

Thailand situation update on 15 July 2020

1. International Situation

As of 15 July 2020, there were a total of 13,462,655 confirmed cases with 59,506 patients in critical condition and 581,316 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 (3,545,077), Brazil (1,931,204), India (937,487), Russia (739,947), Peru (333,867), Chile (319,493), Mexico (311,486), Spain (303,699), South Africa (298,292), and England (291,373). The 24th is the People's Republic of China (85,227 cases, as well as 1,570 and 46 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 as of 14 July 2020 showed that 7,012,504 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 2,098 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI), as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Screening passengers at ports of entry

Ports of Entry	Total number of screened people	Total number of PUI
Total number	7,012,504	2,098
• Airport screening* (42,046 flights)	4,506,159	2,090
• Seaports**	157,356	2
• Ground ports***	2,125,296	6
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	223,693	0

Remark: Includes data starting from *January 3rd, **January 1st, ***February 1st, ****January 30th

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

On 15 July 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 2,229 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 337,552 PUI, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of laboratory tests	631,838
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	337,552
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the Active Case Finding 	9,775
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returnees under state quarantine 	46,266
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who did not meet the PUI criteria 	238,245
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	337,552
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	2,098
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (101,013 cases in Private hospitals, and 234,353 cases in Public hospital) 	335,366
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,232
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,090
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	84
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,232
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,444
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Cases 	783
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	295

Notice: *Quarantine measures for travelers from abroad have been in effect since 3 April 2020

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 month to 97 years old). 1,787 cases are male, and 1,445 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.23:1). In terms of nationality, 2,893 cases are Thai, 328 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 11 cases.

207 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,025 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). 1,588 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,189 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 Department of Disease Control together with the Rayong Provincial Public Health Office and related agencies in the area conducted an outbreak investigation of Egyptian military visitors in Rayong province. It was found that 413 persons made contact with the confirmed case, divided into 3 groups: high-risk exposure (13), low-risk exposure (6) and others (394). Three biosafety vehicles were provided to collect samples from people, for a total of 1,333 samples. Laboratory results showed that 416 people were negative for COVID-19, while the rest were pending lab results. Disinfection measures were set to be implemented for hotels and shopping centers for 3 days. Schools were closed and hotels where the cases stayed were also closed to prevent the potential of spread.
- The Department of Health Service Support and Office of the Basic Education Commission initiated the project for “Schools under the National Health Recommendations” by establishing youth health volunteers in 30,757 schools under the Office of Basic Education Commission. 10 qualified volunteer students at each school will be selected to attend the course and learn the 10 National Health Recommendations and they will be a key in driving the disease control measures in their schools. Those students who attend the course will receive a youth health volunteer certification. This kind of project not only helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but it is also a good opportunity to encourage the youth to be conscious and develop their leadership skills.
- The Department of Medical Services by the Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health implemented a new normal medical system by opening the ARI Clinic, or a flu clinic especially to provide for patients with symptoms related to respiratory diseases. It also aligns with new guidelines of performing surgery in a negative pressure room to reduce the spread of pathogens, and also accounts for the new dental system procedures. There are definite guidelines for the care management of infected patients in the emergency room. There is a postal service system for children with underlying diseases and children obtaining universal health coverage. To reduce congestion in the hospital, one parent can accompany one child while visiting the doctor. Online visits are requested instead of coming to the hospital.

4. Risk Communication to the Public

- In case of traveling to areas and across areas by public transport, the public transport operator must prepare the system and comply with the disease control measures, i.e. cleaning the vehicle, screening passengers, encouraging passengers to wear a mask, limiting bus services during certain periods, arranging distance between seats, and limiting the number of passengers. Customers must wear a mask at all times while traveling, refrain from talking and eating on public transport, and register each time they enter/leave the service area.
 - For other business places/enterprises, operators are recommended to keep the areas clean, encourage people to wear a mask, limit the number of customers in accordance with the COVID-19 control measures.



The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

- For people visiting crowded places or closed areas such as meeting rooms, department stores, and movie theatres, they are recommended to wear a mask, keep a distance of at least 1-2 meters from other people, and limit contact with other people to be only for a short period of time.
- 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.