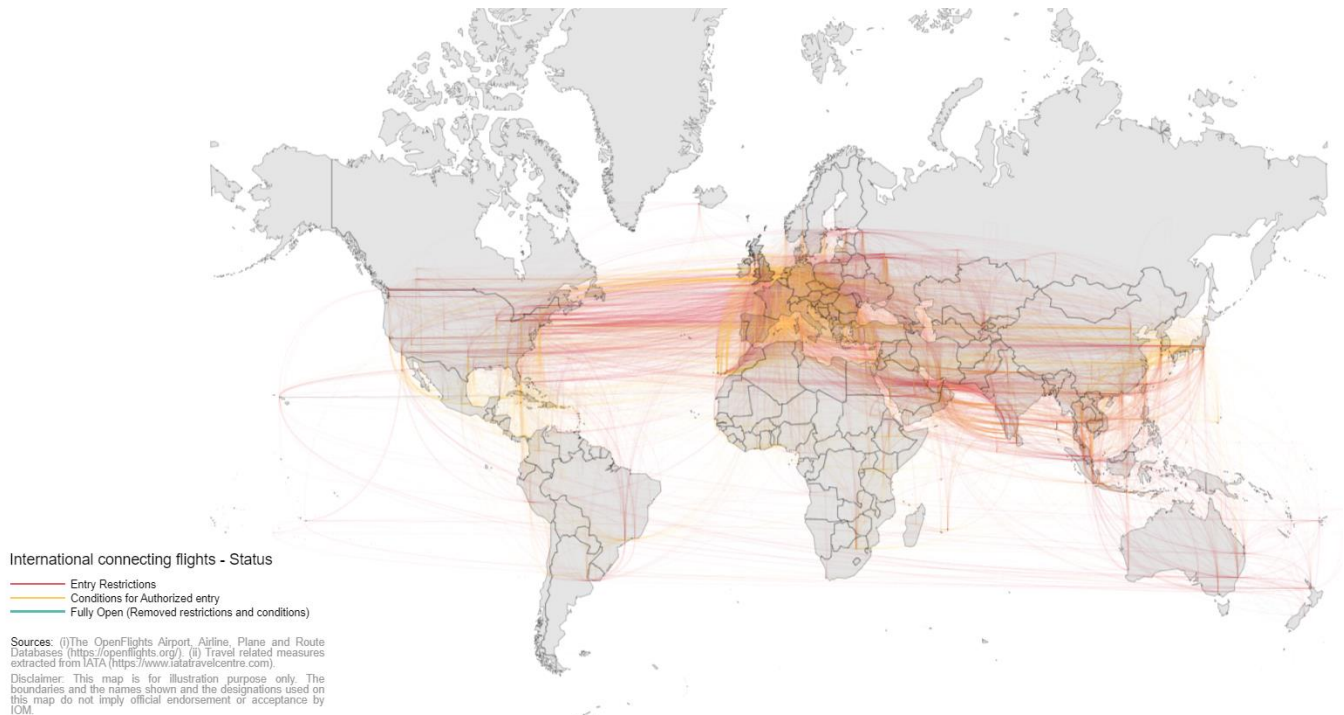


Global Mobility Restriction Overview





Weekly Update • 13th September 2021



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 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](#).

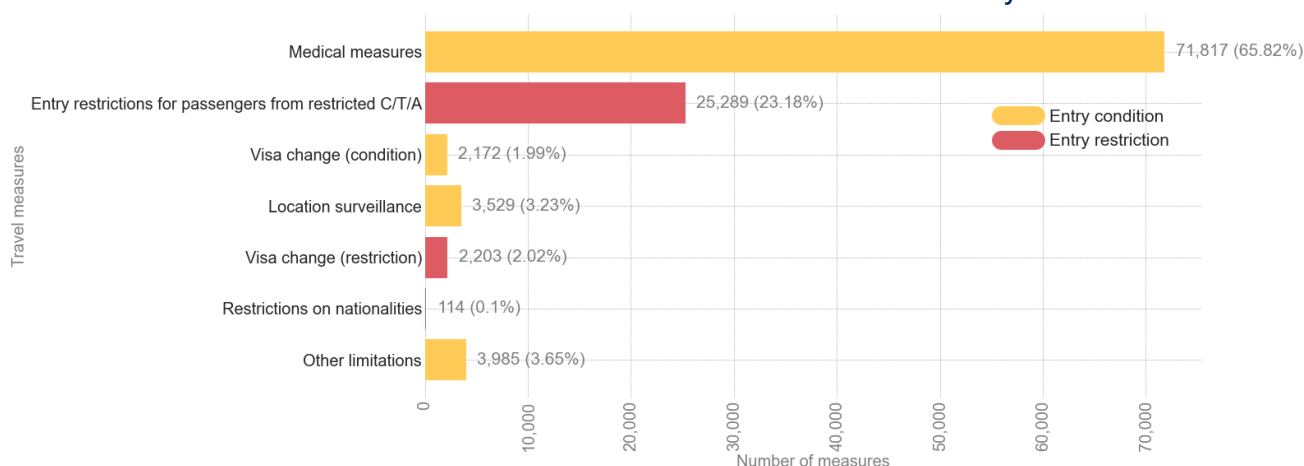
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities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

COVID-19 related air travel restrictions continue to determine global mobility and migration. As of 13th September 2021, more than 224 million cases of COVID-19 have been recorded globally, including more than 4.6 million deaths. Simultaneously, the [World Health Organization](#) reports more than 5.5 billion doses of the vaccine have been administered globally as of 13th September 2021. A total of 229 countries, territories, or areas (C/T/As) have issued 109,109 travel related measures as of 13th September 2021, indicating a decrease of 0.62 per cent from 109,794 travel related measures issued on 6th September 2021. Of these, 27,606 were reported as entry restrictions and 81,503 were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was a very slight decrease of 0.05 per cent in entry restrictions and a decrease of 0.82 per cent in conditions for authorized entry. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was a decrease of almost one per cent (0.97) in medical requirements such as quarantine or medical screening upon arrival. In the reporting period, there was an increase of 70 per cent in restrictions on specific nationalities. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 201 countries, territories or areas have issued 992 exceptions enabling mobility. Between 6th and 13th September 2021, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 14 new exceptions whilst 9 countries, territories or areas removed 36 exceptions.

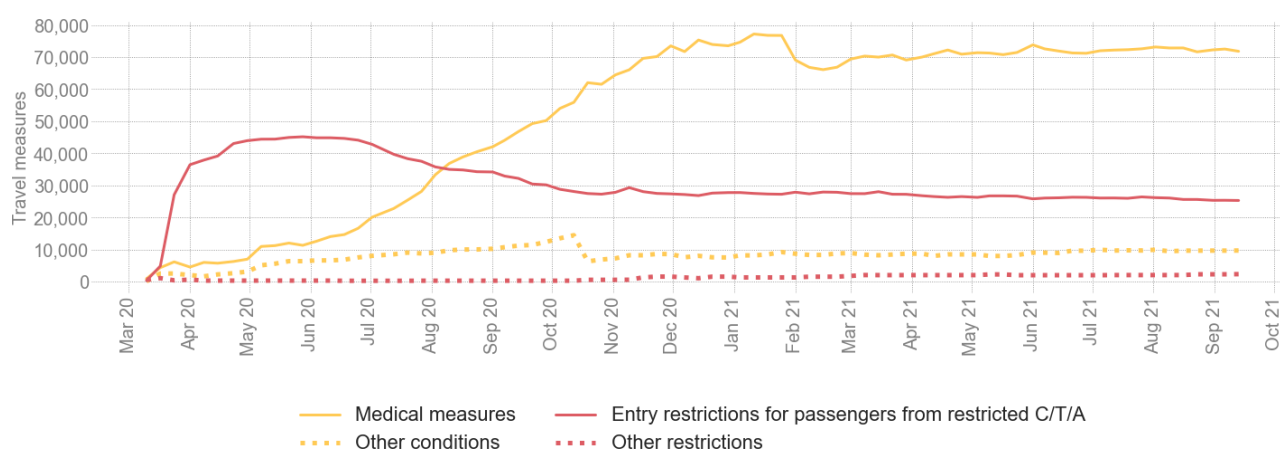
Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry



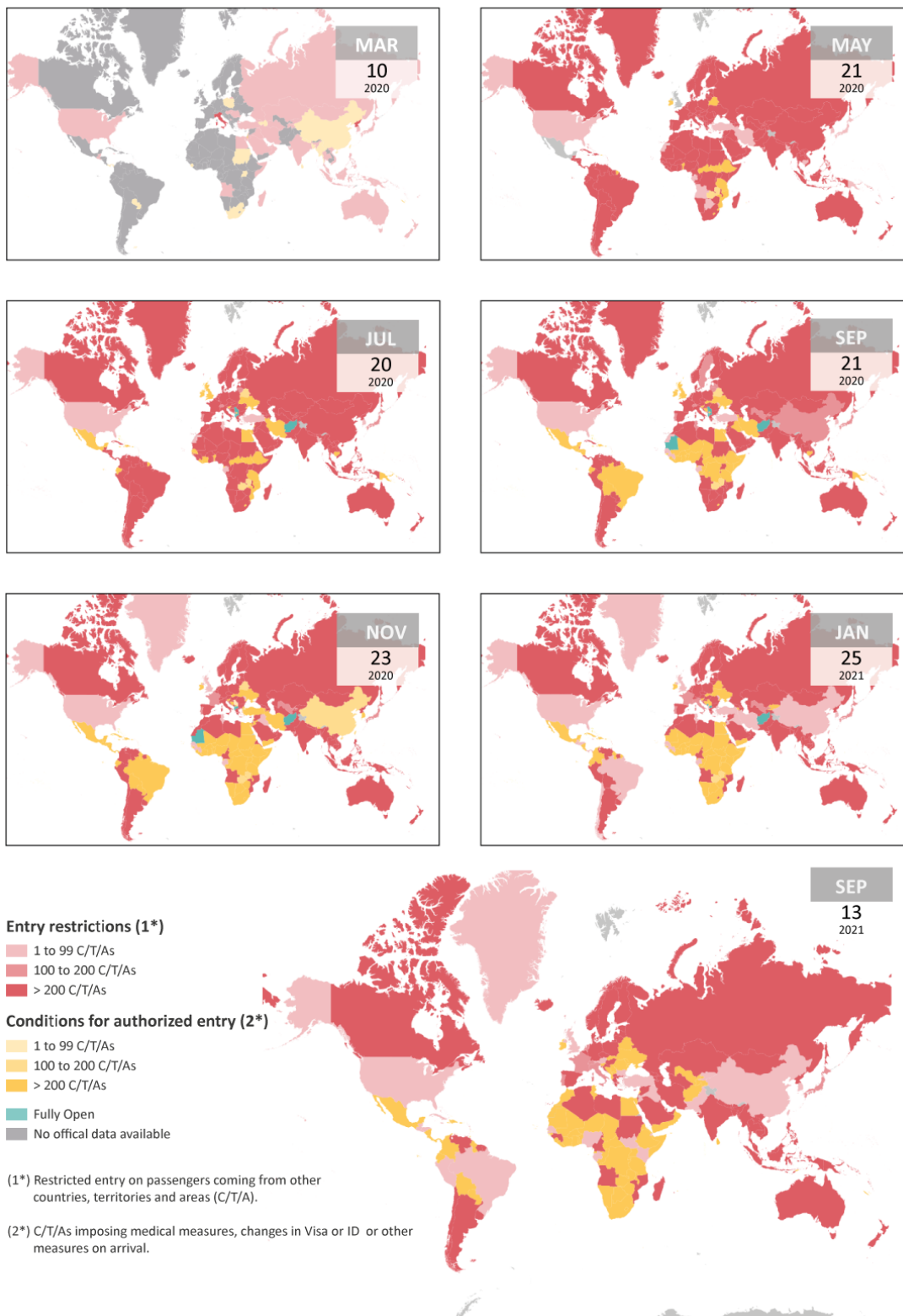
As of 13th September 2021, 229 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, representing 23 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 66 per cent of the total number of conditions and restrictions. In contrast, visa requirements represent 4 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

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



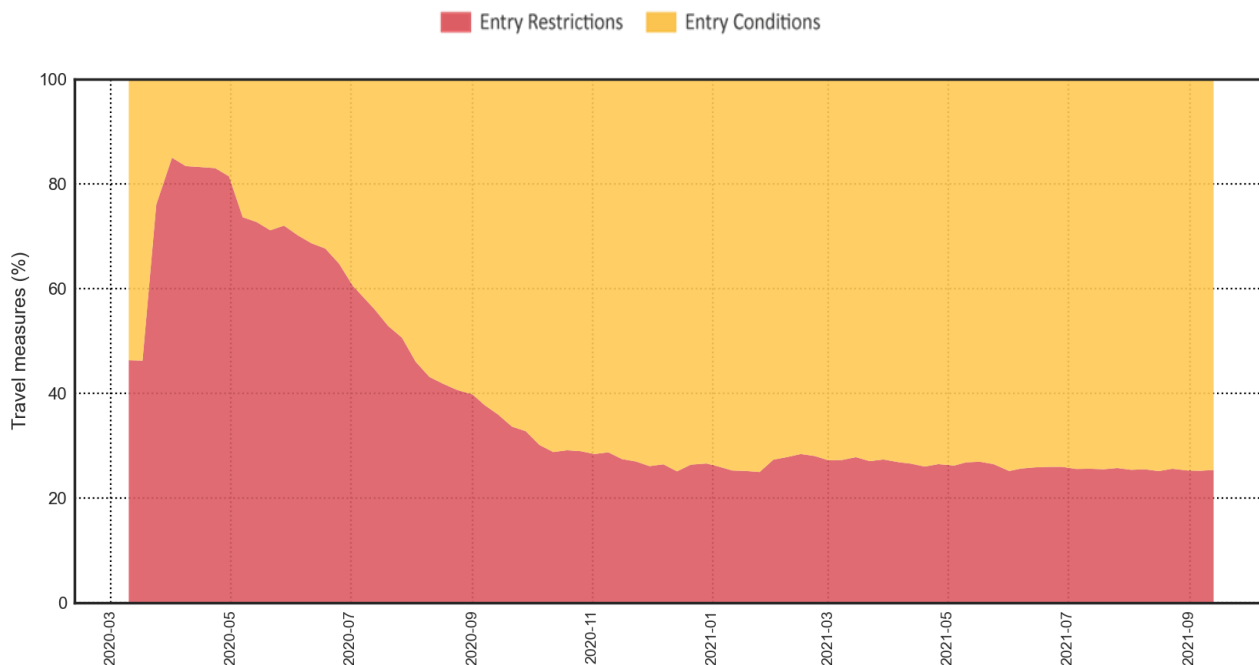
■ Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, Over Time

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 13th September 2021, 229 out of 247 C/T/As (93%) have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.



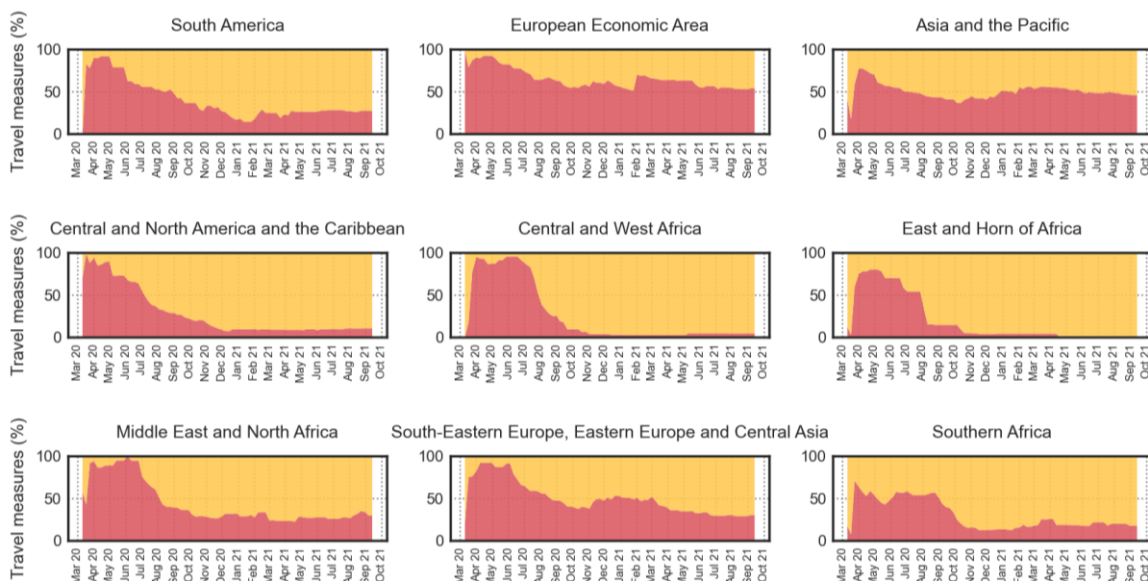
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 25 per cent, as of 13th September 2021.

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 13th September 2021. On the other hand, IOM regions of *European Economic Area* and *Asia and the Pacific* have seen a less significant shift from restrictions to conditions, with restrictions representing over 50 per cent of the total travel related measures in the last reporting period. These regional differences over time reflect the dissimilar evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in different geographical areas.

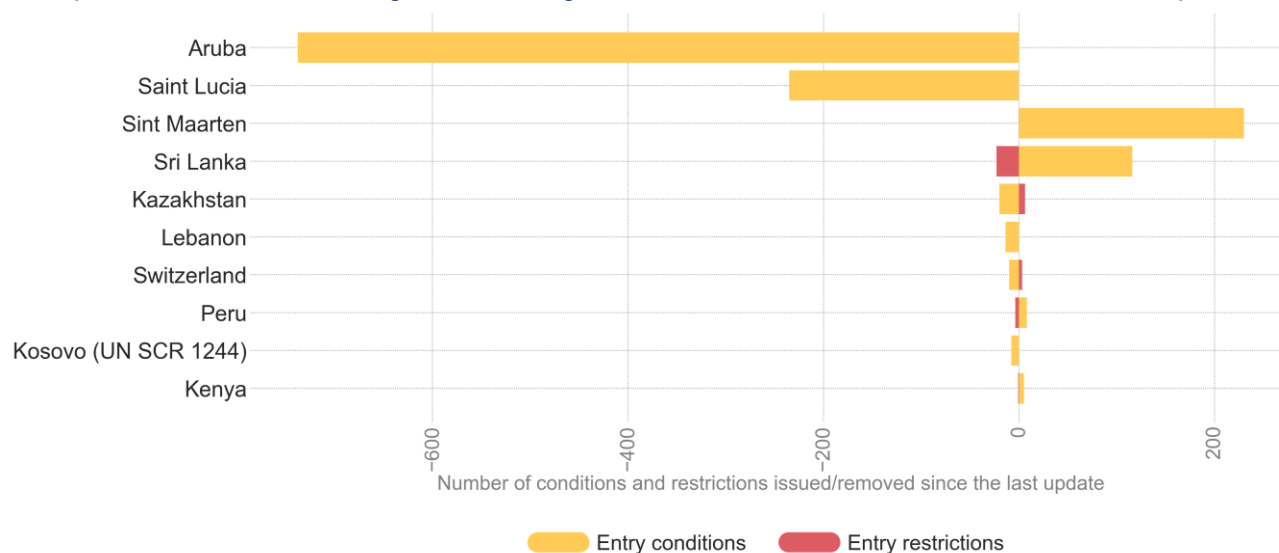
Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



■ Key Highlights on Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

This section illustrates the changes in the number of restrictions (coloured in red) and entry conditions (coloured in yellow) in the last week. Between 6th and 13th September 2021, 18 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, 13 of them made minor changes. While 10 C/T/As removed existing conditions for authorized entry, 5 C/T/As removed total restrictions. There were 6 and/or 6 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 update¹



Key Highlights

- **Several extensions to existing passenger bans have been issued.** Jamaica extended its passenger ban on passengers arriving from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, India, Paraguay, Peru or Trinidad and Tobago until 17th September 2021. Existing entry bans on all non-exempt passengers were extended by Greece until 17th September 2021, by Marshall Islands until 30th September 2021, by Fiji until 31st October 2021 and by Malta until 31st October 2021.
- **Flight suspensions have been extended.** Flight suspensions were extended by Vanuatu until 26th September 2021 and by Madagascar, which extended its flight suspension indefinitely for all flights except medevac and repatriation flights. Jamaica extended its flight suspension on flights from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, India, Paraguay, Peru or Trinidad and Tobago until 17th September 2021.
- **Changes in passenger ban restrictions were issued.** Sri Lanka lifted the ban on passengers who, in the past 14 days, have been in Angola, Argentina, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Eswatini, French Guiana, Guyana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Suriname, Uruguay, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Zambia or Zimbabwe. Mauritius lifted the entry ban on passengers who, in the past 15 days, have been in Brazil or South Africa. Kosovo² lifted the passenger ban on passengers who, in the past two weeks, have been in Brazil, India or South Africa. Peru lifted the ban on passengers who, in the past 14 days, have been in or transited through Brazil and India.
- **Changes in flight suspensions were issued.** Kazakhstan lifted its flight suspension on flights from Armenia, Georgia, Montenegro and Tajikistan. Turkey lifted its flight suspension on flights from India. In addition, Peru restarted flights from Brazil and India whilst Kenya lifted its flight suspension on flights from India.
- **New passenger bans were issued.** The Philippines issued a passenger ban until 18th September 2021 on passengers who, in the past 14 days, have been in Azerbaijan, Guadeloupe, Guam, Israel, Montenegro, North Macedonia, St. Lucia, Switzerland or Kosovo*.
- **Conditions for authorized entry were removed.** Portugal removed conditions for authorized entry for passengers from Brazil; passengers arriving from Brazil no longer need to register online before departure. Aruba removed conditions for authorized entry; passengers travelling to Aruba no longer need to quarantine prior or after entering the country, no longer

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

need a medical certificate to enter and no longer need to complete a Health Declaration form. Lebanon removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers arriving from Brazil, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Gambia, India, Iraq, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or Zambia must have a hotel reservation for at least three nights. Thailand removed the COVID-19 test, vaccination certificate and insurance certificate requirements for passengers who are transiting through Thailand without disembarking. Rwanda removed conditions for authorized; passengers who, in the past seven days, have been in Uganda or India, are no longer subject to quarantine at their own expense. Saint Lucia removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers must have a travel authorization letter stating that their hotel stay has been verified. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers with a residence permit issued by Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and arriving from Argentina or United Arab Emirates must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they received two doses of vaccine in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Republic of Moldova removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers need to provide a completed 'epidemiological form' upon arrival. Ukraine removed conditions for authorized entry for nationals of Ukraine; nationals of Ukraine no longer have to install the Vdoma application on their personal device. Guyana removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers who have not completed a Passenger Locator Form 24 hours prior to departure must complete a Health Declaration Form before arriving.

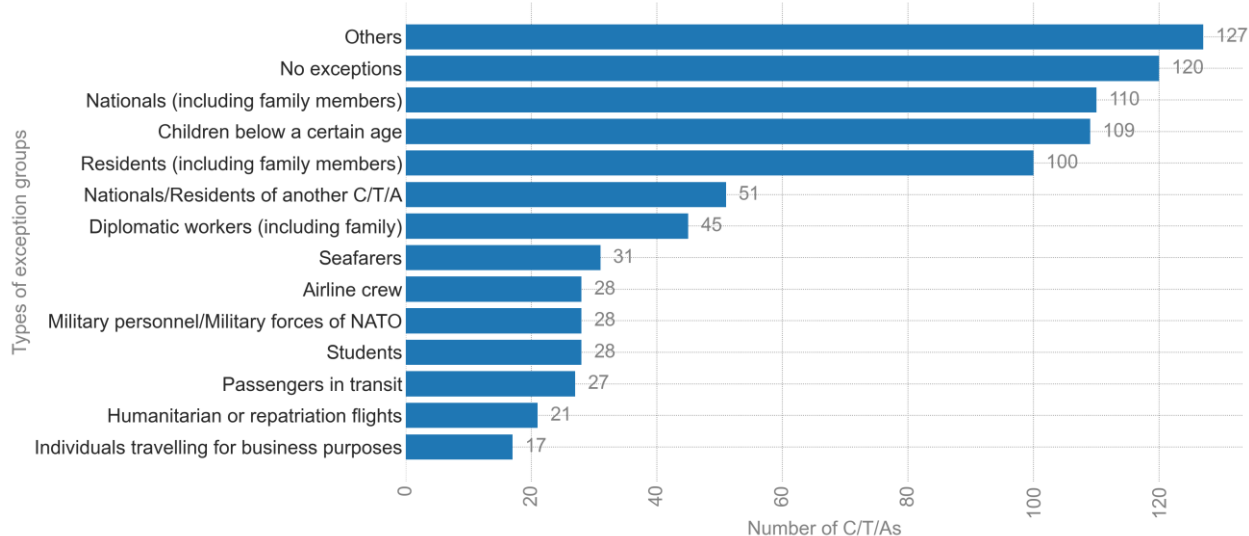
- Serbia also removed conditions for authorized entry. Passengers arriving from India no longer need a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 48 hours before arrival or a COVID-19 vaccination or recovery certificate. Passengers arriving from India also are no longer required to take a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival or to complete a 'Foreigners Surveillance Registration' form before departure.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Sint Maarten issued a new condition for authorized entry that passengers now must have insurance to cover COVID-19 expenses. Exceptions to this condition include residents of Sint Maarten and nationals of France residing in France or in a French territory. Aruba issued new conditions for authorized entry; passengers are now required to complete an "Embarkation/Disembarkation Card (ED Card)" at most 72 hours before departure. Italy issued a new condition for authorized entry; passengers transiting through Italy who, in the past 14 days, have been in Bangladesh, Brazil, India or Sri Lanka must have a negative test taken at most 72 hours before arrival. France added Israel and the United States of America to its orange list countries. Kosovo* also issued new conditions for authorized entry. Passengers must present either a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before arrival; a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test taken at most 72 hours before arrival; a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 15 days before arrival; a positive COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 180 days before arrival; or a positive COVID-19 serology antibody test taken at most 30 days before arrival.
- **Conditions for authorized entry were clarified.** Sint Maarten clarified its conditions for authorized entry; now, passengers entering or transiting through Sint Maarten must have a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test based on a nasopharyngeal swab and taken at most 72 hours before departure of the last direct flight to Sint Maarten. Exceptions include residents of Saba, St. Eustatius, Sint Maarten or St. Martin; passengers arriving from Anguilla, Barbados, Bonaire, Canada, Cayman Islands, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Grenada, Montserrat, New Zealand, Saba, Singapore, St. Barthelemy, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Eustatius, Turks and Caicos Islands or the United States of America; and passengers younger than 10 years. Trinidad and Tobago specified that passengers' COVID-19 test results must be English. Dominican Republic specified that passengers must complete an "Electronic Ticket" at most 72 hours before arrival. Previously, there was no timeframe given. Dominica specified that passengers are now subject to quarantine for seven days at their own expense.
- **Changes to conditions for authorized entry were made.** Portugal adjusted its condition for authorized entry. Passengers arriving from India, Nepal or South Africa are now subject to quarantine for 14 days. Cote d'Ivoire modified its condition for authorized entry; passengers must now have a printed negative COVID-19 test taken at most 72 hours, down from five days, before departure from first embarkation point. Curaçao modified its negative COVID-19 PCR test before departure requirement. Now, passengers must take the test at most 48 hours before departure; previously, the test had to be taken 72 hours before departure. Guatemala changed its conditions for authorized entry; passengers arriving to Guatemala between 20:00 and 04:00 no longer must have a safe conduct (letter of transit) obtained 24 hours before departure.
- **Quarantine measures were issued and/or modified.** Kenya issued new conditions for authorized entry; passengers arriving from Brunei Darussalam, Kuwait, Qatar and Thailand must have a quarantine hotel reservation. This does not apply to nationals and residents of Kenya although they are still subject to seven days home-isolation, nor does it apply to passengers transiting through Doha international Airport (DOH) onward to Kenya. Angola adjusted its quarantine measures; passengers are now subject to quarantine for seven days, down from 10 days. Brazil adjusted its conditions for authorized entry; passengers with a residence permit issued by Brazil and who have been in or transited through India, South Africa or United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past 14 days are subject to quarantine for 14

days. Previously, India was not part of this list. Bahrain issued new conditions for authorized entry; passengers must now have a reservation confirmation for 10 days at a designated government hotel or have proof that they reside in Bahrain. Turkey issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers who, in the past 14 days, have been in Afghanistan, Brazil, Nepal, South Africa or Sri Lanka. These passengers must have a confirmed hotel reservation before departure and are subject to quarantine for up to 14 days, at their own expense, in a government designated hotel.

- **Accepted vaccines were specified.** Thailand added the Sputnik V vaccine to its list of accepted vaccines. Turks and Caicos Islands clarified that any combination of accepted vaccines will meet the vaccination requirement.

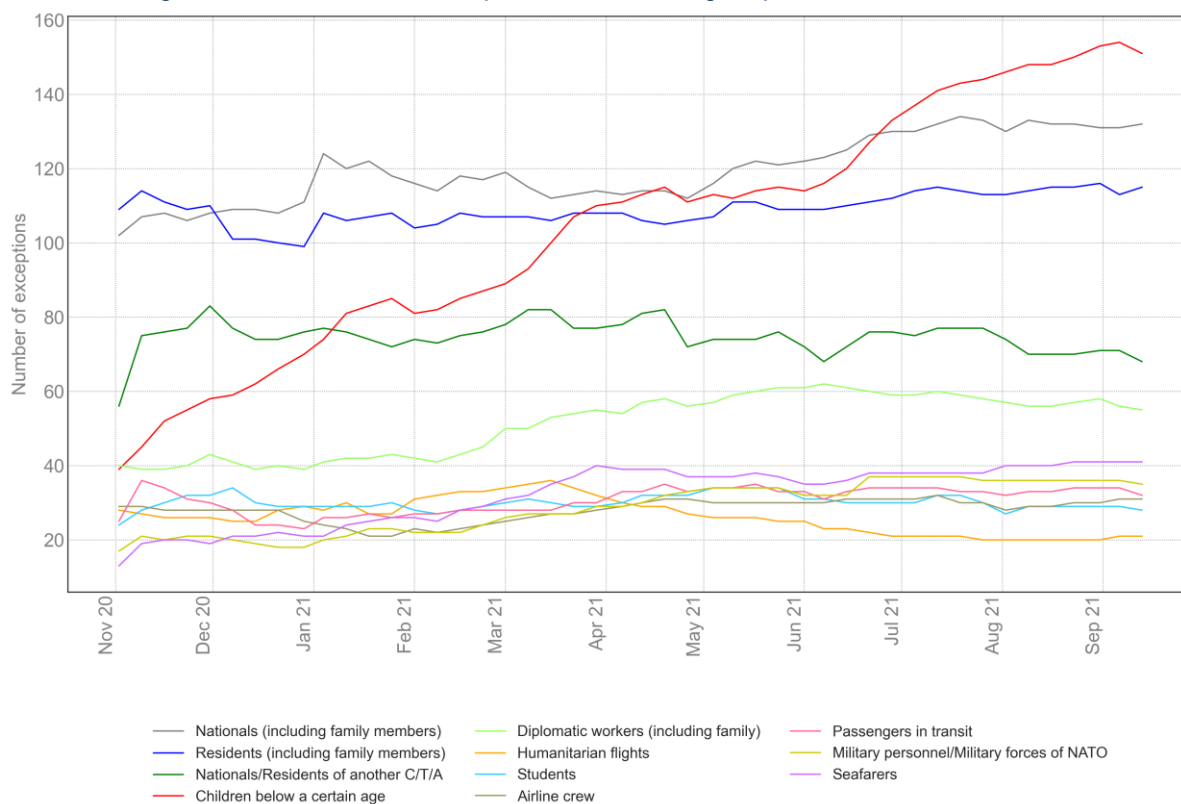
■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Number of C/T/As by type of exception³



C/T/As are most likely to issue at least one exception for Nationals (110) and for Residents (100) and their families. Exceptions for children below a certain age, issued at least once by 109 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 enter⁴



³ '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.

⁴ The chart shows the most significant exempted groups that are allowed to enter. Note that for simplification purposes 'Others' and 'No exceptions' categories are not represented.

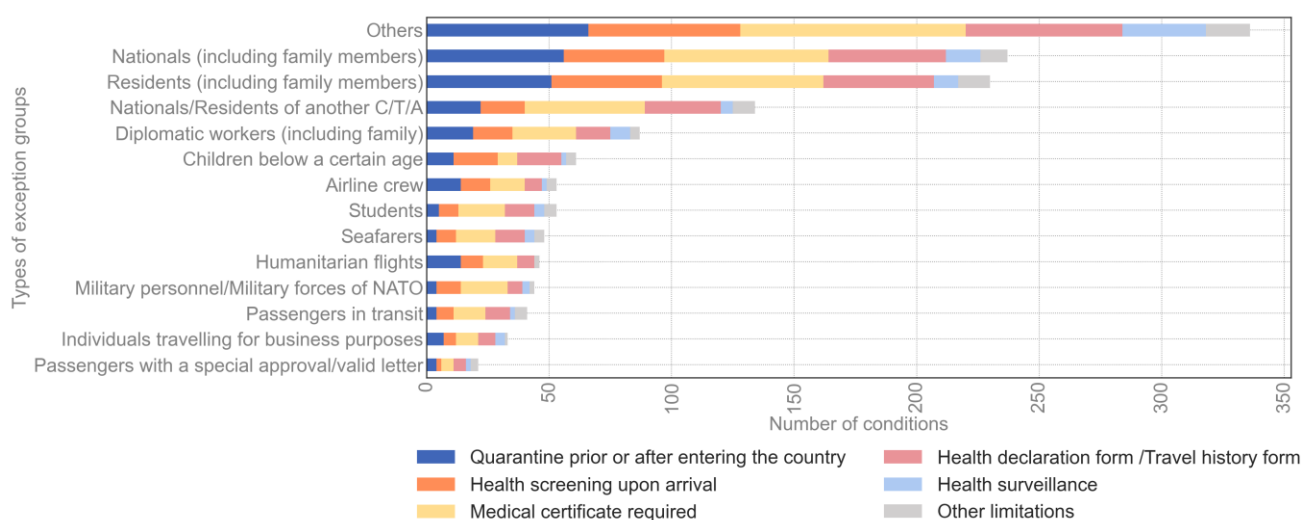
Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- As of 13th September 2021, a total of 992 exceptions, enabling mobility, have been issued by 201 C/T/As.
- The C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were the Netherlands (24), Ukraine (22), Bosnia and Herzegovina (21), Norway (21), Republic of Moldova (20), Belgium (17), Sweden (15), Austria (14), Montenegro (14) and Philippines (13).
- Between 6th and 13th September 2021, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 14 new exceptions, while 9 countries, territories or areas removed 36 exceptions.

■ 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 frequently 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 201 C/T/As issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 149 have issued 1,590 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 Philippines (50), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (40), Singapore (37), Finland (36), the Netherlands (35), India (32), Thailand (31), Norway (31), Kuwait (29) and Andorra (28).
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was to provide a medical certificate upon arrival, which was issued at least 429 times, followed by a Health Declaration or Travel History Form 295 times.

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were removed.** France removed exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from Israel and the United States of America. Switzerland removed exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from Israel, Lebanon, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the United States of America and Kosovo*. Kazakhstan removed exceptions to the passenger ban for nationals of the Maldives. Czechia removed exceptions to the passenger ban for nationals of Albania, Brunei Darussalam and Serbia. Passengers who, in the past 14 days, have only spent time in these countries were also removed as exceptions to the passenger ban.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were removed for residents.** Spain removed exceptions to the passenger ban for residents of Lebanon, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the United States of America, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Kosovo*. Germany removed exceptions to the passenger ban for residents of Albania, Azerbaijan, Japan and Serbia. Finland removed exceptions to the passenger ban for residents of Australia, Brunei Darussalam and Ukraine.
- **New exceptions to the passenger ban were issued.** India issued a new exception to the passenger ban for passengers with a diplomatic passport and a NOC (No Objection Certificate) issued by the Ministry of External Affairs. Russian Federation issued a new exception to the passenger ban; until 31st October 2021, guests and participants of Formula 1 race with an invitation letter issued by the organization committee are exempt from the entry ban. Portugal issued a new exception to its passenger ban for passengers arriving from Brazil.
- **New exceptions to the passenger ban for nationals and/or residents were issued.** Kazakhstan issued exceptions to the passenger ban for nationals of Armenia, Montenegro and Poland. In addition, Jordan issued new exceptions to its ban on nationals of certain C/T/As. Passengers with a residence permit issued by Jordan are now exempt from this ban. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued exceptions to the passenger ban for nationals of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and United Arab Emirates and their domestic workers; passengers with an exit/entry work, residence or visit visa issued by Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and passengers with a tourist visa who transited in Argentina, South Africa or United Arab Emirates in the past 14 days. Passengers arriving from Afghanistan, Brazil, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, Turkey or Viet Nam are not allowed to transit through Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Finland issued exceptions to the passenger ban for residents of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Singapore arriving on a direct flight from those countries.
- **New exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers with a COVID-19 certificate were issued.** Malta issued exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers with COVID-19 vaccination certificates issued in Egypt and Lebanon. Canada issued an exception the passenger ban for passengers with a vaccine certificate indicating they are fully vaccinated. A combination of the accepted vaccines can be used to meet this requirement.
- **New exceptions to conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Cyprus issued a new exception to its negative COVID-19 PCR test 72 hours before departure requirement for all passengers arriving from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Previously, only nationals and residents of Cyprus arriving from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were exempt from this condition. Oman issued an exception to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must register online prior to departure for passengers with a diplomatic passport travelling on duty. Czechia added passengers arriving from Azores, Portugal as an exception to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.
- **Exceptions were removed.** Czechia removed passengers arriving from Albania, Brunei Darussalam, the Netherlands, Norway, San Marino, Serbia and Slovak Republic as exceptions to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate were issued.** Egypt issued new exceptions to the COVID-19 PCR test requirement before departure for passengers with an electronic COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued in Egypt by the Egyptian Ministry of Health showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before departure. These passengers must also not be arriving from Argentina, Australia, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, the People's Republic of China, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Thailand, the United States of America, Uruguay or Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- **Exceptions to conditions for authorized entry for residents and/or nationals of select C/T/As were issued.** Cyprus issued a new exception to its negative COVID-19 PCR test 72 hours before departure requirement for nationals and residents of Cyprus arriving from Romania. Previously, all passengers arriving from Romania were exempt from this condition. Turks and Caicos Islands issued an exception to the condition for authorized entry that passengers and airline crew must have

a negative COVID-19 test taken at most three days before departure. Residents of Turks and Caicos Islands with a vaccination certificate are now exempt from this condition.

- **Exceptions for children were issued or changed.** Bahrain issued exceptions to the condition that passengers must have a reservation confirmation for 10 days at a designated government hotel or have proof that they reside in Bahrain for passengers younger than six years old. Dominica issued exceptions to the conditions for authorized entry that passengers must fill out a travel declaration form and conduct a COVID-19 antigen test upon arrival for passengers under one year of age. Turkey issued exceptions to pre-departure COVID-19 tests for children under 12 years old, an increase from six years old.
- **Exceptions to quarantine and/or medical screening measures were issued.** Dominica issued exceptions to its quarantine requirement for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival. Angola issued an exception to the condition for authorized entry that passengers are subject to quarantine for seven days. Passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated, if arriving from a country other than Brazil and India, are exempt from quarantine. Bahrain issued exceptions to the condition that passengers must have a reservation confirmation for 10 days at a designated government hotel or have proof that they reside in Bahrain for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued in Bahrain, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Kuwait, Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Seychelles or United Arab Emirates at least 14 days before arrival and passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued in countries that are eligible for visa on arrival.