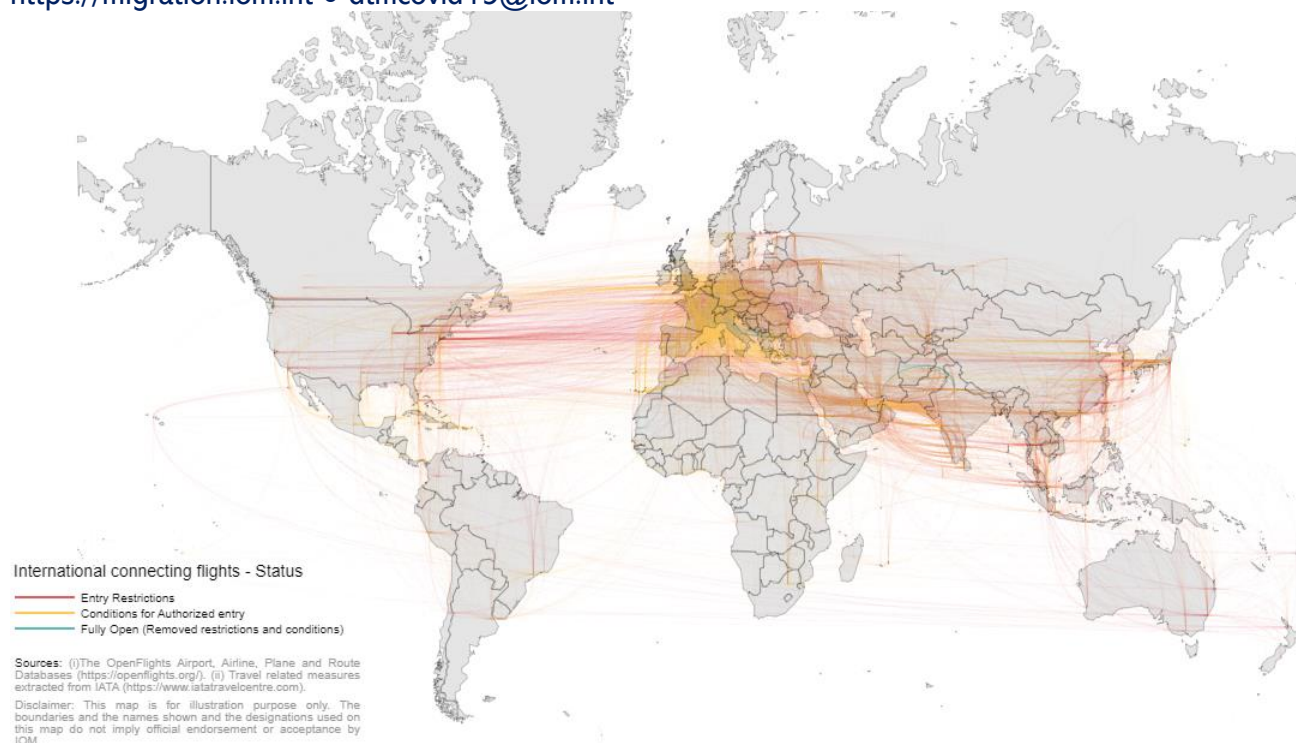


# Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020



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](#).

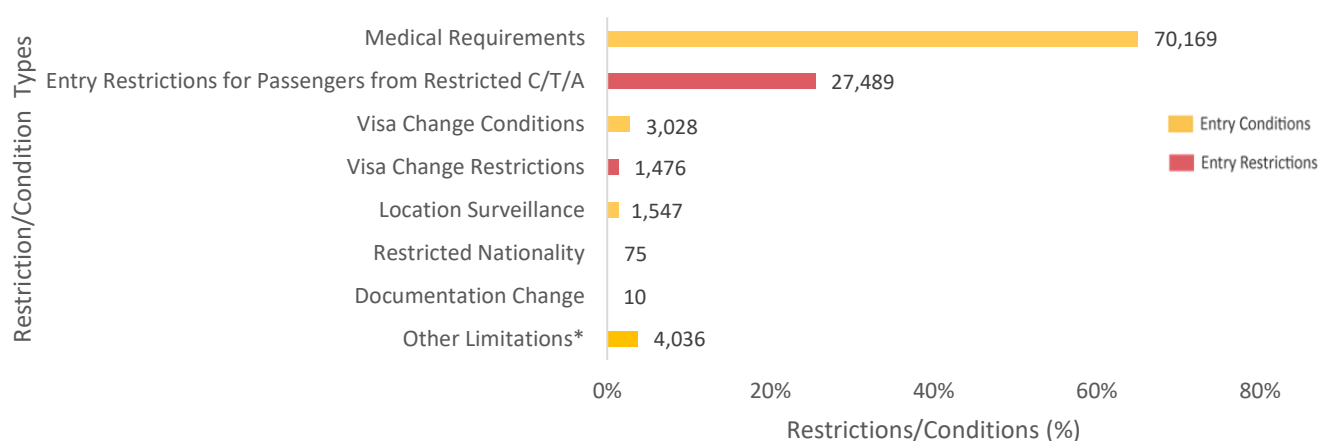
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities 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 global number of COVID-19 cases has exceeded 58 million (58,229,138 confirmed cases and 1,382,106 fatalities) as per the [World Health Organization](#) on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020.<sup>i</sup> The global pandemic continues to have a substantial effect on global migration and mobility. A total of 224 countries, territories or areas, have issued 107,830 travel related measures as of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, indicating an increase of almost 1 per cent from 107,164 travel related measures reported on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Of these, 29,040 were reported as entry restrictions and 78,790 were reported as conditions for entry. In the reporting period, there was a decrease in entry restrictions and an increase of conditions for authorized entry of 1 per cent, each. There has been an increase of 20 per cent in entry restrictions such as visa requirements and a decrease of 2 per cent in airport closures. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was an increase of 19 per cent in location surveillance such as passenger locator forms between 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 170 countries, territories or areas have issued 773 exceptions enabling mobility despite travel restrictions. Between 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, 19 countries, territories or areas issued 31 new exceptions whilst 11 countries, territories or areas removed 27 exceptions.

## Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

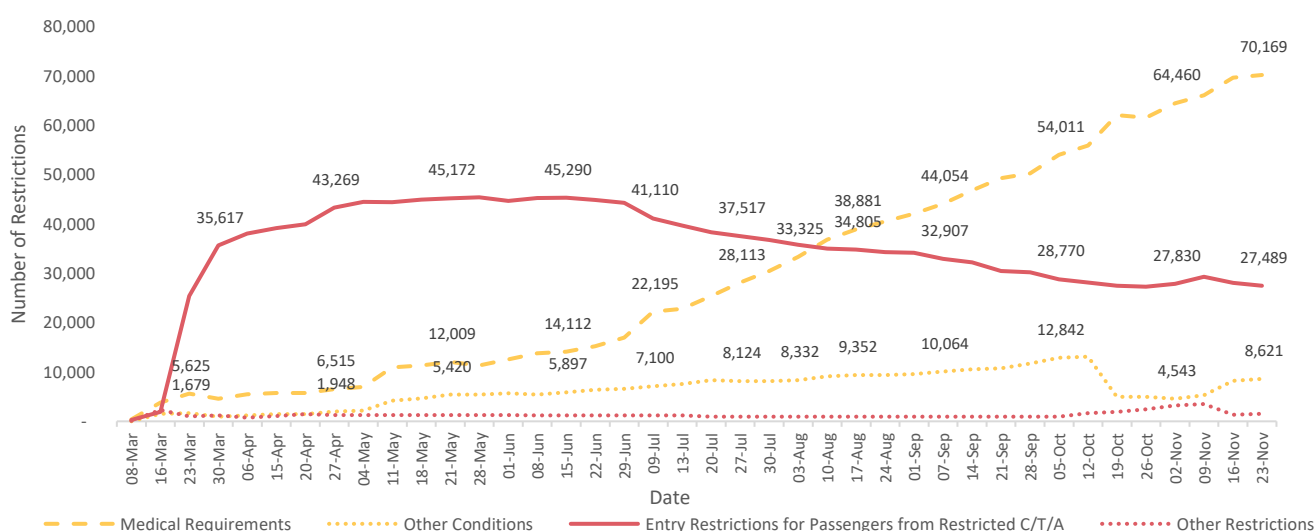
Most Commonly Imposed Restriction and Conditions for Authorized Entry



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

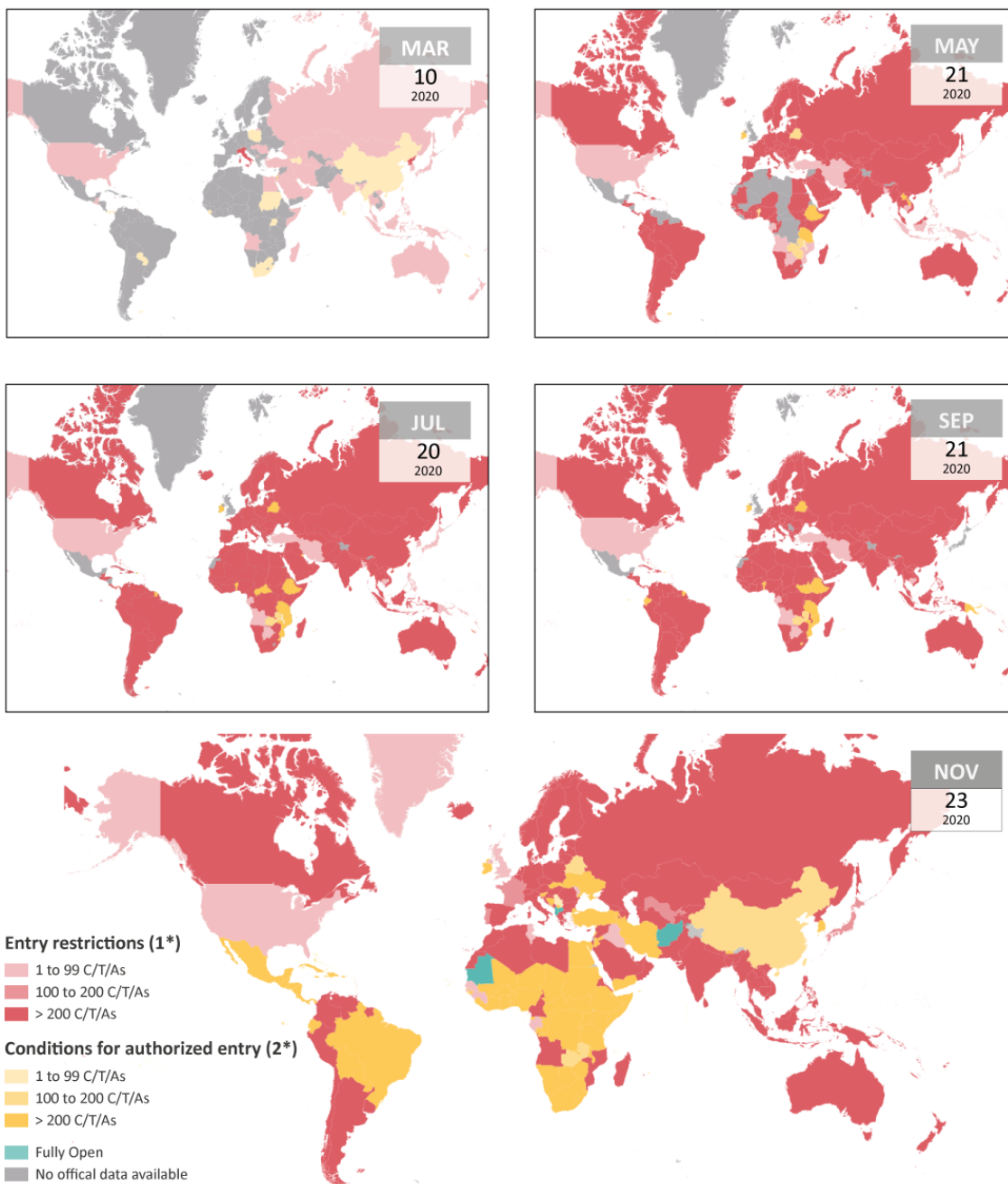
As of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, 224 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, decreasing further by 2 per cent in the past week, representing 25 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition for authorized entry representing 65 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 still 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.

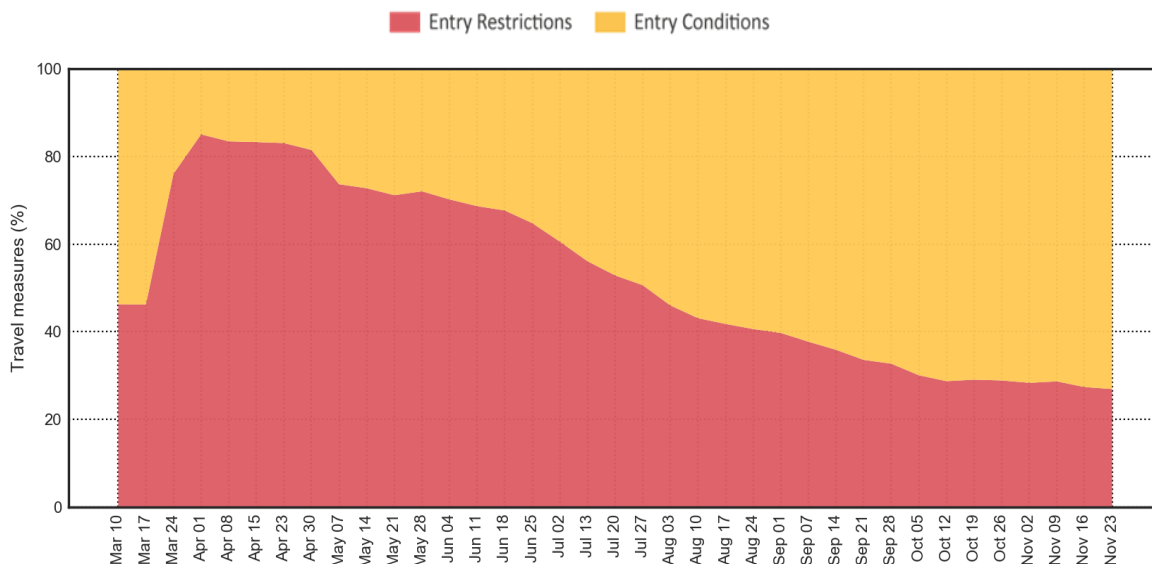


(1\*) Restricted entry on passengers coming from other countries, territories and areas (C/T/A).

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

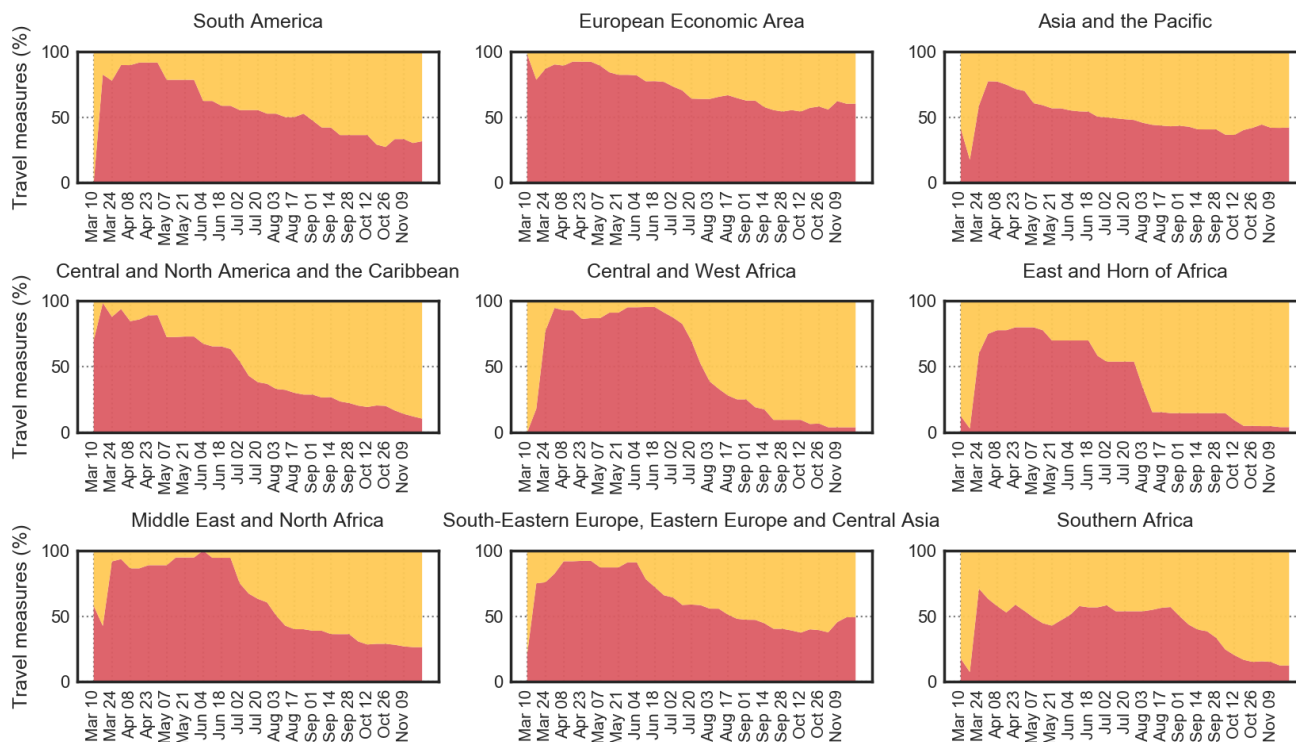
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over the time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 30 per cent, as of November 2020.

### 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.

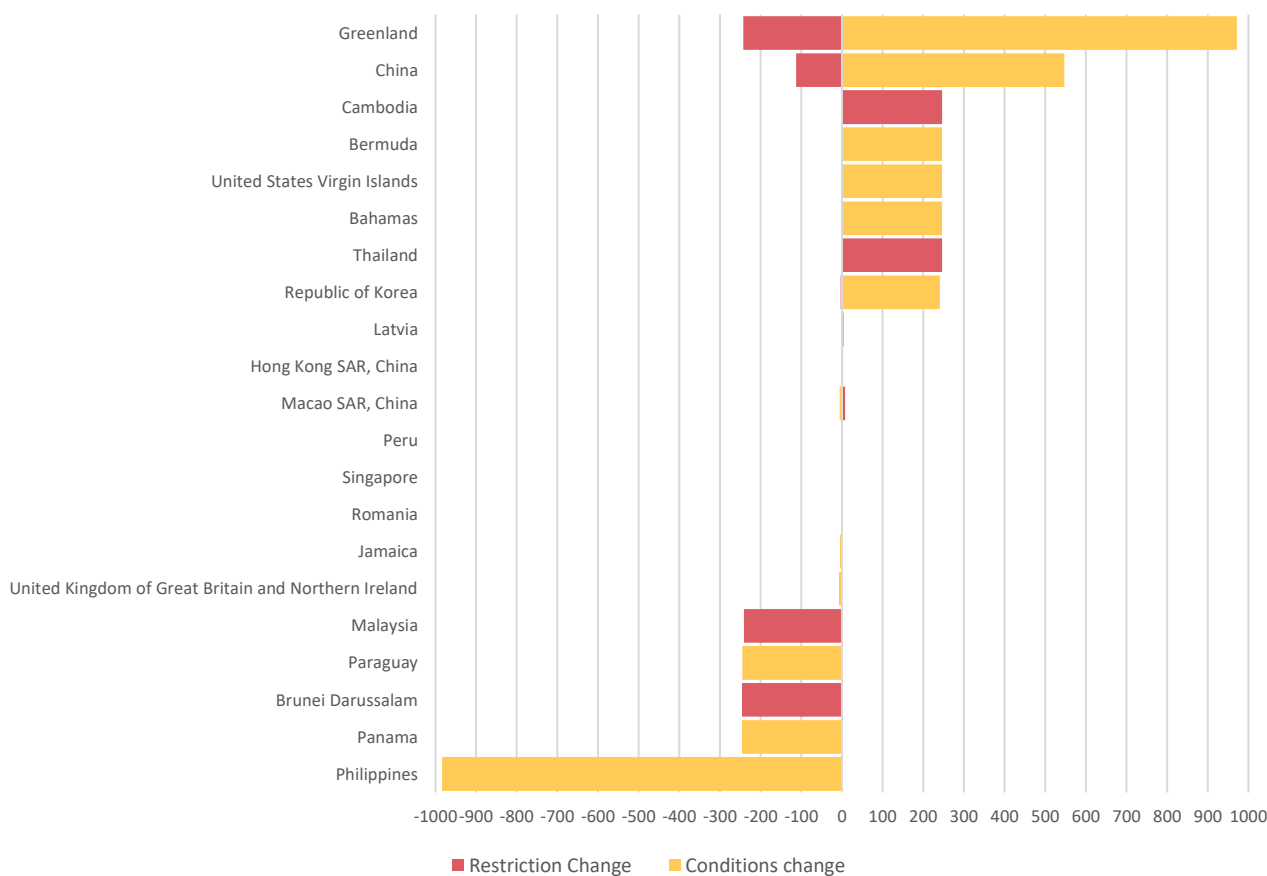
### Entry Restrictions vs. Conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



## ■ 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 conditions for authorized entry. Between 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, 21 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, eight of them made a small number of changes. While there were more C/T/As implementing new restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, eight C/T/As removed some existing restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry without issuing any new ones.

Changes in number of restrictions and conditions for authorized entry in the last week, by 21 C/T/As

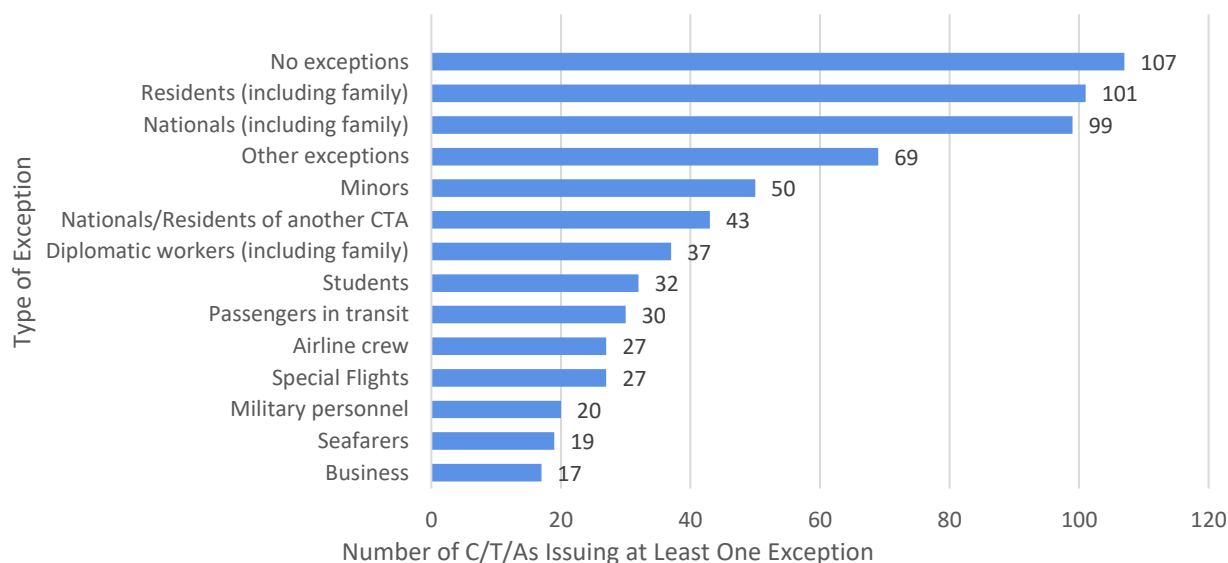


- As of 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020, passengers are now allowed to enter Greenland provided they meet the following conditions: passengers must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 PCR or RNA test taken at most five days before departure, with results in English or German and from an approved laboratory; passengers must also have a Personal Location Form which must be obtained before departure, and passengers are subject to medical screening and quarantine upon arrival.
- Greenland and Denmark suspended all flights arriving from Iceland until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.
- [The 'travel bubble'](#) enabling quarantine free travel between Singapore and Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of People's Republic of China, which was scheduled to be implemented on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020, has been delayed.
- Germany added Lithuania and removed Iceland from the travel corridor list. Passengers that have been in Iceland within 10 days prior to arrival in Germany are required to quarantine for 10 days upon arrival.
- Latvia updated entry restrictions, suspending flights arriving from Andorra, Czechia, Luxembourg and Switzerland to Latvia as of 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

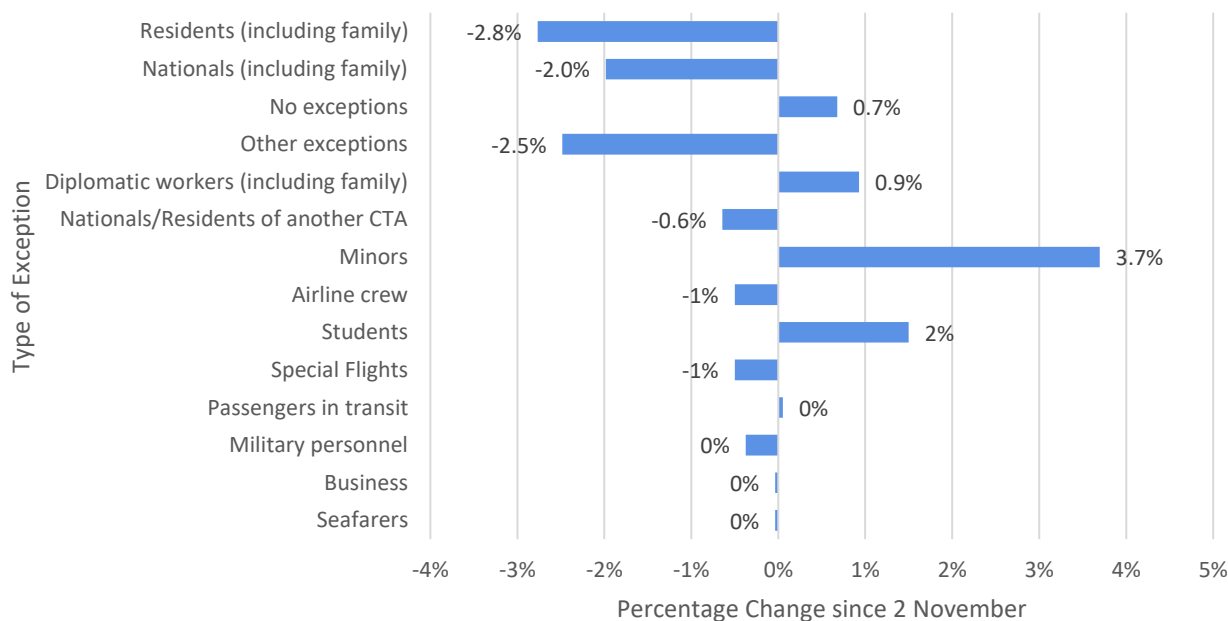
- Existing passenger bans were extended by Portugal until 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Romania until 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020, and Azerbaijan until 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Canada extended the travel ban on passengers arriving from the United States of America from 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020 to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
- Finland updated their existing passenger ban, specifically stating that residents of Uruguay arriving directly from Uruguay can enter the country until 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020, after which point, they will no longer be exempt from the entry bans.
- Panama extended the validity of visas issued between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 that expired or are about to expire between 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 provided they have extension stamp issued by the consulate, holders of such visas are accepted to enter and stay in Panama until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.
- Romania extended the validity of expired residence permits issued by Romania; they are now considered valid with an extension of 90 days as of 13 November 2020.
- Kazakhstan introduced visas as requirement for entry for nationals of People's Republic of China and India. Previously, they were exempt.
- As of 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020, visa services by Brunei Darussalam are no longer suspended, passenger visas, visas on arrival and visa exemption services have resumed.
- Changes to flights suspensions were issued. Flights arriving to Romania from Gibraltar and Argentina are no longer suspended, however, flights from Andorra, Armenia, French Polynesia, Guam or Montenegro are suspended until 13 December 2020.
- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland added Israel, Namibia, Northern Mariana Islands, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Uruguay and the United States' Virgin Islands to the travel corridor list. This means passengers arriving from these countries, territories or areas are no longer required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.
- Panama removed the conditions for entry requiring passengers to provide a "Declaracion Jurada de Salud." However, previous conditions for entry, i.e. a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 result are still in effect.
- Grenada removed the condition for authorized entry requiring that all passengers complete a health declaration form and issued new conditions for authorized entry, all passengers now must install "Self-Monitoring Mobile App" in their personal device and provide confirmation of a reservation of an approved hotel for at least 5 days.
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines issued conditions for authorized entry, requiring passengers who have been in Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat or St. Kitts and Nevis in the past 14 days to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
- New conditions for entry were issued. In effect from 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020, all passengers arriving in Canada are required to provide their travel information before boarding through the ArriveCAN app or on the [website](#).
- Pakistan issued new conditions for authorised entry for passengers arriving from Denmark, they are required to undergo a COVID-19 Rapid Test-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test upon arrival.
- As of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Armenia issued new conditions for authorized entry requiring that passengers provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival or subject to a test upon arrival at their own expense. The certificate must be in Armenian, English or Russian.
- Vanuatu issued new conditions for authorized entry, requiring that passengers complete the "Online Travelers Health Registration Form" 24 hours before departure. Additionally, residents of Vanuatu must provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point to enter.
- Cuba issued new conditions for authorized entry, requiring that all passengers subject to medical screening upon arrival.

## ■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Types of Exceptions issued by C/T/As



Changes in Exceptions: Groups that are allowed to enter



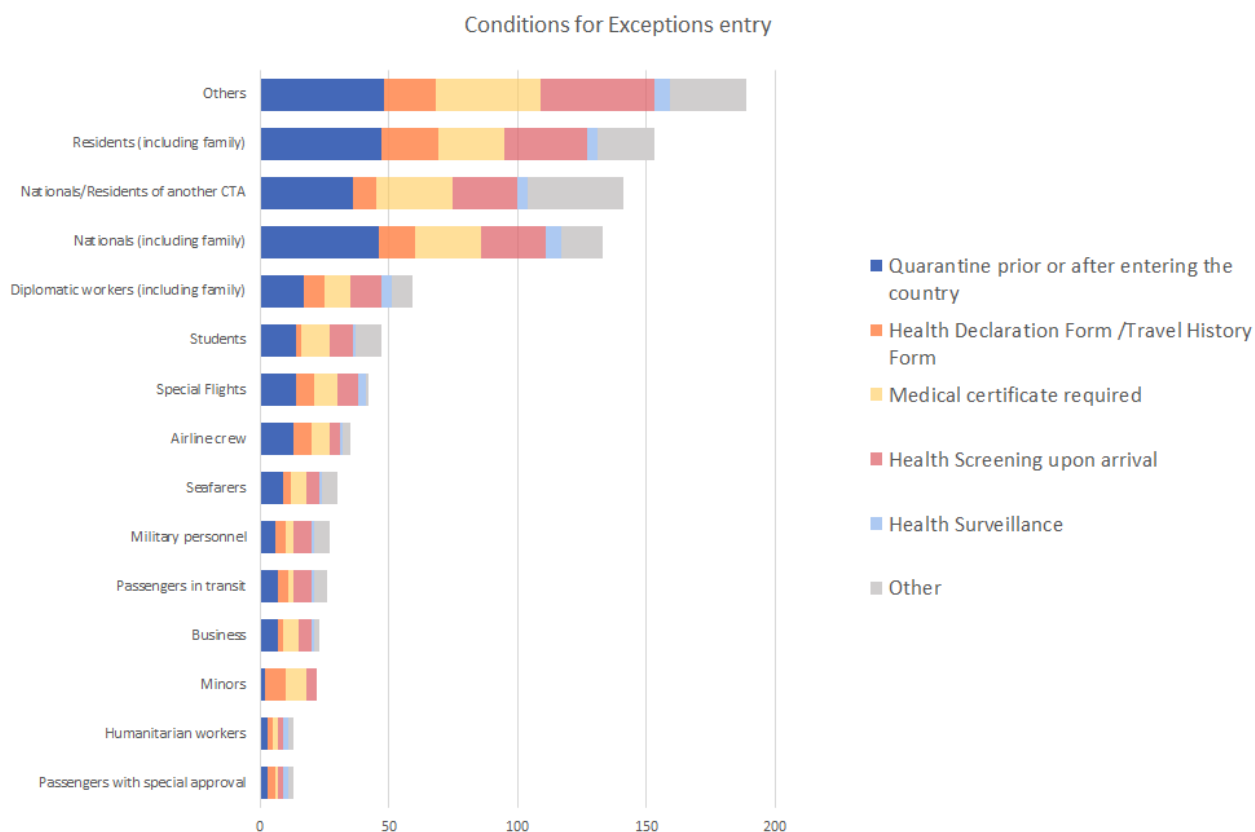
### Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- A total of 773 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 (17), Italy (14) and Singapore (14).
- Between 16th and 23rd November 2020, 19 countries, territories or areas issued 31 new exceptions whilst 11 countries, territories or areas removed 27 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 109 have issued 972 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 Japan (45), Norway (36), Singapore (34), Belgium (30), and Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of People’s Republic of China (30).
- A total of 36 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 278 times. This was followed by health screening (197) and Medical certificates (192).



## ■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- The Russian Federation added exceptions to the travel ban for passengers arriving from Seychelles and Ethiopia.
- Botswana issued exceptions for children below five years, they are not required to provide a medical certificate with a COVID-19 negative test result to enter.
- New exceptions to the measure requiring passengers provide a medical certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) PCR test result issued at most 48 hours before arrival, were issued by Bosnia and Herzegovina for passengers with a diplomatic, official or service passport traveling on duty.
- Georgia issued exceptions to its flight suspension, allowing flights from Amsterdam, Athens, Berlin, Doha, Milan, Munich, Paris, Vienna and Warsaw arriving in Tbilisi, and flights from Dortmund, Katowice and Vilnius, arriving in Kutaisi. Georgia also issued new quarantine (8 days) requirements for authorized entry for nationals and residents of Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden without a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
- Portugal issued an exemption for passengers in transit, they are exempt from providing a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, issued 72 hours before departure.
- Denmark issued exceptions to the passenger ban for passengers travelling to Faroe Islands (FAE). However, all passengers above the age of 12 and traveling to Faroe Islands (FAE) are subject to COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival at their own expense.