Global Mobility Restriction Overview
Bi-Weekly Update • 16th July 2020
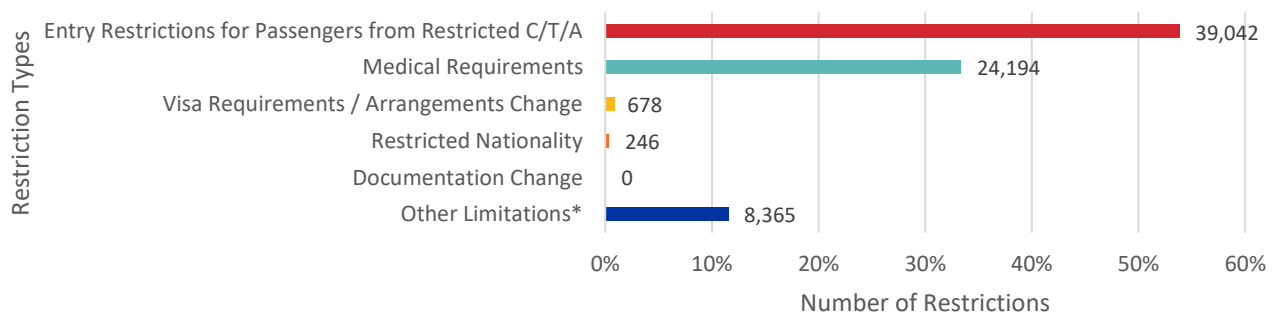
COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
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■ Overview

Global mobility continues to remain significantly impacted because of the COVID-19 related travel restrictions and measures. As governments and authorities continue to grapple with the myriad effects of the pandemic, changes in travel restrictions engender a dynamic mobility context. As of 16th July 2020, a total of 219 countries, territories or areas have issued 72,525 travel restrictions, indicating an increase of one per cent from 71,479 restrictions recorded on 13th July 2020. There has been an increase of 10 per cent in other limitations like new documents required for travel as well as an increase of 6 per cent for medical restrictions. However, there has also been a simultaneous decrease of 27 per cent in restrictions on visas and a 2 per cent decrease in restrictions on passengers arriving from specific countries, territories or areas. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 176 countries, territories or areas have issued 636 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 13th and 16th July 2020, 10 countries, territories or areas have issued 17 new exceptions whilst 7 countries, territories or areas have removed 11 exceptions.
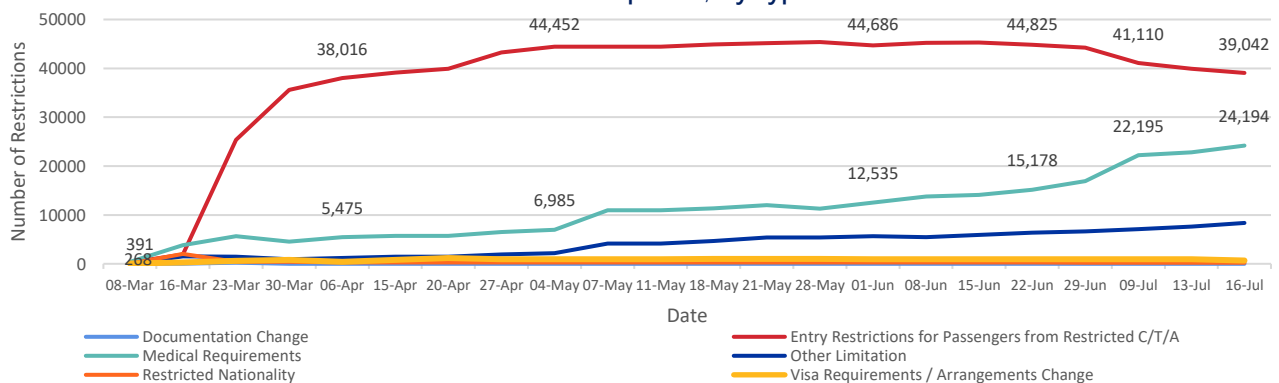Data Source: IATA and official government websites.

Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Type

*Other limitations include suspended visas on arrival and entry permits, requirements for international travel certificates and medical coverages.
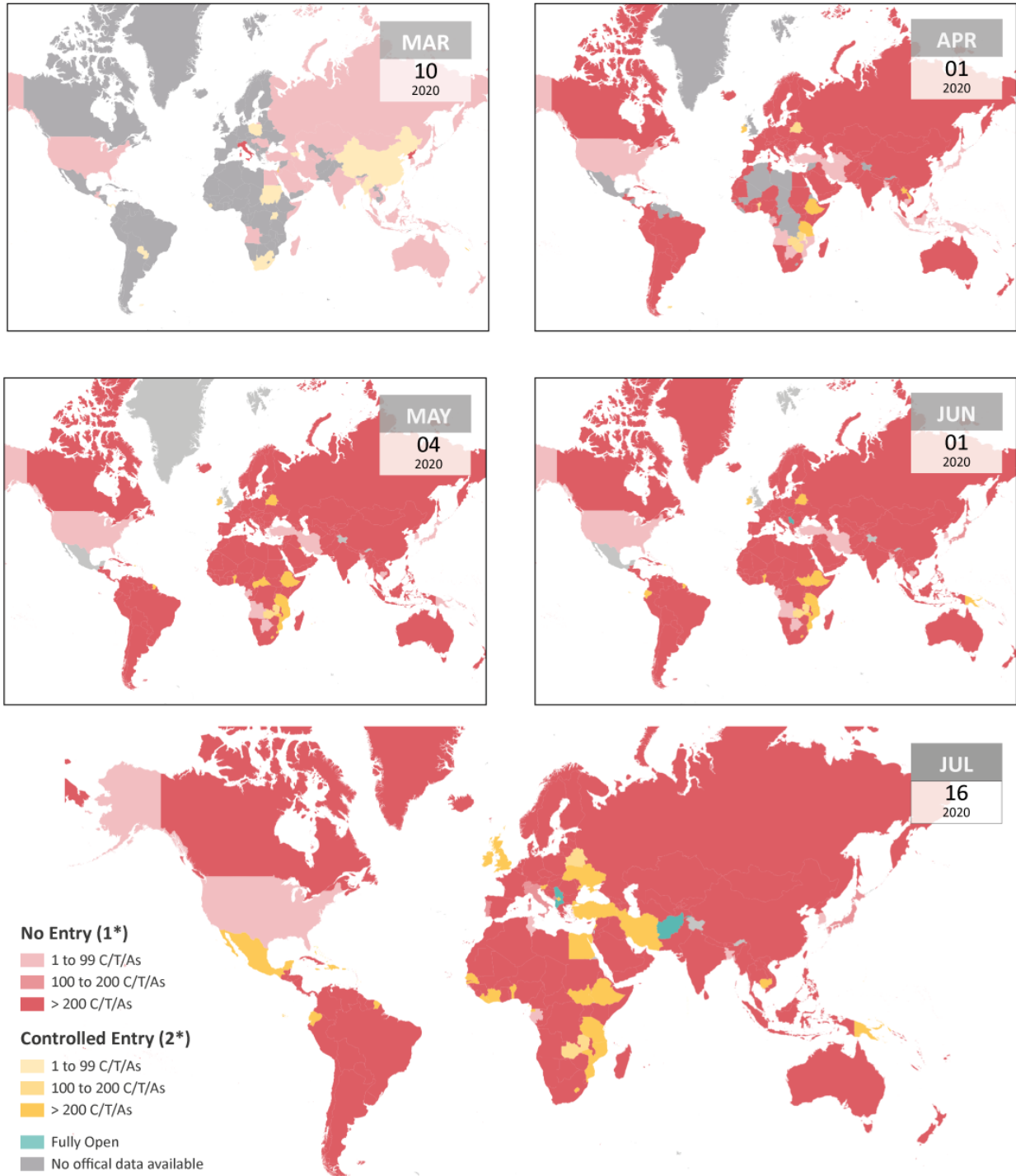
As of 16th July 2020, 219 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Although entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As still had the highest share of the total restrictions (54%), they have been following a decreasing trend. In contrast, medical measures making up 33 per cent of the restrictions have been increasing. Changes in visa requirements have also followed a stable trend, continuing to represent a small share (<1%) in 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

No Entry (1*)

- 1 to 99 C/T/As
- 100 to 200 C/T/As
- > 200 C/T/As

Controlled 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).

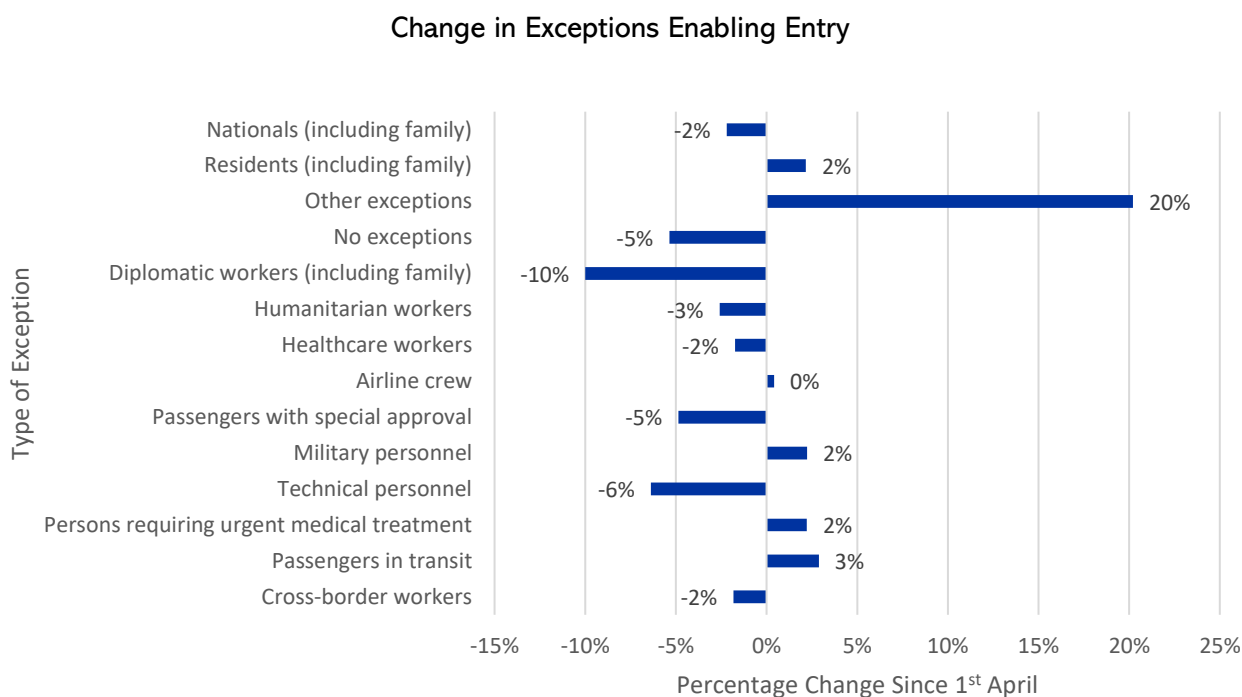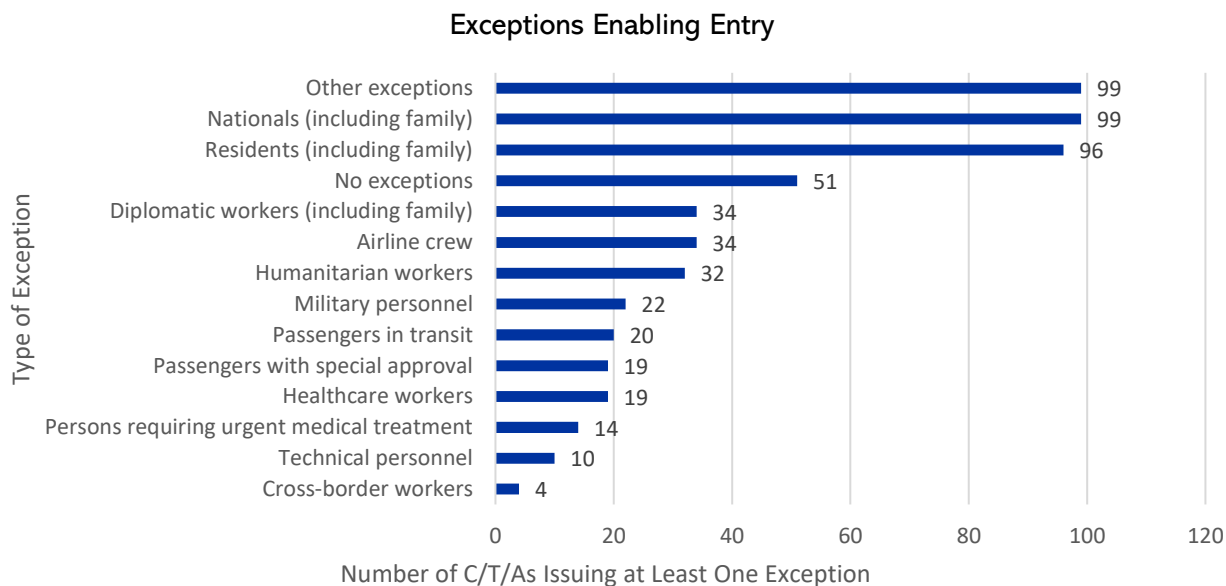(2*) C/T/As imposing medical measures, changes in Visa or ID or other
measures on arrival.

■ Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

- Flight suspensions extensions were issued by Sierra Leone and Tajikistan until 21st July 2020, by Iraq until 22nd July 2020, and by Sudan until 10th October 2020. Flights from Egypt, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates are exempt.

- New Caledonia extended their flight ban indefinitely and issued new measures for conditional entry including the presentation of an International Travel Certificate, a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, a declaration on honour to state that passengers do not have symptoms of COVID-19 and must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.

- Passenger bans were extended to 1st August 2020 by the Republic of Moldova and to 11th August 2020 by Finland.

- The People's Republic of China issued blanket 14-day quarantine and medical screening requirements for all passengers arriving at Beijing (PEK), Guangzhou (CAN), Shanghai Hongqiao (SHA), Shanghai Pudong (PVG), Shenzhen (SZX) or Xiamen (XMN).

- New restrictive measures were issued by Singapore, barring all passengers from transiting through the country.

- Sri Lanka issued new medical measures, requiring that passengers and airline crew undergo medical screening and a 14-day quarantine upon arrival.

- Saint Helena added medical conditions for entry, requiring passengers isolate for 14 days, upon arrival whereas Saint Lucia issued medical requirements for airline crew who must undergo medical screening upon arrival.

- The United Arab Emirates issued a new condition requiring all passengers arriving as tourists to download a mobile health tracking application for entry. The Islamic Republic of Iran suspended visas on arrival for passengers traveling as tourists.

- Authorities in the United States of America and Mexico announced plans to extend the travel ban on non-essential travel at the land border for an additional month until 21st August 2020.

- The European Union Member States have removed Serbia and Montenegro from the safe list of countries from which non-essential travel is permitted. Passengers arriving from Serbia were banned from entering Cyprus, and nationals and residents from both Serbia and Montenegro were banned from entering Czechia. Austria suspended flights from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Egypt, Kosovo* (UN SCR 1244),[1] Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania and Serbia, as of 16th July 2020.

- Aruba added a new requirement, requiring passengers to present proof of health insurance purchased before departure, whereas Bermuda removed their previous requirement for passengers to provide proof of health insurance. Passengers must instead complete an online Travel Authorization form and present the confirmation before departure.

- Tunisia shifted from a total suspension of flights to a restriction on passengers arriving from 87 countries, territories or areas. Additionally, for passengers arriving from a specific list of 46 countries, territories or areas, passengers are required to present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, undergo mandatory quarantine of 14 days upon arrival and also have a valid hotel confirmation.

- Flight resumption dates were issued by Rwanda scheduled for 31st July 2020.

- Dominican Republic removed requirements for medical screening upon arrival, and Guam removed the requirement of proof of a negative COVID-19 test result.

- Restrictions were lifted by Norway for passengers arriving from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. New exceptions were also issued to allow entry to boyfriends or girlfriends of residents of Norway. A "Solemn declaration on relationship for use in connection with entry," signed by the person residing in Norway, must be presented to the immigration upon arrival.

- Hungary lifted entry restrictions for passengers arriving from Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, People's Republic of China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or the Holy See.

- Greece lifted flight suspension restrictions for passengers arriving from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- Germany eased the travel ban on passengers arriving from Sweden.

- International Flights to and from Senegal have been restarted as of 15th July 2020, however, passengers must have a medical certificate indicating a negative COVID-19 test result valid for 7 days before arrival. Passengers that do not fulfil these requirements are subject to mandatory medical screening upon arrival and must complete a declaration form.

- As of 16th July 2020, passengers can enter the Maldives, visa on arrival facilities have restarted however, all passengers that are travelling as tourists must provide hotel confirmation for their entire stay, undergo mandatory medical screening and complete a 'self-declarative health declaration' online 24 hours prior to travel.

- Flights to the Dominican Republic have also restarted as of 14th July 2020, all passengers must provide a completed health declaration form upon arrival.

■ Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions

Exceptions Enabling Entry

Type of Exception	Number of C/T/As Issuing at Least One Exception
Other exceptions	99
Nationals (including family)	99
Residents (including family)	96
No exceptions	51
Diplomatic workers (including family)	34
Airline crew	34
Humanitarian workers	32
Military personnel	22
Passengers in transit	20
Passengers with special approval	19
Healthcare workers	19
Persons requiring urgent medical treatment	14
Technical personnel	10
Cross-border workers	4

Change in Exceptions Enabling Entry

Type of Exception	Percentage Change Since 1st April
Nationals (including family)	-2%
Residents (including family)	2%
Other exceptions	20%
No exceptions	-5%
Diplomatic workers (including family)	-10%
Humanitarian workers	-3%
Healthcare workers	-2%
Airline crew	0%
Passengers with special approval	-5%
Military personnel	2%
Technical personnel	-6%
Persons requiring urgent medical treatment	2%
Passengers in transit	3%
Cross-border workers	-2%

Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 636 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 176 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Norway (13), Sweden (12), Greece (11), Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China (11), and Thailand (11).
- Since the last update on 13th July 2020, 17 new exceptions were added by New Caledonia (3), Rwanda (3), Sudan (3), Singapore (2), Aruba (1), Italy (1), Kazakhstan (1), the Netherlands (1), Saint Helena (1), and Sri Lanka (1).
- Since the last update on 13th July 2020, 11 exceptions were removed by Saint Helena (4), Rwanda (2), Guam (1), Jamaica (1), Kazakhstan (1), the Philippines (1), and Senegal (1).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- New medical requirements for conditional entry of exempt passengers were issued by India, including medical screening, 14-day quarantine, a mobile health tracking application, and a completed Self Declaration Form, upon arrival.

- Croatia issued new conditions for exempted passengers as of 14th July 2020, requiring passengers to undergo medical screening upon arrival and self-isolation for 14 days.

- Denmark shifted exceptions to include residents of Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Holy See traveling as tourists.

- Ireland also changed their exceptions to remove visa exemptions for passengers with a short stay visa issued by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- As of 16th July 2020, authorities in Myanmar announced that over 8,000 nationals have returned from abroad in 56 flights, additionally 1,800 more nationals are scheduled to return in 13 flights in August 2020.

- After a halt of two weeks, authorities in Uganda have announced three flights, from Qatar, United States of America and Canada on 18th and 19th July 2020 to facilitate the return of nationals.

- Turkey will send medical supplies including 50 ventilators, 100,000 surgical masks, 50,000 N-95 type masks and 50,000 protective coveralls to Sudan. Additionally, Turkey also sent medical aid to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Kyrgyzstan on 16th July 2020.

- The United Arab Emirates sent 10 metric tons of medical aid and COVID-19 testing kits to Mexico to bolster ongoing COVID-19 efforts.