



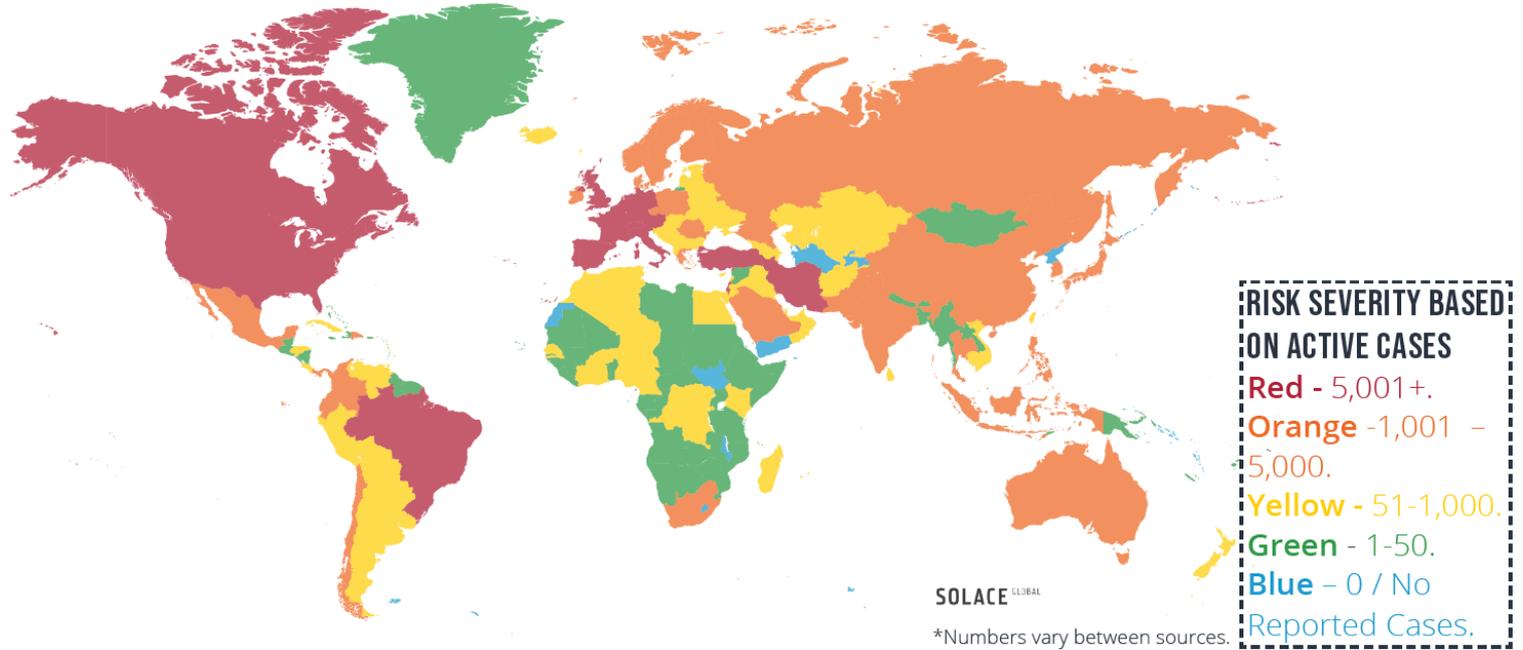
COVID-19 Outbreak Update 2 April

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

There are now just over 940,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, with approximately 47,000 deaths and around 196,000 recoveries. Nearly all countries globally have reported at least one case and/or have implemented some form of travel restriction. The situation continues to evolve rapidly, with new travel restrictions, both internationally and domestically, being implemented with little or no notice.

Solace Global advises against all non-essential travel at this time due to the already widespread in-place travel restrictions and the risk of new ones being implemented without notice. Additionally, prior to any and all essential travel, it is advised that you check your relevant government’s travel advice and contact your airline or travel provider for more details. People aged 70 and over, or those with underlying health issues, should also reconsider their need to travel, even domestically, as to limit their chances of exposure.



Latest Updates

Case numbers continue to grow significantly on a daily basis, with now over 940,000 confirmed cases reported worldwide. Deaths are also continuing to increase, with the total now just shy of 50,000. In Europe, Spain now has the fastest growing number of confirmed cases, with an additional 8,195 new confirmed cases yesterday and an additional 923 confirmed deaths. Only the United States saw a greater case and death growth rate on 1 April.

Behind the US and Spain, Germany’s growth rate is also remarkably strong, with over 6,000 new cases yesterday. However, the country is now conducting more than 50,000 tests per day. This is significantly more than the UK for example, a point that has been picked up by political observers and health experts in the UK. Additionally, the German confirmed case-to-death rate is much lower than many other European countries, leading experts to believe that the country is simply recording closer to the real number of cases, which would include more infections showing moderate or no symptoms.

Italy saw the lowest daily increase in deaths related to COVID-19 in a week. The UK and France are now looking to Italy and Spain to predict the potential increase in cases and demands on medical services. The two countries confirmed case numbers and confirmed death rates closely follow those of their European counterparts.

In Asia, the Ministry of Health in Singapore has announced 74 new cases, taking the national total to 1,000. This represented the highest single-day spike in Singapore so far. Additionally, two new clusters of infections were identified in the Lee Ah Mooi Old Age Home on Thomson Lane and a dormitory located at 55 Sungei Kadut Loop. Meanwhile, in Hong Kong, the government has decided to close multiple types of entertainment venues including karaoke lounges, mah-jong parlours and night clubs for 14 days in response to the worsening pandemic. Massage parlours, beauty centres and clubhouses must take preventative measures such as taking visitors’ body temperatures before allowing them to enter and requiring anyone in these venues to wear face masks. Anyone who breaches these regulations could be punished with a maximum fine of 50,000 Hong Kong dollars and imprisonment for up to six months.

In China, shortly after relaxing control measures, authorities have placed Jia County in Henan Province under lockdown after three new infections were reported on Sunday. All businesses have been shut down, except utilities, medical suppliers, logistics companies and food processing firms. All shops except supermarkets, hospitals, food markets, petrol stations, pharmacies and hotels have been closed. In addition, only people with special permits can go to work and cars can only be used on alternate days, depending on their plate number. Masks must be worn at all times. Despite a drop in reported cases and a cessation of lockdown measures in many parts of China, it is advised to maintain precautionary measures due to the lingering threat of infection from secondary outbreaks.

In the Philippines, reports continue to emerge of civil unrest resulting from government-imposed restrictions, along with heavy-handed responses from authorities. In a televised address on Wednesday night, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte authorised the police and military to use deadly force “if there is trouble or the situation arises that people fight and ... lives are on the line” while they are enforcing COVID-19 lockdown measures. President Duterte had previously authorized security forces and even vigilantes to use deadly force against drug dealers, addicts and rebel militants. The President made the comments just hours after 21 residents in Quezon City were arrested for protesting without a permit. The workers were protesting their inability to work under the current lockdown restrictions.

Protests have also occurred in Colombia, where paramedics, doctors and nurses staged demonstrations in the capital Bogota to show their support for colleagues and protest against alleged delays in their salary payments amid the pandemic. Health workers in other cities have also condemned late salary payments, and so further protests across the country cannot be ruled out.

The impact continues to impact international events with political, entertainment and sports events all being cancelled or postponed. The COP26 UN climate conference due to take place in November in Glasgow has now been postponed until next year, with the UK government, thus far, not confirming any rescheduled dates. Additionally, Wimbledon officials have announced that this year's Grand Slam tennis tournament has been cancelled for the first time since the Second World War. The European Football body UEFA has also announced that the Champions League and Europa Leagues will be suspended "until further notice".

Region Specific Updates and New Restrictions – Be aware these are fluid and subject to change, check for any updates prior to travel.

Asia

Nearly all countries in Asia have implemented some form of restriction on travel. Many Asian countries have limited internal travel and have in-place lockdowns.

China has announced that it plans to lift the travel restrictions on Hubei province after months of lockdown, with the exception of the city of Wuhan. Since 26 March, transport services have gradually begun resuming operations. Reports also indicate that Wuhan will resume some commercial flights on 8 April; however, these are likely to only be domestic. China is set to curb access back into the country with updated reports indicating that China will temporarily suspend entry for foreign nationals from midnight local time on 28 March.

In Hong Kong, all non-residents have been banned (the measure began on 25 March) from entering or transiting through the Special Administrative Region.

India has also now implemented a lockdown, with people being banned from leaving their homes, the closure of non-essential shops, businesses and places of worship, suspension of all schools and non-essential public transport as well as the cessation of all social, political entertainment and sports activities.

Countries with a global travel ban on non-citizens/residents include Azerbaijan, Brunei, China (and its SARs), India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, N. Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Vietnam, Turkmenistan. The majority of other countries also have restrictions in place, though these vary in severity.

Europe

Italy and Spain are both experiencing a high death toll from the virus. France and Switzerland appear to also be heavily impacted, with the UK also now growing in case numbers and fatality rates. Germany has experienced a large number of cases but managed to keep death rates lower than its neighbours.

The EU has closed the bloc's external borders and restrictions have also been implemented inside the majority of countries, with the UK, France, Italy, Germany, Spain and many others imposing a lockdown and restricting people from travelling or gathering, unless for specific reasons.

At this time, the Schengen area has banned all incoming travel other than citizens from countries in the European Union, European Economic Area, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, long-term residents and people with long-term visa or residence permits, family members of EU and EEA citizens, medical personnel and people responsible for the transport of goods for 30 days. The majority of other European countries have some form of restrictions in place.

Americas

The US has implemented a level 4: Do Not Travel global advisory. The Department of State advises US citizens to avoid all international travel due to the global impact of COVID-19. In countries where commercial departure options remain available, US citizens who live in the United States should arrange for an immediate return, unless they are prepared to remain abroad for an indefinite period. Repatriation flights continue for the time being. The United States has also ordered a border closure for all non-essential travel from both Canada and Mexico.

Restrictions within the US are also being implemented extensively. On 29 March, President Trump announced that the social distancing measures that are designed to slow the virus's spread will stay in place until at least 30 April.

At this time, Argentina, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, United States, Trinidad & Tobago and Uruguay all have at least some form of restriction on inbound travel. Additionally, restrictions vary on many other Caribbean islands with most banning all inbound travel and implementing some form of lockdown.

Africa

A number of countries in Africa have implemented travel restrictions on people arriving from affected countries. At this time, Algeria, Angola, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Mali, Libya, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Reunion, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda all have at least some restrictions on inbound travel. Currently, this includes most of Europe, China and the US.

Additionally, a number of countries have already implemented national lockdowns, including South Africa, while others have implemented city wide lockdowns, as with Lagos and Abuja in Nigeria.

Middle East

The Middle East also has some significant restrictions, Saudi Arabia, has implemented a ban on all foreign arrivals, including pilgrims, a measure that now looks unlikely to be lifted with Hajj. Strict movement restrictions are in place in most Middle Eastern countries.

Most countries have also closed schools and non-essential businesses, banned large gatherings, including prayers at mosques. Israel, Jordan,

	Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and the UAE all have restrictions on inbound travel by non-citizens/residents. The majority of other countries have varying levels of restrictions.
Australia/Oceania	Australia and New Zealand have closed their borders to anyone who is not a citizen or resident. The lockdown in Australia had been considered quite lenient when compared to France, Italy or the UK; however, the government has announced stricter restrictions. Most Pacific Island nations have also imposed border control measures and quarantine requirements on travellers arriving from affected countries.
Solace Global Advice	At this time, travellers should reconsider their need to travel globally, with only business-critical travel being advised . Otherwise, ensure that you can access the country you intend to travel to and consider deferring journeys to countries with more than 1,000 cases or have travel restrictions already in place. In the coming weeks, extensive travel restrictions are likely to make even business-critical travel difficult – liaise with your relevant government agency for further instructions and information.

Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)					
Current Total Cases	951,933 (+79,141)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	202,888 (+18,362)	Total Confirmed Deaths	48,320 (+5,049)

The list below comprises of the top 40 countries in each section, for a complete list please go to [Worldometers](#), [Johns Hopkins University](#) or the [WHO](#).

Countries with the most confirmed cases		Countries with the greatest increase in case numbers yesterday		Countries with the most confirmed deaths		Countries with the most confirmed recoveries	
USA	215,357	USA	+26,473	Italy	13,155	China	76,408
Italy	110,574	Spain	+8,195	Spain	10,003	Spain	26,743
Spain	110,238	Germany	+6,173	USA	5,113	Germany	19,175
China	81,589	France	+4,861	France	4,032	Italy	16,847
Germany	78,983	Italy	+4,782	China	3,318	Iran	16,711
France	56,989	UK	+4,324	Iran	3,160	France	10,935
Iran	50,468	Iran	+2,988	UK	2,352	USA	8,878
UK	29,474	Turkey	+2,148	Netherlands	1,173	S. Korea	5,828
Switzerland	18,267	Belgium	+1,189	Belgium	1,011	Switzerland	4,013
Turkey	15,679	Switzerland	+1,163	Germany	948	Belgium	2,495
Belgium	15,348	Brazil	+1,163	Switzerland	505	Austria	1,749
Netherlands	13,614	Canada	+1,119	Turkey	277	Canada	1,736
Austria	10,892	Netherlands	+1,019	Brazil	245	Denmark	1,089
S. Korea	9,976	Portugal	+808	Sweden	239	Malaysia	767
Canada	9,731	Israel	+734	Portugal	187	Diamond Princess	619
Portugal	8,251	India	+601	Indonesia	170	Thailand	505
Brazil	6,931	Austria	+531	S. Korea	169	Japan	472
Israel	6,211	Sweden	+512	Austria	158	Peru	394
Australia	5,137	Ecuador	+456	Canada	129	Australia	345
Norway	5,071	Russia	+440	Denmark	123	Bahrain	341
Sweden	4,947	Chile	+293	Philippines	107	Turkey	333
Czechia	3,604	Australia	+285	Ecuador	98	Finland	300
Russia	3,548	Czechia	+281	Romania	94	Israel	289
Ireland	3,447	Peru	+258	Ireland	85	Romania	267
Denmark	3,355	Denmark	+247	India	58	Saudi Arabia	264
Malaysia	3,116	Poland	+243	Algeria	58	Netherlands	250
Chile	3,031	Norway	+236	Japan	57	Argentina	248
Ecuador	2,758	Philippines	+227	Dominican Republic	57	Singapore	245
Romania	2,738	Romania	+215	Egypt	52	Iceland	236
Philippines	2,633	Ireland	+212	Iraq	52	Russia	235
Poland	2,633	Japan	+206	Greece	51	Chile	234
Japan	2,384	Pakistan	+180	Malaysia	50	Iraq	182
Luxembourg	2,319	Dominican Republic	+175	Peru	47	Egypt	179
Pakistan	2,291	Serbia	+160	Norway	46	Hong Kong	154
India	2,032	Colombia	+159	Poland	45	India	150
Thailand	1,875	Saudi Arabia	+157	Czechia	40	UK	135
Indonesia	1,790	UAE	+150	Morocco	39	Brazil	127
Saudi Arabia	1,720	Indonesia	+149	Mexico	37	Indonesia	112
Finland	1,518	Ukraine	+149	Israel	33	Pakistan	107
Greece	1,415	Malaysia	+142	Argentina	33	Sweden	103



Solace Global remains available to provide the full range of Travel Risk Management services to clients. Solace Global is also able to provide comprehensive crisis management, in-country journey management, tracking, response, and evacuation services.

For further details please contact +44 (0)1202 308 810 or email info@solaceglobal.com