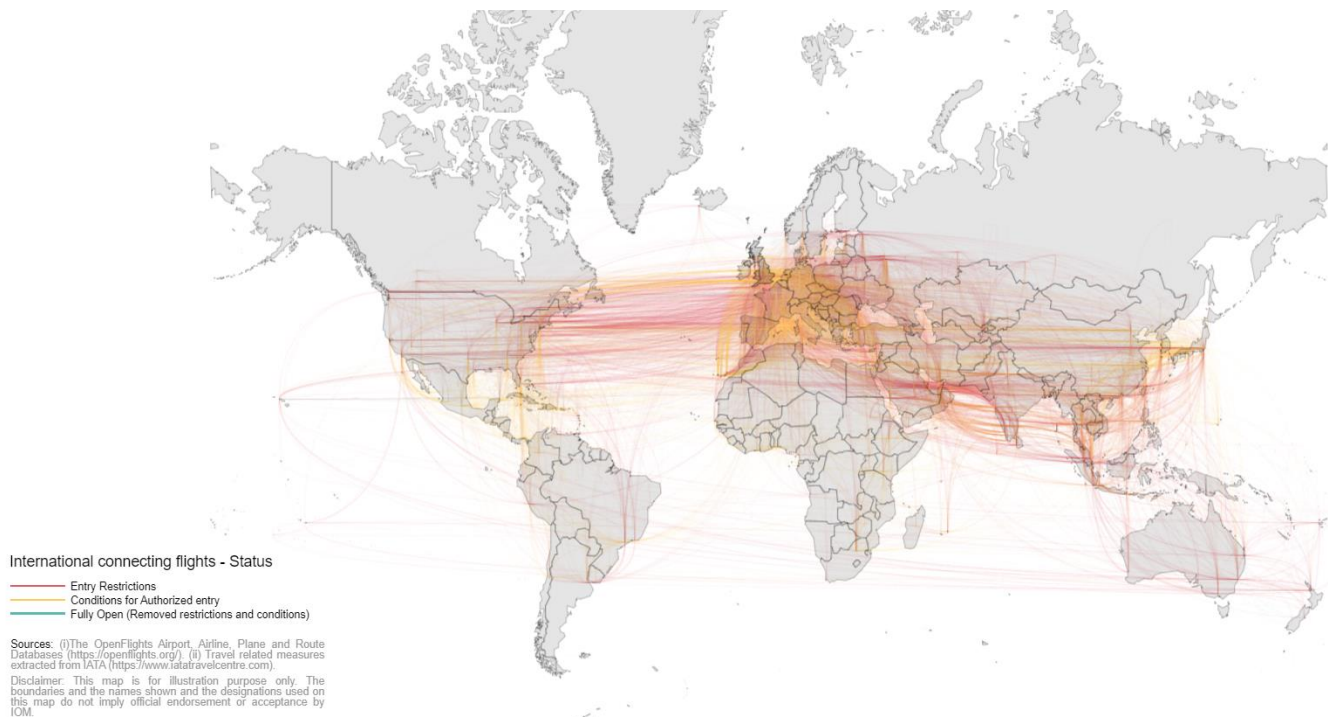


Global Mobility Restriction Overview





Weekly Update • 11 October 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](#).

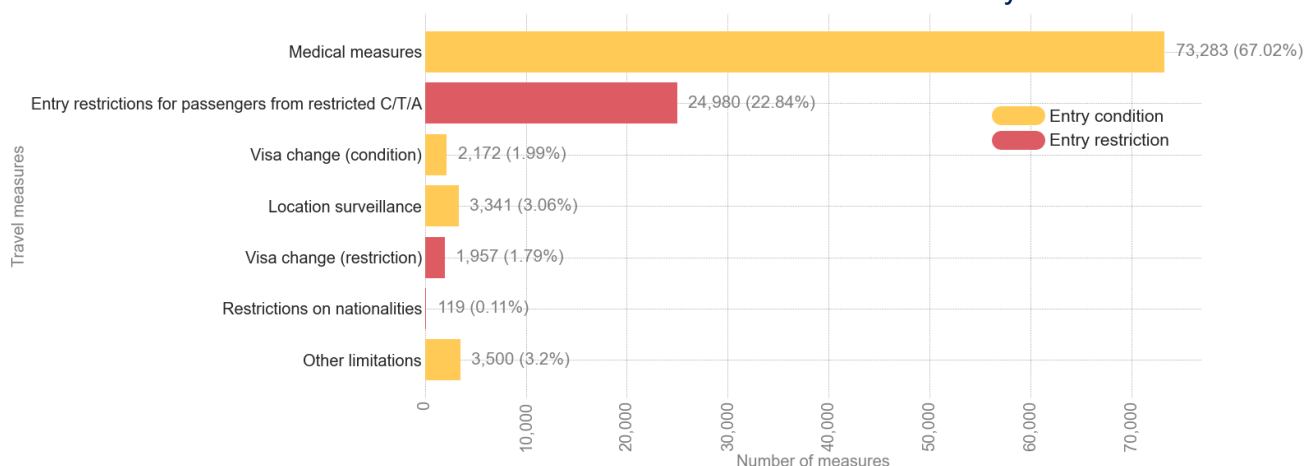
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities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

The impact of COVID-19 on human mobility and migration remains stable. As of 11 October 2021, a total of 237,196,253 million cases¹ of COVID-19 have been recorded globally, including more than 4.8 million deaths. Simultaneously, the [World Health Organization](#) reports more than 6.3 billion doses of the vaccine have been administered globally as of 10 October 2021. A total of 229 countries, territories, or areas (C/T/As) have issued 109,352 travel related measures as of 11 October 2021, indicating almost no change (0.15%) from 109,519 travel related measures issued on 4 October 2021. Of these, 27,056 were reported as entry restrictions and 82,296 were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was a one per cent decrease in entry restrictions and no change (0.1%) in conditions for authorized entry. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was 0.4 per cent increase in medical requirements such as quarantine or medical screening upon arrival and a 5.4 per cent decrease in location surveillance such as downloading apps on personal devices or informing local authorities. In the reporting period, there was a decrease of about one per cent in restrictions on arrivals from a specific C/T/A. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 201 countries, territories or areas have issued 993 exceptions enabling mobility. Between 4 and 11 October 2021, 8 countries, territories or areas issued 14 new exceptions whilst 6 countries, territories or areas removed 10 exceptions.

Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry



As of 11 October 2021, 229 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As represent 23 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 67 per cent of the total number of conditions and restrictions. In contrast, visa requirements represent 4 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

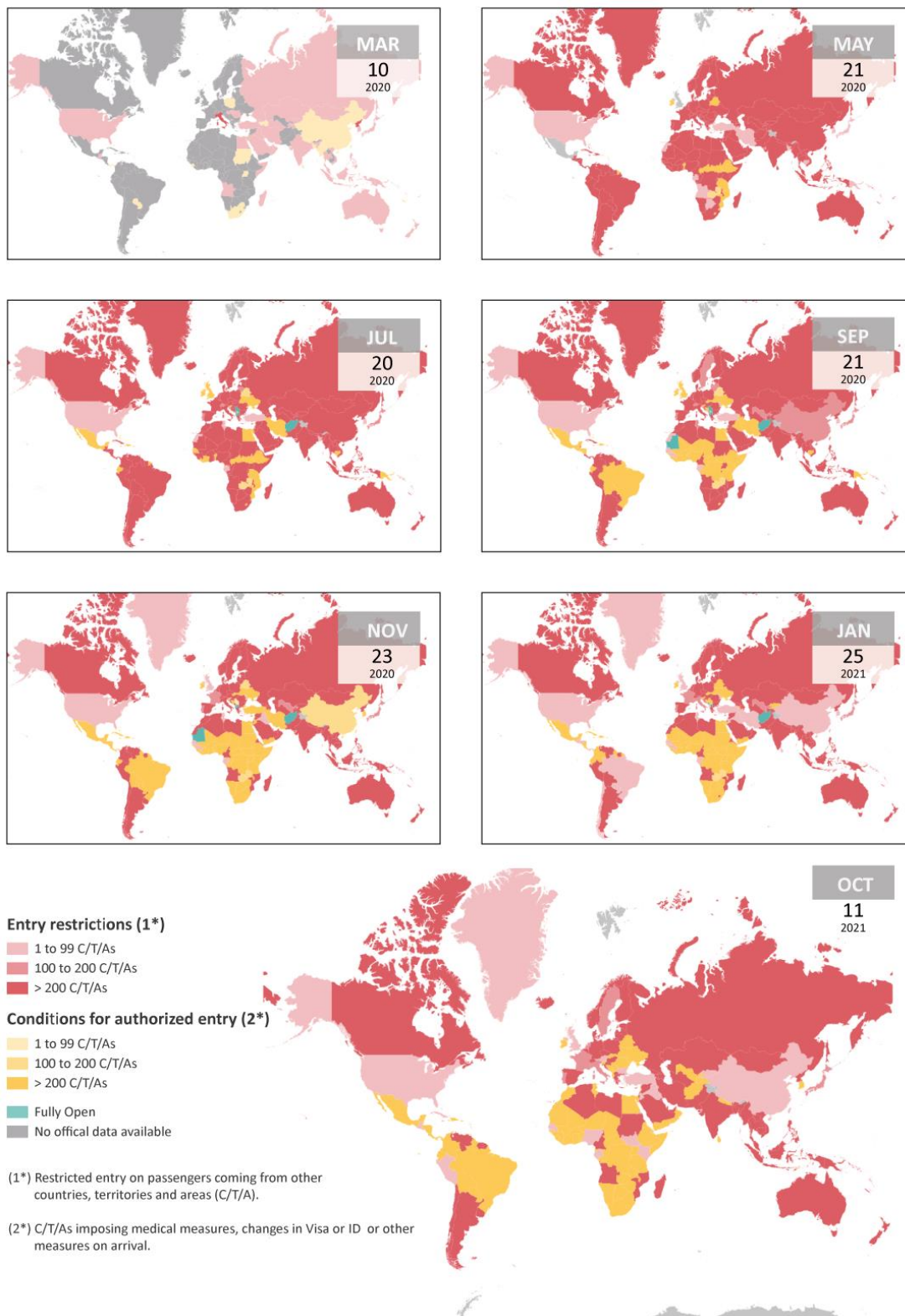
Changes in the number of travel measures over time, by type



¹ WHO defines the confirmed case as "a person with laboratory confirmation of 2019-nCoV infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms."

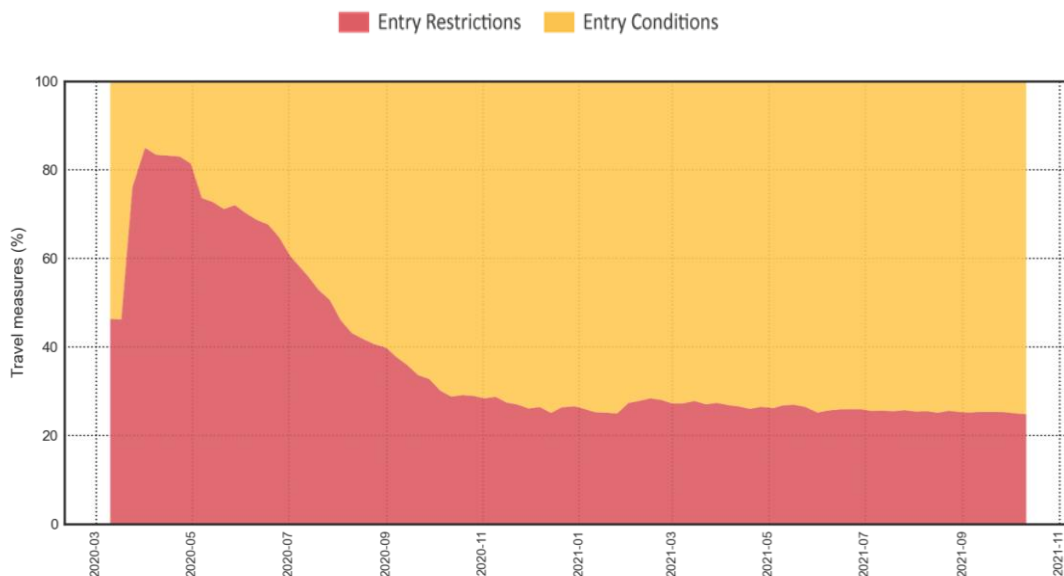
Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, Over Time

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 17 March 2020, only 90 governments and authorities across the world had announced COVID-19 related travel measures, by 21 May 2020 this number increased to 221 whereas as of 11 October 2021, 229 out of 247 C/T/As (93%) have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.



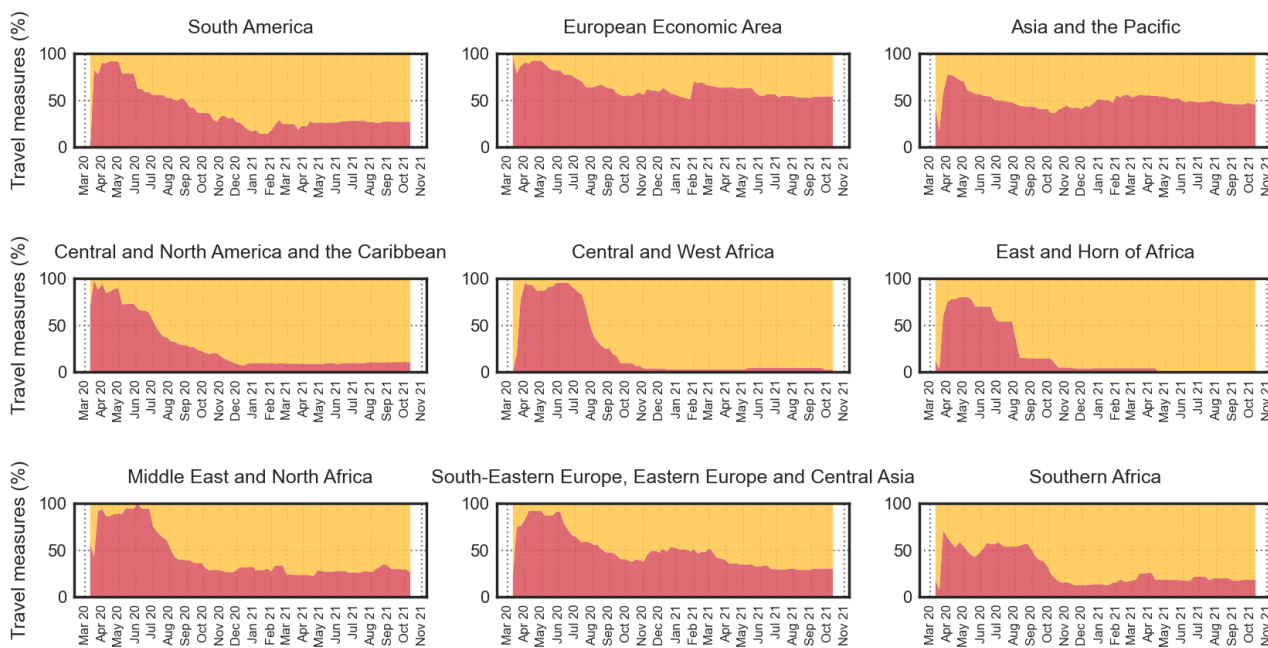
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 25 per cent, as of 11 October 2021.

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 11 October 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.

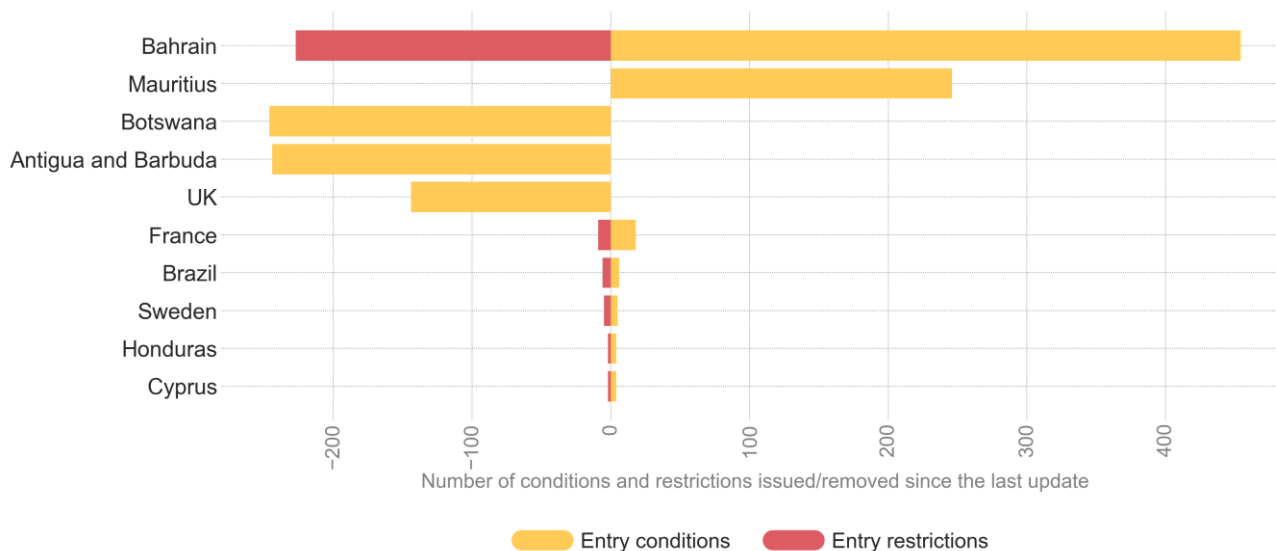
Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



■ 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 4 and 11 October 2021, 15 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, 9 of them made minor changes. While 4 C/T/As removed existing conditions for authorized entry, 10 C/T/As removed total restrictions. There were 9 and/or 1 C/T/As issuing new conditions and restrictions respectively.

Top 8 C/T/As with most significant changes in the number of travel measures since last update²



Key Highlights

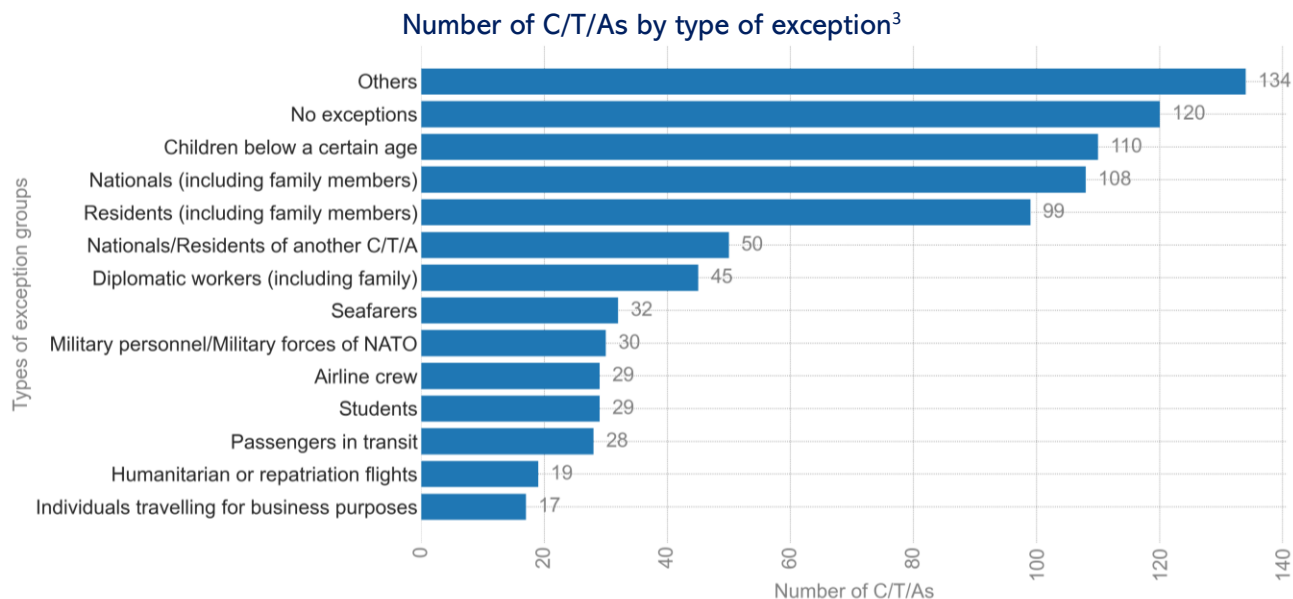
- Existing entry bans on all non-exempt passengers were extended by Finland until 24 October 2021 and by Malta and Thailand until 30 November 2021.
- Existing flight suspensions were extended by Greece until 15 October 2021.
- Turkmenistan issued an end date of 15 October 2021 for its flight suspensions.
- New passenger bans were issued by Bulgaria. Non-exempt passengers arriving from Lithuania are not allowed to enter Bulgaria.
- **Passenger bans were lifted.** Brazil lifted its passenger ban on passengers who, in the past 14 days, have been in or transited through India, South Africa or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Cyprus lifted the passenger ban on passengers arriving from Chile and Rwanda. Honduras lifted the passenger ban on travellers arriving from or who have been in South Africa or United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past 21 days. Additionally, the quarantine requirement for nationals arriving from these two destinations has been lifted. Bahrain lifted the ban on passengers arriving from Bangladesh, Ecuador, Georgia, Indonesia, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, South Africa and Uganda and issued a ban on passengers arriving from Romania. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland lifted the ban on travellers who have been in or transited through Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Botswana, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, French Guiana, Georgia, Guyana, Indonesia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Paraguay, the Philippines, Reunion, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Uruguay, Zambia or Zimbabwe; they are no longer subject to the passenger ban. Passengers who have been in or transited through Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, Peru or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the past 10 days are not allowed to enter the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Residents and nationals that are exempt from this passenger ban and have been in or transited through these C/T/As are subject to hotel quarantine and a COVID-19 test on day two and day eight after arrival at their own expense. They must have a payment confirmation. The day eight tests do not apply to passengers with a vaccination certificate. The vaccination certificate must have been issued in the accepted C/T/As for entry.

² Please note that changes in the chart reflect actual timely shifts in measures, and additional changes that are resultant of internal quality control.

- **Flight suspensions were lifted.** On 6 October 2021, Saint Kitts and Nevis lifted the flight suspension on flights from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Brazil lifted its flight suspension on flights from India, South Africa and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- Visa on arrival facilities was restarted by Thailand.
- **Visa exemptions were updated.** Visa exemptions for nationals of Cambodia and Myanmar with normal passports were restarted by Thailand.
- **Conditions for authorized entry were removed.** Spain no longer requires passengers arriving from Australia, Chile, People's Republic of China, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Malta, New Zealand, Qatar, Rwanda, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Ukraine or Uruguay to have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result to enter. In addition, passengers returning to Liberia within three days of departure no longer need to have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 96 hours before arrival. Qatar removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers arriving from a country other than Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines or Sri Lanka must have a quarantine hotel reservation for five, seven or 10 days made. Likewise, Qatar removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers arriving from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines or Sri Lanka must have a quarantine hotel reservation for two days made if they have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued in Qatar or a COVID-19 recovery certificate issued in the past 12 months in Qatar. Botswana removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers are subject to medical screening upon arrival. Cyprus removed the condition for authorized entry that a negative COVID-19 PCR test is required for passengers arriving from Malta but extended the condition to passengers arriving from Hungary. Similarly, the condition requiring a negative COVID-19 PCR test was removed for nationals and residents of Cyprus who are arriving from Australia, Chile, Czechia, Hungary, Jordan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Rwanda and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Finally, Antigua and Barbuda removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers must complete a Health Declaration from upon arrival.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Mauritius issued a new condition for authorized entry; passengers must have health insurance to cover COVID-19 expenses. This does not apply to nationals and residents of Mauritius. Poland issued a new condition for authorized entry for passengers exempt from the passenger ban. These passengers must complete a "Passenger Locator Form" and present it upon arrival.
- Mauritius specified that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the last embarkation point.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued for airline crew.** Sri Lanka requires airline crew, who are staying overnight, to stay at a designated hotel. However, this does not apply to airline crew with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival.
- **Accepted vaccines were clarified.** Qatar added Covishield, Sinovac and Sputnik V vaccines to its list of acceptable COVID-19 vaccines. Sint Maarten specified that its acceptable vaccines are AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), Covishield, Janssen, Moderna (Spikevax), Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Sinopharm and Sinovac. Antigua and Barbuda added the Sinovac and Covishield vaccine to its list of acceptable vaccines. Sweden now accepts COVID-19 vaccination certificates issued in Albania, Andorra, Faroe Islands, Israel, Monaco, Morocco and Panama.
- **Changes to conditions for authorized entry were made.** Qatar adjusted its condition for authorized entry. Exempt passengers must now register online at least three days before arrival, up from 12 hours before arrival. Brazil changed its conditions for authorized entry such that passengers entering or transiting through Brazil must now have either a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point; or a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 24 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. The test result must be in English, Portuguese or Spanish. The Gambia modified its conditions for authorized entry such that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Previously, this test had to be issued at most 72 hours before arrival. In addition, passengers arriving to the Gambia from Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Portugal and Slovenia were added to the list of countries that are subject to a COVID-19 test upon arrival. Passengers arriving from Jordan, Norway, Pakistan and Singapore were removed from this list. This condition, however, does not apply to passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated.
- **Quarantine measures were issued and/or modified.** The Philippines issued new conditions for authorized entry; passengers must have a hotel reservation for at least six days if they have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were

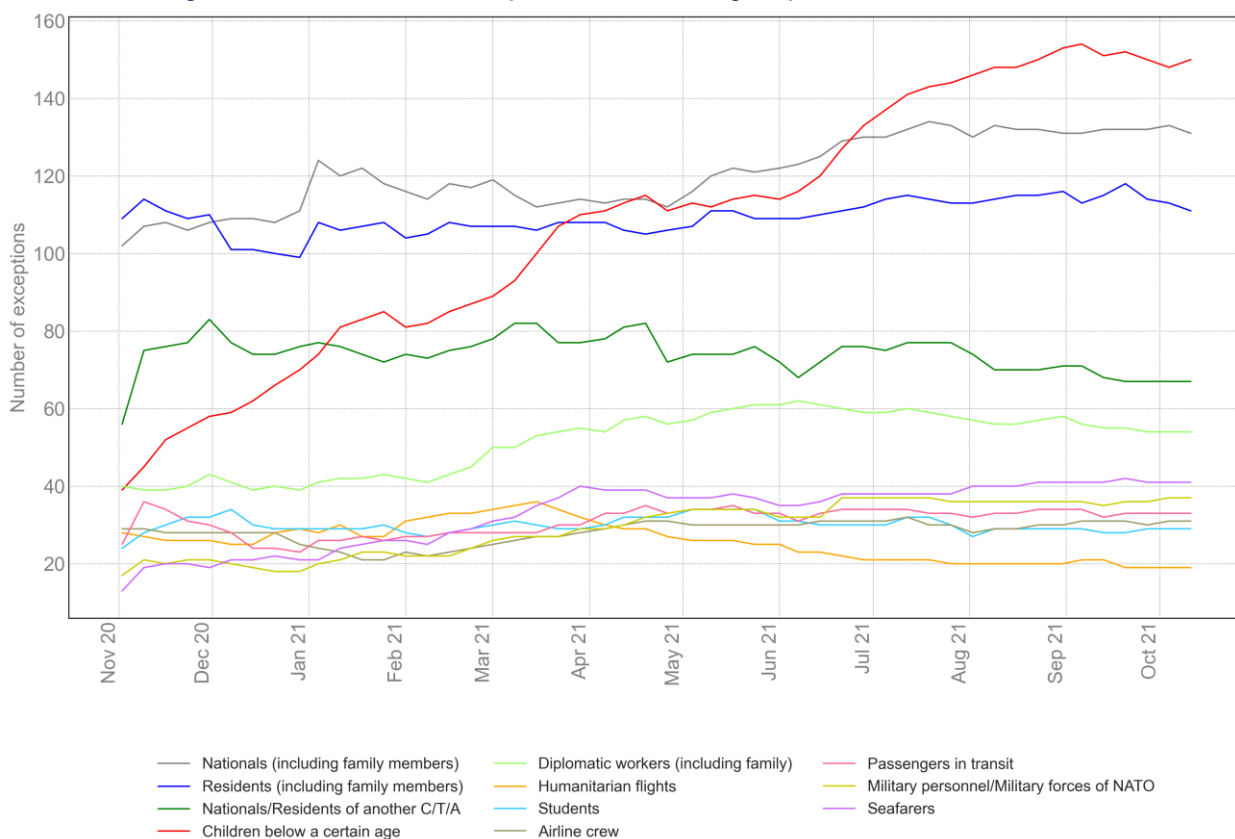
fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival; or for eight days if they do not have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate. The Philippines also updated its quarantine duration for passengers. Passengers arriving in the Philippines are now subject to quarantine at the first point of entry for six or eight days. Previously, they were subject to quarantine at the first point of entry for seven or 14 days.

■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions



C/T/As are most likely to issue at least one exception for children below a certain age (110). Exceptions for Nationals and for Residents and their families, issued at least once by 108 and 99 different C/T/As respectively, represent two of the other 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.

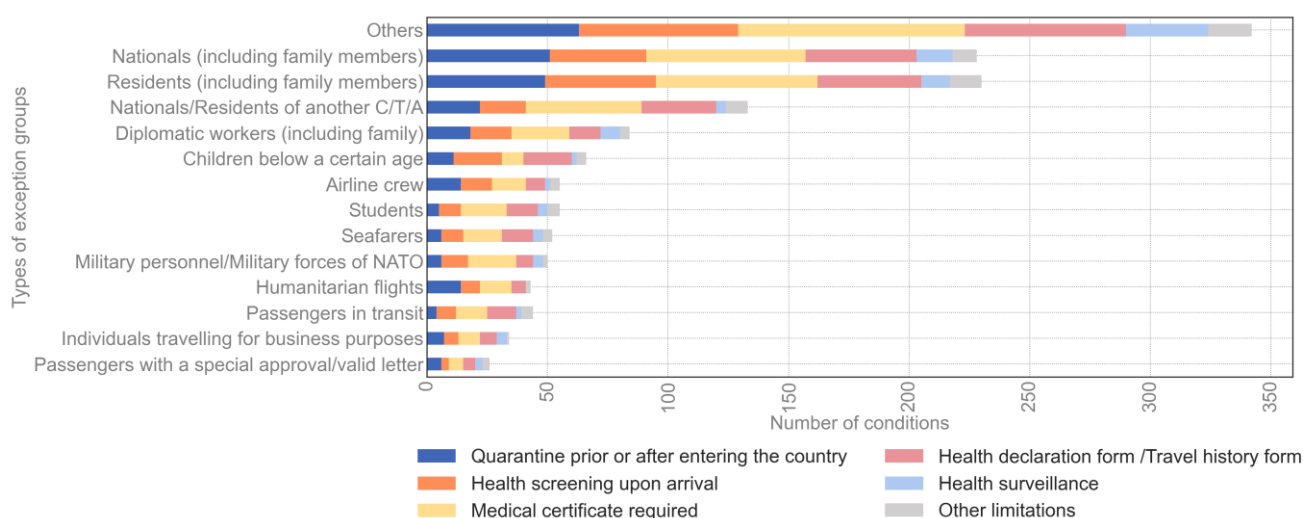
Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- As of 11 October 2021, a total of 993 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), Bosnia and Herzegovina (21), Ukraine (21), Belgium (18), Sweden (15), Austria (14), Montenegro (14), Norway (13), Philippines (13) and Finland (13).
- Between 4 and 11 October 2021, 8 countries, territories or areas issued 14 new exceptions, while 6 countries, territories or areas removed 10 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 152 have issued 1,618 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), Kuwait (37), Finland (36), the Netherlands (35), India (32), Thailand (31), Andorra (28) and Indonesia (28).
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was to provide a medical certificate upon arrival, which was issued at least 426 times, followed by a Health Declaration or Travel History Form 300 times.

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were removed.** Estonia removed exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from Albania, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Qatar, Rwanda, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Thailand, the United States of America or Kosovo⁵. Estonia also removed exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers entering Estonia to go back home and who have no symptoms of COVID-19.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were changed for residents and nationals.** The Russian Federation issued exceptions for nationals and residents of Andorra, Colombia, Denmark, Djibouti, Kuwait, New Zealand, Peru and South Africa; they are now exempt from the passenger ban. Finland issued exceptions for residents of Kuwait arriving on a direct flight from Kuwait, while residents of Singapore arriving on a direct flight from Singapore are no longer allowed to enter under this exception. Germany issued exceptions to the passenger ban for residents of Bahrain and United Arab Emirates and removed residents of Ukraine from the passenger ban list. Switzerland removed Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Moldova from the list of countries exempt from the passenger ban. Simultaneously, a passenger ban was issued on travellers arriving from Chile, Kuwait and Rwanda.
- **New exceptions to the passenger ban were issued.** Bulgaria issued an exception to the passenger ban for students with a document certifying admission to an education institution in Bulgaria. Previously, only students who had a visa issued by Bulgaria were exempt.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from select C/T/As were issued.** France issued exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from Australia, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Comoros, Japan, Jordan, New Zealand, Kuwait, Qatar, Rwanda, Senegal, United Arab Emirates. They must not have been outside these countries in the past 30 days. Estonia issued exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers residing in and arriving from Australia, Canada, Chile, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, New Zealand, Qatar, Rwanda, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Ukraine or Uruguay.
- **New exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers with a COVID-19 certificate were issued.** Portugal issued exceptions to its passenger ban for passengers with an EU Digital Covid Certificate (EU DCC); or passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival and issued in Albania, Andorra, Faroe Islands, Israel, Monaco, Morocco, North Macedonia, Panama, San Marino, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine or Holy See. Vaccines accepted are AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), Janssen, Moderna (Spikevax) and Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty). Malta issued new exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued in Bahrain and for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination card issued by the Ministry of Health of Kosovo*. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued exceptions to the passenger ban for residents of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia if they show proof of their COVID-19 vaccination obtained in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia before departure. Kuwait issued two new exceptions to the passenger ban for US military personnel with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated with AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), Janssen, Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty). Second, US military personnel with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated with Sinopharm, Sinovac or Sputnik V and that they also received one vaccine dose of AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), Janssen, Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty) are also exempt.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were changed.** Czechia issued exceptions to the passenger ban for nationals of Chile, Kuwait, Rwanda and Uruguay while removing exceptions for Singapore. Czechia also added exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers who, in the last 14 days, have only been in Chile, Kuwait, Malta, Portugal, Rwanda or Uruguay, while removing exceptions for passengers arriving from Hungary, Romania, Singapore or Slovakia. In addition, Czechia issued an exception to the passenger ban for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccine certificate issued in Bahrain, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Montenegro, Nepal, Peru, Singapore or Syrian Arab Republic, while removing this exception for those with certificates issued in Israel. The certificate must now be in English. Furthermore, Czechia issued an exception to its pre-flight COVID-19 PCR testing requirement for passengers arriving from Chile, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Rwanda, San Marino or Uruguay while removing this exception for those arriving from Luxembourg, Singapore or Slovakia. Thailand adjusted its exception to the passenger ban such that passengers travelling to Phuket (HKT) or Na Thon (Ko Samui (USM)) are exempt.
- **New exceptions to conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Passengers younger than 18 years old arriving to Argentina from Brazil, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay or Uruguay and who are travelling with fully vaccinated adults

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

are exempt from having a COVID-19 vaccination certificate. Czechia issued an exception to the COVID-19 testing requirement for passengers arriving on a direct flight from Austria, Germany, Poland or Slovakia with a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before and for a maximum stay in Czechia for 24 hours. Estonia issued exceptions to its self-isolation rules. Passengers arriving from Czechia, Hungary, Poland or Holy See are now exempt, as well as passengers arriving from Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain or Sweden with a negative COVID-19 PCR test result taken at most 72 hours or an antigen test taken at most 48 hours prior to arrival. Additionally, passenger arriving from Chile, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, New Zealand, Qatar, Rwanda and Kingdom Saudi Arabia are exempt from self-isolation.

- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate were issued.** The Gambia issued an exception to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated are now exempt.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate and arriving from specific C/T/As were issued.** Czechia issued an exception to its COVID-19 testing requirement for fully vaccinated passengers arriving from Nepal or Peru.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 recovery certificate were issued.** Estonia added an exception to the passenger ban for passengers with a COVID-19 recovery certificate issued at least 11 days and at most 180 days before arriving.
- **Exceptions for children were issued or changed.** Sweden issued exceptions to the COVID-19 test requirement at most 72 hours before arrival for unvaccinated passengers below 18 years old who are travelling with their fully vaccinated parent/guardian. Italy issued exceptions to the 10-day quarantine requirement for children younger than 18 years old who are accompanied by a parent with either a COVID-19 vaccination certificate, a negative COVID-19 test in the past 48 hours or a COVID-19 recovery certificate.