

COVID-19 Mobility Tracking Impact – Points of Entry Analysis

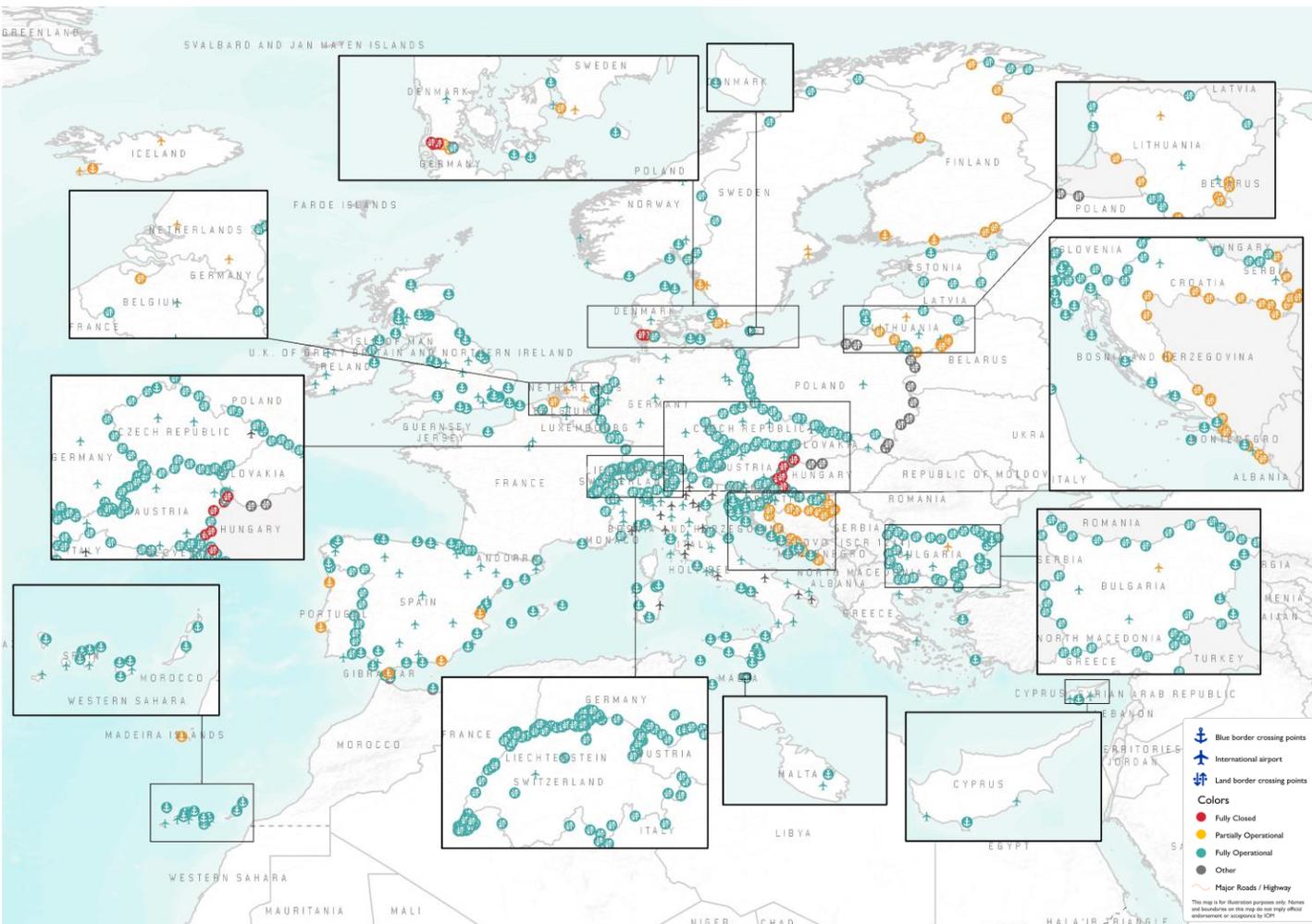
October 27, 2020 – IOM Regional Office for the European Economic Area, the European Union and NATO

The outbreak of the COVID-19 virus has affected global and regional human mobility in the form of various travel disruptions and restrictions. The total number of COVID-19 cases reached 9,837,841 in the European Economic Area region (EEA) as of 13 November 2020 according to the World Health Organization (WHO). To better understand how the pandemic affects mobility at the Points of Entry (PoEs), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has developed an online tool and database which tracks changed in mobility at Points of Entry (airports, land and blue border crossing points). This includes preparedness and response measures to prevent, protect against, control and assist in line with the International Health Regulations (IHR). Among the mobility changes tracked by IOM are: 1) Movement restrictions on entry and/or exit, 2) Changes in visa requirements, 3) Restrictions applied to certain nationalities to disembark at this location, 4) Changes in identification documents needed to disembark, 5) Medical measures in place such as Health Staffing/Medical Personnel, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Infection prevention and control (IPC) and Surveillance and Referral.

As of 27 October 2020, data was collected on 812 PoEs in 28 countries/territories/areas across the European Economic Area. These locations include: 476 land border crossings points, 198 airports, and 138 blue border crossing points (including sea, river and lake ports). This work is based on the information collected by IOM Country Offices in the region. This PoEs brief analysis provides an overview of the changes of impact on operational status and mobility restrictions over time, between April and October 2020. It is important to note that not all data on PoEs have been updated every month meaning that the trend displayed does not necessarily represent the current situation of all PoEs. Furthermore, in April 764 PoEs were assessed, in May 786, in June 787, in July 795, in August 808, in September 813 PoEs, and in October a total of 812 PoEs were assessed.



Overview of assessed international airports, land border crossing points and blue border crossing points in the EEA region

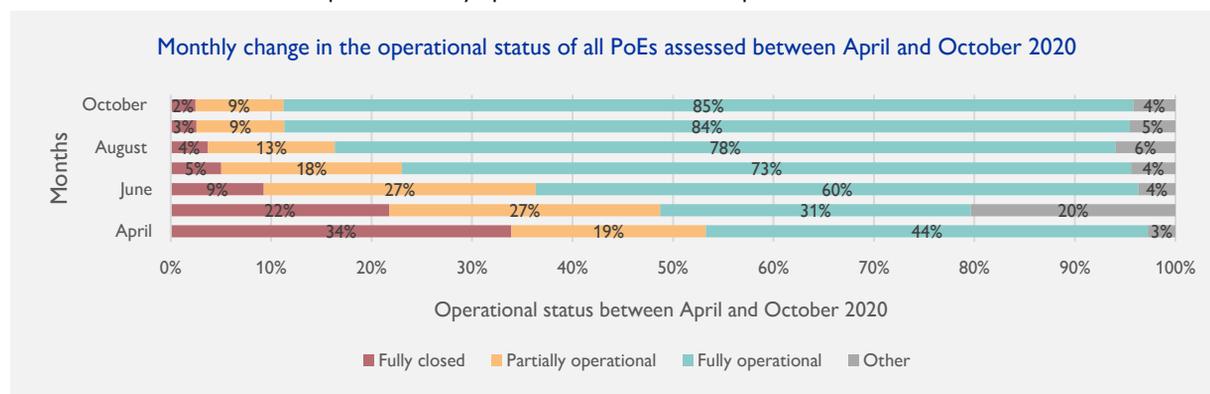


Changes in operational status over time (April – October 2020)

As of 27 October 2020, while travel restrictions remain in place, there have been changes in the number of travel restrictions worldwide which are reflected in the operational status of the PoEs and restriction measures in place at the assessed locations. The information on the operational status of PoEs is collected according to the following classification: (1) closed for entry and exit, (2) closed for entry (3) closed for exit (4) open for commercial traffic only (5) open only to returning nationals and residents (6) open for entry and exit (7) other and (8) unknown. All types of measures were considered for airports, land and blue border crossing points.

In the EEA region, the operational status of border crossing points is characterized by the implementation of several restriction measures to curb the spread of COVID-19. Significant changes in operational status of the PoEs were observed between April and October.

Overall, one third (34%) of the assessed PoE were fully closed in April, while 22 per cent of them were fully closed in May, 9 per cent in June, 5 per cent in July, 4 per cent in August, 3 per cent in September, and only 2 per cent in October. Furthermore, 19 per cent of the assessed PoEs were partially operational in April, while the share of partially operational PoEs was 27 per cent in May and June, respectively, 18 per cent in July, 13 per cent in August, and 9 per cent in September and October, respectively. Finally, in April 44 per cent of the assessed PoEs were fully operational, while the share of fully operational PoEs among those assessed was 31 per cent in May, 60 per cent in June, 73 per cent in July, 78 per cent in August, 84 per cent in September, and 85 per cent in October. This is an increase of 41 per cent of fully operational PoEs between April and October 2020.



Airports:¹ A total of 21 per cent of the assessed international airports were fully closed in April, while the share of fully closed airports among those assessed was 7 per cent in May, 6 per cent in June and July, respectively, and only 1 per cent in August, September and October, respectively. Furthermore, 21 per cent of assessed airports were partially operational in April, while the share of partially operational airports was 23 per cent in May, 37 per cent in June, 9 per cent in July, 8 per cent in August, and 7 per cent in September and October, respectively. Increasing numbers of airports operating regularly was observed between April and October. Over half (55%) of the assessed airports were fully operational in April, while the share of fully operational airports among those assessed was 25 per cent in May, 52 per cent in June, 80 per cent in July, 76 per cent in August, 81 per cent in September, and 82 per cent in October. The number of operational airports increased by 27 per cent between April and October. Throughout the six-month period (April – October), the largest share of airports being fully operational was recorded in October (82%). It has to be noticed that the number of assessed airports has also increased a lot, from 150 airports assessed in April up to the 198 airports assessed in the region in August, September, and October.

Land border crossing points:² Regarding assessed land border crossing points, 35 per cent of them were completely closed in April, while the share of fully closed land border crossing points among those assessed was 28 per cent in May, 11 per cent in June, 5 per cent in July and August, respectively, and 4 per cent in September and October, respectively. Moreover, 17 per cent of the assessed land border crossing points were partially operational in April, while the share of partially operational land border crossing points was 33 per cent in May, 21 per cent in June, 23 per cent in July, 17 per cent in August, and 10 per cent in September and October, respectively. Less than half (44%) of the assessed land border crossing points were fully operational in April, while the share of fully operational land border crossing points was 32 per cent in May, 67 per cent in June, 69 per cent in July, 76 per cent in August, and 83 per cent in September and October, respectively. The number of operational land border crossing points increased by more than one third (39%) between April and October 2020.

Blue border crossing points:³ Less than half (45%) of the blue border crossing points were completely closed in April, while the share of fully closed blue border crossing points among those assessed was 17 per cent in May, 11 per cent in June, only 4 per cent in July and August, respectively, while no assessed blue border crossing point was reported to be closed in September and October. At the same time, 24 per cent of the assessed blue border crossing points were partially operational in April, while the share of partially operational blue border crossing points was 13 per cent in May, 21 per cent in June, 14 per cent in July, 5 per cent in August, and 7 per cent in September and October, respectively. Thirty per cent of the assessed blue border crossing points were reported as being operational in April, while the share of fully operational blue border crossing points was 33 per cent in May, 67 per cent in June, 76 in July, 88 per cent in August, 92 per cent in September, and 93 per cent in October. The number of operational blue border crossing points increased by 63 per cent between April and October (see page 3, for further information).

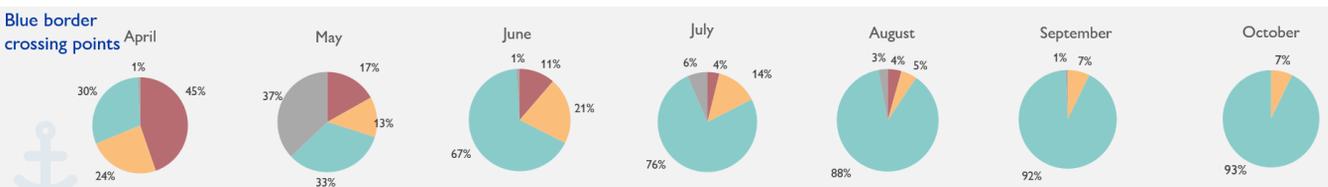
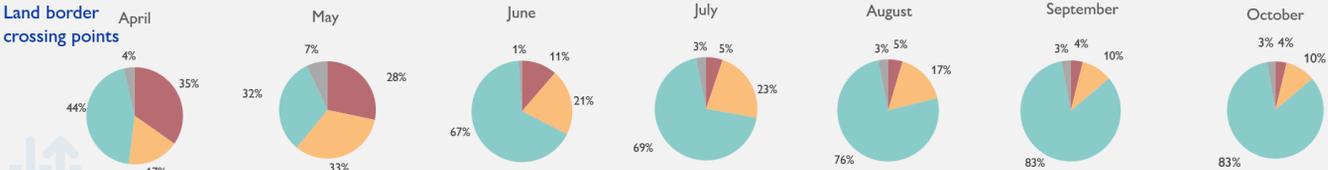
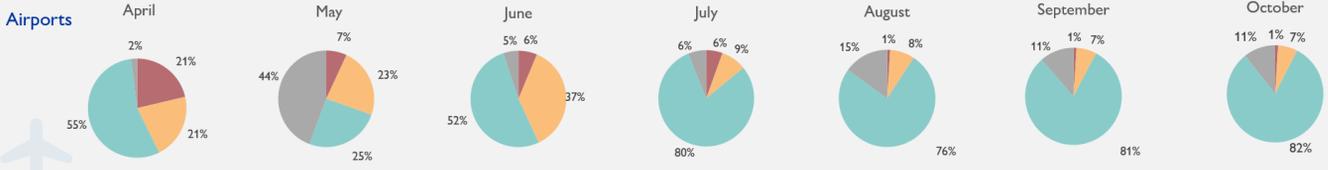
1. In April 2020, 150 airports were assessed. The number of assessed airports increased from 150 to 193 in August 2020, and, increased further in October to 198, which is the total number of airports assessed so far.

2. A total of 453 land border crossing points were assessed in April 2020. The number of assessed land border crossing points increased from 453 to 483 by September 2020, but decreased slightly by October, when a total of 476 land border crossing points were assessed.

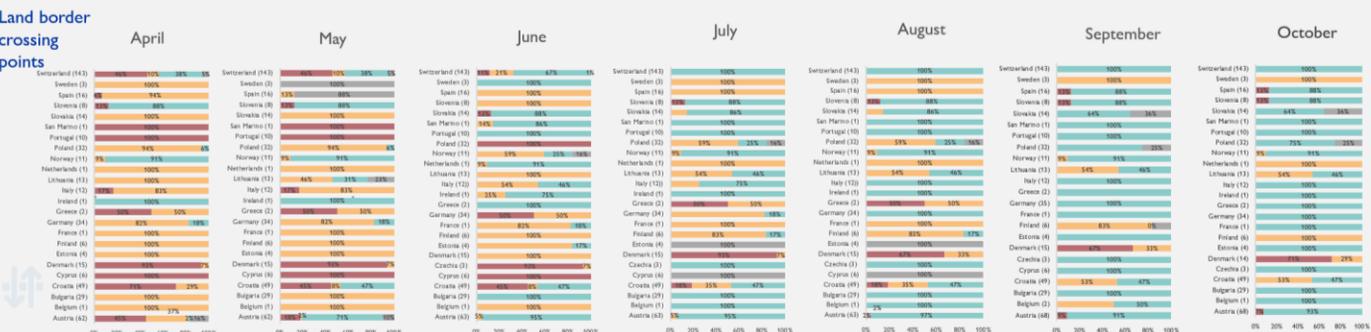
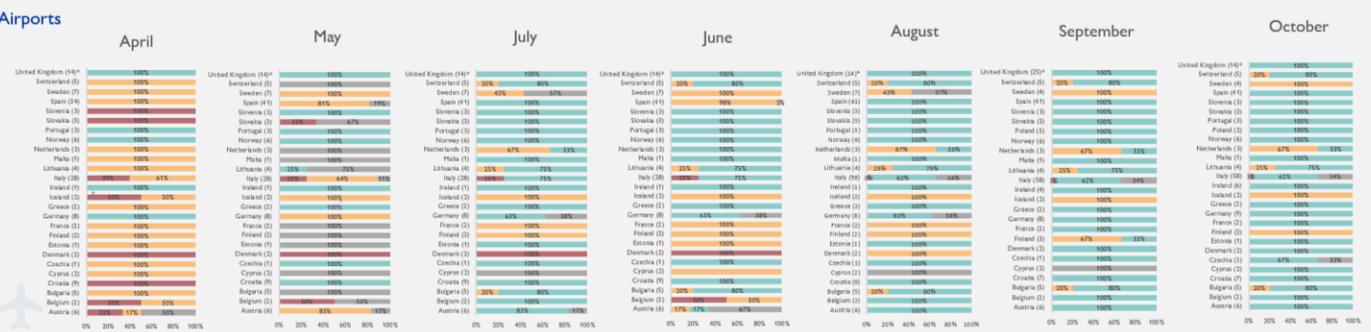
3. In April 2020, 141 blue border crossing points were assessed. The number of assessed blue border crossing points decreased from 141 to 137 by August 2020, and, increased to 138 in October.

Operational Status – Comparison: April – October 2020

■ Fully Closed
 ■ Partially Operational
 ■ Fully Operational
 ■ Other



Operational Status breakdown by country/territory/area in the EEA region



* United Kingdom of Great and Northern Ireland

Notes: 1) The totals in the pie charts are relative to the assessed Points of Entry; 2) Under the category "Partially Operational" IOM includes "closed for entry", "closed for exit", "open only to returning nationals and residents" and "open for commercial traffic only".

Changes in mobility restrictions over time (April – October 2020)

Slight changes in mobility restrictions of the border crossing points were observed between April and October. Mobility restrictions refer to restrictions of movements imposed both by entrance at PoEs and by exit through the PoEs, and medical measures.

In April and May, 60 per cent of the restrictions were imposed on entering through particular PoEs at international airports, while in June 53 per cent, in July 40 per cent, in August, September, and October 46 per cent, respectively. At the same time, in April 33 per cent of the restrictions were imposed on exiting through particular PoEs at international airports, while in May 29 per cent, in June 22 per cent, in July 29 per cent, and in August, September, and October 14 per cent, respectively. The number of medical measures including mandatory quarantine measures increased significantly in September and October, respectively when comparing with April: in April, 7 per cent of the restrictions were medical measures imposed on the specific PoEs, while the share of medical measures out of all restrictions was 11 per cent in May, 25 per cent in June, 31 per cent in July, 39 per cent in August, and 40 per cent in September and October, respectively. The share of medical measures increased significantly by 33 per cent in September and October, respectively, when comparing with April (7%).

Regarding the land border crossing points, restrictions imposed on entering through particular PoEs remained relatively stable between April and October. In April, May, June, August, September, and October 45 per cent of the restrictions were imposed on entering through particular PoEs, respectively, while in July, 44 per cent restrictions were imposed. Furthermore, in April and May, 44 per cent of the restrictions were imposed on exiting through particular PoEs, respectively, while in June 42 per cent, in July 41 per cent, and in August, September, and October 40 per cent, respectively. The number of medical measures increased only slightly in October when compared with April: in April, 11 per cent of the restrictions were medical measures imposed on particular PoEs, while the share of medical measures out of all restrictions was 12 per cent in May, 13 per cent in June, and 15 per cent in July, August and September, respectively, and 16 per cent in October.

With regards to the blue border crossing points, in April, 45 per cent of the restrictions were imposed on entering through particular PoEs, while in May 59 per cent, in June 47 per cent, in July 32 per cent, and in August, September and October 46 per cent, respectively. Moreover, in April 48 per cent of the restrictions were imposed on existing through particular PoEs, while in May 34 per cent, in June 17 per cent, in July 25 per cent, and in August, September and October 7 per cent, respectively. Significant increases of imposed medical measures were observed in June, July, August, September and October when compared with April and May: in April, 7 per cent of the restrictions were medical measures imposed on particular PoEs, while the share of medical measures out of all restrictions was 8 per cent in May, 36 per cent in June, 43 per cent in July, and 47 per cent in August, September and October, respectively.

Overall, majority of imposed restrictions concern the entry through the PoEs (airports, land and blue border crossing points in the EEA region), and to a lesser extent exit through or medical restrictions imposed at those PoEs. The highest number of restrictions to enter through the PoEs were recorded in April and May: 60 per cent at the assessed airports, 59 per cent at the blue border crossing points, and 45 per cent at the assessed land border crossing points. The lowest number of restrictions to enter through the PoEs were recorded in July: 40 per cent at the assessed airports, 44 per cent at the assessed land border crossing points, and 32 per cent at the assessed blue border crossing points.

Percentage: Mobility Restrictions – Comparison: April – October 2020



Mobility Restrictions – Comparison: April – October 2020

Location type	Mobility Restriction	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Airports	→ Ⓜ Restrictions to enter through this PoE	60%	60%	53%	40%	46%	46%	46%
	Ⓜ ← Restrictions to exit through this PoE	33%	29%	22%	29%	14%	14%	14%
	Ⓜ Medical measures including mandatory quarantine	7%	11%	25%	31%	39%	40%	40%
Land border crossing points	→ Ⓜ Restrictions to enter through this PoE	45%	45%	45%	44%	45%	45%	45%
	Ⓜ ← Restrictions to exit through this PoE	44%	44%	42%	41%	40%	40%	40%
	Ⓜ Medical measures including mandatory quarantine	11%	12%	13%	15%	15%	15%	16%
Blue border crossing points	→ Ⓜ Restrictions to enter through this PoE	45%	59%	47%	32%	46%	46%	46%
	Ⓜ ← Restrictions to exit through this PoE	48%	34%	17%	25%	7%	7%	7%
	Ⓜ Medical measures including mandatory quarantine	7%	8%	36%	43%	47%	47%	47%