



# COVID-19 Outbreak Update

## 26 February

**Executive Summary**

At this time, Solace Global advises against all travel to China due to the ongoing travel restrictions, cancelled flights, government warnings and confirmed cases of the virus. Additionally, Solace Global advises against all non-essential travel to HK, Macau, Iran, Daegu and Cheongdo in South Korea and 11 towns in northern Italy. Further travel restrictions and disruption to business operations in globally are possible in the coming days and weeks.

**Latest Updates**

There were 169 new cases of the COVID-19 virus in South Korea bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 1,146 and giving the country the second-highest number of cases after China. The majority of the cases were reported in Daegu. A US service member based near the South Korean city of Daegu has been diagnosed with the virus. The 23-year old serviceman, from the US Army, is believed to have been to another military facility in the area recently. Health officials are actively seeking to determine whether any other service personnel have been exposed. Military leaders have scaled back their annual military exercises to limit the risk of the virus spreading among both US and South Korean military personnel.

Over the last 24 hours, there have been confirmed cases in Switzerland, Croatia, Algeria, Spain and Austria along with a suspected case in Brazil. In Thailand, Health Minister Anutin urged citizens to avoid travelling abroad if possible. "For the airlines, please reduce promotions," he said. "Even though tickets are cheap, it could be your last holiday." Health officials have been prohibited to visit at risk countries, which are: China, Macau, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore, Italy, Iran, and Japan. "We are entering a full war with Covid-19" Anutin said.

San Francisco has declared a state of emergency in anticipation of COVID-19 spreading in the US. The announcement allows the authorities and emergency services to redirect vital resources and personnel. There are, however, no confirmed cases in the city with only three people are under observation in local hospitals. Elsewhere in the United States, there are 57 cases, with no fatalities reported.

Italian authorities announced that 10 towns in the Lombardy region (Codogno, Castiglione, Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano) and one in Veneto (Euganeo), have been placed on lockdown to limit the spread of the virus. With people banned from leaving the areas in lockdown, though movements within the "red zone" (to go shopping for example) is allowed.

<b>Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)</b>					
Current Total Infected (new cases)	81,234 (+643)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	30,116 (+2,810)	Total confirmed Deaths	2,762 (+79)
<b>Current confirmed case numbers</b>	China (78,064), South Korea (1,146), <i>Diamond Princess</i> (691), Italy (325), Japan (171), Iran (95), Singapore (91), HK (85), USA (57), Thailand (40), Taiwan (40), Bahrain (26), Malaysia (22), Australia (22), Germany (18), France (14), UAE (13), UK (13), Canada (11), Kuwait (11), Macau (10), Spain (9), Iraq (5), Oman (4), Philippines (3), India (3), Austria (2), Israel (2), Russia (2), Afghanistan (1), Algeria (1), Belgium (1), Cambodia (1), Croatia (1), Egypt (1), Finland (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Switzerland (1), Brazil (1), Sweden (1), Lebanon (1), Iraq (1). <b>All cases have an outcome in:</b> Vietnam (16), India (3), Philippines (3), Russia (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Sweden (1), Finland (1), Belgium (1), Egypt (1)				
<b>Deaths</b>	China (2,715), Iran (19), South Korea (12), Italy (11), <i>Diamond Princess</i> (4), HK (2), France (2), Japan (2), Taiwan (1), Philippines (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>Quarantined and lockdown cities/regions</b>	Majority of Hubei Province, Wenzhou, Nanchang, Zhengzhou, Linyi, Harbin, Fuzhou some cities in Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces. With restrictions reported on majority of long-distance travel as well as screenings at public transport hubs.			
	<b>Flight Restrictions</b>	Majority of international airlines have ceased operations to and from Chinese mainland. Flight operations to and from HK and Macau are also being impacted.			
<b>Countries that have some form of warning or ban on travel to China</b>	Schengen Countries, Australia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech R., DRC, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, S. Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, UK, Ukraine, US				
<b>Italy</b>	<b>Current restrictions</b>	Lombardy region (Codogno, Castiglione, Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano) and one in Veneto (Euganeo)			
<b>South Korea</b>	<b>Current restrictions</b>	Daegu and Cheongdo cities			
<b>Solace Global Advice</b>	<b>Advise against all travel:</b> Mainland China				
	<b>Advise against all but essential travel:</b> Hong Kong, Macau, Iran, Daegu and Cheongdo (Both in SK), 11 towns in N. Italy				

- Solace Global advises to monitor countries experiencing outbreaks due to currently in place travel restrictions.
- Ensure your healthcare and insurance providers are aware of any essential travel to China.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, as new travel restrictions and further outbreaks may occur with no warning.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening, delays and even quarantine, regardless of destination or country of origin.
- Monitor yourself for symptoms, should you suspect that you have contracted the virus, self-quarantine and immediately call your relevant embassy and/or consult your doctor.
- Maintain a good hygiene level, use hand sanitizer and wash hands regularly if travelling in the coming days.
- Regularly check updates via your respective government agency and the World Health Organisation for travel information and potential restrictions.