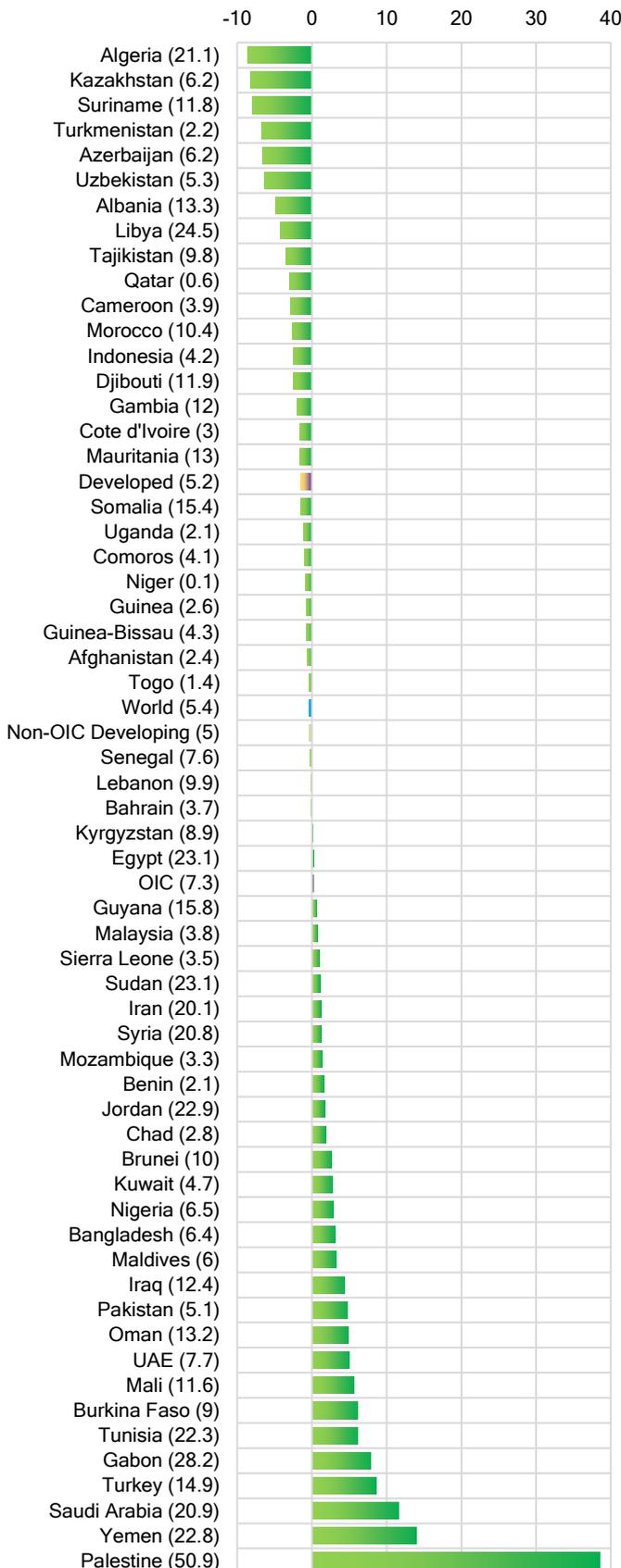


# DID YOU KNOW?

2020-03

**Change of Female Unemployment Rate, Percentage Points, 2000 vs. 2019**



- **Unemployment rate** refers to the share of the population within the age range of 15 to 64 years who are without work but available for and seeking employment. Unemployed persons are those individuals without work, seeking work in a recent past period, and currently available for work, including people who have lost their jobs or who have voluntarily left work. Persons who did not look for work but have arrangements for a future job are also counted as unemployed.
- An increase in unemployment is associated with economic slowdown.
- Unemployment rate is also a key indicator to monitor whether a country is on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- The OIC countries group recorded an 7.3% female unemployment rate in 2019, a **0.2 percentage-point increase** compared to that in 2000. On the other hand, the Developed countries group managed to decrease their female unemployment rate by 1.5 percentage points, Non-OIC Developing countries group and World by 0.4 percentage point each in the period 2000-2019.
- **Algeria, Kazakhstan, and Suriname** were the top three OIC countries where there has been a significant improvement in decreasing female unemployment rate with equal to or over 8 percentage points over the last 19 years.
- On the other hand, the female unemployment rate of **3 OIC countries** namely; **Palestine, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia** increased almost over 11 percentage points in the same period.
- In overall, while the female unemployment rate **decreased in 28 OIC countries**, it **increased in 29 OIC countries** over the last 19 years.
- Despite the decreases in female unemployment rate between 2000 and 2019, **2 OIC countries** were observed to have female unemployment rates **over 25%**, and **23 OIC countries** were observed to have female unemployment rates **between 10% and 24.5%** in 2019.
- The number of OIC countries with female unemployment rates **below 5%** was limited to **19 OIC countries** in 2019.

**Note:** The values in the parentheses indicate the female unemployment rate in percentage terms in 2019. Negative values in the chart area indicate decreases in female unemployment; meanwhile, positive values show increases in female unemployment rates.

**Source:** SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 19/02/2020 from World Bank World Development Indicators Database. Please visit **OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database** (<http://bit.ly/2F7W8cv>) for other Labour and Social Protection category indicators.