



COVID-19 Outbreak Update

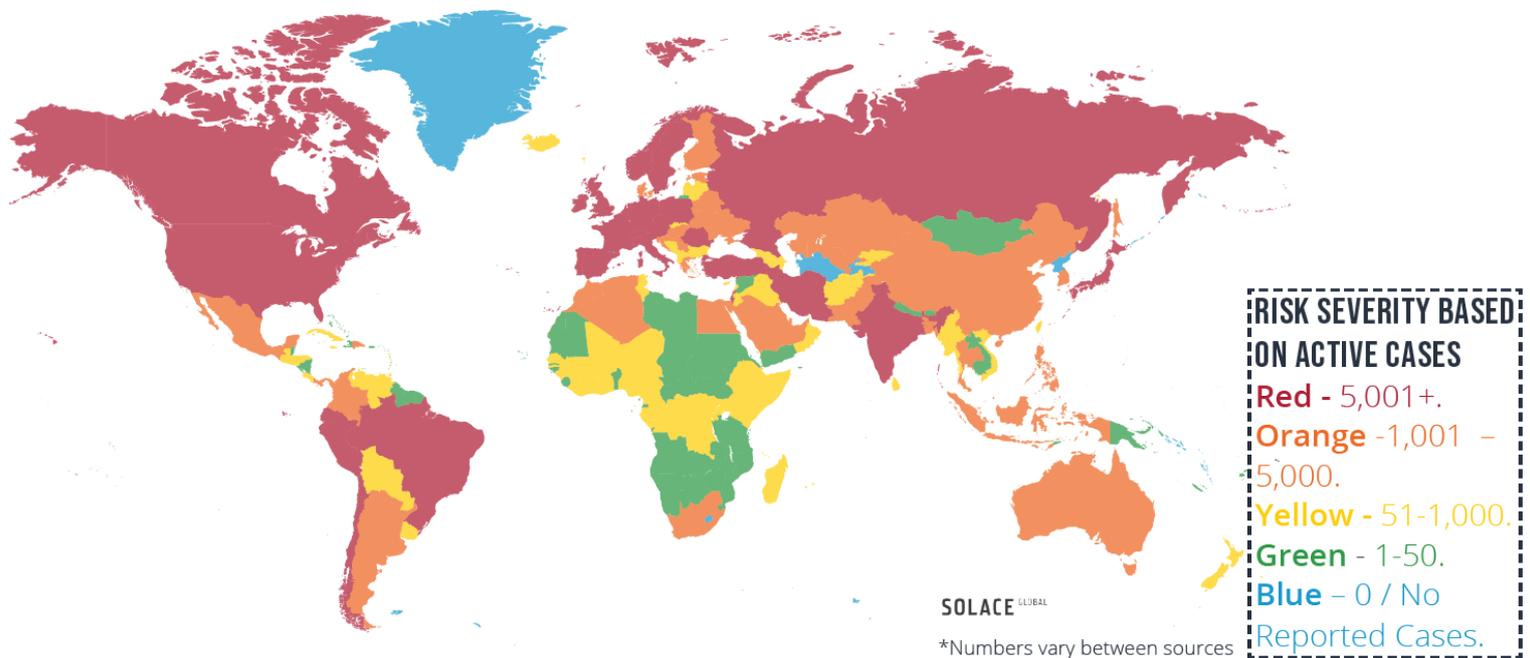
15 April

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally has now surpassed 2 million, with approximately 127,000 deaths and around 480,000 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 number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally has now surpassed 2 million, with 12 countries continuing to see case numbers grow by more than 1,000 per day. However, despite this, in Europe, Austria has begun to reopen some shops after the government announced it has managed to flatten the curve of new infections. Shops under 400 square meters, along with hardware stores and garden centres, have been allowed to reopen. The government also made it compulsory to wear face masks when going to supermarkets or pharmacies.

Similarly, Iceland’s Minister of Health, Svandis Svavarsdottir has announced that beginning of 4 May, the government will begin lifting some of the COVID-19 restrictions. The limit on the number of people involved in public gatherings will be increased from 20 to 50 and schools, colleges and universities will resume although secondary schools and universities will also be limited to 50 people per room. Services such as hairdressers and museums will also be allowed to reopen but there must be a minimum of a two-meter gap between customers.

The French overseas territories of Martinique, Guadeloupe, Reunion Island, French Guiana and Mayotte have all extended their lockdowns until the 11 May in line with mainland France. As part of the lockdowns, all public gatherings are banned and citizens are only allowed to leave their homes for grocery shopping, trips to pharmacies and for essential work. All of the territories have also imposed curfew from 20:00 to 05:00 local time except for Cayenne in French Guiana, where the curfew begins one-hour later at 21:00 local time.

United States President Donald Trump has suspended payments to the World Health Organisation (WHO) whilst a review is carried out into their alleged ‘role in severely mismanaging and covering up the spread of the coronavirus’. Critics of President Trump have accused him of trying to apportion blame elsewhere as he has come under attack this past week for not acting soon enough to contain the spread of the virus. In contrast, the United Kingdom announced over the weekend that it was pledging an additional £200 million for the WHO and charities to help slow the spread of the virus in vulnerable countries.

India’s IndiGo airlines have announced that the company intends to gradually resume flight operations on the 4 May, one day after the nationwide travel ban is due to expire. The company will initially focus on restoring domestic flight services but will look to resume international flights.

Malawi has imposed a nationwide lockdown from the 19 April till the 9 May. As part of the lockdown, all non-essential business will close, and non-essential movement of people will be banned. Citizens who need to travel for work will be given permits and additional security forces will be deployed to enforce the lockdown. Meanwhile in Namibia, the government has also announced the extension of the COVID-19 lockdown measures until the 4 May. As part of the lockdown, the borders will remain closed and social gatherings are limited to 10 people.

South Africa continues to experience issues with looting. Shops in Manenberg, Cape Town have been looted, some at gunpoint, as the city enters its third week of lockdown. Looting, particularly that of alcohol after the government banned the sale of alcohol during the lockdown, has become a major issue for police who have worked with liquor shops to move stocks to safer locations.

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. However, some countries are now easing internal lockdown measures after successfully managing their internal outbreaks, these include China, Taiwan and South Korea.

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. Most other countries also have restrictions in place, though these vary in severity.

Europe

The EU has closed the bloc's external borders and restrictions have also been implemented inside the majority of countries, with the UK, France, and Italy and many others have extended their lockdowns 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. Many other European countries have some form of similar restrictions in place.

Austria, Denmark and some other European countries are now seeing an easing of internal restrictions after passing what they believe is the worst of the outbreak in their countries.

Americas

The US is the worst affected country globally currently. 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.

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.

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

Several 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. There have also been reports of looting in some African countries, notably South Africa, as people panic buy certain goods. Alcohol has particularly been targeted in South Africa after the government banned its sale during the lockdown.

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 before 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. 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.

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	2,008,045 (+73,753)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	486,230 (+29,631)	Total Confirmed Deaths	127,145 (+6,707)
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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	614,246	USA	+26,945	USA	26,064	China	77,816
Spain	174,060	France	+6,524	Italy	21,067	Germany	72,600
Italy	162,488	UK	+5,252	Spain	18,255	Spain	67,504

France	143,303	Turkey	+4,062	France	15,729	Iran	48,129
Germany	132,210	Spain	+3,961	UK	12,107	USA	38,820
UK	93,873	Italy	+2,972	Iran	4,683	Italy	37,130
China	82,295	Russia	+2,774	Belgium	4,440	France	28,805
Iran	74,877	Germany	+2,138	Germany	3,495	Switzerland	14,700
Turkey	65,111	Brazil	+1,832	China	3,342	Brazil	14,026
Belgium	33,573	Iran	+1,574	Netherlands	2,945	Canada	8,235
Netherlands	27,419	Canada	+1,383	Brazil	1,552	Austria	8,098
Canada	27,063	India	+1,034	Turkey	1,403	S. Korea	7,616
Switzerland	25,936	Netherlands	+868	Switzerland	1,174	Belgium	7,107
Brazil	25,684	Ireland	+832	Sweden	1,033	Turkey	4,799
Russia	24,490	Belgium	+530	Canada	903	Australia	3,686
Portugal	17,448	Peru	+519	Portugal	567	Peru	2,869
Austria	14,280	Portugal	+514	Indonesia	469	Chile	2,646
Israel	12,200	Sweden	+497	Ireland	406	Denmark	2,515
India	11,555	Israel	+460	Mexico	406	Malaysia	2,478
Ireland	11,479	Saudi Arabia	+435	India	396	Israel	2,309
Sweden	11,445	UAE	+412	Austria	393	Mexico	2,125
S. Korea	10,591	Serbia	+411	Ecuador	369	Russia	1,986
Peru	10,303	Chile	+392	Romania	357	Thailand	1,497
Japan	8,100	Belarus	+362	Philippines	349	Pakistan	1,446
Chile	7,917	Mexico	+353	Algeria	326	India	1,362
Ecuador	7,603	Pakistan	+341	Denmark	299	Romania	1,051
Poland	7,408	Singapore	+334	Poland	268	Iceland	989
Romania	6,879	Philippines	+291	Peru	230	UAE	933
Denmark	6,681	Indonesia	+282	S. Korea	225	Saudi Arabia	889
Norway	6,623	Ukraine	+270	Russia	198	Japan	853
Australia	6,447	Poland	+268	Dominican Republic	183	Iraq	766
Czechia	6,151	Japan	+267	Egypt	178	New Zealand	728
Pakistan	5,988	Switzerland	+248	Czechia	163	Ecuador	696
Philippines	5,453	Romania	+246	Japan	146	Algeria	691
Mexico	5,399	Moldova	+222	Norway	139	Czechia	676
Saudi Arabia	5,369	Bangladesh	+209	Hungary	134	Poland	668
Indonesia	5,136	Qatar	+197	Colombia	127	Bahrain	648
Malaysia	4,987	Denmark	+193	Israel	126	Diamond Princess	639
UAE	4,933	Austria	+185	Morocco	126	Singapore	611
Serbia	4,465	Malaysia	+170	Ukraine	108	Egypt	589



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