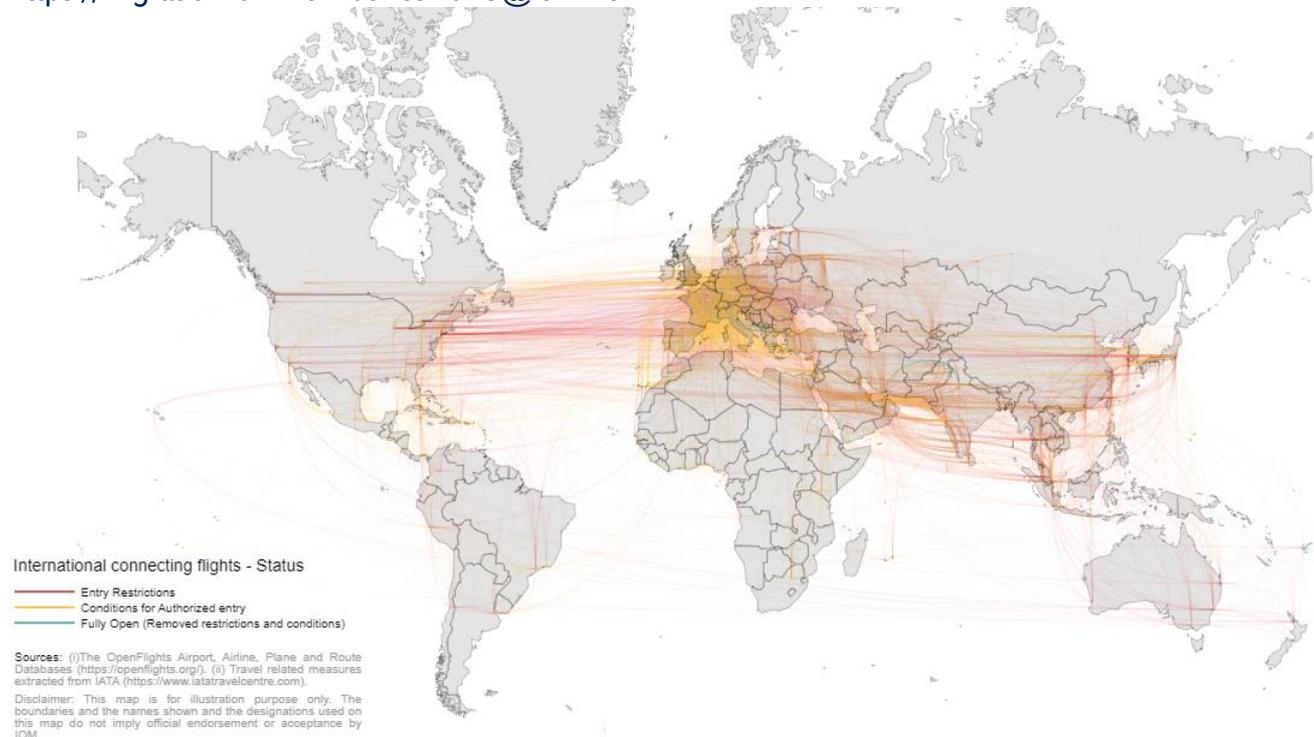# Global Mobility Restriction Overview
Weekly Update • 30thNovember 2020

COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
https://migration.iom.int ● dtmcovid19@iom.int

IOM • OIM

International connecting flights - Status

— Entry Restrictions
— Conditions for Authorized entry
— Fully Open (Removed restrictions and conditions)

Sources: (i)The OpenFlights Airport, Airline, Plane and Route Databases (https://openflights.org/). (ii) Travel related measures extracted from IATA (https://www.iatatravelcentre.com).

Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purpose only. The boundaries and the names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

■ Key Definitions

Entry restrictions: These are total restrictions which do not allow the entry of passengers of a given country, territory, or area (C/T/A). These include a complete border closure, nationality ban, suspension of visa issuances, and suspension of flights, etc.

Conditions for authorized entry: These are partial restrictions in the form of specific requirements upon which entry is incumbent. These conditions include medical measures, new requirements on visa/travel documents or other specific requirements for entry. Partial restrictions may be applicable to all passengers or exempt groups such as specific nationalities or immigration status.

No Restriction: This refers to the removal of COVID-19 related international air travel restrictions that were issued after 10th March 2020 on IATA's website

Exceptions: Refers to specific individuals, nationalities, or immigration status to whom the specific COVID-19 related travel restriction issued by a C/T/A do not apply. Conditions for authorized entry may also apply to specific exception groups to enable their mobility.

Please note: This output represents the implementation of the third phase of Air Travel Restriction Methodology. In this phase, previous categories of Medical and Visa Restrictions have been recategorized as conditions for authorized entry under partial restrictions. For more information please see here.
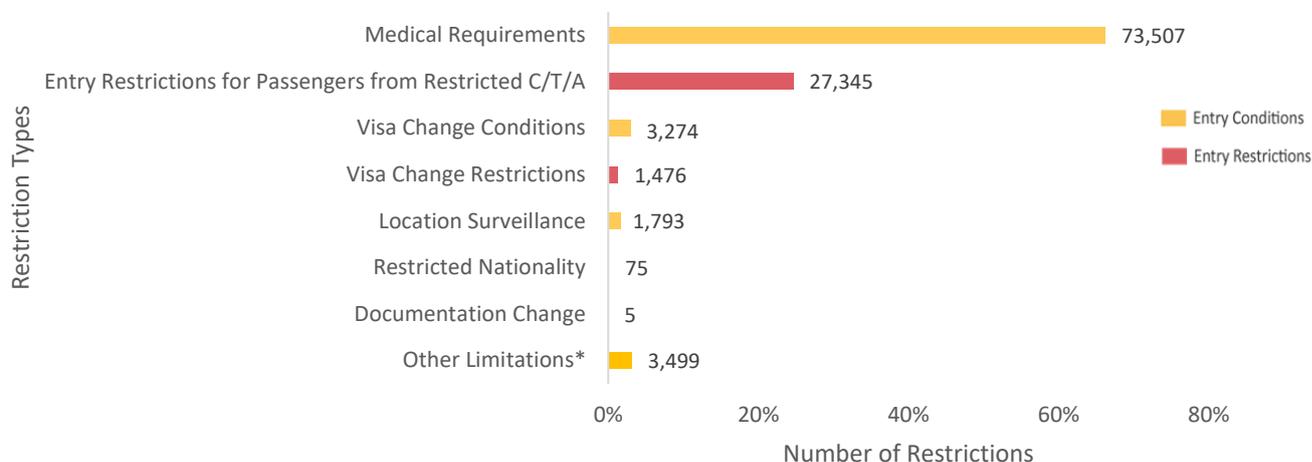
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities to confirm political correctness while producing a timely update. This analysis does not aim to provide exact information on travel requirements. For specific and updated travel information, kindly refer to respective Consular authorities of the destination country. International Air Transport Association (IATA) and relevant airline companies may be a valid alternative to explore. Corrections are very welcomed and should be submitted to DTM COVID-19 dtmcovid19@iom.int to ensure consistency of information in the database repository.

■ Overview

With more than 62 million confirmed COVID-19 cases reported globally by the World Health Organization as of 30th November 2020, the multi-layered challenges posed by the global pandemic persist. Travel related measures ensure that global migration and mobility are carefully managed. A total of **225** countries, territories or areas, have issued **110,974** travel related measures as of 30th November 2020, indicating a **3 per cent** **increase** from **107,830** travel related measures reported on 23rd November 2020. Of these, **28,896** were reported as entry restrictions and **82,078** were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was a decrease in entry restrictions and an increase in conditions for authorized entry of 0.5 and 4 per cent, respectively. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was an increase of 16 per cent in location surveillance such as passenger locator forms between 23th and 30th November 2020. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 170 countries, territories or areas have issued 789 exceptions enabling mobility despite travel restrictions. Since last week, 17 countries, territories or areas have issued 35 new exceptions and 8 countries, territories or areas removed 19 exceptions.

■ Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Most Commonly Imposed Restriction and Conditions for Authorized Entry

*Other limitations include suspended visas on arrival and entry permits, requirements for international travel certificates and medical coverages.
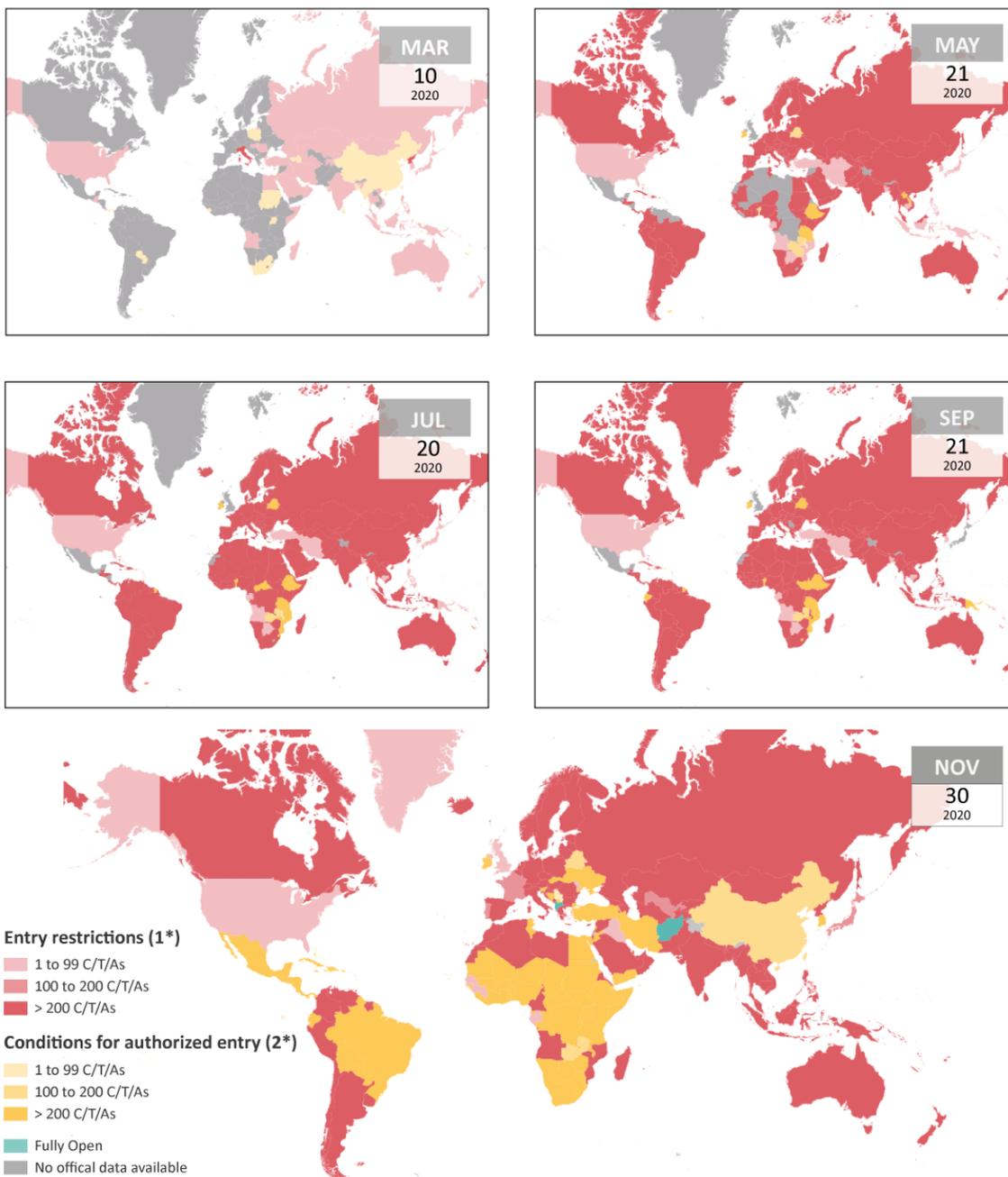
As of 30th November 2020, 225 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, representing 25 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 66 per cent of conditions. In contrast, visa requirements represent 4 per cent of total restrictions and conditions.

Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, by type

■ Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, over time

The map below provides a global overview on how C/T/As have gradually increased the issuance of 'entry restrictions' (e.g. total entry restrictions for passengers) and 'conditions for authorized entry' (e.g. medical requirements in the form of PCR test, quarantine, etc.). In March 2020, most of the Governments and authorities across the world had not officially announced any COVID-19 related travel measures (coloured in grey), whereas as of November 2020, almost all the C/T/As have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.
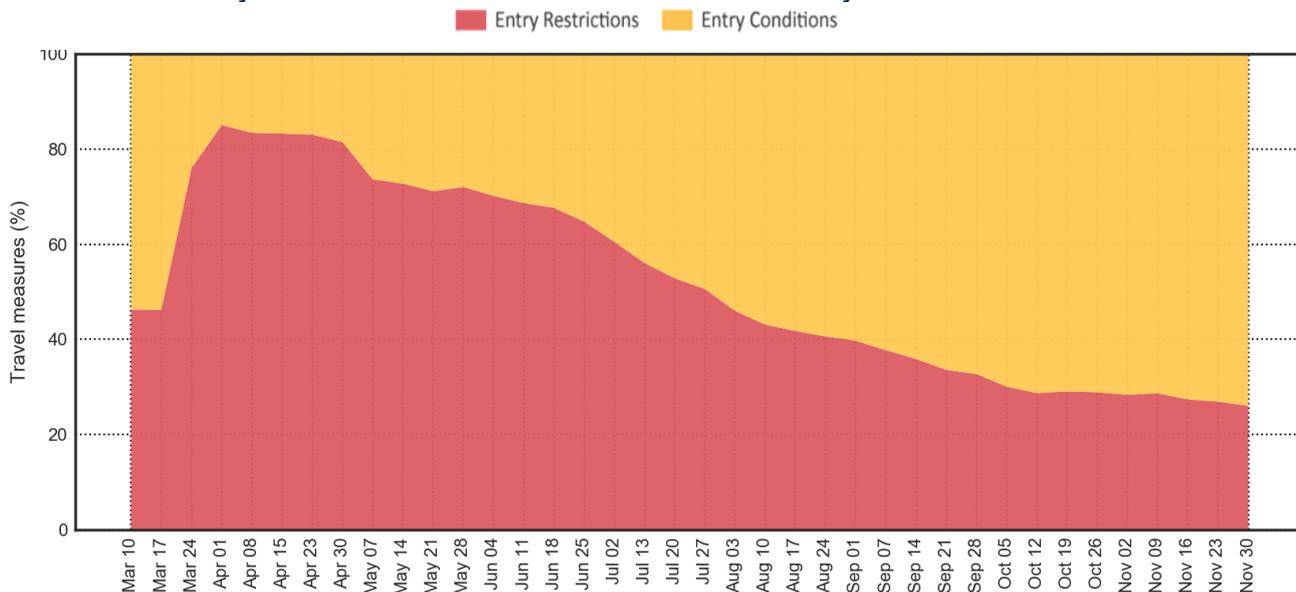
Entry restrictions (1*)
- 1 to 99 C/T/As
- 100 to 200 C/T/As
- > 200 C/T/As

Conditions for authorized entry (2*)
- 1 to 99 C/T/As
- 100 to 200 C/T/As
- > 200 C/T/As

- Fully Open
- No offical data available

(1*) Restricted entry on passengers coming from other countries, territories and areas (C/T/A).

(2*) C/T/As imposing medical measures, changes in Visa or ID or other measures on arrival.
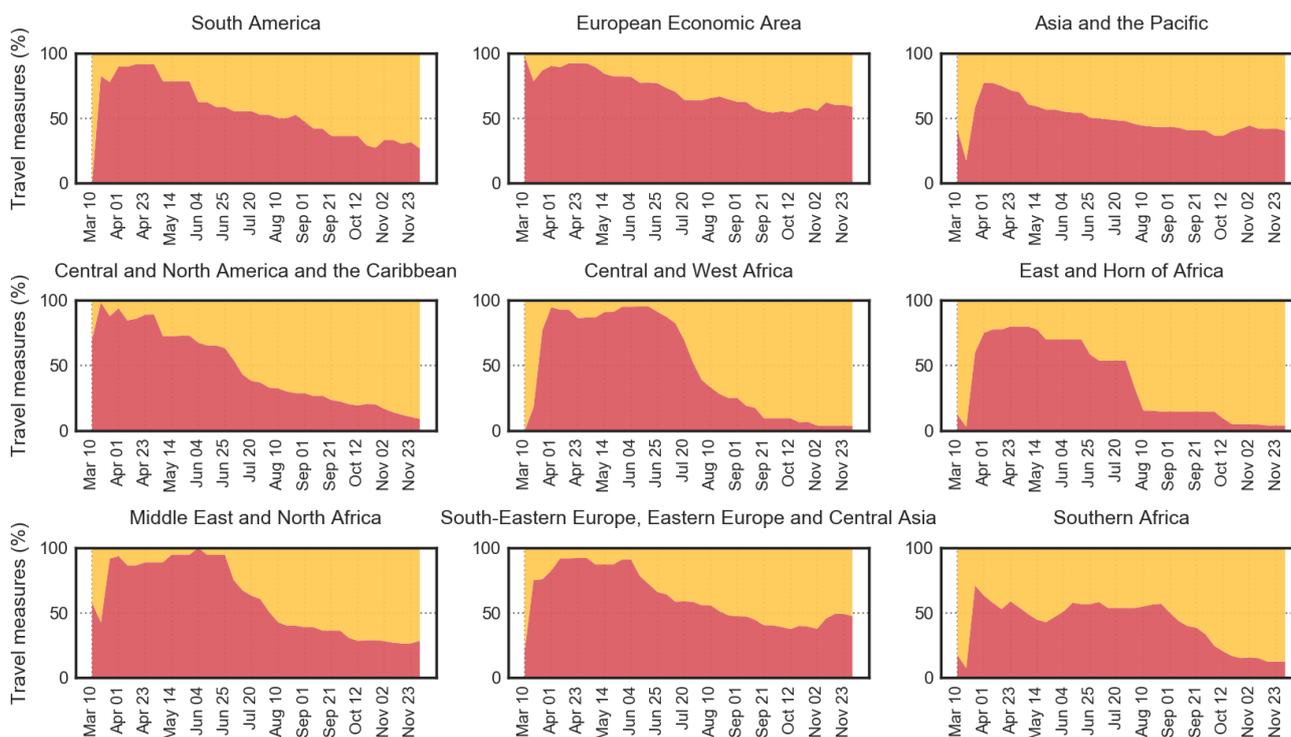
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over the time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 26 per cent, as of 30th November 2020.

Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for Authorized Entry – Global overview

When disaggregating the data by IOM regions, similar trends can be observed but with differences in timing. For instance, IOM region Asia and the Pacific started to shift from 'entry restrictions' (coloured in red) to 'conditions for authorized entry' (coloured in yellow) earlier than any other region (April 2020). Whereas IOM region Southern Africa began easing total restrictions only in August 2020. These regional differences over time mirror the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in different geographical areas.
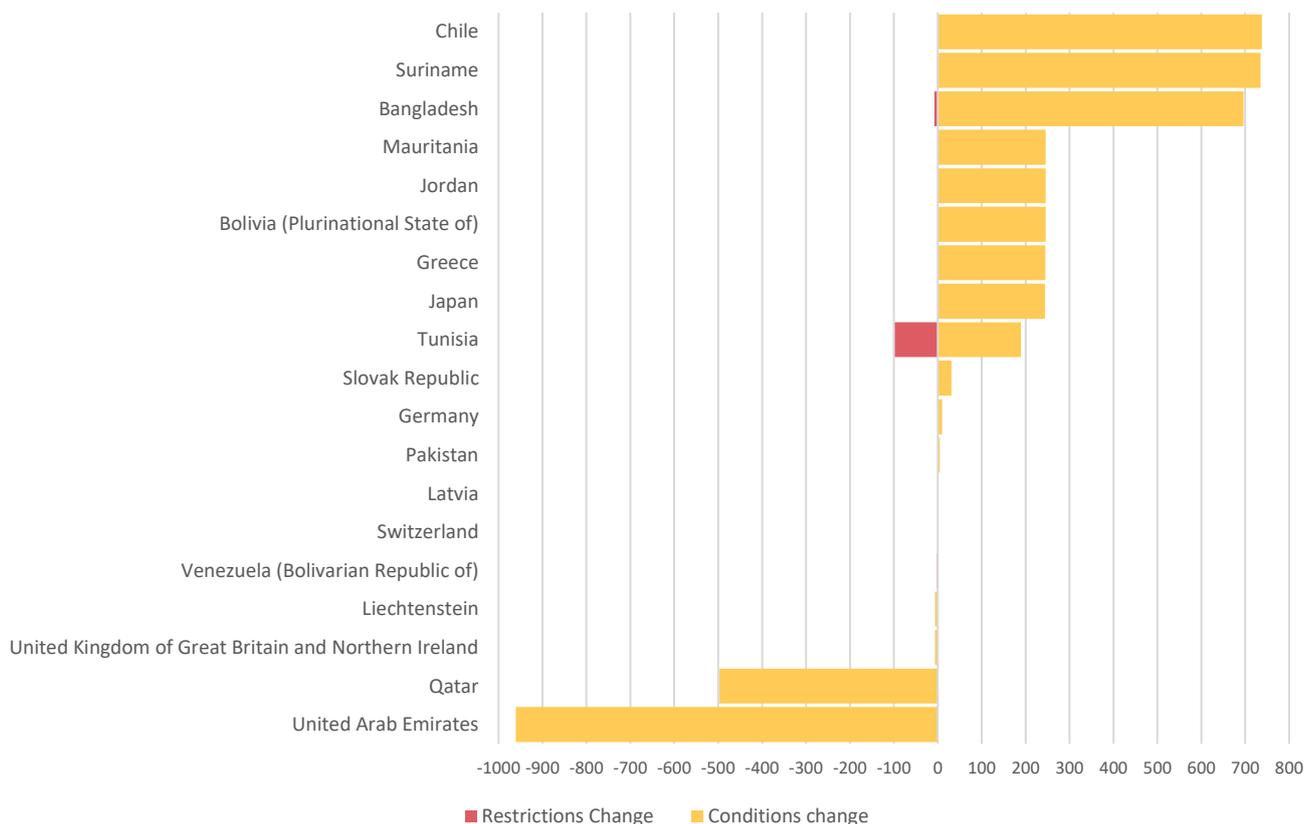
Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview

■ Key Highlights on Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

This section illustrates a comparison between total restrictions such as passenger bans, airport closures, flight suspensions and partial restrictions comprising of conditions for authorized entry. Between 23rd and 30th November 2020, 19 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, while 7 C/T/As made minor changes. While there were more C/T/As implementing new restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, five C/T/As removed some existing restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry without issuing any new ones.
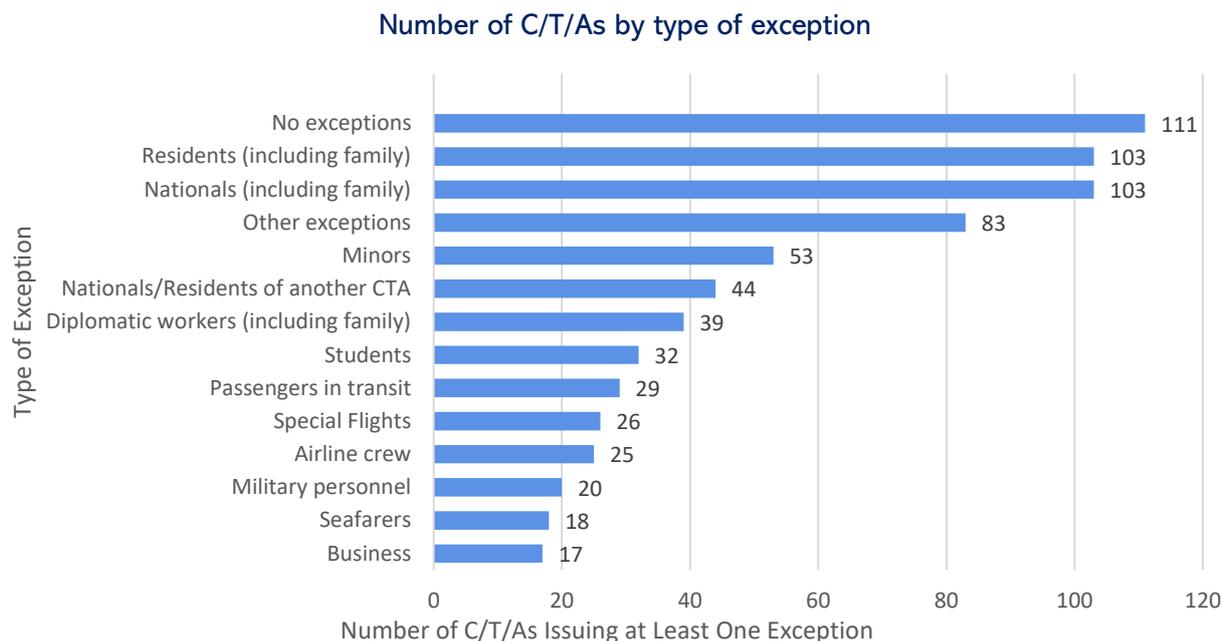
Weekly changes in number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry issued by C/T/As
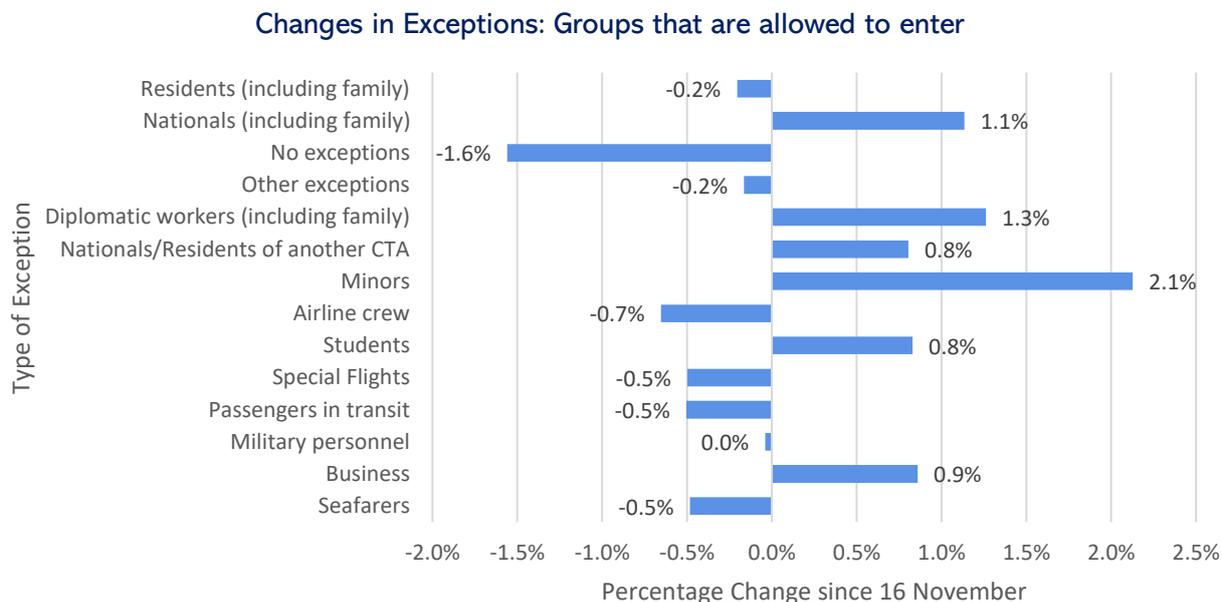

- Previously, airports in **Suriname** were closed until 24th November 2020, however, as of 27th November 2020, medical flights, flights arriving from the Netherlands and flights returning nationals of Suriname are exempt from this suspension. Additionally, all arriving passengers above the age of 12 must send an email at most 72 hours before departure to quarantainehotel@gmail.com with a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Rapid Test-Polymerase Chain Reaction test result taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point; or a medical certificate with a positive ELISA (antibody) test result for passengers who have already tested positive, not older than 6 months. They must also send an email at most 72 hours before departure to quarantainehotel@gmail.com with a confirmed accommodation booking for at least 10 days at a registered Suriname Hospitality and Tourism Association (SHATA) accommodation; and health insurance covering any COVID-19 expenses. Finally, passengers are subject to quarantine upon arrival.

- **Jordan** issued new conditions for authorized entry requiring all passengers over the age of five to undergo a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon entry. Passengers with diplomatic passports who are traveling on duty are exempt. Additionally, the self-isolation period was reduced from 14 to 7 days.

- All travellers to **Germany** have to register online prior to their entry if they have stayed in a **risk area** within the last 10 days prior to their entry to Germany. They must be able to present proof of the online registration when entering Germany.

- **Changes to flights suspensions** were issued. **Georgia** extended flight suspensions until 31st December 2020. Airport closure in **Trinidad and Tobago** was extended until 6th December 2020, **Latvia** extend flight suspensions arriving from Andorra, Luxembourg, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia, indefinitely, as of 26 November 2020.

- **The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** added exceptions to the 14-day self-isolation measure for passengers arriving from Aruba, Bhutan, Mongolia, the Pacific islands and Timor-Leste while passengers arriving from Estonia and Latvia are no longer exempt.

- Visa on arrival facilities at Abu Dhabi (AUH), the United Arab Emirates have restarted.

- A new 'air bubble' facilitating travel between **India** and **Nigeria** has been formed as of 30th November 2020.

- As of 27th November 2020, Tunisia lifted its passenger ban, allowing passengers to enter under the following conditions for authorized entry. Passengers must complete a Health Declaration form online prior to departure, and present the QR code prior to boarding and to immigration upon arrival. All passengers above 12 years that are entering or transiting through Tunisia must have a printed medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival in Arabic, English or French. Finally, all passengers, except nationals and residents must have a confirmed hotel reservation.

- Existing passenger bans were extended by **Italy** and the **Holy See** until 3rd December 2020, by **Malta** until 30th December 2020, and **India** until 31st December 2020.

- **India** issued visa invalidations for already issued medical visas, previously only tourist and e-visas were invalidated.

- **Iraq** issued a passenger ban for nationals of Indonesia entering Iraq via Basra (BSR) or Najaf (NJF).

- **Grenada** issued conditions for authorized entry, requiring that all passengers must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before departure.

- **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** and **Sint Maarten** altered their requirements for arriving passengers which were until now required to present a negative COVID-19 test result. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will now accept RNA test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival and Sint Maarten will now accept an Antigen test based on nasal swab issued at most 48 hours before departure. The test must be Abbott Panbio COVID-19, Becton Dickinson Veritor Plus or Roche/SD Biosensor F.

- **Turks and Caicos Islands** issued a new condition for airline crew, requiring that airline crew provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result issued at most 5 days before departure.

- **Dominican Republic** issued a new condition for authorized entry, requiring that all passengers must complete an "Electronic Ticket" before departure at https://eticket.migracion.gob.do/. This will generate a QR code which must be presented upon arrival.

- **Vanuatu** issued new conditions for authorized entry for passengers exempt from complete passenger restrictions, requiring all passengers to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued 72 hours prior to departure.

- **Cook Islands** removed conditions for authorized entry, groups authorized entry are no longer required to quarantine upon arrival.

- As of 25th November 2020, **Panama** extended the validity of visas issued between 1st January and 31st October 2020 that expired between 13 March 2020 and 31 January 2021 and which have an extension stamp issued by the consulate, these visas are accepted for entry until 31 January 2021.

■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Number of C/T/As by type of exception

Most CTAs (103) have issued at least one exception for Residents and for Nationals. Exceptions for minors, issued at least once by 53 different CTAs, continue to represent the third most common exception group.
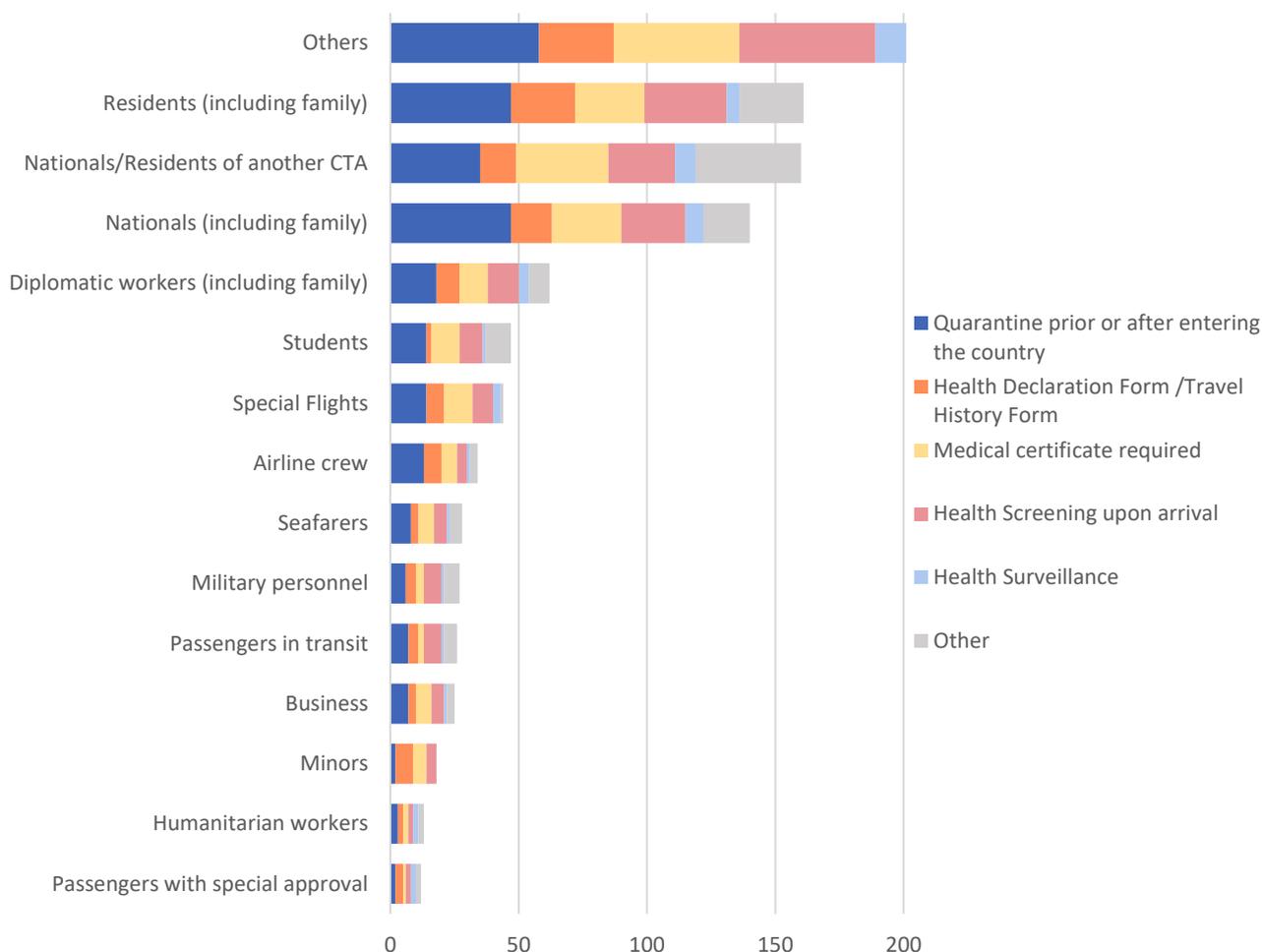
Changes in Exceptions: Groups that are allowed to enter

Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- A total of 789 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 170 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Japan (18), Norway (18), the United Arab Emirates (16), Italy (14), and Singapore (14).
- Since the last update on 23rd November 2020, 35 new exceptions were added by Bangladesh (8), India (4), the United Arab Emirates (4), Germany (3), Suriname (3), Sri Lanka (2), and one each by the Kingdom of Bhutan, Cameroon, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Mauritania, Pakistan, Paraguay, the Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, and Sint Maarten.
- Since the last update, 19 exceptions were removed by Tunisia (6), the United Arab Emirates (5), Liechtenstein (2), Northern Mariana Islands (2), Cameroon (1), Greece (1), Kazakhstan (1), and Qatar (1).

■ Exceptions and Corresponding Conditions for Authorized Entry

The conditions for authorized entry refer to additional requirements or measures that specific exempt individuals or groups need to fulfil to enter a given C/T/A. The below chart demonstrates the most commonly imposed conditions for authorized entry such as quarantine, health declaration forms, medical certificates, that are applicable to specific exceptional groups.

Exception groups and associated conditions for authorized entry

Legend:
- Quarantine prior or after entering the country
- Health Declaration Form /Travel History Form
- Medical certificate required
- Health Screening upon arrival
- Health Surveillance
- Other

Noticeable Trends for Conditions for Authorized Entry for Exempted Groups

- Of the 170 CTAs issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 107 have issued 1,036 conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups were India (48), Japan (47), the United Arab Emirates (38), Norway (36), and Singapore (34).
- A total of 40 different CTAs issued at least three different conditions for authorized entry on specific exempted groups.
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was quarantine prior to or after entering the country, which was issued 281 times. This was followed by medical certificates (203) and health screening (201).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- **The United Arab Emirates** expanded the list of passengers exempt from the entry restrictions. As of 27th November 2020, nationals of over 65 countries, territories or areas traveling to Abu Dhabi (AUH) can enter. Nationals of India with a visa issued by the United States of America or with a residence permit issued by the United States of America or a European Union Member State traveling to Abu Dhabi (AUH) can now enter.

- **Philippines** issued new exceptions to its blanket passenger restrictions for treaty traders with a respective visa and passengers with a visa issued by the Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan, Cagayan Economic Zone Authority, and Clark Development Corporation.

- **Mauritania** issued a new exception for nationals who no longer require a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result to enter. Similarly, **Bangladesh** also issued exceptions for nationals and passengers with Bangladeshi origin, who are no longer required to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result to enter.

- **Cameroon** added a new exception to the passenger ban allowing passengers with a valid visa to enter. All passengers are subject to the following conditions for entry, a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test taken 3 days prior to departure from the first embarkation point and passengers are subject to a COVID-19 test and medical screening upon arrival.

- **Greece** removed exceptions for passengers in transit from conditions for entry, they must provide a completed "Passenger Locator Form (PLF)" and a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result valid for no longer than 72 hours prior to departure.

- **Switzerland** removed exceptions for passengers arriving from Georgia, who are now not allowed to enter the country.

- India added exceptions for nationals and/or residents of Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, the United States of America, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates with an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card or booklet arriving from their country of nationality. Additionally, British nationals with an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card or booklet arriving from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and passengers with an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card or booklet arriving from Ethiopia, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Rwanda or the United Republic of Tanzania; and passengers with an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card or booklet whose journey originated from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are all allowed to enter despite the recently extended flight suspensions.