



# GLOBAL UPDATE

**COVID-19 Outbreak Update**  
**1 May**

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Is Closed**

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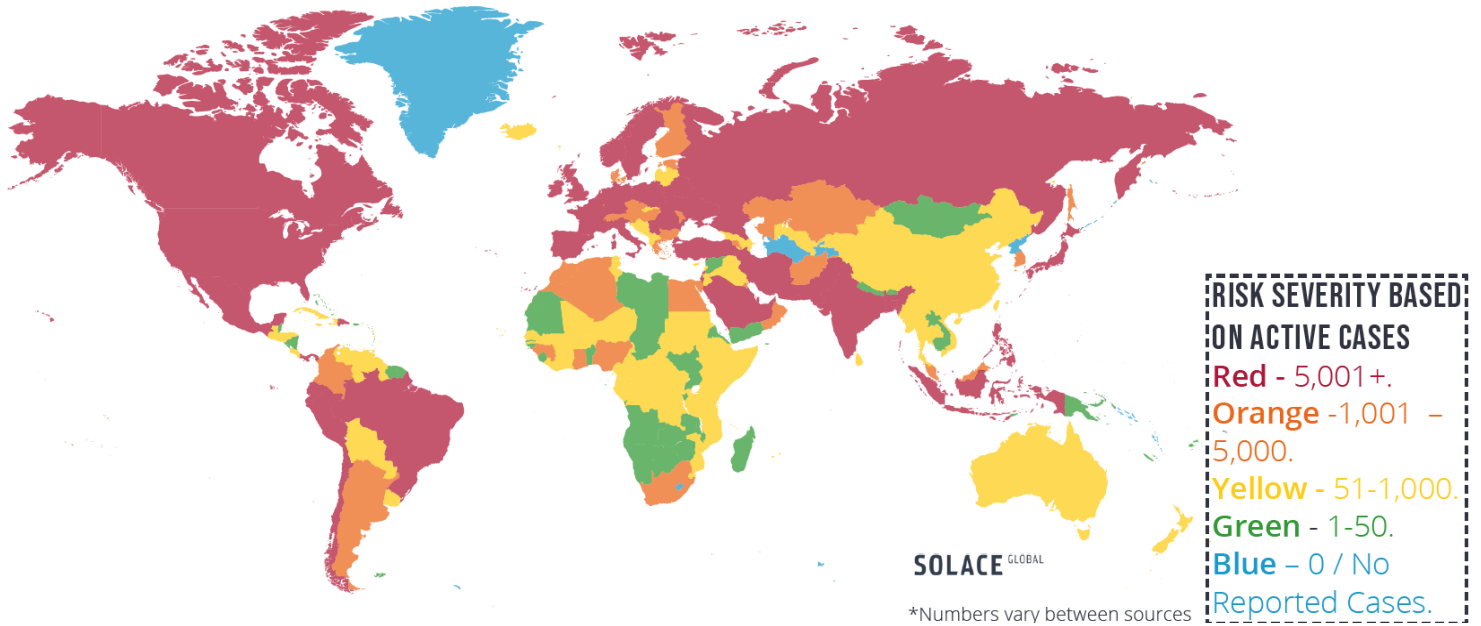
MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

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## Executive Summary

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally has exceeded 3.3 million, with approximately 234,000 deaths and around 1,050,000 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.

The Security Centre and 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

In his first public address since being admitted to intensive care with severe symptoms of the virus, Prime Minister Boris Johnson declared that the UK was 'past the peak' of the outbreak. He also announced that he would reveal the government strategy to exit the lockdown and restart the economy without risking a second outbreak. Some measures that were hinted at include the wearing face masks in public, an idea that Mr Johnson had frequently dismissed until now. The government has stated that certain criteria must be met before the lockdown can be lifted, which includes a consistent and sustained fall in the fatality rate along with a decrease in the number of cases. Supplies of personal protective equipment must meet demand and the NHS must have the resources to cope with a potential second outbreak.

The Government of Tajikistan confirmed the country's first 15 cases of the virus. Five of the cases were reported in the capital, Dushanbe, while the other 10 cases were from the northern region of Sughd. It is now compulsory to wear face masks in public and the borders remain shut, however, domestic social distancing measures have been inconsistent. Last month authorities reportedly closed mosques, reopened them, and then closed them once more.

In Africa, the first case was reported in Egypt's North Sinai governorate. Until now, cases had been reported nationwide except for in the North Sinai region. The patient reportedly contracted the virus whilst travelling to the Nile Delta region. The Government has responded by placing 50 families from the patient's village into quarantine.

In the US, several hundred protesters gathered outside the State Capitol building in Lansing, Michigan, to demand the end of the lockdown measures. The demonstration was largely peaceful until a large group of protesters, some of whom were armed, gained access to the public viewing gallery and began to disrupt the legislative meeting that was underway. It is unclear whether the crowd forced their way into the building or whether they were granted access. Some of the protesters allegedly chanted derogatory comments at Governor Gretchen Whitmer which led to legislators donning body armour. Additionally, a minor altercation broke out in the gallery among members of the crowd and one person was taken away in an ambulance. No arrests were made. Further protests are expected to take place outside the capitol building in the coming days.

Meanwhile, President Trump claimed that he has seen evidence that the virus originated in the Wuhan Institute of Virology, yet he declined to elaborate further. The statement came a day after the President announced that he was considering imposing some form of economic sanction on China. The war of words continued between the US and China, with the latter accusing the US military of developing the virus. Multiple countries, including the UK and Australia, have launched investigations into the origin of the virus, widely believed to have come from the wet markets in Wuhan.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has indicated that he will extend the nationwide state of emergency on the 04 May as the country waits for the Government

to officially announce an extension ahead of the current end date on 06 May. The prime minister requires parliamentary approval to declare or extend a state of emergency, which makes it far more difficult to implement and enforce measures compared to other nations.

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

<b>Asia</b>	<p>While restrictions across the region remain extensive, some countries are now easing their internal lockdown measures after successfully managing 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>
<b>Europe</b>	<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, do 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 passing what they believe is the worst 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 are set to start reopening gradually in May.</p>
<b>Americas</b>	<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 states are now looking to ease restrictions, with protests also occurring in response to the lockdowns, some of the protesters 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>
<b>Africa</b>	<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 that of Oceania. However, the risk that the pandemic poses to the continent 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, for example, 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, also, will look to ease restrictions in 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>
<b>Middle East</b>	<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>
<b>Australia/Oceania</b>	<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>
<b>TSCL and Solace Global Advice</b>	<p>At this time, we continue to advise that <b>only business-critical travel is conducted</b>. 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	3,318,455 (+85,923)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	1,048,464 (+40,435)	Total Confirmed Deaths	234,253 (+5,740)
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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	1,095,304	USA	30,829	USA	63,871	USA	155,737
Spain	239,639	Russia	7,099	Italy	27,967	Spain	137,984

Italy	205,463	UK	6,032	UK	26,771	Germany	126,900
UK	171,253	Brazil	6,019	Spain	24,543	China	77,642
France	167,178	Peru	3,045	France	24,376	Italy	75,945
Germany	163,009	Spain	2,740	Belgium	7,594	Iran	75,103
Turkey	120,204	Turkey	2,615	Germany	6,623	France	49,476
Russia	114,431	Italy	1,872	Iran	6,028	Turkey	48,886
Iran	94,640	India	1,801	Brazil	6,006	Brazil	35,935
Brazil	87,187	Canada	1,639	Netherlands	4,795	Switzerland	23,400
China	82,874	Germany	1,470	China	4,633	Canada	21,423
Canada	53,236	Saudi Arabia	1,351	Canada	3,184	Ireland	13,386
Belgium	48,519	Chile	1,138	Turkey	3,174	Russia	13,220
Netherlands	39,316	Mexico	1,047	Sweden	2,586	Austria	12,907
Peru	36,976	Iran	983	Mexico	1,859	Belgium	11,576
India	35,043	Pakistan	948	Switzerland	1,737	Mexico	11,423
Switzerland	29,586	Belarus	846	Ireland	1,232	Peru	10,405
Portugal	25,045	Qatar	845	Russia	1,169	S. Korea	9,072
Ecuador	24,934	Sweden	790	India	1,154	India	9,068
Saudi Arabia	22,753	France	758	Peru	1,051	Israel	8,758
Sweden	21,092	Belgium	660	Portugal	989	Chile	8,580
Ireland	20,612	Bangladesh	564	Ecuador	900	Denmark	6,546
Mexico	19,224	UAE	552	Indonesia	792	Australia	5,739
Singapore	17,101	Portugal	540	Romania	726	Pakistan	4,315
Pakistan	16,817	Ukraine	540	Poland	644	Malaysia	4,171
Chile	16,023	Singapore	528	Austria	584	Romania	4,017
Israel	16,004	Netherlands	514	Philippines	568	Czechia	3,314
Austria	15,452	Ghana	403	Denmark	452	Poland	3,236
Japan	14,088	Ireland	359	Algeria	450	Luxembourg	3,213
Belarus	14,027	Indonesia	347	Japan	430	Saudi Arabia	3,163
Qatar	13,409	Dominican Republic	320	Egypt	392	Finland	3,000
Poland	12,877	Colombia	300	Pakistan	385	Thailand	2,719
UAE	12,481	South Africa	297	Hungary	323	Japan	2,460
Romania	12,240	Serbia	285	Dominican Republic	301	UAE	2,429
Ukraine	10,861	Kuwait	284	Colombia	293	Belarus	2,386
S. Korea	10,774	Philippines	276	Ukraine	272	South Africa	2,073
Indonesia	10,118	Egypt	269	S. Korea	248	Algeria	1,779
Denmark	9,158	Kazakhstan	264	Czechia	237	Iceland	1,670
Serbia	9,009	Romania	262	Chile	227	Ecuador	1,558
Philippines	8,488	Ecuador	259	Israel	223	Kuwait	1,539