

Information on the recognition of diagnostic tests for SARS-CoV-2 for persons arriving in Germany from risk areas

As of: 4 June 2021

The current list of risk areas can be found on the following website: www.rki.de/covid-19-risikogebiete.

Please note: The Federal Government examines on an ongoing basis to what extent areas should be classified as risk areas. As a result, this list can be modified at short notice and, above all, may be extended further.

Requirements on tests:

Proof of testing is deemed to be furnished by proof of having tested negative for an infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus in the German, English, French, Italian or Spanish language in paper or digital form. The proof of testing has to refer to a test taken not more than 48 hours (for antigen tests) or 72 hours (PCR) ago. Relevant for calculating these timeframes is the date of entry into Germany. When entering from areas of variants of concern, the timeframe is shortened to 24 hours for antigen tests. For the competent public health offices to quickly ascertain whether the minimum criteria have been met, the (rapid) antigen test's manufacturer details must be provided.

Nucleic acid amplification techniques (PCR, LAMP¹, TMA²) for the direct detection of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus that are based on an appropriate specimen of the upper or lower respiratory tract as well as saliva or pharyngeal gargle lavage are accepted. In principle, Nucleic acid amplification techniques (PCR, LAMP¹, TMA²) are currently accepted from all European Union countries as well as from the countries mentioned below (see list below).

¹LAMP: loop-mediated isothermal amplification, ²TMA: transcription-mediated amplification

In addition, antigen tests for the direct detection of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus are recognised from all countries. It is required that they fulfil the minimum criteria recommended by WHO for the quality of SARS-CoV-2 antigen detecting rapid diagnostic tests. These include tests that, as compared with PCR tests, meet ≥80% sensitivity and ≥97% specificity ([WHO: Antigen-detection in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection using rapid immunoassays. Interim guidance, 11 September 2020](#)).

As follows from the Ordinance on Coronavirus Entry Regulations (Coronavirus-Einreiseverordnung) of 12 May 2021, testing must have been conducted or supervised in the Federal Republic of Germany or abroad by a service provider pursuant to section 6 (1) of the Coronavirus Testing Ordinance (Coronavirus-Testverordnung) or, in the context of company-based testing for the purpose of occupational health and safety, by staff who have

the required training, knowledge and experience or must have been conducted or supervised abroad by an entity authorised to do so under the law of the country concerned. The third party must also verify and confirm the identity of the person tested by means of an official photo ID. The certificate/test result shall indicate the date of testing and the type of test used.

If a negative test result for infection with the SARS-COV-2 coronavirus is presented, but there is a justified suspicion of non-compliance with the minimum testing criteria, it generally lies within the responsibility of the competent authority whether or not to recognise a test result. In order for the competent public health offices to quickly ascertain whether the minimum criteria have been met, the (rapid) antigen test's manufacturer details must be provided on the test certificate.

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- Andorra
- Angola
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Benin
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil

- Brunei
- Burkina Faso
- Cambodia
- Canada
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- China HK
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Cuba
- Dominican Republic
- DR Congo
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Great Britain (United Kingdom)
- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Honduras
- Iceland

- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Lebanon
- Liechtenstein
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Monaco
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Mozambique

- Myanmar
- Namibia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palestinian Territories
- Panama
- Peru
- Philippines
- Qatar
- Republic of Moldova
- Russian Federation
- Rwanda
- Saint Lucia
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- South Africa
- South Korea

- South Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- Suriname
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Togo
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United States Virgin Islands
- Uruguay
- USA
- Uzbekistan
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Zambia