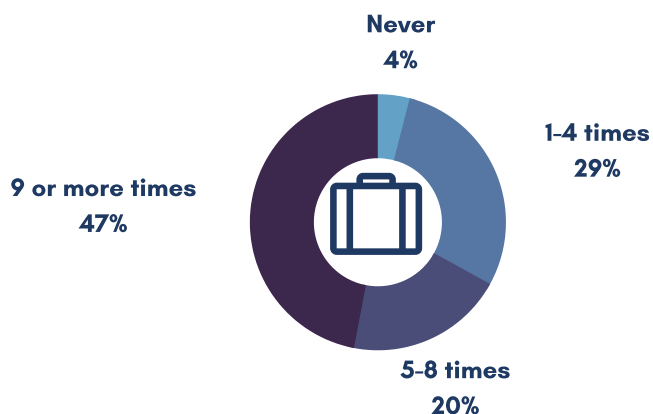


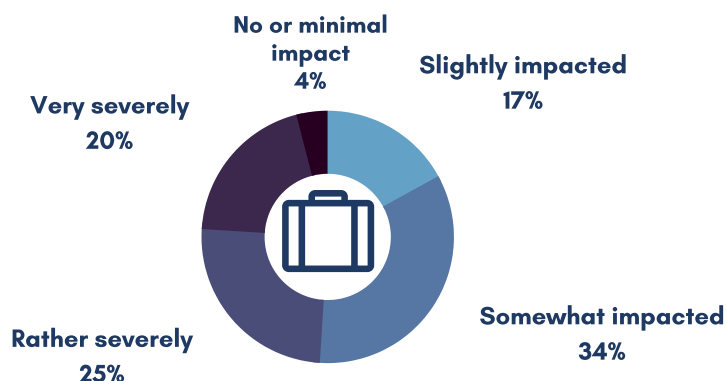
The key findings of the 2021 Survey on Travel and Borders conducted by the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC)'s Taskforce on Reopening Borders for Safe and Seamless Travel are summarised as follows:

1. BUSINESS AND TRAVEL

Respondents are frequent travellers, with almost half travelling 9 times or more and 67% travelling 5 times or more annually for business before the COVID-19 pandemic.



Vast majority of businesses are impacted by travel restrictions, with 45% rather severely or very severely impacted.



Q: How often did you travel for work before the COVID-19 pandemic? Base n = 305

Q: How has travel restrictions impact your business? Base n = 305

Top 3 reasons for business travel



Build relationships with business partners

93%



Secure, negotiate and close business agreements

83%



Attend business conferences or meetings

77%

Travel is key to building business relationships and closing deals.

Other reasons cited:

1. Manage operations or offices based overseas
2. Create demand for goods and services that rely on reopening of borders (ie. tour guides, retail)
3. Resource sharing and information exchange
4. Market research
5. Comply with legal procedures and attend court cases
6. Enable employees and families to re-connect

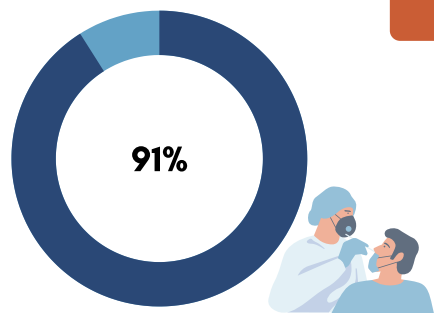


Q: The reopening of borders for business travellers is necessary for my business/company to...

Base n = 305

2. BUSINESS TRAVEL DURING THE PANDEMIC

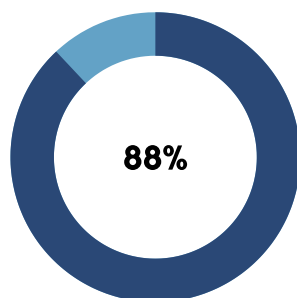
Top 3 concerns of business travellers



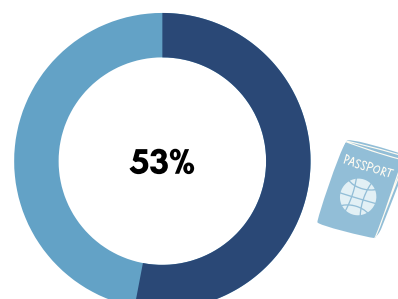
Onerous quarantine and testing requirements

Other reasons cited:

1. Worried that the COVID-19 vaccine taken is not recognised by the destination economy
2. COVID-19 insurance for business travel is unavailable



Being stranded overseas due to changing immigration rules that result in the sudden closure of borders



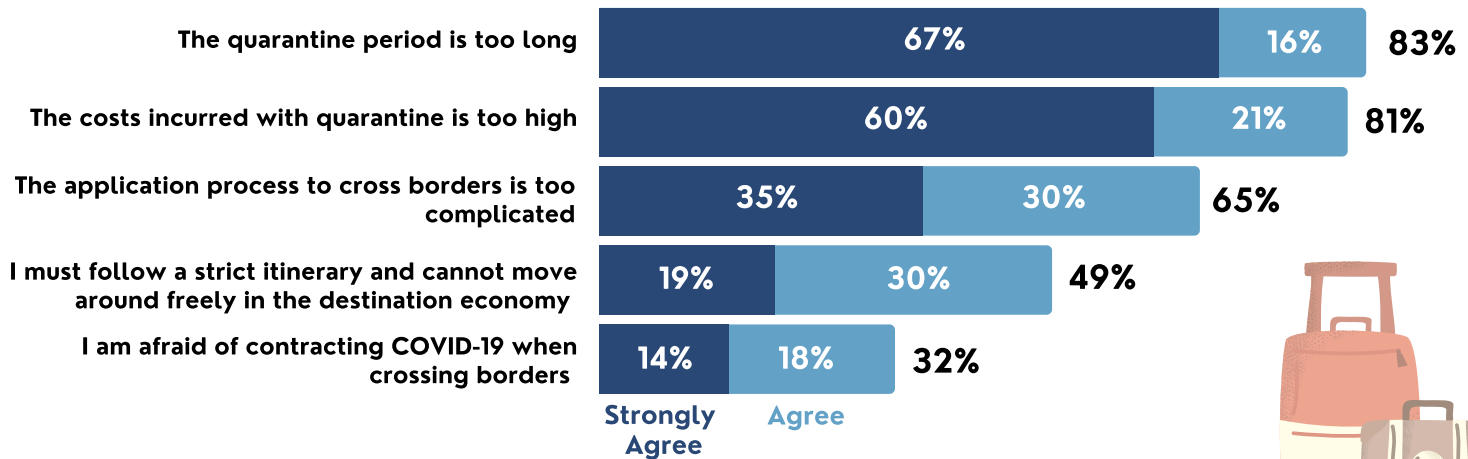
Digital health / vaccine certificate may not be recognised by destination economy



Q: As a business traveller, what are your concerns on international travel during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Base n = 305

Time spent in quarantine and its associated costs are the biggest issues with current travel regimes.



Q: When you think about your recent international travel in the last 12 months (April 2020 - April 2021), which one of these statements apply to you?

Base n = 57

3. TOP 3 MEASURES FOR APEC TO RESTORE SAFE AND SEAMLESS TRAVEL



Common framework for vaccinated travellers to enable less restrictions (e.g. no quarantine)



Harmonised regulatory framework and set of rules for quarantine and testing requirements



Interoperable systems using open, tamper-proof standards to recognise digital health and vaccine certificates



Businesses see regional cooperation and the development of a consistent framework as the most important measures for travel to resume.

Other reasons cited:

1. Mutual recognition of vaccines produced by different manufacturers
2. Regional scheme or lanes for key C-suite or senior executives with no or limited quarantine requirements
3. Agreed list of purposes to be considered as essential business travel
4. Increased transparency, cooperation and coordination between governments in APEC
5. Increase vaccination rates in the region
6. Enhance the use of APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC)
7. Explore the possibility of living with COVID as an endemic

Q: Rank the top 3 measures in order of importance APEC can implement to restore business travel in a safe and seamless manner across all economies.

Base n = 305

4. ABOUT THE SURVEY

305
Responses

21 APEC
Economies

Across
25
Sectors

Based on responses collected from 21 April to 18 June 2021.

Survey conducted by:
ABAC Taskforce on Reopening Borders for Safe and Seamless Travel

For any further clarification,
please contact:
khairunnisa@sbfc.org.sg