

Thailand situation update on 29 August 2020

1. International Situation

As of 29 August 2020, there were a total of 24,933,370 confirmed cases with 61,187 patients in critical condition and 841,800 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 (6,096,756), Brazil (3,812,605), India (3,468,272), Russia (985,346), Peru (629,961), South Africa (620,132), Colombia (590,520), Mexico (585,738), Spain (455,621), and Chile (405,972). The 34th is the People's Republic of China (85,022 cases, as well as 4,769 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 28 August 2020 showed that 7,275,248 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 2,833 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	7,275,248	2,833
• Airport screening* (44,762 flights)	4,575,767	2,814
• Seaports**	168,412	2
• Ground ports***	2,264,836	17
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	266,233	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 29 August 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 1,031 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 415,933 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	843,343
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	415,933
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the Active Case Finding 	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returnees under state quarantine 	81,676
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who did not meet the PUI criteria 	329,900
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	415,933
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	2,833
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (131,173 cases in private hospitals, and 281,839 cases in public hospitals) 	413,012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,411
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,252
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	101
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,411
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,444
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Cases 	967
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	474

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). 1,908 cases are male, and 1,503 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.23:1). In terms of nationality, 3,060 cases are Thai, 342 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

208 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,203 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 has closely followed the progress of the COVID-19 situation in Myanmar. Security agencies and border provinces use surveillance measures along entry – exit channels of national borders. They emphasize surveillance of all travelers who come from Myanmar including Bangladesh, which borders Myanmar (migrant workers, and Thai people who enter the country illegally or legally) to enter the screening process and going into the area for active finding to take a random check for people in the surveillance area.
- The Department of Disease Control requested the collaboration from people who return their hometown or visit the services places during 4 – 7 September 2020 to implement self-protection by wearing a mask when visiting public places, keeping distance between other people, avoiding visiting crowded places, frequently washing hands, eating well-cooked food, and using a personal serving spoon and glass when attending parties with friends or family. Operators of enterprises are requested to strictly comply with the COVID-19 prevention measures.
- The Ministry of Public Health led by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health reported the situation of the COVID-19 outbreak in Thailand, which currently has a very good screening system. Passengers need to get tested for COVID-19 at the country of departure and when they arrive in Thailand. There is also a 14-day quarantine system in State Quarantine facilities, and passengers have to undergo repeat testing during the quarantine period.

He further said that increasing immunity testing with a fast and accurate method for people traveling to Thailand may also be implemented .

However, there is concern about smuggled migrant workers into Thailand who do not pass the screening protocol for disinfecting hands and registering the www.ไทยชนะ.com every time they leave their houses or are in the crowded places. Thailand has not found new cases for more than three months after relaxing the measures and activities.

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 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.