

# Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Bi-Weekly Update • 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020



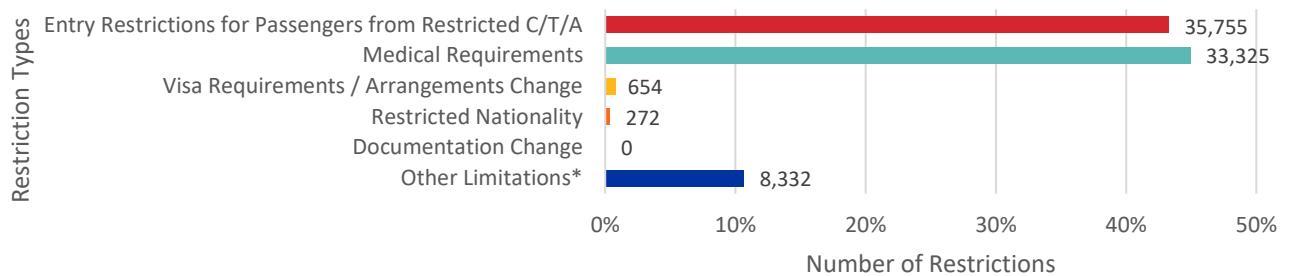
COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series  
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## Overview

The COVID-19 global pandemic continues to shape global mobility in substantial and varied ways. The global mobility context remains dynamic as Governments and authorities continue to issue new changes to the COVID-19 related mobility restrictions. As of 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020, a total of 219 countries, territories or areas have issued 80,884 travel restrictions indicating an increase of 3 per cent from 78,338 travel restrictions reported on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020. There has been an increase of 9 per cent in medical restrictions and an increase of 3 per cent in other limitations like new documents for entry. Simultaneously, there is a decrease of 2 per cent in restrictions on passengers arriving from specific countries, territories or areas. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 177 countries, territories or areas have issued 675 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 8 countries, territories or areas have issued 18 new exceptions whilst 5 countries, territories or areas have removed 9 exceptions.

Data Source: [IATA](https://www.iata.org) and official government websites.

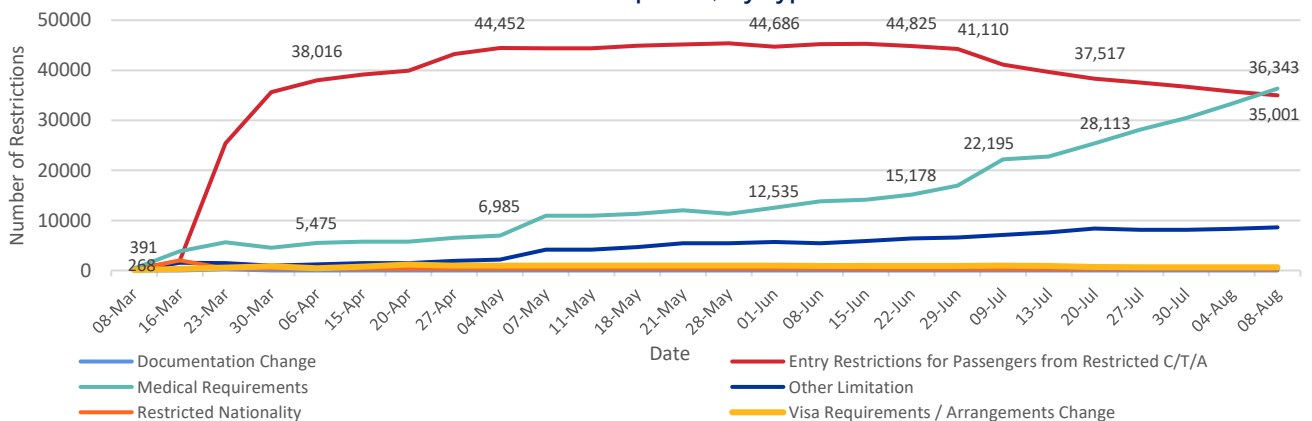
### Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Type



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

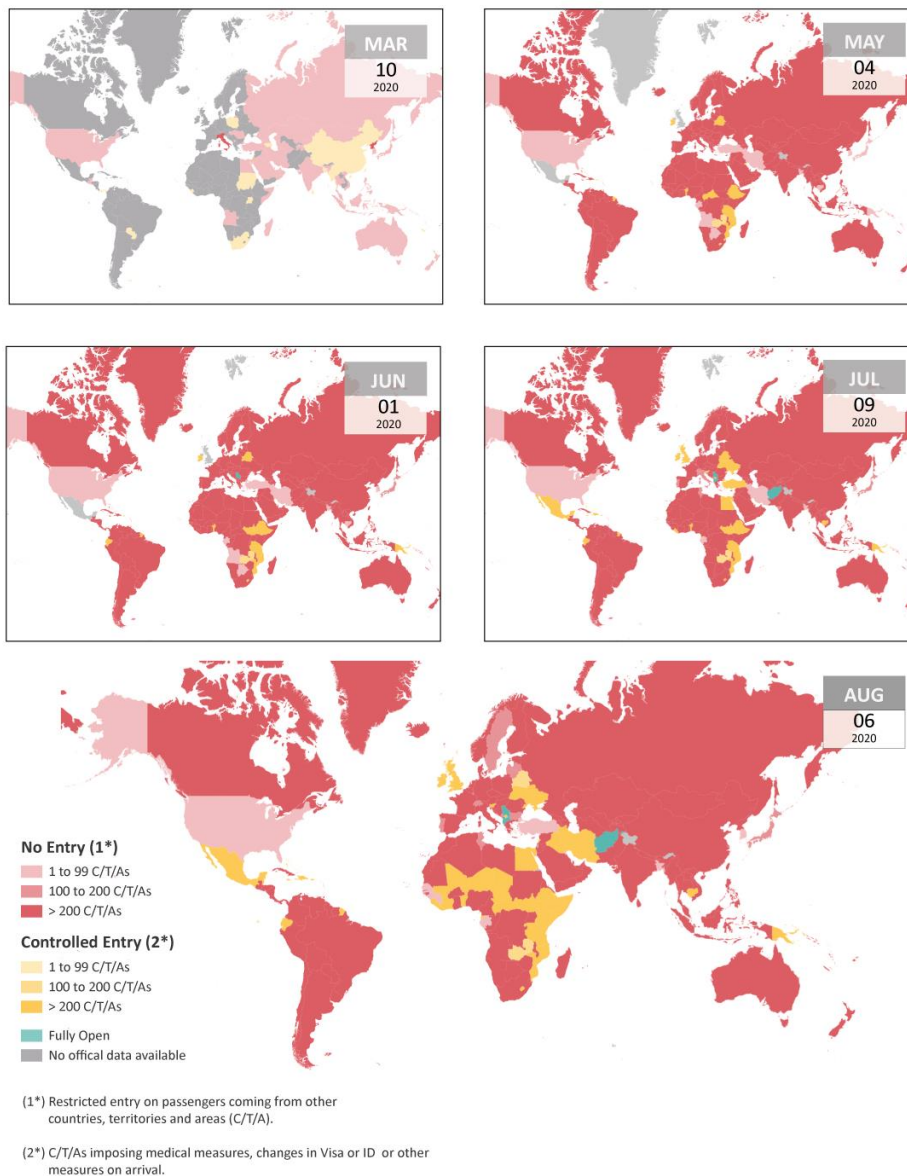
As of 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 219 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As have been following a decreasing trend and as of this update are no longer have the highest share of total restrictions (43%). Medical measures are the most common restriction type representing 45 per cent of restrictions. 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020



The opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

## ■ Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

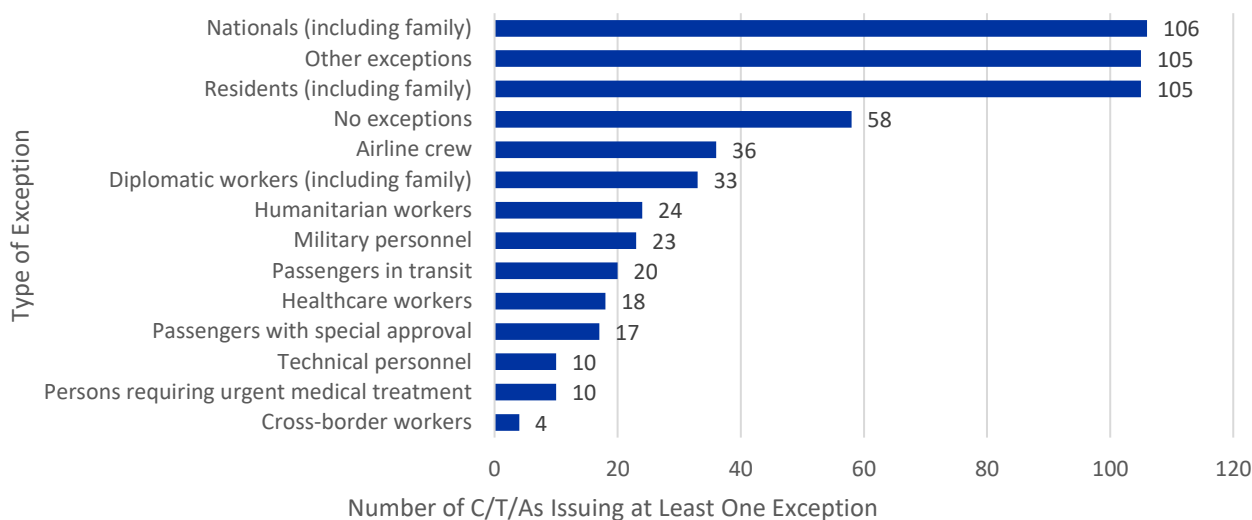
- Flight suspensions were extended by Uzbekistan until 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2020, by Eswatini until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, by Namibia and The Gambia until 31<sup>st</sup> September 2020.
- Passenger travel bans for passengers arriving by air from certain countries, territories and areas were extended indefinitely by Italy, by Greece until 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020, by Peru, Azerbaijan, Mongolia, and the Republic of Moldova until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.
- Latvia suspended incoming flights from Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Malta, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.
- New restrictions on airline crew were added by Hungary requiring airline crew to undergo medical screening and quarantine until their next scheduled flight. Indonesia also issued the requirement for airline crew to present a negative COVID-19 test result issued at most 7 days before departure and quarantine until their next scheduled flight. Iraq issued restrictions on airline crew arriving at Erbil (EBL) or Sulaymaniyah (ISU), who are required to self-isolate in a hotel until their next flight. Bhutan now requires airline crew to undergo mandatory screening upon arrival.
- New documents for entry were issued by Iraq requiring passengers arriving at Erbil (EBL) or Sulaymaniyah (ISU) to provide a completed 'Pledge Form' upon arrival.
- Kuwait closed entry to passengers who have been in or transited through Armenia, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, People's Republic of China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Italy, Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, Lebanon, Mexico, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Nepal, North Macedonia, Panama, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka or Syrian Arab Republic, in the past 14 days. All other passengers coming from countries, territories are allowed entry but must provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test and quarantine for 14 days, upon arrival.
- Niger issued an alternative medical measure for passengers without a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result upon arrival, requiring them to undergo medical screening at their own expense.
- New medical measures were issued by the Philippines, requiring passengers to subject to a COVID-19 test at their own expense, to a 14-day quarantine, regardless of the test result and present a completed Case Investigation Form, upon arrival.

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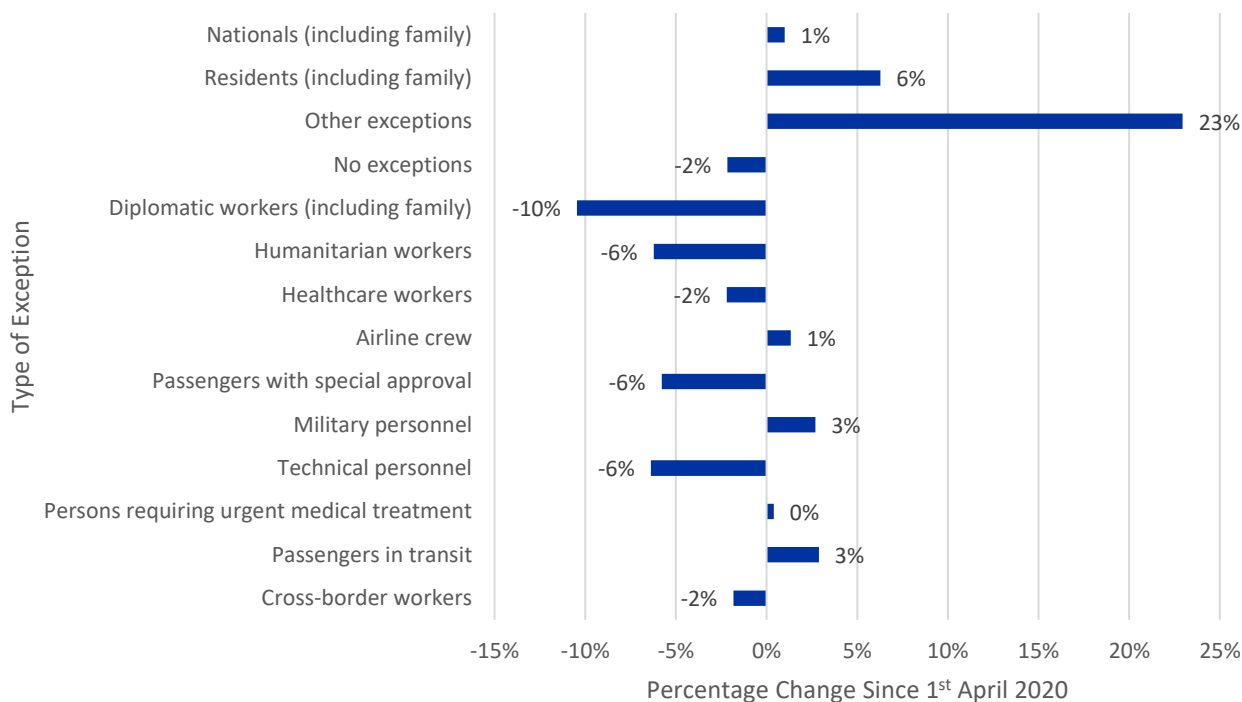
<sup>1</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

## ■ Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions

Exceptions Enabling Entry



Changes in Exceptions Enabling Entry



### Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 675 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 177 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Canada (12), Thailand (12), Greece (11), the Republic of Korea (11), and the United States of America (11).
- Since the last update on 3rd August 2020, 18 new exceptions were added by Canada (6), Lebanon (3), Mauritania (3), Romania (2), the Kingdom of Bhutan (1), Cameroon (1), Kuwait (1), and South Africa (1).
- Since the last update on 3rd August 2020, 9 exceptions were removed by Kenya (5), Kuwait (1), Spain (1), Sweden (1), and Uruguay (1).

## ■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- As of 4<sup>th</sup> August 2020, Somalia reopened all airports, however passengers are subject to mandatory screening and quarantine upon arrival.
- Airports in [Kenya](#) have also resumed, and passengers are subject to mandatory screening and quarantine upon arrival. However, passengers arriving from Canada, France, Ethiopia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Morocco, Namibia, Rwanda, Switzerland, the People's Republic of China, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, the Netherlands, The United States of America (except for California, Florida and Texas) the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Qatar are exempt from these requirements.
- [Grenada](#) have reopened on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020, new measures were added for passengers and airline crew, who are now required to install the Grenada's Contact Tracing App in their personal device to enter.
- Similarly, flights to Djibouti restarted as 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020, authorities now require all passengers (above the age of 12) to undergo medical screening, if the test is positive passengers must quarantine at a designated hotel or quarantine facility at their own expense. Additionally, to enter Djibouti airline crew must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
- Costa Rica extended exceptions for passengers arriving from Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Schengen Member States.
- Changes to the list of exempted nationalities were issued by Denmark. Residents of Bulgaria, Luxembourg and Romania were removed from exempted list, whereas residents of Georgia, Tunisia, Uruguay and Portugal were added to the list of exceptions. Meanwhile, Cyprus removed exceptions for passengers arriving from Algeria and Bulgaria but allowed passengers from United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to enter.
- Curaçao extended exceptions for passengers arriving Belgium, Canada, the People's Republic of China, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain. Passengers must present a negative COVID-19 test result to enter. Similarly, Hungary added Canada to the list of exempted countries and Czechia added residents and nationals of Tunisia to the list of exempted nationals that can enter despite the existing passenger ban.
- El Salvador added an exception allowing connecting flights to land and take off whereas Uruguay removed an earlier exception that allowed humanitarian flights to enter.
- Exceptions to the 14-day quarantine requirement was issued by Bulgaria for passengers arriving from 45 countries, territories or areas.
- Germany added that residents of Australia, Canada, Georgia, New Zealand, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay are required to be living in their country of residence for at least 6 months to be exempted from the travel restriction.
- Romania issued new exceptions for nationals of the Republic of Moldova (with a biometric passport traveling via Romania for a maximum of 36 hours as well as nationals of the Republic of Moldova (Rep.) with a non-biometric passport and a transit visa.
- Argentina issued new 14-day quarantine requirement for nationals and residents of Argentina upon return to the country.
- Japan added new conditions for authorised entry for residents of Japan with "Permanent Residence", "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident" or "Long Term Residence" who have been in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines or Peru in the past 14 days. They must provide Letter of Confirmation of Submitting Necessary Documentation for Re-entry into Japan, and a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before departure.
- Dominica issued new conditions for entry for passengers exempt from the passenger ban, including the provision of a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result, issued at most 72 hours before arrival.

- Cameroon issued new conditions for entry including the provision of a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result and a mandatory 14-day quarantine upon arrival.
- Cyprus issued new conditions for entry for passengers arriving from Italy. Despite existing travel restrictions, passengers must have negative COVID-19 test result valid at most 72 hours before departure or undergo testing upon arrival whereas passengers arriving from Andorra, Australia, Belgium, the People's Republic of China, Croatia, Czechia, France, Morocco, the Netherlands, Rwanda, San Marino, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay or the Holy See, a negative COVID-19 test result valid for 72-hour prior departure is mandatory and will not be tested upon arrival.
- On 4<sup>th</sup> August 2020, a New Zealand Air flight facilitated the return of residents of [Tonga](#) that were previously unable to return home due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions. All passengers had to undergo a COVID-19 test four days prior to travel and a mandatory quarantine at a government facility for 14 days upon arrival.
- A total of 60 UN Peacekeepers returned to [Morocco](#) from the Democratic Republic of the Congo on a special flight after being stranded for six months due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.
- Nearly [150 Indian nationals](#) including diplomats' families, officials of multilateral banks and private individuals are expected to return to the People's Republic of China on a special Air India chartered flight from New Delhi to Guangzhou on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- [Cyprus](#) sent flights with medical equipment and supplies to Lebanon on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- [Turkey](#) will send medical supplies, including 25 ventilators, 100,000 surgical masks, 50,000 N-95 type masks, 35,000 protective coveralls, 200,000 gloves and 40,000 test kits to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela medical aid to strengthen ongoing COVID-19 efforts.