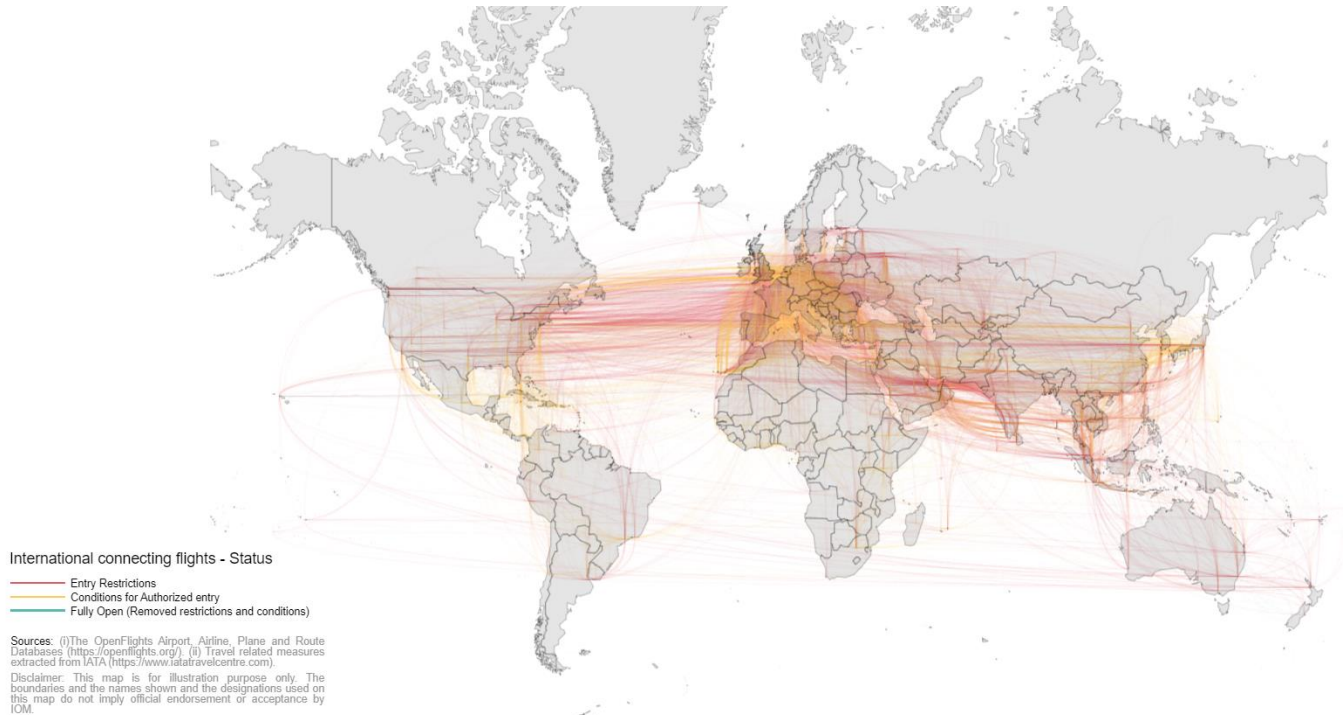


Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 17th May 2021



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



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.iatair-travelcentre.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 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 authorized 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 authorized 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 authorized entry under partial restrictions. For more information please see [here](#).

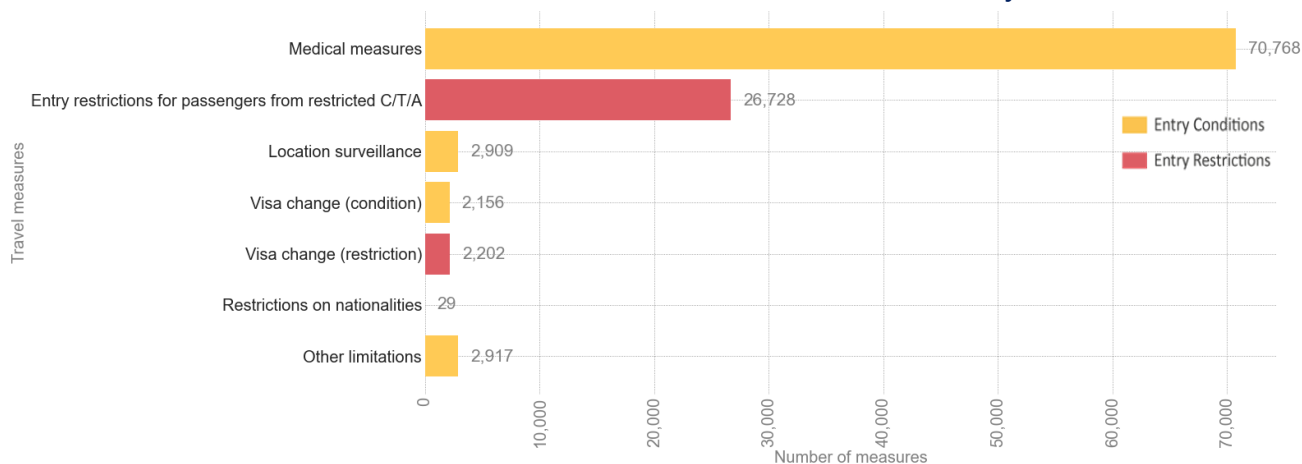
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities 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 continue to be very carefully managed as the epidemiological factors are distinct across regions. As of 17th May 2021, more than 162 million cases of COVID-19 have been recorded globally, including more than 3.3 million deaths. Simultaneously, the [World Health Organization](#) reported that as of 6th May 2021, more than 1.2 billion vaccine doses have been administered globally. The emergence of new strains of COVID-19 have resulted in the issuance of new and stringent travel restrictions. As of 17th May 2021, a total of 227 countries, territories, or areas (C/T/As) have issued 107,709 travel related measures, indicating a slight decrease (0.5%) from 108,208 travel related measures of 10th May 2021. Of these, 28,959 were reported as entry restrictions and 78,750 were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was no increase in entry restrictions and almost a one per cent (0.6%) decrease in conditions for authorized entry. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was a decrease of one per cent in medical measures such as quarantine or medical certificates with negative COVID-19 test result. In the reporting period, there was no change in types of entry restrictions. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 194 countries, territories or areas have issued 904 exceptions enabling mobility. Between 10th and 17th May 2021, 6 countries, territories or areas issued 13 new exceptions whilst one country, territory or area removed one exception.

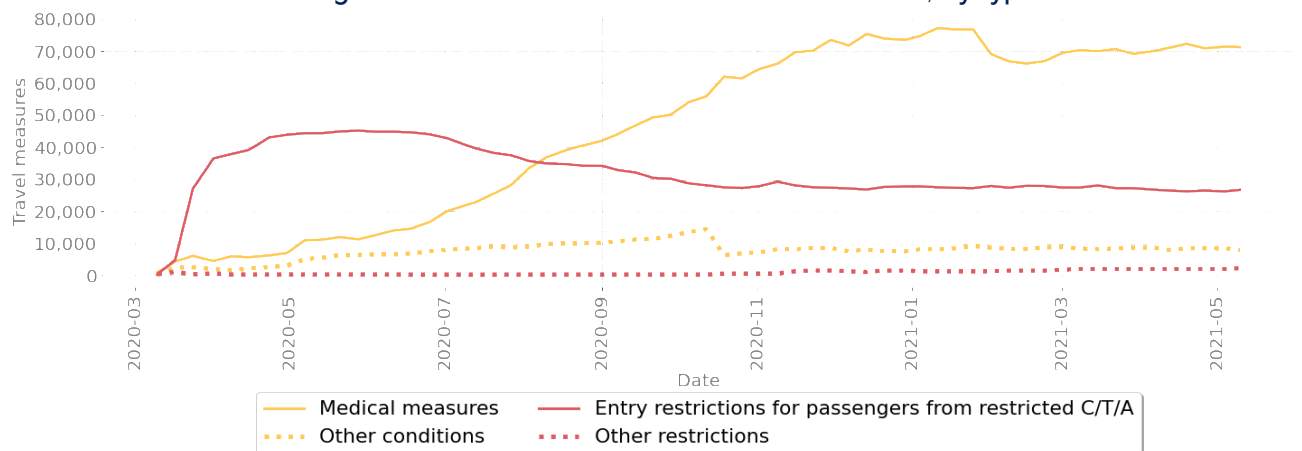
Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry



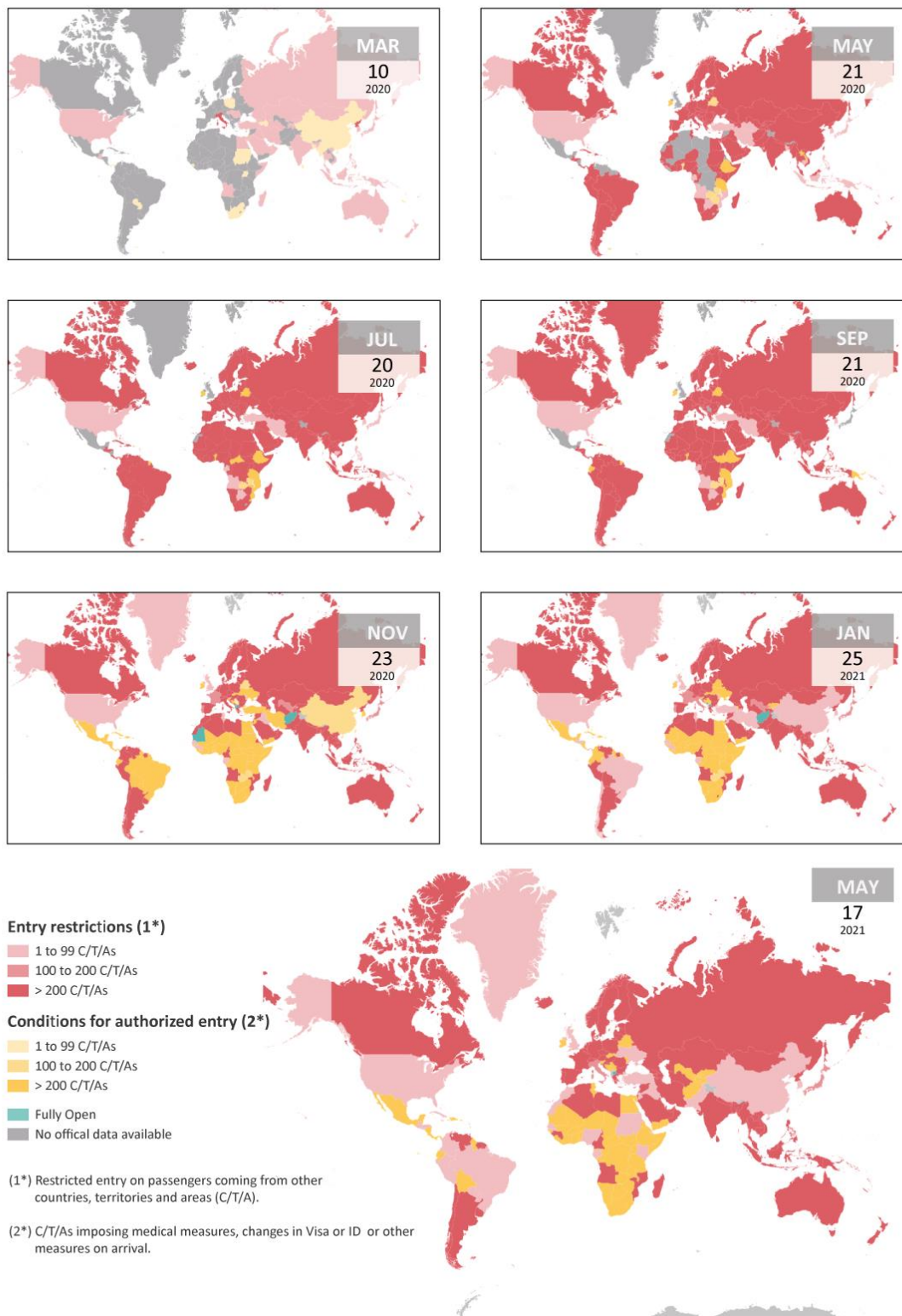
As of 17th May 2021, 227 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, representing 25 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 66 per cent of the total number of conditions and restrictions. In contrast, visa requirements represent four per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

Changes in the number of travel measures over time, by type



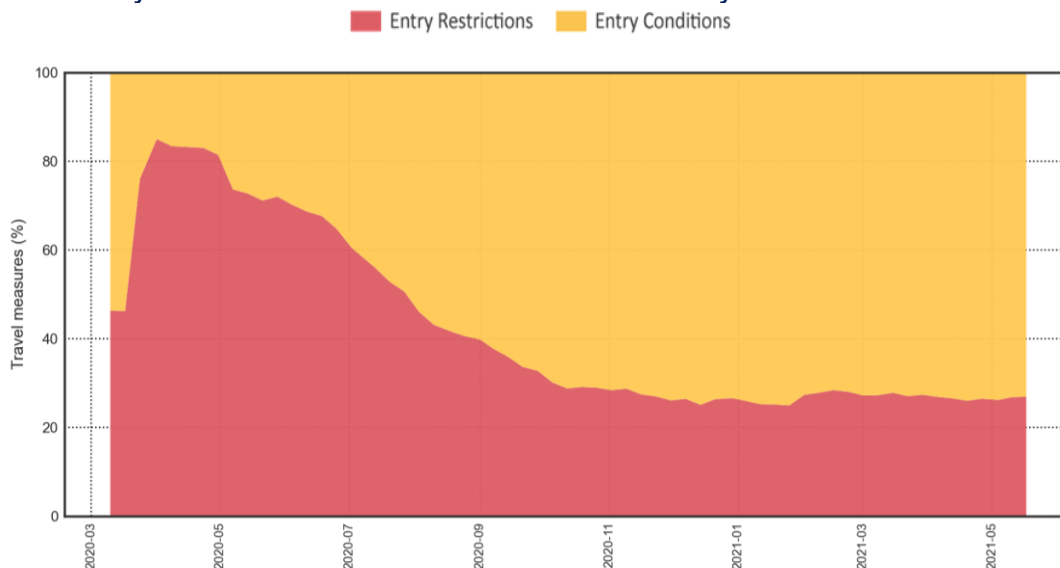
Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, Over Time

The map below provides a global overview of the changes between the type of measures issued by C/T/As and gradual increases in the issuance of 'entry restrictions' (e.g. total entry restrictions for passengers) and/or 'conditions for authorized entry' (e.g. medical measures in the form of PCR test, quarantine, etc.). As of 17th March 2020, only 90 governments and authorities across the world had announced COVID-19 related travel measures, by 21st May 2020 this number increased to 221 whereas as of 17th May 2021, 227 out of 247 C/T/As (92%) have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.



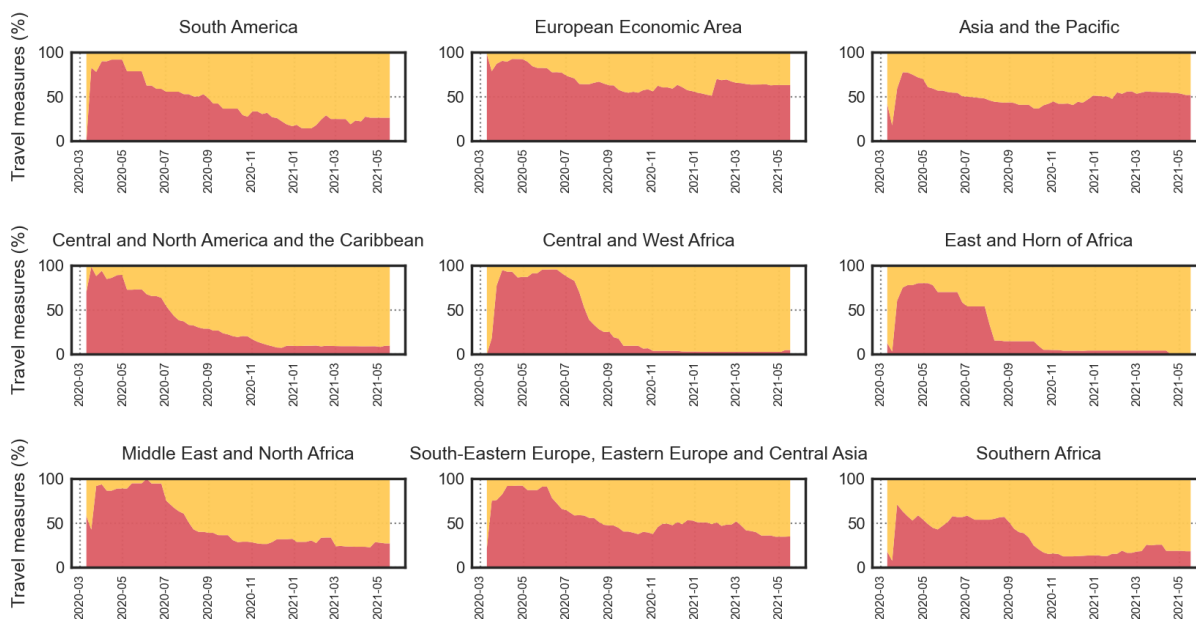
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 25 per cent, as of 17th May 2021.

Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Global overview



Although most of the IOM regions have gradually shifted from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' there are important differences in terms of timing and severity of measures. For instance, the IOM regions of *Central and West Africa* and *East and Horn of Africa* have seen the sharpest shift from restrictions to conditions, with strict entry restrictions representing less than 5 per cent of the total travel related measures as of 17th May 2021. On the other hand, since October 2020, IOM region of *Asia and the Pacific* has reversed previous trends observed (shift from restrictions to conditions) and started reissuing restrictions again. These regional differences over time reflect the dissimilar evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in different geographical areas.

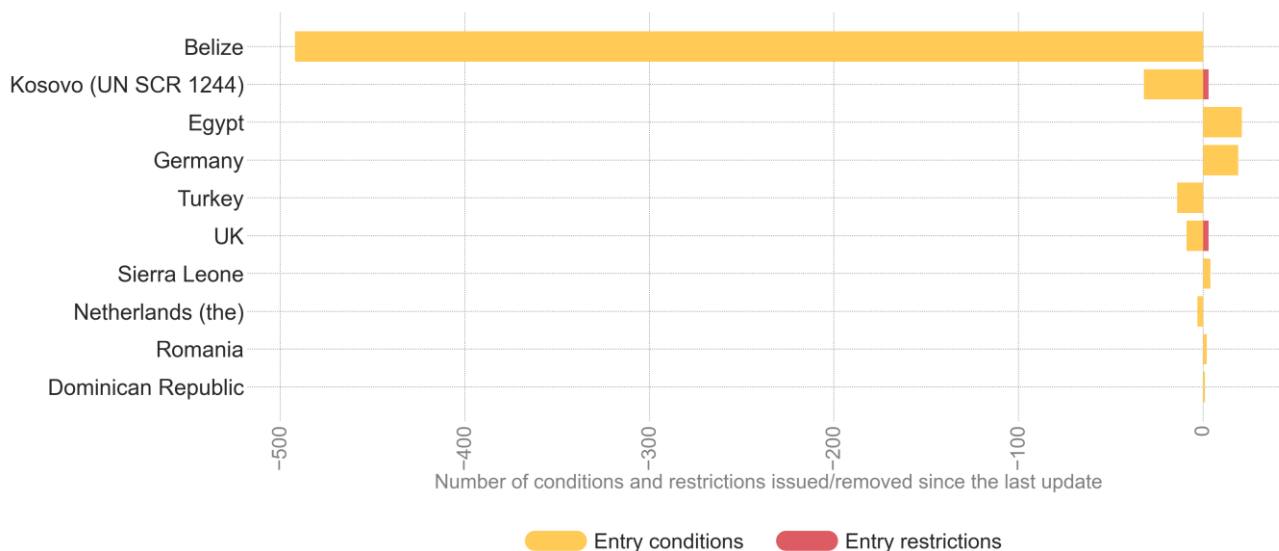
Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



■ Key Highlights on Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

This section illustrates a comparison between total restrictions such as passenger bans, airport closures, flight suspensions and partial restrictions comprising of conditions for authorized entry. Between 10th May and 17th May 2021, 12 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, 8 of them made minor changes. While 5 C/T/As removed existing conditions for authorized entry, 2 C/T/As removed total restrictions. There were 5 and/or 2 C/T/As issuing new conditions and restrictions respectively.

Top 10 C/T/As with most significant changes in the number of travel measures since last update



Special Focus: Impact on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland²

With Brexit in effect as of 1st January 2021, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland status in relation to the European Union Member States has changed. This has also had a subsequent effect in terms of COVID-19 related travel measures. In parallel, reports of the new strain of the COVID-19 virus in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have led to various impacts on migrants as C/T/As responded with new measures to mitigate and prevent the spread of the new strain. As of 17th May 2021, a total of 77 C/T/As have issued some measure or travel restriction in regard to travel/arrivals from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as a result of the newly identified strain of COVID-19. However, following recent reports, the situation seems to have stabilized such that between 10th and 17th May 2021, while no new C/T/As added new restrictions, three CTAs lifted restrictions on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Changes in Existing COVID-19 Measures

- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland issued a passenger ban on the Maldives, Nepal, Turkey, and travellers who have been in or transited through these C/T/As in the past 10 days are not allowed to enter. Additionally, restrictions on international air travel between 12 C/T/As and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were lifted as they were added to the '[green list](#).' This is in effect from 17th May 2021 allowing passengers quarantine-free travel.

The 'Green List' Includes: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Falkland Islands, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Iceland, Israel, New Zealand, Portugal, Singapore, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha

- Peru has lifted both, the flight suspension and passenger ban for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- Exceptions to the passenger ban were issued by France for British nationals who are beneficiaries of the Agreement on withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (they must not arrive from Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Qatar, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Arab Emirates or Uruguay).

¹ Please note that changes in the chart reflect actual timely shifts in measures, and additional changes that are resultant of internal quality control.
² This was last updated on 17th May 2021 at 15:00 GMT.

COVID-19 Hotspot: Focus on Travel Restrictions Issued on India³

With over 24 million COVID-19 cases reported and a daily increase of 311,170 in the number of COVID-19 cases on 16th May 2021, the epidemiological conditions in India have resulted in several new travel restrictions or measures. Since the last DTM Update on 14th May 2021, several C/T/As have issued new travel restrictions on travellers arriving from India daily. As of 17th May 2021, a total of 59 C/T/As have issued some form of travel restriction or measure on India.

- Peru issued a flight suspension on all flights from India until 30th May 2021 and a passenger ban on travellers who have been in or transited through India in the last 14 days. This restriction does not apply to nationals and residents of Peru.
- Australia has lifted the flight suspension for flights from India and lifted the passenger ban for passengers who in the last 14 days have been to or transited through India.
- Italy extended the passenger ban on travellers who have been in or transited through India from 15th May to 30th May 2021. While nationals of Italy are exempt from this ban, passengers who have been in or transited through India in the past 14 days must have a negative COVID-19 molecular or antigen test taken at most 72 hours before arrival. The test must be based on a swab. They are also subject to a COVID-19 molecular or antigen test upon arrival and quarantine in a hotel for 10 days and must undergo another COVID-19 molecular or antigen test at the end of quarantine. However, this does not apply to passengers younger than two years old.
- Rwanda issued a new condition for authorized entry on travellers who have been in India in the past 14 days, they are subject to quarantine for seven days at their own expense.
- Egypt issued new conditions for authorized entry on travellers from India who are subject to COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival.
- A temporary passenger bans was issued on travellers who have been or transited through India in the last 14 days by the Philippines until 31st May 2021.
- A new passenger ban was issued by Kosovo⁴ for passengers arriving from India, this does not apply to nationals of Kosovo.⁵

Key Highlights

- Italy extended the passenger ban on travellers who have been in or transited through Bangladesh and Sri Lanka from 15th May to 30th May 2021. While nationals of Italy are exempt from this ban, passengers who have been in or transited through Bangladesh or Sri Lanka in the past 14 days must have a negative COVID-19 molecular or antigen test taken at most 72 hours before arrival. The test must be based on a swab. They are also subject to a COVID-19 molecular or antigen test upon arrival and quarantine in a hotel for 10 days and must undergo another COVID-19 molecular or antigen test at the end of quarantine. However, this does not apply to passengers younger than two years old.
- As of 11th May 2021, Egypt issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers arriving from Argentina, Belize, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, they are now subject to a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival.
- The 'travel bubble' between Singapore and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of People's Republic of China has been deferred due to concerns over new infections. Meanwhile, a travel bubble between New Zealand and Cooks Island opened on 17th May 2021, the first flight is scheduled for 18th May 2021.

³ This was last updated on 17th May 2021 at 15:00 GMT.

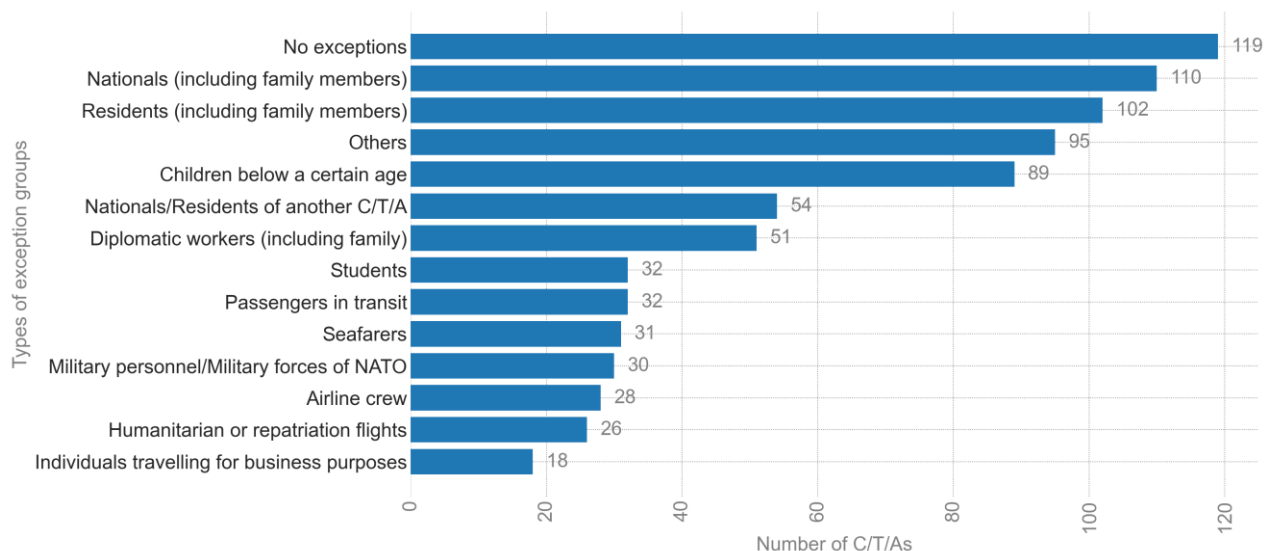
⁴ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

⁵ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

- Existing entry bans on all passengers were extended by Anguilla until 24th May 2021, Croatia until 30th May 2021, Luxembourg until 30th June 2021, Bahrain and Mongolia (until further notice).
- Flight suspensions were extended by Peru until 31st May 2021 for flights from Brazil and South Africa and for travellers who have been in or transited through these countries in the last 14 days, Denmark for flights from Iceland and Greenland until 31st May 2021. Austria also extended the same flight suspension on Brazil and South Africa from 18th May to 6th June 2021. Passengers are exempt from the entry ban if they are traveling through Austria to a third country with proof that they can enter the destination country.
- New passenger bans were issued by Philippines until 15th May 2021 for passengers who in the past 14 days have been in Bangladesh, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka or United Arab Emirates; Kosovo⁴ for passengers arriving from Brazil or South Africa (this does not apply to citizens of Kosovo⁵). Additionally, a reduction in the duration of hotel quarantine was issued by the Philippines from 10 to 7 days.
- Germany lifted the ban on passengers transiting arriving from a non-Schengen Member State en route to another Schengen Member State. New exceptions to the passenger ban were issued by Germany for residents of Israel arriving from a country other than Botswana, Brazil, Eswatini, India, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia or Zimbabwe. Additionally, Germany updated its conditions for authorized entry requiring passengers entering or transiting through Germany to have a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before arrival; or a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction, Reverse Transcription Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification (RT-LAMP) test or Transcription-Mediated Amplification (TMA) test taken at most 72 hours before arrival.
- France issued new conditions for authorised entry for passengers arriving from Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Qatar, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Arab Emirates or Uruguay, they must have a negative COVID-19 Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction test taken at most 36 or 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point or have a negative COVID-19 rapid antigen test taken at most 24 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.
- Maldives issued new conditions for authorized entry requiring all passengers to self-quarantine for 14 days. This does not apply to passengers arriving from a country other than India with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate, which must state that they received the vaccine at least 14 days before arrival).
- Romania issued new conditions for authorized entry requiring passengers arriving from Anguilla, Bahamas, Belarus, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Denmark, Ecuador, Guyana, India, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Monaco, Nepal, Palestinian Territories, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, and United Arab Emirates to take a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test before departure. Passengers from San Marino no longer need to.
- Existing entry conditions and measures were lifted by New Zealand for passengers arriving from Australia who are now exempt of quarantine in a hotel. Belize no longer requires passengers to present a completed health form upon arrival.

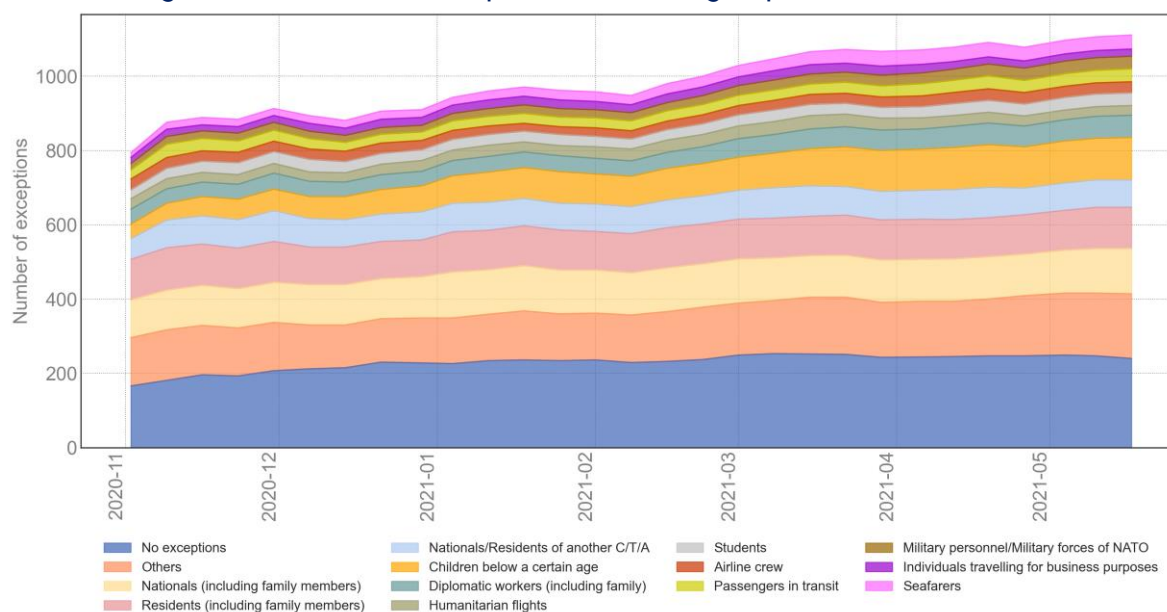
■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Number of C/T/As by type of exception



C/T/As are most likely to issue at least one exception for Nationals (110) and for Residents (102) and their families. Exceptions for children below a certain age, issued at least once by 89 different C/T/As, represent another one of the most common groups receiving exceptions.

Changes in the number of exceptions over time: groups that are allowed to enter



Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

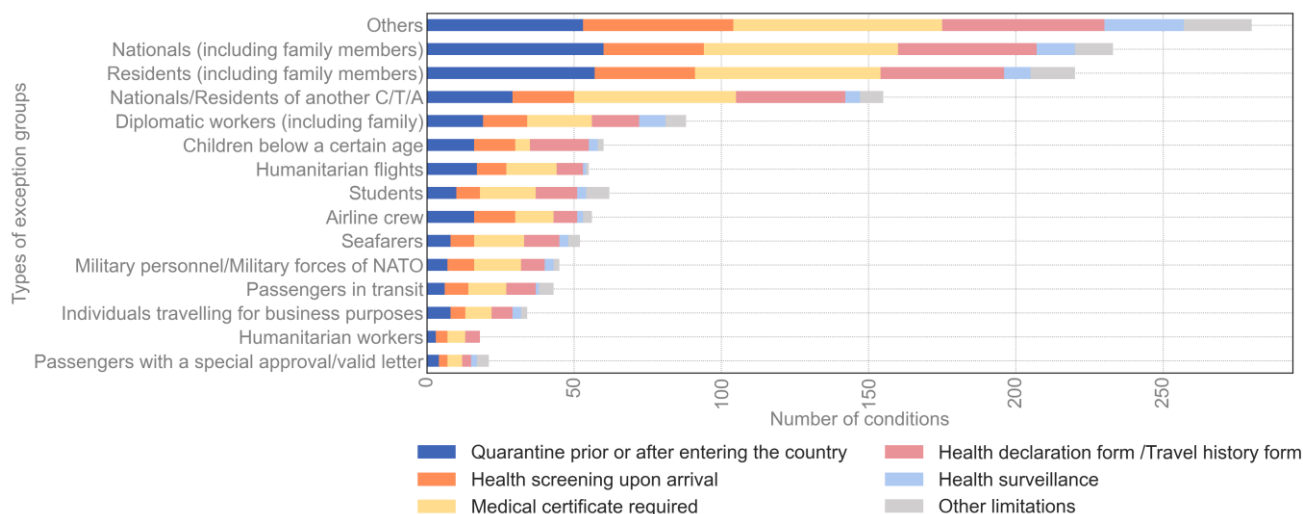
- As of 17th May, a total of 904 exceptions, enabling mobility, have been issued by 194 C/T/As.
- The C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were the Netherlands (23), Iceland (20), Belgium (17), Romania (14), Sweden (14), Finland (13), Ukraine (13), Austria (13) and France (12).
- Between 10th May and 17th May 2021, six countries, territories or areas issued 13 new exceptions, while one country, territory or area removed one exception.

⁴ Others category involves any exempted groups which are not included in the exception categories listed. Passengers with a test proving presence of IgG antibodies, passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate, passengers with certain visa types, accompanying individuals to persons requiring urgent medical treatment can be given as examples for the exception groups in this category.

■ Exceptions and Corresponding Conditions for Authorized Entry

The conditions for authorized entry refer 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, and medical certificates, that are applicable to specific exceptional groups.

Exception groups and associated conditions for authorized entry



Noticeable Trends for Conditions for Authorized Entry for Exempted Groups

- Of the 194 C/T/As issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 147 have issued 1,593 conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups.
- The top ten C/T/As issuing the highest number of conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups were Iceland (54), Guadeloupe (44), Finland (39), Philippines (38), Singapore (37), Andorra (36), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), China (36), Indonesia (36), the Netherlands (30) and Thailand (29).
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was to provide a medical certificate upon arrival, which was issued at least 404 times, followed by quarantine prior or after entering the country 320 times.

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- Changes to exceptions were issued by Japan. Residents of Japan with a re-entry permit are only exempt from the entry ban if either they in the past 14 days have not been in Nepal or Pakistan or if they have been to Nepal or Pakistan in the past 14 days and they have status of "Permanent Resident", "Spouse or Child of a Japanese National", "Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident" or "Long Term Resident" and have left Japan to travel to Nepal or Pakistan by 13th May 2021.
- The Philippines issued an exception to the requirement to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, for merchant seafarers.
- Exceptions to the passenger ban were issued by Denmark for passengers with a COVID-19 positive test result for 14 to 180 days prior to arrival; Mongolia for passengers who are visa exempt; Israel for passengers arriving from the United States of America with a Temporary Resident visa (A/1), Student visa (A/2), Clergy visa (A/3) and visa for spouses and children (A/4); Brunei Darussalam issued an exception for passengers with a diplomatic passport (must have an Entry Travel Pass letter issued by the authorities of Brunei Darussalam and a return/onward ticket); Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of People's Republic of China and Philippines issued exceptions for merchant seafarers.
- Changes to exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate were issued by Qatar. Previously all passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate outside of Qatar were accepted if they were AstraZeneca, Covishield, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech. Now, it has been limited to nationals of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates and their accompanying family members and domestic workers who must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia or United Arab Emirates. Vaccines accepted are AstraZeneca, Covishield, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech.
- Exception from quarantine were issued for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccine certificate. Tunisia issued an exception to the mandatory seven-day hotel quarantine reservation requirement for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate. Such passengers who have received the last vaccine dose at least 14 days before arrival are exempt from having a seven-day hotel quarantine reservation. Ireland issued the same exception for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate (the last vaccine dose of Pfizer-BioNTech at least seven days before arrival, the last vaccine dose of Moderna or Janssen at least 14 days before arrival or the last vaccine dose of AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria) at least 15 days before arrival). The Republic of Korea issued an exception for the quarantine entry condition if vaccinated passengers arrive from a country other than Botswana, Brazil, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Paraguay, South Africa, Suriname or United Republic of Tanzania (the vaccine must have been taken at least two weeks before departure). Mongolia will allow nationals, residents and exempt visa holders to avoid quarantine if they provide a COVID-19 vaccination certificate stating that they received the vaccine at least 14 days before arrival.
- Exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate were issued. Germany issued an exception for passengers who have had a COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days before departure and if they have not been in the past 10 days in Botswana, Brazil, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia or Zimbabwe.
- Cyprus expanded the list of C/T/As from where COVID-19 vaccination certificates are accepted as an exception to the passenger ban. Previously, only vaccination certificates from Israel and Cyprus were permitted. Now, passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued by Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America or Holy See are all accepted.
- Exceptions for passengers with a vaccination certificate were removed. Sri Lanka removed the exception for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate. Previously, this allowed exempt passengers to travel without a printed negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test taken at most 96 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Now, all passengers, including those with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate, must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
- Brunei Darussalam issued exceptions for passengers with diplomatic visa who are exempt from having a confirmed hotel reservation and proof of payment for the Polymerase Chain Reaction test for test upon arrival.

- Turkey added exceptions to the requirement that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Previously, passengers younger than six, merchant seafarers and nationals of Hungary with a vaccination certificate stating that they received the vaccine in Hungary were exempt. Now, nationals of Serbia with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate stating that they received the vaccine in Serbia as well as nationals of Serbia and Turkey who are younger than 18 years old and are accompanied by family members with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate are also exempt.
- Kosovo⁶ issued new exceptions for conditions for authorized entry. Passengers arriving from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Namibia, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates or USA no longer need to take a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test before arriving. Passengers arriving from French Guiana, Mongolia, Uruguay and Turkey must have a negative COVID-19 test to enter.

⁶References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).