

Thailand situation update on 27 April 2020

1. International Situation

As of 27 April 2020, there were a total of 3,004,116 confirmed cases with 57,568 patients in critical condition and 207,118 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 (987,322), Spain (226,629), Italy (197,675), France (162,100), Germany (157,770), England (152,840), Turkey (110,130), Iran (90,481), Russia (87,147) and the People's Republic of China (83,913 cases, as well as 1,038 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 26 April 2020 showed that among 37,781 flights, there were a total of 4,410,614 passengers screened. Among those, 845 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 139,540 people from 1,905 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 26 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,845,120 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 26 April 2020. Between 30 January to 27 April 2020, a total of 163,675 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 847 people.

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

On 27 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 1,544 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 55,486 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)	55,486
• Detected from the airport screening	845
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	54,551
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Situation	Total number of PUI
Confirmed cases	2,931
• Recovered and discharged from hospitals	2,652
• Undergoing Treatment	227
• Deaths	52
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,931
• Local Transmission	2,427
• Imported Case	504
- Designated Quarantine Places*	78

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

In Thailand, there have been 2,931 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,652 patients have recovered and returned home, and 52 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 27 April 2020, two additional cases were reported, and the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas increased to 78 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, nine cases from America, four cases from the United of Arab Emirates, two cases from England, and one case from the Netherlands. 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 5 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 18 cases in Songkhla, 19 cases in Satun, 3 cases in Krabi, 4 cases on Chonburi, and 9 cases in Bangkok.

On 25 April 2020, 42 confirmed cases were found at the immigration quarantine unit at Sadao district in Songkhla province (34 cases were Burmese, 3 cases were Vietnamese, 2 cases were Malaysian, 1 case was Yeman, 1 case was Cambodian, and 1 case was Indian).

The median age of the confirmed cases is 36 years old (ranging from 1 month to 91 years old). 1,610 cases are male, and 1,321 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.22:1).

In terms of nationality, 2,531 cases are Thai, 51 are Burmese, 33 are Chinese, 24 are French, 23 are British, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, 10 are American, eight are Canadian, eight are Italian, eight are Indian, six are German, six are Swedish, five are Danish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Australian, four are Filipino, four are Malaysian, three are South Korean, three are Indonesian, three are Cambodian, two are Portuguese, two are Spanish, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, 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, one is Mali, one is Yeman, and data is not available for the remaining 123 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (27 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (19 cases), diabetes (10 cases), other NCDs (13 cases),

asthma (8 cases), dyslipidemia (3 cases), thyroid disease (3 cases), psoriasis (2 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (27 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (2 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), HIV (2 case), depression (2 cases), anemia (1 case), migraine (1 case), liver cirrhosis (1 case), breast cancer (1 case), Hepatitis B virus (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,798 cases reported without any underlying disease. 41 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,747 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,004 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts”. On 27 April 2020, 4 additional cases were found from the active case finding measures in Yala.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Prime Minister and the Minister of Defence held a meeting with the Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration, where extending certain measures, and relaxing others were discussed. The Emergency Decree will be extended by one month, through 31 May 2020. The curfew between 10:00 pm - 4:00 am will be extended through 31 May 2020. All international travel in and out of the country will remain suspended through 31 May 2020. Businesses will be allowed to reopen as deemed appropriate. All holidays in May are currently under consideration for postponement, including Labour Day (1 May), the Coronation Day (4 May), Buddhist Holiday (6 May), and the Royal Ploughing Ceremony (11 May). This issue will be elevated to the Cabinet meeting for further consideration. The government will later decide on days in the future to substitute for these cancelled holidays, just as was already done in the past for the postponement of Songkran Day.
- The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) has issued a fourth update detailing the measures regarding the extension of the ban on all incoming international flights through 31 May 2020. All flight permits granted to international passenger flights during this period will be canceled. The ban on international passenger flights to Thailand will be extended from 1 May 2020, at 00:01 to 31 May 2020, at 23:59. According to Article 1, the international flight prohibition does not apply to the following aircrafts: state aircraft, military aircraft, emergency landing of aircraft, and technical landing of aircraft without any passengers leaving from the aircraft, humanitarian assistance medical aviation or aircraft transporting things to support people affected by COVID-19, and repatriation flights and cargo aircraft (Cargo aircraft) 4. Under Article 3, any person or passenger aboard the aircraft will be subject to the regulations of communicable disease control as specified in the Communicable Disease Act, such as quarantining for 14 days.
- Thai Airways International Public Co. Ltd collaborated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, the Australian Embassy in Thailand, and the New Zealand Embassy in Thailand to provide special charter flights round trip from 25-27 April 2020 between Bangkok – Sydney and Bangkok – Auckland to bring back Thai passengers who are still in Australia and New Zealand, and to send back foreigners still in Thailand. 207 Thai passengers returned from Australia to Thailand on TG478 flight (Sydney – Bangkok

route); the flight departed from Sydney at 10:05 am (local time), and arrived in Thailand at 4:05 pm.

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.