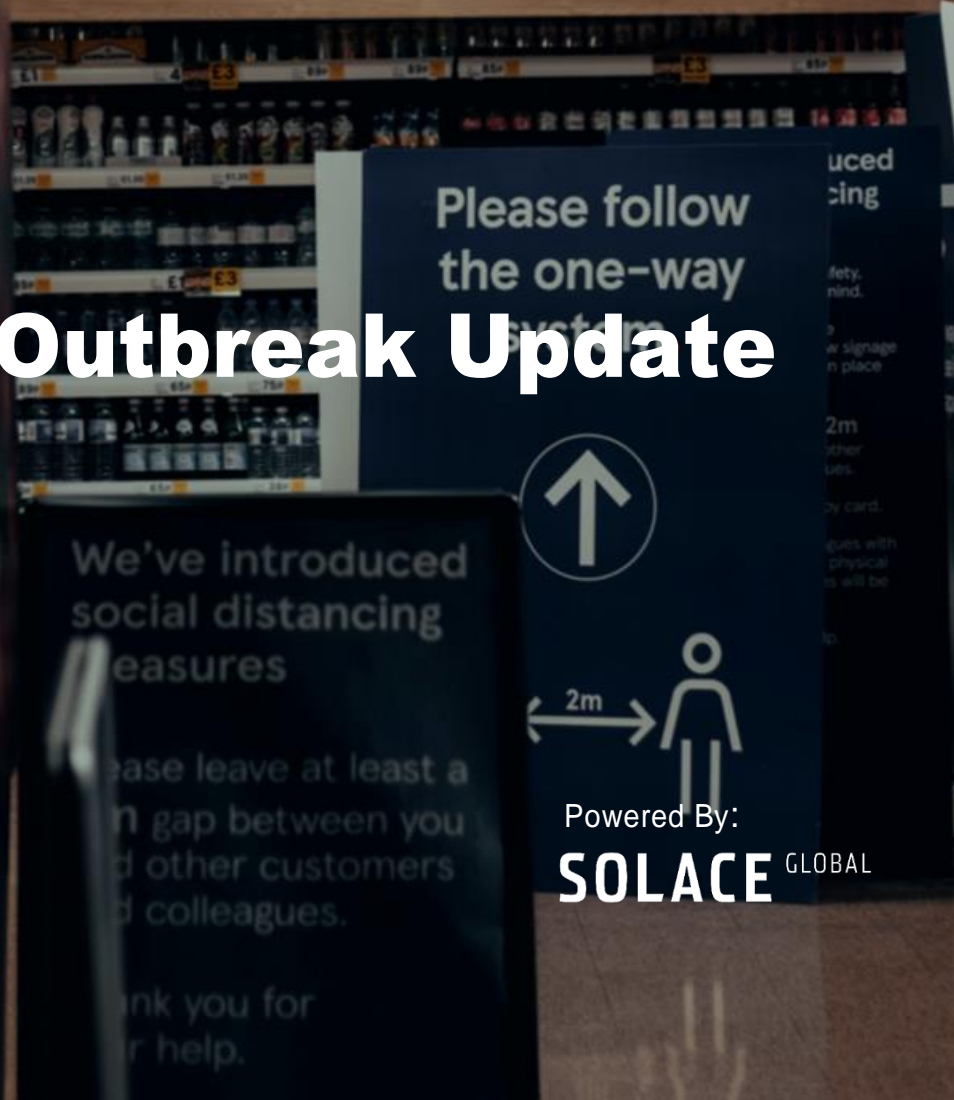




THE
SECURITY
CENTRE
LIMITED

GLOBAL UPDATE

COVID-19 Outbreak Update
24 May



Powered By:
SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally has surpassed 5.4 million, with approximately 344,000 deaths and approximately 2.2 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.

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 measures 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

Results from research conducted by the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and published by the leading medical publication New England Journal of Medicine, show that the anti-viral drug remdesivir cuts down the recovery time of patients from 15 to 11 days. The study also notes that the drug has better results on patients who are in severe need of supplemental oxygen. Last month, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gave emergency authorisation for remdesivir to be used in treatments as, even though it is not a cure, so far it has shown a moderate success against the disease.

In the UK, Oxford University Professor Adrian Hill announced that the experimental vaccine produced by his team with AstraZeneca, a multinational pharmaceutical company, has only 50 per cent chance of success because the disease is rapidly disappearing as reported cases are decreasing. Over the coming weeks, 10,000 people are due to take part in the second trial of the vaccine. AstraZeneca has committed to delivering 100 million doses this year, with a third of them expected to be ready by September 2020.

Anti-lockdown protests continue across Europe. On Saturday, in Spain, thousands of people took part in rallies organised by the far-right Vox Party. Motorcade demonstrations, calling for the resignation of Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and Deputy Prime Minister Pablo Iglesias Turrión over the handling of the pandemic, brought major cities such as Madrid, Barcelona, and Seville to a standstill. In the UK, protesters gathered in London's Clapham Common to demand the end of the lockdown. Protests against COVID-19 measures were also held in Germany. In Berlin, police arrested more than 60 people that took to the streets for the second weekend in a row. Furthermore, in Hamburg, police used water cannons to disperse crowds.

Elsewhere, the government of Barbados has announced that Grantly Adams International Airport will remain closed to international flights until 30 June due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. Barbados along with other Caribbean islands closed its borders in March to prevent the spread of the virus.

Peru has extended the nationwide lockdown from 25 May until at least the end of June; this is the fifth time authorities have extended this measure since it was introduced in March. Peru has been on lockdown for longer than Italy, Spain and China, some of the hardest-hit countries. President Martin Vizcarra also announced that certain restrictions are likely to be relaxed during the lockdown, such as the reopening of hair salons and dental practices amongst others.

The state of New York has reported 84 new deaths from the virus across the state. This is the first time the daily death toll has dropped below 100 since the height of the outbreak in March. Governor Cuomo also announced that groups of up to 10 people can gather, provided that social distancing is followed. The US has the highest death toll from COVID-19 which has now exceeded 98,000.

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

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| <p>Asia</p> | <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> |
| <p>Europe</p> | <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 mid-June. Airlines, however, continue to operate limited flights to and from the majority of EU countries.</p> <p>European countries are now seeing an easing of internal and international restrictions after overcoming 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.</p> |
| <p>Americas</p> | <p>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.</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</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| | 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 an increase in confirmed cases. As such, many countries implemented lockdown measures very early, when only a handful of cases had been recorded. Indeed, numerous 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. |
| TSSL 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 | 5,407,779 (+99,589) | Total Confirmed Recoveries | 2,248,494 (+87,619) | Total Confirmed Deaths | 344,029 (+3,954) |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|

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 | 1,666,828 | USA | +21,929 | USA | 98,683 | USA | 446,914 |
| Brazil | 349,113 | Brazil | +16,508 | UK | 36,675 | Spain | 196,958 |
| Russia | 335,882 | Russia | +9,434 | Italy | 32,735 | Germany | 160,300 |
| Spain | 282,370 | India | +6,629 | Spain | 28,678 | Brazil | 142,587 |
| UK | 257,154 | Peru | +4,056 | France | 28,332 | Italy | 138,840 |
| Italy | 229,327 | Chile | +3,536 | Brazil | 22,165 | Turkey | 117,602 |
| France | 182,469 | Mexico | +2,960 | Belgium | 9,237 | Russia | 107,936 |
| Germany | 179,986 | UK | +2,959 | Germany | 8,366 | Iran | 104,072 |
| Turkey | 155,686 | Saudi Arabia | +2,442 | Iran | 7,359 | China | 78,261 |
| Iran | 133,521 | Bangladesh | +1,873 | Mexico | 7,179 | France | 64,547 |
| India | 131,920 | Iran | +1,869 | Canada | 6,355 | India | 54,441 |
| Peru | 115,754 | Pakistan | +1,743 | Netherlands | 5,811 | Peru | 47,915 |
| Canada | 83,621 | Qatar | +1,732 | China | 4,634 | Mexico | 44,919 |
| China | 82,974 | South Africa | +1,218 | Turkey | 4,308 | Canada | 43,305 |
| Saudi Arabia | 70,161 | Turkey | +1,186 | Sweden | 3,992 | Saudi Arabia | 41,236 |
| Mexico | 65,856 | Canada | +1,141 | India | 3,869 | Switzerland | 28,000 |
| Chile | 65,393 | Colombia | +1,046 | Russia | 3,388 | Chile | 26,546 |
| Belgium | 56,810 | Indonesia | +949 | Peru | 3,373 | Ireland | 21,060 |
| Pakistan | 54,601 | Belarus | +941 | Ecuador | 3,096 | Pakistan | 17,198 |
| Netherlands | 45,064 | Kuwait | +900 | Switzerland | 1,905 | Belgium | 15,155 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------------------|------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|--------|
| Qatar | 42,213 | UAE | +812 | Ireland | 1,604 | Austria | 15,037 |
| Ecuador | 36,258 | Afghanistan | +782 | Indonesia | 1,351 | UAE | 14,495 |
| Belarus | 35,244 | Egypt | +727 | Portugal | 1,302 | Israel | 14,090 |
| Sweden | 33,188 | Argentina | +704 | Romania | 1,176 | Singapore | 13,882 |
| Bangladesh | 32,078 | Italy | +669 | Pakistan | 1,133 | Belarus | 13,528 |
| Singapore | 31,068 | Singapore | +642 | Poland | 993 | Japan | 13,244 |
| Switzerland | 30,725 | Spain | +466 | Philippines | 863 | Romania | 11,187 |
| Portugal | 30,471 | Oman | +463 | Japan | 808 | S. Korea | 10,213 |
| UAE | 28,704 | Dominican Republic | +433 | Egypt | 735 | South Africa | 10,104 |
| Ireland | 24,582 | Ukraine | +432 | Colombia | 705 | Denmark | 9,836 |
| Indonesia | 21,745 | Ecuador | +430 | Chile | 673 | Poland | 8,977 |
| South Africa | 21,343 | Bolivia | +392 | Austria | 639 | Qatar | 8,513 |
| Poland | 20,931 | Bahrain | +388 | Ukraine | 605 | Dominican Republic | 7,854 |
| Ukraine | 20,580 | Sweden | +379 | Algeria | 592 | Norway | 7,727 |
| Kuwait | 20,464 | Armenia | +374 | Denmark | 561 | Portugal | 7,705 |
| Colombia | 20,177 | Kazakhstan | +322 | Hungary | 486 | Ukraine | 6,929 |
| Romania | 17,857 | Poland | +312 | Dominican Republic | 458 | Australia | 6,508 |
| Israel | 16,712 | Panama | +310 | Bangladesh | 452 | Bangladesh | 6,486 |
| Japan | 16,536 | Iraq | +308 | Argentina | 445 | Panama | 6,279 |
| Egypt | 16,513 | Belgium | +299 | South Africa | 407 | Czechia | 6,044 |