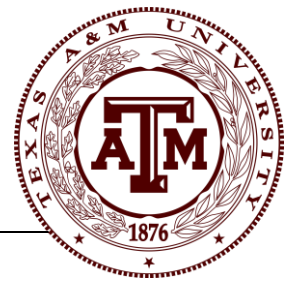


COUNTRY RISK SUMMARIES

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Report for Week Ending October 24, 2021

Latest Updates: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Burma (Myanmar), Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia Somalia, Syria.

- **Afghanistan:** On October 18, at least two people were injured after a bomb went off near Kabul Bus Station in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province, during afternoon hours local time.
- **Afghanistan:** On October 20, at least two people were injured in the Deh Mazang area of Kabul during morning hours local time, due to a hand grenade explosion targeting a vehicle carrying Taliban members.
- **Afghanistan:** On October 21, at least one soldier was injured amid gunfire and explosions near a Taliban post in the Kabul Hada area of Jalalabad, Nangarhar province, late on October 21; unconfirmed reports indicated that Taliban security forces clashed with Islamic militants.
- **Burkina Faso:** On October 18, at least three Defence of Patland (VDP) soldiers were killed when a group of unidentified gunmen, suspected to be militants, attacked them near Hitte near Titao in Loroum province, Nord region.
- **Burma (Myanmar):** On October 19, at least three soldiers were killed after a military convoy hit a landmine, planted by Htigyaing People's Defence Force (PDF), on the Mandalay-Bhamo road near Maungkone village, located six miles southeast of Htigyaing township, Sagaing region, at around 20:00 local time.
- **Cameroon:** On October 22, three soldiers were killed in shootouts with Anglophone separatists near Wum, located in Menchum department, Northwest region. A military was escorting a slain soldier from an earlier attack when rebels ambushed the soldiers for the second time in 24 hours. A fourth soldier was killed a day earlier in Andeck, Momo department.
- **Central African Republic (CAR):** On October 19, at least three people were killed after suspected Russian mercenaries, employed by the Wagner Group and fighting on behalf of the government, launched an attack on Benzambe, Ouham prefecture, in violation of a cease-fire with the rebels, which the government announced 15 October.
- **Colombia:** On October 19, at least one soldier was killed and 11 others injured when unidentified motorcycle-borne individuals threw a grenade into a military vehicle the soldiers were travelling in at Casa Blanca sector of Inirida, Guainia department. Authorities decreed a curfew from 22:00 to 05:00 local time in the town.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):** On October 20, at least 10 civilians were killed when Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) militants raided the village of Luna in Irumu territory, Ituri province, during late evening hours local time. Militant forces burnt down several houses before being repelled by Congolese soldiers.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):** On October 20, authorities announced that a state of siege in North Kivu and Ituri provinces, in place since 30 April following an increase

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in inter-communal violence and attacks by militia groups, was extended for the tenth time. It was not immediately clear when the state of siege might be lifted.

- **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):** On October 20, at least 16 people were killed when Allied Defence Forces (ADF) militants attacked the villages of Mayele, Kalembo, and Toya in Beni region, North Kivu during evening hours local time.
- **Ethiopia:** On October 18, at least 30 civilians were killed in Wuchale, South Wollo zone, Amhara region as the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) militia shelled residential areas with heavy weaponry. TPLF offensives were ongoing in the region, and a nightly curfew and gathering restrictions were imposed on South Wollo zone.
- **Ethiopia:** On October 18, government officials denied responsibility for an airstrike that reportedly killed three people in Mekelle, Tigray region, during morning hours local time.
- **Ethiopia:** On October 20, government troops were carrying out airstrikes in Mekelle, Tigray region, during morning hours local time, targeting a bus stop close to Mekelle University. Information regarding casualties was not immediately available.
- **Haiti:** On October 19, the '400 Mazowo' gang demanded a one million USD ransom for each of the 17 Christian missionaries, including their children, from the United States and Canada, who were abducted from a bus in Gantheir, Croix-des-Bouquets area of Ouest department, on 16 October. The FBI and Haitian police began negotiations with the gang.
- **India:** On October 18, at least 26 people died and several others were missing due to floods and landslides across Kottayam and Idukki districts, with worst-hit areas including Kootickal and Kokkayar in Kerala state; a yellow alert, the second-lowest level for heavy rainfall was in effect in Thiruvananthapuram, Kolla, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Idukki, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram and Kozhikode.
- **India:** On October 18, at least two people were killed and 125 others rescued as over 10 fire brigades were responding to a large fire at a packaging factory in the Vareli area of Kadodara, Surat, Gujarat state, as of morning hours local time.
- **India:** On October 19, a massive search operation was underway in parts of Poonch and Rajouri districts in Jammu and Kashmir, including in Mendhar, Dera ki Gali, Thanamandi and Bhimber Gali, due to an ongoing encounter since 11 October which killed at least nine soldiers. A new militant group called the People's Anti Fascists Front (PAFF) claimed responsibility for the attack but army officials were yet not confirm the report.
- **India:** On October 21, at least two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militants and a soldier were killed in an encounter in Dragad, Shopian district, while two other LeT militants were killed in a separate clash with security forces along the Ashmuji-Devsar Road in Kulgam district, Jammu and Kashmir, amid ongoing operations following recent attacks on civilians.
- **India:** On October 21, at least one militant was injured or killed in clashes between militants and security forces in the Chanapora area of Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, during late evening hours local time, amid an ongoing cordon and search operation in the area.
- **India:** On October 22, rescue efforts were ongoing as at least 64 people died, 11 others remain missing, and 16,000 residents were evacuated, amid floods and landslides from heavy rainfall in Uttarakhand, including Nainital, Almora, Champawat, Pithoragarh and Udham Singh Nagar districts. Telephone services were disrupted and multiple roads remained impassible in affected areas.

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- **Lebanon:** On October 19, Lebanese Armed Forces were attempting to deescalate ongoing clashes between two feuding families in Wadi al Jamus area of Akkar as of morning hours local time. Clashes started on October 16 and resulted in the death of at least four people and seven injured. No further deaths were reported, but clashes continued in the area.
- **Libya:** On October 18, Libyan National Oil Corporation announced two of its employees were kidnapped outside its headquarters in Tripoli. No further details were immediately available.
- **Mali:** On October 20, dozens of people were killed or wounded when Dozo milititas clashed with suspected Jama'a Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) militants near Marebougou, Djenne cercle, Mopti region.
- **Niger:** On October 18, at least three police officers were killed and seven others injured in an attack by suspected Islamist militants at the Petelkole checkpoint near the Niger-Burkina Faso border in Tera department, Tillaberi region. Some weapons were stolen from the area and two vehicles were set ablaze.
- **Niger:** On October 20, at least five people were killed and several others injured when unidentified militants ambushed a government convoy near Bankilare, Tillaberi region, during evening hours local time.
- **Nigeria:** On October 18, at least 62 people were killed in the attack on Goronyo market in Goronyo local government area (LGA), Sokoto state. The unknown gunmen behind the attack are currently suspected of having terror links; no further details were immediately available.
- **Nigeria:** On October 18, at least 10 suspected bandits were killed in a shootout with security forces in Kwanan Bataru, near Fatika, Giwa LGA of Kaduna state. Several suspected bandits were injured but managed to flee. One male hostage was released during the incident.
- **Nigeria:** On October 19, at least 50 suspected motorcycle-borne bandits were killed in a joint air force and ground operation by security forces in the Saulawa-Farin Ruwa axis of Birnin Gwari LGA, Kaduna state.
- **Nigeria:** On October 19, at least 20 Boko Haram militants were killed during clashes with security forces near Mafa, Jere LGA, Borno state.
- **Nigeria:** On October 21, an unspecified number of people were killed in a land dispute which resulted in clashes between the Gungura community in Ganjuwa LGA of Bauchi state and Buri-Buri community of Dukku LGA of Gombe state during early morning hours local time.
- **Pakistan:** On October 18, upwards of five soldiers were killed and three others injured across three military posts in Shewa subdivision, North Waziristan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, as of morning hours local time due to armed clashes with Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (Pakistani Taliban) militants.
- **Pakistan:** On October 18, at least one police officer was killed and 13 others injured after an improvised explosive device (IED) blast targeted a police vehicle near the University of Balochistan in Quetta during afternoon hours local time.
- **Pakistan:** On October 19, at least one security force member was killed and two others injured in the Spinwam area of North Waziristan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, during late evening hours local time, due to clashes with militants. A search operation against the militants was underway.

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- **Pakistan:** On October 20, at least two policemen and two Frontier Corps soldiers were killed in an IED blast that struck a convoy of security forces when they responded to reports of an earlier blast that targeted the vehicle of tribal elders near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border in Mamund, Majaur district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.
- **Russia:** On October 22, at least five people were killed and one person was injured following a fire at a gunpowder factory in Shilovsky district, Ryazan oblast, around morning hours local time.
- **Somalia:** On October 18, at least eight Kenya Defence soldiers were reportedly killed in Ras Kamboni, Lower Juba region, due to a bomb blast targeting their vehicle. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.
- **Somalia:** On October 18, at least two Al-Shabaab militants were killed in clashes with security forces neara Barire in the Lower Shabelle region. The militants fled the area after a brief gunfight, leaving behind ammunition and weapons that were seized by the soldiers.
- **Somalia:** On October 20, a bomb planted on the road between Afgoye and Basra in the Lower Shabelle region exploded targeting a convoy carrying Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) and Somali National Army (SNA) personnel. Information on casualties were not immediately available.
- **Syria:** On October 20, at least 13 people were killed in Damascus, Damascus governorate, when a bomb blast targeted an Army bus on the Shoukry al-Qouwatly Road underneath al-Jameyah As Soureya Bridge near the Four Seasons Hotel.
- **Syria:** On October 20, at least four people were killed and 30 others injured in Ariha, Idlib governorate. During morning hours local time due to shellings by alleged government forces.
- **Syria:** On October 20, United States (US) military forces in al-Tanf, Homs governorate, were targeted by explosive drones launched by suspected pro-Iran militias on the Iraq-Syria border during late evening hours local time. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Please be aware System Risk Management has asked all members to prohibit travel to extreme risk countries and regions. Please reference memorandum from the Chancellor regarding procedures relating to international travel to be followed by all System members found at this link:

<http://www.tamus.edu/assets/files/safety/pdf/InternationalTraveltoHighRiskCountries.pdf>

Should you have any questions, please contact me directly. Thank you.

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System Risk Management

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COUNTRY TRAVEL ADVISORY LIST

Any travel to the below listed Extreme Risk countries or countries with an Extreme Risk region requires an International Travel Questionnaire submission to System Risk Management for review.



EXTREME RISK COUNTRIES

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1) Afghanistan | 7) North Korea |
| 2) Central African Republic (CAR) | 8) Somalia |
| 3) Iran | 9) South Sudan |
| 4) Iraq | 10) Sudan |
| 5) Libya | 11) Syria |
| 6) Mali | 12) Venezuela |
| | 13) Yemen |



HIGH RISK COUNTRIES

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1) Algeria | 19) India |
| 2) Azerbaijan | 20) Israel |
| 3) Burkina Faso | 21) Kenya |
| 4) Burma (Myanmar) | 22) Lebanon |
| 5) Burundi | 23) Mauritania |
| 6) Cameroon | 24) Mexico |
| 7) Chad | 25) Niger |
| 8) Colombia | 26) Nigeria |
| 9) Congo (Republic of) | 27) Pakistan |
| 10) Cuba | 28) Panama |
| 11) Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) | 29) Philippines |
| 12) Ecuador | 30) Russia |
| 13) Egypt | 31) Saudi Arabia |
| 14) Eritrea | 32) Tunisia |
| 15) Ethiopia | 33) Turkey |
| 16) Georgia | 34) Ukraine |
| 17) Haiti | |
| 18) Honduras | |

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COUNTRY TRAVEL ADVISORY DETAILS BY RISK LEVEL



EXTREME RISK COUNTRIES

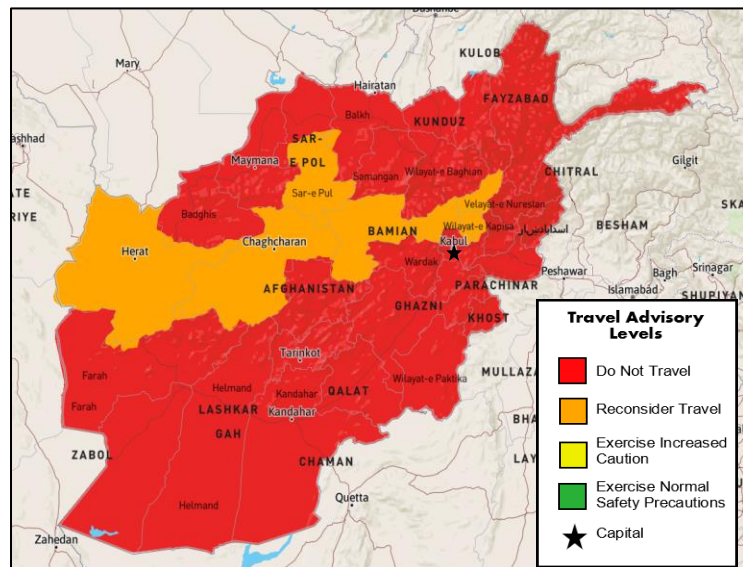


Afghanistan

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

It is advised to avoid travel to Afghanistan. Travel is unsafe due to the unstable security situation involving armed conflict, terrorism, crime, and civil unrest. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of widespread military operations, terrorism and insurgent attacks, and high levels of kidnappings, hostage-taking, suicide bombings, landmines, and vehicle-borne or other improvised explosive devices. Terrorist and insurgent groups continue planning and executing attacks in Afghanistan. These attacks occur with little or no warning and have targeted official Afghan and U.S. government convoys and facilities, local government buildings, foreign embassies, and other locations frequented by U.S. citizens and other foreign nationals. Afghanistan has long been beset by weak governance in many regions due to extensive warlordism and lawlessness.



The Taliban launched a sweeping offensive against government forces resulting in the complete collapse of the Afghan government. On August 15, 2021, the Taliban seized Kabul, marking complete control of all major cities in Afghanistan. The Taliban have solidified control of the country and are in the process of installing a Taliban government. The initial US-led invasion ousted the Taliban from power in 2001 following the September 11 attacks on U.S. soil. The U.S. negotiated a deal with the Taliban, which required the withdrawal of all foreign forces. The agreement brought an end to the two decades of occupation by the U.S. and other foreign countries, paving the way for the Taliban's advance. The Taliban were not defeated and gradually regained strength, carrying out numerous attacks on foreign and Afghan forces over the past 20 years. With the Taliban's control of the country virtually unopposed, they have been swift to reverse reforms and appear to be on a path of reinstating previously held policies.

As a result, it is advised to avoid all travel to Afghanistan due to the armed conflict.

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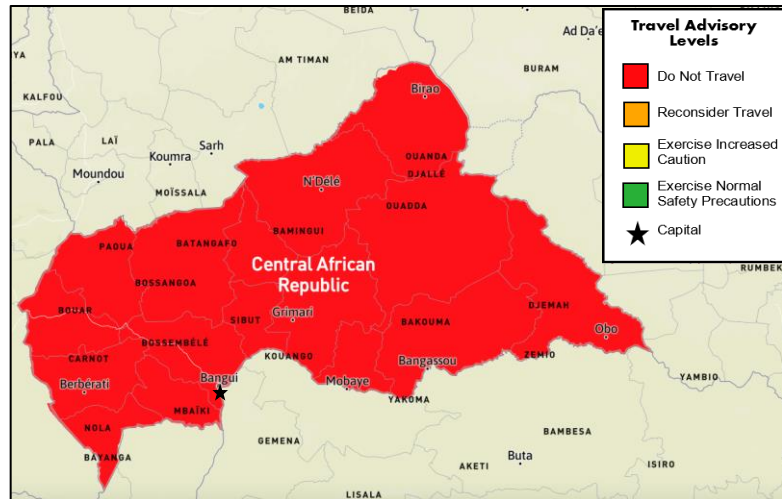
Central African Republic Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) is extremely dangerous. It is advised to avoid all travel to the CAR, if possible. Travel is unsafe due to civil unrest and crime. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of sectarian violence by armed groups, in addition to common criminal activities, such as armed robbery, aggravated battery, and homicide.

Although there have been no specific incidents of violence or threats targeting U.S. citizens, civil unrest, demonstrations, and post-election violence (including renewed outbreaks of armed conflict) continue to be a threat. Further unrest is likely in the near-term. For essential travel to rural areas, avoid travel after dark and move only in convoy with a security escort.

Avoid all but essential travel to the Central African Republic. Have appropriate personal security measures in place if travel to CAR is required.



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Iran

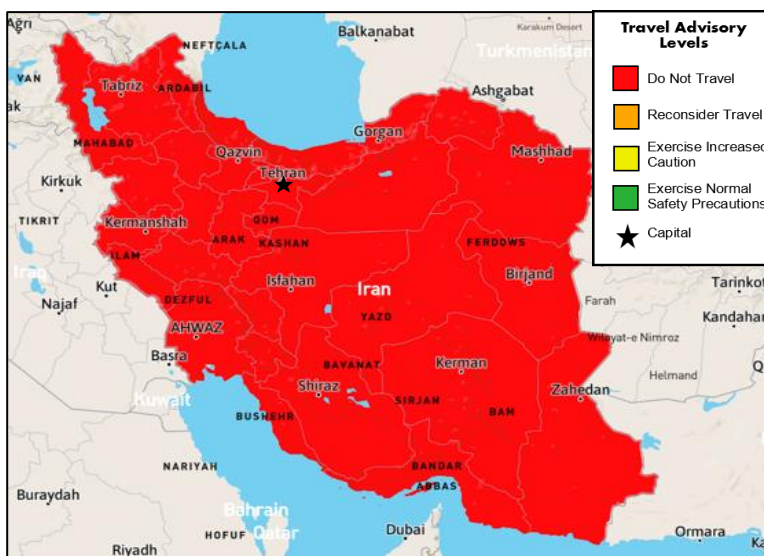
Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Iran is highly dangerous, with specific parts of the country being extremely unsafe. Travel to Iran is not advised due to the risk of arbitrary arrest and detention. Iran is also experiencing one of the highest incidences of COVID-19 in the Middle East. The risk of community transmission is high and extreme caution is advised. Iran has begun lifting its lockdown and resuming business activity.

U.S. citizens visiting or residing in Iran have been kidnapped, arrested, and detained on spurious charges. Iranian authorities continue to unjustly detain and imprison U.S. citizens, particularly dual national Iranian Americans, including students, journalists, business travelers, and academics--on charges including espionage and posing a threat to national security. Iranian authorities routinely delay consular access to detained U.S. citizens and consistently deny consular access to dual U.S.-Iranian citizens. The U.S. government does not have diplomatic or consular relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Iran.

It is advised that all visitors to Iran avoid travel to border areas surrounding Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, including Sistan and Baluchistan province and areas east of Bam in Kerman province until further notice due to the risk of violent unrest and cross-border clashes. Visitors to eastern border regions are strongly advised to avoid loitering in the vicinity of military checkpoints, outposts, and personnel. For extended travel between cities, consider contracting a reputable local guide. Immediately report suspicious behavior and packages to local authorities. Be aware of traveling in convoy; the Iranian military regularly disguises troop movements by transporting them in unmarked vehicles, making convoys an attractive target for militants.



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Iraq

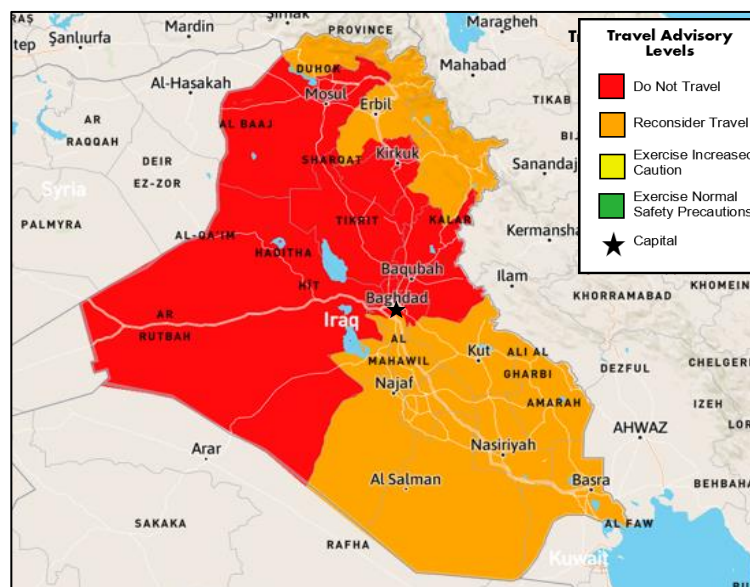
Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Iraq is extremely dangerous. It is advised to avoid travel to Iraq. Travel is unsafe due to terrorism, kidnapping, and armed conflict. There is also an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of active insurgent and terrorist groups, sectarian militias, and high levels of violence, including kidnappings, suicide bombings, and vehicle-borne or other improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

On December 31, 2019, the Embassy suspended public consular services until further notice due to damage done by Iranian-backed terrorist attacks on the Embassy compound. U.S.

Consulate General in Erbil remains open and continues to provide consular assistance. In mid-October 2018, the Department of State ordered the suspension of operations at the U.S. Consulate General in Basrah. That institution remains closed. Due to security concerns, U.S. Embassy personnel in Baghdad have been instructed not to use Baghdad International Airport.



Avoid areas near the Turkish, Syrian, and Iranian borders. There are continuous military operations against insurgent groups in the regions bordering Iraq and armed conflict at the Syrian border. U.S. citizens should not travel through Iraq to engage in armed conflict, where they would face extreme personal risks (kidnapping, injury, or death) and legal risks (arrest, fines, and expulsion). The Kurdistan Regional Government stated that it would impose prison sentences of up to ten years on individuals who illegally cross the border. Additionally, fighting on behalf of, or supporting designated terrorist organizations, is a crime that can result in penalties, including prison time and large fines in the United States.

Iraqi authorities have reopened airports to international flights, with travelers required to perform a COVID-19 test 48 hours before the flight. Restrictions remain on public gatherings, and social distancing rules are still being enforced. A limited curfew will be in effect from February 18, between 20h00 pm to 05h00 am daily. Malls and shops are open with restrictions, but schools, universities, and mosques remain closed.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Iraq.

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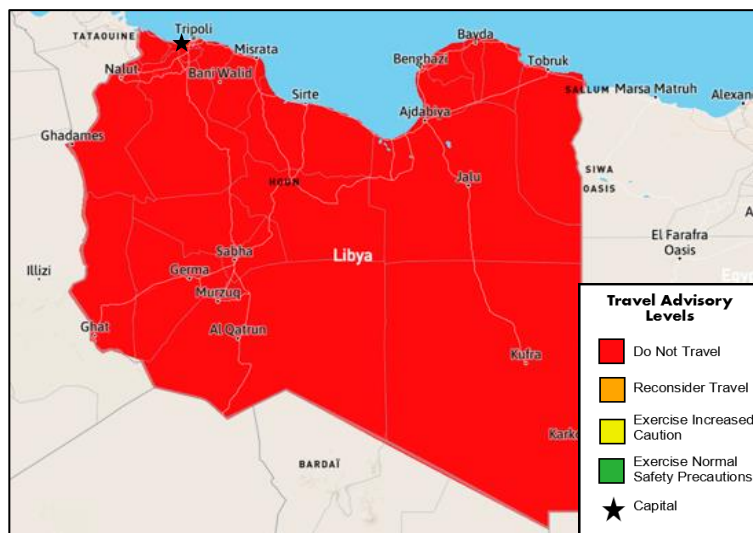


Libya

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Libya is extremely dangerous. It is advised to avoid travel to Libya. Travel is unsafe due to armed conflict, terrorism, civil unrest, and crime. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of high levels of terrorist activity and crime, including kidnapping for ransom, suicide bombings, and the use of vehicle-borne or other improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Crime levels in Libya remain high, including the threat of kidnapping for ransom. Westerners and U.S. citizens have been targets of these crimes. Terrorist groups continue plotting attacks in Libya. Violent extremist activity in Libya remains high, and extremist groups have made threats against U.S. government officials and citizens. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, hotels, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and government facilities.



Outbreaks of violence between competing armed groups can occur with little warning and have the potential to impact U.S. citizens. The capital, Tripoli, and other cities, such as Surman, Al-Jufra, Misrata, Ajdabiya, Benghazi, Sabha, and Derna, have witnessed fighting among armed groups as terrorist attacks. Hotels and airports frequented by Westerners have been the targets of these attacks. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Militia or armed groups sometimes detain travelers for arbitrary reasons, do not grant detainees access to a lawyer or a legal process, and do not allow detainees to inform others of their status. U.S. citizens should carry proof of citizenship and valid immigration status at all times, but having these documents does not guarantee fair treatment.

On March 10, 2021, the Parliament approved the formation of a unity government to be led by Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah to replace the internationally recognized government in Tripoli and a rival government in Tobruk. The move is part of an ongoing United Nations (U.N.)-sponsored peace process. Defer non-essential travel to Libya. Travelers are advised to take advantage of commercial flights while they are operating.

Some international and national airports are closed, and flights out of operational airports are sporadic and may be canceled without warning. The U.S. government is very concerned about targeting commercial transportation in Libya and prohibits U.S. commercial aviation operations within Libyan airspace.

The U.S. government is unable to provide emergency or routine assistance to U.S. citizens in Libya, as the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli suspended its operations in July 2014.

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Mali

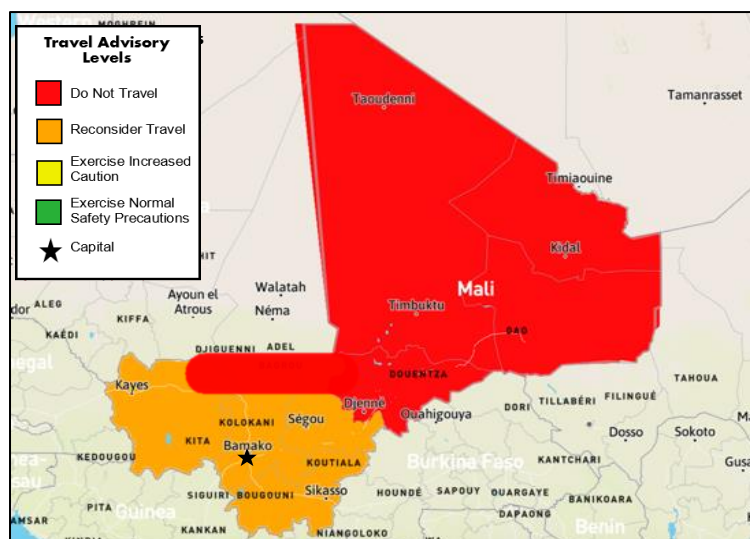
Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Mali is extremely dangerous. It is advised to avoid travel to Mali, if possible. Travel is unsafe due to political instability, crime, and terrorism. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity and violent crimes such as kidnapping and armed robbery.

Violent crime, such as kidnapping and armed robbery, is common in Mali. Violent crime is a particular concern during local holidays and seasonal events in Bamako, its suburbs, and Mali's southern regions. Roadblocks and random police checkpoints are commonplace throughout the country, especially at night. Terrorists and armed groups continue plotting kidnappings and attacks in Mali. They may attack with little or no warning, targeting nightclubs, hotels, restaurants, places of worship, Western diplomatic missions, and other locations frequented by foreigners. The U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in the northern and central regions of Mali as U.S. government employee travel to these regions is restricted due to security concerns.

Anti-government unrest is expected to continue, arising out over a host of issues. These include national strikes by police and teachers' unions, arrests of anti-corruption activists, allegations of voter fraud in the March legislative elections, inter-communal clashes in northern and central regions, and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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North Korea

Risk Level: **Extreme**

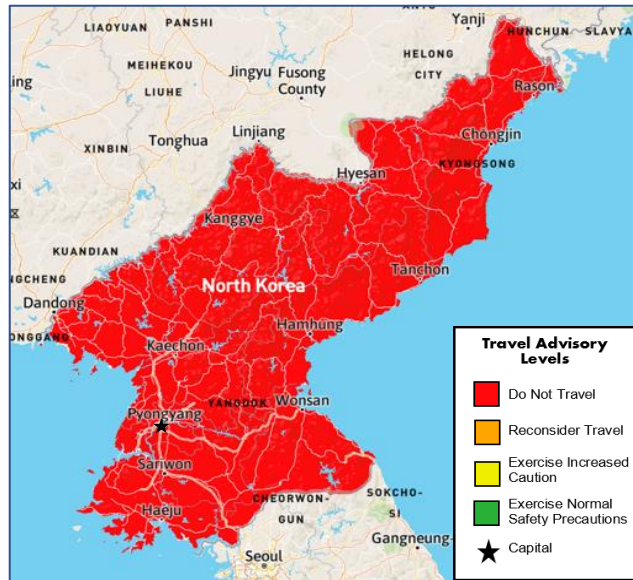
Country Overview:

The security situation remains volatile on the Korean peninsula, and North Korea's political tensions can change with little notice and with no warning. This poses an extreme risk to visitors.

Travel is unsafe due to the serious risk of arrest and long-term detention. In addition, U.S. passports are not valid for travel to, in, or through North Korea without a specific validation from the U.S. Department of State. Special validations are granted only in limited circumstances.

North Korea raised tensions in June 2020, with threats to retaliate over what it says is Seoul's refusal to crack down on defector groups. North Korea's military also threatened to move back into demilitarized zones under inter-Korean peace agreements as the communist country continued to dial up pressure on South Korea. During the tensions, North Korea blew up an inter-Korean liaison office building on June 16, 2020.

The U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in North Korea as it does not have diplomatic or consular relations with North Korea. Sweden serves as the protecting power for the United States in North Korea, providing limited emergency services. The North Korean government routinely delays or denies Swedish officials' access to detained U.S. citizens.



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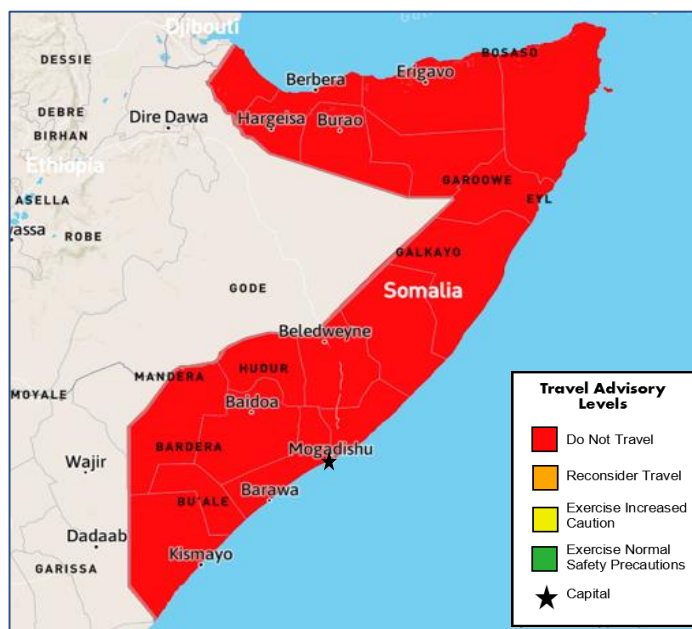
Somalia

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Somalia is extremely dangerous. Travel is unsafe due to crime, terrorism, and piracy. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity and violent crime, such as kidnapping and murder, which is common throughout the country.

Al-Shabaab has lost control of a large portion of their southern and central Somalia territory due to the success of the Africa Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)-led Operation Indian Ocean offensive. Coupled with the regular cross-border fighting, Somalia has multiple violent risks that can endanger travelers and residents alike. There is a current outbreak of polio that has the potential to impact travelers. Medical facilities across Somalia have limited capacity and are often non-existent in rural areas.



Deadly attacks by Al-Shabaab continue. In Mogadishu, a suicide attack near the Halane airport compound killed at least ten on September 14, and a suicide car bomb near the president's residence killed at least another ten. The extremist group demonstrated its capacity to undertake mortar attacks throughout the country, with incidents recorded in Middle Shabelle, Gedo, and Bari regions in September 2021. The group also continued to impose blockades on urban centers in the Bakool region, notably Huddur and Wajid, causing food shortages. Meanwhile, clashes on September 30 broke out between Ahlu Sunna Waljama'a (ASWJ) militia and Galmudug state forces in the Bohol area (Galgaduud region).

Violent crime, such as kidnapping and murder, is common throughout Somalia, including Puntland and Somaliland. Illegal roadblocks are also widespread. Several schools acting as "cultural rehabilitation" facilities are operating throughout Somalia with unknown licensing and oversight. Reports of physical abuse and people being held against their will in these facilities are common.

Terrorists continue to plot kidnappings, bombings, and other attacks in Somalia. They may conduct attacks with little or no warning, targeting airports and seaports, government buildings, hotels, restaurants, shopping areas, and other areas where large crowds gather and Westerners frequent, as well as government, military, and Western convoys. Among others, methods of attack can include car bombs, suicide bombers, individual attackers, and mortar fire.

The U.S. government has extremely limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Somalia due to the lack of permanent consular presence.

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South Sudan Risk Level: **Extreme**

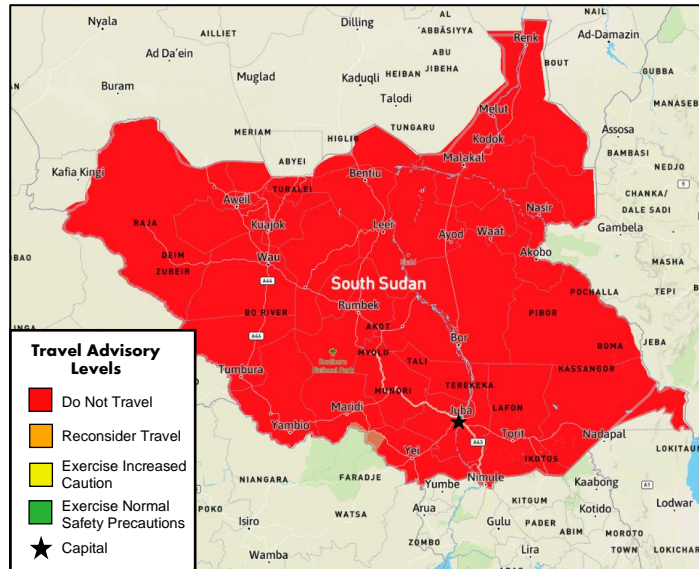
Country Overview:

The security situation in South Sudan is extremely dangerous. Travel is unsafe due to crime and armed conflict. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of armed clashes, border disputes, ethnic violence, and crime, including carjacking, shootings, ambushes, assaults, robberies, and kidnappings. Travelers to South Sudan should ensure that they have comprehensive contingency plans that do not depend on support from the Embassy.

Foreign nationals have been the victims of rape, sexual assault, armed robberies, and other violent crimes. Armed conflict is ongoing throughout the country and includes fighting between various political and ethnic groups, and weapons are readily available to the population. Journalist work is also highly dangerous and illegal without the proper documentation.

South Sudanese authorities have announced the closure of land borders, stay at home orders, travel restrictions, and other emergency conditions until further notice due to COVID-19.

It is advised to avoid all travel to South Sudan.



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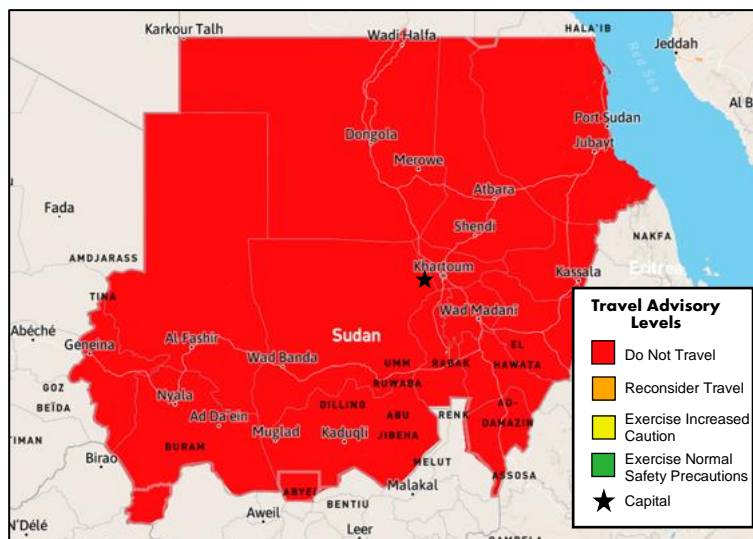


Sudan

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Sudan is extremely dangerous. Travel is unsafe due to crime, terrorism, kidnapping, and armed conflict. Armed conflict and criminal activity are particularly present in contested regions, although kidnappings, armed robberies, and carjacking occur in all parts of the country. There has since been increased military activity in the capital city of Khartoum and nearby Omdurman, with bridges linking the two cities across the River Nile being closed off. Sudan's journey to democratic rule has been fragile since the April 2019 military ouster of the longtime ruler, Omar al-Bashir, after months of intense protests. A power-sharing agreement was then established to form a government involving the military, civilian representatives, and protest groups. On September 21, 2021, at least 40 military officers were arrested following a failed coup and attempt to take control of the public media building in Omdurman, across the Nile River from the capital Khartoum.



Crime, such as kidnapping, armed robbery, home invasion, and carjacking, can occur. This type of crime is more frequent outside of Khartoum. Members of known terrorist groups and individuals sympathetic to these groups in Sudan could attack with little or no warning, targeting foreign and local government facilities and areas frequented by Westerners. Demonstrations can occur with no warning. The most recent demonstrations in Khartoum have been peaceful. However, police and other security forces may intervene to disperse demonstrators, including with the use of tear gas, when protests occur near key governmental locations and impair freedom of movement.

Violence continues along the border between Chad and Sudan and areas near the border with South Sudan (including the disputed Abyei area). Armed opposition groups are active in Central Darfur state. Intercommunal clashes can occur throughout the country and can result in the declaration of localized States of Emergency. The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens outside of Khartoum, as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization from the Sudanese government to travel outside Khartoum.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Sudan.

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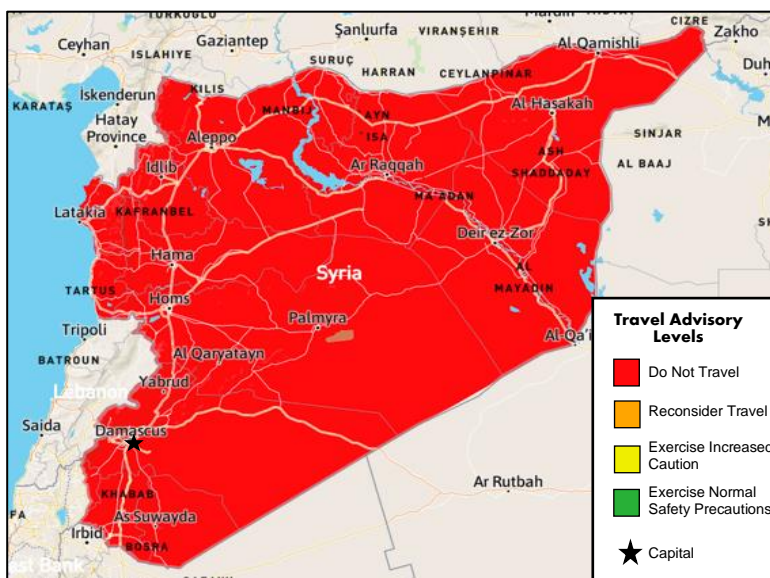
Syria

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Syria is extremely dangerous. It is advised to avoid travel to Syria. Travel is unsafe due to armed conflict, terrorism, and civil unrest. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because no part of Syria is considered safe from violence. Widespread military operations involving chemical warfare, shelling, and aerial bombardment have significantly raised the risk of death or serious injury.

The Syrian regime has used deadly force to quell anti-government protests and is engaged in a full-scale civil war with armed groups. The government is no longer in control of vast swathes of the country, particularly in northern, southern, and eastern Syria and the Damascus suburbs. Some armed groups have utilized car bombs, improvised explosive device/indirect-fire attacks, sniper fire, and carried out kidnappings throughout the country. No part of Syria is safe from violence.



The U.S. Embassy in Damascus suspended its operations in February 2012. The Czech Republic serves as the protecting power for the United States in Syria. The range of consular services that the Czech Republic provides to U.S. citizens is extremely limited (to include accepting applications for U.S. passports and U.S. Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, as well as providing notarial services), and the U.S. government is unable to provide any emergency services to U.S. citizens in Syria. U.S. citizens in Syria who seek consular services should try to leave the country and contact a U.S. embassy or consulate in a neighboring country quickly and safely.

Long-standing conflict with neighboring states and porous borders have contributed to a complex and unpredictable security environment. There is an ongoing risk of kidnapping and detentions of U.S. citizens and Westerners throughout the country. U.S. citizens remain a target, with many abductions having occurred since mid-2012 and as recently as early 2019. U.S. citizens are targets of arbitrary abduction and detention by the Syrian government and do not have access to due process or medical attention while in detention. Government detention centers are known to be unsanitary facilities where cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment of detainees has been documented, as well as torture and extrajudicial killings.

Some international commercial flights to and from Damascus International Airport are now operational. It is, however, advised to avoid all travel to Syria.

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Venezuela
Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Venezuela is extremely dangerous. Travel is unsafe due to ongoing political instability, crime, poor health infrastructure, and arbitrary arrest and detention of foreign nationals. Political marches and demonstrations, which occasionally become violent, are frequent in all areas, and crimes like homicide, armed robbery, kidnapping, drug trafficking, and carjacking are common.

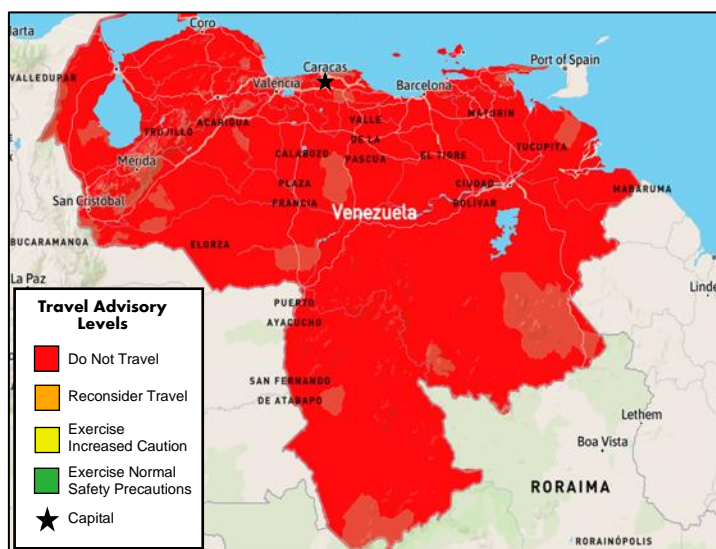
Demonstrations typically elicit a strong police and security force response that includes tear gas, pepper spray, water cannons, and rubber bullets against participants and occasionally devolve into looting and vandalism. The United Nations Human Rights Council's Fact-Finding Mission reported that the regime has engaged in thousands of extrajudicial killings.

In addition, some of Venezuela's land and sea borders are subject to closure. U.S. citizens residing or traveling in Venezuela are advised to depart the country. Consular access to detained U.S. citizens is severely restricted, and the U.S. government is highly unlikely to be granted access. Security forces have arbitrarily detained U.S. citizens for long periods. Venezuelan authorities may not notify the U.S. government of the detention of a U.S. citizen.

Since March 11, 2019, the U.S. Department of State suspended all operations at the U.S. Embassy in Caracas and has withdrawn all diplomatic personnel from Venezuela. The U.S. has additionally suspended all nonstop flights between Venezuela and the U.S. until further notice. Around 150,000 troops, plus tanks, missile launchers, and aircraft were deployed on the Colombian border amid renewed tensions between Bogota and Caracas.

Cases of the coronavirus in Venezuela have been reported, and the government of Venezuela imposed strict confinement measures. After months of a COVID-19 lockdown, which halted one of the world's biggest migration movements in recent years, October 9, 2020, saw thousands of Venezuelans begin to flee their nation's economic and humanitarian crisis.

There are shortages of food, electricity, water, medicine, and medical supplies throughout much of Venezuela, and it is advised to avoid all non-essential travel.



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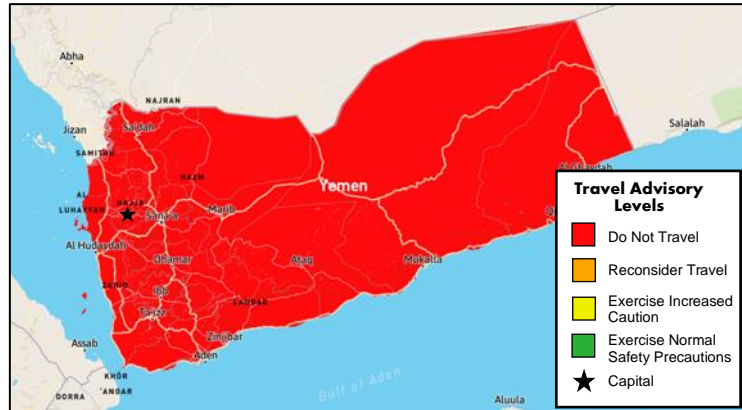


Yemen

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Yemen is extremely dangerous. Travel is unsafe due to armed conflict, terrorism, and civil unrest. There is an extreme risk to health and personal safety because of ongoing military conflict, heightened terrorist activity, kidnappings for ransom, and unlawful detentions by rebel groups. Employees of western organizations may be targeted for attack or kidnapping. Military conflict has caused significant destruction of infrastructure, housing, medical facilities, schools, and power and water utilities. This limits the availability of electricity, clean water, and medical care.



The U.S. Embassy in Sana'a suspended its operations in February 2015, and the U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens. Cholera is also present throughout Yemen, and the provision of adequate medical supplies is either extremely limited or unavailable.

There is a very high risk of kidnapping, and detention of U.S. citizens in Yemen, particularly dual national Yemeni Americans. Rebel groups in Sana'a have detained U.S. citizens, including dual Yemeni-American citizens. U.S. citizens, including dual nationals, have faced difficulty when attempting to depart Yemen, including lengthy delays.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Yemen.





HIGH RISK COUNTRIES

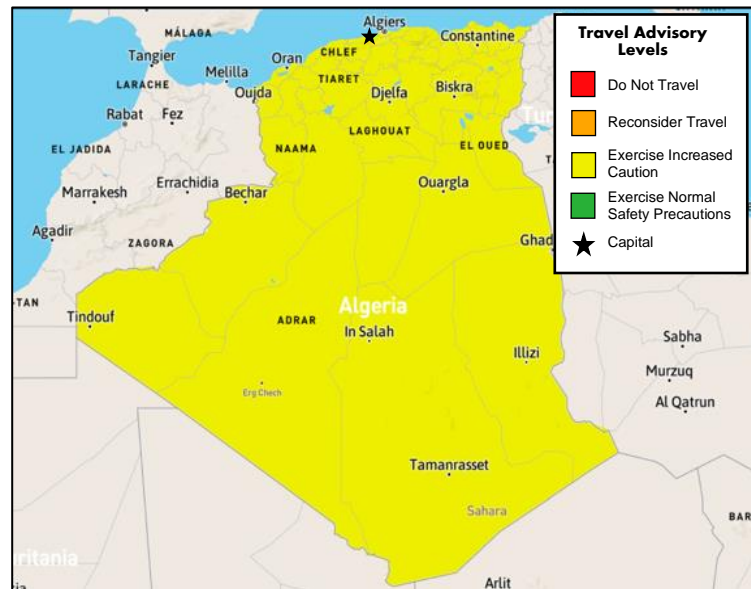


Algeria

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Algeria is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Algeria due to terrorism. There is an overall moderate level of risk to personal safety and security because terrorists are likely to carry out attacks, including kidnappings, and civil disturbances sometimes occur throughout the country. Since February 2019, mass protests have taken place across Algeria in demand of immediate political reform. On June 2, 2019, Algeria's Constitutional Council announced the cancelation of presidential elections scheduled for July 4. Travelers to the country should avoid political gatherings and demonstrations and follow local advice.



Avoid traveling to rural areas within 50 km (31 miles) of the border with Tunisia and within 250 km (155 miles) of Libya, Niger, Mali, and Mauritania due to terrorism and criminal activities, including kidnapping.

The Algerian government has started to ease the measures it has taken to limit the spread of COVID-19 by allowing more businesses to reopen and allowing public transportation in cities to resume. The lifting of restrictions will be gradual and dependent on the evolution of COVID-19 cases in Algeria. Non-cargo international air and maritime travel remain closed. Masks are required in public spaces.

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Azerbaijan

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

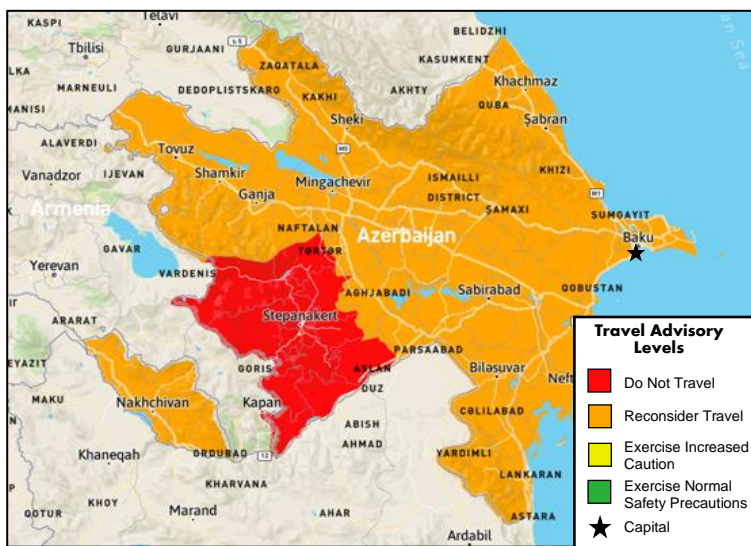
Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Azerbaijan is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Azerbaijan due to the risk of terrorism and armed conflict. There is a moderate threat to personal safety and security because terrorist groups continue to plot attacks. Casualties continue to occur in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict with Armenia.

Azerbaijan and Armenia have seen the worst fighting in decades over the Nagorno-Karabakh disputed territory, with reports of over 1,000 civilian casualties. On November 9, 2020, a peace deal was signed by Russia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, after six weeks of fighting between Azerbaijan and ethnic Armenians. Effective from November 10, the peace deal aims to resolve the dispute but is being seen as a win for Azerbaijan. The region is internationally recognized as Azerbaijani but has been governed by ethnic Armenians since 1994. Approximately 100,000 people have been displaced in Nagorno-Karabakh since the conflict re-erupted on September 27, 2020.

Casualties continue to occur in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Intermittent gunfire and occasional use of artillery systems, including land mines and mortars, result in deaths and injuries each year. Avoid roads near the 'line of contact' and roads near the international border between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Nagorno-Karabakh as U.S. government employees are restricted from traveling there.

Travelers are advised to avoid all travel to Nagorno-Karabakh and its surrounding regions.



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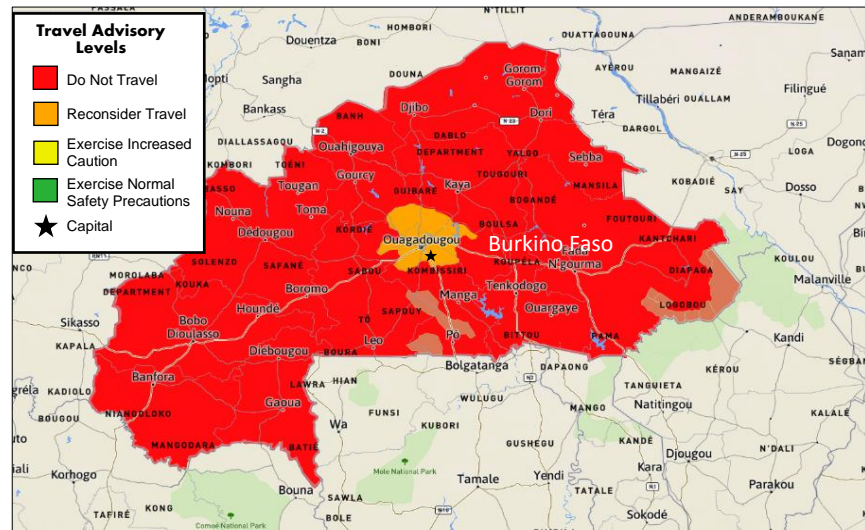


Burkina Faso

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Burkina Faso is highly dangerous, with some parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Burkina Faso due to terrorism and crime. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity and common violent crime. On December 31, 2018, Burkina Faso declared a state of emergency in several parts of the country, including the whole of the Est and Sahel regions, the western provinces of Kossi and Sourou, the central-eastern province of Koulpélogo, the western province of Kénédougou, and the northern province of Lorum. Since then, dozens of people have died in ethnic clashes in areas under threat from Islamist militant attacks. There have been regular attacks on police, military personnel, and civilians, particularly close to the borders with Mali, Niger, and Cote d'Ivoire as well as in the Eastern Region. Further attacks are likely.



Kidnapping and hostage-taking are a threat throughout the country. On May 10, 2019, a hostage rescue operation freed four international hostages that had been kidnapped in Burkina Faso and in neighboring Benin.

It is advised not to travel to the following parts of Burkina Faso: all areas of the country north of the town of Boulssa; within 80km of the western border with Mali; Sahel and Est Regions; and Koulpélogo Province in Centre-Est Region. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to the rest of Burkina Faso, including the capital Ouagadougou. All travel to Karpala, Balkiui, and Rayongo (also known as Dayongo) neighborhoods of Ouagadougou's Arrondissement 11 are restricted due to the potential for security operations.

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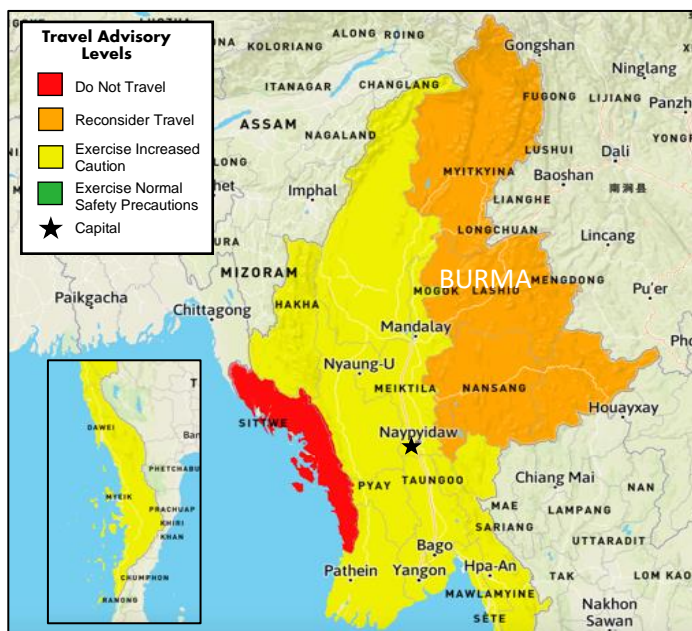
Burma (Myanmar)

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Myanmar is highly dangerous, with specific areas of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Myanmar due to civil unrest and armed conflict. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of fighting between the Myanmar military and various ethnic armed groups and militia forces.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Rakhine State due to civil unrest and armed conflict. Travel to townships in Chin State, Kayah State, Kachin State, and Shan State is not advised due to civil unrest and armed conflict. Travelers should avoid areas bordering China, Laos, Thailand, Bangladesh, and India.



On February 1, 2021, the former State Counsellor of Myanmar Aung San Suu Kyi was detained by the Myanmar military along with other senior figures from the ruling party over unsubstantiated claims of election fraud. The military has declared a state of emergency for one year and put Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in charge of the country. Since the coup, pro and anti-military rallies have been held in Yangon and Mandalay daily and often escalate into violence, with security forces regularly firing live ammunition at protestors. Hundreds of protestors having been killed, including children, resulting in widespread international condemnation. On August 1, 2021, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing declared himself Prime Minister, and August 2023 as the provisional date for new elections and an end to the state of emergency. Travelers are advised to avoid all protests.

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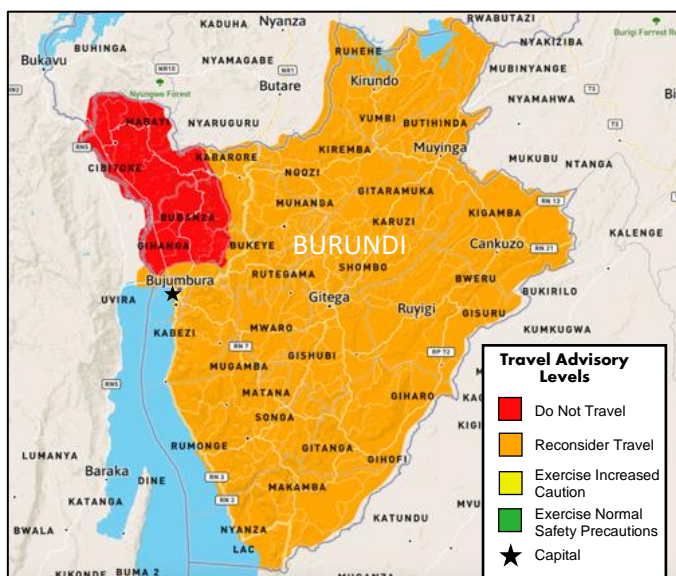


Burundi
Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Burundi is highly dangerous, with certain areas of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Burundi. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of ongoing political tensions, sporadic violence, clashes by armed groups, and serious crimes, such as armed robbery.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Cibitoke and Bubanza provinces; areas of Bujumbura Rural province west of the Rusizi river towards the Democratic Republic of the Congo border, except for the Rusizi Delta Nature Reserve; Ruvubu National Park; the road north of Bujumbura airport towards Cibitoke; and the main road running west from Kayanza through the Kibira National Park. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to the rest of Burundi (excluding airside transit through Bujumbura International Airport).



Medical services in Burundi fall well below U.S. standards, and there are no adequate trauma services in the country. Emergency medical and fire services are limited or non-existent in some areas of the country. The CDC has also issued a Level 1 Travel Notice on Malaria in Burundi. There are ongoing political tensions in Burundi, causing sporadic violence throughout the country. Police and military checkpoints are common and can restrict freedom of movement. Police have conducted weapon searches in the homes of private citizens.

Government officials announced that international flights remain suspended, but land borders have been opened for essential travel. Permitted travelers are required to present proof of a negative test no older than 72 hours. Masks are required in public spaces.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens throughout Burundi. Due to travel restrictions on U.S. Embassy personnel, the U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in the following areas: the provinces of Bubanza and Cibitoke, Kibira National Park (including the park's southernmost part in Muramvya province), and Ruvubu and Buriri Forest.

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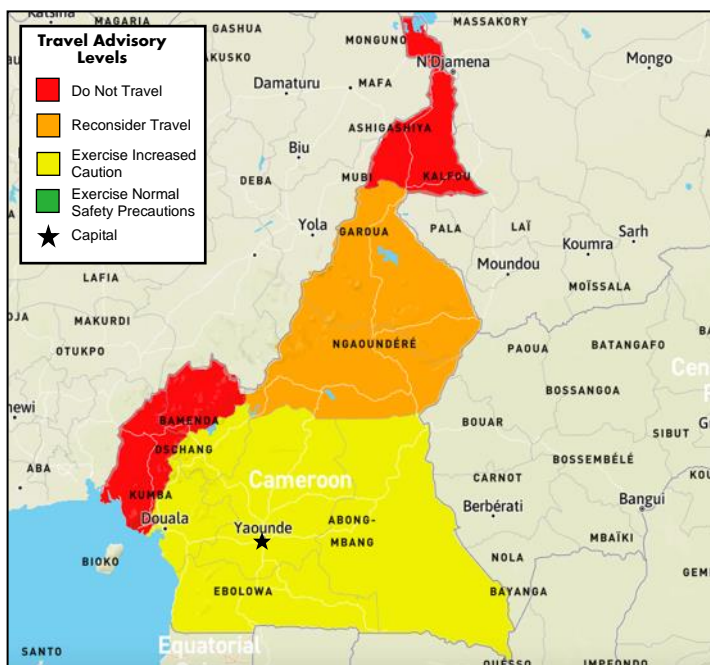
Cameroon

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in certain parts of Cameroon is extremely dangerous. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Cameroon due to crime, civil unrest, and terrorism. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity in Northern and Eastern Cameroon and violent crime, such as kidnapping, armed robbery, assault, and common carjacking.

Armed separatists announced extended general strikes in Northwest and South-West regions in 2019. There have also been multiple clashes between security forces and armed groups over the past year in many places in Northwest and South-West regions, including in the towns of Bafut, Tubah, Ndu, Widikum, and in Lebialem division, the Gughe village, DongaMantung division, the Kikaikelaki village (Kumbo commune), Bui division, Bamessing village (Ndop commune), Ngoketunjia division. Travelers should be vigilant, keep a low profile, and monitor local media.



The Southern Cameroons Defence Forces (SOCADEF) announced a two-week ceasefire effective from March 29 amid the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. The Ambazonia Defence Forces (ADF) militia was also not immediately expected to join the ceasefire in the Anglophone Southwest and Northwest regions. Limit outdoor exposure and exercise caution in the Anglophone Southwest and Northwest regions. Tensions remain high, and further unrest is likely.

It is advised to avoid travel to Far North Region; within 40km of the border with Nigeria, except Garoua in North Region; within 40km of the border with Chad; within 40km of the border with the Central African Republic (CAR); the Bakassi Peninsula; Northwest Region; and Southwest Region (including the towns of Buea, Muyuka, and Tiko in Fako Division), except Limbe in Fako Division. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to Limbe in the Fako Division of Southwest Region and the rest of North and Adamawa Regions, including Garoua in North Region.

Due to current official travel restrictions, the U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in the North, Far North, Northwest, Southwest, and Parts of Adamawa and East Regions of Cameroon.

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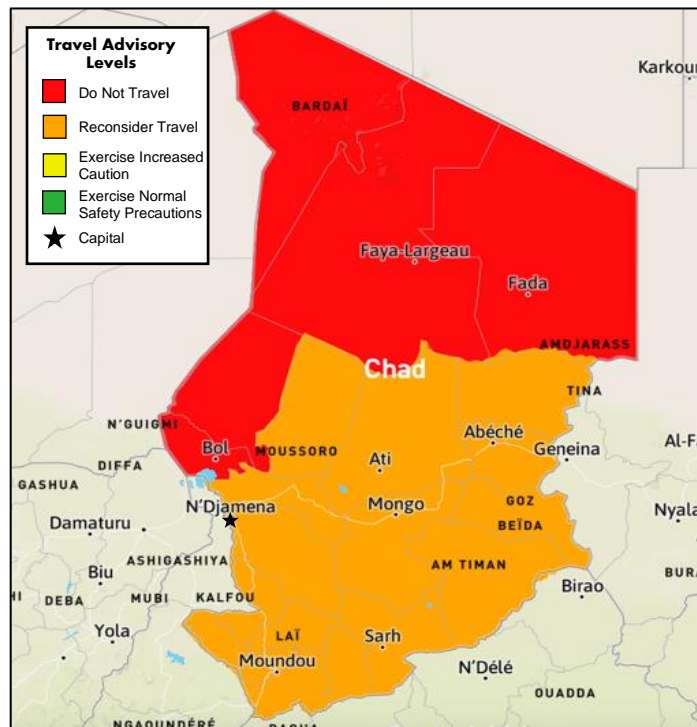
Chad

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Chad is highly dangerous, with some parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Chad due to crime, terrorism, and the existence of minefields. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of widespread violent crimes, such as armed robbery and mugging, as well as terrorist attacks and minefields along the borders with Libya and Sudan.

It is advised not to travel at all to the following areas in Chad: areas within 30km of all borders, except for the capital N'Djamena (where it is advised to limit all but essential travel); within 30km of Lake Chad and the parts of Kanem and Lac regions to the west of the towns of Mao and Bol; the regions of Ennedi, and Tibesti; and the region of Borkou, except within 30km of the town of Faya Largeau (where it is advised to limit all but essential travel). It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the remaining parts of the country, including the capital, N'Djamena, and the town of Faya Largeau.



The President of Chad Idriss Deby Itno was killed in battle while fighting rebels en route to N'Djamena, Chad's capital city. The military has taken control of the country in the interim, announcing that the late President's son, General Mahamat Idriss Deby Itno, would serve as interim head of state. Parliament and the government have been dissolved and replaced by a transitional military council. The interim government will operate for 18 months. All borders were closed, and a curfew was implemented as unrest was expected. The President's death comes just after he was declared the winner in the recent contested elections, which would have seen him head the state for the next six years.

The U.S. Government has extremely limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Chad as U.S. Government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside of the capital, including the Lake Chad Basin.

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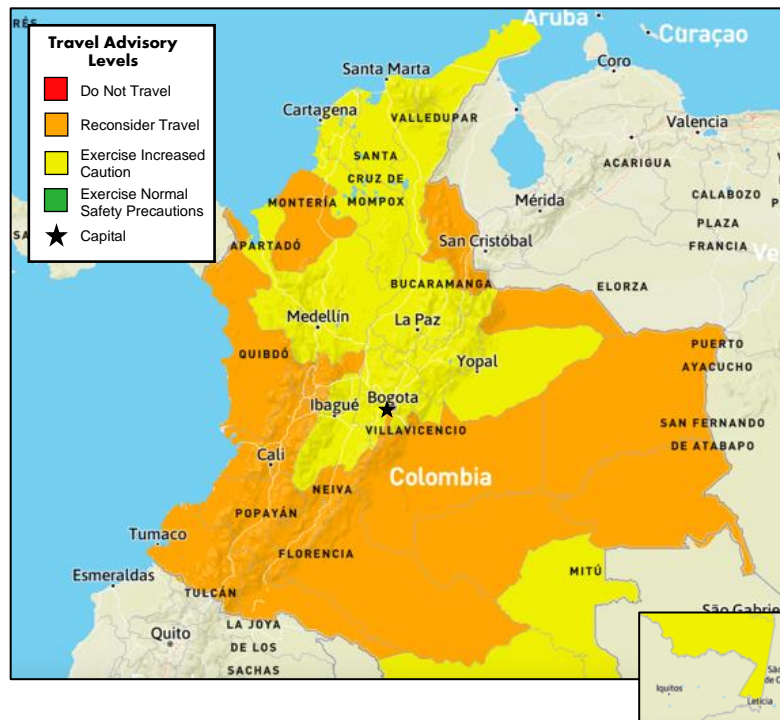


Colombia

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Colombia is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Colombia due to crime and terrorism. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because the National Liberation Army (ELN) continues to plot possible attacks, and violent and organized criminal activities, such as homicide, assault, armed robbery, extortion, and kidnapping, are common. On April 26, 2019, Colombia's Trasandino oil pipeline was bombed in western Narino province, marking the seventh attack in recent times. Travelers should be vigilant and pay close attention to warnings issued by the Colombian authorities.



It is advised to avoid all travel to areas within 20km of the Venezuela and Ecuador border, except the Pan American Highway crossing at Ipiales. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to the departments of Antioquia (except Medellín); Arauca; Caquetá; Cauca (except Popayan); Chocó (except its capital Quibdó and the whale-watching towns of Nuquí, Baniá, Solano, and Capurganá); Guainía; Guaviare; Meta (except Villavicencio and the tourist site of Caño Cristales); Nariño (except Pasto and the border crossing of Ipiales); Norte de Santander; Putumayo; Valle de Cauca (except Cali); and Vichada.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens as U.S. government personnel cannot travel to these areas because of security restrictions and limited domestic travel options.

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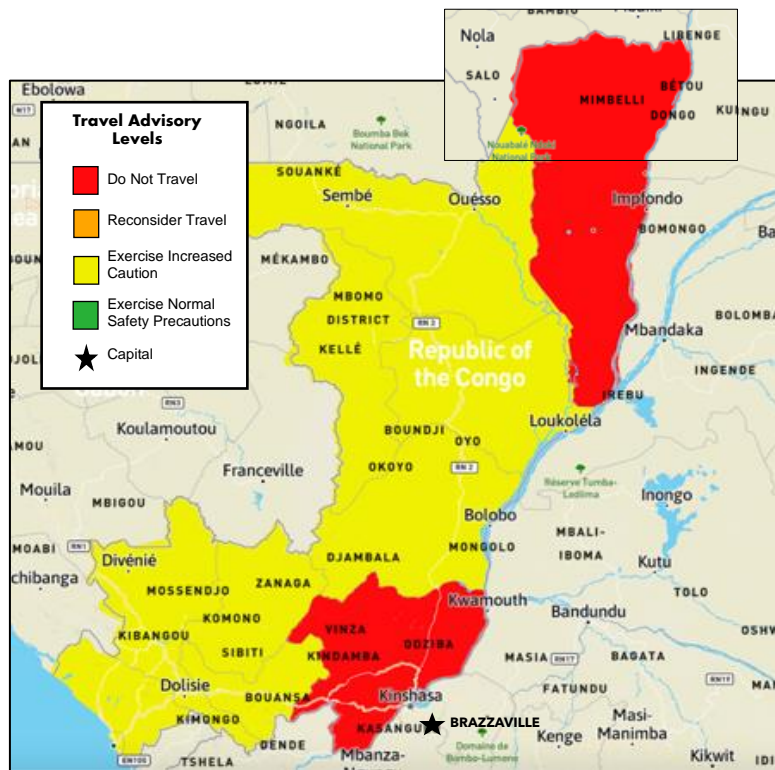
Congo (Republic of)
Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in specific parts of the Republic of the Congo is extremely dangerous. It is advised to exercise increased caution while in the country due to crime and civil unrest. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because violent crime, such as armed robbery and assault, is common. In addition, political demonstrations and armed clashes can be unpredictable.

It is advised to avoid all travel to the southern and western districts of the Pool region, including the Boko, Kindamba, Kinkala, Mayama, and Mindouli districts; the Mouyondzi district of Bouenza region; and within 50km of the border with the Central African Republic in Likouala region. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the Brazzaville region, except for the city of Brazzaville and the Ngabe district of the Pool region.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens outside Brazzaville.



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Cuba

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Cuba is relatively stable and characterized by a strong military and police presence. American citizens should exercise increased caution due to health attacks targeting numerous U.S. Embassy employees. The personal safety and security of other travelers in Cuba may also be at risk. While there is no recent history of terrorism in Cuba, attacks cannot be ruled out.



On July 11, thousands of people took to the streets in Cuba to peacefully protest over the economy, shortages of medicines, the response to COVID-19, and harsh restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly. The protests evolved into thousands of people calling for an end to the 62-year-old communist regime in the country. They started in the western city of San Antonio de los Baños and later spreading to more than 40 cities and towns, including the capital Havana. State security forces responded heavy-handedly, resulting in over 100 arrests, internet service disruption, and the destruction of property. Hundreds of Cubans lined up outside police stations to look for missing relatives whose whereabouts were unknown.

Travelers to Cuba may experience border closures, airport closures, travel prohibitions, stay-at-home orders, business closures, and other emergency conditions within Cuba due to COVID-19. It is advised to avoid Hotel Nacional and Hotel Capri in Havana. If you experience any unusual acute auditory or sensory phenomena, immediately move to another area.

Raul Castro has retired and stepped down as the first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, transferring power to President Miguel Diaz-Canel. In the short term, little change is expected as Diaz-Canel is a staunch ally and supporter of the Castro family.

The U.S. has declared Cuba a state sponsor of terrorism and has imposed sanctions over human rights violations. All travelers wishing to enter Cuba are required to quarantine for 14 days due to COVID-19. Upon arrival, travelers will have to undergo a PCR test as well as a temperature screening.

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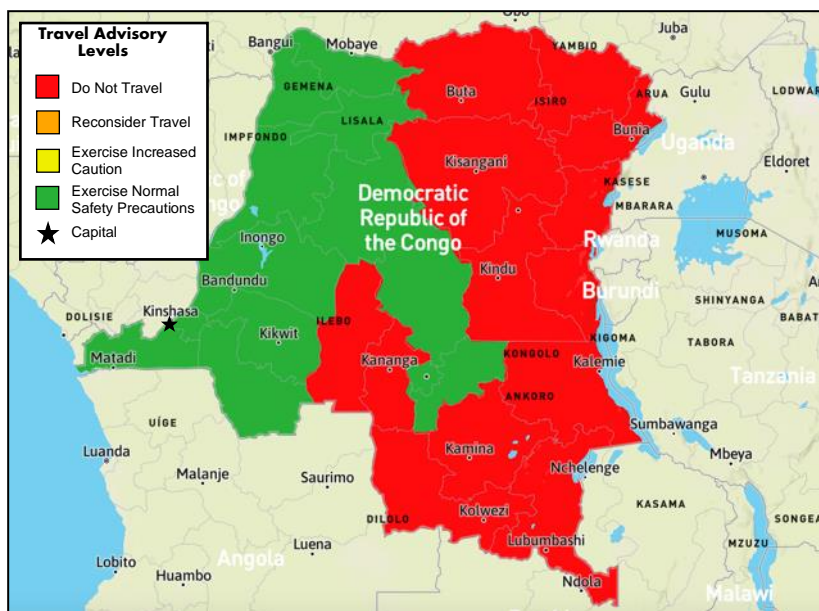
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

In some areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the security situation is highly dangerous, with extremely unsafe specific parts of the country. It is advised to reconsider travel to the DRC due to civil unrest and crime. It is advised to reconsider travel to the DRC due to civil unrest and crime.

There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of the activities of rebels and other armed groups, potential civil unrest, and outbreaks of violence, including killing, rape, kidnapping, and pillaging. Avoid overland travel in rural areas in eastern Congo. Contract a private security escort with local experience for business-critical travel.



The Ministry of Health of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) declared an outbreak of Ebola virus disease in North Kivu (Nord-Kivu) province, originating in Béni territory. On July 17, 2019, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). WHO officials reported that the Ebola death toll had reached more than 2,000. To control the spread of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), authorities have established health checkpoints throughout the Nord-Kivu, Ituri, and Sud-Kivu Provinces, including in the cities of Goma, Beni, and Butembo and in Virunga National Park. New checkpoints may be created with little notice. Medical workers combating the spread of Ebola have come under attack in the DRC. Perpetrators are sometimes members of terrorist groups, but the motives for these attacks are often unknown. The country is also experiencing an outbreak of measles. There have been over 180,000 suspected cases with nearly 3600 deaths, mostly children under five.

It is advised to avoid all travel to the provinces of Kasai, Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental, Sud-Kivu, Nord-Kivu, Ituri, Maniema, Tanganyika, Bas-Uélé, and Haut-Uélé as there have been sporadic and severe outbreaks of violence targeting civilians, including killing, rape, kidnapping, and pillaging. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the rest of the country.

On May 22, 2021, 6 miles north of the city of Goma, Mount Nyiragongo erupted, resulting in the displacement of over 400,000 thousand people fleeing for safety. The volcano last erupted in 2002 and killed 250 people after leaving over 120,000 people homeless. Experts consider Mount Nyiragongo to be the most actively dangerous volcano in Africa, and fears remain high over further eruption.

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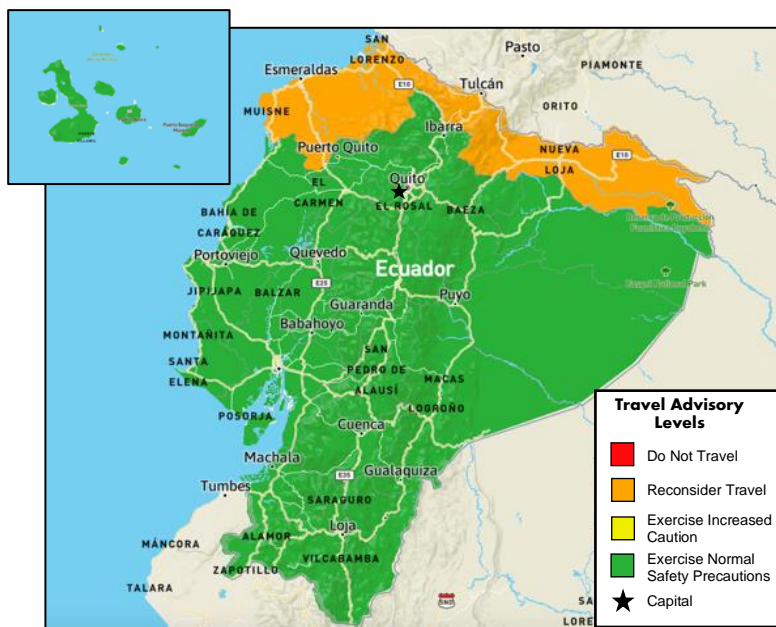


Ecuador

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Ecuador is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. Travelers are advised to exercise increased caution due to crime and terrorism. There is a heightened level of risk to personal safety and security in the northern border area with Colombia because it has a higher rate of crime, including kidnapping for ransom than the rest of the country. Serious, sometimes violent, demonstrations and road blockades occurred throughout Ecuador in October 2019, disrupting inter-city, inter-provincial, and international travel. Demonstrations and blockades could occur again in any location with little to no warning.



Reports indicate a recent increase in violent crime in Guayaquil, including multiple targeted assassinations and attempted assassinations against port employees. There has been a recent increase in violent crime in the southern region of Guayaquil as well. Any official personnel traveling to the port should take additional security.

Crime, particularly violent crime, is a concern throughout Ecuador. Limited police and judicial resources contribute to Ecuador's overall high crime rate. Pickpocketing, purse snatching, robbery, and theft of travel documents are the crimes most committed against U.S. citizens. It is advised to avoid all travel within 20km of the border with Colombia, except for the official border crossing town of Tulcan in Carchi province. It is further recommended to limit all but essential travel to Sucumbios and Esmeraldas provinces.

Transnational crime groups operating in Esmeralda's province have engaged in violent crime and killed local citizens in addition to carrying out bombings targeting the Ecuadorian military and law enforcement. The U.S. government is limited in its ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in the Colombian border area, as U.S. government personnel cannot travel to the provinces of Esmeraldas, Carchi, and Sucumbios without permission from the Embassy's security office. However, U.S. government personnel are permitted to travel to the northern bank of the Napo River in Sucumbios, an area approximately four miles wide, and the portion of Esmeraldas province that is south of Esmeraldas city.

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Egypt

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Egypt is highly dangerous, with specific areas of the country being extremely unsafe. Travelers to Egypt should exercise increased caution due to terrorism. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security due to several extremist organizations operating in Egypt. It is advised to avoid all travel to the Governorate of North Sinai due to the significant increase in criminal activity and continued terrorist attacks on police and security forces.

It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to the Governorate of South Sinai, except for the area within the Sharm el-Sheikh perimeter barrier, which includes the airport and the areas of Sharm el Maya, Hadaba, Naama Bay, Sharks Bay, and Nabq (although travel by air to or from Sharm el-Sheikh is not recommended); and the area west of the Nile Valley and Nile Delta regions, excluding the coastal areas between the Nile Delta and Marsa Matruh.



Local law prohibits protesting or demonstrating without a permit. Being near anti-government protests can draw scrutiny from Egyptian police and security forces. U.S. citizens have been detained for participating in demonstrations and posting content on social media perceived as critical of Egypt or its allies.

The U.S. Embassy may have limited ability to provide consular services to dual U.S.-Egyptian citizens. Egyptian law considers dual citizens to be Egyptian citizens.

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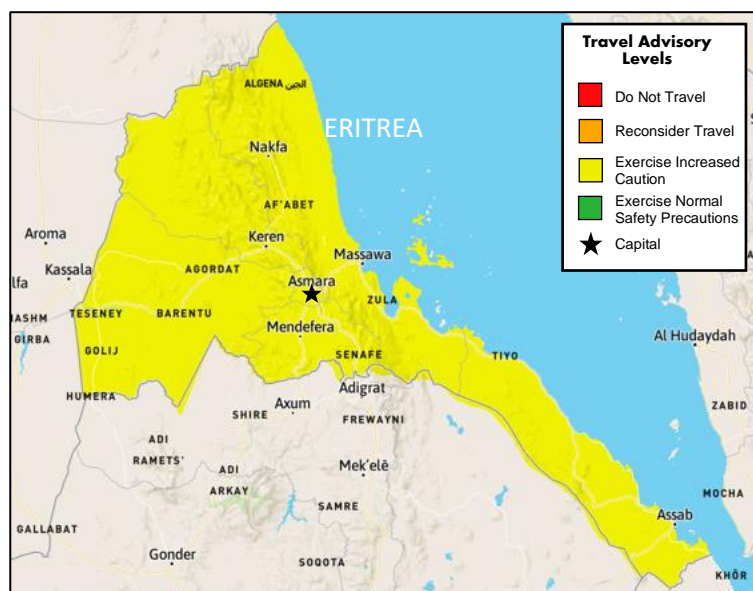


Eritrea

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Eritrea is extremely dangerous. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Eritrea due to travel restrictions, limited consular assistance, and political volatility. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of ongoing instability, tensions with Ethiopia, and the presence of landmines. There are landmines in many remote areas in Eritrea, particularly in Nakfa, AdiKeih, Arezza, the 40 km-wide regions between the Setit and Mereb Rivers, and in areas north and west of Keren, areas near Massawa, Ghinda, Agordat, Barentu, Dekemhare, and south of Tessenae.



On Saturday, November 14, 2020, three rockets were fired at Asmara and seemed to have been aimed at the capital's airport. The leader of Ethiopia's northern Tigray region confirmed, on the following Sunday, that his forces fired the missiles. There has been a long-standing feud between Eritrea and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). Eritrea could be drawn into the conflict between Tigray and Ethiopia, creating widespread concern for war escalation and further retaliation.

It is advised to avoid all travel within 25km of Eritrea's land borders, with the exceptions of the towns of Senafe and Tessenei, and the border crossings at Debay Sima – Burre, Serha – Zalambessa, and Kesadika (Adi Kuala) – Rama, plus the main paved roads leading to those crossings. All border crossings between Eritrea and Ethiopia are closed, and all foreign nationals, including diplomats, must apply in advance for a travel permit to leave Asmara.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Eritrea, as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside of Asmara. Eritrean law enforcement officials routinely block access to foreign nationals in detention. The U.S. Embassy, therefore, may not receive notification or be allowed access to you if you are detained or arrested.

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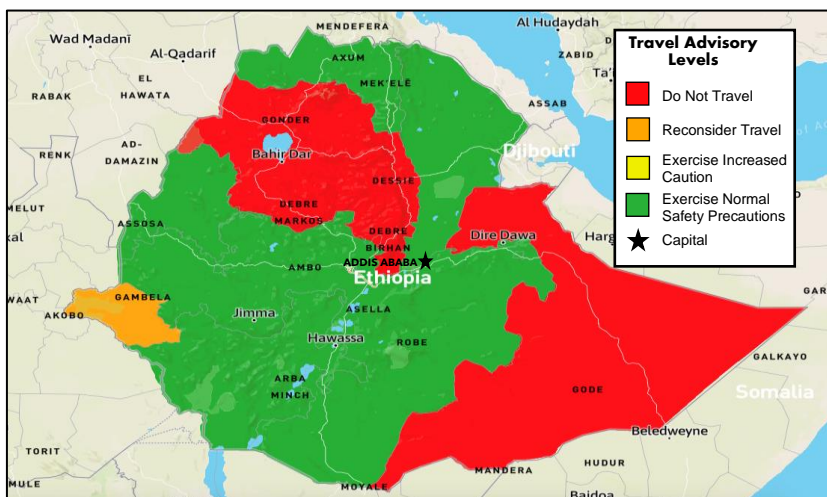
Ethiopia

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Ethiopia is highly dangerous, with certain areas of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Ethiopia due to the potential for civil unrest, crime, and terrorism.

There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because the country has been experiencing sporadic and spontaneous unrest. The Somali Regional State, as well as other border areas, presents a significant threat of terrorism. In addition, there has been ethnic violence in various parts of Addis Ababa. According to Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, there were attacks targeted against government officials in Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar on June 22, 2019, as part of an attempted coup. Travelers in Ethiopia should exercise caution around Addis Ababa, keep a low profile, and follow the advice of local authorities.



There has been ethnic violence in various parts of Addis Ababa. According to Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, there were attacks targeted against government officials in Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar on June 22, 2019, as part of an attempted coup. Travelers in Ethiopia should exercise caution around Addis Ababa, keep a low profile, and follow the advice of local authorities.

Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed ordered a military offensive in the northern Tigray state after accusing the state of attacking a government defense post on November 7, 2020. The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) has posed a serious threat to Abiy and the Ethiopian government, fearing that an uprising could result in a civil war. The conflict has killed thousands and displaced 1.7 million people, resulting in ethnic cleansing and sexual violence accusations. The U.N. has reported that parts of the Tigray region are facing severe famine.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Ethiopia's Somali region and the border areas with Sudan, Eritrea, Kenya, and South Sudan, including the Gambela region. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the Danakil Desert in the Afar region and the Guji and Borena zones of the Oromia region. In the wake of recent outbreaks of violence and property destruction, it is advised to avoid travel to the Amhara region. Avoid travel to the East Hararge region and the Guji zone of Oromia State as well as the Benishangul Gumuz and the western part of Oromia State due to armed conflict and civil unrest.

Ethiopia is currently in a dispute with Egypt and Sudan over constructing and filling the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile. The governments are currently in talks, mediated by the African Union, to reach a compromise.

The Government of Ethiopia has restricted or shut down the internet, cellular data, and phone services during and after civil unrest. These restrictions impede the U.S. Embassy's ability to communicate with and provide consular services to U.S. citizens in Ethiopia. The U.S. Embassy has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens outside of Addis Ababa.

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Georgia

Risk Level: **Low Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some areas of Georgia is dangerous, with specific parts of the country being extremely unsafe. Though it is advised to exercise normal safety precautions in Georgia, avoid travel to the Russian-occupied regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia due to civil unrest, crime, and landmines. There is a heightened risk to personal safety and security in these parts of Georgia because Russian troops and border guards occupy both regions. Several attacks, criminal incidents, and kidnappings have occurred.



It is advised to avoid all travel to South Ossetia and Abkhazia's breakaway regions and limit all but essential travel to areas near the Administrative Boundary Lines with Abkhazia and South Ossetia. Entering these Russian-occupied territories will likely result in arrest, imprisonment, or a fine.

Local authorities indicated that all public transport was suspended, and moving around cities and towns for non-emergency reasons was banned in Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti due to COVID-19. Checkpoints are set up at borders between municipalities to control vehicular traffic, and military, police, and health personnel reinforce directives.

The U.S. government is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens traveling in South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

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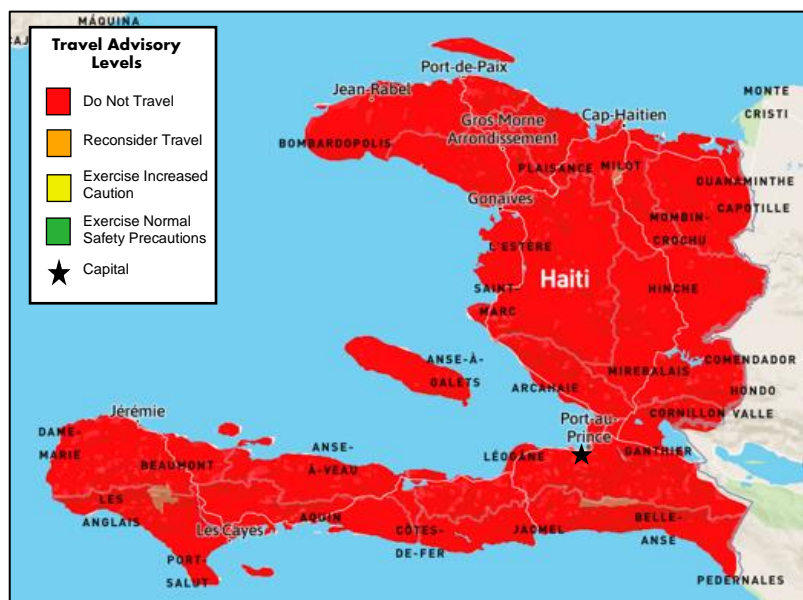
Haiti

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Haiti is unstable and extremely dangerous. It is advised to reconsider travel to Haiti due to civil unrest and crime. There is a high risk to personal safety and security due to the widespread violent and unpredictable demonstrations in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere in the country.

Haiti has been gripped by a series of violent protests and riots since early July 2018, leaving dozens of people dead. What began as social unrest in response to a proposed government hike in fuel prices has since morphed into an anti-corruption protest campaign, with deadly violence reigniting in November 2018 and again in February and September-December 2019 with sporadic killings reported at protests throughout 2020.



Protests have erupted even during COVID-19 restrictions, and further protests are likely as tensions remain high and protesters continue to demand the resignation of leading politicians and press for new elections. Haiti plunged deeper into a constitutional crisis on February 7, 2021, after at least 23 opposition figures, including the Inspector General of the National Police of Haiti and Supreme Court Justice Yvickel Dabrézil, were arrested on charges of organizing a coup against President Moïse. Protest clashes erupted in Port-au-Prince on February 8 amid a general strike as opposition figures appointed Supreme Court Judge Joseph Mécène Jean-Louis as an interim president, claiming that Moïse's term ended on February 7.

During the night of 6-7 July, the Haitian President, Jovenel Moïse, was assassinated at his private residence in Port-au-Prince during an attack. The First Lady, Martine Moïse, was also severely injured. The following day, Claude Joseph announced his leadership as Interim Prime Minister and issued an executive order instating a state of siege for 15 days. While the situation remained relatively calm, a resurgence of gang violence was observed over the following days.

It is advised to reconsider all travel to Haiti and particularly avoid the Bel Air, Carrefour, Cité Soleil, and Martissant neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince. Do not attempt to drive through roadblocks, and if you encounter a roadblock, turn around and get to a safe area. Travelers are sometimes followed and violently attacked and robbed shortly after leaving the Port-au-Prince international airport. The U.S. Embassy requires its personnel to use official transportation to and from the airport. Robbers and carjackers have attacked private vehicles stuck in heavy traffic congestion and often target lone drivers, particularly women driving alone.

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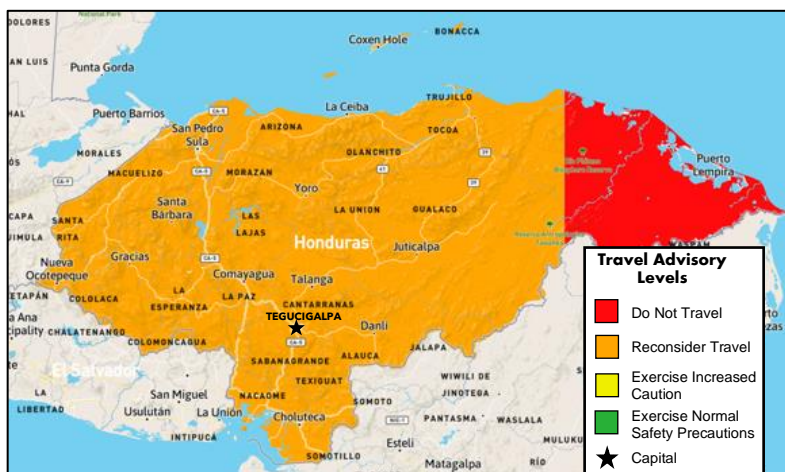
Honduras
Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Honduras is highly dangerous, with a specific part of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Honduras due to crime. There is a heightened risk to personal safety and security because of violent crimes, such as homicide and armed robbery.

Protests have regularly occurred across Honduras since June 2019. Travelers should avoid all demonstrations and follow the advice of local authorities. In

addition, there has been a sharp increase in cases of dengue fever in Honduras, particularly in the departments of Cortés, Yoro, Olancho, and Santa Bárbara. As a result, the Honduran government has declared a state of emergency. Travelers are advised to monitor local media for updates.



Gracias a Dios is an isolated area with high levels of criminal activity and drug trafficking. Infrastructure is weak, government services are limited, and police and military presence is scarce. It is advised to avoid all travel to Gracias a Dios Department and to limit all but essential travel to the rest of the country.

Preventative measures and restrictions are in place, including a nationwide curfew from 8 pm to 5 am. Local authorities have set specific time slots during which you can leave your home once within ten days. These are set according to your national I.D. card number. You must wear face-covering in public. If you violate the restrictions, you could be fined for endangering public health. Follow the instructions of local authorities, including those related to physical distancing. Avoid crowded areas.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Gracias a Dios.





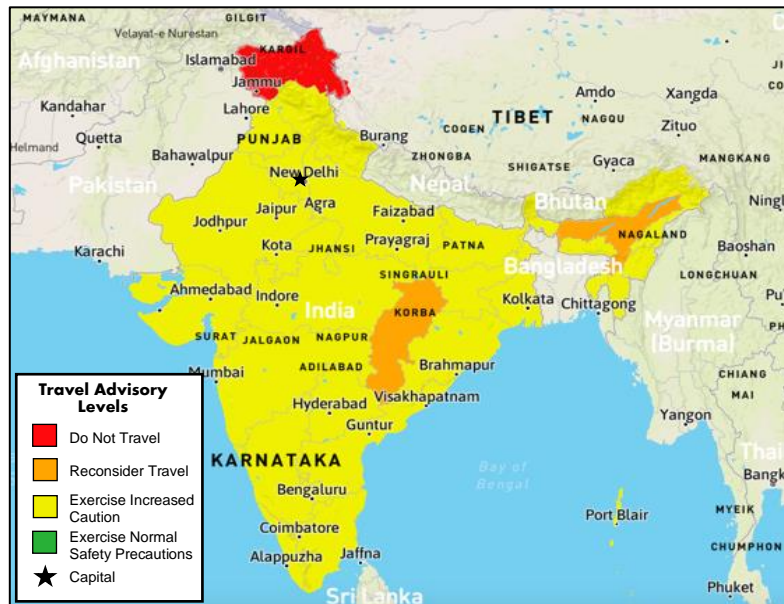
India

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of India is highly dangerous, with specific areas of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in India due to crime and terrorism. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist and insurgent activity, civil unrest and the potential for armed conflict, and violent crime, such as sexual assault.

Following a terrorist attack in the Kashmir region on February 14, 2019, tensions have been heightened between India and Pakistan. On August 5, 2019, India's government announced constitutional changes that will affect Jammu and Kashmir's internal political status. An increased security presence is now in place.



India has set a global record with daily COVID-19 infections topping 300,000. People are desperate to find hospital beds and oxygen cylinders in a health system struggling to manage the caseload and buckling under the strain in some parts of the country. Authorities had permitted a relaxation of measures that were put into place to control the spread of COVID-19, particularly permitting large gatherings, which is seen as leading to the severity of increased wave infections. There are also concerns that a new strain of COVID-19 may be more infectious. Emergency measures implemented in New Delhi have resulted in the mass movement of migrant workers who are returning home to their villages.

Exercise caution for travel across the country, particularly in New Delhi, Chandigarh and Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Karnataka states, in the near term due to ongoing protests over controversial new agricultural laws. Further disruptive demonstrations are likely due to the government's continued refusal to yield to protesters' demands.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Jammu and Kashmir (except the Ladakh region) and the India- Pakistan border (except Atari crossing). It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to the Northeastern states (Assam, except Guwahati, Nagaland, and Manipur), Chhattisgarh, and neighboring states' border areas.

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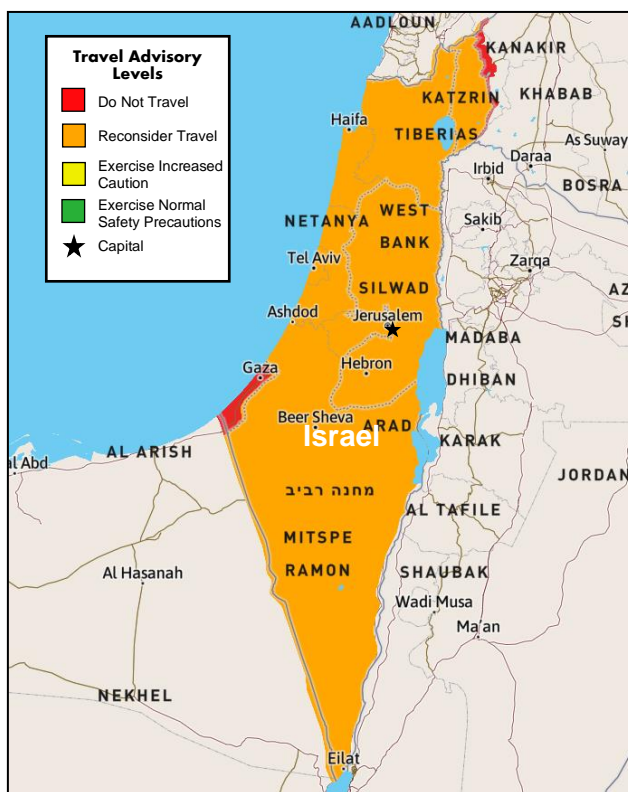
Israel

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza is unstable, and certain areas are extremely unsafe. Travelers to Israel or the Palestinian Territories are advised to exercise increased caution due to terrorism, civil unrest, and armed conflict. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of clashes between Palestinians and Israeli authorities.

Travelers to Israel should remain vigilant following the latest cross-border hostilities between Israel and Palestinians in Gaza. Overall violence involved militants in Gaza firing more than 4000 rockets into southern Israel, with hundreds of Israeli airstrikes launched in response. Egypt has facilitated a ceasefire between Israel and Gaza which came into effect on May 21, 2021. The peace remains fragile and is likely to be tested in the near future. It is advised to limit all but essential travel to the West Bank and within 5km of Gaza, and to avoid all travel to Gaza and the following areas of the Golan Heights: East of Route 98, Shebaa Farms, Ghajjar, and within 500m of the border with Lebanon east of Metula, including the northern edge of town.



Israel has stepped up its campaign against Iran as the U.S. and Iran are engaged in talks with the E.U. to restore the JCPOA, more commonly known as the Iran Nuclear Deal. Israeli spy networks have targeted Iranian sites related to their uranium enrichment program. This has led to Iran-backed forces engaging in rocket attacks on Israel. Rising tensions in the region are likely to see further aggressive acts in the short term.

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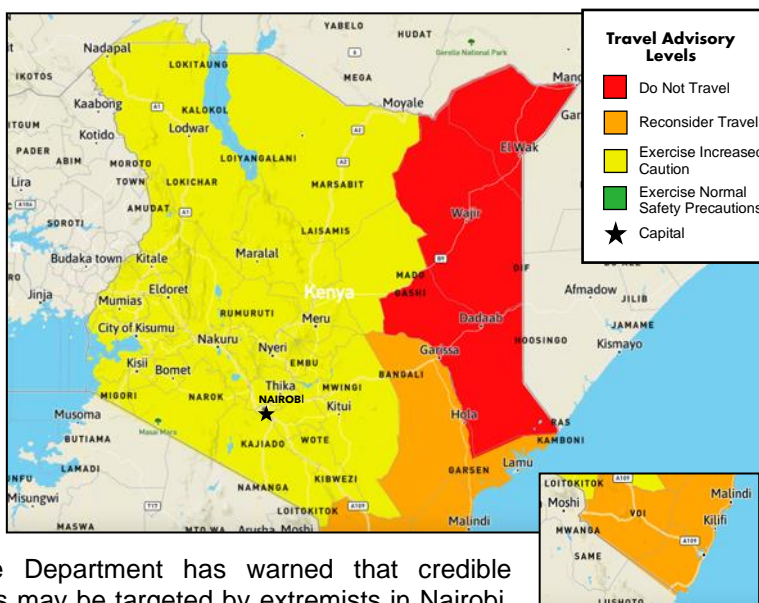
Kenya

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

In some areas of Kenya, the security situation is highly dangerous, with specific parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Kenya due to terrorism, health issues, and crime. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist attacks and violent crimes, such as armed carjacking, mugging, home invasion, and kidnapping.

On January 15, 2019, the Islamic militant group Al-Shabaab attacked the Dusit D2 complex in Nairobi, killing more than 20 people and injuring dozens more. U.S. State Department has warned that credible information indicates that westerners may be targeted by extremists in Nairobi, coastal areas of Kenya, and the towns of Naivasha and Nanyuki.



Cholera cases have also been detected in the counties of Narok, Kajiado, Garissa, and Machakos. Travelers are advised to monitor the latest updates from the World Health Organization.

It is advised to limit all but essential travel to Turkana County, coastal areas from Lamu county to Mombasa and its outskirts, and the A2 highway from Isiolo to Moyale due to crime. It is also advised to avoid all travel to border regions with Somalia, South Sudan, and Ethiopia.





Lebanon

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

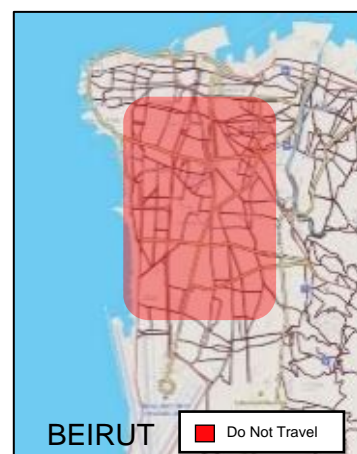
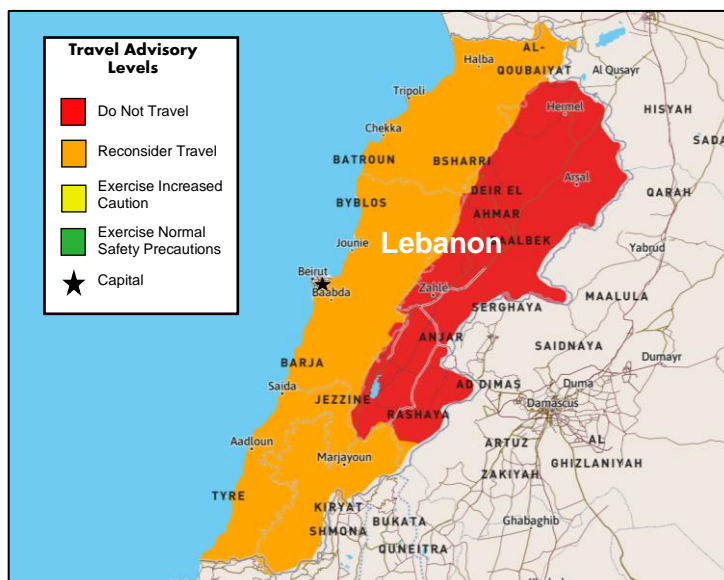
The security situation in Lebanon is highly dangerous, with some parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Lebanon due to crime, terrorism, and armed conflict. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity, armed clashes, kidnapping, and outbreaks of violence near Lebanon's borders with Syria and Israel.

Lebanon has witnessed frequent demonstrations by protesters seeking changes in government since October of 2019. While some protests have been peaceful, most have involved violence. U.S. citizens should avoid demonstrations and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings or protests. During the current period of civil unrest, protesters have blocked major roads, including the primary route to the U.S. Embassy and the direct road between downtown Beirut and Rafiq Hariri International Airport. It is advised to avoid all travel to Palestinian refugee camps, the Hermel Area, including Aarsal, Ras Baalbek, Qaa, Laboué, and Nahlé; and within 5km of the border with Syria and Israel due to potential for armed conflict.

It is advised to limit all but essential travel to Beirut's southern suburbs. This includes the neighborhoods of Bir assan, Ghobeiry, Chuya, Haret Hraik, Burj Al Brajne, Mraije, Er Rouais, and Laylake. This excludes the main airport highway, the Beirut-Saida (Sidon) road and west of the coast, and the area between the airport highway and the coast south of Abbas El Mousawi Road.

It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to all other areas of Akkar district between 5km from the Syrian border and the Aabdeh, Halba, and Qoubaiyat highway, including the towns of Halba and Qoubaiyat; the city of Tripoli; the town of Brital, and the area around it up to 5km from the Syrian border, and south of Nahlé town. This excludes Baalbek town; the towns of Rachaiya, Hasbaiya, and Kham, and the area between these towns up to 5km from the Syrian border; within 500m of the Ain el Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp in Saida (Sidon); and south of the Litani River except the main Naqoura-Tyre-Saida (Sidon)-Beirut highway and all areas to the west of it.

The Lebanese government cannot guarantee the protection of U.S. citizens against sudden outbreaks of violence. Family, neighborhood, or sectarian disputes can escalate quickly and can lead to gunfire or other violence with no warning. Armed clashes have occurred along the Lebanese borders, in Beirut, and in refugee settlements. The Lebanese Armed Forces have been brought in to quell the violence in these situations.



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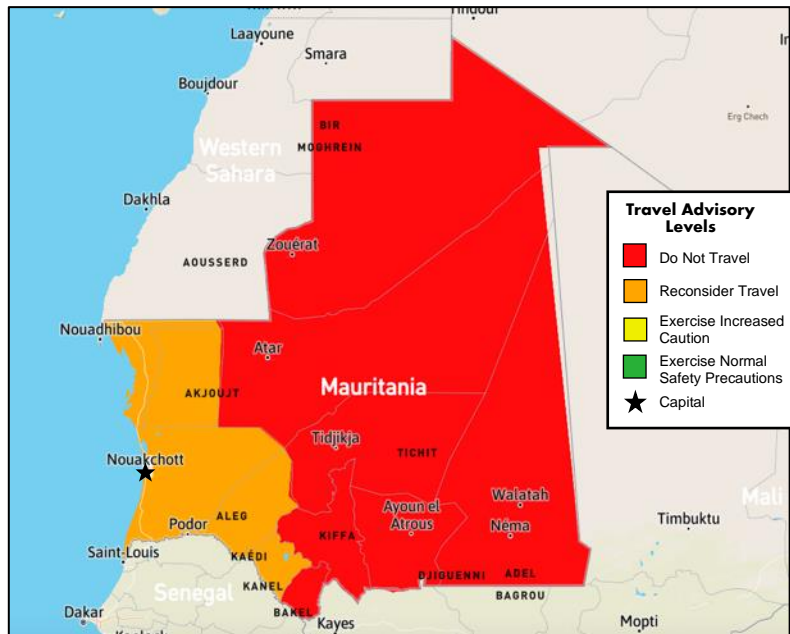
Mauritania

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Mauritania is highly dangerous, and specific parts of the country are extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Mauritania due to crime and terrorism. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of activities by terrorist groups and violent crimes, such as mugging, armed robbery, kidnapping, rape, and assault.

It is advised to avoid travel to the province of Tiris Zemmour (except the town of Zouérat); the province of Adrar (east of Atar); the provinces of Tagant, Hodh el Chargui, Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba, and Guidimaka; and within 25km of the Western Sahara border (except the Nouakchott - Nouadhibou corridor).



The government of Mauritania designates certain areas off-limits to foreigners and most Mauritaniens. These "No Movement Zones" are extremely dangerous due to their proximity to Mali, where armed groups engaged in an active insurgency carry out cross-border attacks into Mauritania. Negative PCR test results are required upon entry due to COVID-19.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Mauritania as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside Nouakchott.

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Mexico

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Mexico is highly dangerous, with specific areas of the country being extremely unsafe. Travelers to Mexico should exercise increased caution due to crime. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security in certain areas because of widespread violent crime, such as homicide, kidnapping, carjacking, and robbery.



It is advised to avoid all travel to Colima state, Guerrero state, Michoacán state, Sinaloa state, and Tamaulipas state. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to Chihuahua state, Coahuila state, Durango state, Estado de Mexico state, Jalisco state, Morelos state, Nayarit state, Nuevo Leon state, San Luis Potosi state, Sonora state, and Zacatecas state. Violent crime – such as homicide, kidnapping, carjacking, and robbery is widespread. Armed criminal groups have targeted and robbed commercial vessels, oil platforms, and offshore supply vessels in the Bay of Campeche.

In an attempt to disperse hundreds of abortion rights protesters who had gathered in the main Zócalo square near the National Palace in the capital of Mexico City, the police officers used tear gas and smoke bombs. Demonstrators surrounded the National Palace and threw projectiles at nearby security personnel. At least 37 people suffered injuries, including 27 police officers; four of the officers were hospitalized with serious injuries. Additionally, small groups of counterdemonstrators clashed with the demonstrators near the city center. Avoid demonstrations as they are a regular occurrence in the capital and continuously disrupts traffic routes and businesses.

Mexico is experiencing a period of severe drought, impacting about 85% of the country. Mexico City is suffering the worst drought in 30 years, with officials concerned about the ability to meet water demand in the city. Lake Cuitzeo has shrunk by 75%, which has been exacerbated by deforestation and infrastructure development. In turn, the dry lake beds are creating dust storms leading to additional health problems in the surrounding communities.

Mexico is experiencing high levels of COVID-19 infections and has registered amongst the highest in the world for deaths due to the virus. Stay-at-home orders have been lifted in some areas, and some transportation and business operations have resumed. Travelers are advised against travel to Mexico.

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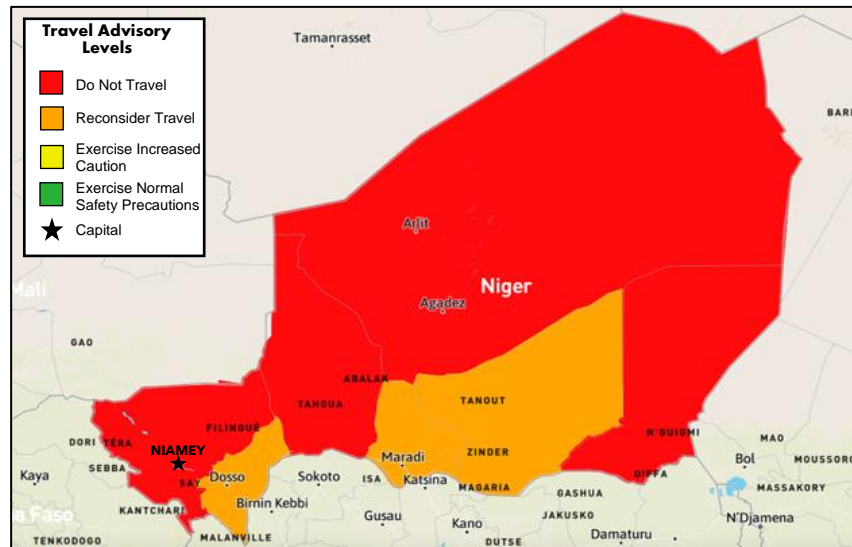


Niger

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Niger is highly dangerous, with large parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Niger due to crime and terrorism. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist attacks, kidnapping threats, and violent crimes, such as armed robbery. The threat of terrorist attacks remains high, with attacks targeting government facilities, local and foreign.



On April 2, 2021, Niger swore in a new president, heralding the first democratic transfer of power. President Mohamed Bazoum took office from Mahmadou Issoufou, who honored the constitution and stepped down after two terms allowing for the first peaceful transfer of power since the country attained independence in 1960.

It is advised not to travel at all to the following parts of Niger: all areas of the country north of the city of Abalak, including the Aïr Massif region; the province of Agadez (including the road linking Assamakato Agadez and the city of Agadez); areas of Tahoua province north of the city of Tahoua, including the city itself; the area of Tillabéri province north of Niamey, including the road from Niamey to Gao and the road from Niamey to Menaka; areas within 40km of the border with Nigeria in Diffa, Zinder, and Maradi provinces; and the Parc du W, plus the contiguous Dosso and Tamou hunting zones. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the rest of Niger, including the capital city Niamey.

Limited international flights have resumed. Entry is dependent upon proof of a negative COVID-19 test. Land borders remain closed. The country remains under lockdown, but schools and business activity have resumed under strict hygiene measures. Face masks are required on public transport and in public spaces.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in remote and rural areas as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside of the capital.

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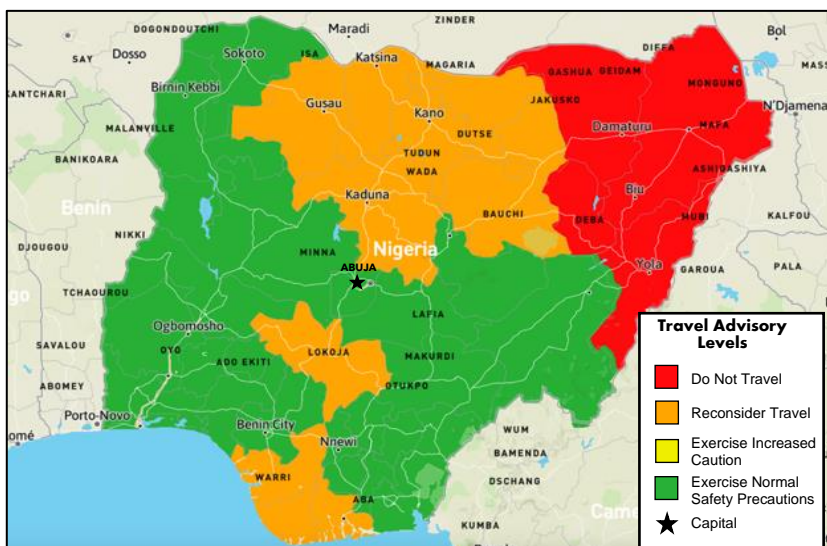
Nigeria

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Nigeria is highly dangerous, and specific parts of the country are extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Nigeria due to crime, terrorism, and piracy. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of the threat posed by extremist organizations, kidnappings, and violent crimes, such as armed robbery, assault, carjacking, and rape.

Since October 13, 2020, multiple demonstrations have occurred nationwide to include areas within Lagos and Abuja's districts, protesting Nigeria's Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS). Although most demonstrations are peaceful, some have become violent and have shut down major thoroughfares and bridges. Travelers should exercise caution, monitor local media, and avoid crowds or demonstrations. Nigeria has also been experiencing weeks of renewed protests and civil unrest against police brutality, since the shooting of a young Nigerian by a SARS police officer, on October 3, 2020. These protests have seen extreme violence and retaliation by police forces, resulting in the killing of 51 civilians and 18 security forces.



Throughout 2020, the number of kidnappings in Nigeria, particularly in the northern and Middle Belt states, has steadily increased compared to previous years. From December 20, 2020, to February 17, 2021, at least 37 people were killed, and 266 others were abducted across the country. Reconsider overland travel across the country until further notice due to an ongoing spike in kidnapping-for-ransom and bandit attacks.

It is advised to avoid travel to Borno State, Yobe State; Adamawa State; Gombe State; riverine areas of Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa Ibom, and the Cross River States; and within 20km of the border with Niger in Zamfara State. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to Bauchi State; Zamfara State; Kano State; Kaduna State; Jigawa State; Katsina State; Kogi State; within 20km of the border with Niger in Sokoto and Kebbi States; non-riverine areas of Delta, Bayelsa and Rivers States; and Abia State.

Despite the government's aggressive efforts since the virus first appeared, the number of cases in the country has continued to rise. Strict measures, including localized lockdowns targeting hotspots, curfews, and non-essential business closures, have failed to curb the viral spread and periodically triggered violent protests.

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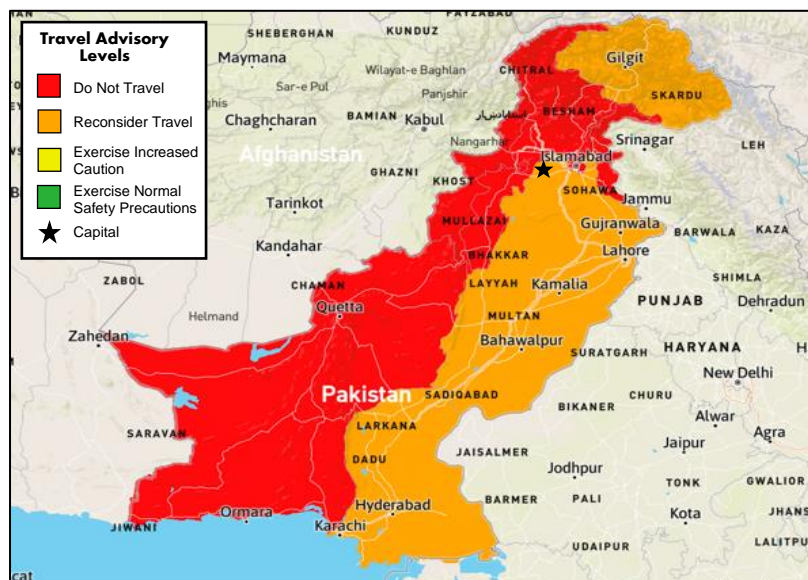


Pakistan

Risk Level: **High Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Pakistan is highly dangerous, and a significant part of the country is extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Pakistan due to terrorism. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because terrorist attacks remain frequent and political demonstrations often become violent. Travelers should continue to exercise caution, monitor news reports, and follow the advice of local authorities. On May 11, 2019, armed militants attacked the Pearl Continental Hotel in Gwadar, in Balochistan province, killing five people and adding to the current tension surrounding Pakistani-administered Kashmir areas.



Pakistan is experiencing a Dengue Fever outbreak, with over 47 000 recorded cases and 75 deaths thus far. Dengue Fever, coupled with the outbreak of COVID-19, resulted in the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority extending the suspension of international flights. The Government of Pakistan started permitting commercial outbound passenger flights from all international airports, except Gwadar and Turbat, from May 30. Inbound passenger flights from the United Kingdom are suspended due to the new COVID-19 strain.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Balochistan; the Federally Administered Tribal Areas; Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (excluding Chitral district); and border areas with Afghanistan and India (excluding Lahore, Wagah, Kasur, Narowal, and Sialkot). It is recommended to limit all but essential travel to the rest of Pakistan.

Terrorist groups continue plotting attacks in Pakistan. A local history of terrorism and ongoing ideological aspirations of violence by extremist elements have led to indiscriminate attacks on civilians as well as local military and police targets. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting transportation hubs, markets, shopping malls, military installations, airports, universities, tourist locations, schools, hospitals, places of worship, and government facilities. Terrorists have targeted U.S. diplomats and diplomatic facilities in the past.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Pakistan due to the security environment.

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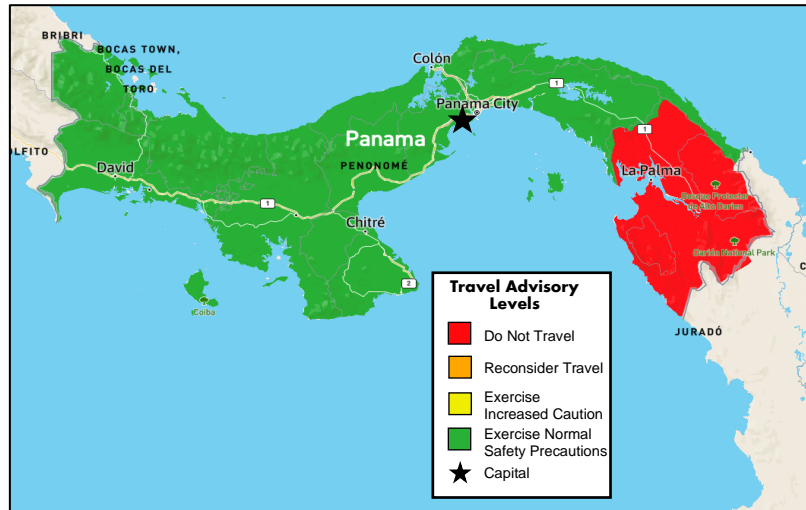


Panama

Risk Level: **Low Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Panama is relatively safe, but a specific region within the country has an extreme risk due to the presence of criminal elements and the operation of drug and human trafficking networks. Moreover, emergency response and consular assistance are limited in some areas. Overall, travelers should exercise normal precautions in Panama. It is advised to avoid all travel to parts of the Darién Region, Mosquito Gulf, and particularly all areas south of Yaviza.



There may be demonstrations to protest internal Panamanian issues or, more rarely, manifestations of anti-American sentiment. While most demonstrations are non-violent, the Panamanian National Police have used tear gas and riot control munitions in response to demonstrations, particularly when roadways are blocked or aggression is used against the police. Panama City, Colon, and Chiriqui provinces have the highest crime rates. Crimes include shootings, home invasions, rapes, armed robberies, muggings, and thefts.

Panama authorities have relaxed the movement restrictions implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 but have enacted a daily curfew from 7:00 pm to 5:00 am, including all day Sunday. If arriving with a positive COVID-19 result, travelers will be required to quarantine for seven days and undertake another PCR test.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in this region as U.S. government personnel must obtain prior approval before traveling there and face additional restrictions before such travel is approved.





Philippines

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

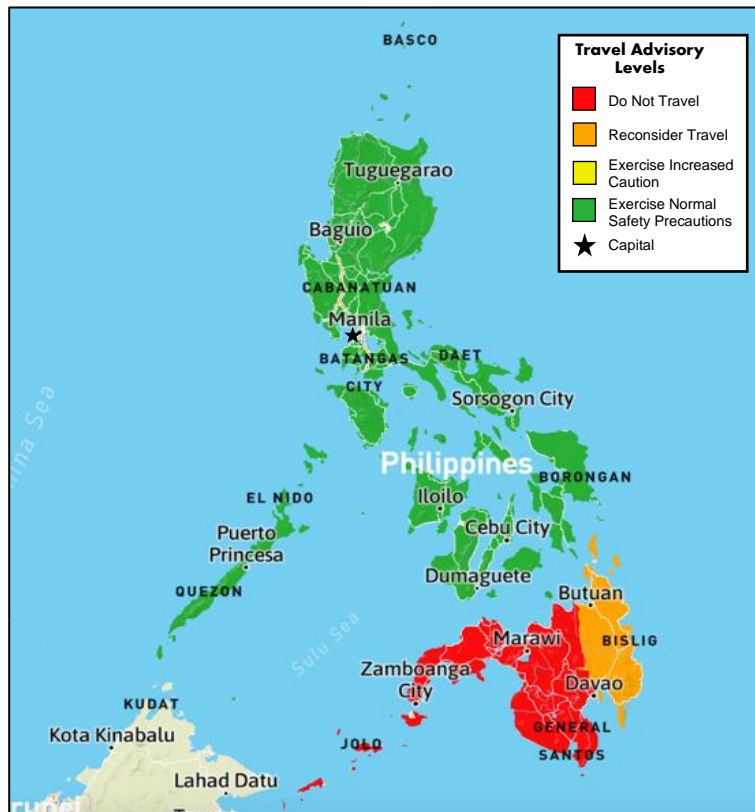
Country Overview:

In some parts of the Philippines, the security situation is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution throughout the country due to crime, terrorism, and civil unrest. There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because of occasional kidnappings and bombings and widespread criminal activity, such as con games, pickpocketing, internet scams, and credit/ATM card fraud. Travelers should keep up to date with local information and avoid any demonstrations. The Philippines has seen a resurgence in the Poliovirus nationwide. Travelers should consult their doctor prior to travel. There has also been an outbreak of Dengue fever which has now exceeded the epidemic threshold.

It is advised to avoid all travel to western and central Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago (including the southern Sulu Sea) because of terrorist activity and clashes between the military and insurgent groups. Limit all but essential travel to the remainder of Mindanao (excluding Camiguin, Dinagat, and Siargao Islands) and to the south of Cebu province, up to and including the municipalities of Dalaguete and Badian, due to the threat of terrorism.

Terrorist and armed groups continue plotting possible kidnappings, bombings, and other attacks in the Philippines. Terrorist and armed groups may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, markets/shopping malls, and local government facilities. The Philippine government has declared a "State of National Emergency on Account of Lawless Violence in Mindanao."

Authorities have permitted foreign nationals with long-term visas to enter the Philippines subject to proof of a negative COVID-19 test. Quarantine measures remain in place for the Manila Metro, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal. Face masks are mandatory on public transport and in public spaces.



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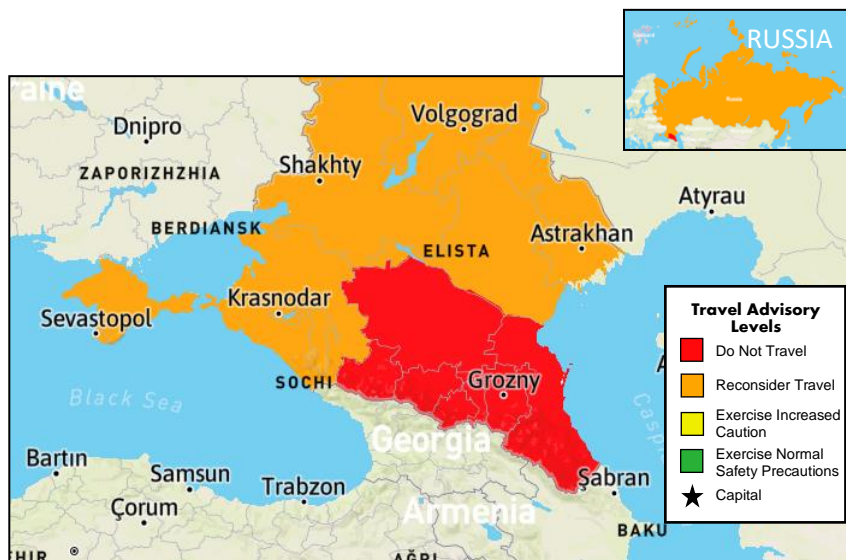


Russia

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Russia is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Russia due to terrorism, harassment, and the arbitrary enforcement of local laws. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security throughout the rest of the country due to terrorist groups continuing to plot attacks.



On January 23, 2021, clashes erupted nationwide between security forces and pro-Navalny protesters, resulting in over 4,000 people being arrested. Protests are expected to continue in major cities, with authorities restricting movement and declaring the protests illegal. It is advised to avoid all protests and concentrations of security forces.

It is advised to avoid all travel to parts of the North Caucasus region (including the Mount Elbrus area), such as Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia, North Ossetia, and the southeast part of Stavropol bordering Chechnya, Kabardino-Balkaria, and Karachay-Cherkessia; and within 10km of the border with the Ukrainian Donetsk and Lugansk Oblasts. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the Ukrainian Kharkiv Oblast within 10km of the border.

Do not travel to Crimea as the international community, including the United States and Ukraine, does not recognize Russia's purported annexation of Crimea. There are continuing abuses against foreigners and the local population by the occupation authorities in Crimea, particularly against those who challenge their influence on the peninsula. Russia enforces special restrictions on dual U.S.-Russian nationals and may refuse to acknowledge dual U.S.-Russia nationals' U.S. citizenship, including denying U.S. consular assistance to detained dual citizens and preventing their departure from Russia. Due to the Russian government-imposed reduction on U.S. diplomatic personnel, the U.S. government may have delayed the ability to provide services to U.S. citizens, especially in the Saint Petersburg area.

Russia has begun easing the restrictions put in place to combat the spread of COVID-19. Russia has restricted entry to most foreign nationals except for medical specialists and members of diplomatic missions.





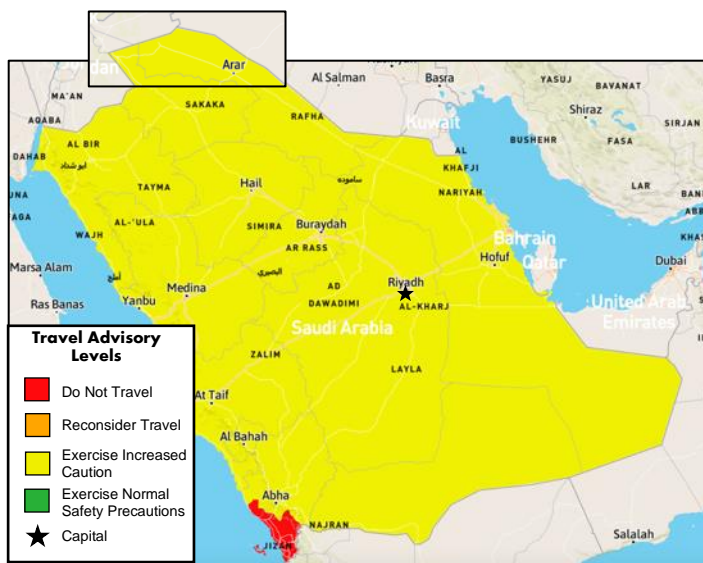
Saudi Arabia

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

In some parts of Saudi Arabia, the security situation is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Saudi Arabia due to terrorism and armed conflict. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because terrorist groups continue plotting possible attacks in the country, and rebel groups operating in Yemen have launched missiles, drones, and IEDs into Saudi Arabia, specifically targeting populated areas.

It is advised to avoid all travel within 50 miles of the Saudi-Yemen border. This includes the cities of Jizan and Najran, and Qatif in the Eastern province and its suburbs, including Awamiyah. Abha International Airport also falls in this avoid advisory.



Regional actors hostile to Saudi Arabia have conducted destructive and sometimes lethal attacks against a variety of targets, including critical infrastructure, military facilities, airports, and energy facilities throughout the country and vessels in Red Sea shipping lanes. Riyadh, Yanbu, areas in proximity to Jeddah, the civilian airport in Abha, military installations in the south, and specific oil and gas facilities are examples of recent targets. The Islamic Republic of Iran has supplied Yemen-based Houthis and other regional proxy groups with weapons, including drones, missiles, and rockets. Houthi militants continue to plan and conduct attacks against locations in Saudi Arabia. Violence associated with Iran-supported groups represents a significant threat. U.S. citizens living and working near military bases and critical civilian infrastructure, particularly in the Eastern Province and areas near the border with Yemen, are at heightened risk of missile and drone attack.





Tunisia

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

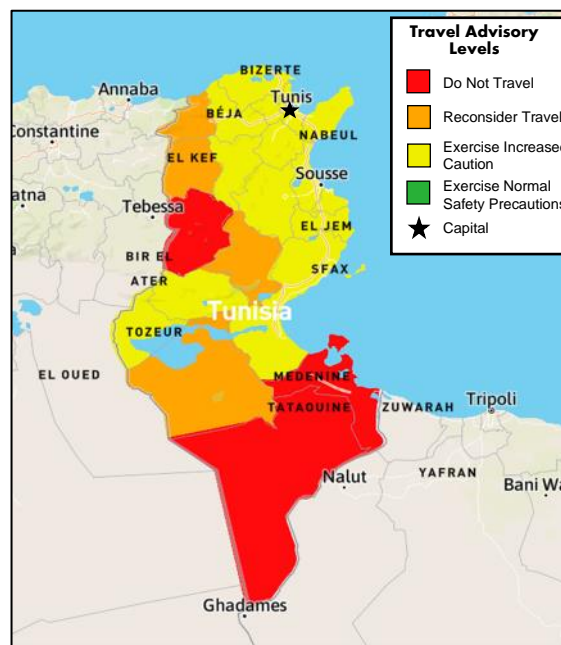
Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Tunisia is highly dangerous, with specific areas being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Tunisia due to terrorism. Terrorist groups active in the country pose a significant threat to travelers in the region. On June 27, 2019, two suicide attacks targeting security personnel in central Tunis killed at least one police officer and wounded several people. Tunisian security forces clashed with demonstrators in several cities for four consecutive nights from January 18, 2021. The towns affected include Ettadhamen and other areas of Tunis and Sfax, Gafsa, Le Kef, Bizerte, Kasserine, Sousse, and Monastir. The protests were sparked by economic hardship in the country that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated. Around 1,000 people have been detained since the protests began.

On July 26, 2021, President Kais Saied removed the Prime Minister and suspended Parliament. He has also dissolved the cabinet. This is in response to the widespread protests calling for the dismissal of the Prime Minister and the Parliament due to a spike in COVID-19 cases exacerbating the country's economic crisis. Critics have labeled the move a coup, and civil society groups are demanding a timeline for political action and restoration of the Parliament. As the political crisis continues, protests and violence are likely. Comply with all directives, including curfew orders, seek shelter at the first signs of unrest and monitor local media for situational updates.

It is advised to avoid all travel to the Mount Chaambi National Park area, including the town of Kasserine, areas along the Libyan border, including the town of Ben Guerdane and the immediate surrounding area, and the militarized zone south of the towns of El Borma and Dhehiba. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to areas south of, including the towns of Nefta, Douz, Medenine, and Zaris; and the Governorates of Le Kef, Jendouba, and Sidi Bou Zid.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in some areas of Tunisia.



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Turkey

Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Turkey is highly dangerous, with specific areas of the country considered extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Turkey due to terrorism and arbitrary detentions.

There is a high level of risk to personal safety and security because terrorist groups continue to plot attacks in Turkey. Government security officials have detained individuals on scant or secret grounds that have appeared to be mostly politically motivated.



Turkey is currently experiencing severe wildfires across its southern provinces. Eight people have died, and dozens of villages have been evacuated. The Turkish Coastguard implemented a sea rescue of over 4000 tourists from beach resorts, and a power plant in Mugla province had to be evacuated. President Erdogan has declared parts of the affected provinces disaster zones. Travelers should reconsider travel to southern Turkey in the near future.

It is advised to avoid all travel within 10km of the border with Syria and to the city of Diyarbakir. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the provinces of Batman, Bingol, Bitlis, Diyarbakir, Gaziantep, Hakkari, Hatay, Kilis, Mardin, Sanliurfa, Siirt, Sirnak, Tunceli, and Van.

Authorities have reopened the land, sea, and air borders of the country. All travelers displaying symptoms are required to submit to a PCR test and quarantine if the test is positive. Face masks are mandatory in public spaces.

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Ukraine

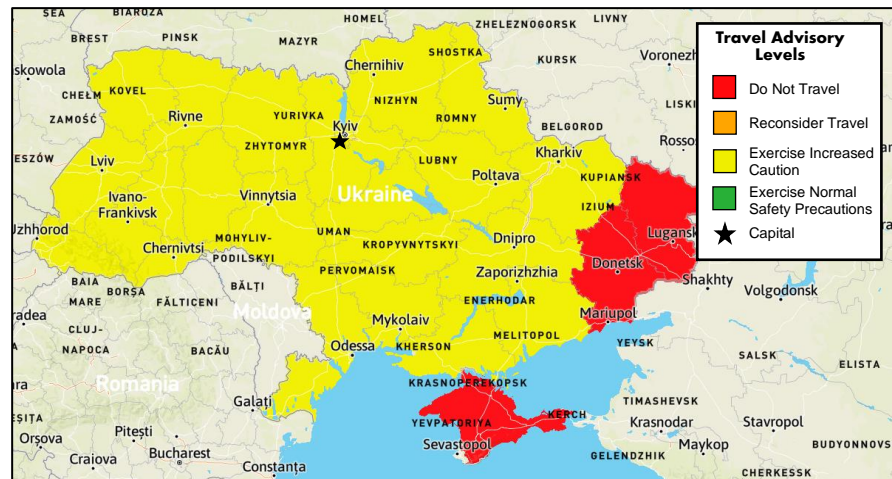
Risk Level: **Moderate Risk**

Country Overview:

The security situation in eastern Ukraine is highly dangerous, with some areas considered to be extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution throughout Ukraine due to crime and civil unrest.

There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security in specific parts of eastern Ukraine because of armed conflict with occupying

authorities in non-government-controlled areas. It is advised to avoid all travel to Donetsk Oblast, Luhansk Oblast, and Crimea due to arbitrary detentions and other abuses by Russian authorities.



Crime targeting foreigners and property is common. Demonstrations, which have turned violent at times, regularly occur throughout Ukraine, including in Kyiv. Politically targeted assassinations and bombings have also occurred. There are reports of violent attacks on minority groups and police by radical groups. The U.S. government prohibits its employees from traveling to Crimea and is unable to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Crimea.

In response to the recent sharp increase of COVID-19 cases in Ukraine, U.S. Embassy Kyiv has suspended routine American Citizen services until further notice. However, the government of Ukraine has announced the gradual easing of certain COVID-19 quarantine measures under an "adaptive quarantine" plan, according to which services and institutions will reopen in stages.

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COVID-19 STATISTICS UPDATE:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>	<u>Total Recovered</u>	<u>Active Cases</u>
Afghanistan	155,931	7,252	127,460	21,219
Algeria	205,599	5,881	141,017	58,701
Azerbaijan	509,862	6,829	481,696	21,337
Burkina Faso	14,793	214	14,287	292
Burundi	19,867	38	773	19,056
Cameroon	100,289	1,600	80,433	18,256
CAR	11,478	100	6,859	4,519
Chad	5,067	174	4,874	19
Colombia	4,986,249	126,959	4,830,746	28,544
Congo (Rep. Of)	16,408	239	12,421	3,748
Cuba	941,562	8,133	926,280	7,149
DRC	57,402	1,091	50,930	5,381
Ecuador	514,087	32,937	443,880	37,270
Egypt	321,967	18,151	271,792	32,024
Eritrea	6,788	45	6,694	49
Ethiopia	361,027	6,316	331,267	23,444
Georgia	658,337	9,657	624,688	49,992
Haiti	23,406	658	20,149	2,599
Honduras	373,838	10,182	115,022	248,634
India	34,143,236	453,076	33,514,449	175,711
Iran	5,844,589	124,928	5,388,496	331,165
Iraq	2,043,963	22,901	1,982,232	38,830
Israel	1,321,894	8,039	1,299,835	14,020
Kenya	252,375	5,238	245,882	1,255
Lebanon	636,147	8,441	610,142	17,564
Libya	352,881	4,982	286,440	61,459
Mali	15,741	558	14,524	659
Mauritania	36,820	791	35,586	443
Mexico	3,772,556	285,669	3,133,267	353,620
Myanmar	491,584	18,465	444,740	28,379
Niger	6,227	206	5,902	119
Nigeria	209,960	2,850	198,026	9,084
Pakistan	1,267,393	28,344	1,214,663	24,386
Panama	471,060	7,303	461,441	2,316
Philippines	2,745,889	41,520	2,637,531	66,838
Russia	8,168,305	228,453	7,117,060	882,792

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Country Risk Summaries Cont.



<u>Country</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>	<u>Total Recovered</u>	<u>Active Cases</u>
Saudi Arabia	548,162	8,774	537,208	2,180
Somalia	21,269	1,180	9,927	10,162
South Sudan	12,279	133	11,889	257
Sudan	39,550	3,038	32,872	3,640
Syria	40,630	2,467	25,390	12,773
Tunisia	711,397	25,132	684,968	1,297
Turkey	7,772,604	68,472	7,201,620	502,512
Ukraine	2,725,385	63,003	2,361,365	301,017
Venezuela	396,477	4,763	376,877	14,837
Yemen	9,635	1,931	6,143	1,661

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