

Connectivity and Tourism Recovery from Covid-19

*Issues and Challenges for Re-establishing
International Mobility for the Asia-Pacific*

FPTPEC, CETOP, and the Paris Peace Forum

May 31 - June 1, 2021

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***The views expressed here are his own and do not necessarily
reflect those of the PECC nor its members.***

The Covid Situation

- Close to 170 million confirmed cases
- 3.5 million reported deaths
- 1.5 billion vaccine doses administered
- Economic cost of between \$8.1 and \$15.8 trillion globally
- Equivalent to 130 million full time jobs lost globally
 - High risks of uneven recovery
 - Tourism sector critical
 - MSMEs
 - Women
 - Self-employed

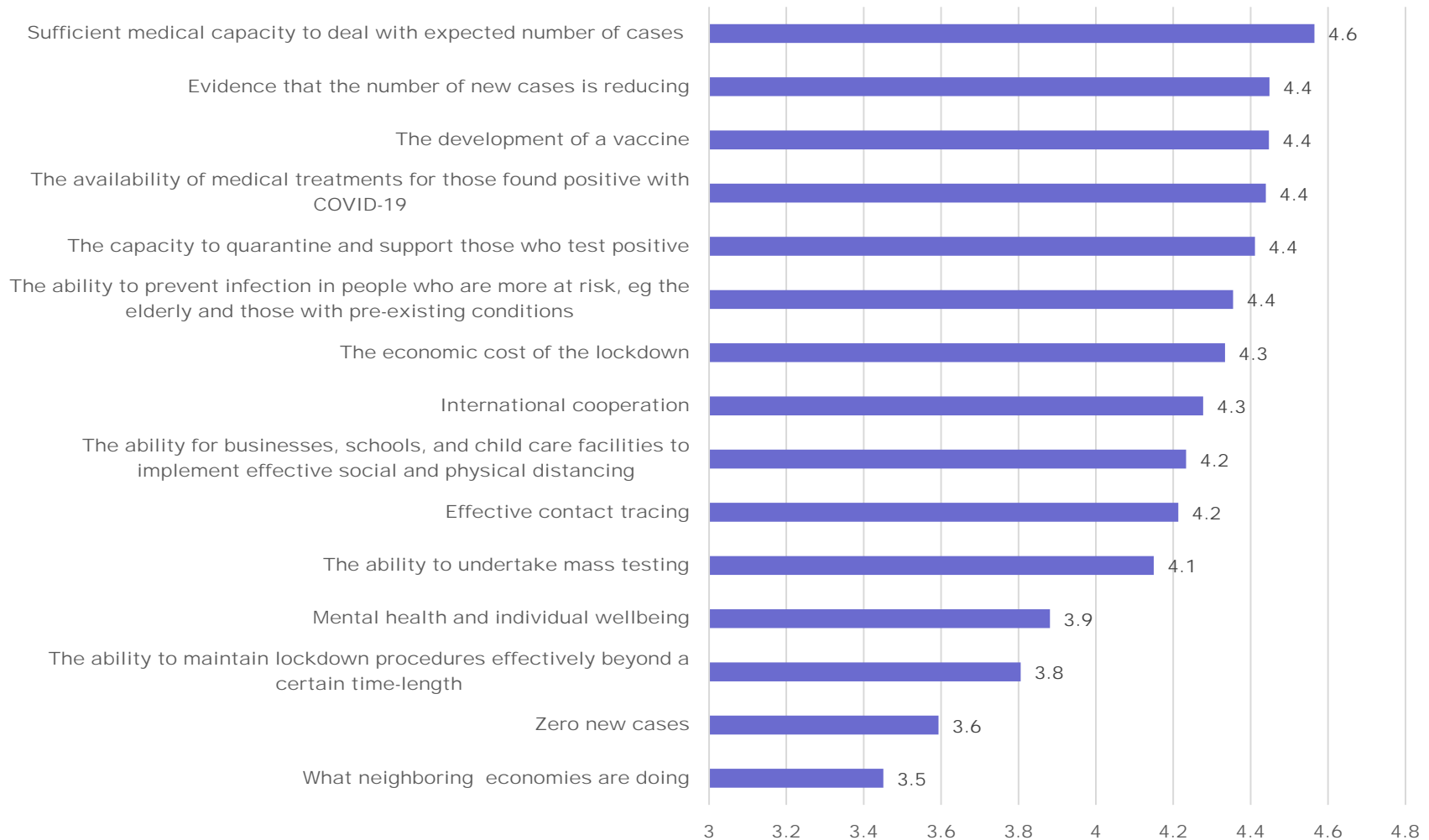
APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015-2025

- First formally adopted by APEC Leaders in Bali in 2013, 3 pillars
 - Physical Connectivity
 - Institutional Connectivity
 - People-to-People Connectivity
- People-to-People Connectivity, we will strive to facilitate the movement of people across borders, and to facilitate the exchange of innovative ideas
 - We will make efforts to achieve 800 million APEC tourist arrivals by 2025

Mid-Term-Review Assessment

- *Considerable increases are still needed to raise the number of tourist arrivals from 435 million in 2017 to the target of 800 million by 2025*

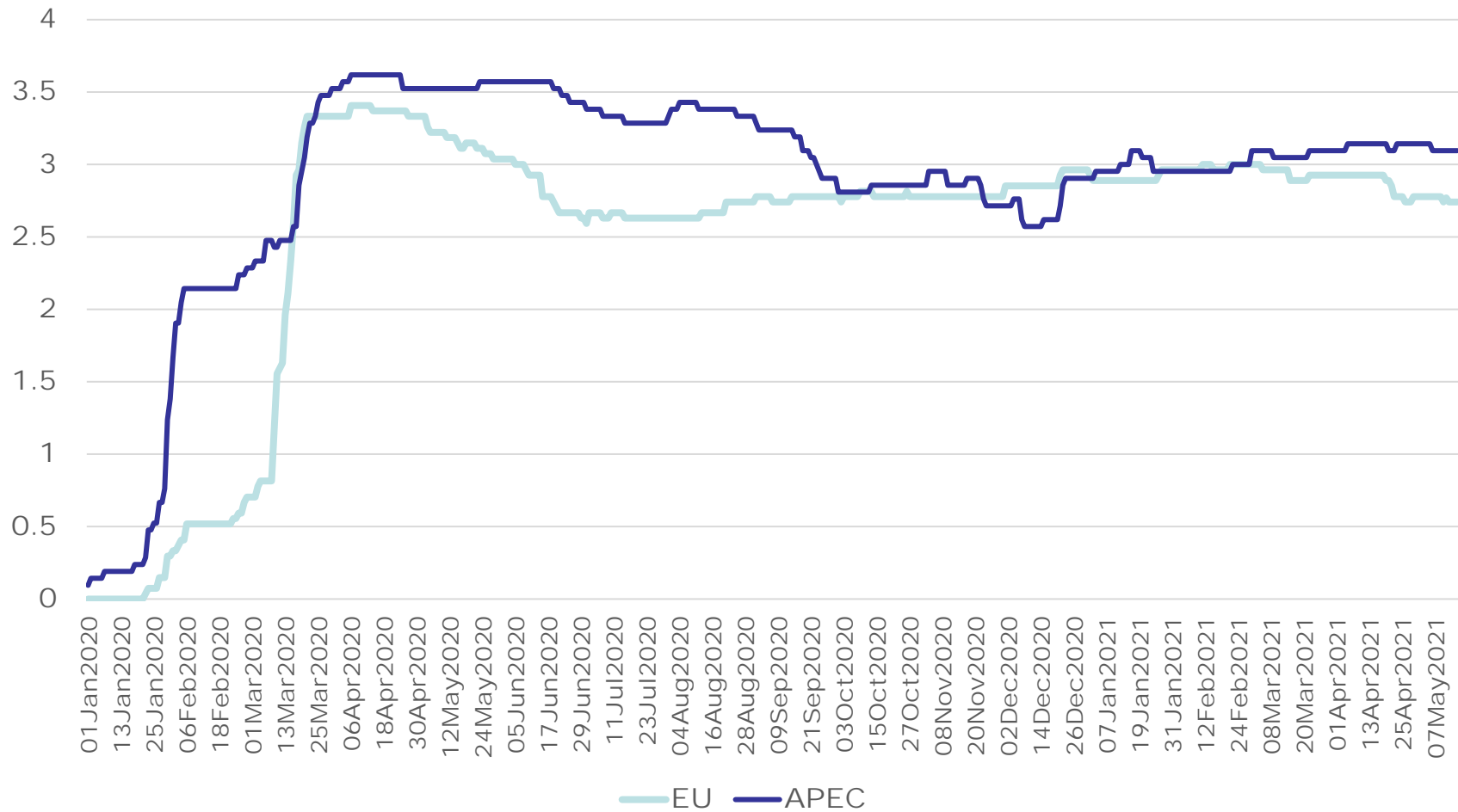
What's important for ending the 'lockdowns'?



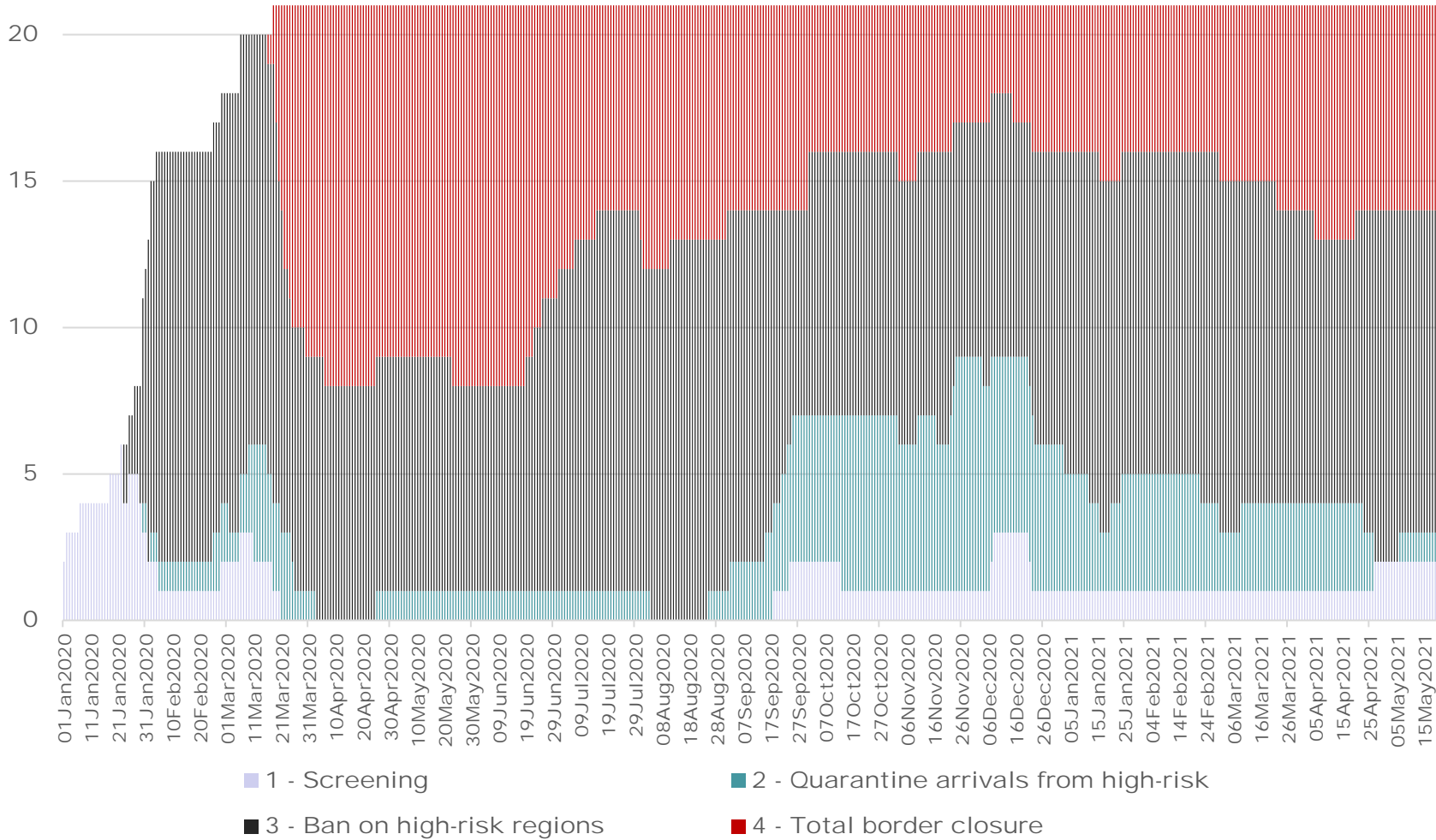
Source: PECC State of the Region Survey on Impact of Covid-19

Question: How important do you think each of the following should be to the consideration in your economy of exiting from lockdown? Please use a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being 'not at all important' to 5 'very important'.

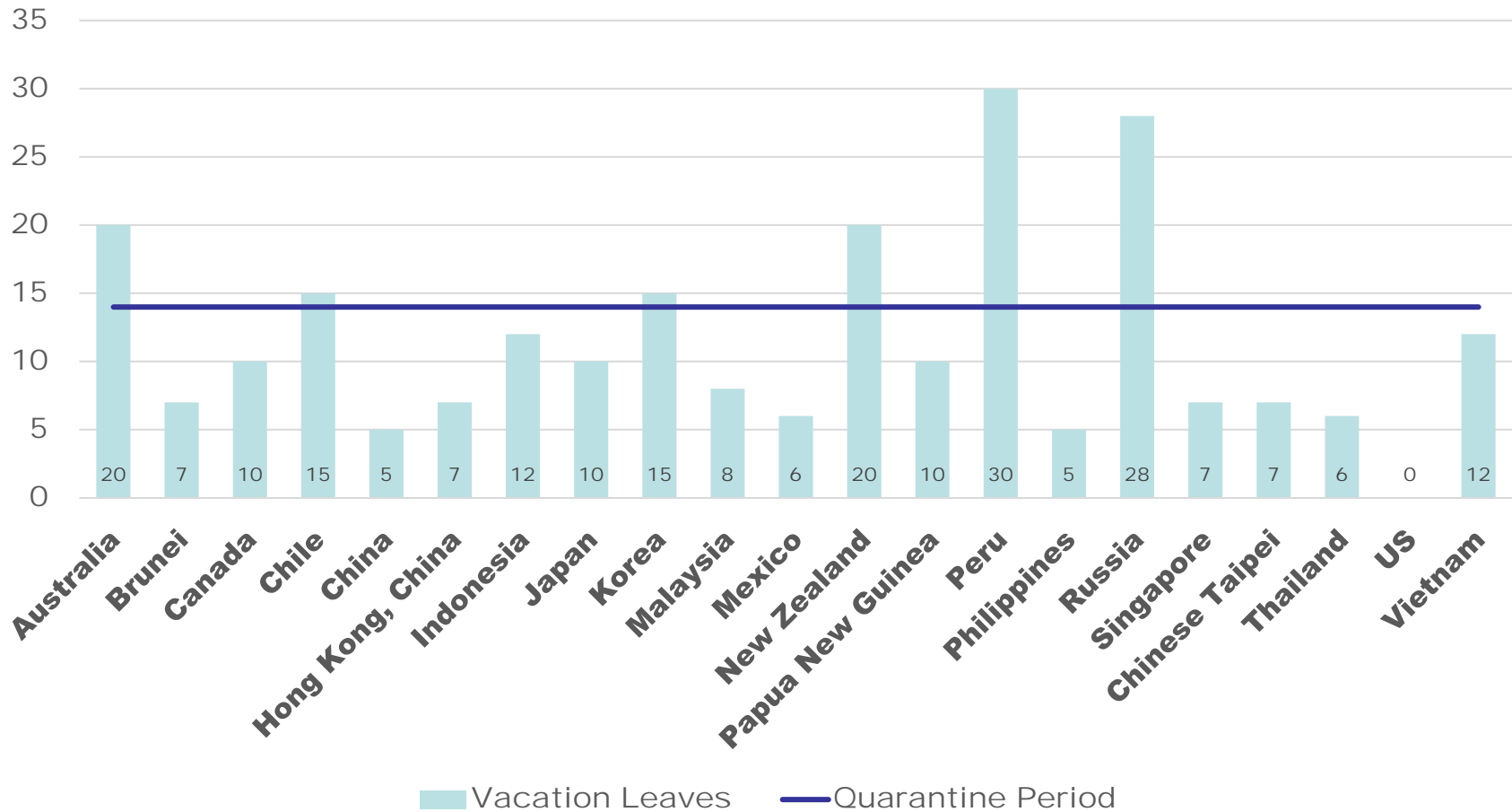
Evolution of Travel Restrictions: APEC vs EU



APEC Members Travel Evolution



Taking an International Holiday with Quarantine...





Initiatives to Facilitate Mobility

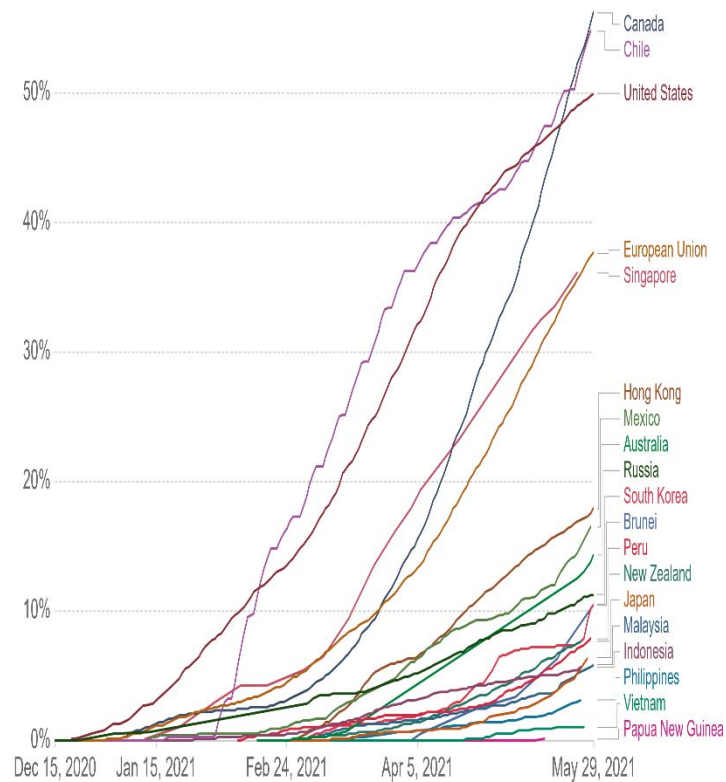
- Trans-Tasman Travel Bubble (Australia-New Zealand)
- Singapore-Hong Kong, China Travel Bubble
- Reciprocal Green Lanes & Travel Corridor Concepts to facilitate movement for 'essential workers'
- ASEAN travel corridor arrangement framework
 - EU Digital Green Certificate
- ICC AOK
- WEF Common Pass
- IATA Travel Pass



Getting Everyone Vaccinated and Regulatory Approvals

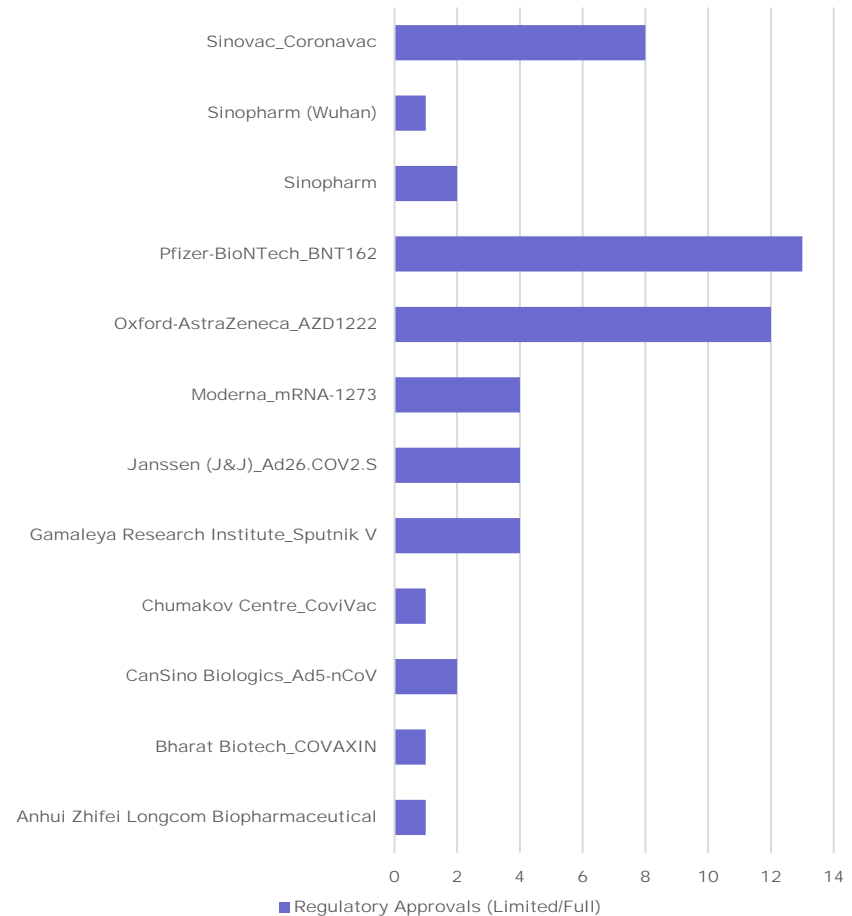
Share of people who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Share of the total population that received at least one vaccine dose. This may not equal the share that are fully vaccinated if the vaccine requires two doses.



Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data

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Source: <https://launchandscalefaster.org/covid-19/vaccineprocurement>

- Ending the pandemic **everywhere** critical to the economy – especially the tourism sector
- Travel bubbles and corridors have proven difficult to implement
 - Still value in policy coordination and sharing of best practices
- Urgent need for cooperation to ensure coordinated approach to re-opening
 - Mutual recognition of testing results
 - Mutual recognition of vaccines
- Need for interoperable systems
 - APEC must engage observers: PIF, ASEAN, as well as operationalize ‘open regionalism’ concept on this issue