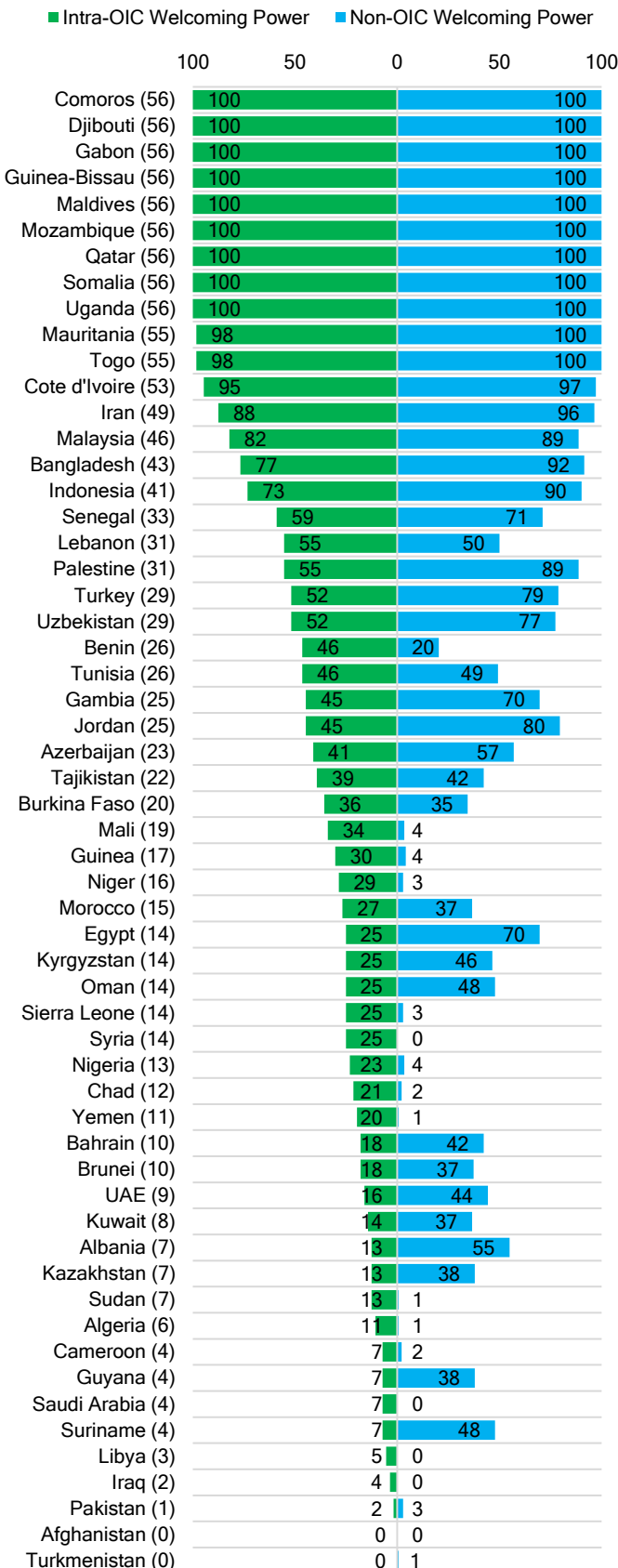


DID YOU KNOW?

2019-12

Welcoming Power of OIC Countries, Intra-OIC vs. Non-OIC (as of 04 Mar 2019, %)



- The **Welcoming Power** shows the ability of countries in welcoming the citizens or nationals of other countries into their territories based on the current passport and visa regimes. Some countries are easy to visit, as others are difficult to travel to in regard to their willingness to give visitor visas. The ease with which a country welcomes a national(s) of another country depends on their passport, as some countries are more forthcoming in letting visitors in than others.
- The individual **Country Welcoming Score** is calculated by awarding one point for each passport of origin countries that is allowed to enter the destination country visa-free or with visa on arrival. In this instance, countries with the high welcoming scores are ranked as the most welcoming countries.
- The **Intra-OIC Welcoming Power** shows how many OIC countries out of the 56 (in % terms) are welcomed to the destination OIC country visa-free*. On the other hand, **Non-OIC Welcoming Power** shows how many non-OIC countries out of the 142 (in % terms) are welcomed to the destination OIC country visa-free*.
- As of 4 March 2019, **9 OIC countries** mostly in Africa; namely, **Comoros, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Mozambique, Qatar, Somalia, and Uganda** have achieved a **100%-Welcoming-Power** by allowing either visa-free or visa-on-arrival entry for all countries (including OIC and non-OIC). With the inclusion of **Mauritania and Togo**, **11 OIC countries** have allowed either visa-free or visa-on-arrival entry for all non-OIC countries.
- **21 OIC countries** are able to welcome at least half of the OIC countries to their territories visa-free* with a 52% and above Welcoming Power. Whereas **34 OIC countries** welcome at least one or more but less than half of the OIC countries beyond their borders visa-free*. 2 OIC countries; namely, **Afghanistan and Turkmenistan** require citizens of OIC countries to have visas before enter their countries.
- Not so surprisingly, **16 OIC countries provide visa-free* entries for all 38 Advanced Economies** (IMF taxonomy) and an additional of 23 OIC countries favour the former with a Welcoming Power ranging between 63% and 97%. Yet; **13 OIC countries** require visas from passport holders of Advanced Economies.
- Finally, **11 OIC countries have a 100%-Welcoming-Power for all Non-OIC Developing Countries**. The number of OIC countries with a Welcoming Power (more than 60%) for Non-OIC Developing Countries is 23.

Note: * Visa-free in the context of the Passport Index includes visa-free, visa on arrival and e-visa privileges. Values in parentheses in the chart show the number of OIC countries whose citizens are welcomed visa-free into the destination OIC country.

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 04/03/2019 from Passport Index (<https://www.passportindex.org/>). Please visit **OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database** (<http://bit.ly/2F7W8cv>) for other Tourism category indicators.