

Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Bi-Weekly Update • 20th July 2020



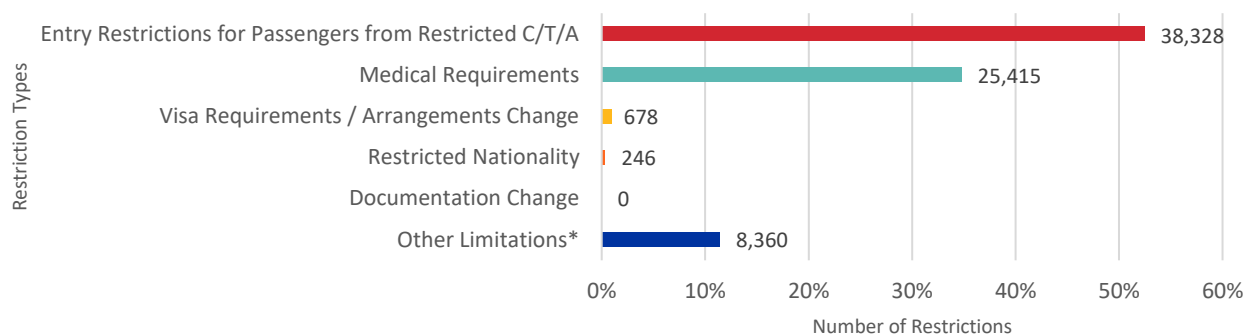
COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
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Overview

The number of COVID-19 cases has surpassed 14 million (14,043,176 cases and 5,971,583 deaths) as of 19th July 2020, as per the [World Health Organization](#). The impact of COVID-19 on global mobility remains complex as several Governments and authorities re-issue travel restrictions to limit the health impact of the pandemic while simultaneously easing some restrictions. As of 20th July 2020, a total of 219 countries, territories or areas have issued 73,027 travel restrictions, indicating an increase of one per cent from 72,525 restrictions recorded on 16th July 2020. There has been an increase of five per cent in medical restrictions and a decrease of two per cent on the restrictions on passengers arriving from specific countries, territories or areas. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 178 countries, territories or areas have issued 648 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 16th and 20th July 2020, 9 countries, territories or areas have issued 19 new exceptions whilst 4 countries, territories or areas have removed 7 exceptions.

Data Source: [IATA](#) and official government websites.

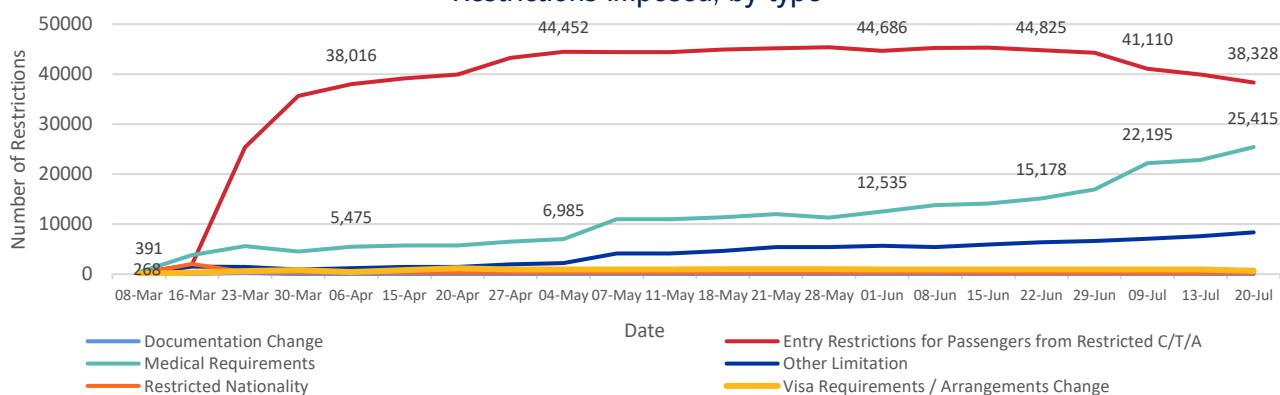
Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Type



*Other limitations include suspended visas on arrival and entry permits, requirements for international travel certificates and medical coverages.

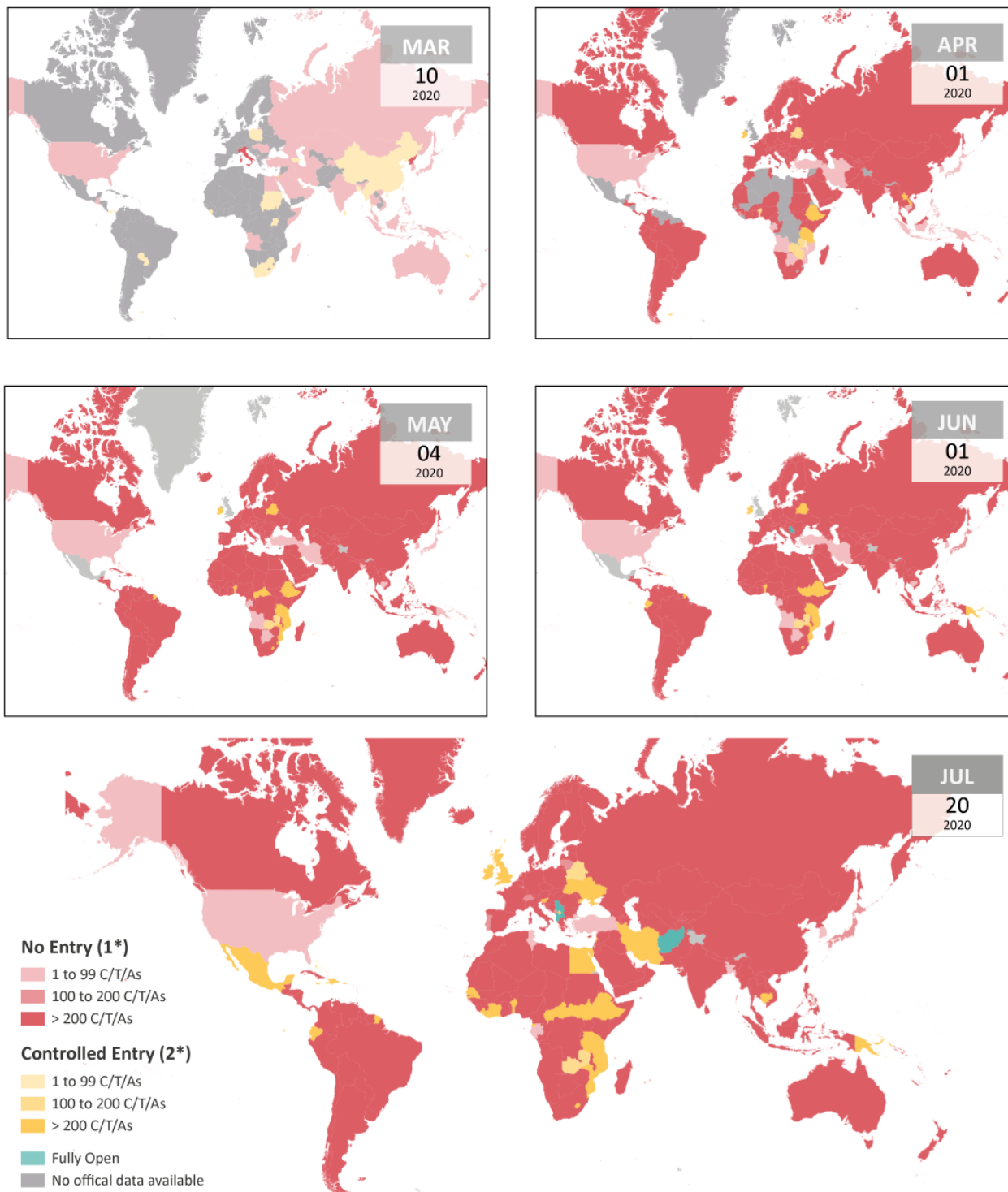
As of 20th July 2020, 219 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Although entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As still had the highest share of the total restrictions (52%), they have been following a decreasing trend. In contrast, medical measures making up 35 per cent of the restrictions have been increasing. Changes in visa requirements have also followed a stable trend, continuing to represent a small share (<1%) in total restrictions.

Restrictions Imposed, by type



Important: This analysis does not capture pre-COVID-19 related travel restrictions, rather it draws attention to various travel restrictions issued as a result of COVID-19. This report focuses on the changes to pre-existing measures affecting passengers travelling through specific routes or with specific travel documentation and nationalities. The number of restrictions recorded in this report is indicative of the total number of COVID-19 related travel restrictions since 8th March 2020, when IOM began monitoring the impact of travel restrictions on global mobility as a result of COVID-19. More specifically, this analysis highlights emerging changes as a result of COVID-19 travel requirements to support identifying border management practices. This analysis does not aim to provide information on exact travel requirements. For specific and updated travel information, kindly refer to respective Consular authorities of the destination country. International Air Transport Association (IATA) and relevant airline companies may be a valid alternative to explore.

Changes in Restrictions on Arrival since 10th March 2020



(1*) Restricted entry on passengers coming from other countries, territories and areas (C/T/A).

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

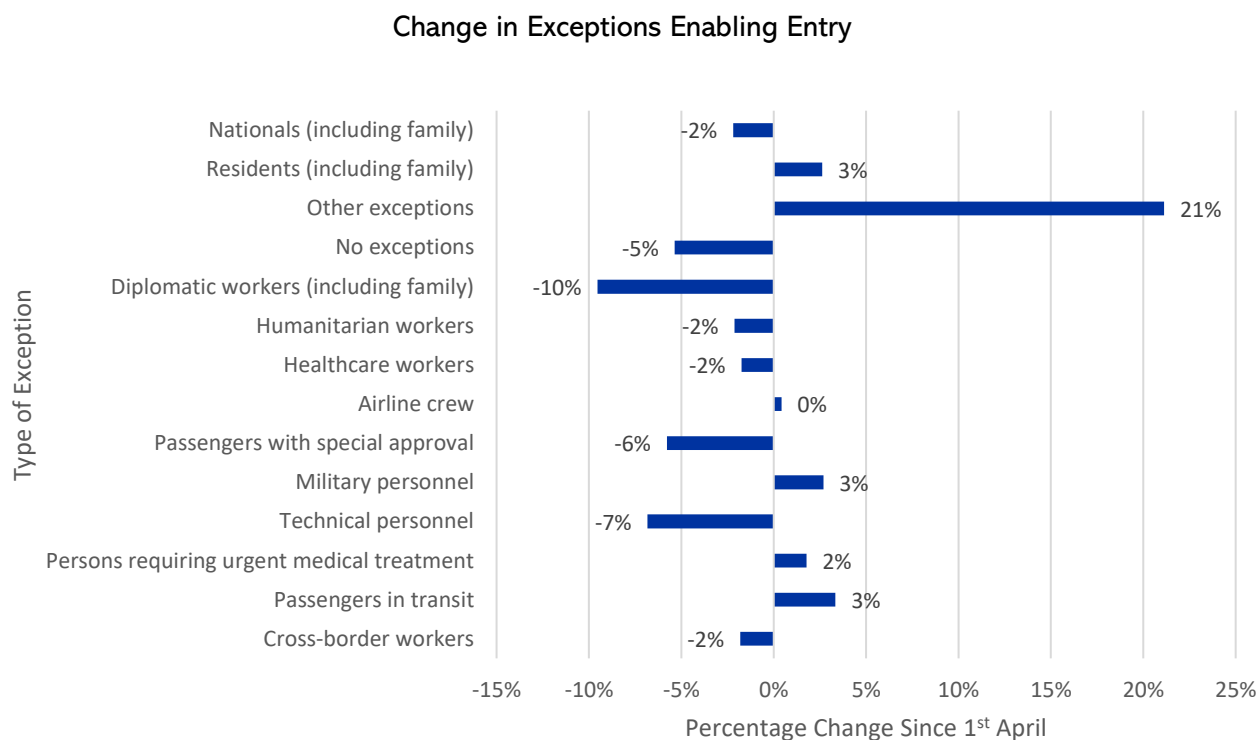
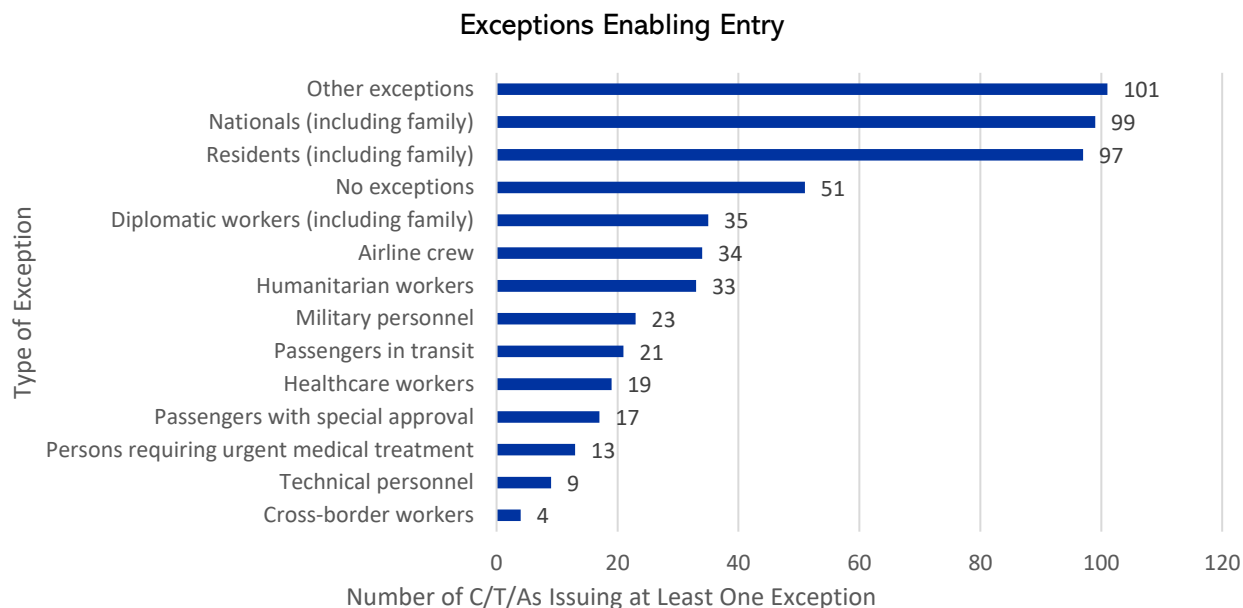
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■ Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

- Flight and passenger bans were extended by Poland until 28th July 2020, by Chile and India until the 31st July 2020 and by Sweden until 31st August 2020.
- Flight resumption dates were issued by Central African Republic for 14th September 2020. Passengers and airline crew will be subject to medical screening and a 14-day quarantine.
- Portugal added a new medical measure stipulating all passengers are subject to screening upon arrival.
- In addition to existing flight suspensions, Poland and India issued new passenger restrictions, however, nationals and residents, among other groups are exceptions to these new restrictions.
- Turkey reissued new restrictions on passengers arriving from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Somalia.
- Tunisia added new restrictions on passengers arriving from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cayman Islands, Greece, Mali, the Maldives, Philippines, and Sao Tome and Principe.
- Vanuatu also issued new restrictions on airline crew, requiring them to undergo medical screening and quarantine upon arrival.
- A 10-day quarantine measure was issued by Switzerland, for passengers who have been in Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Iraq, Israel, Kosovo* (UN SCR 1244),¹ Kuwait, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Oman, Panama, Peru, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, Sweden, Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States of America in the past 14 days.
- Amid a surge in new cases, the [Bahamas](#) announced an immediate passenger travel ban in effect from 22nd July 2020, after reopening on 1st July 2020, however, passenger flights from Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union are still permitted entry.
- As per the [African Centre for Disease Control](#), 40 African countries are still under "full border closure."
- Turks and Caicos will reopen airports from 22nd July 2020, however passengers must have a travel authorization completed 72 hours before departure, passengers must provide a negative COVID-19 test result and must undergo medical screening upon arrival and are subject to quarantine for 14 days.
- [The Netherlands](#) announced plans to ease restrictions for loved ones from third countries who are in a long-distance relationship with a national of the Netherlands from 27th July 2020.
- [Czechia](#) also announced that from 20th July 2020 onwards, third-country nationals, especially those who do not require visas to enter will be allowed to enter to visit their partners provided that they fulfil the entry conditions. This includes providing a declaration, proof of their relationship i.e. a joint lease agreement, a joint bank account or a birth certificate of common children, etc.
- Switzerland eased entry restrictions, allowing entry for passengers arriving from Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Monaco, Morocco, New Zealand, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay and Holy See.
- Authorities in Singapore and Malaysia have agreed to start [cross-border travel](#) for long-term pass holders and essential business and official traveller from 10th August 2020 under stringent conditions.

¹ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 1244 (1999)

■ Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions



Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 648 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 178 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Norway (13), Sweden (12), Greece (11) and Thailand (11).
- Since the last update on 16th July 2020, 19 new exceptions were added by India (5), New Caledonia (3), Vanuatu (3), Portugal (2), Iceland (2), Albania (1), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Spain (1) and Switzerland (1).
- Since the last update on 16th July 2020, 7 exceptions were removed by Central African Republic (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), New Caledonia (1), and Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China (1).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- Spain updated their exceptions to allow entry to passengers traveling as students in Spain, merchant seaman, military personnel, and immediate family members of a British national traveling together or traveling to join the British national.
- Vanuatu added new exceptions for nationals of Vanuatu as well as humanitarian flights to enter. Additionally, passengers arriving on return flights are subject to medical screening and must quarantine for 14 days.
- New exceptions for children under the age of 11 years old were issued by New Caledonia for medical measures requiring passengers to present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival, as well as a signed and dated declaration of honour stating passengers do not have symptoms of COVID-19. Exceptions for airline crew were removed.
- Iceland issued exceptions to their passenger ban for residents of Algeria, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay arriving from their country of residence.
- Bosnia and Herzegovina issued new exceptions to allow entry to nationals and residents of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Exceptions for passengers traveling to participate in a funeral of a family member, in need of emergency medical treatment, and for heads of state and members of their delegation, were removed.
- [India](#) announced several flights operating on 20th July 2020 from London, Singapore, Jeddah and other destinations to facilitate returns of nationals.
- Authorities in [Eritrea](#) facilitated the return of 200 nationals that were stranded due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions on 17th July 2020 to their respective home countries.
- A total of 276 nationals of [Uganda](#) that were stranded in the United States of America returned back on 18th July 2020.
- A total of [1,146 nationals](#) of Egypt returned home on seven flights from Kuwait on 20th July 2020.
- [Afghanistan's](#) Border Force received medical supplies and COVID-19 specific equipment from the European Union in support of COVID-19 mitigation efforts.