

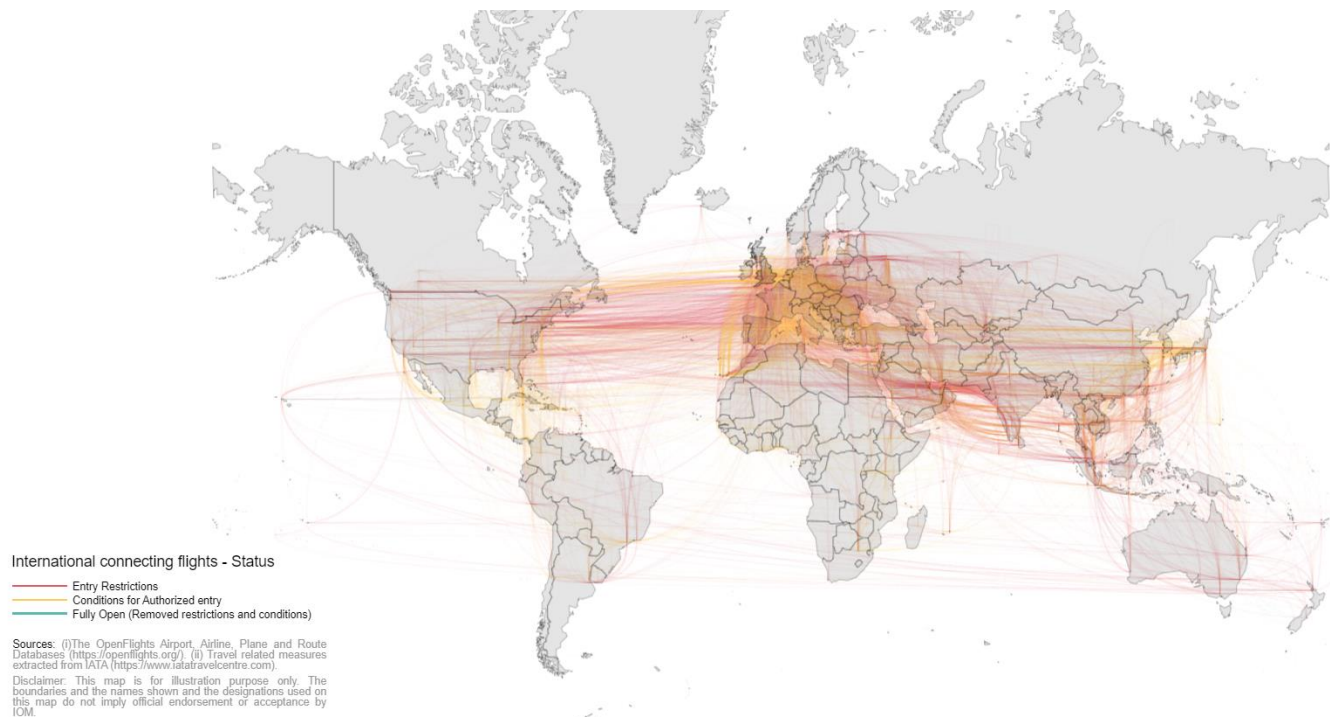
Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 13 December 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](#).

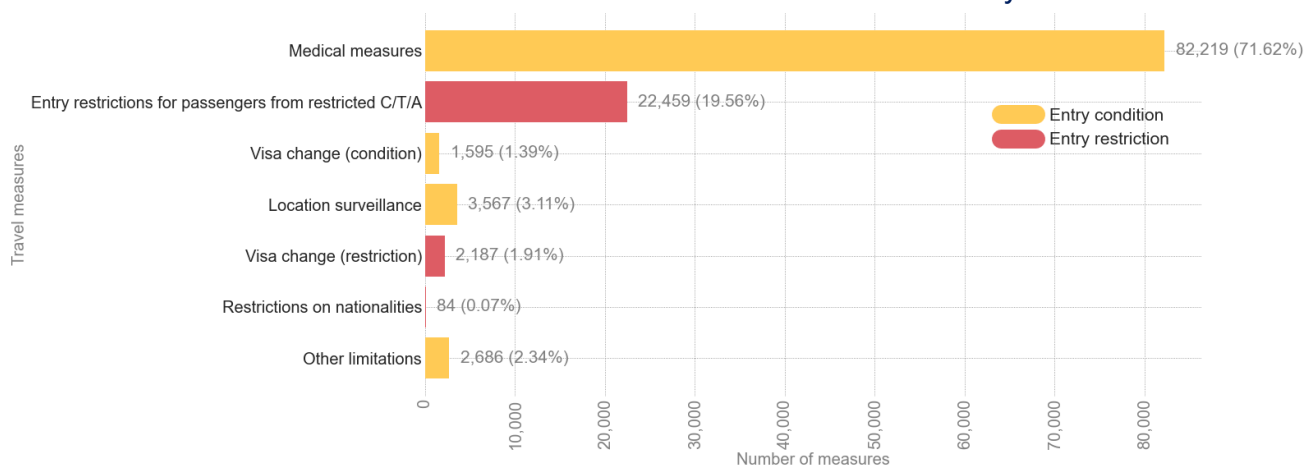
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities 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 emergence of a new variant of COVID-19 has resulted in the issuance and extensions of new travel restrictions for further detailed information on variant related travel restrictions refer to the supplementary ['Impact of COVID-19 on International Flights – Omicron Variant'](#) report for 13 December 2021. As of 13 December 2021, a total of 267 million cases¹ of COVID-19 have been recorded globally, including more than 5.2 million deaths. Simultaneously, the [World Health Organization](#) reports more than 8.1 billion doses of the vaccine have been administered globally as of 13 December 2021. A total of 228 countries, territories or areas (C/T/As) have issued 114,797 travel related measures as of 13 December 2021, indicating a slight increase of almost one per cent (0.5%) from 116,646 travel related measures issued on 29 November 2021. Of these, 24,730 were reported as entry restrictions and 90,067 were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was a two per cent increase in entry restrictions and no change (0.1%) in conditions for authorized entry. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was a decrease of eight per cent in other limitations such as travel insurance. In terms of entry restrictions, there was a decrease of 11 per cent on bans issued on specific nationalities and a 13 per cent increase in visa suspensions. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 206 countries, territories or areas have issued 1,011 exceptions enabling mobility. Between 13 December and 29 November 2021, 47 countries, territories or areas issued 68 new exceptions whilst 61 countries, territories or areas removed 115 exceptions.

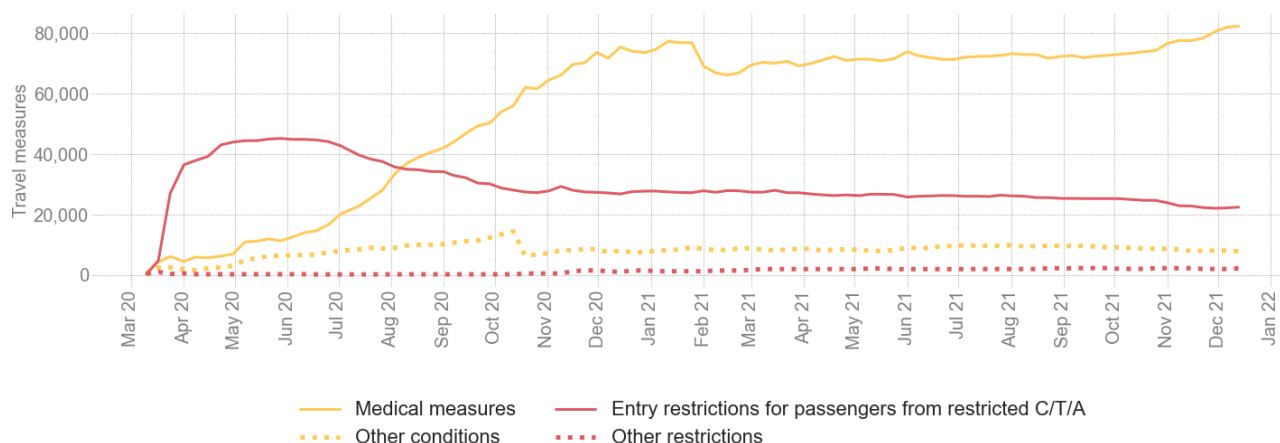
Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry



As of 13 December 2021, 228 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As represent 20 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 72 per cent of the total number of conditions and restrictions. In contrast, visa requirements represent 3 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

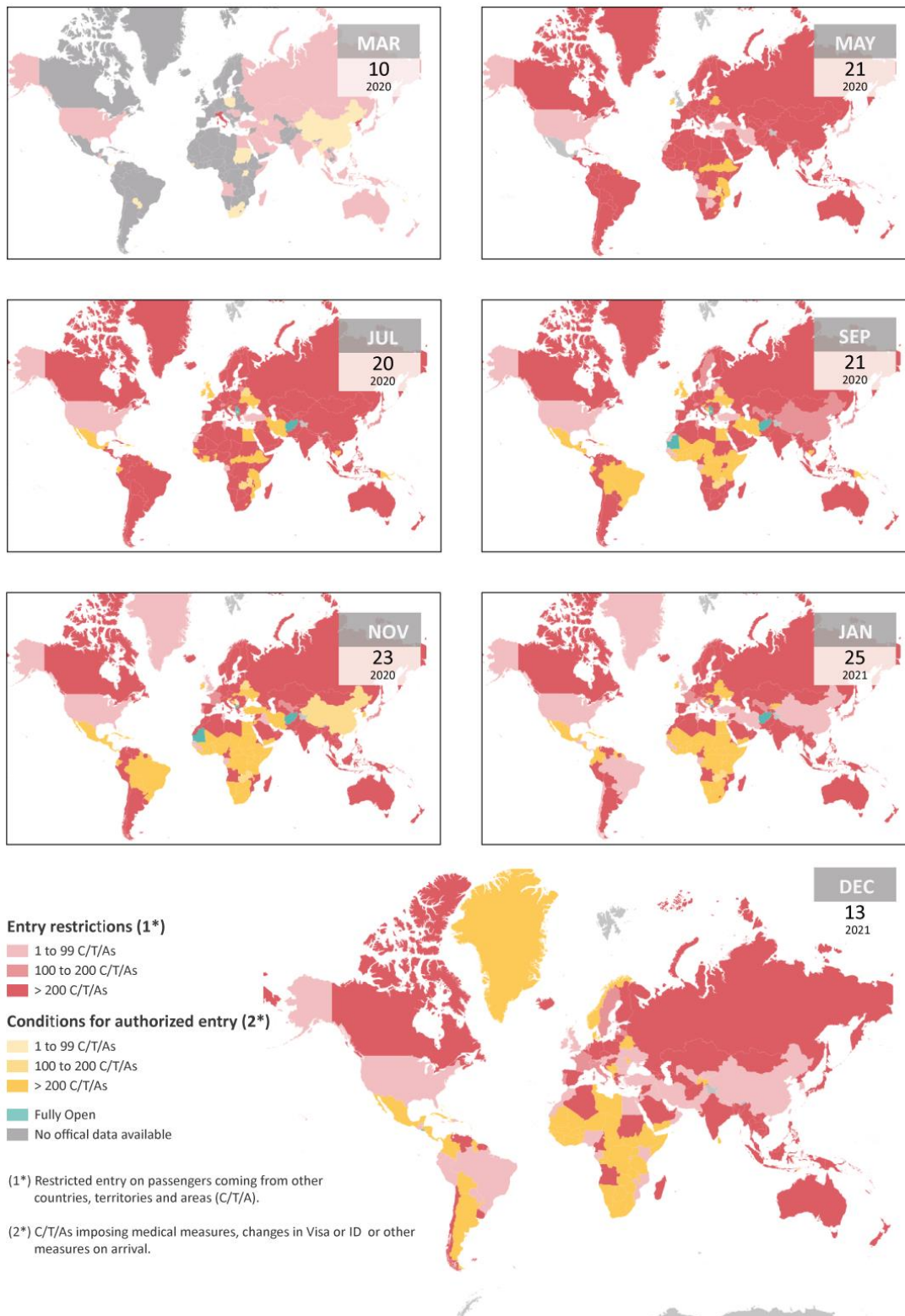
Changes in the number of travel measures over time, by type



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

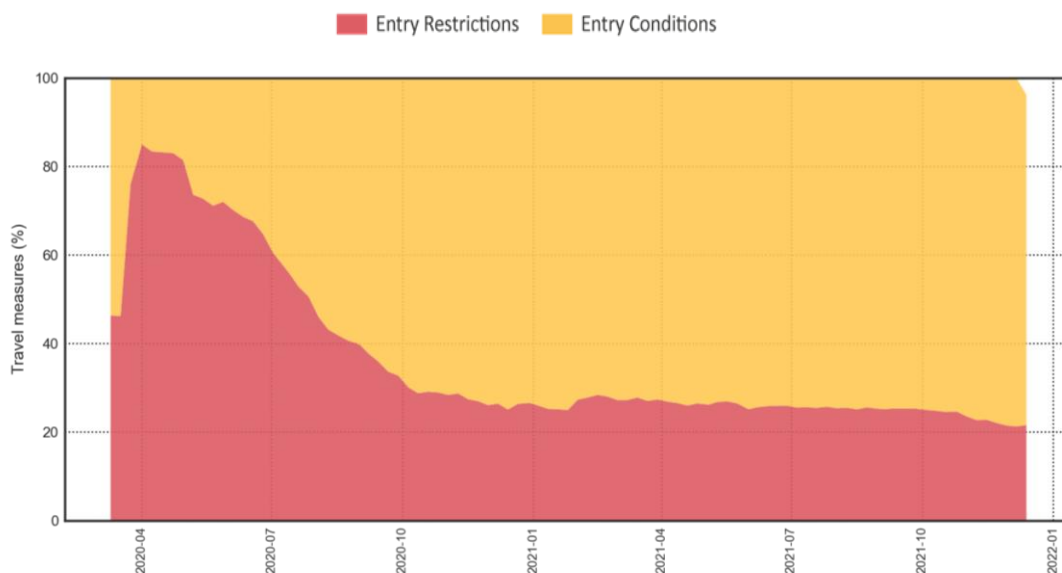
Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, Over Time

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 13 December 2021, 228 out of 247 C/T/As (92%) have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.



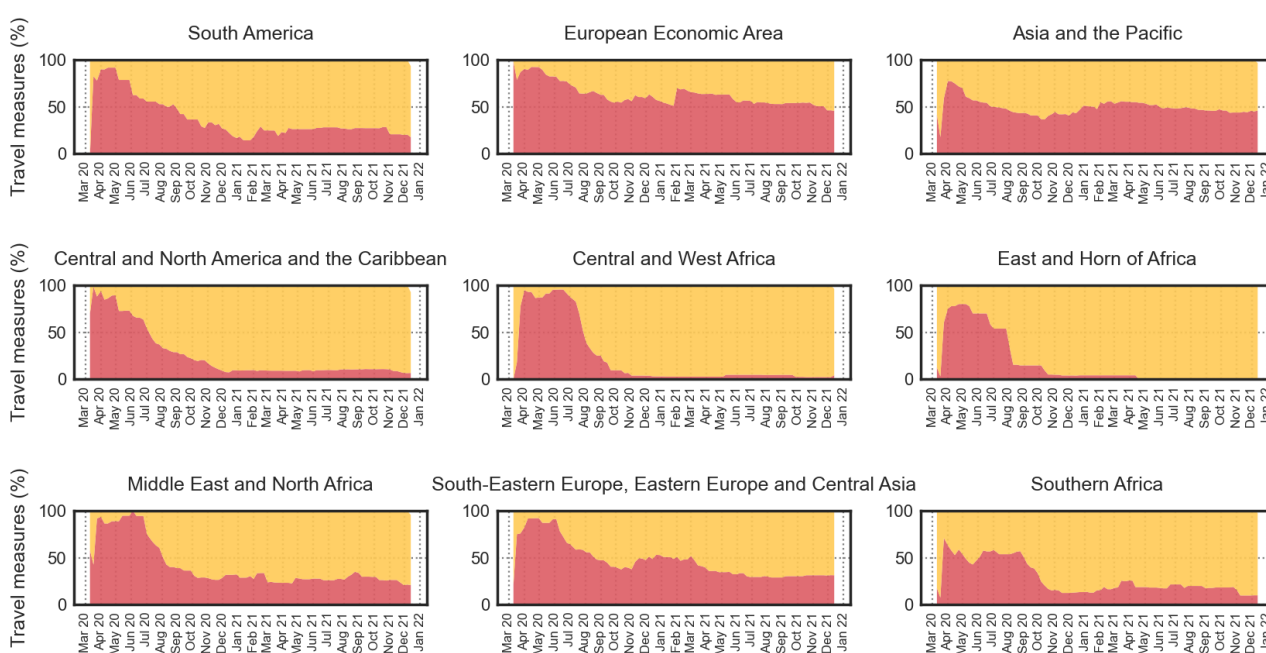
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 21 per cent, as of 13 December 2021.

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 13 December 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.

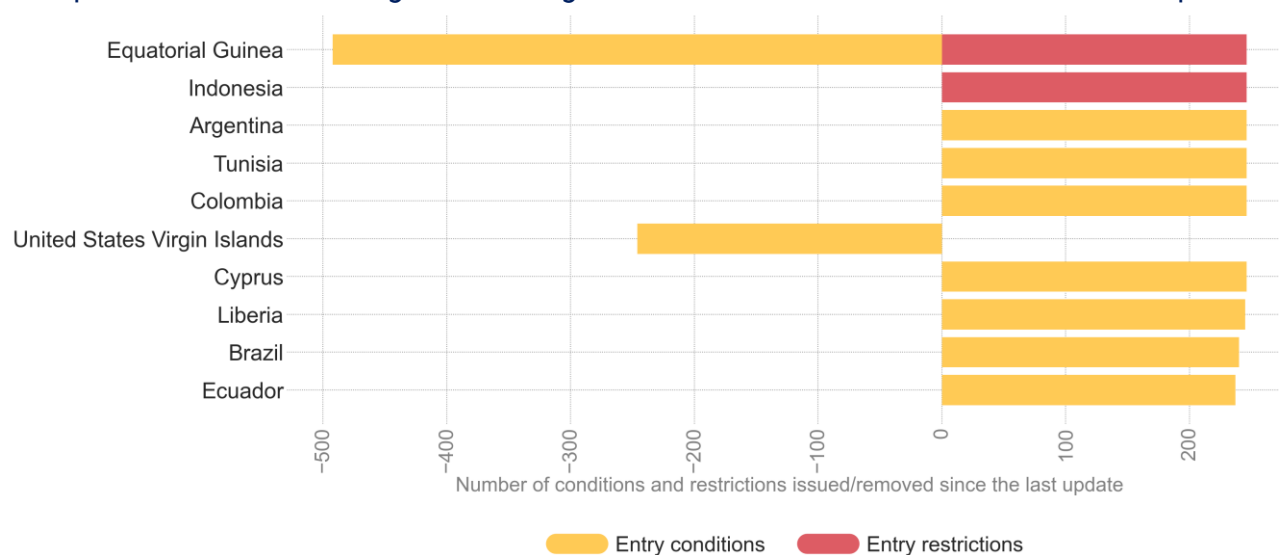
Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



■ 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 6 and 13 December 2021, 29 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry. While 13 C/T/As removed existing conditions for authorized entry, 8 C/T/As removed total restrictions. There were 11 and/or 10 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 update²



Key Highlights

- Existing entry bans on all non-exempt passengers were extended by Greece until 17 December 2021.
- Flight suspensions were extended by India until 31 January 2021 and by Equatorial Guinea until 2 January 2022 (with exceptions for repatriation flights).
- **Passenger bans were lifted.** Pakistan lifted the passenger ban on Armenia, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Iraq, Mexico, Mongolia, Thailand and Trinidad and Tobago. New Zealand lifted the passenger ban on passengers arriving from Fiji, Indonesia and Pakistan.
- **New passenger bans were issued.** The Philippines issued a passenger ban on nationals arriving from or having been in France in the last 14 days; they are not allowed to enter. Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China issued a passenger ban on travellers who have been in Argentina, Chile, Cook Island, Croatia, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Iceland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sweden, Tunisia, Estonia and Uganda in the in the past 21 days. Pakistan issued a passenger ban on travellers arriving from Croatia, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, Poland, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.
- **Conditions for authorized entry were removed.** Czechia removed exceptions to its COVID-19 PCR test requirement for passengers arriving from France, Italy and Malta.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Samoa added a new requirement for passengers and airline crew; they must have a printed COVID-19 vaccination certificate in English showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before departure. Vaccines accepted are AstraZeneca (SK Bioscience), Astrazeneca (Vaxzevria), Covaxin, Covishield, Janssen, Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Sinopharm and Sinovac. This does not apply to passengers younger than 12 years old. Liberia issued a new condition for authorized entry. All passengers must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival. This does not apply to passengers younger than 18 years old. Cyprus issued new conditions for authorized entry. All passengers are subject to a COVID-19 test on arrival at their own expense. In addition, Côte d'Ivoire issued new conditions for authorized entry requiring all passengers to undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival. Guam added new requirements for exempt passengers; they must provide a vaccine certificate showing they were vaccinated at least four weeks before arrival. All passengers entering

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

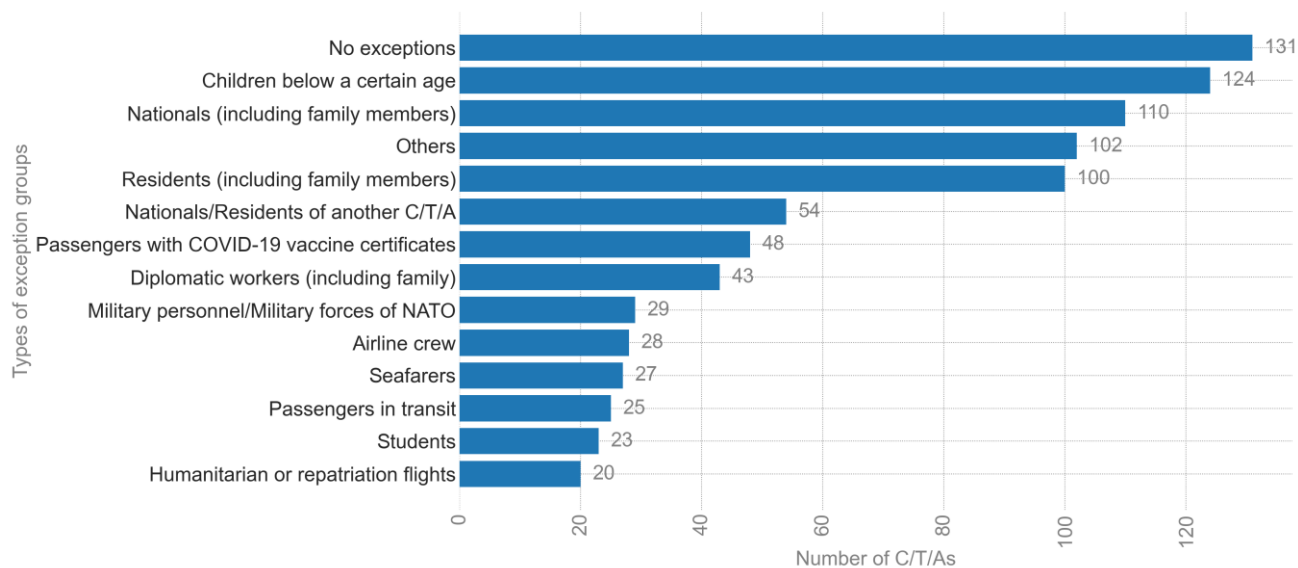
Ecuador are subject to medical screening upon arrival. Colombia issued new conditions for authorized entry such that passengers must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival or a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they received the first vaccine dose and a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before boarding. However, this does not apply to nationals and residents of Colombia and to passengers younger than 18 years. Liberia issued new conditions for authorized entry. Passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test issued at most 96 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. In addition, passengers must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival.

- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued for passengers arriving from select C/T/As.** Djibouti issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers arriving from Pakistan; they must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated. This does not apply to passengers younger than 25 years old. Suriname issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers arriving from Cuba. They must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least two weeks before arrival. Vaccines accepted are AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), AZD1222 (SK Bioscience Co Ltd.), Covishield, Janssen, Moderna (Spikevax), Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Sinopharm and Sinovac; and a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 24 hours before departure, or a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure; and a return/onward ticket. The return/onward ticket requirement does not apply to nationals and residents of Suriname.
- **Conditions for authorized entry were specified.** Bermuda modified the requirements for its travel authorization form such that passengers must complete it at least one day and not more than three days prior to departure. Additionally, fully vaccinated passengers are now permitted to take a COVID-19 PCR test four, rather than three, days before arrival, or an antigen test at most three days before arrival. Pakistan specified the test (PCR) and reduced the duration of the test validity from 72 hours to 48 hours, for the measure that passengers must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 48 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. The test result must be in Arabic or English. Brazil specified the condition for authorized entry that passengers and airline crew must complete a "Traveller's Health Declaration" form at most 24 hours before departure from the first embarkation point and present it upon arrival. Nationals and residents of Peru must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival and a negative COVID-19 NAAT test result issued at most 48 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.
- **Changes to conditions for authorized entry were made.** Guam changed the timeframe for a mandatory COVID-19 test before departure for all incoming passengers. Now, the test must be taken at most one day before departure, down from three days before departure. Antigua and Barbuda updated their medical requirements such that pre-departure COVID-19 antigen tests are no longer accepted in place of COVID-19 vaccination certificates; only COVID-19 PCR tests are accepted. Cabo Verde adjusted its conditions for authorized entry. Passengers and airline crew must have a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before departure from the first embarkation point; or a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. A COVID-19 vaccination certificate or a recovery certificate are no longer accepted in lieu of a COVID-19 test. The United States of America modified its pre-travel COVID-19 testing requirement such that vaccinated passengers must take a test one day, rather than three days, before departure. France moved Mauritius from the 'scarlet list' to the 'red list' of C/T/As. This means passengers arriving from Mauritius can present a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before departure for entry; previously, it was 24 hours before departure.
- Portugal adjusted its conditions for authorized entry such that that passengers entering or transiting through Portugal must have a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before departure from the first embarkation point; or a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken at most 48 hours before departure from the first embarkation point; or a negative COVID-19 NAAT, PCR or RT-PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point; or an EU Digital Covid Certificate (EU DCC) as proof of recovery; or a COVID-19 recovery certificate issued by Albania, Andorra, Armenia, El Salvador, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Israel, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or Holy See.
- **Quarantine measures were issued and/or modified.** Brazil issued a new condition for authorized entry. Passengers are subject to self-quarantine for five days. This does not apply to passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before departure from the first embarkation point.
- **COVID-19 vaccination requirements were expanded.** Israel added COVAXIN to the list of accepted vaccines as exceptions to the conditions for authorized entry requiring airline crew to self-isolate until their next flight.

- **COVID-19 recovery certificate requirements were expanded.** Greece specified that COVID-19 recovery certificates must be issued at least 30 days and at most 90 days after testing positive. Certificates issued before 15 July 2021 are not accepted. The United States of America clarified that passengers with a recovery certificate must have had a positive test at most 90 days before departure from first embarkation point.

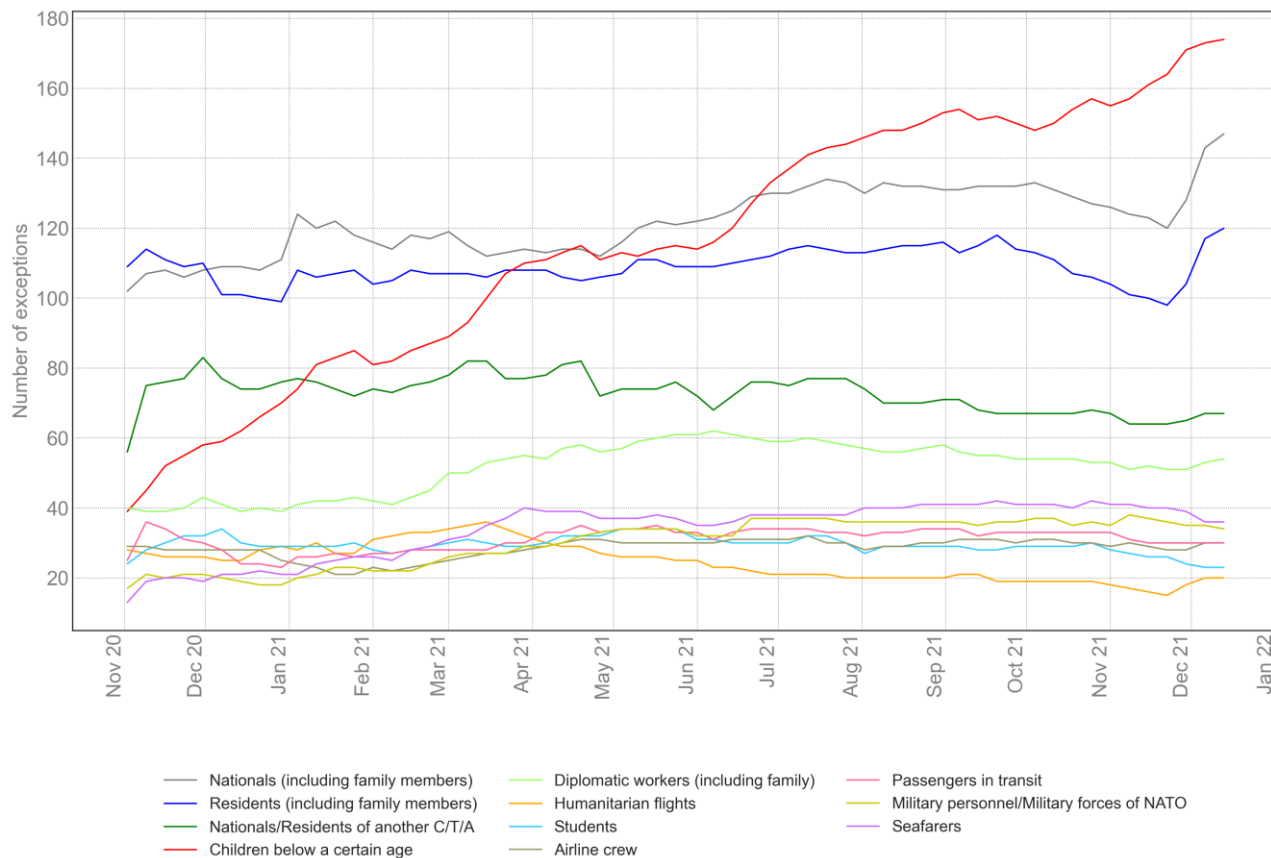
■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Number of C/T/As by type of exception³



C/T/As are most likely to issue at least one exception for children below a certain age (124). Exceptions for Nationals and for Residents and their families, issued at least once by 110 and 100 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.

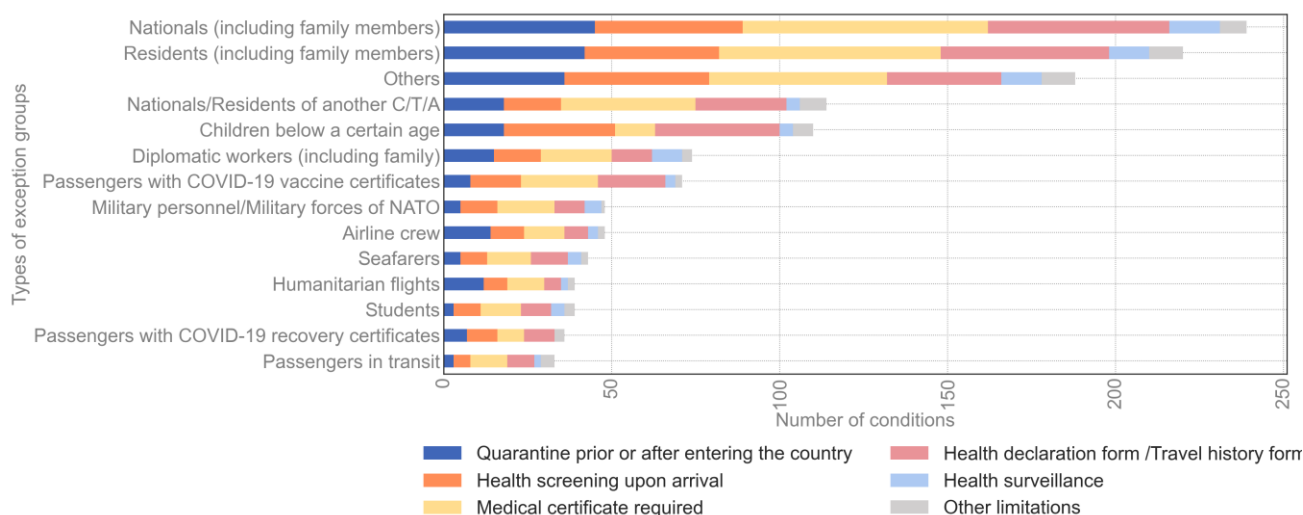
Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- As of 13 December 2021, a total of 1,011 exceptions, enabling mobility, have been issued by 206 C/T/As.
- The C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were the Netherlands (23), Bosnia and Herzegovina (21), Belgium (18), United States of America (18), Ukraine (17), Germany (14), Sweden (14), Finland (14), Serbia (13) and Cyprus (13).
- Between 6 and 13 December 2021, 47 countries, territories or areas issued 68 new exceptions, while 61 countries, territories or areas removed 115 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 206 C/T/As issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 162 have issued 1,617 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 Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (40), the Netherlands (35), Andorra (33), Spain (33), Indonesia (32), Curaçao (32), Singapore (30), United States of America (30), Norway (30) and Uruguay (29).
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was to provide a medical certificate upon arrival, which was issued at least 395 times, followed by a Health Declaration or Travel History Form 314 times.

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were issued.** Solomon Islands issued an exception for passengers with approval from the Oversight Committee. Qatar issued exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from the Cayman Islands, Chile, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates and Wallis and Futuna Islands.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were removed for nationals and/or residents.** Nationals of Jordan residing in Jordan with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before departure, and who have not been outside of Jordan for more than 10 days are no longer exempt from the measure that passengers entering or transiting through Jordan must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. The test result for passengers arriving from Egypt, Iraq or Turkey must be issued by an approved laboratory. Belgium removed exceptions for residents of Jordan and Namibia; they are no longer exempt from the passenger ban on arrivals or transit. Residents of Jordan and Namibia now need an 'Essential Travel Certificate' issued by Belgium.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban for were removed.** Canada removed an exception to its passenger ban for dual nationals of Canada with a Special Authorization approval email.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were changed.** Suriname adjusted its exceptions to the passenger ban such that passengers older than 17 years old with a COVID-19 recovery certificate and a positive COVID-19 test taken at least 14 days and at most three months before arrival are now exempt from the entry ban. France adjusted its exceptions to the passenger ban. Passengers arriving from Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland or Holy See are exempt from the passenger ban if they have not been outside these countries in the past 30 days. Previously, the limit had been 14 days.
- **Exceptions to conditions for authorized entry were removed.** The United States of America removed exceptions to its pre-travel COVID-19 testing requirement for military personnel.
- **Exceptions to conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Qatar issued exceptions to the condition for authorized entry that passengers and airline crew must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before arrival. Nationals and residents of Qatar with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated with AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), Covaxin, Covishield, Janssen, Moderna (Spikevax), Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Sinopharm, Sinovac or Sputnik V, at least 14 days before arrival, and arriving from the Cayman Islands, Chile, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates and Wallis and Futuna Islands are exempt from this condition. Qatar also issued exceptions to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must complete the "Undertaking and Acknowledgment Form" before arrival. Nationals and residents of Qatar with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated with AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), Covaxin, Covishield, Janssen, Moderna (Spikevax), Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty), Sinopharm, Sinovac or Sputnik V, at least 14 days before arrival, and arriving from the Cayman Islands, Chile, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates and Wallis and Futuna Islands are exempt from this condition.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate were issued.** Australia added an exception for mandatory vaccine certificate for passengers younger than 12 years traveling with a fully vaccinated parent/guardian. Brazil issued a new exception to the condition for authorized entry that airline crew are subject to quarantine in a hotel room until their next flight. Airline crew with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before departure from the first embarkation point are now exempt from this condition.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate from specific C/T/As were issued.** Czechia issued exemptions to its passenger ban and pre-departure COVID-19 PCR test requirement for passengers with vaccine certificates from El Salvador and Japan. Portugal adjusted its exceptions to the passenger ban; passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival and issued in Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Colombia, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, New Zealand, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates or Uruguay are now exempt from the passenger ban.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate from specific C/T/As were removed.** Czechia has extended passenger ban to include passengers with vaccine certificates issued in Uzbekistan.

- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 recovery certificate from specific C/T/As were issued.** Hungary issued an exception to its passenger ban for passengers with an immunity COVID-19 certificate issued by Armenia, El Salvador, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore and Togo.
- **Exceptions for children were issued or changed.** New Caledonia specified that passengers younger than 18 years old, up from 11 years old, are exempt from showing a vaccine certificate and negative test. In addition, passengers younger than 18 years old arriving in Argentina are exempt from having a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival.
- Exceptions to the visa suspension were issued by Indonesia. This suspension does not apply to passengers with a British diplomatic passport and nationals of Argentina, Brazil, People's Republic of China, France, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russian Federation, South Africa and Turkey with a diplomatic or service passport participating in the G20 event.