

Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 12th October 2020



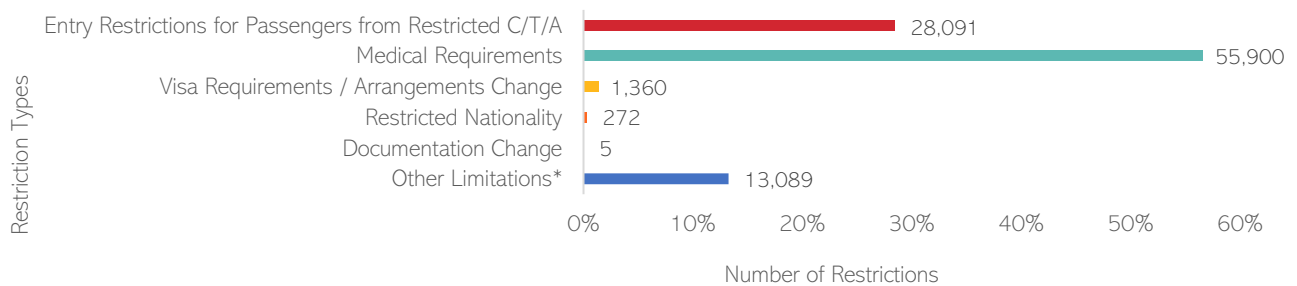
COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
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Overview

While the global pandemic persists, Governments and authorities continue to grapple with the epidemiological challenges, global mobility remains affected. With more than 37 million COVID-19 cases (37,326,080 and 1,073,973 deaths) globally recorded as of 12th October 2020 by the [World Health Organization](#), measures restricting both, internal and international mobility remain largely in place. As of 12th October 2020, a total of 219 countries, territories or areas have issued 98,717 travel restrictions indicating an increase of 2 cent from 96,549 travel restrictions reported on 5th October 2020. There has been an increase of 108 per cent in visa changes, 3 per cent increase in medical requirements and an increase of 2 per cent in other limitations such as new documents needed for travel. There has been a simultaneous decrease of 3 per cent in restrictions on passengers arriving from specific countries, territories or areas. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 175 countries, territories or areas have issued 771 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 5th and 12th October 2020, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 13 new exceptions whilst 9 countries, territories or areas removed 19 exceptions.

Data Source: [IATA](#) and official government websites.

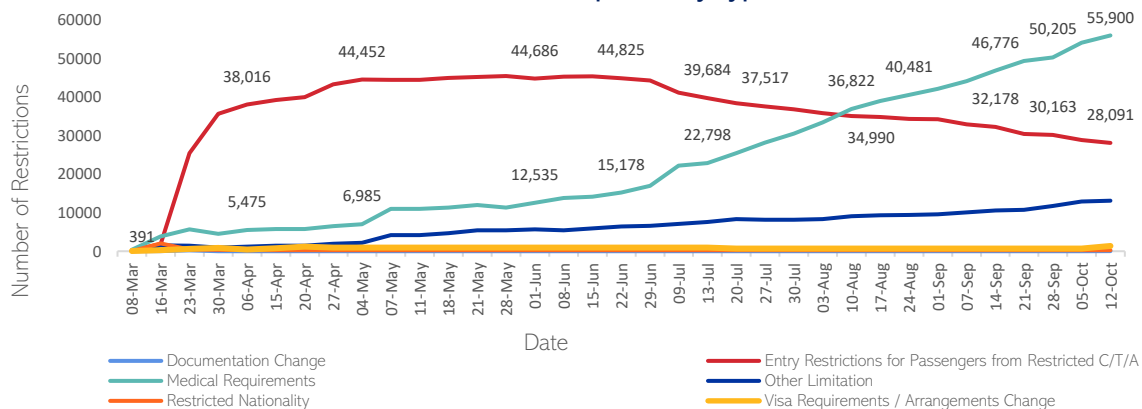
Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Type



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

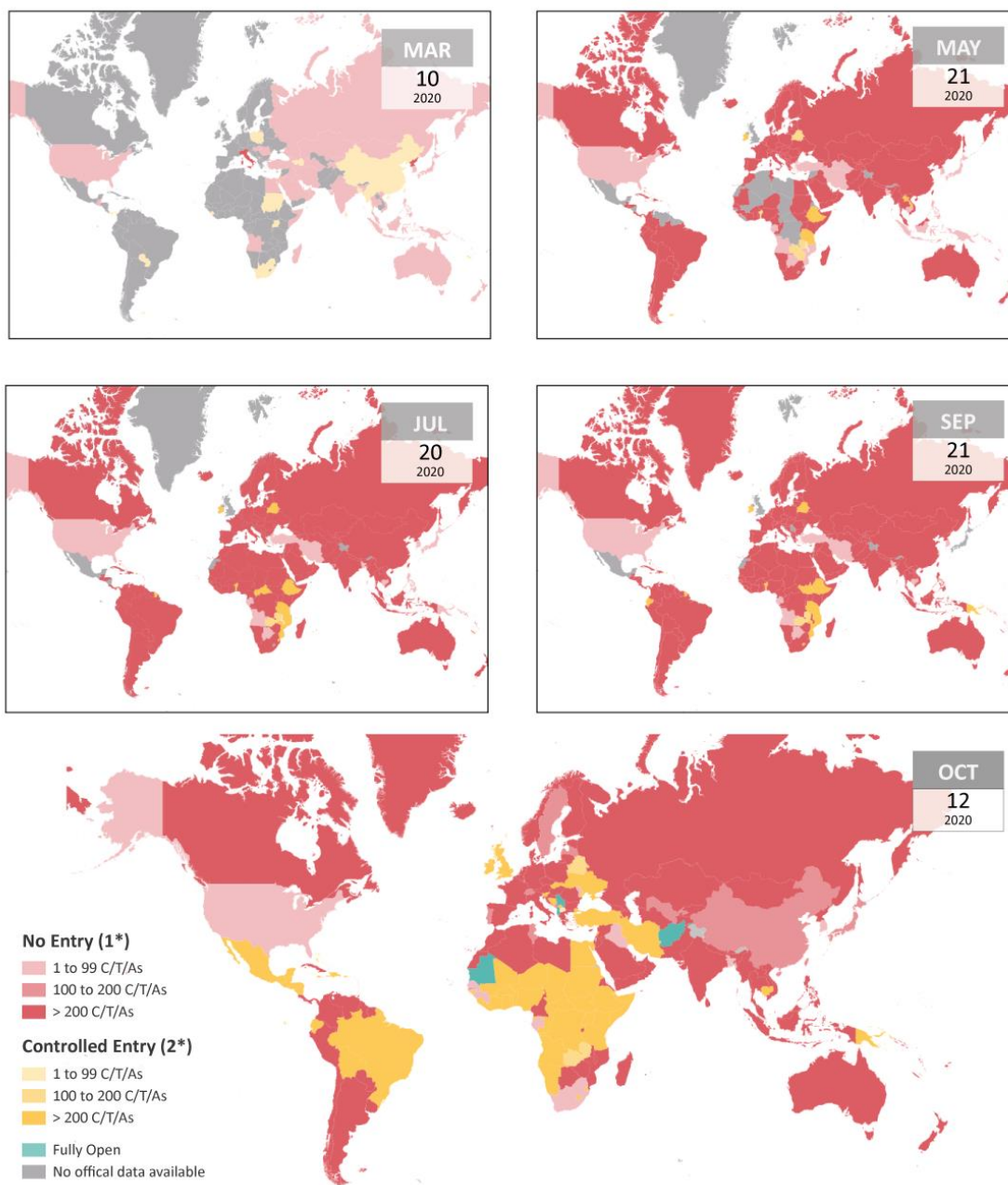
As of 12th October 2020, 219 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As have been following a decreasing trend and no longer have the highest share of total restrictions (28%). Medical measures are the most common restriction type representing 57 per cent of restrictions. Visa requirements have doubled since the previous update on 5th October, now representing 1 per cent of total restrictions.

Restrictions Imposed by type



Important: This analysis does not capture pre-COVID-19 related travel restrictions, rather it draws attention to various travel restrictions issued as a result of COVID-19. This report focuses on the changes to pre-existing measures affecting passengers travelling through specific routes or with specific travel documentation and nationalities. The number of restrictions recorded in this report is indicative of the total number of COVID-19 related travel restrictions since 8th March 2020, when IOM began monitoring the impact of travel restrictions on global mobility as a result of COVID-19. More specifically, this analysis highlights emerging changes as a result of COVID-19 travel requirements to support identifying border management practices. This analysis does not aim to provide information on exact 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.

Changes in Restrictions on Arrival since 10th March 2020



(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.

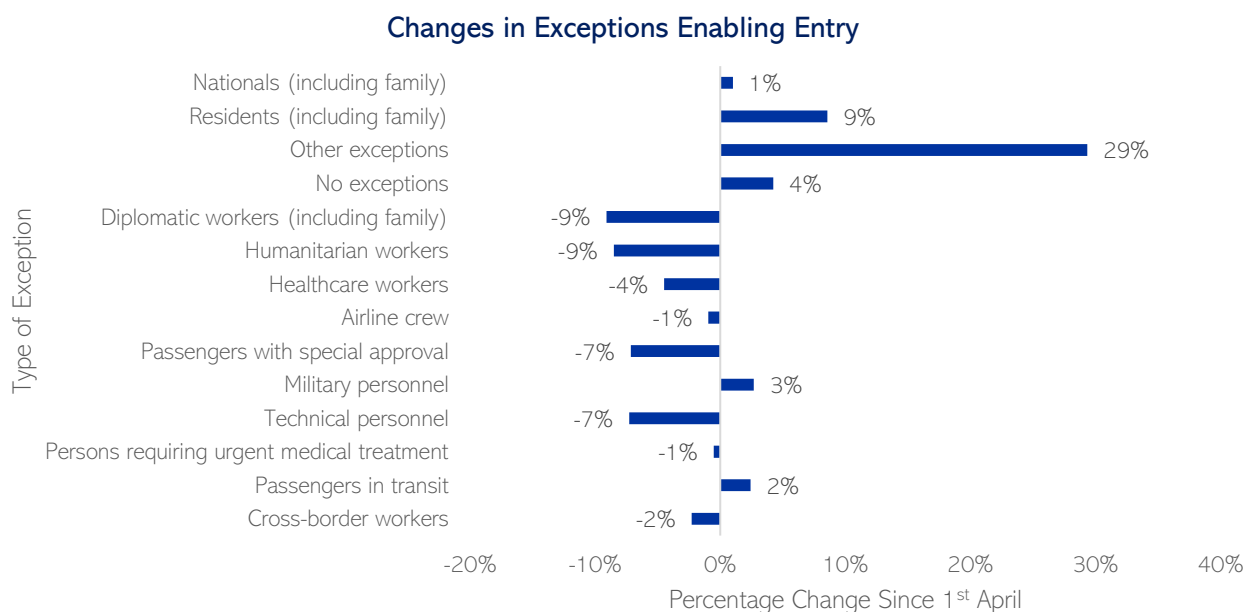
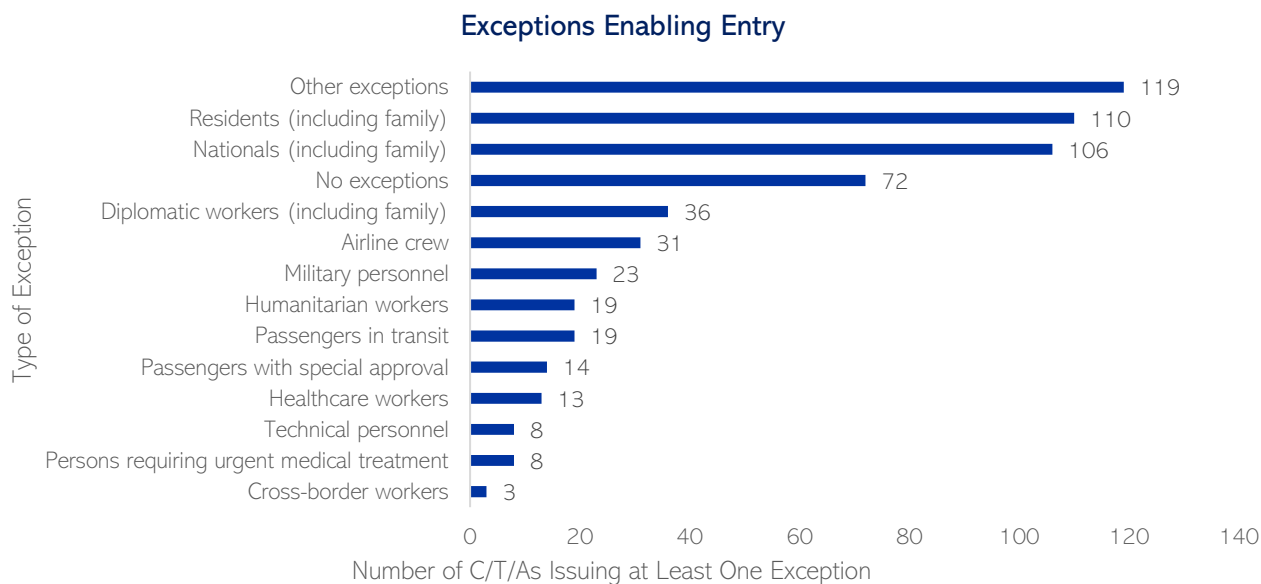
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■ Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

- Extensions of flight bans was issued by Morocco until 10th October 2020.
- Restrictions banning all passenger entry were extended by Spain and Mongolia until 31st October 2020, and by Iceland until 1st December 2020.
- Croatia added a new condition for authorized entry, stipulating that passengers must complete and present an "Enter Croatia Form." The form can be submitted online before departure. Nationals and Residents of Croatia are exempt.
- Czechia added a new condition for entry requiring arrival passengers to fill out a passenger locator form. Passengers arriving from and nationals of European Economic Area countries are exempt.
- Denmark removed passenger ban exceptions for residents of Iceland, Ireland, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, travelling as tourists.
- New conditions for entry were issued by Jamaica for residents of Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama and the United States of America must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result. The test must have been taken at most 10 days before arrival and the test type must be Rapid Testing-Polymerase Chain Reaction, Nucleic Acid Amplification Test or Ribonucleic Acid test (molecular). However, nationals of Jamaica and travellers below the age of 12 will be exempt from this measure.
- Ecuador issued new conditions for entry for those passengers arriving without a negative COVID-19 Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result issued at most 10 days before arrival. Such passengers are subject to a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival and self-isolation for 10 days.
- New conditions for entry were issued by Argentina requiring all passengers and airline crew must download "CuidAR" in their personal device to enter.
- The United States of America issued new conditions for entry for all passengers arriving in New York State, they must complete the "Traveller Health Form" online before arrival.
- St. Lucia added a new condition for authorized entry, requiring that passengers must present a travel authorization letter that their hotel for their stay has been verified. This does not apply to passengers younger than 18 years or passengers arriving from Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis or St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has suspended all visa on arrival facilities and the issuance of e-visas, and Thailand suspended all visa exemptions as well as visa on arrival facilities.
- Hong Kong, Special Administration Region of People's Republic of China added the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the list of arrival countries where passengers are required to present a negative COVID-19 test result to enter.
- The United Arab Emirates issued a new condition for authorized entry requiring that passengers arriving from 53 countries, territories or areas, and transiting Al Maktoum (DWC) or Dubai (DXB) must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result. The test must have been taken at most 96 hours before departure.
- A new condition for Airline crew was issued by South Africa for those without a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 72 hours before departure, they will be subject to are subject to self-isolation.
- New conditions for authorized entry were issued by Kyrgyzstan requiring that passengers must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival. Nationals of Kyrgyzstan, passengers younger than 7 years, passengers with a diplomatic passport are exempt. Passengers are also subject to medical screening and quarantine upon arrival however, visa on arrival facilities have been suspended.

- New conditions for entry were added by Angola requiring that passengers and airline crew subject to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
- Oman shifted its document requirements for nationals of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates, who must enter with a passport instead of a national ID card.
- Malta issued new conditions for authorized entry including, a completed "Public Health Travel Declaration Form" and "Passenger Locator Form" found at <https://www.maltairport.com/declarationforms/>, which must be presented upon arrival.

■ Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions



Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 771 exceptions enabling mobility, have been issued by 175 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Singapore (25), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (20), Republic of Korea (14), Canada (13), and then joint 5th with 11 were Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America.
- Since the last update on 5th October 2020, 13 new exceptions were added by Ethiopia (3), France (3), Angola (1), Burundi (1), India (1), Mongolia (1), Peru (1), Tunisia (1), and Uzbekistan (1).
- Since the last update on 5th October 2020, 19 exceptions were removed by Uganda (6), Angola (2), the Bahamas (2), Belize (2), Finland (2), Ukraine (2), France (1), Panama (1), and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- Cyprus removed Belgium, Georgia and Slovakia from the list of exempted countries.
- Tunisia added a new exception to requirement for passengers to present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 120 hours before arrival.
- New exceptions were issued by Ethiopia requiring a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, exempting passengers with a service passport and their immediate family members, passengers with a Laissez-Passer issued by an African Union (AU) state and their immediate family members and passengers with a Laissez-Passer issued by the United Nations and their immediate family members.
- Finland shifted from exempting all passengers arriving from Cyprus, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Poland or San Marino from their passenger ban to letting only passengers from these countries who are students or traveling for business.
- New exceptions to the passenger ban were issued by France, allowing entry to passengers with a confirmation of being an unmarried partner of a national of France, with a written invitation from the national of France and passengers with a Laissez-Passer.
- A new exception allowing the entry of passengers with a visa or an e-visa issued after 30 June 2020 was added by India.
- Likewise, Burundi added exceptions allowing the entry of flights returning nationals of Burundi from abroad.
- Norway issued new exceptions for their requirement of presenting a confirmed booking of quarantine accommodation for the first 10 days of the stay, exempting passengers arriving from Cyprus, Denmark (only Greenland), Finland (excluding South Savo, Central Finland and Uusimaa), Latvia, Liechtenstein or Sweden (only Gotland, Kalmar, Norrbotten, Varmland and Vasternorrland).
- Portugal issued new exceptions to their travel ban to allow entry to nationals of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, and their family members.
- Despite COVID-19 related travel restrictions, the mobility of aid and returning nationals from abroad continues. The United Arab Emirates sent 15 metric tonnes of medical supplies and testing kits to Jordan and Tajikistan respectively, to help support their ongoing COVID-19 efforts.
- A total of 300 nationals of India that were stranded in the United Arab Emirates due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, returned to Hyderabad and Lucknow on 9th October 2020.