

Thailand situation update on 18 August 2020

1. International Situation

As of 18 August 2020, there were a total of 22,069,384 confirmed cases with 62,048 patients in critical condition and 777,751 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 (5,612,027), Brazil (3,363,235), India (2,706,450), Russia (932,493), South Africa (589,886), Peru (541,493), Mexico (525,733), Colombia (476,660), Chile (387,502), and Spain (382,142). The 34th is the People's Republic of China (84,871 cases, as well as 4,525 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 17 August 2020 showed that 7,208,434 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 2,653 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	7,208,434	2,653
• Airport screening* (44,108 flights)	4,558,695	2,635
• Seaports**	165,551	2
• Ground ports***	2,231,269	16
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	252,919	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 18 August 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 1,868 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 397,276 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	785,547
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who met the PUI criteria 	397,276
<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)	397,276
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detected from ports of entry 	2,653
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (125,525 cases in private hospitals, and 269,010 cases in public hospitals) 	394,535
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,381
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,199
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergoing Treatment 	124
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,381
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transmission 	2,444
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imported Cases 	937
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	444

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). 1,892 cases are male, and 1,489 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.23:1). In terms of nationality, 3,032 cases are Thai, 340 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

208 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,173 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

- In Bangkok, the Ministry of Defense collaborated with the Ministry of Public Health to organize a training to prepare for the possible second wave of COVID-19 in order to test the incident response plan aimed at controlling the spread of COVID-19 at different levels and to test the guidelines for allocation and management of medical resources in crisis. The pattern of the implementation was a Functional Exercise (FEX) combined with problem solving on a Tabletop Exercise (TTX).
- The Strategy and Planning Division, Department of Disease Control organized a workshop to discuss the way to develop the medical tracking system from 16-17 August 2020 at the Oakwood Hotel and Residence SriRacha, Chonburi. This workshop aimed to further develop the training courses for the medical tracking team who is responsible for tracking passengers entering the country during the COVID-19 outbreak. An efficient tracking system will help to support disease prevention and control implementation during the relaxation of COVID-19 control measures, which will allow passengers to enter Thailand for a short period.
- In Nonthaburi province, the Department of Medical Sciences published a social media post, on the topic of “LAB accurately and quickly detects for COVID-19 (Episode 2)”. Currently, laboratories cover all of the country in more than 216 places. Moreover, laboratories are preparing for certification to prepare for an outbreak that may happen in the future, to be up to date, accurate and rapid for laboratory results within 3 hours.

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.
 - 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

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by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

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.