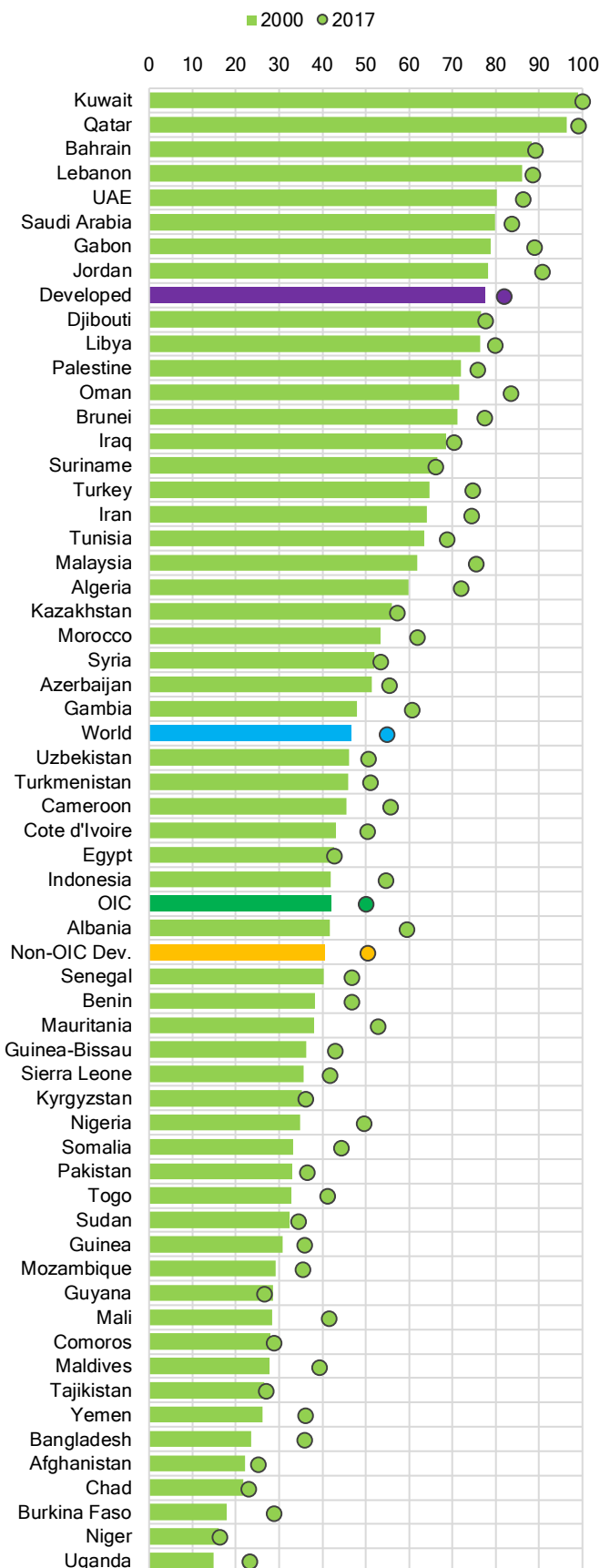


DID YOU KNOW?

2019-25

Urban Population Ratio, 2000 vs. 2017



- **Urban population** refers to people living in urban areas as defined by national statistical offices. **Urban population ratio** is the number of persons residing in an area defined as “urban” in the national context per 100 total population.
- Increasing urban population ratio may signify the demographic transition from rural to urban, and may be associated with shifts from an agriculture-based economy to industry and service-led urbanised economy.
- Urban areas may generate more jobs and higher income, and may deliver quality education, health care and other services. They may also present opportunities for social mobilisation and women's empowerment.
- In 2017, **half of the OIC countries group population** (50%) lived in urban areas, an 8.1-percentage-points increase compared to that in 2000.
- The urban population ratio of the OIC countries group in 2017 was lower than that of the Developed countries group (81.9%) and World (54.8%) but was very close to that of the Non-OIC Developing countries group (50.5%).
- At the individual OIC country level, **9 OIC countries** (mostly Arab countries in the Gulf region) including **Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan, Bahrain, Gabon, Lebanon, UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Oman** had urban population ratios over **80%** in 2017.
- On the other hand, the percentage of the population in urban areas was below **30%** in **8 OIC countries** (mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa) including **Comoros, Burkina Faso, Tajikistan, Guyana, Afghanistan, Uganda, Chad, and Niger**,
- Moreover, **23 OIC countries** were observed to have an urban population ratio **between 50% and 80%**, **17 OIC countries** were observed to have the same ratio **between 30% and 50%**.
- The magnitude of urban population growth varied considerably across OIC countries during the period 2000-2017.
- The share of urban population in total population **increased more than 10 percentage points** in **17 OIC Countries** including Albania, Mauritania, Nigeria, Malaysia, Mali, Gambia, Indonesia, Jordan, Bangladesh, Algeria, Oman, Maldives, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Iran, Cameroon, and Gabon in the past 17 years.
- In this period, urban population ratio **increased between 5 and 10 percentage points** in **15 OIC countries**.
- However, **urban population have seen a decrease** in **3 OIC countries**, namely **Guyana, Suriname, and Egypt** from 2000 to 2017.

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 08/04/2019 from World Bank World Development Indicators Database. Please visit **OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database** (<http://bit.ly/2F7W8cv>) for other Demography indicators.