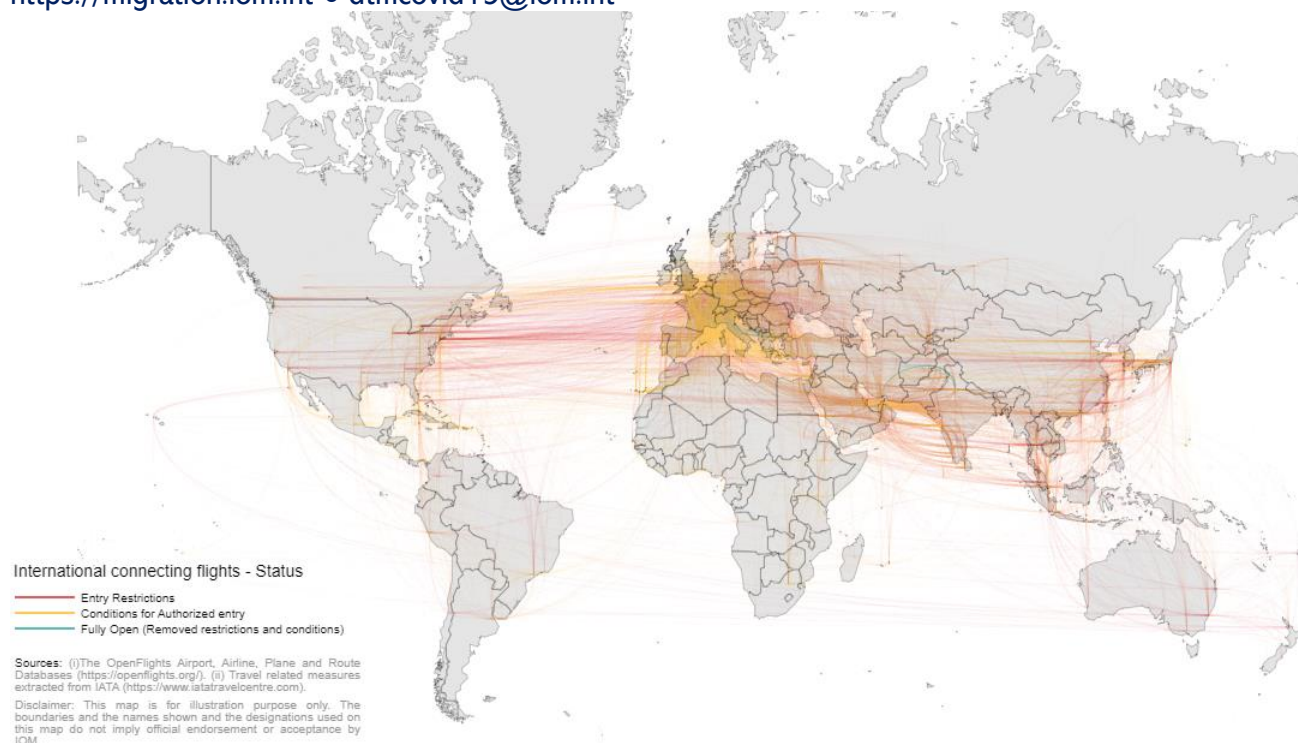


Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 16th November 2020



COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
<https://migration.iom.int> • dtmccovid19@iom.int



Key Definitions



Entry restrictions: These are total restrictions which do not allow the entry of passengers of a given country, territory, or area (C/T/A). These include a complete border closure, nationality ban, suspension of visa issuances, and 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 exempt groups such as specific nationalities or immigration status.



No Restriction: This 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 individuals, nationalities, or immigration status to whom the specific COVID-19 related travel restriction issued by a C/T/A do not apply. 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](#).

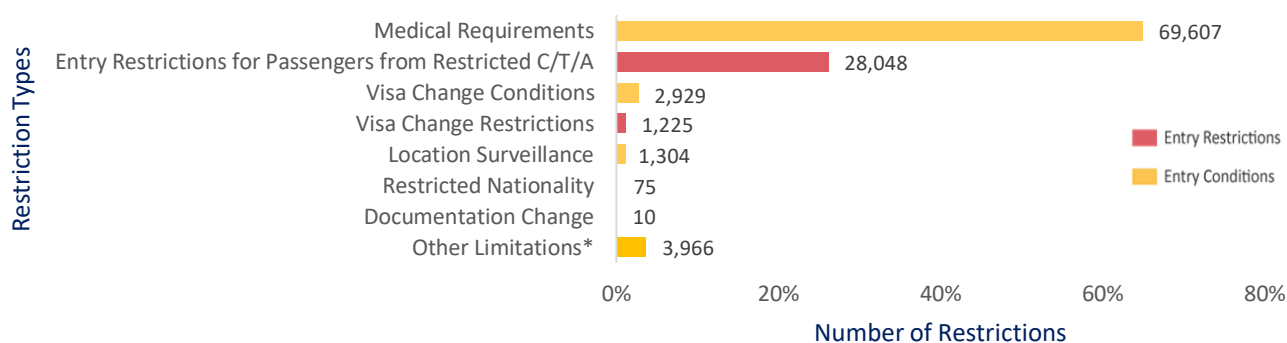
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities 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 dtmccovid19@iom.int to ensure consistency of information in the database repository.

Overview

Global mobility and migration is limited due to stringent measures as the number of new COVID-19 cases continues to escalate globally, (4,075,995 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 1,313,919 fatalities reported on 16th November 2020).ⁱ A total of **224** countries, territories or areas (C/T/As), have issued **107,164** travel related measures as of 16th November 2020, indicating an **increase of 3 per cent** from **104,113** travel related measures reported on 9th November 2020. Of these, **29,348** were reported as entry restrictions and **77,816** were reported as conditions for entry. In the reporting period, there was a **2 per cent decrease** in entry restrictions and **5 per cent increase** in conditions for authorised entry. There has been an increase of 149 per cent in entry restrictions such as visa requirements and a decrease of 4 per cent in airport closures. In terms of conditions for authorised entry, there was an increase of 23 per cent in location surveillance such as passenger locator forms and 5 per cent in medical requirements like certificates between 9th and 16th November 2020. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 169 countries, territories or areas have issued 769 exceptions enabling mobility despite travel restrictions. Between 9th and 16th November 2020, 38 C/T/As issued 61 new exceptions whilst 31 countries, territories or areas removed 71 exceptions.

Restrictions and Conditions for Authorised Entry

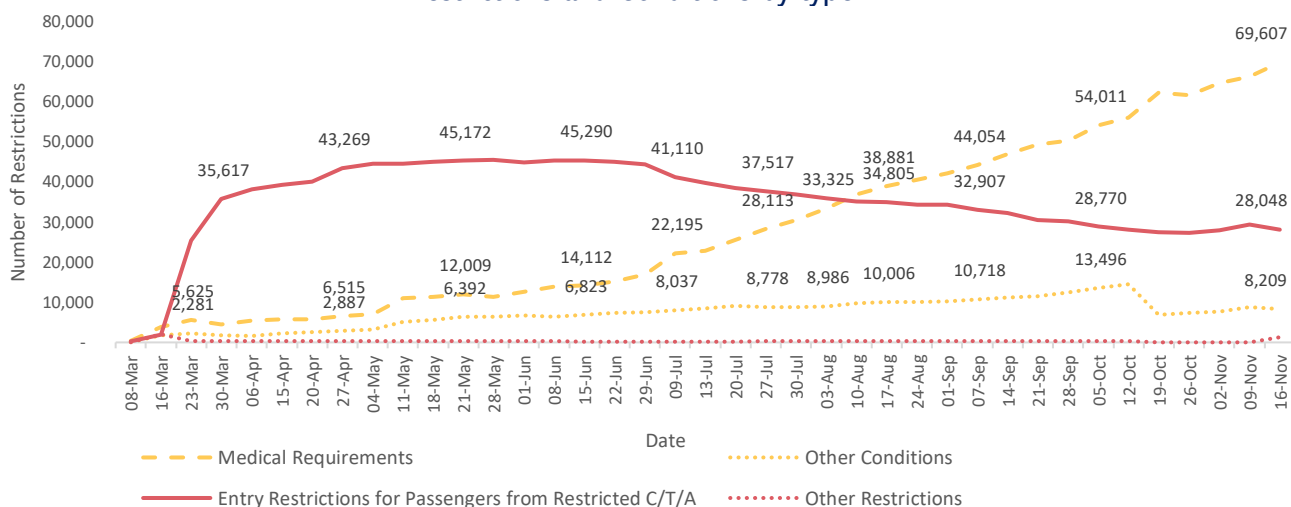
Most Commonly Imposed Restriction and Conditions for Authorised Entry



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

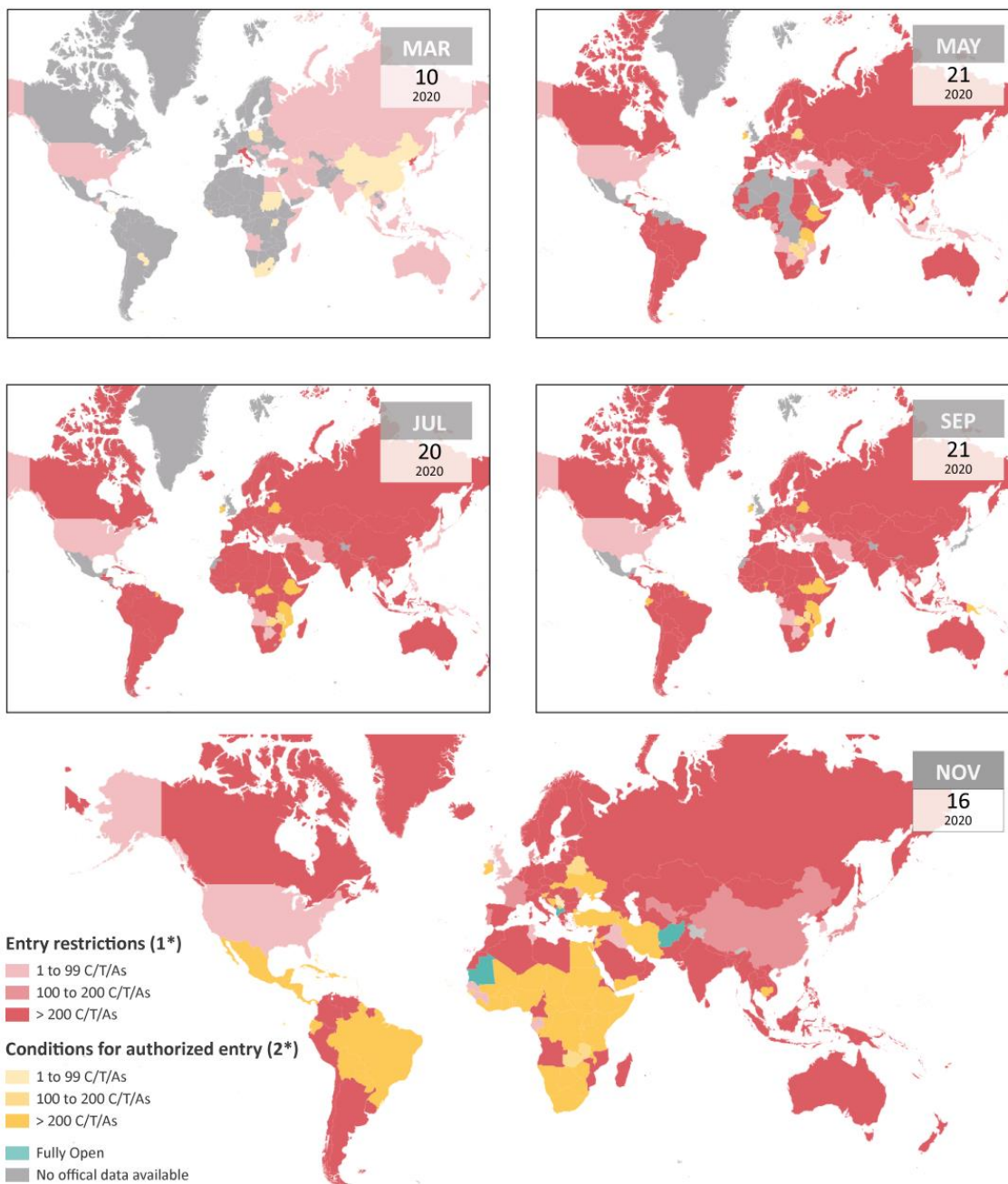
As of 16th November 2020, 224 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorised entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, decreasing by a further 4 per cent in the past week to represent 26 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorised entry representing 65 per cent of conditions. In contrast, visa requirements represent 4 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

Restrictions and Conditions by type



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

The map below provides a global overview on how C/T/As have gradually increased the issuance of '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 Governments and authorities around the world 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.

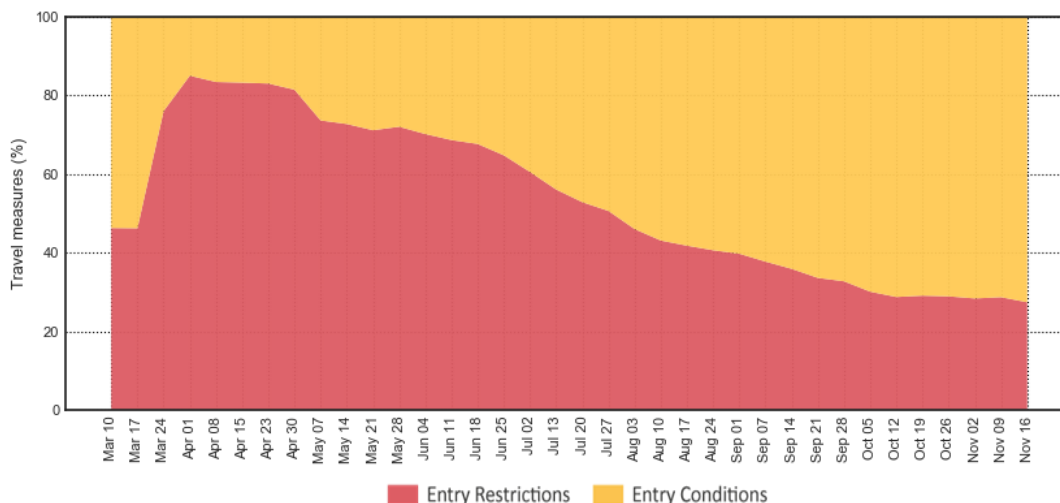


(1*) Restricted entry on passengers coming from other countries, territories and areas (C/T/A).

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

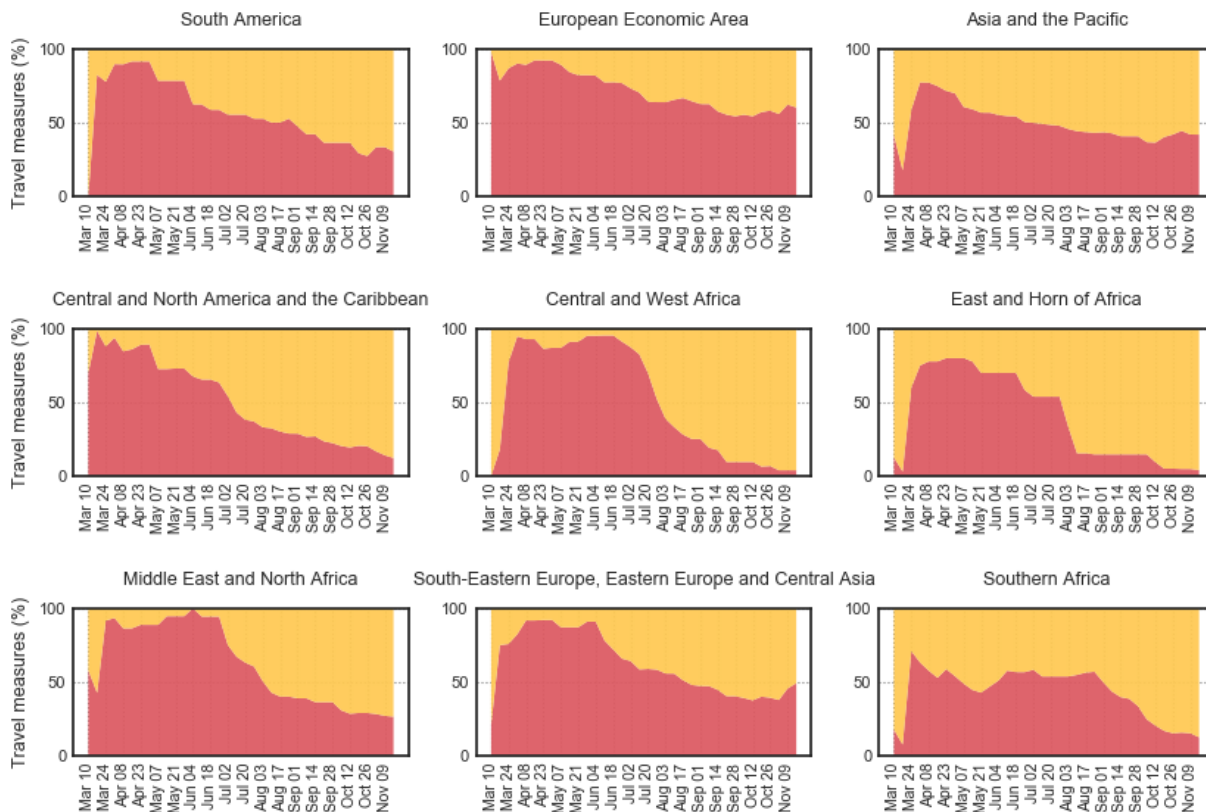
The data displayed on the chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' (passengers bans, airport closures) to 'conditions for authorized entry' over the time. In April 2020 around, 80 per cent of the travel related measures were entry restrictions (coloured in red), but this proportion of 'entry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

Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for Authorised Entry – Global overview



When disaggregating the data by IOM regions, similar trends can be observed 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 began easing total restrictions only in August 2020. These regional differences over time mirror the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in different geographical areas.

Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for authorized 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 comprising conditions for authorised entry such as medical measures, visa changes and so on. Between 9th and 16th November, C/T/As implemented more conditions for authorised entry rather than total restrictions.

Changes in number of restrictions and conditions for authorised entry in the last week, by top 30 C/T/As



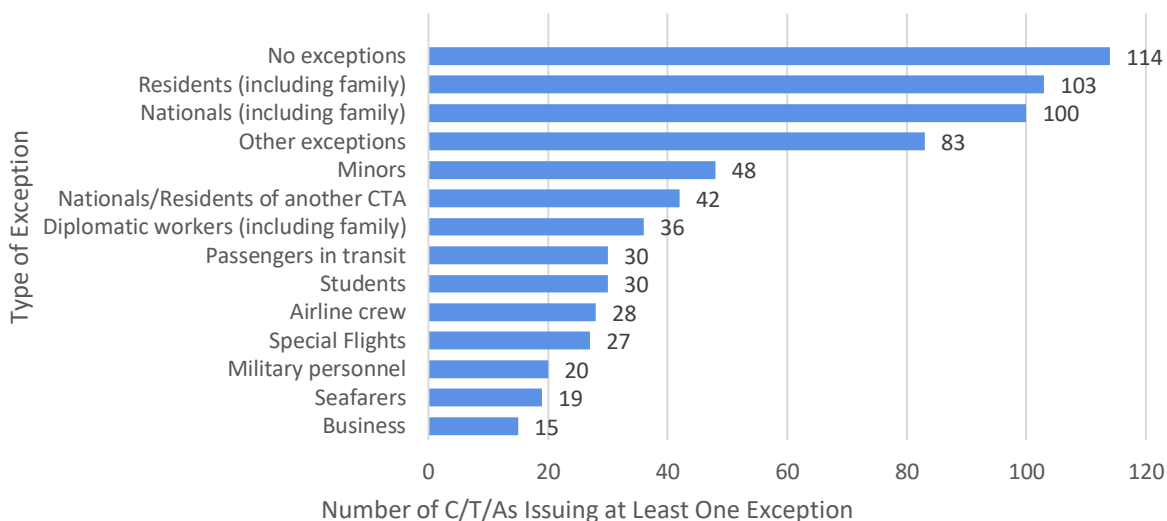
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- Extensions of passenger flight suspensions were issued by **Trinidad and Tobago** until 22nd November and by **Morocco** until the 10th December 2020.
 - New restrictive measures were issued by **Germany**, requiring passengers that have been to Estonia, France, Greece, Canada, Latvia, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland within 10 days prior to arrival, to register and quarantine for 10 days upon arrival.
 - **Greece** suspended all flights from Turkey and Catalonia, Spain until 30th November 2020. Additionally, all passengers arriving to Greece will be required to present a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result taken at most 72 hours before departure. Previously, this only applied to passengers arriving from Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Israel, Malta, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain or United Arab Emirates.
 - **Denmark** removed exemptions for residents of Estonia, Cyprus, Greece, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, and Sweden who were previously exempt from medical requirements upon entry but now must provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test or Antigen test, taken at most 72 hours before arrival.
 - Changes to exceptions from passenger bans were made by **Denmark**, residents of Estonia and Norway are no longer exempt from the passenger ban and residents of Sweden (Vasterbotten and Vasternorrland) are now exempt but require a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 72 hours prior to departure to enter.
 - **Saint Kitts and Nevis** issued new restrictive measures for all passengers requiring them to: complete "Customs, Border and Health Entry Form," and submit it before departure [online](#), present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 3 days before departure in English, subject to medical screening and provide confirmation of an approved accommodation upon arrival, and install the SKN COVID 19 mobile app (EXMAPP).

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

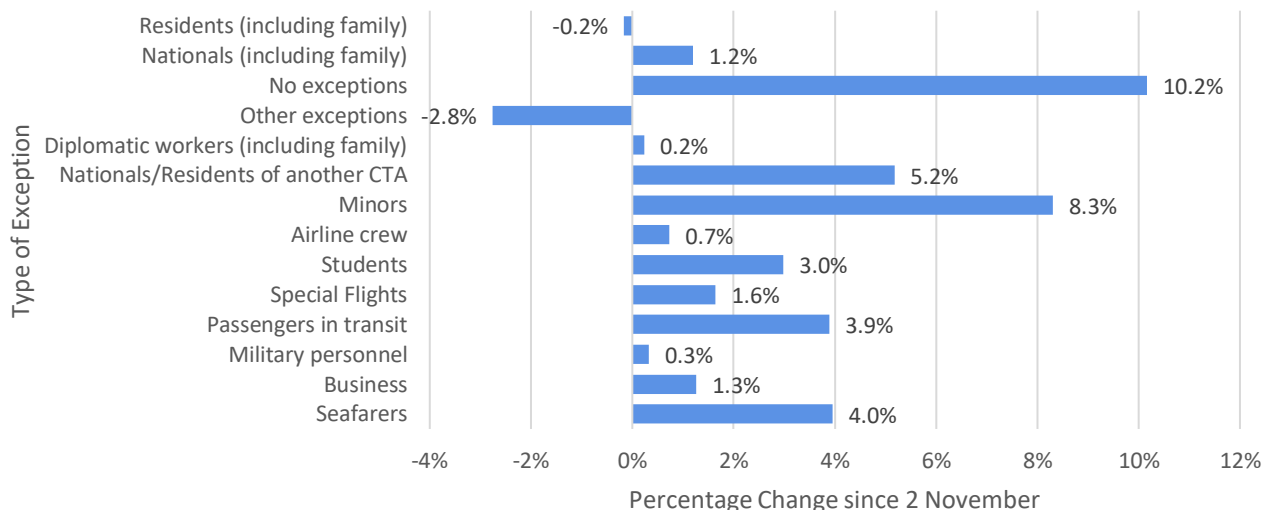
- As of 11th November 2020, residents of **Kazakhstan** will require a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result issued at most 3 days before arrival to enter Kazakhstan. Previously, they were exempt from this condition.
- **Tunisia** issued a new condition for authorized entry, requiring all passengers to complete a health declaration form before departure, and a QR code generated from the completed form must be presented prior to boarding and to immigration upon arrival.
- Passengers arriving to the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** from Greece, except the islands of Corfu, Crete, Kos, Rhodes and Zakynthos will be required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.
- **Niger** issued new stipulations for existing conditions for entry, passengers without a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival are subject to medical screening at their own expense. Additionally, passengers are also subject to self-isolation for seven days.
- **Monaco** broadened restrictions, so that all passengers without a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point are subject to a test on arrival. This does not apply to passengers arriving from Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Bahrain, People's Republic of China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Monaco, Morocco, New Zealand, Panama, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Holy See, Zimbabwe or an European Economic Area country.
- **Kenya** updated the stipulations for the condition for authorized entry, specifying that required medical certificates with a negative COVID-19 test must be printed and the test must be taken 96 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. The certificate must also be in English.
- **Japan** suspended visa exceptions for citizens from Australia, Taiwan Province Region of People's Republic of China and New Zealand as well as citizens of Australia, Taiwan Province of People's Republic of China and New Zealand with an APEC Business travel card issued by Japan.
- New measures for airline crew were issued by the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, who are subject to mandatory quarantine until their next flight.
- Passengers arriving in **Norway** must have confirmed quarantine accommodation for the period of intended stay. Likewise, passengers arriving in **Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China** must have a confirmation of hotel reservation (in English or Chinese) for 14 days or more.
- Cyprus removed exceptions for the passengers ban for passengers and their families arriving from Canada, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein and Poland
- On 13th November 2020, **Canada** issued specific restrictions for passengers arriving from the United States of America until 21st November 2020, while passengers arriving from any other country, territory or area cannot to enter until 30th November 2020. However, passengers who enter on Compassionate Grounds and are asymptomatic for COVID-19 must have a letter issued by Public Health Agency Canada (PHAC) and passengers who are asymptomatic for COVID-19 and travel for a non-optional or non-discretionary purpose are exempt but must comply with the requirement to quarantine based on their purpose of travel and intended length of stay.
- **Poland** reissued restrictions for passengers arriving from the European Union and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with the exceptions of merchant seafarers. Additionally, flights arriving from Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Libya, the Maldives, Moldova, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates are no longer suspended. But flights from Montenegro and North Macedonia are suspended.

■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Exceptions: Main groups that are allowed to enter



Changes in Exceptions: Groups that are allowed to enter



Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

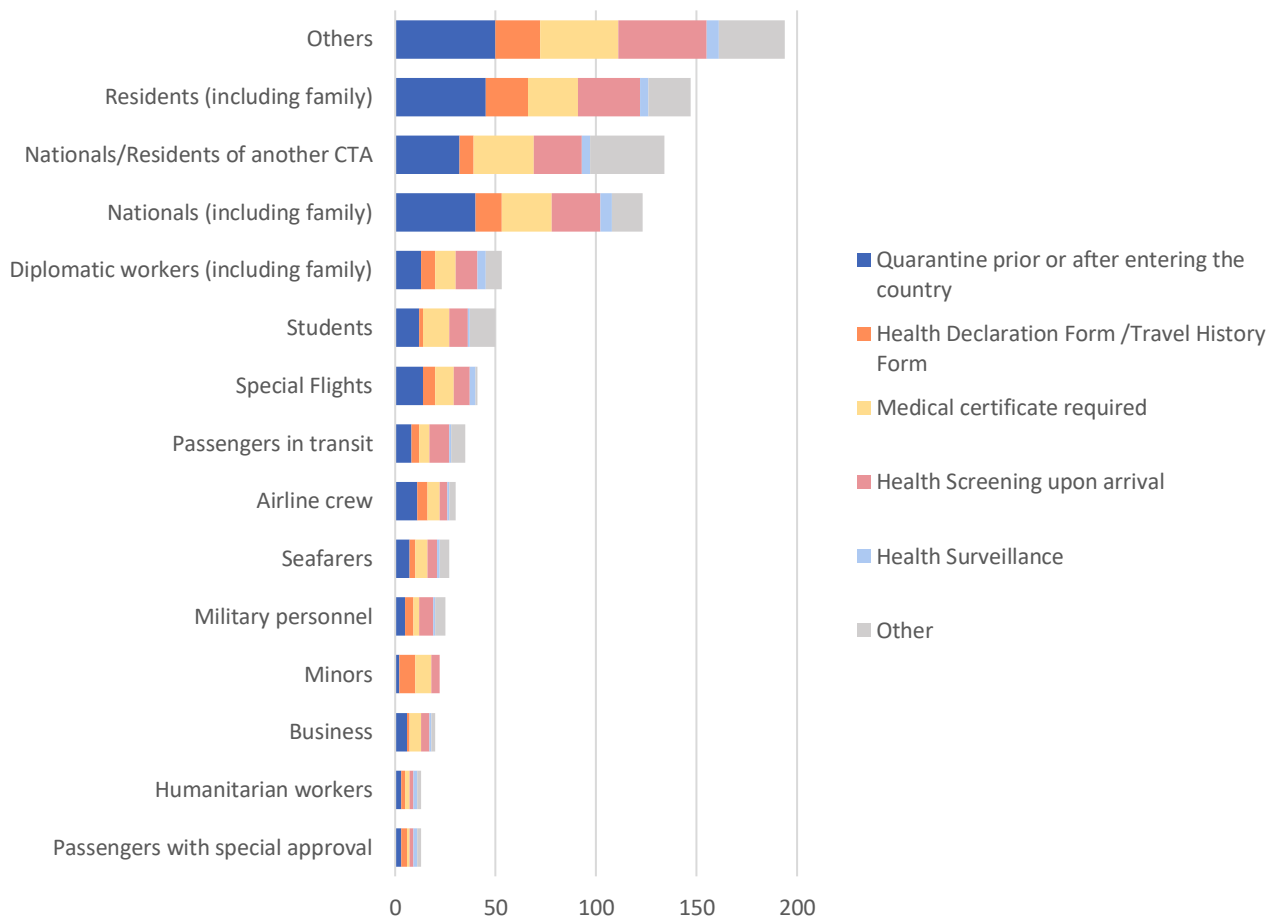
- A total of 769 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 169 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Japan (18), the United Arab Emirates (17), Singapore (15), Italy (14), and then joint 5th with 12 were Croatia, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Oman, and Bulgaria.
- Between 9th and 16th November 2020, 38 countries, territories or areas issued 61 new exceptions whilst 31 countries, territories or areas removed 71 exceptions.

■ Exceptions and Corresponding Conditions for Authorised Entry

The conditions for authorized 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 authorized entry such as quarantine, health declaration forms, medical certificates and so on, that are applicable to specific exceptions groups.

Exempted groups and associated conditions for authorised entry



Noticeable Trends for Conditions for Authorised Entry for Exempted Groups:

- Of the 169 CTAs issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 107 have issued 927 conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of conditions for authorised entry for exempted groups were Japan (47), Singapore (34), India (32), Belgium (30), and Thailand (27).
- A total of 37 different CTAs issued at least three different conditions for authorised entry on specific exempted groups.
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was quarantine prior or after entering the country, which was issued 251 times. This was followed by health screening (189) and Medical certificates (188).

Key Exceptions Highlights

- As of 14th November 2020, passengers arriving to the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** from Bahrain, Cambodia, Chile, Iceland, Laos, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Turks and Caicos Islands are not required to self-isolate for 14 days.
- Authorities in **Mauritius** issued new stipulations to existing conditions for entry, extending the period of the validity of the COVID-19 test from 5 to 7 days, previously it was only 7 days. Similarly, authorities in **Comoros** will now accept medical certificates in all languages, previously it was only French.
- Passengers arriving in **India** are no longer required to quarantine for 14 days, other previously issued conditions and medical requirements such as health surveillance apps, and self-reporting form and medical screening remain in place. However, those passengers without a medical certificate may be required to quarantine for 14 days.
- **New exceptions** were added by Iraq for passengers below six years of age traveling to Baghdad, they are exempt from the requirement to provide printed medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival in English or Arabic. However, they will have to undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival. **Jordan** added exceptions for diplomatic passport holders who are no longer required to undergo medical screening upon arrival.
- **South Sudan** removed entry measures which previously required passengers arriving on non-direct flights to have a printed medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result, taken at most 96 hours before arrival.
- New entry exemptions were issued by **United Arab Emirates**, allowing entry to passengers with an entry permit issued by the United Arab Emirates.
- Passengers arriving in **Norway** must have confirmed quarantine accommodation for the period of intended stay. Likewise, passengers arriving in **Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China** must have a confirmation of hotel reservation (in English or Chinese) for 14 days or more.
- Changes to visas and residency permits were issued. **Panama** extended the validity of issued Residency permits and visas that expired after 13th March 2020 until 31st January 2021.
- New exceptions were issued by **Malaysia**, allowing entry to students with a written approval from immigration services found at <https://educationmalaysia.gov.my/> and to merchant seafarers with an official letter from the company certified by Malaysian immigration and joining the ship no later than 24 hours from arrival.
- Cyprus issued new exceptions for passengers and their family arriving from Singapore and Sweden.
- As of 9th November 2020, authorities in **Burundi** restarted flights, and all passengers are required to present a medical certificate with negative COVID-19 test result valid for no longer than 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point, children below the age of five do not need to provide this. Additionally, passengers are also subject to a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival at their own expense and quarantine upon arrival for 72 hours at their own expense in a hotel.
- Airports in **Botswana** reopened, passengers must have a printed medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. The certificate must be in English. Passengers are subject to medical screening upon arrival too.
- As of 12th November 2020, flights to **Cuba** restarted, previous conditions for authorised entry remain.
- **Mauritania** reopened airports on 15th November 2020, all passengers above 10 years of age must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result in Arabic or French taken no longer than three days prior to arrival.
- As **South Africa** lifted restrictions on passengers arriving from Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Spain, United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

ⁱ <https://covid19.who.int/>