

# Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

## Regional report - Middle East & North Africa



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's Containment and Health Index, providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker).

<b>REGION</b>	Middle East and North Africa
<b>Date range</b>	30 July-13 August, 2020
<b>Reported by</b>	Anna Bruvere

### Brief summary of major changes:

Countries in the MENA region reflect diverse COVID-19 responses. Whilst several countries are opening borders for international travel (among them Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Kenya, and Mali), Lebanon, Malawi and Morocco are tightening restrictions. In particular, Lebanon has reintroduced a nation-wide lockdown, Malawi has reintroduced restrictions on gatherings, and Morocco has tightened restrictions for two cities: Tangier and Fes.

<b>C1: School Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>LEBANON:</b> The Lebanese government announced a full lockdown for the dates from 30 July to 3 August, and again from 6 August to 10 August. This involves the closing of bars, parks, beaches, and markets. Only essential businesses remain open, and restaurants as well as cafes can operate at 50% capacity.</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>LEBANON:</b> The Lebanese government announced a full lockdown for the dates from 30 July to 3 August, and again from 6 August to 10 August. Public events are prohibited during this period.</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>LEBANON:</b> The Lebanese government announced a full lockdown for the dates from 30 July to 3 August, and again from 6 August to 10 August. Although gatherings are restricted during this period, there is no information on what the maximum number of people is that is allowed to meet.</li> <li><b>MALAWI:</b> On 8 August, Malawi introduced a restriction on gatherings to tackle the increasing COVID-19 infections. Only groups of up to 10 people are allowed to meet, except in the case of funerals where the allowed number of people is 50.</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>LEBANON:</b> The Lebanese government announced a full lockdown for the dates from 30 July to 3 August, and again from 6 August to 10 August. This includes stay-at-home order for people over the age of 65.</li> <li><b>MOROCCO:</b> On 5 August, the Moroccan government reintroduced a full lockdown for certain neighborhoods of the cities Tangier and Fes.</li> </ul>

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<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>JORDAN:</b> Jordan decided to delay the opening of its international borders planned for 5 August, due to a spike of COVID-19 infections abroad, including Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon. Repatriation flights continue to be in operation.</li> <li><b>KUWAIT:</b> On 1 August, Kuwait opened its international borders to all countries, with the exception of residents travelling from Bangladesh, the Philippines, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Nepal.</li> <li><b>LEBANON:</b> After 31 July, all travellers to Lebanon must show a negative PCR test taken within 4 days of travel. Travellers from countries with low infection rates must take PCR test on arrival and quarantine in designated hotels awaiting result. 72 hours after arrival, they are required to take a further PCR test and use a tracking application.</li> <li><b>KENYA:</b> On 1 August, Kenya opened its borders for international travel, with some countries being exempt from quarantine (China, South Korea, Japan, Canada, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Namibia, Switzerland Uganda and Morocco), and passengers from all other countries are exempt from quarantine if the following conditions are met: they have a PCR-based Covid-19 negative result which was done 96 hours before travel, their temperature is not above 37 degrees Celsius and they do not have difficulty breathing, or a repeated cough.</li> <li><b>MALI:</b> On 31 July, Mali opened its borders for international travel. Incoming passengers are required to wear a mask, fill out a form with contact information, travel history, and symptoms, and provide a negative COVID-19 test taken not more than 7 days before travelling to Mali. Outgoing passengers are also required to present a COVID-19 test.</li> </ul>
<b>H2: Testing Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>H3: Contact Tracing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>

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### Cases vs Government Response Index:

