

Thailand situation update on 17 September 2020

1. International Situation

As of 17 September 2020, there were a total of 30,057,861 confirmed cases with 61,238 patients in critical condition and 945,515 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 (6,828,301), India (5,118,253), Brazil (4,421,686), Russia (1,085,281), Peru (744,400), Colombia (736,377), Mexico (680,931), South Africa (653,444), Spain (614,360), and Argentina (589,012). The 41st is the People's Republic of China (90,263 cases, as well as 4,994 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 16 September 2020 showed that 7,379,744 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,021 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	7,379,744	23,021
• Airport screening* (45,903 flights)	4,602,084	3,001
• Seaports**	172,288	2
• Ground ports***	2,317,665	17
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	287,707	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 17 September 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 1,072 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 436,894 PUI, as shown in Table 2.

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

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	864,304
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who met the PUI criteria 	436,894
<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)	436,894
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detected from ports of entry 	3,021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (137,635 cases in private hospitals, and 296,150 cases in public hospitals) 	433,785
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,490
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,328
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergoing Treatment 	104
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,490
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transmission 	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imported Cases 	1,045
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	552

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). 1,958 cases are male, and 1,532 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.28:1). In terms of nationality, 3,108 cases are Thai, 373 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

212 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,278 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 has cooperated with the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (USAMD-AFRIMS) for research at the Tropical Medicine Clinic on an HIV vaccine, Dengue vaccine, and now for the utilization of genetic transcription of the SARS-CoV-2 in Thailand.
- The Department of Disease Control is providing officers in charge of incoming visitors taking the first flight entering Samui Island, Thailand. Moreover, this is to build confidence among the local community to demonstrate how to prepare standard services under the national disease control prevention plan.
- The Department of Health Service Support disclosed operating guidelines for quarantine facilities in alternative hospitals. Patients and foreign applicants must have health certificates that demonstrate they are free from SARS-CoV-2 infection. These individuals must be quarantined at an alternative hospital for at least 14 days and must cover the costs at their own expense. The medical facility has to closely follow the patient from before admission to discharge.

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.



The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

-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.