

# Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

## Regional report - Sub Saharan Africa



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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>	1-28 February, 2021
<b>Reported by</b>	Aidana Arynbeke & Meskerem Aleka Kebede

### Brief summary of major changes:

During February, a number of countries from Sub Saharan Africa enforced COVID-19 measures due to the rise of COVID-19 cases. Public events have been banned in Ghana, Somalia, South Sudan whereas the curfew was introduced in Uganda, Chad, and Guinea. Non-essential businesses have been closed in Seychelles, South Sudan, and Guinea.

The ease of restrictions can be seen in Angola, Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia, where the governments allowed schools to operate in-person. Moreover, Lesotho and Senegal allowed businesses to operate, while Rwanda permitted the resumption of businesses in the capital Kigali with essential staff, not more than 30 percent. On 18 February, Guinea opened its border to Sierra Leone.

<b>C1: School Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Angola:</b> On 10 February, the government opened primary schools after eleven months of shutdown.</li><li>● <b>Lesotho:</b> All schools and colleges are closed except classes sitting for external exams.</li><li>● <b>Malawi:</b> Effective 22 February, all schools have reopened in Malawi.</li><li>● <b>Sudan:</b> Schools have reopened in Sudan.</li><li>● <b>Somalia:</b> On 2 February, all schools and universities are closed for two weeks.</li><li>● <b>South Africa:</b> Effective 15 February, schools have reopened after delays due to the new COVID-19 variant.</li><li>● <b>Zambia:</b> Effective 1 February, schools have reopened in Zambia.</li></ul>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Guinea:</b> From 25 February, bars and restaurants must close for the curfew (11 pm to 4 am).</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lesotho:</b> From 3 February, only essential businesses and services may operate. The list of essential businesses has been expanded to include street vendors and a wider range of retail outlets.</li> <li>• <b>Rwanda:</b> On 8 February, the government allowed resumption of businesses in the capital Kigali with essential staff, not more than 30 percent, as the country began easing its second lockdown.</li> <li>• <b>South Sudan:</b> On 22 February, non-essential businesses which attract large crowds such as bars and clubs are closed.</li> <li>• <b>Seychelles:</b> On 22 February, non-essential businesses such as bars and restaurants were instructed to close.</li> <li>• <b>Senegal:</b> On 25 February, businesses are permitted to operate while maintaining social distancing measures and facial coverings.</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ghana:</b> From 1 February, funerals, weddings, concerts, theatrical performances are not allowed to take place.</li> <li>• <b>Somalia:</b> On 22 February, the government banned public gatherings.</li> <li>• <b>South Sudan:</b> On 22 February, social gatherings, including sporting events, weddings and funerals, are banned.</li> <li>• <b>South Africa:</b> On 16 February, venues such as cinemas, theatres, museums, galleries, conferencing facilities have been opened with 50-person limits indoors.</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ghana:</b> From 1 February, private burials are limited to no more than 25 people.</li> <li>• <b>South Sudan:</b> On 22 February, the government banned all social gatherings, including the churches and mosques.</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rwanda:</b> On 8 February, the restrictions on public transport have been eased.</li> <li>• <b>South Sudan:</b> Effective 22 February, public transportation is reduced to operate at half capacity.</li> <li>• <b>Uganda:</b> On 23 February, travel by public transport (including minibus taxis, buses, coaches, passenger trains) is now allowed.</li> </ul>
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chad:</b> On 10 February, authorities extended the curfew (9 pm-5 am) in Guera, Kanem, Logone Occidental, Logone Oriental, Mayo Kebbi Ouest, Mayo Kebbi Est, Moyen Chari, Batha, N'Djamena provinces, Mandelia, Logone Gana, and the N'Djamena Farah subprefecture.</li> <li>• <b>Guinea:</b> On 25 February, a curfew from 11 pm to 4 am was introduced.</li> <li>• <b>Lesotho:</b> From midnight on 3 February, everyone must remain at their place of residence except when accessing or providing essential goods and services.</li> </ul>

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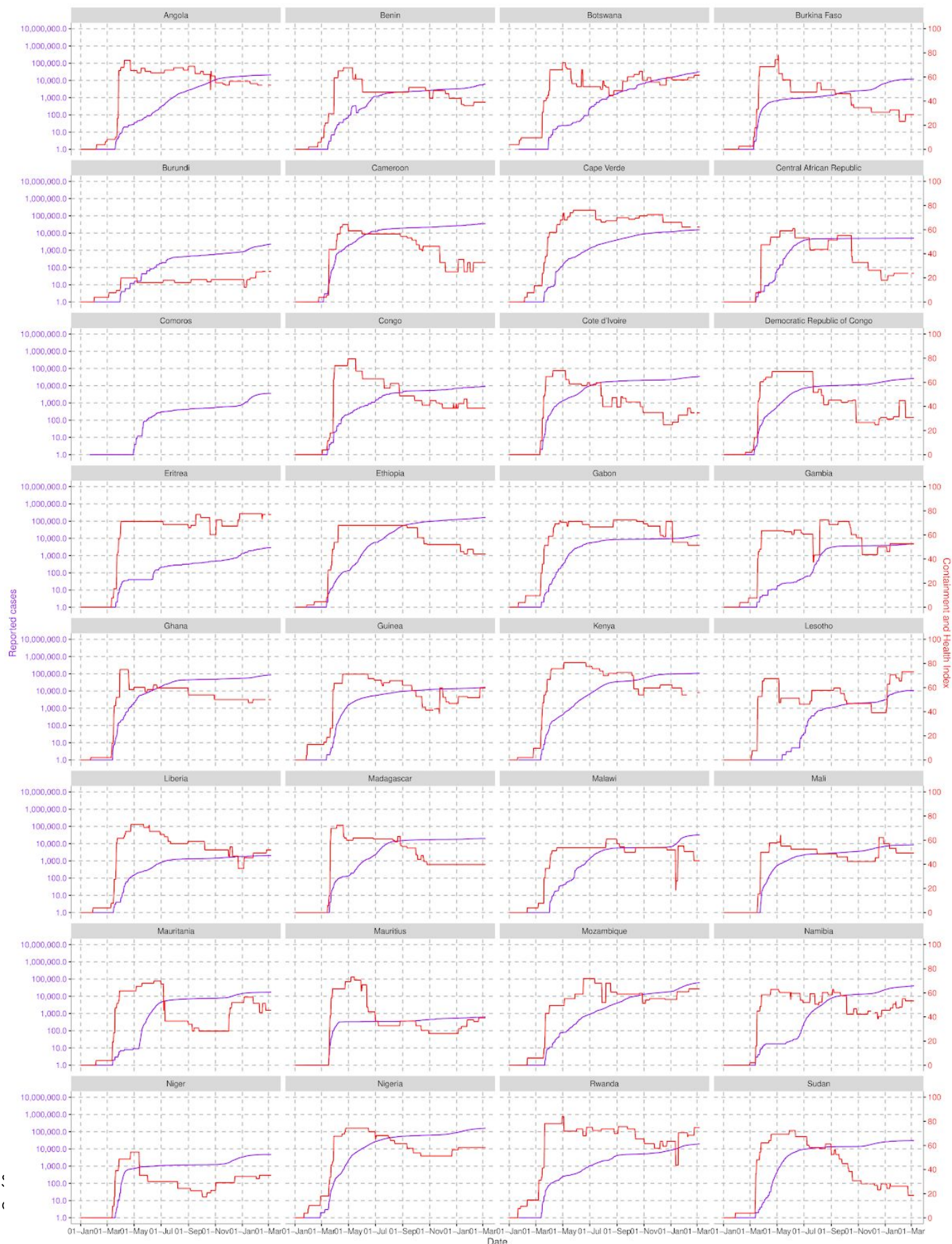
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>South Sudan:</b> Effective 8 February, the government has announced that in both private and public sectors non-essential workers should be given provision to stay at home by employers or work on a shift basis.</li> <li>• <b>Uganda:</b> On 2 February, nationwide curfew was announced from 9 pm to 6 am.</li> </ul>
<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Uganda:</b> On 8 February, internal movements were allowed in all districts.</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Guinea:</b> On 18 February, Guinea opened its border to Sierra Leone.</li> <li>• <b>Mauritania:</b> From 23 February, all incoming passengers are required to present negative PCR test and will not need to require quarantining except when traveling from areas with new COVID-19 variants.</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>• <b>Zambia:</b> On 14 February, patients who test positive are encouraged to inform their contacts.</li> </ul>
<b>H6: Facial Coverings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Uganda:</b> On 2 February, face masks are instructed to be worn in all public places outside the house, by person over 6 years old.</li> </ul>

### Cases vs Containment and Health Index:





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Source: Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker. More at <https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker> or [bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](https://bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker)

Summaries are created with data from the OxCGRT, uploaded by contributors. For specific references, please see the database [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker)