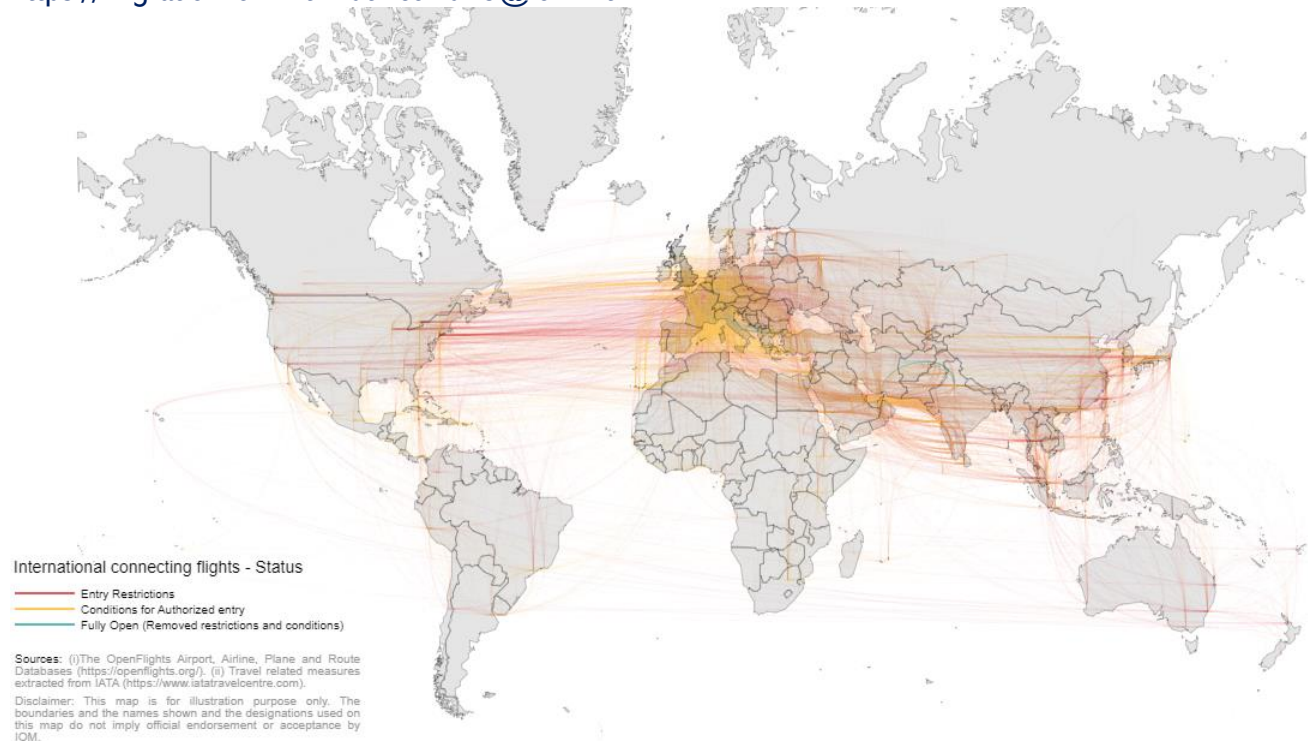


Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 14th December 2020



COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
<https://migration.iom.int> • dtmccovid19@iom.int



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.iata.travel/centre.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](#).

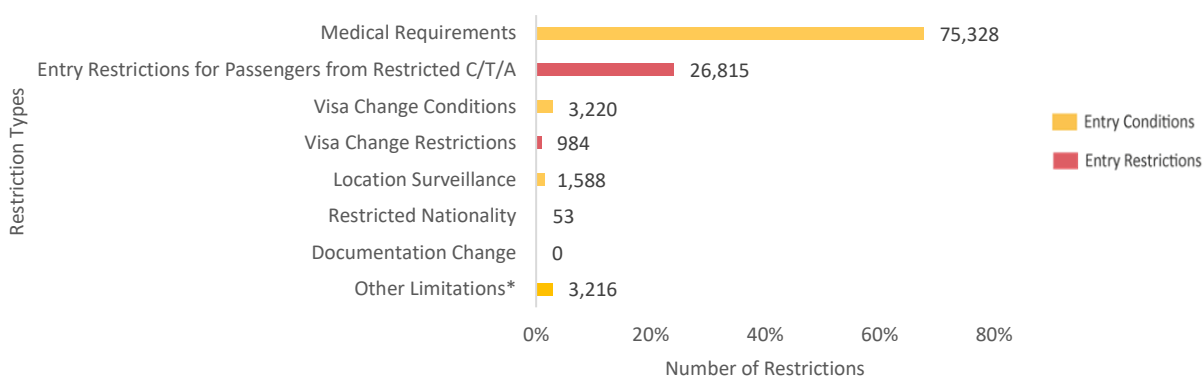
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities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

Overview

As of 14th December, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported over 70 million confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 1,606,091 COVID-19 related deaths, globally.¹ Related international and domestic air travel measures to contain and mitigate the spread of new infection cases have had a considerable effect on global mobility and migration. As of 14th December 2020, a total of 226 countries, territories, or areas, have issued 111,204 travel related measures indicating an increase of 3 per cent from 107,731 travel related measures reported on 7th December 2020. Of these, 27,852 were reported as entry restrictions and 83,352 were reported as conditions for entry. In the reporting period, there was a decrease of 2 per cent in the entry restrictions and an increase in conditions for authorized entry of 5 per cent. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was an increase of 18 per cent in location surveillance such as passenger locator forms. There was a decrease of 20 per cent in entry restrictions such as visa requirements between 7th December and 14th December 2020. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 170 countries, territories or areas have issued 697 exceptions enabling mobility despite travel restrictions. Between 7th December and 14th December 2020, 15 countries, territories or areas issued 25 new exceptions whilst 12 countries, territories or areas removed 41 exceptions.

Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

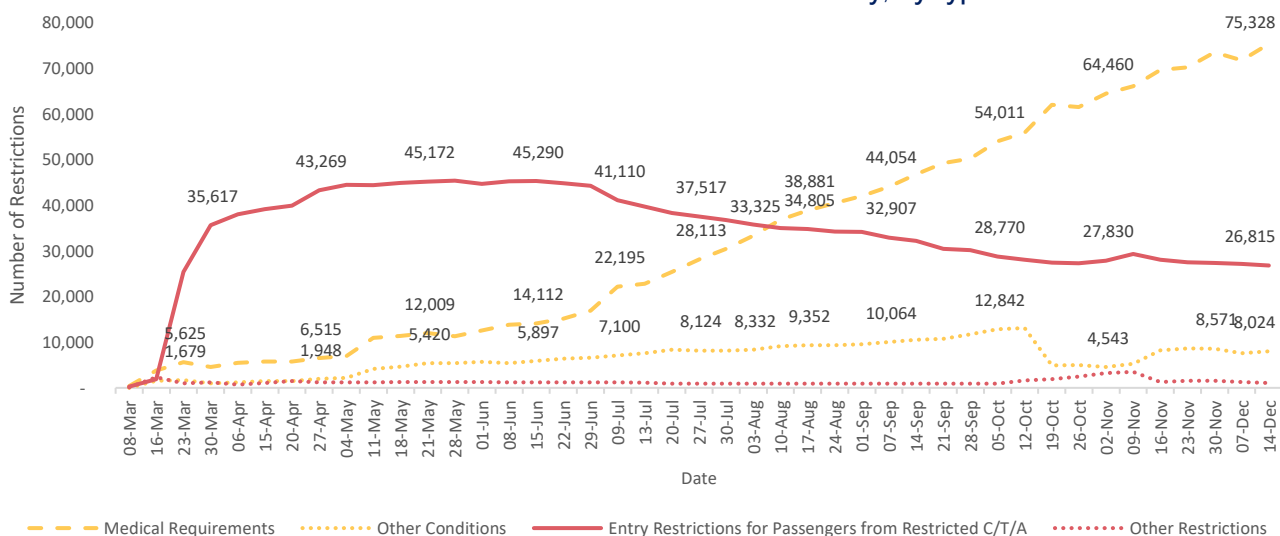
Most Commonly Imposed Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry



*Other limitations include suspended visas on arrival and entry permits, requirements for international travel certificates and medical coverages.

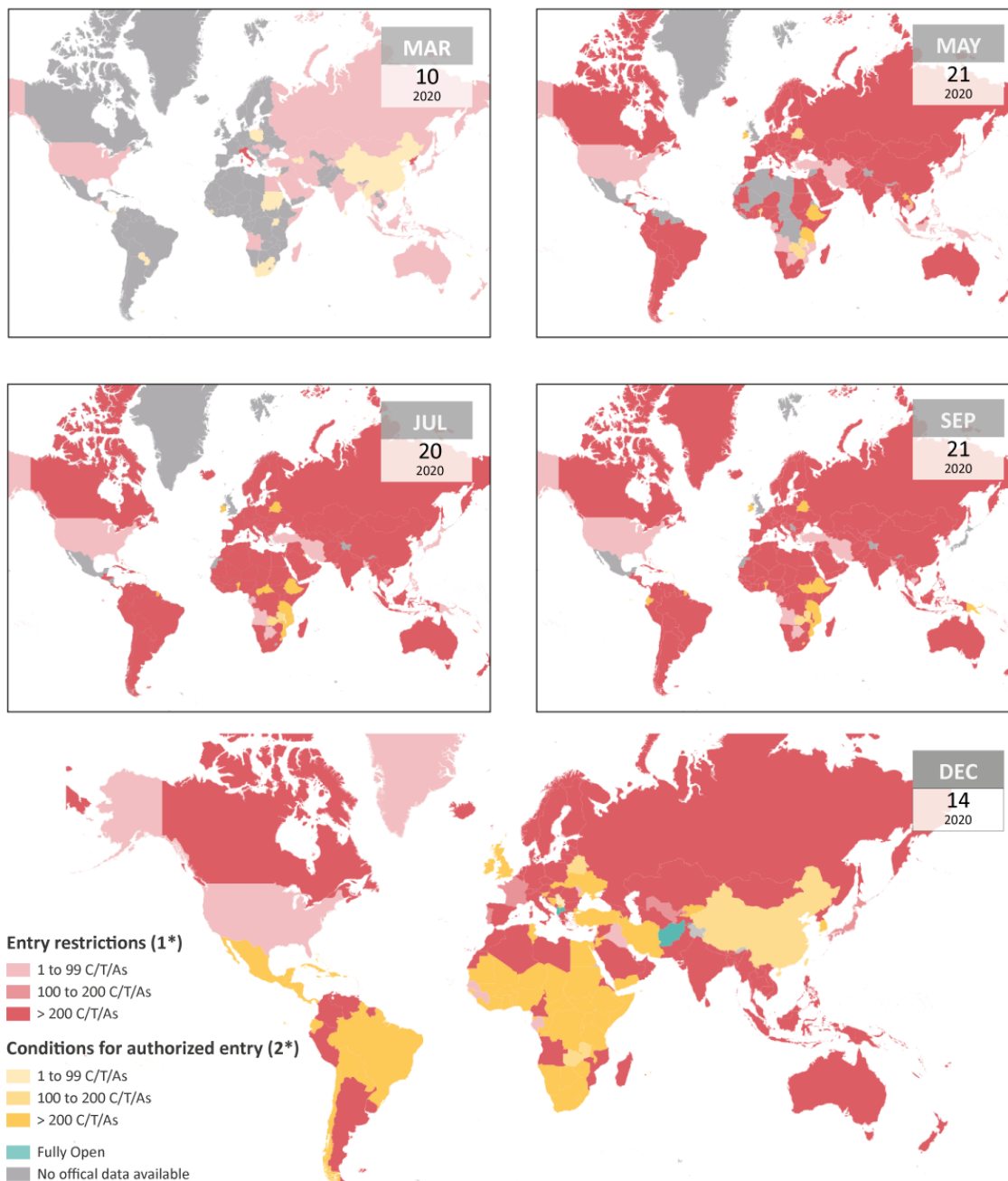
As of 14th December 2020, 226 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, representing 24 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 68 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 December 2020, almost all the C/T/As have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.

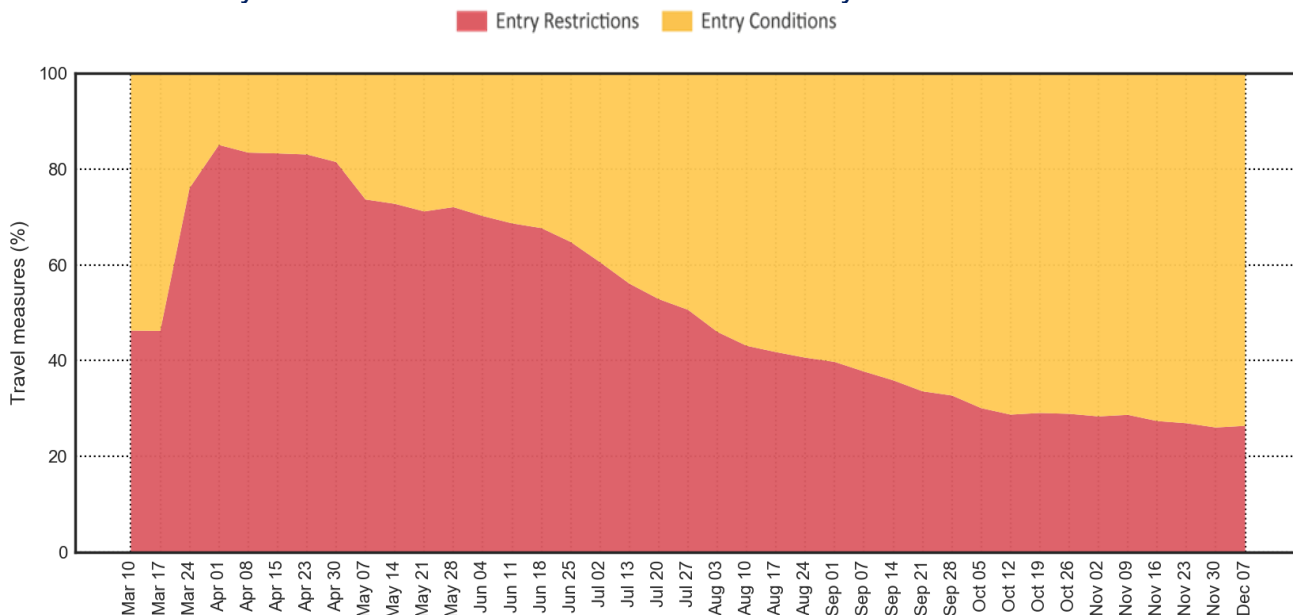


(1*) Restricted entry on passengers coming from other countries, territories and areas (C/T/A).

(2*) C/T/As imposing medical measures, changes in Visa or ID or other measures on arrival.

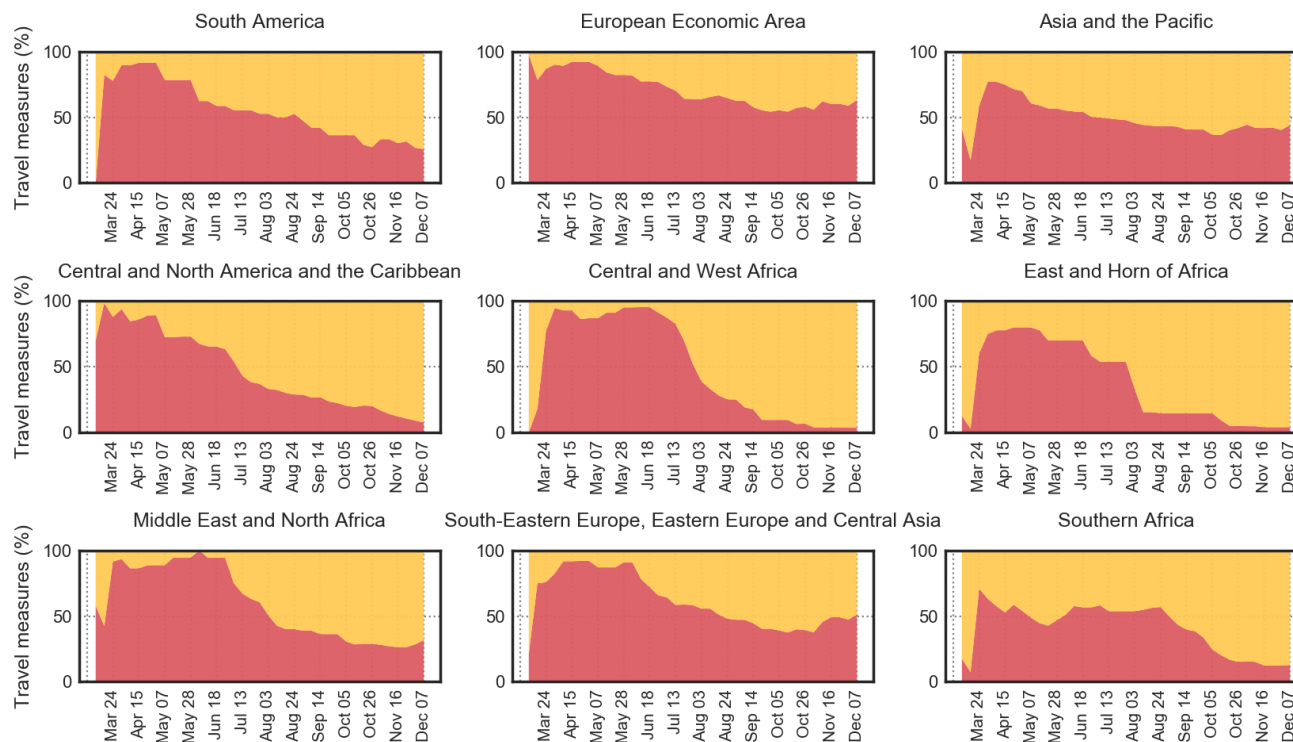
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over the time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 26 per cent, as of 30th November 2020.

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.

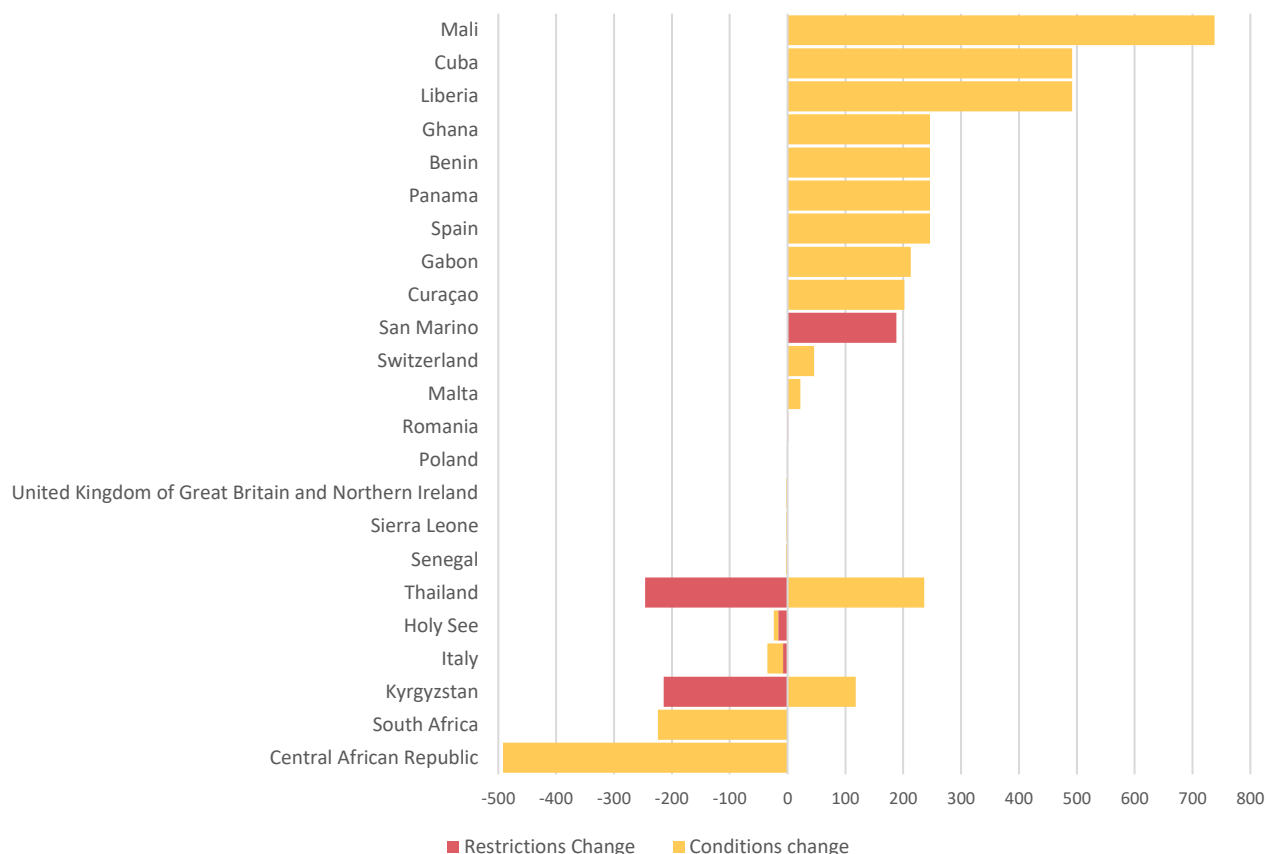
Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



■ 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 7th December and 14th December 2020, 23 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, while 5 of them made minor changes. While the majority of C/T/As with change issued new conditions for authorized entry without removing any existing restrictions, only 2 countries issued restrictions.

Weekly changes in number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry issued by C/T/As

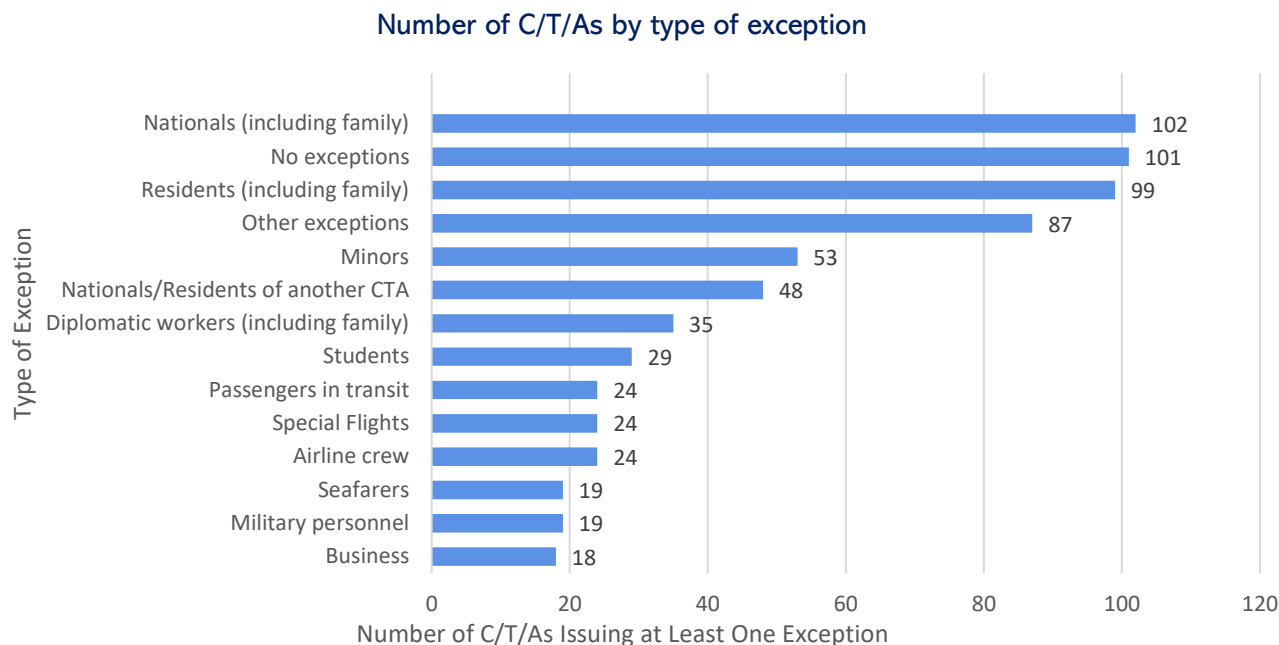


- **Cuba** issued a new condition for authorized entry requiring that all arriving passengers must pay a health tax of 30 USD or the equivalent, upon arrival.
- New medical conditions for authorized entry were issued by **Panama**, requiring that passengers and airline crew must complete a "Declaracion Jurada de Salud" before arrival, available [online](#).
- **San Marino** lifted measures for passengers in transit opening entry to passengers who have been in or transited through Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Kuwait, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Oman, Panama, Peru or Kosovo* in the past 14 days, who were previously not allowed entry.
- **Switzerland** issued a new condition for authorized entry requiring that all passengers complete a "Contact Tracing Card" before arrival/ departure.
- **Malta** issued conditions for authorized entry for passengers arriving from Andorra, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece (except Attiki), Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Monaco, Morocco, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Uruguay and Holy See; they must provide a medical certificate with a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.

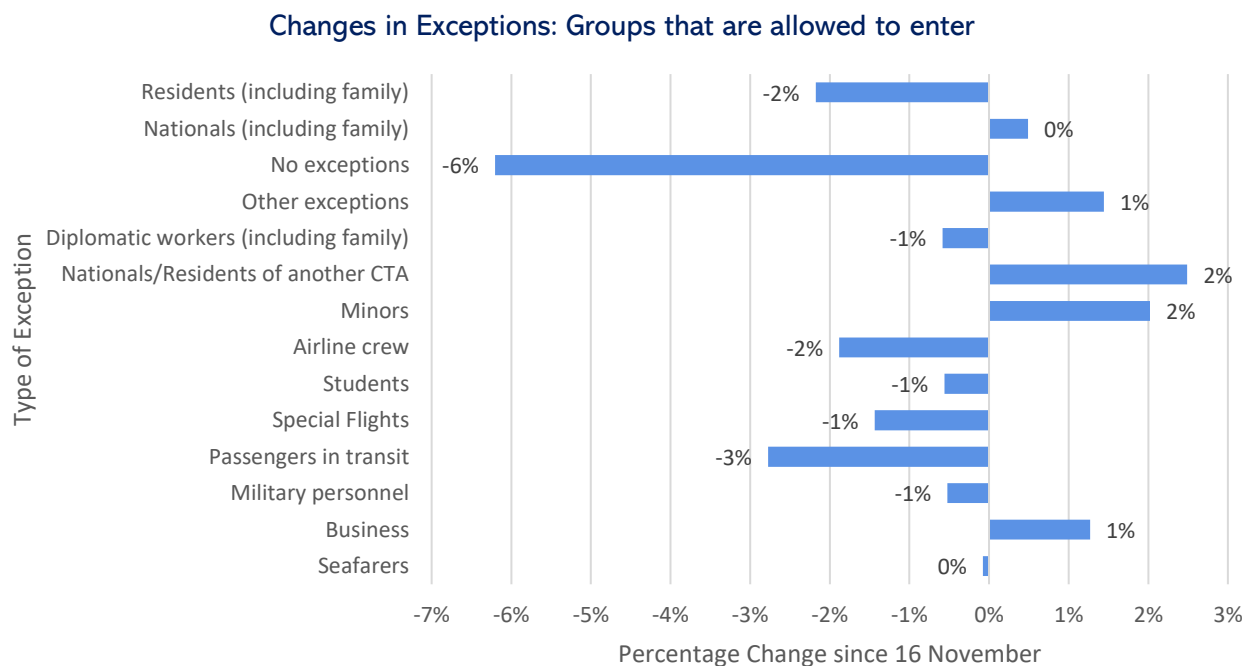
- Existing passenger bans were extended by **Romania** until 13th January 2020, by the **Holy See** until 15th January 2021, and by **Azerbaijan** and **Bulgaria** until 31st January 2021.
- Flight suspensions were extended by **Romania** for flights arriving from Andorra, Armenia, Curaçao, French Polynesia, Georgia, Montenegro, or the United States of America, until 31st December 2020. Existing flight suspensions have been extended by **Trinidad and Tobago** until 20th December 2020.
- **Poland** removed flight suspensions for flights arriving from Argentina, Costa Rica, and Lebanon.
- **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** added Botswana and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the travel corridor list, which exempts certain arriving passengers from being required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.
- **Senegal** issued new restrictions based on the nationality of the passengers, barring entry to nationals of Mauritania. However, passengers with a residency visa issued by Senegal are exempt from this measure.
- **Italy** issued new secondary conditions for the authorized entry of passengers who, in the past 14 days, have transited through or been to Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guyana, Réunion, Mayotte, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Gibraltar, or Isle of Man, and don't have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 molecular or antigenic test taken at most 48 hours before arrival, are subject to self-isolation.
- The existing total passenger ban was lifted by **Kyrgyzstan** and visa upon arrival facilities have been reinstated. However, passengers must have a printed medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result, taken at most 72 hours before departure of the first embarkation point. This does not apply to nationals of Kyrgyzstan, passengers younger than 7 years or passengers with a diplomatic passport.
- **South Africa** removed quarantine measures for all passengers but issued a new condition for authorized entry requiring passengers to provide a certificate with negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test issued at most 72 hours before departure from first embarkation point.
- **Nigeria** removed a condition for authorized entry which required all passengers to register before departure, [online](#). Passengers must still provide a printed medical certificate with a negative Coronavirus Polymerase Chain Reaction test result, taken at most 5 days before departure of the last direct flight to Nigeria.
- **Cayman Islands** removed the previously issued condition for authorized entry requiring that all passengers must have a health insurance covering any COVID-19 expense.
- **Indonesia** removed restrictions barring transit for all passengers.
- **Russian Federation** extended the suspension of issuance of e-visas until 31st December 2020.
- **Bermuda** shortened the validity period for accepted medical certificates required for authorized entry, from 7 to 5 days. Now passengers must provide medical certificate confirming a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result 5 days before departure.
- **Jamaica** issued new restrictive measures for Airline Crew, requiring that they subject to medical screening upon arrival.
- New condition for authorized entry was issued by **Australia**, requiring that all passengers exempt from the travel ban, including nationals, residents and their family, passengers arriving from New Zealand and passengers with a pre-granted exemption to submit a travel declaration form prior to departure.
- **Algeria** issued new conditions for authorized entry for medical evacuation and repatriation flights, requiring the respective passengers to provide a printed medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
- New exception to its existing passenger ban was issued by **Iceland**, allowing entry to passengers with proof of a previous infection of COVID-19.

- **The Netherlands** issued new restrictive measures barring passengers who are transiting through the Netherlands if they are travelling to Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or the Holy See, as a final destination.
- **Montserrat** issued a new condition for authorized entry, requiring that passengers must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result. The test must have been taken at most 7 days before departure from the first embarkation point.
- A new condition for authorized entry was issued by **Togo**, requiring that all passengers are subject to a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival. Passengers must pay for the test before departure [online](#) and this will generate a QR code which must be presented upon arrival.

■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions



CTAs are most likely to issue at least one exception for Nationals (102) and for Residents (99) and their families. Exceptions for minors, issued at least once by 53 different CTAs, continue to represent the third most common group receiving exceptions.



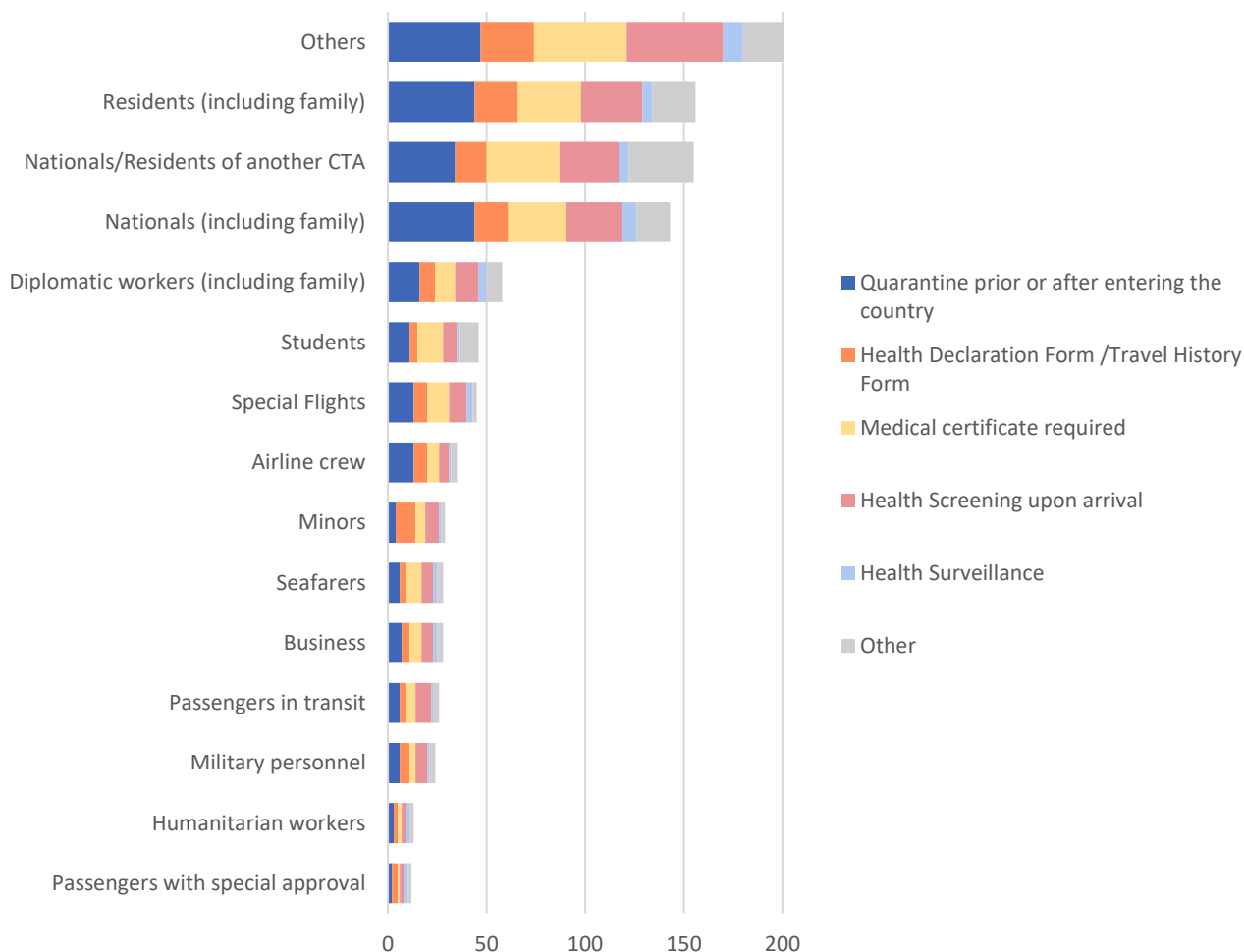
Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- A total of 697 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 170 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Singapore (15), Croatia (14), Bulgaria (12), and then Belgium, Monaco, the Netherlands and Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China with 10.
- Between 7th and 14th December 2020, 15 countries, territories or areas issued 25 new exceptions whilst 12 countries, territories or areas removed 41 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 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



Noticeable Trends for Conditions for Authorized Entry for Exempted Groups

- Of the 170 CTAs issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 116 have issued 1014 conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of conditions for authorised entry for exempted groups were, Singapore (37), India (32), Belgium (30), Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region, People’s Republic of China (30), and the Philippines (28).
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was quarantine prior or after entering the country, which was issued 256 times. This was followed by medical certificates (215) and health screening (209).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- **India** removed exceptions to its passenger ban, barring entry to nationals of Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, United States of America, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates holders an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card or booklet if they arriving from their country of nationality.
- **Cayman Islands** added new exceptions to its existing passenger ban, allowing entry to family members or fiancés of residents of the Cayman Islands.
- **Thailand** has reinstated visa exemptions for nationals of 54 countries, territories or areas who are allowed entry with a normal passport when traveling as tourists for a maximum stay of 30 days.
- **Oman** expanded exemptions for the condition for authorized entry requiring passengers to provide proof of an insurance to cover COVID-19 medical expenses in Oman for a period of one month, to exempt nationals of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates in addition to nationals of Oman.
- **United Arab Emirates** reissued some exceptions to its passenger ban to exempt nationals of Colombia and Peru.
- **Jordan** issued new exceptions to its passenger ban to allow passengers to transit through Jordan for a maximum of 6 hours. Passengers transiting through Jordan must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.