



The Neptune Declaration

Crew Change Indicator

JUNE 2022

Overview

The Neptune Declaration Crew Change Indicator is published monthly to provide reliable data regarding the crew change crisis and the way it evolves. It is based on data from ship managers, who are collectively responsible for more than 100,000 seafarers across all the major segments.

The June Indicator shows that the number of seafarers onboard vessels beyond the expiry of their contract has decreased slightly from 4.5% to 4.3% in the last month. The number of seafarers onboard for over 11 months has remained stable at 0.3%. This month's numbers continue to reconfirm the stabilization of the situation.

The June Indicator shows that the aggregate percentage of seafarers from the sample who have been vaccinated has risen from 83.6% in May to 86.2% in June. The share of the population fully vaccinated against Covid-19 in several large shipping nations in Europe, North America, and Asia is close to or above 70%¹ so seafarer rates are now at this same level and these numbers have surpassed the rate in Denmark, Greece, the United Kingdom, and the United States. It must be noted however, that national percentages are based on the full population and include children, who in most countries are not offered vaccines so the numbers are not fully comparable.

Section 1: Overdue Crew Changes

	Percentage of seafarers onboard beyond the expiry of their contracts		Percentage of seafarers onboard for over 11 months	
	Monthly percentage	Percentage point change from previous month	Monthly percentage	Percentage point change from previous month
June 2022	4.3%	-0.2	0.3%	0
May 2022	4.5%	+0.3	0.3%	-0.1
April 2022	4.2%	-0.8	0.4%	0
March 2022	5.0%	+0.8	0.4%	0
February 2022	4.2%	+0.5	0.4%	0
January 2022	3.7%	-1	0.4%	-0.3
December 2021	4.7%	-2.4	0.7%	-0.3
November 2021	7.1%	-0.8	1.0%	0
October 2021	7.9%	-1.0	1.0%	-0.2
September 2021	8.9%	-0.1	1.2%	-0.1
August 2021	9.0%	+0.2	1.3%	+0.3
July 2021	8.8%	+1.6	1.0%	+0.6

1 Source: Our World in Data, [Share of the population fully vaccinated against COVID-19 \(ourworldindata.org\)](https://ourworldindata.org)

June 2021	7.2%	+1.4	0.4%	0
May 2021	5.8%	-	0.4%	-

The data reflects the situation on the 15th day of the preceding month.

As part of their reporting, the contributing ship managers have also highlighted the following key developments that have impacted crew changes in the past month.

- Entry restrictions and quarantine requirements have been eased in several places, such as in some Chinese cities.
- Strict restrictions persist in some countries, such as Japan, and crew change complications continue in China, despite some eased rules.
- Ship managers note that there have been some visible improvements to the situation, with significant declines in seafarer infections.
- The situation with Ukrainian and Russian seafarers remains complicated, due to sanctions and restrictions, creating a seafarer shortage.

Section 2: Seafarer Vaccinations

The Indicator provides the aggregated percentage of seafarers from the sample who have been vaccinated and provides an overview of seafarer vaccination trends, as well as the pace at which these increase month by month.

The June Indicator shows that **86.2%** of seafarers from the sample have been vaccinated.² This corresponds to an increase of 2.8 percentage points since May.

	Percentage of seafarers from the sample who have been vaccinated	
	Monthly percentage	Percentage point change from previous month
June 2022	86.2%	+2.8
May 2022	83.6%	+6.4
April 2022	77.2%	+4.4
March 2022	72.8%	+6
February 2022	66.8%	+7
January 2022	59.8%	+10.3
December 2021	49.5%	+8.5
November 2021	41%	+9.9
October 2021	31.1%	+9.2

² The data has been collected from leading ship managers who have made great efforts in addressing the crisis. It is expected the percentage is likely to overestimate the actual proportion of vaccinated seafarers.

September 2021	21.9%	+6.6
August 2021	15.3%	-

The data reflects the situation on the 15th day of the preceding month.

The data shows that seafarer vaccinations are progressing well with vaccine programs being established in numerous countries to offer vaccines to international seafarers. Seafarer vaccination rates are at 86.2%, while in comparison the share of the population fully vaccinated against Covid-19 in the European Union is 72.7%,³ in Hong Kong 83%, in Japan 81%, in Singapore 91%, in the United Kingdom 74% and in the United States 66%.^{4 5}

Additionally, the contributing ship managers have highlighted the following areas where they are finding the most difficulties vaccinating seafarers:

- Not all seafarers can be vaccinated onboard due to short port calls or high costs so some ship managers are pursuing options to offer vaccines in seafarers' home countries.
- Vaccination of Russian and Ukrainian seafarers is slow, as challenges persist.
- Challenges about access to booster doses remain as there remain concerns over the risk of infection and outbreaks onboard.

The data is based on monthly reporting by the following ship managers: Anglo-Eastern Univan Group, Bernhardt-Schulte Ship Management, Columbia Shipmanagement, Fleet Management, OSM, Synergy Group, Thome, V. Group, Wallem and Wilhelmsen. The Global Maritime Forum is responsible for collecting and processing the data and publishing the indicator. More detail is available [here](#).

3 <https://vaccinetracker.ecdc.europa.eu/public/extensions/COVID-19/vaccine-tracker.html#uptake-tab>

4 <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/world/covid-vaccinations-tracker.html>

5 The numbers are not fully comparable as seafarers are adults whereas the full population also includes children, who in most countries are not being offered vaccinations.