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# GLOBAL UPDATE

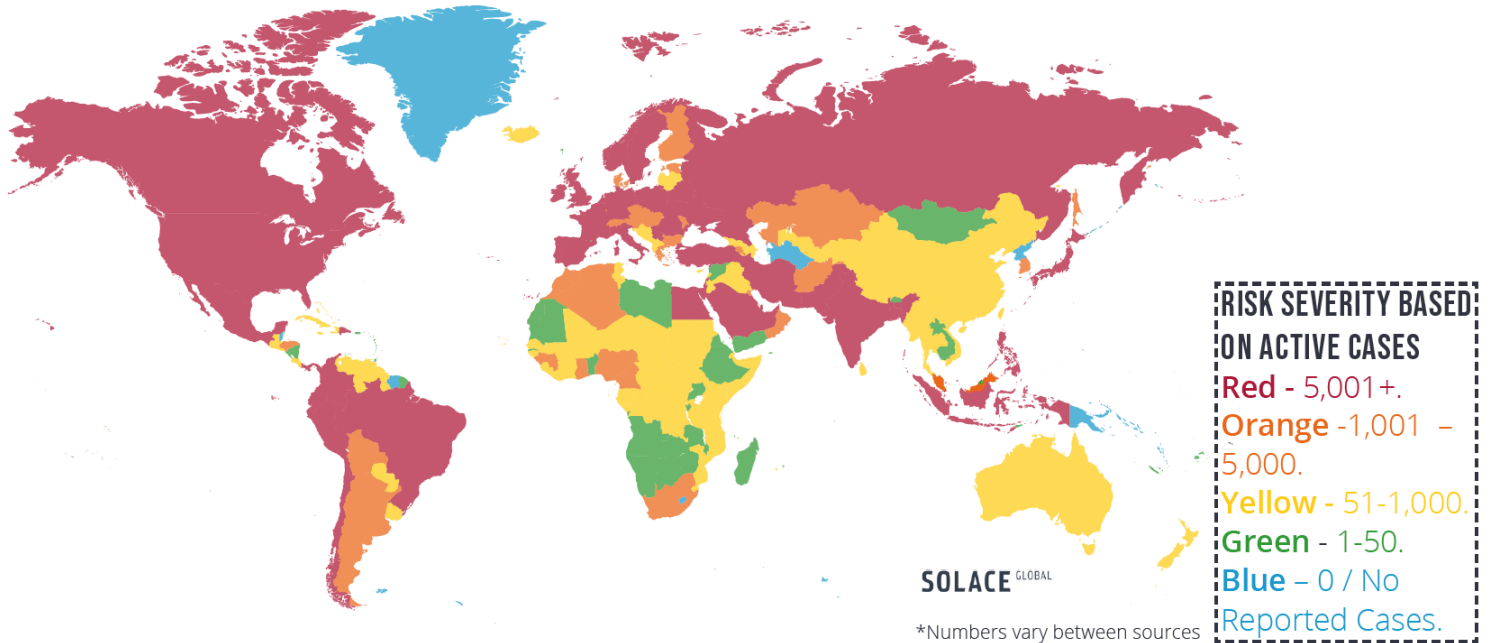
**COVID-19 Outbreak Update  
6 May**

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## 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.

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

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**

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 least 15 May. Airlines, however, 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 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.

**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 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.

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 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	3,741,276 (+82,148)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	1,247,433 (+43,946)	Total Confirmed Deaths	258,511 (+5,937)
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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	1,237,761	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