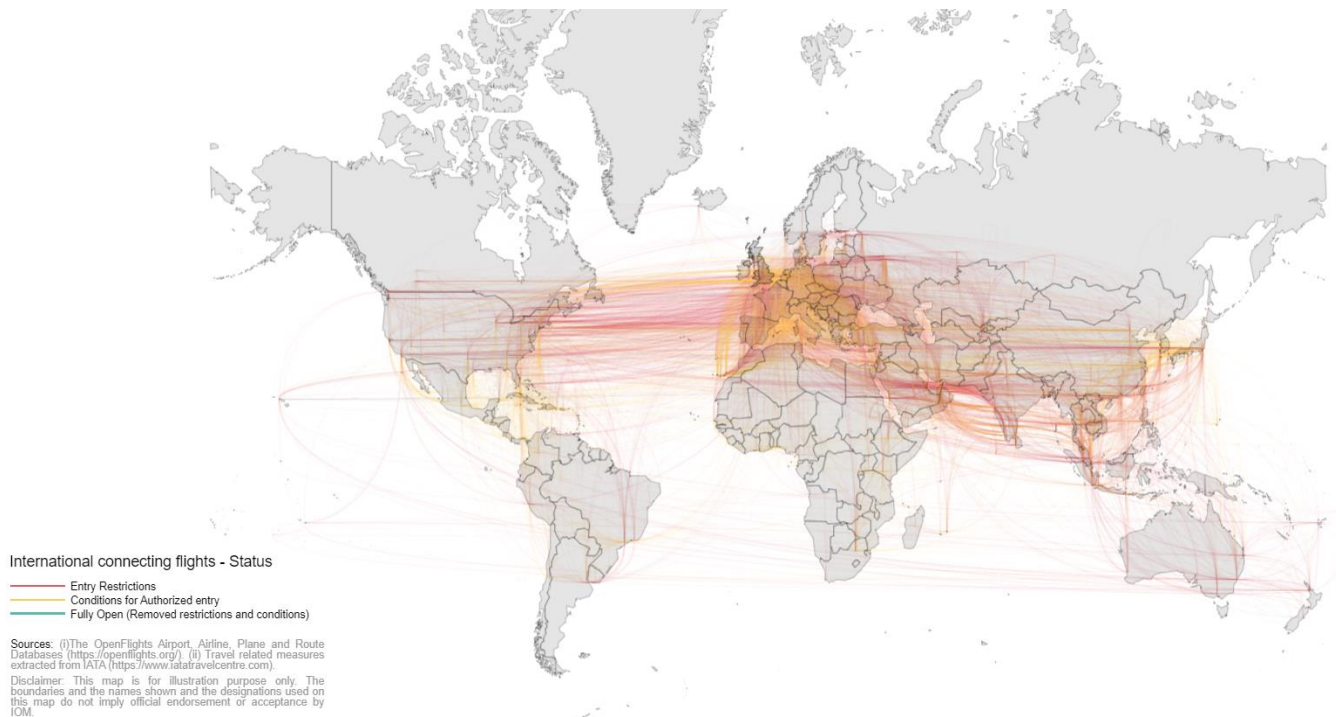


Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Weekly Update • 22nd March 2021



COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series
<https://migration.iom.int> • 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](#).

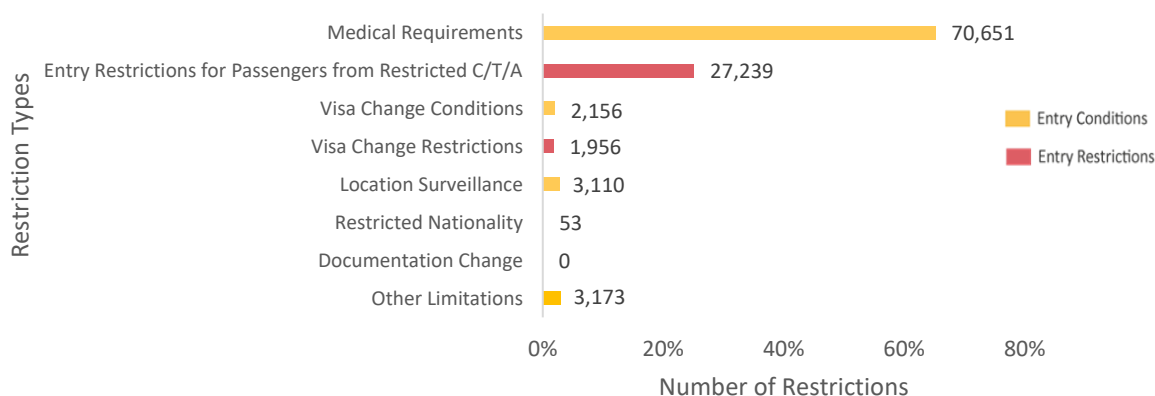
Disclaimer: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe mobility restrictions in relation to COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities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

Overview

As of 22nd March 2021, there have been more than 122 million cases of COVID-19 recorded globally by the [World Health Organization](#), including more than 2.7 million deaths, and as of 19th March 2021, a total of 392,609,534 vaccine doses have been administered globally. The impact of COVID-19 on mobility and migration remains consistent. A total of 227 countries, territories, or areas, have issued 108,338 travel related measures as of 22nd March 2021, indicating almost no change (less than 1%) from 108,244 travel related measures reported on 15th March 2021. Of these, 29,248 were reported as entry restrictions and 79,090 were reported as conditions for authorized entry. In the reporting period, there was a decrease of three per cent in entry restrictions and an increase of one per cent in conditions for authorized entry. In terms of conditions for authorized entry, there was an increase of eight per cent in location surveillance measures such as submitting Passenger Locator Forms. There was a decrease of three per cent in restrictions issued on specific nationalities, general passenger bans and flight suspensions. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 192 countries, territories or areas have issued 856 exceptions enabling mobility. Between 15th and 22nd March 2021, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 26 new exceptions whilst 6 countries, territories or areas removed 20 exceptions.

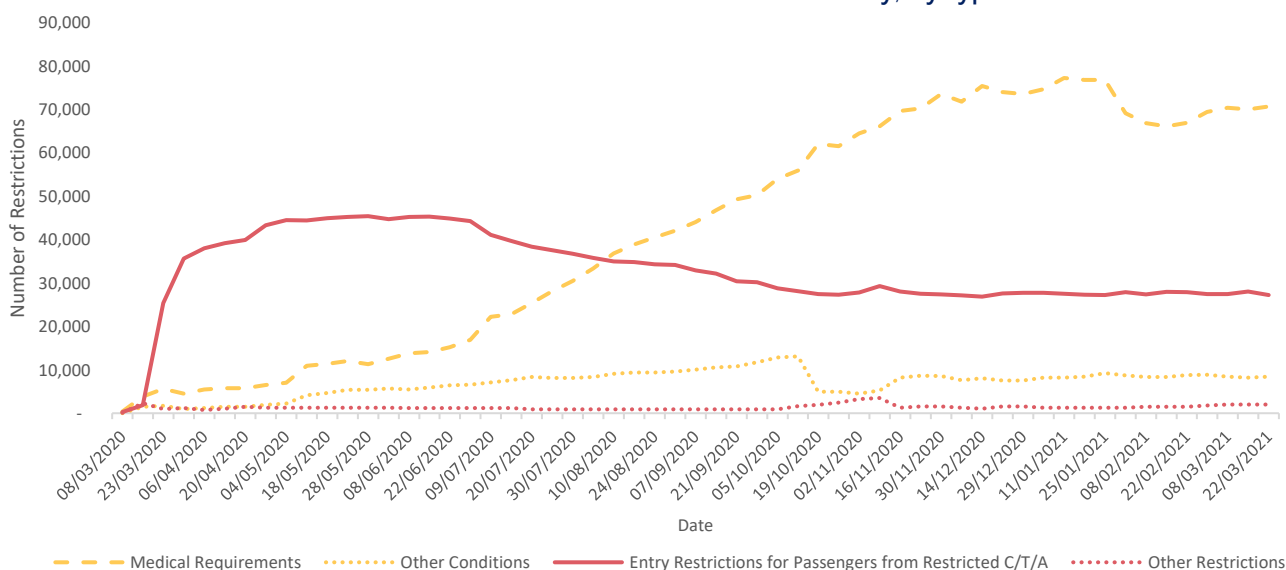
Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry

Most commonly imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry



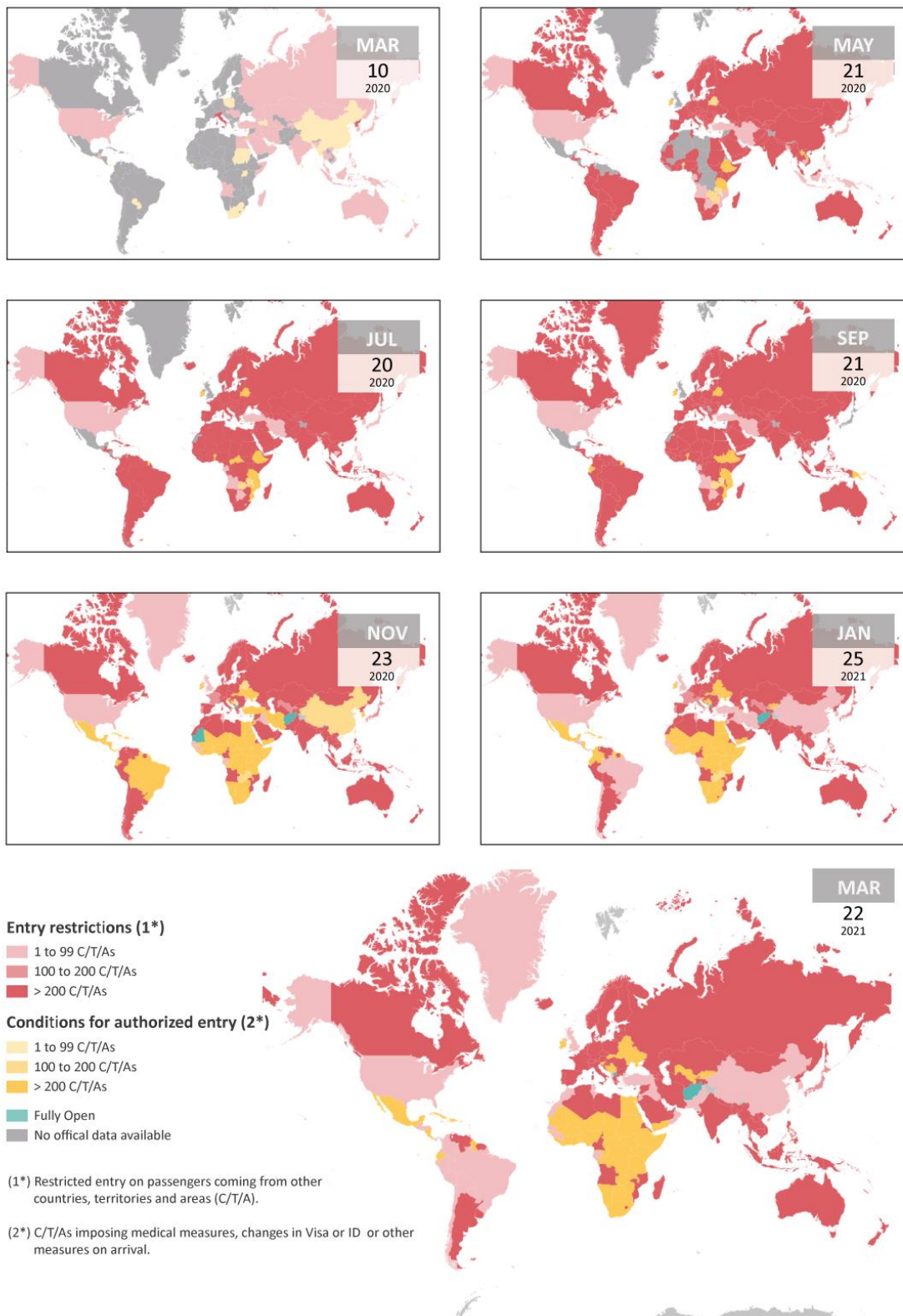
As of 22nd March 2021, 227 C/T/As have imposed restrictions and conditions for authorized entry. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As continue to follow a decreasing trend, representing 26 per cent of all restrictions and conditions. Medical measures are the most common condition 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



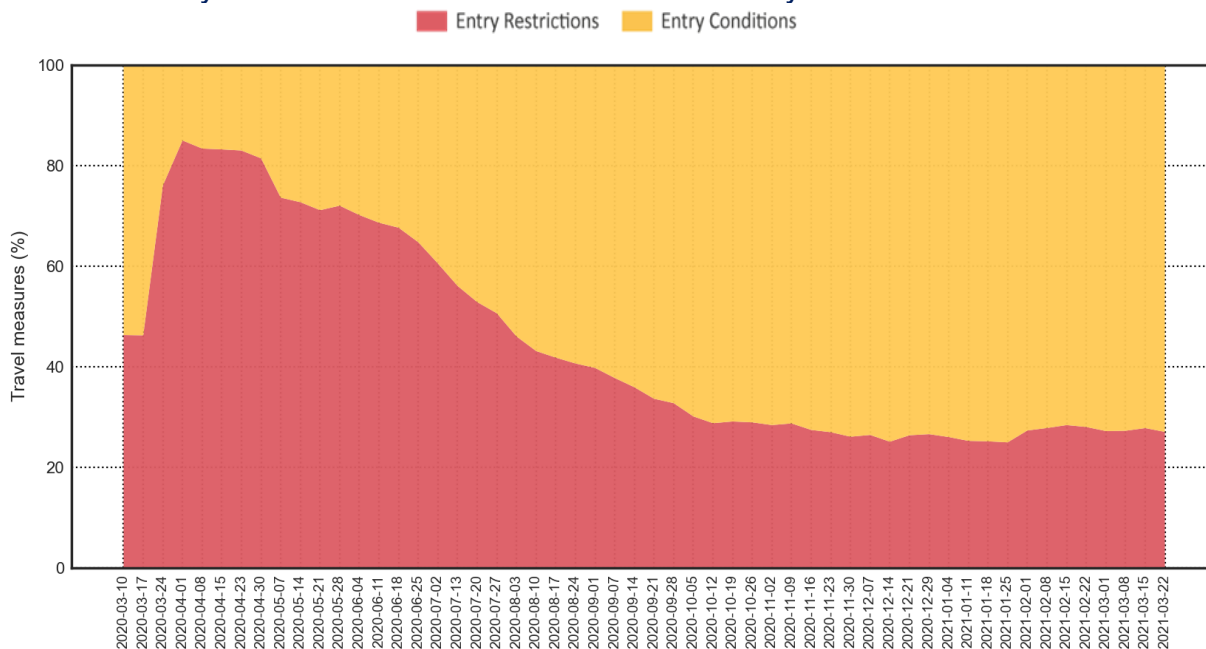
Changes in Entry Restrictions and Conditions for Authorized Entry, Over Time

The map below provides a global overview of the changes between the type of measures issued by C/T/As and gradual increases in the issuance of 'entry restrictions' (e.g. total entry restrictions for passengers) and/or 'conditions for authorized entry' (e.g. medical requirements in the form of PCR test, quarantine, etc.). In March 10th 2020, only 90 Governments and authorities across the world had announced COVID-19 related travel measures, by May 21st 2020 this number increased to 221 whereas as of 22nd March 2021, 227 out of 247 C/T/As (91%) have issued some form of entry restrictions or conditions for authorized entry at international airports.



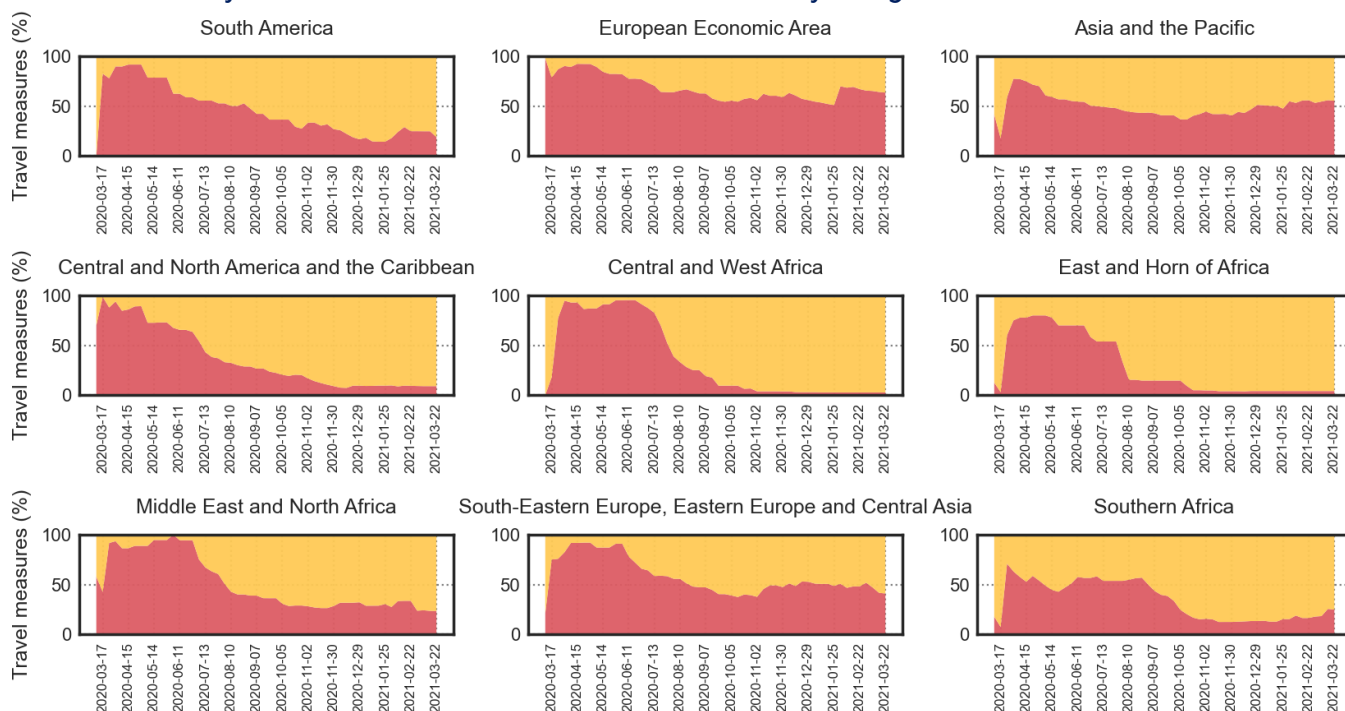
The chart below shows the shift from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' over time. In April 2020, entry restrictions constituted 80 per cent of all COVID-19 related measures (coloured in red), but this proportion has gradually decreased to 25 per cent, as of 22nd March 2021.

Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Global overview



Although most of the IOM regions have gradually shifted from 'entry restrictions' to 'conditions for authorized entry' there are important differences in terms of timing and severity of measures. For instance, the IOM regions of *Central and West Africa* and *East and Horn of Africa* have seen the sharpest shift from restrictions to conditions, with strict entry restrictions representing less than 5 per cent of the total travel related measures as of 22nd March 2021. On the other hand, since October 2020, IOM region of *Asia and the Pacific* has reversed previous trends observed (shift from restrictions to conditions) and started reissuing restrictions again. These regional differences over time reflect the dissimilar evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in different geographical areas.

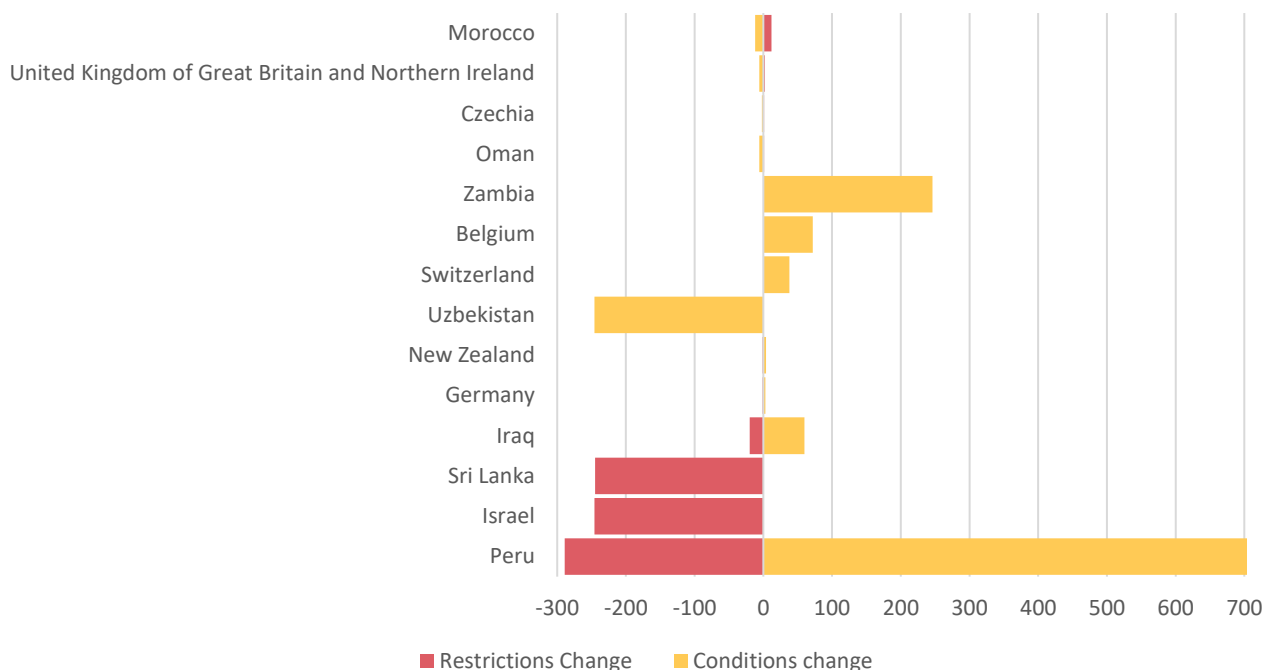
Entry restrictions vs. conditions for authorized entry – Regional overview



■ 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 15th and 22nd March 2021, 14 C/T/As added or removed some restrictions and/or conditions for authorized entry, 5 of them made minor changes. While 5 C/T/As removed existing conditions for authorized entry, 6 C/T/As removed new total restrictions. There were 7 and 4 C/T/As issuing new conditions and restrictions respectively.

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



Special Focus: Impact on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland¹

With Brexit in effect as of 1st January 2021, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland status in relation to the European Union Member States has changed. This has also had a subsequent effect in terms of COVID-19 related travel measures. In parallel, reports of the new strain of the COVID-19 virus in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have led to various impacts on migrants as C/T/As responded with new measures to mitigate and prevent the spread of the new strain. As of 22nd March 2021, a total of 91 C/T/As have issued some measure or travel restriction in regard to travel/arrivals from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as a result of the newly identified strain of COVID-19. However, following recent reports, the situation seems to have stabilized such that between 15th and 22nd March 2021, no new C/T/As added new restrictions on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Changes in Existing COVID-19 Measures

- As of 15th March 2021, Portugal, Argentina and the Plurinational State of Bolivia extended the flight suspension for flights from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland until 31st March, 9th April and 31st May 2021, respectively.
- Dominican Republic issued an end date of 28th March 2021 for the measure requiring passengers who in the past 14 days have been in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and arrive without a negative COVID-19 PCR test issued at most 72 hours before departure. Such passengers are subject to a test upon arrival and quarantine for seven days at their own expense.
- Iraq lifted the passenger ban on travellers arriving from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

¹ Please note that changes in the chart only reflect actual timely shifts in measures, and not additional changes that are resultant of internal quality control.
² This was last updated on 22nd March 2021 at 15:00 GMT.

- Albania issued an end date to the existing restriction suspending flights from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (until 28 March 2021). Additionally, passengers arriving from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on indirect flights are subject to quarantine for 14 days.
- On 19th March 2021, Oman issued a passenger ban on travellers who have been in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past 14 days are not allowed to enter anymore. Nationals of Oman are exempt from this restriction.
- Flights from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Peru are suspended until 31st March 2021 and passengers who have been in or transited through the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the last 14 days are not allowed to enter until 28th March 2021.

Key Highlights

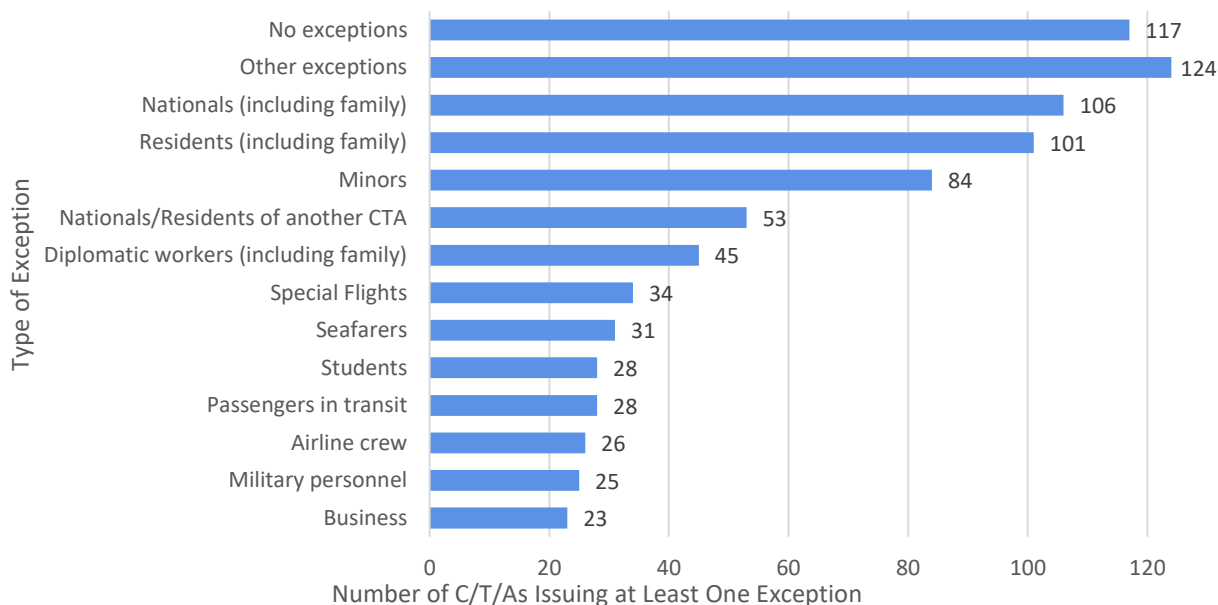
- As of 16th March 2021, Peru extended the flight suspension for flights from Brazil and South Africa until 31st March 2021. Additionally, passengers, with the exemption of nationals and residents of Peru, who have been to or transited through Brazil and South Africa in the past 14 days are not allowed to enter Peru until 28th March 2021.
- Changes in conditions for authorized entry were made by Uzbekistan, passengers are no longer subject to Rapid Antigen Testing upon arrival, instead they must have a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result taken at most 72 hours before departure of the flight to Uzbekistan. The certificate must be in English or Russian.
- On 16th March 2021, Israel lifted the flight suspensions on all incoming flights arriving to the country, however a general passenger ban for all travellers, except nationals and residents, as well as passengers with an authorization letter issued by the Population and Immigration Authority remains in place.
- Additional conditions for authorized entry were added by Zambia. Under the current requirement for a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result taken at least seven days prior to arrival, a new test result taken 72 hours before arrival was added. However, children below the age of five are exempt from this condition.
- Iraq lifted the passenger ban on passengers arriving from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, United States of America and Zambia. Germany lifted the passenger ban on travellers from Portugal which was issued on 5th February 2021. However, passengers from Portugal are subject to a COVID-19 test upon entry, must quarantine for 10 days and provide a travel history form.
- Belgium issued four new conditions for authorized entry. First, passengers entering Belgium must have an Essential Journey Certificate issued by a Belgian embassy or consulate. Nationals and residents, residents of European Economic Area (EEA) Member States, seafarers, passengers with diplomatic passport, passengers in transit are exempt. Second, completed "Passenger Locator Form" must be submitted at most 48 hours before arrival for all (no exceptions). Third, passengers are subject to medical screening upon entry, with no exceptions. Lastly, Passengers entering or transiting through Belgium must have a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result taken at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. The test result must be in Dutch, English, French. However, residents, children, and passengers in transit are exempt.
- Switzerland changed medical requirements for conditional entry. Previously, passengers entering Switzerland could present a medical certificate with either a negative PCR test result taken at most 72 hours before arrival, or a negative rapid antigen test result taken at most 24 hours before arrival. Now, passengers with a negative rapid antigen test result are subject to a COVID-19 Rapid Antigen or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival at their own expense. Children younger than 12 years old and passengers who have tested positive to COVID-19 with a recovery certificate are exempt from this requirement.
- On 18th March 2021, Morocco issued a passenger ban on travellers from Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cameroon, Croatia and Mozambique who are no longer allowed to enter, without any exceptions. Additionally, flights from these C/T/As are also suspended except for return flights for nationals and medical evacuation flights. From 16th March 2021, passengers from Hungary and Sweden are no longer exempt from Czechia's passenger ban whereas passengers

from Monaco are now exempt. Portugal extended the flight suspension for flights arriving from South Africa until 31st March 2020.

- Flight suspensions on certain countries, territories and areas were issued by the Plurinational State of Bolivia for flights from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland Republic, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland until 31st May 2021.
- Extension of existing entry bans on all passengers were issued by Portugal until 31st March 2021, Argentina until 9th April 2021, Romania until 12th April 2021 and Croatia until 31st May 2021.
- New conditions for authorized entry were issued by Ecuador, passengers entering Ecuador must have a negative COVID-19 antigen or RT-PCR test result which must have been taken at most three days before arrival, or a COVID-19 vaccination certificate or a COVID-19 recovery certificate. Passengers younger than two years old are exempt.
- Changes in medical measures pertaining to certificates were issued. A new exception was issued by Norway, for passengers with a COVID-19 recovery certificate. Passengers are exempt from providing a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result if they present a COVID-19 recovery certificate issued in the last 14 days or at most 6 months before arrival.
- Aruba removed the requirement of a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result; however passengers are subject to a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test upon arrival at their own expense, quarantine for one day and submit a completed Health Assessment form and provide proof of health insurance.
- Japan expanded the list of tests accepted for the medical certificate, only antigen, LAMP and RT-PCR were accepted. Now, NEAR, Next Generation Sequence, quantitative antigen (CLEIA), Smart Amp, TMA and TRC tests with the collection method "nasopharyngeal swab" (nose and tonsils) or "saliva" are accepted.
- Zambia lifted conditions for authorized entry for nationals and residents of Zambia who are no longer subject to self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Measures to regulate and facilitate stay were issued by Romania whereby residence permits which have expired are considered valid with an extension of 90 days counted after 12th April 2021.

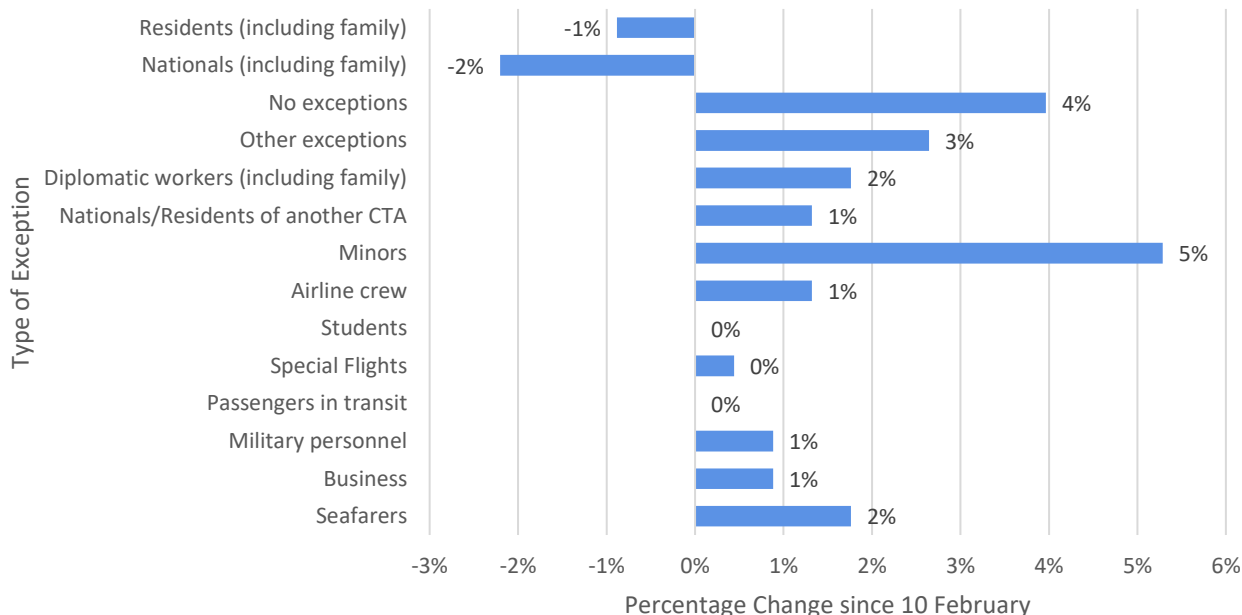
■ Exceptions to Entry Restrictions

Number of C/T/As by type of exception



C/T/As are most likely to issue at least one exception for Nationals (106) and for Residents (101) and their families. Exceptions for minors, issued at least once by 84 different CTAs, and represent the third most common group receiving exceptions.

Changes in exceptions: groups that are allowed to enter



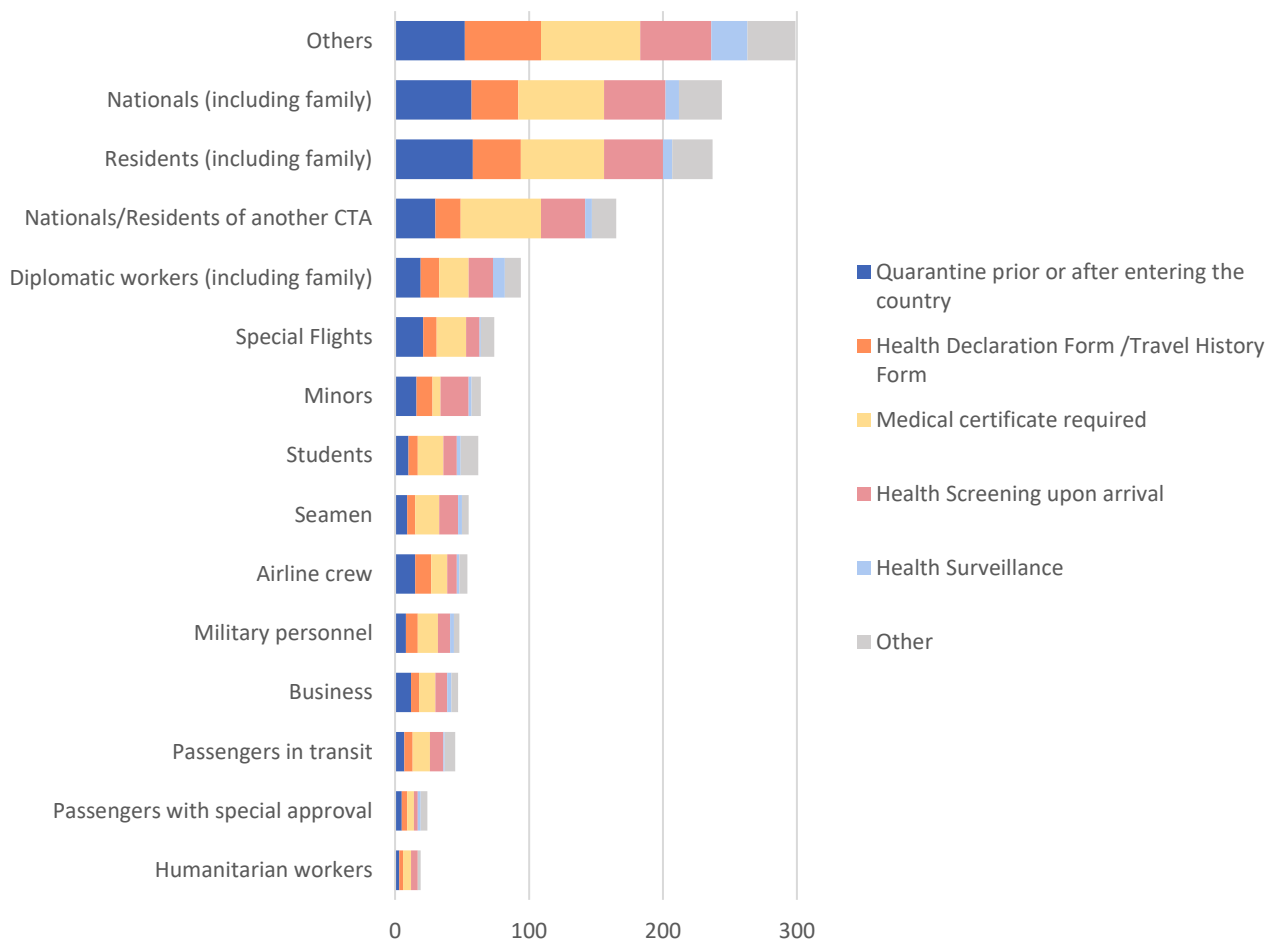
Noticeable Trends for Exceptions:

- A total of 856 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 192 C/T/As.
- The C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were the Croatia (13), Finland (13), the Netherlands (12), Guadeloupe (12), Belgium (11), Austria (11), Norway (11), and Romania (10).
- Between 16th March and 22nd March 2021, 9 countries, territories or areas issued 26 new exceptions whilst 6 countries, territories or areas removed 20 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, and 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 190 C/T/As issuing exceptions for entry, a total of 149 have issued 1561 conditions for authorized entry for exempted groups.
- The top eight C/T/As issuing the highest number of conditions for authorised entry for exempted groups were Guadeloupe (44), Finland (39), Andorra (36), Spain (36), Singapore (33), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (32), Indonesia (32), and Philippines (32).
- The main condition for authorized entry for exempted groups was to provide a medical certificate upon arrival, which was issued at least 410 times (down from 417 the previous week: this is the first time this condition has reduced). This is the second month (seventh consecutive week) that quarantine prior or after entering the country has not been the top condition, currently listed 332 times, and followed by medical screening (292).

■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- Exceptions for passengers arriving from specific C/T/As were changed by Pakistan. Passengers arriving from Bhutan, Fiji, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Tajikistan no longer need to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 test result, while the existing exceptions for passengers arriving from Cuba, Ghana, Iceland, Iraq, Madagascar, Maldives, Philippines, Qatar, South Sudan and Togo were removed.
- Exceptions to passenger bans were removed. Greece removed the exceptions that allowed entry of nationals of Republic of North Macedonia returning via Thessaloniki (SKG) to continue by road to Republic of North Macedonia. Additionally, exceptions for military personnel; students; merchant seafarers were also removed. Singapore removed exceptions to passenger ban for residents of Germany; nationals of Indonesia; residents of Japan; residents of Republic of Korea and residents of Malaysia. Gibraltar removed exceptions for passengers with a special approval/valid letter of prior approval issued by the government or other entity and individuals travelling for business purposes who are no longer exempt from the passenger ban.
- The exceptions from the medical certificate as requirement for authorized entry were removed by Japan. Previously, nationals and residents of Japan, diplomats, passengers arriving from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Macao Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand or Viet Nam, and United States of America military personnel/civilian personnel of the United States of America armed forces in Japan and their dependents were exempt from the medical certificate requirement. Now, only diplomats and United States of America military personnel/civilian personnel of the United States of America armed forces in Japan and their dependents are exempt.
- Changes in the categories exempted from the passenger ban were made by the Philippines. The following groups are allowed to enter: nationals of the Philippines; passengers with a 9(e) (diplomatic visa) or 47(a) non-immigrant work visa issued by the Philippines; merchant seafarers with a 9(c) visa - foreign spouses and parents of nationals of Philippines with a visa if traveling together with the national of the Philippines. The exceptions were removed for the following categories: spouses, minors or children with special needs of nationals of the Philippines parents of a minor or a child with special needs who is a national of the Philippines former nationals of the Philippines, and their spouses and children if traveling together passengers with a Recognition Certificate (RC) or Citizenship Retention and Reacquisition Act of 2003 (CRPC) under RA9225 Certificate passengers with a visa issued by the Philippines (excluding 9(A) and SRRV visas) passengers with a 9(A) or SRRV visa.
- Changes to the exception to the medical certificate requirement for passengers with certificate of previous infection of COVID-19 were issued by Iceland. Previously, proof of previous infection was only accepted if they were issued in Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland or Holy See or an EEA Member State. Now, the certificate will be accepted so long as it is in Danish, English, Icelandic, Norwegian or Swedish.
- New exceptions for conditions for authorized entry were issued by Sri Lanka for merchant seafarers who are nationals of Sri Lanka. Such passengers no longer require a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result taken at most 96 hours before departure from the first embarkation point. Now, merchant seafarers with a Seaman's Discharge Book are exempt if they transfer directly from the ship to the airport.
- New exceptions to existing conditions for authorised entry were issued by Singapore. Passengers with an Air Travel Pass approval letter issued by Singapore, passengers with a valid SafeTravel Pass approval letter issued by Singapore under the Singapore-Brunei Reciprocal Green Lane and Singapore-China Fast Lane, and passengers with an approval letter from the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) with the reference numbers C01 or C21 (all in the exception). They must have a mobile device with the TraceTogether app already downloaded, with the passenger's profile registered on the app and the 'Activate App' holding screen shown on the app; or - if the passenger has a mobile device with the TraceTogether app downloaded but is unable to show the 'Activate App' holding screen, have an electronic or physical copy of his/her booking confirmation for a Singapore SIM card from Changi Recommends; or - if the passenger does not have a mobile device with the TraceTogether app downloaded, have an electronic or physical copy of his/her booking confirmation for a mobile device from Changi Recommends.