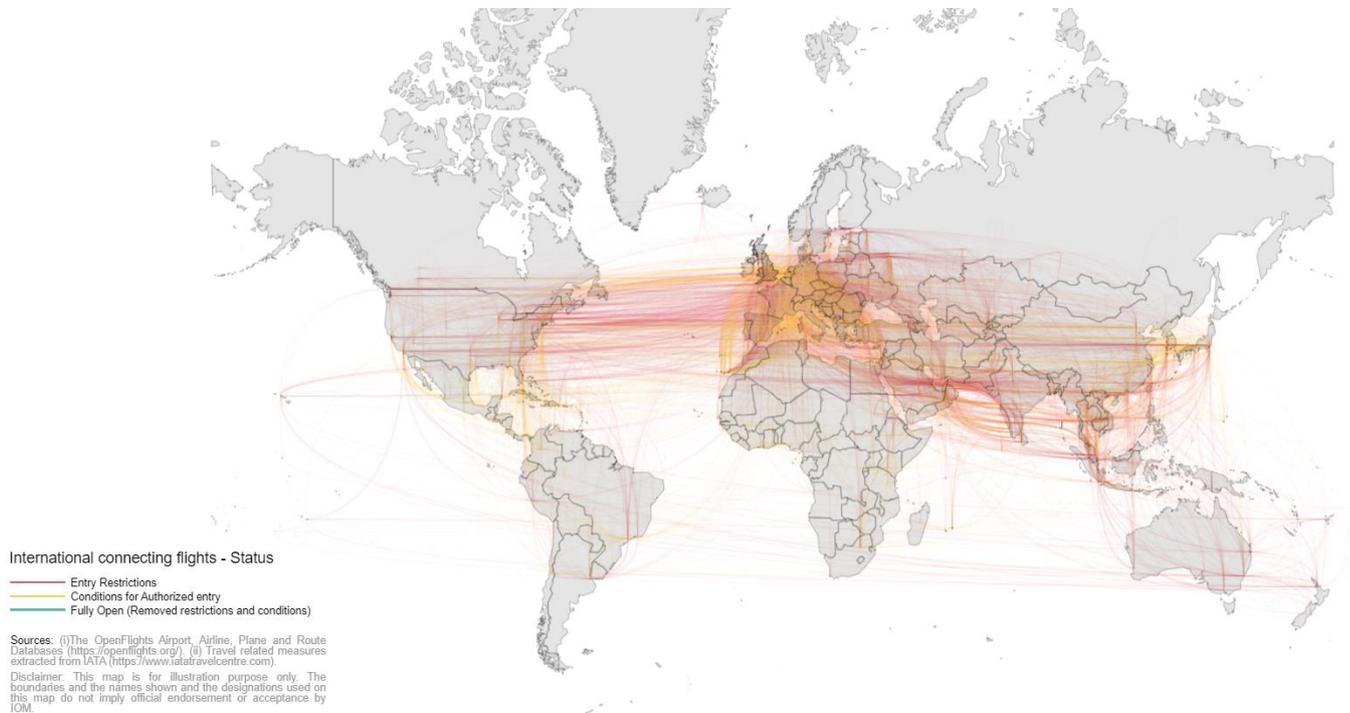


# Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 3 January 2022



COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series  
<https://migration.iom.int> • [dtmccovid19@iom.int](mailto: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](#).

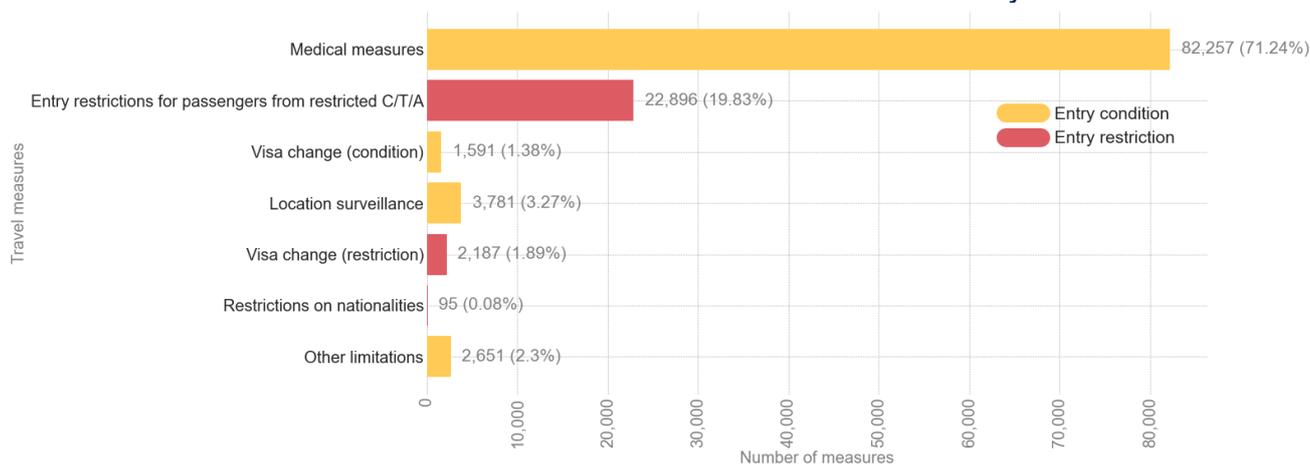
**Disclaimer:** This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities 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](mailto:dtmccovid19@iom.int) to ensure consistency of information in the database repository.

## Overview

The emergence of a new variant of COVID-19 continues to impact 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 5 January 2022. As of 29 December 2021, a total of 281 million cases<sup>1</sup> of COVID-19 have been recorded globally, including more than 5.4 million deaths. Simultaneously, the World Health Organization reports more than 8.6 billion doses of the vaccine have been administered globally as of 3 January 2022. A total of 228 countries, territories or areas (C/T/As) have issued 115,458 travel related measures as of 3 January 2022, indicating almost no change (0.16%) from 115,275 travel related measures issued on 29 December 2021. Of these, 25,178 were reported as entry restrictions and 90,280 were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was an increase of almost one per cent in entry restrictions and no change (-0.05%) in conditions for authorized entry. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was an increase of eight per cent in other limitations such as travel insurance and an increase of five per cent in location surveillance such as passenger locator forms. In terms of entry restrictions, there was an increase of one per cent in both, route restrictions and on nationals of specific C/T/As. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 210 countries, territories or areas have issued 996 exceptions enabling mobility. Between 27 December 2021 and 3 January 2022, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 9 new exceptions whilst 8 countries, territories or areas removed 17 exceptions.

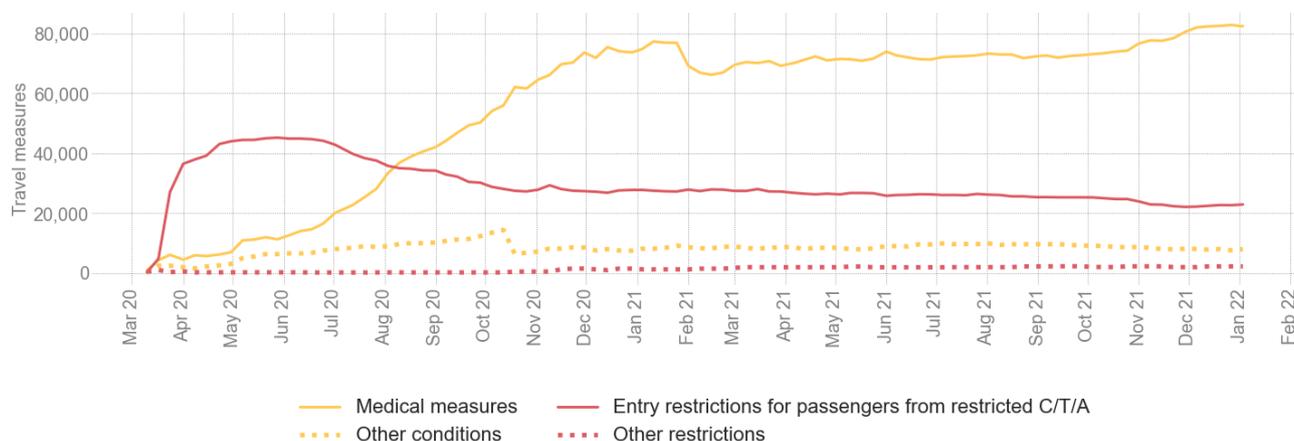
## Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry



As of 3 January 2022, 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 71 per cent of the total number of conditions and restrictions. In contrast, visa requirements represent 3 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

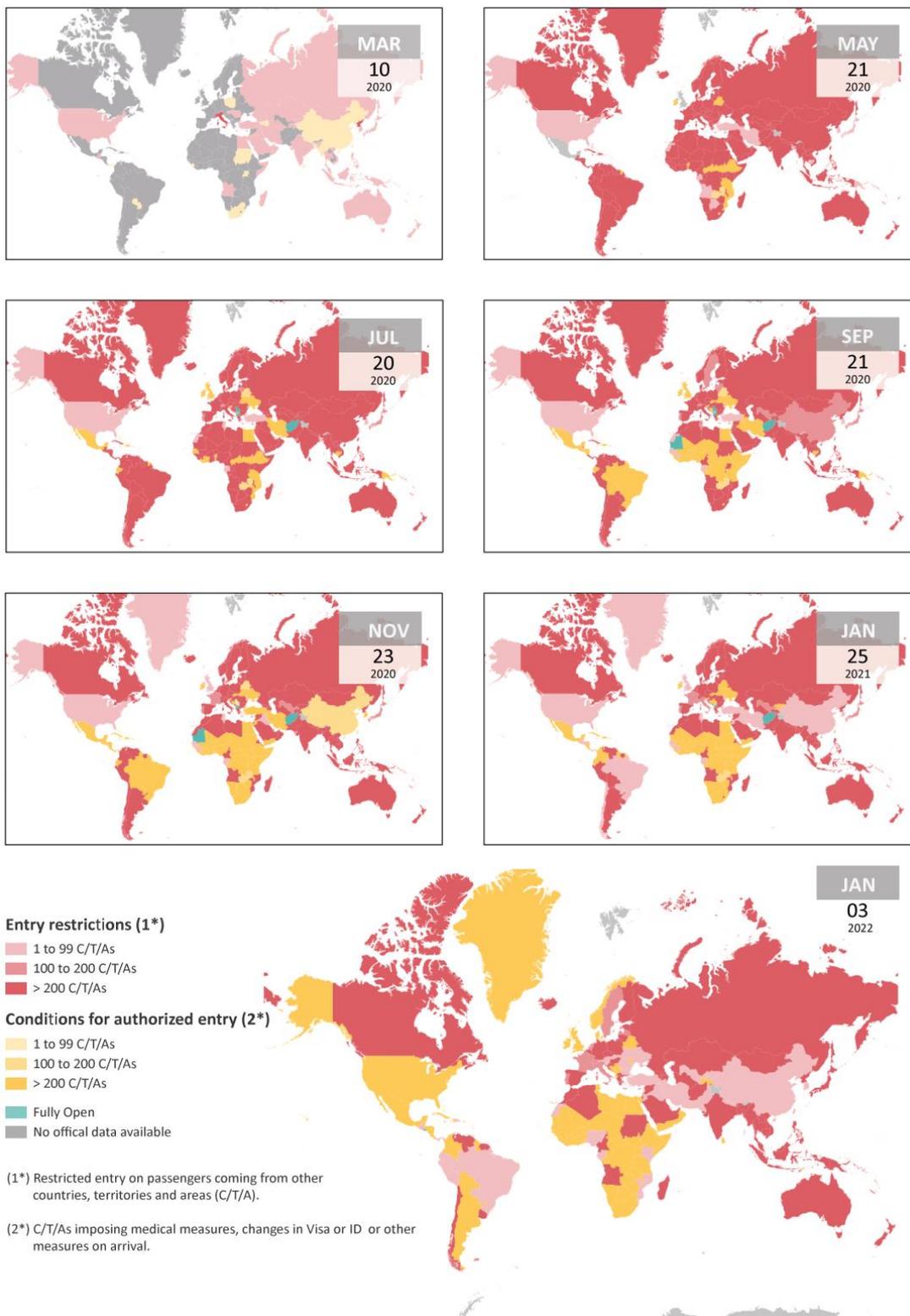
Changes in the number of travel measures over time, by type



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

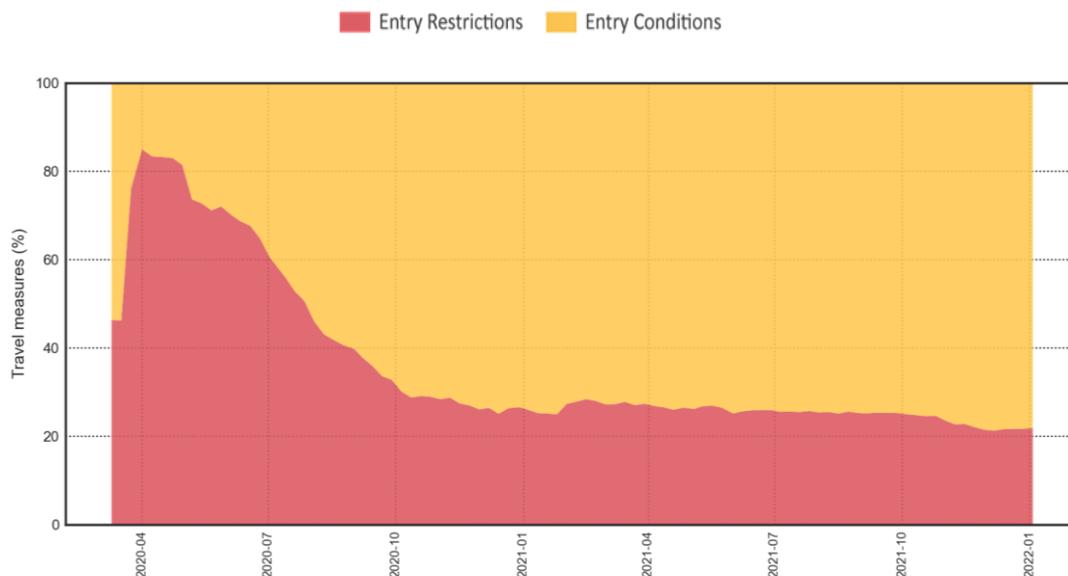
## ■ Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, Over Time

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 3 January 2022, 228 out of 247 C/T/As (92%) have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.



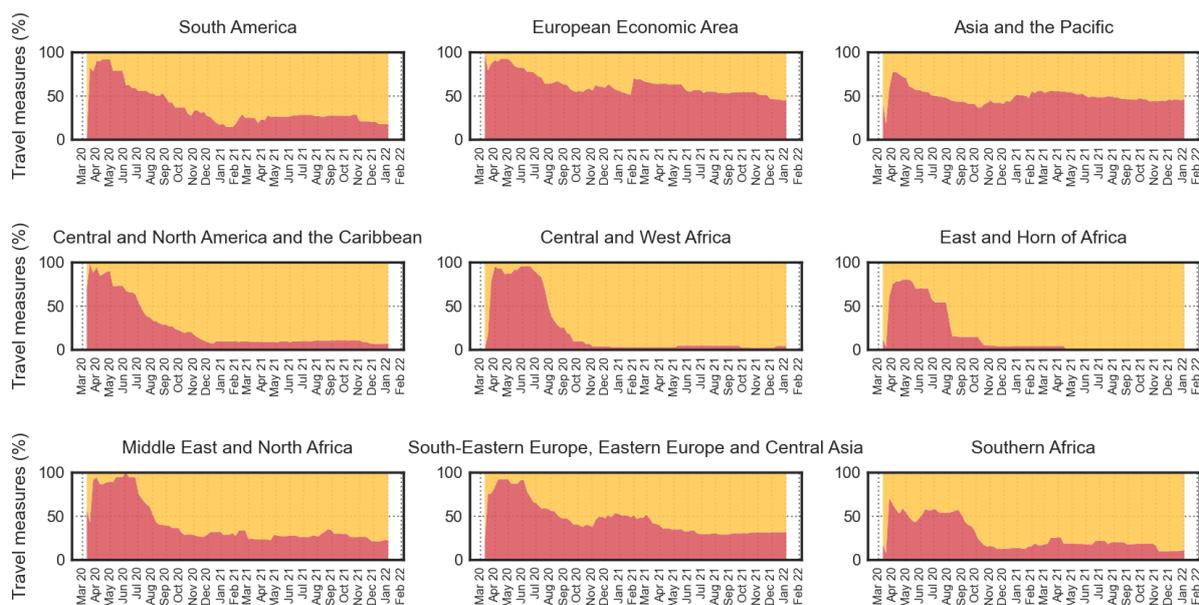
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 21 per cent, as of 3 January 2022.

### 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 3 January 2022. 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.

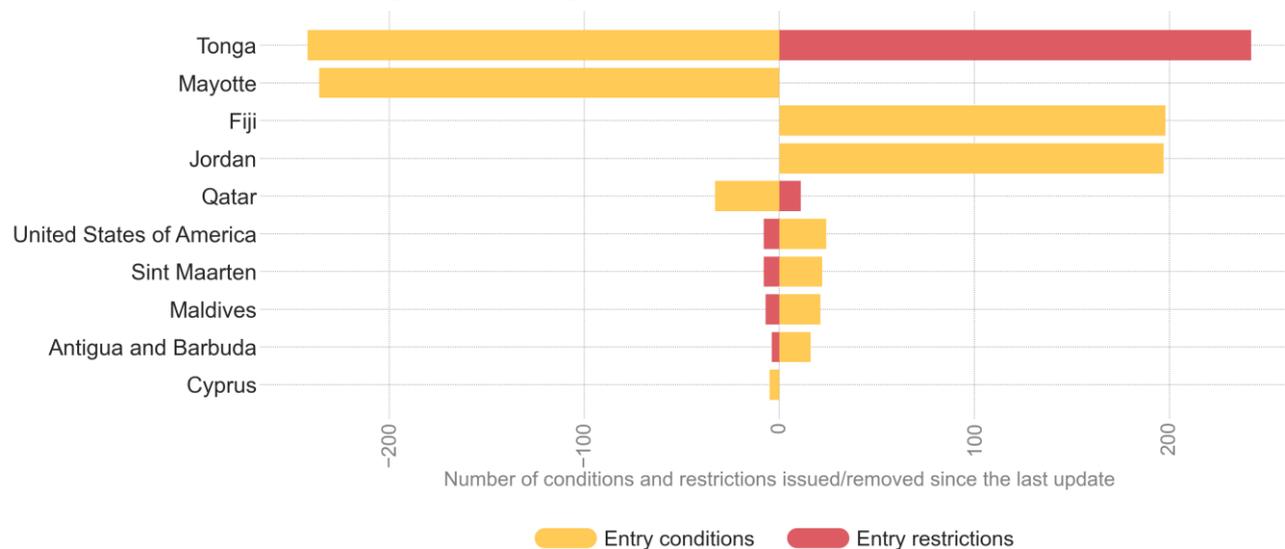
### Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



## ■ 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 29 December 2021 and 3 January 2022, 14 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry. While 6 C/T/As removed existing conditions for authorized entry, 5 C/T/As removed total restrictions. There were 7 and/or 3 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<sup>2</sup>



### Key Highlights

- Existing entry bans on all non-exempt passengers were extended by Croatia, Marshall Islands and Vanuatu until 31 January 2022, by Malta until 15 February 2022 and by Luxembourg and Mongolia until 31 March 2022.
- Japan extended its passenger ban on all non-exempt passengers until further notice.
- France moved Canada and Comoros from the green list to the orange list (only French Nationals are permitted to return) and added the Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America to the red list (only passengers with compelling reasons can return).
- **Passenger bans were lifted** by Iraq on nationals of India.
- **New passenger bans were issued.** Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China issued a passenger ban on travellers who, in the past 21 days, have been in or transited through Albania, Aruba, Barbados, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Brunei Darussalam, Cayman Islands, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Guadeloupe, Guinea, Jamaica, Libya, Malta, Myanmar, North Macedonia, Palestinian Territories, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Reunion, Serbia, St. Martin, Togo, Ukraine, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and Grenadines and Uruguay. Russian Federation issued a passenger ban on nationals and residents of Kenya adding the country to the list of countries where passengers and airline crew who have been in them in the past 10 days are not allowed to enter. Russian nationals arriving from Kenya are subject to a COVID-19 antigen test upon arrival. Tonga issued a total passenger ban with an exception for nationals and residents of Tonga as well as passengers with an approval from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, such passengers must register online before departure and have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Additionally, passengers are subject to quarantine for 21 days.
- **Conditions for authorized entry for nationals were removed.** Indonesia removed the condition for authorized entry requiring nationals of Indonesia to return via specified routes: Jakarta (CGK), Manado (MDC) or Surabaya (SUB). Nationals of Thailand traveling under the Alternative Quarantine (AQ) scheme do not require a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test.

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

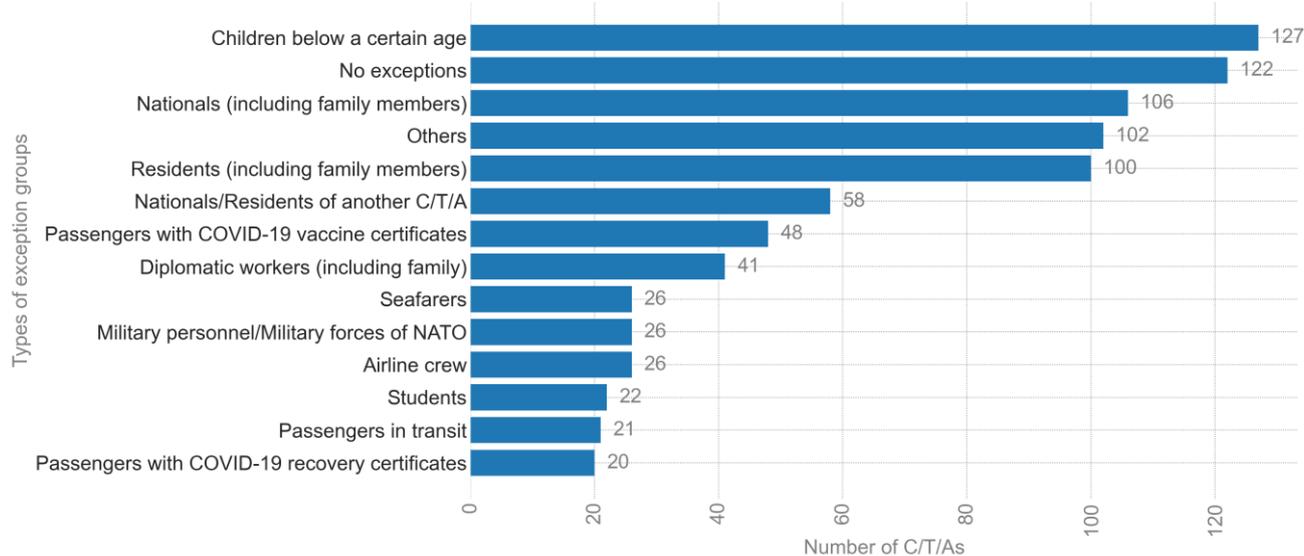
- **Other conditions for authorized entry were removed.** Effective 7 January 2022, the Bahamas will no longer accept an antigen test for passengers between 2 and 11 years old and for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated. Fiji removed the condition for authorized entry that passengers entering or transiting through Fiji arriving from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or the United States of America must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most one day before departure from the first embarkation point.
- **Extensions of the validity of official documents were issued.** National ID cards issued to nationals of Portugal which have expired on 24 February 2020 or later are considered valid until 31 March 2022. Likewise, residence permits issued by Portugal which have expired on 24 February 2020 or later are considered valid until 31 March 2022. Turkey extended the recognition of diplomatic and official passports which expired on 31 July 2020 or later, and which are issued to Macedonian nationals, as valid until 31 March 2022. Previously, the passports and official documents would have been recognized as valid until only 31 December 2021.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Sri Lanka issued a new condition for authorized entry; all passengers must submit a Health Declaration Form online. Guadeloupe issued a new condition for authorized entry. All passengers are required to present a negative COVID-19 antigen or PCR test taken at most 24 hours from departure from first embarkation point. Passengers under 12 years old are exempt. India issued new conditions for authorized entry on passengers arriving from Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, People's Republic of China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Republic of Tanzania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe who are subject to a COVID-19 antigen or RT-PCR test upon arrival at their own expense. Passengers traveling to Bangalore (BLR), Chennai (MAA), Delhi (DEL), Hyderabad (HYD), Kolkata (CCU) or Mumbai (BOM) must pre-pay for the test online.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued for passengers arriving from select C/T/As.** Republic of Moldova issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers who in the last 14 days have been in or transited through Andorra, Argentina, Aruba, Belgium, Bermuda, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, Botswana, Canada, Cabo Verde, Cayman Islands, Cyprus, Croatia, Curaçao, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Gibraltar, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, United States of America or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken 72 hours before departure. For passengers to which this does not apply, there is the option to present an antigen test or a vaccination certificate; and those passengers who do not present a negative PCR test, antigen test, or vaccination certificate, are subject to completing an Epidemiological Card and a 14-day quarantine.
- **New conditions for authorized entry were issued for nationals and residents.** Oman issued a new condition for authorized entry; nationals of Oman and United Arab Emirates need to have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 14 days before arrival to enter Oman (other passengers need to have a negative test taken at most 96 hours before arrival if arriving on a flight that takes eight hours, or a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before arrival if arriving on a flight that takes less than 8 hours). Also, residents of Oman now must have a COVID-19 vaccination certificate showing that they were fully vaccinated. Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China issued new entry requirements for nationals of Thailand. "SPECIAL ENTRY PERMIT FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK" visas issued to nationals of Thailand (who have "FL" stated on the remarks page and which expired between 19 May 2021 and 19 August 2021) are considered valid until 31 May 2022.
- **Conditions for authorized entry were specified.** Mayotte specified its condition for authorized entry such that now all passengers must have a negative COVID-19 antigen or RT-PCR test taken at most 24 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. This does not apply to passengers younger than 12 years old. Sweden specified which COVID-19 tests are accepted in the 48-hour period (previously 72 hours) prior to departure. Antigen and NAAT tests in addition to LAMP, PCR and TMA tests are now accepted. Cyprus specified that passengers arriving from New Zealand do not need a COVID-19 PCR test.
- **Changes to conditions for authorized entry were made.** United Republic of Tanzania removed Afghanistan, Brazil, Indonesia, Peru and Philippines from the list of countries from which passengers are required to take a COVID-19 test upon arrival. New Caledonia changed the period from 72 hours for a COVID-19 RT-PCR tests or 48 hours for COVID-19 antigen tests to tests taken at most 24 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Kyrgyzstan adjusted its conditions for authorized entry such that now passengers have the option of presenting a certificate showing they were

fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Previously, passengers had to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test. French Polynesia changed its condition for authorized entry. Passengers must have a negative COVID-19 antigen or RT-PCR test taken at most 24 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Previously it had been 48 hours. Fiji adjusted its condition for authorized entry such that passengers must now have a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken at most two days before departure from the first embarkation point. Previously, this had been three days. Mongolia specified the exception for passengers requiring a negative COVID-19 PCR test result 72 hours prior to travel; previously, passengers with a positive test and recovery certificate issued four months prior to travel was accepted, however this has been reduced to three months.

- **COVID-19 vaccination requirements were expanded.** Ghana specified that COVID-19 vaccinations are accepted regardless of the period in which the last dose was administered.

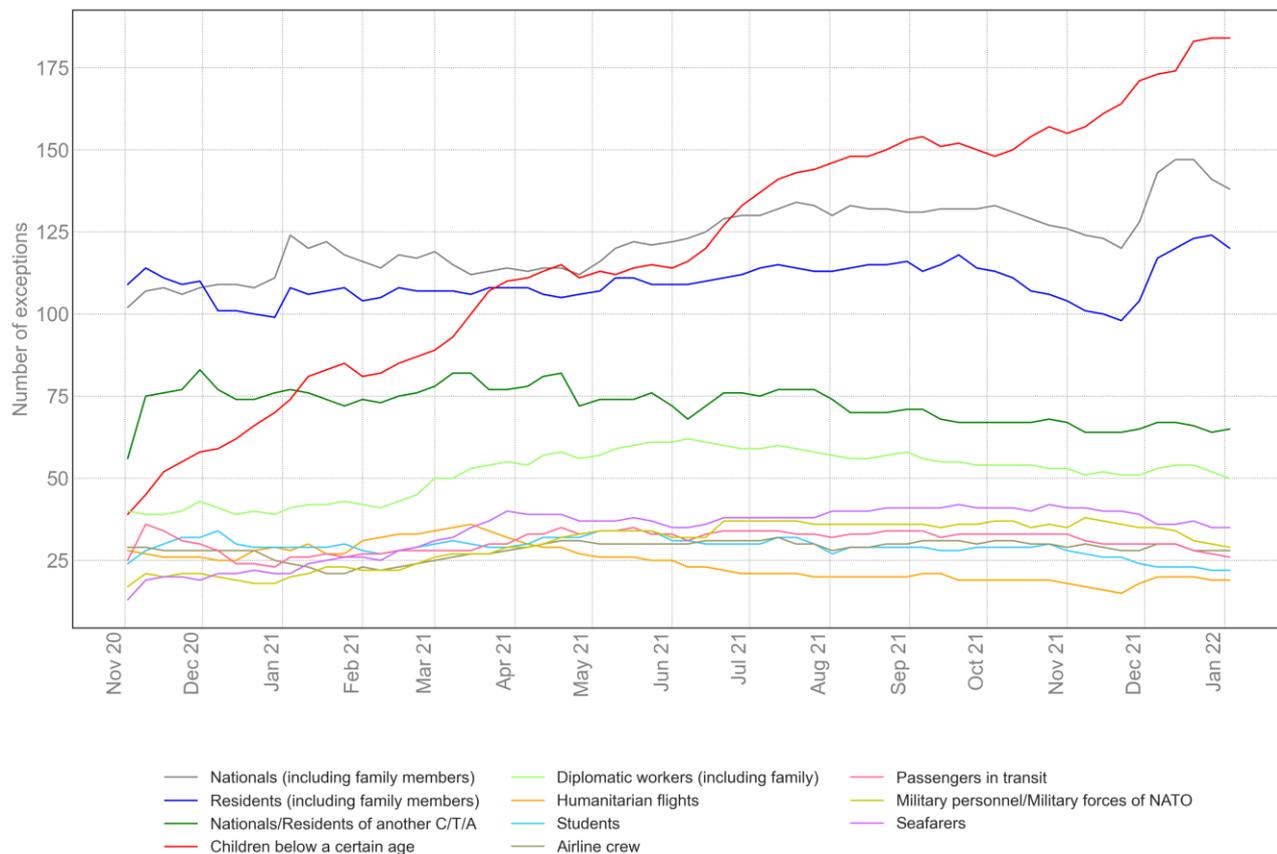
## ■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Number of C/T/As by type of exception<sup>3</sup>



C/T/As are most likely to issue at least one exception for children below a certain age (127). Exceptions for Nationals and for Residents and their families, issued at least once by 106 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 enter<sup>4</sup>



<sup>3</sup> '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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

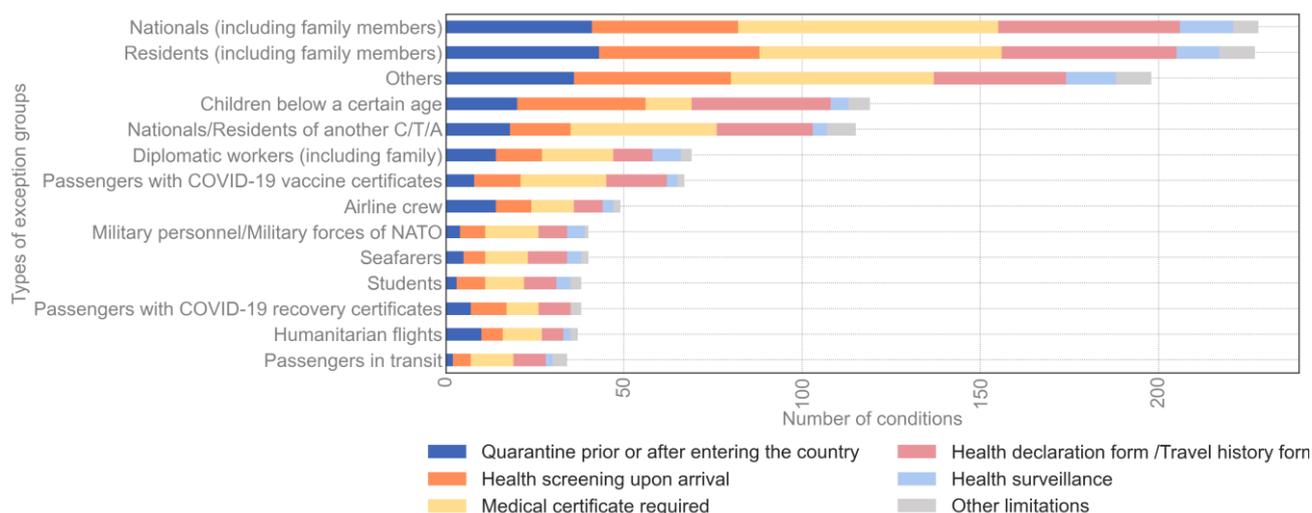
Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- As of 3 January 2021, a total of 996 exceptions, enabling mobility, have been issued by 210 C/T/As.
- The C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were the Netherlands (23), Bosnia and Herzegovina (21), Ukraine (17), Finland (14), Serbia (13), Hungary (13), Cyprus (13), United States of America (13), France (12) and Germany (12).
- Between 27 December 2021 and 3 January 2022, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 9 new exceptions, while 8 countries, territories or areas removed 17 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 210 C/T/As issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 164 have issued 1,623 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), Indonesia (36), the Netherlands (35), Andorra (33), Spain (33), Curaçao (32), Norway (30), Uruguay (29), Kuwait (29) and Switzerland (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 a Health Declaration or Travel History Form 312 times.

## ■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were issued.** Qatar issued new exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from the following green list countries: Austria, Barbados, Greece, Hungary, Islamic Republic of Iran, Montenegro and Syrian Arab Republic.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were removed.** Qatar removed exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers arriving from Anguilla, Canada, Cayman Islands, Cyprus, Ethiopia, France, Gibraltar, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mauritius, Norway, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Spain, United States of America and United Arab Emirates.
- **Exceptions to the passenger ban were changed.** Israel issued an indirect ban by specifying that the exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers with a B1, B3 or B4 visa did not apply if passengers were arriving from a country other than Mexico.
- **Exceptions to conditions for authorized entry were removed.** Curaçao removed exceptions to its COVID-19 testing requirement for passengers arriving on direct flights from Saba and St. Eustatius. Brunei Darussalam no longer requires passengers to have a hotel booking confirmation to enter.
- Kazakhstan extended the suspension of visa exemptions for certain C/T/A nationals from 31 December 2021 to an unspecified period.
- **Exceptions to conditions for authorized entry were issued.** Dominica issued an exception for unvaccinated passengers who are under 18 years of age from quarantine upon arrival if they are travelling with their fully vaccinated parents or guardians.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate were issued.** Mayotte issued exceptions to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must have a completed Travel Certificate. Passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination certificate are now exempt from this condition. Kuwait issued an exception to the passenger ban for passengers with a residence permit or a visa issued by Kuwait and 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-BioNTec (Comirnaty), as well as their accompanying children younger than 16 years. Authorities also specified that passengers who received the last vaccine dose more than nine months before arrival must have a booster.
- **Exceptions for passengers with a COVID-19 recovery certificate were issued.** Denmark issued exceptions to the condition for authorized entry that passengers must present a negative COVID-19 test result before arrival. Passengers with a positive COVID-19 PCR test taken at least 15 days and at most 179 days before arrival are exempt.