A street scene in a city, likely Milan, showing tram tracks on the left and a sidewalk on the right. Two people wearing face masks and dark clothing are walking on the sidewalk. The background features multi-story buildings, a pink sign on a building, and a clear blue sky. The overall atmosphere is calm and orderly.

COVID-19 Outbreak Update

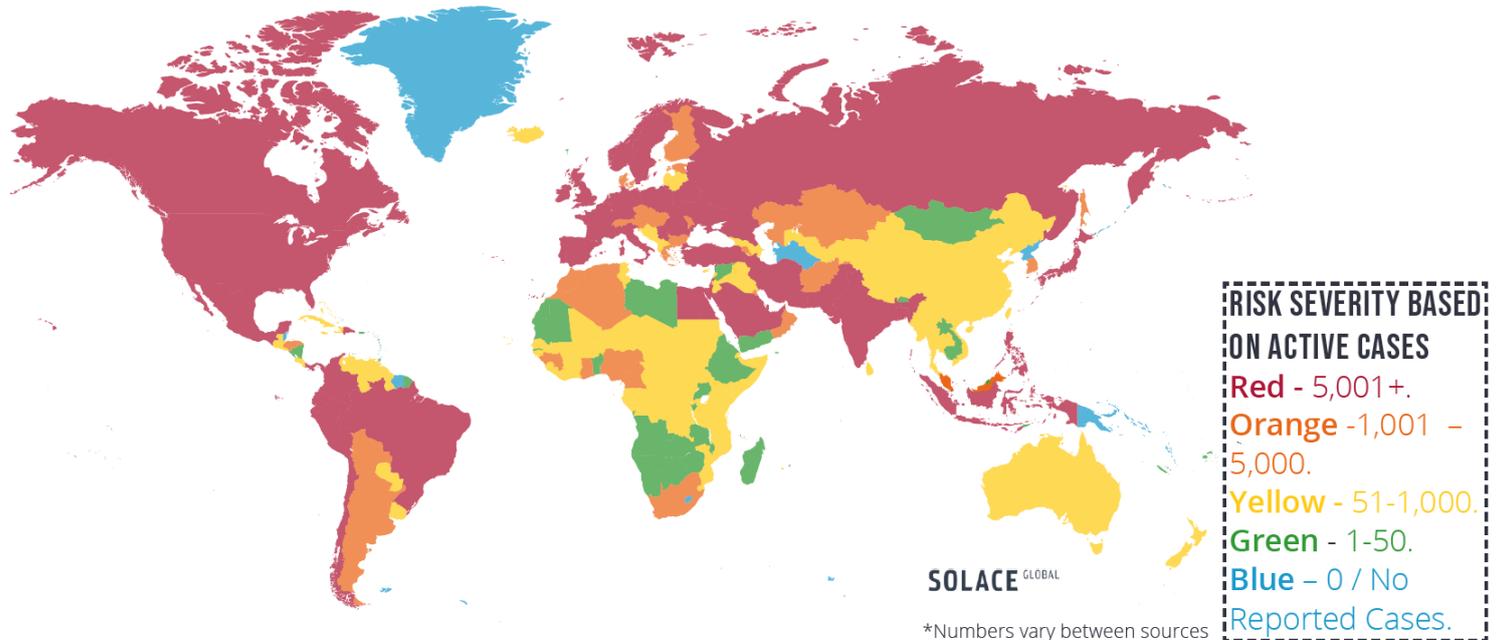
6 May

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally have exceeded 3.74 million, with approximately 258,000 deaths and around 1.2 million recoveries. Nearly all countries globally have reported at least one case and/or have implemented some form of travel restriction. The situation has stabilised somewhat in the past weeks with many travel restrictions, both internationally and domestically, in place for the foreseeable future. Some countries worldwide are beginning to ease their restrictions; however, this process will be slow, with restrictions on international travel likely to be one of the last measures to be lifted.

Solace Global continues to advise against all non-essential travel at this time due to the widespread travel restrictions. However, if conducting essential travel, it is advised that you check your relevant government’s travel advice and contact your airline or travel provider for more details. Be aware that it is likely that many destinations globally will have some form of quarantining measure in place upon arrival. At this time, Solace Global still advises that 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 UK’s reported death toll from COVID-19 has passed Italy’s to become the highest in Europe and the second highest in the world after the United States. Amid calls for an inquiry into the government’s handling of the outbreak, First Secretary of State Dominic Raab has received repeated warnings by experts against making international comparisons. To describe the UK’s death toll as the highest in Europe would be a “speculation”, due to the lack of comprehensive international mortality data. Prime Minister Boris Johnson is expected to announce plans on Sunday on the relaxation of lockdown measures, following a sustained fall in the country’s daily death toll.

The US administration has given clear signs it plans to reopen the country in the near future. Speaking in Arizona, President Donald Trump said “will some people be affected? Yes. Will some people be affected badly? Yes. But we have to get our country open and we have to get it open soon”. Vice President Mike Pence has suggested the federal government’s COVID-19 task force could be disbanded in the coming weeks because “of the tremendous progress we’ve made as a country”. However, as the popularity of lockdown measures begins to wane, the rate of new infections continues to rise across the country. More than a quarter of all deaths associated with the pandemic have now occurred in the US.

Countries across Europe continue to express cautious optimism and ease restrictions. Italy has recorded 1,075 new cases, its lowest number in two months. In Austria, the country’s health minister has reported that the relaxation of lockdown measures and the reopening of thousands of shops has not led to an increase in recorded infections. Spain has continued to ease restrictions, with the country’s health ministry announcing that more than 70% of cases reported in the last 24 hours are among medical personnel.

French President Emmanuel Macron has said that international travel is likely to be limited this summer to prevent a resurgence in case numbers. In more positive news, KLM, the flag carrier airline of the Netherlands, announced the gradual reopening of some of its flight routes including Italy, Austria and Poland. On all of these routes, the use of face masks is reportedly mandatory until at least 31 August.

Separate studies conducted in Israel and the Netherlands claim to have created antibodies that neutralise COVID-19. Both studies, which are still in the early stages and have yet to be tested on humans, hope to eventually stall the spread of the pandemic until a vaccine has been created. The World Health Organization has urged countries to investigate early cases following a study by French scientists suggesting a French national was infected with the disease in December, indicating that infections were spreading through the country before the outbreak was reported by Chinese authorities. The virus was previously not thought to have spread to Europe until January.

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Asia | <p>While restrictions across the region remain extensive, some countries are now easing their internal lockdown measures after successfully managing to curb their outbreaks; these include China, Taiwan and South Korea.</p> <p>International travel restrictions will, however, likely remain in place for the time being. China, for example, has implemented a limit on the number of flights to the country and are denying entry to foreigners with previously issued visas and residence permits.</p> |
| Europe | <p>The EU Commission has invited all Schengen Member States and Schengen Associated States to prolong the temporary restriction on non-essential travel to the EU until at least 15 May. Airlines, however, continue to operate limited flights to and from the majority of EU countries.</p> <p>Austria, Denmark, Germany, Norway and some other European countries are now seeing an easing of internal restrictions after overcoming what the peak of the outbreak in their countries. Most recently, France, Italy, Spain and Switzerland have also announced plans to ease their containment measures. In Italy, businesses started to open on the 4 May.</p> |
| Americas | <p>The US continues to be the worst affected country globally. The majority of states now have a “stay-at-home” order of some kind or have closed “non-essential” businesses. However, some are now looking to ease restrictions, largely due to protests occurring in response to the lockdowns. In some cases, the demonstrators have attended these rallies armed.</p> <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>The majority of countries in the Americas have some form of restriction on both internal and international travel.</p> |
| Africa | <p>African countries have, thus far, not been as severely impacted by the outbreak, with the continent’s case numbers lower than all other continents except Oceania. However, the risk that the pandemic poses to the Africa cannot be understated. As such, many countries implemented lockdown measures very early, when only a handful of cases had been recorded. Indeed, many countries announced restrictions before any confirmed cases.</p> <p>While the majority of countries have some form of restrictions in place, especially on major cities, some, including Ghana, have been able to start relaxing their lockdowns. The DRC is also relaxing restrictions on the capital Kinshasa, which had been struck relatively hard before the outbreak. South Africa has also begun to ease restrictions since 1 May.</p> <p>International travel is likely to remain limited for the foreseeable future. For example, Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, closed its land borders and banned all international flights in late March.</p> |
| Middle East | <p>The Middle East has some significant lockdowns in place, most countries are also now looking to ease restrictions. Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Jordan, among others, have all eased the restrictions on people’s movements.</p> <p>Notably, Saudi Arabia has eased restrictions nationwide, with the exception of Mecca, with malls, wholesale and retail shops, also being allowed to reopen from the sixth day of Ramadan. Mecca remains under a 24-hour curfew with calls for the kingdom to postpone Hajj in July.</p> |
| Australia/ Oceania | <p>All states in Australia appear to have contained the spread of the coronavirus. Some states and territories including Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory will start to ease their restrictions from 1 May. Variations on restriction rules apply between states.</p> <p>Additionally, New Zealand’s Prime Minister announced that the country has stopped the transmission of the virus. As such, some of the lockdown restrictions were eased from 11.59 local time on 27 April. New Zealand also lifted its level 4-lockdown that has been in effect for more than 4 weeks. The level 3 phase, which is reportedly in effect for two weeks, allows non-essential businesses such as retailers, schools and restaurants to reopen.</p> |
| Solace Global Advice | <p>At this time, we continue to advise that only business-critical travel is conducted. Otherwise, ensure that you can access the country you intend to travel to. Extensive travel restrictions are making even business-critical travel difficult, as such, it is important that travellers are aware of the restrictions that are in place, including any potential mandatory quarantining, and are prepared for travel to be postponed or disrupted at short notice. It is likely that restrictions will continue to be eased in the coming weeks and months; however, these will remain fluid, with spikes in new cases likely resulting in renewed lockdowns and travel restrictions.</p> |

Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Current Total Cases | 3,741,276 (+82,148) | Total Confirmed Recoveries | 1,247,433 (+43,946) | Total Confirmed Deaths | 258,511 (+5,937) |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|

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 | 1,237,761 | USA | +24,798 | USA | 72,275 | USA | 200,669 |
| Spain | 250,561 | Russia | +10,102 | UK | 29,427 | Spain | 154,718 |
| Italy | 213,013 | Brazil | +6,449 | Italy | 29,315 | Germany | 137,400 |
| UK | 194,990 | UK | +4,406 | Spain | 25,613 | Italy | 85,231 |
| France | 170,551 | Peru | +3,817 | France | 25,531 | Iran | 80,475 |
| Germany | 167,007 | India | +2,963 | Belgium | 8,016 | China | 77,911 |
| Russia | 165,929 | Spain | +2,260 | Brazil | 7,958 | Turkey | 73,285 |
| Turkey | 129,491 | Turkey | +1,832 | Germany | 6,993 | France | 52,736 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| Brazil | 115,953 | Saudi Arabia | +1,595 | Iran | 6,340 | Brazil | 48,221 |
| Iran | 99,970 | Mexico | +1,434 | Netherlands | 5,168 | Canada | 26,993 |
| China | 82,883 | Chile | +1,373 | China | 4,633 | Switzerland | 25,400 |
| Canada | 62,046 | Iran | +1,323 | Canada | 4,043 | Russia | 21,327 |
| Peru | 51,189 | Canada | +1,274 | Turkey | 3,520 | Mexico | 16,810 |
| Belgium | 50,509 | Pakistan | +1,108 | Sweden | 2,854 | Peru | 15,413 |
| India | 49,436 | France | +1,089 | Mexico | 2,507 | India | 14,183 |
| Netherlands | 41,087 | Italy | +1,075 | Switzerland | 1,795 | Austria | 13,462 |
| Ecuador | 31,881 | Qatar | +951 | India | 1,695 | Ireland | 13,386 |
| Saudi Arabia | 30,251 | Belarus | +861 | Ecuador | 1,569 | Belgium | 12,441 |
| Switzerland | 30,009 | Germany | +855 | Russia | 1,537 | Chile | 10,710 |
| Mexico | 26,025 | Bangladesh | +786 | Peru | 1,444 | Israel | 10,527 |
| Portugal | 25,702 | Colombia | +640 | Ireland | 1,339 | S. Korea | 9,333 |
| Sweden | 23,216 | Singapore | +632 | Portugal | 1,074 | Denmark | 7,296 |
| Pakistan | 22,550 | Kuwait | +526 | Indonesia | 872 | Pakistan | 6,217 |
| Chile | 22,016 | Sweden | +495 | Romania | 854 | Australia | 5,975 |
| Ireland | 21,983 | Indonesia | +484 | Poland | 723 | Romania | 5,454 |
| Singapore | 20,198 | UAE | +462 | Philippines | 658 | Saudi Arabia | 5,431 |
| Belarus | 18,350 | Poland | +425 | Austria | 606 | Poland | 4,655 |
| Qatar | 17,142 | Egypt | +388 | Japan | 556 | Malaysia | 4,567 |
| Israel | 16,314 | Ukraine | +366 | Pakistan | 526 | Japan | 4,496 |
| Austria | 15,650 | South Africa | +352 | Denmark | 503 | Sweden | 4,074 |
| Japan | 15,253 | Afghanistan | +330 | Algeria | 470 | Czechia | 4,006 |
| UAE | 15,192 | Romania | +325 | Egypt | 452 | Belarus | 3,771 |
| Poland | 14,647 | Netherlands | +317 | Colombia | 378 | Finland | 3,500 |
| Romania | 13,837 | Dominican Republic | +245 | Hungary | 373 | Ecuador | 3,433 |
| Ukraine | 13,184 | Belgium | +242 | Dominican Republic | 354 | Luxembourg | 3,412 |
| Indonesia | 12,071 | Ireland | +211 | Ukraine | 327 | UAE | 3,153 |
| Bangladesh | 10,929 | Philippines | +199 | Chile | 275 | Thailand | 2,761 |
| S. Korea | 10,806 | Panama | +190 | Argentina | 264 | South Africa | 2,746 |
| Philippines | 10,004 | Algeria | +190 | Czechia | 257 | Indonesia | 2,197 |
| Denmark | 9,938 | Bahrain | +187 | S. Korea | 255 | Ukraine | 2,097 |



Solace Global remain available to our clients, organisations and individuals throughout this time and are able to provide our full range of Travel Risk Management services. We understand that during such unprecedented times, remaining BAU can be complex. Whether you require customised reports, training, comprehensive crisis management, in-country journey management, tracking, response, evacuation or a service more specific, we are able to tailor our services to your exact requirements enabling you to make appropriate decisions going forward.

For further details, please email risk@solaceglobal.com or give us a call on +44 (0) 1202 308 810.