Key Scores and Trends

The upper left corner of each profile summarizes the profiled country’s overall global connectedness score, as well as its scores by dimension (depth vs. breadth) and its pillar scores (trade, capital, information, and people). 2015 and 2017 scores and ranks are shown along with changes in each of the scores and ranks from 2015 to 2017. Changes in scores indicate shifts in absolute levels of connectedness. Changes in ranks provide comparisons of a country’s relative standing among the countries covered in the index.

Connectedness Score Trend

Below the scores summary, each profile contains a line chart showing the country’s overall trend. These charts should not be compared to the global trend charts in Chapter 1 because of methodological differences summarized on page 16. Instead, these charts may be compared to the DHL GCI Normalized versions of the global trends shown on Figure 3.3 on page 76.

Depth

The depth section provides each country’s outward and inward depth scores and ranks at the pillar and component levels.

Outward/Inward: Results are reported separately by direction. Outward trade flows refer to exports, inward trade flows refer to imports, and so on.

Ranks: Each of the ranks is followed by a slash (/) and the number of countries for which data are available for that metric. For example, the Netherlands’ rank of 7/153 for Outward FDI Stock (% of GDP) means that the Netherlands has the 7th highest score on that component, out of 153 countries for which data are available. For details on the minimum data requirements for displaying pillar level results, please refer to Chapter 3.

Levels: Depth levels are reported using measures that compare international flows and stocks to relevant indicators of the size of a country’s domestic economy, as described in Chapter 3. The units depend on the domestic comparison employed, and are described in parentheses after each component’s name. Thus, for example, Merchandise Trade is displayed as a percent, because the domestic comparison is “(% of GDP).”

For a list of data sources, please refer to Appendix B.

Structural and Policy Drivers of Depth of Connectedness

This section provides the country’s ranks and levels on indicators that can impact global connectedness depth scores. The data pertain to 2017 or the most recent year available. For a list of data sources and calculation methods, please refer to Appendix B.

The (+) and (-) symbols display the expected impact of each structural and policy factor on the depth of countries’ global connectedness. For example, higher GDP per Capita tends to increase depth while higher remoteness tends to reduce depth.

Ranks correspond to ranks among the countries covered in this index (and thus may differ from the original data sources). Levels report levels or scores on the relevant metrics, as described in Appendix B.
Rooted Map

The upper right corner of each profile contains a map where all other countries are sized in proportion to their share of the profiled country's international flows, and are colored based on the profiled country's share of their international flows. Thus, these maps highlight both the countries that are most connected to the profiled country (using sizes) and the countries for which connections to the profiled country are most salient (using colors). The profiled countries themselves are neither sized nor colored based on data, focusing these maps only on the breadth of countries' international flows rather than attempting to combine depth and breadth perspectives on the same maps.

For additional details as well as an example of how to interpret a rooted map, please turn to page 84.

Breadth

The breadth section parallels the depth section described to the left. However, rather than showing raw breadth scores (which do not have meaningful units), the intra-regional share of each country's flows is shown. For capital flows (which can be negative), the intra-regional proportion is calculated using absolute values to focus on flow sizes rather than whether flows are negative or positive. Intra-regional shares should be treated as approximate, because there are cases in which the available data cover only a sample of each country's flows by partner rather than providing complete coverage.

For a list of data sources, please refer to Appendix B.

Directionality

The directionality chart shows the profiled country's outward and inward overall, depth, and breadth scores. A diamond is used to mark the directional balance, calculated as the difference of the outward minus inward scores.

Legend

The "—" symbol for Not Applicable is used in the depth and breadth sections to identify cells in the tables that are not filled in for any country. Levels can only be calculated at the component level, so this symbol always appears in the level columns of the pillar rows. In breadth, this symbol also appears in the cells that refer to components that are excluded from breadth (but covered in depth), typically due to data constraints. The "•" symbol indicates that a particular cell could not be filled in for the profiled country due to limitations in the available data for that specific country. The "c" symbol indicates that a cell was not filled in because the pertinent data are confidential.

Questions? Please refer to page 84 for an explanation of how to read this map.

Inward vs. Outward Connectedness

Structural and Policy Drivers of Depth of Connectedness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structural Factors</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>General Policies/Environment</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Globalization Policies</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP per Capita (+)</td>
<td>13/169</td>
<td>$48,346</td>
<td>Operating Environment (+)</td>
<td>11/132</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>Enabling Trade Index (+)</td>
<td>2/132</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linguistic Commonality (+)</td>
<td>121/169</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Infrastructure (+)</td>
<td>3/132</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Tariffs (Wtd. Mean Applied) (-)</td>
<td>111/162</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remoteness (-)</td>
<td>167/169</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Press Freedom (+)</td>
<td>3/156</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Capital Account Openness (+)</td>
<td>1/156</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population (-)</td>
<td>63/169</td>
<td>17m</td>
<td>Labor Freedom (+)</td>
<td>73/165</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Visa-Free Travel Outward (+)</td>
<td>11/169</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlocked (-)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Financial Freedom (+)</td>
<td>4/163</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Visa-Free Travel Inward (+)</td>
<td>70/169</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

— Not Applicable · Data Not Available c Confidential Data (+) Positive Impact (-) Negative Impact
Overview
Rooted maps depict the sizes of countries’ international flows in geographic space. Each map is drawn from the perspective of a specific focal country, as illustrated by the example of Germany below. These maps highlight how international flows typically diminish with physical distance as well as cultural, political, and other types of differences.

Country Sizes Are Based on Shares of a Focal Country’s International Flows: All countries, except each map’s focal country, are resized according to their international flows to and from the focal country. More specifically, country sizes represent countries’ shares (in percentage terms) of the focal country’s total international trade, capital, information, and people flows (aggregated as described under the “Flow Calculations” heading at the bottom of this page). Thus, apart from the focal country itself, which is not sized based on data, the largest countries on each map are those with which the focal country has its largest international flows. The top 10 countries are labeled, and their shares of the focal country’s total flows are listed. Note that countries’ actual sizes in terms of land area are not considered in calculating country sizes on rooted maps; countries may either expand or contract to depict the appropriate data.

Country Colors Are Based on a Focal Country’s Share of Other Countries’ International Flows: All countries, except each map’s focal country, are colored based on the focal country’s share of their own international flows. This indicates how important flows to and from the focal country are for other countries. It also facilitates comparisons of the focal country’s connectedness across other countries of different sizes.

Rooted Map Example: Germany

Country Sizes: The country with the largest share (8%) of Germany’s international flows is the Netherlands, so the Netherlands is expanded to become the largest country on this map (apart from Germany itself which is not sized based on data). More surprisingly, Luxembourg is expanded to almost the same size because its share of Germany’s total international flows also rounds to 8% (due to Germany’s large capital flows and the high proportion of those flows that pass through Luxembourg). The United States also features in 8% of Germany’s international flows, followed by France (7%), Poland (6%), the United Kingdom (6%), and so on. Europe as a whole appears much larger than it does on a normal map because roughly three-quarters of Germany’s international flows take place to or from other countries in Europe.

Country Colors: Germany’s share of other countries’ international flows is highest for its eastern neighbors. More than 30% of Poland, Austria, and Czechia’s international flows are to or from Germany, as are more than 20% of Hungary’s international flows. Therefore, these four countries are colored in the brightest yellow, indicating a share of more than 20%. Germany’s share of its other neighbors’ international flows is somewhat lower, in the 10-20% range, so countries such as the Netherlands and France are colored in a lighter shade of yellow. In somewhat more distant countries such as the UK and Spain, Germany’s share falls to 5-10%, so these countries are colored in the lightest yellow. Outside of Europe, Germany’s share of other countries’ international flows is almost uniformly below 5%. It is just 3% in both the United States and China, so these countries are shaded light gray. In India, Germany’s share is 1%, so it is shaded medium gray. Germany’s share in Hong Kong is less than 1%, so it is shaded dark gray.

Interpretation: The size-based perspective, depicting shares of Germany’s international flows, highlights the importance of European countries for Germany and hints at the power of distance to dampen international flows. Distance effects, then, become even clearer when adding in the share-based perspective depicted in the coloring. As one moves from proximate countries with close links to Germany to more distant ones, Germany’s shares of other countries’ flows generally diminishes. Additionally, it can be useful to compare across these perspectives. For example, Austria’s share of Germany’s flows is only 5%, but Germany’s share of Austria’s flows is 32%, highlighting how much larger Germany looms for Austria than vice versa. Similarly, the US looms larger for Germany (8%) than Germany does for the US (3%).

Flow Calculations
In order to produce maps that depict the most relevant flows for each country, the distributions of countries’ international flows of each specific type covered on the breadth dimension of the DHL Global Connectedness Index (merchandise trade, FDI flows, etc.) were combined using two sets of weights. They were aggregated using both the component weights for the breadth dimension of the index (see Table 3.6) and countries’ shares of the global total of each type of flow. Thus, for example, we allocate more weight to the distribution of a country’s FDI flows across partner countries for a country that participates intensively in FDI than we do for a country that has relatively less FDI. Specifically, we begin by calculating, for each type of flow, the percentage of total global flows that take place between each pair of countries. Then, we aggregate across types of flows using the breadth weights shown in Table 3.6. Finally, we divide these values by the sum across partner countries for each focal country to determine country sizes, and we generate analogous calculations for other countries to determine country colors. (Note that negative flow values, which can occur on the capital pillar, were excluded from these calculations.)