

Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker Regional report – Sub-Saharan Africa



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's [Containment and Health Index](#), providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker.

REGION	Sub Saharan Africa
Date range	1-30 September 2021
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Brief summary of major changes:

Containment measures have been variable across Sub-Saharan Africa, with some countries choosing to relax restrictions while others have tightened the same. **Benin** implemented restrictions on certain areas such as nightclubs and public events, however relaxed restrictions for the former later in the month. **Rwanda, South Africa, Togo** and **Uganda** have relaxed restrictions on public events and gatherings in September, with **Zimbabwe** also increasing the limit of people attending gatherings. Curfew hours also saw a reduction in **Rwanda, South Africa** and **Zimbabwe**. In terms of vaccination policy, **Senegal** and **Seychelles** are seen to prioritise school students and/or teachers, while **Zimbabwe** has made it mandatory for civil servants to receive COVID-19 vaccines.

C1: School Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius: Schools to operate in a staggered manner from 13 September to 15 October. • Sierra Leone: Schools reopened on 6 September for the 2021-22 academic year.
C2: Workplace Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benin: Restrictions were tightened as of 13 September, resulting in the closure of nightclubs. Unvaccinated private employees and public servants may no longer access meetings or forums if they are unable to provide proof of vaccination. Restrictions on bars, restaurants and entertainment spots have been lifted as of 28 September. • Rwanda: Businesses must close by 22:00 in Kigali and 20:00 in the rest of the country, beginning 23 September. • Togo: Bars and nightclubs were closed from 10 September. • Zimbabwe: Business hours were expanded to 08:00-19:00, from 8 September.
C3: Cancel Public Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benin: Cultural, sports and religious events were suspended as of 13 September. • Rwanda: Public events will resume gradually for vaccinated and tested participants, beginning 2 September. • South Africa: Public events may now be attended by 250 people if indoors or 500 people if outdoors, beginning 13 September. • Togo: Places of worship were ordered to close and public events were banned, from 10 September.

Summaries are created with data from the OxCGRT, uploaded by contributors. For specific references, please see the database www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uganda: Places of worship are allowed to reopen, beginning 24 September.
C4: Restrictions on Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Botswana: Restrictions on gatherings have been lifted on the 6th of September, with the exception for church services which are limited to 50 persons. • Togo: Weddings and funerals are banned, beginning 10 September. • Uganda: Weddings and funerals are allowed to resume, beginning 24 September. • Zimbabwe: Gatherings are now allowed up to 100 people, beginning 8 September.
C5: Close Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded.
C6: Stay at Home requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rwanda: Curfew hours were reduced to 23:00-04:00 in Kigali and 21:00-04:00 in the rest of the country, from 23 September. • South Africa: Curfew hours were reduced to 23:00-04:00, from 13 September. • Zimbabwe: Curfew hours were reduced to 22:00-05:30, from 8 September.
C7: Restrictions on Internal movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zimbabwe: Intercity travel has resumed, beginning 8 September.
C8: International Travel Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad: Vaccinated travelers are exempted from the antigen test requirement as of 14 September. • Seychelles: Visitors from South Africa are allowed to enter Seychelles, beginning 13 September. • Tanzania: Starting on 19 September, travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 test upon arrival.
H2: Testing Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded.
H3: Contact Tracing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded.
H6: Facial Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded.
H7: Vaccination Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senegal: Vaccines are being prioritised for teachers and students before they return to school, beginning 10 September. • Seychelles: Children aged 12-17 years old began receiving their first vaccine doses on 10 September. • Zimbabwe: Civil servants are required to be vaccinated, starting 14 September.
H8: Protection of elderly people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded.

Cases vs Containment and Health Index:

Data not yet available for September