

Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 5th October 2020



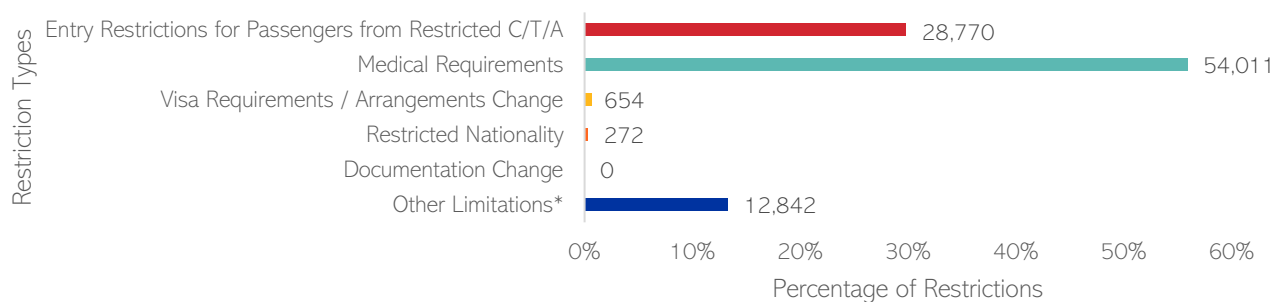
COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
<https://migration.iom.int> • dtmcovid19@iom.int

Overview

As the global number of [COVID-19 cases](#) touches 35 million with over one million deaths (34,804,348 confirmed cases and 1,030,738 deaths) epidemiological considerations continue to limit global mobility. As of 5th October 2020, a total of 219 countries, territories or areas have issued 96,549 travel restrictions indicating an increase of 4 cent from 93,011 travel restrictions reported on 28th September 2020. There has been an increase of 10 per cent in other restrictions such as new documents needed for travel and an increase of 8 per cent in medical requirements. There has been a simultaneous decrease of 5 per cent in restrictions on passengers arriving from specific countries, territories or areas. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 176 countries, territories or areas have issued 777 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 28th September and 5th October 2020, 13 countries, territories or areas issued 27 new exceptions whilst 4 countries, territories or areas removed 7 exceptions.

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

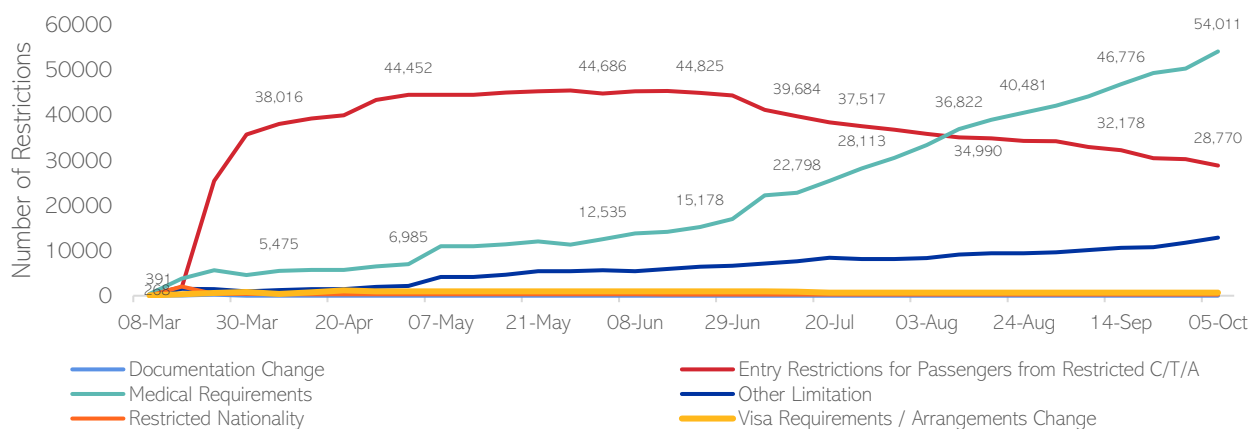
Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Type



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

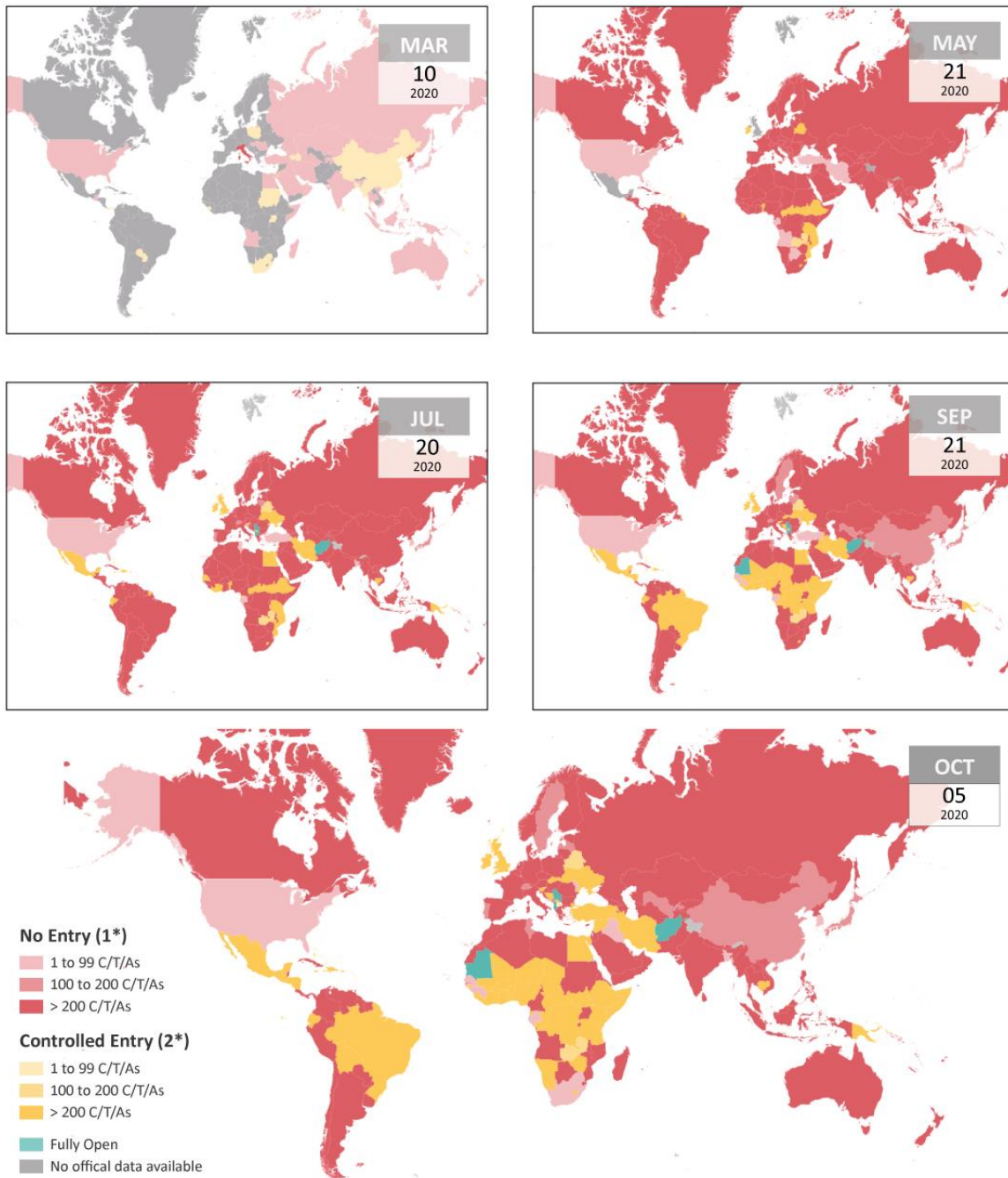
As of 5th October 2020, 218 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As have been following a decreasing trend and no longer have the highest share of total restrictions (30%). Medical measures are the most common restriction type representing 56 per cent of restrictions. 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.

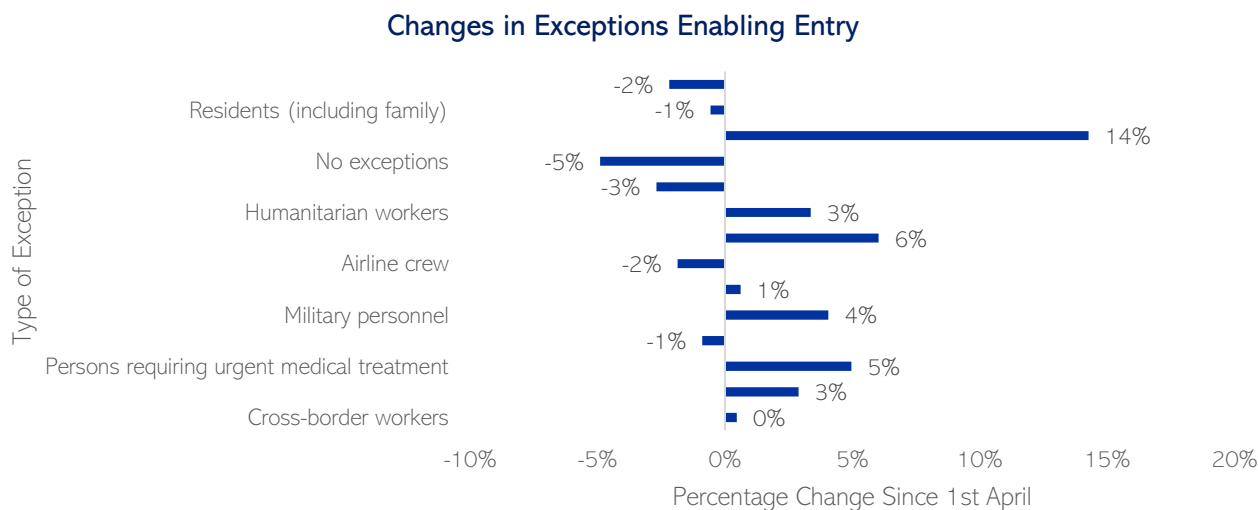
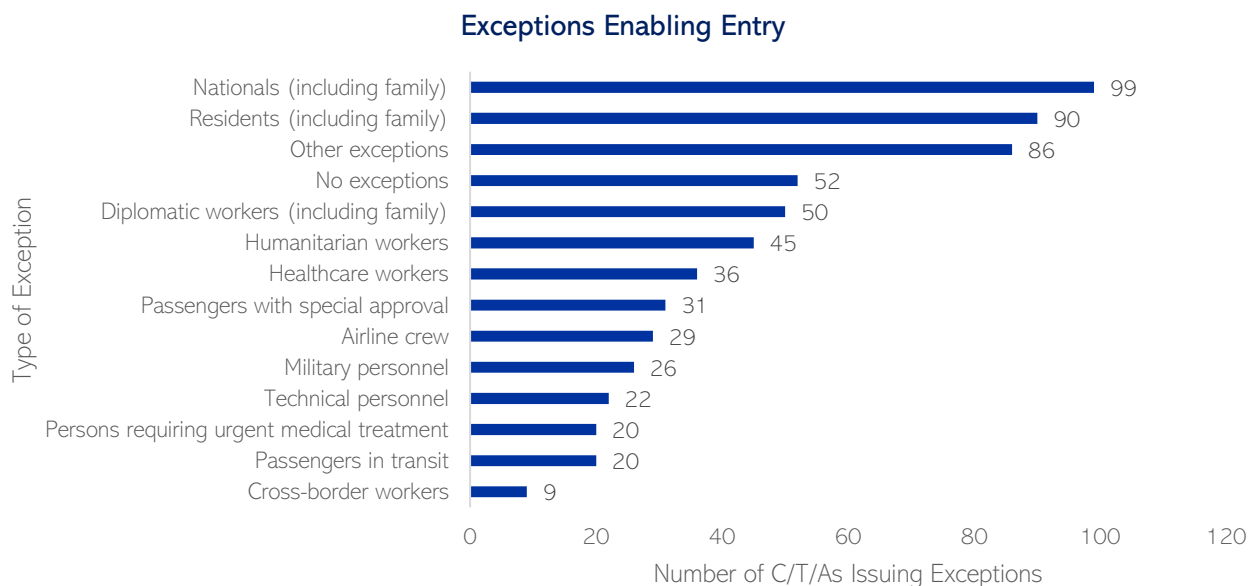
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■ Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

- Extension of flight bans were issued by Morocco until 10th October 2020, by Tajikistan and Jordan until 15th October 2020, by Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and India until 31st October 2020.
- Restrictions banning passenger entry were extended by Greece until 12th October 2020, by Chile until 14th October 2020, by Cabo Verde until 30th October 2020, by Canada until 31st October 2020 and by Azerbaijan until 2nd November 2020.
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia updated the condition of authorized entry, increasing the timeframe of accepted COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test before departure, from 48 hours to 72 hours.
- Seychelles removed the condition for entry stipulating that all passengers must have a negative COVID-19 real-time reverse transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result, and Lithuania removed the measure requiring passengers to present a negative Polymerase Chain Reaction test result.
- Slovenia reduced the required quarantine time for those passengers who travel without a negative COVID-19 test result medical certificate issued at most 46 hours before arrival from 14 to 10 days.
- New medical measures were issued by South Africa for arrival passengers, who must subject to medical screening upon arrival, install the COVID Alert South Africa mobile application and present a medical certificate with a COVID-19 test result issued at most, 72 hours before departure. Passengers without this certificate are subject to quarantine at their own expense.
- Costa Rica added Jamaica and Mexico to the list of departure countries exempt from the flight suspension and issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers arriving from these including the proof that passengers traveling as tourists have medical insurance, issued by a company in Costa Rica or approved by the Costa Rican Institute of Tourism, to pay for COVID-19 treatment costs, and provide a medical certificate in English or Spanish, with a negative COVID-19 real-time reverse transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result, taken at most 72 hours before departure.
- Italy removed restrictions on passengers who have transited in through Serbia or France in the past 14 days and added a new condition for authorized entry, requiring those arriving from Croatia, France, Greece, Malta, or Spain to subject to a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test on arrival, unless they present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours before arrival.
- Kyrgyzstan issued new medical conditions for authorized entry requiring passengers present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival, upon arrival. Nationals of Kyrgyzstan, passengers under 7 years old, and passengers with a diplomatic passport are exempt.
- Mauritius issued new conditions for entry, requiring that passengers provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 7 days before departure, subject to COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test and a 14 day quarantine, upon arrival. Passengers must have a quarantine hotel reservation made at <https://booking.mymauritius.travel/>.
- Republic of Korea removed restrictions barring nationals of the Russian Federation from transiting if they depart from the Russian Federation or travel onward to Russian Federation.
- New restrictions were issued by Iraq barring passengers from entering the country via Erbil (EBL) or Sulaymaniyah (ISU) if they have been in Islamic Republic of Iran in the past 30 days.
- Belgium removed restrictions barring entry for passengers arriving from Australia, Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Rwanda, Thailand or Uruguay and exceptions for passengers with a consular, diplomatic, official, service or a special passport traveling on duty.
- Belize issued new conditions for entry, requiring passengers to install and present the Belize Health Travel Application, and subject to medical screening upon arrival.

- Additional conditions for authorized entry were issued by Barbados, requiring that passengers complete an Embarkation/Disembarkation (ED) Form 24 hours before arrival, and for passengers who have not obtained a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result at most 72 hours before departure, they must subject to medical screening and quarantine upon arrival.
- New measures for airline crew were issued by New Zealand, requiring that airline crew use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- New medical conditions for entry were issued by Nigeria requiring that all passengers subject to medical screening and self-isolation for 7 days, upon arrival.
- Oman issued new conditions for authorized entry of passengers including that passengers subject to a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test, quarantine for 14 days, provide evidence of insurance to cover medical expenses in Oman for one month, upon arrival. Passengers must also download the Tarassud+ application before arrival and pay OMR 25 on arrival to cover the cost of the COVID-19 test.
- Pakistan updated entry conditions for passengers as of 5th October 2020, requiring that passengers present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 real-time reverse transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result, taken at most 96 hours before departure and download the Pass Track Application. Passengers arriving from Australia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, People's Republic of China, Cuba, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uganda or Uruguay and passenger younger than 12 years are exempt from providing a medical certificate.
- The Philippines issued new conditions for entry requiring that passengers subject to a COVID-19 test at their own expense and to quarantine as well as present a completed Case Investigation Form.

■ Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions



Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 777 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 176 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Singapore (25), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (20), Republic of Korea (14), Canada (13), and then joint 5th with 11 were Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America.
- Since the last update on 28th September 2020, 27 new exceptions were added by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (6), Kyrgyzstan (3), Oman (3), Singapore (3), New Zealand (2), Pakistan (2), Ukraine (2), Bermuda (1), Bulgaria (1), Ethiopia (1), Peru (1), Poland (1), and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1).
- Since the last update on 28th September 2020, 7 exceptions were removed by Mauritius (3), Republic of Moldova (2), Brunei Darussalam (1), and Jordan (1).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- Singapore updated exceptions to its passenger ban, stating that passengers are exempt if they present an Air Travel Pass approval letter issued proving they have stayed in either Australia (excluding Victoria State), Brunei Darussalam, New Zealand or Viet Nam in the last 14 days before departure, have a visa to enter Singapore (if they are a visa-required short-term visitor), and have a mobile device with the TraceTogether app downloaded. Children under 12 years old in that calendar year and travelling with a parent or guardian, or those who are unable to use a mobile device due to a certified disability and/or special need, are excluded.
- Bulgaria issued an exemption allowing entry to passengers traveling as students.
- The return of nationals from abroad and humanitarian aid continue. A total of 339 [nationals of Sri Lanka](#) who were stranded in Australia, United Arab Emirates and India owing to COVID-19 related travel restrictions returned on 30th September 2020, upon arrival all passengers were subject to medical screening.
- On 5th October 2020, five return flights facilitating the [return of Indian nationals](#) from United Arab Emirates and Japan.
- On 29th September 2020, 45 tonnes of humanitarian aid were delivered as part of the 'Beirut Relief Flight' by [Malta and Portugal to Beirut](#), Lebanon in response to their humanitarian needs.