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GLOBAL UPDATE

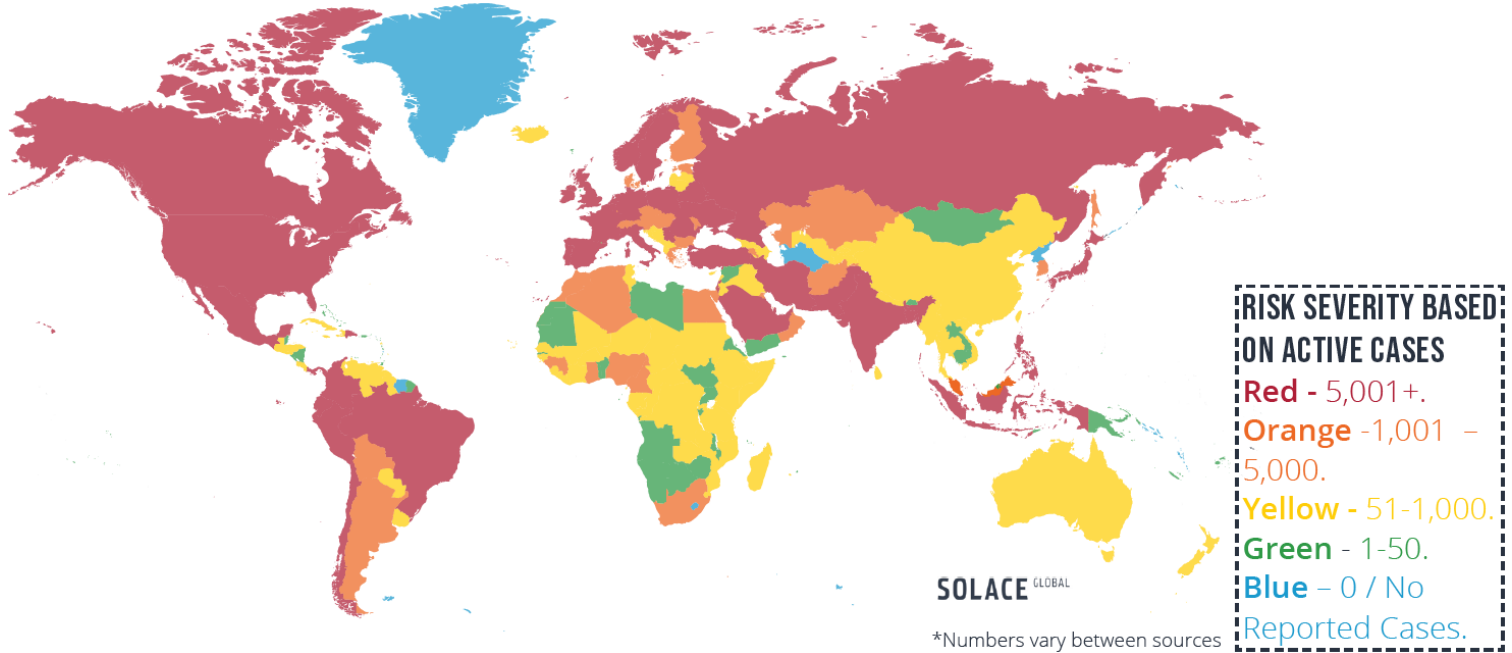
COVID-19 Outbreak Update
4 May

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Executive Summary

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally have exceeded 3.57 million, with approximately 250,000 deaths and around 1.1 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.

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

Global COVID-19 cases have surpassed 3.5 million, with deaths nearing a quarter of a million, although the rate of fatalities and new cases has slowed compared to April peaks. North America and Europe have accounted for most of the new cases, but numbers are rising in Latin America, Africa and Russia. On a more positive note, the Health Ministry of New Zealand has announced that the country has recorded no new cases for the first time since 16 March. There were also no additional fatalities.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended the nationwide lockdown until 17 May but has allowed some relaxations. In urban red zones that are not marked as containment zones, private offices can open at 33 per cent capacity. Construction activity can also resume, as long as workers reside on-site. Manufacturing of essential goods and IT hardware is permitted. E-commerce activities are only allowed for essential goods, while small stores are able to open. In rural red zones, all agricultural, construction and industrial activities are permitted.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is expected to extend the state of emergency until the end of May. However, the Government may also ease some of the current lockdown restrictions on economic activity by allowing places with relatively low infection risks, such as parks, to reopen, even in hard-hit prefectures.

In Italy, travel within the same region for work, health reasons, emergencies or visits to immediate family members is now permitted. Travellers must wear face coverings and maintain a distance of at least one metre between themselves and others. Movement between regions remains prohibited unless for valid work purposes, health reasons, emergencies or if returning home. Self-declaration forms are still required for all movement.

The French consulate in Britain has announced that travellers to France who arrive from a country in the Schengen open-border zone or Britain will be exempt from a planned compulsory two-week quarantine. The new quarantine rules will apply to all travellers, whether French or foreigners, who arrive from outside the Schengen area or Britain.

In Portugal, the country’s state of emergency has been downgraded to the category of 'calamity' as the rate of new coronavirus cases reached its lowest since the beginning of the outbreak. Beaches do, however, remain closed except for water sports and exercise, but visiting parks is no longer strictly forbidden. As small stores reopen, masks will now be obligatory in enclosed public spaces like supermarkets and on public transport from Monday onwards. Rule-breakers may incur fines of up to 350 euros.

President Aleksandar Vucic has announced that Serbia will end its state of emergency next week as he believes the rate of infections has slowed sufficiently. Serbia will next week restart bus and rail services and allow commercial flights later in May. Shopping malls, cafes and restaurants will also reopen as long as they maintain social distancing measures. Small businesses have already been permitted to reopen, and the night curfew has been shortened.

Vienna Airport will now be offering an on-site COVID-19 testing from Monday, with results available in 2 -3 hours, to enable passengers entering the country to avoid having to be quarantined for 14 days if they receive a negative result. As it stands, passengers arriving at the airport have been required to present a health certificate showing a negative COVID-19 result within the past four days or go into quarantine.

The Jordanian Minister of Industry and Trade Tariq Hammouri announced on Sunday that Jordan has lifted all restrictions on economic activity in the latest easing of lockdown measures. Public transport will be allowed to return to full service with safety guidelines following the outbreak, but universities and schools will remain closed and a night curfew will continue.

In Singapore, the Minister of Trade and Industry has announced that the Government will start allowing some businesses to reopen from 12 May. Industries key to the global supply chain such as biopharmaceutical and petrochemicals, as well as precision manufacturing, will be among the priority sectors. Workplaces must put in place prescribed measures to minimise the risk of infection before reopening. Those who are able to work from home will have to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. Singapore is facing the deepest recession in its 55-year history due to the lockdown.

Egypt is allowing hotels to reopen for domestic tourists as long as they implement health measures to guard against transmission of the virus. Hotels must have a clinic with a resident doctor, regularly screen temperatures, install disinfection equipment and operate at no more than 25 per cent capacity until the end of May. From 1 June, hotels will be allowed to operate with a maximum of 50 per cent capacity.

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 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 least 15 May. Airlines, however, do continue to operate limited flights to and from the majority of EU countries.

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.

Americas

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. In some cases, the demonstrators have attended these rallies armed.

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 that of 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.

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.

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.

Australia/ Oceania

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.

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.

**TSCL and 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	3,579,479 (+82,772)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	1,158,956(+32,822)	Total Confirmed Deaths	248,445(+3,575)
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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	1,188,421	USA	+27,348	USA	68,602	USA	178,594
Spain	247,122	Russia	+10,633	Italy	28,884	Spain	148,558
Italy	210,717	Brazil	+4,588	UK	28,446	Germany	132,700
UK	186,599	UK	+4,339	Spain	25,264	Italy	81,654
France	168,693	Peru	+3,394	France	24,895	Iran	78,422
Germany	165,664	India	+2,806	Belgium	7,844	China	77,766
Russia	145,268	Canada	+2,760	Brazil	7,051	Turkey	63,151
Turkey	126,045	Ecuador	+2,074	Germany	6,866	France	50,784
Brazil	101,826	Turkey	+1,670	Iran	6,203	Brazil	42,991
Iran	97,424	Saudi Arabia	+1,552	Netherlands	5,056	Canada	24,908
China	82,880	Spain	+1,533	China	4,633	Switzerland	24,500
Canada	59,474	Italy	+1,389	Canada	3,682	Russia	18,095
Belgium	49,906	Mexico	+1,349	Turkey	3,397	Peru	13,550
Peru	45,928	Chile	+1,228	Sweden	2,679	Mexico	13,447
India	42,670	Pakistan	+1,062	Mexico	2,154	Ireland	13,386
Netherlands	40,571	Iran	+976	Switzerland	1,762	Austria	13,228
Switzerland	29,905	Belarus	+877	Ecuador	1,564	Belgium	12,309
Ecuador	29,538	Germany	+697	India	1,395	India	11,782
Saudi Arabia	27,011	Qatar	+679	Russia	1,356	Chile	10,041
Portugal	25,282	Bangladesh	+665	Ireland	1,303	Israel	9,749
Mexico	23,471	Singapore	+657	Peru	1,286	S. Korea	9,217
Sweden	22,317	UAE	+564	Portugal	1,043	Denmark	6,987
Ireland	21,506	Ukraine	+502	Indonesia	845	Australia	5,849
Pakistan	20,186	South Africa	+447	Romania	803	Pakistan	5,590
Chile	19,663	Romania	+431	Poland	683	Romania	4,869
Singapore	18,778	Belgium	+389	Philippines	623	Malaysia	4,413
Belarus	16,705	Colombia	+383	Austria	598	Saudi Arabia	4,134
Israel	16,208	Dominican Republic	+376	Japan	487	Poland	4,095
Austria	15,597	Panama	+370	Denmark	484	Japan	3,981
Qatar	15,551	Kuwait	+364	Pakistan	462	Czechia	3,592
Japan	14,877	Indonesia	+349	Egypt	429	Ecuador	3,300
UAE	14,163	Netherlands	+335	Colombia	340	Belarus	3,196
Poland	13,937	Ireland	+330	Dominican Republic	333	Finland	3,000
Romania	13,163	Poland	+318	Ukraine	303	UAE	2,763
Ukraine	12,331	Japan	+306	Chile	260	South Africa	2,549
Indonesia	11,192	France	+297	S. Korea	252	Indonesia	1,876
S. Korea	10,801	Philippines	+295	Czechia	249	Kuwait	1,776
Denmark	9,670	Egypt	+272	Israel	232	Colombia	1,722
Philippines	9,485	Sweden	+235	Finland	230	Portugal	1,689
Serbia	9,464	Afghanistan	+235	Norway	213	Qatar	1,664