Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 2nd November 2020

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

IOM•OIM

International connecting flights - Status

— Entry Restrictions
— Conditions for Authorized entry
— Fully Open (Removed restrictions and conditions)

Sources: (i)The OpenFlights Airport, Airline, Plane and Route Databases (https://openflights.org/). (ii) Travel related measures extracted from IATA (https://www.iatatravelcentre.com).

Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purpose only. The boundaries and the names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

■ Key Definitions

✈ Entry restrictions: These are total restrictions such as international air travel restrictions which does not allow the entry of passengers of a given country, territory, or area (C/T/A). This could include a complete border closure, nationality ban, suspension of visa issuances, suspension of flights etc.).

✈ Conditions for authorised entry: These are partial restrictions in the form of specific requirements upon which entry is incumbent. These conditions include medical measures, new requirements on visa/travel documents or other specific requirements for entry. Partial restrictions may be applicable to all passengers or excepted groups such as specific nationalities, individuals, or groups.

✈ No Restriction: Refers to the removal of COVID-19 related international air travel restrictions that were issued after 10th March 2020 on IATA's website

✈ Exceptions: Refers to specific population groups, individuals, nationalities to whom the specific COVID-19 related travel restriction issued by a C/T/A are not applicable. Conditions for authorised entry may also apply to specific exception groups to enable their mobility.

Please note: This output represents the implementation of the third phase of Air Travel Restriction Methodology. In this phase, previous categories of Medical and Visa Restrictions have been recategorized as conditions for authorised entry under partial restrictions. For more information please see here.

Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities to confirm political correctness while producing a timely update. This analysis does not aim to provide exact information on 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. Corrections are very welcomed and should be submitted to DTM COVID-19 dtmcovid19@iom.int to ensure consistency of information in the database repository.

■ Overview

With 46 million COVID-19 cases reported (46,166,182 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 1,196,362 deaths) by the World Health Organization as of 2ⁿᵈ November 2020, diverse travel restrictions and measures due to COVID-19 continue to be administered by authorities and Governments in an attempt to contain the further spread of the virus. As of 2ⁿᵈ November 2020, a total of 221 countries, territories or areas have issued 100,065 travel restrictions indicating a 4 per cent increase from 96,202 travel restrictions reported on 26ᵗʰ October 2020. Of these, 28,375 were reported as entry restrictions and 71,690 were reported as conditions for entry. There has been a 40 per cent increase in visa restrictions and likewise an increase of 5 per cent in medical requirements. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 167 countries, territories or areas have issued 720 exceptions enabling mobility despite travel restrictions. Between 26ᵗʰ October and 2ⁿᵈ November 2020, 68 countries, territories or areas issued 130 new exceptions whilst 59 countries, territories or areas removed 91 exceptions.

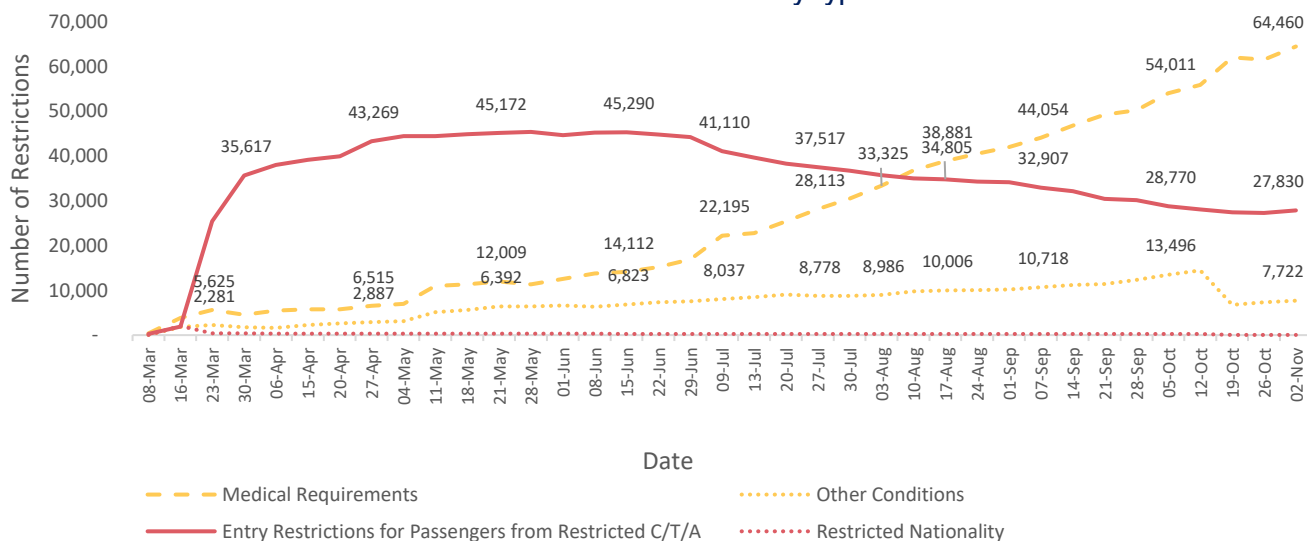## ■ Restrictions and Conditions for Authorised Entry

Most Commonly Imposed Restriction and Conditions for Authorised Entry
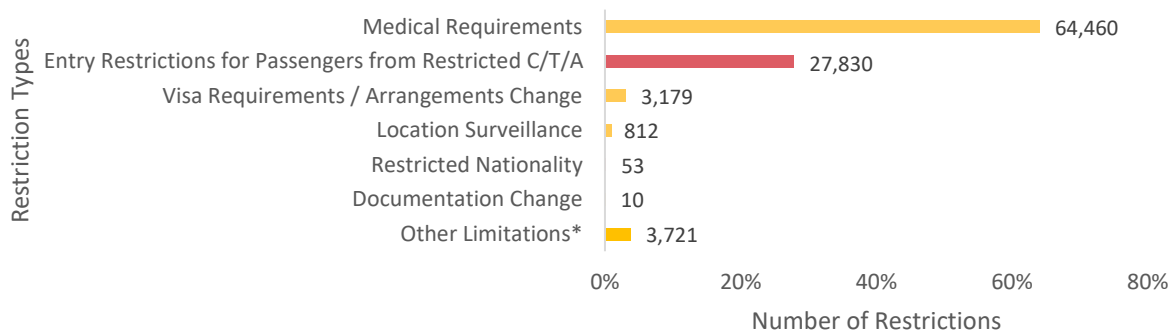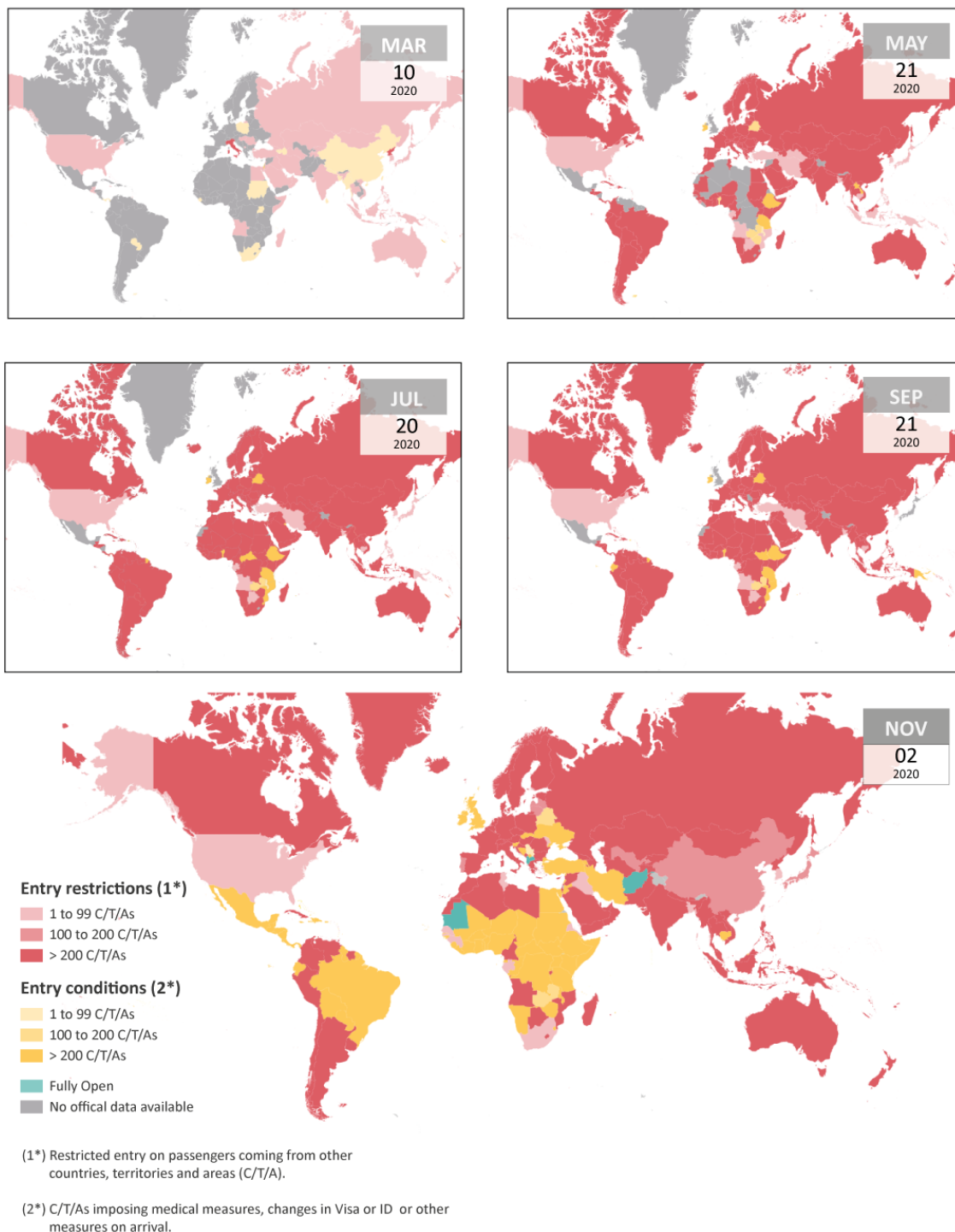

*Other limitations include suspended visas on arrival and entry permits, requirements for international travel certificates and medical coverages.

As of 2ⁿᵈ November 2020, 221 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorised entry. 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 (28%). Medical measures are the most common condition for authorised entry representing 64 per cent of conditions. Visa requirements, on the other hand, represent 3 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

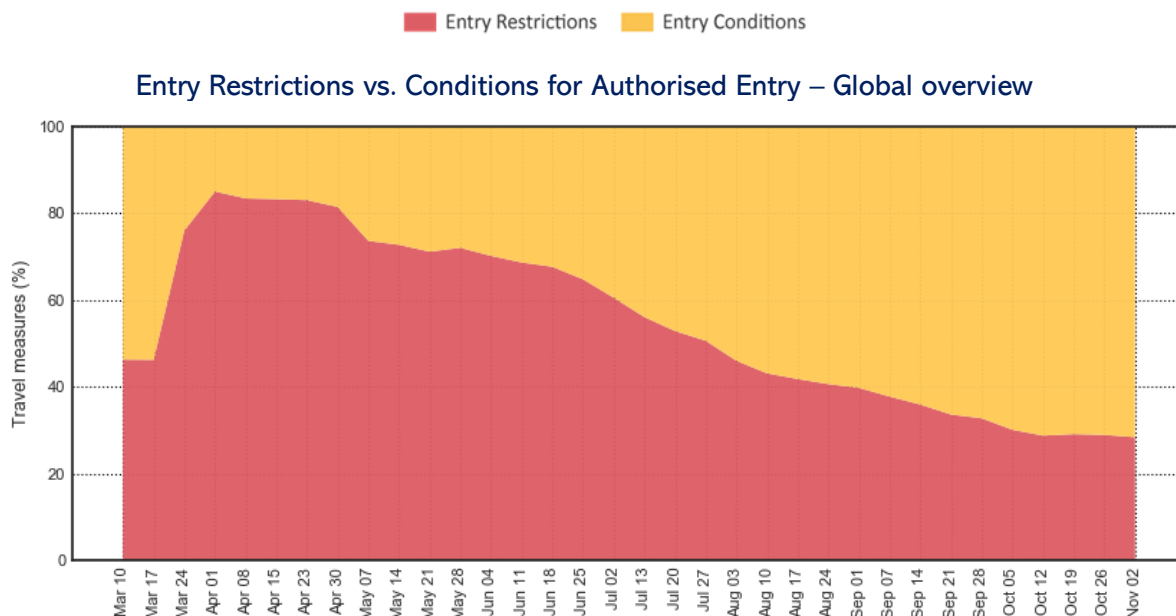### Restrictions and Conditions by type

■ Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorised Entry, over time

Entry restrictions (1*)
- 1 to 99 C/T/As
- 100 to 200 C/T/As
- > 200 C/T/As

Entry conditions (2*)
- 1 to 99 C/T/As
- 100 to 200 C/T/As
- > 200 C/T/As

- Fully Open
- No offical data available

(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.

The map above gives a global overview on how C/TAs have gradually issued 'entry restrictions' (bans for entry of passengers) and 'conditions for authorised entry' (medical requirements in the form of PCR test, quarantine, etc..). In March 2020 most of the world's CTAs still hadn't officially announced any travel related measures (coloured in grey), whereas by October 2020, almost all the C/T/As in the world had issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorised entry at international airports.

The data displayed on the chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' (bans for entry of passengers) to 'conditions for authorised entry' over the time. In April 2020 around 80 per cent of the travel related measures were entry restrictions (coloured in red), but this proportion of 'entry restrictions' has gradually decreased to 30 per cent as of October 2020.

Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for Authorised Entry – Global overview

When disaggregating the data by IOM regions, we can observe similar trends but with differences in timing. For instance, IOM region Asia and the Pacific started to change 'entry restrictions' (coloured in red) for 'condition for authorised entry' (coloured in yellow) earlier than any other region (April 2020), whereas IOM region Southern Africa started easing total restrictions only in August 2020. These regional differences over the time mirror the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in different geographical areas.

Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for authorised entry – Regional overview
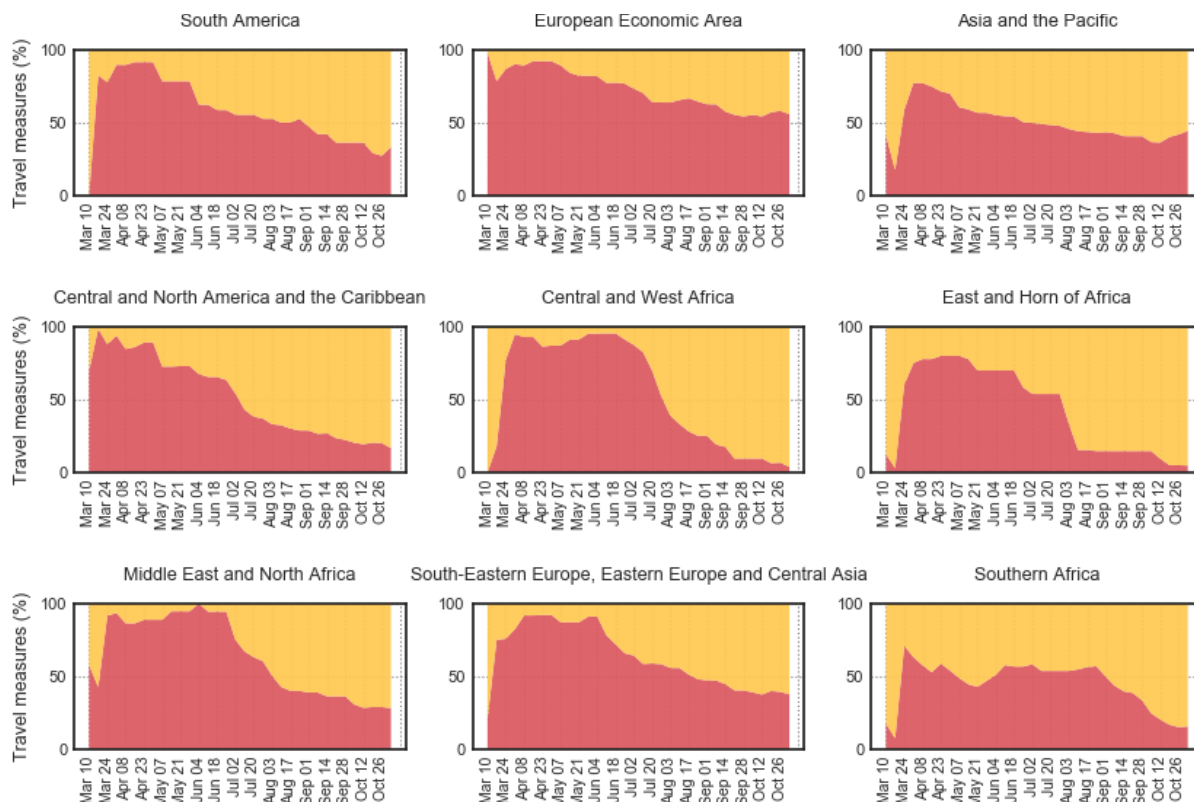
■ Key Highlights on Restrictions and Conditions for Authorised Entry

This section illustrates a comparison between total restrictions such as passenger bans, airport closures, flight suspensions and partial restrictions comprised of conditions for authorised entry such as medical measures, visa changes and so on. Between 26th October and 2nd November, more C/T/As increased their conditions for authorised entry rather than total restrictions.

Proportional changes in weekly travel restrictions and conditions, by top 30 C/T/As

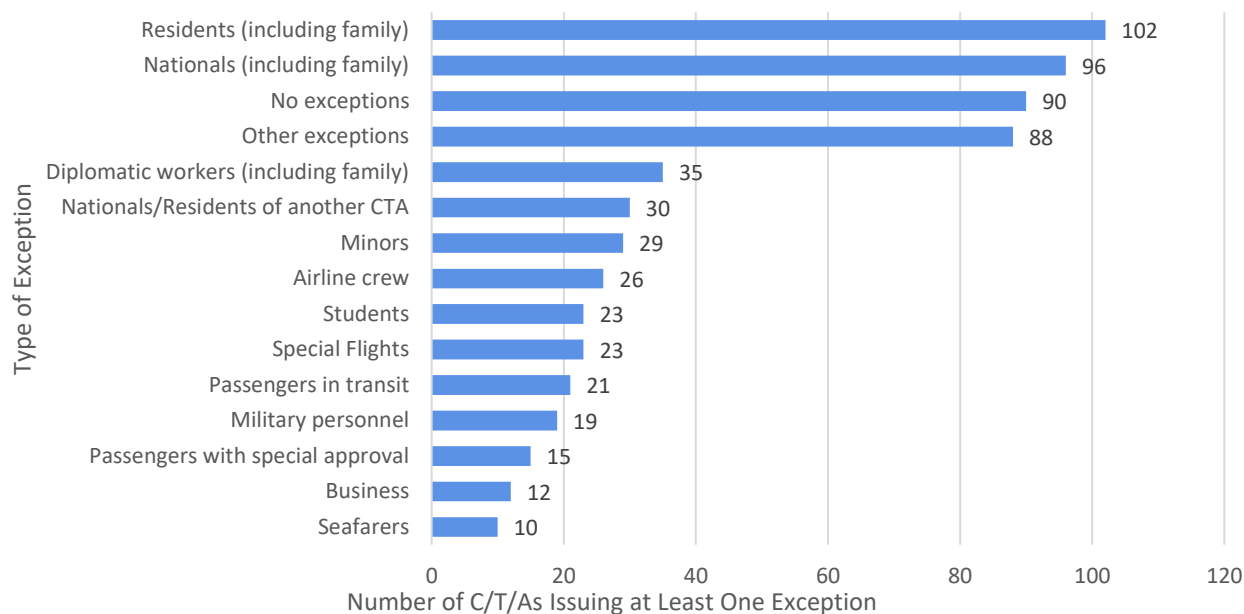■ Proportional Restriction Change %   ■ Proportional Conditions Change %
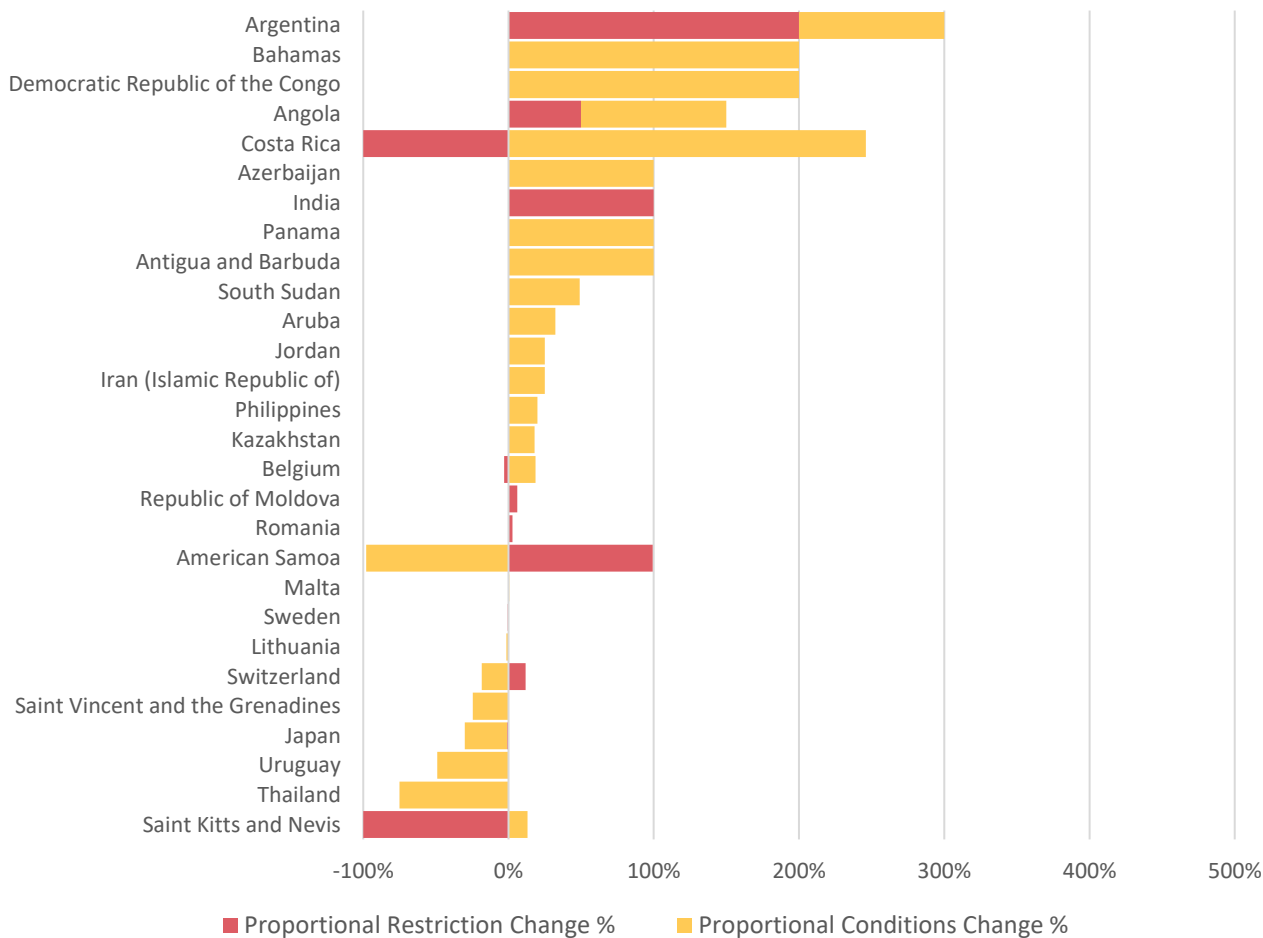
- New conditions for entry were issued by Democratic Republic of Congo, requiring that all passengers with authorised entry must also complete a "Travellers Registration Form" before arrival at https://inrbcovid.com/index.php/user/home_en and subject to a COVID-19 test on arrival at their own expense.

- Costa Rica reopened entry to all passengers, conditional upon the provision of proof of health insurance and a health declaration form, upon arrival.

- New conditions for authorised entry were issued by Panama, requiring all passengers to complete a "Declaracion Jurada de Salud" available at https://www.panamadigital.gob.pa/ before arrival.

- The Republic of Moldova issued restrictions barring entry to passengers who, in the past 14 days, have transited through Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Eswatini, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
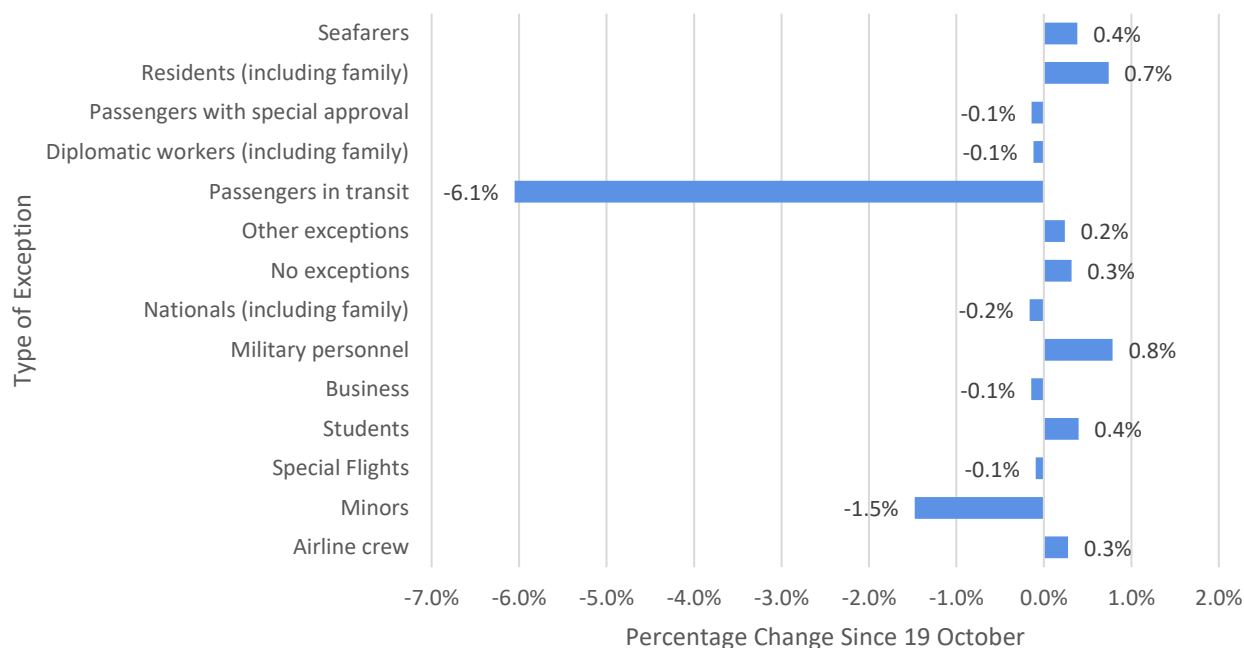
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, issued new conditions for entry, requiring that passengers provide proof of a hotel reservation made for 5 days where they will undergo a quarantine. Passengers who have been in Barbados in the past 21 days before arrival are exempt from this requirement.

- Airports reopened in St. Kitts and Nevis, as of 31st October 2020. Conditions for entry were issued for passengers who have been in Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Lucia or St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the past 21 days, including provision of approved accommodation and a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 3 days before departure, and medical screening and instillation of the SKN COVID-19 mobile app upon arrival.

- Japan reopened entry for passengers arriving from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, Taiwan Special Administrative Region of People's Republic of China, Macao Special Administrative Region of People's Republic of China, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam provided they have spent the last 14 days before departure in one of these locations.

- Existing passenger travel bans were extended by Croatia until 19th November, by Suriname and Italy until 24th November 2020, by Spain until 30th November 2020, by Sweden until 22nd December 2020, by Norway until 15th January 2021.

- Denmark issued new conditions for entry, including a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test taken at most 72 hours before arrival for all passengers except for residents of Australia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand and Uruguay.

- Iraq updated entry conditions, specifying that passengers traveling to Erbil without a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 48 hours before departure from the first embarkation point are subject to a test upon arrival at their own expense. These new entry conditions further specify that COVID-19 tests issued by the National Health Service (NHS) in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are not accepted.

- Extensions of flight bans were issued by Myanmar until 30st November 2020, by Turkmenistan until 1st January 2021, whereas the closure of airports was extended by Trinidad and Tobago until 8th November 2020.

- New restrictions were issued by the Republic of Korea barring nationals of Egypt, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen to transit through the country. Nationals of Egypt with diplomatic or service passport are exempt from this restriction.

- Peru reopened for flights arriving from Atlanta, Brasilia, Buenos Aires, Cancun, Cartagena, Cordoba, Houston, Iguazu, La Habana, Los Angeles, Mendoza, Mexico, Miami, Montego Bay, New York, John F Kennedy Intl and Newark Liberty Intl, Orlando, Porto Alegre, Punta Cana, Rio de Janeiro, Rosario, San Jose, San Salvador, Sao Paulo, Toronto and Tucuman.

- Specific conditions were issued by Rwanda for transit passengers, stipulating that they have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result taken at most 120 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.

■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Exceptions: Groups that are allowed to enter

Type of Exception	Number of C/T/As Issuing at Least One Exception
Residents (including family)	102
Nationals (including family)	96
No exceptions	90
Other exceptions	88
Diplomatic workers (including family)	35
Nationals/Residents of another CTA	30
Minors	29
Airline crew	26
Students	23
Special Flights	23
Passengers in transit	21
Military personnel	19
Passengers with special approval	15
Business	12
Seafarers	10

Changes in Exceptions: Groups that are allowed to enter

| Type of Exception	Percentage Change Since 19 October
Seafarers	0.4%
Residents (including family)	0.7%
Passengers with special approval	-0.1%
Diplomatic workers (including family)	-0.1%
Passengers in transit	-6.1%
Other exceptions	0.2%
No exceptions	0.3%
Nationals (including family)	-0.2%
Military personnel	0.8%
Business	-0.1%
Students	0.4%
Special Flights	-0.1%
Minors	-1.5%
Airline crew	0.3%

Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- A total of 720 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 167 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were the United States of America (17), Bulgaria (15), Italy (14), South Africa (14), and then joint 5th with 13 were Canada and the United Arab Emirates.

■ Exceptions and Corresponding Conditions for Authorised Entry

The conditions for authorised entry corresponding to exceptions refers to additional requirements or measures that specific exempt individuals or groups need to fulfil to enter a given C/T/A. The below chart demonstrates the most commonly imposed conditions for authorised entry such as quarantine, health declaration forms, medical certificates and so on that are applicable to specific groups.

Exempted groups and associated conditions for authorised entry
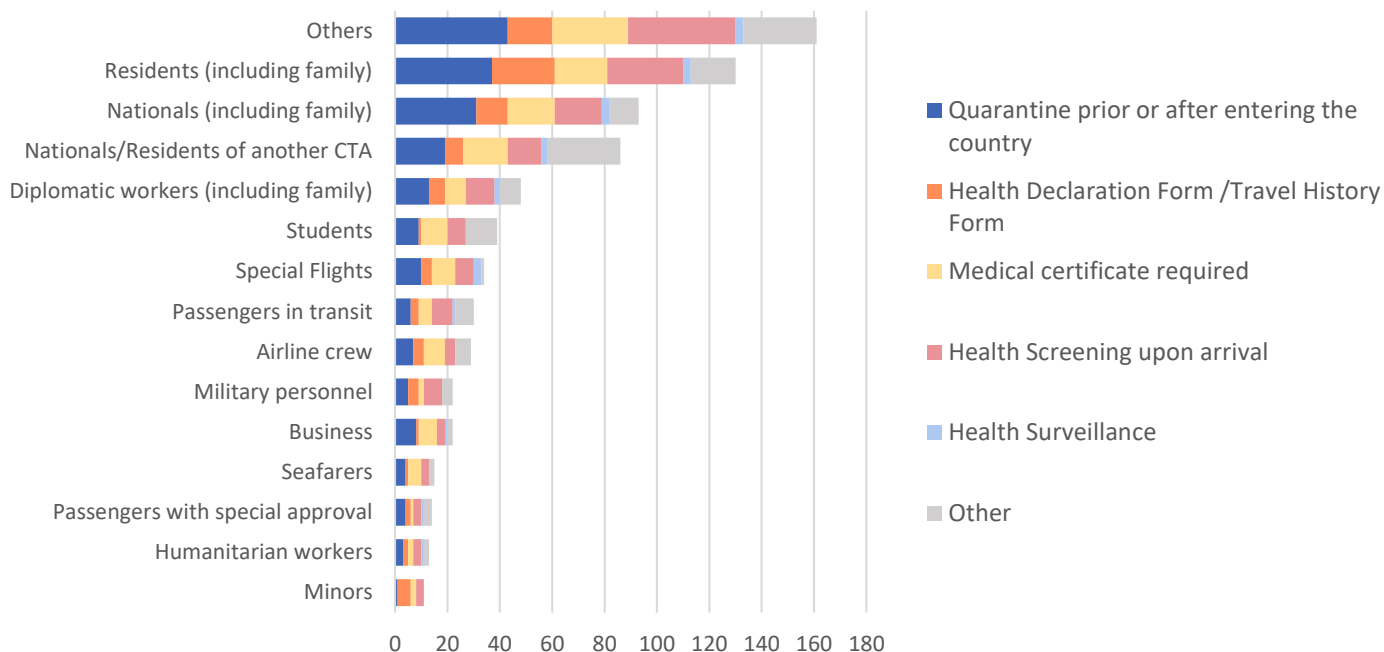
Noticeable Trends for Conditions for Authorised Entry for Exempted Groups:

- A total of 747 conditions for authorised entry for exempted groups have been issued by 167 C/T/As.
- The main condition for authorised entry for exempted groups was quarantine prior or after entering the country.

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- Paraguay removed the conditions for authorised entry for nationals and residents of Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for unconditional entry; they can now enter Paraguay only with proof of international medical insurance with coverage of COVID-19 treatment costs, presented upon arrival in the country.

- Cote D'Ivoire issued an exception to the entry requirement to provide a medical certificate with a COVID-19 negative test result, for passengers under the age of 11, whereas Kazakhstan issued exceptions to the requirements of providing a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result before arrival, and screening and self-isolation upon arrival for passengers under 5 years old and residents of Kazakhstan.

- Exceptions for authorised entry were issued by New Zealand for partners or children of nationals or residents of New Zealand.

- Exceptions for entry conditions were issued by Oman and Jordan, exempting passengers with a consular, diplomatic, official, service or a special passport, from providing a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result upon arrival.

- India issued new exceptions to allow conditional entry to nationals of Nepal and Bhutan, given that they subject to medical screening and a 14-day quarantine upon arrival, present a self-reporting form found at online, and download the Arogya Setu application on their phone.