The image shows the interior of a public transport vehicle, likely a bus or tram. The seats are blue and arranged in rows. A person wearing a dark jacket and a blue face mask is seated on the right side, looking down at a mobile device. The vehicle has large windows and overhead handrails. The number '797' is visible on the wall above the windows. The overall atmosphere is quiet and somewhat somber due to the pandemic context.

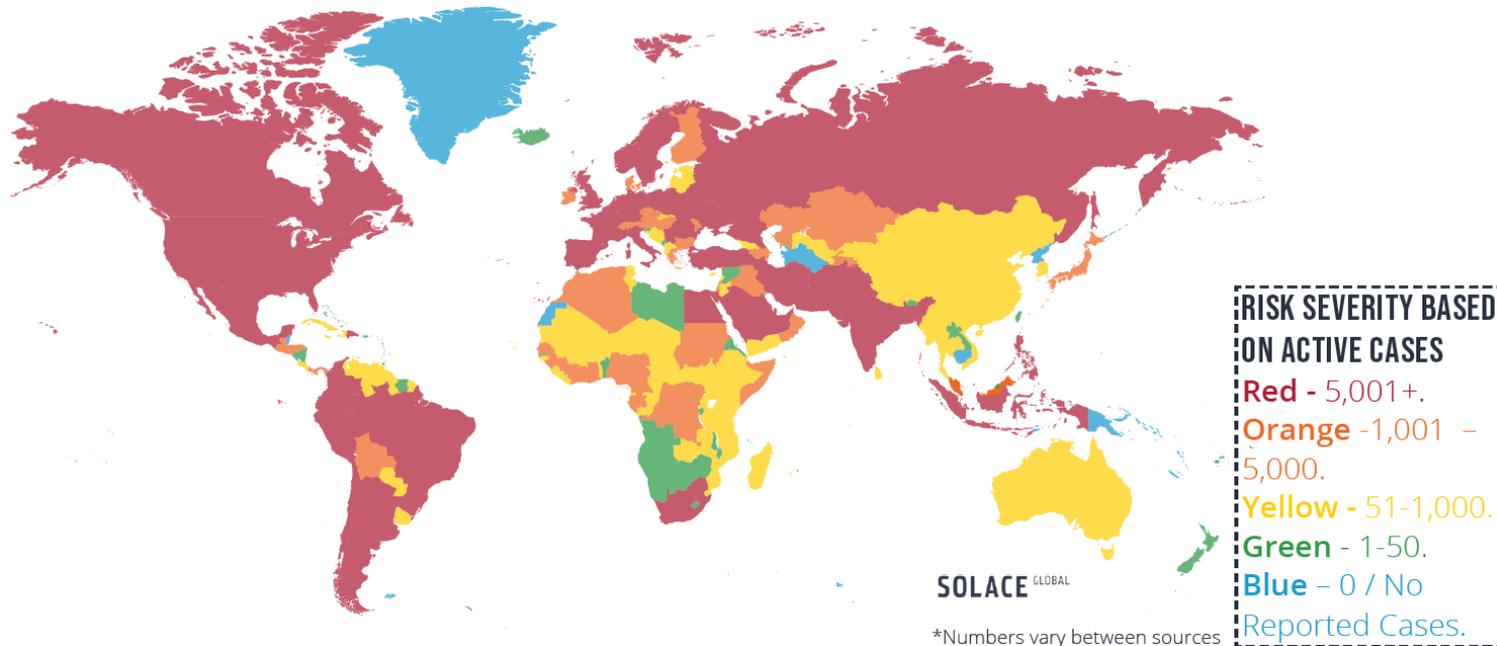
COVID-19 Outbreak Update
20 May

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally is now just under 5 million, with approximately 325,000 deaths and nearly 2 million recoveries. Nearly all countries globally have reported at least one case and have implemented some form of travel restriction. While the situation has stabilised in many European and Asian countries in the past weeks, it is highly likely that the in-place travel restrictions, both internationally and domestically, will remain in place for the foreseeable future. Internally, some countries 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 United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres has praised Africa’s effort to stem the spread of the virus and said that the developed world could learn lessons from preventative measures taken by many African nations. The continent has thus far not been severely impacted by the pandemic with fewer than 3,000 COVID-19-related deaths from roughly 88,000 cases – far lower than Europe and North America.

In Morocco, the government has extended its state of emergency for at least three more weeks until 10 June. Strict lockdown measures are in place, with the military being deployed to the streets as part of concerted efforts to reduce the rate of infection. Elsewhere in North Africa, Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly announced that all flights to Egypt will remain suspended until further notice. Exceptions include humanitarian, repatriation and United Nations flights with a pre-authorization from Egyptian civil aviation authorities.

In China, the authorities have placed the entire city of Shulan, home to almost 700,000 people, under lockdown following an outbreak of COVID-19. Only one person from each household is now allowed out each day to make essential purchases. Officials have ordered the temporary closure of public places, schools and public transport, with freedom of movement severely curtailed.

In the United States, the Department of Homeland Security has extended non-essential travel restrictions at US land borders with Mexico and Canada until 22 June. This was also confirmed by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Tuesday morning. In other news, President Trump told reporters at a cabinet meeting that the high number of cases in the US is a “badge of honour”, because it proves the country is conducting the most tests.

Australian officials have announced a three-step plan to ease COVID-19 lockdown measures. Different states will be under varying levels of restrictions. Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania are maintaining border closures, while New South Wales will allow people to resume non-essential travel from next month, effectively reopening tourist regions on its southern coast. South Australia will move more quickly into phase two, allowing restaurants and bars to reopen. The resumption of business and social life across the country comes amid rising tensions with China due to Australia’s leading role in the push for a global inquiry into the origins of the pandemic.

United Arab Emirates officials have announced that a nationwide nightly curfew will be extended by two hours. The extension comes following an increase in daily cases of the virus. The new nationwide curfew, which currently runs from 22:00 to 0600, will start at 20:00 on 20 May until further notice. Those not complying with the curfew and other measures imposed may be fined.

Venezuelan authorities have imposed new curfews in several towns along its borders with Colombia and Brazil in response to a sharp rise in cases. Officials have attributed many of these cases to returning migrants. millions of Venezuelans have emigrated in recent years due to the economic breakdown in the country, with many moving to nearby Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. Migrants returning to Venezuela are required to undergo a 14-day quarantine at shelters along the

border, rather than in their home states.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has announced that the Health Ministry will issue new guidelines on the recommended use of chloroquine for treating the virus. Bolsonaro also revealed that he keeps a box of the anti-malarial drug in case his 93-year-old mother becomes infected, noting that US President Donald Trump said he was taking it as a preventative measure.

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

Asia

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.

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.

Europe

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 mid-June. Airlines, however, continue to operate limited flights to and from the majority of EU countries.

European countries are now seeing an easing of internal and international restrictions after overcoming what the peak of the outbreak in their countries. Most recently, Italy has announced that it will allow travel to and from abroad from 3 June.

Americas

The US continues to be the worst affected country globally. The majority of states have imposed restrictions or have 'stay-at-home' orders in place. However, in recent days and weeks, many states have begun to ease measures and have allowed businesses to resume limited operations as part of phased reopening plans.

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.

The majority of countries in the Americas have some form of restriction on both internal and international travel.

Africa

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 Africa cannot be understated. South Africa and Egypt are both seeing a strong increase in case numbers with Cameroon and Sudan also seeing a rise in the increase in confirmed cases

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.

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.

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.

Middle East

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.

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. Additionally, Kuwait announced a 'total curfew' from 10 May for 20 days.

Australia/ Oceania

All states in Australia appear to have contained the spread of the coronavirus. Most states and territories including Queensland, Western Australia, New South Wales, Northern Territory and Victoria have eased restrictions.

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. Updated reports indicate that New Zealand also lifted the nationwide state of emergency and entered the Level 2 phase. The new phase allows public spaces such as restaurants and gyms to reopen.

Solace Global Advice

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.

Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)

Current Total Cases	5,004,136 (+95,926)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	1,961,062 (+44,139)	Total Confirmed Deaths	324,974 (+4,544)
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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
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USA	1,570,583	USA	+20,289	USA	93,533	USA	361,180
Russia	308,705	Brazil	+16,517	UK	35,341	Spain	196,958
Spain	278,803	Russia	+9,263	Italy	32,169	Germany	156,900
Brazil	271,885	India	+6,147	France	28,022	Italy	129,401
UK	248,818	Peru	+4,550	Spain	27,778	Turkey	112,895
Italy	226,699	Chile	+3,520	Brazil	17,983	Brazil	106,794
France	180,809	Saudi Arabia	+2,509	Belgium	9,108	Iran	97,173
Germany	177,827	Mexico	+2,414	Germany	8,193	China	78,244
Turkey	151,615	UK	+2,412	Iran	7,119	Russia	76,130
Iran	124,603	Iran	+2,111	Canada	5,912	France	62,563
India	106,886	Pakistan	+1,841	Netherlands	5,715	India	42,309
Peru	99,483	Qatar	+1,637	Mexico	5,666	Canada	40,050
China	82,965	Bangladesh	+1,251	China	4,634	Mexico	37,325
Canada	79,112	Kuwait	+1,073	Turkey	4,199	Peru	36,524
Saudi Arabia	59,854	Canada	+1,040	Sweden	3,743	Saudi Arabia	31,634
Belgium	55,791	Turkey	+1,022	India	3,303	Switzerland	27,700
Mexico	54,346	Belarus	+936	Peru	2,914	Chile	21,507
Chile	49,579	France	+882	Ecuador	2,839	Ireland	19,470
Pakistan	45,898	UAE	+873	Russia	2,837	Belgium	14,687
Netherlands	44,249	Italy	+813	Switzerland	1,891	Austria	14,678
Qatar	35,606	South Africa	+767	Ireland	1,561	Israel	13,435
Ecuador	34,151	Egypt	+720	Portugal	1,247	Pakistan	13,101
Belarus	31,508	Colombia	+640	Indonesia	1,221	Japan	11,564
Sweden	30,799	Spain	+615	Romania	1,141	UAE	10,791
Switzerland	30,618	Afghanistan	+581	Pakistan	985	Belarus	10,620
Portugal	29,432	Ecuador	+569	Poland	948	Singapore	10,365
Singapore	29,364	Germany	+538	Philippines	837	Romania	10,166
Bangladesh	25,121	Dominican Republic	+498	Japan	768	S. Korea	10,066
UAE	25,063	Indonesia	+486	Egypt	659	Denmark	9,416
Ireland	24,251	Singapore	+451	Austria	632	Poland	8,183
Poland	19,268	Argentina	+438	Colombia	613	South Africa	7,960
Ukraine	18,876	Sweden	+422	Algeria	561	Dominican Republic	6,613
Indonesia	18,496	Poland	+383	Denmark	551	Australia	6,442
South Africa	17,200	Ghana	+361	Ukraine	548	Portugal	6,431
Romania	17,191	Bahrain	+348	Chile	509	Panama	6,194
Colombia	16,935	Kazakhstan	+311	Hungary	470	Czechia	5,731
Kuwait	16,764	Oman	+292	Dominican Republic	441	Malaysia	5,646
Israel	16,659	Panama	+261	Argentina	393	Qatar	5,634
Japan	16,367	Ukraine	+260	Bangladesh	370	Ukraine	5,632
Austria	16,321	Belgium	+232	Saudi Arabia	329	Finland	5,000



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.