



COVID-19 Outbreak Update

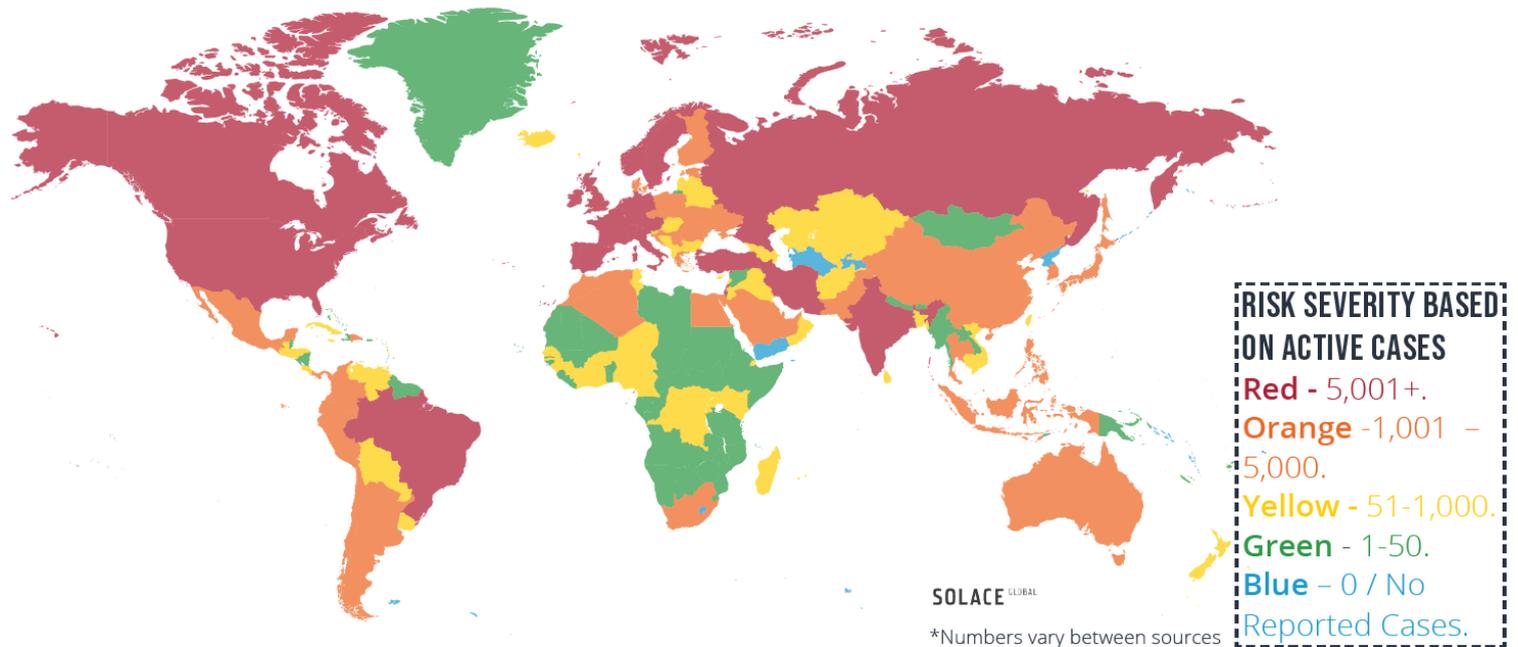
9 April

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

There are now over 1.5 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide, with approximately 88,500 deaths and around 331,000 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

The United States continues to be the worst affected country by COVID-19, with cases exceeding 435,000, accounting for around 28% of the global total. The US response to the virus remains inconsistent, with hyper-partisan politics emerging at every level of government. President Donald Trump has elected to delegate much of the responsibility for managing the crisis to individual state governors, who have implemented various levels of restrictions on their residents. There is a reasonable probability that a lack of direction from the federal government will result in the United States failing to control the epidemic as quickly as other western nations.

The US Government has, however, indicated that it will seize all exports of personal protective equipment (PPE) until it determines whether it has a surplus to the country’s requirements. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will hold exports of respirators, surgical masks and surgical gloves until the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) determines whether the equipment can be used in the domestic effort to contain COVID-19. The move was authorised by President Trump on 3 April and may have a knock-on effect of resulting in shortages of PPE in other countries.

In the UK, Prime Minister Boris Johnson remains in intensive care with a severe case of COVID-19. Chancellor Rishi Sunak indicated in the latest daily government press conference that Johnson’s condition is improving and that he has not, as yet, required mechanical ventilation. Johnson is reportedly conscious, sitting up and has been engaging positively with clinicians. Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab continues to supervise day-to-day government operations. Given the severity of the Prime Minister’s symptoms, it is unlikely that he will be able to lead the government in the coming weeks. Separately, there were 938 COVID-19 related deaths reported in the UK yesterday, the worst daily mortality rate of the outbreak so far.

Italy’s Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte has indicated that some lockdown measures could be relaxed by the end of April providing that new case numbers continue to drop. Moreover, during an interview with the BBC he hinted that the European project could be in jeopardy if EU countries cannot agree on an economic response and said, “If we do not seize the opportunity to put new life into the European project, the risk of failure is real”.

Over 10,000 cases of COVID-19 have now been reported across Africa. Experts have become extremely concerned with the projected impact of the virus on populations across the continent, with one epidemiologist stating that ‘the lack of testing means we don’t have any secure understanding of the true amounts of infection’. African countries have the highest prevalence of diseases compromising the human immune system, such as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Combined with the limited access to advanced medical care required to support patients with the most severe symptoms – as well as the cramped and unsanitary living conditions in some of the continent’s cities making social distancing all but impossible – it is likely that COVID-19 will spread faster and result in a significantly higher death rate in Africa than in more developed parts of the world.

Police in the Pakistani city of Quetta have arrested dozens of medical personnel who were protesting the lack of PPE for frontline workers. Representatives of the Young Doctors Association (YDA), who organised the protest, have indicated that at least 67 members had been arrested. Despite over a dozen health workers having been infected with COVID-19 in Balochistan province, government officials have claimed that there is sufficient PPE to combat the virus. In recent

days, Pakistan has seen a significant rise in community transmission of COVID-19, with 30% of cases in Balochistan traced to local sources. Given the country's poor standard of healthcare and low living standards, Pakistan is likely to see a surge in cases of COVID-19 in the coming weeks.

In neighbouring India, authorities are preparing for an expected surge in cases by making use of its substantial rail network, the fourth largest anywhere in the world. Work has reportedly begun to convert around 5,000 coaches into quarantine wards and patient isolation areas which could eventually house up to 40,000 beds. The railway ministry also hinted that it was looking at the possibility of converting as many as 15,000 more coaches if the scheme is successful.

Just as the Chinese city of Wuhan reopens after 10 weeks of lockdown, Suifenhe City in Heilongjiang province has announced restrictions on the movement of citizens similar to those imposed in Wuhan at the height of its outbreak. Authorities in the city believe that a surge in cases is linked to an influx of infected travellers crossing the nearby border with Russia. With flights between Russia and China suspended, Suifenhe has become a major entry point for Chinese citizens living in the Russian city of Vladivostok.

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

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Asia | <p>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.</p> <p>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, Thailand, Vietnam, Turkmenistan. The majority of other countries also have restrictions in place, though these vary in severity.</p> |
| Europe | <p>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.</p> <p>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 similar restrictions in place.</p> |
| Americas | <p>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 and for those who are currently abroad to return as soon as possible. The United States has also ordered a border closure for all non-essential travel from both Canada and Mexico.</p> <p>Restrictions within the US are also being implemented extensively. The majority of states now have a "stay-at-home" order of some kind or have closed "non-essential" businesses.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| Africa | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| Middle East | <p>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 before Hajj. Strict movement restrictions are in place in most Middle Eastern countries.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| Australia/ Oceania | <p>Australia and New Zealand have closed their borders to anyone who is not a citizen or resident. Internal restrictions are also coming into force in Australia with many states now under a state of emergency and travel between states in the country.</p> <p>Most Pacific Island nations have also imposed border control measures and quarantine requirements on travellers arriving from affected countries.</p> |
| Solace Global Advice | <p>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.</p> |

Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)

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|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Current Total Cases | 1,521,030 (+85,720) | Total Confirmed Recoveries | 331,132 (+28,125) | Total Confirmed Deaths | 88,565 (+6,355) |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|

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 | 435,160 | USA | +31,935 | Italy | 17,669 | China | 77,370 |
| Spain | 148,220 | Spain | +6,278 | USA | 14,797 | Spain | 48,021 |
| Italy | 139,422 | Germany | +5,633 | Spain | 14,792 | Germany | 46,300 |
| Germany | 113,296 | UK | +5,491 | France | 10,869 | Iran | 29,812 |
| France | 112,950 | Turkey | +4,117 | UK | 7,097 | Italy | 26,491 |
| China | 81,865 | France | +3,881 | Iran | 3,993 | USA | 22,891 |
| Iran | 64,586 | Italy | +3,836 | China | 3,335 | France | 21,254 |
| UK | 60,733 | Brazil | +2,154 | Germany | 2,349 | Switzerland | 9,800 |
| Turkey | 38,226 | Iran | +1,997 | Netherlands | 2,248 | S. Korea | 6,973 |
| Belgium | 23,403 | Canada | +1,541 | Belgium | 2,240 | Belgium | 4,681 |
| Switzerland | 23,280 | Peru | +1,388 | Switzerland | 895 | Canada | 4,653 |
| Netherlands | 20,549 | Belgium | +1,209 | Brazil | 822 | Austria | 4,512 |
| Canada | 19,438 | Russia | +1,175 | Turkey | 812 | Australia | 2,813 |
| Brazil | 16,195 | Switzerland | +1,027 | Sweden | 687 | Turkey | 1,846 |
| Portugal | 13,141 | Netherlands | +969 | Canada | 435 | Denmark | 1,621 |
| Austria | 12,981 | Sweden | +726 | Portugal | 380 | Malaysia | 1,487 |
| S. Korea | 10,423 | Portugal | +699 | Austria | 273 | Peru | 1,333 |
| Russia | 10,131 | India | +565 | Ecuador | 242 | Chile | 1,115 |
| Israel | 9,404 | Ecuador | +455 | Indonesia | 240 | Thailand | 940 |
| Sweden | 8,419 | Chile | +430 | Ireland | 235 | Israel | 801 |
| Australia | 6,104 | Panama | +428 | Romania | 229 | Russia | 698 |
| Ireland | 6,074 | Japan | +410 | Denmark | 218 | Mexico | 633 |
| Norway | 6,042 | Ireland | +365 | Algeria | 205 | Iceland | 633 |
| India | 5,916 | Poland | +357 | S. Korea | 204 | Japan | 632 |
| Chile | 5,546 | Mexico | +346 | Philippines | 182 | Saudi Arabia | 631 |
| Denmark | 5,402 | Romania | +344 | India | 178 | Diamond Princess | 619 |
| Czechia | 5,335 | Denmark | +331 | Mexico | 174 | Pakistan | 572 |
| Poland | 5,205 | Austria | +303 | Poland | 159 | Romania | 528 |
| Romania | 4,761 | UAE | +300 | Peru | 121 | India | 506 |
| Japan | 4,667 | Czechia | +295 | Dominican Republic | 108 | Luxembourg | 500 |
| Ecuador | 4,450 | Colombia | +274 | Czechia | 104 | Bahrain | 477 |
| Peru | 4,342 | Pakistan | +228 | Egypt | 103 | Iraq | 452 |
| Pakistan | 4,322 | Serbia | +219 | Norway | 101 | Singapore | 406 |
| Malaysia | 4,119 | Indonesia | +218 | Japan | 94 | Argentina | 358 |
| Philippines | 3,870 | Ukraine | +206 | Morocco | 93 | New Zealand | 317 |
| Mexico | 3,181 | Belarus | +205 | Greece | 83 | Egypt | 305 |
| Luxembourg | 3,034 | Finland | +179 | Russia | 76 | Finland | 300 |
| Indonesia | 2,956 | Israel | +156 | Israel | 73 | Poland | 284 |
| Saudi Arabia | 2,932 | Malaysia | +156 | Iraq | 69 | Greece | 269 |
| Serbia | 2,666 | Dominican Republic | +155 | Hungary | 66 | Hong Kong | 264 |



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Solace Global is also able to provide comprehensive crisis management, in-country journey management, tracking, response, and evacuation services.

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