



The Henley Passport Index

Q3 Update

July 2019

About the Henley Passport Index

The Henley Passport Index is the original ranking of all the world’s passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. The ranking is based on exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which maintains the world’s largest and most accurate database of travel information, and enhanced by continuous research by the *Henley & Partners* Research Department.

With expert commentary and historical data spanning 14 years, the Henley Passport Index is an invaluable resource for global citizens and the standard reference tool for governments in this field.

The index includes 199 passports and 227 travel destinations — including micro-states and territories. For each travel

destination, if no visa is required for passport holders, then a score of 1 is created for that passport. This also applies if passport holders can obtain a visa on arrival, a visitor’s permit, or an electronic travel authority (ETA) upon entry. These visa types require no pre-departure government approval.

Where a visa is required, or where a passport holder must obtain a government-approved electronic visa (e-Visa) before departure, a score of 0 is assigned. The same applies if they need pre-departure approval for a visa on arrival. Each passport is scored on the total number of destinations that the holder can access visa-free.

Visit henleypassportindex.com to access the Henley Passport Index.

























































































































































































View destinations you can access visa-free, with an electronic visa (e-Visa), with a visa on arrival, or with a normal visa.



Compare your passport’s strength with passports around the world.



View ways to improve your travel freedom by investing in alternative residence or citizenship from *Henley & Partners*.

Rank	Passport	Score	Rank	Passport	Score	Rank	Passport	Score	Rank	Passport	Score	Rank	Passport	Score	Rank	Passport	Score			
1	 Japan	189	13	 Malaysia	176	36	 Macao (SAR China)	139	60	 Guyana	86	82	 Kyrgyzstan	62		 Jordan				
	 Singapore			14	 Chile		174	37		 Dominica	135			 Qatar				 Mongolia		 Laos
2	 Finland	187	15		 Monaco		173		 El Salvador		61	 Nauru		85				 Sierra Leone		
	 Germany			16	 Cyprus	172	 Honduras			62		 Maldives	84	83	 Benin		61	96	 Burundi	
	 South Korea		 Poland			38	 Venezuela	134	63		 Jamaica	83			 Morocco		 Cameroon			
3	 Denmark	186	17	 Argentina	170		39	 Guatemala		133	64	 Botswana		82	84	 Armenia	60		 Congo (Rep.)	
	 Italy			18	 Brazil	169		40	 Peru	132			 Papua New Guinea			85	 Mozambique		59	 Liberia
	 Luxembourg		 Romania			41	 Serbia		131	65	 Bahrain		80	86	 India		58		97	 Myanmar
4	 France	185	19	 Bulgaria	168		42	 Samoa	130		66	 Suriname	78			 Mauritania				 Djibouti
	 Spain				 Hong Kong (SAR China)			43	 Solomon Islands	129		67	 Bolivia	77			 Sao Tome and Principe			 Nigeria
	 Sweden		20		 Croatia	167			 Vanuatu				 Oman		87		 Burkina Faso		57	99
5	 Austria	184		 San Marino		44		 Nicaragua	126	68		 Namibia	76			 Tajikistan			 Ethiopia	
	 Netherlands		 United Arab Emirates				 Tuvalu		69		 Belarus	75	88		 Cote d'Ivoire	56	 South Sudan			
	 Portugal		21	 Andorra		166		 Ukraine				 Kazakhstan				 Uzbekistan			 Sri Lanka	
	 Switzerland			22	 Brunei	164		45	 Colombia	124		70	 Thailand	74		89	 Gabon		55	100
6	 Belgium	183	23		 Barbados	158	46		 North Macedonia	123	71		 Lesotho	73			 Guinea		101	
	 Canada				 Israel				 Tonga			72	 eSwatini	72			 Rwanda			
	 Greece		24		 Mexico	157	47		 Marshall Islands	122			 Saudi Arabia				 Senegal			
	 Ireland			25	 Bahamas	153		48	 Montenegro			73	 Malawi	71		90	 Togo			 Lebanon
	 Norway				 Uruguay		49		 Kiribati	121			 China	70			 Mali	54	102	 Nepal
	 United Kingdom			26	 St. Kitts and Nevis	152		50	 Micronesia	119		74	 Kenya			91	 Niger			103
	 United States		27		 Costa Rica	150	51		 Moldova		75		 Indonesia	69			 Guinea-Bissau	53	 Palestinian Territory	
	7	 Malta		182		 Seychelles			52	 Palau Islands		118		 Zambia			92	 Madagascar		
8		 Czech Republic	181	28		 Vatican City	148	53		 Bosnia and Herzegovina	116	76		 Gambia	68	93		 Bhutan	52	
	9	 Australia	180		29	 Antigua and Barbuda	147		54	 Russian Federation				 Tanzania				 Chad		105
		 Iceland				 Trinidad and Tobago		55		 Albania	113	77		 Tunisia	67			 Comores Islands		
		 Lithuania			30	 Taiwan (Chinese Taipei)	146		56	 Georgia			78	 Azerbaijan	66		94	 Cambodia	51	
 New Zealand		31	 Mauritius	145		57	 Turkey	110		79	 Cape Verde Islands	65			 Equatorial Guinea			108	 Iraq	
10	 Latvia		179	32	 St. Lucia		144	58	 South Africa		99	80	 Uganda			95	 Turkmenistan			109
	 Slovakia				 St. Vincent and the Grenadines		59		 Belize	98			 Ghana	64			 Central African Republic			
	 Slovenia			33	 Paraguay	143		56	 Timor-Leste	94			 Philippines			96	 Angola		49	
11	 Estonia	178	34		 Grenada	141	57		 Kuwait	91	81		 Zimbabwe				 Egypt			
	 Hungary			35	 Panama	140		58	 Ecuador	90			 Cuba	63			 Haiti			
12	 Liechtenstein	177																		

Asian Countries Dominate as US and UK Passport Power Declines

Moving into the third quarter of 2019, Japan and Singapore hold onto the top spot on the Henley Passport Index, with a visa-free or visa-on-arrival score of 189. This latest result marks the culmination of an 18-month-long winning streak for both countries, after they unseated Germany from its long-held 1st position at the beginning of 2018.

Falling from the 1st-place spot it shared with Japan and Singapore last quarter, South Korea now sits in 2nd place on the index along with Finland and Germany, with citizens of all three countries able to access 187 destinations around the world without a prior visa. Denmark, Italy, and Luxembourg sit jointly in 3rd place on the index, each with a visa-free or visa-on-arrival score of 186, while France, Spain, and Sweden are in joint 4th place, each with a score of 185.

The UK and the US now sit in 6th place, with a visa-free or visa-on-arrival score of 183 — the lowest position either country has held since 2010 and a significant drop from their 1st-place spot in 2014. Afghanistan remains at the bottom of the global mobility spectrum, with its citizens able to access only 25 destinations worldwide without a prior visa.

The link between visa openness and democracy

Throughout most of the index’s 14-year history, the UK has held one of the top five places in the ranking. However, with its exit from the EU now imminent, the UK’s once-strong position looks increasingly uncertain. The Brexit process has not yet had a direct impact on the UK’s ranking, but new research using exclusive historical data from the Henley Passport Index indicates that this could change, with consequences that extend beyond a decline in passport power.

Political science researchers Uğur Altundal and Ömer Zarpli, of Syracuse University and the University of

Pittsburgh respectively, have found that there is a direct link between visa openness and progressive reform. Altundal and Zarpli’s unique research shows that even short-term travel mobility, which represents 85% of all cross-border movements, can positively influence political liberalization and democratization.

Conversely, countries moving towards nationalist isolationism and away from policies that encourage visa openness are likely to drop in the Henley Passport Index rankings and incur geopolitical consequences for themselves and their neighbors. Altundal and Zarpli note that visa liberalization appears to be a vital pre-condition not only for economic growth but also for social integration and progressive political change. With nationalism on the rise, and global powerhouses like the UK and the US embracing policies that limit freedom of movement, this new research indicates that associated impacts on political rights, rule of law, security, and democracy could be profound.

Commenting on these developments, Dr. Christian H. Kaelin, Chairman of *Henley & Partners* and the creator of the passport index concept, says, “With a few notable exceptions, the latest rankings from the Henley Passport Index show that countries around the world increasingly view visa openness as crucial to economic and social progress. This latest research appears to confirm something that many of us already know: that increased passport power and mobility benefits the entire global community, not just the strongest countries.”

Investment migration countries secure strong positions

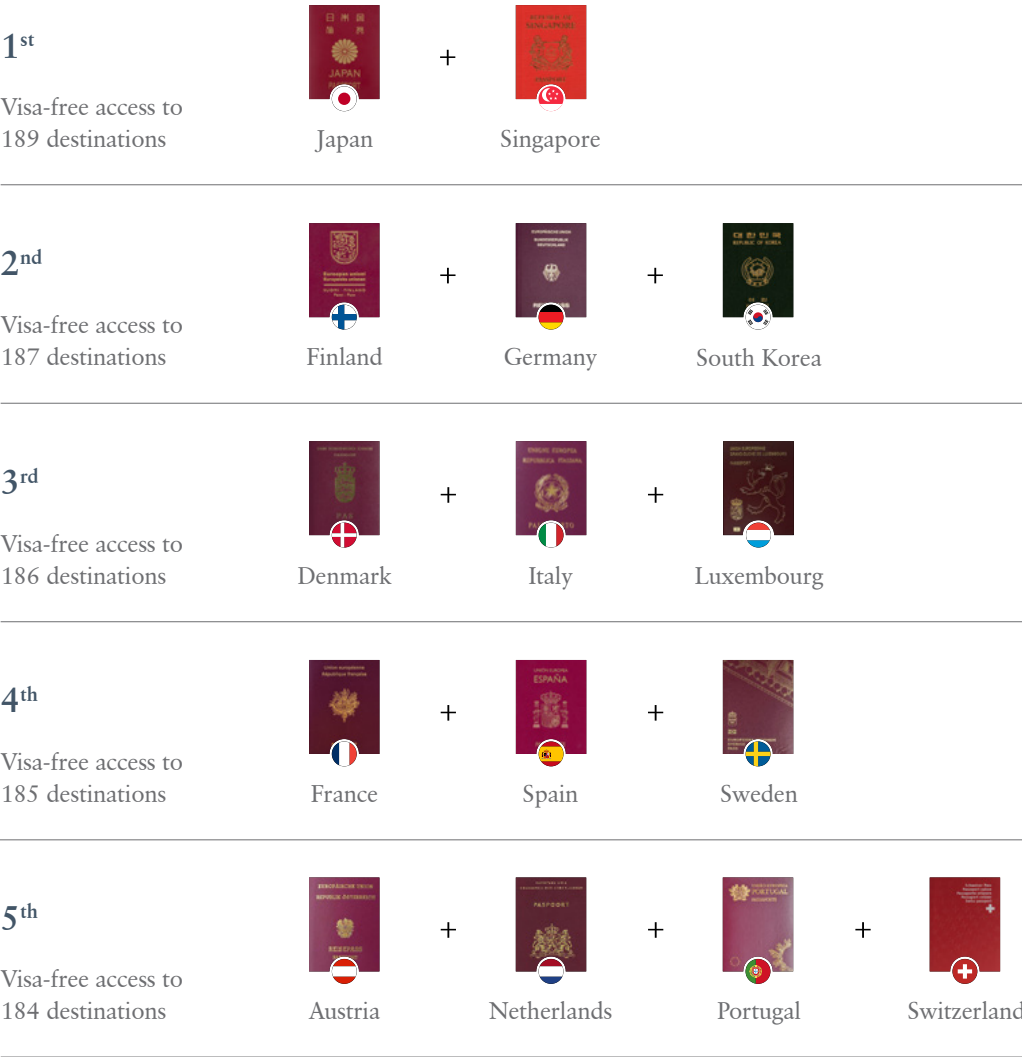
Countries with citizenship-by-investment programs continue to perform strongly on the Henley Passport Index and demonstrate a similar connection between passport power and economic and social progress. Moving up from the 8th-place spot it held last quarter, Malta now sits alone

in 7th place with a visa-free or visa-on-arrival score of 182, just one spot behind the UK and the US. Cyprus retains its 16th place on the index with a score of 172, while the Caribbean dual-island nation of Antigua and Barbuda is now in 29th place with a score of 147, rising 11 places over the past decade.

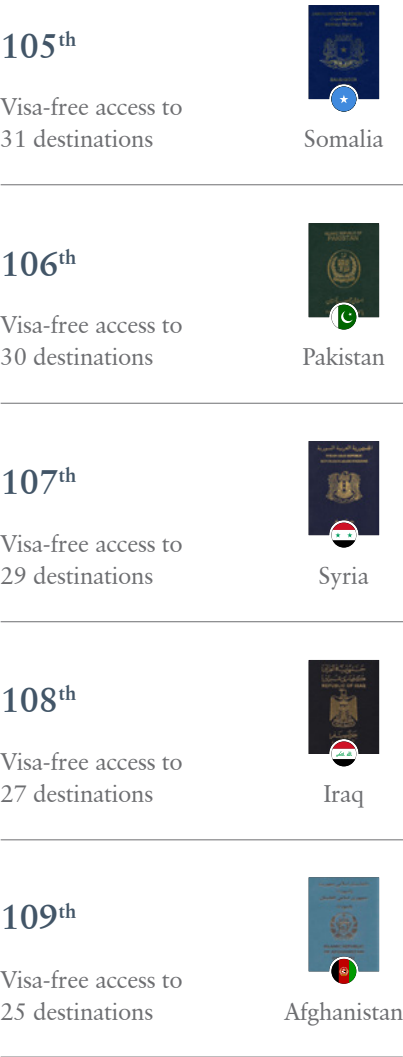
Dr. Juerg Steffen, CEO of *Henley & Partners*, says, “Citizenship- and residence-by-investment programs are increasingly popular, and these latest results make it easy to see why. For wealthy investors, the acquisition of an additional passport that dramatically expands global mobility is life-changing, and for host countries, the foreign direct investment secured through these programs creates both sovereign and societal value. Debt-free liquidity is injected into the economy, resulting in additional capital flows both to the public sector — encouraging fiscal autonomy, diversifying the economy, and creating employment opportunities — and the private sector, in the form of investments in existing enterprises, infrastructure, start-ups, and real estate.”



Strongest Passports in Q3 2019



Weakest Passports in Q3 2019

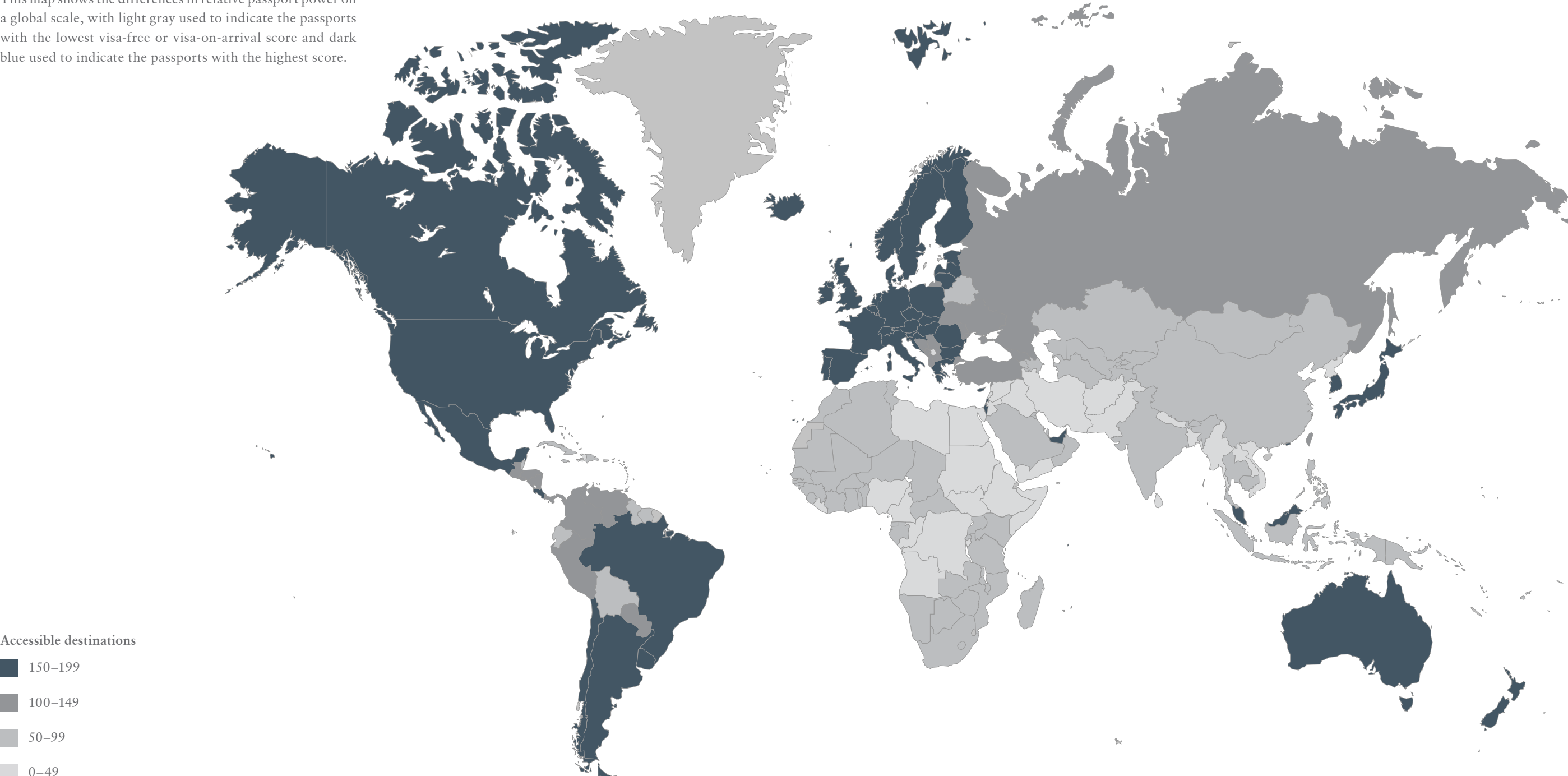


Moving into the third quarter of 2019, Japan and Singapore hold onto the top spot on the Henley Passport Index, with a visa-free or visa-on-arrival score of 189. Falling from the 1st-place spot it held with Japan and Singapore last quarter, South Korea now sits in 2nd place on the index along with Finland and Germany, with citizens of those countries able to access 187 destinations around the world without a prior visa. Afghanistan remains at the bottom of the global mobility spectrum, now in 109th place, with a visa-free or visa-on-arrival score of just 25.

This infographic shows the countries that occupy the highest and lowest ranks on the Henley Passport Index. In certain cases, a rank is shared by multiple countries if these countries all have the same level of visa-free or visa-on-arrival access.

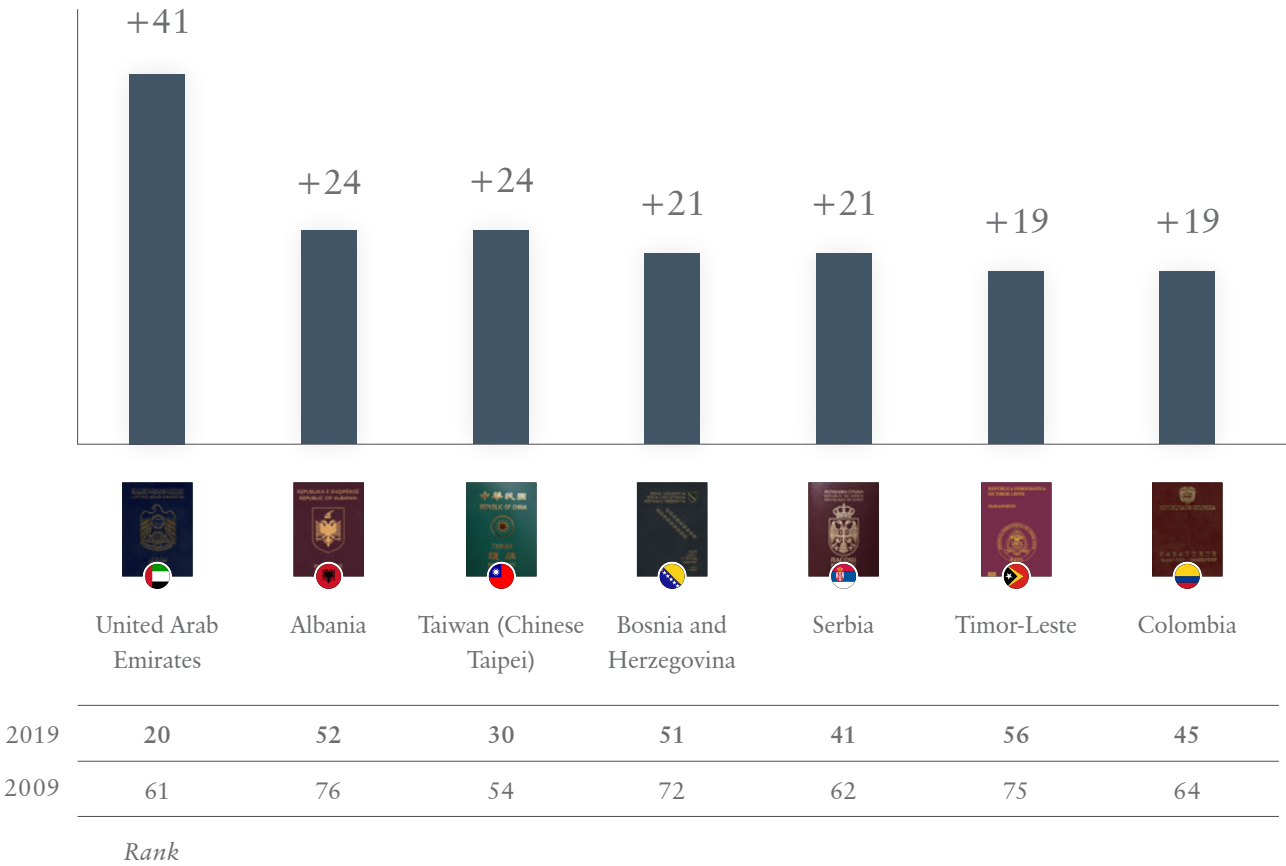
Passport Power Worldwide

This map shows the differences in relative passport power on a global scale, with light gray used to indicate the passports with the lowest visa-free or visa-on-arrival score and dark blue used to indicate the passports with the highest score.

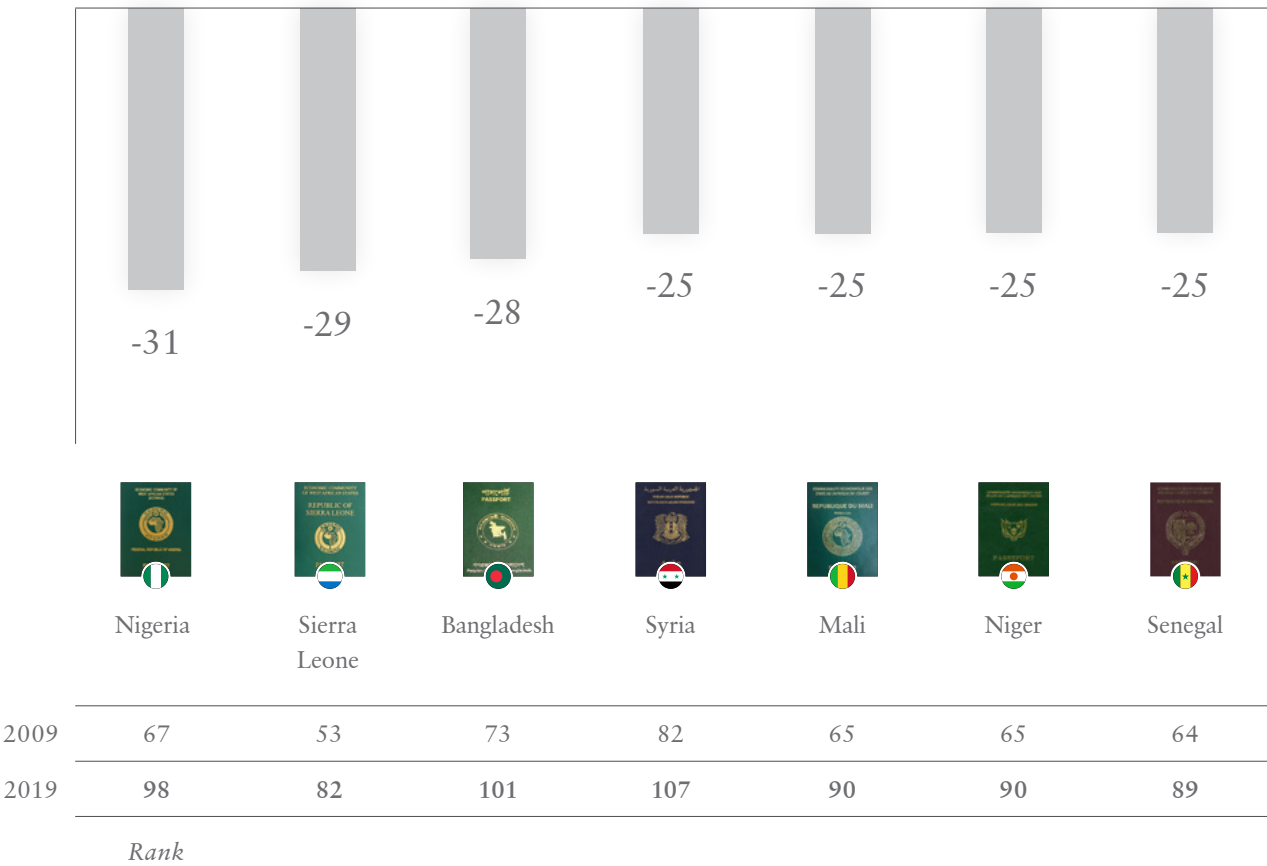


Biggest Climbers and Fallers on the Henley Passport Index: 2009 to 2019

This graph shows the countries that have climbed the highest up the Henley Passport Index rankings over the past decade, as well as those that have fallen most sharply over that period.



Biggest Climbers Since 2009



Biggest Fallers Since 2009

Expert Commentary and Insight



Ryan Cummings: Africa

Director at Signal Risk and independent consultant to international news outlets, publications, and think tanks

“While African citizens on average still require visas to travel to more than half of Africa’s countries, evidence indicates that the continent is moving in the right direction in easing freedom of movement. Data garnered by the African Development Bank and African Union since 2016 suggests that, on average, African countries are becoming more open to each other, either through waiving visa requirements or amending existing regulations to ease cross-border travel.”



Froilan Malit: Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

Visiting Scholar at Zayed University, Associate at the Gulf Labour Markets and Migration and Population Program, and Research Fellow at the Centre International de Formation des Autorités et Leaders

“A high HPI ranking (often linked with high regional trade investments or partnerships) is a vital vision and objective of most Gulf states’ foreign policy models, as part of their efforts to boost their image as stable and strategic investment partners at regional and global levels. By building more robust regional trade partnerships and collaborations, Gulf and other MENA states have not only enjoyed stronger access to African markets but also obtained regional mobility across the African continent.”



Dr. Diego Acosta: Americas

Leading expert on international migration law. His latest book, published by Cambridge University Press in 2018, is entitled *The National versus the Foreigner in South America: 200 Years of Migration and Citizenship Law*.

“Since 17 June 2019, Americans, Australians, Canadians, and Japanese willing to enter Brazil for the purposes of tourism or business for periods not exceeding 90 days can do so without a visa. Brazilians, however, will continue to require a visa to travel to those four countries, thus ending a long Brazilian tradition of demanding reciprocity. The reasons why the new far-right Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro took this unprecedented step, without the intervention of parliament, cannot be found in the decree he used to adopt it in March. Rather, one needs to look at declarations by members of the government pointing at the possible increase of tourists, mostly Americans, who constitute the second largest number of foreigners visiting Brazil. The willingness to assure a close relationship with President Donald Trump might also be mentioned, since indeed the decree was published coinciding with Bolsonaro’s official visit to the US in March.”



Uğur Altundal and Ömer Zarpli: Visa freedom and democratic diffusion

Ugur Altundal is a researcher in Political Science and a PhD candidate at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Ömer Zarpli is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh.

“Countries that have strong trade, finance, transportation, and information linkages not only transfer economic policies but they also influence each other’s political culture. Visa liberalization can facilitate political change through strengthening the social linkages between countries. Visa waivers enable cross border movements of travelers, international students, temporal and permanent migrants, and diaspora communities. As a result of these social interactions and networks, people learn multiple aspects of democracy and the rule of law. They are more likely to have democratic attitudes, and they tend to advocate for better democratic institutions in their home countries.”



Prof. Simone Bertoli: Visa freedom and economic growth

Professor of Economics at Université Clermont Auvergne (CERDI) and junior member of the Insitut Universitaire de France

“There is strong empirical evidence that over and above the direct boost they provide to tourist flows, visa waivers are positively associated with growing economic exchanges, including an increase in incoming foreign direct investments and trade flows, as human mobility is often necessary for establishing the mutual knowledge and confidence that underpins economic transactions.”

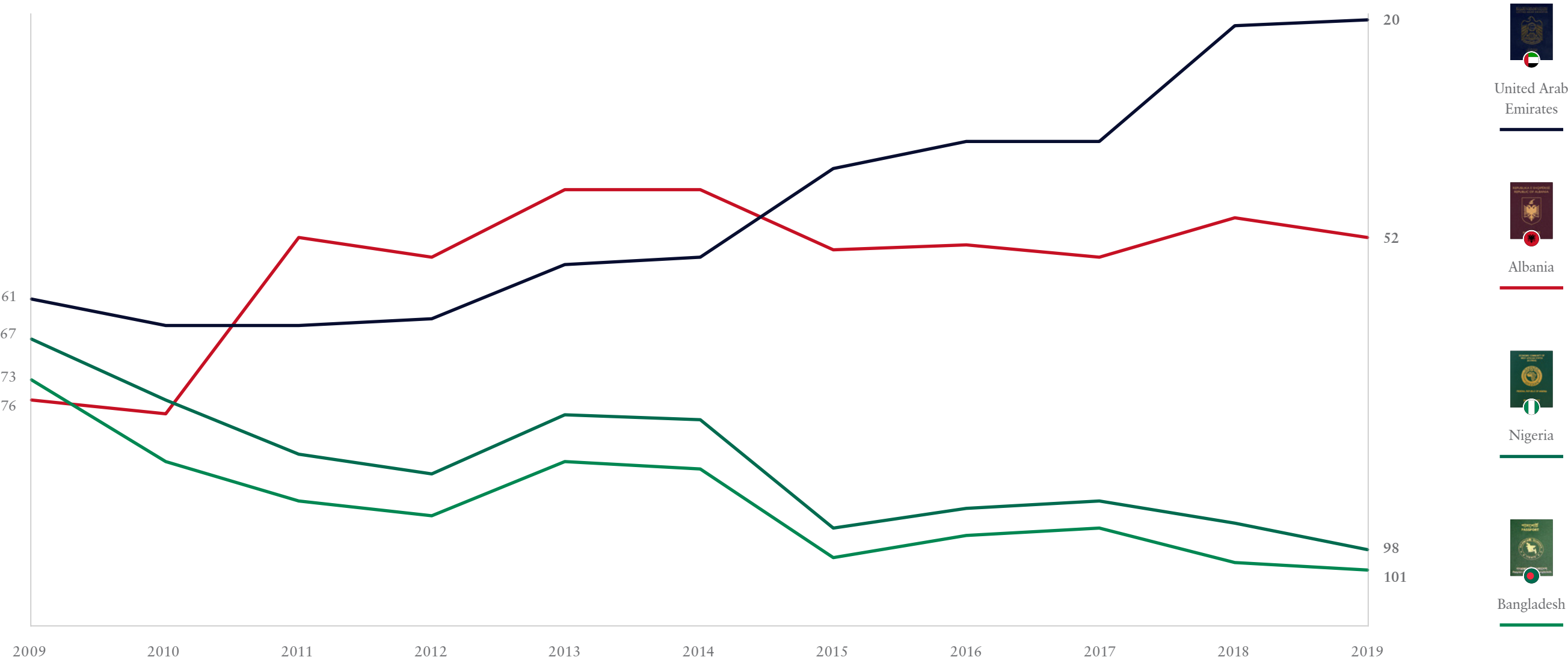
“The prospect of visa-waiver agreements with the European Union has encouraged neighboring countries to adopt important reforms in areas such as civil and political rights, rule of law, and security. Most recently, Turkey has announced a justice reform package largely in the hopes of gaining visa-free access to the Schengen area.

Uğur Altundal and Ömer Zarpli

Major Global Mobility Shifts on the Henley Passport Index: 2009 to 2019

Using historical data from the Henley Passport Index, this graph shows year-on-year changes in ranking for four countries since 2009: Albania, Bangladesh, Nigeria, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It illustrates the dramatic changes in passport power that citizens of these four countries have experienced over the past decade. In 2009, for instance, there was relatively little difference

between the UAE's and Nigeria's rankings on the index — the countries were placed 61st and 67th, respectively. Ten years later, that gap has widened significantly, with the UAE ranked 78 places above Nigeria. Similarly, Albania is now ranked 49 places above Bangladesh, whereas in 2009, the two countries were separated by just three places on the ranking.



Henley & Partners is the global leader in residence and citizenship planning. Each year, hundreds of wealthy individuals and their advisors rely on our expertise and experience in this area. The firm’s highly qualified professionals work together as one team in over 30 offices worldwide.

The concept of residence and citizenship planning was created by Henley & Partners in the 1990s. As globalization has expanded, residence and citizenship have become topics of significant interest among the increasing number of internationally mobile entrepreneurs and investors whom we proudly serve every day.

The firm also runs a leading government advisory practice that has raised more than USD 8 billion in foreign direct investment. Trusted by governments, the firm has been involved in strategic consulting and in the design, set-up, and operation of the world’s most successful residence and citizenship programs.

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