

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


393

PoEs assessed


21

Internal Transit Points in 4 countries


20

Areas of interest


127

Sites with populations of interest

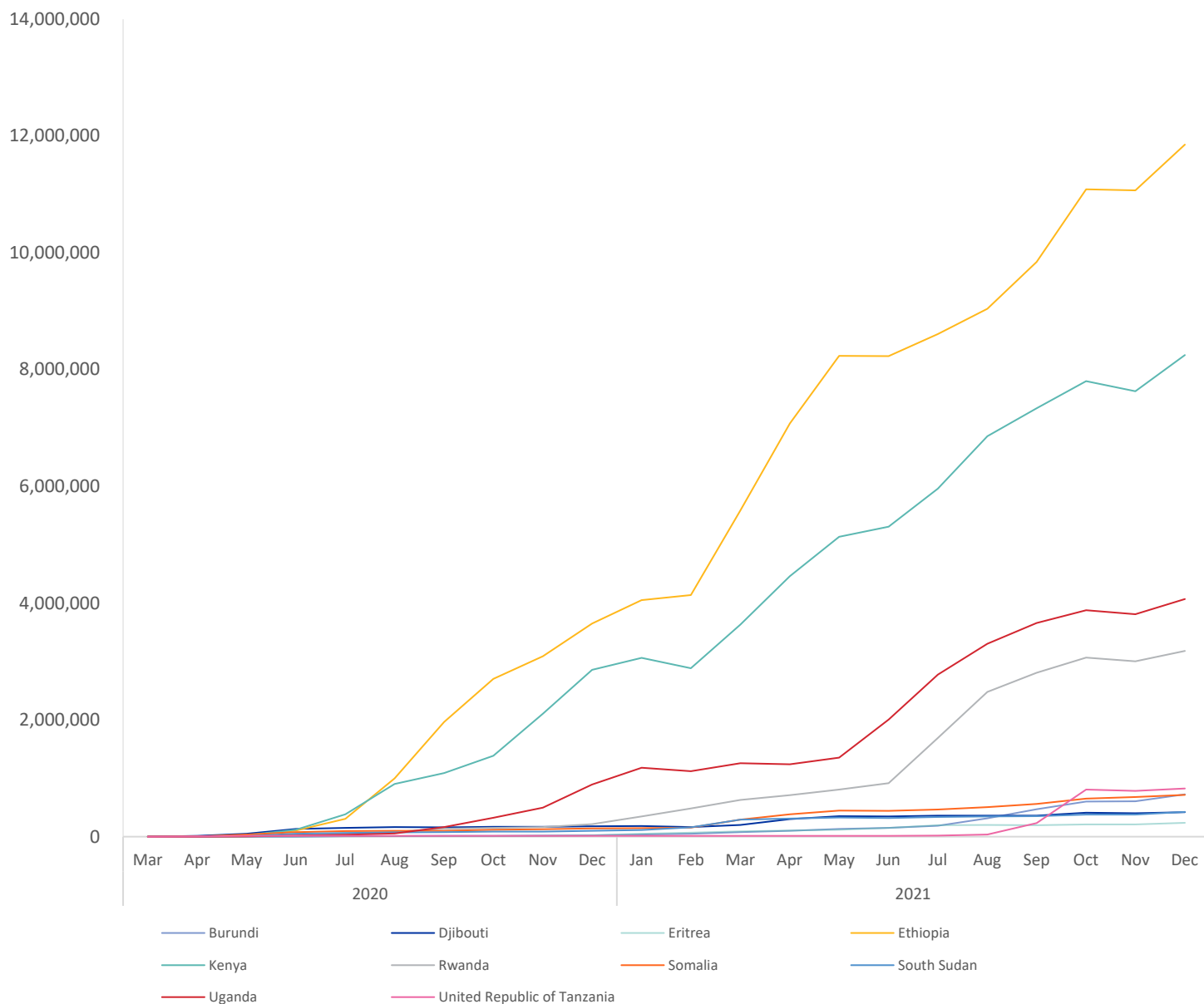
Countries' PoEs	Land Border Points	Blue Border Points	Airports	Total
Burundi	35	9	1	45
Djibouti	4	6	3	13
Ethiopia	31	0	18	49
Kenya	13	6	22	41
Rwanda	10	0	1	11
Somalia	21	8	13	42
South Sudan	36	2	7	45
Uganda	29	7	6	42
United Republic of Tanzania	34	50	21	105
Grand Total	213	88	92	393

CONTACT

COVID-19 SITUATION

Epidemiological Situation ²

Incidence trend of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the East and Horn of Africa as of 31 December 2021



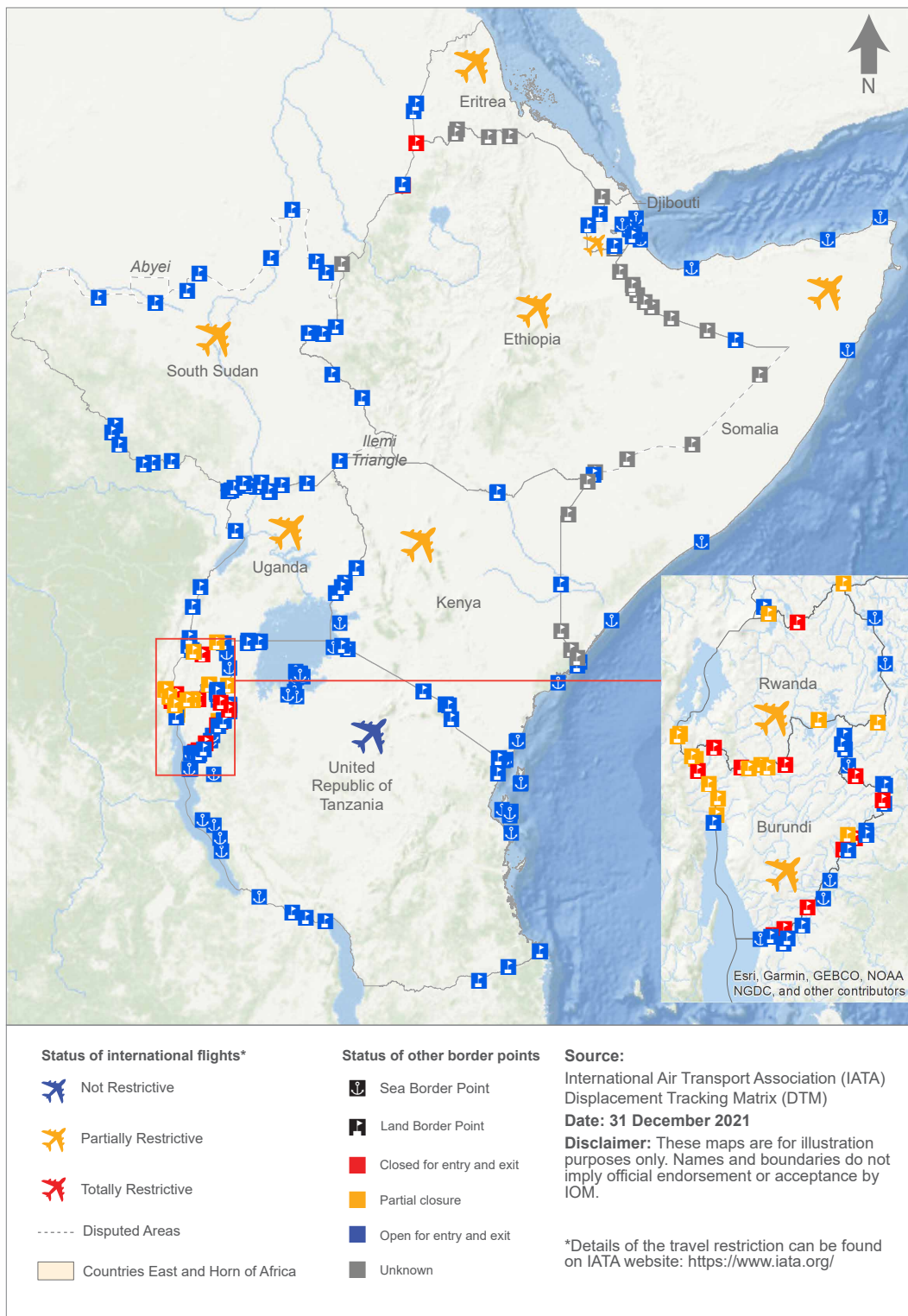
	Burundi	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	Somalia	South Sudan	Uganda	United Republic of Tanzania	Total
Confirmed Cases	31,615	13,656	8,011	4,203,422	2,950,282	1,118,262	23,532	15,626	1,445,402	29,306	1,093,482
Deaths	14	189	76	6,937	5,378	1,350	1,333	136	3,302	737	19,452

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the region has continued to increase, almost reaching 1.1 million as of 31 December 2021. The EHoA region now represents 15.1% of the total Africa COVID-19 cases. As of 31 December 2021, the number of COVID-19 related deaths in the region stood at 19,452. The fatality rate (1.8%) is still below the Africa (2.2%) and global (1.9%) averages, showing contained number of severity cases in the region.

² <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

Travel Restrictions

Status of PoEs in the East and Horn of Africa region as of 31 December 2021



LEVEL OF RESTRICTIONS

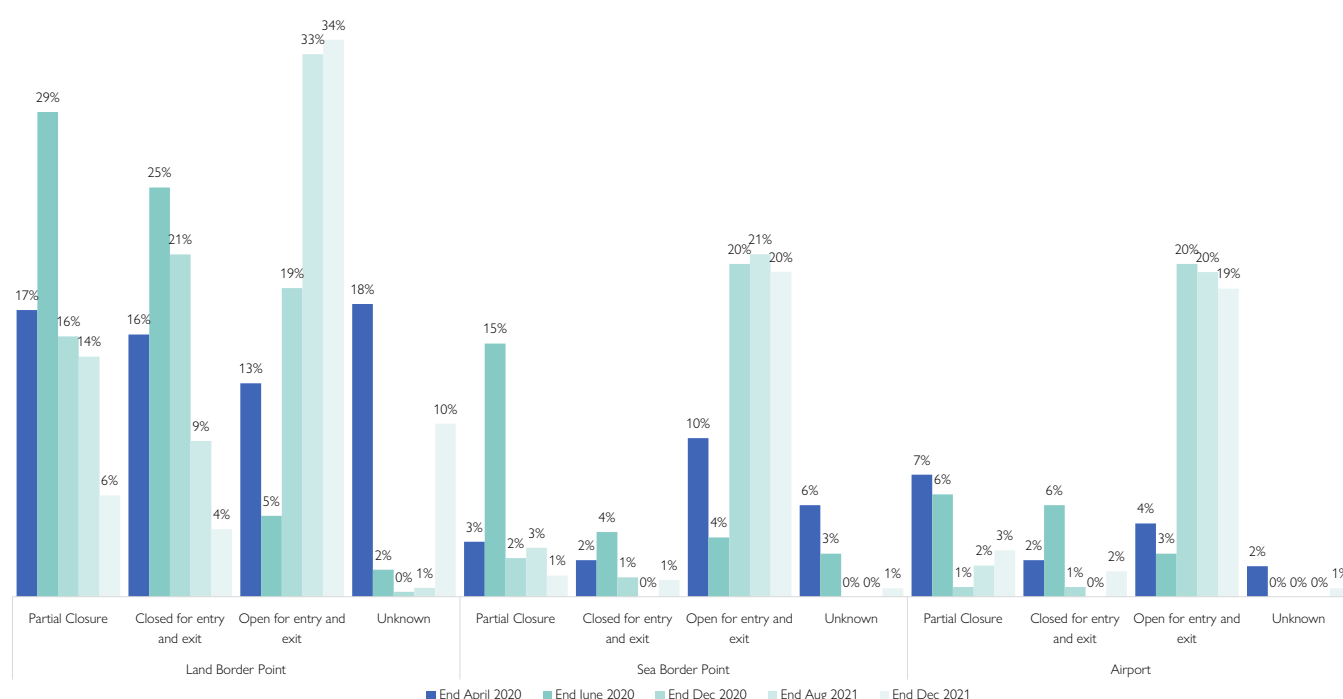
Although a majority of PoEs had some level of restrictions imposed on them, there was a higher proportion of open PoEs compared to 2020 due to the ease of COVID-19 related restrictions in the region. A total of 40 PoEs (10%) were partially operational (decrease from 19%), while 284 (72%) were open for travel in both directions, similar to the 272 (71%) PoEs open in August. A further 24 PoEs (6%) were closed for both entries and exits, and 45 (11%) had unknown operation status.

Location Type	Partially Operational	Fully Closed	Fully Operational	Unknown	Total
Land Border Point	24	16	132	41	213
Blue Border Point	5	2	79	2	88
Airport	11	6	73	2	92
Total	40	24	284	45	393

Situation Overview

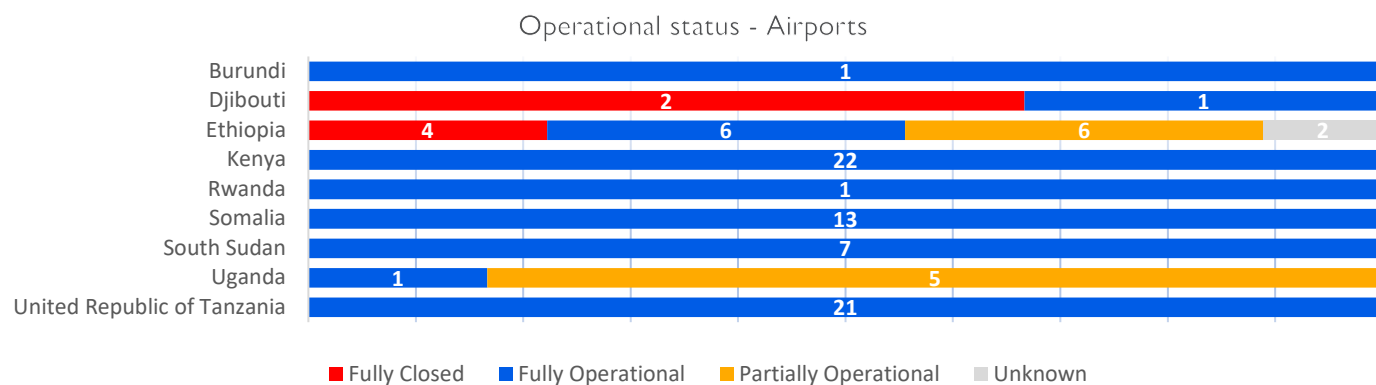
- Most countries had a combination of all types of restrictions, though quite a few PoEs have reduced their restrictions on movements since 26 August 2021; a net of 43 PoEs went from being partially open or closed to being fully open or unknown status, while fully closed PoEs reduced by 11. The status of airports has remained largely unchanged and fairly open with movements in both directions ongoing as 79% of all assessed airports remain open, while an additional 12% are partially operational and the status of two airports remain unknown. Less than half of land border points still have some sort of restrictions, with 65% open for movement in both directions (up from 57% in August). Only 8% of land border points are completely closed (down from 16% in August). Unlike August when no blue border ports were fully closed and 13% were partially operational, as of 31 December 2021, 2% of blue border ports are fully closed, 6% are partially operational and 2% remain unknown.
- Somalia points opened up significantly, with no points fully closed or partially operational; 62% of points were fully operational while 38% of points remain unknown. Burundi went from having no fully closed points to 31% completely closed points, and Djibouti went from having all its points open in August to having 15% of its points completely closed. On the other hand, Ethiopia reduced its fully closed points, as now only 12% of points are fully closed compared to 53% in August. Rwanda continued to have the highest proportion of partially open points (82%, decrease from 91% in August), and went from having no points that were fully closed to 9% fully closed points. All points in Kenya are fully operational, and almost all points (95.6%) in South Sudan remain fully operational, while 4% have unknown status. Uganda points stayed consistent, with 86% fully operational compared to 83% in August. No changes were made by United Republic of Tanzania; all points remain fully open.

Operational status of assessed PoEs since April 2020



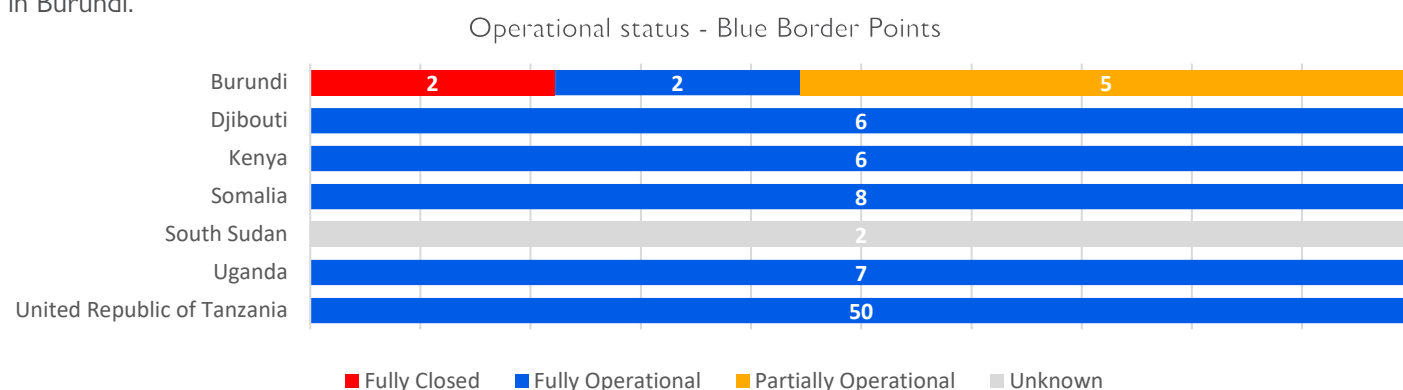
Overview of Airports

• **Operational status:** Restrictions at the airports have changed slightly with six (6) airports in Ethiopia reported to be fully operational, six (6) partially operational and two (2) unknown. Six (6) airports are now fully closed: two (2) in Djibouti and four (4) in Ethiopia. Eleven (11) airports are partially operational, with ten (10) open for commercial traffic only and one (1) open only to returning nationals and residents. A total of 73 out of 92 airports (79%) are fully operational, as the next chart shows.



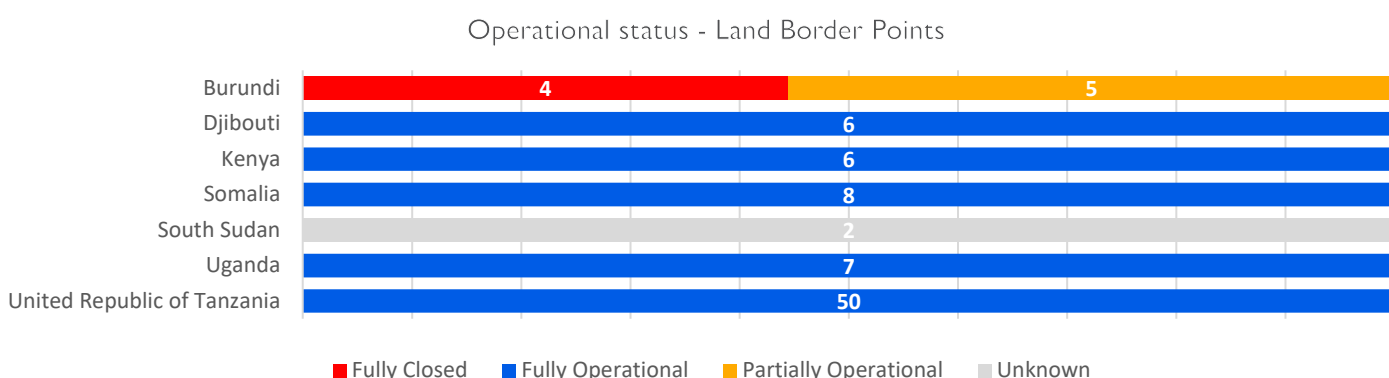
Overview of Blue Border Points

• **Operational status:** Similar to airports, most Blue Border Points (sea, lake and river) are open for entry and exit, with 79 out of the 88 (90%) fully operational (2% increase from August). As the chart below shows, 5 out of 88 were partially operational (6%), which is lower than the 13% reported in August. All five (5) partially operational points were in Burundi.



Overview of Land Border Points

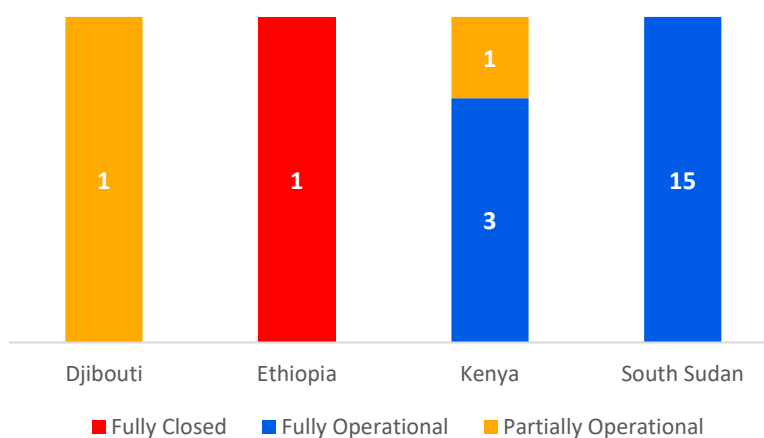
• **Operational status:** As the following chart shows, Land Border Points make up the overwhelming majority of all the PoEs assessed. Of the 213 points, only 11% (24) were partially operational and 8% (16) were fully closed, while 62% (132) were fully open (up from 122 ports). Forty-one (41) ports had unknown operational status. The 24 that were partially operational were open only for commercial traffic (13) and returning nationals and residents (11).



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 fully operational (18), while two (2) were partially operational, and only one (1) fully closed (in Ethiopia). The two (2) that were partially operational were open only to returning nationals and residents.

Operational status - Internal Transit Points



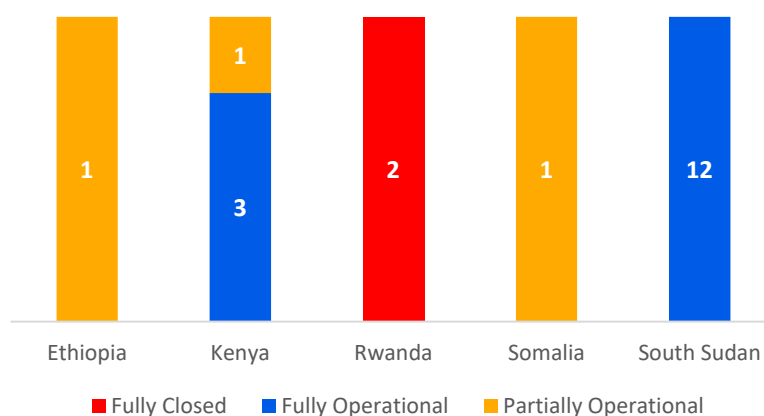
• **Type of restrictions:** The partially closed sites were open only for returning nationals, while the rest were either completely closed (1) or completely open (18). Regular movement was impacted in three (3) locations, while nationals of the country were impacted by these restrictions in five (5) sites. IDPs were impacted in four (4) sites, while migrants were impacted in three (3) sites. Returnees were impacted in four (4) sites, while refugees were impacted in three (3) sites and irregular movements were impacted in three (3) 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 15 sites. Referral systems were in place and personal protective equipment (PPE) was available at 12 and nine (9) sites, respectively. Equipped handwashing stations were present in 13 sites. Standard operating procedures (SOPs) were implemented in 19 locations, and temperature checks were included in traveller screenings in nine (9) 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 open, and two (2) were closed for both entry and exit.

Operational status - Areas of Interest



• **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 1,778 persons of various nationalities stranded in the eight (8) countries.

Stranded migrants - Sites with Populations of Interest

