

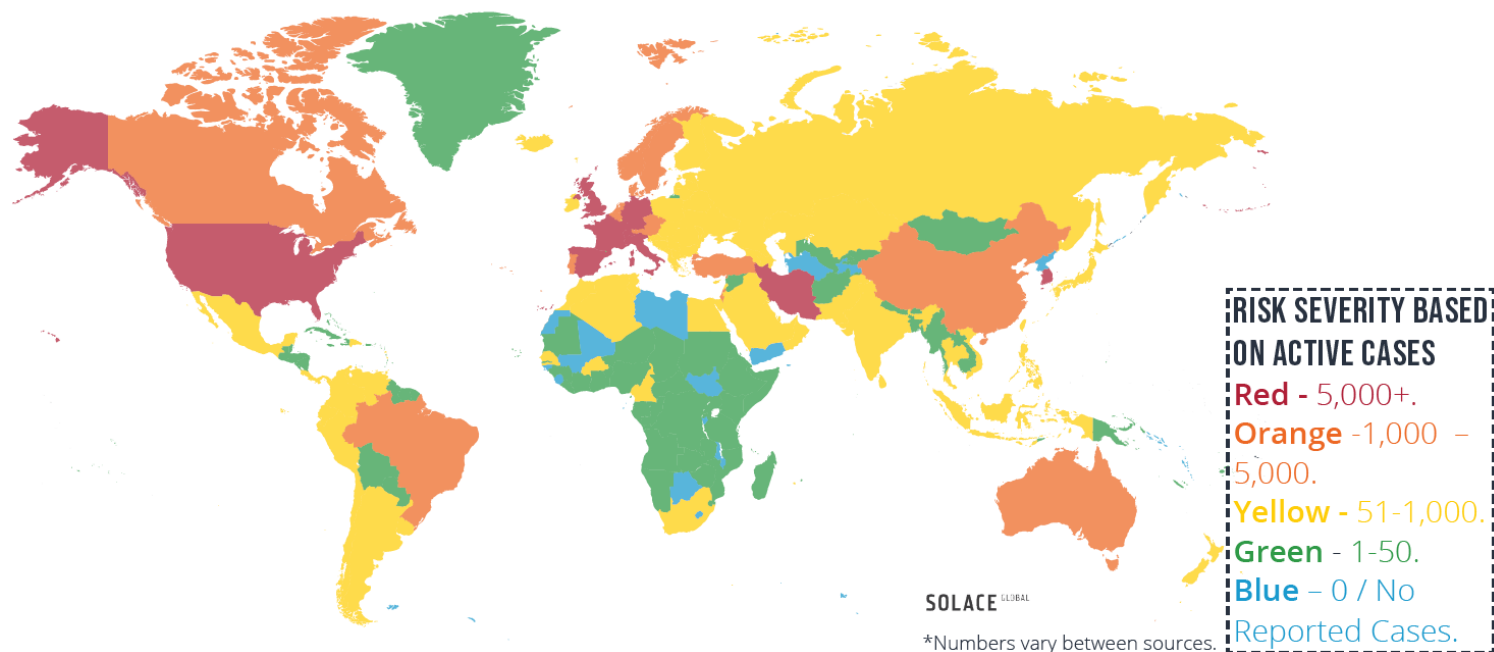
Canned soup
Canned beans
Canned vegetables

COVID-19 Outbreak Update
24 March

Executive Summary

There are now just over 390,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, with approximately 17,000 deaths and around 103,000 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 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.



(Please note. We have changed our mapping matrix, we are now mapping risk severity based on active cases in countries to better reflect the ever-evolving situation.)

Latest Updates

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that the COVID-19 pandemic is accelerating, from the first reports of the virus, it took 67 days to reach 100,000 cases, 11 days for the second 100,000, and just four days for the third 100,000. WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has, however, asserted that the outbreak is controllable and has urged countries to adopt strict social distancing measures to combat its spread. Europe continues to be the pandemic’s epicentre, with 85 percent of new cases reported in the past 24 hours occurring in either Europe or the US. Several countries are now taking drastic measures to limit the further spread of the virus, including widespread lockdowns, border and business closures, as well as the deployment of military personnel.

In the UK, the government has resorted to strict curbs on normal daily life following evidence that the British public were not adhering to social distancing guidelines. People may now only leave their homes to exercise once a day, to travel to and from work where necessary, to shop for essential items and to fulfil any medical or care needs. Shops selling non-essential goods have been told to shut and gatherings in public of more than two people who do not live together will be prohibited. Notably, the measures taken will be enforced by the police. Additionally, emergency legislation granting the state sweeping powers has cleared its first hurdle in Parliament.

In Europe, in a positive development, the rate of new infection in Italy continues to slow. The country recorded a lower day-to-day increase of COVID-19 cases for the second day in a row on Monday. Italy’s Civil Protection agency documented 4,789 new cases on 23 March, 700 less than the 5,560 new cases reported on 22 March. The day-to-day death count also fell to 601 deaths on 23 March compared to 651 on 22 March and 793 on 21 March. Though officials are encouraged, they are warning that the worst may not be over in Italy. A senior health official has warned against any optimism, saying the decrease in new cases reflected actions taken at the beginning of the month.

Across the border in France, the government has also tightened restrictions on outdoor movements. It is now almost certain that the currently in place two-week lockdown will now be extended past March, possibly for several more weeks. Everyone must carry a signed document stating their reason for leaving home, with thousands fined already for not carrying the document with them. To the east, in Germany, case numbers are also rising sharply; however, death rates are lagging behind those in Italy. It is believed that the testing and aggressive tracking of mild cases have resulted in less vulnerable people being impacted.

In the US, New York City has become the epicentre of the COVID-19 outbreak in the country, with cases rising sharply in the last few days. The city reported over 3,000 new cases on 23 March. Barely three weeks after the first case was discovered in the city, New York now accounts for around 5 percent of all confirmed cases of COVID-19, with over 12,000 in the US. New York is far more crowded than any other major city in the United States. It has 28,000 residents per square mile, while San Francisco, the next most crowded city, has 17,000. Hospitals across the city have reported a surge of coronavirus patients and are anticipating a shortage of critical supplies such as ventilators and protective equipment. Governor Andrew Cuomo has indicated that he expects several temporary

hospital facilities to be built in New York City in the near future.

The majority of sport globally has now been cancelled or is being played behind closed doors. A member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has given a newspaper interview indicating that the 2020 Olympic Games will be postponed by at least one year. To date, the Japanese Prime Minister has insisted that the games will go ahead as planned in July/August 2020; however, several countries have indicated that they would not send athletes to an Olympic Games held in 2020. At the time of writing, breaking reports indicated that the Games would be postponed.

Nepal has sealed its borders in a bid to prevent an outbreak of COVID-19. Though people will not be able to move into and out of Nepal until at least 29 March, it is expected that cross border trade with India and China is expected to continue. Nepal has confirmed one case of COVID-19, though the patient has since recovered.

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

<p>Asia</p>	<p>Nearly all countries in Asia have implemented some form of restriction on travel.</p> <p>China has announced that its plans to lift the travel restrictions on Hubei province after months of lockdown, with the exception of the city of Wuhan. There are also mounting restrictions on entry into China, as the authorities try to curb the risk of re-importing the virus. In Hong Kong, all non-residents have been banned (the measure will be implemented from 25 March).</p> <p>Thailand has implemented a state of emergency after previously ordering the closure of malls in Bangkok and now requires all travellers to acquire a health certificate before entering the country. Malaysia is due to deploy its military on Sunday to aid in enforcing a national movement control order, which is scheduled to last until the end of March. The Philippines have implemented a complete lockdown.</p> <p>Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan have complete border closures for non-residents. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, South Korea, Taiwan, Turkmenistan and Vietnam have at least partial restrictions on some countries/regions.</p>
<p>Europe</p>	<p>Italy remains the hardest-hit country by the virus. However, both Spain and Switzerland are now seeing strong new case growth. Nearly all travel to and from as well as inside Europe has been curbed. The EU has closed the bloc's external borders. The UK has advised all its citizens against all but essential travel abroad. 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. Travel from many other European nations is now also being restricted, with the US banning all travel from the Schengen area, as well as Norway, Ireland and the UK.</p> <p>At this time, Belarus, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Spain, Switzerland and Ukraine all have complete border closures to non-residents. Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & H., Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Rep. (Czechia), Cyprus, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, N. Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia and Turkey have some form of restrictions on inbound travel.</p>
<p>Americas</p>	<p>The United States has implemented a level 4: Do Not Travel global advisory. The Department of State advises U.S. citizens to avoid all international travel due to the global impact of COVID-19. In countries where commercial departure options remain available, U.S. citizens who live in the United States should arrange for an immediate return, unless they are prepared to remain abroad for an indefinite period. U.S. citizens who live abroad should avoid all international travel. Repatriation flights do still continue for the time being. Restrictions within the United States are also being implemented, with many states looking to apply for shelter-in-place orders. The United States has also ordered a border closure for all non-essential travel from both Canada and Mexico, which will come into effect on Sunday, 22 March.</p> <p>At this time, Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Dominican Rep., Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Paraguay, United States and Uruguay all have at least some form of restriction on inbound travel. Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago do also have varying level of restrictions. Additionally, restrictions vary on many Caribbean islands.</p>
<p>Africa</p>	<p>A number of countries in Africa have implemented travel restrictions on people arriving from affected countries. Currently, this includes most of Europe, China and the US. South Africa will enter a national lockdown this week.</p> <p>At this time, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Libya, Egypt, Kenya, Sudan and Tunisia have all barred all inbound travel. Algeria, Angola, Congo, Djibouti, Mali, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda all have at least some restrictions on inbound travel.</p>
<p>Middle East</p>	<p>The Middle East also has some significant restrictions, Saudi Arabia, has implemented a ban on all foreign arrivals, including pilgrims (a measure they hope will be lifted prior to Hajj). Both Saudi Arabia and the UAE are also imposing strict internal movement restrictions.</p> <p>Most countries have also closed schools and non-essential businesses, banned large gatherings, including prayers at mosques. Lebanon is currently under a two-week-long lockdown to prevent its health facilities to be overwhelmed by the number of cases. On 21 March, Jordan has initiated a three-day-long lockdown, after which the government is set to announce the plan for the upcoming months.</p> <p>Additionally, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman and Yemen all have restrictions on inbound travel by all non-GCC travellers and permanent residents. Additionally, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar and the UAE have varying levels of restrictions.</p>
<p>Australia/Oceania</p>	<p>Australia and New Zealand have closed their borders to anyone who is not a citizen or resident. The Australian Prime Minister has also announced a lockdown, though at this time the lockdown is not as strict as those seen in the UK, France or Italy. Most Pacific Island nations have also imposed</p>

border control measures and quarantine requirements on travellers arriving from affected countries.

Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)

Current Total Cases	392,286 (+38,860)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	103,389 (+2,781)	Total Confirmed Deaths	1,786 (+1,786)
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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.

Statistics

Current Confirmed cases per country

China	81171	Philippines	552	Faeroe Islands	118	Bolivia	28	Guinea	4
Italy	63927	India	511	Cyprus	116	Ghana	27	Namibia	4
USA	46148	Singapore	509	Moldova	109	Paraguay	27	Eswatini	4
Spain	35212	Qatar	501	Malta	107	Macao	25	Zimbabwe	3
Germany	29056	Slovenia	442	Albania	104	Ivory Coast	25	Angola	3
Iran	23049	Russia	438	Burkina Faso	99	Monaco	23	Antigua and Barbuda	3
France	19856	Peru	395	Sri Lanka	97	French Guiana	23	Cabo Verde	3
S. Korea	9037	Hong Kong	386	Brunei	91	French Polynesia	23	CAR	3
Switzerland	8795	Bahrain	377	Tunisia	89	Jamaica	21	Djibouti	3
UK	6650	Estonia	369	Cambodia	87	Guatemala	20	Liberia	3
Netherlands	4749	Mexico	367	Ukraine	84	Guyana	20	Niger	3
Austria	4628	Egypt	366	Oman	84	Togo	18	St. Barth	3
Belgium	3743	Croatia	361	Venezuela	84	Barbados	17	Saint Lucia	3
Norway	2625	Panama	345	Belarus	81	Madagascar	17	Zambia	3
Australia	2136	Colombia	306	Senegal	79	U.S. Virgin Islands	17	Gambia	2
Canada	2091	Argentina	301	Réunion	75	Kenya	16	Sudan	2
Portugal	2060	Lebanon	267	Azerbaijan	72	Gibraltar	15	Nepal	2
Sweden	2059	Iraq	266	Kazakhstan	68	Isle of Man	13	Bhutan	2
Brazil	1960	Serbia	249	Georgia	66	Maldives	13	Chad	2
Israel	1656	Dominican Republic	245	Cameroon	66	Aruba	12	Dominica	2
Malaysia	1624	Armenia	235	Guadeloupe	62	Ethiopia	12	Laos	2
Denmark	1577	Algeria	230	Palestine	59	Tanzania	12	Mauritania	2
Turkey	1529	Taiwan	215	Martinique	53	Mongolia	10	Myanmar	2
Czechia	1289	Slovakia	204	Trinidad and Tobago	52	New Caledonia	10	Nicaragua	2
Japan	1140	Bulgaria	202	Liechtenstein	51	Equatorial Guinea	9	Sint Maarten	2
Ireland	1125	UAE	198	Uzbekistan	49	Uganda	9	Belize	1
Ecuador	981	Latvia	197	DRC	45	Saint Martin	8	Eritrea	1
Pakistan	892	Kuwait	191	Afghanistan	42	Seychelles	7	Grenada	1
Luxembourg	875	San Marino	187	Kyrgyzstan	42	Gabon	6	Vatican City	1
Thailand	827	Hungary	187	Cuba	40	Benin	6	Montserrat	1
Poland	766	Lithuania	187	Nigeria	40	Bermuda	6	Mozambique	1
Chile	746	Uruguay	162	Mauritius	36	Haiti	6	Papua New Guinea	1
Diamond Princess	712	Costa Rica	158	Channel Islands	36	Suriname	6	St. Vincent Grenadines	1
Finland	700	New Zealand	155	Mayotte	36	Cayman Islands	5	Somalia	1
Greece	695	Bosnia and Herzegovina	150	Rwanda	36	El Salvador	5	Syria	1
Indonesia	686	Morocco	143	Bangladesh	33	Curaçao	4	Timor-Leste	1
Iceland	588	North Macedonia	136	Puerto Rico	31	Bahamas	4	Turks and Caicos	1
Romania	576	Andorra	133	Honduras	30	Congo	4		
Saudi Arabia	562	Jordan	127	Guam	29	Fiji	4		
South Africa	554	Vietnam	123	Montenegro	29	Greenland	4		

Yesterday's increase

USA	+10,168	Luxembourg	+77	Estonia	+26	Mauritius	+8	Guam	+2
Spain	+6,368	Finland	+74	Taiwan	+26	Puerto Rico	+8	French Guiana	+2
Italy	+4,789	Greece	+71	Costa Rica	+24	Isle of Man	+8	Togo	+2
Germany	+4,183	Russia	+71	Burkina Faso	+24	Uganda	+8	Kyrgyzstan	+2
France	+3,838	Denmark	+65	North Macedonia	+21	Qatar	+7	Cayman Islands	+2
Iran	+1,411	Indonesia	+65	Cyprus	+21	Azerbaijan	+7	Guinea	+2
Switzerland	+1,321	Mexico	+65	Iceland	+20	Réunion	+7	Antigua and Barbuda	+2
UK	+967	S. Korea	+64	Andorra	+20	Georgia	+7	Djibouti	+2
Austria	+892	Croatia	+61	Lebanon	+19	DRC	+6	Myanmar	+2
Canada	+821	Singapore	+54	Malta	+17	Bangladesh	+6	Kuwait	+1
Netherlands	+545	Saudi Arabia	+51	Rwanda	+17	Montenegro	+6	Slovakia	+1
Portugal	+460	Colombia	+46	Cameroon	+16	Belarus	+5	Trinidad and Tobago	+1
Brazil	+378	UAE	+45	Jordan	+15	Cuba	+5	Guatemala	+1
Israel	+371	Bahrain	+43	Moldova	+15	Uruguay	+4	Guyana	+1
Belgium	+342	Dominican Republic	+43	Albania	+15	Guadeloupe	+4	Kenya	+1
Turkey	+293	Armenia	+41	Sri Lanka	+15	Channel Islands	+4	Gabon	+1

Australia	+278	Latvia	+41	Bulgaria	+14	Honduras	+4	Curaçao	+1
Norway	+240	China	+39	Tunisia	+14	Ghana	+4	Congo	+1
Ireland	+219	Egypt	+39	Venezuela	+14	New Caledonia	+4	Namibia	+1
Malaysia	+212	Hong Kong	+39	Liechtenstein	+14	Benin	+4	Angola	+1
Ecuador	+192	Lithuania	+36	Mayotte	+13	Haiti	+4	Fiji	+1
Romania	+143	Hungary	+36	San Marino	+12	Faeroe Islands	+3	Niger	+1
South Africa	+128	Argentina	+35	Senegal	+12	Brunei	+3	Saint Lucia	+1
Thailand	+122	Iraq	+33	Oman	+11	Cambodia	+3	Gambia	+1
Czechia	+116	Peru	+32	Ivory Coast	+11	Uzbekistan	+3	Nepal	+1
Poland	+115	Panama	+32	U.S. Virgin Islands	+11	Bolivia	+3	Chad	+1
Chile	+114	Algeria	+29	Bosnia and Herzegovina	+10	Macao	+3	Dominica	+1
Sweden	+112	Slovenia	+28	Vietnam	+10	Barbados	+3	Sint Maarten	+1
India	+103	Morocco	+28	Nigeria	+10	Equatorial Guinea	+3	Belize	+1
Pakistan	+99	Japan	+27	Martinique	+9	Saint Martin	+3	Turks and Caicos	+1
Philippines	+82	Serbia	+27	Madagascar	+9	Kazakhstan	+2		

Current confirmed deaths

Italy	6077	Denmark	24	Peru	5	Bahrain	2	Azerbaijan	1
China	3277	Portugal	23	Thailand	4	Taiwan	2	Guadeloupe	1
Spain	2316	Iraq	23	Hong Kong	4	UAE	2	Martinique	1
Iran	1812	San Marino	20	Mexico	4	Costa Rica	2	Afghanistan	1
France	860	Egypt	19	Argentina	4	North Macedonia	2	Cuba	1
USA	582	Ecuador	18	Lebanon	4	DRC	2	Nigeria	1
UK	335	Greece	17	Morocco	4	Mauritius	2	Guam	1
Netherlands	213	Algeria	17	Albania	4	Puerto Rico	2	Montenegro	1
Germany	123	Malaysia	15	Burkina Faso	4	Ghana	2	Jamaica	1
S. Korea	120	Norway	11	Slovenia	3	Paraguay	2	Guatemala	1
Switzerland	120	Diamond Princess	10	Colombia	3	Israel	1	Guyana	1
Belgium	88	India	10	Serbia	3	Czechia	1	Gabon	1
Indonesia	55	Australia	8	Dominican Republic	3	Finland	1	Cayman Islands	1
Japan	42	Luxembourg	8	Bulgaria	3	Russia	1	Curaçao	1
Turkey	37	Poland	8	Tunisia	3	Croatia	1	Zimbabwe	1
Brazil	34	Romania	8	Ukraine	3	Lithuania	1	Gambia	1
Sweden	33	Hungary	8	Bangladesh	3	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	Sudan	1
Philippines	33	Ireland	6	Chile	2	Andorra	1		
Austria	25	Pakistan	6	Iceland	2	Cyprus	1		
Canada	24	Panama	6	Singapore	2	Moldova	1		