



# Wuhan Coronavirus Update 29 January

**Executive Summary**

All travel to Hubei Province is advised against, clients should also reconsider non-essential travel to China due to the growing number of travel restrictions, confirmed cases and government warnings. Be aware that many businesses in China remain closed and restrictions on domestic public transport are in effect.

**Latest Updates**

There are now just under 6,000 cases in China, with over 2,700 cases in Hubei Province alone. Hubei Province itself now has over 3,500 confirmed cases and 125 of the confirmed deaths. Tibet remains the only region of China that has not recorded a case at this time. Despite the continued growth in case numbers, experts in China are hopeful that the outbreak could peak in seven to 10 days.

Outside China, numerous countries are now advising against non-essential travel to mainland China, with a number of airlines, including British Airways, Seoul Air and Lion Air, cancelling flights to mainland China. Other airlines have scaled back the number of flights they are operating to both mainland China and Hong Kong.

A chartered flight with US citizens has arrived back from Wuhan after evacuating citizens from the city. The US citizens evacuated are set to be quarantined for a time with the aircraft stopping at Ted Stevens Anchorage Airport where those onboard received a medical screening. Japan and Turkey have also put into motion operations to evacuate their nationals from the city. The United Kingdom and Australia (alongside New Zealand) are also finalising preparations to evacuate citizens from Wuhan and the wider Hubei Province. Those evacuated to the UK will be quarantined on a military base, whilst Australian and NZ nationals are set to be kept on Christmas island to undergo screening and quarantine. Indonesian politicians are also seeking to have around 243 Indonesian nationals currently in Hubei Province repatriated.

While numbers continue to grow rapidly in China, especially around the epicentre in Wuhan Province, abroad, case numbers are growing at a slower rate. The first case has been reported in the Middle East, with a person in the United Arab Emirates, having fallen ill following travel to Wuhan. Investigations are underway into the case, as it is believed that the person may have managed to leave Wuhan after the quarantine was implemented.

In China, there were reported clashes between villagers and police in the south-eastern province of Fujian after the authorities revealed plans to convert a factory into a quarantine centre. Residents were unhappy with the site’s location choice, taking to the streets to protest, resulting in the clashes. Health checkpoints are now commonplace in many cities on the mainland. China’s agriculture ministry has also urged a boost in vegetable production to guarantee ample supplies and stable prices amid the outbreak. While public transport continues to operate in the majority of cities in the country, intercity services, including those between mainland China and Hong Kong are being cancelled.

<b>Current Statistics (numbers vary between sources)</b>					
Current Total Infected	6,083	Suspected Cases	9,239	Total confirmed Deaths	132
Current Total Infected Outside China	87	Deaths outside of China	0	Total Confirmed Recoveries	115
<b>Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China</b>	Thailand (14), Hong Kong (8), Macau (7), Singapore (7), Malaysia (7), Japan (7), Australia (6), United States (5), France (4), South Korea (4), Germany (4), Canada (3), Vietnam (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), United Arab Emirates (1)				
<b>Travel Restrictions (these restrictions remain fluid and are subject to change at short notice, keep up to date with potential restrictions if travelling)</b>					
<b>China</b>	<b>Complete “quarantine” (no movements in and out of the city &amp; airport shutdown)</b>		Wuhan		
	<b>Restrictions on movement and public transport</b>		Hubei Province, Hong Kong SAR		
	<b>Limited restrictions on public transport services (i.e. long-distance bus services, ride-hailing services, inter-city travel)</b>		Beijing, Tianjin city, Xi’an, Hebei Province and Shanghai		
<b>Countries advising against non-essential travel to China</b>	United States, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Taiwan, South Korea, France, Australia				

**Solace Global Advice**

- Solace Global advises against all travel to Hubei Province due to travel restrictions currently in place and the current outbreak.
- Solace Global advises against non-essential travel to wider China, Hong Kong and Macau. Travel restrictions, both within the country and to and from home countries may be implemented with little or no notice.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, further travel restrictions, both in China and internationally, may be announced at any time.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening and delays, regardless of destination or country of origin.

If currently in or travelling to China:

- Strictly monitor all updates via both local and international media, Chinese and other government authorities and Solace Secure. Additionally, make use of Solace Traveller Tracking on the Solace Secure App; check-in when you land, daily and following any location changes.
- Always maintain a good hygiene level and wear a surgical mask whilst in public places, wash hands regularly, and avoid those who are obviously sick.
- Travellers and residents should be prepared for travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advance notice, with restrictions on certain areas.
- Ensure all food and eggs are thoroughly cooked.