Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Bi-Weekly Update • 11th June 2020

COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series https://displacement.iom.int • dtmcovid19@iom.int

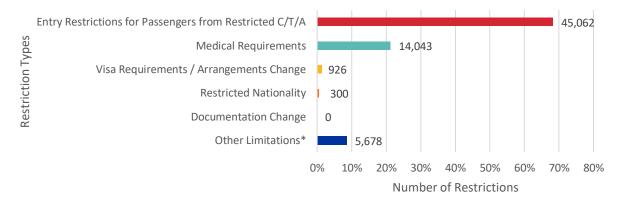


Overview

As the health impacts of COVID-19 improves in some parts of the world such as Europe, as per the World Health Organization, the situation globally remains aggravated. This is also reflected in the multiple and dissimilar responses including stricter mitigation measures alongside easing and reopening plans applied by Governments and authorities across the world. As of 11th June 2020, a total of 220 countries, territories or areas have issued 66,009 travel restrictions, indicating an increase of almost one per cent from 65,692 restrictions recorded on 8th June 2020 and compared to the initial 775 restrictions issued by 83 C/T/As on 8th March 2020 (representing an increase of 8640%). More specifically, there has been an increase of 5 per cent in restrictions such as new travel documents and requirements as well as an increase of 2 per cent in medical requirements for travel. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 176 countries, territories or areas have issued 701 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 8th and 11th June 2020, 8 countries, territories or areas have removed 7 exceptions.

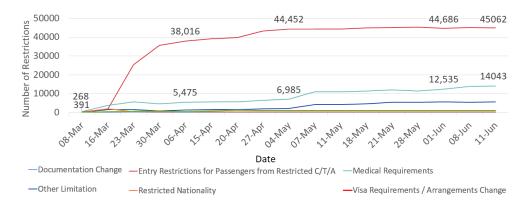
Data Source: <u>IATA</u> and official government websites.

Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Types

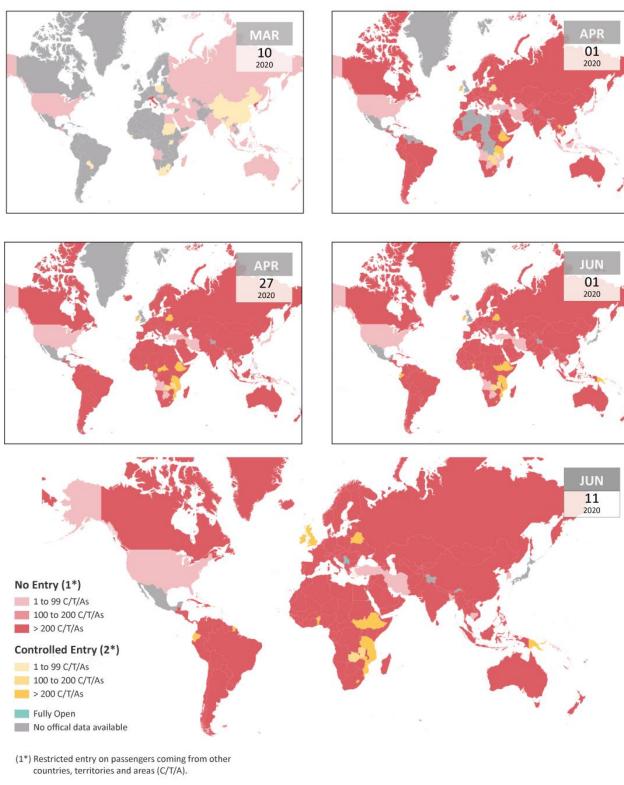


As of 11th June 2020, 220 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Despite the recent stabilisation, entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/A had the highest share of the total restrictions (68%). Closure of borders has been a common and preferred response, followed by medical measures making up 21 per cent of the restrictions. Changes in visa requirements and entry restrictions for certain nationalities have also followed a stable trend, continuing to represent a small share (1% and <1% respectively) in total restrictions.

Restrictions Imposed, by type



Changes in Restrictions on Arrival since 10th March 2020



(2*) C/T/As imposing medical measures, changes in Visa or ID or other measures on arrival.

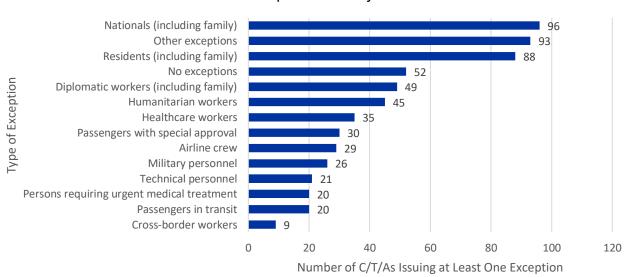
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Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

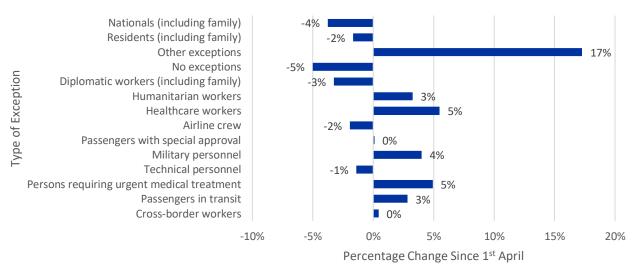
- Croatia issued new exceptions for nationals of all EU Member States who are now allowed to transit and enter.
 Previously only nationals of Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia could enter.
- Gabon shifted from a partial ban on passengers arriving from specific destinations to a total flight suspension.
- France removed the exceptions for the entry of healthcare professionals and researchers related to COVID-19 and diplomats, which means that they can no longer enter.
- The **United Arab of Emirates** issued requirements for passengers that are exempt from travel restrictions requiring them to provide a completed self-declaration health form which must be presented upon arrival at Dubai.
- Canada issued new conditions for exempt passengers, who can only arrive at specific airports such as Calgary (YYC), Montreal (YUL), Toronto (YYZ), and Vancouver (YVR).
- Authorities in **Lebanon** also announced plans of <u>resuming flights</u> in the Gulf region with destinations that have strict COVID-19 testing.
- Sri Lanka has announced plans to <u>reopen its borders</u> for tourists from 1st August 2020, however, passengers will have to undergo rigorous COVID-19 testing upon arrival and throughout the duration of their stay, additionally passengers must meet strict requirements such as a medical certificate declaring a negative COVID-19 prior to travel
- Austria and Poland announced plans of <u>lifting checks</u> at the border with Italy as well as ending quarantine requirements for more than 20 European Union countries from 16th June 2020.

Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions





Change in Exceptions for Entry



Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 701 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 176 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Spain (18), Sweden (15), Bulgaria (12), Norway (12) and Luxembourg (11).
- The Republic of Korea (joint seventh) and the United States of America (joint tenth) are the only non-European C/T/As in the top 15 C/T/As issuing exceptions.
- Since the last update on 8th June 2020, 11 new exceptions were added by Somalia (4), Croatia (1), Czechia (1), the Gambia (1), Malaysia (1), Montenegro (1), Republic of Korea (1), and the United States of America (1).
- Since the last update on 8th June 2020, 7 exceptions were removed by Saint Lucia (3), France (2), and Gabon (2).
- Since exceptions were first recorded on 1st April 2020, 42 new C/T/As have issued exceptions and the total number of exceptions has increased by 218.

Key Exceptions Highlights

- Norway lifted the travel ban on passengers arriving from Denmark as of 14th June 2020.
- St. Lucia reopened airports as of 9th June 2020, however, passengers and airline crew must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued no longer than 48 hours prior to travel and all arriving passengers are subject to quarantine for 14 days.
- New exceptions for entry were issued by New Zealand allowing the entry and transit of passengers from Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands. Likewise, as of 10th June 2020, authorities in Czechia issued exceptions for the entry of nationals from Austria, Germany, Hungary, and Slovakia who are traveling directly from those countries to Czechia.
- The Gambia added new exceptions to the existing travel restriction allowing the entry of humanitarian, medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) and return flights.
- The United States of America issued a three-month visa extension for nationals of Belarus whose visa expires between 30th April 2020 and 31st July 2020.
- Montenegro lifted the passenger ban for passengers arriving from 125 countries, territories, or areas.
- Somalia issued new exceptions to their flight ban, to allow medical, humanitarian and emergency flights or technical landings where passengers and airline crew do not disembark. These flights must have a pre-authorization from the Somali Civil Aviation Authority obtained at scaa@scaa.gov.so.
- The efforts to return nationals from abroad continues. The first return flight with <u>170 nationals</u> of **Yemen** arrived from Egypt on 10th June 2020. Upon arrival all passenger underwent medical examinations, body heat camera checks and COVID-19 tests.
- On 11th June 2020, a total of <u>324 nationals of Nepal</u> arrived in two flights from Kuwait City. Authorities in Nepal have issued new schedules return flights from 14 25th June 2020, from several international destinations including Dhaka, Malé, Dubai, Melbourne, Bangkok, Bahrain, Narita, Kuwait, Nicosia, Sydney, Doha, Seoul, Oman, Osaka.
- Similarly, **India**'s efforts to facilitate the return of nationals from abroad is currently in its <u>third phase</u> according to which between 10 30th June a total of 80 flights operated by Air India, the national carrier, have been scheduled.
- Humanitarian flights containing medical goods also continue. On 10th June 2020, through the European Union (EU)
 Humanitarian Air Bridge, Sudan received <u>90 tons of cargo</u> including medical equipment, vaccines, water purifiers,
 medical kits, medicine, and medical staff protective equipment.
- The United Arab Emirates also sent Sudan 38 tonnes of medical aid to support efforts towards COVID-19.
- In support of their COVID-19 response, <u>Turkey</u> sent **Afghanistan** 10 ventilators and defibrillators each, as well as 10 pieces of oxygen regulators, three PCR machines, 10 nebulizers and 30,000 COVID-19 RT-q diagnostic test kits, 25,000 N95 face masks and 50,000 surgical and normal masks