



# The Coronavirus Disease 2019 News release

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

## Special Announcement of COVID-19 On 21 June 2020

Regarding today's COVID-19 situation in Thailand, one new COVID-19 case was confirmed in someone who returned from South Africa and was under state quarantine. This brought the total number of cases to 3,148. There were no reports of new recovered cases as the total number of recovered cases remained at 3,018 (95.90% of the total number of the confirmed cases). 72 were being treated in hospitals (2.29% of the total number of confirmed cases). The total number of deaths remained at 58 as there were no reports of COVID-19 deaths today.

Dr. Sapon Iamsirithaworn, director of the Division of Communicable Diseases, Department of Disease Control stated that today the new COVID-19 confirmed case is a 6 year-old boy who returned from South Africa with his mother. He arrived in Thailand on 15 June 2020. His first sample was collected under the disease surveillance guidelines, and his laboratory results were positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) but he was asymptomatic. He was sent directly to receive treatment in the hospital. His mother's first laboratory results were negative, but she must be observed under quarantine until 14 days are complete and she receives a second test, which will be collected on day 11-13. This is to ensure people who are quarantined are free from COVID-19 and do not spread the disease to others in their family and community. This evidence indicated that infection in children may not necessarily show any symptoms which is a factor in spreading the disease to other family members because keeping space from children may be hard. Therefore, family members must avoid close contact. The elderly and people with underlying disease, may develop severe symptoms and they have a high rate of death.

The World Health Organization asked for cooperation from everybody in every country to be aware and continue to protect themselves. There are reports from several countries faced with second waves of COVID-19, and are reporting a gradual increase in new confirmed cases. On 18 June 2020, 150,000 new confirmed cases were reported in only one day, which is the highest number to this date. However, this re-emergence occurred after easing the restrictions in many countries around the world.

In addition, the Ministry of Public Health emphasizes people to be aware. After the government relaxed the restrictions to be close to the normal situation, the movement of people has been increasing, especially via using public transportation. People must wear a face mask/cloth mask every time they use the service, refrain from talking, and refrain from eating food on the vehicles. Frequently wash your hands, and avoid close contact with others, and refrain from visiting crowded places. Limit the time using services in each place. Lastly, leaving the residence only when necessary to protect yourself and others. Importantly, you should check in with the entry-exit registration by the "Thai Cha Na" digital platform every time.

Business owners must strictly follow disease prevention measures to prevent the spread of infection by cleaning the place and equipment. They need to arrange the service areas to reduce the congestion by keeping space of 1-2 meters apart, arrange a system for screening customers, and provide handwashing stations. If it is a closed place, such as meeting rooms, shopping centers, or cinemas, they must check the ventilation system so that it is well-ventilated. The service staff must wear a mask/cloth at all times.