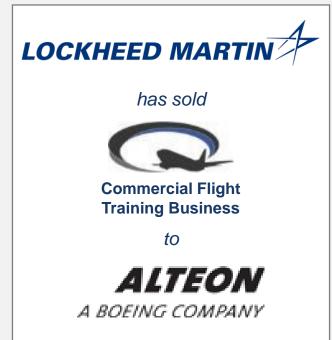




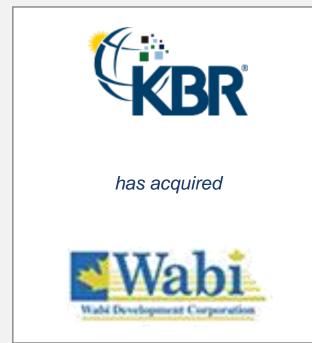






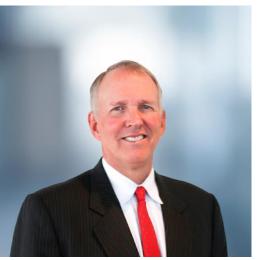








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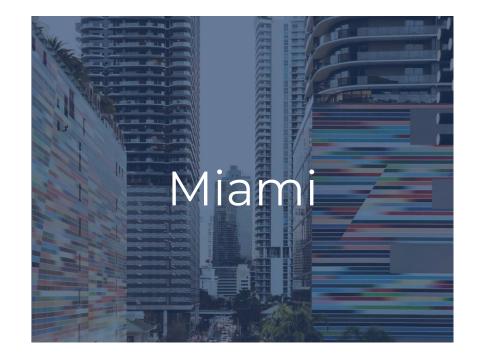
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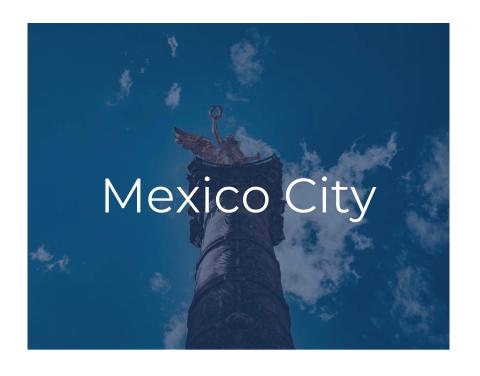


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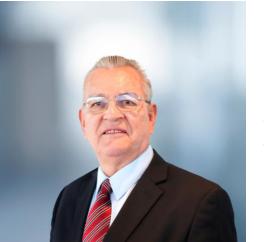
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