

Iraq - Imposes Ten Day Lockdown Effective May 12, 2021 Amid Surge in COVID-19 Cases

- Iraq is imposing a 10-day lockdown as the country experiences a surge in new coronavirus infections, coupled with a slow vaccine rollout
- From May 12, 2021, to May 22, 2021, mass gatherings are prohibited and malls, cafes, cinemas, parks, event halls, swimming pools, gymnasiums will remain closed
- A statement from the prime minister's office said the new lockdown measures come in response to an increase in the number of cases throughout Iraq
- Until further notice, Iraqis are barred from traveling to and from India, which has emerged as a COVID-19 hotspot. Iraqis currently in India who wish to return home must quarantine for 14 days
- Less than 1% of Iraq's population of 40 million has been vaccinated against the COVID-19. Since rolling out its national vaccination campaign in late March 2021
- The Ministry of Health is encouraging Iraqis to sign up for a vaccination online or by visiting a health clinic to receive either the AstraZeneca, Pfizer, or Sinopharm vaccine
- Reported COVID-19 stats for Iraq:
 1. Confirmed Cases: 1,091,954
 2. Deaths: 15,640 (1.43%)
 3. Recoveries: 979,041 (89.65%)
- Supply Wisdom is continuously monitoring the situation and will alert you to any relevant developments

Source(s)

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2021/05/iraq-announces-10-day-lockdown-amid-virus-surge>
<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1853846/middle-east>
<https://news.google.com/covid19/map?hl=en-IN&gl=IN&ceid=IN%3Aen&mid=%2Fm%2F0d05q4>
<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/iraq/>
<https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/iraq-population/>
<http://www.moh.gov.iq/>

Targets Affected:

Iraq

Category(s):

Geo-Political Risk

Event:

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Incident(s)

Guidance

Actions to consider:

- Advisories issued by both the US Department of State as well as UK's Foreign Common Wealth Office restrict all travel to Iraq due to 'COVID-19, terrorism, kidnapping, and armed conflict'
- SW Subscribers should consider referring to US Department of State and UK Government's travel advisory sites found at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisory.html> and <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/iraq> for detailed information about the region
- Travelers are advised to avoid all non-essential travel to the affected regions and pay close attention to advisories issued by the local authorities
- It is advisable to communicate to employees about the importance of avoiding all non-essential travel to affected areas
- If there is a presence of business operations, SW Subscribers are advised to ensure that Business Continuity plans and programs are commensurate with the level and types of risk exposures of this location
- Security and travel departments of third parties/captive units should consider issuing internal alerts and appropriate travel restrictions recommendations
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- In an event of extended risk disrupting business operations, evaluate options to migrate critical processes to nearby unaffected regions
- Mechanisms must be in place for pre-emptive evacuation of employees if required
- Determine if a strict screening process for vehicles and people

entering the businesses premises are in place

Impact level Definitions

Impact Level	Definitions
Immediate	Certain - Supply Wisdom recommends considering prompt action. Examples of Immediate level alert events may include bankruptcy filings, data breaches, unexpected curfews, strikes, power black-outs, major geo-political events etc.
High	Highly likely to occur in the near term (within 3 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends being in a state of readiness to take quick action. Examples of High level alert events may include withdrawal of rating by ratings agencies, hostile takeover, multiple cyber-attacks, new business policies causing significant hardship etc.
Medium	Likely to occur in the mid-term (within 3 to 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends reviewing current mitigation steps and being ready to take proactive actions if and when situation deteriorates further. Examples of Medium level alert events may include unplanned C-level exits, suppliers caught in bribery cases, economy slipping into recession.
Low	Possible in the long-term (after 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends taking proactive action if situation does not resolve. Examples of Low level alert events may include lawsuits filed against suppliers, client losses, air pollution alerts issued by country's local authorities, unexpected holidays announced for the location etc.
Informational	The event is pertinent information but does not have a risk element associated with it. Examples of Info level alert events may include launch of new solutions, partnerships signed, industry outlook, positive changes in government policies, announcements regarding launch of software parks/ free trade zones/special economic zones etc.