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The Road to Recovery: Which Reopening?



Published 1 year ago on May 28, 2020

By **Iman Ghosh**



are reopening, based on two me



MOBILITY INDEX

Country mobility rate =
workplace mobility - residential mobility

Measuring where people's movements are skewing towards, as a % deviation from the baseline



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The higher the mobility rate, the more econ
In most cases, mobility rate also correlates with a higher



HIGH MOBILITY, LOW RECOVERY

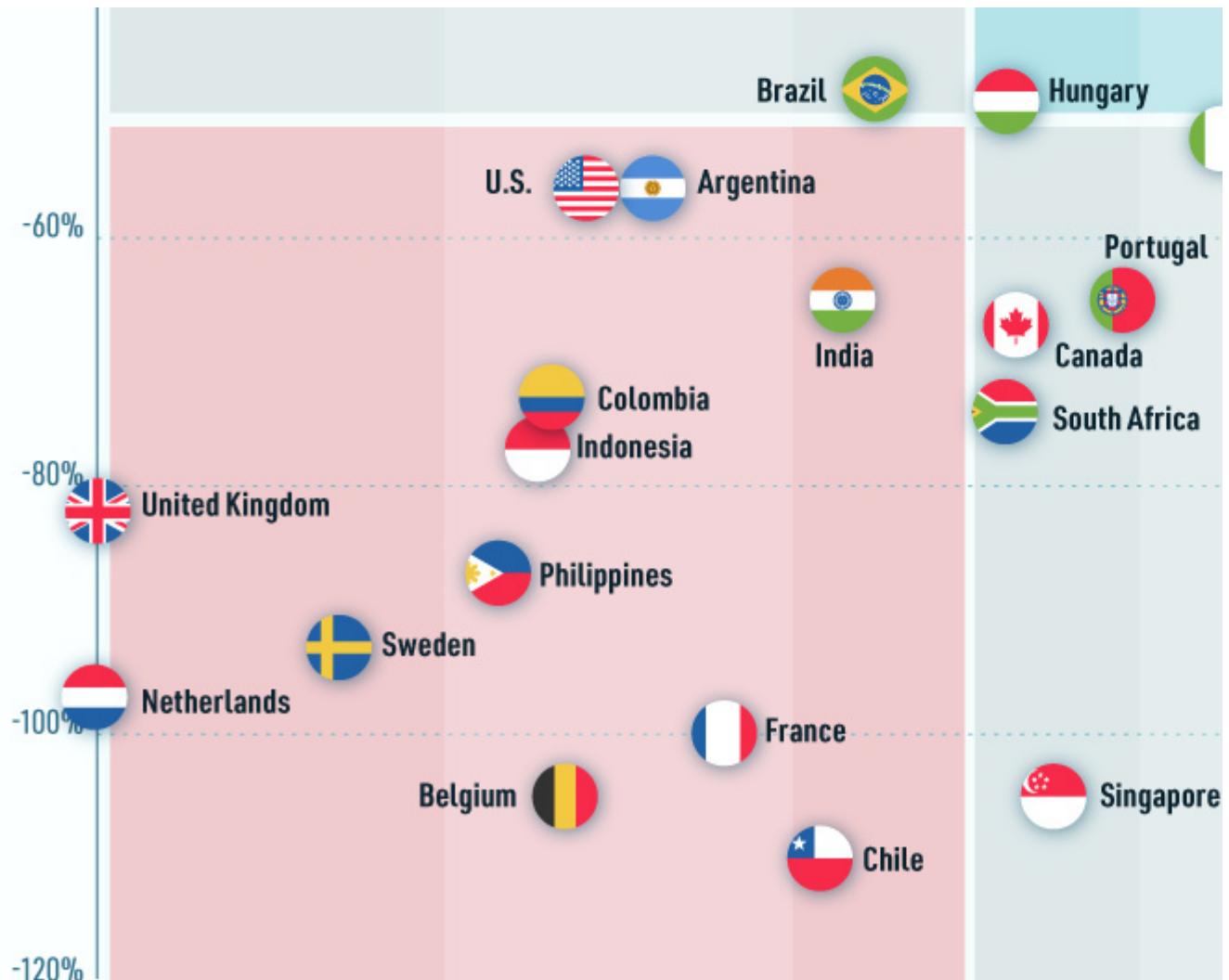
Despite low recovery rates, these countries are allowing activity again—which could cause cases to surge in future.



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20% Mobility Rate





LOW MOBILITY, LOW RECOVERY



People in these countries are cautiously remaining indoors as their governments continue to work on crisis response.



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The Road to Recovery: Which Economies are Reopening

COVID-19 has brought the world to a halt—but after months of uncertainty, it seems that situation is slowly taking a turn for the better.

Today's chart measures the extent to which 41 major economies are reopening, by plotting metrics for each country: the **mobility rate** and the **COVID-19 recovery rate**:

1. Mobility Index

This refers to the change in activity around workplaces, subtracting activity around residence measured as a percentage deviation from the baseline.

2. COVID-19 Recovery Rate

The number of recovered cases in a country is measured as the percentage of total cases.

Data for the first measure comes from [Google's](#) COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, which relies on aggregated, anonymous location history data from individuals. Note that China does not show up in the graphic as the government bans Google services.

COVID-19 recovery rates rely on values from [CoronaTracker](#), using aggregated information from multiple global and governmental databases such as WHO and CDC.

Reopening Economies, One Step at a Time

In general, the higher the mobility rate, the more economic activity this signifies. In most cases, the mobility rate also correlates with a higher rate of recovered people in the population.

Here's how these countries fare based on the above metrics.

Country	Mobility Rate	Recovery Rate	Total Cases	Total Recovered
Spain	-67%	69.11%	284,986	196,958
Sweden	-93%	13.91%	35,727	4,971
Switzerland	-101%	91.90%	30,796	28,300
Taiwan	4%	95.24%	441	420
Thailand	-36%	96.08%	3,065	2,945
U.S.	-56%	28.20%	1,768,346	498,720
United Kingdom	-82%	0.05%	269,127	135
Vietnam	15%	85.02%	327	278

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Mobility data as of May 21, 2020 (Latest available). COVID-19 case data as of May 29, 2020.

In the main scatterplot visualization, we've taken things a step further, assigning these countries into four distinct quadrants:

1. High Mobility, High Recovery

High recovery rates are resulting in lifted restrictions for countries in this quadrant, and are steadily returning to work.

New Zealand has earned praise for its early and effective pandemic response, allowing it to curtail the total number of cases. This has resulted in a **98%** recovery rate, the highest of all countries. After almost 50 days of lockdown, the government is recommending a flexible work week to boost the economy back up.

2. High Mobility, Low Recovery

Despite low COVID-19 related recoveries, mobility rates of countries in this quadrant remain higher than average. Some countries have loosened lockdown measures, while others did not have strict measures in place to begin with.

Brazil is an interesting case study to consider here. After deferring lockdown decisions to state and local levels, the country is now averaging the highest number of daily cases out of any country. On May 28th, for example, the country had 24,151 new cases and 1,067 new deaths.

3. Low Mobility, High Recovery

Countries in this quadrant are playing it safe, and holding off on reopening their economy until the population has fully recovered.

Italy, the once-epicenter for the crisis in Europe is understandably wary of cases rising back up to critical levels. As a result, it has opted to keep its activity to a minimum to try and boost its 65% recovery rate, even as it slowly emerges from over 10 weeks of lockdown.

4. Low Mobility, Low Recovery

Last but not least, people in these countries are cautiously remaining indoors as their governments continue to work on crisis response.

With a low **0.05%** recovery rate, the **United Kingdom** has no immediate plans to reopen. A two-week lag time in reporting discharged patients from NHS services may also be contributing to the low number. Although new cases are **leveling off**, the country has the highest coronavirus death toll across Europe.

The **U.S.** also sits in this quadrant with over **1.7 million cases** and counting. Recently, some states have opted to ease restrictions on social and business activity, which could potentially reverse the trend and lead to case numbers climbing back up.

Over in **Sweden**, a controversial herd immunity strategy meant that the country continued to conduct business as usual amid the rest of Europe's heightened regulations. Sweden's COVID-19 recovery rate sits at only **13.9%**, and the country's **-93%** mobility rate implies that people have been taking their own precautions.

COVID-19's Impact on the Future

It's important to note that a "second wave" of new cases could upend plans to reopen economies. As countries reckon with these competing risks of health and economic activity, there is no simple answer around the right path to take.

COVID-19 is a catalyst for an entirely different future, but interestingly, it's one that has been in the works for a while.

Without being melodramatic, COVID-19 is like the last nail in the coffin of globalization...The 2008-2009 crisis gave

globalization a big hit, as did Brexit, as did the U.S.-China trade war, but COVID is taking it to a new level.

—Carmen Reinhart, incoming Chief Economist for the W

Will there be any chance of returning to “normal” as we know it?

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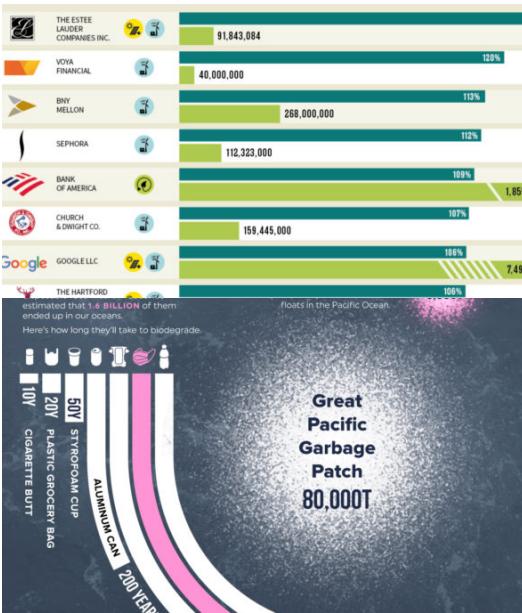
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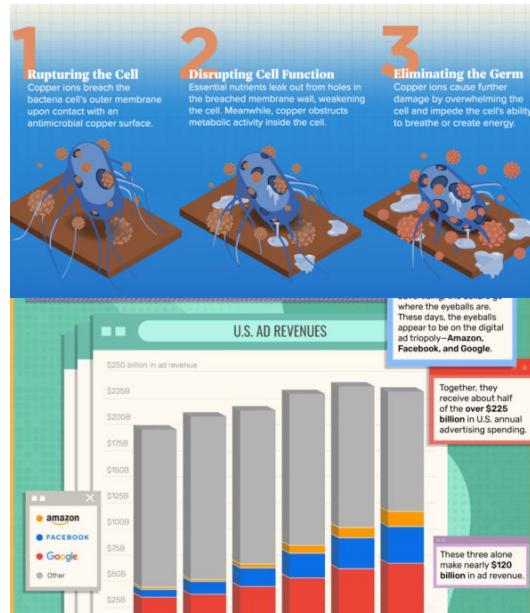
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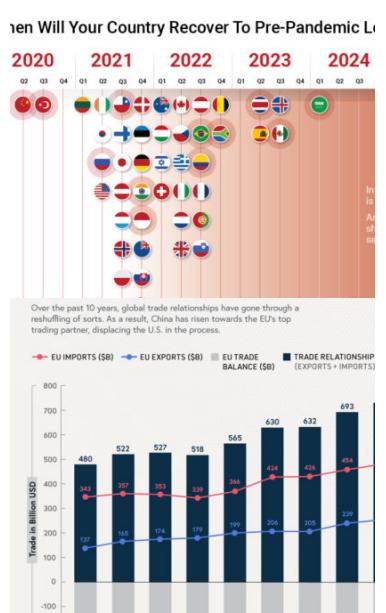
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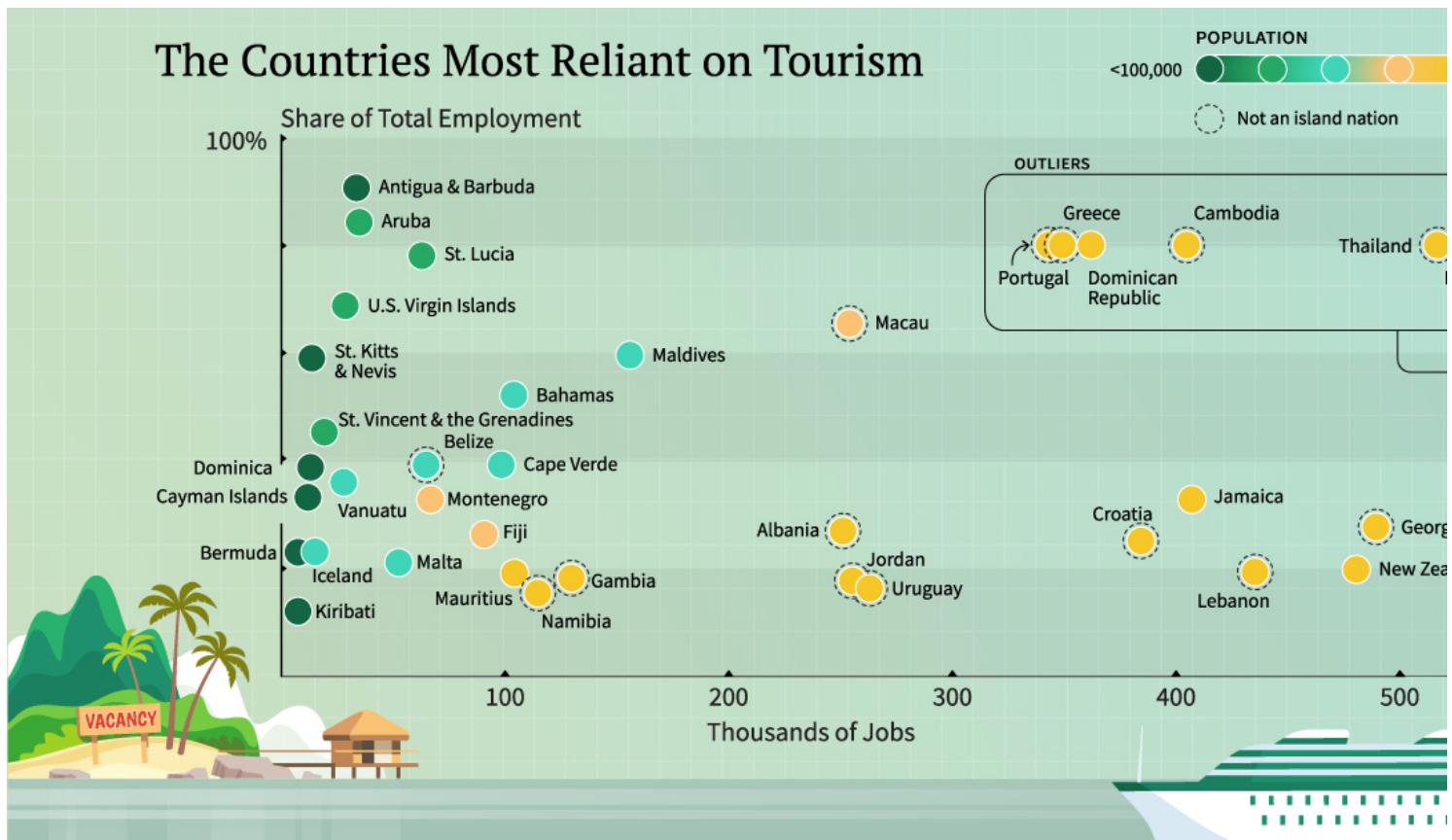
With international travel grinding to a halt, here are the economies that have the most to lose from a lack of tourism.



Published 1 year ago on May 22, 2020

By **Dorothy Neufeld**





Visualizing the Countries Most Reliant on Tourism

Without a steady influx of tourism revenue, many countries could face severe economic damage.

As the global travel and tourism industry stalls, the spillover effects to global employment are wide-reaching. A total of **330 million jobs** are supported by this industry around the world, and it contributes 10%, or \$8.9 trillion to global GDP each year.

Today's infographic uses data from the [World Travel & Tourism Council](#), and it highlights the countries that depend the most on the travel and tourism industry according to employment—quantifying the scale that the industry contributes to the health of the global economy.

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Zoom is Now Worth More Than the World's 7 Biggest Airlines

Zoom benefits from the COVID-19 virtual transition—but other industries aren't as lucky. The app is now more valuable than the world's seven largest airlines.



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By **Iman Ghosh**



MARKET CAPITALIZATION OF ZOOM VS. TOP AIRLINES



Zoom Is Now Worth More Than The 7 Biggest Airlines

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, many people have transitioned to working—and socializing—from home. If these trends become the new normal, certain companies may be in for a big payoff.

Popular video conferencing company, Zoom Communications, is a prime example of an organization benefiting from this transition. Today's graphic, inspired by Lennart

Dobravsky at Lufthansa Innovation Hub, is a dramatic look at how much Zoom's valuation has shot up during this unusual period in history.

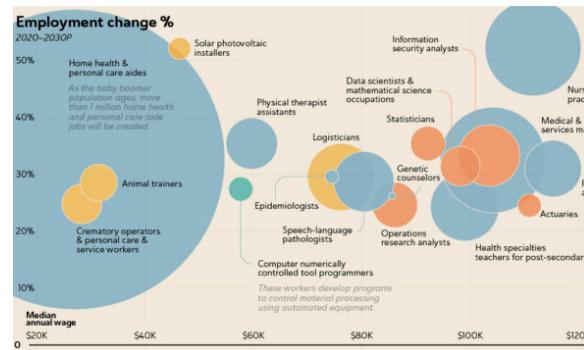
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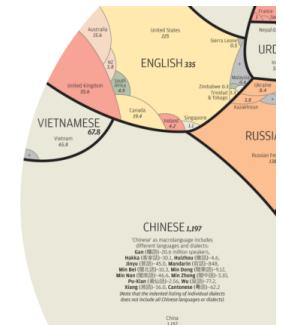
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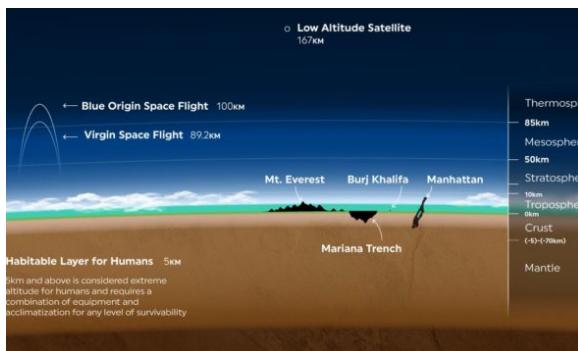
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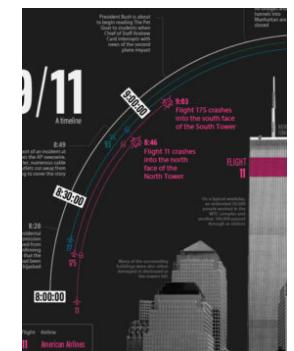
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