Pushing the Boundaries: Health Insurance Considerations in the New World of Work-From-Anywhere

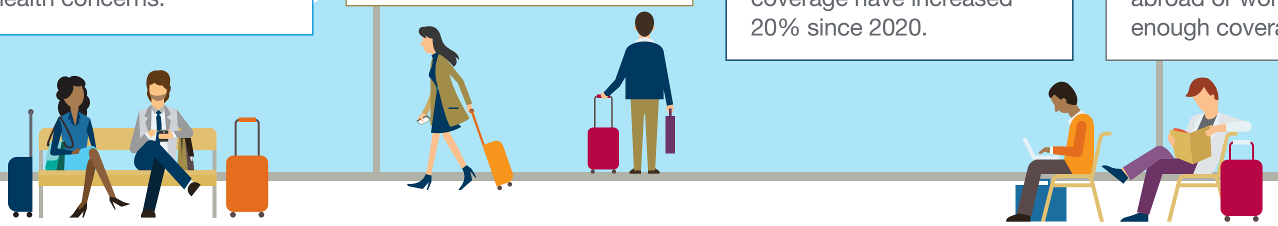
GeoBlue

Appetite for international travel is growing, with nearly half planning to travel abroad in the next two years (46%), and so are health concerns.

The rise in remote work and digital nomads has expanded the definition of an expat or international business traveler.

Sentiment and behavior are shifting: 80% say it's critical to have international travel medical insurance, and those securing coverage have increased 20% since 2020.

Yet far too many don't have adequate coverage when abroad. 76% either don't know how they would pay for medical treatment abroad or won't have enough coverage.



The New World of Remote Work

The appetite for international travel is on the rise

29% 2020

34% 2022

Percentage of people who have been on an international trip in the last 5 years

46%

Nearly half are planning to travel internationally in the next 2 years

57% Overall

69% GenZ & Millennials

66% Parents

Percentage of people who plan to ramp up their international travel over the next 5 years

Source: International Travel Medical Insurance: Awareness, Usage and Perceptions, Harris Poll & GeoBlue, December 2022.

Location independent workers are a new breed of digital nomads

Nearly 1 in 4 of U.S. digital nomads plan to travel internationally over the next year

15.5M

Number of American employees who described themselves as digital nomads in 2021, a 30% increase from 2020

2/3 of digital nomads are mainstream employees while the remaining 1/3 are freelancers

24M

Number of Americans that are projected to become digital nomads in the next 2–3 years

Sources: MBO Partners, Digital Nomad Report, CNBC, Euro News, Inc, Travel & Leisure, MBO State of Independence Research Report.

Employers are evolving and adapting remote work policies to attract and retain workers

92M

Number of American employees who report having the option to work from home for all or part of the week

49%

Number of companies that are supporting international remote work on a case-by-case basis

41%

Percentage of companies that are considering a work-from-anywhere arrangement as a permanent option for all or a portion of their U.S. workforce

Source: AIRINC Mobility Outlook Survey, 2022, Work Anywhere: What Does it Mean For You? kpmg.us.

Remote work has blurred the lines between work and leisure travel

22% ALL

29% 18–34

Percentage of employees who would travel internationally to work from different locations if their job allowed; this goes up to 29% for those aged 18–34

80%

Percentage of U.S. travelers planning to add leisure days to future business trips

41%

Percentage of corporate travel managers who have seen an increase in employees asking for "bleisure" (business + leisure) travel considerations

Sources: The Future of Blended Travel white paper, KPMG, 2022. https://tax.kpmg.us/insights/insights-on-global-mobility/work-anywhere-together.html, 2022; Global Business Travel Association Business Travel Recovery Poll Results, 2022.

Rising Healthcare Concerns for Travelers

The pandemic has heightened concerns about health when traveling internationally

64% agree Health concerns factor into their decision when choosing international travel destinations

59% agree They're concerned about getting sick while traveling abroad; this increases to 65% for parents and Gen Z

Percentage of people who think there is a possibility they'd need to use international travel medical insurance

Overall	Millennials	Parents
48%	58%	55%

More consumers now think about their medical coverage while traveling abroad

76% Percentage of consumers likely to ensure they have medical coverage while traveling internationally

Source: International Travel Medical Insurance: Awareness, Usage and Perceptions, Harris Poll & GeoBlue, December 2022.

Many consumers are putting themselves and their employers at risk while traveling abroad

Nearly 1 in 4 Americans have had medical issues while traveling abroad

13% of those who have had medical issues while traveling abroad required medical care

77% Percentage of consumers who say that while traveling abroad, ensuring they have affordable access to quality medical care is just as important as booking a great place to stay or getting the best flights

For those Americans who have traveled internationally over the last 5 years, 4 in 10 have had medical issues

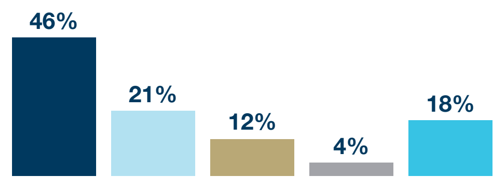
For those travelers who have had medical issues while traveling internationally:

39% have traveled internationally in the past 5 years

33% intend to travel within the next year

30% intend to travel within the next 1–5 years

How consumers on an international trip expect to pay for medical treatment if they were to get sick or were injured



- Expect to use existing domestic health insurance plan
- Expect to use travel insurance plan purchased for trip
- Think they will need to pay out of pocket
- Expect to use some other form of coverage
- Don't know what they would do

76% of consumers don't know how they would pay for medical treatment abroad or likely won't have adequate coverage

Source: International Travel Medical Insurance: Awareness, Usage and Perceptions, Harris Poll & GeoBlue, December 2022.

The Importance of an International Medical Plan

Need a Passport?

You Need an International Medical Plan

With nearly half of consumers planning to rely on their domestic health plan while traveling abroad, it's clear most people aren't aware of the coverage gaps that could result in emotional and financial distress when using a domestic plan abroad.

- Some domestic employer-sponsored health plans offer no coverage abroad
- Most ACA plans don't provide international medical coverage
- Even the best Medicare supplement plans have limited international benefits

Visit about.geo-blue.com to learn more about our international health plans for those that live, work, travel or study abroad.