

Thailand situation update on 15 August 2020

1. International Situation

As of 15 August 2020, there were a total of 21,374,002 confirmed cases with 64,560 patients in critical condition and 763,745 COVID-19 deaths across more than 213 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 (5,476,266), Brazil (3,278,895), India (2,530,490), Russia (917,884), South Africa (579,140), Peru (516,296), Mexico (511,369), Colombia (445,111), Chile (382,111), and Spain (358,843). The 32nd is the People's Republic of China (84,808 cases, as well as 4,361 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 August 2020 showed that 7,192,850 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 2,636 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	7,192,850	2,636
• Airport screening* (43,924 flights)	4,554,773	2,619
• Seaports**	165,033	2
• Ground ports***	2,221,450	15
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	251,594	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 August 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 1,613 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 393,117 PUI, as shown in Table 2.

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by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

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	781,388
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	393,117
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the Active Case Finding 	9,775
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returnees under state quarantine 	69,581
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who did not meet the PUI criteria 	308,915
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	393,117
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	2,636
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (123,891 cases in private hospitals, and 266,502 cases in public hospitals) 	390,393
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,376
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,194
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	124
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,376
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,444
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Cases 	932
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	439

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

The median age of the confirmed cases is 36 years old (ranging from 1 month to 97 years old). 1,889 cases are male, and 1,487 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.23:1). In terms of nationality, 3,030 cases are Thai, 337 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

208 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,168 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 Ministry of Public Health led by Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul as the Deputy Prime Minister and the Public Health Minister visited Mae Hong Son province to preside over the opening ceremony "A workshop for improving the potential of Village Health Volunteers (VHV), doctors against COVID-19 in the community of Mae Hong Son province" in order to give the volunteers knowledge of the current situation. In addition, he gave PPE for preventing COVID-19 infection to 7 districts and inspected the operations of the volunteers in the area, as well as visited the mobile medical unit of Srisangwan Hospital.
- The Department of Disease Control reported the progress on the suspected COVID-19 case found in a Japanese man after returning from Thailand. According to the additional results of the disease investigation, there are 2 close contacts of the said Japanese man, his wife and daughter who live in Bangkok. The results of the COVID-19 test via RT – PCR showed that the two close contacts were negative. In addition, the Japanese man suspected of COVID-19 was tested again by PCR method and the results were negative twice and he was already allowed by the doctor to leave the quarantine place. This means that this Japanese man does not have COVID-19.
- Songkhla Province, with the Governor of Songkhla Province as Chairman of the Provincial Communicable Diseases Committee, implemented intensive measures in the area by determining the time limit for staying in the Kingdom of Thailand to be less than 7 hours for international drivers and passengers on cargo vehicles at the Sadao point of entry, Sadao district, Songkhla province, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 across the country.

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.



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- 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.