Container port throughput indicator presents the total number of containers handled by a port, per country, expressed in twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). A TEU represents the volume of a standard 20 feet long intermodal container used for loading, unloading, repositioning and transshipment. A 40-foot intermodal container is counted as two TEUs.

With more than 100,000 km of total coastline, OIC countries possess significant potential for maritime trade.

As of 2017, 15.8% of the global container port throughput or 119.1 million containers TEU went through the ports of the OIC countries. It represents a 37% improvement compared to 86.8 million TEU in 2010.

35 OIC countries have demonstrated considerable development in receiving trade ships in their ports.

In 22 of these countries, growth in container port throughputs have been higher than the World average of 34% in 2017 compared to that in 2010.

Malaysia with 24.7 million TEU and UAE with 21.3 million TEU container port throughputs in 2017 were among the top 10 countries in the World. They were followed by Indonesia with 13.9 million TEU.

These top three OIC countries together accounted for 50% of the OIC total container port throughput in 2017.

The most noteworthy port capacity development across the OIC has been observed in Libya with 507%, Qatar with 202%, and Tunisia with 171% increases. Such high growth records also placed them among the top 10 countries in the world with the highest increases in container port throughput during the period in focus.

In contrast, Syria, Togo, Yemen, and Guyana experienced significant losses. Container port throughput decreased by; 14% in Guyana, 16% in Yemen, 29% in Togo and 83% in Syria.

On the other hand, container port throughput improved in Non-OIC Developing Countries group from 226.7 million TEU in 2010 to 333.2 million TEU in 2017, or by 47%.

Container port throughput also increased from 246.8 million TEU in 2010 to 300.4 million TEU in 2017 in Developed countries. However, the share of Developed countries in the global container port throughput has fallen because of the significant development of the ports and sea routes across the Developing Countries.

Note: The two most common international standardised container types are 20 and 40 foot. A 20-foot unit measures about 6 meters, a forty foot about 12 meters (external dimensions). Depending on whether the ship loads 20 or 40-foot containers (or a combination of the two), the number of containers held on board the ship will differ. As to express the capacity of a container ship in a uniform manner, the number of containers that the ship can load is converted into a number of containers of the smallest size, i.e. those that are 20-feet in length. TEU is also used to indicate the nominal capacity of container ships or container terminals and in statistics regarding container transit in ports. TEU description was accessed on: [https://www.logisticsglossary.com/term/teu/](https://www.logisticsglossary.com/term/teu/). Values in parentheses next to country names show the difference between 2010 and 2017 container port throughput data.

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 25/01/2019 from UNCTADStat Database. Please visit [OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database](http://bit.ly/2F7W8cv) for other Infrastructure category indicators.