

# Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

## Regional report - Sub Saharan 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>	Sub-Saharan Africa
<b>Date Range</b>	1 – 14 August, 2020
<b>Reported by</b>	Jessica Anania

### Brief Summary of Major Changes:

States of emergency have been reinstated or extended in countries including Madagascar, which extended for fifteen days alongside an enhanced lockdown in the Analamanga region containing the capital; Malawi, which announced new measures 8 August, including a ban on all gatherings, the closure of churches and bars, and limiting groups to ten people; Nigeria, which extended its Phase Two measures for an additional four weeks from 6 August to 5 September; and Botswana, which instated a two week lockdown in the Greater Gaborone region, banning gatherings, closing hotels, restaurants, gyms, and schools following a spike in cases within the capital city.

Schools remain open at a localized level in western and southern Africa, including in Ghana, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, and Sierra Leone, oftentimes in order for students to complete exams. Other Sub-Saharan states, such as Cape Verde and Zimbabwe, continue with generalized school closures. Curfews continue to remain in place across numerous states, including Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Beginning in August, numerous countries began reopening borders. Starting 1 August, Cape Verde allows "essential" flights, including for purposes related to family, business, and education, but excluding tourism; Chad allows the resumption of limited international commercial flights; Seychelles International Airport is open for scheduled commercial passenger flights; and Kenya allows international air travel to resume, with nationals from 18 countries – including the United States – to be conditionally exempt from quarantine upon arrival. From 2 August, Togo resumed routine flights on Air France, Brussels Airlines, Ethiopian Airlines, and ASKY.

<b>C1: School Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>BOTSWANA:</b> Schools remain largely open, however a 30 July lockdown in Greater Gaborone mandates localized school closures.</li><li>• <b>CAMEROON:</b> International schools announced that they plan to reopen in September.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO:</b> Schools, previously set to reopen 3 August, pushed the start date for the new school year to 10 August citing technical and administrative delays.</li> <li>• <b>MALI:</b> Schools remain largely closed, however students with mandatory exams will be allowed to return at a localized level.</li> <li>• <b>TOGO:</b> Schools remain open at a localized level to allow students to complete examinations.</li> </ul>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BOTSWANA:</b> A two-week lockdown from 30 July in Greater Gaborone allows people to leave home only for essential work or other essential purposes.</li> <li>• <b>CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:</b> Workplaces including restaurants and bars have been allowed to reopen in order to restart economic activity.</li> <li>• <b>COTE D'IVOIRE:</b> Businesses in the economic capital of Abidjan - including bars, restaurants, cinemas, and nightclubs - are allowed to reopen beginning 31 July.</li> <li>• <b>NIGERIA:</b> Extension of Phase Two allows for federal and state offices to resume normal working hours but only for essential, high-level staff. Public and private sector offices remain open with 75% staff capacity to ensure social distancing.</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COTE D'IVOIRE:</b> Gatherings authorized by local authorities allowed from 31 July, with face masks and available hand washing facilities required in public places.</li> <li>• <b>ZIMBABWE:</b> Heroes Day (11 August, commemorating the fight against British colonization) celebrated virtually without any in-person gatherings.</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BOTSWANA:</b> All gatherings banned following instatement of two-week lockdown from 30 July in Greater Gaborone.</li> <li>• <b>MALAWI:</b> From 8 August, all gatherings banned following a surge of COVID 19 cases. Groups are limited to 10 people, except for funerals which permit up to 50 people.</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ANGOLA:</b> Public transport remains limited to 50% capacity and available only until 6pm.</li> <li>• <b>UGANDA:</b> From 27 July, motorcycle taxis – 'boda bodas' – have been allowed to resume carrying passengers. Drivers are required to take passengers' temperatures and keep a register of passengers' phone numbers for contact tracing purposes, and both drivers and passengers are required to wear masks.</li> </ul>
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BOTSWANA:</b> From 30 July, Greater Gaborone is under lockdown with people allowed to leave home only for essential work or services.</li> <li>• <b>KENYA:</b> On 27 July, the President extended the dusk-to-dawn curfew for another 30 days.</li> </ul>
<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BOTSWANA:</b> 30 July lockdown in Greater Gaborone restricts internal movement to essential only.</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CAPE VERDE:</b> "Essential" international flights resumed from 1 August, including to and from Portugal. A negative COVID 19 test is required within 72 hours of flying.</li> </ul>

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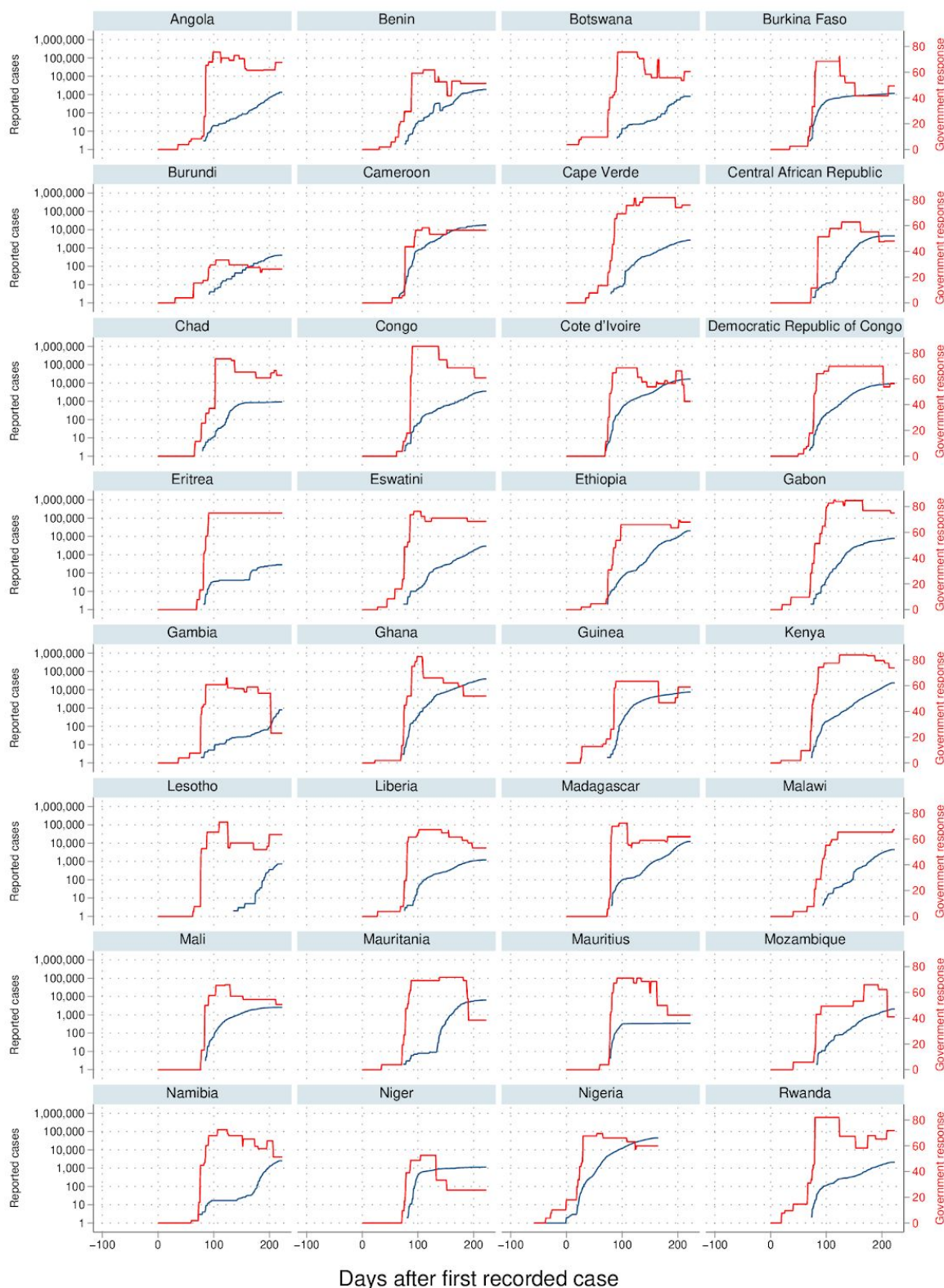


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>CHAD:</b> International commercial flights resumed from 1 August.</li><li>• <b>KENYA:</b> Commercial flights resume 1 August.</li><li>• <b>MALI:</b> From 31 July, land borders are open to passenger traffic.</li><li>• <b>SEYCHELLES:</b> From 1 August, Seychelles International Airport is open for scheduled commercial passenger flights.</li><li>• <b>TOGO:</b> Most routine flights on Air France, Brussels Airlines, Ethiopian Airlines, and ASKY resume from 2 August with mandatory testing and a health application.</li></ul>
<b>H2: Testing Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>CAMEROON:</b> A mass screening campaign continues from July, including mobile screening.</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 Stringency Index:





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