

COVID-19: overview of the OSCE participating States' responses

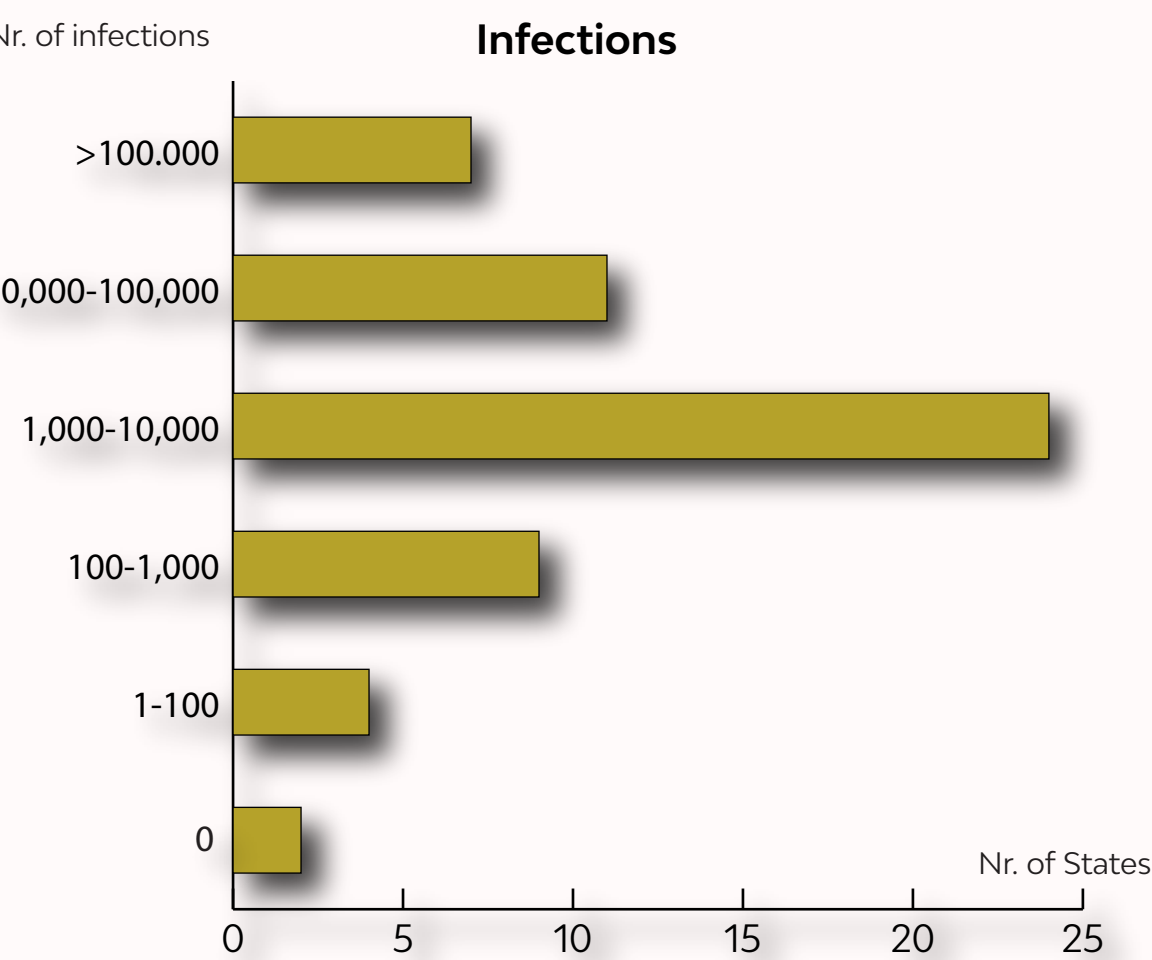
Border Control Measures

As the inter-parliamentary forum of the largest regional security organization in the world, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe serves 323 members from 57 participating States in their multilateral efforts to promote lasting security for over a billion citizens across three continents.

The present overview is the result of an OSCE PA initiative to map the OSCE participating States' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

GLOBAL WEEKLY TRENDS

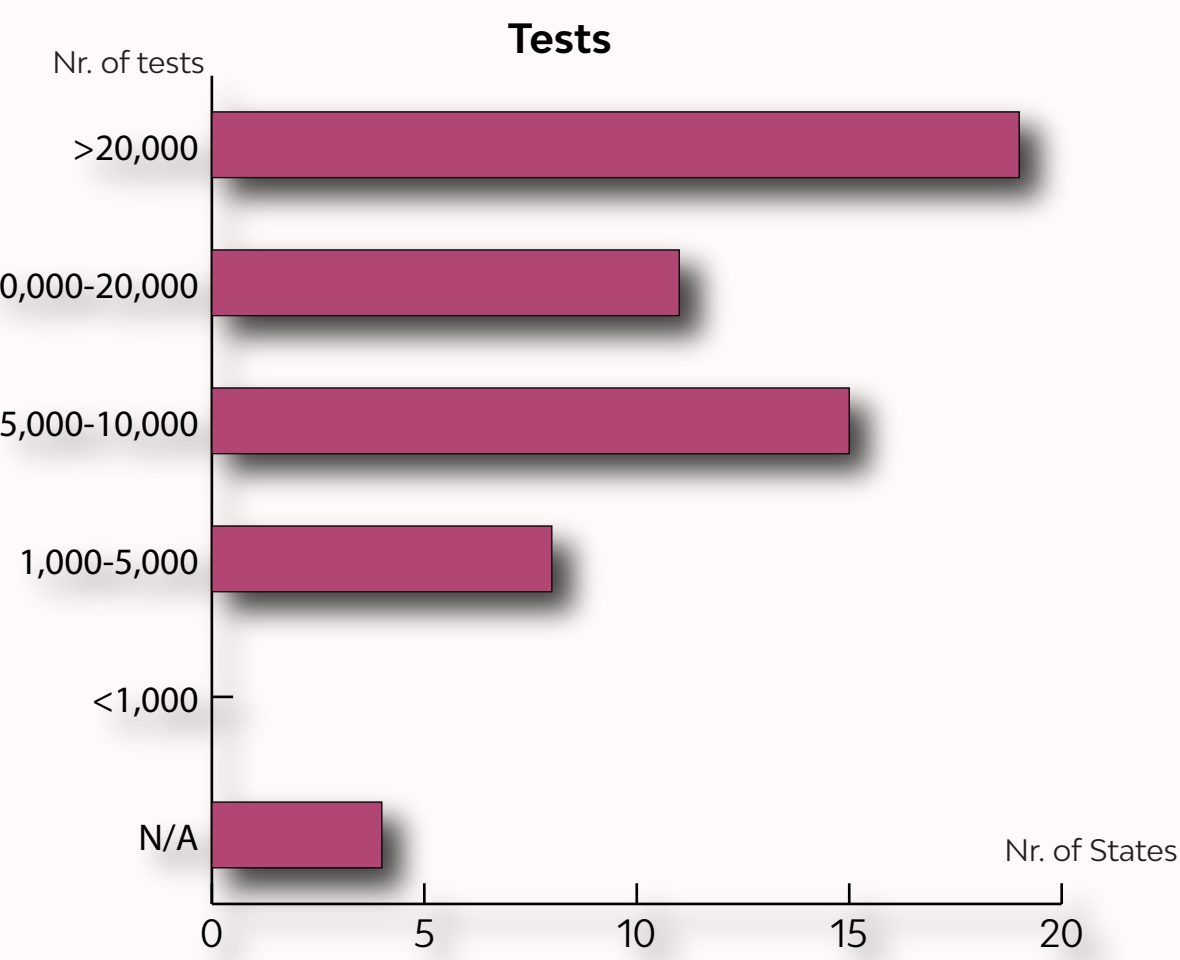
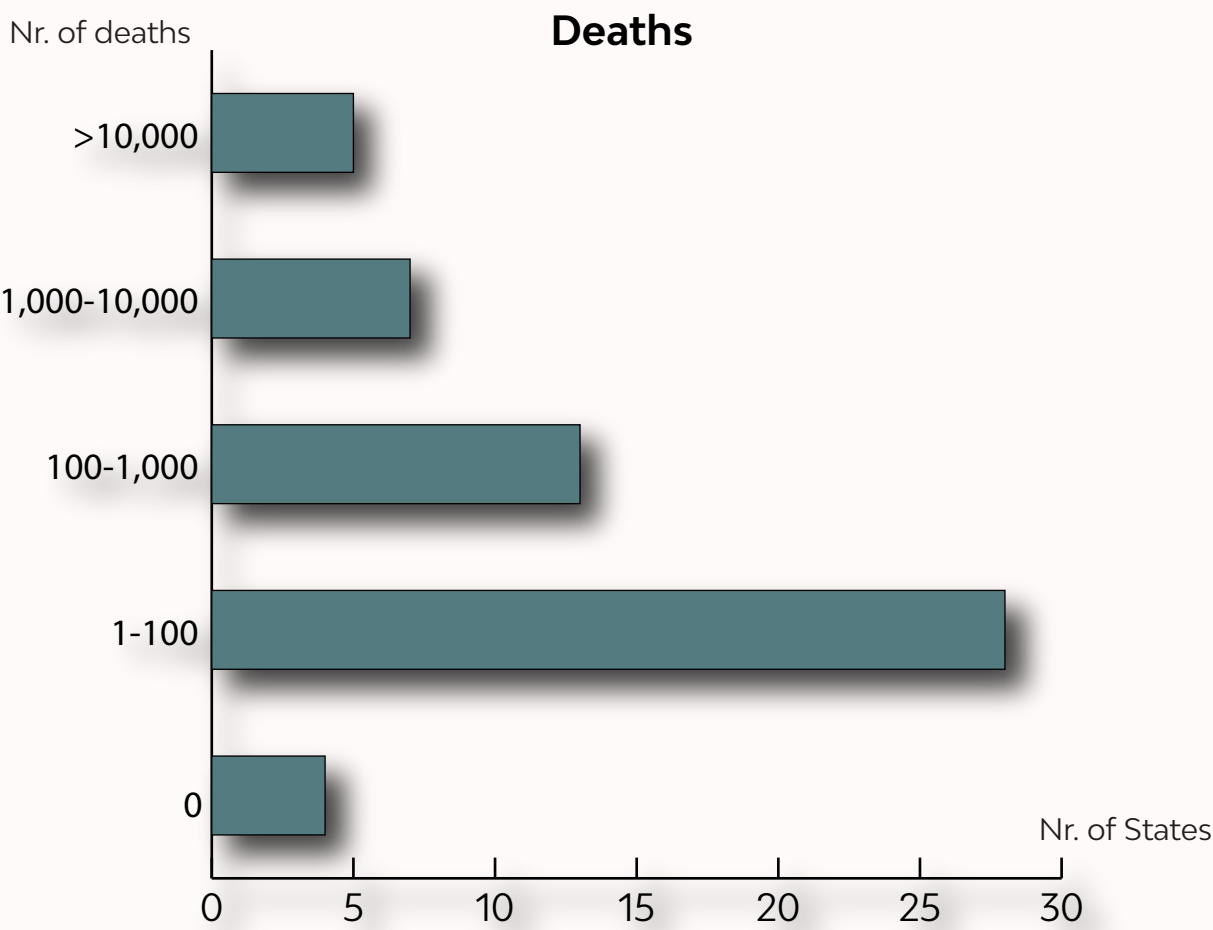
During the past week, **the overall number of infections and deaths in the OSCE region has increased** from approx. 1,81 to 2,2 million (approx. 23%) and from 130,000 to 169,000 (30%) respectively- which confirms the pandemic's growth pattern, **although at a slower rate** (reductions in both curves was of approx. 50%). Additionally, **OSCE participating States** (hereinafter States) **have further expanded their testing capacity** currently conducting, on average, 18,400 tests per million inhabitants, showing an increase of 31% from last week (14,025).



12 States (21%) report more than 1,000 COVID-19-related deaths, amounting to the vast majority (96%) of COVID-19 victims in the OSCE region. In total, these countries recorded approx. 163.000 deaths. The remaining 4% (approx. 6.000) are distributed among the other 45 States.

5 States continue to report more than 10,000 victims (USA, Spain, Italy, France and UK), for a total of approx. 138,000 deaths (107.000 last week), representing approx. 82% of the overall victims in the OSCE region. 4 States (7%) continue to report no deaths (i.e. the Holy See, Mongolia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan).

The number of States having reported more than 1,000 infections has increased by 3,5% (2) in one week, accounting for 42 out of 57 States. There are now 18 States (15 last week) that have surpassed the 10,000 infections threshold, out of which 7 (USA, Spain, Italy, France, Germany, UK and Turkey) reported more than 100.000 cases each, for a total of approx. 1,840,000 infections. This figure accounts for 82% of the overall number of infections in the OSCE area. Over the past 2 weeks, the total number of infections in these 7 States has grown by 72% (from approx. 1 million to 1,84 million cases). 2 States (i.e. Tajikistan and Turkmenistan) continue to report no infections.



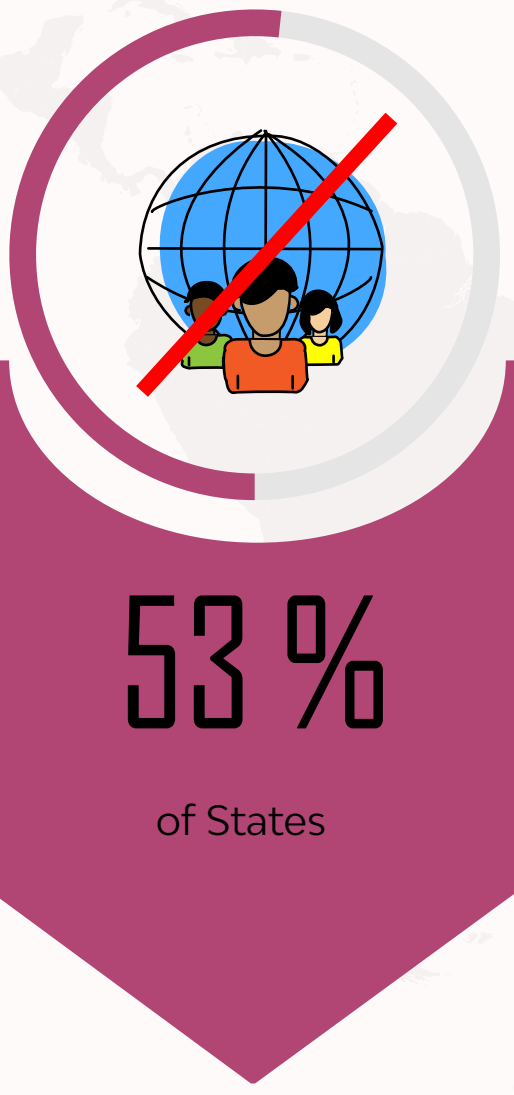
Testing rates among States have continued to increase significantly. Currently, 45 States (79%) have conducted more than 5,000 tests per million inhabitants, which shows an increase of 15,5% (+ 9 States) compared to last week and of 28% (+16 States) compared to the second week of April. Notably, there are now 19 States which have conducted more than 20,000 tests per million inhabitants (compared to only 5 at the beginning of April). The average testing rate for this group of States is approx. 37,000 tests per million inhabitants, with Iceland, Luxembourg, Malta and San Marino, conducting more than 50,000 tests per million each. Finally, no data was found in 4 cases (7%).

IN FOCUS: BORDER CONTROL MEASURES

55 states

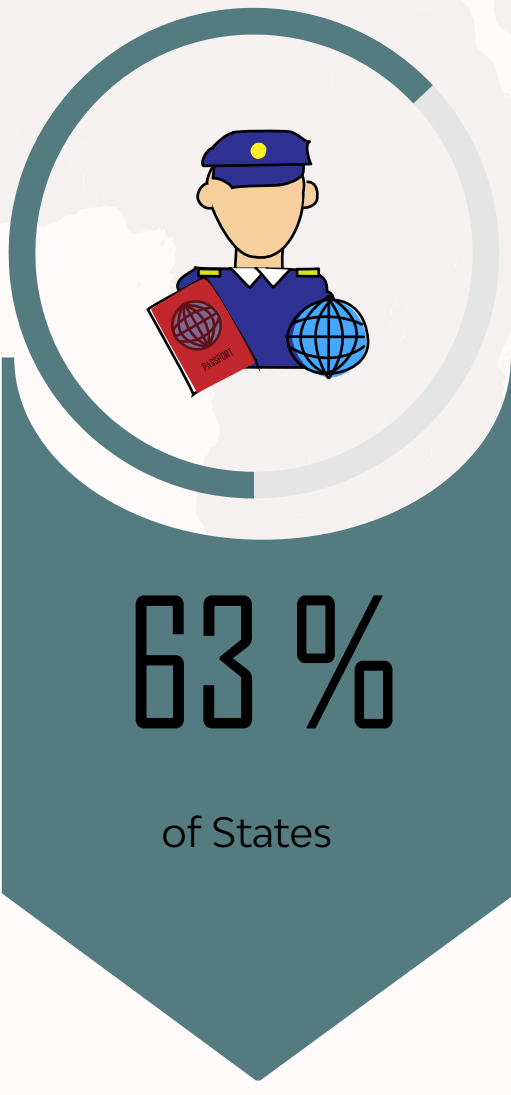
(96%) have significantly tightened border control measures in their efforts to halt the spread of COVID-19, either by banning or limiting travel to or from certain countries, and by imposing quarantine regimes for inbound travelers.

Currently, only 1 State does not appear to impose any restriction, while no reliable data was found for 2 States. Notably, most States allowed travel for the purposes of repatriation, either through State-organized channels, or for individually-arranged returns.



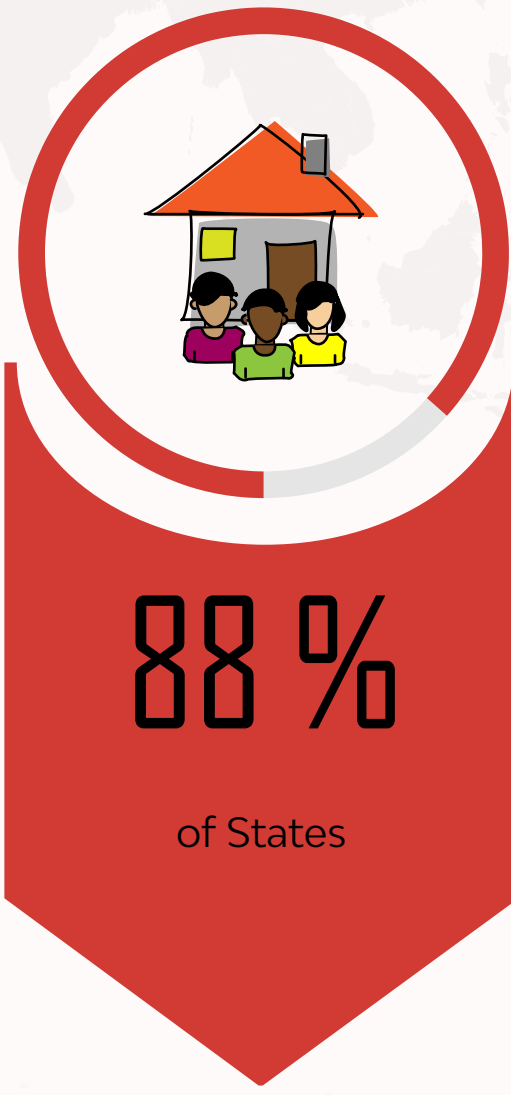
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

30 States (53%) in the OSCE region have imposed a general travel ban, prohibiting entry of all foreign nationals to their territories. Similarly, 21 States (37%) are currently banning entries from certain countries (partial travel ban), usually targeting individuals travelling from particularly affected areas. These travel bans, however, usually exclude repatriations and allow exemptions for medical staff, humanitarian workers, holders of diplomatic status, and residents of the State. Finally, no data was available or applicable for 6 States (10%).



LAND BORDER SHUTDOWNS

Out of 57 States, 36 (63%) have closed all their national land borders. Repatriations as well as transit for emergency workers, humanitarian corridors and transportation of essential goods are usually permitted. Similarly, 16 States (28%) have shut down their borders only with certain neighbouring countries. Lastly, no data was available for 5 States (9%).



QUARANTINE/SELF-ISOLATION FOR TRAVELLERS

So far, 50 out of 57 OSCE States (88%) have made it mandatory for all incoming travellers and/or returning residents to quarantine/self-isolate themselves for a certain period of time upon arrival/return. In most cases, quarantine is required for 14 days and is conducted from home. In 4 States (7%), self-isolation of incoming travellers is either merely recommended or is decided on an individual basis. Data is not available for 3 States (5%).



In mid-March, the EU agreed to temporarily restrict all non-essential travel from third countries into the Schengen area and Schengen associated states for 30 days. On 8 April, the European Commission invited EU Member States and non-EU Schengen countries to extend the temporary restrictions until 15 May.