

# REPORT DISEASE AND HEALTH HAZARD NEWS OF INTEREST ALONG THE BORDER

May 12 - 18, 2022

## WEEKLY EVENTS

- Nan Province is prepared to open the Huai Kon Border Checkpoint on June 1, 2022. Meanwhile, 574 educational institutions in Nan Province are prepared to open on May 17, 2022.
- On May 16, 2022, The Laotian Times news agency reported that students have returned to in-person learning as the measures have been relaxed in the Lao PDR. A survey found that 69.6% of local university students did not agree with returning to school due to economic problems and only 23.9% agreed. The high costs during the fuel crisis have affected the cost of living for students.
- On May 18, 2022, Chiang Rai Province opened four points at the Thai-Laos border for people to cross, namely the Buck Pier crossing point, the 4th Thai-Laos Friendship Bridge, the Chiang Saen District Office crossing point, and the Golden Triangle crossing point.
- On May 28-29, 2022, the network of four provinces (Phang Nga, Ranong, Chumphon and Prachuap Khiri Khan) will meet to discuss the issue of Thai nationals returning to these provinces. The forum is titled, "20 years of stories, 10 years of networking, and the journey home for Thai nationals" and will be hosted by Ranong Province. The event will summarize lessons on how to resolve problems at the local level.

## WARNING: "POISONOUS MUSHROOMS" THAT ARE EATEN MAY LEAD TO DEATH

On May 12, 2022, the Department of Disease Control warned people to be wary of consuming wild mushrooms because they may be poisonous. The rainy season is a period when many types of mushrooms grow, especially wild mushrooms. Without expertise, it is difficult to differentiate edible from inedible mushrooms. The Division of Epidemiology reported 81 cases of people experiencing symptoms after consuming poisonous mushrooms from January 1 to May 7, 2022. No deaths have been reported.

Poisonous toadstools are the mushrooms that frequently cause the most deaths. In some places they are called 'toadstools' or 'mummified egg mushrooms'. They have a toxic effect on the gastrointestinal tract and muscles while liver and kidney failure are the leading causes of death from consumption.

According to non-scientific mushroom toxicity tests, boiling poisonous mushrooms with rice or shallots will often change the color of the rice or shallots. Dipping silver spoons or chopsticks into water boiled with other poisonous mushrooms will cause the utensils to turn black. However, these practices cannot be tested on toadstool mushrooms, due to the presence of heat-resistant toxic substances. Therefore, if you are unsure if a mushroom is poisonous or not, it should not be consumed at all.



## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFICIALS

Health volunteers should educate residents about the dangers of consuming poisonous mushrooms including symptoms, first aid delivery, and the differences between poisonous and edible mushrooms. If you are unsure if a mushroom is poisonous, it should not be eaten or stored.

People should avoid consuming wild mushrooms with alcohol, as the chemicals may interact to negatively harm the body. People who experience nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea after eating mushrooms should see a doctor immediately and should provide a sample of the suspected poisonous mushroom to confirm diagnosis and inform treatment.

CONTACT  
oic.ddc@gmail.com  
02-5903832  
www.ddc.go.th/oic

## INFORMATION COLLECTED AND ANALYZED BY

Multisectoral Capacity Development Program for Public Health Emergency Detection and Response in Border Areas

Office of International Cooperation, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand  
Supported by the Thailand MOPH - US CDC Collaboration on Public Health

## COVID-19 SITUATION AND INFORMATION IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

### As of May 18, 2022

COVID-19 Information by country	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Thailand
Number of confirmed cases (people)					
• New Cases (daily)	-	51	2,017	14	5,633
• Cumulative	136,262	209,553	4,483,295	613,182	4,388,610
Daily cases per 100,000 population (7-day average)	0	1.303	7.842	0.03	9.317
Test positivity (%) (In the past 14 days)	0.7	46.8	4.6	0.2	40.64
Recovered cases					
• New (daily)	-	-	2,548	10	8,042
• Cumulative	133,198	208,527	4,417,694	557,903	4,298,132
Fatalities					
• New (daily)	-	-	7	-	45
• Cumulative	3,056	754	35,630	19,434	29,595
Percent of the population fully vaccinated	≥ 90	73.7	82.7	46	75.2
Percent of the high-risk population fully vaccinated	≥ 90	≥90	≥90	≥ 90	≥90

## SOURCES

- <https://transbordernews.in.th/home/?p=31491>
- <https://laotiantimes.com/2022/05/16/students-in-laos-see-a-difficult-future-in-the-new-normal/>
- [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid027WbSzqXntZZYCFMrsv9VwmjECF3rnr5fuMrD8nAxDKt7Aa6xfyybcBUZKtyRhuKl&id=100064878752286](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid027WbSzqXntZZYCFMrsv9VwmjECF3rnr5fuMrD8nAxDKt7Aa6xfyybcBUZKtyRhuKl&id=100064878752286)
- [https://ddc.moph.go.th/brc/news.php?news=25266&deptcode=brc&news\\_views=1690](https://ddc.moph.go.th/brc/news.php?news=25266&deptcode=brc&news_views=1690)
- <https://thainews.prd.go.th/th/news/detail/TCATG190610112345482>
- [https://region3.prd.go.th/region3\\_ci/chiangrai/news/48446](https://region3.prd.go.th/region3_ci/chiangrai/news/48446)
- <https://ddc.moph.go.th/brc/news.php?news=19111&deptcode=brc>
- Image courtesy of: <https://www.brighttv.co.th/news/social/department-of-disease-control-poisonous-mushrooms>
- ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC) in collaboration with Bluedot Inc.
- <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>
- <https://covidnow.moh.gov.my/>
- <https://ddc.moph.go.th/covid19-dashboard/>
- COVID-19 Situation in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, East Asia Division 2, Department of East Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 11 May 2022