

# COVID-19 Tourism Impact Update



## Falkland Islands Tourism Sector Information and Guidance Concerning the Impact of COVID-19

*No. 19*  
*May 7<sup>th</sup> 2021*

## INTRODUCTION

For this issue of *COVID-19 Update* we've decided to focus on the current situation in each of our five key source markets for leisure tourism in the Falklands: UK, USA, France, Germany and Australia.

The status of COVID-19 in each country, the roll-out of their vaccination programmes, and the freedom to travel based on the guidelines of their governments are all important factors that will determine how and when their populations will be able to get on board an airplane once again.

Whilst these factors are all changing daily, especially travel guidelines, it provides a snapshot of where each country is at the moment. Clearly, without the freedom to travel international tourism in the Falklands will not be able to resume as it was pre-2020.

We are now moving to a two-month cycle for this publication and intend to keep it going until the Islands open-up once again for tourism. We hope that it provides useful information and background to the unfolding situation which has impacted tourism so severely right across the globe.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact the Falkland Islands Tourist Board for more details or any further assistance.



**Stephanie Middleton**

**Executive Director**

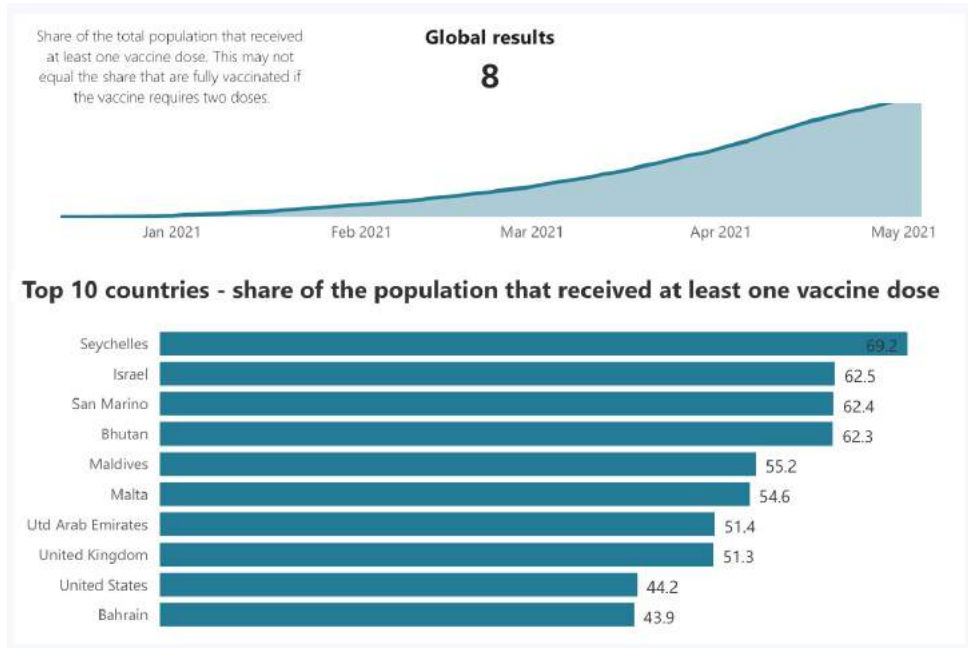
*7<sup>th</sup> May 2021*

*Next Update: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021*

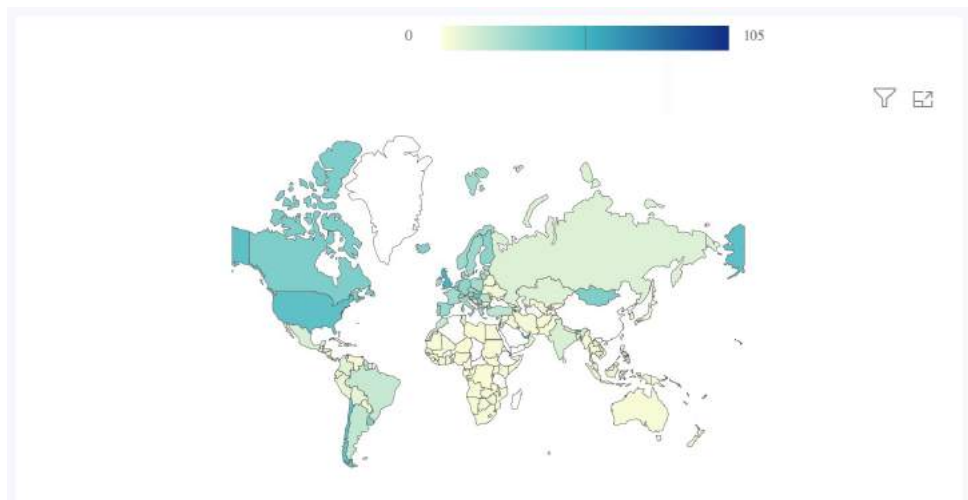
## SPOTLIGHT ON THE FALKLANDS' KEY MARKETS

### Vaccination Rate

This shows the percentage of the population that has had at least one dose of the vaccine. Globally this stands at 8%. Of the top 10 countries worldwide, the Falklands' two main markets: UK and USA are in 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> place.

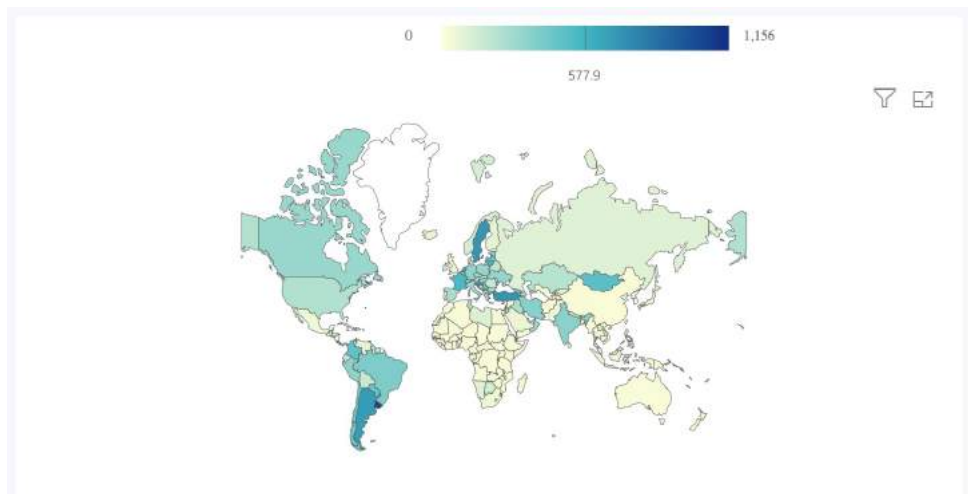


This shows the vaccination rate on a map of the world, with the darker the colour, the higher the number of vaccines administered. The chart shows number of vaccines per 100 people in the population.



### Infection Rate

This shows the number of COVID-19 infections per 100,000 of the population. The darker the colour, the higher the infection rate.



## United Kingdom

Outbound travel from the UK looks optimistic. The vaccination rate is one of the best in the world with well over half of the population having had at least one jab. Infections are also at a very low rate, with just 47 infections per 100,000 people over a 14 day period. Outbound travel to destinations with low levels of infections (such as the Falklands, Gibraltar, Israel) without having to quarantine on return is expected to be announced on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

### PEOPLE VACCINATED PER 100

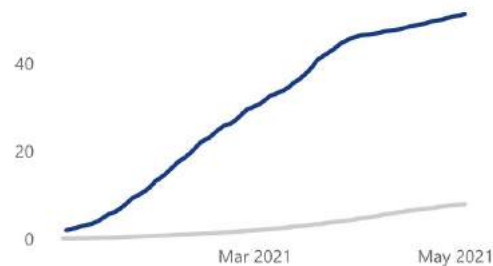
51.3

Latest data available

4. May. 2021

#### People vaccinated per 100 population

● Selected country ● World average



Source: Our World in Data

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.

### 14-DAY NOTIFICATION RATE

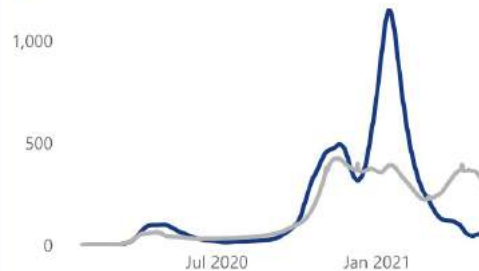
47

Latest data available

5. May. 2021

#### 14 day notification per 100,000 population

● Selected country ● Region average



Source: Calculated based on Our World in Data

## United States

With over 44% of the population having had at least one jab, the USA is doing well with the vaccination programme. However, infection rates are still relatively high (225 per 100,000 over a 14 day period). Outbound travel is still not straightforward for American nationals - most countries they would need to transit en-route to the Falklands are currently off-limits for travel.

### PEOPLE VACCINATED PER 100

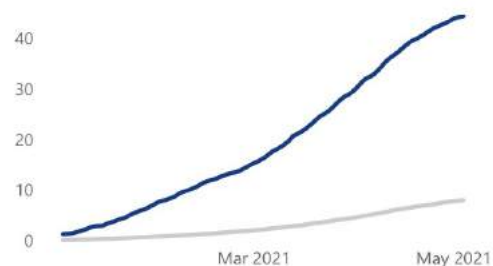
44.2

Latest data available

4. May. 2021

#### People vaccinated per 100 population

● Selected country ● World average



Source: Our World in Data

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.

### 14-DAY NOTIFICATION RATE

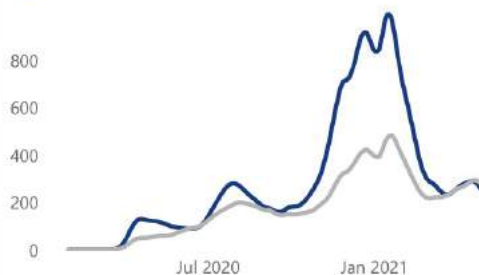
225

Latest data available

5. May. 2021

#### 14 day notification per 100,000 population

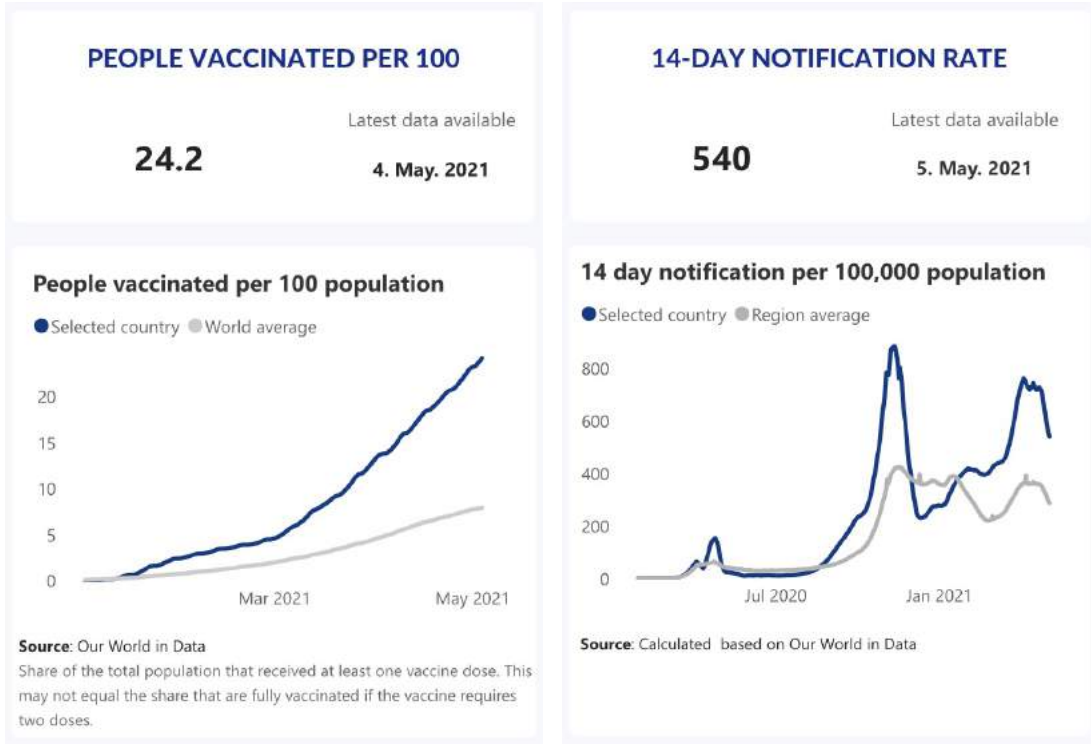
● Selected country ● Region average



Source: Calculated based on Our World in Data

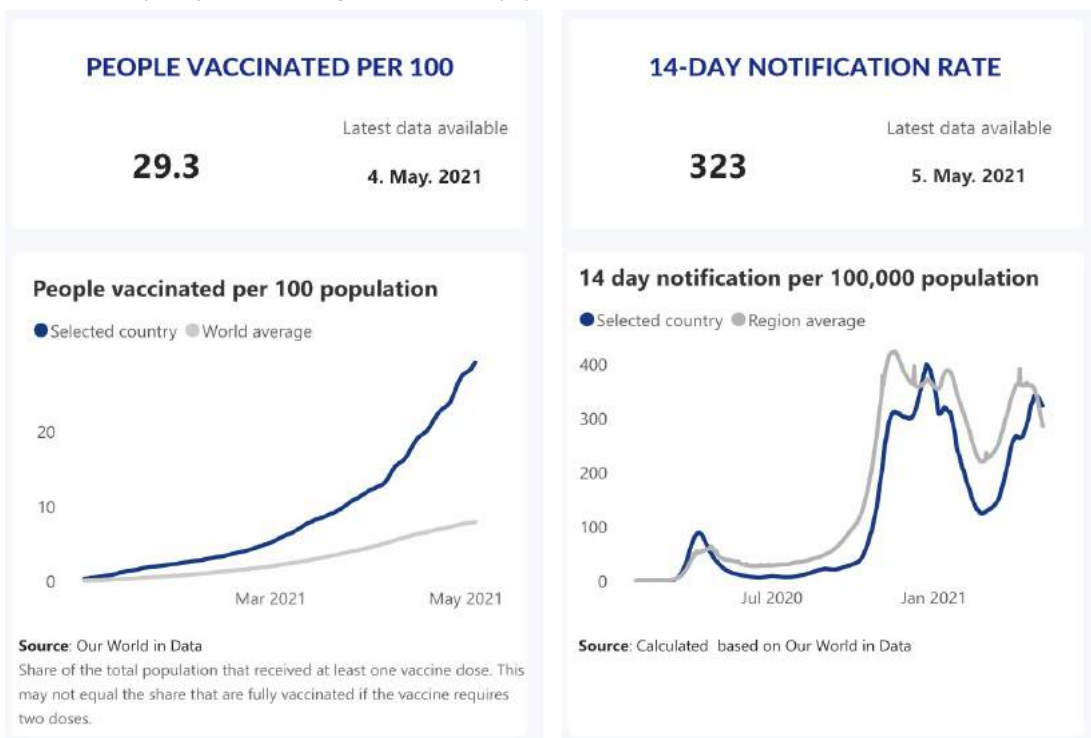
## France

Whilst France's vaccination programme is a long way behind that of the UK, over 24% have had a first dose – however the French population is notoriously anti-vaccine, and it is not clear what proportion of the population will take it up. The infection rate is, at present, very high, with 540 cases per 100,000 over a 14 day period. At present, residents of France would need to self-isolate on return from the Falklands for a 7 day period.



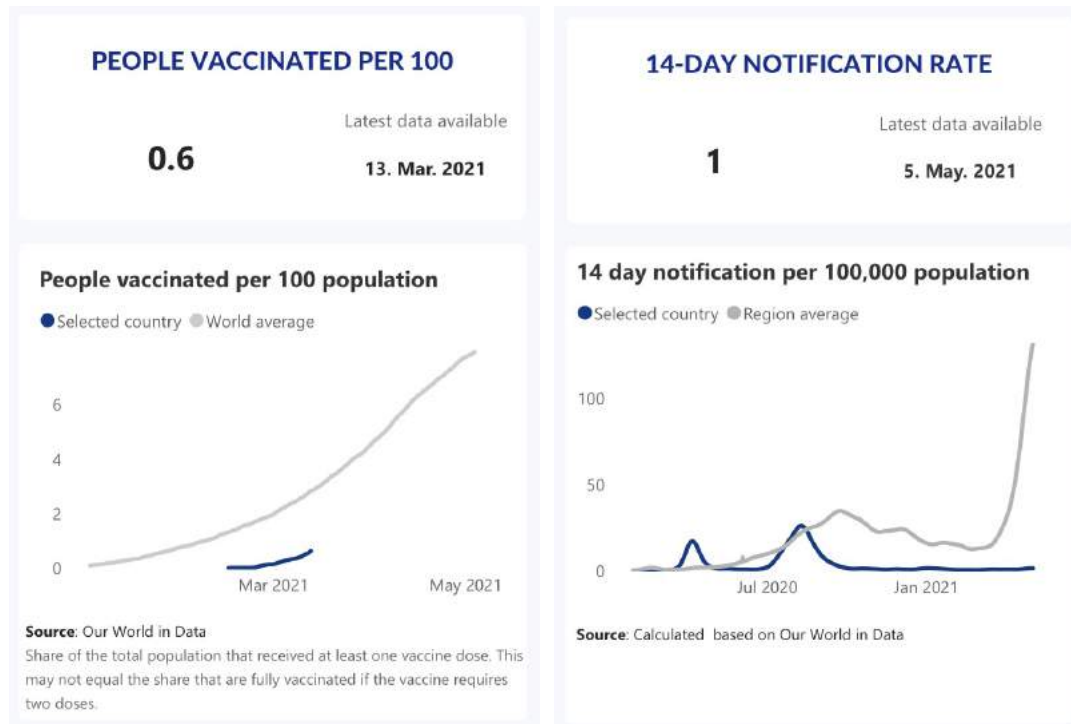
## Germany

Germany's vaccination plans are ahead of many other European countries, with almost 30% having had at least one jab. However, similar to many countries in Europe the infection rate is still quite high at 323 cases per 100,000 over a 14 day period. Germans can travel overseas but are currently subject to testing and seven-day quarantine on return home.



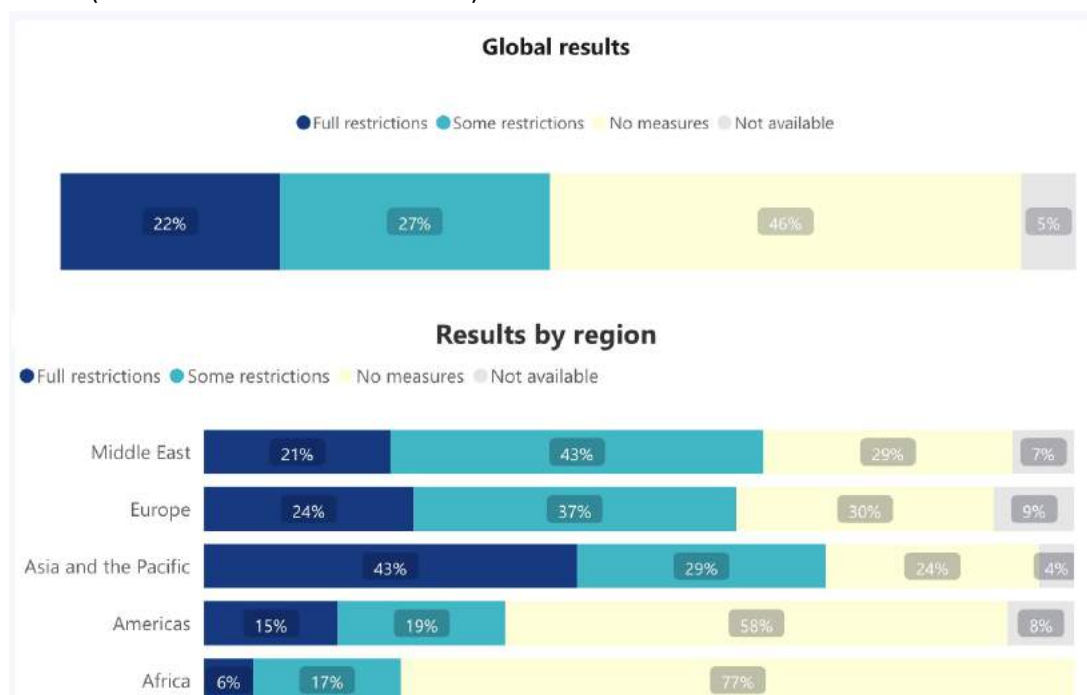
## Australia

There is currently a ban on travel abroad from Australia, except for a few countries in the South Pacific region. It is unlikely that the Australian market will be free to travel without considerable restrictions during 2021. The vaccination programme has barely started, with less than 1% having had the jab, but at the same time the number of cases in the country is almost negligible.



## Travel Restrictions Globally

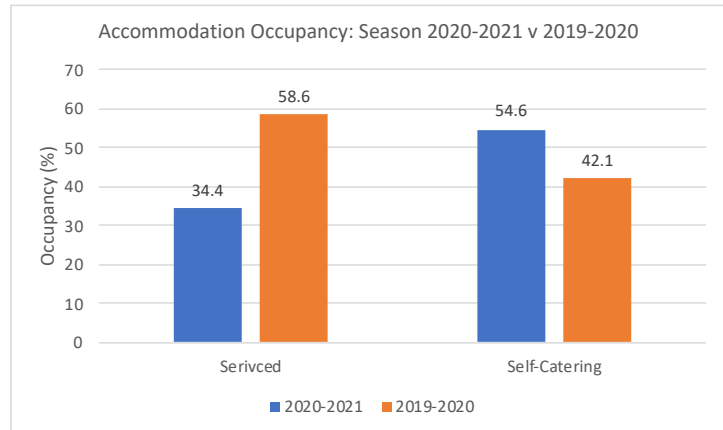
Looking at travel restrictions globally shows that 22% of all countries (including the Falklands) worldwide still have full travel restrictions in place. A further 27% have partial restrictions and 46% (almost one half of all countries) have no restrictions in place at all. Regionally, Asia and the Pacific has the highest number of countries with travel restrictions in place, with Africa being the lowest (the Americas is the second lowest).



## UPDATE ON THIS SEASON

The FITB Accommodation Occupancy Survey data for the last two seasons shows conflicting fortunes for serviced and self-catering accommodation. In the 2020-2021 season, serviced accommodation achieved a room occupancy rate of just 34.4%, compared to 58.6% the previous season.

However, self-catering properties attained 54.6% occupancy in the 2020-2021 season compared to just 42.1% the previous season – largely driven by the surge in domestic tourism.



## Flights Update

On the 21<sup>st</sup> April FIG confirmed that commercial airliners with both Chile and Brazil will remain suspended until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021. The press release added: “FIG and LATAM remain equally committed to the reinstatement of these routes at the right time”.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### Tourism Recovery Incentive Programme

TRIP is a domestic tourism stimulus scheme that is open to everyone who is ordinarily resident in the Falkland Islands and will run from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021. More details can be found at:

<https://www.fig.gov.fk/covid-19/tourismscheme/trip-scheme>

### FIG Guidance and Information

For guidance and information for individual businesses operating in a COVID-19 environment, including restaurants, public houses and retail, as well as frequently asked questions see:

<https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19/>

<https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19/information/general-information>

<https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19/faq>