

A stylized illustration of a diverse crowd of people, all wearing face masks. The figures are rendered in various colors (blue, orange, pink, black) and are shown from the chest up, facing different directions. The background is a mix of these colors, creating a sense of a busy, multicultural group.

COVID-19 Mobility Restrictions at Points of Entry (POE)

Baseline Assessment (2 April 2020)

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

The current outbreak of COVID-19 has affected global mobility in the form of various travel disruptions, restrictions and blockages. Building on its existing baseline assessment tools IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) developed an [online tool/database](#) to register the points of entry, exit and transit, such as airports, land and blue borders points where reportedly mobility restrictions are applied, as well as the different types of mobility limitations being put in place in those locations. The system was developed in coordination with other IOM units, namely Immigration and Border Management (IBM), Migrant Health Division (MHD) and Migrant Protection and Assistance Unit (MPA). This report focuses on locations/ areas with imposed measures and movement restrictions. The collected data, however, also indicates points where no known mobility restrictions are applied, which provides a comprehensive overview of the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on population mobility.

The location and area level data on the different types of points is reported as provided by the IOM focal points for **146 countries, territories and areas**. This report is a snapshot of inputs received by 2 April 2020 and the information presented is accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of reporting. The report is a baseline summary of key findings on the status and variety of measures and restrictions implemented at assessed locations/areas. In the upcoming period, IOM will be collecting data to update the existing information and gather more details on new questions that will be implemented entering the second phase of the assessment.

Whilst this report focuses on the type of mobility restrictions and associated measures at registered points of entry, exit and transit (location/area level) gathered on a weekly basis; country level information on imposed travel restrictions sourced from International Air Transport Association (IATA), IOM and media is updated on a daily basis using specialized [DTM Travel Restrictions Monitoring](#) tool. Owing to the different levels of granularity and reporting timelines, the latter is not included in this summary report¹.

KEY FINDINGS

 **2,494 Locations assessed**  **146 Countries**

Between 8 March and 2 April, a total of **2,494 locations and areas** were assessed. Some ten per cent (271) of locations did not have any known movement restrictions or measures imposed at the time and they are [analyzed separately](#). Additionally, 141 internal transit locations were excluded from this analysis altogether bringing the total number of analyzed locations to 2,082.

Among the 2,082 assessed locations with known movement restrictions, 888 were in Europe, 484 in Africa, 460 in Middle East and Asia (80 and 380 respectively) and 250 were in the Americas. These locations include: **1,169 land border crossings, 492 airports, 226 blue border points** (including sea, river and lake ports) and **195 areas** (including regions, cities, towns or sub-administrative units).

More than a half (1,284) of assessed locations (excl. 195 areas) with known restrictions of movement had known restrictions in place for movement on entry and exit, 309 locations had movement restrictions on either entry or exit and 294 had not imposed any known movement restrictions as of 2 April 2020.

Medical measures² were in place in 511 of all locations included in the analysis, 315 locations had imposed movement restriction on certain nationalities³, at 107 locations changes in visa requirements were instituted and 90 locations made changes in documents required to pass through the location. Out of the 511 locations where medical measures were introduced, 173 were airports, 305 land border crossings and 33 blue border points⁴ (*Note: each measure is a separate question in the survey and one location could have had several of the restrictions and measures in place, see [Methodology part.](#)*)

¹ For more information about two streams of data collection deployed by DTM to monitor COVID-19 Mobility Impact, please check [here](#).

² Medical measures can be considered both as a restriction or an enabler depending on the outcome of the process.

³ Available data shows that some countries applied movement restrictions on entry only to specific nationality groups without interrupting overall passenger traffic.

⁴ This information was not collected for areas; hence areas are not included in this breakdown.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology is framed within [DTM's baseline assessment approach](#) designed to capture information on types of observation points, operational status, type of restrictions and measures imposed, population categories affected, and estimated duration of restrictions and measures put in place at lowest convenient administrative levels. This report is focusing on type of restrictions and measures imposed at different locations. The countries, territories and areas were divided in four geographical units. List of countries by region is available [here](#).

The analysis is based on the following typology:

Location Type:

- 1) Airport
- 2) Land Border Crossing Point
- 3) Blue Border Crossing Point
- 4) Internal Transit Point
- 5) Area⁵ (city, town or other sub-administrative unit)

Type of Restriction and Measures Imposed:

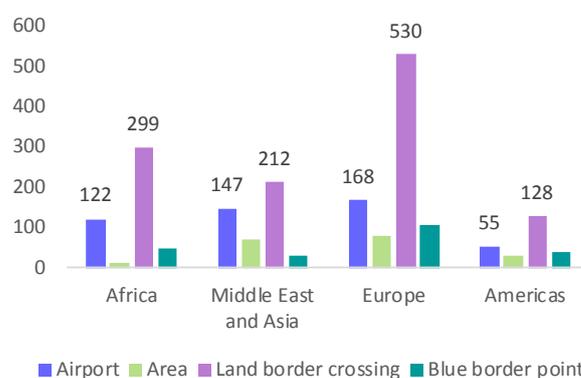
- 1) Movement restriction *to* the location OR *from* the location
- 2) Movement restriction *to* the location AND *from* the location
- 3) Changes in visa requirements/documents needed to disembark
- 4) Restrictions applied to certain groups to disembark at the location
- 5) Medical measures (e.g. mandatory quarantine or COVID-19 related medical screening⁶ at the location)
- 6) Other (specify)

Note that the tool allows multiple options to be recorded for types of measures and restrictions as in practice they are frequently implemented in combination. For example, movement restrictions to a certain location might be related to medical measures such as mandatory quarantine prior to arrival or upon arrival, pending which entry to the country can be granted/denied⁷.

DATA COLLECTION

Data is collated on periodic basis and considers the latest updates provided by the country, area and territory focal persons/data collectors who were provided with the methodological framework and access to Kobo Collect tool as well as guidance and support from DTM Global and Regional teams for fast transmission of verified information. Focal persons/data collectors were DTM staff but also colleagues from other units (IBM, MHD, MPA) depending on the accessibility of available information and linkages with relevant key informants and sources. The process is coordinated by the Regional DTM teams under the overall supervision of the Global DTM team.

Number of assessed locations as of 2 April 2020 by type and region



LIMITATIONS

Limitations of this analysis and data collection mechanism are related to the extremely time sensitive nature of the data being collected. Restrictions, and who they affect, are continually changing, and it is often challenging to collect accurate information about changing restrictions in real time. Considering this, all DTM data made [available](#) has clear and transparent timestamps and dates, in order to reflect the reality of the situation at the specified time. For the detailed geographical overview, please refer to the [Regional Atlas](#).

Other resources:

[DTM Points of Entry Methodological Framework](#)

[DTM Country Points of Entry \(PoE\) - Status Assessment, 2 April 2020 Dataset](#)

⁵ Area is used to allow for capturing information on wider geographical units with imposed mobility restrictions as a preparedness or response measure to COVID-19, likely those with high population movement and density.

⁶ COVID-19 related medical screening can include active surveillance at points of entry through fever screening, health screening, deployment of health questionnaire (capturing travelers itinerary and brief medical history), accompanied with established referral systems and standard operating procedures.

⁷ Please note that no direct analysis linking scaling/setting up of measures and movement restrictions and the pace of COVID-19 spreading is provided in this report. It has been observed that some countries introduced measures as part of the preparedness while others only after first cases were confirmed.

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATIONS BY TYPE

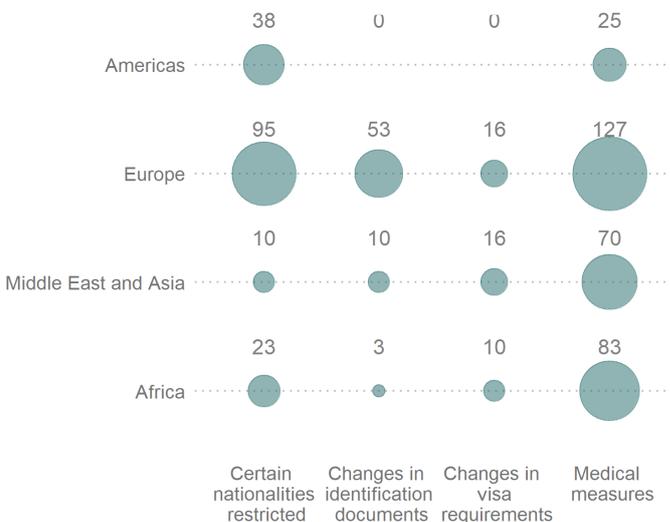
LAND BORDER POINTS

During the assessment, DTM mapped a total of 1,169 land border points where at least one of the six known restrictions or measures⁸ that were included in the assessment form (as of 2 April 2020) were reported. As a result, this analysis includes 1,169 land border crossings.

Of the 1,169 land border crossings, seventy-two percent (841 locations) had known restrictions in place for movement on entry and exit. There were 174 border crossings which did not have any known movement restrictions⁹ in place and 154 locations had restrictions imposed on either entry or exit.

Of the 1,169 land border crossings assessed, a quarter (305) had COVID-19 specific medical measures in place, 166 imposed restrictions for certain nationalities to disembark, in 66 there were changes in documents required to pass through the border crossing introduced and in additional 42 border crossings changes in visa requirements were set in place while focal points for the remaining 590 land border crossings reported other measures in place. The breakdown of the number of locations with implemented measures or restrictions by region is shown on the chart 1 below.

Chart 1: Number of land border points with restrictions imposed by type of restriction and by region

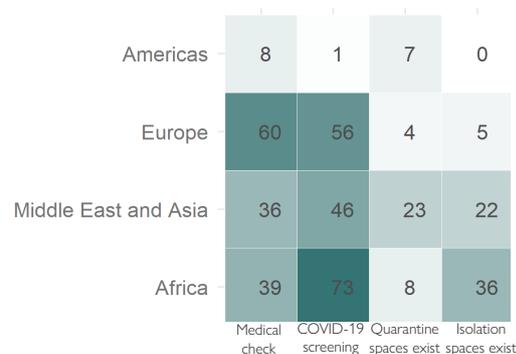


More than forty per cent of land border crossings with imposed measures and movement restrictions were in Europe. Further on, assessed land border crossings in Europe account for more than a half of all land border crossings with restrictions related to certain nationality groups, mainly related to travelers who are nationals of countries most affected by the COVID-19 outbreak (95 out of 166).

Of the total 305 land border crossings that had at least one known medical measure implemented as of 2 April 2020, 143 had implemented routine medical checks, 176 had some form of COVID-19 screening, 63 land border crossings had designated isolation areas and in 42 land border crossings mandatory quarantine upon entry was imposed. When looking at specific medical measures, land border crossing points in Africa are leading in the number of COVID-19 screening, whilst routine medical check is the most common approach at the land border crossings mapped in Europe.

It should be noted, that one location could have had several of the restrictions or measures in place. The breakdown of the number of locations with implemented measures or restrictions by region is shown on the chart 2 below.

Chart 2: Number of land border points with medical measures implemented by type of measures and by region (multiple choice answers)



⁸ DTM team assessed a total of 1,339 land border crossings. The list of measures is included in [Methodology section](#).

⁹ Please note that these locations had other measures in place and should therefore be distinguished from 271 locations with no known movement restrictions and measures that were analyzed separately.

BLUE BORDER POINTS

During the assessment, DTM mapped a total of 226 blue border points with at least one of the five known restrictions or measures¹⁰ that were included in the the assessment form (as of 2 April 2020) were reported. As a result, this analysis includes 226 blue border points.

Of the 226 sea border points, 60 per cent had known restrictions in place for movement on entry and exit. There were 16 sea border points which did not have any known movement restrictions¹¹ in place and 74 sea border points had restrictions imposed on either entry or exit.

Of the 226 sea border points assessed, 33 had COVID-19 medical measures in place, 36 had restrictions for certain nationalities to disembark, in 8 there were changes in documents required to pass through the blue border points introduced and in additional 3 blue border points changes in visa requirements were set in place. The remaining land border points locations and areas had other type of measures imposed. The breakdown of the number of blue border points with implemented measures or restrictions by region is shown on the chart 3 below.

Of the total 33 sea border points that had least one known medical measure implemented as of 2 April 2020, the majority (54%) had some form of COVID-19 screening, 13 had implemented routine medical checks, 7 sea border points had designated isolation areas and 11 sea border points imposed mandatory quarantine upon entry.

Chart 3: Number of blue border points with restrictions imposed by type of restriction and by region



AIRPORTS

During the assessment, DTM recorded 492 international and national airports with known movement restrictions and measures imposed¹². Arrivals and departures were completely halted at 307 airports. Partial restriction (to or from) was recorded at 82 airports, whereas the remaining 103 had no movement restrictions allowing for passenger and cargo traffic in compliance with imposed COVID-19 measures.

Of the 492 airports with known measures and restrictions imposed, 73 had implemented routine medical checks, 99 had some form of COVID-19 screening, 37 airports had designated isolation areas and 48 airports imposed mandatory quarantine upon entry.

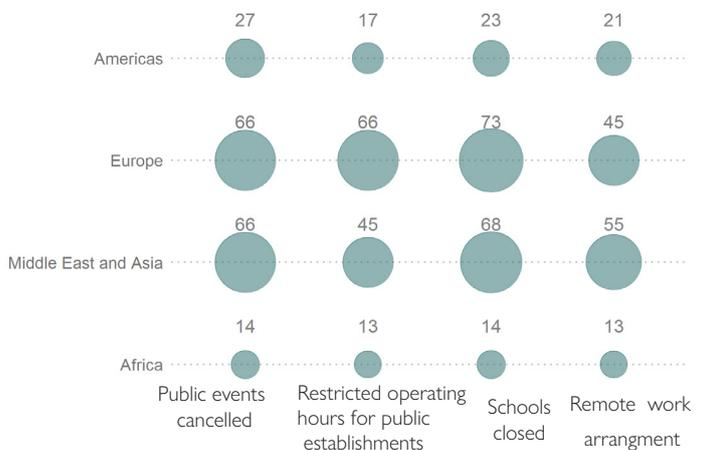
AREAS⁴

A total number of 195 areas were assessed. In all of the areas assessed as of 2 April 2020 there were at least one known restriction or measure in place.

In 173 of the assessed 195 areas public events were cancelled and in 141 assessed areas restricted operating hours for public establishments. Schools were closed in 178 assessed areas. In 134 areas remote working arrangements were set in place.

The breakdown of the number of areas with implemented measures or restrictions by region is shown on the chart 4 below.

Chart 4: Number of areas with restrictions imposed by type of restriction and by region (multiple choice answers)



¹⁰ DTM team assessed a total of 294 sea border points. The list of measures is included in [Methodology section](#).

¹¹ Note that these points had other measures implemented and are therefore included in this summary.

¹² DTM assessed a total of 509 airports.

¹³ Areas in clude: regions, cities, towns and sub-administrative units.

272 LOCATIONS WHERE NO RESTRICTIONS WERE IMPOSED

Of the locations with no know restrictions (271), 170 were land border points, 68 were blue border points, 17 were airports and the rest internal transit points (16). Less than a half of these points were in Europe (42%), followed by 34 per cent in Africa, 21 per cent in the Middle East and Asia. The remaining share was in the Americas.

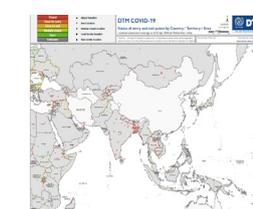
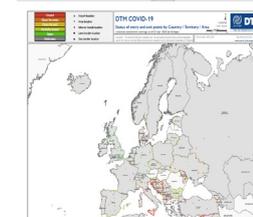
REGIONAL DIVISION

Africa: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Botswana, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Cameroon, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Mauritania, Morocco, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Léone, Togo, Tunisia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Americas: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba and Curaçao, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Europe: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, Kosovo (SCR 1244)

Middle East and Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Israel, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Lao People's Democratic, Malaysia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Saudi



Other resources:

For comprehensive and tabular illustration of Points of Entry (PoE), including internal transit points, **by country and region** check [here](#).

For any inquiry, contact us at: dtm-covid19@iom.int

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Ukrainian border guards and medics meet a train carrying evacuees from the Baltic states back to Ukraine at Kyiv Central Station, where they carried out health checks and provided information on COVID-19 to passengers. Photo: State Border Guard Service of Ukraine. Source: IOM Ukraine/2020