

## Chapter III

# World Openness Index: Results and Analysis

Based on the theories and methodologies proposed in the previous two chapters, this chapter measures the openness index of 129 major economies around the world, and compares and analyzes their openness from such perspectives as openness of economies, openness of geographic regions, the relationship between openness and economic development, and the relationship between openness and economic scale. The openness index measures the data results from 2008 to 2019, and utmost efforts have been made to enrich indicators of the index and expand sources of data to ensure the quality of the measurement.

### I. World Openness Ranking

**Table 3-1 Openness Rankings, 2008-2019: the 40 Most Open Economies**  
(Sorted by openness index in 2019)

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	Change of place	Index change %
Singapore	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	+1	2.5
<b>Germany</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	+1	<b>3.8</b>
Hong Kong, SAR	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	+1	3.4
Ireland	4	4	4	4	6	5	7	7	8	8	9	11	+7	7.3
<b>UK</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	0	<b>2.2</b>
Switzerland	6	5	6	5	8	6	5	5	6	7	7	10	+4	4.1
The Netherlands	7	9	8	8	7	9	8	8	7	10	8	8	+1	1.8
<b>France</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	+1	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	-2	<b>1.0</b>

(Continued)

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	Change of place	Index change %
Malta	10	10	14	12	12	12	12	12	11	6	6	6	-4	-1.0
<b>Italy</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>+4</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Belgium	12	12	15	14	15	14	14	15	14	14	17	16	+4	2.1
Israel	13	13	16	16	17	16	15	14	15	15	18	17	+4	2.6
<b>Korea</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>+37</b>	<b>11.4</b>
Cyprus	15	16	28	32	32	30	51	40	19	18	19	19	+4	2.9
<b>Australia</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Sweden	17	21	21	22	20	18	20	18	17	17	20	22	+5	3.0
Spain	18	17	18	17	19	20	21	22	20	19	22	20	+2	2.7
Czech	19	18	19	20	21	24	24	23	23	24	26	27	+8	4.1
Luxemburg	20	31	7	15	5	8	11	9	27	23	15	41	+21	7.8
<b>Japan</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>US</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>-17.8</b>
Austria	23	20	22	24	23	22	19	19	18	20	21	21	-2	2.7
Denmark	24	23	24	23	24	23	23	20	21	21	24	23	-1	3.2
Hungary	25	26	26	21	26	25	26	26	26	27	27	26	+1	3.5
Norway	26	22	20	18	18	21	17	17	16	16	16	13	-13	-0.5
Estonia	27	25	27	28	27	27	22	24	24	28	29	29	+2	4.5
New Zealand	28	24	23	25	25	26	25	25	25	25	13	14	-14	-0.4
Latvia	29	27	29	27	29	28	29	28	30	31	35	36	+7	5.4
Costa Rica	30	29	31	30	33	59	43	43	43	59	57	58	+28	10.6
Lithuania	31	30	30	36	50	47	47	52	45	42	39	37	+6	5.1
Finland	32	32	32	31	31	29	27	27	29	29	28	28	-4	2.7
Portugal	33	34	35	33	34	31	31	31	31	30	30	30	-3	2.9
Uruguay	34	37	39	39	39	36	33	32	35	34	31	31	-3	2.9
Chile	35	33	36	40	37	37	36	33	28	26	23	18	-17	-0.7
Nicaragua	36	36	38	37	36	44	42	41	42	39	40	40	+4	4.7
Macao, SAR	37	40	43	48	47	42	44	50	44	44	46	48	+11	5.9
Panama	38	38	34	35	30	35	37	37	34	36	36	34	-4	2.6
Peru	39	35	37	47	46	53	49	49	51	61	58	60	+21	8.7
<b>China</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>+22</b>	<b>9.6</b>

Note: 1. Countries with black bold names are G20 members; the same applies thereafter if not specified otherwise.

2. For complete table of index of openness rankings of 129 129 economies, see Appendix 1.