

Thailand situation update on 21 May 2020

1. International Situation

As of 21 May 2020, there were a total of 5,103,350 confirmed cases with 45,728 patients in critical condition and 329,925 COVID-19 deaths across more than 210 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 (1,593,039), Russia (317,554), Brazil (293,357), Spain (279,524), England (248,293), Italy (227,364), France (181,575), Germany (178,531), Turkey (152,587), and Iran (126,949). The 13th is the People's Republic of China (84,068 cases, as well as 1,056 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 20 May 2020 showed that among 39,015 flights, there were a total of 4,436,578 passengers screened. Among those, 1,192 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 145,444 people from 2,471 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 20 May 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,936,107 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 20 May 2020. Between 30 January to 21 May 2020, a total of 180,555 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 1,194 people.

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

On 21 May 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 6,663 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 141,619 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) divided by ports	141,619
• Detected from the airport screening	1,192
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	140,337
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Situation	Total number of PUI
Confirmed cases	3,037
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,910
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	71
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	56
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,037
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,442
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Cases 	595
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	102

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

In Thailand, there have been 3,034 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,898 patients have recovered and returned home, and 56 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 21 May 2020, one additional case was reported, and the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas increased to 102 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, 10 cases from Pakistan, nine cases from America, five cases from the United of Arab Emirates, four cases from Malaysia, two cases from England, two cases from Kazakhstan, two cases from Egypt, one case from the Netherlands, one case from Japan, one case from India, one case from Russia, one case from Bahrain, and one case from the Philippines. 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 6 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 19 cases in Songkhla, 18 cases in Satun, 3 cases in Krabi, 17 cases in Chonburi, 18 cases in Bangkok, and one case in Samut Prakan.

On 8 May 2020, 65 confirmed cases were found at the immigration quarantine unit at Sadao district in Songkhla province (37 cases were Burmese, 20 cases were stateless Rohingya, 3 cases were Vietnamese, 2 cases were Malaysian, 1 case was Yemeni, 1 case was Cambodian, and 1 case was Indian).

The median age of the confirmed cases is 42 years old (ranging from 1 month to 97 years old). 1,652 cases are male, and 1,385 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.19:1).

In terms of nationality, 2,702 cases are Thai, 56 are Burmese, 34 are Chinese, 29 are French, 24 are British, 20 cases are Stateless Rohingya, 12 are Russian, 12 are American, 11 are Japanese, nine are Indian, nine are German, eight are Canadian, eight are Italian, six are Swedish, six are Belgian, six are Swiss, five are Danish, five are Filipino, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Australian, four are Malaysian, four are Vietnamese, three are South Korean, three are Indonesian, three are Cambodian, two are Kazakh, two are Brazilian, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), two are Spanish, two are Israeli, two are Albanian, one is American-Samoa, one is Malian, one is Kuwaiti, one is Serbian, one is Tunisian, one is Taiwanese, one is Dutch, one is Palestinian, one is

Portuguese, one is Finnish, one is Mexican, one is Ukrainian, one is Yemeni, one is Liberian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Iranian, one is Uzbek, one is Hungarian, and data is not available for the remaining 14 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (28 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (20 cases), diabetes (11 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 (28 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 2,897 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). 1,587 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,188 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts”. A total of 55 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration led by the governor has accelerated the process of problem-solving travel congestion in public transport after initiation of the 2nd phase of relaxation measures was announced, which allowed many companies and stores to resume service as normal. People have begun to start going back to work, leading to higher congestion of people in public, especially during the morning and evening hours. Relevant agencies related to the public transportation system in Bangkok, including railway systems and river service boats were invited to discuss how to resolve congestion issues in the public transportation system. One way to reduce congestion may be to shorten waiting times for cars and river service boats. As we enter the rainy season, this would allow people to travel conveniently and comply with social distancing and other measures to prevent COVID-19 infection. If problems cannot be solved in advance, then the health of people will be negatively impacted, and issues at work will exacerbate.
- There was a meeting held to consider extending the period of implementing the 2005 Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations. The Emergency Decree period was initially set to terminate on 31 May 2020, but the Secretary General of the National Security Council stated that the meeting agreed to extend the Emergency Decree by 1 month. This announcement of extension is effective until the end of June 2020. Phase 3 of the relaxation of the Emergency Decree will occur in the near future, and will include measures essential for controlling a wide range of measures during the next phase of relaxation.
- The Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT) issued measures to assist entrepreneurs and business operators of industrial estates affected by the COVID-19 epidemic as follows:

1. Reduction of maintenance fees by charging 10% to land users for four months (June - September 2020).
2. Exemption of service fees of 11 items for operating business in industrial estates for a period of 4 months.
3. Exemption or reduction of rent for land and buildings for two different cases; for monthly rent, reducing or exempting the rental fee for 3 months, and for annual rental payment, reducing or exempting rental rate by 25% in 2020 for three months (April - June 2020).

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.