

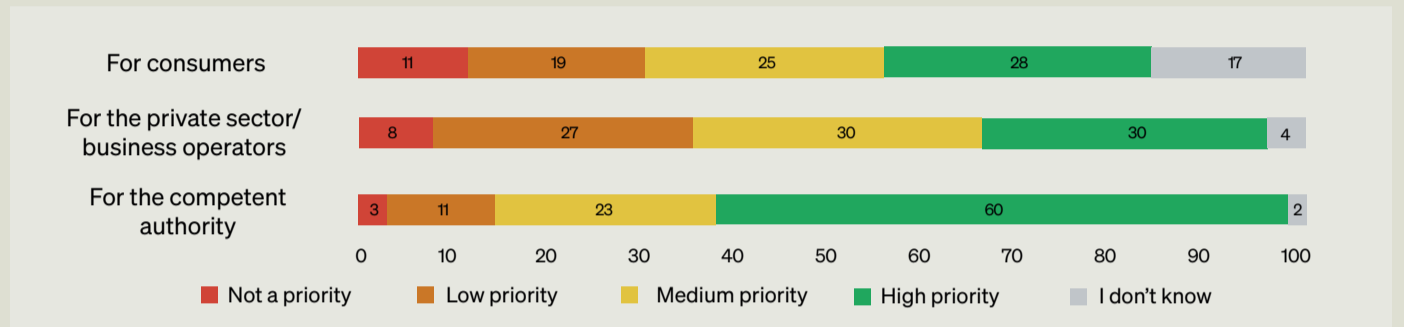
Do Veterinary Services implement WOAH standards on animal welfare during transport?

Most farm animals are transported at least once during their lifetime. Their welfare during transport is a complex and multi-faceted topic. To support Members in ensuring animal welfare during transport, WOAH has developed standards. To assess the level of their implementation by Veterinary Authorities, a questionnaire was sent to the national Animal Welfare Focal Points of all 183 WOAH Members. After a two-month data collection period, the most meaningful indicators were identified, and respondent answers were quantitatively analysed and reported on.

Answer rates

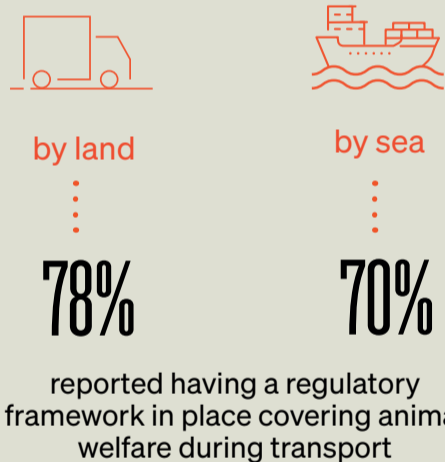
96 Members completed the questionnaire representing 52% of all WOAH Members

The level of prioritisation of animal welfare during transport varies depending on the country and the stakeholders considered, with 60% of the answers ranking it as a high priority for competent authorities, against 30% for the private sector and 28% for the consumers.



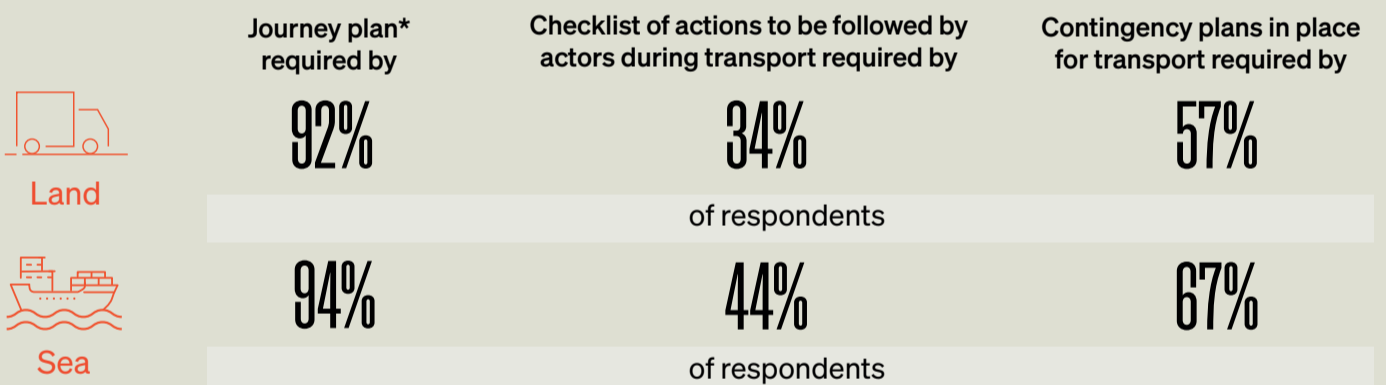
A majority of Veterinary Authorities have a regulatory framework in place...

Among the respondents reporting transport



... but its characteristics and requirements vary greatly

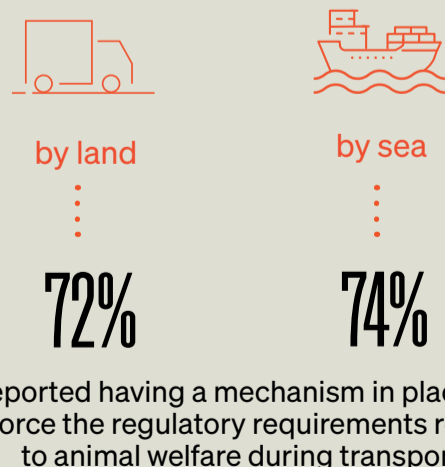
More than 80% of respondents reported having specific requirements in place for vehicles and vessels. This percentage, however, was found much lower for holding facilities and containers (around 60% of responding Members). Responsibility and specific requirements of actors involved in transport operations were not always defined.



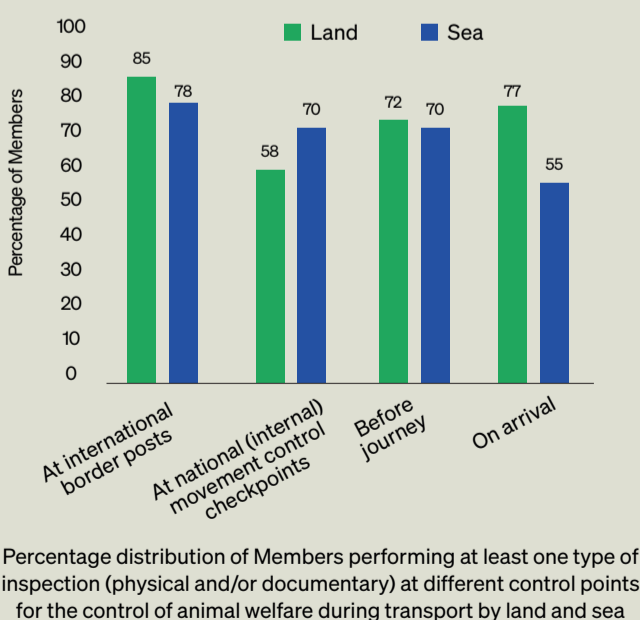
* Journey duration and space allowance were the requirements more frequently reported as having to be part of the journey plan. The less reported requirements were weather and road conditions.

Most Veterinary Authorities have an enforcement mechanism...

Among the respondents who reported having a regulatory framework in place covering animal welfare during transport



... that includes physical inspections and documentary checks



Among the respondents who reported having a mechanism in place to enforce the regulatory requirements related to animal welfare during transport

