

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.

REGION	Sub Saharan Africa
Date range	1 April - 1 May
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Brief summary of major changes:

In April, many countries from Sub Saharan Africa focused on extending the existing COVID-19 measures or implementing new restrictions. **Congo** extended the country's state of health emergency measures for a further 20 days from April 17 through at least May 6. Similarly, **Kenya** extended existing COVID-19-related restrictions until May 29. **Madagascar** declared a health state of emergency during which schools remained closed, gatherings of more than 100 people have been prohibited and a curfew was in place in the regions of Analamanga (including the capital Antananarivo), Antsinana, Boeny, Nosy Be and Sava.

While many countries tightened the COVID-19 restrictions in April, Eritrea was an exception. The government of **Eritrea** eased the restrictions by allowing public transport to operate, resuming partial international flights, and reopening face-to-face classes that have been suspended for almost a year.

C1: School Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eritrea: Educational institutions ranging from kindergarten level to high schools reopened on 1 April. • Kenya: The government suspended face-to-face learning in all educational institutions, including universities and tertiary and vocational colleges. • Madagascar: The reopening of schools has been postponed due to an increase in COVID-19 cases. The cabinet ministers have informed that schools would remain closed until further notice. Additionally, some schools have been converted into Covid-19 treatment centres. • Malawi: Schools remain open as per government policy, but teacher strikes resumed on 6 April because the government backed out of their commitment to provide bonuses to teachers due to COVID-19 risk of in-person teaching. Strikes continued throughout April. • Mauritius: Schools closed until 30 April. • Sudan: Primary and secondary schools in the localities of Port Sudan, Suakin, and Sinkat in the Red Sea state were closed for a
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	month as part of precautionary measures to reduce COVID-19 infections.
C2: Workplace Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madagascar: Due to the declaration of a national health state of emergency by the Madagascar government from 3 April for an initial period of 15 days, business operations were subject to change at short notice while other venues remain closed or operating with limited capacity. • Mauritius: Public places including restaurants are closed until 30 April. • Nigeria: Due to a reduction in COVID-19 cases, basic services such as grocery stores and gas stations are expected to open. Bars, restaurants other than in hotels, events and recreational centres are currently closed.
C3: Cancel Public Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sierra Leone: Large public gatherings of over 100 people including concerts and sports events are prohibited. • Sudan: Strict prohibition on events, with the exception of religious gatherings.
C4: Restrictions on Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congo: Authorities extended the country's state of health emergency measures for a further 20 days from 17 April through at least 6 May. Gatherings of more than three people in public and private spaces are still prohibited. • Kenya: The government prohibited all public gatherings and in-person meetings within Nairobi, Kajiado, Machakos, Kiambu, and Nakuru counties. • Madagascar: Due to the health state of emergency declared on 3 April, gatherings of more than 100 people were not allowed. • Mauritius: Public gatherings not permitted until 30 April. • Togo: Gatherings restricted to 100 or less people.
C5: Close Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eritrea: Public transport resumed its operations. • Madagascar: Public transport is reported to be operating, although operations were subject to change at short notice due to the declaration of the health state of emergency. • Sierra Leone: Restrictions on number of passengers travelling by public transport in place.
C6: Stay at Home requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya: Authorities extended the existing restrictions through May 29. Curfew hours in Nairobi, Kajiado, Machakos, Kiambu, and Nakuru counties continues to run 20:00-04:00. Nightly curfew hours in the remainder of the country maintain 22:00-04:00. • Madagascar: Due to the declaration of the health state of emergency from 3 April for an initial period of 15 days, a curfew from 9 pm to 4 am was in place in the regions of Analamanga (including the capital Antananarivo), Antsinana, Boeny, Nosy Be and Sava. • Mauritania: Authorities in Mauritania have revised the ongoing nightly curfew as part of the government's efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19. The measure will be in effect 02:00-06:00 during the holy month of Ramadan, through 13 May. • Mauritius: Mandatory confinement in place except for essential purposes until 30 April. • Seychelles: Curfew from 10 pm to 4 am enforced. • Sudan: Stay at home recommended for children and elderly people.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zambia: Recommendation to stay at home.
C7: Restrictions on Internal movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya: All movement by road, rail, or air into and out of Nairobi, Kajiado, Machakos, Kiambu, and Nakuru counties remains suspended. • Madagascar: In addition to the curfew from 9 pm to 4 am in the regions of Analamanga (including the capital Antananarivo), Antsinana, Boeny, Nosy Be and Sava, domestic flights in and out of Nosy Be and Mahajanga were suspended.
C8: International Travel Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eritrea: The government resumed partial international flights starting from mid-April. Weekly flights from Asmara to Addis Ababa as well as from Asmara to Dubai have been resumed. • Kenya: On 9 April, Kenya Airways suspended passenger flights between Kenya and the United Kingdom (UK) until further notice. • Malawi: All land borders remain closed except for essential goods transporters, deportees, and those in special circumstances. Malawians and residents can return to Malawi upon production of an original certified negative COVID-19 test result. Foreigners may not travel to Malawi via land borders. This policy continued through the rest of April. • Seychelles: Restriction on entry of certain foreign nationals, including Brazilians.
H2: Testing Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded
H3: Contact Tracing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded
H6: Facial Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malawi: Face coverings continued to be mandatory. This was changed to a guideline where face coverings were recommended but not mandatory.

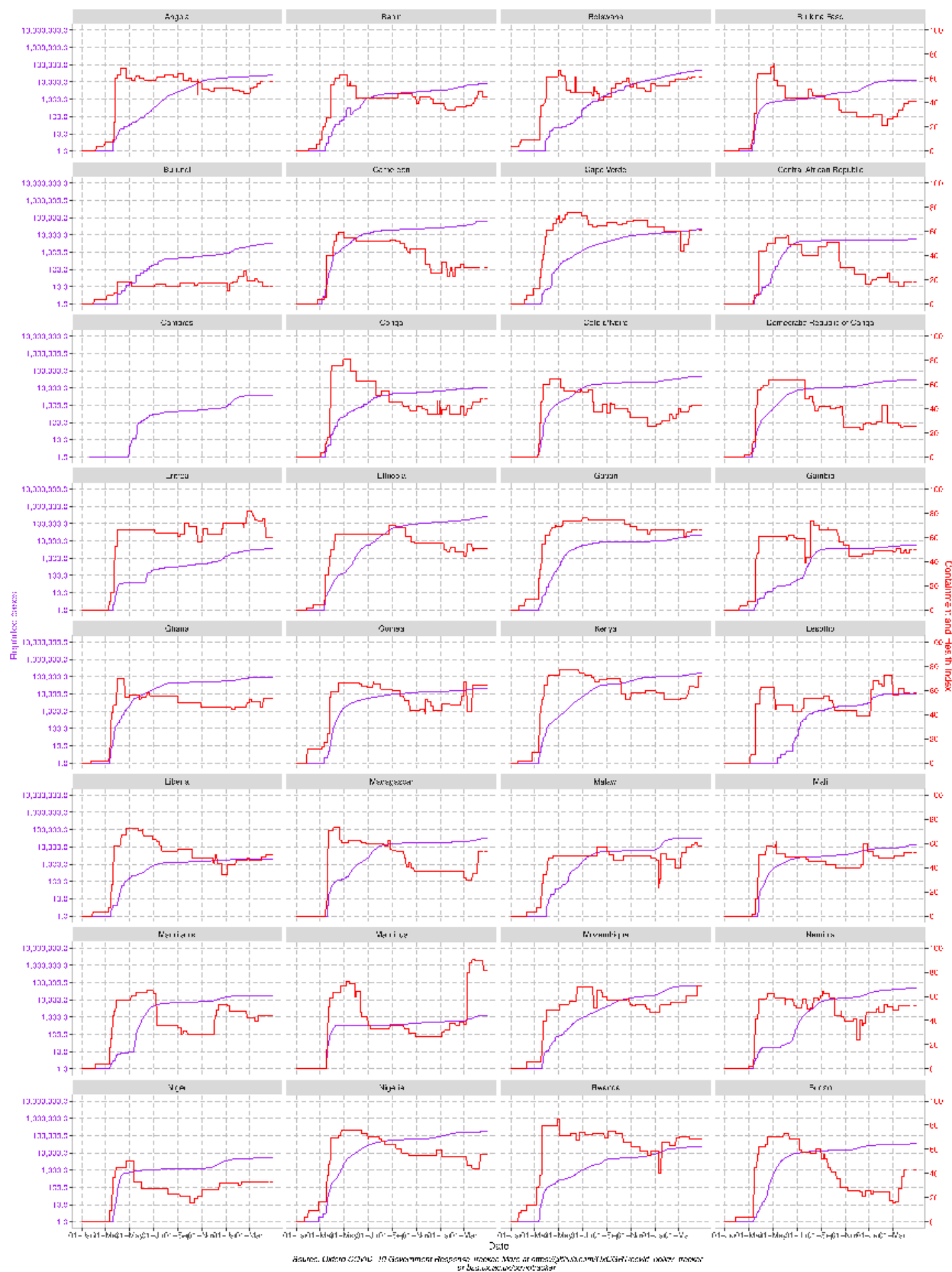
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