

BACKGROUND

The current outbreak of COVID-19 has affected global mobility in the form of various travel disruptions and restrictions. To better understand how COVID-19 affects global mobility, IOM has developed a [global mobility database](#) to map and gather data on the locations, status and different restrictions at Points of Entry (PoEs), globally. In the East and Horn of Africa (EHoA) region, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams in nine of the ten countries covered by IOM Nairobi Regional Office¹ are actively collecting information on various PoEs, internal transit locations, as well as other areas of interest in an effort to better understand the extent of these restrictions, as well as the impact on different types of population groups. This report is developed as a close collaboration between IOM's divisions and units, in particular: DTM, Migration Health Division (MHD), Immigration and Border Management (IBM), and Migrant Protection and Assistance Division (MPA).

Data is collected about the following locations:

- **Airports** (currently or recently functioning airport with a designated International Air Transport Association -IATA- code)
- **Blue Border Crossing Points** (international border crossing point on sea, river or lake)
- **Land Border Crossing Points** (international border crossing point on land)
- **Internal Transit Points** (internal transit point inside a given country, territory or area)
- **Areas of interest** (region, town, city or sub-administrative unit in a given country, territory or area with specific restrictions)
- **Sites with a population of interest** particularly affected by or at risk of COVID-19 (stranded, repatriated and returning migrants, IDPs, nationals, asylum-seekers and regular travellers)

SCOPE AND COVERAGE AT A GLANCE


9

Countries in the East and Horn of Africa


381

PoEs assessed


21

Internal Transit Points in 4 countries


20

Areas of interest


127

Sites with populations of interest

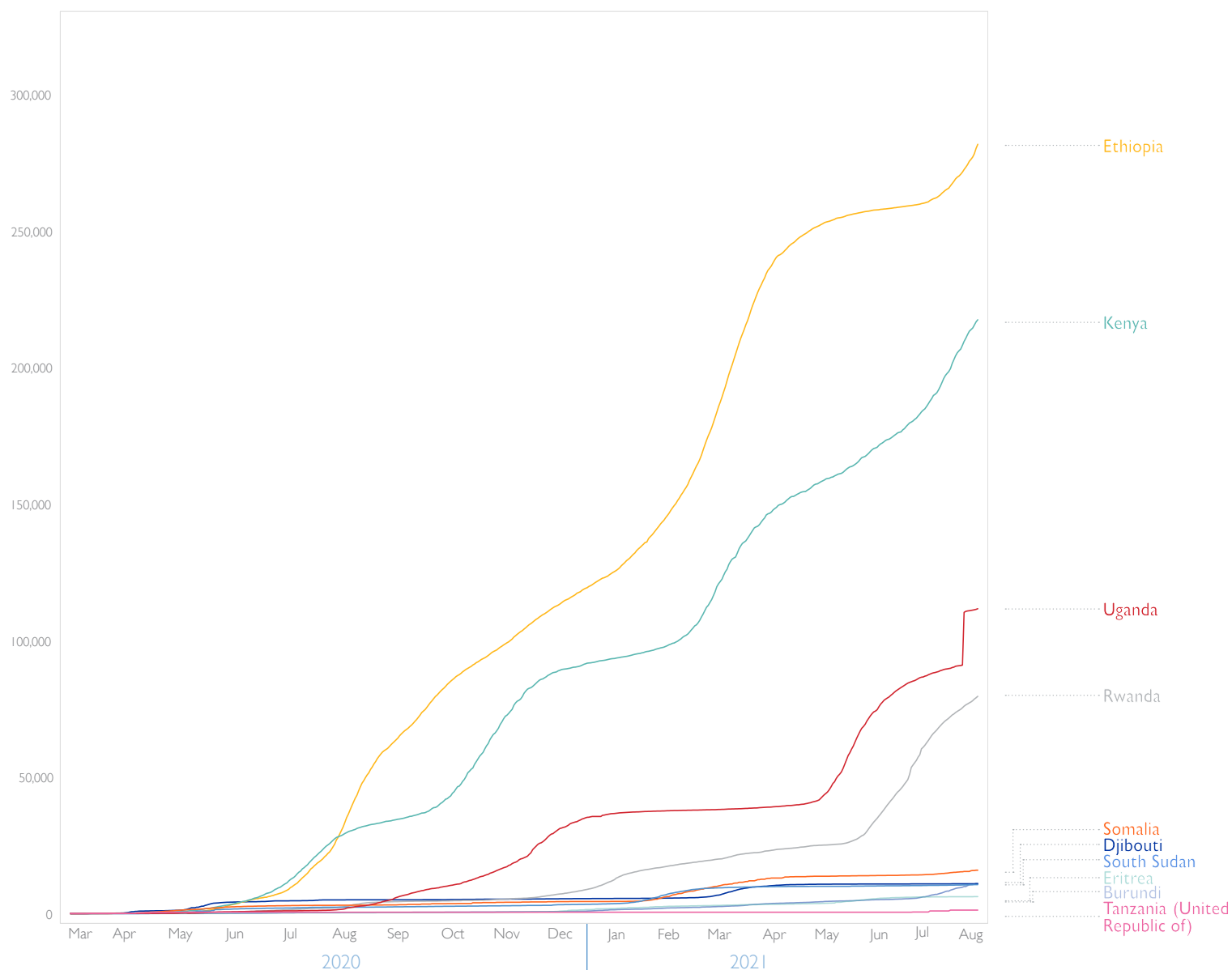
Countries' PoEs	Land Border Points	Blue Border Points	Airports	Total
Burundi	35	9	1	45
Djibouti	4	6	2	12
Ethiopia	31	0	7	38
Kenya	13	6	22	41
Rwanda	10	0	1	11
Somalia	21	8	13	42
South Sudan	36	2	7	45
Uganda	29	7	6	42
United Republic of Tanzania	34	50	21	105
Grand Total	213	88	80	381

CONTACT

COVID-19 SITUATION

Epidemiological Situation ²

Incidence trend of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the East and Horn of Africa as of 26 August 2021



	Burundi	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	Somalia	South Sudan	Uganda	United Republic of Tanzania	Total
Confirmed cases	11,818	11,712	6,636	301,713	232,869	85,201	17,016	11,365	119,544	1,367	799,241
Deaths	10	157	37	4,606	4,635	1,056	938	120	2,985	50	14,594
Recoveries	11,309	11,532	6,587	271,819	216,771	45,298	8,212	10,948	95,462	183	678,121
Active cases	499	23	12	25,288	11,463	38,847	7,866	297	21,097	1,134	106,526

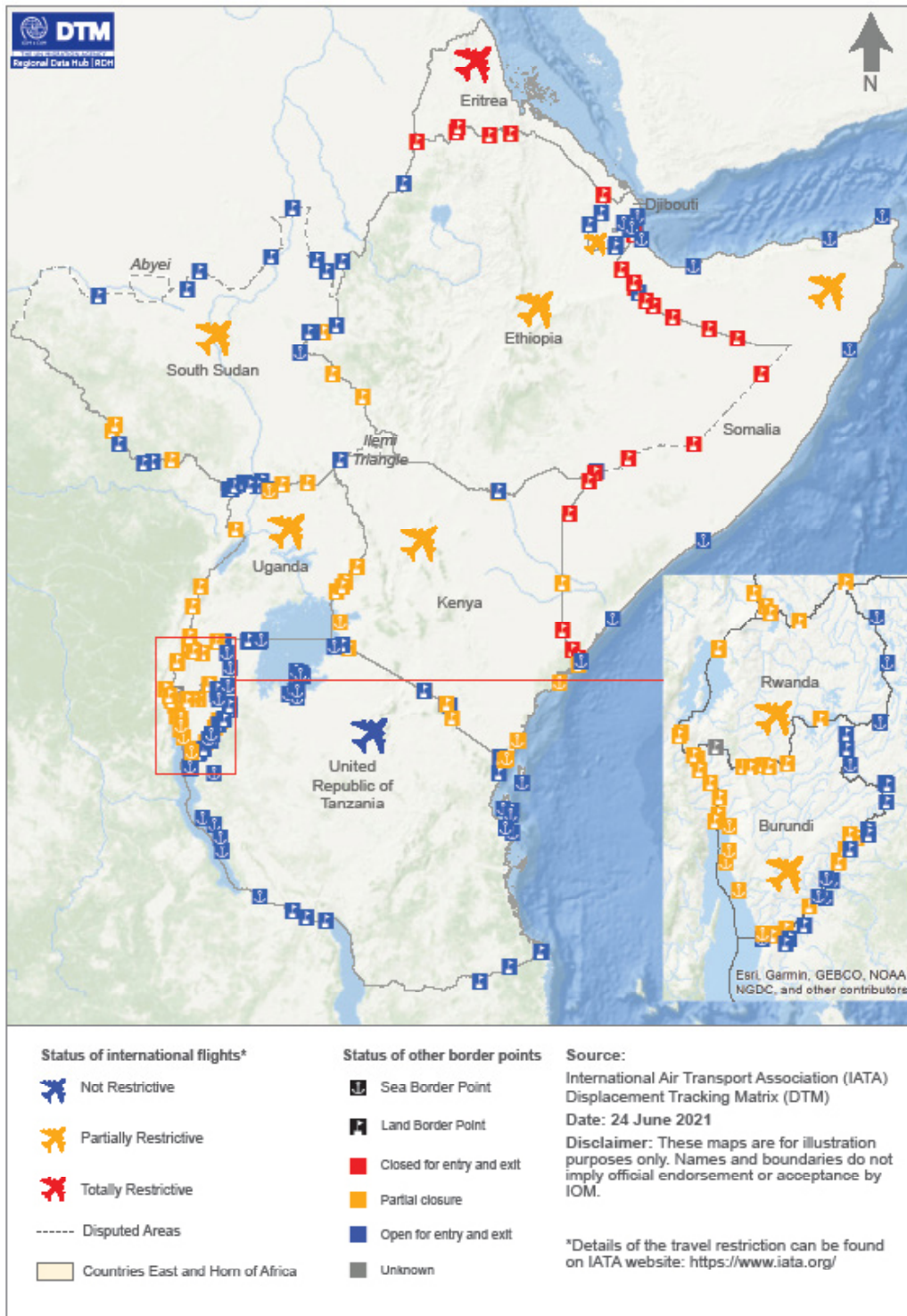
The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the region has continued to increase, almost reaching 800,000 as of 26 August 2021. The EHoA region now represents 14.4% of the total Africa COVID-19 cases. Across the region, the majority of the cases are asymptomatic and through community transmission. As of 26 August 2021, the number of COVID-19 related deaths in the region stood at 14,594. The fatality rate (1.8%) is still below the Africa (2.4%) and global (2.1%) averages, showing contained number of severity case in the region. The number of cumulative recovered cases is 678,121 (84.8% of cases in the region).

²Source: A. A. et al. (2021) COVID-19: World Health Organization (WHO) 2021

Travel Restrictions ³

- In Burundi, for air travel, all incoming and departing air passengers must possess a negative result from a COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours prior to travel. The land border with Rwanda remains closed to passenger traffic, while the land borders with DRC and Tanzania are open to passenger traffic under strict health protocols
- Authorities in Djibouti are maintaining COVID-19-related international travel restrictions as of August 26.
- In Kenya, curfew and other COVID-related restrictions remain in effect, causing unrest amongst the local public. These include suspension of public gathering, all forms of congregational worship, and adherence to health protocols. Stricter curfew protocols for hot spot zones was lifted, and nationwide curfew rules now apply to these areas as well.
- In Uganda, the Nationwide curfew remains in effect, while public transportation services is allowed to operate at 50% capacity. All schools and institutions will remain closed until 50% children are vaccinated, while restaurants, places of worship and other indoor public venues remain closed.

Status of PoEs in the East and Horn of Africa region as of 24 June 2021



³ <https://www.iata.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases/2021/06-24-2021>

LEVEL OF RESTRICTIONS

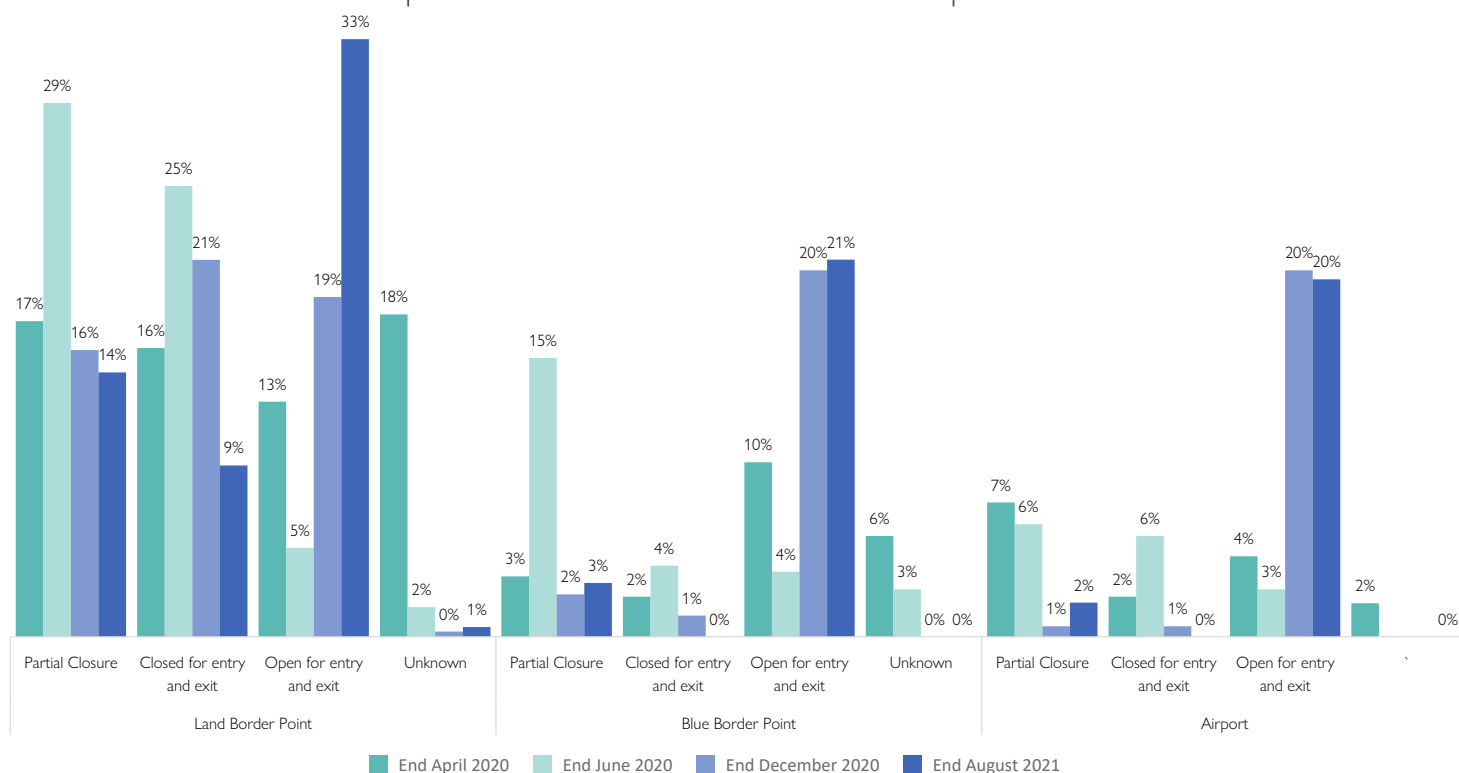
Although a majority of PoEs had some level of restrictions imposed on them, there was a higher proportion of open PoEs compared to previous months due to the ease of COVID-19-related restrictions in the region. A total of 72 PoEs (19%) were partially closed (decrease from 30%), while 272 (71%) were open for travel in both directions, which is an increase from 222 (58%) in June. A further 35 PoEs (9%) were closed for both entries and exits, and two (2) had unknown operational status.

Location Type	Partial Closure	Closed for entry and exit	Open for entry and exit	Unknown	Total
Land Border Point	54	35	122	2	213
Blue Border Port	11	0	77	0	88
Airport	7	0	73	0	80
Total	72	35	272	2	381

Situation Overview

- Most countries had a combination of all types of restrictions, though quite a few PoEs have reduced restrictions on movements since the June report; a net of 50 PoEs went from being fully partially open or closed to being fully open, while fully closed POEs reduced by seven. The status of airports has remained largely unchanged and fairly open with movements in both directions ongoing as 91% of all assessed airports are remain open (unchanged compared to June). Less than half land border points still have some sort of restrictions, with 57% open for movement in both directions (up from 38% in June) while 16% are completely closed, though blue border ports have opened up significantly compared to June, with no POEs fully closed, and 88% fully operational compared to 86% in June.
- Uganda points opened up significantly, with partially closed points reducing from 93% to 12%, and 83% fully operational, while Rwanda now has the highest proportion of partially closed points (91% and unchanged since June) and Ethiopia still has the largest proportion of completely closed points (53%) due to the continued surge in COVID-19 cases. At the same time, all points in Djibouti were completely open, similar to South Sudan, the latter being an increase from 78% in June. Additionally, all points in the United Republic of Tanzania were also operational, though Kenya remains at 54% and no points in Burundi are closed, though only 40% are fully operational.

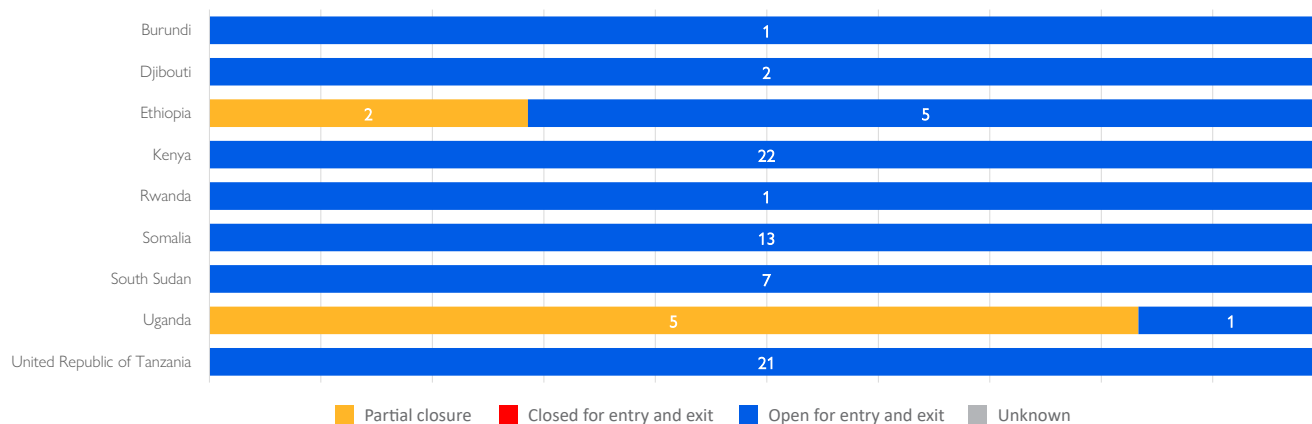
Operational status of assessed PoEs since April 2020



Overview of Airports

- **Operational status:** Restrictions at the airports have remained unchanged with two (2) in Ethiopia and five (5) in Uganda reported to be partially closed (open for commercial traffic and returning nationals, respectively) and no airports being fully. A total of 73 out of 80 airports (91%) are open for travel in both directions, as the next chart shows.

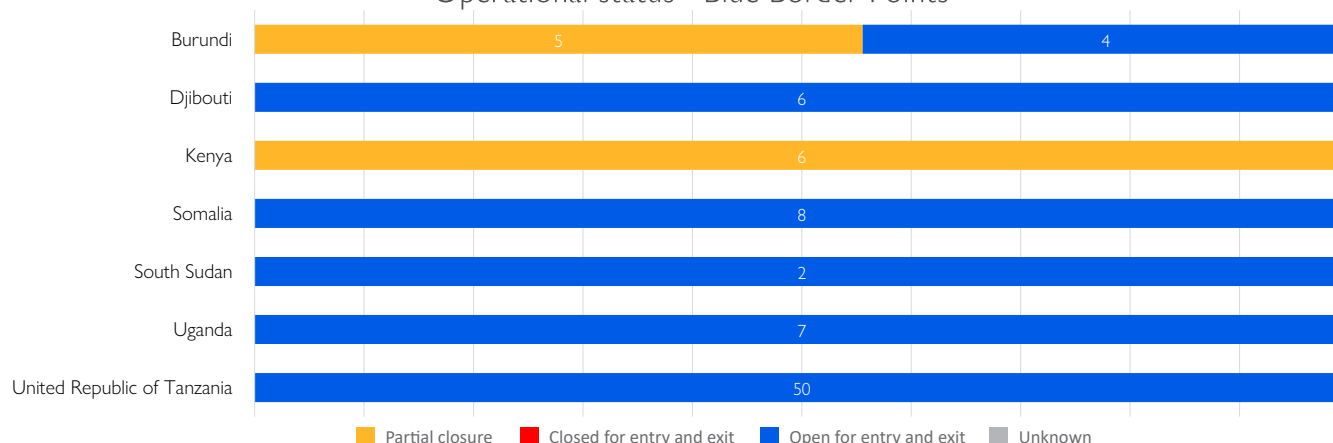
Operational status - Airports



Overview of Blue Border Points

• **Operational status:** Similar to airports, most Blue Border Points (sea, lake and river) had some level of restriction imposed on them, but 77 out of the 88 had none (88%), and were reported to be open for both entry and exit travel (an increase from 78%). As the chart below shows, 11 out of 88 were partially closed (13%), which is lower than the 19% reported in June

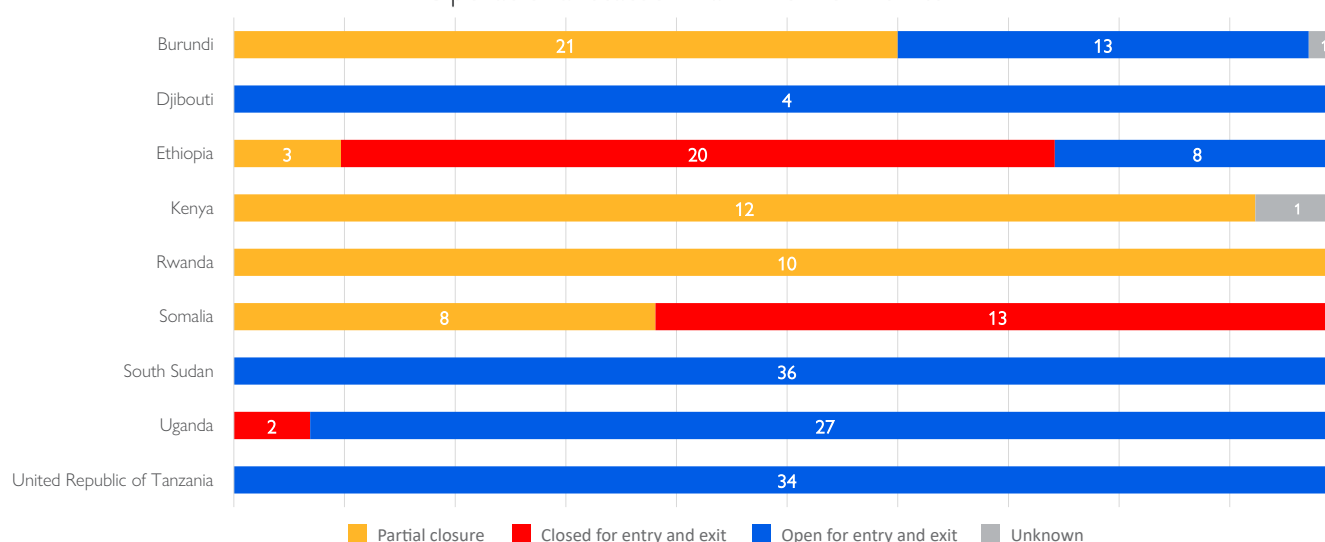
Operational status - Blue Border Points



Overview of Land Border Points

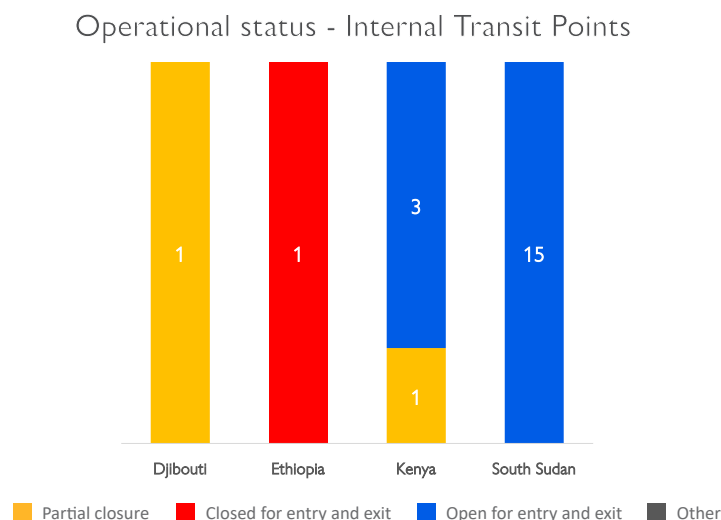
• **Operational status:** As the following chart shows, Land Border Points make up the overwhelming majority of all the PoEs assessed. Of the 213 points, around a quarter were partially closed (54), while only 16% closed for both entry and exit (35), and over half (122) were open for both (up from 80 ports). Two (2) ports had unknown operational status.

Operational status - Land Border Points



Overview of Internal Transit Points

• **Operational status:** Apart from international borders, DTM teams also assessed 21 internal transit points, including major bus stations close to international borders, in four (4) countries. As the chart below shows, most locations were open for both entry and exit (18), while two (2) were partially closed, and only one (1) was closed in both directions (in Ethiopia).

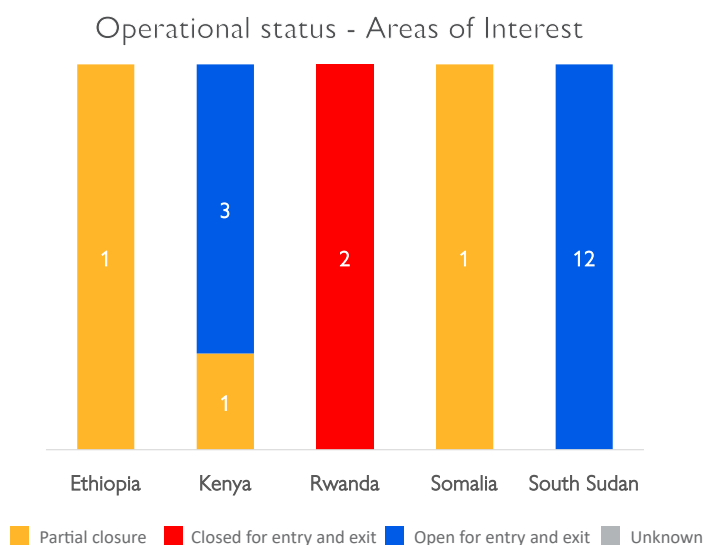


• **Type of restrictions:** The partially closed sites were open only for returning nationals, while the rest were either completely closed (1) or completely open (18). Regular movement was impacted in three (3) locations, while nationals of the country were impacted by these restrictions in five (5) sites. IDPs were impacted in three (3) sites, while migrants were impacted in 14 sites. Returnees were impacted in four (4) sites, while refugees were impacted in three (3) and irregular movements were impacted in four (4) sites.

• **Public health measures:** There were also certain public health measures in place at these transit locations, and the Ministry of Health was represented and travellers were screened at 19 sites, respectively, while trained staff was present at 18 sites. Referral systems were in place and personal protective equipment (PPE) was available at 8 sites, respectively. Equipped handwashing stations were present in 6 sites. Standard operating procedures (SOPs) were implemented in four (4) locations, and temperature checks were included in traveller screenings in four (4) sites.

Overview of Areas and Sites of Interest

• **Operational status:** Areas and sites of interest may include regions, towns, cities, or sub-administrative units in a given country, territory or area to which special restrictions apply. DTM assessed 20 such locations in five (5) countries, and most were open for entry and exit (15) while only three (3) were partially closed, and two (2) were closed for both entry and exit.



• **Stranded migrants:** Similarly, 127 sites with a population of interest (stranded, repatriated and returning migrants, IDPs, nationals, asylum-seekers and regular travellers) were also assessed in eight (8) countries, with most locations being in Djibouti (42), followed by Burundi (37), Ethiopia (19), and South Sudan (18). These sites had the presence of IDPs, as well as migrants from different countries stranded due to border closures. The chart below shows the various 3,775 persons of various nationalities stranded in the eight (8) countries.

