

Thailand situation update on 14 April 2020

1. International Situation

As of 14 April 2020, there were a total of 1,930,275 confirmed cases with 51,156 patients in critical condition and 119,815 COVID-19 deaths across more than 207 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. The ten countries with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases include: the United States (587,173), Spain (170,099), Italy (159,516), France (136,779), Germany (130,072), England (88,621), the People's Republic of China (83,307 cases, as well as 1,013 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively), Iran (73,303), Turkey (61,049) and Belgium (30,589).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 13 April 2020 showed that among 37,065 flights, there were a total of 4,396,621 passengers screened. Among those, 594 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 134,4952 people from 1,576 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 13 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,796,152 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 13 April 2020. Between 30 January to 14 April 2020, a total of 152,263 people who were renewing their passports were screened at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road. The total number of PUI from all ports is currently 594 people.

2.2 Situation of Patients with Suspected Symptoms of COVID-19 in Thailand.

On 14 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 666 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 35,452 PUI, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	35,452
• Detected from the airport screening	594
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	34,768
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88
Confirmed cases	2,613

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

Situation	Total number of PUI
• Recovered and discharged from hospitals	1,497
• Undergoing Treatment	1,075
• Deaths	41
Characteristic of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,613
• Local Transmission	2,132
• Imported Case	481
- Designated Quarantine Places*	62

Notice: *The quarantine measures for travelers from aboard have been in effect as of 3 April 2020

In Thailand, there have been 2,613 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 1,497 patients have recovered and returned home, and 41 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 11 April 2020, One additional case was reported, which brought the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas to 62 cases. 61 cases were Thai people returning from Indonesia and one case from America. All Thai people returning from abroad are required to comply with State Quarantine measures, meaning they have to quarantine in specific provinces; in total there are 4 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 18 cases in Songkhla, 19 cases in Satun, and 1 case in Bangkok.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 months to 91 years old). 1,377 cases are male, and 1,154 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.2:1). Gender data is not available for 82 cases.

In terms of nationality, 2,279 cases are Thai, 33 are Chinese, 22 are French, 20 are British, 13 are Burmese, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, nine are American, eight are Canadian, six are German, six are Italian, six are Swedish, five are Danish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Indian, three are South Korean, three are Australian, two are Portuguese, two are Indonesian, two are Spanish, two are Cambodian, two are Malaysian, two are Filipino, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is a New Zealander, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, one is Laos, one is Taiwanese, one is Serbian, one is Liberian, one is Vietnamese, one is Hungarian, one is Mexican, one is Tunisian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Dutch, one is Brazilian, one is Israeli, one is Palestinian, and data is not available for the remaining 118 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (19 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (15 cases), diabetes (9 cases), other NCDs (13 cases), asthma (8 cases), dyslipidemia (2 cases), thyroid disease (2 cases), psoriasis (1 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (18 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (1 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,521 cases reported without any underlying disease. 40 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,636 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 937 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as "close contacts."

3. Thailand Precautions

- The National Communicable Disease Committee agreed upon the principles for the establishment of management for the quarantine system and the cost of state/local quarantine for case detention of foreign/domestic travelers. Moreover, the committee approved increasing integrated proactive safety measures for COVID-19 in the area. This is an operating system for rapid, active case finding to receive early diagnosis and treatment and to increase the effectiveness of disease prevention and control in the area.
- The committee assigned the secretariat to prepare details and guidelines for reimbursement of expenses for submission to the COVID-19 Administration Centre or the cabinet for their consideration.
- The Royal Gazette published an announcement of the Ministry of Labor regarding a reduction in Social Security Fund contributions to cushion the economic impact of COVID-19 for both employees and employers in Thailand. The reduction in the Social Security Fund contributions for employees and employers is from March to May 2020. If they have contributed an excess amount to the Social Security Office for the month of March 2020 due to the delay in the announcement, they can claim the excess back from the Social Security Office.
- General Prayuth Chan-O-Cha, the Prime Minister of Thailand, attended the Special ASEAN Summit on COVID-19 via video conference. The meeting recognized that the situation of COVID-19 has become continually drastic in every area of the world affecting all aspects and dimensions of people's lives. Thailand emphasized the collaboration from every sector to control the disease outbreak, reduce the number of cases and find ways to mitigate the socio-economic impacts. In addition, the Prime Minister of Thailand proposed the following 5 main issues for coping with COVID-19:
 - 1.Support multi sectoral cooperation from ASEAN to have a holistic solution on COVID-19
 - 2.Propose to establish the ASEAN fund for coping with COVID -19
 - 3.Support joint goods and logistics management
 - 4.Support e-commerce and digital economy in the region
 - 5.Support the sharing of lessons learnt and best practices on fighting against COVID-19 among member states.
- The Governor of Nonthaburi Province released the order of Nonthaburi province (No.9) to temporary close places. Since 15 April 2020, there have been preparations to reopen the places necessary for daily life but most of the comments on social media do not agree because the situation has not improved. So, “ศูนย์ข้อมูล COVID-19 นนทบุรี” Facebook fanpage explained that Nonthaburi province announced the order of Nonthaburi province (No.10) on 14 April 2020 and canceled the order of Nonthaburi province (No.9). Only mobile phone or communication system service centers have been allowed to open.
- The city of Pattaya has been proactively providing COVID-19 testing services that are operated by both the Chonburi Provincial Public Health Office and Bang Lamung District Public Health Office. This testing service is available at the COVID-19 Screening Center. A field hospital will be set up at the Grand Bella Pattaya Hotel in the Bang Lamung District,

which will be open between 08:00-16:00. The hospital may decide to extend their operating hours because currently they have around 200 people come per day to use this service. In the meantime, the Pattaya Mayor, Mr Sonthaya Khun Pluem, stated that "if the testing from active case findings of 2,000 people came out with non-significant results of infection of COVID-19 in communities, we may consider unlocking strict measures that have previously ordered to relieve any consequences affected to the tourism industry and labor groups in the long run."

- Fort Wachirawut Hospital, 4th Army Area conducted the Daily Coronavirus Disease 2019 response in the army and families by screening their symptoms everyday and recording their health status in the system. Moreover, they followed up cases which were referred from the Fort Wachirawut hospital to other hospitals.

4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The measures including disease screening, isolation, quarantine or quarantine for observation to control and prevent the disease are implemented among passengers departing from areas or countries affected by COVID-19.
- In cases where it is necessary to make contact with other people, please wear a mask and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter between yourself and the other person when interacting with others. It is also recommended to only make contact with people for a short period.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchiefs, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- Avoid eating raw food.